# Linear Systems Theory

- Introduction Receptive fields and mechanisms
- Fourier Analysis Signals as sums of sine waves
- Linear, shift-invariant systems
  - Definition
  - Applied to impulses, sums of impulses
  - Applied to sine waves, sums of sine waves
- Applications

# Fourier Analysis

Signals as sums of sine waves

- 1-d: time series
  - fMRI signal from a voxel or ROI
  - mean firing rate of a neuron over time - auditory stimuli
- 2-d: static visual image, neural image
- · 3-d: visual motion analysis
- 4-d: raw fMRI data

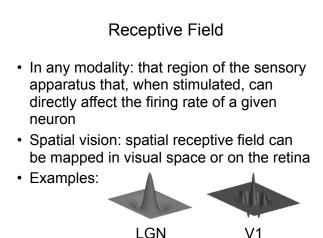
# Linear Systems Analysis

Systems with signals as input and output

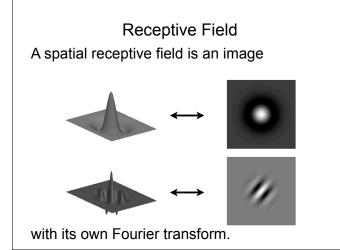
- 1-d: low- and high-pass filters in electronic equipment, fMRI data analysis, or in sound production (articulators) or audition (the ear as a filter)
- · 2-d: optical blur, spatial receptive field
- 3-d: spatio-temporal receptive field

# **Spatial Vision**

- Image representation or coding - At each stage, what information is kept and what is lost?
- Image analysis
- Nonlinear: pattern recognition

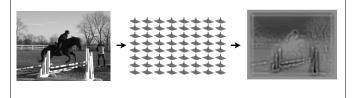


LGN



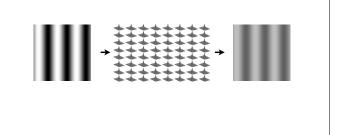
## Neural Image

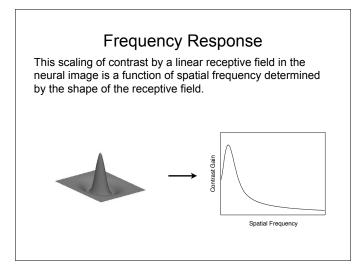
A spatial receptive field may also be treated as a linear system, by assuming a dense collection of neurons with the same receptive field translated to different locations in the visual field:

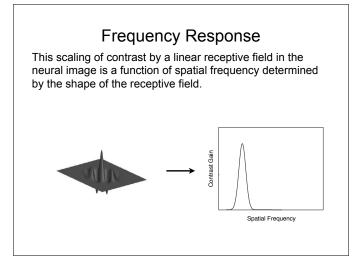


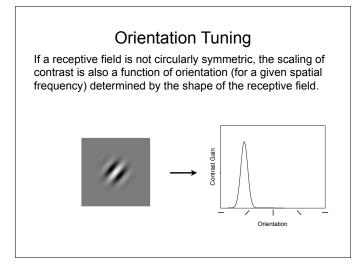
# Neural Image of a Sine Wave

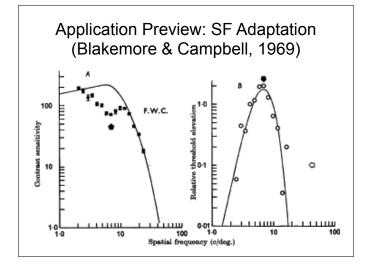
For a linear, shift-invariant system such as a linear model of a receptive field, an input sine wave results in an identical output sine wave, except for a possible lateral shift and scaling of contrast.

