

THE DISCRETE FOURIER TRANSFORM (DFT) AND ITS USES

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1. DFTs: INTRODUCTION

→ THE DFT IS JUST A MATRIX (SQUARE MATRIX)

→ BUT A VERY SPECIAL MATRIX

→ FILLED WITH (SPECIAL) COMPLEX NUMBERS

→ INVERTIBLE (AND ITS INVERSE IS "ALMOST ITSELF")

→ WIDELY USEFUL

→ CONVERT "TIME-DOMAIN" TO "FREQUENCY DOMAIN" AND VICE-VERSA

→ DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING

→ FIND FREQUENCY SPECTRUM

→ PERFORM FILTERING

→ FOURIER ANALYSIS / SPECTROGRAMS / ETC.

→ IMAGE COMPRESSION

→ JPEG IMAGES (DCT)

→ FAST COMPUTATION: FFT

→ SHOW LIVE DEMO + SLIDES

→ CAN BE USED FOR A SPECIAL KIND OF INTERPOLATION (BAND-LIMITED INTERPOLATION)

→ SIMILAR TO $\text{sinc}()$ INTERPOLATION

→ CONNECTIONS WITH GLOBAL POLYNOMIAL INTERPOLATION AND VANDERMONDE MATRIX

→ PRELIMINARIES:

→ COMPLEX CONJUGATE NOTATION: BAR OVER NUMBER/VECTOR/MATRIX: $\bar{a}$, $\bar{x}$, $\bar{A}$

→ HERMITIAN: MEANS COMPLEX CONJUGATE TRANSPOSE

→ DENOTED BY $*$ or H SUPERSCRIPT

→ $1^* = 1$; $(1+j)^* = (1-j)$

→ $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & e^{j\pi} \\ 2 & 1+j \end{bmatrix}^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ \bar{e}^{j\pi} & 1-j \end{bmatrix}$

2. ROOTS OF 1 ON THE COMPLEX PLANE

→ $\sqrt{1} = \pm 1$, FOCUS ON THE LESS OBVIOUS ONE: -1 .

→ $\sqrt[3]{1} = 1, e^{j\frac{2\pi}{3}}, e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{3}}$

— FOCUS ON THE ONE w/ +ve angle:

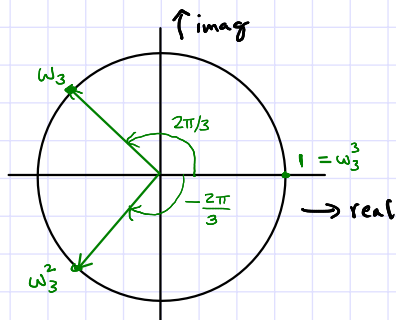
→ $\omega_3 \triangleq e^{j\frac{2\pi}{3}}$

→ $\omega_3^3 = 1$

→ $\sqrt[N]{1} =$ small "omega N"

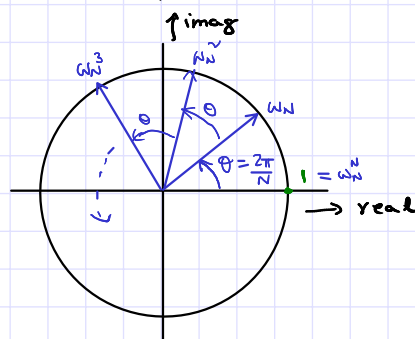
→ $\omega_N \triangleq e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N}}$

→ $\omega_N^N = 1$



$(e^{j\frac{2\pi}{3}})^2 = e^{j\frac{4\pi}{3}}$

$(e^{j\frac{2\pi}{3}})^3 = e^{j2\pi} = 1.$



3. THE DFT MATRIX

→ CONVENTION: Row/COL INDICES i, j GO FROM $0, \dots, N-1$

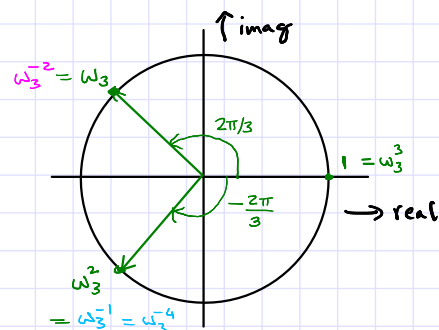
→ DFT MATRIX F_N : $(i, j)^{th}$ entry = ω_N^{-ij}

