




## ITCT Lecture 10.2: Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT)

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Cited from Internet!  
Good for self-learner!




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- DCT is a **Fourier-related transform** similar to DFT, but using only **real numbers**. It is equivalent to a DFT roughly **twice the transform length**, operating on real data with “**Even symmetry**” (since Fourier transform of a real and even function is real and even). The most common variant of DCT is the **type-II DCT** and its **inverse** is the **type-III DCT**.




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- Two related transform are the discrete sine transform (DST), which is equivalent to a DFT of “Real and odd” functions, and the **modified DCT (MDCT)**, which is based on a DCT of **overlapping data**.
- The other interesting transform is the discrete **Hartley transform** (DHT) in which
  - Even part of DHT = Real part of DFT
  - Odd part of DHT = Imaginary part of DFT




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- DCT is often used in signal and image processing, especially for **lossy data compression**, because it has a strong “**Energy Compaction**” **property**: most of the signal information tends to be concentrated in a few low-frequency components of the DCT, approaching the KLT for signals based on certain limits of Markov processes.
- DCT is used in **JPEG image** compression, **MJPEG**, **MPEG**, **H.264**, and **HEVC video** compression.
- MDCT is used in MP3, AAC, etc. **audio** compression.




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- Formulation:
  - DCT is a **linear** and **invertible** function
  - $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  (where  $\mathbb{R}$  denotes the set of real numbers.), or equivalently on  $n \times n$  matrix.
- DCT-I:
 
$$f_j = \frac{1}{2} (x_0 + (-1)^j x_{n-1}) + \sum_{k=1}^{n-2} x_k \cos\left[\frac{\pi}{n-1} jk\right]$$



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- A DCT-I of  $n=5$  real numbers abcde is exactly equivalent to a DFT of 8 real numbers abcdedcb (even symmetry), here divided by 2. (In contrast, DCT-II ~ IV involve a half-sample shift in the equivalent DFT.)
- Note that DCT-I is not defined for  $n$  less than 2. (All other DCT types are defined for any positive  $n$ .)



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- DCT-II:

$$f_j = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} x_k \cos\left[\frac{\pi}{n} j \left(k + \frac{1}{2}\right)\right]$$

- Some authors further multiply the  $f_0$  term by  $1/\sqrt{2}$  (see below for the corresponding change in DCT-III). This makes the DCT-II **matrix orthogonal** (up to a scale factor), but breaks the direct correspondence with a real-even DFT of **half-shifted** input.



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- DCT-III:

$$f_j = \frac{1}{2} x_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} x_k \cos\left[\frac{\pi}{n} \left(j + \frac{1}{2}\right) k\right]$$

- Some authors further multiply the  $x_0$  term by  $1/\sqrt{2}$ , this makes the DCT-III **matrix orthogonal** (up to a scale factor), but breaks the direct correspondence with a real even DFT of **half-shifted** output.



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- DCT-IV:

$$f_j = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} x_k \cos\left[\frac{\pi}{n}\left(j + \frac{1}{2}\right)\left(k + \frac{1}{2}\right)\right]$$

- DCT-IV matrix is **orthogonal** (up to a scale factor).
- **MDCT** is based on DCT-IV with overlapped data.



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- DCT V-VIII:


- DCT types I-IV are equivalent to **real-even DFTs** of even order; therefore, there are 4 additional types of DCT corresponding to real-even DFTs of logically odd order, which have factors of  $(n + 1/2)$  in the denominators of the cosine arguments. These variants seem to be rarely used in practice.




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- Inverse Transforms:
  - IDCT-I is DCT-I multiplied by  $2/(n-1)$ .
  - IDCT-IV is DCT-IV multiplied by  $2/n$ .
  - IDCT-II is DCT-III multiplied by  $2/n$  (and versa).




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- Computation
  - Direct application of the above formulas would require  $O(n^2)$  operations, as in the FFT it is possible to compute the same thing with only  $O(n \log n)$  complexity by factorizing the computation. (One can also compute DCTs via FFTs combined with  $O(n)$  pre- and post-processing steps.)




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- References:
  - 1. Rao and Yip, Discrete Cosine Transform: Algorithms, Advantages, Applications; Academic Press, Boston, 1990.
  - 2. Arai, Agui, Nakajima, A Fast DCT-SQ scheme for Images, Trans. On IEICE-E, 71(11), 1095, Nov. 1998.
  - 3. Tseng and Millen, On Computing the DCT, IEEE Trans. On Computers, pp. 966-968, Oct. 1978.
  - 4. Frigo and Johnson, The Design and Implementation of FFTW3, IEEE Proceedings, vol. 93, no. 2, pp. 216-231, 2005.



