

# FFTs in Graphics and Vision

Rotational and Reflective Symmetry Detection

#### **Outline**



Representation Theory

Symmetry Detection (1D)

Symmetry Detection (2D)



#### Recall:

A group is a set of elements G with a binary operation (often denoted "·") such that for all  $f, g, h \in G$ , the following properties are satisfied:

• Closure:

$$g \cdot h \in G$$

Associativity:

$$f \cdot (g \cdot h) = (f \cdot h) \cdot h$$

∘ Identity:  $\exists 1 \in G$  s.t.:

$$1 \cdot g = g \cdot 1 = g$$

• Inverse:  $\forall g \in G \exists g^{-1} \in G \text{ s.t.}$ :  $g \cdot g^{-1} = g^{-1} \cdot g = 1$ 



#### Observation 1:

Given a group  $G = \{g_1, \dots, g_n\}$ , for any  $g \in G$ , the map that multiplies the elements of G on the left by g is invertible.

(The inverse is the map multiplying the elements of G on the left by  $g^{-1}$ .)



#### Observation 1:

This implies that the set  $\{g \cdot g_1, \dots, g \cdot g_n\}$  is just a re-ordering of the set  $\{g_1, \dots, g_n\}$ .

Or more simply, gG = G.

Similarly, the set  $\{(g_1)^{-1}, \dots, (g_n)^{-1}\}$  is just a reordering of the set  $\{g_1, \dots, g_n\}$ .

Or more simply,  $G^{-1} = G$ .



#### Recall:

A Hermitian inner product is a map from  $V \times V$  into the complex numbers that is:

- 1. <u>Linear</u>:  $\forall u, v, w \in V \text{ and } \lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ :  $\langle u + v, w \rangle = \langle u, w \rangle + \langle v, w \rangle$   $\langle \lambda v, w \rangle = \lambda \langle v, w \rangle$
- 2. Conjugate Symmetric:  $\forall v, w \in V$ :  $\langle v, w \rangle = \overline{\langle w, v \rangle}$
- 3. Positive Definite:  $\forall v \in V$ :  $\langle v, v \rangle \geq 0$  and  $\langle v, v \rangle = 0 \Leftrightarrow v = 0$



#### Observation 2:

Given a Hermitian inner-product space V, and given a set of vectors  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \subset V$ , the vector minimizing the sum of squared distances is the average of  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ :

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} v_k = \arg\min_{v \in V} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{n} ||v - v_k||^2 \right)$$



#### Recall:

A <u>unitary representation</u> of a group G on a Hermitian inner-product space V is a map  $\rho$  that sends every element in G to an orthogonal transformation on V, satisfying:

$$\rho(g \cdot h) = \rho(g) \cdot \rho(h) \quad \forall g, h \in G$$



#### **Definition**:

We say that a vector  $v \in V$  is invariant under the action of G if G sends V back to itself:

$$\rho_g(v) = v \quad \forall g \in G$$



#### **Notation**:

We denote by  $V_G$  the set of vectors in V that are invariant under the action of G:

$$V_G = \{ v \in V | \rho_g(v) = v \ \forall g \in G \}$$



#### Observation 3:

Note that the set  $V_G$  is a vector sub-space of V.

If  $v, w \in V_G$ , then:

$$\rho_g(v) = v \text{ and } \rho_g(w) = w \quad \forall g \in G$$

But then we have:

$$\rho_g(v+w) = \rho_g(v) + \rho_g(w)$$
$$= v + w$$

So  $v + w \in V_G$  as well.



#### Observation 4:

Given a finite group G and given vector  $v \in V$ , the vector obtained by averaging over G:

Average
$$(v, G) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \rho_g(v)$$

is invariant under the action of G.



#### Observation 4:

To see this, let h be any element in G.

