
Bayesian Nonparametric Spectral Estimation: Supplementary Material

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1 Calculations required for the covariances of the local spectrum GP

1.1 Prior covariance of local spectrum: general case

The covariance of values of the local spectrum $\mathcal{F}_c \{f(t)\}$ and $\mathcal{F}_c \{f(t')\}$ is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
 K_F(\xi, \xi') &= \mathbb{E} [\mathcal{F}_c \{f(t)\}^* (\xi) \mathcal{F}_c \{f(t')\} (\xi')] && \text{def. } K_F \\
 &= \mathbb{E} \left[\mathcal{F} \left\{ f(t-c) e^{-\alpha t^2} \right\}^* (\xi) \mathcal{F} \left\{ f(t'-c) e^{-\alpha t'^2} \right\} (\xi') \right] && \text{def. } \mathcal{F}_c \\
 &= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_{\mathbb{R}} f(t-c) e^{-\alpha t^2} e^{j2\pi\xi t} dt \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(t'-c) e^{-\alpha t'^2} e^{-j2\pi\xi' t'} dt' \right] && \text{def. Fourier transform } \mathcal{F} \\
 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} e^{j2\pi\xi t} e^{-\alpha t^2} \mathbb{E} [f(t-c) f(t'-c)] e^{-\alpha t'^2} e^{-j2\pi\xi' t'} dt dt' && \text{switch integrals and } \mathbb{E} [\cdot] \text{ (Fubini)} \\
 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} e^{j2\pi\xi t} e^{-\alpha t^2} K(t-t') e^{-\alpha t'^2} e^{-j2\pi\xi' t'} dt dt' && \text{def. } K(t) \\
 &= \mathcal{F} \left\{ e^{-\alpha t^2} K(t-t') e^{-\alpha t'^2} \right\} (-\xi, \xi') && \text{def. Fourier transform } \mathcal{F} \\
 &= \mathcal{F} \{K(t-t')\} (-\xi, \xi') * \mathcal{F} \left\{ e^{-\alpha t^2 - \alpha t'^2} \right\} (-\xi, \xi') && \text{convolution thm.} \\
 &= \mathcal{F} \{K(\tau)\} (-\xi) \delta(\xi - \xi') * \frac{\pi}{\alpha} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\alpha} (\xi^2 + \xi'^2)} && \text{rearrange} \\
 &= \frac{\pi}{\alpha} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \mathcal{K}(\lambda) \delta(\lambda - \lambda') e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\alpha} ((\xi - \lambda)^2 + (\xi' - \lambda')^2)} d\lambda d\lambda' && \text{def. convolution} \\
 &= \frac{\pi}{\alpha} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{K}(\lambda) e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\alpha} ((\xi - \lambda)^2 + (\xi' - \lambda)^2)} d\lambda && \text{integrate wrt } \lambda' \\
 &= \frac{\pi}{\alpha} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{K}(\lambda) e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\alpha} \left(2\left(\lambda - \frac{\xi + \xi'}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\xi - \xi')^2 \right)} d\lambda && \text{rearrange} \\
 &= \frac{\pi}{\alpha} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{2\alpha} (\xi - \xi')^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{K}(\lambda) e^{-\frac{2\pi^2}{\alpha} \left(\frac{\xi + \xi'}{2} - \lambda \right)^2} d\lambda && \text{rearrange} \\
 &= \frac{\pi}{\alpha} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{2\alpha} (\xi - \xi')^2} \left(\mathcal{K}(\rho) * e^{-\frac{2\pi^2}{\alpha} \rho^2} \right) \Big|_{\rho = \frac{\xi + \xi'}{2}} && \text{def. convolution}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathcal{K}(\xi) = \mathcal{F} \{K(t)\} (\xi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} K(t) e^{-j2\pi\xi t} dt$ is the Fourier transform of the kernel K .

1.2 Prior covariance of local spectrum: spectral mixture case

Replacing the spectral mixture kernel $K_{\text{SM}}(\tau) = \sum_{q=1}^Q \sigma_q^2 \exp(-\gamma_q \tau^2) \cos(2\pi \theta_q^\top \tau)$ in the above expression, we have

$$K_F(\xi, \xi') = \sum_{q=1}^Q \sum_{\theta=\pm\theta_q} \frac{\pi}{\alpha} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{2\alpha}(\xi-\xi')^2} \left(\frac{\sigma_q^2}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\gamma_q}} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\gamma_q}(\rho-\theta)^2} * e^{-\frac{2\pi^2}{\alpha}\rho^2} \right) \Big|_{\rho=\frac{\xi+\xi'}{2}} \quad (1)$$

$$= \sum_{q=1}^Q \sum_{\theta=\pm\theta_q} \frac{\sigma_q^2 \pi^{3/2}}{2\alpha \sqrt{\gamma_q}} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{2\alpha}(\xi-\xi')^2} \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{\sqrt{\pi^2/\gamma_q + 2\pi^2/\alpha}} e^{-\frac{(\rho-\theta)^2 \pi^2 \pi^2 2/(\alpha \gamma_q)}{\pi^2/\gamma_q + 2\pi^2/\alpha}} \Big|_{\rho=\frac{\xi+\xi'}{2}} \quad (2)$$

