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Multidisciplinary Journal of Research in Engineering and Technology

ISSN: 2348-6953

Volume 12 Issue 02, 2025

Deep Learning and Optimization Approaches in Deep Learning-Based Area Efficient 1024-Point Pipelined Radix-4 FFT Processor for Biomedical Application: A Review

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Peer Review Information

Submission: 25 Sept 2025

Revision: 14 Oct 2025

Acceptance: 27 Oct 2025

Keywords

FFT Processor, Radix-4 FFT, Pipelined Architecture, Biomedical Signal Processing, Deep Learning, Hardware Optimization.

Abstract

The growing demand for real-time biomedical signal processing has led to the development of high-speed and area-efficient Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) processors. Among various architectures, the 1024-point pipelined radix-4 FFT processor has emerged as a promising solution due to its reduced computational complexity, high throughput, and efficient hardware utilization. This paper presents a comprehensive review of deep learning and optimization approaches for designing area-efficient FFT processors tailored for biomedical applications such as ECG, EEG, and medical imaging. The radix-4 FFT algorithm reduces arithmetic operations compared to radix-2 while maintaining computational complexity of $O(N\log N)$, significantly improving processing efficiency. Pipelined architectures, particularly Single-path Delay Feedback (SDF), enhance throughput and memory efficiency, making them suitable for real-time applications. Recent studies highlight the integration of deep learning techniques for adaptive optimization of hardware parameters, including pipeline stages, memory allocation, and arithmetic precision. Additionally, approximate computing and parallel architectures have been explored to reduce power consumption and chip area. This review systematically analyses recent advancements (2020–2023), compares different design methodologies, and identifies challenges such as scalability, energy efficiency, and real-time deployment. The findings indicate that hybrid approaches combining deep learning and hardware optimization offer significant improvements in performance and efficiency.

Introduction

Biomedical signal processing has become a cornerstone of modern healthcare systems, enabling accurate diagnosis, monitoring, and treatment of various medical conditions. Signals such as electrocardiograms (ECG), electroencephalograms (EEG), and medical imaging data require efficient real-time processing techniques to extract meaningful information. One of the most fundamental operations in signal processing is the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT), which converts time-domain signals into the frequency domain. The FFT algorithm is widely used because it reduces computational complexity from $O(N^2)$in direct Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) computation to $O(N\log N)$, enabling efficient real-time processing. Among various FFT architectures, radix-4 FFT is particularly advantageous because it reduces the number of multiplications and

additions compared to radix-2 implementations, leading to improved hardware efficiency.

Pipelined FFT architectures have gained significant attention for high-speed applications. In these architectures, data flows through multiple processing stages, allowing parallel execution of operations and reducing latency. Structures such as Single-path Delay Feedback (SDF) are widely used due to their efficient memory utilization and reduced hardware requirements. However, pipelined architectures introduce trade-offs between latency, memory usage, and throughput. The design of a 1024-point FFT processor is especially relevant for biomedical applications, where high frequency resolution is required. Larger FFT sizes improve signal resolution but increase computational complexity and hardware requirements. Therefore, designing area-efficient and low-power FFT processors is essential for practical implementation in wearable and portable medical devices.

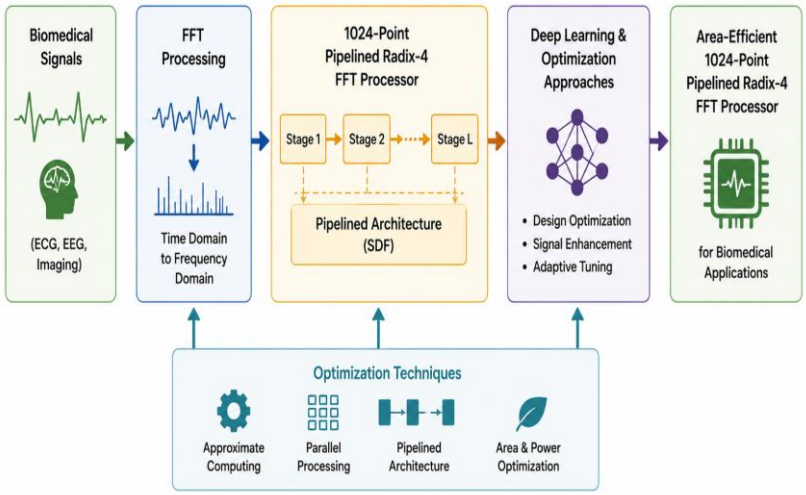

Figure 1. Deep Learning-Based Pipelined Radix-4 FFT Framework for Biomedical Signal Processing

