



**STRUCTURES**  
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# Multimodal Teacher Forcing for Reconstructing Nonlinear Dynamical Systems

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**When Machine Learning meets Dynamical  
Systems: Theory and Application**

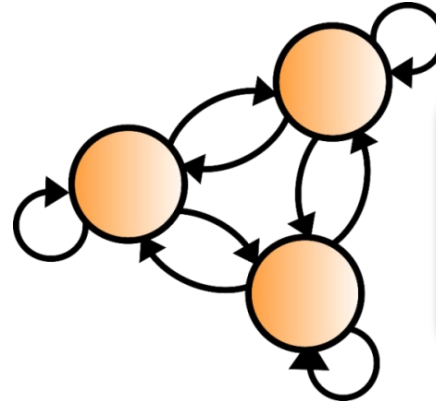


# Dynamical Systems Reconstructions (DSR)

## Unknown DS

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= s(x_2 - x_1) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= rx_1 - x_2 - x_1x_3 \\ \dot{x}_3 &= x_1x_2 - bx_3\end{aligned}$$

Inference



Universal  
approximator

## Generic reconstruction model

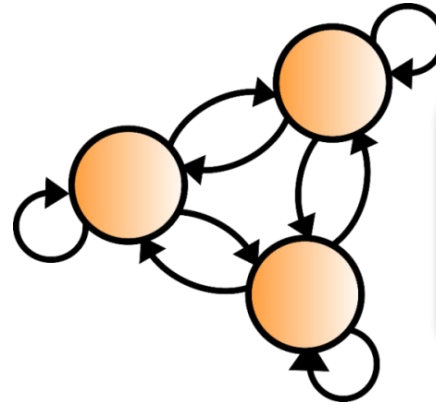
$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{z}_t &= \mathbf{F}_\theta(\mathbf{z}_{t-1}, \mathbf{s}_t) \\ \mathbf{x}_t &= \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{z}_t)\end{aligned}$$

# Dynamical Systems Reconstructions (DSR)

## Unknown DS

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Inference

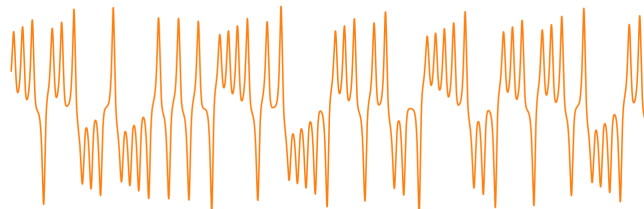


Universal  
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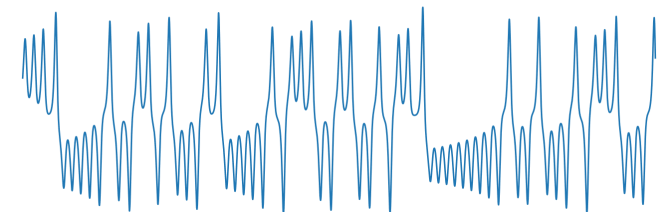
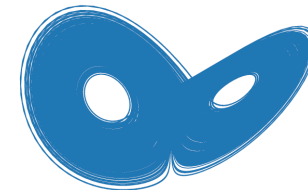
## Observed trajectory



Time

Agreement in geometrical  
and temporal structure

## Simulated trajectory

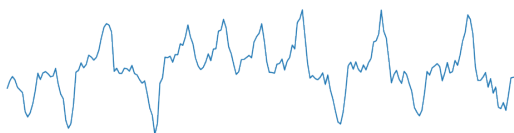


Time

# DSR from Multimodal Time Series

**Measurements**  
(psychology, neuroscience,  
climate science etc.)

**Gaussian Obs.**



**Ordinal Obs.**



**Poisson Obs.**



**Time**

**continuous**

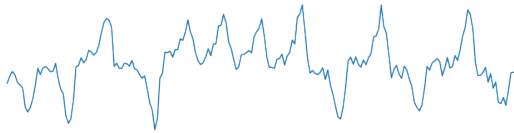
**discrete**

**Inference**

# DSR from Multimodal Time Series

Measurements  
(psychology, neuroscience,  
climate science etc.)

Gaussian Obs.



Ordinal Obs.



Poisson Obs.



