

# Applications of the FFT

## 1 Spectral Analysis

- convolutions with the FFT
- filtering periodic data
- removing low amplitude noise

## 2 Image Processing

- images are matrices
- red, green, blue intensities
- blurring and deblurring images

MCS 472 Lecture 11  
Industrial Math & Computation  
Jan Verschelde, 2 February 2024

# Applications of the FFT

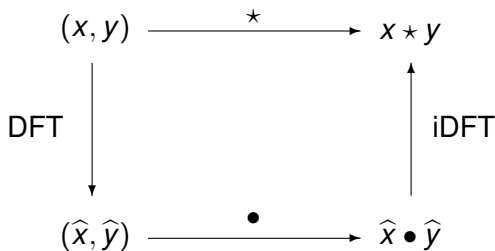
## 1 Spectral Analysis

- convolutions with the FFT
- filtering periodic data
- removing low amplitude noise

## 2 Image Processing

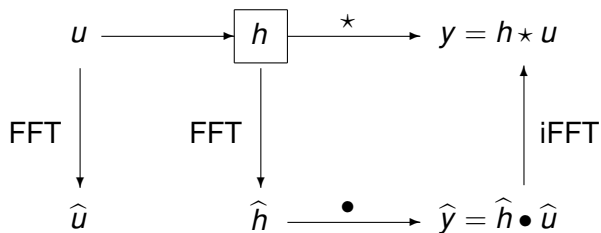
- images are matrices
- red, green, blue intensities
- blurring and deblurring images

# the DFT convolution theorem



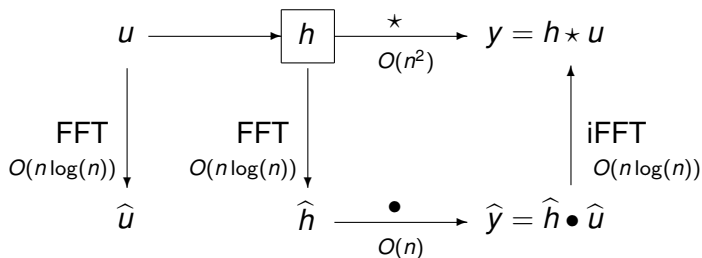
- The inverse discrete Fourier transform (iDFT)
- applied to the componentwise product  $\hat{x} \bullet \hat{y}$
- of the discrete Fourier transforms (DFTs)  $\hat{x}$  and  $\hat{y}$ ,
- respectively of  $x$  and  $y$ , equals the convolution  $x * y$ .

# the convolution theorem applied to a filter with the FFT



With the FFT, the convolution of two  $n$ -vectors is  $O(n \log(n))$ .

# the convolution theorem applied to a filter with the FFT



With the FFT, the convolution of two  $n$ -vectors is  $O(n \log(n))$ .

# Applications of the FFT

## 1 Spectral Analysis

- convolutions with the FFT
- **filtering periodic data**
- removing low amplitude noise

## 2 Image Processing

- images are matrices
- red, green, blue intensities
- blurring and deblurring images

## filtering periodic data

The  $O(n \log(n))$  time of the Fast Fourier Transform allows for the online filtering of data.

We distinguish between three types of filters:

- 1 *low pass*: only low frequencies pass,
- 2 *high pass*: only high frequencies pass, and
- 3 *band pass*: only frequencies within a band pass.

Filtering with the FFT in three steps:

- 1 transform the input data to the frequency domain,
- 2 remove the components of unwanted frequencies, and
- 3 transform the filtered data to the time domain.

