

# Signal Processing and Sampling

CS 348B, Lecture 7



**Now with color demos!**

"the aliasing side" by FabriceNeyret2  
<https://www.shadertoy.com/view/4sIXR4>

# Announcements

---

## HW2: A Ray Marching-Based Distance Estimator

- **Due Thursday**

### **Participation Credit:**

- **Two comments per lecture**

### **Office hour changes this week:**

- **Doug: Thurs cancelled**
- **Kayvon: Wed 11:30-1pm & Thur 5-6pm (Gates 366)**

### **Mathematica** demos for today:

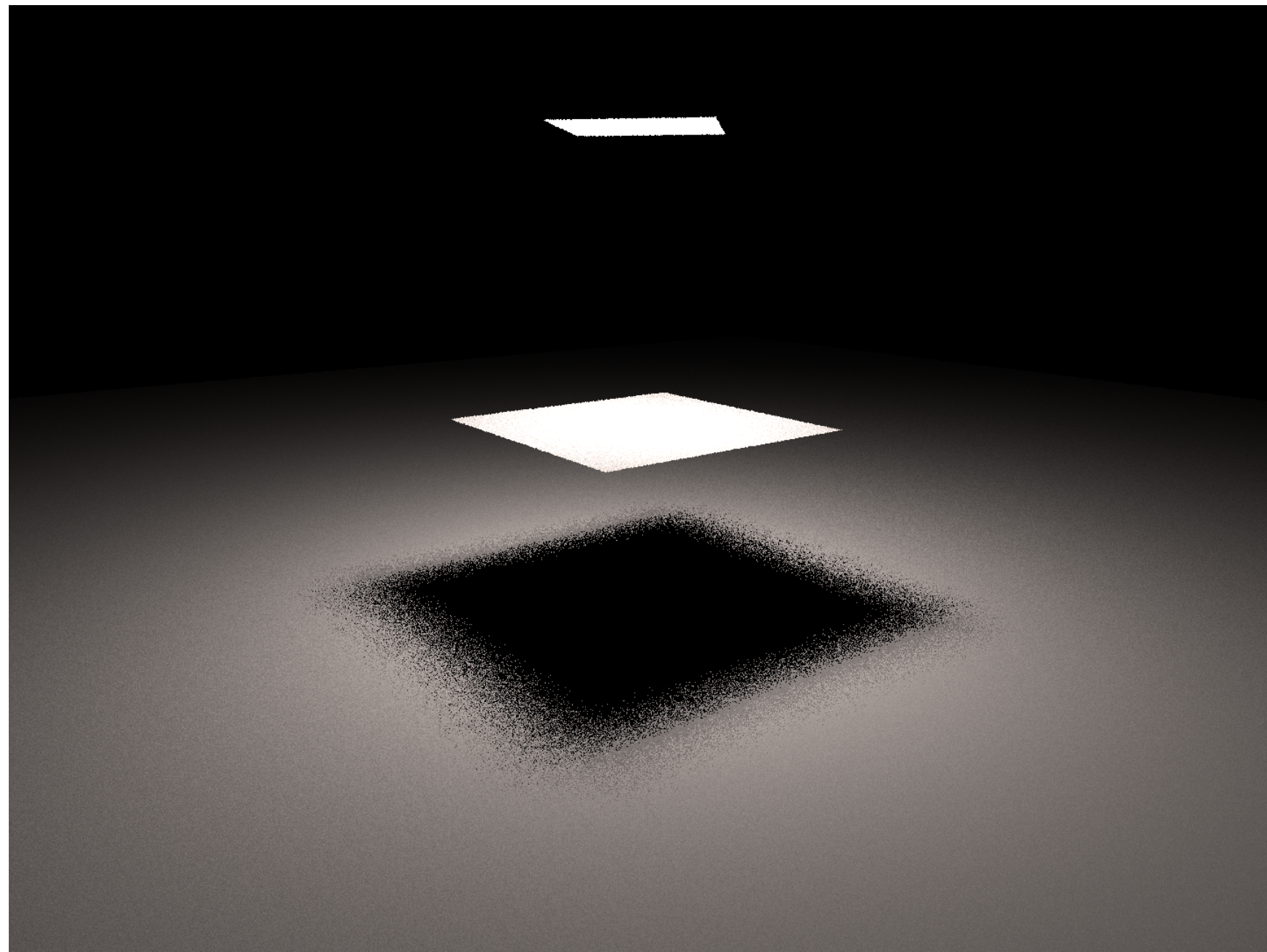
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/nzyzq92e9z89fpk/sampling.nb>

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/w7yf21v4f9r08vf/sampling.nb.pdf>

**Recap**

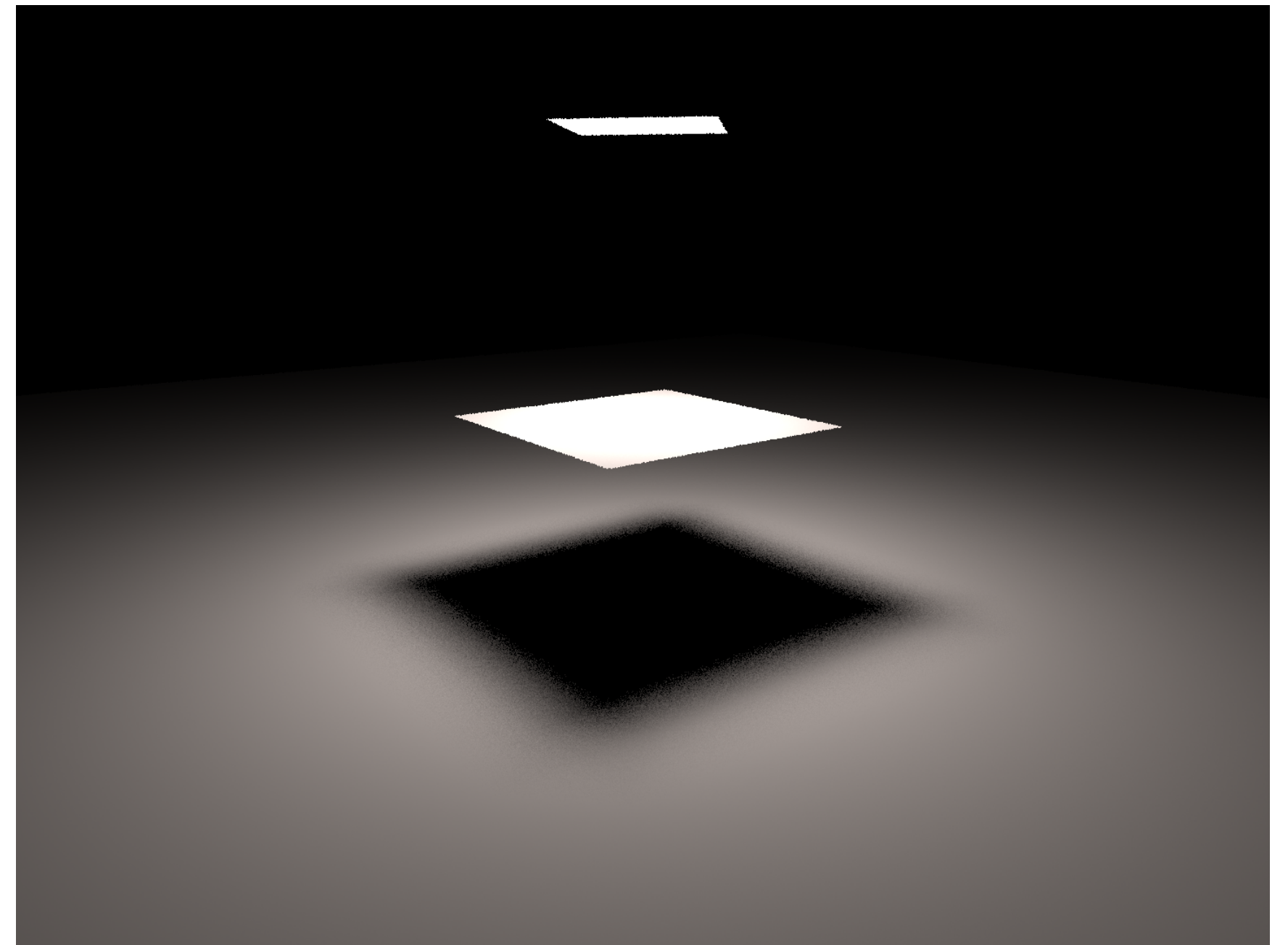
# Quality Improves with More Rays

---



**Area**

**1 shadow ray**



**Area**

**16 shadow rays**

**pixelsamples = 1**

**jaggies**



**pixelsamples = 16**

**anti-aliased**

# Sampling and Reconstruction

---

## Basic signal processing

- **Fourier transforms**
- **The convolution theorem**
- **The sampling theorem**

## Aliasing and antialiasing

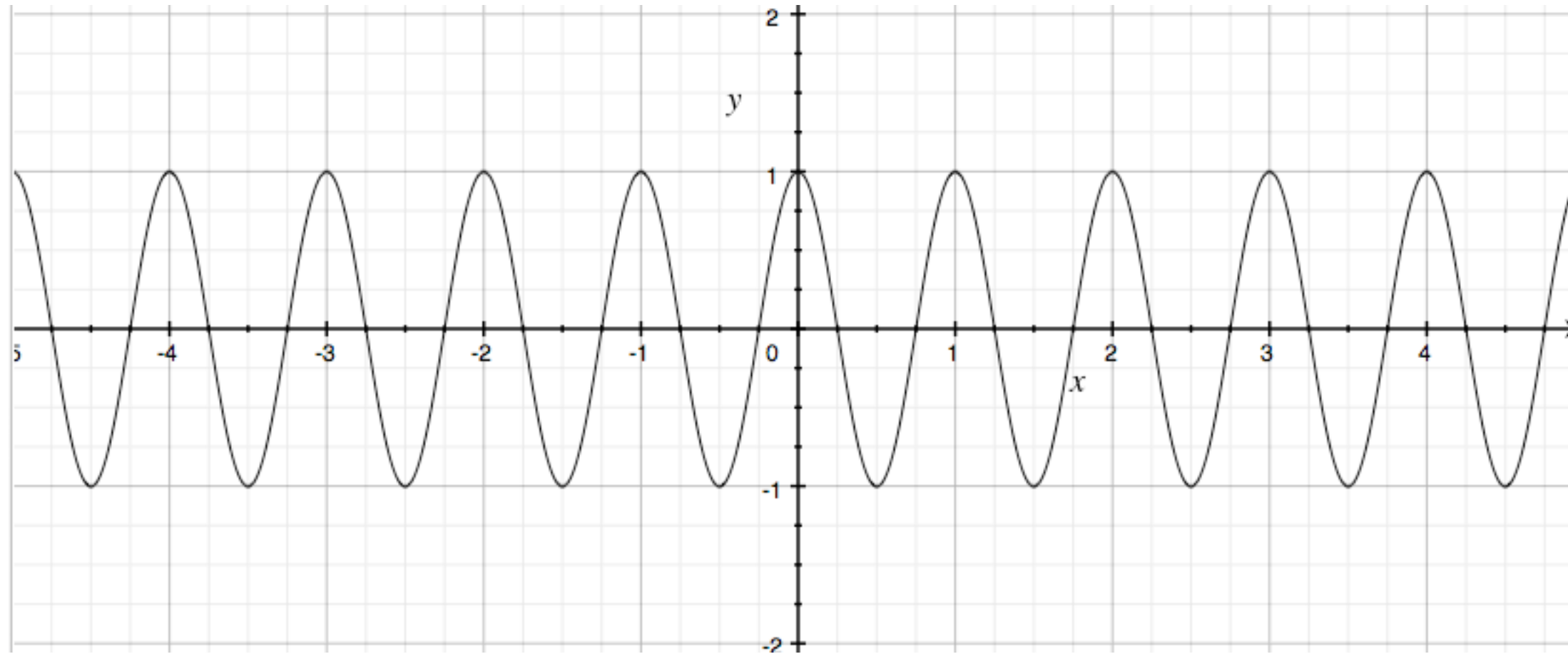
- **Uniform supersampling**
- ***Stochastic sampling***

# **Review: Basic Signal Processing**

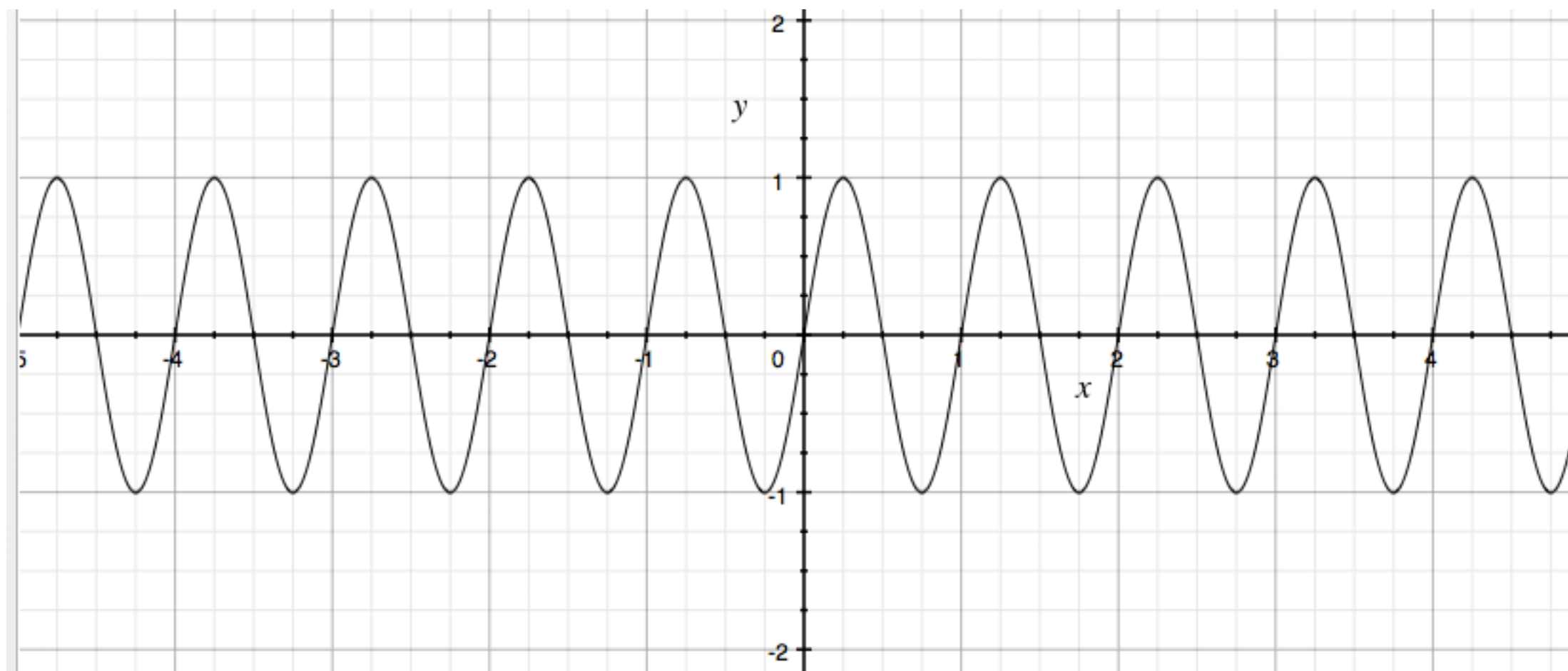


# Sines and Cosines

---



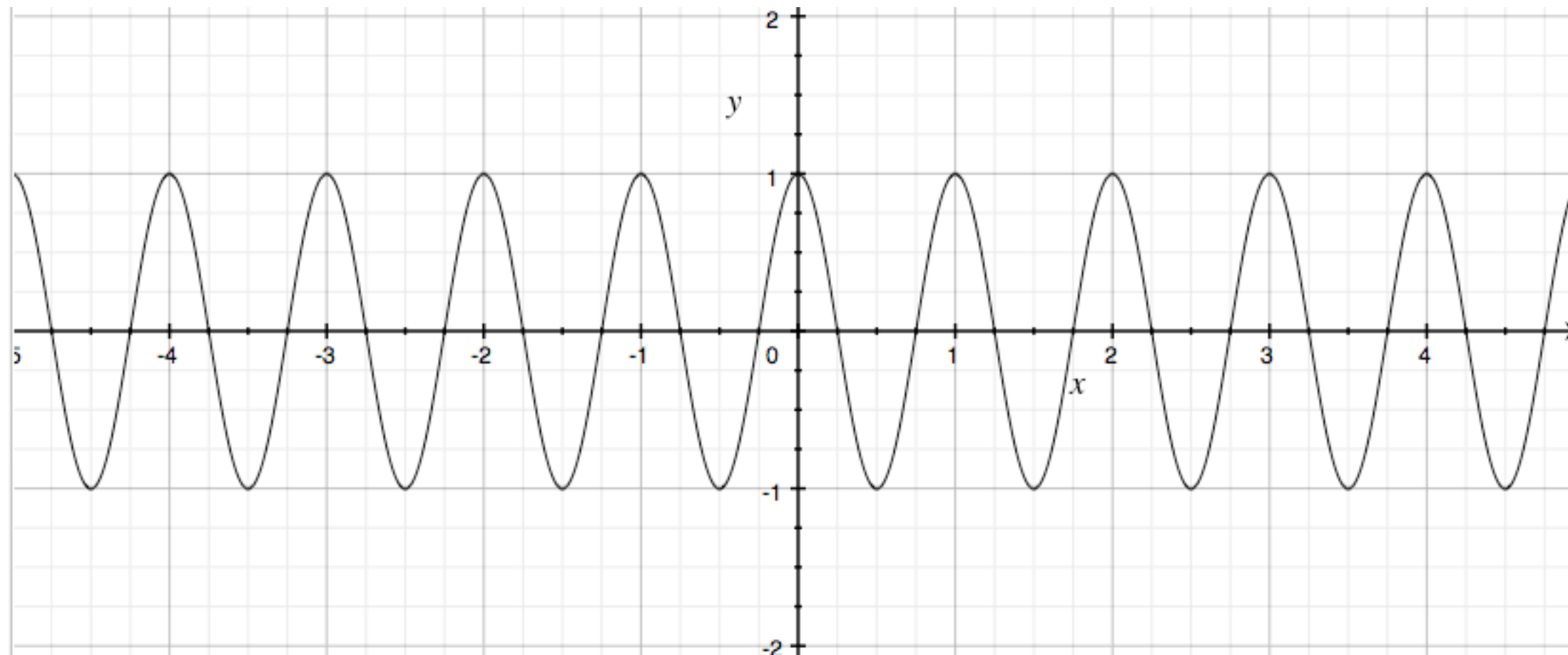
$$\cos 2\pi x$$



$$\sin 2\pi x$$

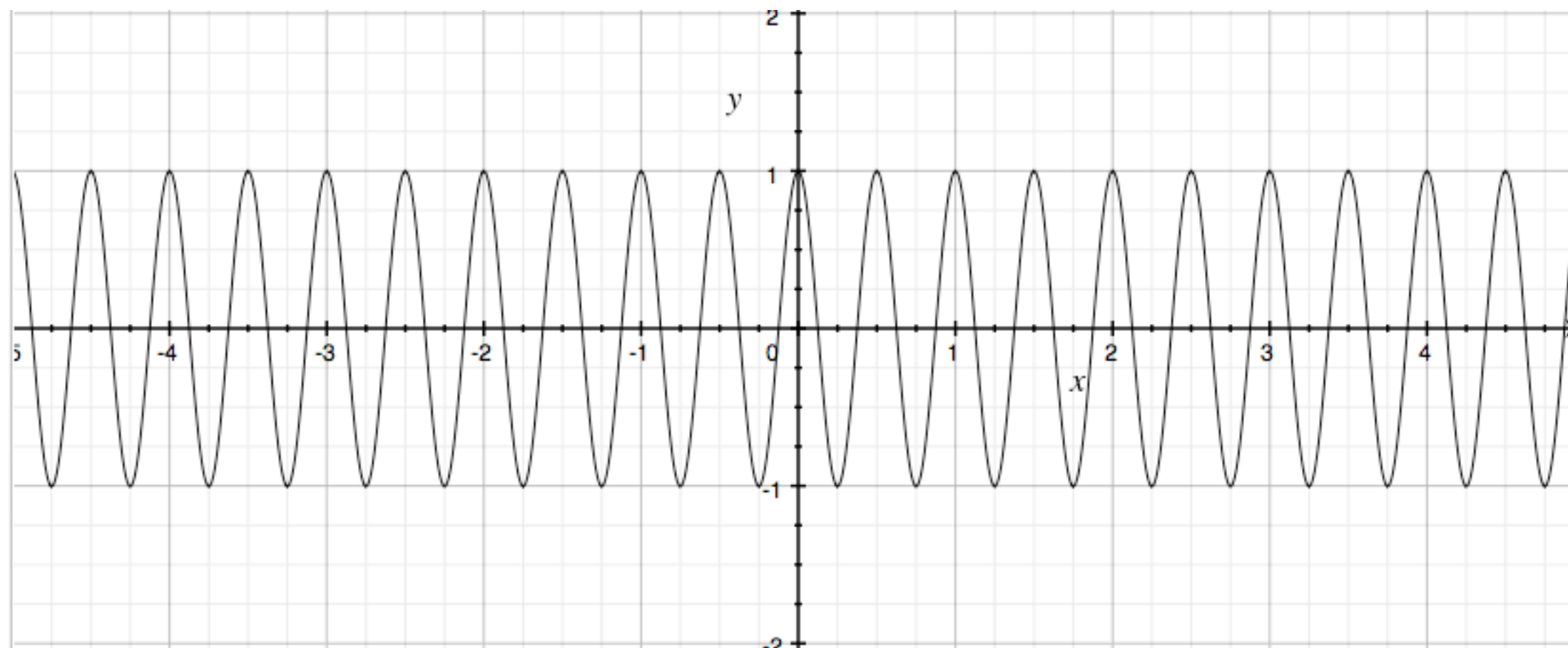
# Frequencies $\cos 2\pi f x$

$$f = \frac{1}{T}$$



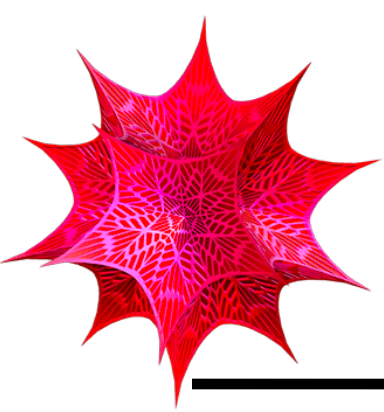
$$f = 1$$

$$\cos 2\pi x$$



$$f = 2$$

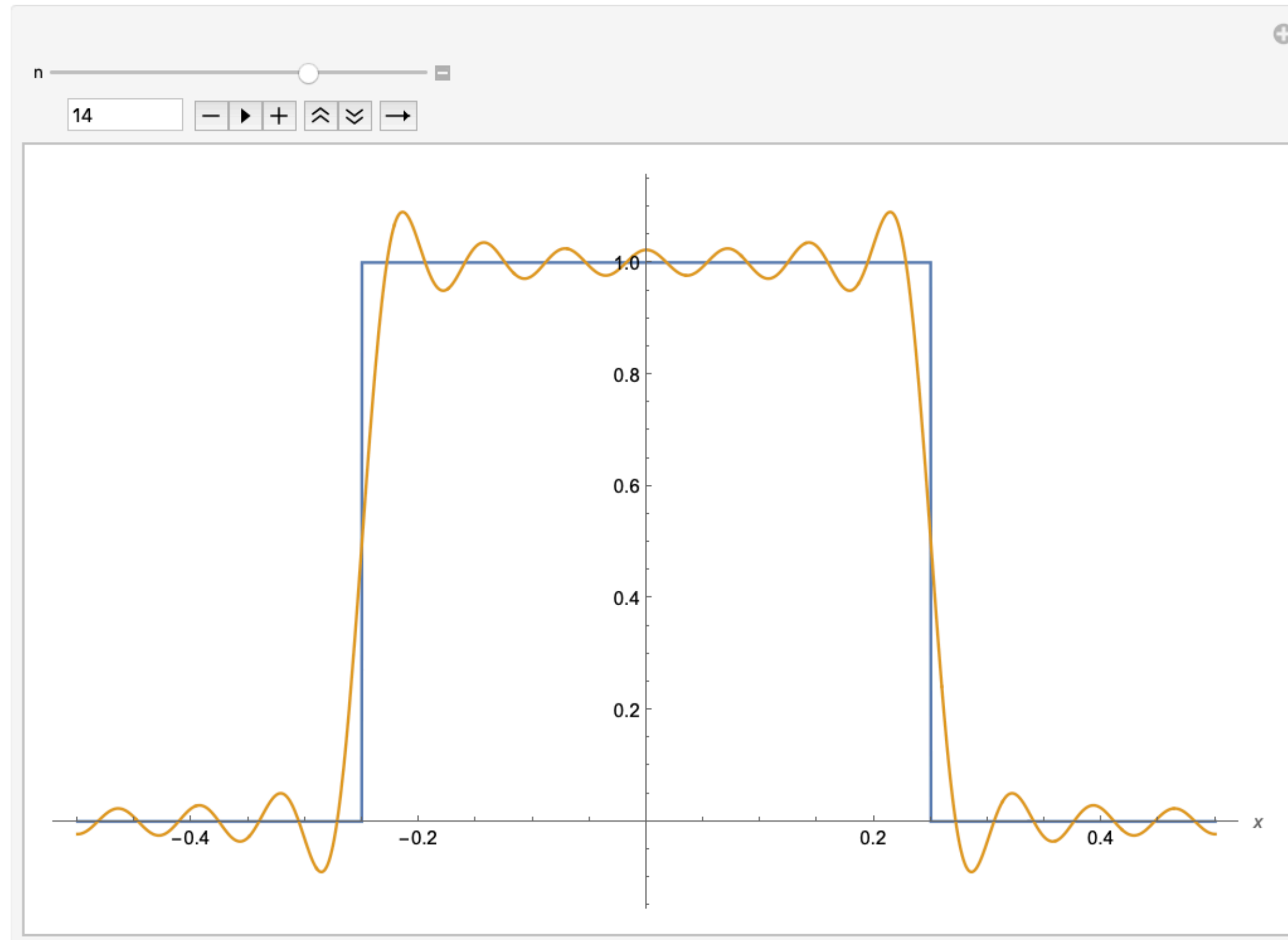
$$\cos 4\pi x$$



## Mathematica Demo

# Fourier Series Approximations

The  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Fourier series of  $f(t)$  is by default defined to be  $\sum_{k=-n}^n c_k e^{i k t}$  with  $c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) e^{-i k t} dt$ .

