

# Bayesian nonparametric methods for dynamics identification and segmentation for powered prosthesis control

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Viva voce

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# Overview

## 1 Motivation

- High-level
- Mid-level
- Low-level

## 2 Chapter III: Incidence detection [Perception layer]

## 3 Chapter IV: Dynamics identification via time-series segmentation [Perception layer]

## 4 Chapter V: Gaussian process regression for prosthesis control [Translation/Execution layer]

## 5 Conclusion

# Motivation: high-level

- Multiple-sclerosis: severely affects and reduces mobility
- Diabetes: can give rise to complications e.g. heart disease, kidney disease retinopathy and neuropathy.
- *Diabetes is the leading cause of amputation*
- Quality of living through ability to perform activities of daily living such as locomotion



Figure: Parents

# Motivation: mid-level

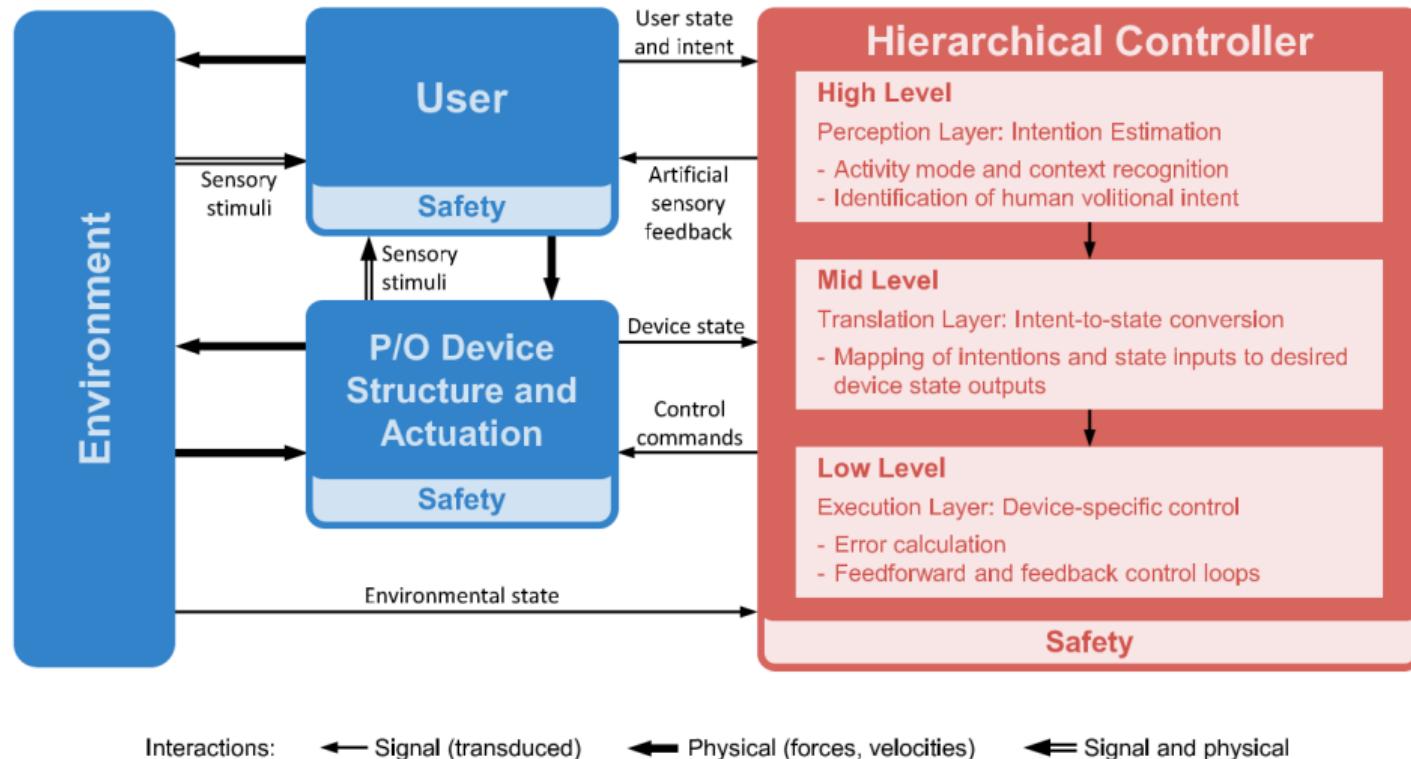
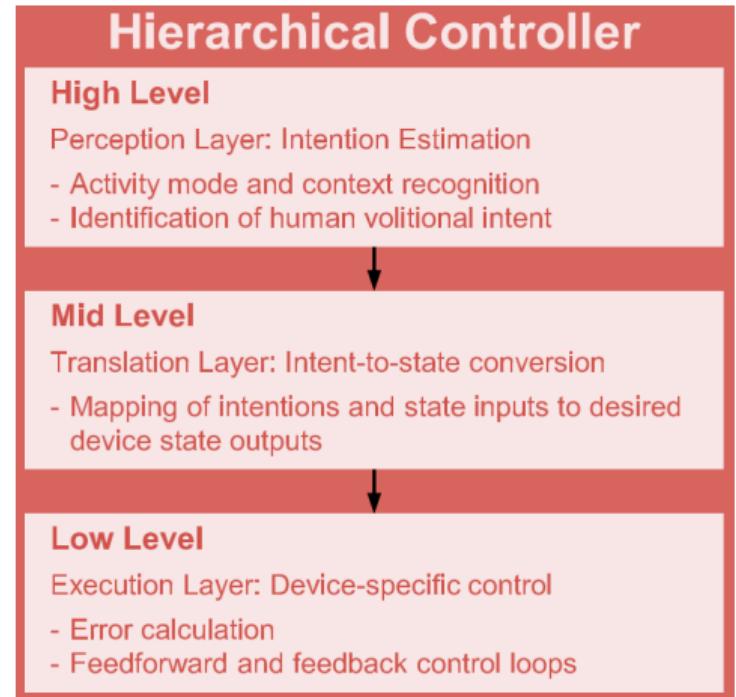


Figure: Generalised control framework for active prostheses and orthoses (Tucker et al., 2015).

# Motivation: low-level

- Perception layer
  - **Chapter III:** Incidence detection
  - **Chapter IV:** Dynamics identification via time-series segmentation
- Translation/Execution layer
  - **Chapter V:** Gaussian process regression for prosthesis control

Three broad themes were addressed which fit into the control stratification proposed by Tucker et al. (2015).



**Figure:** Parts of a hierarchical controller (Tucker et al., 2015).

## Chapter III: Incidence detection [Perception layer]

The purpose of the high-level control is to perceive the locomotive intent of the user through activity mode detection.

- Use standard discriminative and generative approaches for classification
- Demonstrate that popular original study by Luštrek and Kaluža (2009) could be improved
- Missing data was in-painted using a generative model (Kalman smoother)
- Dimensionality reduction operated upon complete data
- Increased performance was demonstrated with this simple approach

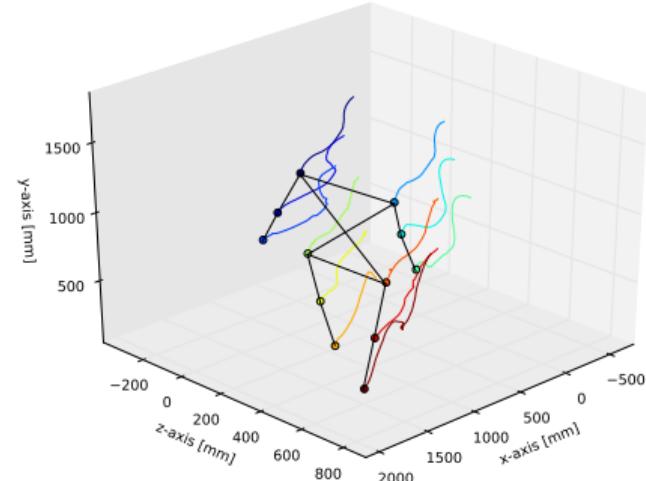
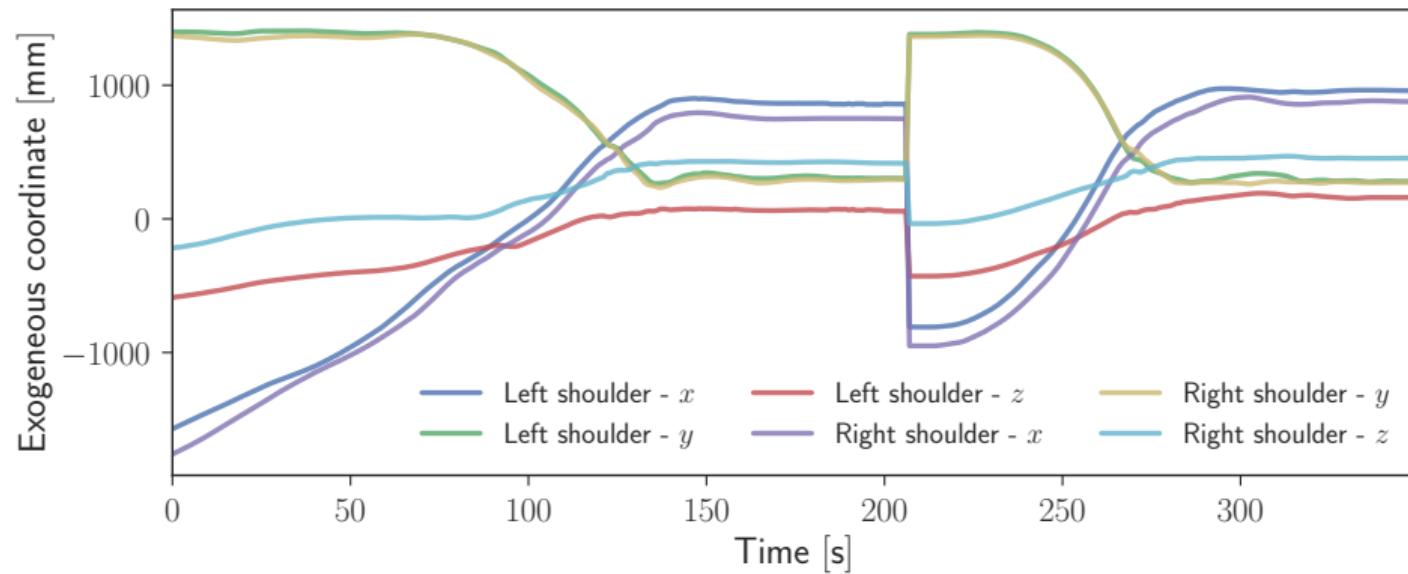


Figure: Example of 'walking' incidence (Dhir and Wood, 2014).

