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Subject: Re: 2D FFT help

Posted by [Randall Skelton](#) on Tue, 08 Oct 2002 16:37:13 GMT

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On Tue, 8 Oct 2002, Randall Skelton wrote:

> So, in the first case, the answer looks correct and is a slight deviation  
> from the standard textbook example of the FFT of a cylinder. In the second  
> case, however, the results looks to be rotated by 90 degrees in the plane,  
> i.e. I think the result and input should look identical. Can someone  
> explain what I have done wrong? I am also somewhat troubled by the spike  
> currently at (0,0)?

I take back what I wrote above... it seems my intuition was wrong... the story of my week.

Cheers,  
Randall

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Subject: Re: 2D FFT help

Posted by [Stein Vidar Hagfors H\[1\]](#) on Tue, 08 Oct 2002 20:41:23 GMT

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Randall Skelton <rhskelto@atm.ox.ac.uk> writes:

> Greetings all,  
>  
> I am trying to perform a multi-dimensional FFT in IDL. I thought I had  
> this figured out (example 1) but I am now feeling (example 2) that this  
[.]  
> ; Shift the array (correct element 0 being the zero frequency component)  
> b\_fixed = shift(b, -1\*64, -1\*64)  
[.]  
> ; Shift the array (correct element 0 being the zero frequency component)  
> spec\_fixed = shift(spec\_cov, -1\*64, -1\*64)  
[.]  
> So, in the first case, the answer looks correct and is a slight deviation  
> from the standard textbook example of the FFT of a cylinder. In the second  
> case, however, the results looks to be rotated by 90 degrees in the plane,  
> i.e. I think the result and input should look identical. Can someone  
> explain what I have done wrong? I am also somewhat troubled by the spike  
> currently at (0,0)?

The two IDL lines above are slightly wrong... After the fft, [0,0] contains the zero frequency component, so if you want to shift it to pixel [n/2,n/2], you should do "just that", i.e.:

```
b_fixed = shift(b,64,64)
spec_fixed = shift(spec_cov,64,64)
```

Note that the choice of  $n/2$  versus  $n/2-1$  as a "center point" may seem arbitrary for visualization purposes (there's no \*center\* of a  $2^n$ -sized array!). However, if you choose  $n/2-1$  instead, (i.e. `shift(...,63,63)`), you're making sure that the (degenerate) highest-frequency point (found at `[64,64]` in the original fft result) does not get wrapped around to `[0,0]`, so this is obviously the correct choice.

The rotation by 90 degrees is exactly as it should be. Just think: what would a 1d transform of the line along the diagonal look like? A single entry at 0 frequency, right? Well, that's what you get if you "integrate away 1 dimension" (summing strips that are normal to your original line, collapsing 2d to 1d). Works in both domains!!

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