
nrefocus Documentation

Release 0.4.0

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Nrefocus is a Python 3 library that allows to numerically refocus (including autofocusing) complex wave fields. This is the documentaion of nrefocus version 0.4.0.

INTRODUCTION

This package provides methods for numerical propagation of a complex wave in free space. The available propagators are the angular spectrum method (*helmholtz*) and the Fresnel approximation (*fresnel*). Both implementations are convolution-based. The angular spectrum method is suited for near-field propagation (numerical focusing) and yields better results than the Fresnel approximation. The single Fourier transform-based Fresnel propagation method which is suitable for far-field propagation is not implemented in this package.

1.1 Obtaining nrefocus

You can install nrefocus via:

```
pip install nrefocus
```

If you would like to take advantage of fast Fourier transforms with **PyFFTW**, please also install the *pyfftw* package or use the extras key *FFTW*:

```
pip install nrefocus[FFTW]
```

The source code of nrefocus is available at <https://github.com/RI-imaging/nrefocus>.

1.2 Citing nrefocus

Please cite this package if you are using it in a scientific publication.

This package should be cited like this¹.

You can find out what version you are using by typing (in a Python console):

```
>>> import nrefocus
>>> nrefocus.__version__
'0.1.2'
```

¹ Paul Müller (2013) *nrefocus: Python algorithms for numerical focusing* (Version x.x.x) [Software]. Available at <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/nrefocus/>.

1.3 Acknowledgments

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1.4 References

THEORY

The derivations given here are treated in more detail in the relevant literature, e.g. [[ST91]] and [[Goo05]].

2.1 Optical transfer function

Let us consider a wave field $u(\mathbf{r}_0)$ whose values we know at an initial plane $\mathbf{r}_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$ (z_0 fixed). The field has a certain vacuum wavelength λ and is traveling through a homogeneous medium with refractive index n_m . From the knowledge of the wave field at the plane \mathbf{r}_0 and its wavelength λ/n_m , we can infer the direction of propagation of the wave field for every point in \mathbf{r}_0 . We rewrite the field at \mathbf{r}_0 as an angular spectrum, a sum over all possible directions $\mathbf{s} = (p, q, M)$, assuming that the field is only traveling from left to right

$$\begin{aligned} u(\mathbf{r}_0) &= \iint dp dq A(p, q) e^{ik_m(px_0 + qy_0 + Mz_0)} \\ |\mathbf{s}| &= p^2 + q^2 + M^2 = 1 \\ M &= \sqrt{1 - p^2 - q^2}. \end{aligned}$$

The equation above describes the Huygens-Fresnel principle: the value of the field u at a certain position \mathbf{r}_0 at the initial plane (point source) is defined as an integral over all possible plane waves with wavenumber $k_m = \frac{2\pi n_m}{\lambda}$, weighted with the amplitude $A(p, q)$.

Let us now consider the 2D Fourier transform of $u(\mathbf{r}_0)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{U}_0(k_x, k_y) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \iint dx_0 dy_0 \iint dp dq A(p, q) e^{ik_m(px_0 + qy_0 + Mz_0)} e^{-i(k_x x_0 + k_y y_0)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \iint dx_0 dy_0 \iint dp dq A(p, q) e^{ik_m M z_0} e^{ix_0(k_m p - k_x)} e^{iy_0(k_m q - k_y)} \\ &= \frac{2\pi}{k_m^2} A(k_x, k_y) e^{ik_m M z_0} \end{aligned}$$

Here we made use of the identity of the delta distribution

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int dx_0 e^{ix_0(k_m p - k_x)} &= \delta(k_m p - k_x) = \frac{1}{k_m} \delta(p - k_x/k_m) \\ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int dy_0 e^{iy_0(k_m q - k_y)} &= \delta(k_m q - k_y) = \frac{1}{k_m} \delta(q - k_y/k_m) \end{aligned}$$

