

Lecture 2.3

Combining Structure and Function

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Brain Dynamics on the Connectome
Summer School 2021

EPFL

FNSNF
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

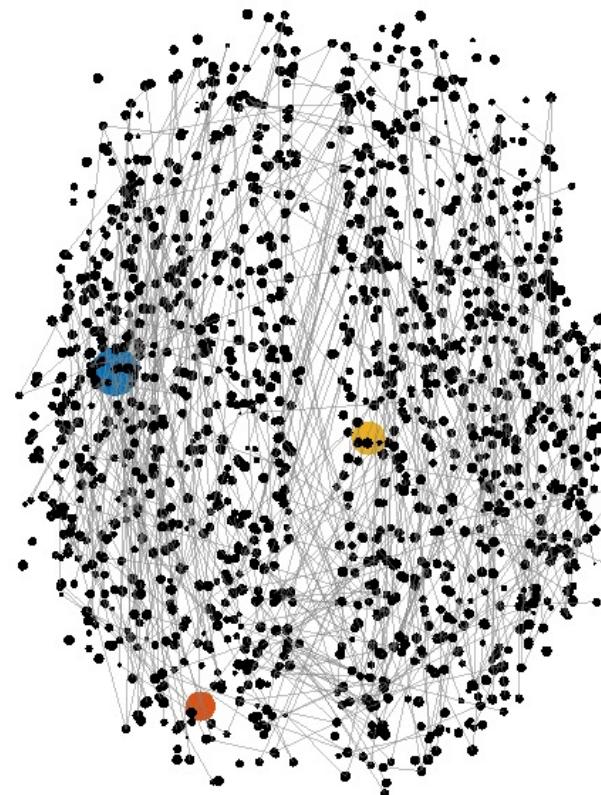
— Outline —

- Brain networks and dynamics
- Time-varying Autoregressive Model
- Adaptive filtering
- Structure-Function
- Structural priors in adaptive filtering

— Brain Networks —

Brain

- *~80 billion neurons*
- *trillions of connections*



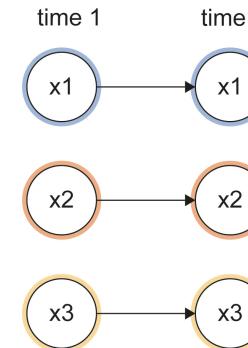
activity

Recordings

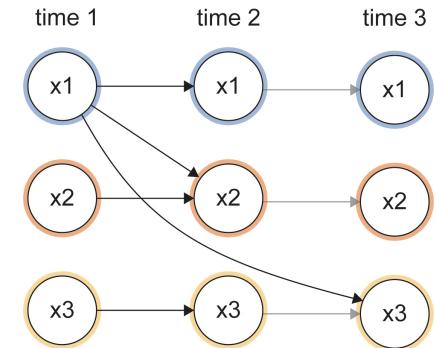
- *low spatial or temporal resolution*
- *noise*

