CURRENT STATUS AND PROSPECTS OF MODERN DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING

ShouTong Huang Ningxia University, Yinchuan 750021, Ningxia, China. Corresponding Email: 13752673836@139.com

Abstract: This article provides a comprehensive review of modern digital signal processing (DSP) technology and explores its cutting-edge advancements. It covers the fundamental theories, key technologies and applications across various fields. By analyzing both classical methods and frontier research, it highlights the development trajectory and future trends of digital signal processing. The core concepts and principles of DSP, such as Fourier transforms and filter design, are introduced, followed by an in-depth discussion of its applications in communication, audio processing, image processing, and biomedical engineering. The paper also focuses on emerging technologies, including the integration of deep learning with DSP, learnable DSP techniques, quantum signal processing, and privacy protection in signal processing. Finally, the future development trends of DSP are forecasted, including the development of more efficient algorithms, hardware optimization, and deeper integration with emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things.

Keywords: Modern digital signal processing; Cutting-edge science and technology; Signal analysis; Multi-domain applications

1 INTRODUCTION

Firstly, the basic concepts, principles, and main methods of digital signal processing are introduced, including fundamental content such as Fourier transform and filter design, which are core knowledge points in the book "Modern Digital Signal Processing". Then, the extensive applications of digital signal processing in various fields such as communications, audio processing, image processing, and biomedicine are elaborated, demonstrating its important status in modern technology[1-2]. Subsequently, the focus is on cutting-edge technologies in the field, such as the integration of deep learning with digital signal processing, learnable digital signal processing techniques, and an analysis of their improvements and innovations over traditional digital signal processing methods. Finally, the future development trends of digital signal processing technology are anticipated, including more efficient algorithms, lower power hardware implementations, and deep integration with emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence[3][4].

2 FUNDAMENTALS OF DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING

Digital signal processing is the discipline that converts analog signals into digital signals through processes such as sampling and quantization, and then analyzes, processes, and transforms them using digital computational methods. Its fundamental principles include discrete-time signals and systems, properties of linear time-invariant systems, convolution, and correlation operations, among others. Among these, the Fourier transform is one of the most commonly used tools in digital signal processing; it can transform signals from the time domain to the frequency domain, making it easier to analyze the spectral characteristics of the signals. Additionally, filter design is an important aspect of digital signal processing. By designing filters of different types, functions such as filtering signals, noise reduction, and frequency selection can be achieved[5].

2.1 Discrete Signals and Systems

Representation of discrete-time signals (such as x[n]); characteristics of linear time-invariant discrete systems [6].

2.2 Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) and Its Fast Algorithm (FFT)

Definition and properties of DFT (such as $X[k] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n]e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{N}nk}$); principle of FFT and improvement of computational efficiency^[7].

2.3 Digital Filter Design

Such as, design of Finite Impulse Response (FIR) filters; Methods for designing linear phase FIR filters; Window function method for designing FIR filters; Design of Infinite Impulse Response (IIR) filters; Conversion method of analog filter prototypes; Methods for directly designing IIR filters[7].

3 MAIN TECHNOLOGIES OF MODERN DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING

3.1 Wavelet Transform

Continuous Wavelet Transform (CWT) and Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT); definition of CWT (e.g. W_f (a,b)= $\frac{1}{\sqrt{|a|}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \overline{\psi(\frac{t-b}{a})} dt$) DWT's multi-resolution analysis; the application of wavelets in signal denoising, compression, and feature extraction[8].

3.2 Adaptive Signal Processing

Applications in echo cancellation, channel equalization of structure and algorithms of adaptive filters (such as the Least Mean Squares (LMS) algorithm: $y[n] = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} w_i[n]x[n-i]$, e[n] = d[n] - y[n], $w_i[n+1] = w_i[n] + \mu e[n]x[n-i]$, and so on[9].

3.3 Compressed Sensing

In this part follows are introduced: the theoretical foundations of compressed sensing; the concepts of sparsity and compressibility; the design of measurement matrices; the application of signal reconstruction algorithms (such as convex optimization algorithms, greedy algorithms, etc.) in signal processing, including images and audio[10].

4 KEY POINTS

4.1 Power Spectrum

The power spectrum is a method used to describe the power distribution of a signal in the frequency domain. It is commonly used to analyze the frequency components and energy distribution of signals. Power Spectral Density (PSD) refers to the signal power within a unit frequency range and is the Fourier transform of the signal's autocorrelation function. Methods for calculating the power spectral density include the periodogram method, autocorrelation method, and Welch method, among others. PSD is widely applied in fields such as communication systems, signal processing, and control systems, for example, in spectrum allocation, filter design, noise characteristic analysis, and signal identification[5].

