

# Week 4 Tutorial

**TA:** Paul-Edouard Sarlin [psarlin@ethz.ch](mailto:psarlin@ethz.ch)

## Topics:

- Fourier transform principles
- Filtering in spatial and frequency domain
- Low Pass filter
- High Pass filter
- Band Pass filter
- Sampling

# Fourier Transform

- Represents signal as a sum of periodic signals (e.g. sine)
- An image is a 2D function  $I(x, y)$
- Fourier transform:

$$F(I)(u, v) = \iint_{R^2} I(x, y) e^{-i2\pi(ux+vy)} dx dy$$

- Inverse Fourier transform:

$$I(x, y) = \iint_{R^2} F(I)(u, v) e^{i2\pi(ux+vy)} du dv$$

$$i^2 = -1$$

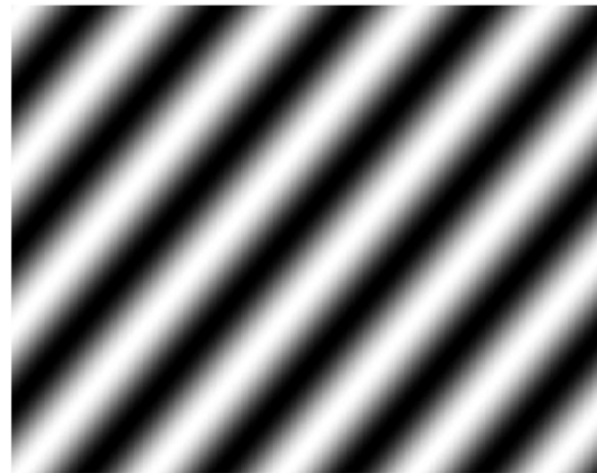
# Fourier Transform on Images

- Intuition: the image  $I$  is decomposed into a weighted sum of 2D basis functions:

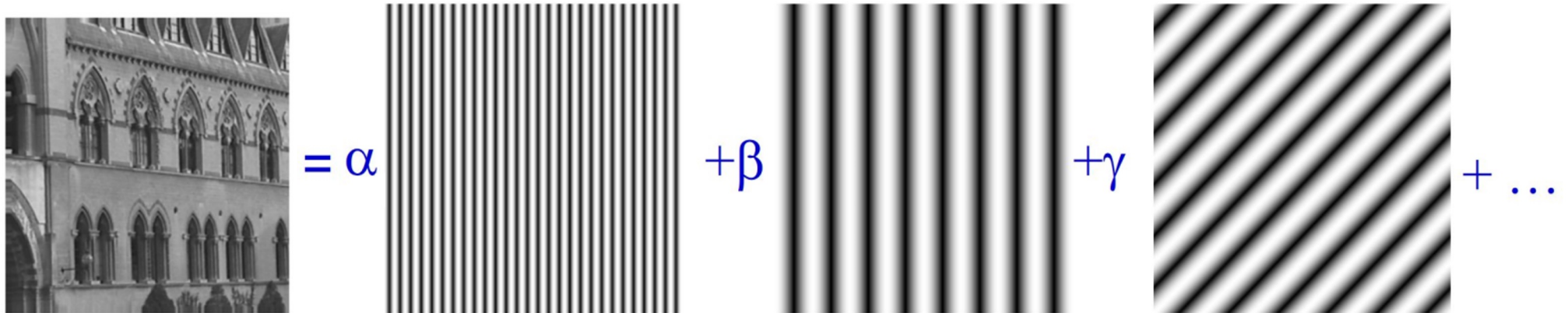
$$F(I)(u, v) = \iint_{R^2} I(x, y) \underline{e^{-i2\pi(ux+vy)}} dx dy$$

$$B_{u,v}(x, y) = \underline{e^{-i2\pi(ux+vy)}} = \cos(2\pi(ux + vy)) - i\sin(2\pi(ux + vy))$$

- Vector  $(u, v)$
- Magnitude  $\sim$  frequency
- Direction  $\sim$  orientation