We would like to show that:

$$\rho_h(\text{Average}(v, G)) = \text{Average}(v, G) \quad \forall h \in G$$

Expanding the left hand side we get:

$$\rho_h(\text{Average}(v,G)) = \rho_h\left(\frac{1}{|G|}\sum_{g\in G}\rho_g(v)\right)$$



#### Observation 4:

$$\rho_h(\text{Average}(v,G)) = \rho_h\left(\frac{1}{|G|}\sum_{g\in G}\rho_g(v)\right)$$

By the linearity of the representation, we get:

$$\rho_h(\text{Average}(v,G)) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \rho_h(\rho_g(v))$$



#### Observation 4:

$$\rho_h(\text{Average}(v,G)) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \rho_h(\rho_g(v))$$

Since the representation preserves the group structure, we get:

$$\rho_h(\text{Average}(v,G)) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \rho_{h \cdot g}(v)$$



#### Observation 4:

$$\rho_h(\text{Average}(v,G)) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \rho_{h \cdot g}(v)$$

This can be re-written as a summation over hG:

$$\rho_h(\text{Average}(v,G)) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in hG} \rho_g(v)$$



#### Observation 4:

$$\rho_h(\text{Average}(v,G)) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in hG} \rho_g(v)$$

And since hG = G, this implies that:

$$\rho_h(\text{Average}(v,G)) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \rho_g(v)$$
$$= \text{Average}(v,G)$$



#### Observation 5:

Given a finite group G and given a vector  $v \in V$ , the average of v over G is the closest G-invariant vector to v:

Average
$$(v, G) = \arg\min_{v^* \in V_G} (\|v^* - v\|^2)$$



#### Observation 5:

Average(
$$v, G$$
) = arg  $\min_{v^* \in V_G} (\|v^* - v\|^2)$ 

Since  $v^*$  is invariant under the action of G, we can write out the squared distances as:

$$\|v^* - v\|^2 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \|\rho_g(v^*) - v\|^2$$



#### Observation 5:

$$||v^* - v||^2 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} ||\rho_g(v^*) - v||^2$$

Since the representation is unitary:

$$\|v^* - v\|^2 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \|v^* - (\rho_g)^{-1}(v)\|^2$$



#### Observation 5:

$$\|v^* - v\|^2 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \|v^* - (\rho_g)^{-1}(v)\|^2$$

Since the representation preserves the group structure, we get:

$$\|v^* - v\|^2 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \|v^* - \rho_{g^{-1}}(v)\|^2$$



#### Observation 5:

$$\|v^* - v\|^2 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \|v^* - \rho_{g^{-1}}(v)\|^2$$

Re-writing this as a summation over  $G^{-1}$ , we get:

$$\|v^* - v\|^2 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G^{-1}} \|v^* - \rho_g(v)\|^2$$



#### Observation 5:

$$\|v^* - v\|^2 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G^{-1}} \|v^* - \rho_g(v)\|^2$$

And finally, using the fact that the set  $G^{-1}$  is just a re-ordering of the set G, we get:

$$||v^* - v||^2 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} ||v^* - \rho_g|(v)||^2$$



#### Observation 5:

$$\|v^* - v\|^2 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \|v^* - \rho_g(v)\|^2$$

Thus,  $v^*$  is the G-invariant vector minimizing the squared distance to v if and only if it minimizes the sum of squared distances to the vectors:

$$\left\{\rho_{g_1}(v),\cdots,\rho_{g_n}(v)\right\}$$

So  $v^*$  must be the average of these vectors:

$$v^* = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \rho_g(v) = \text{Average}(v, G)$$



#### Note:

Since the average map:

Average
$$(v, G) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \rho_g(v)$$

is a linear map returning the closest G-invariant vector to v, the average map is the <u>projection</u> map from V to  $V_G$ .

#### **Outline**



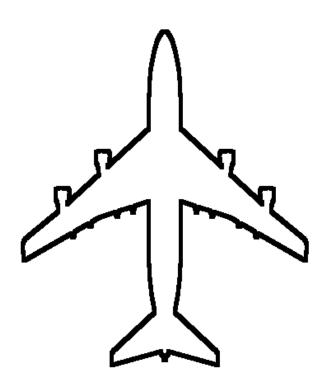
Representation Theory

Symmetry Detection (1D)

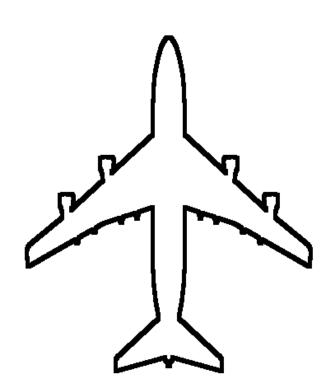
Symmetry Detection (2D)

