

# Signals and Systems



## 1. Standard Signals

# Standard Signals

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## ■ Contents

Standard signals

Even and odd signals

The energy and power of continuous-time signals

Periodic signals

The Dirac distribution

## ■ Book:

*Chapter 1*

- **Exercises:** 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6, 1.9, 1.12 (3rd Ed.)  
1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6, 1.8, 1.13, 1.16 (2nd Ed.)

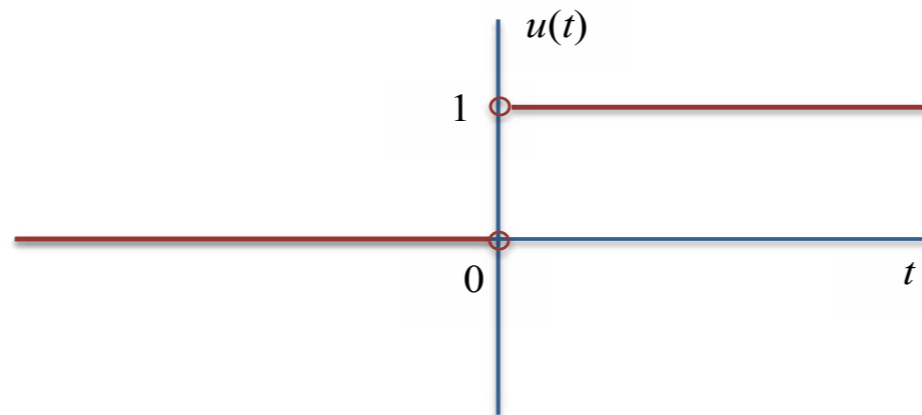
Additional exercises at the end of this lecture

## Standard signals

- The *Heaviside unit step function*

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{for } t > 0 \end{cases}$$

- The step function can be used to model switch-on phenomena
- The step function  $u(-t)$  can be used to model switch-off phenomena



## Standard Signals

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Oliver Heaviside  
Born 1850  
Died 1925

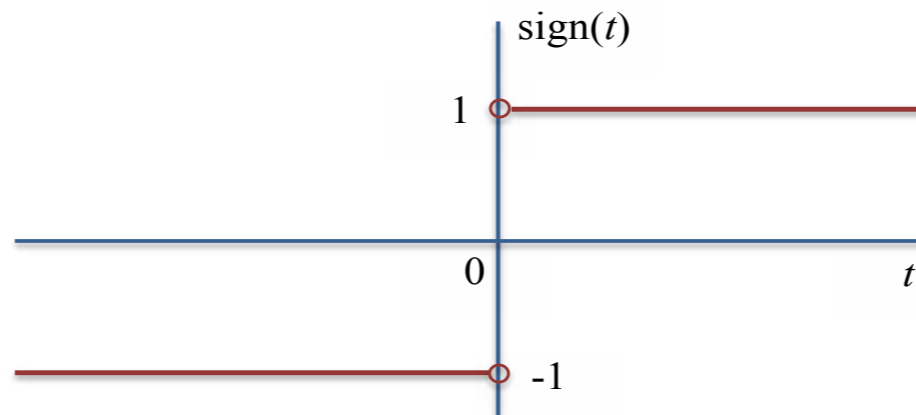
## Standard signals

- The *sign* or *signum function*

$$\text{sign}(t) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{for } t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{for } t > 0 \end{cases}$$

- The sign function in terms of unit step functions

$$\text{sign}(t) = 2u(t) - 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \text{sign}(t) = u(t) - u(-t)$$



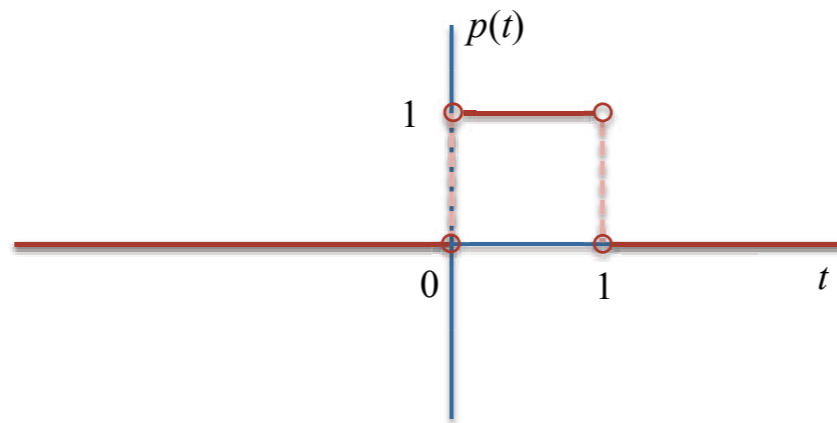
## Standard signals

- The *rectangular pulse function*

$$p(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 0 < t < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- The pulse function in terms of unit step functions

$$p(t) = u(t) - u(t - 1)$$



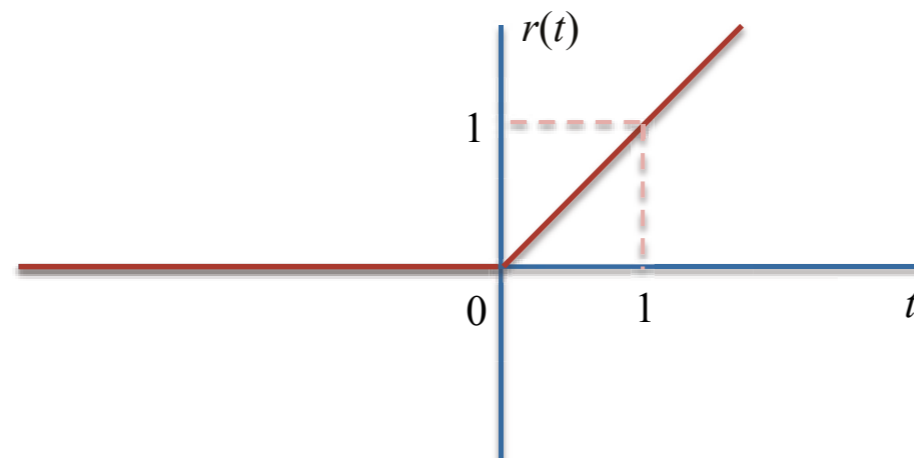
## Standard signals

- The *ramp function*

$$r(t) = \begin{cases} t & \text{for } t > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- The ramp function in terms of the unit step function

