

Attractor reconstruction, Takens theorem and causality detection

Marco Vitturi

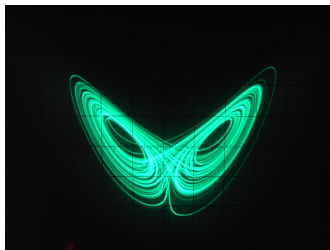
School of Mathematics

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Attractors

Attractors are a feature of the solutions of systems of ODEs that was first noticed in numerical experiments by Lorenz in 1963.



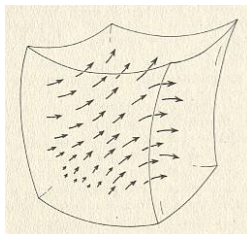
$$\begin{cases} x' = \sigma(y - x) \\ y' = x(\rho - z) - y \\ z' = xy - \beta z \end{cases} \quad \sigma = 10, \rho = 28, \beta = 8/3.$$

Some definitions

A **dynamical system** on a manifold M (e.g. \mathbb{R}^n) is specified by a **flow**

$$\Phi_{(\cdot)}(\cdot) : \mathbb{R} \times M \rightarrow M$$

, where $\Phi_0(x) = x$, Φ_t is a diffeomorphism for all t and $\Phi_t \circ \Phi_s = \Phi_{s+t}$ (e.g. the solution to a system of ODEs).



An **attracting set** A for flow Φ_t is a closed set s.t.

- the basin of attraction^a $B(A)$ has positive measure;
- for $A' \subsetneq A$ the difference $B(A) \setminus B(A')$ has positive measure.

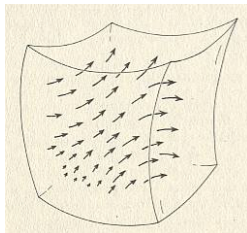
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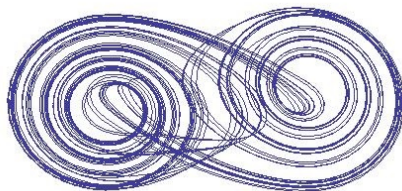
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A set $A \subset M$ is an **attractor** if it is an attracting set that contains a dense orbit^a of the flow.

$$^a \exists x_0 \text{ s.t. } \overline{\bigcup_{t>0} \Phi_t(x_0)} = A.$$

An attractor A is a **strange attractor** if its (box-counting) dimension d is non-integer.

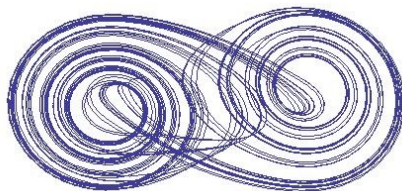


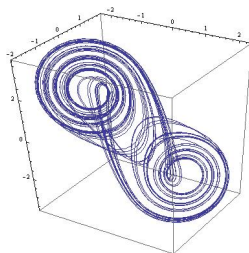
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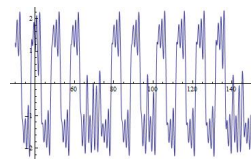
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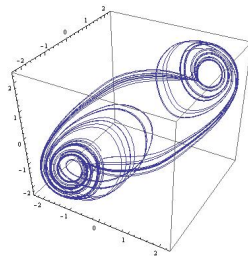




(a) Chua's attractor in X, Y, Z space



(b) time series of $X(t)$

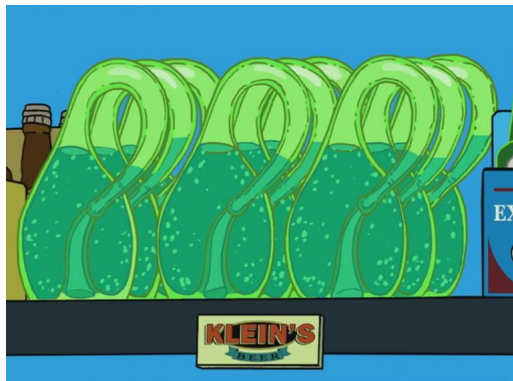


(c) Reconstructed attractor from trajectory $(X(t), X(t-\tau), X(t-2\tau))$

Entrée

Whitney Embedding Theorem

Let \mathcal{M} be a smooth compact manifold of (integer) dimension n . Then \mathcal{M} can be embedded smoothly in \mathbb{R}^{2n} (in particular, no self-intersections).



Main course

Takens' theorem (clean statement) [1981]

Let \mathcal{M} be a compact manifold of (integer) dimension d . Then for generic pairs (ϕ, y) , where

- $\phi : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ is a C^2 -diffeomorphism of \mathcal{M} in itself,
- $y : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a C^2 -differentiable function,

the map $\Phi_{(\phi, y)} : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2d+1}$ given by

$$\Phi_{(\phi, y)}(x) := (y(x), y(\phi(x)), y(\phi^2(x)), \dots, y(\phi^{2d}(x)))$$

is an embedding^a of \mathcal{M} in \mathbb{R}^{2d+1} .