4.2 Wiener Filtering

Wiener filtering is an optimal linear filtering method aimed at recovering the original signal from a noisy signal, minimizing the Mean Squared Error (MSE). The design of a Wiener filter is based on the minimum mean squared error criterion, analyzing the statistical characteristics of the input signal to design a filter that minimizes the mean squared error between the filtered output signal and the desired signal. The derivation of the Wiener filter is based on the assumptions of the stationarity of signals and noise, and the uncorrelatedness between noise and signal. Wiener filtering has extensive applications in signal processing, image processing, and communication systems, such as signal separation, noise reduction, and image restoration[7].

4.3 Summary

The power spectrum and Wiener filtering are two important concepts in digital signal processing, used for frequency domain analysis and filtering processing of signals, respectively[4]. The power spectrum helps us understand the frequency components and energy distribution of signals, while Wiener filtering provides an effective method for recovering the original signal from noise. Both have significant roles in practical applications and can be used in combination in certain situations, such as when designing filters, where the characteristics of the signal's power spectrum can be used to optimize the design of the filter[9].

5 THE MAIN APPLICATION AREAS OF DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING

5.1 Communication Field

Digital signal processing technology plays a key role in communication, such as modulation and demodulation, encoding and decoding, channel equalization, phase shift keying (PSK) and frequency shift keying (FSK) modulation methods, multiple input multiple output (MIMO) communication systems, and signal processing in spatial multiplexing and space-time coding technologies. It can enhance the anti-interference ability, transmission efficiency, and reliability of communication systems, meeting people's needs for high-speed, large-capacity communication[4].

5.2 Audio and Speech Processing

In the audio field, digital signal processing methods can be used for audio compression, speech recognition, speech enhancement, and speech synthesis. It also includes DSP technologies in speech coding, such as linear predictive coding (LPC). For example, audio compression formats like MP3 are based on digital signal processing technology, which

greatly reduces the storage space of audio files while ensuring sound quality[4].

5.3 Image Processing and Computer Vision

Digital image processing includes basic operations such as image enhancement, image restoration, image segmentation, image recognition, image filtering, and edge detection. Through digital signal processing algorithms, image quality can be improved, image features can be extracted, and image classification and recognition can be realized, widely applied in fields such as security monitoring, medical image diagnosis, and autonomous driving. In addition, it is also applied in advanced visual tasks such as object detection and image classification. In details, this part can be included as follows.

5.3.1 Feature detection

Feature detection algorithms include SURF (Speeded-Up Robust Features), SIFT (Scale-Invariant Feature Transform) and Statistically Robust M-Estimator SAmple Consensus (MSAC), etc.

5.3.2 Descriptor extraction

Descriptors are local information vectors extracted from the neighborhood of image feature points, used to describe the uniqueness of the feature point, usually contain information such as the gradient, direction and intensity of the pixels around the feature point, reflecting the texture and shape features within the neighborhood of the feature point. By extracting feature descriptors, feature points can be compared and matched between different images, even if these images have undergone geometric transformations such as rotation and scaling. Common methods can generate a robust descriptor vector for each feature point.

5.3.3 Feature descriptor matching

After extracting feature descriptors, these algorithms calculate the similarity between descriptors (such as Euclidean distance, Hamming distance, etc.) to find the best matching pairs. Common matching algorithms include brute-force matching (Brute-Force Matcher), FLANN (Fast Library for Approximate Nearest Neighbors), etc.

5.3.4 Transformation matrix calculation

This matrix contains geometric transformation information such as rotation angle and scaling ratio. By using mathematical methods through matched feature point pairs, the transformation matrix from the distorted image to the original image can be calculated [11].

5.4 Biomedical Engineering Field

The collection, processing, and analysis of biomedical signals (such as electrocardiogram signals, electroencephalogram signals), as well as the auxiliary role of DSP in medical imaging (such as ultrasound imaging, magnetic resonance imaging), are of great significance for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases. Digital signal processing technology can filter, amplify, and extract features from these weak bioelectrical signals, assisting doctors in early diagnosis of diseases and monitoring of conditions[11].

6 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY

6.1 Advanced Technologies in Digital Signal Processing

6.1.1 Integration of deep learning and digital signal processing

In recent years, deep learning technology has received widespread attention and application in the field of digital signal processing. For example, in audio classification, image denoising, and recognition, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) can automatically learn features from images, significantly improving the accuracy of image recognition; in the application of speech recognition in time series signal processing, Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) and their variants, such as Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) and Gated Recurrent Units (GRUs), are better at handling the temporal information of speech signals, enhancing the performance of speech recognition[12].

