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Subject: Re: n-point FFT

Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Tue, 21 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Paul Woodford wrote:

>  
> In article <onzoit8fai.fsf@cow.physics.wisc.edu>,  
> craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu wrote:  
>  
>> It's very easy to  
>> do any needed zero-padding yourself (ie, fft([x, fltarr(nzeros)]) ).  
>  
> Easy, but inconvenient. I also missed the Matlab notation when I  
> switched to IDL, and finally hacked a small "efft" function to recreate  
> it.

Different strokes, but I would never recommend this sort of thing mostly because too many times I've seen (both others and myself) get in trouble with FFT's because something I or someone else assumed about the particular FFT implementation (fortran, idl, matlab, C, various flavours - take your pick) was wrong (or non-portable). Particularly when it comes to specifying exactly where the Nyquist point is.

Thus, I would always hope that my colleagues are painstakingly clear about how many points they expect to have in, and with how many zeros they padded, their spectra(um).

> I keep forgetting to send this feature request to RSI...

I wouldn't consider it a feature, but a user bug waiting to happen..... +/- 1 point errors in FFTs can be capriciously subtle :o(

BTW, I'm not bitter...no, not at all (snuckin' fessin' rotten rasterdly FFTs.....)

:o)

paulv

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