

# Paper Study Report:

## *Device-Free Gesture Tracking Using Acoustic Signals*

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# Reference

- ***Device-Free Gesture Tracking Using Acoustic Signals***, Wei Wang, Alex X. Liu, Ke Sun, The 22nd Annual International Conference on Mobile Computing and Networking (October, 2016)
- <https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/2973750.2973764>

# Problem Statement

- Try to do: software based **single** object tracking on **mobile devices**  
→ acoustic signal
- **Input:** sound signal from microphones
- **Output:** real-time object position
- **Design Goal:** high accuracy, **low latency**
- **Constraints:** low computation cost

# Basic Idea

## 1. Use continuous wave to measure phase

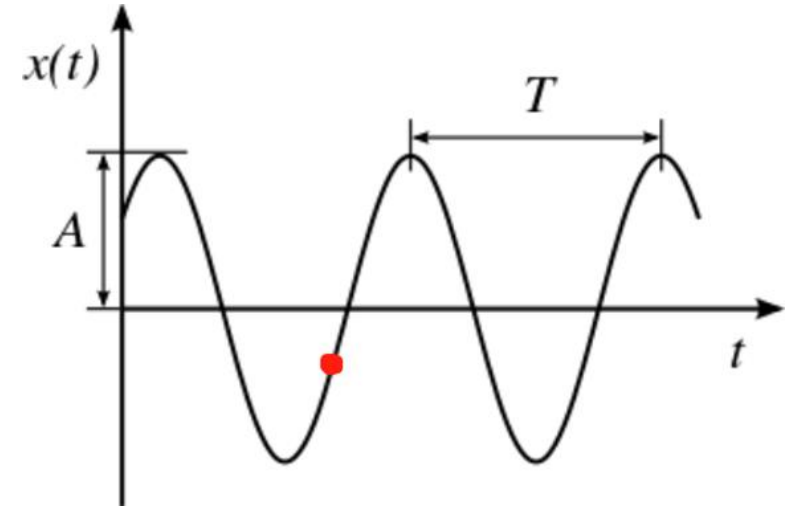
- Formula:  $F(t) = A \cdot \cos(2\pi f t + \varphi)$
- Received sound signal in this environment

$$R_p(t) = 2A_p \cdot \cos(2\pi f t - 2\pi f \frac{d_p(t)}{c} - \theta_p)$$

$p$ : path the signal travel through,  $d_p(t)$ : time-varying path length

$f$ : features of signal, variables we can set and adjust!

(4.3)  $\theta_p$ : initial phase offset caused by hardware delay & phase inversion



# Basic Idea

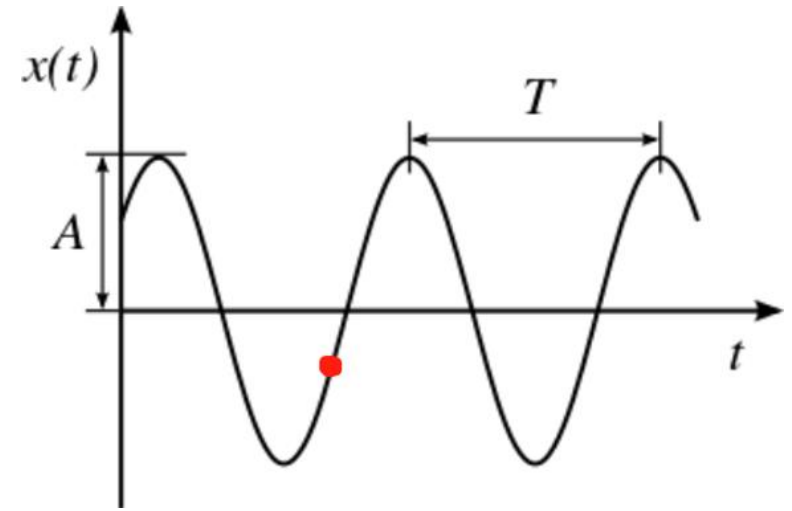
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$$R_p(t) = 2A_p \cdot \cos(2\pi f t - 2\pi f \frac{d_p(t)}{c} - \theta_p)$$

→ When  $d_p(t)$  increase by  $\lambda = c/f$ ,  $\varphi$  decrease by  $2\pi$

→ Known:  $A_p, f$     Need to get:  $\Delta\varphi$     What we want:  $d_p(t)$



How?

