

# Lecture 12-13 Hilbert-Huang Transform

## Background:

- **An examination of Fourier Analysis**
- **Existing non-stationary data handling method**
- **Instantaneous frequency**
- **Intrinsic mode functions(IMF)**
- **Empirical mode decomposition(EMD)**
- **Mathematical considerations**

## HHT Transform Sources:

**Original Paper:** Huang, et al. "The empirical mode decomposition and the Hilbert spectrum for nonlinear and non-stationary time series analysis." Proc. R. Soc. Lond. A (1998) 454, 903–995

**NASA:** <http://techtransfer.gsfc.nasa.gov/HHT/>

**Book:** HILBERT-HUANG TRANSFORM AND ITS APPLICATIONS  
Ed. by Norden E Huang and Samuel S P Shen

**EMD code:** <http://perso.ens-lyon.fr/patrick.flandrin/emd.html>

**Other goodies:**

<http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/21409>

**HHT-based Identification codes:**

<http://hitech.technion.ac.il/feldman/>

## Why not the Fourier analysis (FA)?

- **The FA performs well when the system is linear;**  
Measure at least two output:  $y_1(t)$  and  $y_2(t)$  corresponding to input  $x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t)$ .

Now apply input:  $x(t) = a x_1(t) + b x_2(t) + c x_3(t) + \dots$   
if the output is given by  $y(t) = a y_1(t) + b y_2(t) + c y_3(t) + \dots$   
then the system is deemed to be linear,

- **And when data are periodic or stationary;**

$X(t)$ , is stationary in the wide sense, if, for all  $t$ ,

$$E(|X(t)|^2) < \infty,$$

$$E(X(t)) = m,$$

$$C(X(t_1), X(t_2)) = C(X(t_1 + \tau), X(t_2 + \tau)) = C(t_1 - t_2)$$

## And when is the FA not so best?

- when data are nonstationary;
- the FA basis functions are global, hence they cannot treat local nonlinearity without significant dispersions (spreading);
- The above is especially true when the wave forms deviate significantly from sinusoidal form;
- For delta function-like waves, an excessive number of harmonic terms are required, let alone the Gibbs phenomena.

## **Nonstationary data processing methods**

- **Spectrogram**
- **Wavelets analysis**
- **Wigner-Ville distribution**
- **Evolutionary spectrum**
- **Empirical orthogonal function expansion (EOF)**
- **Smoothed moving average**
- **Trend least-squares estimation**

# Instantaneous Frequency

## Definition of Hilbert Transform:

$$Y(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} P \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{X(t')}{t - t'} dt'$$

## Complexification:

$$Z(t) = X(t) + iY(t) = a(t)e^{i\theta(t)}$$

$$a(t) = [X^2(t) + Y^2(t)]^{1/2}, \quad \theta(t) = \arctan \left( \frac{Y(t)}{X(t)} \right)$$

**Frequency:**  $\omega = \frac{d\theta(t)}{dt}$

## Instantaneous frequency - cont'd

The instantaneous frequency defined is a scalar; which means that  $\omega$  is a monocomponent. In reality, the signal may not represent a monocomponent. Therefore, one should interpret it as a localized frequency within a narrow band. As the concept of bandwidth plays a crucial role, we borrow its definition from the signal processing:

The number of zero crossing per unit time is given by

$$N_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{m_2}{m_0} \right)^{1/2}$$

while the expected number of extrema per unit time is given by

$$N_1 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{m_4}{m_2} \right)^{1/2}$$

where  $m_i$  is the  $i$ -th moment of the spectrum.

## Instantaneous frequency - cont'd

Hence, a standard bandwidth measure can be given by

$$\nu^2 = \pi^2 ( N^2_1 - N^2_0 )$$

Note that if  $\nu = 0$ , the expected numbers of extrema and zero crossings are equal. It is this observation we will exploit in the empirical mode decomposition later on.

However, the instantaneous frequency defined previously still yields a global measure. Hence, when one decomposes the signal into multi-components, a key criterion is to ensure the associated frequency is locally valid. This is discussed in the next,

**Intrinsic Mode Decomposition.**



## **Intrinsic Mode Decomposition (IMF)** **(implies oscillations embedded in the data)**

**Suppose a function is symmetric with respect to the local zero mean, and have the same numbers of extrema and zero crossing. Then a physically meaningful local instantaneous frequency can be discerned from the function.**

**Exploiting this concept, an intrinsic mode function satisfies the following two conditions:**

- 1. In the whole data set, the number of extrema and the number of zero crossings must either be equal or differ at most by one; (adaptation of narrow band concept)**
- 2. At any point, the mean value of the envelope defined by the local maxima and the envelope defined by the local minima is zero (new - adoption of local properties).**

## **Intrinsic Mode Decomposition - Cont'd**

**Modification of local mean: the local mean of the two envelopes defined by the local maxima and local minima - this forces the local symmetry. However, it does engender an alias in the instantaneous frequency for nonlinearly deformed waves.**

**The IMF properties:**

- each IMF involves only one mode of oscillation;**
- each IMF characterizes not only a narrow band but both amplitude and frequency modulations;**
- an IMF can thus be nonstationary.**

## Huang et al Statement on why IMF-based instantaneous frequency makes sense (Proc. R. Soc. Lond. A (1998), p.916):

Having defined IMF, we will show that the definition given in equation (3.4) gives the best instantaneous frequency. An IMF after the Hilbert transform can be expressed as in equation (3.2). If we perform a Fourier transform on  $Z(t)$ , we have

$$W(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(t)e^{i\theta(t)}e^{-i\omega t} dt, = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(t)e^{i(\theta(t)-\omega t)} dt. \quad (4.1)$$

Then by the stationary phase method (see, for example, Copson 1967), the maximum contribution to  $W(\omega)$  is given by the frequency satisfying the condition

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\theta(t) - \omega t) = 0; \quad (4.2)$$

therefore, equation (3.4) follows. Although mathematically, the application of the stationary phase method requires a large parameter for the exponential function, the adoption here can be justified if the frequency,  $\omega$ , is high compared with the inversed local time scale of the amplitude variation. Therefore, this definition fits the best for gradually changing amplitude. Even with this condition, this is still a much better definition for instantaneous frequency than the zero-crossing frequency; it is also better than the integral definition suggested by Cohen (1995) as given in equation (3.10). Furthermore, it agrees with the definition of frequency for the classic wave theory (see, for example, Whitham 1975).

# **Empirical mode decomposition method (EMD) in a nutshell**

**EMD identifies the intrinsic oscillatory modes by their characteristic time scales in the data empirically, then decomposes the data into the corresponding IMFs via **the sifting process**.**

**Thus, it is an algorithm to assign an instantaneous frequency to each IMF in order to decompose an arbitrary set of data; this means, for complex data, we can allow more than one instantaneous frequency at a time locally. In doing so we obtain IMFs as most data do not consist of IMFs.**

**In other words, **EMD** decomposes an arbitrary data set, whether they are linear, nonlinear or nonstationary, into a set of IMFs.**

# Assumptions introduced in EMD

- 1. The signal has at least two extrema - one maxima and one minima;**
- 2. The characteristic time scale is defined by the time lapse between the extrema;**
- 3. If the data is totally devoid of extrema but contained only inflection points, then it can be differentiated once or more times to reveal the extrema. Final results then can be obtained by integration(s) of the components.**

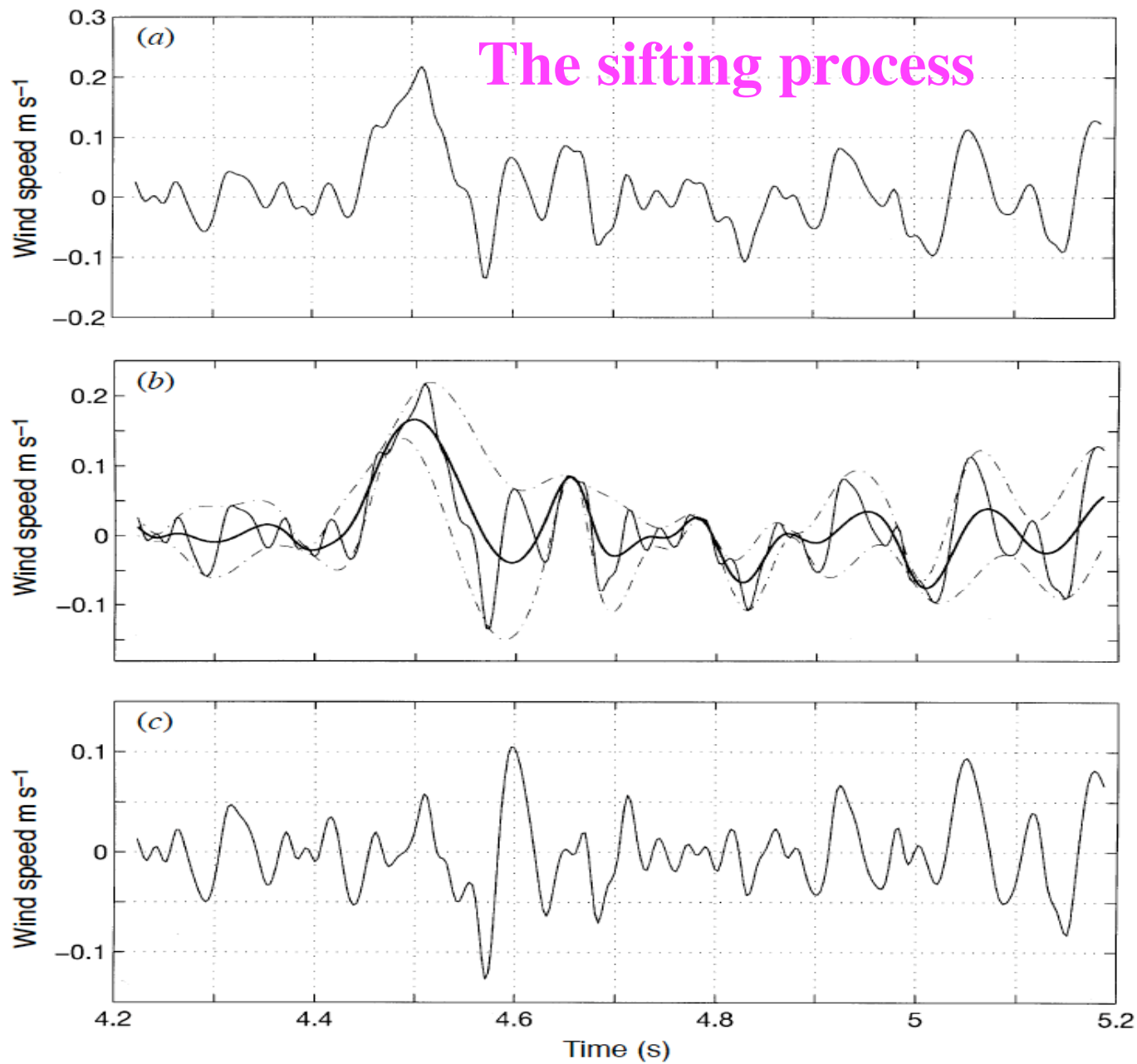


Figure 3. Illustration of the sifting processes: (a) the original data; (b) the data in thin solid line, with the upper and lower envelopes in dot-dashed lines and the mean in thick solid line; (c) the difference between the data and  $m_1$ . This is still not an IMF, for there are negative local maxima and positive minima suggesting riding waves.

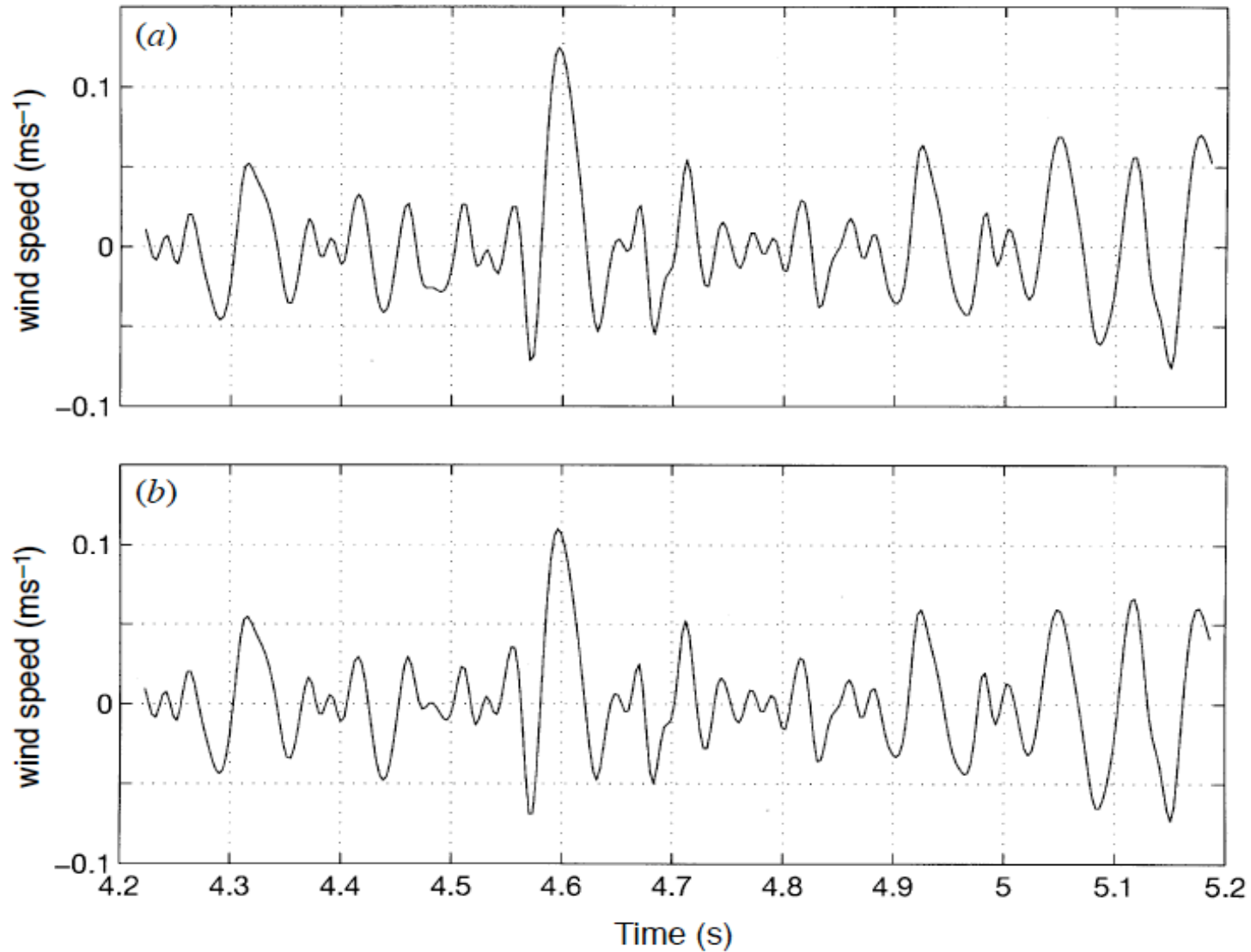


Figure 4. Illustration of the effects of repeated sifting process: (a) after one more sifting of the result in figure 3c, the result is still asymmetric and still not a IMF; (b) after three siftings, the result is much improved, but more sifting needed to eliminate the asymmetry. The final IMF is shown in figure 2 after nine siftings.

## Signal from Final Shifting for $c_1$

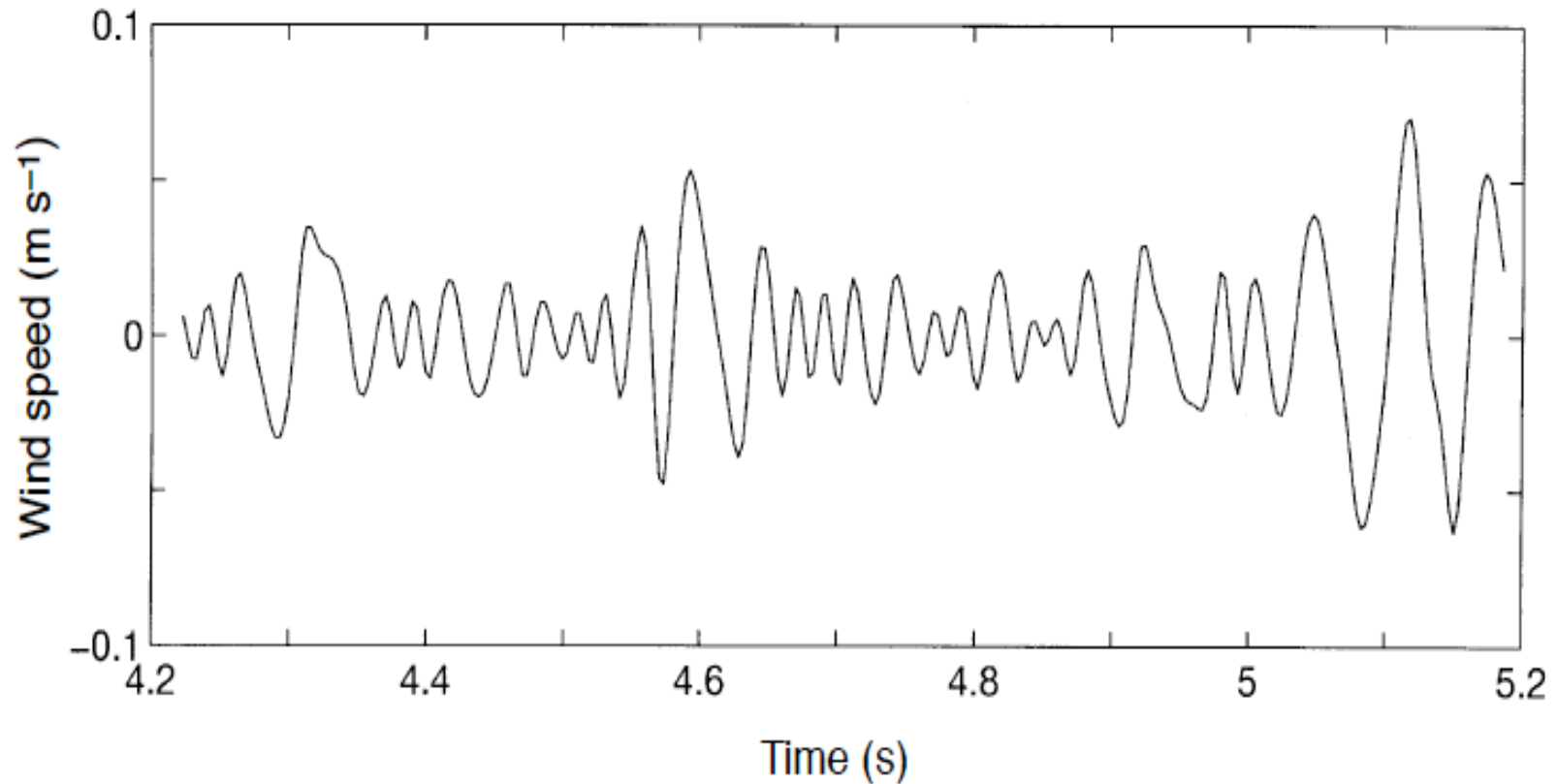


Figure 2. A typical intrinsic mode function with the same numbers of zero crossings and extrema, and symmetry of the upper and lower envelopes with respect to zero.



## Algorithmic statement of the visual process demonstrated so far

1. For data  $X(t)$ , we mark the local maxima and local minima, and interpolate the extrema points via, e.g., splines to obtain upper and lower envelopes.

2. Obtain the mean of the two envelopes,  $m_1$ .

3. Obtain  $h_1 = X(t) - m_1$  and inspect whether the the number of extrema and the number of zero crossings must either be equal or differ at most by one. Plus, inspect whether all the local maxima are positive and all the local minima are negative.

3. If not, repeat the sifting process and obtain  $h_1 - m_{11} = h_{11}$ .  
and repeat to obtain

$$h_{1(k-1)} - m_{1k} = h_{1k}$$

## Algorithmic statement - cont'd

If  $h_{1k}$  constitutes an IMF, then designate it  $c_1 = h_{1k}$ .

Now we obtain the first residual  $r_1$  via

$$r_1 = X(t) - c_1$$

Treat  $r_1$  as a new data set, and perform the sifting process to obtain  $c_2$ .

Continuing the sifting process we obtain

$$r_2 = r_1 - c_2, \dots, r_{n-1} - c_n = r_n.$$

Finally, the original signal is decomposed in terms of IMFs:

$$X(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i + r_n$$

## Hilbert-Huang Transform (HHT) for Nonlinearity Detection

The Hilbert-Huang Transform (HHT) is perhaps the most notable development during the last decade. In a nutshell, the HHT consists of the following steps:

1. sifting, that is, empirical adoption of the Principal Component Analysis (PCA) for multi-components in the signal to rearrange the signal in terms of local bases that are nearly orthogonal each other;
2. physically based construction of instantaneous frequency whose concept is applicable to nonstationary and nonlinear signals;
3. complexification of the signal via the Hilbert Transform to characterize the signal in terms of the modulated amplitude and the associated instantaneous frequencies that appear to represent both interwaves and intrawaves;
4. reconstruction of the signal and the Hilbert spectrum (energy-frequency) and the multi-component frequency-time relations.

## HHT - Cont'd

The nonlinear and non-stationary time series signal reconstructed via the HHT are:

**complete** by employing its stopping criterion;

**nearly orthogonal**;

**local**; and,

**highly adaptive**.

We label these properties into one phrase **COLA**.

We will now introduce the HHT via the example problem used by Huang and et al.

### The Sifting Process

#### Assumptions introduced (Huang et al, 1998):

1. The signal has at least one maximum and one minimum;
2. The characteristic time scale is defined by the time lapse between the extrema;
3. If the data were totally devoid of extrema but contained only inflection points, then it can be differentiated once or more times to reveal extrema; and, final results can be obtained by integration(s) of the components.

## The Sifting Process

## HHT - Cont'd

### Restriction imposed (Huang et al, 1998):

In addition to the above assumptions, they imposed a restriction that the the resulting intrinsic mode functions (**IMF**) be **symmetric locally with respect to the zero mean level.**

This restriction implies the **IMFs** have the same numbers of zero-crossings and extrema. **This restriction then allows one to define the instantaneous frequency** for each of the decomposed **IMFs**. In other words, an **IMF** satisfies:

- (1) in the whole data set, the number of extrema and the number of zero-crossings must be either the same or differ at most by one;
- (2) at any point, the mean value of the envelope defined by the local maxima and the envelope defined by the local minima is zero.

## The Sifting Process

HHT - Cont'd

### Restriction imposed (Huang et al, 1998):

The first condition is similar to the narrow band requirement for a stationary Gaussian process. The second one, however, modifies the classical global zero-mean requirement to a local one. It is this very second property that goes with the concept of the **instantaneous frequency** that is valid for nonstationary process and nonlinear signals. From the context of signal processing, the second property allows us to avoid a local-averaging time scale altogether.

Invoking the above assumptions and restriction, Huang et al showed that their **empirical mode decomposition (EMD)** can identify the intrinsic oscillatory modes by their characteristic time scales in the data.

For a given data the maxima are marked with blue bullets and interpolated by the cubic spline function. The same is done for the minima with red bullets followed by cubic spline interpolation. The local mean ( $m_1(t)$ ) is then constructed between the blue and red figures and plotted with pink color. The first IMF ( $h_1(t)$ ) is thus obtained by

$$h_1(t) = x(t) - m_1(t) \quad (12)$$

If  $h_1(t)$  is not symmetric, then repeat the sifting process such that

$$\begin{aligned} h_1 - m_{11} &= h_{11} \\ &\dots \\ h_{1(k-1)} - m_{1k} &= h_{1k} \\ &\dots \\ \text{Let } c_1 &= h_{1k} \\ r_1 &= x(t) - c_1 \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

and the next sifting process starts with  $r_1$ . The sifting process is completed



”when the residual  $r_n$  is so small that it is less than the predetermined value of substantial consequence, or when the residue,  $r_n$ , becomes a monotonic function from which no IMF can be extracted. Now the original signal,  $x(t)$ , is rearranged in terms of the IMFs:

$$x(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i(t) + r_n(t) \quad (14)$$

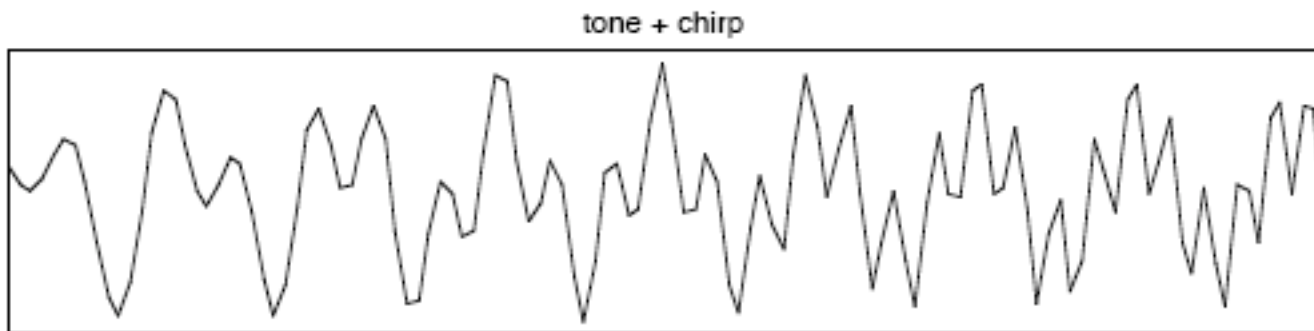
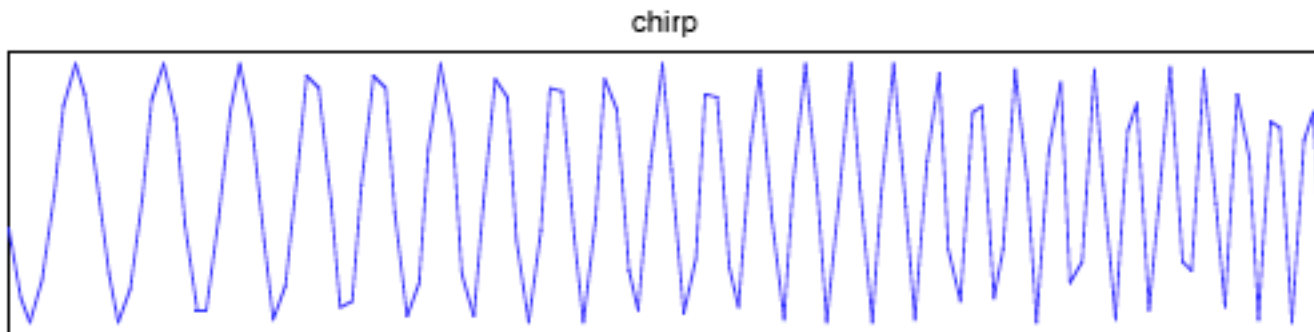
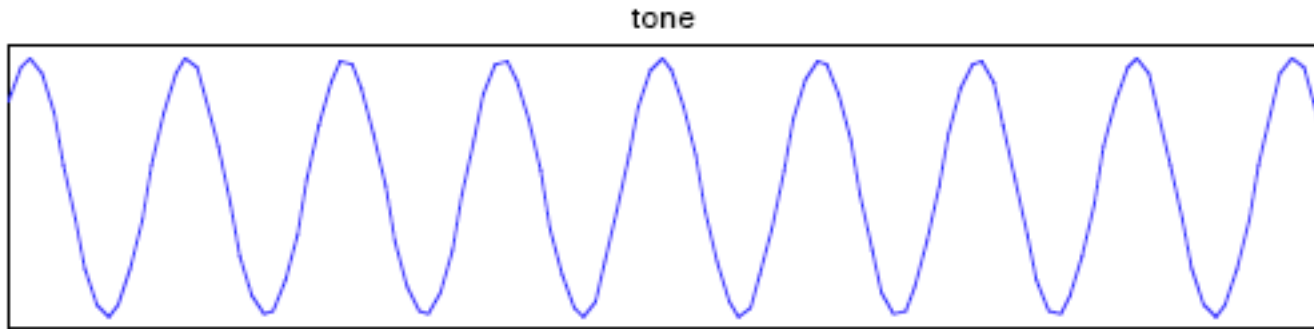
Note that  $c_1$  contains the finest local mode;  $c_2$  the next the second finest, etc. However, it is not recommended to carry out the subsequent iterations to the extreme lest the resulting  $\{c_j, \quad i \geq 2\}$  obliterate the physically meaningful amplitude fluctuations. A recommended iteration stopping criterion suggested is the following measure of the standard deviation(SD):

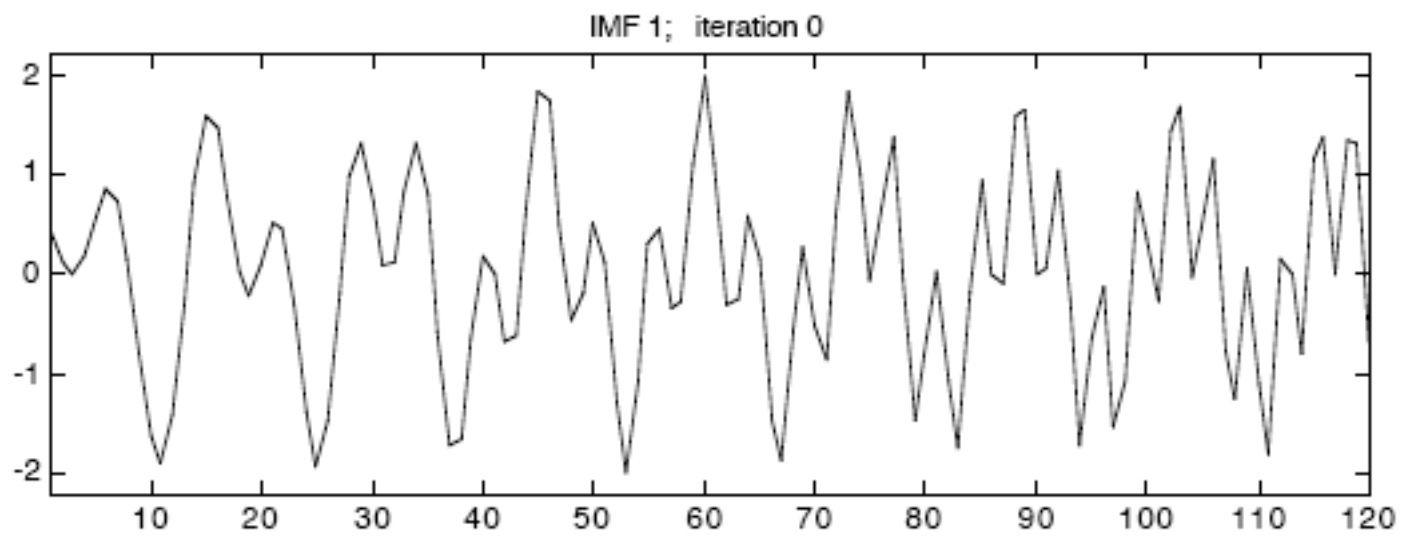
$$SD = \sum_{t=0}^T \left[ \frac{|h_{1(k-1)}(t) - h_{1k}(t)|^2}{h_{1(k-1)}^2(t)} \right], \quad 0.2 \leq SD \leq 0.3 \quad (15)$$

## Example Problem: Tone plus Chirp Oscillation

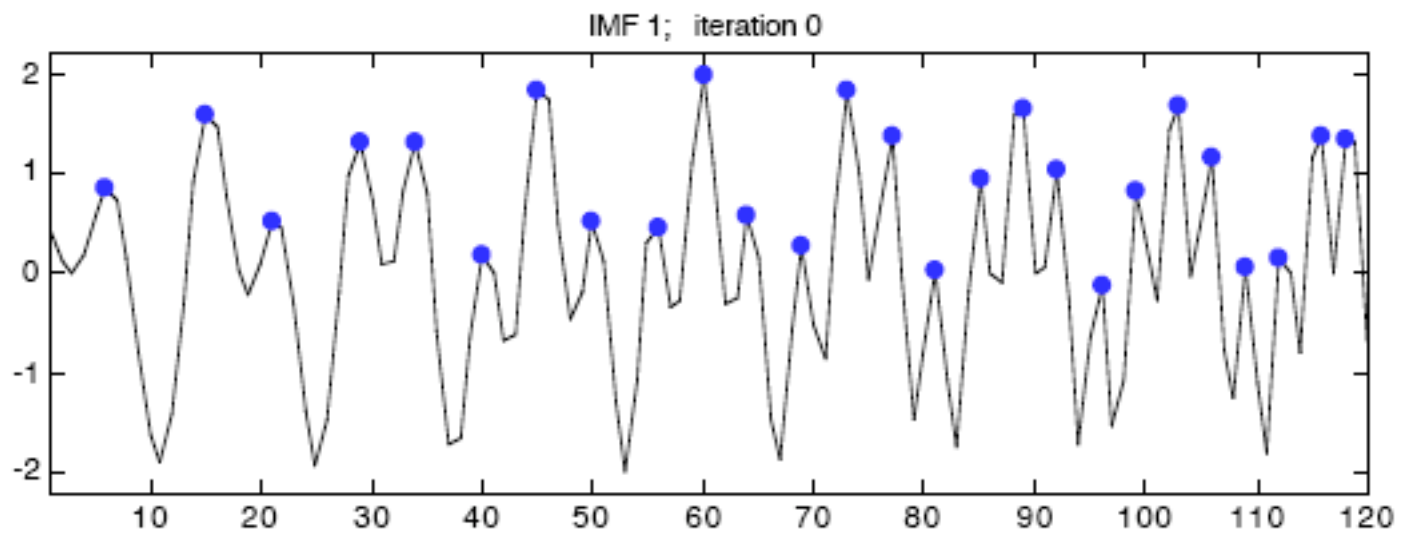
(Source: Gabriel.Rilling (at) ens-lyon.fr

<http://perso.ens-lyon.fr/patrick.flandrin/emd.html>)

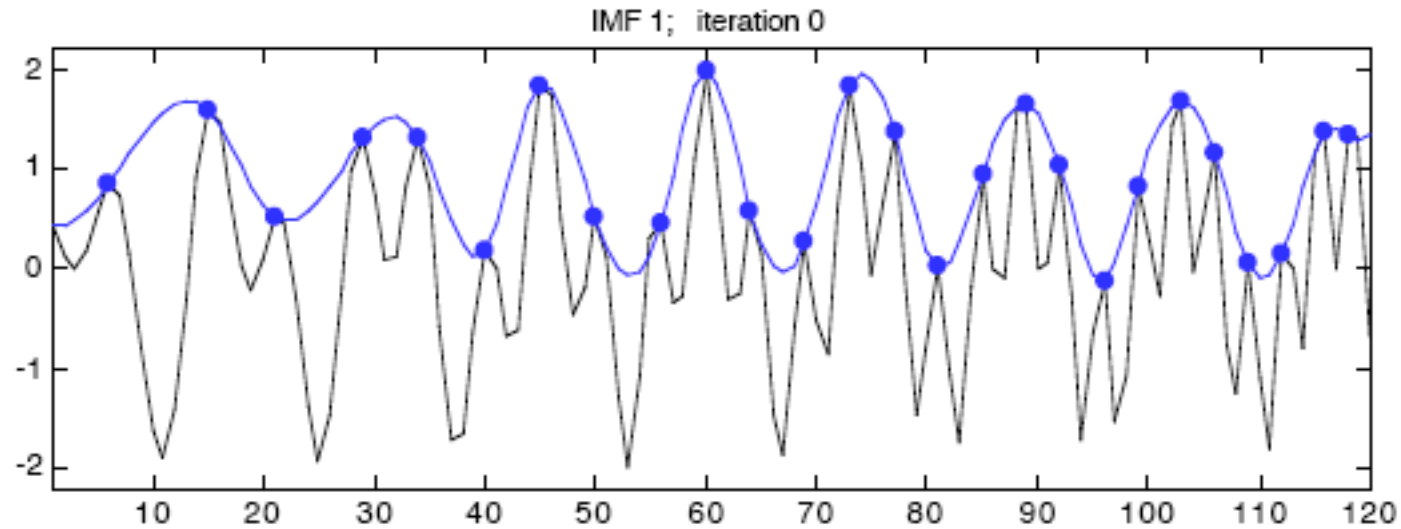




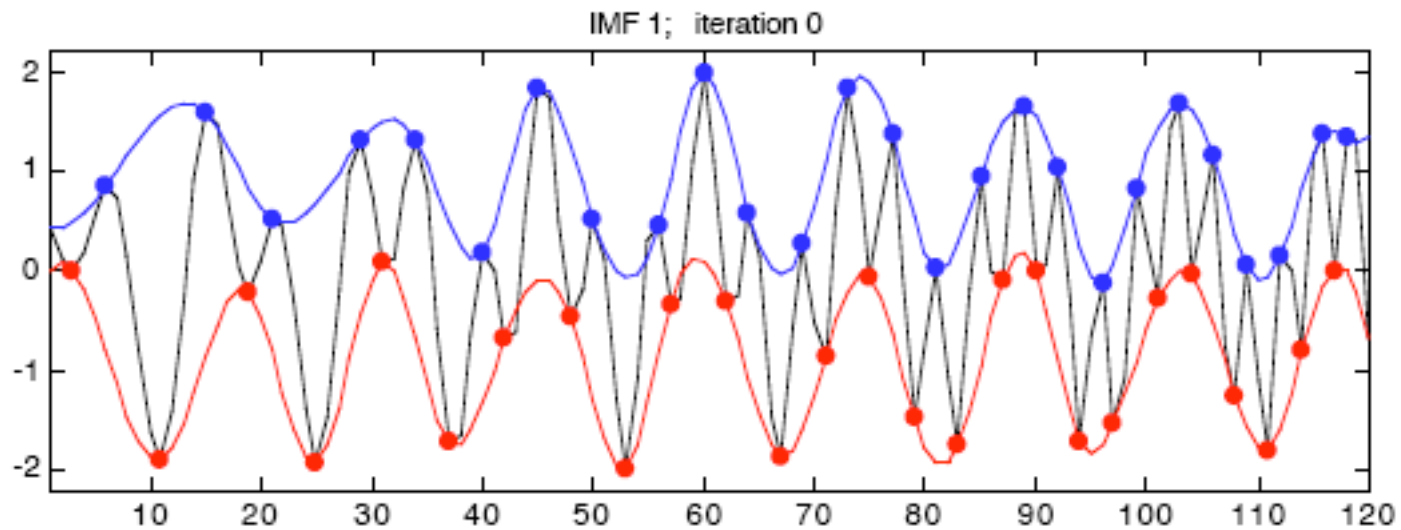
**Mark the maxima**



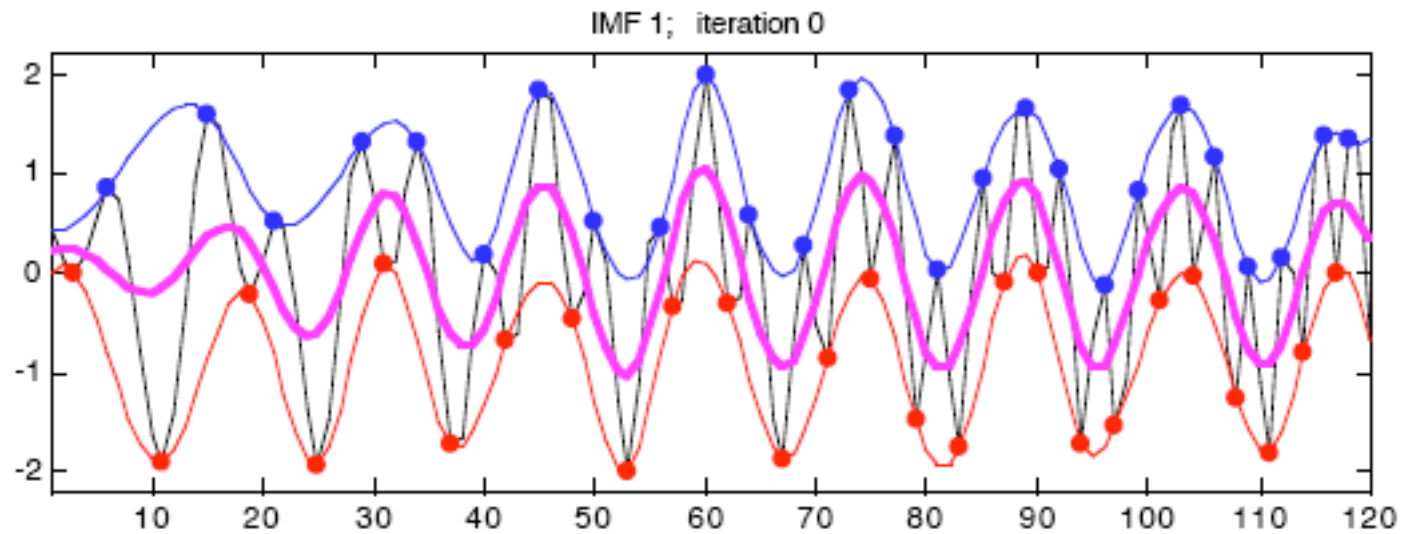
## Interpolate the maxima by cubic splines



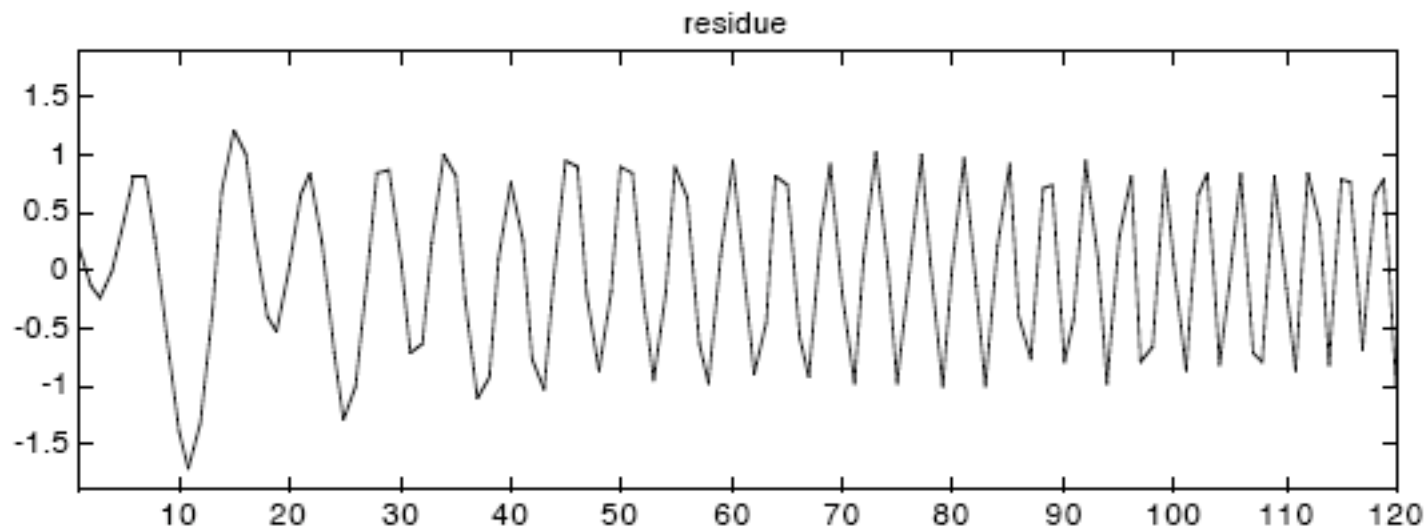
## Repeat the minima by cubic splines



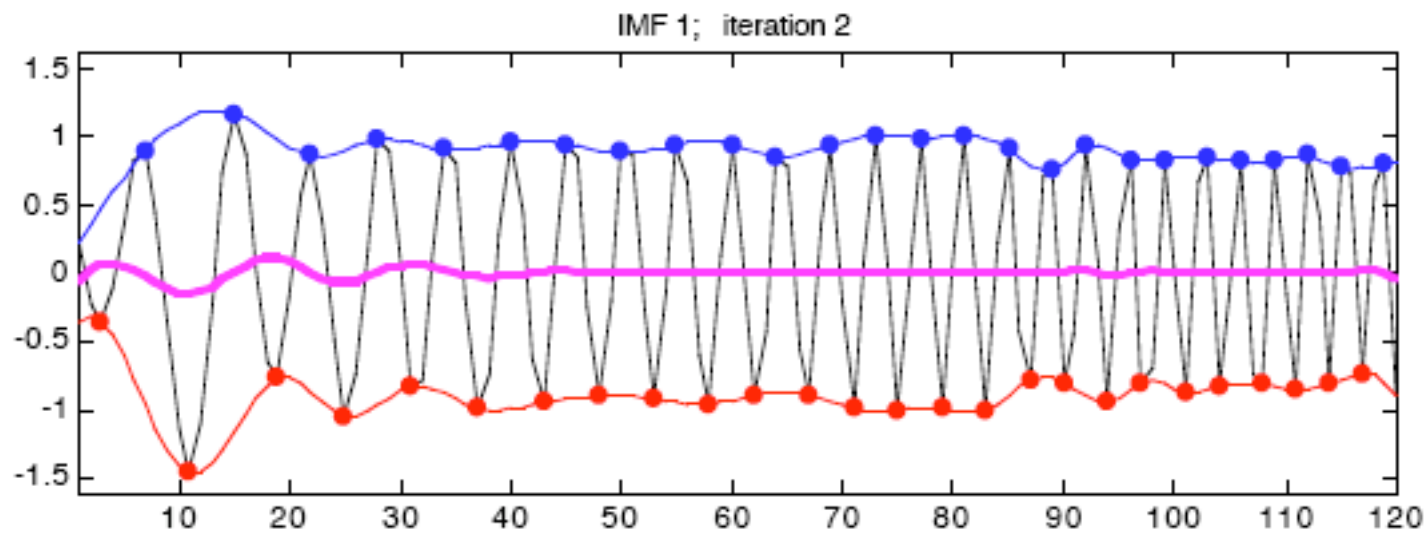
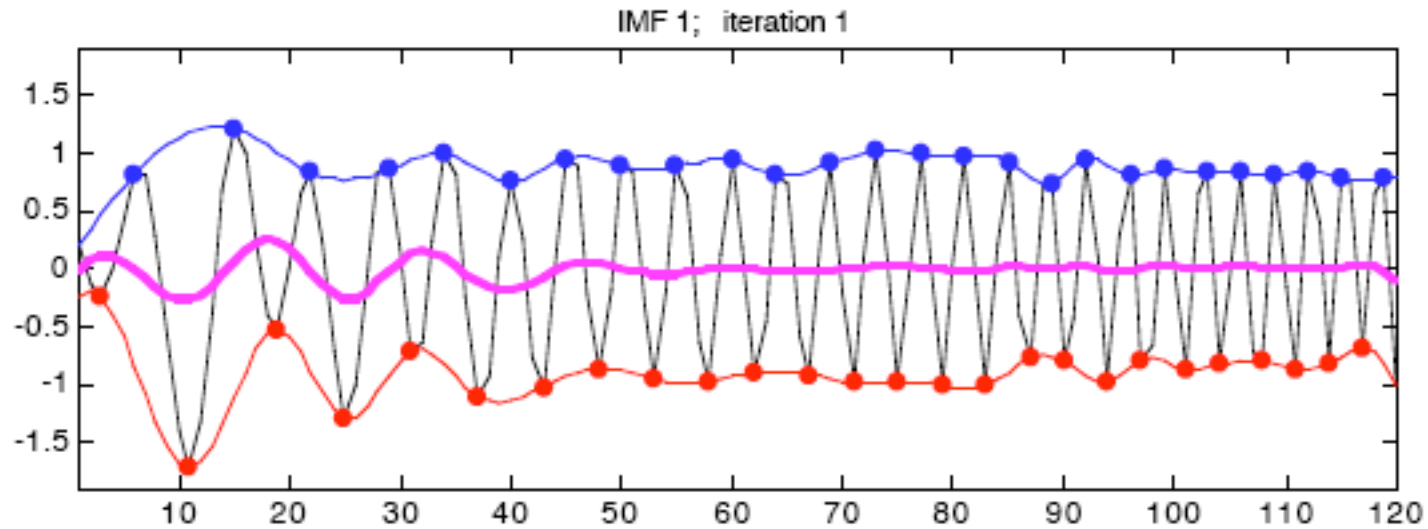
Obtain the local mean curve,  $m_1$



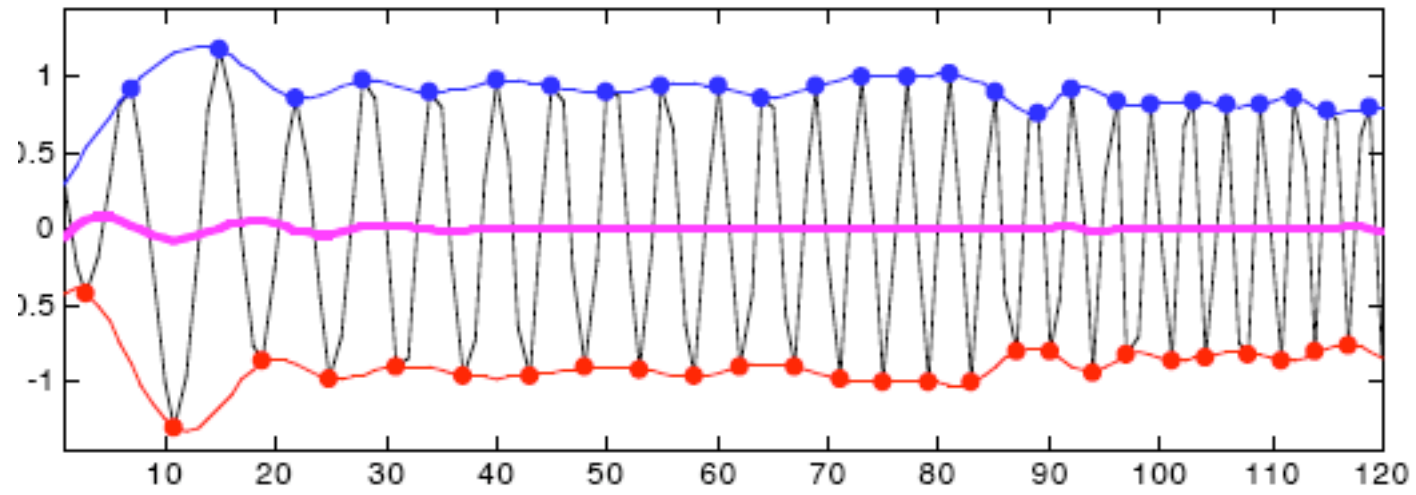
Obtain the residue,  $r_1 = x - m_1$



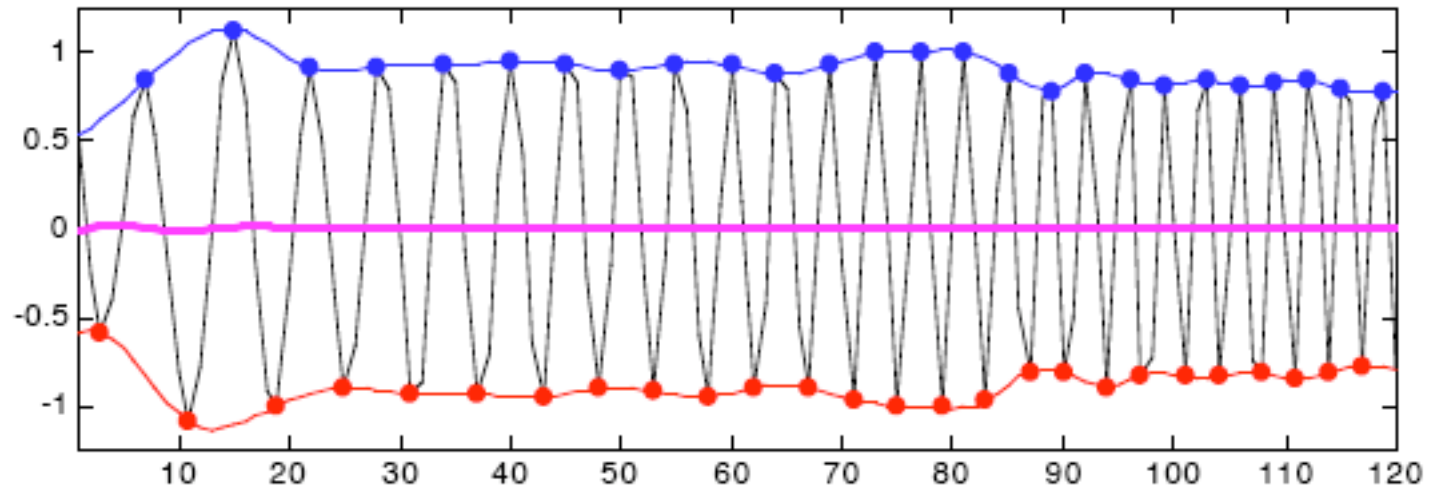
# Iterate on $h_1$ if it violates the assumptions and restrictions



