



Lecture Notes
Week 10

Frequency Domain Analysis (1-D)
[For 2-D cases, watch the third video of Week 10]

Discrete Fourier Transform

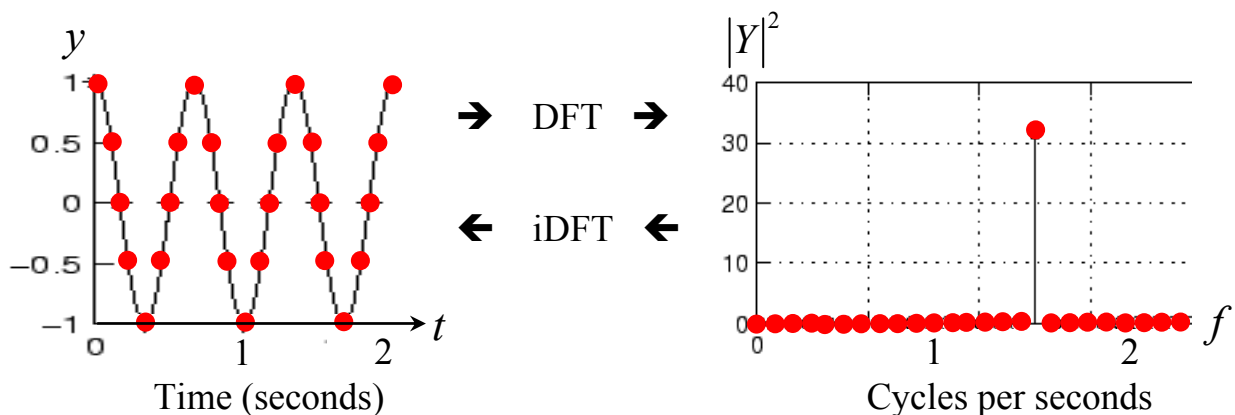
Given a discrete finite time series $\mathbf{y} = [y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_N]$ at uniformly sampled time points $\mathbf{t} = [t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots, t_N]$, \mathbf{y} can be expressed as a summation series of N sinusoidal waves:

$$y_j = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N Y_k \exp \left[i \frac{(k-1)(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right], \quad (1)$$

where $\mathbf{Y} = [Y_1, Y_2, Y_3, \dots, Y_N]$ (complex) are the Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) at frequencies $\mathbf{f} = [f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots, f_N]$, where $f_k = \frac{k-1}{N\Delta t}$. Mathematically, Y_k is obtained by

$$Y_k = \sum_{j=1}^N y_j \exp \left[-i \frac{(k-1)(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right]. \quad (2)$$

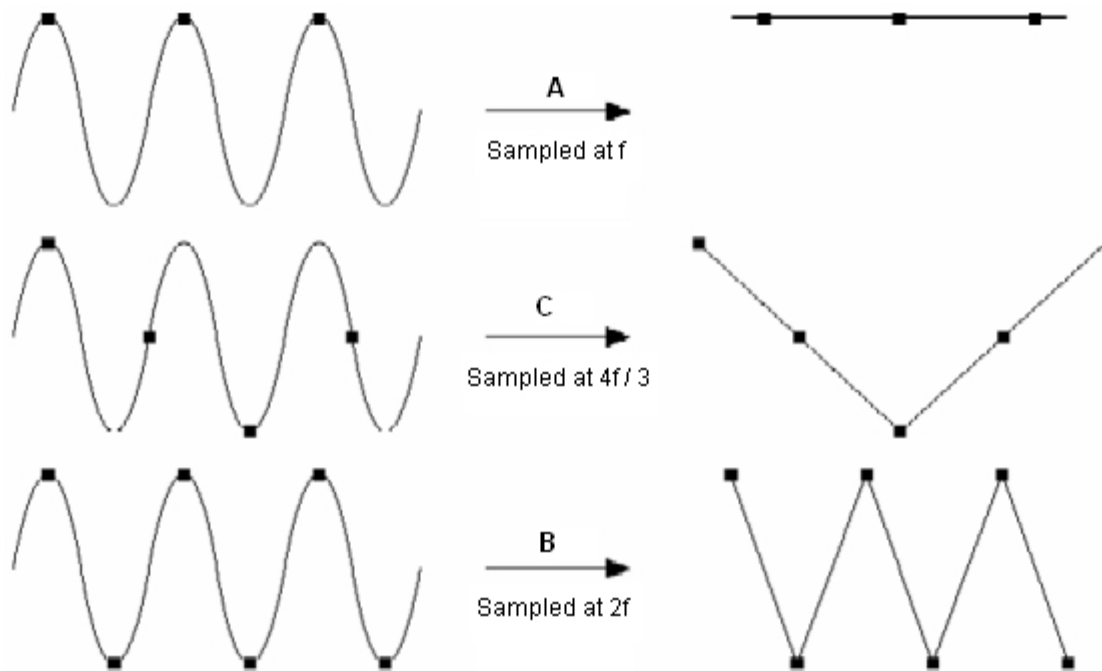
$|Y_k|^2$ are estimates of spectral powers at frequencies f_k . Conversely, y is the inverse Discrete Fourier Transform of Y .