# Real World Signals

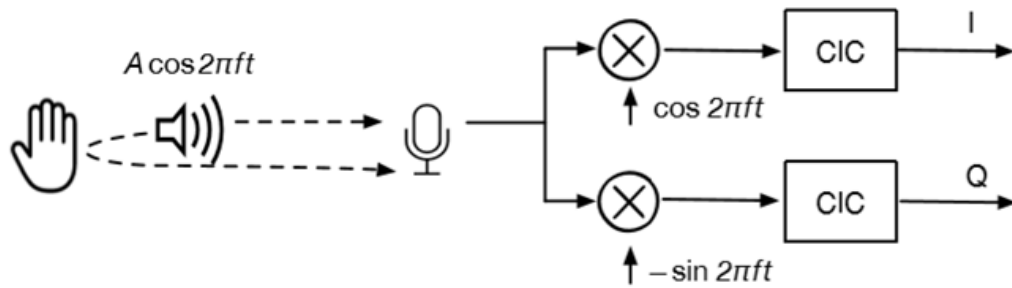
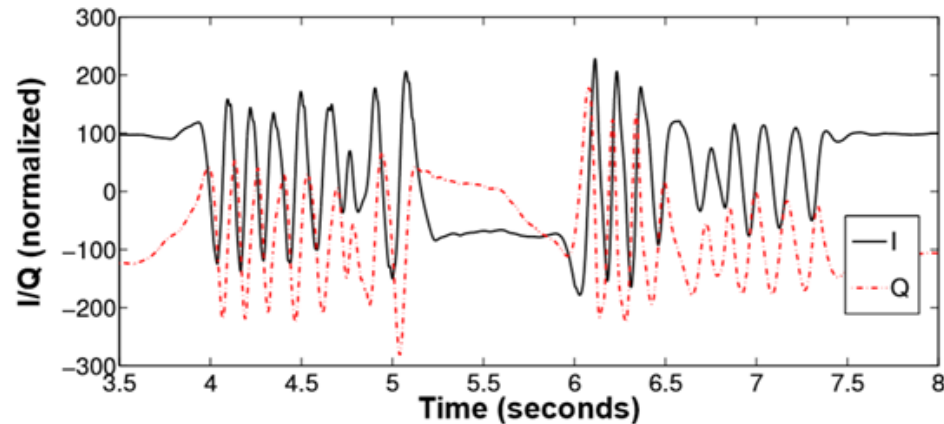


Figure 4: System structure



(a) I/Q waveforms

I: in-phase, as the real part

$$I_p(t) = A'_p \cos(-2\pi f \frac{d_p(t)}{c} - \theta_p)$$

Q: quadrature, as the imaginary part

$$Q_p(t) = A'_p \sin(-2\pi f \frac{d_p(t)}{c} - \theta_p)$$

→ complex baseband signal

Observe that I/Q waveforms:  
**static** when object not moving  
**sinusoid** when object moving

# Basic Idea

## 2. Decompose the received signal in **vector space**

- Baseband signal (I/Q) = **static vector** + **dynamic vector**

**static vector**: signal reflected by static objects (walls, tables)

remain static during short time period

\*note: may slightly change when object moving (especially moving fast),  
need to be quickly traced. Must be constant when nothing moving.