$$r(t) = tu(t)$$



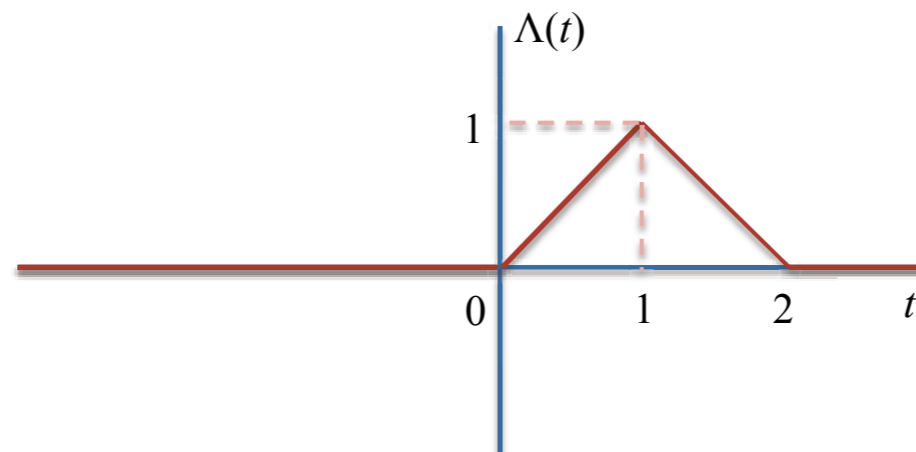
## Standard signals

- The *triangular pulse function*

$$\Lambda(t) = \begin{cases} t & \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq 1 \\ 2 - t & \text{for } 1 < t \leq 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- The triangular pulse function in terms of ramp functions

$$\Lambda(t) = r(t) - 2r(t-1) + r(t-2)$$





## Standard signals

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- The *sinc function*

$$S(t) = \text{sinc}(t) = \frac{\sin(\pi t)}{\pi t} \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

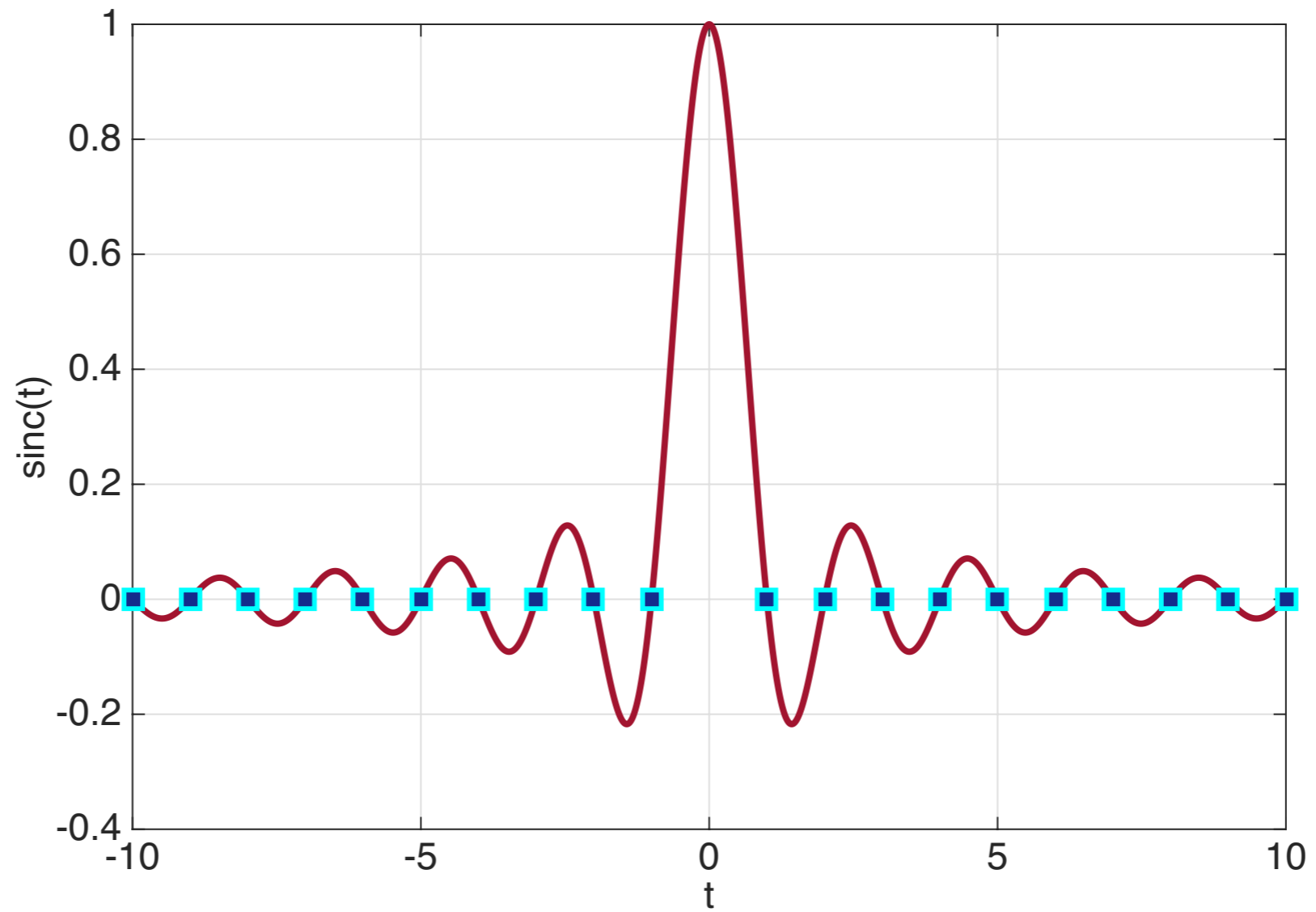
- Some properties:
  - $S(0) = 1$
  - $S(n) = 0$ ,  $n$  a nonzero integer
  - Integral:

$$\int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} S(t) dt = 1$$



## Standard signals

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## ■ Even and odd signals

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- A continuous-time signal  $x(t)$  is called *even* if

$$x(-t) = x(t) \quad \text{for all } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

- A continuous-time signal  $x(t)$  is called *odd* if

$$x(-t) = -x(t) \quad \text{for all } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

## ■ Even and odd signals

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- A signal  $y(t)$  defined on the entire  $t$ -axis can be written as a superposition of an even signal  $y_e(t)$  and an odd signal  $y_o(t)$ :

$$y(t) = y_e(t) + y_o(t)$$

with

$$y_e(t) = \frac{y(t) + y(-t)}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad y_o(t) = \frac{y(t) - y(-t)}{2}$$

## Energy of a continuous-time signal

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- The *energy* of a continuous-time signal  $x(t)$  is defined as

$$E_x = \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t)|^2 dt$$

- A continuous-time signal  $x(t)$  is called a *finite-energy signal* or *square integrable* if its energy is finite, that is, if

$$E_x < \infty \quad \text{or} \quad \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t)|^2 dt < \infty$$

## ■ The action of a continuous-time signal

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- The integral

$$\int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t)| dt$$

is sometimes called the *action* of the continuous-time signal  $x(t)$ . If the action is finite, that is, if

$$\int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t)| dt < \infty$$

the signal is called *absolutely integrable*

## ■ The power of a continuous-time signal

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- The *power* of a continuous-time signal  $x(t)$  is defined as

$$P_x = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{t=-T}^T |x(t)|^2 dt$$

