

3. The Fourier series for the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 < x < 1 \\ -1 & -1 < x < 0 \end{cases}$$

is

$$f(x) = \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n+1} \sin(2n+1)\pi x$$

By carefully examining this Fourier series deduce the sum of the series

Choose $x = \frac{1}{2}$

$$1 = \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n+1)} \sin \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2} = \frac{4}{\pi} \left\{ \sin \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{3\pi}{2} + \dots \right\}$$

Hence $\boxed{1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots = \frac{\pi}{4}}$

Use the Fourier series of the function $f(x)$ and the properties of Fourier series to obtain the Fourier series of

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} x & 0 < x < 1 \\ -x & -1 < x < 0 \end{cases}$$

(A note will be awarded for a direct derivation of the Fourier series of $g(x)$).