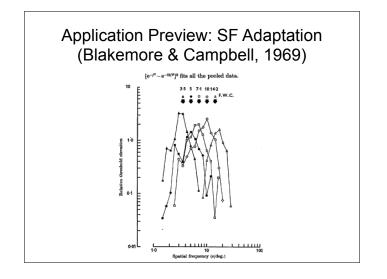






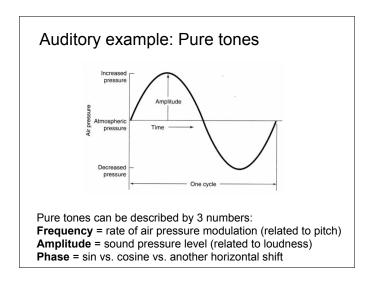


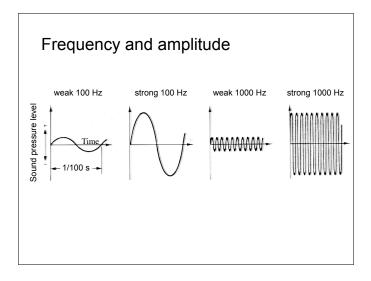


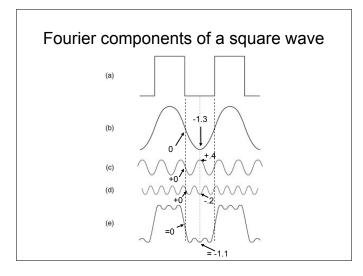


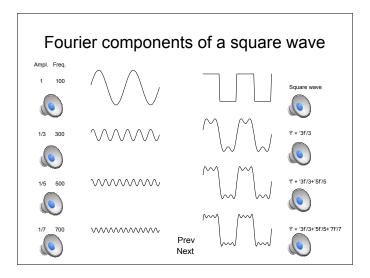
# Summary: Linear Systems Theory

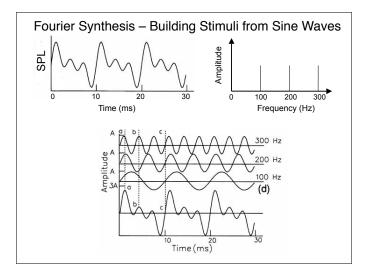
- · Signals can be represented as sums of sine waves
- Linear, shift-invariant systems operate "independently" on each sine wave, and merely scale and shift them.
- A simplified model of neurons in the visual system, the linear receptive field, results in a neural image that is linear and shift-invariant.
- Psychophysical models of the visual system might be built of such mechanisms.
- It is therefore important to understand visual stimuli in terms of their spatial frequency content.
- The same tools can be applied to other modalities (e.g., audition) and other signals (EEG, MRI, MEG, etc.).

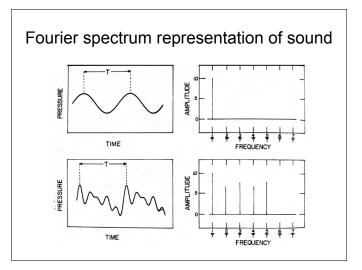


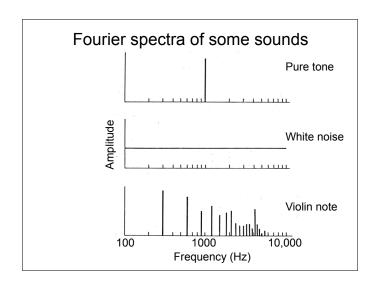


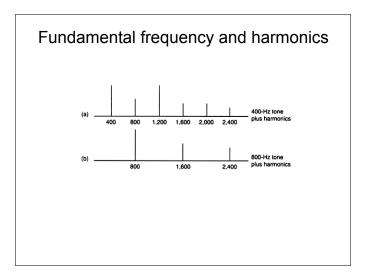


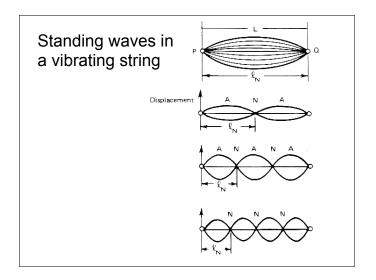


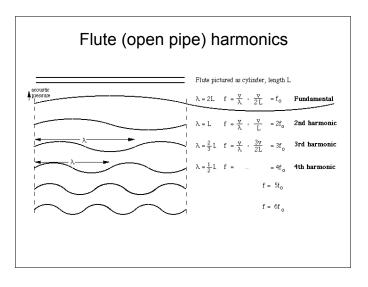


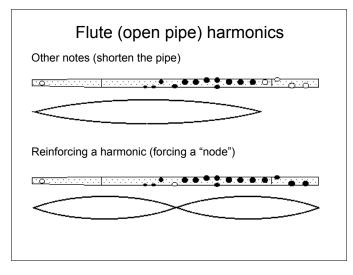




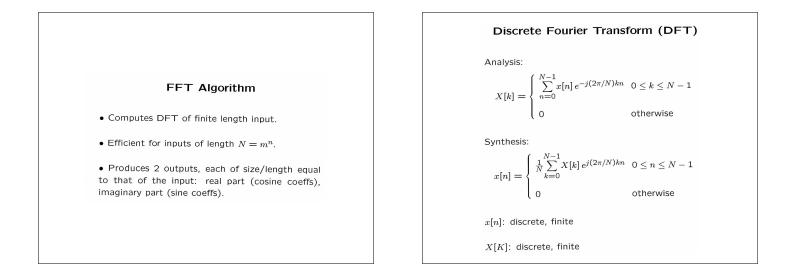


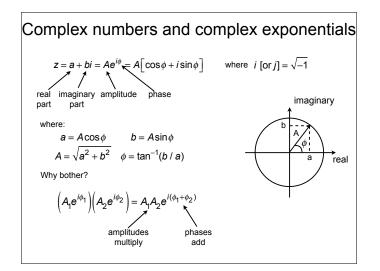


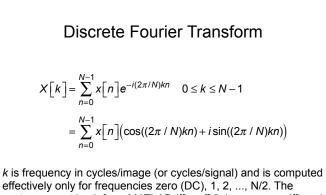




| Lots of Fourier Transforms          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| name                                | time domain  | freq domain  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fourier transform<br>Fourier series | continuous, infinite<br>continuous, periodic                 | continuous, infinite discrete, infinite                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DTFT<br>DFS<br>DFT                  | discrete, infinite<br>discrete, periodic<br>discrete, finite | continuous, periodic<br>discrete, periodic<br>discrete, finite |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

