

# Time warping invariants and quasisymmetric functions

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28. April - NASO

Slides at: <https://diehlj.github.io>

I hope to answer:

- What are time warping invariants?
- What (and why) are quasisymmetric functions?

To pique interest in the two people I know are in the audience (the other speakers)

- There is a map from matroids into quasisymmetric functions.<sup>1</sup>  
Is there a matroid structure visible in this talk? Does it matter for what we do?
- What is the *strength* of quasisymmetric polynomials/functions? Does it matter for what we do?

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## Time warping invariants

Often the **speed** at which a time series is run is **unknown** or **does not matter**.

### Example

GPS measurements of people running around a lake. (1D-Example)

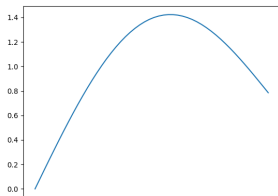


Fig: Runner A

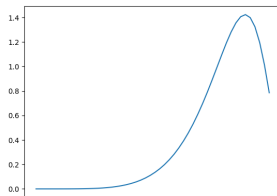


Fig: Runner B

They are both running the same route, just at different speeds.

## Examples

- Heartbeat
- Different sampling speeds.

Continuous  
function

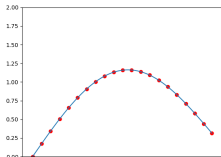


Fig: Slow sampling.

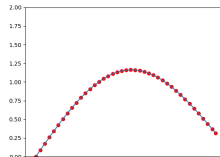
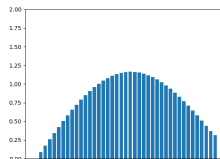
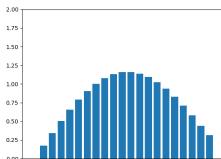


Fig: Fast sampling.

Discretely  
sampled



Invariance to speed is usually dealt with via the  
dynamic time warping (DTW) distance

(immense amount of literature: Sakoe, Chiba, Keogh, Berndt, Clifford, Petitjean, Salvador, Chan, Müller, Jain, ...)

This talk:  
features that are invariant to time warping. (.. to be defined ..)

## Mathematical formulation

For us a **time series** is just a sequence of real numbers

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{N-1}, x_N) \in \mathbb{R}^N.$$

For convenience we work with an infinite time horizon and sequences that are **eventually constant**, i.e.

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{N-1}, x_N, x_N, x_N, \dots) \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{ev. const.}}^{\mathbb{N}}.$$

We say a function  $F : \mathbb{R}_{\text{ev. const.}}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is **time warping invariant** (or *invariant to stuttering*) if, for example,

$$\begin{aligned}
 F \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Bar chart 1} \\ \text{X-axis: 0, 1, 2, 3} \end{array} \right) &= F \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Bar chart 2} \\ \text{X-axis: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4} \end{array} \right) \\
 &= F \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Bar chart 3} \\ \text{X-axis: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4} \end{array} \right) \\
 &= F \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Bar chart 4} \\ \text{X-axis: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7} \end{array} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$



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What functions  $F$  can we cook up, that are invariant in this sense?

Recall:  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N, x_N, \dots)$

$$\delta x_n = x_n - x_{n-1}$$

$$F \text{ invariant} : \Leftrightarrow F \left( \begin{array}{cc} & \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{array} \right) = F \left( \begin{array}{cc} & \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{array} \right)$$

What functions  $F$  can we cook up, that are invariant in this sense?

$$F(x) := 17$$

*Not very descriptive ...*

$$F(x) := \sup_{n \leq N} x_n$$

$$F(x) := x_N - x_0 = \sum_{n \leq N} x_n - x_{n-1} =: \sum_{n \leq N} \delta x_n.$$

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This works for any  $p = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ :

$$F(x) = \sum_{n \leq N} (\delta x_n)^p.$$

These are the (power-sum) **symmetric polynomials** in the increments.

Since we work with time-series that are eventually constant, we can write

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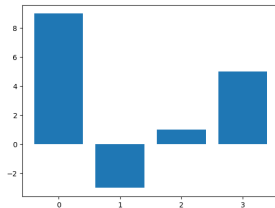
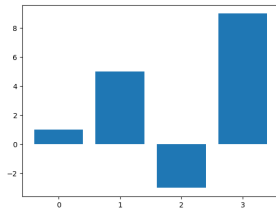
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The (power-sum) **symmetric functions** in the increments.

