

Efficient inference of interactions from non-equilibrium data and application to multi-electrode neural recordings

ESR: Claudia Battistin¹
Supervisor: Dr. Yasser Roudi¹

¹ Kavli Institute for Systems Neuroscience, Trondheim (NO)

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NETADIS Politecnico workshop

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Bachelor degree in **physics**
(University of Trieste)
(ERASMUS PROGRAM:
RWTH Aachen)

Master degree in **theoretical
physics** (University of Trieste)



Master's Thesis

Thesis title: **“Criticality of models inferred in Boltzmann learning”**

Supervisor: Dott. Matteo Marsili

Idea: Modelling protein distribution as a result of a dynamical process (*branching process with mutation*)

Master's Thesis

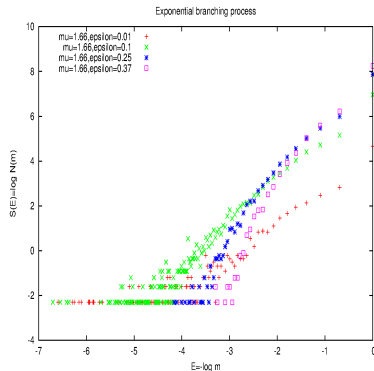
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Results:

- we have been able to recover Zipf's law both analytically and numerically;



Master's Thesis

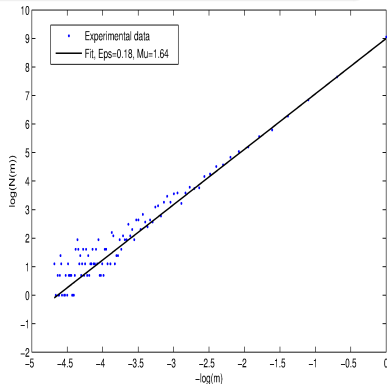
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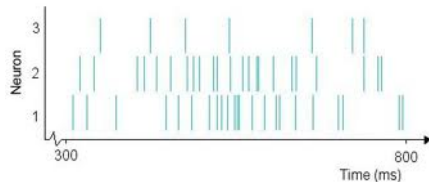
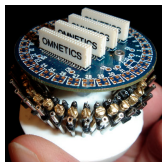
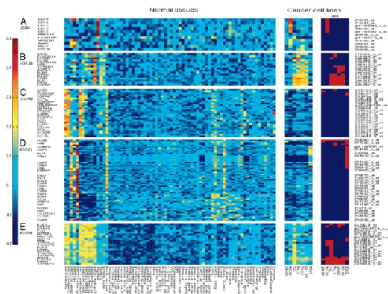
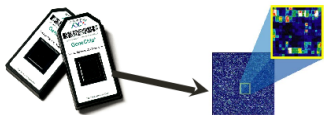
Idea: Modelling protein distribution as a result of a dynamical process (*branching process with mutation*)

Results:

- we have been able to recover Zipf's law both analytically and numerically;
- our model hasn't been completely successful in inferring mutation parameters once applied to real data (protein subsequences);



Main goal: modelling point processes



Kinetic Ising Model:

synchronous update

$$P(S_i(t+1)|\mathbf{S}(t)) = \frac{e^{S_i(t+1)H_i(t)}}{2 \cosh[H_i(t)]}, \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{Pareto distribution}$$

where $H_i(t) = \sum_j J_{ij}S_j(t)$

asynchronous update

$$\frac{dP(\mathbf{S}(t))}{dt} = \sum_i [P(F_i\mathbf{S}(t))w_i(F_i\mathbf{S}; t) - P(\mathbf{S}(t))w_i(\mathbf{S}; t)], \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{Equilibrium Ising Model}$$

where $w_i(\mathbf{S}; t) = \frac{1}{2} [1 - s_i \tanh [H_i(t)]]$, F_i spin- i flip operator

Inference techniques (maximum likelihood, gradient descent):

- Exact algorithms;
- Mean field algorithms (nMF, TAP)¹

¹Hertz J., Roudi Y., et al.(2013). Ising Models for Inferring Network Structure From Spike Data. *Principles of Neural Coding*, S. Panzeri and R. Q. Quiroga Eds

Mean field approximation

Generating functional

$$Z[\psi, J] \equiv \text{Tr}_{\{\mathbf{S}(T), \dots, \mathbf{S}(0)\}} \left\{ P(\mathbf{S}(T), \dots, \mathbf{S}(0)) \prod_{i,t} e^{i\psi_i(t)s_i(t)} \right\}$$

Expanding around the saddle point:

$$m_i(t) = \tanh \left[h_i(t-1) + \sum_j J_{ij} m_j(t-1) \right] \quad \text{NAIVE MEAN FIELD}$$

$$m_i(t) = \tanh \left[h_i(t-1) + \sum_j J_{ij} m_j(t-1) + m_i(t) \sum_j J_{ij}^2 (1 - m_j(t-1)^2) \right] \quad \text{TAP}^2$$

Recently used for learning:

Error correcting codes

Image restoration

Protein residue interaction

Gene regulatory networks

Neuronal networks

Kinetic biological networks characteristics:

- Sparse and/or strong connectivity
- partially observable
- time varying external input³

³Tyrcha J. et al. (2013), Effect of Nonstationarity on Models Inferred from Neural Data, *J. Stat. Mech.*, in press

RESEARCH:

Familiarisation with generating functional and mean field techniques for studying the dynamics of complex systems and applications to reverse engineering partially observed networks.

