

Nonequispaced fast Fourier transforms for bandlimited functions

I. INTRODUCTION

The nonequispaced fast Fourier transform (NFFT) is a fast algorithm to evaluate a trigonometric polynomial

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M} \hat{f}_{\mathbf{k}} e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \mathbf{x}}, \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{T}^d,$$

with given Fourier coefficients $\hat{f}_{\mathbf{k}} \in \mathbb{C}$, $\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M$, at nonequispaced points $\mathbf{x}_j \in \mathbb{T}^d$, $j = 1, \dots, N$, $N \in \mathbb{N}$, where for $M := (M, \dots, M)^T$, $M \in 2\mathbb{N}$, we define the index set $\mathcal{I}_M := \mathbb{Z}^d \cap [-\frac{M}{2}, \frac{M}{2}]^d$ with cardinality $|\mathcal{I}_M| = M^d$, and $\mathbb{T}^d := \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \mathbb{Z}^d$ denotes the d -dimensional torus with $d \in \mathbb{N}$.

In this paper we focus on the analogous problem for bandlimited functions, where we aim to approximate evaluations $f(\mathbf{x}_j)$, $j = 1, \dots, N$, of a function

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{[-\frac{M}{2}, \frac{M}{2}]^d} \hat{f}(\mathbf{v}) e^{2\pi i \mathbf{v} \mathbf{x}} d\mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad (1)$$

from given measurements $\hat{f}(\mathbf{k}) \in \mathbb{C}$, $\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M$, of its functions Fourier transform \hat{f} .

To do so, this paper is organized as follows. Firstly, in Section II we review the NFFT for trigonometric polynomials. Subsequently, in Section III we give an overview of the regularized Shannon sampling formulas, which play the key role in introducing the NFFT-like procedure for bandlimited functions in Section IV. Finally, in Section V we compare this new method to the classical NFFT.

II. THE NFFT

For given nonequispaced nodes $\mathbf{x}_j \in \mathbb{T}^d$, $j = 1, \dots, N$, and given coefficients $\hat{f}_{\mathbf{k}} \in \mathbb{C}$, $\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M$, we consider the computation of the sums

$$f(\mathbf{x}_j) = \sum_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M} \hat{f}_{\mathbf{k}} e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \mathbf{x}_j}, \quad j = 1, \dots, N, \quad (2)$$

where the inner product of two vectors shall be defined as usual as $\mathbf{k} \mathbf{x} := k_1 x_1 + \dots + k_d x_d$. A fast approximate algorithm, the so-called *nonequispaced fast Fourier transform (NFFT)*, can be summarized as follows, see e.g. [6], [2], [27], [9], [12] or [21, pp. 413–417].

By defining the *nonequispaced Fourier matrix*

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}_{|\mathcal{I}_M|} := \left(e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \mathbf{x}_j} \right)_{j=1, \mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M}^N \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times |\mathcal{I}_M|},$$

as well as the vectors $\mathbf{f} := (f(\mathbf{x}_j))_{j=1}^N$ and $\hat{\mathbf{f}} := (\hat{f}_{\mathbf{k}})_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M}$, the computation of the sums (2) can be written as $\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{f}}$. By additionally defining the diagonal matrix

$$\mathbf{D} := \text{diag} \left(\frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}_{M_\sigma}| \cdot \hat{\varphi}(\mathbf{k})} \right)_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_{M_\sigma}} \in \mathbb{C}^{|\mathcal{I}_M| \times |\mathcal{I}_M|}, \quad (3)$$

the truncated *Fourier matrix*

$$\mathbf{F} := \left(e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} (M_\sigma^{-1} \odot \ell)} \right)_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_{M_\sigma}, \mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M} \in \mathbb{C}^{|\mathcal{I}_{M_\sigma}| \times |\mathcal{I}_M|}, \quad (4)$$

and the sparse matrix

$$\mathbf{B} := \left(\tilde{\varphi}_m(\mathbf{x}_j - M_\sigma^{-1} \odot \ell) \right)_{j=1, \ell \in \mathcal{I}_{M_\sigma}}^N \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times |\mathcal{I}_{M_\sigma}|}, \quad (5)$$

