

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

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FIRST SEMESTER, 2009

Campus: City

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PHYSICS

Linear Systems

(Time allowed: THREE hours)

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer any **FOUR** questions.

All questions are of equal value.

The otago paper PHSI461 and the  
Auckland University paper PHYSICS  
701 were in 2009 (and still are) taught  
jointly using a video link.

The exams sat were (and still are) the  
same in both institutions.

As far as I am aware in 2009 a Otago  
"branded" exam paper was not  
produced.

-- Jevon Longdell, Physics Dept,  
March 2011.

A table of Fourier transforms and properties

Forward:  $F(\nu) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-j2\pi\nu t} dt$       Inverse:  $f(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\nu) e^{j2\pi\nu t} d\nu$

Some properties	Some transform pairs
$F(t) \leftrightarrow f(-\nu)$	$\delta(t) \leftrightarrow 1$
$f^*(t) \leftrightarrow F^*(-\nu)$	$u(t) e^{-at} \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{j2\pi\nu+a}$
$f(at) \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{ a } F\left(\frac{\nu}{a}\right)$	$u(t) \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2}\delta(\nu) + \frac{1}{j2\pi\nu}$
$f(t-t_0) \leftrightarrow e^{-j2\pi\nu t_0} F(\nu)$	$\exp(j2\pi\nu_0 t) \leftrightarrow \delta(\nu-\nu_0)$
$e^{j2\pi\nu_0 t} f(t) \leftrightarrow F(\nu-\nu_0)$	$\cos(2\pi\nu_0 t) \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2}[\delta(\nu-\nu_0) + \delta(\nu+\nu_0)]$
$\frac{d^n}{dt^n} f(t) \leftrightarrow (j2\pi\nu)^n F(\nu)$	$\sin(2\pi\nu_0 t) \leftrightarrow \frac{j}{2}[-\delta(\nu-\nu_0) + \delta(\nu+\nu_0)]$
$-j2\pi t f(t) \leftrightarrow \frac{dF(\nu)}{d\nu}$	$\Pi(t) \leftrightarrow \text{sinc}(\nu)$
$\int_{-\infty}^t f(\tau) d\tau \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{j2\pi\nu} F(\nu) + \frac{1}{2} F(0) \delta(\nu)$	$\text{sgn}(t) \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{j\pi\nu}$
$(f * g)(t) \leftrightarrow F(\nu) G(\nu)$	$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t-kT) \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{T} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta\left(\nu - \frac{k}{T}\right)$
$f(t) g(t) \leftrightarrow (F * G)(\nu)$	$\exp(-\pi t^2) \leftrightarrow \exp(-\pi \nu^2)$

DFT:  $X[r] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} x[k] \exp\left(-\frac{j2\pi r k}{N}\right)$       IDFT:  $x[k] = \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} X[r] \exp\left(\frac{j2\pi r k}{N}\right)$

Hilbert transform:  $\hat{f}(t) = f(t) * \frac{1}{\pi t}$ ,  $\hat{F}(\nu) = -j \text{sgn}(\nu) F(\nu)$

Convolution integral:  $(f * h)(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau) h(t-\tau) d\tau$

1. (a) Define what it means for a system to be *linear*, and to be *shift-invariant* (or time-invariant). (4 marks)
- (b) Define the *impulse response* of a linear shift-invariant system, and show how the impulse response relates input and output of the system. (4 marks)
- (c) Define the *transfer function* of a linear shift-invariant system, and give a formula relating the transfer function to the impulse response of the system. (4 marks)
- (d) Define what is meant by the *stability* of a linear shift-invariant system and show that it is equivalent to the impulse response of the system being absolutely integrable. (6 marks)
- (e) A system with an ‘echo’ may be represented by a linear-time invariant system with the impulse response

$$h(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k \delta(t - kT)$$

where  $0 < a < 1$ .

- (i) Is this system stable? (3 marks)
  - (ii) Show that the transfer function  $H(\nu)$  satisfies  $H(\nu) = H(\nu + n/T)$  for all integers  $n$ . (4 marks)
2. (a) The function  $f(t)$  has a Fourier transform  $F(\nu)$ . Derive expressions, in terms of  $F(\nu)$ , for the Fourier transforms of

$$(i) \frac{d}{dt}f(t), \quad (ii) f^*(t), \quad \text{and (iii) } \text{Re}(f(t)),$$

where  $*$  denotes a complex conjugate and  $\text{Re}(\cdot)$  takes the real part of its argument. (6 marks)