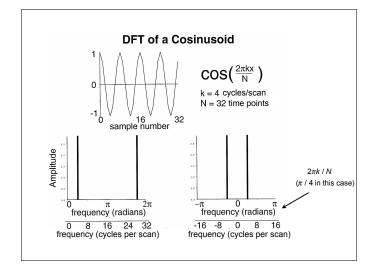


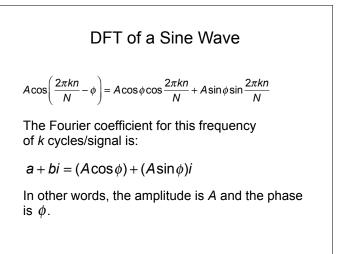


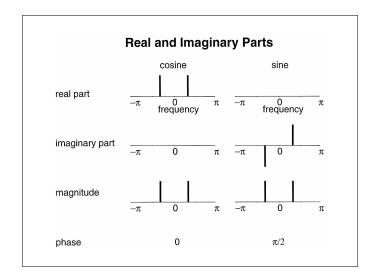


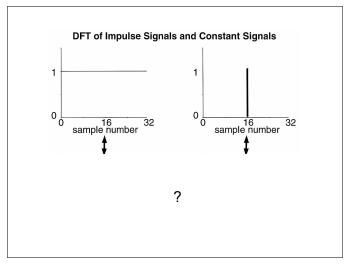
vector you get back from MATLAB (fft or fft2, inverses are ifft and ifft2), however, continues redundantly (for real signals, that is):

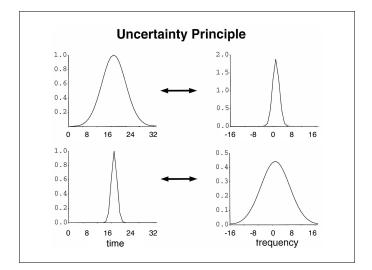
0, 1, ..., N/2-1, N/2=0, N/2-1, ..., 1.

