

# **Computational Hypergraph Discovery**

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January 18, 2024

California Institute of Technology

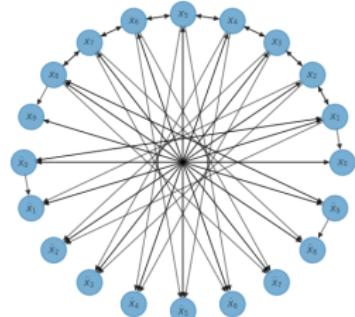
$x_1$	$\ddot{x}_1$	$\dots$	$\ddot{x}_{10}$
0.45	0.66	$\dots$	-0.23
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\ddots$	$\vdots$
-0.78	-0.12	$\dots$	0.89

$$\ddot{x}_1 = \frac{c^2}{h^2} (x_2 + x_0 - 2x_1)(1 + (x_2 - x_0)^3)$$

⋮

$$\ddot{x}_{10} = \frac{c^2}{h^2} (x_9 - 2x_{10})(1 - x_9^3)$$

CHD 

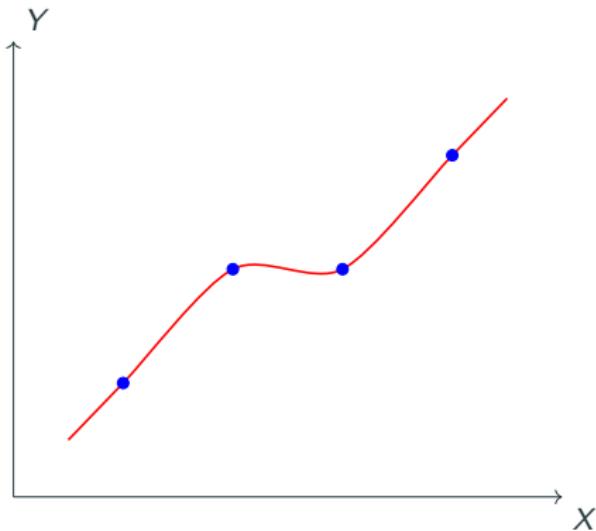


## Computational Hypergraph Discovery, a Gaussian Process Framework for Connecting the Dots.

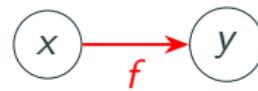
Théo Bourdais, Pau Batlle, Xianjin Yang, Ricardo Baptista,  
 Nicolas Rouquette, and Houman Owhadi  
*ArXiv, (2023). /abs/2311.17007*

## The regression problem

Suppose  $y = f(x)$ , given samples  $(X_i, Y_i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ ,  
approximate  $f$



## Graph representation



For  $(X_i, Y_i) \in \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , approximate  $f$  s.t.  $y = f(x)$ .

### Linear Ridge regression

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Our approximation is a linear function  $\tilde{f}(x) = \beta^{*T} x$  with

$$\beta^{*} = \arg \min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \sum_{i=1}^N |Y_i - \beta^T X_i|^2 + \gamma \|\beta\|^2$$

We know that, for  $k(x, y) = x^T y$ ,

$$\tilde{f} \in \mathcal{H}_k = \overline{\left\{ \sum_i \alpha_i k(\cdot, z_i), \text{for some } z_i, \alpha_i \right\}}$$

For  $(X_i, Y_i) \in \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , approximate  $f$  s.t.  $y = f(x)$ .

### Quadratic Ridge regression

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Our approximation is a quadratic function  $\tilde{f}(x) = \beta^{*T} \psi(x)$ ,  
 $\psi(x) = (1, x, x^2)$ ,

$$\beta^{*} = \arg \min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{2p+1}} \sum_{i=1}^N |Y_i - \beta^T \psi(X_i)|^2 + \gamma \|\beta\|^2$$

We know that, for  $k(x, y) = \psi(x)^T \psi(y)$ ,

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For  $(X_i, Y_i) \in \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , approximate  $f$  s.t.  $y = f(x)$ .

## Kernel Ridge regression

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Our approximation is a function in a space  $\mathcal{H}_k^1$  defined by the kernel  $k$ .

$$\tilde{f} = \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{H}_k} \sum_{i=1}^N |Y_i - f(X_i)|^2 + \gamma \|f\|^2$$

We know that,

$$\tilde{f} \in \mathcal{H}_k = \overline{\left\{ \sum_i \alpha_i k(\cdot, z_i), \text{for some } z_i, \alpha_i \right\}}$$

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<sup>1</sup> $\mathcal{H}_k$  is called the Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS) of  $k$

## Computational Hypergraphs

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A computational hypergraph is a graphical representation of a set of equations



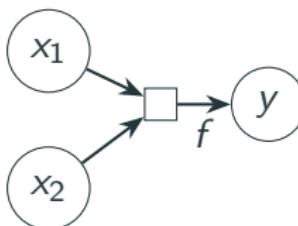
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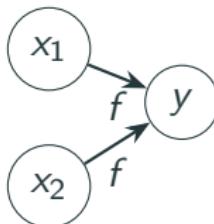
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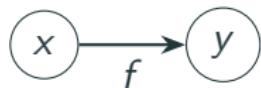
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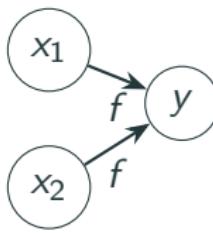
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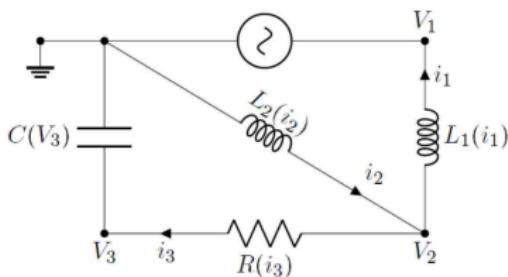
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$$y = f(x)$$

$$z = g(y)$$

# The electrical circuit example<sup>2</sup>



$$i_1 + i_3 = i_2$$

$$i_3 = C(V_3) \frac{dV_3}{dt}$$

$$V_2 - V_3 = R(i_3)i_3$$

$$-V_2 = L_2(i_2) \frac{di_2}{dt}$$

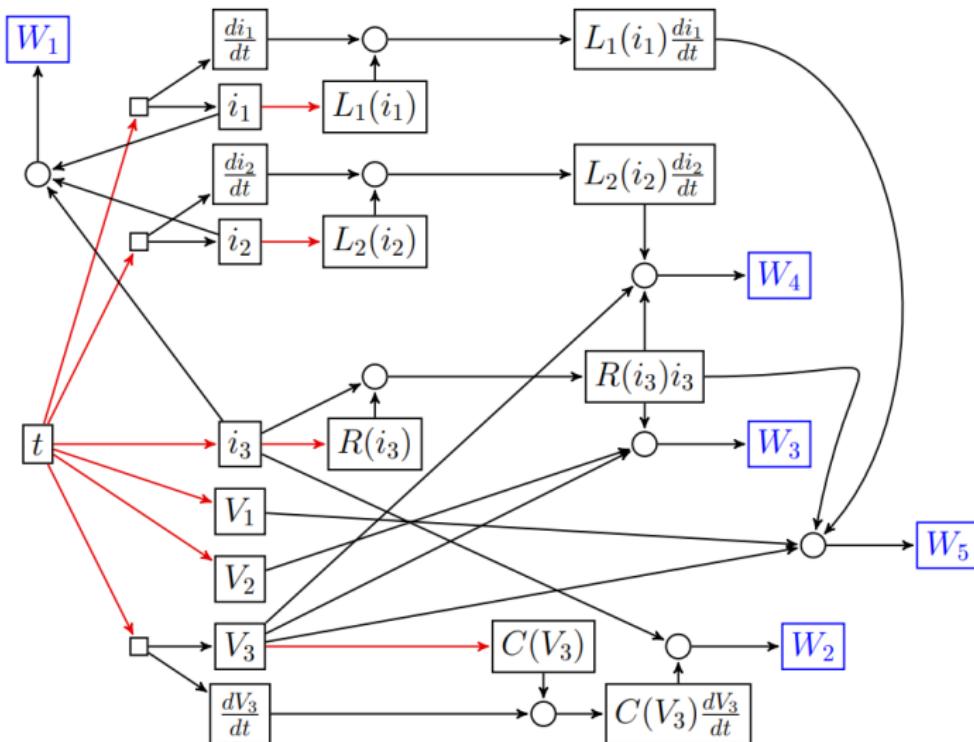
$$V_2 - V_1 = L_1(i_1) \frac{di_1}{dt}$$

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<sup>2</sup>Owhadi, *Computational Graph Completion*.

