

Appendix A: Fourier integrals and the Dirac delta function

A.1 Fourier series

Fourier expansion	$f(x) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n \exp(inx)$
Kronecker delta	<p>By integrating:</p> $(2\pi)^{-1} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \exp[i(n-m)x] dx = \delta_{mn}$ <p>where δ_{mn} is the Kronecker delta symbol defined as</p> $\delta_{mn} = 1, \quad \text{if } m = n$ $= 0, \quad \text{if } m \neq n.$
Fourier coefficients	<p>we can use the Kronecker delta on the Fourier expansion</p> $C_m = (2\pi)^{-1/2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \exp(-imx) dx$
Fourier in an interval L	<p>For an interval with length L we substitute $x \rightarrow \pi x/L$:</p> $f(x) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n \exp(in\pi x/L)$ <p>where the coefficients C_m are given by</p> $C_m = L^{-1} \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{1/2} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \exp(-im\pi x/L) dx.$

A.2 Fourier transforms

Fourier transform	<p>summate over infinitely many functions</p> $f(x) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(k) \exp(ikx) dk.$ <p>By taking the limit $L \rightarrow \infty$ in (A.9) we find</p> $g(k) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \exp(-ikx) dx.$
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A.2.1 Dirac delta function

Dirac delta function	$\delta(x - x') = (2\pi)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp[ik(x - x')] dk.$
properties of Dirac delta	$f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x') \delta(x - x') dx'$ <p>which can be proven by inserting $g(x)$ in $f(x)$:</p> $f(x) = (2\pi)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x') \exp(-ikx') dx' \right] \exp(ikx) dk$
extra properties	$\int_a^b f(x) \delta(x - x_0) dx = f(x_0) \quad \text{if } a < x_0 < b$ $= 0 \quad \text{if } x_0 < a \quad \text{or} \quad x_0 > b \quad (\text{A.26})$ $\delta(x) = \delta(-x) \quad (\text{A.27})$ $x\delta(x) = 0 \quad (\text{A.28})$ $\delta(ax) = \frac{1}{ a } \delta(x), \quad a \neq 0 \quad (\text{A.29})$ $f(x)\delta(x - a) = f(a)\delta(x - a) \quad (\text{A.30})$ $\int \delta(a - x)\delta(x - b) dx = \delta(a - b) \quad (\text{A.31})$ $\delta[g(x)] = \sum_i \frac{1}{ g'(x_i) } \delta(x - x_i) \quad (\text{A.32})$

A.2.2 further properties of Fourier transforms

Parseval's theorem

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(x)|^2 dx \\
 &= (2\pi)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g^*(k) \exp(-ikx) dk \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(k') \exp(ik'x) dk' \right] \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g^*(k) \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(k') \delta(k' - k) dk' \right] dk \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |g(k)|^2 dk. \qquad \qquad \qquad (\text{A.43})
 \end{aligned}$$

convolution theorem

The *convolution* of two functions f_1 and f_2 is defined as the integral

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_1(y) f_2(x - y) dy. \qquad \qquad \qquad (\text{A.44})$$

A straightforward calculation then shows that if $G(k)$ is the Fourier transform of $F(x)$ and $g_1(k)$ and $g_2(k)$ are the Fourier transforms of $f_1(x)$ and $f_2(x)$, respectively, then

$$G(k) = (2\pi)^{1/2} g_1(k) g_2(k). \qquad \qquad \qquad (\text{A.45})$$

>> all these properties also work in 3D space