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Subject: IDL hilbert() function

Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Sat, 01 Nov 2008 09:14:54 GMT

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Is this function actually computing the Hilbert transform ?

The Hilbert transform is known to be idempotent, i.e.  $H(H(x)) = -x$ .

However, by applying the IDL function, one get for instance :

```
IDL> print, hilbert (hilbert (indgen(8)))
( 6.00000, 0.000000)( 7.00000, 0.000000)
( 4.00000, 0.000000)( 5.00000, 0.000000)
( 2.00000, 0.000000)( 3.00000, 0.000000)
( 0.000000, 0.000000)( 1.00000, 0.000000)
```

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Subject: Re: IDL hilbert() function

Posted by [R.G. Stockwell](#) on Mon, 03 Nov 2008 19:54:28 GMT

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<ed.schmahl@gmail.com> wrote in message

news:f43242be-734b-4098-8bc1-3ab0691270d9@c22g2000prc.google groups.com...

On Nov 3, 2:16 am, Wox <s...@nomail.com> wrote:

> On Sat, 1 Nov 2008 02:14:54 -0700 (PDT), lecacheux.al...@wanadoo.fr

> wrote:

>

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>> The Hilbert transform is known to be idempotent, i.e.  $H(H(x)) = -x$ .

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> It works for this:

> x=findgen(180)/90.\*!pi

> plot,x,hilbert(hilbert(sin(x))),/xs

> oplot,x,-sin(x),psym=1

>

> Not for this (flips):

> plot,hilbert(hilbert((indgen(1000))))

> oplot,indgen(1000),psym=1

>

> I'm not sure why, but check the hilbert.pro in the IDL-lib directory

> to see how it's implemented.

Hello Hilbert fans,

Hilbert.pro is not a perfect implementation of the Hilbert function.

One of its failures is an inability to treat odd numbered arrays properly. Try this:

```
x1=findgen(9)-4 ; Evenly distributed around the origin
y1=abs(x1) ; An even function of x1
h1=hilbert(y1) ; This should be an ODD function of x1, i.e. H(-
x)=-H(x)
plot,x1,y1
oplot,x1,h1,psym=-6 ; But it's clearly not exactly anti-symmetric
about the origin!
```

The problem goes away if you use 10 values instead of 9:

```
x2=findgen(10)-4.5 ; Again evenly distributed around the origin
y2=abs(x2) ; An even function of x2
h2=hilbert(y2) ; This should be an ODD function, i.e., H(-x)=-
H(x)
plot,x2,y2
oplot,x2,h2,psym=-6 ; ... and it is: h2(x2)=-h2(-x2) plus a constant
```

Looking at the source code suggests that an easy fix is possible.

Ed Schmahl

~~~~~

A very long time ago, I modified the code (it is below), check it out. I did run into a number of problems with hilbert in both IDL and MATLAB. Matlab was just flat out wrong (it expanded the time series to be a power of 2, but did not expand the convolving kernel properly). After many arguments in email with a matlab developer, they finally acquiesced (but simply making the wrong behaviour a keyword option (rolls eyes)).

Cheers,  
bob

Here is the code:

```
FUNCTION HILBERT,X,D, ANALYTIC = a ; performs the Hilbert transform of
some data.
  ON_ERROR,2 ; Return to caller if an error occurs
  Y=FFT(X,-1) ; go to freq. domain.
  N=N_ELEMENTS(Y)
```

```

I=COMPLEX(0.0,-1.0)

IF N_PARAMS(X) EQ 2 THEN I=I*D
N2=ceil(N/2.)-1      ; effect of odd and even # of elements
                    ; considered here.
y(0) = complex(0,0) ; zero the DC value (required for hilbert
trans.)
Y(1)=Y(1:N2)*I      ; multiplying by I rotates counter c.w. 90 deg.
if (n mod 2) eq 0 then Y(N2+1) = complex(0,0) ; don't need this
N2=N-N2
Y(N2)=Y(N2:N-1)/I
Y=float(FFT(Y,1)) ; go back to time domain
if keyword_set(a) then y = complex(x,y)
RETURN,y

END

```

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Subject: Re: IDL hilbert() function  
Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Tue, 04 Nov 2008 13:45:56 GMT  
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```

On 3 nov, 20:54, "R.G. Stockwell" <notha...@noemail.com> wrote:
> <ed.schm...@gmail.com> wrote in message
>
> news:f43242be-734b-4098-8bc1-3ab0691270d9@c22g2000prc.google groups.com...
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```

```

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> Here is the code:
>
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> some data.
>     ON_ERROR,2 ; Return to caller if an error occurs
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>     N=N_ELEMENTS(Y)
>
>     I=COMPLEX(0.0,-1.0)
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>     IF N_PARAMS(X) EQ 2 THEN I=I*D
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>     if keyword_set(a) then y = complex(x,y)
>     RETURN,y
>
> END- Masquer le texte des messages précédents -
>
> - Afficher le texte des messages précédents -

```

Thank you all for answering: I was a little bit confused in finding both IDL (6.4) and Matlab (5.4) in error. But you confirmed that ! Thanks for the code. Using IDL, a simpler one might be :

```

function Hilbert, x, DOUBLE=double
  n = N_elements (x)
  m = ((n mod 2) eq 0) ? [0, dblarr(n/2-1) + 1, 0, dblarr(n/2-1) -
1] : [0, dblarr((n-1)/2) + 1, dblarr((n-1)/2) - 1]
  return, fft (fft (x, -1, DOUBLE=double)*m*complex(0,1), 1,
DOUBLE=double)
end

```

```

function Analytic, x, DOUBLE=double
  n = N_elements (x)
  m = ((n mod 2) eq 0) ? [1, dblarr(n/2-1) + 2, 1, dblarr(n/2-1)] :
[1, dblarr((n-1)/2) + 2, dblarr((n-1)/2)]
  return, fft (fft (x, -1, DOUBLE=double)*m, 1, DOUBLE=double)
end

```

alx.

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