# The electrical circuit example

Since any set of equations can be represented as a Computational Hypergraph, we can obtain:



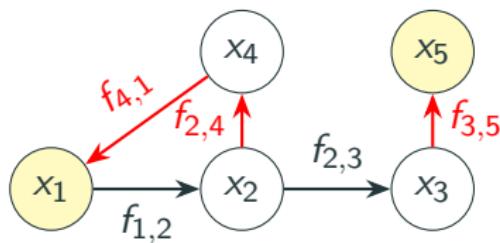
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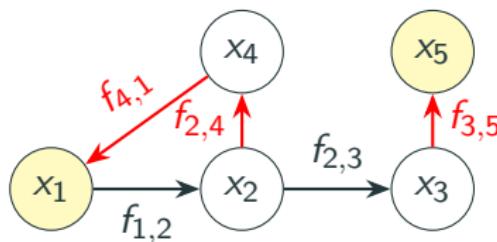
**Hypergraph Completion** Given the graph's structure and samples of its variables, approximate unknown edges, and missing data.



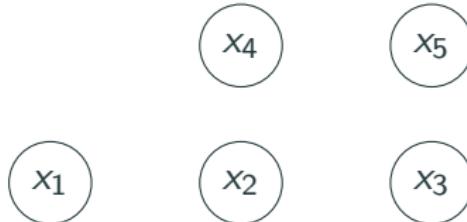
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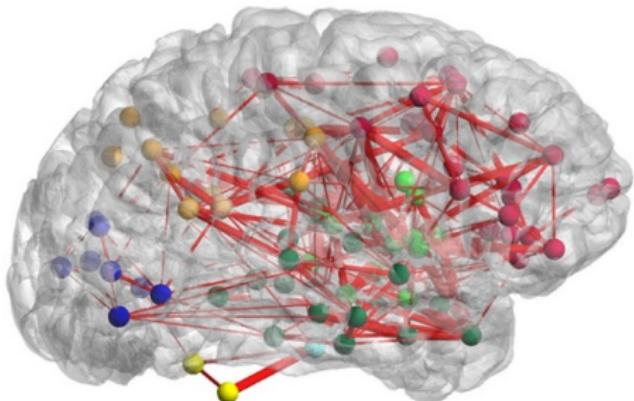
**Hypergraph Completion** Given the graph's structure and samples of its variables, approximate unknown edges, and missing data.



**Hypergraph discovery** Given samples of the variables, find the structure of the graph.



- Brain networks



**Figure 1:** Image from Shu-Hsien Chu et al.

**Objective:** Discover functional dependencies between the activities of different brain regions.

- Brain networks
- Economic networks

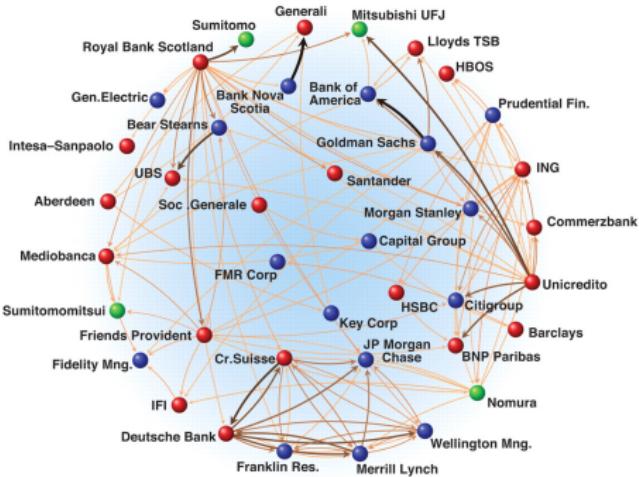


Figure 1: Image from Schweitzer et al.

**Objective:** Discover functional dependencies between economic markers of different banks

- Brain networks
- Economic networks
- Weather modelling

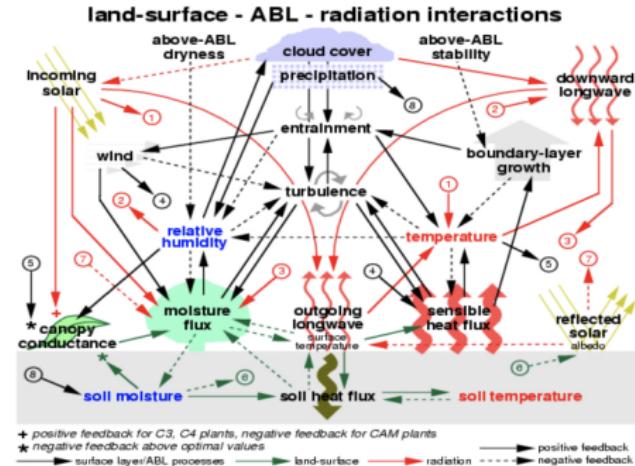


Figure 1: Image from Michael Ek.

**Objective:** Discover functional dependencies between the different variables

### Causal inference and Probabilistic graphs

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- Usually tackle a different problem (e.g., conditional independence or causality)
- Relies on strong assumptions (e.g., access to a distribution)

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### Sparse regressions

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- Uses knowledge of sparse representations in a dictionary of functions
- Example: SINDY

## The CHD problem

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Given  $N$  samples of our variables, recover the functional dependencies between them (i.e., the structure of the graph).



## The CHD problem

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Given  $N$  samples of  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5$ , recover the functional dependencies (i.e. the structure of the graph).

**Ancestors:** If  $x_5 = f(x_1, x_4)$  for some  $f$ ,  $x_1, x_4$  are ancestors of  $x_5$ .

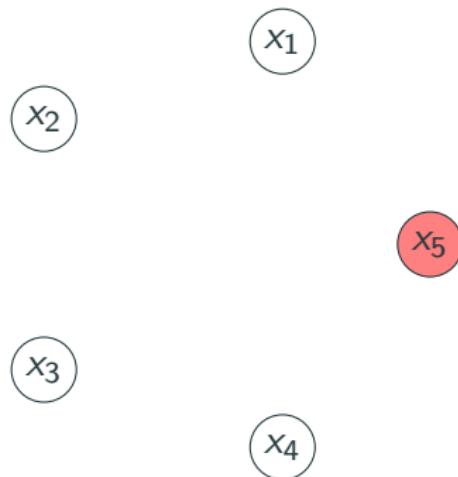
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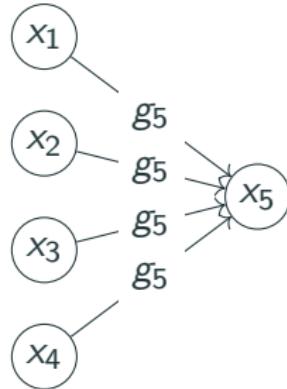


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 $x_1, \dots, x_4$



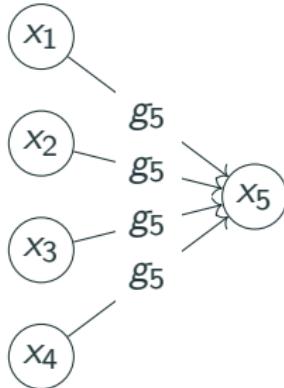
There is a function  $g_5$  s.t.  
$$x_5 = g_5(x_1, \dots, x_4)$$

There are three questions:

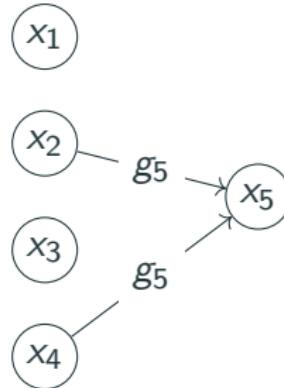
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or



or



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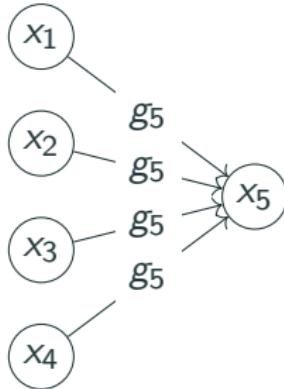
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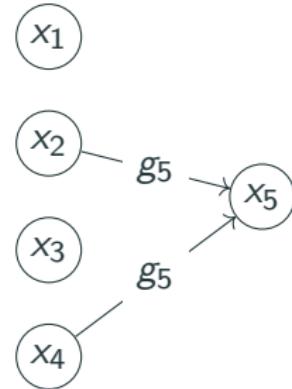


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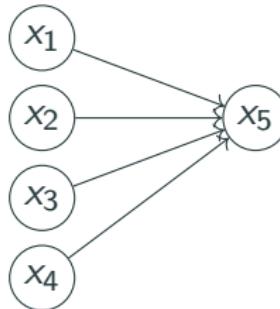
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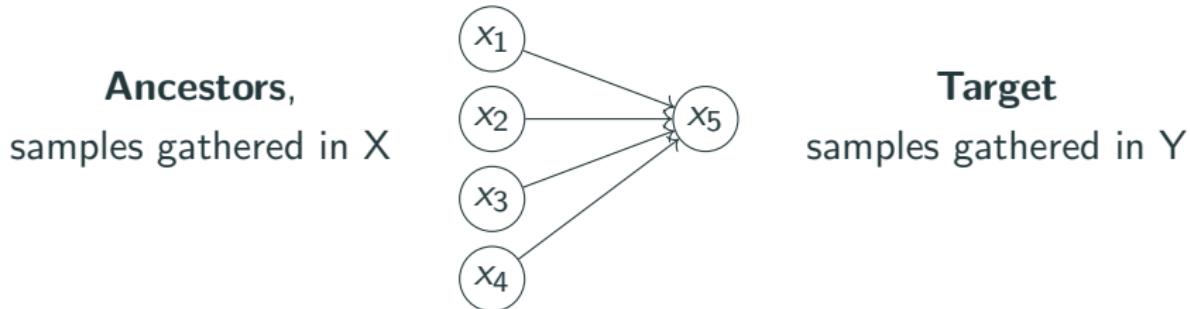
- Does  $x_5$  have any ancestors?
- If so, what is the minimum set of ancestors?
- What kind of function is  $g_5$ ?

