



THE UNIVERSITY *of* TEXAS

HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON
SCHOOL *of* HEALTH INFORMATION SCIENCES

Fourier Transform

For students of HI 5323

“Image Processing”

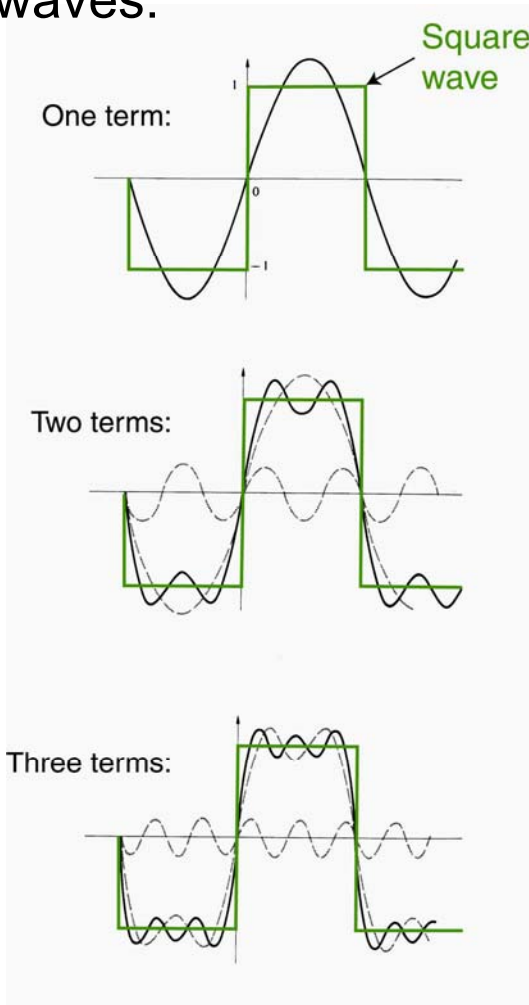
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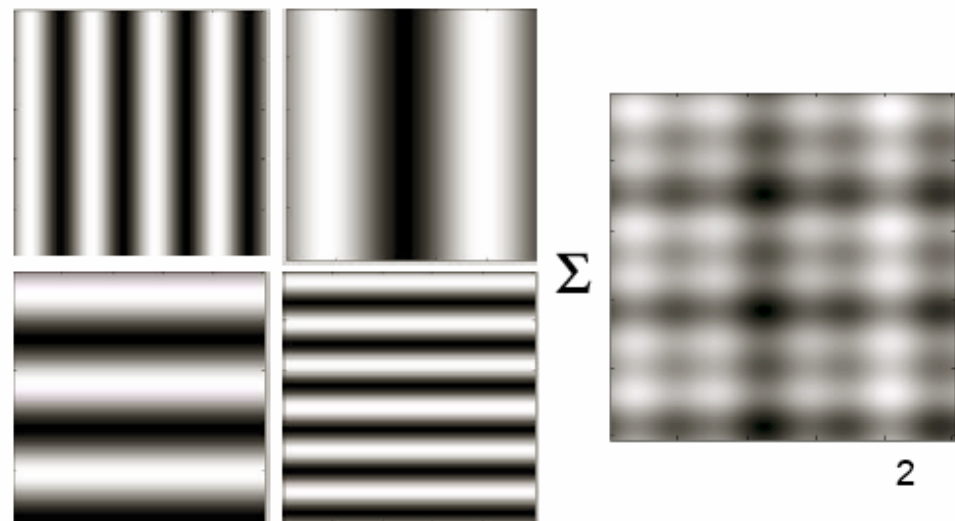
<http://biomachina.org/courses/processing/07.html>

Frequency Analysis

Here, we write a **square wave** as a sum of sine waves:



- Fourier Domain
- Signals (1D, 2D, ...) decomposed into sum of signals with different frequencies

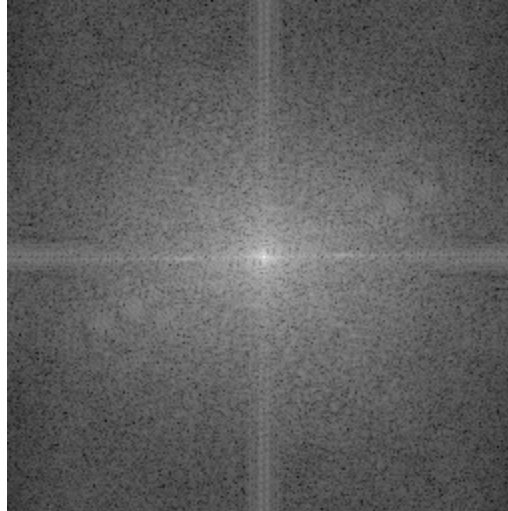


Frequency Analysis

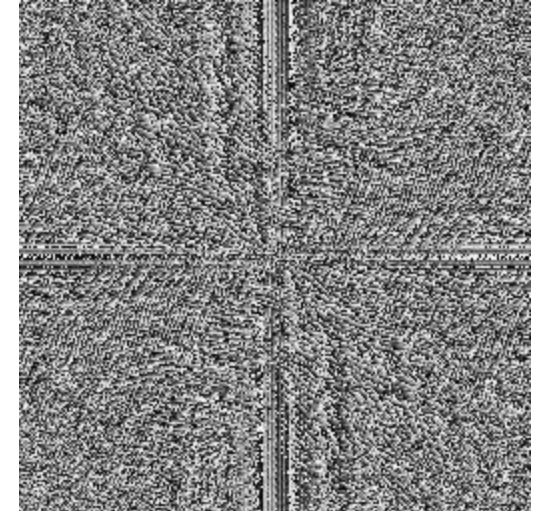
- To use transfer functions, we must first decompose a signal into its component frequencies
- Basic idea: any signal can be written as the sum of phase-shifted sines and cosines of different frequencies
- The mathematical tool for doing this is the *Fourier Transform*



image



wave magnitudes



wave phases

General Idea of Transforms

Given an orthonormal (orthogonal, unit length) basis set of vectors $\{\bar{e}_k\}$:

Any vector in the space spanned by this basis set can be represented as a weighted sum of those basis vectors:

$$\bar{v} = \sum_k a_k \bar{e}_k$$

To get a vector's weight relative to a particular basis vector \bar{e}_k :

$$a_k = \bar{v} \cdot \bar{e}_k$$

Thus, the vector can be transformed into the weights a_k

Likewise, the transformation can be inverted by turning the weights back into the vector

Linear Algebra with Functions

The inner (dot) product of two vectors is the sum of the point-wise multiplication of each component:

$$\bar{u} \cdot \bar{v} = \sum_j \bar{u}[j] \cdot \bar{v}[j]$$

Can't we do the same thing with functions?