Dynamics

- *distributed*
- *fast!!*



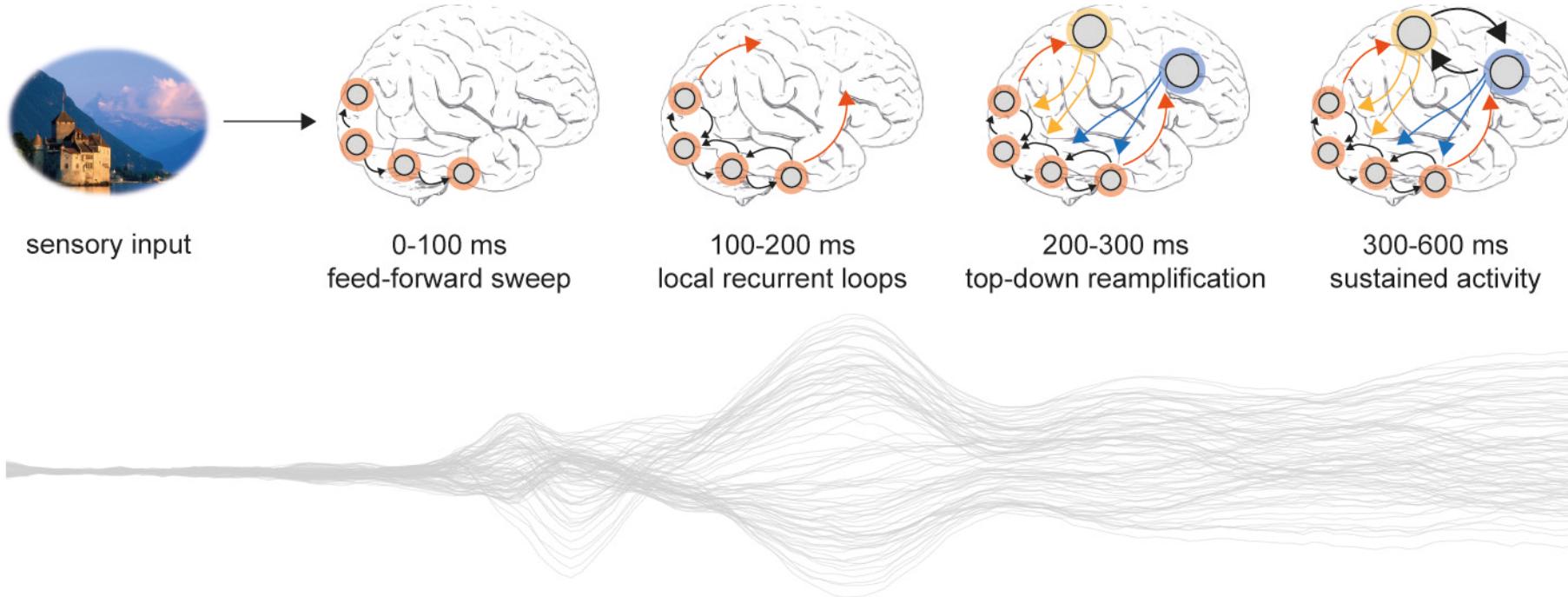
autonomy



temporal dependence

— Brain Networks —

How fast?



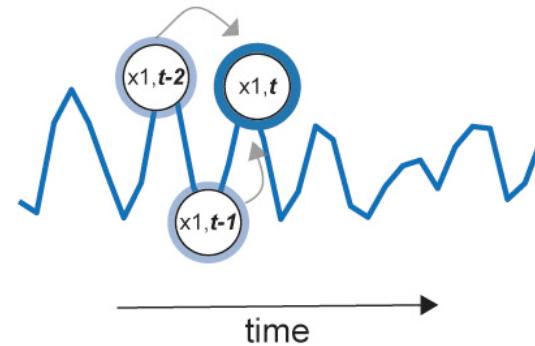
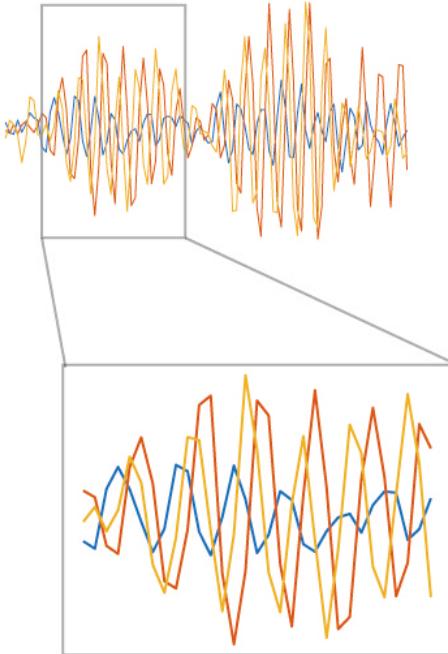
adapted from Sergent, C. (2018).

