Chapter 4: Image Enhancement in the Frequency Domain

Digital Image Processing

Basic steps for filtering in the frequency domain

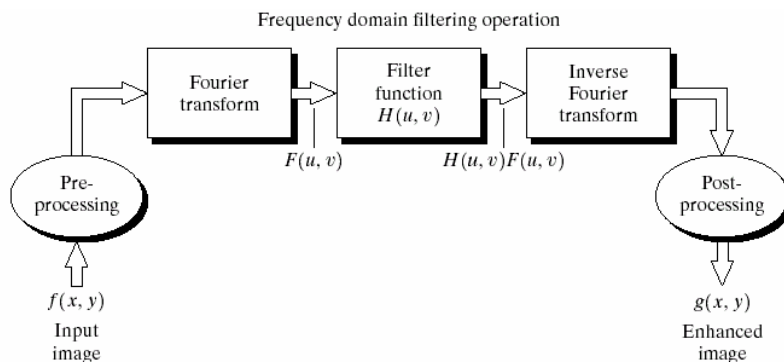Frequency domain filtering operation

**FIGURE 4.5** Basic steps for filtering in the frequency domain.

Basics of filtering in the frequency domain

1. multiply the input image by $(-1)^{x+y}$ to center the transform to u = M/2 and v = N/2 (if M and N are even numbers, then the shifted coordinates will be integers)
2. computer F(u,v), the DFT of the image from (1)
3. multiply F(u,v) by a filter function H(u,v)
4. compute the inverse DFT of the result in (3)
5. obtain the real part of the result in (4)
6. multiply the result in (5) by $(-1)^{x+y}$ to cancel the multiplication of the input image.
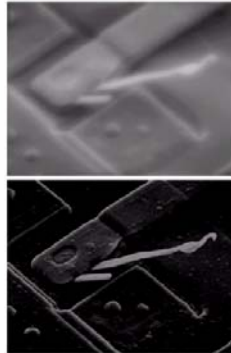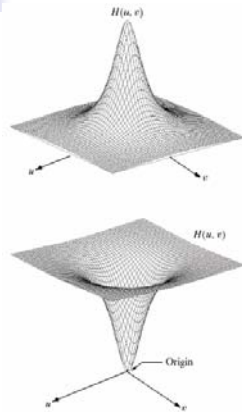
Notch filter

• this filter is to force the F(0,0) which is the average value of an image (dc component of the spectrum)
• the output has prominent edges
• in reality the average of the displayed image can't be zero as it needs to have negative gray levels. the output image needs to scale the gray level
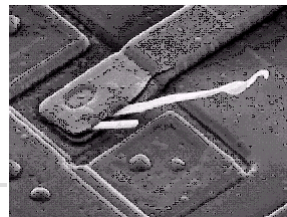
$$H(u,v) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (u,v) = (M/2, N/2) \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Low pass filter

high pass filter

FIGURE 4.7 (a) A two-dimensional lowpass filter function. (b) Result of lowpass filtering the image in Fig. 4.4(a). (c) A two-dimensional highpass filter function. (d) Result of highpass filtering the image in Fig. 4.4(a).
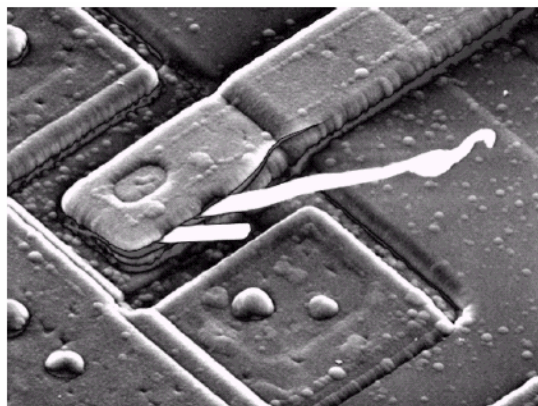
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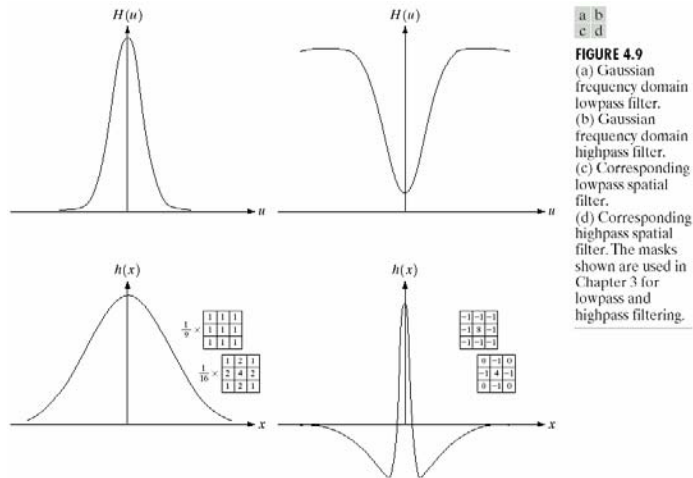# Add the ½ of filter height to F(0,0) of the high pass filter

