

# FOURIER TRANSFORM

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# Introduction

- The discrete Fourier transform (DFT) is an efficient method for computing the **discrete-time convolution** of two signals
- The DFT is a tool for **filter design**
- The DFT is an efficient method for **measuring spectra of discrete-time signals**
- The **interpretation** of the DFT of a signal can be difficult because the DFT only provides a complete representation of **finite-duration signals**

# Continuous-time Fourier transform (CTFT)

- Fourier transform provides a representation of arbitrary signals as a sum of complex exponentials
- Fourier transform pair for continuous signals:

$$x(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(F) e^{j2\pi Ft} dF$$

$$X(F) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-j2\pi Ft} dt$$

$$x(t) \longleftrightarrow X(F)$$

- Time and frequency show duality
- The frequency response  $H(F)$  of an LTI system with *unit-sample response* (*impulse response*)  $h(t)$  is:

$$H(F) \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t) e^{-j2\pi Ft} dt$$

# Continuous-time Fourier transform (CTFT)

- The response of an LTI system  $y(t)$  with frequency response  $H(F)$  to an arbitrary input  $x(t)$ :

$$y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H(F) X(F) e^{j2\pi Ft} dF$$

- The Fourier transform of the convolution  $x(t) * h(t)$  is the product of Fourier transforms  $X(F) H(F)$  of  $x(t)$  and  $h(t)$ :

$$x(t) * h(t) \longleftrightarrow X(F) H(F)$$

# Discrete-time Fourier transform (DTFT)

- The discrete-time Fourier transform (DTFT) of  $x[n]$ :

$$X(f) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n] e^{-j2\pi f n}$$

- The  $X(f)$  is *periodic*. The signal  $x[n]$  can be expressed as a function of  $X(f)$ :

$$x[n] = \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} X(f) e^{j2\pi f n} df$$

- Fourier transform pair for discrete-time signal:

$$x[n] \longleftrightarrow X(f)$$

- The time domain is discrete, while the frequency domain is continuous and periodic with the period of 1

# Discrete-time Fourier transform (DTFT)

- If we define:

$$Y(f) = H(f) X(f)$$

- The output of a system  $y[n]$  with frequency response  $H(f)$  to the input  $x[n]$  is the "sum" of the input exponentials, each one being weighted by the frequency response:

$$y[n] = \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} H(f) X(f) e^{j2\pi f n} df$$

- This means that the Fourier transform of the convolution  $x[n] * h[n]$  is the product of the Fourier transforms (convolution theorem):

$$x[n] * h[n] \longleftrightarrow X(f) H(f)$$

# Example

- The Fourier transform  $W(f)$  of the symmetric rectangular pulse  $w[n]$ :

$$w[n] = \Pi_N[n] \triangleq \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } -N \leq n \leq N \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$W(f) = \sum_{n=-N}^N e^{-j2\pi f n} = \frac{\sin \pi(2N+1)f}{\sin \pi f}$$

