
nrefocus Documentation

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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 0.5.3.

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

This project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 282060.

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

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

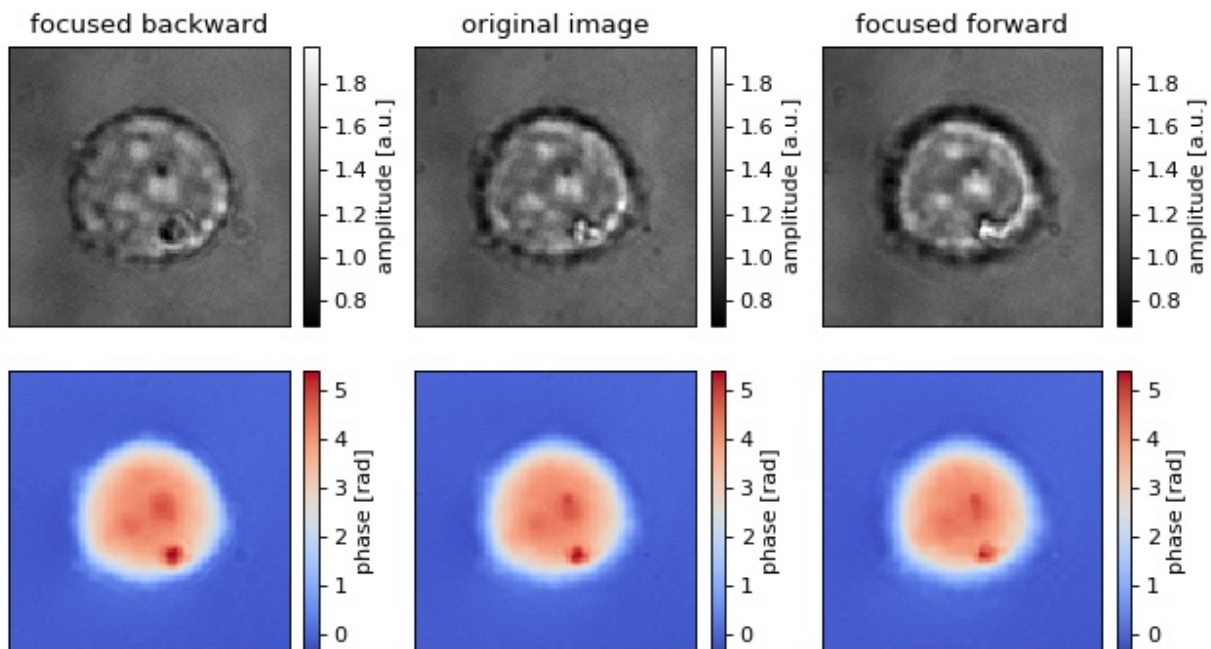
As a result, the transfer functions change to

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

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 vmaxp = np.max(cell1p)
29 phakw = {"cmap": plt.get_cmap("coolwarm"),
30          "vmin": vminp,
31          "vmax": vmaxp}
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()

```

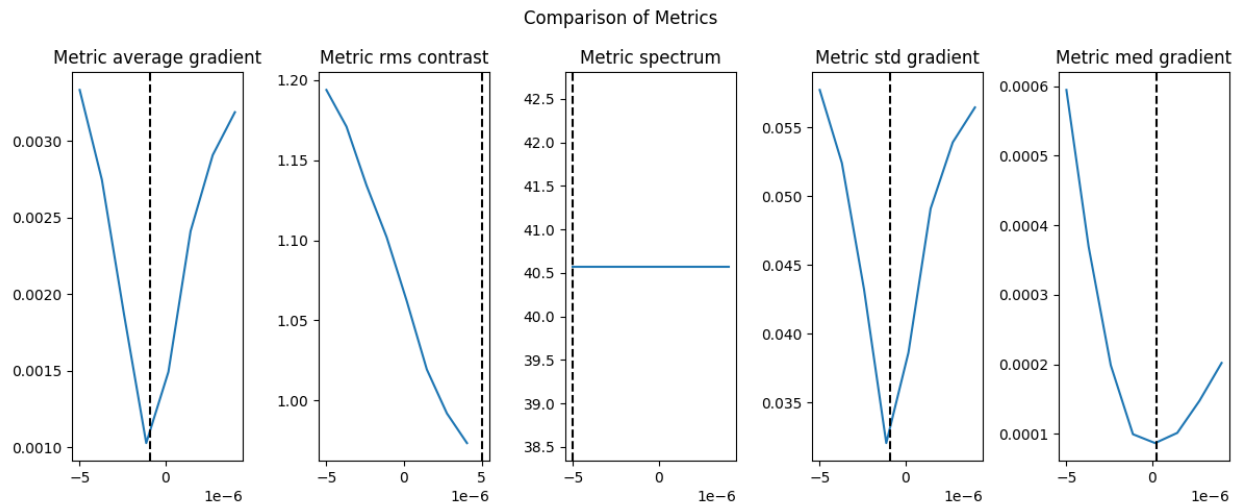
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63 `plt.show()`

3.2 Compare available Metrics for Refocusing

The HL60 cell data used is described in *refocus_cell.py*.



`compare_metrics.py`

