

MEP Introduction Report

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Abstract

A short revision on the continuous Fourier transform, and the discrete approximation of it.

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0.1 Approximating continious Fourier transform with dicrete Fourier transform

Lets start with a small refresher on Fourier transforms, and evaluate how to approximate the continious Fourier transform with the discrete Fourier transform.

0.1.1 Original definitions

The continious Fourier transfrom (CFT) of function $f(x)$ is defined as:

$$\mathcal{F}\{f(x)\} = F(\nu) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i2\pi\nu x} f(x) dx. \quad (0.1)$$

The inverse of the CFT is given by:

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{F(\nu)\} = f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i2\pi\nu x} F(\nu) d\nu. \quad (0.2)$$

The discrete Fourtier transform (DFT) of discrete function $f[n]$ defined on $n \in \{0, \dots, N-1\}$ is given by:

$$\text{DFT}\{f[n]\} = F[k] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{-i2\pi kn} f[n], \forall k \in \{0, \dots, N-1\}. \quad (0.3)$$

The inverse of the CFT is given by:

$$\text{DFT}^{-1}\{F[k]\} = f[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} e^{i2\pi kn} F[k], \forall n \in \{0, \dots, N-1\}. \quad (0.4)$$

0.1.2 Discrete approximation CFT

If one approximates function $f(x)$ by $f[x_0 + n\Delta x]$, $\forall n \in \{0, \dots, N-1\}$, and ν by $k\Delta\nu$, $\forall k \in \{0, \dots, N-1\}$, where:

$$\Delta x \Delta \nu = \frac{1}{N}, \quad (0.5)$$

starting from eq. (0.1), one can obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} F(\nu) &\approx F[k\Delta\nu] = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \Delta x f[x_0 + n\Delta x] \exp[-i2\pi k\Delta\nu(x_0 + n\Delta x)], \\ &= \Delta x \exp[-i2\pi k\Delta\nu x_0] \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \exp[-i2\pi nk/N] f[x_0 + n\Delta x], \\ &= \Delta x \exp[-i2\pi k\Delta\nu x_0] \text{DFT}\{f[n]\}. \end{aligned} \quad (0.6)$$

Similary, we can reobtain the original function $f(x) \approx f[n\Delta x + x_0]$ from the approximation of $F(\nu) \approx F[k\Delta\nu]$, using eq. (0.2):

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) \approx f[n\Delta x + x_0] &= \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \Delta\nu F[k\Delta\nu] \exp[i2\pi k\Delta\nu(n\Delta x + x_0)] \\ &= \Delta\nu \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} F[k\Delta\nu] \exp[i2\pi k\Delta\nu x_0] \exp[i2\pi kn/N]. \end{aligned} \quad (0.7)$$

Defining:

$$G[k\Delta\nu] = \exp[i2\pi k\Delta\nu x_0] F[k\Delta\nu], \quad (0.8)$$

we find:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) \approx f[n\Delta x + x_0] &= \Delta\nu \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} G[k\Delta\nu] \exp[i2\pi kn/N] \\ &= \Delta\nu \text{DFT}^{-1} \{G[k\Delta\nu]\} \end{aligned} \quad (0.9)$$

0.1.3 Convolutions

Definition of concolution The concolution of two functions $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ is defined as te integral:

$$h(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\bar{x})g(x - \bar{x})d\bar{x}. \quad (0.10)$$

Assuming $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ have a limited domain, $h(n)$ will also have a limited domain, given by:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \begin{cases} f(x), & x_{0,f} \leq x \leq x_{1,f} \\ 0, & x < x_{0,f} \vee x > x_{1,f} \end{cases}, \\ g(x) &= \begin{cases} g(x), & x_{0,g} \leq x \leq x_{1,g} \\ 0, & x < x_{0,g} \vee x > x_{1,g} \end{cases}, \\ h(x) &= \begin{cases} h(x), & x_{0,f} + x_{0,g} \leq x \leq x_{1,f} + x_{1,g} \\ 0, & x < x_{0,f} + x_{0,g} \vee x > x_{1,f} + x_{1,g} \end{cases}. \end{aligned} \quad (0.11)$$

This simplifies eq. (0.10) to:

$$h(x) = \int_{x_{0,f}}^{x_{1,f}} f(\bar{x})g(x - \bar{x})d\bar{x}. \quad (0.12)$$

Futhermore, the Fourier transform of the convolution has the beautiful property that, for the limited domain functions, but this can be extended into infinity:

$$\begin{aligned} H(\nu) &= \int_{x_{0,1}+x_{0,g}}^{x_{1,f}+x_{1,g}} h(x) \exp[-i2\pi\nu x] dx, \\ &= \int_{x_{0,1}+x_{0,g}}^{x_{1,f}+x_{1,g}} \int_{x_{0,1}}^{x_{1,f}} f(\bar{x})g(x - \bar{x})d\bar{x} \exp[-i2\pi\nu x] dx, \\ &= \int_{x_{0,1}}^{x_{1,f}} \int_{x_{0,1}+x_{0,g}}^{x_{1,f}+x_{1,g}} g(x - \bar{x}) \exp[-i2\pi\nu x] dx f(\bar{x})d\bar{x}. \end{aligned} \quad (0.13)$$

