

On the use of quasi-random sets for the decimation of continuous wavelet transforms

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joint work with Günther Koliander, Clara Hollomey, and Friedrich Pillichshammer

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09.11.2023

- 1 Preliminaries
- 2 Discretization of the wavelet transform
- 3 Enter Quasi-Random Sequences
- 4 Grid-Based Wavelet Decimation

Preliminaries

Discretization of continuous time-frequency representations

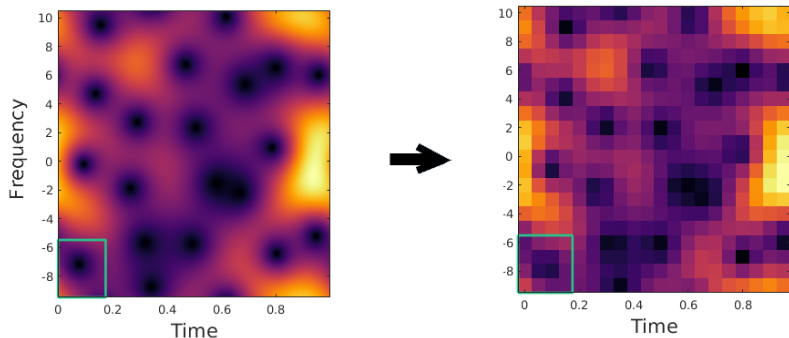


Figure: Continuous STFT (left) and discretized STFT (right).

In this talk:

- Perfect reconstruction of input from discrete coefficients (**Invertibility**)
- Approximate energy-preservation between input and coefficients (**Stability**)

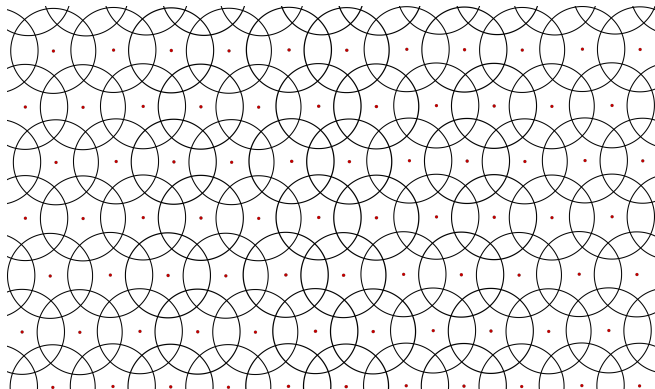
The discrete representation forms a **frame**.

The STFT is generated by time-frequency shifts of a fixed window function g :

$$V_g f(x, \xi) = \langle f, g_{x, \xi} \rangle = \mathcal{F}(f \cdot \overline{g_{x, 0}})(\xi), \quad \text{where } g_{x, \xi}(t) = g(t - x)e^{2\pi i \xi t} \quad (1)$$

- Time-frequency resolution is uniform (no dependence on (x, ξ)).
- Discretization on a regular grid ($x = \ell a, \xi = j b, j, \ell \in \mathbb{Z}, a, b > 0$) is common and works well.
- Very efficient via windowed FFT.

Other discretizations are possible, sometimes similarly efficient, but uncommon. For example, random or on a general **lattice**:



Consider a family $\Psi = (\psi_\xi)_\xi$ and define

$$V_\Psi f(x, \xi) = \langle f, \psi_\xi(\bullet - x) \rangle = (f * \overline{\psi_\xi(-\bullet)})(x). \quad (2)$$

- (Continuous) linear, time-invariant filter bank.
- Time-frequency representation if each ψ_ξ is time-frequency localized around $(0, \xi)$.
- Time-frequency resolution may change with frequency ξ .

Consider $\Psi = (\psi_\xi)_\xi$, with $\psi_\xi = \mathbf{D}_{\xi^{-1}}\psi = \sqrt{\xi}\psi(\xi \cdot \bullet)$. Then

$$V_\Psi f(x, \xi) = \langle f, \psi_\xi(\bullet - x) \rangle =: W_\psi f(x, \xi) \quad (3)$$

is the continuous wavelet transform of f with respect to the mother wavelet ψ .

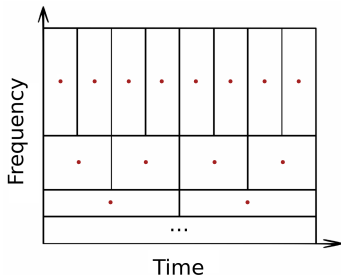


Figure: Illustration of wavelet time-frequency resolution.

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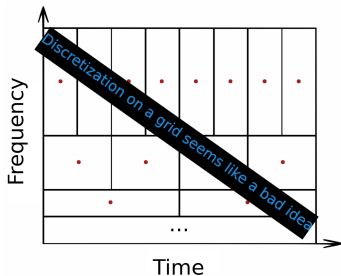


Figure: Illustration of wavelet time-frequency resolution.