```

1  import nrefocus
2  from nrefocus.metrics import METRICS
3  import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4
5  from examples.example_helper import load_cell
6
7  # load initial cell and create rf object
8  rf = nrefocus.iface.RefocusNumpy(field=load_cell("HL60_field.zip"),
9                                   wavelength=647e-9,
10                                  pixel_size=0.139e-6,
11                                  kernel="helmholtz")
12
13  # autofocus the image for each metric
14  my_metrics = list(METRICS.keys())
15
16  fig, axes = plt.subplots(1, len(my_metrics), figsize=(12, 5))
17
18  for i, mt in enumerate(my_metrics):
19      af_vals = rf.autofocus(metric=mt,
20                             minimizer="lmfit",
21                             interval=(-5e-6, 5e-6),
22                             ret_field=True,
23                             ret_grid=True)
24      d, grid, field = af_vals
25

```

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```
26     axes[i].plot(grid[0], grid[1])
27     axes[i].axvline(d, color='k', ls='--')
28     axes[i].set_title(f"Metric {mt}")
29
30 fig.suptitle("Comparison of Metrics")
31 fig.tight_layout()
32 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).

`nrefocus.get_best_interface()`

Return the fastest refocusing interface available

If *pyfftw* is installed, `nrefocus.RefocusPyFFTW` is returned. The fallback is `nrefocus.RefocusNumpy`.

class `nrefocus.RefocusPyFFTW`(*field*, *wavelength*, *pixel_size*, *medium_index*=1.3333, *distance*=0,
 kernel='helmholtz', *padding*=True)

Refocusing with FFTW

New in version 0.4.0.

Parameters

- **field** (2d complex-valued ndarray) – Input field to be refocused
- **wavelength** (float) – Wavelength of the used light [m]
- **pixel_size** (float) – Pixel size of the input image [m]
- **medium_index** (float) – Refractive index of the medium, defaults to water (1.3333 at 21.5°C)
- **distance** (float) – Initial focusing distance [m]
- **kernel** (str) – Propagation kernel, one of
 - “helmholtz”: the optical transfer function $\exp\left(id\left(\sqrt{k_m^2 - k_x^2 - k_y^2} - k_m\right)\right)$
 - “fresnel”: paraxial approximation $\exp(-id(k_x^2 + k_y^2)/2k_m)$
- **padding** (bool) – Whether to perform boundary-padding with linear ramp

autofocus(*interval*, *metric*='average gradient', *minimizer*='lmfit', *roi*=None, *minimizer_kwargs*=None,
 ret_grid=False, *ret_field*=False)

Autofocus the initial field

Parameters

- **interval** (tuple of floats) – Approximate interval to search for optimal focus [m]
- **metric** (str) –
 - “average gradient”: average gradient metric of amplitude

- "rms contrast" : RMS contrast of phase data
 - "spectrum" : sum of filtered Fourier coefficients
 - "std gradient" : standard deviation of gradient of amplitude
 - "med gradient" : median gradient metric of amplitude
 - **minimizer** (*str*) –
 - "legacy": custom nrefocus minimizer
 - "lmfit": lmfit-based minimizer (uses `lmfit.minimize`)
 - **roi** (*list or tuple or slice or ndarray*) – Region of interest for which the metric will be minimized. The axes below use the numpy indexing order. Options are: list or tuple or numpy indexing array (old behaviour):

[axis_0_start, axis_1_start, axis_0_end, axis_1_end] None can be used if no slicing is desired eg.: [None, None, axis_0_end, axis_1_end]
- list or tuple of slices (will be passed directly as is):**
- (`slice(axis_0_start, axis_0_end)`, `slice(axis_1_start, axis_1_end)`)
- None** The entire field will be used.
- **minimizer_kwargs** (*dict*) – Any additional keyword arguments for the minimizer
 - **ret_grid** (*bool*) – return focus positions and metric values of the coarse grid search
 - **ret_field** (*bool*) – return the optimal refocused field for user convenience

Returns

- **af_distance** (*float*) – Autofocusing distance
- (**d_grid**, **metrid_grid**) (*ndarray*) – Coarse grid search values (only if *ret_grid* is True)
- **af_field** (*ndarray*) – Autofocused field (only if *ret_field* is True)
- [*other*] – Any other objects returned by *minimizer*; may be definable via *minimizer_kwargs* (depends on minimizer)

get_kernel(*distance*)

Return the current kernel

The kernel type *self.kernel* is used (see `Refocus.__init__()`)

propagate(*distance*)

Propagate the initial field to a certain distance

Parameters **distance** (*float*) – Absolute focusing distance [m]

Returns **refocused_field** – Initial field refocused at *distance*

Return type 2d ndarray

Notes

Any subclass should perform padding with `nrefocus.pad.pad_rem()` during initialization.

property shape

Shape of the padded input field or Fourier transform

