

Assumptions

All we've been taught about data analysis is based on some implicit assumptions



Assumptions

- Any departure from these assumptions questions the validity of our analysis
- Many mistakes have been made by ignoring some of these assumptions
- But "non-properties" are not necessarily a nuisance as they provides deeper insight into the physics !



Example

 We traditionally use the Fourier Transform to study such power laws

this does not always give the correct answer !

• *Example* : test particle simulations in a 2D magnetic field with coherent structures (Hada & Kuramitsu, 1999)



ion trajectory vs amplitude of magnetic field

Spectral analysis

• We are dealing with a self-similar process

$$\Rightarrow u(x) = \lambda^{\alpha} u(\lambda x)$$
$$\Rightarrow u(k) = \mathcal{F}u(x) \sim k^{-\beta}$$

• The power spectral density should give a power law

Spectral analysis







Fourier vs multiresoltion analysis



Wavelet transform : definition

Fourier transform
$$u(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} u(t)e^{j\omega t}dt$$
Continuous wavelet transform $u(t,a) = \int_{t_a}^{t_b} u(t')\phi_{t,a}(t') dt'$ mother
wavelet $\phi_{t,a}(t') = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}}\phi\left(\frac{t'-t}{a}\right)$ Discrete wavelet transform $u_{j,k} = \int_{t_a}^{t_b} u(t')\phi_{j,k}(t') dt'$ mother
wavelet $\phi_{j,k}(t') = \frac{1}{2^{j/2}}\phi\left(2^{-j}t'-k\right)$







Discrete or continuous transform ?



Continuous transform

- highly redundant
- good for data analysis
- scales can be freely chosen
- computationally expensive



Discrete transform

- non-redundant and uses orthogonal bases
- useful for multiresolution analysis (denoising) and compression
- scales are imposed
- very fast algorithms (faster than FFT)



Scalograms

 But the usefulness of scalograms has been heavily overemphasized... you can do almost the same with the good old Fourier transform



Continous transform : an example



Continous transform : an example





Example : AC magnetic field measurements with strong interference from active particle experiment (CUSP2000 sounding rocket)





A different application

There are many other applications...

 One of them is the estimation of timing differences between multispacecraft data (Soucek et al., Ann. Geoph., 2004)



To continue

- Computer session (this afternoon) with Matlab
 - exploratory analysis with wavelets
 - estimating the spectral exponent of the AE index
 - wavelet denoising
 - estimating timing differences between Cluster spacecraft

Further reading

- C. Torrence & G. Compo, "A practical guide to wavelet analysis", hardcopy available here
- S. Mallat, "A wavelet tour of signal processing" (Academic Press, 1998): THE reference
- J.-L. Starck and F. Murtagh, "Astronomical image and data analysis" (Springer, 2006): dedicated to astronomy