# Dynamical data analysis: Unicorns, causes and consequences

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#### Nonlinear dynamical systems

- The System: the object of the investigation
  - Eq.: a patient, a computer, stockmarket
- Variables:
  - Bood pressure, temperature, position, velocity, bits, stock prices
- State:
  - A set of variables in a moment that determines the temporal evolution of the system
- State space
  - All the possible states
- Evolution
  - Update rules ...



#### Nonlinear dynamical systems

Contiuous-time dynamics

- $\dot{s}=arphi(s)$
- Rössler system



**Discrete-time dynamics** 

$$s_{t+1} = f(s_t)$$

• Logistic map  $x_{t+1} = rx_t(1 - x_t)$ 





#### Theory of dynamical systems: Takens' embedding theorem



Let us observe a timeseries of a scalar variable: x(t)

That is a two times continouosly derivable function of the state variables. Lets generate a vector from the time delayed vaues of x:

 $[x(t), x(t-\tau), x(t-2\tau), \dots x(t-n\tau)]$  is an embedding, if n>2d+1

The pseudo-attractor of the system in this reconstructed state space is topologically equivalent with the system's real d dimensional attractor in its real state space.

Theory of dynamical systems: Takens' embedding theorem

What to do with the reconstructed attractors?

Example: ECG from a patient with Wolff–Parkinson–White (WPW) syndrome:



#### 3D Embedding



What to do with the reconstructed attractors?

It is not easy to determine the type (topology) of the attractor, based on the noisy measurements.

Dimension is a topological invariant, so it is possible to measure its dimension.

It is possible to measure the average Ljapunov-exponent, meaning the average instability of the trajectories.

What else?

#### Let's detect anomalies!









Anomaly detection approaches

Unsupervised

ICON

shutterstr.ck<sup>.</sup>

New type of anomalies: Unique events

- Not necessarily very different
- But unique!
- How to define uniqueness in continuous variables?



#### How to find a unicorn?



Unique and non-unique points points on continuous data series

The nearest neighbors of the state  $\blacklozenge$  are the states  $\blacklozenge$ . They are evenly distributed in time, thus the system returned to this state time-to-time.

The nearest neighbors of the state  $\blacklozenge$  are the states  $\diamondsuit$ . All of them are neighbours of state  $\diamondsuit$  in time as well. Thus the system never returned to this state: it is a unique state.



#### Tests on simulations



#### Tests on simulations



#### What is already known: GW 170817 Gravitational waves of the merger neutron stars



Abbott, B. P., Abbott, R., Abbott, T. D., Acernese, F., Ackley, K., Adams, C., ... Woudt, P. A. (2017). Multi-messenger Observations of a Binary Neutron Star Merger. The Astrophysical Journal, 848(2), L12. https://doi.org/10.3847/2041-8213/aa91c9

Gautama, T., Mandic, D. P., & Hulle, M. M. Van. (2003). A differential entropy based method for determining the optimal embedding parameters of a signal. 2003 IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing, 2003. Proceedings. (ICASSP '03)., 6, VI–29.

# Signs of sleep anpoe on ECG data series

Interestingly the t-waves were unique, which are known to be useless in ECG diagnostics.





#### London interbank offered rate (LIBOR)

Between 2005 and 2008 there were serious manipulations by some of the most significant banks.

In 2012 the calculation system has been reorganized.





**Chaotic time series** – generated by a deterministic map: x(t+1) = r x(t)(1-x(t))



**Stochastic (noise) time series** – resulted by a random permutation of the chaotic time series



#### Chaotic anomalies in stochastic data series



Time step (t)

State space reconstruction – time delay embedding

Points belong to the noise anomaly Detected unicorn Discord detection







## Noise in chaos and chaos in noise

The same algorithm was able to detect

- chaotic anomalies on stochastic background
- Noise anomalies on chaotic background



# Determination of causal relationships between time series and applications to neural data

## Zoltán Somogyvári



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## Determination of causal effects in time series

Is there any possibility to identify directed causal relationships from two observed data series, without experimental intervention?

We surely can measure correlation, but correlation and causality are different things. Moreover correlation is an asymmetrical relation while causality can be unidirectional.

Is there a way to distinguish directional and bidirectional (circular) causality or to reveal hidden common cause?



# Personalized medicine: Causality analysis in epilepsy

Is there a (multiple) Seizure Onset Zone (SOZ) or rather an epileptic network?

The SOZ is causal source during the seizure?

What about during interictal periods?