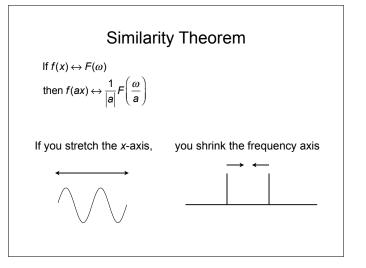


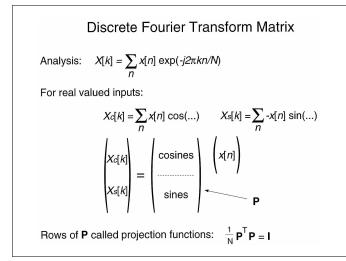


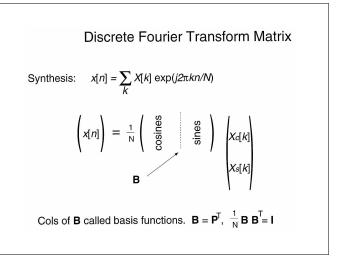


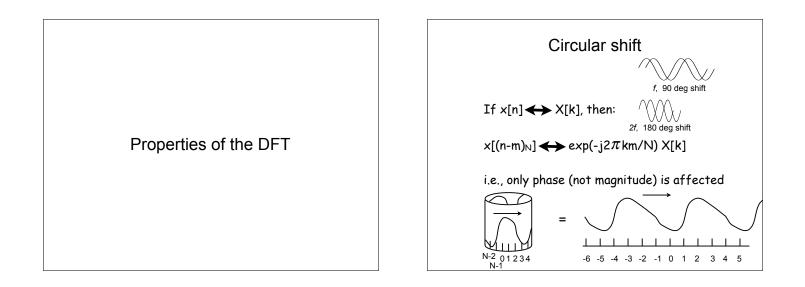


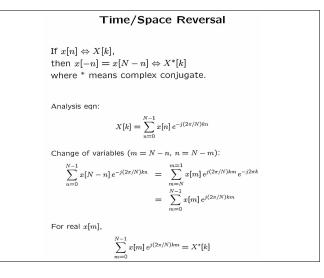


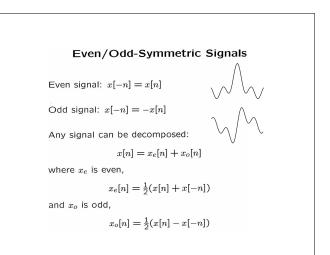


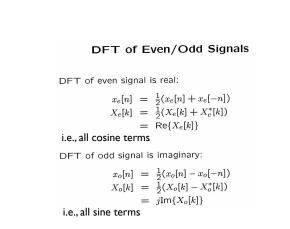


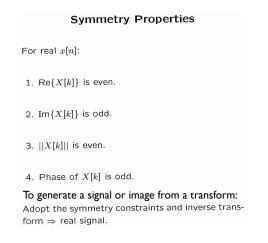


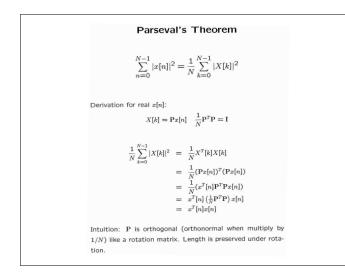


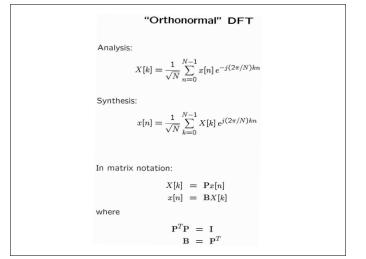


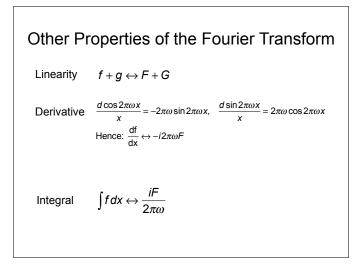


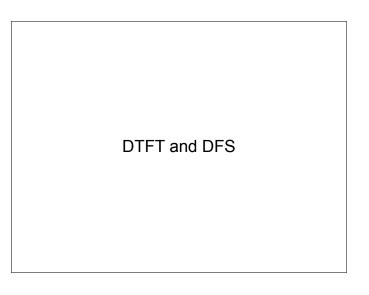












#### Discrete-Time Fourier Transform (DTFT)

Analysis:

$$X(\omega) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n] e^{-j\omega n}$$

Synthesis:

$$x[n] = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} X(\omega) e^{j\omega n} d\omega$$

x[n]: discrete, infinite, not necessarily periodic

 $X(\omega)$ : continuous, periodic (with period  $2\pi$ )

$$X(\omega) \text{ is Periodic}$$

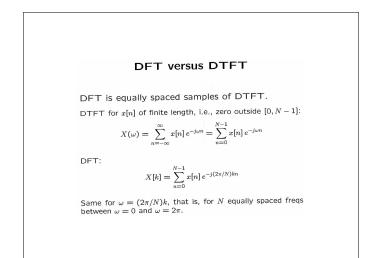
$$X(\omega + 2\pi) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x[n] e^{-j(\omega + 2\pi)n}$$

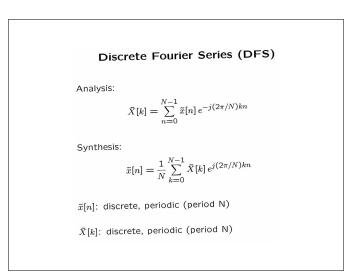
$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x[n] e^{-j\omega n} e^{-j2\pi n}$$

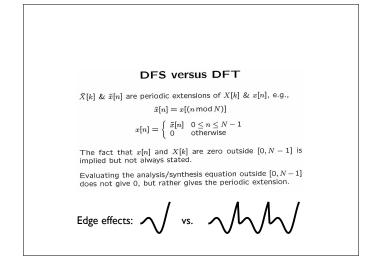
$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x[n] e^{-j\omega n}$$

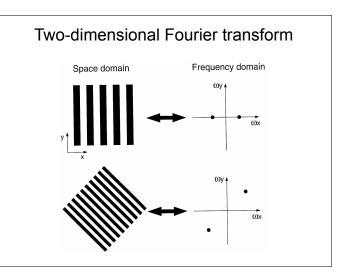
$$= X(\omega)$$
where:
$$e^{-j2\pi n} = \cos(2\pi n) + j \sin(2\pi n)$$

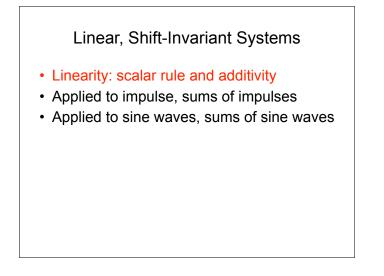
$$= 1 + 0$$

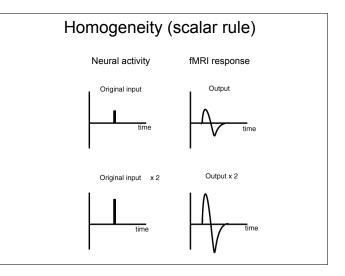


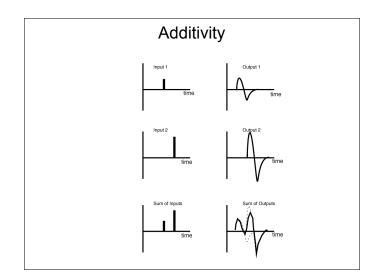


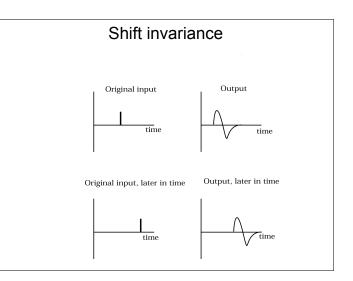












#### Linear systems

A system (or transform) converts (or maps) an input signal into an output signal: y(t) = T[x(t)]

