

**pst-func**  
plotting special mathematical functions\*  
v.0.38

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November 8, 2004

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>psPolynomial</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>psFourier</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>psBessel</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>psGauss</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>11</b>

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\*This document was written with Kile: 1.6a (Qt: 3.1.1; KDE: 3.1.1; <http://sourceforge.net/projects/kile/>) and the PDF output was build with VTeX/Free (<http://www.micropress-inc.com/linux>)

<sup>†</sup>Thanks to: Attila Gati, John Frampton and Lars Kotthoff.

# 1 psPolynomial

The polynomial function is defined as

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_nx^n \quad (1)$$

$$f'(x) = a_1 + 2a_2x + 3a_3x^2 + \dots + (n-1)a_{n-1}x^{n-2} + na_nx^{n-1} \quad (2)$$

$$f''(x) = 2a_2 + 6a_3x + \dots + (n-1)(n-2)a_{n-1}x^{n-3} + n(n-1)a_nx^{n-2} \quad (3)$$

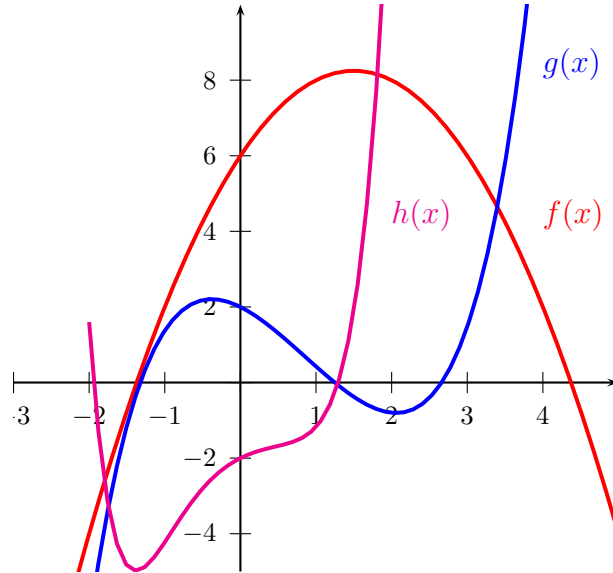
so `pst-func` needs only the coefficients of the polynomial to calculate the function. The syntax is

`\psPolynomial[<options>]{xStart}{xEnd}`

There are the following new options:

Name	Value	Default	
<code>coeff</code>	<code>a0 a1 a2 ...</code>	<code>0 0 1</code>	The coefficients must have the order $a_0 a_1 a_2 \dots$ and be separated by <b>spaces</b> . The number of coefficients is limited only by the memory of the computer ... The default value of the parameter <code>coeff</code> is <code>0 0 1</code> , which gives the parabola $y = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 = x^2$ .
<code>Derivation</code>	<code>&lt;number&gt;</code>	<code>0</code>	the default is the function itself
<code>markZeros</code>	<code>false true</code>	<code>false</code>	dotstyle can be changed
<code>epsZero</code>	<code>&lt;value&gt;</code>	<code>0.1</code>	The distance between two zeros, important for the iteration function to test, if the zero value still exists
<code>dZero</code>	<code>&lt;value&gt;</code>	<code>0.1</code>	When searching for all zero values, the function is scanned with this step
<code>zeroLineTo</code>	<code>&lt;number&gt;</code>	<code>false</code>	plots a line from the zero point to the value of the <code>zeroLineTo</code> 's Derivation of the polynomial function
<code>zeroLineStyle</code>	<code>&lt;line style&gt;</code>	<code>dashed</code>	the style is one of the for PSTricks valid styles.
<code>zeroLineColor</code>	<code>&lt;color&gt;</code>	<code>black</code>	any valid color is possible
<code>zeroLineWidth</code>	<code>&lt;width&gt;</code>	<code>0.5\pslinewidth</code>	

