

# Lecture 15:

## The Fast Fourier Transform

# Outlines

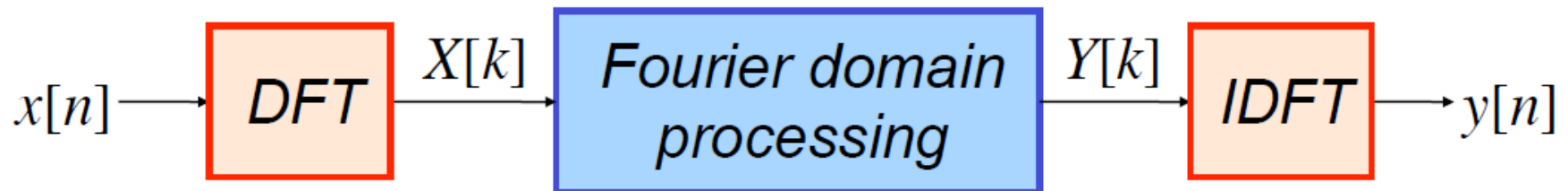
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- Calculation of the DFT
- The Fast Fourier Transform algorithm

# 1. Calculation of the DFT

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- Filter design so far has been oriented to time-domain processing - cheaper!
- But: frequency-domain processing makes some problems very simple:

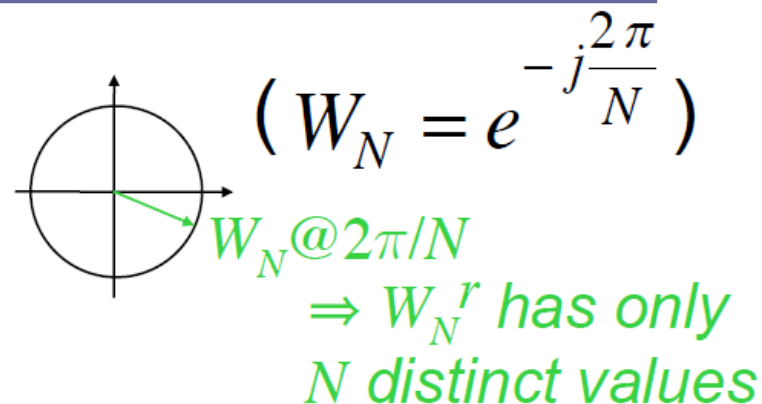


- use all of  $x[n]$ , or use short-time windows
- Need an **efficient** way to calculate DFT

# The DFT

- Recall the DFT:

$$X[k] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] W_N^{kn}$$



- discrete transform of discrete sequence

- Matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} X[0] \\ X[1] \\ X[2] \\ \vdots \\ X[N-1] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ 1 & W_N^1 & W_N^2 & \cdots & W_N^{(N-1)} \\ 1 & W_N^2 & W_N^4 & \cdots & W_N^{2(N-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & W_N^{(N-1)} & W_N^{2(N-1)} & \cdots & W_N^{(N-1)^2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x[0] \\ x[1] \\ x[2] \\ \vdots \\ x[N-1] \end{bmatrix}$$

Structure  $\Rightarrow$   
opportunities  
for  
efficiency

# Computational Complexity

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$$X[k] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] W_N^{kn}$$

- $N$  complex multiplies  
+  $N-1$  complex adds per point ( $k$ )  
×  $N$  points ( $k = 0.. N-1$ )
  - cpx mult:  $(a+jb)(c+jd) = ac - bd + j(ad + bc)$   
= 4 real mults + 2 real adds
  - cpx add = 2 real adds
- $N$  points:  $4N^2$  real mults,  $4N^2-2N$  real adds