- From this definition it immediately follows that a finite-energy signal has zero power:

$$P_x = 0 \quad \text{for a finite-energy signal } x(t)$$

## ■ Periodic signals

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- A continuous-time signal  $x(t)$  is called *periodic* if there exists a  $T > 0$  called a *period* of  $x(t)$  such that

$$x(t + T) = x(t) \quad \text{for every } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

- A period of a periodic signal is not unique
- If  $T$  is a period, then  $2T, 3T, \dots$  are also periods of  $x(t)$
- The smallest period  $T$  of  $x(t)$  is called the *fundamental period* and is denoted as  $T_0$
- The fundamental period  $T_0$  is unique



## ■ Periodic signals

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- Suppose we are given two periodic signals  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$
- Signal  $x(t)$  has a fundamental period  $T_0$
- Signal  $y(t)$  has a fundamental period  $T_1$

## ■ Periodic signals

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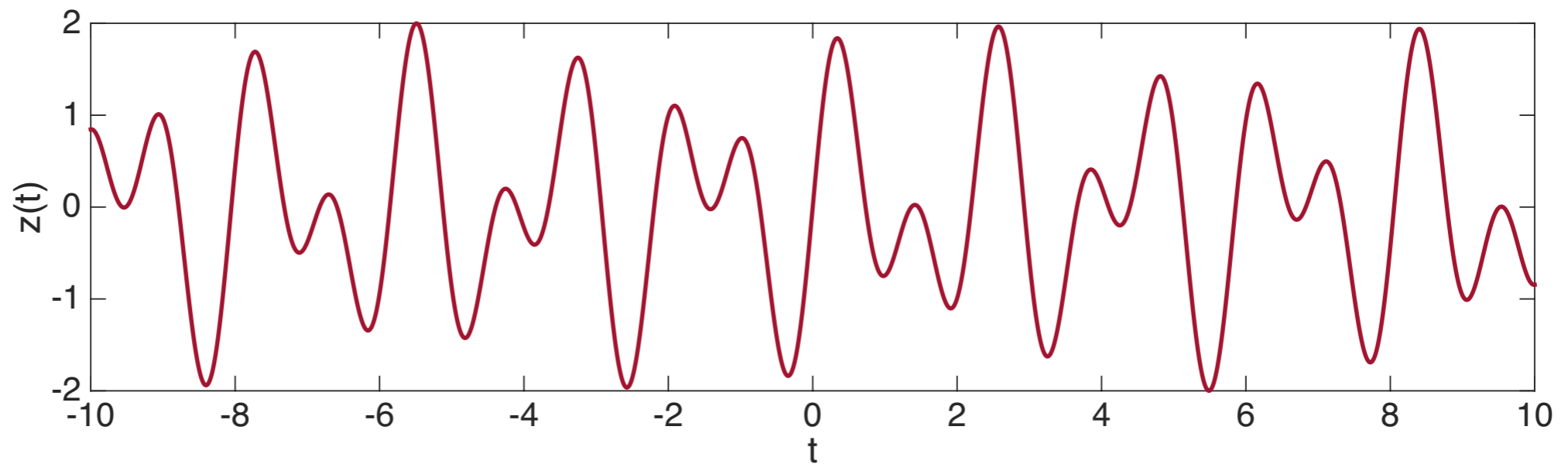
- Now consider the sum of these two periodic signals

$$z(t) = x(t) + y(t)$$

- $z(t)$  is periodic if  $M \cdot T_1$  periods of  $y(t)$  can be exactly included into  $N \cdot T_0$  periods of  $x(t)$
- The fundamental period of  $z(t)$  is then the least common multiple of  $T_0$  and  $T_1$

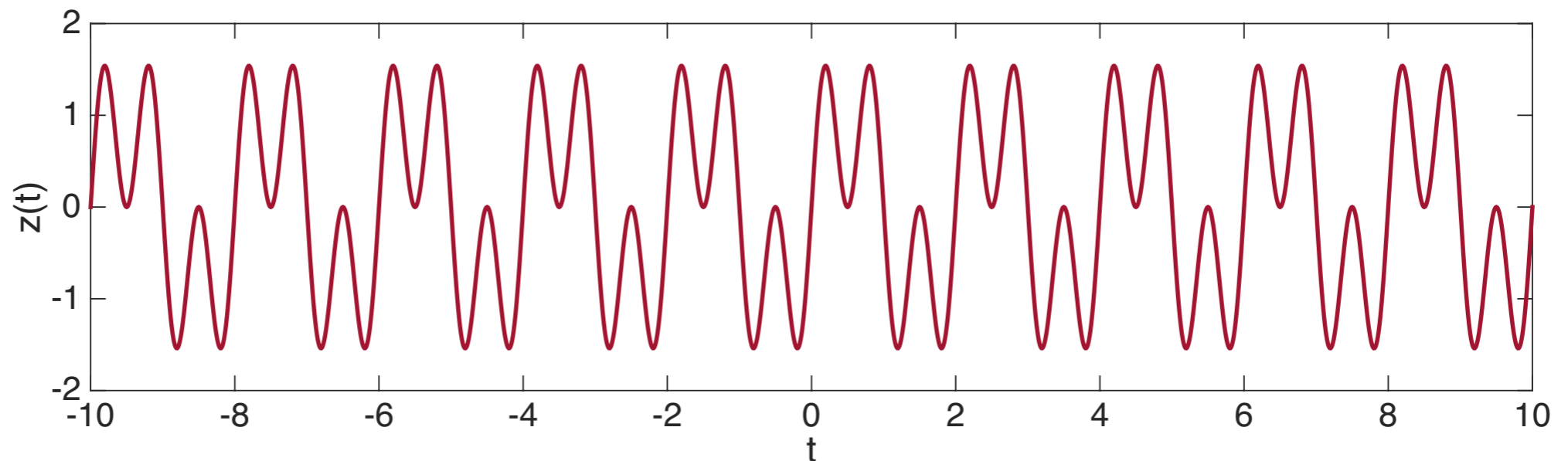
## Periodic signals

- **Example 1:**  $x(t) = \sin(\sqrt{3}\pi t)$  and  $y(t) = \sin(\pi t)$ . The signal  $z(t) = x(t) + y(t)$  is not periodic



## Periodic signals

- **Example 2:**  $x(t) = \sin(\pi t)$  and  $y(t) = \sin(3\pi t)$ . In this case  $T_0 = 2$  s and  $T_1 = 2/3$  s and  $z(t)$  is periodic. The fundamental period of  $z(t)$  is  $3T_1 = T_0$ .



## ■ Energy and power of periodic signals

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- Let  $x(t)$  denote a continuous-time periodic signal with fundamental period  $T_0$
- Since  $x(t)$  is periodic,  $|x(t)|^2$  is periodic as well and consequently  $E_x$  is infinite

A periodic signal is an infinite energy signal

- What about the power?

