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Fun Statistics with Fourier Spectra

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asteroids



Bolin et al (2017)



stars

Angus et al (2018)

Almost all things in the universe are variable



Strohmayer & Watts (2005)



neutron stars

asteroids



Bolin et al (2017)



stars

Angus et al (2018)

Almost all things in the universe are variable



jet physics and particle acceleration

radiative processes

stellar winds

general relativity

relativistic plasmas + magnetic fields



Malzac (2008)



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total brightness



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useful normalization

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periodogram:

$$P_j \equiv \frac{2}{N_{ph}} |a_j|^2 \qquad j = 0, \dots, \frac{N}{2},$$

statistical distribution?

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*for evenly sampled time series



white noise

*for evenly sampled time series



periodic signal

*for evenly sampled time series



periodic signal

*for evenly sampled time series



red noise

*for evenly sampled time series



quasi-periodic oscillations



Heil et al 2014

So, we're done, right?

Hercules X-1

Huppenkothen & Bachetti, in press


Hercules X-1

Huppenkothen & Bachetti, in press



Hercules X-1

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After detection of a photon, the detector is "dead" for a short interval



Chaplin et al (2012)

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Chaplin et al (2012)

Dead time affects mean and variance of the periodogram



Bachetti et al (2015)

Can we fix this?





Having Two Detectors Helps!



Signal is the same, but the measurement noise is different!

Compute cross spectrum instead of periodogram

$$\mathcal{F}_{x}(j)\mathcal{F}_{y}^{*}(j) = \frac{1}{2}\left\{ (A_{xj}A_{yj} + B_{xj}B_{yj}) + i(A_{xj}B_{yj} - A_{yj}B_{xj}) \right\}$$

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phase/time lag

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phase/time lag

$$C_j = \frac{1}{2} (A_{xj} A_{yj} + B_{xj} B_{yj}).$$

cospectrum



What is the statistical distribution of the cospectrum?

 $|a_j|^2 = A^2 + B^2$

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cospectrum

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$$A_{xj}^2 \neq A_{xj}A_{yj}$$

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cospectrum

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not χ^2 distributed

 $A_{xj}, B_{xj} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_x^2)$

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then the PDF is:

$$P_Z(z) = \frac{K_0\left(\frac{|z|}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}\right)}{\pi \sigma_x \sigma_y},$$

Watson (1922); Wishart & Bartlett (1932)

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the distribution for

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is the convolution of PDFs:

$$p_{Z+Q}(z) = p_Z * p_Q(z)$$

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to get

$$p_{Z+Q}(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{K_0\left(\frac{|t|}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}\right)}{\pi \sigma_x \sigma_y} \frac{K_0\left(\frac{|z-t|}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}\right)}{\pi \sigma_x \sigma_y} dt$$

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"The sum of two random variables is equivalent to the multiplication of its momentgenerating functions.

no astronomer, ever

 $M_Z(t) := \mathbb{E}[e^{tZ}]$

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Seijas-Macías & Oliveira (2012)

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This is a Laplace distribution!

$$p(C_j|0,\sigma_x\sigma_y) = \frac{1}{\sigma_x\sigma_y} \exp\left(-\frac{|C_j|}{\sigma_x\sigma_y}\right)$$

... why are we doing this again?




χ^2 distribution



χ^2 distribution

Laplace distribution



χ^2 distribution

Laplace distribution

significance threshold matters!

what about averaged cospectra?

$$f_{\overline{X}_n}(x) = \frac{ne^{-|nx|}}{(n-1)!2^n} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{(n-1+j)!}{(n-1-j)!j!} \frac{|nx|^{n-1-j}}{2^j} \quad , x \in \mathbb{R} \; .$$



Gaussian approximation works for large N

so now we're done, right?

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... not quite!

1) Equations so far only work for white noise

2) The cospectrum only fixes the mean in the dead time case, not the variance!

$$M_{C_j}(t) = \frac{1}{[1 - (1 + r)t][1 + (1 - r)t]}.$$

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correlation coefficient between Fourier amplitudes

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correlation coefficient between Fourier amplitudes

r = 0 for white noise r = 1 for power spectra



statistical distribution depends on r, which depends on power spectral shape!



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Can we model the Fourier amplitudes directly?

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$$p(\{A_{xj}, A_{yj}, B_{xj}, B_{yj}\}_{j=0}^{N/2} | \theta, \lambda_{\text{phot}}) = \sum_{j=0}^{N/2} \left[-\log(2\pi |C|) - ([A_{xj}, A_{yj}]^T C^{-1}[A_{xj}, A_{yj}]) - ([B_{xj}, B_{yj}]^T C^{-1}[B_{xj}, B_{yj}]) \right]$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{sj} + \sigma n & \sigma_{sj} \\ \sigma_{sj} & \sigma_{sj} + \sigma n \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{sj} + \sigma n & \sigma_{sj} \\ \sigma_{sj} & \sigma_{sj} + \sigma n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{depends on P(v)}$$

[work in progress!]





But: we can correct the periodogram (and the cospectrum) in some cases!

red noise, no dead time



red noise, no dead time



red noise, no dead time



red noise, no dead time

white noise, dead time



red noise, no dead time

white noise, dead time



red noise, no dead time

white noise, dead time



red noise, no dead time

white noise, dead time





Caveat: this overestimates the rms amplitude when both flux and rms are very large

Conclusions

- statistics with Fourier spectra is fun!
- use the cospectrum to do timing of bright sources in the presence of dead time when more than one detector is available (Bachetti+, 2015)
 - the (averaged) cospectrum requires different statistical distributions for significance testing (Huppenkothen+Bachetti, arXiv:1709.09666)
- there is currently no closed-form solution for red noise cospectra (future work)
- but red noise periodograms can be corrected using the FAD technique (Bachetti+Huppenkothen, arXiv:1709.09700)

ASTRO HACK WEEK 2018

AUG 6 - AUG 10, 2018 LORENTZ CENTER@OORT, LEIDEN, THE NETHERLANDS

www.astrohackweek.org



Python API for XSPEC	Optimize Stingray for Large Datasets	Phase-resolved oscillations
Develop a modular python API to use XSPEC (a popular X-ray astronomy tool) in python workflows	Optimize tools in the Stingray library for use on large datasets from new X- ray space missions	Implement method to calculate the phase of oscillatory phenomena with non-constant frequency, and calculate phase-resolved spectra
dhuppenkothen abigailStev	matteobachetti pbalm abigailStev	abigailStev matteobachetti
GSOC	GSOC	GSOC
timelab	timelab	timelab

http://openastronomy.org/gsoc/gsoc2018/