

key:

- ⚠ start from scratch
- 🤖 minor code update
- 🤖 major technical work
- ✎ detailed illustration
- 🗺 minor layout changes
- ✂️ potential merge / cut, or not sure whether it will be in scope

Most important, least complete figures

- Empirical/simulation methods overview
 - 🗺 biggest challenge is complexity of layout, deciding what to keep
 - outputs
 - intervention as timeseries
 - correlation matrices or xcorr
 - circuit estimates
- hypothesis entropy figure
 - 🤖 requires some coding to finish
 - need some infrastructure for computing entropy across many conditions
 - needs some summary statistics across a well-defined hypothesis set
 - 🗺 will likely require layout iterations
- improved data efficiency & bias
 - 🤖🤖 requires major technical work - namely committing to how to turn correlations into circuit inference
 - ✂️ as such, may end up having to cut this
 - ... but if we end up connecting back to the more detailed empirical sims, this will be necessary

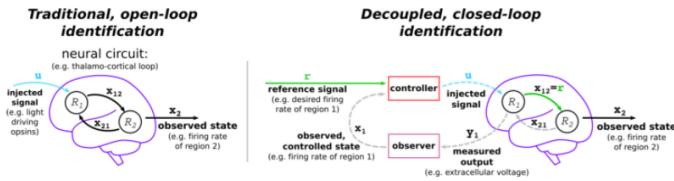
bonus figures

- Theory overview
 - predicting correlation structure
 - predicting intervention's impact on correlation
- flowchart for steps of intervention experiment

Intro / background

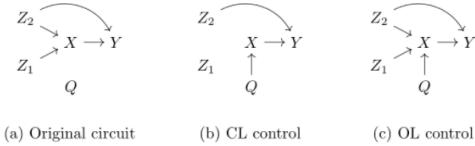
1a.) Conceptual overview - closed-loop ID

(goal: what is CL control, what does it look like in neuro experiments?)



1b.) Conceptual overview - interventions in causal ID

(goal: how to types of interventions relate to statements about dependent variables?)



Caption: (a) In observational setting, both
Todo in final figure: 1) add icon for control input

国旗 needs layout / illustration cleaning up

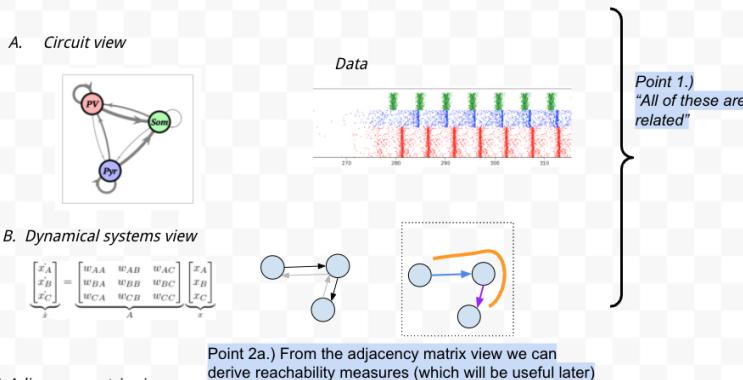
铅笔 top panel, needs a lot of excess cutting out

剪刀 bottom panel, need to decide whether we want to use this language to talk about the effect of intervention

剪刀 overall, is this figure redundant with 2 circuit walkthrough?

2a.) Methods overview

(goal: introduce language of graphs, adj matrices, dynamical systems, interventions)



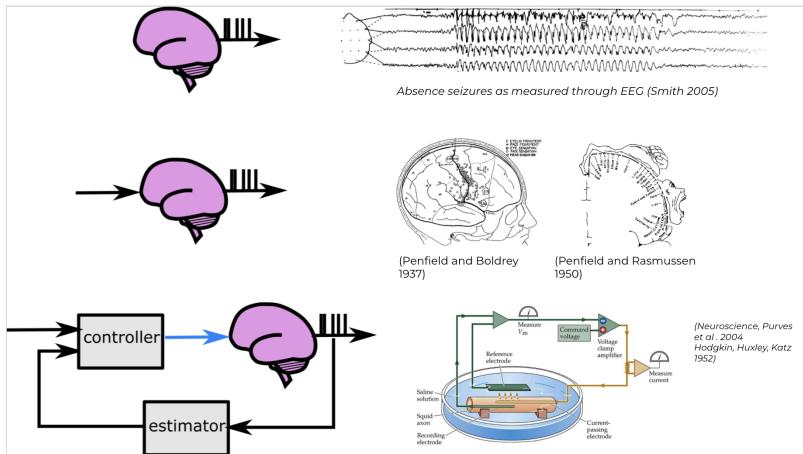
计算机 needs commitment to concrete time-series data