Wiener-Granger Causality

A quantity ... which measures the additional effectiveness of the past values of X₂ in helping to determine the present values of X₁

Wiener (1956). The theory of prediction.
Granger (1969). *Econometrica*.

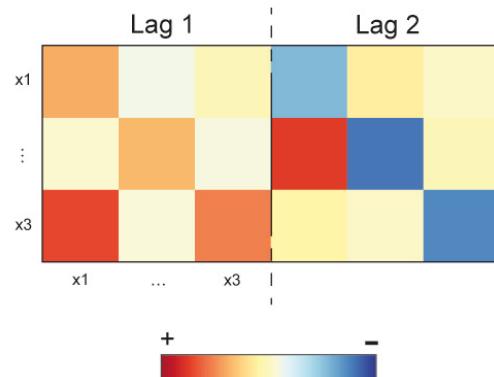
Univariate autoregressive model



Time-varying Autoregressive Model

Lag 1

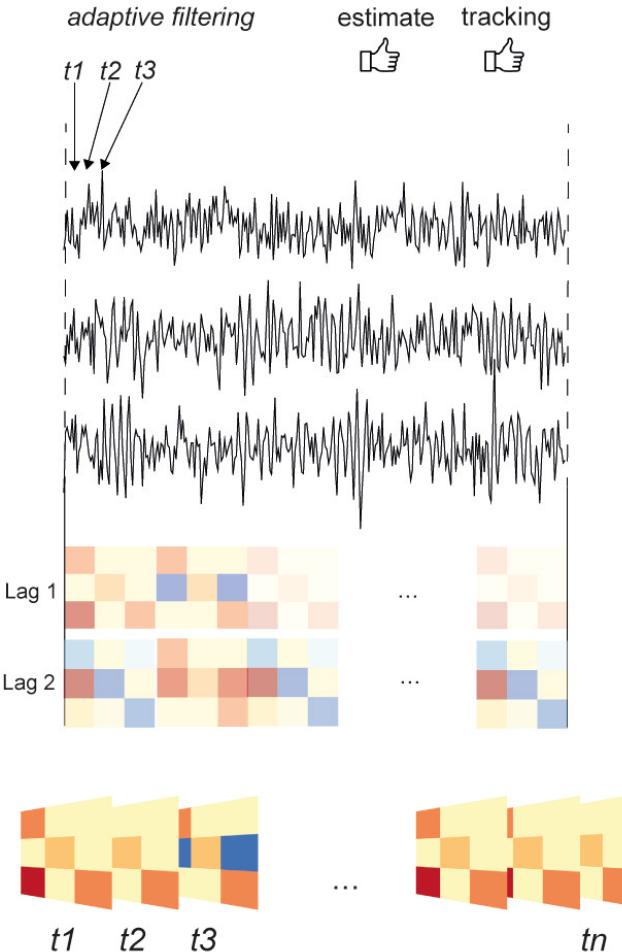
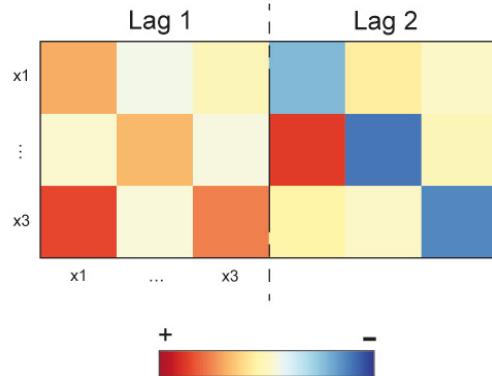
$$x_{1,t} = a_{11}x_{1,t-1} + a_{21}x_{2,t-1} + a_{31}x_{3,t-1} \dots$$
$$x_{2,t} = a_{12}x_{1,t-1} + a_{22}x_{2,t-1} + a_{32}x_{3,t-1} \dots$$
$$x_{3,t} = a_{13}x_{1,t-1} + a_{23}x_{2,t-1} + a_{33}x_{3,t-1} \dots$$



