

# DFT Analysis (5A)

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To determine the frequency content of  
a windowed signal

continuous-time periodic signal  
→ sampled windowed signal

DTFT is not suitable

it applies to discrete-time aperiodic signals

aperiodic signal requires

an infinite number of sines and cosines

take an incredibly long computation time

# Orthogonal Signals

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Consider sine and cosine waves  
which has an integer number of cycles  
in a window period

The correlation of the following waves are zero

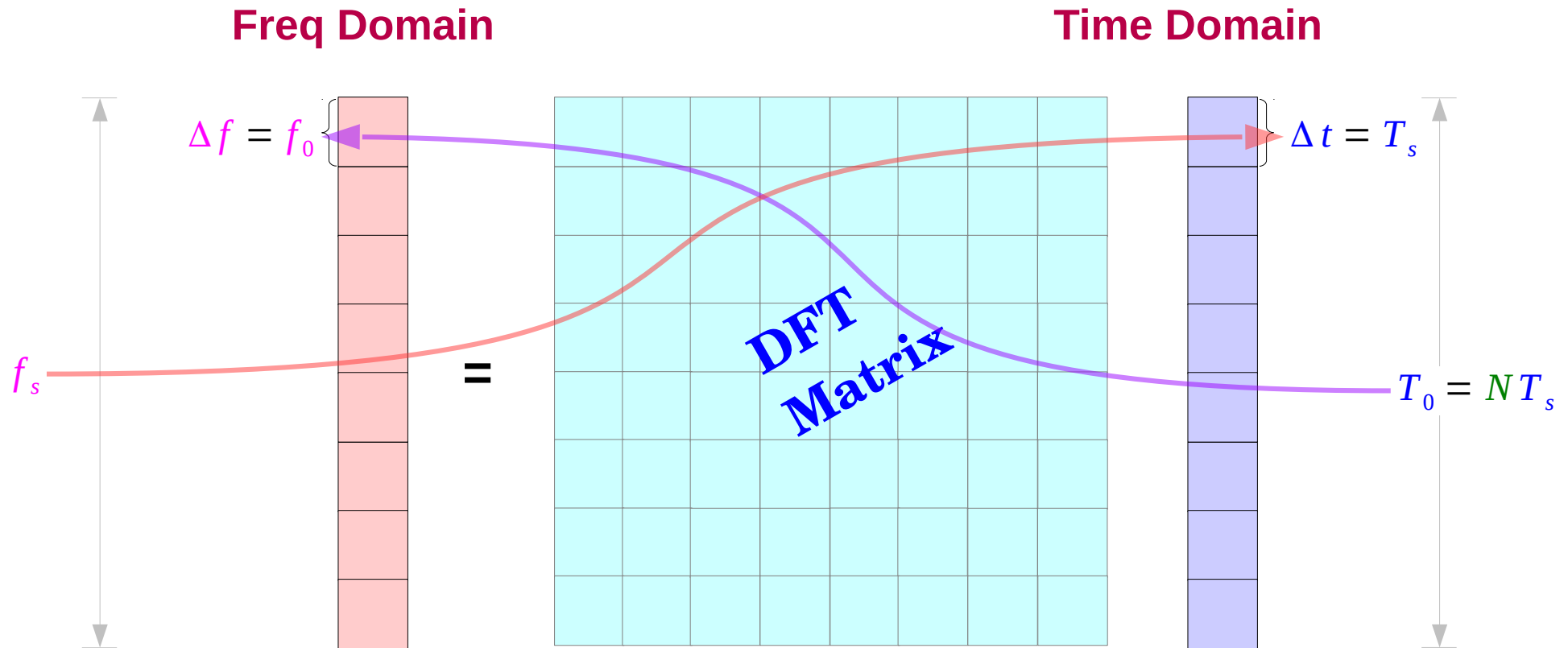
- any two such sine waves
- any two such cosine waves
- any such sine and cosine waves

# DFT – Correlating Process

The DFT determines the frequency content of the windowed discrete periodic signal by correlating it with the discrete sinusoids

1. an integer number of cycles in the window
2. the lowest frequency (one cycle)  
the fundamental frequency
3. integer multiple of the fundamental frequency  
The harmonic frequencies

# Relations between Sampling Frequency and Time



$$f_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} = \frac{1}{NT_s}$$

$$f_s \geq \frac{2}{T_0}$$

$$f_s \geq 2f_0$$

$$T_s = \frac{1}{f_s}$$

# Fundamental Frequency

$$f_0 = \frac{f_s}{N}$$

$f_0$  : fundamental frequency

$f_s$  : sampling frequency

$N$  : number of samples

$$f_k = k \cdot f_0 = k \cdot \frac{f_s}{N}$$

$f_k$  : harmonic frequency

# Frequency Resolution

$$\Delta f = f_0 = \frac{f_s}{N}$$

If the signal has two frequencies that are at least  $\Delta f$  apart, then the DFT is able to distinguish these.

To increase frequency resolution

1. reducing the sampling frequency  $f_s$ , keeping  $N$  the same
2. Increasing the number of samples  $N$ , keeping  $f_s$  the same

Increasing the window duration ( $T_0 = NT_s$ )

Increasing the period ( $T_0 = NT_s$ )

Decreasing the fundamental frequency ( $f_0 = 1/T_0$ )

Decreasing  $\Delta f$



# Spectral Leakage

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1. non-integer number of cycles in a window
2. discontinuity (different starting and ending)

The correlation value is not zero

The energy in the one frequency  
has leaked out to all other frequencies

# Spectral Leakage – Correlation

## 1. non-integer number of cycles in a window

The highest correlation when the harmonic frequency is close to the frequency of the input

The correlation decreases when the harmonic frequency is move away from the frequency of the input

A peak close to the actual frequency of the input signal  
The amplitude gradually rolled off above and below

# Spectral Leakage – discontinuities

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## 2. discontinuity (different starting and ending)

Abrupt change in the repeated input signal  
Involves a large number of frequencies

Results in spreading of energy

Special window is used to reduce the abrupt change  
And thus to reduce the spectral leakage

## References

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- [4] Digital Signal Processing – A Hands-on Approach, C. Schuler and M. Chugani, McGraw-Hill, 2004