

is specified by $\langle Y(t) \rangle$ and $K(t_1, t_2) =$

$$G[k(t)] = \exp \left[i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} k(t_1) \langle Y(t_1) \rangle dt_1 - \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt_2 k(t_1) k(t_2) K(t_1, t_2) \right]$$

If the process is also stationary, it is fully specified (up to a constant) by the autocorrelation function $K(\tau)$.

2° Spectral analysis and 1/f-noise

a) Wiener-Khinchin-Theorem

Consider stationary stochastic process $Y(t)$

with $\langle Y \rangle = 0$, $\langle Y^2 \rangle = \sigma^2$ on a time interval of length T . Then we

can decompose $Y(t)$ into Fourier components

$$\left. \begin{aligned} Y(t) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin(\omega_n t), \quad \omega_n = \frac{n\pi}{T} \\ A_n &= \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T dt Y(t) \sin(\omega_n t) \quad \text{RV's} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Parseval - identity in the Fourier transform implies

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T dt Y(t)^2 \approx \langle Y^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \langle A_n^2 \rangle$$

decomposes σ^2 into contributions from different frequencies ω_n . The power spectrum $S(\omega)$ of $Y(t)$ is defined by

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_n \langle A_n^2 \rangle = S(\omega) \Delta\omega \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta\omega \rightarrow 0 \\ T \rightarrow \infty \\ \Delta\omega \gg \pi/T \end{array} \right.$$

$$\omega < \frac{\pi n}{T} < \omega + \Delta\omega$$

According to the Wiener-Khinchin - theorem

$$\underline{S(\omega) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} d\tau \cos(\omega\tau) K(\tau)}$$

Proof: $\langle A_n^2 \rangle = \frac{4}{T^2} \int_0^T dt \int_0^T dt' \sin(\omega_n t) \sin(\omega_n t') K(t-t')$

$$= \frac{4}{T^2} \int_0^T dt \sin(\omega_n t) \int_{-t}^{T-t} d\tau \sin(\omega_n(t+\tau)) K(\tau) =$$

$$= \frac{4}{T^2} \int_0^T dt \sin^2(\omega_n t) \int_{-t}^{T-t} d\tau \omega_1(\omega_n \tau) K(\tau) +$$

$$+ \frac{4}{T^2} \int_0^T d\tau \sin(\omega_n \tau) \omega_1(\omega_n \tau) \int_{-t}^{T-t} d\tau \sin(\omega_n \tau) K(\tau) =$$

[$s = t \uparrow$]

$$= \frac{4}{T} \left\{ \int_0^1 ds \sin^2(n\pi s) \int_{-Ts}^{(1-s)T} d\tau \omega_1(\omega_n \tau) K(\tau) + \right.$$

$$\left. + \int_0^1 ds \sin(n\pi s) \omega_1(\omega_n \tau) \int_{-Ts}^{(1-s)T} d\tau \sin(\omega_n \tau) K(\tau) \right\}$$

Provided $k(\tau)$ decays sufficiently fast at long times we have, for $T \rightarrow \infty$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \int_{-T/2}^{(1-\epsilon)T/2} d\tau \cos(\omega \tau) k(\tau) &\rightarrow 2 \int_0^{\infty} d\tau \cos(\omega \tau) k(\tau) \\ \int_{-T/2}^{(1-\epsilon)T/2} d\tau \sin(\omega \tau) k(\tau) &\rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau \sin(\omega \tau) k(\tau) = 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle A_{\omega}^2 \rangle \rightarrow \frac{4}{T} \int_0^{\infty} d\tau \cos(\omega \tau) k(\tau)$$

and since the number of frequencies in an interval of length $\Delta\omega$ is $\frac{T}{\pi} \Delta\omega$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\Delta\omega} \langle A_{\omega}^2 \rangle &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{T}{\pi} \Delta\omega \cdot \frac{4}{T} \int_0^{\infty} d\tau \cos(\omega \tau) k(\tau) \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \Delta\omega \int_0^{\infty} d\tau \cos(\omega \tau) k(\tau) \end{aligned}$$

□

Inverse: $k(\tau) = \int_0^{\infty} d\omega S(\omega) \cos(\omega \tau)$

Examples:

(i) White noise implies that all frequencies appear with the same weight:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} S(\omega) &\equiv S_0 \\ K(\tau) &= \pi S_0 \delta(\tau) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