## Energy and power of periodic signals

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- To answer this question, we first have another look at the energy integral
- Since we know that the signal is periodic with fundamental period  $T_0$ , we compute the energy integral as follows
- First, consider the integral

$$E_x^{(N)} = \int_{t=t_0-NT_0}^{t_0+NT_0} |x(t)|^2 dt,$$

- where  $t_0$  is an arbitrary fixed time instant and  $N$  a positive integer

## Energy and power of periodic signals

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- The length of the integration interval is  $2NT_0$  and the energy and power of the periodic signal follow as

$$E_x = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} E_x^{(N)} \quad \text{and} \quad P_x = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2NT_0} E_x^{(N)}$$

- Using the periodicity of  $x(t)$ , we find that

$$E_x^{(N)} = 2N \int_{t=t_0}^{t_0+T_0} |x(t)|^2 dt$$

- Clearly,  $E_x^{(N)}$  grows linearly in  $N$  as  $N$  increases and the limit  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} E_x^{(N)}$  does not exist (as claimed above)

## ■ Energy and power of periodic signals

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- The power, however, does exist and is given by

$$P_x = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2NT_0} E_x^{(N)} = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{t=t_0}^{t_0+T_0} |x(t)|^2 dt$$



## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- A *distribution* generalizes the classical concept of a function
- Distributions are also known as *generalized functions*
- Distributions were introduced by the Russian mathematician SERGEI SOBOLEV in his work on second-order hyperbolic partial differential equations (loosely speaking, differential equations that describe wave phenomena)
- Distribution theory was developed further and extended by the French mathematician LAURENT SCHWARTZ

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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Sergey Sobolev  
Born 1908  
Died 1989



Laurent Schwartz  
Born 1915  
Died 2002

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- We only give a brief and informal introduction to distributions
- Much more on distribution theory can be found in
  - A.H. ZEMANIAN, *Distribution Theory and Transform Analysis – An introduction to Generalized Functions, with Applications*, Dover Publications, 2003
  - M.J. LIGHTHILL, *An Introduction to Fourier Analysis and Generalised Functions*, Cambridge Monographs on Mechanics, 2008

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- Before discussing distributions, we first introduce the space of *testing functions*  $\mathcal{D}$
- The space of testing functions  $\mathcal{D}$  consists of all complex-valued functions  $\varphi(t)$  that are infinitely smooth and vanish outside some finite interval
- Infinitely smooth means: can be differentiated an infinite number of times

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- The finite interval (support) need not be the same for all testing functions\*
- The support of testing function  $\varphi_1(t)$  may be different from the support of testing function  $\varphi_2(t)$
- Example of a testing function:

$$\varphi(t) = \begin{cases} \exp\left(\frac{1}{t^2 - 1}\right) & \text{for } |t| < 1 \\ 0 & \text{for } |t| \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

- \* Recall that the support of a function  $f$  is the set of points in the domain of  $f$  where  $f$  is nonzero

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- In general, a *functional* is a rule that assigns a number to every element of a certain set of functions
- We take the space of testing functions  $\mathcal{D}$  as this set and consider functionals that assign a complex number to every element of  $\mathcal{D}$
- In our case a functional is a rule that assigns a complex number to every testing function in  $\mathcal{D}$
- The number that a functional  $f$  assigns to a testing function  $\varphi$  is denoted as  $\langle f, \varphi \rangle$

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- Example: Let  $f(t)$  be an integrable function
- By this we mean integrable over every finite interval
- Corresponding to this function, we can define a functional  $f$  through the integral

$$\langle f, \varphi \rangle = \langle f(t), \varphi(t) \rangle = \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)\varphi(t) dt = \text{a number}$$

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- A *distribution* is a functional  $f$  with two additional properties

- \* Linearity:

$$\langle f, \varphi_1 + \varphi_2 \rangle = \langle f, \varphi_1 \rangle + \langle f, \varphi_2 \rangle$$

for any two testing functions  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  from  $\mathcal{D}$  and

$$\langle f, \alpha\varphi \rangle = \alpha\langle f, \varphi \rangle$$

for any complex number  $\alpha$

- \* Continuity: For any set of testing functions  $\{\varphi_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  that converges in  $\mathcal{D}$  to  $\varphi$ , the sequence of numbers  $\{\langle f, \varphi_n \rangle\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converges to  $\langle f, \varphi \rangle$

- A distribution is a continuous linear functional on the space of testing functions  $\mathcal{D}$



## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- Up to this point we have associated a distribution  $f$  to an ordinary function  $f$
- For example, with the function  $f(t) = p(t)$  we can associate the distribution

$$\langle p, \varphi \rangle = \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} p(t)\varphi(t) dt = \int_{t=0}^1 \varphi(t) dt = \text{a number}$$

- Distributions associated with ordinary functions are called *regular*

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- Let us now consider a distribution that assigns the value  $\varphi(0)$  to a testing function  $\varphi(t)$
- This distribution is written as  $\delta(t)$  and is called the *Dirac distribution*
- By definition, we have

$$\langle \delta(t), \varphi(t) \rangle = \varphi(0)$$

- In words: you take a testing function  $\varphi(t)$  from  $\mathcal{D}$ . The Dirac distribution assigns the value  $\varphi(0)$  to this testing function

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- Using the integral, we have

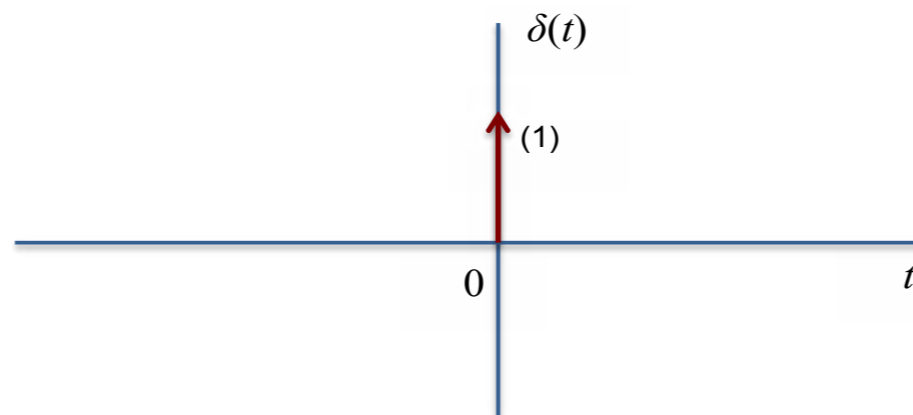
$$\langle \delta(t), \varphi(t) \rangle = \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) \varphi(t) dt = \varphi(0)$$

- No ordinary function has this property
- The Dirac distribution is an example of a *singular distribution function*