## an experiment in Julia

```
using Plots
```

```
using FFTW
```

```
dt = 0.01
```

```
t = 0:dt:4
```

```
y = 3*sin.(4*2*pi*t) + 5*sin.(2*2*pi*t)
```

```
plot(t, y, yticks=-7:1:7, label="signal"  
      xlabel="Time in Seconds", ylabel="Amplitude")
```

```
F = fft(y)
```

```
n = length(y) / 2
```

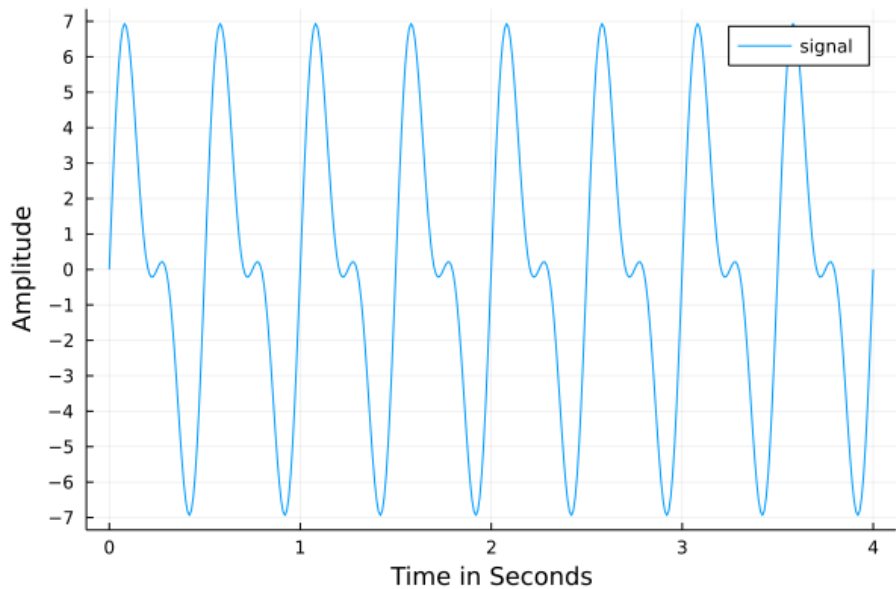
```
amps = abs.(F) / n
```

```
freq = [0:79] / (2*n*dt)
```

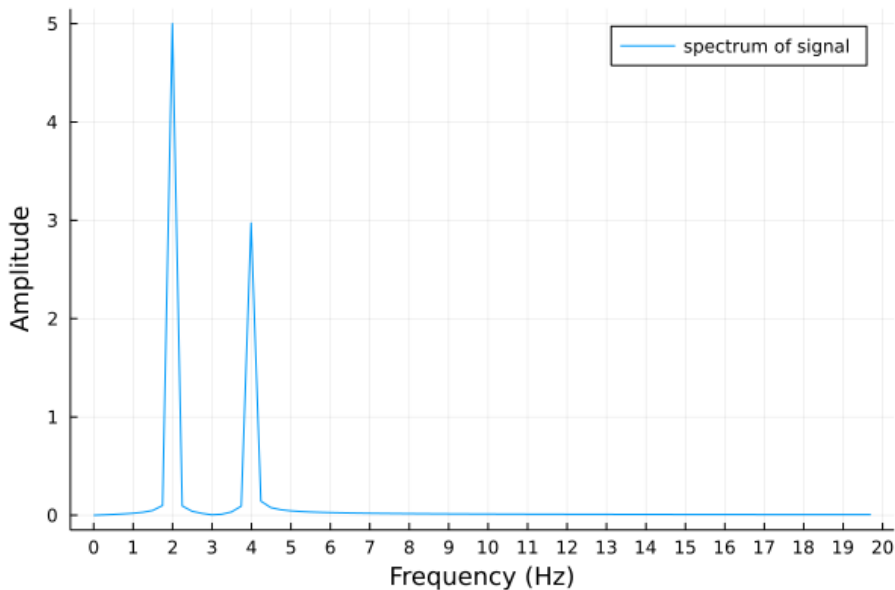
```
plot(freq, amps[1:80], xticks=0:1:20,  
      label="spectrum of signal",  
      ylabel="Amplitude", xlabel="Frequency (Hz)")
```



# amplitude versus time



# amplitude versus frequency



# Applications of the FFT

## 1 Spectral Analysis

- convolutions with the FFT
- filtering periodic data
- removing low amplitude noise

