

CGU Math 381 (Image Processing), Spring '18 – Homework #3

Corner detection, and an introduction to Fourier Analysis.

Due on Friday 3/30, in the box in front of Prof. Micheli's office.

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Reading: Fourier Analysis is treated in Chapters 7, 8 and 9 of *Principles of Digital Image Processing: Core Algorithms* (i.e. Volume 2) by Burger and Burge. The Harris corner detector is treated Chapter 4 of the same volume, and (in more detail) in the instructor's class notes, that are now available online.

Write, on top of the first page of your assignment: Name (LAST, First), your University or College, the HW#, and acknowledge other students with whom you may have worked (just write “*Worked with ...*”). For the computational problems where you are asked to write computer code you may choose the programming language that you prefer, such as *Python* (I am learning it myself!) or *Matlab*.

Problem 3.1 (time shifting). Consider the *shifted* delta function $\delta_{t_0}(t) = \delta(t - t_0)$. **(a)** Show that for any continuous-time signal $s(t)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$, it is the case that $(s * \delta_{t_0})(t) = s(t - t_0)$ (that is, the convolution with δ_{t_0} has the effect of time-shifting by t_0). **(b)** find the Fourier Transform $\mathcal{F}[\delta_{t_0}](f)$ by direct computation. **(c)** Finally, combine the above results with the convolution theorem (it states that $\mathcal{F}[g * h](f) = G(f)H(f)$) to find the Fourier Transform of the shifted signal $s(t - t_0)$ in terms of the Fourier Transform $S(f)$ of $s(t)$.

Solution 3.1. a

$$\begin{aligned}(s * \delta_{t_0})(t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(\tau) \delta_{t_0}(t - \tau) d\tau \\&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(\tau) \delta(t - t_0 - \tau) d\tau \\&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(t - t_0) \delta(t - t_0 - \tau) d\tau \\&= s(t - t_0) \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t - t_0 - \tau) d\tau \\&= s(t - t_0) \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(\tau - (t - t_0)) d\tau \\&= s(t - t_0) \cdot 1 \\&= s(t - t_0)\end{aligned}$$

b

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}[\delta_{t_0}](f) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta_{t_0}(\tau) e^{-i2\pi f\tau} d\tau \\&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(\tau - t_0) e^{-i2\pi f\tau} d\tau \\&\stackrel{t=\tau-t_0}{=} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t) e^{-i2\pi f(t+t_0)} dt \\&= e^{-i2\pi ft_0} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t) e^{-i2\pi ft} dt \\&= e^{-i2\pi ft_0} \cdot e^{-i2\pi f \cdot 0} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t) dt \\&= e^{-i2\pi ft_0} \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \\&= e^{-i2\pi ft_0}\end{aligned}$$

c

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}[s(t - t_0)](f) &= \mathcal{F}[s * \delta_{t_0}](f) \\&= \mathcal{S}(f) \mathcal{D}(f) \\&= \mathcal{S}(f) \cdot \mathcal{F}[\delta_{t_0}](f) \\&= e^{-i2\pi ft_0} \mathcal{S}(f)\end{aligned}$$

Problem 3.2 (the causal exponential). Fix a constant $\alpha > 0$, and consider the continuous-time signal $s(t) = e^{-\alpha t}H(t)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$, known as the *causal exponential*, where $H(t)$ is the Heaviside function (that is, $H(t) = 1$ for $t \geq 0$ and $H(t) = 0$ for $t < 0$). **(a)** Compute its Fourier transform $S(f)$, $f \in \mathbb{R}$ (this is example #26 in the Fourier pairs table that was distributed in class). **(b)** Compute the convolution $r(t) = (s * s)(t)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$ (this may be the first and last time that you actually compute a convolution ‘by hand’, but it is the kind of thing that you should do at least once in your life!). **(c)** Finally, using the result from part (a), what is the Fourier transform $R(f)$ of the continuous-time signal $r(t)$ from part (b)?