国旗 needs layout / illustration cleaning up

but overall, conceptually, close enough to write a caption for

 merge with conceptual overview figure

Interventions in Neuro



(close to final, but could be significantly cut down / merged with other figure)

Figure: Examples of the role of interventions in discoveries in neuroscience (A) Identifying when a patient is having a seizure, from passive recordings alone (B) through systematic open-loop stimulation experiments, Penfield was able to uncover the spatial organization of how senses and movement are mapped in the cortex [2] (C) Feedback control allows us to specify activity in the brain in terms of outputs. Allows us to reject disturbances, respond to changes

 merge into causal diagram? - might be cut if the paper ends up being constrained on figures

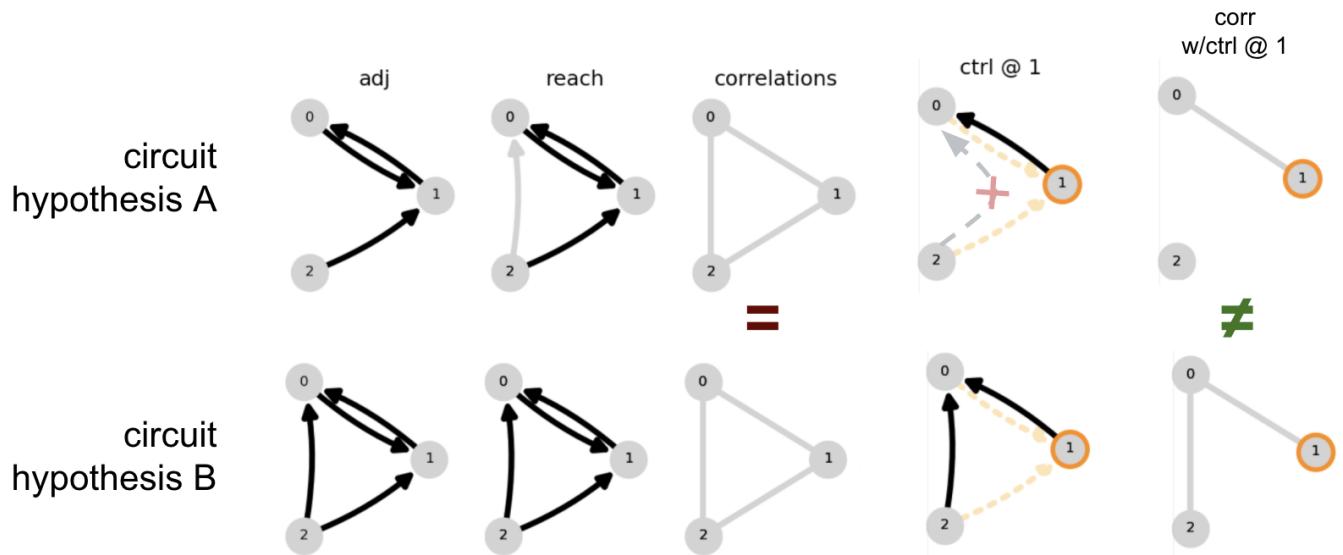
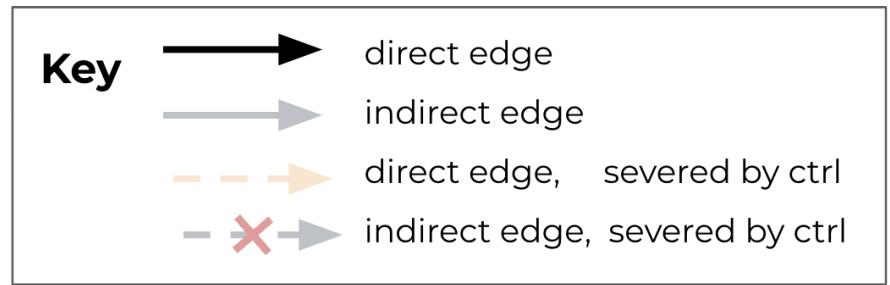