Time

continuous

discrete

Inference

$z_{t-1}$

$z_t$

$z_{t+1}$

dendPLRNN (Brenner,  
Hess et al., ICML 2022)

$$z_t = Az_{t-1} + W\phi(z_{t-1}) + h$$

$$\phi(z_{t-1}) = \sum_{b=1}^B \alpha_b \max(0, z_{t-1} - h_b)$$

Gaussian Obs.

$$x_t | z_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{B}z_t, \Gamma)$$

Ordinal Obs.

$$o_t | z_t \sim \text{Ordinal}(\beta z_t, \epsilon)$$

Poisson Obs.

$$p_t | z_t \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda(z_t))$$

Math.  
tractability

Different  
distributional  
assumptions

# Challenges of DSR

## Challenge



Chaotic dynamics



Divergent loss gradients  
(Mikhaeil, Monfared&Durstewitz, NeurIPS 2022)

**Theorem 2.** Suppose that an RNN  $F_\theta \in \mathcal{R}$  (parameterized by  $\theta$ ) has a chaotic attractor  $\Gamma^*$  with  $\mathcal{B}_{\Gamma^*}$  as its basin of attraction. Then, for almost every orbit with  $z_1 \in \mathcal{B}_{\Gamma^*}$ , (i) the Jacobians connecting temporally distal states  $z_T$  and  $z_t$  ( $T \gg t$ ),  $\frac{\partial z_T}{\partial z_t}$ , will exponentially explode for  $T \rightarrow \infty$ , and (ii) the tangent vector  $\frac{\partial z_T}{\partial \theta}$  and so the gradients of the loss function,  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_T}{\partial \theta}$ , will diverge as  $T \rightarrow \infty$ .

# Challenges of DSR

## Challenge



Chaotic dynamics

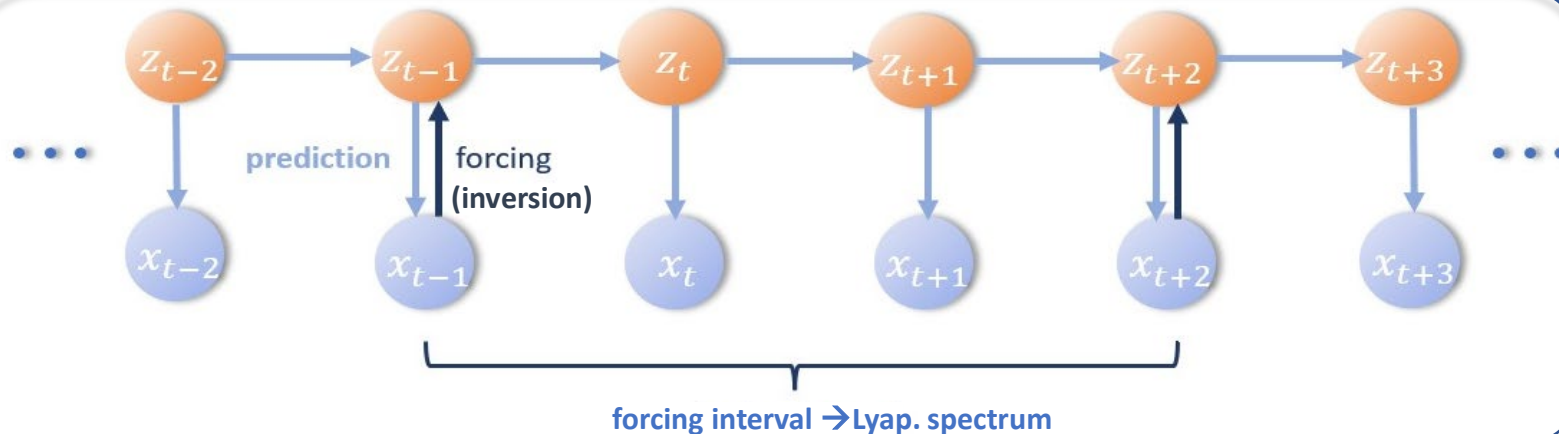


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## Proposed Solution

### Sparse teacher forcing (TF)

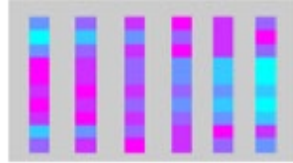


**SOTA performance for DSR** on unimodal normal data (Brenner, Hess et al., ICML 2022)

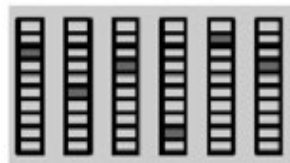
# Multimodal Variational Autoencoders

Observations

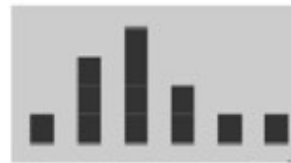
Gaussian Obs.



Ordinal Obs.