$$= \sum_{q=1}^Q \sum_{\theta=\pm\theta_q} \frac{\sigma_q^2 \pi}{2\sqrt{\alpha(\alpha + 2\gamma_q)}} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{2\alpha}(\xi-\xi')^2} e^{-\frac{2\pi^2(\rho-\theta)^2}{\alpha+2\gamma_q}} \Big|_{\rho=\frac{\xi+\xi'}{2}} \quad (3)$$

$$= \sum_{q=1}^Q \sum_{\theta=\pm\theta_q} \frac{\sigma_q^2 \pi}{2\sqrt{\alpha(\alpha + 2\gamma_q)}} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{2\alpha}(\xi-\xi')^2} e^{-\frac{2\pi^2}{\alpha+2\gamma_q} \left(\frac{\xi+\xi'}{2} - \theta \right)^2} \quad (4)$$

1.3 Covariance between the signal y and the local spectrum $\mathcal{F}_c(\xi)$: general case

$$K_{y_c \mathcal{F}_c}(t, \xi) = \mathbb{E} [y_c^*(t) \mathcal{F}_c(\xi)] \quad (5)$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \left[(f(t-c) + \epsilon) \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(\tau-c) e^{-\alpha \tau^2} e^{-j2\pi \xi \tau} d\tau \right] \quad (6)$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E} [f(t-c) f(\tau-c)] e^{-\alpha \tau^2} e^{-j2\pi \xi \tau} d\tau \quad (7)$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}} K(\tau-t) e^{-\alpha \tau^2} e^{-j2\pi \xi \tau} d\tau \quad (8)$$

$$= \mathcal{F} \left\{ K(\tau-t) e^{-\alpha \tau^2} \right\} (\xi) \quad (9)$$

$$= \mathcal{F} \{ K(\tau-t) \} (\xi) * \mathcal{F} \left\{ e^{-\alpha \tau^2} \right\} (\xi) \quad (10)$$

$$= \mathcal{K}(\xi) e^{-j2\pi \xi t} * \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\alpha}} e^{-\frac{\pi^2 \xi^2}{\alpha}} \quad (11)$$

1.4 Covariance between the signal y and the local spectrum $\mathcal{F}_c(\xi)$: Gaussian mixture case

Let us first compute the convolution term $\text{CT}_q = \left(e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\gamma_q}(\xi-\theta)^2} e^{-j2\pi\xi t} \right) * e^{-\frac{\pi^2\xi^2}{\alpha}}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{CT} &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \exp \left(-\frac{\pi^2}{\gamma_q}(\lambda - \theta)^2 - j2\pi\lambda t - \frac{\pi^2(\xi - \lambda)^2}{\alpha} \right) d\lambda \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \exp \left(-\frac{\pi^2}{\gamma_q}(\lambda^2 - 2\lambda\theta + \theta^2) - j2\pi\lambda t - \frac{\pi^2}{\alpha}(\xi^2 - 2\xi\lambda + \lambda^2) \right) d\lambda \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \exp \left(-\lambda^2 \left(\frac{\pi^2}{\gamma_q} + \frac{\pi^2}{\alpha} \right) + 2\lambda \left(\frac{\pi^2\theta}{\gamma_q} + \frac{\pi^2\xi}{\alpha} - j\pi t \right) - \frac{\pi^2\theta^2}{\gamma_q} - \frac{\pi^2\xi^2}{\alpha} \right) d\lambda \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \exp \left(-\lambda^2 \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{\tilde{\gamma}_q} + \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}} \right)}_{L_q} + 2\lambda \left(\frac{\theta}{\tilde{\gamma}_q} + \frac{\xi}{\tilde{\alpha}} - j\pi t \right) - \frac{\theta^2}{\tilde{\gamma}_q} - \frac{\xi^2}{\tilde{\alpha}} \right) d\lambda \quad \tilde{\alpha} = \frac{\alpha}{\pi^2}, \tilde{\gamma} = \frac{\gamma}{\pi^2} \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{L_q}} \exp \left(\frac{1}{L_q} \left(\frac{\theta}{\tilde{\gamma}_q} + \frac{\xi}{\tilde{\alpha}} - j\pi t \right)^2 - \frac{\theta^2}{\tilde{\gamma}_q} - \frac{\xi^2}{\tilde{\alpha}} \right) \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{L_q}} \exp \left(\underbrace{\xi^2 \left(\frac{1}{L_q\tilde{\alpha}^2} - \frac{1}{\tilde{\alpha}^2} \right)}_{-(\tilde{\alpha}+\tilde{\gamma})^{-1}} + 2\xi\theta \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{L_q\tilde{\alpha}\tilde{\gamma}} \right)}_{-(\tilde{\alpha}+\tilde{\gamma})^{-1}} + \theta^2 \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{L_q\tilde{\gamma}^2} - \frac{1}{\tilde{\gamma}^2} \right)}_{-(\tilde{\alpha}+\tilde{\gamma})^{-1}} - j\frac{2\pi t}{L_q} \left(\frac{\theta}{\tilde{\gamma}_q} + \frac{\xi}{\tilde{\alpha}} \right) - \frac{\pi^2 t^2}{L_q} \right) \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{L_q}} \exp \left(-\frac{(\xi - \theta)^2}{\tilde{\alpha} + \tilde{\gamma}} \right) \exp \left(-\frac{\pi^2 t^2}{L_q} \right) \exp \left(-j\frac{2\pi t}{L_q} \left(\frac{\theta}{\tilde{\gamma}_q} + \frac{\xi}{\tilde{\alpha}} \right) \right)
\end{aligned}$$