FIGURE 4.8
Result of highpass filtering the image in Fig. 4.4(a) with the filter in Fig. 4.7(c), modified by adding a constant of one-half the filter height to the filter function. Compare with Fig. 4.4(a).
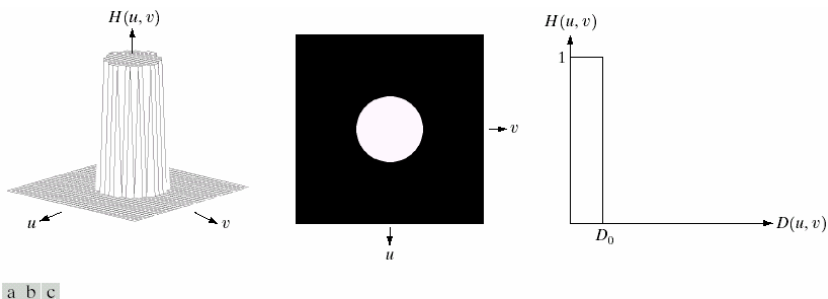
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Correspondence between filter in spatial and frequency domains

a b
c d

FIGURE 4.9
(a) Gaussian frequency domain lowpass filter.
(b) Gaussian frequency domain highpass filter.
(c) Corresponding lowpass spatial filter.
(d) Corresponding highpass spatial filter. The masks shown are used in Chapter 3 for lowpass and highpass filtering.

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Smoothing Frequency-domain filters: Ideal Lowpass filter
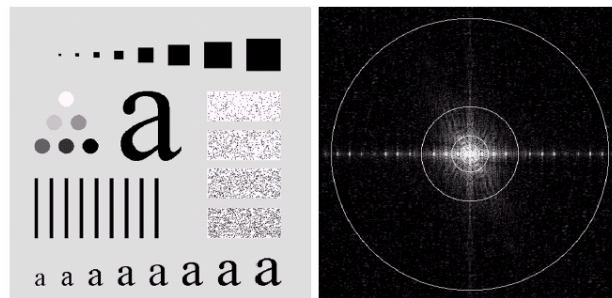

a b c

FIGURE 4.10 (a) Perspective plot of an ideal lowpass filter transfer function. (b) Filter displayed as an image. (c) Filter radial cross section.
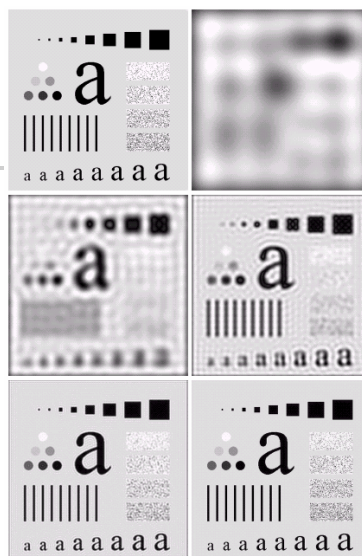
8