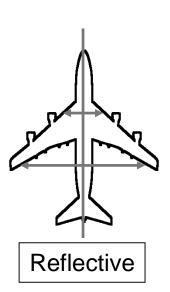




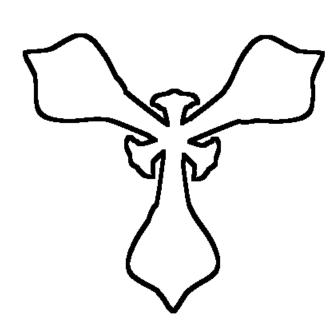




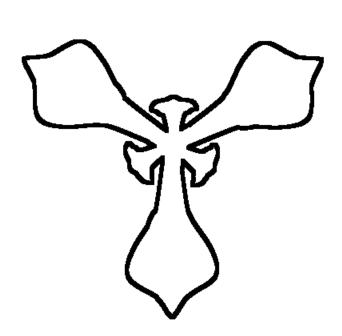


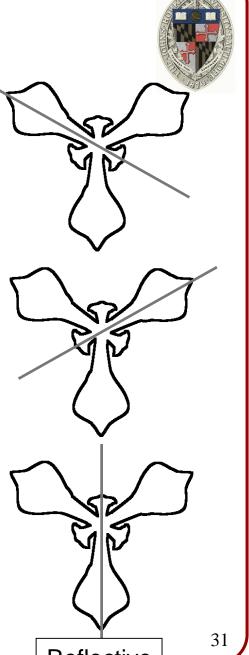




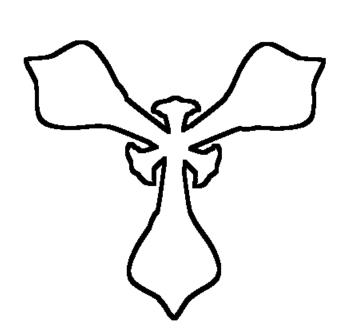


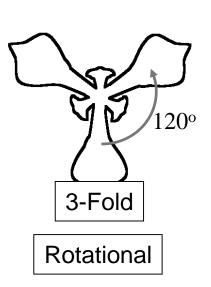
What kind of reflective/rotational symmetry does the shape have?