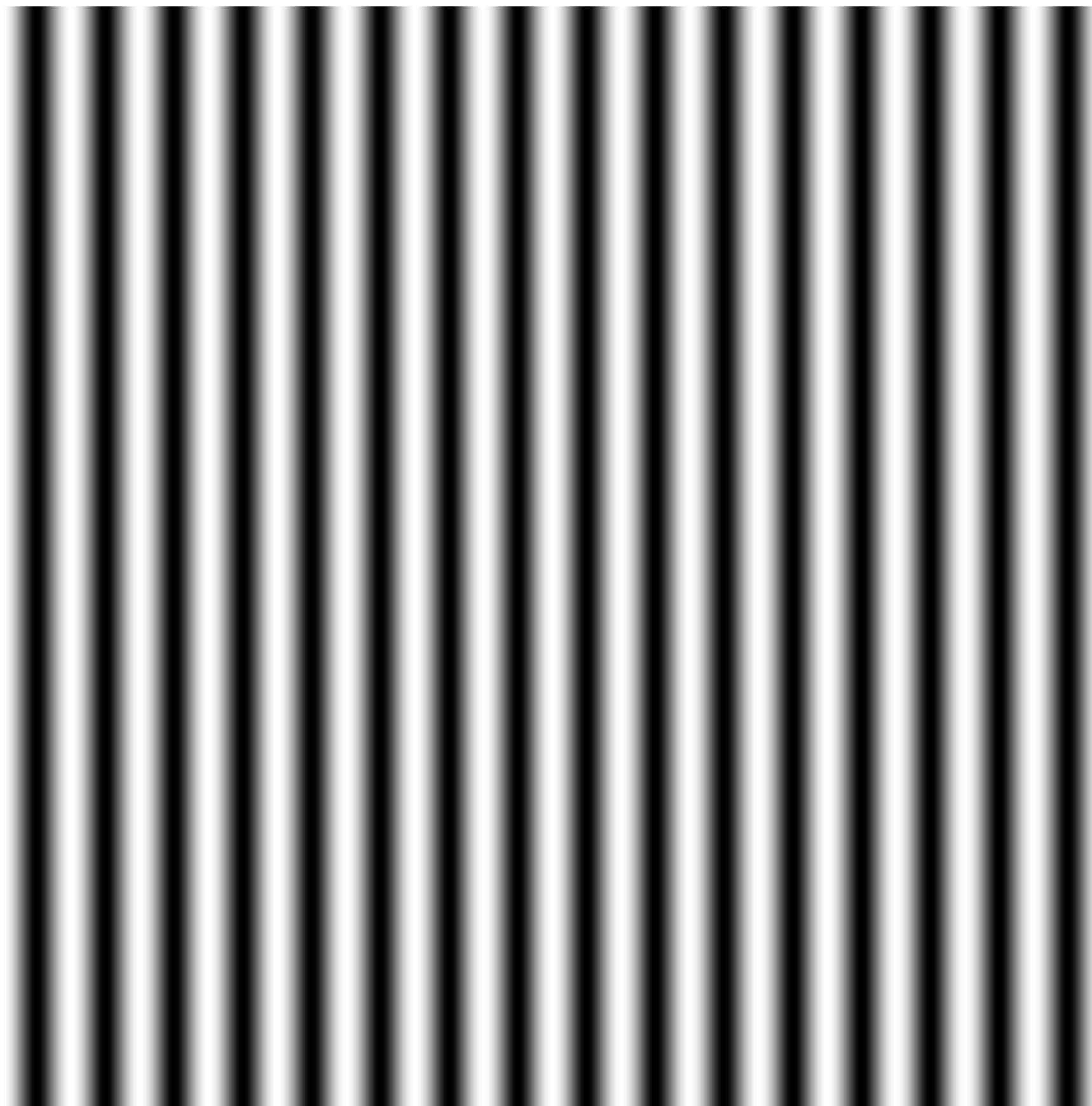


**NOTE: Mathematica is freely available to Stanford students. Go to <https://www.wolfram.com/siteinfo/>**

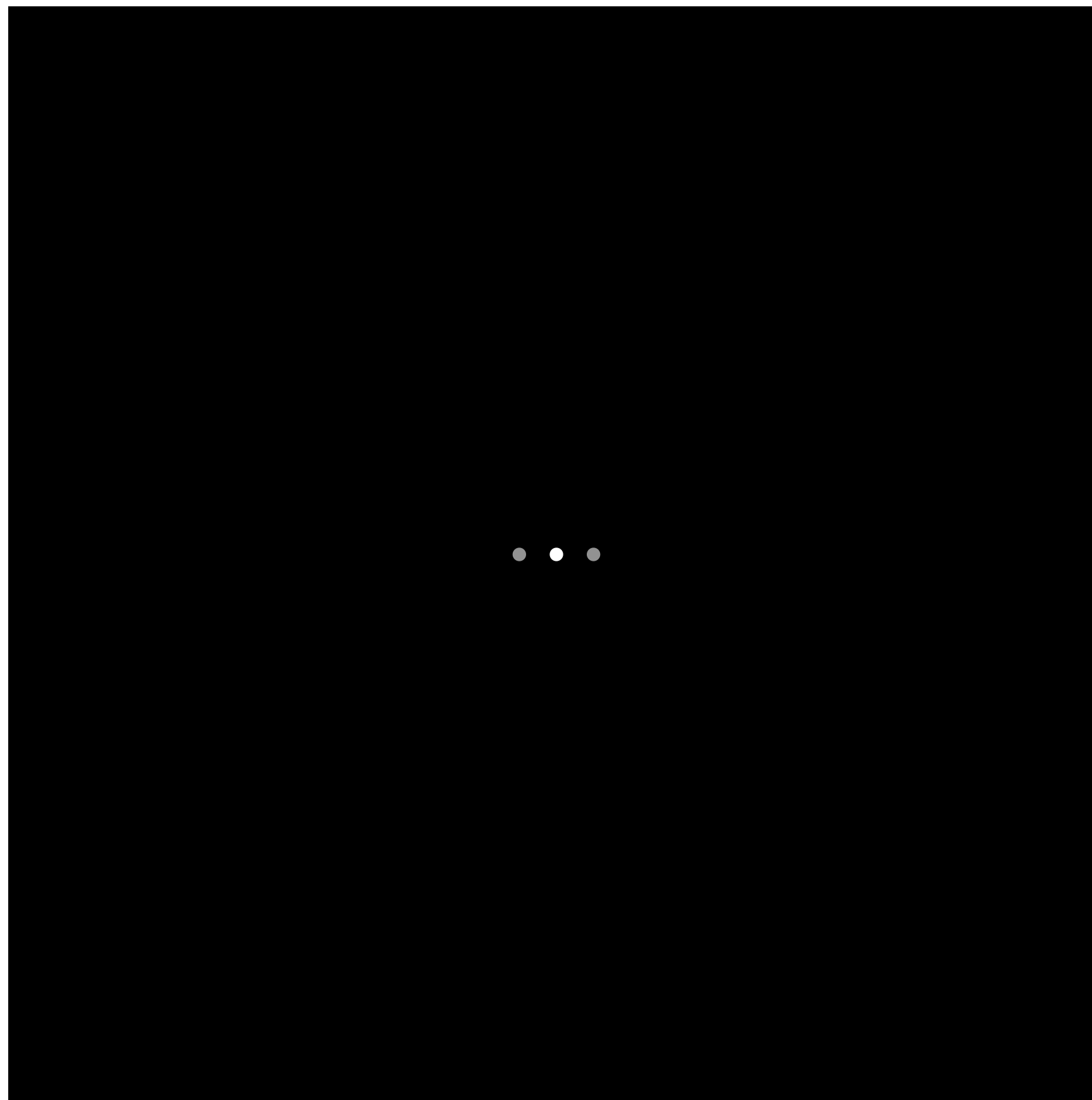
$$\sin(2\pi/32)x$$

**32 pixels per cycle**

---



**Spatial Domain**



**Frequency Domain**

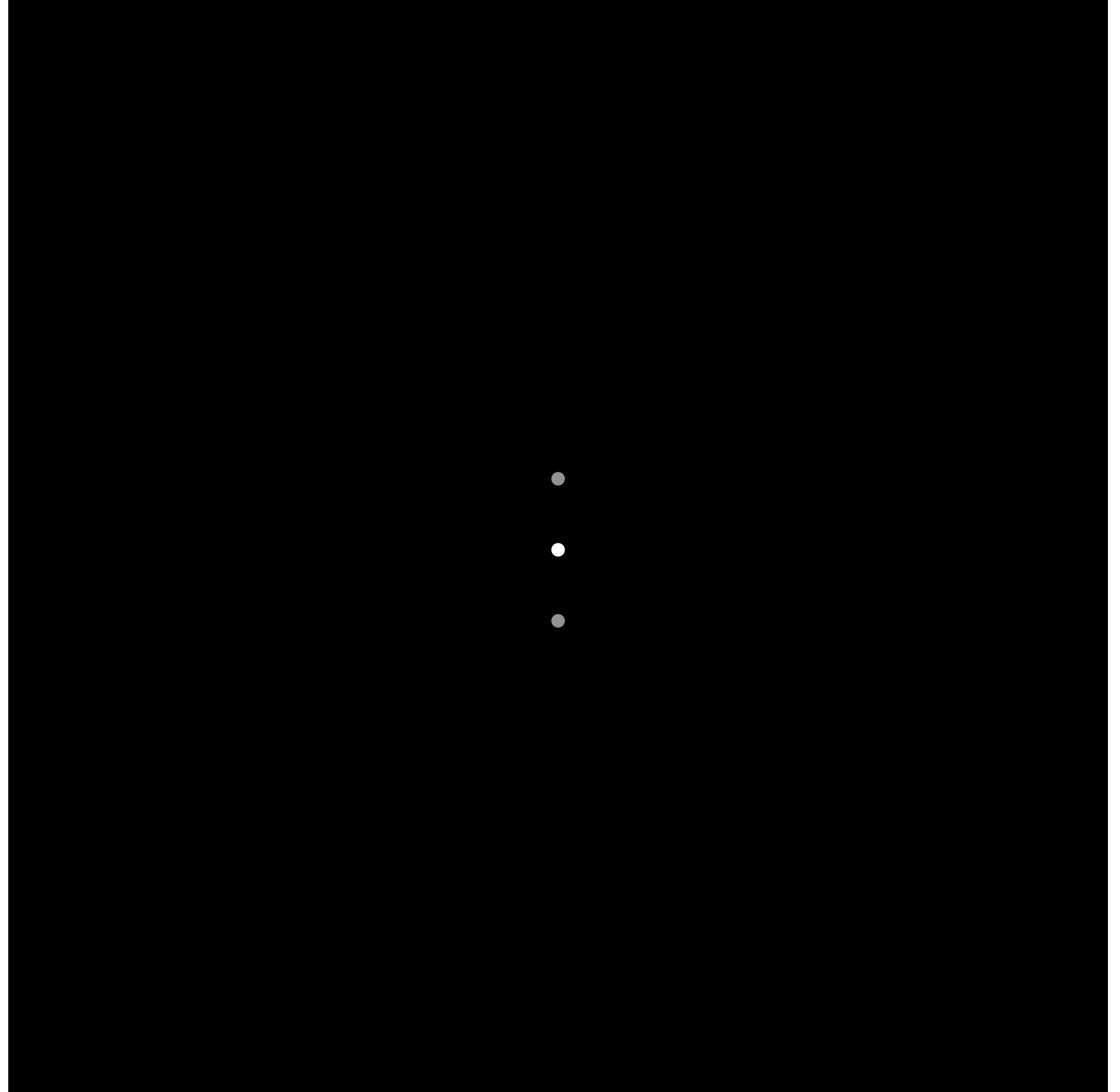
$$\sin(2\pi/16)y$$

**16 pixels per cycle**

---



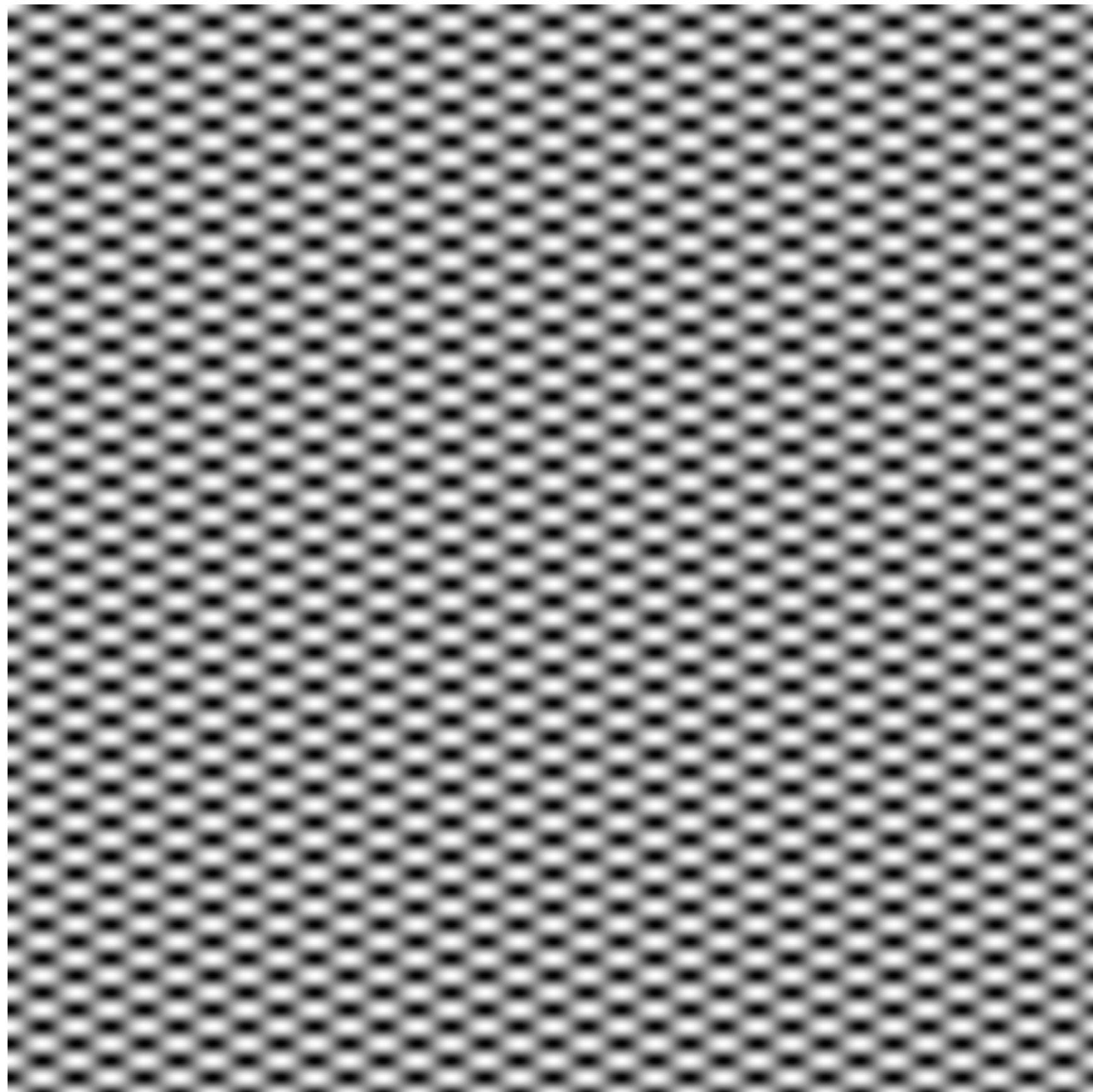
**Spatial Domain**



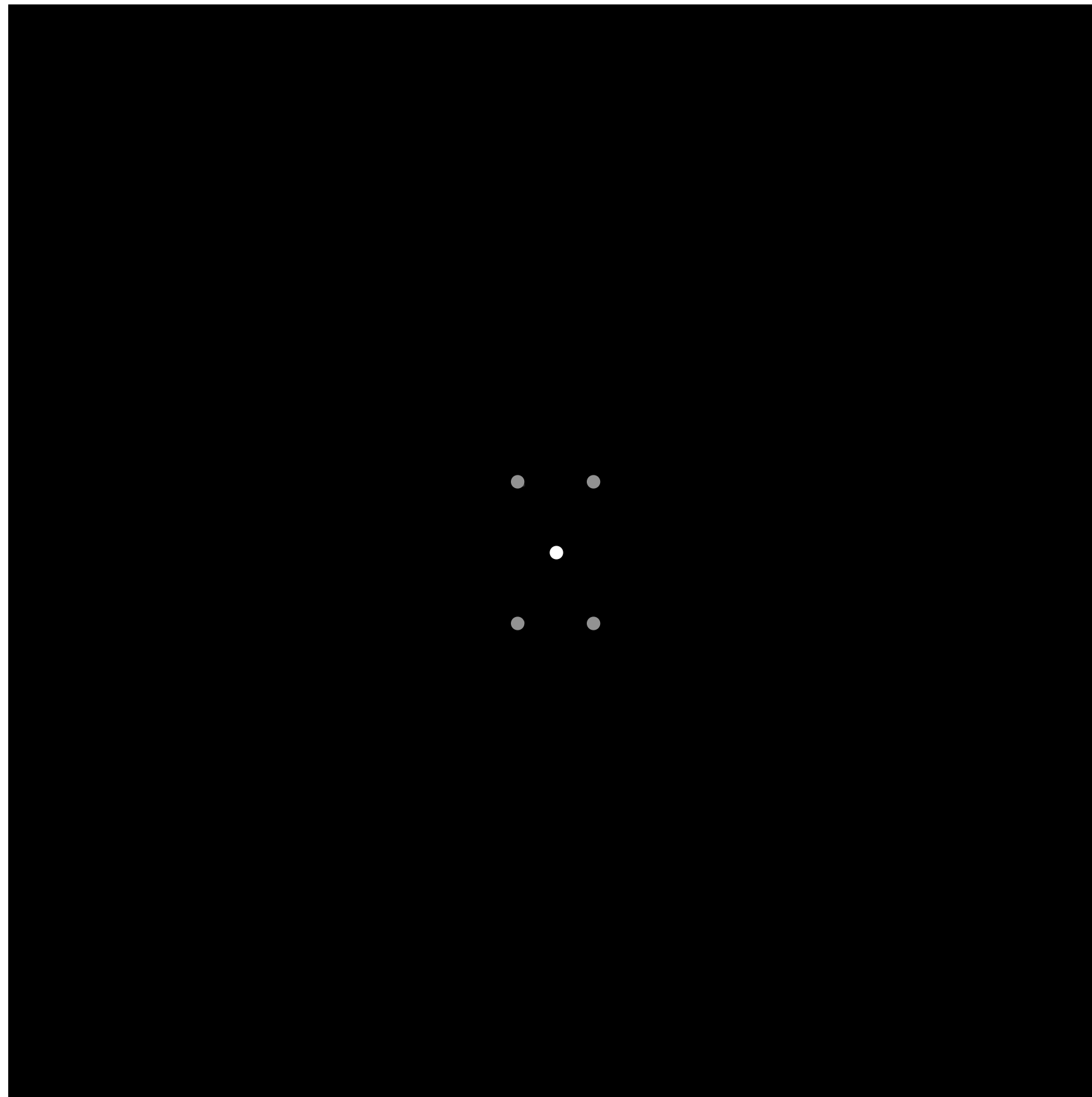
**Frequency Domain**

$$\sin(2\pi/32)x \times \sin(2\pi/16)y$$

---



**Spatial Domain**



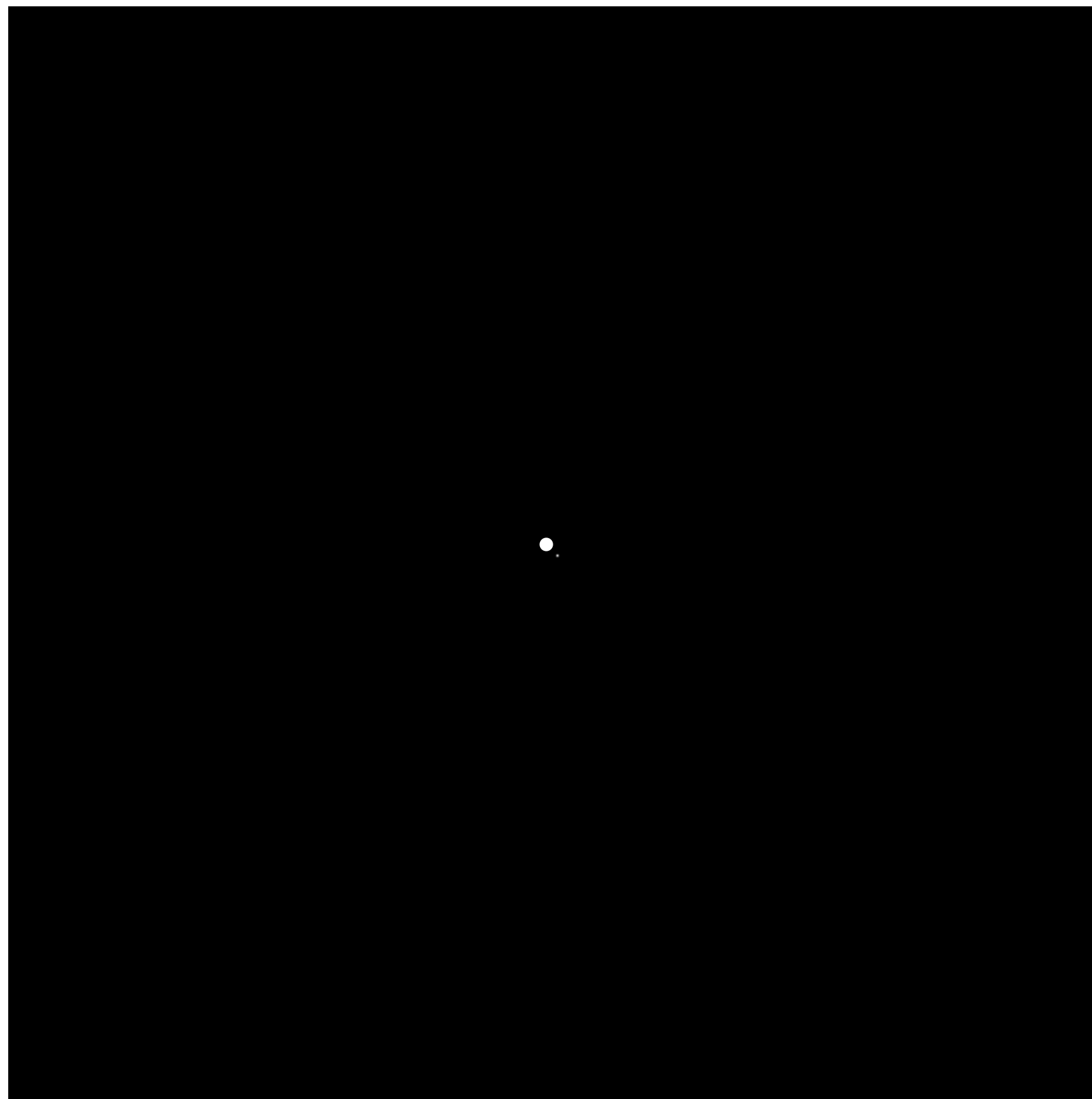
**Frequency Domain**

# Constant

---



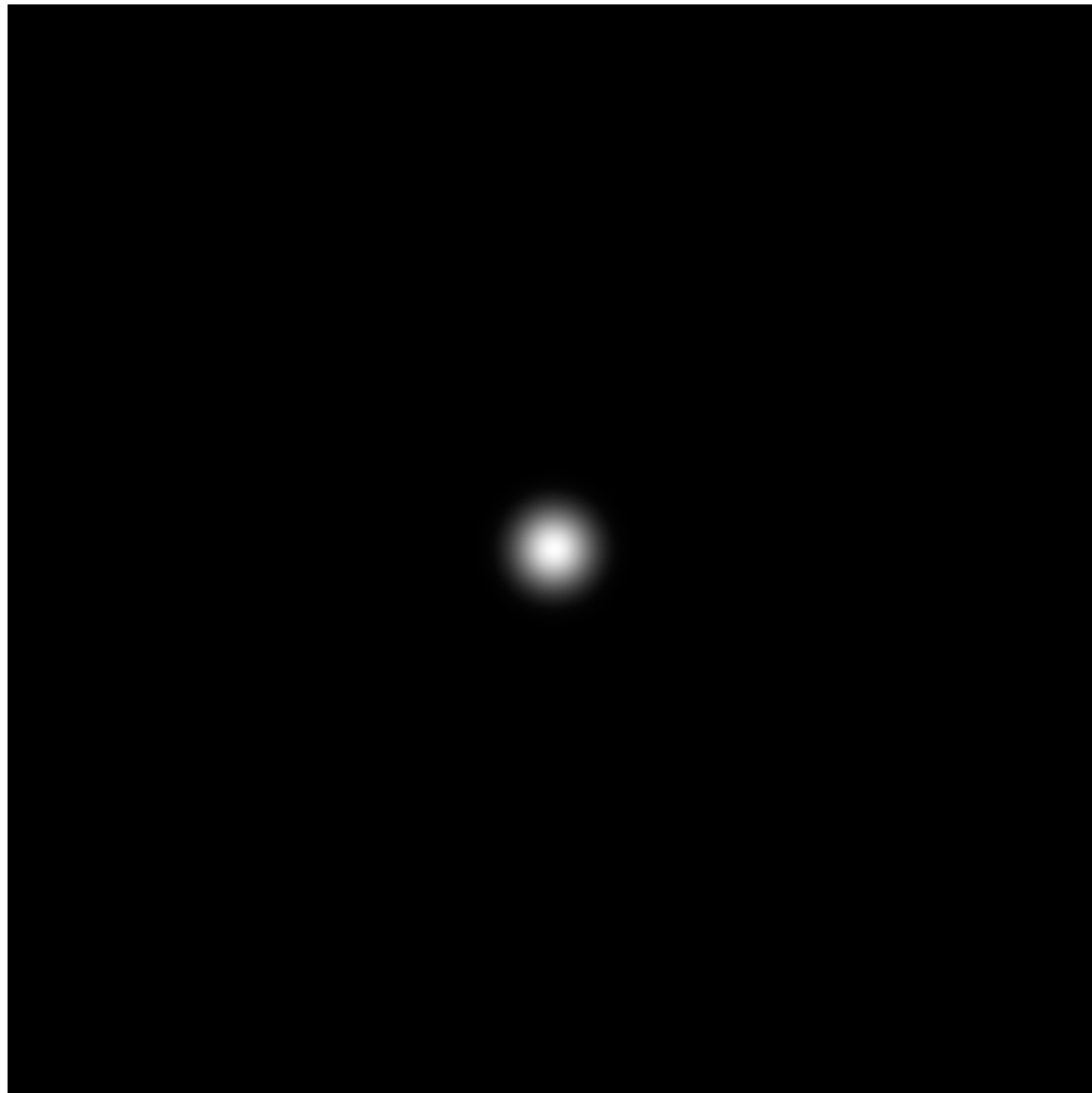
**Spatial Domain**



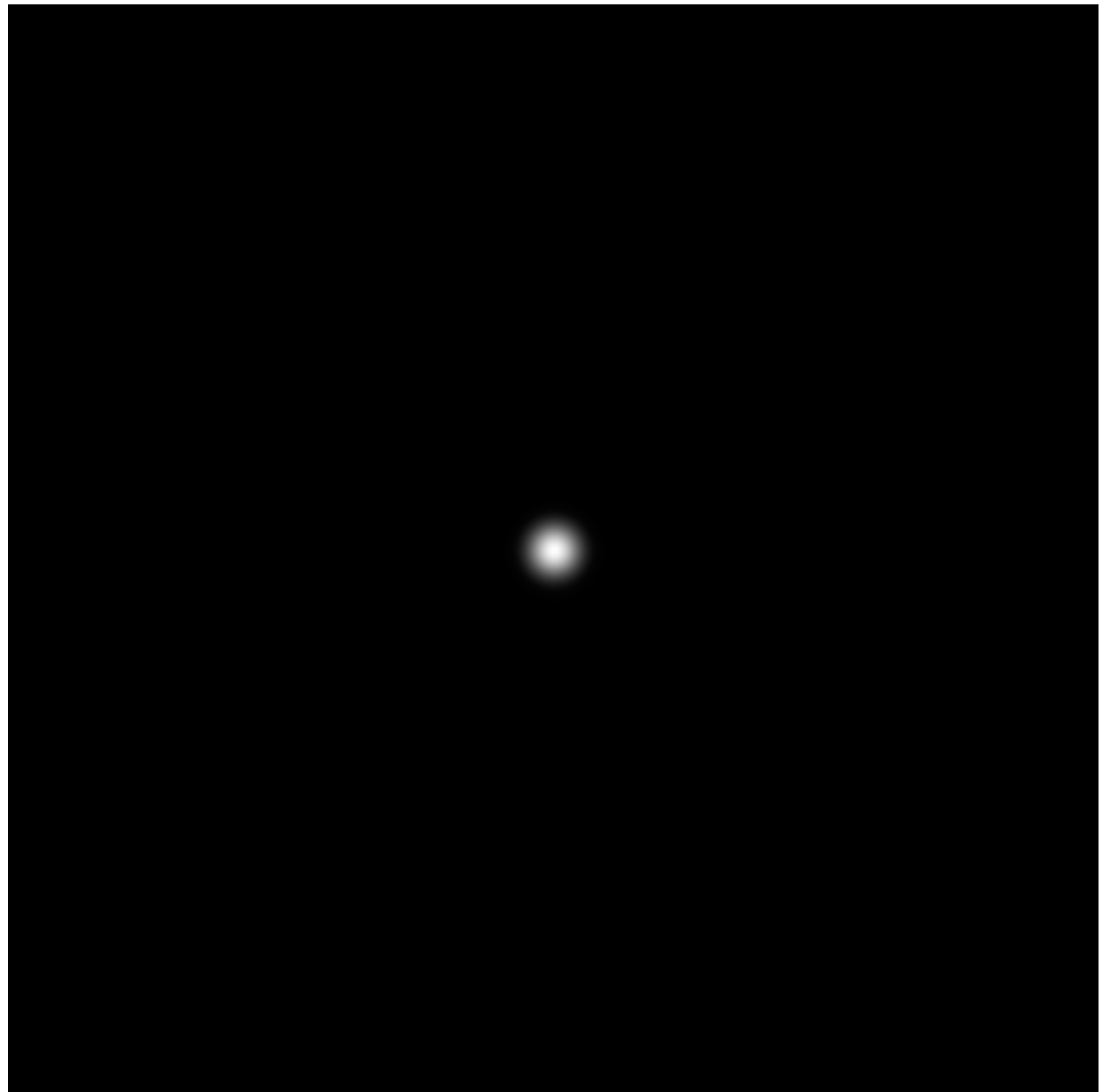
**Frequency Domain**

$$e^{-r^2/16^2}$$

---



**Spatial Domain**

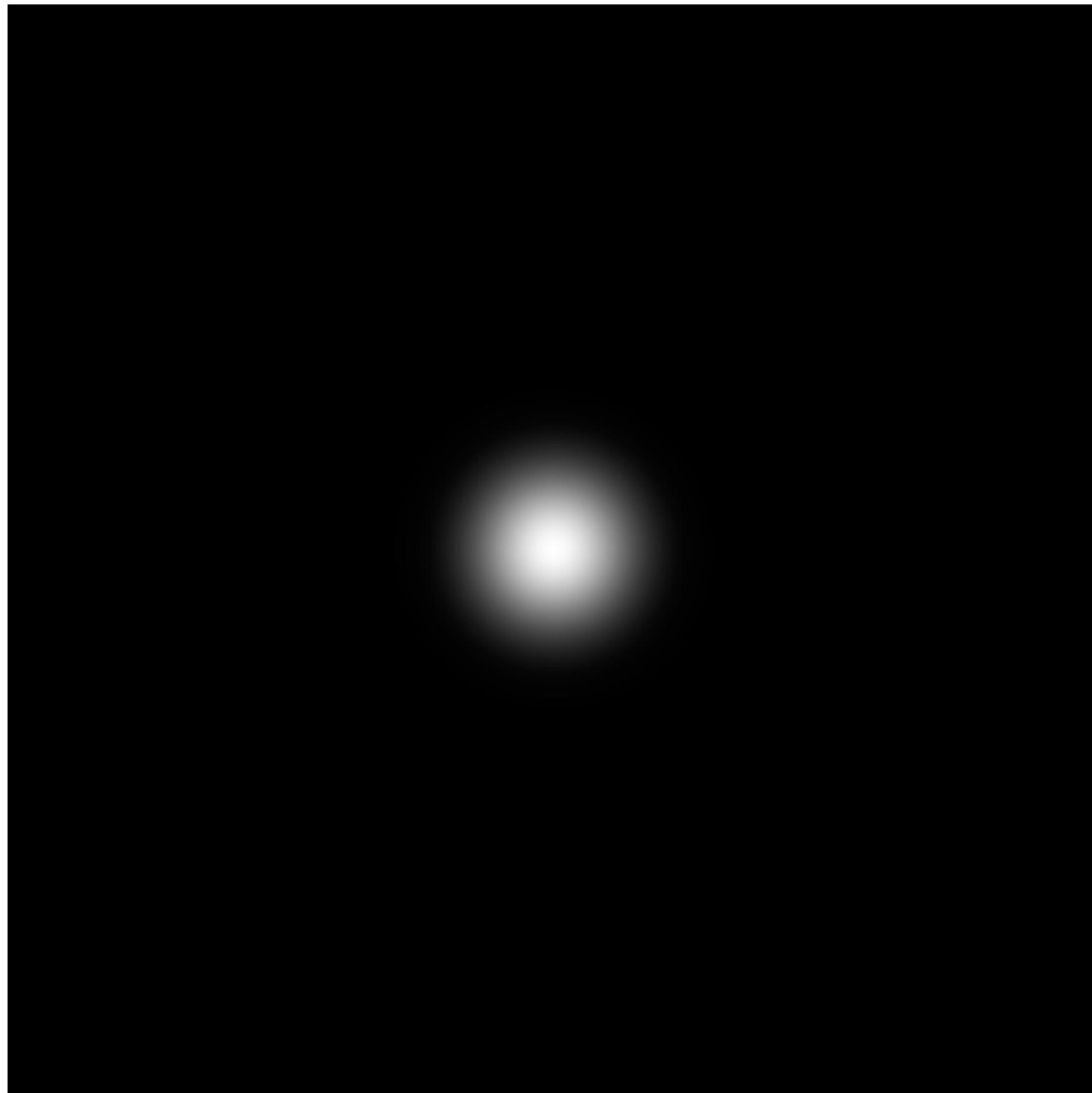


**Frequency Domain**

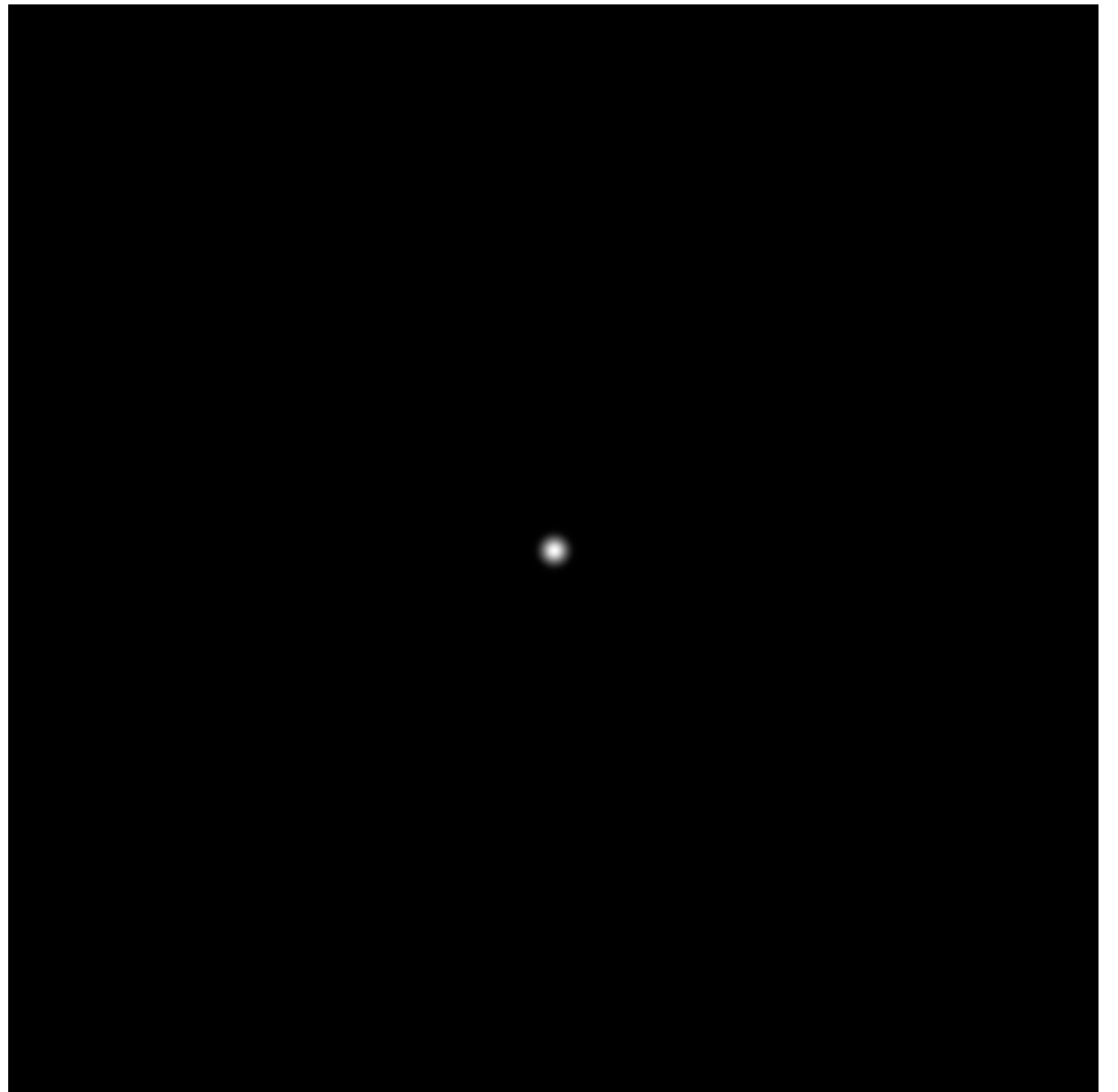


$$e^{-r^2/32^2}$$

---



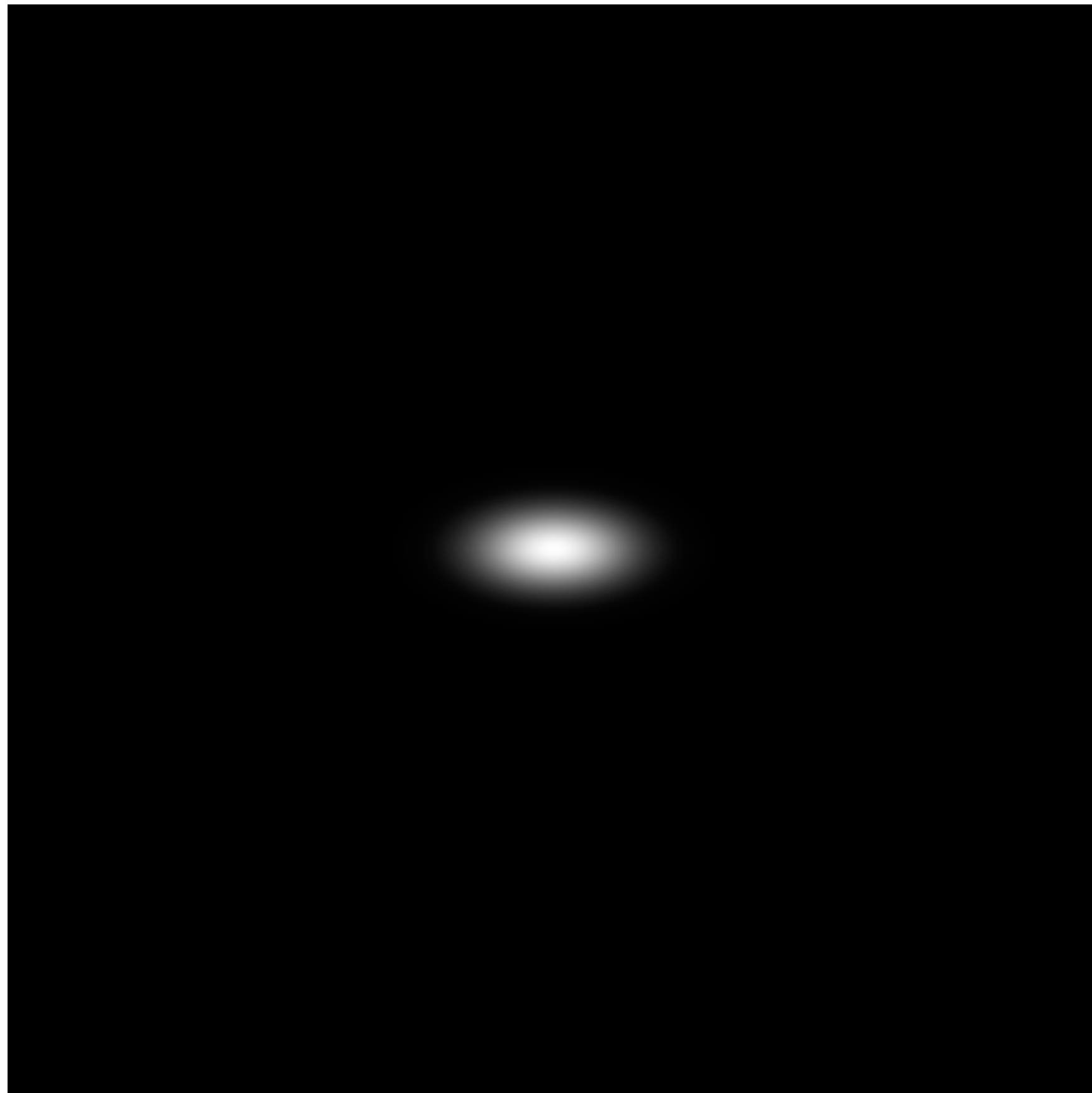
**Spatial Domain**



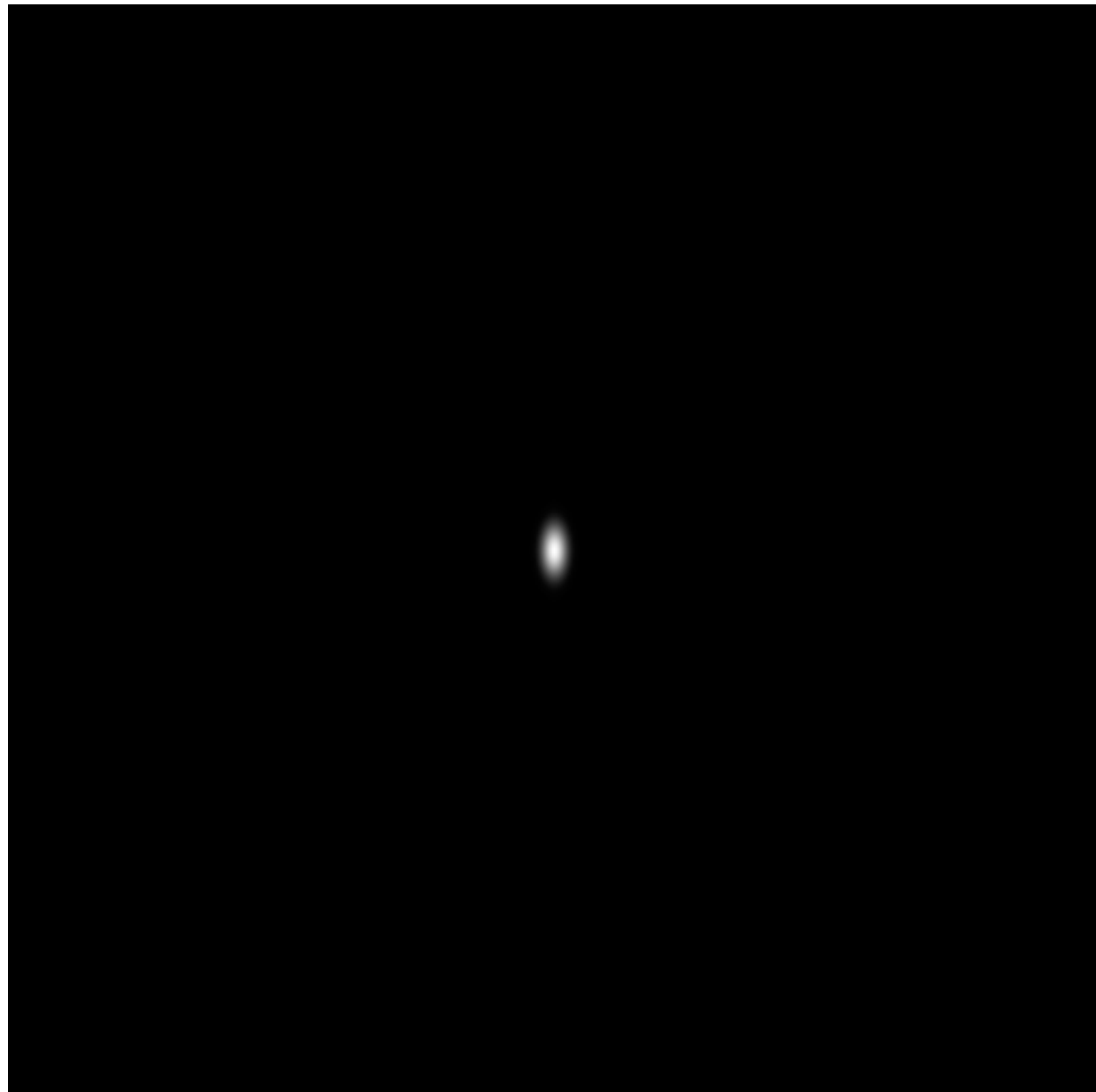
**Frequency Domain**

$$e^{-x^2/32^2} \times e^{-y^2/16^2}$$

---



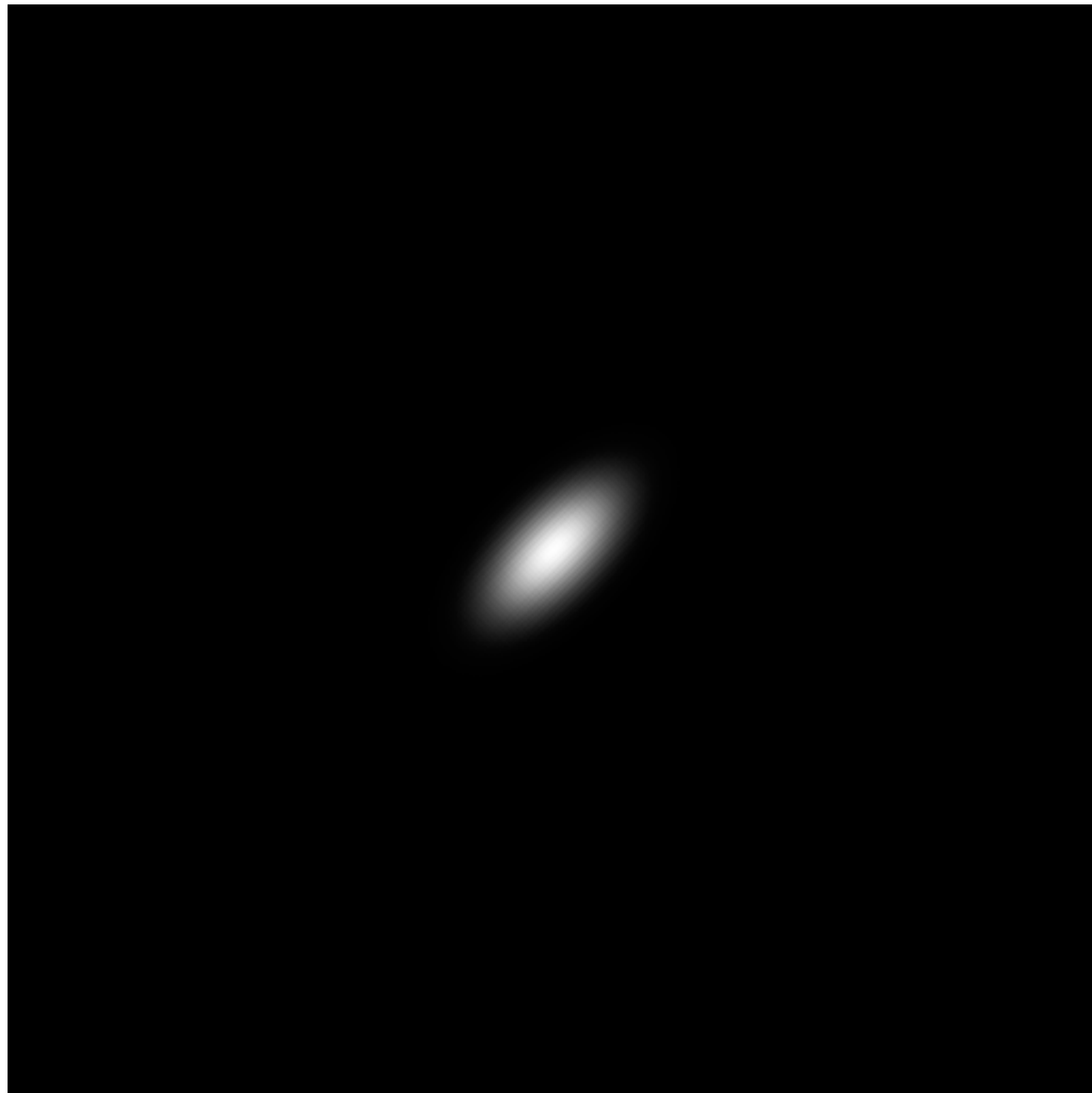
**Spatial Domain**



**Frequency Domain**

# Rotate 45 $e^{-x^2/32^2} \times e^{-y^2/16^2}$

---



**Spatial Domain**



**Frequency Domain**

# Fourier Transforms

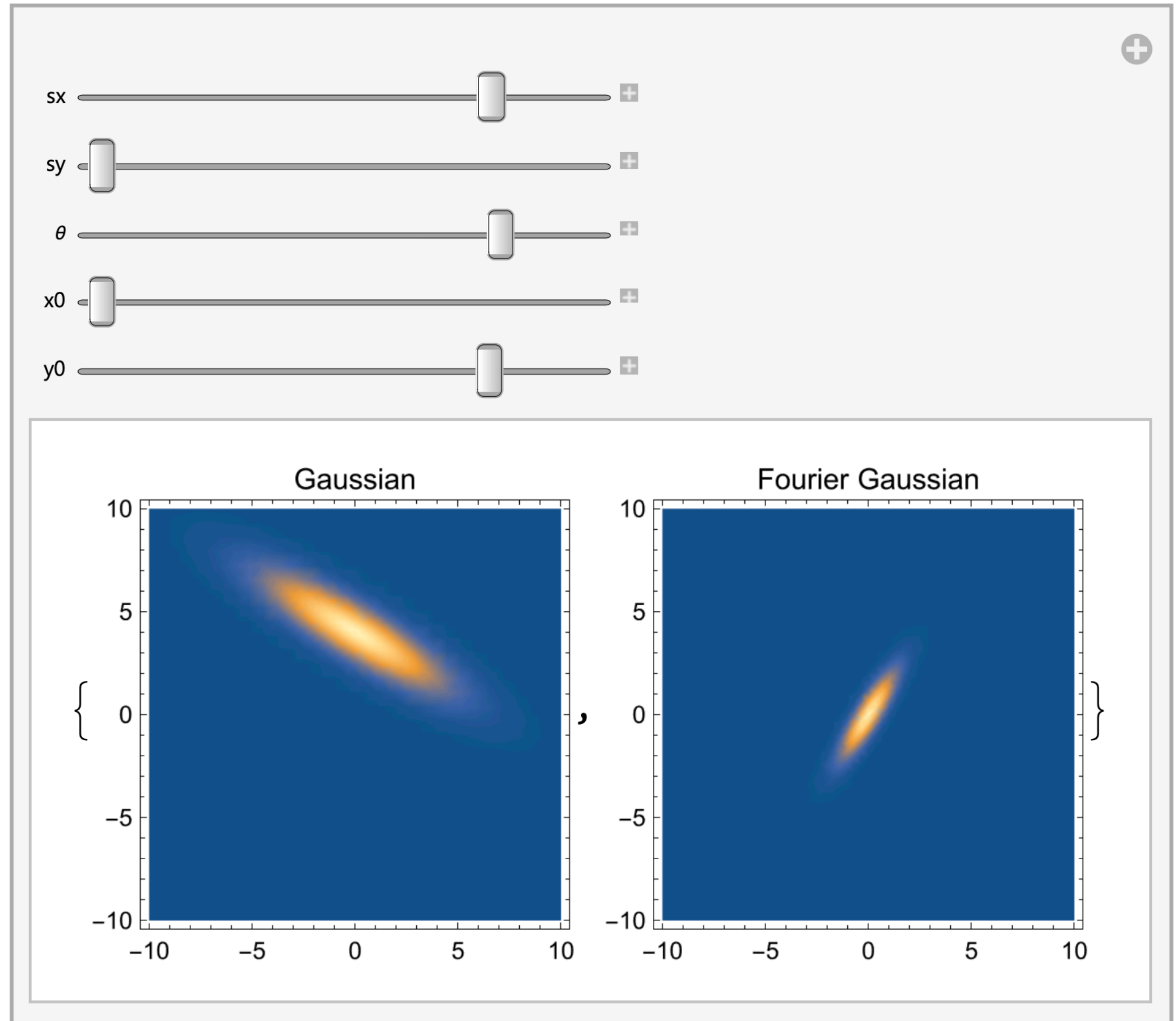
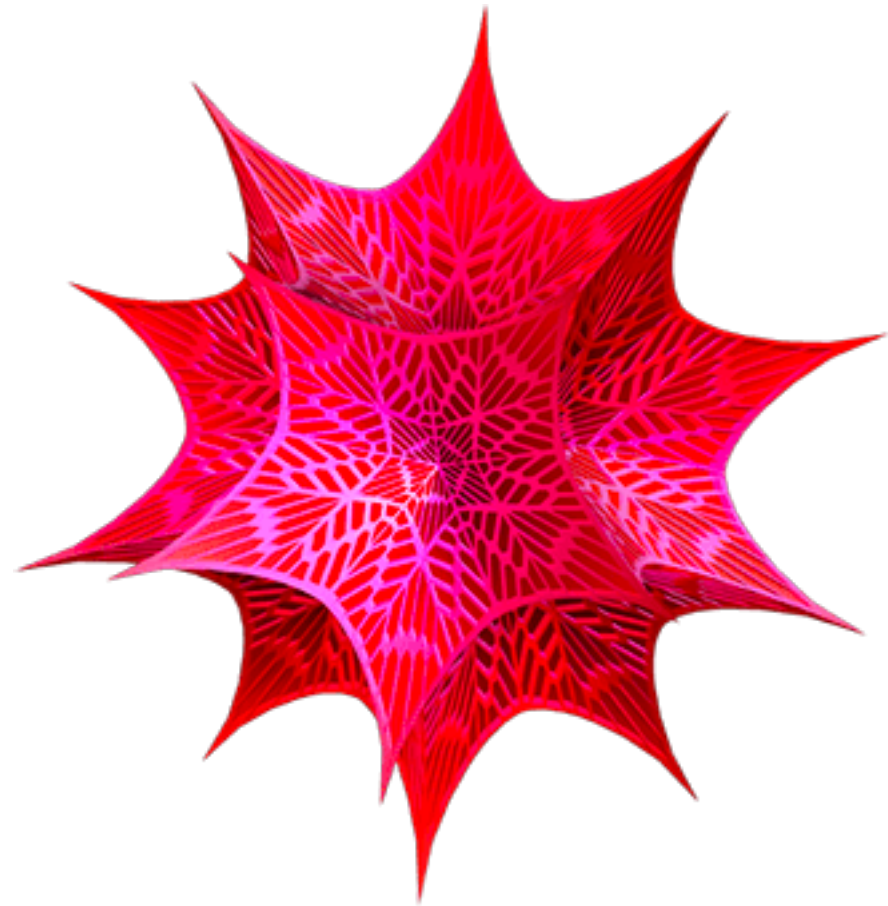
---

**The Fourier transform converts between the spatial and frequency domain**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \text{Spatial} \\ \text{Domain} \\ f(x) \end{array}} & \begin{array}{c} \Rightarrow F(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)e^{-i\omega x} dx \\ \leftarrow f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\omega)e^{i\omega x} d\omega \end{array} & \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \text{Frequency} \\ \text{Domain} \\ F(\omega) \end{array}} \end{array}$$