## Chapter III: Example observations



**Figure:** Recordings made from an infrared motion capture system. Window shows marker trajectories of the coordinates of two (out of 12) markers attached to the bodies of three volunteers. The scenario depicted includes three activities, enacted in the following order: walking → falling → lying.

## Chapter III: Methods

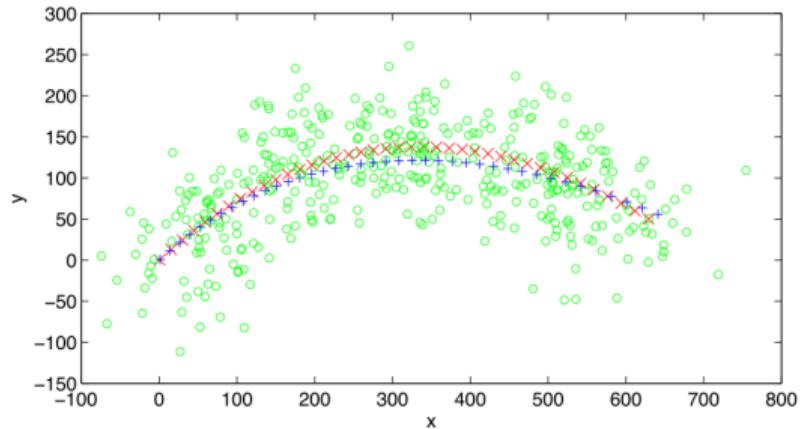


Figure: Kalman smoothing to estimate trajectory; with **observations**, **ground truth** and **estimates** (Barber, 2012).

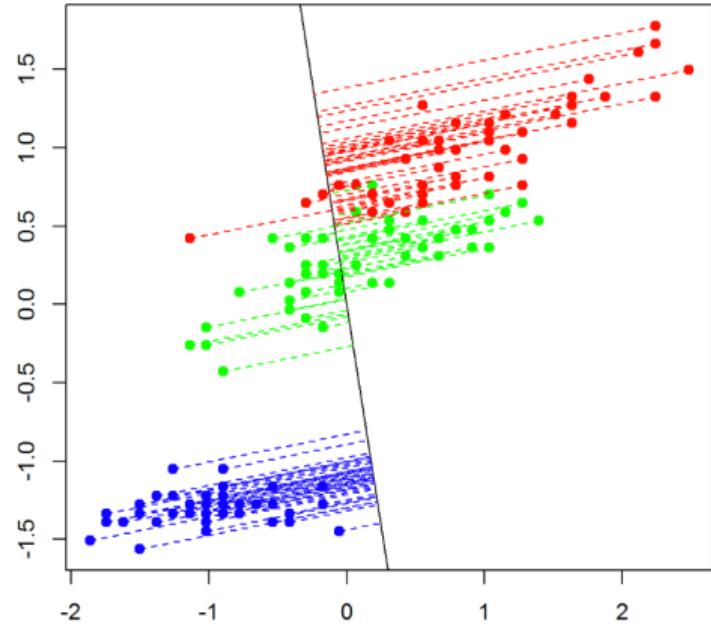


Figure: Multiclass linear discriminant analysis of a two-dimensional demonstration space (Bishop, 2006).

# Chapter III: Results

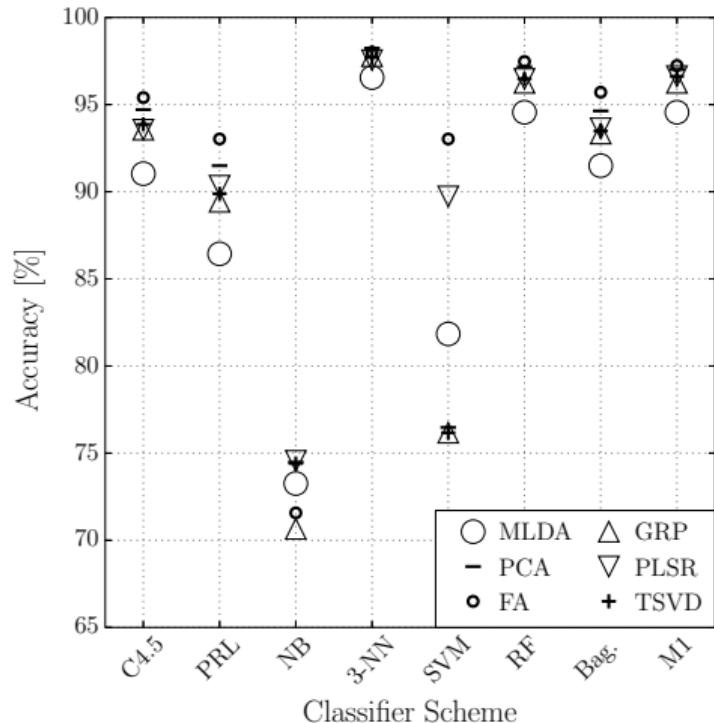


Figure: Methods applied to raw data.

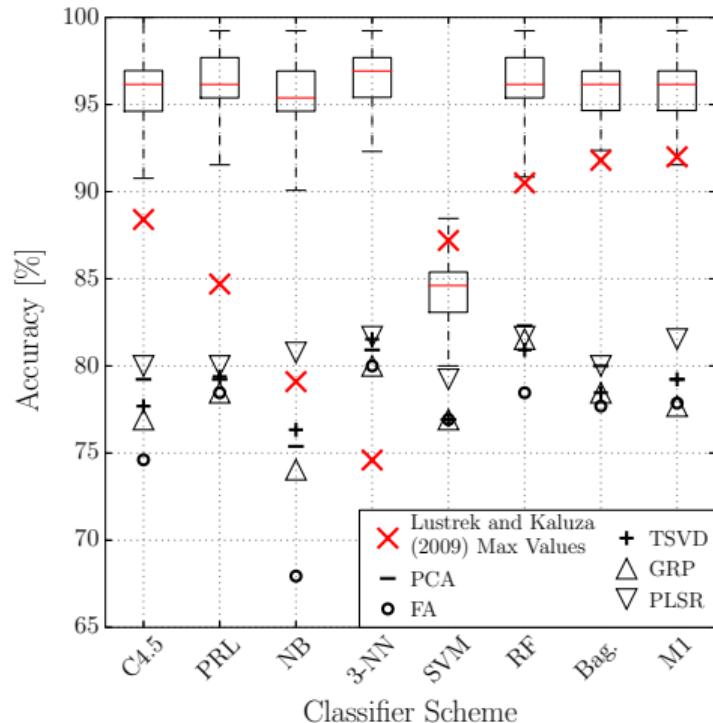
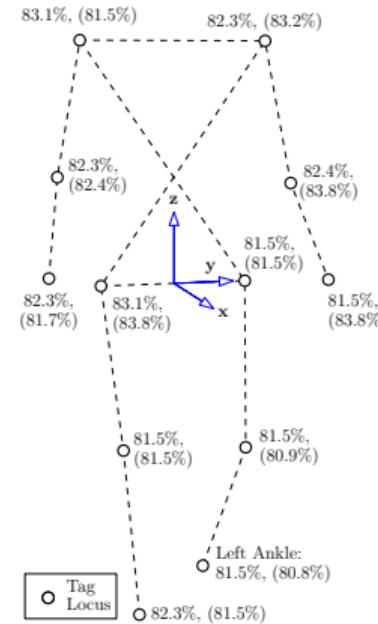


Figure: Methods applied to feature vectors.

# Chapter III: Conclusions

- Able to significantly improve **supervised** classification performance using very simple, off-the-shelf, tools
- In-painting proved valuable to complete the dataset
- Though complete, the dataset also has lots of redundancy, removed through dimensionality reduction (DR)
- DR was the primary driver of improved performance
- Additional experiments investigated information content of individual tags (see RHS figure)



**Figure:** Illustration of activity, with best individual tag classification accuracy quoted with each tag (Dhir and Wood, 2014).