A countable (or even finite) subset of $(\psi_j)_j \subset \Psi$ is a frame, if there exist constants $0 < A \leq B < \infty$, such that

$$A\|f\|^2 \leq \sum_j |\langle f, \psi_j \rangle|^2 \leq B\|f\|^2, \quad \forall f. \quad (4)$$

- Implies that the discretization can be inverted (perfect reconstruction is possible)
- B/A is stability estimate (think condition number)
- Generalization of stable spanning sets (e.g., orthonormal bases)
- There is a **dual frame** $(\widetilde{\psi}_j)_j$, such that $f = \sum_j \langle f, \psi_j \rangle \widetilde{\psi}_j$, for all f .

Discretization of the wavelet transform

By convention, $W_\psi f$ is usually discretized to log-uniformly-spaced frequencies $\xi = s^m$, $d > 0$, $j \in \mathbb{Z}$.

- Uniform decimation of $x = \ell d$, $d > 0$, $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$, e.g., à trous algorithm,
- Dyadic wavelet bases: $s = 2$ and $x = 2^{-j} \ell$, $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$.

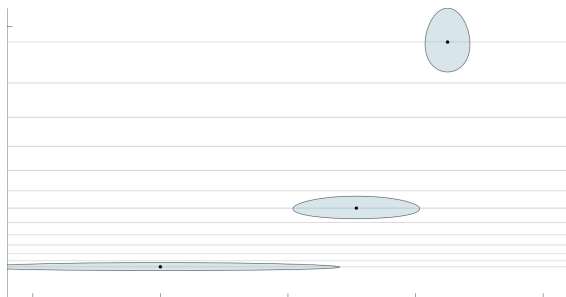


Figure: Illustration of “classical” wavelet discretization.

More general (constant-Q-like) low-to-moderate redundancy wavelet discretization: $W_\psi f(s^{-j} d\ell, s^j)$, $j, \ell \in \mathbb{Z}$, for some $s.d > 0$.

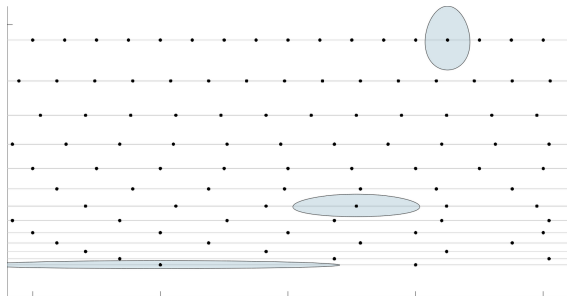


Figure: Illustration of “classical” wavelet discretization.

- Coefficients are not aligned
- No meaningful notion of time frames
- No use of efficient matrix calculus or matrix methods
- Dual frame $(\widetilde{\psi}_{j,\ell})_{j,\ell}$ is unstructured in general
- Reconstruction is inefficient or even computationally infeasible

Can we find a wavelet discretization that combines uniform decimation, low redundancy and efficient, perfect reconstruction

Enter Quasi-Random (Low Discrepancy)
Sequences

Usually, $(p_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ in a domain Ω (think the unit cube $[0, 1)^D$) is a **quasi-random sequence** or **equidistributed**, if

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\#\left((p_0, \dots, p_{N-1}) \cap B\right)}{N} = \frac{|B|}{|\Omega|}, \quad (5)$$

for all **nice** sets $B \subset \Omega$.

The proportion of points falling into B is proportional to the size of B .

Given a set of points $P_N = (p_0, \dots, p_{N-1})$, its discrepancy is

$$D(P_N) = \sup_{B \in \mathcal{B}} \left| \frac{\#(P_N \cap B)}{N} - \frac{|B|}{|\Omega|} \right|, \quad (6)$$

where \mathcal{B} is the collection of all nice sets.

Discrepancy measures the equidistribution of finite sets.

Informally, a sequence $(p_0, p_1, \dots) \subset \mathcal{B}$, has **low discrepancy**, if $D(P_N)$, with $P_N = (p_0, \dots, p_{N-1})$, is small for all $N \in \mathbb{N}$.

Note: The appropriate notion of “small” depends on \mathcal{B} , Ω , and the considered problem.

Main use: Better substitute for random samples in Monte Carlo schemes.

Set

$\Omega = [0, 1)^D$ and $\mathcal{B} = \{[a_0, b_0) \times \dots \times [a_{D-1}, b_{D-1}) : 0 \leq a_j < b_j < 1, \text{ for all } j = 0, \dots, D-1\}$

i.e., boxes in the unit cube.

