Transform Coding in Practice



Last Lectures: Basic Concept Transform Coding

- Transform reduces linear dependencies (correlation) between samples before scalar quantization
- For correlated sources: Scalar quantization in transform domain is more efficient



Encoder (block-wise)

- → Forward transform: $\boldsymbol{u} = \boldsymbol{A} \cdot \boldsymbol{s}$
- → Scalar quantization: $q_k = \alpha_k(u_k)$
- → Entropy coding: $\boldsymbol{b} = \gamma(\{\boldsymbol{q}_k\})$

Decoder (block-wise)

- → Entropy decoding: $\{q_k\} = \gamma^{-1}(\boldsymbol{b})$
- → Inverse quantization: $u'_k = \beta_k(q_k)$
- → Inverse transform: $s' = A^{-1} \cdot u'$

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Last Lectures: Orthogonal Block Transforms

• Transform matrix has property: $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}}$ (special case of unitary matrix: $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = (\mathbf{A}^{*})^{\mathrm{T}}$)

$$\boldsymbol{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \begin{array}{c} & & \boldsymbol{b}_0 & & \\ & & \boldsymbol{b}_1 & & \\ & & \boldsymbol{b}_2 & & \\ & & \vdots & \\ & & & \boldsymbol{b}_{N-1} & & \\ \end{bmatrix} \qquad \qquad \boldsymbol{A}^{-1} = \boldsymbol{A}^{\mathrm{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} \begin{array}{c} & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & &$$

→ Basis vectors $\boldsymbol{b}_{\boldsymbol{k}}$ (rows of \boldsymbol{A} , columns of $\boldsymbol{A}^{-1} = \boldsymbol{A}^{\mathrm{T}}$) form an orthonormal basis

→ Geometric interpretation: Rotation (and potential reflection) in *N*-dimensional signal space

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→ Geometric interpretation: Rotation (and potential reflection) in N-dimensional signal space

Why Orthogonal Transforms ?

- Same MSE distortion in sample and transform space: $||u' u||_2^2 = ||s' s||_2^2$
- → Minimum MSE in signal space can be achieved by minimization of MSE for each individual transform coefficient

Last Lectures: Bit Allocation and High-Rate Approximations

Bit Allocation of Transform Coefficients

Optimal bit allocation: Pareto condition

$$rac{\partial}{\partial R_k} D_k(R_k) = -\lambda = ext{const} \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad ext{high rates:} \quad D_k(R_k) = ext{const}$$

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High-Rate Approximation

High-rate distortion rate function for transform coding with optimal bit allocation

$$D(R) = \tilde{\varepsilon}^2 \cdot \tilde{\sigma}^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$$
 with $\tilde{\varepsilon}^2 = \left(\prod_k \varepsilon_k^2\right)^{\frac{1}{N}}, \quad \tilde{\sigma}^2 = \left(\prod_k \sigma_k^2\right)^{\frac{1}{N}}$

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• High-rate transform coding gain G_T and energy compaction measure G_{EC}

$$G_{T} = \frac{D_{SQ}(R)}{D_{TC}(R)} = \frac{\varepsilon_{S}^{2} \cdot \sigma_{S}^{2}}{\tilde{\varepsilon}^{2} \cdot \tilde{\sigma}^{2}}, \qquad \qquad G_{EC} = \frac{\sigma_{S}^{2}}{\tilde{\sigma}^{2}} = \frac{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \sigma_{k}^{2}}{\sqrt[N]{\prod_{k=0}^{k-1} \sigma_{k}^{2}}}$$

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Last Lecture

Last Lectures: Karhunen Loève Transform (KLT)

Design criterion: Orthogonal transform **A** that yields uncorrelated transform coefficients

$$oldsymbol{\mathcal{C}}_{UU} = oldsymbol{\mathcal{A}} \cdot oldsymbol{\mathcal{C}}_{SS} \cdot oldsymbol{\mathcal{A}}^{\mathrm{T}} = \left[egin{array}{ccccc} \sigma_{0}^{2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \ 0 & \sigma_{1}^{2} & \cdots & 0 \ dots & dots & \ddots & dots \ dots & dots & \ddots & dots \ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sigma_{N-1}^{2} \end{array}
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$$\implies \quad \boldsymbol{C}_{SS} \cdot \boldsymbol{b}_k = \sigma_k^2 \cdot \boldsymbol{b}_k$$