where by definition of the index set

$$\mathcal{I}_{M_\sigma, m}(\mathbf{x}_j) := \{ \ell \in \mathcal{I}_{M_\sigma} : \exists \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{Z}^d \text{ with } -m \cdot \mathbf{1}_d \leq M_\sigma \odot (\mathbf{x}_j + \mathbf{z}) - \ell \leq m \cdot \mathbf{1}_d \} \quad (6)$$

each row of \mathbf{B} contains at most $(2m+1)^d$ nonzeros, the NFFT can be formulated in matrix-vector notation as $\mathbf{A} \approx \mathbf{B} \mathbf{F} \mathbf{D}$, cf. [21, p. 419]. This is to say, using the definition of the matrices, the NFFT performs the approximation

$$e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \mathbf{x}_j} \approx \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_{M_\sigma, m}(\mathbf{x}_j)} \frac{e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} (M_\sigma^{-1} \odot \ell)} \tilde{\varphi}_m(\mathbf{x}_j - M_\sigma^{-1} \odot \ell)}{|\mathcal{I}_{M_\sigma}| \cdot \hat{\varphi}(\mathbf{k})} \quad (7)$$

for $\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M$ and $\mathbf{x}_j \in \mathbb{T}^d$, $j = 1, \dots, N$.

III. REGULARIZED SHANNON SAMPLING FORMULAS

A function $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is said to be *bandlimited* with *bandwidth* $M \in \mathbb{N}$, if the support of its (*continuous*) *Fourier transform*

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{v}) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(\mathbf{x}) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v} \mathbf{x}} d\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad (8)$$

is contained in $[-\frac{M}{2}, \frac{M}{2}]^d$. The space of all bandlimited functions with shall be denoted by

$$\mathcal{B}_{M/2}(\mathbb{R}^d) := \left\{ f \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^d) : \text{supp}(\hat{f}) \subseteq [-\frac{M}{2}, \frac{M}{2}]^d \right\},$$

which is also known as the *Paley–Wiener space*. Note that

$$\mathcal{B}_{M/2}(\mathbb{R}^d) \subseteq L_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap C_0(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d). \quad (9)$$

cf. [13, Lemma 4.1]. Thus, the Fourier inversion theorem, see e.g. [21, Theorem 2.23], guarantees that the *inverse Fourier transform* of f can be written as given in (1).

By the famous Whittaker–Kotelnikov–Shannon sampling theorem ([29], [16], [26]) any bandlimited function $f \in \mathcal{B}_{M/2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ can be recovered from its samples $f(\frac{\ell}{L})$, $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d$, with $L \geq M$, $L \in \mathbb{N}$, in the form

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d} f(\frac{\ell}{L}) \operatorname{sinc}(L\pi(\mathbf{x} - \frac{\ell}{L})), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad (10)$$

where the sinc function is given by $\operatorname{sinc}(\mathbf{x}) := \prod_{t=1}^d \operatorname{sinc}(x_t)$ with

$$\operatorname{sinc}(x) := \begin{cases} \frac{\sin x}{x} & : x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, \\ 1 & : x = 0. \end{cases}$$

It is well known that the series in (10) converges absolutely and uniformly on whole \mathbb{R}^d .

Unfortunately, the numerical use of this classical Whittaker–Kotelnikov–Shannon sampling series (10) is limited, since it requires infinitely many samples, which is impossible in practice, and its truncated version is not a good approximation due to the slow decay of the sinc function, see [10]. In addition to this rather poor convergence, it is known, see [7], [8], [5], that in the presence of noise in the samples $f(\mathbf{k})$, $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$, the convergence of Shannon sampling series (10) may even break down completely.

Based on this observation, numerous approaches for numerical realizations have been developed, where the Shannon sampling series was regularized with a suitable window function. Note that many authors such as [4], [19], [25], [20], [28] used window functions in the frequency domain, but the recent study [15] has shown that it is much more beneficial to employ a window function in the spatial domain, cf. [23], [24], [28], [18], [17], [3], [14].