$$f \cdot g = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) g^*(x) dx$$

Functions satisfy all of the linear algebraic requirements of vectors

Transforms with Functions

Just as we transformed vectors, we can also transform functions:

	Vectors $\{\bar{e}_k[j]\}$	Functions $\{e_k(t)\}$
Transform	$a_k = \bar{v} \cdot \bar{e}_k = \sum_j \bar{v}[j] \cdot \bar{e}_k[j]$	$a_k = f \cdot e_k = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e_k^*(t) dt$
Inverse	$\bar{v} = \sum_k a_k \bar{e}_k$	$f(t) = \sum_k a_k e_k(t)$

Basis Set: Generalized Harmonics

The set of generalized harmonics we discussed earlier form an orthonormal basis set for functions:

$$\{e^{i2\pi st}\}$$

where each harmonic has a different frequency s

Remember:

$$e^{i2\pi st} = \cos(2\pi st) + i \sin(2\pi st)$$

The real part is a cosine of frequency s

The imaginary part is a sine of frequency s

The Fourier Series

	All Functions $\{e_k(t)\}$	Harmonics $\{e^{i2\pi s t}\}$
Transform	$a_k = f \cdot e_k = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e_k^*(t) dt$	$a_k = f \cdot e^{i2\pi s_k t}$ $= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-i2\pi s_k t} dt$
Inverse	$f(t) = \sum_k a_k e_k(t)$	$f(t) = \sum_k a_k e^{i2\pi s_k t}$

The Fourier Transform

Most tasks need an infinite number of basis functions (frequencies), each with their own weight $F(s)$:

	Fourier Series	Fourier Transform
Transform	$a_k = f \cdot e^{i2\pi s_k t}$ $= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-i2\pi s_k t} dt$	$F(s) = f \cdot e^{i2\pi s t}$ $= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-i2\pi s t} dt$
Inverse	$f(t) = \sum_k a_k e^{i2\pi s_k t}$	$f(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(s) e^{i2\pi s_k t} ds$

The Fourier Transform

To get the weights (amount of each frequency): \mathcal{F}

$$F(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)e^{-i2\pi st} dt$$

$F(s)$ is the Fourier Transform of $f(t)$: $\mathcal{F}(f(t)) = F(s)$

To convert weights back into a signal (invert the transform):

$$f(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(s)e^{i2\pi st} ds$$

$f(t)$ is the Inverse Fourier Transform of $F(s)$: $\mathcal{F}^{-1}(F(s)) = f(t)$

Notation

Let \mathcal{F} denote the Fourier Transform:

$$F = \mathcal{F}(f)$$

Let \mathcal{F}^{-1} denote the Inverse Fourier Transform:

$$f = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(F)$$

How to Interpret the Weights $F(s)$

The weights $F(s)$ are complex numbers:

Real part	How much of a <i>cosine</i> of frequency s you need
Imaginary part	How much of a <i>sine</i> of frequency s you need
Magnitude	How <i>much</i> of a sinusoid of frequency s you need
Phase	What <i>phase</i> that sinusoid needs to be

Magnitude and Phase

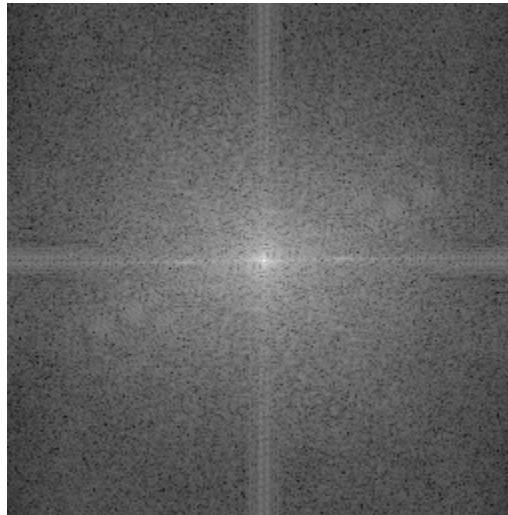
Remember: complex numbers can be thought of in two ways: (*real, imaginary*) or (*magnitude, phase*)

Magnitude: $|F| = \sqrt{\Re(F)^2 + \Im(F)^2}$

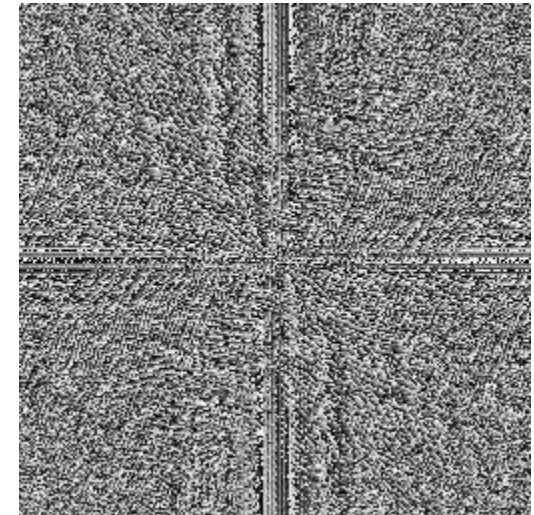
Phase: $\phi(F) = \arctan\left(\frac{\Re(F)}{\Im(F)}\right)$



image



$|F|$



$\phi(F)$

Odd and Even Functions

Even	Odd
$f_e(t) = f_e(-t)$	$f_o(t) = -f_o(-t)$
Symmetric	Anti-symmetric
Cosines	Sines
Transform is Real*	Transform is Imaginary*

*for real-valued signals.

Any function $f(t)$ can be broken into even and odd parts:

$$f(t) = \underset{fe}{f_e(t)} + \underset{fo}{f_o(t)} = \frac{1}{2}[f(t) + f(-t)] + \frac{1}{2}[f(t) - f(-t)]$$

Does the FT Always Exist?

Yes, if the signal has a finite sum (area under the curve):

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(t)| dt \leq B$$

For some non-infinite bound B .

If $f(t)$ is periodic, only need to test over one period P :

$$\int_0^P |f(t)| dt \leq B$$

What about a constant function?

