

PAM3012  
Digital Image Processing for  
Radiographers

Image Enhancement in the  
Frequency Domain

In this lecture

- ★ Filtering in the Frequency Domain
- ★ Smoothing frequency domain filters
- ★ Sharpening frequency domain filters

Basics of Filtering Frequency  
Domain

- Frequency Domain is nothing more than the space defined by values of FT & frequency variables  $(u, v)$
- In this lecture we put some 'meaning' to the Fourier Domain

Basics of Frequency Domain  
Filtering

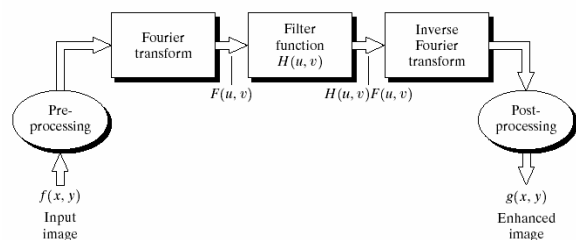
1. Compute DFT of the image,  $F(u, v)$
2. Multiply  $F(u, v)$  by filter function,  $H(u, v)$
3. Compute inverse DFT

Basics of Frequency Domain  
Filtering

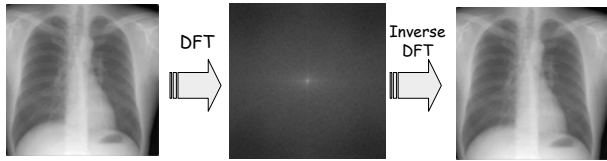
- $H(u, v)$  is called a filter function
  - suppresses certain frequencies in transform whilst leaving others unchanged
- Analogous to coffee filter: stops larger particles whilst allowing smaller ones to pass
- Mathematically:  $G(u, v) = H(u, v) \times F(u, v)$
- Filtered image obtain by taking inverse FT of  $G(u, v)$

Basics of Frequency Domain  
Filtering

- Basic steps



## Basics of Frequency Domain Filtering

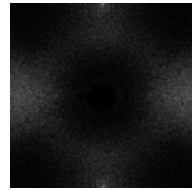


- Low frequencies: general grey-level appearance
- High frequencies: detail, edges, noise

## Basics of Frequency Domain Filtering

### Basic Filter Functions

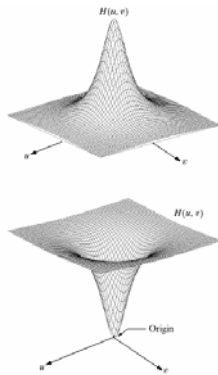
- *Lowpass Filter:*  
Attenuates high frequencies 'passes' low frequencies
- *Highpass Filter:*  
Attenuates low frequencies 'passes' high frequencies