For this purpose, for a given $m \in \mathbb{N}$ with $2m \ll L$ we introduce the set $\Phi_{m,L}$ of all window functions $\varphi: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ with the following properties:

- φ is compactly supported on $[-\frac{m}{L}, \frac{m}{L}]$, belongs to $L_1(\mathbb{R}) \cap C_0(\mathbb{R})$ and is even.
- φ restricted to $[0, \infty)$ is monotonously non-increasing with $\varphi(0) = 1$.

Remark III.1. As examples of such window functions we consider the sinh-type window function

$$\varphi_{\sinh}(x) := \frac{1}{\sinh \beta} \sinh\left(\beta \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{Lx}{m}\right)^2}\right) \chi_{[-\frac{m}{L}, \frac{m}{L}]}(x) \quad (11)$$

with certain $\beta > 0$, and the continuous Kaiser–Bessel window function

$$\varphi_{\text{cKB}}(x) := \frac{\left(I_0\left(\beta \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{Lx}{m}\right)^2}\right) - 1\right)}{I_0(\beta) - 1} \chi_{[-\frac{m}{L}, \frac{m}{L}]}(x)$$

with certain $\beta > 0$, where I_0 denotes the modified Bessel function of first kind. Note that these window functions are well-studied, in the context of the NFFT, see e. g. [22].

Then, for a fixed window function $\varphi \in \Phi_{m,L}$ we study the *regularized Shannon sampling formula with localized sampling*

$$(R_{\varphi,m}f)(\mathbf{x}) := \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d} f(\frac{\ell}{L}) \operatorname{sinc}(L\pi(\mathbf{x} - \frac{\ell}{L})) \varphi(\mathbf{x} - \frac{\ell}{L}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d. \quad (12)$$

Note that this is an *interpolating approximation* of f on $\frac{1}{L}\mathbb{Z}^d$, i. e., we have

$$f(\frac{\mathbf{k}}{L}) = (R_{\varphi,m}f)(\frac{\mathbf{k}}{L}), \quad \mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{Z}^d,$$

since by assumption $\varphi(0) = 1$ and $\operatorname{sinc}(\pi(k - \ell)) = \delta_{k,\ell}$ for all $k, \ell \in \mathbb{Z}$ with the Kronecker symbol $\delta_{k,\ell}$. Further we assume that the samples $f(\frac{\ell}{L})$, $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d$, fulfill the condition

$$\sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d} |f(\frac{\ell}{L})| < \infty.$$

Then it is known that the regularized Shannon sampling formula $R_{\varphi,m}f$ in (12) with suitable window function $\varphi \in \Phi_{m,L}$ yields a good approximation of f , cf. [14], [15], [13].

IV. NFFT-LIKE PROCEDURE FOR BANDLIMITED FUNCTIONS

Now assume we are given the values $\hat{f}(\mathbf{k})$, $\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M$, of the Fourier transform (1) of a bandlimited function $f \in \mathcal{B}_{M/2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$, and we are looking for function evaluations $f(\mathbf{x}_j)$ at given nonequispaced points \mathbf{x}_j , $j = 1, \dots, N$.

In order to compute these values, we aim to make use of the regularized Shannon sampling formulas, see Section III. Inserting the approximation (12) into the Fourier transform (8) and using the definition of the regularized sinc function $\psi(\mathbf{x}) := \operatorname{sinc}(L\pi\mathbf{x}) \varphi(\mathbf{x})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{f}(\mathbf{v}) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(\mathbf{x}) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v} \mathbf{x}} d\mathbf{x} \approx \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (R_{\varphi,m}f)(\mathbf{x}) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v} \mathbf{x}} d\mathbf{x} \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d} f(\frac{\ell}{L}) \psi(\mathbf{x} - \frac{\ell}{L}) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v} \mathbf{x}} d\mathbf{x} \\ &= \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d} f(\frac{\ell}{L}) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v} \ell / L} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \psi(\mathbf{y}) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v} \mathbf{y}} d\mathbf{y} \\ &= \left(\sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d} f(\frac{\ell}{L}) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v} \ell / L} \right) \cdot \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{v}). \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where summation and integration may be interchanged by the theorem of Fubini–Tonelli. By defining

$$\hat{\nu}(\mathbf{v}) := \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d} f(\frac{\ell}{L}) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v} \ell / L}, \quad \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad (14)$$

we recognize that this function $\hat{\nu}$ is L -periodic. Thus, due to the fact that the Fourier transform of the bandlimited function $f \in \mathcal{B}_{M/2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is non-periodic, the approximation (13) can only be reasonable for $\mathbf{v} \in [-\frac{L}{2}, \frac{L}{2}]^d$.