Time-varying Autoregressive Model

Lag 1

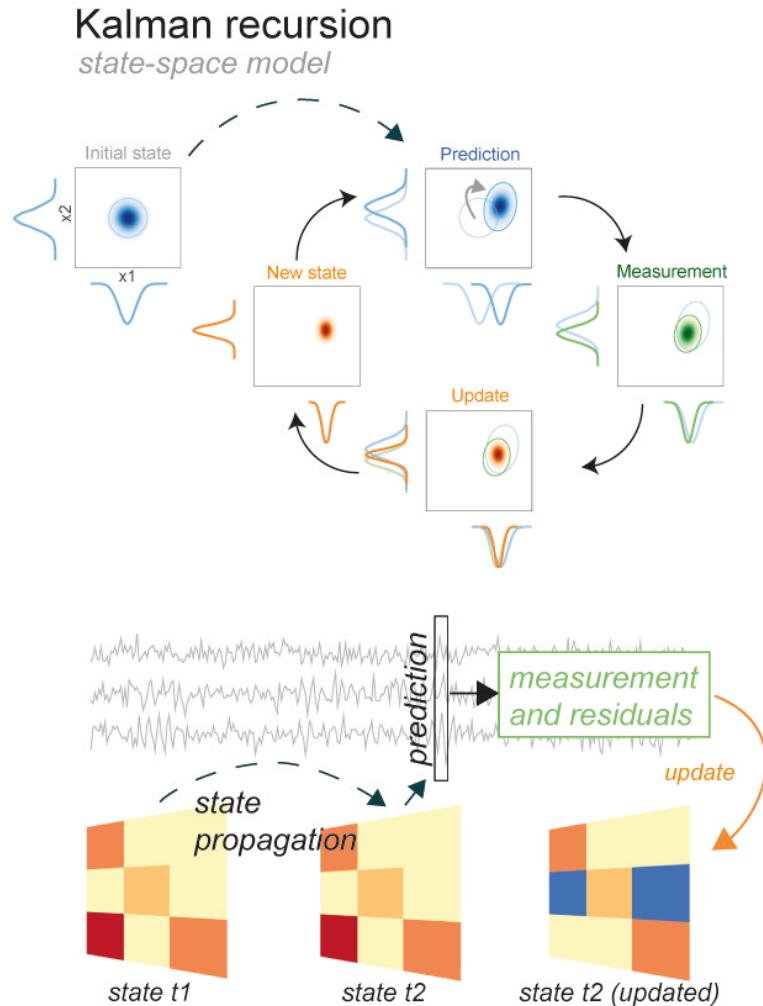
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• Adaptive filtering -