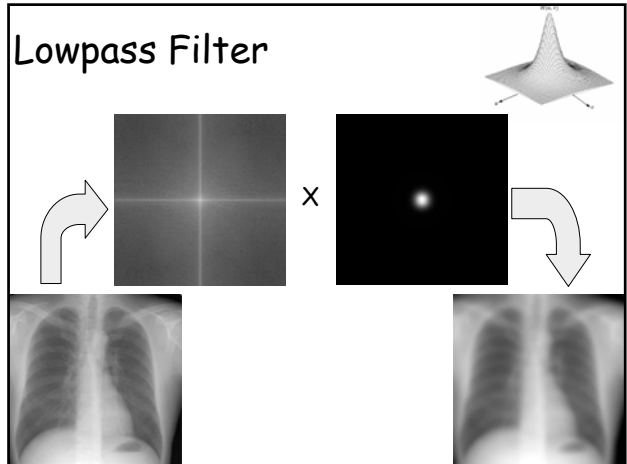
## Basics of Frequency Domain Filtering

### Basic Filter Functions

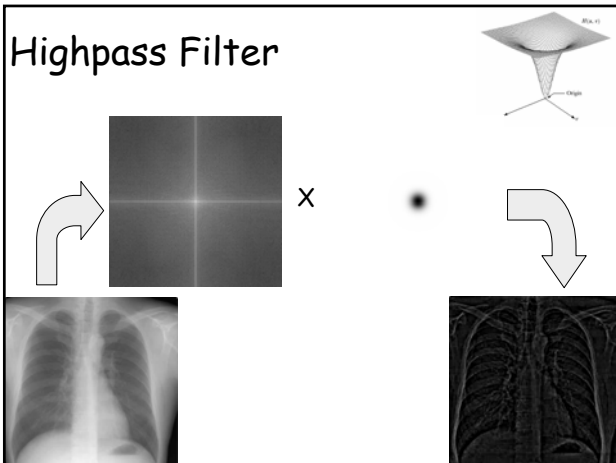
- *Lowpass Filter:*  
Attenuates high frequencies 'passes' low frequencies
- *Highpass Filter:*  
Attenuates low frequencies 'passes' high frequencies



## Lowpass Filter



## Highpass Filter



## Smoothing Frequency Domain Filters

## Smoothing Frequency Domain Filters

- Edge & other sharp transitions (i.e. noise) contribute to high frequency content of Fourier Domain
- Smoothing & blurring achieved by attenuating high frequency components of Fourier Domain

$$G(u,v) = H(u,v) \times F(u,v)$$

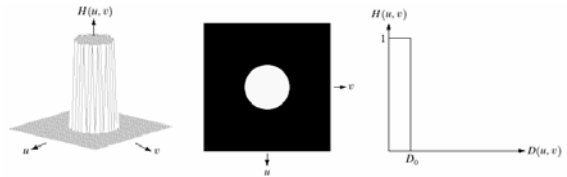
## Smoothing Frequency Domain Filters

### Ideal Lowpass Filter

'Cuts off' all components of FT that are greater than distance  $D_0$  from centre

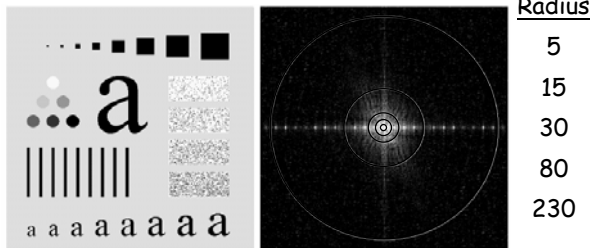
$$H(u,v) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } D(u,v) \leq D_0 \\ 0 & \text{if } D(u,v) > D_0 \end{cases}$$

Cut-off Frequency,  $D_0$

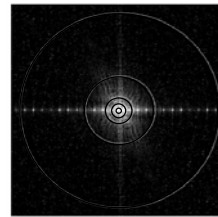


## Smoothing Frequency Domain Filters

### Ideal Lowpass Filter

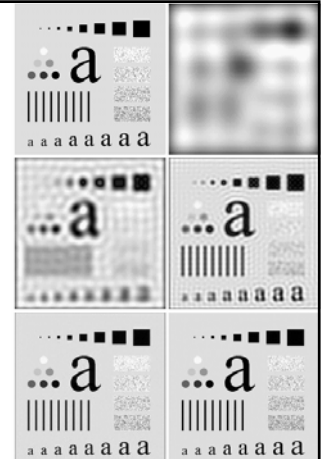


### Ideal Lowpass Filter



Cut-off Radii

5  
15 30  
80 230



## Smoothing Frequency Domain Filters

### Butterworth Lowpass Filter

Transfer Function  
( $n^{\text{th}}$  order)

Does not have sharp discontinuity

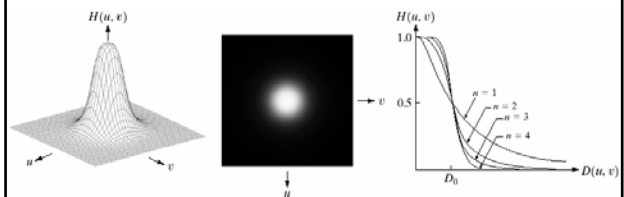
No clear cut-off between passed & filtered frequencies