Does  $x_5$  have any ancestors?

Ancestors,  
samples gathered in X



Target  
samples gathered in Y



Let's see if there is  $g_5$  s.t.  $x_5 = g_5(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$  using a Gaussian Process (kernel  $k$  and noise variance  $\gamma$ ):

$$g_5 = \arg \min_f \|f\|_k^2 + \frac{1}{\gamma} |f(X) - Y|^2 \quad (1)$$

To see if this model correctly describes the data, we perform a nonlinear variance decomposition:

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- Unexplained data variance
  - Quantifies model misspecification

## Noise-to-signal ratio

---

$\frac{n}{n+s} \in [0, 1]$ , quantifies how much the data agrees with  $x_5$  having  $x_1, \dots, x_4$  as ancestors

- if  $\frac{n}{n+s} \approx 0$ : The model is well specified.
- if  $\frac{n}{n+s} \approx 1$ : The model is misspecified.

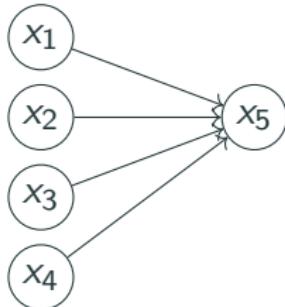
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If  $\frac{n}{n+s} < 0.5$ ,  $x_5$  has ancestors



or

If  $\frac{n}{n+s} > 0.5$ ,  $x_5$  has no ancestors



Is there a  $g_5$  s.t.  $x_5 = g_5(x_1, \dots, x_4)$ ? The kernel defines the set of functions we are searching  $g_5$  in.

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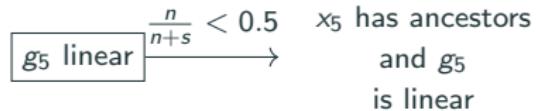
$g_5$  linear



## Current kernel: Linear

$$k(x, y) = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i$$

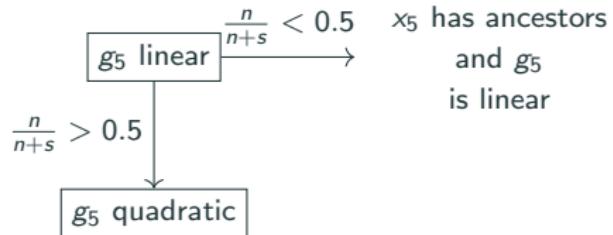
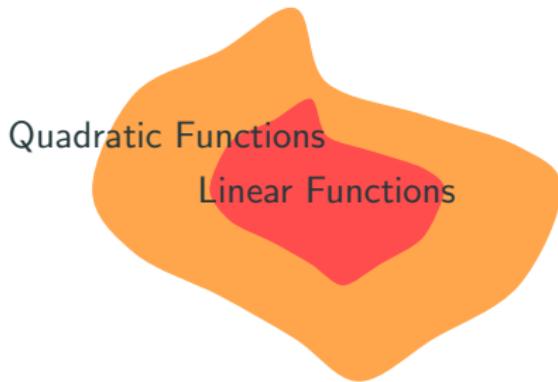
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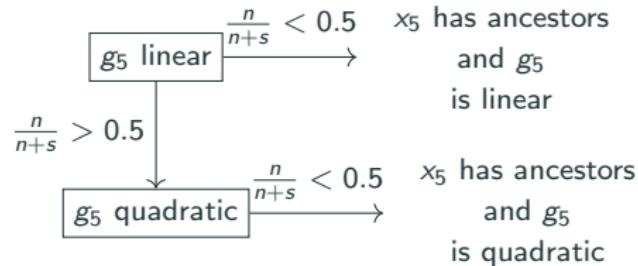
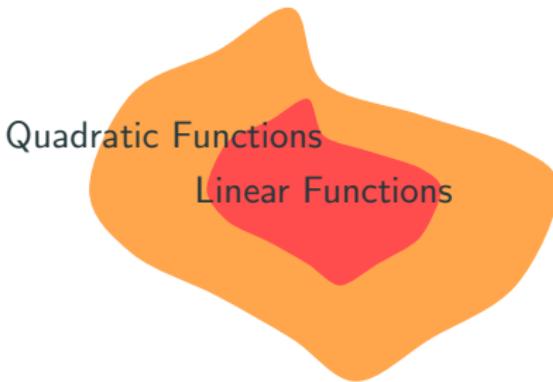
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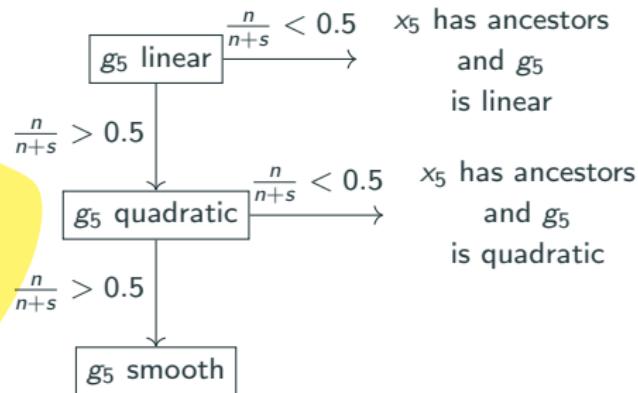
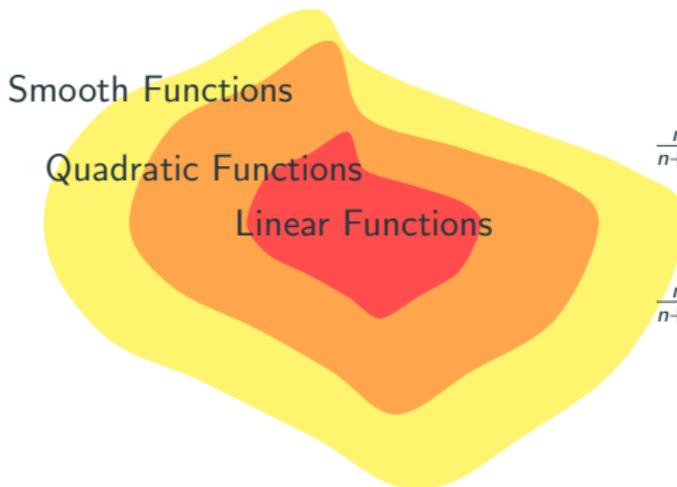
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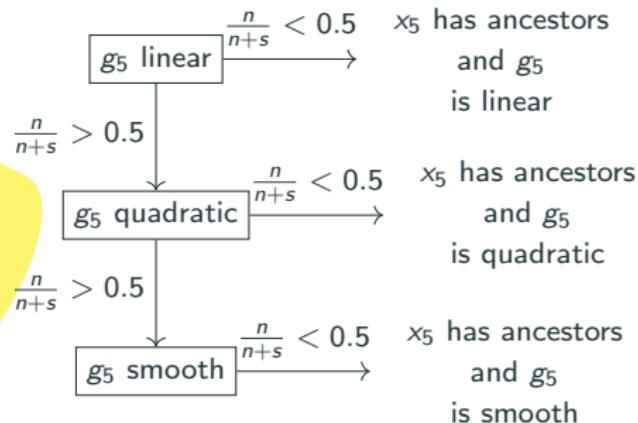
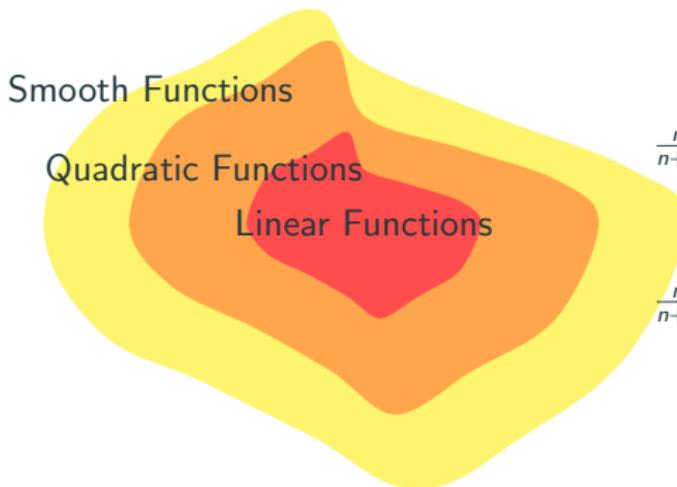
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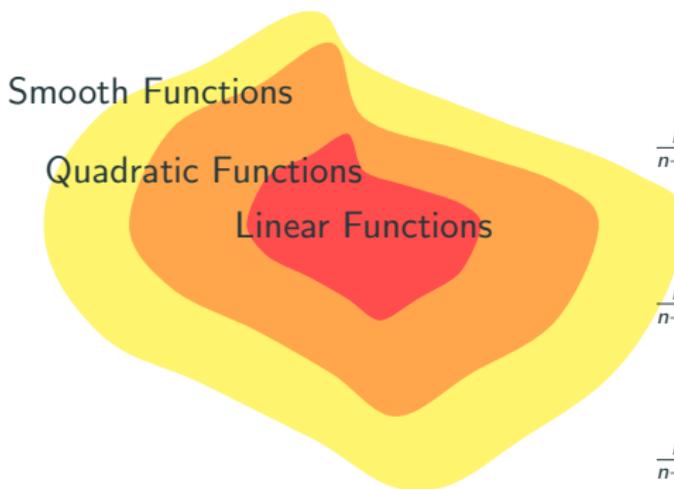
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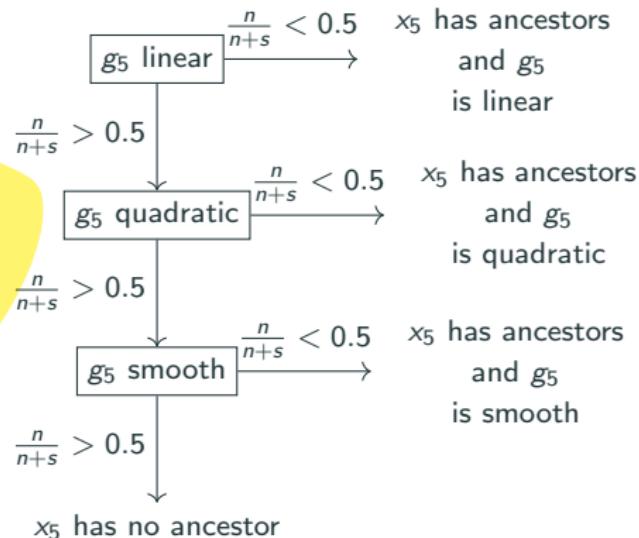
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$$k(x, y) = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i + \sum_{i,j=1}^n x_i x_j y_i y_j$$