Figure DEMO: Applying CLINC to distinguish a pair of circuits

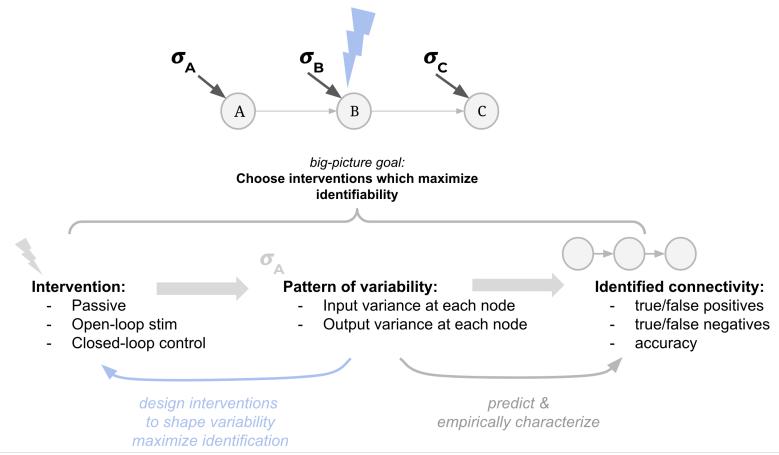
🎨 (img close to final draft)

good enough sketch to write a caption for

- ▶ ↵ 2,3 circuit versions, straight from code

Theory

⚠ need theory overview!



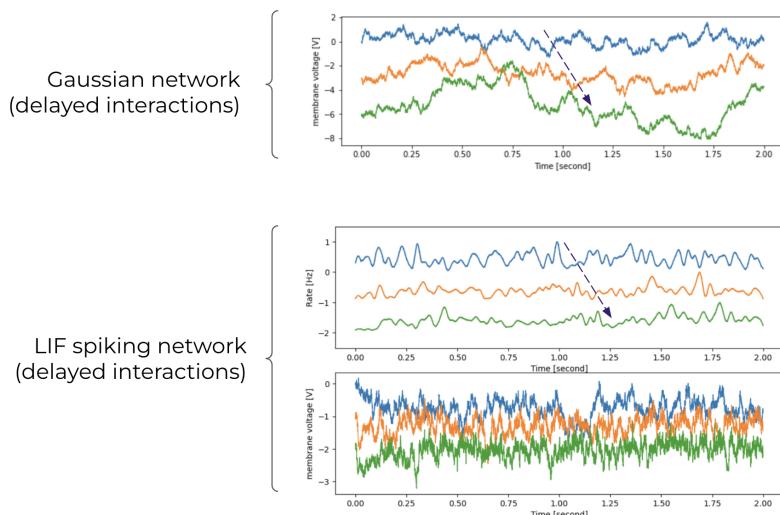
⚠️ very loose sketch, need to decide what we want here

