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## Properties of Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)

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The DFT exhibits a number of useful properties and operational relationships that are similar to the properties of the continuous Fourier transform.

This Lecture investigates properties Discrete Fourier transform (DFT);

- The DFT as a Linear Transformation
- Periodicity, linearity, and symmetry properties
- Circular Symmetries of a Sequence.
- Multiplication of Two DFTs and Circular Convolution:

### The DFT as a Linear Transformation

The formulas for the DFT and IDFT given above may be expressed as

$$X(K) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x(n)W_N^{kn} \quad k = 0,1,2,\dots\dots\dots N-1$$

$$x(n) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X(k)W_N^{-kn} \quad n = 0,1,2,\dots\dots\dots N-1$$

Where, by definition,

$$W_N = e^{-\frac{j2\pi}{N}}$$

We note that the computation of each point of the DFT can be accomplished by N complex multiplications and (N-1) complex additions. Hence the N – point DFT values can be computed in a total of N<sup>2</sup> complex multiplications and N (N-1) complex additions.

Let us define an  $N$  – point vector  $x_N$  of the signal sequence  $x(n)$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$ , an

$N$  – point vector  $X_N$  of frequency samples, and an  $N \times N$  matrix  $W_N$

$$x_N = \begin{bmatrix} x(0) \\ x(1) \\ \vdots \\ x(N-1) \end{bmatrix}, \quad X_N = \begin{bmatrix} X(0) \\ X(1) \\ \vdots \\ X(N-1) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$W_N = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \dots & 1 \\ 1 & W_N & W_N^2 & \dots & W_N^{N-1} \\ & W_N^2 & W_N^4 & \dots & W_N^{2(N-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & W_N^{N-1} & W_N^{2(N-1)} & \dots & W_N^{(N-1)(N-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X_N = W_{NXN} x_N$$

$$x_N = \frac{1}{N} W_N^* X_N$$

Where  $W_N^*$  denotes the complex conjugate of the matrix  $W_N$

### Example:-

Compute the DFT of the four – point sequence  $x(n) = [0 \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 3]$

### Solution

The first step is to determine the matrix  $W_4$ . By exploiting the periodicity property of  $W_4$  and the symmetry property

$$W_N^{k+N/2} = -W_N^k$$

the matrix  $W_4$  may be expressed as

$$W_4 = \begin{bmatrix} W_4^0 & W_4^0 & W_4^0 & W_4^0 \\ W_4^0 & W_4^1 & W_4^2 & W_4^3 \\ W_4^0 & W_4^2 & W_4^4 & W_4^6 \\ W_4^0 & W_4^3 & W_4^6 & W_4^9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & W_4^1 & W_4^2 & W_4^3 \\ 1 & W_4^2 & W_4^4 & W_4^6 \\ 1 & W_4^3 & W_4^6 & W_4^9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -j & -1 & j \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & j & -1 & -j \end{bmatrix}$$

Then

$$X_4 = W_4 x_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -2 + 2j \\ -2 \\ -2 - 2j \end{bmatrix}$$

## Properties of the DFT

In this section we present the important properties of the DFT. The notation used below to denote the N-point DFT pair  $x(n)$  and  $X(k)$  is

$$x(n) \xleftrightarrow{\text{DFT}} X(k)$$

### Periodicity, linearity, and symmetry properties:

**Periodicity.** If  $x(n)$  and  $X(k)$  are an N-point DFT pair, then

$$\begin{aligned} x(n+N) &= x(n) && \text{for all } n \\ X(k+N) &= X(k) && \text{for all } k \end{aligned}$$

**Linearity.** If

$$x_1(n) \xleftrightarrow[N]{\text{DFT}} X_1(k)$$

And

$$x_2(n) \xleftrightarrow[N]{\text{DFT}} X_2(k)$$

Then for any real-valued or complex-valued constants  $a_1$  and  $a_2$

$$a_1 x_1(n) + a_2 x_2(n) \xleftrightarrow[N]{\text{DFT}} a_1 X_1(k) + a_2 X_2(k)$$