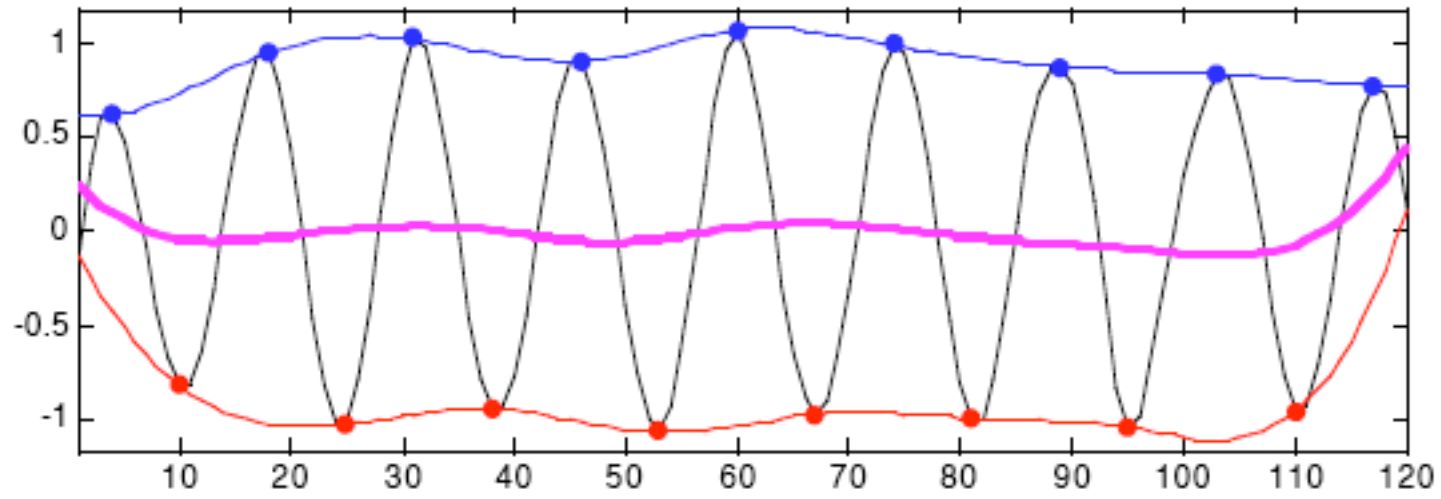
IMF 1; iteration 3



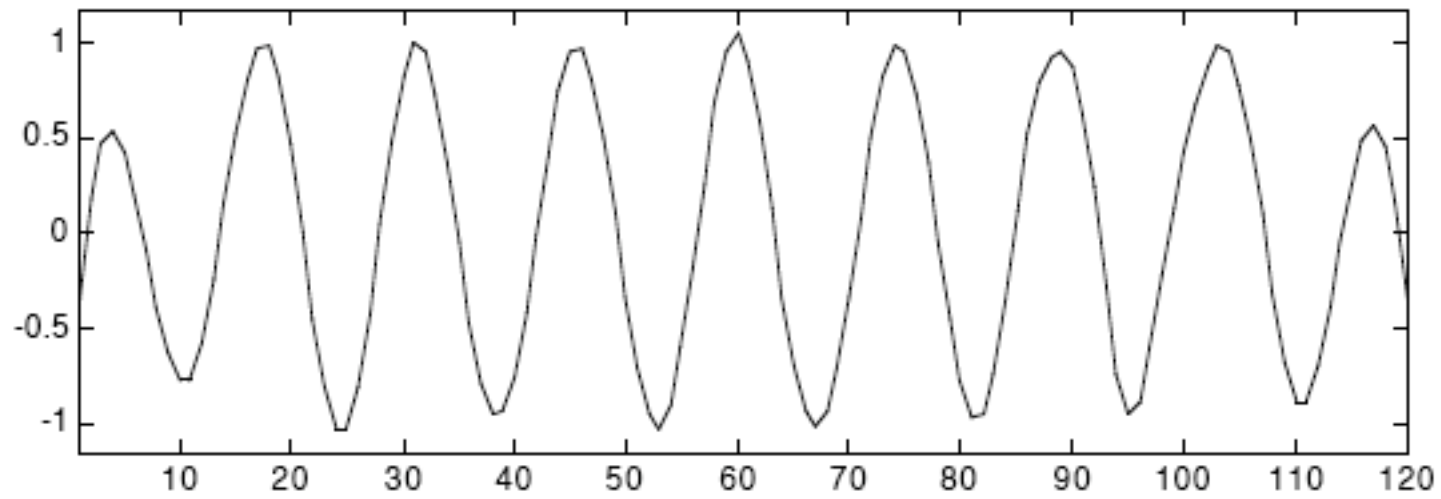
IMF 1; iteration 8



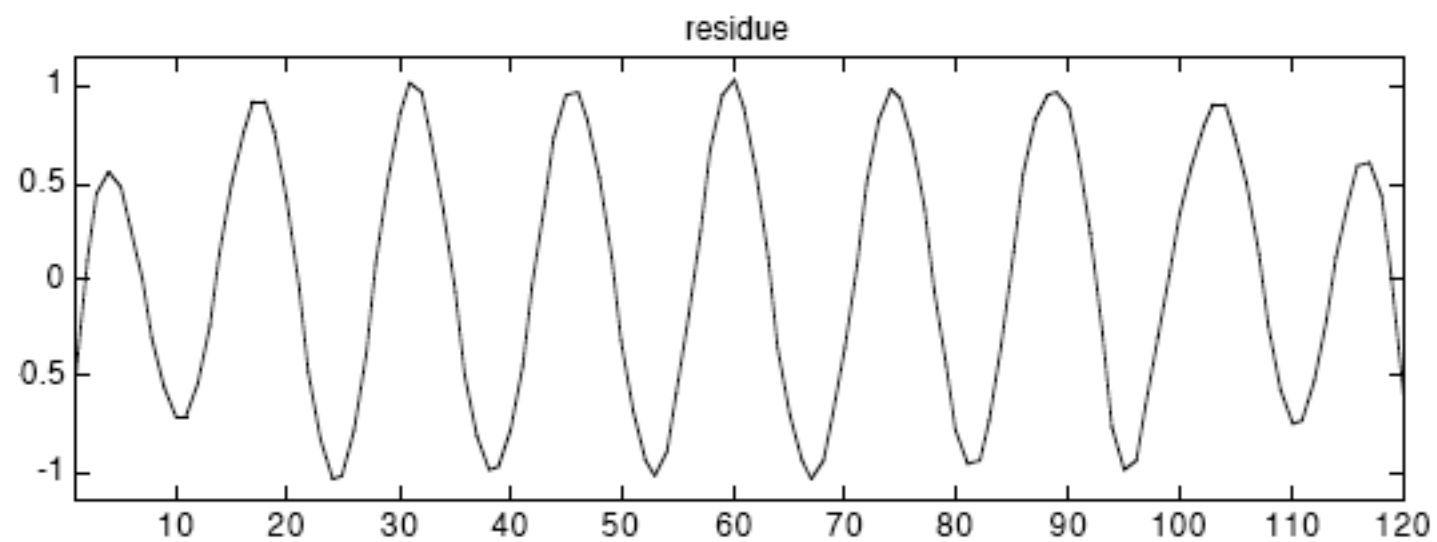
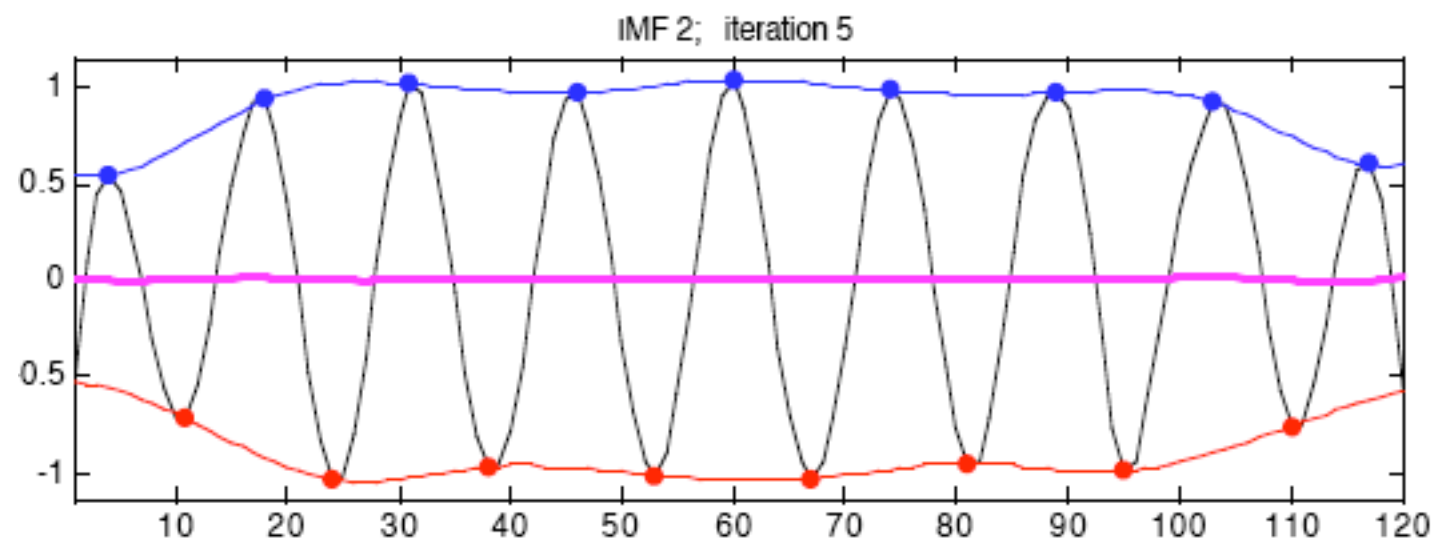
IMF 2; iteration 0



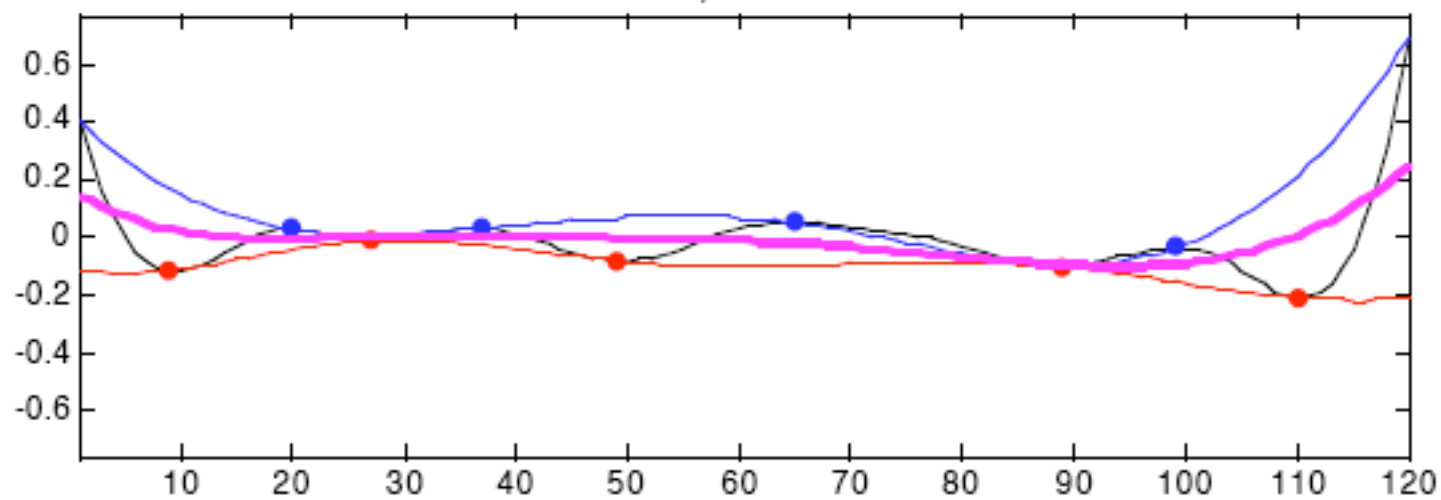
residue



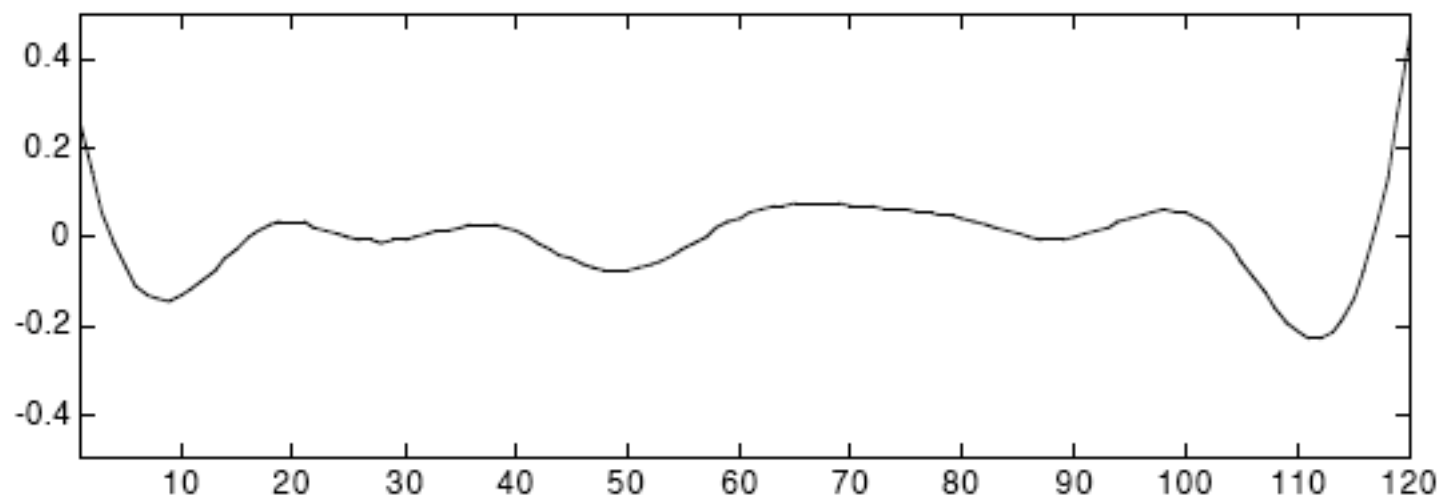


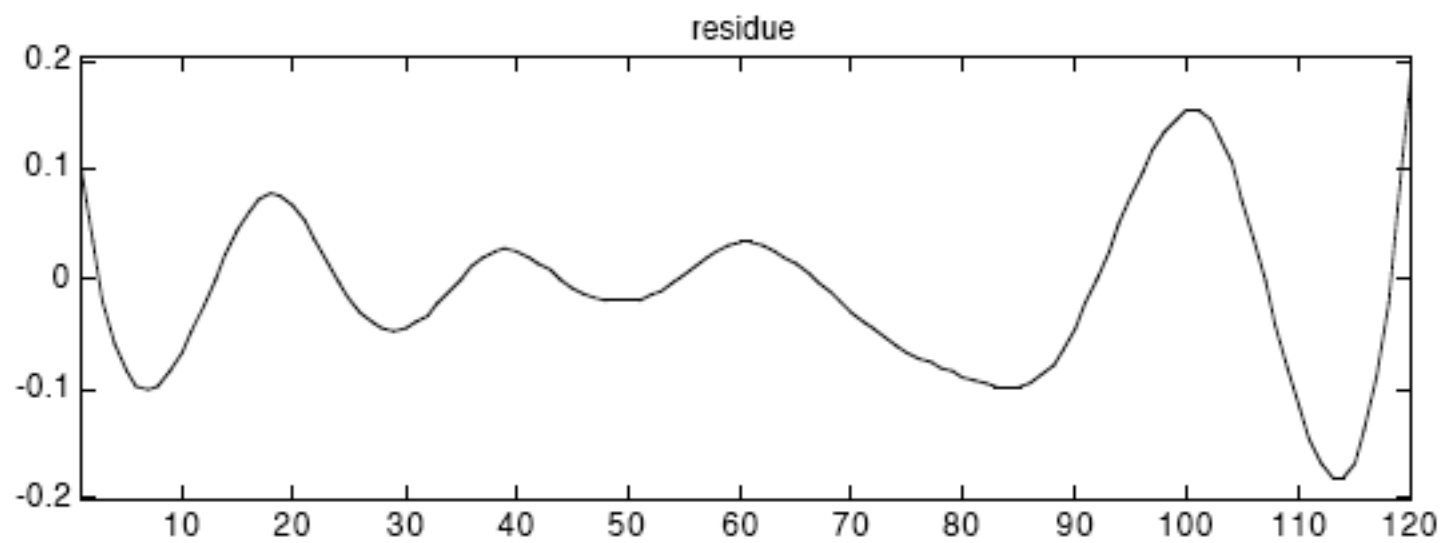
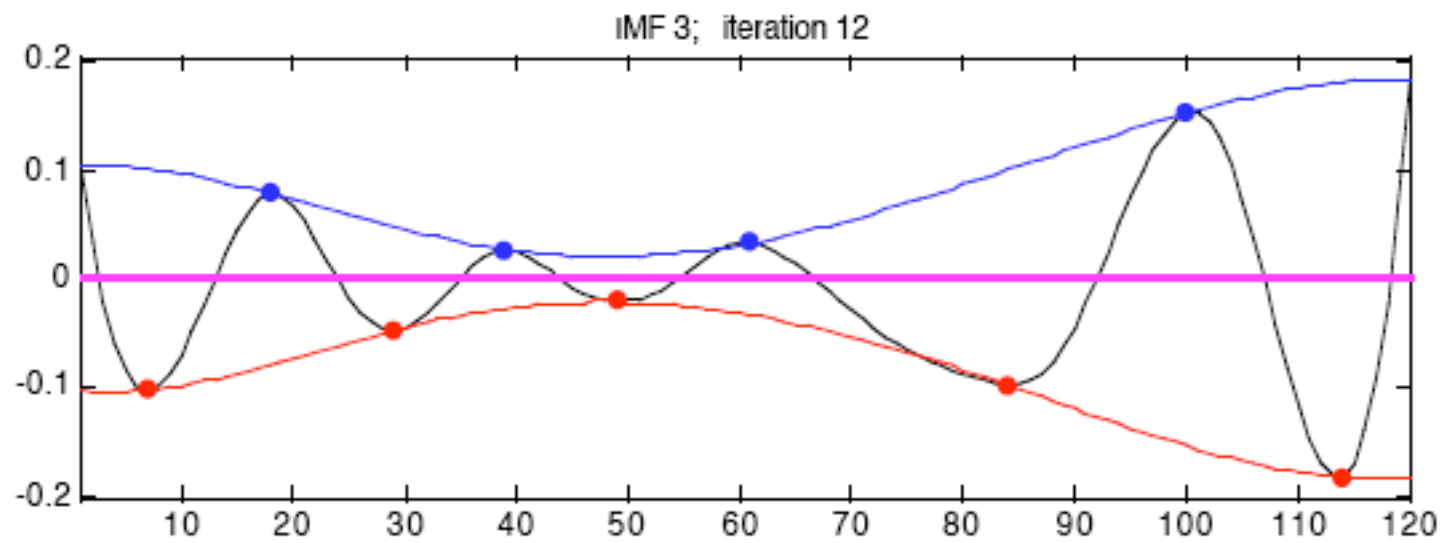


IMF 3; iteration 0

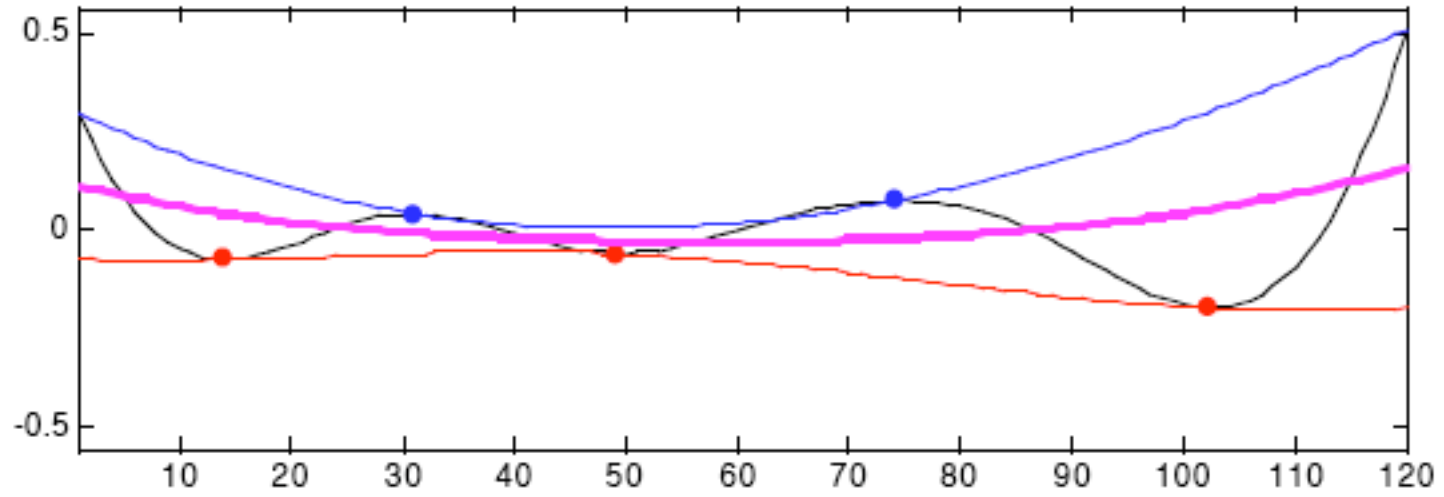


residue

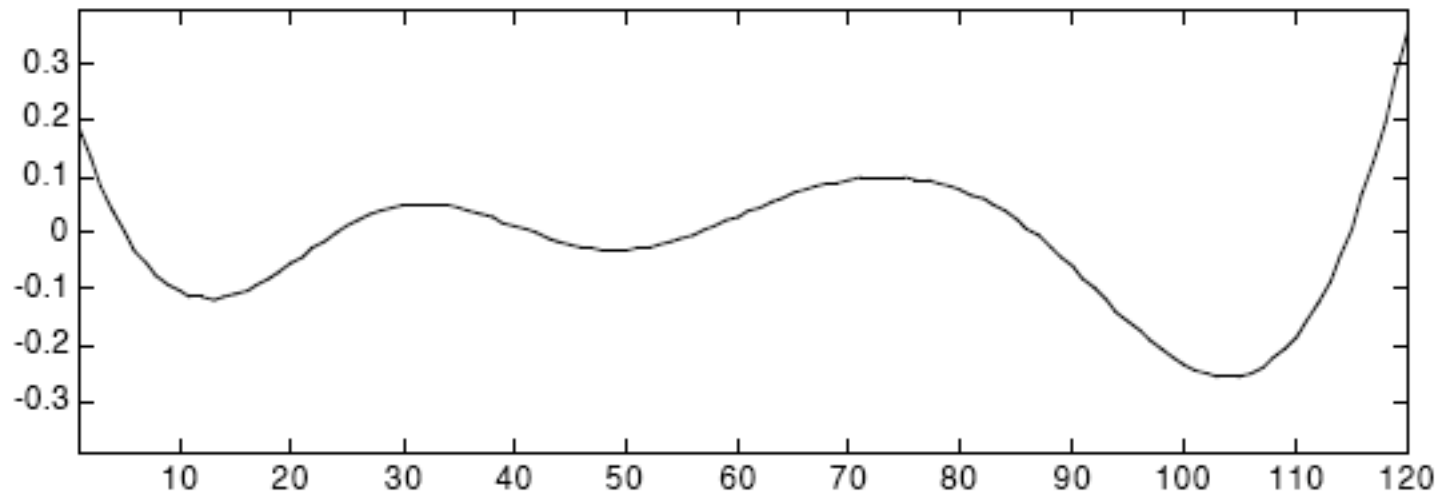




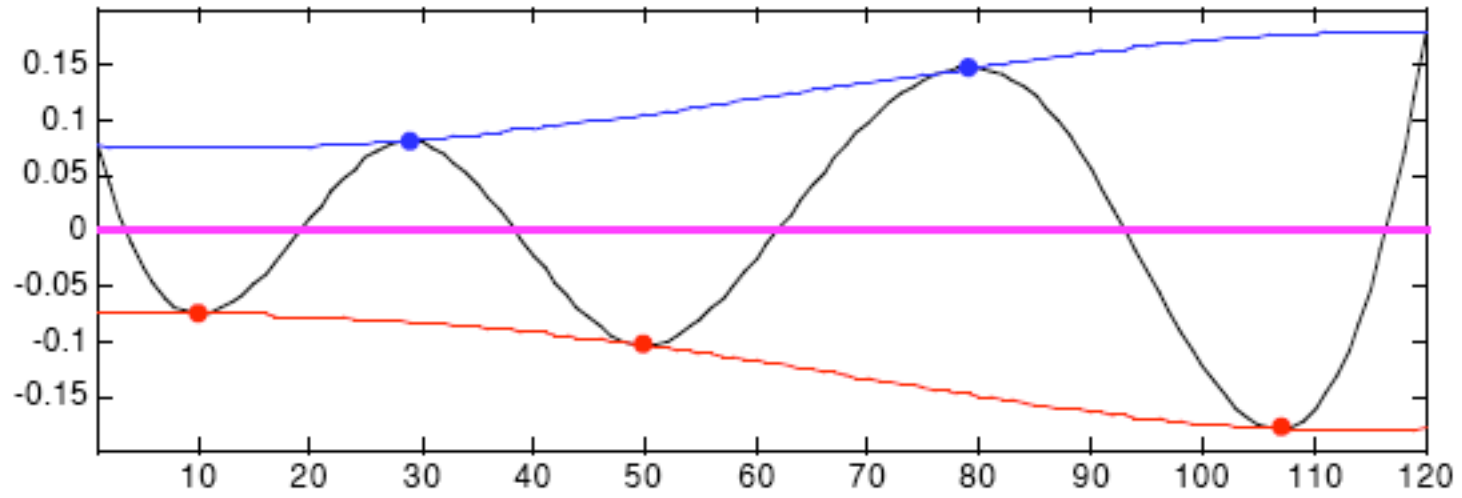
IMF 4; iteration 0



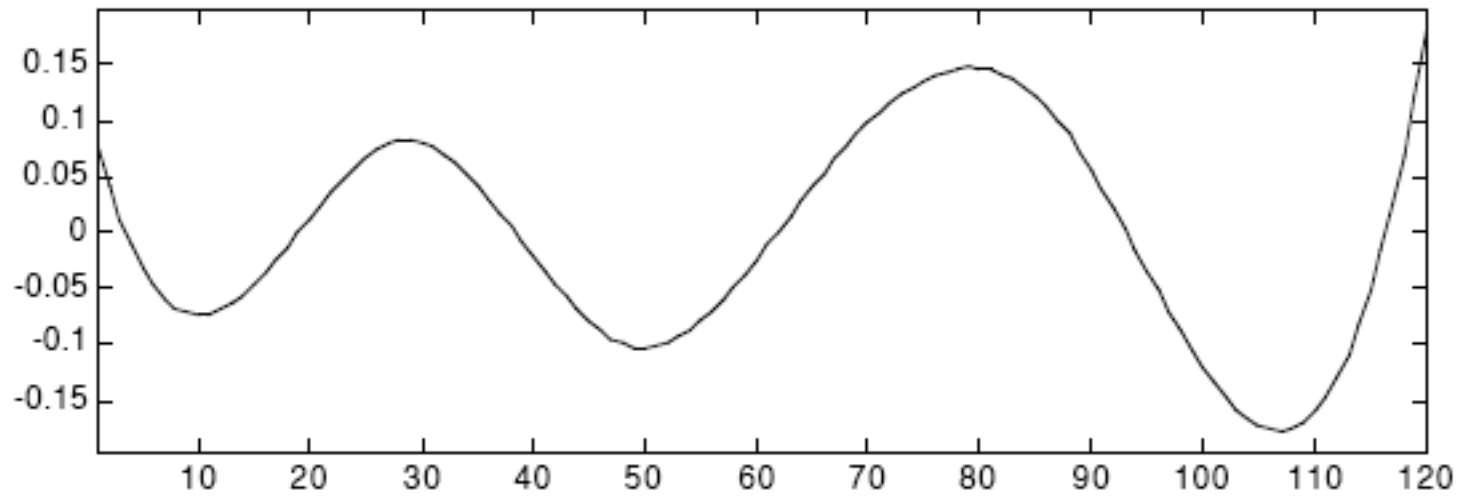
residue



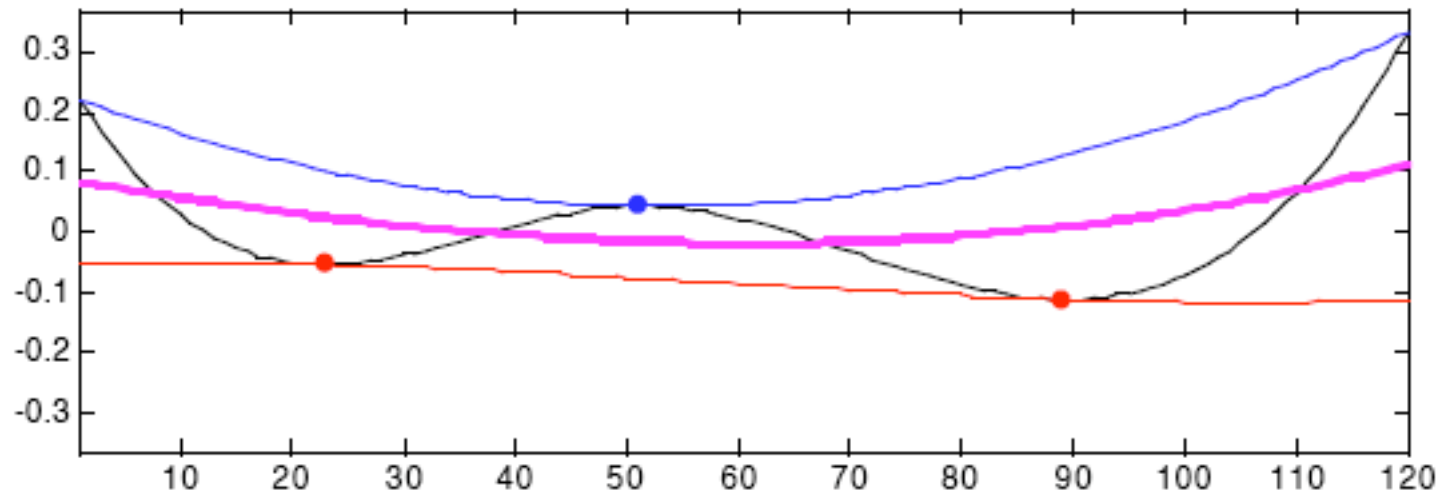
IMF 4; iteration 16



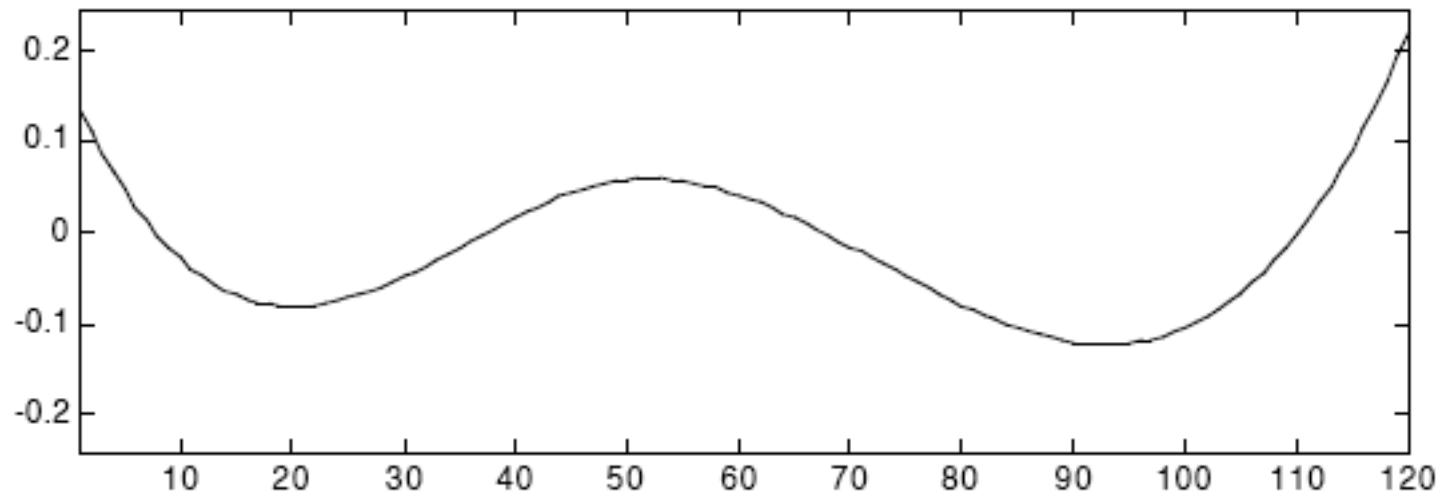
residue

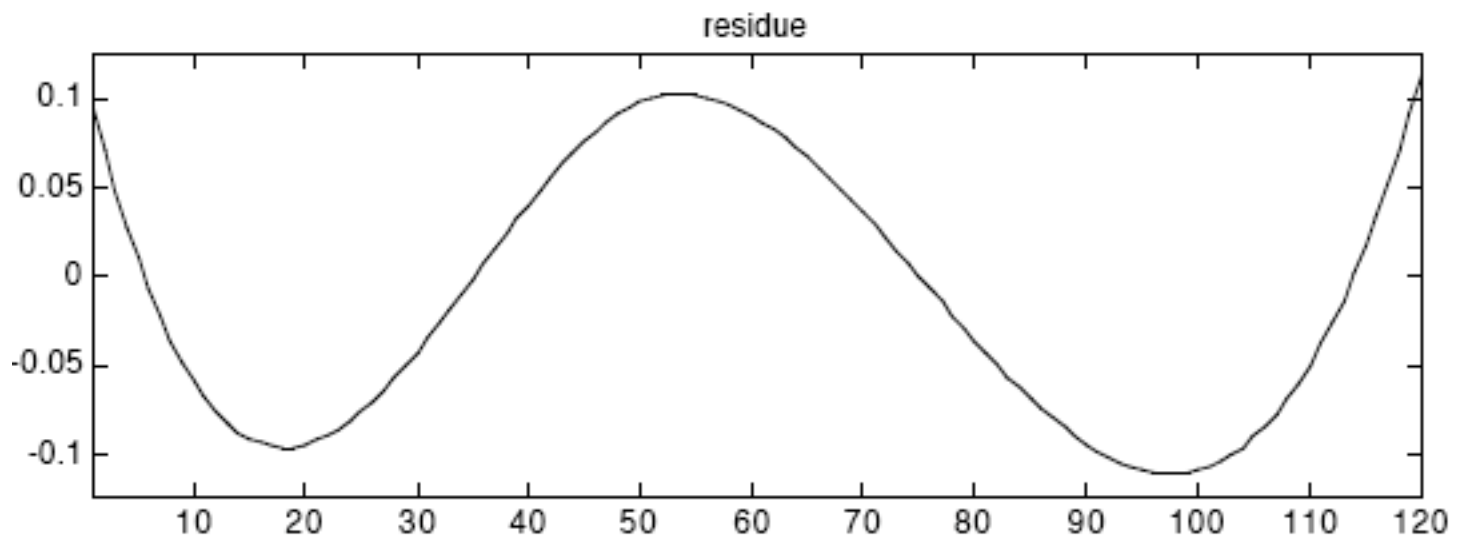
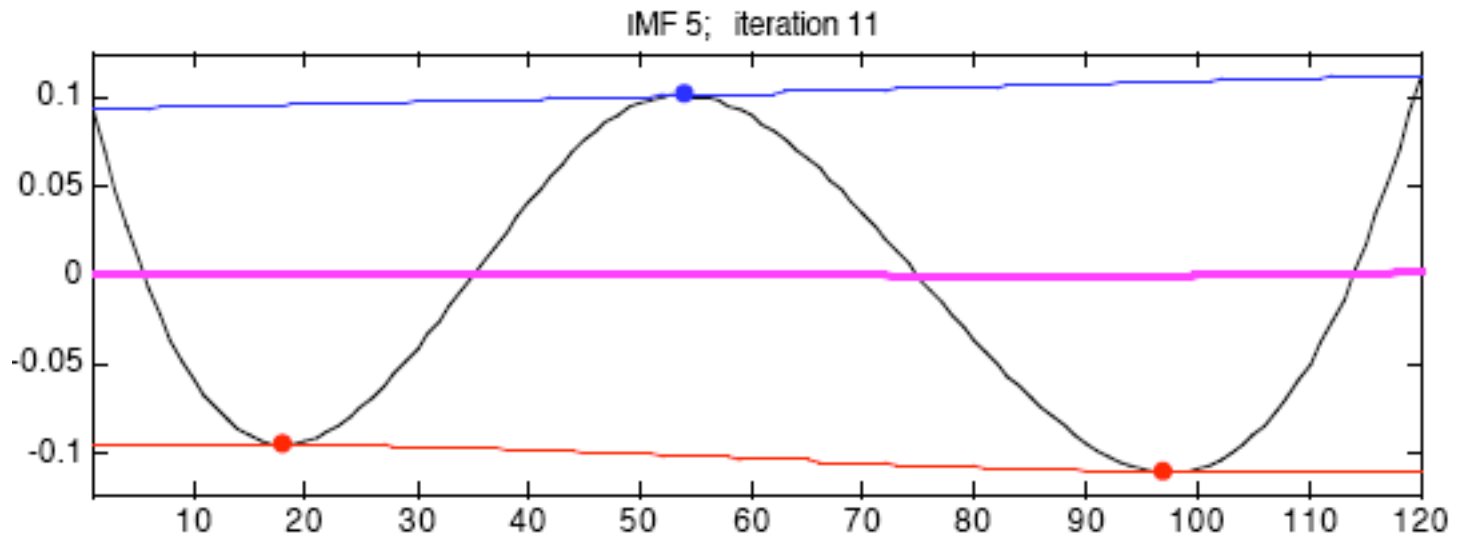


IMF 5; iteration 0

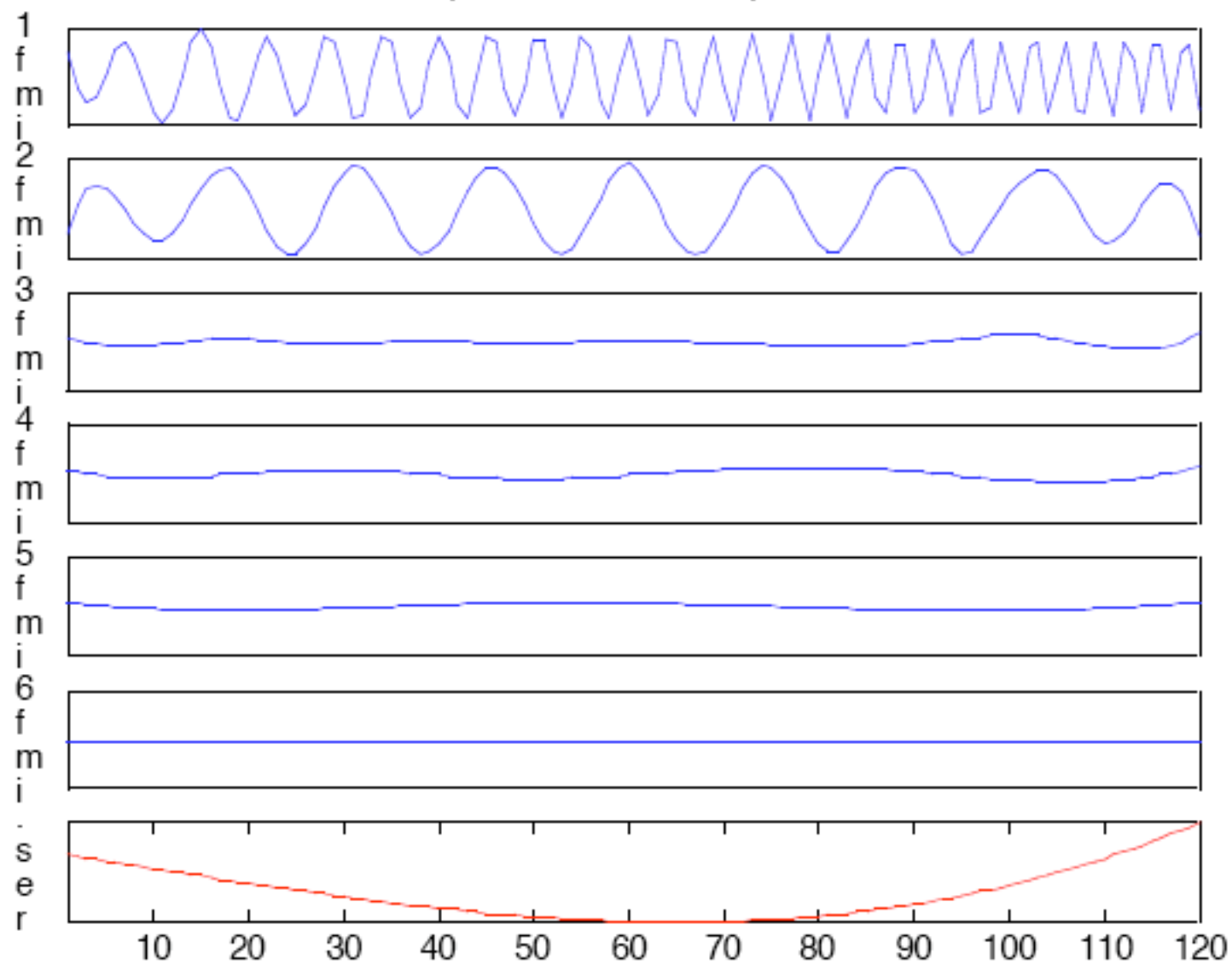


residue



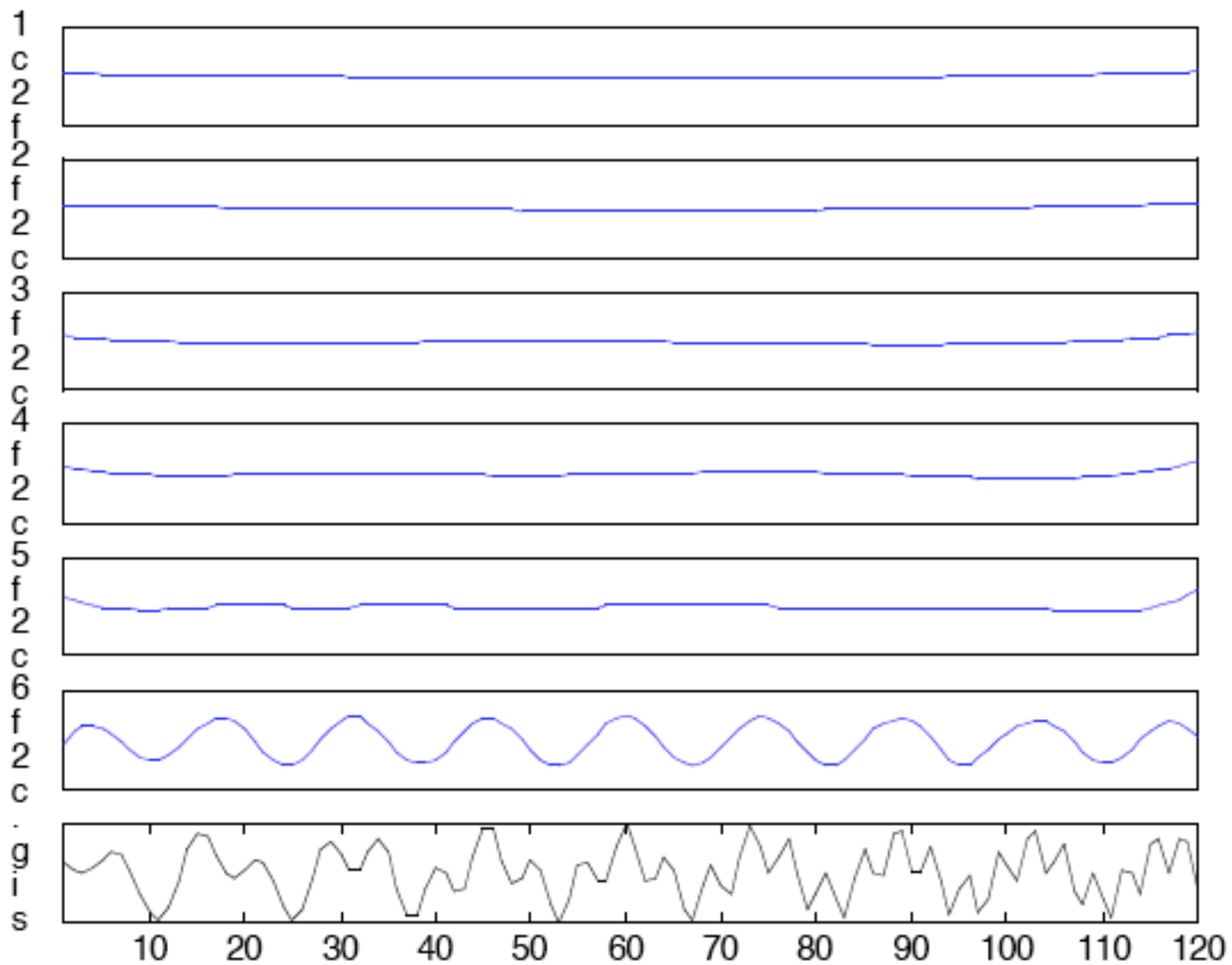


# Empirical Mode Decomposition

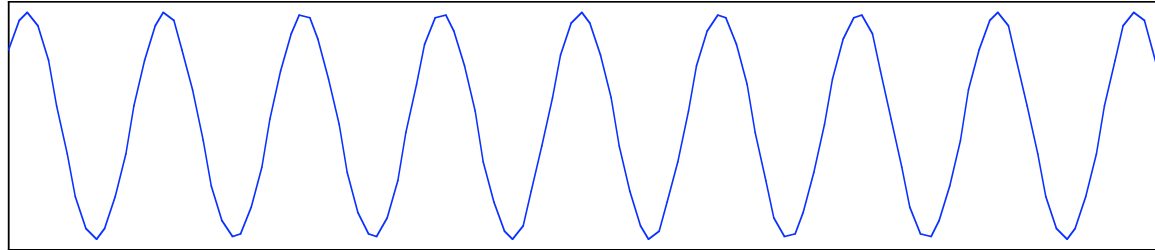




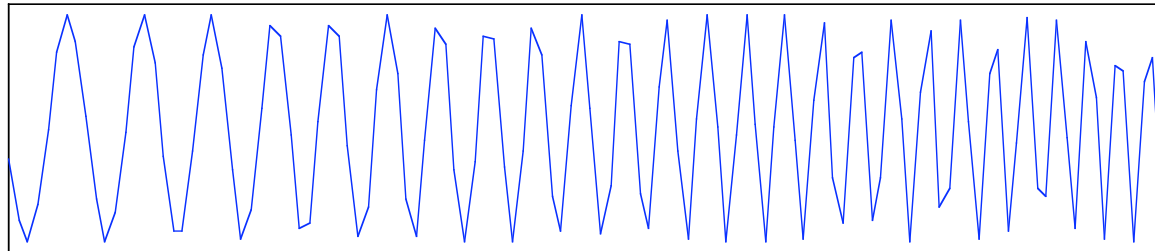
reconstruction from coarse to fine



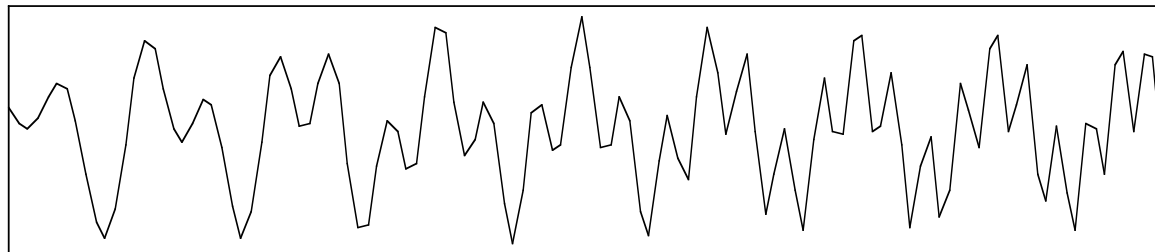
tone



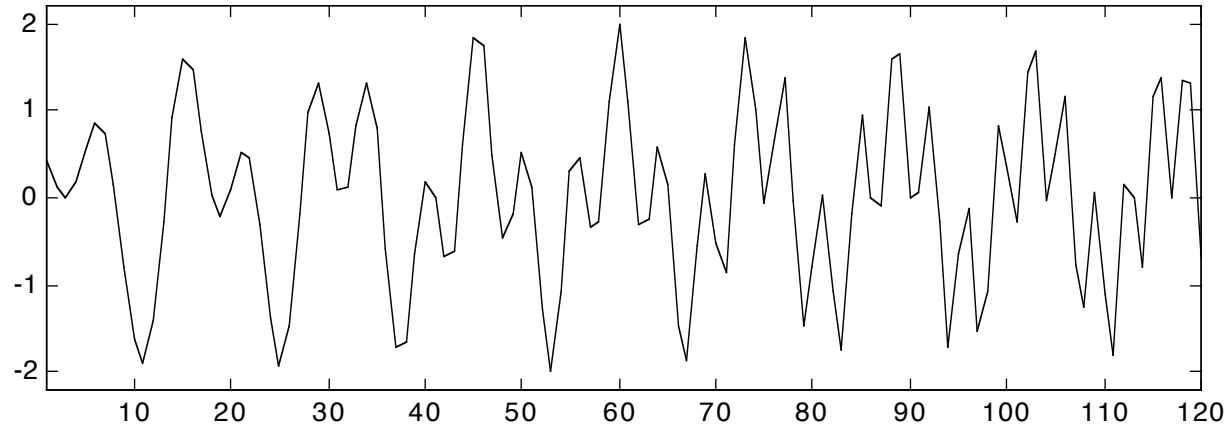
chirp

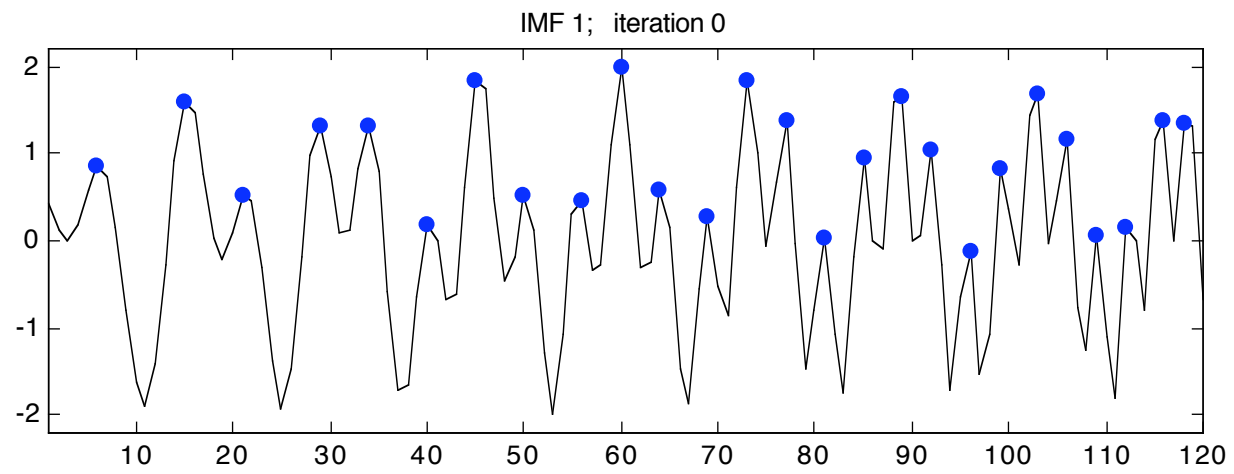


tone + chirp

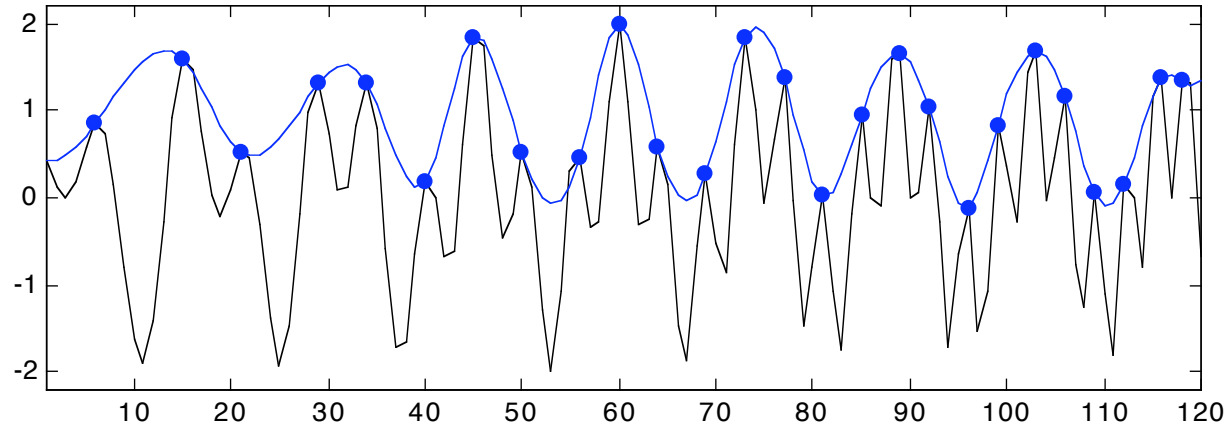


IMF 1; iteration 0

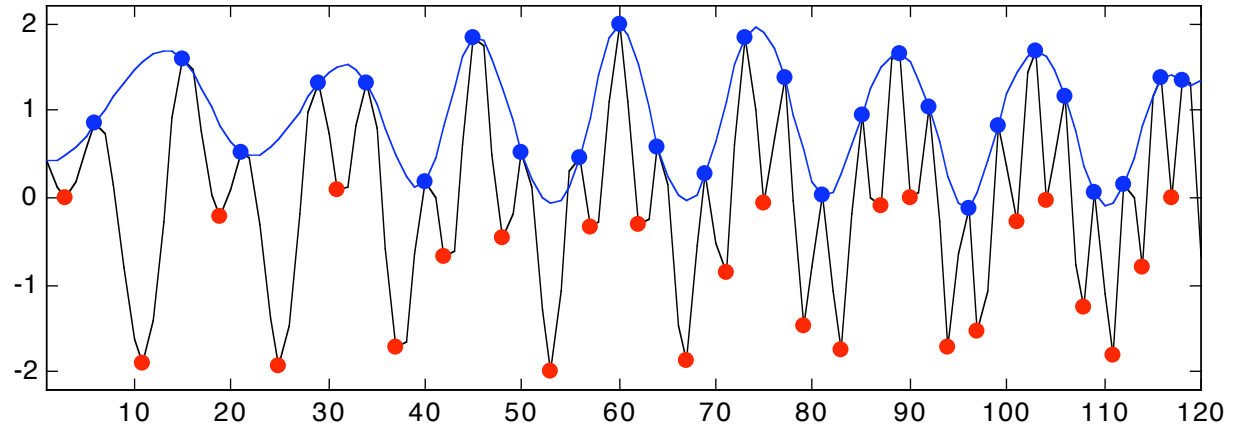




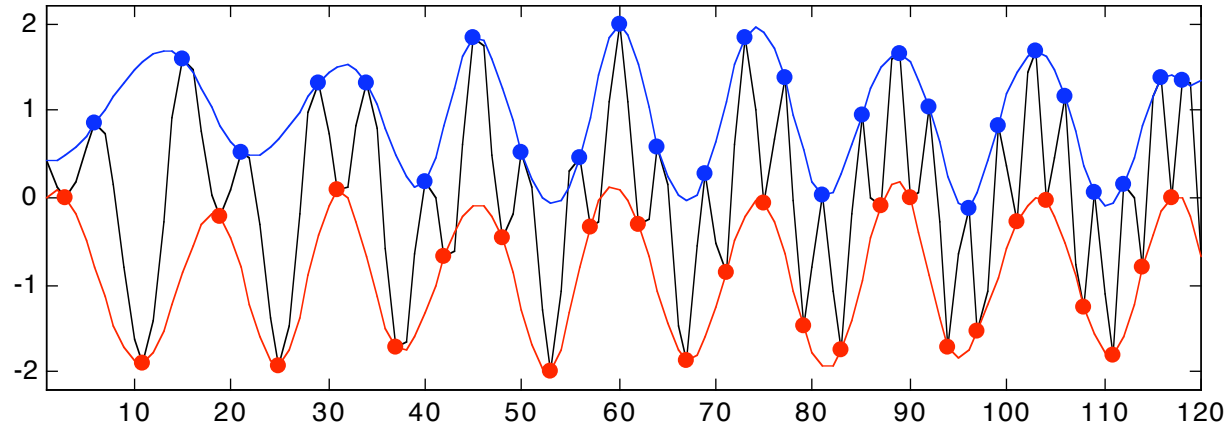
IMF 1; iteration 0



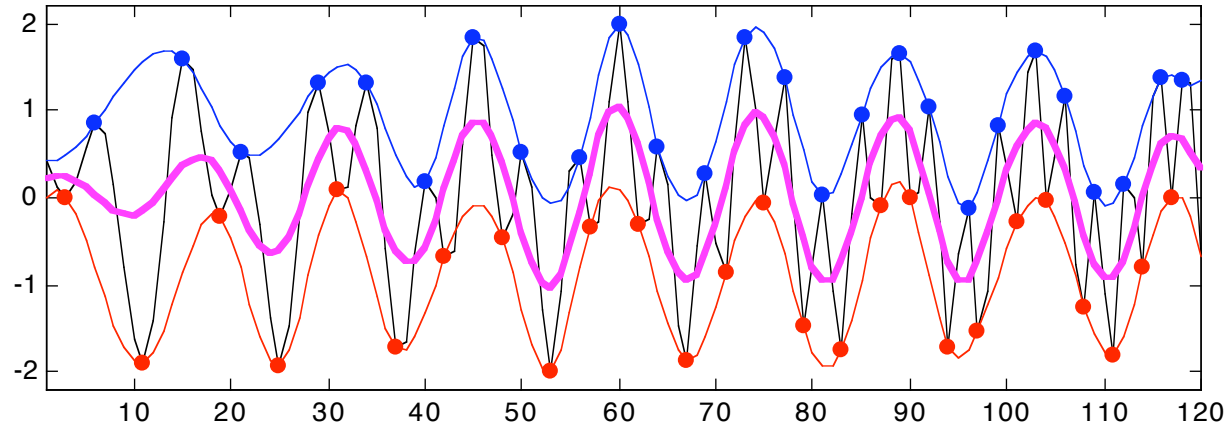
IMF 1; iteration 0



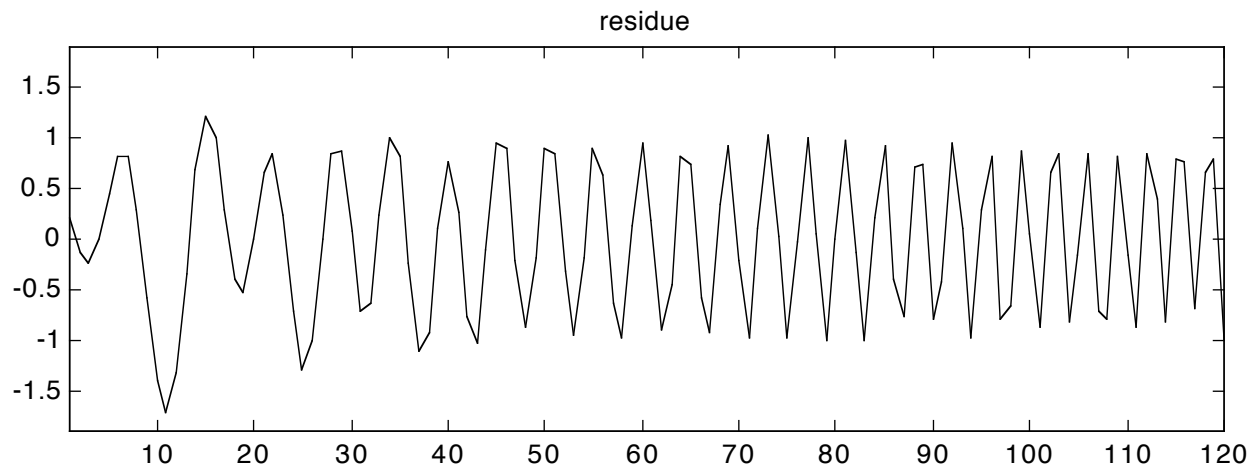
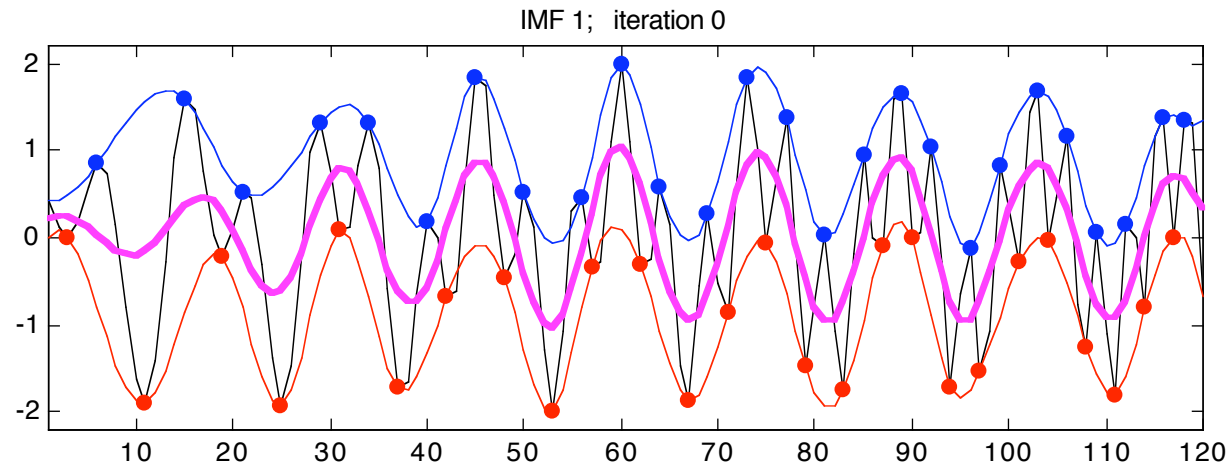
IMF 1; iteration 0