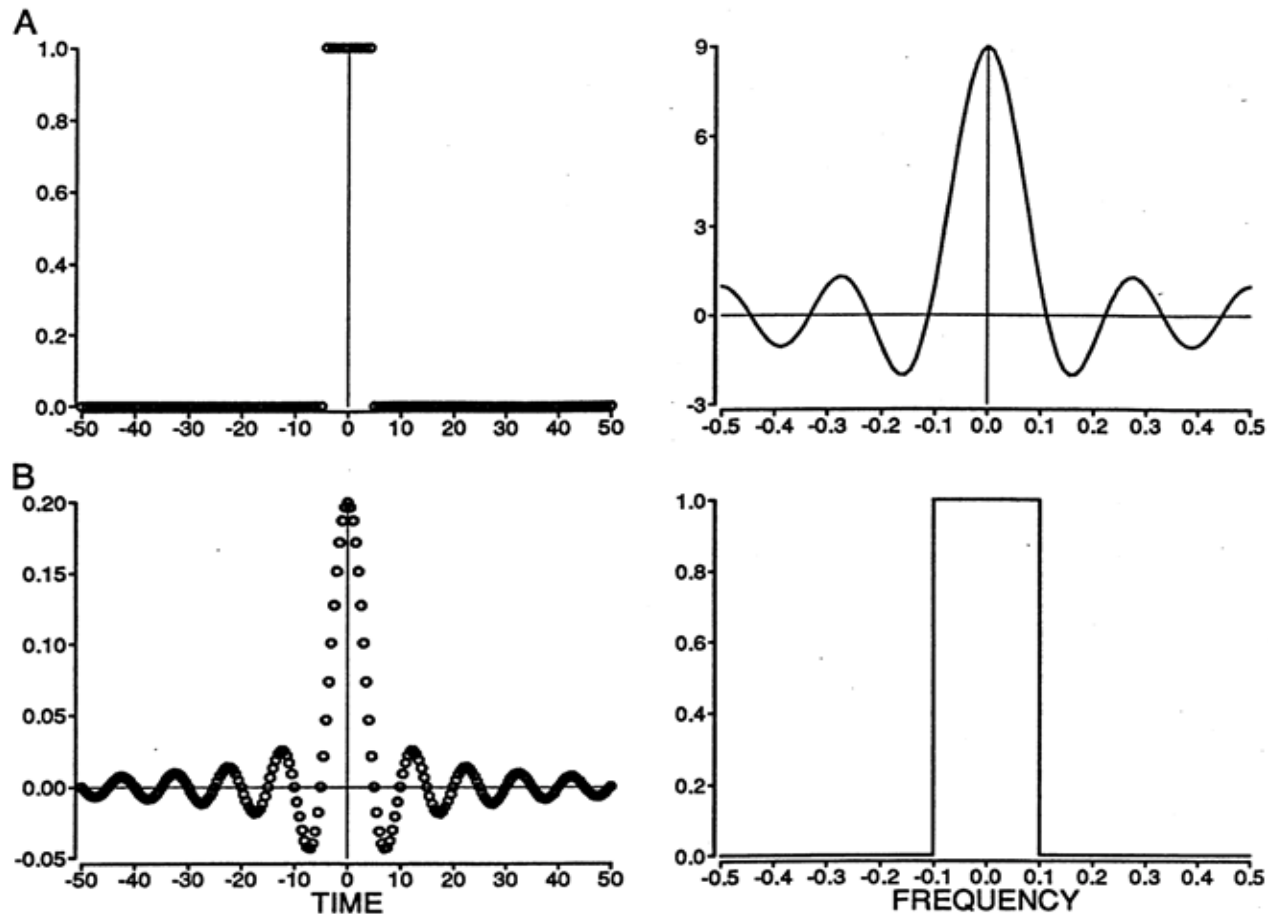
- The inverse Fourier transform to compute the impulse response  $h[n]$  of the ideal digital low-pass filter  $H(f)$ :

$$H(f) = \Pi_W(f) \triangleq \begin{cases} 1 & |f| \leq W \\ 0 & W < |f| \leq \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$h[n] = \int_{-W}^W e^{j2\pi f n} df = \frac{\sin 2\pi W n}{\pi n}$$



# Example



(Bertrand Delgutte, MIT OpenCourseWare)



# Discrete Fourier transform (DFT)

- To compute the DTFT requires an infinite number of operations
- A good representation of the spectrum will be achieved if computing only a finite number of *frequency samples* of the DTFT while the spacing between samples is sufficiently small. Simple results are obtained by sampling in frequency at regular intervals.
- We therefore define the *N-point discrete Fourier transform*  $X[k]$  of a signal  $x[n]$  of **finite duration**,  $0 \leq n \leq N - 1$ , as samples of its transform  $X(f)$  taken at intervals of  $1/N$ :

$$X[k] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-j2\pi kn/N} \quad X[k] \triangleq X(k/N) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq k \leq N - 1$$

- Because  $X(f)$  is periodic with period 1,  $X[k]$  is periodic with period  $N$ , which justifies only considering the values of  $X[k]$  over the interval  $[0, N - 1]$