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 \rightarrow Eigenvector equation for all basis vectors \boldsymbol{b}_k (rows of transform matrix \boldsymbol{A})

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- \rightarrow Eigenvector equation for all basis vectors \boldsymbol{b}_k (rows of transform matrix \boldsymbol{A})
- → Rows of KLT matrix **A** are the unit-norm eigenvectors of C_{SS}
- → Transform coefficient variances σ_k^2 are the eigenvalues of C_{SS}

$$\boldsymbol{A} = \begin{bmatrix} - & \boldsymbol{b}_0 & - \\ - & \boldsymbol{b}_1 & - \\ \vdots \\ - & \boldsymbol{b}_{N-1} & - \end{bmatrix} \qquad \boldsymbol{C}_{UU} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_0^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_1^2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sigma_{N-1}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Last Lectures: Maximum Energy Compaction and Optimality

High-Rate Approximation for KLT and Gauss-Markov

High-rate operational distortion-rate function

$$D_N(R) = \varepsilon^2 \cdot \sigma_S^2 \cdot (1 - \varrho^2)^{\frac{N-1}{N}} \cdot 2^{-2R}$$

 \rightarrow High-rate transform coding gain: Increases with transform size N

$$G_T^N = G_{EC}^N = (1 - \varrho^2)^{rac{1-N}{N}} \Longrightarrow G_T^\infty = rac{1}{1 - \varrho^2}$$

→ For $N \rightarrow \infty$, gap to fundamental lower bound reduces to space-filling gain (1.53 dB)

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On Optimality of KLT

- KLT yields uncorrelated transform coefficients and maximizes energy compaction G_{EC}
- \rightarrow KLT is the optimal transform for stationary Gaussian sources
- Other sources: Optimal transform is hard to find (iterative algorithm)

Optimal Unitary Transform

- Stationary Gaussian sources: KLT
- General sources: Not straightforward to determine (typically KLT close to optimal)
- → Signal dependent (may change due to signal instationarities)

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Determine transform in encoder, include transform specification in bitstream

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Choose transform that provides good performance for variety of signals

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Signal-Independent Transforms

- Choose transform that provides good performance for variety of signals
- → Not optimal, but often close to optimal for typical signal
- → Most often used design in practice

• For transform sizes N that are positive integer powers of 2

$$oldsymbol{A}_N = rac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[egin{array}{cc} oldsymbol{A}_{N/2} & oldsymbol{A}_{N/2} \ oldsymbol{A}_{N/2} & -oldsymbol{A}_{N/2} \end{array}
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• Examples: Transform matrices for N = 2, N = 4, and N = 8

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• Examples: Transform matrices for N = 2, N = 4, and N = 8

→ Very simple orthogonal transform (only additions, subtractions, and final scaling)

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Basis Functions of the WHT (Example for N = 8)



Basis Functions of the WHT (Example for N = 8)



Media coding: Walsh-Hadamard transform with strong quantization

→ Piece-wise constant basis vectors yield subjectively disturbing artifacts

The Fourier Transform

Fundamental transform used in mathematics, physics, signal processing, communications, ...

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- Integral transform representing signal as integral of frequency components

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- Forward and inverse transform are given by

$$X(f) = \mathcal{F}\left\{x(t)\right\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) \cdot e^{-2\pi i f t} dt \qquad \Longleftrightarrow \qquad x(t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\left\{x(t)\right\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(f) \cdot e^{2\pi i f t} df$$

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→ Basis functions are complex exponentials $b_f(t) = e^{2\pi \mathrm{i} f t}$

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Discrete Version of the Fourier Transform

Fourier transform for finite discrete signals

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Discrete Version of the Fourier Transform

- Fourier transform for finite discrete signals
- Could also be useful for coding of discrete signals
- Can be derived using sampling and windowing

Linearity:

Important Properties of the Fourier Transform

$$\mathcal{F}\left\{a\cdot h(t)+b\cdot g(t)
ight\} = a\cdot H(f)+b\cdot G(f)$$

Important Properties of the Fourier Transform

Linearity: $\mathcal{F}\left\{a \cdot h(t) + b \cdot g(t)\right\} = a \cdot H(f) + b \cdot G(f)$ Scaling: $\mathcal{F}\left\{h(a \cdot t)\right\} = \frac{1}{|a|} \cdot H\left(\frac{f}{a}\right)$

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Important Properties of the Fourier Transform

Linearity:
$$\mathcal{F}\left\{a \cdot h(t) + b \cdot g(t)\right\} = a \cdot H(f) + b \cdot G(f)$$
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Translation:
$$\mathcal{F}\left\{h(t-t_0)\right\} = e^{-2\pi i t_0 f} \cdot H(f)$$

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Duality:
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Convolution:
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Multiplication:
$$\mathcal{F}\left\{h(t) \cdot g(t)\right\} = H(f) * G(f)$$

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Dirac Delta Function

- Not a function in traditional sense → Dirac delta distribution
- Can be thought of function with the following properties

$$\delta(x) = \left\{ egin{array}{ccc} +\infty & : & x=0 \ 0 & : & x
eq 0 \end{array}
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and

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) \, \mathrm{d}x = 1$$

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Important Properties

Sifting:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t) \,\delta(t-t_0) \,\mathrm{d}t = h(t_0)$$

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Convolution:

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0

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 $c\infty$

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• Sampling:
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t) \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t-k \cdot t_0) \right) dt = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} h(k \cdot t_0)$$

Dirac delta function t $\delta(t - T)$ T t t $x(t) = \delta(t - T)$

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The Discrete Fourier Transform



The Discrete Fourier Transform




 \rightarrow N samples are represented by N complex Fourier coefficients



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Discrete Fourier Transform

Forward and inverse transform are given by

$$u[k] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} s[n] \cdot e^{-i\frac{2\pi kn}{N}} \quad \text{and} \quad s[n] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} u[k] \cdot e^{i\frac{2\pi kn}{N}}$$



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→ Unitary transform that produces complex transform coefficients



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- → Unitary transform that produces complex transform coefficients
- → Basis vectors are sampled complex exponentials

$$\boldsymbol{b_k}[n] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} e^{\mathrm{i}\frac{2\pi k}{N}n}$$

$$\boldsymbol{b_k}[n] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} e^{i\frac{2\pi k}{N}n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi k}{N}n\right) + i \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi k}{N}n\right)$$

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Symmetry of complex coefficients

 $u[k] = u^*[N-k]$

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- Fast algorithm:
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Idea of Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT)

Introduce mirror symmetry (different possibilities)



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Discrete Sine Transforms (DSTs)

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The Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT) Family



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The Discrete Sine Transform (DST) Family



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(0.41) 4

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Continue derivation

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➡ DFT of extended signal

$$u^{+}[k] = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} s[n] \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{N} k \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\right)$$

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DFT of extended signal (2N real samples) has 2N real transform coefficients

$$k = 0, ..., 2N - 1:$$
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2 Basis functions of derived transform are orthogonal to each other, but don't have the same norm
 → Introduce factors α_k so that transform matrix becomes orthogonal

$$k = 0, \ldots, N-1: \qquad u[k] = \alpha_k \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} s[n] \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{N} k \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\right)$$

Discrete Cosine Transform of Type II (DCT-II)

Specification of DCT-II

Forward transform (DCT-II) and inverse transform (IDCT-II) are given by

$$u[k] = \alpha_k \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} s[n] \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{N} k\left(n+\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) \quad \text{and} \quad s[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \alpha_k \cdot u[k] \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{N} k\left(n+\frac{1}{2}\right)\right)$$

with scaling factors

$$\alpha_k = \begin{cases} \sqrt{1/N} & : \quad k = 0\\ \sqrt{2/N} & : \quad k \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

Discrete Cosine Transform of Type II (DCT-II)

