Enabling data-driven discovery in biology: Statistical learning of *interpretable* mathematical models from microscopy videos

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Life in a nutshell

- Highly organized
- Regulated
- Complex shapes
- Non-equilibrium
- Non-linear
- Coupled



Life at different scales



Modeling in biology

The big question(s) in biology

Genotype - Phenotype ?





Images: Wikipedia

Individual interactions —> emergent dynamics ?



Mathematical models for emergent dynamics

Individual interactions —> emergent dynamics ?





Modeling in biology

Modeling emergent dynamics : PDE success





new paradigm

Biological microscopy data ERA



Self-driving light sheet microscope - MPI-CBG/CSBD

BIOLOGICAL DATA-SETS

- long-term imaging of single molecules fluorescence microscopy
- simultaneous measurements of multiple biosensors live cell microscopy
- development of entire organisms lattice light-sheet microscopy, SPIM



Microscopy data —> mathematical models PDE/ODEs









Definitions

Generic non-linear, space time-dependent, parametric systems

State-variable

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \mathcal{N}\left(\left[u, u^2, u_{xx}, uu_x, \ldots\right], x, t, \Theta, \Sigma\right)$$
Stochastic effects

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 u + \beta_2 u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \beta_3 u^2 + \ldots + \beta_k u^3 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \ldots,$$
Parameters
Stochastic effects

Data and measurement model

State-variable measurements

$$v\left(x_{m}, t_{n}\right) = \mathcal{F}\left(u_{m,n}, x_{m}, t_{n}, \Xi\right)$$
Measurement model
Measurement poise

Given data
$$u_{m,n}$$
 and $v(x_m,t_n) \approx \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$, build $\mathcal{F}(\cdot) \approx \mathcal{N}(\cdot)$?









Design

CASE STUDY: 1D BURGERS EQUATION inference



N - #points sampled, p - dictionary size









The belief system - SPARSITY



Least-squares formulation

$$\hat{\beta} = \arg\min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \|U_t - \Theta\beta\|_2^2$$

• Linear-least square solution (N>p)



Relaxed sparse regression form

$$\hat{\beta} = \arg\min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \|U_t - \Theta\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\beta\|_{1,2}$$

• Lasso, Randmized Lasso, Elastic Net

H Schaeffer et al, Royal Society (2016)









Literature review

Success with sparse regression for PDE inference



$$\hat{\beta} = \arg\min_{\beta} \|U_t - \Theta\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\beta\|_0$$

| PDE | | Form | |
|-----|-------------|---|--|
| M | KdV | $u_t + 6uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0$ | |
| 1 | Burgers | $u_t + uu_x - \epsilon u_{xx} = 0$ | |
| A | Schrödinger | $iu_t + \frac{1}{2}u_{xx} - \frac{x^2}{2}u = 0$ | |

| KS | $u_t + uu_x + u_{xx} + u_{xxxx} = 0$ |
|-----------------------|---|
| Reaction Diffusion | $\begin{aligned} u_t &= 0.1 \nabla^2 u + \lambda(\mathbf{A}) u - \omega(\mathbf{A}) v \\ v_t &= 0.1 \nabla^2 v + \omega(\mathbf{A}) u + \lambda(\mathbf{A}) v \\ \mathbf{A}^2 &= u^2 + v^2, \omega = -\beta \mathbf{A}^2, \lambda = 1 - \mathbf{A}^2 \end{aligned}$ |
| Navier- Stokes | $\omega_t + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\omega = \frac{1}{Re} \nabla^2 \omega$ |

Rudy et al, Sci Advances (2017)









Unsolved mysteries

Barriers to cross for application to real experimental data



- Parametric dependency of the algorithm with change in design, What is the right **complexity parameter** lambda ?
- \bullet Does the algorithm always give the right support ? Is this the best way to solve the hard L_0 problem ?
- How can we compare between algorithms ? Can we guarantee consistency for varying design's ?
- Derivative computation from noisy data
- Noise performance (1%)









parameter dependence

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Regularization paths for 1D BURGERS EQUATION inference







Which sparsity promoter ?



IHT-D shows better performance in comparison to STRidge and LASSO







Stability-based model selection for 1D BURGERS EQUATION



Robustness/ Consistency

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Stability-based model selection for 1D BURGERS EQUATION

BG



Robustness/ Consistency

Stability-based model selection for 3D Gray-Scott reaction diffusion system



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Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology

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Experimental data

PAR Proteins patterning in the *Caenorhabditis elegans* zygote









Stability based inference

Stability-based PDE inference for PAR system experimental data









Next steps

What kind of problems can be addressed with such methods ?

red flour beetle (Tribolium castaneum)



Tissue flows in Tribolium embryo (Tomancak lab, MPI-CBG)

Can active gel mechanical models be Inferred from the intensity and flow data ?

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Stability based inference

Stability-based PDE inference from limited noisy spatial-temporal data

data









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THANK YOU