Simulation methods

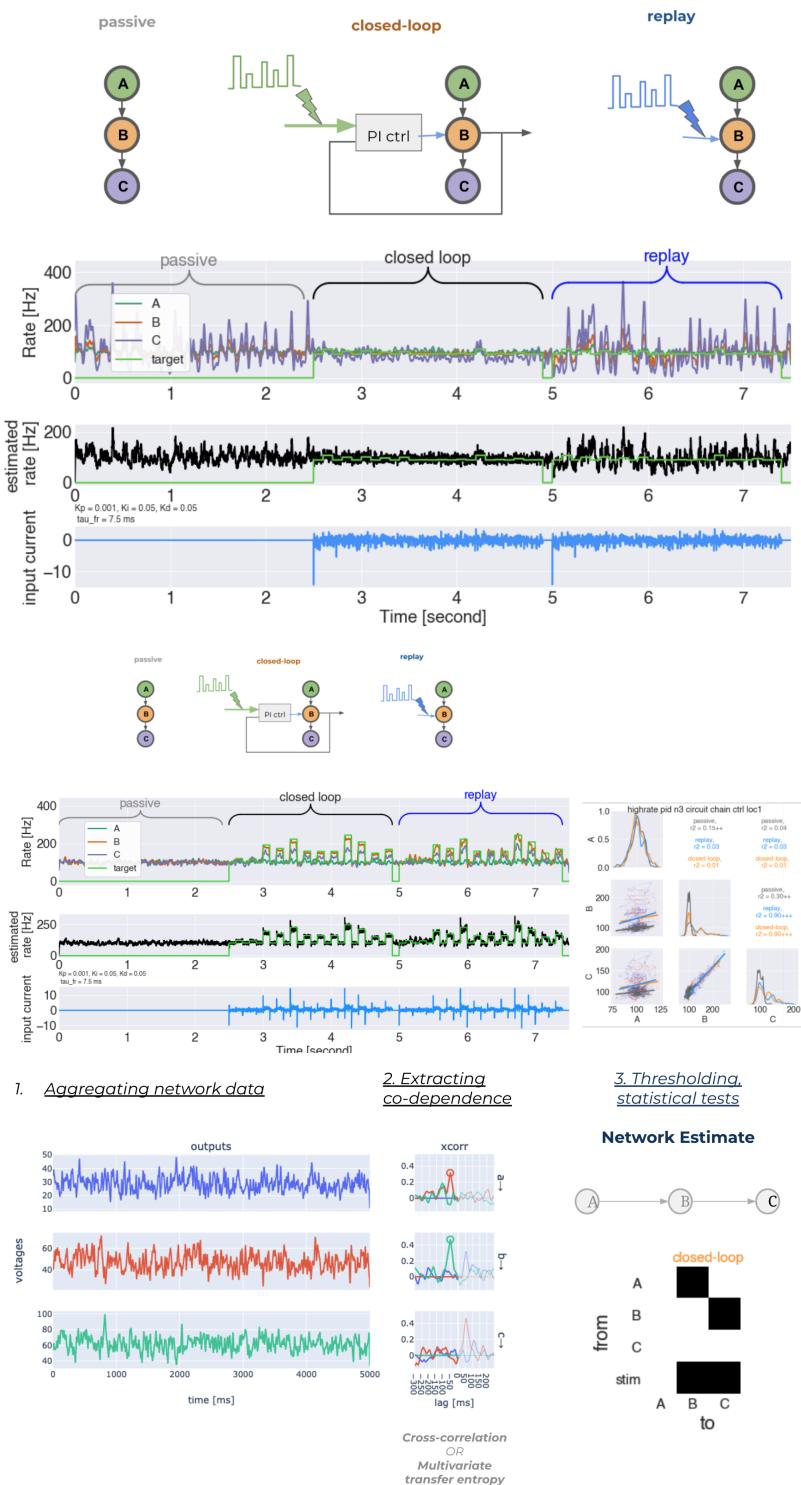
Network simulations

Implementing interventions

Estimating circuits from data



`small_circuit_scripts/circuit_functions/delayed_gaussian_network.py`



see also google slides ...

✍ something that shows neurons in networks on left side

☒ not sure whether extracting co-dependence and statistical tests will be in scope for the paper

► ↵ see also, xcorr, predicting correlation

⚠️🚧 figure request: flowchart for steps of intervention experiment 🚧⚠️

see [section_content/_steps_of_inference.md](#)

Results

Impact of intervention

Intervening provides (categorical) improvements in inference power beyond passive observation