**Figures generated using `fft2d.py`**

# Mathematica Demos (Waves, Gaussians)

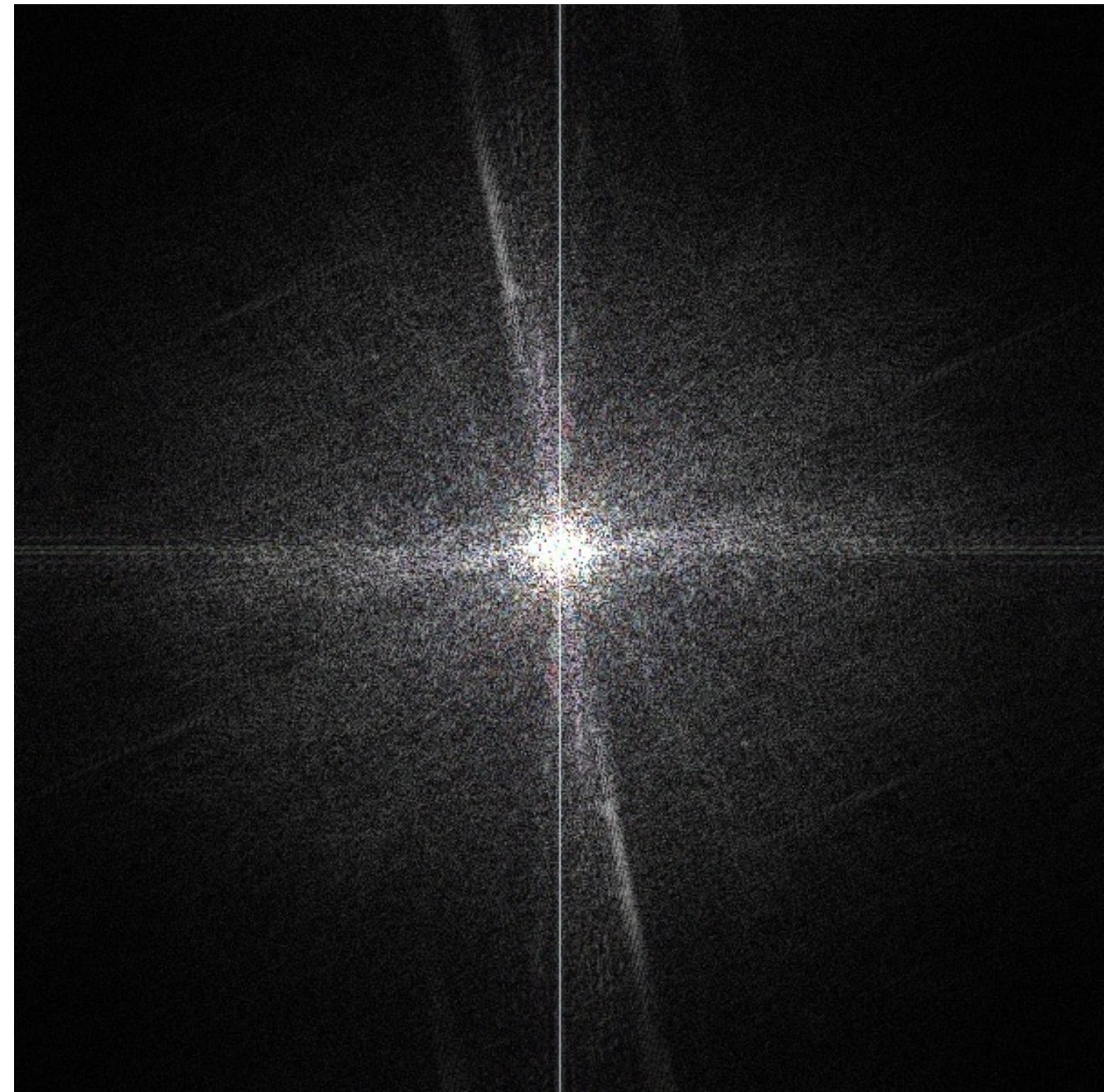


# Pat's Frequencies

---



**Spatial Domain**



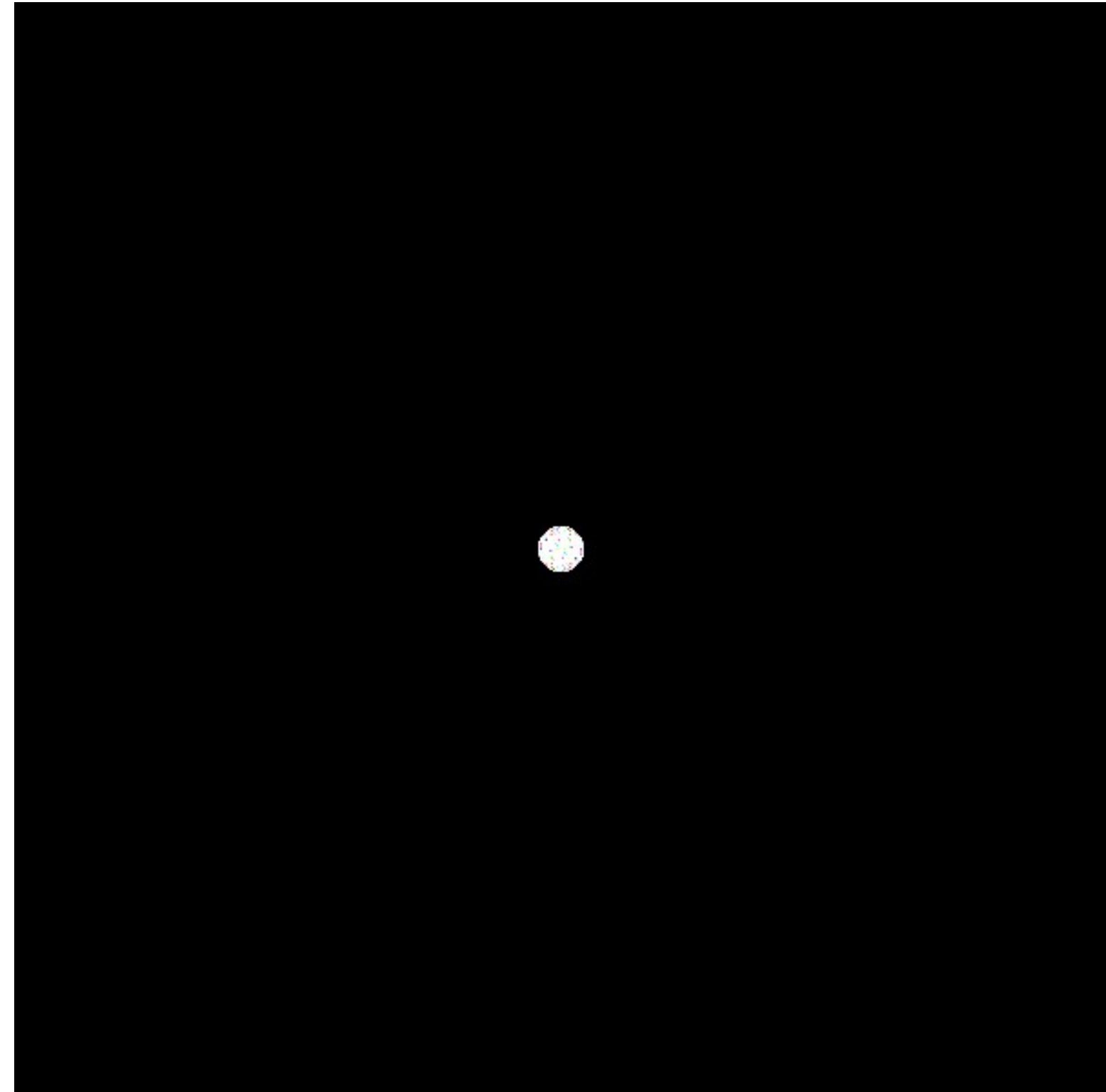
**Frequency Domain**

# Filtering: Low Pass Filter

---

?

**Spatial Domain**



**Frequency Domain**

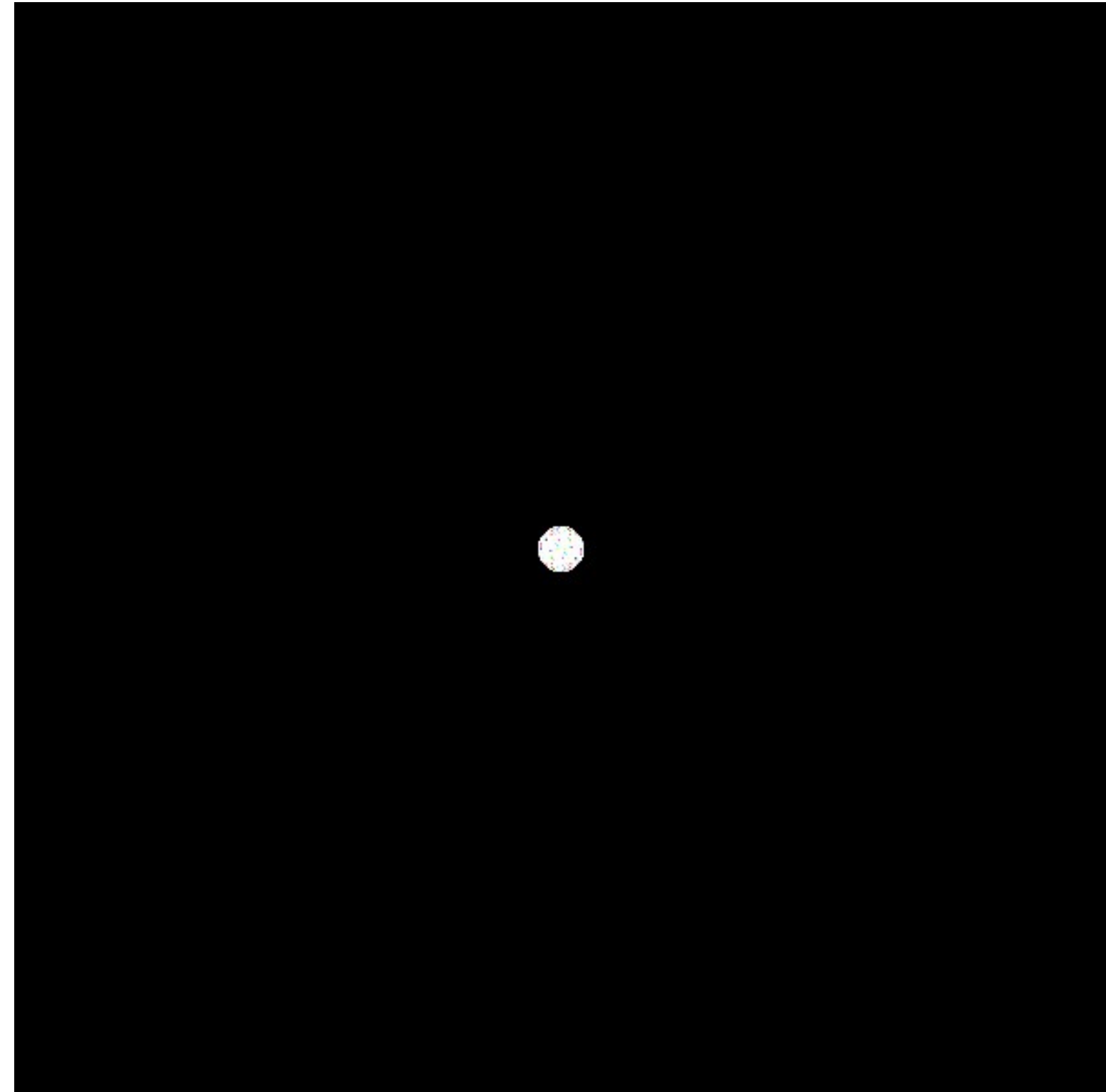
# Filtering: Low Pass Filter

---

**Keep low frequencies**



**Spatial Domain**



**Frequency Domain**



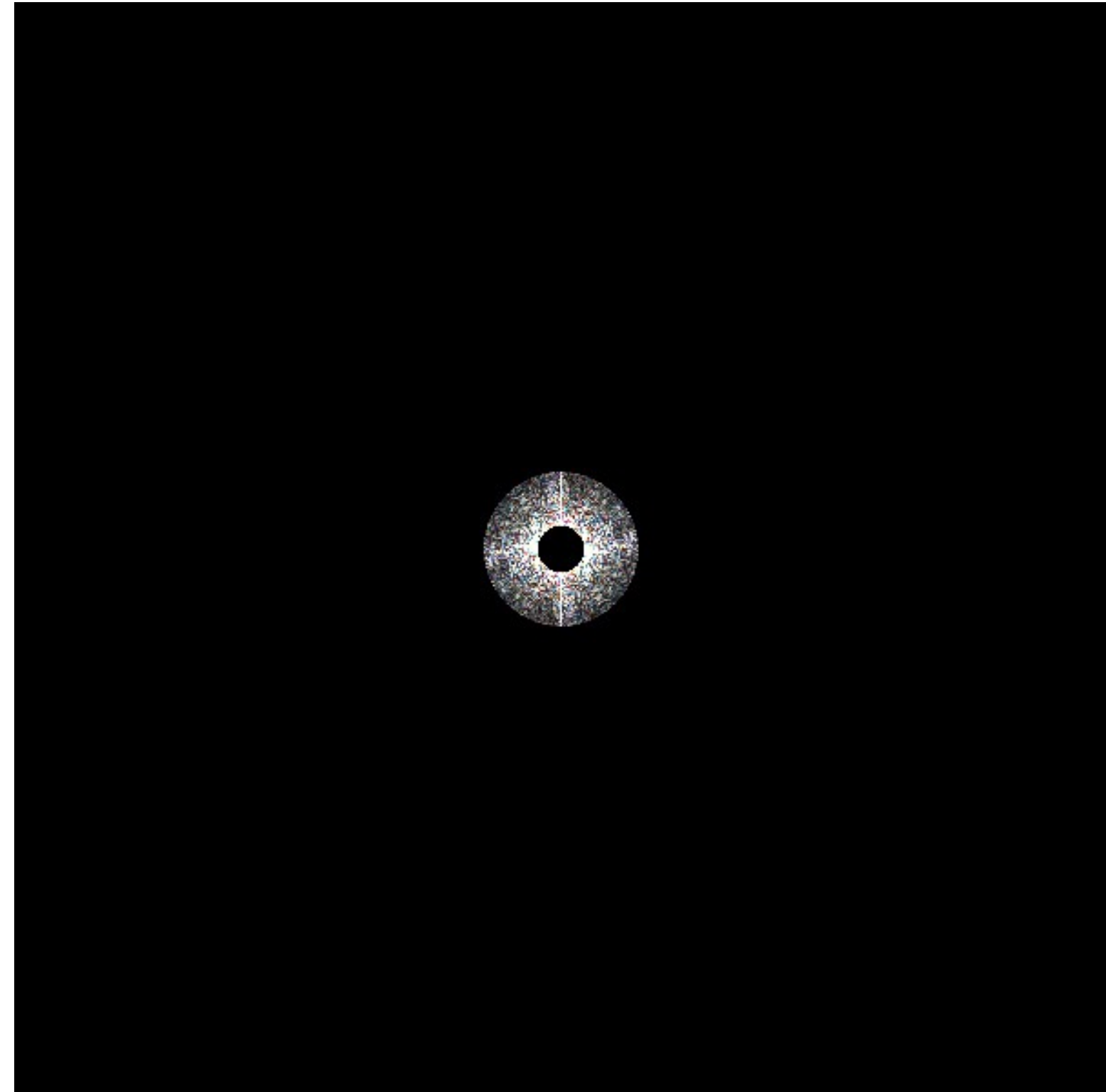
# Filtering: Band Pass Filter

---

**Keep band of frequencies**



**Spatial Domain**

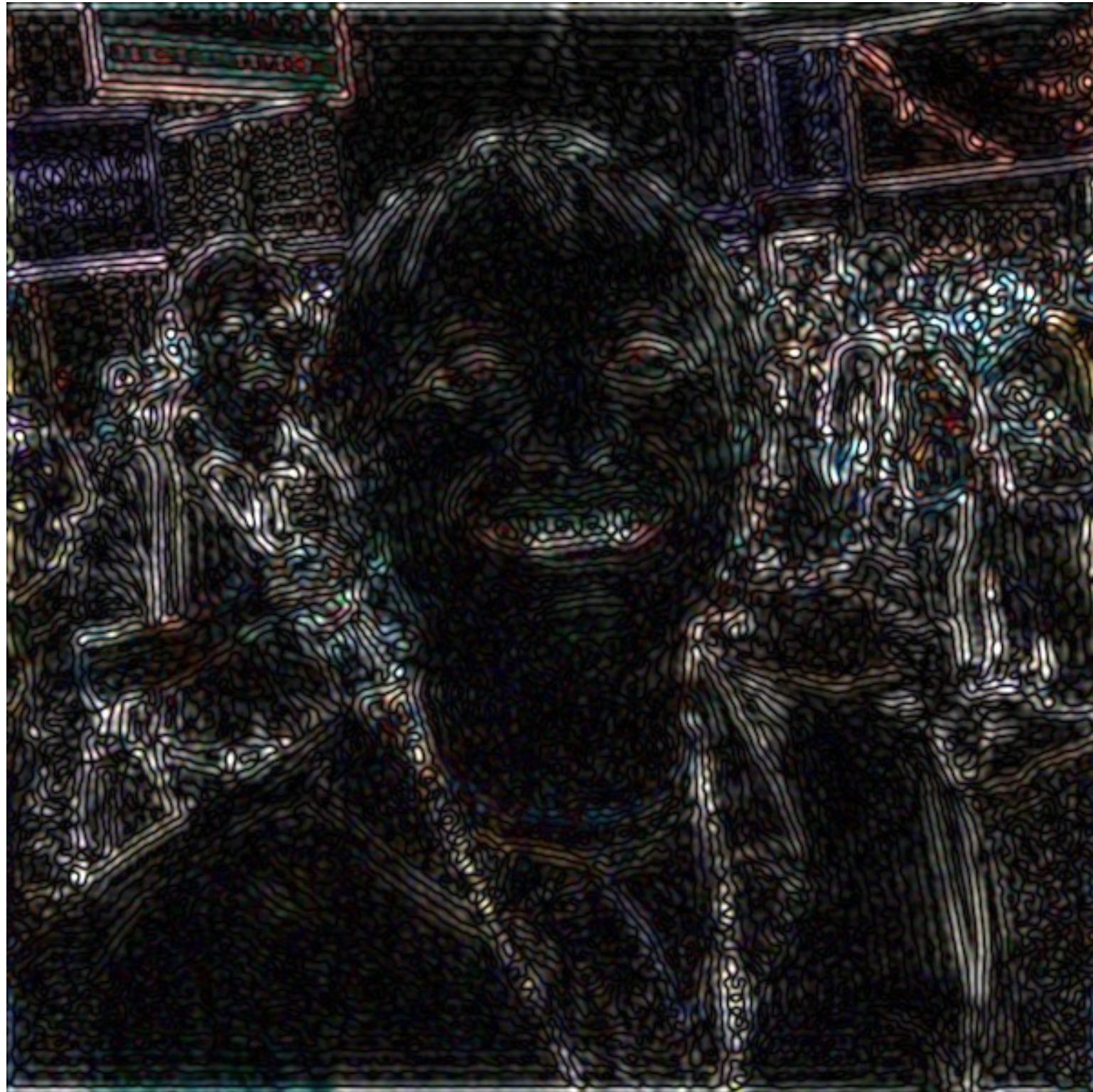


**Frequency Domain**

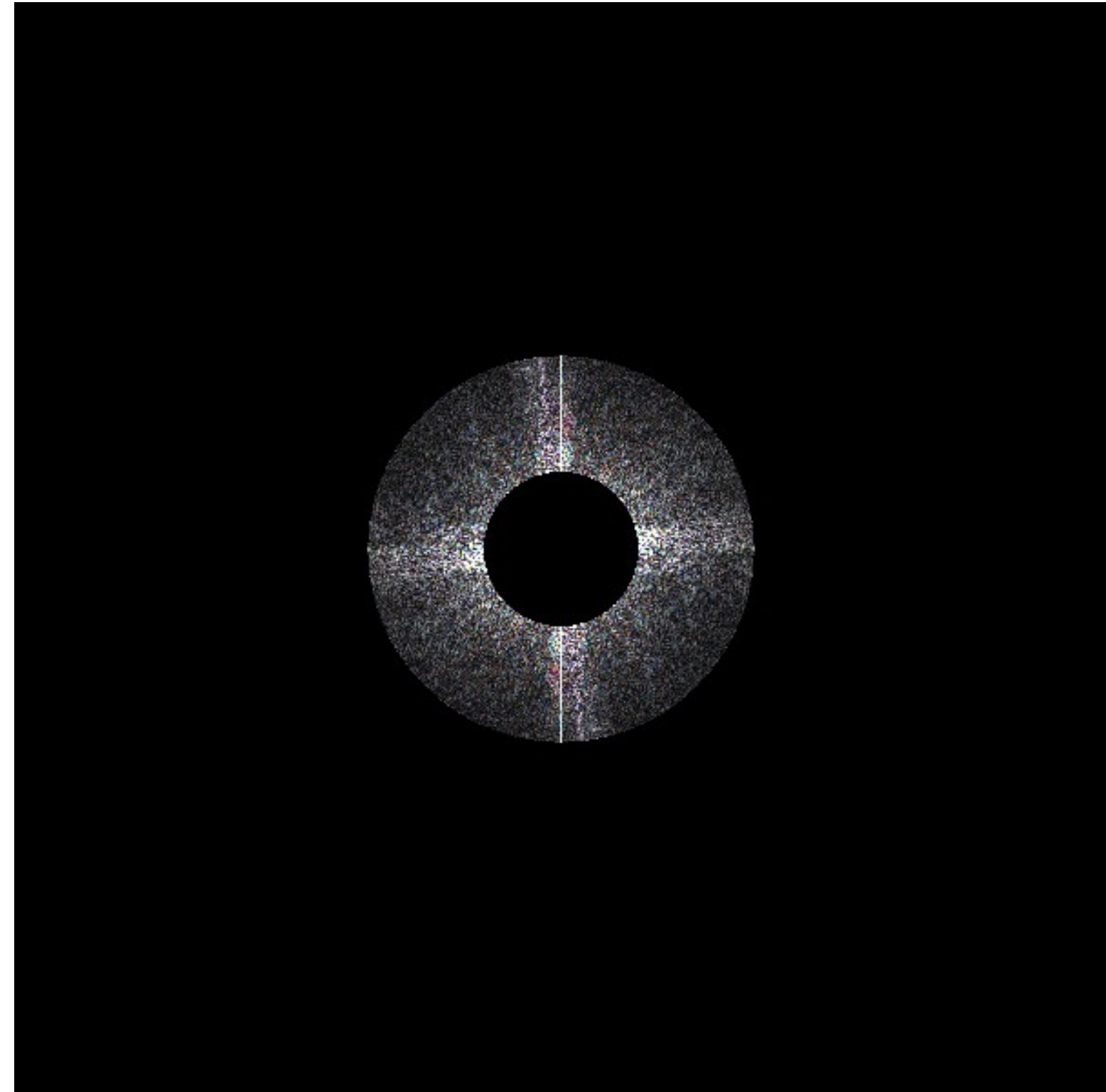
# Filtering: Band Pass Filter

---

**Keep band of frequencies**



**Spatial Domain**



**Frequency Domain**

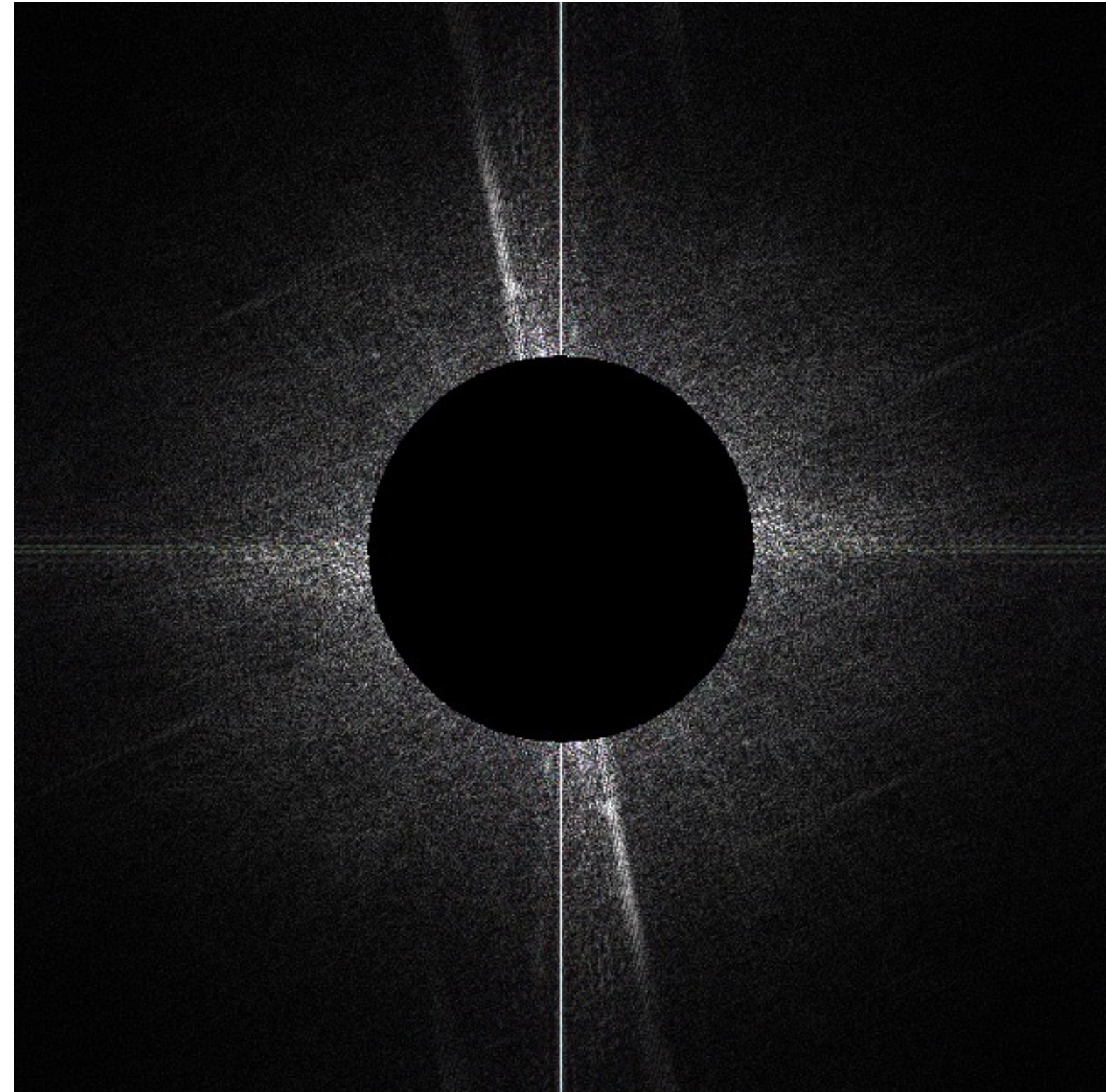
# Filtering: High Pass Filter

---

**Keep high frequencies**



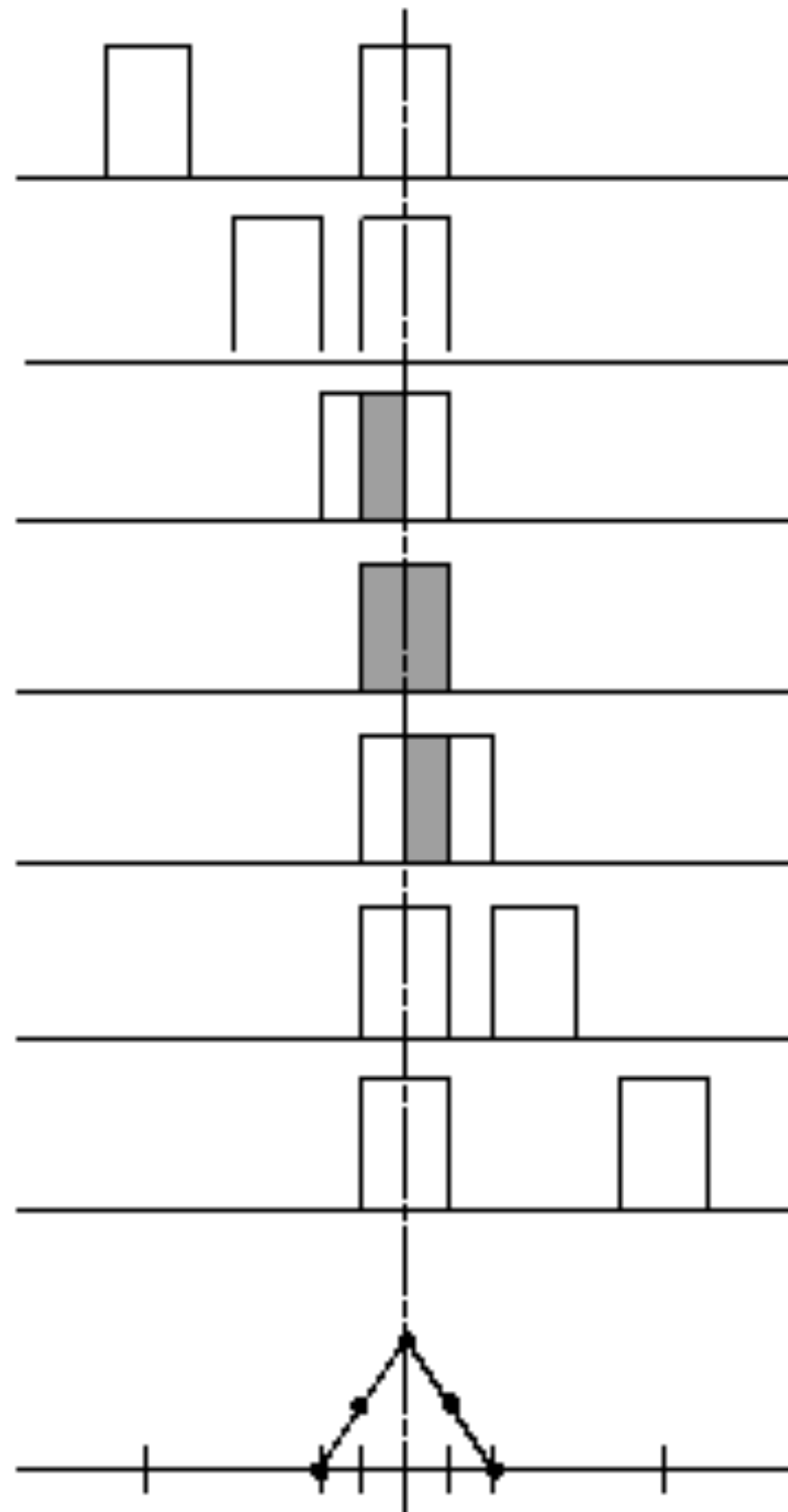
**Spatial Domain**



**Frequency Domain**

# Filtering by Convolution

---



$$h(x) = f \otimes g = \int f(x')g(x - x') dx'$$

<https://mathworld.wolfram.com/Convolution.html>

# Convolution Theorem

---

**Convolution Theorem:** Multiplication in the frequency domain is equivalent to convolution in the space domain.

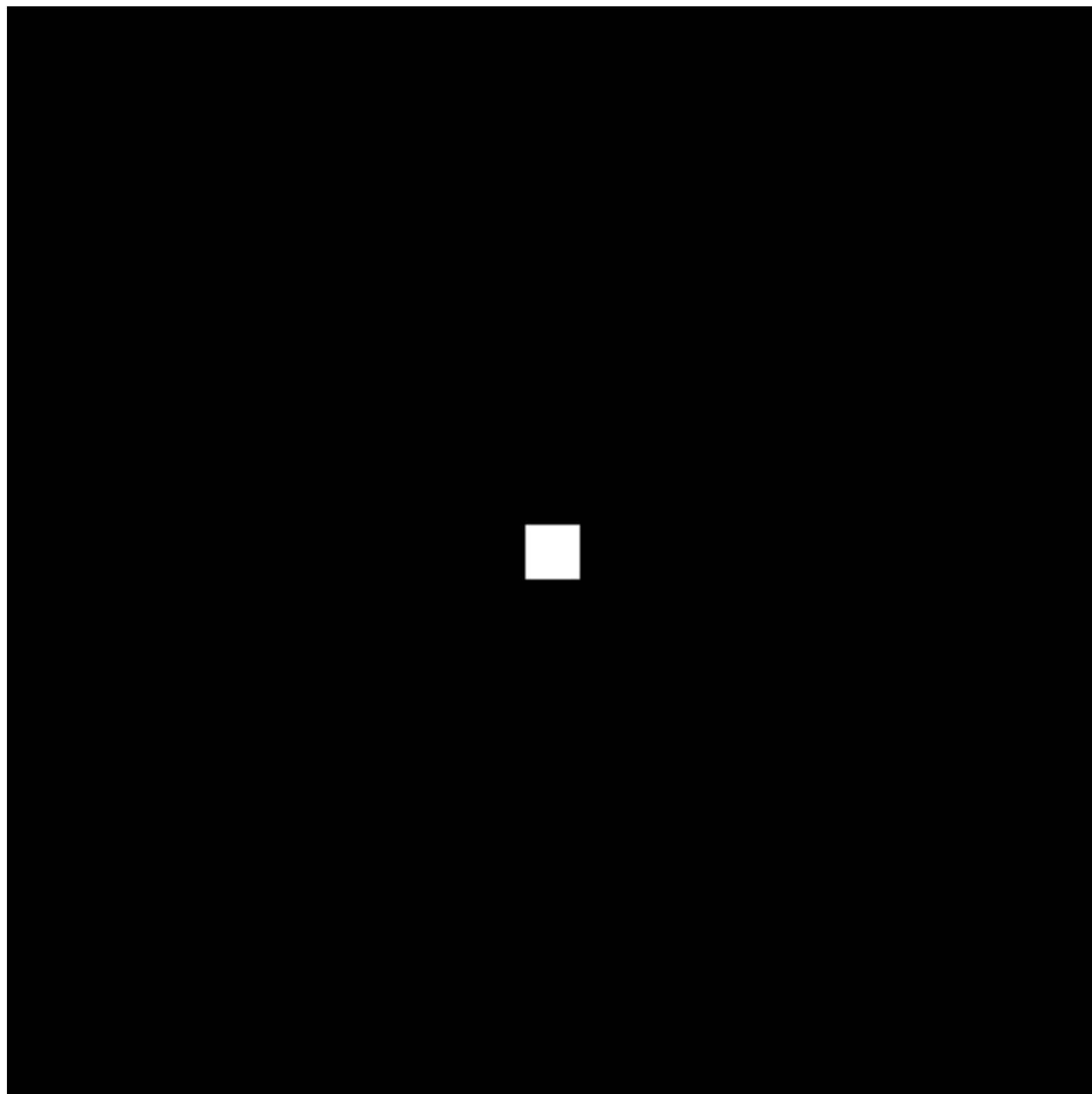
$$f \otimes g \Leftrightarrow F \times G$$

**Symmetric Theorem:** Multiplication in the space domain is equivalent to convolution in the frequency domain.

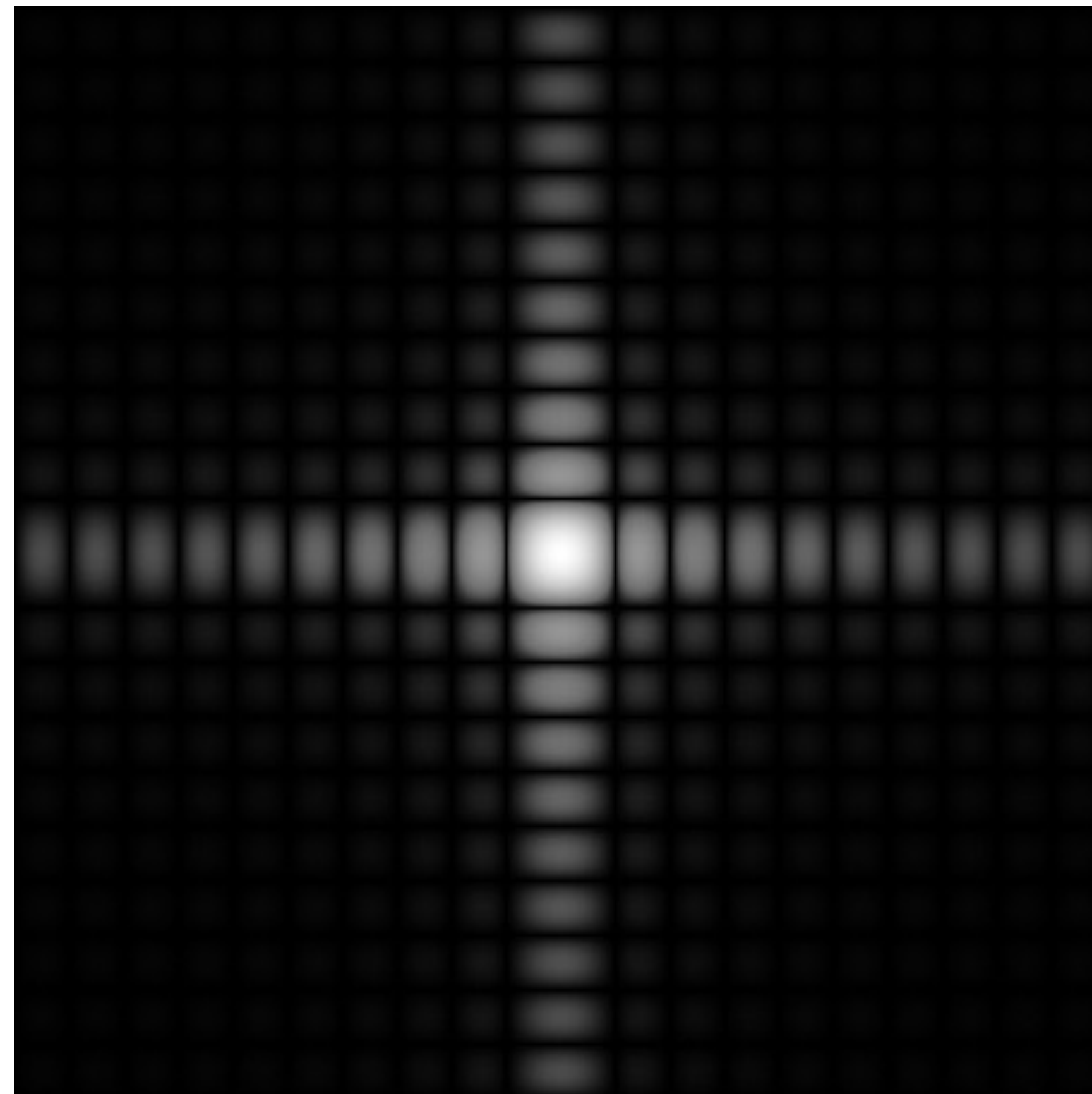
$$f \times g \Leftrightarrow F \otimes G$$