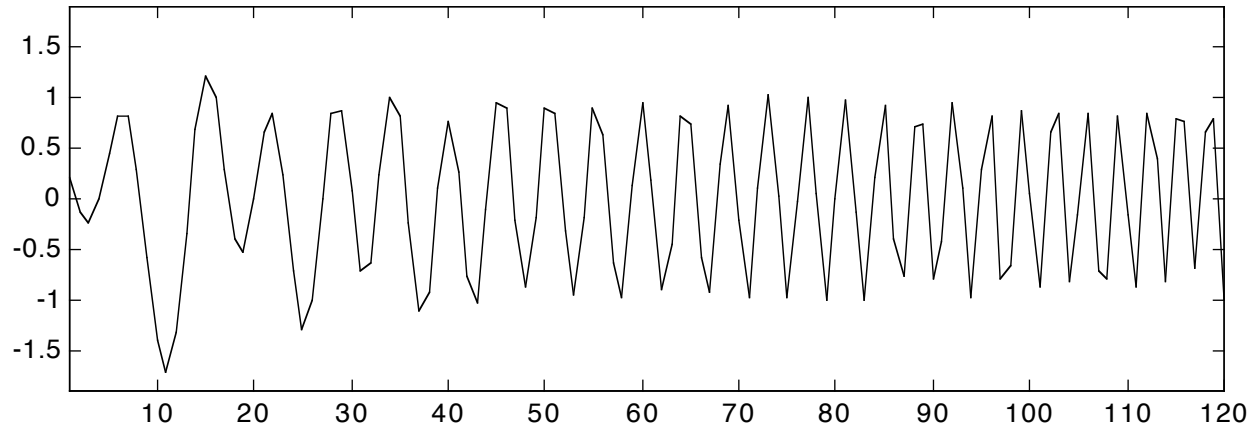
IMF 1; iteration 0



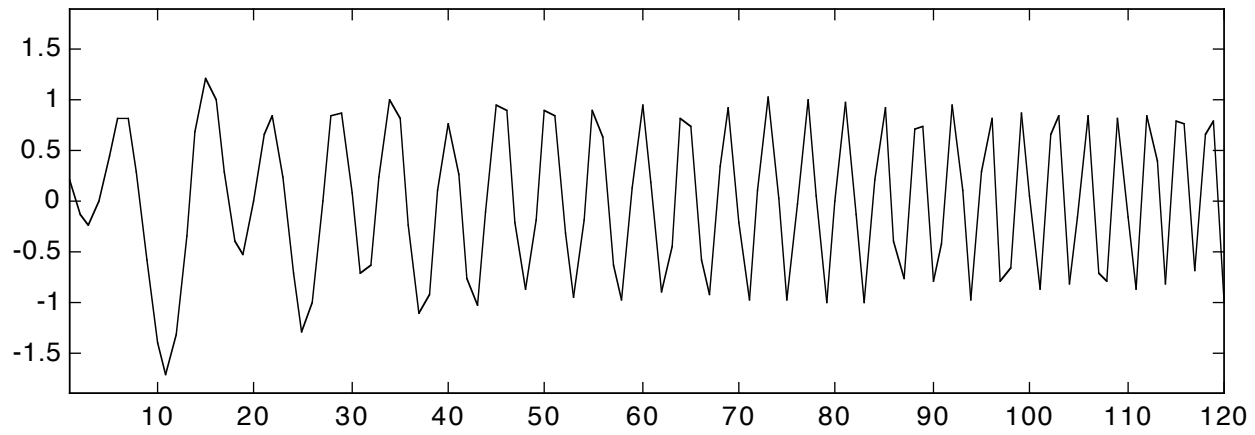




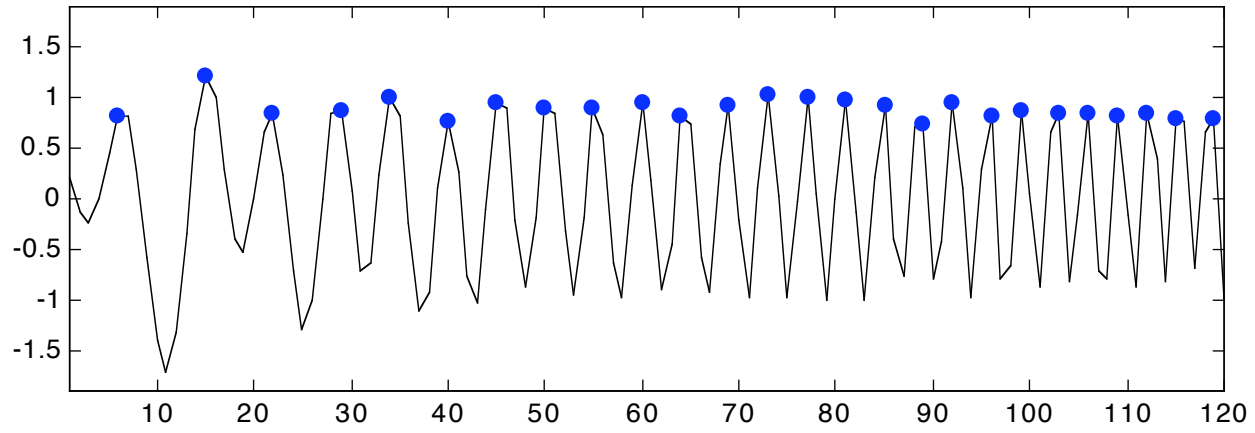
IMF 1; iteration 1



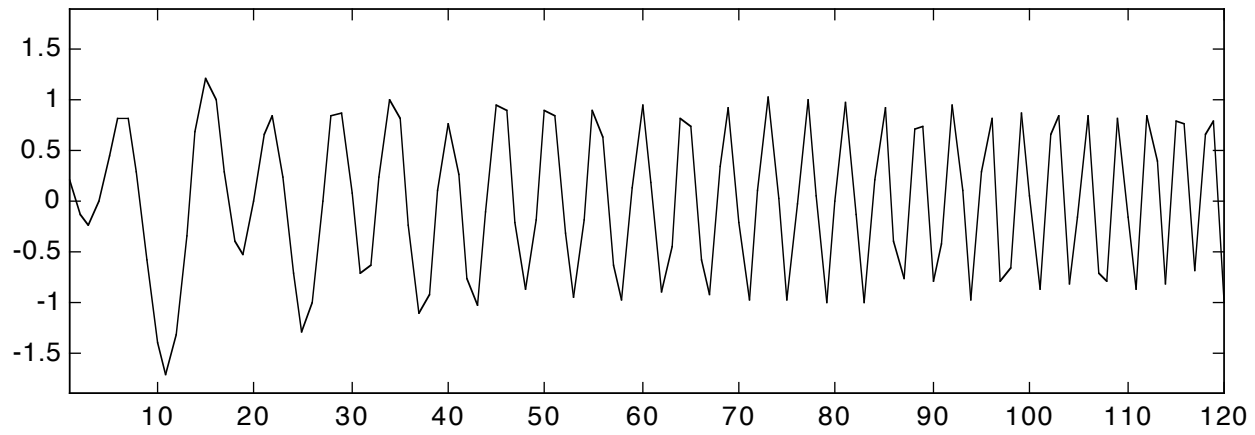
residue



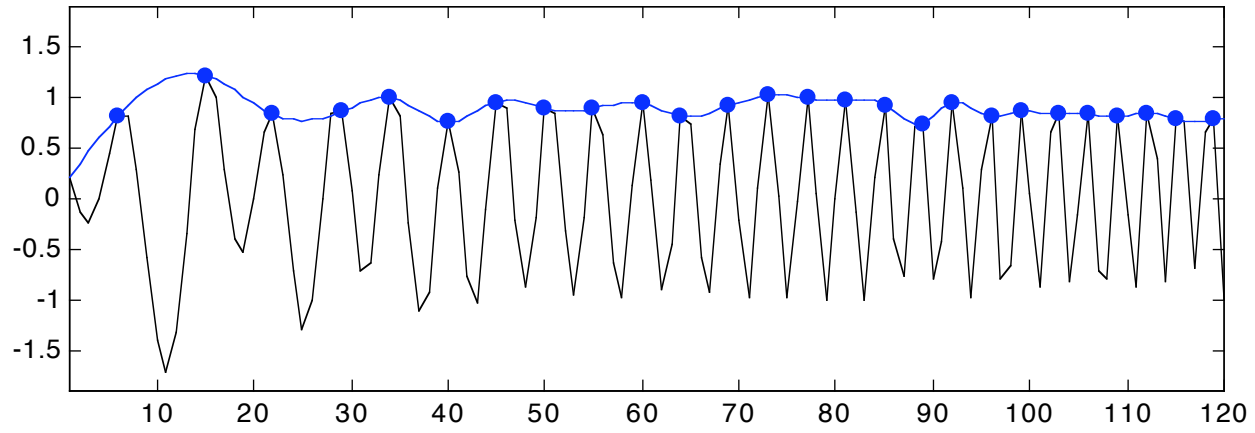
IMF 1; iteration 1



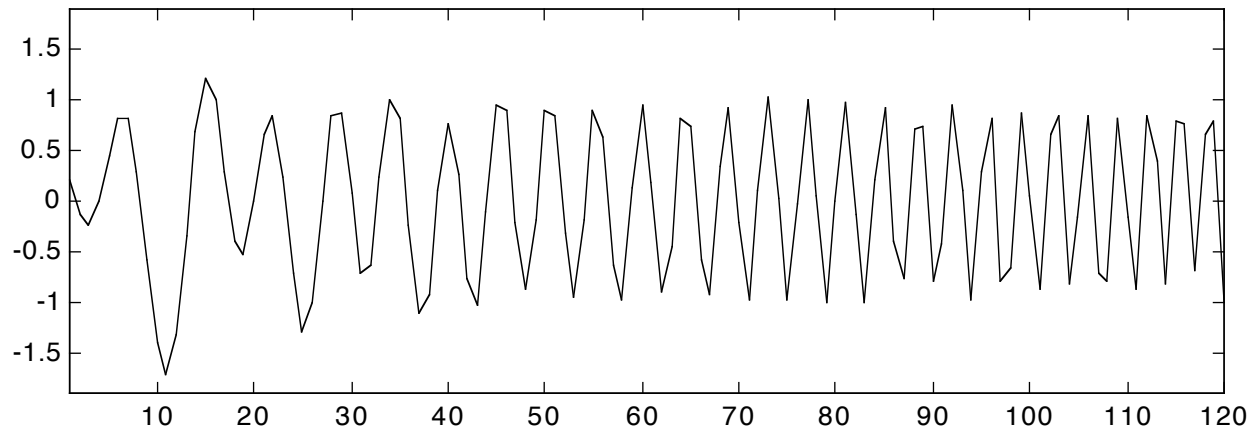
residue



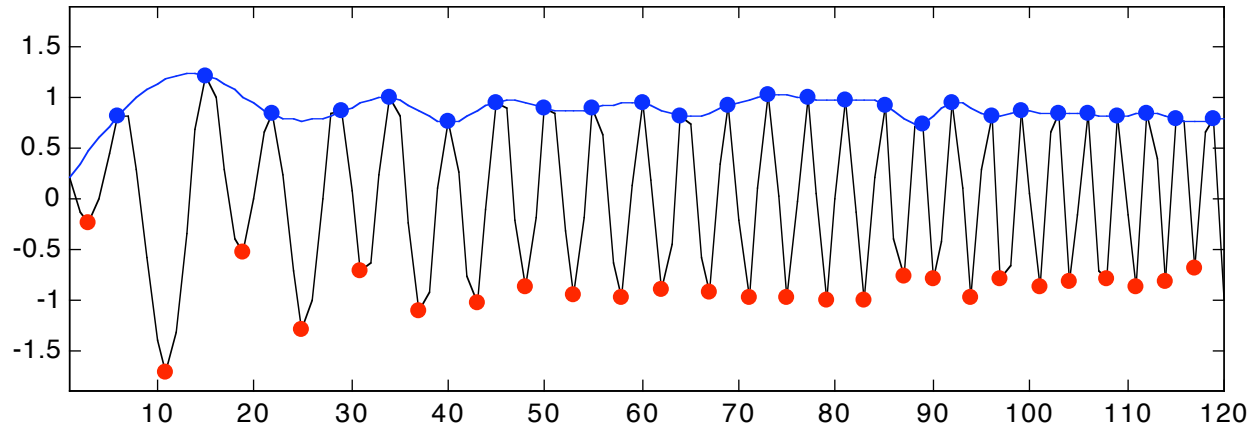
IMF 1; iteration 1



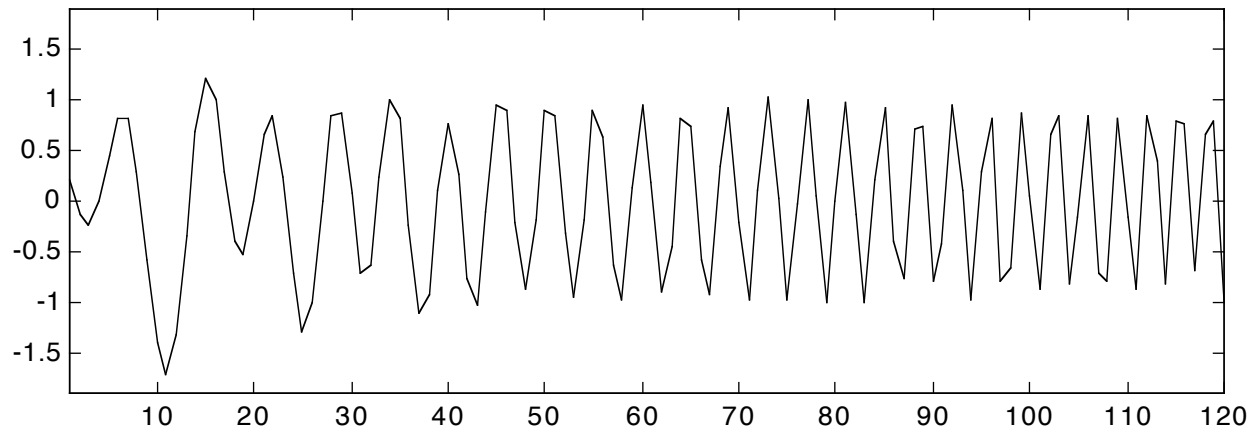
residue



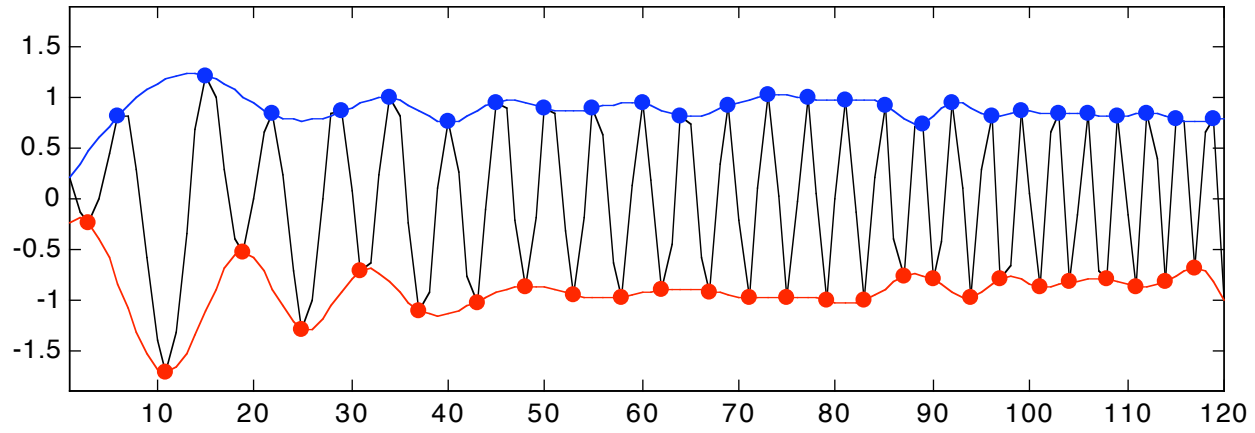
IMF 1; iteration 1



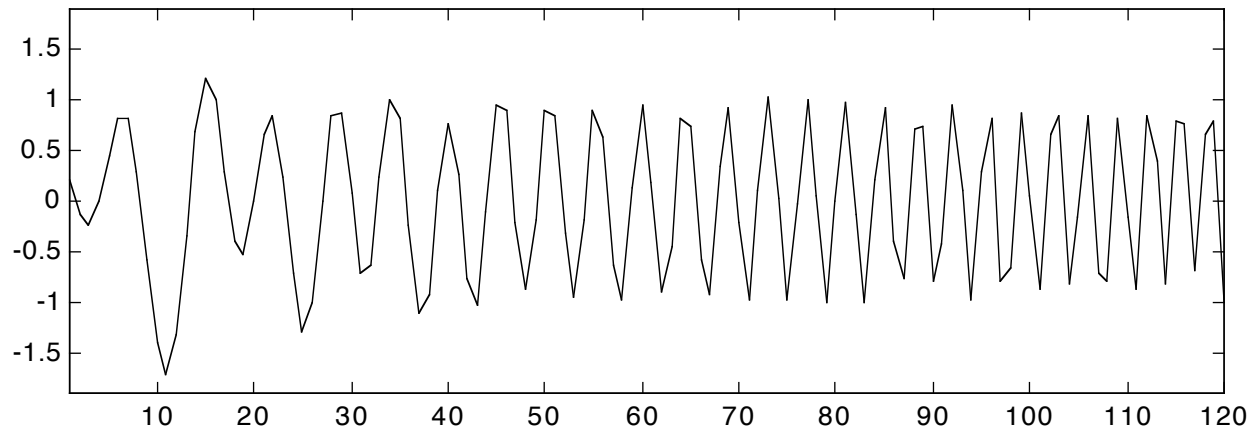
residue



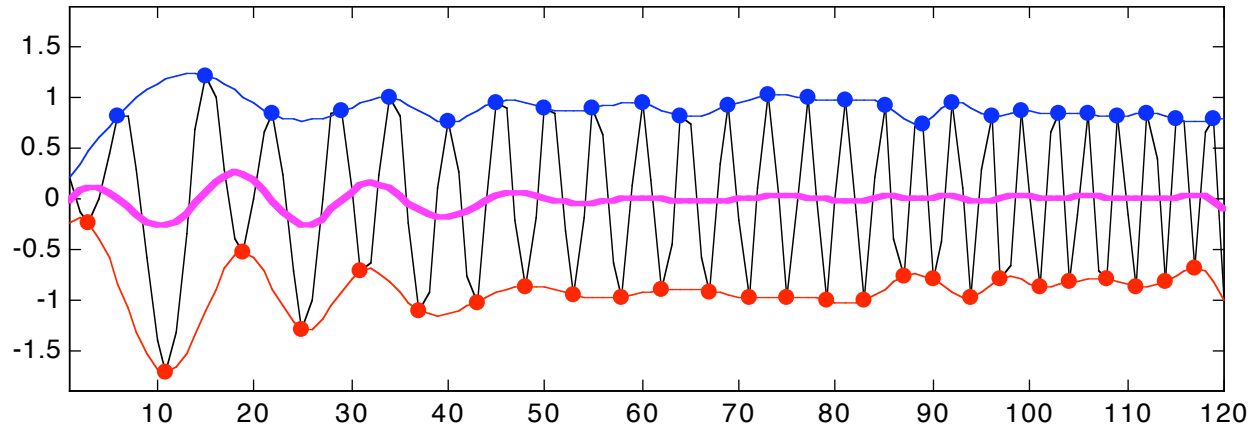
IMF 1; iteration 1



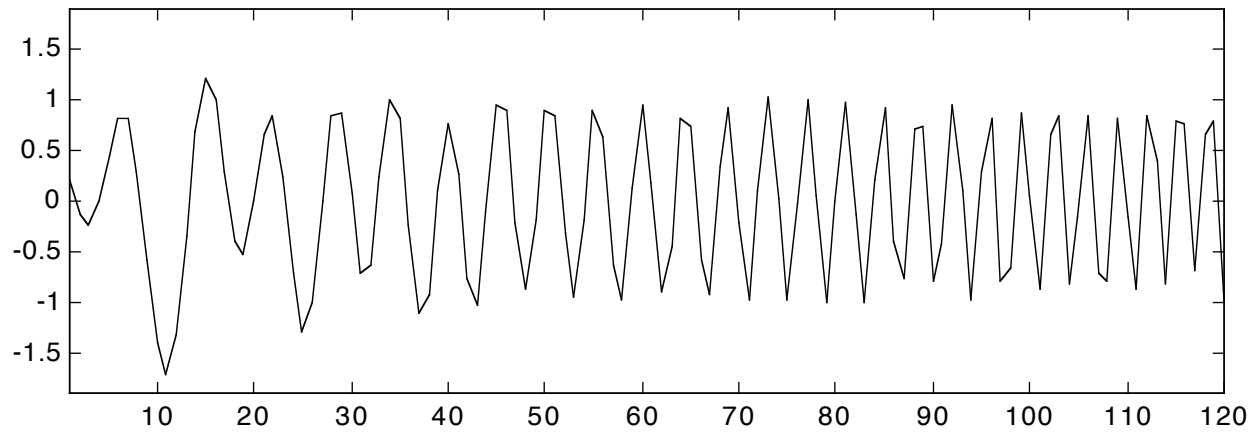
residue



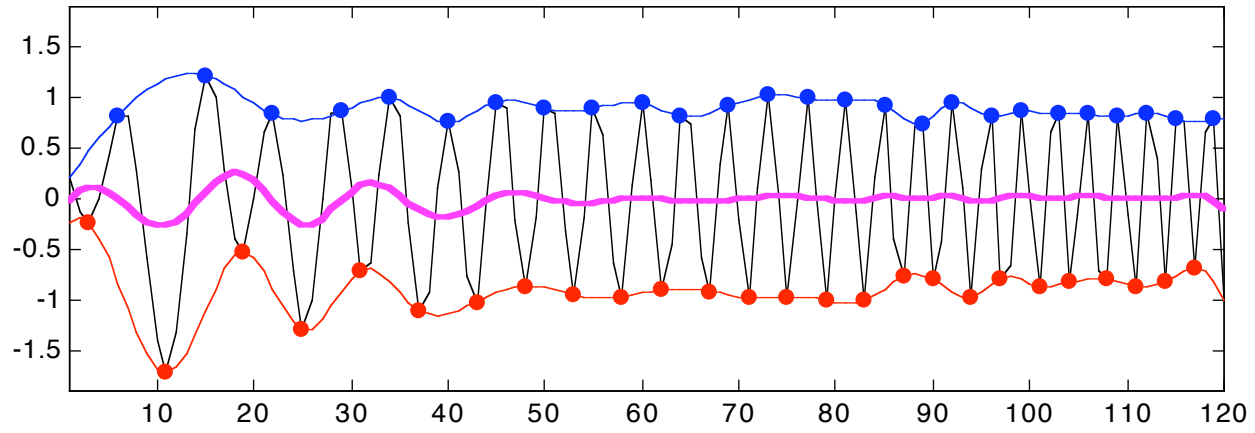
IMF 1; iteration 1



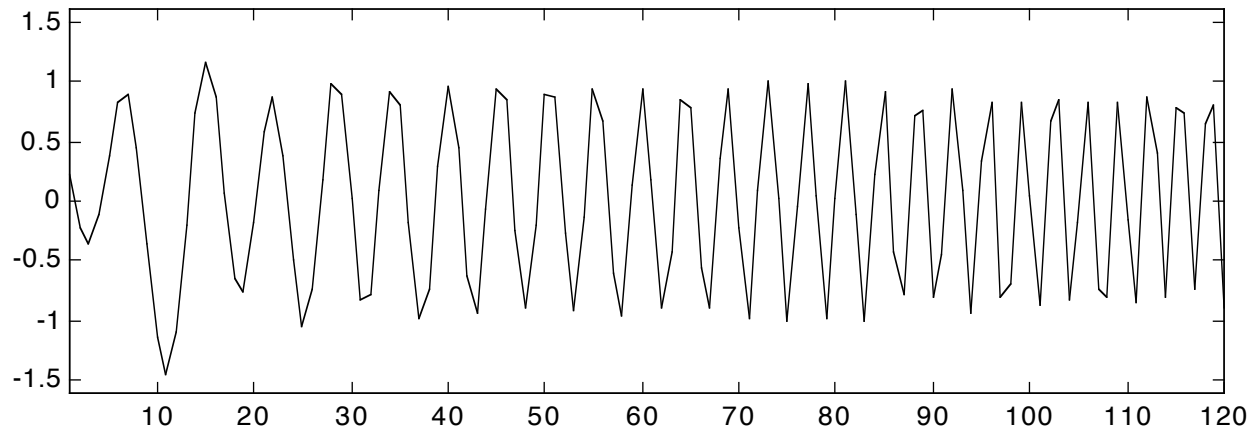
residue



IMF 1; iteration 1

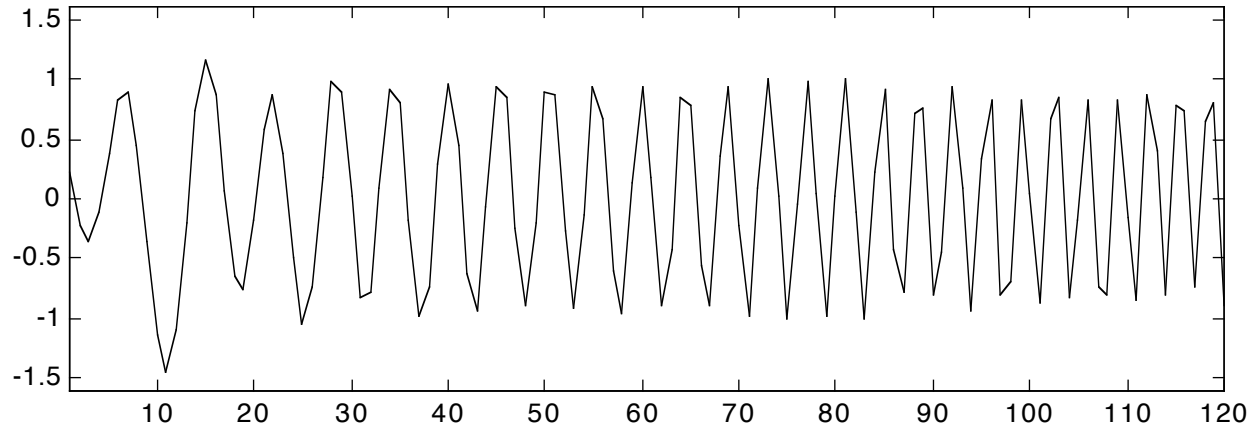


residue

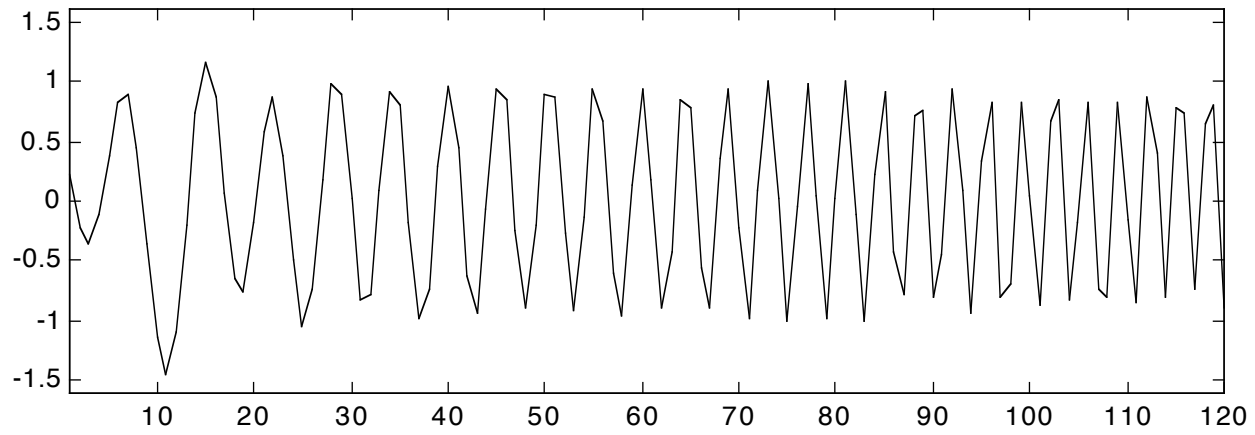




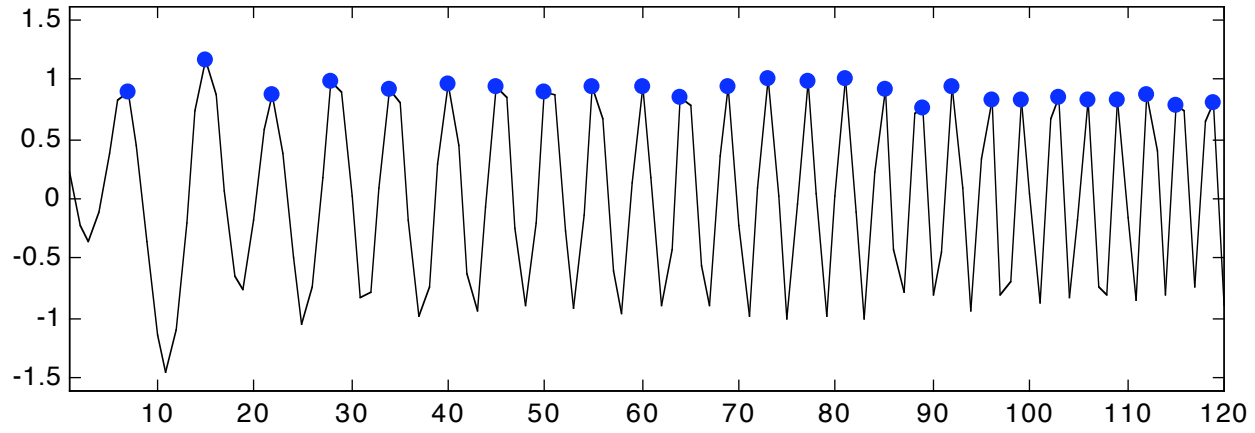
IMF 1; iteration 2



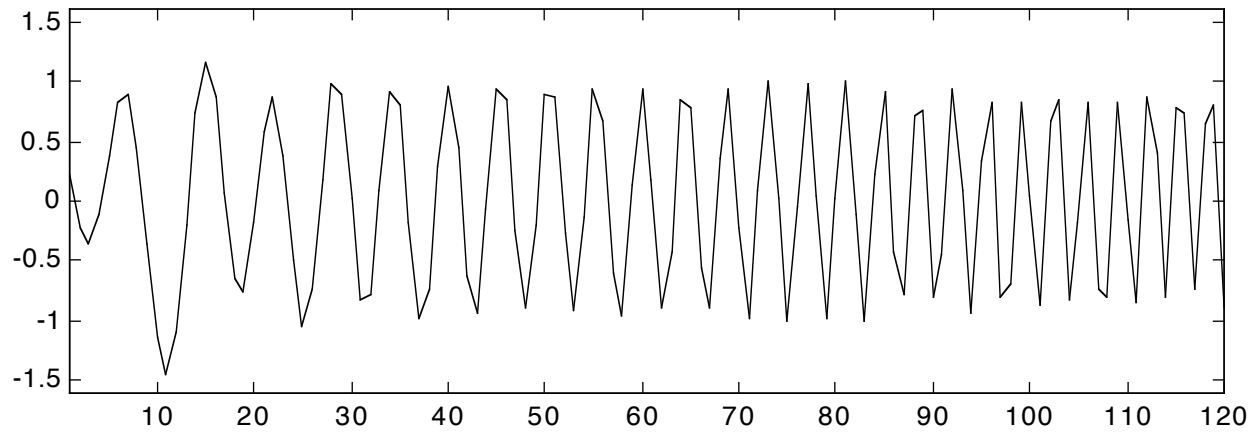
residue



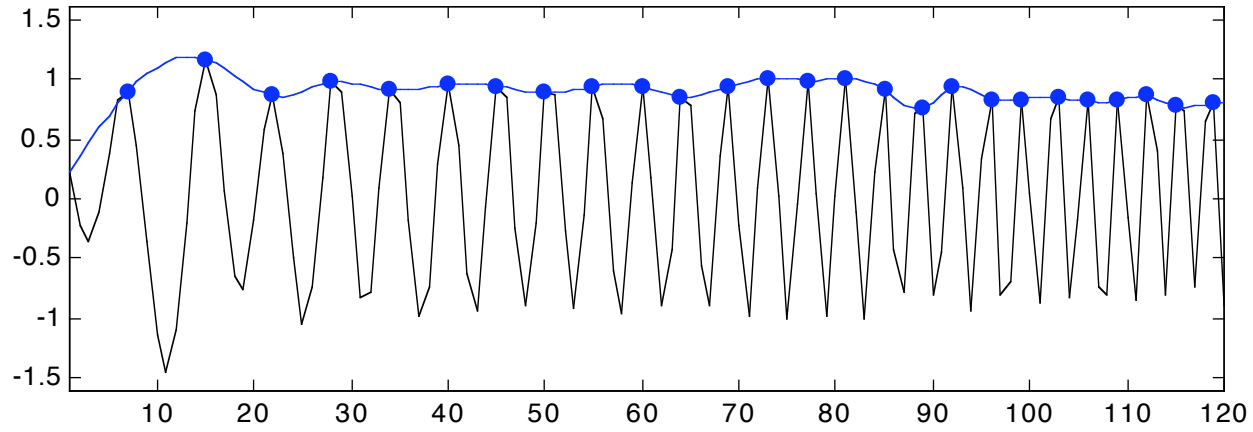
IMF 1; iteration 2



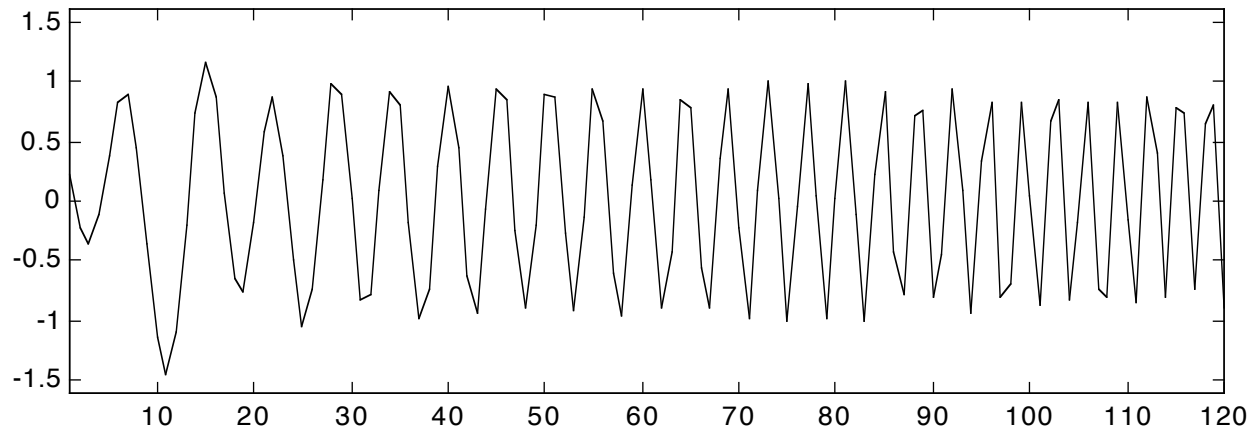
residue



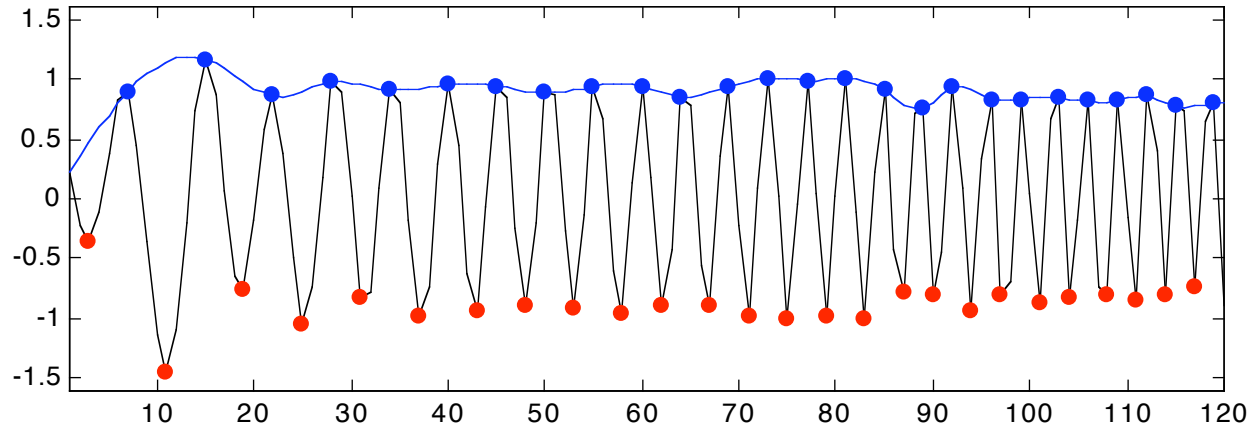
IMF 1; iteration 2



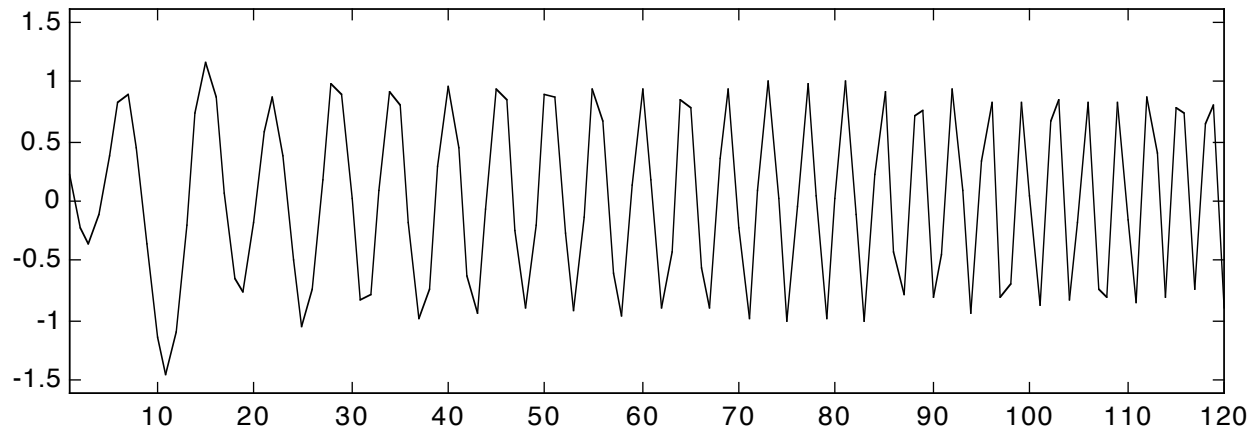
residue



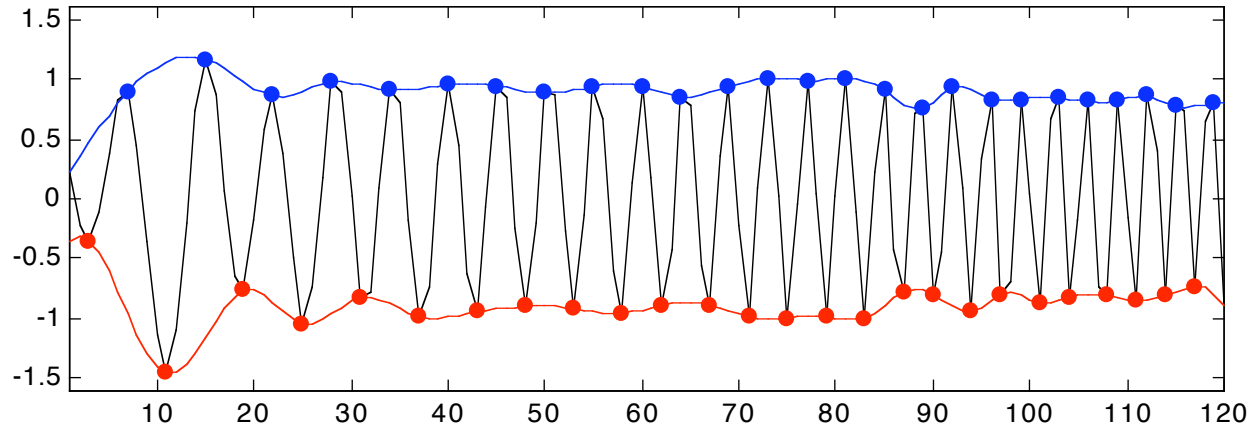
IMF 1; iteration 2



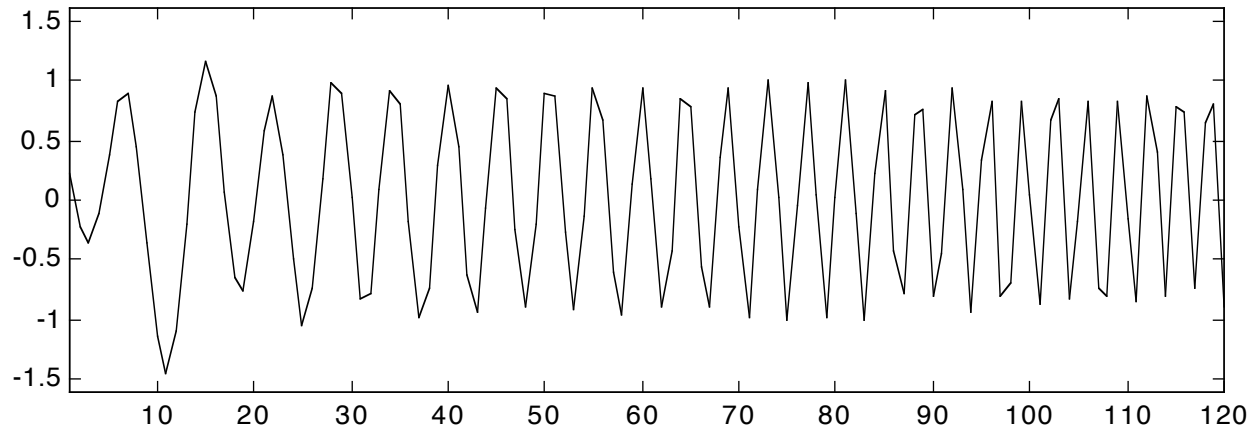
residue



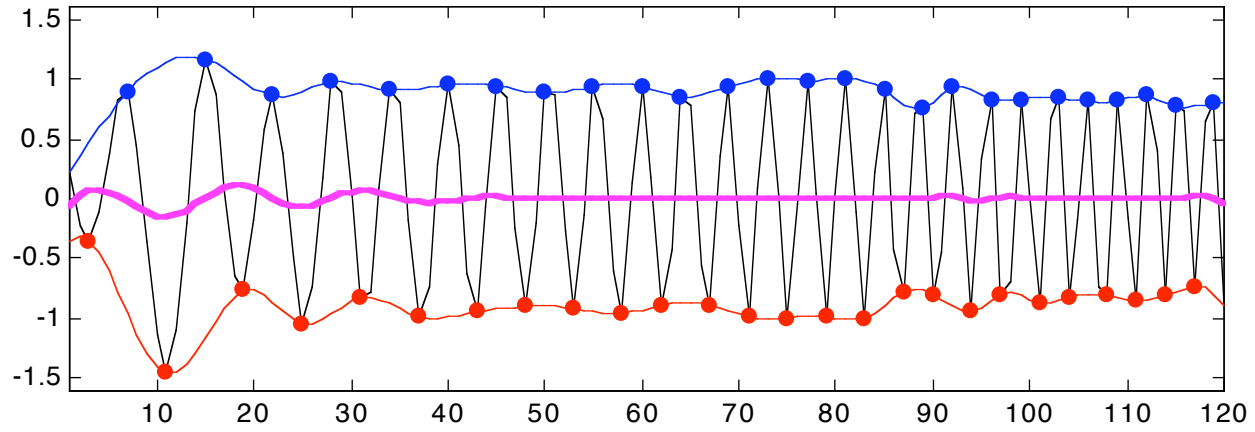
IMF 1; iteration 2



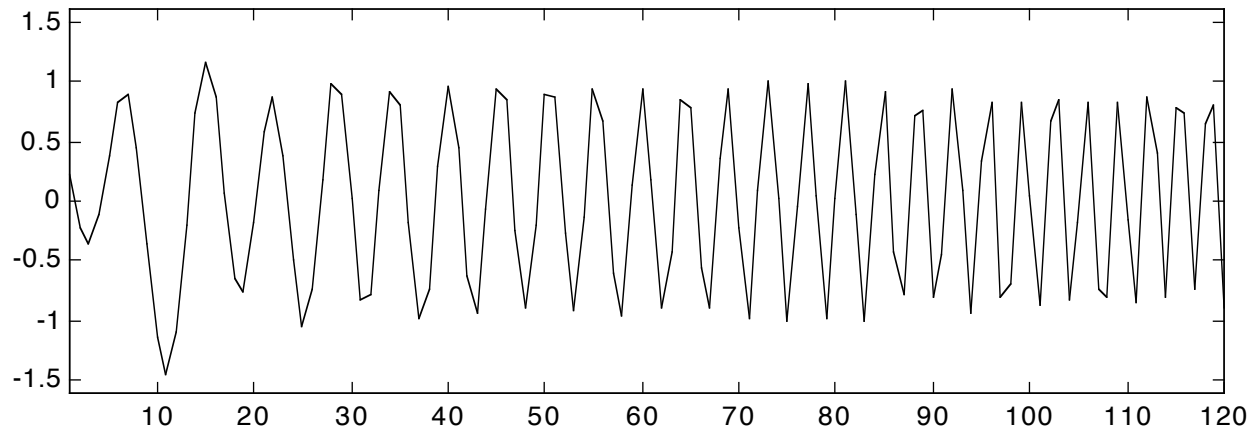
residue



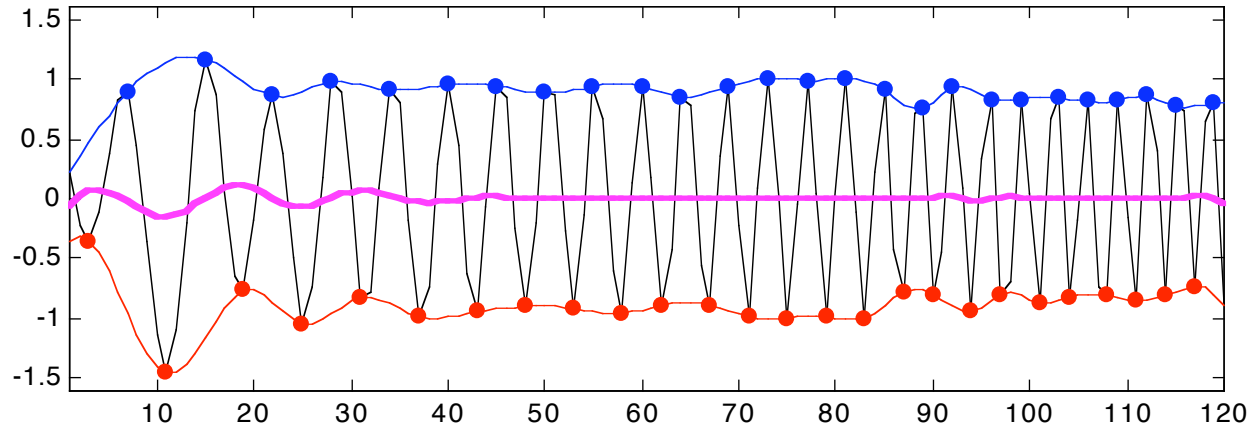
IMF 1; iteration 2



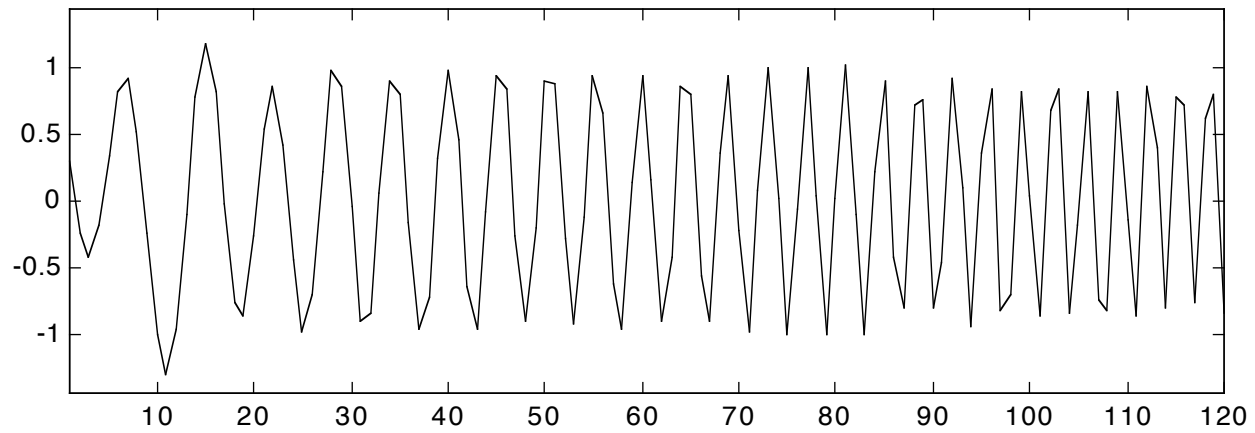
residue