There exist sequences $(p_0, p_1, \dots) \subset [0, 1)^D$ that achieve $D(P_N) \leq C_D \log(N)^d / N$.

This is optimal for $D = 1, 2$ and conjectured to be optimal for any $D \in \mathbb{N}$.

Construction of good sequences can be quite involved, especially if D is large. See, e.g.,

- J. Dick and F. Pillichshammer. *Digital Nets and Sequences: Discrepancy Theory and Quasi-Monte Carlo Integration*
- L. Kuipers and H. Niederreiter. *Uniform Distribution of Sequences*

Luckily, there are very simple constructions for $D = 1$.

Fix some **badly approximable number** $\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$, e.g., $\alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}, \sqrt{2}, \dots$. Then

$$p_n = \alpha n - \lfloor \alpha n \rfloor, \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}_0, \quad (7)$$

defines a low discrepancy sequence.

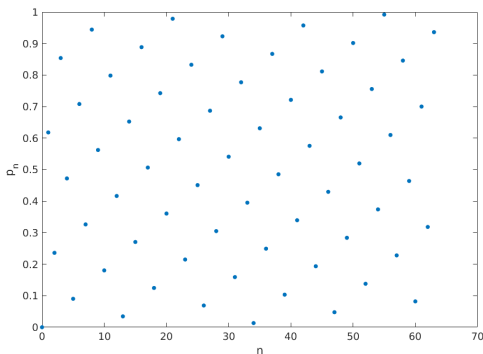


Figure: First 64 elements of the Kronecker sequence with $\alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$.

Grid-Based Wavelet Decimation - With Delays

Recall that $W_\psi f(x, \xi)$ represents the time-frequency energy of f around time x and frequency ξ :

- The mother wavelet ψ is localized around time 0 and frequency 1.
- $\psi_\xi(\bullet - x)$ is localized around time x and frequency ξ .

For some step size $d > 0$, a base frequency ξ_b , a frequency step $q \in 1/\mathbb{N}$, and $(p_n)_n$ a Kronecker sequence, we consider $W_\psi f$ at the points $(d(\ell + p_{j-1}), \xi_b(1 + jq))_{j \in \mathbb{Z}, \ell \in \mathbb{N}}$. Equivalently, we delay $\psi_{\xi_b(1+jq)}$ by $0 \leq dp_{j-1} < d$ and filter with decimation step d .

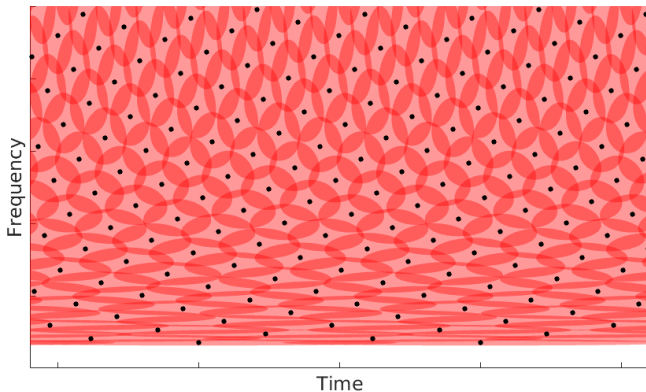


Figure: Time-frequency coverings generated by a uniform grid with Kronecker delays.

Theorem (Invertible Wavelet Decimation)

If the mother wavelet ψ is (essentially) compactly supported and sufficiently smooth, if ξ_b is not too large, and if $(p_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ is as before, then there exist positive constants $c_j > 0$, $j \in \mathbb{Z}$, such that the wavelet system $(c_j \cdot \psi_{\xi_j}(\bullet - x_{\ell,j}))_{\ell,j \in \mathbb{Z}}$ with

$$\xi_j = \xi_b(1 + jq), \quad j \geq 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_j = (1 + q)^j \cdot \xi_b, \quad j < 0, \quad (8)$$

and

$$x_{\ell,j} = d(l + p_j), \quad l, j \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (9)$$

is a frame, provided that $d > 0$ and $q \in 1/\mathbb{N}$ are small enough. In particular, for $j \geq 0$, all c_j can be chosen equal to 1.

Note: In practice, the frequencies ξ_j , $j < 0$, are covered by a (set of) low-pass filter(s).

