

STRUCTURES CLUSTER OF

Interpretable Recurrent Neural Networks for Reconstructing Nonlinear Dynamical Systems from Time Series Observations

hccn

neidelberg-mannhein

Daniel Durstewitz

Dept. of Theoretical Neuroscience

Central Institute for Mental Health/ Heidelberg University



What do we mean by reconstruction?



Universal Approximation Theorem for RNN. "The flow field of any DS $\dot{x} = f(x), x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^N$, can be approximated arbitrarily closely by a RNN of the general form $\dot{z} = -\frac{1}{\tau}z + W\phi(z) + h, z(t) \in \mathbb{R}^M$, $M \ge N$, with ϕ a continuous monotonic nonlinear (sigmoid-type) function." (Funahashi & Nakamura 1993; Kimura & Nakano 1998; Hanson & Raginsky 2020)

What is a Recurrent Neural Network?















How do we train Recurrent Neural Networks?

Given data:
$$\mathbf{X} = \{\mathbf{x}_t\}, \ \mathbf{x}_t \in \mathbb{R}^N, t = 1 \dots T$$

model: $\mathbf{z}_t = F_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_{t-1}, \mathbf{s}_t), \ \hat{\mathbf{x}}_t = g_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t)$

- Mean Squared Error (MSE) loss: $\theta^* \coloneqq \arg\min_{\theta} \left\{ \sum_{t=1}^T \left\| x_t g_{\theta}(z_t) \right\|_2^2 \right\}$
- Maximum Likelihood: $\theta^* \coloneqq \arg \max_{\mathbf{A}} \{\log p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})\}$
- Bayesian inference: $p(\theta, \mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{X}|\theta, \mathbf{Z})p(\theta, \mathbf{Z})}{\int p(\theta, \mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{X})d\theta d\mathbf{Z}}$
- Deterministic models: Gradient Descent (RTRL, BPTT), 2nd-order methods
 Probabilistic models: EM, Variational Inference, MCMC

How do we train Recurrent Neural Networks?

Given data:
$$\mathbf{X} = \{\mathbf{x}_t\}, \ \mathbf{x}_t \in \mathbb{R}^N, t = 1 \dots T$$

model: $\mathbf{z}_t = F_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_{t-1}, \mathbf{s}_t), \ \hat{\mathbf{x}}_t = g_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t)$

- Mean Squared Error (MSE) loss: $\theta^* \coloneqq \arg\min_{\theta} \left\{ \sum_{t=1}^T \left\| x_t g_{\theta}(z_t) \right\|_2^2 \right\}$
- Maximum Likelihood: $\theta^* \coloneqq \arg \max_{\mathbf{A}} \{\log p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})\}$
- Bayesian inference: $p(\theta, \mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{X}|\theta, \mathbf{Z})p(\theta, \mathbf{Z})}{\int p(\theta, \mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{X})d\theta d\mathbf{Z}}$
- Deterministic models: Gradient Descent (RTRL, BPTT), 2nd-order methods
- Probabilistic models: EM, Variational Inference, MCMC

"Vanishing/ exploding gradient problem"

"Inputs":
$$S = \{s_t\}$$
 "Outputs": $\widetilde{Z} = \{\widetilde{z}_t\}$, $t = 1 \dots T$

RNN $z_t \in \mathbb{R}^M$ $z_t = \phi(Wz_{t-1} + h + Cs_t)$

Loss function
$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \sum_{r=1}^{R} \sum_{t=1}^{T} ||\tilde{\boldsymbol{z}}_t - \boldsymbol{z}_t||_2^2$$



"Vanishing/ exploding gradient problem"

"Inputs":
$$S = \{s_t\}$$
 "Outputs": $\widetilde{Z} = \{\widetilde{z}_t\}$, $t = 1 \dots T$

RNN
$$z_t \in \mathbb{R}^M$$

 $z_t = \phi(Wz_{t-1} + h + Cs_t)$
Loss function
 $\varepsilon = \sum_{r=1}^R \sum_{t=1}^T ||\tilde{z}_t - z_t||_2^2$



"Vanishing/ exploding gradient problem"

"Inputs":
$$S = \{s_t\}$$
 "Outputs": $\widetilde{Z} = \{\widetilde{z}_t\}$, $t = 1 \dots T$

RNN $z_t \in \mathbb{R}^M$ $z_t = \phi(Wz_{t-1} + h + Cs_t)$

Loss function
$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \sum_{r=1}^{R} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{z}}_{t} - \boldsymbol{z}_{t}\|_{2}^{2}$$

≤1

$$\frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial W_{ij}} = \sum_{1 \le t \le T} \frac{\partial \varepsilon_t}{\partial W_{ij}}$$