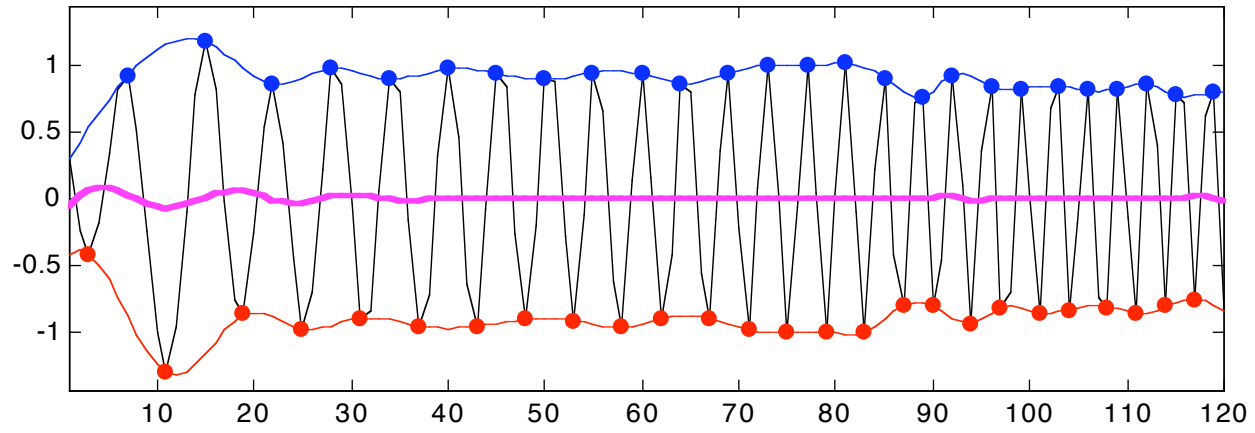
IMF 1; iteration 2



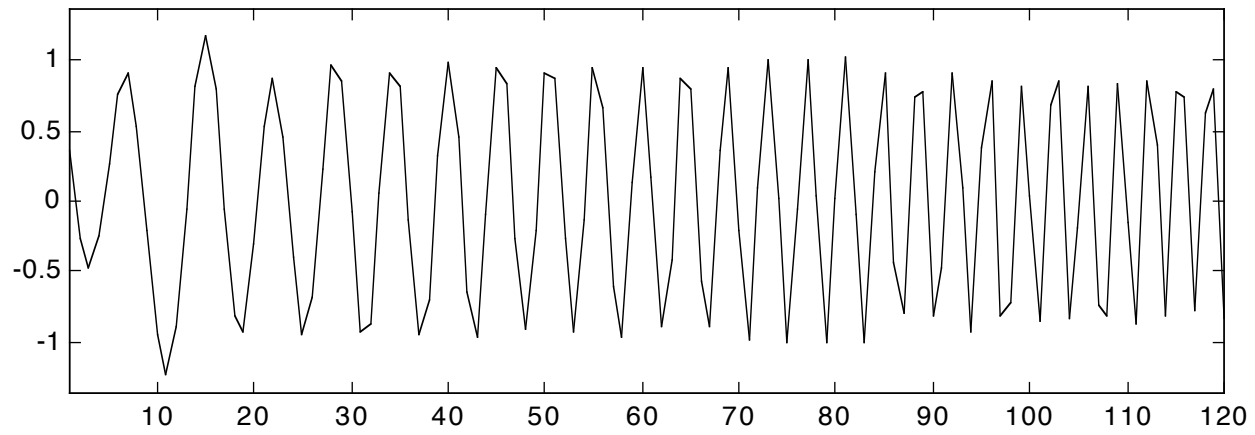
residue



IMF 1; iteration 3

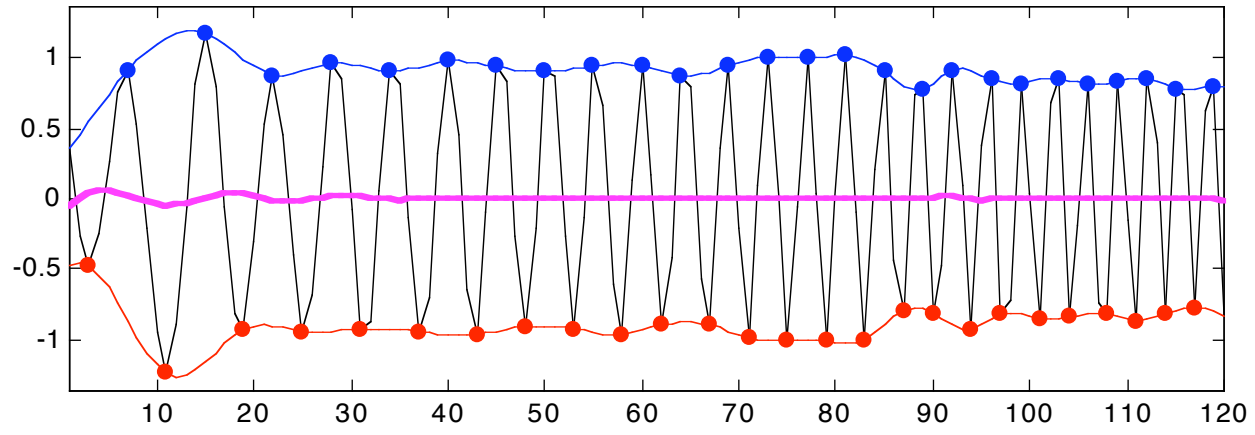


residue

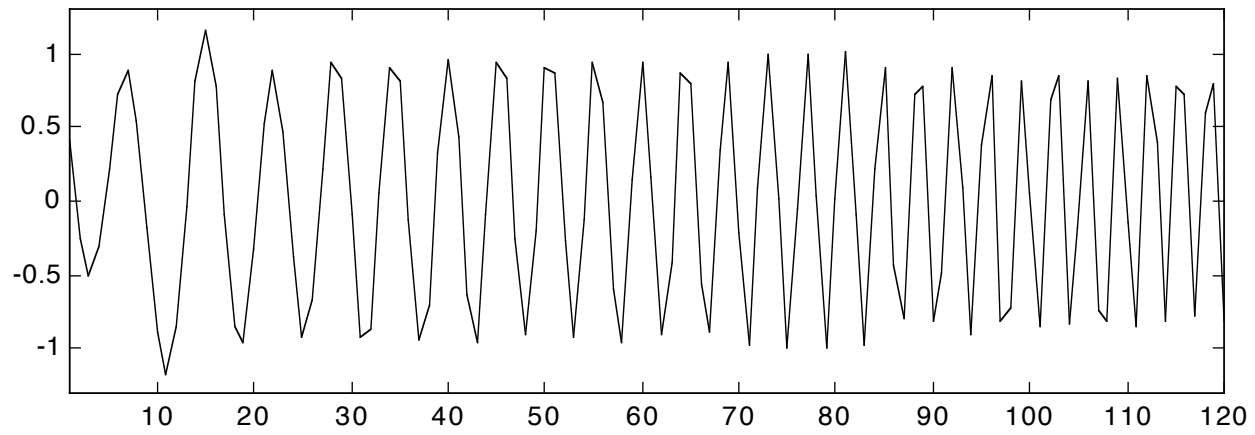




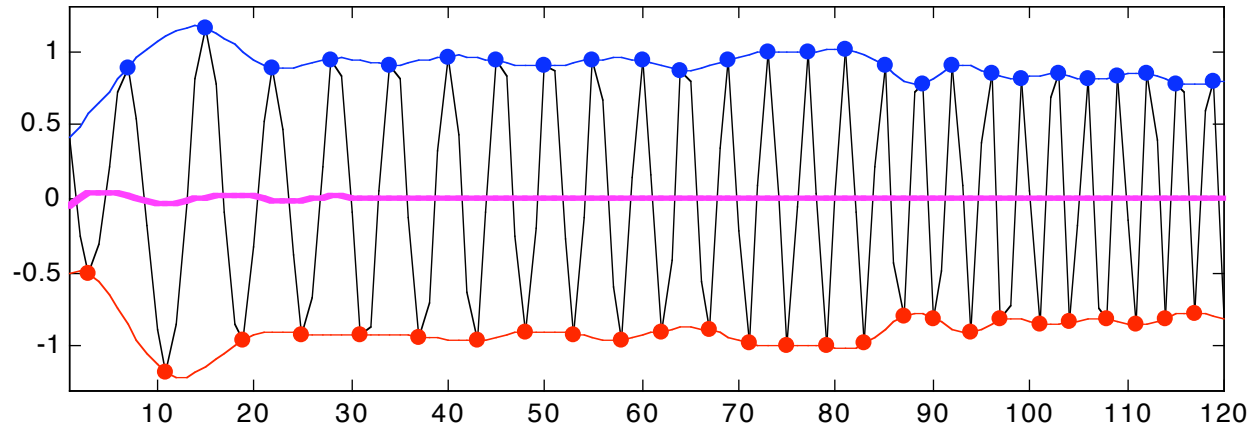
IMF 1; iteration 4



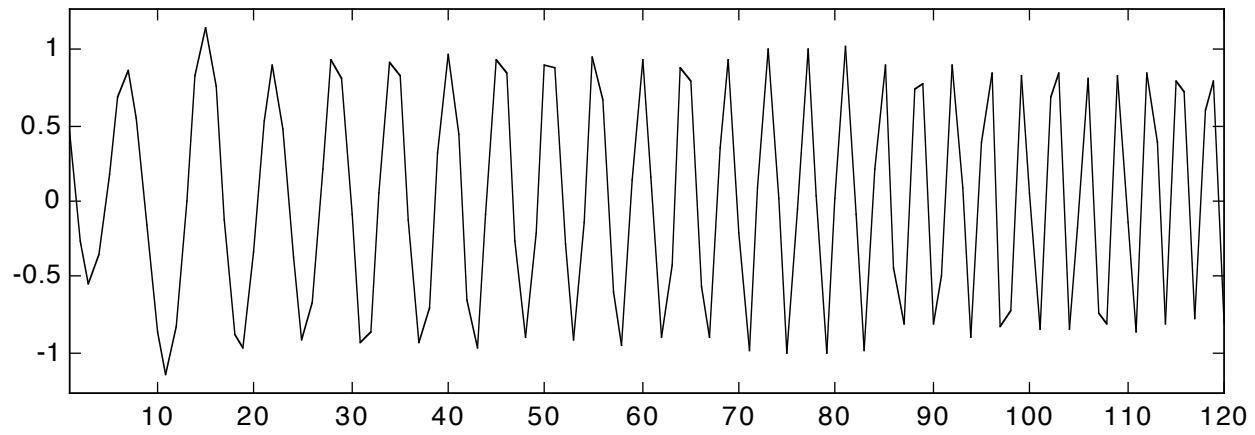
residue



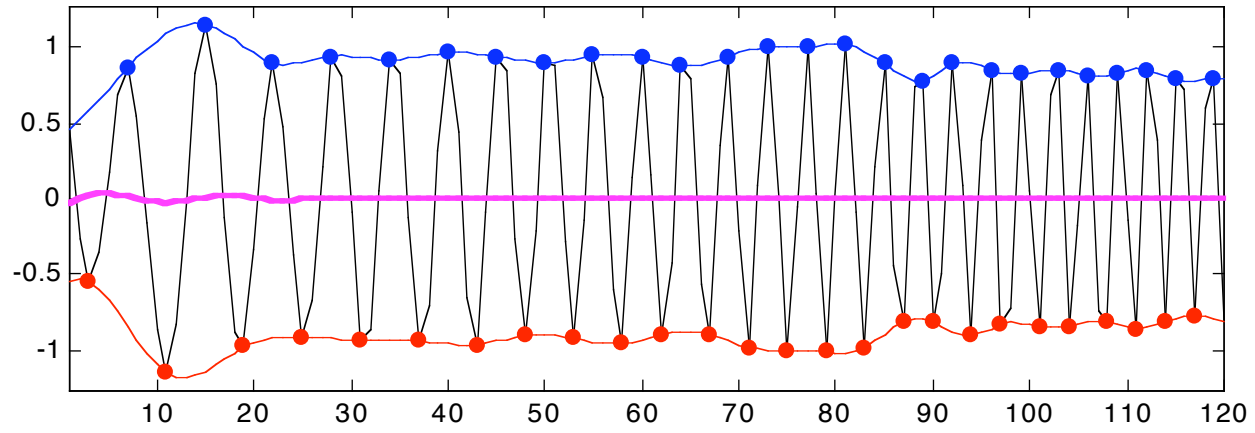
IMF 1; iteration 5



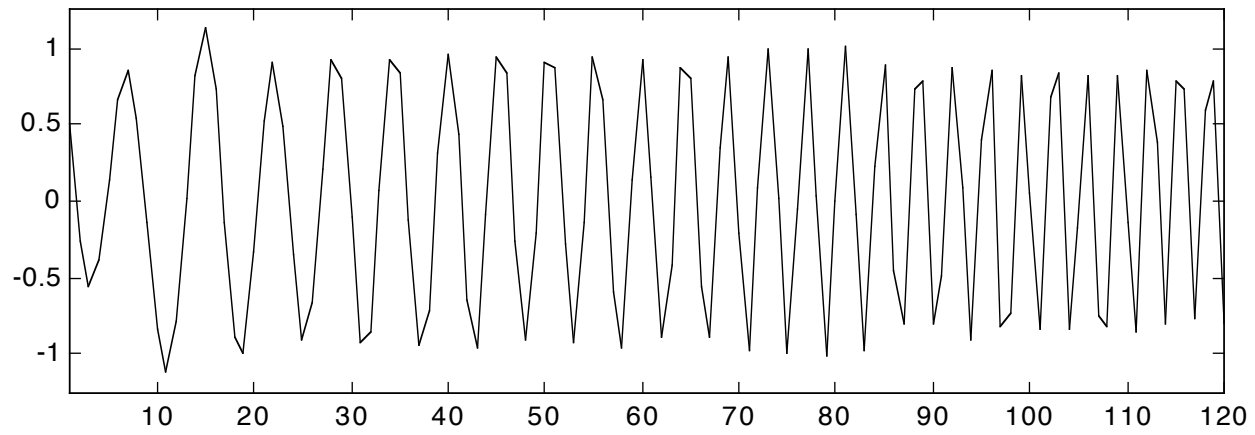
residue



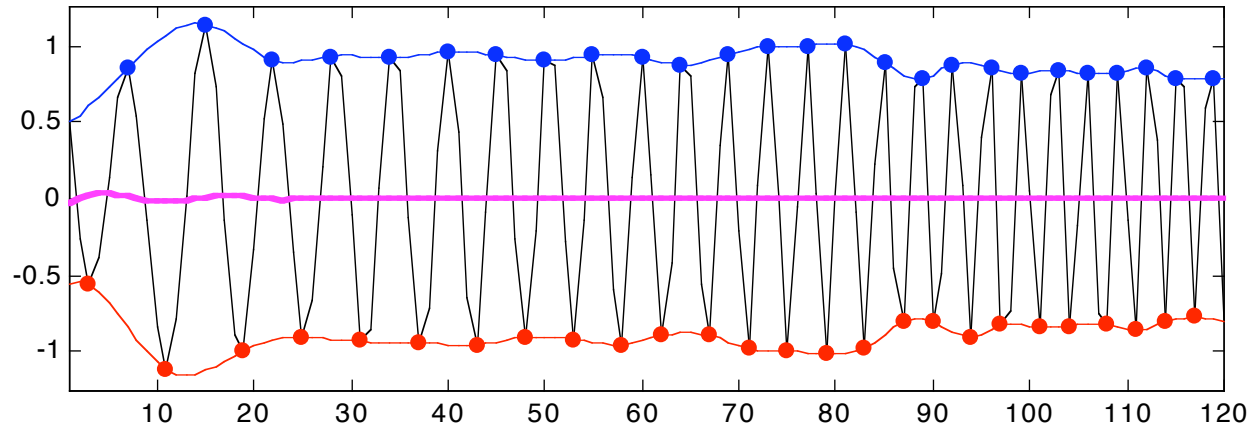
IMF 1; iteration 6



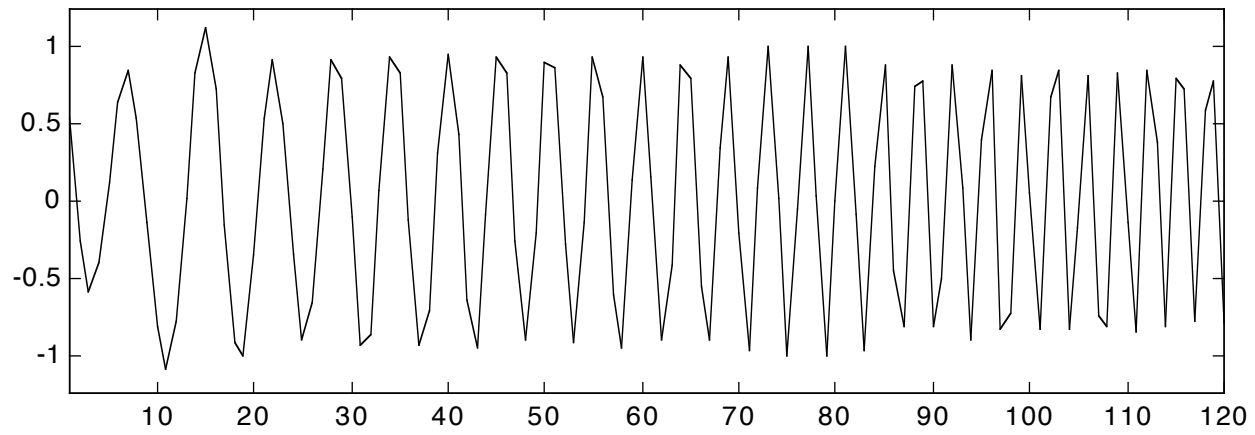
residue



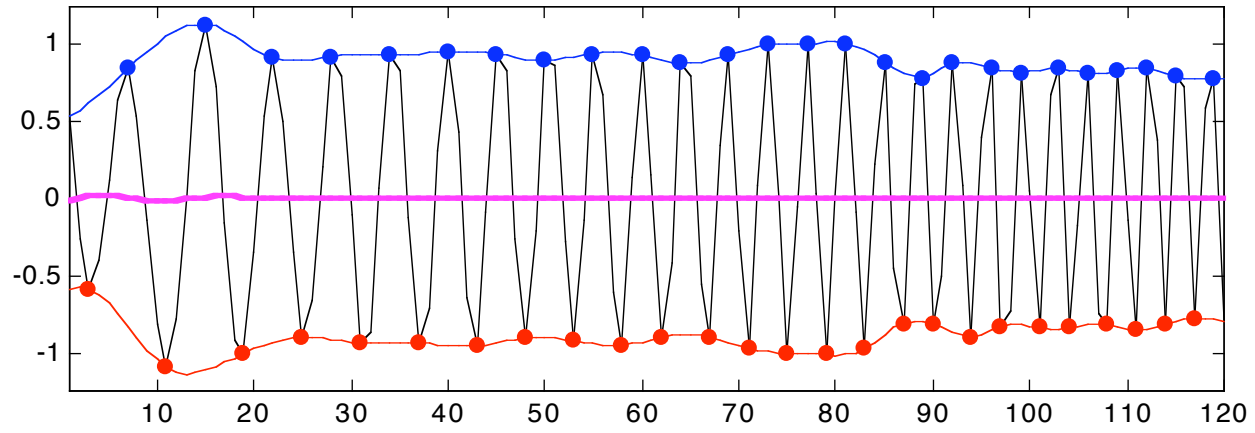
IMF 1; iteration 7



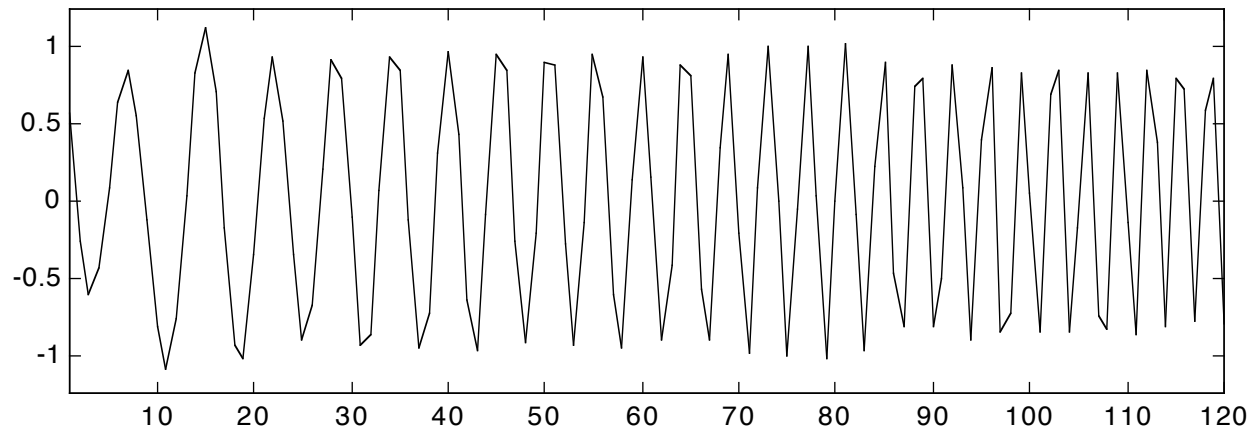
residue

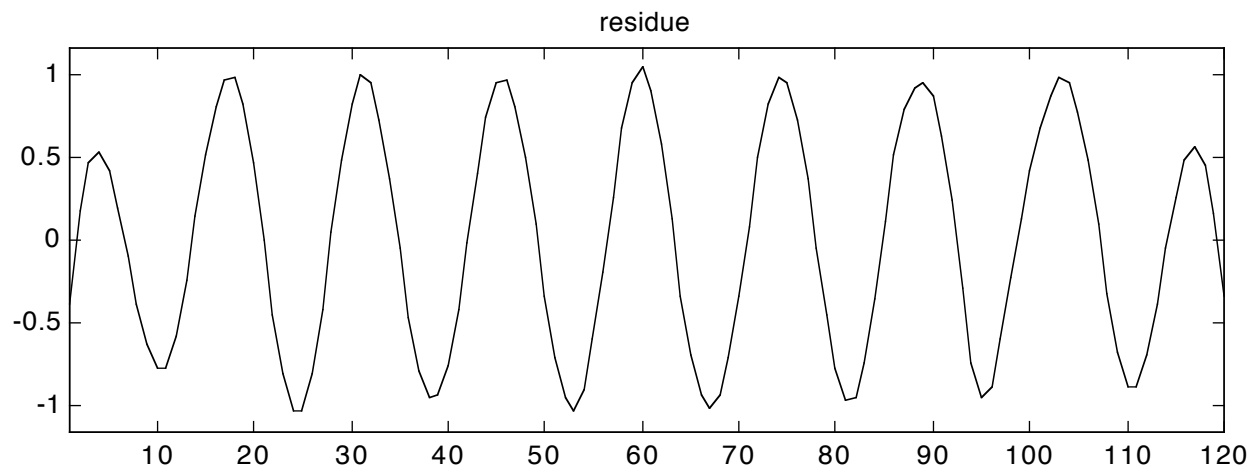
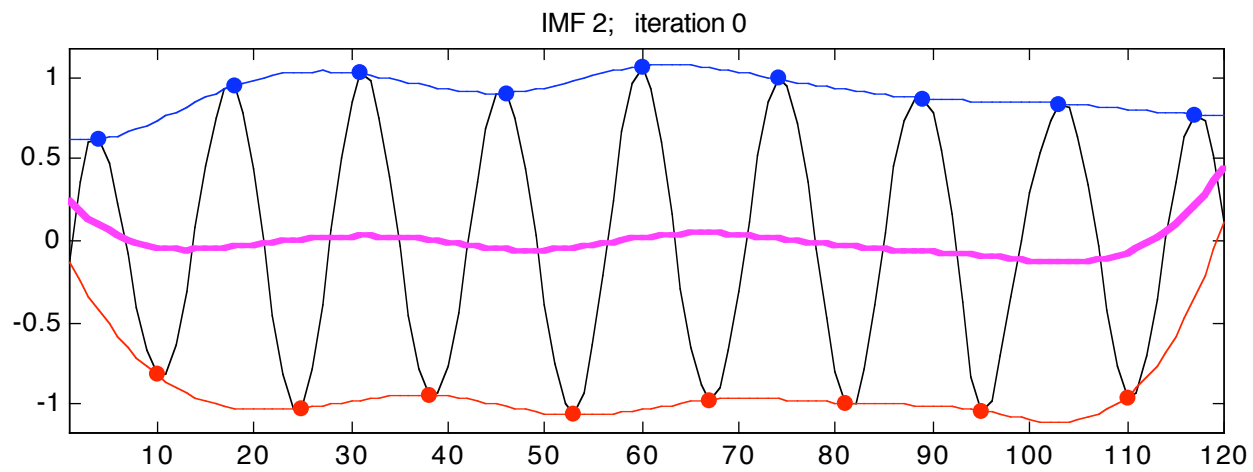


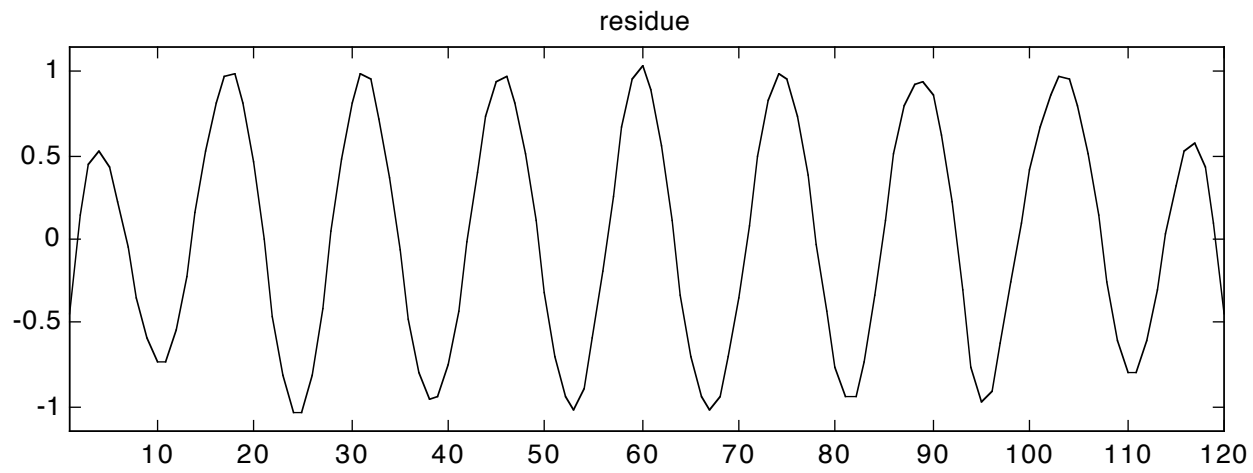
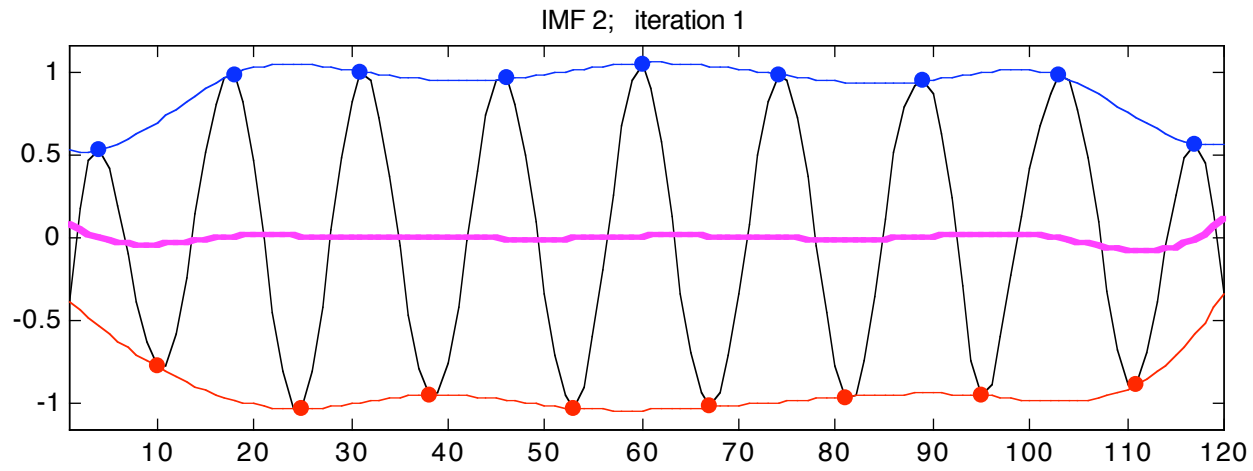
IMF 1; iteration 8

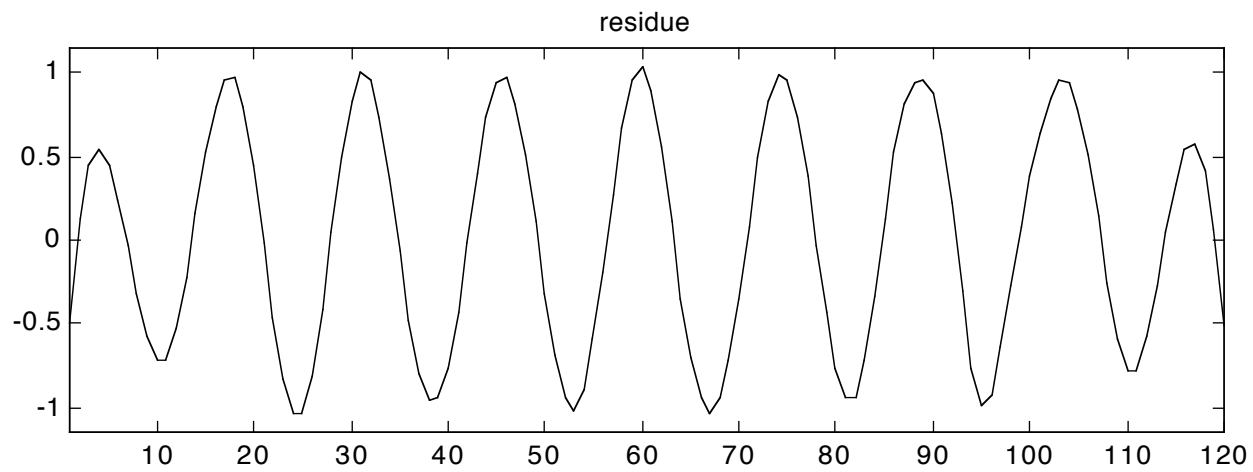
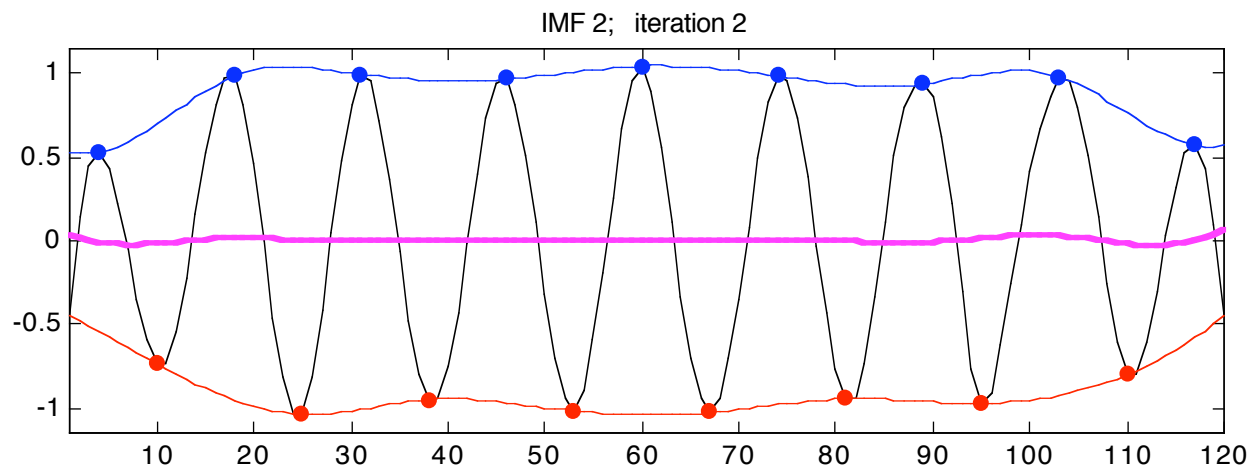


residue

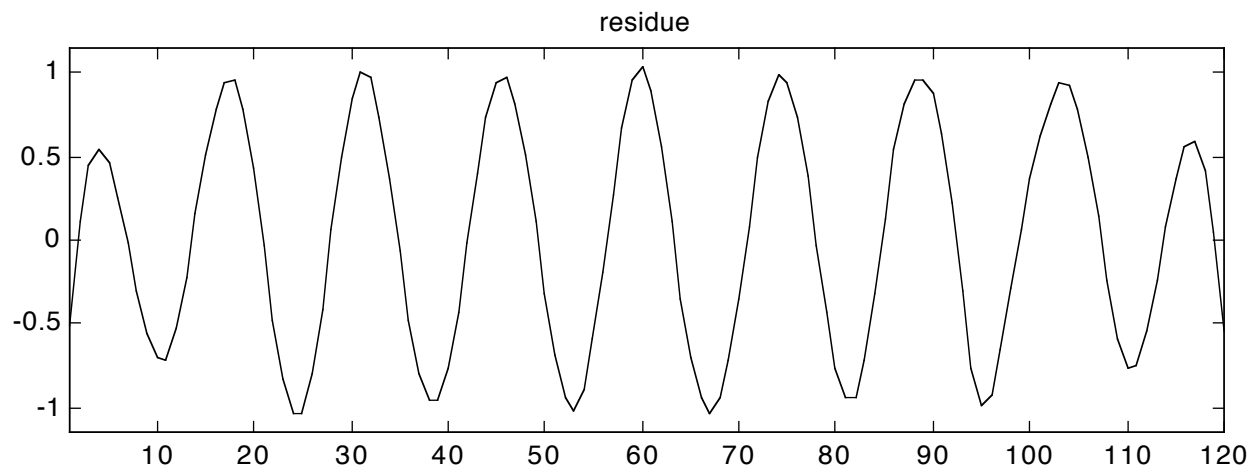
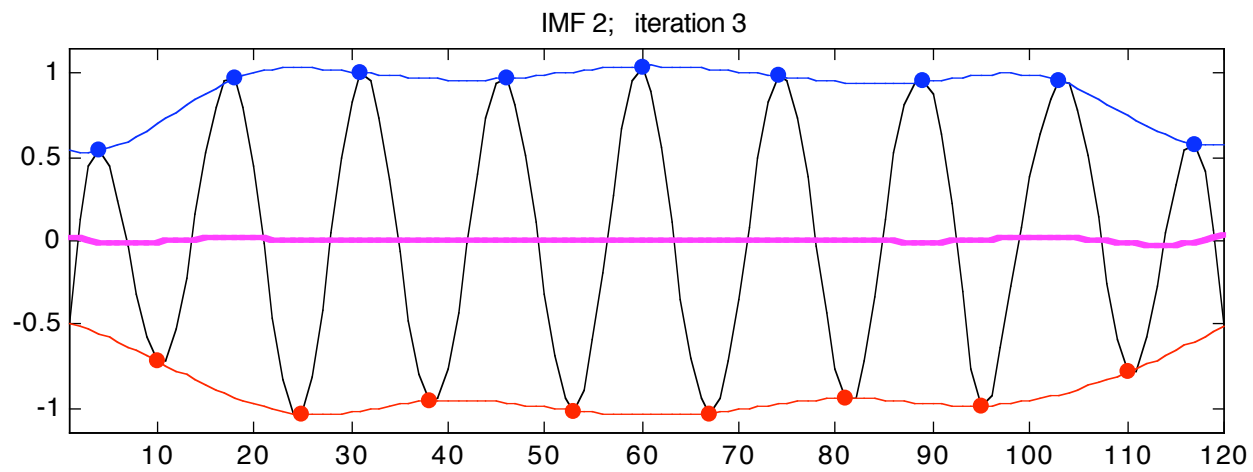


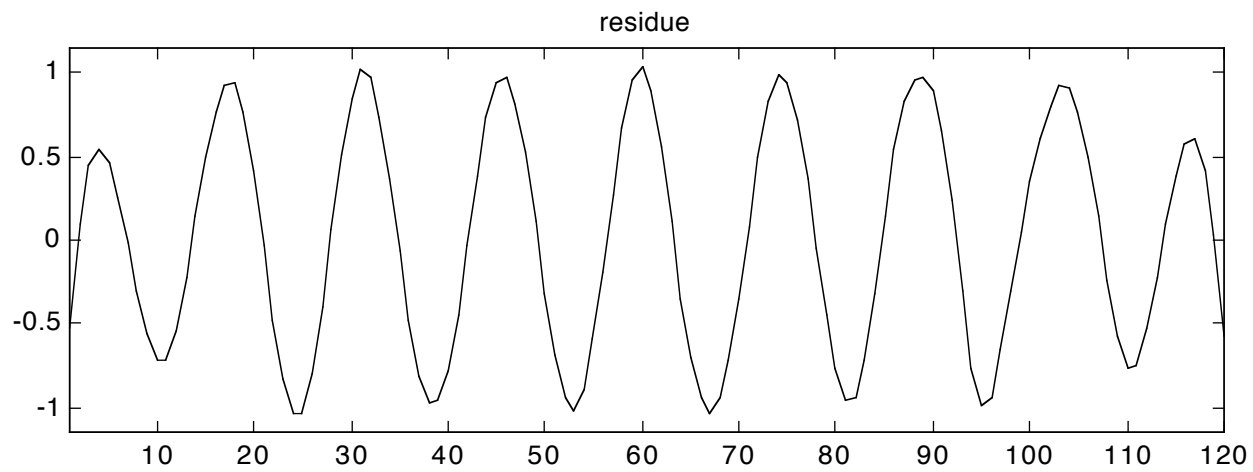
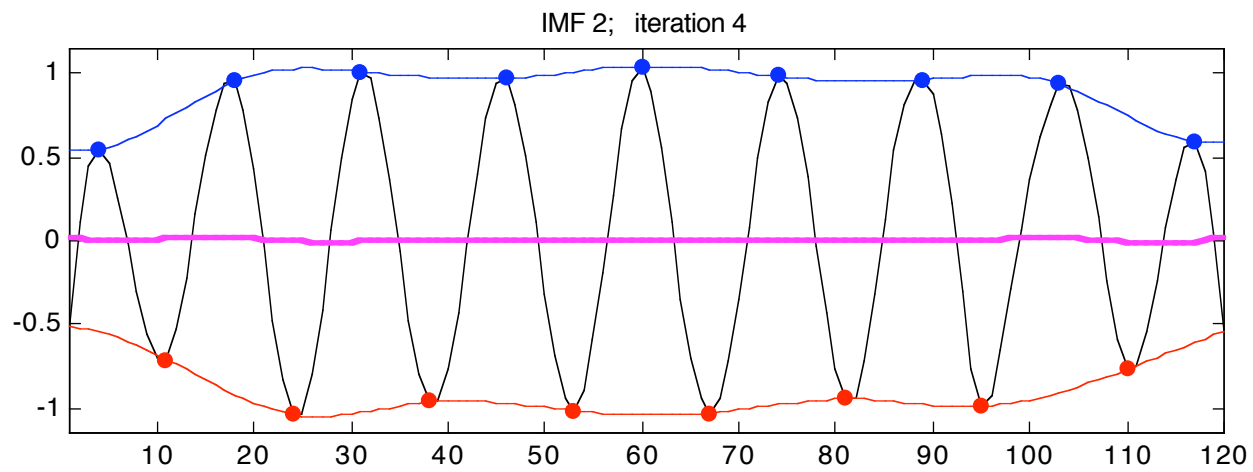


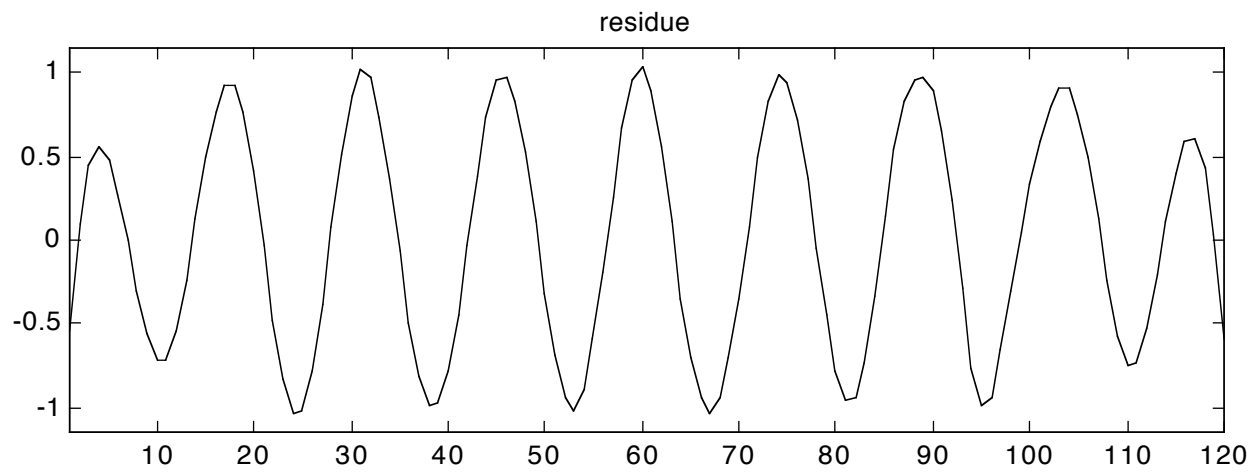
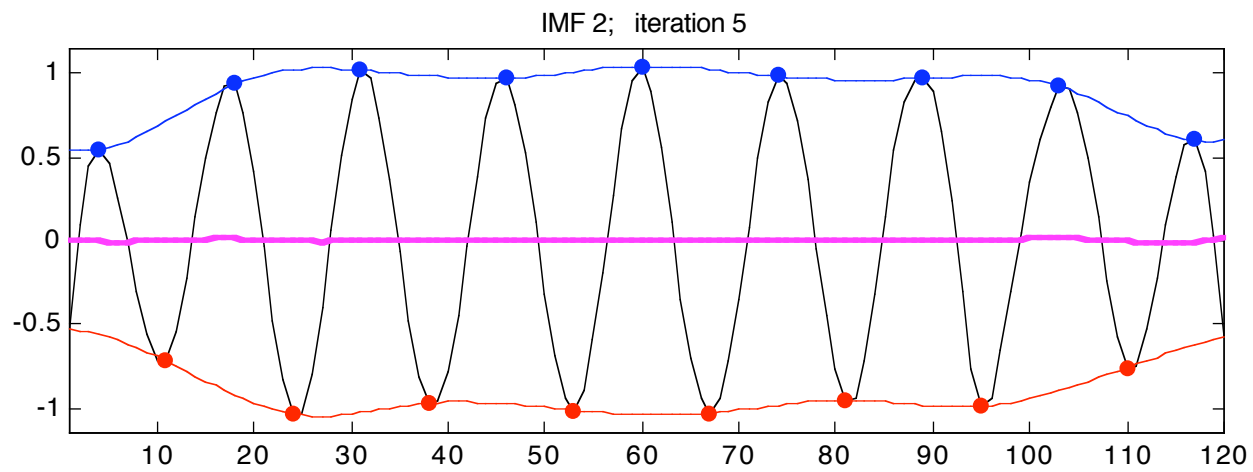




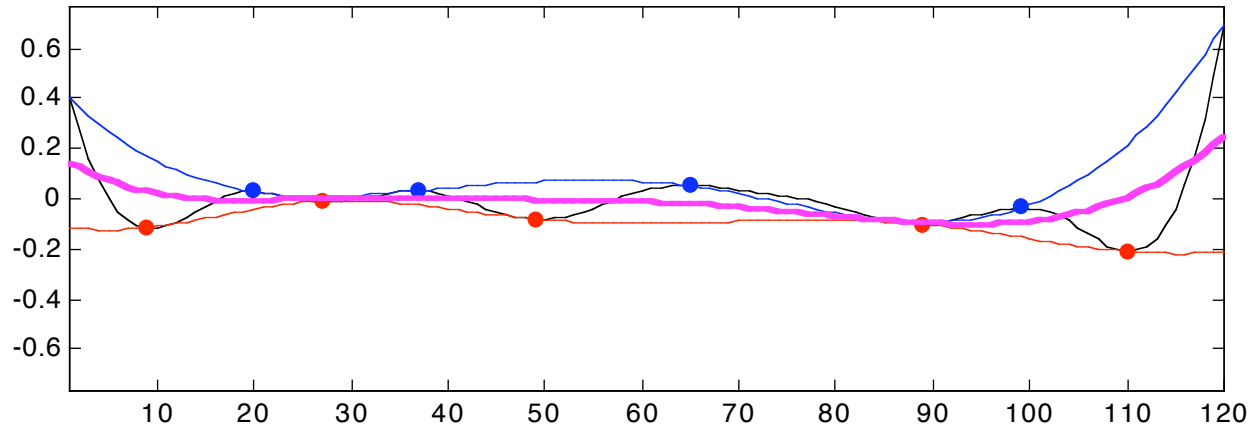




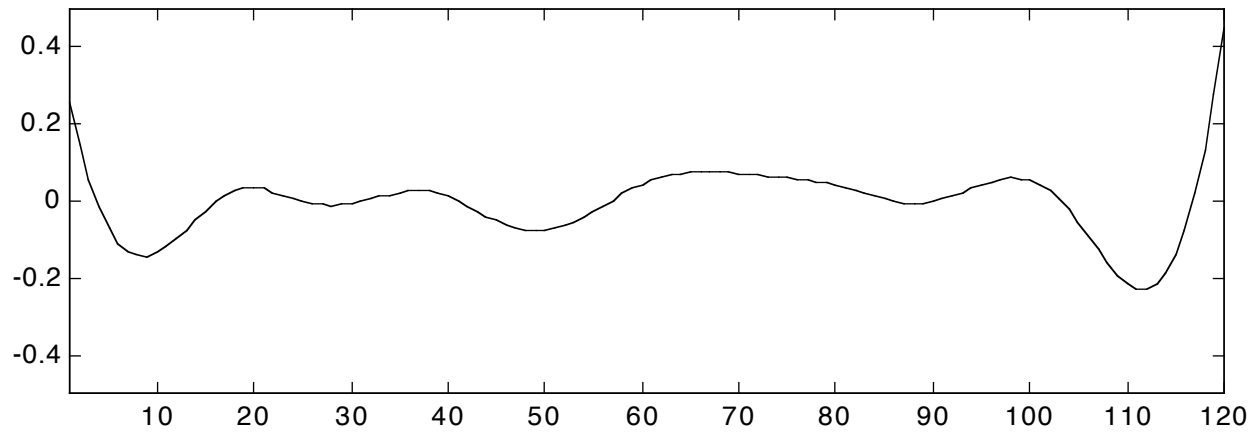




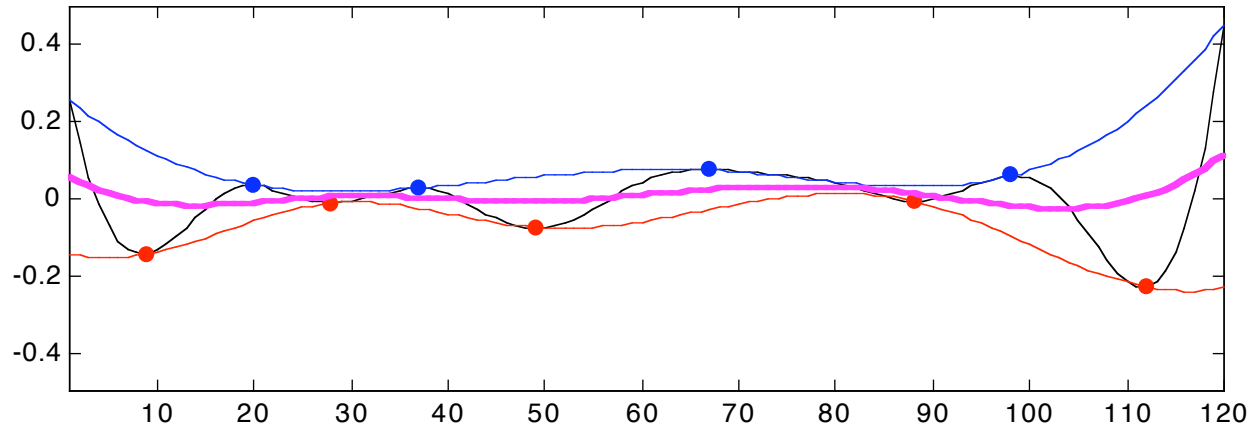
IMF 3; iteration 0



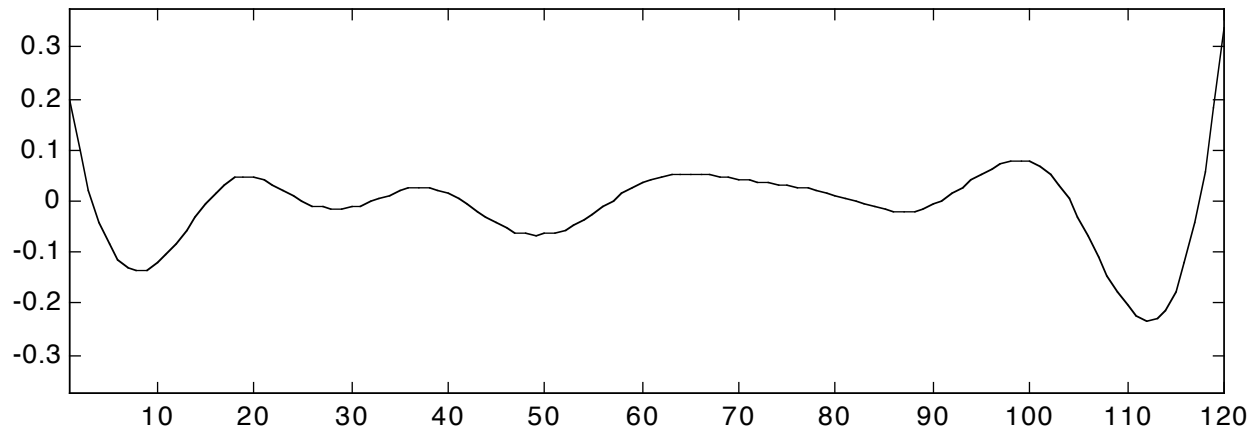
residue



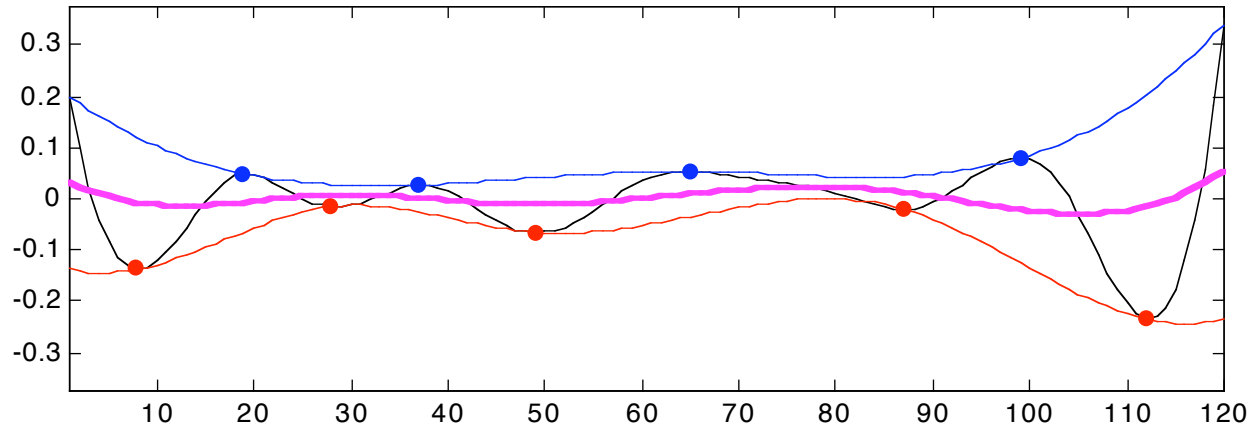
IMF 3; iteration 1



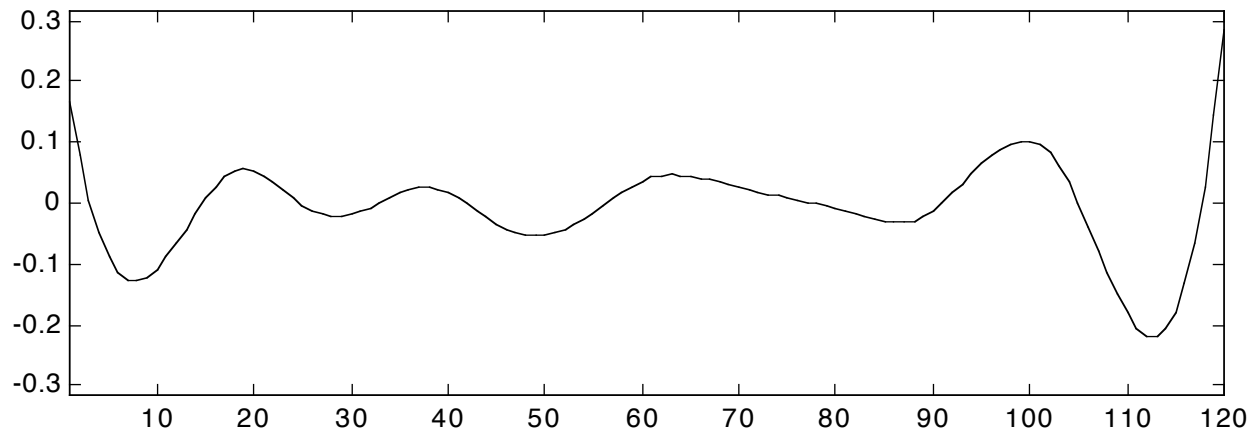
residue

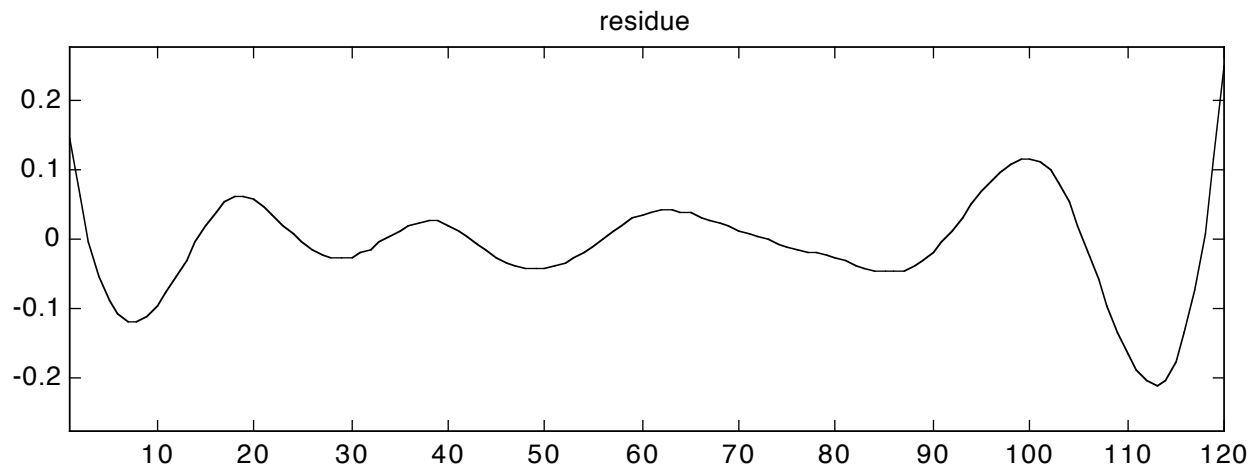
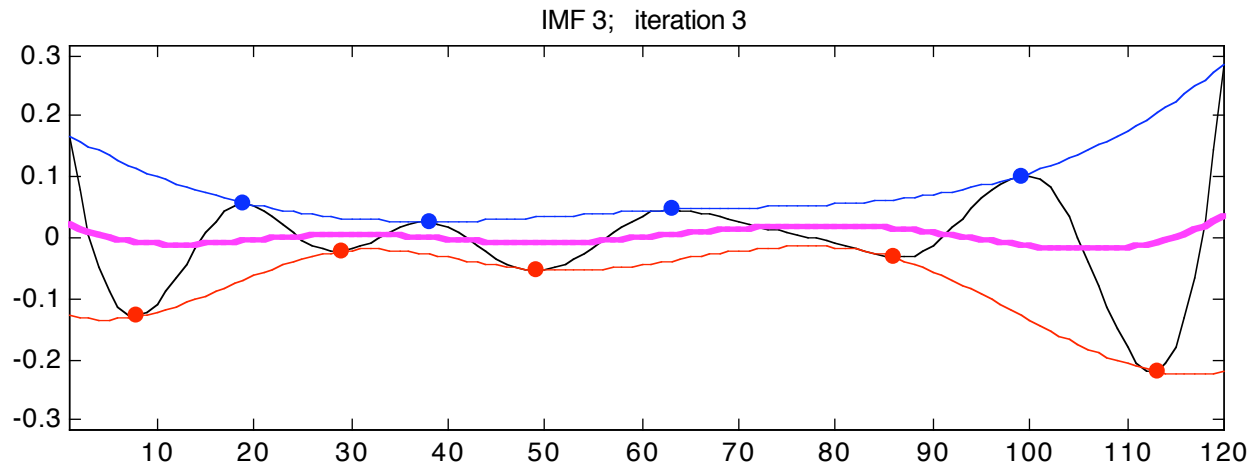


