

Today I wrote a code that calculates the Fourier Coefficients.

In case you don't know what a Fourier Series is, then, basically it is a way of approximating or representing a periodic function by a series of *simple harmonic* (*sine and cosine*) functions.

You can check out the wikipedia for more information on it: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourier_series

For a waveform

$f(x)$ with period $2L=2\pi/k$, we have that $k=2\pi/2L=\pi/L$ and $nkx = n\pi x/L$, Then we have

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \right]$$

The corresponding Fourier coefficients are

STEP ONE

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^{L} f(x) dx$$

STEP TWO

$$a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^{L} f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

STEP THREE

$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^{L} f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

and integrations are over a single interval in x of $2L$

So, here's how my code works:

I created a function

`[A0,A,B]=fourier(l,n,f)`

Arguments:

`l`: half of the period, (periodicity of the function f which is to be approximated by Fourier Series)

`n`: no. of Fourier Coefficients you want to calculate

`f`: function which is to be approximated by Fourier Series

`A0`: The first fourier coefficient.

`A`: An array/matrix whose n th element is the n th coefficient A_n .

`B`: An array/matrix whose n th element is the n th coefficient B_n .

The code is:

```

//Fourier Series Coefficients
//The following function returns the fourier coefficients,'a0', 'An' & 'Bn'
//
//User needs to provide the following arguments:
//
//l=periodicity of the function f which is to be approximated by Fourier Series
//n=no. of Fourier Coefficients you want to calculate
//f=function which is to be approximated by Fourier Series
//
//*Some necessary guidelines for defining f:
//*The program integrates the function f from -l to l so make sure you define the
function f correctly in the interval -l to l.
//
//for more information on Fourier Series visit:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourier\_series
//
//Written by: Manas Sharma(manassharma07@live.com)
//For more useful toolboxes and tutorials on Scilab visit:
http://www.bragitoff.com/category/compu-geek/scilab/
funcprot(0);
function [a0, A, B]=fourier(l, n, f)
    a0=1/l*intg(-l,l,f,1e-2);
    for i=1:n
        function b=f1(x, f)
            b=f(x)*cos(i*pi*x/l);
        endfunction
        function c=f2(x, f)
            c=f(x)*sin(i*pi*x/l);
        endfunction
        A(i)=1/l*intg(-l,l,f1,1e-2);
        B(i)=1/l*intg(-l,l,f2,1e-2);
    end
endfunction

```

Output:



```
-->deff('a=f(x)', 'a=x')

-->[a0, a, b]=fourier(5, 5, f)
b =

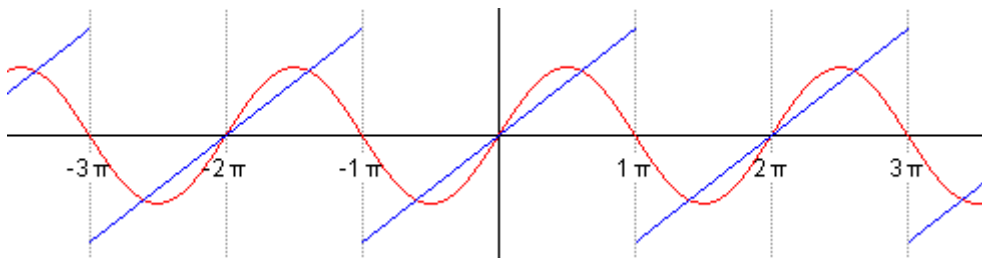
    3.1830989
   -1.5915494
    1.061033
   -0.7957747
    0.6366198
a =

    0.
    0.
    0.
    0.
    0.
a0 =

    0.
```

Tutorial:

That's it. I hope it was not too difficult to understand. If you have any questions I will be glad to answer them.