## ■ The Dirac distribution

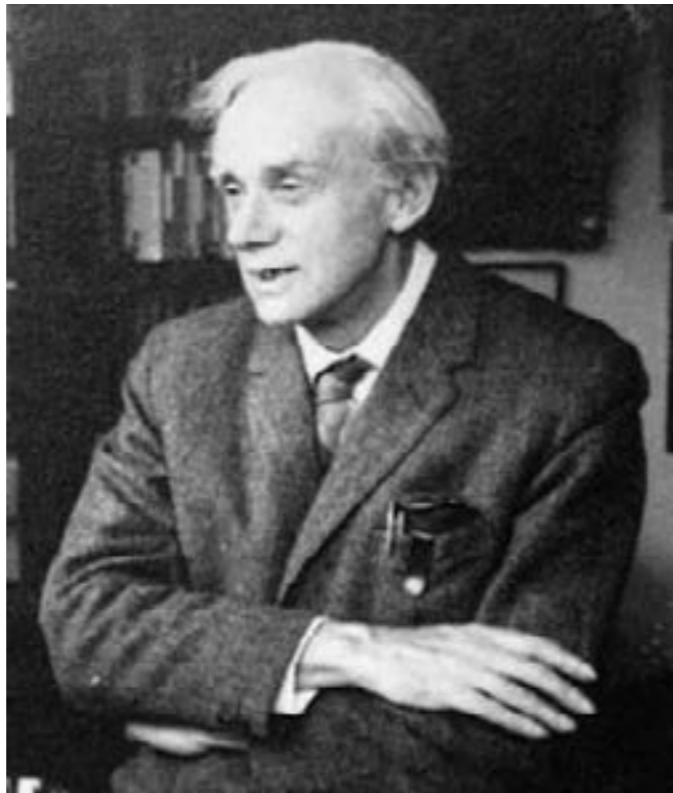
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- We write  $f(t) = \delta(t)$  only symbolically (as if the Dirac distribution is an ordinary function)
- The Dirac distribution is sometimes called the delta function, Dirac impulse function, or simply impulse function
- The Dirac distribution is called the “stoot” in Dutch



## ■ The Dirac distribution

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Paul Dirac  
Born 1902  
Died 1984



Biography

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- Consider the ordinary Gaussian ( $\epsilon > 0$ )

$$f_{\epsilon}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi\epsilon}} e^{-t^2/\epsilon}$$

- This function is normalized in the sense that

$$\int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f_{\epsilon}(t) dt = 1 \quad \text{for any } \epsilon > 0$$

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- To this Gaussian function we can associate the regular distribution

$$\langle f_\epsilon(t), \varphi(t) \rangle = \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f_\epsilon(t) \varphi(t) dt = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi\epsilon}} \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2/\epsilon} \varphi(t) dt$$

- For “very small” values of  $\epsilon$ , we have

$$\langle f_\epsilon(t), \varphi(t) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi\epsilon}} \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2/\epsilon} \varphi(t) dt \approx \varphi(0) \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f_\epsilon(t) dt = \varphi(0)$$

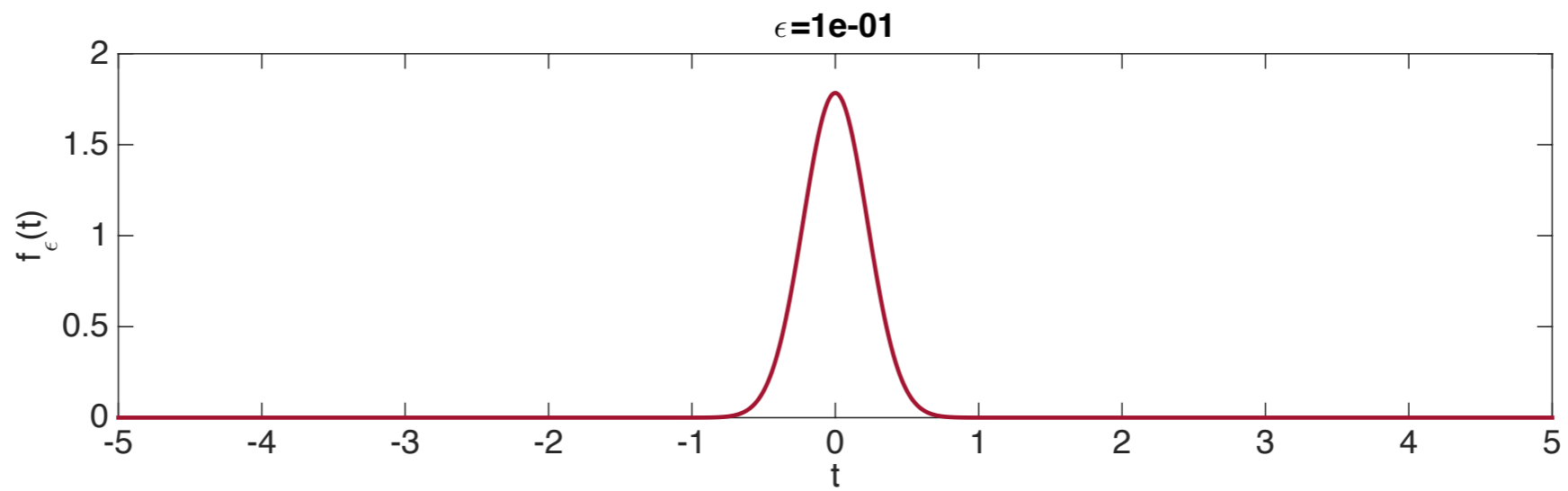
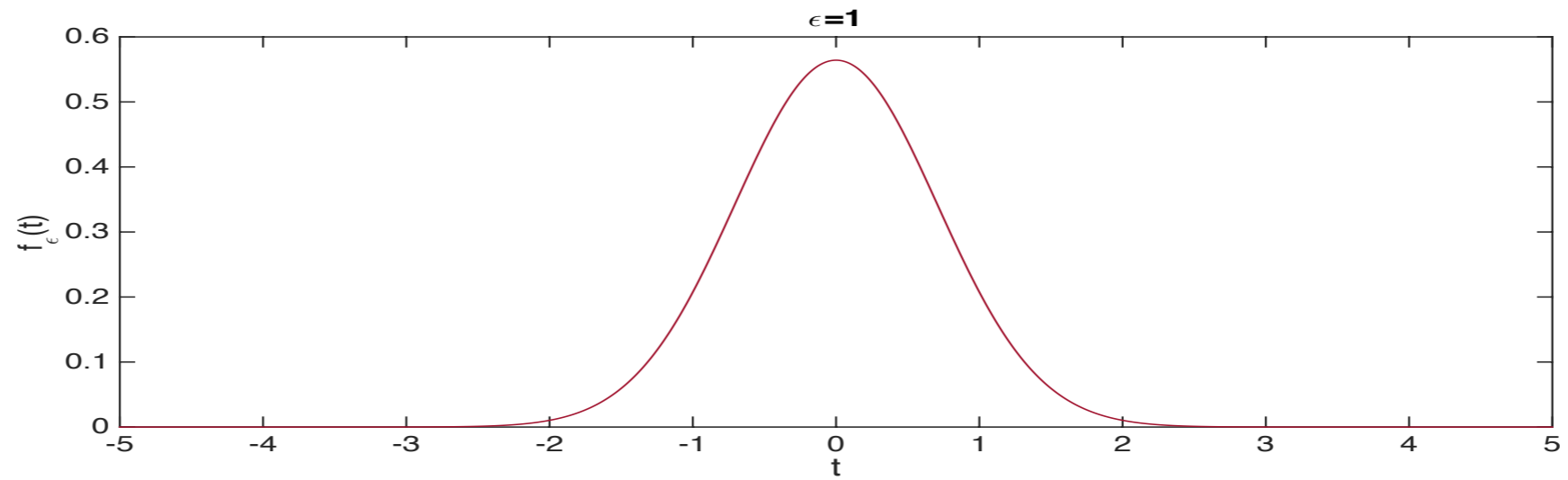
- and we may write

