

Lemma. *Let f be 2π -periodic and differentiable. Then*

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)e^{-inx} dx = \frac{1}{in} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f'(x)e^{-inx} dx$$

for all integer n .

Proof. By parts,

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)e^{-inx} dx = -\frac{1}{in} [f(x)e^{-inx}]_{-\pi}^{\pi} + \frac{1}{in} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f'(x)e^{-inx} dx.$$

We observe that

$$[f(x)e^{-inx}]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = 0$$

since $f(x)e^{-inx}$ is 2π -periodic. □

Applying the lemma k times, we get

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)e^{-inx} dx = \frac{1}{(in)^k} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f^{(k)}(x)e^{-inx} dx.$$

Since $f \in C^k$, $f^{(k)}$ is continuous and hence bounded on $[-\pi, \pi]$. Let $0 \leq B$ be such that

$$|f^{(k)}| \leq B \quad \text{for } x \in [-\pi, \pi].$$

Note that B is independent of n .

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)e^{-inx} dx \right| &= |n|^{-k} \left| \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f^{(k)}(x)e^{-inx} dx \right| \\ &\leq |n|^{-k} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |f^{(k)}(x)e^{-inx}| dx \\ &\leq |n|^{-k} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |f^{(k)}(x)| dx \\ &\leq |n|^{-k} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} B dx \\ &= 2\pi |n|^{-k} B \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$|\hat{f}(n)| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left| \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)e^{-inx} dx \right| \leq |n|^{-k} B$$

and $\hat{f}(n) = O(1/|n|^k)$. □