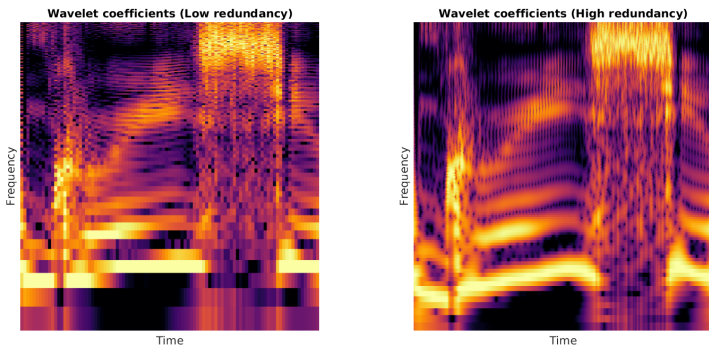


Figure: Spectrogram of grid-based wavelets, with log-scaled frequency axis.

Grid-Based Wavelet Decimation - With Rotation

Let $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ be a **badly approximable number** and define

$$AZ^2, \quad \text{with} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\alpha \\ \alpha & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Consider $W_\psi f(x, \xi)$ at all points $(x, \xi) \in AZ^2 \cap (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+)$.

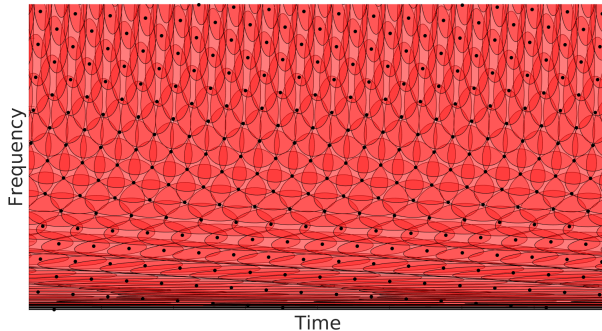


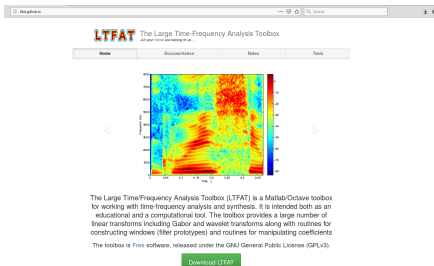
Figure: Time-frequency covering generated by a rotated lattice.

Theorem (Invertible Wavelet Decimation)

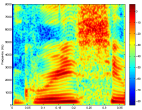
If the mother wavelet ψ is (essentially) compactly supported and sufficiently smooth, and let $(\lambda_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$, with $\lambda_n = (x_n, \xi_n)$, be any ordering of $A\mathbb{Z}^2 \cap (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+)$, i.e., $(\lambda_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} = A\mathbb{Z}^2 \cap (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+)$ as sets. Then, for any $\beta > 0$ small enough, the wavelet system

$$(\psi_{\xi_n}(\bullet - x_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} \quad (10)$$

is a frame.



LTFAT The Large Time-Frequency Analysis Toolbox
All your friends are waiting to see

Name	Documentation	Notes	Tools
			

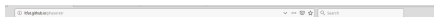
The Large Time-Frequency Analysis Toolbox (LTFAT) is a Matlab/Octave toolbox for working with time-frequency analysis and synthesis. It is intended both as an educational and a computational tool. The toolbox provides a large number of linear transforms including Gabor and wavelet transforms along with routines for constructing windows (filter prototypes) and routines for manipulating coefficients.

The toolbox is Free software, released under the GNU General Public License (GPLv3).

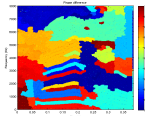
[Download LTFAT](#)

- LTFAT - The Large Time-Frequency Analysis Toolbox - lftat.github.io
- PHASERET - Phase retrieval toolbox - lftat.github.io/phaseret/
- libLTFAT - C backend library - lftat.github.io/liblftat/
- Webpage of this paper - lftat.github.io/notes/057/

MATLAB/octave Toolbox for
time-frequency analysis (with C
backend)



PHASERET Phase Retrieval Toolbox
0.9.0 (2023-08-08)



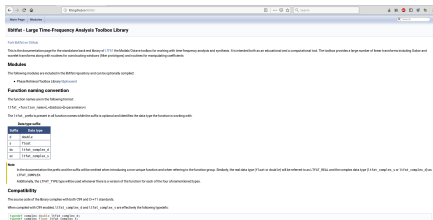
Matlab/GNU Octave toolbox extending LTFAT by collecting implementations of phase-reconstruction algorithms for complex time-frequency representations (like STFT).

The toolbox is Free software, released under the GNU General Public License (GPLv3).

Download Phaseret!