Solution 3.2. a

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{S}(f) &= \mathcal{F}[s](f) \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\alpha t} H(t) e^{-i2\pi f t} dt \\
 &= \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\alpha t} e^{-i2\pi f t} dt \\
 &= \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-(\alpha + i2\pi f)t} dt \\
 &= \left. \frac{e^{-(\alpha + i2\pi f)t}}{-(\alpha + i2\pi f)} \right|_0^{+\infty} \\
 &= 0 - \frac{-1}{\alpha + i2\pi f} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\alpha + i2\pi f}
 \end{aligned}$$

b

$$\begin{aligned}
 r(t) &= (s * s)(t) \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(\tau) s(t - \tau) d\tau \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\alpha \tau} H(\tau) e^{-\alpha(t - \tau)} H(t - \tau) d\tau \\
 &= e^{-\alpha t} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} H(\tau) H(t - \tau) d\tau \\
 &= e^{-\alpha t} t H(t)
 \end{aligned}$$

c

$$\mathcal{R}(f) = \mathcal{F}[r](f) = \mathcal{S} \cdot \mathcal{S}(f) = \frac{1}{(\alpha + i2\pi f)^2}$$

Problem 3.3 (FT of separable 2D signals). Suppose that a signal $s(x, y)$, with $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$, may be written as: $s(x, y) = f(x)g(y)$, where f and g are (continuous-space) signals. Such 2D signals are called *separable*. Show that the Fourier transform of s is $S(u, v) = F(u)G(v)$, where $F(u) = \mathcal{F}[f](u)$ and $G(v) = \mathcal{F}[g](v)$.

Solution 3.3.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{S}(u, v) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(x, y) e^{-i2\pi(ux + vy)} dx dy \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) g(y) e^{-i2\pi(ux + vy)} dx dy \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(y) e^{-i2\pi vy} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) e^{-i2\pi ux} dx dy \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(y) e^{-i2\pi vy} \mathcal{F}(u) dy \\
 &= \mathcal{F}(u) \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(y) e^{-i2\pi vy} dy \\
 &= \mathcal{F}(u) \mathcal{G}(v)
 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 3.4 (differential operators and convolution). Consider two continuous-space signals $f(x, y)$ and $g(x, y)$, with $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$. **(a)** Show that $\nabla^2(f * g) = f * (\nabla^2 g)$, where ∇^2 denotes the Laplace operator in the variables (x, y) . **(b)** Express the Fourier transform of $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}$ in terms of $F(u, v) = \mathcal{F}[f](u, v)$.

Solution 3.4. a

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla^2(f * g)(x, y) &= \nabla^2 \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(u, v) g(x - u, y - v) du dv \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(u, v) \cdot \nabla^2 g(x - u, y - v) du dv \\
&= (f * \nabla^2 g)(x, y)
\end{aligned}$$

b

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (f) \right] \\
&= \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(u, v) e^{i2\pi(ux+vy)} du dv \right) \right] \\
&= \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(u, v) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} e^{i2\pi(ux+vy)} du dv \right] \\
&= \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} i2\pi u \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(u, v) e^{i2\pi(ux+vy)} du dv \right] \\
&= \left[\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} i2\pi u \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(u, v) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} e^{i2\pi(ux+vy)} du dv \right] \\
&= \left[\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (i2\pi)^2 uv F(u, v) e^{i2\pi(ux+vy)} du dv \right]
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\mathcal{F}\left[\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}\right](u, v) = -4\pi^2 uv F(u, v)$$

Problem 3.5 (symmetries). Consider a continuous-space signal $s(x, y)$, $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$. Show that if the signal s is real and has even symmetry, i.e. $s(x, y) = \overline{s(x, y)} = \overline{s(-x, -y)} = s(-x, -y)$, (where the bar indicates complex conjugation) then its Fourier transform $S(u, v)$ is also real, with even symmetry.

