

# Decimation-in-frequency Fast Fourier Transforms for the Symmetric Group

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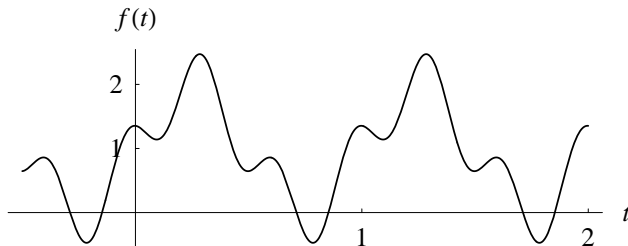
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# Signal Analysis

## The Setup

Suppose we want to analyze some periodic signal  $f$

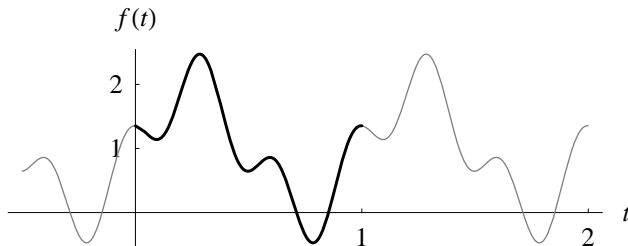


# Signal Analysis

## The Setup

Suppose we want to analyze some periodic signal  $f$

- Pick some full time period of  $f$

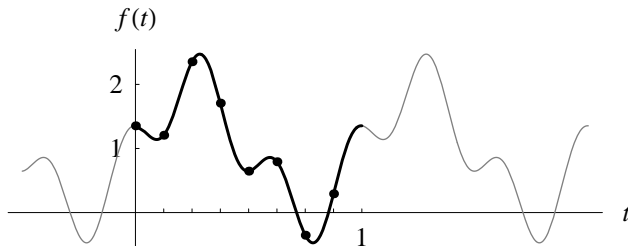


# Signal Analysis

## The Setup

Suppose we want to analyze some periodic signal  $f$

- Pick some full time period of  $f$
- Take  $N$  samples  $f_0, f_1, \dots, f_{N-1}$  of  $f$  in this time period



# Discrete Fourier Transforms

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_0 \\ f_1 \\ \vdots \\ f_{N-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

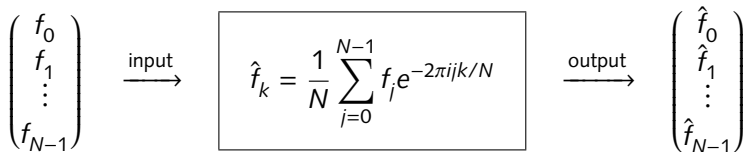
- Process  $f_0, \dots, f_{N-1}$  with the Discrete Fourier Transform

## Discrete Fourier Transforms

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_0 \\ f_1 \\ \vdots \\ f_{N-1} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{input}} \boxed{\hat{f}_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} f_j e^{-2\pi i j k / N}}$$

- Process  $f_0, \dots, f_{N-1}$  with the Discrete Fourier Transform

## Discrete Fourier Transforms

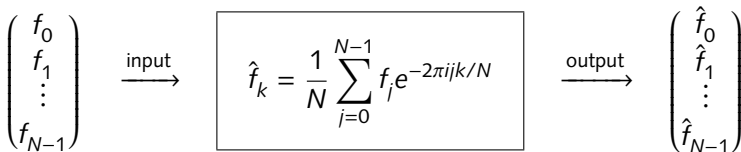


- Process  $f_0, \dots, f_{N-1}$  with the Discrete Fourier Transform
- Get  $N$  complex numbers  $\hat{f}_0, \dots, \hat{f}_{N-1}$  such that

$$f(t) \approx \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \hat{f}_k \left( \cos \frac{2\pi k}{N} t + i \sin \frac{2\pi k}{N} t \right)$$



## Discrete Fourier Transforms

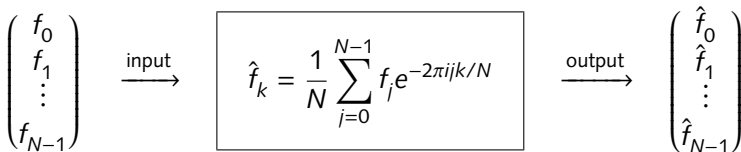


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“pure” frequency

## Discrete Fourier Transforms



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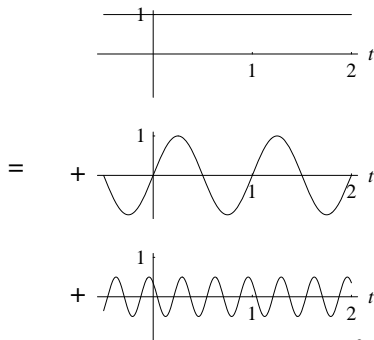
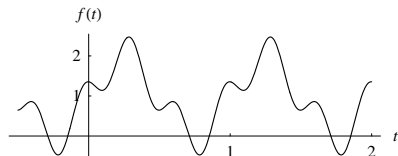
$$f(t) \approx \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \hat{f}_k \left( \cos \frac{2\pi k}{N} t + i \sin \frac{2\pi k}{N} t \right)$$

