Problem Set 1

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Problem 6.1

To find the Fourier transform of $f(x) = e^{-|x|}$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}$, we compute

$$\begin{split} \hat{f}(\xi) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-|x|} e^{-ix\xi} \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{0} e^{x(1-i\xi)} \, dx + \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-x(1+i\xi)} \, dx \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{1-i\xi} e^{(x(1-i\xi))} \Big|_{-\infty}^{0} - \frac{1}{1+i\xi} e^{-x(1+i\xi)} \Big|_{0}^{\infty} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{2}{(1-i\xi)(1+i\xi)} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{2}{1+\xi^{2}} \right) \end{split}$$

Problem 6.2

To find the Fourier transform of $f(x) = e^{-a|x|^2}$ with a > 0 and where $x \in \mathbb{R}$, we compute

$$\hat{f}(\xi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-a|x|^2} e^{-ix\xi} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ax^2 - ix\xi} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ax^2 - ix\xi} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-a(x + (i\xi)/2a)^2 - \xi^2/(4a)} dx$$

$$= \frac{e^{-\xi^2/(4a)}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-a(x + (i\xi)/2a)^2} dx$$

$$= \frac{e^{-\xi^2/(4a)}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-au^2} du$$

$$= \frac{e^{-\xi^2/(4a)}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}}$$

Problem 6.4

Suppose the $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and f(x) = g(|x|) for some g, then we see that

$$\hat{f}(\xi) = (2\pi)^{-d/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(x)e^{-ix\cdot\xi} dx$$

$$= (2\pi)^{-d/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} g(|x|)e^{-ix\cdot\xi} dx$$

$$= (2\pi)^{-d/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} g(|x|)e^{-i|x||\xi|\cos(\theta)} dx$$

$$= (2\pi)^{-d/2} \int_0^{\infty} \int_{\omega_d} g(r)e^{-ir|\xi|\cos(\theta)} r^d dr d\theta$$

$$= h(|\xi|)$$