- (b) Show that if  $f(t) \leftrightarrow F(\nu)$  and  $g(t) \leftrightarrow G(\nu)$  are Fourier transform pairs, then  $(f * g)(t) \leftrightarrow F(\nu)G(\nu)$ . (7 marks)
- (c) Find and sketch the Fourier transform of each of the functions:

$$w(t) = \begin{cases} 1 + \cos\left(\frac{\pi t}{M}\right), & |t| < M \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$x(t) = \begin{cases} 1 - t^2, & |t| < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$y(t) = \begin{cases} (1 - |t|)^2, & |t| < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$z(t) = \begin{cases} (1 - |t|)^3, & |t| < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

You may assume the transform pairs given on page 2. (12 marks)

3. A function  $f(t)$  is sampled with a uniform sampling interval of  $T$  seconds to give the sequence  $\{f[k] : f[k] = f(kT)\}$ , or equivalently the generalized function

$$f_s(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} f[k]\delta(t - kT).$$

- (a) What is the relationship between the Fourier transforms of  $f(t)$  and  $f_s(t)$ ? Illustrate your answer with diagrams as appropriate. (4 marks)
- (b) Using the result of part (a), or otherwise, derive Nyquist's sampling theorem, i.e. the conditions under which  $f(t)$  can be reconstructed from the sample values  $\{f[k]\}$ . For the case that those conditions are satisfied, write down (or derive) a relationship giving  $f(t)$  in terms of  $f[k]$ . (6 marks)
- (c) A simple, though approximate, method of reconstruction is to linearly interpolate between sample values, i.e.,

$$f_I(t) = f[k] + \alpha f[k + 1] \quad \text{when } t = kT + \alpha T \text{ with } \alpha \in [0, 1].$$

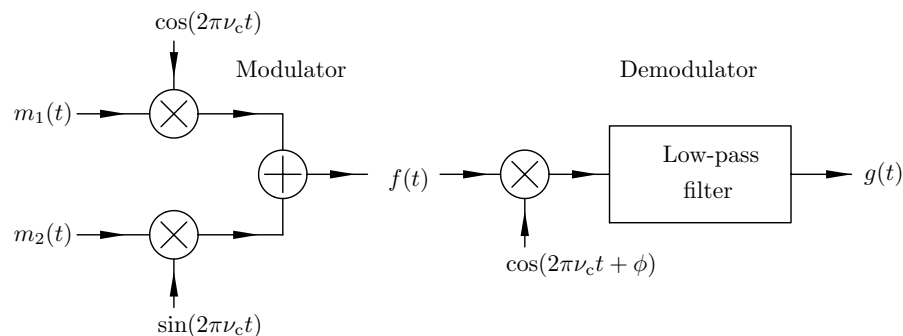
Linear interpolation may be performed by a linear time-invariant system that produces output  $f_I$  for input  $f_s$ .

- (i) Give the impulse response of the interpolating system, and sketch the impulse response. (4 marks)
- (ii) Derive the transfer function of the interpolating system. (4 marks)
- (iii) Using your result from part (c)(ii), or otherwise, give the relationship between the Fourier transforms of the interpolated function  $f_I$ , and the original function  $f$ . Illustrate your answer with diagrams as appropriate. Under what condition is the linearly interpolated function  $f_I$  a good approximation to the original function  $f$ ? (7 marks)

4. (a) A modulating signal  $m(t) = \cos(2\pi\nu_m t)$  is transmitted using a carrier of frequency  $\nu_c$  ( $\nu_c \gg \nu_m$ ). Write down expressions for the modulated signal  $f(t)$  and *sketch* its spectrum  $F(\nu)$  for
- double sideband (DSB) modulation, and
  - upper sideband (USB) modulation. (6 marks)

Note: The Hilbert transform of  $\cos(\omega t)$  is  $\sin(\omega t)$  ( $\omega > 0$ ).

- (b) Two band-limited real signals  $m_1(t)$  and  $m_2(t)$  are applied to the quadrature modulator shown below, where the carrier frequency is  $\nu_c$ . The spectra  $M_1(\nu)$  and  $M_2(\nu)$  vanish for  $|\nu| \geq \nu_m$ .



