
Subject: Re: negative return values after FFT

Posted by edward.s.meinel@aero on Thu, 27 Jul 2006 14:22:00 GMT

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FFT(*, *) can take REAL input and return a COMPLEX result; however, a COMPLEX input always returns a COMPLEX result. To get a REAL result you need to do:

```
inverse = REAL(ABS(FFT(ft, 1)))
```

Ed

PS. The one-line solution: `inverse =
REAL(ABS(FFT(FILTERING_JOB(FFT(image, -1)), 1)))`

adisn123@yahoo.com wrote:

```
> Hi,  
>  
> I did FFT from spacial domain to frequency domain on an image of about  
> 500 x 500 pixel size.  
>  
> IDL> ft = FFT(image, -1)  
>  
> After filtering job, it was inversly fourier tranformed back using  
> IDL> inverse = FFT(ft, 1)  
>  
> When I printed "inverse", the values were complex numbers.  
>  
> 1. Aren't they supposed to real numbers since I tranformed back to  
> spcial domain?  
>  
> When I only get real numbers, using  
> IDL> print, float(FFT(ft,1))  
> There were some negative values in the array (quite a lot).  
>  
> For my understanding, the inversly fourier tranformed values should  
> represent the pixel values corresponding to individual pixel  
> coordinates in 500 x 500 size.  
> How do I interpret those negative pixel values?  
>  
> Thanks.
```
