#### Sparse Fourier Transform Algorithms

**Eric Price** 

MIT

2013-2-17



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## Collaboration with Rest of Session Speakers



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2 Algorithm (exactly sparse case)

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2 Algorithm (exactly sparse case)



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Algorithm (exactly sparse case)

3 Algorithm (noisy case)

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#### Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)

• Given  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , compute Fourier transform  $\hat{x}$ :

$$\widehat{x}_i = \sum_j \omega^{ij} x_j$$
 for  $\omega = e^{2\pi \mathbf{i}/n}$ 



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$$\widehat{x} = Fx$$
 for  $F_{ij} = \omega^{ij}$ 



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**Exact Sparsity** 

• Suppose  $\hat{x}$  is *k*-sparse: only *k* non-zero coefficients.

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- Long line of additional work [GGIMS02, AGS03, GMS05, Iwen '10, Akavia '10]
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  - If no hidden constants, would be 100x faster at 0.1%.

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- *k*-sparse Fourier transform in  $O(k \log n)$  time.
- Approximate sparse Fourier transform in  $O(\frac{1}{\epsilon}k \log(n/k) \log n)$  time:

$$\|\operatorname{result} - \widehat{x}\|_2 \leqslant (1+\epsilon) \min_{k ext{-sparse}\ \widehat{x}_{(k)}} \|\widehat{x}_{(k)} - \widehat{x}\|_2$$

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- Faster than FFT whenever k/n < C for fixed constant C.
  - Exact case:  $C \approx 1\%$ .
- Caveats:
  - Output  $\hat{x}$  has log *n* bit precision.
  - n must be a power of 2 (more generally, n must be smooth).
  - Succeed with 90% probability.

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2 Algorithm (exactly sparse case)

3 Algorithm (noisy case)

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 Then: repeat on residual, with k → k/2 and decreasing the error probability.

#### What can you do with Fourier measurements?





*n*-dimensional DFT:  $O(n \log n)$  $x \to \hat{x}$ 

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• Time domain is  $O(B \log n)$  sparse.

# Filter (frequency): Gaussian \* boxcar

• Time domain is  $O(B \log n)$  sparse.

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- "Pass region" of size n/B, outside which filter is negligible  $\delta$ .

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- "Pass region" of size n/B, outside which filter is negligible  $\delta$ .
- "Super-pass region", where filter  $\approx$  1.
- Small fraction (say 10%) is "bad region" with intermediate value.

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  - Can't evaluate x' in time domain, but can hash  $\hat{x'}$  directly.
- Gives  $O(k \log n)$  time sparse Fourier transform.

# Outline



Algorithm (exactly sparse case)



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 $O(k \log n)$ Our Result:

• What if there's mass outside top k elements  $x_k$ ?

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• What if there's mass outside top k elements x<sub>k</sub>?

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- What if there's mass outside top k elements  $x_k$ ?
- Error proportional to noise  $||x x_k||_2^2$ .



- What if there's mass outside top *k* elements *x<sub>k</sub>*?
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- For *all x*, work with 90% probability.

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• Choose  $\Theta(\log(n/k))$  time shifts *c*, or "measurements".

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# Recovering *i* from random time shifts *c* $b'/b = \omega^{c_3i} + \text{noise}$

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- Takes  $O(k \log n \log(n/k))$  time to compute all measurements.

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- But... time to decode i?
- Decoding k buckets, so need an efficiently decodable "code".
  - Constant rate, quadratic decoding time.

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• Want to find *i* in contiguous region of size R = n/k.

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- Want to find *i* in contiguous region of size R = n/k.
- Choose  $c \approx n/R$  so possibilities cover most of circle.

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  - But rate isn't constant, just  $1/\log \log(n/k)$ ...



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# Combining the two approaches



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# Combining the two approaches



# Combining the two approaches



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## **Our Decoding Procedure**



 $\log \log(n/k)$  largest bits, sequentially

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# Our Decoding Procedure



•  $O(\log^2(n/k))$  time to decode each coordinate.

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# **Our Decoding Procedure**



 $\log \log(n/k)$  largest bits, sequentially

- $O(\log^2(n/k))$  time to decode each coordinate.
- Gives  $O(k \log(n/k) \log n)$  time/sample complexity.

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- $O(k \log n)$  for exactly sparse  $\hat{x}$
- $O(k \log(n/k) \log n)$  for approximation.

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- $O(k \log(n/k) \log n)$  for approximation.
- Can we do better?
- The log *n* sample complexity loss comes from our filters.
- Avoidable if domain has enough subgroups.
  - Sparse Hadamard transform: log *n*-dimensional DFT.
  - (Piotr's talk) 2-dimensional DFT on average.
  - Similar results for 1-dimensional DFT if *n* has enough factors.

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- $O(k \log n)$  for exactly sparse  $\hat{x}$
- $O(k \log(n/k) \log n)$  for approximation.
- Can we do better?
- The log *n* sample complexity loss comes from our filters.
- Avoidable if domain has enough subgroups.
  - Sparse Hadamard transform: log *n*-dimensional DFT.
  - (Piotr's talk) 2-dimensional DFT on average.
  - Similar results for 1-dimensional DFT if *n* has enough factors.
- Can we avoid it in general?

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