# Goertzel's Algorithm

- Now: 
$$X[k] = \sum_{\ell=0}^{N-1} x[\ell] W_N^{k\ell}$$
  

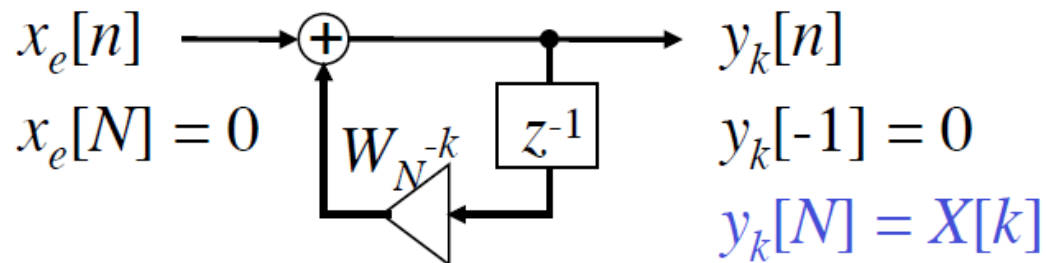
$$= W_N^{kN} \sum_{\ell} x[\ell] W_N^{-k(N-\ell)}$$

*looks like a convolution*

- i.e.  $X[k] = y_k[N]$   
 where  $y_k[n] = x_e[n] \circledast h_k[n]$

$x_e[n] = \begin{cases} x[n] & 0 \leq n < N \\ 0 & n = N \end{cases}$

$h_k[n] = \begin{cases} W_N^{-kn} & n \geq 0 \\ 0 & n < 0 \end{cases}$



# Goertzel's Algorithm

- Separate 'filters' for each  $X[k]$ 
  - can calculate for just a few values of  $k$
- No large buffer, no coefficient table
- Same complexity for full  $X[k]$   
( $4N^2$  **mults**,  $4N^2 - 2N$  **adds**)
  - but: can **halve** multiplies by making the denominator real:

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{1 - W_N^{-k} z^{-1}} = \frac{1 - W_N^k z^{-1}}{1 - 2 \cos \frac{2\pi k}{N} z^{-1} + z^{-2}}$$

*evaluate only for last step* (pointing to  $W_N^k z^{-1}$ )

*2 real mults per step* (pointing to  $\cos \frac{2\pi k}{N}$ )

## 2. Fast Fourier Transform FFT

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- Reduce complexity of DFT from  $O(N^2)$  to  $O(N \cdot \log N)$ 
  - grows more slowly with larger  $N$
- Works by **decomposing** large DFT into several stages of smaller DFTs
- Often provided as a highly optimized library



# Decimation in Time (DIT) FFT

- Can rearrange DFT formula in 2 halves:

$$X[k] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] \cdot W_N^{nk}$$

$k = 0.. N-1$

Arrange terms in pairs...

$$= \sum_{m=0}^{\frac{N}{2}-1} \left( x[2m] \cdot W_N^{2mk} + x[2m+1] \cdot W_N^{(2m+1)k} \right)$$

Group terms from each pair

$$= \sum_{m=0}^{\frac{N}{2}-1} x[2m] \cdot W_{\frac{N}{2}}^{mk} + W_N^k \sum_{m=0}^{\frac{N}{2}-1} x[2m+1] \cdot W_{\frac{N}{2}}^{mk}$$

$X_0[\langle k \rangle_{N/2}]$        $X_1[\langle k \rangle_{N/2}]$

$N/2$  pt DFT of  $x$  for **even**  $n$

$N/2$  pt DFT of  $x$  for **odd**  $n$

# Decimation in Time (DIT) FFT

$$\text{DFT}_N \{x[n]\} = \text{DFT}_{\frac{N}{2}} \{x_0[n]\} + W_N^k \text{DFT}_{\frac{N}{2}} \{x_1[n]\}$$

- We can evaluate an  $N$ -pt DFT as two  $N/2$ -pt DFTs (plus a few mults/adds)
- But if  $\text{DFT}_N\{\bullet\} \sim O(N^2)$   
then  $\text{DFT}_{N/2}\{\bullet\} \sim O((N/2)^2) = 1/4 O(N^2)$