# Discrete Fourier transform (DFT)

- The **finite-duration** signal  $x[n]$  can be reconstructed from its DFT  $X[k]$  by:

$$x[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X[k] e^{j2\pi kn/N}$$

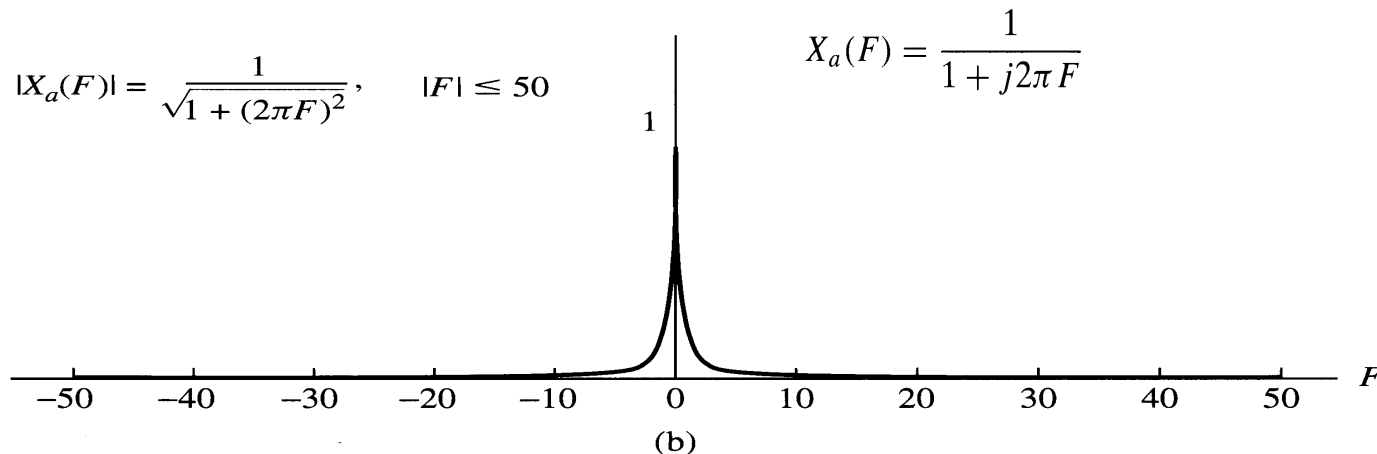
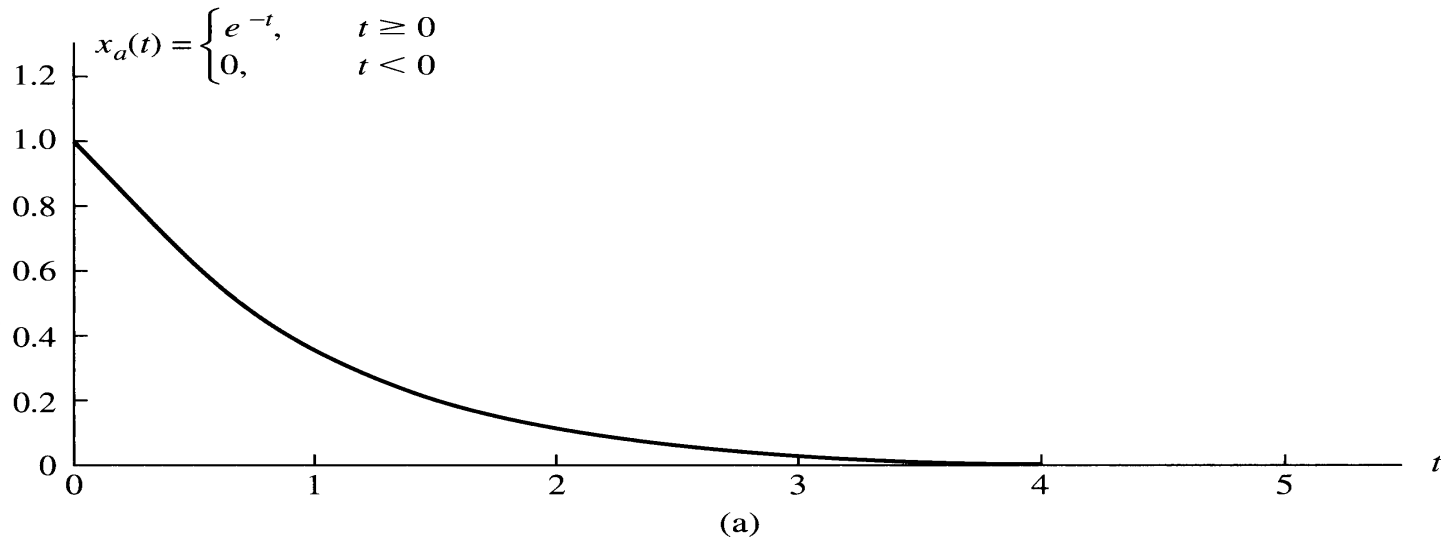
- The DFT pair for finite-duration signals:

$$x[n] \longleftrightarrow X[k]$$

- Both time and frequency domain are discrete and periodic with period  $N$
- Computing the  $N$ -point DFT of a signal implicitly introduces a periodic signal with period  $N$ , so that all operations involving the DFT are really operations on periodic signals



