



## mscohere

Magnitude squared coherence

### Syntax

```
Cxy = mscohere(x, y)
Cxy = mscohere(x, y, window)
Cxy = mscohere(x, y, window, noverlap)
[Pxy, W] = mscohere(x, y, window, noverlap, nfft)
[Cxy, F] = mscohere(x, y, window, noverlap, nfft, fs)
[...] = mscohere(x, y, ..., 'whole')
mscohere(...)
```

### Description

`Cxy = mscohere(x, y)` finds the magnitude squared coherence estimate `Cxy` of the input signals `x` and `y` using Welch's averaged, modified periodogram method. The magnitude squared coherence estimate is a function of frequency with values between 0 and 1 that indicates how well `x` corresponds to `y` at each frequency. The coherence is a function of the power spectral density ( $P_{xx}$  and  $P_{yy}$ ) of `x` and `y` and the cross power spectral density ( $P_{xy}$ ) of `x` and `y`.

$$C_{xy}(f) = \frac{|P_{xy}(f)|^2}{P_{xx}(f)P_{yy}(f)}$$

`x` and `y` must be the same length. For real `x` and `y`, `mscohere` returns a one-sided coherence estimate and for complex `x` or `y`, it returns a two-sided estimate.

`mscohere` uses the following default values:

Parameter	Description	Default Value
nfft	<p>FFT length which determines the frequencies at which the coherence is estimated</p> <p>For real <code>x</code> and <code>y</code>, the length of <code>Cxy</code> is <math>(nfft/2+1)</math> if <code>nfft</code> is even or <math>(nfft+1)/2</math> if <code>nfft</code> is odd. For complex <code>x</code> or <code>y</code>, the length of <code>Cxy</code> is <code>nfft</code>.</p> <p>If <code>nfft</code> is greater than the signal length, the data is zero-padded. If <code>nfft</code> is less than the signal length, the segment is wrapped using <code>datawrap</code> so that the length is equal to <code>nfft</code>.</p>	Maximum of 256 or the next power of 2 greater than the length of each section of <code>x</code> or <code>y</code>
fs	Sampling frequency	1
window	Windowing function and number of samples to use for each section	Periodic Hamming window of length to obtain eight equal sections of <code>x</code> and <code>y</code>

noverlap	Number of samples by which the sections overlap	Value to obtain 50% overlap
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**Note** You can use the empty matrix `[]` to specify the default value for any input argument except `x` or `y`. For example, `Pxy = mscohere(x, y, [], [], 128)` uses a Hamming window, default `noverlap` to obtain 50% overlap, and the specified 128 `nfft`.

`Cxy = mscohere(x, y, window)` specifies a windowing function, divides `x` and `y` into equal overlapping sections of the specified window length, and windows each section using the specified window function. If you supply a scalar for `window`, `Cxy` uses a Hamming window of that length. `mscohere` zero pads the sections if the window length exceeds `nfft`.

`Cxy = mscohere(x, y, window, noverlap)` overlaps the sections of `x` by `noverlap` samples. `noverlap` must be an integer smaller than the length of `window`.

`[Pxy, W] = mscohere(x, y, window, noverlap, nfft)` uses the specified FFT length `nfft` to calculate the coherence estimate. It also returns `W`, which is the vector of normalized frequencies (in rad/sample) at which the coherence is estimated. For real `x` and `y`, `Cxy` length is  $(nfft/2 + 1)$  if `nfft` is even and if `nfft` is odd, the length is  $(nfft+1)/2$ . For complex `x` or `y`, the length of `Cxy` is `nfft`. For real signals, the range of `W` is  $[0, \pi]$  when `nfft` is even and  $[0, \pi]$  when `nfft` is odd. For complex signals, the range of `W` is  $[0, 2\pi]$ .

`[Cxy, F] = mscohere(x, y, window, noverlap, nfft, fs)` returns `Cxy` as a function of frequency and a vector `F` of frequencies at which the coherence is estimated. `fs` is the sampling frequency in Hz. For real signals, the range of `F` is  $[0, fs/2]$  when `nfft` is even and  $[0, fs/2]$  when `nfft` is odd. For complex signals, the range of `F` is  $[0, fs]$ .

`[...] = mscohere(x, y, ..., 'whole')` returns a coherence estimate with frequencies that range over the whole Nyquist interval. Specifying `'half'` uses half the Nyquist interval.