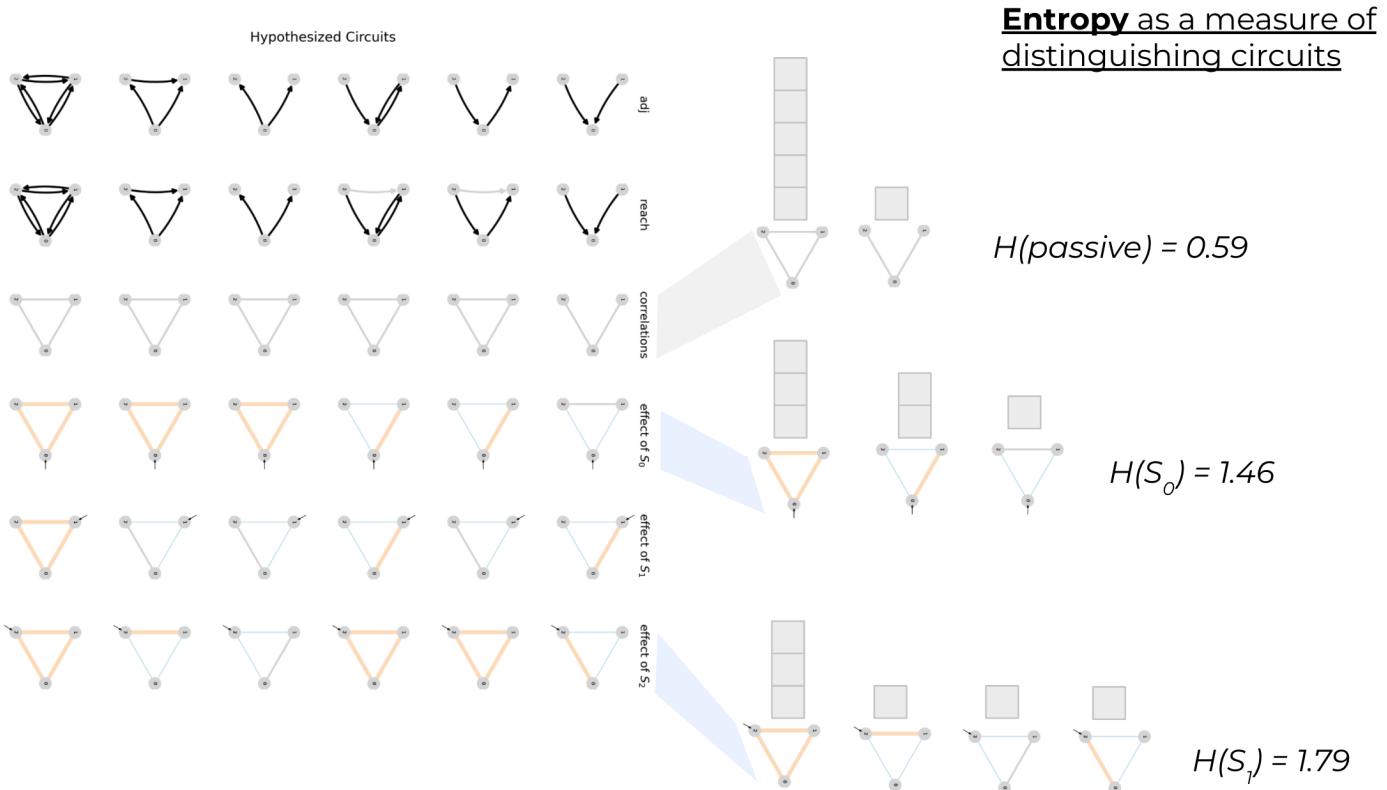


Figure DISAMBIG: Interventions narrow the set of hypotheses consistent with observed correlations

- (A) Directed adjacency matrices represent the true and hypothesized causal circuit structure
- (B) Directed reachability matrices represent the direct (black) and indirect (grey) influences in a network. Notably, different adjacency matrices can have equivalent reachability matrices making distinguishing between similar causal structures difficult, even with open-loop control.
- (C) Correlations between pairs of nodes. Under passive observation, the direction of influence is

difficult to ascertain. In densely connected networks, many distinct ground-truth causal structures result in similar "all correlated with all" patterns providing little information about the true structure.

(D-F) The impact of open-loop intervention at each of the nodes in the network is illustrated by modifications to the passive correlation pattern. Thick orange[^edge_color] edges denote correlations which increase above their baseline value with high variance open-loop input. Thin blue[^edge_color] edges denote correlations which decrease, often as a result of increased connection-independent "noise" variance in one of the participating nodes. Grey edges are unaffected by intervention at that location.

A given hypotheses set (A) will result in an "intervention-specific fingerprint", that is a distribution of frequencies for observing patterns of modified correlations (*across a single row within D-F*). If this fingerprint contains many examples of the same pattern of correlation (such as **B**), many hypotheses correspond to the same observation, and that experiment contributes low information to distinguish between structures. A maximally informative intervention would produce a unique pattern of correlation for each member of the hypothesis set.