- Write down expressions for the transmitted signal  $f(t)$  and its spectrum  $F(\nu)$ . (3 marks)
- At the receiver, the signal  $f(t)$  is multiplied by a reconstructed carrier  $\cos(2\pi\nu_c t + \phi)$ , and the output is low-pass filtered, so that only frequencies satisfying  $|\nu| < \nu_f$  are passed through. Calculate the output signal  $g(t)$  for an arbitrary value of  $\phi$ , and show that it is possible to recover  $m_1(t)$  and  $m_2(t)$  by making appropriate choices for  $\phi$ . What relationships must hold between  $\nu_m$ ,  $\nu_c$ , and  $\nu_f$  for this recovery to be possible? (6 marks)

Note:  $\cos(\theta) \cos(\phi) = \frac{1}{2}[\cos(\theta + \phi) + \cos(\theta - \phi)]$  and  $\sin(\theta) \cos(\phi) = \frac{1}{2}[\sin(\theta + \phi) + \sin(\theta - \phi)]$

- (c) (i) A finite energy signal  $f(t)$  has Fourier transform  $F(\nu)$ . By considering the passage of this signal through an ideal band-pass filter, followed by an energy measurement, show that  $|F(\nu)|^2$  gives the energy spectral density. (5 marks)
- (ii) Define the *energy autocorrelation function* of the signal  $f(t)$ , and show that the energy spectral density is the Fourier transform of this function. (5 marks)

5. (a) (i) Write down the definition of the two-sided Laplace transform  $F_L(s)$  of the function  $f(t)$  and describe what is meant by the *region of absolute convergence* of the Laplace transform. Write down the corresponding inverse Laplace transform relationship as a line integral in the complex plane. (5 marks)
- (ii) Using the complex inversion formula, find the inverse Laplace transform of

$$F_L(s) = \frac{1}{(s-1)(s+2)},$$

where the region of convergence is  $-2 < \text{Re}(s) < 1$ . (8 marks)

- (b) The coordinate  $x(t)$  of a *driven damped harmonic oscillator* is described by the differential equation

$$\frac{d^2x(t)}{dt^2} + \gamma \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + \omega^2 x(t) = f(t),$$

where  $\gamma$  is the damping rate,  $\omega/(2\pi)$  is the natural frequency of the oscillator, and  $f(t)$  is the (time-dependent) driving force. Given the initial conditions

$$x(t=0) = 0, \quad \left. \frac{dx}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = 0,$$

use Laplace transforms to show that

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{p_+ - p_-} \int_0^t [e^{p_+(t-\tau)} - e^{p_-(t-\tau)}] f(\tau) d\tau,$$

where

$$p_{\pm} = -\frac{\gamma}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\gamma^2 - 4\omega^2}.$$

(12 marks)

6. (a) A plane wave of light of wavelength  $\lambda$  and unit amplitude is normally incident on a screen which is opaque except for a circular aperture of radius  $a$ .
- (i) Use the paraxial diffraction integral to write down an expression for the amplitude of the light at a point  $(x_P, y_P)$  on a plane located at distance  $d$  on the other side of the screen. (Note: You do not have to evaluate the integral.) (2 marks)
- (ii) Specialise now to the point P lying on the  $z$ -axis (i.e.,  $x_P = y_P = 0$ ). Evaluate the integral (using polar coordinates) and calculate the intensity. Show that the intensity at P is a minimum when  $a^2 = 2n\lambda d$ , where  $n$  is an integer. (9 marks)

Note: The paraxial diffraction integral is

$$f_z(x, y) = \frac{1}{j\lambda z} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_0(x_0, y_0) \exp \left\{ \frac{jk}{2z} [(x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2] \right\} dx_0 dy_0,$$

where  $k = 2\pi/\lambda$ .

- (b) Describe the *Fraunhofer approximation* to diffraction from an aperture. What is its region of validity for the circular aperture described above? (5 marks)
- (c) Consider a Gaussian beam, which at  $z = 0$  is described by  $f_0(x, y) = A_0 \exp[-B_0(x^2 + y^2)]$ , where  $A_0$  and  $B_0$  are *real*. In the paraxial approximation, show that the beam remains Gaussian as it propagates, but is described by the form  $f_z(x, y) = A(z) \exp[-B(z)(x^2 + y^2)]$ , where  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  are complex for  $z \neq 0$ . Give the expressions for  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  and show that the *half-width* of the beam,  $w(z)$ , is given by

$$w(z) = \sqrt{\frac{1 + 4B_0^2 z^2/k^2}{B_0}}.$$

(9 marks)

Note: The Fourier transform of the paraxial diffraction integral is

$$F_z(u, v) = F_0(u, v) \exp \left[ -j \frac{2\pi^2}{k} (u^2 + v^2) z \right],$$

and  $\exp(-ax^2) \leftrightarrow \sqrt{\pi/a} \exp(-\pi^2 u^2/a)$ .

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