Periodic Signals on a Grid

- Periodic signals with period N :
 - Underlying frequencies must also repeat over the period N
 - Each component frequency must be a multiple of the frequency of the periodic signal itself:

$$\frac{1}{N}, \frac{2}{N}, \frac{3}{N}, \dots$$

- If the signal is discrete:
 - Highest frequency is one unit: period repeats after a single sample
 - No more than N components

$$\frac{1}{N}, \frac{2}{N}, \frac{3}{N}, \dots, \frac{N}{N}$$

Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)

If we treat a discrete signal with N samples as one period of an infinite periodic signal, then

$$F[s] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} f[t] e^{-i2\pi st/N}$$

and

$$f[t] = \sum_{s=0}^{N-1} F[s] e^{i2\pi st/N}$$

Note: For a periodic function, the discrete Fourier transform is the same as the continuous transform

- We give up nothing in going from a continuous to a discrete transform as long as the function is periodic

Normalizing DFTs: Conventions

Basis Function	Transform	Inverse
$e^{i2\pi st/N}$	$F[s] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} f[t] e^{-i2\pi st/N}$	$f[t] = \sum_{s=0}^{N-1} F[s] e^{i2\pi st/N}$
$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} e^{i2\pi st/N}$	$F[s] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} f[t] e^{-i2\pi st/N}$	$f[t] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{s=0}^{N-1} F[s] e^{i2\pi st/N}$
$\frac{1}{N} e^{i2\pi st/N}$	$F[s] = \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} f[t] e^{-i2\pi st/N}$	$f[t] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{s=0}^{N-1} F[s] e^{i2\pi st/N}$

Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)

$$F[s] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} f[t] e^{-i2\pi st/N}$$

$$f[t] = \sum_{s=0}^{N-1} F[s] e^{i2\pi st/N}$$

Questions:

- What would the code for the discrete Fourier transform look like?
- What would its computational complexity be?

Fast Fourier Transform

developed by Tukey and Cooley in 1965

If we let

$$W_N = e^{-i2\pi/N}$$

the Discrete Fourier Transform can be written

$$F[s] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} f[t] \cdot W_N^{st}$$

If N is a multiple of 2, $N = 2M$ for some positive integer M , substituting $2M$ for N gives

$$F[s] = \frac{1}{2M} \sum_{t=0}^{2M-1} f[t] \cdot W_{2M}^{st}$$

Fast Fourier Transform

Separating out the M even and M odd terms,

$$F[s] = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{M} \sum_{t=0}^{M-1} f[2t] \cdot W_{2M}^{s(2t)} + \frac{1}{M} \sum_{t=0}^{M-1} f[2t+1] \cdot W_{2M}^{s(2t+1)} \right\}$$

Notice that

$$W_{2M}^{s(2t)} = e^{-i2\pi s(2t)/2M} = e^{-i2\pi st/M} = W_M^{st}$$

and

$$W_{2M}^{s(2t+1)} = e^{-i2\pi s(2t+1)/2M} = e^{-i2\pi st/M} e^{-i2\pi s/2M} = W_M^{st} W_{2M}^s$$

So,

$$F[s] = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{M} \sum_{t=0}^{M-1} f[2t] \cdot W_M^{st} + \frac{1}{M} \sum_{t=0}^{M-1} f[2t+1] \cdot W_M^{st} W_{2M}^s \right\}$$

Fast Fourier Transform

$$F[s] = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{M} \sum_{t=0}^{M-1} f[2t] \cdot W_M^{st} + \frac{1}{M} \sum_{t=0}^{M-1} f[2t+1] \cdot W_M^{st} W_{2M}^s \right\}$$

Can be written as

$$F[s] = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ F_{\text{even}}(s) + F_{\text{odd}}(s) W_{2M}^s \right\}$$

We can use this for the first M terms of the Fourier transform of $2M$ items, then we can re-use these values to compute the last M terms as follows:

$$F[s + M] = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ F_{\text{even}}(s) - F_{\text{odd}}(s) W_{2M}^s \right\}$$

Fast Fourier Transform

If M is itself a multiple of 2, do it again!

If N is a power of 2, recursively subdivide until you have one element, which is its own Fourier Transform

```
ComplexSignal FFT(ComplexSignal f) {
    if (length(f) == 1) return f;

    M = length(f) / 2;
    W_2M = e^(-I * 2 * Pi / M) // A complex value.

    even = FFT(EvenTerms(f));
    odd  = FFT( OddTerms(f));

    for (s = 0; s < M; s++) {
        result[s  ] = even[s] + W_2M^s * odd[s];
        result[s+M] = even[s] - W_2M^s * odd[s];
    }
}
```

Fast Fourier Transform

Computational Complexity:

Discrete Fourier Transform $\rightarrow O(N^2)$

Fast Fourier Transform $\rightarrow O(N \log N)$

Remember: The FFT is just a faster algorithm for computing the DFT — it does not produce a different result

Fourier Pairs

Use the Fourier Transform, denoted \mathcal{F} , to get the weights for each harmonic component in a signal:

$$F(s) = \mathcal{F}(f(t)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)e^{-i2\pi st} dt$$

And use the Inverse Fourier Transform, denoted \mathcal{F}^{-1} , to recombine the weighted harmonics into the original signal:

$$f(t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(F(s)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(s)e^{i2\pi st} ds$$

We write a signal and its transform as a Fourier Transform pair:

$$f(t) \leftrightarrow F(s)$$

Sinusoids

Spatial Domain

Frequency Domain

$f(t)$

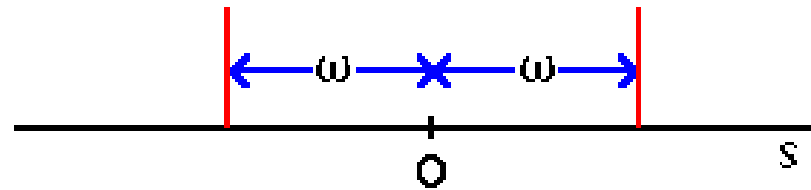
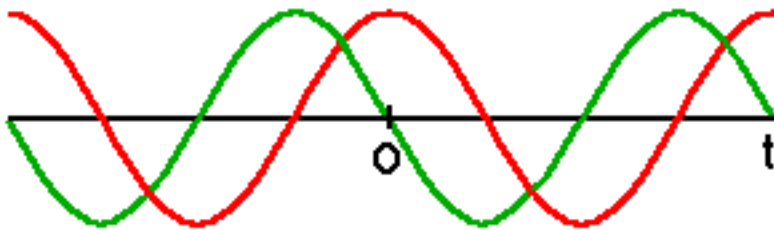
$F(s)$

$$\cos(2\pi\omega t)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}[\delta(s + \omega) + \delta(s - \omega)]$$

$$\sin(2\pi\omega t)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}[\delta(s + \omega) - \delta(s - \omega)]i$$