## 2 Image Processing

- images are matrices
- red, green, blue intensities
- blurring and deblurring images

## adding low amplitude noise

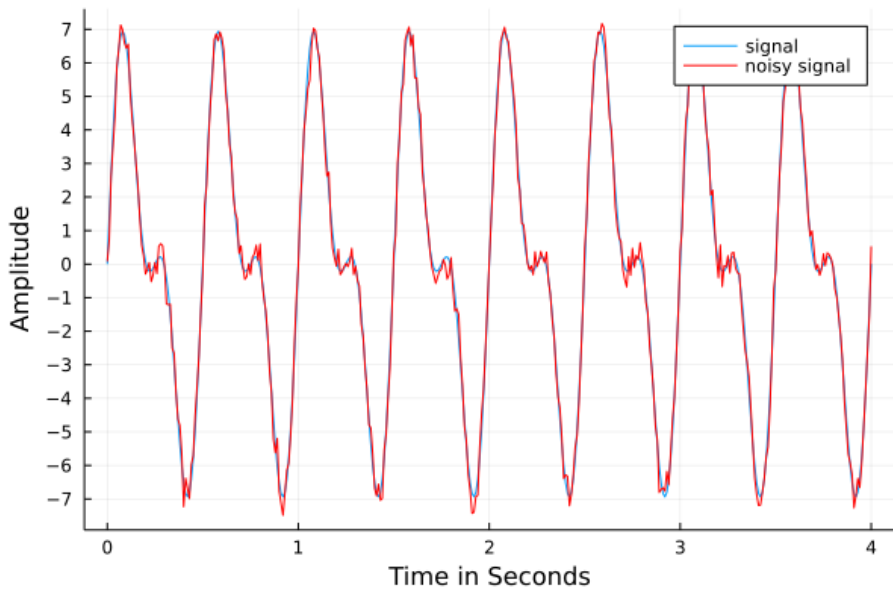
Normally distributed noise of magnitude 0.3 is added.

```
ynoise = y + 0.3*randn(length(y))
```

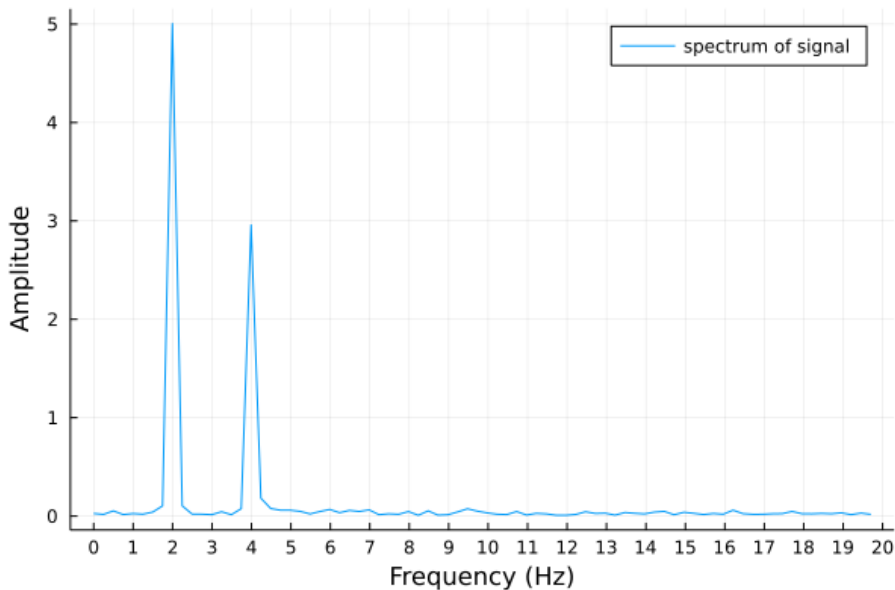
Code to make the plot:

```
dt = 0.01
t = 0:dt:4
y = 3*sin.(4*2*pi*t) + 5*sin.(2*2*pi*t)
plot(t, y, yticks=-7:1:7, label="signal"
      xlabel="Time in Seconds", ylabel="Amplitude")
plot!(t, ynoise, color="red", label="noisy signal")
```

# the noisy signal



# the spectrum of the noisy signal



## removing the low amplitudes

Observe on the spectrum of the noisy signal:  
the noisy appears for all frequencies, but at low amplitude.

