

# Algorithms of Scientific Computing

The Quarter-Wave DFT and the (Quarter-Wave)  
Discrete Cosine Transform (QW-DCT)

Michael Bader  
Technical University of Munich

Summer 2018



*TUM Uhrenturm*

# Motivation: Compression of Image Data (JPEG)

## Compression steps of the JPEG method

1. Conversion into a suitable colour model (YCbCr, e.g.), separation of brightness and colour information
2. Downsampling (in particular of the colour components)
3. **blockwise “quarter-wave discrete cosine transform”**  
(blocks of size  $8 \times 8$ )
4. Quantisation of the coefficients ( $\rightarrow$  reduce information)
5. run-length encoding, Huffman/arithmetical coding  
(loss-free compression of the quantified coefficients)

## Our next topics therefore:

- What is a “quarter-wave” transform?
- What is a “cosine transform”?

# Revisited: Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)

## Definition:

For a vector of  $N$  complex numbers  $(f_0, \dots, f_{N-1})^T$ , the **discrete Fourier transform** is given by the vector  $(F_0, \dots, F_{N-1})^T$ , where

$$F_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n e^{-i2\pi nk/N}.$$

## Interpretation:

- as trigonometric interpolation/approximation
- **as approximation of the coefficients of the Fourier series**

# Fourier Coefficients and Numerical Quadrature

For a  $2\pi$ -periodic function  $f$ , the corresponding **Fourier series** is defined as

$$f(x) \sim \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{ikx}, \quad \text{where } c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$

The  $c_k$  are called (continuous) **Fourier coefficients**.

If  $f$  is piecewise smooth, the Fourier series converges pointwise (i.e. for each  $x$ ) towards

$$\frac{1}{2}(f(x^+) + f(x^-)),$$

i.e. in particular towards  $f(x)$ , if  $f$  is continuously differentiable at  $x$ .

## Computation of Fourier Coefficients $c_k$

Assume:  $f(x)$  given by Fourier series, then  $f(x) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{ikx}$

Multiply by  $e^{-inx}$  and integrate:

$$\int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-inx} dx = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k \int_0^{2\pi} e^{ikx} e^{-inx} dx = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k \underbrace{\int_0^{2\pi} e^{i(k-n)x} dx}_{=0, \text{ if } k \neq n}$$

$\Rightarrow$  only term for  $k = n$  remains in the series, and  $\int_0^{2\pi} e^{i(n-n)x} dx = 2\pi$

The Fourier coefficients  $c_k$  thus need to be

$$c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$

# Orthogonal Functions

If we consider

- the functions  $e^{ikx}$  as vectors
- and the operation  $\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle := \frac{1}{2\pi} \int f(x)g(x) dx$  as a scalar product

then the formula

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{ikx} e^{-inx} dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{i(k-n)x} dx = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = n \\ 0 & \text{if } k \neq n \end{cases}$$

suggests that  $e^{ikx}$  and  $e^{-inx}$  are **orthogonal** functions.

But we are dealing with complex numbers!

- vector scalar product is therefore  $v^H w = (v^T)^* w$
- **scalar product on functions** is thus  $\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle := \frac{1}{2\pi} \int (f(x))^* g(x) dx$
- thus:  $e^{ikx}$  are orthonormal functions!

The Fourier coefficients  $c_k$  are thus computed via an orthogonal projection:

$$c_k = \langle f(x), e^{-ikx} \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$

## Approximate Computation of $c_k$

The continuous Fourier coefficients are given as

$$c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$

Steps to compute  $c_k$  approximately:

- consider  $c_k$  only for  $\pm k = 0, \dots, K$ ; then:  $f(x) \approx \sum_{k=-K}^K c_k e^{ikx}$
- compute numerical approximation of integral  $\int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$

## Computation of $c_k$ via Trapezoidal Sum

**Trapezoidal sum:** for equidistant  $x_n := \frac{2\pi n}{N}$ :

$$\int_0^{2\pi} g(x) dx \approx T_N\{g\} := \frac{2\pi}{N} \left( \frac{1}{2}g(x_0) + \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} g(x_n) + \frac{1}{2}g(x_N) \right)$$