Constant Functions

Spatial Domain

Frequency Domain

$f(t)$

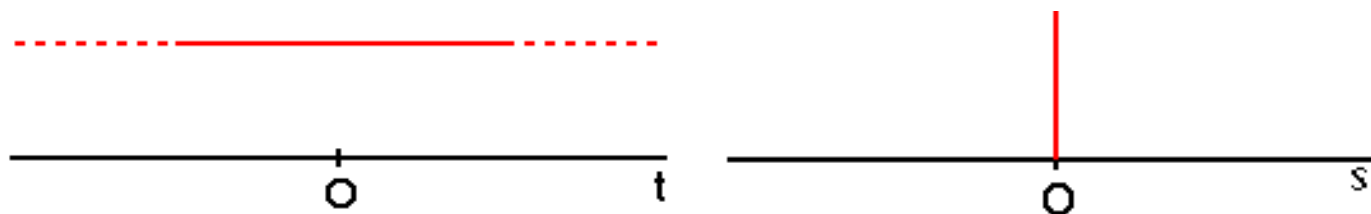
$F(s)$

1

$\delta(s)$

a

$a \delta(s)$



Delta (Impulse) Function

Spatial Domain

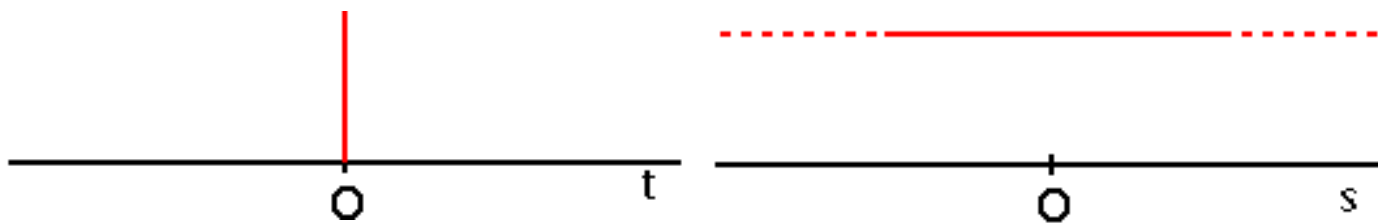
Frequency Domain

$$f(t)$$

$$F(s)$$

$$\delta(t)$$

$$1$$



Square Pulse

Spatial Domain

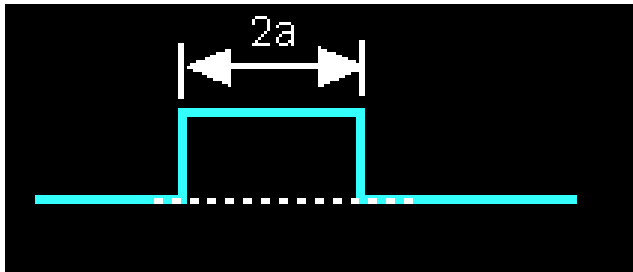
Frequency Domain

$$f(t)$$

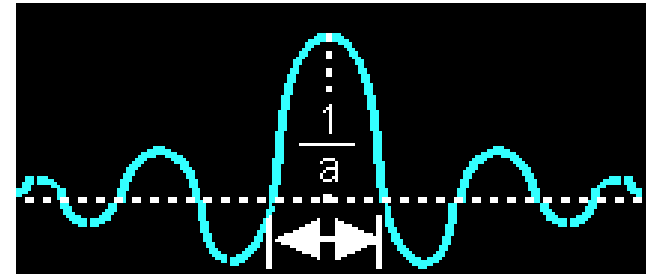
$$F(s)$$

$$\Pi_a(t)$$

$$2a \operatorname{sinc}(2as) = \frac{\sin(2\pi as)}{\pi s}$$



Spatial Domain



Frequency Domain

Sinc Function

- The Fourier transform of a square function, $\Pi_a(t)$ is the (normalized) sinc function:

$$\text{sinc}(x) = \frac{\sin(\pi x)}{\pi x}$$

- To show this, we substitute the value of $\Pi_a(t) = 1$ for $-a < t < a$ into the equation for the continuous FT, i.e.

$$F(s) = \int_{-a}^a e^{-i2\pi st} dt$$

- We use a substitution. Let $u = -i2\pi st$, $du = -i2\pi s dt$ and then $dt = du / -i2\pi s$

$$F(s) = \frac{1}{-i2\pi s} \int_{i2\pi sa}^{-i2\pi sa} e^u du = \frac{1}{-i2\pi s} \left[e^{-i2\pi as} - e^{i2\pi as} \right] =$$

$$\frac{1}{-i2\pi s} \left[\cos(-2\pi as) + i \sin(-2\pi as) - \cos(2\pi as) - i \sin(2\pi as) \right] =$$

$$\frac{1}{-i2\pi s} \left[-2i \sin(2\pi as) \right] = \frac{1}{\pi s} \sin(2\pi as) = 2a \text{sinc}(2as).$$

Triangle

Spatial Domain

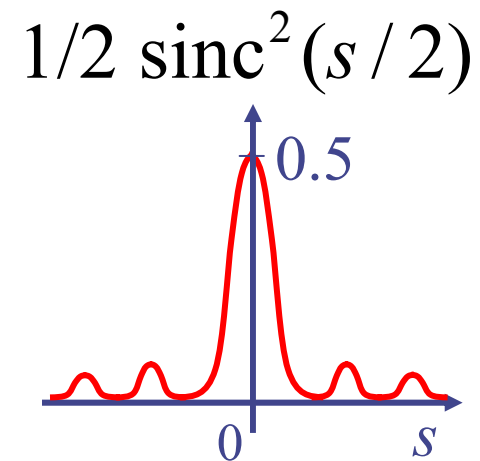
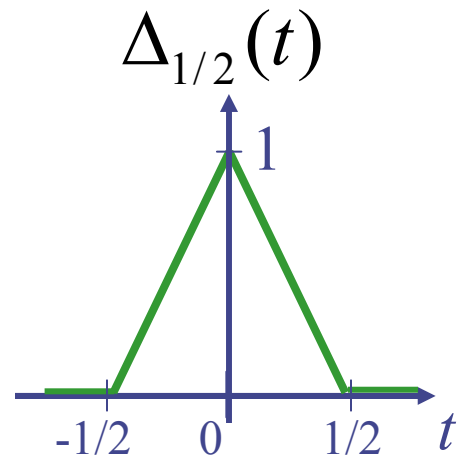
Frequency Domain

$$f(t)$$

$$F(s)$$

$$\Lambda_a(t)$$

$$a \operatorname{sinc}^2(as)$$



Comb (Shah) Function

Spatial Domain

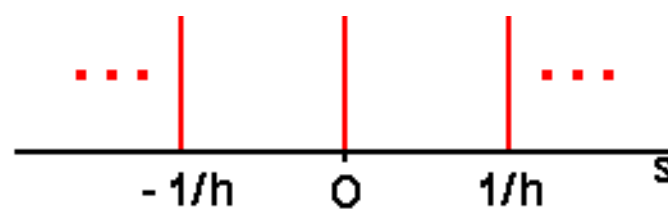
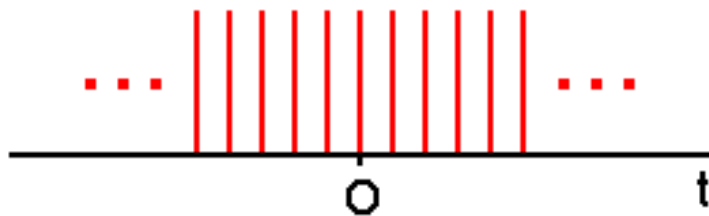
Frequency Domain