```
class nrefocus.RefocusNumpy(field, wavelength, pixel_size, medium_index=1.3333, distance=0,  
                             kernel='helmholtz', padding=True)
```

Refocusing with numpy-based Fourier transform

New in version 0.3.0.

Parameters

- **field** (*2d complex-valued ndarray*) – Input field to be refocused
- **wavelength** (*float*) – Wavelength of the used light [m]
- **pixel_size** (*float*) – Pixel size of the input image [m]
- **medium_index** (*float*) – Refractive index of the medium, defaults to water (1.3333 at 21.5°C)
- **distance** (*float*) – Initial focusing distance [m]
- **kernel** (*str*) – Propagation kernel, one of
 - “helmholtz”: the optical transfer function $\exp\left(id\left(\sqrt{k_m^2 - k_x^2 - k_y^2} - k_m\right)\right)$
 - “fresnel”: paraxial approximation $\exp(-id(k_x^2 + k_y^2)/2k_m)$
- **padding** (*bool*) – Whether to perform boundary-padding with linear ramp

```
autofocus(interval, metric='average gradient', minimizer='lmfit', roi=None, minimizer_kwargs=None,  
          ret_grid=False, ret_field=False)
```

Autofocus the initial field

Parameters

- **interval** (*tuple of floats*) – Approximate interval to search for optimal focus [m]
- **metric** (*str*) –
 - “average gradient” : average gradient metric of amplitude
 - “rms contrast” : RMS contrast of phase data
 - “spectrum” : sum of filtered Fourier coefficients
 - “std gradient” : standard deviation of gradient of amplitude
 - “med gradient” : median gradient metric of amplitude
- **minimizer** (*str*) –
 - “legacy”: custom nrefocus minimizer
 - “lmfit”: lmfit-based minimizer (uses `lmfit.minimize`)
- **roi** (*list or tuple or slice or ndarray*) – Region of interest for which the metric will be minimized. The axes below use the numpy indexing order. Options are: list or tuple or numpy indexing array (old behaviour):
 - [axis_0_start, axis_1_start, axis_0_end, axis_1_end] None can be used if no slicing is desired eg.: [None, None, axis_0_end, axis_1_end]

list or tuple of slices (will be passed directly as is):

(slice(axis_0_start, axis_0_end), slice(axis_1_start, axis_1_end))

None The entire field will be used.

- **minimizer_kwargs** (*dict*) – Any additional keyword arguments for the minimizer
- **ret_grid** (*bool*) – return focus positions and metric values of the coarse grid search
- **ret_field** (*bool*) – return the optimal refocused field for user convenience

Returns

- **af_distance** (*float*) – Autofocusing distance
- **(d_grid, metrid_grid)** (*ndarray*) – Coarse grid search values (only if *ret_grid* is True)
- **af_field** (*ndarray*) – Autofocused field (only if *ret_field* is True)
- *[other]* – Any other objects returned by *minimizer*; may be definable via *minimizer_kwargs* (depends on minimizer)

get_kernel(*distance*)

Return the current kernel

The kernel type *self.kernel* is used (see *Refocus.__init__()*)

propagate(*distance*)

Propagate the initial field to a certain distance

Parameters **distance** (*float*) – Absolute focusing distance [m]

Returns **refocused_field** – Initial field refocused at *distance*

Return type 2d ndarray

Notes

Any subclass should perform padding with *nrefocus.pad.pad_rem()* during initialization.

property shape

Shape of the padded input field or Fourier transform

class *nrefocus.RefocusNumpy1D*(*field*, *wavelength*, *pixel_size*, *medium_index*=1.3333, *distance*=0, *kernel*='helmholtz', *padding*=True)

Refocus a 1D field with numpy