→ EXAMPLE: $N=3$

→ $F_3 =$

$$\begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} j \rightarrow 0 & 1 & 2 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} i \downarrow \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} -0 \times 0 & -0 \times 1 & -0 \times 2 \\ \omega_3 & \omega_3 & \omega_3 \\ -1 \times 0 & -1 \times 1 & -1 \times 2 \\ \omega_3 & \omega_3 & \omega_3 \\ -2 \times 0 & -2 \times 1 & -2 \times 2 \\ \omega_3 & \omega_3 & \omega_3 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \omega_3^{-1} & \omega_3^{-2} \\ 1 & \omega_3^{-2} & \omega_3^{-4} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$\leftarrow N=3 \rightarrow$



→ DFT - VECTOR PRODUCT

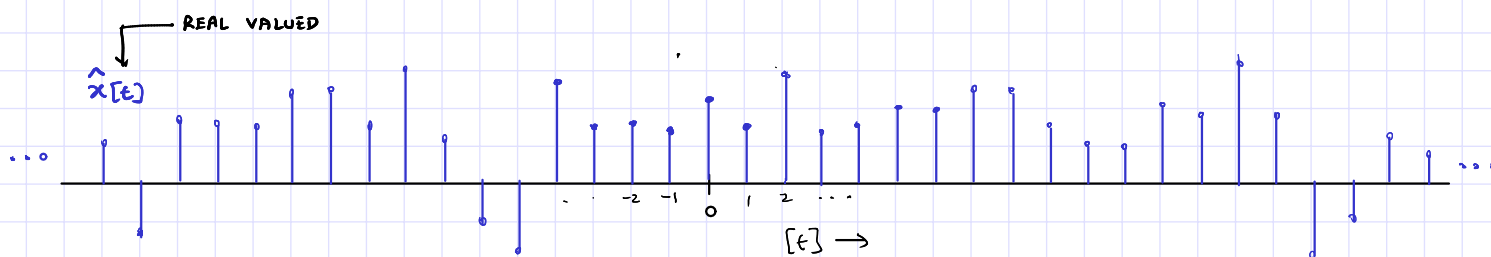
$$\rightarrow \text{say } \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ \vdots \\ y_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \triangleq F_N \vec{x}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Then: } \underline{y_i = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{-ij} x_j}, \quad i=0, \dots, N-1 \quad (\text{WILL BE USEFUL LATER})$$

4. VECTORS FROM SEQUENCES

→ TURNING A CHUNK OF A SEQUENCE INTO A VECTOR

→ GIVEN SOME DISCRETE-TIME SEQUENCE: $\hat{x}[t]$, $t = -\infty, \dots, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots, \infty$



→ PICK ANY N CONSECUTIVE VALUES

→ EXAMPLE: $N=5$, $t = -5, -4, \dots, -2, -1$.



SIZE-N

$$\rightarrow \text{MAKE A VECTOR OF THEM: } \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x[-5] \\ x[-4] \\ x[-3] \\ x[-2] \\ x[-1] \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow x_0 \\ \leftarrow x_1 \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow x_{N-1} \end{matrix}$$

→ WE CAN NOW RUN DFTs (OR OTHER VECTOR OPERATIONS) ON $\vec{x}$

→ THIS IS OFTEN USEFUL

→ E.G., THE SPECTROGRAM SHOWN EARLIER (DEMO/SLIDES) DOES JUST THIS, USING CONSECUTIVE CHUNKS OF THE INPUT EVERY TIME THE DISPLAY IS UPDATED.

→ UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, WE WILL ASSUME BELOW THAT VECTORS CONTAIN CHUNKS FROM SEQUENCES, STARTING FROM $t=0$

→ e.g.:

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u[0] \\ u[1] \\ \vdots \\ u[N-1] \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow u_0 \\ \leftarrow u_1 \\ \vdots \\ \leftarrow u_{N-1} \end{matrix}$$