$f(t)$

$F(s)$

$$\text{comb}_h(t) = \delta(t \bmod h)$$

$$\delta(t \bmod 1/h)$$



Gaussian

Spatial Domain

Frequency Domain

$f(t)$

$F(s)$

$$e^{-\pi t^2}$$

$$e^{-\pi s^2}$$

$$e^{-\pi \left(\frac{t}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$

$$e^{-\pi(\sigma s)^2}$$

Gaussian (cont.)

- The Fourier transform of a Gaussian function $e^{-\pi x^2}$ is given by

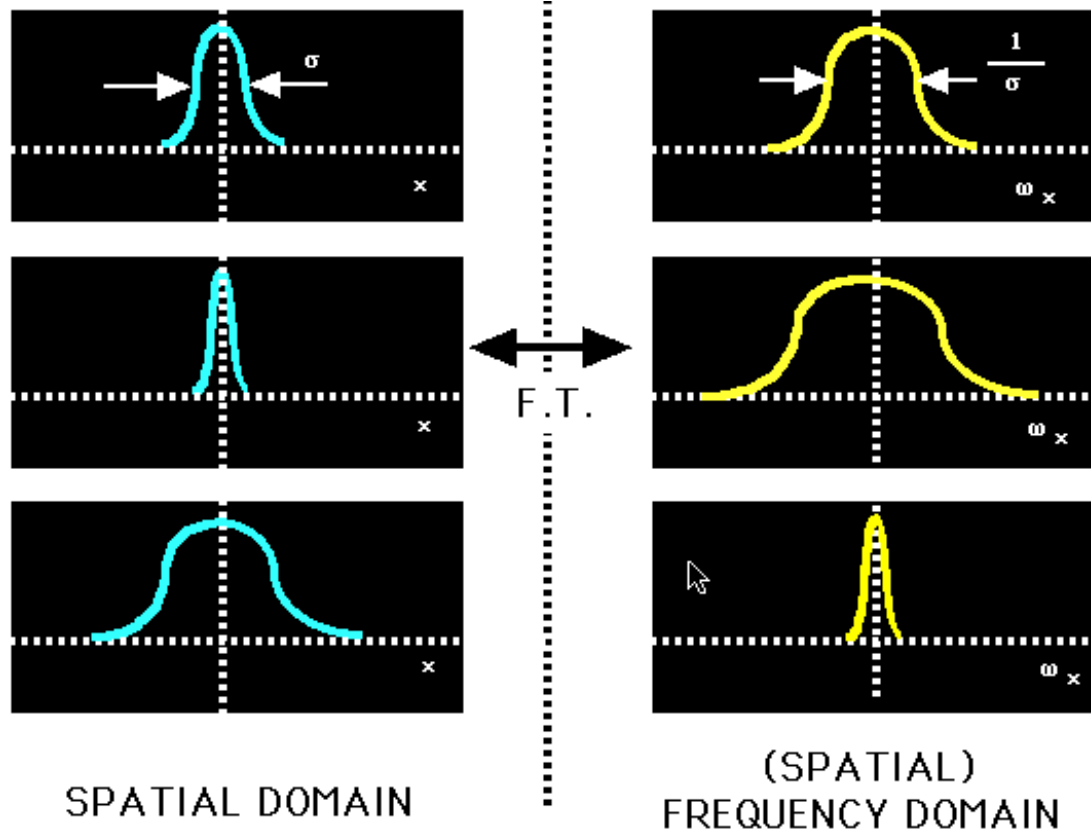
$$\begin{aligned} F(s) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\pi x^2} e^{-i2\pi xs} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\pi(x^2+2ixs)} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\pi s^2} e^{-\pi(x^2+2ixs-s^2)} dx \\ &= e^{-\pi s^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\pi(x+is)^2} dx; \quad [y \leftarrow x + is, dy / dx = 1] \\ &= e^{-\pi s^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\pi y^2} dy \end{aligned}$$

Note that the integral in the last equation = 1, so that a Gaussian transforms to another Gaussian.

Graphical Picture

$$e^{-\pi\left(\frac{t}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$

$$e^{-\pi(\sigma s)^2}$$



Common Fourier Transform Pairs

Spatial Domain: $f(t)$		Frequency Domain: $F(s)$	
Cosine	$\cos(2\pi\omega t)$	Shifted Deltas	$\frac{1}{2}[\delta(s + \omega) + \delta(s - \omega)]$
Sine	$\sin(2\pi\omega t)$	Shifted Deltas	$\frac{1}{2}[\delta(s + \omega) - \delta(s - \omega)]i$
Unit Function	1	Delta Function	$\delta(s)$
Constant	a	Delta Function	$a\delta(s)$
Delta Function	$\delta(t)$	Unit Function	1
Comb	$\delta(t \bmod h)$	Comb	$\delta(t \bmod 1/h)$
Square Pulse	$\Pi_a(t)$	Sinc Function	$2a \operatorname{sinc}(2as)$
Triangle	$\Lambda_a(t)$	Sinc Squared	$a \operatorname{sinc}^2(as)$
Gaussian	$e^{-\pi t^2}$	Gaussian	$e^{-\pi s^2}$

FT Properties: Addition Theorem

Adding two functions together adds their Fourier Transforms:

$$\mathcal{F}(f + g) = \mathcal{F}(f) + \mathcal{F}(g)$$

Multiplying a function by a scalar constant multiplies its Fourier Transform by the same constant:

$$\mathcal{F}(af) = a \mathcal{F}(f)$$

Consequence: Fourier Transform is a linear transformation!

FT Properties: Shift Theorem

Translating (shifting) a function leaves the magnitude unchanged and adds a constant to the phase

If $f_2(t) = f_1(t - a)$

$$F_1 = \mathcal{F}(f_1)$$

$$F_2 = \mathcal{F}(f_2)$$

then

$$|F_2| = |F_1|$$

$$\phi(F_2) = \phi(F_1) - 2\pi s a$$

Intuition: magnitude tells you “how much”,
phase tells you “where”

FT Properties: Similarity Theorem

Scaling a function's abscissa (domain or horizontal axis) inversely scales the both magnitude and abscissa of the Fourier transform.