Solution 3.5.

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{S}(u, v) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(x, y) e^{-i2\pi(ux+vy)} dx dy \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(x, y) [\cos(2\pi(ux + vy)) - i \sin(2\pi(ux + vy))] dx dy \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(x, y) \cos(2\pi(ux + vy)) dx dy - i \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(x, y) \sin(2\pi(ux + vy)) dx dy \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(x, y) \cos(2\pi(ux + vy)) dx dy + 0
\end{aligned}$$

The last equality holds because $\sin(\cdot)$ is an odd function, while $s(x, y)$ is an even function, hence, the product of those two functions are odd, and the integral of an odd function is 0. In addition, since both $s(x, y)$ and $\cos(\cdot)$ are real, $\mathcal{S}(u, v)$ is real.

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{S}(-u, -v) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(x, y) e^{i2\pi(-ux-vy)} dx dy \\
&\stackrel{x=-\alpha, y=-\beta}{=} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} s(x, y) e^{-i2\pi(u\alpha+v\beta)} d\alpha d\beta \\
&= \mathcal{S}(u, v)
\end{aligned}$$

Problem 3.6 (UMF in the frequency domain). Remember that the sharpening technique known as *unmask filtering* is defined as follows, for continuous-space images $f(x, y)$. First of all, a smoothing (low-pass) filter, such as a Gaussian filter $h(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{x^2+y^2}{\sigma^2}\right)$ is chosen (note that since h has volume 1, we have $H(0, 0) = 1$). Then the smooth component of f is computed via convolution: $m = h * f$. The sharp component of the image $f(x, y)$ (also known as the *unsharp mask*) is $s(x, y) = f(x, y) - m(x, y)$.

The sharpened image is then defined as $g(x, y) = f(x, y) + a \cdot s(x, y)$, where the constant $a > 0$ is the *sharpening strength*. For a generic smoothing convolutional kernel $h(x, y)$ with Fourier transform $H(u, v)$, show (as we did in class) that we can write, in frequency, $G(u, v) = L(u, v) \cdot F(u, v)$; express the frequency response $L(u, v)$ in terms of the function $H(u, v)$ and the constant a . Also, write an explicit expression for $L(u, v)$ when $h(x, y)$ is the Gaussian function given above, and plot the graph of $z = L(u, v)$ for one or two particular choices of σ and a (since $L(u, v)$ turns out to be a radial function, i.e. such that its graph is symmetric with respect to rotations about the z -axis, you may just plot the cross section for $v = 0$).

Solution 3.6.

$$\begin{aligned} g(x, y) &= f(x, y) + a \cdot s(x, y) \\ &= f(x, y) + a \cdot f(x, y) - a \cdot h(x, y) * f(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{G}(u, v) = F(u, v) + aF(u, v) + aH(u, v)F(u, v) = (1 + a + aH(u, v))F(u, v)$$

Hence,

$$\mathcal{L}(u, v) = (1 + a + aH(u, v)) = (1 + a - ae^{-2\pi a^2(u^2+v^2)})$$

Problem 3.7 (DFT and IDFT). In class we defined the Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) of a discrete-time and finite-time signal s_n , $n = 0, 1, \dots, M-1$ as follows:

$$S_k = \sum_{n=0}^{M-1} s_n e^{-i2\pi kn/M} \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, M-1.$$

Show that s_n can be recovered via the Inverse Discrete Fourier Transform: $s_n = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} S_k e^{+i2\pi kn/M}$.