# Spatial and Frequency Domain

---



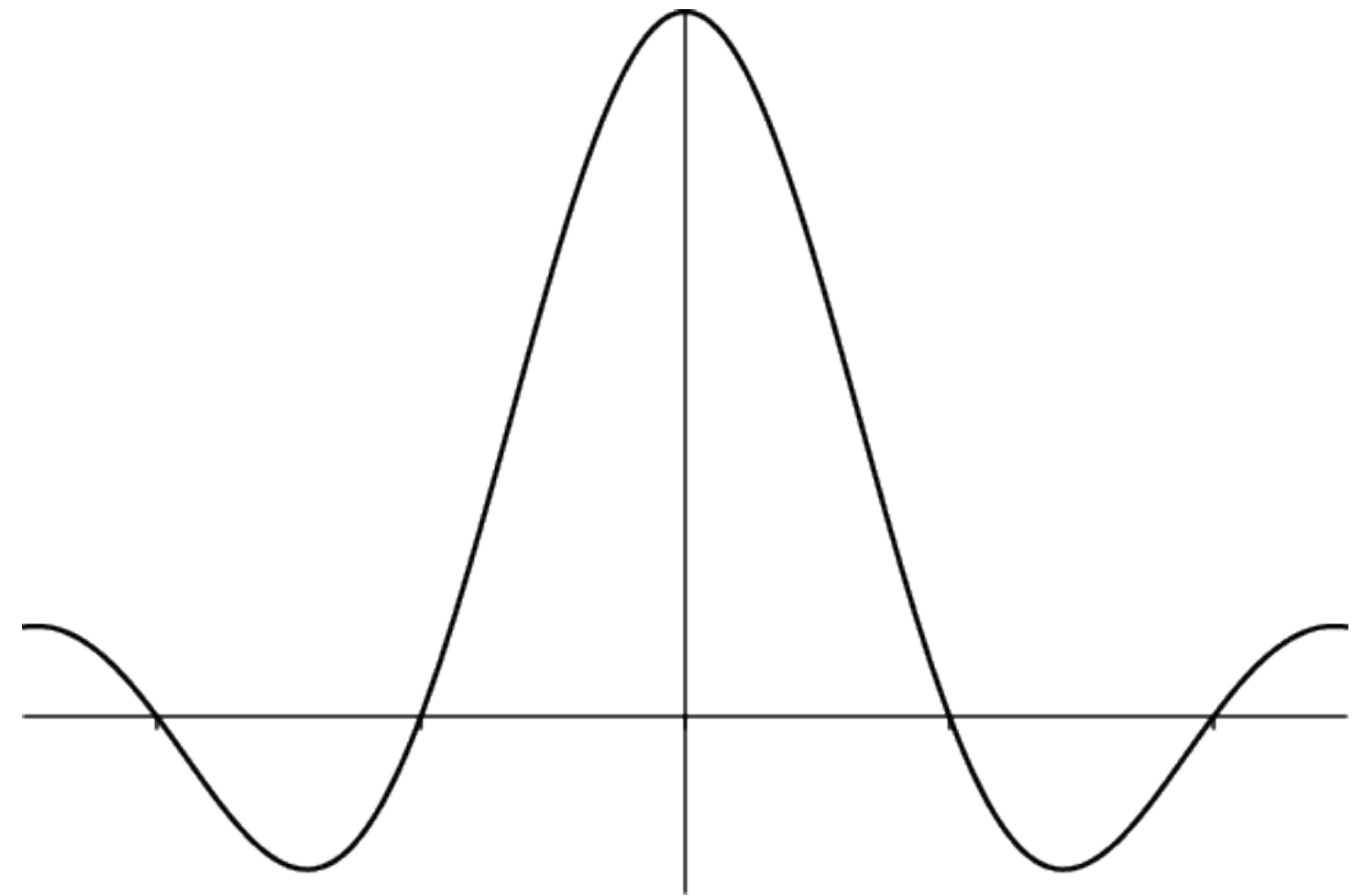
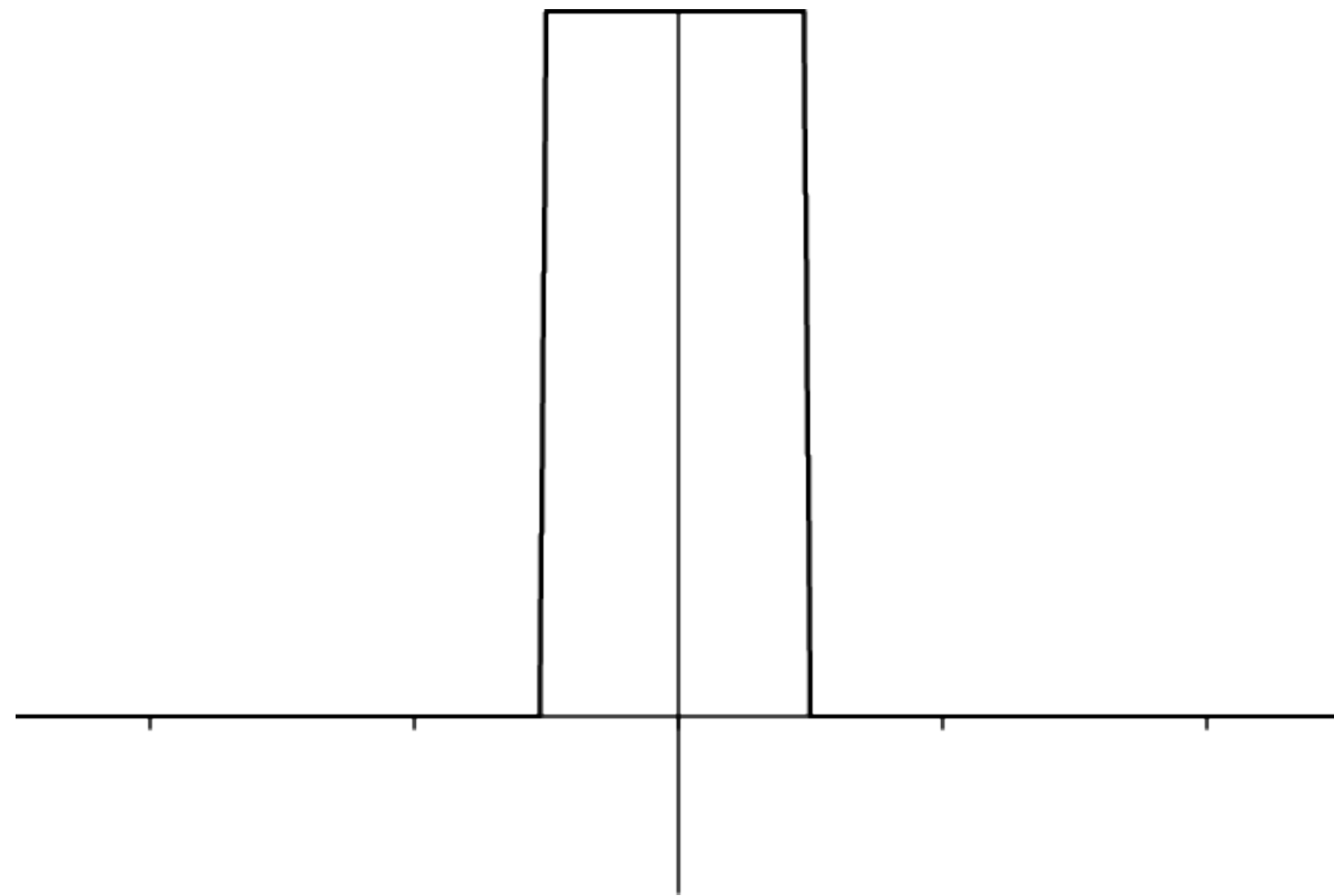
**Spatial Domain**



**Frequency Domain**

# Math: Box and Sinc Functions

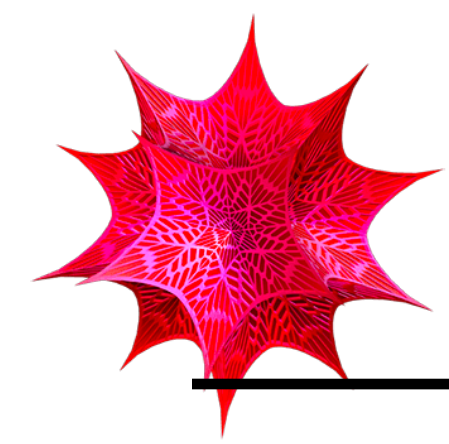
---



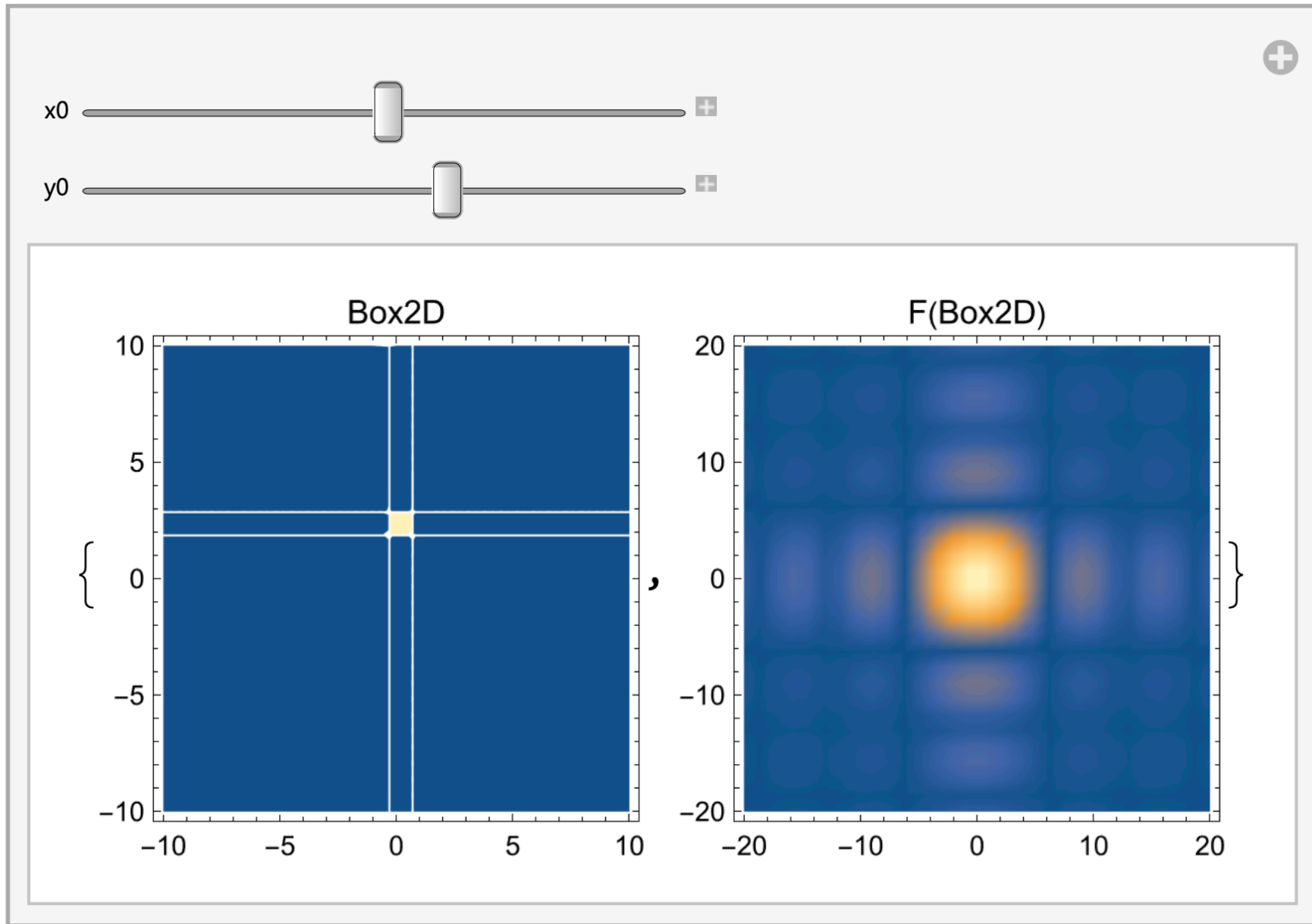
$$\Pi_T(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & |x| \leq \frac{T}{2} \\ 0 & |x| > \frac{T}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{sinc}(x) \equiv \frac{\sin \pi x}{\pi x}$$

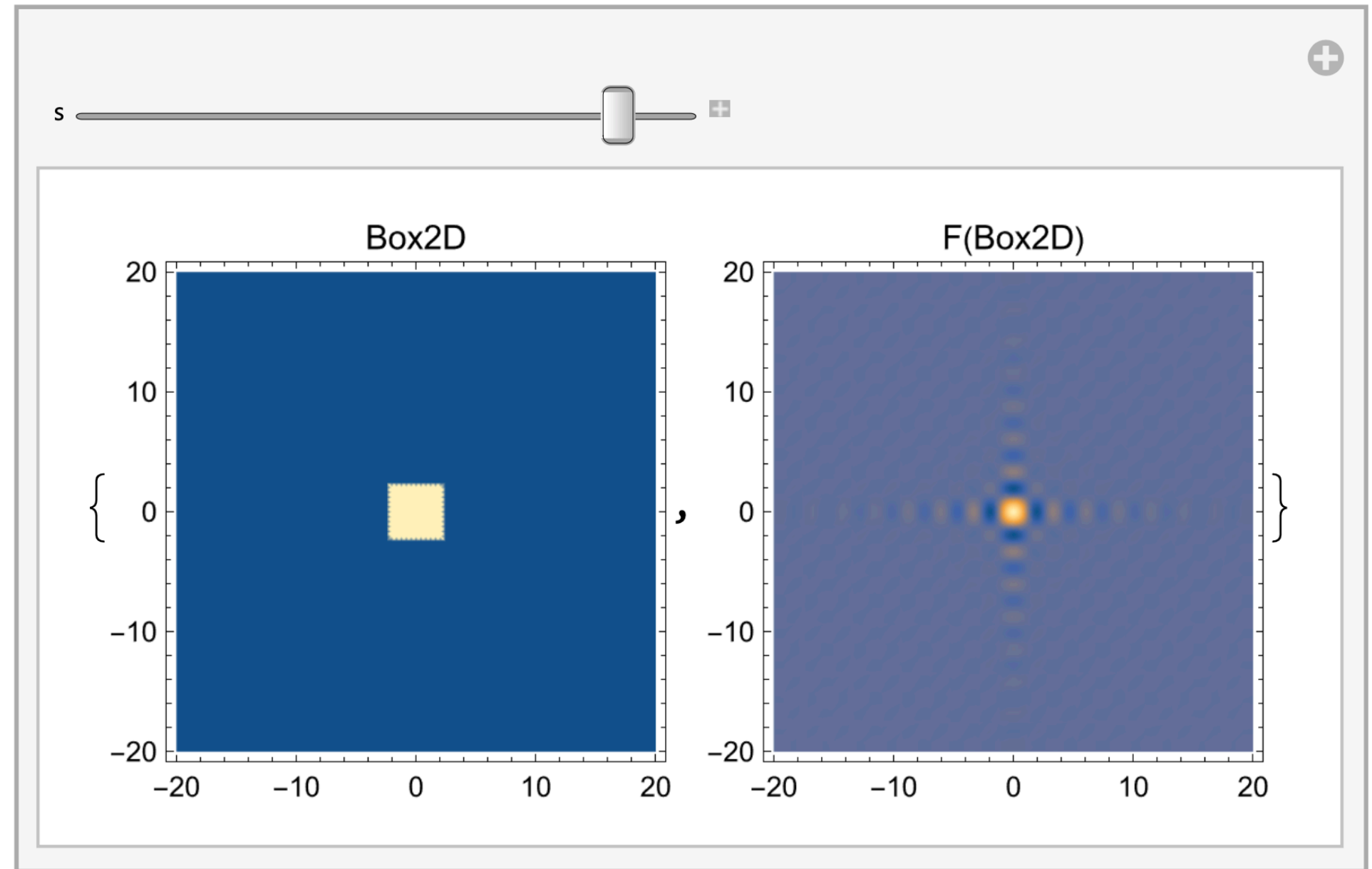
$$\mathcal{F}(\Pi_T) \propto T \text{sinc}(\pi T f)$$



# Mathematica Demo (Box/Sinc)



## Translation



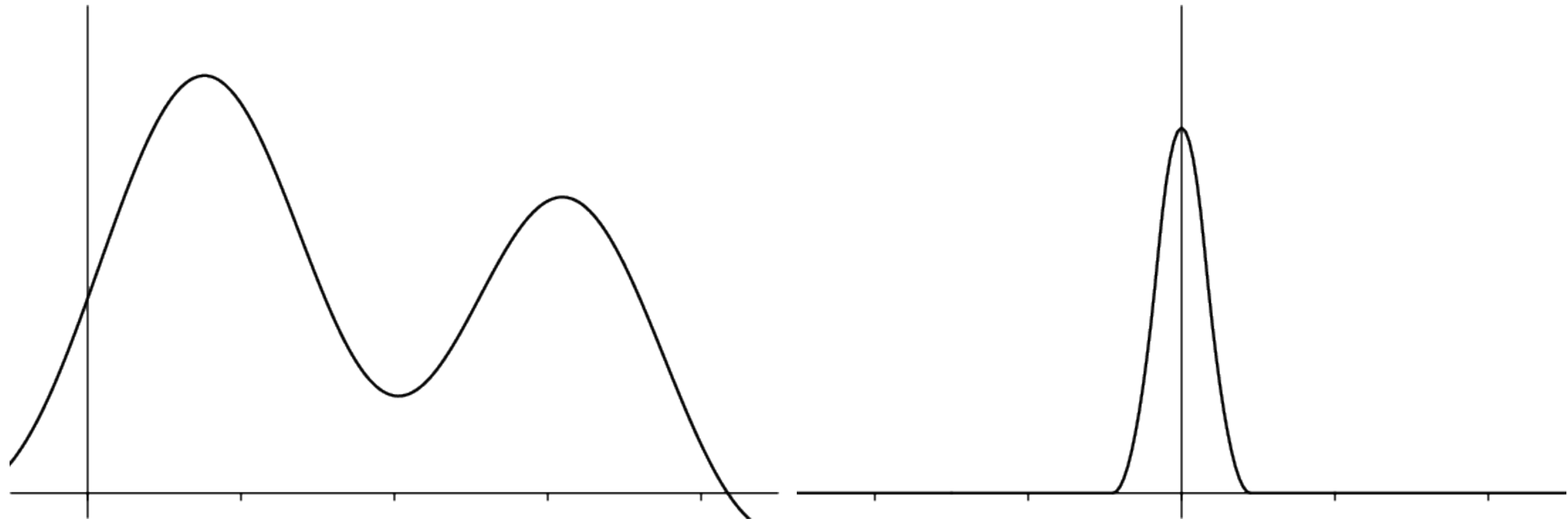
## Scaling



# **The Sampling Theorem**

# Simple Function

---

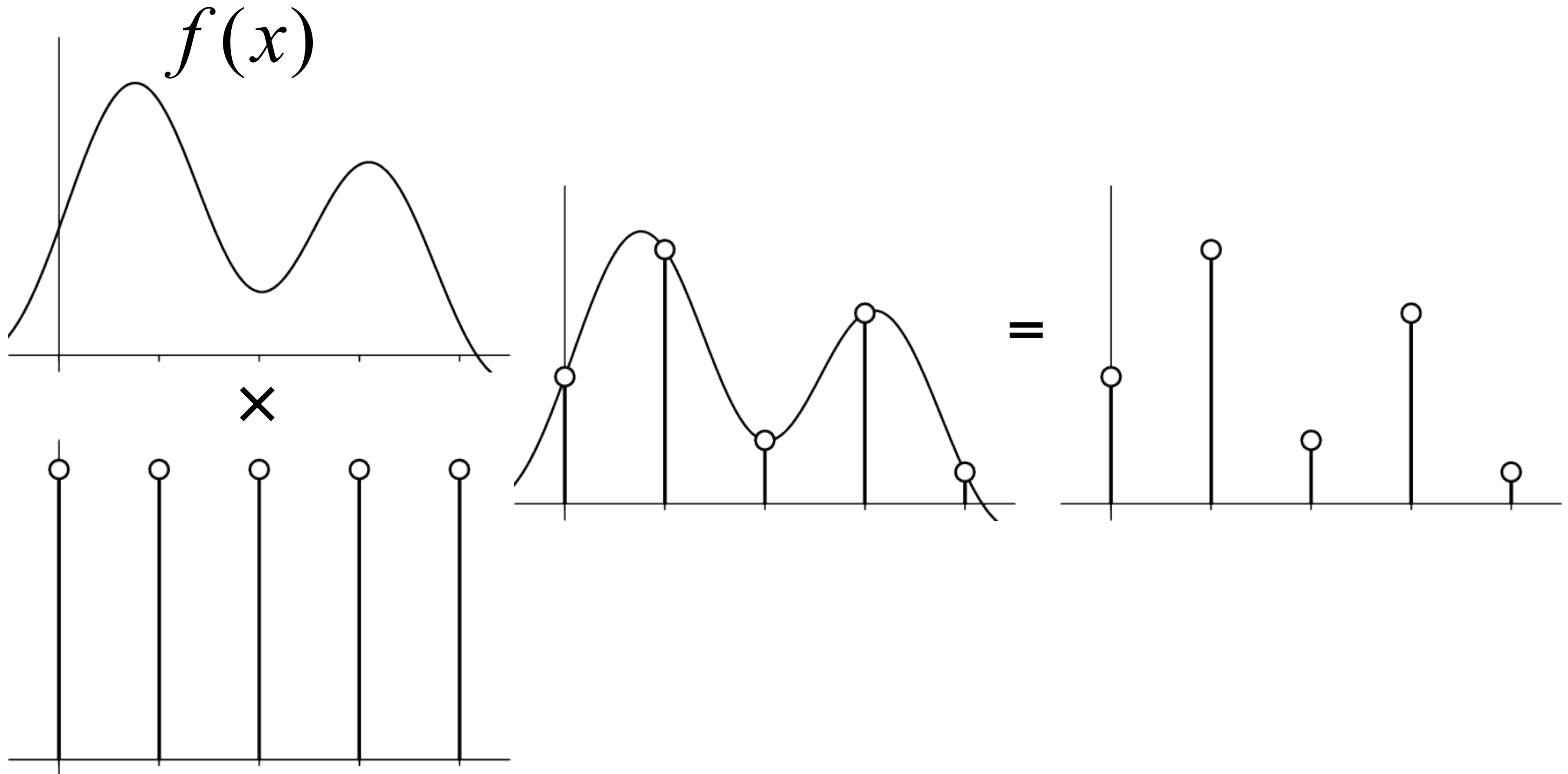


$f(x)$

$F(\omega)$

# Sampling: Multiply in Spatial Domain

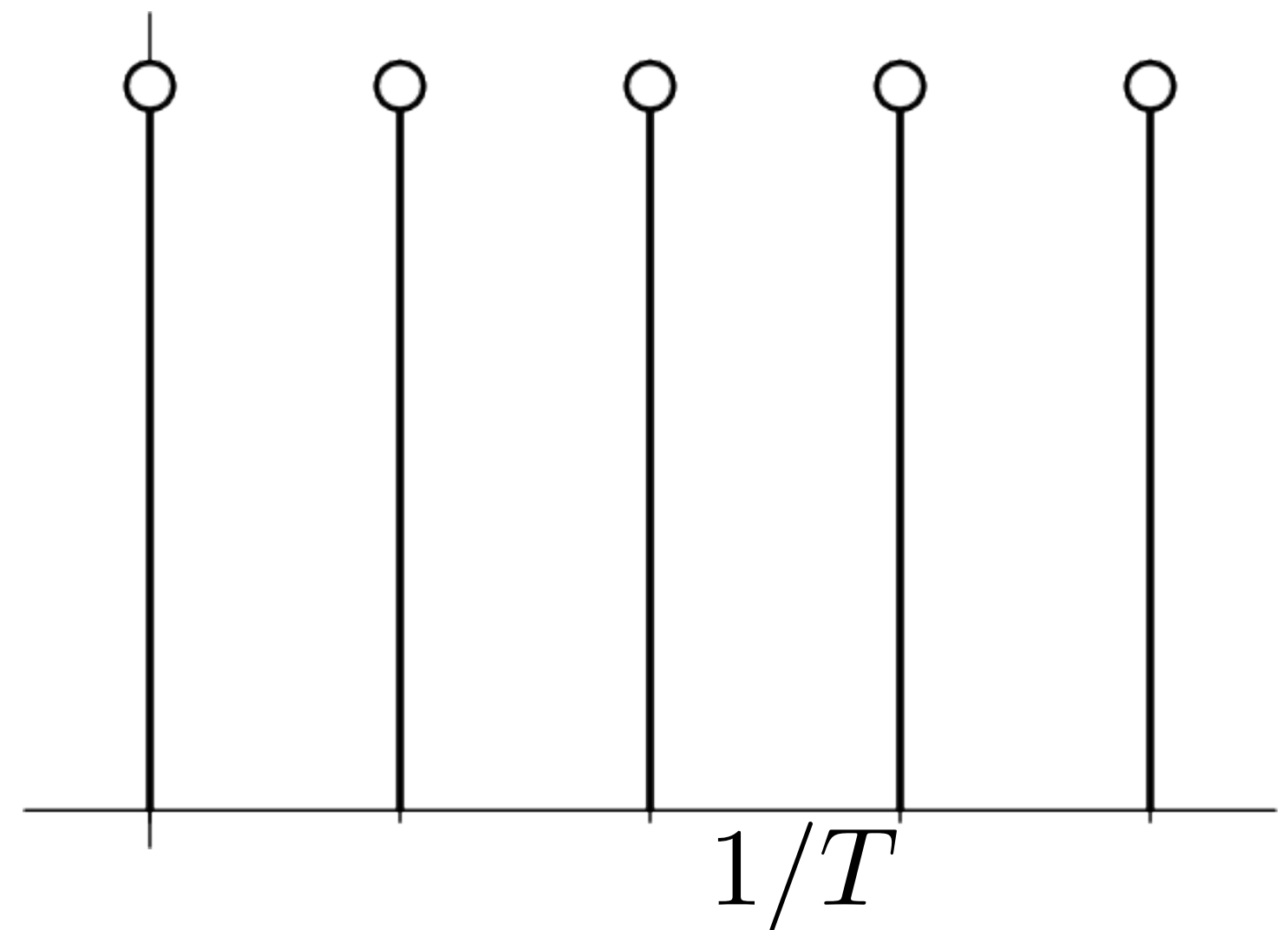
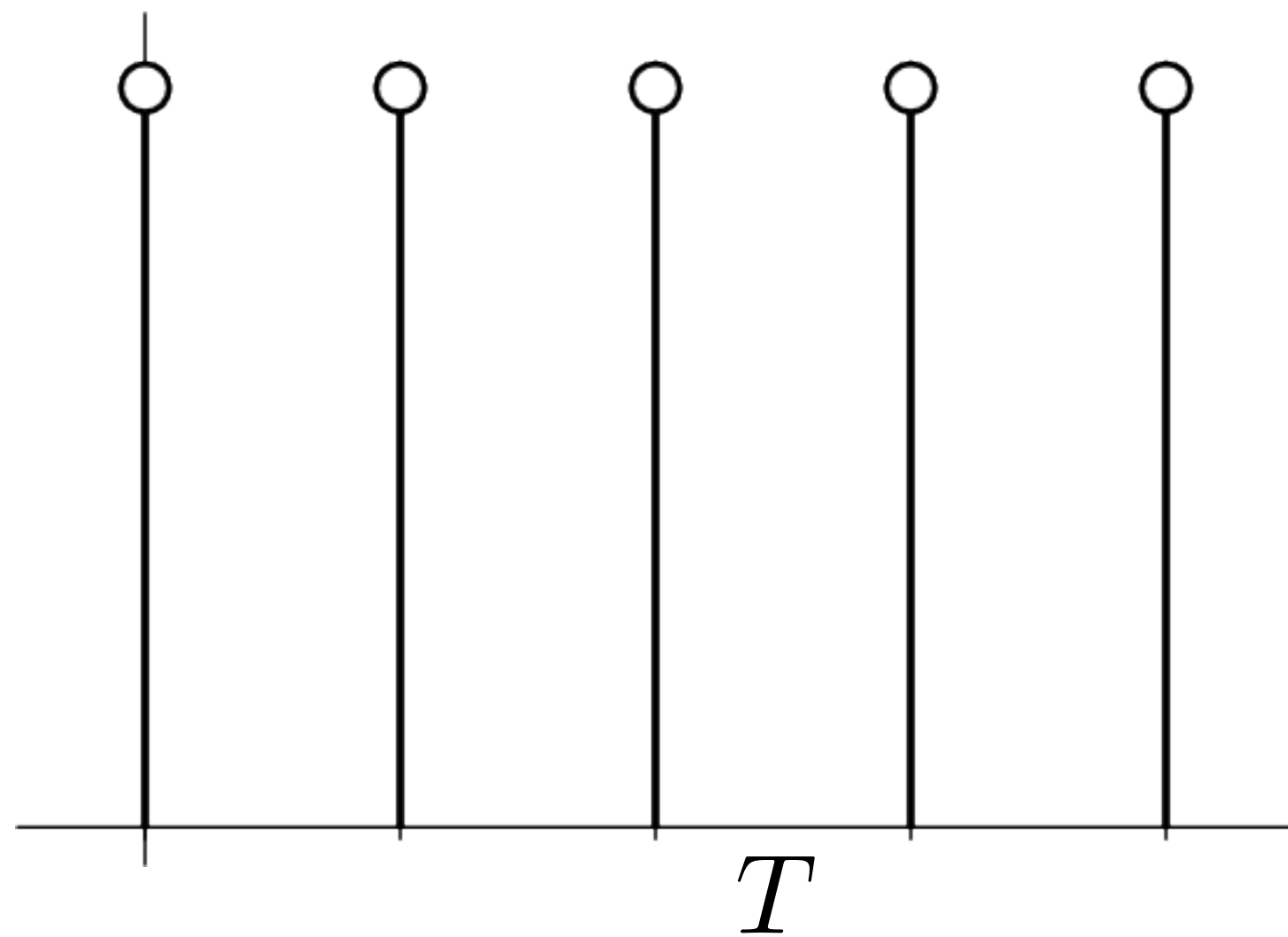
---



# Some Magic

---

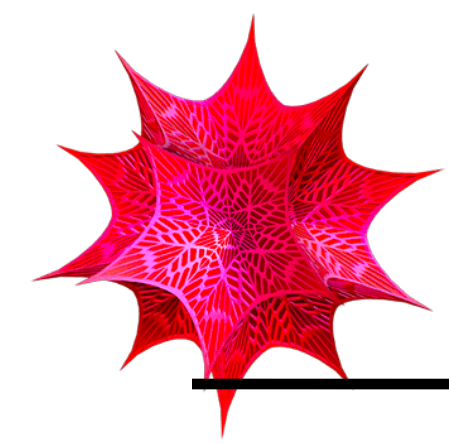
**The Fourier transform of a sequence of spikes is a sequence of spikes**



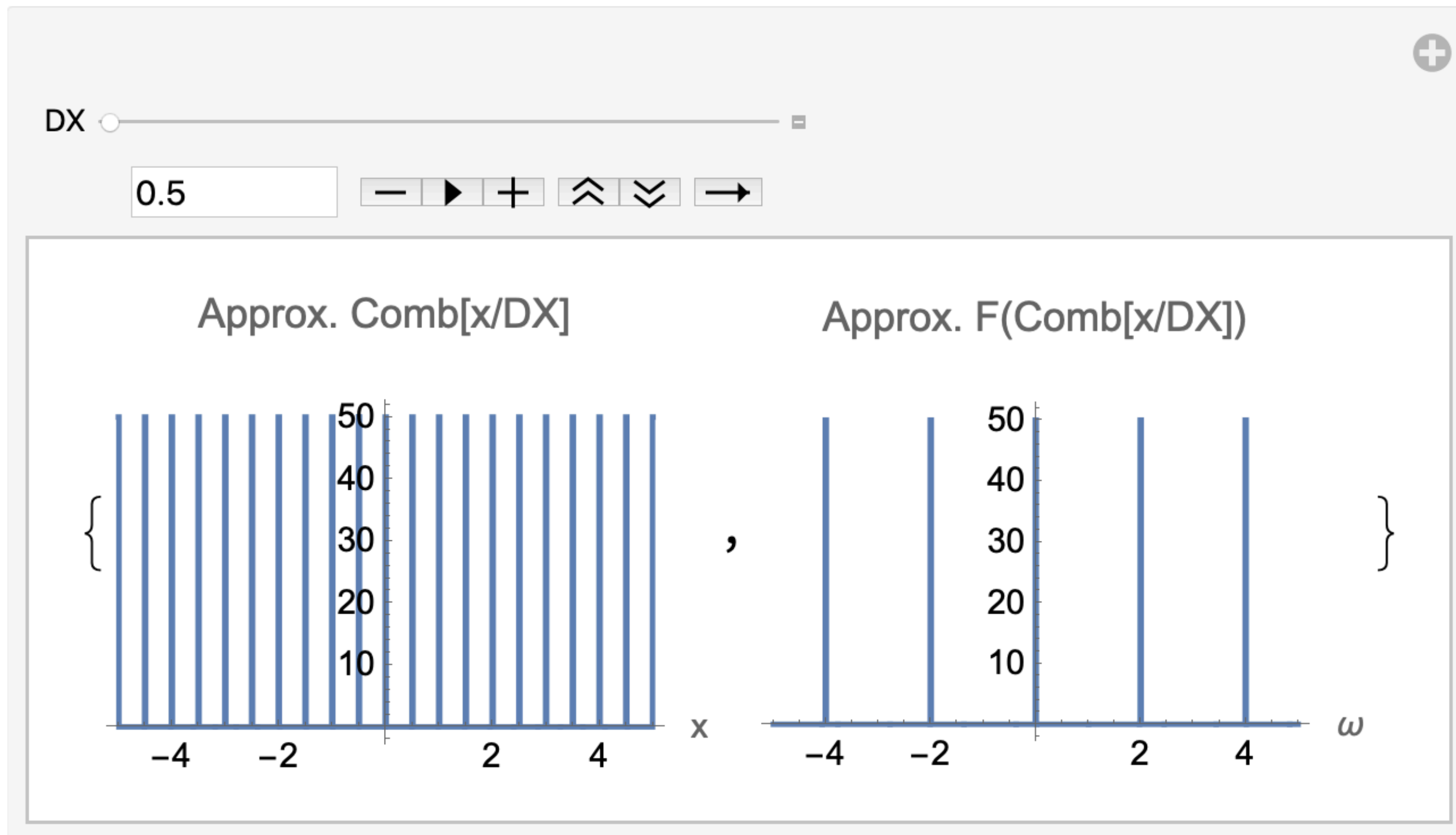
$$\text{III}_T(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{n=\infty} \delta(t - nT)$$

$$\text{III}_{1/T}(\omega) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{n=\infty} \delta(\omega - n/T)$$

**Comb or Shah function**



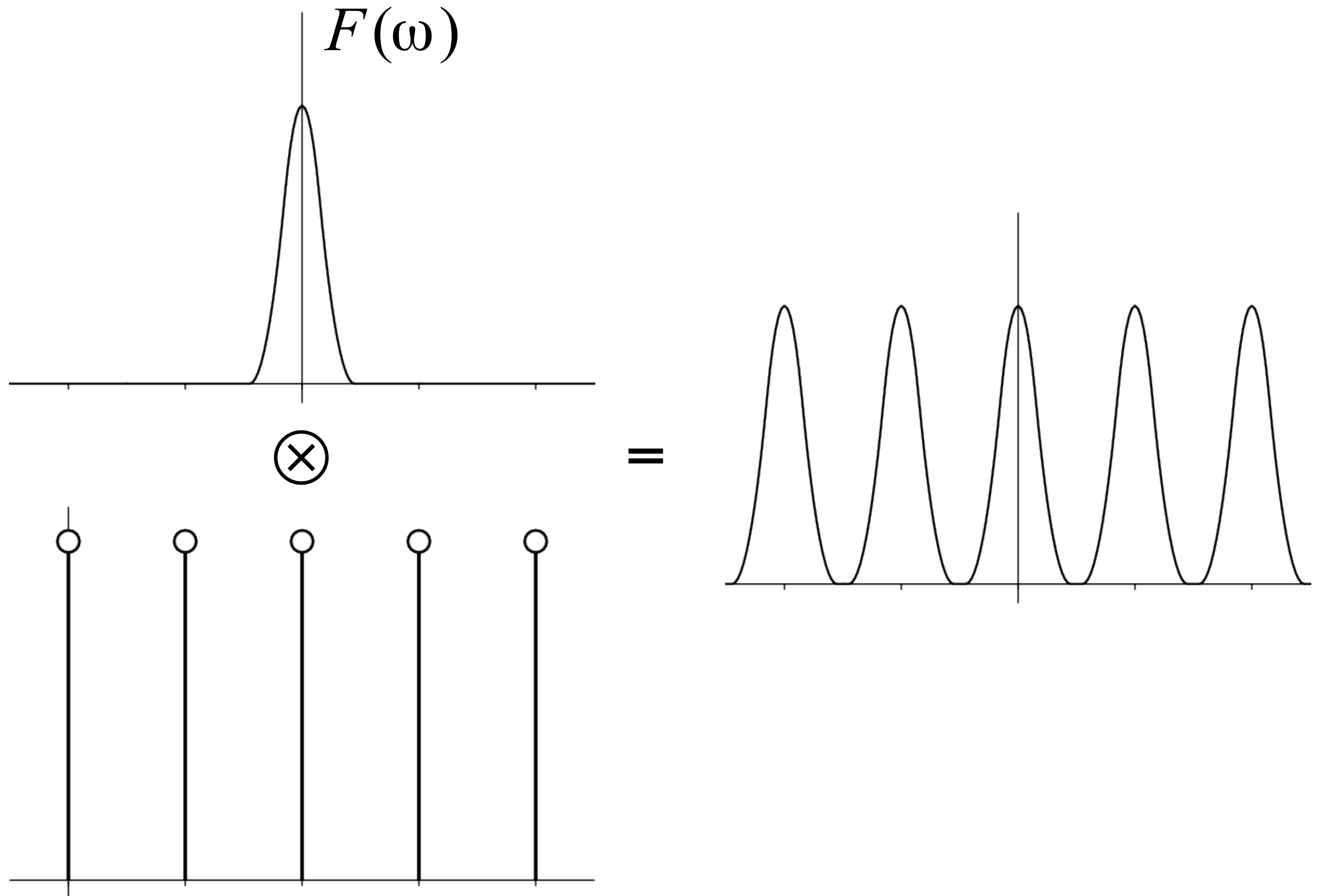
# Mathematica Demo (Combs)



## Sampling with Cheap Combs

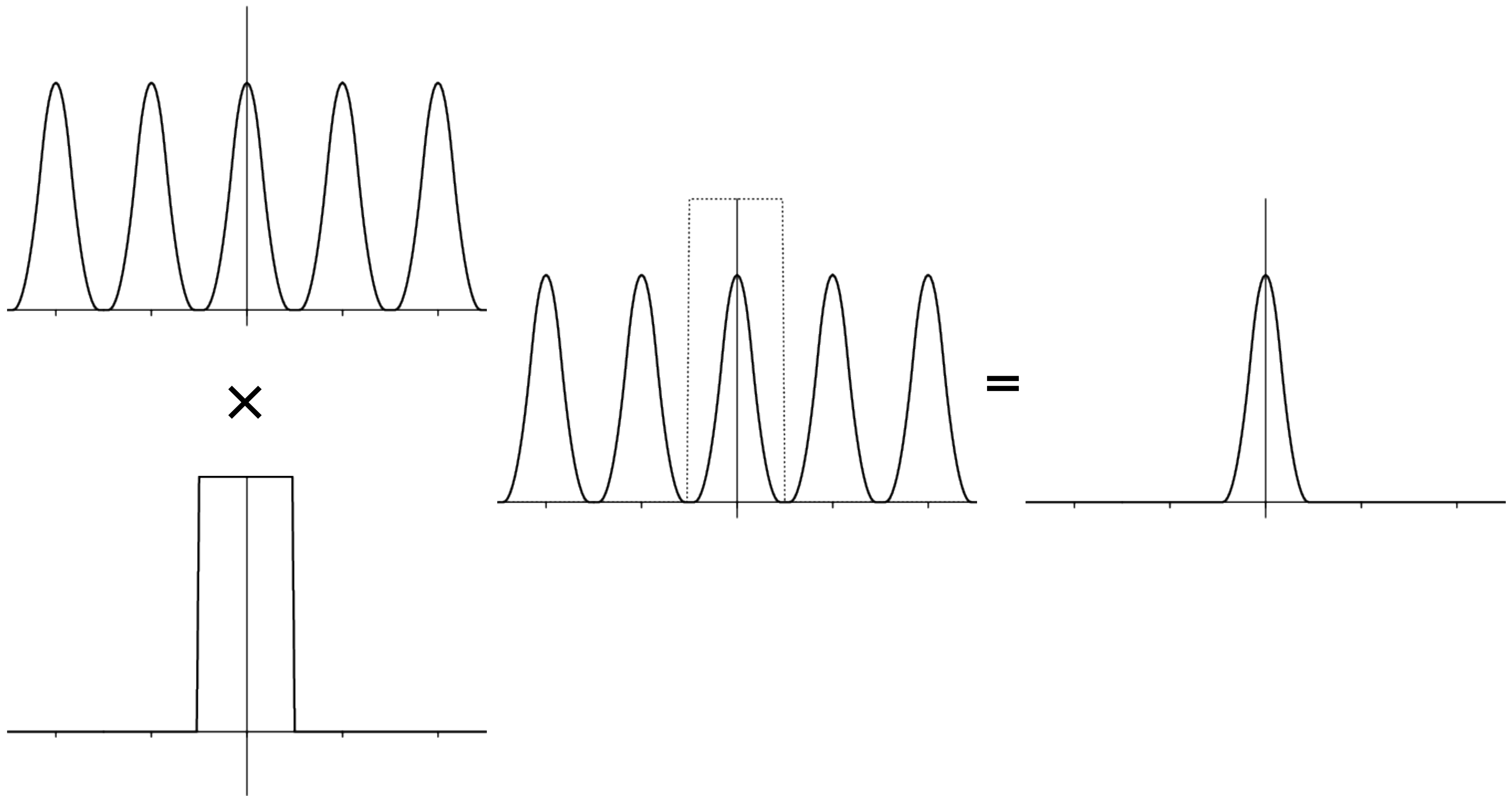
# Sampling: Convolve in Freq Domain

---



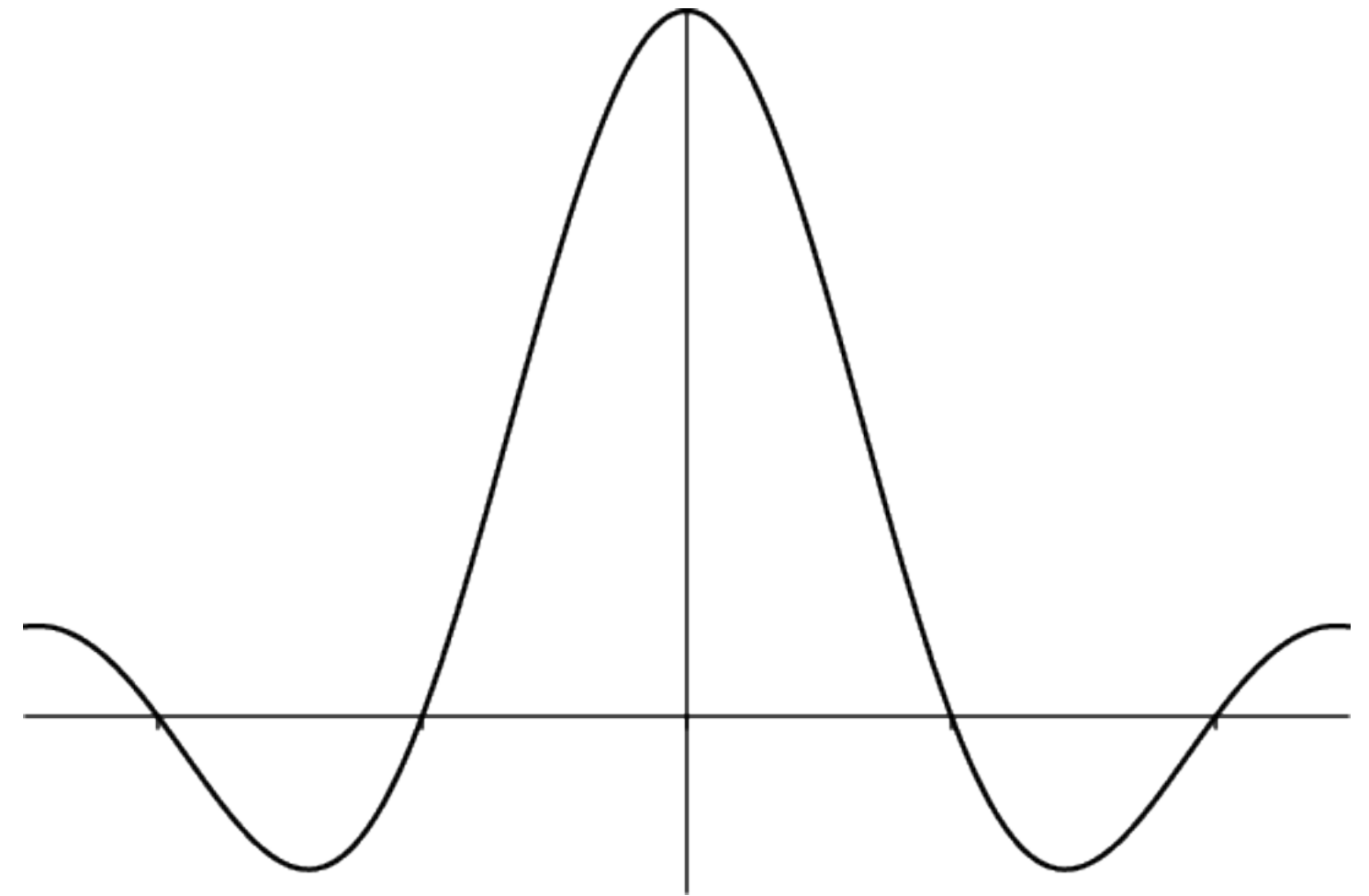
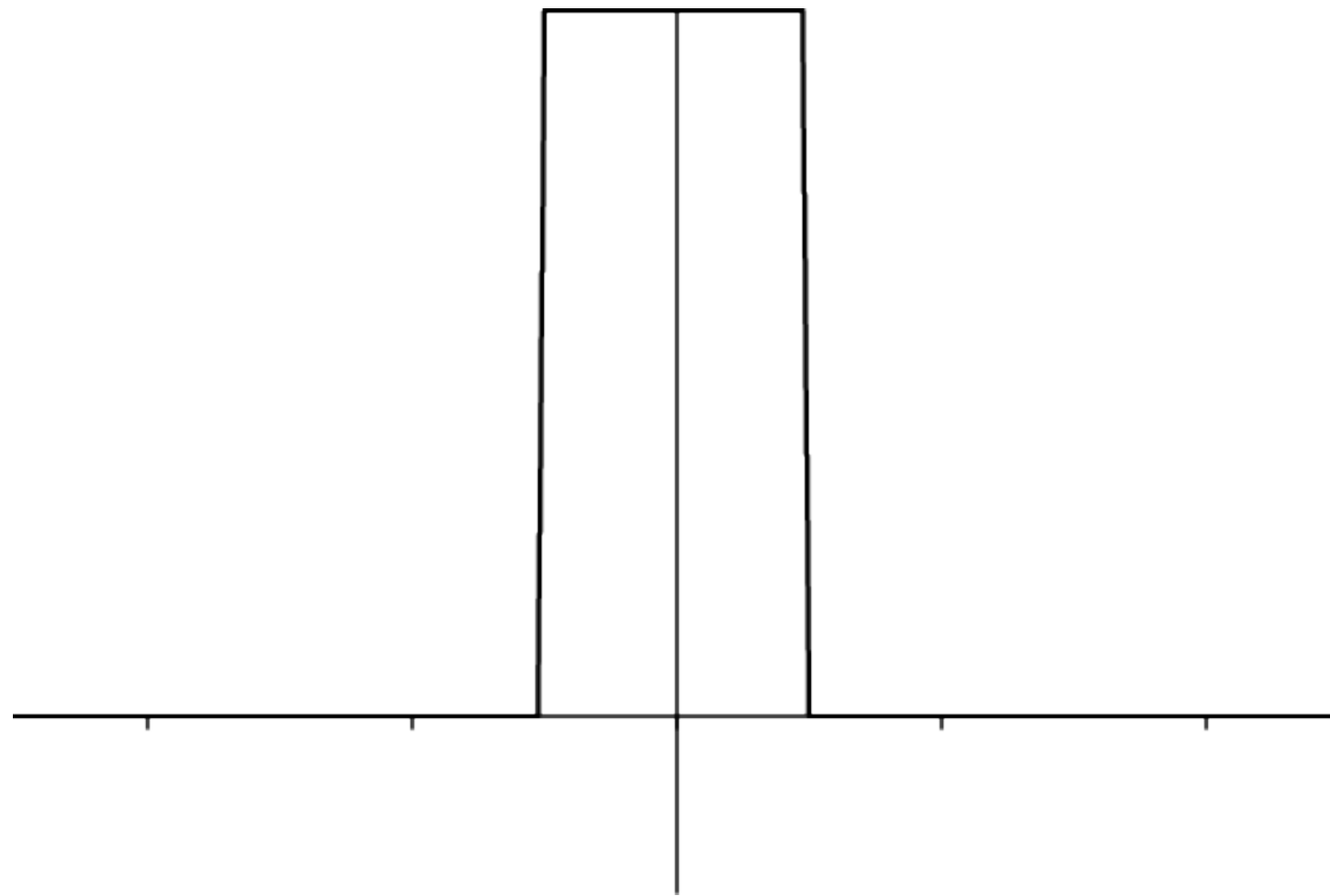
# Reconstruction: Frequency Domain