Poisson Obs.



$$Y = \{\{x_1, \dots, x_T\}; \{o_1, \dots, o_T\}; \{c_1, \dots, c_T\}\}$$

Encoder  
(CNN)

Approximate posterior

$$q_\phi(\tilde{Z}|Y) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_\phi(Y), \Sigma_\phi(Y))$$

Decoder

Observation Models

$$x_t | \tilde{z}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(B\tilde{z}_t, \Gamma)$$

$$o_t | \tilde{z}_t \sim \text{Ordinal}(\beta\tilde{z}_t, \epsilon)$$

$$c_t | \tilde{z}_t \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda(\tilde{z}_t))$$

ELBO Loss

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi, \theta; Y) = -\mathbb{E}_{q_\phi}[\log p_\theta(Y|\tilde{Z}) + \log p_\theta(\tilde{Z})] - \mathbb{H}_{q_\phi}(\tilde{Z} | Y)$$

Data Likelihoods

$$\log p_\theta(Y|\tilde{Z}) = \sum_{t=1}^T (\log p_\theta(x_t|\tilde{z}_t) + \log p_\theta(o_t|\tilde{z}_t) + \log p_\theta(c_t|\tilde{z}_t))$$



# Multimodal Teacher Forcing (MVAE-TF)

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{MVAE} + \mathcal{L}_{con} + \mathcal{L}_{PLRNN}$$

## MVAE Loss

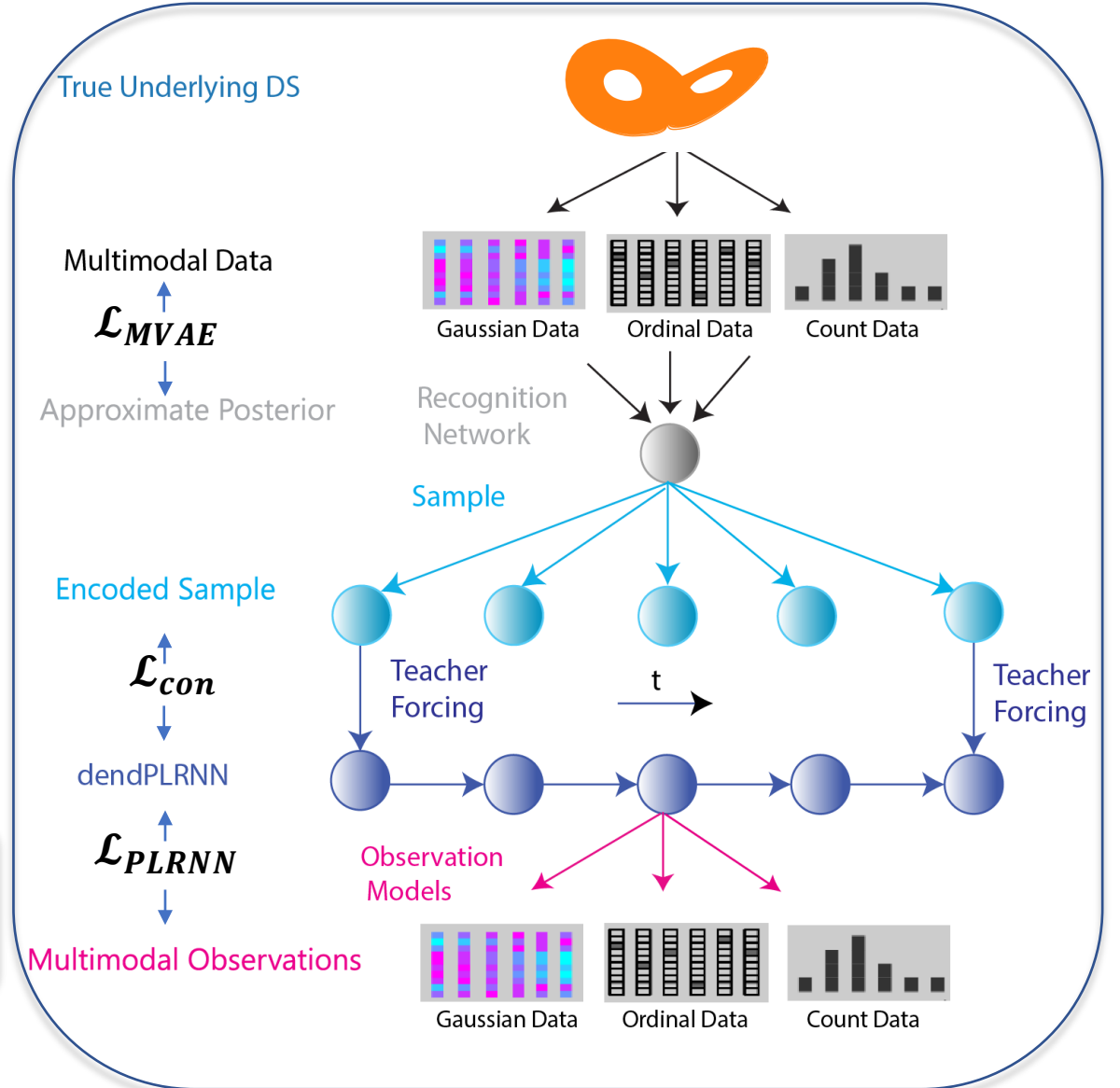
$$\mathcal{L}_{MVAE} = -\mathbb{E}_{q_\phi}[\log p_\theta(Y|\tilde{Z})] - \mathbb{H}_{q_\phi}(\tilde{Z} | Y)$$