The Kalman filter

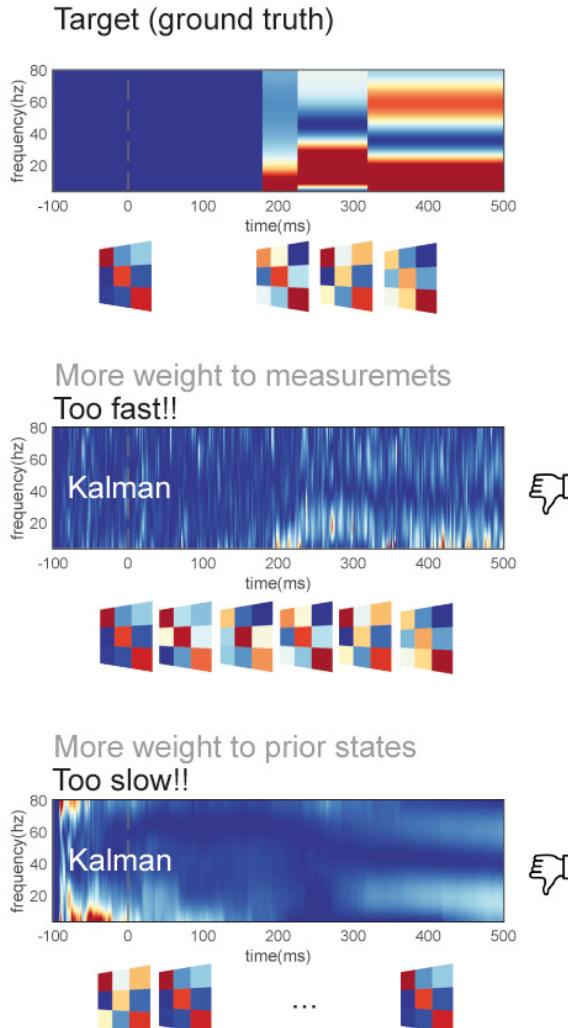
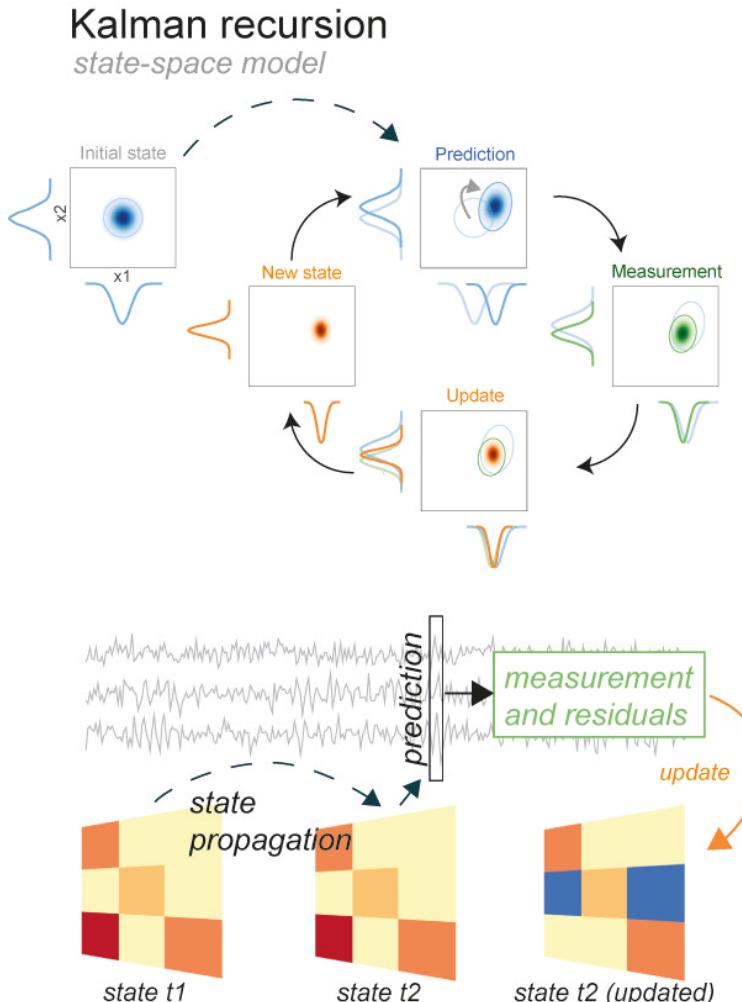
Kalman (1960).
Milde et al. (2010). *NIMG*.



STOK

The Self-Tuning Optimized Kalman Filter

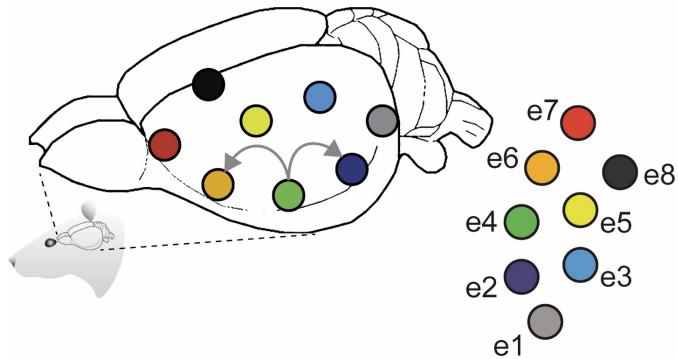
https://github.com/PscDavid/dynet_toolbox
<https://github.com/joanrue/pydynet>
 Pascucci et al., (2020). PLoS Comput. Biol.