$$\delta(t) = \lim_{\epsilon \downarrow 0} f_\epsilon(t) = \lim_{\epsilon \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi\epsilon}} e^{-t^2/\epsilon}$$



# The Dirac distribution

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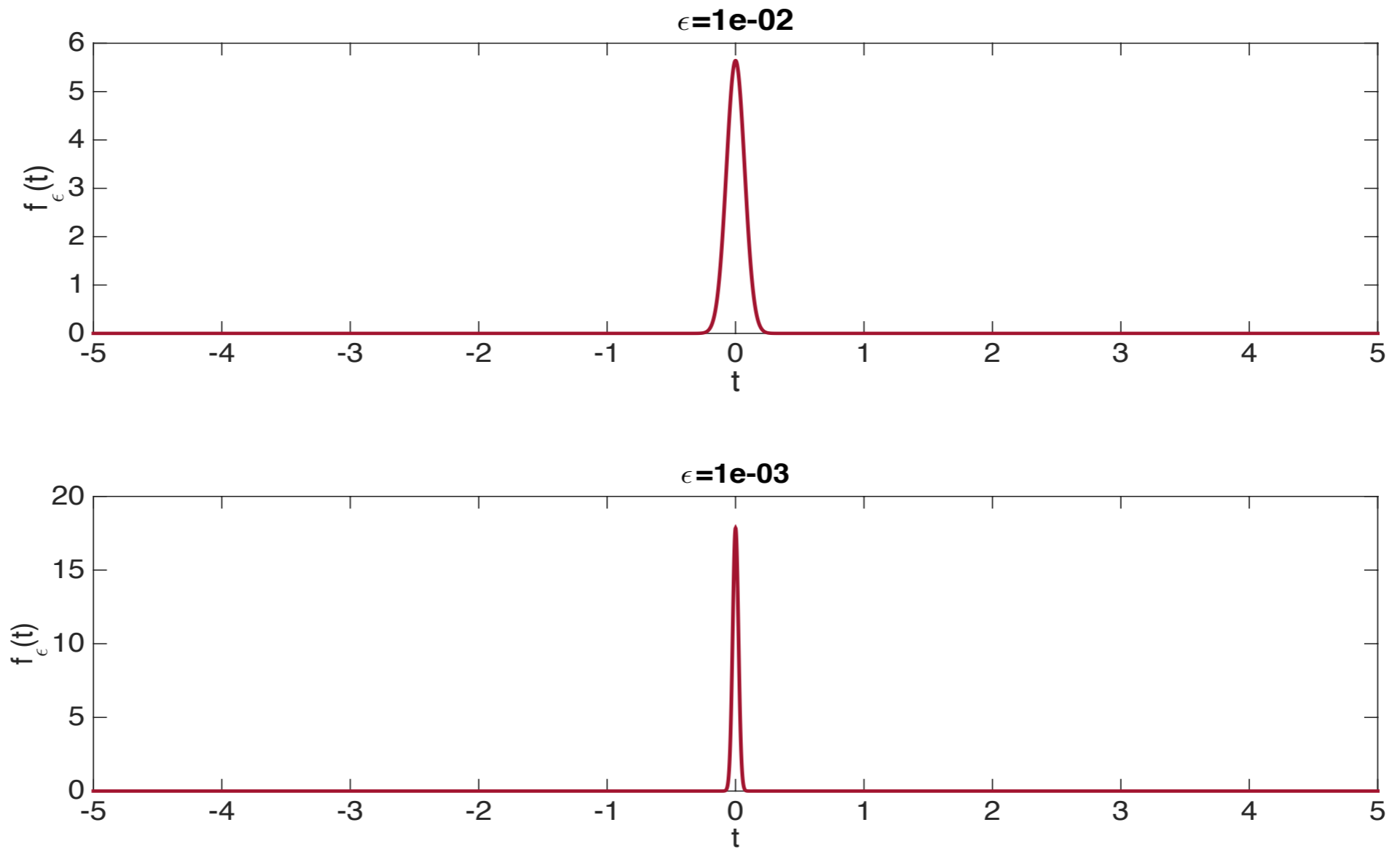