## Consistency Loss between MVAE and PLRNN

$$\mathcal{L}_{con} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=2}^T (\log |\Sigma| + (\tilde{z}_t - z_{1:K,t})^\top \Sigma^{-1} (\tilde{z}_t - z_{1:K,t}))$$

## Data likelihoods from PLRNN

$$\mathcal{L}_{PLRNN} = -\sum_{t=1}^T (\log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{z}_{1:K,t}) + \log p_\theta(\mathbf{o}_t | \mathbf{z}_{1:K,t}) + \log p_\theta(\mathbf{c}_t | \mathbf{z}_{1:K,t}))$$



# Multimodal Reconstructions

Randomly initialized  
obs. models

Underlying DS



$\mathbf{z}_t$

Noisy Gaussian Obs.

$$\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{z}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{z}_t, \Gamma)$$

Ordinal Obs.

$$\mathbf{o}_t | \mathbf{z}_t \sim \text{Ordinal}(\beta \mathbf{z}_t, \epsilon)$$

Poisson Obs.

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# Multimodal Reconstructions

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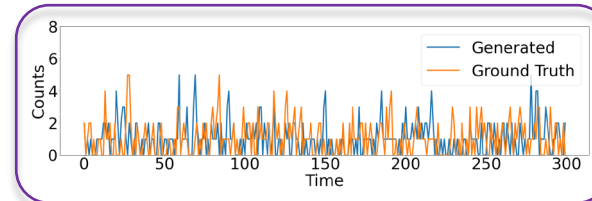
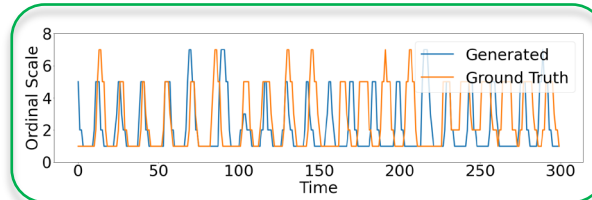
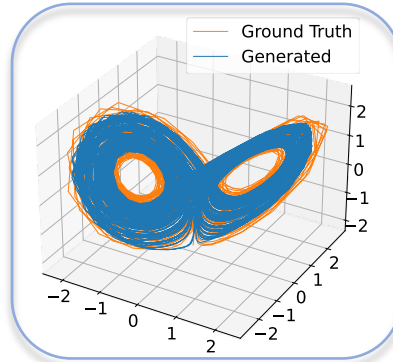
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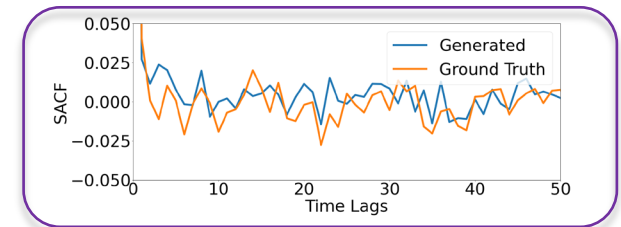
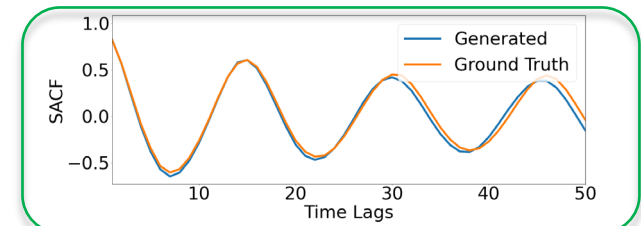
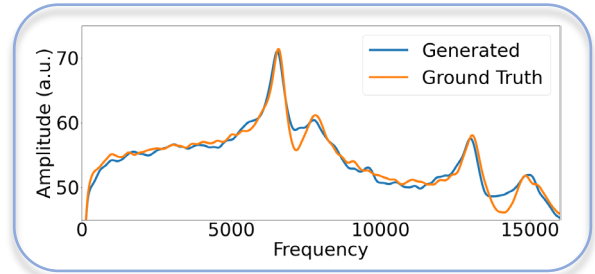
Geometric Agreement

$$p_{\text{gen}}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z}) \approx \sum_{k=1}^K \hat{p}_{\text{true}}^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}) \log \left( \frac{\hat{p}_{\text{true}}^{(k)}(\mathbf{x})}{\hat{p}_{\text{gen}}^{(k)}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z})} \right)$$



