

If the transform of $f(n)$ is $F(s)$ then the function $f(n)$ is called self-reciprocal

4) Show that the function $e^{-x^2/2}$ is self-reciprocal under Fourier transform.

Soln: Let $f(n) = e^{-n^2/2}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Wkt } F(s) = F[f(n)] &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(n) e^{isn} dn \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-n^2/2} e^{isn} dn \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left[\frac{n^2}{2} + isn\right]} dn \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2} [n^2 + 2isn]} dn \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2} [n^2 + 2isn + (is)^2 - (is)^2]} dn \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2} [(n-is)^2 - (is)^2]} dn \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left[\frac{n-is}{\sqrt{2}}\right]^2 + \left(\frac{is}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2} dn \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{\left(\frac{is}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left[\frac{n-is}{\sqrt{2}}\right]^2} dn \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{\frac{i^2 s^2}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left[\frac{n-is}{\sqrt{2}}\right]^2} dn \\
 \text{put } t &= \frac{n-is}{\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow dt = \frac{dn}{\sqrt{2}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-s^2/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2} \sqrt{2} dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-s^2/2} \sqrt{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2} dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-s^2/2} \sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{\pi} \\
 &= e^{-s^2/2}
 \end{aligned}$$

∴ The Fourier transform of $e^{-x^2/2}$ (i.e.) $F[e^{-x^2/2}]$ is $e^{-s^2/2}$
Hence $e^{-x^2/2}$ is self-reciprocal under Fourier transform.

13) Find the Fourier transform of $f(x) = e^{-a^2 x^2}$, $a > 0$. Show that $e^{-x^2/2}$ is self-reciprocal under Fourier transformation.

Soln

Wkt $F(s) = F\{f(x)\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-a^2 x^2} e^{isx} dx$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-a^2 x^2 + isx} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-[a^2 x^2 - isx]} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-a^2 [x^2 - \frac{is}{a^2} x]} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-a^2 [x^2 - \frac{is}{a^2} x + (\frac{is}{2a^2})^2 - (\frac{is}{2a^2})^2]} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-a^2 \left\{ \left[x - \frac{is}{2a^2} \right]^2 - \left(\frac{is}{2a^2} \right)^2 \right\}} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left\{ \left[ax - \frac{is}{2a} \right]^2 - \frac{s^2}{4a^2} \right\}} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left[ax - \frac{is}{2a} \right]^2 - \frac{s^2}{4a^2}} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left[ax - \frac{is}{2a} \right]^2} \cdot e^{-\frac{s^2}{4a^2}} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{s^2}{4a^2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left[ax - \frac{is}{2a} \right]^2} dx$$

put $t = ax - \frac{is}{2a} \Rightarrow dt = a dx$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{s^2}{4a^2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2} \frac{dt}{a}$$

$$= \frac{1}{a\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{s^2}{4a^2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2} dt$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \sqrt{\pi}$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{a\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{s^2}{4a^2}} \sqrt{\pi}$$

$$F[e^{-a^2 x^2}] = e^{-\frac{s^2}{4a^2}} \cdot \frac{1}{a\sqrt{2}}$$

put $a^2 = 1/2 \Rightarrow a = 1/\sqrt{2}$

$$F[e^{-x^2/2}] = e^{-\frac{s^2}{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \sqrt{2}} = e^{-\frac{s^2}{2}} \Rightarrow F[e^{-x^2/2}] = e^{-\frac{s^2}{2}}$$

which is self-reciprocal under FT.