# The Dirac distribution

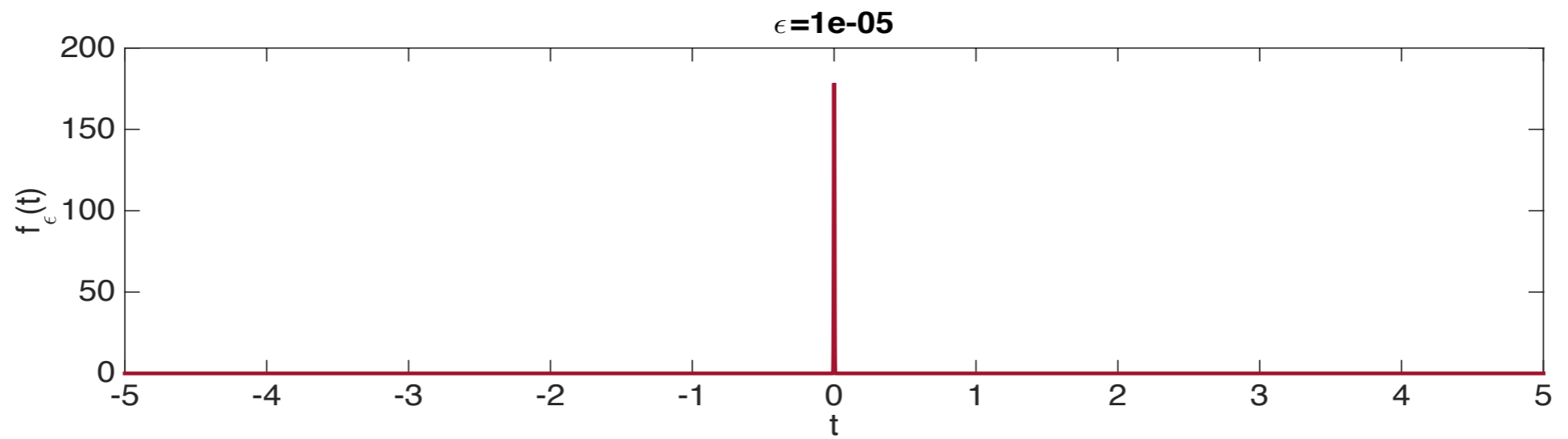
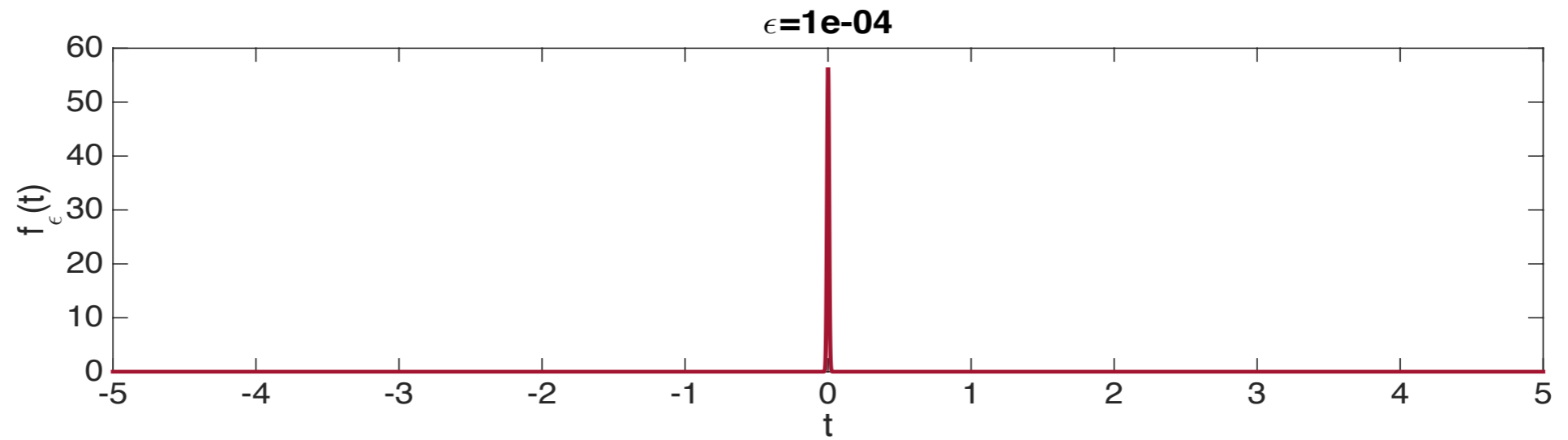
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# The Dirac distribution

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## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- Clearly, we have

$$\int_{t=a}^b \delta(t) dt = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 0 \in (a, b) \\ 0 & \text{if } 0 \notin (a, b) \end{cases}$$

- Also note that if  $t$  is expressed in seconds then the SI unit of the Dirac distribution is  $\text{s}^{-1}$
- If  $t$  is expressed in meters (in this case we typically use the letter  $x$  instead of  $t$ ) then the SI unit of the Dirac distribution is  $\text{m}^{-1}$

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- Another one that does the same job is

$$\delta(t) = \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin(at)}{\pi t}$$

- Note that since

$$\frac{\sin(at)}{\pi t} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\Omega=-a}^a e^{j\Omega t} d\Omega$$

we also have

$$\delta(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\Omega=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{j\Omega t} d\Omega$$

- This latter relation is sometimes referred to as a *completeness relation*
- The above expressions only make sense as distributions, of course

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- Given a signal  $f(t)$  continuous at the origin
- We claim that the two distributions  $f(t)\delta(t)$  and  $f(0)\delta(t)$  are equal
- In other words

$$f(t)\delta(t) = f(0)\delta(t)$$

- We show this by working out the distributions on the left- and right-hand side
- Both distributions should produce the same number
- Let's start with the left-hand side

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- We have

$$\begin{aligned}\langle f(t)\delta(t), \varphi(t) \rangle &= \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} [f(t)\delta(t)]\varphi(t) dt \\ &= \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t)[f(t)\varphi(t)] dt \\ &= f(0)\varphi(0)\end{aligned}$$

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- Now for the right-hand side:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle f(0)\delta(t), \varphi(t) \rangle &= \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} [f(0)\delta(t)]\varphi(t) dt \\ &= f(0) \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t)\varphi(t) dt \\ &= f(0)\varphi(0)\end{aligned}$$

- We conclude that our claim is correct

## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- The shifted delta distribution  $\delta(t - t_0)$  associates the number  $\varphi(t_0)$  to a testing function  $\varphi(t)$

- We have

$$\langle \delta(t - t_0), \varphi(t) \rangle = \varphi(t_0)$$

- or in terms of an integral

$$\int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - t_0) \varphi(t) dt = \varphi(t_0)$$

- This is sometimes called the *sifting property* of the Dirac distribution (zeefeigenschap van de Dirac distributie)



## ■ The Dirac distribution

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- For the shifted Dirac distribution we have

$$\int_{t=a}^b \delta(t - t_0) dt = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t_0 \in (a, b) \\ 0 & \text{if } t_0 \notin (a, b) \end{cases}$$

- Moreover, for a signal  $f(t)$  continuous at  $t = t_0$

$$f(t)\delta(t - t_0) = f(t_0)\delta(t - t_0)$$

## ■ The Dirac distribution - scaling property

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- Let  $a$  be a nonzero real number
- Scaling property of the Dirac distribution

$$\delta(at) = \frac{1}{|a|} \delta(t)$$

- We verify that these distributions are indeed equal
- For the left-hand side we have

$$\langle \delta(at), \varphi(t) \rangle = \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(at) \varphi(t) dt$$

## ■ The Dirac distribution - scaling property

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- First consider the case  $a > 0$ . Setting  $\tau = at$  results in

$$\langle \delta(at), \varphi(t) \rangle = \frac{1}{a} \int_{\tau=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(\tau) \varphi(\tau/a) d\tau = \frac{1}{a} \varphi(0)$$

- Next, consider the case  $a < 0$ . With  $\tau = at$  we now have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \delta(at), \varphi(t) \rangle &= \frac{1}{a} \int_{\tau=\infty}^{-\infty} \delta(\tau) \varphi(\tau/a) d\tau \\ &= -\frac{1}{a} \int_{\tau=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(\tau) \varphi(\tau/a) d\tau \\ &= -\frac{1}{a} \varphi(0) \end{aligned}$$

## ■ The Dirac distribution - scaling property

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- Both cases ( $a > 0$  and  $a < 0$ ) can be combined as

$$\langle \delta(at), \varphi(t) \rangle = \frac{1}{|a|} \varphi(0)$$

- For the right-hand side we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \frac{1}{|a|} \delta(t), \varphi(t) \rangle &= \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a|} \delta(t) \varphi(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{|a|} \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) \varphi(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{|a|} \varphi(0) \end{aligned}$$