# Reminder: Where are we now in the control hierarchy?

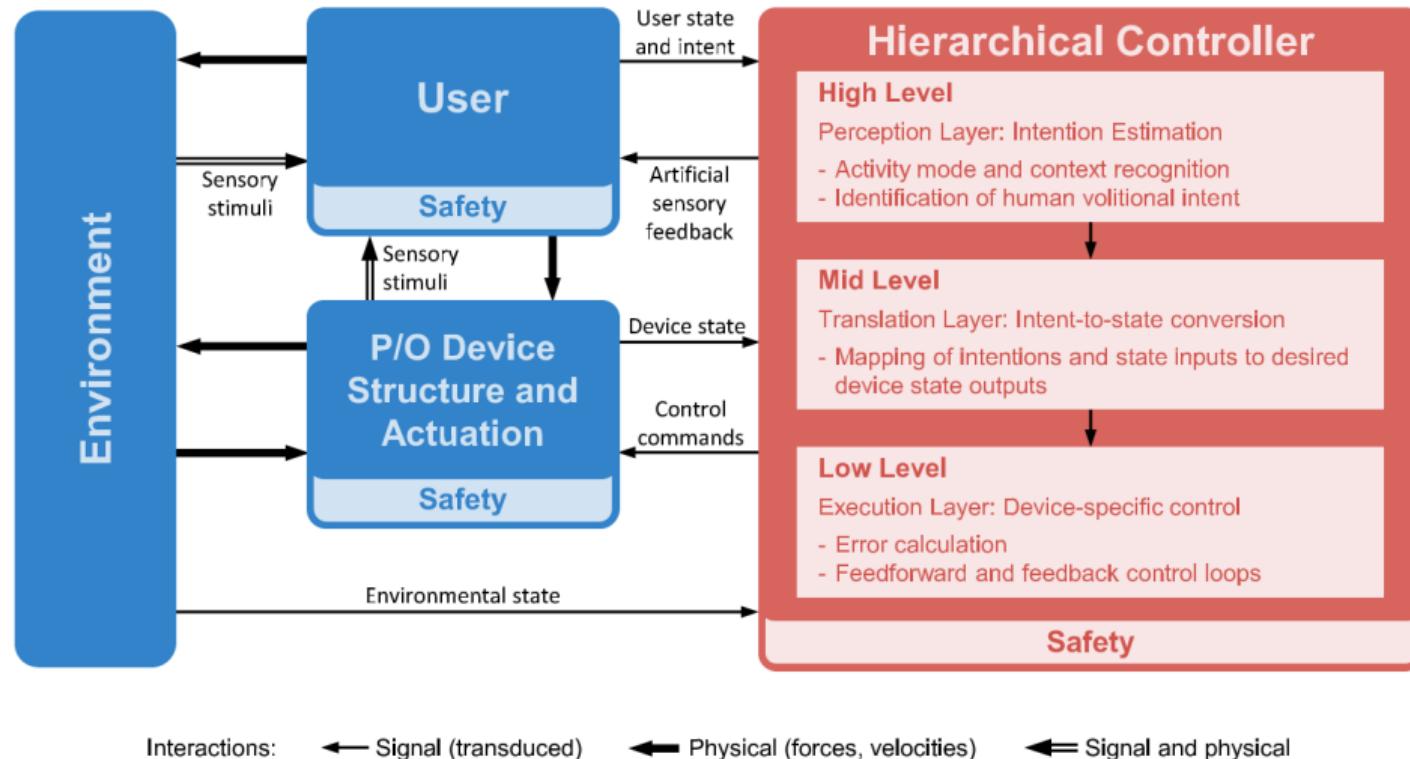


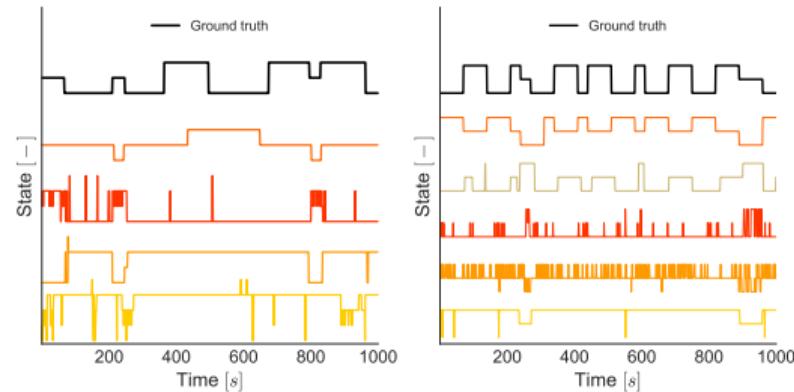
Figure: Generalised control framework for active prostheses and orthoses (Tucker et al., 2015).

# Chapter IV: Dynamics identification via time-series segmentation

## [Perception layer]

The purpose of the high-level control is to perceive the locomotive intent of the user through activity mode detection.

- Traditional setting: supervised learning (Ch. III) using discriminative models
- Must consider unsupervised setting using generative modelling
- Behaviours and activities are likely to grow with time, hence it is unsatisfactory to bound the state-space
- Incidence detection and labelling must be **automatic**



**Figure:** Unsupervised learning of slow and fast dynamics.

## Chapter IV: Generative sequence modelling

- Time-series labelling is laborious and subjective → use semi/un-supervised learning to support labelling exercise
- Want to discover new behaviours → Bayesian nonparametrics might help
- Model structure still far from clear in many situations (new and old) → probably need to iterate over models
- Great opportunity for *probabilistic programming*

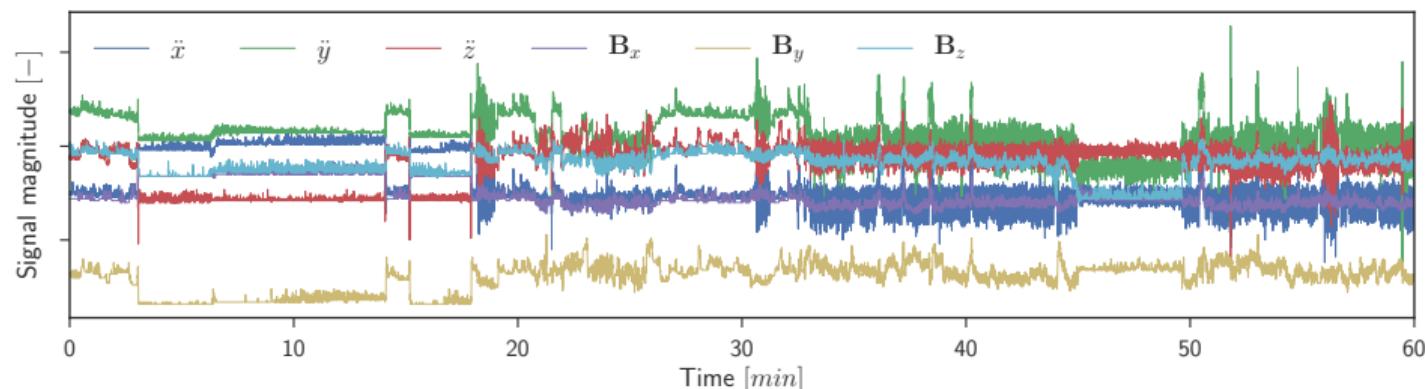


Figure: Raw data captured at 32Hz, containing a total of 115,200 multivariate readings, recorded with tri-axial accelerometry ( $\ddot{x}, \ddot{y}, \ddot{z}$ ) and magnetometers ( $B_x, B_y, B_z$ ).

# Chapter IV: Probabilistic programming

## What is it?

- Languages for probabilistic modelling and inference
- Separate modelling and inference
- Use general purpose inference (i.e. ‘black-box’ that can just be applied on the fly)

## Why care?

- Make complex statistical modelling/ML available to non-experts
- Think about the *what* rather than *how*
- Computing power will increase but we will not get (much) smarter → scientist’s time more important than computing time, hence generic inference worth it
- Mix statistics with classical computer science e.g. data structures and higher order functions (e.g. `map`, `reduce`)

# Chapter IV: Probabilistic programming languages

- Functional PPL: Church/**Anglican**/Venture  
(data structures, SMC and MCMC, BNP primitives, experimental)
- Stan (big following with a focus on HMC, thus limited support for models with discrete latent spaces)
- PyMC3/Edward (make use of auto-diff packages such as Theano and TF to calculate gradients in MCMC and VI settings)
- BUGS (pioneer in MCMC for graphical models)
- Infer.NET (graphical models, variational inference, EP)

---

```
(defquery hmm
  [observations initial-dist
   transition-dists observation-dists]
  (reduce
    (fn [states observation]
      (let [state (sample (get
          transition-dists (peek states))))]
        (observe (get observation-dists
          state) observation)
        (conj states state)))
    [(sample initial-dist)]
    observations))
```

---

Figure: Example Anglican code for conditioning HMM on observations.

## Chapter IV: Example of a probabilistic program

The following example appeared in (Tolpin et al., 2015).

Statistical model:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &\sim \mathcal{N}(2, 1) \\x_2 &\sim \mathcal{N}(x_1, 1) \\y_1 \mid x_1 &\sim \mathcal{N}(x_1, 0.1^2) \\y_2 \mid x_2 &\sim \mathcal{N}(x_2, 0.1^2)\end{aligned}$$

---

```
(query
  (let
    [unknown-mean-t1 (sample (normal 2 1))
     unknown-mean-t2 (sample (normal unknown-mean-t1 1))
     noise 0.1]
    (observe (normal unknown-mean-t1 noise) 3)
    (observe (normal unknown-mean-t2 noise) 3.1)
    (predict unknown-mean-t1)
    (predict unknown-mean-t2)))
```

---

**Figure:** A probabilistic model with Gaussian emissions with unknown means and a known standard deviation (Perov, 2016).

As noted by Perov (2016), an example of the execution trace for the program is  $(x_1 = 2.7, x_2 = 2.3, y_1 = 2.0, y_2 = 2.1)$ . For this program, each list of four random variables constitutes a valid execution trace:  $(x_1 \in \mathbb{R}^1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^1, y_1 \in \mathbb{R}^1, y_2 \in \mathbb{R}^1)$ .

# Chapter IV: Adding a temporal component via state space models

## Problems with HMMs

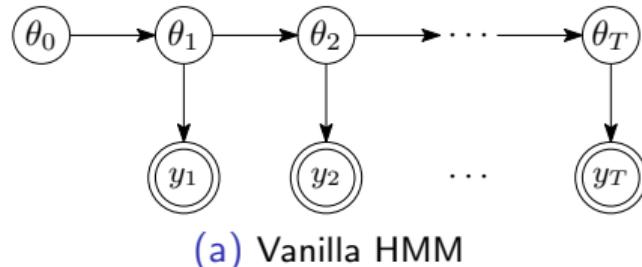
- 1 Geometric state duration:

$\mathbb{P}(d) = a^{d-1}(1 - a)$  where  $d$  denotes the duration of a given state and  $a$  denotes the Markov transition probability of a self-transition

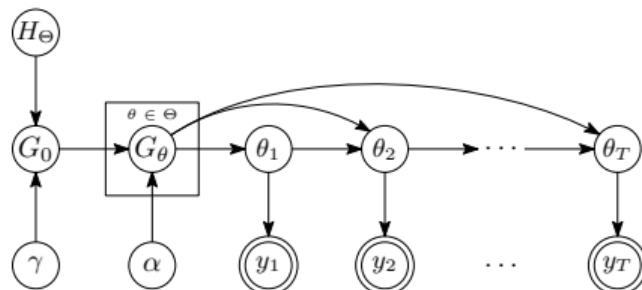
- 2 Number of latent states must be set a priori

## Solutions

- 1 Employ explicit state duration HMMs e.g. EDHMM or HSMM
- 2 Use BNP to place an unbounded prior on the latent state cardinality



(a) Vanilla HMM



(b) BNP HMM (i.e. HDP-HMM)

Figure: From vanilla to infinity.