As the goal is to recover the nonequispaced samples $f(\mathbf{x}_j)$, $j = 1, \dots, N$, by means of a regularized Shannon sampling

formula (12), we need access to as many equispaced samples $f(\frac{\ell}{L})$ as possible, i.e., we are looking for an inversion formula for (14). To this end, note that (14) can be written as

$$\hat{\nu}(\mathbf{v}) = \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_{\Theta}} f\left(\frac{\ell}{L}\right) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v} \ell / L} + \sum_{\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{Z}^d \setminus \{0\}} \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_{\Theta}} f\left(\frac{\ell + \mathbf{r}\Theta}{L}\right) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v}(\ell + \mathbf{r}\Theta)/L}, \quad \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

with the index set \mathcal{I}_{Θ} with $\Theta = \Theta \cdot \mathbf{1}_d$, $\Theta \in 2\mathbb{N}$. Since $f \in \mathcal{B}_{M/2}(\mathbb{R}^d) \subseteq C_0(\mathbb{R}^d)$, see (9), the equispaced samples $f(\frac{\ell}{L})$ are negligible for all $\|\ell\|_{\infty} \geq \frac{\Theta}{2}$ with suitably chosen Θ . In order to avoid aliasing in the computation we assume that $\Theta = L$ is sufficient. Hence, we consider

$$\hat{\nu}(\mathbf{v}) \approx \hat{\nu}(\mathbf{v}) := \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_L} f\left(\frac{\ell}{L}\right) e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{v} \ell / L}, \quad \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad (15)$$

and thus by (13) the approximation

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{v}) \approx \hat{\nu}(\mathbf{v}) \cdot \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{v}), \quad \mathbf{v} \in \left[-\frac{L}{2}, \frac{L}{2}\right]^d. \quad (16)$$

Since it is additionally known that $\hat{f}(\mathbf{v}) = 0$ for all $\mathbf{v} \notin \left[-\frac{M}{2}, \frac{M}{2}\right]^d$ and $\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{v}) \neq 0$ for all $\mathbf{v} \in \left[-\frac{L}{2}, \frac{L}{2}\right]^d$, we might use (16) and (15) for given $\hat{f}(\mathbf{k})$, $\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M$, to approximate the equispaced samples $f(\frac{\ell}{L})$, $\ell \in \mathcal{I}_L$, by setting

$$\hat{\nu}(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{cases} \frac{\hat{f}(\mathbf{k})}{\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{k})} & : \quad \mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M, \\ 0 & : \quad \mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_L \setminus \mathcal{I}_M, \end{cases}$$

and subsequently computing

$$f\left(\frac{\ell}{L}\right) \approx \vartheta_{\ell} := \frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}_L|} \sum_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_L} \hat{\nu}(\mathbf{k}) e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \ell / L}, \quad \ell \in \mathcal{I}_L, \quad (17)$$

by means of an iFFT.

To finally approximate the samples $f(\mathbf{x}_j)$, $j = 1, \dots, N$, we make use of the regularized Shannon sampling formula (12). Note that since we assumed that the window function $\varphi \in \Phi_{m,L}$ is compactly supported, the computation of $(R_{\varphi,m}f)(\mathbf{x})$ for fixed $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \frac{1}{L}\mathbb{Z}^d$ requires only $(2m+1)^d$ samples $f(\frac{\ell}{L})$. However, we have already encountered that (17) can only be used to approximate $f(\frac{\ell}{L})$ for $\ell \in \mathcal{I}_L$ in order to avoid aliasing in the computation of the inverse Fourier transform in (17). Thereby, we are confronted with a limitation of the feasible interval for the points $\mathbf{x}_j \in \left[-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{m}{L}, \frac{1}{2} - \frac{m}{L}\right]^d$, $j = 1, \dots, N$, since only in this case exclusively the evaluations $f(\frac{\ell}{L})$, $\ell \in \mathcal{I}_L$, are needed for the computation. Hence, the final approximation is computed by