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- The implementation of the 2D-IDCT
- Let the 8-point 1-D DCT of input data  $f(x)$  be:
 
$$S_8(u) = \frac{C_u}{2} \sum_{x=0}^7 f(x) \cos \frac{(2x+1)\pi u}{16} \quad (1)$$
- First the 1-D DCT is applied to all the rows of the 2-D input  $f(y,x)$ :
 
$$S_{8r}(y,u) = \frac{C_u}{2} \sum_{x=0}^7 f(y,x) \cos \frac{(2x+1)\pi u}{16} \quad (2)$$



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- Then the 1-D DCT is applied to the columns of the results of (2):

$$S(v, u) = \frac{C_u}{2} \sum_{y=0}^7 S_{8r}(y, u) \cos \frac{(2y+1)\pi v}{16} \quad (3)$$

- By substitution we get the formulation of the 2-D DCT:

$$S(v, u) = \frac{C_v}{2} \frac{C_u}{2} \sum_{y=0}^7 \sum_{x=0}^7 f(y, x) \cos \frac{(2x+1)\pi u}{16} \cos \frac{(2y+1)\pi v}{16} \quad (4)$$



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- Fast 1-D DCT Algorithms

- Define  $\alpha = \frac{2\pi ux}{16}$ ,  $\beta = \frac{\pi u}{16}$ , and  $H = \alpha + \beta$ .

- Eqn. (1) can be written as:

$$S_8(u) = \frac{C_u}{2} \sum_{x=0}^7 f(x) \cos \frac{(2x+1)\pi u}{16} = \frac{C_u}{2} \sum_{x=0}^7 f(x) \cos(\alpha + \beta)$$


- Since

$$2 \cos H \cos \beta = 2 \cos(\alpha + \beta) \cos \beta \underset{(HW)}{=} \cos \frac{2x\pi u}{16} + \cos \frac{2(15-x)\pi u}{16}$$




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$$\frac{4}{C_u} \cos \frac{\pi u}{16} S_8(u) = \sum_{x=0}^7 f(x) \left[ \cos \frac{2x\pi u}{16} + \cos \frac{2(15-x)\pi u}{16} \right] \quad (5)$$

- If we constitute a sequence of elements  $f(k)$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, 15$  with

$$f(k) = \begin{cases} f(k), & \forall k < 8 \\ f(15-k), & \forall k \geq 8 \end{cases}$$



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- We can re-write (5) as

$$\frac{4}{C_u} \cos \frac{\pi u}{16} S_8(u) = \sum_{k=0}^{15} f(k) \cos \frac{2k\pi u}{16} = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \sum_{k=0}^{15} f(k) e^{-j \frac{2k\pi u}{16}} \right\}$$

- When  $j = \sqrt{-1}$
- Because the 16-point DFT is defined by

$$F_{16}(u) = \sum_{k=0}^{15} f(k) e^{-j \frac{2k\pi u}{16}}$$


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- We have the following DCT v.s. DFT relationship

$$\frac{4}{C_u} \cos \frac{\pi u}{16} S_8(u) = \text{Re}\{F_{16}(u)\} \quad : \text{only the first 8 values are needed.}$$

- Instead of performing an IDCT an IDFT of twice the length is performed. IDFT can be implemented by IFFT with complexity  $O(N \log N)$ !



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- The multiplication by  $\frac{4}{C_u} \cos \frac{\pi u}{16}$  seems not so efficient. However, bear in mind that **the last operation before the IDCT is the “Quantization”**. That means every value is to be multiplied with a certain constant (1/Quantization factor) depending on its position in DCT matrix. So we can **merge the multiplications by  $\frac{4}{C_u} \cos \frac{\pi u}{16}$  and the multiplication by Quantizer dependent constant together**. As a result, **the Quantization and DCT-DFT transform can be performed in one step**.