Specification of DCT-II

Forward transform (DCT-II) and inverse transform (IDCT-II) are given by

$$u[k] = \alpha_k \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} s[n] \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{N} k\left(n+\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) \quad \text{and} \quad s[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \alpha_k \cdot u[k] \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{N} k\left(n+\frac{1}{2}\right)\right)$$

with scaling factors

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• The orthogonal transform matrix $\mathbf{A} = \{a_{kn}\}$ has the elements

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Comparions of DFT and DCT-II Basis Functions (Example for N = 8)



Image & Video Coding: 2D Transforms

Separable Transforms

Successive 1D transforms of rows and columns of image block

Image & Video Coding: 2D Transforms

Separable Transforms

- Successive 1D transforms of rows and columns of image block
- → Separable forward and inverse transforms

$$oldsymbol{u} = oldsymbol{A} \cdot oldsymbol{s} \cdot oldsymbol{B}^{\mathrm{T}}$$
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with $s - N \times M$ block of image samples

- **A** $N \times N$ transform matrix (typically DCT-II)
- $B M \times M$ transform matrix (typically DCT-II)
- $\boldsymbol{u} \boldsymbol{N} \times \boldsymbol{M}$ block of transform coefficients

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Great practical importance:

- Two matrix multiplications of size N×N instead of one multiplication of a vector of size 1×N² with a matrix of size N²×N²
- → Complexity reduction from $\mathcal{O}(N^4)$ to $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$ [also fast algorithms for DCT-II]

Example: Basis Images of Separable 8×8 DCT-II



Forward transform for 8×8 block of samples: $\boldsymbol{u} = \boldsymbol{A} \cdot \boldsymbol{s} \cdot \boldsymbol{A}^{\mathrm{T}}$

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Horizontal DCT of input block:

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Heiko Schwarz (Freie Universität Berlin) — Data Compression: Transform Coding in Practice

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- New standardization project H.266/VVC (from 4×4 to 64×64, including non-square blocks)

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- Simple: Run-level coding, run-level-last coding, or similar approach
- Better coding efficiency: Adaptive arithmetic coding

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$$\frac{\partial D_k(R_k)}{\partial R_k} = \text{const}$$

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In practice, (nearly) optimal bit allocation is typically achieved by using the same quantization step size △ for all transform coefficients

Color Transform for Image & Video Coding

RGB







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Color Transform for Compression

Many versions (also depends on RGB color space)

Color Transform for Image & Video Coding

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Color Transform for Compression

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- → Example: RGB → YCbCr transform used in JPEG

Y]		0.2990	0.5870	0.1140	[R]
Cb - 128	=	-0.1687	-0.3313	0.5000	G
Cr -128		0.5000	-0.4187	-0.0813	B.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{R} \\ \mathsf{G} \\ \mathsf{B} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1.4020 \\ 1 & -0.3441 & -0.7141 \\ 1 & 1.7720 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{Y} \\ \mathsf{Cb} - 128 \\ \mathsf{Cr} - 128 \end{bmatrix}$$

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YCbCr









Heiko Schwarz (Freie Universität Berlin) — Data Compression: Transform Coding in Practice

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RGB YCbCr 4:4:4 color transform

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- In most applications: Color difference components are downsampled \rightarrow

RGB color transform



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The Image Compression Standard JPEG

\blacksquare Partition color components (Y, Cb, Cr) into blocks of 8 \times 8 samples







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■ Transform coding of 8 × 8 blocks of samples



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■ Separable DCT-II of size 8×8 (fast implementation possible)

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rec. transform coeffs.