---



# Recall

---



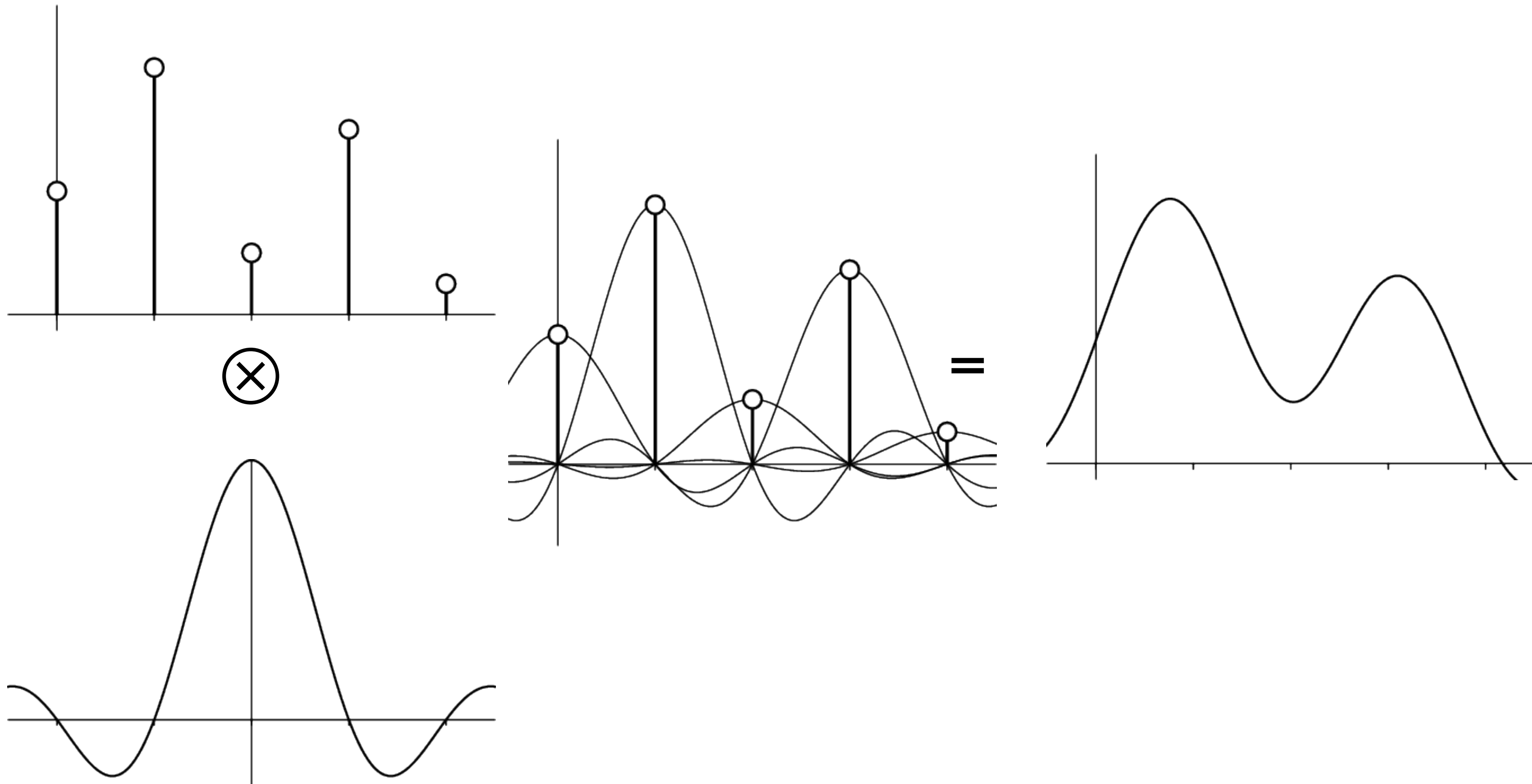
$$\Pi_T(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & |x| \leq \frac{T}{2} \\ 0 & |x| > \frac{T}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{sinc}(x) \equiv \frac{\sin \pi x}{\pi x}$$



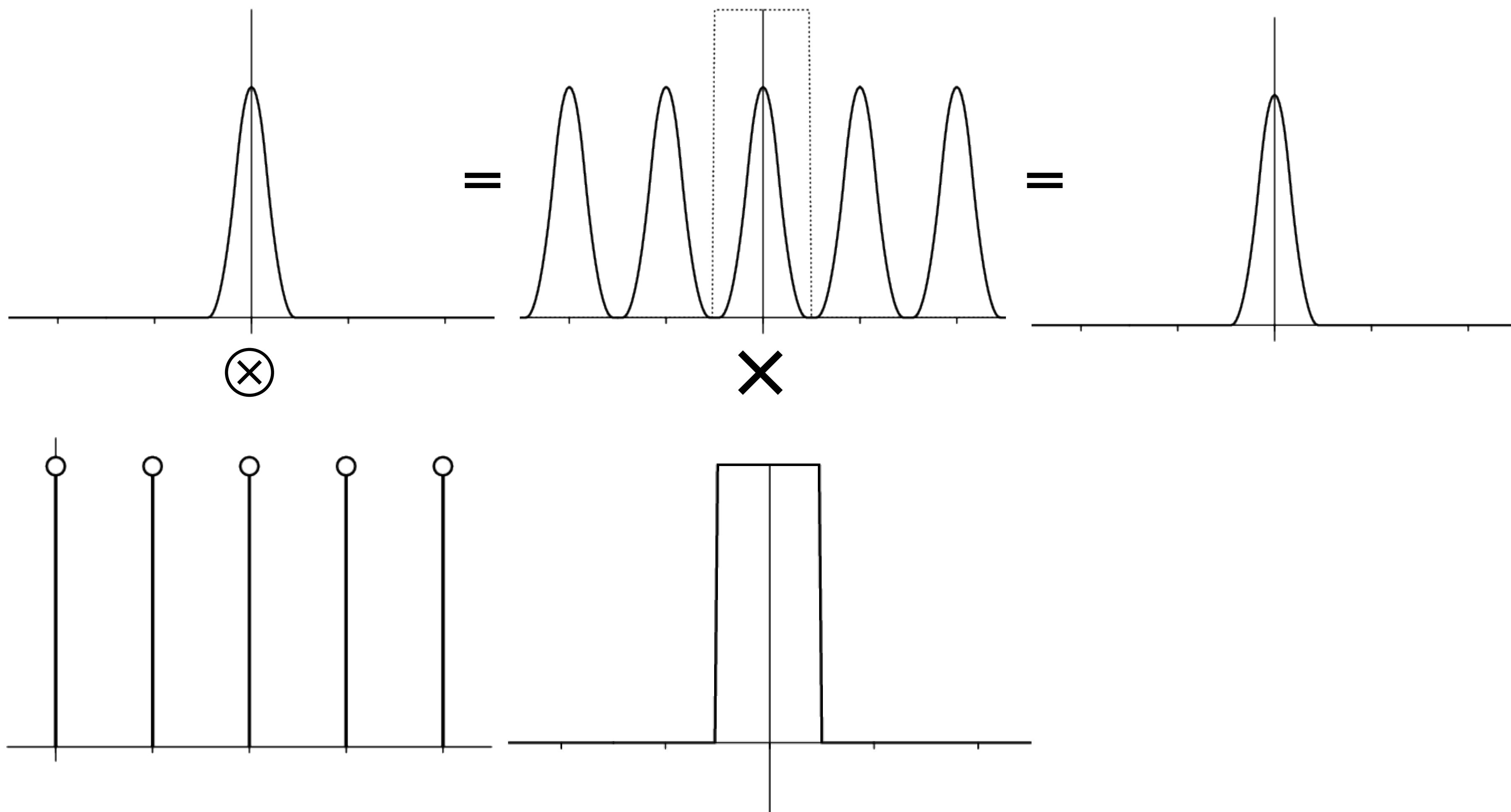
# Reconstruction: Spatial Domain

---



# Recovering a Sampled Signal

---



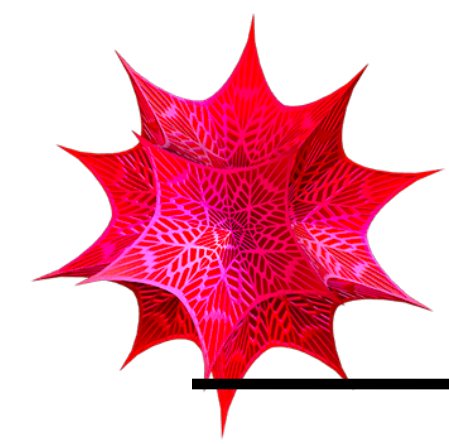
# Sampling Theorem

---

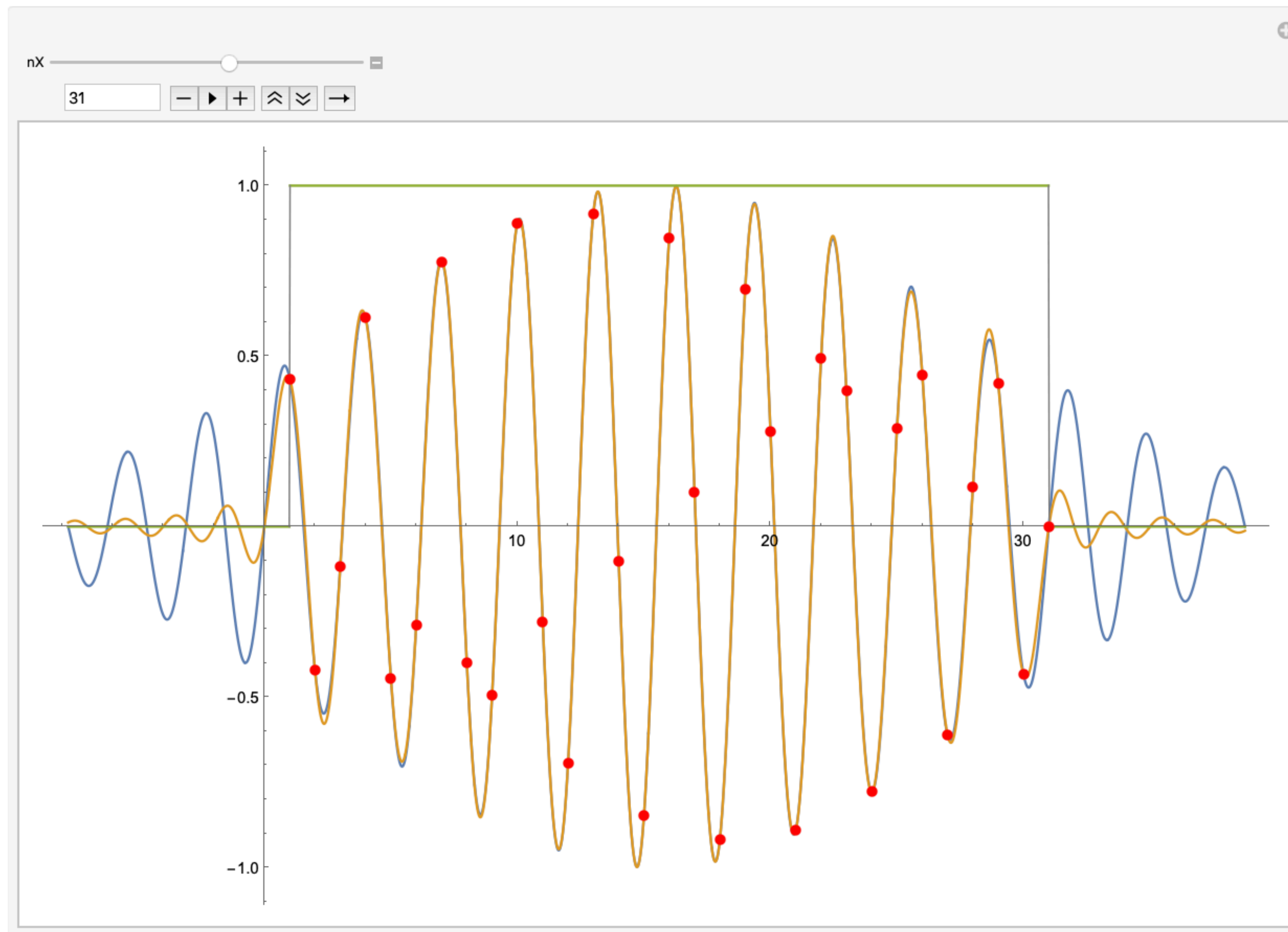
**This result is known as the Sampling Theorem, and Claude Shannon is credited with discovering it in 1949.**

**A SIGNAL CAN BE RECONSTRUCTED FROM ITS SAMPLES WITHOUT LOSS OF INFORMATION, IF THE ORIGINAL SIGNAL HAS NO FREQUENCIES ABOVE  $1/2$  THE SAMPLING FREQUENCY.**

**For a given band-limited function, the rate it must be sampled is called the Nyquist Frequency.**



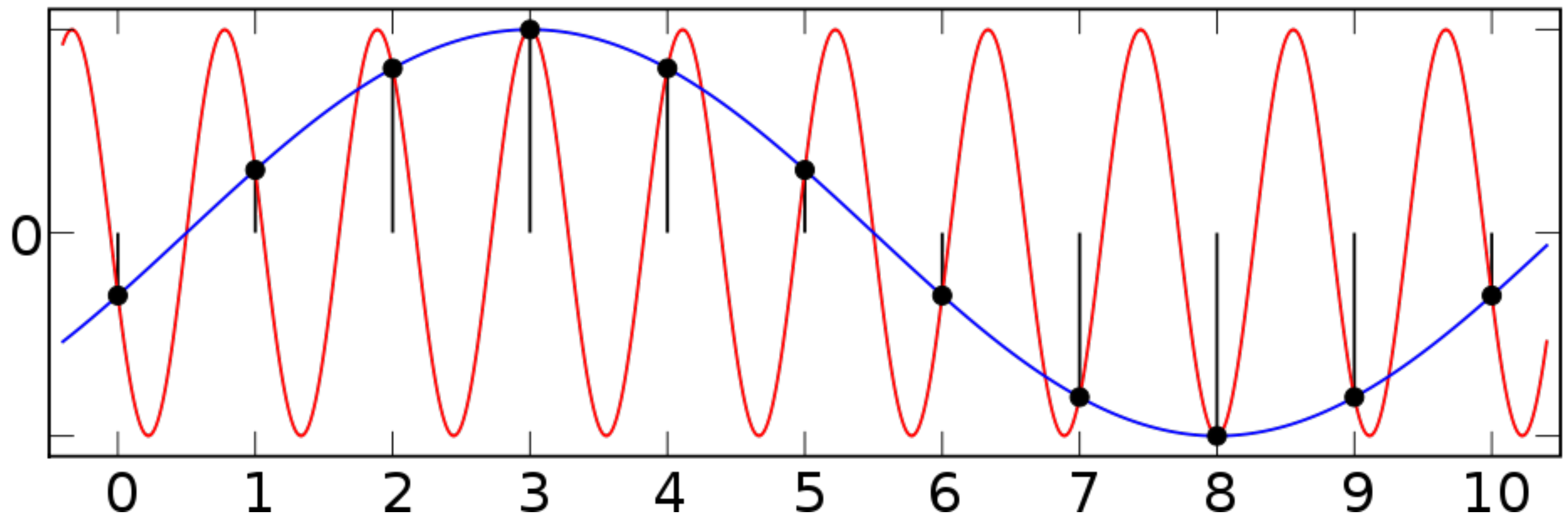
# Mathematica Demo (Reconstruction)

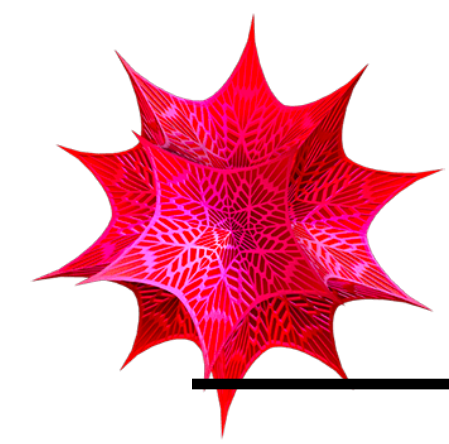


**Spatial Reconstruction**

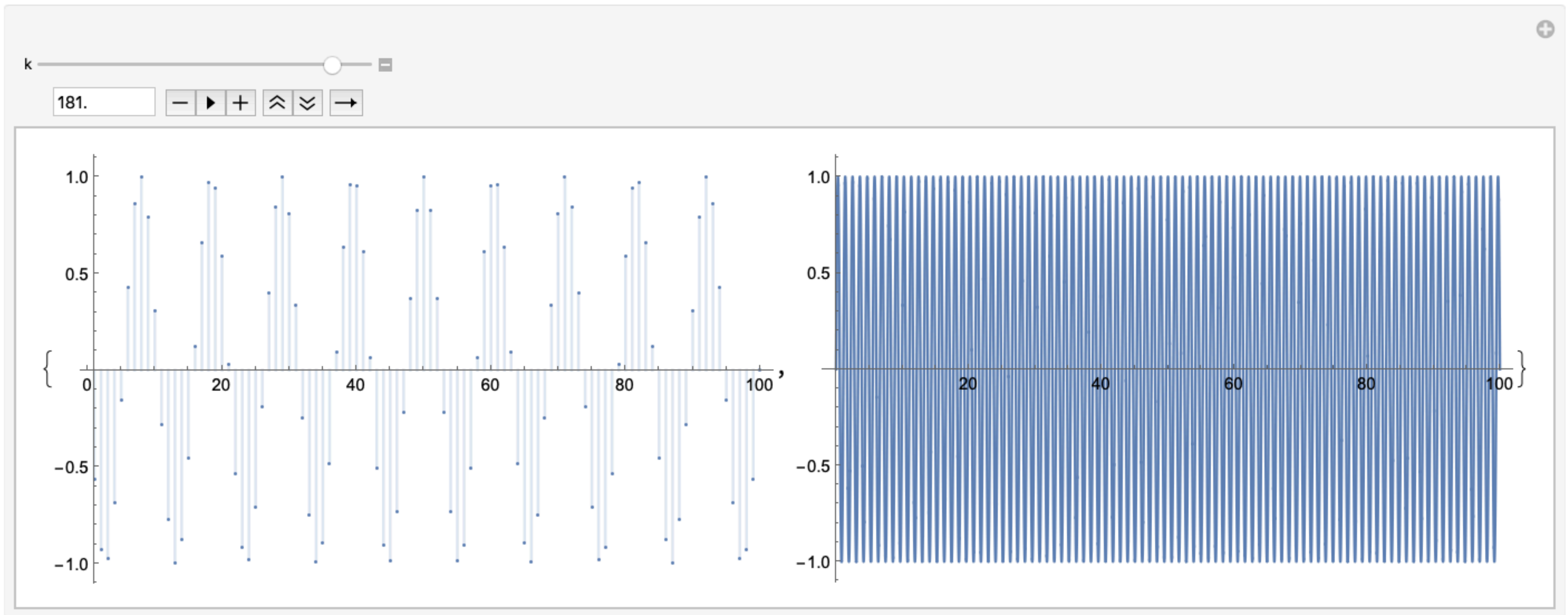
# Aliasing

# Aliasing



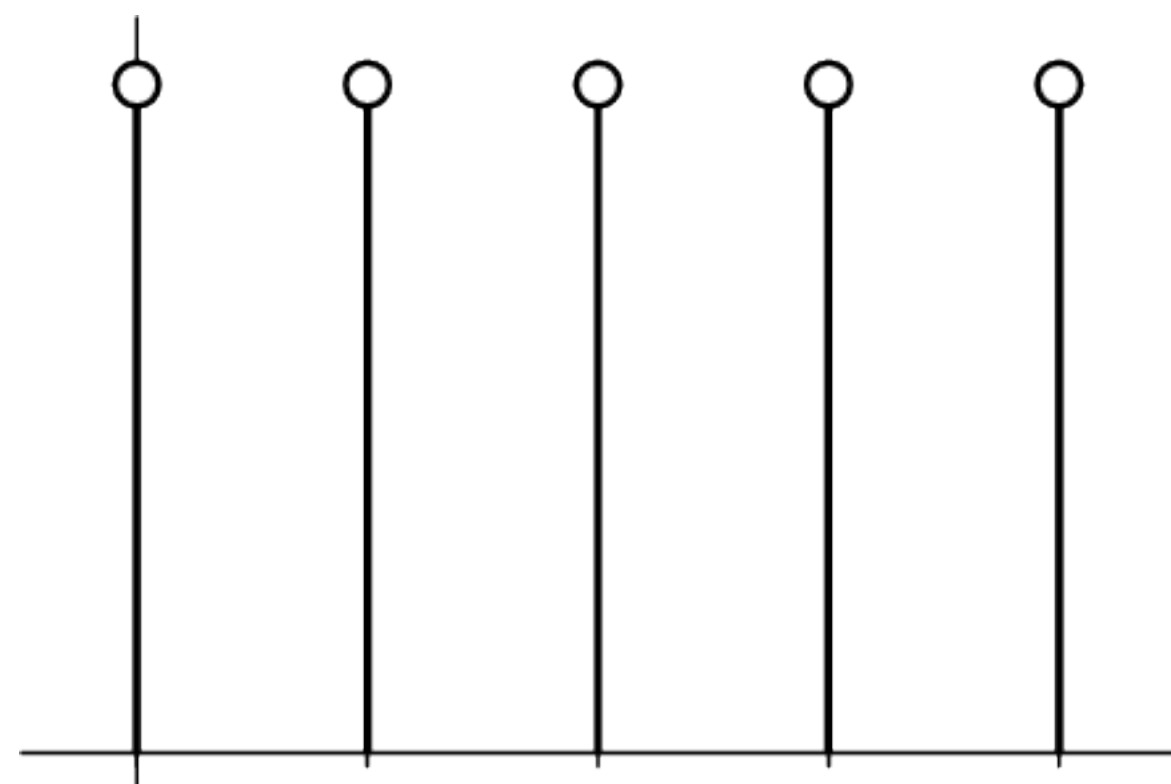
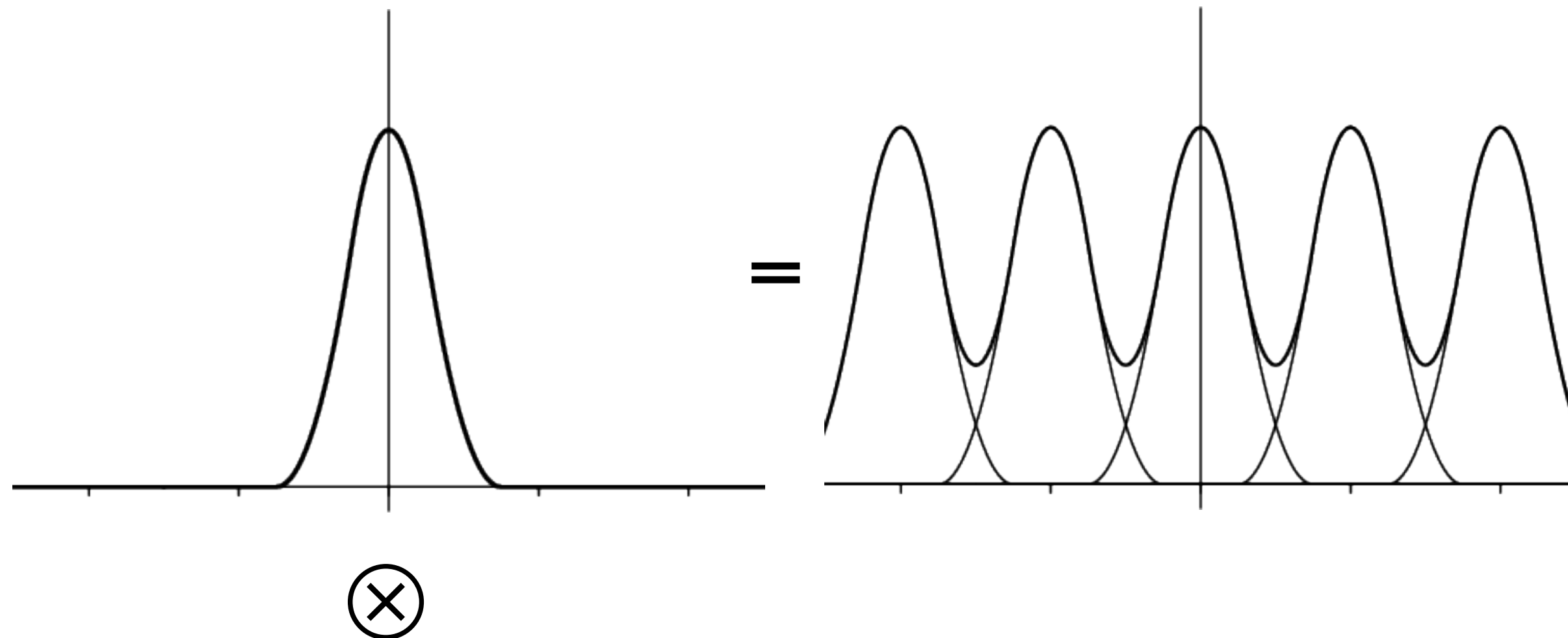


# Mathematica Demos (Aliasing)



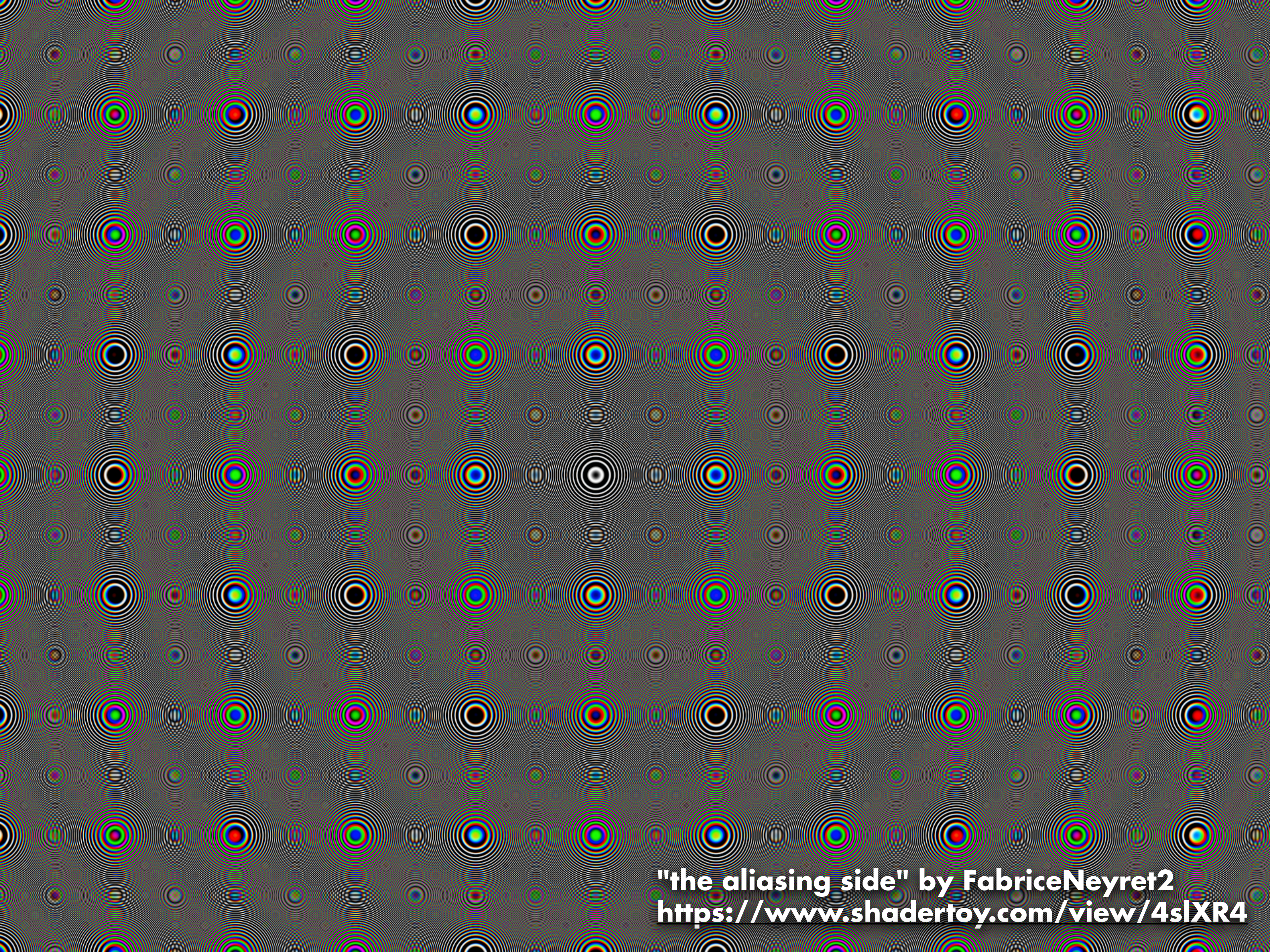
# Undersampling: Overlaps/Aliases

---



**Recall Shannon's  
Sampling Theorem**

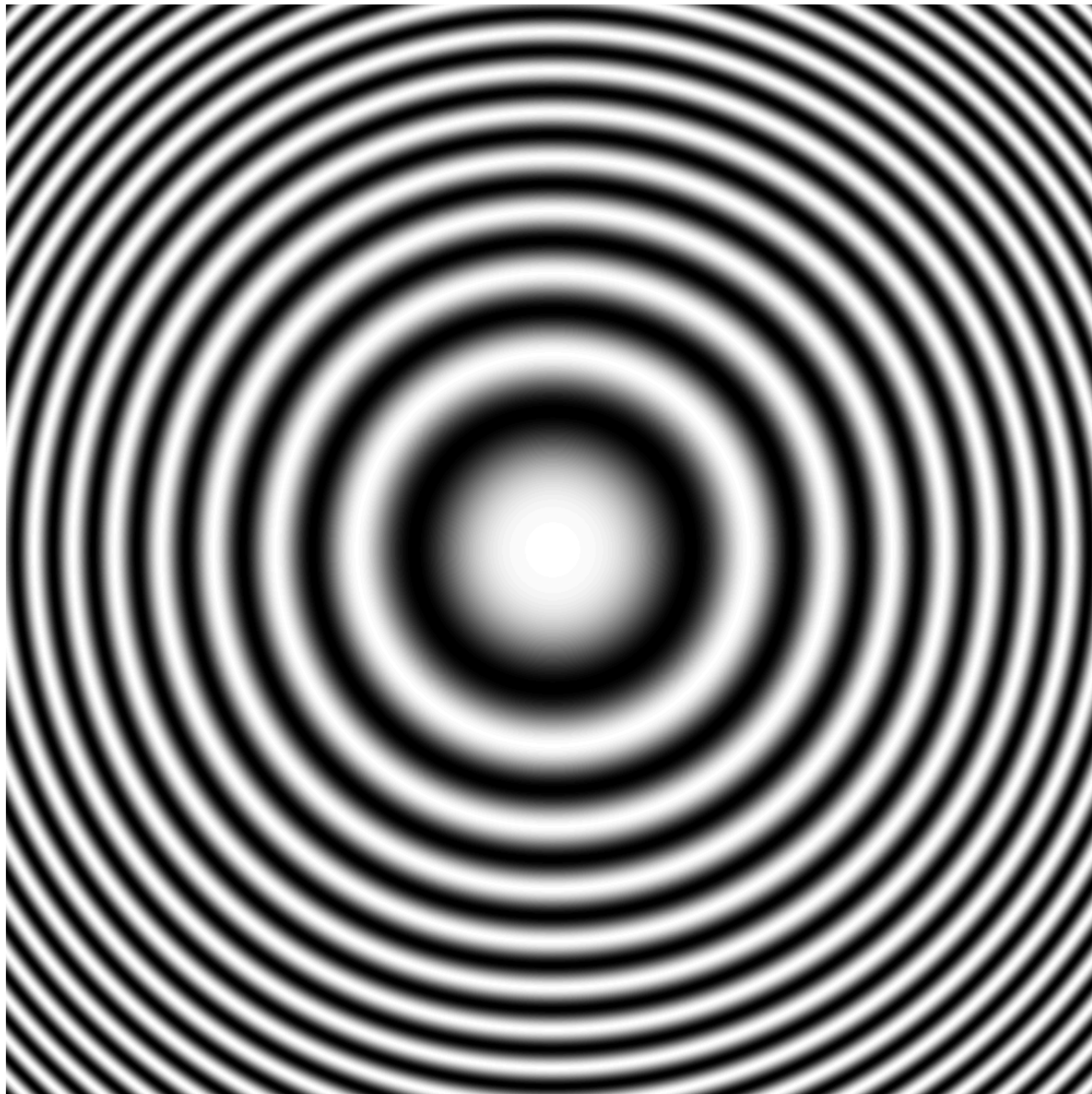




**"the aliasing side" by FabriceNeyret2**  
**<https://www.shadertoy.com/view/4sIXR4>**

# Sampling a "Zone Plate"

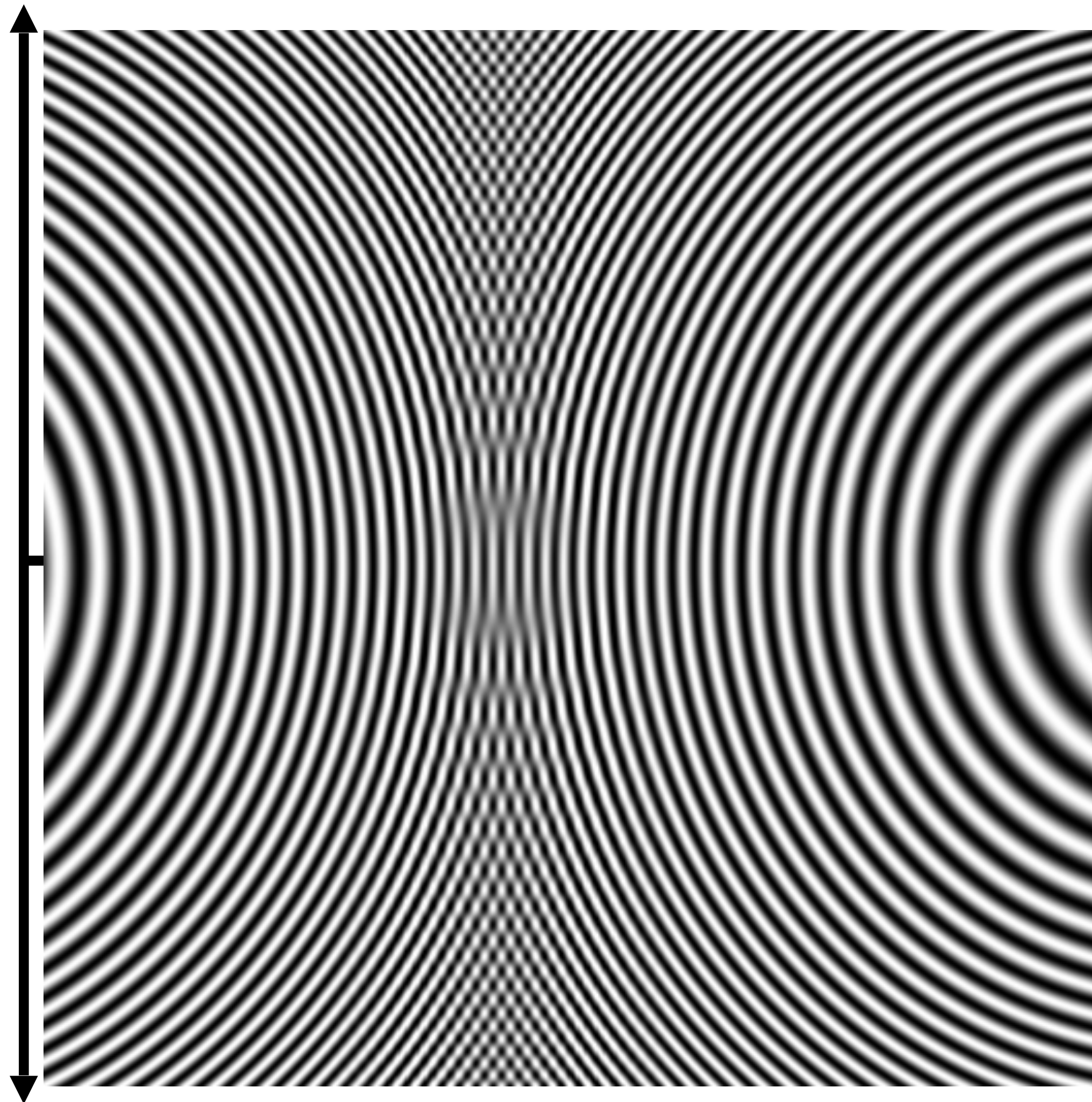
---



"A **zone plate** is a device used to focus light or other things exhibiting wave character. Unlike lenses or curved mirrors, zone plates use **diffraction** instead of refraction or reflection."

