

Worksheet 8: Error Analysis

June 7th, 2016

General Remarks

- The deadline for handing in the worksheets is **Tuesday, June 14th, 2016, 10:00**.
- On this worksheet, you can achieve a maximum of 10 points.
- To hand in your solutions, send an email to `mkuron@icp.uni-stuttgart.de`.

The data needed in this worksheet can be found in the file `ws8.pkl.gz` on the home page.

Task 8.1: Error Analysis and the Autocorrelation Function (4 points)

The data file contains five (artificially generated) time series with a well-defined autocorrelation time. The example programs contains code to read the data from the file and plot a part of the data series.

- **8.1.1** (2 points) Compute and plot the interesting parts of the autocorrelation functions of the different time series.
- **8.1.2** (1 point) Estimate the autocorrelation time τ_C of the different series from the plots, by fitting the corresponding exponential function to the autocorrelation function. You can do this either visually (*i.e.* by trying out different values of τ_C and see how it fits) or by any other method (*e.g.* `scipy.optimize.curve_fit()`).
- **8.1.3** (1 point) Compute the mean values of the different series and their statistical errors from the estimated correlation times.

Hints

- You may want to use the functions `numpy.mean()`, `numpy.std()` or `numpy.var()`.
- The autocorrelation function will not converge toward 0 when the mean value of the functions is not 0. Therefore preprocess the data and subtract the mean value.
- The autocorrelation function decays very quickly, so you will have to zoom the function at small τ .
- When fitting the exponential, you should only fit at small τ .

Task 8.2: Error Analysis of Real Simulation Data (2 points)

The data file also contains the simulation data from the previous worksheet. The example programs show how to read and plot part of the data.

In the previous worksheet, you have determined the equilibration time of the time series. In all of the following tasks, use only the data *after* the equilibration time (*i.e.* the *equilibrated* data).

- **8.2.1** (1 point) Plot the interesting parts of the autocorrelation function of the equilibrated data.
- **8.2.2** (1 point) As in the previous task, estimate the mean values, the statistical errors and the correlation times of the equilibrated data.

Task 8.3: Binning Analysis (4 points)

- **8.3.1** (2 points) Implement a Python function that computes the binning error estimate for a given bin size of a given data set.
- **8.3.2** (1 point) Plot the binning error estimate versus the bin size for the different data sets (both the artificial and the simulation data) and read off the binning error estimates and the correlation times.
- **8.3.3** (1 point) Compare the binning autocorrelation times with the estimates from the fitted autocorrelation function in the previous tasks. Do they match? Which of them do not match? Do you have an idea why?