$$(R_{\varphi,m}f)(\mathbf{x}_j) \approx f_j := \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_L} \vartheta_{\ell} \psi\left(\mathbf{x}_j - \frac{\ell}{L}\right) = \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{J}_{L,m}(\mathbf{x}_j)} \vartheta_{\ell} \psi\left(\mathbf{x}_j - \frac{\ell}{L}\right),$$

where the index set of the nonzero entries

$$\mathcal{J}_{L,m}(\mathbf{x}_j) := \{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d : -m + L\mathbf{x}_j \leq \ell \leq m + L\mathbf{x}_j\} \quad (18)$$

contains at most $(2m+1)^d$ entries for each fixed \mathbf{x}_j , cf. (6). Thus, the obtained algorithm can be summarized as follows, cf. [13, Algorithm 5.16].

Algorithm IV.1 (NFFT-like procedure for bandlim. functions).

For $d, m, N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $M \in 2\mathbb{N}$ let $\mathbf{x}_j \in \left[-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{m}{L}, \frac{1}{2} - \frac{m}{L}\right]^d$, $j = 1, \dots, N$, be given nodes as well as $\hat{f}(\mathbf{k}) \in \mathbb{C}$, $\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M$, given evaluations of the Fourier transform of the bandlimited function $f \in \mathcal{B}_{M/2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Furthermore, we are given the oversampling parameter $\lambda \geq 0$ with $L = M(1 + \lambda) \in \mathbb{N}$, as well as the window function $\varphi \in \Phi_{m,L}$, the corresponding regularized sinc function ψ and its Fourier transform $\hat{\psi}$.

0. Precomputation:

- a) Compute the nonzero values $\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{k})$ for $\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M$.
- b) Compute the evaluations $\psi\left(\mathbf{x}_j - \frac{\ell}{L}\right)$ for $j = 1, \dots, N$, and $\ell \in \mathcal{J}_{L,m}(\mathbf{x}_j)$, cf. (18).

1) Set $\mathcal{O}(|\mathcal{I}_M|)$

$$\hat{\nu}(\mathbf{k}) := \begin{cases} \frac{\hat{f}(\mathbf{k})}{\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{k})} & : \quad \mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M, \\ 0 & : \quad \mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_L \setminus \mathcal{I}_M. \end{cases}$$

2) Compute $\mathcal{O}(|\mathcal{I}_M| \log(|\mathcal{I}_M|))$

$$\vartheta_{\ell} := \frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}_L|} \sum_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_L} \hat{\nu}(\mathbf{k}) e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \ell / L}, \quad \ell \in \mathcal{I}_L,$$

by means of a d -variate iFFT.

3) Compute the short sums $\mathcal{O}(N)$

$$f_j := \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{J}_{L,m}(\mathbf{x}_j)} \vartheta_{\ell} \psi\left(\mathbf{x}_j - \frac{\ell}{L}\right), \quad j = 1, \dots, N.$$

Output: $f_j \approx f(\mathbf{x}_j)$ **Complexity:** $\mathcal{O}(|\mathcal{I}_M| \log(|\mathcal{I}_M|) + N)$

Note that by defining the vector $\hat{\mathbf{f}} := (\hat{f}(\mathbf{k}))_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M}$ as well as the diagonal matrix

$$\mathbf{D}_{\hat{\psi}} := \text{diag} \left(\frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}_L| \cdot \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{k})} \right)_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M} \in \mathbb{C}^{|\mathcal{I}_M| \times |\mathcal{I}_M|}, \quad (19)$$

and the $(2m+1)^d$ -sparse matrix

$$\mathbf{\Psi} := \left(\psi\left(\mathbf{x}_j - \frac{\ell}{L}\right) \right)_{j=1, \ell \in \mathcal{I}_L}^N \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times |\mathcal{I}_L|}, \quad (20)$$

the approximation of Algorithm IV.1 is given by

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{\Psi} \mathbf{F} \mathbf{D}_{\hat{\psi}} \hat{\mathbf{f}}, \quad (21)$$

where $\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{C}^{|\mathcal{I}_L| \times |\mathcal{I}_M|}$ denotes the Fourier matrix (4) with $L = M_{\sigma}$.