# Frequency analysis of signals using the DFT (example)



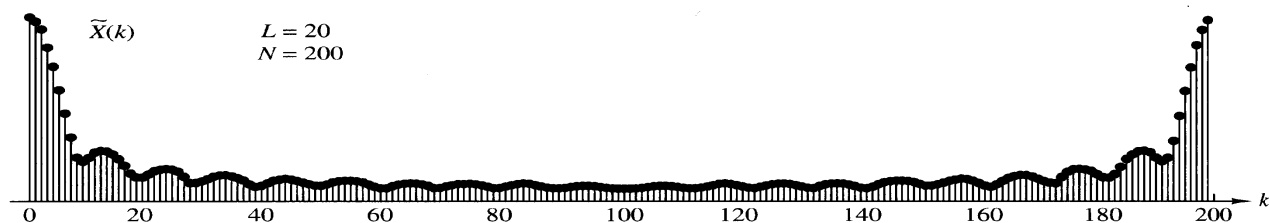
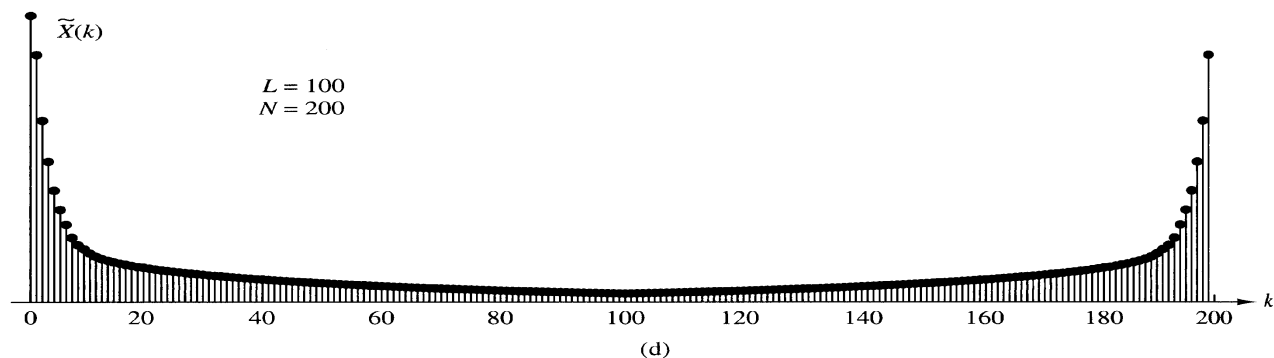
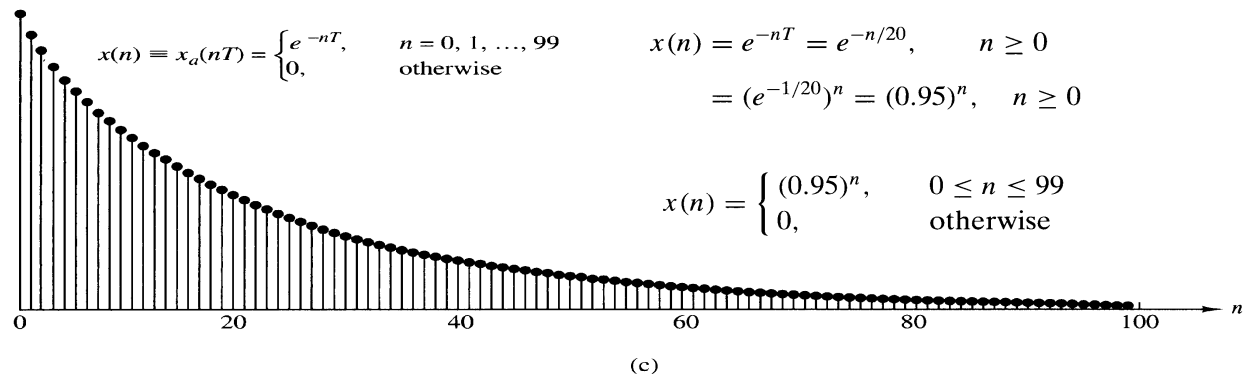
(Proakis, Manolakis)

