



Berner Fachhochschule  
Haute école spécialisée bernoise  
Bern University of Applied Sciences

Introduction to Computer Vision:

# Global Operations: Fourier Transform

Marcus Hudritsch (hsm4)

# Global Transforms:

- We cover in this semester:
  - **Fourier Transform**
  - **Wavelet Transform**
  - **Hough Transform**
- Next semester:
  - **Principal Component Analysis**

# Global Operators

- Global operators **include the entire image** into an operation.
- The image is **transformed into another data space**.
- With a transformation **no information is lost theoretically**.
- A transformation makes only sens if new possibilities are given.
- **Example:** Multiplication of roman numbers **LXXXVI** and **XLI**:
  - Transform into arabic numbers
  - Multiply:  $86 \times 41 = 3526$
  - Transform back into roman numbers: **MMMDXXVI**
- The forward transform is often called **analysis**.
- The back transform is often called **synthesis**.

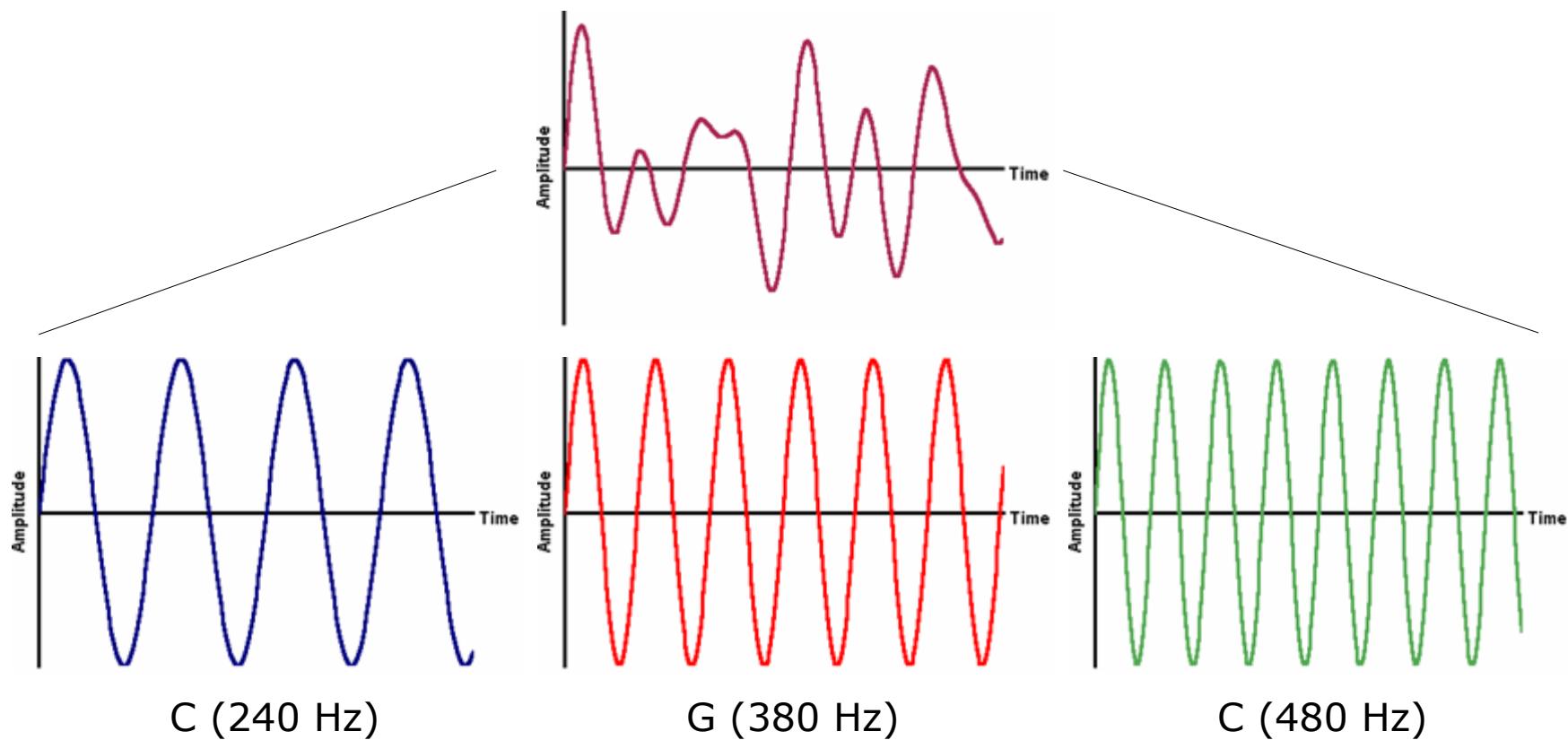
# Fourier Transform:

- It was developed by **Jean-Baptiste Fourier**.
- He was professor for **math** but he teached also **history, rhetoric** and **philosophy**.
- He was on the egyptian crusade with Napoleon.
- 1822 he publish his main work on thermo dynamics.
- In a side chapter he introduced the famous **Fourier series** and the **Fourier transform of periodic signals**.
- This first underestimated work **became one of the most used tools** in engineering science and technology.



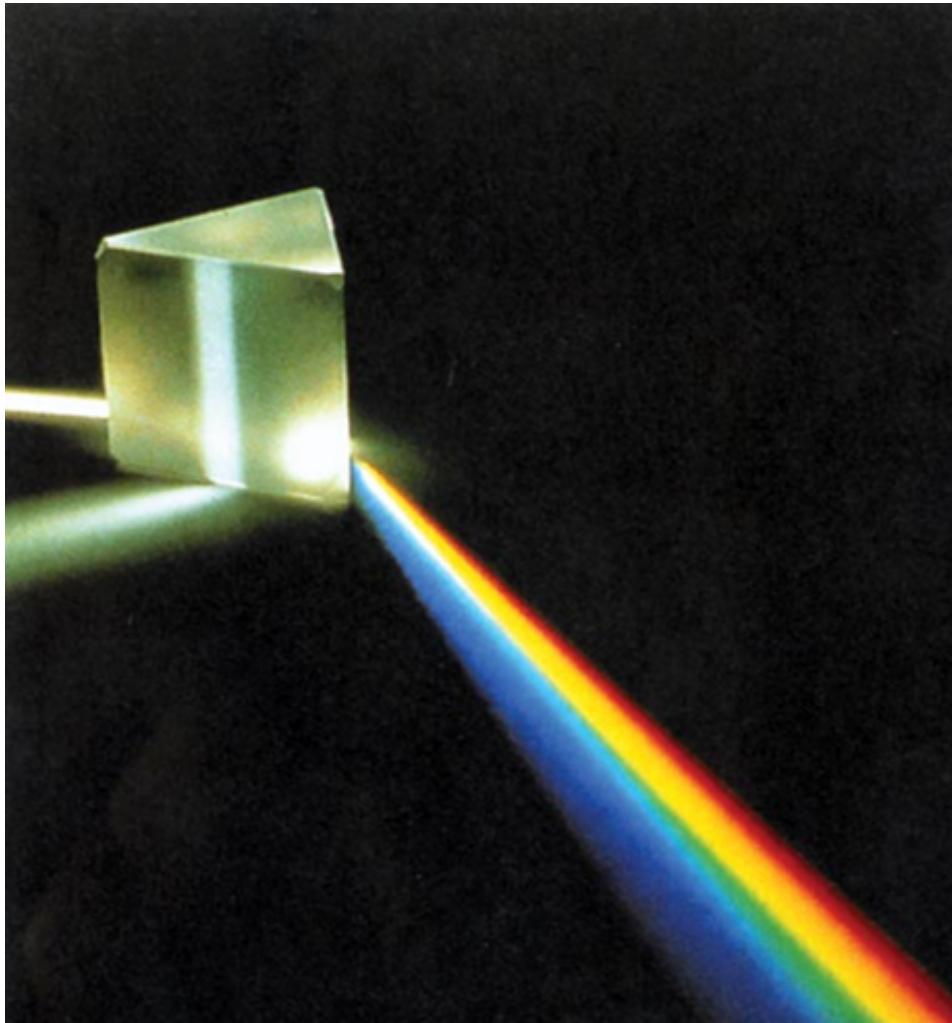
# Fourier Transform:

- The Fourier transform transforms a signal from the
  - **space domain** or **time domain** into
  - **frequency domain**
- **Example:** A sound signal in time domain can be split up into its consisting base frequencies:



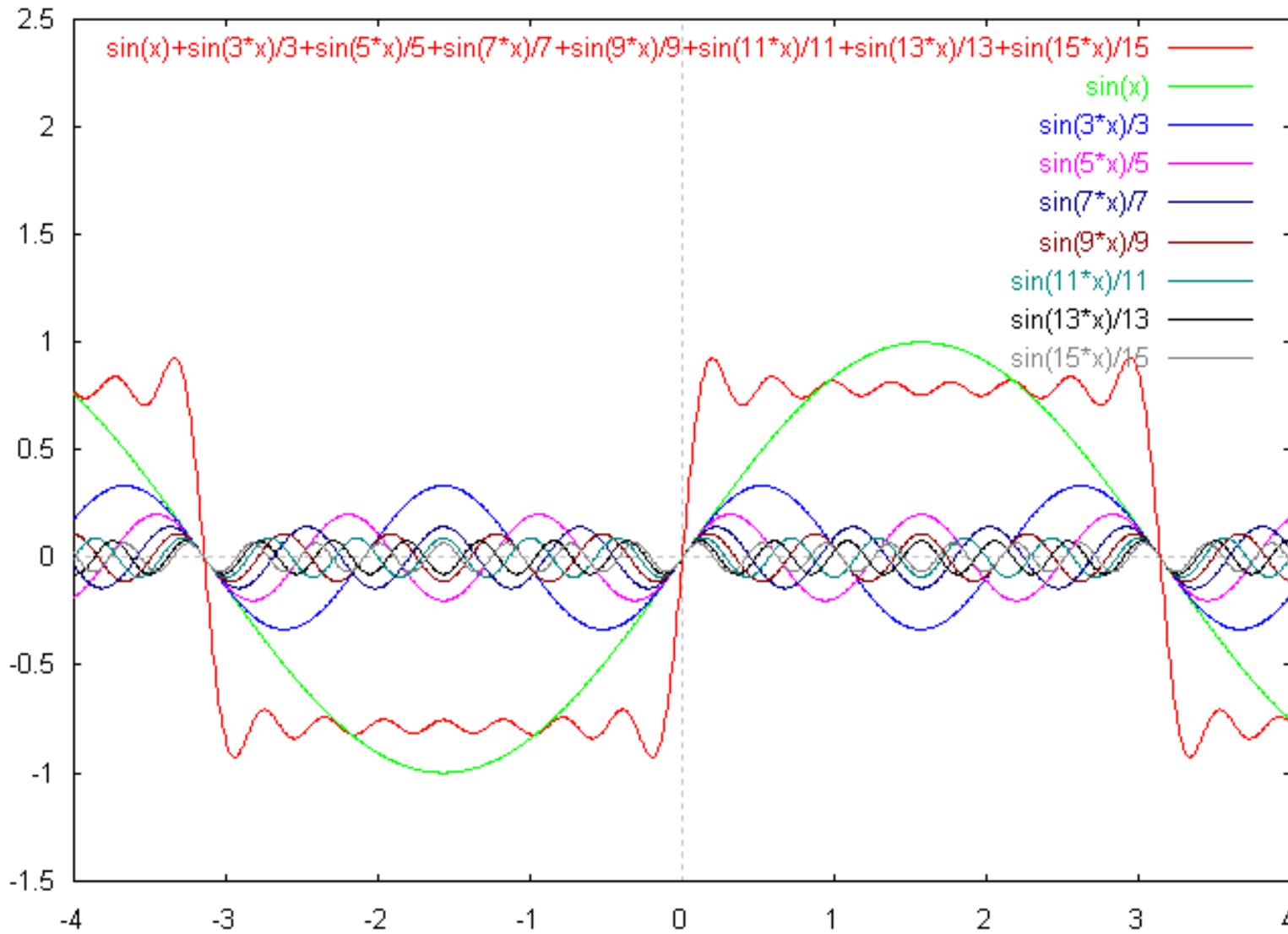
# Fourier Transform:

- A prism can split white light into its color spectrum.
- White light consists many different frequencies.



# Fourier Transform: Sine & Cosine Functions

A rectangular signal can be built out of sine frequencies:



# Fourier Transform: Frequency

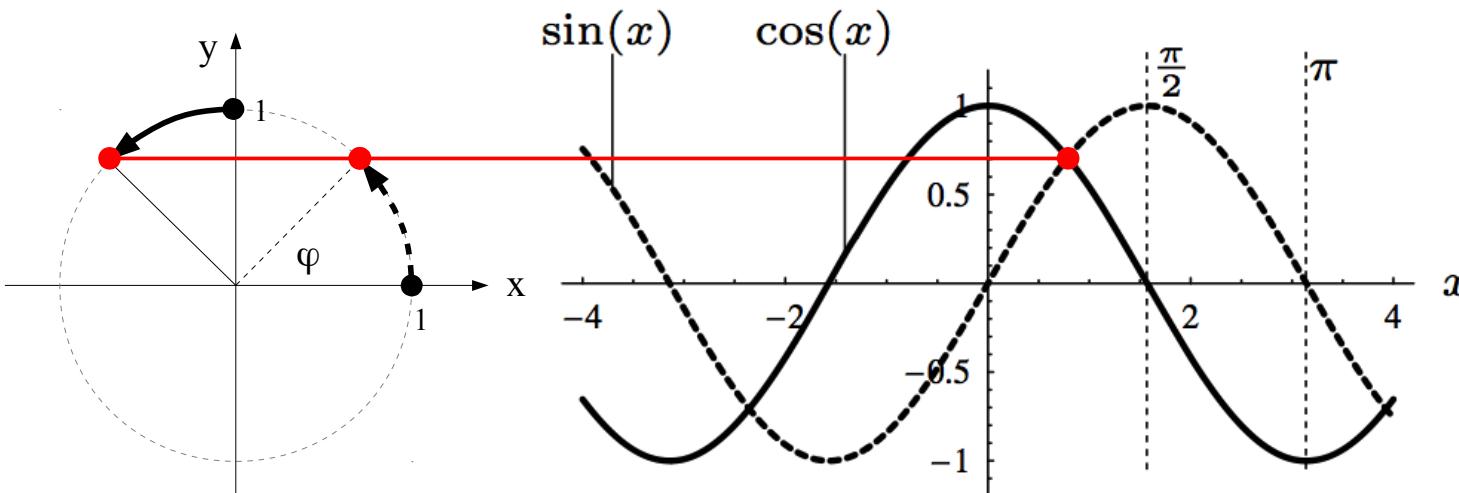
- What is the characteristic of **frequency**?

# Fourier Transform: Sine & Cosine Functions

- What are the **sine & cosine functions**? What do they describe?