If we now perform the same procedure for a different position $\mathbf{r}_d = (x_0, y_0, z_d)$, we will see that the Fourier transform of the field becomes

$$\hat{U}_d(k_x, k_y) = \frac{2\pi}{k_m^2} A(k_x, k_y) e^{ik_m M z_d}.$$

Thus, the propagation of the field $u(\mathbf{r}_0)$ by a distance $d = z_d - z_0$ is described by a multiplication with the transfer function

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{Helmholtz}} = e^{ik_m M d}$$

in Fourier space. This is the basis of the convolution-based numerical propagation algorithms implemented in nrefocus. The process of numerical propagation with the angular spectrum method can be written as

$$u(\mathbf{r}_d) = \mathcal{F}^{-1} \{ \mathcal{F} \{ u(\mathbf{r}_0) \} \cdot e^{ik_m M d} \}$$

with the Fourier transform \mathcal{F} and its inverse \mathcal{F}^{-1} . With the convolution operator $*$, we may rewrite this equation to

$$u(\mathbf{r}_d) = u(\mathbf{r}_0) * \mathcal{F}^{-1} \{ e^{ik_m M d} \}.$$

2.2 Fresnel approximation

The Fresnel approximation (or paraxial approximation) uses a Taylor expansion to simplify the exponent of the transfer function $e^{ik_m M d}$. The exponent can be rewritten as

$$ik_m M d = ik_m d (1 - p^2 - q^2)^{1/2}.$$

If the angles of propagation θ_x and θ_y for each plane wave of the angular spectrum is small, then we can make the paraxial approximation:

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_x &\approx p \\ \theta_y &\approx q \\ \theta^2 &= \theta_x^2 + \theta_y^2 \approx p^2 + q^2 \end{aligned}$$

We now Taylor-expand the exponent around small values of θ

$$ik_m d (1 - \theta^2)^{1/2} \approx ik_m d \left(1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2} + \frac{\theta^4}{8} - \dots \right).$$

The Fresnel approximation discards the third term ($\sim \theta^4$) and the transfer function then reads:

$$\begin{aligned} e^{ik_m M d} &\approx e^{ik_m d} \cdot e^{-\frac{ik_m d(p^2 + q^2)}{2}} \\ e^{i\sqrt{k_m^2 - k_x^2 - k_y^2} d} &\approx e^{ik_m d} \cdot e^{-\frac{id(k_x^2 + k_y^2)}{2k_m}} \\ \mathcal{H}^{\text{Fresnel}} &= e^{ik_m d} \cdot e^{-\frac{id(k_x^2 + k_y^2)}{2k_m}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the propagation by a distance $d = z_d - d$ in the Fresnel approximation can be written in the form of the convolution

$$u(\mathbf{r}_d) = e^{ik_m d} \cdot u(\mathbf{r}_0) * \mathcal{F}^{-1} \left\{ e^{-\frac{id(k_x^2 + k_y^2)}{2k_m}} \right\}.$$

Note that the Fresnel approximation results in paraboloidal waves ($p^2 + q^2$) whereas spherical waves are used with the Helmholtz equation.

2.3 Transfer functions in nrefocus

The numerical focusing algorithms in this package require the input data u_{in} to be normalized by the incident plane wave $u_0(\mathbf{r}_0)$ according to

