

**University of Brasília**  
**Electrical Engineering Department**



**Topics in Biomedical Engineering**  
**Exercise 3.17 - Semmlow**

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July 31, 2022

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# 1 Exercises

## 1.1 Exercise 3.17:

The MATLAB's code:

```
1 % exercise 3.17 - Semmlow
2 clc; close all; clear all;
3
4 load short.mat % variable x -> 32 points
5 fs = 1; % sampling frequency
6 N = length(x); % number of points
7 f = (0:N-1)*(fs/N); % frequency axis without zero
   padding
8
9 N2 = 256; % number points 0 (zero padding)
10 f2 = (0:N2-1)*(fs/N2); % frequency axis w/ zero padding
11
12 X_fft = fft(x); % fft
13 X_mag = (2/N)*abs(X_fft(1:N/2)); % fft normalized mag
14
15 X_fft_zp = fft(x,N2); % w/ zero padding fft
16 X_mag_zp = (2/N)*abs(X_fft_zp(1:N2/2)); % w/ zero
   padding fft mag
17
18 subplot(2,1,1);
19 plot(f(1:N/2), X_mag, 'b', 'linewidth', 2, 'DisplayName
   ', 'No padding'); % fft mag
20 set(gca, 'xlim', [0 0.5], 'ylim', [0 0.06]);
21 xlabel('Frequency (Hz)');
22 ylabel('Amplitude');
23 legend('Orientation','vertical','Box','on','Location','
   southoutside');
24 grid on;
25
26 subplot(2,1,2);
27 plot(f2(1:N2/2), X_mag_zp, 'k', 'linewidth', 2, '
   DisplayName', '256 padding'); % w/ zero padding fft
   mag
28 set(gca, 'xlim', [0 0.5], 'ylim', [0 0.06]);
```

```

29 xlabel('Frequency (Hz)');
30 ylabel('Amplitude');
31 legend('Orientation','vertical','Box','on','Location','southoutside');
32 grid on;
33
34 sgtitle('Zero Padding Effect','Interpreter','latex');
35 saveas(gcf,sprintf('%s.png',mfilename)); % save image

```

According to the Figure 1, it's possible to note the interpolation effect provided by zero padding. The blue curve, that is a very short signal with 32 samples, is more abrupt in your way because the MATLAB provides a straight line between the points of the array. In contrast, when is used a zero padding of 256 samples, the black curve turns smoother as a result of the interpolation. It's important to mention that this zero padding interpolation don't add new information to the signal neither generates a better resolution of the signal, but only gets a better spectrum visualization.

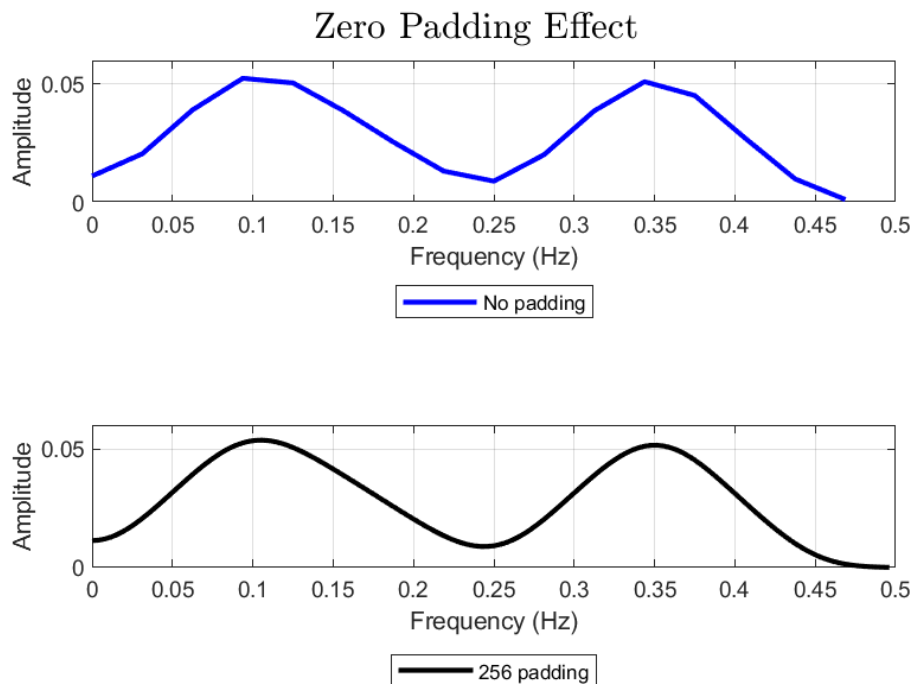


Figure 1: Zero Padding Effect