5. FREQUENCY INTERPRETATION OF THE DFT

→ OUR GOAL HERE IS TO TRY TO DEVELOP A FEELING/INTUITION FOR WHAT THE ENTRIES OF $\vec{X}$ REPRESENT

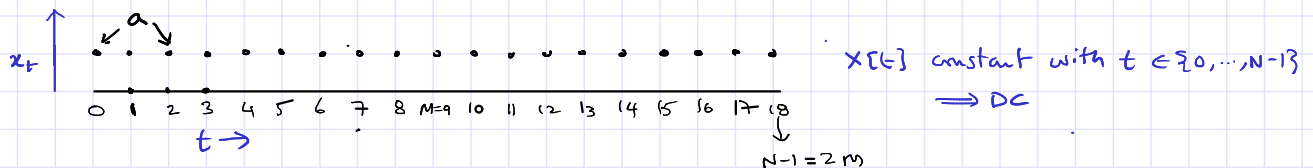
→ WE WILL ASSUME $\vec{x}$ (and $x[t]$) are always real.

→ THE FLOW IS LIKE THIS:

→ WE WILL MAKE UP SOME SIMPLE EXAMPLES (DC, SINUSOIDAL) of $\vec{x}$ or $x[t]$

→ WE WILL RUN THE DFT ON $\vec{x}$ and SEE WHAT $\vec{X}$ LOOKS LIKE

→ EXPERIMENT 1: $\vec{x}$ (or $x[t]$) is DC



$$\rightarrow \vec{X} = F_N \vec{x} \Rightarrow X_f = \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} w_N^{-tf} x_t$$

$$\rightarrow X_0 = \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} x_t = \underline{Na}$$

$$\rightarrow X_1 = a \underbrace{\sum_{t=0}^{N-1} w_N^{-t}}_{\text{CALL THIS } S}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow S &= 1 + w_N^{-1} + w_N^{-2} + \dots + w_N^{-(N-1)} \\ w_N^{-1} S &= w_N^{-1} + w_N^{-2} + \dots + w_N^{-(N-1)} + w_N^{-N} \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} S \\ w_N^{-1} S \end{aligned}} \right\} \text{SUBTRACT}$$

$$\rightarrow S - w_N^{-1} S = 1 - w_N^{-N}$$

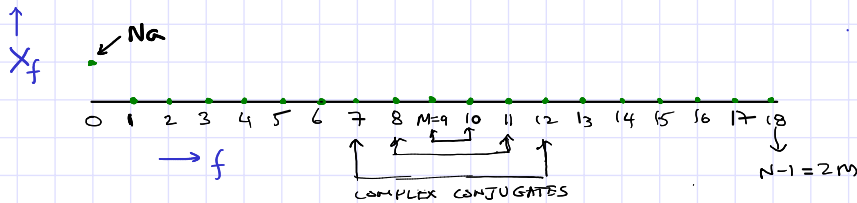
$$\Rightarrow (1 - w_N^{-1}) S = 1 - w_N^{-N} \Rightarrow S = \frac{1 - w_N^{-N}}{1 - w_N^{-1}} \stackrel{1}{=} 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{X_1 = 0}$$

→ TRY $X_2, X_3, \dots, X_{N-1} \leftarrow$ ALL WILL BE 0

↑
WORK IT OUT YOURSELF LATER.

→ SO OUR $\vec{X}$ LOOKS LIKE THIS:

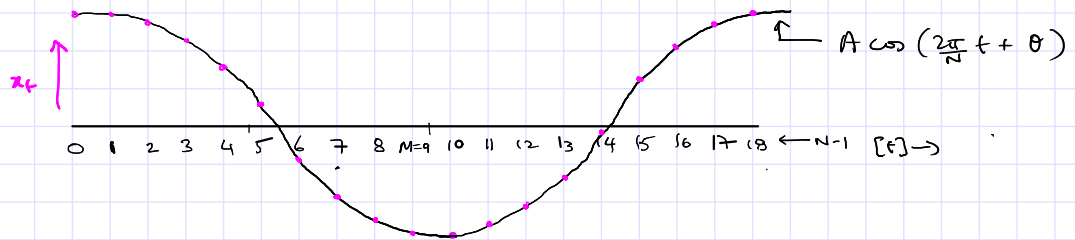


→ CONCLUSION: IF $\tilde{x}/x[t]$ IS DC, $X_i = 0$ except X_0 , which is N times the DC value.