Sabesan, S., Good, L.B., Tsakalis, K.S., Spanias, A., Treiman, D.M., Iasemidis, L.D.: Information flow and application to epileptogenic focus localization from intracranial EEG. IEEE Trans Neural Syst Rehabil Eng 17(3), 244–253 (2009)

Epstein, C.M., Adhikari, B.M., Gross, R., Willie, J., Dhamala, M.: Application of high-frequency Granger causality to analysis of epileptic seizures and surgical decision making. Epilepsia 55(12), 2038–2047 (2014)

#### Seizure onset zone



Epileptic network



# With interventions: Bayesian networks, graphical models, Conditional independence





**Judea Pearl** 

The theory allows to reveal the direction of the dependencies only in specific cases or the direction of the relationships assumed a priory!

# Bayesian networks with just observations



# With interventions: Bayesian networks, graphical models, Conditional independence





**FIGURE 1** Illustration of how the PC algorithm works. (A) Original true causal graph. (B) PC starts with a fully-connected undirected graph. (C) The X - Y edge is removed because  $X \perp Y$ . (D) The X - W and Y - W edges are removed because  $X \perp W \mid Z$  and  $Y \perp W \mid Z$ . (E) After finding v-structures. (F) After orientation propagation.

**Judea Pearl** 

# In this specific case, the true relation structure can be determined, by using conditional independence tests only!

# Times series: predictive causality

The original idea of predictive causality came from *Norbert Wiener* 

 $x \rightarrow y$ , if the inclusion of past x values improves the prediction quality on y



Assuming time delay via the concept of prediction helps to reveal direction!





**Clive Granger** implemented it via autoregressive linear models in 1969

Nobel price in Economic Sciences 2003

# Granger- causality

Linear autoregression:

$$\begin{aligned} x_t &= \sum_{i} a_i x_{t-i} + \varepsilon_1 & x_t &= \sum_{i} c_i x_{t-i} + \sum_{i} d_i y_{t-i} + \varepsilon_3 \\ y_t &= \sum_{i} b_i y_{t-i} + \varepsilon_2 & y_t &= \sum_{i} e_i x_{t-i} + \sum_{i} f_i y_{t-i} + \varepsilon_4 \\ F_{y \to x} &= \ln \left( \frac{var(\varepsilon_1)}{var(\varepsilon_3)} \right) & \text{Evaluation F test:} \\ F_{x \to y} &= \ln \left( \frac{var(\varepsilon_2)}{var(\varepsilon_4)} \right) & F_{x \to y} = \frac{m}{var(\epsilon_3)} \end{aligned}$$

It is sensitive to the model used for the prediction. The limitations of linear autoregressive models can be ameliorated by using nonlinear extensions, kernel solutions or model free transfer entropy method.

T - 2m - 1



# The model-free predictive causality: Transfer Entropy

$$T_{X \to Y} = H(y_i | y_{i-t}^{(l)}) - H(y_i | y_{i-t}^{(l)}, x_{i-\tau}^{(k)})$$
  
=  $\sum_{y_i, y_{i-t}^{(l)}} p(y_i, y_{i-t}^{(l)}) \log \frac{p(y_{i-t}^{(l)})}{p(y_i, y_{i-t}^{(l)})} - \sum_{y_i, y_{i-t}^{(l)}, x_i^{(l)}}$ 

The framework of Judea Pearl (Bayesian nets) can not handle circular causal relationships.

Neither the Bayesian nets nor the predictive causality principle can not reveal the existence of unobserved hidden common causes between two variables





# Cross Convergence Map: A new framework for causality analysis

A new model-free approach, promising:

- Detection of circular causality
- Detection of nonlinear coupling

It utilizes the Taken's time delay embedding theorem:

The trajectory reconstructed in the state space is topologically equivalent With the trajectory of the system's original trajectory in its real space.

# Detecting Causality in Complex Ecosystems

George Sugihara,<sup>1</sup>\* Robert May,<sup>2</sup> Hao Ye,<sup>1</sup> Chih-hao Hsieh,<sup>3</sup>\* Ethan Deyle,<sup>1</sup> Michael Fogarty,<sup>4</sup> Stephan Munch<sup>5</sup>

Science 338, 496 (2012)



# Cross Convergence Map: A new framework for causality analysis

- Sugihara's method is based on that the consequence is an observation of the cause, thus the cause can be reconstructed from the consequence.
- Points that are neighbors in the state-space of the consequence should be neighbors in the state space of the cause as well.
- This topology preserving property can be tested by the cross mapping method.

## Detecting Causality in Complex Ecosystems

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Science 338, 496 (2012)



# Nobel prize in Ecomomy 2021



In 2021, the work carried out in the field of causal relationships determined on the basis of observations again deserved the Nobel Prize in Economics:

By studying accidental or one-time spontaneous phenomena, called as "natural experiments", the awardees defined social relationships that were previously only general beliefs in the absence of experimental data:

- Correlation between years spent studying and later earnings
- The minimum wage and unemployment

Between immigration and changes in earnings.

The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2021



The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2021 was divided, one half awarded to David Card "for his empirical contributions to labour economics", the other half jointly to Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens "for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships."

