Real-time dynamics via spectral reconstruction: Introducing a general framework based on Gaussian process regression

Jonas Turnwald







Why Spectral Reconstruction?





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- Describe the spectral function $\rho(\omega)$ by a Gaussian process \mathcal{GP} prior

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- GPs are normal distributions in *function* space
- GPs are the infinite dimensional extension of multivariate Gaussian distributions
- Finite dimensional subset of the GP at distinct points $\omega_1, ..., \omega_N$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \rho(\omega_1) \\ \vdots \\ \rho(\omega_N) \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu(\omega_1) \\ \vdots \\ \mu(\omega_N) \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} C(\omega_1, \omega_1) & \dots & C(\omega_1, \omega_N) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ C(\omega_N, \omega_1) & \dots & C(\omega_N, \omega_N) \end{pmatrix} \right)$$





— mean

$$\begin{split} \mu(\omega) &= 0,\\ C(\omega,\omega') &= \sigma^2 \exp\left(-\frac{(\omega-\omega')^2}{2\ell^2}\right)\\ \text{RBF Kernel} \end{split}$$

3 0 -1 -2 0 2 4 ω

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Gaussian Process Regression - Prediction



Joint distribution of observations $\hat{\rho}(\hat{\omega})$ and predictions $\rho(\omega)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \rho(\omega) \\ \hat{\rho} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu(\omega) \\ \hat{\mu} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} C(\omega, \omega) & \hat{C}^{\top}(\omega) \\ \hat{C}(\omega) & \hat{C} + \sigma_n^2 \mathbb{1} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

with $\hat{C}_i(\omega) = C(\hat{\omega}_i,\omega), \hat{C}_{ij} = C(\hat{\omega}_i,\hat{\omega}_j)$.



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GP Posterior has closed analytic form

$$\begin{split} \rho(\omega) | \hat{\rho} &\sim \mathcal{N} \left(\hat{C}^{\top}(\omega) \left(\hat{C} + \sigma_n^2 \mathbb{1} \right)^{-1} \hat{\rho}, \\ C(\omega, \omega) - \hat{C}^{\top}(\omega) \left(\hat{C} + \sigma_n^2 \mathbb{1} \right)^{-1} \hat{C}(\omega) \right) \end{split}$$



Gaussian Process Regression - Prediction





$$\rho(\omega) | \hat{\rho} \sim \mathcal{N} \Big(\underbrace{\hat{C}^{\top}(\omega) \left(\hat{C} + \sigma_n^2 \mathbb{1}\right)^{-1} \hat{\rho}}_{\text{mean}}, \underbrace{C(\omega, \omega) - \hat{C}^{\top}(\omega) \left(\hat{C} + \sigma_n^2 \mathbb{1}\right)^{-1} \hat{C}(\omega)}_{\text{covariance}} \Big)$$





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Joint prior over observations on G and predictions ρ

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Works for every type of linearly connected data, e.g. derivative or normalization data





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Horak, Pawlowski, JT, Urban, Wink, Zafeiropoulos, PRD 107 (2023)



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The kernel fully characterizes the GP, implicitly controls features of the interpolation





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- Mercer's theorem: For any continuous symmetric PSD kernel C(x, y), there exists an orthonormal basis of continuous eigenfunctions φ_i with positive eigenvalues λ_i

$$\int dx\, C(x,y)\varphi_i(x) = \lambda_i \varphi_i(y)\,,$$

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GP posterior mean can be written as $\mu(x) = \sum_i \alpha_i \varphi_i(x)$

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 - \rightarrow include asymptotics
- Control regions of asymptotics by smooth step function θ^{\pm} and optimize parameters

$$\begin{split} C(\omega,\omega') = & \theta^+(\omega;\mu_{\mathrm{uv}},\ell_{\mathrm{uv}}) \, \theta^+(\omega';\mu_{\mathrm{uv}},\ell_{\mathrm{uv}}) \, \rho_{\mathrm{uv}}(\omega) \, \rho_{\mathrm{uv}}(\omega') \\ & + \, \theta^-(\omega;\mu_{\mathrm{uv}},\ell_{\mathrm{uv}}) \, \theta^-(\omega';\mu_{\mathrm{uv}},\ell_{\mathrm{uv}}) \, C_{\mathrm{universal}}(\omega,\omega') \end{split}$$









$$\alpha_s(p) = \frac{g_s^2}{4\pi} \frac{1}{Z_A(p)Z_c^2(p)}$$







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(f) Strong coupling spectral function







Strong coupling in the complex plane



see talk by Dibyendu Bala





Ali, Bala, Francis, Jackson, Kaczmarek, JT, Ueding, Wink, in preparation



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Thermal photons are produced at high T from the QGP

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{\gamma}}{d^{3}\vec{k}}=\frac{\alpha_{em}n_{b}(\omega,T)}{2\pi^{2}k}g^{\mu\nu}\rho_{\mu\nu}(\omega=|\vec{k}|,\vec{k},T)$$





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With the finite T vector current spectral function defined as

$$G_{\mu\nu}(\tau,\vec{k}) = \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{\pi} \, \frac{\cosh\left(\omega(\tau - 1/(2T))\right)}{\sinh\left(\omega/(2T)\right)} \rho_{\mu\nu}(\omega,\vec{k},T)$$





Spectral function has a large UV tail





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 - $\Rightarrow \text{decompose } \rho_{\mu\nu} = P_{\mu\nu}^T \rho_T + P_{\mu\nu}^L \rho_L \Rightarrow g^{\mu\nu} \rho_{\mu\nu} = 2\rho_T + \rho_L$





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- compute the T-L correlator $\rho_{H}=2(\rho_{T}-\rho_{L})$ with suppressed UV ($\sim1/\omega^{4})$





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- compute the T-L correlator $\rho_{H}=2(\rho_{T}-\rho_{L})$ with suppressed UV ($\sim1/\omega^{4})$
- $\rho_L(\omega = |\vec{k}|, \vec{k}) = 0 \Rightarrow$ photon rate unchanged





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 - $\hfill\square$ Pure Gluonic theory at $1.5T_c$, continuum extrapolated
 - $\hfill N_f=2+1$ QCD at $1.22T_c$, finite lattice spacing





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Compare 3 methods:

- Physics motivated fits
- Backus-Gilbert method
- Gaussian Process Regression





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Compare 3 methods:

- Physics motivated fits
- Backus-Gilbert method
- Gaussian Process Regression
- Use 2D correlator data, sum rule, UV asymptotics























Conclusion & Outlook









GPs have been shown to be a consistent method for spectral reconstruction





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- Physical prior information can be easily implemented





- GPs have been shown to be a consistent method for spectral reconstruction
- Physical prior information can be easily implemented
- Python package coming soon(-ish)

