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2.161 Signal Processing: Continuous and Discrete
Fall 2008

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MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
2.161 Signal Processing – Continuous and Discrete
Fall Term 2008

Problem Set 1 Solution: Convolution and Fourier Transforms

Problem 1:

Use the convolution definition $y(t) = f \otimes h = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau)h(t-\tau)d\tau$

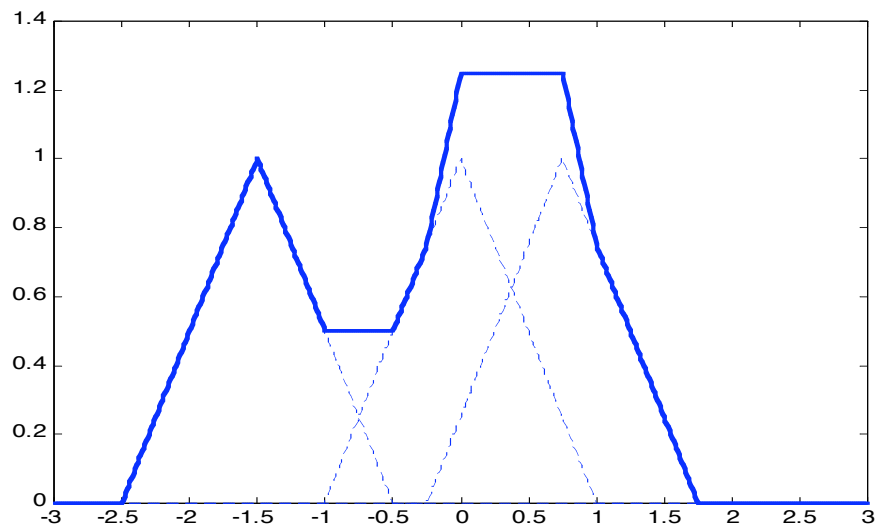
(a) $f(t) = \delta(t+1.5) + \delta(t) + \delta(t-0.75)$

$$h(t) = \begin{cases} 1-|t|, & -1 \leq t \leq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\delta(\tau+1.5) + \delta(\tau) + \delta(\tau-0.75))h(t-\tau)d\tau \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(\tau+1.5)h(t-\tau)d\tau + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(\tau)h(t-\tau)d\tau + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(\tau-0.75)h(t-\tau)d\tau, \end{aligned}$$

and using the sifting property of the impulse function,

$$y(t) = h(t+1.5) + h(t) + h(t-0.75)$$

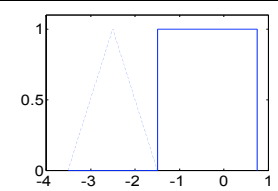
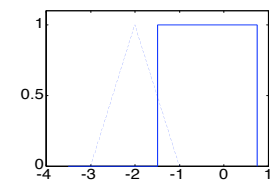
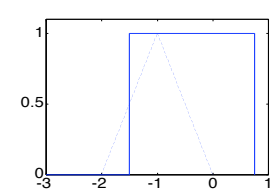
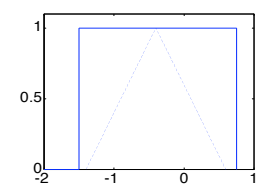


(b) $h(t)$ is the same as used in part (a)

