

## 1. Fourier Transform Properties: Shifted function asymptotic result

Let us consider the Fourier transform of the shifted function  $f(x - x_0)$  where  $x_0$  is real and finite, below.  
( link and Eq. 55 in link)

$$\begin{aligned} F(k) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x - x_0) e^{-ikx} dx &= e^{-ikx_0} F(k) \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

We derive the asymptotic result for the Fourier transform of  $\lim_{x_0 \rightarrow \infty} f(x - x_0)$  using **principle of mathematical induction**, as follows.

Set  $x_0 = Nx_1$ . For  $N = 1$ , the Fourier transform of  $f_1(x) = f(x - x_1)$  is given by  $F_1(k) = F(k)e^{-ikx_1}$ .

For  $N = 2$ , the Fourier transform of  $f_2(x) = f_1(x - x_1) = f(x - 2x_1)$  is given by  $F_2(k) = F_1(k)e^{-ikx_1} = F(k)e^{-i2kx_1}$ .

**Inductive Hypothesis:** Let  $f_N(x) = f_{N-1}(x - x_1) = f(x - Nx_1)$ . Its Fourier transform is given by  $F_N(k) = F_{N-1}(k)e^{-ikx_1} = F(k)e^{-iNkx_1}$ .

**Inductive Result:** Set  $N = N + 1$ . We get  $f_{N+1}(x) = f_N(x - x_1) = f(x - (N + 1)x_1)$ . Its Fourier transform is given by  $F_{N+1}(k) = F_N(k)e^{-ikx_1} = F(k)e^{-i(N+1)kx_1}$ .

Hence we can use the principle of mathematical induction and get the inductive result that the Fourier transform of  $\lim_{x_0 \rightarrow \infty} f(x - x_0) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} f_N(x)$  is given by  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} e^{-iNkx_1} F(k)$ .

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \lim_{x_0 \rightarrow \infty} f(x - x_0) e^{-ikx} dx = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} e^{-iNkx_1} F(k) \tag{2}$$

It is noted that  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} e^{-iNkx_1}$  is indeterminate and finite and  $|e^{-iNkx_1}| \leq 1$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ . If  $f(x)$  is an absolutely integrable function, then  $F(k)$  is finite for all  $k$ . Hence  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} e^{-iNkx_1} F(k)$  is finite and indeterminate for all  $k$ .