

Problem Set 6 for Matched Filters. Due Friday November 5 at 11:59 PM

Key will be getting LIGO data from:

https://www.gw-openscience.org/static/events/LOSC_Event_tutorial.zip

While they include code to do much of this, please don't use it (although you may look at it for inspiration) and instead write your own. You can look at/use `simple_read_ligo.py` that I have posted for concise code to read the hdf5 files. Feel free to have your code loop over the events and print the answer to each part for that event. In order to make our life easy, in case we have to re-run your code (which we should not have to do), please also have a variable at the top of your code that sets the directory where you have unzipped the data. LIGO has two detectors (in Livingston, Louisiana, and Hanford, Washington) and GW events need to be seen by both detectors to be considered real. Note that my `read_template` function returns the templates for both Hanford and Livingston (th and tl).

Problem 1:

Find gravitational waves! Parts should include

- a) Come up with a noise model for the Livingston and Hanford detectors separately. Describe in comments how you go about doing this. Please mention something about how you smooth the power spectrum and how you deal with lines (if at all). Please also explain how you window the data (you may want to use a window that has an extended flat period near the center to avoid tapering the data/template where the signal is not small).
- b) Use that noise model to search the four sets of events using a matched filter. The mapping between data and templates can be found in the file `BBH_events_v3.json`, included in the zipfile.
- c) Estimate a noise for each event, and from the output of the matched filter, give a signal-to-noise ratio for each event, both from the individual detectors, and from the combined Livingston + Hanford events.
- d) Compare the signal-to-noise you get from the scatter in the matched filter to the analytic signal-to-noise you expect from your noise model. How close are they? If they disagree, can you explain why?
- e) From the template and noise model, find the frequency from each event where half the weight comes from above that frequency and half below.
- f) How well can you localize the time of arrival (the horizontal shift of your matched filter). The positions of gravitational wave events are inferred by comparing their arrival times at different detectors. What is the typical

positional uncertainty you might expect given that the detectors area a few thousand km apart?

BONUS: You may find the Advent of Code enjoyable if you enjoy coding challenges. Starting December 1 each year, there is a new two-part problem each day until the 25th. Previous years are available on-line. Part 2 on December 20th last year (<https://adventofcode.com/2020/day/20>) involved finding sea monsters in a puzzle, a perfect task for a matched filter. You can still do previous year's problems. For the bonus, find the sea monsters using a matched filter. Submit your code, and a screenshot from AoC showing two stars on the 20th.

Note - to help you out, I've added my code that solves part 1 (`dec_20_1.py`). If you choose to use it, you'll need to edit your input to replace "." with "0 " and "#" with "1 " (note the added spaces). One (but not the only) way to do this is in emacs with meta-x replace-string.