Code to remove the low amplitudes:

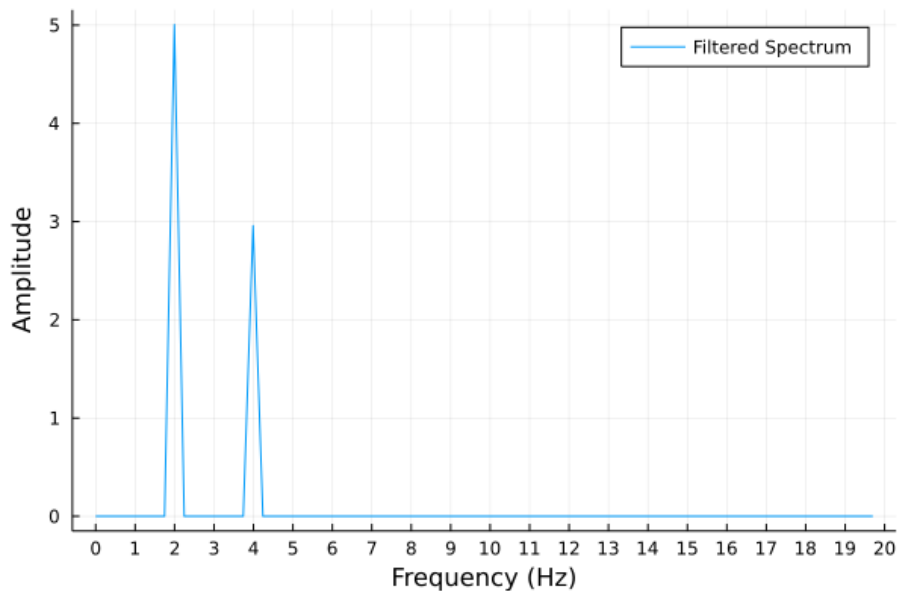
```
filteredF = [x*Int(abs(x) > 50) for x in F];
```

All numbers in magnitude less than 50 are replaced by zero.

The semicolon (;) suppresses the output.

Finding the good threshold requires inspecting the numbers.

# the filtered spectrum





## applying the inverse FFT

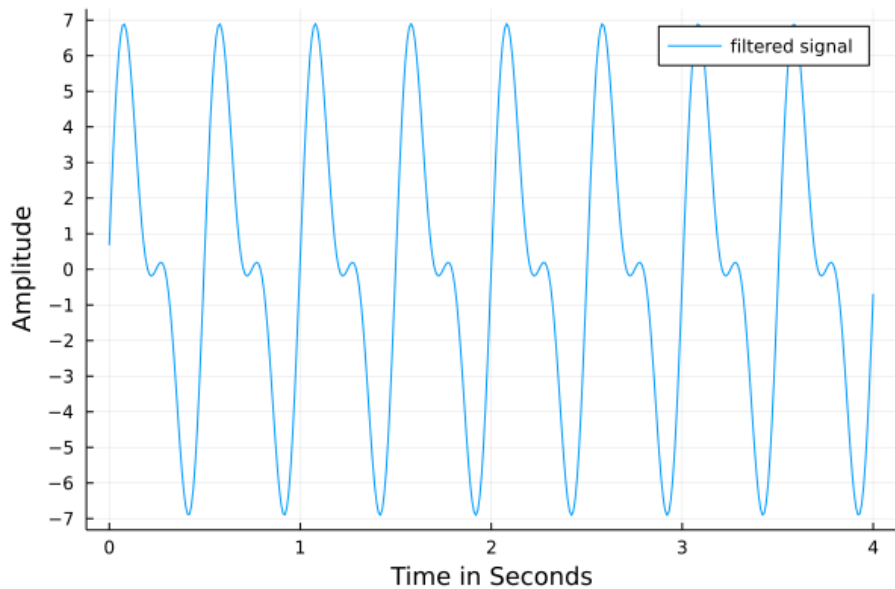
To reconstruct the signal, we apply the inverse FFT.

```
yfiltered = ifft(filteredF)
```