image power circles

a b

FIGURE 4.11 (a) An image of size 500 × 500 pixels and (b) its Fourier spectrum. The superimposed circles have radii values of 5, 15, 30, 80, and 230, which enclose 92.0, 94.6, 96.4, 98.0, and 99.5% of the image power, respectively.
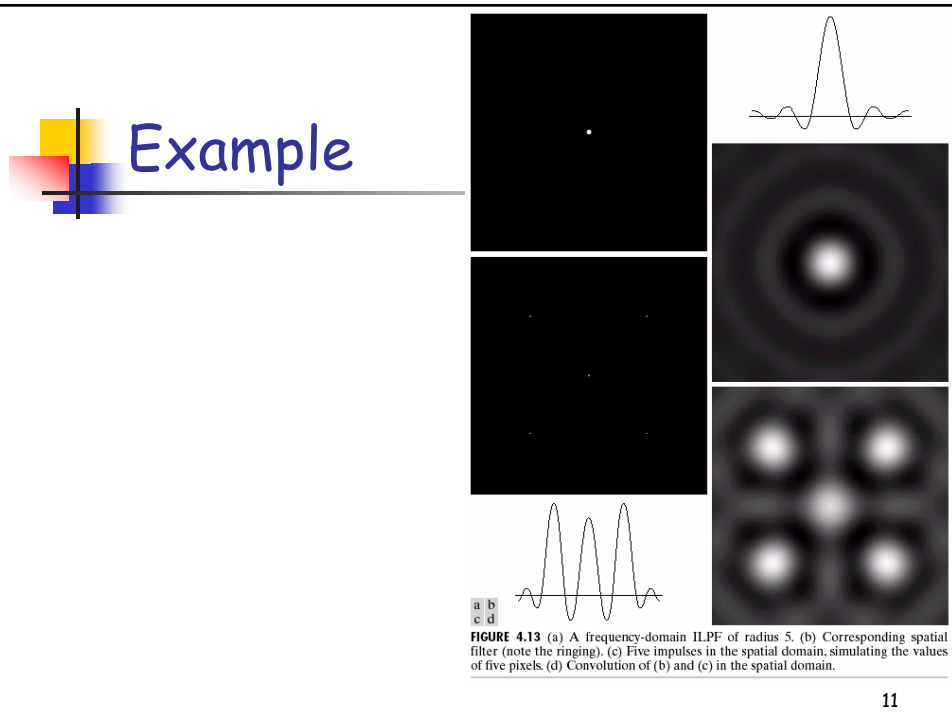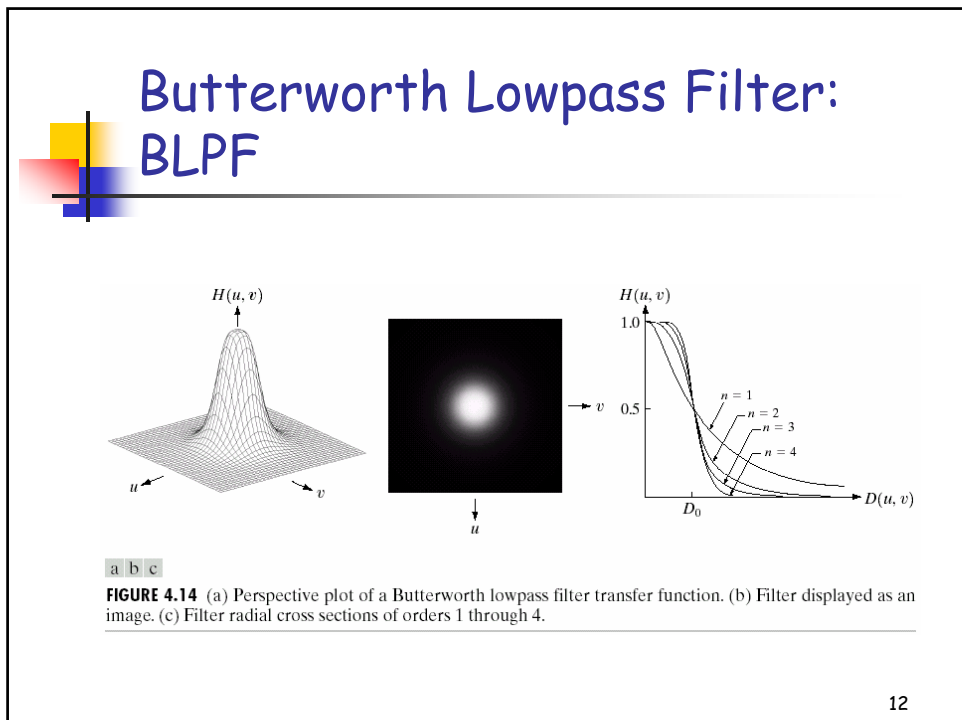

