

# Southampton

#### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer School of the Hel.A.S. Nuclear activity in galaxies

- AGN variability -

**Dimitrios Emmanoulopoulos** 

11–15 July 2016, Athens, Greece



Poisson distribution

Frequency Domain Global Optimization  $\Gamma(\alpha, z_0, z_1)$  distribution Cross-Spectrum Power-Spectrum Time Domain General Relativity AGN Analytical Methods Time-delays Time Series Model Fitting **VHE** Astrophysics Photon Statistics x<sup>2</sup> Wavelets Response Function Accretion disk Quantum Gravity Monte Carlo Covariance Sampling Irregularities Bayesian analysis Black holes

# Outline

- What is a Black Hole?
- Problems in astrophysical time series.
- Development of new methods.
- Extraction of astrophysical information.

The only model-independent tool that provides information about a system.

- The only model-independent tool that provides information about a system.
- Through modelling, this information is mapped into a system's property.











41 kYrs periodicity (Obliquity)

#### What is a Black Hole?







Luminosity=  $10^{44} - 10^{47} \text{ W}$ 

#### What is a Black Hole?



#### What is a Black Hole?



#### What is a Black Hole? Radiation in the entire Elec.Magn. spectrum.



SongZhan Chen (2013), Science China Physics, Mechanics & Astronomy, 56, 1

#### What is a Black Hole? Radiation in the entire Elec.Magn. spectrum.



# What do we really observe?



#### What do we really observe?



































# **Methodological problems**

For a set of observations  $x_i$  measured at  $t_i$  (i = 1, ..., N)

# **Methodological problems**

For a set of observations  $x_i$  measured at  $t_i$  (i = 1, ..., N)

Periodogram = 
$$|DFT(f_j)|^2 = \left|\sum_{i=1}^N x_i e^{2\pi i f_j t_i}\right|^2$$

where 
$$j = \frac{j}{N\Delta t}$$
 and  $j = 1, \dots, N/2$ 

# **Methodological problems**

For a set of observations  $x_i$  measured at  $t_i$  (i = 1, ..., N)

Periodogram = 
$$|DFT(f_j)|^2 = \left|\sum_{i=1}^N x_i e^{2\pi i f_j t_i}\right|^2$$

where 
$$j = \frac{j}{N\Delta t}$$
 and  $j = 1, \dots, N/2$ 

Fitting a model to the Periodogram  $\longrightarrow$  PSD,  $P(\nu)$












#### Light curve segment + Poisson noise



### **Methodological problems**

Light curve segment + Poisson noise + Missing data









Sampling irregularities —> 'Dirty' time series



■ <u>PSD model</u> → Artificial time series (e.g. 10000)
■ Sampling irregularities → 'Dirty' time series
■ 'Dirty' periodograms → ('Dirty' periodogram)



- <u>PSD model</u> → Artificial time series (e.g. 10000)
- Sampling irregularities —> 'Dirty' time series
- 'Dirty' periodograms  $\longrightarrow$  ('Dirty' periodogram)
- Fit to the observed 'dirty' periodogram.

# Monte Carlo approach

- <u>PSD model</u> → Artificial time series (e.g. 10000)
- Sampling irregularities —> 'Dirty' time series
- 'Dirty' periodograms  $\longrightarrow$  ('Dirty' periodogram)
- Fit to the observed 'dirty' periodogram.
- Repeat the process for another PSD model.

# Monte Carlo approach

- <u>PSD model</u> → Artificial time series (e.g. 10000)
- Sampling irregularities —> 'Dirty' time series
- 'Dirty' periodograms  $\longrightarrow$  ('Dirty' periodogram)
- Fit to the observed 'dirty' periodogram.
- Repeat the process for another PSD model.
- Establish a 'goodness-of-fit' criterion.



**Application** 





McHardy et al. 2004, MNRAS, 348, 783



McHardy et al. 2004, MNRAS, 348, 783



McHardy et al. 2004, MNRAS, 348, 783

### **Application**





1)White noise: Random number generator PSD always flat

1)White noise: Random number generator



1)White noise: Random number generator



2)Done, C. et al. 1992, ApJ, **400**, 138 Phase randomisation **BUT** fixed amplitude

$$x(t) \sim \sum \sqrt{P(\nu)} \cos(2\pi\nu t + \phi)$$

with  $\phi \in [0, 2\pi]$ 

2)Done, C. et al. 1992, ApJ, 400, 138



2)Done, C. et al. 1992, ApJ, 400, 138



3)Timmer & König 1995, A&A, **300**, 707 Phase randomisation AND Amplitude randomisation

$$FT_{x(t)}(\nu) = \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{2}P(\nu)) + i\mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{2}P(\nu))$$

3)Timmer & König 1995, A&A, **300**, 707



#### 3)Timmer & König 1995, A&A, **300**, 707





v (Hz)



0.001

 $10^{-5}$ 

v (Hz)

 $10^{-4}$ 

10<sup>-3</sup>

0.005







#### Few times that **Normality** is a problem!



Few times that **Normality** is a problem!