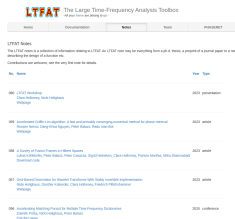
MATLAB/octave Toolbox for phaseless reconstruction with short-time Fourier transforms (with on- and offline methods and C backend)

- LTFAT - The Large Time-Frequency Analysis Toolbox - [ltfat.github.io](https://github.com/ltfat)
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Standalone version of the LTFAT C backend library



LTFAT The Large Time-Frequency Analysis Toolbox

Name	Description	Build	Test	CI/CD	
LTFAT Notes					
The LTFAT notes is a collection of information regarding LTFAT. An LTFAT note may be extracted from GitHub Actions, a part of a journal paper or a book describing the design of a toolbox etc. Contributions are welcome, see the way how to use the details.					
No. Name				View Type	
000	LTFAT Toolbox LTFAT Toolbox, See the homepage			0011	presentation
001	Interference Cancellation algorithm: A fast and parsimonious semi-parametric method for phase retrieval Sparse Source Separation, Sparse Signals, Phase Retrieval, Signal Processing			0011	paper
002	A Survey of Sparse Priors and Sparse Spaces Lasso, Ridge, Phase Retrieval, Sparse Canonical, Sparse Dictionary, Sparse Dictionary, Sparse Dictionary			0011	paper
003	Fast Sparse Dictionary for Sparse Transforms with Sparse Dictionary Fast Sparse Dictionary, Sparse Dictionary, Sparse Dictionary, Sparse Dictionary			0011	paper
004	Accelerating Sparse Dictionary for Multiple Time-Frequency Dictionaries Sparse Priors, Sparse Dictionary, Sparse Dictionary, Sparse Dictionary			0011	reference



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Manuscript, code and audio examples

H. Kempka, M. Schäfer, and T. Ullrich.

General coorbit space theory for quasi-Banach spaces and inhomogeneous function spaces with variable smoothness and integrability. *J. Fourier Anal. Appl.*, 23(6):1348–1407, 2017.

N. Holighaus, C. Wiesmeyr, and P. Balazs.

Continuous warped time-frequency representations—coorbit spaces and discretization. *Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis*, 47(3):975–1013, 2019.

N. Holighaus, G. Koliander, C. Hollomey, and F. Pillichshammer.

Grid-Based Decimation for Wavelet Transforms With Stably Invertible Implementation. *IEEE/ACM Transactions on Audio, Speech, and Language Processing*, 31:789–801, 2023.

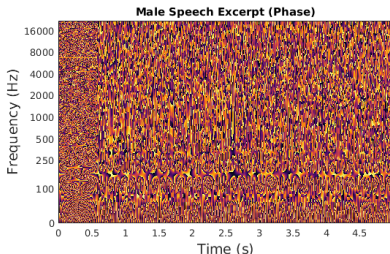
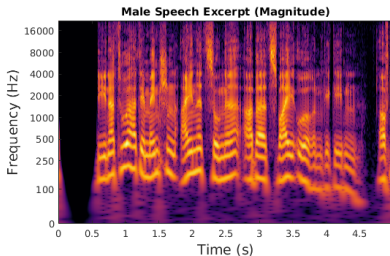
N. Holighaus, and G. Koliander.

Rotated time-frequency lattices are sets of stable sampling for continuous wavelet systems. 2023 International Conference on Sampling Theory and Applications (SampTA), New Haven, CT, USA, 2023.

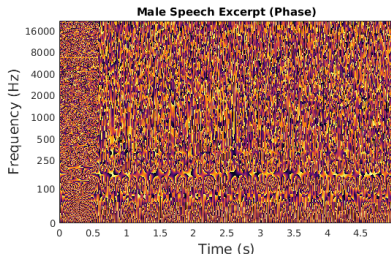
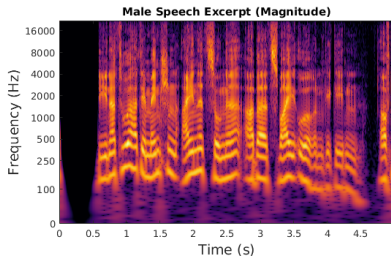
Thank you for your attention!

If you want more, I can talk about non-iterative phaseless reconstruction for wavelet transforms.

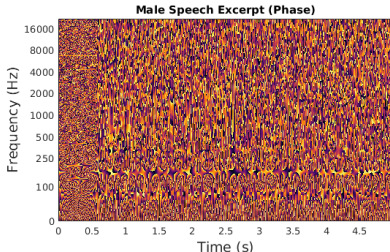
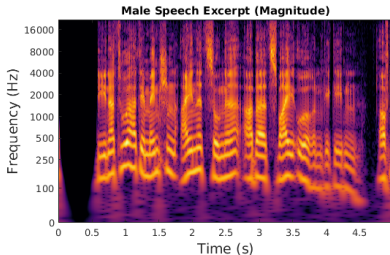
Non-iterative phaseless reconstruction for wavelet transforms