The above parameter are only valid for the `\psPolynomial` macro, but can also be set in the usual way with `\psset`.



```

1 {\psset{yunit=0.5cm,xunit=1cm}
2 \begin{pspicture*}(-3,-5)(5,10)
3   \psaxes[Dy=2]{->}(0,0)(-3,-5)(5,10)
4   \psset{linewidth=1.5pt}
5   \psPolynomial[coeff=6 3 -1,linecolor=red][-3]{5}
6   \psPolynomial[coeff=2 -1 -1 .5 -.1 .025,linecolor=blue][-2]{4}
7   \psPolynomial[coeff=-2 1 -1 .5 .1 .025 .2 ,linecolor=magenta][-2]{4}
8   \rput[lb](4,4){\textcolor{red}{$f(x)$}}
9   \rput[lb](4,8){\textcolor{blue}{$g(x)$}}
10  \rput[lb](2,4){\textcolor{magenta}{$h(x)$}}
11 \end{pspicture*}
12 }

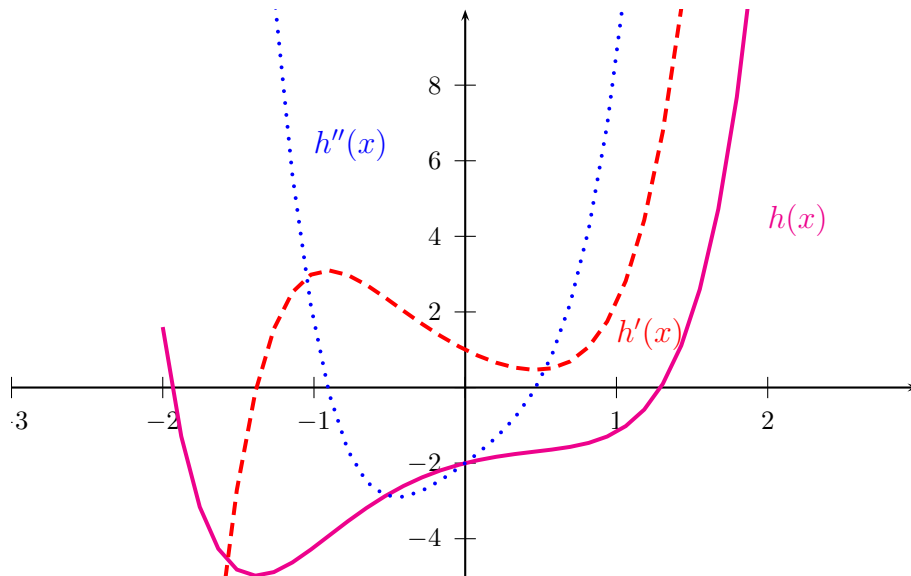
```

The plot is easily clipped using the star version of the `pspicture` environment, so that points whose coordinates are outside of the desired range are not plotted. The plotted polynomials are:

$$f(x) = 6 + 3x - x^2 \quad (4)$$

$$g(x) = 2 - x - x^2 + 0.5x^3 - 0.1x^4 + 0.025x^5 \quad (5)$$

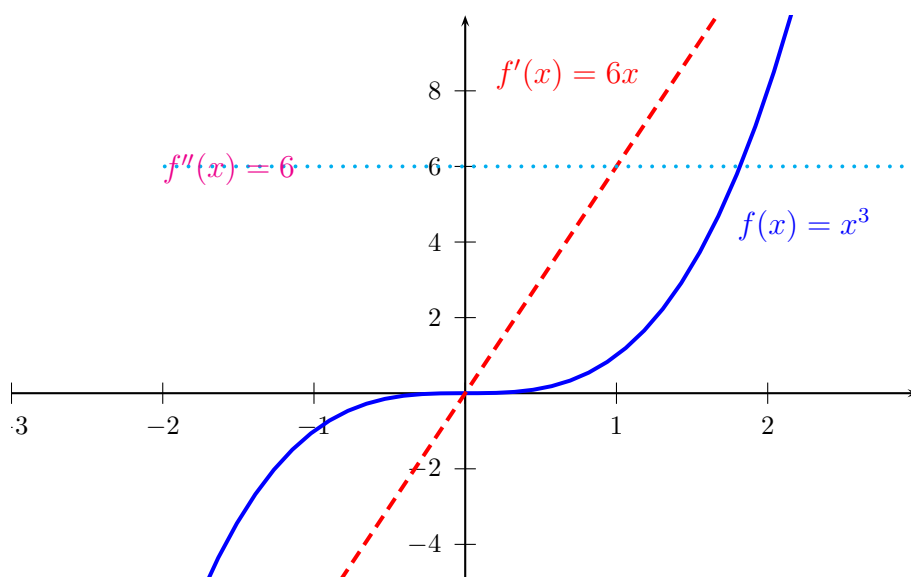
$$h(x) = -2 + x - x^2 + 0.5x^3 + 0.1x^4 + 0.025x^5 + 0.2x^6 \quad (6)$$



```

1 \psset{yunit=0.5cm,xunit=2cm}
2 \begin{pspicture*}(-3,-5)(3,10)
3   \psaxes[Dy=2]{->}(0,0)(-3,-5)(3,10)
4   \psset{linewidth=1.5pt}
5   \psPolynomial[coeff=-2 1 -1 .5 .1 .025 .2 ,linecolor=magenta]{-2}{4}
6   \psPolynomial[coeff=-2 1 -1 .5 .1 .025 .2 ,linecolor=red,%
7     linestyle=dashed,Derivation=1]{-2}{4}
8   \psPolynomial[coeff=-2 1 -1 .5 .1 .025 .2 ,linecolor=blue,%
9     linestyle=dotted,Derivation=2]{-2}{4}
10  \rput[lb](2,4){\textcolor{magenta}{$h(x)$}}
11  \rput[lb](1,1){\textcolor{red}{$h^{\prime}(x)$}}
12  \rput[lb](-1,6){\textcolor{blue}{$h^{\prime\prime}(x)$}}
13 \end{pspicture*}

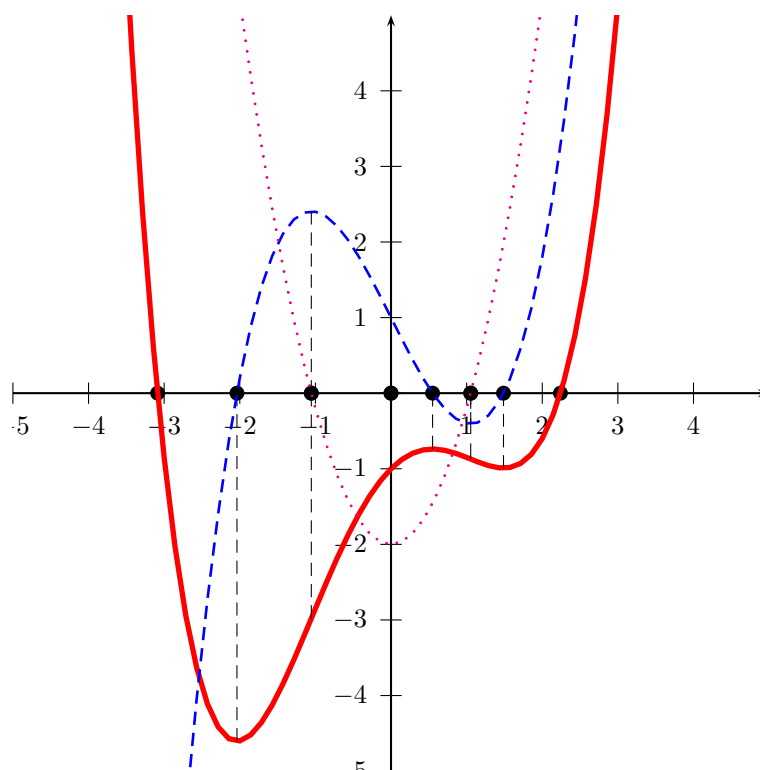
```



```

1 \psset{yunit=0.5cm,xunit=2cm}
2 \begin{pspicture*}(-3,-5)(3,10)
3 \psaxes[Dy=2]{->}(0,0)(-3,-5)(3,10)
4 \psset{linewidth=1.5pt}
5 \psPolynomial[coeff=0 0 0 1,linecolor=blue]{-2}{4}