A linear system satisfies the following properties:

1) Homogeneity (scalar rule): T(a x(t)] = a y(t)2) Additivity: T( $x_1(t) + x_2(t)$ ] =  $y_1(t) + y_2(t)$ 

Often, these two properties are written together and called superposition:  $T(a x_1(t) + b x_2(t)] = a y_1(t) + b y_2(t)$  Shift invariance

For a system to be shift-invariant (or time-invariant) means that a time-shifted version of the input yields a time-shifted version of the output: y(t) = T(y(t))

$$y(t) = T[x(t)]$$

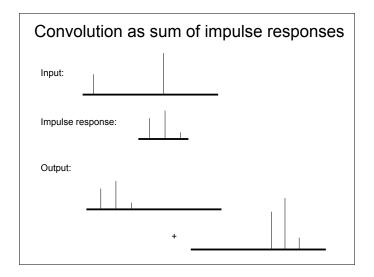
$$y(t-s) = \mathsf{T}[x(t-s)]$$

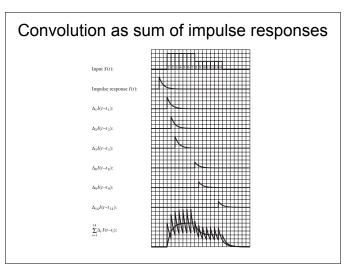
The response y(t - s) is identical to the response y(t), except that it is shifted in time.

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# Linear, Shift-Invariant Systems

- · Linearity: Scalar rule and additivity
- · Applied to impulse, sums of impulses
- · Applied to sine waves, sums of sine waves





# **Convolution** Discrete-time signal: $x[n] = [x_1, x_2, x_3, ...]$ A system or transform maps an input signal into an output signal: $y[n] = T\{x[n]\}$ A shift-invariant, linear system can always be expressed as a convolution: $y[n] = \sum x[m] h[n-m]$ where h[n] is the impulse response.

### Convolution derivation

Homogeneity:  $T\{a x[n]\} = a T\{x[n]\}$ 

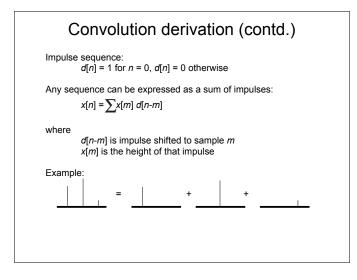
Additivity:

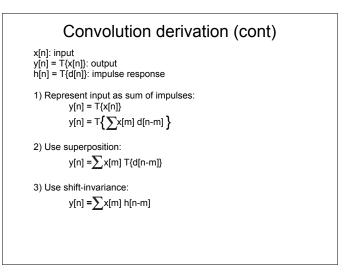
 $T\{x_1[n] + x_2[n]\} = T\{x_1[n]\} + T\{x_2[n]\}$ 

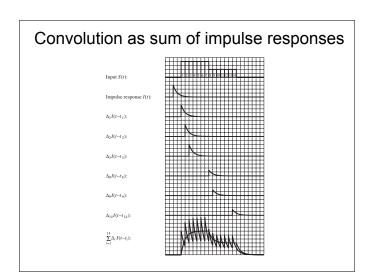
Superposition:  $T\{a x_1[n] + b x_2[n]\} = a T\{x_1[n]\} + b T\{x_2[n]\}$ 

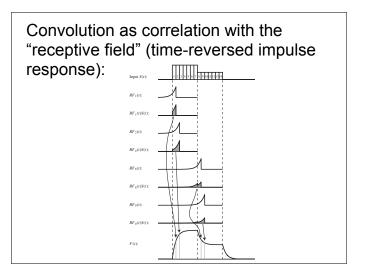
Shift-invariance:

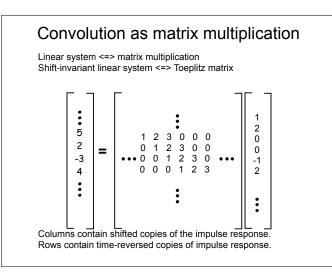
 $y[n] = T{x[n]} => y[n-m] = T{x[n-m]}$ 



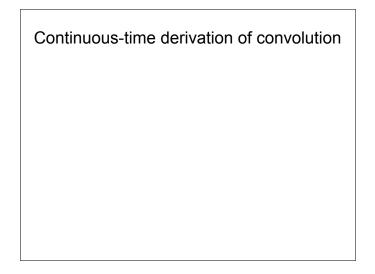


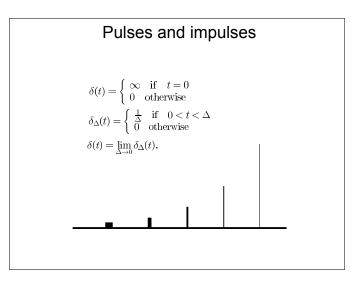


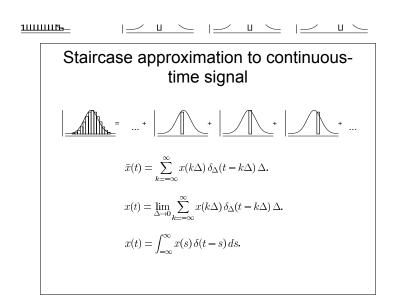


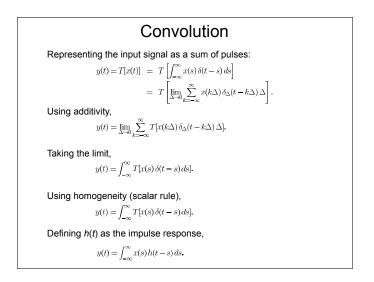


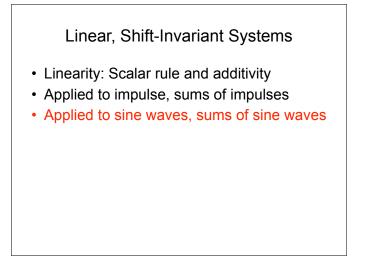
| Convo | luti | on    | as      | se  | qı | lei  | nce | of weighted sums          |
|-------|------|-------|---------|-----|----|------|-----|---------------------------|
| p     | ast  | pre   | esent   |     |    | futu | ire |                           |
| 0     | 0    | 0<br> | 1 0     | 0   | 0  | 0    | 0   | input (impulse)           |
|       | 1/8  | 1/4 1 | 1/2 —   | •   |    |      |     | weights                   |
| 0     | 0    | 01    | /2 1/4  | 1/8 | 0  | 0    | 0   | output (impulse response) |
|       |      |       |         |     |    |      |     |                           |
| 0     | 0    | 0     | 1 1     | 1   | 1  | 1    | 1   | input (step)              |
|       |      |       | 1/8 1/4 | 1/2 |    | •    |     | weights                   |
| 0     | 0    |       | 1/2 3/4 | NI. |    | 7/8  | 7/8 | output (step response)    |
|       |      |       |         |     |    |      |     |                           |
|       |      |       |         |     |    |      |     |                           |

