

Digital Signal Processing

Lecture 7 – Autocorrelation

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Definition of correlation

- Very useful tool for signal analysis.
 - The analysis of autocorrelation is a mathematical tool for finding repeating patterns, such as the presence of a periodic signal obscured by noise.
 - Identifying the missing fundamental frequency in a signal implied by its harmonic frequencies.
- Correlation between variables
 - If you know the value of one, you have some information about the other.
 - Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient (to quantify the correlation)

$$\rho = \frac{\sum_i (x_i - \mu_x)(y_i - \mu_y)}{N \sigma_x \sigma_y}, \quad -1 \leq \rho \leq 1$$

μ_x, μ_y : mean of x and y

σ_x, σ_y : standard deviation of x and y

The meaning of correlation

- If ρ is positive,
 - The correlation is positive
 - When one variable is high, the other tends to be high.
 - And, vice versa.
- The magnitude of ρ
 - The strength of the correlation.
 - If $\rho = 1$ or -1 , the variables are perfectly correlated and if you know one, you can make a perfect prediction about the other.
 - If $\rho \sim 0$, the correlation is probably weak.
 - “probably weak” because it is also possible that there is a nonlinear relationship that is not captured by the coefficient of correlation.
- Correlation in Python

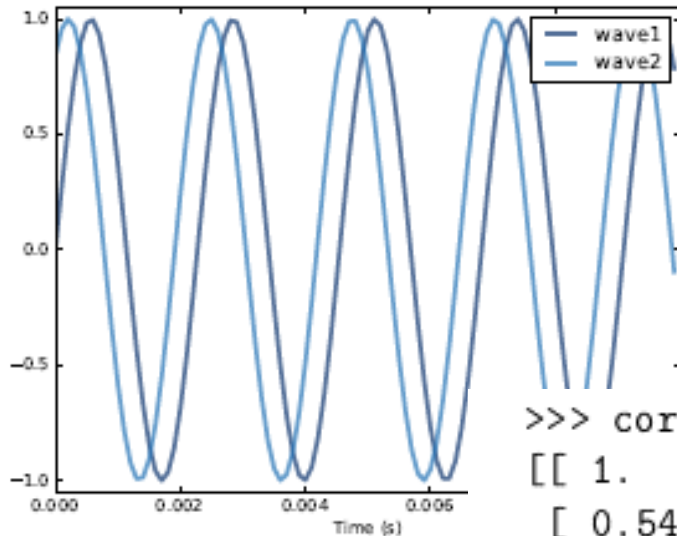
```
>>> from numpy import *
>>> T = array([1.3, 4.5, 2.8, 3.9]) # temperature measurements
>>> P = array([2.7, 8.7, 4.7, 8.2]) # corresponding pressure measurements
>>> print corrcoef([T,P]) # correlation matrix of temperature and pressure
[[ 1. 0.98062258]
 [ 0.98062258 1. ]]
```

Correlation example I

```
def make_sine(offset):  
    signal = thinkdsp.SinSignal(freq=440, offset=offset)  
    wave = signal.make_wave(duration=0.5, framerate=10000)  
    return wave
```

```
wave1 = make_sine(offset=0)  
wave2 = make_sine(offset=1)
```

make_sine(offset) constructs sine waves with different phase offsets



```
>>> corr_matrix = np.corrcoef(wave1.ys, wave2.ys, ddof=0)  
[[ 1.    0.54]  
 [ 0.54  1.   ]]
```

The option `ddof=0` indicates that `corrcoef` should divide by N , as in the equation above, rather than use the default, $N - 1$.

Correlation example 2

As the offset increases, the correlation decreases until the waves are 180 degrees (π) out of phase, which yields correlation -1