→ NEXT EXPERIMENT: $\tilde{x}/x[t]$ are samples of a sinusoid of period N

→ Say $x(t) = A \cos(\frac{2\pi}{N}t + \theta)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$
 $N \leftarrow$ period

→ $x[f] =$ discrete sample $= A \cos(\frac{2\pi}{N}f + \theta)$, $f = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1$



→ write $x[f]/x_t$ in COMPLEX / PHASOR NOTATION $\rightarrow \frac{A}{2}e^{j\theta}$ IS THE PHASOR

$$\rightarrow x[f] = \frac{A}{2} \left(e^{j(\frac{2\pi}{N}f + \theta)} + e^{-j(\frac{2\pi}{N}f + \theta)} \right) = \frac{A}{2} \left(\omega_N^f e^{j\theta} + \omega_N^{-f} \omega_N^{-j\theta} \right)$$

$$\rightarrow \text{DFT of } \vec{x}: \vec{X} = F_N \vec{x} \Leftrightarrow X_f = \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{-tf} x_t$$

$$\Rightarrow X_f = \frac{A}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{-tf} \left(\omega_N^t e^{j\theta} + \omega_N^{-t} \omega_N^{-j\theta} \right)$$

$$t - tf = t(1-f)$$

$$= \frac{A}{2} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{t(1-f)} e^{j\theta} + \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{-t(f+1)} \omega_N^{-j\theta} \right]$$

call this k

$$= \frac{A}{2} \left[\underbrace{e^{j\theta} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{t(1-f)}}_{S_1} + \underbrace{e^{-j\theta} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{t(-f-1)}}_{S_2} \right]$$

— Re-write S_2 a bit: $S_2 = \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{t(-f-1)} = \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{t(-f-1)} \omega_N^N = \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{t(N-f-1)}$

call this l

→ What are S_1 and S_2 ?

→ same procedure:

$$S_1 = \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} w_N^{tk} = 1 + w_N^k + (w_N^k)^2 + \dots + (w_N^k)^{N-1}$$

$$w_N^k S_1 = w_N^k + (w_N^k)^2 + \dots + (w_N^k)^{N-1} + (w_N^k)^N$$

$$S_1 - w_N^k S_1 = 1 - (w_N^k)^N \Rightarrow S_1 = \frac{1 - (w_N^k)^N}{1 - w_N^k}$$

→ if $k \neq 0, N, -N, \pm iN$, then $(1 - w_N^k) = \text{denominator} \neq 0$

→ numerator: $1 - w_N^{kN} = 1 - (w_N^N)^k = 0$

→ $S_1 = 0$

→ if $k = 0, N, -N, \pm iN$, then $w_N^k = 1$

$$\rightarrow S_1 = 1 + 1 + 1 \dots + 1 = N$$

$$\Rightarrow S_1 = \begin{cases} N, & k=0, \pm iN \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow$ Now $k = 1-f$, $f = 0, \dots, N-1 \Rightarrow 1-f = 1, 0, \dots, -N+2$

$$\Rightarrow S_1 = \begin{cases} N, & \text{if } f=1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

→ How ABOUT S_2 ? SAME EXPRESSION, REPLACE k by l .

$$l = N-f-1, f = 0, \dots, N-1 \Rightarrow N-f-1 = N-1, N-2, \dots, \underbrace{N-(N-1)-1}_{0, \text{ when } f=N-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_2 = \begin{cases} N, & \text{if } f=N-1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

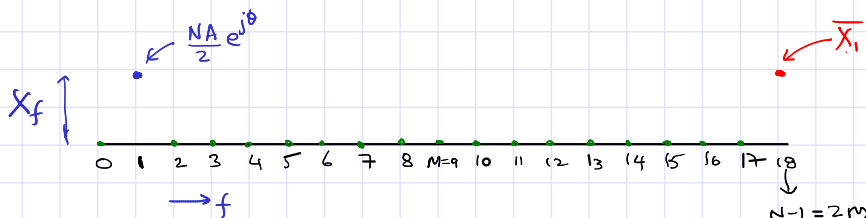
↓ THEREFORE

→ ∴ we have:

$$\rightarrow X_1 = N \frac{A}{2} e^{j\theta} \quad (\text{with } f=1 \Rightarrow S_1 = N)$$

$$\rightarrow X_{N-1} = N \frac{A}{2} e^{-j\theta} = \overline{X_1} \quad (\text{with } f=N-1 \Rightarrow S_2 = N)$$

→ X_f for $f=0, 2, 3, \dots, N-2 = 0$



- SUMMARY: IF YOU DFT THE TIME-DOMAIN SAMPLES OF THE PHASOR $\frac{A}{2} e^{j\theta}$ (with $\omega = \frac{2\pi}{N}$)
- X_1 IS SIMPLY THE PHASOR $\frac{A}{2} e^{j\theta}$ scaled by N
 - X_{N-1} IS ITS CONJUGATE
 - THE REST ARE 0.