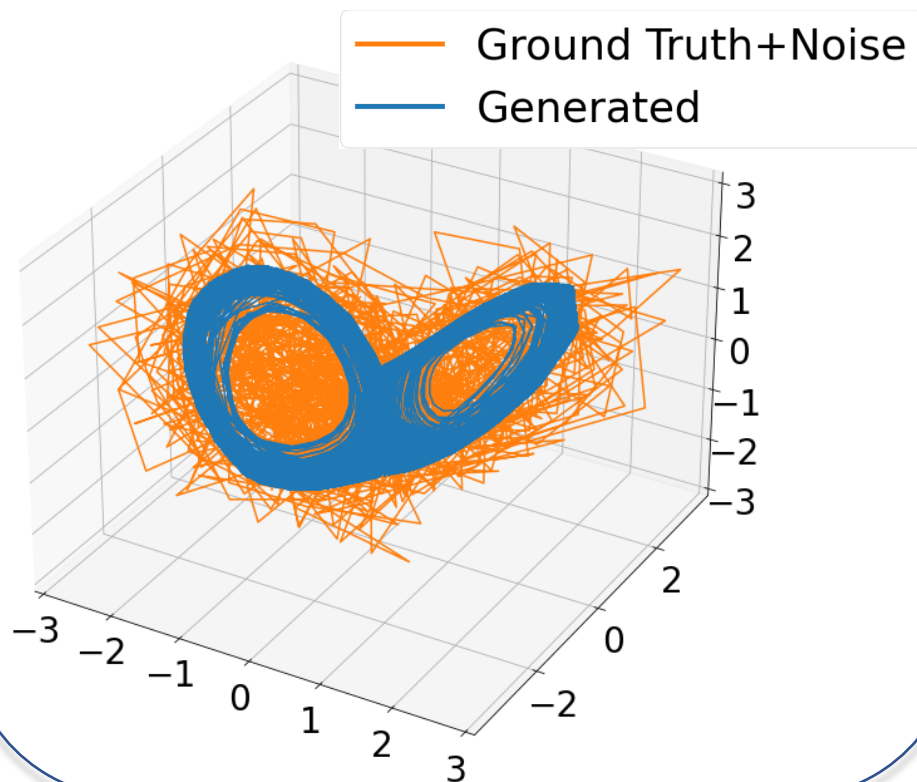
Temporal Agreement

$$H(F(\omega), G(\omega)) = \sqrt{1 - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sqrt{F(\omega)G(\omega)} d\omega} \in [0, 1]$$

