

# Convolution and FFT

## Fast Fourier Transform: Applications

### Applications.

- Optics, acoustics, quantum physics, telecommunications, control systems, signal processing, speech recognition, data compression, image processing.
- DVD, JPEG, MP3, MRI, CAT scan.
- Numerical solutions to Poisson's equation.

The FFT is one of the truly great computational developments of this [20th] century. It has changed the face of science and engineering so much that it is not an exaggeration to say that life as we know it would be very different without the FFT. -Charles van Loan

## Fast Fourier Transform: Brief History

**Gauss (1805, 1866).** Analyzed periodic motion of asteroid Ceres.

**Runge-König (1924).** Laid theoretical groundwork.

**Danielson-Lanczos (1942).** Efficient algorithm.

**Cooley-Tukey (1965).** Monitoring nuclear tests in Soviet Union and tracking submarines. Rediscovered and popularized FFT.

**Importance** not fully realized until advent of digital computers.

## Polynomials: Coefficient Representation

**Polynomial.** [coefficient representation]

$$A(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1}$$

$$B(x) = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + \dots + b_{n-1}x^{n-1}$$

**Add:**  $O(n)$  arithmetic operations.

$$A(x) + B(x) = (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + \dots + (a_{n-1} + b_{n-1})x^{n-1}$$

**Evaluate:**  $O(n)$  using Horner's method.

$$A(x) = a_0 + (x(a_1 + x(a_2 + \dots + x(a_{n-2} + x(a_{n-1}))) \dots))$$

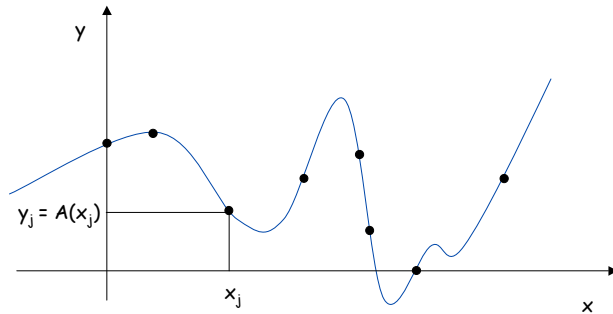
**Multiply (convolve):**  $O(n^2)$  using brute force.

$$A(x) \times B(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{2n-2} c_i x^i, \text{ where } c_i = \sum_{j=0}^i a_j b_{i-j}$$

## Polynomials: Point-Value Representation

**Fundamental theorem of algebra.** [Gauss, PhD thesis] A **degree**  $n$  polynomial with complex coefficients has  $n$  complex roots.

**Corollary.** A degree  $n-1$  polynomial  $A(x)$  is uniquely specified by its evaluation at  $n$  distinct values of  $x$ .



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## Polynomials: Point-Value Representation

**Polynomial.** [point-value representation]

$$A(x): (x_0, y_0), \dots, (x_{n-1}, y_{n-1})$$

$$B(x): (x_0, z_0), \dots, (x_{n-1}, z_{n-1})$$

**Add:**  $O(n)$  arithmetic operations.

$$A(x) + B(x): (x_0, y_0 + z_0), \dots, (x_{n-1}, y_{n-1} + z_{n-1})$$

**Multiply:**  $O(n)$ , but need  $2n-1$  points.

$$A(x) \times B(x): (x_0, y_0 \times z_0), \dots, (x_{2n-1}, y_{2n-1} \times z_{2n-1})$$

**Evaluate:**  $O(n^2)$  using Lagrange's formula.

$$A(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} y_k \frac{\prod_{j \neq k} (x - x_j)}{\prod_{j \neq k} (x_k - x_j)}$$

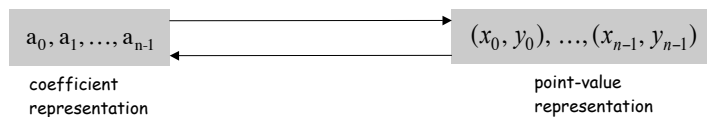
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## Converting Between Two Polynomial Representations