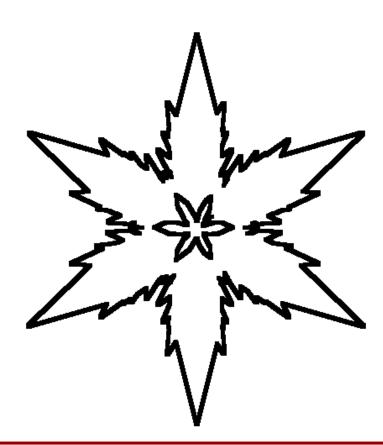


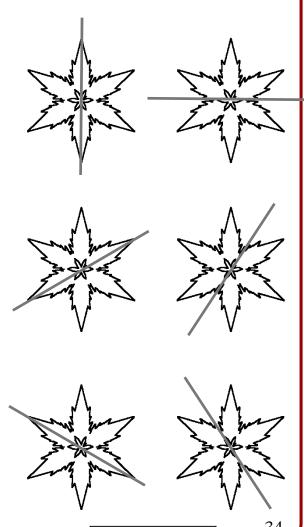
Reflective

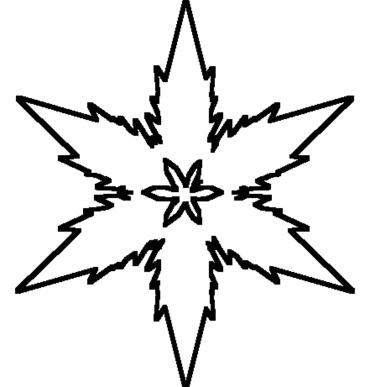


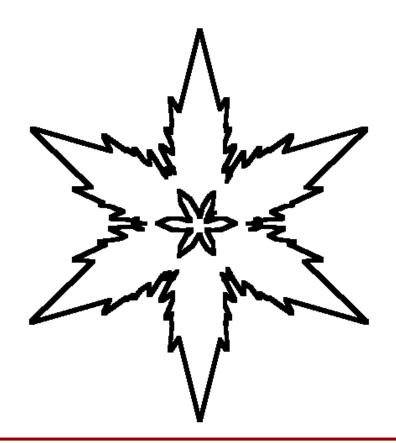


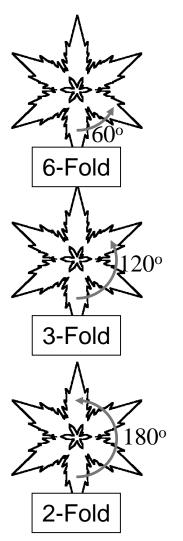




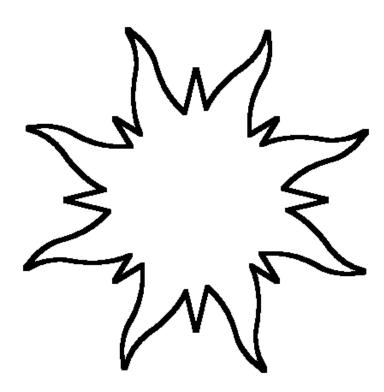




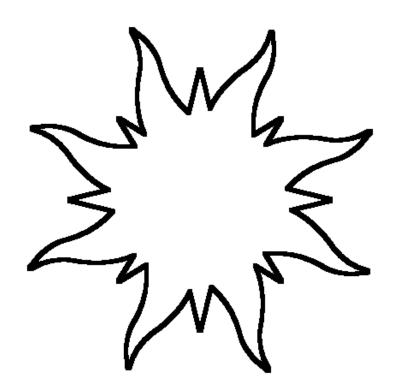


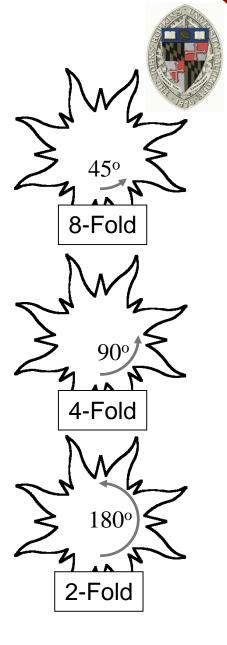






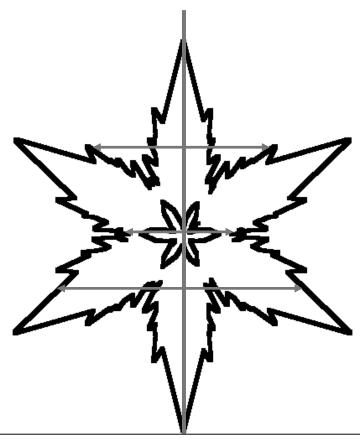
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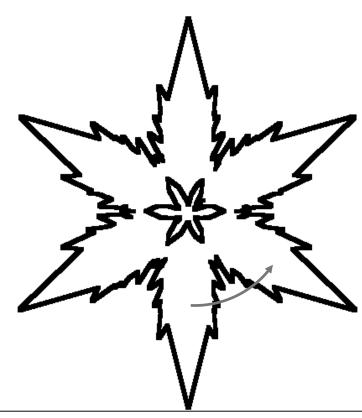
A shape is *symmetric* if there exists a group of transformations that leave the shape unchanged.



Group: {Identity, Reflection about the vertical axis}



A shape is *symmetric* if there exists a <u>group</u> of transformations that leave the shape unchanged.



Group: {Identity, 60° Rotation, 120° Rotation, 180° Rotation, 240° Rotation, 300° Rotation}



A shape is *symmetric* if there exists a <u>group</u> of transformations that leave the shape unchanged.

- Reflective symmetry group:
   Defined by the axis of reflective symmetry.
- Rotational symmetry group:
  Defined by the order of the rotational symmetry: k-fold  $\Leftrightarrow$  unchanged by  $\frac{n \cdot 360^{\circ}}{k}$  rotations



#### Approach:

1. By considering a representation of a shape by a circular function, we transform the problem:

Does the shape have symmetries?

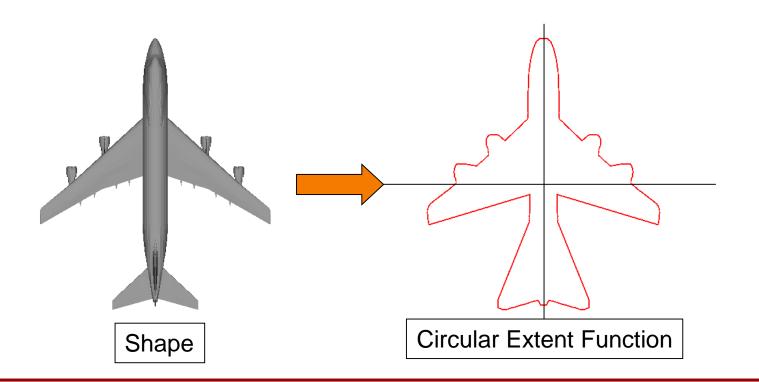


Does the function have symmetries?