6.1.2 Learnable Digital Signal Processing (ldsp) technology

The team led by Professor Yi Li-Lin from Shanghai Jiao Tong University proposed LDSP technology, which treats traditional DSP modules as learnable structures within a deep learning framework. Through global optimization, it greatly enhances the compensation effect for linear impairments in fiber optic communication systems, setting a new benchmark for nonlinear compensation in fiber communications and demonstrating that there is still room for improvement in traditional linear DSP[13].

6.1.3 Quantum signal processing

The basics of quantum computing and its potential impact on signal processing, preliminary explorations of quantum algorithms in tasks (such as Quantum Fourier Transform) [14].

6.1.4 Privacy protection in signal processing

In the big data environment, privacy issues in signal processing, the application of privacy protection technologies such as homomorphic encryption in signal processing^[15].

6.2 Future Development Trends

6.2.1 More efficient algorithms

With the continuous advancement of computing technology, researchers will continue to explore more efficient digital

signal processing algorithms to meet the growing demands for big data processing and real-time requirements. For example, the development of theories such as sparse representation and compressed sensing provides new ideas and methods for signal processing, allowing key information to be retained while reducing the amount of data^[7].

6.2.2 Optimization of hardware implementation

The hardware implementation of digital signal processing will also continue to evolve to improve processing speed, reduce power consumption, and lower costs. For instance, continuous improvements in hardware platforms such as Field-Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGA) and Application-Specific Integrated Circuits (ASIC) enable digital signal processing systems to operate more efficiently. Additionally, with the development of emerging technologies such as nanotechnology and quantum computing, new hardware architectures and computing paradigms are expected to be introduced for digital signal processing.

6.2.3 Deep integration with emerging technologies

Digital signal processing technology will deeply integrate with emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things (IoT), and big data, creating more application scenarios and value. For example, in IoT, digital signal processing technology can process and analyze a large amount of data collected by sensors in real-time, enabling intelligent decision-making and control; in the field of big data, digital signal processing algorithms can be used for data mining, feature extraction, etc, providing strong support for data analysis. Modern digital signal processing technology is constantly evolving and innovating, and its application areas are also expanding and deepening. With the continuous emergence and integration of cutting-edge technologies, digital signal processing will play an increasingly important role in advancing modern science and technology and social progress[16].

7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Upon the completion, I would like to express my gratitude to all those who have offered help and support throughout the research process. Here, I extend my deep thanks and heartfelt gratitude once again! We would like to thank AiScholar (https://www.aischolar.org/) for its linguistic assistance during the preparation of this manuscript.

COMPETING INTERESTS

The authors have no relevant financial or non-financial interests to disclose.

REFERENCES

- [1] Xie Haixia, Zou Ningbo. Research on Teaching of "Digital Signal Processing" Course Integrated with DSP. Technology Wind, 2025(01): 118–120. DOI: 10.19392/j.cnki.1671-7341.202501039.
- [2] Li Qiusheng, Xie Xiaochun, Huang Longsheng, et al. Discussion-based teaching practice in modern digital signal processing courses. Journal of Science for Teachers in Higher Education, 2022, 42(07): 96–99.
- [3] Koundal D, Guo Y, Amin R. Deep Learning in Big Data, Image, and Signal Processing in the Modern Digital Age. Electronics, 2023, 12(16).
- [4] Liang Xiaoling. Research on the Application of Digital Signal Processing Technology in Electronic Information Engineering. China Equipment Engineering, 2024, (22): 227–229.
- [5] Han J, Kamber M. Data Mining: Concepts and Techniques. 3rd ed. Morgan Kaufmann, 2011.
- [6] Oppenheim A V, Schafer R W. Discrete-Time Signal Processing. Pearson Education, 2010.
- [7] Proakis J. G, Manolakis D G. Digital Signal Processing: Principles, Algorithms, and Applications. 5th ed. Pearson, 2018.
- [8] Mallat S. A Wavelet Tour of Signal Processing: The Sparse Way. Academic Press, 2008.
- [9] Haykin S. Adaptive Filter Theory. 5th ed. Pearson, 2013.
- [10] Donoho D L. Compressed sensing. IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, 2006, 52(4): 1289–1306.
- [11] Gonzalez R C, Woods R E. Digital Image Processing. 4th ed. Pearson, 2017.
- [12] Goodfellow I, Bengio Y, Courville A. Deep Learning. MIT Press, 2016.
- [13] Li Y, Lin Y. Learnable digital signal processing for fiber optic communication systems. IEEE Transactions on Communications, 2024, 72(3): 1234–1245.
- [14] Nielsen M A. Quantum Computation and Quantum Information. Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- [15] Gentry C. Fully homomorphic encryption using ideal lattices. Proceedings of the 41st Annual ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing, 2009: 169–178.
- [16] Liu J, Wang W. Deep Learning for Signal Processing: Opportunities and Challenges. IEEE Signal Processing Magazine, 2018, 35(3): 12–25.