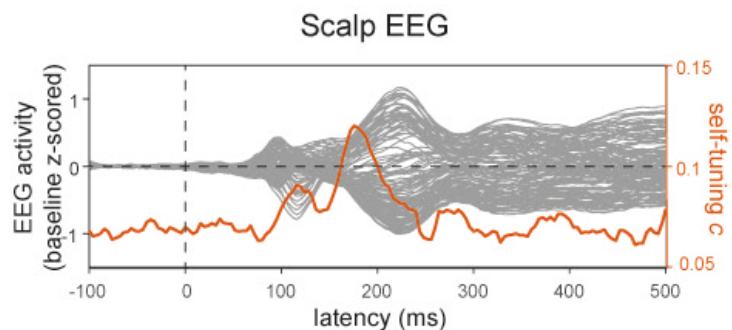
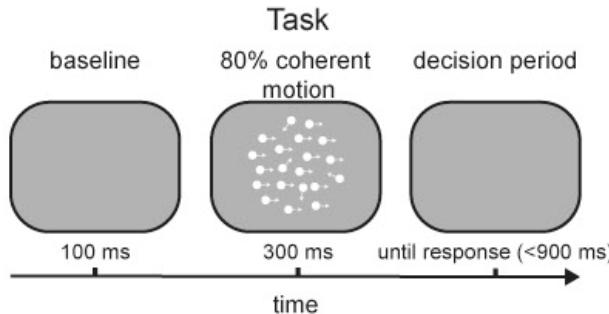


$$\hat{x}_t^{(+)} = \frac{\hat{x}_t^{(-)} + c \tilde{H}_t^+ z_t}{1 + c}$$

$$b_t^{ols} = \tilde{H}_t^+ z_t$$

c = self-tuning memory
 ols = ordinary least squares

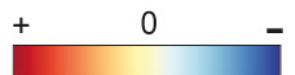
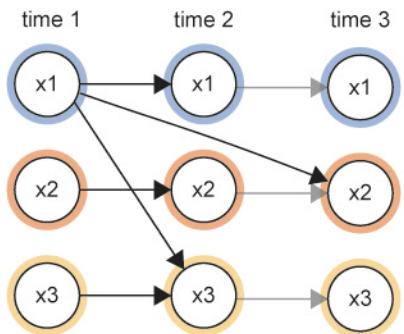
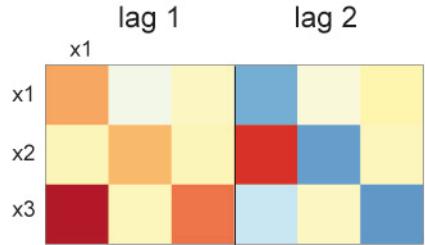




— Adaptive filtering —

- Time-varying functional connectivity (FC) faces the challenge of non-stationary brain activity with unknown noise sources.
- Optimized adaptive filters (STOK) can overcome these problems, allowing the estimation of time-varying multivariate AR models with high temporal precision.
- Optimized adaptive filters are promising tools for dynamic FC at the sub-seconds time scale of perception, cognition and action.