(ii) Lorentz-spectrum $S(\omega) = \frac{S_0}{1 + \omega^2 \tau_c^2}$

$$\Rightarrow S(\omega) \sim \begin{cases} S_0 & \omega \ll \tau_c^{-1} \\ S_0 / \omega^2 \tau_c^2 & \omega \gg \tau_c^{-1} \end{cases} \quad \text{effectively white}$$

$$\Rightarrow K(\tau) = \underbrace{\frac{\pi}{2} \left(\frac{S_0}{\tau_c} \right)}_{K(\nu)} e^{-|\tau|/\tau_c}$$

τ_c is the correlation time of the process.

b) 1/f-noise

Many natural & man-made processes display a power spectrum of the form

$$\underline{S(\omega) \approx S_0 \omega^{-\beta}, \quad \beta \approx 0.8 - 1.4}$$

over a large range of frequencies, $\omega_1 < \omega < \omega_2$.

Examples: $\left. \begin{array}{l} \bullet \text{ Voltage fluctuations in resistors} \\ \bullet \text{ quasars, geophysics, physiology} \\ \bullet \text{ music, ...} \end{array} \right\}$

$\Rightarrow$ 1/f-noise is typical of "complex dynamics."

Questions: $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) Why is } \beta \approx 1 \text{ special?} \\ \text{(ii) What are the underlying physical} \\ \text{mechanisms?} \end{array} \right\}$

Ad (i): The variance of the process is

$$\sigma^2 = \langle Y^2 \rangle = K(0) = \int_0^\infty d\omega S(\omega) = S_0 \int_{\omega_1}^{\omega_2} d\omega \omega^{-\beta}$$

$\Rightarrow$ stationarity ($\sigma^2 < \infty$) requires cut-off frequencies:

- $\bullet \beta > 1 \Rightarrow \omega_1 > 0$ required, $\omega_2 \rightarrow \infty$ possible
- $\bullet \beta < 1 \Rightarrow \omega_2 > 0$ required, $\omega_1 \rightarrow 0$ possible

- $\beta = 1 \Rightarrow$ both upper and lower cutoffs are required.

For $\beta > 1$ and $\beta < 1$ the exponent β describes different behavior of the autocorrelation function:

$\beta > 1$: Unbounded power law for $\omega \rightarrow \infty$, β describes the behavior at short times $\tau \rightarrow 0$

Analogy:
$$K(\tau) = \int_0^{\infty} d\omega S(\omega) e^{i\omega\tau} = \int_{\omega_1}^{\infty} d\omega \omega^{-\beta} e^{i\omega\tau}$$



$$G_X(k) = \int dx f(x) e^{ikx} = \int_1^{\infty} dx \alpha x^{-(\alpha+1)} e^{ikx}$$

generating fct. for Pareto distribution with $\alpha = \beta - 1$

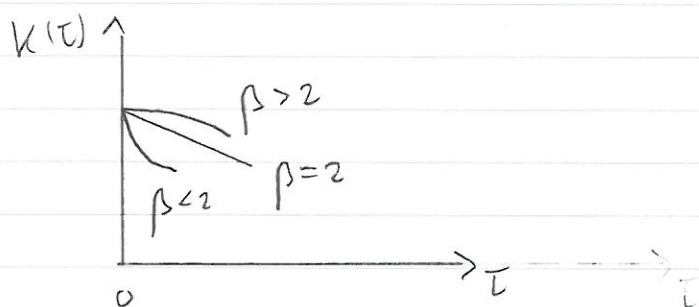
$\Rightarrow$ we know from discussion of Lévy RV's that

$$\underline{K(0) - K(\tau) \sim |\tau|^\alpha = |\tau|^{\beta-1}, \quad \tau \rightarrow 0}$$

$\Rightarrow$ for $1 < \beta < 3$, $K(\tau)$ is singular at $\tau = 0$.