□ need to extract

**dynamic vector**: signal reflected by moving objects

□ indicate how  $\varphi$  change, what we need

# Basic Idea

2. Deco

- Basek

static

\*not

nee

dynamic

find  $\mathbf{d}_p(t)$



find  $\Delta\varphi$



find static & dynamic vector in I/Q vector space

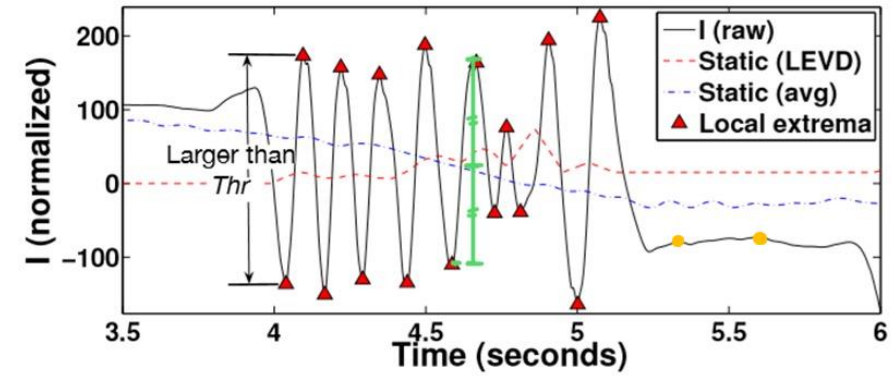
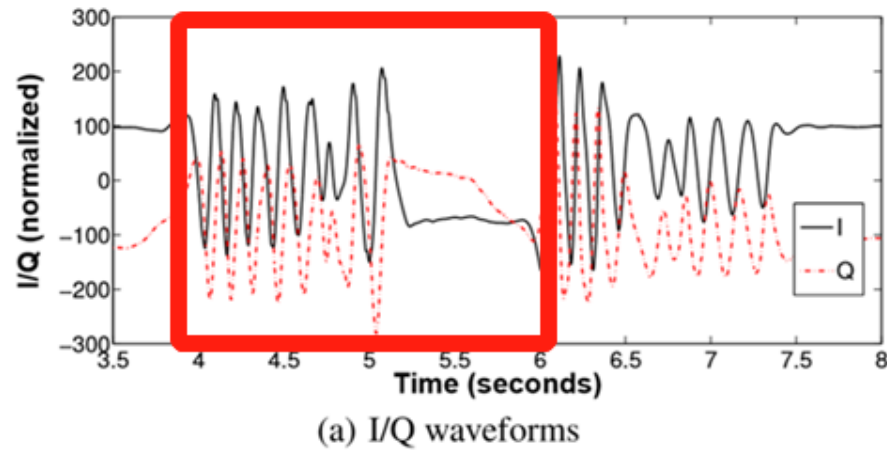
① how to extract static vector

② what's relation between dynamic vector &  $\Delta\varphi$

ng fast),  
ng.



# ① Static Vector: *Local Extreme Value Detection*



- I/Q signal = static vector + dynamic vector

STEP 1. Pick local extremes with **large variation**, indicate movement  
in this paper:  $3 \times SD$  (baseband signal in a static environment)

STEP2. Take Estimated value of static vector = *avg*(nearby max & min)