IMF 3; iteration 2

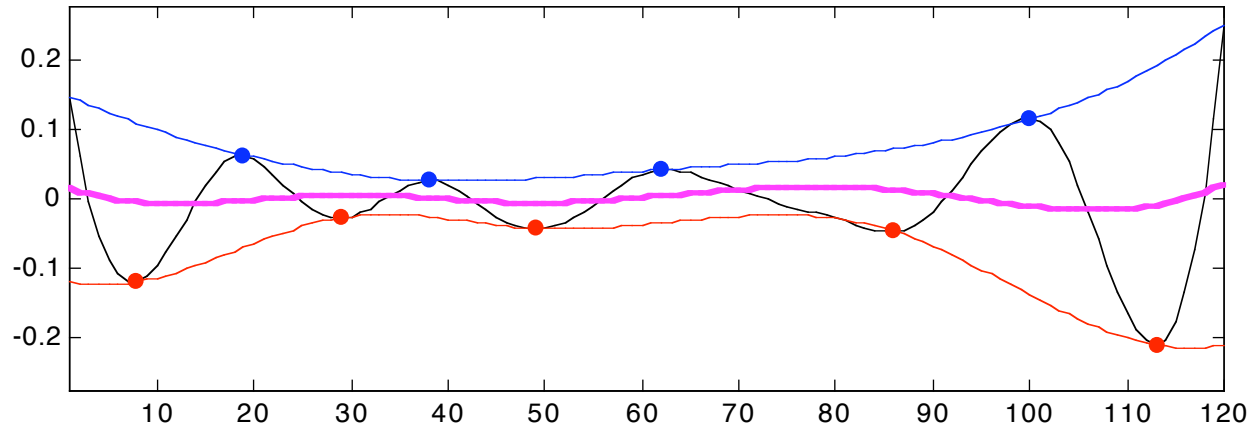


residue

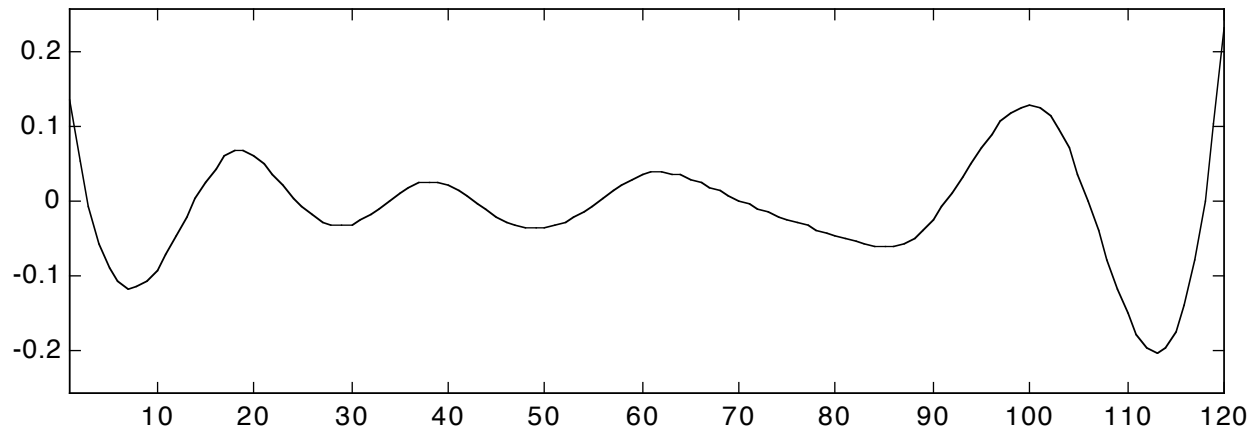




IMF 3; iteration 4

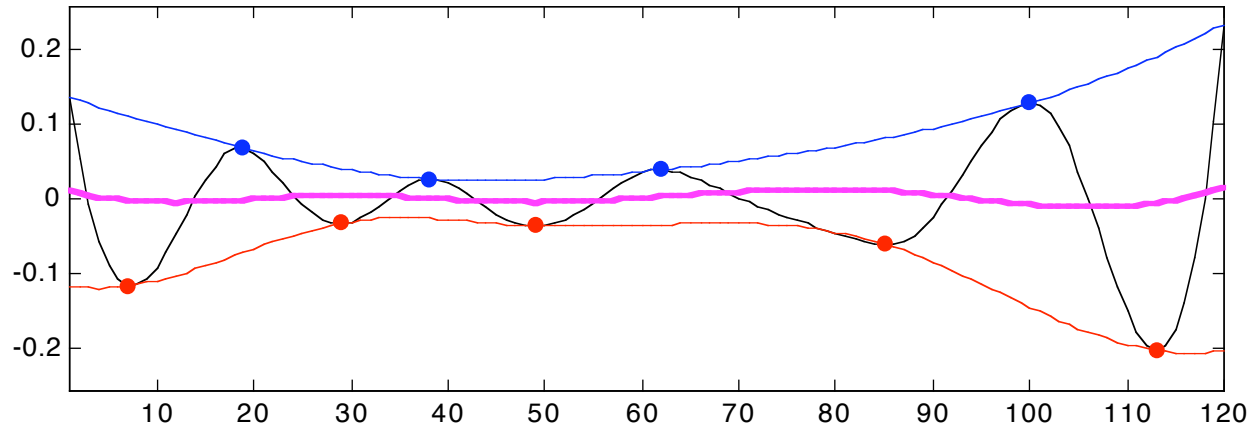


residue

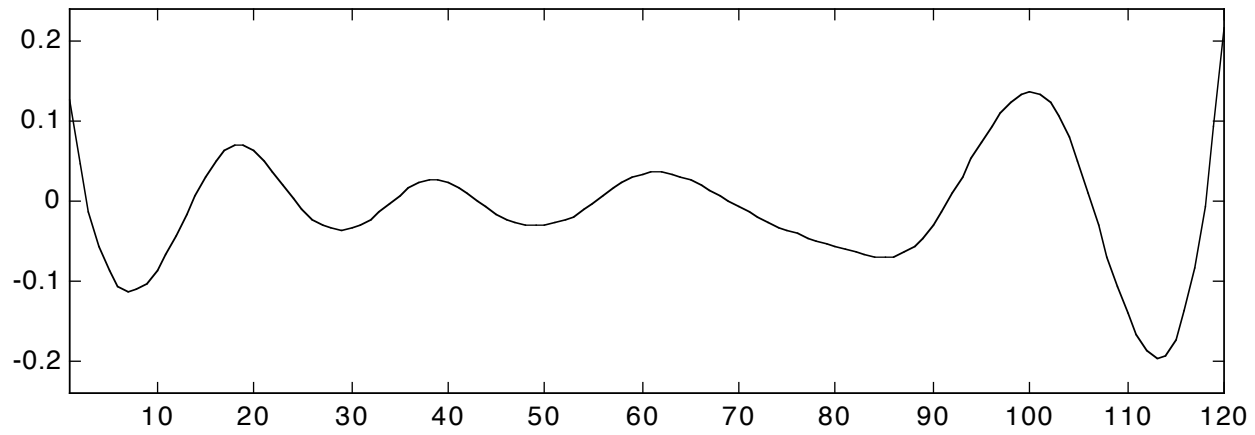




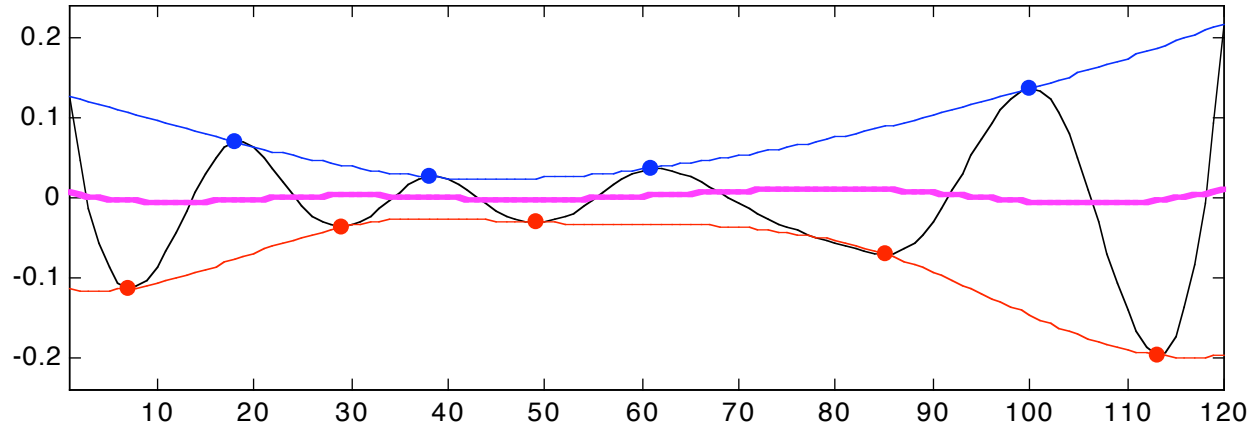
IMF 3; iteration 5



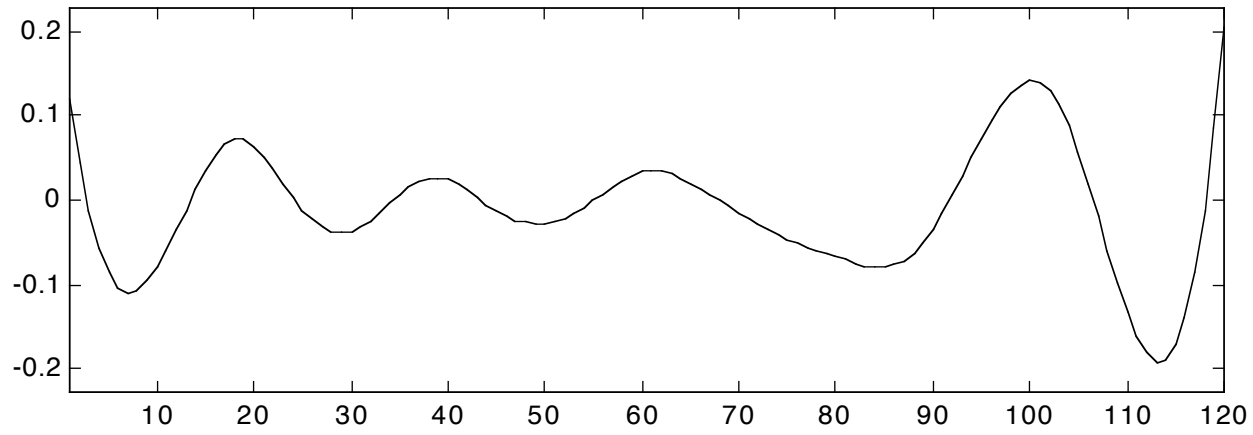
residue



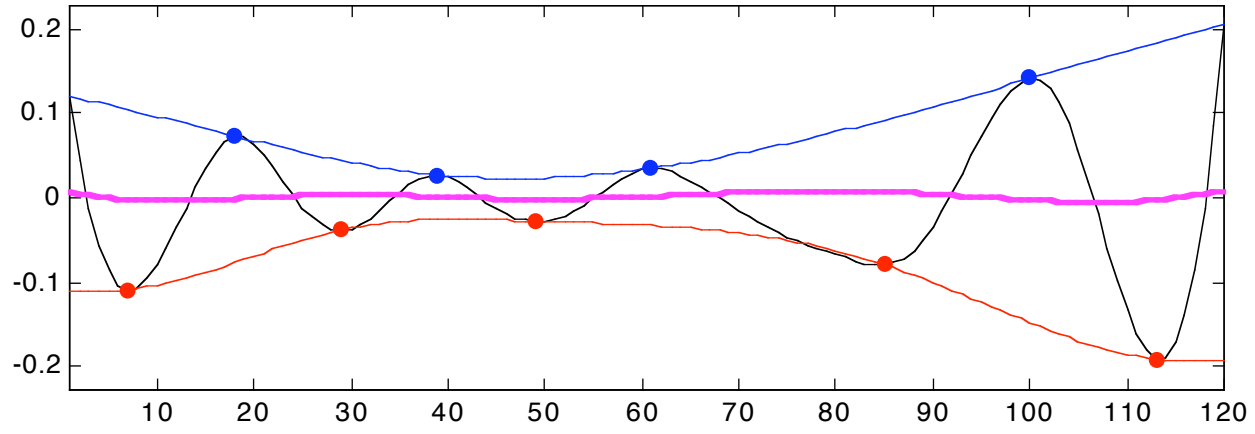
IMF 3; iteration 6



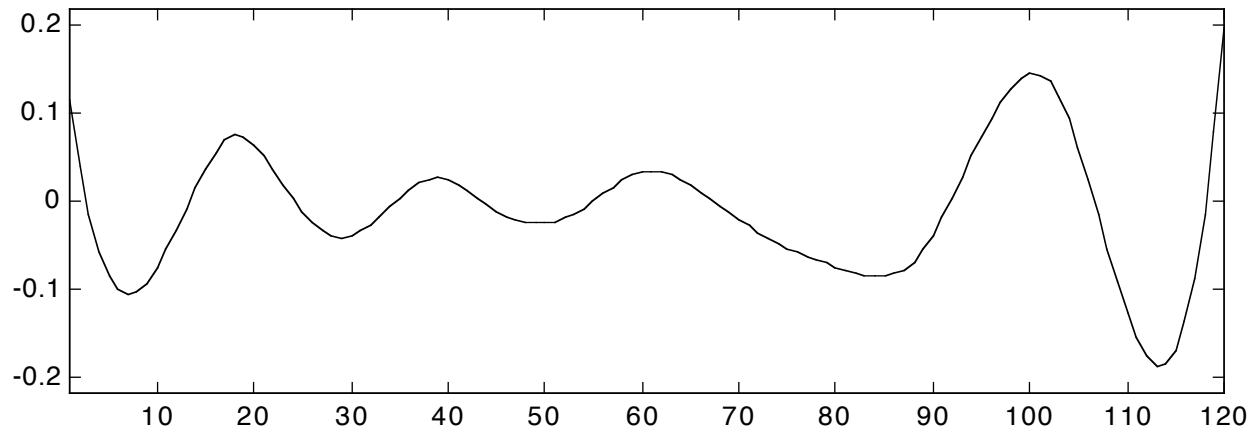
residue



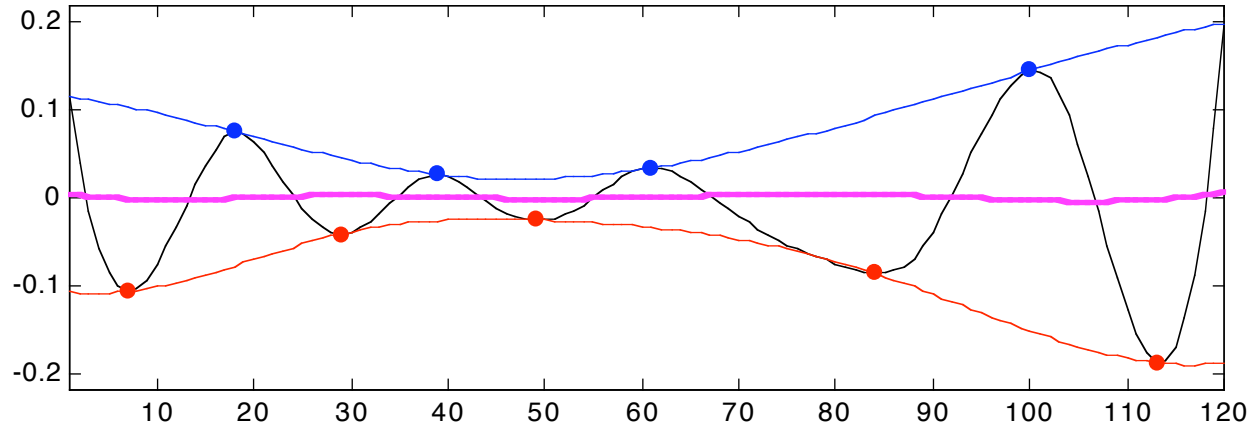
IMF 3; iteration 7



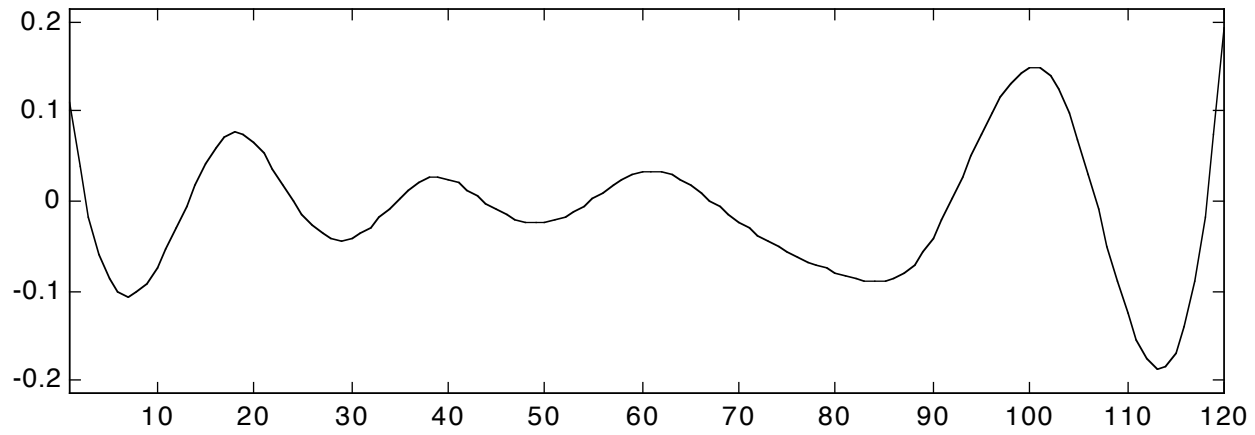
residue



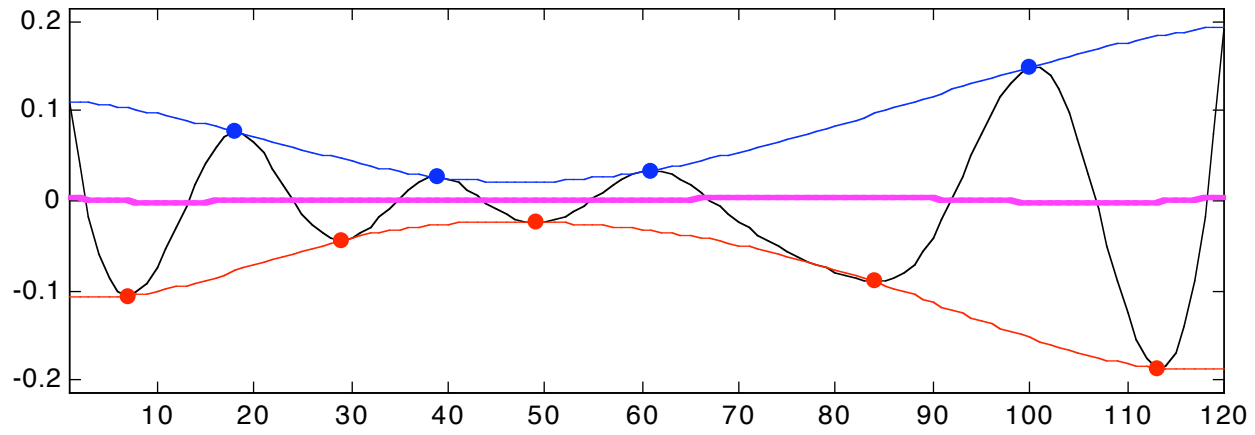
IMF 3; iteration 8



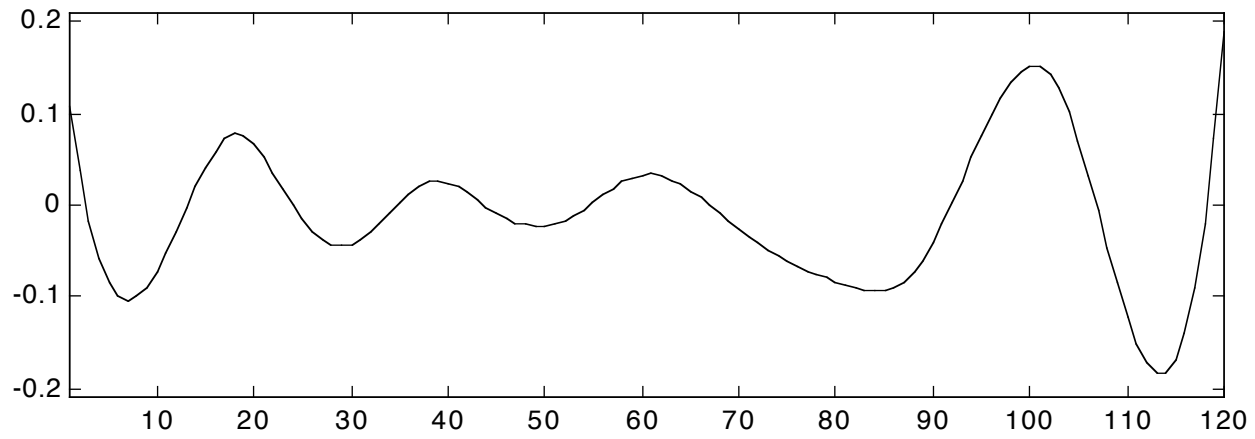
residue

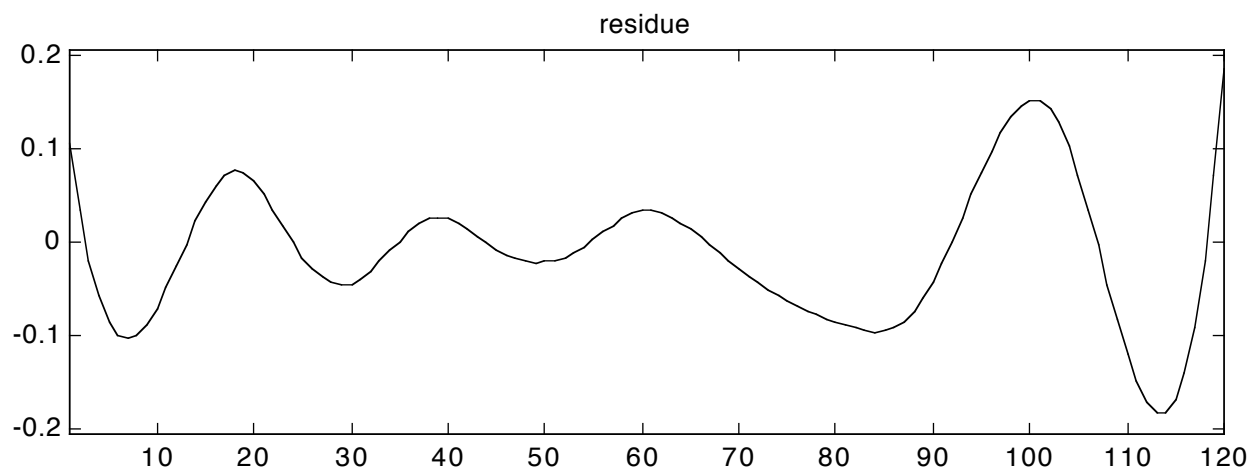
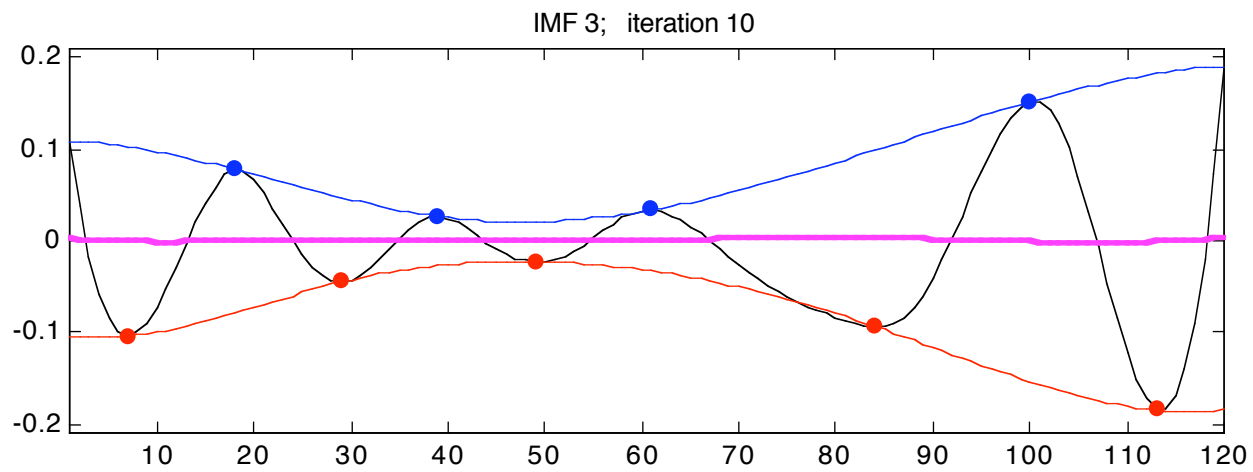


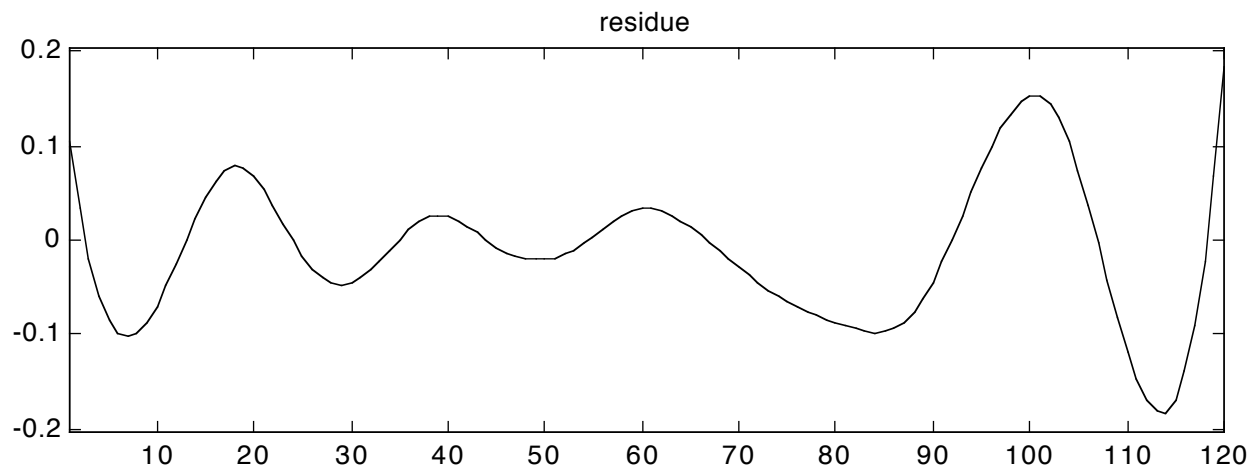
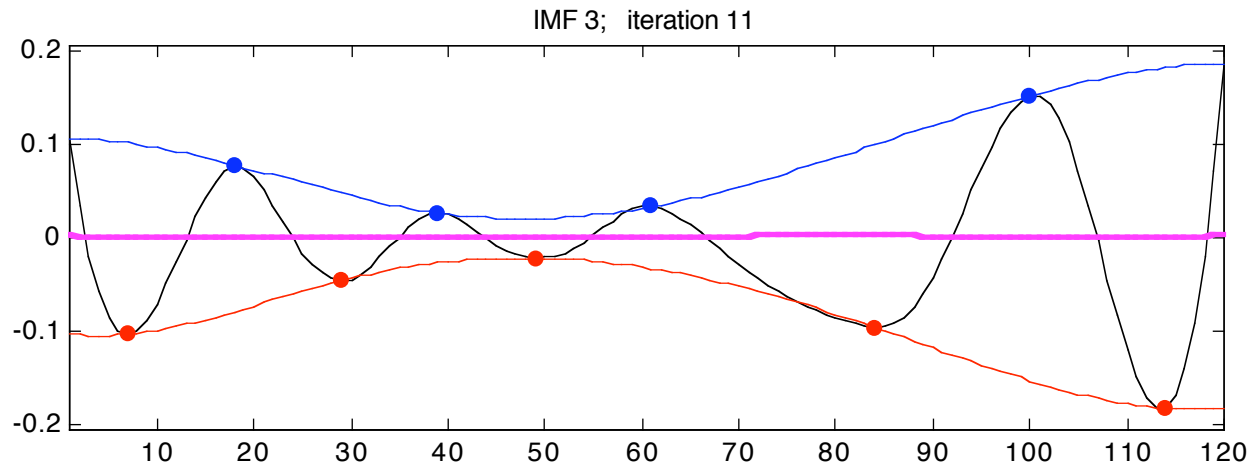
IMF 3; iteration 9

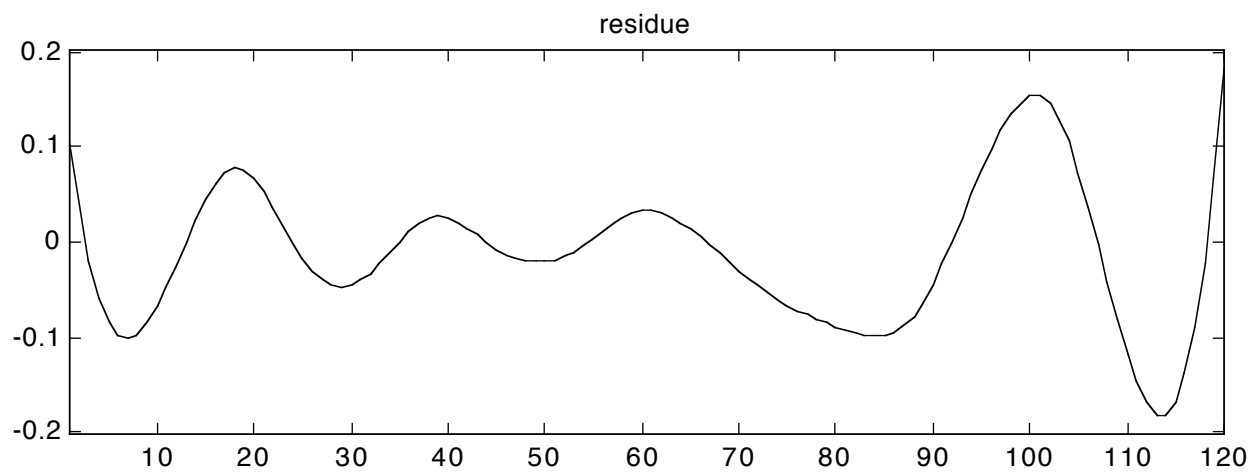
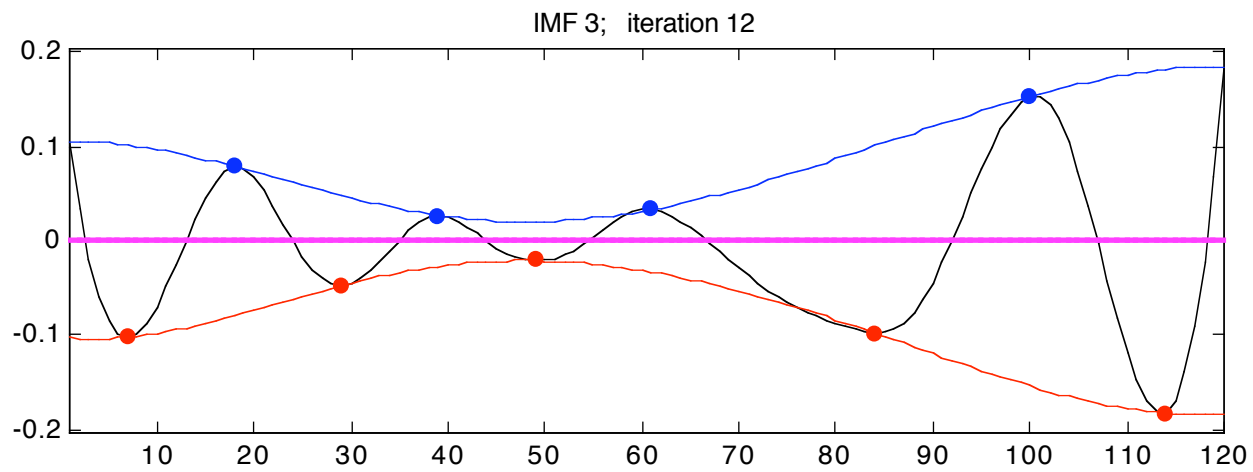


residue



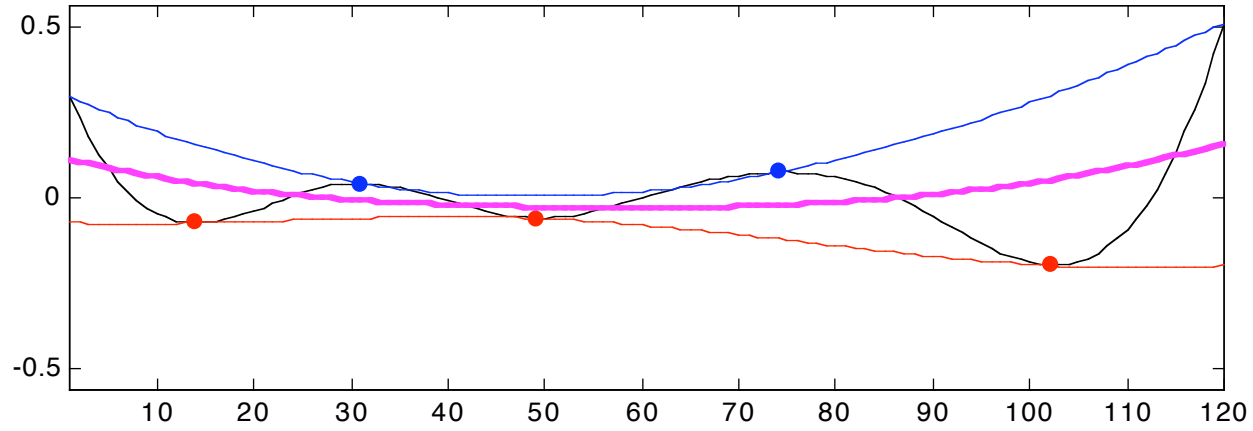




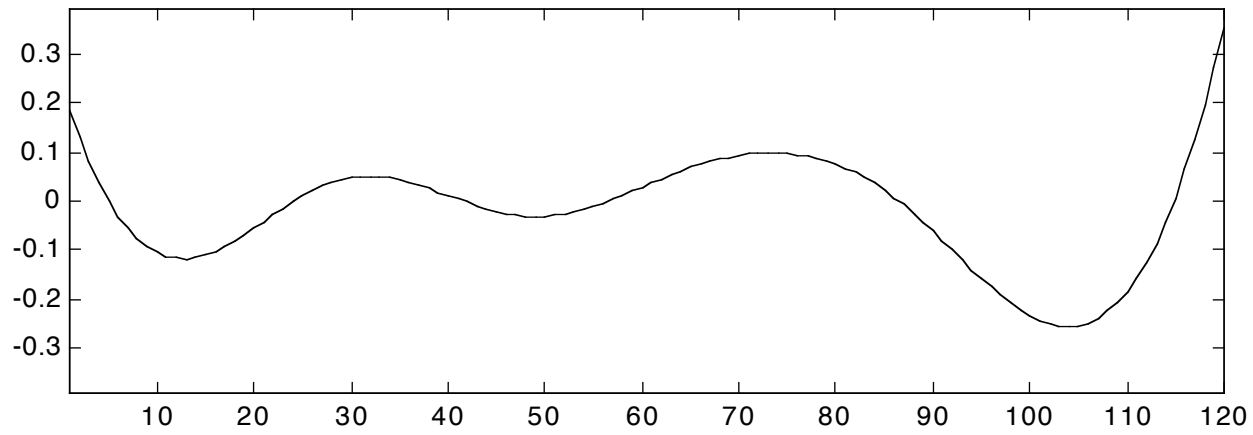




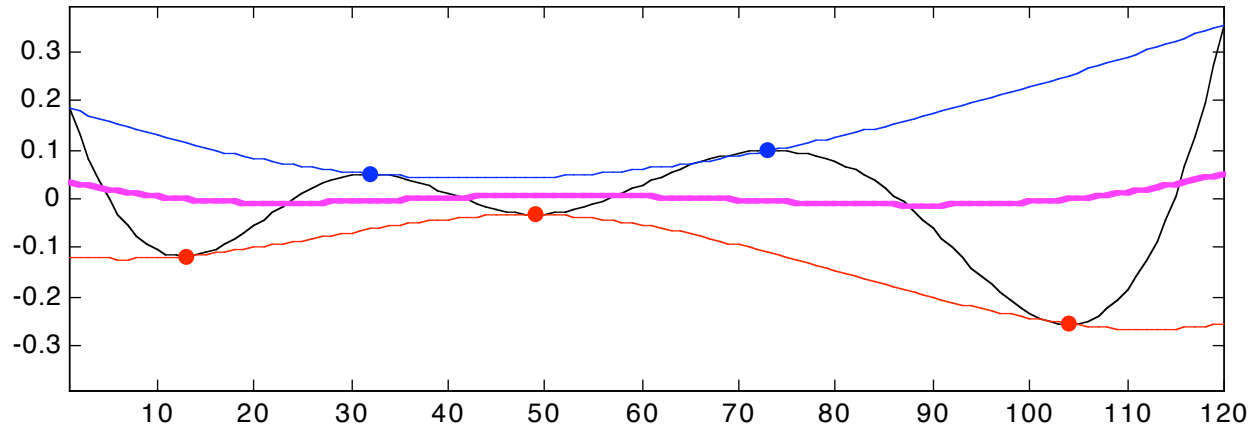
IMF 4; iteration 0



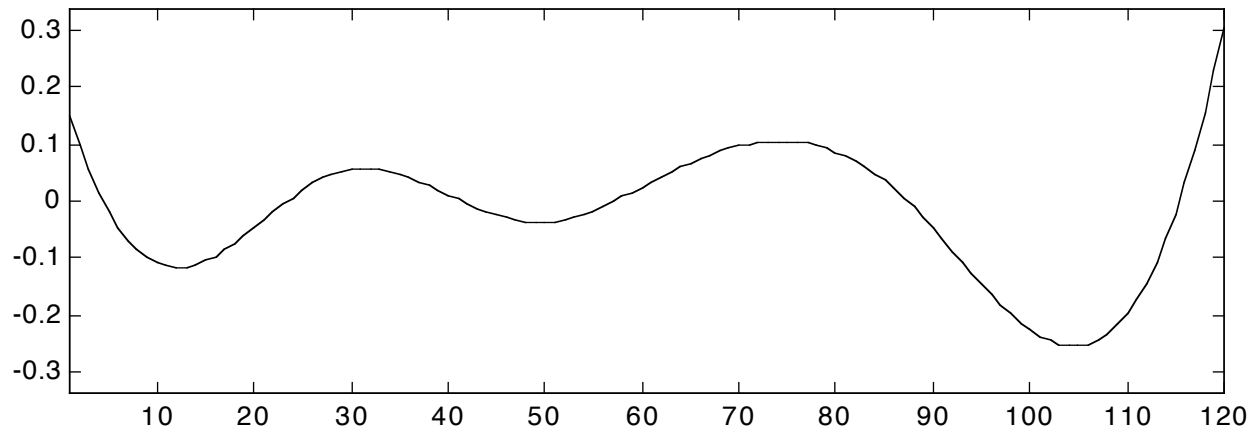
residue



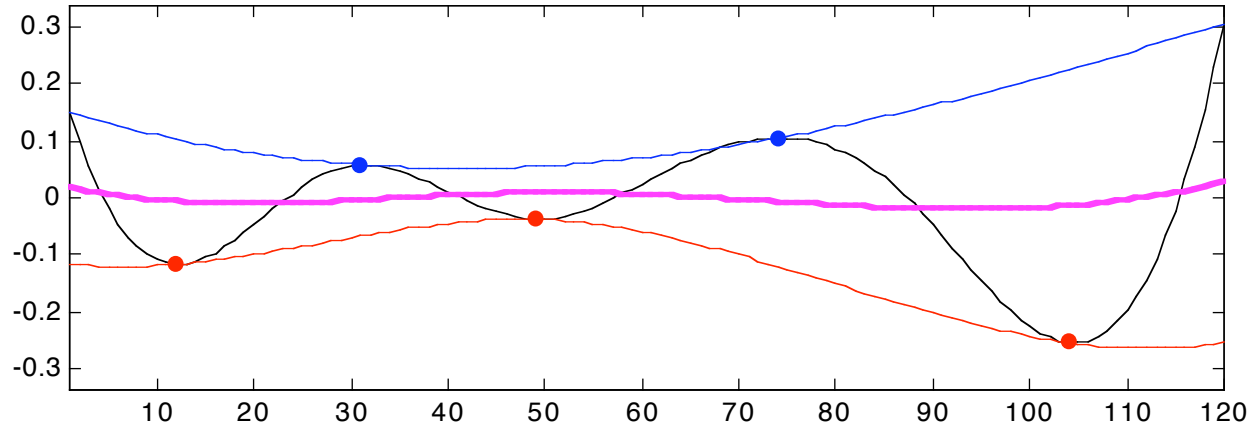
IMF 4; iteration 1



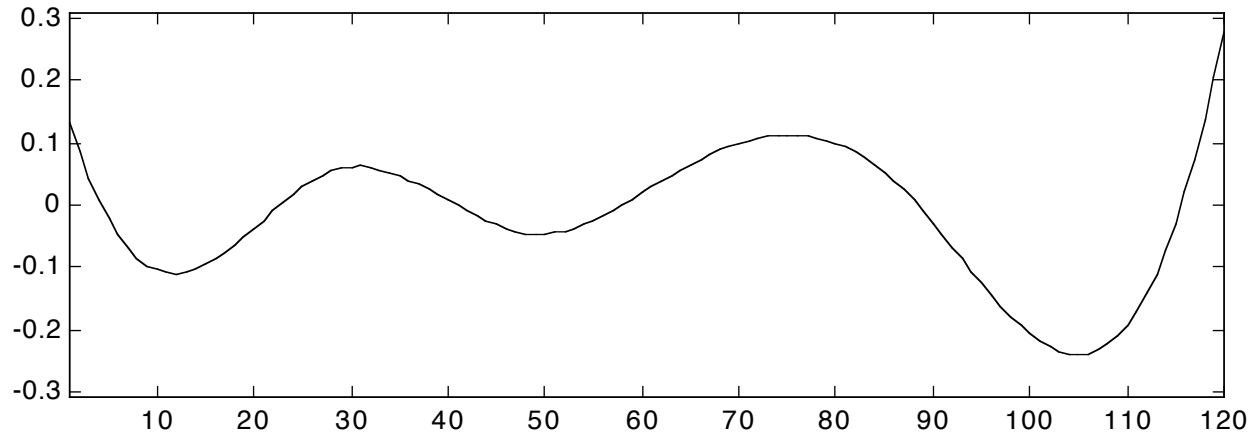
residue

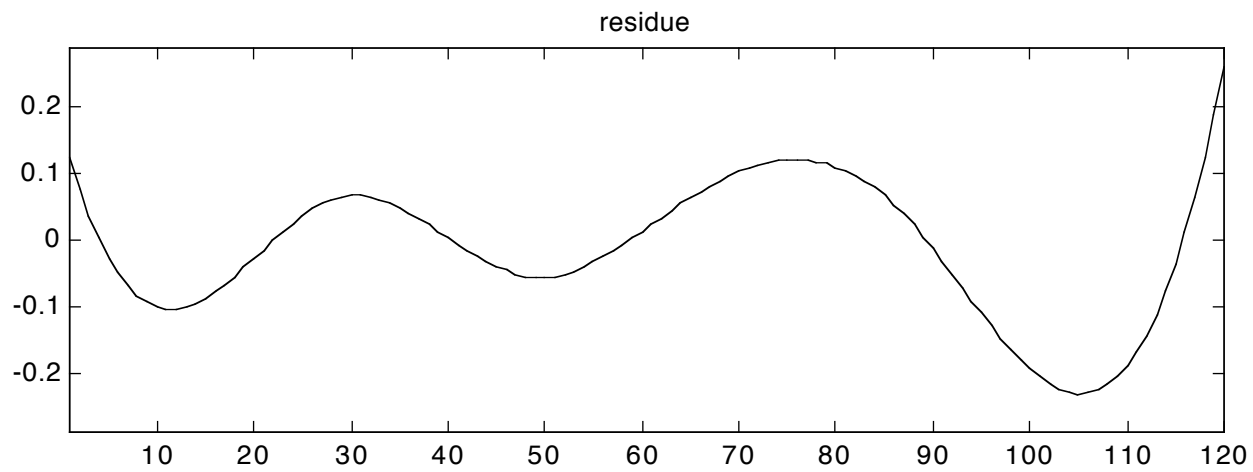
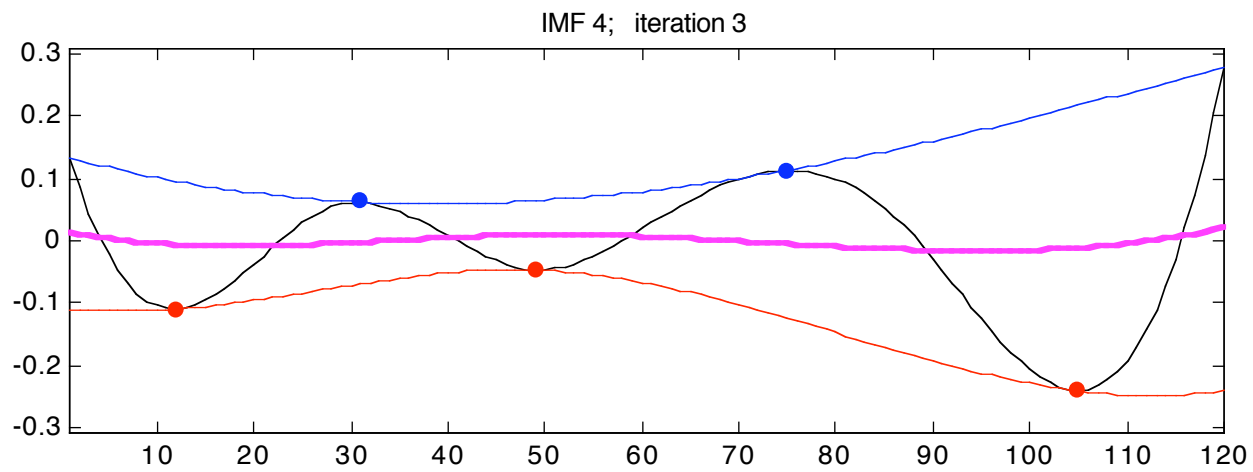