Define cut-off frequency as 50% transmission  
(I.e.  $H(u,v) = 0.5$  when  $D(u,v) = D_0$ )

$$H(u,v) = \frac{1}{1 + [D(u,v)/D_0]^{2n}}$$

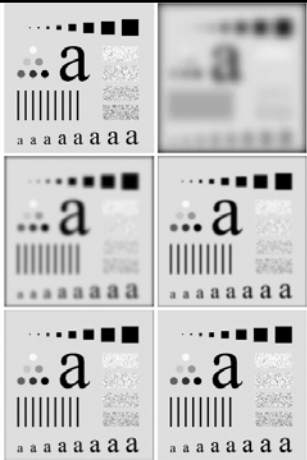
## Smoothing Frequency Domain Filters

### Butterworth Lowpass Filter



Butterworth Lowpass Filter

Order: n=2  
 Cut-off Radii  
 5  
 15 30  
 80 230



Smoothing Frequency Domain Filters

Gaussian Lowpass Filter

Transfer Function

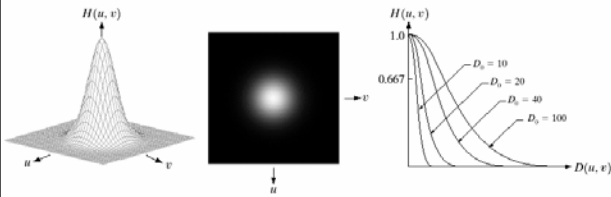
Does not have sharp discontinuity  
 No clear cut-off between passed & filtered frequencies

$$H(u,v) = e^{-\frac{D^2(u,v)}{2D_0^2}}$$

$H(u,v) = 0.607$  when  $D(u,v) = D_0$

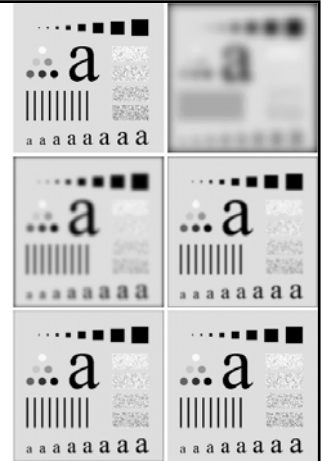
Smoothing Frequency Domain Filters

Gaussian Lowpass Filter



Gaussian Lowpass Filter

Cut-off Radii  
 5  
 15 30  
 80 230



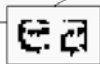
Example

Gaussian Lowpass Filter

$D_0 = 80$

Historically, certain computer programs were written using only two digits rather than four to define the applicable year. Accordingly, the company's software may recognize a date using "00" as 1900 rather than the year 2000.

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Example

Gaussian Lowpass Filter



## Sharpening Frequency Domain Filters

## Sharpening Frequency Domain Filters

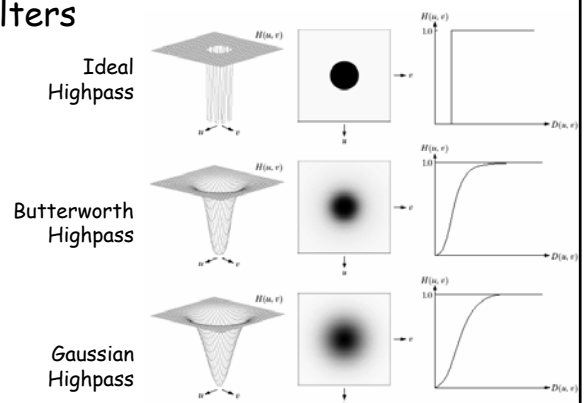
- Smoothing & blurring achieved by attenuating high-frequency content of Fourier Transform
- Edges can be enhanced by attenuating low frequency content
- *Highpass Filtering*