#### Approach:

1. By considering a representation of a shape by a circular function, we transform the problem:





#### Approach:

- 1. By considering a representation of a shape by a circular function, we transform the problem to the challenge of detecting the symmetries of a circular function.
- 2. To be robust to noise, sampling error, etc., we will focus on answering the question:

How much of each type of symmetry does the shape have?



#### Goal:

Given a circular function and a symmetry group, we would like to determine how symmetric the function is.

#### We have:

- A vector space V (the space of circular functions)
- A group G acting on V (the symmetry group)

We want the size of the projection of a vector on the G-invariant subspace  $V_G$ :

$$Sym^{2}(v,G) = ||Average(v,G)||^{2}$$

#### **Outline**



Representation Theory

#### Symmetry Detection (1D)

- Rotations
- Reflections

Symmetry Detection (2D)



Given the group of k-fold rotational symmetries:

$$G_k = \left\{ \text{Identity, Rotation by } \frac{2\pi}{k}, \dots, (k-1) \cdot \frac{2\pi}{k} \right\}$$

and given a circular array  $f[\cdot]$ , we want to compute:

$$Sym^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{k}) = ||Average(f[\cdot], G_{k})||^{2}$$



We know that rotations map the 1D subspaces spanned by the complex exponentials:

$$v_l[\cdot] = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n}} \left( e^{i \cdot \frac{2\pi l}{n} \cdot 0}, \cdots, e^{i \cdot \frac{2\pi l}{n} \cdot (n-1)} \right)$$

back to themselves.

So lets look at how averaging acts on each  $v_l[\cdot]$ .



What is the average of  $v_l[\cdot]$  under  $G_k$ ?

Recall that rotating the  $v_l[\cdot]$  by  $\alpha$  is equivalent to multiplying it by  $e^{-il\cdot\alpha}$ , so the j-th element of  $G_k$  acts by multiplication by  $e^{-il\cdot\frac{2\pi j}{k}}$ .



We can write out the average of  $v_l[\cdot]$  under  $G_k$  as:

Average
$$(v_l[\cdot], G_k) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} e^{-il \cdot \frac{2\pi j}{k}} \cdot v_l[\cdot]$$



Average
$$(v_l[\cdot], G_k) = \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} e^{-il \cdot \frac{2\pi j}{k}}\right) \cdot v_l[\cdot]$$

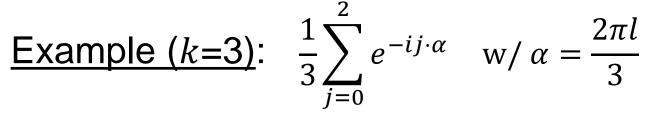
We can rewrite the sum:

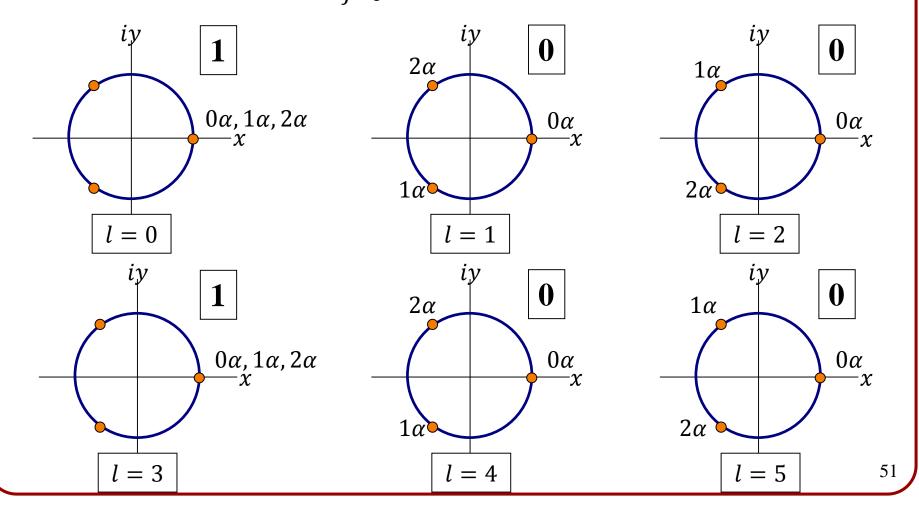
$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} e^{-il \cdot \frac{2\pi j}{k}} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} e^{-ij \cdot \frac{2\pi l}{k}}$$

Setting  $\alpha$  to be the angle:

$$\alpha = \frac{2\pi l}{k}$$

this is the sum of the unit-norm complex numbers with angles  $\{0, \alpha, \dots, (k-1) \cdot \alpha\}$ .