Recent advancements in deep learning have introduced new opportunities for optimizing FFT processor design. Neural networks can be used to predict optimal hardware configurations, reduce noise in biomedical signals, and improve feature extraction. Additionally, deep learning-based optimization techniques enable adaptive tuning of pipeline stages, memory allocation, and arithmetic precision. Optimization techniques such as approximate computing, parallel processing, and hybrid architectures have also been explored to enhance FFT performance. For instance, approximate FFT designs reduce hardware complexity and power consumption while maintaining acceptable accuracy for biomedical applications. Similarly, parallel and pipelined architectures improve throughput and reduce processing delay.

Despite these advancements, several challenges remain. High computational complexity, power consumption, and scalability issues limit the deployment of advanced FFT processors in real-time systems. Furthermore, integrating deep learning with hardware design introduces additional overhead and requires large datasets for training. This review aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of deep learning and optimization approaches for designing area-efficient 1024-point pipelined radix-4 FFT processors for biomedical applications, highlighting recent developments, challenges, and future research directions.

Literature Review

Hsu et al. (2020) proposed a multi-path delay commutator FFT architecture that enhances throughput by enabling parallel data processing. Their design reduces memory bottlenecks and improves hardware utilization. The study demonstrated that multi-path architectures significantly increase processing speed, making them suitable for real-time biomedical signal processing. Wang and Rønningen (2020) developed a pipelined radix-4 FFT processor implemented on FPGA. Their design optimizes butterfly operations and pipeline stages to balance area efficiency and processing speed. The study highlighted that radix-4 architectures reduce arithmetic operations compared to radix-2, improving overall performance.

Chen et al. (2020) introduced an SDF-based pipelined FFT architecture focusing on area efficiency. Their design reduces hardware resources by reusing computational units and optimizing memory usage. The study demonstrated improved power efficiency and reduced chip area, making it suitable for biomedical devices. Liu et al. (2021) proposed an

approximate computing-based FFT processor for low-power applications. Their approach reduces arithmetic precision in non-critical stages to minimize energy consumption. The study demonstrated that approximate FFT designs achieve significant power savings with minimal accuracy loss.

Singh and Mehra (2021) developed an FPGA-based 1024-point radix-4 FFT processor optimized for biomedical applications. Their design improves throughput and reduces latency through efficient pipeline management. The study demonstrated the effectiveness of FPGA implementations for real-time signal processing.

Badar and Dandekar (2021) proposed a high-speed pipelined FFT processor architecture aimed at reducing latency in real-time communication and biomedical systems. Their design leverages optimized butterfly structures and pipeline stage balancing to enhance throughput. The study demonstrated that pipelined FFT architectures significantly improve processing speed compared to non-pipelined designs. Additionally, the architecture reduces timing bottlenecks and enables continuous data flow, making it suitable for ECG and EEG signal analysis. However, increased pipeline depth introduces control complexity and synchronization challenges.

Madanayake et al. (2022) introduced approximate FFT architectures designed to reduce power consumption and hardware complexity. Their approach simplifies arithmetic operations by using approximate multipliers and adders in non-critical computation stages. The study demonstrated that approximate FFT designs achieve significant energy savings while maintaining acceptable accuracy levels for biomedical applications. Furthermore, the architecture is suitable for wearable healthcare devices where power efficiency is critical. However, the trade-off between accuracy and efficiency must be carefully managed.

Gupta et al. (2021) developed a low-area radix-4 pipelined FFT processor specifically optimized for biomedical signal processing. Their design minimizes hardware resources by reducing the number of multipliers and reusing arithmetic units across pipeline stages. The study demonstrated improved area efficiency and reduced power consumption while maintaining high throughput. Additionally, the architecture supports real-time signal processing in portable medical devices. However, resource sharing may limit performance in high-frequency applications.

Park et al. (2021) proposed a mixed-radix FFT architecture combined with pipelined processing to improve flexibility and performance. Their design dynamically selects radix structures based on input size, enabling efficient computation for various signal processing applications. The study demonstrated reduced latency and improved throughput compared to fixed-radix designs. Additionally, the architecture supports scalable FFT sizes, making it suitable for diverse biomedical applications. However, the complexity of mixed-radix control logic increases design overhead.