→ NEXT EXPERIMENTS (WORK OUT THE DETAILS YOURSELF!) ← DON'T SKIMP!

→ TAKE N TO BE AN ODD NUMBER: $N = 2M + 1$
 ↑ some positive integer

→ SUPPOSE YOU TRY $x(t) = A \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{N} f^* t + \theta\right)$
 f^* CAN TAKE INTEGER VALUES FROM 1 TO M

→ PHASOR FORM: $\frac{A}{2} e^{j\theta}$, with angular freq. $\omega = \frac{2\pi f^*}{N}$

→ SOME TERMINOLOGY:

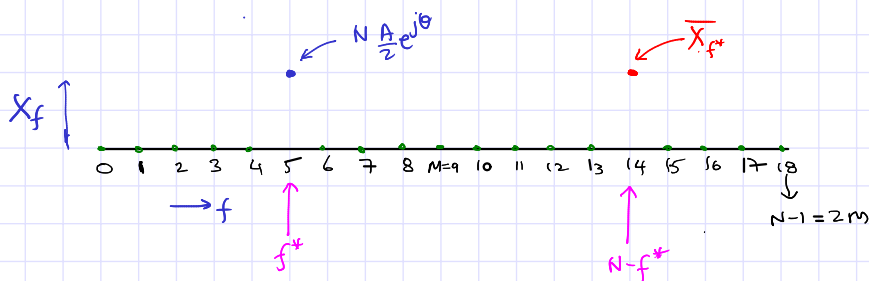
→ N = the time period (or just period)

→ $\frac{1}{N}$ = the fundamental frequency (or just fundamental)

→ $\frac{f^*}{N}$ = the f^{*th} HARMONIC (of the fundamental)

→ SO $x(t)$ represents a sinusoid at the f^{*th} harmonic with phasor $\frac{A}{2} e^{j\theta}$

→ THE DFT OF $\tilde{x}/x[t]$ WILL LOOK LIKE THIS (PROVE YOURSELF - SIMILAR TO THE $f^*=1$ CASE ABOVE)

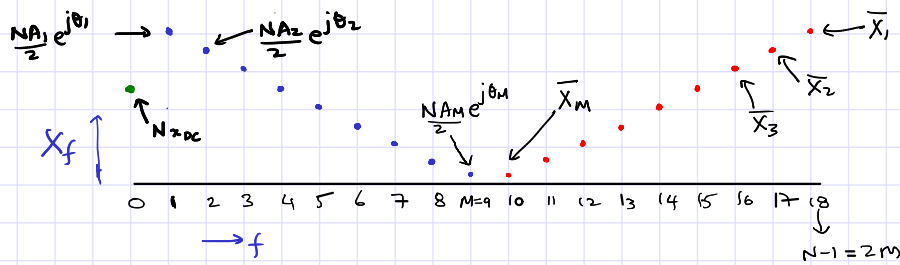


→ NOW SUPPOSE $x(t) =$ sum of DC + sinusoids at the fundamental + harmonics

→ i.e., $x(t) = x_{DC}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ \frac{A_1}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{N} t + \theta_1\right) && \leftarrow \text{fundamental} \\
 &+ \frac{A_2}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{N} \cdot 2 \cdot t + \theta_2\right) && \leftarrow 2^{nd} \text{ harmonic} \\
 &+ \dots && \vdots \\
 &+ \frac{A_M}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{N} M t + \theta_M\right) && \leftarrow m^{th} \text{ harmonic}
 \end{aligned}$$