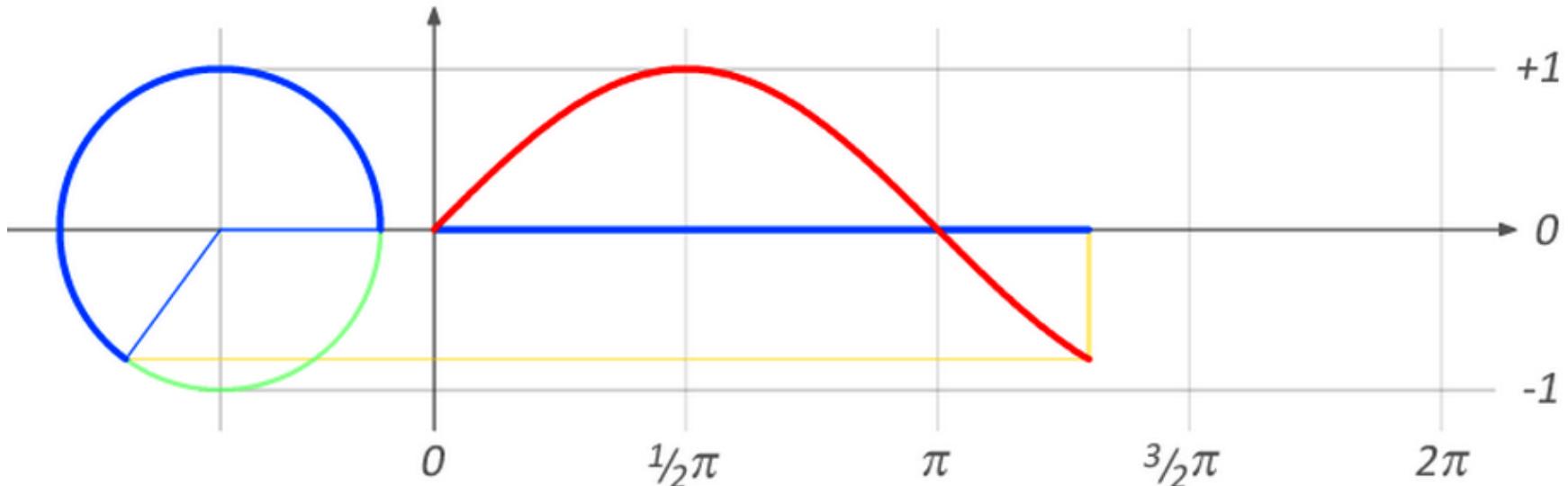
# Fourier Transform: Sine & Cosine Functions

- The **circle motion** of the **cosine function** starts at **90°**
- The **position on the circle** is indicated with an **phase angle  $\varphi$** .
- That's why we **write angles** on the **x-axis**.
- Cosine & sine are orthogonal to each other:  $\cos(\omega x) = \sin(\omega x - \pi/2)$



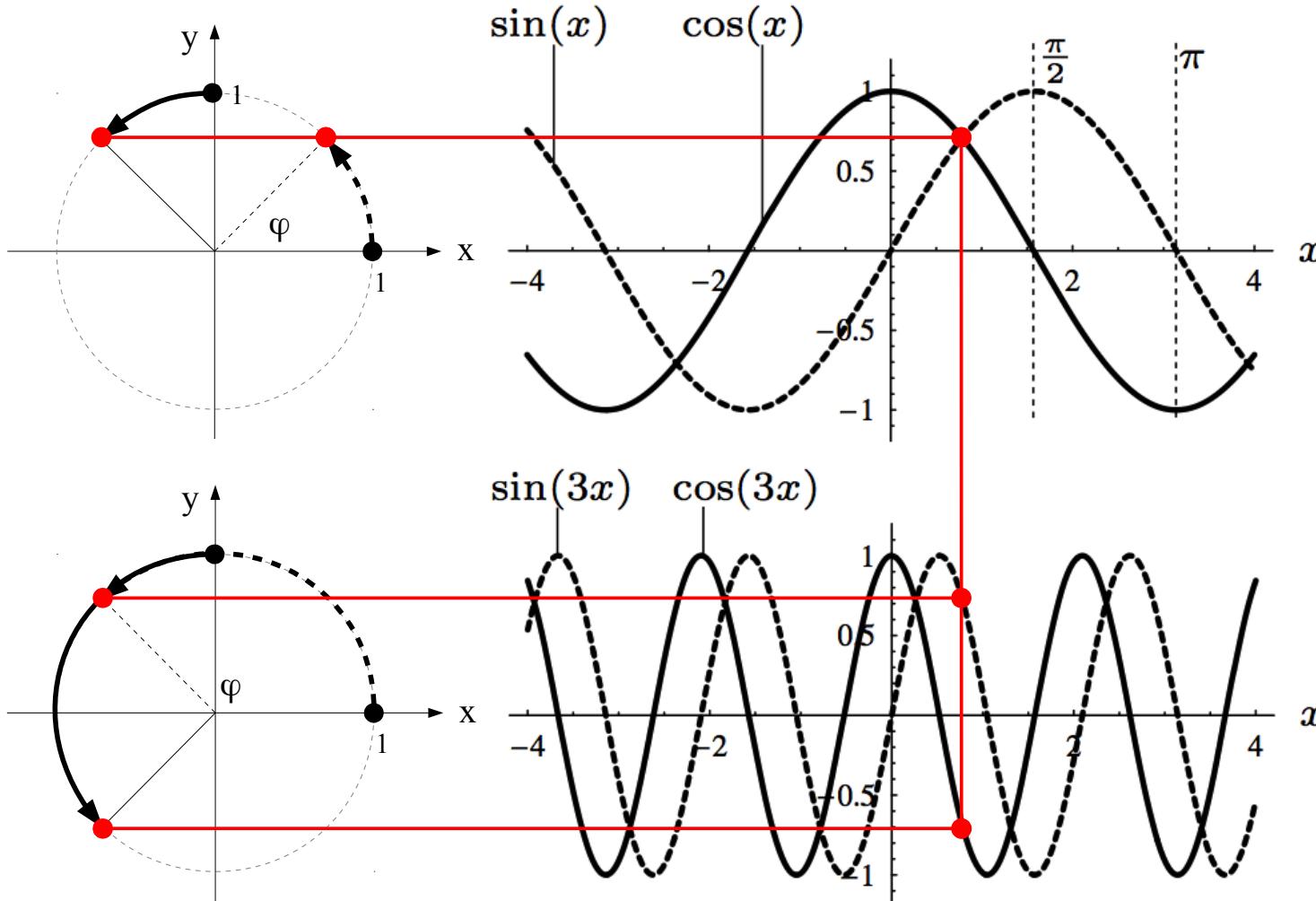
# Fourier Transform: Sine & Cosine Functions

- The **sine function** describes **circle motion**.
- The function  $\sin(\omega x)$  is **periodic function** with the **circle frequency  $\omega$** .
- With  $\omega=1$  we get **period** or **wave length**  $T_1=2\pi/\omega=2\pi$
- From the wave length we get the **frequency**  $f=1/T=\omega/2\pi$
- A circular motion must be visualized with an animation:



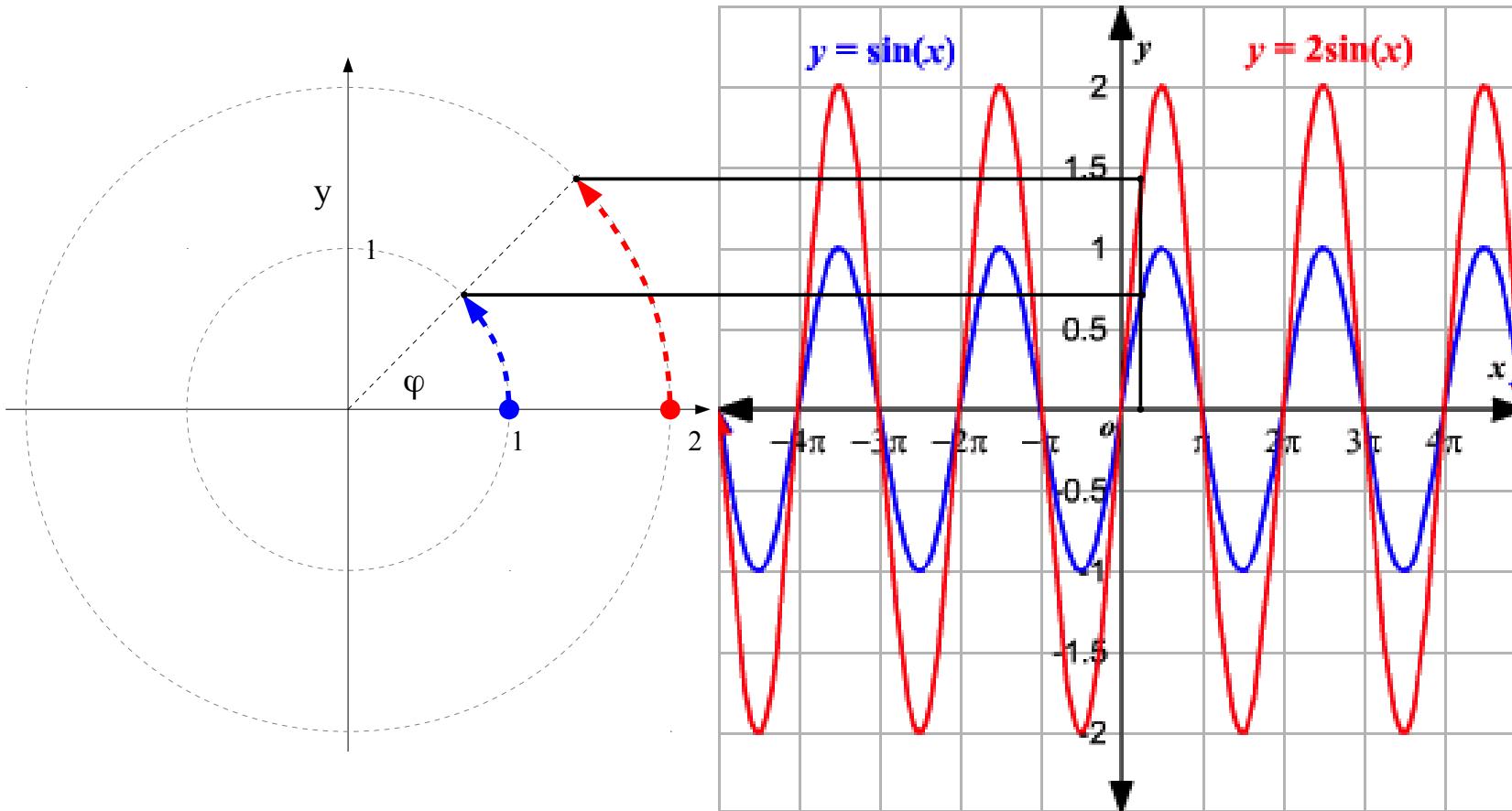
# Fourier Transform: Sine & Cosine Functions

- With **circle motion** imagination we can **feel the energy** better.
- $\sin(3x)$  runs 3 x faster than  $\sin(x)$ .



# Fourier Transform: Sine & Cosine Functions

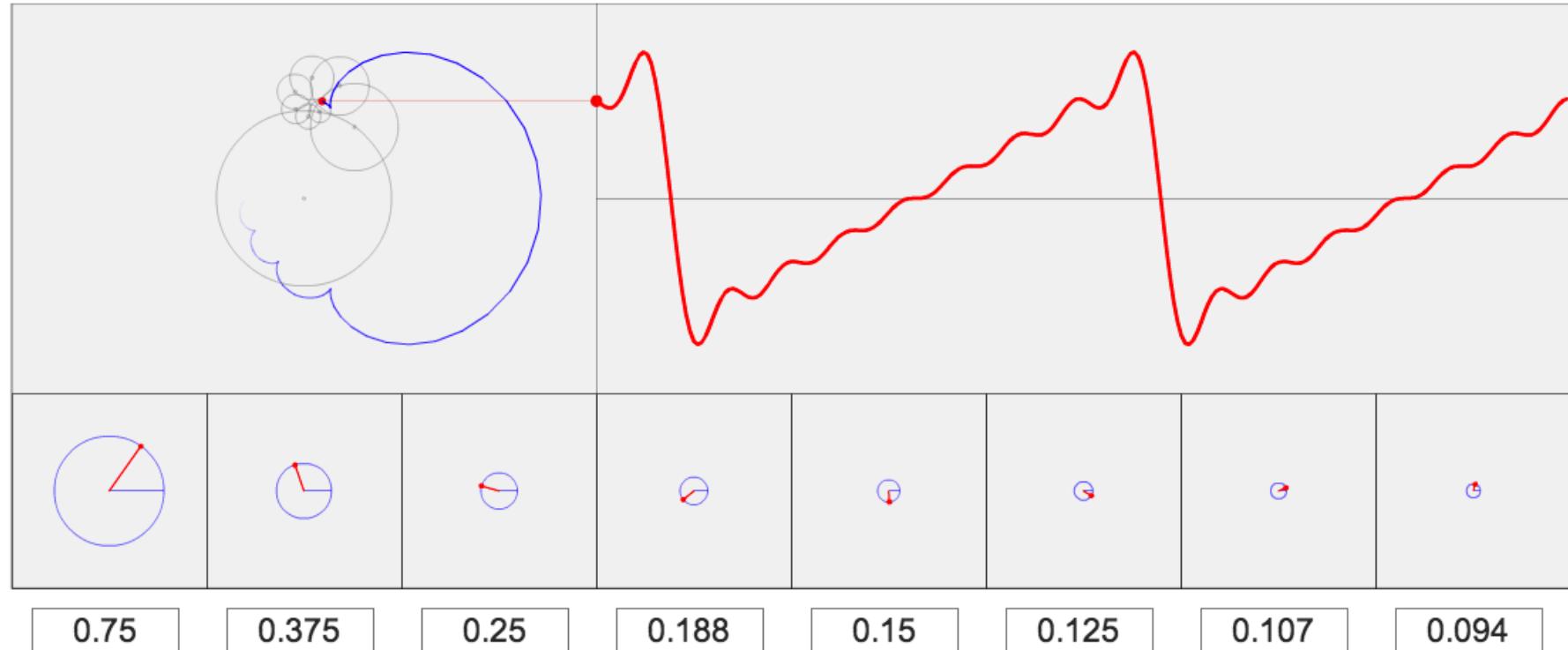
- A greater **amplitude A** corresponds to the **radius** of the circle motion or the **wave hight** in graph:



# Fourier Transform: Sine & Cosine Functions

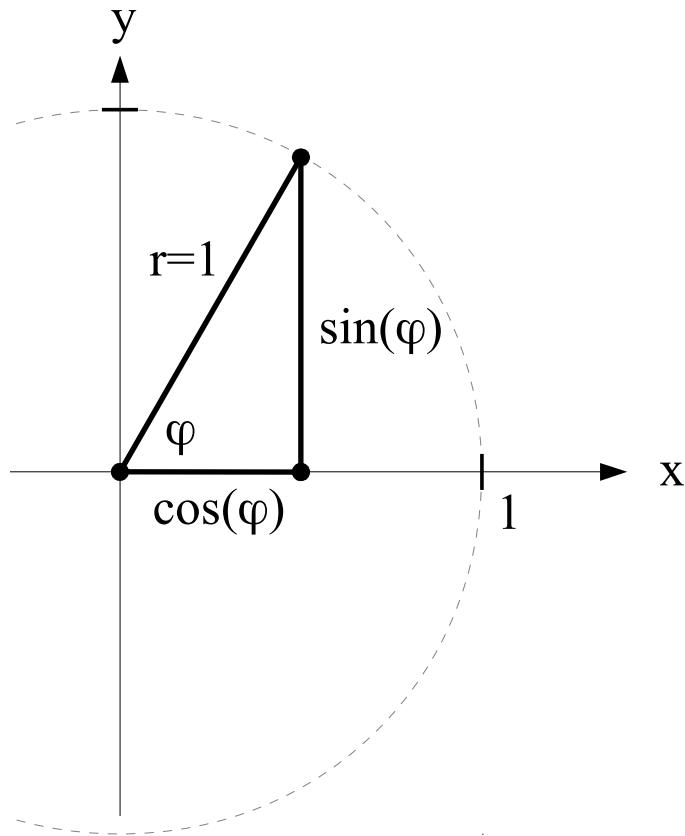
View some beautiful animations of summed up sine & cosines on:

<http://betterexplained.com/articles/an-interactive-guide-to-the-fourier-transform>



# Fourier Transform: Sine & Cosine Functions

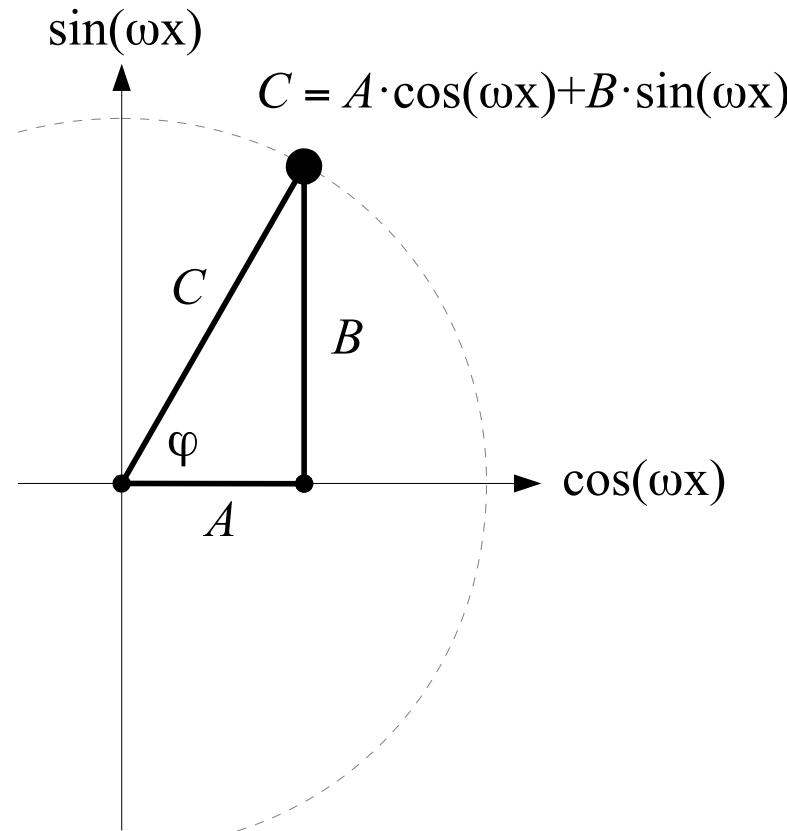
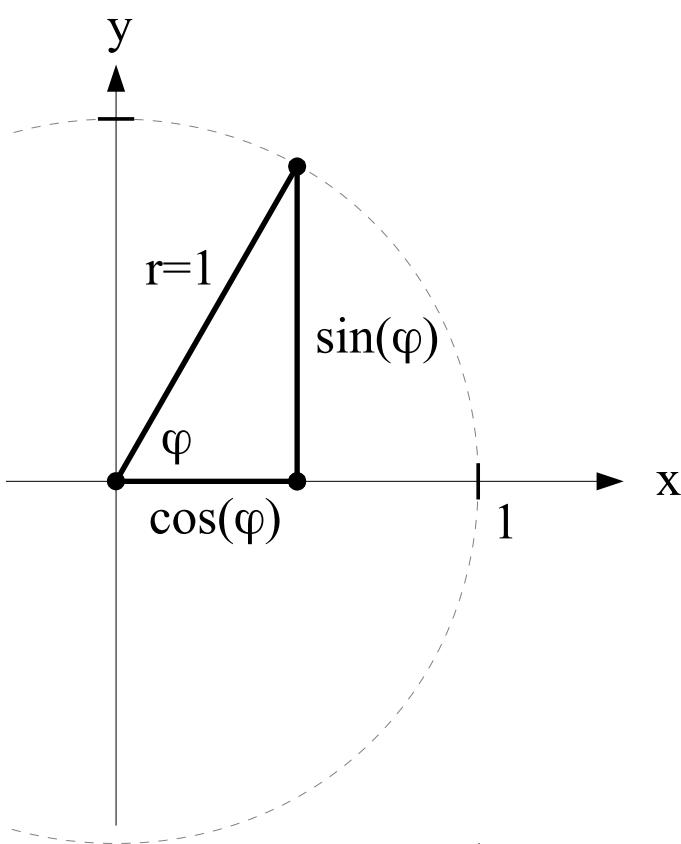
- You see the **orthogonality** of cosine & sine also in the unit circle
- **$\cos(\varphi)$**  is the **x-** and  **$\sin(\varphi)$**  is the **y-component** of the phase **angle  $\varphi$ .**