Benchmark example: Addition problem



Hochreiter & Schmidhuber (1997)

Our approach: Piecewise-Linear (PL) RNN

$$oldsymbol{z}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{z}_{t-1} + oldsymbol{W} \max(oldsymbol{z}_{t-1}, oldsymbol{0}) + oldsymbol{Cs_t} + oldsymbol{h} + oldsymbol{arepsilon_t}_{\mathbf{t}}$$

latent states $\boldsymbol{z}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times 1}$ diag (auto-regression) $\boldsymbol{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times M}$ connection wgt.s $\boldsymbol{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times M}$ input wgt.s $\boldsymbol{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times K}$ bias term $\boldsymbol{h} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times 1}$ external inputs $\boldsymbol{s}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times 1}$ i.i.d. Gaussian noise $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$

Our approach: Piecewise-Linear (PL) RNN

$$oldsymbol{z}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{z}_{t-1} + oldsymbol{W} \max(oldsymbol{z}_{t-1}, oldsymbol{0}) + oldsymbol{Cs_t} + oldsymbol{h} + oldsymbol{arepsilon_t}$$



Universal approximation properties still hold

(Koiran et al. 1994, Theo Comp Sci; Lu et al. 2017, NeurIPS; Storace et al. 2003, Intl J Circuit Theo Appl)

• PL structure allows for efficient inference/ training

(Durstewitz 2017, PLoS Comp Biol; Koppe et al. 2019, PLoS Comp Biol)

PLRNN is a PWL map: DS properties accessible

 Fixed points, cycles, and their stability analytically accessible

$$oldsymbol{z}^{*1} = (oldsymbol{I} - oldsymbol{W}_{\Omega(t^{*1})})^{-1}oldsymbol{h}$$
 $oldsymbol{z}^{*k} = \left(oldsymbol{I} - \prod_{i=1}^k oldsymbol{W}_{\Omega(t^{*k}-i)}
ight)^{-1} imes \left[\sum_{j=2}^k \prod_{i=1}^{k-j+1} oldsymbol{W}_{\Omega(t^{*k}-i)} + oldsymbol{I}
ight]oldsymbol{h}$

(Schmidt et al. 2021, ICLR)

with Jacobians $oldsymbol{W}_{\Omega(\mathsf{t})}\coloneqq oldsymbol{A}+oldsymbol{W}oldsymbol{D}_{\Omega(\mathsf{t})}$

 Important classes of bifurcations relatively well described (in low dim)

(Monfared & Durstewitz 2020, *Nonlinear Dynamics*; Monfared, Patra, Durstewitz, *in prep*)



PLRNN is a PWL map: DS properties accessible

Discrete-time PLRNN can be converted into mathematically equivalent continuous-time PLRNN

 Flow velocity

(Monfared & Durstewitz 2020, *ICML*) $\mathbf{z}_{t+1} = F(\mathbf{z}_t)$, $\dot{\boldsymbol{\zeta}} = G(\boldsymbol{\zeta})$ $\mathbf{z}_0 = \boldsymbol{\zeta}(0)$, $\mathbf{z}_1 = F(\mathbf{z}_0) = \boldsymbol{\zeta}(\Delta t)$





2

18

How can we solve issues in training while keeping the model simple?



Slightly 'detuned' line attractor enables arbitrary time constants

Manifold-attractors for long memory & slow time scales



Manifold-attractors for long memory & slow time scales



⁽Monfared & Durstewitz 2020, ICML)

Manifold-Attractor regularization

$$egin{aligned} oldsymbol{z}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{z}_{t-1} + oldsymbol{W} \max(oldsymbol{z}_{t-1}, oldsymbol{0}) + oldsymbol{Cs_t} + oldsymbol{h} + oldsymbol{arepsilon_t}_{t-1} \end{aligned}$$



Manifold-Attractor regularization

$$egin{aligned} oldsymbol{z}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{z}_{t-1} + oldsymbol{W} \max(oldsymbol{z}_{t-1}, oldsymbol{0}) + oldsymbol{Cs_t} + oldsymbol{h} + oldsymbol{arepsilon_t} \ oldsymbol{bla}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{z}_{t-1} + oldsymbol{W} \max(oldsymbol{z}_{t-1}, oldsymbol{0}) + oldsymbol{Cs_t} + oldsymbol{h} + oldsymbol{arepsilon_t} \ oldsymbol{bla}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{z}_{t-1} + oldsymbol{W} \max(oldsymbol{z}_{t-1}, oldsymbol{0}) + oldsymbol{Cs_t} + oldsymbol{h} + oldsymbol{arepsilon_t} \ oldsymbol{bla}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{z}_{t-1} + oldsymbol{W} \max(oldsymbol{z}_{t-1}, oldsymbol{0}) + oldsymbol{Cs_t} + oldsymbol{h} + oldsymbol{arepsilon_t} \ oldsymbol{bla}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{bla}_t \ oldsymbol{bla}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{U}_t oldsymbol{0} + oldsymbol{Cs_t} oldsymbol{h} + oldsymbol{bla}_t \ oldsymbol{bla}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{bla}_t \ oldsymbol{bla}_t = oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{bla}_t oldsymbol{bla}_t \ oldsymbol{bla}_t = oldsymbol{bla}_t \ oldsymbol{b$$