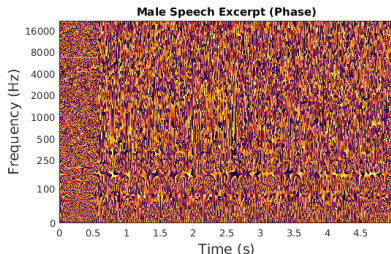
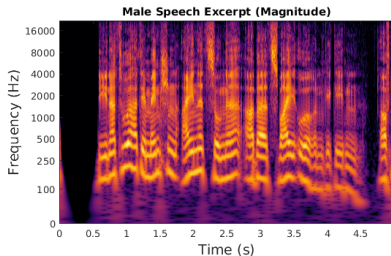
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- signal reconstruction from magnitude is a challenging problem
- theoretical guarantees are rare
- algorithms are computationally expensive, often require costly iteration



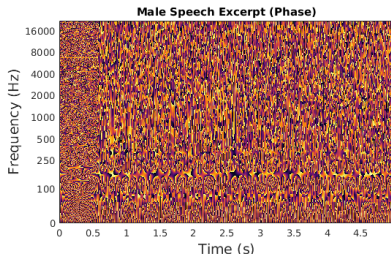
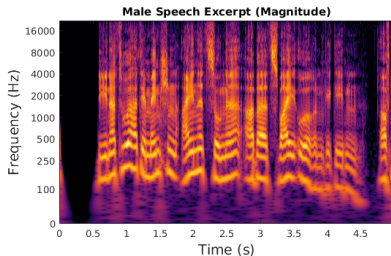
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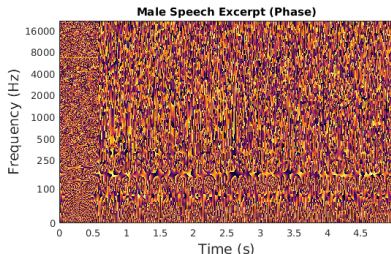
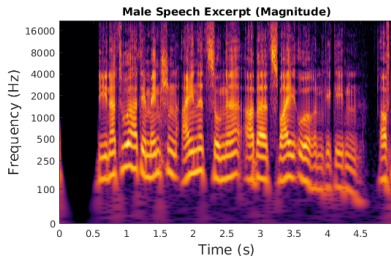
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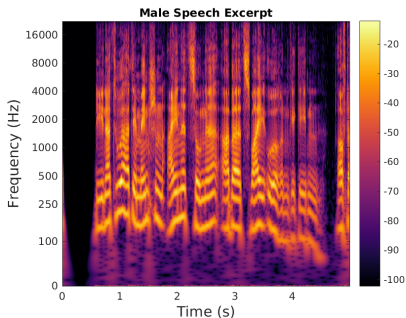
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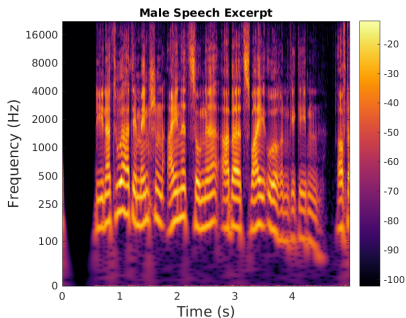
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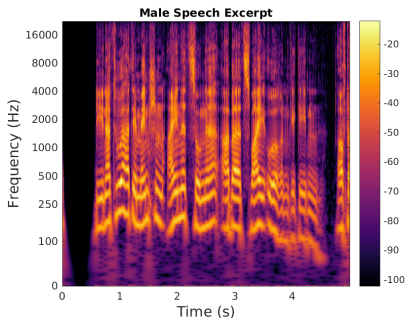
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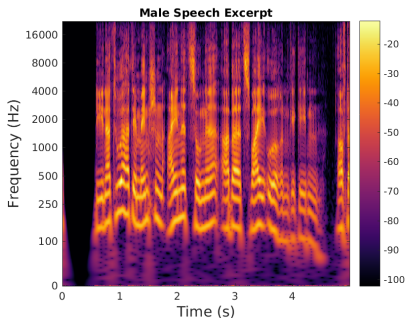
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- (usually) fixed number of channels per octave
- possibility of decimation
- invertibility (in the frequency range of interest)
- high-fidelity synthesis requires good magnitude and phase estimates



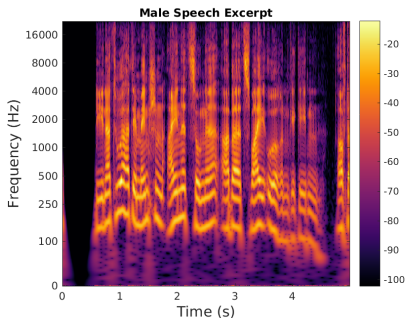
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- generic algorithms usually require expensive iteration
- wavelet-specific algorithms are rare
- solutions are not unique, at best up to an additive constant
- convergence to a good solution can rarely be guaranteed
- algorithms often introduce audible artifacts, even under optimal conditions
- provably unstable in areas of small magnitude