For real data y , half of Y are redundant: $Y_{N-k+2} = Y_k^*$ (see Appendix).

1. $f_k = \frac{k-1}{N\Delta t}$ is physically meaningful only for $k = 1, \dots, \frac{N}{2} + 1$. Other frequencies are negative frequencies and are equivalent to the positive frequencies.
2. $f_{\frac{N}{2}+1} = \frac{1}{2\Delta t}$ is the highest frequency that DFT can “see”; called Nyquist frequency.
3. Nyquist frequency due to aliasing: Oscillations with frequencies higher than $\frac{1}{2\Delta t}$ cannot be distinguished from oscillations with frequencies lower than $\frac{1}{2\Delta t}$.

Nyquist Theorem:



Only Case B (sampling twice over each cycle) correctly measures the signal.

Fast Fourier Transfrom

Eqs (1) and (2) are too slow to calculate: order of complexity = $O(N^2)$. J. W. Cooley and J. W. Tukey simplified the algorithm and called it Fast Fourier Transform (FFT), which works best if $N = 2^p$ and the order of complexity is $O(N \ln N)$.

Matlab: **Y=fft(y)** and **y=ifft(Y)**.
abs(Y).^2 are spectral powers.

If $N \neq 2^p$, pad zeros:

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Y      = fft(y, 2.^nextpow2(length(y)) ) ;  
ynew   = ifft(Y) ;  
y      = ynew(1:length(y)) ;
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Appendix

For real y ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= y^* \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N Y_k^* \exp \left[-i \frac{(k-1)(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N Y_k^* \exp \left[-i \frac{(k-1)(j-1)2\pi}{N} + i(j-1)2\pi \right] && \because \exp[i(j-1)2\pi] = 1 \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N Y_k^* \exp \left[i \frac{(N-k+1)(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{s=1}^N Y_{N-s+1}^* \exp \left[i \frac{s(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right] && \text{by replacing } s = N - k + 1 \\
 & && s_{\max} = N - k_{\min} + 1 = N \\
 & && s_{\min} = N - k_{\max} + 1 = 1 \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{s=1}^{N-1} Y_{N-s+1}^* \exp \left[i \frac{s(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right] + \frac{1}{N} Y_1^* \exp \left[i \frac{N(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{s=1}^{N-1} Y_{N-s+1}^* \exp \left[i \frac{s(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right] + \frac{1}{N} Y_1^* && \because \exp \left[i \frac{N(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right] = 1 \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{s=0}^{N-1} Y_{N-s+1}^* \exp \left[i \frac{s(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right] && \because 1 = \exp \left[i \frac{0 \times (j-1)2\pi}{N} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N Y_{N-k+2}^* \exp \left[i \frac{(k-1)(j-1)2\pi}{N} \right] && \text{by replacing } s = k - 1
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $Y_k^* = Y_{N-k+2}$.