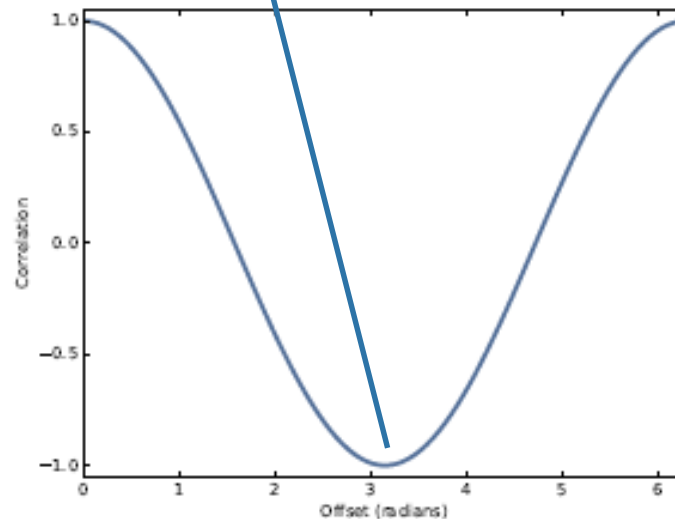


Figure 5.2: The correlation of two sine waves as a function of the phase offset between them. The result is a cosine.

thinkdsp provides a simple interface for computing the correlation between waves:

```
>>> wave1.corr(wave2)
0.54
```

Serial correlation I

- The correlation between each element and the next (or the previous).
 - To compute it, we can shift a signal and then compute the correlation of the shifted version with the original.

```
def serial_corr(wave, lag=1):  
    n = len(wave)  
    y1 = wave.ys[lag:]  
    y2 = wave.ys[:n-lag]  
    corr = np.corrcoef(y1, y2, ddof=0)[0, 1]  
    return corr
```

`serial_corr` takes a `Wave` object and `lag`, which is the integer number of places to shift the wave. It computes the correlation of the wave with a shifted version of itself.

Serial correlation 2

```
signal = thinkdsp.UncorrelatedGaussianNoise()  
wave = signal.make_wave(duration=0.5, framerate=11025)  
serial_corr(wave)
```

The result value will be small or large? -- Yes, comparably small (0.06). Why?

```
signal = thinkdsp.BrownianNoise()  
wave = signal.make_wave(duration=0.5, framerate=11025)  
serial_corr(wave)
```

How about the Brownian noise? -- Yes, comparably large (0.999). Why?

```
signal = thinkdsp.PinkNoise(beta=1)  
wave = signal.make_wave(duration=0.5, framerate=11025)  
serial_corr(wave)
```

How about pink noise? -- Yes, inbetween Brownian and UU noise (0.851). Why?

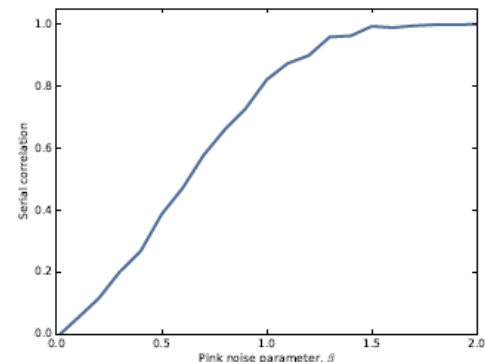


Figure 5.3: Serial correlation for pink noise with a range of parameters.

Autocorrelation I

■ Definition

- Serial_corr can be thought as a function that maps from each value of lag to the corresponding correlation.
- We can evaluate that function by looping through values of lag.

```
def autocorr(wave):  
    lags = range(len(wave.ys)//2)  
    corrs = [serial_corr(wave, lag) for lag in lags]  
    return lags, corrs
```

autocorr takes a Wave object and returns the autocorrelation function as a pair of sequences: lags is a sequence of integers from 0 to half the length of the wave; corrs is the sequence of serial correlations for each lag.

Autocorrelation 2

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Autocorrelation example

For low values of β , the signal is less correlated.

For high values of β , the serial correlation is stronger and drops off more slowly, which is called “long-range dependence