# Fourier Transform: Sinusoids

- We can use these components to define a generic **sinusoid** with **amplitude C** circle frequency  **$\omega$**  and **phase angle  $\varphi$** :
- **Amplitude and phase can be derived:**

$$C = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2} \quad \phi = \text{atan}(B/A)$$

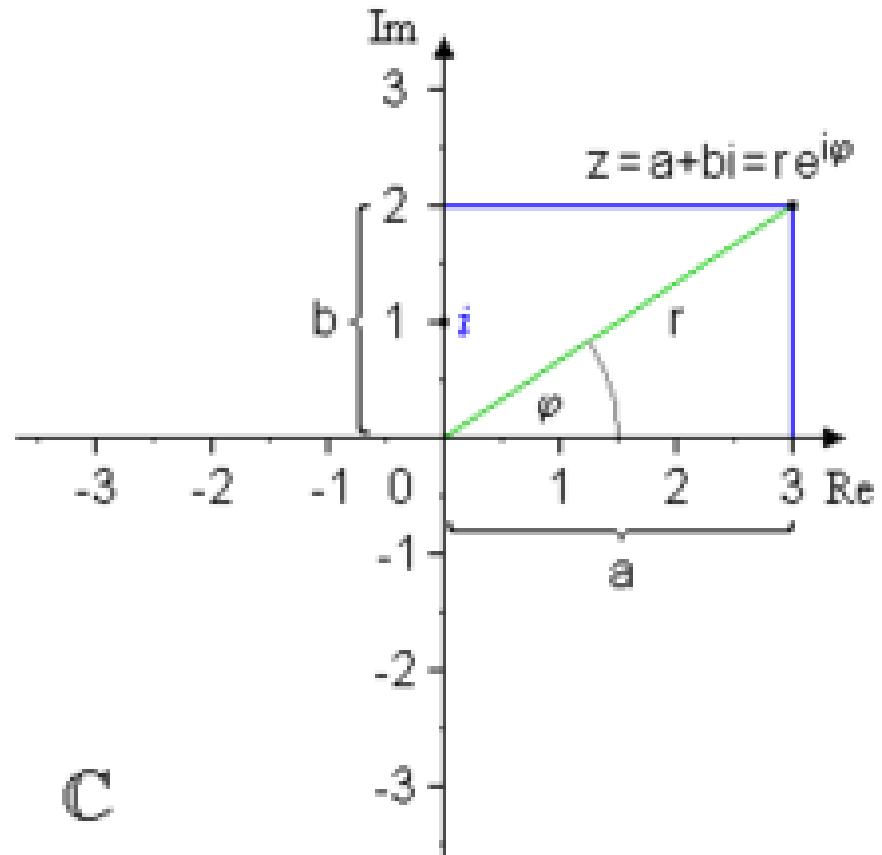
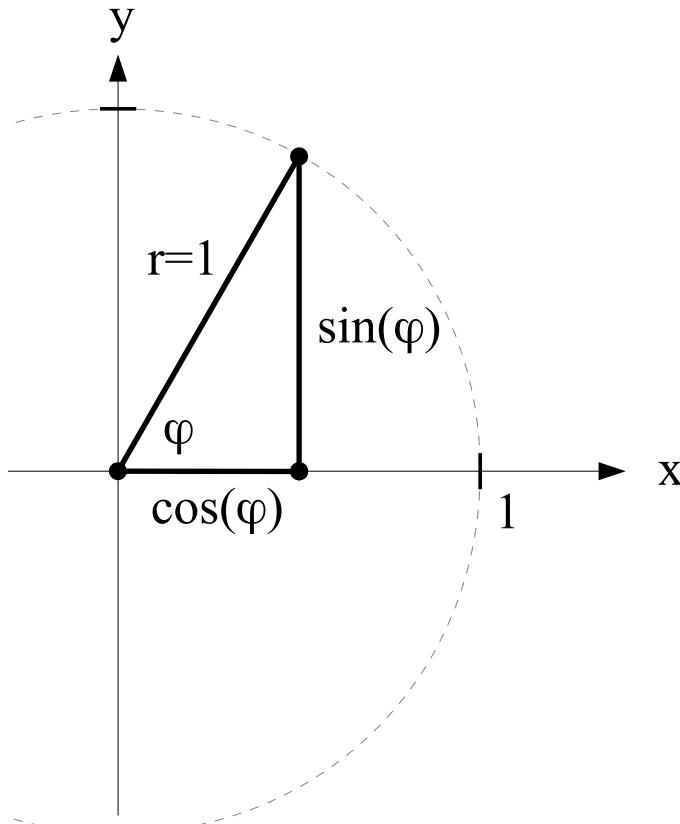


# Fourier Transform: Complex Number Space

- The component sum  $\cos(\omega x) + i \sin(\omega x)$  looks like a **complex number** with its **real** and **imaginary components**:

$$z = a_{real} + i \cdot b_{imag} \quad \text{with } (i^2 = -1)$$

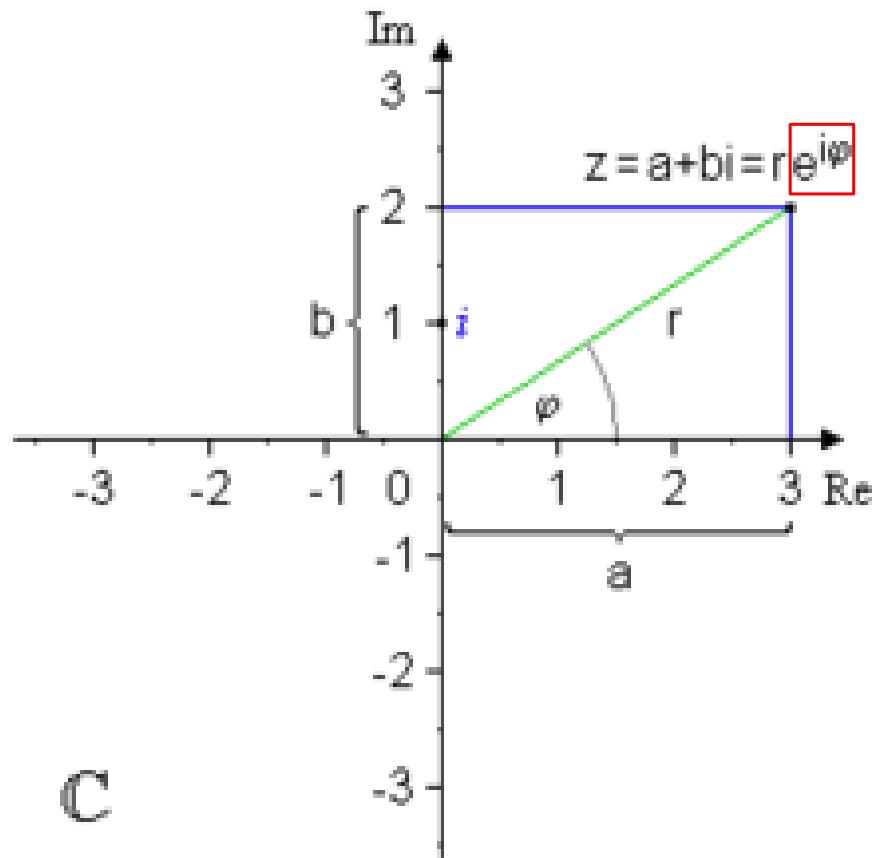
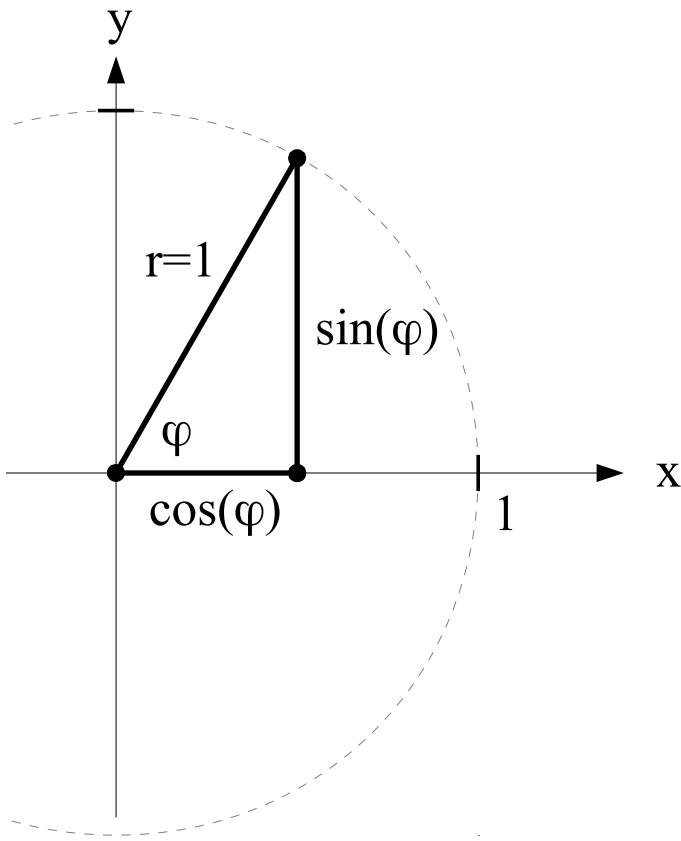
- The **complex number space is also a 2D space**:



# Fourier Transform: Complex Number Space

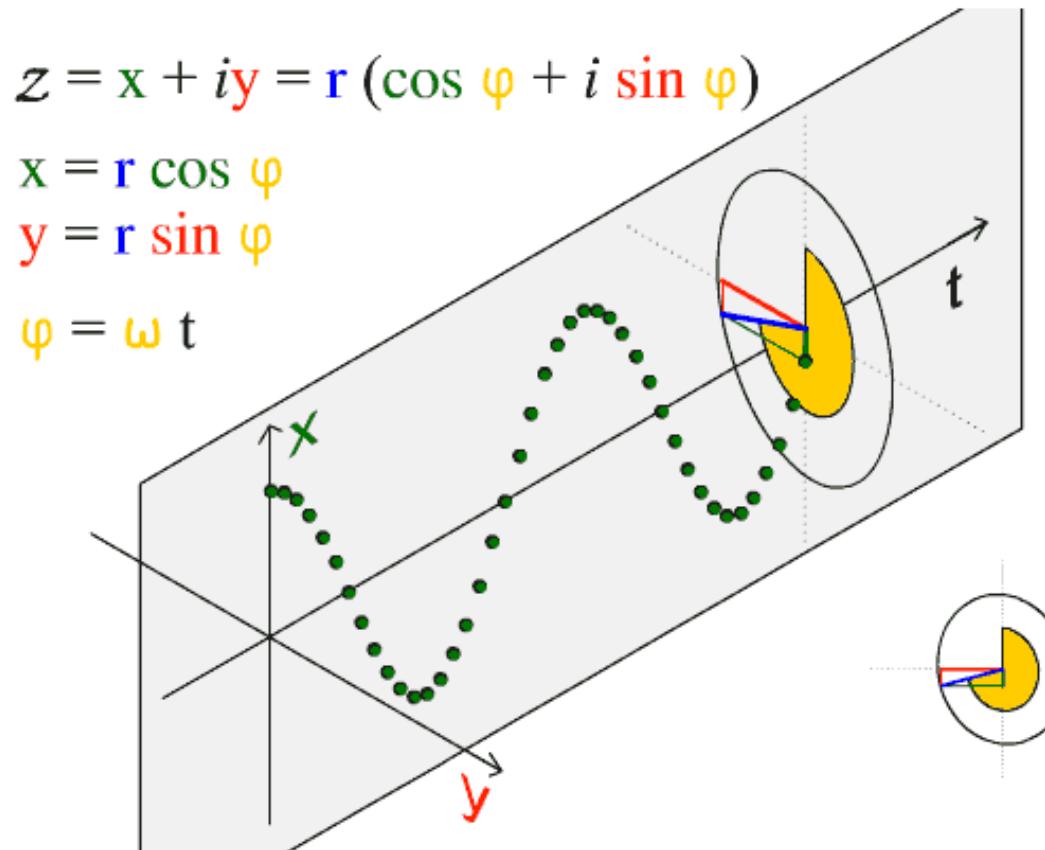
- A complex number can be written in the **Euler Notation** with the **Euler number e**:

$$z = a_{real} + i \cdot b_{imag} = r \cdot e^{i\varphi} = r \cdot e^{i\omega x} = r(\cos(\omega x) + i \cdot \sin(\omega x))$$



# Fourier Transform: Complex Number Space

- A generic sinusoidal frequency can be imagined in 3D space where
  - $x$  &  $y$  are the sine & cosine component
  - time  $t$  is the z-component
- Animation see [Wikipedia](#)



# Continuous Fourier Transform (CFT)

- The continuous **Fourier Transform (FT or CFT)** breaks up (analyses) a signal  **$g(x)$**  into a series of sine & cosine frequencies  **$G(\omega)$**  for every **circle frequency  $\omega$** :

$$G(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) \cdot e^{-i\omega x} dx \quad \text{where } e^{i\omega x} = \cos(\omega x) + i \cdot \sin(\omega x)$$

- You can find different scale factors in front of the integral.

# Inverse continuous Fourier Transform (IFT)

- An important feature of a transformation is its **invertability**.
- The inverse Fourier Transform converts the signal from the frequency space back into the position space (Ortsraum).
- The **inverse continuous Fourier Transform (IFT or ICFT)** is identical except for one minus sign:

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(\omega) \cdot e^{i\omega x} d\omega$$

# Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)

- We further on deal only the the discrete version of the FT.
- The **discrete FT (DFT)** transforms looks like:

$$G(m) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \cdot \sum_{u=0}^{M-1} g(u) \cdot e^{-i2\pi \frac{mu}{M}}$$

- The **inverse DFT** looks again almost identical:

$$g(u) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \cdot \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} G(m) \cdot e^{i2\pi \frac{mu}{M}}$$

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$$g(u) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \cdot \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} G(m) \cdot e^{i2\pi \frac{mu}{M}}$$

- Both signals  $g(u)$  and  $G(m)$  are **arrays of complex numbers**:

$$g(u) = g_{real}(u) + i \cdot g_{imag}(u)$$

$$G(m) = G_{real}(m) + i \cdot G_{imag}(m)$$

# Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)

- If we replace the Euler notation by the sine & cosine components we get a sum of 2 complex numbers:

$$G(m) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \cdot \sum_{u=0}^{M-1} [g_{real}(u) + i \cdot g_{imag}(u)] \cdot \left[ \cos\left(2\pi \frac{mu}{M}\right) - i \cdot \sin\left(2\pi \frac{mu}{M}\right) \right]$$

$$g(u) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \cdot \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} [G_{real}(m) + i \cdot G_{imag}(m)] \cdot \left[ \cos\left(2\pi \frac{mu}{M}\right) + i \cdot \sin\left(2\pi \frac{mu}{M}\right) \right]$$

- Again: The scale factor in front of the sum can vary in literature. This formula is identical to the ImageJ book.