The wavelet transform of a signal s with respect to the mother wavelet ψ is

$$W_\psi s(x, y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} s(t) \overline{\psi\left(\frac{t-x}{y}\right)} dt, \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}, y \in \mathbb{R}^+, \quad (11)$$

with magnitude $M_\psi^s := |W_\psi s| \geq 0$ and phase $\phi_\psi^s := \arg(W_\psi s) \in \mathbb{R}$. If

$$\hat{\psi}(\xi) = \begin{cases} \xi^{\frac{\alpha-1}{2}} e^{-2\pi\xi} e^{i\beta \log \xi} & \xi \in \mathbb{R}^+, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

for some $\alpha > -1, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \phi_\psi^s(x, y) &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \log(M_\psi^s)(x, y) + \frac{\alpha}{2y} \text{ and} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \phi_\psi^s(x, y) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \log(M_\psi^s)(x, y) - \frac{\beta}{y}. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

The phase can be recovered from the magnitude up to a constant by simple integration.

In practice:

- wavelet transform obtained from a sampled (discrete) signal and wavelet
- only finitely many wavelet coefficients are available
- phase reconstruction is unstable when the magnitude is small

A solution:

- approximate differentiation by finite differences
- approximate integration by an easy quadrature rule
- adaptive, patchwise integration
 - begin at points of large magnitude
 - avoid areas of small magnitude
 - use heap of positions sorted by magnitude

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Input: Magnitude M_s of wavelet coefficients, estimates $\Delta_{\psi}^{\tilde{\phi},x,s}$ and $\Delta_{\psi}^{\tilde{\phi},\xi,s}$ of the partial phase derivatives, relative tolerance tol .

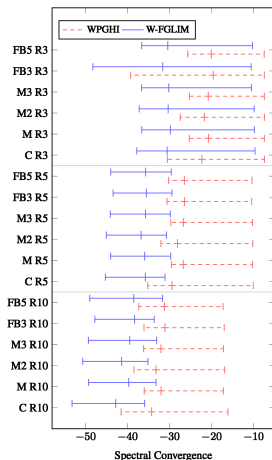
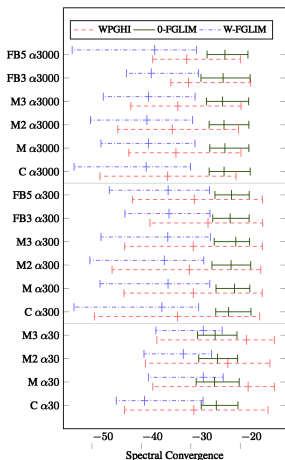
Output: Phase estimate $(\tilde{\phi}_{\psi}^s)_{est}$.

```

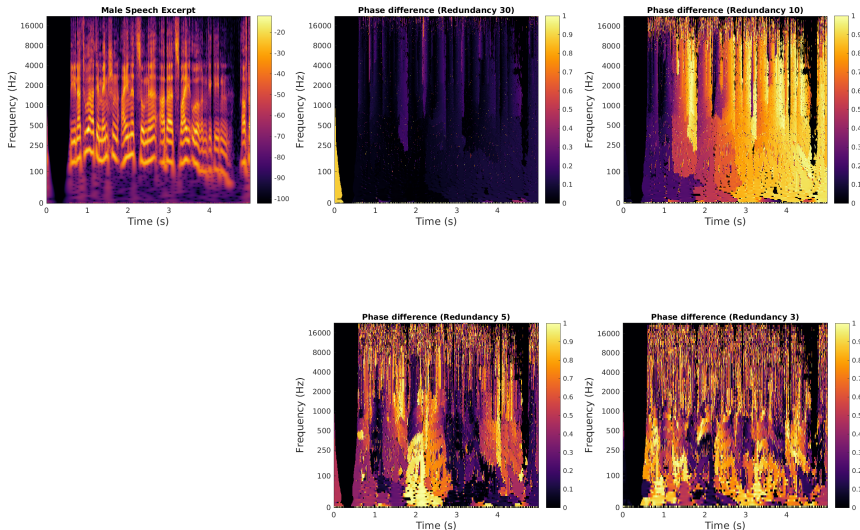
1   $abstol \leftarrow tol \cdot \max(M_s[n, k]);$ 
2  Create set  $\mathcal{I} = \{(n, k) : M_s[n, k] > abstol\};$ 
3  Assign random values to  $(\tilde{\phi}_{\psi}^s)_{est}(n, k)$  for  $(n, k) \notin \mathcal{I}$ ;
4  Construct a self-sorting max heap for  $(n, k)$  pairs;
5  while  $\mathcal{I}$  is not  $\emptyset$  do
6      if heap is empty then
7          Move  $(n_m, k_m) = \arg \max_{(n,k) \in \mathcal{I}} (M_s[n, k])$  from  $\mathcal{I}$  into the heap;
8           $(\tilde{\phi}_{\psi}^s)_{est}(n_m, k_m) \leftarrow 0$ ;
9      end
10     while heap is not empty do
11          $(n, k) \leftarrow$  remove the top of the heap;
12         foreach  $(n_n, k_n)$  in  $\mathcal{N}_{n,k} \cap \mathcal{I}$  do
13              $(\tilde{\phi}_{\psi}^s)_{est}[n_n, k_n] = (\tilde{\phi}_{\psi}^s)_{est}[n, k] + \frac{\xi k_n - \xi k}{2} \left( \Delta_{\psi}^{\tilde{\phi},\xi,s}[n, k] + \Delta_{\psi}^{\tilde{\phi},\xi,s}[n_n, k_n] \right)$ 
14                  $+ \frac{\alpha_d(n_n - n)}{2\xi_s} \left( \Delta_{\psi}^{\tilde{\phi},x,s}[n, k] + \Delta_{\psi}^{\tilde{\phi},x,s}[n_n, k_n] \right) .;$ 
15             Move  $(n_n, k_n)$  from  $\mathcal{I}$  into the heap;
16         end
17     end
18 end