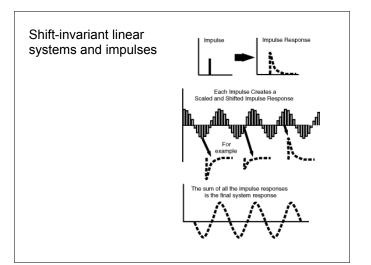


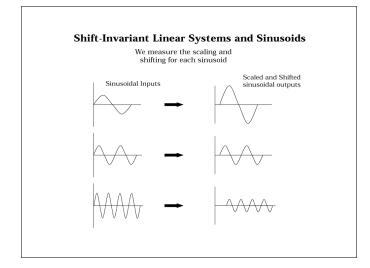


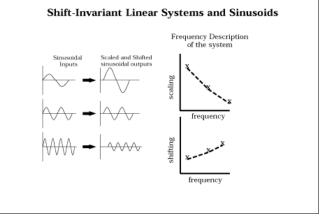


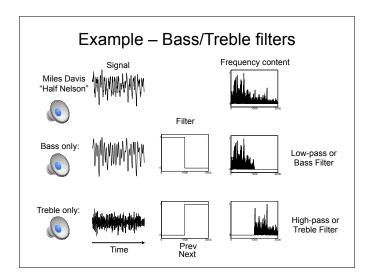


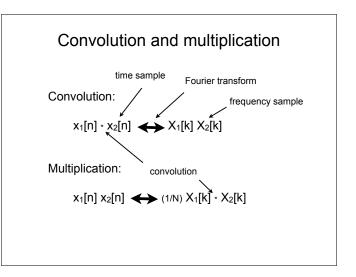


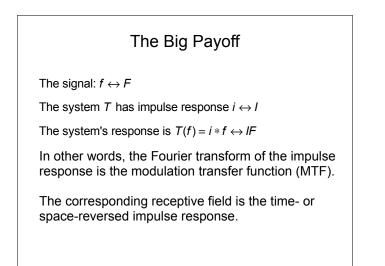


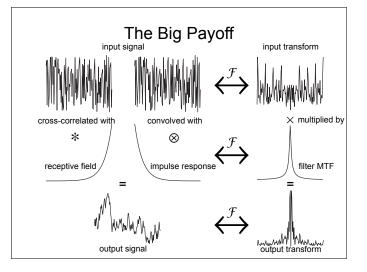


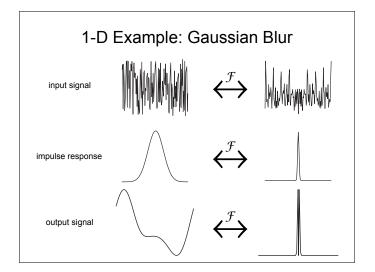


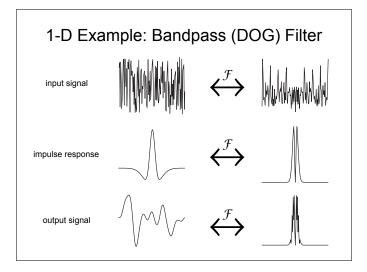


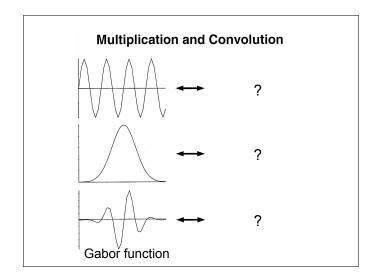


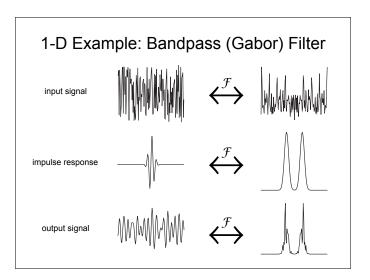


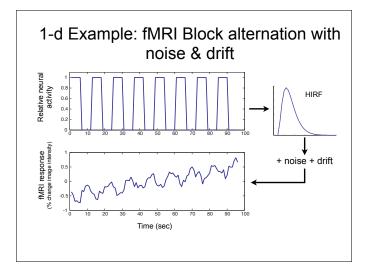


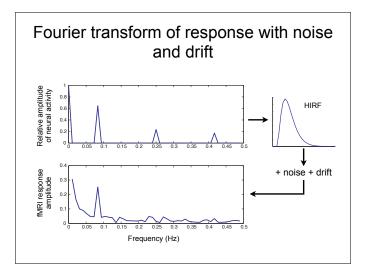


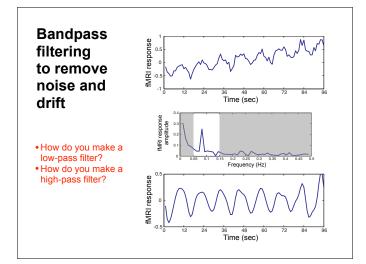


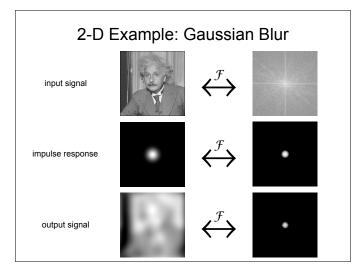


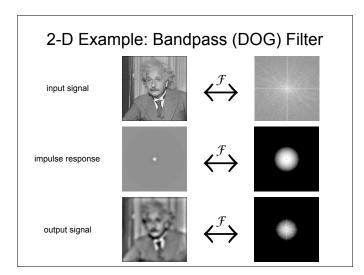


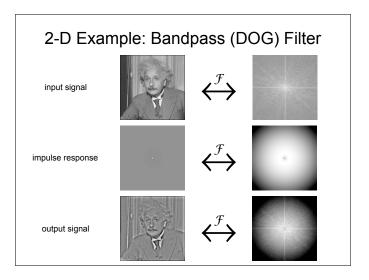


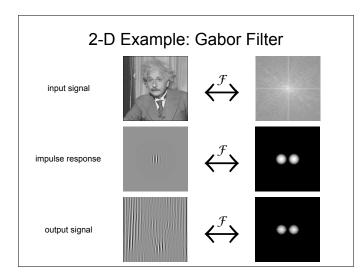


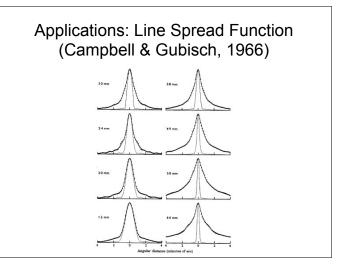


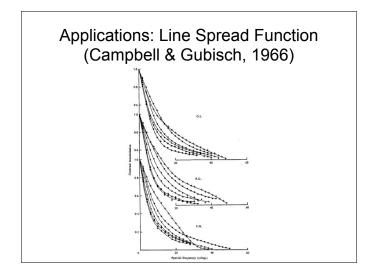


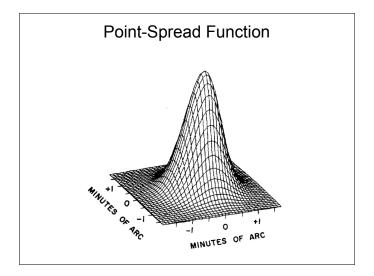


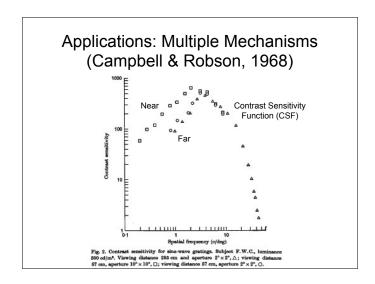


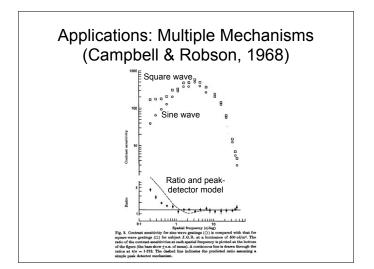


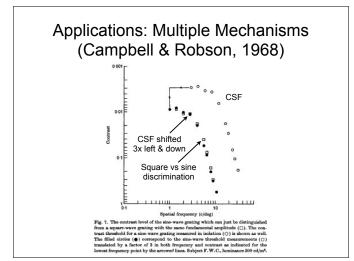


