

2007 Schol exam, q6 outline solutions.

Write the triangular pulse

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} At/T + A & -T < t < 0 \\ -At/T + A & 0 < t < T \\ 0 & |t| > T \end{cases}$$

as a Fourier integral.

Solution: So, substituting in

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{f}(k) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-ikt} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-T}^{0} \left(\frac{At}{T} + A \right) e^{-ikt} dt + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{T} \left(-\frac{At}{T} + A \right) e^{-ikt} dt \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

Now, doing a change of variable from t to $-t$ gives

$$\int_{-T}^{0} \frac{At}{T} e^{-ikt} dt = - \int_{0}^{T} \frac{At}{T} e^{ikt} dt \quad (2)$$

so we can put everything together

$$\tilde{f}(k) = \frac{A}{2\pi} \int_{-T}^{T} e^{-ikt} dt - \frac{A}{\pi T} \int_{0}^{T} t \cos kt dt \quad (3)$$

The second integral has to be done by parts

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{0}^{T} t \cos kt dt &= \frac{1}{k} t \sin kt \Big|_0^T - \frac{1}{k} \int_0^T \sin kt dt \\ &= \frac{T}{k} \sin kT + \frac{1}{k^2} \cos kT - \frac{1}{k^2} \quad (4) \end{aligned}$$

The first integral is

$$\int_{-T}^{T} e^{-ikt} dt = \frac{1}{-ik} e^{-ikt} \Big|_{-T}^T = \frac{2}{k} \sin kT \quad (5)$$

Thus, we have

$$\tilde{f}(k) = \frac{A}{\pi k} \sin kT - \frac{A}{\pi T} \left(\frac{T}{k} \sin kT + \frac{1}{k^2} \cos kT - \frac{1}{k^2} \right) = \frac{A}{\pi T k^2} (1 - \cos kT) \quad (6)$$