Structural priors



Structural priors

Sources of 'structural priors':

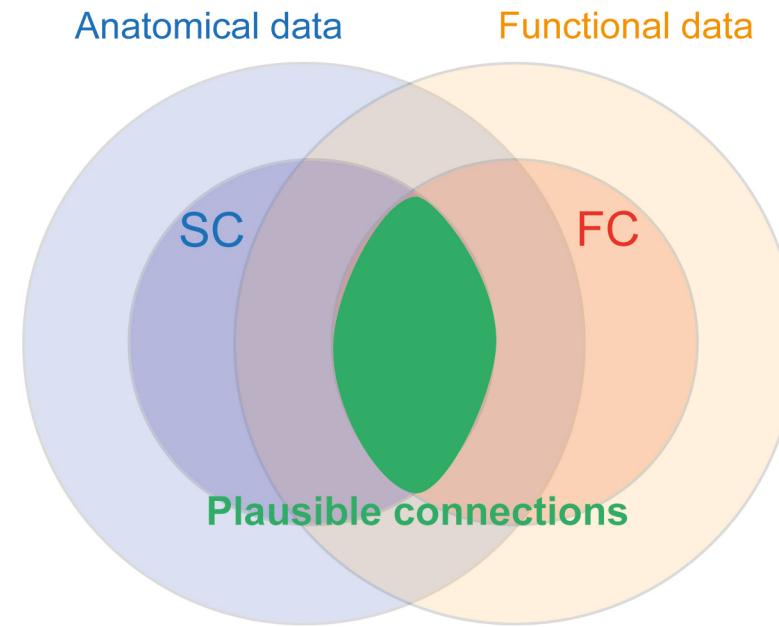
- *Prior studies;*
- *Meta-analysis data;*
- *FC from other modalities;*
- *Structural Connectivity (SC) (e.g., DTI metrics).*

Structure-function relationship:

- $SC = \text{topological space for FC};$
- $FC + SC = \text{more biologically plausible models}.$

However, ...

- *SC-FC relationships varies markedly;*
- *A vast repertoire of dynamic neuronal interactions;*
- *A myriad of anatomical possibilities.*



adapted from Rykhlevskaia et al., (2008)

Structural priors

Structural Connectivity graphs as priors:

Undirected adjacency matrices:

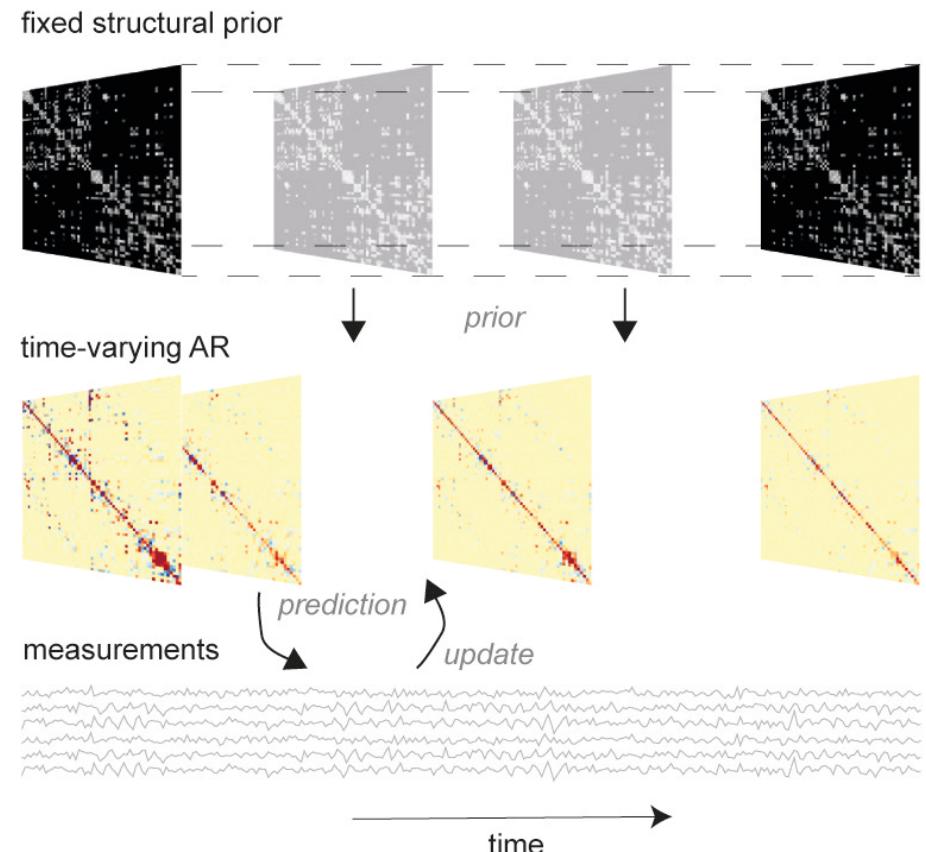
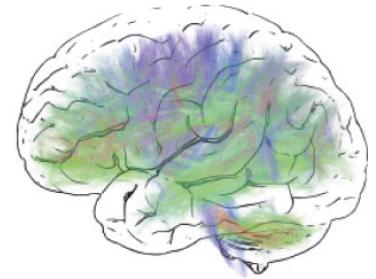
- *Binary*
 - Presence – Absence of physical links.
- *Weighted*
 - Strength (e.g., number of fibers).