**Tradeoff.** Fast evaluation or fast multiplication. We want both!

Representation	Multiply	Evaluate
Coefficient	$O(n^2)$	$O(n)$
Point-value	$O(n)$	$O(n^2)$

**Goal.** Make all ops fast by efficiently converting between two representations.



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## Converting Between Two Polynomial Representations: **Brute Force**

**Coefficient to point-value.** Given a polynomial  $a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1}$ , evaluate it at  $n$  distinct points  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_0 & x_0^2 & \cdots & x_0^{n-1} \\ 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 & \cdots & x_1^{n-1} \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 & \cdots & x_2^{n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_{n-1} & x_{n-1}^2 & \cdots & x_{n-1}^{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

↑  
Vandermonde matrix is invertible iff  $x_i$  distinct

$O(n^2)$  for matrix-vector multiply  
 $O(n^3)$  for Gaussian elimination

**Point-value to coefficient.** Given  $n$  distinct points  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$  and values  $y_0, \dots, y_{n-1}$ , find unique polynomial  $a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1}$  that has given values at given points.

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## Coefficient to Point-Value Representation: Intuition

**Coefficient to point-value.** Given a polynomial  $a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1}$ , evaluate it at  $n$  distinct points  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$ .

**Divide.** Break polynomial up into even and odd powers.

- $A(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + a_4 x^4 + a_5 x^5 + a_6 x^6 + a_7 x^7$ .
- $A_{\text{even}}(x) = a_0 + a_2 x + a_4 x^2 + a_6 x^3$ .
- $A_{\text{odd}}(x) = a_1 + a_3 x + a_5 x^2 + a_7 x^3$ .
- $A(x) = A_{\text{even}}(x^2) + x A_{\text{odd}}(x^2)$ .
- $A(-x) = A_{\text{even}}(x^2) - x A_{\text{odd}}(x^2)$ .

**Intuition.** Choose two points to be  $\pm 1$ .

- $A(1) = A_{\text{even}}(1) + 1 A_{\text{odd}}(1)$ .
- $A(-1) = A_{\text{even}}(1) - 1 A_{\text{odd}}(1)$ .

Can evaluate polynomial of degree  $\leq n$  at 2 points by evaluating two polynomials of degree  $\leq \frac{1}{2}n$  at 1 point.

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## Coefficient to Point-Value Representation: Intuition

**Coefficient to point-value.** Given a polynomial  $a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1}$ , evaluate it at  $n$  distinct points  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$ .

**Divide.** Break polynomial up into even and odd powers.

- $A(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + a_4 x^4 + a_5 x^5 + a_6 x^6 + a_7 x^7$ .
- $A_{\text{even}}(x) = a_0 + a_2 x + a_4 x^2 + a_6 x^3$ .
- $A_{\text{odd}}(x) = a_1 + a_3 x + a_5 x^2 + a_7 x^3$ .
- $A(x) = A_{\text{even}}(x^2) + x A_{\text{odd}}(x^2)$ .
- $A(-x) = A_{\text{even}}(x^2) - x A_{\text{odd}}(x^2)$ .

**Intuition.** Choose four points to be  $\pm 1, \pm i$ .

- $A(1) = A_{\text{even}}(1) + 1 A_{\text{odd}}(1)$ .
- $A(-1) = A_{\text{even}}(1) - 1 A_{\text{odd}}(1)$ .
- $A(i) = A_{\text{even}}(-1) + i A_{\text{odd}}(-1)$ .
- $A(-i) = A_{\text{even}}(-1) - i A_{\text{odd}}(-1)$ .

Can evaluate polynomial of degree  $\leq n$  at 4 points by evaluating two polynomials of degree  $\leq \frac{1}{2}n$  at 2 points.

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## Discrete Fourier Transform

**Coefficient to point-value.** Given a polynomial  $a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1}$ , evaluate it at  $n$  distinct points  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$ .

**Key idea:** choose  $x_k = \omega^k$  where  $\omega$  is principal  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity.