Wrong underlying probability distribution.

Physically unrealistic artificial light curves.

The underlying physical flux distribution is always defined for positive flux values.

#### Few times that **Normality** is a problem!



## Simulating realistic light curves

#### Emmanoulopoulos et al. 2013, MNRAS, 433, 907

#### inter communey procession

#### Generating artificial light curves: Revisited and updated

The numerical code

#### Dimitrios Emmanoulopoulos<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Physics and Astronomy, University of Southampton, SO17 1BJ, Southampton, United Kingdom <u>D Emmanoulopoulos@soton.ac.uk</u>

#### Abstract

Out[23]=

This notebook presents the entire methodology for the production of artificial light curves as presented in § 3.1 in the corresponding MNRAS paper. As it is done in the paper ( Newton (obs ID: 0109141401), for the production of a single artificial light curve having the same statistical and variability properties as the observed light curves. The method described in the MNRAS paper. As in any time series methodology we caution the readers that the outputs of the method depends ONLY in the input parameters and thus the

#### For all the astrophysical fields!



#### Simulating realistic light curves



#### Simulating realistic light curves


















#### **Additional material**



t



### **Additional material**

Bursty' chance coincidence=25%



### **Additional material**





















More realistic light curves appropriate for timing studies and not only...



A proper time-series analysis method should:

- Describe the properties of the underlying physical jet-process and not the properties of a single realization i.e. observed data set.
- The error estimation, of a given physical quantity, should be representative of its underlying statistical distribution.



 $SF(\tau) = \left\langle \left( x(t+\tau) - x(t) \right)^2 \right\rangle$ 



$$SF(\tau) = \left\langle (x(t+\tau) - x(t))^2 \right\rangle$$





$$SF(\tau) = \left\langle \left( x(t+\tau) - x(t) \right)^2 \right\rangle$$





$$SF(\tau) = \left\langle \left( x(t+\tau) - x(t) \right)^2 \right\rangle$$



#### **SF and blazars**





#### **SF and blazars**

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 563:569-581, 2001 December 20 © 2001, The American Astronomical Society. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

#### VARIABILITY TIMESCALES OF TeV BLAZARS OBSERVED IN THE ASCA CONTINUOUS LONG-LOOK X-RAY MONITORING

Chiharu Tanihata,<sup>1,2</sup> C. Megan Urry,<sup>3</sup> Tadayuki Takahashi,<sup>1,2</sup> Jun Kataoka,<sup>4</sup> Stefan J. Wagner,<sup>5</sup> Greg M. Madejski,<sup>6</sup> Makoto Tashiro,<sup>7</sup> and Manabu Kouda<sup>1,2</sup>

Received 2001 June 10; accepted 2001 August 17

#### ABSTRACT

Three uninterrupted, long (lasting respectively 7, 10, and 10 days) ASCA observations of the wellstudied TeV-bright blazars Mrk 421, Mrk 501, and PKS 2155-304 all show continuous strong X-ray flaring. Despite the relatively faint intensity states in two of the three sources, there was no identifiable quiescent period in any of the observations. Structure function analysis shows that all blazars have a characteristic timescale of ~1 day, comparable to the recurrence time and to the timescale of the strong-

#### Is this really the case?







Construction of artificial light curves with NO characteristic time scales. (Timmer J., Koening M., (1995), A&A, **339**, 41)

The data sets have the same statistical behaviour as the observations i.e. same PSD  $\propto \nu^{-1.8}$ .

## SF simulations: Length



# SF simulations: Length



# SF simulations: Length

What about longer data sets?







Mrk 501: ASM data set





Emmanoulopoulos et al. (2010), MNRAS., 404,931-946









### **Fitting procedures**

$$SF_{\rm M}(\tau; C, \tau_{\rm max}, \beta_1, \beta_2) = \begin{cases} C\left(\frac{\tau}{\tau_{\rm max}}\right)^{\beta_1} & \tau \le \tau_{\rm max} \\ C\left(\frac{\tau}{\tau_{\rm max}}\right)^{\beta_2} & \tau > \tau_{\rm max} \end{cases}$$

# Under the assumptions of Gaussianity and Independency

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ \frac{SF(\tau_i) - SF_{\mathrm{M}}(\tau_i; C, \tau_{\mathrm{max}}, \beta_1, \beta_2)}{\sigma_i} \right]^2$$

and we minimize it...