To plot the filtered signal,  
we plot only the real part of the output of the `ifft`.

```
plot(t, real(yfiltered),  
      yticks=-7:1:7,  
      label="filtered signal",  
      xlabel="Time in Seconds",  
      ylabel="Amplitude")
```

# the filtered signal



## filtering unwanted frequencies

With the FFT and iFFT we can remove unwanted frequencies: in the spectrum, set the amplitudes for the unwanted frequencies to zero.

### Exercise 1:

Make a signal with three components:

- 1 the first sine has amplitude 5 and runs at 2Hz,
- 2 the second sine has amplitude 3 and runs at 8Hz, and
- 3 the third sine has amplitude 1 and runs at 16Hz.

Use this signal to demonstrate the application of the FFT for three types of filters:

- 1 Low pass: remove all frequencies higher than 6Hz.
- 2 High pass: remove all frequencies lower than 10Hz.
- 3 Band pass: keep the frequencies between 6Hz and 10Hz.

# Applications of the FFT

## 1 Spectral Analysis

- convolutions with the FFT
- filtering periodic data
- removing low amplitude noise

## 2 Image Processing

- images are matrices
- red, green, blue intensities
- blurring and deblurring images

# a familiar image



# images are matrices of RGB codes

```
using Images
```

```
A = load("buildingsky.png")
```

```
size(A)
```

The `load` displays the image.

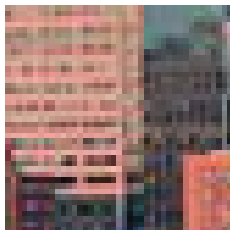
The output of `size(A)` is `(570, 855)`,  
so `A` has 570 rows and 855 columns.

## selecting the middle of the image

```
m1 = Int(size(A,1)/2)
```

```
m2 = Int(round(size(A,2)/2))
```

```
Amiddle = A[m1-20:m1+20,m2-20:m2+20]
```



# Applications of the FFT

## 1 Spectral Analysis

- convolutions with the FFT
- filtering periodic data
- removing low amplitude noise

## 2 Image Processing

- images are matrices
- **red, green, blue intensities**
- blurring and deblurring images



# Red, Green, Blue intensities

Let us look at one element of the matrix.

```
a = A[1,1]; typeof(a)
```

shows `RGB{N0f8}`.

The `RGB` type stores the Red, Green, Blue intensities.

The output of `dump(a)` is

```
RGB{N0f8}
  r: N0f8
    i: UInt8 0x81
  g: N0f8
    i: UInt8 0xd3
  b: N0f8
    i: UInt8 0xfb
```

# computing with intensities

The components of  $a$  are  $a.r$ ,  $a.g$ , and  $a.b$ ,  
for the red, green, and blue intensities.

Convert components to floats, and we can compute with the intensities:

```
agray = RGB{Float32} ((Float32(a.r)  
                      + Float32(a.g)  
                      + Float32(a.b)) / 3)
```

Averaging the intensities lead to a grayscale picture.

## converting to grayscale

```
Agray = zeros(size(A,1), size(A,2))
```

```
Agray = Matrix{RGB{Float32}}(Agray)
```

```
for i=1:size(A,1)
    for j=1:size(A,2)
        a = A[i,j]
        b = RGB{Float32}((Float32(a.r)
                        + Float32(a.g)
                        + Float32(a.b))/3)

        Agray[i,j] = b
    end
end
```

# the grayscale picture



## a matrix of floats

In the grayscale image, all intensities are the same.

The matrix of RGB codes is the converted as below:

```
C = zeros(size(Agray,1), size(Agray,2))

for i=1:size(Agray,1)
    for j=1:size(Agray,2)
        C[i,j] = Agray[i,j].r
    end
end
```

The grayscale matrix is used for the remaining computations.

