
Subject: Re: computation time for convolution
Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Fri, 11 Jul 2014 02:17:33 GMT
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Here's an interesting post addressing the question -- for what size kernel is the Fourier transform more efficient than direct convolution?

<http://programmers.stackexchange.com/questions/171757/computational-complexity-of-correlation-in-time-vs-multiplication-in-frequency-s>

Given a kernel of width K and an image of width W, the Fourier transform method is more efficient than direct convolution when

$K > \sqrt{8 \cdot \log(W) / \log(2)}$

The author makes a lot of approximations. For example, I do think that David Stern was able to be more efficient than $(K^2) \cdot (W^2)$ in his implementation of direct convolution. For a 1024 x 1024 image the above formula says that Fourier transforms are preferred when $K > 9$, whereas my simple experiments suggest that $K \sim 64$ is more appropriate for IDL. --Wayne