amplitude

## Example

### Example

Our original signal is secretly the sum of three "pure" frequencies:



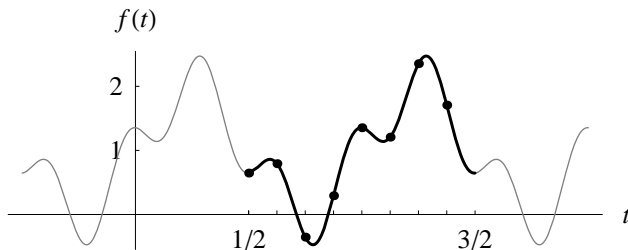
# Significance of the DFT

## Time-Shift Invariance

Suppose we sampled our signal  $f$  over a *different* time period

- The samples  $f_0, \dots, f_{N-1}$  could be much different
- But the Fourier coefficients  $\hat{f}_0, \dots, \hat{f}_{N-1}$  will not be

The DFT is therefore invariant under translational symmetry

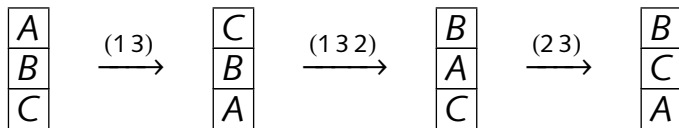


# Symmetries and Groups

## Symmetries and Groups

- Different spaces have different symmetries

Space	Symmetry
time domain	time translations
sphere	rotations
lists	permutations

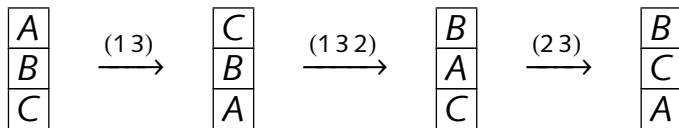


# Symmetries and Groups

## Symmetries and Groups

- Different spaces have different symmetries
- Write symmetries abstractly as **groups**

Space	Symmetry	Group
time domain	time translations	$\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$
sphere	rotations	$SO(3)$
lists	permutations	$S_n$

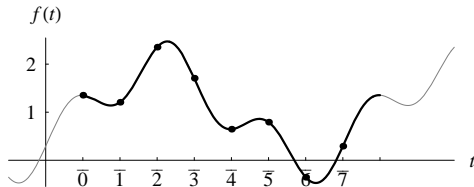


# Group Algebras

## Reformulation as Group Algebra

- Treat functions on spaces as functions on groups
- Rewrite functions on group as group algebra elements:

$$f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \longrightarrow f : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \longrightarrow \sum_{g \in G} f(g) g$$



## Wedderburn's Theorem

### Theorem (Wedderburn)

The group algebra  $\mathbb{C}G$  of a finite group  $G$  is isomorphic to an algebra of block diagonal matrices:

$$\mathbb{C}G \cong \bigoplus_{j=1}^h \mathbb{C}^{d_j \times d_j}$$

### Example ( $\mathbb{C}S_3$ )

$$\mathbb{C}S_3 \cong \mathbb{C}^{1 \times 1} \oplus \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2} \oplus \mathbb{C}^{1 \times 1} = \begin{pmatrix} \bullet & & & \\ & \bullet & \bullet & \\ & \bullet & \bullet & \\ & & & \bullet \end{pmatrix}$$



# Generalized Discrete Fourier Transforms (DFTs)

## Definition (Generalized DFT)

Any such isomorphism  $D$  on  $\mathbb{C}G$  is a **generalized DFT** for  $G$

- Coefficients in matrix  $D(f)$ : **generalized Fourier coefficients**
- Blocks along diagonal: smallest  $\mathbb{C}G$ -invariant spaces in  $\mathbb{C}G$

## Change of Basis

DFT a change of basis into a symmetry-invariant basis

- Picking standard bases on  $\mathbb{C}G$ , matrix algebra gives DFT matrix
- Naïve bound of  $O(|G|^2)$  on complexity of DFT evaluation