Result of ILPF

a b
c d
e f

FIGURE 4.12 (a) Original image. (b)–(f) Results of ideal lowpass filtering with cutoff frequencies set at radii values of 5, 15, 30, 80, and 230, as shown in Fig. 4.11(b). The power removed by these filters was 8, 5.4, 3.6, 2, and 0.5% of the total, respectively.

Example

a b
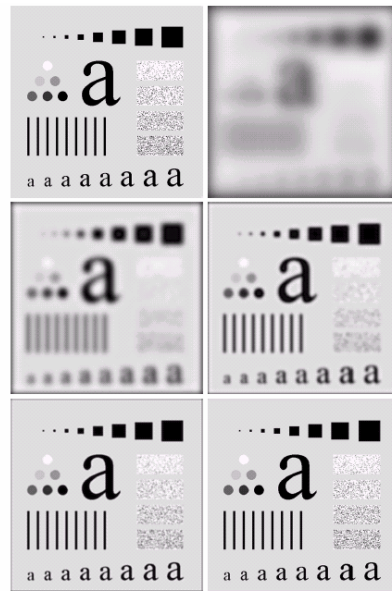c d

FIGURE 4.13 (a) A frequency-domain ILPF of radius 5. (b) Corresponding spatial filter (note the ringing). (c) Five impulses in the spatial domain, simulating the values of five pixels. (d) Convolution of (b) and (c) in the spatial domain.

Butterworth Lowpass Filter: BLPF

a b c

FIGURE 4.14 (a) Perspective plot of a Butterworth lowpass filter transfer function. (b) Filter displayed as an image. (c) Filter radial cross sections of orders 1 through 4.

Example

FIGURE 4.15 (a) Original image. (b)–(f) Results of filtering with BLPFs of order 2, with cutoff frequencies at radii of 5, 15, 30, 80, and 230, as shown in Fig. 4.11(b). Compare with Fig. 4.12.
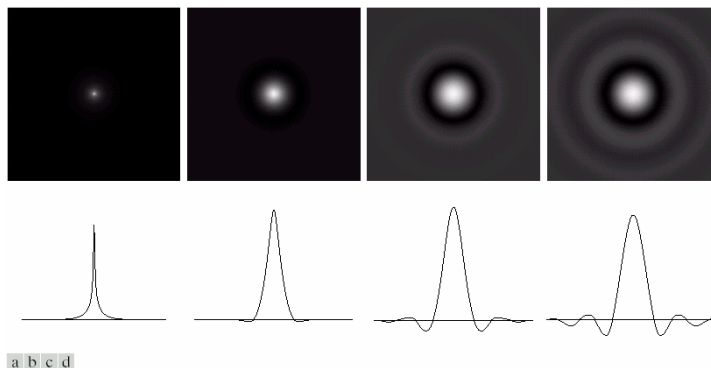
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Spatial representation of BLPFs

FIGURE 4.16 (a)–(d) Spatial representation of BLPFs of order 1, 2, 5, and 20, and corresponding gray-level profiles through the center of the filters (all filters have a cutoff frequency of 5). Note that ringing increases as a function of filter order.
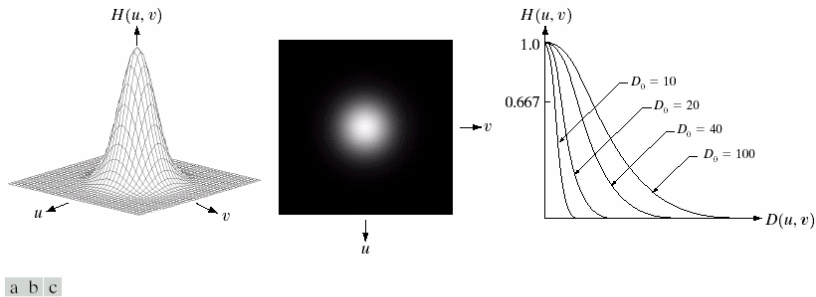
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Gaussian Lowpass Filter: GLPF