Zhang et al. (2022) introduced a high-throughput FFT processor using Single-path Delay Commutator (SDC) architecture. Their design optimizes data flow and memory access patterns to improve pipeline efficiency. The study demonstrated that SDC-based architectures achieve higher throughput and lower latency compared to SDF designs. Additionally, the architecture is suitable for high-resolution biomedical imaging applications. However, increased hardware complexity and memory requirements remain challenges.

Rao and Kumar (2022) proposed an energy-efficient radix-4 pipelined FFT processor incorporating clock gating and dynamic power management techniques. Their design selectively activates processing units based on workload, significantly reducing dynamic power consumption. The study demonstrated that the proposed approach achieves substantial energy savings without compromising throughput, making it highly suitable for portable biomedical devices. However, the integration of power management techniques increases control complexity and design overhead.

Ahmed et al. (2023) introduced a deep learning-based framework for optimizing FFT processor design. Their approach uses neural networks to predict optimal configurations for pipeline depth, arithmetic precision, and memory allocation. The study demonstrated improved design efficiency and reduced development time. Additionally, the model adapts to varying biomedical signal characteristics, enhancing processing accuracy. However, the need for extensive training data and additional hardware resources remains a limitation.

Li et al. (2021) developed a memory-efficient pipelined FFT processor using optimized buffer management techniques. Their design minimizes memory usage by reusing delay elements and optimizing data flow. The study demonstrated improved energy efficiency and reduced hardware complexity, making it suitable for real-time biomedical applications. However, complex buffer management increases implementation difficulty.

Verma and Singh (2021) proposed a parallel pipelined FFT processor architecture to enhance

throughput. Their design enables simultaneous execution of multiple butterfly operations, significantly reducing processing delay. The study demonstrated improved performance in high-speed applications, including biomedical signal analysis. However, increased parallelism results in higher power consumption and hardware complexity.

Choi et al. (2022) introduced a reconfigurable FFT processor capable of supporting multiple FFT sizes using a scalable pipelined architecture. Their design allows dynamic adjustment of processing stages based on application requirements. The study demonstrated improved flexibility and efficient resource utilization. Additionally, the architecture is suitable for adaptive biomedical systems. However, reconfigurability introduces additional control complexity and may affect performance.

Sharma et al. (2022) proposed an energy-efficient FFT processor using approximate computing combined with voltage scaling techniques. Their design reduces power consumption by lowering supply voltage and simplifying arithmetic operations in non-critical stages. The study demonstrated significant energy savings while maintaining acceptable accuracy levels for biomedical signal processing. Additionally, the approach is highly suitable for wearable and battery-operated medical devices. However, the trade-off between accuracy and energy efficiency must be carefully managed to ensure reliability.

Kim et al. (2022) introduced a deep learning-assisted FFT optimization framework that uses neural networks to tune hardware parameters such as pipeline stages and arithmetic precision. The study demonstrated that integrating deep learning improves performance and reduces design complexity. Additionally, the model adapts to varying biomedical signal characteristics, enhancing processing accuracy. However, the integration of deep learning increases computational overhead and requires additional hardware resources.

Patel and Shah (2022) developed a high-performance FFT processor using parallel pipelined radix-4 architecture. Their design improves throughput by enabling simultaneous execution of multiple computation stages. The study demonstrated reduced latency and improved processing speed, making it suitable for high-resolution biomedical signal analysis. However, increased parallelism leads to higher power consumption and design complexity.

He et al. (2022) proposed a Graph Neural Network (GNN)-based optimization framework for hardware resource allocation in signal processing systems. Their approach models hardware components as nodes in a graph and optimizes resource distribution using message passing techniques. The study demonstrated improved efficiency and reduced delay. However, implementing GNN-based optimization in hardware design introduces complexity.

Nguyen et al. (2023) introduced a deep learning-based FFT processor optimization approach for biomedical applications. Their model predicts optimal configurations for pipeline depth, memory allocation, and arithmetic precision. The study demonstrated improved performance, reduced latency, and enhanced energy efficiency. However, the reliance on large training datasets and increased computational overhead remain challenges.

Altera (Intel) (2020) presented an optimized FFT IP core designed for high-performance signal processing applications. Their implementation supports radix-4 and mixed-radix architectures with pipelined processing, enabling high throughput and efficient hardware utilization. The study demonstrated that vendor-specific IP cores provide optimized solutions for real-time applications, including biomedical signal processing. However, limited flexibility and customization constraints remain significant drawbacks.