IMF 4; iteration 2

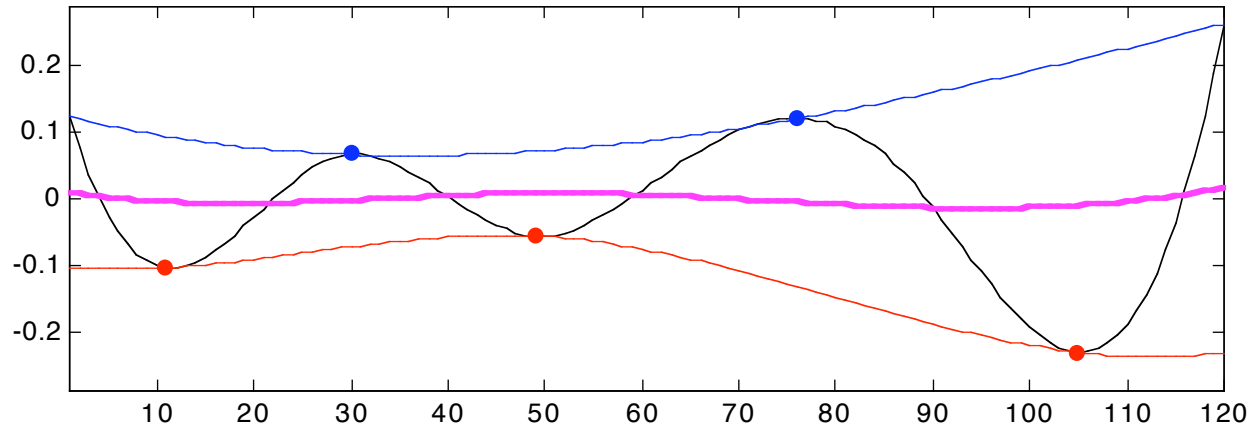


residue

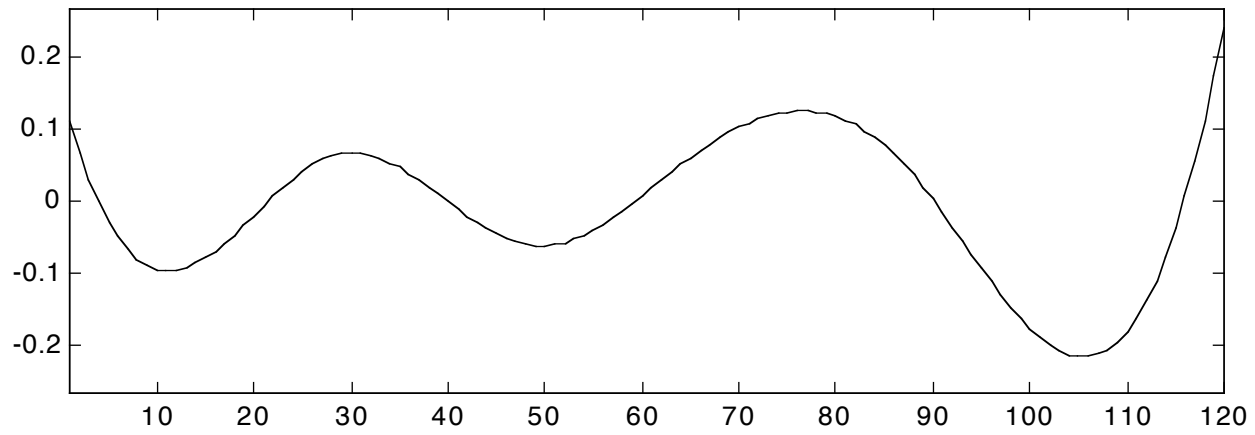




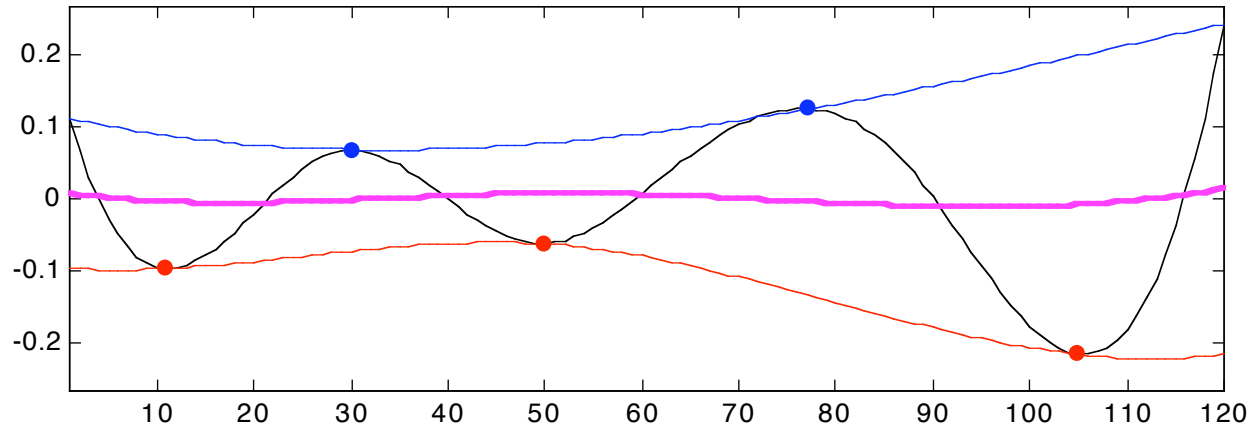
IMF 4; iteration 4



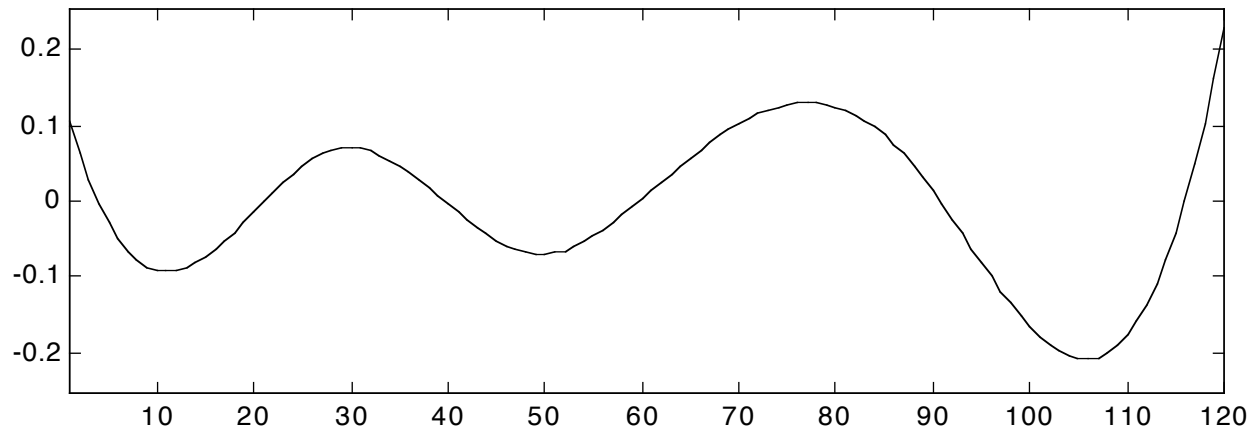
residue



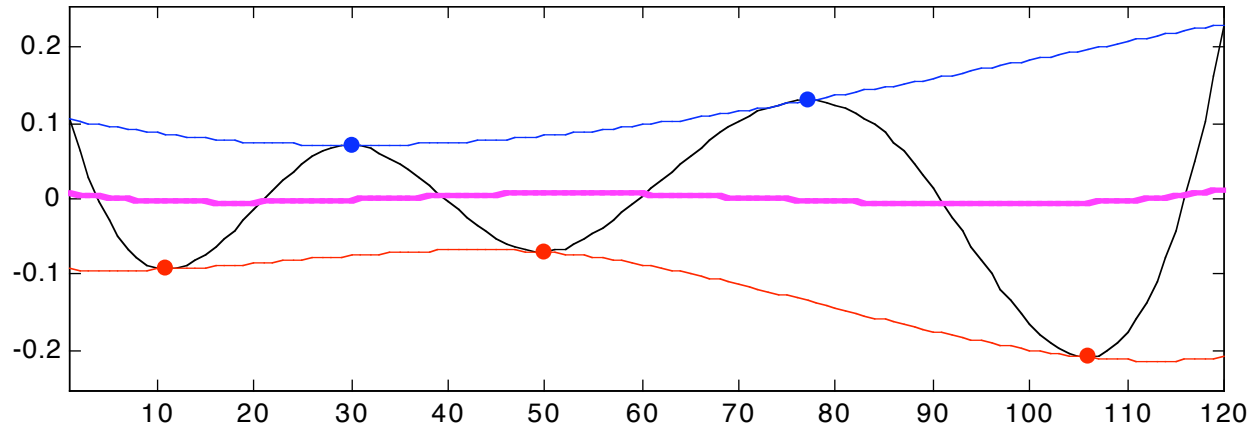
IMF 4; iteration 5



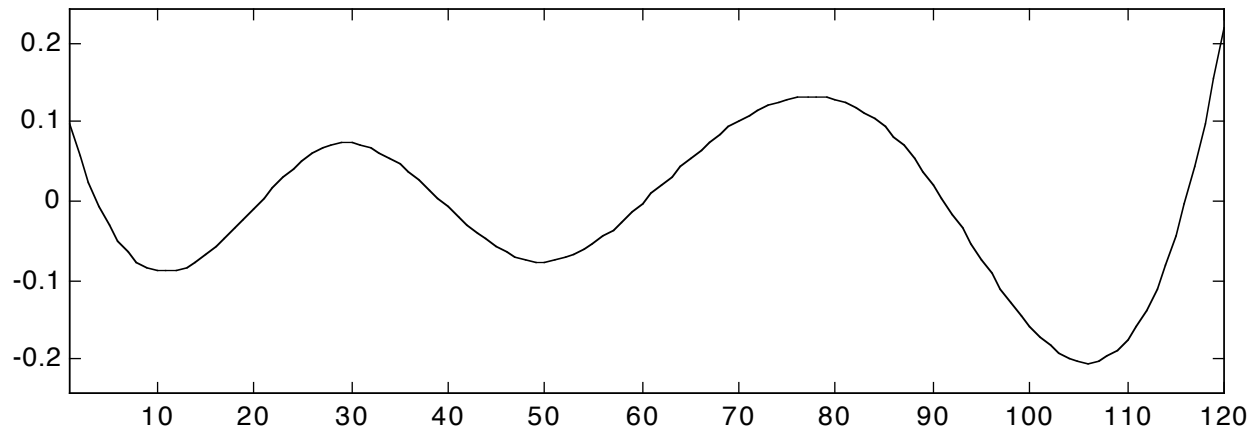
residue



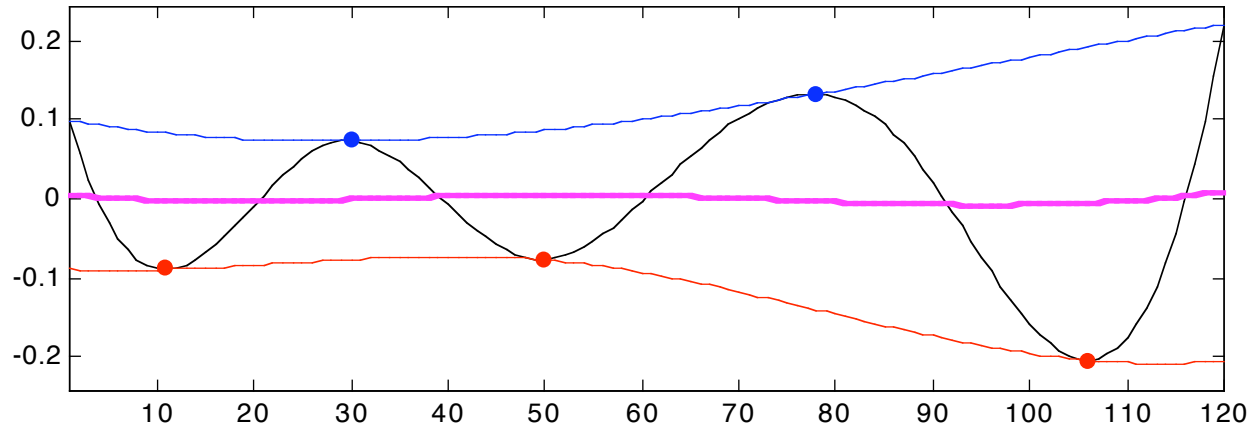
IMF 4; iteration 6



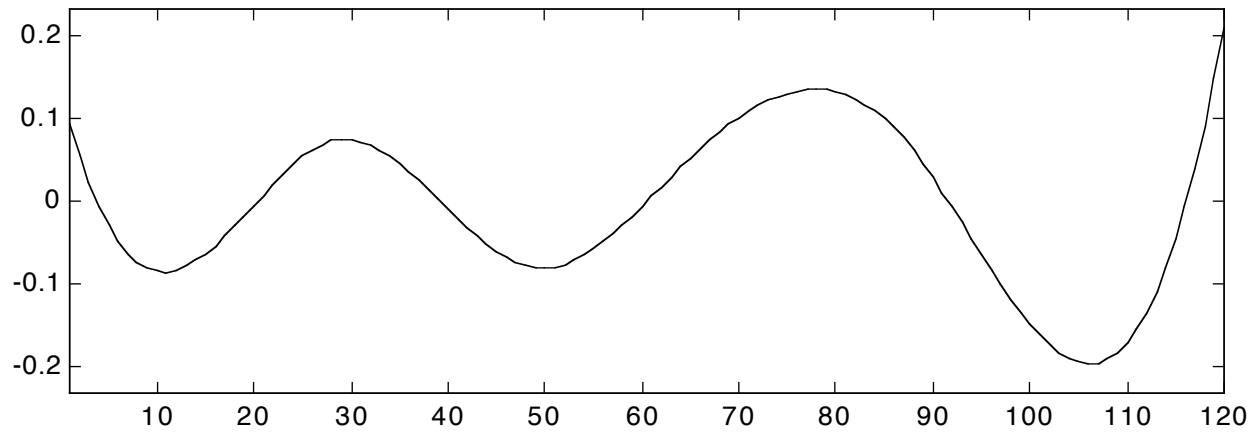
residue



IMF 4; iteration 7

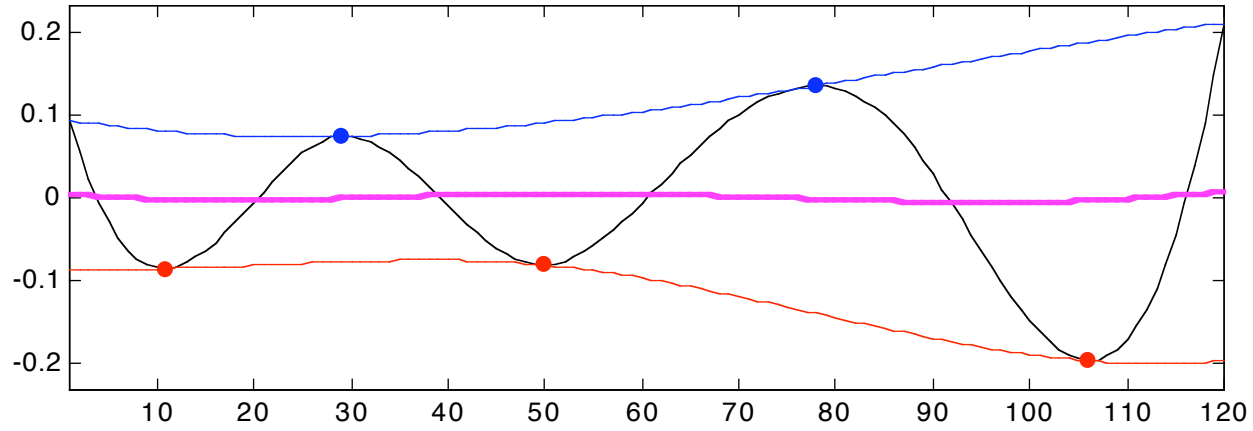


residue

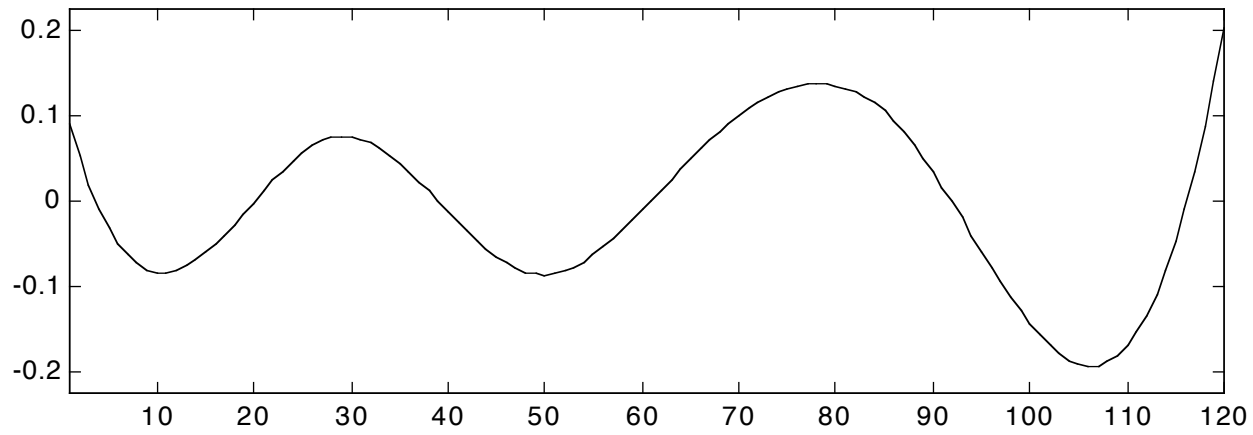




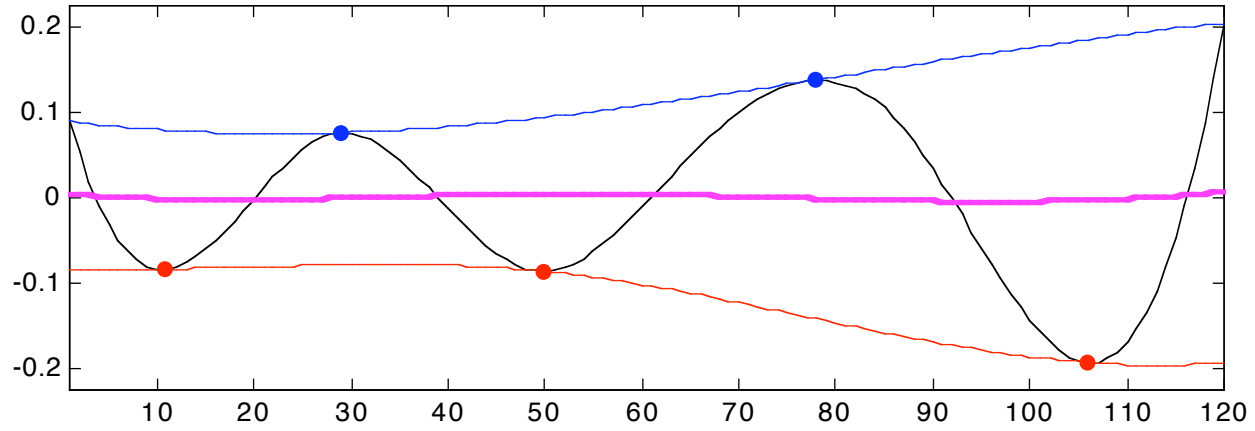
IMF 4; iteration 8



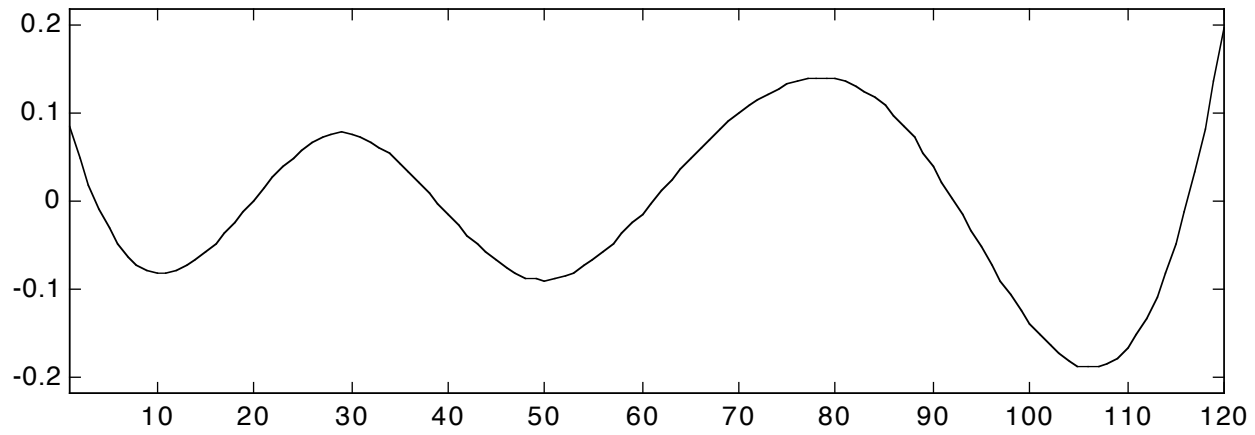
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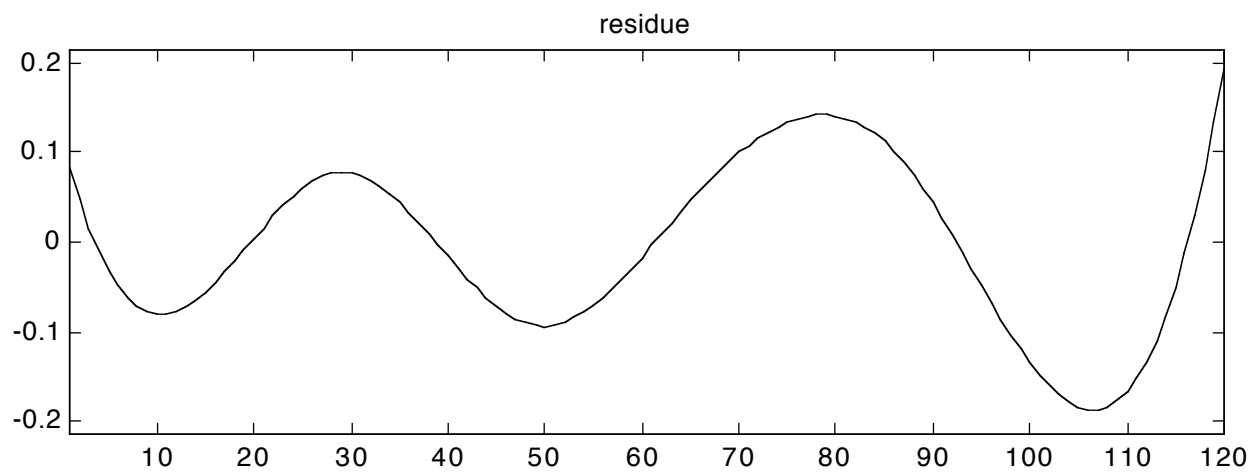
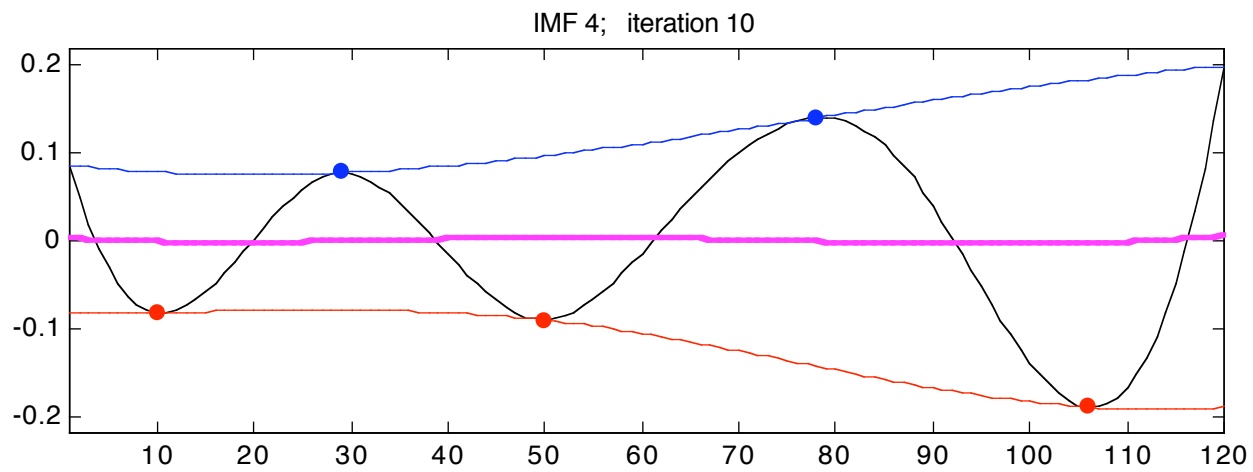


IMF 4; iteration 9

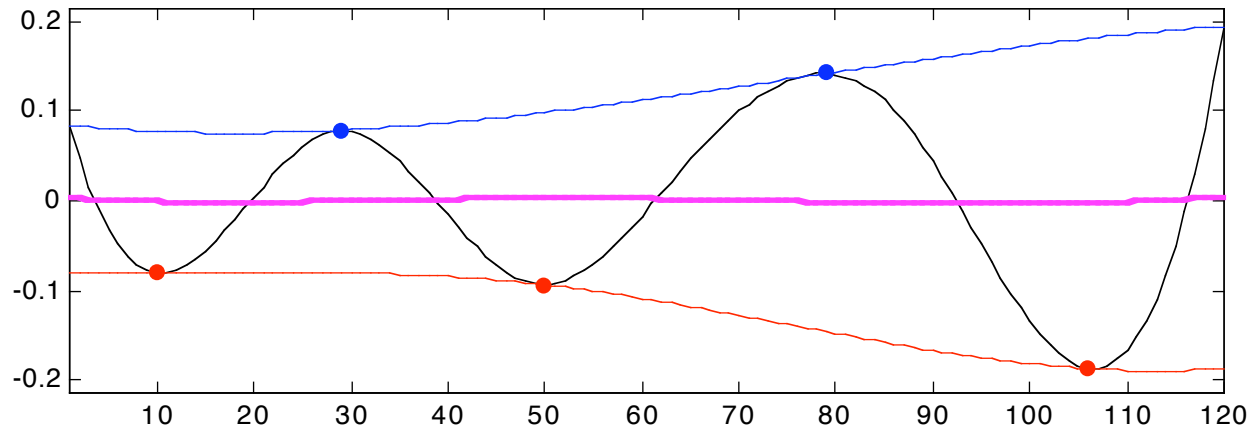


residue

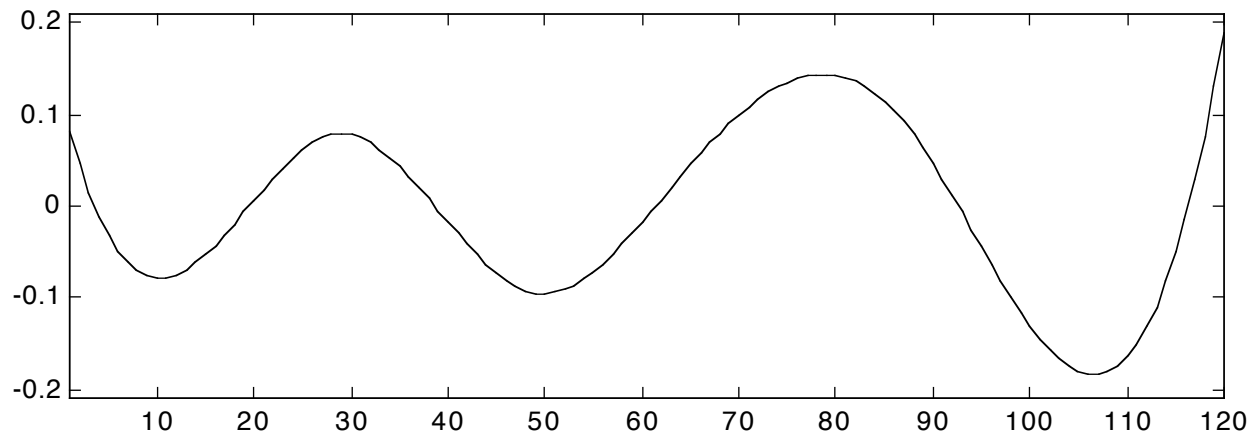


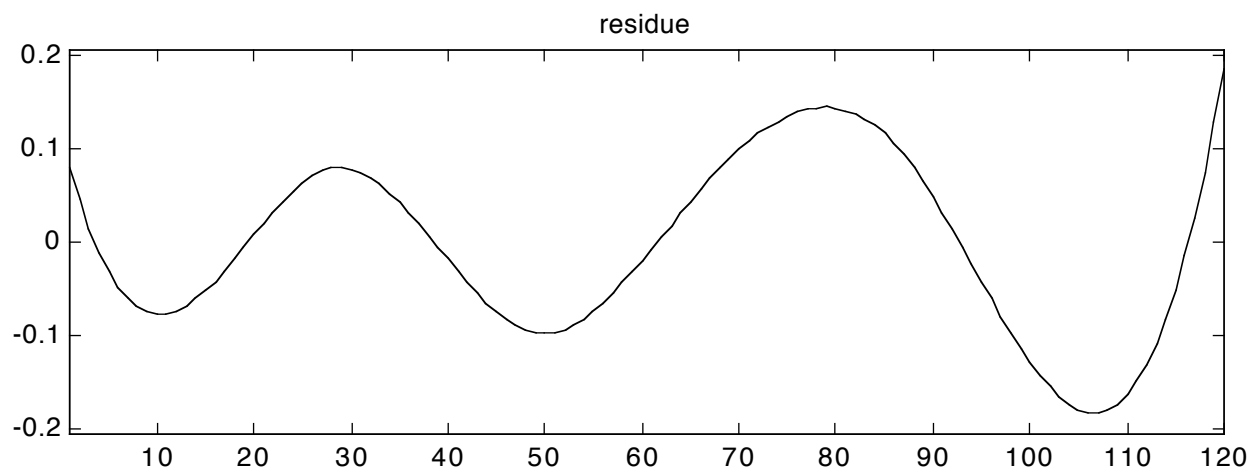
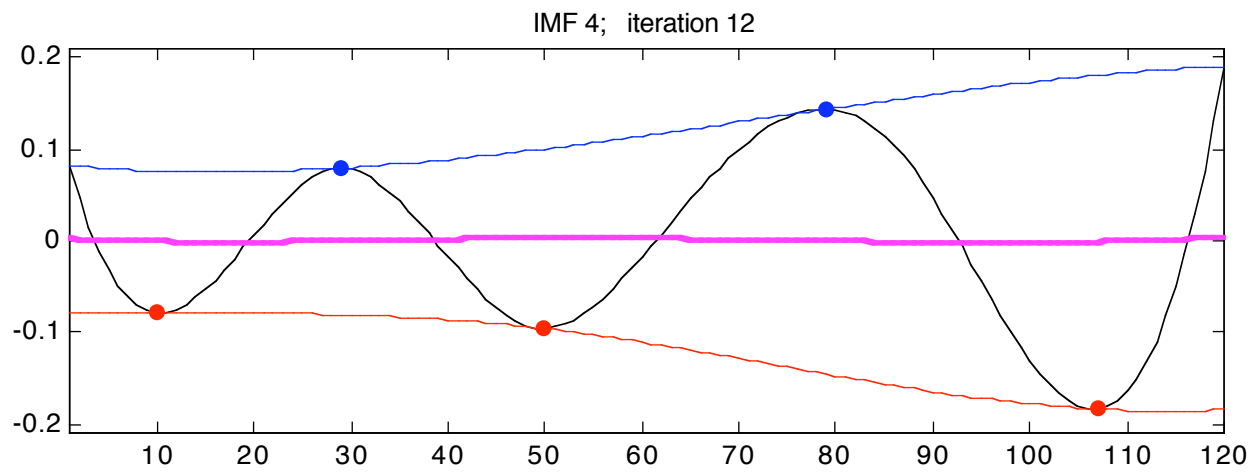


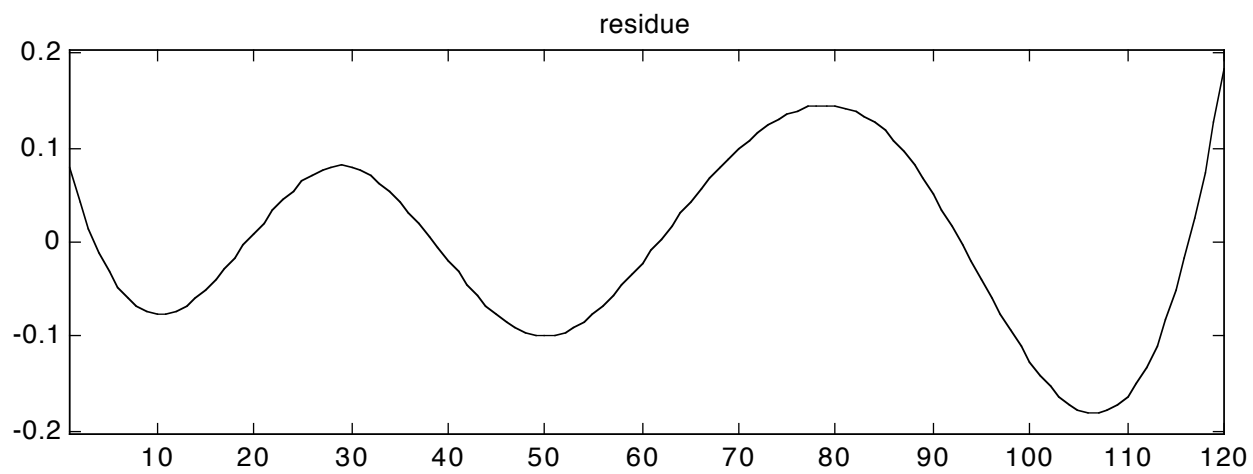
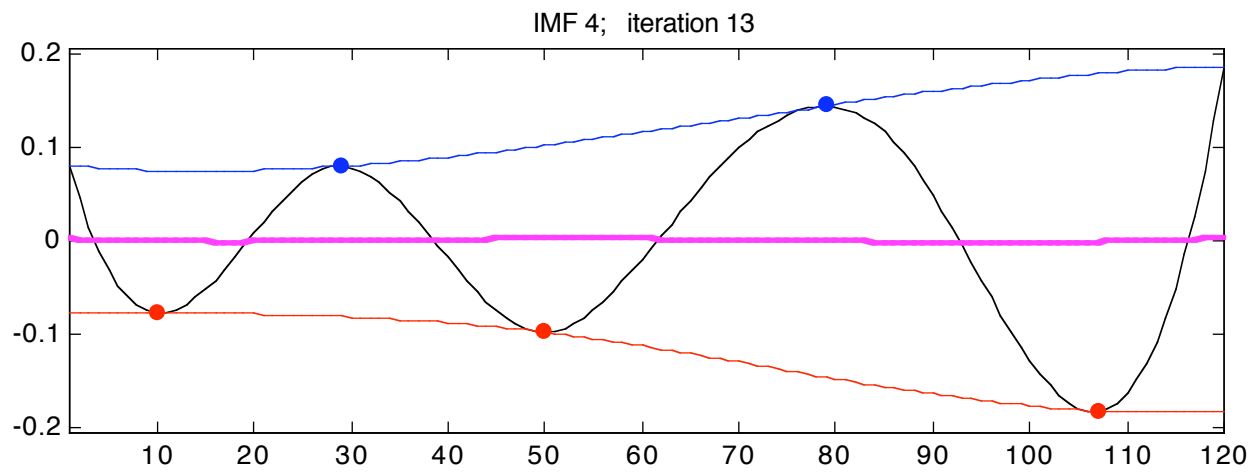
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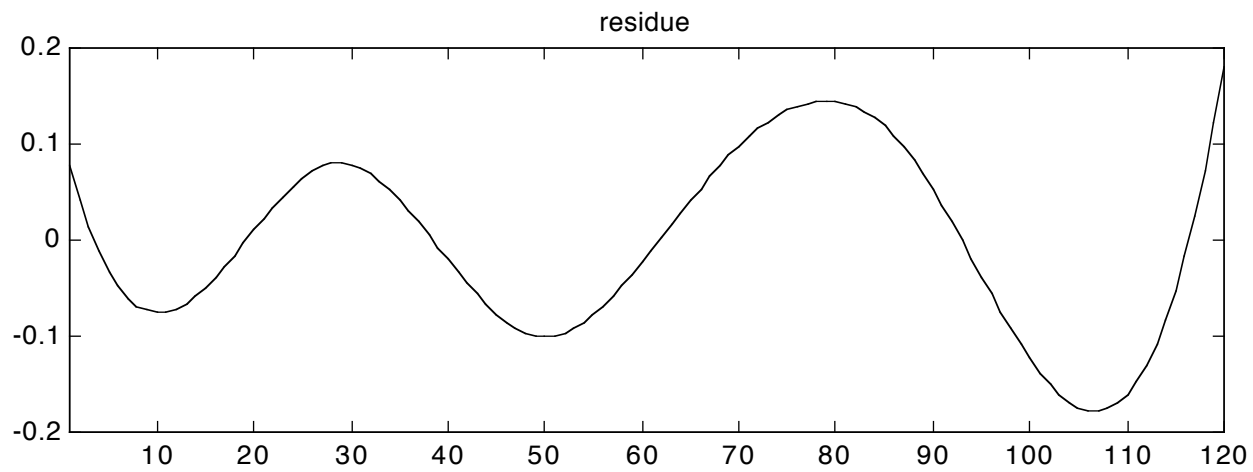
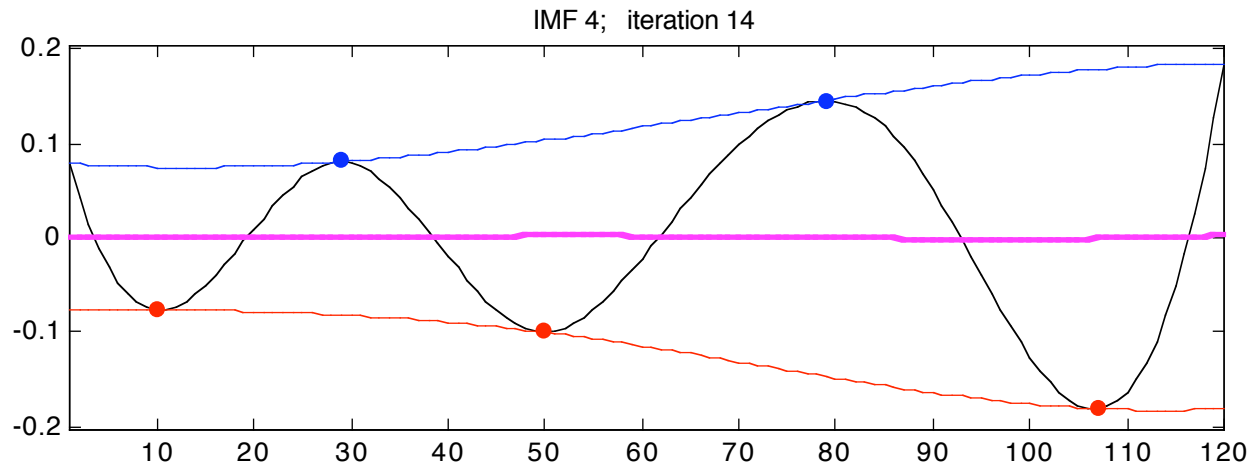


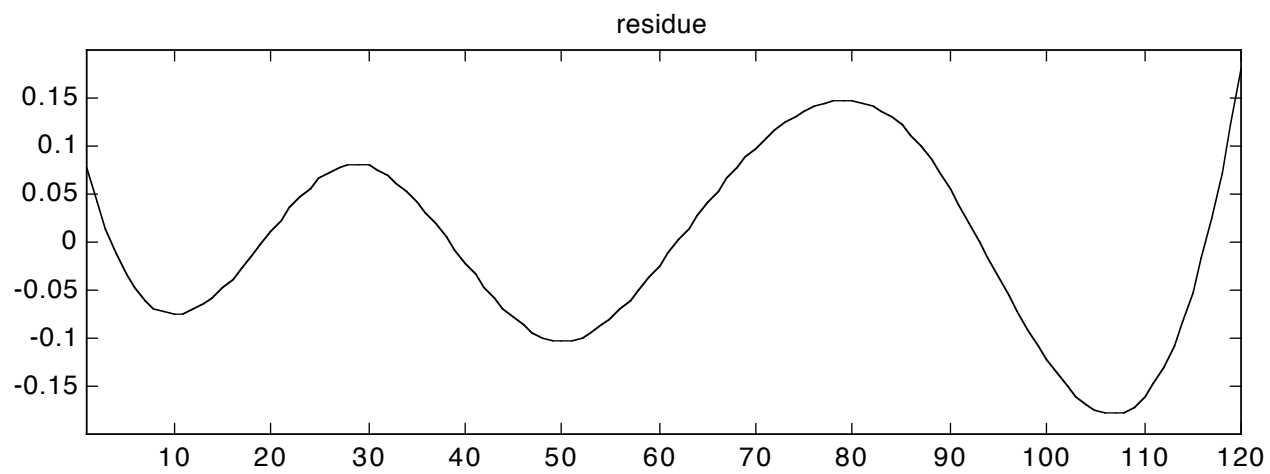
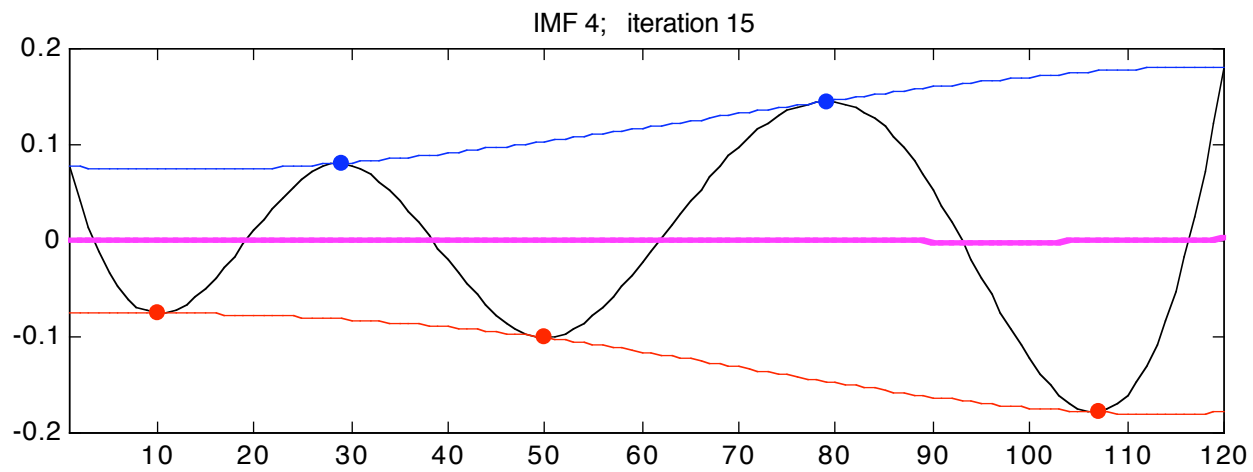
residue





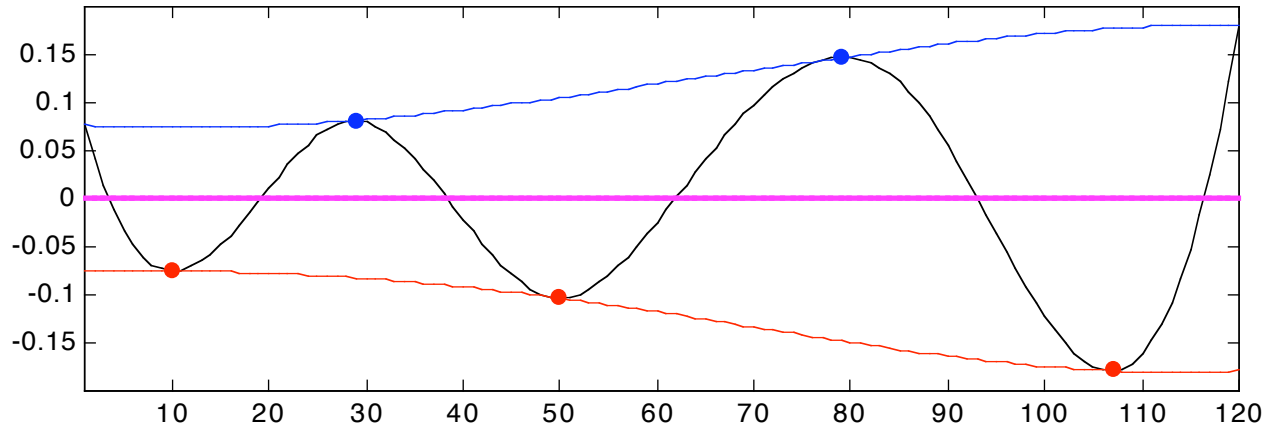




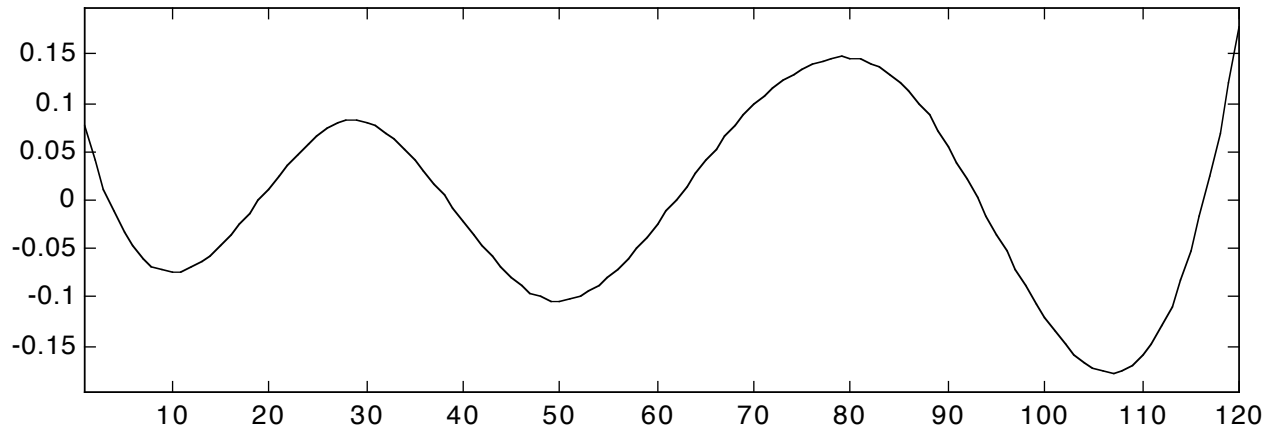




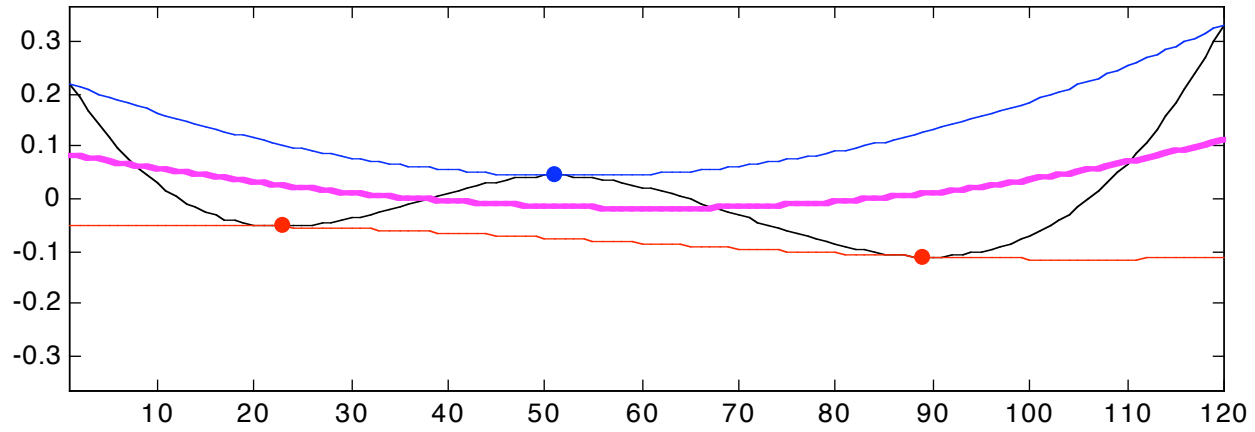
IMF 4; iteration 16



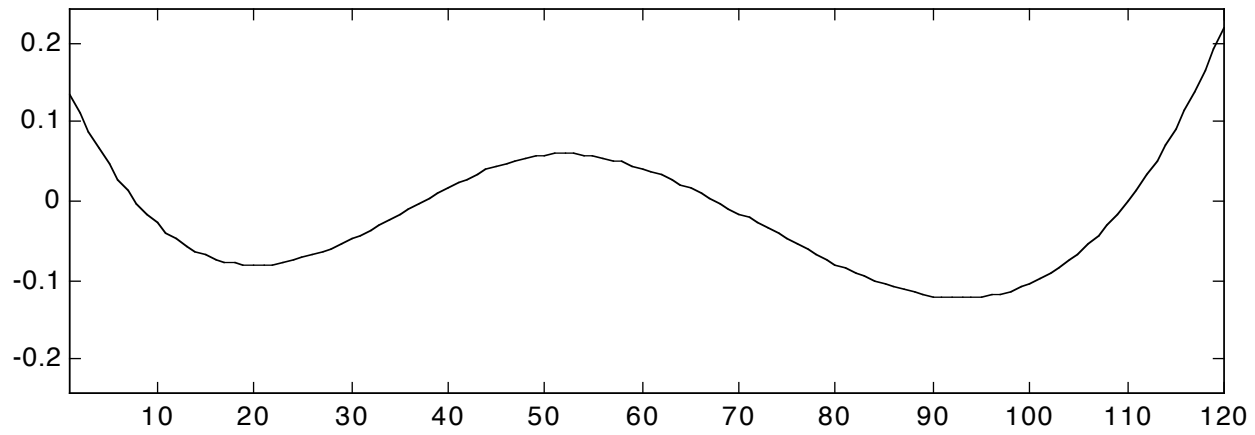
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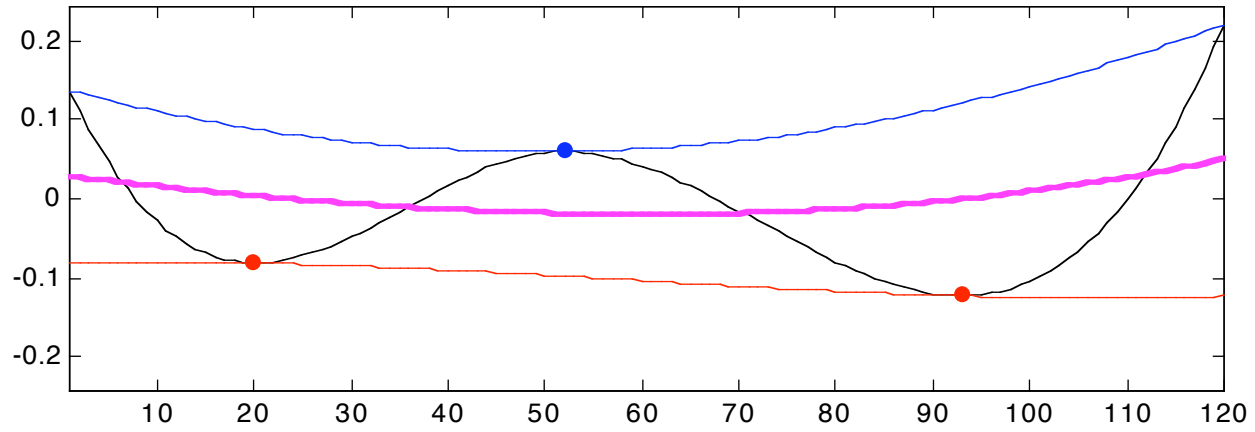
IMF 5; iteration 0



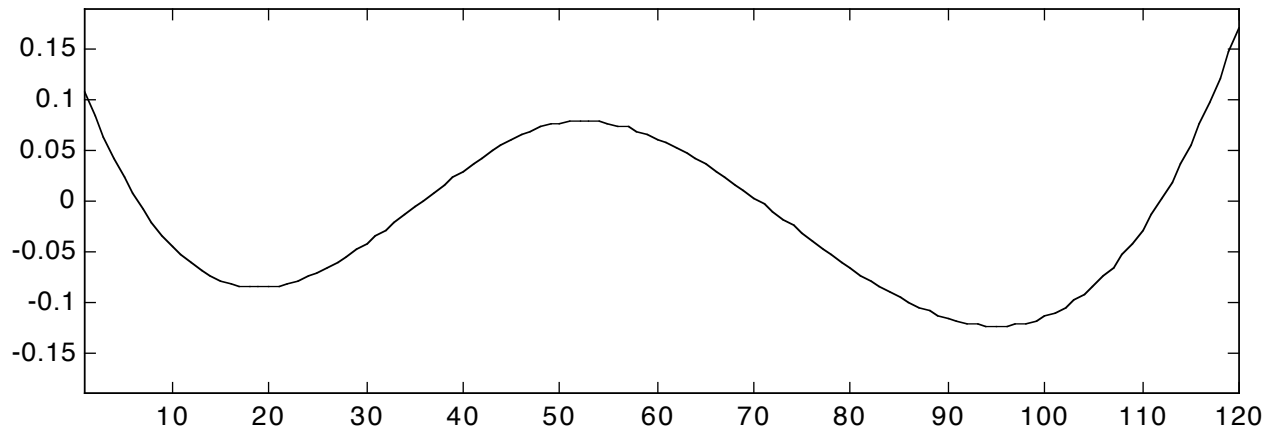
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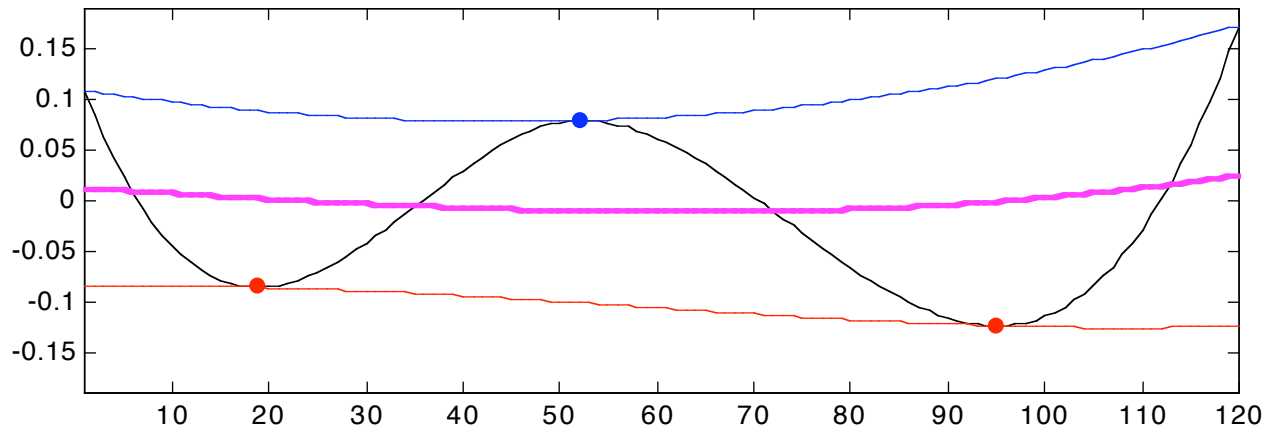
IMF 5; iteration 1



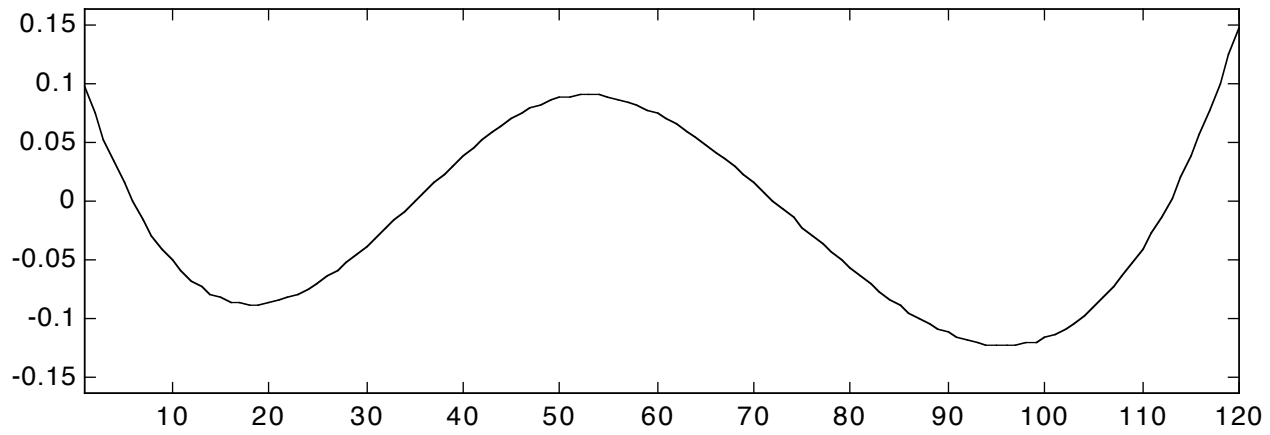
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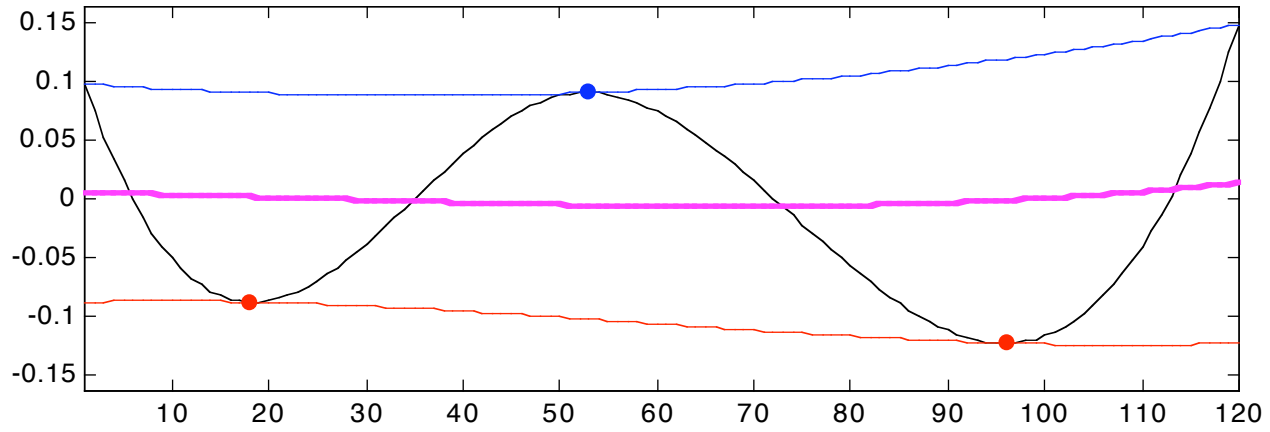
IMF 5; iteration 2



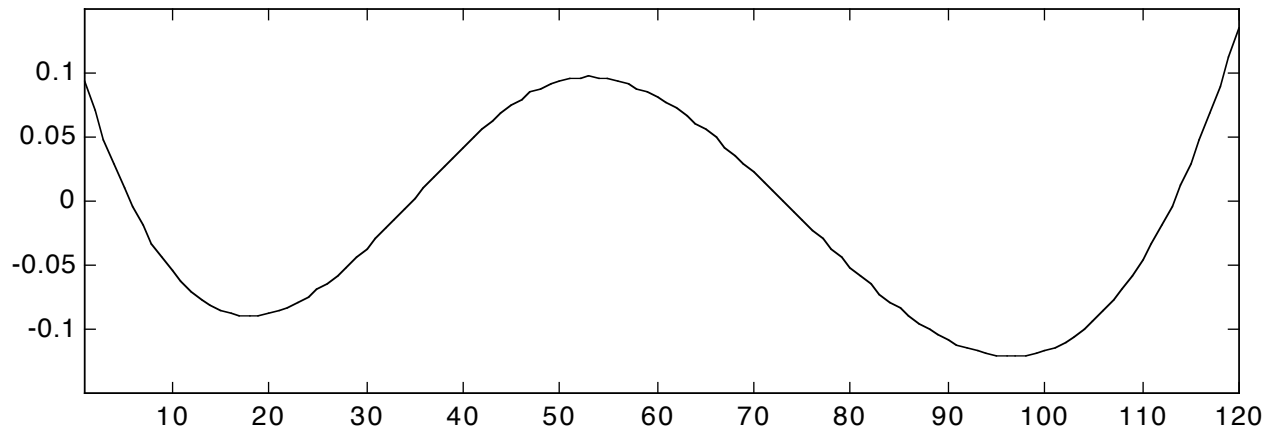
residue



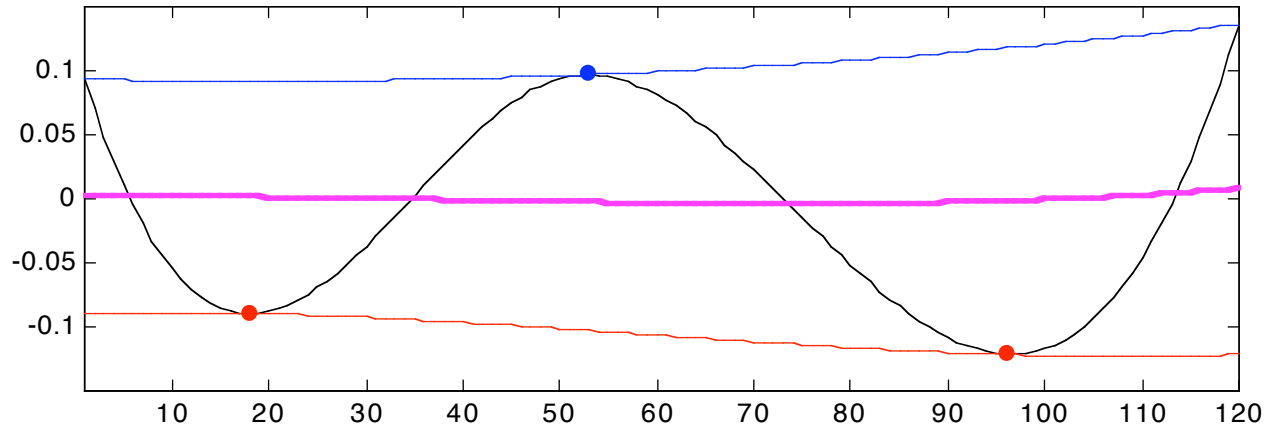
IMF 5; iteration 3



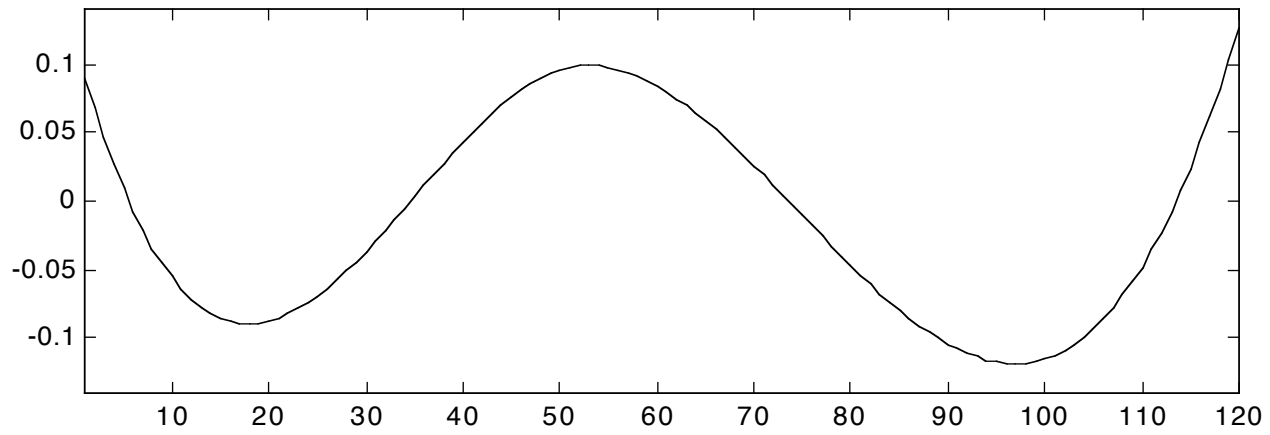
residue



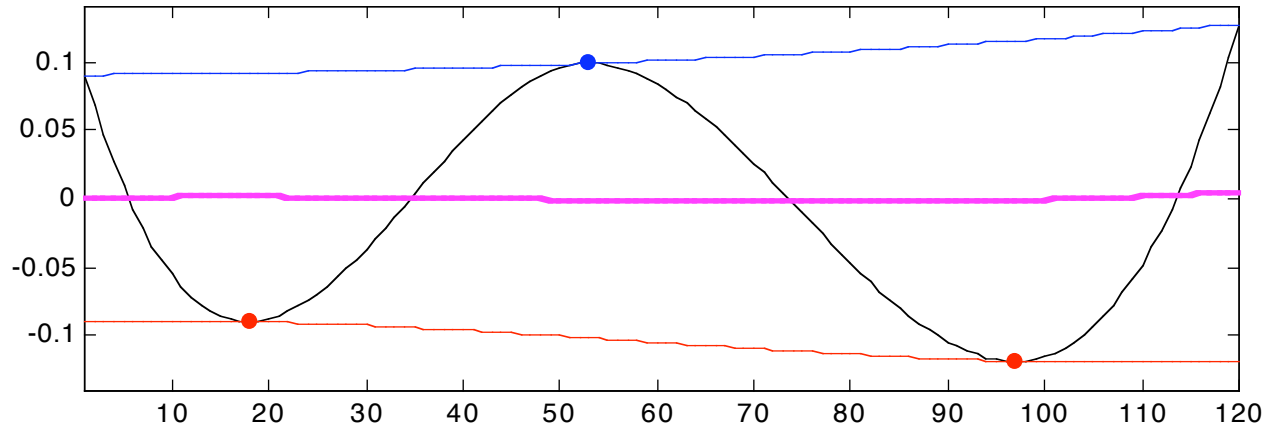
IMF 5; iteration 4



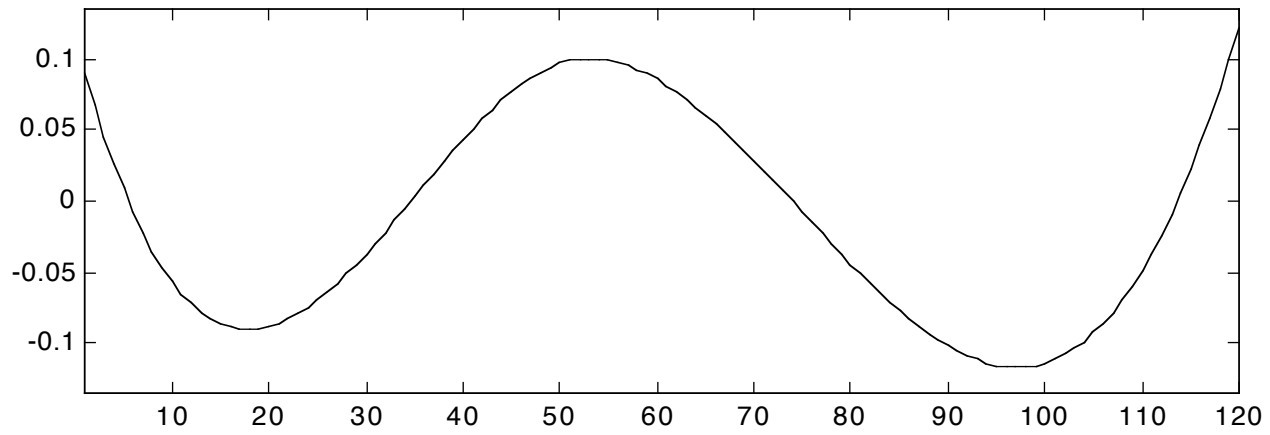
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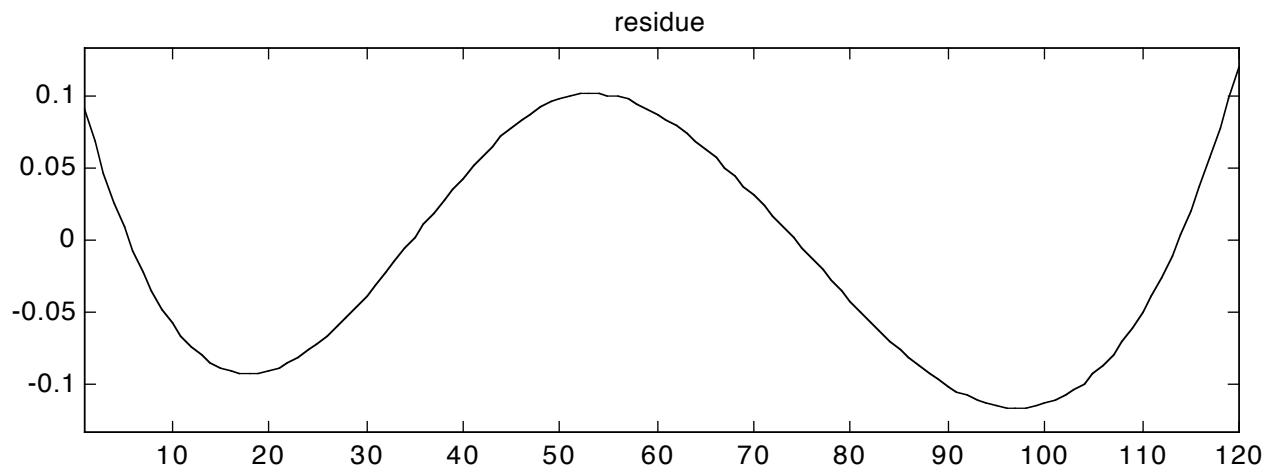
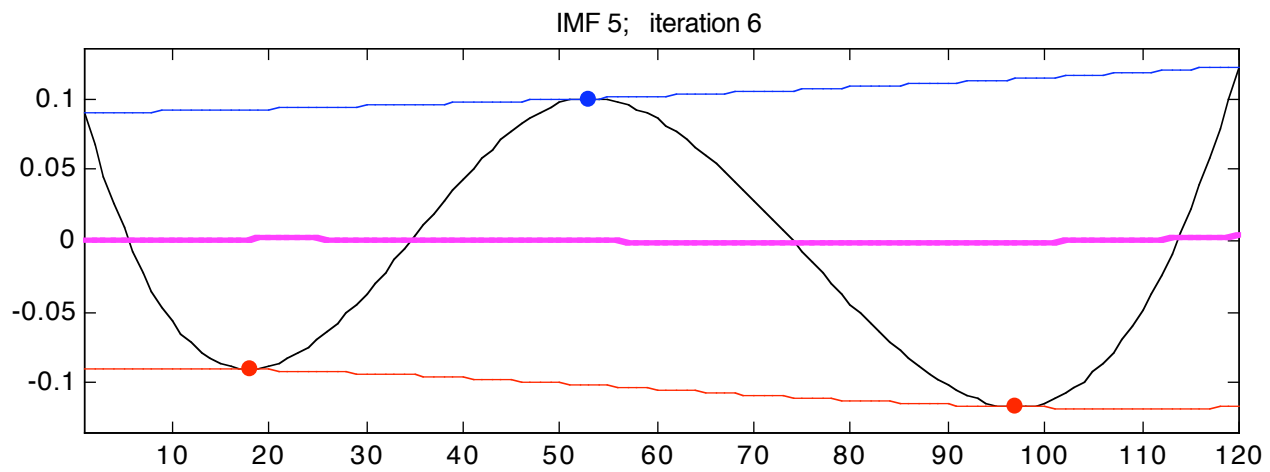


