

Homework #12

Problem 4 - 20.2.7:

We know that

$$\delta(t-x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\omega(t-x)} d\omega. \quad (1)$$

To represent the δ with a cosine expansion we need to assume that it is an even function, i.e., that the function that we are representing is actually

$$f(x) = \delta(t-x) + \delta(t+x). \quad (2)$$

From the representation for the δ given in (1) we know that

$$\delta(t+x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\omega(t+x)} d\omega. \quad (3)$$

Then plugging (1) and (3) into (2) we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (e^{i\omega(t-x)} + e^{i\omega(t+x)}) d\omega = \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\cos\omega(t+x) + i\sin\omega(t+x) + \cos\omega(t-x) + i\sin\omega(t-x)) d\omega = \\ &= \frac{2}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\cos\omega t \cos\omega x + i\sin\omega t \cos\omega x) d\omega. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Now we notice that the first term in (4) is even while the second term is odd and thus its integral will vanish and we are left with:

$$\delta(t-x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \cos\omega t \cos\omega x d\omega. \quad (5)$$

For the sine expansion we need to assume that our function is odd so now we are going to expand:

$$f(x) = \delta(t-x) - \delta(t+x). \quad (6)$$

Then plugging (1) and (3) into (5) we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (e^{i\omega(t-x)} - e^{i\omega(t+x)}) d\omega = \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\cos\omega(t+x) + i\sin\omega(t+x) - \cos\omega(t-x) + i\sin\omega(t-x)) d\omega = \\ &= \frac{2}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\sin\omega t \sin\omega x + i\cos\omega t \sin\omega x) d\omega. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Now we notice that the first term in (7) is even while the second term is odd and thus its integral will vanish and we are left with:

$$\delta(t-x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \sin\omega t \sin\omega x d\omega. \quad (8)$$