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ \vdots \\ y_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & \omega^1 & \omega^2 & \omega^3 & \dots & \omega^{n-1} \\ 1 & \omega^2 & \omega^4 & \omega^6 & \dots & \omega^{2(n-1)} \\ 1 & \omega^3 & \omega^6 & \omega^9 & \dots & \omega^{3(n-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \omega^{n-1} & \omega^{2(n-1)} & \omega^{3(n-1)} & \dots & \omega^{(n-1)(n-1)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ \vdots \\ a_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

Discrete Fourier transform      Fourier matrix  $F_n$

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## Roots of Unity

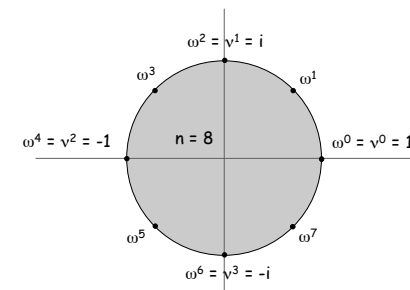
**Def.** An  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity is a complex number  $x$  such that  $x^n = 1$ .

**Fact.** The  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity are:  $\omega^0, \omega^1, \dots, \omega^{n-1}$  where  $\omega = e^{2\pi i / n}$ .

**Pf.**  $(\omega^k)^n = (e^{2\pi i k / n})^n = (e^{2\pi i})^k = 1^k = 1$ .

**Fact.** The  $\frac{1}{2}n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity are:  $\nu^0, \nu^1, \dots, \nu^{n/2-1}$  where  $\nu = e^{4\pi i / n}$ .

**Fact.**  $\omega^2 = \nu$  and  $(\omega^2)^k = \nu^k$ .



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## Fast Fourier Transform

**Goal.** Evaluate a degree  $n-1$  polynomial  $A(x) = a_0 + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1}$  at its  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity:  $\omega^0, \omega^1, \dots, \omega^{n-1}$ .

**Divide:** break polynomial up into even and odd powers.

- $A_{\text{even}}(x) = a_0 + a_2 x + a_4 x^2 + \dots + a_{n/2-2} x^{(n-1)/2}$ .
- $A_{\text{odd}}(x) = a_1 + a_3 x + a_5 x^2 + \dots + a_{n/2-1} x^{(n-1)/2}$ .
- $A(x) = A_{\text{even}}(x^2) + x A_{\text{odd}}(x^2)$ .

**Conquer.** Evaluate degree  $A_{\text{even}}(x)$  and  $A_{\text{odd}}(x)$  at the  $\frac{1}{2}n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity:  $v^0, v^1, \dots, v^{n/2-1}$ .

**Combine.**

- $A(\omega^k) = A_{\text{even}}(v^k) + \omega^k A_{\text{odd}}(v^k), \quad 0 \leq k < n/2$
- $A(\omega^{k+n}) = A_{\text{even}}(v^k) - \omega^k A_{\text{odd}}(v^k), \quad 0 \leq k < n/2$

$$\omega^{k+n} = -\omega^k$$

$$v^k = (\omega^k)^2 = (\omega^{k+n})^2$$

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## FFT Algorithm

```
fft(n, a0, a1, ..., an-1) {
  if (n == 1) return a0

  (e0, e1, ..., en/2-1) ← FFT(n/2, a0, a2, a4, ..., an-2)
  (d0, d1, ..., dn/2-1) ← FFT(n/2, a1, a3, a5, ..., an-1)

  for k = 0 to n/2 - 1 {
    ωk ← e2πik/n
    yk ← ek + ωk dk
    yk+n/2 ← ek - ωk dk
  }

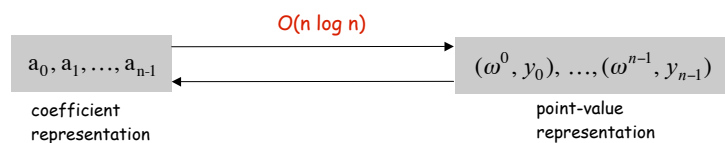
  return (y0, y1, ..., yn-1)
}
```