→ IF YOU RUN A DFT ON $x[t]/\bar{x}$, you will get:-



→ i.e, $X_0 = N x_{dc}$

$$X_i = \frac{N A_i}{2} e^{j\theta_i}, \quad i=1, \dots, M$$

$$\text{and } X_{N-i} = \overline{X_i}, \quad i=1, \dots, M.$$

→ IN OTHER WORDS : THE DFT DECOMPOSES $\bar{x}/x[t]$ INTO

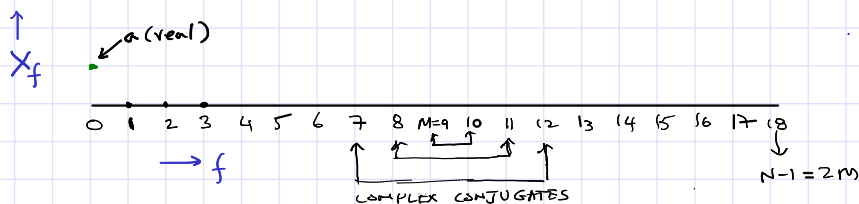
SINUSOIDS AT FREQUENCIES $0=DC$, $\frac{2\pi}{N}$ = fundamental,

$\frac{2\pi}{N} \cdot 2$ = 2nd harmonic, etc, upto

$\frac{2\pi}{N} M$ = Mth harmonic.

→ FINDING THE PHASOR AT EACH FREQUENCY (SCALED BY N) AS X_i

→ Choose $X_0 = a$, $X_f = 0$, $f = 1, 2, \dots, N-1$



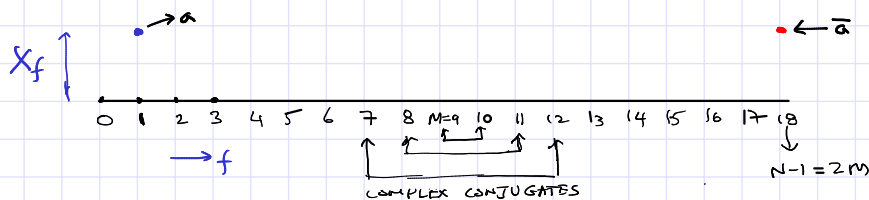
→ WHAT IS ITS IDFT?

$$\rightarrow x_t = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{f=0}^{N-1} w_N^{tf} X_f = \frac{a}{N}, \text{ for } t = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1$$

→ THEREFORE, X_0 CAPTURES A DC WAVEFORM (interpreting x_t as $x[t]$)

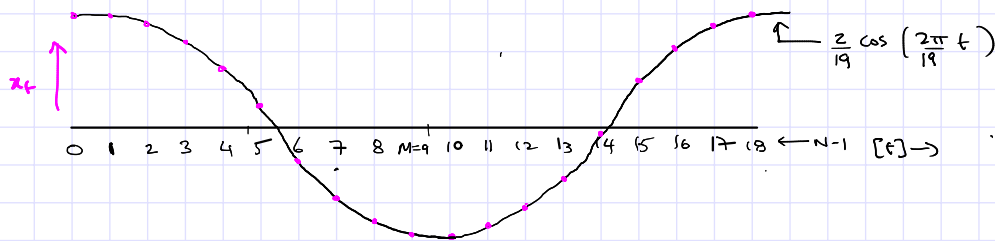
→ WHAT ABOUT X_1 ?

→ CHOOSE: $X_0 = 0$, $X_1 = a$, $X_{N-1} = \bar{a}$, the rest = 0



$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow x_t &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{f=0}^{N-1} w_N^{tf} X_f = \frac{1}{N} (w_N^t a + w_N^{t(N-1)} \bar{a}) = \frac{1}{N} (w_N^t a + \bar{w}_N^t \bar{a}) \\ &= \frac{2}{N} \operatorname{Re} \{ w_N^t a \} \end{aligned}$$

→ say $a=1$ (for simplicity), then $x_t = \frac{2}{N} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{N} t\right)$



→ THIS IS A (CO)SINE WAVE (DISCRETE SAMPLES OF IT)

→ SUPPOSE $X_1 = a$ (some general complex number), $X_{N-1} = \bar{a}$

→ consider $X_1 = a$ to be a PHASOR

→ and write it in magnitude-phase form: $a = A e^{j\theta}$ $\begin{matrix} \text{real, } > 0 \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$