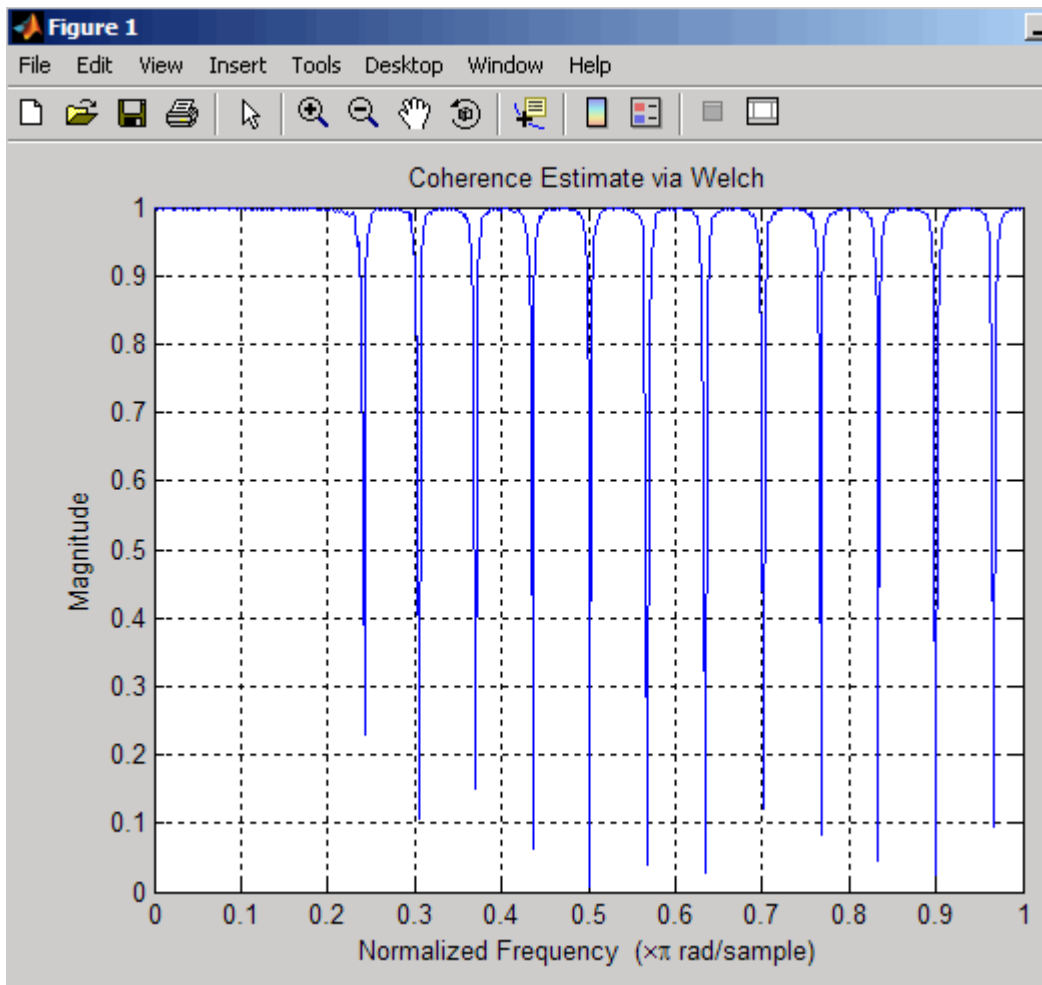
`mscohere(...)` plots the magnitude squared coherence versus frequency in the current figure window.

**Note** If you use `mscohere` on two linearly related signals [\[1\]](#) with a single, non-overlapping window, the output for all frequencies is `Cxy = 1`.

## Examples

Compute and plot the coherence estimate between two colored noise sequences `x` and `y`:

```
randn('state', 0);
h = fir1(30, 0.2, rectwin(31));
h1 = ones(1, 10)/sqrt(10);
r = randn(16384, 1);
x = filter(h1, 1, r);
y = filter(h, 1, x);
mscohere(x, y, hanning(1024), 512, 1024)
```



## Algorithm

`mscohere` estimates the magnitude squared coherence function [2] using Welch's averaged periodogram method (see references [3] and [4]).

## References

- [1] Stoica, P., and R. Moses. *Introduction to Spectral Analysis*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1997. Pgs.61-64.
- [2] Kay, S.M. *Modern Spectral Estimation*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1988. Pg.454.
- [3] Rabiner, L.R., and B. Gold. *Theory and Application of Digital Signal Processing*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1975.
- [4] Welch, P.D. "The Use of Fast Fourier Transform for the Estimation of Power Spectra: A Method Based on Time Averaging Over Short, Modified Periodograms." *IEEE® Trans. Audio Electroacoust.* Vol. AU-15 (June 1967). Pgs.70-73.

## See Also

[cpsd](#), [periodogram](#), [pwelch](#), [spectrum](#), [tfestimate](#)

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