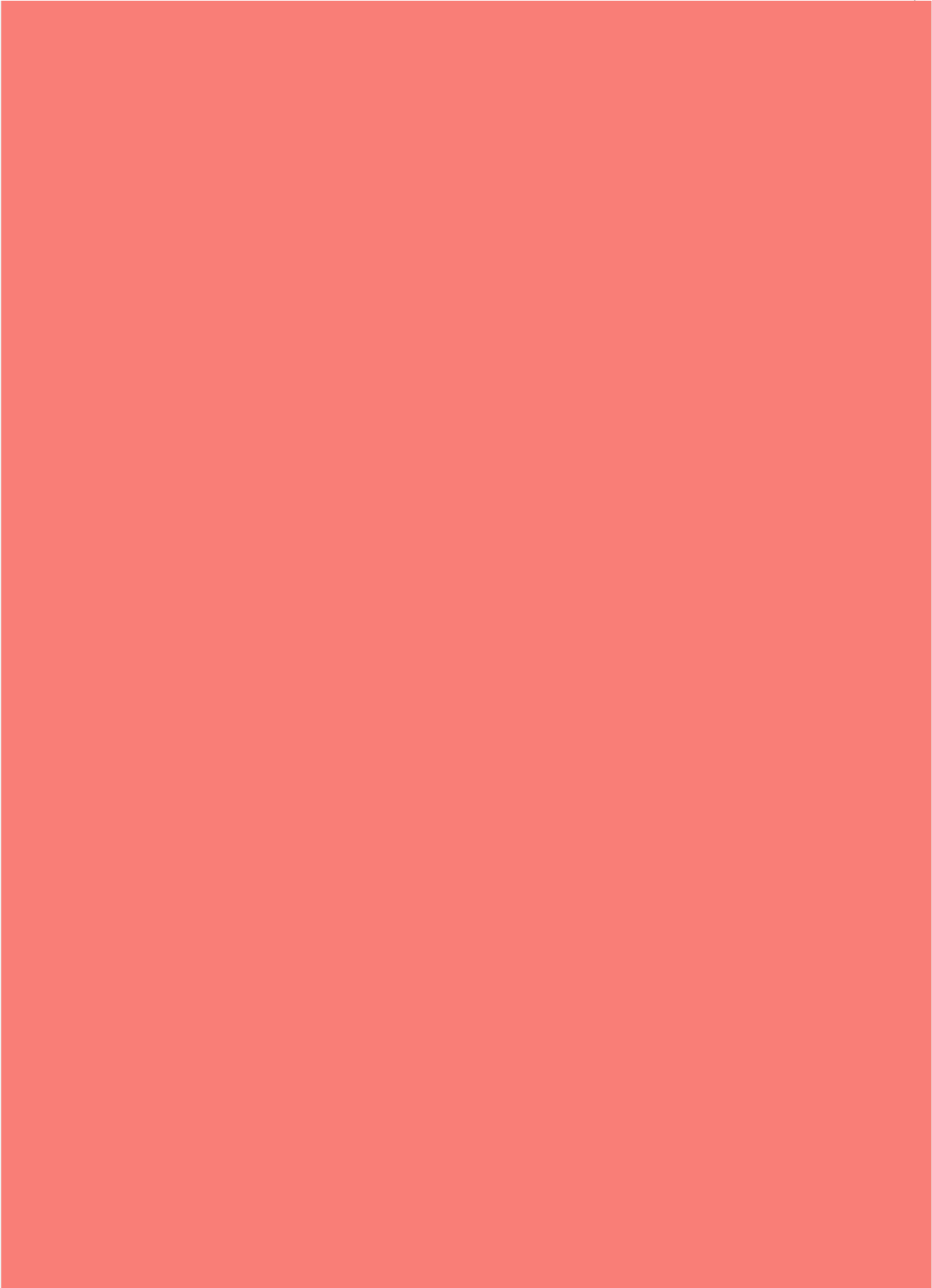


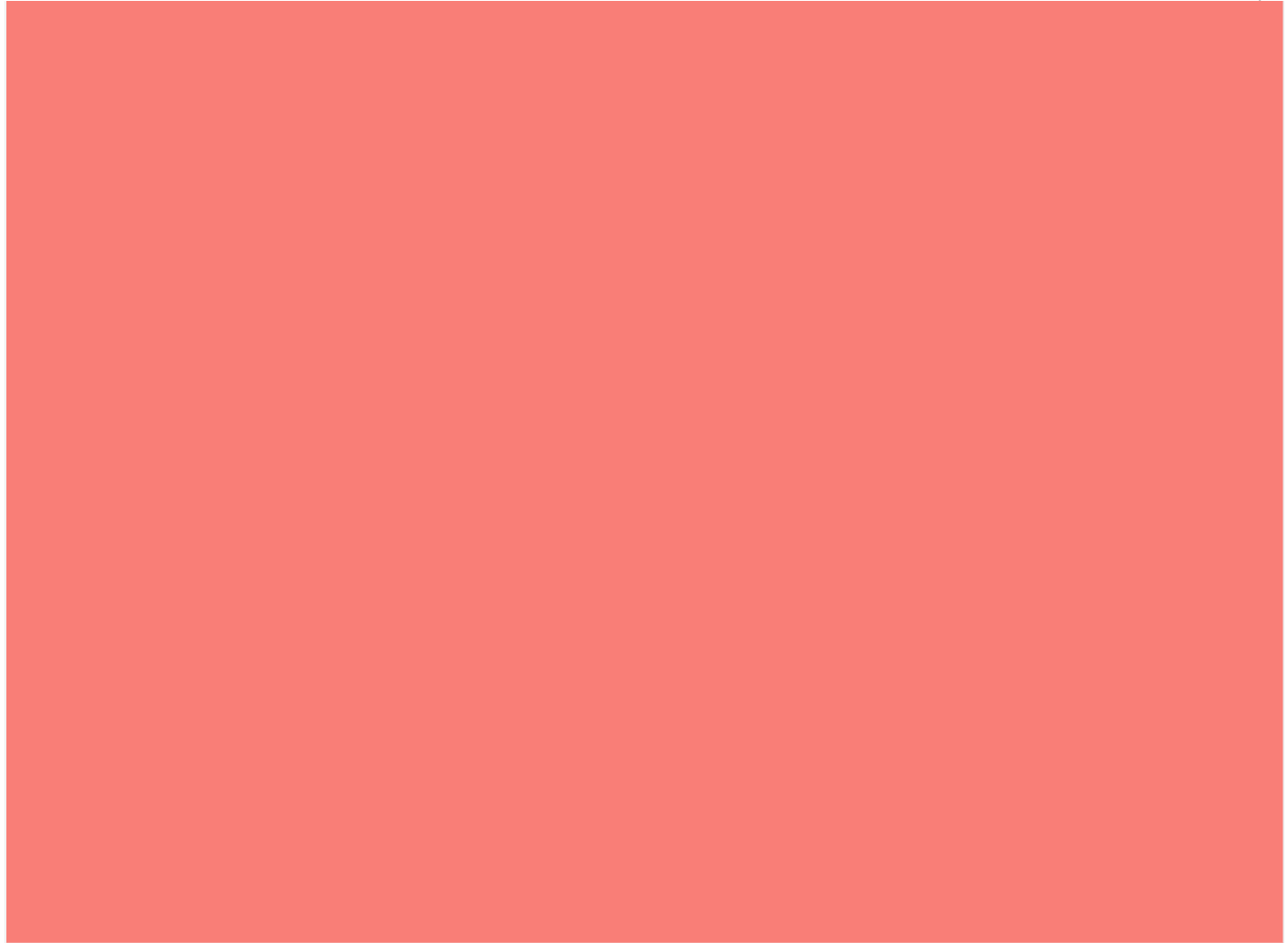
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I'm a physicist specializing in computational material science with a PhD in Physics from Friedrich-Schiller University Jena, Germany. I write efficient codes for simulating light-matter interactions at atomic scales. I like to develop Physics, DFT, and Machine Learning related apps and software from time to time. Can code in most of the popular languages. I like to share my knowledge in Physics and applications using this Blog and a YouTube channel.









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