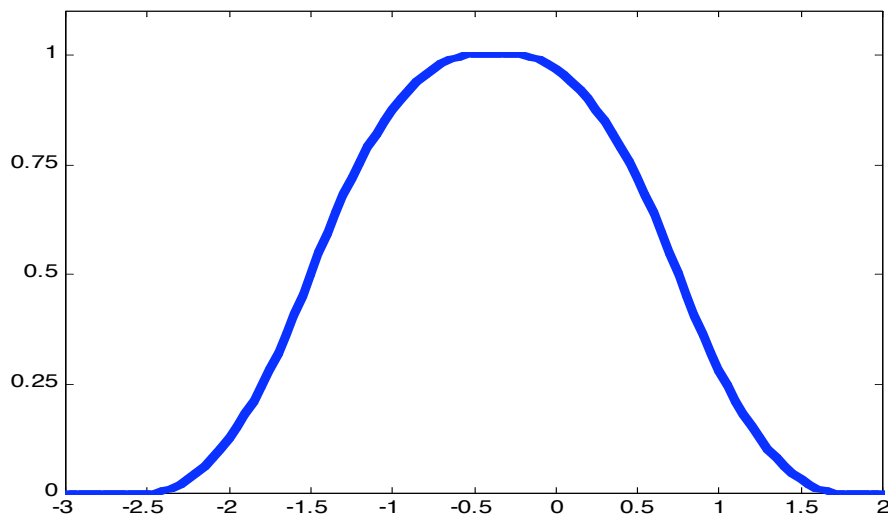
$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & -1.5 \leq t \leq 0.75 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

$$\text{then } y(t) = f \otimes h = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau)h(t-\tau)d\tau = \int_{-1.5}^{0.75} h(t-\tau)d\tau$$

Four basic cases can be observed while varying t (sliding the triangle waveform),.

Case	Range	Equation	Picture
Triangle outside	$t \leq -2.5$ $1.75 \leq t$	0	
Less than half triangle inside	$-2.5 \leq t \leq -1.5$ $0.75 \leq t \leq 1.75$	$\int_{-1.5}^{t+1} (1 - (\tau - t)) d\tau = \tau + \tau - \frac{\tau^2}{2} \Big _{-1.5}^{t+1} = \frac{(t+2.5)^2}{2}$ $\int_{t-1}^{0.75} (1 + (\tau - t)) d\tau = \tau - \tau + \frac{\tau^2}{2} \Big _{t-1}^{0.75} = \frac{(t-1.75)^2}{2}$	
More than half triangle inside	$-1.5 \leq t \leq -0.5$ $-0.25 \leq t \leq 0.75$	$\int_{-1.5}^t (1 + (\tau - t)) d\tau + 0.5 = \tau - \tau + \frac{\tau^2}{2} \Big _{-1.5}^t + 0.5 = 1 - \frac{(t+0.5)^2}{2}$ $\int_t^{0.75} (1 - (\tau - t)) d\tau + 0.5 = \tau + \tau + \frac{\tau^2}{2} \Big _t^{0.75} + 0.5 = 1 - \frac{(t+0.25)^2}{2}$	
Whole triangle inside	$-0.5 \leq t \leq 0.25$	1	

The result of the convolution, $y(t)$, is plotted in the following figure

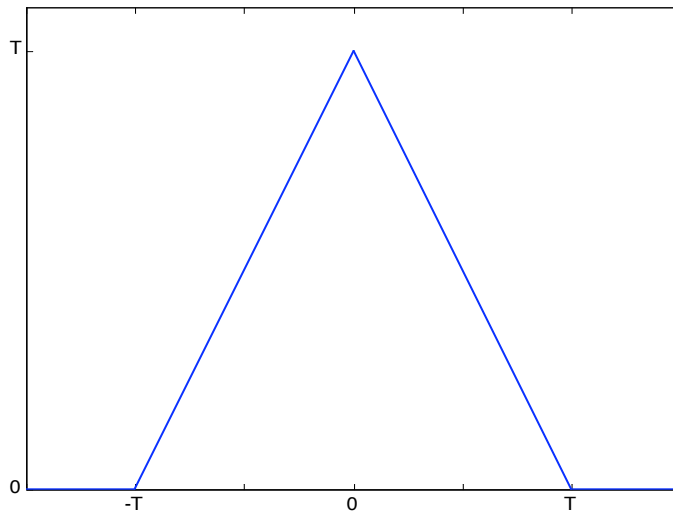


(c)