New in version 0.3.0.

Parameters

- **field** (*1d complex-valued ndarray*) – Input 1D field to be refocused
- **wavelength** (*float*) – Wavelength of the used light [m]
- **pixel_size** (*float*) – Pixel size of the input image [m]
- **medium_index** (*float*) – Refractive index of the medium, defaults to water (1.3333 at 21.5°C)
- **distance** (*float*) – Initial focusing distance [m]
- **kernel** (*str*) – Propagation kernel, one of
 - "helmholtz": the optical transfer function $\exp\left(id\left(\sqrt{k_m^2 - k_x^2} - k_m\right)\right)$

– “fresnel”: paraxial approximation $\exp(-idk_x^2/2k_m)$

- **padding** (*bool*) – Whether to perform boundary-padding with linear ramp

autofocus(*interval*, *metric*='average gradient', *minimizer*='lmfit', *roi*=None, *minimizer_kwargs*=None, *ret_grid*=False, *ret_field*=False)

Autofocus the initial field

Parameters

- **interval** (*tuple of floats*) – Approximate interval to search for optimal focus [m]
- **metric** (*str*) –
 - “average gradient” : average gradient metric of amplitude
 - “rms contrast” : RMS contrast of phase data
 - “spectrum” : sum of filtered Fourier coefficients
 - “std gradient” : standard deviation of gradient of amplitude
 - “med gradient” : median gradient metric of amplitude
- **minimizer** (*str*) –
 - “legacy”: custom nrefocus minimizer
 - “lmfit”: lmfit-based minimizer (uses `lmfit.minimize`)
- **roi** (*list or tuple or slice or ndarray*) – Region of interest for which the metric will be minimized. The axes below use the numpy indexing order. Options are: list or tuple or numpy indexing array (old behaviour):

[axis_0_start, axis_1_start, axis_0_end, axis_1_end] None can be used if no slicing is desired eg.: [None, None, axis_0_end, axis_1_end]

list or tuple of slices (will be passed directly as is):

(`slice(axis_0_start, axis_0_end)`, `slice(axis_1_start, axis_1_end)`)

None The entire field will be used.

- **minimizer_kwargs** (*dict*) – Any additional keyword arguments for the minimizer
- **ret_grid** (*bool*) – return focus positions and metric values of the coarse grid search
- **ret_field** (*bool*) – return the optimal refocused field for user convenience

Returns

- **af_distance** (*float*) – Autofocusing distance
- **(d_grid, metrid_grid)** (*ndarray*) – Coarse grid search values (only if *ret_grid* is True)
- **af_field** (*ndarray*) – Autofocused field (only if *ret_field* is True)
- *[other]* – Any other objects returned by *minimizer*; may be definable via *minimizer_kwargs* (depends on minimizer)

get_kernel(*distance*)

Return the kernel for a 1D propagation

propagate(*distance*)

Propagate the initial field to a certain distance

Parameters `distance` (*float*) – Absolute focusing distance [m]

Returns `refocused_field` – Initial 1D field refocused at *distance*

Return type 1d ndarray

property `shape`

Shape of the padded input field or Fourier transform

4.2 Metrics

`nrefocus.metrics.metric_average_gradient(rfi, distance, roi=None, **kwargs)`
Compute mean average gradient norm of the amplitude

Notes

The absolute value of the gradient is returned.

`nrefocus.metrics.metric_med_gradient(rfi, distance, roi=None, **kwargs)`
Compute median gradient norm of the amplitude

Notes

The absolute value of the gradient is returned.

`nrefocus.metrics.metric_rms_contrast(rfi, distance, roi=None, **kwargs)`
Compute RMS contrast of the phase

Notes

The negative angle of the field is used for contrast estimation.

