

# Volterra-Prabhakar function of distributed order and Applications

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# Overview

1 Introduction and Preliminaries

2 Properties and Theorems

3 Applications

# Definitions

Volterra's function is defined as follows [1,2]

$$\mu(t, \beta, \alpha) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1 + \beta)} \int_0^\infty \frac{t^{u+\alpha} u^\beta}{\Gamma(u + \alpha + 1)} du, \quad \beta > -1 \quad \text{and} \quad t > 0, \quad (1)$$

whose particular cases are

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha = \beta = 0 : \quad \nu(t) &= \mu(t, 0, 0), \\ \alpha \neq 0, \beta = 0 : \quad \nu(t, \alpha) &= \mu(t, 0, \alpha), \\ \alpha = 0, \beta \neq 0 : \quad \mu(t, \beta) &= \mu(t, \beta, 0).\end{aligned}$$

The Laplace transform of the Volterra's function  $\mu(t, \beta, \alpha)$  is given by

$$L[\mu(t, \beta, \alpha); s] = \frac{1}{s^{\alpha+1} \log^{\beta+1} s}. \quad (2)$$

# Volterra integral equation with logarithmic kernel

V.Volterra (1916) [3], Garrappa-Mainardi (2016) [4]

$$\int_0^t u(\tau) \log(t - \tau) d\tau = f(t), \quad f(0) = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$f(t) = t \implies u(t) = -\nu(te^{-\gamma}) \quad (4)$$

Ramanujan identity, Hardy (1940), Twelve lectures on subjects suggested by his life and work, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, England, New York.

$$\nu(t) = e^t - \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-rt}}{r(\log^2 r + \pi^2)} dr \quad (5)$$

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{r(\log^2 r + \pi^2)} dr = 1 \quad (6)$$

# Definitions

$$e_{\alpha,\beta}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) = t^{\beta-1} E_{\alpha,\beta}^{\gamma}(-\lambda t^{\alpha}), \quad (7)$$

$$E_{\alpha,\beta}^{\gamma}(z) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\gamma)_r z^r}{r! \Gamma(\beta + \alpha r)} \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{d^n}{dt^n} e_{\alpha,\beta}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) = e_{\alpha,\beta-n}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) \quad (9)$$

$$\epsilon_{\alpha,p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) = \int_0^{\infty} e_{\alpha,u+p+1}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) du \quad (10)$$

Volterra-Prabhakar function.

- $\gamma = 0$  and/or  $\lambda = 0$  reduces to  $\nu(t, p)$ .

$$\frac{d^n}{dt^n} [\epsilon_{\alpha,kn}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t)] = \epsilon_{\alpha,(k-1)n}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t), \quad k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

# Properties

For  $t > 0$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ , and  $p \in \mathbb{R}$  we have

$$\int_0^t \xi^{\alpha-1} \nu(t - \xi, p) d\xi = \Gamma(\alpha) \nu(t, \alpha + p) \quad (11)$$

$$\int_0^t \xi^{\alpha-1} \nu(t - \xi, -\alpha) d\xi = \Gamma(\alpha) \nu(t).$$

For  $t > 0$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $p \in \mathbb{R}$  we get

$$\int_0^t \nu(t - \xi, p) e_{\alpha,0}^\gamma(\lambda; \xi) d\xi = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-\lambda)^n}{n!} (\gamma)_n \nu(t, \alpha n + p), \quad (12)$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-\lambda)^n}{n!} (\gamma)_n \nu(t, \alpha n + p) = \int_0^\infty e_{\alpha,u+p+1}^\gamma(t; \lambda) du \quad (13)$$