Observe  $k = k_2 + k_{-2}$

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- $k_{-2}$  does not depend on  $x_2$ :  $k_{-2} = k - k_2$

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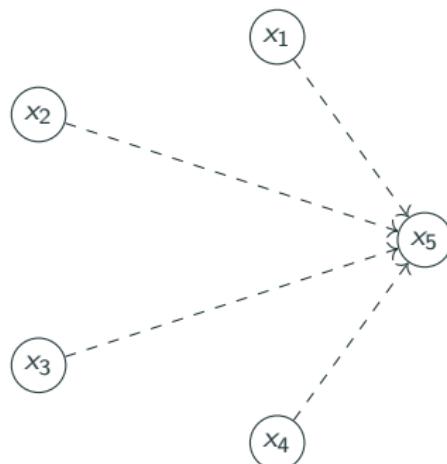
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We can define the activation  $a_2$ , which quantifies the contribution of  $x_2$  to the signal data variance:

$$a_2 = \frac{\|f_2\|_{k_2}^2}{\|g_5\|_k^2}$$

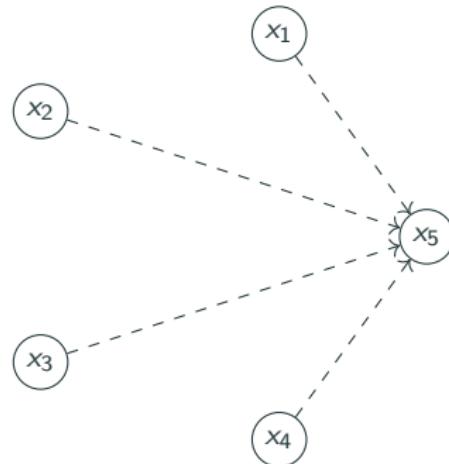
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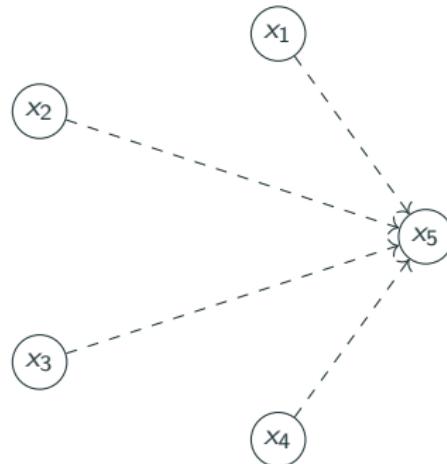
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- Linear kernel:  $\frac{n}{n+s} = 0.81$
- Quadratic kernel:  $\frac{n}{n+s} = 0.12$
- Nonlinear kernel:  $\frac{n}{n+s} = 0.44$