→ then $x(t) = \frac{2}{N} \operatorname{Re} \{ \omega_N^t a \} = \frac{2}{N} \operatorname{Re} \{ \omega_N^t A e^{j\theta} \}$

$$= \frac{2A}{N} \operatorname{Re} \{ e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N}t} e^{j\theta} \} = \frac{2A}{N} \operatorname{Re} \{ e^{j(\frac{2\pi}{N}t + \theta)} \}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_t = \frac{2A}{N} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}t + \theta\right)$$

$\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \text{Amplitude} & \text{frequency} & \text{phase shift.} \end{matrix}$

→ compare against what a "regular phasor" means:

→ Given $a = A e^{j\theta}$, the time-domain waveform is:

$$a e^{j\omega t} + \bar{a} e^{-j\omega t} = 2 \operatorname{Re} \{ a e^{j\omega t} \} = \underline{2A \cos(\omega t + \theta)}$$

→ SO NOW WE SEE THAT IF we interpret X_1 as a phasor, x_t is simply the samples of the regular phasor's time-domain waveform:

→ scaled by $1/N$

→ with $\omega = \frac{2\pi}{N}$ ← THIS IS CALLED THE FUNDAMENTAL (ANGULAR) FREQUENCY

→ WHAT ABOUT $X_2, X_3, \dots$?

→ LET'S BE A BIT MORE PRECISE.

→ TAKE N TO BE ODD $\Rightarrow N = 2M + 1$ $\begin{matrix} \text{INTEGER } > 0 \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$

→ TAKE $X_i = a$, $X_{N-i} = \bar{a}$, for some $0 < i \leq M$

→ with $a = A e^{j\theta}$, as before.

$$\rightarrow \text{THEN, } x_t = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{f=0}^{N-1} \omega_N^{ft} X_f = \frac{1}{N} (\omega_N^{it} X_i + \omega_N^{(N-i)t} X_{N-i}) = \frac{1}{N} (\omega_N^{it} a + \omega_N^{-it} \bar{a})$$

$$= \frac{2}{N} \operatorname{Re} \{ \omega_N^{it} a \} = \underline{\frac{2A}{N} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi i}{N}t + \theta\right)}$$

→ IF WE INTERPRET X_i as a phasor, x_t = samples of the "regular phasor time domain waveform",

→ scaled by $\frac{1}{N}$ $\begin{matrix} \text{FUNDAMENTAL} \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$

→ with $\omega = \frac{2\pi i}{N}$ ← i th HARMONIC OF FUNDAMENTAL $= i \left(\frac{2\pi}{N} \right)$

→ SUMMARY

→ take N odd $\Rightarrow N = 2M + 1$

→ $X_0 = a$ (real) $\mapsto$ DC $\vec{x} = \frac{a}{N}$

→ $X_i = a$ (phasor) $\mapsto$ sinusoidal $\vec{x} : x_t = \frac{2}{N} |a| \cos\left(\frac{2\pi i}{N} t + \phi\right)$ $\mapsto$ angle of a , i.e. θ
→ for $i = 1, \dots, M$
→ $X_{N-i} = \bar{a}$ REQUIRED FOR $\vec{x}$ TO BE REAL.

→ POINT TO PONDER (AND WORK OUT ON YOUR OWN)

→ HOW DOES THE ABOVE CHANGE IF N IS EVEN?

→ NOW WE SEE WHAT THE DFT DOES:

$$\rightarrow \vec{X} = F_N \vec{x} \iff \vec{x} = \frac{1}{N} F_N^* \vec{X}$$

→ $\vec{X}$ CONTAINS:

→ the DC component (X_0)

→ phasors with angular frequencies $\frac{2\pi i}{N}$, $i = 1, \dots, M$

→ I.E., $\vec{x}$ ($= x[t]$) HAS BEEN DECOMPOSED BY THE DFT INTO A SUM

OF THE ABOVE PHASORS WITH THE ABOVE FREQUENCIES + DC.

↑
DISCRETE SAMPLES OF SINUSOIDS WITH FREQUENCIES $\frac{2\pi i}{N} \leftarrow$ FUNDAMENTAL, $i = 1, \dots, M$.
AND HARMONICS.

→ THIS IS WHY $\vec{X}$ IS CALLED THE FREQUENCY-DOMAIN REPRESENTATION OF $\vec{x}$.