6 \psPolynomial[coeff=0 0 0 1,linecolor=red,%
7   linestyle=dashed,Derivation=2]{-2}{4}
8 \psPolynomial[coeff=0 0 0 1,linecolor=cyan,%
9   linestyle=dotted,Derivation=3]{-2}{4}
10 \rput[lb](1.8,4){\textcolor{blue}{$f(x)=x^3$}}
11 \rput[lb](0.2,8){\textcolor{red}{$f^{\prime}(x)=6x$}}
12 \rput[lb](-2,5.5){\textcolor{magenta}{$f^{\prime\prime}(x)=6$}}
13 \end{pspicture*}

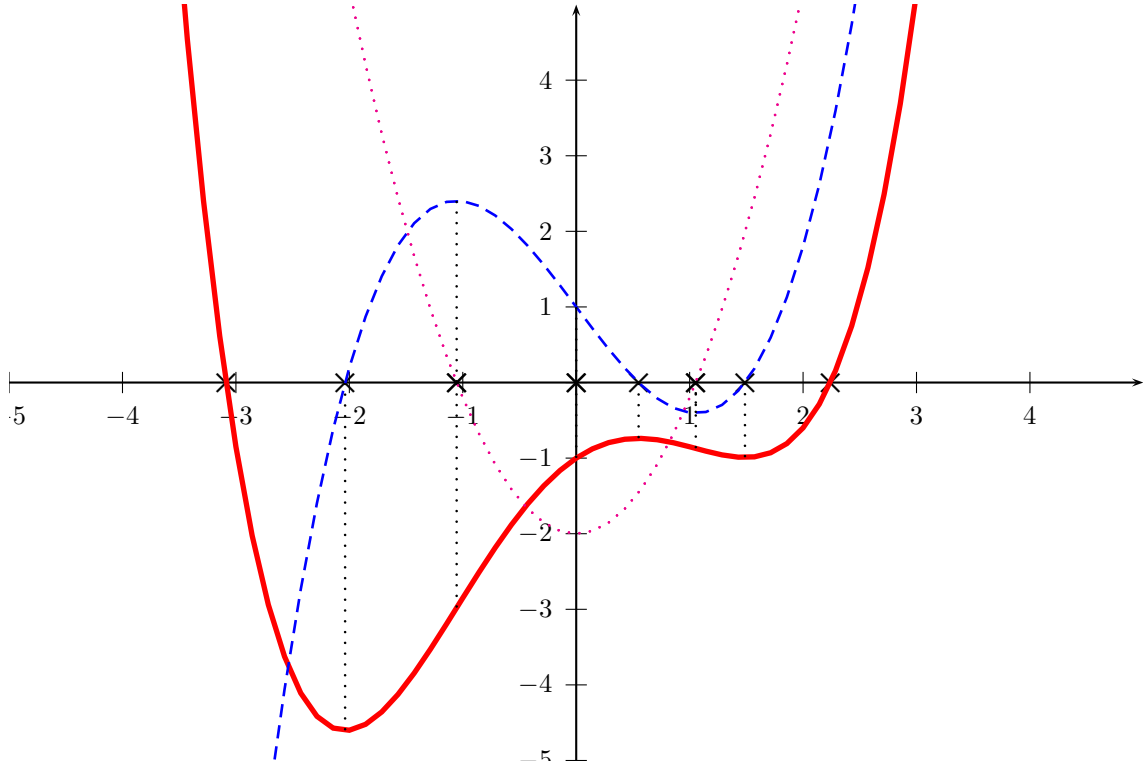
```



```

1 \begin{pspicture*}(-5,-5)(5,5)
2 \psaxes{->}(0,0)(-5,-5)(5,5)%
3 \psset{dotscale=2}
4 \psPolynomial[markZeros,linecolor=red,linewidth=2pt,coeff
5   =-1 1 -1 0 0.15]{-4}{3}%
6 \psPolynomial[markZeros,linecolor=blue,linewidth=1pt,linestyle=dashed,%
7   coeff=-1 1 -1 0 0.15,Derivation=1,zeroLineTo=0]{-4}{3}%
8 \psPolynomial[markZeros,linecolor=magenta,linewidth=1pt,linestyle=dotted,%
9   coeff=-1 1 -1 0 0.15,Derivation=2,zeroLineTo=0]{-4}{3}%
10 \psPolynomial[markZeros,linecolor=magenta,linewidth=1pt,linestyle=dotted,%
11   coeff=-1 1 -1 0 0.15,Derivation=2,zeroLineTo=1]{-4}{3}%
12 \end{pspicture*}