Examples: Lorentz spectrum ($\beta = 2$) corresponds to Cauchy distribution ($\alpha = 1$)

For $\beta > 3$, $K(\tau)$ is smooth at $\tau = 0$



$\beta < 1$: Unlimited power law for $\omega \rightarrow 0$,
 β describes behavior at long times $\tau \rightarrow \infty$.

$$K(\tau) = \int_0^{\omega_2} d\omega \, \omega^{-\beta} \underbrace{\cos(\omega\tau)}_{\text{rapidly oscillating for } \omega\tau \gg 1}$$

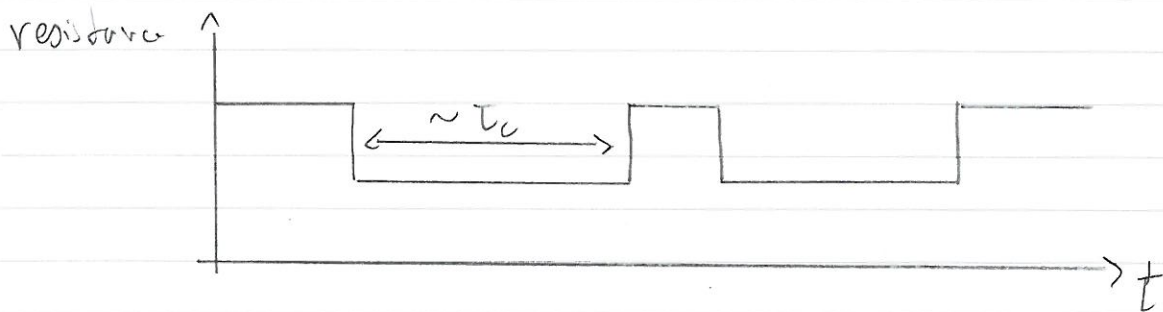
$$\approx \int_0^{1/\tau} d\omega \, \omega^{-\beta} = \frac{\omega_0}{1-\beta} \tau^{-(1-\beta)}$$

$\Rightarrow$ power law decay of correlations.

This type of behavior is observed in climate data ($\rightarrow$ Burde et al., $\beta \approx 0.3$)

Note that none of these analyses work in the borderline case $\beta = 1$.

Ad (ii): A simple model for $1/f$ -noise in resistors assumes the existence of defects which switch between two configurations according to a telegraph process with switching time τ_c .

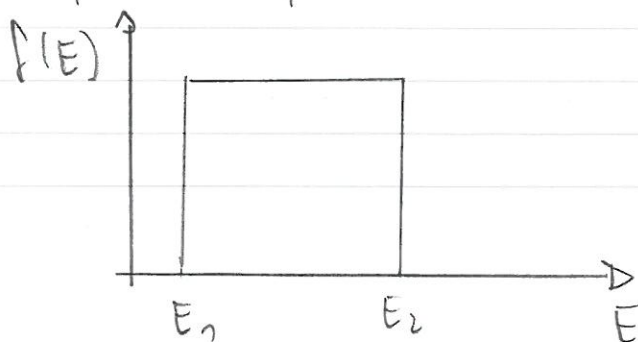


$\Rightarrow$ single defect has Lorentz spectrum $\rightarrow$ Problem

$$S(\omega) = \frac{2}{\pi} \sigma^2 \frac{\tau_c}{1 + \omega^2 \tau_c^2}$$

Switching is thermally activated: $\tau_c = \tau_0 e^{E/k_B T}$
 with defect energies E distributed according to a pdf $P(E)$.

Simple example: $P(E)$ is uniform in $[E_1, E_2]$



$$\Delta E = E_2 - E_1 \gg k_B T$$

The the averaged power spectrum is

$$\bar{S}(\omega) = \frac{2}{\pi} \sigma^2 \frac{1}{\Delta E} \int_{E_1}^{E_2} dE \frac{\tau_0 e^{E/k_B T}}{1 + \omega^2 \tau_0^2 e^{2E/k_B T}}$$

substitute: $\tau = \tau_0 e^{E/k_B T}$, $d\tau = \frac{1}{k_B T} \tau dE$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \sigma^2 \frac{k_B T}{\Delta E} \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} \frac{d\tau}{1 + \omega^2 \tau^2} =$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \sigma^2 \frac{k_B T}{\Delta E} \cdot \frac{1}{\omega} \left[\arctan(\omega \tau_2) - \arctan(\omega \tau_1) \right]$$

$$\sim \frac{1}{\omega} \quad \text{for} \quad \tau_2^{-1} \ll \omega \ll \tau_1^{-1}$$

The range of frequencies is, for example,

$$\frac{\tau_2}{\tau_1} = e^{\Delta E/k_B T} \approx 5 \cdot 10^6 \quad \text{for} \quad \Delta E = 0.4 \text{ eV}$$

$$T = 300 \text{ K.}$$