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## FFT Summary

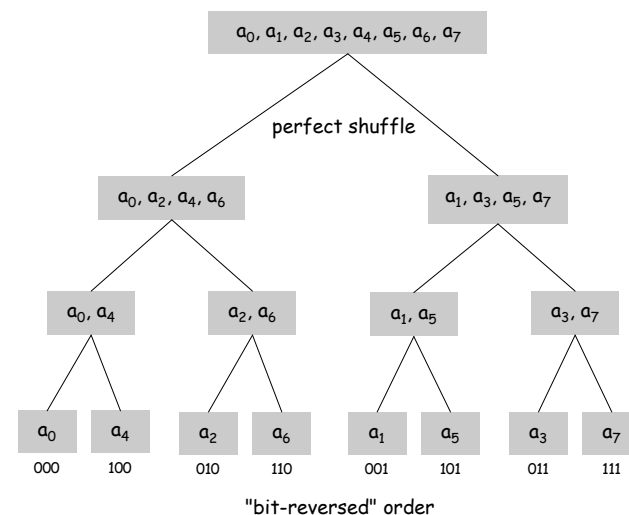
**Theorem.** FFT algorithm evaluates a degree  $n-1$  polynomial at each of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity in  $O(n \log n)$  steps.   
↑  
assumes  $n$  is a power of 2

**Running time.**  $T(2n) = 2T(n) + O(n) \Rightarrow T(n) = n \log_2 n$ .



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## Recursion Tree



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## Point-Value to Coefficient Representation: Inverse DFT

**Goal.** Given the values  $y_0, \dots, y_{n-1}$  of a degree  $n-1$  polynomial at the  $n$  points  $\omega^0, \omega^1, \dots, \omega^{n-1}$ , find unique polynomial  $a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1}$  that has given values at given points.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ \vdots \\ a_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & \omega^1 & \omega^2 & \omega^3 & \dots & \omega^{n-1} \\ 1 & \omega^2 & \omega^4 & \omega^6 & \dots & \omega^{2(n-1)} \\ 1 & \omega^3 & \omega^6 & \omega^9 & \dots & \omega^{3(n-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \omega^{n-1} & \omega^{2(n-1)} & \omega^{3(n-1)} & \dots & \omega^{(n-1)(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ \vdots \\ y_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\uparrow$  Inverse DFT                       $\uparrow$  Fourier matrix inverse  $(F_n)^{-1}$

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## Inverse FFT

**Claim.** Inverse of Fourier matrix is given by following formula.

$$G_n = \frac{1}{n} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & \omega^{-1} & \omega^{-2} & \omega^{-3} & \dots & \omega^{-(n-1)} \\ 1 & \omega^{-2} & \omega^{-4} & \omega^{-6} & \dots & \omega^{-2(n-1)} \\ 1 & \omega^{-3} & \omega^{-6} & \omega^{-9} & \dots & \omega^{-3(n-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \omega^{-(n-1)} & \omega^{-2(n-1)} & \omega^{-3(n-1)} & \dots & \omega^{-(n-1)(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

**Consequence.** To compute inverse FFT, apply same algorithm but use  $\omega^{-1} = e^{-2\pi i / n}$  as principal  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity (and divide by  $n$ ).

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## Inverse FFT: Proof of Correctness

**Claim.**  $F_n$  and  $G_n$  are inverses.

**Pf.**

$$(F_n G_n)_{kk'} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \omega^{kj} \omega^{-jk'} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \omega^{(k-k')j} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = k' \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\uparrow$  summation lemma

**Summation lemma.** Let  $\omega$  be a principal  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity. Then

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \omega^{kj} = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } k \equiv 0 \pmod{n} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Pf.**

- If  $k$  is a multiple of  $n$  then  $\omega^k = 1 \Rightarrow$  sums to  $n$ .
- Each  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity  $\omega^k$  is a root of  $x^n - 1 = (x - 1)(1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^{n-1})$ .
- if  $\omega^k \neq 1$  we have:  $1 + \omega^k + \omega^{k(2)} + \dots + \omega^{k(n-1)} = 0 \Rightarrow$  sums to 0. ■