Hint: You should first prove and then use the following *orthogonality* of discrete complex exponentials:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} e^{i2\pi km/M} e^{-i2\pi kn/M} = \begin{cases} M & \text{if } m = n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Solution 3.7. First let's prove the orthogonality of discrete complex exponential:

Proof.

$$\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} e^{i2\pi km/M} e^{-i2\pi kn/M} = \sum e^{2\pi ki(m-n)/M}$$

if $m = n$, we have

$$\sum e^{2\pi ki(m-n)/M} = \sum 1 = M$$

if $m \neq n$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum e^{2\pi ki(m-n)/M} &= \sum \left[e^{\frac{2\pi i(m-n)}{M}} \right]^k \\ &= \frac{1 - \left(e^{\frac{2\pi i(m-n)}{M}} \right)^M}{1 - e^{\frac{2\pi i(m-n)}{M}}} \end{aligned}$$

Given that $m, n \in [0, 1, \dots, M-1]$ hence, the denominator cannot be 0. however, in the numerator,

$$e^{2\pi i(m-n)} = \cos(2\pi(m-n)) + i \sin(2\pi(m-n)) = 1 + 0$$

, which makes the numerator 0.

Hence,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} e^{i2\pi km/M} e^{-i2\pi kn/M} = \begin{cases} M & \text{if } m = n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

□

Next, we proof the main statement of this problem

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} s_n &= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} S_k e^{i2\pi kn/M} \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} s_m e^{-i2\pi km/M} e^{i2\pi kn/M} \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} s_m \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} e^{-i2\pi km/M} e^{i2\pi kn/M} \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \cdot s_n \cdot M \\ &= s_n \end{aligned}$$

□

Problem 3.8 (2D DFT of sine function). Consider the 2D signal: $s_{m,n} = \sin(2\pi k_0 m + 2\pi \ell_0 n)$, with $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, M-1$ and $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1$; also, $k_0 \in \{0, \frac{1}{M}, \frac{2}{M}, \dots, \frac{M-1}{M}\}$ and $\ell_0 \in \{0, \frac{1}{N}, \frac{2}{N}, \dots, \frac{N-1}{N}\}$ are constants. Show that its DFT is $S_{k,\ell} = \frac{iMN}{2} [\delta(k + Mk_0, \ell + N\ell_0) - \delta(k - Mk_0, \ell - N\ell_0)]$, where δ is the 2D discrete delta function: $\delta(k, \ell) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } k = \ell = 0, \\ 0 & \text{for } 1 \leq k \leq M-1 \text{ or } 1 \leq \ell \leq N-1. \end{cases}$

Solution 3.8.

$$\begin{aligned} S_{k,\ell} &= \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} s_{m,n} e^{-i2\pi(\frac{mk}{M} + \frac{n\ell}{N})} \\ &= \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sin(2\pi k_0 m + 2\pi \ell_0 n) e^{-i2\pi(\frac{mk}{M} + \frac{n\ell}{N})} \\ &= \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[-\frac{i}{2} (e^{i(2\pi k_0 m + 2\pi \ell_0 n)} - e^{-i(2\pi k_0 m + 2\pi \ell_0 n)}) \right] e^{-i2\pi(\frac{mk}{M} + \frac{n\ell}{N})} \\ &= \frac{i}{2} \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} [e^{-i2\pi(k_0 m + \ell_0 n) - i2\pi(\frac{mk}{M} + \frac{n\ell}{N})} - e^{i2\pi(k_0 m + \ell_0 n) - i2\pi(\frac{mk}{M} + \frac{n\ell}{N})}] \\ &= \frac{i}{2} \{ \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} e^{-i2\pi m(k_0 + \frac{k}{M})} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{-i2\pi n(\ell_0 + \frac{\ell}{N})} - \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} e^{i2\pi m(k_0 - \frac{k}{M})} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{i2\pi n(\ell_0 - \frac{\ell}{N})} \} \end{aligned}$$