$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} e^{-il \cdot \frac{2\pi j}{k}} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} e^{-ij \cdot \frac{2\pi l}{k}}$$

When l is a multiple of k, the sum is equal to 1, otherwise, it is equal to zero.



Average
$$(v_l[\cdot], G_k) = \begin{cases} v_l[\cdot] & l \in k\mathbb{Z} \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

If we take the Fourier decomposition:

$$f[\cdot] = \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} \hat{f}[l] \cdot v_l[\cdot]$$

By linearity, the average of  $f[\cdot]$  under  $G_k$  can be obtained by zeroing out all the Fourier coefficients of  $f[\cdot]$  whose index is not a multiple of k:

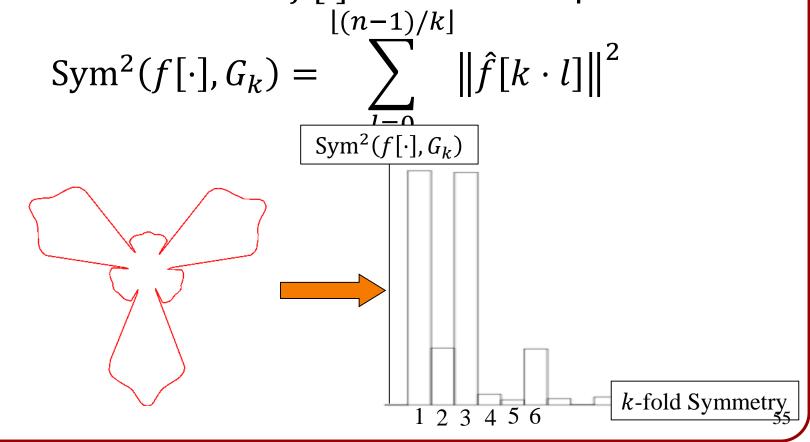
Average
$$(f[\cdot], G_k) = \sum_{l=0}^{\lfloor (n-1)/k \rfloor} \hat{f}[k \cdot l] \cdot v_{k \cdot l}[\cdot]$$



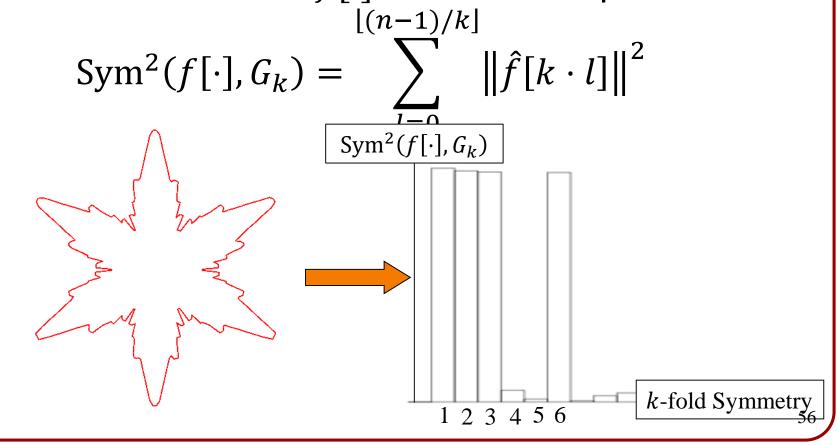
We can compute the measure of k-fold symmetry of  $f[\cdot]$  by summing the square norms of the Fourier coefficients of  $f[\cdot]$  that are multiples of k:

$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{k}) = \sum_{l=0}^{\lfloor (n-1)/k \rfloor} \|\hat{f}[k \cdot l]\|^{2}$$

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$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{k})$$

Note that the measure of k-fold symmetry is also ways at least as large as the measure of  $k \cdot l$ -fold symmetry, for any  $l \in \mathbb{N}$ .