```



```

1 \psset{xunit=1.5}
2 \begin{pspicture*}(-5,-5)(5,5)
3   \psaxes{->}(0,0)(-5,-5)(5,5)%
4   \psset{dotscale=2,dotstyle=x,zeroLineStyle=dotted,zeroLineWidth=1pt}
5   \psPolynomial[markZeros,linecolor=red,linewidth=2pt,coeff
6     =-1 1 -1 0 0.15]{-4}{3}%
7   \psPolynomial[markZeros,linecolor=blue,linewidth=1pt,linestyle=dashed,%
8     coeff=-1 1 -1 0 0.15,Derivation=1,zeroLineTo=0]{-4}{3}%
9   \psPolynomial[markZeros,linecolor=magenta,linewidth=1pt,linestyle=dotted,%
10     coeff=-1 1 -1 0 0.15,Derivation=2,zeroLineTo=0]{-4}{3}%
11   \psPolynomial[markZeros,linecolor=magenta,linewidth=1pt,linestyle=dotted,%
12     coeff=-1 1 -1 0 0.15,Derivation=2,zeroLineTo=1]{-4}{3}%
13 \end{pspicture*}

```

## 2 psFourier

A Fourier sum has the form:

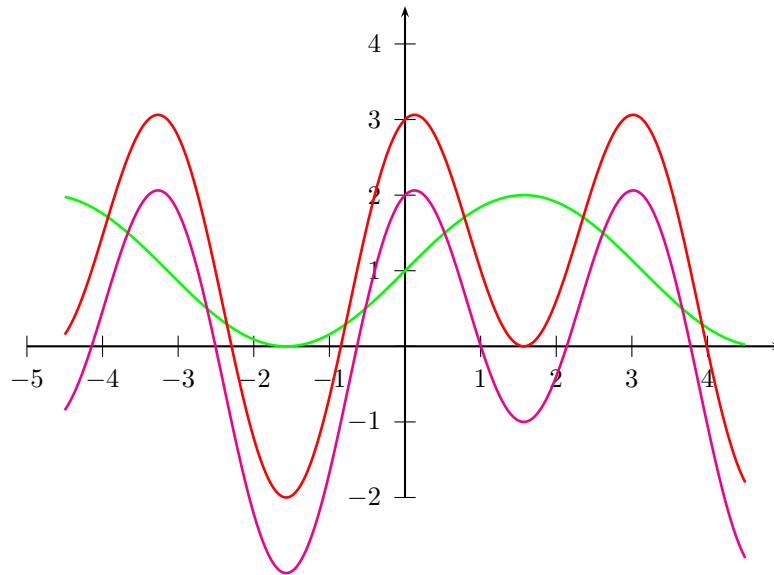
$$s(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + a_1 \cos \omega x + a_2 \cos 2\omega x + a_3 \cos 3\omega x + \dots + a_n \cos n\omega x \quad (7)$$

$$+ b_1 \sin \omega x + b_2 \sin 2\omega x + b_3 \sin 3\omega x + \dots + b_m \sin m\omega x \quad (8)$$

