

We compute spectral densities of large sample auto-covariance matrices of stationary stochastic processes at fixed ratio  $\alpha = N/M$  of matrix dimension  $N$  and sample size  $M$ . We find a remarkable scaling relation which expresses the spectral density  $\rho_\alpha(\lambda)$  of sample auto-covariance matrices for processes with correlations as a continuous superposition of copies of the spectral density  $\rho_\alpha^{(0)}(\lambda)$  for a sequence of uncorrelated random variables at the same value of  $\alpha$ , rescaled in terms of the Fourier transform  $\hat{C}(q)$  of the true auto-covariance function. We also obtain a closed-form approximation for the scaling function  $\rho_\alpha^{(0)}(\lambda)$ . Our results are in excellent agreement with numerical simulations using auto-regressive processes, and processes exhibiting a power-law decay of correlations. We discuss the analysis of DNA methylation data in the context of cancer genomics as a possible application of our methods.