Supervised: Classical ML benchmarks





Bottom line

RNN with simple, tractable mathematical structure → yet performance en par with LSTM, orth-RNN etc.



Unsupervised dynamical systems reconstruction





Unsupervised dynamical systems reconstruction



Unsupervised dynamical systems reconstruction



Rewrite

$$\mathbf{z}_{t} = F(\mathbf{z}_{t-1}) = A\mathbf{z}_{t-1} + W \max(0, \mathbf{z}_{t-1}) + \mathbf{h}$$
$$=: (A + WD_{\Omega(t-1)})\mathbf{z}_{t-1} + \mathbf{h}$$
$$=: W_{\Omega(t-1)}\mathbf{z}_{t-1} + \mathbf{h}$$

where
$$D_{\Omega(t)} \coloneqq \operatorname{diag}(d_{\Omega(t)})$$
, $d_{\Omega(t)} \coloneqq (d_1, d_2, \cdots, d_M)$
with $d_m(z_{m,t}) := d_m = 1$ iff $z_{m,t} > 0$ and 0 else

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Z}_{2} \\ D_{\Omega^{\beta}} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ D_{\Omega^{4}} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \\ D_{\Omega^{1}} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ D_{\Omega^{2}} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ D_{\Omega^{2}} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Fixed point
$$z^* = F(z^*)$$

k-cycle $\{z^{*1}, ..., z^{*k}\} = \{z^{*1}, F(z^{*1}), ..., F^k(z^{*1})\},$
 $z^{*r} = F(F(...F(z^{*r}))) = F^k(z^{*r}) \text{ for } 1 \le r \le k$

$$\begin{aligned} z_{2} &= F(z_{1}) = W_{\Omega(1)} z_{1} + h, \\ z_{3} &= F^{2}(z_{1}) = F(z_{2}) = W_{\Omega(2)} W_{\Omega(1)} z_{1} + (W_{\Omega(2)} + I)h, \\ \vdots \\ z_{T} &= F^{T-1}(z_{1}) = F(z_{T-1}) = W_{\Omega(T-1)} W_{\Omega(T-2)} \cdots W_{\Omega(1)} z_{1} \\ &+ (W_{\Omega(T-1)} W_{\Omega(T-2)} \cdots W_{\Omega(2)} \\ &+ W_{\Omega(T-1)} W_{\Omega(T-2)} \cdots W_{\Omega(3)} + \cdots + W_{\Omega(T-1)} + I)h \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^{T-1} W_{\Omega(T-i)} z_{1} + \left[\sum_{j=2}^{T-1} \prod_{i=1}^{j-1} W_{\Omega(T-i)} + I \right]h \end{aligned}$$



Theorem. PLRNN dynamics
converges to fixed point or k-cycle
→ Norms of loss "gradients"
(tensors) bounded from above





Theorem. PLRNN + MAR. Non-regularized subsystem converges to FP or kcycle \rightarrow Norms of loss "gradients" bounded from above and below

What about chaotic systems?

Definition. We call a (deterministic) DS chaotic if

- long-term behavior is aperiodic (irregular)
- Max. Lyapunov exponent > 0 (nearby trajectories diverge expon. fast)



Example: Lorenz-63 system



Example: Lorenz-96 system (spatio-temporal chaos)

$$\left(\frac{dx_i}{dt} = (x_{i+1} - x_{i-2})x_{i-1} - x_i + F, \ i = 1 \dots N\right)$$



Example: Neural population model ("structured chaos")

Probabilistic framework: Multi-modal PLRNN

Application: Inferring PLRNN from human fMRI

Application: Inferring PLRNN from human fMRI

Reconstructed state spaces from fMRI

(data: Bähner et al. 2015; Koppe et al. 2019, PLoS Comp Biol)

Nonlinear phenomena from fMRI data

(Koppe et al. 2019, *PLoS Comp Biol*)

Multi-modal integration improves DS reconstruction

Wrap-up

Probabilistic and multimodal framework for PLRNNs

Tractable PLRNN for reconstructing DS from time series

Useful technique to get insight into (malfunctioning) brain dynamics

github.com/DurstewitzLab