a b c

FIGURE 4.17 (a) Perspective plot of a GLPF transfer function. (b) Filter displayed as an image. (c) Filter radial cross sections for various values of D_0.
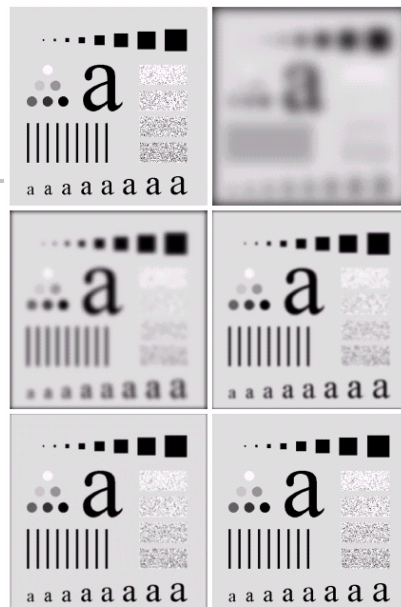
Example

FIGURE 4.18 (a) Original image. (b)–(f) Results of filtering with Gaussian lowpass filters with cutoff frequencies set at radii values of 5, 15, 30, 80, and 230, as shown in Fig. 4.11(b). Compare with Figs. 4.12 and 4.15.

a b
c d
e f

Example

FIGURE 4.19
(a) Sample text of poor resolution (note broken characters in magnified view).
(b) Result of filtering with a GLPF (broken character segments were joined).

Historically, certain computer programs were written using only two digits rather than four to define the applicable year. Accordingly, the company's software may recognize a date using "00" as 1900 rather than the year 2000.
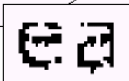
Historically, certain computer programs were written using only two digits rather than four to define the applicable year. Accordingly, the company's software may recognize a date using "00" as 1900 rather than the year 2000.
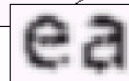
Example

FIGURE 4.20 (a) Original image (1028 × 732 pixels). (b) Result of filtering with a GLPF with $D_0 = 100$. (c) Result of filtering with a GLPF with $D_0 = 80$. Note reduction in skin fine lines in the magnified sections of (b) and (c).

Example

a b c

FIGURE 4.21 (a) Image showing prominent scan lines. (b) Result of using a GLPF with $D_0 = 30$. (c) Result of using a GLPF with $D_0 = 10$. (Original image courtesy of NOAA.)

Sharpening Frequency Domain Filter:
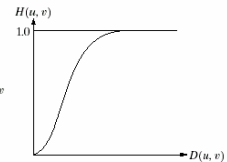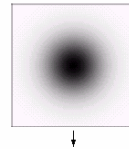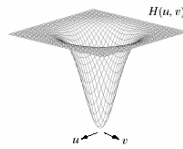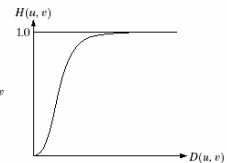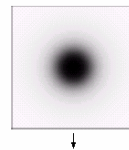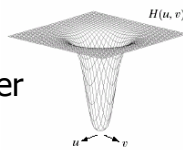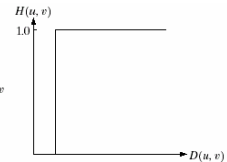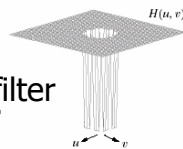
Ideal highpass filter

$$H(u,v) = \begin{cases} 0 \ \text{if } D(u,v) \leq D_0 \\ 1 \ \text{if } D(u,v) > D_0 \end{cases}$$

Butterworth highpass filter

$$H(u,v) = \frac{1}{1 + [D_0/D(u,v)]^{2n}}$$

Gaussian highpass filter

$$H(u,v) = 1 - e^{-D^2(u,v)/2D_0^2}$$

a b c
d e f
g h i

FIGURE 4.22 Top row: Perspective plot, image representation, and cross section of a typical ideal highpass filter. Middle and bottom rows: The same sequence for typical Butterworth and Gaussian highpass filters.