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A restatement with some dirt on...

Takens' theorem (beta version)

Let \mathcal{M} be a compact manifold of (integer) dimension d . Let $\phi : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ be a C^2 -diffeomorphism s.t.

- the periodic points with period $T \leq 2d$ are finite in number,
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Why periodic points are bad

- fixed points of ϕ are mapped to the diagonal of \mathbb{R}^{2d+1} ,

$$x \mapsto (y(x), y(x), \dots, y(x)).$$

Imagine there is a continuum of fixed points that contains a circle. Thus $\Phi_{(\phi, y)}$ sends a circle to a line, which can't be done injectively.

- consider the set of points P_2 of period 2, and suppose they form a continuum. Define on P_2

$$y'(x) := y(x) - y(\phi^{-1}(x)),$$

then $y'(x_0) = -y'(\phi(x_0))$, and therefore there exists $z_0 \in P_2$ s.t. $y'(z_0) = 0$, or equivalently $y(z_0) = y(\phi^{-1}(z_0))$. But then

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delay embeddings

- If Φ_t is a flow on \mathbb{R}^n and $\tau > 0$ is a fixed time, then we can define the **delay map**

$$\Phi(x) := (y(x), y(\Phi_{-\tau}(x)), y(\Phi_{-2\tau}(x)), \dots, y(\Phi_{-k\tau}(x))).$$

- If \mathcal{M} is a manifold that is an attractor for the flow Φ_t then $\Phi_{-\tau}$ is a diffeomorphism of \mathcal{M} into itself, so if $k \geq 2 \dim(\mathcal{M}) + 1$ for generic y, τ the theorem says Φ is actually an embedding!

If the flow is given by a system of ODEs and $X(t)$ is one of the $m + 1$ coordinates, then the **delayed coordinate map**

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Genericity

In the statement of Takens theorem the word *generic* is used. What does it mean?

Genericity

Let P be a property of functions in $C^k(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$ they might or might not have. Then we say that $P(f)$ is true for **generic** $f \in C^k(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$ if the set of function for which it holds is open and dense^a.

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So arbitrary small perturbations turn bad choices in good choices.
 \Rightarrow Still somewhat unsatisfactory: would like an almost-certain sort of statement.

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Prevalence

No obvious probability on infinite dimensional spaces of functions.
But...

Prevalence

We say property P is **prevalent** in (infinite dimensional) V vector space if there exists a finite dimensional subspace $E < V$ (the probe space) s.t. for any $v \in V$ one has that $P(v + e)$ holds (Lebesgue)-a.e. in E .

E.g. property $P(f) = \{\int_{\mathbb{T}^1} f \neq 0\}$ is prevalent amongst $L^1(\mathbb{T}^1)$ periodic functions. Indeed, take $E = \{\text{constants}\}$, then $\int_{\mathbb{T}^1} f + c \neq 0$ for a.e. $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

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Dessert

Generalization by Sauer, Yorke, Casdagli [1991]

Let Φ_t be a flow on \mathcal{U} open in \mathbb{R}^k and let \mathcal{A} be a compact subset of \mathcal{U} with $\text{boxdim}(\mathcal{A}) = d$ (possibly non-integer). Take $n \geq \lceil 2d \rceil$. Then, under similar hypotheses^a as in Takens', for prevalent y, τ , the delay map

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is

- i) injective on \mathcal{A} ;
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What's attractor reconstruction good for?

- allows to recover the dynamics from the observation of just ONE variable;
- preserves the topology;
- it's diffeomorphic \rightarrow can be used for system identification;
- allows to calculate the box-counting dimension of the attractor;
- allows to calculate the (positive) Lyapunov exponents;
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Fish population dynamics is modeled by equations like

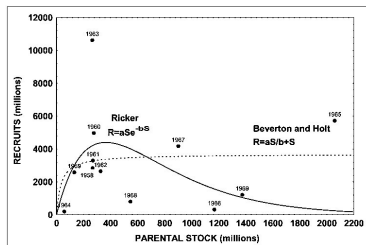
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$$C = \frac{F}{F+M} (1 - e^{-(F+M)T}) N_0. \quad [\text{Baranov, '18}]$$

These perform very bad:

- unknown parameters;
- parameter values might vary in time;
- dependence on other variables / interaction with other species;
- principles behind dynamics not fully understood.



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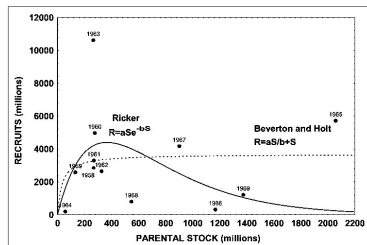
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We could let the variable estimate itself: from the time series of fish abundance, reconstruct the attractor, then use the attractor to make short term predictions (sort of an empirical interpolation).