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & |t| \leq \frac{T}{2} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

then,

$$y(t) = f \otimes f = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau)f(t-\tau)d\tau = \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t-\tau)d\tau = \begin{cases} \int_{-T/2}^{t+T/2} d\tau = t+T, & -T \leq t \leq 0 \\ \int_{t-T/2}^{T/2} d\tau = t-T, & 0 \leq t \leq T \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



$$F(j\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)e^{-j\omega t} dt = \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} e^{-j\omega t} dt = \left. \frac{e^{-j\omega t}}{-j\omega} \right]_{-T/2}^{T/2} = \frac{e^{-j\omega T/2} - e^{j\omega T/2}}{-j\omega} = \frac{\sin(\omega T/2)}{\omega/2}$$

when $T=1$, $h(t) = f(t) \otimes f(t)$ and from the convolution theorem

$$H(j\omega) = F(j\omega)F(j\omega) = \left(\frac{\sin(\omega/2)}{\omega/2} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{\sin(x)}{x} \right)^2$$

Problem 2

$$f_1(x) = e^{-ax^2}, f_2(x) = e^{-bx^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y(x) &= f_1 \otimes f_2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_1(\tau) f_2(x-\tau) d\tau = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-a\tau^2} e^{-b(x-\tau)^2} d\tau \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(a+b)\left(\tau^2 - \frac{2bx\tau}{a+b} + \frac{bx^2}{a+b}\right)} d\tau = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(a+b)\left(\tau - \frac{bx}{a+b}\right)^2 - \frac{abx^2}{a+b}} d\tau = e^{-\frac{abx^2}{a+b}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left(\sqrt{a+b}\tau - \frac{bx}{\sqrt{a+b}}\right)^2} d\tau \end{aligned}$$

using the variable substitution: $\alpha = \sqrt{a+b}\tau - \frac{bx}{\sqrt{a+b}}, d\tau = \frac{d\alpha}{\sqrt{a+b}}$

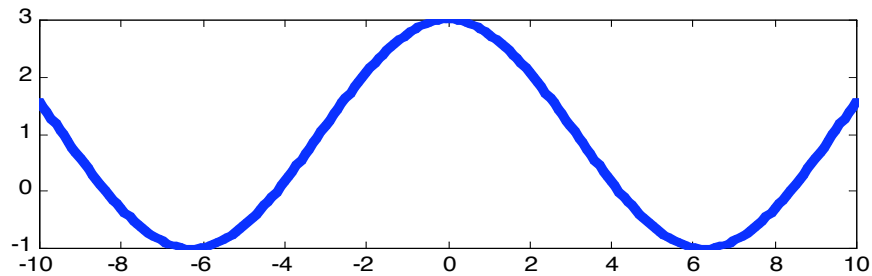
$$\therefore y(t) = e^{-\frac{ab}{a+b}x^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\alpha^2} \frac{d\alpha}{\sqrt{a+b}} = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a+b}} e^{-\frac{ab}{a+b}x^2}, \text{ which is a Gaussian function.}$$

Problem 3

$$f(t) = \delta(t+0.5) + \delta(t) + \delta(t-0.5)$$

$$F(j\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)e^{-j\omega t} dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t+0.5)e^{-j\omega t} dt + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t)e^{-j\omega t} dt + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t-0.5)e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

$$F(j\omega) = e^{j\frac{\omega}{2}} + 1 + e^{-j\frac{\omega}{2}} = 1 + 2\cos\left(\frac{\omega}{2}\right)$$



Problem 4

These solutions are all based on the elementary properties of the Fourier transform (see the class handout).

$$(a) \quad x(0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(j\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega \Big|_{t=0} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(j\omega) d\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\frac{1}{2} X_0 \cdot 2W + X_0 \cdot W \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} X_0 W$$

(b) Using the symmetry properties, we note that $X(j\omega)$ is real, therefore $x(-t) = \overline{x(t)}$, that is they are complex conjugates.