## Chapter IV: Bayesian nonparametrics + state-space models

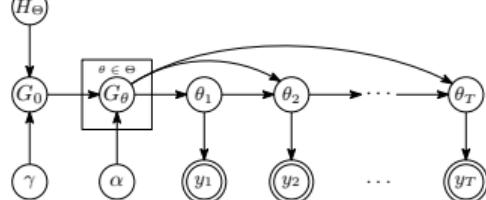
### Hierarchical Dirichlet process hidden Markov model (HDP-HMM)

$G_0 \mid \gamma, H \sim \mathcal{DP}(\gamma, H)$		Sample random base measure $G_0$
$G_\theta \mid \alpha, G_0 \sim \mathcal{DP}(\alpha, G_0)$	$\theta \in \Theta$	Sample transition distribution $G(\cdot)$
$\theta_i \mid \theta_{i-1} \sim G_{\theta_{i-1}}$	$i = 1, 2, \dots$	Sample state from transition distribution
$y_i \mid \theta_i \sim F_{\theta_i}$	$i = 1, 2, \dots$	Sample from emission distribution $F(\cdot)$

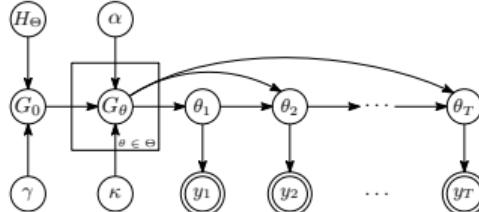
We add:

- Infinite duration hidden Markov model (IDHMM) – *nonparametric state durations*
- Stateful IDHMM – *stateful nonparametric state and duration statistics*

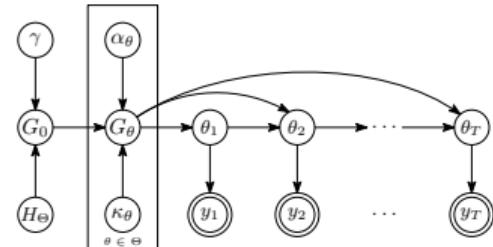
# Chapter IV: A smörgåsbord of models



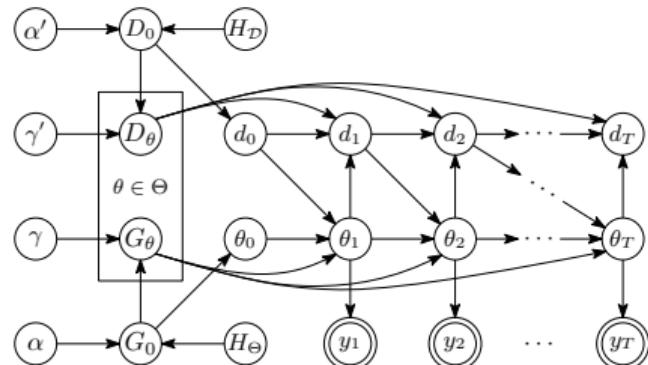
(a) HDP-HMM



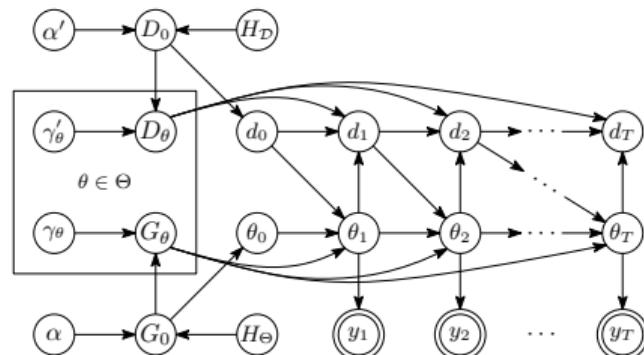
(b) Sticky HDP-HMM



(c) Stateful HDP-HMM



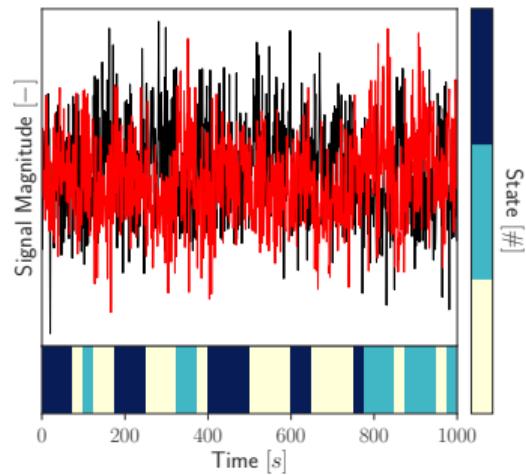
(d) IDHMM



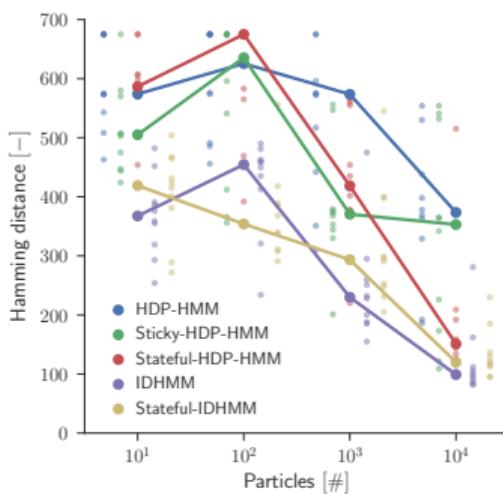
(e) Stateful IDHMM

Figure: BNP discrete SSMs used in this work.

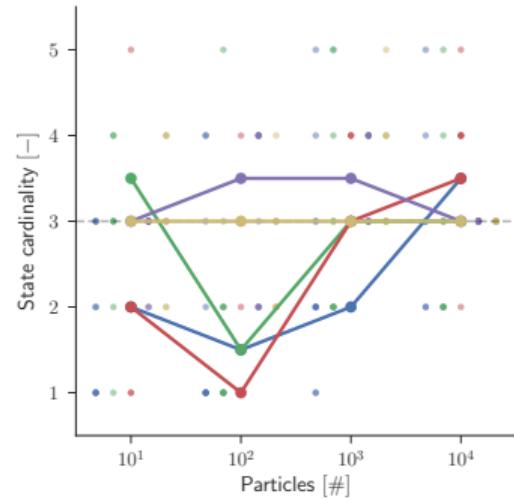
## Chapter IV: Synthetic experiments



(a) Observations w. GT



(b) Hamming distance

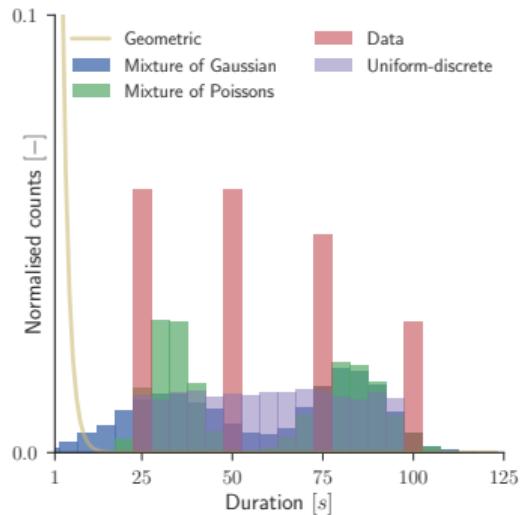


(c) State cardinality

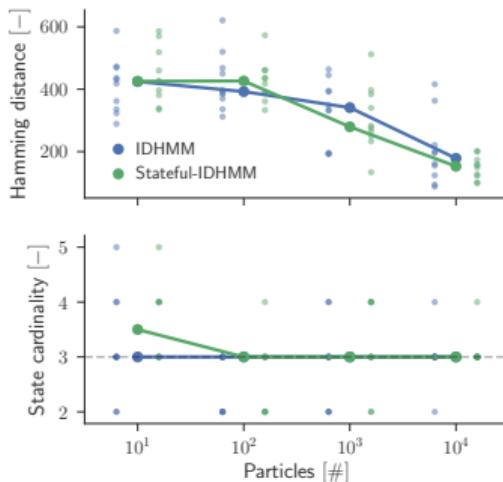
Figure: results from experiments on multivariate synthetic Gaussian observations with sequential Monte-Carlo inference. Connected bullets are median scores.

\*Hamming distance: the number of positions at which the corresponding symbols are different, for two sequences of equal length – i.e. measuring the *edit distance*

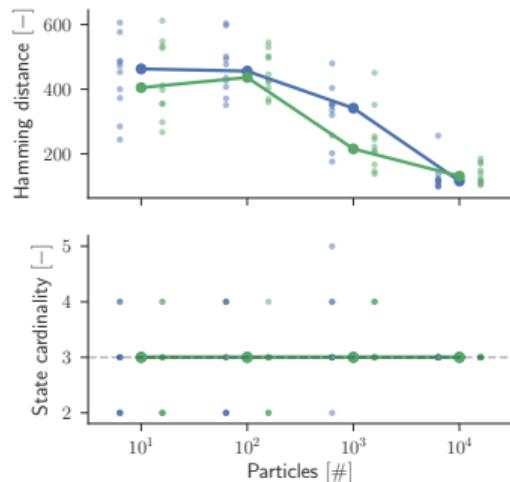
# Chapter IV: Synthetic experiments



(a) Duration priors



(b) Gaussian mixture duration



(c) Poisson mixture duration

Figure: results from experiments with different duration priors. Connected bullets show median scores.