Use  $g(x) := f(x)e^{-ikx}$  and  $f_n := f(x_n)$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned} c_k &\approx \frac{1}{2\pi} T_N\{f(x)e^{-ikx}\} = \frac{1}{N} \left( \frac{1}{2}f_0e^0 + \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} f_n e^{-i2\pi nk/N} + \frac{1}{2}f_N e^{-i2\pi Nk/N} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \left( \frac{f_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} f_n e^{-i2\pi nk/N} + \frac{f_N}{2} \right) \end{aligned}$$



## Computation of $c_k$ via Trapezoidal Sum (2)

If  $f_0 = f_N$  (periodic data), we obtain

$$c_k \approx F_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n e^{-i2\pi nk/N}$$

- ⇒  $F_k$  are approximations of  $c_k$
- ⇒ approximate computation leads to solution of the interpolation problem
- ⇒ approximation error is of order  $\mathcal{O}(N^{-2})$

For  $f_0 \neq f_N$ , or for “discontinuities”, we get a recommendation:

**Average Values at Endpoints and Discontinuities (AVED)**

## Computation of $c_k$ via Midpoint Rule

**Midpoint rule:** evaluate  $g(x)$  at midpoints  $x_n$ :

$$\int_0^{2\pi} g(x) dx \approx \frac{2\pi}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} g(x_n) \quad \text{with} \quad x_n := \frac{2\pi \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)}{N} .$$

With  $g(x) := f(x)e^{-ikx}$  and  $f_n := f(x_n)$ , we obtain:

$$c_k \approx \tilde{F}_k := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n e^{-i2\pi \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) k/N}$$

**“Quarter-Wave Discrete Fourier Transform”**

# DFT and Symmetry

INPUT

TRANSFORM

**real symmetry**

$$f_n \in \mathbb{R}$$

→

Real DFT (RDFT)

**even symmetry**

$$f_n = f_{-n}$$

→

Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT)

**odd symmetry**

$$f_n = -f_{-n}$$

→

Discrete Sine Transform (DST)

“QUARTER-WAVE”

INPUT

TRANSFORM

**even symmetry**

$$f_n = f_{-n-1}$$

→

QW-DCT

**odd symmetry**

$$f_n = -f_{-n-1}$$

→

QW-DST

# Quarter-Wave Discrete Fourier Transform

- new variant of DFT:

$$\tilde{F}_k := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n e^{-i2\pi(n+\frac{1}{2})k/N} \quad f_n := \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \tilde{F}_k e^{i2\pi(n+\frac{1}{2})k/N}$$

- Comparison with coefficients  $F_k$  of the “usual” DFT:

$$F_k = \tilde{F}_k e^{i\pi k/N} = \tilde{F}_k \omega_N^{k/2}$$

- Supporting points compared to “usual” DFT shifted by a “quarter wave length” (midpoints of intervals).
- Derivation via midpoint rule motivates usage for piecewise constant data

⇒ **Transformation of image data**

## Quarter-Wave DFT on Symmetric Data

Given  $2N$  real-valued input data  $f_0, \dots, f_{2N-1}$  with symmetry

$$f_{2N-n-1} = f_n$$

Inserting the symmetric data in Quarter-Wave DFT results in

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{F}_k &= \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=0}^{2N-1} f_n \omega_{2N}^{-k(n+\frac{1}{2})} = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \omega_{2N}^{-k(n+\frac{1}{2})} + \sum_{n=N}^{2N-1} f_n \omega_{2N}^{-k(n+\frac{1}{2})} \\ &= \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \omega_{2N}^{-k(n+\frac{1}{2})} + \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_{2N-n-1} \omega_{2N}^{-k(2N-n-1+\frac{1}{2})} \\ &= \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \omega_{2N}^{-k(n+\frac{1}{2})} + \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \omega_{2N}^{-k(-n-\frac{1}{2})} \omega_{2N}^{-k \cdot 2N} \\ &= \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \left( \omega_{2N}^{-k(n+\frac{1}{2})} + \omega_{2N}^{k(n+\frac{1}{2})} \right) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \cos \left( \frac{\pi k (n + \frac{1}{2})}{N} \right). \end{aligned}$$