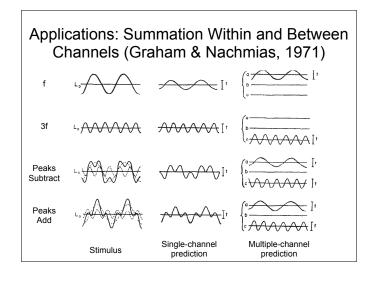


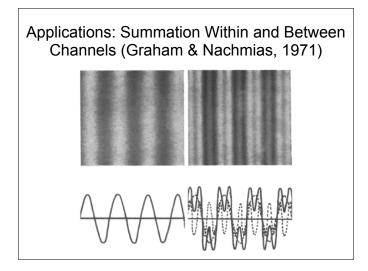


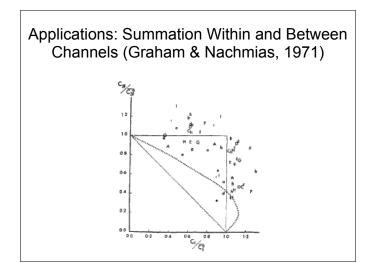


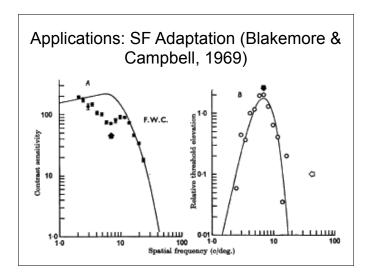


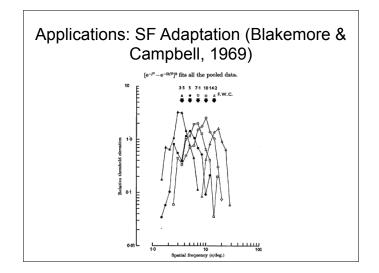


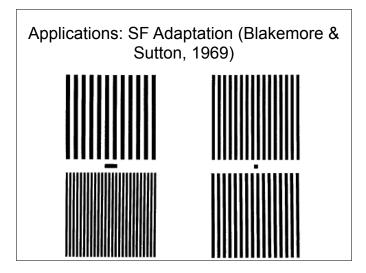


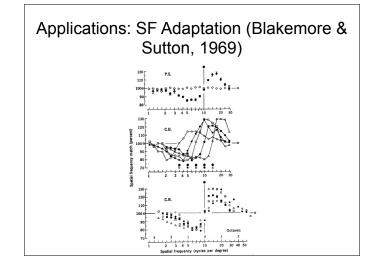












# Applications: Pattern Masking (Wilson et al., 1983)

- Mask one pattern (Gabor, D6, ...) by another (e.g., a ٠ sine wave grating, tilted obliquely)
- Threshold is raised by the masker if channel being ٠ used is sensitive to both
- Many possible explanations of the rise in threshold ٠ with masker contrast:
  - Weber's Law, possibly as a result of multiplicative noise (noise whose SD is proportional to mean  $\frac{\Delta l}{k} = k$ response):
  - Nonlinearity followed by additive noise

#### Applications: Pattern Masking (Wilson et al., 1983) ; ; ; 0.8 Elevation Elevat 2.02.0 Ihreshold hreshold

5,0

1.0 0.5

2.0 4.0 8.0

Spatial Frequency (C/D)

DKM

2.0

1.0

.5 1.0 2.0

Spatial Frequency (C/D)