`nrefocus.metrics.metric_spectrum(rfi, distance, roi=None, **kwargs)`
Compute spectral contrast

Performs bandpass filtering in Fourier space according to optical limit of detection system, approximated by twice the wavelength.

`nrefocus.metrics.metric_std_gradient(rfi, distance, roi=None, **kwargs)`
Compute standard deviation (std) gradient of the amplitude

Notes

The absolute value of the gradient is returned.

`nrefocus.metrics.METRICS = {'average gradient': <function metric_average_gradient>, 'med gradient': <function metric_med_gradient>, 'rms contrast': <function metric_rms_contrast>, 'spectrum': <function metric_spectrum>, 'std gradient': <function metric_std_gradient>}`
Available metrics

4.3 Minimizers

`nrefocus.minimizers.minimize_legacy(rf, metric_func, interval, roi=None, coarse_acc=1, fine_acc=0.005, ret_grid=False, ret_field=False)`

Legacy minimizer

Find the focus by minimizing the *metric* of an image. This is the implementation of the legacy nrefocus minimizer.

Parameters

- **rf** (`nrefocus.iface.Refocus`) – Refocus interface
- **metric_func** (*callable*) – metric called during minimization. The metric should take the following arguments: *rf*, *distance*, and *roi*
- **interval** (*tuple of floats*) – (minimum, maximum) of interval to search [m]
- **roi** (*tuple of slices or np.ndarray*) – Region of interest for which the metric will be minimized. If not given, the entire field will be used.
- **coarse_acc** (*float*) – accuracy for determination of global minimum in pixels; *coarse_acc=1* means that 100 fields are computed in the initial step; *coarse_acc=0.5* means 200 fields are computed
- **fine_acc** (*float*) – accuracy for fine localization percentage of gradient change
- **ret_grid** (*bool*) – return focus positions and metric values of the coarse grid search
- **ret_field** (*bool*) – return the optimal refocused field for user convenience

Returns

- **af_dist** (*float*) – Autofocusing distance [m]
- **(d_grid, metrid_grid)** (*ndarray*) – Coarse grid search values (only if *ret_grid* is True)
- **af_field** (*ndarray*) – Autofocused field (only if *ret_field* is True)

`nrefocus.minimizers.minimize_lmfit(rf, metric_func, interval, roi=None, lmfitkw=None, ret_grid=False, ret_field=False)`

A minimizer that wraps lmfit

Find the focus by minimizing the *metric* of an image A coarse grid search over *interval* with step size of $2*rf.wavelength$ is performed, followed by a “regular” minimization for the best candidate.

Parameters

- **rf** (`nrefocus.iface.Refocus`) – Refocus interface
- **metric_func** (*callable*) – metric called during minimization. The metric should take the following arguments: *rf*, *distance*, and *roi*
- **interval** (*tuple of floats*) – (minimum, maximum) of interval to search [m]
- **roi** (*tuple of slices or np.ndarray*) – Region of interest for which the metric will be minimized. If not given, the entire field will be used.
- **lmfitkw** – Additional keyword arguments for `lmfit.minimize` used in the fine grid search. The default *method* is “leastsq”.
- **ret_grid** (*bool*) – return focus positions and metric values of the coarse grid search
- **ret_field** (*bool*) – return the optimal refocused field for user convenience

Returns

- **af_dist** (*float*) – Autofocusing distance [m]
- (**d_grid**, **metrid_grid**) (*ndarray*) – Coarse grid search values (only if *ret_grid* is True)
- **af_field** (*ndarray*) – Autofocused field (only if *ret_field* is True)

