Department of Computer Science University of Bristol

COMS30030 - Image Processing and Computer Vision



Week 02

Frequency Domain & Transforms

Majid Mirmehdi | majid@cs.bris.ac.uk

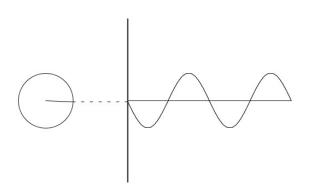
Signals as Functions

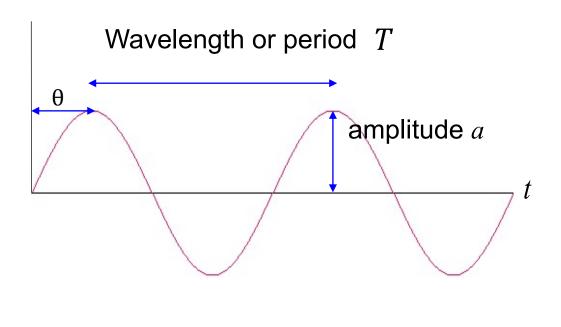
Frequency - allows us to characterise signals:

- Repeats over regular intervals with Frequency $u = \frac{1}{T}$ cycles/sec (Hz)
- Amplitude a (peak value)
- the Phase θ (shift in degrees)

Example: sine function

$$f(t) = a \sin 2\pi u t$$





Fourier's Theorem

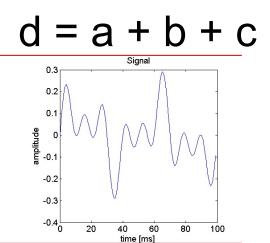
$$f(x) = \int a_n \cos(nx) + b_n \sin(nx) \ \delta n$$



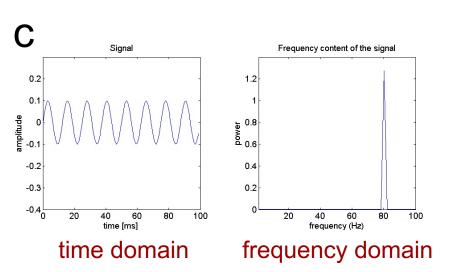
Jean-Baptiste Joseph Fourier

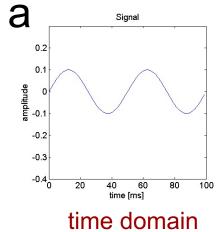
- The sines and cosines are the Basis Functions of this representation. a_n and b_n are the Fourier Coefficients.
- The sinusoids are harmonically related: each one's frequency is an integer multiple of the fundamental frequency of the input signal.