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- Again: The scale factor in front of the sum can vary in literature. This formula is identical to the ImageJ book.
- **To get the amplitude and phase we do:**

$$\text{Amplitude} = |G(m)| = \sqrt{G_{real}(m)^2 + G_{imag}(m)^2}$$

$$\text{Phase} = \text{atan} \left( \frac{G_{imag}(m)}{G_{real}(m)} \right)$$

# Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)

If you implement these formulas exactly in Java it looks like this:

```
Complex[] DFT_1D(Complex[] g, boolean forward)
{
    int M = g.length;
    double s = 1 / Math.sqrt(M); // common scale factor
    Complex[] G = new Complex[M];

    for (int m = 0; m < M; m++)
    {
        double sumRe = 0;
        double sumIm = 0;
        double phim = 2 * Math.PI * m / M;

        for (int u = 0; u < M; u++)
        {
            double gRe = g[u].re;
            double gIm = g[u].im;
            double cosw = Math.cos(phim * u);
            double sinw = Math.sin(phim * u);
            if (!forward) // inverse transform
                sinw = -sinw;

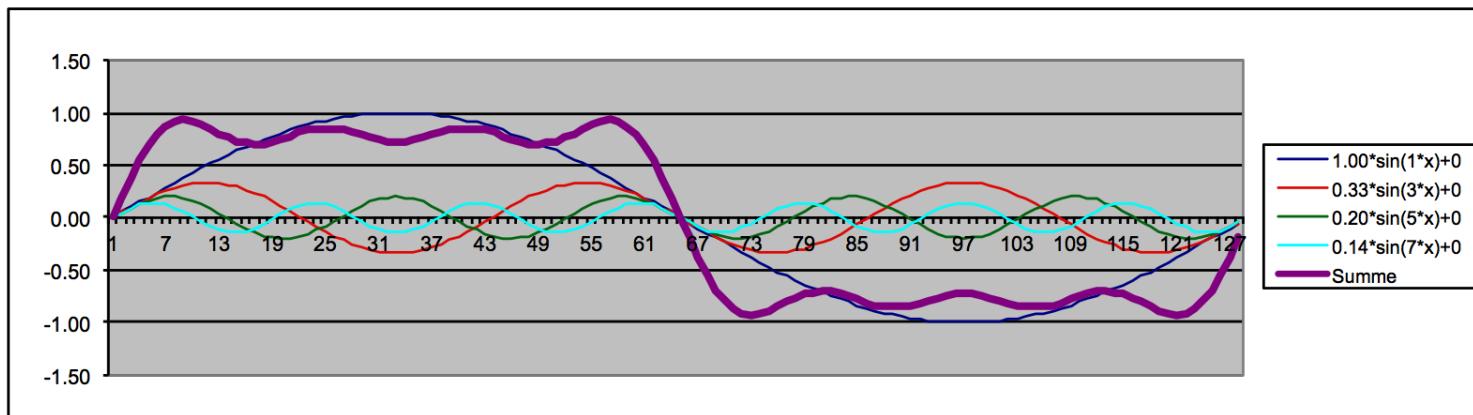
            // complex mult: [gRe + i gIm] · [cos() + i sin()]
            sumRe += gRe * cosw + gIm * sinw;
            sumIm += gIm * cosw - gRe * sinw;
        }
        G[m] = new Complex(s * sumRe, s * sumIm);
    }
    return G;
}
```

```
class Complex
{
    double re, im;
    Complex(double re, double im)
    {
        this.re = re;
        this.im = im;
    }
}
```

# Fourier Transform: Exercise in Excel

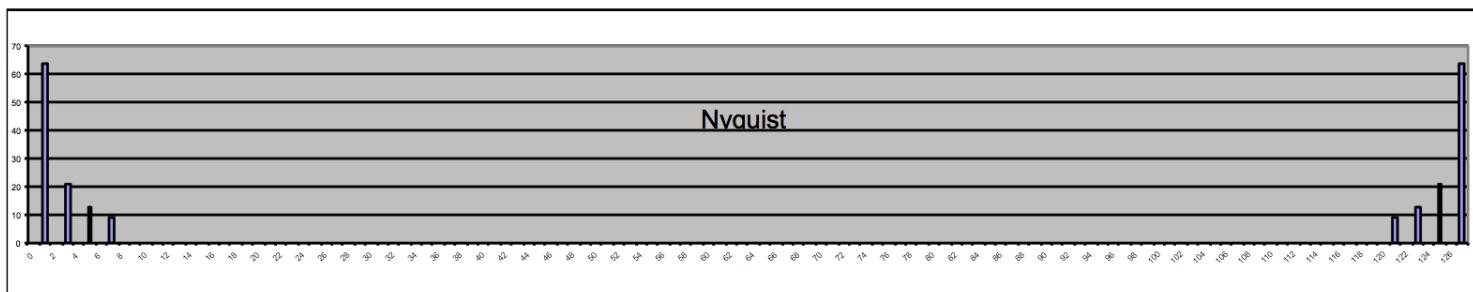
Fourier-Transformation eines aus 4 Frequenzen bestehenden Signals mit N = 128 Abtastungen (Samples)

	N	=	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Abtastung bei PI/64 =	x	=	0.00	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.25	0.29	0.34	0.39	0.44	0.49	0.54	0.59	0.64	0.69	0.74
1) 1.0 * sin( 1 *x) + 0.0	=	0.00	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.24	0.29	0.34	0.38	0.43	0.47	0.51	0.56	0.60	0.63	0.67	
2) 0.3 * sin( 3 *x) + 0.0	=	0.00	0.05	0.10	0.14	0.19	0.22	0.26	0.29	0.31	0.32	0.33	0.33	0.31	0.29	0.27		
3) 0.2 * sin( 5 *x) + 0.0	=	0.00	0.05	0.09	0.13	0.17	0.19	0.20	0.20	0.18	0.16	0.13	0.09	0.04	-0.01	-0.06	-0.10	
4) 0.1 * sin( 7 *x) + 0.0	=	0.00	0.05	0.09	0.12	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.10	0.05	0.01	-0.04	-0.09	-0.12	-0.14	-0.14	-0.13	
			0.00	0.19	0.38	0.55	0.69	0.80	0.87	0.92	0.93	0.92	0.89	0.85	0.80	0.76	0.73	0.71



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Fourieranalyse	0	-64i	0	-21.33i	0	-12.8i	0	-9.142i	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amplitude = (real^2+imag^2)^0.5 =	0	64	0	21.3	0	12.8	0	9.14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amplitude geshiftet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phase = arctan2(real,imag) =	0	-1.6	0	-1.6	0	-1.6	0	-1.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Amplitudenspektrum der FDFT



# 2D Fourier Transform

- The FT can analyse every periodic signal.
- If it isn't periodic you just interprete it as periodic in 1D or 2D:



- The FT allways interpretes the signal periodic
- High frequencies can be add in this interpretation.

# 2D Fourier Transform

- Hi frequencies on borders can be reduce by first mirroring before repetition:



## 2D Fourier Transform:

- A sine frequency of a discrete  $M \times N$  signal is defined as follows:

$$\sin[2\pi(Um+Vn)]$$

where  $U$  and  $V$  are the horizontal and vertical frequency components.

- $U$  and  $V$  can be interpreted as a direction vector.
- The amplitude (or magnitude) is the length of the vector and the phase is the direction angle of the vector:

$$Amplitude = \Omega = \sqrt{u^2 + v^2}$$

$$Phase = \theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{u}{v}\right)$$

# 2D Fourier Transform

- If a signal is sampled  $N \times M$  times, the **2D-DFT** gives  $N \times M$  complex numbers:

$$G(m, n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{MN}} \cdot \sum_{u=0}^{M-1} \sum_{v=0}^{N-1} g(u, v) \cdot e^{-i2\pi \left( \frac{mu}{M} + \frac{nv}{N} \right)}$$

$$G(u, v) = G_{real}(u, v) + i \cdot G_{imag}(u, v) = \begin{bmatrix} G_{0,0} & G_{0,1} & \cdots & G_{0,N-1} \\ G_{1,0} & G_{1,1} & \cdots & G_{1,N-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ G_{M-1,0} & G_{M-1,1} & \cdots & G_{M-1,N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

- The **inverse 2D-DFT** looks again almost identical:

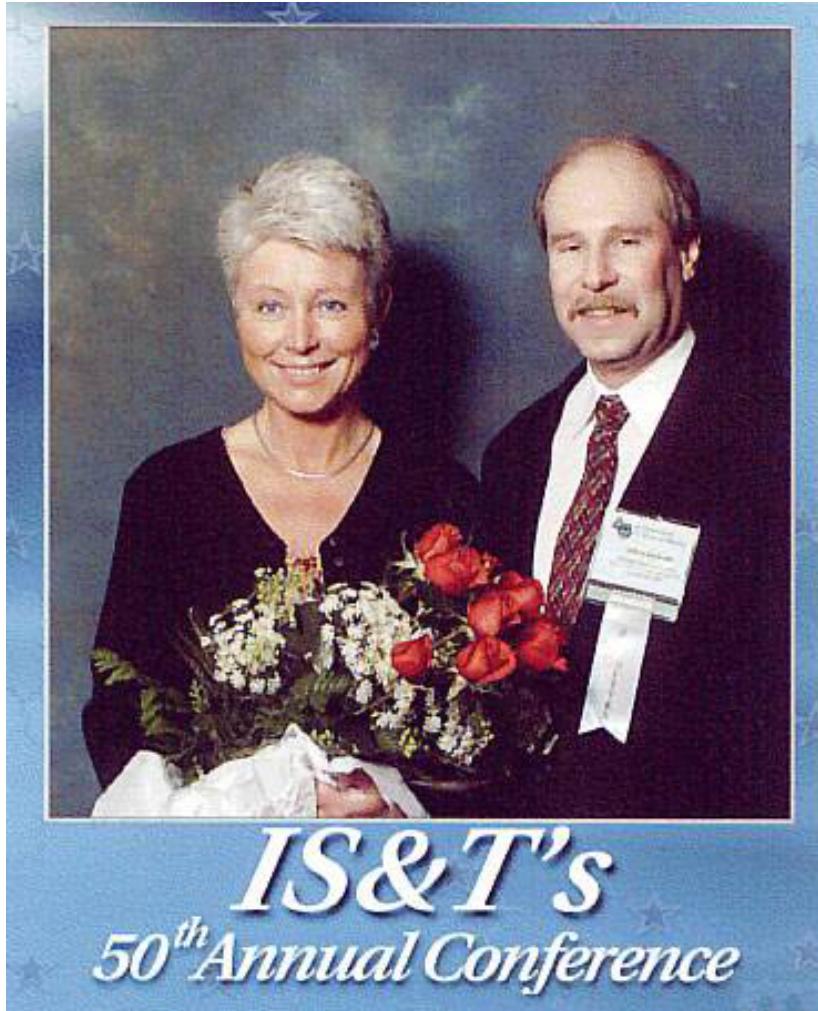
$$g(u, v) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{MN}} \cdot \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} G(m, n) \cdot e^{i2\pi \left( \frac{mu}{M} + \frac{nv}{N} \right)}$$

# 2D Fourier Transform

- How does Lena look like in the frequency domain?

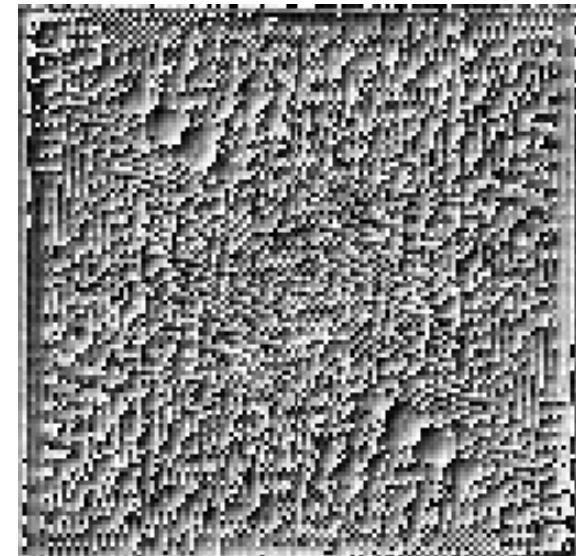
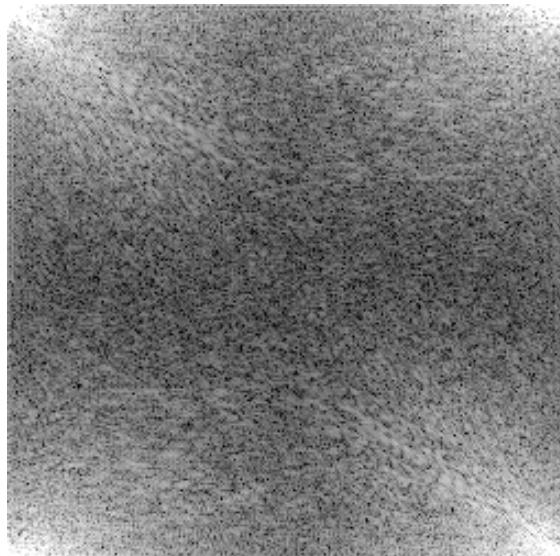
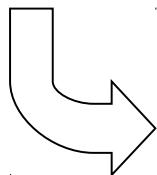


Lena Sjööblom 1972



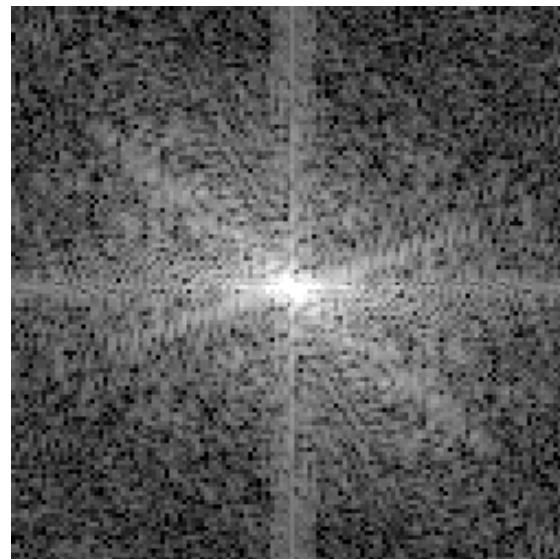
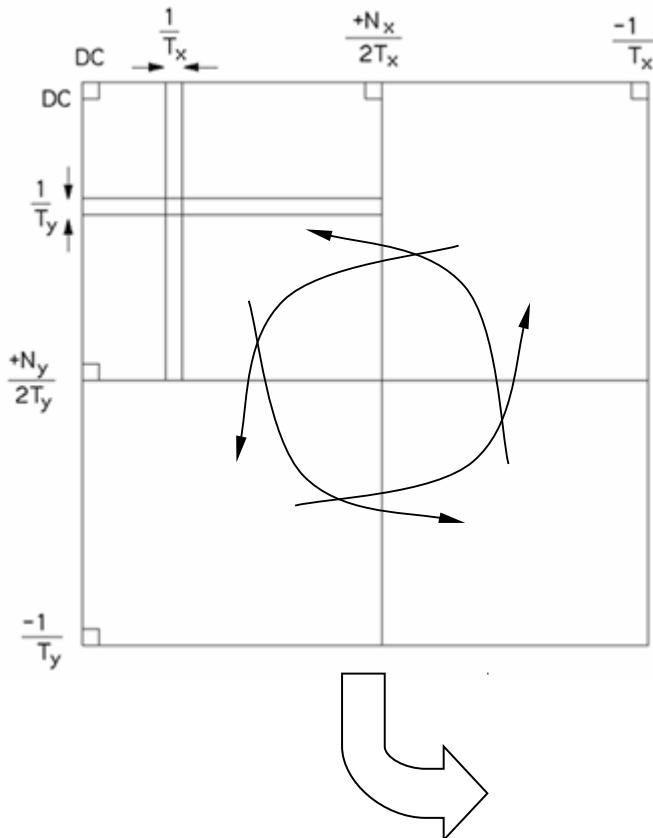
# 2D Fourier Transform

- As with the 1D DFT we get an amplitude and a phase spectrum:



# 2D Fourier Transform

- The low frequencies are in the corners and the high frequencies in the center.
- With a quadrant shift we get the low in the center and the high in the corners:



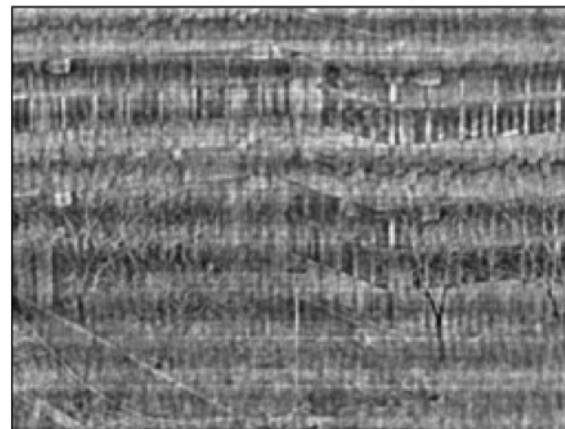
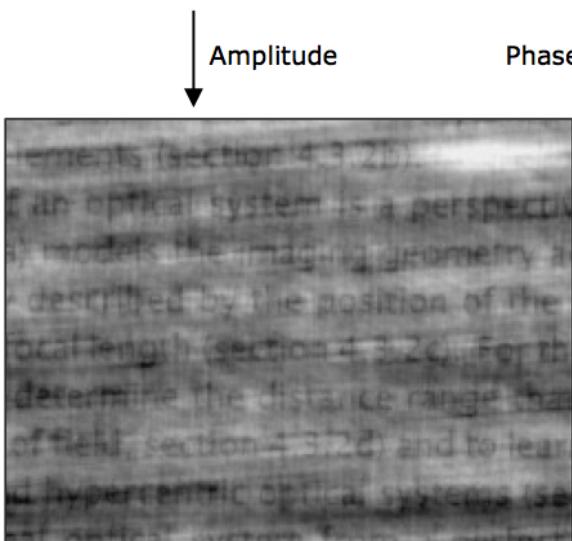
# 2D Fourier Transform

The phase spectrum is important for the back transform.