### Circular Symmetries of a Sequence.

As we have seen, the N-point DFT of a finite duration sequence,  $x(n)$  of length  $L \leq N$  is equivalent to the N-point DFT of a periodic sequence  $x_p(n)$ , of period N, which is obtained by periodically extending  $x(n)$ , that is

$$x_p(n) = \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} x(n - lN)$$

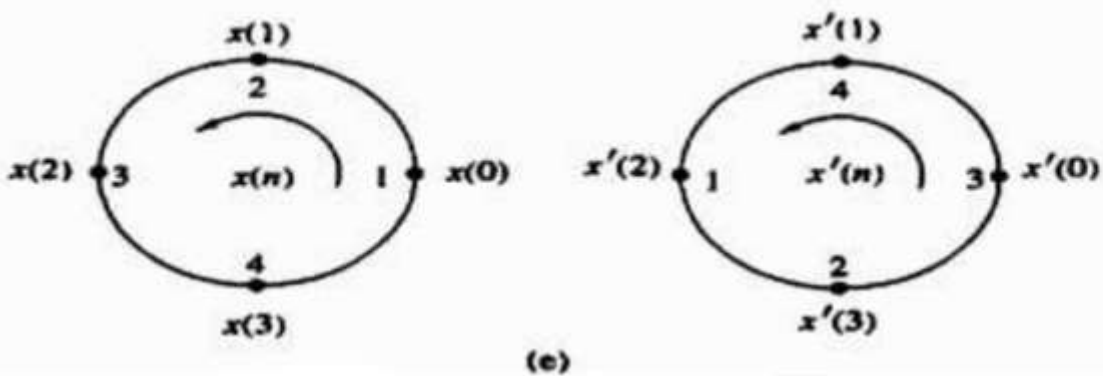
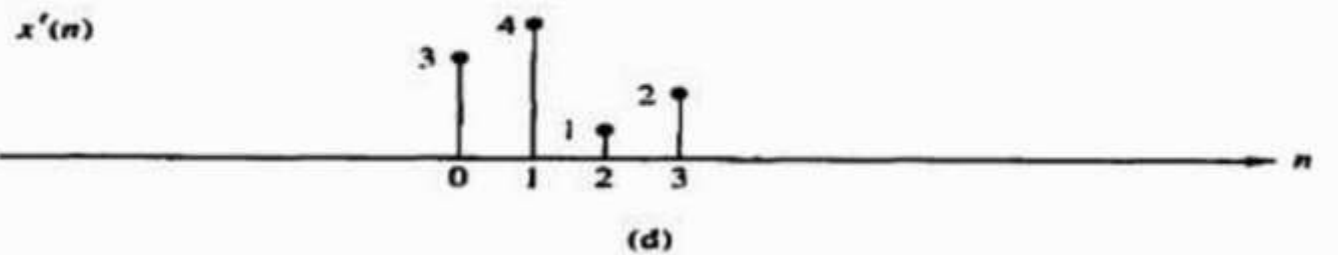
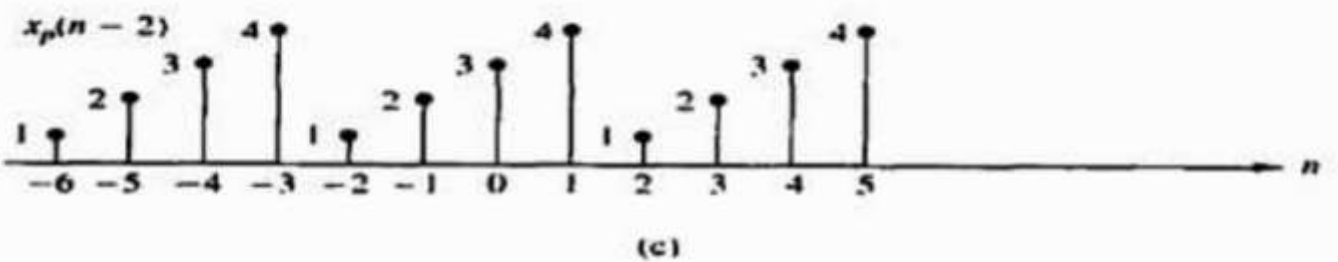
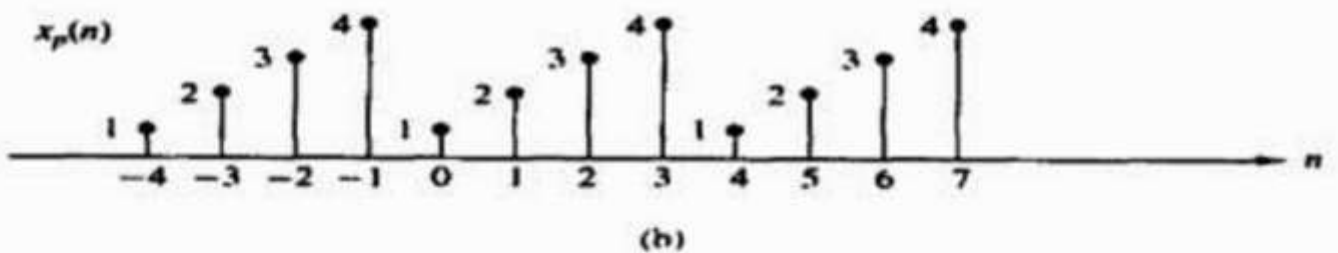
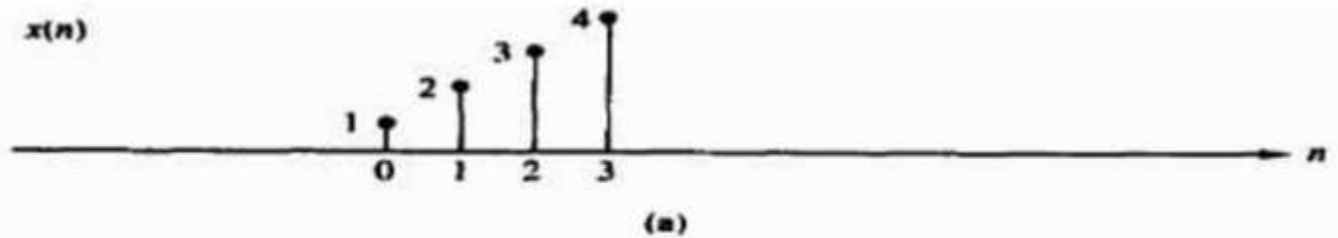
Now suppose that we shift the periodic sequence  $x_p(n)$  by  $k$  units to the right. Thus we obtain another periodic sequence