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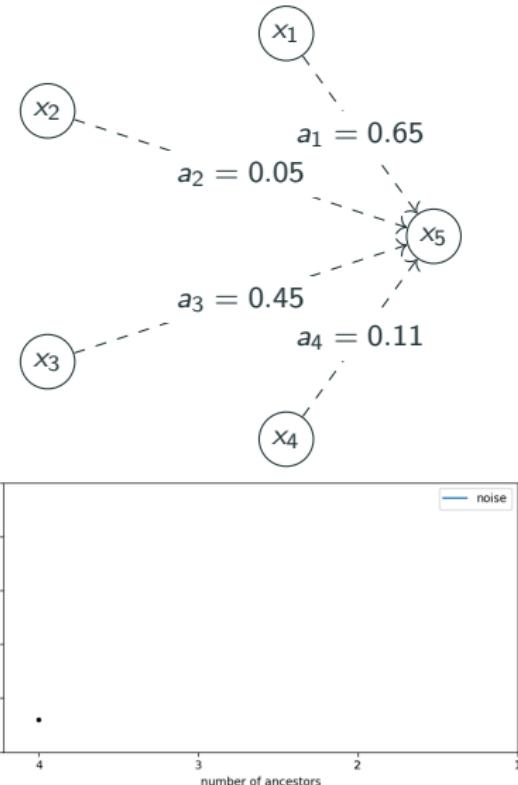
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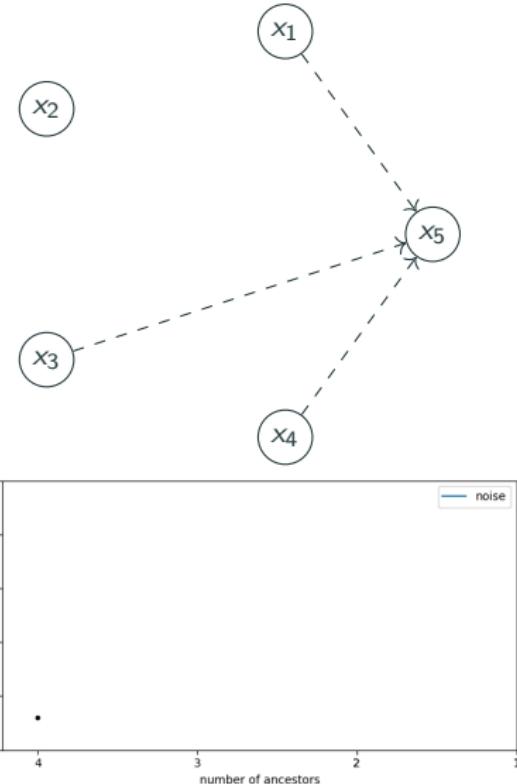
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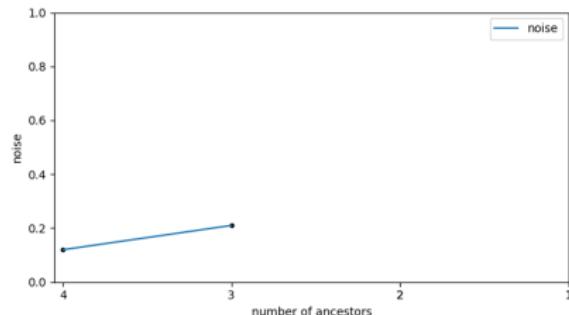
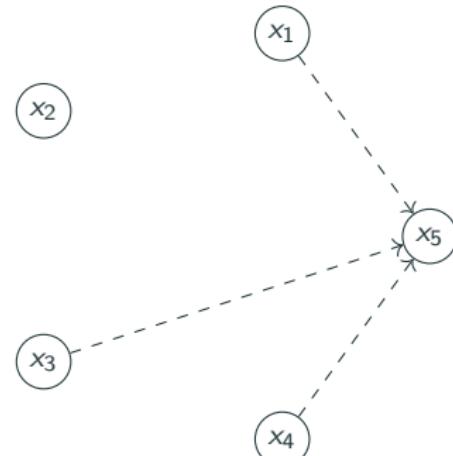
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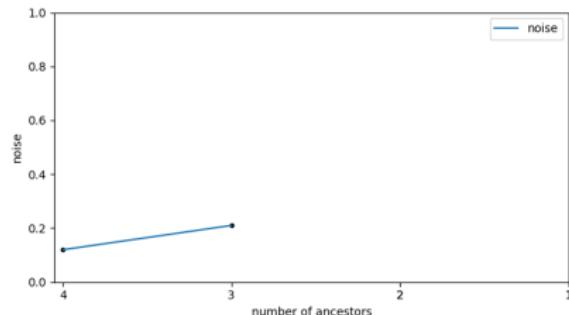
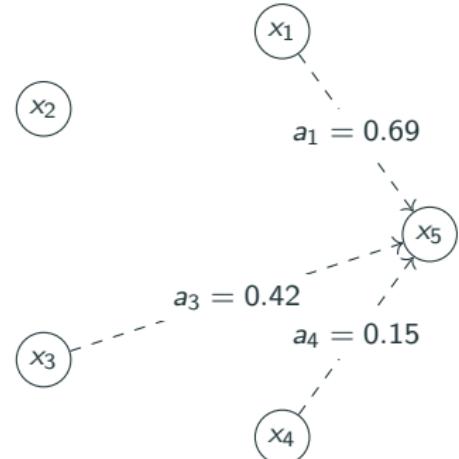
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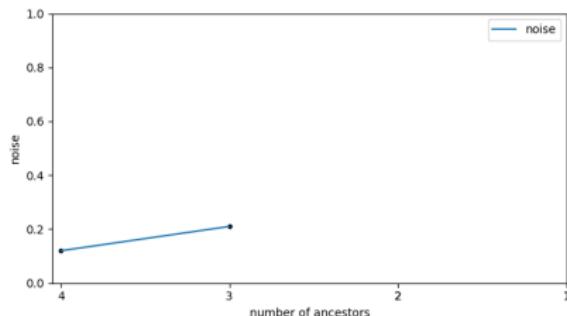
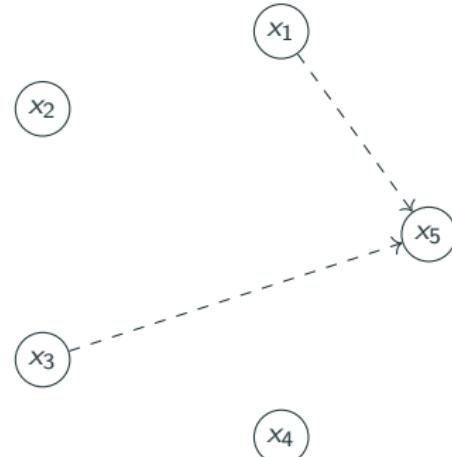
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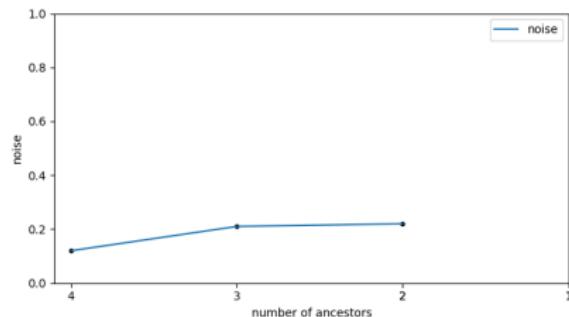
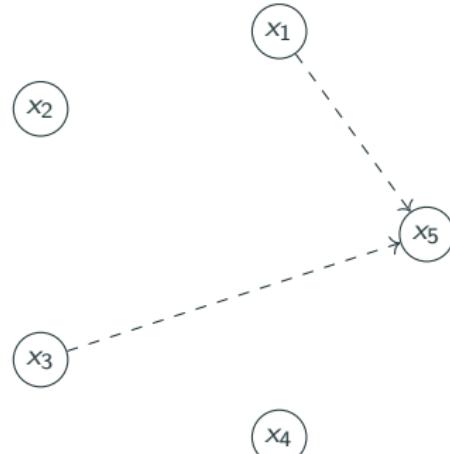
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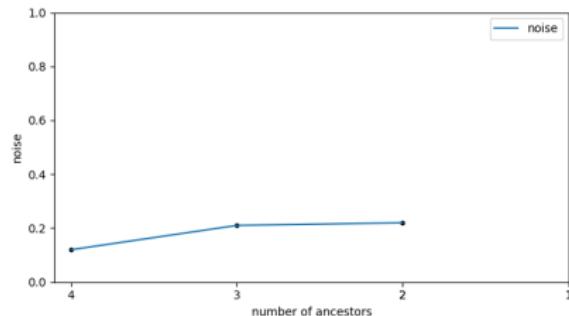
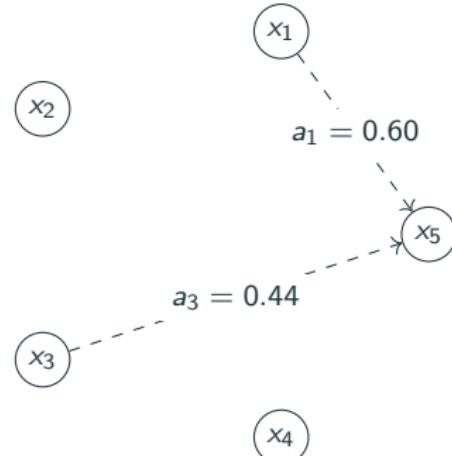
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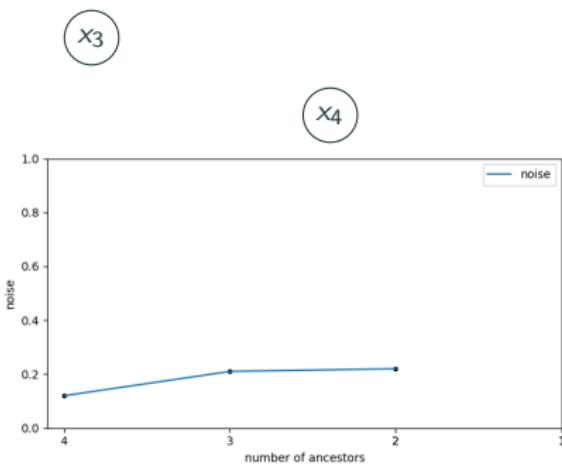
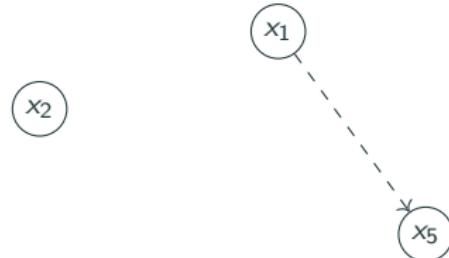
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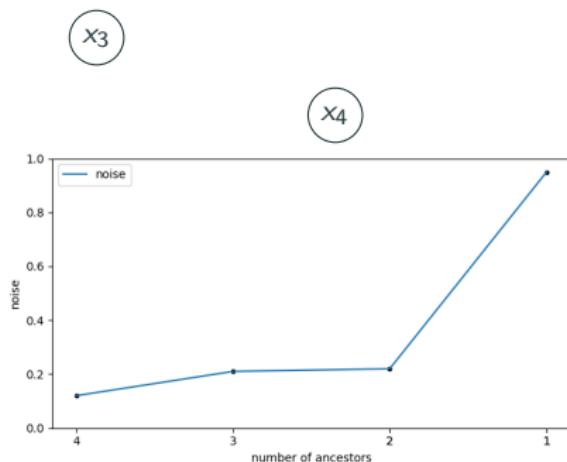
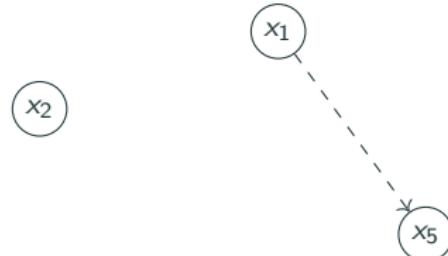
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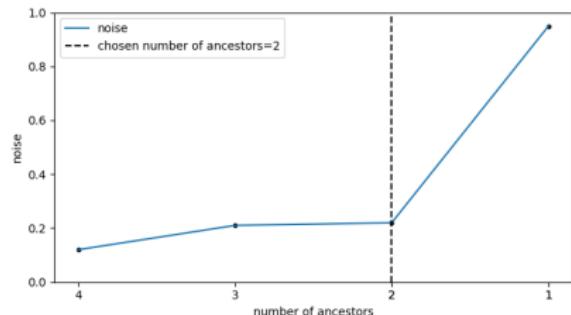
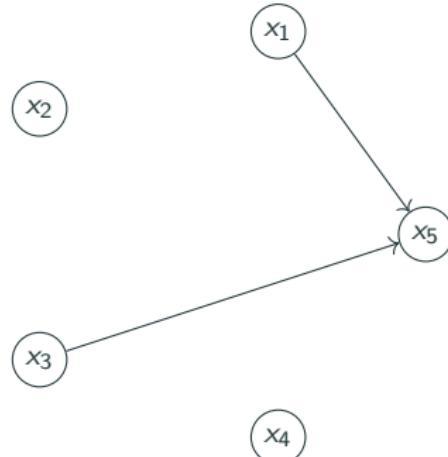
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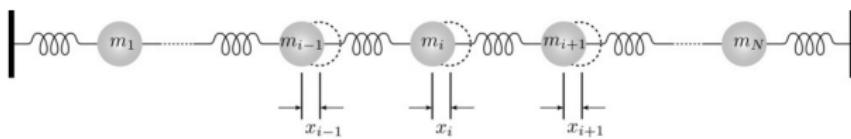
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Let  $N = 10$  masses, for  $i = 0, \dots, N - 1$ , their displacement from equilibrium  $x_i$ . We have:

$$\ddot{x}_i = \frac{c^2}{h^2} (x_{i+1} + x_{i-1} - 2x_i)(1 + (x_{i+1} - x_{i-1})^2) \quad (2)$$

Boundary condition:  $x_{-1} = x_N = 0$



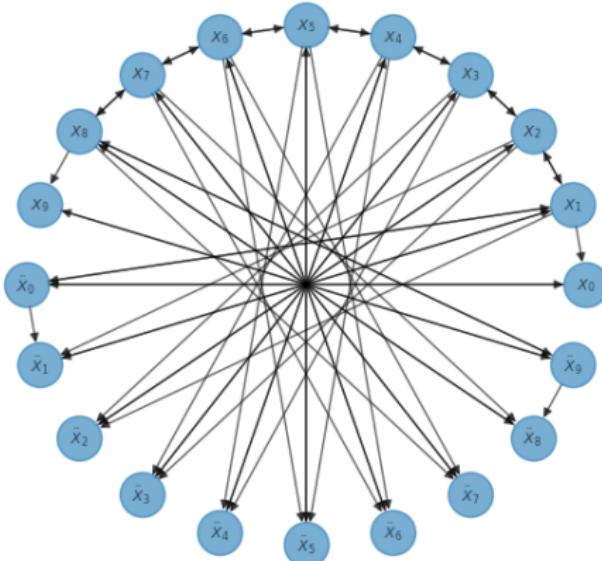
**Figure 2:** Nelson et al., 2018

$$\ddot{x}_i = \frac{c^2}{h^2} (x_{i+1} + x_{i-1} - 2x_i) (1 + (x_{i+1} - x_{i-1})^2) \quad (3)$$

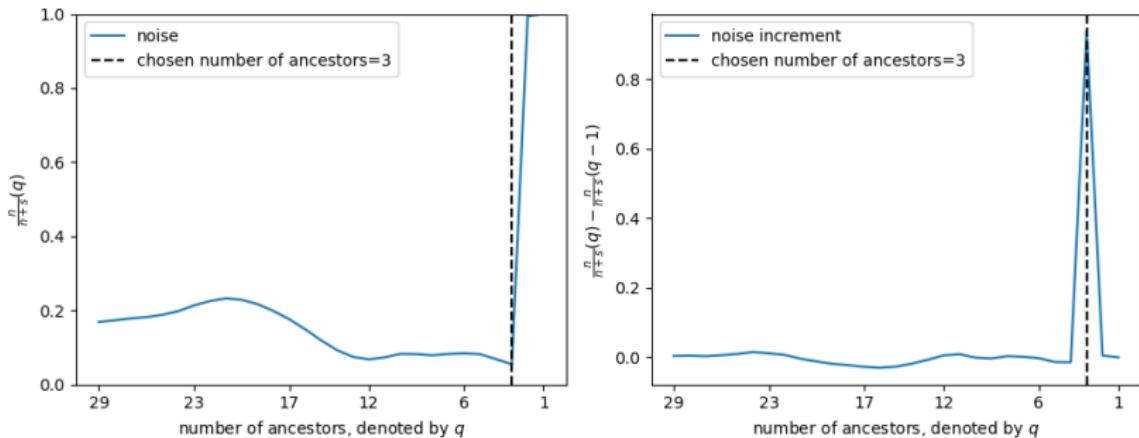
We observe  $n = 1000$  snapshots of  $x_i, \dot{x}_i, \ddot{x}_i, i = 0, \dots, 9$ .

$$\ddot{x}_i = \frac{c^2}{h^2} (x_{i+1} + x_{i-1} - 2x_i)(1 + (x_{i+1} - x_{i-1})^2) \quad (3)$$

We observe  $n = 1000$  snapshots of  $x_i, \dot{x}_i, \ddot{x}_i, i = 0, \dots, 9$ . We recover the graph perfectly, even with uninformative prior:



A typical evolution of the noise (for  $\ddot{x}_7$ ):

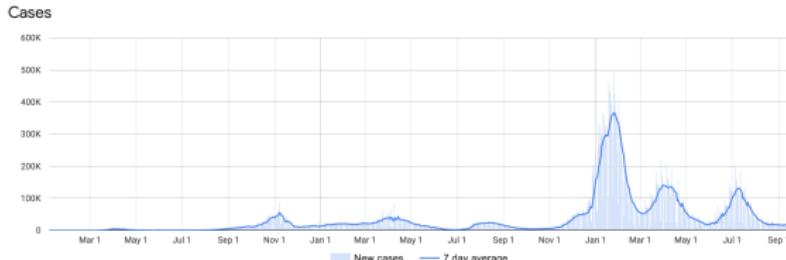


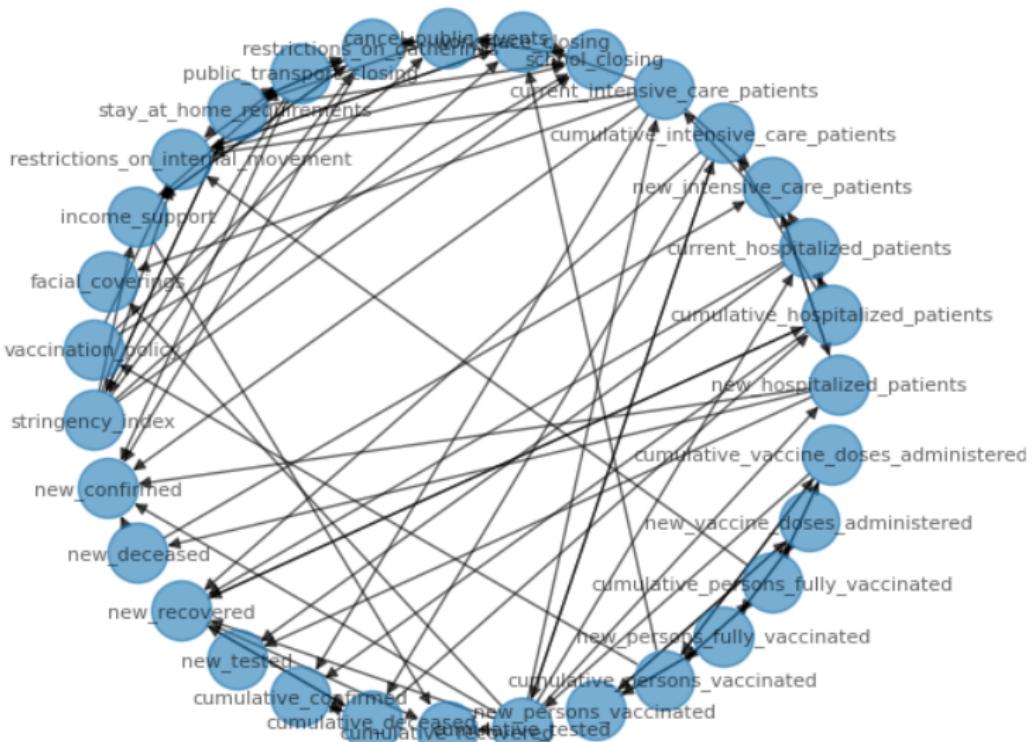
**Figure 3:** **Left:** evolution of noise-to-signal ratio . **Right:** Increment in noise ( $\frac{n}{n+s}(q) - \frac{n}{n+s}(q-1)$  for  $q$  the number of ancestors)