No equations needed!

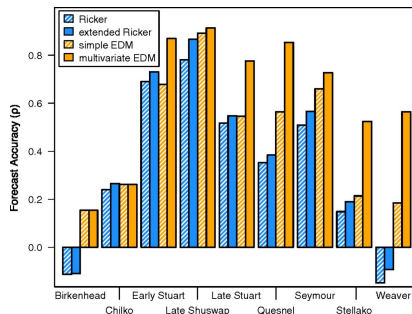


Figure: Performance of Ricker vs. EDM in the case of canadian salmon stocks

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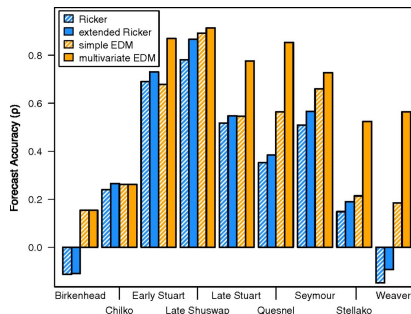


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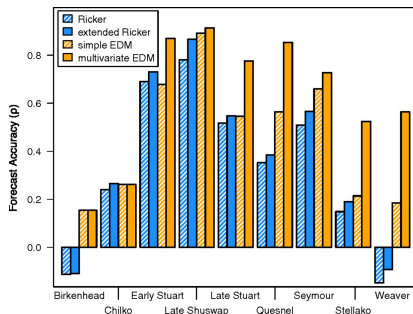
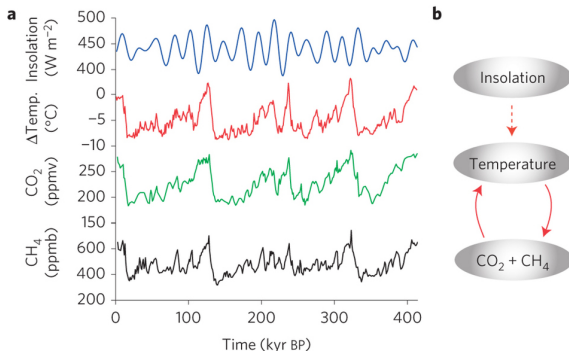


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CO₂ vs. Temperature

In the Vostok ice core data, CO₂ rises are sometimes delayed with respect to temperature rises. Does this mean it's higher temperatures that cause higher CO₂ in the atmosphere? or the other way round? or both?



Convergent Cross Mapping

Let \mathcal{A} be the attractor of a dynamical system in variables (X, Y, Z, \dots) . Remember the delayed coordinate map

$$t \mapsto (X(t), X(t - \tau), \dots, X(t - n\tau))$$

produces a diffeomorphic image of the attractor \mathcal{A} , denoted \mathcal{A}_X .

If X and Y belong to the same dynamical system, then \mathcal{A}_X **must be diffeomorphic to \mathcal{A}_Y** !

In particular, points that are close in \mathcal{A}_X must be close in \mathcal{A}_Y
→ can predict one from the other (for nearby points). How well depends on the strength of the causal relations

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If X and Y belong to the same dynamical system, then \mathcal{A}_X **must be diffeomorphic to \mathcal{A}_Y !**

In particular, points that are close in \mathcal{A}_X must be close in \mathcal{A}_Y
→ can predict one from the other (for nearby points). How well depends on the strength of the causal relations

Convergent Cross Mapping

Let \mathcal{A} be the attractor of a dynamical system in variables (X, Y, Z, \dots) . Remember the delayed coordinate map

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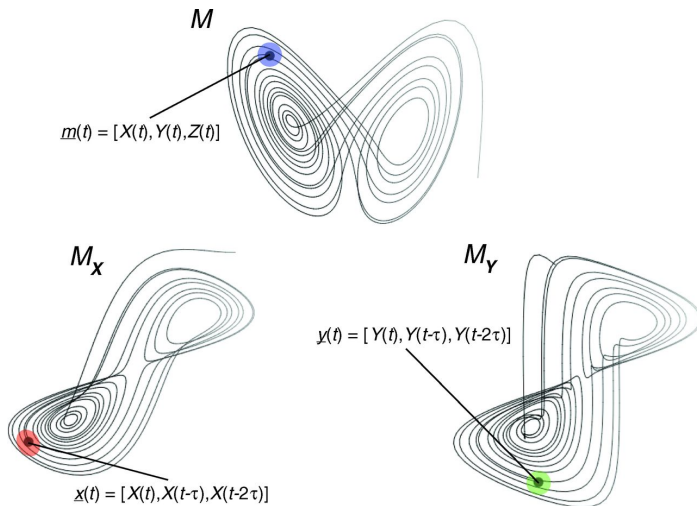
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back to CO₂ vs. Temperature