## Quarter-Wave DFT on Symmetric Data (2)

Quarter-Wave DFT of symmetric data results in **real-valued** coefficients:

$$\tilde{F}_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \cos\left(\frac{\pi k (n + \frac{1}{2})}{N}\right) \quad \text{for } k = 0, \dots, 2N - 1$$

Additional symmetry:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{F}_{2N-k} &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \cos\left(\frac{\pi(2N-k)(n + \frac{1}{2})}{N}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \cos\left(2\pi n + \pi - \frac{\pi k (n + \frac{1}{2})}{N}\right) = -\tilde{F}_k \end{aligned}$$

⇒ again: only  $N$  independent coefficients

**Exercise:** verify that  $\tilde{F}_{-k} = \tilde{F}_k$ , but  $\tilde{F}_{k+2N} = -\tilde{F}_k$

# Quarter-Wave Even Discrete Cosine Transform

## Backward transform:

$$f_n := \sum_{k=0}^{2N-1} \tilde{F}_k e^{i2\pi(n+\frac{1}{2})k/2N} \quad \tilde{F}_{2N-k} \xrightarrow{=} -\tilde{F}_k \quad f_n = \tilde{F}_0 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \tilde{F}_k \cos\left(\frac{\pi k(n+\frac{1}{2})}{N}\right)$$

**Exercise:** insert  $\tilde{F}_{2N-k} = -\tilde{F}_k$  into  $f_n := \sum \tilde{F}_k e^{i2\pi(n+\frac{1}{2})k/2N}$  and verify!

↪ we obtain an inverse quarter-wave even discrete cosine transform

## We define a pair of transforms – (inverse) quarter-wave even DCT:

$$\tilde{F}_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \cos\left(\frac{\pi k(n+\frac{1}{2})}{N}\right) \quad f_n = \tilde{F}_0 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \tilde{F}_k \cos\left(\frac{\pi k(n+\frac{1}{2})}{N}\right)$$

**N real values** ↔ **N real-valued coefficients**  
(no symmetry any more in data/coefficients!)

## Summary: QW-DCT and inverse QW-DCT

We obtain a new pair of transforms:

$$\tilde{F}_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \cos\left(\frac{\pi k \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)}{N}\right) \quad f_n = \tilde{F}_0 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \tilde{F}_k \cos\left(\frac{\pi k \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)}{N}\right)$$

- both transforms work on **data sets** that **are neither symmetric nor periodic**
- however, if we extend the data sets according to the symmetry rules, then the reflected (and thus symmetric) sets become periodic as well
- the two transforms are connected to the QW-DFT and QW-iDFT via a 3-step procedure:
  1. extend/duplicate the data set in a symmetric way
  2. apply the QW-DFT/QW-iDFT
  3. extract the symmetric half of the transformed data set
- this equivalence has two important consequences:
  1. we may compute the cosine transforms ( $N$  numbers that require sums over  $N$  terms  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(N^2)$  operations) by using an FFT in step 2  $\Rightarrow$  reduces work to  $\mathcal{O}(N \log N)$
  2. we prove that QW-DCT and QW-iDCT are inverse operations to each other (because the QW-DFT and QW-iDFT are inverse to each other)



## 2D Cosine Transform

### Definition of the 2D-DCT:

$$\tilde{F}_{kl} = \frac{1}{N \cdot M} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} f_{nm} \cos\left(\frac{\pi k (n + \frac{1}{2})}{N}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi l (m + \frac{1}{2})}{M}\right)$$

$$f_{nm} = 4 \sum_{k=0}^{N-1}{}' \sum_{l=0}^{M-1}{}' \tilde{F}_{kl} \cos\left(\frac{\pi k (n + \frac{1}{2})}{N}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi l (m + \frac{1}{2})}{M}\right)$$

shortened notation:  $\sum_{k=0}^{N-1}{}' x_k := \frac{x_0}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} x_k$

**Application:** blockwise 2D-DCT in JPEG/MPEG compression

## Reduction of the 2D-FCT to 1D-FCTs

In the 2D cosine transform, we can rearrange:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{F}_{kl} &= \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} f_{nm} \cos\left(\frac{\pi k (n + \frac{1}{2})}{N}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi l (m + \frac{1}{2})}{N}\right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} f_{nm} \cos\left(\frac{\pi l (m + \frac{1}{2})}{N}\right) \right)}_{:= \hat{F}_{nl}} \cos\left(\frac{\pi k (n + \frac{1}{2})}{N}\right).
 \end{aligned}$$

