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**CONCEPTS BEHIND DISCRETE FOURIER TRANSFORM**


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**NOTE:** See *DFT: Discrete Fourier Transform* for more details.

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**Given:**  $x[n]$  is a discrete-time signal with period  $N$ :  $x[n] = x[n + N]$  for all  $n$ .

**DFT:**  $x[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X_k e^{j2\pi nk/N}$  where  $X_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-j2\pi nk/N}$ .

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- Fastest-oscillating discrete-time sinusoid:  $\omega = \pi \rightarrow \cos(\pi n) = (-1)^n$ .  
 $\rightarrow$  Fourier series of discrete-time periodic signal has **finite** number of terms, with frequencies

$$\left\{0, \frac{2\pi}{N}, 2\frac{2\pi}{N}, 3\frac{2\pi}{N} \dots (N-1)\frac{2\pi}{N}\right\} \Leftrightarrow \left\{0, \pm\frac{2\pi}{N}, \pm 2\frac{2\pi}{N} \dots \pm \frac{N-1}{2}\frac{2\pi}{N}, [\pi?]\right\}.$$

**Huh?** If  $N$  even, the component with the highest frequency is  $\omega = \pi$ .  
 If  $N$  odd, the component with the highest frequency is  $\omega = \frac{N-1}{N}\pi$ .

- If  $x[n]$  is real, then  $X_{N-k} = X_k^*$  (conjugate symmetry).
  - $X_0 = \frac{1}{N}(x[0] + x[1] + \dots + x[N-1])$  = mean value of  $x[n]$ .
  - If  $N$  is even,  $X_{N/2} = \frac{1}{N}(x[0] - x[1] + x[2] - x[3] + \dots - x[N-1])$ .
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**SIMPLE EXAMPLE WITH N=4:**

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**Given:**  $x[n] = \{\dots 24, 8, 12, 16, \underline{24}, 8, 12, 16, 24, 8, 12, 16 \dots\}$ . Period= $N=4$ .

**Goal:** Compute DFT=Fourier series expansion of discrete-time periodic  $x[n]$ .

- NOTE:  $e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{4}1} = -j$ ;  $e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{4}2} = -1$ ;  $e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{4}3} = +j$ .
1.  $X_0 = \frac{1}{4}(24 + 8 + 12 + 16) = 15$ . Note this is real.
  2.  $X_2 = \frac{1}{4}(24 - 8 + 12 - 16) = 03$ . Note this is real.
  3.  $X_1 = \frac{1}{4}(24 + 8(-j) + 12(-1) + 16(+j)) = 3 + 2j$ .
  4.  $X_3 = \frac{1}{4}(24 + 8(+j) + 12(-1) + 16(-j)) = 3 - 2j = X_1^*$ .

**Then:**  $x[n] = (15)e^{j0n} + (3 + 2j)e^{j\frac{2\pi}{4}n} + (03)e^{j\frac{2\pi}{4}2n} + (3 - 2j)e^{j\frac{2\pi}{4}3n}$ .

**Line spectrum** is **periodic** with components at:  $\{0, \pm\frac{\pi}{2}, \pm\pi, \pm\frac{3\pi}{2}, \pm 2\pi \dots\}$ .

**Using:**  $3 + 2j = 3.6e^{j33.7^\circ}$ ;  $e^{j\pi n} = \cos(\pi n)$ ;  $e^{j\frac{2\pi}{4}3n} = e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{4}n}$ , simplifies to:

$$x[n] = 15 + 7.2 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}n + 33.7^\circ\right) + 3 \cos(\pi n). \text{ Don't double at } \omega = 0, \pi.$$


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**PARSEVAL'S THEOREM: POWER IS CONSERVED**

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**Power:**  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} |x[n]|^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |X_k|^2$  = average power of periodic  $x[n]$ .

**Time:**  $15^2 + |3 + 2j|^2 + 3^2 + |3 - 2j|^2 = 260$  since  $|3 + 2j|^2 = 13$ .

**Freq:**  $\frac{1}{4}(24^2 + 8^2 + 12^2 + 16^2) = 260$ . They are equal!

**EXAMPLE OF DISCRETE-TIME FOURIER SERIES (DFT):**

**What?** Like continuous time, except *finite #terms*  $\rightarrow$  *exact* representation.

**Below:**  $x[n] = c_1 \cos(\omega_0 n) + c_2 \cos(2\omega_0 n) + \dots + c_8 \cos(8\omega_0 n)$  = even function

**where:**  $\omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{N} = \frac{2\pi}{17}$  and  $c_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-j2\pi nk/N} = \frac{1}{17} \frac{\sin(9\pi k/17)}{\sin(\pi k/17)}$ .