Tudomány: irányti



Neither Granger's nor Sugihara's method is able to detect the existence of a hidden common cause or distinguish it from the direct interaction.

We have developed a new method which can!

It is based on the joint dimension measure:





Zsigmond Benkő



Ádám Zlatniczky



Marcell Stippinger



András Telcs

## Revealing hidden common cause

Key point: the cause does not increases the dimension of the consequence in the joint space, the information is already there!

 $x_{n+1} = r_x x_n ((1 - x_n) + b_{yx} y_n)$ 

**y**n+1=**r**y**y**n**(1-y**n**)** 



The consequence

The cause and the consequence together in the joint space

The consequence formed a 2D manifold both in its own and the together with the cause in the joint state space. The lack of dimensionality increase in the joint dimension is the sign of the existing causal link (x depends on y).

#### Revealing hidden common cause



The cause formed a 1D manifold in its own, but a 2D manifold together with the consequence in the joint state space. The dimensionality increase in the joint state space is the sign of the independence (x contains different information compared to y, thus x does not cause y).

### How to measure the dimension of the manifold?



Let's take two radii and count the number of points within the spheres: the exponent of the increase with respect to the radius gives us the dimension. Causal cases and the relations between the single and the joint dimensions:

Independence: 
$$x_t \perp y_t \rightarrow D_j = D_x + D_y$$

Unidirectional causality:  $X_t \rightarrow y_t \rightarrow D_j = D_y < D_x + D_y$ 

Circular causality: 
$$X_t \leftrightarrow y_t \rightarrow D_j = D_x = D_y$$

Common cause:  $X_t \neq y_t \rightarrow Max(D_x, D_y) < D_j < D_x + D_y$ 

The type of the causal connection can be revealed by measuring the relations between the joint and the individual dimensions.

#### Bayesian model: a simplified version



#### Bayesian inference: a simplified version







Test I. **Coupled** logistic maps

Logistic maps coupled in all possible cases. Here nonlinear couplings were used and the performance of four previous methods were compared.



0 <mark>99</mark>n.a. 1

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-30 23 28n.a.19 -10 3 5 82 0

1 0 n.a<mark>.99</mark> - 0 1

0 1 <mark>99</mark>n.a. 0

0 n.a<mark>100</mark>

-30 34 30n.a. 6

0

94

0

5

0

predicted class

0 <mark>100</mark> 0

0

0

0

0

0

0

← -

V -

 $\bot$ 

true

0

6 94 -

0 100 0

0

0

Test I. Coupled logistic maps

Logistic maps coupled in all possible cases. Here additive couplings were used and the performance of four previous methods were compared.





## Test II. Coupled Lorentz systems



- 3 Lorenz systems: *X*, *Y*, *C*
- Each subsystem has 3 coordinates
- They are related through the first coordinates by a coupling

The system is defined by the following differential equations:

$$\dot{x}_{1} = \sigma(x_{2} - x_{1}) + m_{y \to x}(x_{2} - y_{1}) + m_{z \to x}(x_{2} - z_{1}) \dot{x}_{2} = x_{1}(\rho - x_{3}) - x_{2} \dot{x}_{3} = x_{1}x_{2} - \beta x_{3} \dot{y}_{1} = \sigma(y_{2} - y_{1}) + m_{x \to y}(y_{2} - x_{1}) + m_{z \to y}(y_{2} - z_{1}) \dot{y}_{2} = y_{1}(\rho - y_{3}) - y_{2} \dot{y}_{3} = y_{1}y_{2} - \beta y_{3}$$

 $\begin{array}{c}
\dot{c}_{1} = \sigma(c_{2} - c_{1}) \\
\dot{c}_{2} = c_{1}(\rho - c_{3}) - c_{2} \\
\dot{c}_{3} = c_{1}c_{2} - \beta c_{3}
\end{array}$ 



#### **Causal relation probabilities**

#### Test III: Hindmarsh-Rose model



#### Local Field Potential (LFP) vs Intrinsic Optical Signal (IOS)

Epileptiform activity was evoked by low Mg+ environment in vivo slice preparation. The local field potential was recorded together with the intrinsic optical signal (IOS), which is possibly a result of swelling of cells during over excitation.





During the long (1 hour) recording, epileptiform bursts appeared with increasing frequency. Parallel, the optical reflectance (and the transmittance) of the tissue changes for visible light, without any additional dying. The process is clearly activity dependent, but slow.



Ildikó Világi



Sándor Borbély



Kinga Moldován



Eötvös Loránd University Department of Physiology and Neurobiology

### LFP vs IOS

200

400

600

800

1000

1200

The sampling frequency of the IOS was only 2Hz, much lower than the 1kHz of the LFP!!!

In order to make the causality analysis applicable:

The faster and slow component of the IOS were divided by subtracting a moving window average,to get stationary time series.

