

# CS 450: Numerical Analysis<sup>1</sup>

## Fast Fourier Transform

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<sup>1</sup>*These slides have been drafted by Edgar Solomonik as lecture templates and supplementary material for the book “Scientific Computing: An Introductory Survey” by Michael T. Heath ([slides](#)).*

## Sparse Linear Systems and Time-independent PDEs

- ▶ The Poisson equation serves as a model problem for numerical methods:
  - ▶ *the 2D Poisson problem and resulting Kronecker product linear system are a common benchmark,*
  - ▶ *this system has the form  $\mathbf{T} \otimes \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{T}$  where  $\mathbf{T}$  is tridiagonal.*
- ▶ Dense, sparse direct, iterative, FFT, and Multigrid methods provide increasingly good complexity for the problem:
  - ▶ *dense linear system solve costs  $O(n^3)$  naively,*
  - ▶ *nested dissection with Cholesky has  $O(n^{3/2})$  complexity and  $O(n \log n)$  memory*
  - ▶ *Conjugate-Gradient gives  $O(n^{3/2})$  complexity with  $O(n)$  memory*
  - ▶ *FFT achieves  $O(n \log n)$  cost and multigrid achieves  $O(n)$ .*

# Multigrid

- ▶ Multigrid employs a hierarchy of grids to accelerate iterative methods:
  - ▶ *the residual equation  $A\hat{x} = r$  on each fine grid, is approximately solved on the next coarser grid,*
  - ▶ *the equation is **restricted** by projection matrix  $P$ , so that  $PAP^T P\hat{x} = Pr$*
  - ▶ *the interpolation operator (often given by  $P^T$ ) is used to obtain an approximate  $\hat{x}$  based on the coarse grid approximate solution,*
  - ▶ *at each level we perform some smoothing operations (e.g. Jacobi or Conjugate Gradient) before restriction and after interpolation,*
  - ▶ *at the coarsest level we typically solve directly.*
- ▶ The multigrid method works by resolving high-frequency error components on finer-grids and low-frequency error components on coarser grids:
  - ▶ *smoothers are usually effective at reducing local error, but slow at resolving global (low-frequency) components of the error,*
  - ▶ *on coarser grids, the low frequency error may be resolved more quickly.*

## Multigrid

- ▶ Consider the Galerkin approximation with linear finite elements to the Poisson equation  $u'' = f(t)$  with boundary conditions  $u(a) = u(b) = 0$ :

$$\phi_i^{(h)}(t) = \begin{cases} (t - t_{i-1})/h & : t \in [t_{i-1}, t_i] \\ (t_{i+1} - t)/h & : t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}] \\ 0 & : \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where  $t_0 = t_1 = a$  and  $t_{n+1} = t_n = b$ . *The weak form with grid spacing of  $h$  is*

$$\int_a^b f(t)\phi_i^{(h)}(t)dt = - \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \int_a^b \phi_j^{(h)'}(t)\phi_i^{(h)'}(t)dt.$$

*in multigrid, we define a coarse grid basis of  $(n - 1)/2$  functions, which are hat functions of twice the width,*

$$\phi_i^{(2h)}(t) = \frac{1}{2}\phi_{2i-2}^{(h)}(t) + \phi_{2i-1}^{(h)}(t) + \frac{1}{2}\phi_{2i}^{(h)}(t) = \begin{cases} (t - t_{i-2})/2h & : t \in [t_{i-2}, t_i] \\ (t_{i+2} - t)/2h & : t \in [t_i, t_{i+2}] \\ 0 & : \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## Coarse Grid Matrix

- ▶ Multigrid restricts the residual equation on the fine grid  $\mathbf{A}^{(h)}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{r}^{(h)}$  to the coarse grid: Let  $\phi^{(2h)} = [\phi_1^{(2h)} \quad \dots \quad \phi_{(n-1)/2}^{(2h)}]$  and  $\phi^{(h)} = [\phi_1^{(h)} \quad \dots \quad \phi_n^{(h)}]$  and define *restriction matrix*  $\mathbf{P}$  so that  $\phi^{(2h)} = \mathbf{P}\phi^{(h)}$ , i.e.,

$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & & \\ & 1 & 2 & 1 & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}^{(1)} \\ \mathbf{p}^{(2)} \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}.$$