During 3.5-3.8s & 5.5-6s: stable (no valid extremes) ✓

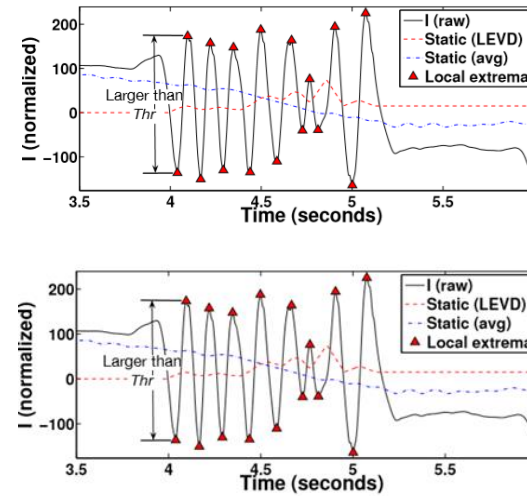
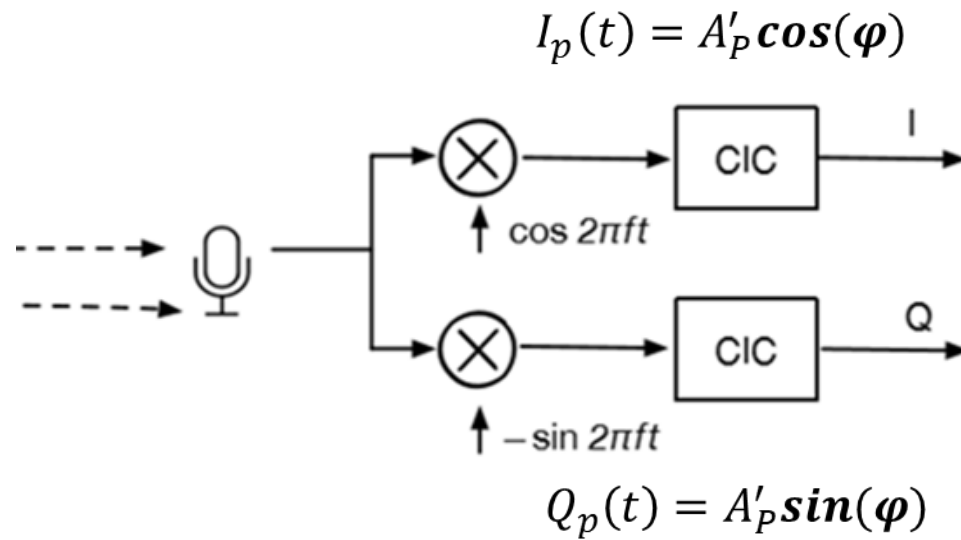
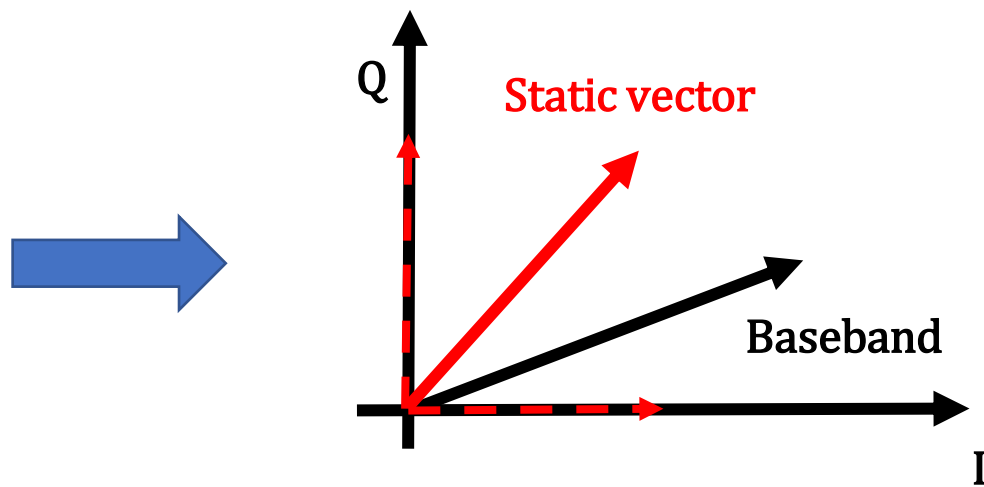
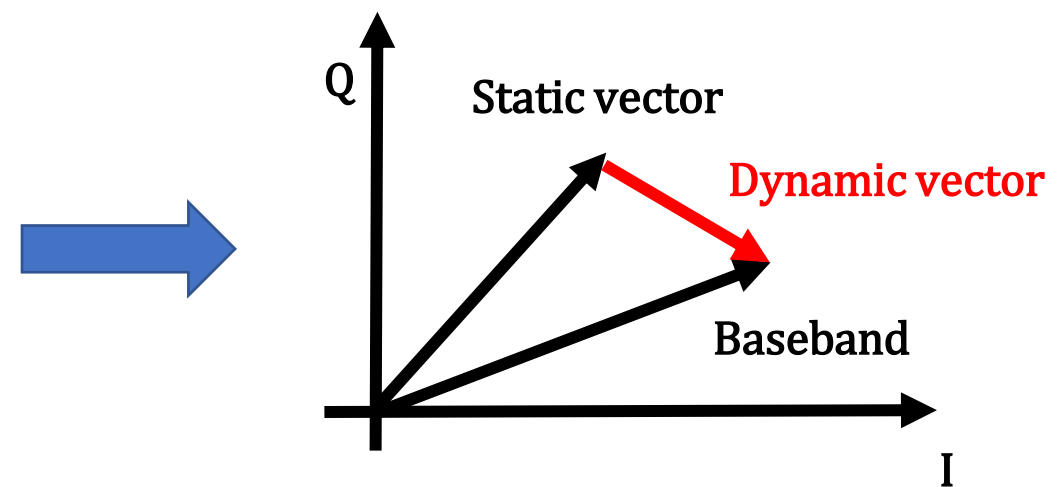