IMF 5; iteration 5

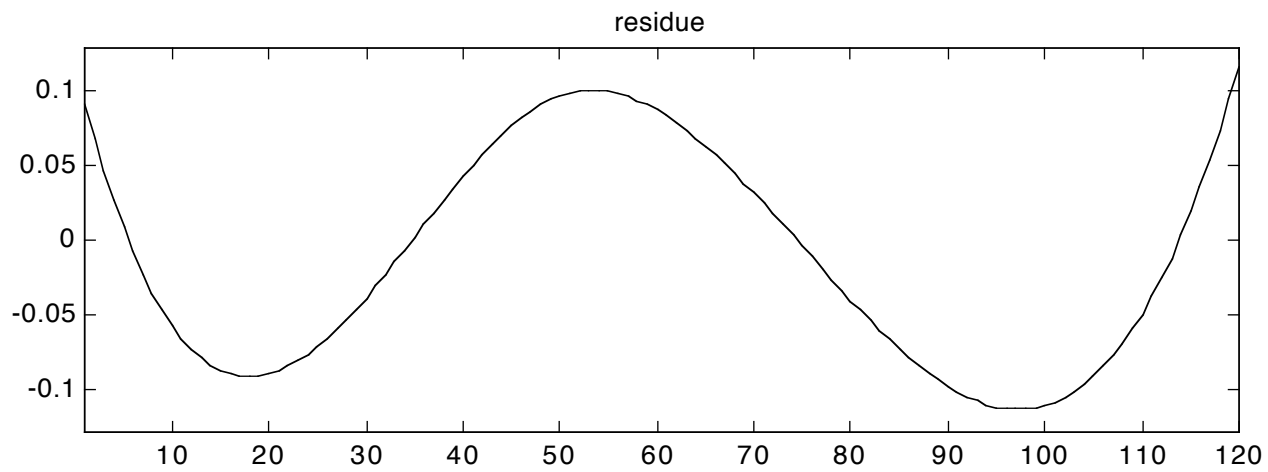
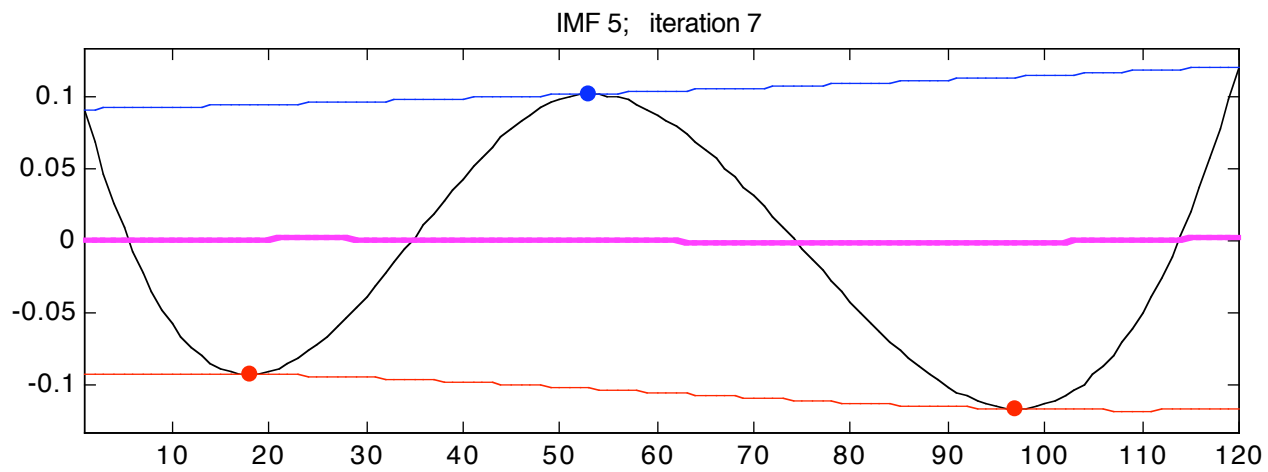


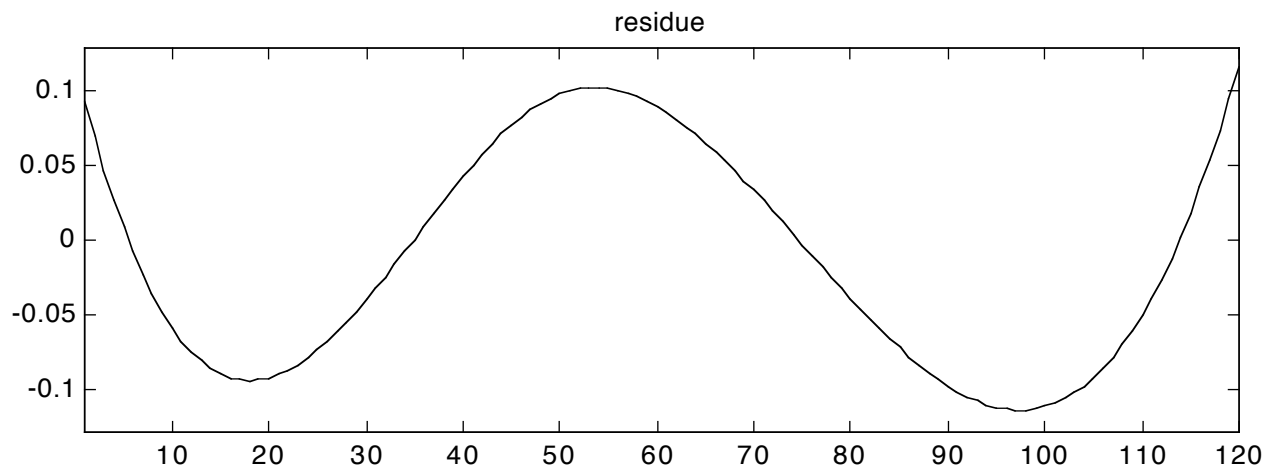
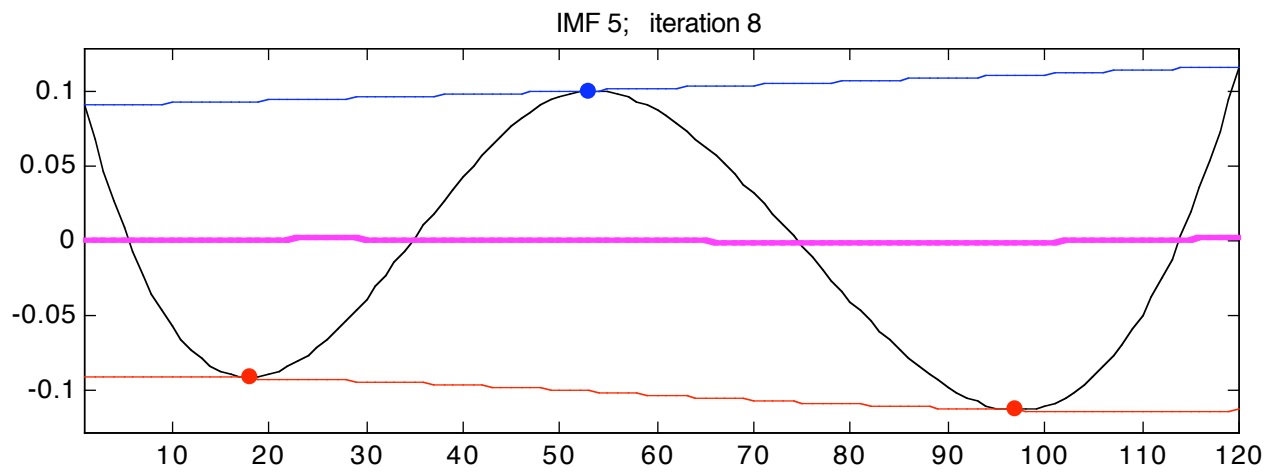
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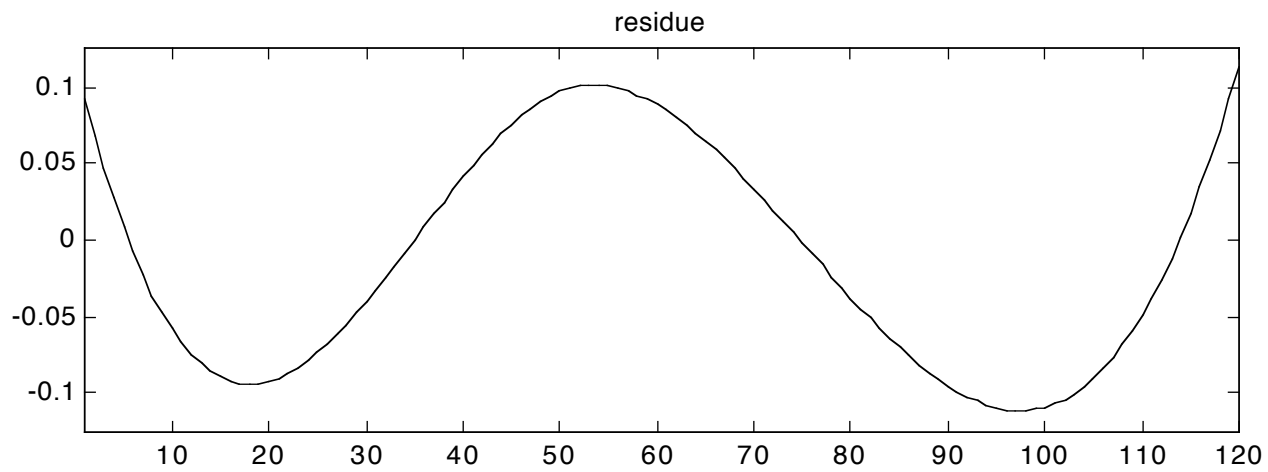
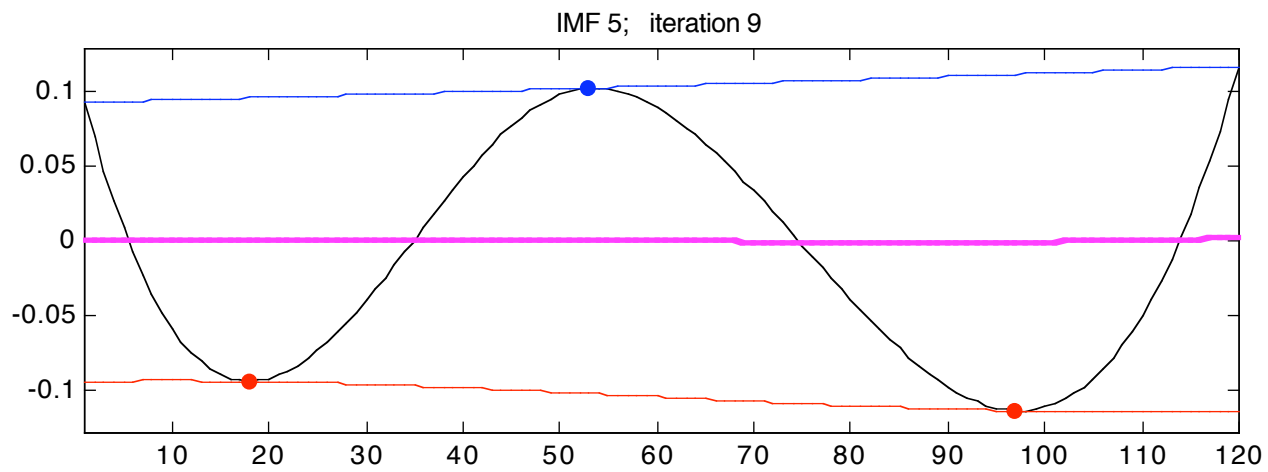




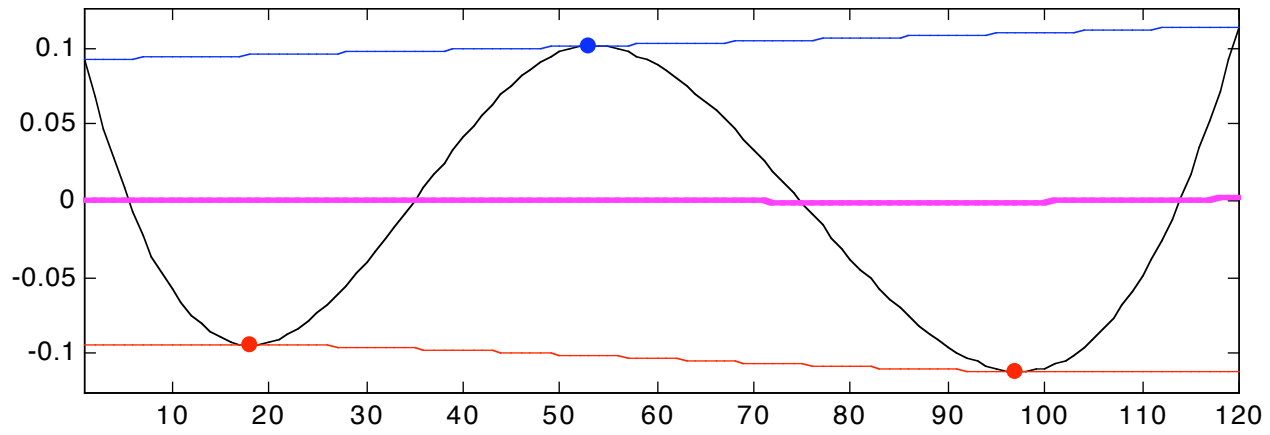




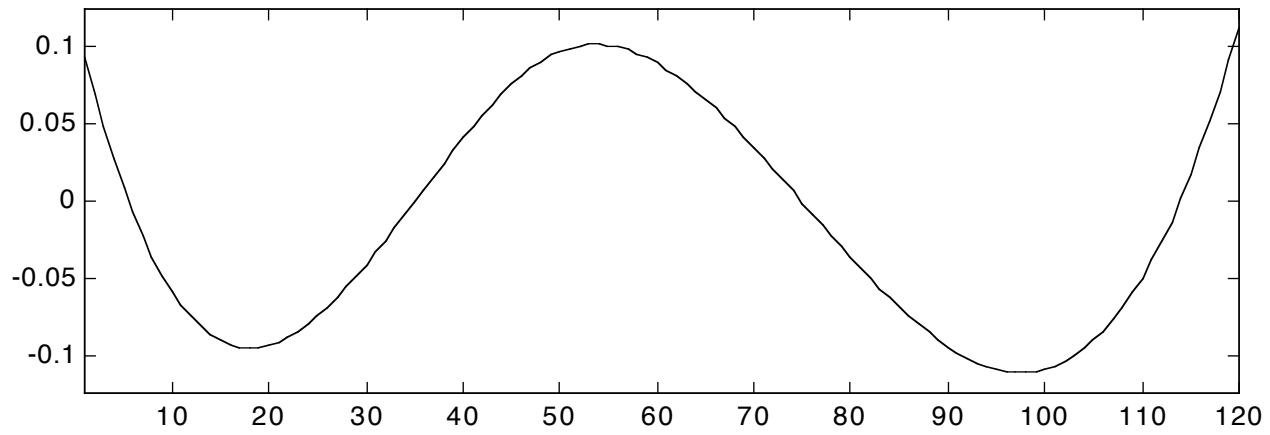




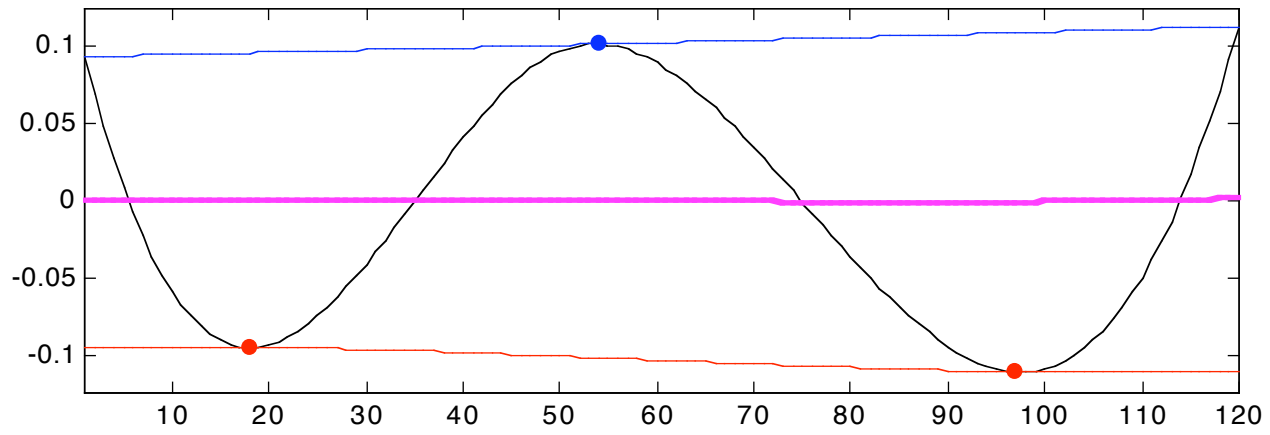
IMF 5; iteration 10



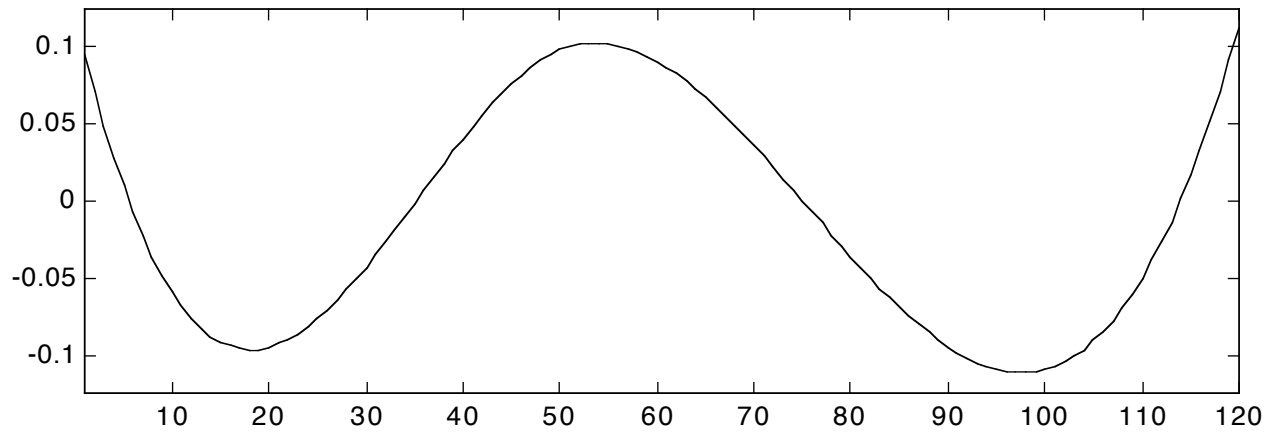
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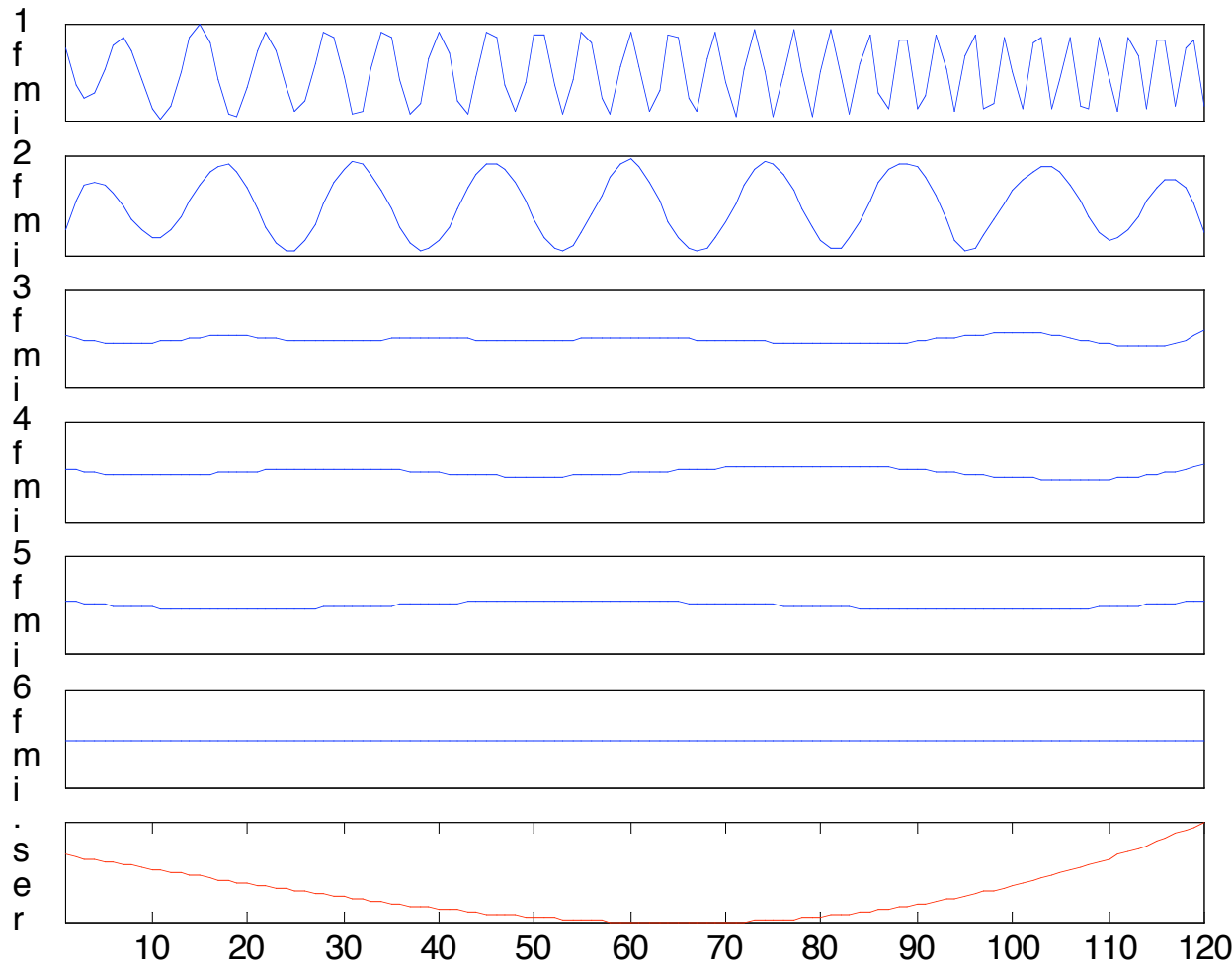
IMF 5; iteration 11



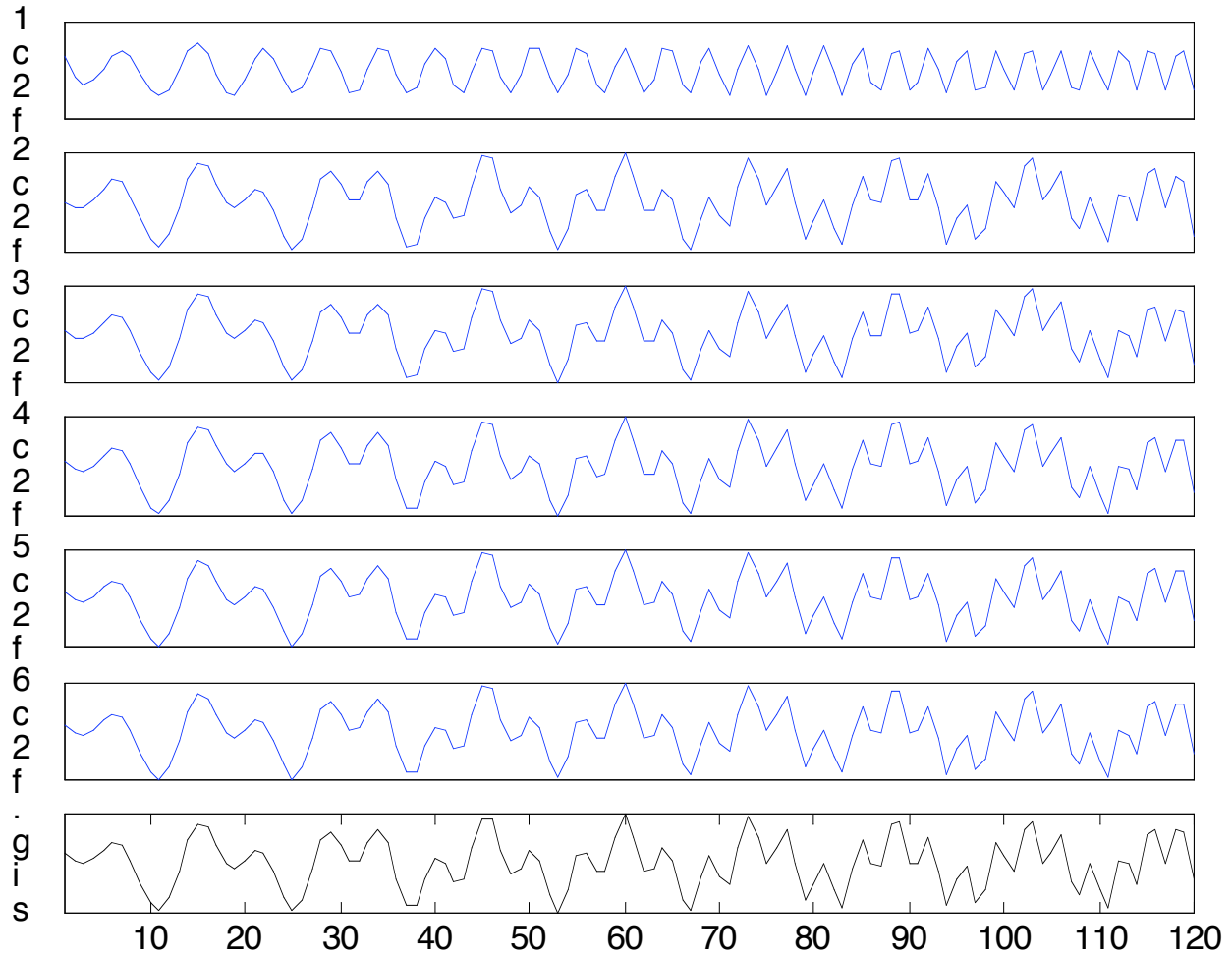
residue



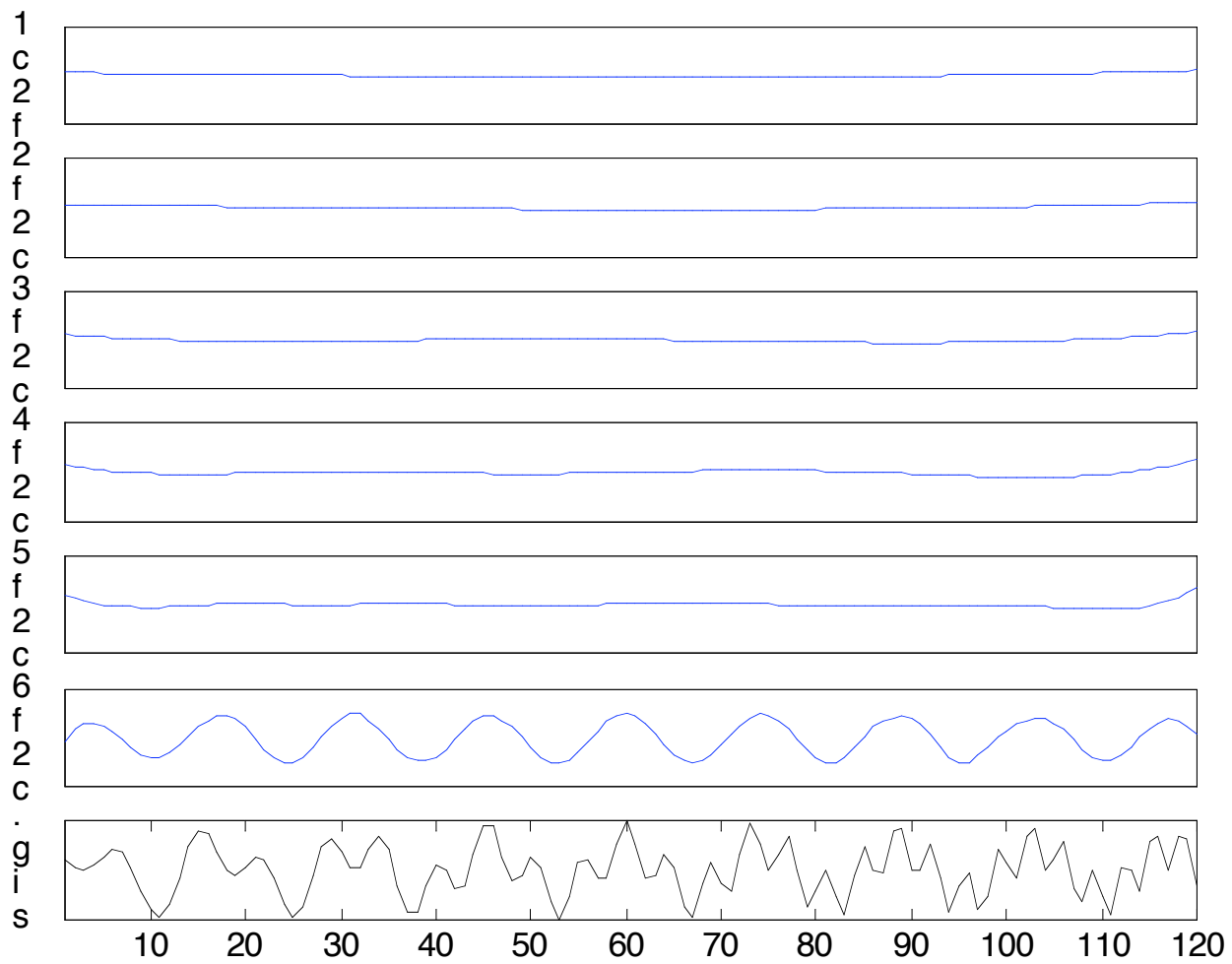
# Empirical Mode Decomposition



reconstruction from fine to coarse



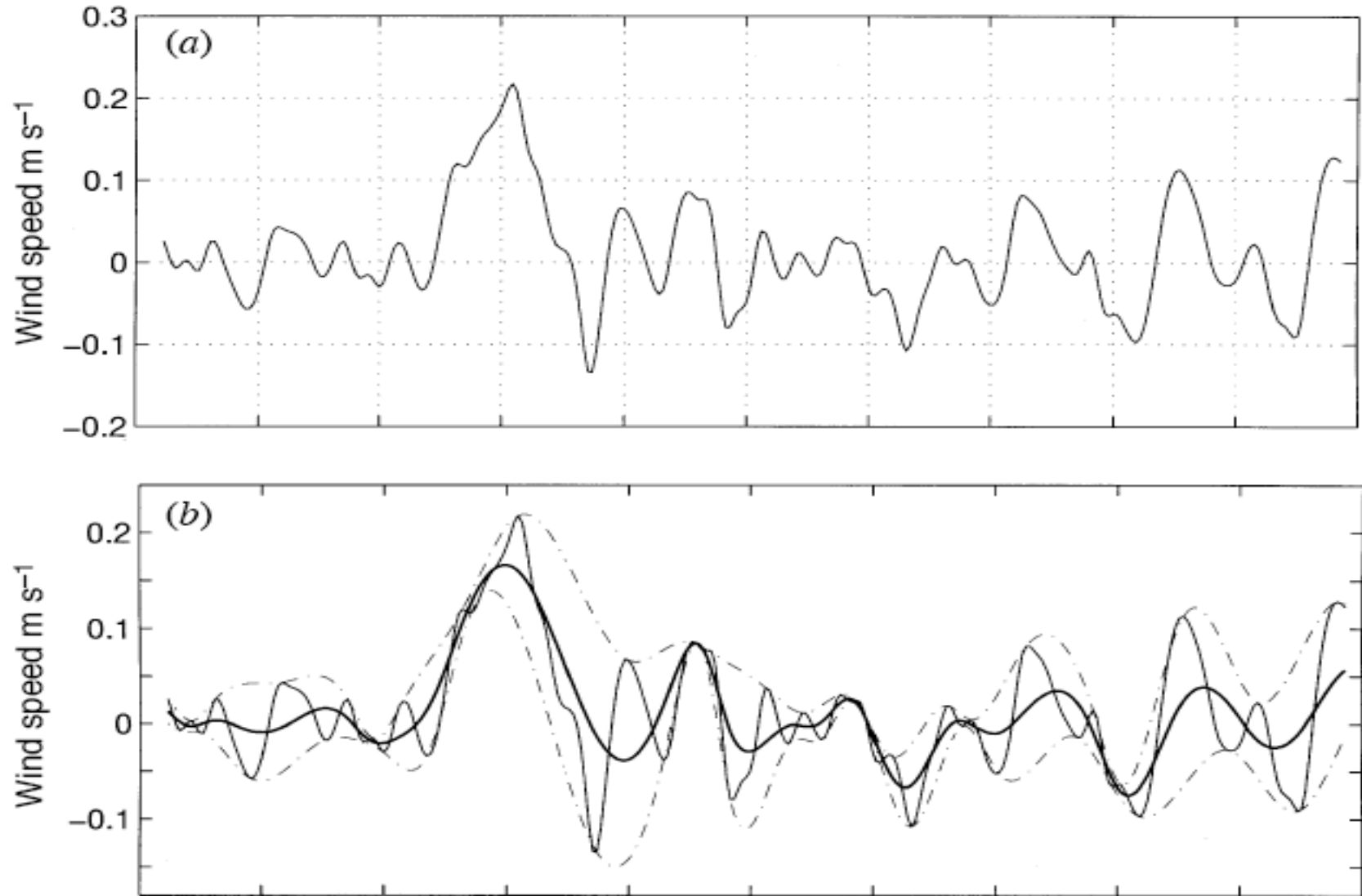
# reconstruction from coarse to fine





# Nontrivial Example

*N. E. Huang and others*



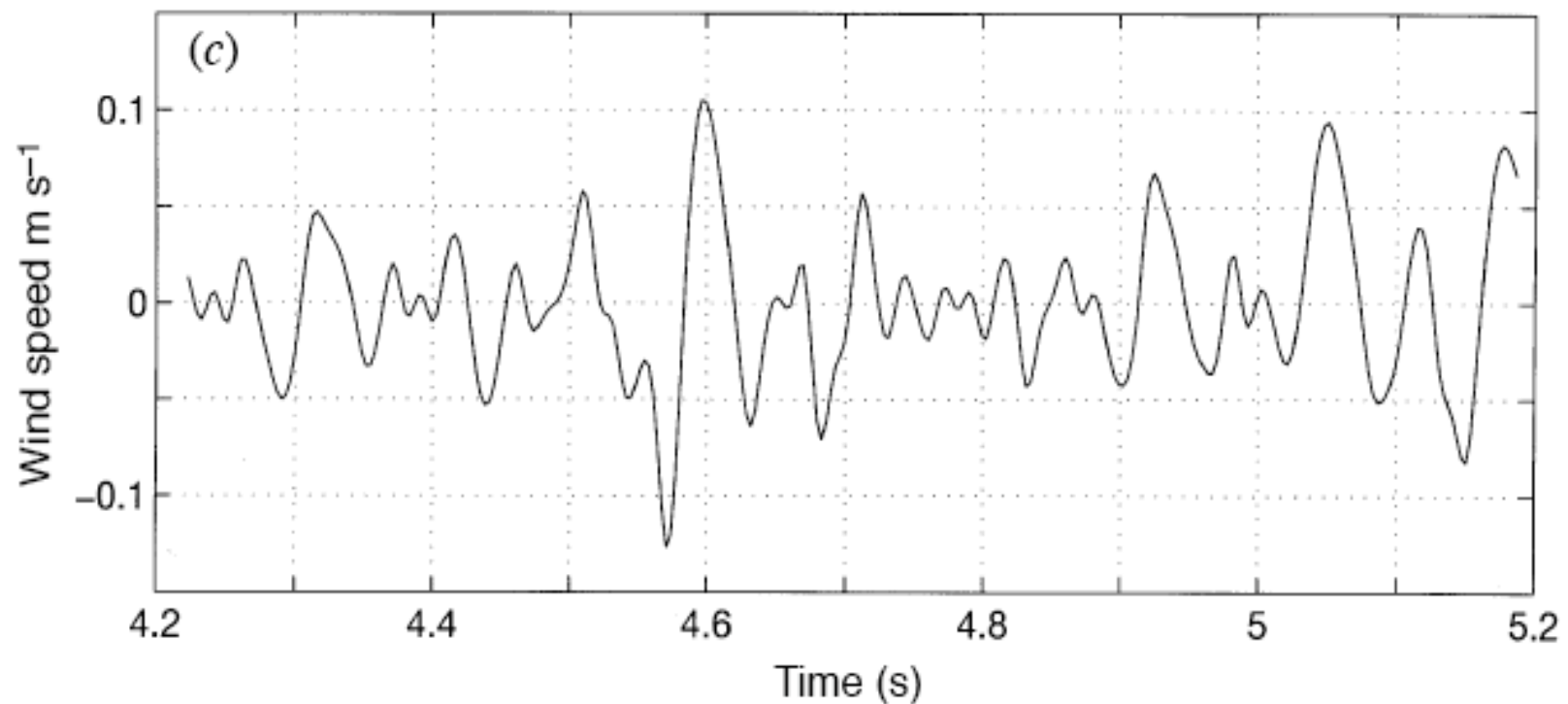


Figure 3. Illustration of the sifting processes: (a) the original data; (b) the data in thin solid line, with the upper and lower envelopes in dot-dashed lines and the mean in thick solid line; (c) the difference between the data and  $m_1$ . This is still not an IMF, for there are negative local maxima and positive minima suggesting riding waves.

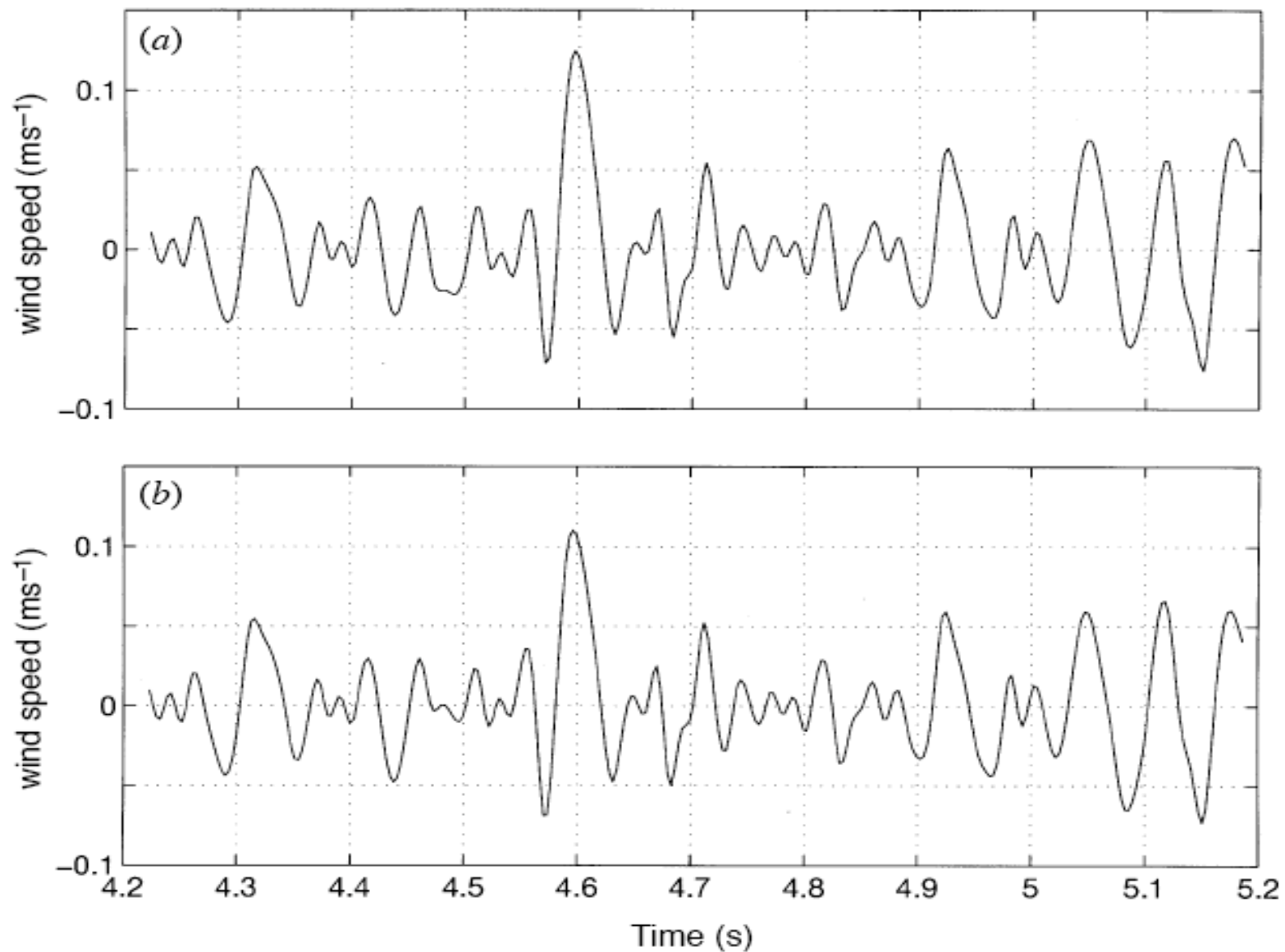


Figure 4. Illustration of the effects of repeated sifting process: (a) after one more sifting of the result in figure 3c, the result is still asymmetric and still not a IMF; (b) after three siftings, the result is much improved, but more sifting needed to eliminate the asymmetry. The final IMF is shown in figure 2 after nine siftings.

## Converged $h_1$ after 9 iterations

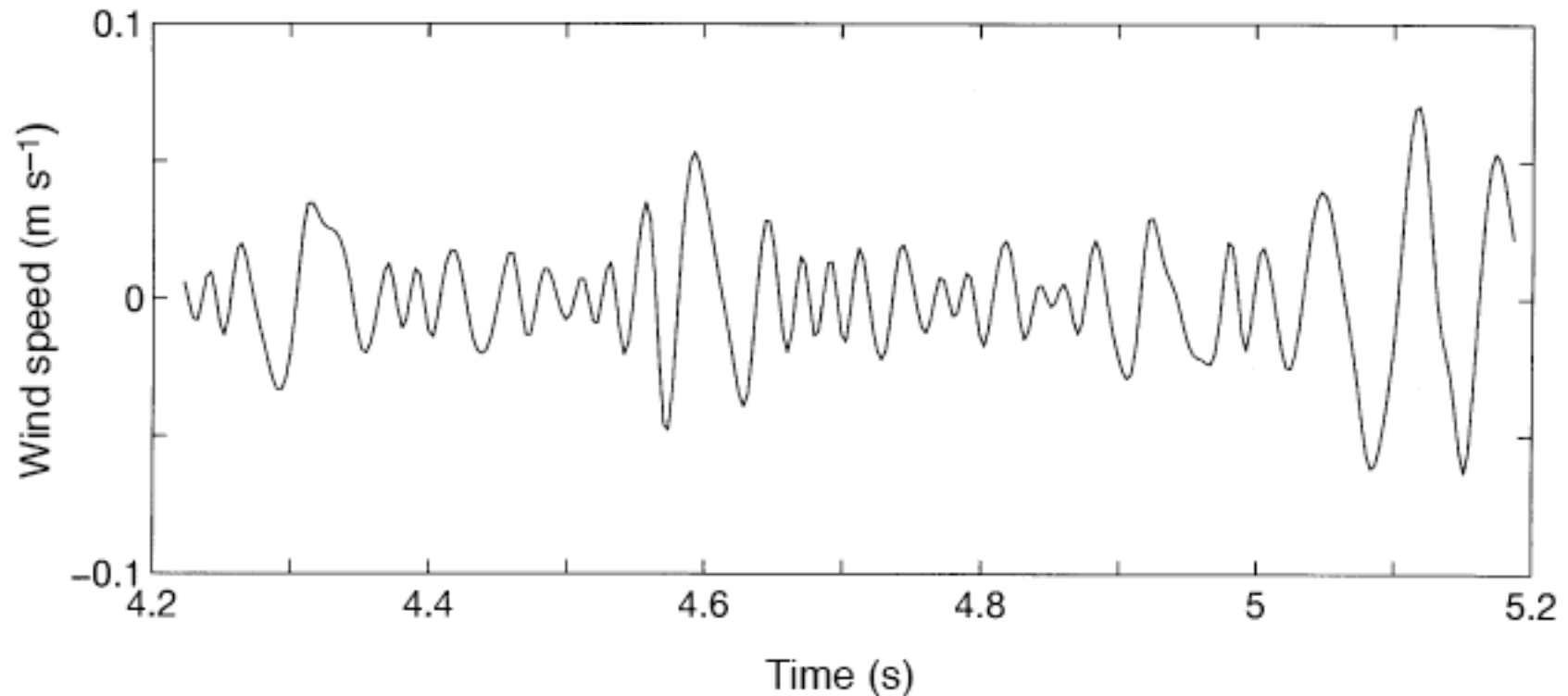


Figure 2. A typical intrinsic mode function with the same numbers of zero crossings and extrema, and symmetry of the upper and lower envelopes with respect to zero.

## Intrinsic Filtering Capability

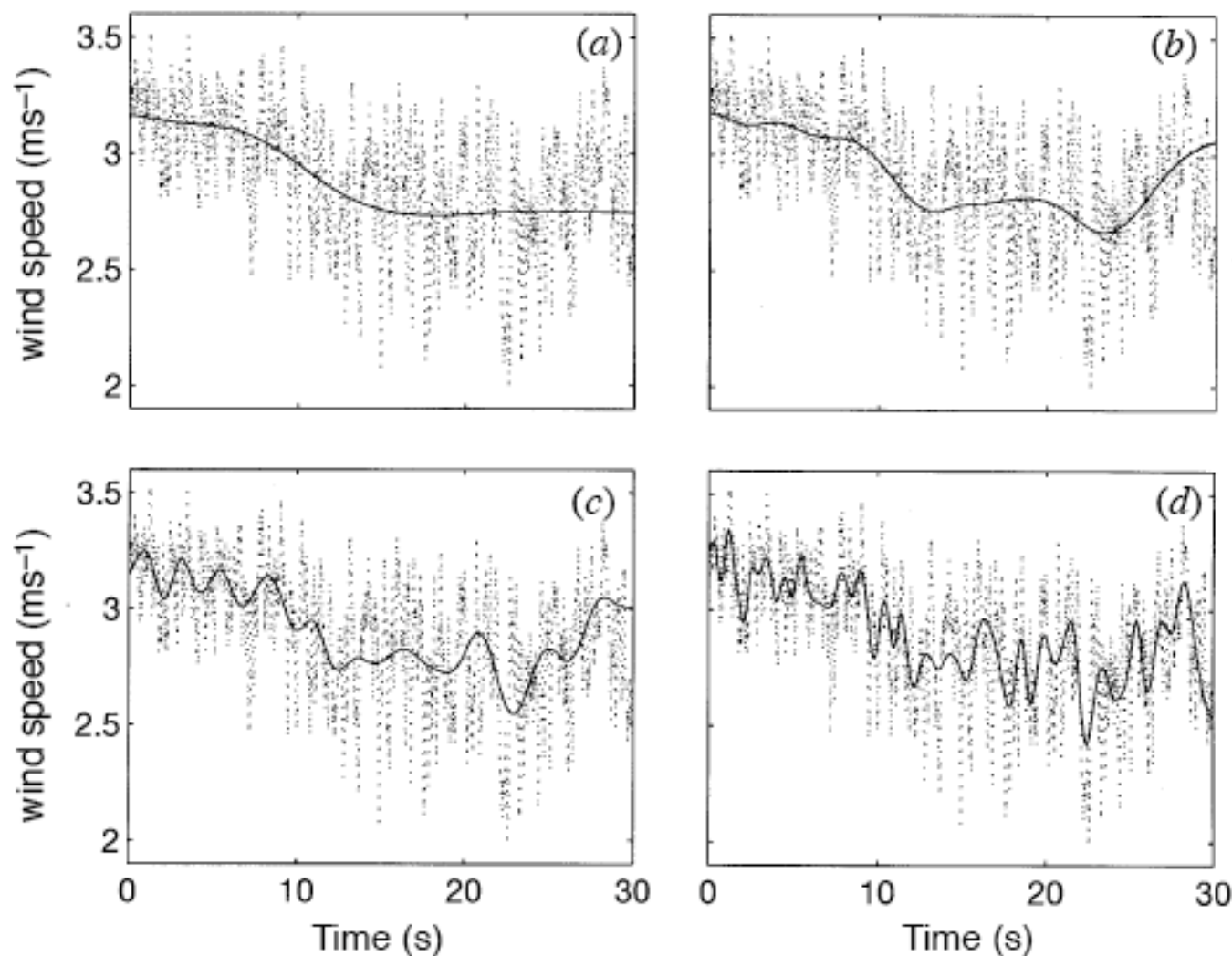


Figure 7. Numerical proof of the completeness of the EMD through reconstruction of the original data from the IMF components. (a) Data (in the dotted line) and the  $c_9$  component (in the solid line).  $c_9$  serves as a running mean, but it is not obtained from either mean or filtering. (b) Data (in the dotted line) and the sum of  $c_9-c_8$  components (in the solid line). (c) Data (in the dotted line) and the sum of  $c_9-c_7$  components (in the solid line). (d) Data (in the dotted line) and the sum of  $c_9-c_6$  components (in the solid line).

# Completeness Demonstration

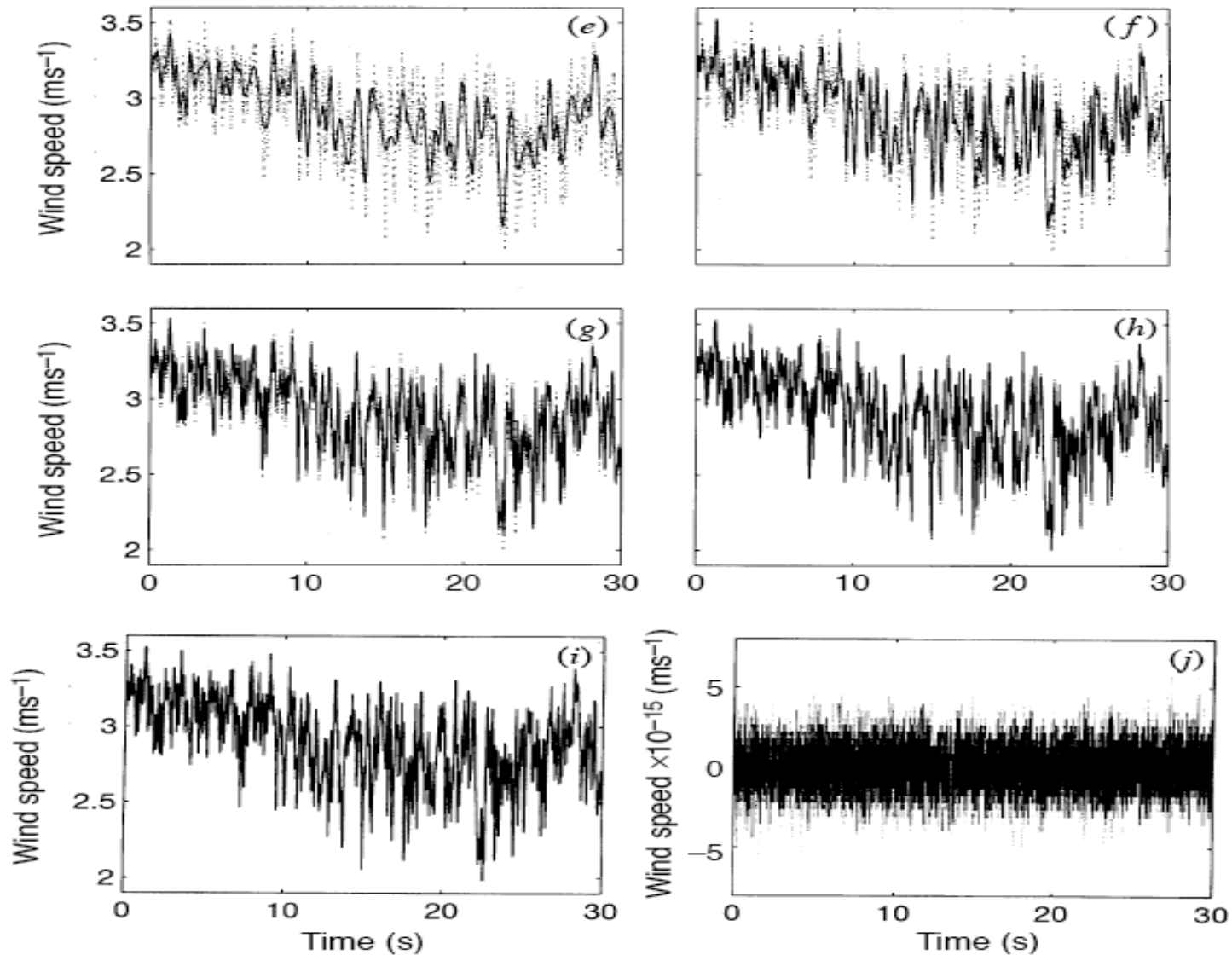


Figure 7. *Cont.* (e) Data (in the dotted line) and the sum of  $c_9$ – $c_5$  components (in the solid line). (f) Data (in the dotted line) and the sum of  $c_9$ – $c_4$  components (in the solid line). (g) Data (in the dotted line) and the sum of  $c_9$ – $c_3$  components (in the solid line). By now, we seem to have covered all the energy containing eddies. (h) Data (in the dotted line) and the sum of  $c_9$ – $c_2$  components (in the solid line). (i) Data (in the dotted line) and the sum of  $c_9$ – $c_1$  components (in the solid line). This is the final reconstruction of the data from the IMFs. It appears no different from the original data. (j) The difference between the original data and the reconstructed one; this difference is the limit of the computational precision of the personal computer (PC) used.

