



# The high-dimensional and multi-modal Bayesian inference code

## Application to Asteroseismology

### **Enrico Corsaro**

enrico.corsaro@cea.fr CEA Saclay

# **Bayesian Statistics**

## Bayes Theorem

$$\mathbf{D} = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_m\}$$
$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

 $\boldsymbol{\theta} = \{\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k\}$ 

k free parameters (parameter vector)

Dataset (observations)

Model to be tested



k-dimensional **parameter space** defined by the free parameters



 $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \pi(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\mathcal{E}}$ 4







# Bayesian Inference

• The Bayesian inference of a dataset is divided in two problems:

### Parameter Estimation

Allows to obtain the estimates of all the free parameters and the corresponding error bars

### Model comparison

Provides a way to select the best model to represent the observations among different possible ones

## Parameter estimation

• k-dimensional parameter space

 $oldsymbol{ heta} = \{ heta_1, heta_2, \dots, heta_k\}$  k free parameters (parameter vector)

Marginal PDF



• To obtain the PDF of a single parameter we can marginalize the posterior PDF

## Model comparison

Likelihood Prior Posterior





# Model comparison

• **Bayesian Evidence** is an a-dimensional quantity given as a k-dimensional integral over the entire parameter space (does not exist in frequentist approach!)

$$\mathcal{E} = \int \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \, \pi(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \, d\boldsymbol{\theta}$$



$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \pi(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\mathcal{E}}$$

# Model comparison

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$$\Omega_{\mathcal{M}}$$



<u>WEIGHT</u>: simple models are preferred (Occam's razor)

## Problems

- For **k > 3** no more analytical solutions to the marginalization problem (hence also the computation of the Bayesian Evidence integral)
- Numerical integration needed but for higher dimensions (k ~ 20) is not enough (too approximated)
- Numerical sampling techniques (e.g. **Monte Carlo**) are approximate by definition, so lot of samples are required.
- Sampling algorithm can get stuck into a local maximum and never be able to explore all the parameter space (e.g. Eggbox). Lot of adhoc improvements required, depending on the application.
- Computational time and number of samples to be used can be a real problem. Big limitations to complex fitting problems.

# The basic algorithm

## Nested Sampling Monte Carlo (NSMC) Skilling 2004

• For k free parameters to estimate, Bayesian Evidence is a k-dimensional integral

$$\mathcal{E} = \int \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \boldsymbol{\pi}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) d\boldsymbol{\theta}$$

### Bayes' Theorem

$$p\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}\right) = \frac{\mathcal{L}\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}\right)\pi\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}\right)}{\mathcal{E}}$$

• Convert evidence into a one-dimensional integral



$$\mathcal{E} = \int_{0}^{1} \mathcal{L}(X) \, dX$$
$$dX = \pi(\theta) \, d\theta \quad \text{small portion of prior volume (prior mass)}$$

**Bayesian Evidence** 

 $\mathcal{E} = \int_{0}^{1} \mathcal{L}\left(X\right) dX$ 



**Bayesian Evidence** 

 $\mathcal{E} = \int_{0}^{1} \mathcal{L}\left(X\right) dX$ 







• **ADVANTAGES** with respect to Markov chain Monte Carlo:

- Typically ~100 times fewer samples than thermodynamic integration to calculate evidence to same accuracy + error bar
- 2. **Direct** solution to model comparison problems
- No troubles with phase changes in likelihood (multi modal distributions)





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### DIAMONDS: A new Bayesian nested sampling tool\*

#### Application to peak bagging of solar-like oscillations

E. Corsaro and J. De Ridder

Instituut voor Sterrenkunde, KU Leuven, Celestijnenlaan 200D, 3001 Leuven, Belgium e-mail: emncorsaro@gmail.com, joris.deridder@ster.kuleuven.be

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- C++11 code for **inference** problems in a Bayesian framework:
  - Dataset to fit
  - Model to test
  - Estimate the free parameters of the model



- C++11 code for **inference** problems in a Bayesian framework:
  - Dataset to fit (Likelihood)
  - Model to test (**Prior**)
  - Estimate the free parameters of the model (**Posterior**)



### Likelihood Prior Posterior

# Working scheme



# What makes **DIAMONDS** so appealing? (1)

- Basic core **public** available (now released v. 1.1) with usable demos
- General for **any** application involving Bayesian Inference
- Bayesian evidence (essential for model comparison problems) is a direct output
- Very powerful in identifying multiple (degenerate) solutions, also in highdimensions
- Code implementation is **flexible** and easy to upgrade (replace modules, add new ones)
- Different types of **prior** distributions and likelihood functions already provided
- Attracted more than **50 users** from many world's institutions and different fields of physics



# What makes **DIAMONDS** so appealing? (2)

- **Overtakes** other existing MCMC, NSMC codes (e.g. MultiNest, POLYCHORD)
- Foreseen upgrade with full multi-core parallelization by early 2017 (v. 2.0)



