

## Problem 5)

- a)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(k_x) e^{ik_x x} dk_x$ . Set  $x=0$ , then  $f(0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(k_x) dk_x$ . ✓
- b)  $F(k_x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-ik_x x} dx$ . Set  $k_x=0$ , then  $F(0) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx$ . ✓
- c)  $\mathcal{F}\{f(x-x_0)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x-x_0) e^{-ik_x x} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y) e^{-ik_x (y+x_0)} dy = e^{-ik_x x_0} F(k_x)$ . ✓
- d)  $\mathcal{F}\{e^{ik_x_0 x} f(x)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ik_x_0 x} f(x) e^{-ik_x x} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-i(k_x - k_x_0)x} dx = F(k_x - k_x_0)$ . ✓
- e)  $\mathcal{F}\{f(ax)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(ax) e^{-ik_x x} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(y) e^{-ik_x y/a} d(y/a) = \frac{1}{a} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y) e^{-i(k_x/a)y} dy$
- ↑  
Change of variable:  
 $y = ax$

Now if  $a > 0$ , the limits of integration go from  $-\infty$  to  $\infty$ . However, if  $a < 0$ , the limits go from  $+\infty$  to  $-\infty$ , in which case the direction of integration must be reversed. This results in multiplying the whole integral with  $-1$  (if the limits are to go from  $-\infty$  to  $+\infty$ ). The coefficient in front of the integral is therefore  $1/a$  when  $a > 0$  and  $-1/a$  when  $a < 0$ . In other words, the coefficient must be written  $1/|a|$ . We'll have

$$\mathcal{F}\{f(ax)\} = \frac{1}{|a|} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y) e^{-i(k_x/a)y} dy = \frac{1}{|a|} F\left(\frac{k_x}{a}\right)$$

f)  $\mathcal{F}\{f^*(x)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f^*(x) e^{-ik_x x} dx = \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{+ik_x x} dx \right]^* = F^*(-k_x)$  ✓

g)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(k_x) e^{ik_x x} dk_x$

Differentiating both sides of the above equation yields:

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d}{dx} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(k_x) e^{+ik_x x} dk_x = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(k_x) \frac{d}{dx} (e^{+ik_x x}) dk_x = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} i k_x F(k_x) e^{ik_x x} dk_x$$

The last expression shows that the inverse Fourier transform of  $i k_x F(k_x)$  is  $f'(x)$ . The uniqueness of the Fourier transform pairs can then be invoked to argue that the Fourier transform of  $f'(x)$  is  $i k_x F(k_x)$ .

Alternatively, we can use integration by parts to prove the Fourier transform of  $f'(x)$  is  $i k_x F(k_x)$ . In this case, we must use the fact that  $f(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ . (In case  $f(x)$  is not well-behaved at  $\pm\infty$ , some sort of limiting argument is necessary.)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}\{f'(x)\} &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f'(x) e^{-ik_x x} dx = f(x) e^{-ik_x x} \Big|_{-\infty}^{\infty} - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \frac{d}{dx} [e^{-ik_x x}] dx \\ &= [f(\infty) e^{-ik_x \infty} - f(-\infty) e^{+ik_x \infty}] + i k_x \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-ik_x x} dx = \underbrace{i k_x F(k_x)}_{x}. \end{aligned}$$

ii)  $F(k_x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-ik_x x} dx \Rightarrow F'(k_x) = \frac{d}{dk_x} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-ik_x x} dx \Rightarrow$

$$F'(k_x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \frac{d}{dk_x} (e^{-ik_x x}) dx = -i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) e^{-ik_x x} dx = -i \mathcal{F}\{xf(x)\}$$

$$\Rightarrow i F'(k_x) = \mathcal{F}\{xf(x)\}.$$