## Chapter IV: Conclusion and future work

- Bayesian nonparametric state-space models show promise in this difficult domain
- For sequence modelling and novelty detection, these models could make unsupervised time-series segmentation more interpretable
- Purely as a first pass through the data, this approach allows the scientist to identify regions of interest
- By using a PPS we can quickly iterate over state-space models which are
  - Non I.I.D. and which have non-geometric durations
  - Unsupervised
  - Nonparametric
- **Future work:** incorporate domain knowledge through priors, semi-supervised learning, transfer learning between different observation domains (e.g. different human users, or different animals in an animal modelling setting).

# Reminder: Where are we now in the control hierarchy?

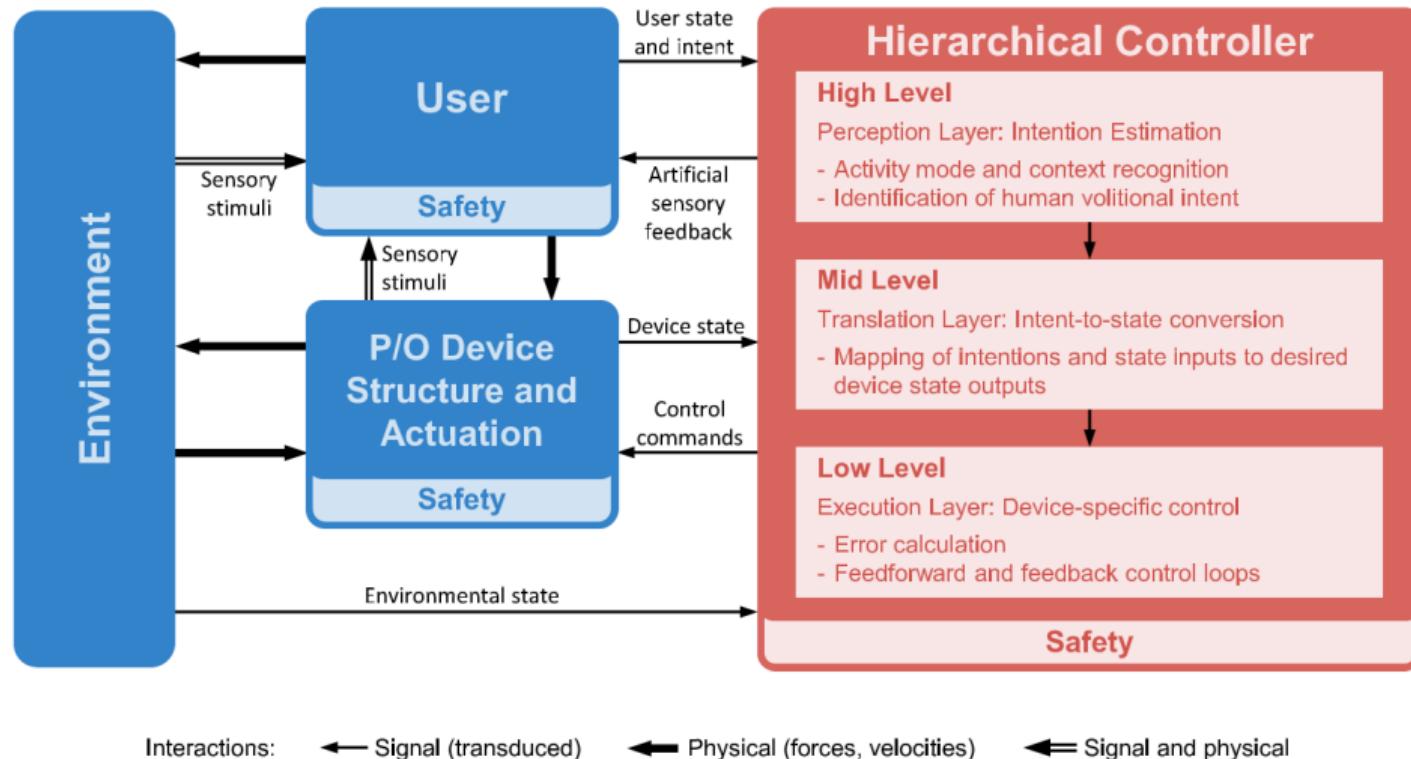


Figure: Generalised control framework for active prostheses and orthoses (Tucker et al., 2015).

# Chapter V: Gaussian process regression for prosthesis control

## [Translation/Execution layer]

The purpose of the mid-level controller is to convert the estimated intent output from the high-level controller to a device state for the low-level controller to track.

- Want to illicit smooth anthropomimetic transition between incidents (velocities)
- ‘Locomotion envelopes’ (collection of multivariate GPR vector fields) provides one way of achieving this goal
- Transition has to be done safely i.e. with uncertainty estimates on predictions → GPs are a natural fit

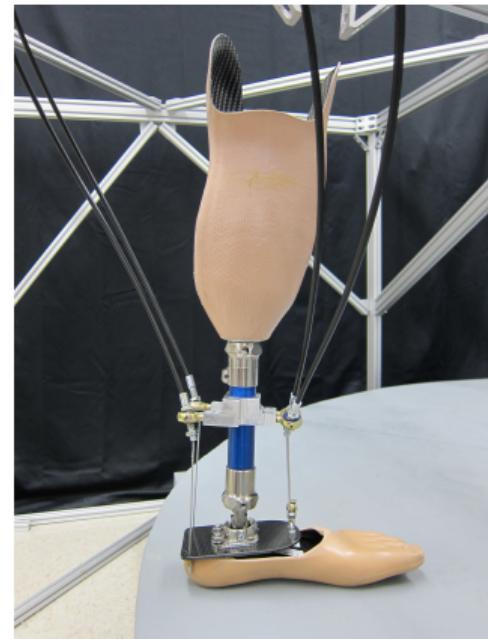
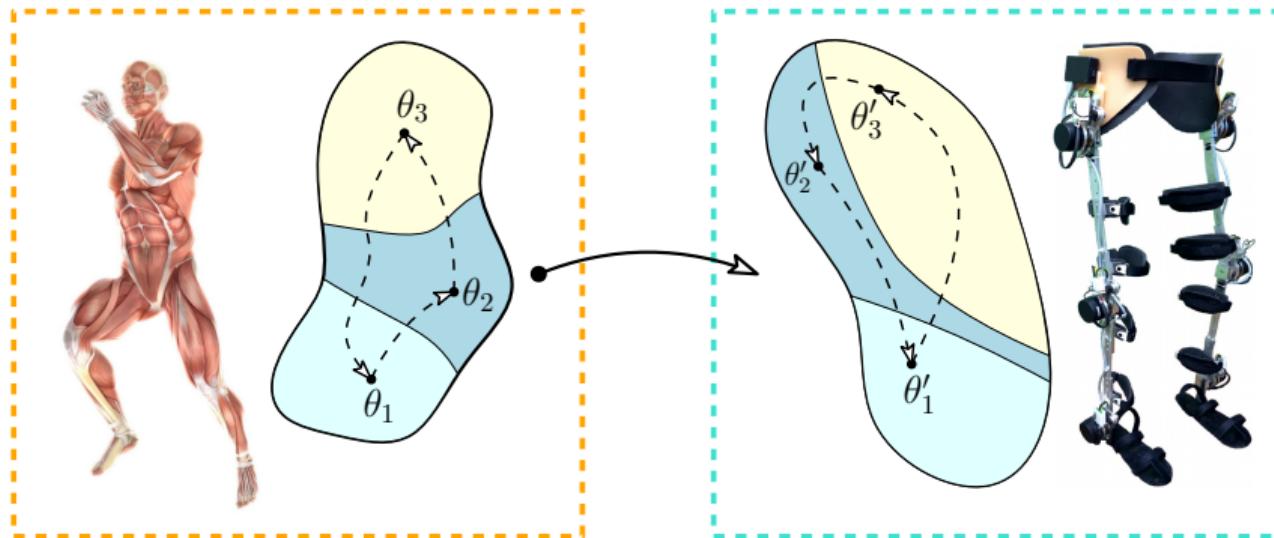


Figure: Test-bed (experimental prosthesis)

## Chapter V: High-level idea



**Figure:** A simplified illustration of a human locomotion manifold on the left, and its correspondent manifold, for the AAM on the right.

We can learn this mapping using Gaussian process regression.