An inverse transform with the wrong phase destroys the image:



elements (section 4.3.2b).  
f an optical system is a perspective  
a) models the imaging geometry a  
y described by the position of the  
focal length (section 4.3.2c). For th  
determine the distance range that  
of field, section 4.3.2d) and to lear  
d hypercentric optical systems (se  
real optical system from a perfect

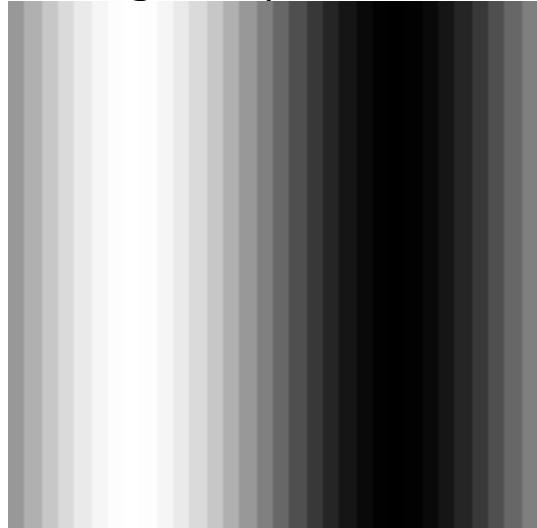


# 2D Fourier Transform:

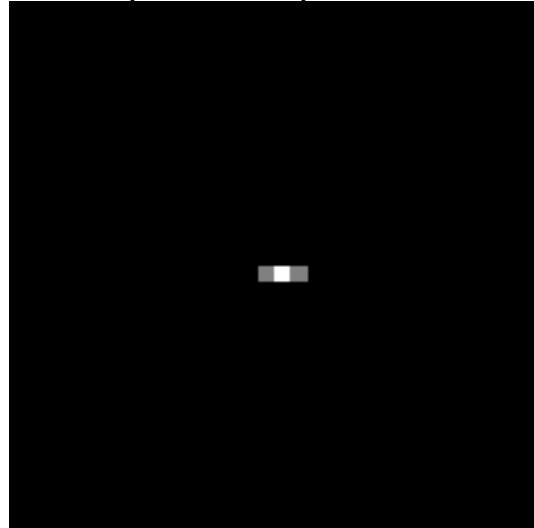
Example of a constructed image with a specific frequency in it:

Example 1:  $I(u, v) = \frac{1}{2} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{128}(1u + 0v)\right) + \frac{1}{2}$

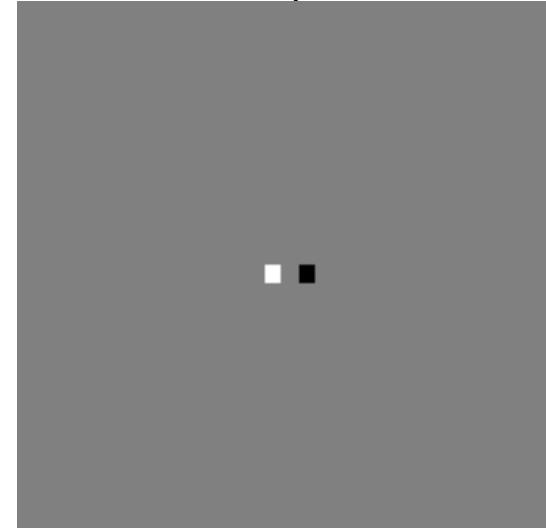
Image in space domain



Aplitude spectrum



Phase spectrum



# 2D Fourier Transform:

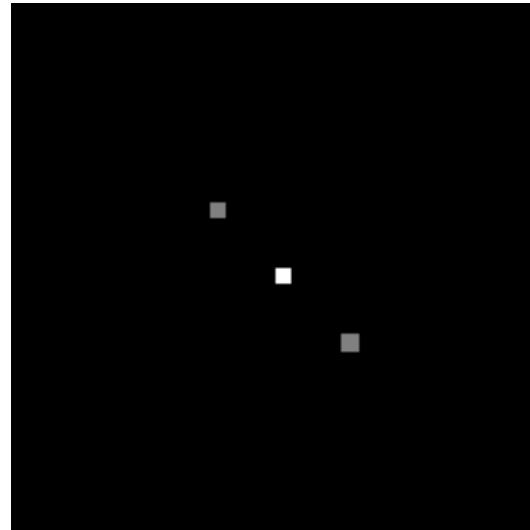
Example of a constructed image with a specific frequency in it:

Example 2:  $I(u, v) = \frac{1}{2} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{128}(4u + 4v)\right) + \frac{1}{2}$

Image in space domain



Aplitude spectrum



Phase spectrum

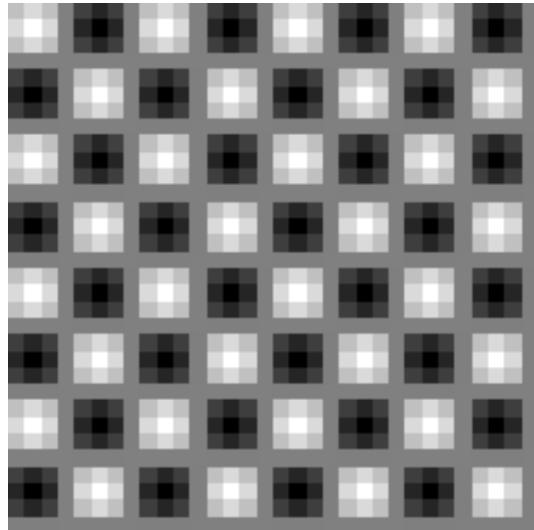


# 2D Fourier Transform:

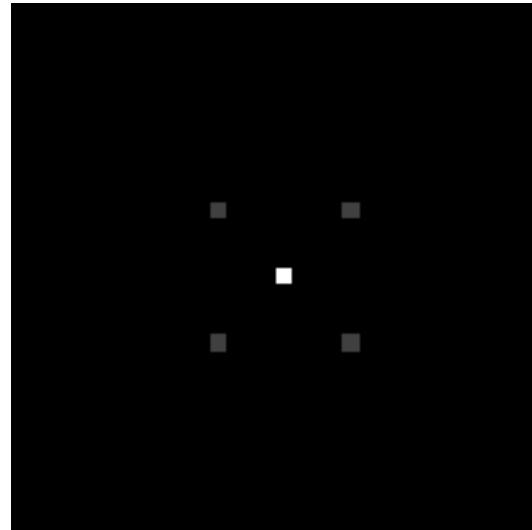
Example of a constructed image with a specific frequency in it:

Example 3:  $I(u, v) = \frac{1}{2} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{128}(4u)\right) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{128}(4v)\right) + \frac{1}{2}$

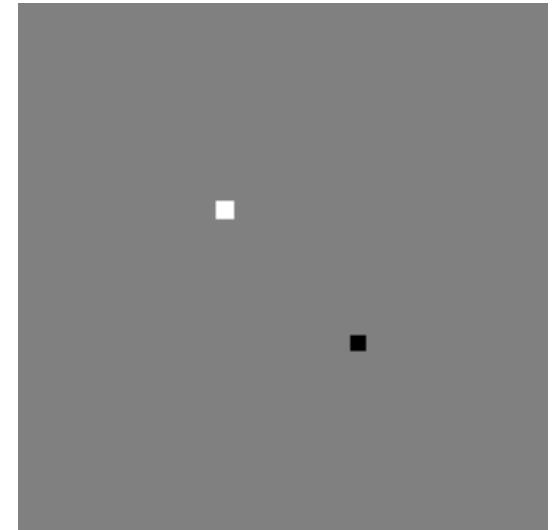
Image in space domain



Aplitude spectrum



Phase spectrum

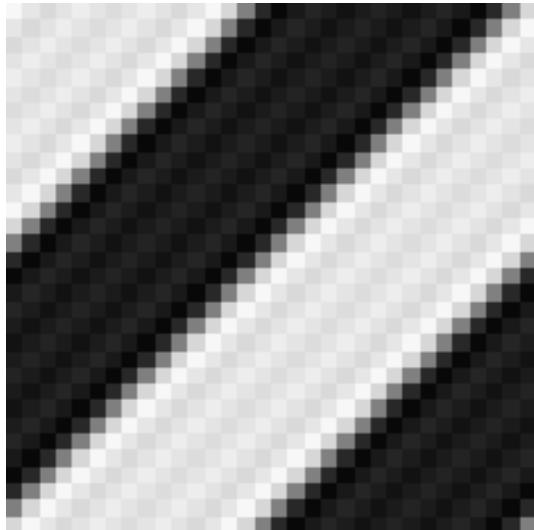


# 2D Fourier Transform:

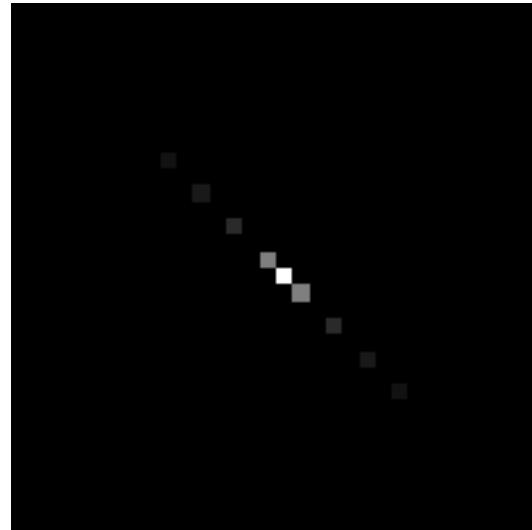
Example of a contructed image with a specific frequency in it:

$$\text{Example 4: } I(u, v) = \sum_{i=1}^{i=7; i+=2} \frac{1}{2i} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{128}(iu + iv)\right) + \frac{1}{2}$$

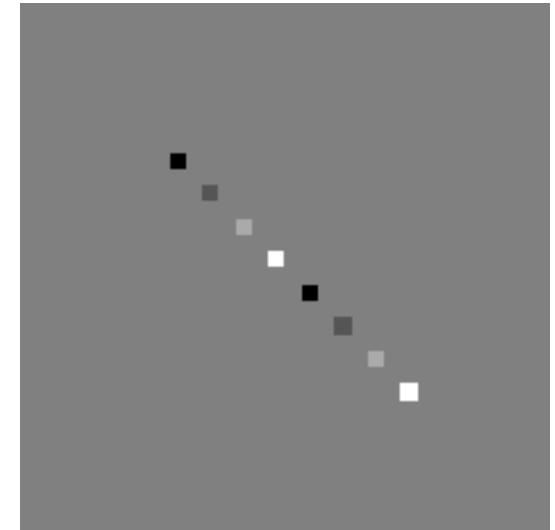
Image in space domain



Aplitude spectrum



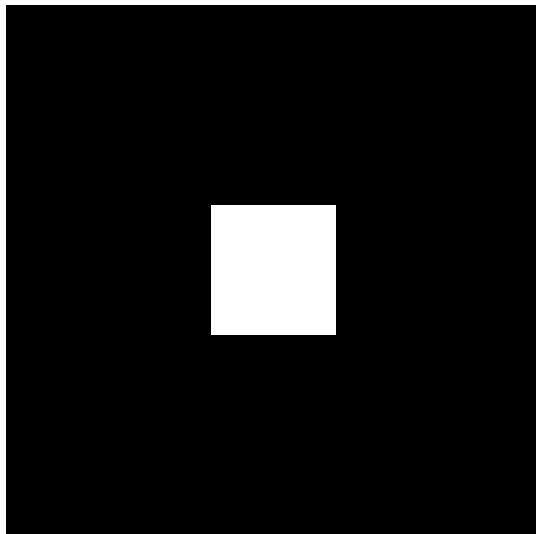
Phase spectrum



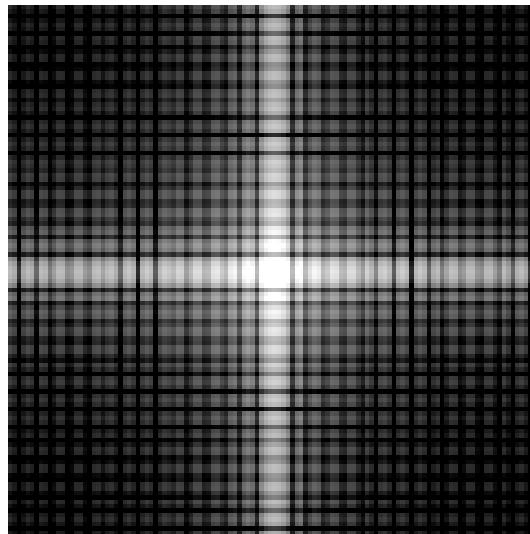
# 2D Fourier Transform

Example 5:

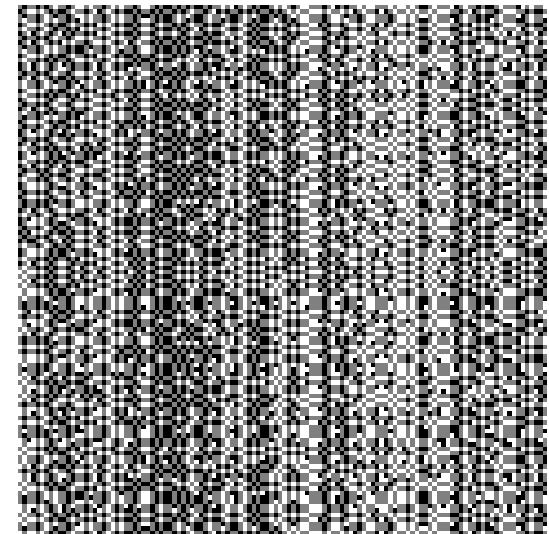
Image in space domain



Aplitude spectrum



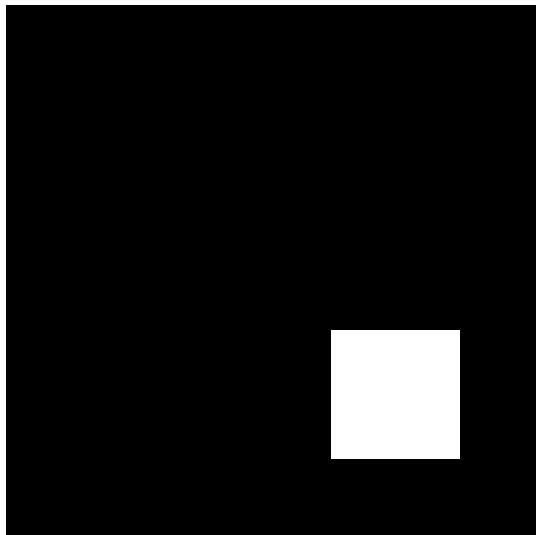
Phase spectrum



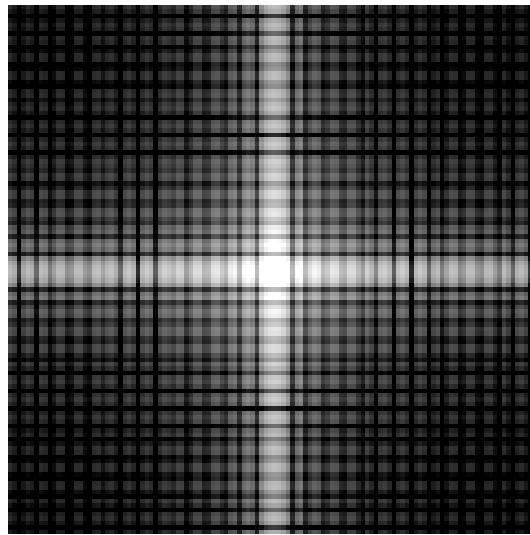
# 2D Fourier Transform

Example 6:

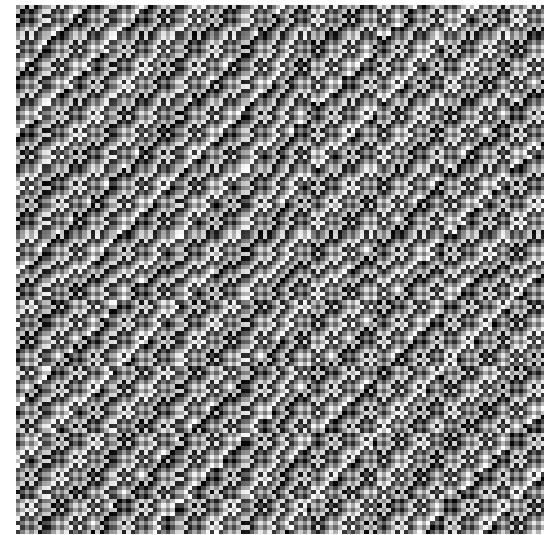
Image in space domain



Aplitude spectrum



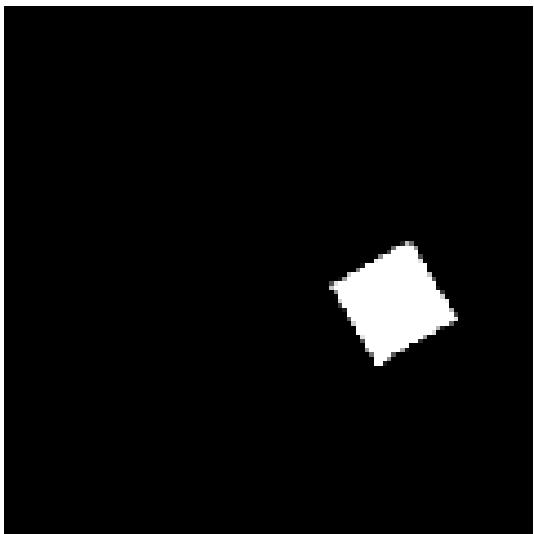
Phase spectrum



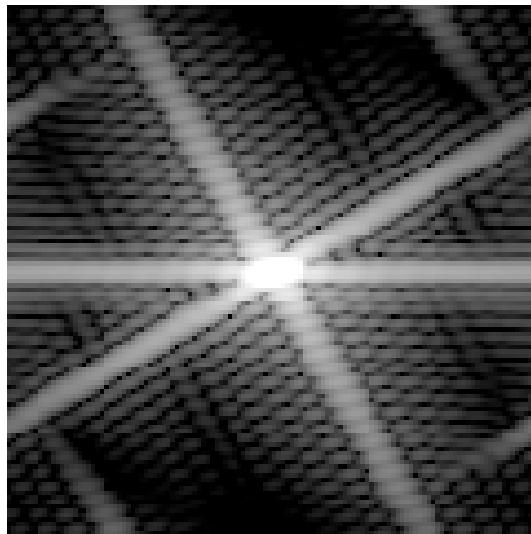
# 2D Fourier Transform

Example 7:

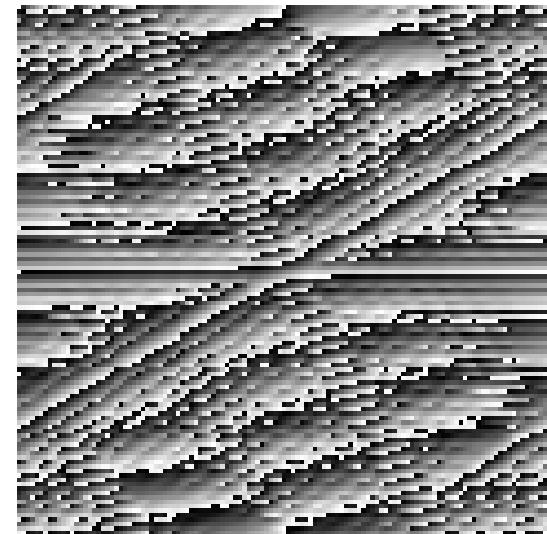
Image in space domain



Aplitude spectrum

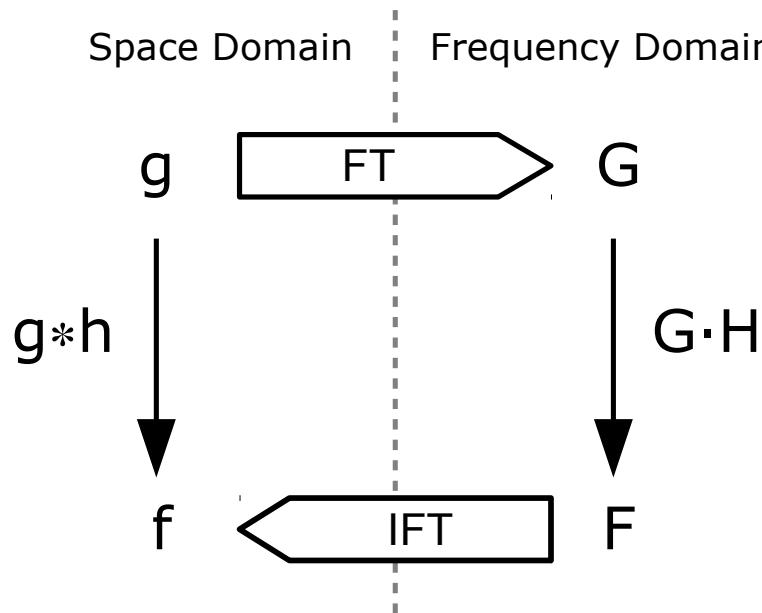


Phase spectrum



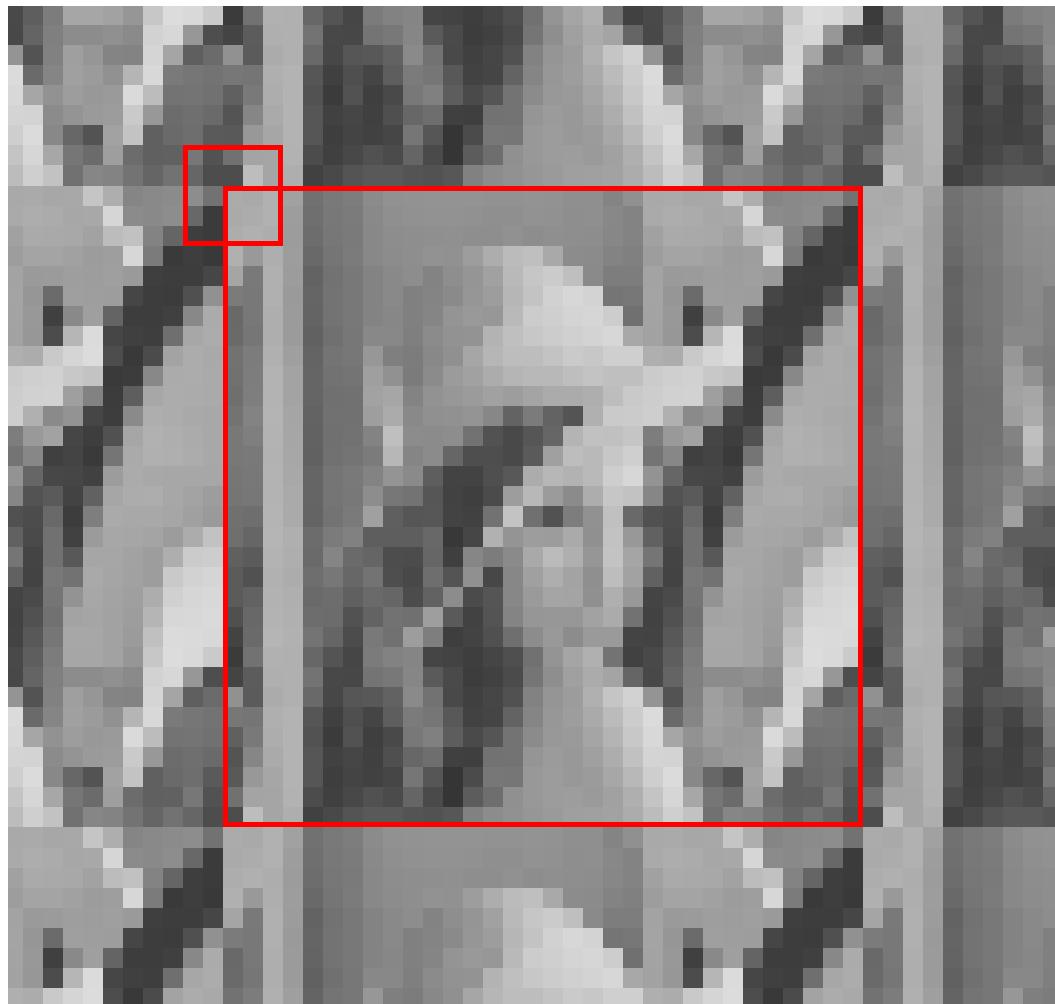
# 2D Fourier Transform: Convolution Theorem

- The **amplitude spectrum** is the reason for the expensive FT.
- You can do the same operation that a convolution does in space domain with a simple scaling in the frequency domain.
- The convolution theorem sais:  $f = g * h = IFT(G \cdot H) = IFT(FT(g) \cdot FT(h))$
- The filter function in the frequency domain is called **transfer function**.
- You can create the transfer function by transforming the filter kernel with the DFT.



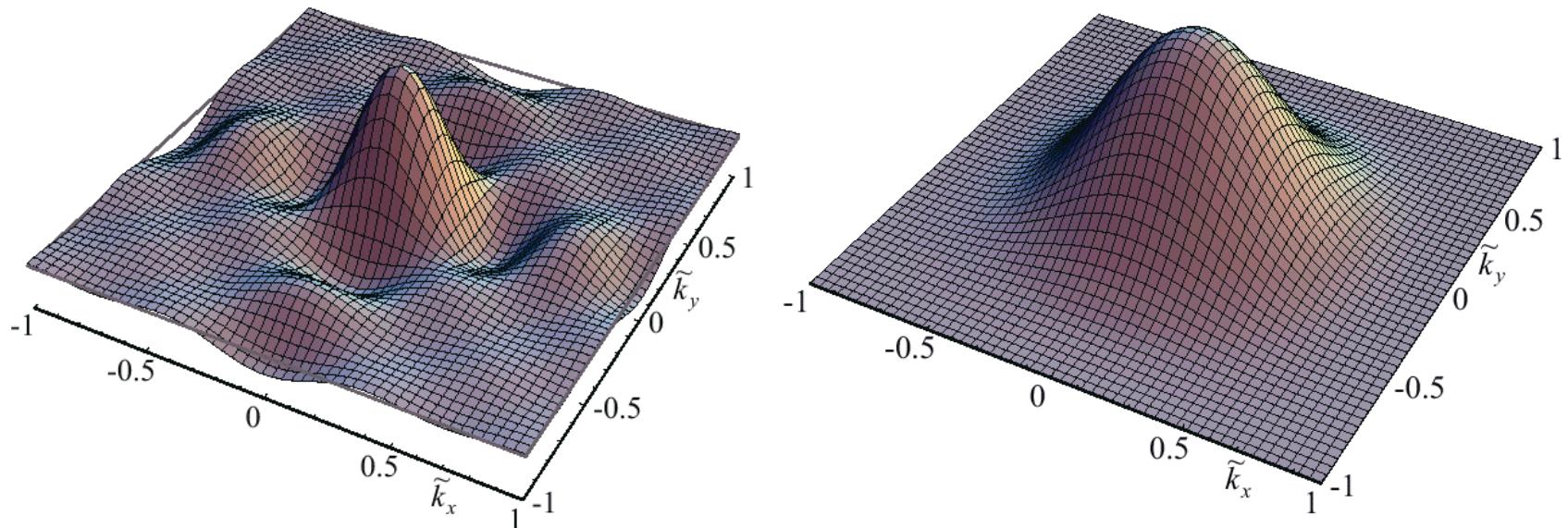
# 2D Fourier Transform: Convolution Theorem

- The convolution theorem is only true if the border problem is solved with replication. Remember that the FT work on periodic signals:



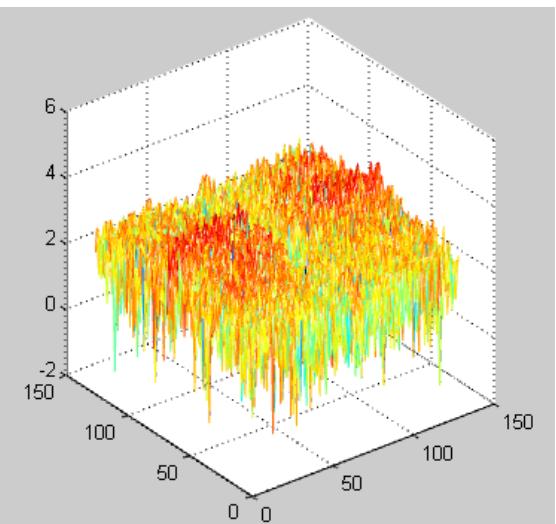
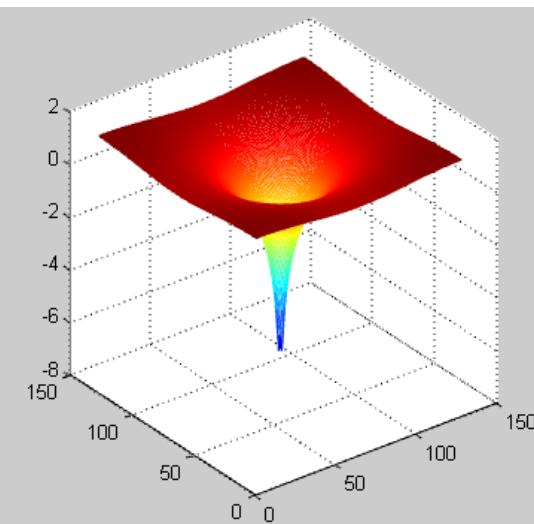
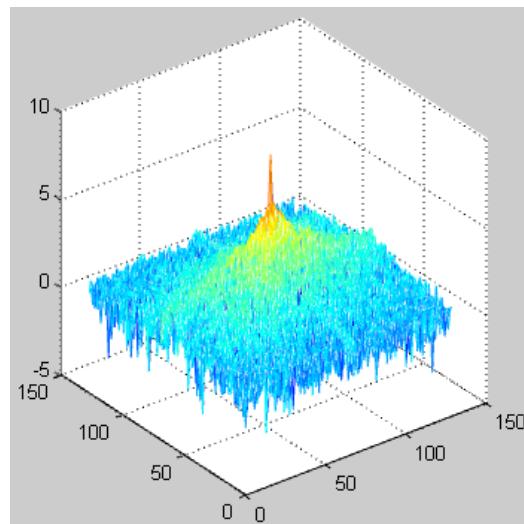
# 2D Fourier Transform: Convolution Theorem

- The transfer functions of the box and the gaussian filter show clearly the advantages of the gaussian low pass filter quality:



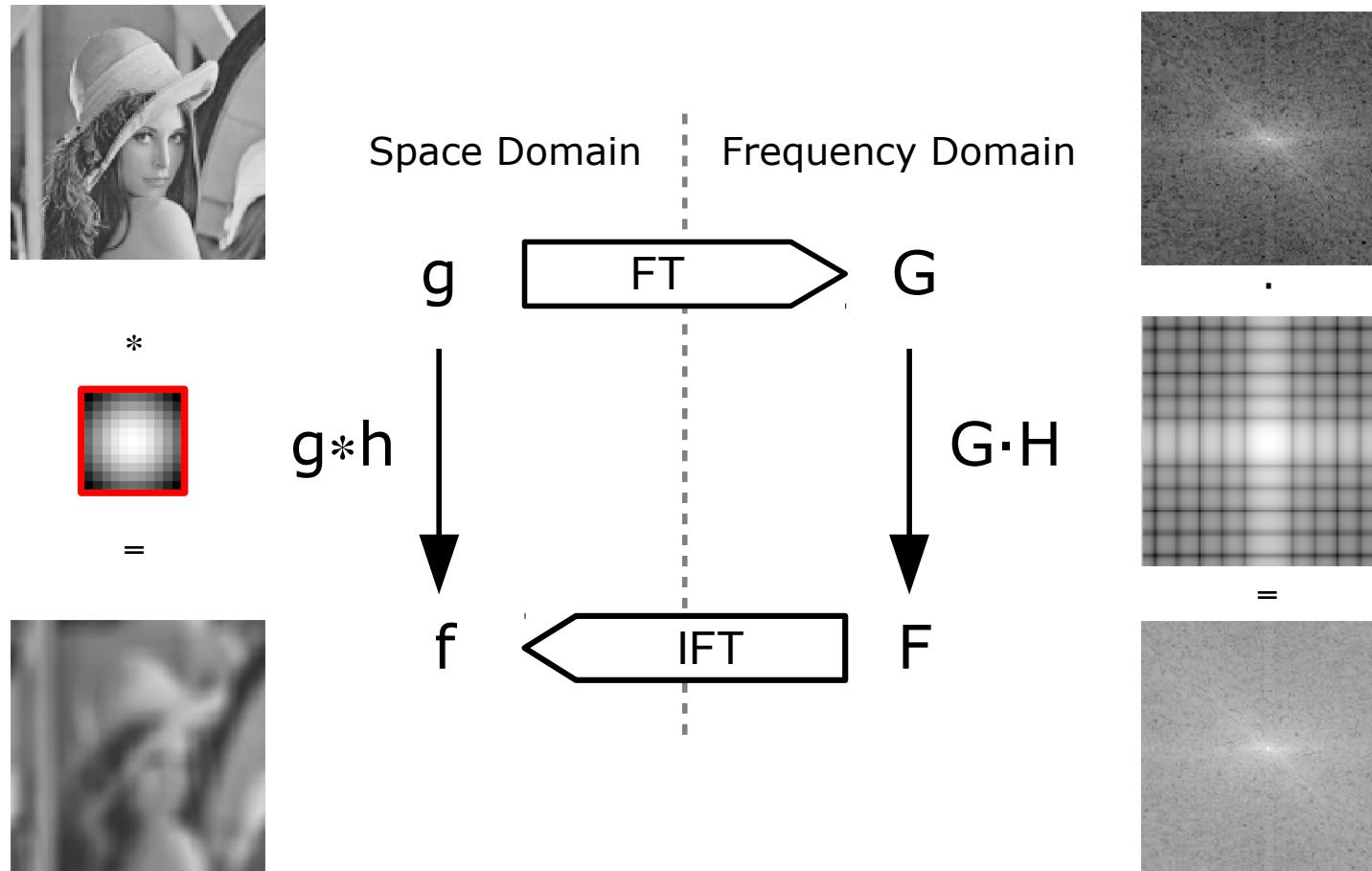
# 2D Fourier Transform: Convolution Theorem