Clearly, these can not distinguish these two time series:



How to get the **order of events** ? Let us try

$$F(x) := \sum_{i_1 < i_2} (\delta x_{i_1})^2 \delta x_{i_2}.$$

This is not a symmetric function. Nonetheless:

$$F((x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, \dots))$$

$$= (\delta x_1)^2 \cdot \delta x_2$$

$$+ [(\delta x_1)^2 + (\delta x_2)^2] \cdot \delta x_3$$

$$+ [(\delta x_1)^2 + (\delta x_2)^2 + (\delta x_3)^2] \cdot \delta x_4$$

$$+ \dots$$

$\Rightarrow F$  is time warping invariant.

$$F(z := (x_0, x_1, x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots))$$

$$= \underbrace{(\delta z_1)^2}_{(\delta x_1)^2} \cdot \underbrace{\delta z_2}_{=0}$$

$$+ \underbrace{[(\delta z_1)^2 + (\delta z_2)^2]}_{(\delta x_1)^2} \cdot \underbrace{\delta z_3}_{\delta x_2}$$

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$$+ ..$$



Recall:  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N, x_N, \dots)$

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Along the same vein, all expressions of the form

$$\sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_n} (\delta x_{i_1})^{\alpha_1} \dots (\delta x_{i_n})^{\alpha_n},$$

are invariant to time warping.

## QUESTIONS

**A** Are these all of the (polynomial) invariants?

**B** There are algebraic dependencies, like

$$\left( \sum_i \delta x_i \right)^2 = 2 \sum_{i_1 < i_2} \delta x_{i_1} \delta x_{i_2} + \sum_i (\delta x_i)^2.$$

How to disentangle them?

Comments at this point?

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## Quasisymmetric functions A remark on nomenclature.

These are far from generalizations for generalization's sake: they are most important objects in their own right <sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>But it must be admitted that the name 'quasisymmetric functions' is suspicious. Practically all things 'quasi' have the taint of some largely useless generalization about them.

*Hazewinkel, Gubareni, Kirichenko. "Algebras, Rings and Modules - Lie Algebras and Hopf Algebras", AMS, 2010.*

**Def** A formal power series in commuting  $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots$  is a **quasisymmetric function** if for all  $i_1 < \dots < i_n, j_1 < \dots < j_n$  and all  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \geq 1$  the coefficients of these monomials coincide,

$$X_{i_1}^{\alpha_1} \dots X_{i_n}^{\alpha_n} \quad \text{and} \quad X_{j_1}^{\alpha_1} \dots X_{j_n}^{\alpha_n}.$$

### Examples

$$\sum_i X_i \quad \sum_i (X_i)^2 \quad \sum_{i_1 < i_2} X_{i_1} X_{i_2} \quad \sum_{i_1 < i_2} (X_{i_1})^2 X_{i_2} \quad \dots$$

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## Lemma (D,Ebrahimi-Fard,Tapia '19)

All **polynomial invariants** to time warping are given by quasisymmetric functions (evaluated at the increments)

$$\sum_{i_1 < \dots < i_n} (\delta x_{i_1})^{\alpha_1} \dots (\delta x_{i_n})^{\alpha_n}, \quad n \geq 1, \alpha \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 1}^n.$$

This answers question A.

To answer question B, it is convenient to store all these invariants as a character on a (Hopf) algebra.<sup>2</sup>

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Define the **iterated-sums signature** ( $y := \delta x$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ISS}(x) &:= 1 + \sum_{i_1} y_{i_1} \cdot \textcolor{teal}{1} + \sum_{i_1} y_{i_1}^2 \cdot \textcolor{teal}{2} + \sum_{i_1} y_{i_1}^3 \cdot \textcolor{teal}{3} + \dots \\ &\quad + \sum_{i_1 < i_2} y_{i_1} y_{i_2} \cdot \textcolor{teal}{1} \textcolor{teal}{1} + \sum_{i_1 < i_2} y_{i_1}^2 y_{i_2} \cdot \textcolor{teal}{2} \textcolor{teal}{1} + \dots \\ &\in H := \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} \oplus (\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}})^{\otimes 2} \oplus (\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}})^{\otimes 3} \oplus \dots \\ \langle \textcolor{teal}{573}, \text{ISS}(x) \rangle &= \sum_{i_1 < i_2 < i_3} y_{i_1}^5 y_{i_2}^5 y_{i_3}^3. \end{aligned}$$

In words:  $H$  is the space of formal (infinite)  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear combinations of words in  $\textcolor{teal}{1}, \textcolor{teal}{2}, \dots$ .