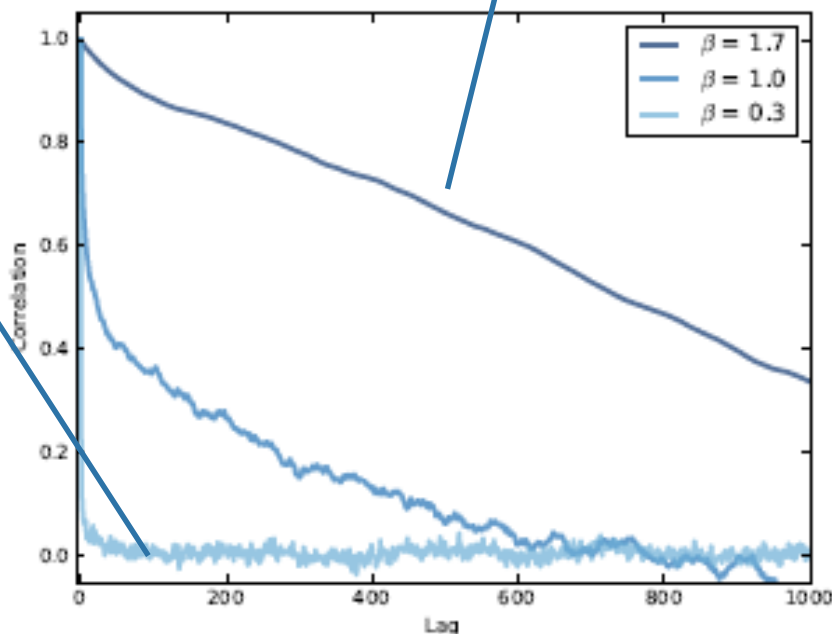


Figure 5.4: Autocorrelation functions for pink noise with a range of parameters.

Autocorrelation of periodic signals I

- A chirp that starts near 500Hz and drops down to about 300Hz.

- 28042__bcjordan__voicedownbew.wav : listen to this

```
duration = 0.01  
segment = wave.segment(start=0.2, duration=duration)  
spectrum = segment.make_spectrum()  
spectrum.plot(high=1000)
```

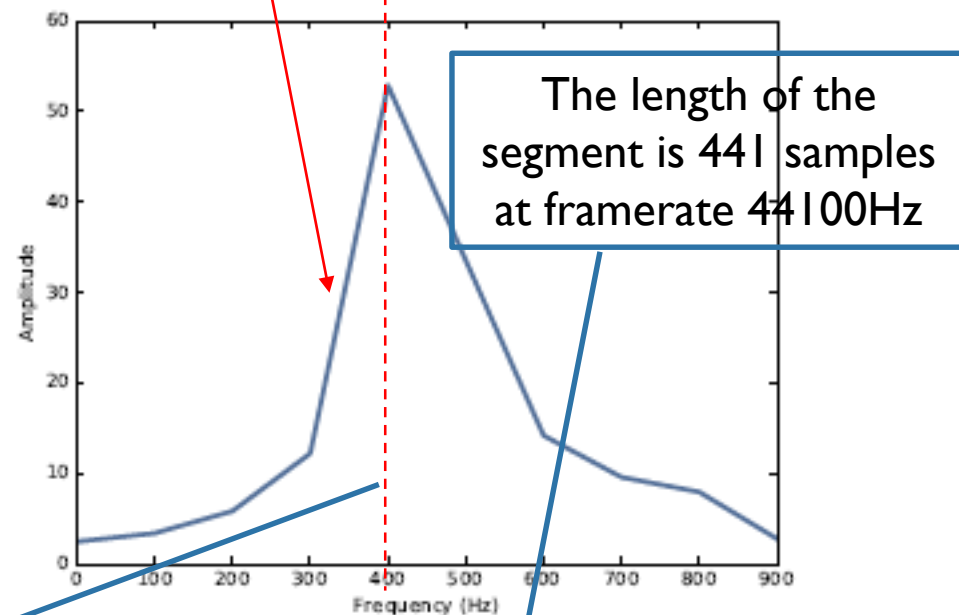
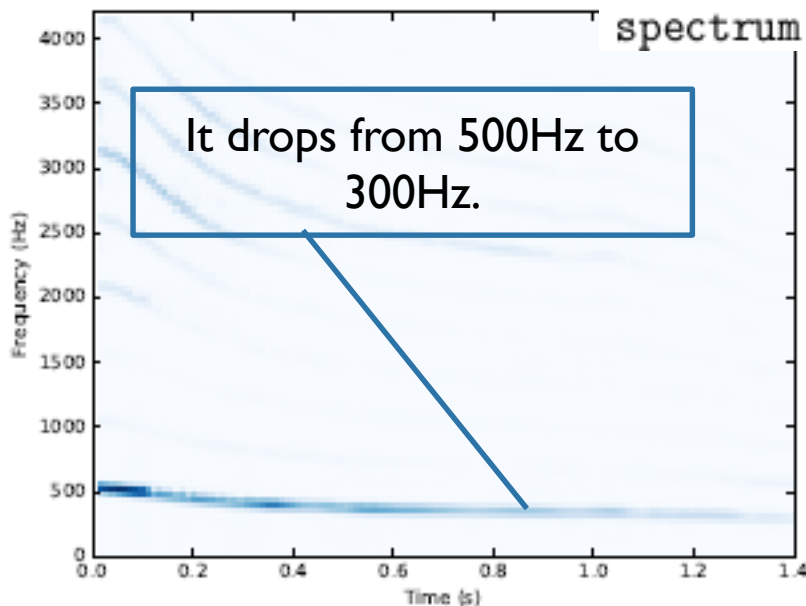