If $f_2(t) = f_1(a t)$

$$F_1 = \mathcal{F}(f_1)$$

$$F_2 = \mathcal{F}(f_2)$$

then

$$F_2(s) = (1/|a|) F_1(s / a)$$

FT Properties: Rayleigh's Theorem

Total sum of squares is the same in either domain:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(t)|^2 dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |F(s)|^2 ds$$

The Fourier Convolution Theorem

Let F , G , and H denote the Fourier Transforms of signals f , g , and h respectively

$$g = f * h \quad \text{implies} \quad G = F H$$

$$g = f h \quad \text{implies} \quad G = F * H$$

Convolution in one domain is multiplication in the other and vice versa

Convolution in the Frequency Domain

One application of the Convolution Theorem is that we can perform time-domain convolution using frequency domain multiplication:

$$f * g = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(f) \mathcal{F}(g))$$

How does the computational complexity of doing convolution compare to the forward and inverse Fourier transform?

Deconvolution

If $G = FH$, can't you reverse the process by $F = G / H$?

This is called *deconvolution*: the “undoing” of convolution

Problem: most systems have noise, which limits deconvolution

2-D Continuous Fourier Transform

Basic functions are sinusoids with frequency u in one direction times sinusoids with frequency v in the other:

$$F(u, v) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) e^{-i2\pi(ux+vy)} dx dy$$

Same process for the inverse transform:

$$f(x, y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(u, v) e^{i2\pi(ux+vy)} dx dy$$

2-D Discrete Fourier Transform

For an $N \times M$ image, the basis functions are:

$$\begin{aligned}h_{u,v}[x, y] &= e^{i2\pi ux / N} e^{i2\pi vy / M} \\ &= e^{-i2\pi(ux / N + vy / M)}\end{aligned}$$

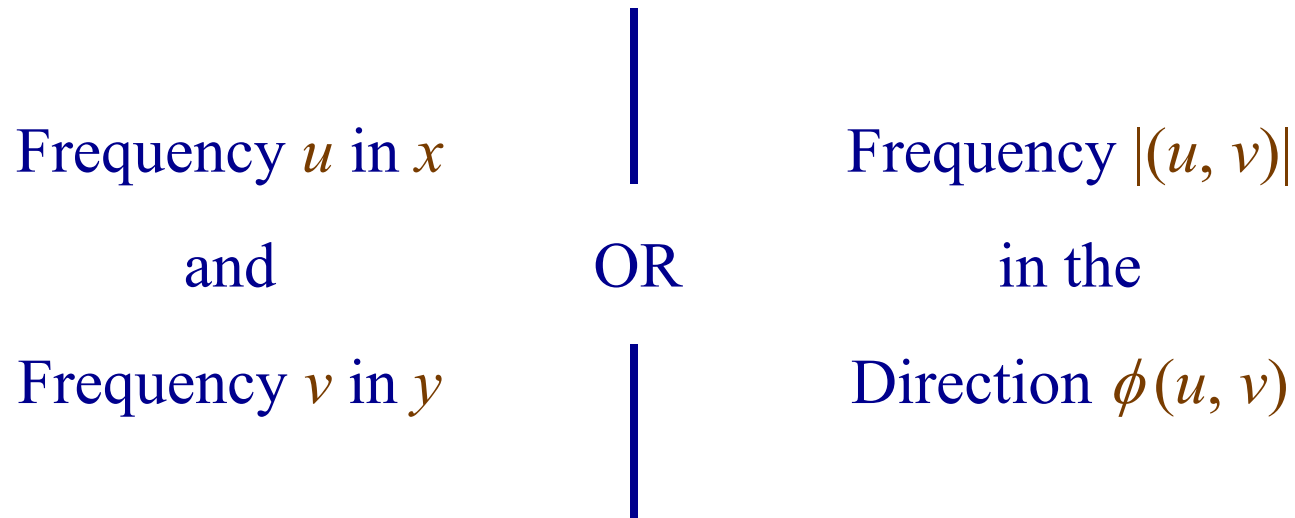
$$F[u, v] = \frac{1}{NM} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{M-1} f[x, y] e^{-i2\pi(ux / N + vy / M)}$$

Same process for the inverse transform:

$$f[x, y] = \sum_{u=0}^{N-1} \sum_{v=0}^{M-1} F[u, v] e^{i2\pi(ux / N + vy / M)}$$

Interpreting the 2-D Fourier Transform

The point (u, v) in the frequency domain corresponds to the basis function with:



This follows from rotational invariance

Properties

All other properties of 1-D signals apply to 2-D (and 3D!)

- Linearity
- Shift
- Scaling
- Rayleigh's Theorem
- Convolution Theorem

Rotation

Rotating a 2-D function rotates it's Fourier Transform

If

$$\begin{aligned} f_2 &= \text{rotate}_\theta(f_1) \\ &= f_1(x \cos(\theta) - y \sin(\theta), x \sin(\theta) + y \cos(\theta)) \end{aligned}$$