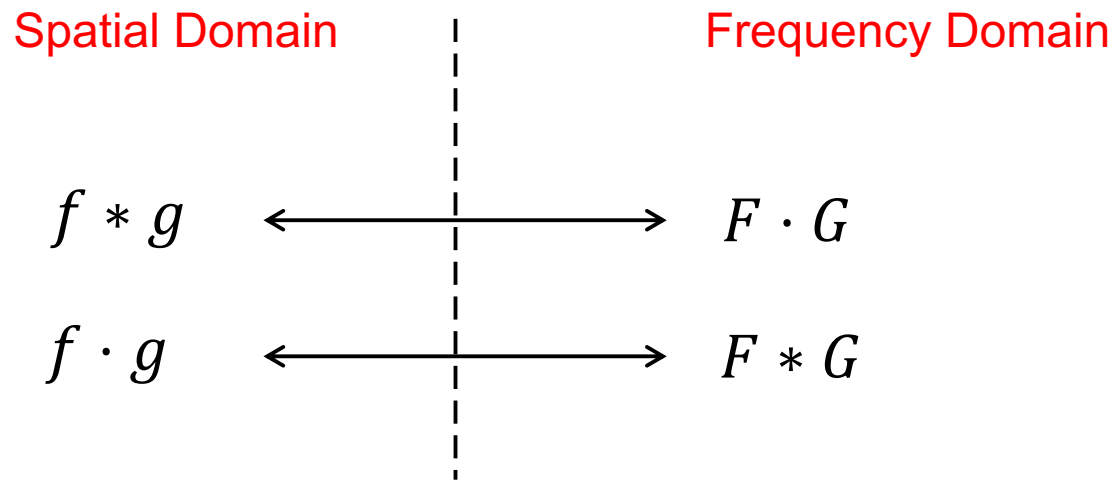


# Fourier Transform on Images



Credits: <http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~az/lectures/ia/lect2.pdf>

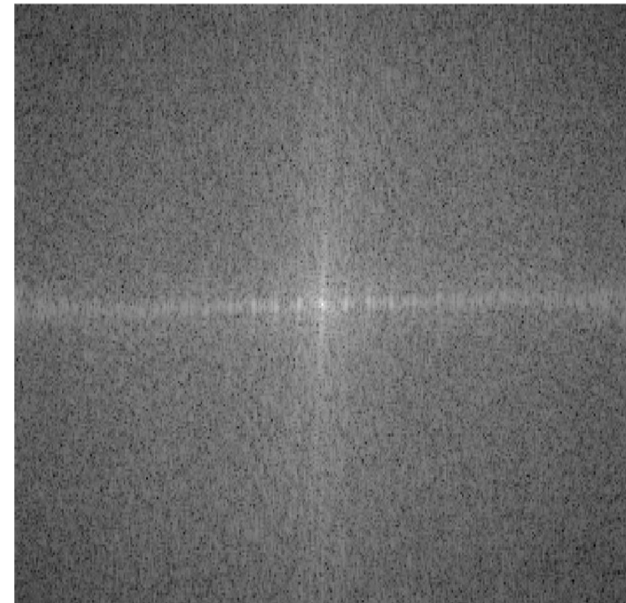
# Fourier Transform and Convolution



- Convolution in **spatial** domain = multiplication in **frequency** domain and **vice-versa**.
- We can filter by applying Fourier Transform, multiplying and transforming back.

# Frequencies in images

- Low image frequencies = slow gray level changes
- High image frequencies = fast changes in gray levels (e.g. edges and noise)



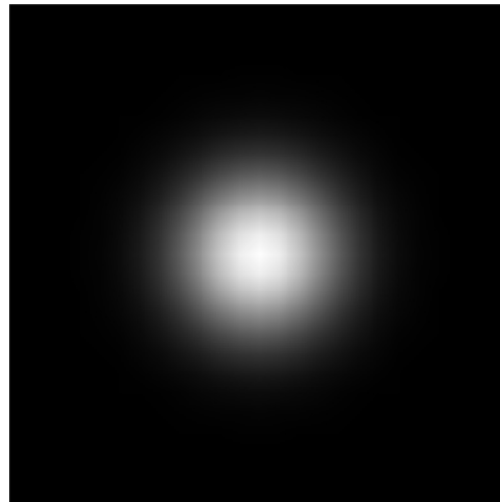
# Task 1: Filtering

---

- Low pass filter
- High pass filter
- Band pass filter

# Low pass filter

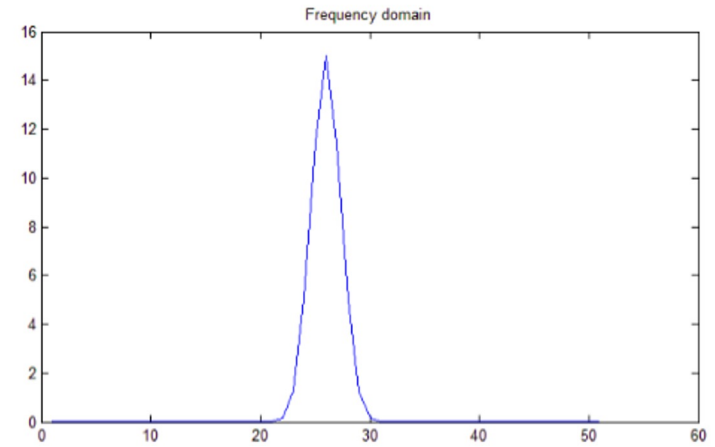
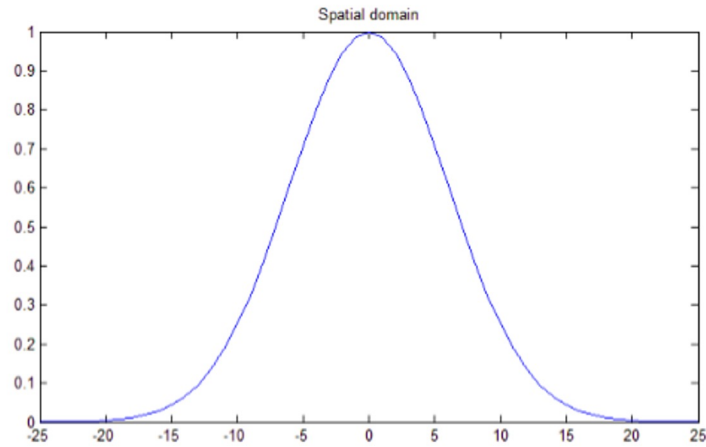
- Suppresses high frequencies, Retains low frequencies unchanged.
- Blocked high frequencies correspond to sharp intensity changes (fine-scale details, edges, noise)
- Result equivalent to smoothing.