# Frequency analysis of signals using the DFT (example)

$F_s = 20$  smp/s

$L=100$  ( $L=20$ )

$N = 200$



(Proakis, Manolakis)

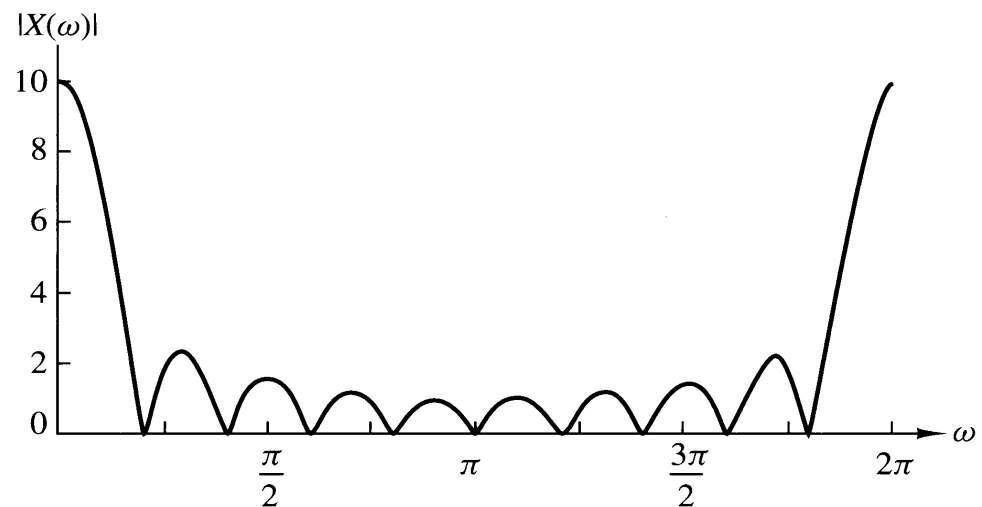
# Frequency analysis of discrete-time signals (example)

- A finite-duration sequence of length  $L$  :

$$x(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leq n \leq L-1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$X(\omega) = \sum_{n=0}^{L-1} x(n)e^{-j\omega n}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{L-1} e^{-j\omega n} = \frac{1 - e^{-j\omega L}}{1 - e^{-j\omega}} = \frac{\sin(\omega L/2)}{\sin(\omega/2)} e^{-j\omega(L-1)/2}$$



- Determine the  $N$ -point DFT of this sequence for  $N \geq L$

(Proakis, Manolakis)

# Frequency analysis of discrete-time signals (example)

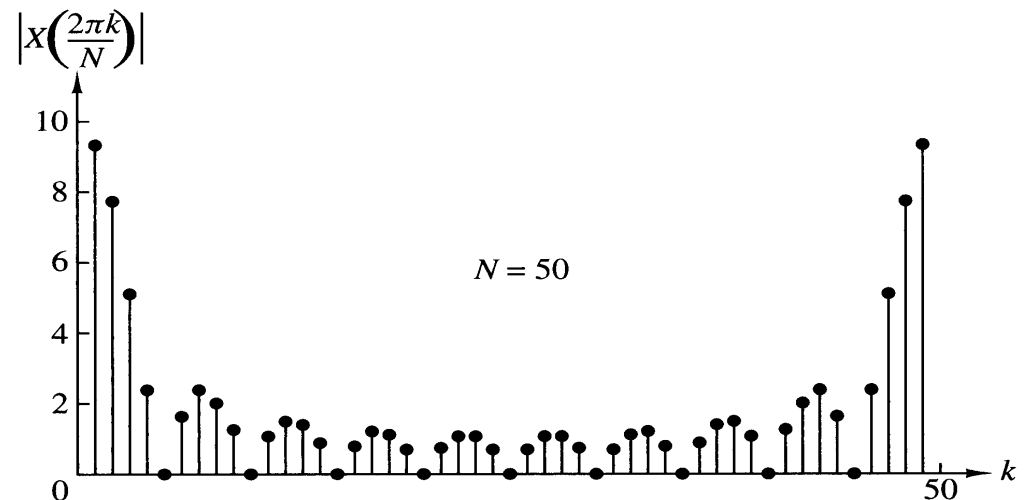
$$\begin{aligned}
 X(k) &= \frac{1 - e^{-j2\pi kL/N}}{1 - e^{-j2\pi k/N}}, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, N-1 \\
 &= \frac{\sin(\pi kL/N)}{\sin(\pi k/N)} e^{-j\pi k(L-1)/N}
 \end{aligned}$$