# Convolution properties

$$L [e_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t); s] = \frac{s^{\alpha\gamma - p - 1}}{(s^{\alpha} + \lambda)^{\gamma} \log s} = L [e_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) * \nu(t); s]. \quad (14)$$

$$L [e_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t); s] L [\mu(t, \beta - 1, \alpha - 1); s] = L [e_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t)] ; s] L [\mu(t, \beta, \alpha); s],$$

$$e_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) * \mu(t, \beta - 1, \alpha - 1) = e_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) * \mu(t, \beta, \alpha).$$

$$L [e_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t); s] L [e_{\alpha, p'}^{\gamma'}(\lambda; t); s] = L [e_{\alpha, p+p'}^{\gamma+\gamma'}(\lambda; t); s] L [\nu(t); s],$$

convolution semigroup property

$$e_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) * e_{\alpha, p'}^{\gamma'}(\lambda; t) = e_{\alpha, p+p'}^{\gamma+\gamma'}(\lambda; t) * \nu(t).$$

$$e_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) * e_{\alpha, -p}^{-\gamma}(\lambda; t) = \mu(t, 1, 1).$$

# Integral representations

$$\epsilon_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(1; t) \equiv \epsilon_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} e^{st} \frac{s^{\alpha\gamma-p}}{(s^{\alpha} + 1)^{\gamma} s \log s} ds = \frac{e^t}{2^{\gamma}} + f_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(t),$$

$$f_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_H e^{st} \frac{s^{\alpha\gamma-p}}{(s^{\alpha} + 1)^{\gamma} s \log s} ds = L [K_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(r); t].$$

$$\begin{aligned} K_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(r) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \Im \left\{ \frac{r^{\alpha\gamma-p} e^{i\pi(\alpha\gamma-p)}}{(r^{\alpha} e^{i\pi\alpha} + 1)^{\gamma} (r e^{i\pi}) \log(r e^{i\pi})} \right\} \\ &= -\frac{r^{\alpha\gamma-p-1}}{\pi} \Im \left\{ \frac{e^{i\pi(\alpha\gamma-p-1)}}{(r^{\alpha} e^{i\pi\alpha} + 1)^{\gamma} (i\pi + \log r)} \right\} \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

$$= \frac{r^{\alpha\gamma-p-1}}{\pi} \frac{(\ln r) \sin[\pi(\alpha\gamma - p) - \gamma\theta_{\alpha}(r)] - \pi \cos[\pi(\alpha\gamma - p) - \gamma\theta_{\alpha}(r)]}{[r^{2\alpha} + 2r^{\alpha} \cos(\pi\alpha) + 1]^{\gamma/2} (\pi^2 + \log^2 r)}.$$

# Integral representations

$$\epsilon_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(t) = \frac{e^t}{2^{\gamma}} - \int_0^{\infty} e^{-rt} \tilde{K}_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(r) dr, \quad (16)$$

$$\tilde{K}_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(r) = -K_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(r). \quad (17)$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \tilde{K}_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(r) dr = \frac{1}{2^{\gamma}}.$$

$$\nu(t, p) = \epsilon_{\alpha, p}^0(t) = e^t - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{-rt}}{r^{p+1}} \frac{(\log r) \sin(\pi p) + \pi \cos(\pi p)}{\pi^2 + \log^2 r} dr.$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{\pi} r^{p+1} \frac{(\ln r) \sin(\pi p) + \pi \cos(\pi p)}{\pi^2 + \log^2 r} dr = 1.$$

$$\nu(t) = \epsilon_{\alpha, 0}^0(t) = e^t - \int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{-rt}}{r} \frac{1}{\pi^2 + \log^2 r} dr.$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{r} \frac{1}{\pi^2 + \log^2 r} dr = 1.$$

# Complete monotonicity

## Theorem

Let  $\gamma > 0$ . The following assertions hold true:

- (a)  $\epsilon_{\alpha,p}^{\gamma}(t) - \frac{e^t}{2^{\gamma}}$  is CM on  $(0, \infty)$  for  $\alpha \in (0, 1/2]$  and  $\alpha\gamma - p = 2k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ;
- (b)  $\epsilon_{\alpha,\alpha\gamma}^{\gamma}(t) - \frac{e^t}{2^{\gamma}}$  is CM on  $(0, \infty)$  for  $\alpha \in (0, 1/2]$ ;
- (c)  $\epsilon_{\alpha,0}^{\gamma}(t) - \frac{e^t}{2^{\gamma}}$  is CM on  $(0, 1)$  for  $\alpha \in (1/2, 1]$ .