The coarse grid stiffness matrix is given by

$$\begin{aligned} a_{ij}^{(2h)} &= - \int_a^b \phi_j^{(2h)'}(t) \phi_i^{(2h)'}(t) dt \\ &= - \mathbf{p}^{(i)} \underbrace{\left( \int_a^b \phi^{(h)'}(t) \phi^{(h)'}{}^T(t) dt \right)}_{-\mathbf{A}^{(h)}} \mathbf{p}^{(j)T}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{A}^{(2h)} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{(h)}\mathbf{P}^T.$$

## Restricting the Residual Equation

- ▶ Given the fine-grid residual  $\mathbf{r}^{(h)}$ , we seek to use the coarse grid to approximate  $\mathbf{x}^{(h)}$  so that  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{(h)} \approx \mathbf{r}^{(h)}$ 
  - ▶ Given a function in the coarse grid basis,  $u^{(2h)} = \mathbf{x}^{(2h)T} \boldsymbol{\phi}^{(2h)}$ , we can express it in the fine-grid basis via

$$u^{(2h)} = \mathbf{x}^{(2h)T} \underbrace{\mathbf{P}\boldsymbol{\phi}^{(h)}}_{\boldsymbol{\phi}^{(2h)}} = \underbrace{\mathbf{x}^{(2h)T} \mathbf{P}}_{\mathbf{x}^{(h)T}} \boldsymbol{\phi}^{(h)}.$$

- ▶ Consequently, the solution to the restricted residual equation  $\mathbf{A}^{(2h)}\mathbf{x}^{(2h)} = \mathbf{r}^{(2h)}$  will lead to an approximate residual equation solution on the fine grid with  $\mathbf{x}^{(h)} = \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{x}^{(2h)}$ .
- ▶ Noting this, we derive the form of the coarse grid residual,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}^{(2h)} &= \mathbf{A}^{(2h)} \mathbf{x}^{(2h)} \\ &= \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{(h)} \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{x}^{(2h)} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{(h)} \mathbf{x}^{(h)} \\ &= \mathbf{P}\mathbf{r}^{(h)}. \end{aligned}$$

## Discrete Fourier Transform

- ▶ The solutions to hyperbolic PDEs like Poisson are wave-like and take on simple representations in the frequency basis, both for continuous and discretized equations. We define the *discrete Fourier transform* using

$$\omega_{(n)} = \cos(2\pi/n) - i \sin(2\pi/n) = e^{-2\pi i/n}.$$

The DFT matrix  $\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is given by  $f_{ij} = \omega_{(n)}^{ij}$ ,

$$\mathbf{F} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \omega_{(4)}^1 & \omega_{(4)}^2 & \omega_{(4)}^3 \\ 1 & \omega_{(4)}^2 & \omega_{(4)}^4 & \omega_{(4)}^6 \\ 1 & \omega_{(4)}^3 & \omega_{(4)}^6 & \omega_{(4)}^9 \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ it is complex and symmetric (not Hermitian),
- ▶ it is unitary modulo scaling  $\mathbf{F}^* = n\mathbf{F}^{-1}$ .

The discrete Fourier transform of vector  $\mathbf{v}$  is  $\mathbf{F}\mathbf{v}$ .

# Fast Fourier Transform (FFT)

- ▶ Consider  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{a}$ , we have

$$\forall j \in [0, n-1] \quad b_j = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \omega_{(n)}^{jk} a_k,$$

the FFT computes this recursively via 2 FFTs of dimension  $n/2$ , using  $\omega_{(n/2)} = \omega_{(n)}^2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} b_j &= \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n)}^{j(2k)} a_{2k} + \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n)}^{j(2k+1)} a_{2k+1} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n/2)}^{jk} a_{2k} + \omega_{(n)}^j \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n/2)}^{jk} a_{2k+1} \end{aligned}$$



## Fast Fourier Transform Derivation

- ▶ The FFT leverages similarity between the first and second half of the output,

$$b_j = \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n/2)}^{jk} a_{2k}}_{u_j} + \omega_{(n)}^j \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n/2)}^{jk} a_{2k+1}}_{v_j}$$

corresponds closely to the entry shifted by  $n/2$ ,

$$b_{j+n/2} = \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n/2)}^{(j+n/2)k} a_{2k} + \omega_{(n)}^{j+n/2} \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n/2)}^{(j+n/2)k} a_{2k+1}$$