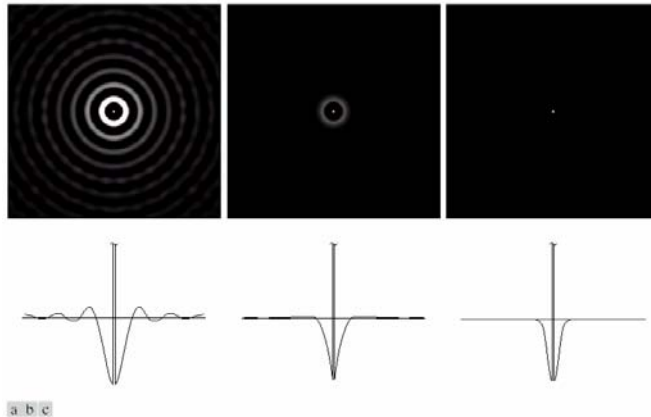# Spatial representation of Ideal, Butterworth and Gaussian highpass filters

a b c

FIGURE 4.23 Spatial representations of typical (a) ideal, (b) Butterworth, and (c) Gaussian frequency domain highpass filters, and corresponding gray-level profiles.
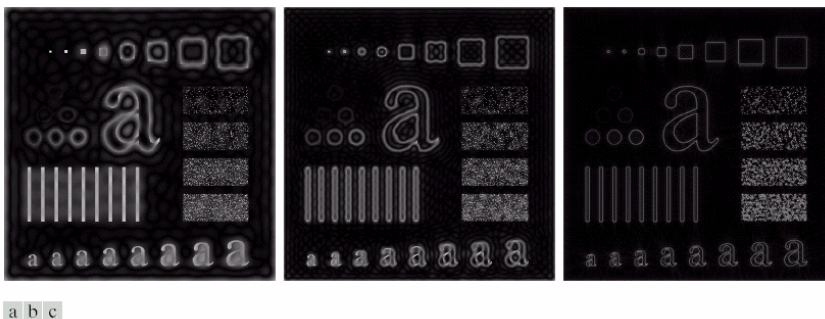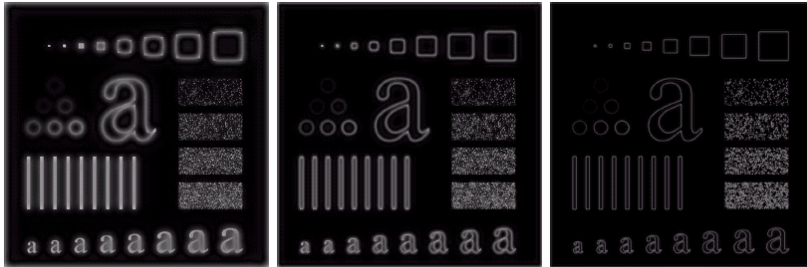
Example: result of IHPF

a b c

FIGURE 4.24 Results of ideal highpass filtering the image in Fig. 4.11(a) with $D_0 = 15$, 30, and 80, respectively. Problems with ringing are quite evident in (a) and (b).

Example: result of BHPF

a b c

FIGURE 4.25 Results of highpass filtering the image in Fig. 4.11(a) using a BHPF of order 2 with $D_0 = 15$, 30, and 80, respectively. These results are much smoother than those obtained with an ILPF.