Figure 6: Local extrema based static vector estimation

Static Vector of I  
 +  
 Static Vector of Q

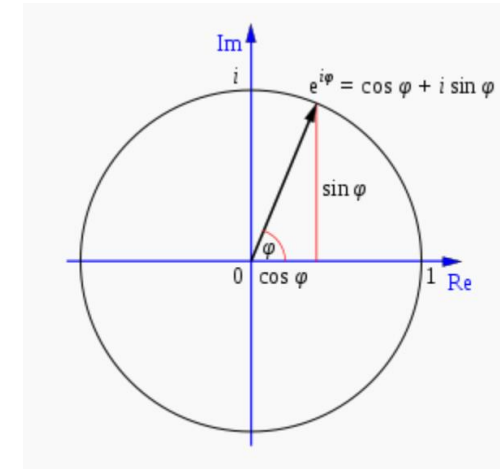
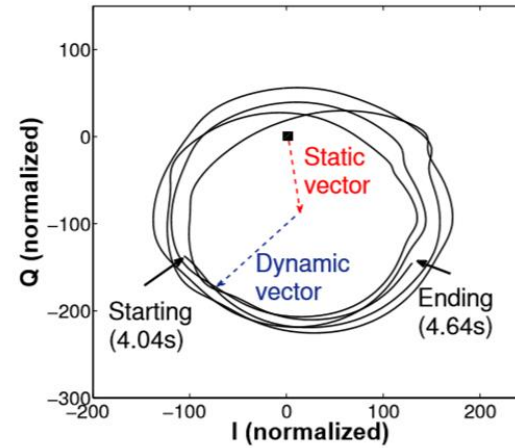
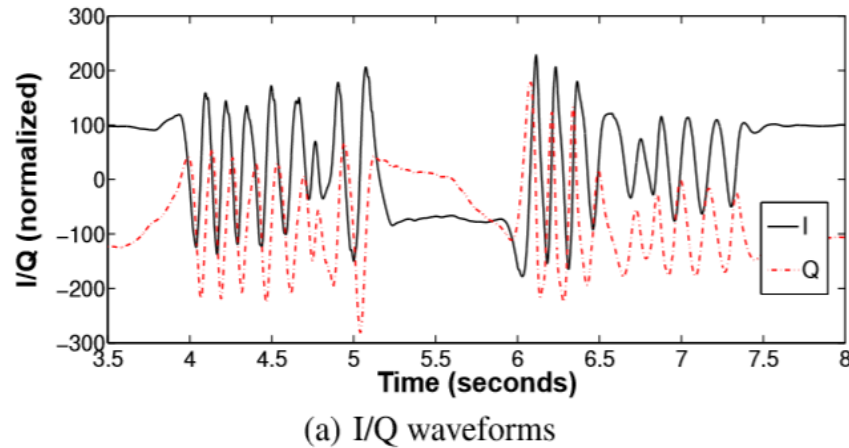


Static Vector of baseband signal



Dynamic Vector of baseband signal

## ② Real Word Signal - Vector Space



- Euler's formula:  $B_p(t) = A'_p e^{-i\varphi} = A'_p e^{-i(2\pi f \frac{d_p(t)}{c} + \theta_p)} \rightarrow \text{circle}$
- Direction: object direction  $\Leftrightarrow$  sign of  $\Delta\varphi \Leftrightarrow$  signal direction  
 move closer  $\Leftrightarrow d_p(t) \searrow, \varphi \nearrow \Leftrightarrow$  signal move anti-clockwise
- Distance: object move  $x$  mm  $\Leftrightarrow d_p(t)$  change  $2x$  mm  
 $\Leftrightarrow \varphi$  change  $2\pi \cdot 2x/\lambda \Leftrightarrow$  signal move by  $\varphi/2$  circles

# Design Goal

- High Accuracy ✓
- Low Latency ✓

# Remaining Issues

- $\Delta\varphi$  indicate  $\Delta d_p(t)$ , not  $d_p(t)$
- Initial position?

