

1. GENERAL RELATIONSHIPS AND TECHNIQUES

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}[\delta_{\mathbf{x}}^{(\mathbf{m})}]_{\xi} &= (2\pi i \xi)^{\mathbf{m}}, & \mathcal{F}[\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{m}}]_{\xi} &= (-2\pi i)^{-|\mathbf{m}|} \delta_{\xi}^{(\mathbf{m})}; \\ \mathcal{F}[\delta_{\mathbf{a}}]_{\xi} &= \exp(-2\pi i \mathbf{a} \cdot \xi), & \mathcal{F}[\exp(2\pi i \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x})]_{\xi} &= \delta_{\alpha}, \end{aligned}$$

with analogous relations for $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$, i becoming $-i$. Thus derivatives of δ are mapped to monomials (and *vice versa*), while translates of δ are mapped to ‘phase factors’ (and *vice versa*).

1.3.2.5.7. Reciprocity theorem

The previous results now allow a self-contained and rigorous proof of the reciprocity theorem between \mathcal{F} and $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ to be given, whereas in traditional settings (*i.e.* in L^1 and L^2) the implicit handling of δ through a limiting process is always the sticking point.

Reciprocity is first established in \mathcal{S} as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathcal{F}}[\mathcal{F}[\varphi]](\mathbf{x}) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{F}[\varphi](\xi) \exp(2\pi i \xi \cdot \mathbf{x}) d^n \xi \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{F}[\tau_{-\mathbf{x}}\varphi](\xi) d^n \xi \\ &= \langle 1, \mathcal{F}[\tau_{-\mathbf{x}}\varphi] \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathcal{F}[1], \tau_{-\mathbf{x}}\varphi \rangle \\ &= \langle \tau_{\mathbf{x}}\delta, \varphi \rangle \\ &= \varphi(\mathbf{x}) \end{aligned}$$

and similarly

$$\mathcal{F}[\tilde{\mathcal{F}}[\varphi]](\mathbf{x}) = \varphi(\mathbf{x}).$$

The reciprocity theorem is then proved in \mathcal{S}' by transposition:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{F}}[\mathcal{F}[T]] = \mathcal{F}[\tilde{\mathcal{F}}[T]] = T \quad \text{for all } T \in \mathcal{S}'.$$

Thus the Fourier cotransformation $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ in \mathcal{S}' may legitimately be called the ‘inverse Fourier transformation’.

The method of Section 1.3.2.4.3 may then be used to show that $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ and \mathcal{F} both have period 4 in \mathcal{S}' .

1.3.2.5.8. Multiplication and convolution

Multiplier functions $\alpha(\mathbf{x})$ for tempered distributions must be infinitely differentiable, as for ordinary distributions; furthermore, they must grow sufficiently slowly as $\|\mathbf{x}\| \rightarrow \infty$ to ensure that $\alpha\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$ for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$ and that the map $\varphi \mapsto \alpha\varphi$ is continuous for the topology of \mathcal{S} . This leads to choosing for multipliers the subspace \mathcal{O}_M consisting of functions $\alpha \in \mathcal{E}$ of polynomial growth. It can be shown that if f is in \mathcal{O}_M , then the associated distribution T_f is in \mathcal{S}' (*i.e.* is a tempered distribution); and that conversely if T is in \mathcal{S}' , $\mu * T$ is in \mathcal{O}_M for all $\mu \in \mathcal{D}$.

Corresponding restrictions must be imposed to define the space \mathcal{O}'_C of those distributions T whose convolution $S * T$ with a tempered distribution S is still a tempered distribution: T must be such that, for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$, $\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \langle T_{\mathbf{y}}, \varphi(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \rangle$ is in \mathcal{S} ; and such that the map $\varphi \mapsto \theta$ be continuous for the topology of \mathcal{S} . This implies that S is ‘rapidly decreasing’. It can be shown that if f is in \mathcal{S} , then the associated distribution T_f is in \mathcal{O}'_C ; and that conversely if T is in \mathcal{O}'_C , $\mu * T$ is in \mathcal{S} for all $\mu \in \mathcal{D}$.