if $Mk_0 + k = 0$, $\sum_{m=0}^{M-1} e^{-i2\pi m(k_0 + \frac{k}{M})} = \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} 1 = M$, else,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} e^{-i2\pi m(k_0 + \frac{k}{M})} &= \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} [e^{-i2\pi(k_0 + \frac{k}{M})}]^m \\ &= \frac{1 - (e^{-i2\pi(k_0 + \frac{k}{M})})^M}{1 - e^{-i2\pi(k_0 + \frac{k}{M})}} \\ &= \frac{1 - e^{-i2\pi(Mk_0 + k)}}{1 - e^{-i2\pi(k_0 + \frac{k}{M})}} \\ &= \frac{1 - (\cos(2\pi(Mk_0 + k)) - i \sin(2\pi(Mk_0 + k)))}{1 - e^{-i2\pi(k_0 + \frac{k}{M})}} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we can write $\sum_{m=0}^{M-1} e^{-i2\pi m(k_0 + \frac{k}{M})} = M\delta(k + Mk_0)$, $\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{-i2\pi n(\ell_0 + \frac{\ell}{N})} = N\delta(\ell + N\ell_0)$, $\sum_{m=0}^{M-1} e^{i2\pi m(k_0 - \frac{k}{M})} = M\delta(k - Mk_0)$, and $\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{i2\pi n(\ell_0 - \frac{\ell}{N})} = N\delta(\ell - N\ell_0)$. Then, we have:

$$S_{k,\ell} = \frac{iMN}{2} [\delta(k + Mk_0, \ell + N\ell_0) - \delta(k - Mk_0, \ell - N\ell_0)]$$

Problem 3.9 (Harris corner detector¹). In class we introduced the Harris corner detector:

$$E_{(i,j)}(u, v) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{\ell=-\infty}^{\infty} w(k-i, \ell-j) [I(k, \ell) - I(k-u, \ell-v)]^2,$$

which measures the change of the image I around the location (i, j) due to a small displacement (u, v) . Typically, w is a $(2K+1) \times (2K+1)$ filter of ones centered around the origin, but it could also be a rotationally invariant Gaussian mask. In class we showed² that we can approximate (\star) with

$$E_{(i,j)}(u, v) = \begin{bmatrix} u & v \end{bmatrix} \cdot \overline{M}(i, j) \cdot \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix},$$

where

$$\overline{M}(i, j) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{\ell=-\infty}^{\infty} w(k-i, \ell-j) \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2(k, \ell) & I_x(k, \ell)I_y(k, \ell) \\ I_x(k, \ell)I_y(k, \ell) & I_y^2(k, \ell) \end{bmatrix}$$

is called the *local structure matrix*. We saw that we have evidence of the existence of a corner at (i, j) when both eigenvalues $\lambda_1(i, j)$ and $\lambda_2(i, j)$ of $\overline{M}(i, j)$ are large, and of comparable magnitude. This happens when the so-called *corner response function*

$$Q_\alpha(i, j) = \det(\overline{M}(i, j)) - \alpha [\text{Tr}(\overline{M}(i, j))]^2$$

is largest (typically the parameter α is chosen somewhere in the range between 0.04 and 0.15; this is discussed at the very end of the class notes).

- (a) Choose $\alpha = 0.10$, and produce a contour plot of the corner response function with respect to the eigenvalues (i.e., of $Q = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - \alpha(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^2$). You should get a plot similar to Fig. 5 of Harris' paper¹. (Feel free to use *Mathematica*, as it has one-line commands that allow you to achieve this.)
- (b) Now download the images `image-polygons.gif`, `image-house.gif`, and other images of your own choice. Write code that computes the function $Q_\alpha(i, j)$, and plot, on top the image, markers (e.g. red crosses or bullets) that correspond to points within the image where Q_α is above a threshold t of your choice. *Remark:* There are several parameters that you can play with. For my own code, I have used a 9×9 filter w of ones, $\alpha = 0.05$, and a threshold for Q_α of $t = 10^7$.

¹C. Harris and M. Stephens: A Combined Corner and Edge Detector. In *Proceedings of the Fourth Alvey Vision Conference*, pages 147–151. University of Manchester, August 31–September 2, 1988.

²The fact that (u, v) is small allowed us to use a first-order Taylor expansion for the term in square brackets in (\star) .