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zone\\_plate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zone_plate)

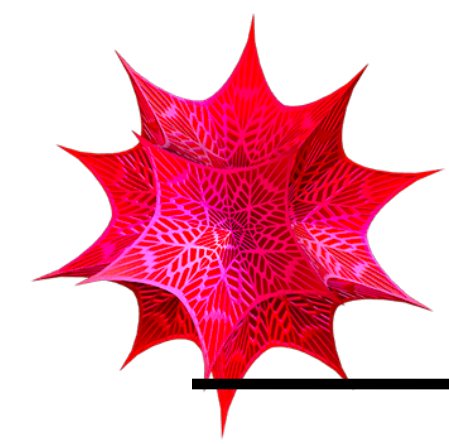
# Sampling a "Zone Plate"



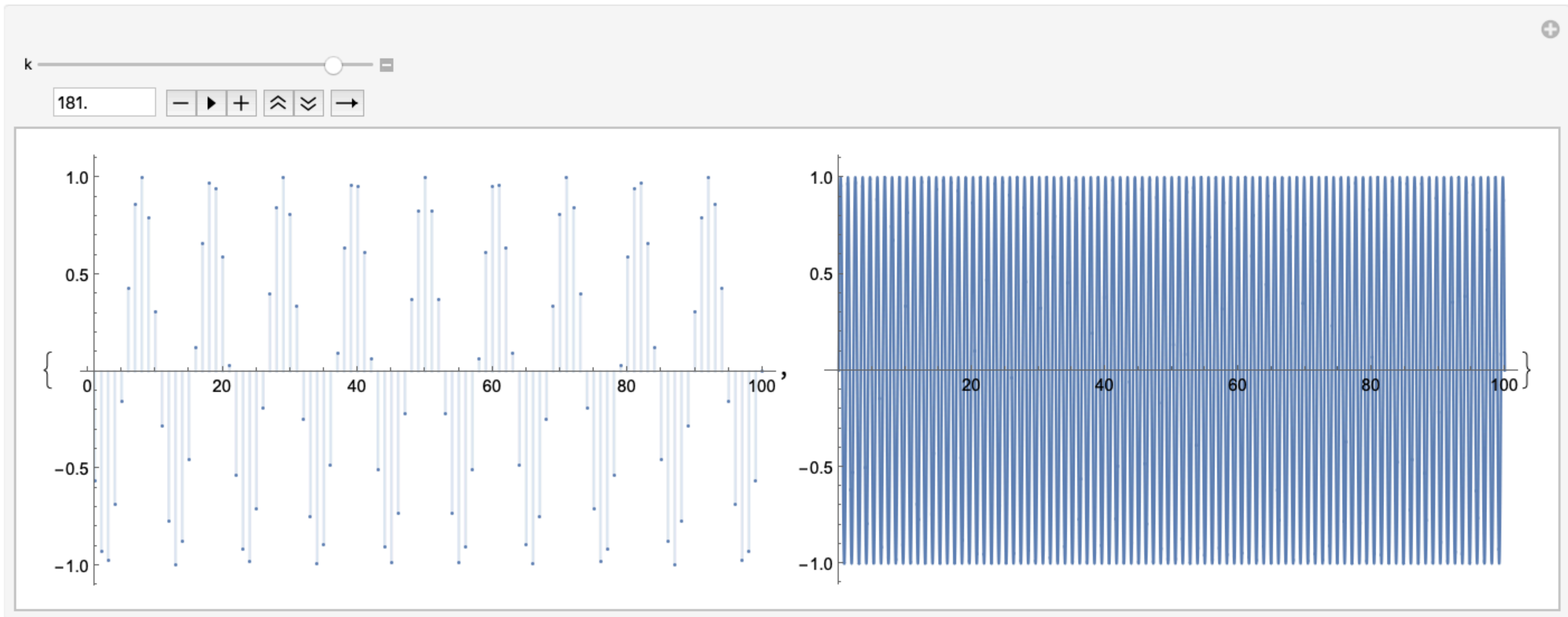
**Zone plate:**

$$\sin(x^2 + y^2)$$

**Left rings: signal**  
**Right rings: aliasing**



# Mathematica Demos (Aliasing)



# **Antialiasing**

**Preventing Aliasing**  
(pre-filtering and post-filtering)

# Aliasing and Filtering Concepts

---

**ALIASING** can occur in multiple places:

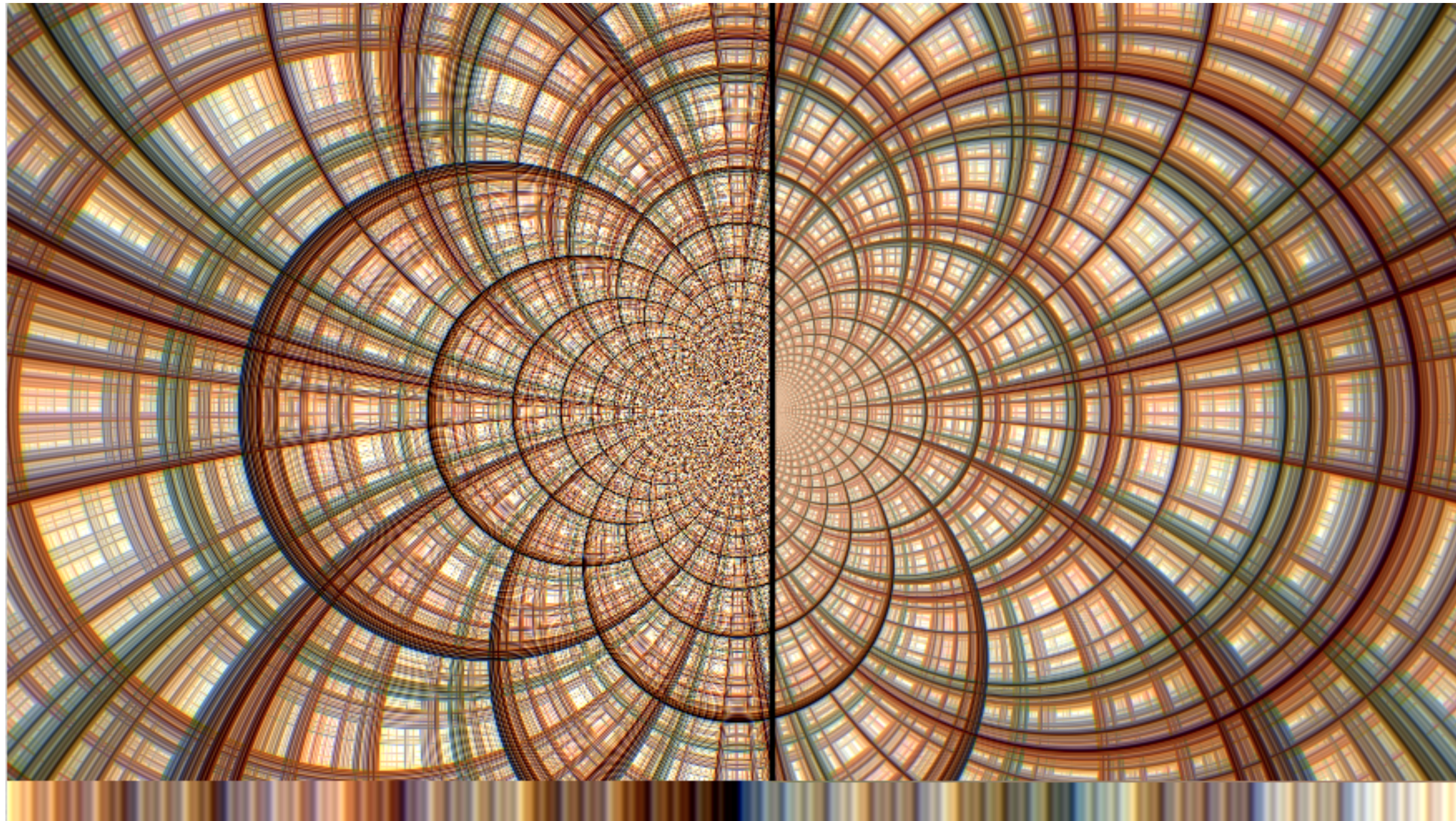
- **pre-aliasing:** during sampling
- **post-aliasing:** during reconstruction

**ANTI-ALIASING FILTERS** (try to) reduce artifacts:

- **pre-filtering:** exploit representation to reduce aliasing in samples *a priori*
  - E.g., Exact area sampling, analytical filtering, texture filtering, etc.
- **post-filtering:** use samples to reduce aliasing *a posteriori*
  - E.g., Supersampling

Useful analytical **pre-filtering** trick to anti-alias  $\sin(x)$  and  $\cos(x)$

# Band-limited Synthesis (Inigo Quilez)



**Trick:**

**Average  $\cos(x)$  over  $[x-h, x+h]$**

Simply replace

**$\cos(x) \rightarrow \cos(x) \operatorname{sinc}(h)$**

where  $h$  is the bin halfwidth.

**Note:**  $\operatorname{sinc}(h) \rightarrow 1$  as  $h \rightarrow 0$ .

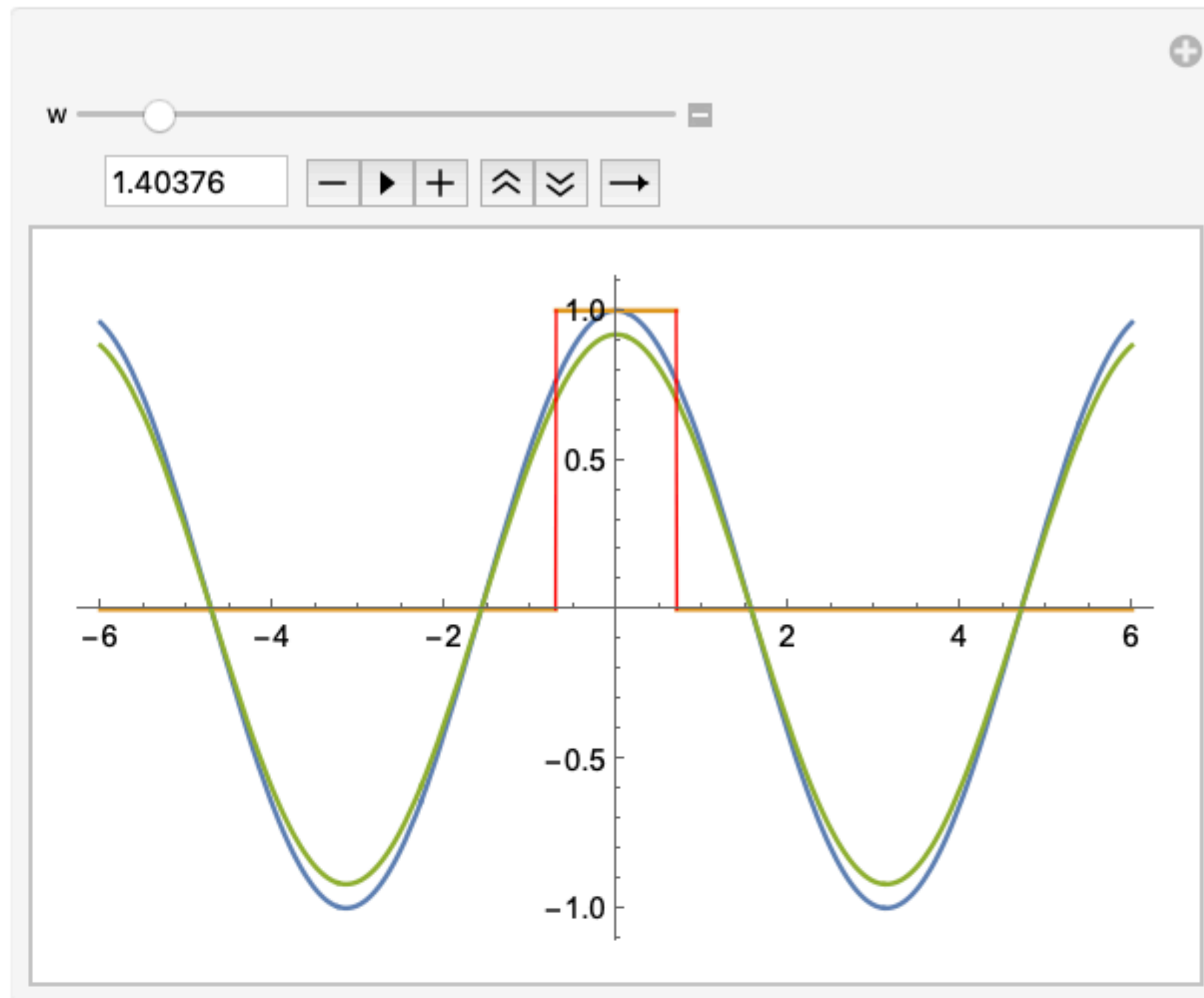
<https://www.shadertoy.com/view/WtScDt>

<https://iquilezles.org/articles/bandlimiting/>

$$\frac{1}{w} \int_{x-\frac{w}{2}}^{x+\frac{w}{2}} \cos(t) dt = \frac{1}{w} \left[ \sin\left(x + \frac{w}{2}\right) - \sin\left(x - \frac{w}{2}\right) \right] = \cos(x) \frac{\sin\left(\frac{w}{2}\right)}{\frac{w}{2}} = \cos(x) \operatorname{sinc}\left(\frac{w}{2\pi}\right)$$

# Mathematica Demo

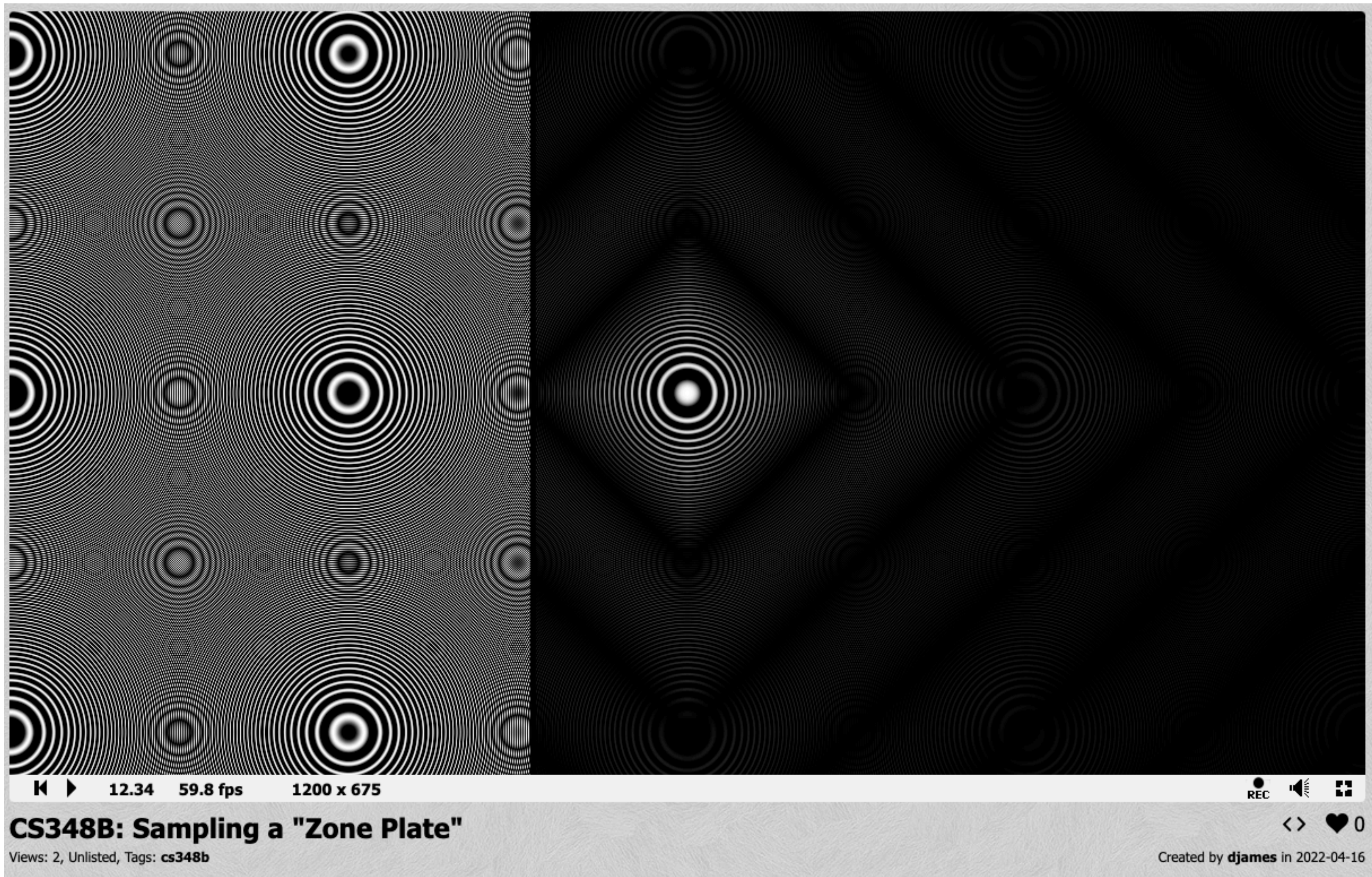
## Band-limited Synthesis



$$\frac{1}{w} \int_{x-\frac{w}{2}}^{x+\frac{w}{2}} \cos(t) dt = \frac{1}{w} \left[ \sin\left(x + \frac{w}{2}\right) - \sin\left(x - \frac{w}{2}\right) \right] = \cos(x) \frac{\sin\left(\frac{w}{2}\right)}{\frac{w}{2}} = \cos(x) \operatorname{sinc}\left(\frac{w}{2\pi}\right)$$



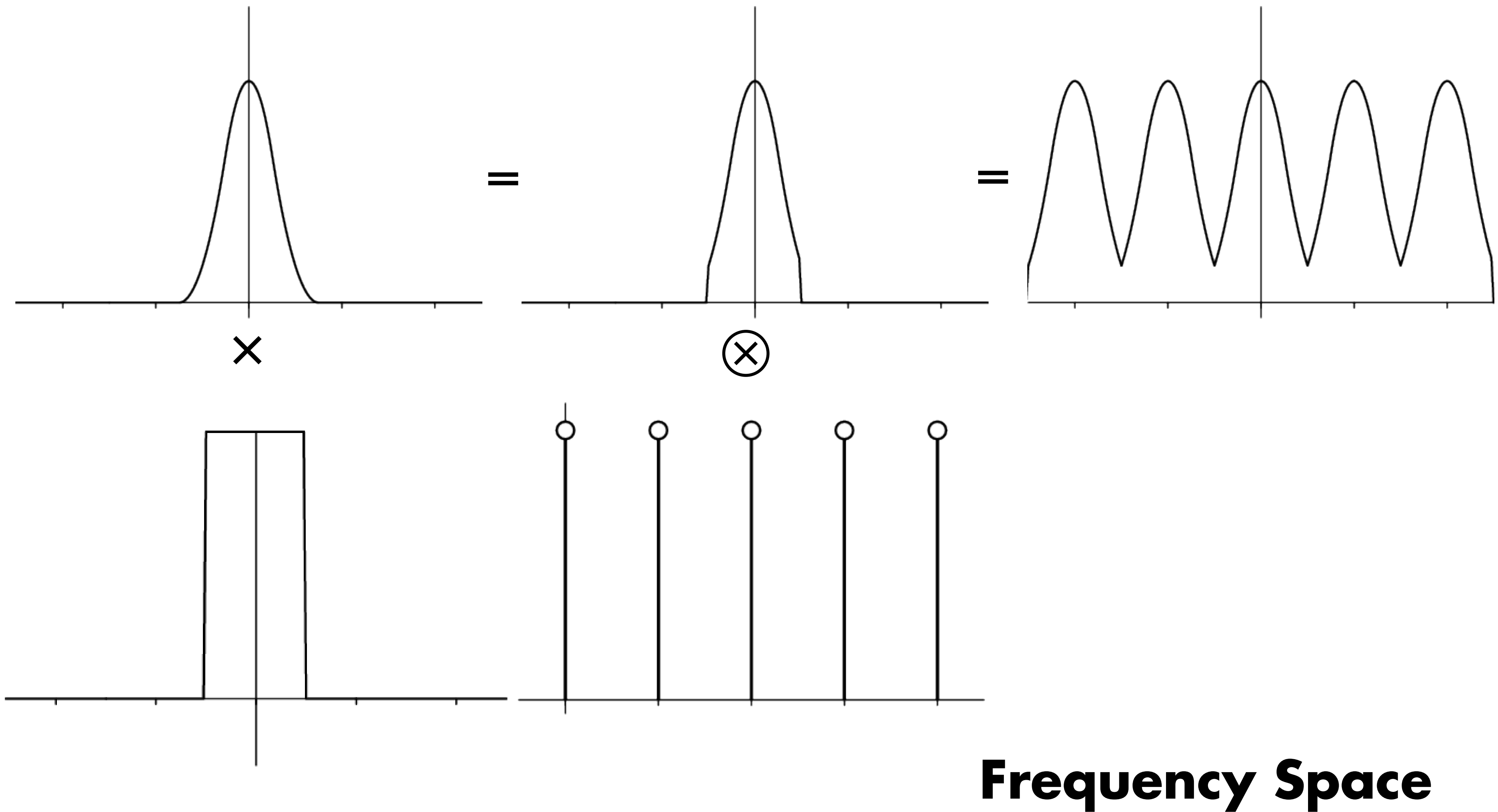
# Revisited: "Sampling a Zone Plate"



<https://www.shadertoy.com/view/7ljczt>

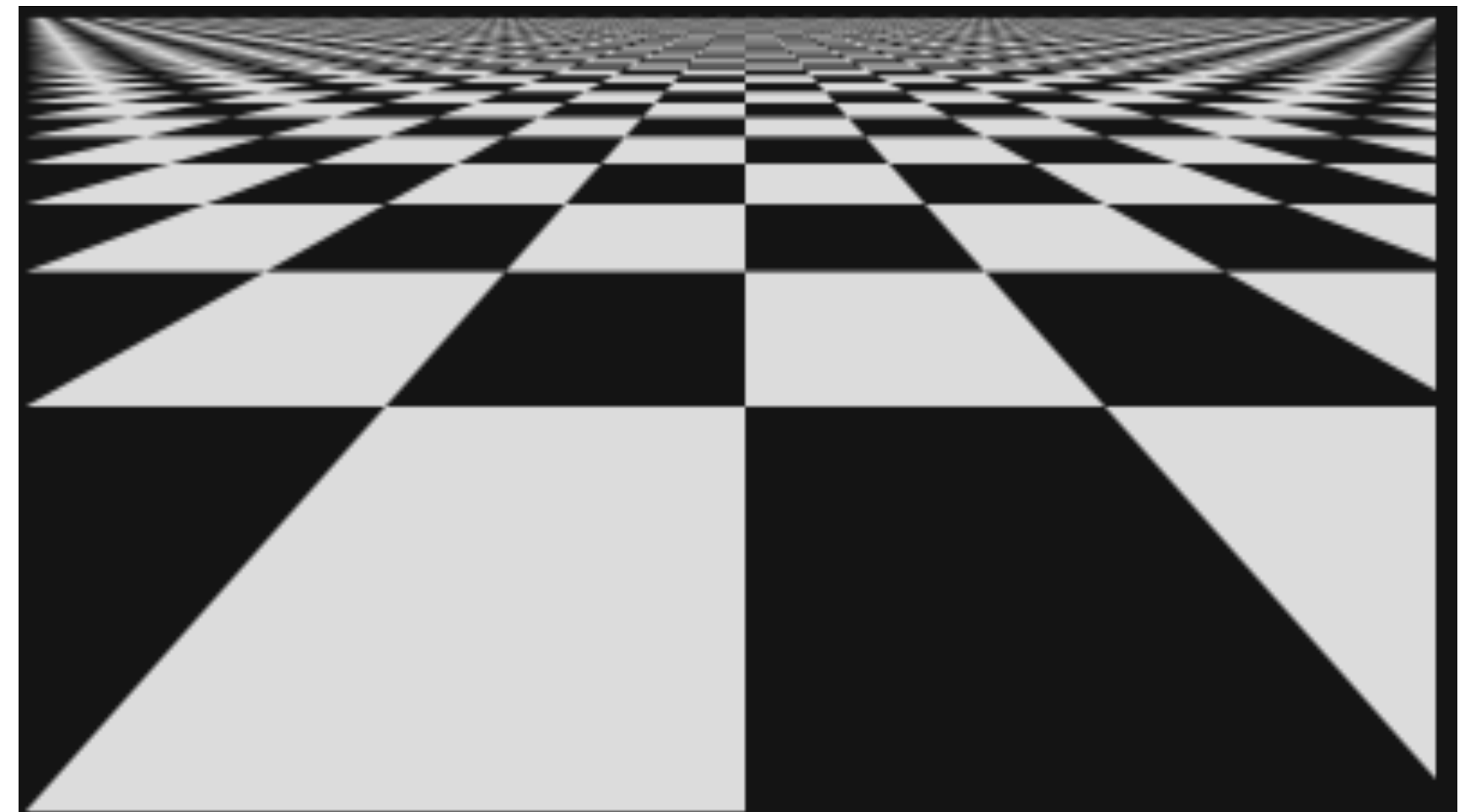
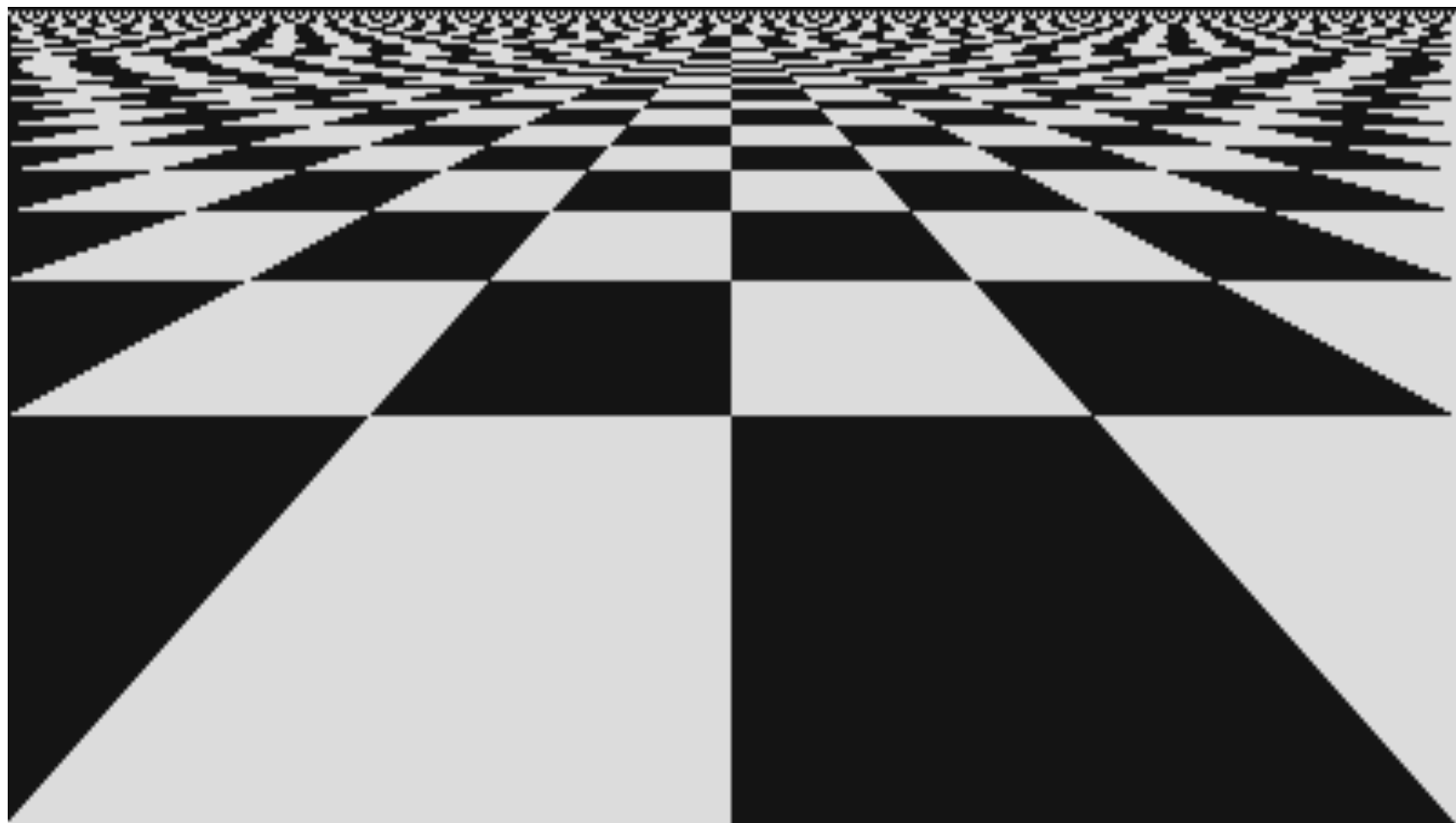
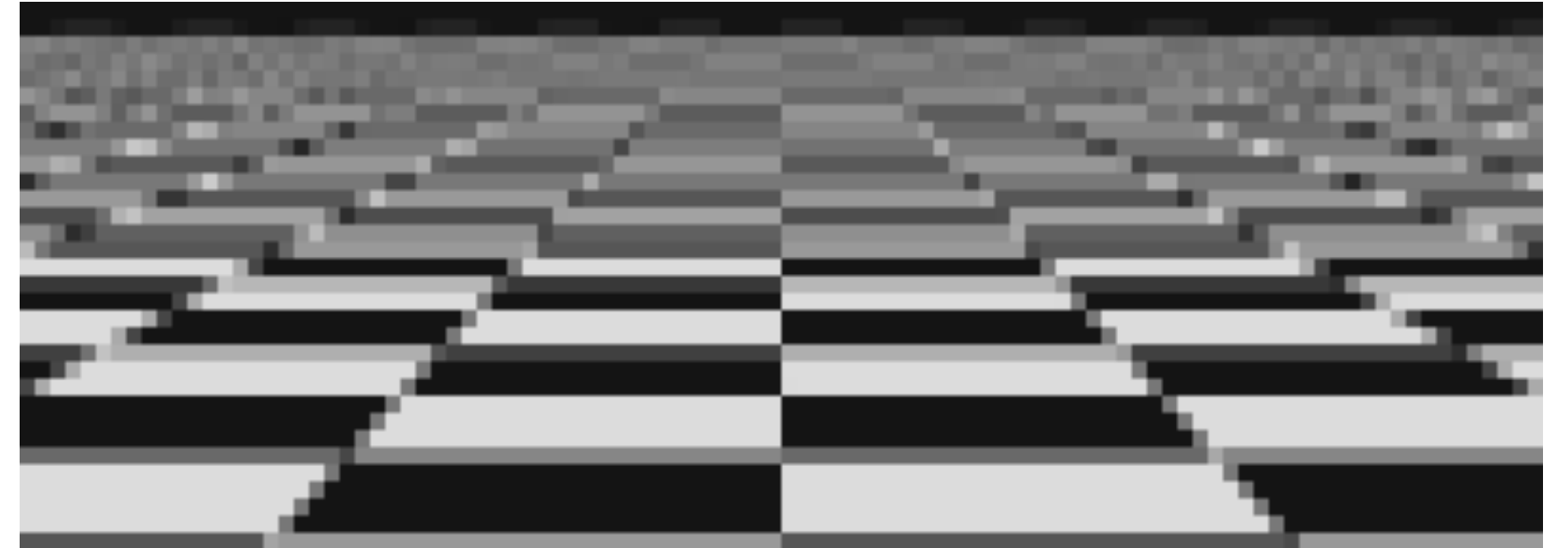
# Antialiasing by Pre-filtering

---



# Point vs. Area Sampling

---



**Point**

**Exact Area**

**Checkerboard sequence by Tom Duff**

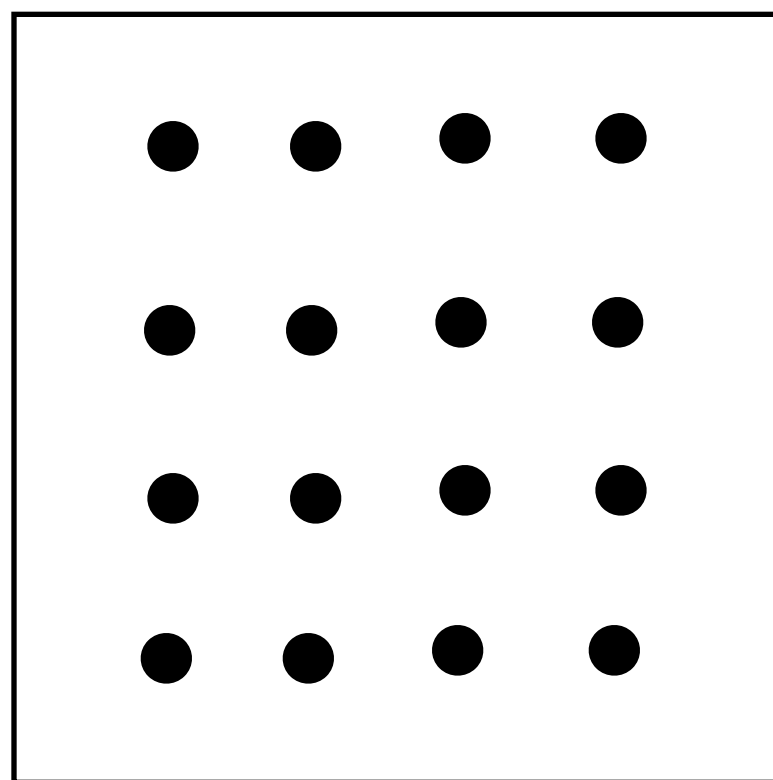
Simple post-filtering

# Uniform Supersampling

---

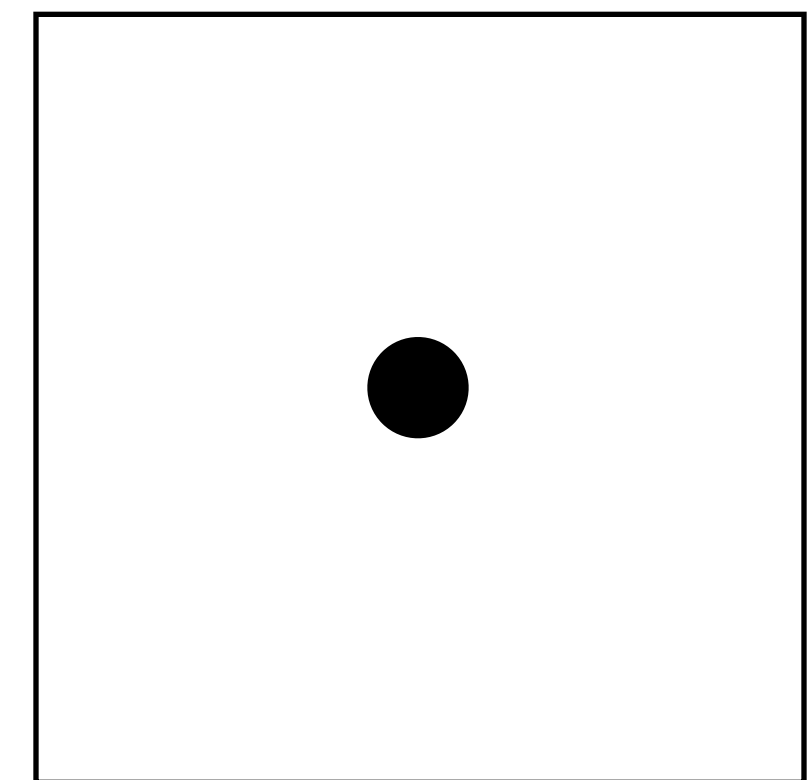
Take  $n$  samples

Average them together (filter = weighted average)



**Samples**

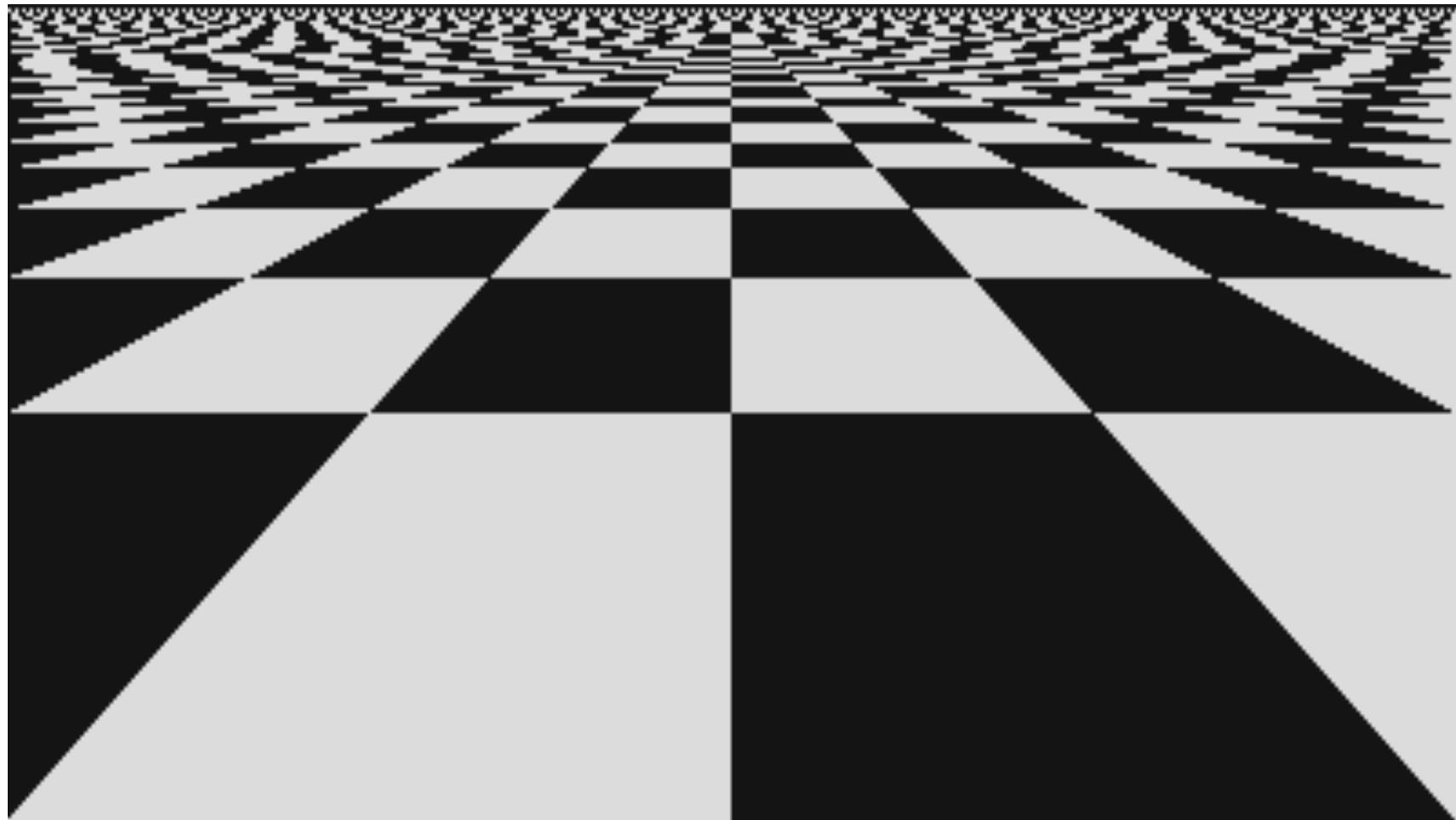
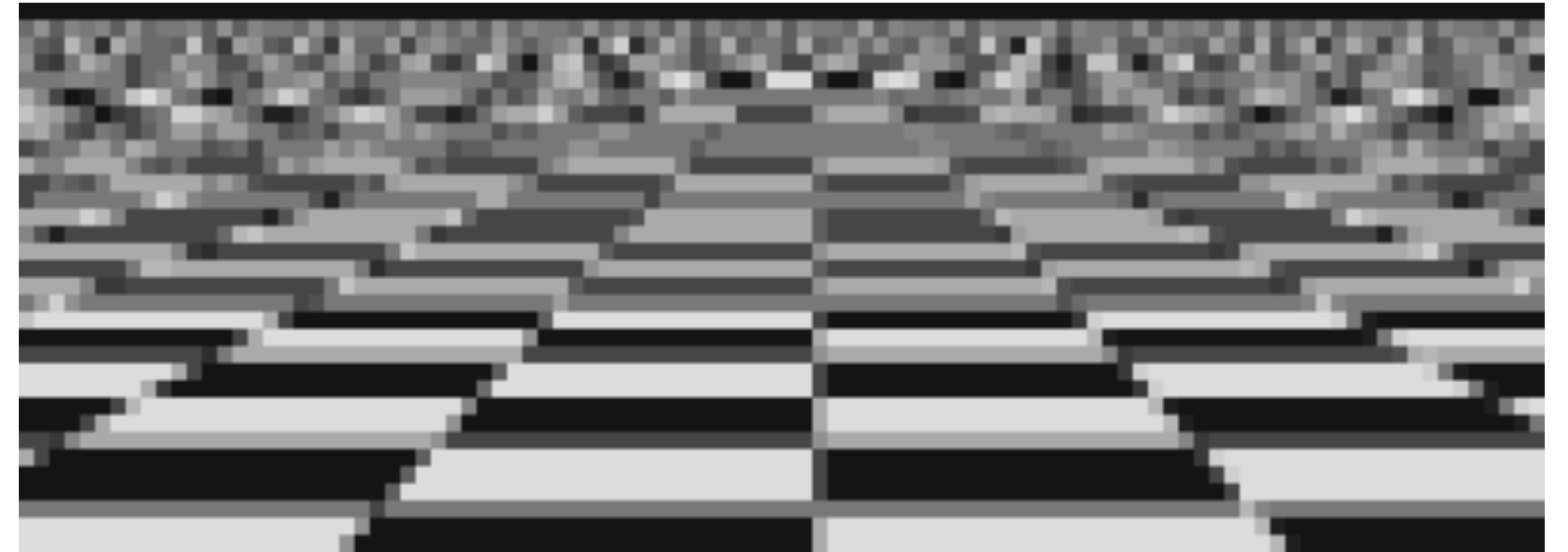
$$Pixel = \sum_s w_s \cdot Sample_s$$