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→ Effect of transform: Compaction of signal energy (for typical blocks)



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- Equally spaced reconstruction levels (indicated by step size Δ)
- Simple decoder mapping

$$t' = \Delta \cdot q$$



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- Better encoders use Lagrangian optimization (minimization of $D + \lambda R$)
- \Rightarrow Quantization step size \triangle determines tradeoff between quality and bit rate

1 Scanning of Quantization indexes

• Convert matrix of quantization indexes into sequence

0.242	0.108	0.053	0.009
0.105	0.053	0.022	0.002
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0.009	0.002	0.001	0.000

probabilities $P(q_k \neq 0)$

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- JPEG: Zig-zag scan

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- Example: 64 symbols: 5 3 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 ... (run,level) pairs: (0,5) (0,3) (3,1) (1,1) (2,1) (eob)

Original Image (960×720 image points, RGB: 2 MByte)





Lossy Compressed: JPEG (Quality 94)





Lossy Compressed: JPEG (Quality 66)





Lossy Compressed: JPEG (Quality 27)





Lossy Compressed: JPEG (Quality 6) 204:1



0.49%

 $100\,\%$

Main Component: Transform Coding of Sample Blocks

- Transform: Modified DCT for overlapping blocks
- Quantization: Scalar quantization with psycho-acoustic model
- Entropy Coding: Variant of Huffman coding

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Entropy Coding of Quantization Indexes

- Grouping and interleaving
- Huffman coding for tuples of n quantization indexes (n is variable)

Modified Discrete Cosine Transform (MDCT)

Forward Transform (MDCT)

The forward transform maps 2N samples to N transform coefficients

$$u[k] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{n=0}^{2N-1} s[n] \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{N} \left(n + \frac{N+1}{2}\right) \left(k + \frac{1}{2}\right)\right)$$

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Perfect Reconstruction

- Neighboring blocks of samples s[n] overlap by 50% (at each side)
- Perfect reconstruction of s[n] is achieved by adding the inverse transformed blocks x[n]
- ➡ Property of time-domain aliasing cancellation

Summary of Lecture

Signal-Independent Transforms

- Walsh-Hadamard Transform (WHT):
- Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT):
- Discrete Trigonometric Transforms:

Perceptual disturbing artefacts Problem due to implicit periodic signal extension Family of Sine and Cosine transforms

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- Reduced blocking artifacts compared to DFT
- Good approximation of KLT for highly-correlated signals
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Transform Coding in Practice

- Color transforms in image and video coding: RGB to YCbCr conversion
- JPEG image compression: 2D DCT-II + URQ + Run-level coding
- AAC audio compression: MDCT for overlapped blocks + scalar quantization + Huffman coding

Exercise 1: Correlation of Transform Coefficients

Given is a zero-mean AR(1) sources with a variance σ^2 and a correlation coefficient $\varrho = 0.9$

Consider transform coding of blocks of 2 samples using the transform

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_{k,0} \\ u_{k,1} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} s_{2k} \\ s_{2k+1} \end{bmatrix},$$

where k represents the index of the transform block

Determine the following variances and covariances of the transform coefficients (inside a block and between neighbouring blocks):

${ m E} \{ \ U_{k,0}^2 \} = ?$	$E\{ U_{k,0} U_{k+1,0} \} = ?$
${ m E} \{ \ U_{k,1}^2 \} \ = ?$	$E\{ U_{k,1} U_{k+1,1} \} = ?$
$E\{ U_{k,0} U_{k,1} \} = ?$	$E\{ U_{k,0} U_{k+1,1} \} = ?$

Is it worth to exploit the correlations between the transform coefficients of neighboring block (e.g., for typical correlation factors of *ρ* ≈ 0.9)?

Exercise 2: First Version of Lossy Image Codec (Implementation)

Implement a first lossy image codec for PPM images:

- **1** Use the source code of last weeks exercise as basis (see KVV)
- 2 Add some variant of entropy coding for the quantization indexes, for example:
 - Simple Rice coding or Exp-Golomb coding (see lossless codec example in KVV)
 - Adaptive binary arithmetic coding using a unary binarization (see lossless coding example in KVV)
 - ...
- 3 Implement an encoder that converts a PPM image into a bitstream file
- 4 Implement a corresponding decoder that converts a bitstream file into a PPM image
- 5 Test your encoder with some example images and multiple quantization step sizes
- 6 (Optional) Try to improve your codec by using the YCbCr color format
 - Implement an RBG-to-YCbCr transform before the actual encoding
 - Implement the inverse YCbCr-to-RGB transform after the actual decoding
 - Possible extension: Sub-sampling of chroma components