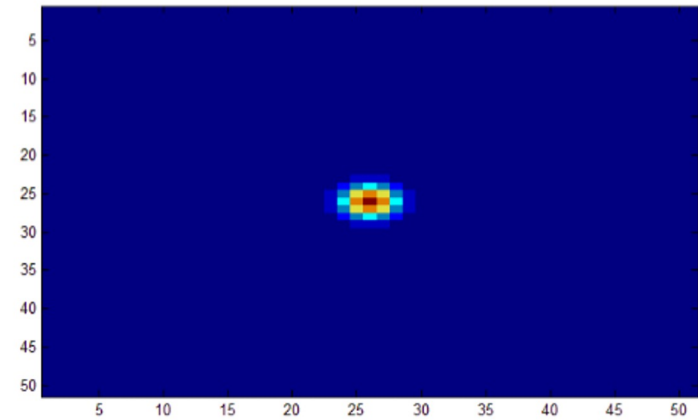
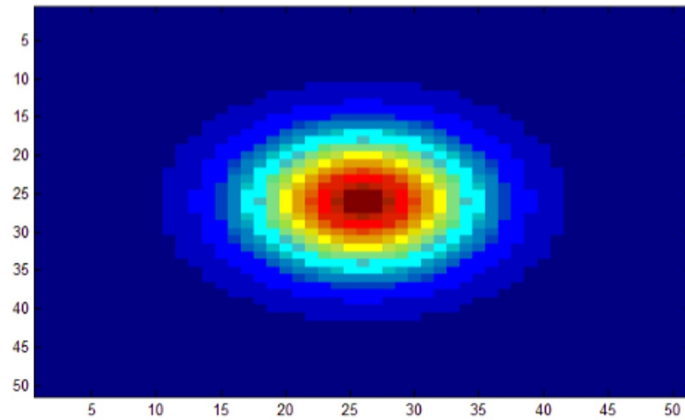