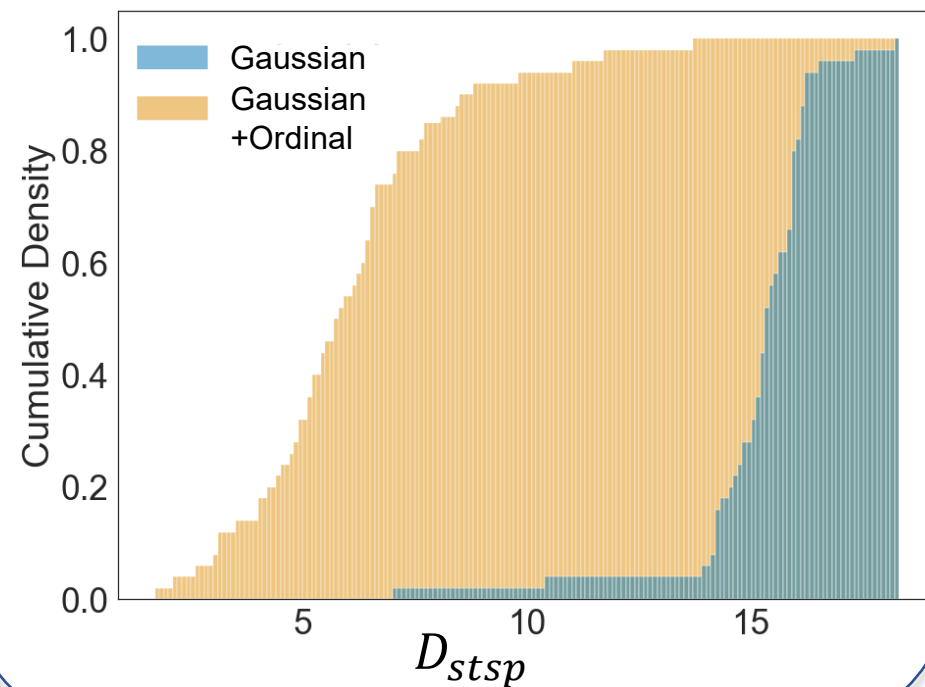


# Challenging Data Settings

## Reconstructed State Space

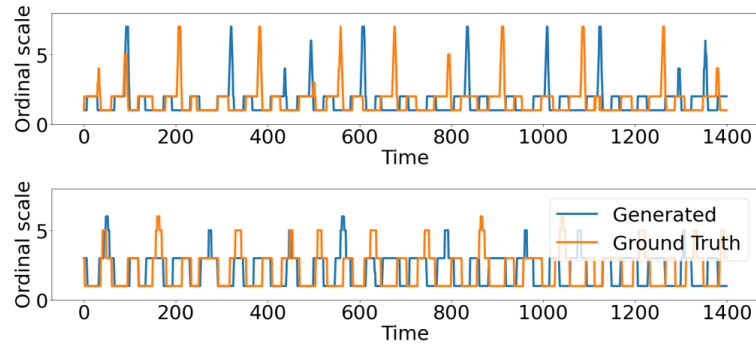


## Multimodal Data Improve DSR

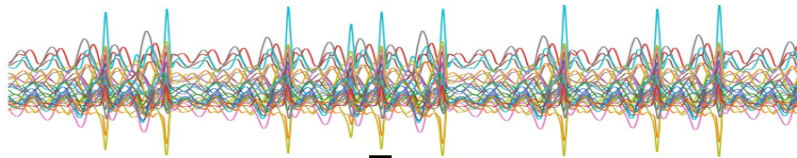


# Discrete Observations&Experimental Data

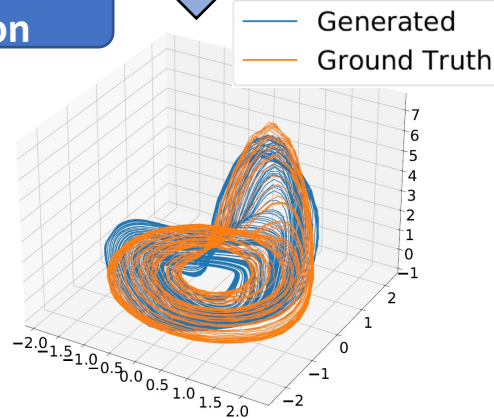
## Chaotic Rössler attractor from discrete ordinal observations



Train RNN model

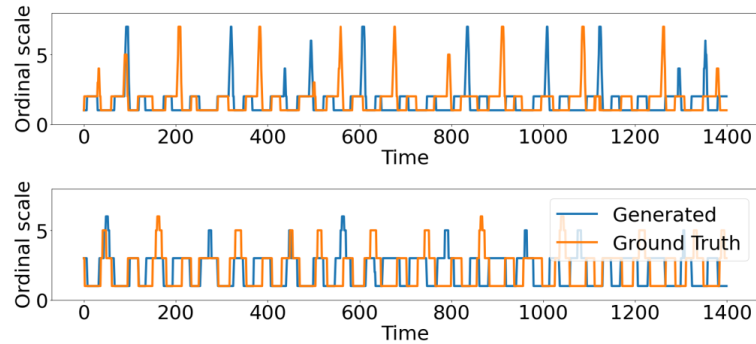


Geometry preserving transformation

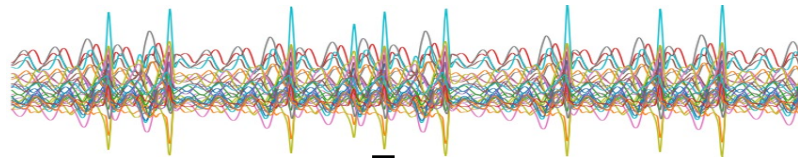


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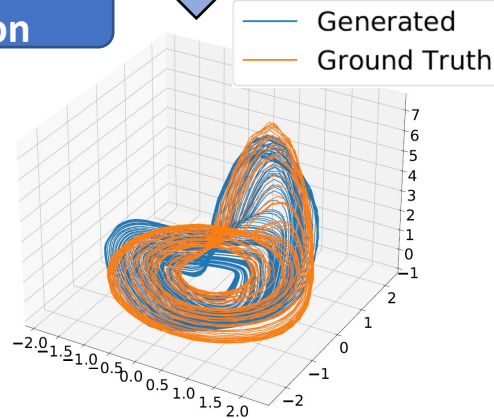
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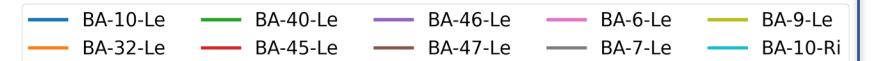
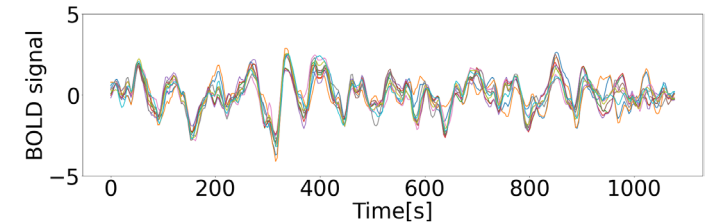
Geometry preserving transformation