TRAINING:

Winter School on Quantitative Systems Biology (ICTP)

Path integral methods course (QFT I, NTNU)

Neural Encoding of Space in Parahippocampal Cortices (Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience, NTNU)

PRESENTATION SKILLS:

Bishop, Machine learning and pattern recognition (NTNU, Roudi's group)

Presentation of my Master's thesis to Roudi's group

Research plan: theory

Advancing the theoretical approaches for modelling point processes using Ising models and Generalized Linear Model:

- developing Bethe approximation⁴
(for systems with hidden nodes with and without regularizations, e.g. including L-1);
- adaptive approaches⁵ useful for systems where the couplings are correlated and/or strong, e.g. neural networks
(e.g. adaptive TAP for nonequilibrium);
- addressing hidden nodes problem in both equilibrium and nonequilibrium cases;
- extend one-step Markov chain models to processes with memory;

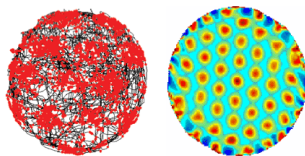
⁴F.R. Tserenghi, The Bethe approximation for solving the inverse Ising problem: a comparison with other inference methods, *Journal of Statistical Mechanics*, 2012

⁵Opper M. and Winther O. (2001) Tractable approximations for probabilistic models: The adaptive TAP mean field approach. *Physical Review Letters*, 86, 3695-3699.

Research plan: application to real data

The inference methods developed from us will have a wide range of application domains (eg. gene regulation, neuronal networks etc.)

Application to Kavli Institute data^{6,7}:



- Entorhinal cortex spike trains;
- Entorhinal cortex - Hippocampus joint recordings;

Application to economic time series with prof. Sollich group.

⁶Stensola H et al., The entorhinal grid map is discretized, *Nature* 492: 72-8, 2012

⁷Couey JJ et al. Recurrent inhibitory circuitry as a mechanism for grid formation. *Nat Neurosci.* 2013

Shot 2013.png



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Recurrent inhibitory circuitry as a mechanism for grid formation

[Jonathan J Couey](#), [Aree Witoelar](#), [Sheng-Jia Zhang](#), [Kang Zheng](#), [Jing Ye](#), [Benjamin Dunn](#), [Rafal Czakowski](#), [May-Britt Moser](#), [Edvard I Moser](#), [Yasser Roudi](#) & [Menno P Witter](#)

[Affiliations](#) | [Contributions](#) | [Corresponding authors](#)

Nature Neuroscience (2013) | doi:10.1038/nn.3310

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Abstract

Shot 20.png



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NATURE NEUROSCIENCE | ARTICLE



Grid cells require excitatory drive from the hippocampus

Tora Bonnevie, Benjamin Dunn, Marianne Fyhn, Torkel Hafting, Dori Derdikman, John L Kubie, Yasser Roudi, Edvard I Moser & May-Britt Moser

[Affiliations](#) | [Contributions](#) | [Corresponding authors](#)

Nature Neuroscience (2013) | doi:10.1038/nn.3311

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Abstract

Training Plan

Technical skills:

- **Spin Glasses** (NTNU, Fall 2013;SISSA, Spring 2014)
- **Phase Transitions and Critical Phenomena** (NTNU, Fall 2013;SISSA, Spring 2014)
- **Many Body Physics out of Equilibrium** (NORDITA, Spring 2013;SISSA, Spring 2014)
- **NETADIS, NORDITA Schools and Kavli Foundation workshops**

Communication skills:

- **Introduction to research** (NTNU, Spring 2013)
- **Communication of Science** (NTNU, Spring 2014)
- **Neural Networks,** assistant (NTNU, Spring 2013)
- **NETADIS Schools**

October-November 2013

prof. Manfred Opper, Technische Universität Berlin (TUB), Germany

Project: “*Approximate inference for stochastic dynamics in large biochemical networks*”

(application domain: [systems biology](#); techniques: Bayesian inference)

October-November 2014

prof. Peter Sollich, King's College London (KCL), UK

Project: “*Contagion dynamics across credit networks*”

(application domain: financial networks; techniques: [generating functional methods](#))

Thanks!