```
nrefocus.minimizers.MINIMIZERS = {'legacy': <function minimize_legacy>, 'lmfit':  
<function minimize_lmfit>}
```

Available minimizers

4.4 Legacy methods

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

4.4.1 Refocusing

```
nrefocus.refocus(field, d, nm, res, method='helmholtz', padding=True)
```

Refocus a 1D or 2D field

Parameters

- **field** (*1d or 2d array*) – 1D or 2D background corrected electric field (Ex/BEx)
- **d** (*float*) – Distance to be propagated in pixels (negative for backwards)
- **nm** (*float*) – Refractive index of medium
- **res** (*float*) – Wavelength in pixels
- **method** (*str*) – Defines the method of propagation; one of
 - “helmholtz” : the optical transfer function $\exp(ik(M-1))$
 - “fresnel” : paraxial approximation $\exp(ik^2/k)$
- **padding** (*bool*) – perform padding with linear ramp from edge to average to reduce ringing artifacts.

New in version 0.1.4.

Returns

Return type Electric field at *d*.

Notes

This method uses [nrefocus.RefocusNumpy](#) for refocusing of 2D fields. This is because the [nrefocus.refocus_stack\(\)](#) function uses *async* which appears to not work with e.g. [pyfftw](#).

```
nrefocus.refocus_stack(fieldstack, d, nm, res, method='helmholtz', num_cpus=2, copy=True, padding=True)
```

Refocus a stack of 1D or 2D fields

Parameters

- **fieldstack** (*2d or 3d array*) – Stack of 1D or 2D background corrected electric fields (Ex/BEx). The first axis iterates through the individual fields.
- **d** (*float*) – Distance to be propagated in pixels (negative for backwards)
- **nm** (*float*) – Refractive index of medium

- **res** (*float*) – Wavelength in pixels
- **method** (*str*) – Defines the method of propagation; one of
 - “helmholtz” : the optical transfer function $\exp(ik(M-I))$
 - “fresnel” : paraxial approximation $\exp(ik^2/k)$
- **num_cpus** (*int*) – Defines the number of CPUs to be used for refocusing.
- **copy** (*bool*) – If False, overwrites input stack.
- **padding** (*bool*) – Perform padding with linear ramp from edge to average to reduce ringing artifacts.

New in version 0.1.4.

Returns

Return type Electric field stack at d .

4.4.2 Autofocusing

`nrefocus.autofocus(field, nm, res, ival, roi=None, metric='average gradient', minimizer='lmfit', minimizer_kwargs=None, padding=True, num_cpus=1)`

Numerical autofocusing of a field using the Helmholtz equation.

Parameters

- **field** (*1d or 2d ndarray*) – Electric field is BG-Corrected, i.e. $\text{field} = \text{EX}/\text{BEx}$
 - **nm** (*float*) – Refractive index of medium.
 - **res** (*float*) – Size of wavelength in pixels.
 - **ival** (*tuple of floats*) – Approximate interval to search for optimal focus in px.
 - **roi** (*rectangular region of interest (x1, y1, x2, y2)*) – Region of interest of *field* for which the metric will be minimized. If not given, the entire *field* will be used.
 - **metric** (*str*) –
 - “average gradient” : average gradient metric of amplitude
 - “rms contrast” : RMS contrast of phase data
 - “spectrum” : sum of filtered Fourier coefficients
 - “std gradient” : standard deviation of gradient metric of amplitude
 - “med gradient” : median gradient metric of amplitude
 - **minimizer** (*str*) –
 - “lmfit” : lmfit-based minimizer
 - “legacy” : only use for reproducing old results
 - **minimizer_kwargs** (*dict*) – Optional keyword arguments to the *minimizer* function
 - **padding** (*bool*) – Perform padding with linear ramp from edge to average to reduce ringing artifacts.
- Changed in version 0.1.4: improved padding value and padding location
- **num_cpus** (*int*) – Not implemented.

Returns The focusing distance, the field, and optionally any other data returned by the minimizer (specify via *minimizer_kwargs*).

Return type d, field [, other]

Notes

This method uses *nrefocus.RefocusNumpy* for refocusing of 2D fields. This is because the *nrefocus.refocus_stack()* function uses *async* which appears to not work with e.g. *pyfftw*.