## Neurophysiological Data+Behavioral Data

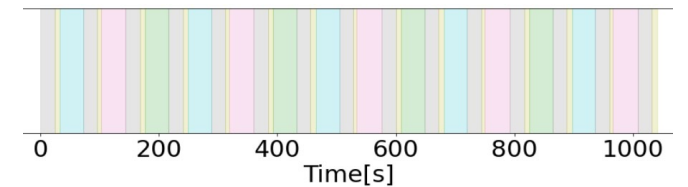
### Gaussian Data

$$\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{z}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{B}\mathbf{z}_t, \mathbf{\Gamma})$$

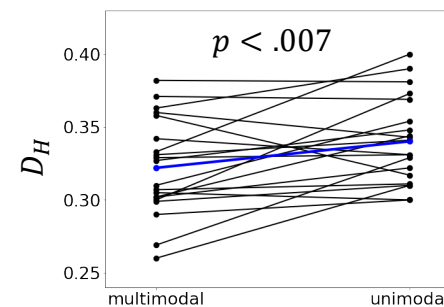


### Categorical Data

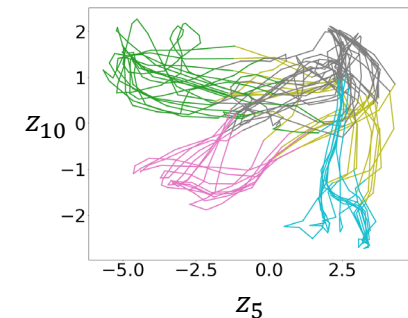
$$\mathbf{c}_t | \mathbf{z}_t \sim \text{Cat}(\mathbf{z}_t, \boldsymbol{\beta})$$



### Improved DSR



### Structured latent activity



# Competitive Performance

Dataset	Method	$D_{stsp} \downarrow$	$D_H \downarrow$	PE $\downarrow$	OPE $\downarrow$	SCC $\downarrow$	OACF $\downarrow$	CACF $\downarrow$
Lorenz	MVAE-TF	<b><math>3.4 \pm 0.35</math></b>	<b><math>0.30 \pm 0.06</math></b>	<b><math>1.3e-2 \pm 2e-4</math></b>	<b><math>0.12 \pm 0.03</math></b>	<b><math>0.07 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>0.07 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>6.6e-5 \pm 8.1e-6</math></b>
	SVAE	$11.1 \pm 0.6$	$0.82 \pm 0.05$	$6.3e-1 \pm 5.1e-2$	$0.68 \pm 0.03$	$0.14 \pm 0.01$	$0.18 \pm 0.02$	$8.5e-5 \pm 1.6e-5$
	GVAE-TF	$4.3 \pm 0.3$	$0.47 \pm 0.07$	$3.6e-1 \pm 1.5e-3$	X	X	X	X
	BPTT-TF	$8.8 \pm 1.9$	$0.86 \pm 0.05$	$4.4e-1 \pm 2.2e-2$	X	X	X	X
	MS	$4.5 \pm 1.5$	$0.61 \pm 0.08$	X	X	$0.14 \pm 0.04$	$0.11 \pm 0.02$	<b><math>6.5e-5 \pm 3.8e-6</math></b>
Rössler	MVAE-TF	<b><math>1.45 \pm 0.71</math></b>	<b><math>0.32 \pm 0.03</math></b>	<b><math>1.9e-3 \pm 7.1e-5</math></b>	<b><math>0.08 \pm 0.02</math></b>	<b><math>0.04 \pm 0.004</math></b>	<b><math>0.017 \pm 0.003</math></b>	<b><math>6.5e-5 \pm 1.2e-5</math></b>
	SVAE	$10.7 \pm 1.5$	$0.66 \pm 0.05$	$1.5e-1 \pm 3.1e-2$	$0.24 \pm 0.02$	$0.17 \pm 0.03$	$0.13 \pm 0.02$	$1.1e-4 \pm 1.4e-5$
	GVAE-TF	$12.1 \pm 0.5$	$0.55 \pm 0.04$	$4.9e-2 \pm 3.4e-3$	X	X	X	X
	BPTT-TF	$8.9 \pm 1.4$	$0.64 \pm 0.07$	$2.8e-1 \pm 1.8e-3$	X	X	X	X
	MS	$3.99 \pm 1.1$	$0.59 \pm 0.04$	X	X	$0.08 \pm 0.04$	$0.09 \pm 0.02$	$1.6e-4 \pm 5.9e-5$
Lewis-Glass	MVAE-TF	<b><math>0.27 \pm 0.07</math></b>	<b><math>0.33 \pm 0.02</math></b>	<b><math>2.1e-3 \pm 7e-5</math></b>	<b><math>0.11 \pm 0.01</math></b>	$0.12 \pm 0.03$	<b><math>0.05 \pm 0.02</math></b>	$2.3e-4 \pm 2.0e-5$
	SVAE	$2.6 \pm 0.5$	$0.52 \pm 0.03$	$8.0e-2 \pm 4e-3$	$0.26 \pm 0.01$	$0.4 \pm 0.05$	$0.18 \pm 0.03$	$7.5e-3 \pm 4.7e-3$
	GVAE-TF	<b><math>0.28 \pm 0.08</math></b>	$0.44 \pm 0.02$	$4.6e-3 \pm 4e-4$	X	X	X	X
	BPTT-TF	$2.51 \pm 0.71$	$0.43 \pm 0.03$	$2.6e-2 \pm 3e-3$	X	X	X	X
	MS	<b><math>0.33 \pm 0.06</math></b>	<b><math>0.35 \pm 0.01</math></b>	X	X	<b><math>0.08 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>0.04 \pm 0.002</math></b>	<b><math>1.9e-4 \pm 7.5e-6</math></b>

