

The case of two complex Lorentzians has a power spectrum given by:

$$PSD(\omega) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left(\frac{\omega^2(ar_1br_1 - ai_1bi_1) + (ai_1bi_1 + ar_1br_1)(bi_1^2 + br_1^2)}{\omega^4 + 2(br_1^2 - bi_1^2)\omega^2 + (bi_1^2 + br_1^2)^2} \right. \quad (1)$$

$$\left. + \frac{\omega^2(ar_2br_2 - ai_2bi_2) + (ai_2bi_2 + ar_2br_2)(bi_2^2 + br_2^2)}{\omega^4 + 2(br_2^2 - bi_2^2)\omega^2 + (bi_2^2 + br_2^2)^2} \right) \quad (2)$$

The corresponding kernel is:

$$K(\tau) = e^{-br_1\tau}(ar_1 \cos(bi_1\tau) + ai_1 \sin(bi_1\tau)) \quad (3)$$

$$+ e^{-br_2\tau}(ar_2 \cos(bi_2\tau) + ai_2 \sin(bi_2\tau)). \quad (4)$$

Each of the denominators is positive, so we just need to check that the numerator of the combined fraction is positive.

This gives a cubic equation in $z = \omega^2$:

$$z^3 + az^2 + bz + c > 0 \quad (5)$$

where

$$d = ar_1br_1 - ai_1bi_1 + ar_2br_2 - ai_2bi_2 \quad (6)$$

$$a \cdot d = 2(br_2^2 - bi_2^2)(ar_1br_1 - ai_1bi_1) + 2(br_1^2 - bi_1^2)(ar_2br_2 - ai_2bi_2) \quad (7)$$

$$+ (bi_1^2 + br_1^2)(ai_1bi_1 + ar_1br_1) + (bi_2^2 + br_2^2)(ai_2bi_2 + ar_2br_2) \quad (8)$$

$$b \cdot d = 2(br_2^2 - bi_2^2)(bi_1^2 + br_1^2)(ai_1bi_1 + ar_1br_1) \quad (9)$$

$$+ 2(br_1^2 - bi_1^2)(bi_2^2 + br_2^2)(ai_2bi_2 + ar_2br_2) \quad (10)$$

$$+ (bi_2^2 + br_2^2)^2(ar_1br_1 - ai_1bi_1) + (bi_1^2 + br_1^2)^2(ar_2br_2 - ai_2bi_2) \quad (11)$$

$$c \cdot d = (bi_2^2 + br_2^2)^2(bi_1^2 + br_1^2)(ai_1bi_1 + ar_1br_1) \quad (12)$$

$$+ (bi_1^2 + br_1^2)^2(bi_2^2 + br_2^2)(ai_2bi_2 + ar_2br_2). \quad (13)$$

Note that if $d = 0$, then we get a quadratic with the requirement $az^2 + bz + c > 0$, where $a \cdot d \rightarrow a$, $b \cdot d \rightarrow b$, and $c \cdot d \rightarrow c$ in the equations for the coefficients.

The number of real roots of the cubic is three if

$$\Delta = 18abc - 4a^3c + a^2b^2 - 4b^3 - 27c^2 \geq 0, \quad (14)$$

and only one otherwise (see NR 5.6 and Wikipedia).

If $\Delta \geq 0$, then compute:

$$\theta = \arccos \left(\frac{2a^3 - 9ab + 27c}{2(a^2 - 3b)^{3/2}} \right). \quad (15)$$

Note: $a^2 - 3b > 0$ if $\Delta > 0$, and $\theta = 0$ if $\Delta = 0$.

Then, the maximum root, z_{max} , is:

$$z_{max} = -\frac{2}{3}\sqrt{a^2 - 3b} \cos \left(\frac{((\theta + \pi) \bmod 2\pi) + \pi}{3} \right) - \frac{a}{3}. \quad (16)$$

When $\Delta < 0$, then compute:

$$R = \frac{2a^3 - 9ab + 27c}{54} \quad (17)$$

$$Q = \frac{a^2 - 3b}{9} \quad (18)$$

$$A = -\text{sgn}(R) \left[|R| + \sqrt{R^2 - Q^3} \right]^{1/3} \quad (19)$$

$$B = \begin{cases} Q/A & \text{if } A \neq 0; \\ 0 & \text{if } A = 0. \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

$$z_{max} = A + B - \frac{a}{3}. \quad (21)$$

In the quadratic case ($d = 0$), then if $b^2 - 4ac < 0$, then there is no solution. If $b^2 - 4ac \geq 0$, then $z_{max} = \max \left(\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \right)$.

If $z_{max} \geq 0$, then there is a real solution for $\omega = \sqrt{z_{max}}$, and hence the power spectrum goes non-positive for real $\omega \geq 0$. If $z_{max} < 0$, then the power spectrum is everywhere positive.