```
nrefocus.autofocus_stack(fieldstack, nm, res, ival, roi=None, metric='average gradient', minimizer='lmfit',
                        minimizer_kwargs=None, padding=True, same_dist=False, num_cpus=2,
                        copy=True)
```

Numerical autofocusing of a stack using the Helmholtz equation.

Parameters

- **fieldstack** (2d or 3d ndarray) – Electric field is BG-Corrected, i.e. Field = EX/BEx
- **nm** (float) – Refractive index of medium.
- **res** (float) – Size of wavelength in pixels.
- **ival** (tuple of floats) – Approximate interval to search for optimal focus in px.
- **roi** (rectangular region of interest (x1, y1, x2, y2)) – Region of interest of *field* for which the metric will be minimized. If not given, the entire *field* will be used.
- **metric** (str) – see *autofocus_field*.
- **minimizer** (str) –
 - “lmfit” : lmfit-based minimizer
 - “legacy” : only use for reproducing old results
- **minimizer_kwargs** (dict) – Optional keyword arguments to the *minimizer* function
- **padding** (bool) – Perform padding with linear ramp from edge to average to reduce ringing artifacts.
Changed in version 0.1.4: improved padding value and padding location
- **same_dist** (bool) – Refocus entire sinogram with one distance.
- **num_cpus** (int) – Number of CPUs to use
- **copy** (bool) – If False, overwrites input array.

Returns

- **dopt** (float or list of float) – The focusing distance(s) (only one value if *same_dist*)
- **field_stack** (np.ndarray) – The refocused field stack

CHANGELOG

List of changes in-between nrefocus releases.

5.1 version 0.5.3

- enh: add std and median metrics (#19)
- docs: make docs build on Windows

5.2 version 0.5.2

- enh: clarify roi argument for Refocus.autofocus method (#17)

5.3 version 0.5.1

- fix: internally normalize focusing distance to the wavelength for autofocusing with lmfit, because the scale seemed to affect the minimizer convergence (#14)

5.4 version 0.5.0

- BREAKING CHANGE: The “legacy” minimizer is deprecated in favor of the new lmfit-based minimizer. The default minimizer is now “lmfit”.
- BREAKING CHANGE: Removed the “ret_grad” and “ret_d” keyword argument from autofocusing methods; there is now “ret_grid” and “ret_field” instead
- BREAKING CHANGE: By default, the minimizers do not anymore return the refocused field, this can be re-enabled by using the *ret_field* option
- build: lmfit is now a dependency
- fix: check for None instead of boolean evaluation for metrics dealing with ROIs

5.5 version 0.4.3

- ref: deprecate minimizer argument
- ref: legacy minimizer now thinks in SI units
- ref: minor cleanup in autofocusing code

5.6 version 0.4.2

- docs: minor improvements

5.7 version 0.4.1

- fix: *autofocus* method of Refocus was not functional
- ref: use *Refocus.autofocus* for legacy autofocus method
- docs: fix rtd builds

5.8 version 0.4.0

- feat: implement *nrefocus.RefocusPyFFTW* for faster refocusing using pyfftw (#11)
- enh: speed-up propagation kernel computation using numexpr
- docs: cleanup

5.9 version 0.3.1

- dist: include submodules in wheel/dist

5.10 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

5.11 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

5.12 version 0.2.0

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

5.13 version 0.1.8

- Include docs in sdist

5.14 version 0.1.7

- Update documentation and examples

5.15 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

5.16 version 0.1.5

- Code cleanup

5.17 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*

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