

# FFT IN PRACTICE

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# Fields of Application

- The FFT is used in physics, astronomy, engineering, applied mathematics, cryptography, and comp. finance
- Method to solve differential equations
- Digital Signal Processing & Image Processing
  - Receive signal in the time domain, but want the frequency spectrum
- Convolutions/Filters
  - Filter can be efficiently represented mathematically by a convolution
- Benchmarking



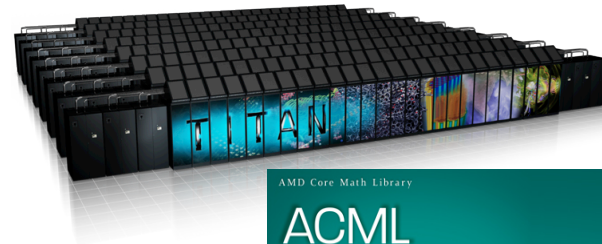
# Existing Libraries for Scientific High Performance Applications



MathKeisan

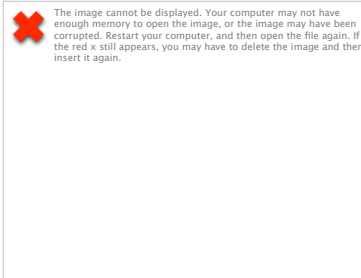


ESSL and Parallel ESSL



AMD Core Math Library

ACML



SDSC  
P3DFFT



cuFFT



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# FFTW, WHY?

- Freely available open-source package. Most used on Linux environment for High Performance Computing
- FFTW is written in portable C and runs well on many architectures and O.S.
- FFTW computes DFTs in  $O(n \log n)$  time for any length  $n$  and supports arbitrary multi-dimensional data
- Includes parallel (multi-threaded) transforms for shared-memory systems and distributed-memory parallel transforms using MPI libraries
- FFTW supports multiple and/or strided DFTs; for example, to transform a 3-component vector field or a portion of a multi-dimensional array.
- FFTW supports DFTs of real data, as well as of real symmetric/anti-symmetric data (also called discrete cosine/sine transforms).

# FFTW basic usage

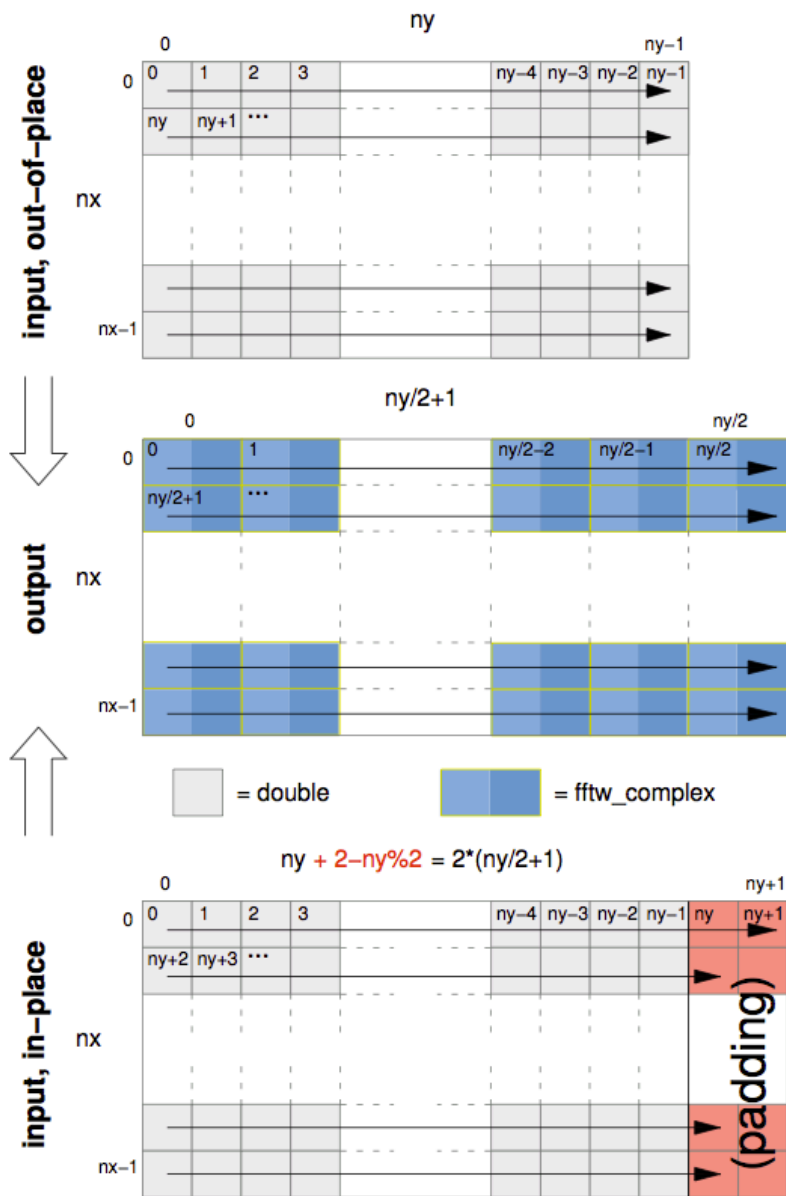
```
[...]  
use, intrinsic :: iso_c_binding  
!  
implicit none  
include 'fftw3.f03'  
!  
integer, intent( in ) :: n1,n2,n3  
!  
type(C_PTR) :: plan  
complex(C_DOUBLE_COMPLEX), dimension(:,:,:), pointer :: in, out  
type(C_PTR) :: p_in, p_out  
!  
! Aligned memory allocation  
p_in = fftw_alloc_complex( int( n1 * n2 * n3, C_SIZE_T ) )  
p_out = fftw_alloc_complex( int( n1 * n2 * n3, C_SIZE_T ) )  
!  
call c_f_pointer( p_in, in, [ n1, n2, n3 ] )  
call c_f_pointer( p_out, out, [ n1, n2, n3 ] )  
!  
! Definition of a FFTW plan  
!  
plan = fftw_plan_dft_3d( n3, n2, n1, in, out, FFTW_FORWARD, FFTW_ESTIMATE )  
!  
call fftw_execute_dft( plan, in, out )  
!  
call fftw_destroy_plan( plan )  
call fftw_free( p_in )  
call fftw_free( p_out )
```