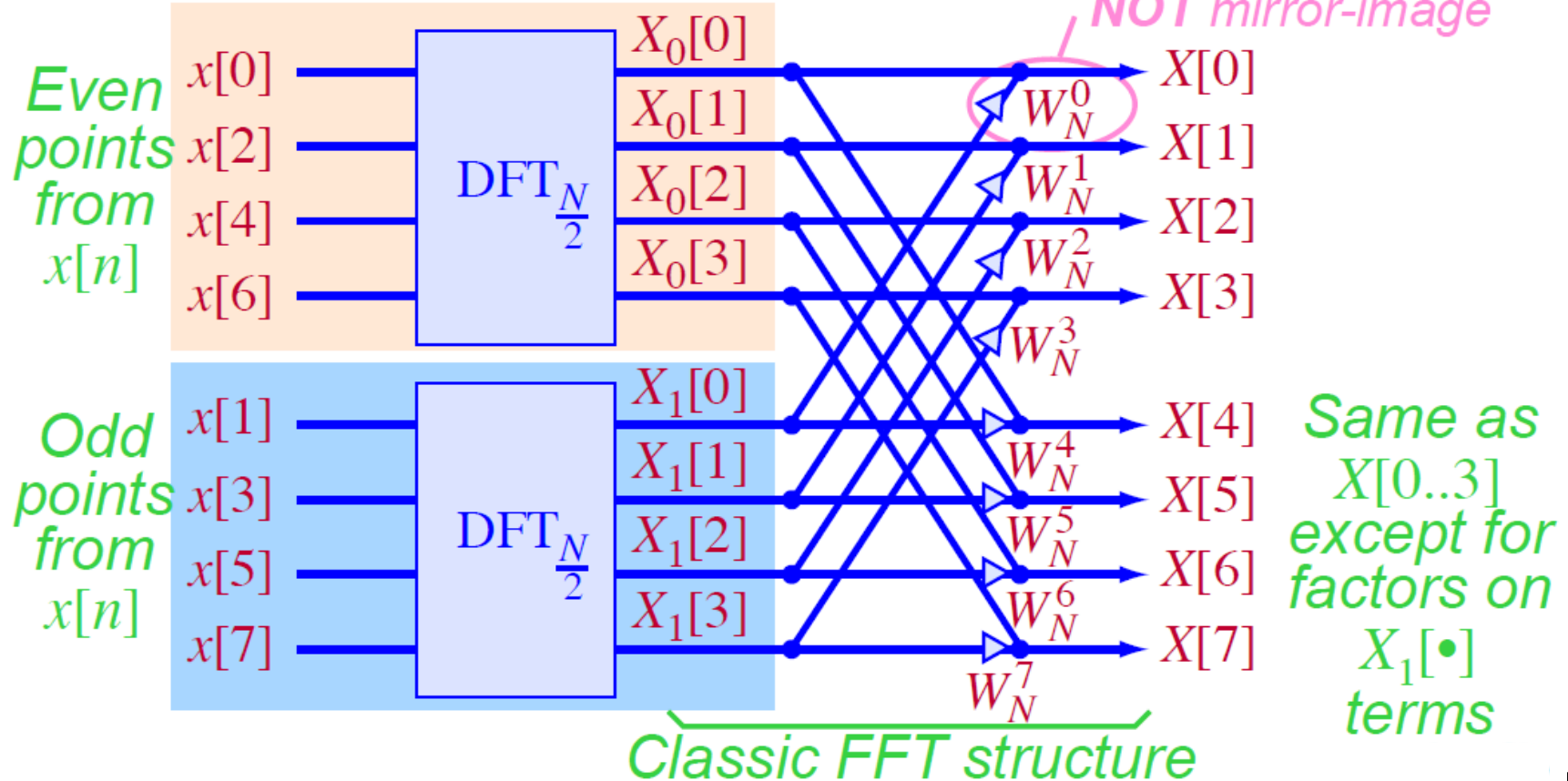
⇒ Total computation  $\sim 2 \cdot 1/4 O(N^2)$