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■ Let

■  $X_M = (f(0), f(1), f(2), f(3), f(4), f(5), f(6), f(7))$ : original data

■  $F_M = (\frac{1}{16} F(0), \frac{1}{8} F(1), \frac{1}{8} F(2), \frac{1}{8} F(3), \frac{1}{8} F(4), \frac{1}{8} F(5), \frac{1}{8} F(6), \frac{1}{8} F(7))$ : scaled transformed data

■ Define  $P(a,b) = \cos \frac{2\pi a}{16} + \cos \frac{2\pi b}{16}$

■ We can establish a matrix  $T_M$ :



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$$T_M = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{P(0,0)}{2} & \frac{P(0,0)}{2} & \frac{P(0,0)}{2} & \frac{P(0,0)}{2} & \frac{P(0,0)}{2} & \frac{P(0,0)}{2} & \frac{P(0,0)}{2} & \frac{P(0,0)}{2} \\ P(0,15) & P(1,14) & P(2,13) & P(3,12) & P(4,11) & P(5,10) & P(6,9) & P(7,8) \\ P(0,30) & P(2,28) & P(4,26) & P(6,24) & P(8,22) & P(10,20) & P(12,18) & P(14,16) \\ P(0,45) & P(3,42) & P(6,39) & P(9,36) & P(12,33) & P(15,30) & P(18,27) & P(21,24) \\ P(0,60) & P(4,56) & P(8,52) & P(12,48) & P(16,44) & P(20,40) & P(24,36) & P(28,32) \\ P(0,75) & P(5,70) & P(10,65) & P(15,60) & P(20,55) & P(25,50) & P(30,45) & P(35,40) \\ P(0,90) & P(6,84) & P(12,78) & P(18,72) & P(24,66) & P(30,60) & P(36,54) & P(42,48) \\ P(0,105) & P(7,98) & P(14,91) & P(21,84) & P(28,77) & P(35,70) & P(42,63) & P(49,56) \end{bmatrix}$$



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- $F_M = X_M \times (1/8)T_M$

- Because

$$\cos \alpha = \cos(-\alpha); \quad -\cos \alpha = \cos(\pi - \alpha) = \cos(\pi + \alpha)$$

$$\cos(2\pi n + \alpha) = \cos \alpha;$$

- Define

$$k_2 = \cos \frac{\pi}{8}; k_4 = \cos \frac{2\pi}{8} = \cos \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}; k_6 = \cos \frac{3\pi}{8} = \sin \frac{\pi}{8}$$



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$$T_M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1+k_2 & k_2+k_4 & k_4+k_6 & k_6 & -k_6 & -k_6-k_4 & -k_4-k_2 & -k_2-1 \\ 1+k_4 & k_4 & -k_4 & -k_4-1 & -1-k_4 & -k_4 & k_4 & k_4+1 \\ 1+k_6 & k_6-k_4 & -k_4-k_2 & -k_2 & k_2 & k_2+k_4 & k_4-k_6 & -k_6-1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1-k_6 & -k_6-k_4 & -k_4+k_2 & k_2 & k_2 & -k_2+k_4 & k_4+k_6 & k_6-1 \\ 1-k_4 & -k_4 & k_4 & k_4-1 & -1+k_4 & k_4 & -k_4 & -k_4+1 \\ 1-k_2 & -k_2+k_4 & k_4-k_6 & -k_6 & k_6 & k_6-k_4 & -k_4+k_2 & k_2-1 \end{bmatrix}$$



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■  $X_M = F_M \times (8T_M^{-1}) = F_M \times L; (L = 8T_M^{-1})$

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & C_2 - 1 & 1 - C_2 + C_4 & C_6 - C_4 + C_2 - 1 & 1 - C_6 + C_4 - C_2 & -1 - C_4 + C_2 & 1 - C_2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 + C_4 & -C_4 + 1 & -1 & -1 & -C_4 + 1 & -1 + C_4 & 1 \\ 1 & C_6 - 1 & 1 - C_6 - C_4 & -C_2 + C_4 + C_6 - 1 & 1 + C_2 - C_4 - C_6 & -1 + C_4 + C_6 & 1 - C_6 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -C_6 - 1 & 1 + C_6 - C_4 & C_2 + C_4 - C_6 - 1 & 1 - C_2 - C_4 + C_6 & -1 + C_4 - C_6 & 1 + C_6 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 - C_4 & C_4 + 1 & -1 & -1 & C_4 + 1 & -1 - C_4 & 1 \\ 1 & -C_2 - 1 & 1 + C_2 + C_4 & -C_6 - C_4 - C_2 - 1 & 1 + C_6 + C_4 + C_2 & -1 - C_4 - C_2 & 1 + C_2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