# Low pass filter: Gaussian

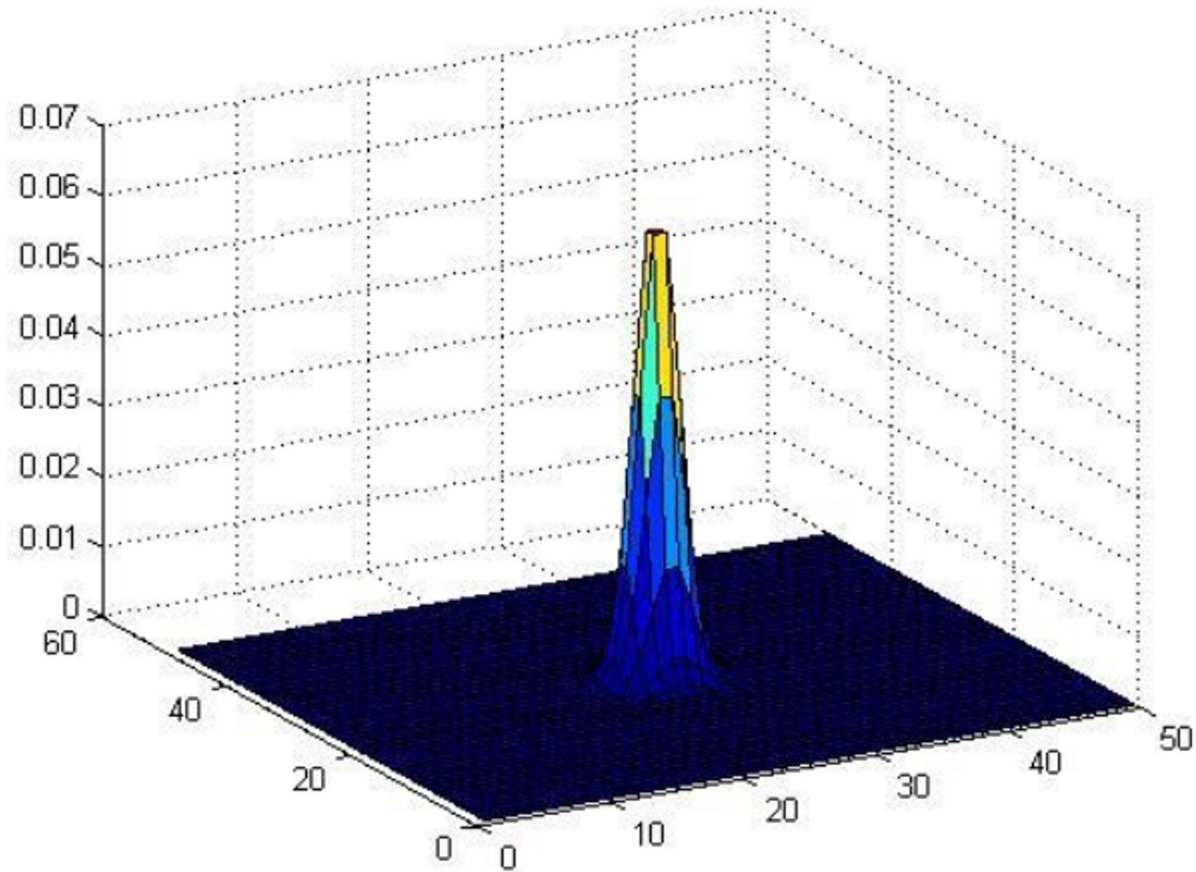
1D



2D

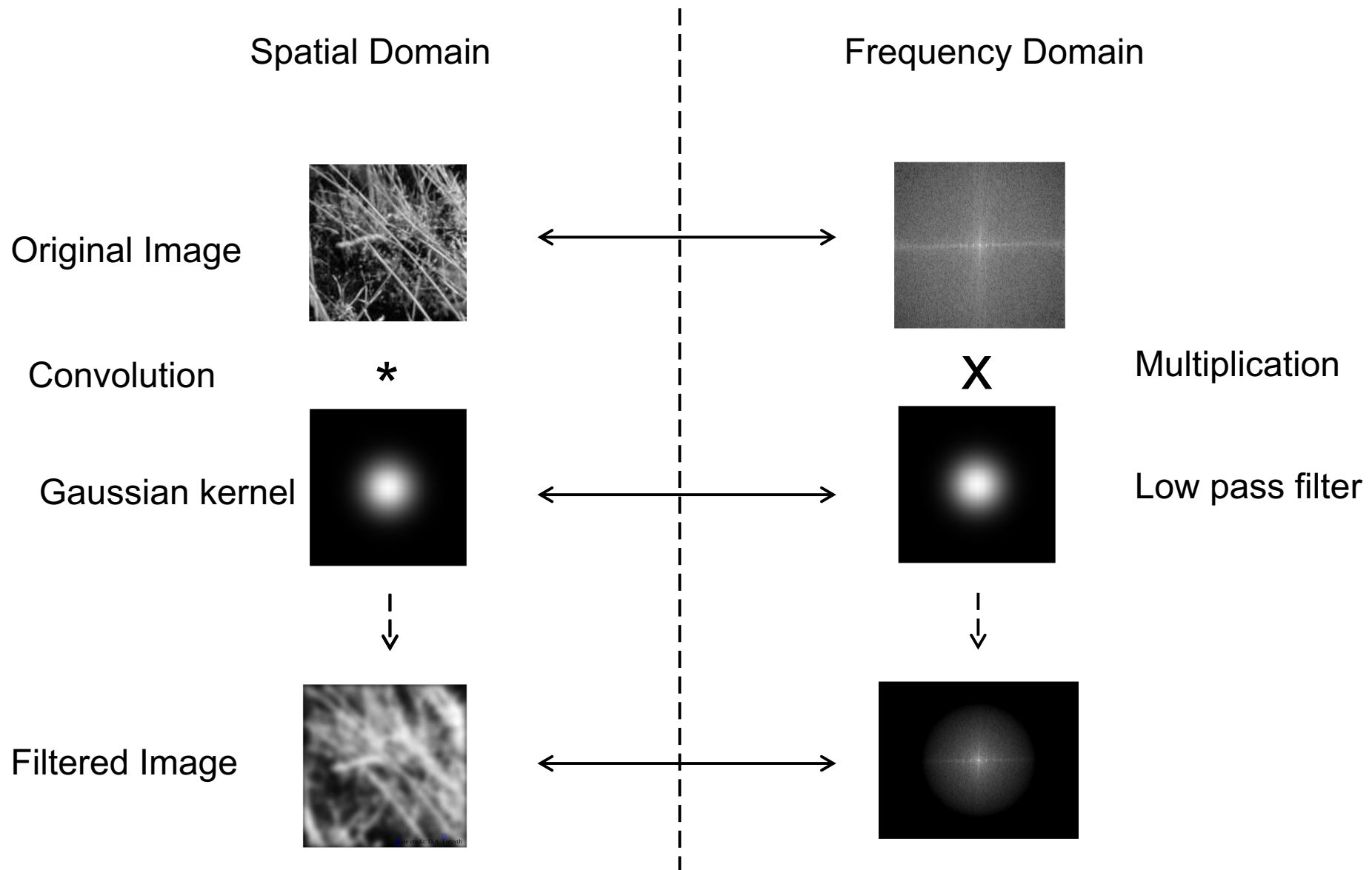


# Low pass filter: Gaussian



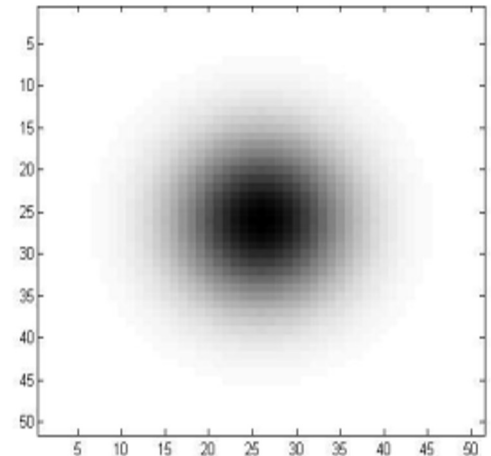
Gaussian kernel of size (50, 50) and standard deviation 2.5

# Low pass filter



# High pass filter

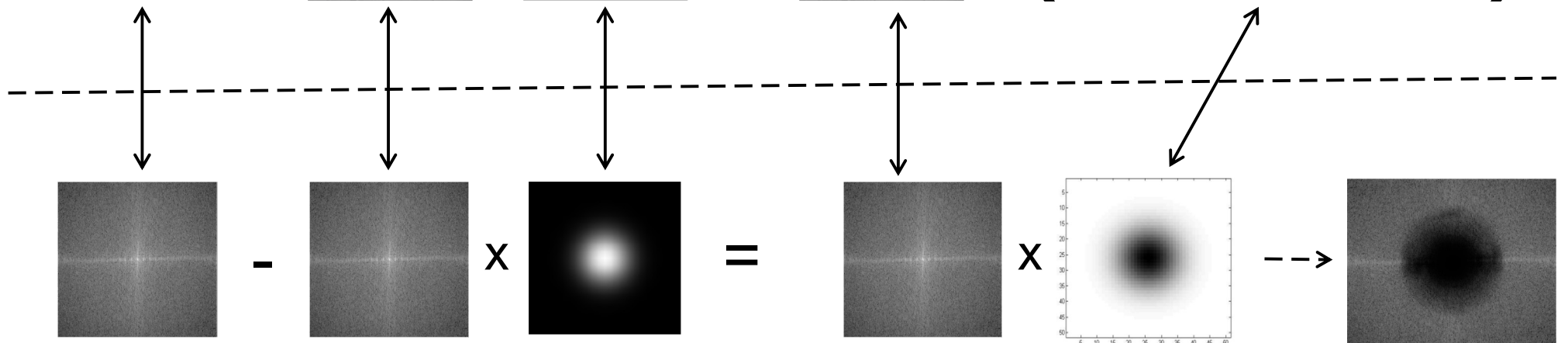
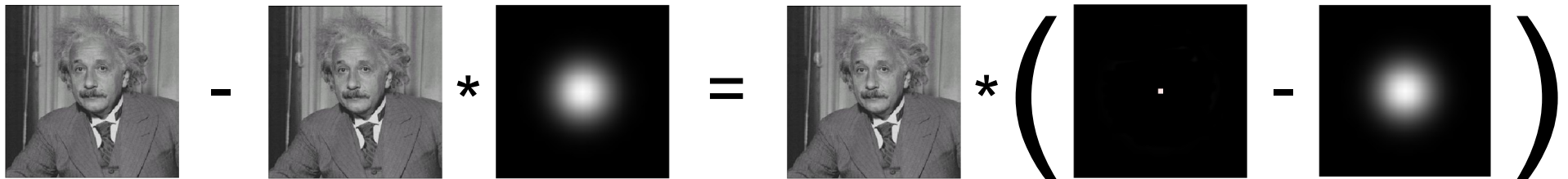
- Suppresses low frequencies, Retains high frequencies unchanged.
- Edges are enhanced
- Suppressed low frequencies correspond to areas of constant gray level
- Result equivalent to difference between original image and image filtered by Gaussian.
- Frequency complement of the low pass filter.



# High pass filter

- Result equivalent to difference between original image and image filtered by Gaussian.
- Frequency complement of the low pass filter.