$$u_{\text{in}}(\mathbf{r}_0) = \frac{u(\mathbf{r}_0)}{u_0(\mathbf{r}_0)}$$

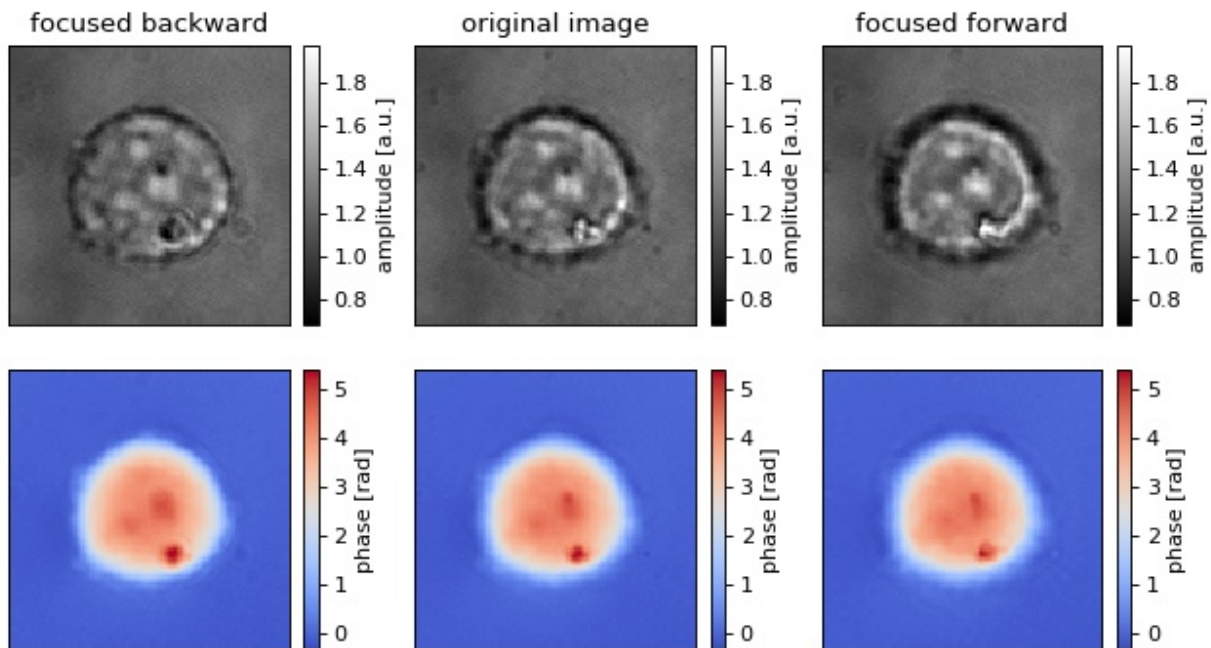
As a result, the transfer functions change to

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{H}_{\text{norm}}^{\text{Helmholtz}} &= e^{ik_{\text{m}}(M-1)d} = e^{id(\sqrt{k_{\text{m}}^2 - k_{\text{x}}^2 - k_{\text{y}}^2} - k_{\text{m}})} \\ \mathcal{H}_{\text{norm}}^{\text{Fresnel}} &= e^{-\frac{id(k_{\text{x}}^2 + k_{\text{y}}^2)}{2k_{\text{m}}}}.\end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLES

3.1 2D Refocusing of an HL60 cell

The data show a live HL60 cell imaged with quadriwave lateral shearing interferometry (SID4Bio, Phasics S.A., France). The diameter of the cell is about $20\mu\text{m}$.