$$x'_p(n) = x_p(n - k) = \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} x(n - k - lN)$$

The infinite-duration sequence

$$x'(n) = \begin{cases} x_p' & 0 \leq n \leq N - 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Is related to the original sequence  $x(n)$  by a circular shift. This relationship is illustrated as shown in the figure below for  $N=4$ .



In general, the circular shift of the sequence can be represented as the index modulo-  $N$ . Thus we can write

$$\begin{aligned}x'(n) &= x(n - k, \text{modulo } N) \\ &= x((n - k))_N\end{aligned}$$

For example, if  $k = 2$  and  $N = 4$ , we have

$$x'(n) = x((n - 2))_4$$

Which implies that

$$x'(0) = x((-2))_4 = x(2)$$

$$x'(1) = x((-1))_4 = x(3)$$

$$x'(2) = x((0))_4 = x(0)$$

$$x'(3) = x((1))_4 = x(1)$$

Thus we conclude that a circular shift of an  $N$ -point sequence is equivalent to a linear shift of its periodic extension, and vice versa.

### Multiplication of Two DFTs and Circular Convolution

Suppose that we have two finite – duration sequences of length  $N$ ,  $x_1(n)$  and  $x_2(n)$ . Their respective  $N$ -point DFTs are

$$X_1(k) = \begin{cases} N - 1 \\ n = 0 \end{cases} x_1(n) e^{-j2\pi nk/N} \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$$

$$X_2(k) = \begin{cases} N - 1 \\ n = 0 \end{cases} x_2(n) e^{-j2\pi nk/N} \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$$

If we multiply the two DFTs together, the result is a DFT, say  $X_3(k)$ , of a sequence  $x_3(n)$  of length  $N$ . Let us determine the relationship between  $x_3(n)$  and the sequence  $x_1(n)$  and  $x_2(n)$ .