**Pixel**

# Point vs. Supersampled

---



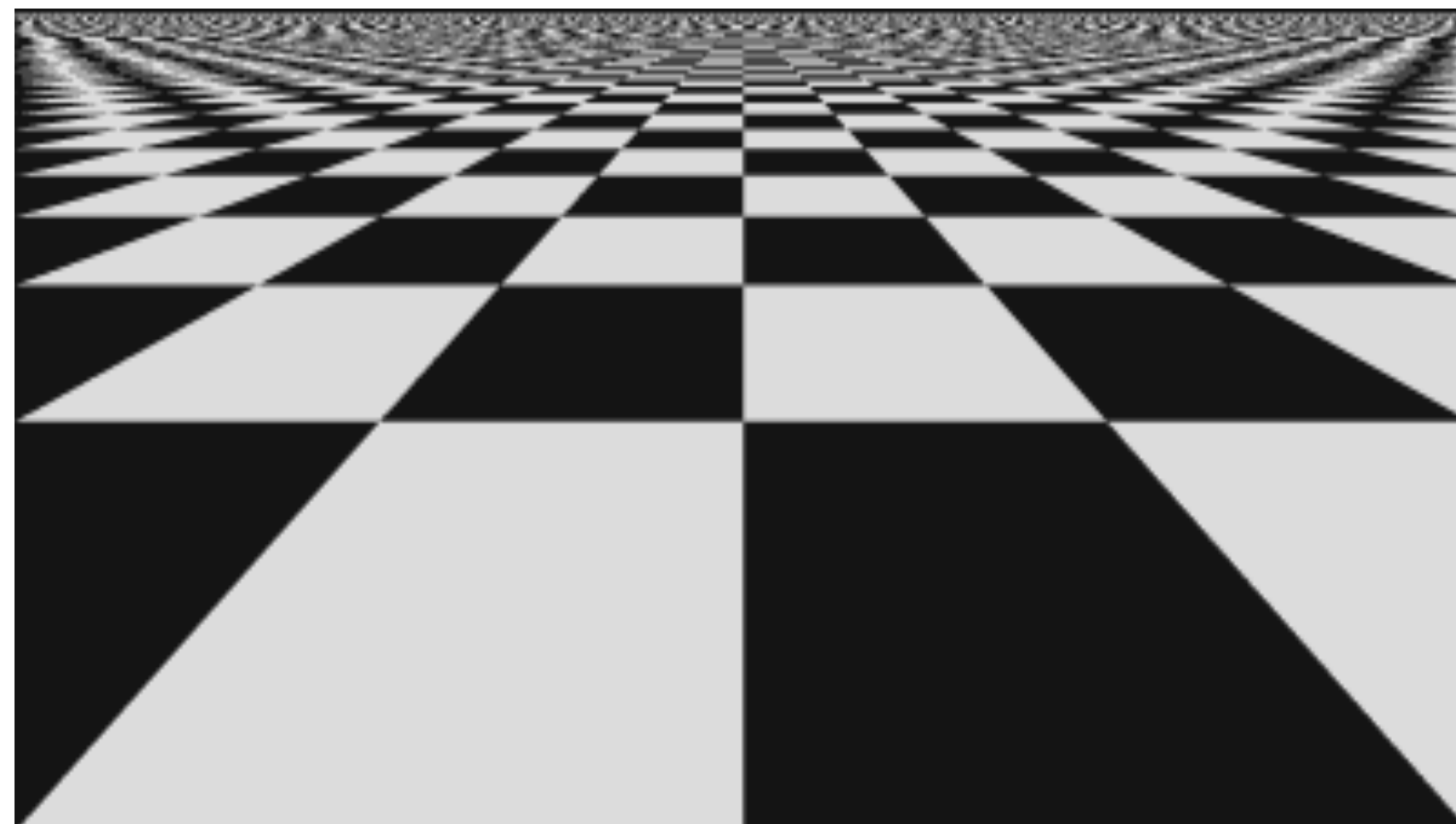
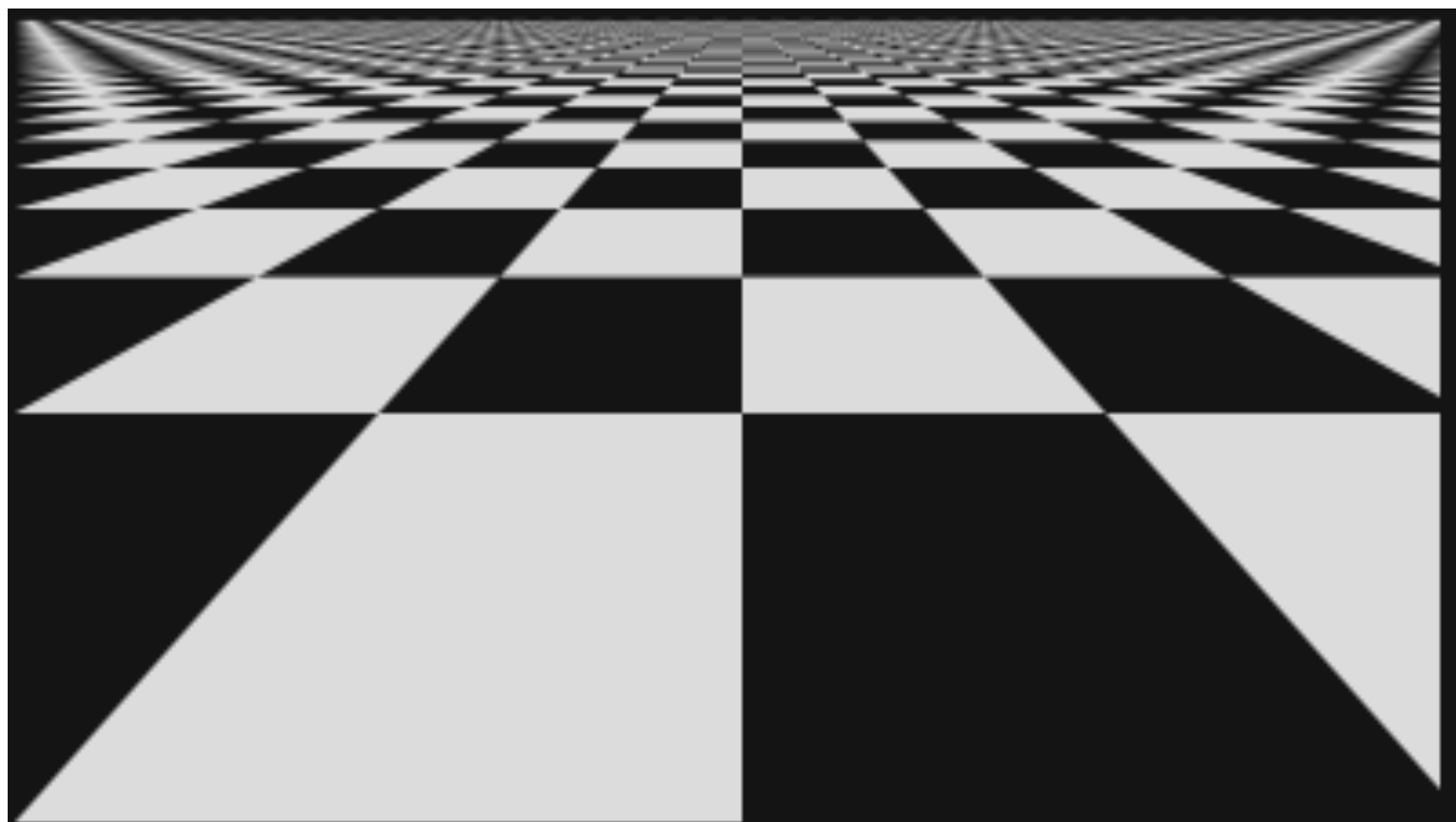
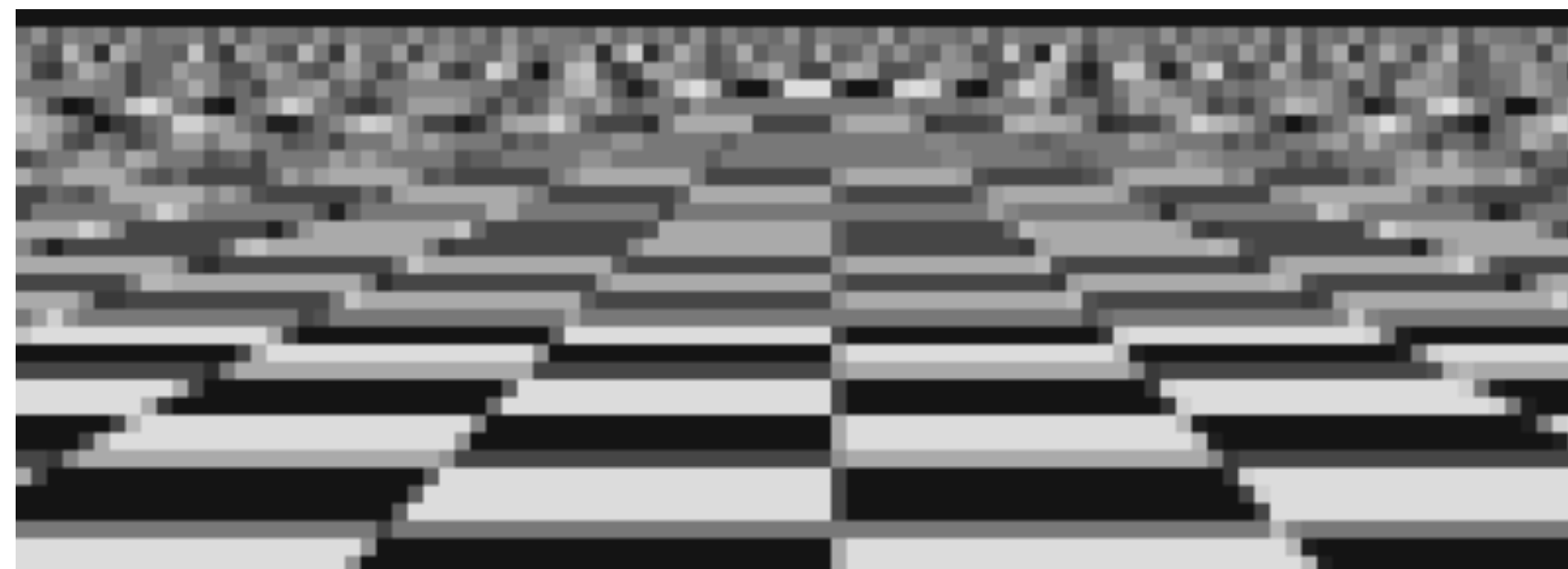
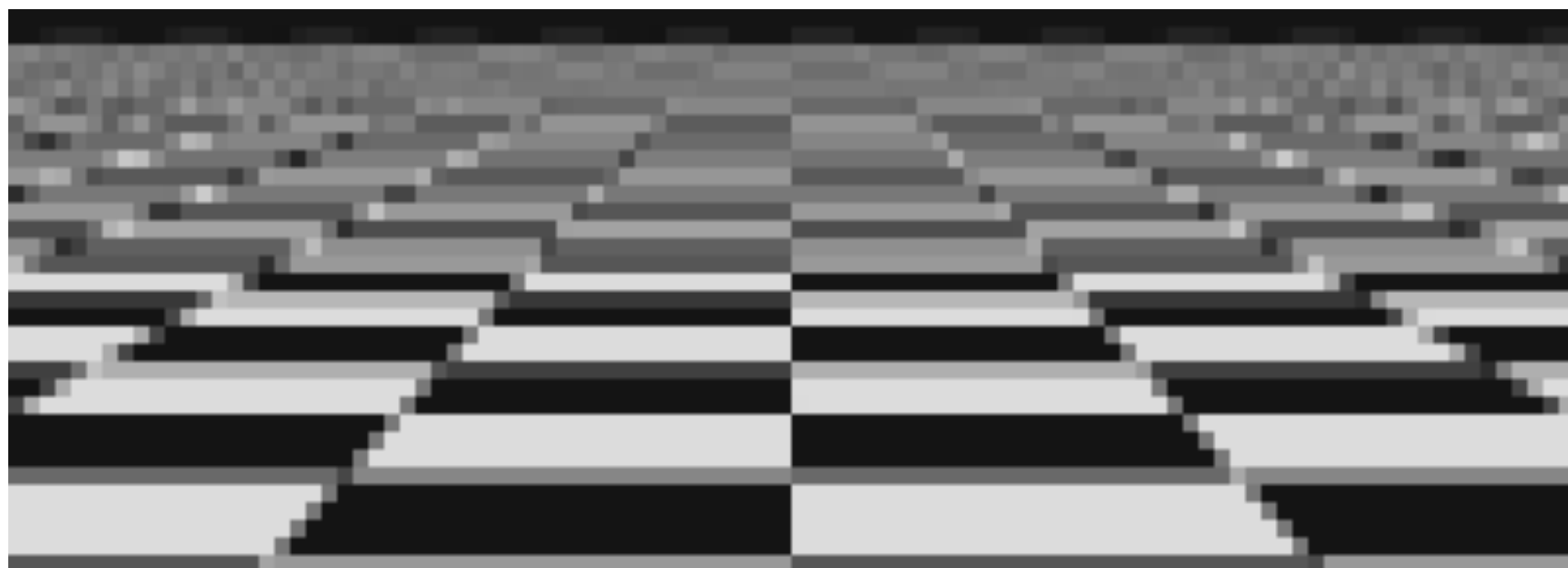
**Point**

**4x4 Uniform**

**Fewer aliases, but still present**

# Area vs. Supersampled

---



**Exact Area**

**4x4 Uniform**

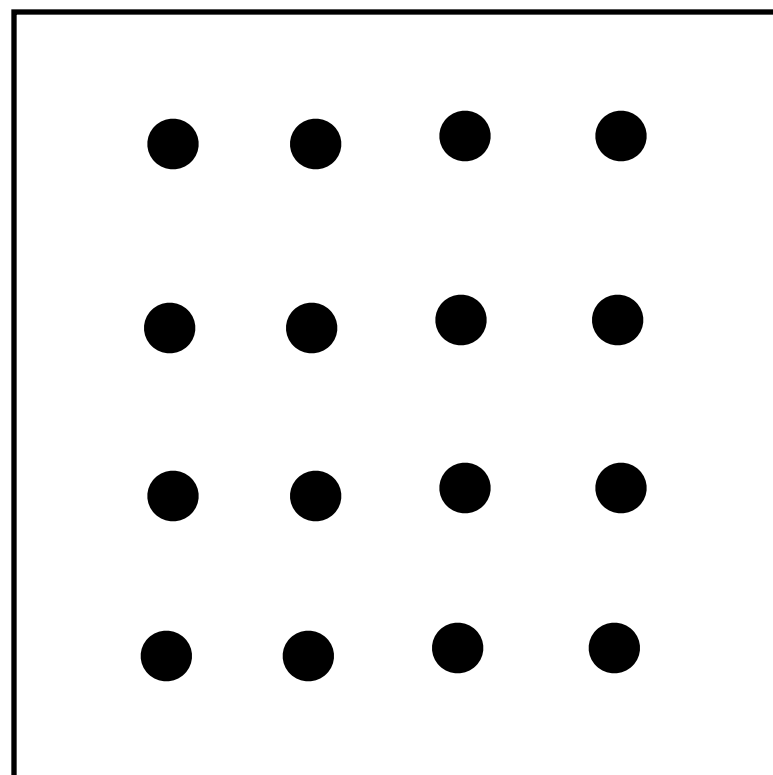
**Fewer aliases, but still present**

# Uniform Supersampling

---

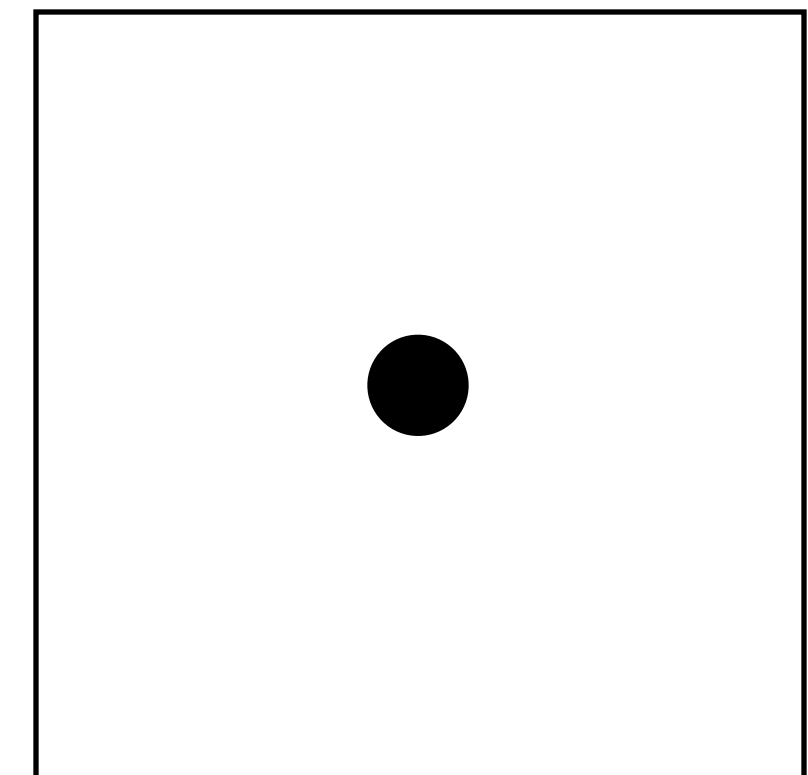
**Increasing the number of samples moves each copy of the spectra further apart, thus there is less overlap**

**This reduces, but does not eliminate, aliasing**



**Samples**

$$Pixel = \sum_s w_s \cdot Sample_s$$



**Pixel**

# Blue Noise - Motivation

- Yellott observed that monkey retina exhibits *blue noise* pattern

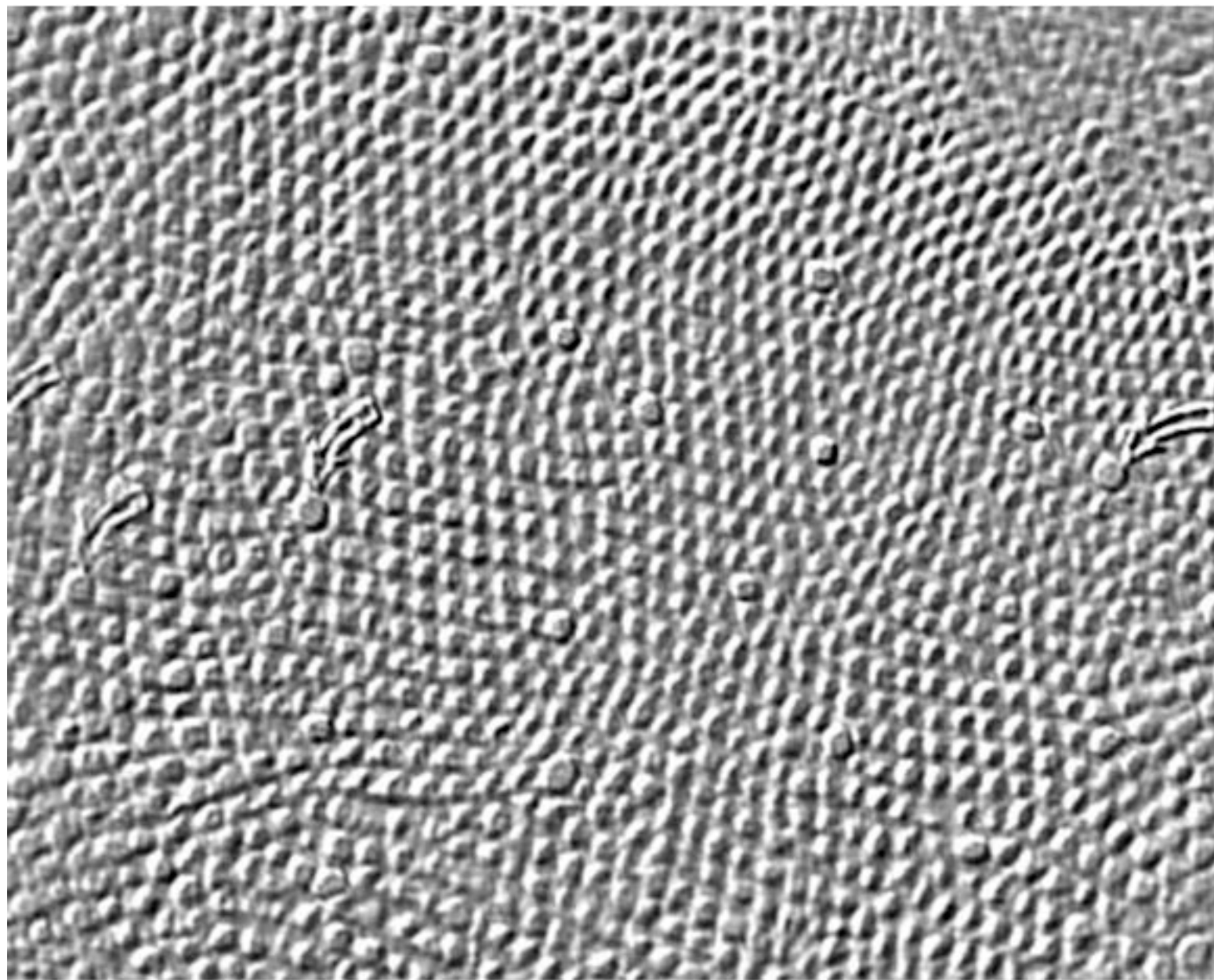
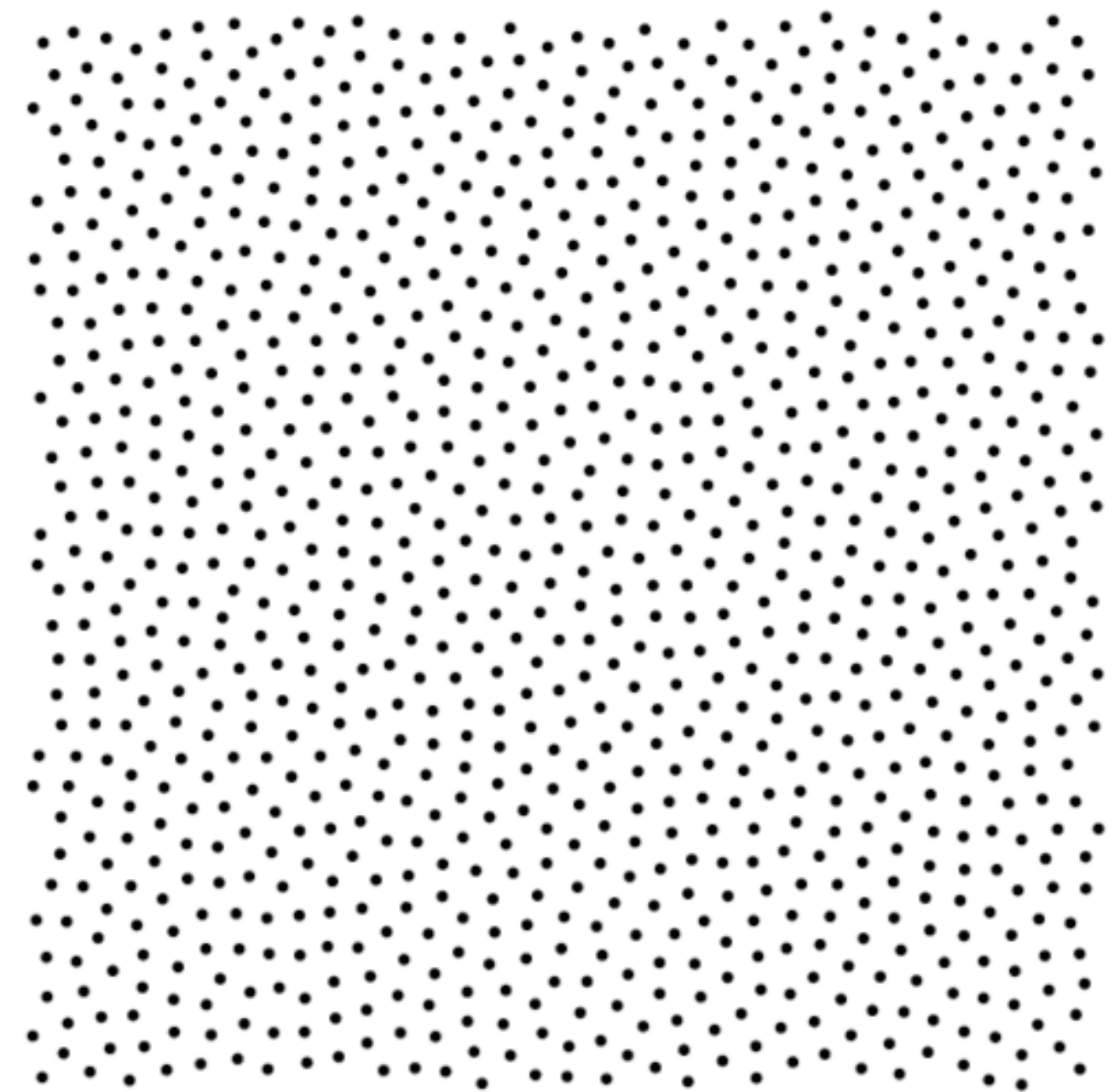


Fig. 13. Tangential section through the human fovea.  
Larger cones (arrows) are blue cones. From Ahnelt et al. 1987.



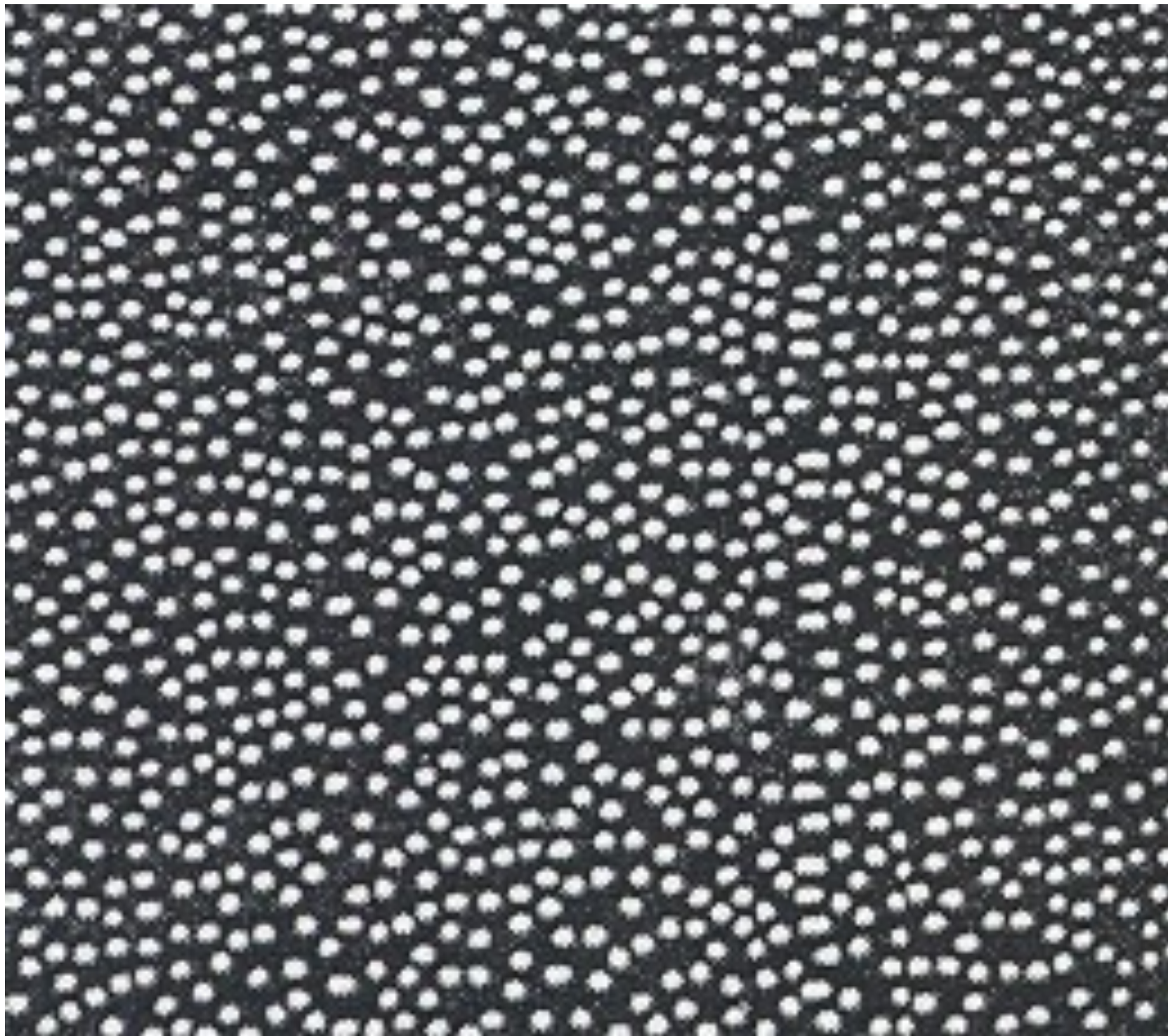
**“blue noise”**

- No obvious preferred directions (anisotropic)
- What about frequencies?



# Distribution of Extrafoveal Cones

---



**Monkey eye cone distribution**



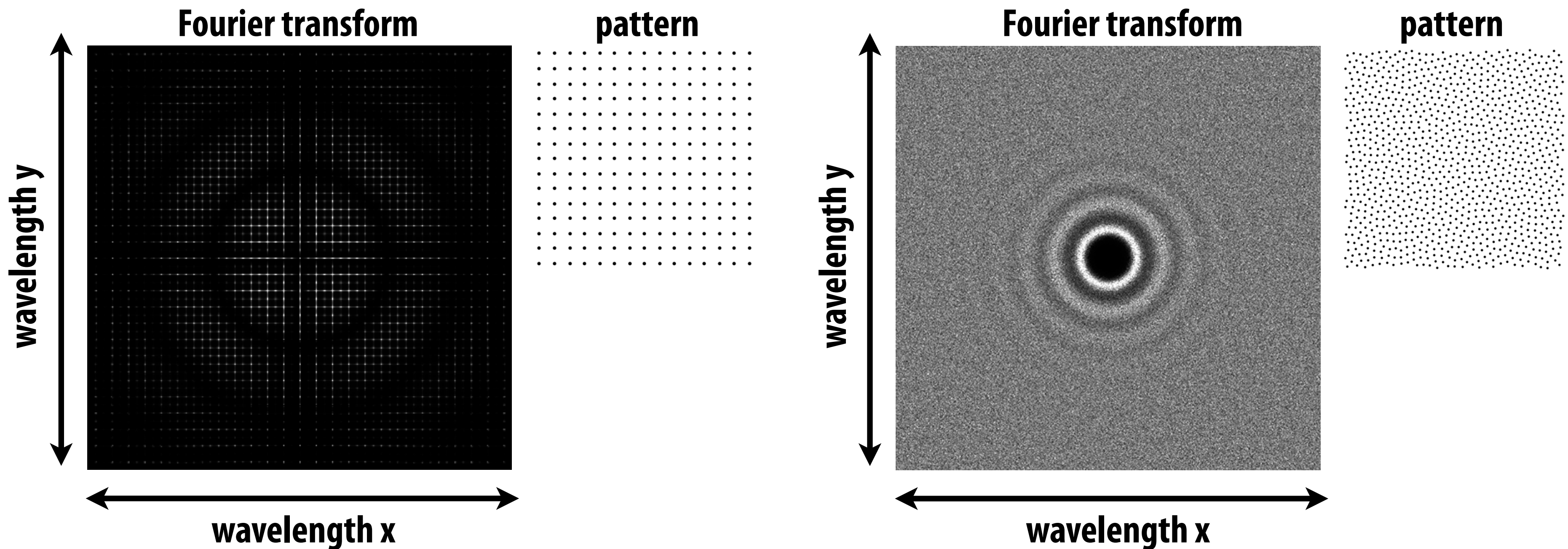
**Fourier transform**

## **Yellott theory (1983)**

- **Aliases replaced by high-freq noise**
- **Visual system less sensitive to high-freq noise**

# Blue Noise - Fourier Transform

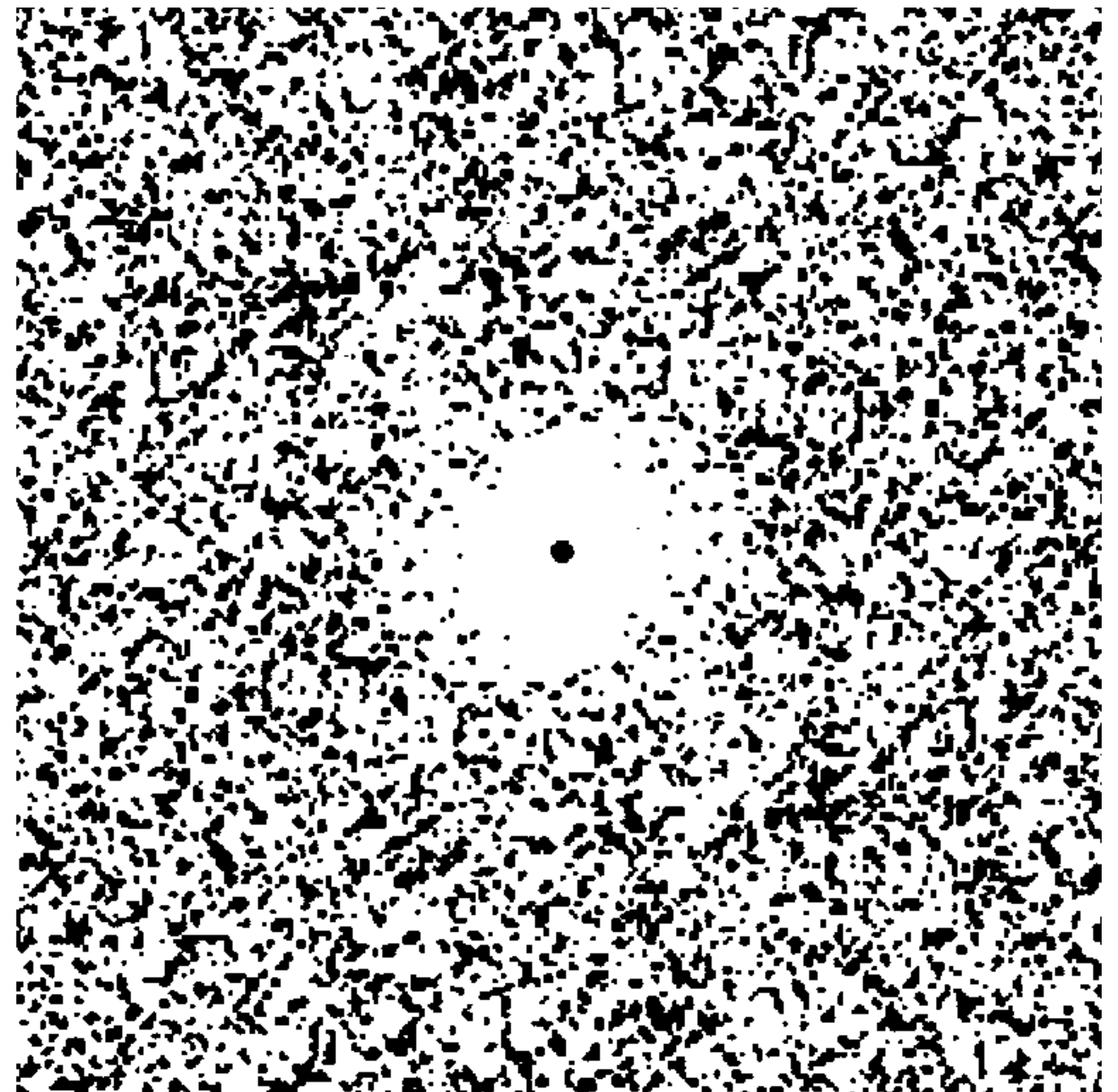
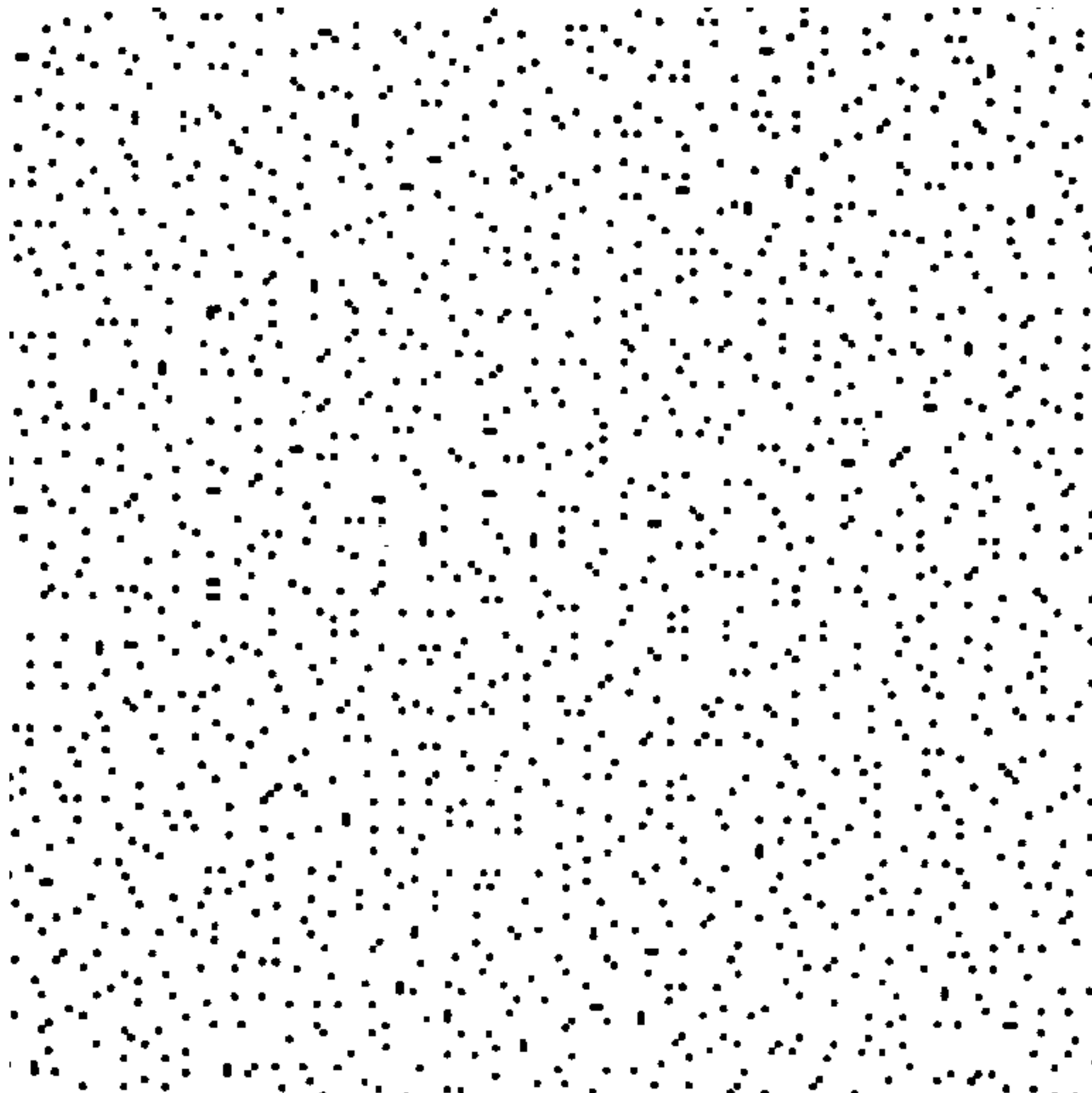
- Can analyze quality of a sample pattern in *Fourier domain*



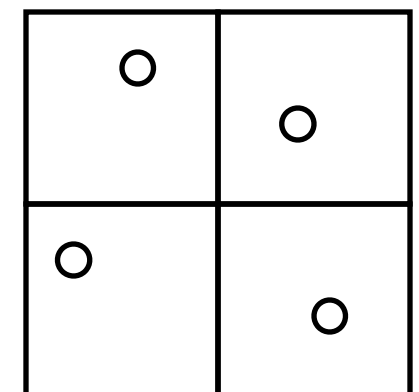
- Regular pattern has “spikes” at regular intervals
- Blue noise is spread evenly over higher frequencies in all directions, with less at low frequencies
- bright center “ring” corresponds to sample spacing

