



◆ 1. WHAT IS FFT *DOING* (Without Saying It's Just Faster DFT)?

FFT:

- Does exactly what DFT does, but in a **clever order**.
 - It breaks a problem of size `N` into two problems of size `N/2`, and does this recursively.
 - It avoids recomputing the same math again and again.
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◆ 2. VERY SIMPLE EXAMPLE: FFT of 4-Point Signal

Let's take a **real signal**:

$$x = [1, 2, 3, 4]$$

We want to compute the **4-point DFT** of this, i.e.,

$$X[k] = \sum_{n=0}^3 x[n] \cdot e^{-j2\pi kn/4}, \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, 2, 3$$

But **using FFT logic**, we'll:

⚙ STEP 1: Divide into Even and Odd Samples

Split `x`:

- Even-indexed samples: `x_even = [1, 3]` (positions 0 and 2)
- Odd-indexed samples: `x_odd = [2, 4]` (positions 1 and 3)

Now do 2-point DFT on each:

⚙ STEP 2: 2-Point DFT of [1, 3] and [2, 4]

$$\text{DFT of } [a, b] = [a + b, a - b]$$

So:

- $\text{DFT_even} = [1+3, 1-3] = [4, -2]$
 - $\text{DFT_odd} = [2+4, 2-4] = [6, -2]$
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⚙ STEP 3: Twiddle Factor Multiplication

We now apply the *twiddle factor* $W_N^k = e^{-j2\pi k/N}$ to the **odd** part.

Let's build final output for each bin $k = 0, 1, 2, 3$:

$$X[k] = \text{DFT_even}[k \bmod 2] + W_4^k \cdot \text{DFT_odd}[k \bmod 2]$$

We calculate:

For k = 0:

- $W_4^0 = 1$
- $X[0] = 4 + 1 \cdot 6 = 10$

For k = 1:

- $W_4^1 = e^{-j\pi/2} = -j$
- $X[1] = -2 + (-j)(-2) = -2 + 2j$

For k = 2:

- $W_4^2 = e^{-j\pi} = -1$
- $X[2] = 4 + (-1) \cdot 6 = -2$

For k = 3:

- $W_4^3 = e^{-j3\pi/2} = j$
- $X[3] = -2 + j(-2) = -2 - 2j$

✓ **FFT Output:**

$$X = [10, -2 + 2j, -2, -2 - 2j]$$

That's your 4-point FFT manually!

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