$$F_1 = \mathcal{F}(f_1)$$

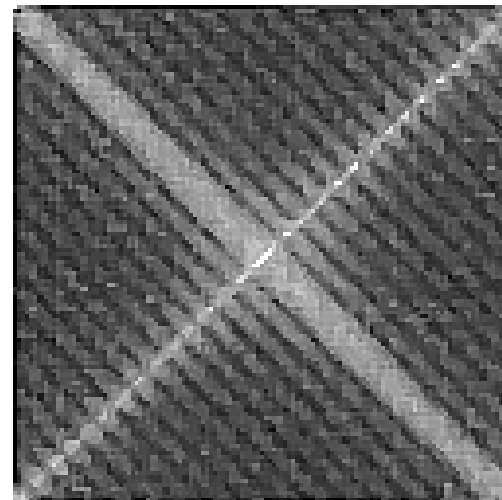
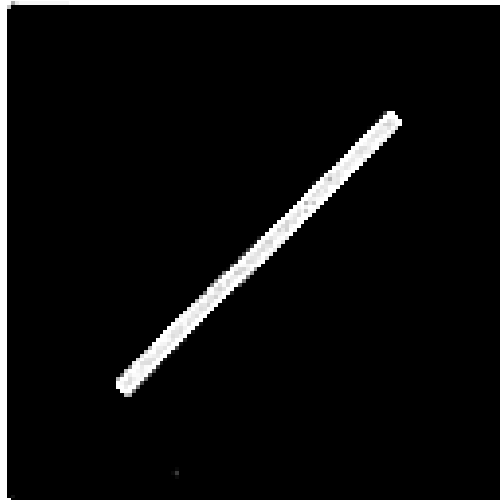
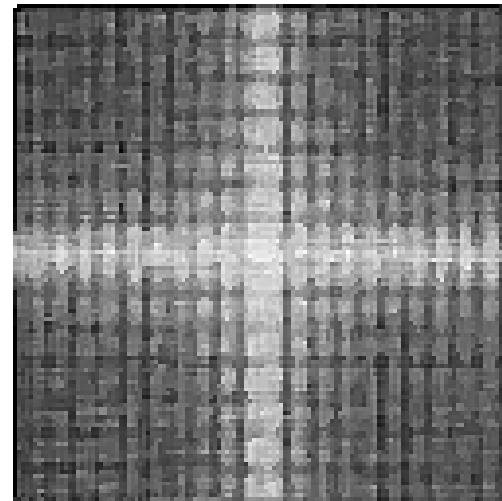
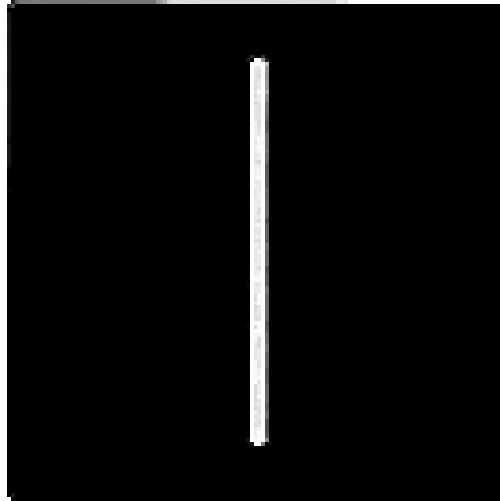
$$F_2 = \mathcal{F}(f_2)$$

then

$$F_2(s) = F_1(x \cos(\theta) - y \sin(\theta), x \sin(\theta) + y \cos(\theta))$$

i.e., the Fourier Transform is rotationally invariant.

Rotation Invariance (sort of)



needs
more
boundary
padding!

Transforms of Separable Functions

If

$$f(x, y) = f_1(x) f_2(y)$$

the function f is separable and its Fourier Transform is also separable:

$$F(u, v) = F_1(u) F_2(v)$$

Linear Separability of the 2-D FT

The 2-D Fourier Transform is linearly separable: the Fourier Transform of a two-dimensional image is the 1-D Fourier Transform of the rows followed by the 1-D Fourier Transforms of the resulting columns (or vice versa)

$$\begin{aligned} F[u, v] &= \frac{1}{NM} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{M-1} f[x, y] e^{-i2\pi(ux/N + vy/M)} \\ &= \frac{1}{NM} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{M-1} f[x, y] e^{-i2\pi ux/N} e^{-i2\pi vy/M} \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{y=0}^{M-1} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} f[x, y] e^{-i2\pi ux/N} \right] e^{-i2\pi vy/M} \end{aligned}$$

Convolution using FFT

Convolution theorem says

$$f * g = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(f) \mathcal{F}(g))$$

Can do either:

- Direct Space Convolution
- FFT, multiplication, and inverse FFT

Computational breakeven point: about 9×9 kernel

2-D Convolution, DFT, and FFT

Direct Space Convolution	$O(N^4)$
DFT	$O(N^4)$
DFT using separability	$O(N^3)$
FFT using separability	$O(N^2 \log N)$

Spatial Frequencies

- If the image makes gradual transitions, it only requires low-frequency sinusoids
- If the image makes rapid transitions, it requires high-frequency sinusoids
- Places with low spatial frequency content: smooth regions
- Places with high spatial frequency content: edges, texture

Correlation

Convolution is

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

Correlation is

$$f(t) * g(-t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau)g(t + \tau)d\tau$$

Correlation in the Frequency Domain

Convolution

$$f(t) * g(t) \leftrightarrow F(s) G(s)$$

Correlation

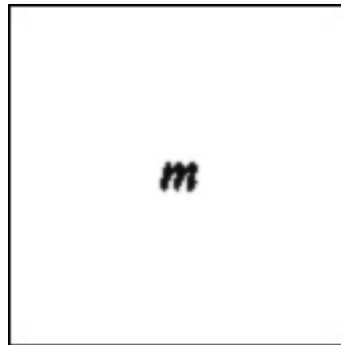
$$f(t) * g(-t) \leftrightarrow F(s) G^*(s)$$

Template “Convolution”

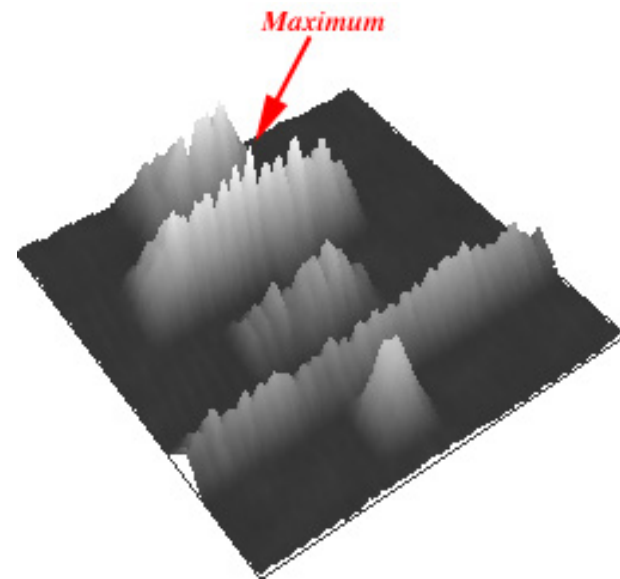
- Actually, is a **correlation** method
- Goal: maximize correlation between target and probe image
- Here: only translations allowed but rotations also possible



target



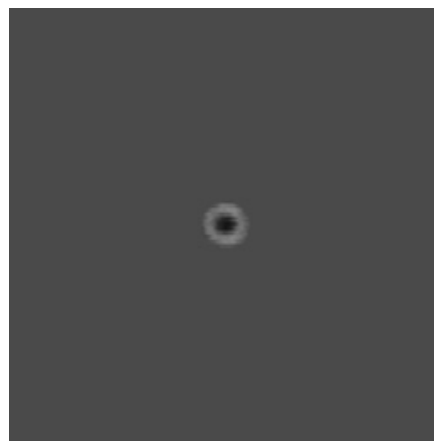
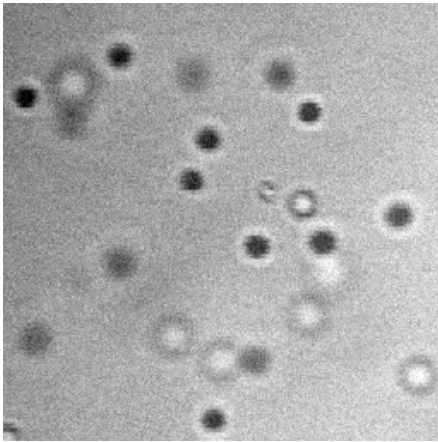
probe