Year

## Prior distributions



#### Corsaro & De Ridder 2014 A&A, 571, 71

## Prior distributions



#### Corsaro & De Ridder 2014 A&A, 571, 71

## Prior distributions



Super Gaussian

Corsaro & De Ridder 2014 A&A, 571, 71



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#### Corsaro & De Ridder 2014 A&A, 571, 71



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### **Gaussian Shell Function**

N = 3100 Samples



# Examples for real applications

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) e.g. detecting the position of individual atoms





# Examples for real applications

Detecting signal from a noisy background e.g. detecting SZ effect in CBR maps



# Examples for real applications

Fitting very complex time-series shapes e.g. spot modeling for differential rotation in active stars

KIC7765135



# Asteroseismology
# Why do we need **DIAMONDS**?

- 1. Tackling **high-dimensional** and/or **multi-modal** fitting problems at high speed (otherwise very difficult, if not impossible, to solve with standard methods and available computational power)
- 2. Easy and direct solution to model comparison problems

# For example? Asteroseismology!

but also... exoplanetary science, solar physics, cosmology, high-energy physics, etc.

# What is Asteroseismology?

# The analysis of stellar oscillations to probe stellar structure, dynamics, and evolution

- The most powerful available approach to look inside the stars!
- Our main example: **the Sun** (helioseismology)
- Many stars oscillate similarly to the Sun (solar-like): about 40,000 known to date and growing every year

# Solar-like oscillators

- Spectral types F-K, can be observed at galactic scale distances (up to about 10 kpc)
- The most common, hence constitute a statistically useful sample for population studies
- Often host Earth-sized planets and offer extended habitability zones, hence crucial to study the conditions for life
- Cover all epochs of star formation in the different regions of the Galaxy (thin and thick disks, and the halo)
- Show narrow spectral lines that provide more accurate and precise element abundances than for other stars.



# Solar-like oscillations

- Acoustic waves from surface convection in low- and intermediate-mass stars (*p* modes)
- Produce tiny brightness variations (10<sup>-6</sup> - 10<sup>-3</sup> mag)
- Each oscillation mode can be identified by three quantum numbers







Beck & Kallinger S&W 2013

# Time-series analysis



# Global parameters



### Global parameters



## Fine-structure of p modes



# Why do we need this?

#### Constrain and understand to the best level possible + Spectroscopy

#### **Physical Properties & Internal Structure**



Mass, Radius to few percent precision



Position of BCZ, Hell zone Evolutionary stage



Metallicity effect



- Problem 1: big dataset + fitting numerous oscillation modes (peaks) per star (can be more than 100)
- **Problem 2**: testing if a peak is real or not (noise)

### Problem 1 Solving a high-dimensional fitting problem

# High-dimensional Model

#### About 180 free parameters! Computational time increases a lot





Frequency



Frequency



Frequency



#### Corsaro & De Ridder 2014 A&A, 571, 71

### Results

# Multi-modal inference problem on 9 consecutive radial orders (27 peaks)

#### **Only 9 free parameters!**



#### Corsaro & De Ridder 2014 A&A, 571, 71

### Comparison

#### **Red**: uni-modal fit **Blue**: multi-modal fit



Corsaro & De Ridder 2014 A&A, 571, 71

### Comparison

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### Problem 2 Test the significance of an oscillation peak

# Peak Significance Criterion



# Peak significance





# Peak significance

 $\mathcal{M}_{\ell=2}$  Both  $\ell$  = 2 and  $\ell$  = 0





# Peak significance

 $\mathcal{M}_{\ell=2}$  Both  $\ell$  = 2 and  $\ell$  = 0



#### **Bayesian Evidence**



# Oscillations in red giant stars

# RGB oscillations



© Thomas Kallinger

*p* modes couple with gravity modes (*g* modes) from radiative interior (mixed modes)



### RGB oscillations



Many oscillation modes per star (up to about 100)!

# Results on 19 RGB stars

Corsaro, De Ridder, García 2015 A&A, 579, 83

- **1618** oscillation modes extracted
- 612 peaks tested (38%) with Bayesian model comparison
- **380** peaks detected (62% of tested peaks)
- Internal rotation detected in **14** stars



Corsaro, De Ridder, García 2015 A&A, 579, 83



# Acoustic glitches

Corsaro, De Ridder, García 2015 A&A, 578, 76



# Signature of Hell zone

Corsaro, De Ridder, García 2015 A&A, 578, 76



- The position of HeII zone is constrained up to 2% precision!
- Amplitudes up to 6%, can give estimate of He abundance in convective envelope

### Evolution of Hell zone

Corsaro, De Ridder, García 2015 A&A, 578, 76



# Ongoing research

 Analysis of granulation and oscillation properties of the Sun with GOLF & VIRGO + correlation with magnetic activity

• Full characterization of red giant stars in NASA Kepler open clusters NGC 6791, NGC 6811, NGC 6819

 Analysis of solar oscillations reflected from Neptune's atmosphere, observed by K2









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Package Content	• Working Scheme
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Publications	
Events	
Statistics	Authors
Logo	Enrico Corsaro emncorsaro(at)gmail.com
	Joris De Ridder

https://fys.kuleuven.be/ster/Software/Diamonds/

joris.deridder(at)ster.kuleuven.be





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