
Subject: Re: FFT confusion

Posted by [jefield](#) on Mon, 19 May 2003 15:46:19 GMT

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Kenneth Bowman <k-bowman@null.tamu.edu> wrote in message
news:<k-bowman-FF6825.10385215052003@news.tamu.edu>...

> In article <7126861e.0305150615.29c97045@posting.google.com>,

> jefield@taz.qinetiq.com (Julian Field) wrote:

>

>> Hi,

>>

>> I'd be enormously grateful if anyone could help me with this.

>>

>> I'm looking at the power spectra of "chirp" radio signals and am

>> having problems getting sensible plots. The following code should

>> generate a complex sinusoidal chirp whose frequency runs from 100 to

>> 150 Hz and then plot its power spectrum:

>>

>> However I'm getting a frequency spectrum running from 100 to *200* Hz

>> and I'm really confused. This problem has been bugging me for ages and

>> I'd be very grateful if anyone could point out my mistake(s).

>

> Your signal is not a linear combination of frequencies between 100 and

> 150 Hz. If it were you would get something like this.

>

> pro spec

> time = (2.0/1000)*findgen(1001) ; time (s). NB 1001 samples in 2s

> ; so sampling freq is 500 Hz thus

> ; Nyquist freq is 250 Hz

> i = complex(0,1)

>

> freq1 = REPLICATE(100.0, 1001) ; single frequency #1

> freq2 = REPLICATE(150.0, 1001) ; single frequency #2

>

> theta1 = 2*pi*freq1*time ; chirp phase angle

> theta2 = 2*pi*freq2*time ; chirp phase angle

> signal = exp(i*theta1) + exp(i*theta2)

>

> neg_freq_axis = reverse(-((250.0/500)*findgen(501)))

> pos_freq_axis = ((250.0/499)*findgen(500)) + 1.0

> freq_axis = [neg_freq_axis,pos_freq_axis] ; x-axis for plot

>

> window,2,xsize=500,ysize=250

> plot,freq_axis,alog10(shift(((abs(fft(signal)))^2),500)),

> xrange=[0,260],

> /xstyle,

> xticklen=1,

> xgridstyle=1,

```
> yticklen=1,$
> ygridstyle=1
>
> end
>
> Even in this case you do not get perfect delta-function spikes in the
> power spectrum due to finite signal length and sampling.
>
> To construct your frequency-swept chirp, you have to use frequencies
> over a larger range than the "pure" frequencies contained in your signal.
>
> Ken Bowman
```

Thank you very much for your help.

Best wishes,

Julian