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## Inverse FFT: Algorithm

```

ifft(n, a0, a1, ..., an-1) {
  if (n == 1) return a0

  (e0, e1, ..., en/2-1) ← FFT(n/2, a0, a2, a4, ..., an-2)
  (d0, d1, ..., dn/2-1) ← FFT(n/2, a1, a3, a5, ..., an-1)

  for k = 0 to n/2 - 1 {
    wk ← e-2πik/n
    Yk ← (ek + wk dk) / n
    Yk+n/2 ← (ek - wk dk) / n
  }

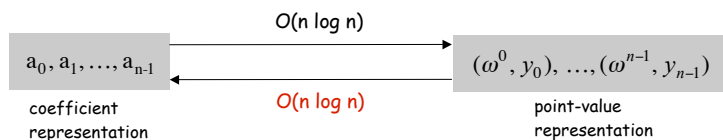
  return (Y0, Y1, ..., Yn-1)
}
  
```

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## Inverse FFT Summary

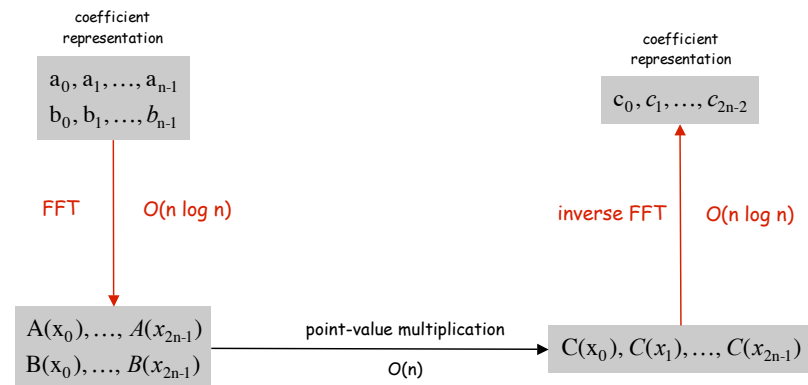
**Theorem.** Inverse FFT algorithm interpolates a degree  $n-1$  polynomial given values at each of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity in  $O(n \log n)$  steps.

↑  
assumes  $n$  is a power of 2



## Polynomial Multiplication

**Theorem.** Can multiply two degree  $n-1$  polynomials in  $O(n \log n)$  steps.



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## FFT in Practice

**Fastest Fourier transform in the West.** [Frigo and Johnson]

- Optimized C library.
- Features: DFT, DCT, real, complex, any size, any dimension.
- Won 1999 Wilkinson Prize for Numerical Software.
- Portable, competitive with vendor-tuned code.

**Implementation details.**

- Instead of executing predetermined algorithm, it evaluates your hardware and uses a special-purpose compiler to generate an optimized algorithm catered to "shape" of the problem.
- Core algorithm is nonrecursive version of Cooley-Tukey radix 2 FFT.
- $O(n \log n)$ , even for prime sizes.

Reference: <http://www.fftw.org>

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## Integer Multiplication

**Integer multiplication.** Given two  $n$  bit integers  $a = a_{n-1} \dots a_1 a_0$  and  $b = b_{n-1} \dots b_1 b_0$ , compute their product  $c = a \times b$ .

**Convolution algorithm.**

- Form two polynomials.  $A(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1}$
- Note:  $a = A(2)$ ,  $b = B(2)$ .  $B(x) = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + \dots + b_{n-1}x^{n-1}$
- Compute  $C(x) = A(x) \times B(x)$ .
- Evaluate  $C(2) = a \times b$ .
- Running time:  $O(n \log n)$  complex arithmetic steps.

**Schönhage-Strassen (1971).**  $O(n \log n \log \log n)$  bit operations.

**In practice.** GMP (GNU Multiple Precision Arithmetic Library) proclaims to be "the fastest bignum library on the planet." It uses brute force, Karatsuba, and FFT, depending on the size of  $n$ .

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