## Chapter V: Observations for supervised learning

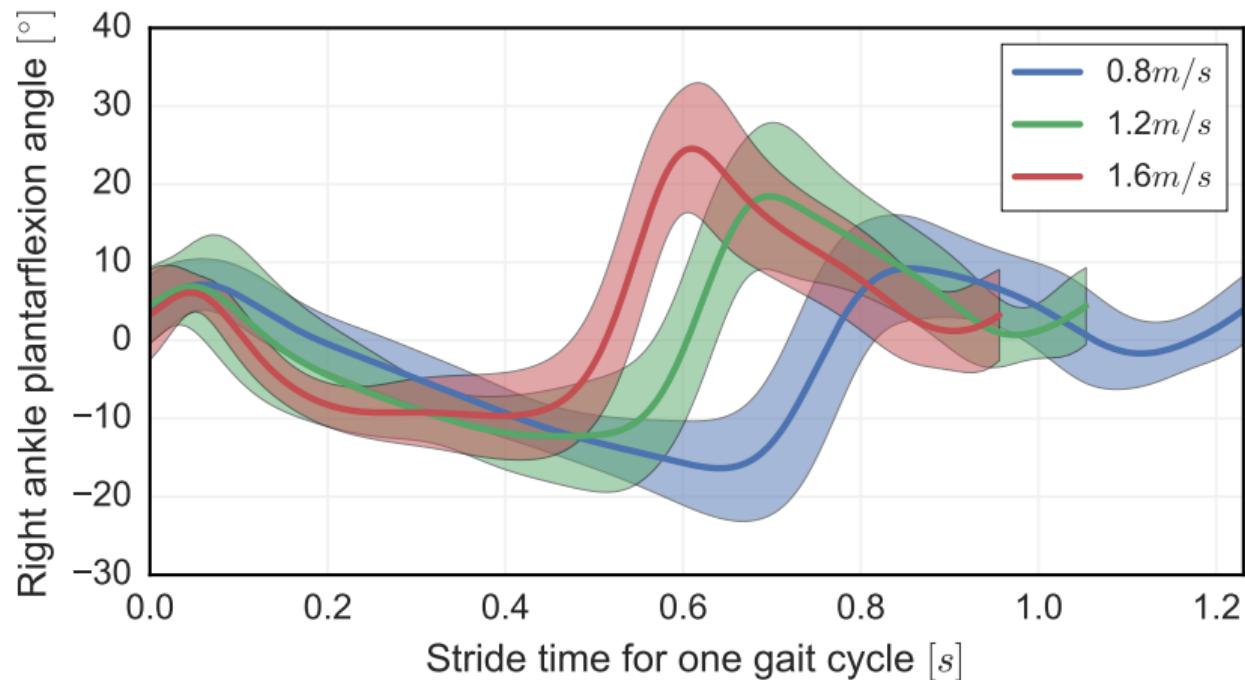
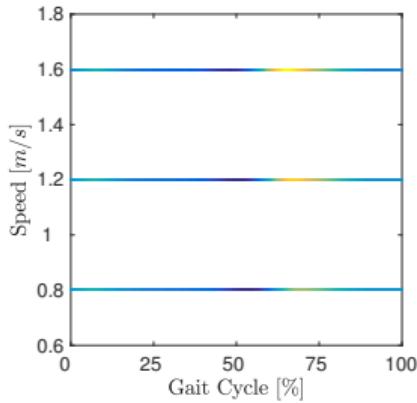
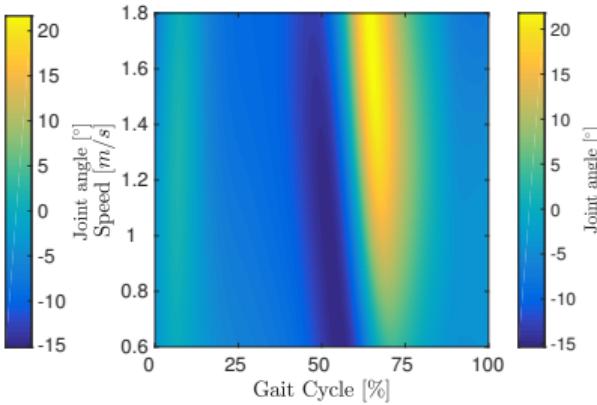


Figure: Un-normalised ankle plantarflexion angle with  $\pm$  two standard deviations, for subject 6, during normal walking at three different speeds.

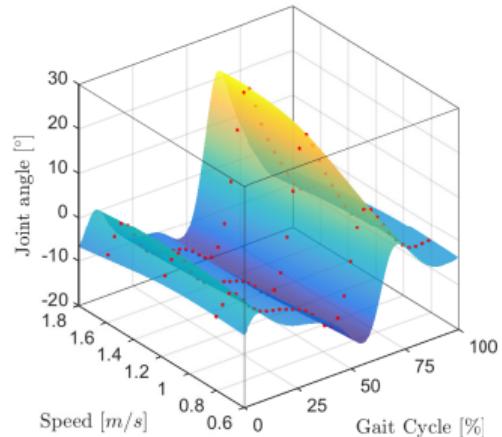
# Chapter V: Gaussian process regression



(a) Training inputs  $\mathbf{X}$  with targets  $\mathbf{y}$ .



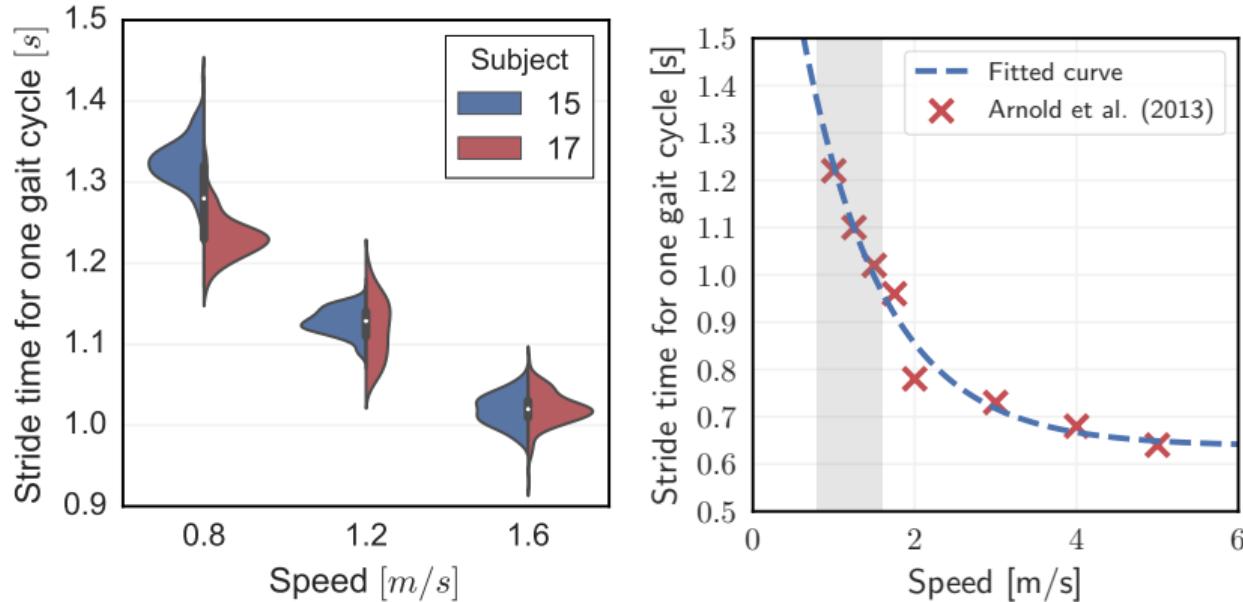
(b) Posterior predictive mean function as heatmap.



(c) Posterior predictive mean surface for tests inputs

Figure: Workflow used in obtaining an ankle plantarflexion angle regression manifold, for subject 17.

## Chapter V: Stride-time regression



(a) Comparative stride duration.

(b) Curve fitted to Arnold et al. (2013) stride duration observations.

Figure: Regressing across stride durations; the shaded region in (b) shows our duration domain.

## Chapter V: Simulated results

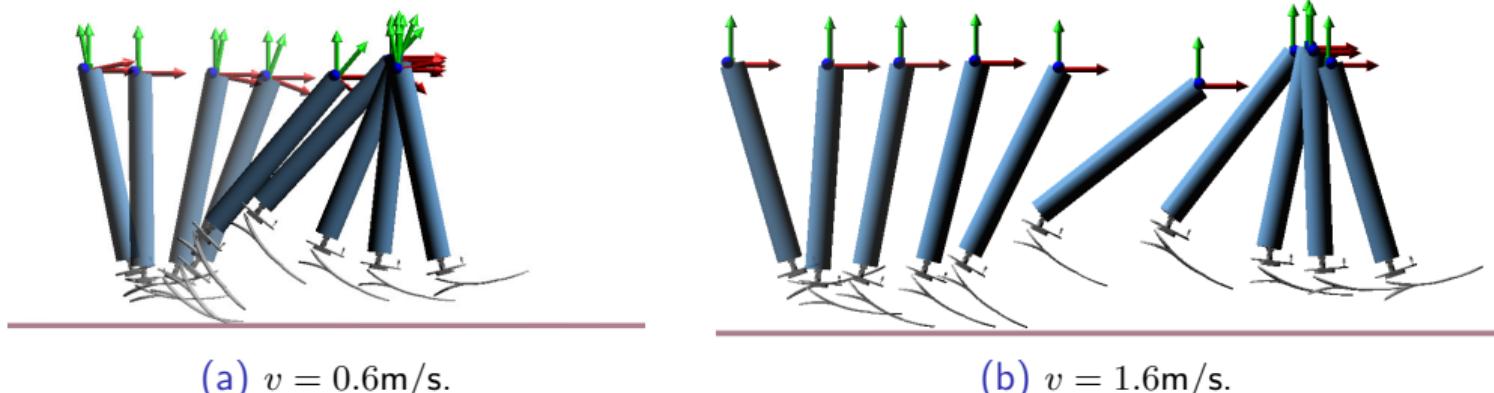
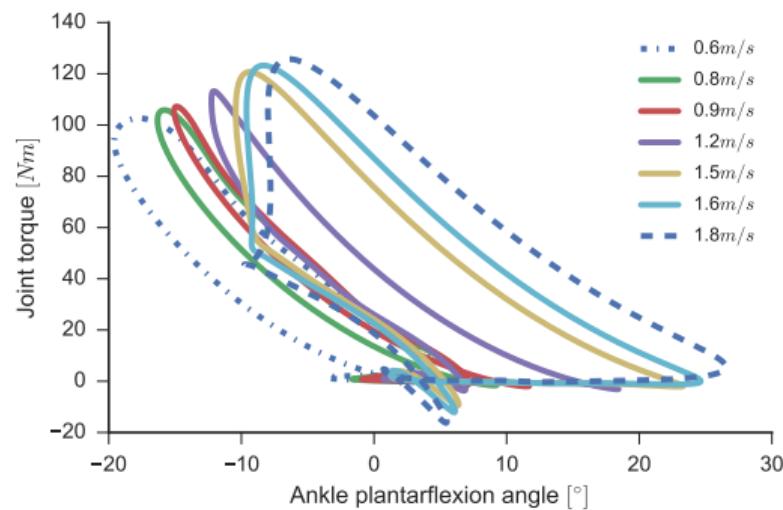
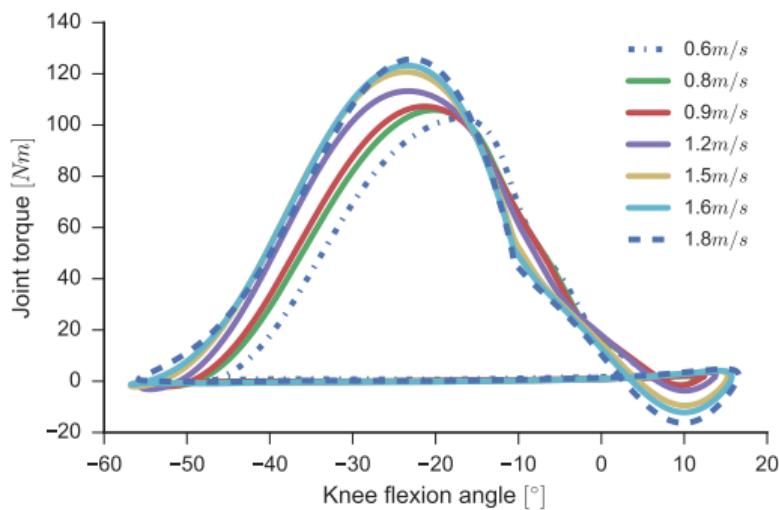


Figure: Panels show gait cycle simulations for velocities outside the training data.