If we want to work with colors, then we can work with three different matrices, one matrix of each intensity.

# making images greener

## Exercise 2:

Take an image, for example our familiar picture, and give the operations to increase the green intensities by 10%.

# Applications of the FFT

## 1 Spectral Analysis

- convolutions with the FFT
- filtering periodic data
- removing low amplitude noise

## 2 Image Processing

- images are matrices
- red, green, blue intensities
- blurring and deblurring images

# blurring images for safe transmission

Let  $X$  be an  $m$ -by- $n$  matrix, representing an image.

- $B$  is a blur matrix.
- Compute  $Y = B \star X$  to blur the image stored in  $X$ , the  $\star$  is the matrix-matrix multiplication.

Because of the blurring  $Y$  is safe for transmission.

- To deblur the image, do  $X = B^{-1} \star Y$ .

Two computational problems:

- 1 The matrix-matrix multiplication  $\star$  costs  $O(n^3)$ .
- 2 Computing the inverse  $B^{-1}$  also costs  $O(m^3)$ .



## two dimensional Fourier transforms

$X$  is an  $m$ -by- $n$  matrix.

- Let  $\omega_m$  be the  $m$ th primitive root:  $\omega_m^m - 1 = 0$ .
- Let  $\omega_n$  be the  $n$ th primitive root:  $\omega_n^n - 1 = 0$ .

Then the discrete Fourier transform of  $X$  is  $\widehat{X}$  with entries

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{X}_{i,j} &= \sum_{p=0}^{m-1} \left( \sum_{q=0}^{n-1} x_{p,q} \omega_n^{qj} \right) \omega_m^{pi} \\ &= \sum_{q=0}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{p=0}^{m-1} x_{p,q} \omega_m^{pj} \right) \omega_n^{qi}\end{aligned}$$

The rowwise and columnwise formulas are the same because of the distributive properties of addition with multiplication.

# processing pictures of round objects

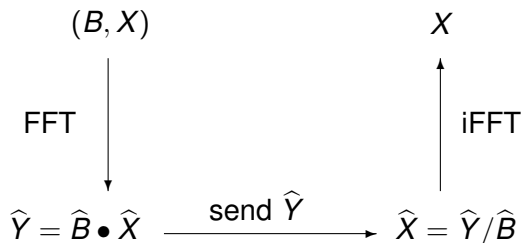
## Exercise 3:

In processing medical images, the images are of round objects, e.g.: brain scans produced by Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI).

Search the literature for methods on the applications of the FFT on data that is not scanned on a grid that is not rectangular, but polar.

# apply the FFT and use componentwise operations

Let  $X$  be the image and  $B$  the blur matrix.



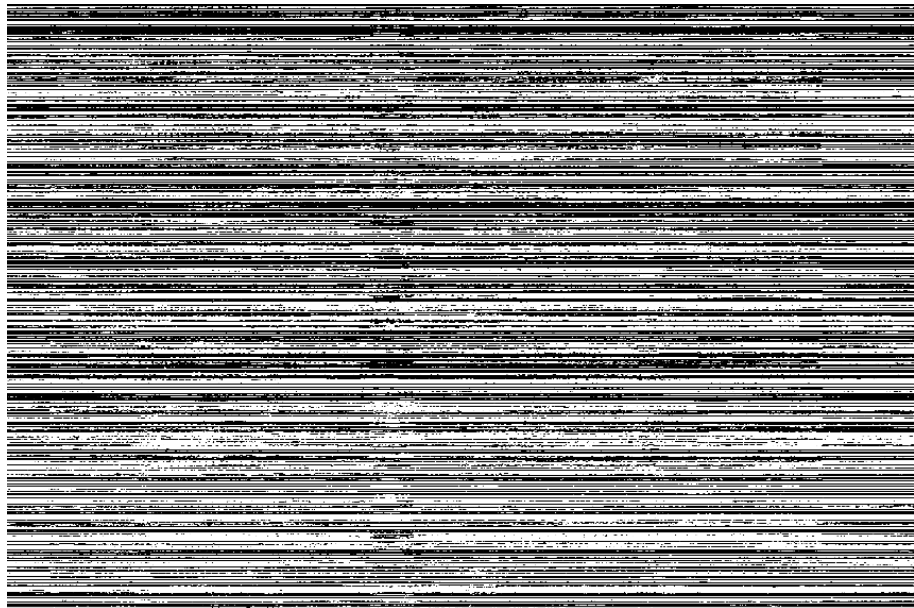
Matrix-matrix multiplications and inverse computations are avoided:

- The  $\bullet$  is the componentwise multiplication, and
- the  $/$  is the componentwise division.

## blurring an image

```
B = randn(size(C,1), size(C,1))
Y = B*C
D = zeros(size(Y,1), size(Y,2))
D = Matrix{RGB{Float32}}(D)
for i=1:size(Y,1)
    for j=1:size(Y,2)
        a = Y[i,j]
        if a < 0
            a = 0.0
        end
        if a > 1
            a = 1.0
        end
        D[i,j]= RGB{Float32}(a,a,a)
    end
end
end
```

# the blurred grayscale picture



## extending the blur matrix

For the componentwise multiplication  $\hat{Y} = \hat{B} \bullet \hat{X}$ , the matrix  $B$  needs to be of the same size as  $X$ .

We extend  $B$  with ones on the diagonal and zeros off the diagonal:

```
BB = zeros(size(C,2), size(C,2))
BB[1:size(B,1), 1:size(B,2)] = B
for i in size(B,1)+1:size(BB,1)
    BB[i,i] = 1.0
end
```

## blurring with FFT and componentwise products

using FFTW

```
fftB = fft(BB)
fftC = fft(C)
fftY = zeros(size(C,1), size(C,2))
fftY = Matrix{Complex{Float64}}(fftY)
for i=1:size(C,1)
    for j=1:size(C,2)
        fftY[i,j] = fftB[i,j]*fftC[i,j]
    end
end
```

The `fftY` holds the blurred image, safe for transmission.

## componentwise divisions

The received data is `fftY`.

To compute the original images, we first do  $\hat{X} = \hat{Y}/\hat{B}$ , as below:

```
fftX = zeros(size(C,1), size(C,2))
fftX = Matrix{Complex{Float64}}(fftY)

for i=1:size(C,1)
    for j=1:size(C,2)
        fftX[i,j] = fftY[i,j]/fftB[i,j]
    end
end
```



# application of the inverse FFT

```
X = ifft(fftX)
```

```
deblurred = zeros(size(X,1), size(X,2))
```

```
deblurred = Matrix{RGB{Float32}}(deblurred)
```

```
for i=1:size(X,1)
```

```
    for j=1:size(X,2)
```

```
        x = Float32(real(X[i,j]))
```

```
        deblurred[i,j] = RGB{Float32}(x,x,x)
```

```
    end
```

```
end
```

# summary and bibliography

Two applications of the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) were presented. See the posted Jupyter notebooks.

The main reference for this lecture is:

- Charles R. MacCluer:  
*Industrial Mathematics. Modeling in Industry, Science, and Government.* Prentice Hall, 2000.

We ended Chapter 4.

- Timothy Sauer: *Numerical Analysis*, second edition, Pearson, 2012.

Chapter 10 deals with the discrete Fourier transform.

## summary of the last six lectures

In the past six lectures, we provided a computational overview of signal processing and filter design.

- 1 The z-transform of a sequence shows the grow or decay factors.
- 2 Linear, time invariant, and causal filters are determined entirely by the impulse response, or the coefficients of its transfer function.
- 3 Bode plots show the amplitude gain and phase shift of the evaluated transfer function.
- 4 The Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) turns convolutions into componentwise products.
- 5 The Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) executes the DFT in  $O(n \log(n))$  time.
- 6 Applications of the FFT include the removal of low amplitude noise; low pass, high pass, band pass filters; and image blurring.