Spatial Domain

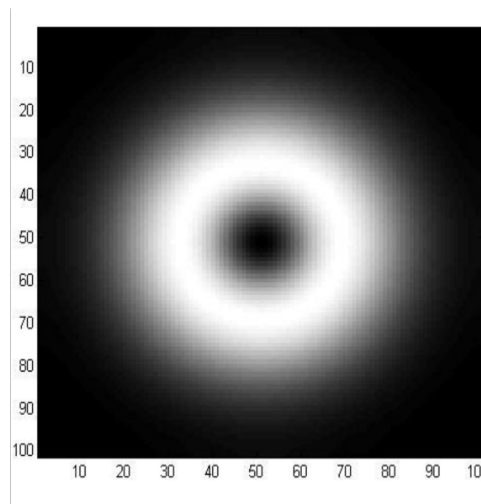


Frequency Domain

High pass filter

# Band pass filter

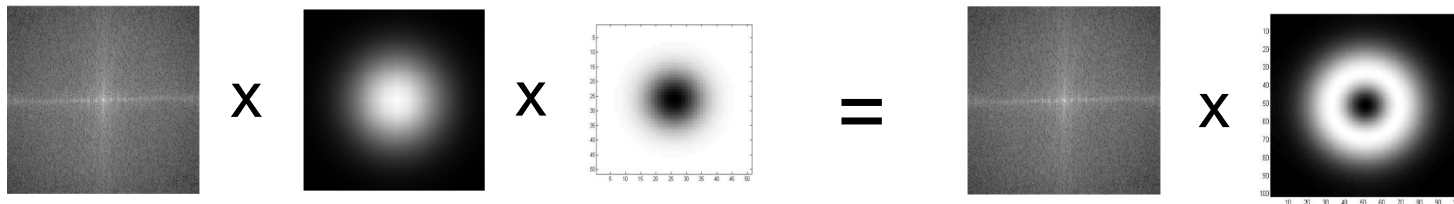
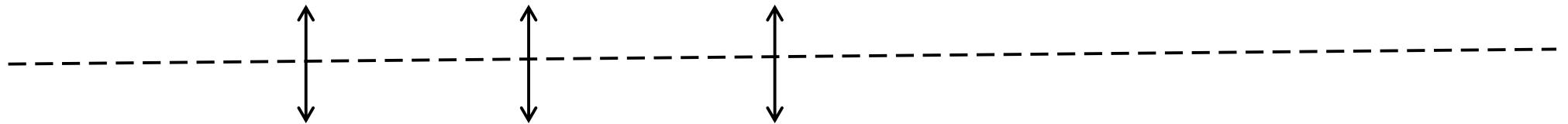
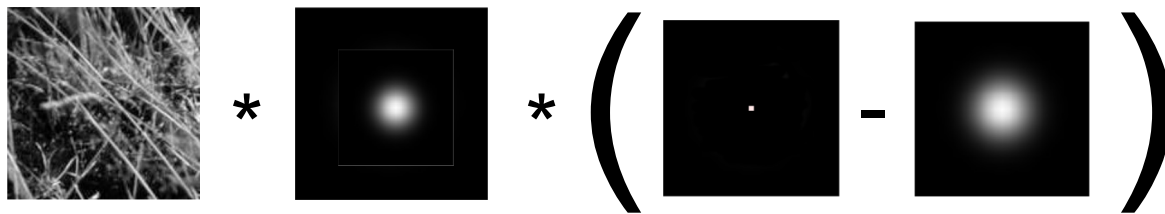
- Suppresses both the low frequencies ( $< D_0$ ) and the high frequencies ( $> D_1$ ).
- Retains the middle range band of frequencies.
- May be used to enhance edges (suppressing high frequencies) while reducing the noise (suppressing low frequencies)
- Result equivalent to successive filtering by low pass filter and high pass filter



# Band pass filter

- Result equivalent to successive filtering by low pass filter and high pass filter