Particle Picking

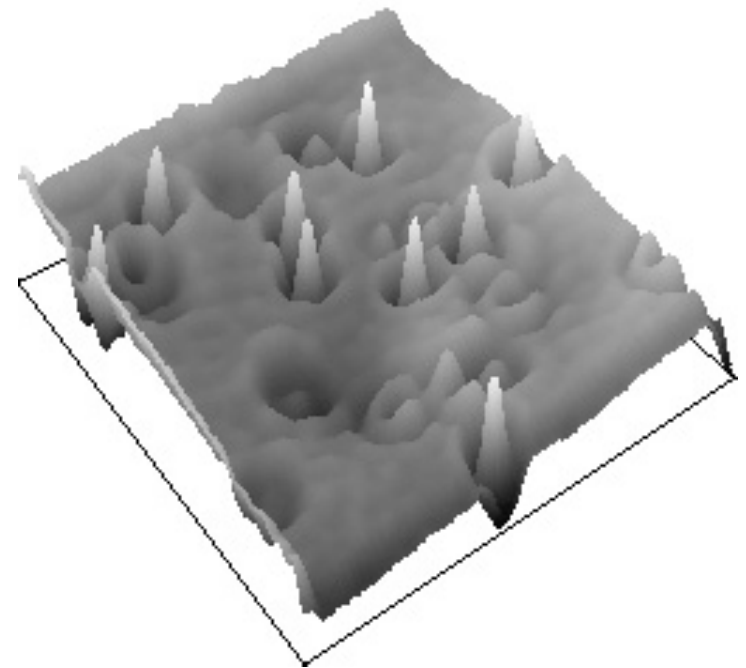
- Use spherical, or rotationally averaged probes
- Goal: maximize correlation between target and probe image

microscope image of latex spheres



target

probe



Autocorrelation

Autocorrelation is the correlation of a function with itself:

$$f(t) * f(-t)$$

Useful to detect self-similarities or repetitions / symmetry within one image!

Power Spectrum

The power spectrum of a signal is the Fourier Transform of its autocorrelation function:

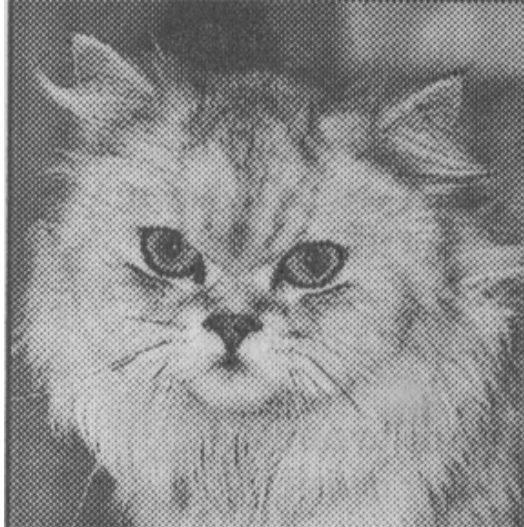
$$\begin{aligned} P(s) &= \mathcal{F}(f(t) * f(-t)) \\ &= F(s) F^*(s) \\ &= |F(s)|^2 \end{aligned}$$

It is also the squared magnitude of the Fourier transform of the function

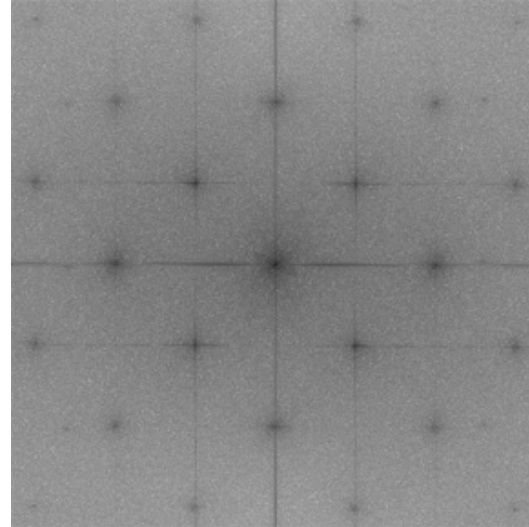
It is entirely real (no imaginary part).

Useful for detecting periodic patterns / texture in the image.

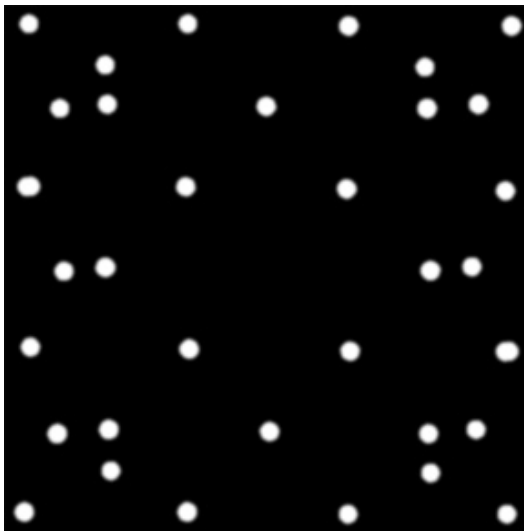
Use of Power Spectrum in Filtering



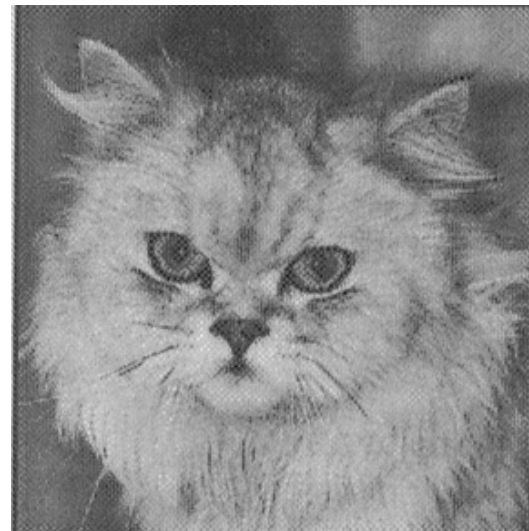
Original with noise patterns



Power spectrum showing noise spikes



Mask to remove periodic noise



Inverse FT with periodic noise removed

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<http://web.engr.oregonstate.edu/~enm/cs519>

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Resources

Textbooks:

Kenneth R. Castleman, Digital Image Processing, Chapter 10

John C. Russ, The Image Processing Handbook, Chapter 5