

Example 6.14 (Time-domain convolution property of the Fourier transform). With the aid of table of FT pairs Table 6.2, find the Fourier transform X of the function

$$x(t) = x_1 * x_2(t),$$

where

$$x_1(t) = e^{-2t}u(t) \quad \text{and} \quad x_2(t) = u(t).$$

Solution. Let X_1 and X_2 denote the Fourier transforms of x_1 and x_2 , respectively. From the time-domain convolution property of the Fourier transform, we know that

$$\begin{aligned} X(\omega) &= (\mathcal{F}\{x_1 * x_2\})(\omega) \\ &= X_1(\omega)X_2(\omega). \end{aligned} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{time-domain convolution} \\ \text{property} \end{array} \quad (6.10)$$

table of FT pairs
From Table 6.2, we know that

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \quad X_1(\omega) &= (\mathcal{F}\{e^{-2t}u(t)\})(\omega) \\ &= \frac{1}{2+j\omega} \quad \text{and} \end{aligned} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{table of FT pairs} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} \quad X_2(\omega) &= \mathcal{F}u(\omega) \\ &= \pi\delta(\omega) + \frac{1}{j\omega}. \end{aligned} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{table of FT pairs} \end{array}$$

Substituting these expressions for $X_1(\omega)$ and $X_2(\omega)$ into (6.10), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} X(\omega) &= \left[\frac{1}{2+j\omega}\right] \left[\pi\delta(\omega) + \frac{1}{j\omega}\right] \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{substituting } \textcircled{1} \text{ and } \textcircled{2} \\ \text{into (6.10)} \end{array} \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2+j\omega} \delta(\omega) + \frac{1}{j\omega} \left(\frac{1}{2+j\omega}\right) \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2+j\omega} \delta(\omega) + \frac{1}{j2\omega - \omega^2} \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} \delta(\omega) + \frac{1}{j2\omega - \omega^2}. \end{aligned} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{equivalence property} \\ \text{of } \delta \text{ function} \end{array} \quad \blacksquare$$

$\frac{\pi}{2+j\omega} \Big|_{\omega=0}$