

Example 6.13 (Fourier transform of the sinc function). Using the transform pair

$$\underbrace{\text{rect } t}_{v(t)} \xleftrightarrow{\text{CTFT}} \underbrace{\text{sinc}\left(\frac{\omega}{2}\right)}_{V(\omega)}, \quad \textcircled{1}$$

find the Fourier transform X of the function

$$x(t) = \text{sinc}\left(\frac{t}{2}\right).$$

Solution. From the given Fourier transform pair, we have

$$v(t) = \text{rect } t \xleftrightarrow{\text{CTFT}} V(\omega) = \text{sinc}\left(\frac{\omega}{2}\right). \quad \leftarrow \text{Simply restating given FT pair } \textcircled{1}$$

By duality, we have

$$\mathcal{F}V(\omega) = 2\pi v(-\omega)$$

$$V(t) = \text{sinc}\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) \xleftrightarrow{\text{CTFT}} \mathcal{F}V(\omega) = 2\pi v(-\omega) = 2\pi \text{rect}(-\omega) = 2\pi \text{rect } \omega.$$

Thus, we have

$$V(t) = \text{sinc}\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) \xleftrightarrow{\text{CTFT}} \mathcal{F}V(\omega) = 2\pi \text{rect } \omega.$$

Observing that $V = x$ and $\mathcal{F}V = X$, we can rewrite the preceding relationship as

$$x(t) = \text{sinc}\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) \xleftrightarrow{\text{CTFT}} X(\omega) = 2\pi \text{rect } \omega.$$

Thus, we have shown that

$$X(\omega) = 2\pi \text{rect } \omega. \quad \blacksquare$$