

Quiz 5 (Notes, books, and calculators are not authorized)

Show all your work in the blank space you are given on the exam sheet. Always justify your answer. Answers with **no justification will not be graded**. Here are some formulae that you may want to use:

$$\mathcal{F}(f)(\omega) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x)e^{i\omega x} dx, \quad \mathcal{F}^{-1}(f)(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\omega)e^{-i\omega x} d\omega, \quad (1)$$

$$\mathcal{F}(S_\lambda(x)) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\sin(\lambda\omega)}{\omega}, \quad \text{where } S_\lambda(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } |x| \leq \lambda \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\alpha}} \mathcal{F}(e^{-\frac{x^2}{4\alpha}}) = e^{-\alpha\omega^2}. \quad (2)$$

Question 1: Solve the following integral equation (Hint: $x^2 - 3xa + 2a^2 = (x - a)(x - 2a)$):

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(y)f(x-y)dy - 3\sqrt{2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{y^2}{2\pi}} f(x-y)dy = -4\pi e^{-\frac{x^2}{4\pi}}. \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

This equation can be re-written using the convolution operator:

$$f * f - 3\sqrt{2}e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\pi}} * f = -4\pi e^{-\frac{x^2}{4\pi}}.$$

We take the Fourier transform and use (2) to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 2\pi\mathcal{F}(f)^2 - 2\pi 3\sqrt{2}\mathcal{F}(f) \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi\frac{1}{2\pi}}} e^{-\omega^2\frac{1}{4\frac{1}{2\pi}}} &= -4\pi \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi\frac{1}{4\pi}}} e^{-\omega^2\frac{1}{4\frac{1}{4\pi}}} \\ \mathcal{F}(f)^2 - 3\mathcal{F}(f)e^{-\omega^2\frac{\pi}{2}} + 2e^{-\omega^2\pi} &= 0 \\ (\mathcal{F}(f) - e^{-\omega^2\frac{\pi}{2}})(\mathcal{F}(f) - 2e^{-\omega^2\frac{\pi}{2}}) &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

This implies

$$\text{either } \mathcal{F}(f) = e^{-\omega^2\frac{\pi}{2}}, \quad \text{or } \mathcal{F}(f) = 2e^{-\omega^2\frac{\pi}{2}}.$$

Taking the inverse Fourier transform, we obtain

$$\text{either } f(x) = \sqrt{2}e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\pi}}, \quad \text{or } f(x) = 2\sqrt{2}e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\pi}}.$$

Question 2: (i) Let f be an integrable function on $(-\infty, +\infty)$. Prove that for all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, and for all $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$, $\mathcal{F}([e^{ibx}f(ax)])(\xi) = \frac{1}{a}\mathcal{F}(f)(\frac{\xi+b}{a})$.

The definition of the Fourier transform together with the change of variable $ax \mapsto x'$ implies

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}[e^{ibx}f(ax)](\xi) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(ax)e^{ibx}e^{i\xi x} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(ax)e^{i(b+\xi)x} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{a} f(x')e^{i\frac{(\xi+b)}{a}x'} dx' \\ &= \frac{1}{a}\mathcal{F}(f)\left(\frac{\xi+b}{a}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Question 3: Consider the telegraph equation $\partial_{tt}u + 2\alpha\partial_tu + \alpha^2u - c^2\partial_{xx}u = 0$ with $\alpha \geq 0$, $u(x, 0) = 0$, $\partial_tu(x, 0) = g(x)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $t > 0$ and boundary condition at infinity $u(\pm\infty, t) = 0$. Solve the equation by the Fourier transform technique. (Hint: the solution to the ODE $\phi''(t) + 2\alpha\phi'(t) + (\alpha^2 + \lambda^2)\phi(t) = 0$ is $\phi(t) = e^{-\alpha t}(a \cos(\lambda t) + b \sin(\lambda t))$)

Applying the Fourier transform with respect to x to the equation, we infer that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \partial_{tt}\mathcal{F}(u)(\omega, t) + 2\alpha\partial_t\mathcal{F}(u)(\omega, t) + \alpha^2\mathcal{F}(u)(\omega, t) - c^2(-i\omega)^2\mathcal{F}(u)(\omega, t) \\ &= \partial_{tt}\mathcal{F}(u)(\omega, t) + 2\alpha\partial_t\mathcal{F}(u)(\omega, t) + (\alpha^2 + c^2\omega^2)\mathcal{F}(u)(\omega, t) \end{aligned}$$

Using the hint, we deduce that

$$\mathcal{F}(u)(\omega, t) = e^{-\alpha t}(a(\omega) \cos(\omega ct) + b(\omega) \sin(\omega ct)).$$

The initial condition implies that $a(\omega) = 0$ and $\mathcal{F}(g)(\omega) = \omega cb(\omega)$; as a result, $b(\omega) = \mathcal{F}(g)(\omega)/(\omega c)$ and

$$\mathcal{F}(u)(\omega, t) = e^{-\alpha t}\mathcal{F}(g)\frac{\sin(\omega ct)}{\omega c}.$$

Then using (2), we have

$$\mathcal{F}(u)(\omega, t) = \frac{\pi}{c}e^{-\alpha t}\mathcal{F}(g)\mathcal{F}(S_{ct}).$$

The convolution theorem implies that

$$u(x, t) = e^{-\alpha t}\frac{1}{2c}g * S_{ct} = e^{-\alpha t}\frac{1}{2c}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty}g(y)S_{ct}(x-y)dy.$$

Finally the definition of S_{ct} implies that $S_{ct}(x-y)$ is equal to 1 if $-ct < x-y < ct$ and is equal zero otherwise, which finally means that

$$u(x, t) = e^{-\alpha t}\frac{1}{2c}\int_{x-ct}^{x+ct}g(y)dy.$$

Question 4: Find the inverse Fourier transform of $\frac{1}{\pi}\frac{\sin(\lambda\omega)}{\omega}$.

Since $\mathcal{F}(S_\lambda(x)) = \frac{1}{\pi}\frac{\sin(\lambda\omega)}{\omega}$, the inverse Fourier transform theorem implies that

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\pi}\frac{\sin(\lambda\omega)}{\omega}\right)(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } |x| < \lambda \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } |x| = \lambda \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$