A Laplace Filter applied in space & frequency domain:



# 2D FT: Point Spread Functions (PSF)

- Images can be blurred with gaussian filter in space domain.
- Such a filter is sometimes called **Point Spread Functions (PSF)**.
- In the frequency domain the same can be achieved with multiplication:



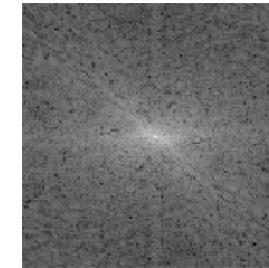
# 2D FT: Point Spread Functions (PSF)

- Motion blur can be achieved with non symmetric filter kernels:



Space Domain      Frequency Domain

$g$       FT       $G$



\*



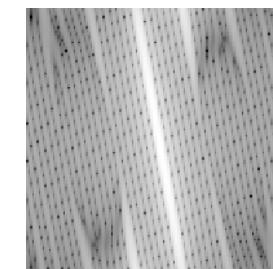
$g * h$

$G \cdot H$

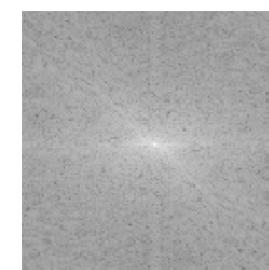
=



$f$       IFT



=



# 2D FT: Point Spread Functions (PSF)

- The PSF and the transfer function is closely related to the **modulation transfer funktion (MTF)** of an optic.



Space Domain

$g$

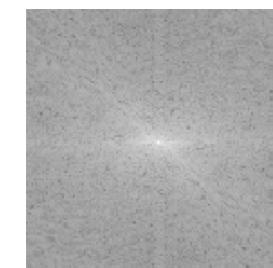
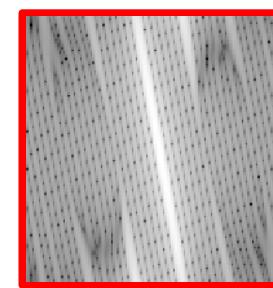
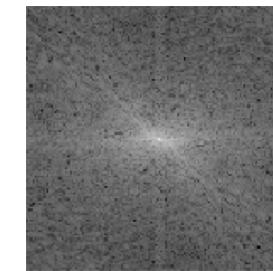
Frequency Domain

$G$



\*

$g * h$



$f$

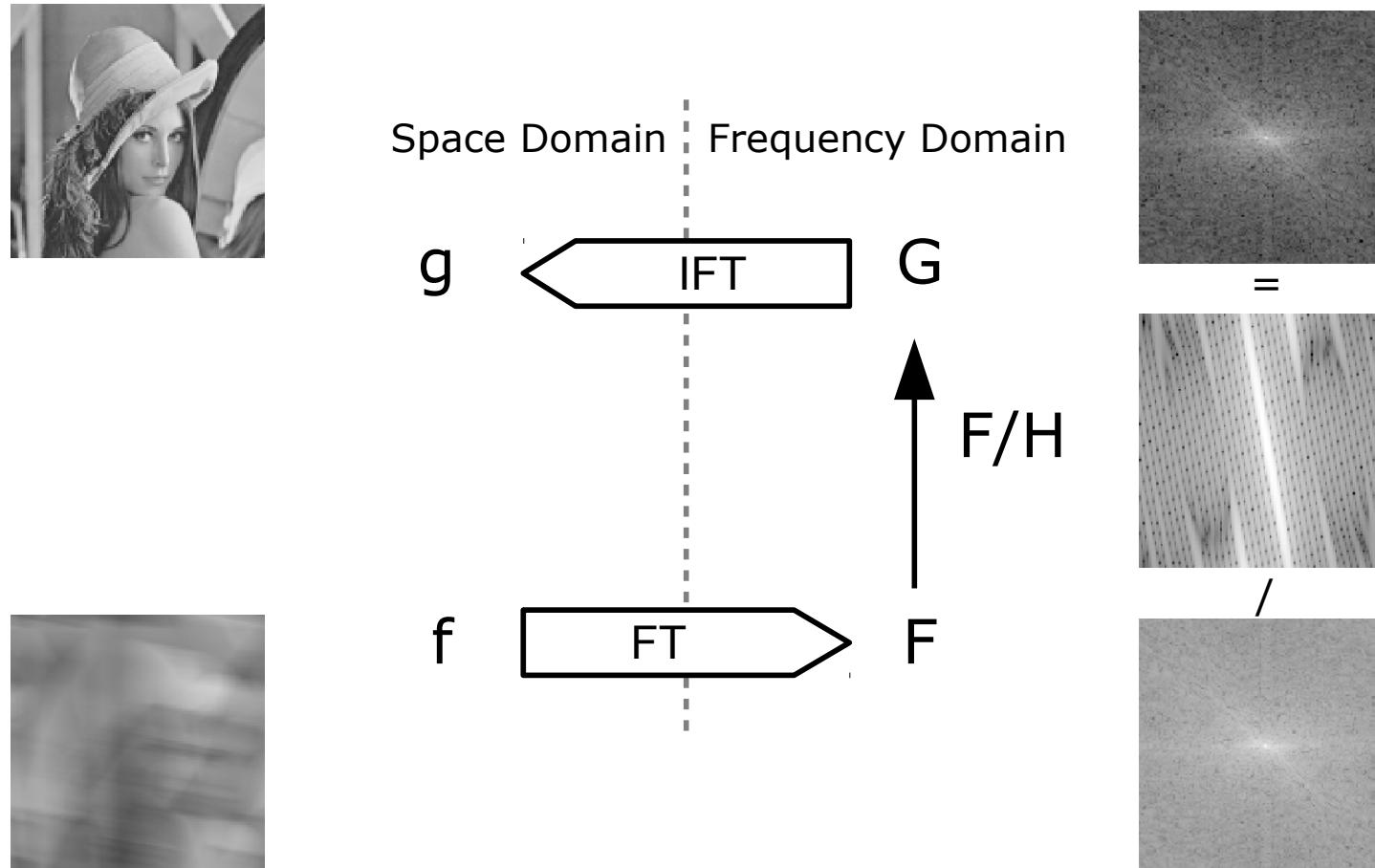


$G \cdot H$

$F$

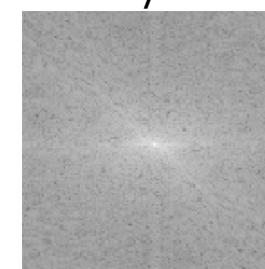
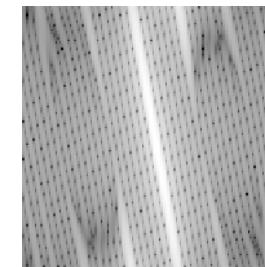
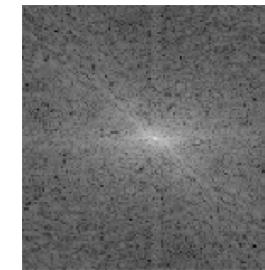
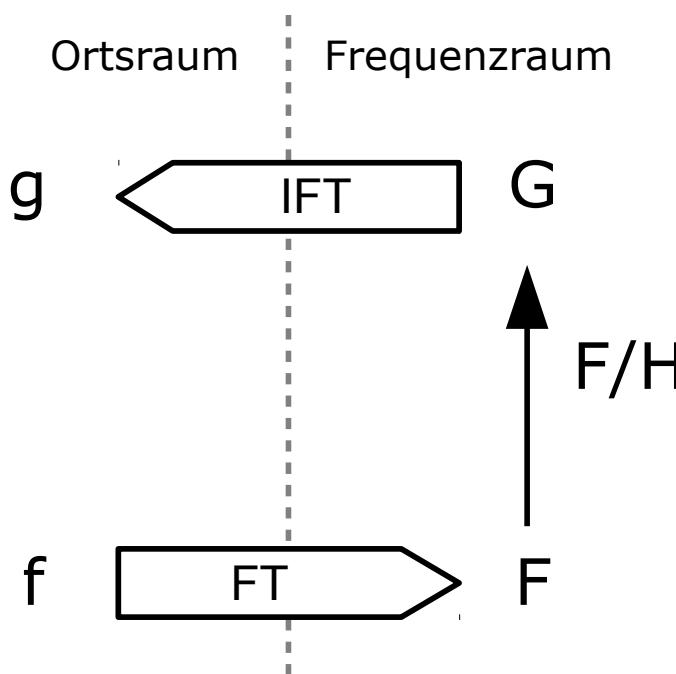
# 2D FT: Point Spread Functions (PSF)

- **Inverse filtering** is also called **deconvolution (Entfaltung)**.
- In the frequency domain we can devide through **H**.
- But only where the transfer function **H is not 0!**



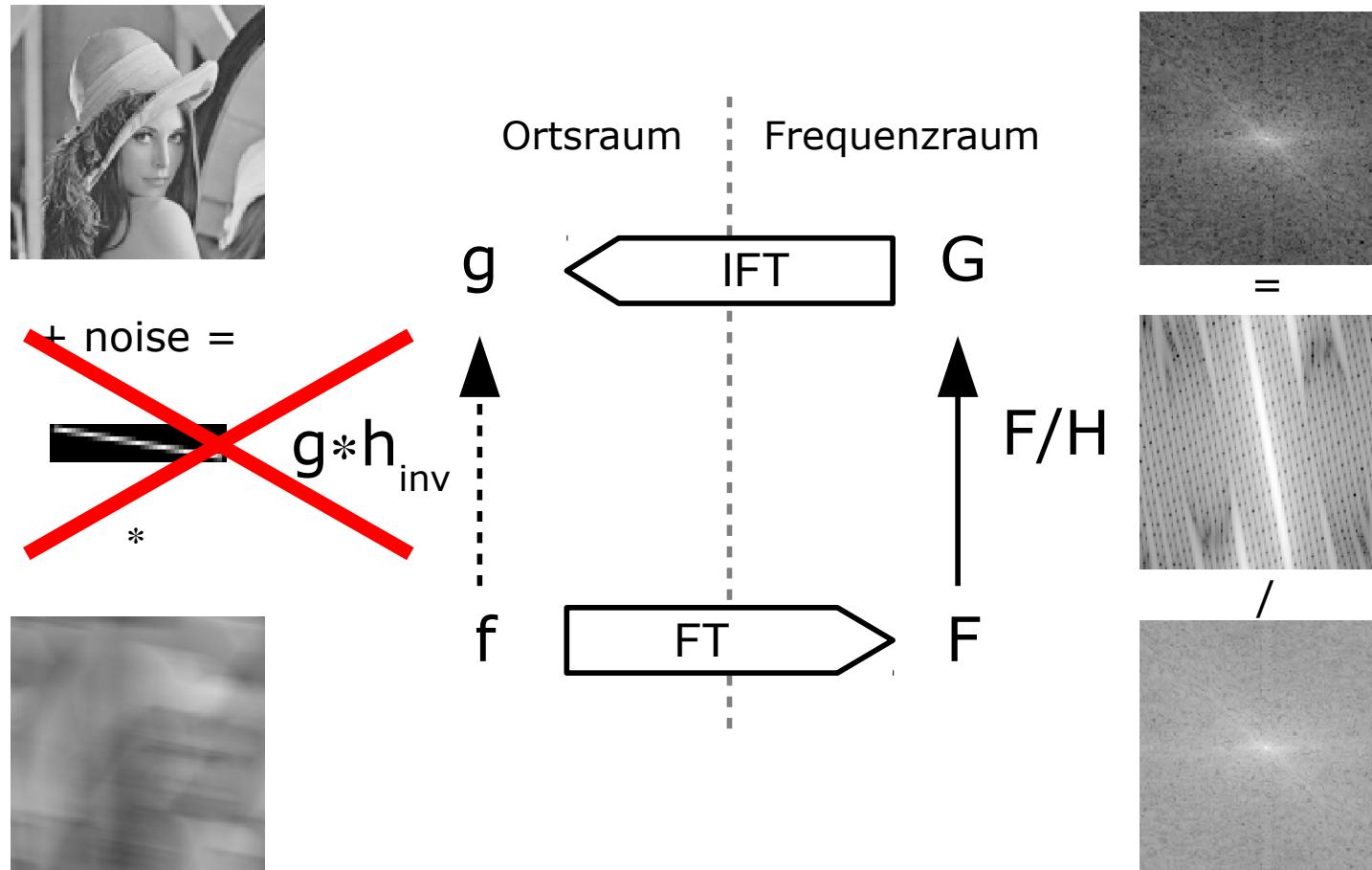
# 2D FT: Point Spread Functions (PSF)

- Smalles amount of noise added to the blurred image will corrupt the deconvolution:



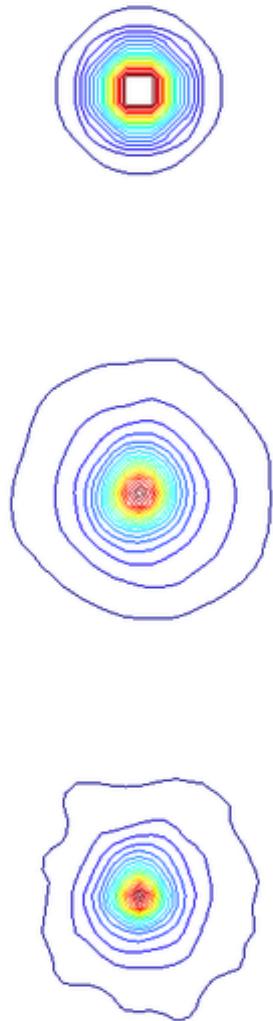
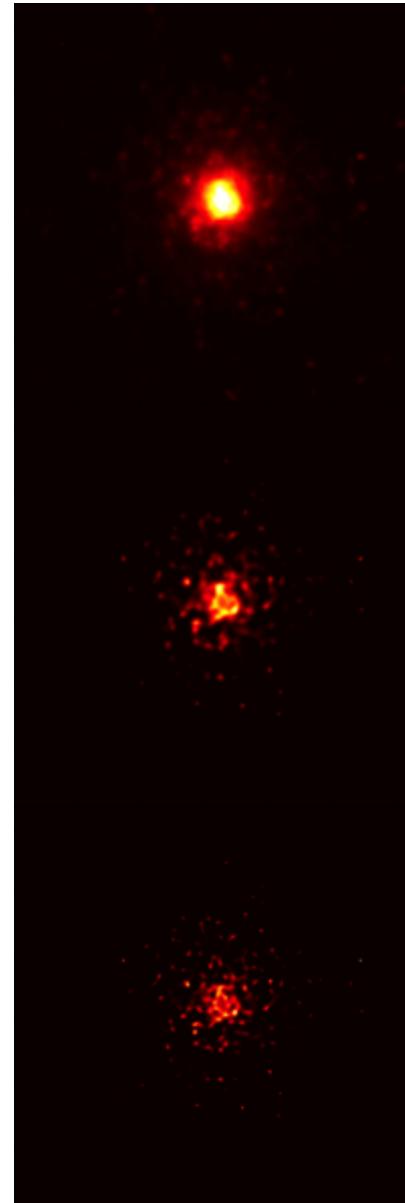
# 2D FT: Point Spread Functions (PSF)

- We can back transform  $\mathbf{1}/\mathbf{H}$  to get an inverse filter in the space domain ( $\mathbf{h}_{\text{inv}}$ ).
- But the border problem adds too much noise to the inverse filter.