Figure 5.5: Spectrogram of a vocal chirp.

|| A clear peak near 400Hz

Figure 5.6: Spectrum of a segment from a vocal chirp.

Autocorrelation of periodic signals 2

- Is the peak 400Hz precisely?
 - The freq. resolution : 100Hz (Why?)
 - The estimated peak might be off by 50Hz.
 - The peak ranges from 350Hz to 450Hz.
 - We could get better freq. resolution by taking a longer segment, but pitch is changing over time.
- We can estimate the pitch more precisely using autocorrelation.
 - If a signal is periodic, the autocorrelation spikes when the lag equals the period.

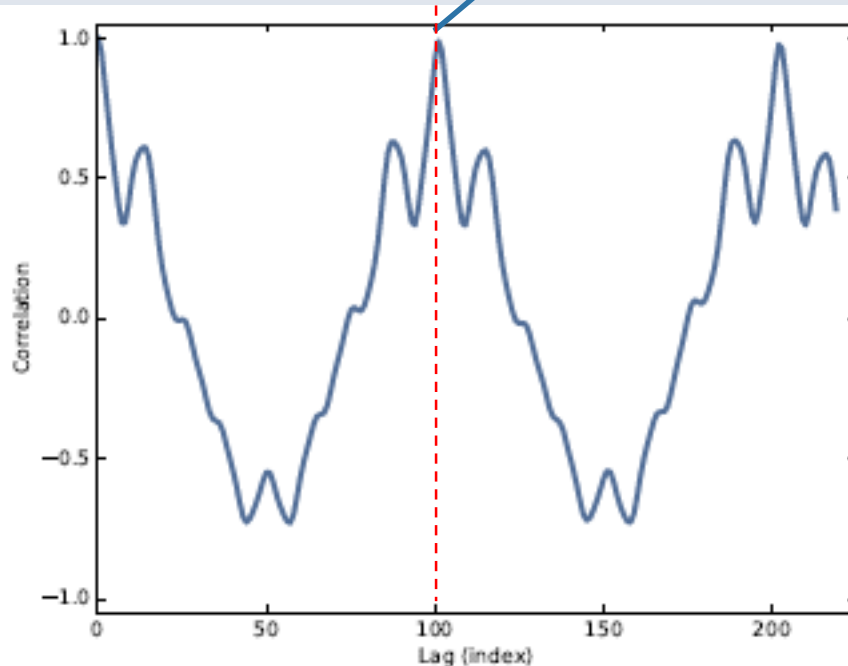
Finding period using autocorrelation I

```
def plot_shifted(wave, offset=0.001, start=0.2):  
    thinkplot.preplot(2)  
  
    segment1 = wave.segment(start=start, duration=0.01)  
    segment1.plot(linewidth=2, alpha=0.8)  
  
    segment2 = wave.segment(start=start-offset, duration=0.01)  
    segment2.shift(offset)  
    segment2.plot(linewidth=2, alpha=0.4)  
  
    corr = segment1.corr(segment2)  
    text = r'$\rho = $ %.2g' % corr  
    thinkplot.text(segment1.start+0.0005, -0.8, text)  
    thinkplot.config(xlabel='Time (s)')  
  
lags, corrs = autocorr(segment)  
thinkplot.plot(lags, corrs)
```

The result is shown in
Figure 5.8

Finding period using autocorrelation 2

The first peak occurs at lag=101.