2000 light curves, 500 t.u. long, PSD index -2.
Estimation of SF slope: β, δβ


# 2000 light curves, 500 t.u. long, PSD index -2. Estimation of SF slope: β, δβ



### **Fitting procedures**



## Distribution of fitted SF-slopes.

#### Distribution of derived errors on individual SF-slopes.

### **Fitting procedures**



# Distribution of fitted periodogram-slopes.

Distribution of derived errors on individual periodogram-slopes.



Kataoka et al. (2000), MNRAS, 336, 932-944





Bootstrap method for a given gappy-pattern e.g. Czerny et al. (2003) MNRAS, **342**, 1222-1240

For each SF bin *i*:

$$\left<\frac{\left|SF_{\rm gappy, btstrp}^{i} - SF_{\rm continuous}^{i}\right|}{err_{\rm bootstrap^{i}}}\right>$$

#### Gappy data sets



#### **Visual Conclusions**





#### **Visual Conclusions**





#### **Visual Conclusions**







## Thank you!

### **Additional Material**

- FERMI data
- PSD of triangular-shots
- SF and PSD relation
- Generilized Gaussian distribution
- Statistically independent points





#### An example for the FERMI data



Ackermann et al. arXiv:1007.0483v2



$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{I}}(f) = \frac{I_0^2}{8\pi^4 t_d^2 t_r^2 f^4} \{ t_d^2 + t_d t_r + t_r^2 - (t_d + t_r) \left[ t_r \cos(2\pi t_d f) + t_d \cos(2\pi t_r f) \right] + t_d t_r \cos(2\pi (t_r + t_d) f) \} \text{ for } t_r \neq 0 \& t_d \neq 0$$





#### **PSD of triangular-shots**





### **SF and PSD relation**

$$SF(\tau) = -2^{\lambda}\kappa\pi^{\lambda-1}\Gamma(1-\lambda)\sin\left(\frac{\lambda\pi}{2}\right)\tau^{\lambda-1}$$

- stationarity, also called "weakly stationarity" i.e. mean value and autocovariance function independent of time translations.
- 2. zero mean data set.
- 3. The frequency range f should vary from 0 to  $\infty$ .
- 4. The PSD should be given from a power-law form with index  $1 < \lambda < 3$ .

# Generilized Gaussian distribution

 $y_{\mathrm{M}}(\tau_i) = SF_{\mathrm{M}}(\tau_i; C, \tau_{\mathrm{max}}, \beta_1, \beta_2)$ 

$$P_i(SF(\tau_i)) = \frac{1}{|\Sigma_i|^{\frac{1}{2}} (2\pi)^{\frac{N}{2}}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}[SF(\tau_i) - y_{\mathrm{M}}(\tau_i)]^{\mathrm{T}} \Sigma^{-1} [SF(\tau_i) - y_{\mathrm{M}}(\tau_i)]}$$

# Statistically independent points

$$SF_{\rm M}(\tau; C, \tau_{\rm max}, \beta_1, \beta_2) = \begin{cases} C\left(\frac{\tau}{\tau_{\rm max}}\right)^{\beta_1} & \tau \le \tau_{\rm max} \\ C\left(\frac{\tau}{\tau_{\rm max}}\right)^{\beta_2} & \tau > \tau_{\rm max} \end{cases}$$

Single  $SF(\tau_i)$  probability  $\rightarrow$  Gaussianity assumption

$$P_i(SF_{\mathrm{M}}(\tau_i; C, \tau_{\mathrm{max}}, \beta_1, \beta_2)) = \frac{1}{\sigma_i \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{SF(\tau_i) - SF_{\mathrm{M}}(\tau_i; C, \tau_{\mathrm{max}}, \beta, \beta_2)}{\sigma_i}\right]^2}$$

Ensemble  $SF(\tau)$  probability  $\rightarrow$  Independency assumption

$$P(C, \tau_{\max}, \beta_1, \beta_2) = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_i \sqrt{2\pi}}\right) e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[\frac{SF(\tau_i) - SF_{\mathrm{M}}(\tau_i; C, \tau_{\max}, \beta_1, \beta_2)}{\sigma_i}\right]^2}$$

# Statistically independent points

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ \frac{SF(\tau_i) - SF_{\mathrm{M}}(\tau_i; C, \tau_{\mathrm{max}}, \beta_1, \beta_2)}{\sigma_i} \right]^2$$