- and we conclude that the two distributions are equal

■ The Dirac distribution is even

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- Special case:  $a = -1$ . We obtain

$$\delta(-t) = \delta(t)$$

- The Dirac distribution is even

## ■ The Dirac distribution - derivative of the unit step function

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- Following the same verification procedure as above, we can also show that

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \delta(t)$$

- The derivative of the unit step function is equal to the Dirac distribution!
- The unit step function is not differentiable at  $t = 0$ , of course, but it can be differentiated in the sense of distributions

■ The Dirac distribution - derivative of the unit step function

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- We start with the left-hand side

$$\left\langle \frac{du}{dt}, \varphi(t) \right\rangle = \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{du}{dt} \varphi(t) dt = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} u(t) \varphi(t) \Big|_{t=-T}^T - \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} u(t) \frac{d\varphi}{dt} dt$$

- The first-term on the right-hand side of the above equation vanishes, since a testing function has bounded support

■ The Dirac distribution - derivative of the unit step function

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- We are left with

$$\left\langle \frac{du}{dt}, \varphi(t) \right\rangle = - \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} u(t) \frac{d\varphi}{dt} dt = - \int_{t=0}^{\infty} \frac{d\varphi}{dt} dt = \varphi(0) - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(T) = \varphi(0)$$

- For the right-hand side we have (by definition)

$$\langle \delta(t), \varphi(t) \rangle = \varphi(0)$$

- and we conclude once again that the two given distributions are equal



## ■ The Dirac distribution - derivative of the Dirac distribution

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- The derivative of the Dirac distribution, denoted as  $\delta'(t)$ , is defined as the distribution that assigns the value  $-\varphi'(0)$  to a testing function  $\varphi$  belonging to  $\mathcal{D}$ :

$$\langle \delta'(t), \varphi(t) \rangle = -\varphi'(0)$$

- Here, we use a prime to indicate a derivative (this is more or less standard notation)
- Perhaps you are wondering why the derivative of  $\delta(t)$  is defined as above

## ■ The Dirac distribution - derivative of the Dirac distribution

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- The reason is that we can now again manipulate with the Dirac distribution as if it is an ordinary function

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \delta'(t), \varphi(t) \rangle &= \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\delta(t)}{dt} \varphi(t) dt \\ &= \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \delta(t) \varphi(t) \Big|_{t=-T}^T - \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) \frac{d\varphi(t)}{dt} dt = -\varphi'(0)\end{aligned}$$

## ■ The Dirac distribution - derivative of the Dirac distribution

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- The shifted derivative of the Dirac distribution is defined as

$$\langle \delta'(t - t_0), \varphi(t) \rangle = -\varphi'(t_0)$$

- Let  $f$  be a signal continuously differentiable at  $t = 0$
- We have

$$f(t)\delta'(t) = -f'(0)\delta(t) + f(0)\delta'(t)$$

- We verify the above statement

## ■ The Dirac distribution - derivative of the Dirac distribution

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- Left-hand side

$$\begin{aligned}\langle f(t)\delta'(t), \varphi(t) \rangle &= \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} [f(t)\delta'(t)]\varphi(t) dt = \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta'(t)[f(t)\varphi(t)] dt \\ &= \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \delta(t) f(t) \varphi(t) \Big|_{t=-T}^T - \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) \frac{d}{dt} [f(t)\varphi(t)] dt \\ &= - \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) [f'(t)\varphi(t) + f(t)\varphi'(t)] dt \\ &= -f'(0)\varphi(0) - f(0)\varphi'(0)\end{aligned}$$

## ■ The Dirac distribution - derivative of the Dirac distribution

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- Right-hand side

$$\begin{aligned}\langle -f'(0)\delta(t) + f(0)\delta'(t), \varphi(t) \rangle &= -f'(0)\langle \delta(t), \varphi(t) \rangle + f(0)\langle \delta'(t), \varphi(t) \rangle \\ &= -f'(0)\varphi(0) - f(0)\varphi'(0)\end{aligned}$$

- Conclusion: the two distributions are equal

## ■ The Dirac distribution - summary

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### Summary: Properties of the Dirac distribution

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$$\int_{t=a}^b \delta(t - t_0) dt = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t_0 \in (a, b) \\ 0 & \text{if } t_0 \notin (a, b) \end{cases} \quad \text{integration property}$$

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$$f(t)\delta(t - t_0) = f(t_0)\delta(t - t_0) \quad f(t) \text{ continuous at } t = t_0$$

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$$\delta(at) = \frac{1}{|a|} \delta(t) \quad a \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, \text{ scaling property}$$

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$$\frac{du}{dt} = \delta(t) \quad \text{derivative of the unit step function}$$

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$$f(t)\delta'(t) = -f'(0)\delta(t) + f(0)\delta'(t) \quad f(t) \text{ continuously differentiable at } t = 0$$

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## ■ The Dirac distribution - exercises

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**Exercise 1.1** Show that

$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{sign}(t) = 2\delta(t)$$

**Exercise 1.2** Show that

$$\delta(at + b) = \frac{1}{|a|} \delta(t + b/a) \quad a \neq 0$$

**Exercise 1.3** Determine

$$\int_{\tau=-\infty}^t \delta(\tau) d\tau$$

*Answer:  $u(t)$*

## ■ The Dirac distribution - exercises

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**Exercise 1.4** Determine

$$\int_{\tau=-\infty}^t \delta(\tau) f(\tau) d\tau$$

*Answer:*  $f(0)u(t)$

**Exercise 1.5** Compute

$$\int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) f(t - t_0) dt.$$

*Answer:*  $f(-t_0)$

**Exercise 1.6** Compute

$$\int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) t dt.$$

*Answer:* 0



## ■ The Dirac distribution - exercises

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**Exercise 1.7** Sketch the signal

$$f(t) = \sin(\pi t) u(t)$$

and compute  $f'(t)$ .

**Exercise 1.8** Sketch the signal

$$g(t) = \cos(\pi t) u(t)$$

and compute  $g'(t)$ .

**Exercise 1.9** Compute  $p'(t)$ , where  $p(t)$  is the rectangular pulse function. Sketch  $p(t)$  and  $p'(t)$ .

**Exercise 1.10** Compute  $\Lambda'(t)$ , where  $\Lambda(t)$  is the triangular pulse function. Sketch  $\Lambda(t)$  and  $\Lambda'(t)$ .



## The Dirac distribution - exercises

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**Exercise 1.11** Show that

$$\frac{d}{dt}|t| = \text{sign}(t)$$

**Exercise 1.12** Plot the signal

$$f(t) = \text{sign}(t) - \text{sign}(t - 1)$$

**Exercise 1.13** Show that

$$t\delta'(t) = -\delta(t)$$

**Exercise 1.14** Explain why

$$\int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta'(t) dt = 0$$