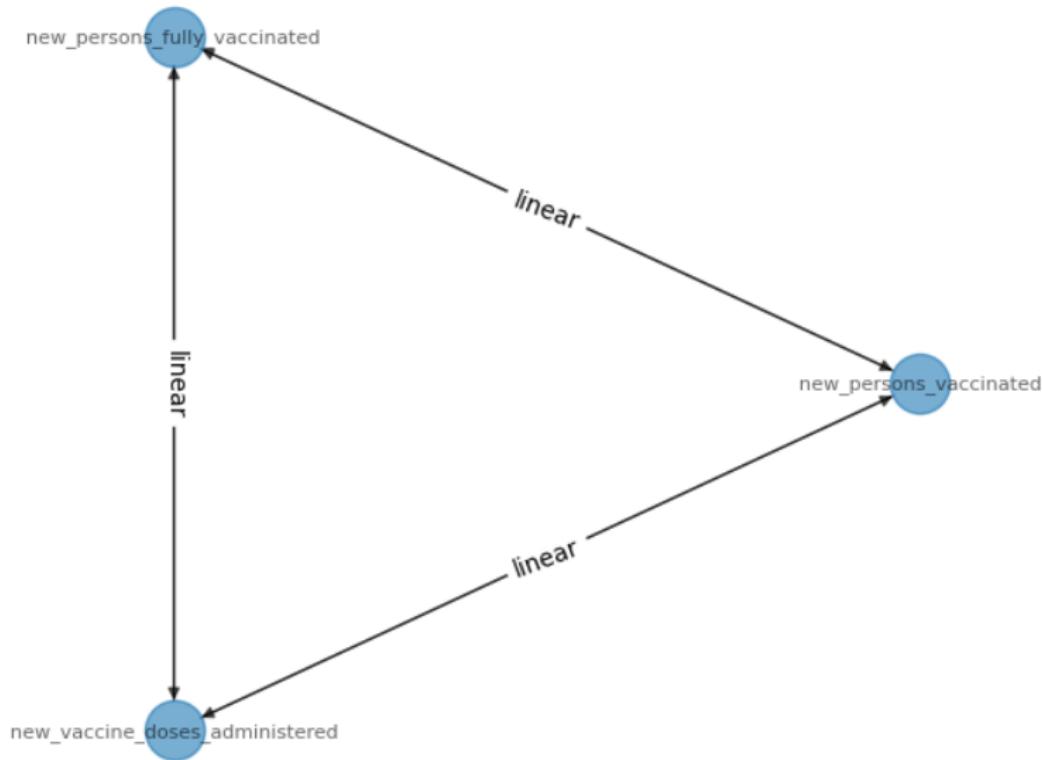
## The dataset: Google's COVID data on France

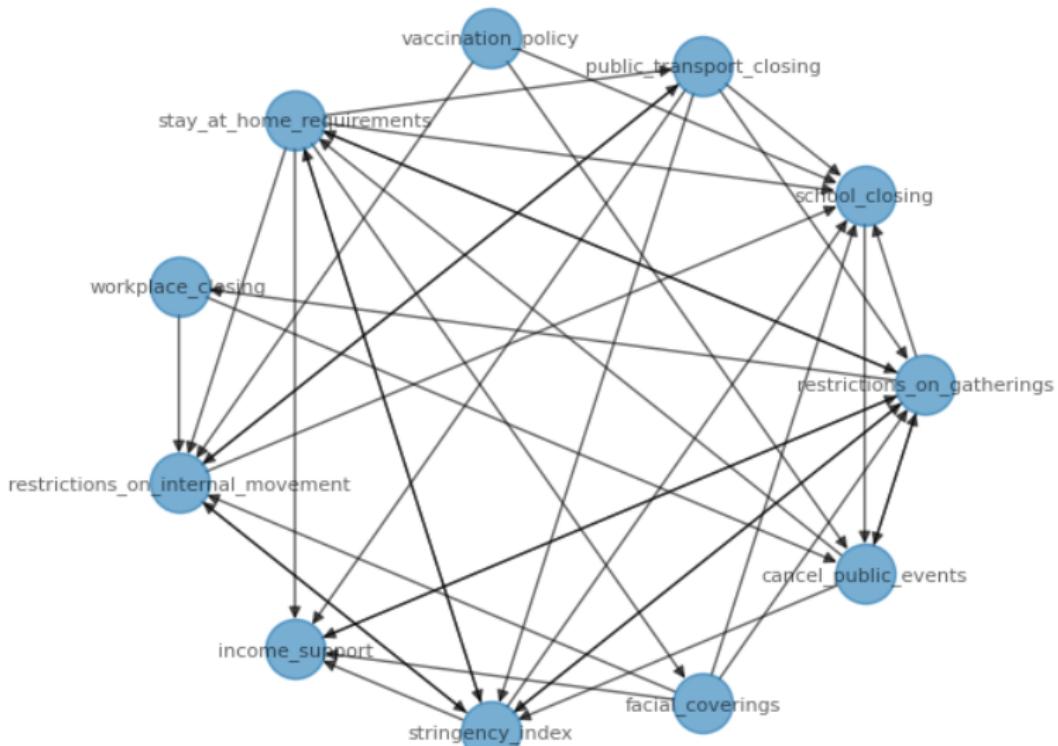
Daily values of 31 variables during 500 days:

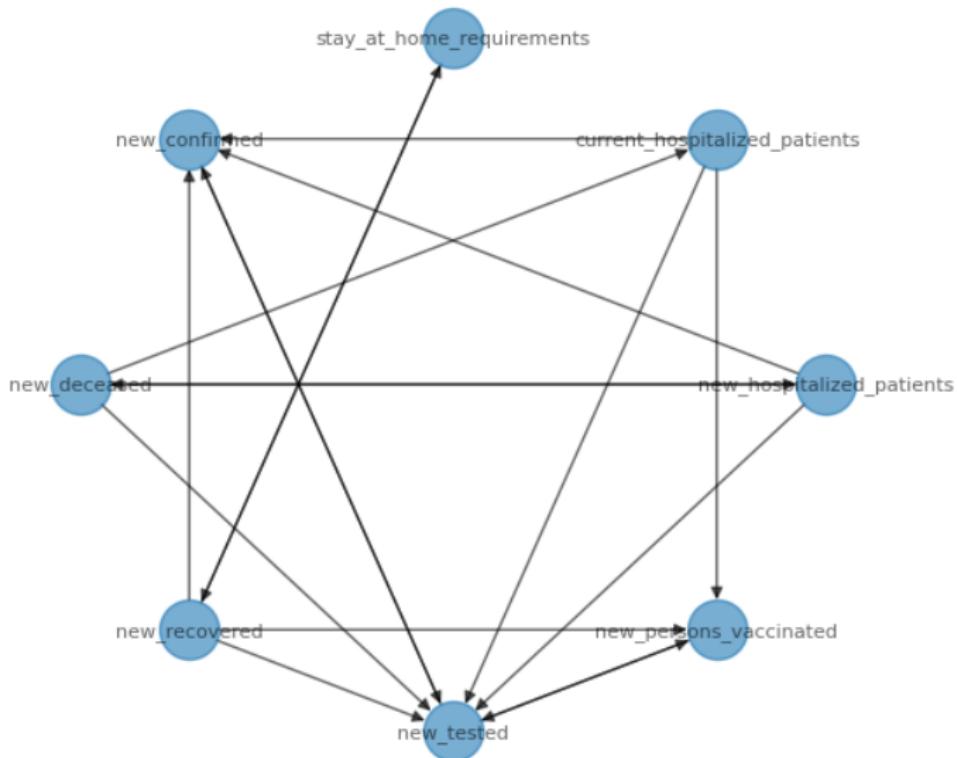
- Epidemiology dataset (new infections, cumulative deaths,...)
- Hospital dataset (number of admitted patients, patients in intensive care, etc.)
- Vaccine dataset (number of vaccinated individuals,...)
- Policy dataset (indicators related to government responses: school closures, lockdown measures, etc.)

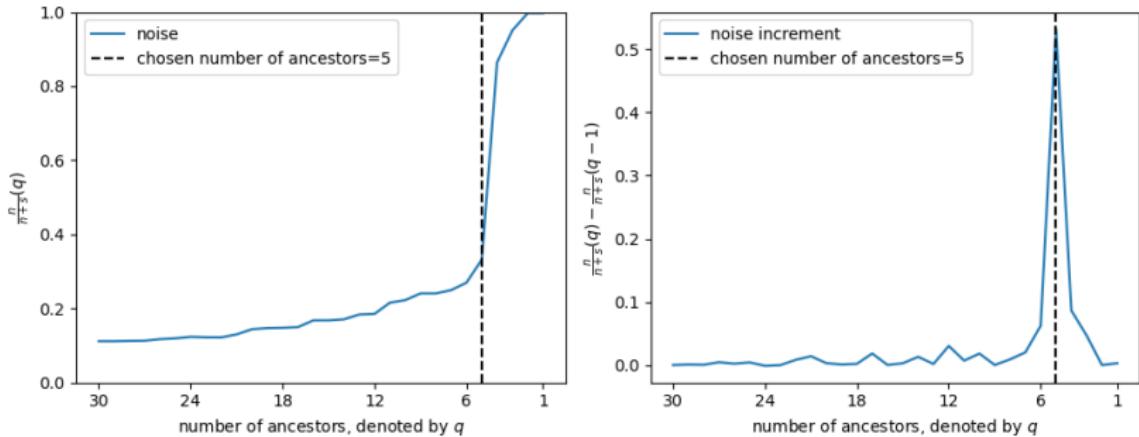












**Figure 4:** Evolution of the noise-to-signal ratio when pruning ancestors for the cumulative number of hospitalized patients.