The two spaces \mathcal{O}_M and \mathcal{O}'_C are mapped into each other by the Fourier transformation

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{O}_M) &= \tilde{\mathcal{F}}(\mathcal{O}_M) = \mathcal{O}'_C \\ \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{O}'_C) &= \tilde{\mathcal{F}}(\mathcal{O}'_C) = \mathcal{O}_M \end{aligned}$$

and the convolution theorem takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}[\alpha S] &= \mathcal{F}[\alpha] * \mathcal{F}[S] & S \in \mathcal{S}', \alpha \in \mathcal{O}_M, \mathcal{F}[\alpha] \in \mathcal{O}'_C; \\ \mathcal{F}[S * T] &= \mathcal{F}[S] \times \mathcal{F}[T] & S \in \mathcal{S}', T \in \mathcal{O}'_C, \mathcal{F}[T] \in \mathcal{O}_M. \end{aligned}$$

The same identities hold for $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$. Taken together with the reciprocity theorem, these show that \mathcal{F} and $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ establish mutually inverse isomorphisms between \mathcal{O}_M and \mathcal{O}'_C , and exchange multiplication for convolution in \mathcal{S}' .

It may be noticed that most of the basic properties of \mathcal{F} and $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ may be deduced from this theorem and from the properties of δ . Differentiation operators $D^{\mathbf{m}}$ and translation operators $\tau_{\mathbf{a}}$ are convolutions with $D^{\mathbf{m}}\delta$ and $\tau_{\mathbf{a}}\delta$; they are turned, respectively, into multiplication by monomials $(\pm 2\pi i \xi)^{\mathbf{m}}$ (the transforms of $D^{\mathbf{m}}\delta$) or by phase factors $\exp(\pm 2\pi i \xi \cdot \mathbf{a})$ (the transforms of $\tau_{\mathbf{a}}\delta$).

Another consequence of the convolution theorem is the duality established by the Fourier transformation between sections and projections of a function and its transform. For instance, in \mathbb{R}^3 , the projection of $f(x, y, z)$ on the x, y plane along the z axis may be written

$$(\delta_x \otimes \delta_y \otimes 1_z) * f;$$

its Fourier transform is then

$$(1_{\xi} \otimes 1_{\eta} \otimes \delta_{\zeta}) \times \mathcal{F}[f],$$

which is the section of $\mathcal{F}[f]$ by the plane $\zeta = 0$, orthogonal to the z axis used for projection. There are numerous applications of this property in crystallography (Section 1.3.4.2.1.8) and in fibre diffraction (Section 1.3.4.5.1.3).

1.3.2.5.9. L^2 aspects, Sobolev spaces

The special properties of \mathcal{F} in the space of square-integrable functions $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$, such as Parseval’s identity, can be accommodated within distribution theory: if $u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$, then T_u is a tempered distribution in \mathcal{S}' (the map $u \mapsto T_u$ being continuous) and it can be shown that $S = \mathcal{F}[T_u]$ is of the form S_v , where $u = \mathcal{F}[u]$ is the Fourier transform of u in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$. By Plancherel’s theorem, $\|u\|_2 = \|v\|_2$.

This embedding of L^2 into \mathcal{S}' can be used to derive the convolution theorem for L^2 . If u and v are in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$, then $u * v$ can be shown to be a bounded continuous function; thus $u * v$ is not in L^2 , but it is in \mathcal{S}' , so that its Fourier transform is a distribution, and

$$\mathcal{F}[u * v] = \mathcal{F}[u] \times \mathcal{F}[v].$$

Spaces of tempered distributions related to $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ can be defined as follows. For any real s , define the Sobolev space $H_s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ to consist of all tempered distributions $S \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that

$$(1 + |\xi|^2)^{s/2} \mathcal{F}[S]_{\xi} \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

These spaces play a fundamental role in the theory of partial differential equations, and in the mathematical theory of tomographic reconstruction – a subject not unrelated to the crystallographic phase problem (Natterer, 1986).

1.3.2.6. Periodic distributions and Fourier series

1.3.2.6.1. Terminology

Let \mathbb{Z}^n be the subset of \mathbb{R}^n consisting of those points with (signed) integer coordinates; it is an n -dimensional lattice, *i.e.* a free Abelian group on n generators. A particularly simple set of n generators is given by the standard basis of \mathbb{R}^n , and hence \mathbb{Z}^n will be called the standard lattice in \mathbb{R}^n . Any other ‘non-standard’ n -dimensional lattice Λ in \mathbb{R}^n is the image of this standard lattice by a general linear transformation.