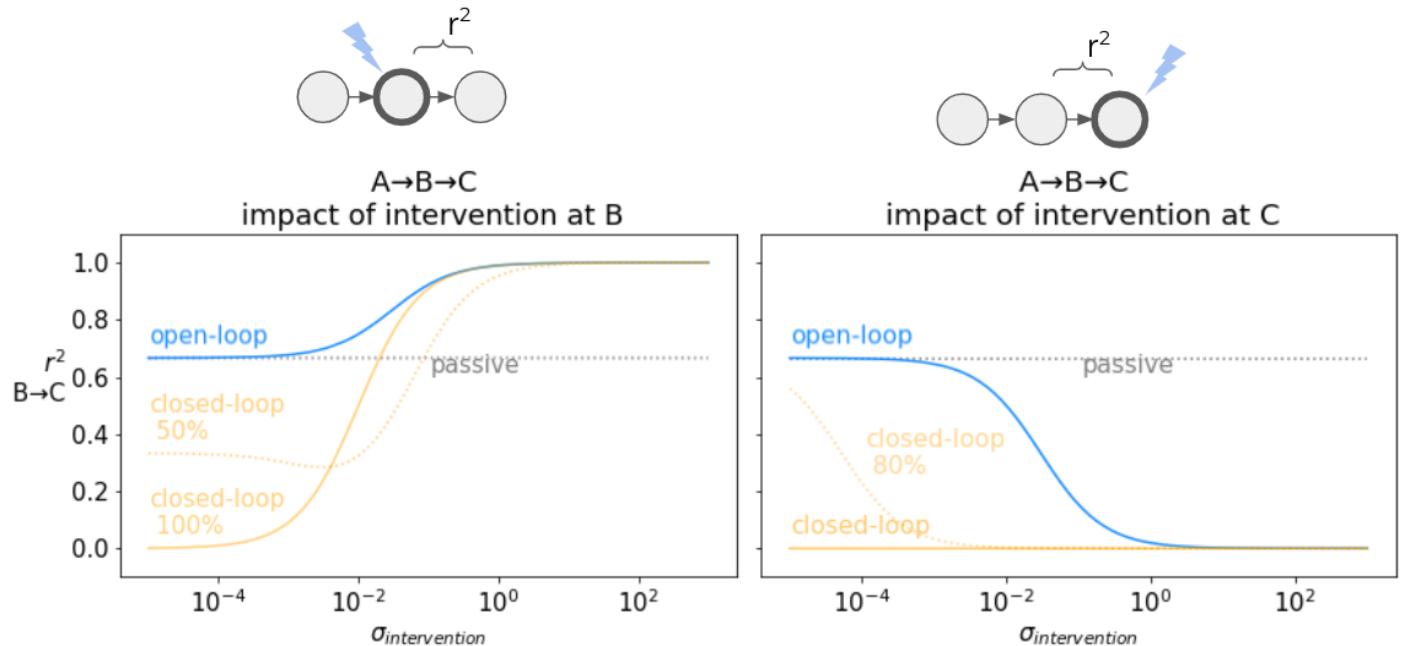
🚧 caption too long

Stronger intervention shapes correlation, resulting in more data-efficient inference with less bias

Explain why closed-loop helps – bidirectional variance control

Impact of intervention location and variance on pariwise correlations

Closed-loop intervention enables **bidirectional control of correlation**
Impact in a linear-gaussian chain, two intervention locations



🚧 (Final figure will be a mix of these two panels, caption will need updating) **Figure VAR:**

Location, variance, and type of intervention shape pairwise correlations

(CENTER) A two-node linear gaussian network is simulated with a connection from A → B. Open-loop interventions (blue) consist of independent gaussian inputs with a range of variances σ_S^2 . Closed-loop interventions (orange) consist of feedback control with an independent gaussian target with a range of variances. *Incomplete closed-loop interventions result in node outputs which are a mix of the control target and network-driven activity.* Connections from sources to nodes are colored by their impact on correlations between A and B; green denotes $dR/dS > 0$, red denotes $dR/dS < 0$.

(lower left) Intervention "upstream" of the connection A → B increases the correlation $r^2(A, B)$.

(lower right) Intervention at the terminal of the connection A → B decreases the correlation $r^2(A, B)$ by adding connection-independent noise.

(upper left) Intervention with shared inputs to both nodes generally increases $r^2(A, B)$, (even without A → B, see supplement).

(upper right) The impact of shared interventions depends on relative weighted reachability $\text{Reach}(S_k \rightarrow A)/\text{Reach}(S_k \rightarrow B)$, with highest correlations when these terms are matched (see *)

Closed-loop interventions (orange) generally result in larger changes in correlation across σ_S^2 than the equivalent open-loop intervention. Closed-loop control at B effectively lesions the connection A → B, resulting in near-zero correlation.

[1]

but may need to layout panels by parts of the circuit like old sketch:

- ▶ ↵old sketch

data efficiency & bias !