The product on  $H$  is concatenation of words, e.g.

$$\textcolor{teal}{5} \textcolor{teal}{7} \bullet \textcolor{teal}{3} \textcolor{teal}{1} \textcolor{teal}{2} = \textcolor{teal}{5} \textcolor{teal}{7} \textcolor{teal}{3} \textcolor{teal}{1} \textcolor{teal}{2}.$$

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**NONCOMMUTATIVE**

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## Lemma (D,Ebrahimi-Fard,Tapia '19)

For  $x, x' \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{ev. const.}}^{\mathbb{N}}$  let denote  $x \sqcup x' \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{ev. const.}}^{\mathbb{N}}$  their concatenation.

Then:

$$\text{ISS}(x \sqcup x') = \text{ISS}(x) \bullet \text{ISS}(x') \quad \text{“Chen’s identity”}.$$

## Remark

This leads to a (naive) implementation, since  $\text{ISS}(\text{'one increment'})$  is easy to calculate.

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## Lemma (Malvenuto, Reutenauer '94; DEFT '19)

$$\langle \alpha, \text{ISS}(x) \rangle \cdot \langle \beta, \text{ISS}(x) \rangle = \langle \alpha \sqcup \beta, \text{ISS}(x) \rangle \quad \text{"shuffle identity"}.$$

Here  $\sqcup$  is the **quasisshuffle** on  $H^*$ . For example

$$1 \sqcup 1 = 2 \mid 1 + 2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \left( \sum_i \delta x_i \right)^2 = 2 \sum_{i_1 < i_2} \delta x_{i_1} \delta x_{i_2} + \sum_i (\delta x_i)^2.$$

$$1 \mid 2 \sqcup 3 = 1 \mid 2 \mid 3 + 1 \mid 3 \mid 2 + 3 \mid 1 \mid 2 + 1 \mid 5 + 4 \mid 2 = 3 \sqcup 1 \mid 2.$$

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$$1 \mid 2 \sqcup 3 = 1 \mid 2 \mid 3 + 1 \mid 3 \mid 2 + 3 \mid 1 \mid 2 + 1 \mid 5 + 4 \mid 2 = 3 \sqcup 1 \mid 2.$$

Just as for the iterated-integrals signature (Chen, Lyons, Reutenauer, ..), we get

Theorem (D,Ebrahimi-Fard,Tapia '19)

*The iterated-sums signature is a character on the Hopf algebra, endowed with quasishuffle product and deconcatenation coproduct.*

And this works for multidimensional time-series analogously.

Without going into details, this result gives that  $\text{ISS}(x)$  is **grouplike**, and in bijection to its logarithm

$$\log \text{ISS}(x) = \text{ISS}(x) + \frac{1}{2!} \text{ISS}(x)^{\bullet 2} + \frac{1}{3!} \text{ISS}(x)^{\bullet 3} + \dots$$

This logarithm lives in a **Lie algebra** and should yield the disentanglement of Question B.

	dim ISS of weight $n$	dim log ISS of weight $n$
$n = 1$	1	1
$n = 2$	2	1
$n = 3$	3	2
$n = 4$	4	2

To really show that this is the *minimal* amount of information contained in  $\text{ISS}(x)$ , one step is still missing though ... (Chow's theorem)

## SUMMARY

- Time warping invariants are very relevant for time series analysis.
- All *polynomial* invariants are given by (evaluation of) quasisymmetric functions.
- They are conveniently stored in a Hopf algebra framework and provide a concrete view on these abstract structures.

THANK YOU!



## ADVERTISEMENT

Noémie Combe (MPI Leipzig) and I are organizing an online reading group on operads .

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Tree 1} = \text{Tree 2} = \text{Tree 3} \\ Y_{o_1} Y = Y_{o_2} Y \end{array}$$

If you are interested in joining: please get in touch!