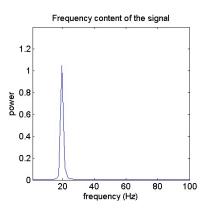
Intuition I: Simple 1D example



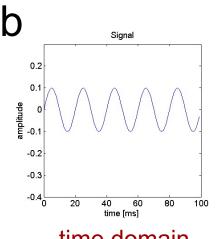
time domain



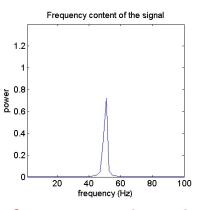




frequency domain



time domain



frequency domain

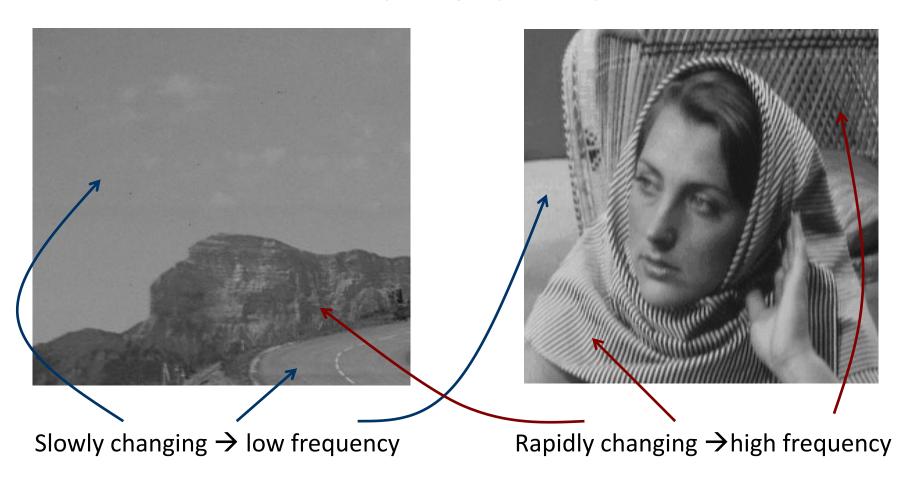
Intuition II: Simple 1D example



Animation by Lucas V Barbosa

Intuition III: Concept of Frequency in Images

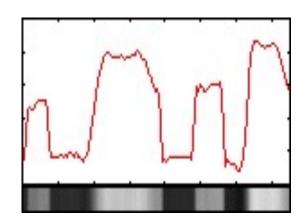
Rate of change of intensity

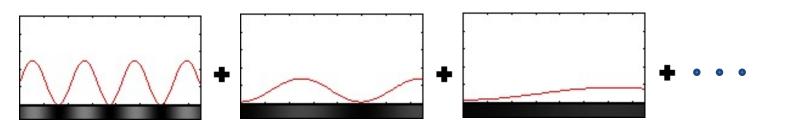


Intuition IV: Images as waves!?

Take a single row or column of pixels from an image → a 1D signal







2D Fourier Transform: Continuous Form

• The Fourier Transform of a continuous function of two variables f(x,y) is:

$$F(\underline{u},\underline{v}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x,y) e^{-i2\pi(\underline{u}x + \underline{v}y)} dxdy$$

• Conversely, given F(u,v), we can obtain f(x,y) by means of the *inverse* Fourier Transform:

$$f(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(u,v) e^{i2\pi(ux+vy)} dudv$$

These two equations are also known as the Fourier Transform Pair.

Note, they constitute a lossless representation of data.

2D Fourier Transform: Discrete Form

• The FT of a discrete function of two variables, f(x,y), is:

$$F(u,v) = \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} f(x,y) e^{-i2\pi(\frac{ux+vy}{N})}$$
 for $u,v=0,1,2,\ldots,N-1$.

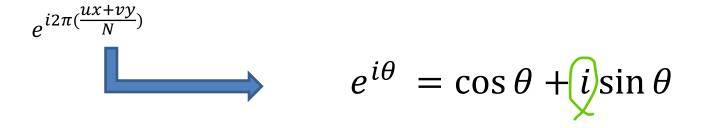
• Conversely, given F(u,v), we can obtain f(x,y) by means of the inverse FT:

$$f(x,y) = \sum_{u=0}^{N-1} \sum_{v=0}^{N-1} F(u,v) e^{i2\pi (\frac{ux+vy}{N})}$$
 for $x, y = 0,1,2,...,N-1$.

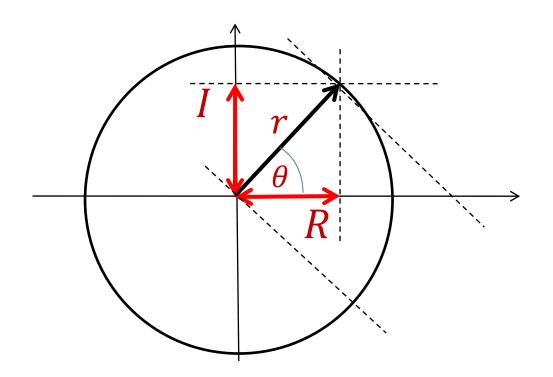
These two equations are also known as the Fourier Transform Pair.

Note, they constitute a lossless representation of data.

Euler's Formula



Thus, a kernel is associated with a complex number (r, θ) in polar coordinates or R(u, v), I(u, v) in standard complex notation.



2D Fourier Transforms

Euler's Formula:

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$$

• Thus, each term of the Fourier Transform is composed of the sum of all values of the image function f(x,y) multiplied by a particular kernel at a particular frequency and orientation specified by (u,v):

$$F(u,v) = \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} f(x,y) \left[\cos \left(\frac{2\pi (ux + vy)}{N} \right) - i \sin \left(\frac{2\pi (ux + vy)}{N} \right) \right]$$
for $u, v = 0, 1, 2, ..., N-1$.