- For each  $n$ ,  $\hat{F}_{nl}$  are computed via  $N$  1D transforms
- we may first 1D-transform all rows and then all columns to get the 2D-transform

# Application Example: Compression of Image Data (JPEG)

## Compression steps of the JPEG method

1. Conversion into a suitable colour model (YCbCr, e.g.), separation of brightness and colour information
2. Downsampling (in particular of the colour components)
3. **blockwise “quarter-wave discrete cosine transform”**  
(blocks of size  $8 \times 8$ )
4. Quantisation of the coefficients ( $\rightarrow$  reduce information)
5. run-length encoding, Huffman/arithmetic coding  
(loss-free compression of the quantified coefficients)

Example: jpeg on matlab central (see link on webpage)

# QW-DCT – Algorithm

## Reduce to Real FFT:

(1) for  $n = 0, \dots, N - 1$ :

$$g_n = f_n \quad g_{2N-n-1} = f_n$$

(2)  $2N$ -Real-FFT: compute  $G_k$  from  $g_n$  (for  $k = 0, \dots, N$ )

(3) for  $k = 0, \dots, N - 1$ :

$$\tilde{F}_k = G_k e^{-i\pi k/2N}$$

## Important Note:

- this results in an algorithm that requires  $\mathcal{O}(N \log N)$  operations (FFT!)
- whereas computing all  $\tilde{F}_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum f_n \cos(\pi k(n + \frac{1}{2})/N)$  would require  $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$  operations

## Possible Further Optimisations:

- substitute real  $2N$ -FFT by complex  $N$ -FFT
- compact (divide-and-conquer) real FFT
- is there a compact/fast (QW-)DCT?  $\rightarrow$  see paper by *Swarztrauber*

## Compact Fast DCT ( $\rightarrow$ Swarztrauber, 1986)

Consider **QW-DCT**: with symmetry  $f_{2N-n-1} = f_n$

$$\tilde{F}_k = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=0}^{2N-1} f_n \omega_{2N}^{-k(n+\frac{1}{2})} \quad \rightarrow \quad \tilde{F}_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n \cos\left(\frac{\pi k(n+\frac{1}{2})}{N}\right).$$

**Split into even and odd indices:**  $g_n := f_{2n}$  and  $h_n := f_{2n+1}$   
(as in FFT)

- $g_n := f_{2n}$ :

$$g_n = f_{2n} = f_{2N-2n-1} = f_{2(N-n)-1} = f_{2(N-n-1)+1} = h_{N-n-1}$$

- $h_n := f_{2n+1}$ :

$$h_n = f_{2n+1} = f_{2N-(2n+1)-1} = f_{2(N-n-1)} = g_{N-n-1}$$

- thus: **two real DFTs** with symmetric data sets  
see exercises: reversed-data DFT easily obtained from DFT

# Compact Fast Inverse QW-DCT

**Consider backward transform:** with symmetry  $\tilde{F}_{2N-k} = -\tilde{F}_k$

$$f_n := \sum_{k=0}^{2N-1} \tilde{F}_k e^{i2\pi(n+\frac{1}{2})k/2N} \quad \longrightarrow \quad f_n = \tilde{F}_0 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \tilde{F}_k \cos\left(\frac{\pi k(n+\frac{1}{2})}{N}\right)$$

**Split into even and odd indices:** (as in FFT)

- $G_k := \tilde{F}_{2k}$ : **again leads to Inverse QW-DCT**

$$-G_k = -\tilde{F}_{2k} = \tilde{F}_{2N-2k} = \tilde{F}_{2(N-k)} = G_{N-k}$$

- $H_k := \tilde{F}_{2k+1}$ : **leads to new kind of inverse DCT**

$$-H_k = -\tilde{F}_{2k+1} = \tilde{F}_{2N-(2k+1)} = \tilde{F}_{2(N-k)-1} = \tilde{F}_{2(N-k-1)+1} = H_{N-k-1}$$

(next even/odd split leads to two real DFTs with symm. data sets)