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■ Where  $C_2 = 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{8}; C_4 = 2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{8} = \sqrt{2}$

$$C_6 = 2 \cos \frac{3\pi}{8} = 2 \sin \frac{\pi}{8}$$


■ The matrix L can be factored as:

$$L = B1 \times M \times A1 \times A2 \times A3$$

with:




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$$B1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$


$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C_4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -C_2 & 0 & -C_6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & C_4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -C_6 & 0 & C_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$


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$$A1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$


$$A2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$


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$$A3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$


- So the IDFT can be performed by 5 steps:




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$$B1: \begin{cases} a_0 = \frac{1}{16} F(0) \\ a_1 = \frac{1}{8} F(4) \\ a_2 = \frac{1}{8} F(2) - \frac{1}{8} F(6) \\ a_3 = \frac{1}{8} F(2) + \frac{1}{8} F(6) \\ a_4 = \frac{1}{8} F(5) - \frac{1}{8} F(3) \\ \text{temp1} = \frac{1}{8} F(1) + \frac{1}{8} F(7) \\ \text{temp2} = \frac{1}{8} F(3) + \frac{1}{8} F(5) \\ a_5 = \text{temp1} - \text{temp2} \\ a_6 = \frac{1}{8} F(1) - \frac{1}{8} F(7) \\ a_7 = \text{temp1} + \text{temp2} \end{cases}$$


$$M: \begin{cases} b_0 = a_0 \\ b_1 = a_1 \\ b_2 = a_2 C_4 \\ b_3 = a_3 \\ b_4 = -(a_4 C_2 + a_6 C_6) \\ b_5 = a_5 C_4 \\ b_6 = (-a_4 C_6 + a_6 C_2) \\ b_7 = a_7 \end{cases}$$


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$$\begin{array}{lcl}
 A1: \begin{cases} temp3 = b_6 - b_7 \\ n_0 = temp3 - b_5 \\ n_1 = b_0 - b_1 \\ n_2 = b_2 - b_3 \\ n_3 = b_0 + b_1 \\ n_4 = temp3 \\ n_5 = b_4 \\ n_6 = b_3 \\ n_7 = b_7 \end{cases} & A2: \begin{cases} m_0 = n_7 \\ m_1 = n_0 \\ m_2 = n_4 \\ m_3 = n_1 + n_2 \\ m_4 = n_3 + n_6 \\ m_5 = n_1 - n_2 \\ m_6 = n_3 - n_6 \\ m_7 = n_5 - n_0 \end{cases} & A3: \begin{cases} f(0) = m_4 + m_0 \\ f(1) = m_3 + m_2 \\ f(2) = m_5 - m_1 \\ f(3) = m_6 - m_7 \\ f(4) = m_6 + m_7 \\ f(5) = m_5 + m_1 \\ f(6) = m_3 - m_2 \\ f(7) = m_4 - m_7 \end{cases}
 \end{array}$$


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- In part M, a simplification can be made:
 
$$\begin{aligned}
 b_4 &= -(a_4 C_2 + a_6 C_6) = -a_4 C_2 - a_6 C_6 - a_4 C_6 + a_4 C_6 \\
 &= -C_6(a_4 + a_6) - a_4(C_2 - C_6) \\
 b_2 &= -a_4 C_6 + a_6 C_2 = -a_4 C_6 + a_6 C_2 - a_6 C_6 + a_6 C_6 \\
 &= -C_6(a_4 + a_6) + a_6(C_2 + C_6)
 \end{aligned}$$
- So define  $Q = C_2 - C_6$  and  $R = C_2 + C_6$ 

$$\begin{aligned}
 temp4 &= C_6(a_4 + a_6) \\
 b_4 &= -Qa_4 - temp4 \\
 b_6 &= Ra_6 - temp4
 \end{aligned}$$



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- If you count the operations you will get 29 additions and 5 multiplications.
- Because an 8x8 2-D DCT can be computed by applying 8-point 1-D DCT to each row and each column of the 2D data. Therefore,  $2 \times 8 \times 29 = 464$  additions and  $2 \times 8 \times 5 = 80$  multiplications are required in total.
- A more efficient DCT algorithm has been proposed by Feig and **Winograd** in IEEE Trans. on ASSP, pp. 2174-2193, 1992.