## Chapter V: Simulated results



(a) Plantarflexion angle



(b) Knee angle (sagittal plane)

**Figure:** Measured and inferred ankle kinetics for subject 6. Curves are shown for velocities inside and outside the training data. Dashed curves lie on the extrema of the test points and the experimental values for the curves of 0.8, 1.2 and 1.6m/s are shown as well.

## Chapter V: Hardware results

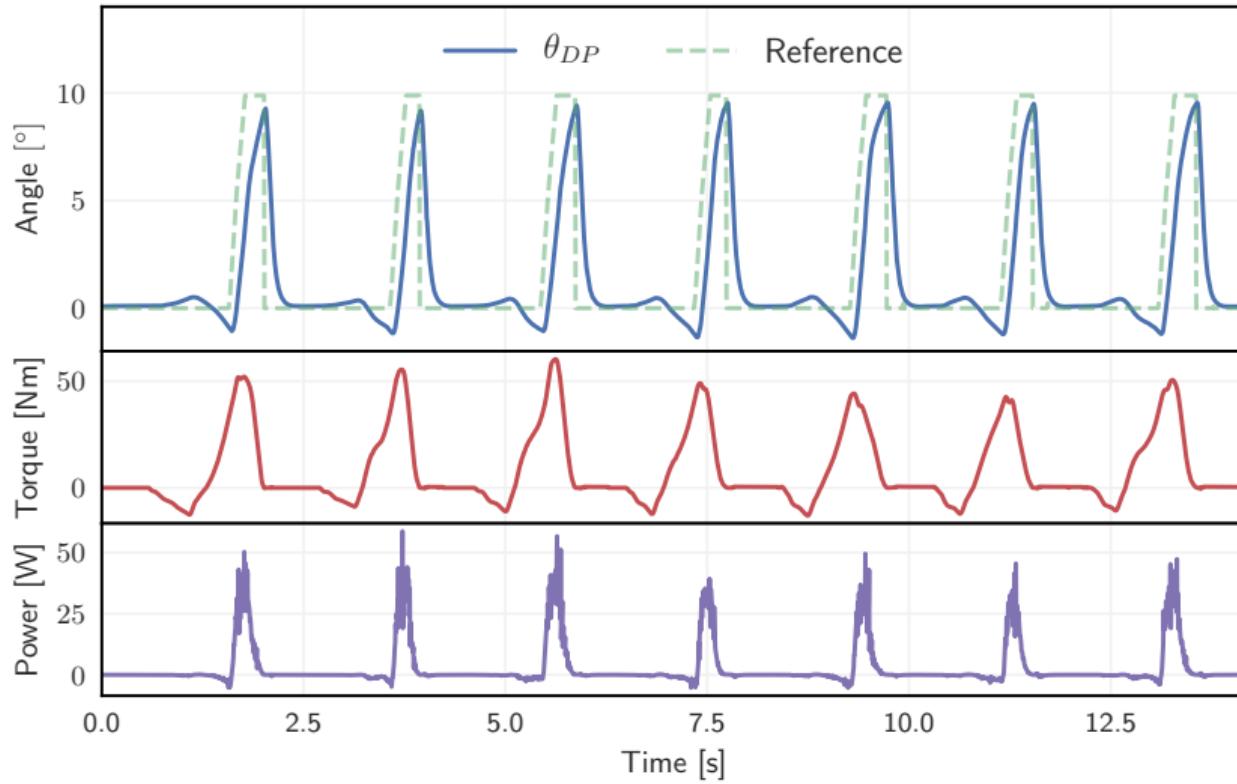


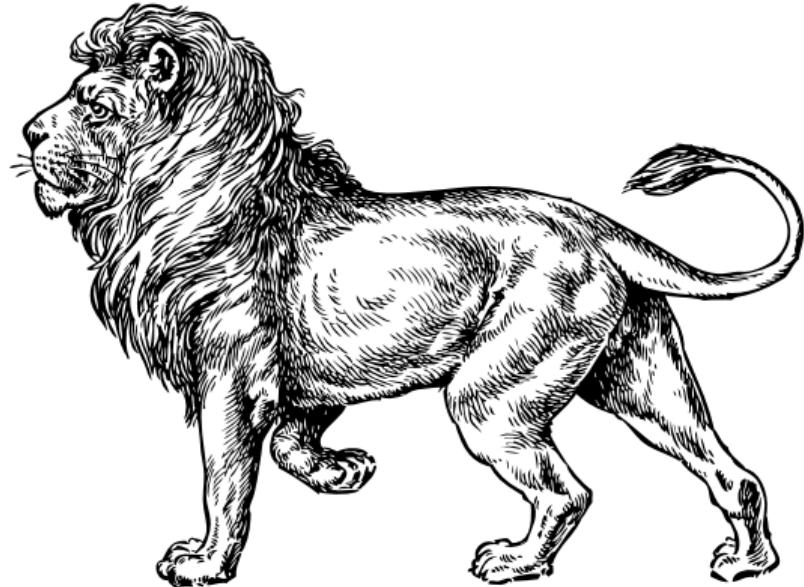
Figure: Experimental results of walking at  $v = 0.37\text{m/s}$

## Chapter V: Conclusion and future work

- Demonstrated a robust method for smoothly (and anthropomimetically) transitioning between velocities
- Hardware and simulation tests, demonstrate that for isolated test-cases the method performs well
- Safety is account for (though not yet implemented) due to the uncertainty quantifications inherent in GP construction
- **Future work:**
  - Implement sharing of information through coregionalised (vector output) GPs
  - Investigate methods for most efficiently transitioning between instances (could involve DMPs)
  - Proposition methods for conjoining (effectively sewing together) locomotion envelopes for different locomotion instances (e.g. LEs for biking, LEs for walking up a staircase)
  - Need to develop methods which take complex noise models into account

## Conclusion and future work

- Have demonstrated and suggested various ‘primitives’ that *could* form part of Tucker et al. (2015)’s hierarchical control stratification
- Obviously lacking is an overarching (i.e. *global*) system that can selectively use these primitives to restore locomotion to people with AAMs
- Proposed methods include a mix of unsupervised and supervised learning strategies, ultimately though, we posit that these methods will have to be predominantly unsupervised
- **The ultimate goal:** We envision, ideally and eventually, a system capable of merely being ‘put on’, without the tedious parameter tuning, capable of establishing faithful and comfortable locomotion, which becomes *better* with time as the system learns and adapts to its user (not unlike one-shot learning)



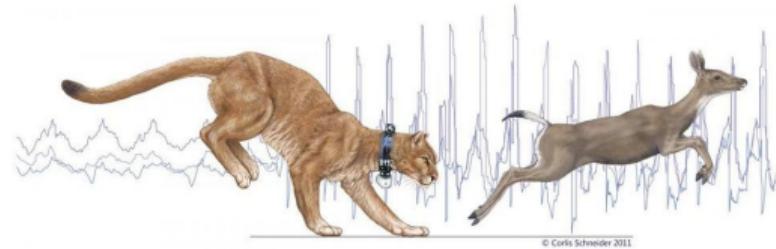
Questions?

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# Understanding animal behaviour from observations

- Oxford's zoologists have been tracking prides of lions for years
- Famous members include Cecil and Xanda (killed by trophy hunters in July, two years after Cecil)
- Observations ( $y \in \mathbb{R}^d, d \gg 1$ ) often sampled at years at a time, sometimes at very high frequencies
- Use of especially accelerometry is widespread within biotelemetry as a means of measuring an animals activity quantitatively
- Biotelemetry is used as a means of classifying behaviour i.e. to *understand* their ecology



(a) Puma. Not lion. Still has collar, so we're ok.