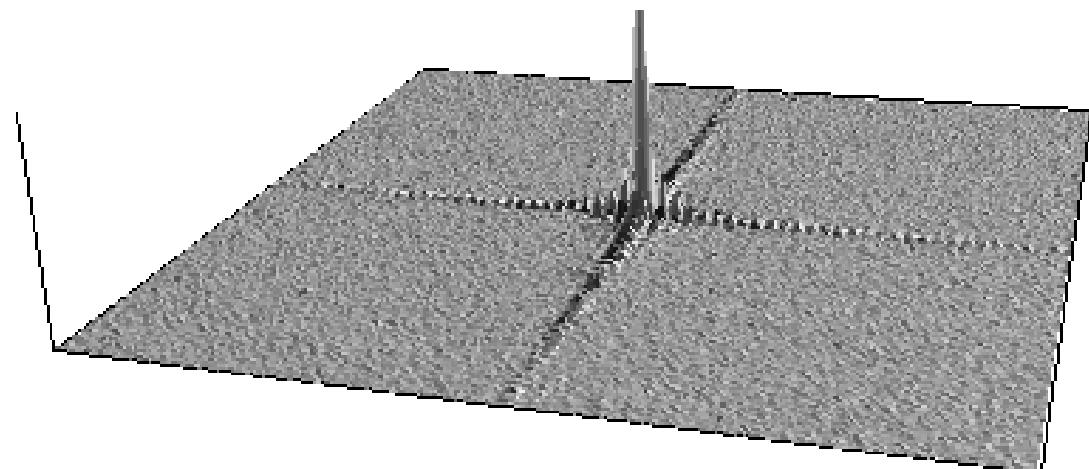
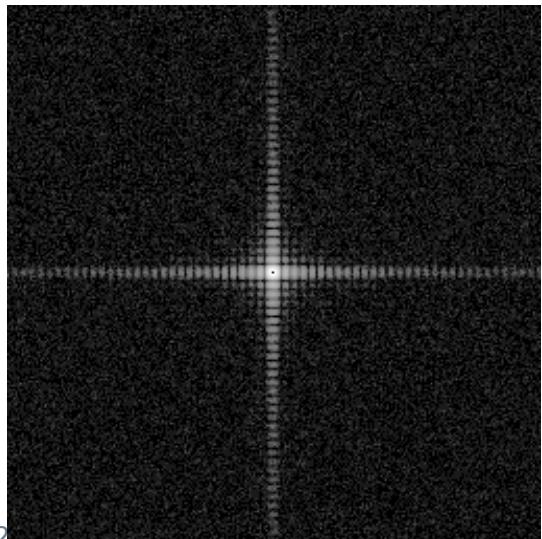
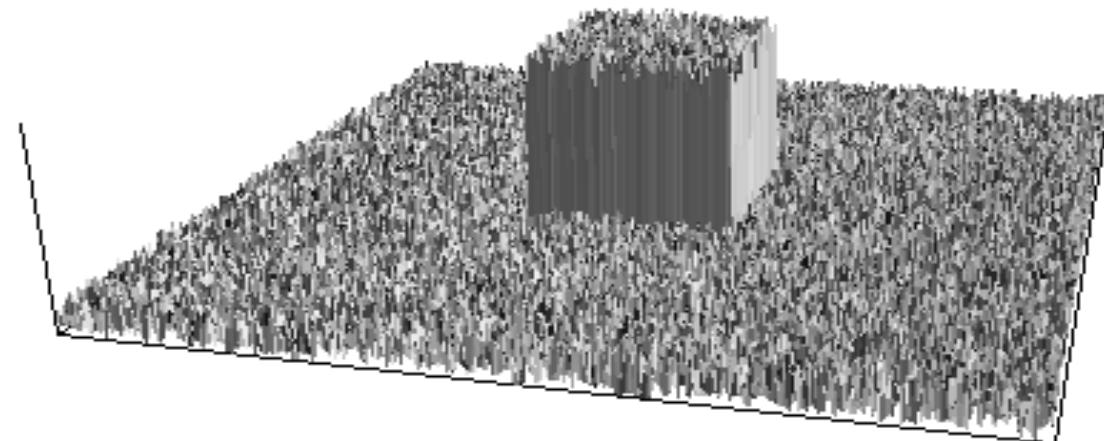
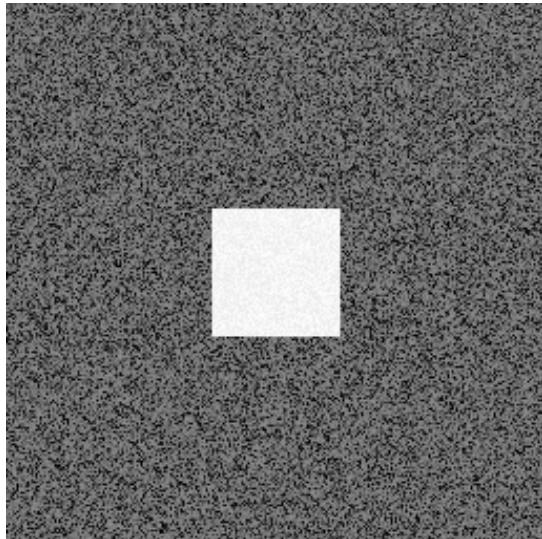
# 2D FT: Point Spread Functions (PSF)

- A precise estimation of the PSF is very important in **astronomy** and **microscopy**.
- With a precise PSF blurred images of stars can be sharpened correctly.
- The determination of a PSF is called **Blind Deconvolution**.
- Images of the Hubble telescope:
  - Top left: original
  - Bottom left: after deconvolution



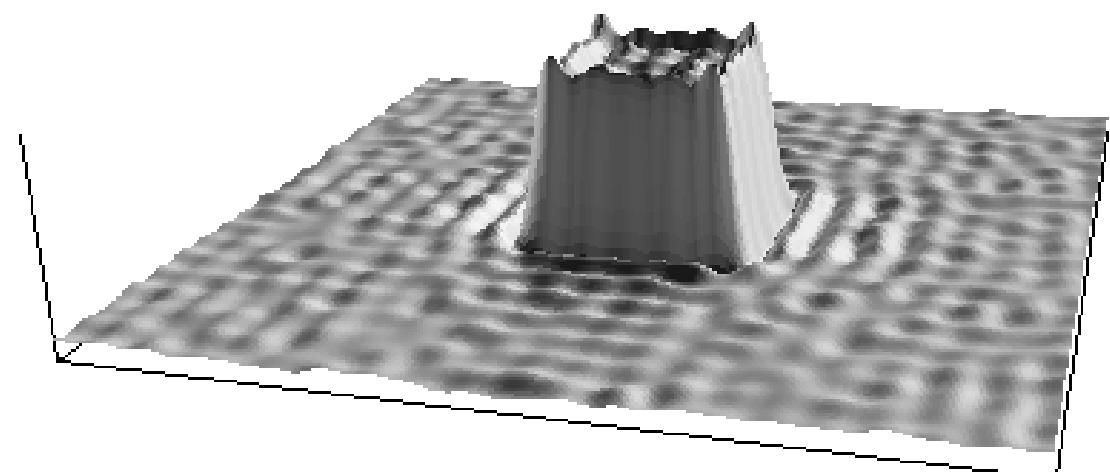
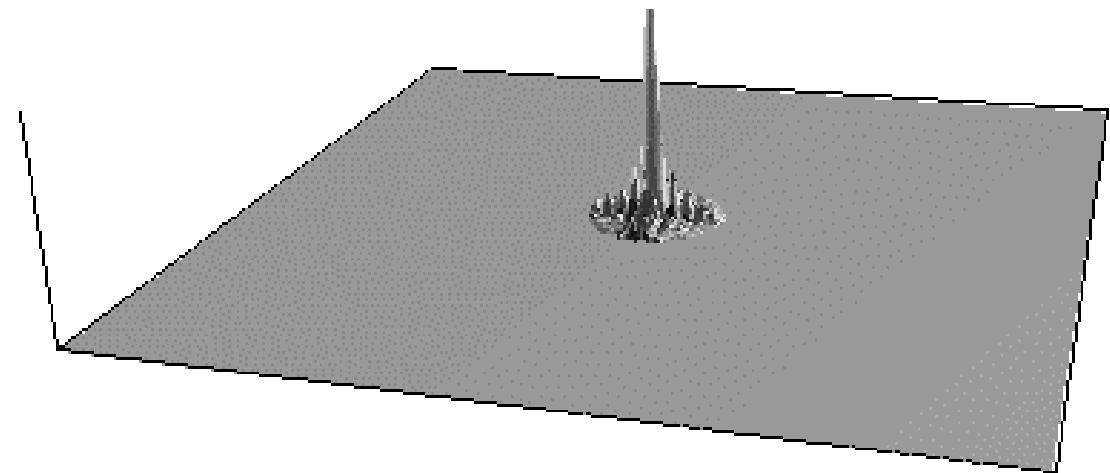
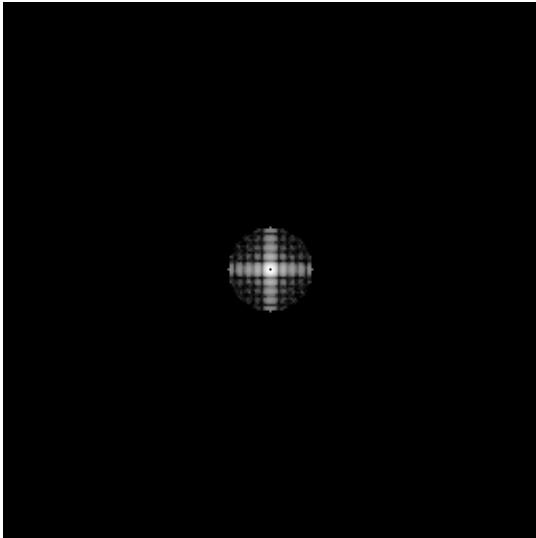
# Applications of FT: Direct Manipulation

- A source image with a lot of noise in space and frequency domain:



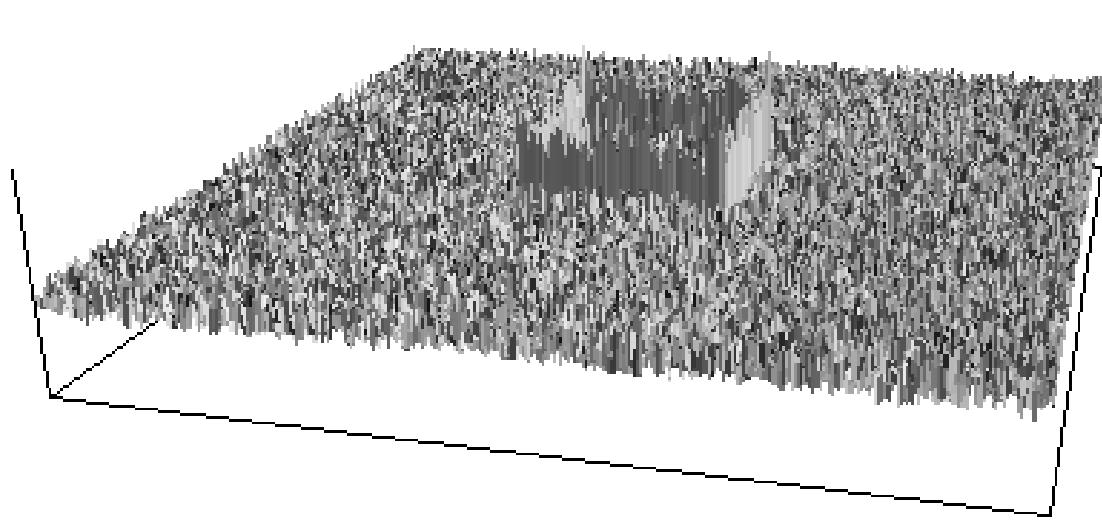
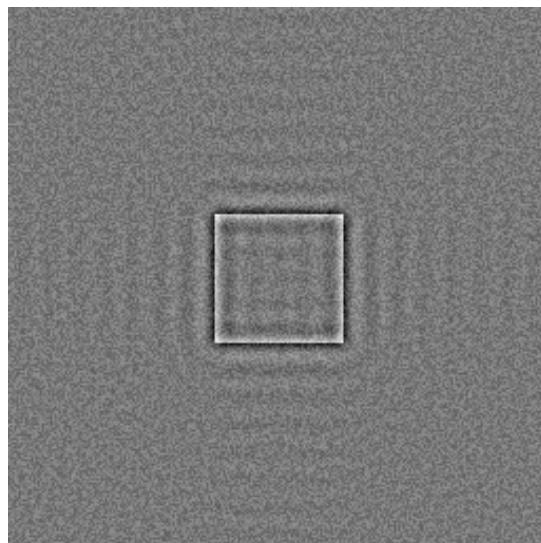
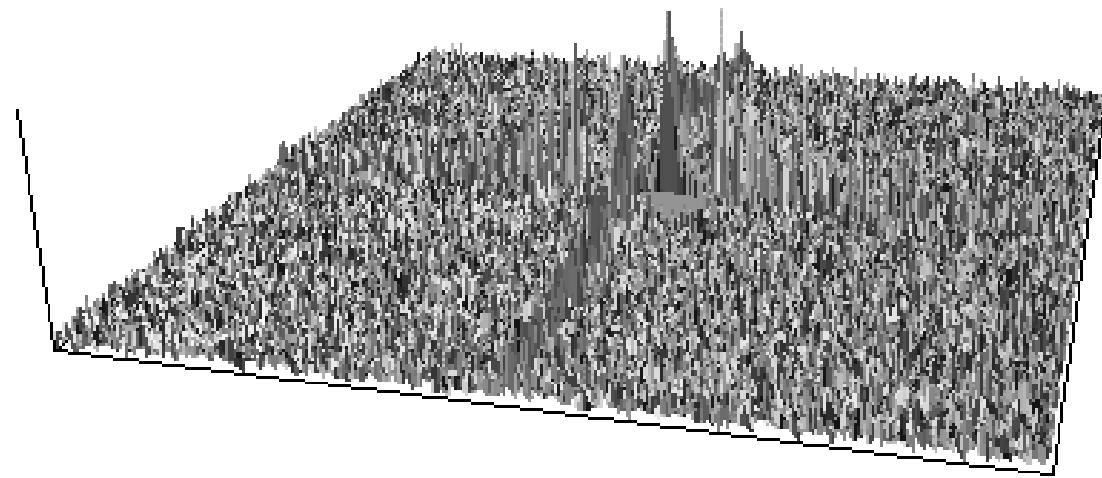
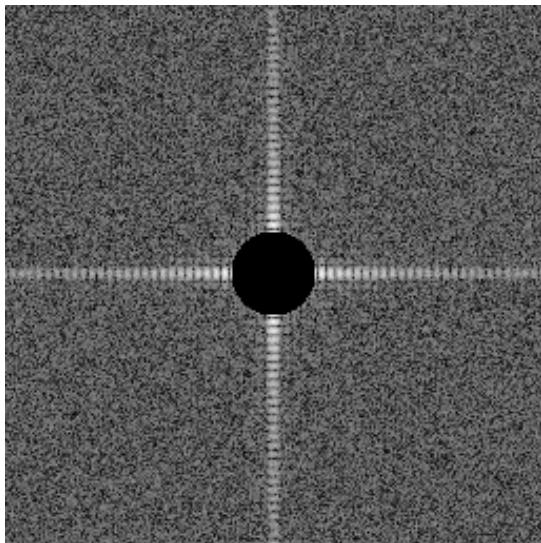
# Applications of FT: Direct Manipulation

- Deleting the high frequencies will smooth the image:



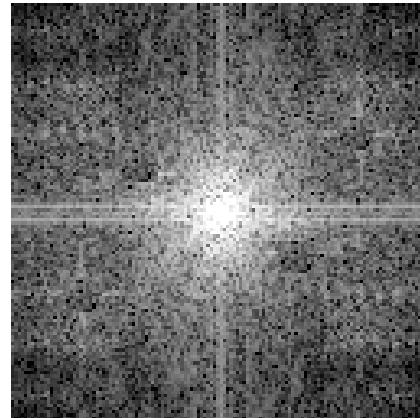
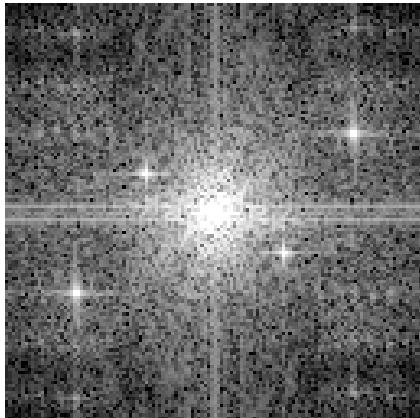
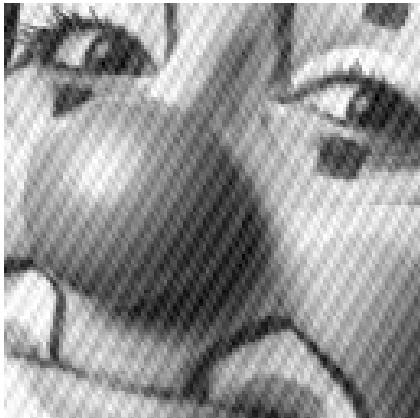
# Applications of FT: Direct Manipulation

- Deleting the low frequencies will show the edges and increase the noise:



# Applications of FT: Direct Manipulation

- Structural noise can be detected and deleted directly:



# 2D-Fourier-Transform: Exercise in Matlab and ImageJ

- See script for the precise exercise description.