```

Algorithm 1: Wavelet Phase Gradient Heap Integration



Numerical evaluation on a subset of the SQAM dataset for wavelet PGHI, fast Griffin-Lim (0-initialization), fast Griffin-Lim (WPGHI-initialization). Spectral convergence measures the relative spectral error in dB.



A continuous STFT for discrete signals

- Consider finite signals as periodic δ -trains (tempered distributions):

$$(a_1, \dots, a_N) \sim \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \epsilon_n =: \phi \quad \text{with } \epsilon_n := \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \delta_{\frac{n}{N} + k}$$

- Take a nice window function (e.g., Gaussian) g .

Then

$$\mathbf{V}_g \varphi(x, \xi) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} a_n e^{-2\pi i \xi \frac{n}{N}} \mathbf{Z} \bar{g} \left(\frac{n}{N} - x, \xi \right), \quad (14)$$

where \mathbf{Z} denotes the [Zak transform](#).

With $\mathbf{f}_N = (a_1, \dots, a_N)^T \in \mathbb{C}^N$, we have

$$\mathbf{V}_g \varphi(x, \xi) = \exp(-2\pi i r_\xi n_x / N) \cdot \mathbf{STFT}_{\mathbf{g}_N}^{(r_x, r_\xi)} \mathbf{f}_N[n_x, m_\xi], \quad (15)$$

where $x = n_x / N + r_x$ and, $\xi = m_\xi + r_\xi$, with $r_x \in [0, 1/N)$, $r_\xi \in [0, 1)$, and

$$\mathbf{g}_N^{(r_x, r_\xi)} = \mathbf{P}_N (\mathbf{M}_{r_\xi} \mathbf{T}_{r_x} g),$$

with the periodization-and-sampling operator $\mathbf{P}_N f[n] = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} f(n/N - j)$.
 In particular, we have

$$\mathbf{V}_g \varphi(k/N, l) = \mathbf{STFT}_{\mathbf{g}_N} \mathbf{f}_N[k, l], \quad \text{with } \mathbf{g}_N = \mathbf{P}_N g.$$

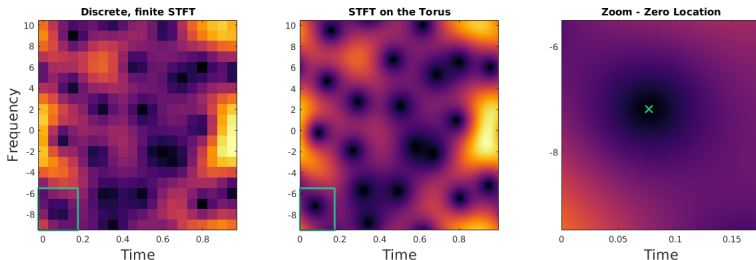


Figure: Comparison between the spectrograms obtained from the discrete STFT and the STFT on the torus, and their application for detecting zeros of the STFT:

Here, f_N was sampled from a complex Gaussian noise process $\mathcal{N}(0, I_N) + i\mathcal{N}(0, I_N)$, $N = 20$. The right panel shows a zoom into the lower-left part of the spectrogram (indicated by the teal border), where the location of a spectrogram zero is marked.