



Fourier Transform of a distribution / generalized function

1. define a class of test functions, which typically have particularly nice property

(rapidly decreasing function for $\mathbb{R}^1$)

2. a distribution T is a continuous linear functional on test functions (i.e. $T(\phi_1) + T(\phi_2) = T(\phi_1 + \phi_2)$ $T(c\phi) = cT(\phi)$ $T(\phi_n) \rightarrow T(\phi)$ if $\phi_n \rightarrow \phi$)

the class of distributions is the dual space of test function

eg. $\langle \delta, \phi \rangle = \phi(0)$ normalization picture of δ



eg. distribution induced by functions

if $f(x)$ is a function s.t. $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \phi(x) dx$ converges since $\phi(x)$ has good property (rapidly decreasing), f can include many functions like $\sin, \cos, x$
 then define $\langle f, \phi \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \phi(x) dx$ here f is not a function, it's a distribution induced by function f

3. Fourier Transform of distributions

let test functions to be $\mathcal{S}$ rapidly decreasing functions (remember that if $f \in \mathcal{S}$, then $\hat{f} \in \mathcal{S}$, inverse F.T. works $\hat{\hat{f}} = f$)

the corresponding class of distributions is called the class of tempered distribution

if T is a tempered distribution, want to define the F.T. $\hat{T}$ to be another tempered distribution
 have to define $\langle \hat{T}, \phi \rangle$

suppose $\langle \hat{T}, \phi \rangle$ is defined by integration (if everything is nice)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \hat{T}, \phi \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{T}(x) \phi(x) dx \\ &= \int_x^{\infty} \int_y^{\infty} e^{-ixy} T(y) dy \phi(x) dx \\ &= \int_y^{\infty} \int_x^{\infty} e^{-ixy} \phi(x) dx T(y) dy \\ &= \int_y^{\infty} \hat{\phi}(y) T(y) dy \\ &= \langle T, \hat{\phi} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle \hat{\hat{T}}, \phi \rangle = \langle T, \hat{\hat{\phi}} \rangle$$

T is a tempered distribution that operates on rapidly decreasing functions

if ϕ is a rapidly decreasing function, then so is $\hat{\phi}$

thus $\langle T, \hat{\phi} \rangle$ makes sense

turn solution into a definition

for a tempered distribution T , define $\hat{T}$ by $\langle \hat{T}, \phi \rangle = \langle T, \hat{\phi} \rangle$

classical F.T. well defined for rapidly decaying f

$$\langle \hat{\hat{T}}, \phi \rangle = \langle \hat{T}, \hat{\hat{\phi}} \rangle = \langle T, \hat{\hat{\hat{\phi}}} \rangle = \langle T, \phi \rangle$$

thus for a tempered distribution T , $\hat{\hat{T}} = T$

eg. Calculate the Fourier Transform of δ

$$\begin{aligned}\langle f\delta, \phi \rangle &= \langle \delta, f\phi \rangle \\ &= f\phi(0) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-i2\pi 0x} \phi(x) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} 1 \cdot \phi(x) dx = \langle 1, \phi \rangle\end{aligned}$$

$f\delta = 1$ dual relationship: concentrated in time domain spreaded out in frequency domain

eg. δ_a

$$\begin{aligned}\langle f\delta_a, \phi \rangle &= \langle \delta_a, f\phi \rangle \\ &= f\phi(a) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-i2\pi ax} \phi(x) dx \\ &= \langle e^{-i2\pi ax}, \phi \rangle\end{aligned}$$

$$f\delta_a = e^{-i2\pi ax}$$

eg. $f(e^{i2\pi ax})$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle f e^{i2\pi ax}, \phi \rangle &= \langle e^{i2\pi ax}, f\phi \rangle \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{i2\pi ax} \cdot f\phi(x) dx \\ &= [f^{-1}(f\phi)](a) = \phi(a) \\ &= \langle \delta_a, \phi \rangle\end{aligned}$$

$$f e^{i2\pi ax} = \delta_a$$

$$\text{when } a=0 \quad \langle f1, \phi \rangle = \langle 1, f\phi \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f\phi(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-i2\pi 0x} f\phi(x) dx \\ &= (f^{-1} f\phi)(0) = \phi(0) = \langle \delta_0, \phi \rangle\end{aligned}$$

$$f e^{i2\pi 0x} = \delta_0$$

eg. $\cos 2\pi ax$

$$\cos 2\pi ax = \frac{1}{2} (e^{i2\pi ax} + e^{-i2\pi ax})$$

$$\begin{aligned}f \cos 2\pi ax &= \frac{1}{2} (f e^{i2\pi ax} + f e^{-i2\pi ax}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\delta_a + \delta_{-a})\end{aligned}$$



$$f \sin 2\pi ax = \frac{1}{2i} (\delta_a - \delta_{-a})$$