# Decimation-In-Frequency Fast Fourier Transforms (FFTs)

## Decimation-In-Frequency FFT

- Fix chain of subgroups of  $G$ :

$$1 = G_0 < G_1 < \cdots < G_{n-1} < G_n = G.$$

- Project into successively smaller subspaces in stages corresponding to subgroups
- Goal: Obtain sparse factorization of change-of-basis matrix  $D$

## $S_n$ an Ideal Proof-of-Concept Group

Nonabelian, representation theory well understood, natural chain of subgroups

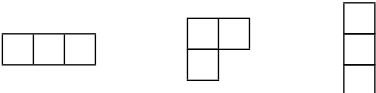
$$1 < S_2 < S_3 < \cdots < S_n$$

## Representation Theory of $S_n$

Each block in matrix algebra for  $\mathbb{C}S_n$  corresponds to a different non-increasing (proper) partition of  $n$

Example ( $\mathbb{C}S_3$ )

$$\mathbb{C}S_3 \cong (\bullet) \oplus \begin{pmatrix} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix} \oplus (\bullet)$$

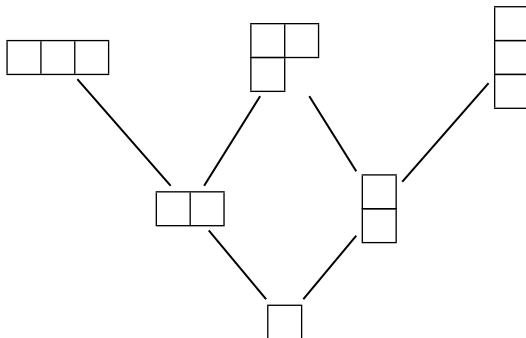
$3 \mapsto$ 


## Character Graph for $1 < S_2 < S_3$

Graded diagram of proper partitions for  $1 < S_2 < \dots < S_n$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \bullet \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathbb{C}S_3$

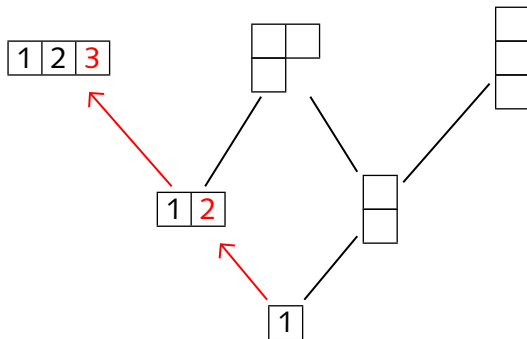


## Character Graph for $1 < S_2 < S_3$

Each pathway through the diagram corresponds to a filled-in partition and a row/column in matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \bullet & & & \\ & \bullet & \bullet & \\ & \bullet & \bullet & \\ & & & \bullet \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathbb{C}S_3$

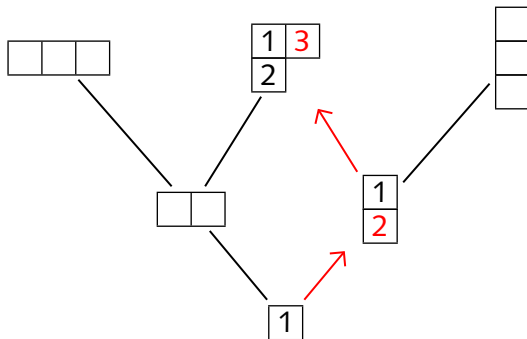


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$$\begin{pmatrix} \bullet & & & \\ & \bullet & \bullet & \\ & \bullet & \bullet & \\ & & & \bullet \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathbb{C}S_3$

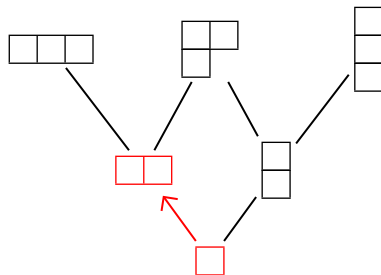




## Construction of Factorization

### Stages of Subspace Projections

- Partial paths give  $\mathbb{C}S_n$  subspaces
- At stage for  $S_k$ , project onto these subspaces
- Build sparse factor from projections
- Full paths by stage for  $S_n$



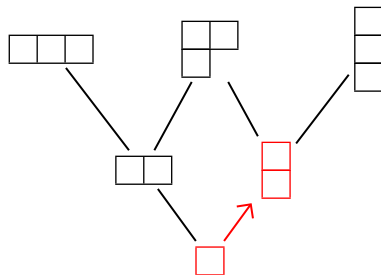
$$\mathbb{C}S_3 \cong (\cdot) \oplus \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{pmatrix} \oplus (\cdot)$$