1 2 3 4 5 6

*k*-fold Symmetry

#### **Outline**



Representation Theory

#### Symmetry Detection (1D)

- Rotations
- Reflections

Symmetry Detection (2D)



Given a circular array  $f[\cdot]$  and given the group of reflections about an axis with angle  $\alpha$ :

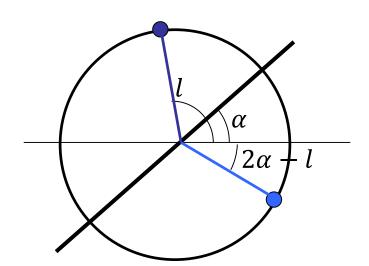
 $G_{\alpha} = \{ \text{Identity, Reflection about } \alpha \}$  we would like to compute:

 $\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \|\operatorname{Average}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha})\|^{2}$ 



To do this we need to know how the group elements act on the circular array  $f[\cdot]$ :

- The identity element acts trivially  $(Identity(f[\cdot]))[l] = f[l]$
- Reflection about the line with angle  $\alpha$  acts by:  $(Reflection_{\alpha}(f[\cdot]))[l] = f[2\alpha l]$





$$(Reflection_{\alpha}(f[\cdot]))[l] = f[2\alpha - l]$$

Set  $g[\cdot]$  to the reflection of  $f[\cdot]$  about the origin: g[l] = f[-l]

Then we can express the reflection of  $f[\cdot]$  about the line with angle  $\alpha$  as:

(Reflection<sub>\alpha</sub>(f[\cdot])) = 
$$\rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])$$



We can express the average of  $f[\cdot]$  over  $G_{\alpha}$  as:

Average
$$(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{2} (f[\cdot] + \rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot]))$$

And the measure of reflective symmetry becomes:

$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \|\operatorname{Average}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha})\|^{2}$$
$$= \left\|\frac{1}{2}(f[\cdot] + \rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot]))\right\|^{2}$$



$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \left\| \frac{1}{2} (f[\cdot] + \rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])) \right\|^{2}$$

Expanding this in terms of dot-products, we get:

$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{4} (\|f[\cdot]\|^{2} + \|\rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])\|^{2} + 2\langle f[\cdot], \rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])\rangle)$$

(where we use the fact that  $f[\cdot]$  is real-valued to lose the complex conjugation).



$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{4} (\|f[\cdot]\|^{2} + \|\rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])\|^{2} + 2\langle f[\cdot], \rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])\rangle)$$

Using the fact that the representation is unitary and that reflecting about the origin does not change the size of  $f[\cdot]$ , we get:

$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{4} (2\|f[\cdot]\|^{2} + 2\langle f[\cdot], \rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])\rangle)$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} (\|f[\cdot]\|^{2} + (g[\cdot] \star f[\cdot])[2\alpha]$$

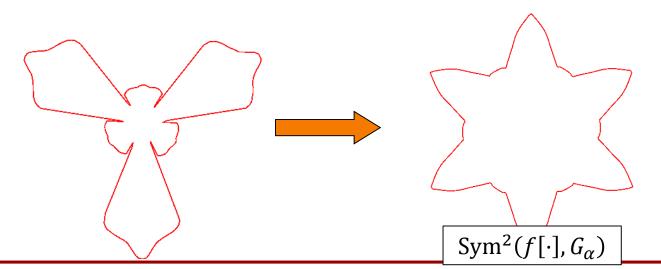
allowing us to express the measure of reflective symmetry in terms of a cross-correlation.



$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{4} (\|f[\cdot]\|^{2} + \|\rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])\|^{2} + 2\langle f[\cdot], \rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])\rangle)$$

Using the fact that the representation is unitary and that reflecting about the origin does not change the size of  $f[\cdot]$ , we get:

$$Sym^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{2}(\|f[\cdot]\|^{2} + (g[\cdot] * f[\cdot])[2\alpha]$$

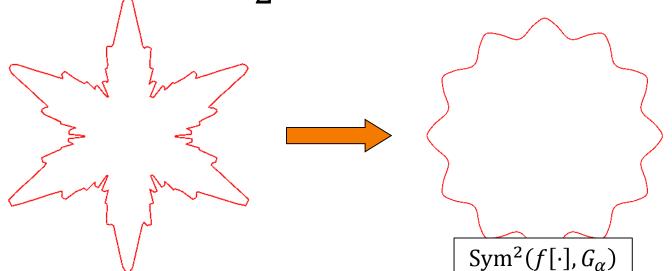




$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{4} (\|f[\cdot]\|^{2} + \|\rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])\|^{2} + 2\langle f[\cdot], \rho_{2\alpha}(g[\cdot])\rangle)$$