(b) Collared lions

# Labelling lion observations

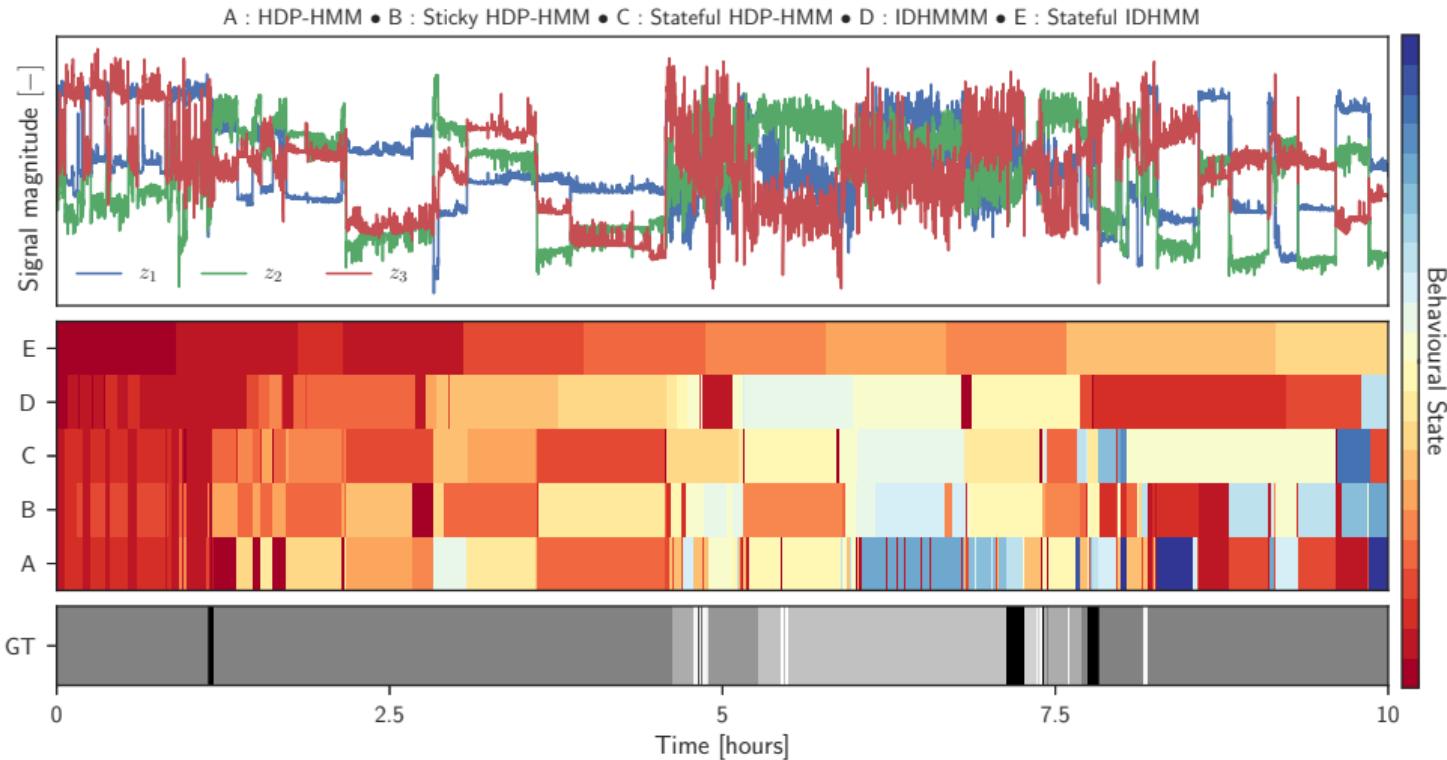
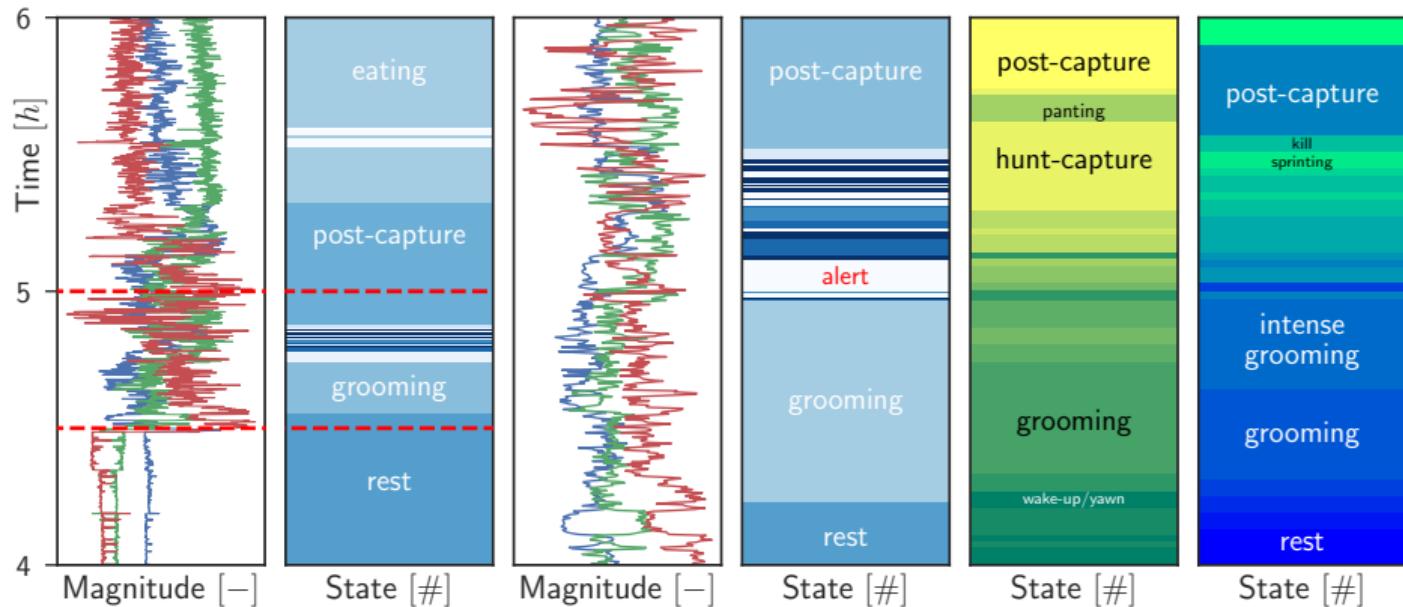


Figure: **top** – signal, **middle** – state sequences inferred by models through unsupervised learning and **bottom** – manually labelled fuzzy ground truth state sequence

# Detailed analysis: a hunt



**Figure:** **first two panels** – signal and ground truth; **next two panels** – zoomed in; **final two panels** – assigned detailed labelling by IDHMM and stateful IDHMM as established by listening to audio, “concluding” that models learned *meaningful* new behaviours.

# Bespoke inference on complex synthetic data: Hamming distance

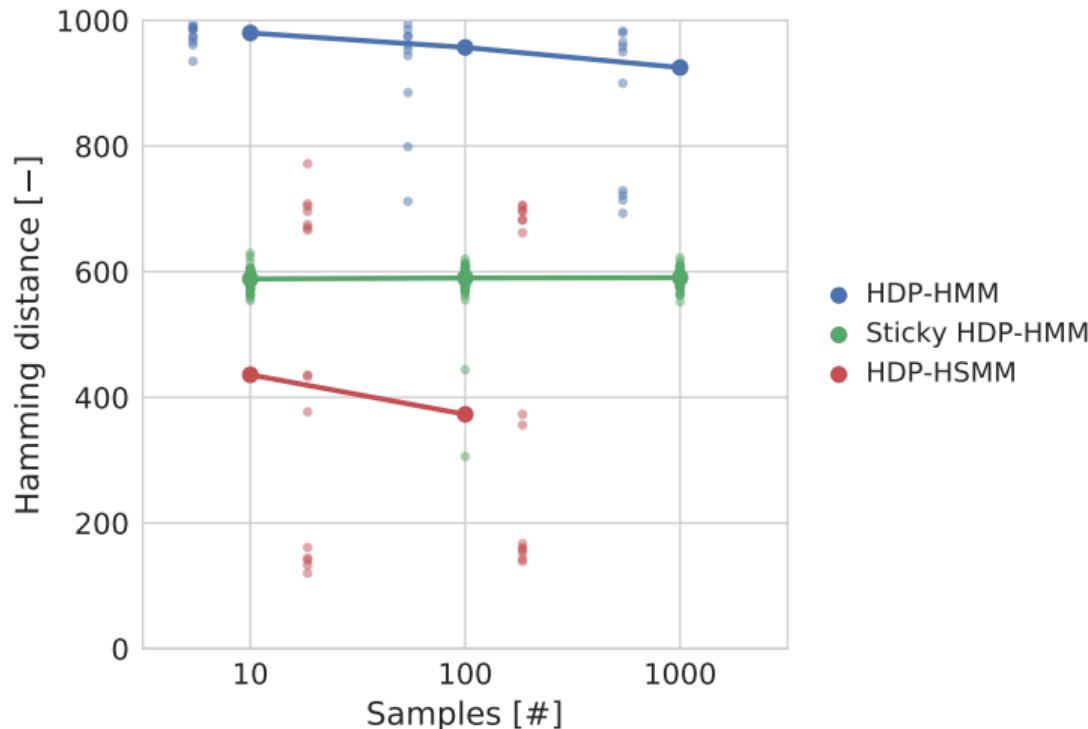


Figure: hello

# Bespoke inference on complex synthetic data: state cardinality

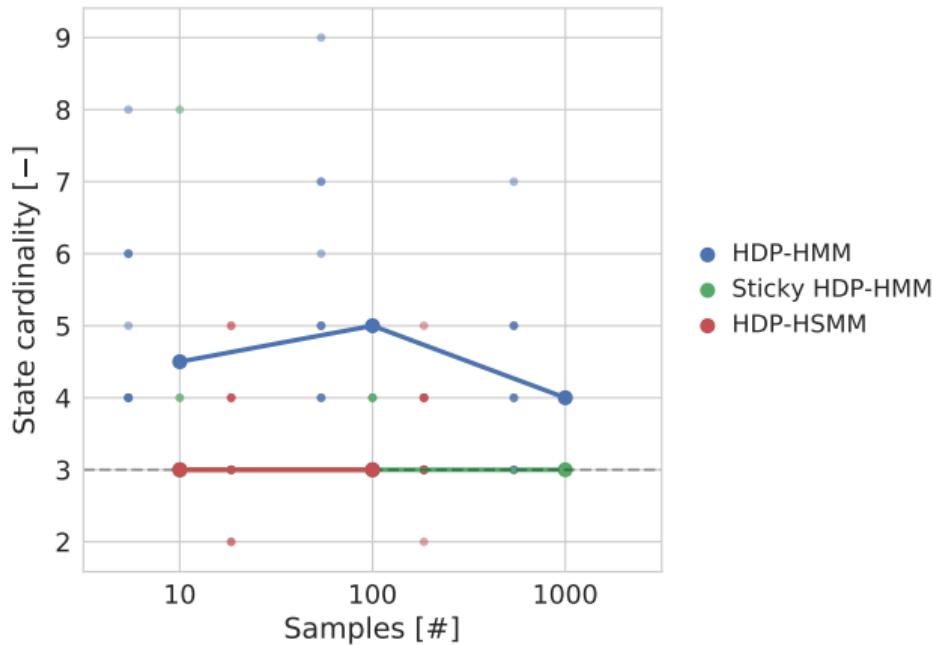


Figure: hello