All kernels together form a new orthogonal basis for our image.

2D Fourier Transforms

Euler's Formula:

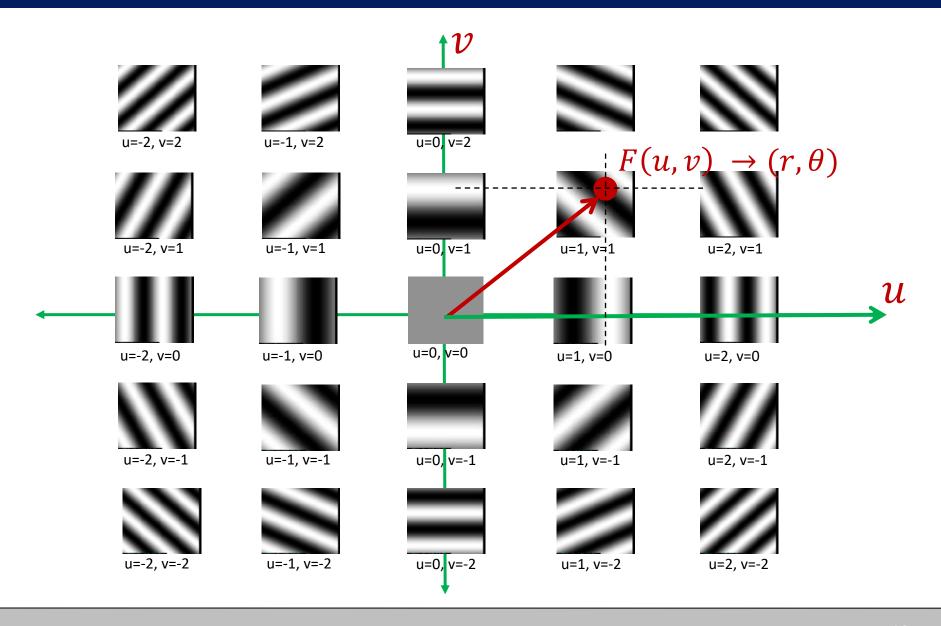
$$e^{i\theta} = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$$

• Thus, each term of the Fourier Transform is composed of the sum of all values of the image function f(x,y) multiplied by a particular kernel at a particular frequency and orientation specified by (u,v):

$$F(u,v) = \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{v=0}^{N-1} f(x,y)$$
 The slowest varying frequency component, i.e. when $u=0, v=0 \rightarrow$ average image graylevel

All kernels together form a new orthogonal basis for our image.

'Fabric' of the 2D Fourier Space (as kernels)



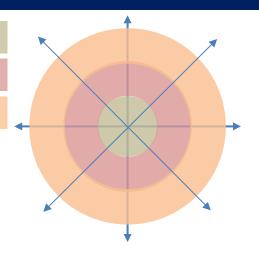
Power Spectrum and Phase Spectrum

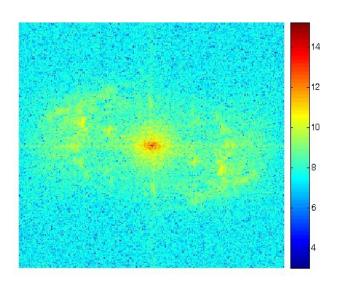


Low to Low-ish frequencies

Mid-range frequencies

High frequencies





$$|F(u,v)| = \sqrt{R^2(u,v) + I^2(\overline{u,v})}$$

$$\theta(u, v) = \tan^{-1} \left[I(u, v) / R(u, v) \right]$$

The Frequency Domain

• F(u,v) is a complex number and has real and imaginary parts:

$$F(u,v) = R(u,v) + iI(u,v)$$

Magnitudes (forming the Power Spectrum):

$$|F(u,v)| = \sqrt{R^2(u,v) + I^2(u,v)}$$

Phase Angles (forming the Phase Spectrum):

$$\theta(u,v) = \tan^{-1} \left[I(u,v) / R(u,v) \right]$$

Expressing F(u,v) in polar coordinates (r, θ) :

$$F(u,v) = |F(u,v)|e^{i\theta(u,v)} = re^{i\theta}$$