We have

$$X_3(k) = X_1(k)X_2(k) \quad k=0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1$$

The IDFT of  $(X_3(k))$  is

$$X_3(m) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X_3(k) e^{j2\pi mk/N}$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X_1(k) X_2(k) e^{j2\pi km/N}$$

The inner sum in the brackets has the form

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a^k = \begin{cases} N & a = 1 \\ \frac{1 - a^N}{1 - a} & a \neq 1 \end{cases}$$

Where  $a$  is defined as

$$a = e^{j2\pi(m-n-1)/N}$$

We observe that  $a = 1$  when  $m-n-l$  is a multiple of  $N$ . On the other hand,  $a^N = 1$  for any value of  $a \neq 1$  Consequently

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a^k = \begin{cases} N & l = m - n + pN = ((M - N))N, p \text{ an interger} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then the desired expression for  $x_3(m)$  in the form

$$x_3(m) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_1(n) x_2((m-n))_N \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1$$

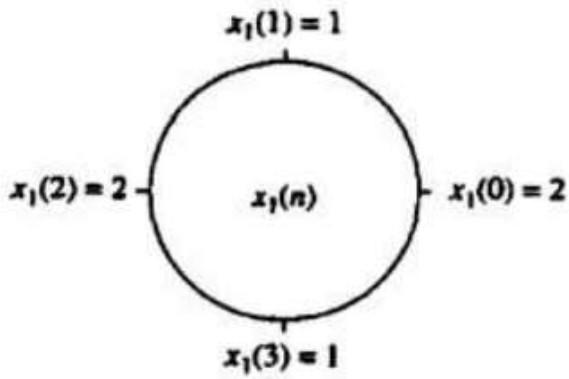
The expression above has the form of a convolution sum. However, it is not the ordinary linear convolution. Instead, the convolution sum involves the index  $((m-n))_N$  and is called *circular convolution*. Thus we conclude that multiplication of the DFTs of two sequences is equivalent to the circular convolution of the two sequences in the time domain.

### Example:-

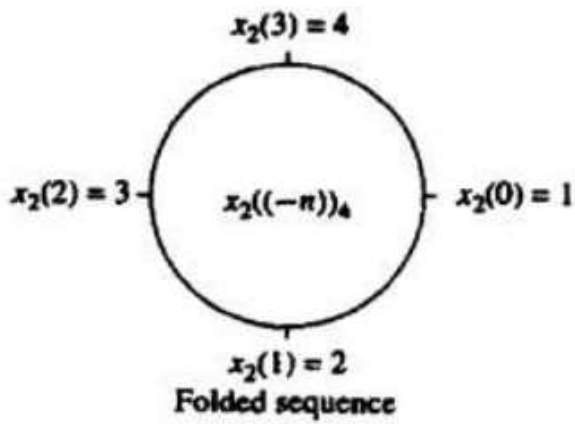
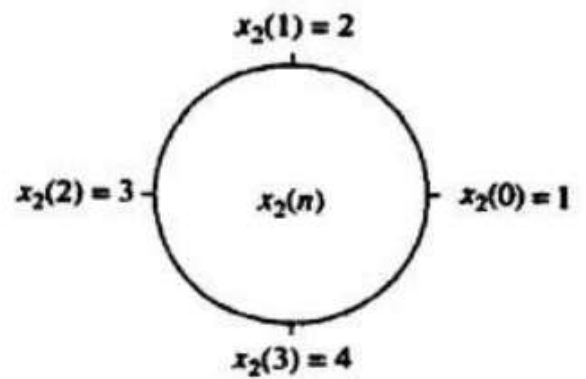
Perform the circular convolution of the following two sequences:

$$\begin{array}{c} x_1(n) = \{2, 1, 2, 1\} \\ \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \\ x_2(n) = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \\ \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \end{array}$$