The macro `psFourier` plots Fourier sums. The syntax is similar to `psPolynomial`, except that there are two kinds of coefficients:

`\psPolynomial[cosCoeff=a0 a1 a2 ..., sinCoeff=b1 b2 ...]{xStart}{xEnd}`

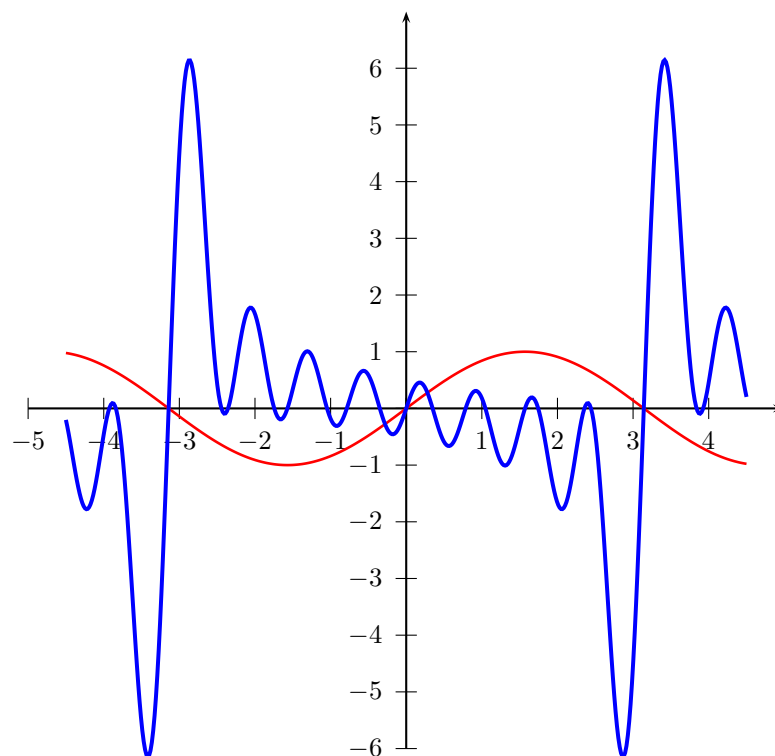
The coefficients must have the orders  $a_0 a_1 a_2 \dots$  and  $b_1 b_2 b_3 \dots$  and be separated by **spaces**. The default is `cosCoeff=0,sinCoeff=1`, which gives the standard `sin` function. Note that the constant value can only be set with `cosCoeff=a0`.



```

1 \begin{pspicture}(-5,-3)(5,5.5)
2 \psaxes{->}(0,0)(-5,-2)(5,4.5)
3 \psset{plotpoints=500,linewidth=1pt}
4 \psFourier[cosCoeff=2, linecolor=green]{-4.5}{4.5}
5 \psFourier[cosCoeff=0 0 2, linecolor=magenta]{-4.5}{4.5}
6 \psFourier[cosCoeff=2 0 2, linecolor=red]{-4.5}{4.5}
7 \end{pspicture}

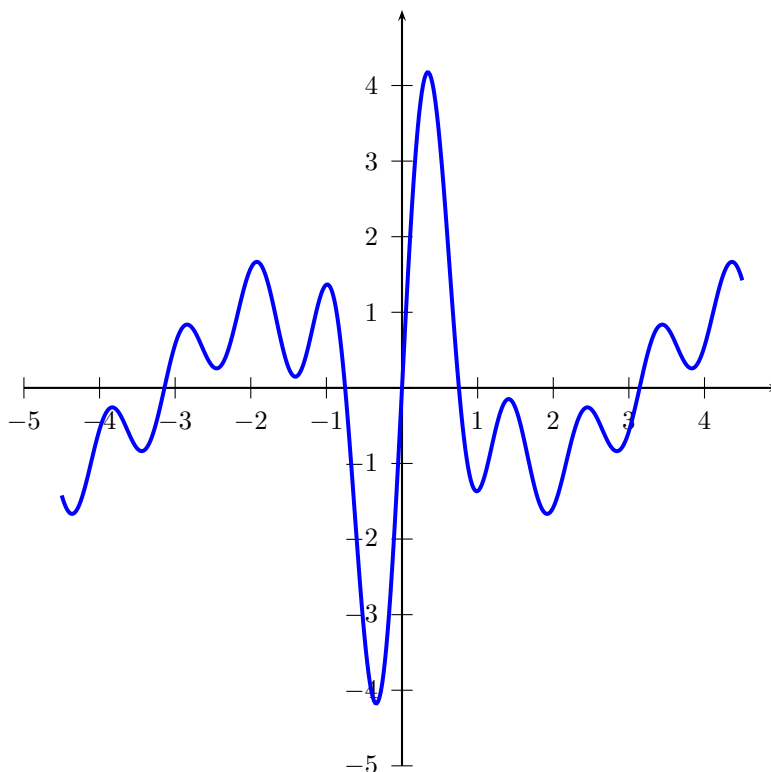
```



```

1 \psset{yunit=0.75}
2 \begin{pspicture}(-5,-6)(5,7)
3 \psaxes{->}(0,0)(-5,-6)(5,7)
4 \psset{plotpoints=500}
5 \psFourier[linecolor=red,linewidth=1pt]{-4.5}{4.5}
6 \psFourier[sinCoeff= -1 1 -1 1 -1 1 -1 1,%
7   linecolor=blue,linewidth=1.5pt]{-4.5}{4.5}
8 \end{pspicture}