## Theorem

The following assertions hold true:

- (a) The function  $e^t - \nu(t, p)$  is CM and log-convex on  $(0, \infty)$ , for  $p \in [0, 1/2]$ ;
- (b) The function  $e^t - \nu(t)$  is CM and log-convex on  $(0, \infty)$ .

# Further generalizations

$$\epsilon_{\alpha, \beta, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) = \int_0^{\infty} u^{\beta} e_{\alpha, u+p+1}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) du,$$

In particular,  $\epsilon_{\alpha, 0, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) = \epsilon_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t)$ .

## Theorem

For  $t > 0$ ,  $\alpha, \beta > 0$ ,  $\lambda, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  we have

(a)

$$\int_0^t \mu(t - \xi, \beta, \alpha) e_{\alpha, \beta}^{\gamma}(\lambda; \xi) d\xi = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-\lambda)^n}{n!} (\gamma)_n \mu(t, \beta, \alpha n + \alpha + \beta),$$

(b)

$$\epsilon_{\alpha, \beta, \alpha+\beta}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-\lambda)^n}{n!} (\gamma)_n \mu(t, \beta, \alpha n + \alpha + \beta).$$

## Theorem

The Laplace transform of  $\epsilon_{\alpha, \beta, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t)$  for  $\beta > 0$  reads

$$L[\epsilon_{\alpha, \beta, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t); s] = \Gamma(1 + \beta) \frac{s^{\alpha\gamma - p - 1}}{(s^{\alpha} + \lambda)^{\gamma} (\log s)^{1+\beta}}.$$

Furthermore, the following convolution relation holds true,

$$\epsilon_{\alpha, \beta, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) = e_{\alpha, p}^{\gamma}(\lambda; t) \star \mu(t, \beta, 0).$$

## Theorem

For  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $0 < \beta < 1$ ,  $0 < s < \gamma \leq 1 - \beta$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{R}$  the Mellin transform of  $\epsilon_{\alpha, \beta, p}^{\gamma}(t)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} M[\epsilon_{\alpha, \beta, p}^{\gamma}(t); s] \\ = \frac{-\alpha^{\beta}\pi}{[\sin(\pi\beta)]\Gamma(1-s)} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{-\gamma}{k} \left[ \left( \frac{p+s}{\alpha} + k \right)^{\beta} - \left( -\gamma + \frac{p+s}{\alpha} - k \right)^{\beta} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

# Langevin equation

$$\ddot{x}(t) + \int_0^t \gamma(t-t') \dot{x}(t') dt' = \xi(t), \quad \dot{x}(t) = v(t). \quad (18)$$

$$\gamma(t) = (k_B T)^{-1} \int_0^1 \frac{t^{-\lambda}}{\Gamma(1-\lambda)} d\lambda, \quad (19)$$

Here the friction memory kernel is assumed to satisfy

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \gamma(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s \hat{\gamma}(s) = 0, \quad (20)$$

where  $\hat{\gamma}(s) = L\{\gamma(t); s\}$ .

$$\hat{\gamma}(s) = (k_B T)^{-1} \frac{s-1}{s \log s} \quad (21)$$

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s \hat{\gamma}(s) = (k_B T)^{-1} \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{s-1}{\log s} = 0 \quad (22)$$

# Tauberian Theorems

If the Laplace transform pair  $\hat{r}(s)$  of the function  $r(t)$  behaves like

$$\hat{r}(s) \simeq s^{-\rho} L(s^{-1}), \quad s \rightarrow 0, \quad \rho > 0, \quad (23)$$

where  $L(t)$  is a slowly varying function at infinity, then  $r(t)$  has the following asymptotic behavior

$$r(t) \simeq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\rho)} t^{\rho-1} L(t), \quad t \rightarrow \infty. \quad (24)$$

A slowly varying function at infinity means that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{L(at)}{L(t)} = 1, \quad a > 0. \quad (25)$$

The Tauberian theorem works also for the opposite asymptotic, i.e., for  $t \rightarrow 0$ .