= 1/2 the computation (+ $\epsilon$ ) of direct DFT

# One-Stage DIT Flowgraph

$$X[k] = X_0 \left[ \left\langle k \right\rangle_{\frac{N}{2}} \right] + W_N^k X_1 \left[ \left\langle k \right\rangle_{\frac{N}{2}} \right]$$

*“twiddle factors”:  
always apply to  
odd-terms output  
NOT mirror-image*



# Multiple DIT Stages

- If **decomposing** one  $\text{DFT}_N$  into two smaller  $\text{DFT}_{N/2}$ 's speeds things up ...  
Why not **further divide** into  $\text{DFT}_{N/4}$ 's ?
- i.e.  $X[k] = X_0 \left[ \langle k \rangle_{\frac{N}{2}} \right] + W_N^k X_1 \left[ \langle k \rangle_{\frac{N}{2}} \right]$   
 $0 \leq k < N$
- make:  $X_0[k] = X_{00} \left[ \langle k \rangle_{\frac{N}{4}} \right] + W_{\frac{N}{2}}^k X_{01} \left[ \langle k \rangle_{\frac{N}{4}} \right]$   
 $0 \leq k < N/2$   

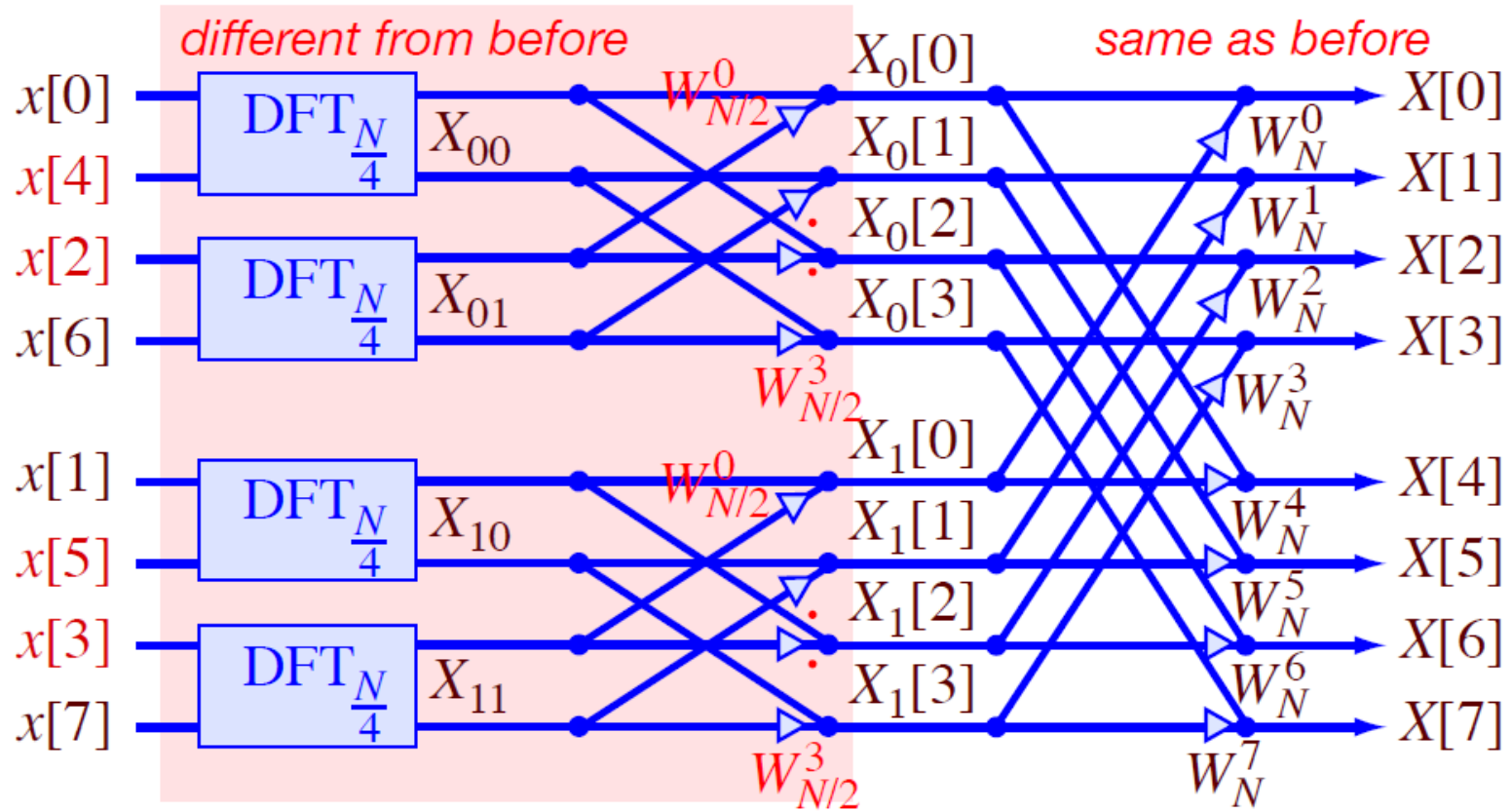
*N/4-pt DFT of **even** points*

*in **even** subset of  $x[n]$*

*N/4-pt DFT of **odd** points*

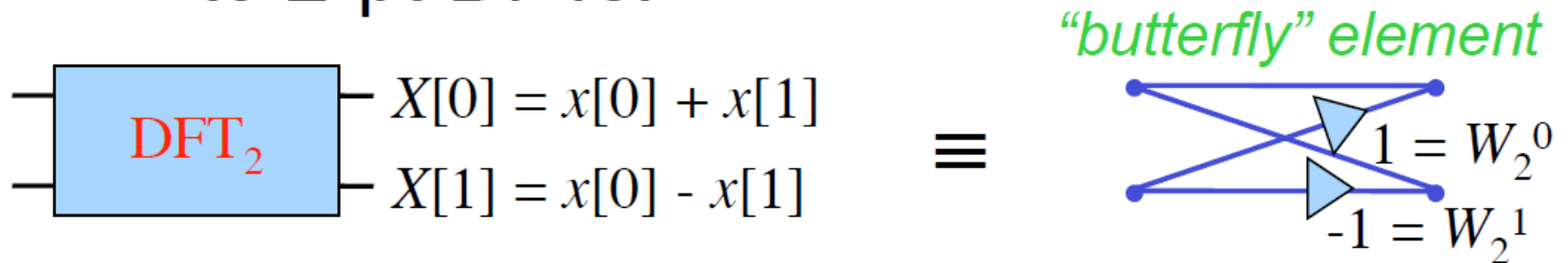
*from **even** subset*
- Similarly,  $X_1[k] = X_{10} \left[ \langle k \rangle_{\frac{N}{4}} \right] + W_{\frac{N}{2}}^k X_{11} \left[ \langle k \rangle_{\frac{N}{4}} \right]$