# FFTW from FORTRAN (remarks)

- Function in C became function in FORTRAN if they have a return value, and subroutines otherwise. All C types are mapped via the `iso_c_binning` standard.
- FFTW plans are `type(C_PTR)` in FORTRAN.
- The ordering of FORTRAN array dimensions must be reversed when they are passed to the FFTW plan creation
- For example, consider the three-dimensional (L M N ) arrays:  
`complex(C_DOUBLE_COMPLEX), dimension(L,M,N) :: in, out`
- To plan a DFT for these arrays using `fftw_plan_dft_3d`, you could do:  
`plan = fftw_plan_dft_3d(N,M,L, in,out, FFTW_FORWARD,FFTW_ESTIMATE)`
- That is, from FFTW's perspective this is a N M L array. No data transposition need occur, as this is only notation.

# Transform Real Data

- The DFT output satisfies the “Hermitian” redundancy:  $\text{out}[i]$  is the conjugate of  $\text{out}[n - i]$
- Substantial optimization
- From  $r2c$ , the input is in real numbers, while the output is composed by  $n/2+1$  complex numbers (developers must handle the different data types)



# Multithread

- Works on shared-memory multi-cores system that supports POSIX threads and/or OpenMP
- Quick access to scalable FFT (How many threads?)
- Uses the same execution schema as for sequential but the following

```
[...]  
/* Initialize FFTW multithreaded environment (to be called before call any FFTW routines) */  
int fftw_init_threads(void);  
  
[...]  
/* Set the MAX number of threads the for creations of next plans */  
void fftw_plan_with_nthreads(int nthreads);  
  
[...]  
/* Clean FFTW multithreaded environment */  
void fftw_cleanup_threads(void);
```

- Calling FFTW from a thread region, developers must consider *fftw\_execute(...)* is the only thread-safe subroutine



# FFTW (MPI)

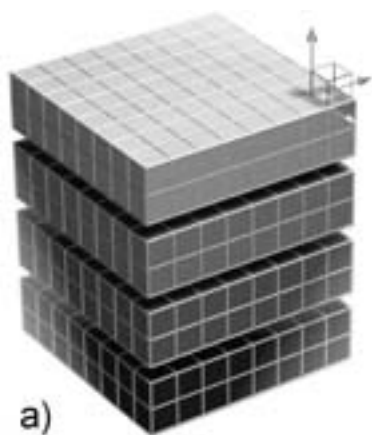
- each process only stores a portion of the data to be transformed => data structures and programming-interface are quite different from the serial or threads versions

```
#include <fftw3-mpi.h>

[...]  
MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);  
/* Initializes FFTW_MPI environment. Must be included between MPI_Init & MPI_Finalize  
fftw_mpi_init();  
  
[...]  
/* get local data size and allocate */  
alloc_local = fftw_mpi_local_size_2d(N0, N1, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &local_n0, &local_0_start);  
data = fftw_alloc_complex(alloc_local);  
  
[...]  
/* create plan for in-place forward DFT */  
plan = fftw_mpi_plan_dft_2d(N0, N1, data, data, MPI_COMM_WORLD, FFTW_FORWARD, FFTW_ESTIMATE);  
/* compute transforms, in-place */  
fftw_execute(plan);  
  
fftw_destroy_plan(plan);  
MPI_Finalize();
```

## FFTW (MPI)

- With a distributed-memory FFT, the inputs and outputs are broken into disjoint blocks, one per process
- In particular, FFTW uses a *1d block distribution* of the data, distributed along the *first dimension*



# Installation and linking

- Download the package from [www.fftw.org](http://www.fftw.org)
- By default only double precision sequential FFT are compiled and included into the `-lfftw3`
- Other possible version must be enabled at `./configure` time:
  - `--enable-float`, `--enable-long-double` for single/long-double precision
  - `--enable-threads`, `--enable-openmp` for multithread versions
  - `--enable-mpi` for MPI version (`-lfftw3_mpi`)
  - `--enable-avx` for SIMD extensions (many others available)

# References

- FFTW3 manual @ [www.fftw.org](http://www.fftw.org)
- Matteo Frigo and Steven G. Johnson, *The design and implementation of fftw3*, Proc. IEEE, 93(2):2168211;231, 2005
- Matteo Frigo and Steven G. Johnson, Implementing FFTs in practice, <http://cnx.org/content/m16336/latest/>