# Langevin equation

$$x(t) = \langle x(t) \rangle + \int_0^t G(t-t')\xi(t')dt' \quad (26)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{G}(s) &= \frac{1}{s^2 + s\hat{\gamma}(s)} = \frac{1}{s^2 + (k_B T)^{-1} \frac{s-1}{\log s}} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{1}{k_B T}\right)^n \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \frac{(-1)^k}{s^{n+k+2} \log^n s}\end{aligned}$$

$$G(t) = t + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{1}{k_B T}\right)^n \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^k \mu(t, n-1, n+k+1) \quad (27)$$

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle = 2K_B T \int_0^t G(\xi)d\xi \quad (28)$$

# Langevin equation

Anomalous diffusion:

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle \simeq t^\alpha \quad (0 < \alpha < 1) \quad (29)$$

Ultraslow diffusion:

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle \simeq \log^\nu t \quad (30)$$

$\nu = 4$ : Sinai diffusion model (1982).

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x^2(t) \rangle = & 2k_B T \left[ \frac{t^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( -\frac{1}{k_B T} \right)^n \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^k \right. \\ & \times \mu(t, n-1, n+k+2) \Big], \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

which in the long time limit becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x^2(t) \rangle \simeq & 2(k_B T)^2 [\gamma + \log t + e^t E_1(t)] \\ \simeq & 2(k_B T)^2 (\gamma + \log t). \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

# Langevin equation

$$\hat{I}(s) = s^{-1} \hat{G}(s) = \frac{s^{-1}}{s^2 + s\hat{\gamma}(s)}. \quad (33)$$

Mainardi et al. [6]

$$\begin{aligned} I(t) &= L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^{-1}}{s^2 + (k_B T)^{-1} \frac{s-1}{\log s}}; t \right\} = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^3} \frac{1}{1 + (k_B T)^{-1} \frac{s-1}{s^2 \log s}}; t \right\} \\ &\sim L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^3} \left( 1 - (k_B T)^{-1} \frac{s-1}{s^2 \log s} \right); t \right\} \\ &= \frac{t^2}{2} - (k_B T)^{-1} \mu(t, 0, 3) + (k_B T)^{-1} \mu(t, 0, 4), t \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

# Generalized Langevin equation

$$\ddot{x}(t) + \int_0^t \gamma(t-t')\dot{x}(t')dt' + \frac{dV(x)}{dx} = \xi(t), \quad \dot{x}(t) = v(t). \quad (34)$$

The second fluctuation-dissipation theorem (FDT) is then valid in a thermal bath of temperature  $T$ , where fluctuations and dissipation come from the same source. The FDT relates the friction memory kernel  $\gamma(t)$  with the correlation function  $\xi(t)$  of the random force. The FDT allows one to write

$$\langle \xi(t+t')\xi(t') \rangle = C(t) = k_B T \gamma(t). \quad (35)$$

## LE with power-logarithmic distributed order noises

$$\gamma(t) = (k_B T)^{-1} \int_0^1 \Gamma(3/2 - \lambda) \frac{\log^{\lambda-1} t}{\sqrt{t}} d\lambda \quad \text{with} \quad \left( \hat{\gamma}(s) = \frac{\pi}{k_B T} \frac{s-1}{\sqrt{s} \log s} \right), \quad (36)$$

which satisfies the condition (20). The relaxation function  $I(t)$  defined by

$$I(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^{-1}}{s^2 + \frac{\pi}{k_B T} \frac{s(s-1)}{\sqrt{s} \log s} + \omega^2}; t \right\}. \quad (37)$$

For  $s \ll 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{I}(s) &\simeq \frac{s^{-1}}{\omega^2} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\pi}{k_B T \omega^2} \frac{s(1-s)}{\sqrt{s} \log s}} \\ &\simeq \frac{1}{\omega^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{\pi}{k_B T \omega^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{s} \log s} - \frac{\pi}{k_B T \omega^2} \frac{\sqrt{s}}{\log s} \right], \end{aligned}$$

# LE with power-logarithmic distributed order noises

For  $s \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$\hat{I}(s) \simeq \frac{1}{\omega^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{\pi}{k_B T \omega^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{s} \log s} \right]. \quad (38)$$

$$I(t) \simeq \frac{1}{\omega^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{\pi}{k_B T \omega^2} \nu(t, -1/2) \right]. \quad (39)$$