refocus_cell.py

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 import numpy as np
3 import unwrap
4
5 import nrefocus
6
7 from example_helper import load_cell
8
9 # load initial cell
10 cell1 = load_cell("HL60_field.zip")
```

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```

11
12 # refocus to two different positions
13 cell2 = nrefocus.refocus(cell1, 15, 1, 1) # forward
14 cell3 = nrefocus.refocus(cell1, -15, 1, 1) # backward
15
16 # amplitude range
17 vmina = np.min(np.abs(cell1))
18 vmaxa = np.max(np.abs(cell1))
19 ampkw = {"cmap": plt.get_cmap("gray"),
20          "vmin": vmina,
21          "vmax": vmaxa}
22
23 # phase range
24 cell1p = unwrap.unwrap(np.angle(cell1))
25 cell2p = unwrap.unwrap(np.angle(cell2))
26 cell3p = unwrap.unwrap(np.angle(cell3))
27 vminp = np.min(cell1p)
28 vmxp = np.max(cell1p)
29 phakw = {"cmap": plt.get_cmap("coolwarm"),
30          "vmin": vminp,
31          "vmax": vmxp}
32
33 # plots
34 fig, axes = plt.subplots(2, 3, figsize=(8, 4.5))
35 axes = axes.flatten()
36 for ax in axes:
37     ax.xaxis.set_major_locator(plt.NullLocator())
38     ax.yaxis.set_major_locator(plt.NullLocator())
39
40 # titles
41 axes[0].set_title("focused backward")
42 axes[1].set_title("original image")
43 axes[2].set_title("focused forward")
44
45 # data
46 mapamp = axes[0].imshow(np.abs(cell3), **ampkw)
47 axes[1].imshow(np.abs(cell1), **ampkw)
48 axes[2].imshow(np.abs(cell2), **ampkw)
49 mappha = axes[3].imshow(cell3p, **phakw)
50 axes[4].imshow(cell1p, **phakw)
51 axes[5].imshow(cell2p, **phakw)
52
53 # colobars
54 cbkwargs = {"fraction": 0.045}
55 plt.colorbar(mapamp, ax=axes[0], label="amplitude [a.u.]", **cbkwargs)
56 plt.colorbar(mapamp, ax=axes[1], label="amplitude [a.u.]", **cbkwargs)
57 plt.colorbar(mapamp, ax=axes[2], label="amplitude [a.u.]", **cbkwargs)
58 plt.colorbar(mappha, ax=axes[3], label="phase [rad]", **cbkwargs)
59 plt.colorbar(mappha, ax=axes[4], label="phase [rad]", **cbkwargs)
60 plt.colorbar(mappha, ax=axes[5], label="phase [rad]", **cbkwargs)
61
62 plt.tight_layout()
63 plt.show()

```

CODE REFERENCE

4.1 Refocus interface

Refocus is a user-convenient interface for numerical refocusing. Each class implements refocusing for a specific dimensionality (1D or 2D fields) using a specific method for refocusing (e.g. numpy FFT or FFTW).

4.2 Metrics

4.3 Legacy methods

These methods are legacy functions which are kept for backwards-compatibility.

4.3.1 Refocusing

4.3.2 Autofocusing

CHANGELOG

List of changes in-between nrefocus releases.

5.1 version 0.4.0

- feat: implement `nrefocus.RefocusPyFFTW` for faster refocusing using `pyfftw`
- enh: speed-up propagation kernel computation using `numexpr`
- docs: cleanup

5.2 version 0.3.1

- dist: include submodules in wheel/dist

5.3 version 0.3.0

- feat: introduce `nrefocus.RefocusNumpy` and `nrefocus.RefocusNumpy1D` interface class for user-convenience and efficiency
- docs: cleanup
- ref: new submodule for metrics and metrics now accept a `Refocus` instance as an argument
- ref: new submodule for minimizers and minimizers now accept a `Refocus` instance
- ref: make legacy autofocusing code use the new `Refocus` class

5.4 version 0.2.1

- fix: fix several minor bugs (deprecations?) that caused the tests to fail
- ci: migrate to GitHub Actions
- setup: `setup.py` test is deprecated
- docs: refurbish documentation

5.5 version 0.2.0

- Drop support for Python 2 (#8)
- Code cleanup

5.6 version 0.1.8

- Include docs in sdist

5.7 version 0.1.7

- Update documentation and examples

5.8 version 0.1.6

- Move documentation from GitHub to readthedocs.io
- Add universal wheel on PyPI
- Update tests on travis with new versions of NumPy

5.9 version 0.1.5

- Code cleanup

5.10 version 0.1.4

- Padding is now available in all methods (#2)
- Added new convenient submodule *pad*
- Bugfix: autofocusing did not return the correct focusing distance. This resulted in a slight offset in the refocusing distance for the method *autofocus_stack* when *same_dist=True* was set.
- New test functions for *pad*

BILBLIOGRAPHY

INDICES AND TABLES

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- [Goo05] Joseph W. Goodman. *Introduction to Fourier Optics 3rd ed.* Roberts & Company Publishers, 2005.
- [ST91] Bahaa E. A. Saleh and Malvin Carl Teich. *Fundamentals of Photonics*. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., aug 1991.
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