If we identify any two points in \mathbb{R}^n whose coordinates are congruent modulo \mathbb{Z}^n , *i.e.* differ by a vector in \mathbb{Z}^n , we obtain the standard n -torus $\mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n$. The latter may be viewed as $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^n$, *i.e.* as the Cartesian product of n circles. The same identification may be carried out modulo a non-standard lattice Λ , yielding a non-

1.3. FOURIER TRANSFORMS IN CRYSTALLOGRAPHY

standard n -torus \mathbb{R}^n/Λ . The correspondence to crystallographic terminology is that ‘standard’ coordinates over the standard 3-torus $\mathbb{R}^3/\mathbb{Z}^3$ are called ‘fractional’ coordinates over the unit cell; while Cartesian coordinates, *e.g.* in ångströms, constitute a set of non-standard coordinates.

Finally, we will denote by I the unit cube $[0, 1]^n$ and by C_ε the subset

$$C_\varepsilon = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x_j| < \varepsilon \text{ for all } j = 1, \dots, n\}.$$

1.3.2.6.2. \mathbb{Z}^n -periodic distributions in \mathbb{R}^n

A distribution $T \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is called *periodic with period lattice* \mathbb{Z}^n (or \mathbb{Z}^n -periodic) if $\tau_{\mathbf{m}}T = T$ for all $\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ (in crystallography the period lattice is the *direct* lattice).

Given a distribution with compact support $T^0 \in \mathcal{E}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$, then $T = \sum_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \tau_{\mathbf{m}}T^0$ is a \mathbb{Z}^n -periodic distribution. Note that we may write $T = r * T^0$, where $r = \sum_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \delta_{(\mathbf{m})}$ consists of Dirac δ 's at all nodes of the period lattice \mathbb{Z}^n .

Conversely, any \mathbb{Z}^n -periodic distribution T may be written as $r * T^0$ for some $T^0 \in \mathcal{E}'$. To retrieve such a ‘motif’ T^0 from T , a function ψ will be constructed in such a way that $\psi \in \mathcal{D}$ (hence has compact support) and $r * \psi = 1$; then $T^0 = \psi T$. Indicator functions (Section 1.3.2.2) such as χ_1 or $\chi_{C_{1/2}}$ cannot be used directly, since they are discontinuous; but regularized versions of them may be constructed by convolution (see Section 1.3.2.3.9.7) as $\psi_0 = \chi_{C_\varepsilon} * \theta_\eta$, with ε and η such that $\psi_0(\mathbf{x}) = 1$ on $C_{1/2}$ and $\psi_0(\mathbf{x}) = 0$ outside $C_{3/4}$. Then the function

$$\psi = \frac{\psi_0}{\sum_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \tau_{\mathbf{m}}\psi_0}$$

has the desired property. The sum in the denominator contains at most 2^n non-zero terms at any given point \mathbf{x} and acts as a smoothly varying ‘multiplicity correction’.

1.3.2.6.3. Identification with distributions over $\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n$

Throughout this section, ‘periodic’ will mean ‘ \mathbb{Z}^n -periodic’.

Let $s \in \mathbb{R}$, and let $[s]$ denote the largest integer $\leq s$. For $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, let $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ be the unique vector $(\tilde{x}_1, \dots, \tilde{x}_n)$ with $\tilde{x}_j = x_j - [x_j]$. If $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, then $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ if and only if $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$. The image of the map $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ is thus \mathbb{R}^n modulo \mathbb{Z}^n , or $\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n$.

If f is a periodic function over \mathbb{R}^n , then $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ implies $f(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{y})$; we may thus define a function \tilde{f} over $\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n$ by putting $\tilde{f}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) = f(\mathbf{x})$ for any $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $\mathbf{x} - \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$. Conversely, if \tilde{f} is a function over $\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n$, then we may define a function f over \mathbb{R}^n by putting $f(\mathbf{x}) = \tilde{f}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}})$, and f will be periodic. Periodic functions over \mathbb{R}^n may thus be identified with functions over $\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n$, and this identification preserves the notions of convergence, local summability and differentiability.

Given $\varphi^0 \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$, we may define

$$\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Z}^n} (\tau_{\mathbf{m}}\varphi^0)(\mathbf{x})$$

since the sum only contains finitely many non-zero terms; φ is periodic, and $\tilde{\varphi} \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n)$. Conversely, if $\tilde{\varphi} \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n)$ we may define $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ periodic by $\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = \tilde{\varphi}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}})$, and $\varphi^0 \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ by putting $\varphi^0 = \psi\varphi$ with ψ constructed as above.