V. COMPARISON TO THE CLASSICAL NFFT

Note that one might also directly apply an equispaced quadrature rule to the inverse Fourier transform (1), i.e., consider the approximation

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\left[-\frac{M}{2}, \frac{M}{2}\right]^d} \hat{f}(\mathbf{v}) e^{2\pi i \mathbf{v} \mathbf{x}} d\mathbf{v} \approx \sum_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M} \hat{f}(\mathbf{k}) e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \mathbf{x}},$$

such that the function evaluations $f(\mathbf{x}_j)$, $j = 1, \dots, N$, could also be approximated efficiently by means of an NFFT. Since

this raises the question of which of the two methods, the NFFT or Algorithm IV.1, is more advantageous, this section deals with the comparison of the two approaches.

Considering the matrix notations BFD and $\Psi FD_{\hat{\psi}}$, cf. (7) and (21), the first thing to realize is that for $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times |\mathcal{I}_L|}$ in (5) the window function $\varphi_m(\mathbf{x})$ is used, while for $\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times |\mathcal{I}_L|}$ in (20) we consider the sinc regularized window function $\psi(\mathbf{x})$. A similar remark can also be made about the diagonal matrices $\mathbf{D} \in \mathbb{C}^{|\mathcal{I}_M| \times |\mathcal{I}_M|}$ in (3) and $\mathbf{D}_{\hat{\psi}} \in \mathbb{C}^{|\mathcal{I}_M| \times |\mathcal{I}_M|}$ in (19).

It is also important to note that the two methods can only be compared for $\mathbf{x} \in [-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{m}{L}, \frac{1}{2} - \frac{m}{L}]^d$, as the approximation by Algorithm IV.1 is only reasonable in this case. This implies that the matrix \mathbf{B} in (5) is, unlike usual, non-periodic in this setting, whereas the matrix Ψ in (20) is inherently non-periodic by definition.

To study the quality of both approaches, note that by the NFFT we are given the approximation

$$e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \mathbf{x}} \approx \frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}_L| \cdot \hat{\varphi}(\mathbf{k})} \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_L} e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \ell / L} \tilde{\varphi}_m(\mathbf{x} - \frac{\ell}{L}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{T}^d, \quad (22)$$

for $\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M$ fixed, cf. (7) with $L = M_\sigma$, where $\tilde{\varphi}_m(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \varphi_m(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r})$ denotes the 1-periodic version of the compactly supported window function φ_m . Thus, we look for a comparable approximation of the exponential function using our newly proposed method in Algorithm IV.1. For this purpose, note that $g(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}) e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \mathbf{x}}$ with $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ fixed, possesses the Fourier transform $\hat{g}(\mathbf{v}) = \psi(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{v})$. Therefore, we have $g \in \mathcal{B}_{M/2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ for all $\mathbf{k} \in [-\frac{M}{2} + \frac{m}{L}, \frac{M}{2} - \frac{m}{L}]^d$, i. e., considering (12) for this function g yields

$$\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}) e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \mathbf{x}} \approx \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \hat{\psi}(\frac{\ell}{L}) e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \ell / L} \psi(\mathbf{x} - \frac{\ell}{L}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

or rather

$$e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \mathbf{x}} \approx \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_L} \frac{\hat{\psi}(\frac{\ell}{L})}{\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x})} e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \ell / L} \psi(\mathbf{x} - \frac{\ell}{L})$$

for $\mathbf{x} \in [-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{m}{L}, \frac{1}{2} - \frac{m}{L}]^d$. Since numerical experiments have shown that $\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{y}) \approx \frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}_L|}$, $\mathbf{y} \in [-\frac{M}{2}, \frac{M}{2}]^d$, for the window functions mentioned in Remark III.1, the above approximation simplifies to

$$e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \mathbf{x}} \approx \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_L} e^{2\pi i \mathbf{k} \ell / L} \psi(\mathbf{x} - \frac{\ell}{L}), \quad (23)$$

which equals the approximation $\Psi FD_{\hat{\psi}}$ of Algorithm IV.1, since $|\mathcal{I}_L| \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{k}) \approx 1$, $\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{I}_M$. Therefore, we can compare the quality of the two methods by considering the approximations (22) and (23) of the exponential function.