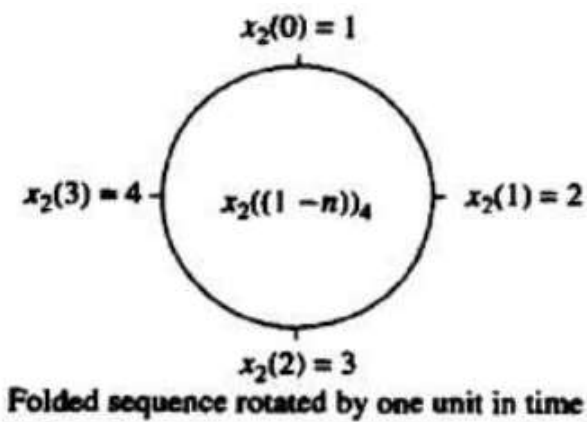
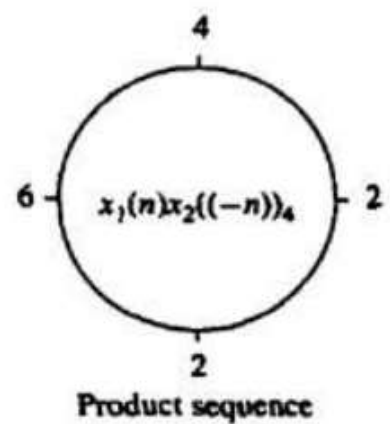
Solution:



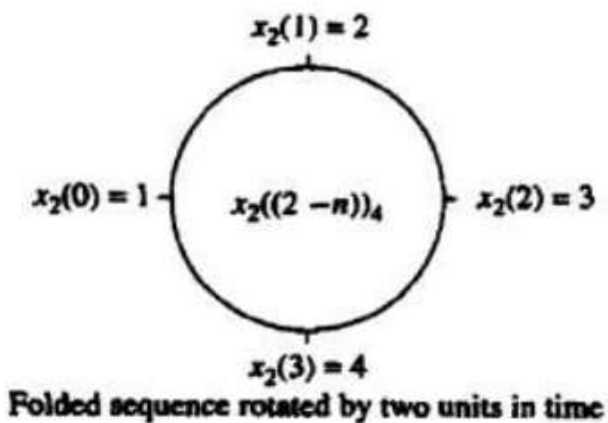
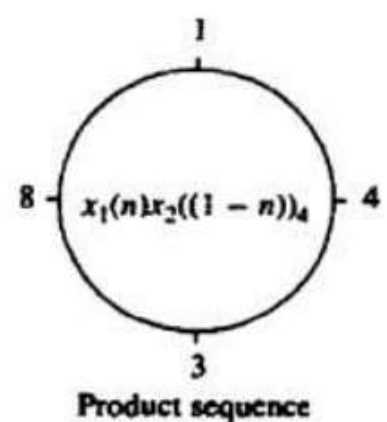
(a)