now calculate $K_{y\mathcal{F}}$ and replace for the above term

$$\begin{aligned}
K_{y\mathcal{F}} &= \mathcal{K}(\xi) e^{-j2\pi\xi t} * \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\alpha}} e^{-\frac{\pi^2\xi^2}{\alpha}} \\
&= \sum_{q=1}^Q \sum_{\theta=\pm\theta_q} \frac{\sigma_q^2}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\gamma_q}} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\alpha}} \underbrace{e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{\gamma_q}(\xi-\theta)^2} e^{-j2\pi\xi t} * e^{-\frac{\pi^2\xi^2}{\alpha}}}_{\text{CT}_q} \\
&= \sum_{q=1}^Q \sum_{\theta=\pm\theta_q} \frac{\sigma_q^2}{2\sqrt{\pi(\tilde{\alpha} + \tilde{\gamma}_q)}} \exp \left(-\frac{(\xi - \theta)^2}{\tilde{\alpha} + \tilde{\gamma}_q} \right) \exp \left(-\frac{\pi^2 t^2}{L_q} \right) \exp \left(-j\frac{2\pi t}{L_q} \left(\frac{\theta}{\tilde{\gamma}_q} + \frac{\xi}{\tilde{\alpha}} \right) \right)
\end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{\alpha} = \alpha/\pi^2$, $\tilde{\gamma} = \gamma/\pi^2$ and $L = (\tilde{\alpha}^{-1} + \tilde{\gamma}^{-1})^{-1}$

2 Proposed model as the limit of the Lomb-Scargle method

Let us consider the model assumed by Lomb-Scargle (LS)

$$f_S(t) = \sum_{i=1}^S a_i \cos(\omega_i t) + b_i \sin(\omega_i t) \quad (12)$$

where $\{\omega_i\}_{i=1}^S$ are fixed frequencies and the weights $\mathbf{a} = [a_i]_{i=1}^S$ and $\mathbf{b} = [b_i]_{i=1}^S$ are the free parameters. We have used angular-frequency notation according to the original formulation of the LS method, this can be converted to natural frequencies used in the rest of the paper by $\omega = 2\pi\xi$.

We convert the expression in eq.(12) into a probabilistic model by equipping it with prior distribution over the weights, this priori is chosen so that \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} are independent from one another and are both normally distributed with zero mean and variance $\Sigma = [\Sigma_{i,j}]_{i,j=1}^S$, that is

$$p(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = p(\mathbf{a})p(\mathbf{b}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{a}; 0, \Sigma)\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{b}; 0, \Sigma) \quad (13)$$

Accordingly, f_S is a Gaussian process (GP), as it is a sum of basis functions with Gaussian weights. The mean of f_S is zero and its covariance is given by

$$K(t, t') = \mathbb{E}[f_S(t)f_S(t')] = \sum_{ij=1}^S \Sigma_{i,j} \cos(\omega_i t - \omega_j t') \quad (14)$$

This is now a GP generative model for the latent function with a nonstationary covariance function (not a function of $t - t'$) arising by the choice of a finite number of frequencies $\omega \in \mathbb{R}$. Considering an infinite number of frequencies and replacing $\omega_i = \omega$ and $\omega_j = \omega'$ for notational consistency with the infinite-dimensional case, we have

$$K(t, t') = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} K(\omega, \omega') \cos(\omega_i t - \omega_j t') d\omega d\omega'. \quad (15)$$

To calculate the above expression explicitly, we choose covariance¹ as

$$K(\omega, \omega') = \sigma^2 \delta_{\omega-\omega'} e^{-\gamma(\omega-\theta)^2} e^{-\gamma(\omega'-\theta)^2} \quad (16)$$

meaning that nonzero weights are only possible for frequencies sufficiently close to θ and that the weights for different frequencies are uncorrelated. Replacing $K(\omega, \omega')$ into eq. (15), we obtain

$$K(t, t') = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2\gamma}} \exp(2\gamma\theta^2) \exp\left(-\frac{(t-t')^2}{8\gamma}\right) \cos(\theta(t-t')) \quad (17)$$

that is, the spectral mixture kernel considered above.

Therefore, we have shown that when the model assumed by the Lomb-Scargle model is considered with an infinite number of components, and a Gaussian prior over the weights as defined in eq. (16), it converges to the generative model used in the proposed BNSE approach.

¹The Dirac delta comes from $\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\pi}} e^{-\alpha(\omega-\omega')^2}$