# Two-Stage DIT Flowgraph



# Multi-Stage DIT FFT

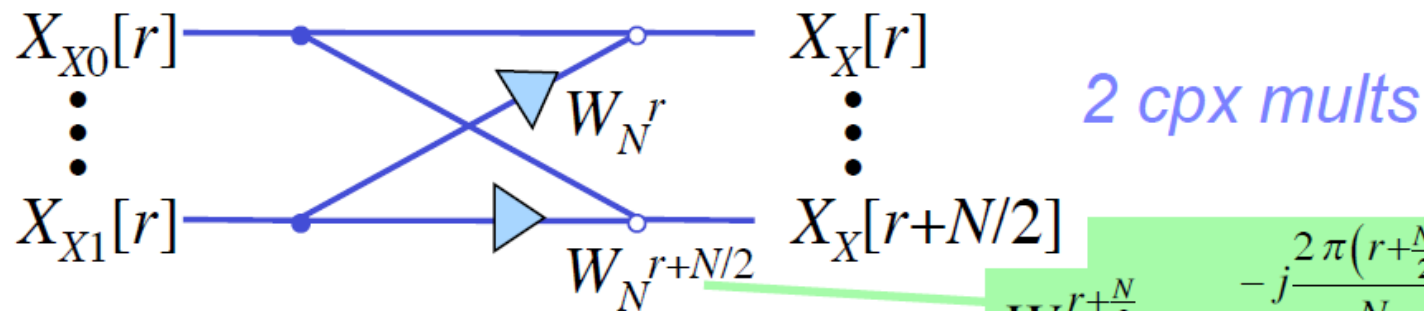
- Can keep doing this until we get down to 2-pt DFTs:



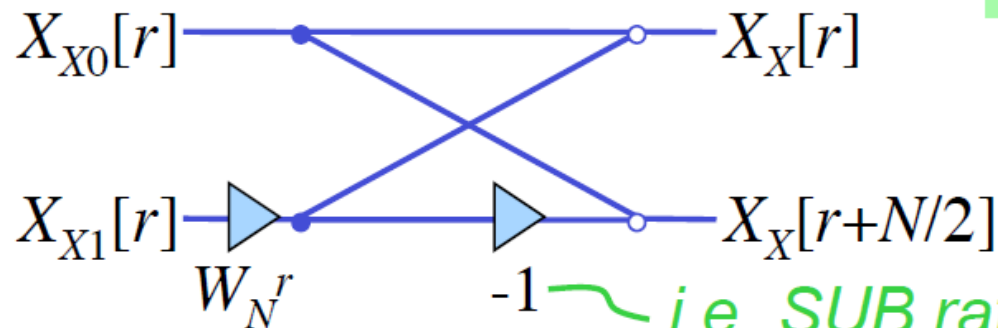
- $N = 2^M$ -pt DFT reduces to  $M$  stages of twiddle factors & summation ( $O(N^2)$  part vanishes)
- real mults  $< M \cdot 4N$  , real adds  $< 2 \cdot M \cdot 2N$
- complexity  $\sim O(N \cdot M) = O(N \cdot \log_2 N)$

# FFT Implementation Details

- Basic butterfly (at any stage):



- Can simplify:

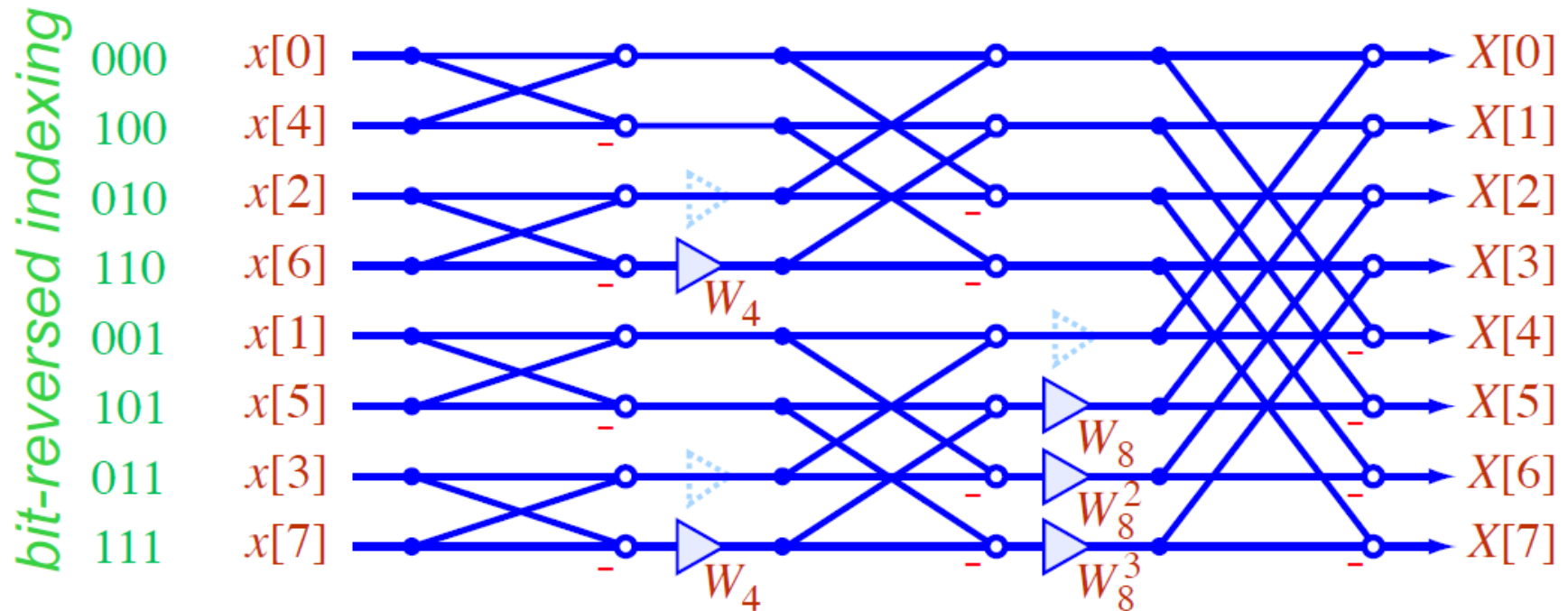



$$\begin{aligned}
 W_N^{r+\frac{N}{2}} &= e^{-j\frac{2\pi(r+\frac{N}{2})}{N}} \\
 &= e^{-j\frac{2\pi r}{N}} \cdot e^{-j\frac{2\pi N/2}{N}} \\
 &= -W_N^r
 \end{aligned}$$

*just one cpx mult!*

*-1 i.e. SUB rather than ADD*

# 8-pt DIT FFT Flowgraph



- -1's absorbed into summation nodes
- $W_N^0$  disappears 
- 'in-place' algorithm: sequential stages



# FFT for Other Values of N

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- Having  $N = 2^M$  meant we could divide each stage into 2 halves = “radix-2 FFT”
- Same approach works for:
  - $N = 3^M$  radix-3
  - $N = 4^M$  radix-4 - more optimized radix-2
  - etc...
- Composite  $N = a \cdot b \cdot c \cdot d \rightarrow$  mixed radix (different  $N/r$  point FFTs at each stage)
  - .. or just zero-pad to make  $N = 2^M$

# Inverse FFT

- Recall IDFT:  $x[n] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X[k] W_N^{-nk}$  *only differences from forward DFT*

- Thus:

*Forward DFT of  $x'[n] = X^*[k]|_{k=n}$   
i.e. time sequence made from spectrum*

$$Nx^*[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \left( X[k] W_N^{-nk} \right)^* = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X^*[k] W_N^{nk}$$

- Hence, use FFT to calculate IFFT:

$$x[n] = \frac{1}{N} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X^*[k] W_N^{nk} \right]^*$$

*pure real flowgraph*



# DFT of Real Sequences

- If  $x[n]$  is pure-real, DFT wastes mult's
- **Real**  $x[n] \rightarrow$  **Conj. symm.**  $X[k] = X^*[-k]$
- Given two real sequences,  $x[n]$  and  $w[n]$   
call  $y[n] = j \cdot w[n]$ ,  $v[n] = x[n] + y[n]$
- $N$ -pt DFT  $V[k] = X[k] + Y[k]$   
but:  $V[k] + V^*[-k] = X[k] + X^*[-k] + Y[k] + Y^*[-k]$   
 $\Rightarrow X[k] = 1/2(V[k] + V^*[-k])$ ,  $W[k] = -j/2(V[k] - V^*[-k])$
- i.e. compute DFTs of **two**  $N$ -pt real sequences with a **single**  $N$ -pt DFT