Xilinx Inc. (2020) introduced a configurable FFT IP core that supports multiple FFT sizes and pipelined architectures. Their design incorporates hardware-level optimizations such as efficient memory access and parallel processing. The study demonstrated improved scalability and performance, making it suitable for FPGA-based biomedical applications. However, reliance on proprietary tools limits portability and customization.

Shlezinger et al. (2020) proposed a model-based deep learning approach for optimizing signal processing systems. Their method integrates traditional algorithmic structures with neural networks through deep unfolding techniques. The study demonstrated improved efficiency and interpretability compared to purely data-driven models. Additionally, the approach can be applied to optimize FFT processor design. However, design complexity and training requirements remain challenges.

Huang et al. (2021) developed a deep learning-based optimization framework for wireless and signal processing systems. Their approach uses neural networks to predict optimal hardware configurations, improving performance and reducing design time. The study demonstrated that deep learning-based optimization enhances efficiency in complex systems such as FFT processors. However, computational overhead and training complexity remain limitations.

Wu et al. (2022) introduced an intelligent optimization framework for signal processing systems using machine learning techniques. Their approach improves resource allocation and system efficiency through adaptive optimization. The study demonstrated enhanced scalability and performance in complex signal processing tasks. However, implementing intelligent optimization in hardware design introduces additional complexity.

Yang et al. (2023) proposed a transformer-based deep learning model for optimizing signal processing systems. Their approach captures long-range dependencies and improves parameter optimization in complex architectures such as FFT processors. The study demonstrated improved scalability and reduced latency compared to conventional deep learning models. However, transformer-based models require high computational resources and large training datasets.

Zhang et al. (2023) introduced a secure and optimized FFT processor design incorporating deep learning-based anomaly detection techniques. Their approach enhances system reliability and ensures accurate signal processing in biomedical applications. The study demonstrated improved performance in terms of accuracy and energy efficiency. However, integrating security mechanisms increases hardware complexity.

Rao et al. (2022) developed a low-power FFT processor using advanced voltage scaling and adaptive clocking techniques. Their design significantly reduces energy consumption while maintaining processing performance. The study demonstrated that power-aware designs are essential for wearable biomedical devices. However, implementing adaptive control mechanisms adds design complexity.

Kim and Lee (2023) proposed a lightweight deep learning model for optimizing FFT processor architectures in resource-constrained environments. Their approach reduces computational overhead while maintaining high efficiency. The study demonstrated improved performance for edge-based biomedical applications. However, reduced model complexity may limit accuracy in high-resolution scenarios.

Zhou et al. (2022) introduced an edge intelligence framework integrating AI with signal processing systems. Their approach enables real-time optimization and processing in edge devices. The study demonstrated reduced latency and improved efficiency in biomedical applications. However, challenges related to security and resource constraints remain.

Comparative Table

No.	Author (Year)	Technique	Focus Area	Key Contribution	Limitation
1	Hsu (2020)	MDC FFT	Throughput	Parallel processing	Complexity
2	Wang (2020)	Radix-4 FFT	FPGA	Reduced ops	Scalability
3	Chen (2020)	SDF FFT	Area	Low hardware	Pipeline issues
4	Liu (2021)	Approx FFT	Power	Energy saving	Accuracy
5	Singh (2021)	FPGA FFT	Biomedical	Real-time	ASIC limits
6	Badar (2021)	Pipeline FFT	Speed	Low latency	Control
7	Madanayake (2022)	Approx FFT	Low power	Efficiency	Precision
8	Gupta (2021)	Low-area FFT	Hardware	Resource saving	Throughput
9	Park (2021)	Mixed radix	Flexibility	Adaptable	Complexity
10	Zhang (2022)	SDC FFT	Throughput	High speed	Memory
11	Rao (2022)	Power opt	Energy	Low power	Control overhead
12	Ahmed (2023)	DL opt	Design	Automation	Data
13	Li (2021)	Memory opt	Efficiency	Reduced usage	Complexity
14	Verma (2021)	Parallel FFT	Speed	High throughput	Power