By transposition, a distribution $\tilde{T} \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n)$ defines a unique periodic distribution $T \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ by $\langle T, \varphi^0 \rangle = \langle \tilde{T}, \tilde{\varphi} \rangle$; conversely, $T \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ periodic defines uniquely $\tilde{T} \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n)$ by $\langle \tilde{T}, \tilde{\varphi} \rangle = \langle T, \varphi^0 \rangle$.

We may therefore identify \mathbb{Z}^n -periodic distributions over \mathbb{R}^n with distributions over $\mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n$. We will, however, use mostly the former

presentation, as it is more closely related to the crystallographer’s perception of periodicity (see Section 1.3.4.1).

1.3.2.6.4. Fourier transforms of periodic distributions

The content of this section is perhaps the central result in the relation between Fourier theory and crystallography (Section 1.3.4.2.1.1).

Let $T = r * T^0$ with r defined as in Section 1.3.2.6.2. Then $r \in \mathcal{D}'$, $T^0 \in \mathcal{E}'$ hence $T^0 \in \mathcal{O}'_C$, so that $T \in \mathcal{D}'$: \mathbb{Z}^n -periodic distributions are tempered, hence have a Fourier transform. The convolution theorem (Section 1.3.2.5.8) is applicable, giving:

$$\mathcal{F}[T] = \mathcal{F}[r] \times \mathcal{F}[T^0]$$

and similarly for $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$.

Since $\mathcal{F}[\delta_{(\mathbf{m})}](\xi) = \exp(-2\pi i \xi \cdot \mathbf{m})$, formally

$$\mathcal{F}[r]_\xi = \sum_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \exp(-2\pi i \xi \cdot \mathbf{m}) = Q,$$

say.

It is readily shown that Q is tempered and periodic, so that $Q = \sum_{\mu \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \tau_\mu(\psi Q)$, while the periodicity of r implies that

$$[\exp(-2\pi i \xi_j) - 1]\psi Q = 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

Since the first factors have single isolated zeros at $\xi_j = 0$ in $C_{3/4}$, $\psi Q = c\delta$ (see Section 1.3.2.3.9.4) and hence by periodicity $Q = cr$; convoluting with χ_{C_1} shows that $c = 1$. Thus we have the fundamental result:

$$\boxed{\mathcal{F}[r] = r}$$

so that

$$\mathcal{F}[T] = r \times \mathcal{F}[T^0];$$

i.e., according to Section 1.3.2.3.9.3,

$$\mathcal{F}[T]_\xi = \sum_{\mu \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \mathcal{F}[T^0](\mu) \times \delta_{(\mu)}.$$

The right-hand side is a *weighted* lattice distribution, whose nodes $\mu \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ are weighted by the *sample values* $\mathcal{F}[T^0](\mu)$ of the transform of the motif T^0 at those nodes. Since $T^0 \in \mathcal{E}'$, the latter values may be written

$$\mathcal{F}[T^0](\mu) = \langle T^0_x, \exp(-2\pi i \mu \cdot \mathbf{x}) \rangle.$$

By the structure theorem for distributions with compact support (Section 1.3.2.3.9.7), T^0 is a derivative of finite order of a continuous function; therefore, from Section 1.3.2.4.2.8 and Section 1.3.2.5.8, $\mathcal{F}[T^0](\mu)$ grows at most polynomially as $\|\mu\| \rightarrow \infty$ (see also Section 1.3.2.6.10.3 about this property). Conversely, let $W = \sum_{\mu \in \mathbb{Z}^n} w_\mu \delta_{(\mu)}$ be a weighted lattice distribution such that the weights w_μ grow at most polynomially as $\|\mu\| \rightarrow \infty$. Then W is a tempered distribution, whose Fourier cotransform $T_x = \sum_{\mu \in \mathbb{Z}^n} w_\mu \exp(+2\pi i \mu \cdot \mathbf{x})$ is periodic. If T is now written as $r * T^0$ for some $T^0 \in \mathcal{E}'$, then by the reciprocity theorem

$$w_\mu = \mathcal{F}[T^0](\mu) = \langle T^0_x, \exp(-2\pi i \mu \cdot \mathbf{x}) \rangle.$$

Although the choice of T^0 is not unique, and need not yield back the same motif as may have been used to build T initially, different choices of T^0 will lead to the same coefficients w_μ because of the periodicity of $\exp(-2\pi i \mu \cdot \mathbf{x})$.

The Fourier transformation thus establishes a duality between periodic distributions and weighted lattice distributions. The pair of relations