!

Figure DATA: Analysis of simulated circuits suggest stronger intervention facilitates identification with less data [2]

!

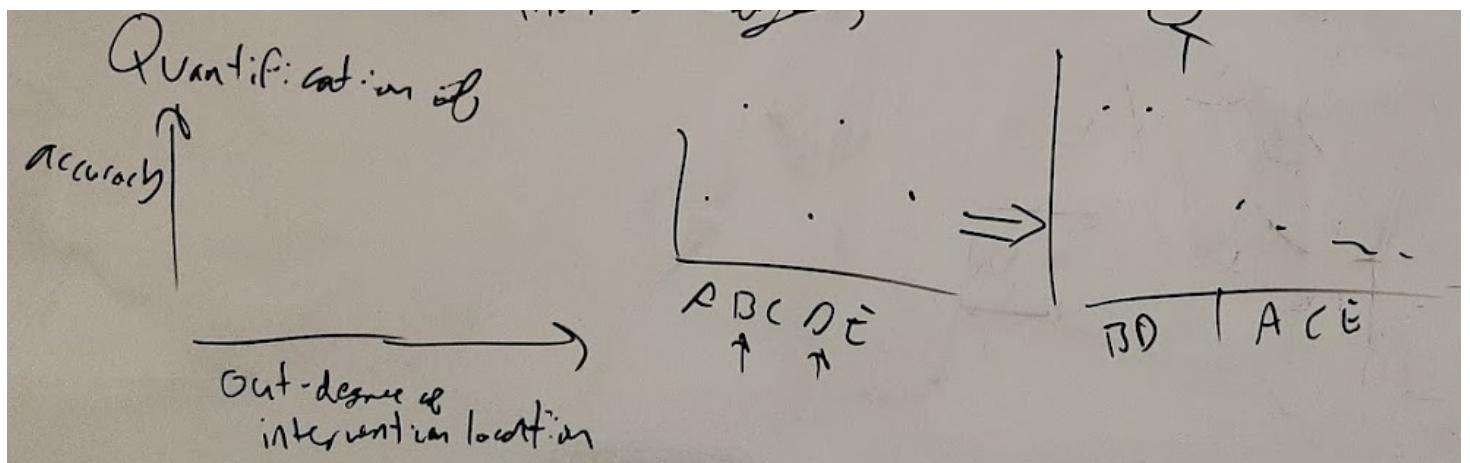
Figure DATA: Analysis of simulated circuits suggest stronger intervention facilitates identification with less data [2:1]

Explain why closed-loop helps - less bias

- higher infinite-data accuracy (i.e. less bias)
 - lower bias likely comes from the categorical advantages above
- breakdown false positives, false negatives

- ▶ figure sketches

Impact of circuit properties !

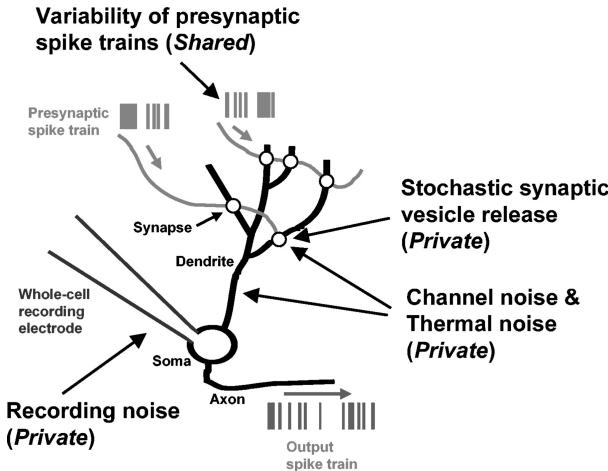


- 🤖⚠️ analysis hasn't been written yet! maybe have to be cut

Supplement

shared v.s. private variance

some variant on:

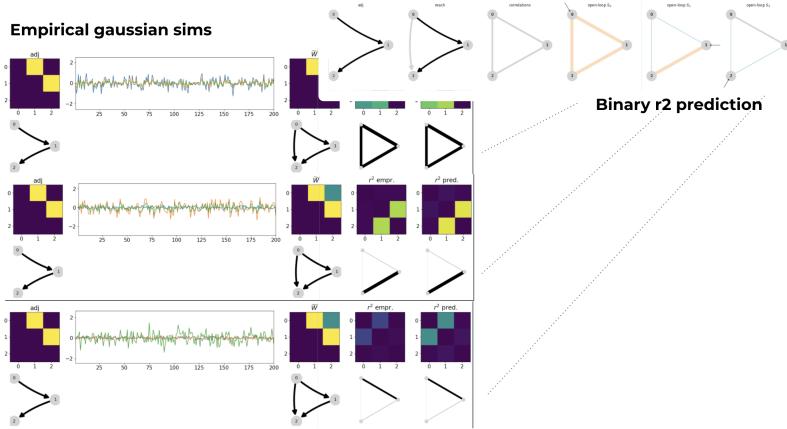


- ▶ ↵ graph for shared v.s. private sources

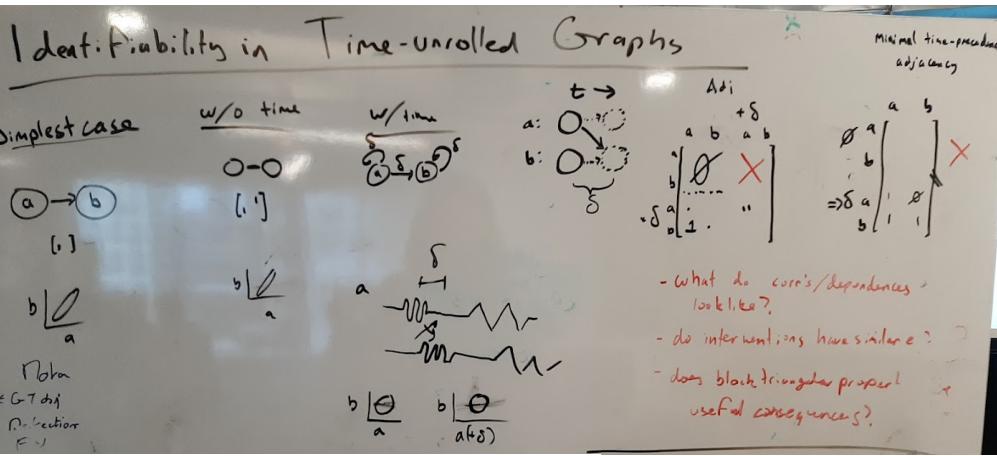
- **Figure:** illustrate reachability (skip for now?) - explain how reachability is derived from adjacency

Prediction v.s. empirical correlation

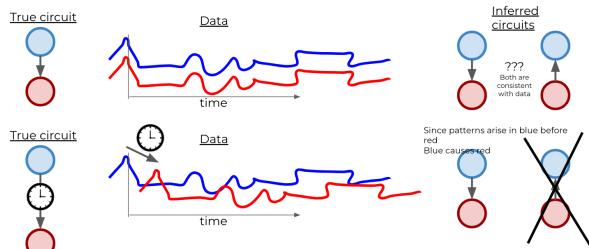
- predicting correlation across network parameters



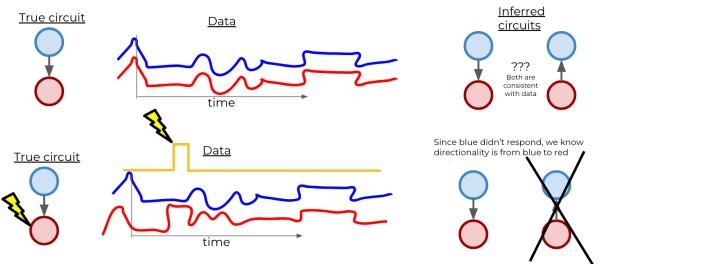
Contemporaneous v.s. time-resolvable network effects



But delayed connections & observing temporal precedence can identify directionality from **passive observations alone**



Open-loop stimulation helps disambiguate contemporaneous links



1. compare especially to "Transfer Entropy as a Measure of Brain Connectivity", "How Connectivity, Background Activity, and Synaptic Properties Shape the Cross-Correlation between Spike Trains" Figure 3. ↪

2. examples of data efficiency, accuracy figures can be found in: "Extending Transfer Entropy Improves Identification of Effective Connectivity in a Spiking Cortical Network Model", "Evaluation of the Performance of Information Theory-Based Methods and Cross-Correlation to Estimate the Functional Connectivity in Cortical Networks" ↪ ↪