Spatial Domain



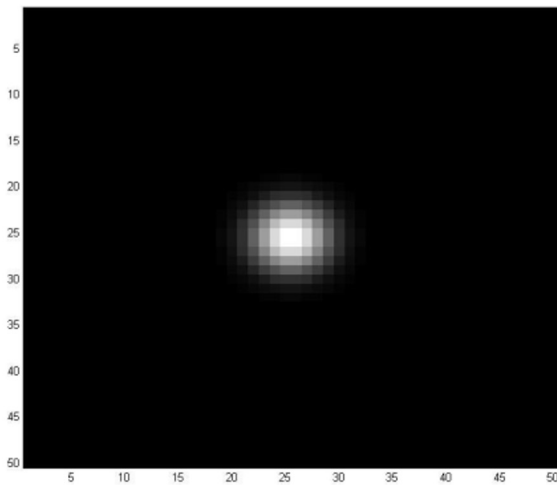
Low pass filter High pass filter

Band pass filter

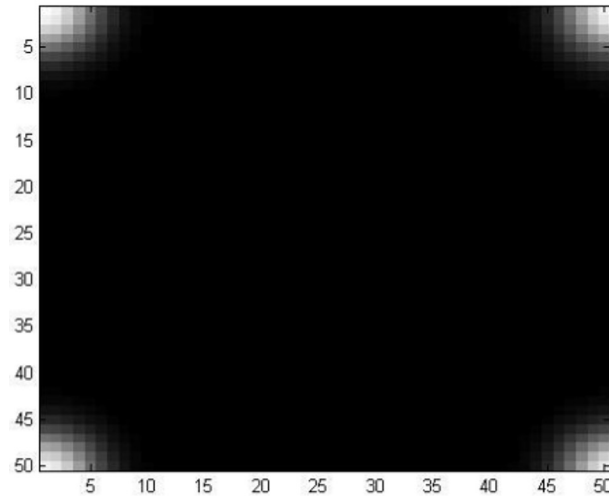
Frequency Domain

# Fourier Transform in Python

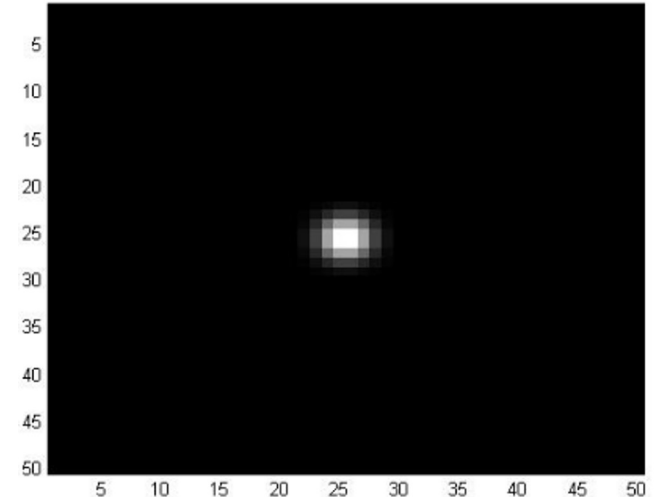
- Command `fft2`: runs Fast Fourier Transform on image
- In Python the low frequencies are displayed at the corners
- `scipy.fftpack.fftshift` brings the origin to the center of the image



```
filter = gaussian_filter((50,50),1.5)  
imshow(filter, cmap='gray')
```



```
h = fft2(filter)  
imshow(numpy.abs(h), cmap='gray')
```



```
h = fftshift(fft2(filter))  
imshow(numpy.abs(h), cmap='gray')
```