The LFP has been downsampled by summing up the V<sup>2</sup> for every 500 ms



#### LFP-IOS cross correlation



The instantaneous correlation is nearly zero, the cross correlation function has two significant peaks: a higher negative one at -2s (LFP leads) and a smaller positive one at +2.5s (IOS leads). This could be the sign of a well delayed interaction.

# Application of Dimensional Causality to evoked seizure-like activity in vitro



#### Reverse engineering



#### **Reverse engineering**



# Intra- and inter hippocampal connectivity during seizure

In order to find out the lateralization of the seizure onset, two near-hippocampal electrodes inserted through the foramen ovale into the lateral ventricles.





Clinical Neurosiences







Loránd Eröss

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#### Application: localization the origin of the epilepsy



The 20-year-old patient suffered from a drug resistant epilepsy with frequent seizures.

The finding of a cortical dysplasia (at GrF4 electrode site) raised the possibility of the surgical treatment

GrB6 and GrF4 were only slightly involved (red ellipses). Based on the pronounced seizure activity, and the sensitive position of GrB6, only the frontal and orbitobasal parts were cut (purple signs).

#### Interictal





Application: localization the origin of the epilepsy



#### Interictal periods



## Multiple seizures









# Reconstruction of the hidden common cause



Comparison of the actual (blue) and the reconstructed (red) hidden common cause



Correlation between the actual and the reconstructed hidden common cause



G

F

#### Coupled dynamical systems and shared dynamics



Causal effect leaves a mark on the dynamics

A common cause means shared dynamics in the effects

Possibility of decomposition!

Unidirectional coupling

X<sub>1</sub> System X<sub>2</sub> System Z System X<sub>n</sub> System

Common cause

Stark('99), Sauer(2004), Wiskott(2003), Sugihara(2012), Benko et al(2018)

#### Coupled dynamical systems and shared dynamics



#### Goal: Reconstruct Z!

#### Example system: Coupled Logistic maps



Unobserved

Goal: Reconstruct Z!

#### Mapping from Embedding-space to state-space

$$f: \quad x_t = rx_{t-1}(1 - x_{t-1} - \beta_{xz}z_{t-1})$$
  
$$g: \quad y_t = ry_{t-1}(1 - y_{t-1} - \beta_{yz}z_{t-1})$$
  
$$h: \quad z_t = rz_{t-1}(1 - z_{t-1})$$



$$Y_t = [y_t, y_{t-1}] \longrightarrow S_t = [y_{t-1}, z_{t-1}]$$

$$\phi: \quad z_{t-1} = \frac{1 - y_{t-1} - \frac{y_t}{ry_{t-1}}}{\beta_{yz}}$$

#### Approximate the mapping with a Neural Network



#### Revealing the latent dynamics by ANNs



Benkő, Z., & Somogyvári, Z. (2021). *Reconstructing common latent input from time series with the mapper-coach network and error backpropagation*. 3, 1–7. http://arxiv.org/abs/2105.02322

## Theoretical Neuroscience and Complex Systems Research Group



HBP CANON NKFIH NN118902 Thank you for your attention!

Research

Network

# Dimensional Causality equivalence classes



# Dimensional Causality equivalence classes



#### Recent publications on these topics

- Zsigmond Benkő, Tamás Bábel, Zoltán Somogyvári: Model-free detection of unique events in time series. Scientific Reports 12:227 (2022) doi:10.1038/s41598-021-03526-y.
- Zsigmond Benkő, Marcell Stippinger, Roberta Rehus, Attila Bencze, Dániel Fabó, Boglárka Hajnal, Loránd Erőss, András Telcs, Zoltán Somogyvári: Manifold-adaptive dimension estimation revisited, PeerJ Computer Science (2022): 8:e790 https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj-cs.790.
- Ádám Zlatniczki, Marcell Stippinger, Zsigmond Benkő, Zoltán Somogyvári, András Telcs: Relaxation of Some Confusions about Confounders Entropy 23 (11), 1450, 2021
- Zsigmond Benkő, Zoltán Somogyvári: Reconstructing common latent input from time series with the mapper-coach network and error backpropagation, arXiv:2105.02322 (2021).
- Zsigmond Benkő, Kinga Moldován, Katalin Szádeczky-Kardoss, László Zalányi, Sándor Borbély, Ildikó Világi, Zoltán Somogyvári: Causal relationship between local field potential and intrinsic optical signal in epileptiform activity in vitro Scientific Reports 9 Article number: 5171 (2019)
- Zsigmond Benkő, Ádám Zlatniczki, Marcell Stippinger, Dániel Fabó, András Sólyom, Loránd Erőss, András Telcs, Zoltán Somogyvári: Complete Inference of Causal Relations between Dynamical Systems, arxiv:/1808.10806.