For  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle \simeq \frac{2k_B T}{\omega^2} + \frac{2\pi}{\omega^4} \nu(t, -1/2).$$

Note that for  $\omega = 0$  and  $t \rightarrow \infty$  we get

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle = 2k_B T L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^{-1}}{s^2 + \frac{\pi}{k_B T} \frac{s(s-1)}{\sqrt{s} \log s}}; t \right\} \simeq \frac{4(k_B T)^2}{\pi^{3/2}} \sqrt{t \log t}.$$

## LE with distributed-order Mittag-Leffler function

$$\gamma(t) = \frac{1}{k_B T} \int_0^1 E_\lambda(-t^\lambda) d\lambda \quad \left( \hat{\gamma}(s) = \frac{1}{k_B T} \frac{\log \frac{s+1}{2}}{s \log s} \right), \quad (40)$$

which satisfies the condition (20).

$$I(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^{-1}}{s^2 + \frac{1}{k_B T} \frac{\log \frac{s+1}{2}}{\log s} + \omega^2}; t \right\} \sim \frac{1}{\omega^2} L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{k_B T \omega^2} \frac{\log 2}{s \log s}; t \right\} \\ = \frac{1}{\omega^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{\log 2}{k_B T \omega^2} \nu(t) \right]. \quad (41)$$

In the force-free case with  $\omega = 0$  we observe ultraslow diffusion, since the relaxation function  $I(t)$  has a logarithmic time dependence,

$$I(t) \sim \frac{k_B T}{\log 2} L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\log \frac{1}{s}}{s}; t \right\} = \frac{k_B T}{\log 2} \log t = k_B T \log_2 t. \quad (42)$$

# LE with distributed-order Volterra function

$$\gamma_1(t) = \frac{1}{k_B T} \int_0^1 \nu(t, -\alpha) d\alpha \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\gamma}_1(s) = \frac{1}{k_B T} \frac{s-1}{s \log^2 s}, \quad (43)$$

For the GLE for the stochastic harmonic oscillator ( $\omega \neq 0$ ) the long time limit ( $t \rightarrow \infty$ ) of the relaxation function  $I_1(t)$  yields in the form

$$I_1(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^{-1}}{s^2 + \frac{1}{k_B T} \frac{s-1}{\log^2 s} + \omega^2}; t \right\} \simeq \frac{1}{\omega^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{\mu(t, 1)}{k_B T \omega^2} \right]. \quad (44)$$

In the force-free case ( $\omega = 0$ ) we obtain ([5], Eq.45)

$$\begin{aligned} I_1(t) &= L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^{-1}}{s^2 + \frac{1}{k_B T} \frac{s-1}{\log^2 s}}; t \right\} \simeq k_B T L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\log^2 s}{s(s-1)}; t \right\} \\ &= k_B T \left[ -(C^2 + \pi^2/6)e^t + 2te^t \Phi_{1;1}^{*,(1,1)}(-t, 3, 1) - 2(C + \log t)e^t E_1(t) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - (2C + \log t)(e^t + 1)(\log t) - C^2 + \pi^2/6 \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

# LE with distributed-order Volterra function

$$\gamma_2(t) = \frac{1}{k_B T} \int_0^1 \mu(t, -\beta) d\beta \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\gamma}_2(s) = \frac{1}{k_B T} \frac{(\log s) - 1}{s(\log s)(\log \log s)}. \quad (46)$$

Here we consider only the force-free case, i.e.,  $\omega = 0$ . In that case we find the asymptotic of  $I_2(t)$  at long times. Using that  $\log \log s$  is a slowly varying function, by Tauberian theorems we find that

$$\begin{aligned} I_2(t) &\simeq k_B T L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{(\log s)(\log \log s)}{s(\log s - 1)}; t \right\} = k_B T L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\log \log s}{s(1 - \frac{1}{\log s})}; t \right\} \\ &\simeq k_B T L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \log \log \frac{1}{s^{-1}}; t \right\} \simeq k_B T \log \log \frac{1}{t}. \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

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