Now  $\omega_{(n/2)}^{(j+n/2)k} = \omega_{(n/2)}^{jk}$  since  $(\omega_{(n/2)}^{n/2})^k = 1^k = 1$  and using  $\omega_{(n)}^{n/2} = -1$ ,

$$b_{j+n/2} = \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n/2)}^{jk} a_{2k}}_{u_j} - \omega_{(n)}^j \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n/2)}^{jk} a_{2k+1}}_{v_j}$$

## FFT Algorithm Summary

- ▶ Let vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  be two recursive FFTs,  $\forall j \in [0, n/2 - 1]$

$$u_j = \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n/2)}^{jk} a_{2k}, \quad v_j = \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \omega_{(n/2)}^{jk} a_{2k+1}$$

- ▶ Given  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  scale using "twiddle factors"  $z_j = \omega_{(n)}^j \cdot v_j$
- ▶ Then it suffices to combine the vectors as follows  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{z} \\ \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{z} \end{bmatrix}$
- ▶ The FFT has  $O(n \log n)$  cost complexity:  
*There are two recursive calls of dimension  $n/2$  and  $O(n)$  work for application to twiddle factors and final summation, thus*

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + O(n) = O(n \log n).$$

## Applications of the FFT

- ▶ We can rapidly multiply degree  $n$  polynomials by considering their values  $\omega_{(2n-1)}^i$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, 2n - 1\}$

$$p_c(\omega_{(2n-1)}^i) = p_a(\omega_{(2n-1)}^i)p_b(\omega_{(2n-1)}^i)$$

- ▶ *The product of coefficients of  $p_a, p_b$  with Vandermonde matrix  $v_{ij} = (\omega_{(2n-1)}^i)^j$ , which is the DFT matrix, gives values of polynomials at  $2n - 1$  nodes.*
- ▶ *Interpolation to compute coefficients of  $p_c$  from the products of values of  $p_a$  and  $p_b$  at those nodes is multiplication by the inverted DFT matrix and is exact since  $p_c$  is degree  $2n - 2$ .*
- ▶ More generally the DFT can be used to solve any Toeplitz linear system (convolution):
  - ▶ *A standard convolution has the form,  $\forall k \in [0, n - 1]$   $c_k = \sum_{j=0}^k a_j b_{k-j}$ .*
  - ▶ *Convolution is equivalent to multiplications of polynomials with degree  $n/2 - 1$  and coefficients  $a$  and  $b$ , where the convolution computes the coefficients  $c$  of the product of the two polynomials.*

## Convolution via DFT

- ▶ The Fourier transform method for computing a convolution is given by

$$c_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_s \omega_{(n)}^{-ks} \left( \sum_j \omega_{(n)}^{sj} a_j \right) \left( \sum_t \omega_{(n)}^{st} b_t \right)$$

- ▶ *Rearrange the order of the summations to see what happens to every product of  $a$  and  $b$*

$$c_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_s \sum_j \sum_t \omega_{(n)}^{(j+t-k)s} a_j b_t$$

- ▶ *For any  $u = j + t - k \neq 0$ , we observe  $\sum_s (\omega_{(n)}^u)^s = 0$*
- ▶ *When  $j + t - k = 0$  the products  $\omega_{(n)}^{(s+t-j)k} = 1$ , so there are  $n$  nonzero terms  $a_j b_{k-j}$  in the summation*

# Solving Numerical PDEs with the FFT

- ▶ 1D finite-difference schemes on a regular grid correspond to convolutions:  
*1D model problem is simply convolution with vector  $[1, -2, 1]$ .*
- ▶ For the 1D Poisson model problem, the eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{T}$  corresponds to the imaginary part of a minor of a  $2(n+1)$ -dimensional DFT matrix:
  - ▶ *In particular,  $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{X}^{-1}$  where  $x_{ij}$  is the imaginary part of  $f_{i+1,j+1}$  with  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{2(n+1) \times 2(n+1)}$ .*
  - ▶ *Consequently,  $\mathbf{T}$  can be diagonalized and the overall system solved by FFT with  $O(n \log n)$  cost.*
- ▶ Multidimensional Poisson can be handled with multidimensional FFT:  
*For example 2D FFT (1D FFT of each row then 1D FFT of each column) suffices to solve the 2D Poisson problem.*