

Example 6.15 (Frequency-domain convolution property). Let x and y be functions related as

$$y(t) = x(t) \cos(\omega_c t),$$

where ω_c is a nonzero real constant. Let $Y = \mathcal{F}y$ and $X = \mathcal{F}x$. Find an expression for Y in terms of X .

Solution. To allow for simpler notation in what follows, we define

$$v(t) = \cos(\omega_c t) \quad \textcircled{1}$$

and let V denote the Fourier transform of v . From **Table 6.2**, we have that

$$\textcircled{2} \quad V(\omega) = \pi[\delta(\omega - \omega_c) + \delta(\omega + \omega_c)]. \quad \leftarrow \text{from table of FT pairs}$$

From the definition of v , we have

$$\textcircled{3} \quad y(t) = x(t)v(t). \quad \leftarrow \text{since } y(t) = x(t) \underbrace{\cos(\omega_c t)}_{v(t)}$$

Taking the Fourier transform of both sides of this equation, we have

$$Y(\omega) = \mathcal{F}\{x(t)v(t)\}(\omega). \quad \leftarrow \text{taking FT of both sides of } \textcircled{3}$$

Using the frequency-domain convolution property of the Fourier transform, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Y(\omega) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} X * V(\omega) \quad \leftarrow \text{frequency-domain convolution property} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(\lambda) V(\omega - \lambda) d\lambda. \quad \leftarrow \text{definition of convolution} \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the above expression for V , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Y(\omega) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(\lambda) (\pi[\delta(\omega - \lambda - \omega_c) + \delta(\omega - \lambda + \omega_c)]) d\lambda \quad \leftarrow \text{substitute } V \text{ from } \textcircled{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(\lambda) [\delta(\omega - \lambda - \omega_c) + \delta(\omega - \lambda + \omega_c)] d\lambda \quad \leftarrow \text{cancel } \pi\text{'s} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(\lambda) \delta(\underbrace{\omega - \lambda - \omega_c}_{\lambda - \omega + \omega_c}) d\lambda + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(\lambda) \delta(\underbrace{\omega - \lambda + \omega_c}_{\lambda - \omega - \omega_c}) d\lambda \right] \quad \leftarrow \text{split into two integrals} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(\lambda) \delta(\lambda - \omega + \omega_c) d\lambda + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(\lambda) \delta(\lambda - \omega - \omega_c) d\lambda \right] \quad \leftarrow \delta \text{ is even} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(\lambda) \delta[\lambda - (\omega - \omega_c)] d\lambda + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(\lambda) \delta[\lambda - (\omega + \omega_c)] d\lambda \right] \quad \leftarrow \text{regroup} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [X(\omega - \omega_c) + X(\omega + \omega_c)] \quad \leftarrow \text{sifting property} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} X(\omega - \omega_c) + \frac{1}{2} X(\omega + \omega_c). \quad \leftarrow \text{expand} \end{aligned}$$