(c) This one is a little tricky! We use the property that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) dt = X(j\omega) \Big|_{\omega=0}$$

BUT note that there is a singularity at $\omega = 0$. The question is: what is the value of $X(j0)$? The problem statement specifies that $X(j\omega) = X_0$ for $0 \leq \omega < W$, so you can argue that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) dt = X_0.$$

On the other hand if you approximate the step discontinuity with a smooth function (say erf()) around $\omega = 0$, you can argue that the value of $X(j0) = 0.75X_0$, or

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) dt = 0.75X_0.$$

So the answer is dependent on your assumption about the discontinuity!

(d) From Parseval's theorem

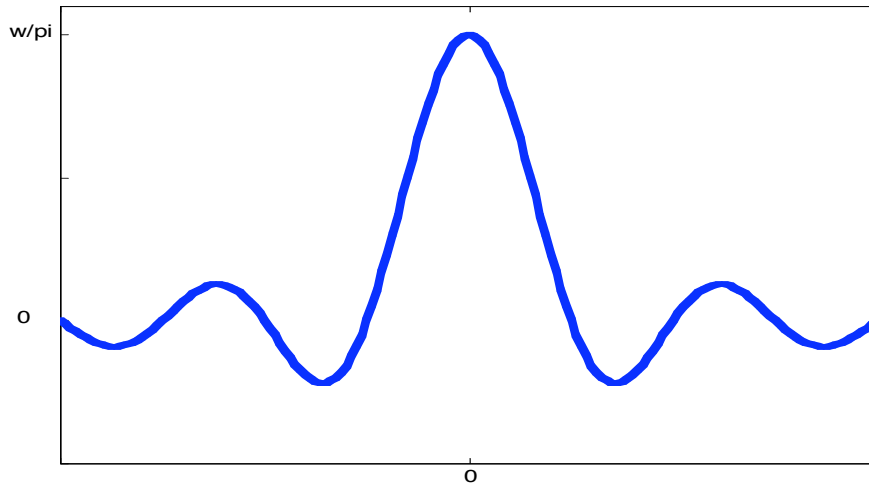
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t)|^2 dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |X(j\omega)|^2 d\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\frac{1}{4} X_0^2 \cdot 2W + X_0^2 \cdot W \right) = \frac{3}{4\pi} X_0^2 W.$$

Problem 5

$$H(j\omega) = \begin{cases} 1, & |\omega| < \omega_c \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If an impulse is passed through the filter, we obtain the impulse response $h(t) = F^{-1}\{H(j\omega)\}$

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H(j\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\omega_c}^{\omega_c} e^{j\omega t} d\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi jt} (e^{j\omega_c t} - e^{-j\omega_c t}) = \frac{\omega_c}{\pi} \frac{\sin \omega_c t}{\omega_c t} = \frac{\omega_c}{\pi} \text{sinc}(\omega_c t)$$



The filter is acausal.

Problem 6

$h(t) = 5e^{-3t}$ Let's compute the Fourier transform of $h(t)$ $H(j\omega) = \int_0^{\infty} 5e^{-3t} e^{-j\omega t} dt = \frac{5}{j\omega + 3}$

Note: lower limit in integral is 0 because a real filter is a causal system.

- a) The transfer function can be found by taking the Laplace transform, which can be viewed as a Fourier transform where $j\omega$ is replaced by $s = \sigma + j\omega$.

$$H(s) = \frac{5}{s + 3}$$

- b) The frequency response is given by $H(j\omega)$ computed previously.

- c) We find the cut-off frequency by solving:

$$\frac{|H(j\omega_c)|}{|H(j0)|} = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow |H(j\omega_c)| = \frac{H(j0)}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{5}{\sqrt{9 + \omega_c^2}} = \frac{5}{6} \Rightarrow \omega_c^2 = 36 - 9 = 27 \Rightarrow \omega_c = \sqrt{27} \text{ rad/s}$$