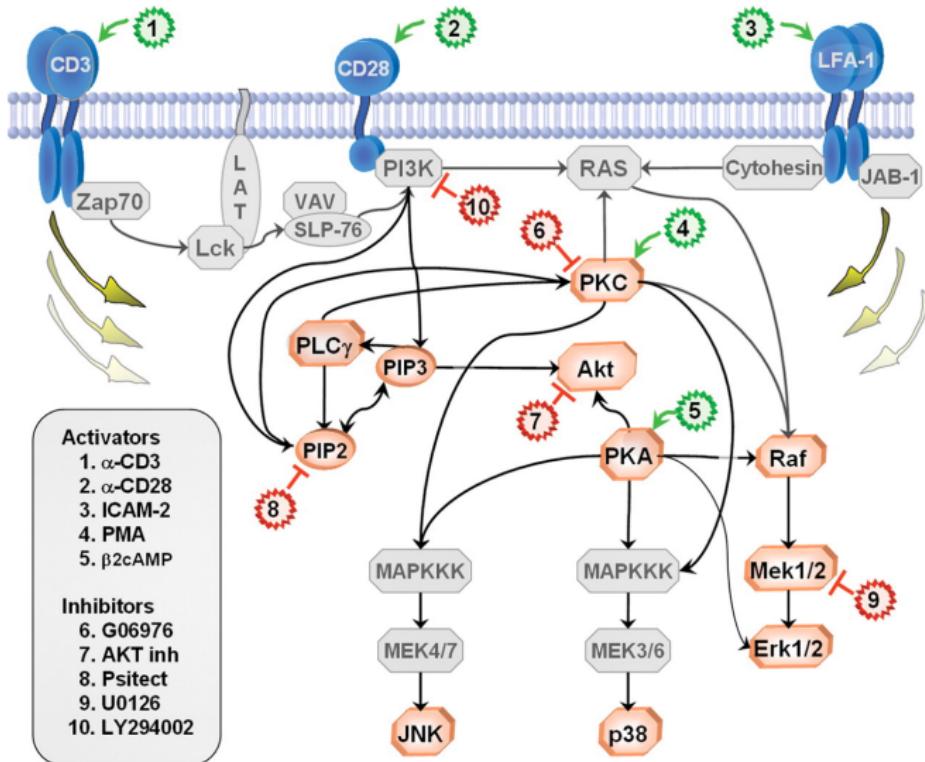
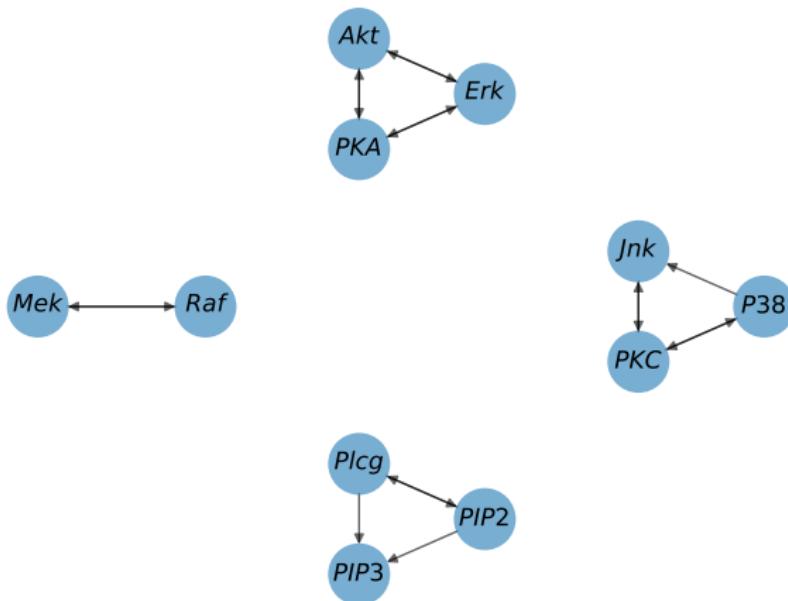
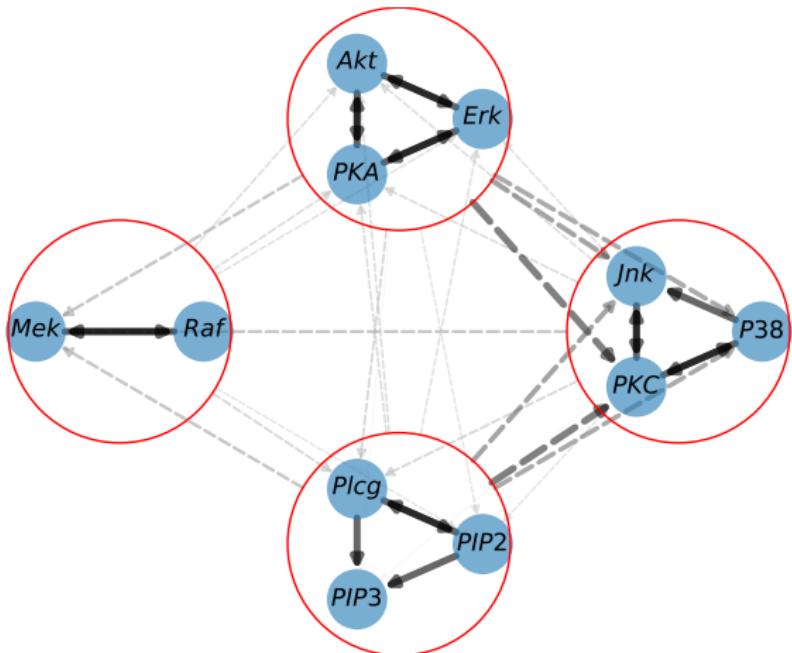


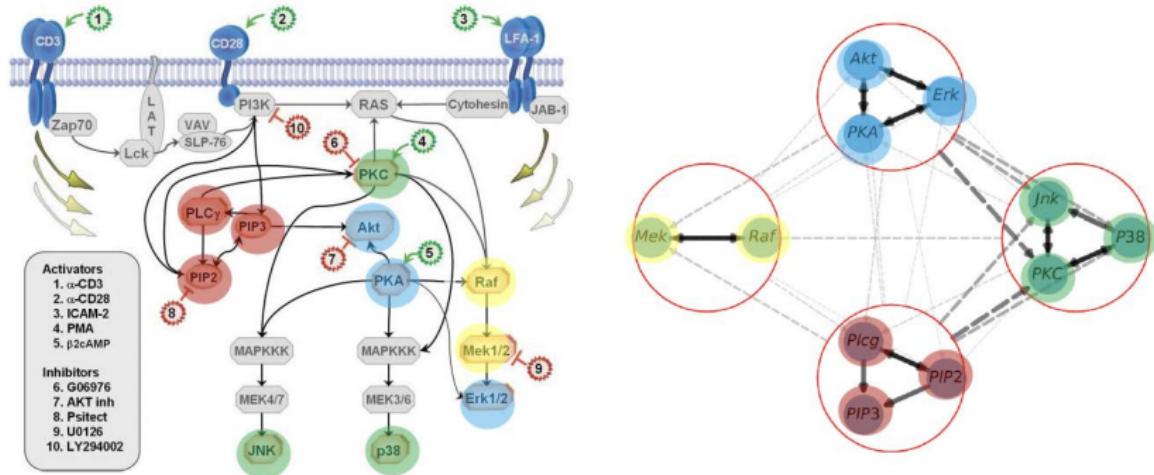
Figure 5: Sachs et al, 2005

In this dataset, some variables are strongly dependent, while other dependencies are weaker. To tackle this disparity, we cluster the nodes:



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**Figure 8:** Comparison of recovered graph and protein signaling network

## Contributions

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We developed a Gaussian Process-based framework to recover functional dependencies between variables

- Works for any unlabelled dataset, with few assumptions
- interpretable
- Recovers known equations in toy examples
- Yields plausible results for real datasets

## Computational Hypergraph Discovery, a Gaussian Process Framework for Connecting the Dots

Théo Bourdais, Pau Batlle, Xianjin Yang, Ricardo  
Baptista, Nicolas Rouquette, and Houman Owhadi  
*ArXiv, (2023). /abs/2311.17007*



ComputationalHypergraphDiscovery



pip install ComputationalHypergraphDiscovery

Blog post on my website