```



```

1 \begin{pspicture}(-5,-5)(5,5.5)
2 \psaxes{->}(0,0)(-5,-5)(5,5)
3 \psset{plotpoints=500,linewidth=1.5pt}
4 \psFourier[sinCoeff=-.5 1 1 1 1 ,sinCoeff=-.5 1 1 1 1 1,%
5   linecolor=blue]{-4.5}{4.5}
6 \end{pspicture}

```

### 3 psBessel

The Bessel function of order  $n$  is defined as

$$J_n(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \cos(x \sin t - nt) dt \quad (9)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{n+2k}}{k! \Gamma(n+k+1)} \quad (10)$$

The syntax of the macro is

```
\psBessel[options]{order}{xStart}{xEnd}
```



There are two special parameters for the Bessel function, and also the settings of many `pst-plot` or `pstricks` parameters affect the plot.

```
\def\psset@constI#1{\edef\psk@constI{#1}}
\def\psset@constII#1{\edef\psk@constII{#1}}
\psset{constI=1,constII=0}
```

These two "constants" have the following meaning:

$$f(t) = \text{constI} \cdot J_n + \text{constII}$$

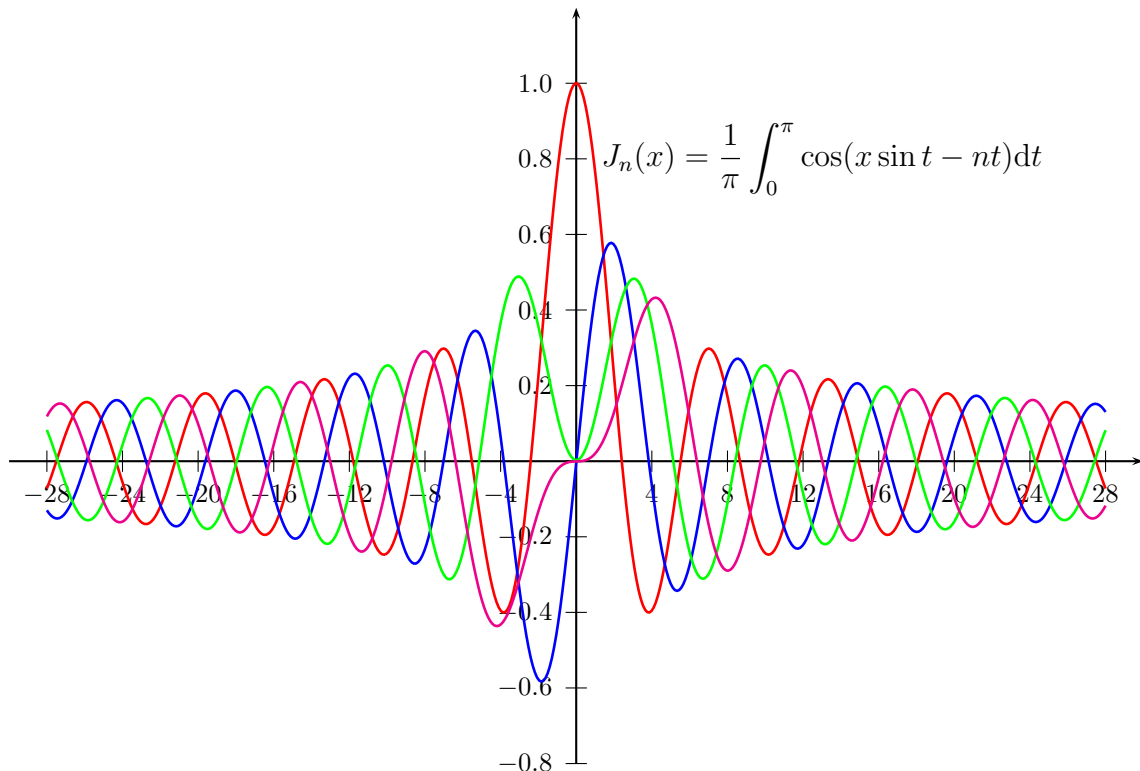
where *constI* and *constII* must be real PostScript expressions, e.g.:

```
\psset{constI=2.3,constII=t k sin 1.2 mul 0.37 add}
```

The Bessel function is plotted with the `parametricplot` macro, this is the reason why the variable is named `t`. The internal procedure `k` converts the value `t` from radian into degrees. The above setting is the same as

$$f(t) = 2.3 \cdot J_n + 1.2 \cdot \sin t + 0.37$$

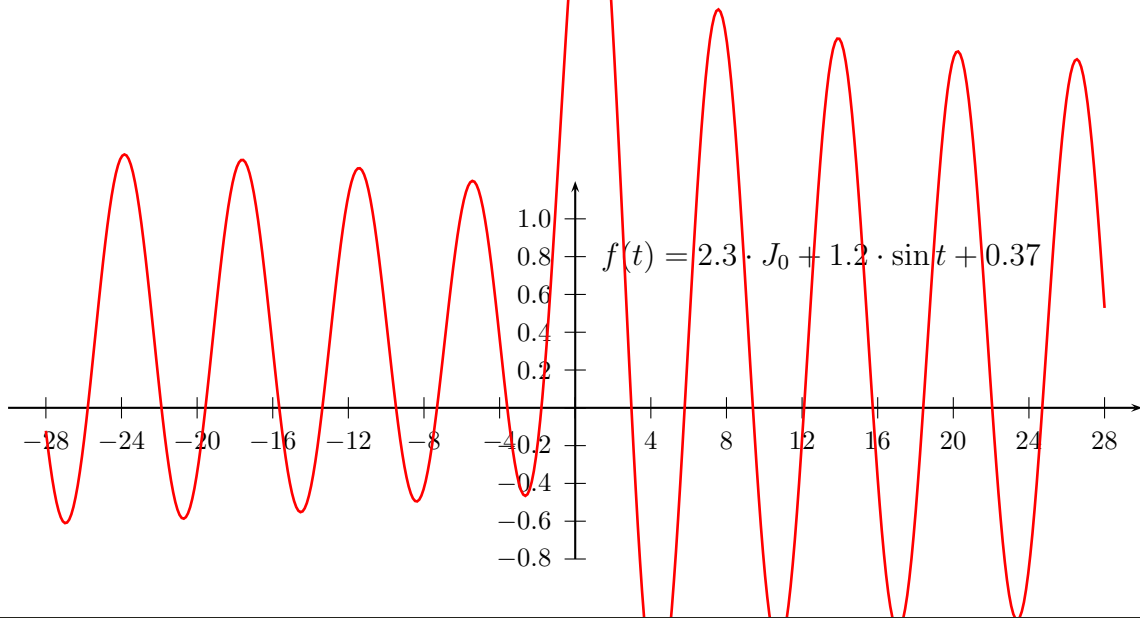
In particular, note that the default for `plotpoints` is 500. If the plotting computations are too time consuming at this setting, it can be decreased in the usual way, at the cost of some reduction in graphics resolution.



```

1 {
2 \psset{xunit=0.25,yunit=5}
3 \begin{pspicture}(-13,-.85)(13,1.25)
4 \rput(13,0.8){%
5   $\displaystyle J_n(x)=\frac{1}{\pi}\int_0^\pi\cos(x\sin t-nt)\mathrm{d}t$%
6 }
7 \psaxes[Dy=0.2,Dx=4,xyLabel=\footnotesize]{->}(0,0)(-30,-.8)(30,1.2)
8 \psset{linewidth=1pt}
9 \psBessel[linecolor=red]{0}{-28}{28}%
10 \psBessel[linecolor=blue]{1}{-28}{28}%
11 \psBessel[linecolor=green]{2}{-28}{28}%
12 \psBessel[linecolor=magenta]{3}{-28}{28}%
13 \end{pspicture}
14 }