- $X(\omega)$  evaluated at the set of  $N$  equally spaced frequencies

$$\omega_k = 2\pi k/N,$$

$$k = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$$

$$L = 10, N = 50$$



(Proakis, Manolakis)

# Frequency analysis of discrete-time signals (example)

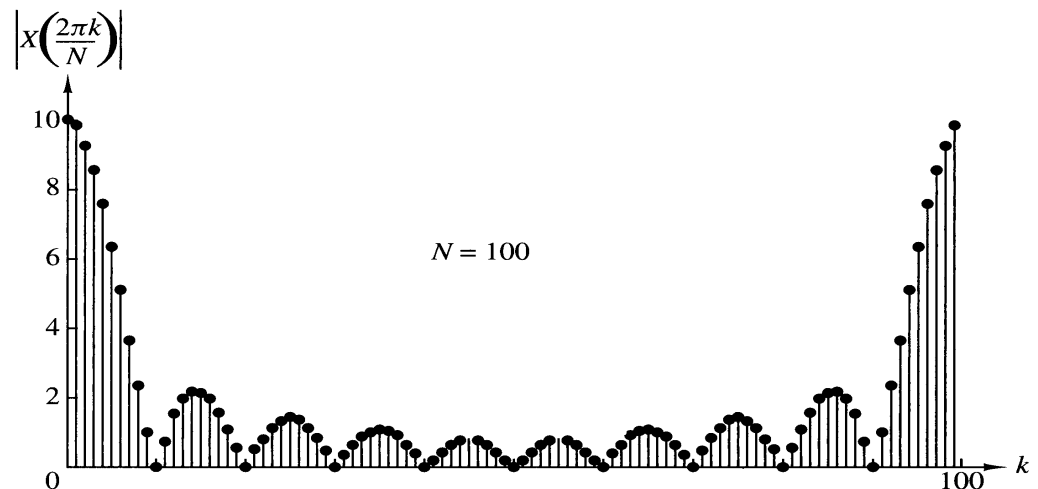
$$\begin{aligned}
 X(k) &= \frac{1 - e^{-j2\pi kL/N}}{1 - e^{-j2\pi k/N}}, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, N-1 \\
 &= \frac{\sin(\pi kL/N)}{\sin(\pi k/N)} e^{-j\pi k(L-1)/N}
 \end{aligned}$$

- $X(\omega)$  evaluated at the set of  $N$  equally spaced frequencies

$$\omega_k = 2\pi k/N,$$

$$k = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$$

$$L = 10, N = 100$$



(Proakis, Manolakis)

# Convolution of two finite-duration signals using the DFT

- The following scheme allows filtering the input  $x[n]$  by the filter  $h[n]$ :
  1. Compute the  $N$ -point DFT of  $x[n]$
  2. Compute the  $N$ -point DFT of  $h[n]$
  3. Form the product  $Y[k] = X[k] \cdot H[k]$
  4. Compute the inverse  $N$ -point DFT of  $Y[k]$





# Fast Fourier transform (FFT)

- Computation of an  $N$ -point DFT by the straightforward method requires  $N^2$  complex multiplications
- FFT methods require only of the order of  $N \cdot \log N$  complex multiplications
- For example, for  $N = 4096$ , an FFT requires 300 times fewer operations than a straightforward DFT



# Frequency ranges of some biological signals

- Electrocardiogram      0 – 45 (100) Hz
- Electromyogram        0 – 10 (200) Hz
- Electroencephalogram   0 – 45 (100) Hz