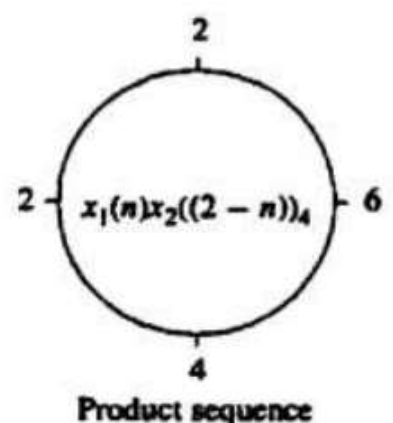
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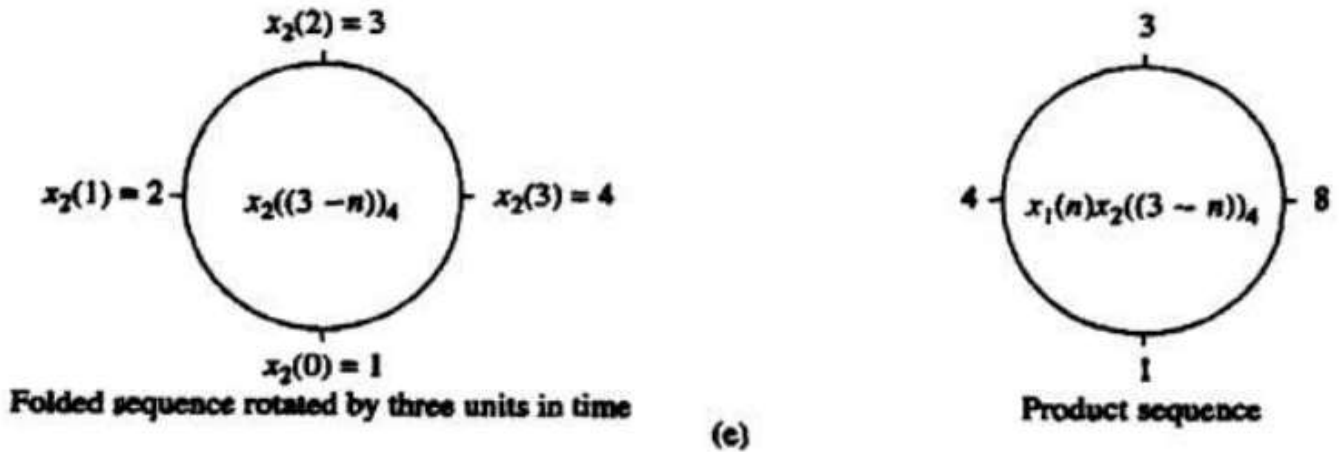


(c)



(d)





$$x_3(n) = \{14, 16, 14, 16\}$$

↑

**Example:**

By means of the DFT and IDFT, determine the sequence  $x_3(n)$  corresponding to the circular convolution of the sequences  $x_1(n)$  and  $x_2(n)$  given in previous example.

**Solution:**

First we compute the DFTs of  $x_1(n)$  and  $x_2(n)$ . The four – point DFT of  $x_1(n)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} X_1(k) &= \sum_{n=0}^3 x_1(n) e^{-\frac{j2\pi nk}{4}} & k = 0,1,2,3 \\ &= 2 + e^{-\frac{j\pi k}{2}} + 2 e^{-j\pi k} + e^{-\frac{j3\pi k}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$X_1(0)=6 \qquad X_1(1)=0 \qquad X_1(2)=2 \qquad X_1(3)=0$$

The DFT of  $x_2(n)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} X_2(k) &= \sum_{n=0}^3 x_2(n) e^{-\frac{j2\pi nk}{4}} & k = 0,1,2,3 \\ &= 1 + 2e^{-\frac{j\pi k}{2}} + 3 e^{-j\pi k} + 4e^{-\frac{j3\pi k}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$X_2(0)=10 \qquad X_2(1)=-2+2j \qquad X_2(2)=-2 \qquad X_2(3)=-2-2j$$

When we multiply the two DFTs, we obtain the product

$$X_3(k) = X_1(k) X_2(k)$$

Or, equivalently

$$X_3(0)=60 \qquad X_3(1)=0 \qquad X_3(2)=-4 \qquad X_3(3)=0$$

Now, the IDFT of  $X_3(k)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} x_3(n) &= \sum_{k=0}^3 X_3(k) e^{j2\pi nk/4} & n = 0,1,2,3 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} (60 - 4e^{j\pi n}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$x_3(0)=14$$

$$x_3(1)=16$$

$$x_3(2)=14$$

$$x_3(3)=16$$

Which is the result obtained in previous example.

We conclude this section by formally stating this important property of the DFT.

Circular convolution.

If

$$x_1(n) \xleftrightarrow[N]{\text{DFT}} X_1(k)$$

and

$$x_2(n) \xleftrightarrow[N]{\text{DFT}} X_2(k)$$

then

$$x_1(n) \circledast x_2(n) \xleftrightarrow[N]{\text{DFT}} X_1(k)X_2(k)$$