```



```

1 {
2 \psset{xunit=0.25,yunit=2.5}
3 \begin{pspicture}(-13,-.85)(13,2)
4 \rput(13,0.8){%
5   $\displaystyle f(t) = 2.3 \cdot J_0 + 1.2 \cdot \sin t + 0.37$%
6 }
7 \psaxes[Dy=0.2,Dx=4,xyLabel=\footnotesize]{->}(0,0)(-30,-.8)(30,1.2)
8 \psset{linewidth=1pt}
9 \psBessel[linecolor=red,constI=2.3,constII={t k sin 1.2 mul 0.37 add}]{0}{-28}{28}%
10 \end{pspicture}
11 }

```

## 4 psGauss

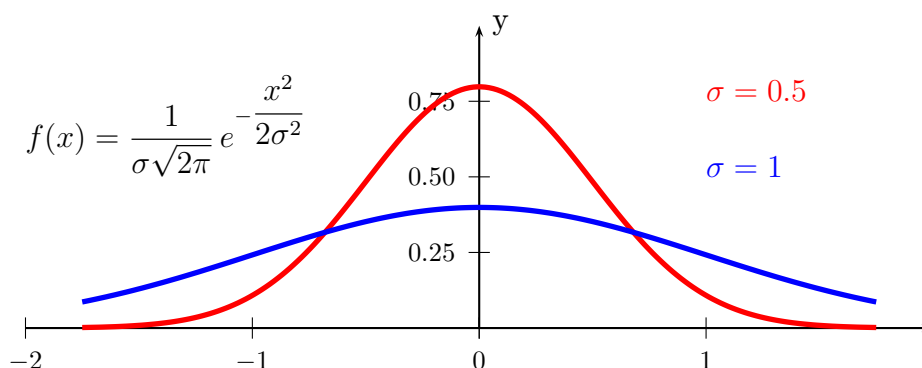
The Gauss function is defined as

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}} \quad (11)$$

The syntax of the macro is

`\psGauss[options]{xStart}{xEnd}`

where the only new parameter is `sigma=<value>`, which can also be set in the usual way with `\psset`. It is significant only for the `psGauss`-macro. The default is 0.5.



```

1 \psset{yunit=4cm,xunit=3}
2 \begin{pspicture}(-2,0)(2,1)
3 % \psgrid[griddots=10,gridlabels=0pt, subgriddiv=0]
4 \psaxes[xyLabel=\footnotesize,Dy=0.25]{->}(0,0)(-2,0)(2,1)
5 \uput[-90](6,0){x}\uput[0](0,1){y}
6 \rput[lb](1,0.75){\textcolor{red}{$\sigma=0.5$}}
7 \rput[lb](1,0.5){\textcolor{blue}{$\sigma=1$}}
8 \rput[lb](-2,0.5){$f(x)=\frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}}$}
9 \psGauss[linecolor=red,linewidth=2pt][-1.75]{1.75}%
10 \psGauss[sigma=1,linecolor=blue,linewidth=2pt][-1.75]{1.75}
11 \end{pspicture}

```

## 5 Credits

Denis Girou | Manuel Luque | Timothy Van Zandt

## References

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- [3] Laura E. Jackson and Herbert Voß. Die Plot-Funktionen von `pst-plot`. *Die T<sub>E</sub>Xnische Komödie*, 2/02:27–34, June 2002.
- [4] Nikolai G. Kollock. *PostScript richtig eingesetzt: vom Konzept zum praktischen Einsatz*. IWT, Vaterstetten, 1989.
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- [6] Herbert Voß. Die mathematischen Funktionen von PostScript. *Die T<sub>E</sub>Xnische Komödie*, 1/02, March 2002.

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- [9] Timothy van Zandt. *pst-plot: Plotting two dimensional functions and data*. [CTAN:/graphics/pstricks/generic/pst-plot.tex](http://www.ctan.org/graphics/pstricks/generic/pst-plot.tex), 1999.
- [10] Timothy van Zandt and Denis Girou. Inside PSTricks. *TUGboat*, 15:239–246, September 1994.