
Subject: highpass spatial filtering (lon,lat,time)

Posted by [Teddy Allen](#) on Sat, 12 Aug 2017 03:49:46 GMT

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Gulp, after wrestling with this task for the entire day, I am reduced to admitting my IDL programming deficiencies and am thus seeking help / advice / encouragement / comfort / healing from other more knowledgeable IDL users (which is basically global population - 1).

My goal is to compute and plot the 1-10 day frequency (highpass) filtered variance of 250hPa geopotential height (z). I have a time series of 9028 days across the Caribbean at 0.5 deg spatial resolution ([lon,lat,time], z = [201,101,9028]).

I know how to compute the highpass filtered time series (inverse FFT) for one grid cell (code below):

```
PRO FOURIER_FILTER_250Z, type
n = 9028      ;Number of samples in time signal

x = INDGEN(9028) ;Compute independent coordinate

IF (N_ELEMENTS(type) EQ 0) THEN TYPE = 'lowpass'    ;Default filter type
k = [LINDGEN(n/2 + 1), REVERSE(-(1 + LINDGEN(n/2 - 1)))] ;compute wavenumbers

filter = FLTARR(n)                                ;Define filter array
CASE STRUPCASE(type) OF
'LOWPASS' : q = WHERE(ABS(k) LT 902, count) ;Find low frequencies
'HIGHPASS' : q = WHERE(ABS(k) GT 902, count) ;Find high frequencies
'BANDPASS' : q = WHERE((ABS(k) GT 902) AND (ABS(k) LT 9028), count) ;bandpass
frequencies
ELSE : MESSAGE, 'Filter type must be specified.' ;Default function
ENDCASE

;Create filter
IF (count gt 0) THEN filter[q] = 1.0
;Compute Fourier transform (z is a 1-D 9028 array of 250hPa geo ht)
g = FFT(z)
;Filter the signal
gg = filter*g
;Compute the inverse FFT, which is the time filtered time series at one grid

ggg = FFT(gg, /INVERSE)
```

ggg is my highpass filtered time series at one grid cell from which I can now compute the

variance. But, I get into all sorts of trouble when I try to loop the above through lon and lat to calculate the highpass time series at each longitude and latitude grid cell. Does anybody have experience in using IDL to compute highpass filtering across a spatial domain over many days (as in 30 years worth)? Basically, I want to compute ggg for all grid cells across my domain. Sounds simple, right? What am I missing? The below spirals out of control and is filled with errors.

```
g = dcomplexarr(201,101,9028)
gg = dcomplexarr(201,101,9028)
ggg = dcomplexarr(201,101,9028)
IF (count gt 0) THEN filter[q] = 1.0    ;Create filter
  for i = 0,200 do begin
    for j = 0,100 do begin
      for k = 0,9027 do begin
        g[i,j,k] = FFT(z)              ;Compute Fourier transform
        gg[i,j,k] = filter*g[i,j,k]    ;Filter the signal
        ggg[i,j,k] = FFT(gg, /INVERSE)
      endfor
    endfor
  endfor
```

Fingers (and toes) crossed.
Thank you,
teddy