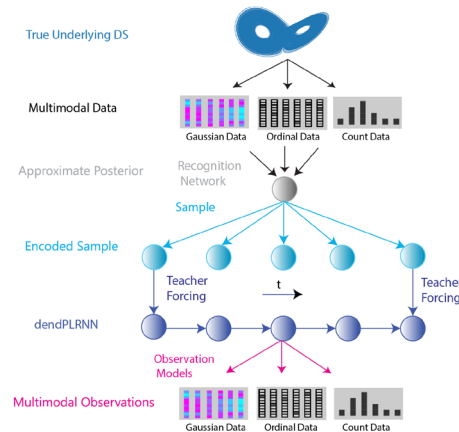
Neurophysiological  
Data

Dataset	Method	$D_{stsp} \downarrow$	$D_H \downarrow$	PE $\downarrow$
fMRI	MVAE-TF	<b><math>0.55 \pm 0.04</math></b>	<b><math>0.301 \pm 0.007</math></b>	<b><math>1.21 \pm 0.08</math></b>
	SVAE	$1.9 \pm 0.22$	$0.441 \pm 0.019$	$2.34 \pm 0.12$
	GVAE-TF	$0.67 \pm 0.06$	$0.335 \pm 0.011$	$1.64 \pm 0.07$
	BPTT-TF	$0.63 \pm 0.03$	$0.312 \pm 0.006$	$1.39 \pm 0.05$
	MS	$1.06 \pm 0.14$	$0.373 \pm 0.012$	X

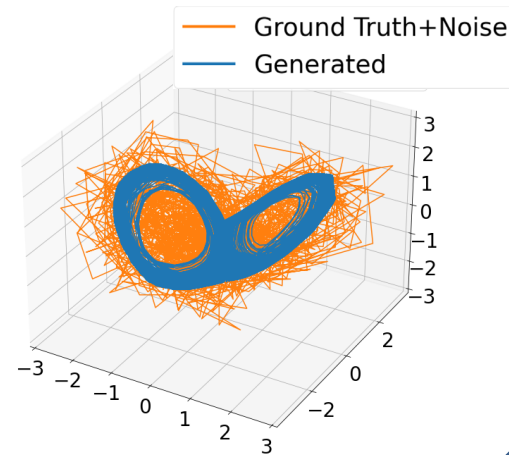


# Conclusions

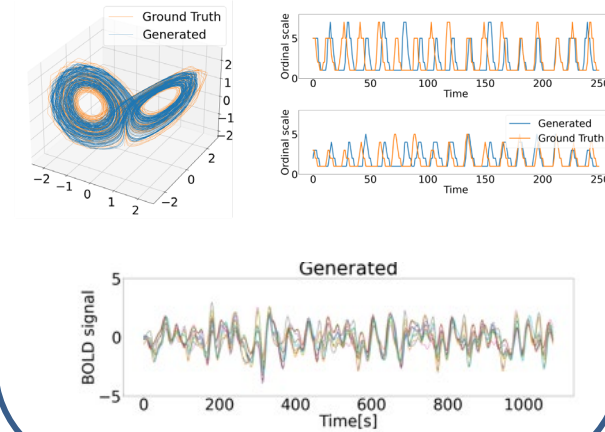
Flexible training framework for DSR from **multimodal time series** combining **sparse TF** with **MVAEs**



DSR from **highly noisy** and **non-Gaussian** obs. from chaotic systems



State of the art performance on benchmark & experimental datasets



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Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft  
DFG



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