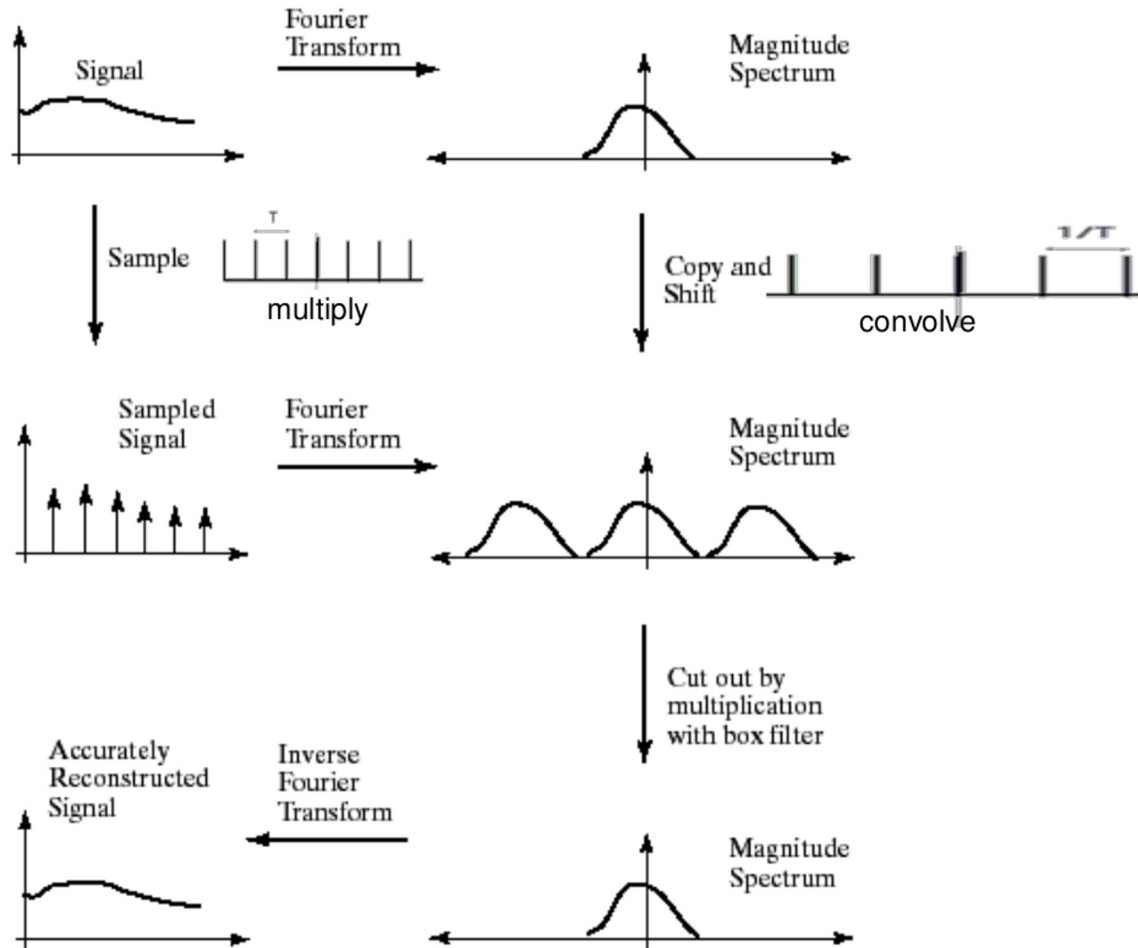
# Task 2: Sampling

- Sampling:
  - Discretization of the image by measuring values on a regular grid
- Nyquist–Shannon sampling theorem
  - Sampling frequency has to be at least 2x the highest frequency in image
  - If not fulfilled, **aliasing** appears.

# Sampling scheme

Spatial Domain

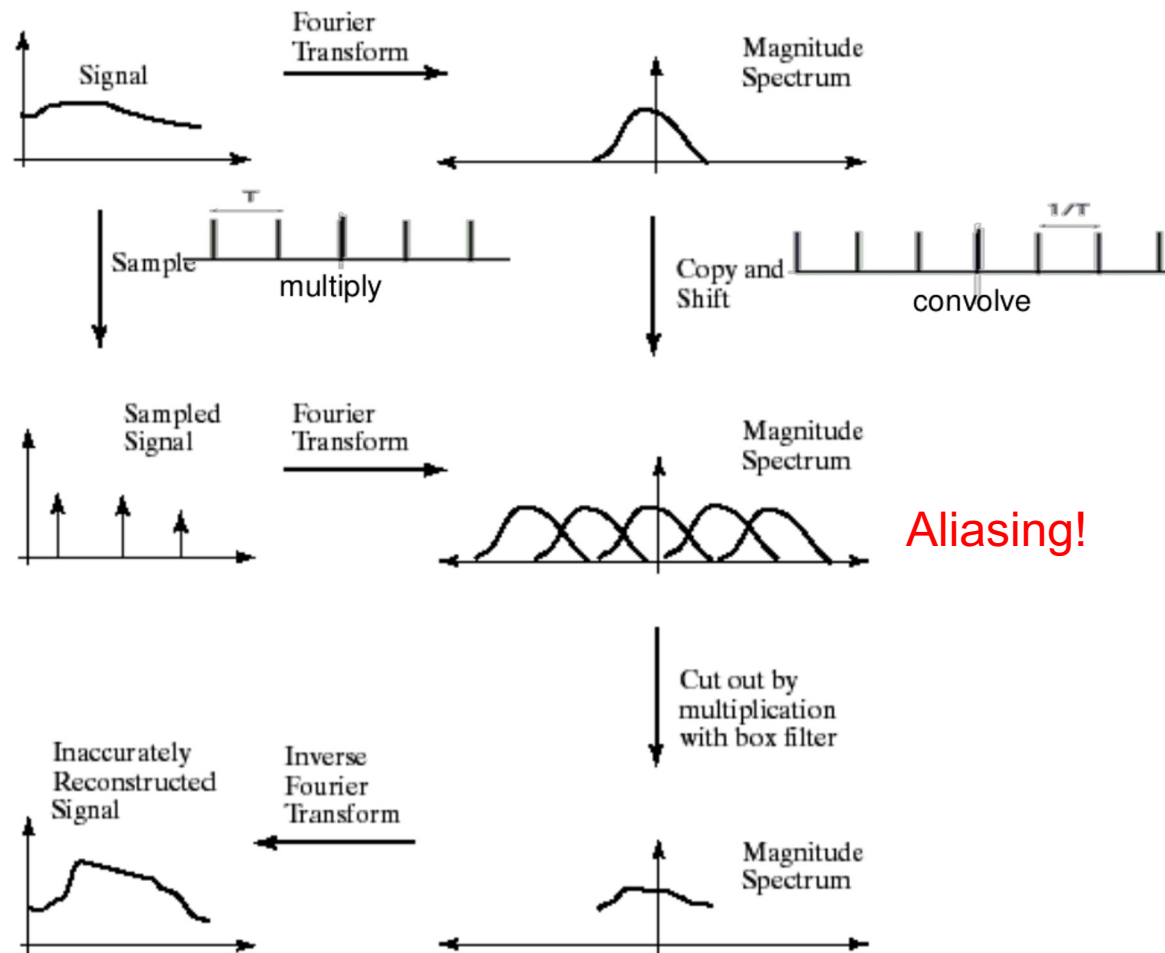
Frequency Domain



# Aliasing

Spatial Domain

Frequency Domain



# Avoiding aliasing

---

- To avoid aliasing, the Nyquist-Shannon theorem must hold.
  - Sampling frequency  $\geq 2x$  the highest frequency in image
- **Solution:** Reduce the maximal frequency in data
  - Use the low-pass filter

# Bonus task

- Blurred image of street signs
- Use one of the presented methods to make the text readable