Defining $\hat{x} = x - \bar{x}$, evaluation the limits on the integrals and realising $d\hat{x} = dx$, you obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} H(\nu) &= \int_{x_{0,f}}^{x_{1,f}} \int_{x_{0,g}}^{x_{1,g}} g(\hat{x}) \exp[-i2\pi\nu(\hat{x} + \bar{x})] d\hat{x} f(\bar{x}) d\bar{x}, \\ &= \int_{x_{0,g}}^{x_{1,g}} g(\hat{x}) \exp[-i2\pi\nu\hat{x}] d\hat{x} \int_{x_{0,f}}^{x_{1,f}} f(\bar{x}) \exp[-i2\pi\nu\bar{x}] d\bar{x}, \\ &= F(\nu)G(\nu). \end{aligned} \quad (0.14)$$

Discretisation of the convolution and its CFT Again, we can approximate $f(x)$, $g(x)$ and $h(n)$ by:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &\approx f[n_f(\Delta x)_f + x_{0,f}], \forall n_f \in \{0, N_f - 1\}, (\Delta x)_f = (x_{1,f} - x_{0,f})/N_f, \\ g(x) &\approx g[n_g(\Delta x)_g + x_{0,g}], \forall n_g \in \{0, N_g - 1\}, (\Delta x)_g = (x_{1,g} - x_{0,g})/N_g. \end{aligned} \quad (0.15)$$

If we ensure that $(\Delta x)_f = (\Delta x)_g \equiv \Delta x$, we can approximate $h(n)$:

$$h(x) \approx h[n_h \Delta x + x_{0,f} + x_{0,g}], \forall n_h \in \{0, N_f + N_g - 1\}, \quad (0.16)$$

where

$$h[n_h \Delta x + x_{0,f} + x_{0,g}] = \sum_{k=0}^{N_f-1} f[k\Delta x + x_{0,f}] g[n\Delta x + x_{0,g} - k\Delta x] \Delta x. \quad (0.17)$$

To discretize the continuous Fourier transform, we once again need to define $\Delta\nu$, but mind the difference for $\Delta\nu$ for the discretisations of $f(x)$ or $g(x)$ and $h(x)$:

$$\begin{aligned} (\Delta\nu)_f &= \frac{1}{N_f \Delta x} \\ (\Delta\nu)_g &= \frac{1}{N_g \Delta x} \\ (\Delta\nu)_h &= \frac{1}{(N_f + N_g) \Delta x} \\ &= ((\Delta\nu)_f^{-1} + (\Delta\nu)_g^{-1})^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (0.18)$$

Now the discrete approximation of the CFT of the convolution (given by eq. (0.13)) is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} H(\nu) &\approx H[k(\Delta\nu)_h] = \sum_{n=0}^{N_f+N_g-1} h[n\Delta x + x_{0,f} + x_{0,g}] \exp[-i2\pi k(\Delta\nu)_h(n\Delta x + x_{0,f} + x_{0,g})] \Delta x, \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{N_f+N_g-1} \sum_{l=0}^{N_f-1} f[l\Delta x + x_{0,f}] g[(n-l)\Delta x + x_{0,g}] \exp[-i2\pi k(\Delta\nu)_h(n\Delta x + x_{0,f} + x_{0,g})] (\Delta x)^2. \end{aligned} \quad (0.19)$$

Defining $m = n - l$, and swapping summation order, you obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
H[k(\Delta\nu)_h] = (\Delta x)^2 \exp[-2\pi i k(\Delta\nu)_h x_{0,f}] & \sum_{l=0}^{N_f-1} f[l(\Delta\nu)_h + x_{0,f}] \\
& \exp[-2\pi i k(\Delta\nu)_h x_{0,g}] \sum_{m=-l}^{N_f+N_g-l-1} g[m\Delta x + x_{0,g}] \exp[-2\pi i k(\Delta\nu)_h(m+l)\Delta x],
\end{aligned} \tag{0.20}$$

reevaluating the boundries on the second summation, inputing eq. (0.18) and shuffling above result leads to:

$$\begin{aligned}
H[k(\Delta\nu)_h] = \exp[-2\pi i k(\Delta\nu)_h x_{0,f}] & \sum_{l=0}^{N_f-1} f[l(\Delta\nu)_h + x_{0,f}] \exp[-2\pi i k l / (N_f + N_g)] \\
& \exp[-2\pi i k(\Delta\nu)_h x_{0,g}] \sum_{m=0}^{N_g-1} g[m\Delta x + x_{0,g}] \exp[-2\pi i k h m / (N_f + N_g)].
\end{aligned} \tag{0.21}$$

Looking at the above equation, one almost recognizes a multiplication of two approximate CFT's (see eq. (0.6)). However, there is a significant difference, which means it is not a simple multiplication of the two CFT's: where in the CFT of the singular function, you see that $\Delta\nu = 1/N_f$ or $\Delta\nu = 1/N_g$ resectively, whereas in eq. (0.21), $\Delta\nu = 1/(N_f + N_g)$, as given by eq. (0.18). Nor is it a simple factor with which the CFT's could be multiplied: the factor is present in the exponential within the summations. Each single exponential term in the summations need to raised to the power $(N_f + N_g)/N_f$ and $(N_f + N_g)/N_g$ respectively. **THIS IS THE PROBLEM.**

0.1.4 Other calculations on CFTs

For the deconvolution of the spectra, we will need the devision and logaritmic values of two CFT's.