For the sake of simplicity we restrict ourselves to the one-dimensional setting $d = 1$ for the visualization. To estimate the quality of the approaches, we consider the approximation error

$$e(v) := \max_{x_p, p=1, \dots, P} |e^{2\pi i v x_p} - h(x_p)|, \quad (24)$$

where the term $h(x_p)$ is a placeholder for the right hand sides of (22) and (23), respectively, evaluated at a fine grid of $P = 10^5$ equispaced points $x_p, p = 1, \dots, P$. This approximation error (24) shall now be computed for several values

$$v_s = -\frac{M}{2} - m + \frac{s}{S} \in [-\frac{M}{2} - m, \frac{M}{2} + m], \quad s = 0, \dots, S(M + 2m), \quad (25)$$

where $S = 1$ corresponds to integer evaluation, whereas we use $S = 32$ to examine the approximation at non-integer points as well. Note that (22) is expected to provide a good approximation only for $v \in [-\frac{M}{2}, \frac{M}{2}]$, while (23) is expected to do so only for $v \in [-\frac{M}{2} + \frac{m}{L}, \frac{M}{2} - \frac{m}{L}]$. Nevertheless, we test for v from a larger interval to confirm this assumption.

The corresponding outcomes when computing the approximations (22) and (23) using the sinh-type window function (11) as well as the parameters $M = 20$, $\lambda = 1$, $L = (1 + \lambda)M$, and $m = 5$, are displayed in Figure 1. For $x \in [-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$ it is easy to see that our newly proposed method (23) indeed does not provide reasonable results, while the approximation (22) by means of the NFFT is only useful at integer points v . For the truncated interval $x \in [-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{m}{L}, \frac{1}{2} - \frac{m}{L}]$, however, both approximations (22) and (23) are clearly beneficial for non-integer points v as well, but as expected these methods only succeed when $|v| \leq \frac{M}{2}$. Nevertheless, although also the approximation (22) by means of the NFFT yields better results in this setting, the approximation (23) by means of our newly proposed method easily outperforms the classical NFFT in terms of the approximation error (24).

That is to say, Figure 1 demonstrates that the novel NFFT-like approach in Algorithm IV.1 is better suited for bandlimited functions, while this superiority is not limited to $k \in \mathcal{I}_M$ but extends to the entire domain $v \in [-\frac{M}{2}, \frac{M}{2}]$. Moreover, the error of Algorithm IV.1 is bounded by the error estimates of the regularized Shannon sampling formulas in Section III, whereas the quadrature error of the NFFT is completely unclear.

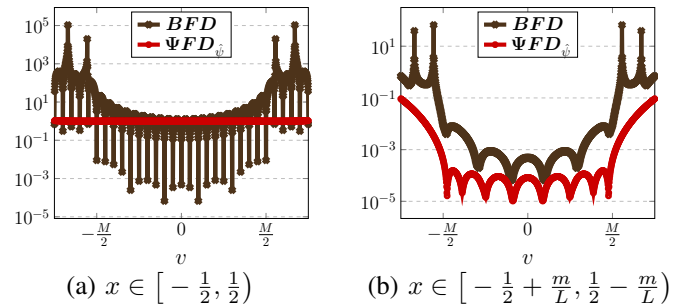


Fig. 1: Maximum approximation error (24) for $P = 10^5$ computed for (25) with $S = 32$ using the sinh-type window function (11) as well as $M = 20$, $\lambda = 1$, $L = (1 + \lambda)M$, and $m = 5$ in the one-dimensional setting $d = 1$.

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