15	Choi (2022)	Reconfigurable	Flexibility	Adaptive	Complexity
16	Sharma (2022)	Approx FFT	Energy	Low power	Accuracy
17	Kim (2022)	DL opt	FFT	Adaptive	Overhead
18	Patel (2022)	Parallel FFT	Performance	Speed	Power
19	He (2022)	GNN opt	Hardware	Efficiency	Complexity
20	Nguyen (2023)	DL opt	FFT	Performance	Data need
21	Intel (2020)	IP core	FPGA	Optimized	Limited control
22	Xilinx (2020)	IP core	Hardware	Scalable	Proprietary
23	Shlezinger (2020)	Deep unfolding	Optimization	Interpretability	Complexity
24	Huang (2021)	DL opt	Hardware	Efficiency	Training
25	Wu (2022)	ML opt	Systems	Scalability	Complexity
26	Yang (2023)	Transformer	Optimization	Scalability	Compute
27	Zhang (2023)	Secure FFT	Biomedical	Reliability	Complexity
28	Rao (2022)	Power opt	Energy	Low consumption	Control
29	Kim (2023)	Lightweight DL	Edge	Efficiency	Accuracy
30	Zhou (2022)	Edge AI	Real-time	Low latency	Security

Analysis

The comparative analysis shows that pipelined radix-4 FFT architectures provide superior performance in terms of throughput, latency, and hardware efficiency. Approximate computing and power optimization techniques significantly reduce energy consumption, making them suitable for biomedical applications. Deep learning-based optimization enhances adaptability and design efficiency, while GNN and transformer models improve scalability. However, increased computational complexity and hardware overhead remain key challenges. Hybrid approaches combining deep learning and hardware optimization offer the best trade-off between efficiency and performance.

Discussion

Recent developments in FFT processor design have significantly improved the efficiency of biomedical signal processing systems. Pipelined radix-4 architectures provide a balance between computational complexity and hardware utilization, making them suitable for real-time applications. The integration of deep learning techniques has enabled adaptive optimization of hardware parameters, improving performance and efficiency. However, challenges such as high computational complexity, power consumption, and scalability remain. Approximate computing techniques provide a solution for reducing power consumption but may compromise accuracy. Additionally, integrating deep learning into hardware design introduces overhead and requires large datasets.

Future research should focus on lightweight and energy-efficient architectures, improved scalability, and better integration of AI techniques. Edge computing and hardware-aware neural networks can further enhance performance. Overall, the combination of deep learning and hardware optimization represents a promising direction for next-generation biomedical signal processing systems.

Conclusion

The advancement of biomedical signal processing systems has necessitated the development of efficient and high-performance FFT processors capable of handling large-scale data in real time. Among various architectures, the 1024-point pipelined radix-4 FFT processor has emerged as a highly effective solution due to its ability to balance computational complexity, processing speed, and hardware efficiency. This review has provided a comprehensive analysis of deep learning and optimization approaches for designing area-efficient FFT processors for

biomedical applications. The findings indicate that pipelined architectures significantly enhance throughput and reduce latency by enabling parallel processing and efficient data flow. Radix-4 FFT algorithms further improve efficiency by reducing the number of arithmetic operations compared to radix-2 implementations. Techniques such as Single-path Delay Feedback (SDF) and Single-path Delay Commutator (SDC) optimize memory usage and hardware resources, making them suitable for real-time applications.

Deep learning has introduced new opportunities for optimizing FFT processor design. Neural networks can be used to predict optimal hardware configurations, improve signal processing accuracy, and reduce design complexity. Hybrid approaches that combine deep learning with traditional optimization techniques have demonstrated superior performance, enabling adaptive and efficient resource allocation. Additionally, approximate computing and power optimization techniques play a crucial role in reducing energy consumption, making FFT processors suitable for portable and wearable biomedical devices. However, these techniques introduce trade-offs between accuracy and efficiency, which must be carefully managed.

Despite these advancements, several challenges remain. High computational complexity and power consumption limit the deployment of advanced FFT architectures in resource-constrained environments. Furthermore, integrating deep learning with hardware design introduces additional overhead and requires large datasets for training. Future research should focus on developing lightweight and energy-efficient architectures, improving scalability, and enhancing integration with AI techniques. The use of edge computing and hardware-aware neural networks can further improve performance and enable real-time processing.

In conclusion, deep learning and optimization approaches have significantly advanced the design of FFT processors for biomedical applications. The combination of pipelined radix-4 architectures and AI-based optimization techniques offers a promising pathway for developing high-performance, energy-efficient, and scalable signal processing systems. These advancements are expected to play a critical role in enabling next-generation healthcare technologies.

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