Example: result of GHPF

a b c

FIGURE 4.26 Results of highpass filtering the image of Fig. 4.11(a) using a GHPF of order 2 with $D_0 = 15$, 30, and 80, respectively. Compare with Figs. 4.24 and 4.25.
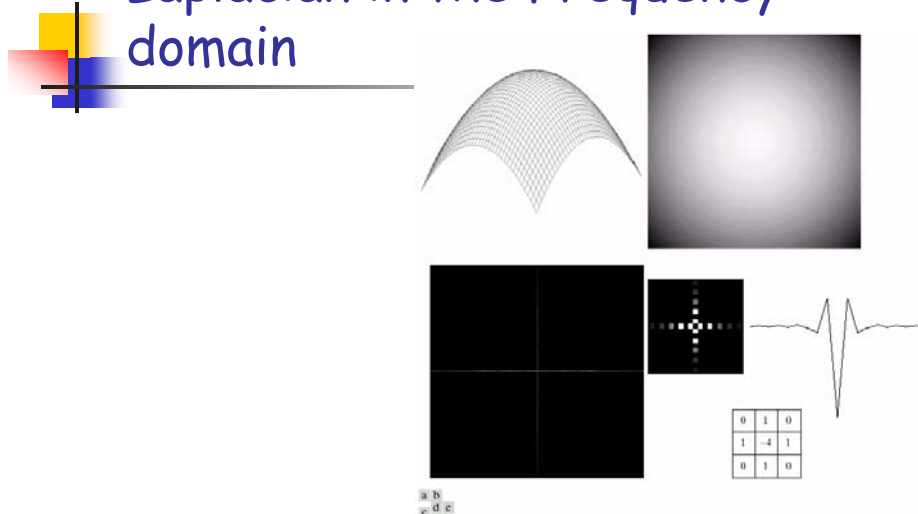
Laplacian in the Frequency domain

FIGURE 4.27 (a) 3-D plot of Laplacian in the frequency domain. (b) Image representation of (a). (c) Laplacian in the spatial domain obtained from the inverse DFT of (b). (d) Zoomed section of the origin of (c). (e) Gray-level profile through the center of (d). (f) Laplacian mask used in Section 3.7.
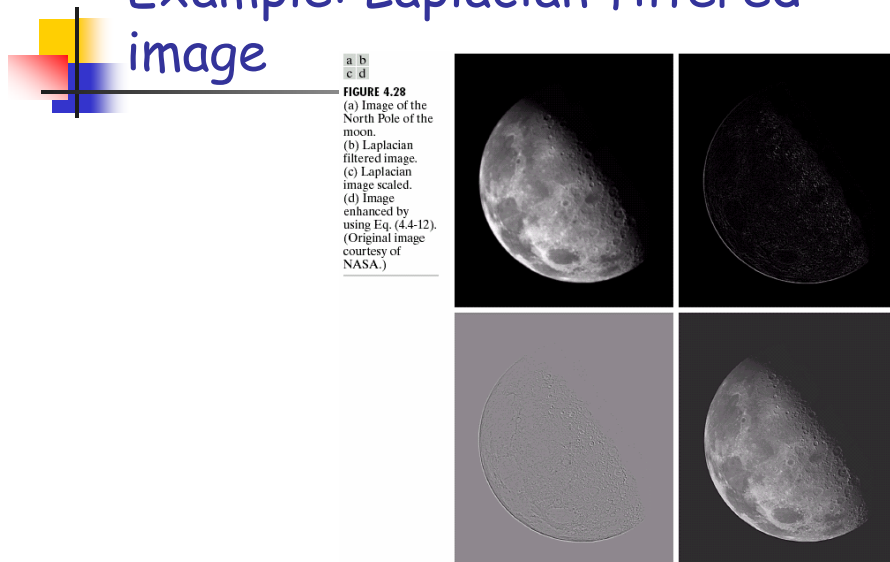
Example: Laplacian filtered image

FIGURE 4.28
(a) Image of the North Pole of the moon.
(b) Laplacian filtered image.
(c) Laplacian image scaled.
(d) Image enhanced by using Eq. (4.4-12). (Original image courtesy of NASA.)
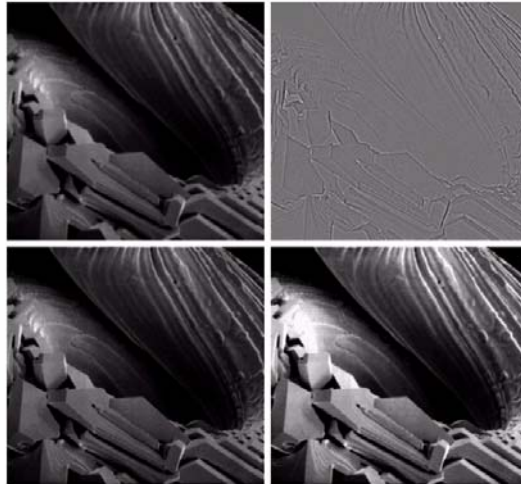
Example: high-boost filter