# Jittered Sampling

---

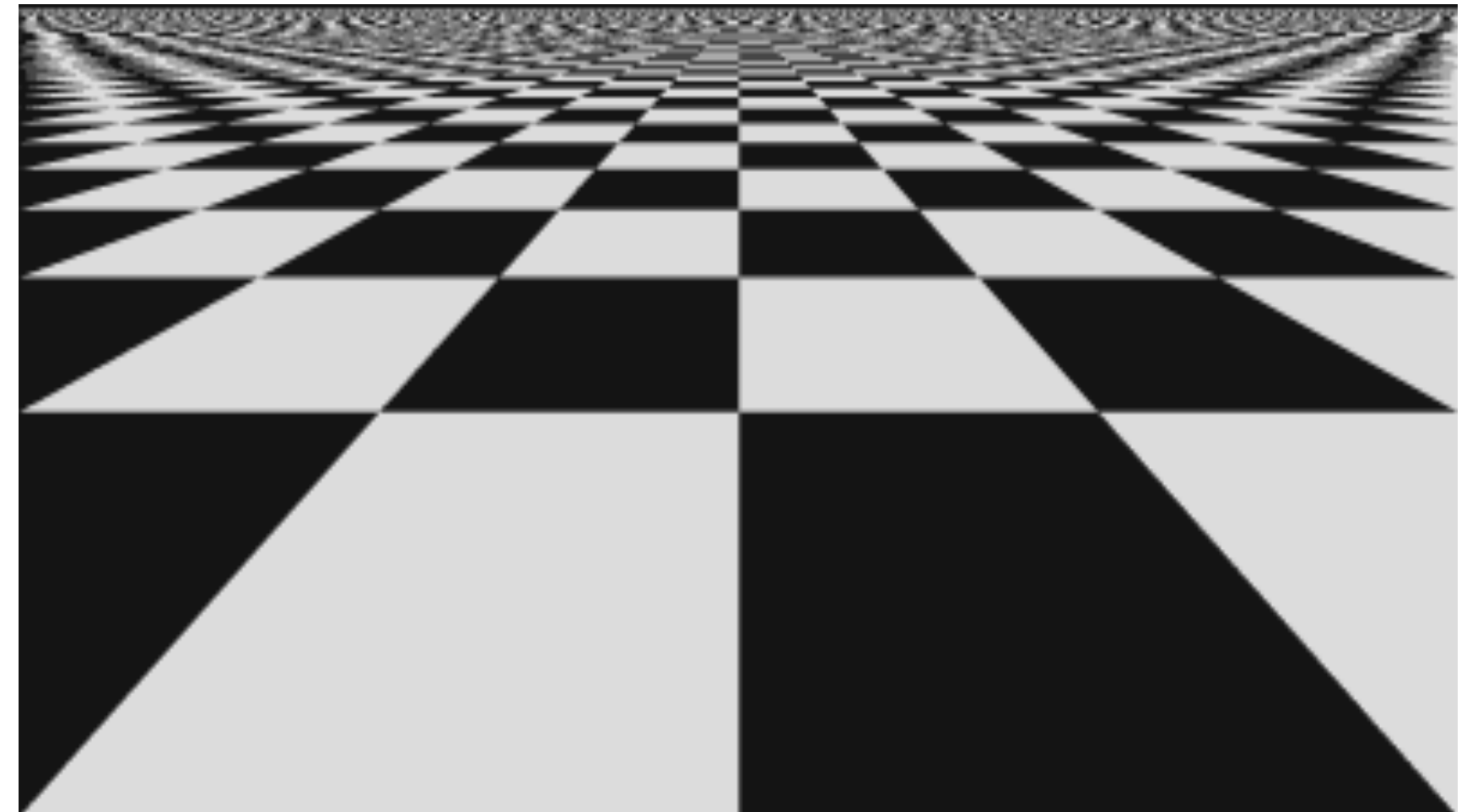
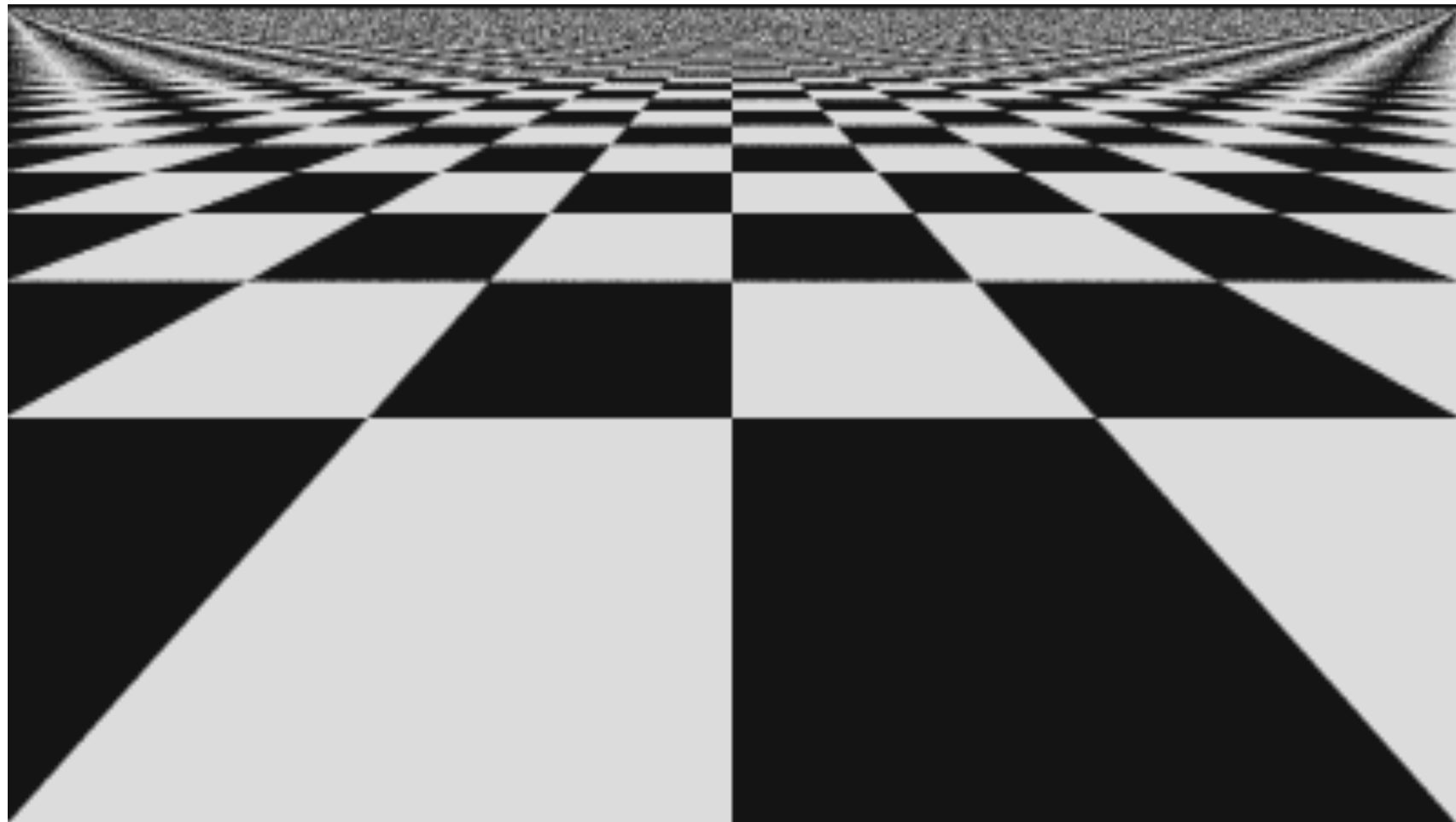
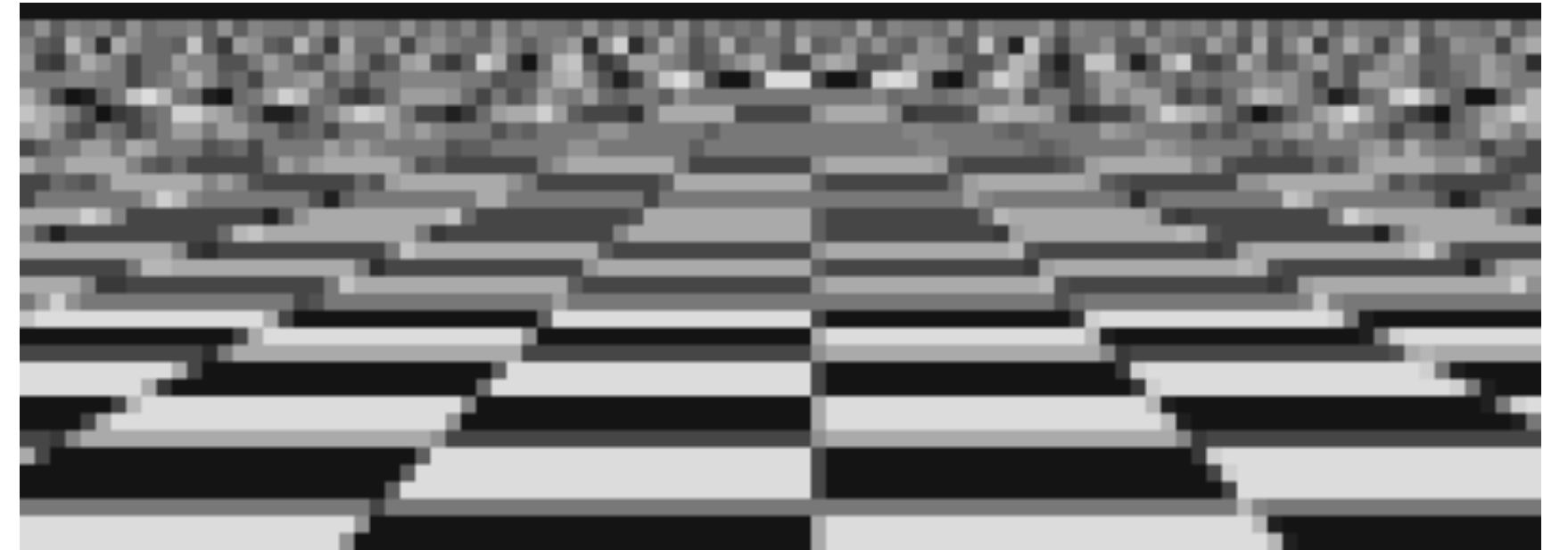
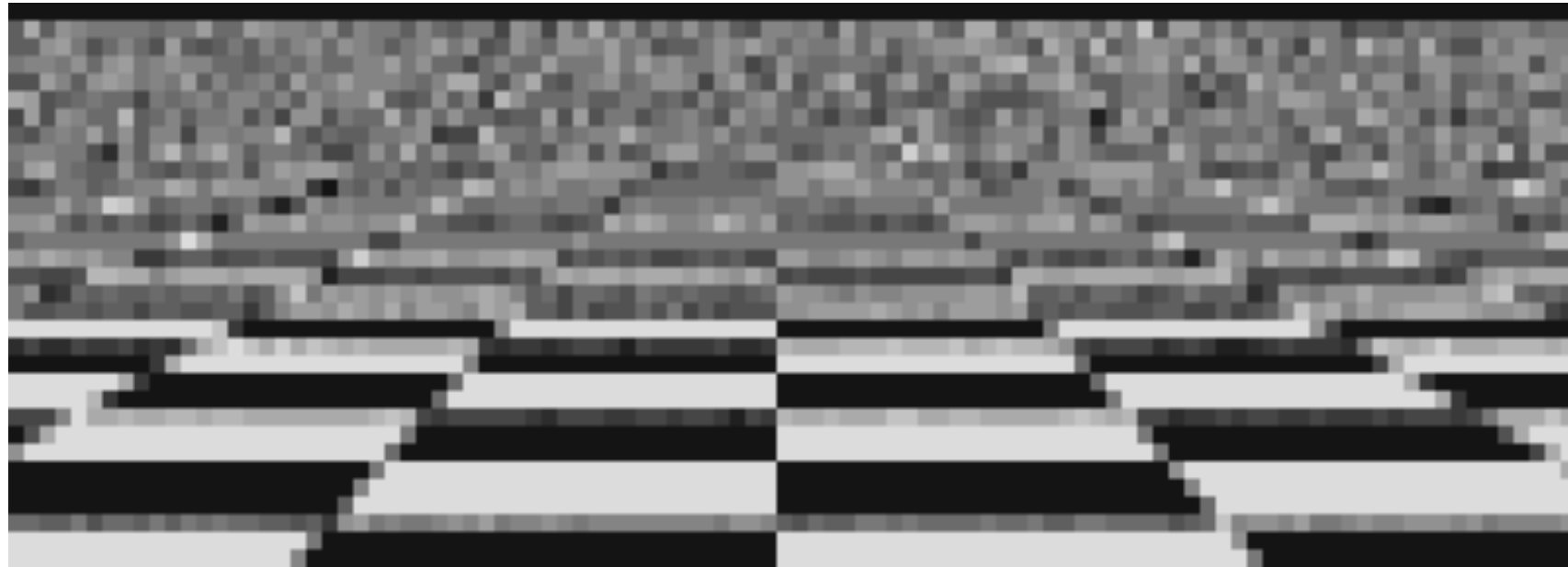


**Add uniform random jitter to each sample**



# Jittered vs. Uniform Supersampling

---



**4x4 Jittered Sampling**

**4x4 Uniform**

# Theory: Analysis of Jitter

---

## Non-uniform sampling

$$s(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{n=\infty} \delta(x - x_n)$$

$$x_n = nT + j_n$$

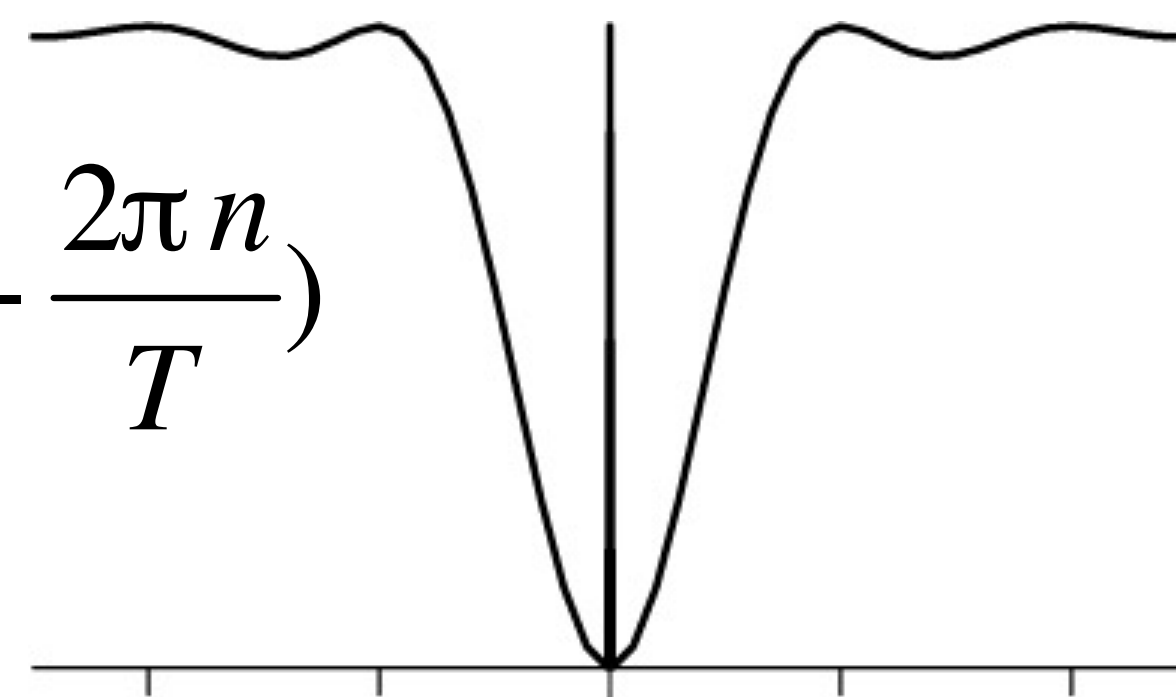
## Jittered sampling

$$j_n \sim j(x)$$

$$j(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & |x| \leq 1/2 \\ 0 & |x| > 1/2 \end{cases}$$

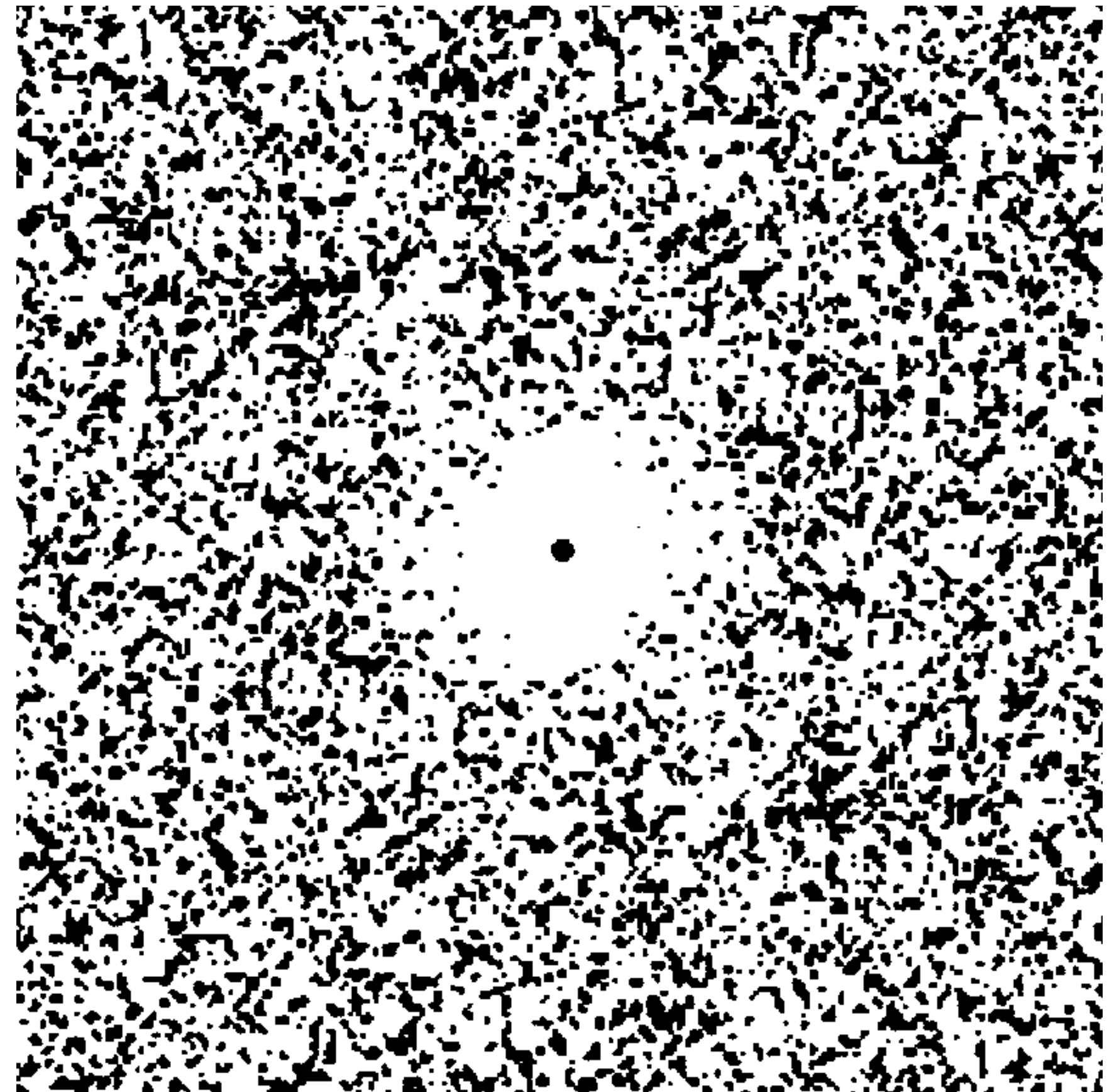
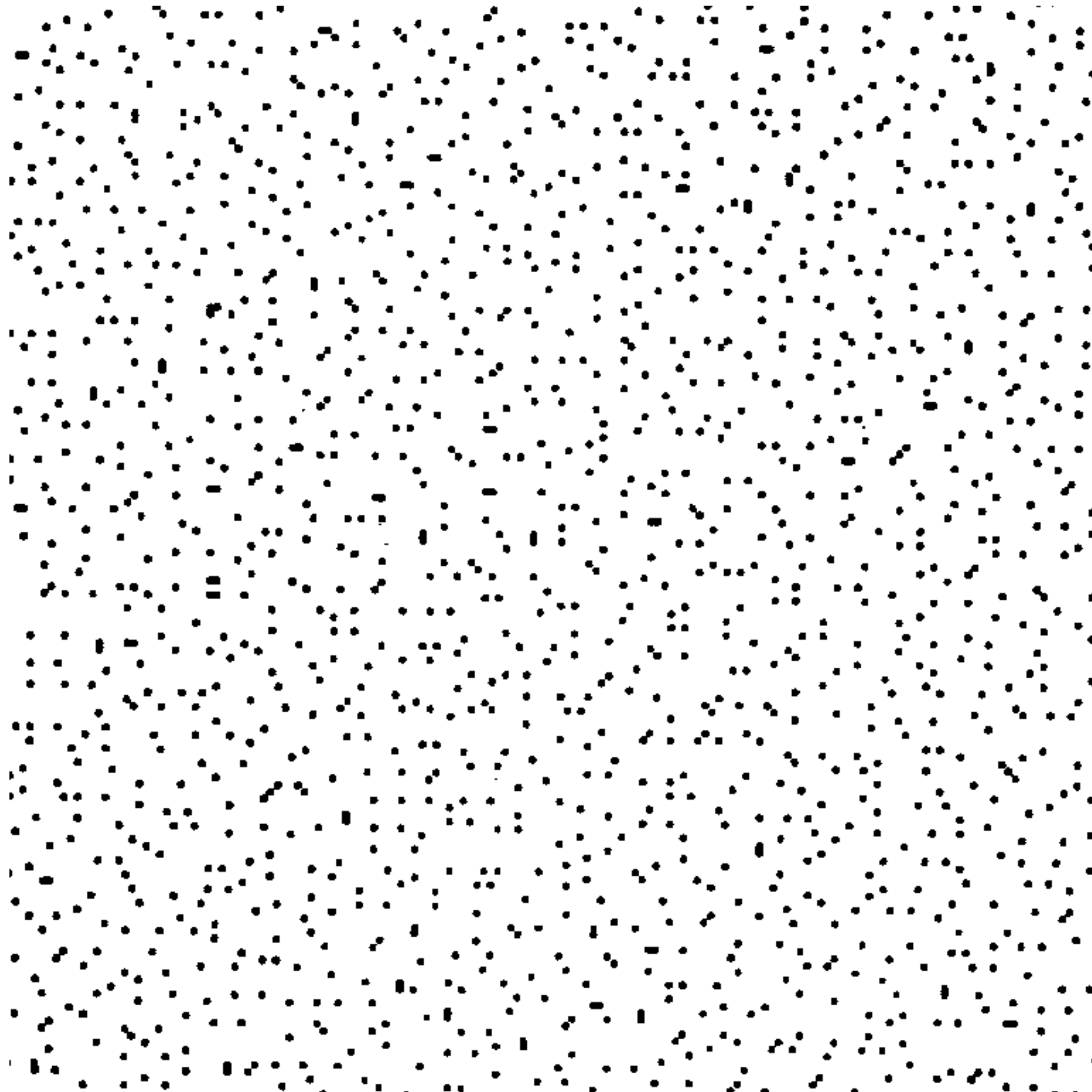
$$J(\omega) = \text{sinc } \omega$$

$$\begin{aligned} S(\omega) &= \frac{1}{T} \left[ 1 - |J(\omega)|^2 \right] + \frac{2\pi}{T^2} |J(\omega)|^2 \sum_{n=-\infty}^{n=\infty} \delta\left(\omega - \frac{2\pi n}{T}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \left[ 1 - \text{sinc}^2 \omega \right] + \delta(\omega) \end{aligned}$$



# Jittered Sampling

---

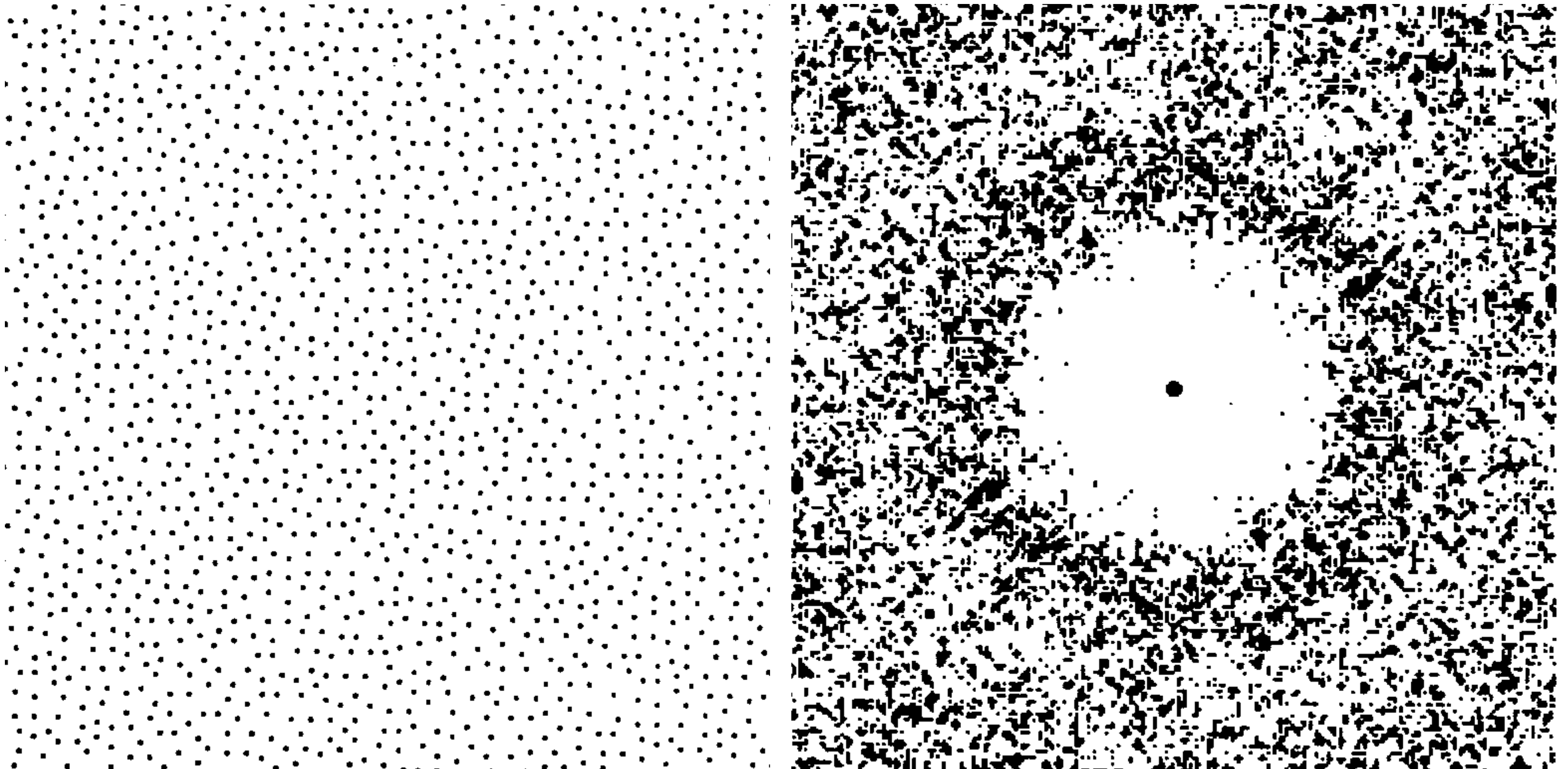


**From [Mitchell 1987]**

Don P. Mitchell. 1987. Generating antialiased images at low sampling densities. SIGGRAPH Comput. Graph. 21, 4 (July 1987), 65–72. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1145/37402.37410>

# Poisson Disk Sampling

---

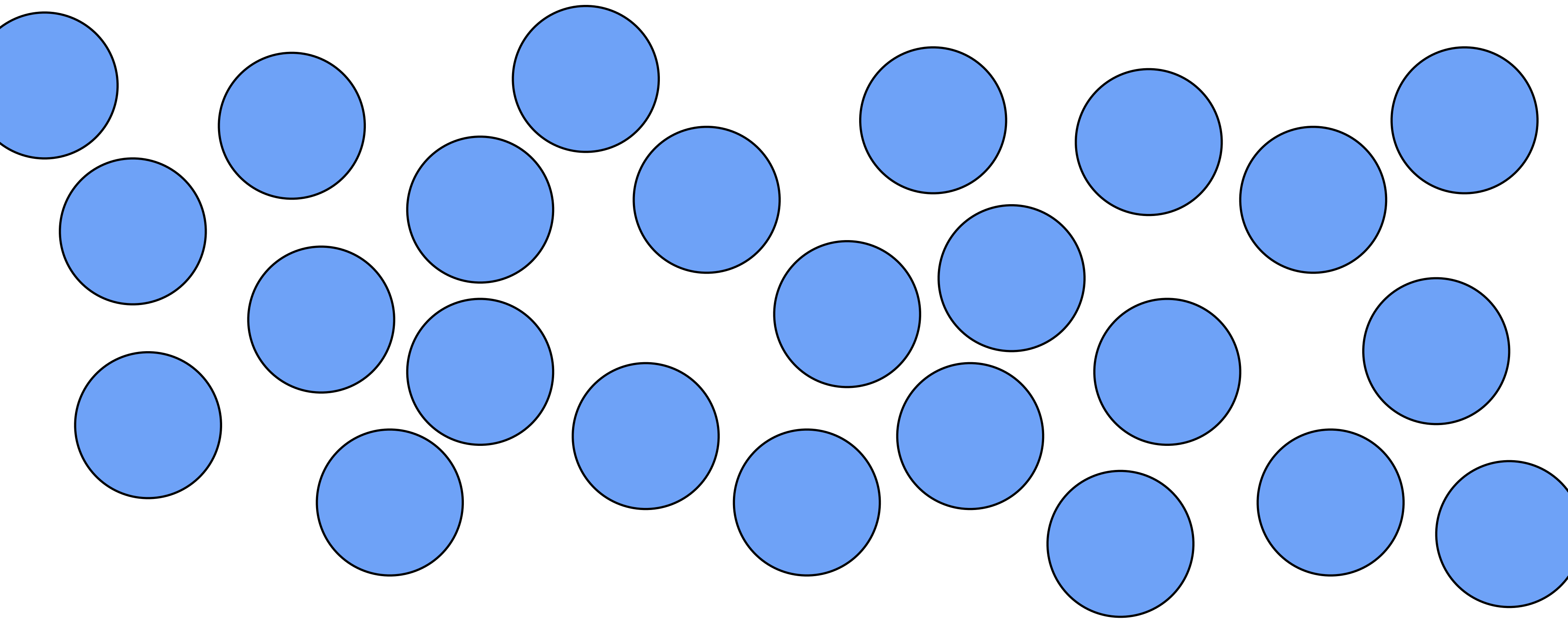


**From [Mitchell 1987]**

Don P. Mitchell. 1987. Generating antialiased images at low sampling densities. SIGGRAPH Comput. Graph. 21, 4 (July 1987), 65-72. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1145/37402.37410>

# Poisson Disk Sampling

- How do you generate a “nice” sample?
- One of the earliest algorithms: *Poisson disk sampling*
- Iteratively add random non-overlapping disks (until no space left)

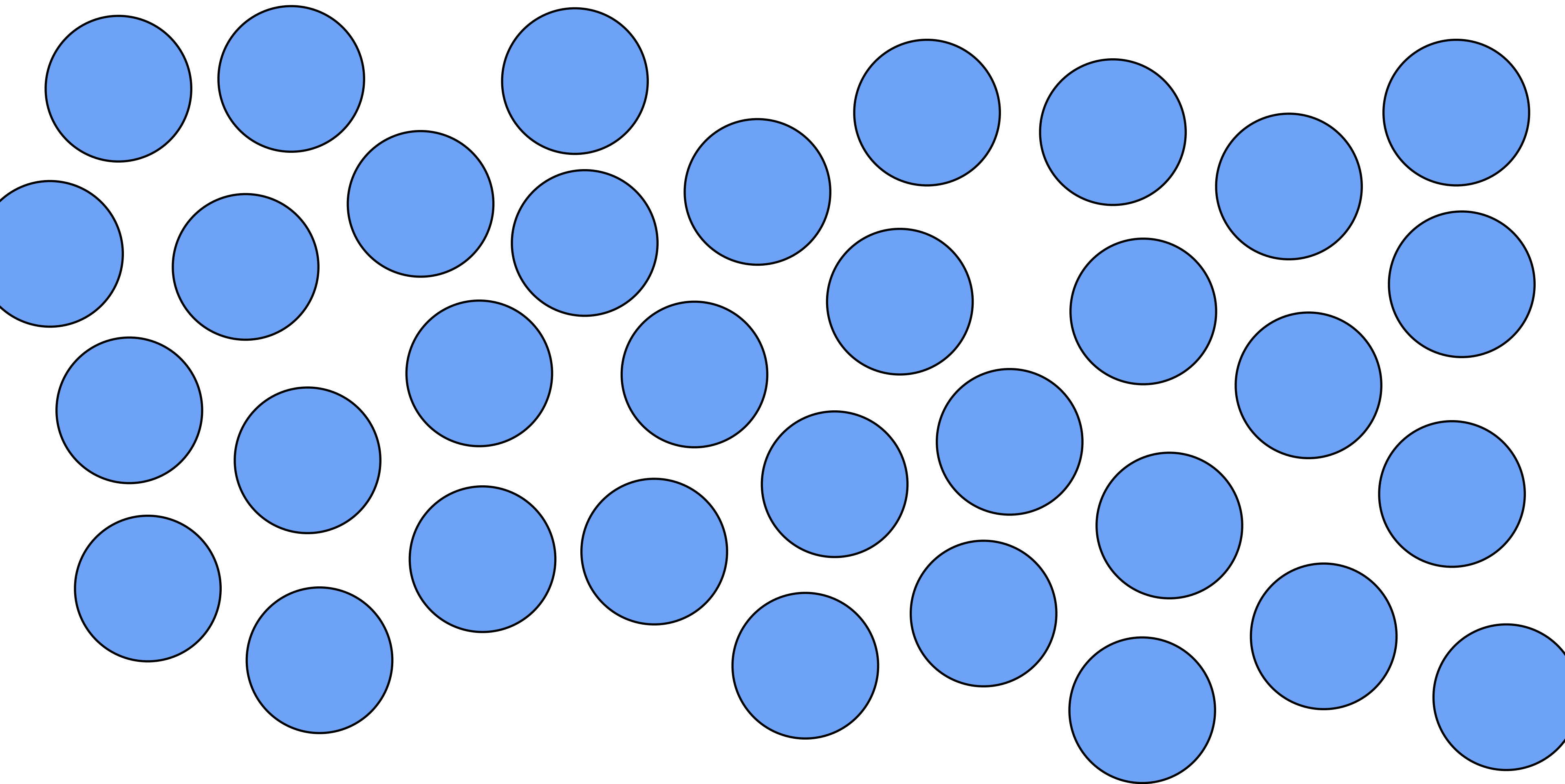


**Decent spectral quality, but we can do better.**



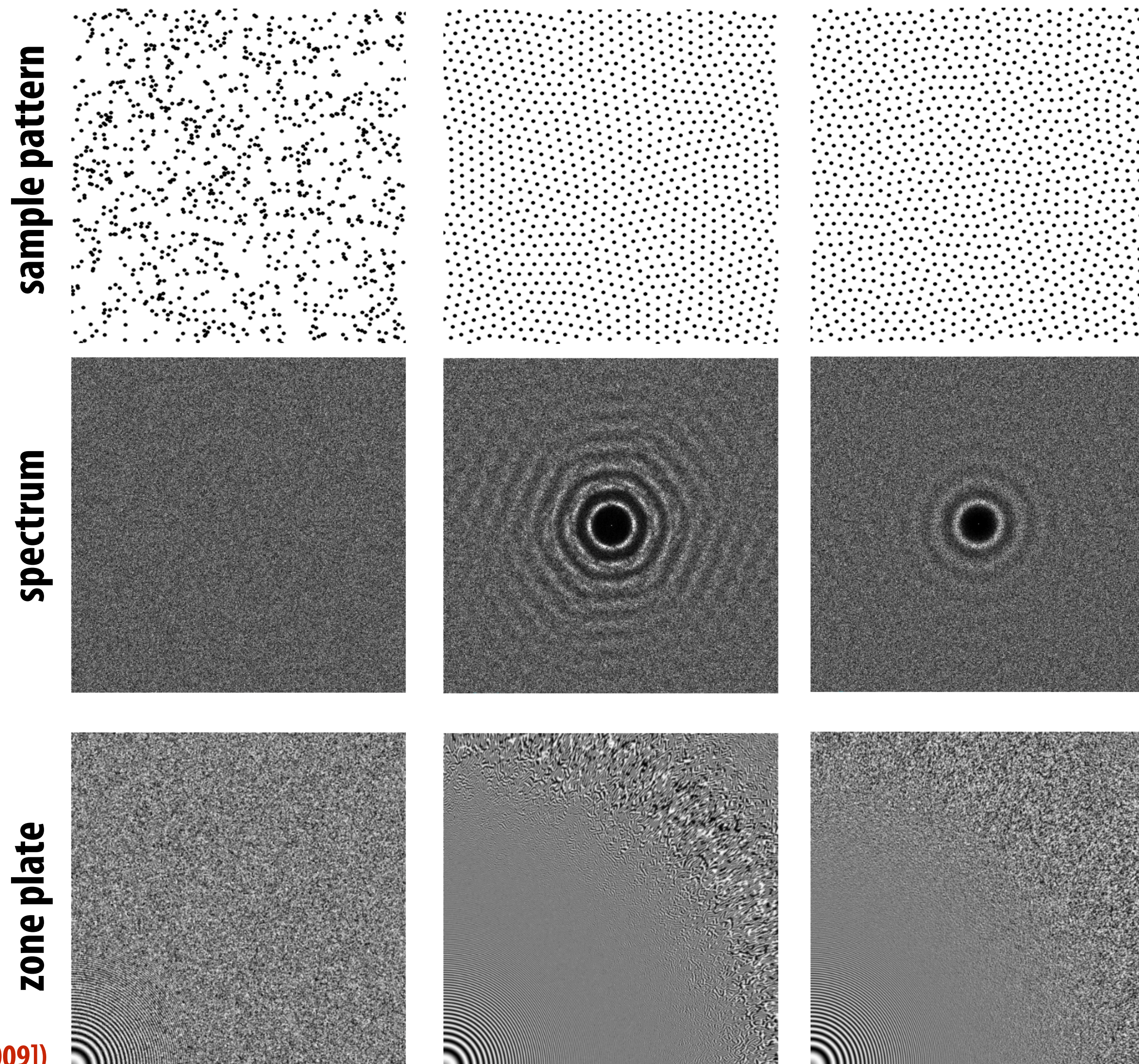
# Lloyd Relaxation

- Iteratively move each disk to the center of its neighbors



**Better spectral quality, slow to converge. Can do better yet...**

# Spectrum affects reconstruction quality



(from [Balzer et al. 2009])

# Integration Error when Sampling

---

## Integral

$$I(f) = \int f(x) dx = F(0)$$

## Sample Pattern

$$s(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum \delta(x - x_i)$$

## Sampled integral

$$I_s(f) = \int f(x)s(x) dx = \frac{1}{N} \sum f(x_i)$$

$$f(x)s(x) \iff F(\omega) \otimes S(\omega)$$

$$I_s(f) = \int f(x)s(x) dx = F(\omega) \otimes S(\omega)|_{\omega=0}$$

## Error

$$\Delta = F(0) - F(\omega) \otimes S(\omega)|_{\omega=0}$$

# Non-uniform Sampling

---

## UNIFORM SAMPLING

- **The spectrum of uniformly spaced samples is also a set of uniformly spaced spikes**
- **Multiplying the signal by the sampling pattern corresponds to placing a copy of the spectrum at each spike (in freq. space)**
- **Aliases are coherent, and very noticeable**

## NON-UNIFORM SAMPLING

- **Samples at non-uniform locations have a different spectrum; a single spike plus (blue) noise**
- **Sampling a signal in this way converts aliases into higher-frequency noise**
- **Noise is incoherent, and much less objectionable visually**
- **May cause error in the integral**

# Further Reading

---



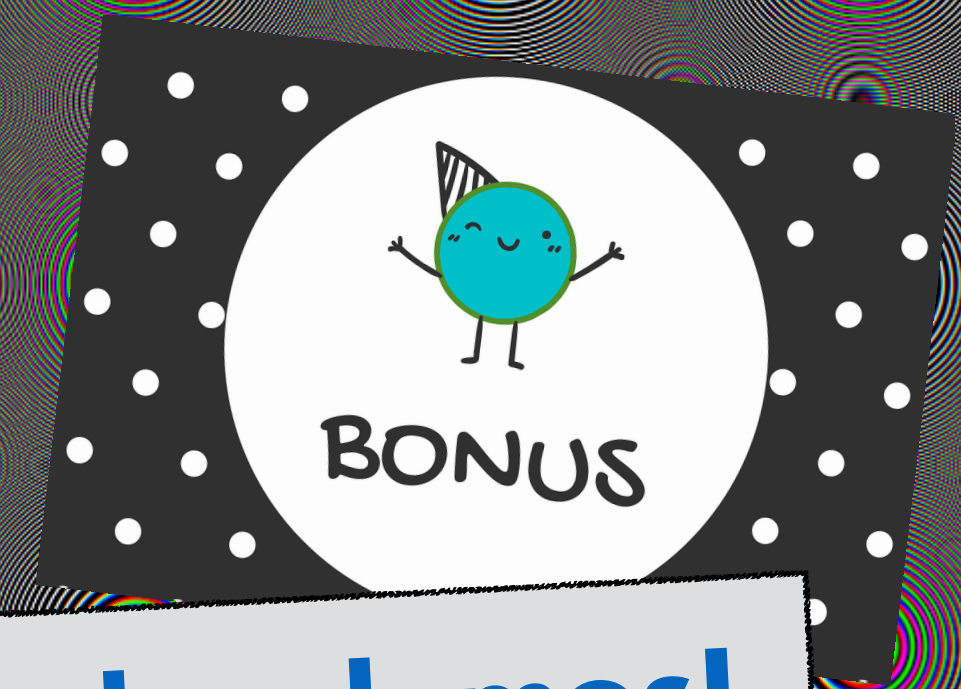
## Chapter 7

### **SAMPLING AND RECONSTRUCTION**

- **Mostly section 7.1 for now**

# Signal Processing and Sampling

CS 348B, Lecture 7



Now with color demos!

"the aliasing side" by FabriceNeyret2  
<https://www.shadertoy.com/view/4sIXR4>