# Why the Hilbert Transform?

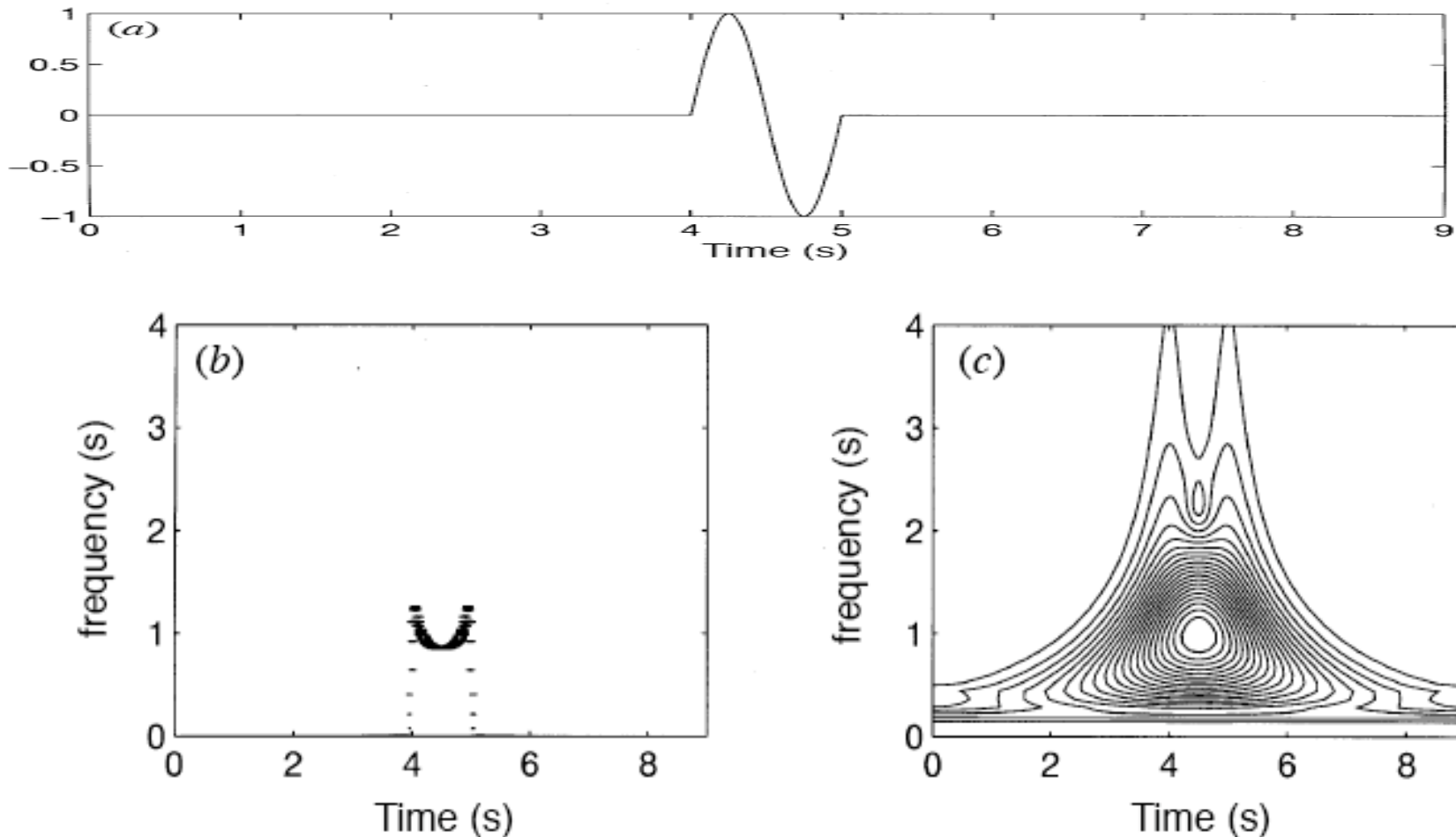


Figure 14. A calibration of time localization of the Hilbert spectrum analysis. (a) The calibration data, a single sine wave. (b) The Hilbert spectrum for the calibration signal: the energy is highly localized in time and frequency, though there are some end effects. (c) The Morlet wavelet spectrum for the calibration signal: the calibration signal is localized by the high-frequency components, yet the energy distribution in the frequency space spreads widely in comparison with the Hilbert spectrum.



## Back to HHT mathematics: The Hilbert Transform and Instantaneous Frequency

For an arbitrary time series,  $x(t)$ , its Hilbert transform,  $y(t)$ , is defined as

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} PV \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{x(\tau)}{t - \tau} d\tau$$

where PV indicates the Cauchy principal value.

Observe that the Hilbert transform, when viewed from a windowed sampling, the weight  $1/(t - \tau)$  can be interpreted as a windowing width as the Hilbert transform is nothing but a convolution integral of  $x(t)$  with  $1/t$ . Thus, the Hilbert transform emphasizes the local properties of the signal,  $x(t)$ .



## The Hilbert Spectrum

For each of IMFs ( $c_j, j = 1, \dots, k$ ) and their corresponding instantaneous frequencies ( $\omega_j, j = 1, \dots, k$ ), let their Hilbert complexification be

$$z_j(t) = c_j(t) + i \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{c_j(t')}{t - t'} dt' = a_j(t) e^{i\theta(t)},$$

$$\theta_j(t) = \int \omega_j(t) dt, \quad j = 1, \dots, k.$$

$$X(t) = \sum_{j=1}^k a_j(t) e^{i\omega_j t}$$

**The Hilbert spectrum: a three-dimensional plot of the amplitude  $a_j(t)$  vs time ( $t$ ) and the instantaneous frequency  $\omega_j(t)$ , designated as  $H(\omega, t)$ , either for each amplitude or the sum of all the amplitudes.**

## Utilizations of the Hilbert Spectrum

Marginal Spectrum:  $h(\omega) = \int_0^T H(\omega, t) dt$

Instantaneous Energy density Level:  $IE(t) = \int_{\omega} H^2(\omega, t) d\omega$

Mean Marginal Spectrum:  $n(\omega) = \frac{1}{T} h(\omega)$

Degree of Stationarity:  $DS(\omega) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(1 - \frac{H(\omega, t)}{n(\omega)}\right)^2 dt$

Degree of Statistic Stationarity:  $DSS(\omega, \Delta T) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(1 - \frac{\overline{H(\omega, t)}}{n(\omega)}\right)^2 dt$

Sampling Guidelines:

$$N = \frac{1/n\Delta t}{(1/T)} = \frac{T}{n\Delta t}$$

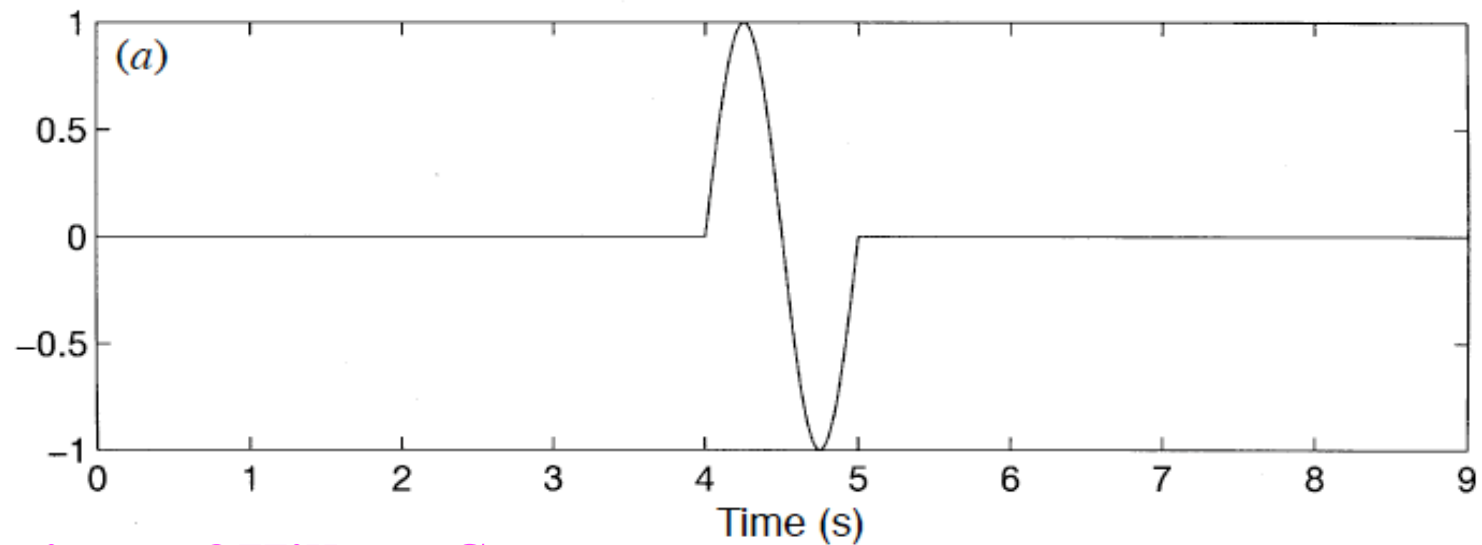
$N$  is the maximum number of frequency cells

$T$  is the total data length

$\Delta t$  is the sampling rate

$n$  is the minimum number of  $\Delta t$  needed to define the frequency accurately

Use an averaged values over three cell values!



## Comparison of Hilbert Spectrum

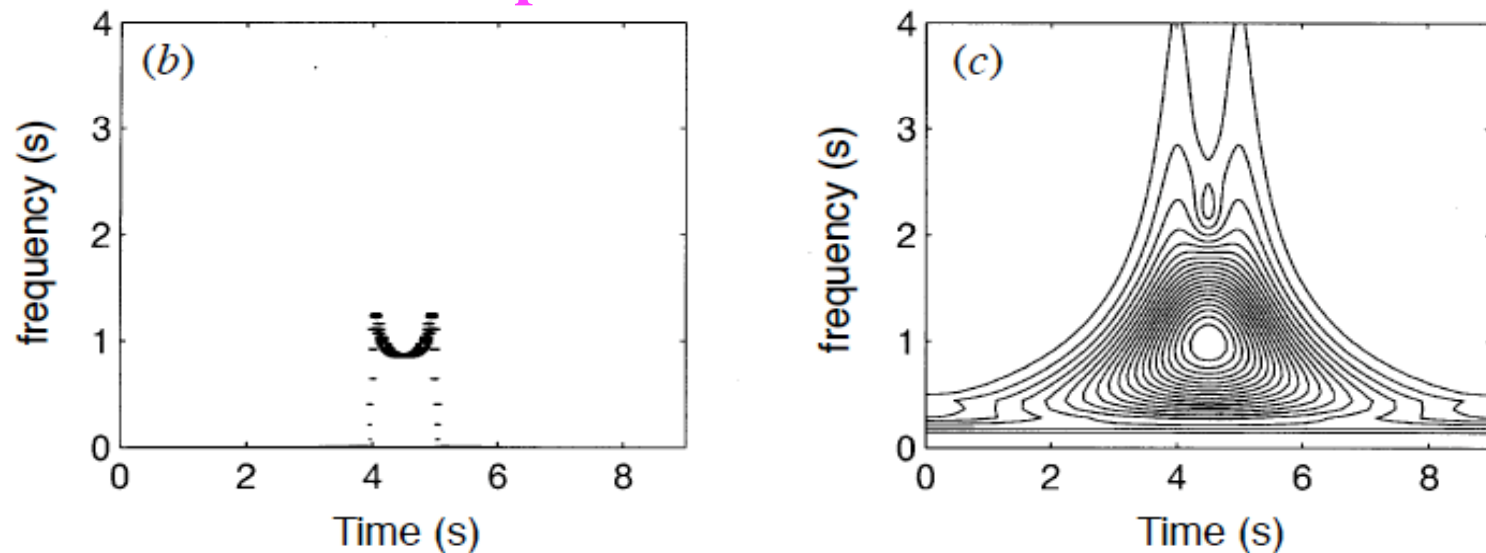


Figure 14. A calibration of time localization of the Hilbert spectrum analysis. (a) The calibration data, a single sine wave. (b) The Hilbert spectrum for the calibration signal: the energy is highly localized in time and frequency, though there are some end effects. (c) The Morlet wavelet spectrum for the calibration signal: the calibration signal is localized by the high-frequency components, yet the energy distribution in the frequency space spreads widely in comparison with the Hilbert spectrum.

# How good is the instantaneous frequency?

**Duffing Equation:** 
$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + x(1 + \epsilon x^2) = \gamma \cos \omega t$$

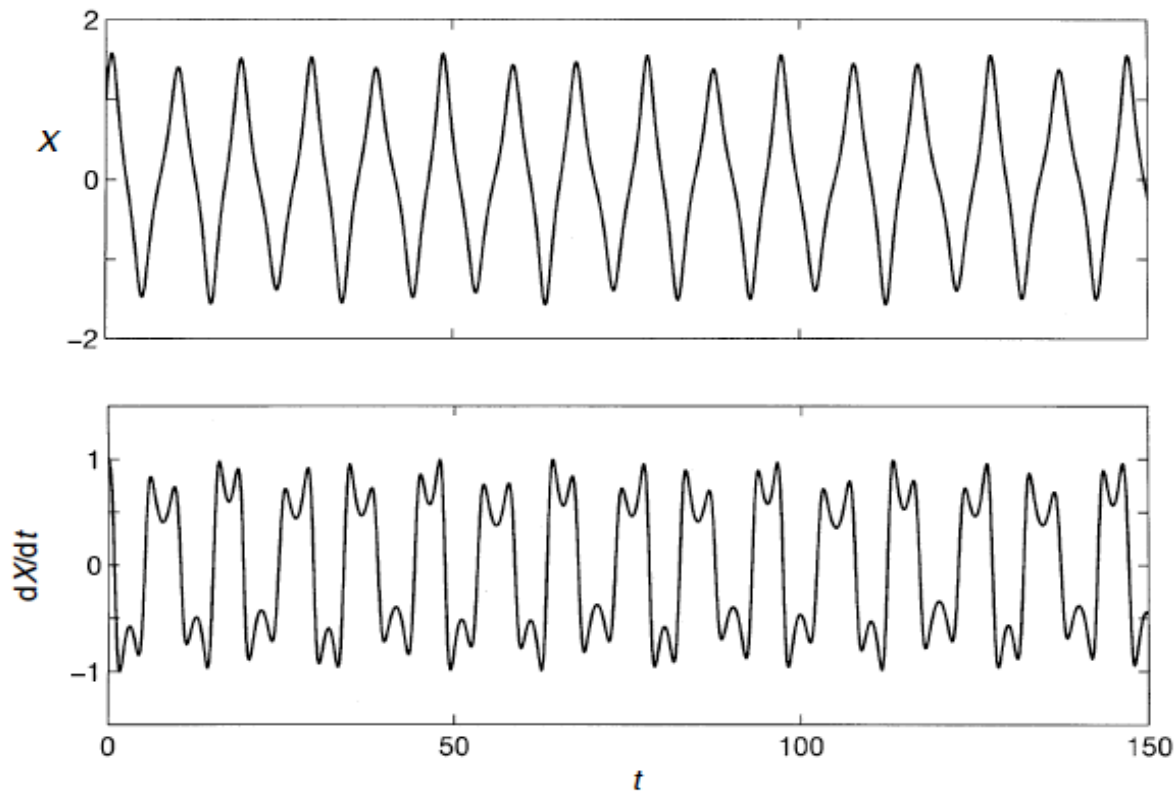


Figure 30. Numerical solution for the Duffing equation. The oscillation is highly nonlinear as indicated by the deformed wave-profile with pointed crests and troughs.

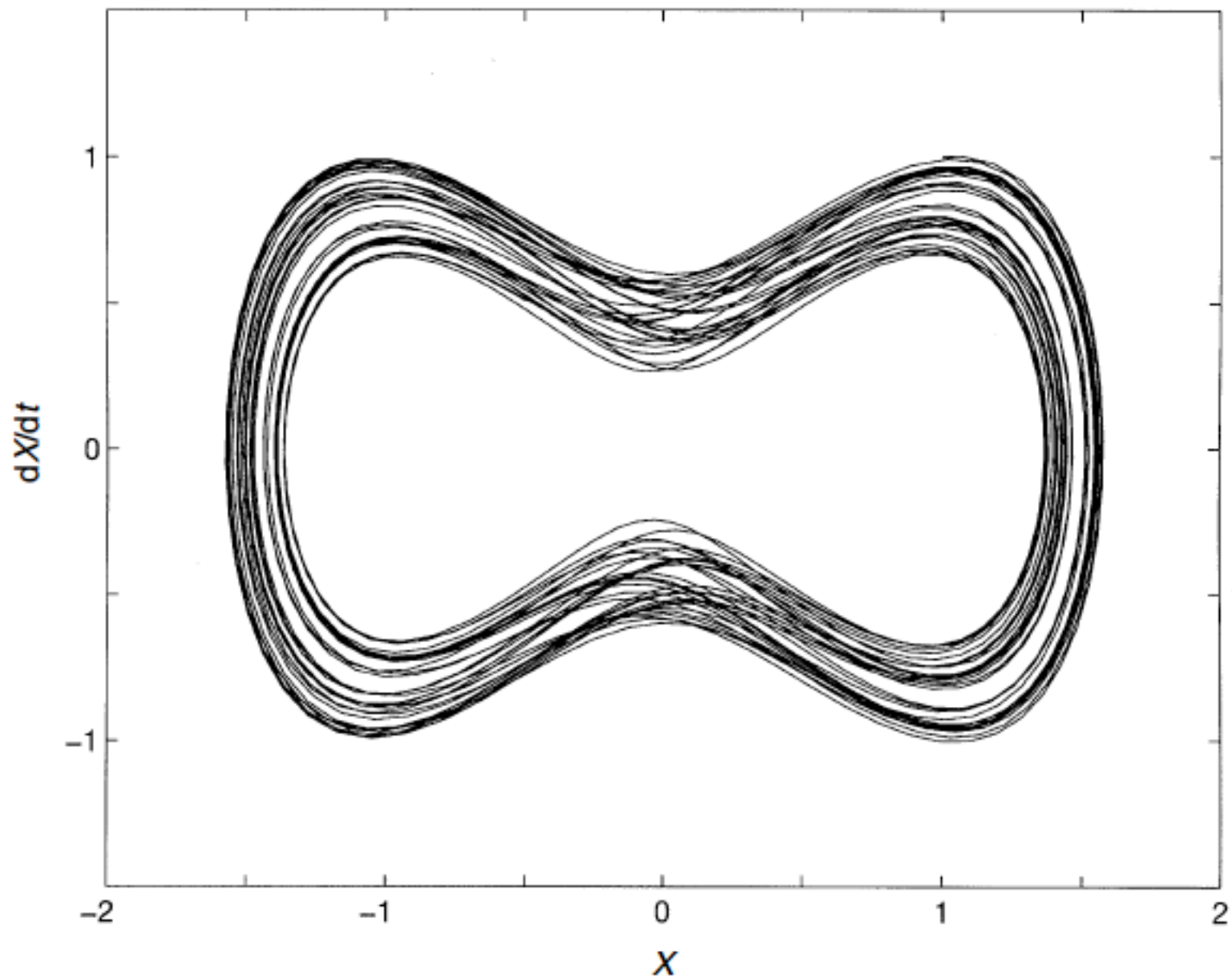


Figure 31. The phase diagram of the Duffing equation solutions with continuous winding indicating no fixed period of the oscillations. The strongly deformed shape from a simple circle gives the pointed crests and troughs of the time series data.

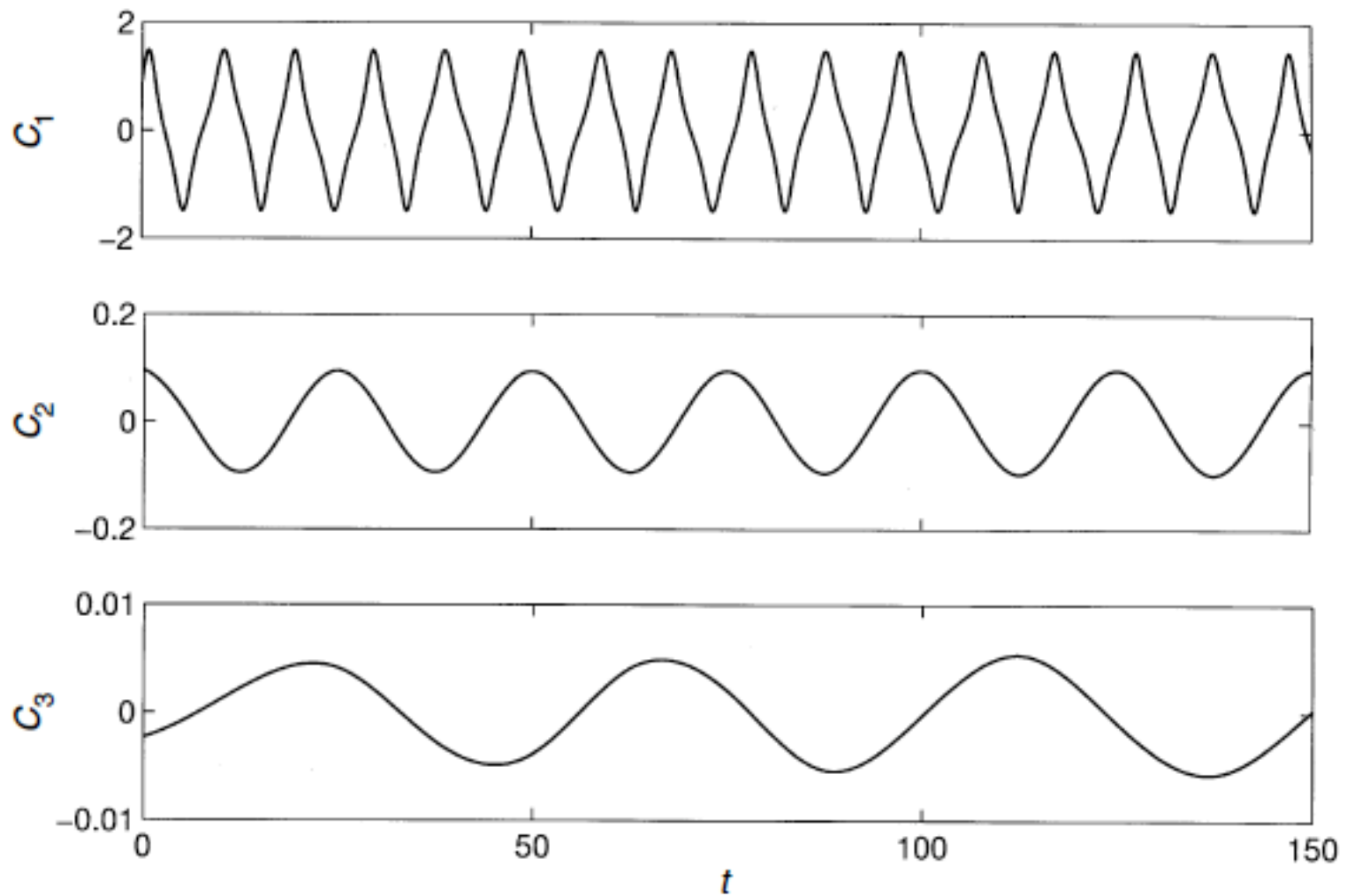


Figure 32. The IMF components of the Duffing equation from EMD: the first component is nonlinear, but it is a physical mode. This example shows that EMD is a nonlinear decomposition method.

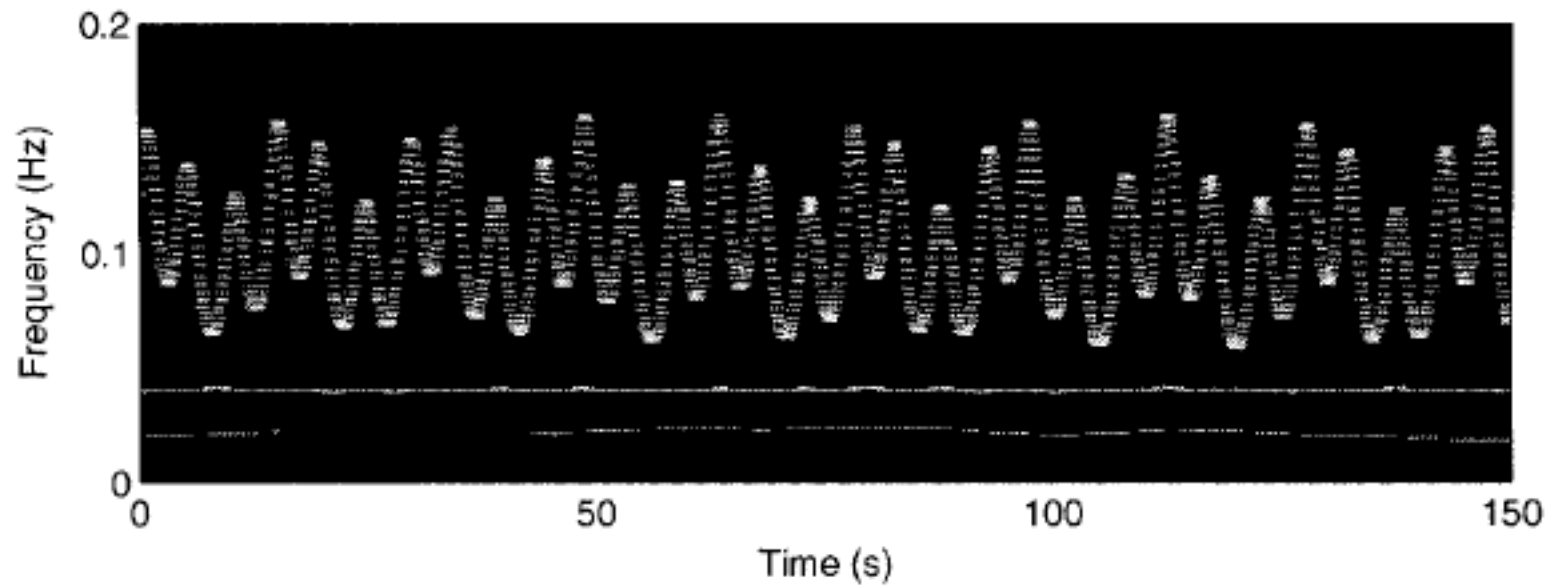


Figure 33. The Hilbert spectrum for the Duffing equation solution showing a strongly intrawave frequency modulated oscillation and two low-frequency oscillations. The intermediate frequency component is the forcing function.

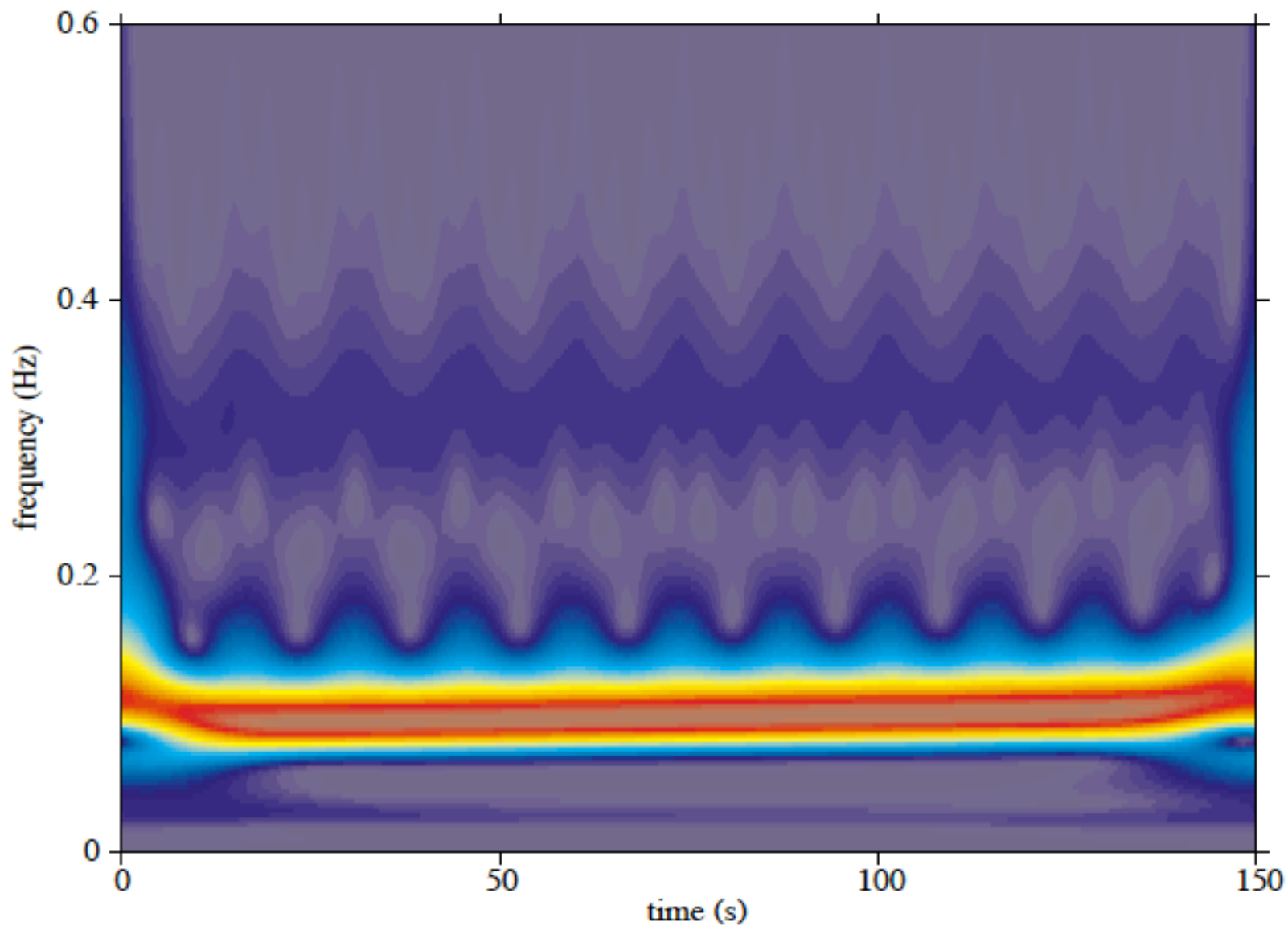


Figure 34. The Morlet wavelet spectrum for the Duffing equation solution showing a rich distribution of harmonics but no details of the intra- or interwave frequency modulations. Notice the scale of this figure. If the Hilbert spectrum is plotted on this scale, all the information is confined to the region between 0.05 and 0.15 Hz.



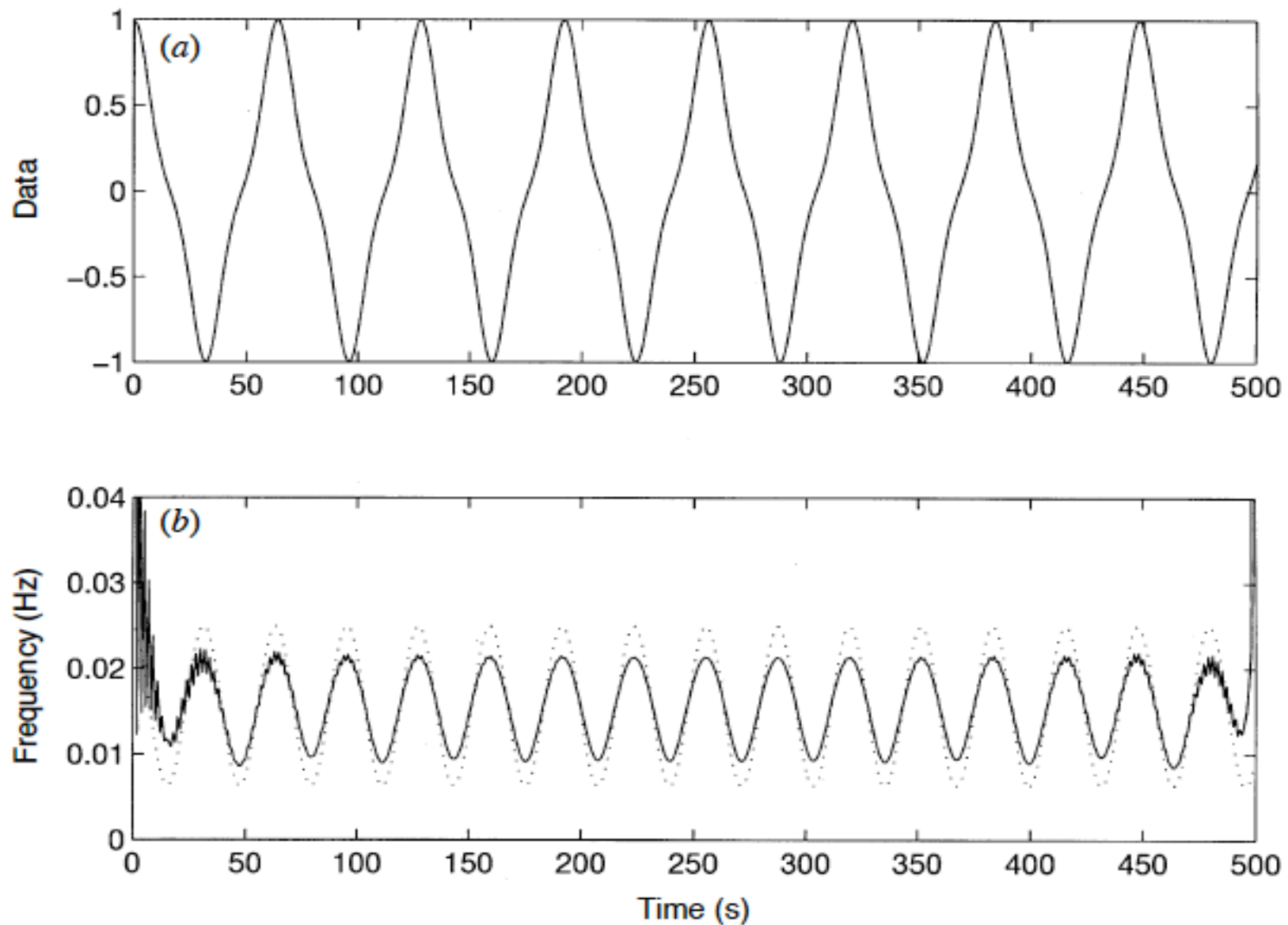


Figure 35. An intrawave frequency modulated Duffing wave: (a) the wave-profile for the model based on equation (9.7) showing the distinct Duffing wave form; (b) the instantaneous frequency of the Duffing wave model based on Hilbert transform (solid line) and based on the classical wave theory and equation (3.4) (dotted line).

## Example 2: Period doubling of *Rössler equation*

$$\dot{x} = -(y + z), \quad \dot{y} = x + \frac{1}{5}y, \quad \dot{z} = \frac{1}{5} + z(x - \mu) \quad \mu = 3.5$$

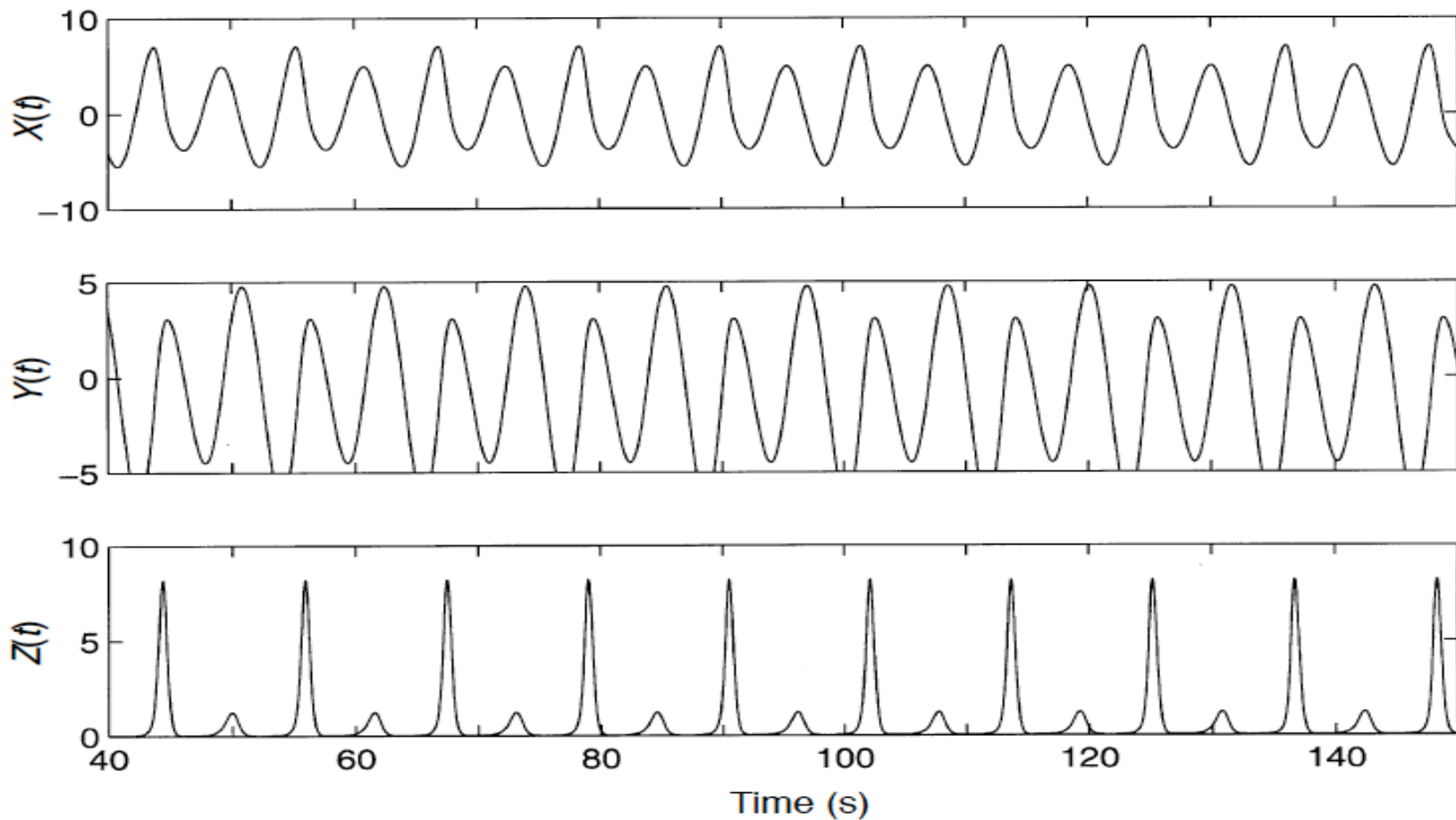


Figure 44. The time series for the numerical solution of the Rössler equation given in equation (9.11).

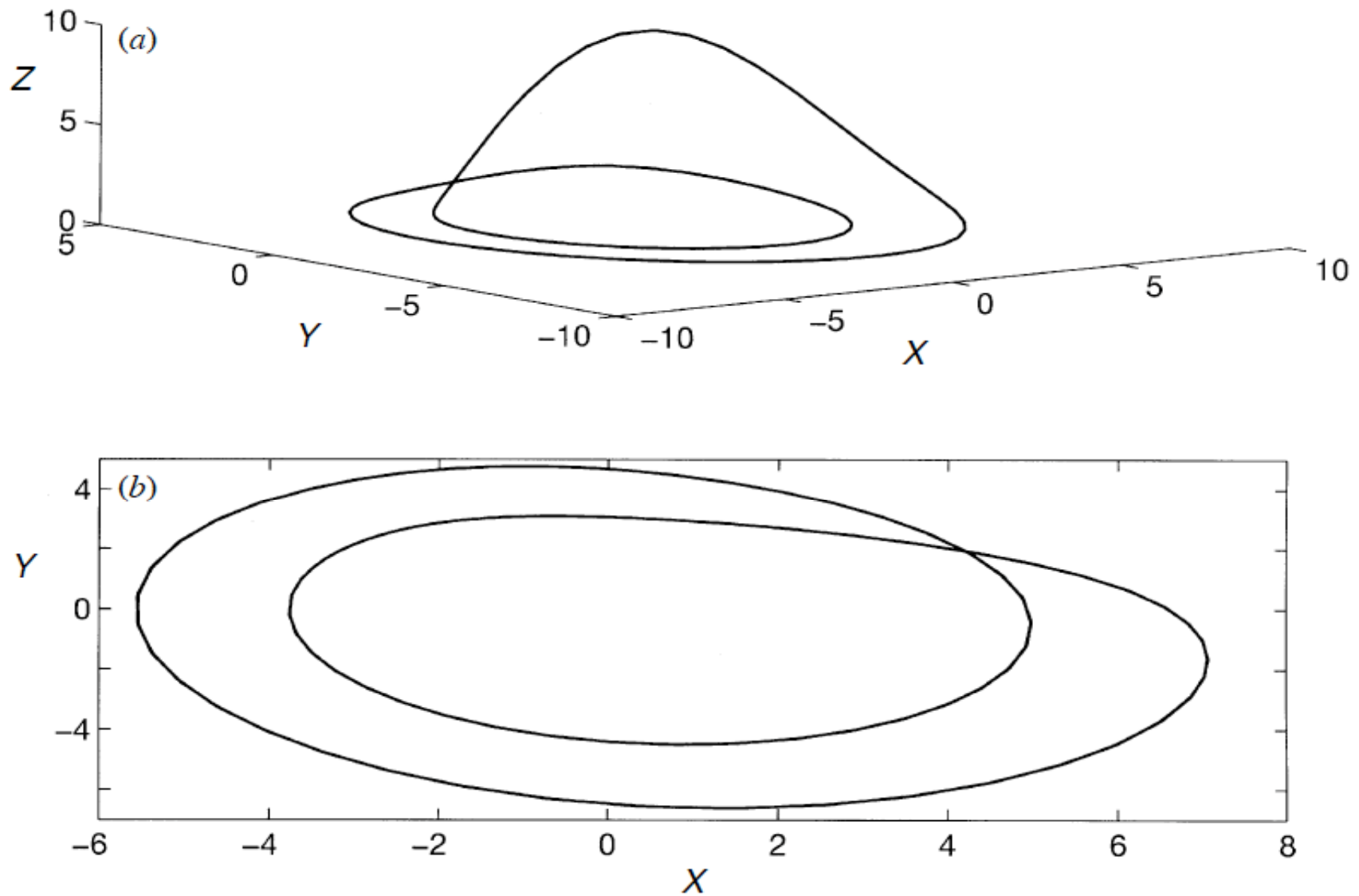


Figure 43. The numerical solution of the Rössler equation given in equation (9.11), for the period-doubling case: (a) the three-dimensional representation; (b) the two-dimensional representation.

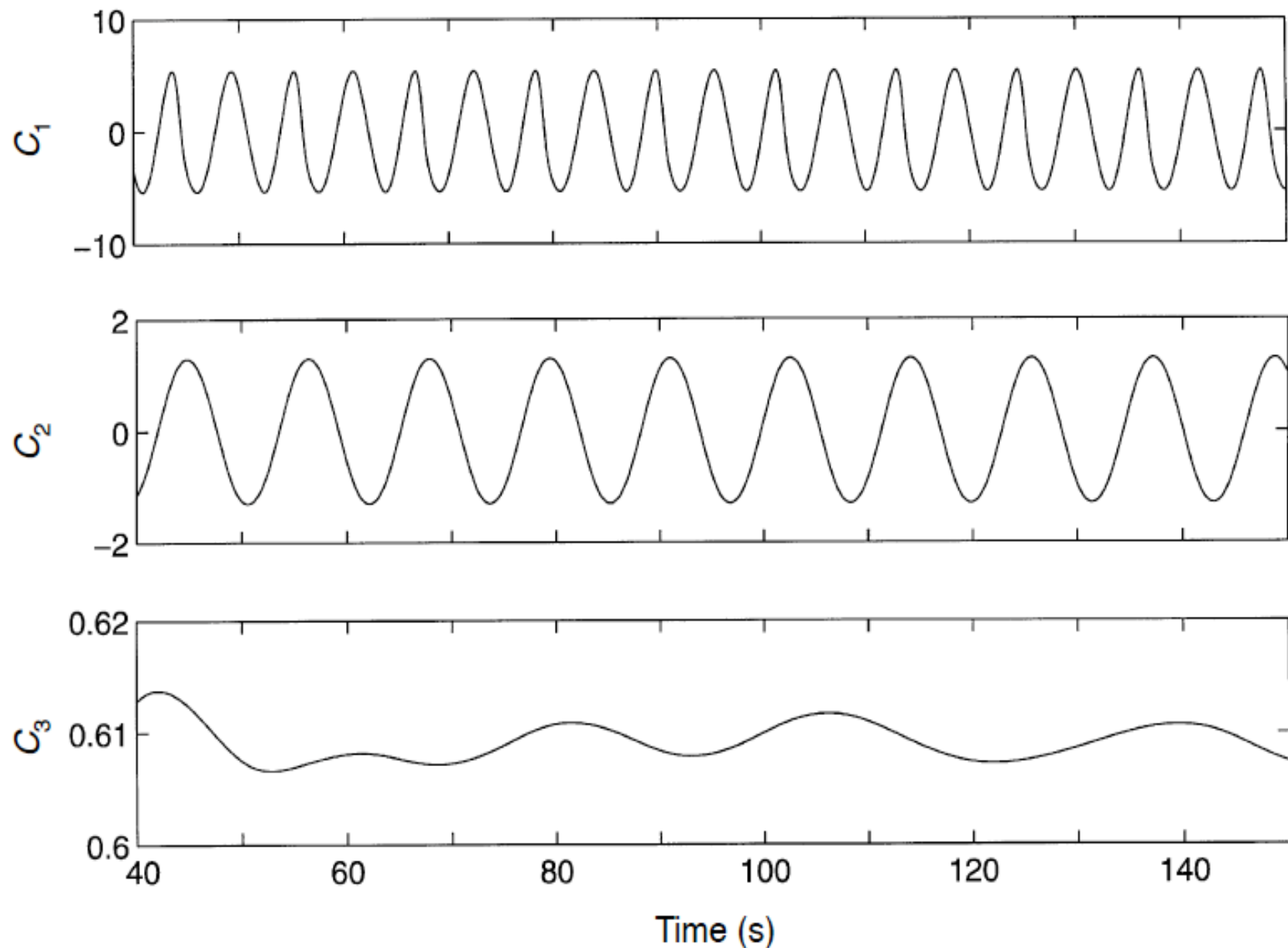


Figure 45. The IMF components of the  $x$ -components of the Rössler equation given in equation (9.11): component  $c_1$  is non-uniform but the most energetic;  $c_2$  is uniform; and the last component contains negligible energy.

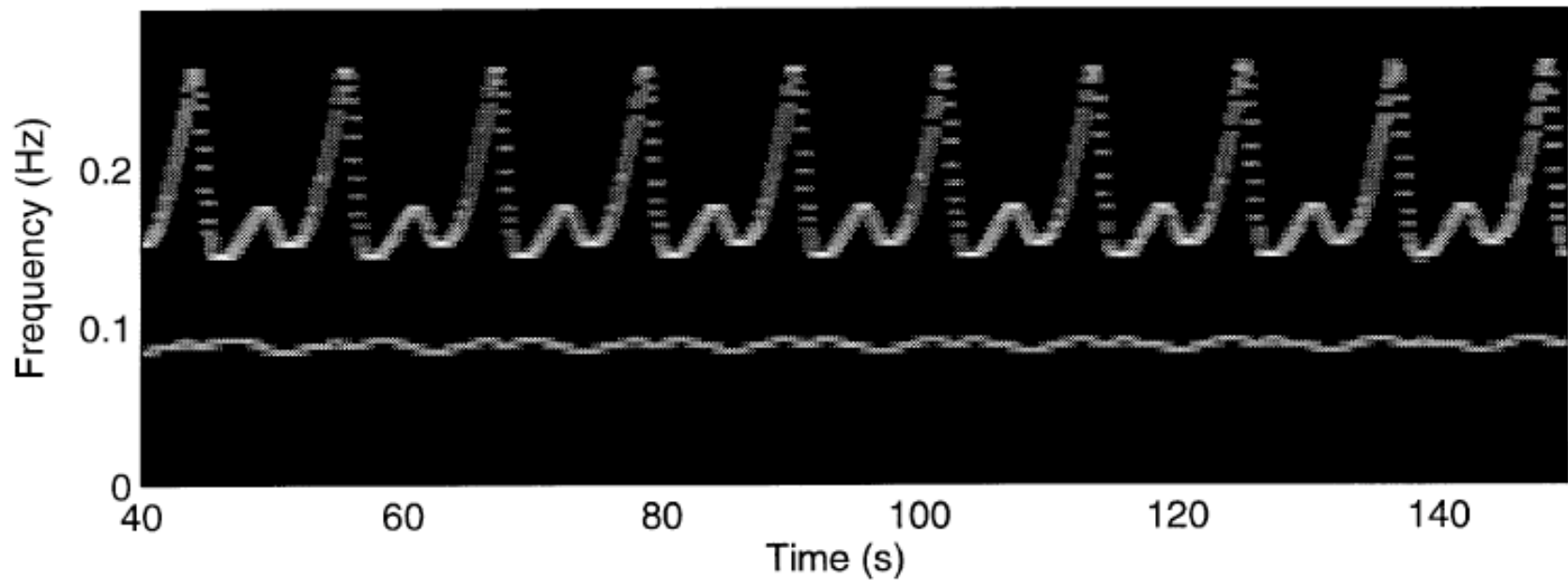


Figure 46. The Hilbert spectrum for the  $x$ -component. The most energetic component shows regular intra- and interwave frequency modulations. The frequency variations bear one-to-one correspondence with the time series data or the IMF component.

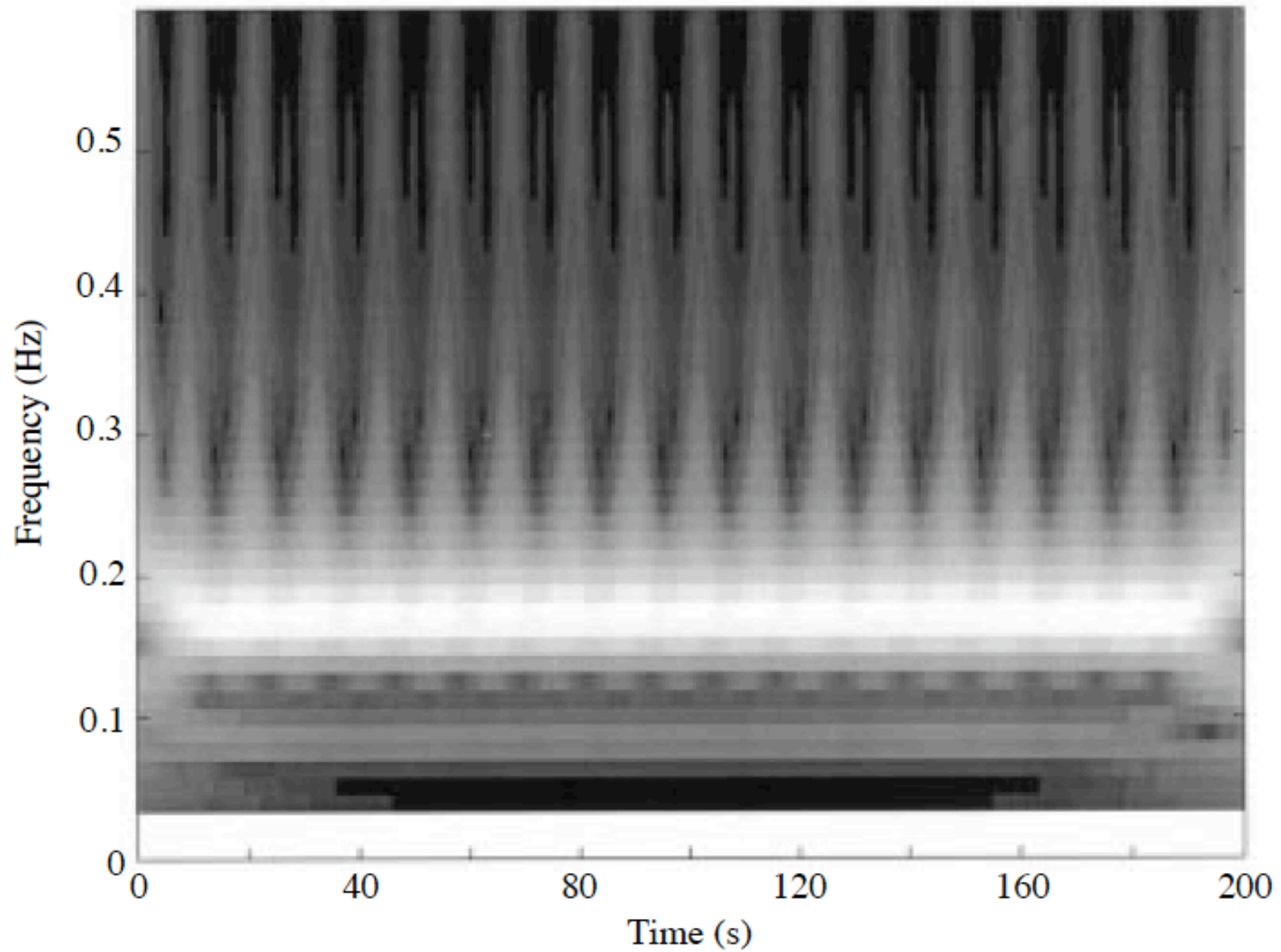


Figure 47. The Morlet wavelet spectrum shows only harmonics and some indication of interwave frequency modulation. There are no details for the intrawave frequency modulations.

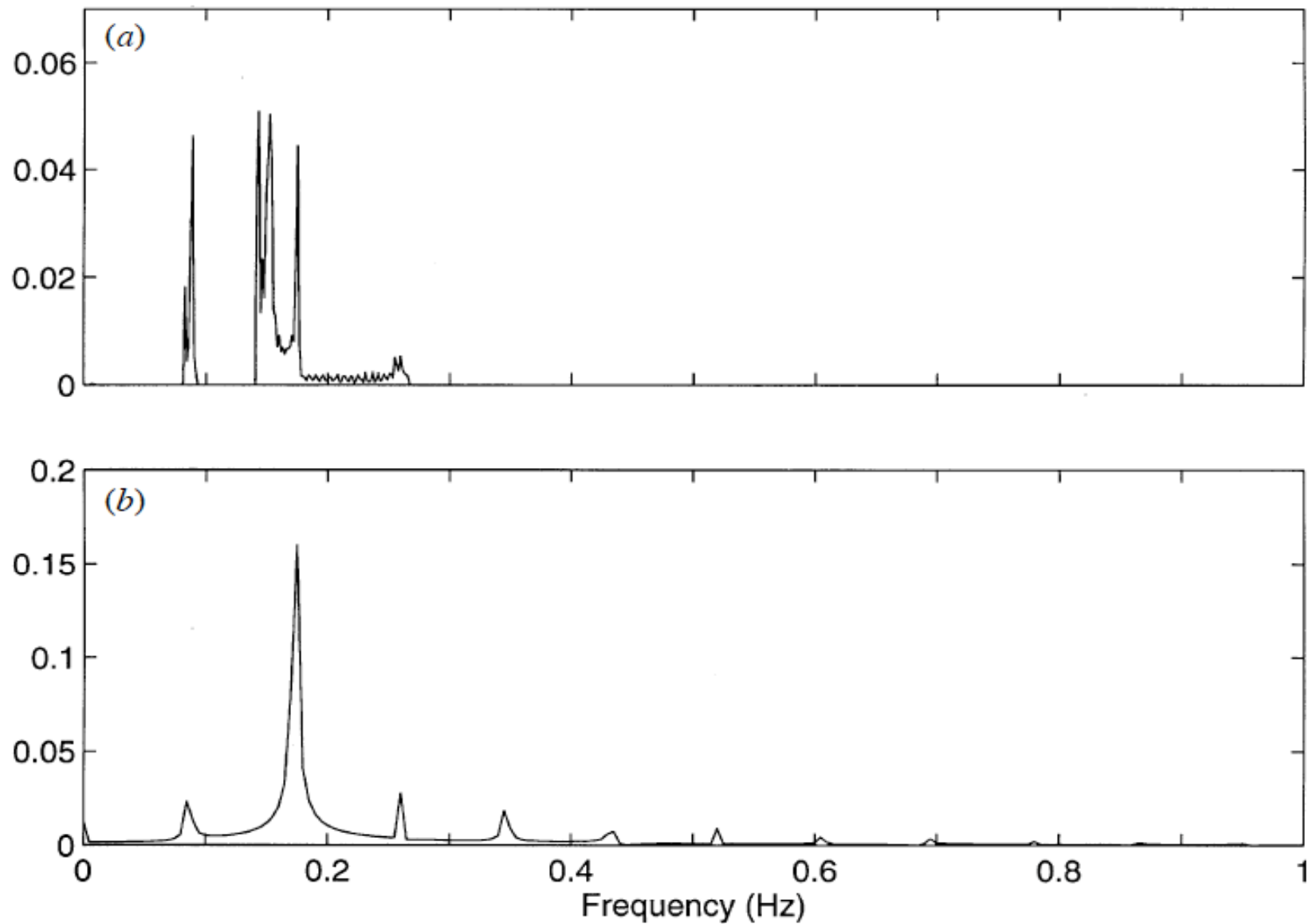


Figure 48. Comparison between the marginal spectrum and the Fourier spectrum for the Rössler equation: (a) the marginal spectrum showing the low-frequency oscillation near 0.1 Hz, and the high bimodal frequency distribution around 0.2 Hz generated by the intrawave frequency modulation; (b) the Fourier spectrum contains only harmonics with no indication of the two time scales involved in the period doubling. The main peak is the weighted mean of the physical

