Neural Posterior Estimation with guaranteed exact coverage: the ringdown of GW150914



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Based on arXiv:2305.18528

Outline

- Introduction to parameter estimation for GWs
- Simulation based inference (SBI) and calibration
- Ringdown parameter estimation (GW150914)
- SBI applied to the ringdown of GW150914
- Conclusions

Introduction to PE for GWs

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Extracting physics from data!

Introduction to PE for GWs









s(t) = h(t) + n(t)

Strain Signal Noise

$$O = \mathcal{N} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(s - h(\theta_t)|s - h(\theta_t))\right\}$$

od
$$(A|B) = \operatorname{Re} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} df \, \frac{\tilde{A}^*(f)\tilde{B}(f)}{(1/2)S_n(f)}$$
$$\downarrow$$
$$\langle \tilde{n}^*(f)\tilde{n}(f')\rangle = \delta(f - f')\frac{1}{2}S_n(f)$$





Introduction to PE for GWs

Likelihood-based inference

- Use of stochastic samplers as MCMC or Nested Sampling
- Many evaluations of the likelihood
- Drawbacks: \bullet
 - Noise is not stationary and gaussian (+glitches, gaps, etc.)
 - Very slow!

$p(\theta|s) \propto \Lambda(s|\theta)\pi(\theta)$



Simulation-based inference

Likelihood-free inference



Forward-simulator

Based on deep learning techniques







Simulation-based inference $\{\boldsymbol{\theta}_n, \boldsymbol{x}_n\}$ $n = 1, \ldots, N$ Neural Network $\phi = F(\boldsymbol{x}, \psi)$ Conditional density $\mathcal{L}(\psi) = -\sum_{n=1}^{N} \log \frac{q_{\phi(\boldsymbol{x}_n,\psi)}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_n)/\pi(\boldsymbol{\theta}_n)}{\sum_{m=1}^{M} q_{\phi(\boldsymbol{x}_n,\psi)}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_m)/\pi(\boldsymbol{\theta}_m)}$ **Cross-entropy** loss

Neural density estimation

$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{x}) \propto q_{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{x})$





Simulation-based inference

Neural density estimation



Base distribution

with Normalising Flows

 $\boldsymbol{\theta} = f(\boldsymbol{\vartheta})$

- Invertible
- Tractable Jacobian

Target distribution

 $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = q\left(f^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\theta})\right) \left| \det\left(\frac{\partial f^{-1}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}}\right) \right|$

Simulation-based inference

Neural density estimation

with Normalising Flow

Masked Autoregressive Flow

 $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{x}) = \prod_{i=1}^{n}$



(a) Target density

Papamakarios et al. (2018)

$$q_{\phi_i}(heta_i | oldsymbol{ heta}_{1:i-1}, oldsymbol{x})$$



MAF with 5 layers



Validation and Calibration

How can we trust the posteriors to be right?





Empirical coverage



$$\mathcal{Z}(\gamma) \equiv \int_0^\gamma \mathcal{P}(\gamma') \mathrm{d}\gamma'$$

Validation and Calibration

How can we trust the posteriors to be right?

Bayesian P-P Plot

$\mathcal{C}(\gamma) \longrightarrow \text{Empirical coverage}$

the frequency with which regions of different credibility include (cover) $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0$

Averaging across the prior space!



Validation and Calibration

How can we trust the posteriors to be right?







Validation and <u>Calibration</u>

From this map we can construct frequentist confidence regions with guaranteed exact coverage!

For a given observation **x** we include in the region the parameters $heta_0$ for which $\gamma(m{ heta}_0,m{x})<\hat{\gamma}(m{ heta}_0, ilde{\gamma})$





Ringdown PE

$h(t) = F_+h_+ + F_\times h_\times$

 $h_{+} - ih_{\times} = \sum_{\ell m} h_{\ell m}(t)_{-2} Y_{\ell m}(\iota, \phi)$





$$\binom{-1}{\ell m n} (t - t_0)$$

Ringdown PE for GW150914



Ringdown PE for GW150914





Ringdown PE for GW150914



Ringdown PE for GW150914

Finch & Moore (2022) $\sim 1.8\sigma$

Frequency domain analysis

Ma et al. (2023)

Bayes factor 600





SBI PE for ringdown GW150914

- 10⁵ waveforms x 50 noise realisations each
- $\ell = m = 2$, n = 0, 1
- T=0.1 s, sample rate 4096Hz, $t_0 = t_{\text{peak}} = 1126259462.42323 \text{ GPS}$, $f \in [100, 650] \text{Hz}$
- Uniform priors $M_f \in [50, 100] M_{\odot}, \chi_f \in [0, 1], A_{22n} \in [0, 5] \cdot 10^{-20} \text{ and } \phi_{22n} \in [0, 2\pi]$
- Learning rate $5 \cdot 10^{-4}$, batches size 100, stop after 25 epochs of no loss decrees
- Priors truncation scheme at 4σ , factor 2 condition
- H1 (107+125) epochs, L1 (145) epochs
- ~10 minutes x epoch on NVIDIA A-100 GPU (total training time: 2 days)

SBI PE for ringdown GW150914

<u>Un-calibrated inference</u>



—SBI (uncalibrated)

SBI PE for ringdown GW150914







2500 pixels (P-P plot) Χ 1000 inferences each



Conclusions

- Fast inference allows frequentist validation and calibration of posteriors
- Extremely important for low SNR (~ 9) GW events
- Applied to ringdown of GW150914
- Calibration has an impact on the physical results, lowering the evidence of the first overtone
- Future extensions:
 - non-Gaussian/non-stationary noise
 - More complex waveforms [e.g. higher harmonics (GW190521), non-linear QNMs]
 - Tests of gravity
 - LISA / ET (higher SNR)

Thank you!