# **Constructing a Neuron using Column Generation**

## Julian Yarkony

Experian Data Lab San Diego CA julian.e.yarkony@gmail.com

## **Abstract**

We consider the problem of describing neurons in single neuron images. To do this we map the problem to a problem of constructing a lineage to one

# 1 Formulation

#### 1.1 Tracks

- We describe the set of detections as  $\mathcal{D}$  which we index with d.
- We describe the set of tracks as  $\mathcal{P}$  which we index with p.
- We use  $X \in \{0,1\}^{|\mathcal{D} \times \mathcal{P}|}$  to denote a mapping of detections to tracks where  $X_{dp} = 1$  indicates that track d is associated with track p.
- A track consists of as sequence of sub-tracks each of k detections where k is a user defined hyper-parameter that trades off model complexity and efficiency of inference.
- We use  $\bar{X} \in \{0,1\}^{|\mathcal{D} \times \mathcal{P}|}$  to denote a mapping of detections to tracks where  $X_{dp} = 1$  indicates that track d is associated with track p and detection d is not in the first k-1 detections on the track.

## 1.2 Sub-Tracks

- We define the set of subtracks as S which we index with s. A given subtrack has elements  $\{s_1, s_2, s_3...s_k\}$  ordered in time from earliest to latest.
- We use  $F \in \{0,1\}^{|\mathcal{D}|\times|\mathcal{S}|}$  which we index by d,s respectively. We set  $F_{ds}=1$  if and only if detection d is in subtrack s.
- We use  $F^- \in \{0,1\}^{|\mathcal{D}| \times |\mathcal{S}|}$  which we index by d,s respectively. We set  $F_{ds}=1$  if and only if detection d is the final detection on subtrack s.
- We define a mapping of tracks to subtracks using a matrix  $S^0 \in \{0,1\}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times |\mathcal{P}|}$ . We use  $S^0_{sp} = 1$  to indicate that track p contains subtrack s as neither the start nor the end.
- In order to describe the first subtrack on a track we use matrix  $S^+ \in \{0,1\}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times |\mathcal{P}|}$  which we index with s,p where  $S^+_{sp}=1$  if and only if subtrack s is the first subtrack on track p
- In order to describe the first subtrack on a track we use matrix  $S^- \in \{0,1\}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times |\mathcal{P}|}$  which we index with s,p where  $S^+_{sp}=1$  if and only if subtrack s is the first subtrack on track p
- The subtracks in the sequence that describes a track overlap eachother. Hence if a sub-tracks  $s_1$  is succeeded by another subtrack  $s_2$  on a given track then the final k-1 elements on  $s_1$  are the same as the earliest k-1 elements in  $s_2$
- We use  $Q \in \{0,1\}^{|\mathcal{S}| \times |\mathcal{S}|}$  which we index by  $s_1, s_2$  respectively. We set  $Q_{s_1s_2} = 1$  if and only if subtrack  $s_1$  can succeed  $s_2$ .

## 1.3 Costs

We associate tracks with costs with costs usign the following noattion. We use  $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}}$  which we index by p to associate tracks with costs. We use  $\Theta_p$  to associate track p with a cost.

- We use  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{S}|,3}$  which we index by s/[+,-,0] respectively.
- We use  $\theta_{s+}$  to denote the cost of starting a track at subtrack s.
- We use  $\theta_{s-}$  to denote the cost of terminating a track at subtrack s.
- ullet We use  $heta_{s0}$  to denote the cost of including a subtrack s in a track as neither the start nor the end .

We assocaite a track with cost with cost  $\Theta_p$  as follows.

$$\Theta_p = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} S_{sp}^+ \theta_{s+} + S_{sp}^- \theta_{s-} + S_{sp}^0 \theta_{s0}$$
 (1)

## 1.4 Collection of Tracks

We describe a collection of tracks that describe a neuron using a vector  $\gamma \in \{0,1\}^{|\mathcal{P}|}$  which we index with p. We set  $\gamma_p = 1$  if and only if track p is incuded in the neuron.

We use  $\Gamma$  to describe the set of all possible neurons. This a subset of  $\gamma \in \{0,1\}^{|\mathcal{P}|}$  The cost associated with a nueron described by  $\gamma$  is defined by the sum of the tracks that compose it. The selection of the lowest cost neuron is thuse written below

$$\min_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \sum_{p} \gamma_p \Theta_p \tag{2}$$

## 1.5 Feasibility

We assume that the soma is defined by a subtrack  $s_0$  which is a special subtrack that initializes the neuron.

A track is included or not included :  $\gamma_p \in \{0, 1\}$ 

No two tracks can continue through a given detection

$$\sum_{p} \gamma_{p} \hat{X}_{dp} \le 1 \quad \forall d \tag{3}$$

A detetion can not be part of more than two tracks. This blocks succession in close proximity.

$$\sum_{p} \gamma_p X_{dp} \le 2 \quad \forall d \tag{4}$$

A track can not split off a subtrack unless that sub-track is already on a track

$$\sum_{p} S_{sp}^{+} \gamma_{p} \le \sum_{p} S_{sp}^{0} \gamma_{p} \quad \forall s \ne s_{0}$$
 (5)