# Absolute Distance

- Input: different frequencies  $f_k = f_0 + k\Delta f$ ,  $k = 0, \dots, N - 1$
- Baseband Signal for certain path  $p$  at frequency  $f_k$ :

$$B_p(k, t) = A'_{p,k} e^{-i(2\pi(f_0 + k\Delta f)\frac{d_p(t)}{c} + \theta_{p,k})} \quad (\text{frequency domain})$$

- Apply Inverse Discrete Fourier Transform on  $B_p(k, t)$

$$b_p(k, t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} B_p(k, t) e^{i2\pi kn/N}, n = 0, \dots, N - 1 \quad (\text{time domain})$$

$$\rightarrow b_p(k, t) \text{ has peak at time } \hat{n} = N d_p(t) \Delta f / c$$

- Each peak corresponds to one path caused by one object
- For each  $k$  (each frequency):

$$b_p(k, t) \text{ peak} \rightarrow \text{time point } \hat{n} \rightarrow d_p(t) \text{ absolute distance}$$

# 2D Gesture Tracking

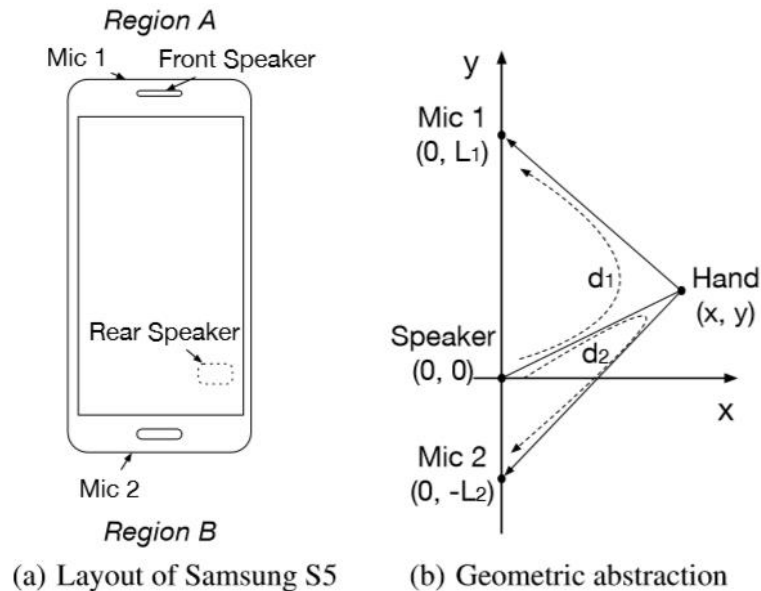
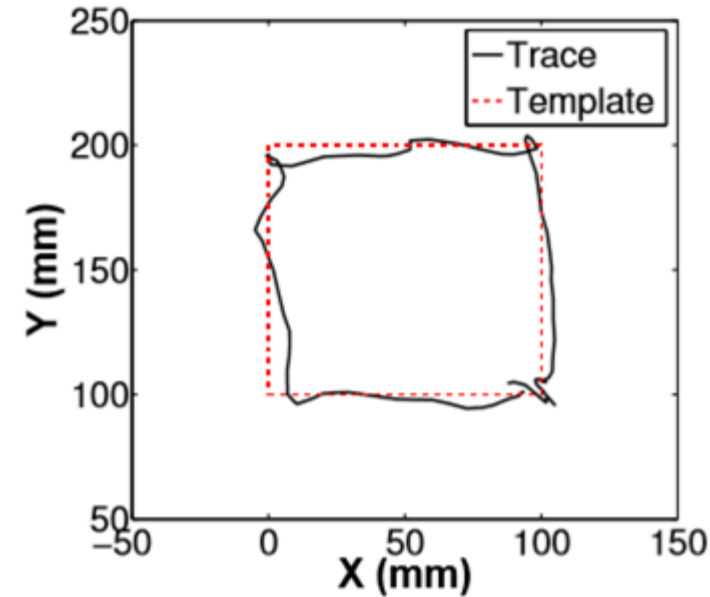


Figure 9: Two dimensional tracking



- On an ellipse
- Known:  $L_1, L_2, d_1, d_2$
- Compute  $x, y$

$$x = \frac{\sqrt{(d_1^2 - L_1^2)(d_2^2 - L_2^2)((L_1 + L_2)^2 - (d_1 - d_2)^2)}}{2(d_1 L_2 + d_2 L_1)}$$

$$y = \frac{d_2 L_1^2 - d_1 L_2^2 - d_1^2 d_2 + d_2^2 d_1}{2(d_1 L_2 + d_2 L_1)}$$

# Remaining Questions

- Inverse Discrete Fourier Transform

$$B_p(k, t) \quad \& \quad b_p(k, t)$$

- Object Size
- Multi Objects