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Subject: Re: Complications with variance using FFTs  
Posted by [olde\\_english33](#) on Thu, 22 Jul 2004 17:06:12 GMT  
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Craig Markwardt <craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote in message  
news:<onbri943hd.fsf@cow.physics.wisc.edu>...

> olde\_english33@hotmail.com (Eric) writes:

>>

>> From what I can gather from my program, the positive frequencies are  
>> those from 1:15. Then the frequencies from 16:30 are the complex  
>> conjugates of the frequencies from 15:1. Therefore, I think that IDL  
>> is already accounting for the complex conjugate in the negative  
>> frequencies, unless I am missing something.

>

> I think you are missing that when you multiply the positive frequency  
> components by a complex phase, then you must also multiply the  
> negative frequency components by the complex conjugate, i.e. the  
> negative of that phase. To preserve a real signal that is.

>

> That's another probing question, is the final result of your technique  
> real or complex?

>

> Craig

Using my technique of making the phase symmetric produces results that  
are real, or very nearly real considering machine eps. I also tried  
it using the technique you suggested above, but was again  
unsuccessful. For example, one of the returned numbers was (30.3417,  
-3.79635e-15). So I do not think that is the problem, but still have  
no idea what the problem is. Do you have any more suggestions on  
things to check? My colleague believes that inserting a random phase  
is throwing off the ability to INVERSE FFT the data. Do you know if  
this could be a possibility?

Eric

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