## Construction of Factorization

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$$\mathbb{C}S_3 \cong (\cdot) \oplus \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{pmatrix} \oplus (\cdot)$$

## Factorization of $\mathbb{C}S_3$ DFT Matrix

Full DFT matrix for  $\mathbb{C}S_3$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{3}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

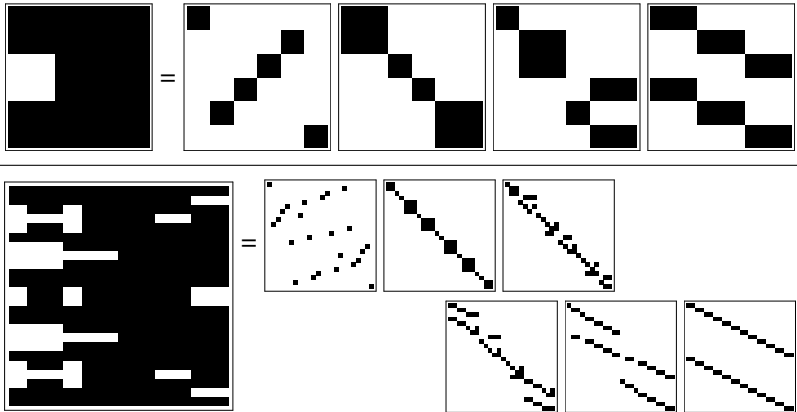
## Factorization of $\mathbb{C}S_3$ DFT Matrix

Three factors ( $\mathbb{C}S_2$  on rows,  $\mathbb{C}S_2$  on columns,  $\mathbb{C}S_3$  on rows):

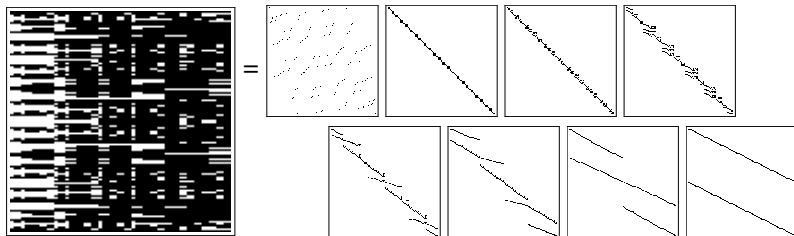
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & & & \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & & \\ & & & 1 & & & \\ & & & & 1 & & \\ & & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & & & \\ 1 & -1 & & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & & \\ & & & 1 & & & \\ & & & & 1 & & \\ & & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & & & \\ & 1 & & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & & \\ & & & 1 & & & \\ & & & & 1 & & \\ & & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

plus a permutation matrix and a row-scaling diagonal matrix

# Factorization of $\mathbb{C}S_n$ DFT Matrices



## Factorization of $\mathbb{C}S_n$ DFT Matrices



## Results from Prototype Implementation

### Prototype *MATHEMATICA*® Implementation

Can compute exact FFT up to  $n = 6$

### Operation Counts For Evaluation

$n$	$t_n^{\text{full}}$	$t_n^{\text{DIF}}$	$t_n^{\text{Maslen [1]}}$	$\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)$
3	4.7	2.7	2.7	3
4	18.8	5.3	5.4	6
5	87.9	8.8	9.1	10
6	486.4	13.8	13.6	15

# Future Directions

## Theory

- Prove  $O(n^2|S_n|)$  bounds on operation counts
- Deduce better bases for blocks in factors
- Relate FFT on  $S_n$  to FFTs on  $S_{n-1}$

## Implementation

- Improve efficiency of *MATHEMATICA*<sup>®</sup> implementation
- Port to MATLAB or GAP
- Parallelize decimation-in-frequency FFT algorithm

## References

[1] David K. Maslen.

The efficient computation of fourier transforms on the symmetric group.  
*Mathematics of Computation*, 67(223):1121–1147, July 1998.

[2] David K. Maslen and Daniel N. Rockmore.

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*DIMACS Series in Discrete Mathematics and Computer Science*, 28:183–237,  
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[3] Bruce E. Sagan.

*The Symmetric Group: Representations, Combinatorial Algorithms, and  
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Wadsworth & Brooks/Cole, Pacific Grove, CA, 1991.

## On The Web

Senior thesis website: (<http://www.math.hmc.edu/~emalm/thesis/>)