Using the fact that the representation is unitary and that reflecting about the origin does not change the size of  $f[\cdot]$ , we get:

$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot], G_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{2}(\|f[\cdot]\|^{2} + (g[\cdot] \star f[\cdot])[2\alpha]$$



#### **Outline**



Representation Theory

Symmetry Detection (1D)

- Rotations
- Reflections

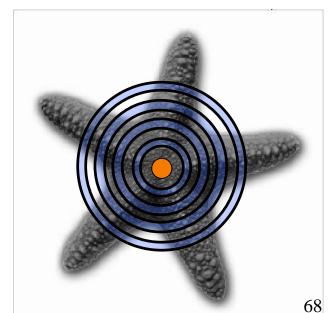
Symmetry Detection (2D)



What about the case when we would like to compute the rotational and reflective symmetries of a 2D grid about some point?

We can use the fact that rotations and reflections map concentric circles back into themselves.

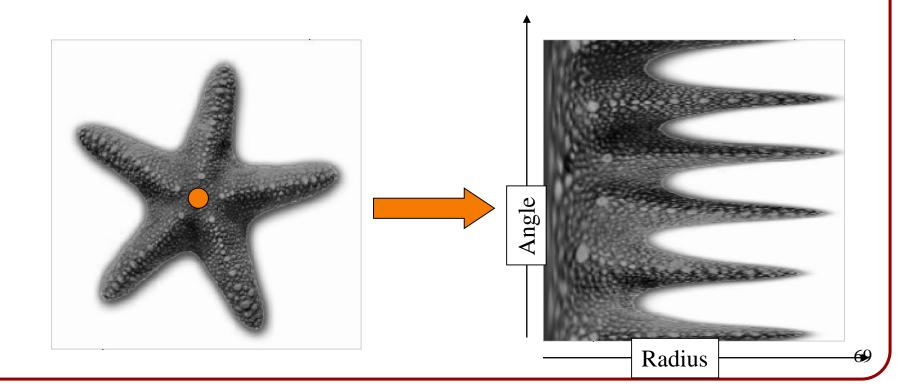
So when we compute the average over the symmetry group, we can consider the different radii independently.





#### To implement this, we:

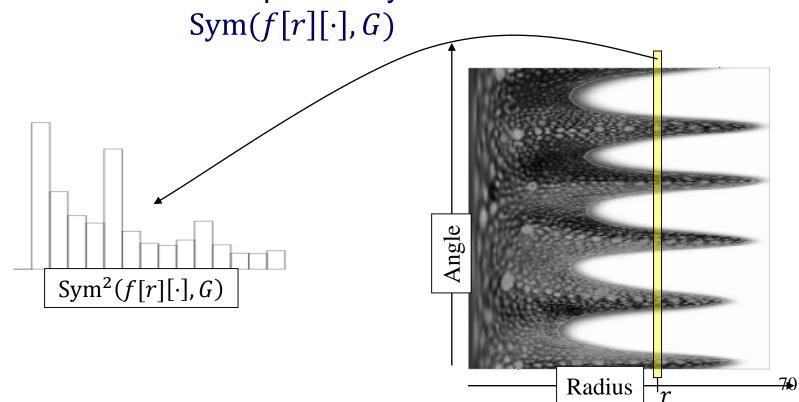
Parameterize the grid in polar coordinates





#### To implement this, we:

- Parameterize the grid in polar coordinates
- Compute the (square) measure of symmetry for each radius independently:





#### To implement this, we:

- Parameterize the grid in polar coordinates
- Compute the (square) measure of symmetry for each radius independently:

$$\operatorname{Sym}^2(f[r][\cdot],G)$$

Sum the symmetry measures over the radii:

$$\operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[\cdot][\cdot],G) = \sum_{r} \operatorname{Sym}^{2}(f[r][\cdot],G) \cdot r$$



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Scaling by r is required to account for the change of variables:

$$\int_{x^2+y^2 \le 1} f(x,y) \, dy \, dy = \int_0^1 \int_0^{2\pi} f(r,\theta) d\theta \, r \, dr$$