## Sharpening Frequency Domain Filters

- Highpass filtering is precisely reverse operation as lowpass filtering

$$H_{hp}(u, v) = 1 - H_{lp}(u, v)$$

## Sharpening Frequency Domain Filters



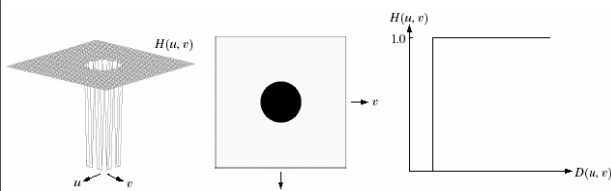
## Sharpening Frequency Domain Filters

### Ideal Highpass Filter

'Cuts off' all components of FT that are small than distance  $D_0$  from centre

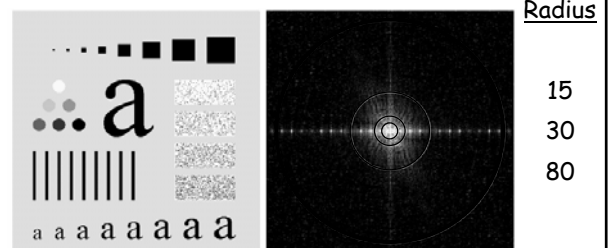
$$H(u, v) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } D(u, v) \leq D_0 \\ 1 & \text{if } D(u, v) > D_0 \end{cases}$$

Cut-off Frequency,  $D_0$

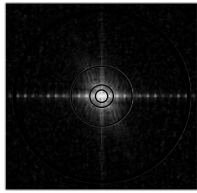


## Sharpening Frequency Domain Filters

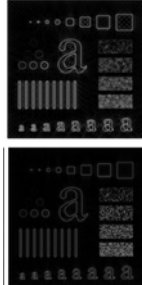
### Ideal Highpass Filter



### Ideal Highpass Filter



Cut-off Radii  
15  
30  
80



### Sharpening Frequency Domain Filters

#### Butterworth Highpass Filter

Transfer Function  
(n<sup>th</sup> order)

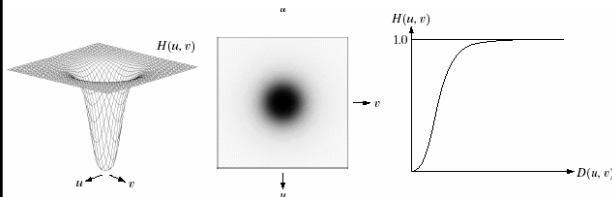
Does not have sharp discontinuity  
No clear cut-off between passed & filtered frequencies

$$H(u,v) = \frac{1}{1 + [D_0 / D(u,v)]^{2n}}$$

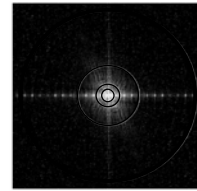
Define cut-off frequency as 50% transmission  
(I.e.  $H(u,v) = 0.5$  when  $D(u,v) = D_0$ )

### Sharpening Frequency Domain Filters

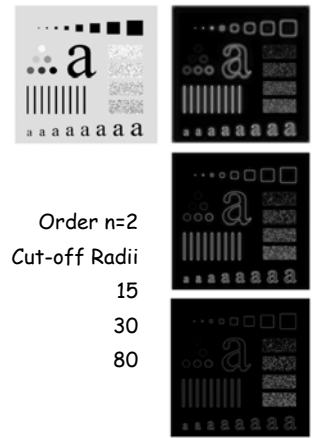
#### Butterworth Highpass Filter



#### Butterworth Highpass Filter



Order n=2  
Cut-off Radii  
15  
30  
80



### Sharpening Frequency Domain Filters

#### Gaussian Highpass Filter

Transfer Function

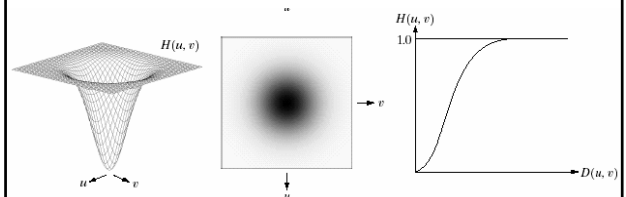
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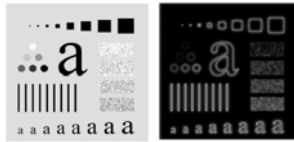
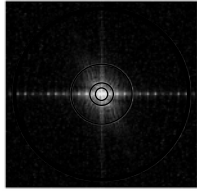
$H(u,v) = 0.607$  when  $D(u,v) = D_0$

### Sharpening Frequency Domain Filters

#### Gaussian Highpass Filter



*Gaussian Highpass Filter*



Cut-off Radii

15

30

80

## Summary

- ★ Filtering in the Frequency Domain
- ★ Smoothing frequency domain filters
- ★ Sharpening frequency domain filters