

Example 6.9 (Time-domain shifting property of the Fourier transform). Find the Fourier transform X of the function

$$x(t) = A \cos(\omega_0 t + \theta),$$

where A , ω_0 , and θ are real constants.

Solution. Let $v(t) = A \cos(\omega_0 t)$ so that $x(t) = v(t + \frac{\theta}{\omega_0})$. Also, let $V = \mathcal{F}v$. From Table 6.2, we have that

$$\cos(\omega_0 t) \xleftrightarrow{\text{CTFT}} \pi[\delta(\omega - \omega_0) + \delta(\omega + \omega_0)]. \quad (3)$$

Using this transform pair and the linearity property of the Fourier transform, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} V(\omega) &= \mathcal{F}\{A \cos(\omega_0 t)\}(\omega) \\ &= A\pi[\delta(\omega + \omega_0) + \delta(\omega - \omega_0)]. \end{aligned}$$

Annotations: (4) $\mathcal{F}\{A \cos(\omega_0 t)\}$ is from FT of (1) and linearity. $A\pi[\delta(\omega + \omega_0) + \delta(\omega - \omega_0)]$ is from FT pair (3) and linearity.

From the definition of v and the time-shifting property of the Fourier transform, we have

$$\begin{aligned} X(\omega) &= e^{j\omega\theta/\omega_0} V(\omega) \\ &= e^{j\omega\theta/\omega_0} A\pi[\delta(\omega + \omega_0) + \delta(\omega - \omega_0)]. \end{aligned}$$

Annotations: $e^{j\omega\theta/\omega_0} V(\omega)$ is from FT of (2) using time-domain shifting property $[e^{-j\omega(-\theta/\omega_0)}]$. $A\pi[\delta(\omega + \omega_0) + \delta(\omega - \omega_0)]$ is substituting expression for $V(\omega)$ from (4).

Thus, we have shown that

$$A \cos(\omega_0 t + \theta) \xleftrightarrow{\text{CTFT}} A\pi e^{j\omega\theta/\omega_0} [\delta(\omega + \omega_0) + \delta(\omega - \omega_0)]. \quad \blacksquare$$