* What is the freq. of the segment?

$$\text{period} = \text{lag} / \text{segment.framerate} \\ = 101 / 44100$$

$$\text{freq.} = 1 / \text{period} = 437 \text{ Hz}$$

* What is the freq. precision?

$$\text{If lag}=100 \rightarrow 432 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\text{If lag}=102 \rightarrow 441 \text{ Hz, so } < 10 \text{ Hz}$$

Figure 5.8: Autocorrelation function for a segment from a chirp.

Increased framerate incurs increased freq. precision, which contradicts Gabor limit.

* Comparison of the freq. precision?

$$432 - 437 - 441$$

$$350 - 400 - 450$$

Correlation as a dot product

- In signal processing, unbiased and normalized signals are often used, where the mean is 0 and the standard deviation is 1.

- $\rho = \frac{\sum_i (x_i - \mu_x)(y_i - \mu_y)}{N\sigma_x\sigma_y} = \frac{\sum_i x_i y_i}{N}$, or

- $r = \sum_i x_i y_i$

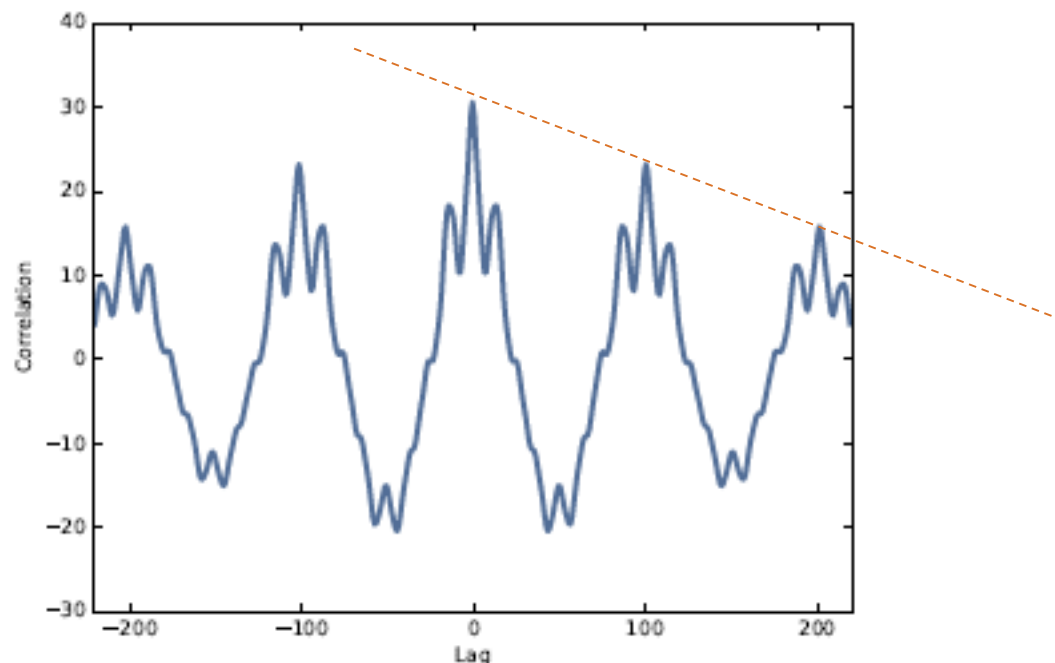
- If x and y is in the form of vector, r is the dot product.

- $\cos\theta = \frac{x \cdot y}{\|x\| \|y\|}$, where θ is the angle between the vectors. Also see Figure 5.2 which is a cosine wave.

Using Numpy

```
corrs2 = np.correlate(segment.ys, segment.ys, mode='same')
```

The option `mode` tells `correlate` what range of lag to use. With the value `'same'`, the range is from $-N/2$ to $N/2$, where N is the length of the wave array.



Using Numpy

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- We can correct the decreasing correlation with the following.

Divide the correlation by gradually decreasing numbers

```
lengths = range(N, N//2, -1)  
half /= lengths
```

Normalize the result so the correlation with lag=0 is 1.

```
half /= half[0]
```