a b
c d

FIGURE 4.29
Same as Fig. 3.43, but using frequency domain filtering. (a) Input image. (b) Laplacian of (a). (c) Image obtained using Eq. (4.4-17) with $A = 2$. (d) Same as (c), but with $A = 2.7$. (Original image courtesy of Mr. Michael Shaffer, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Oregon, Eugene.)
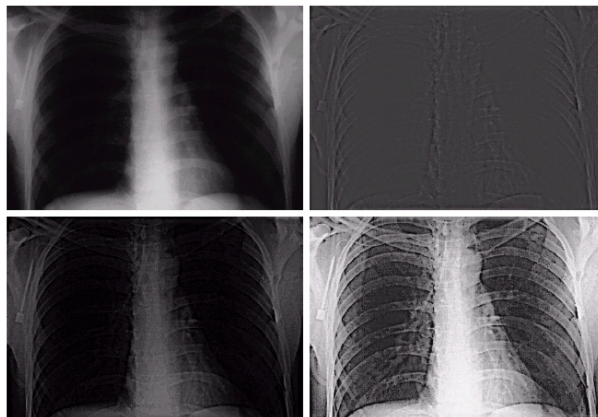
Examples

a b
c d

FIGURE 4.30
(a) A chest X-ray image. (b) Result of Butterworth highpass filtering. (c) Result of high-frequency emphasis filtering. (d) Result of performing histogram equalization on (c). (Original image courtesy Dr. Thomas R. Gest, Division of Anatomical Sciences, University of Michigan Medical School.)
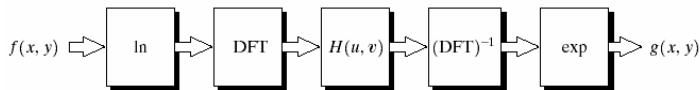
Homomorphic Filter

$f(x, y)$ ⇒ [ln] ⇒ [DFT] ⇒ [$H(u, v)$] ⇒ [$(\text{DFT})^{-1}$] ⇒ [exp] ⇒ $g(x, y)$

FIGURE 4.31
Homomorphic filtering approach for image enhancement.

$H(u, v)$

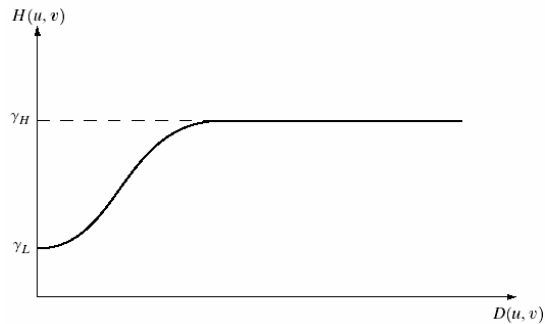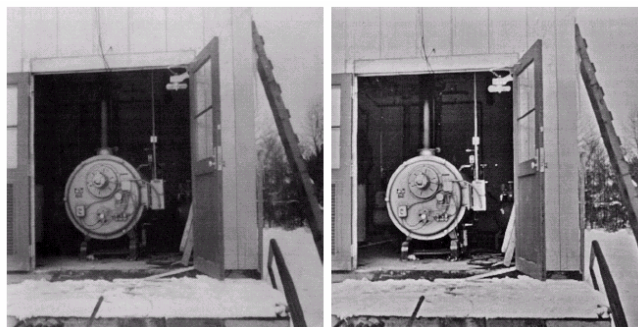γ_H

γ_L

$D(u, v)$

FIGURE 4.32
Cross section of a circularly symmetric filter function. $D(u, v)$ is the distance from the origin of the centered transform.

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Result of Homomorphic filter

a b

FIGURE 4.33
(a) Original image. (b) Image processed by homomorphic filtering (note details inside shelter). (Stockham.)

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