SC priors:

- *Improve model evidence in effective connectivity (DCM);*
- *Reduction of false positives.*

However, ...

- *No one-to-one correspondence between SC and FC;*
- *Substantial number of false positives in SC.*



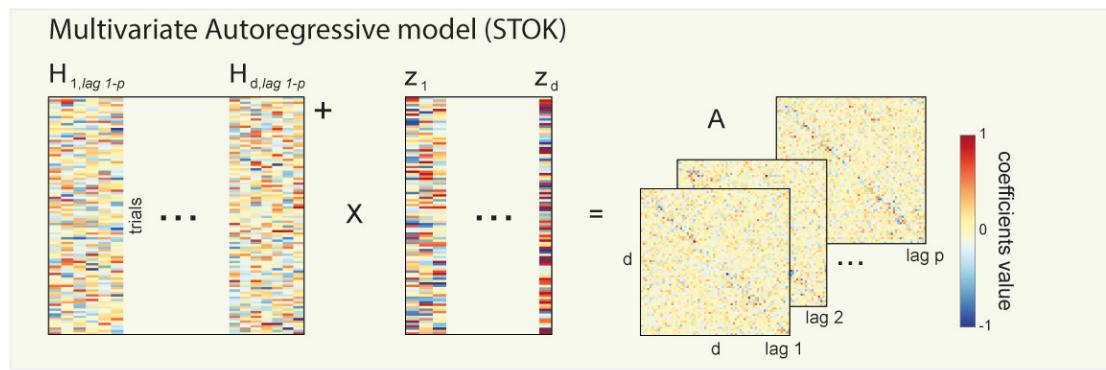
si-STOK

The structurally-informed Self-Tuning Optimized Kalman Filter

https://github.com/PscDavid/dynet_toolbox

<https://github.com/joanrue/pydynet>

Pascucci et al., (2021). BioRxiv.



si-STOK

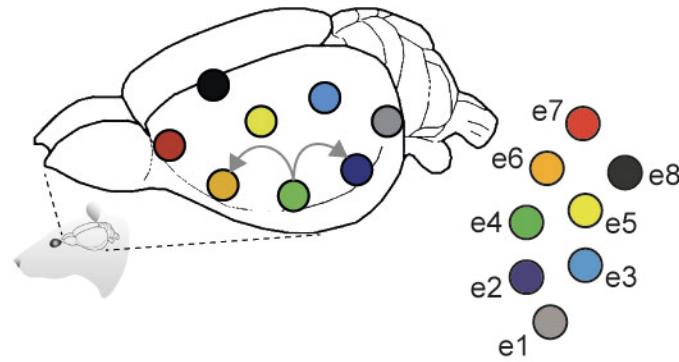
Benchmark rat EEG data

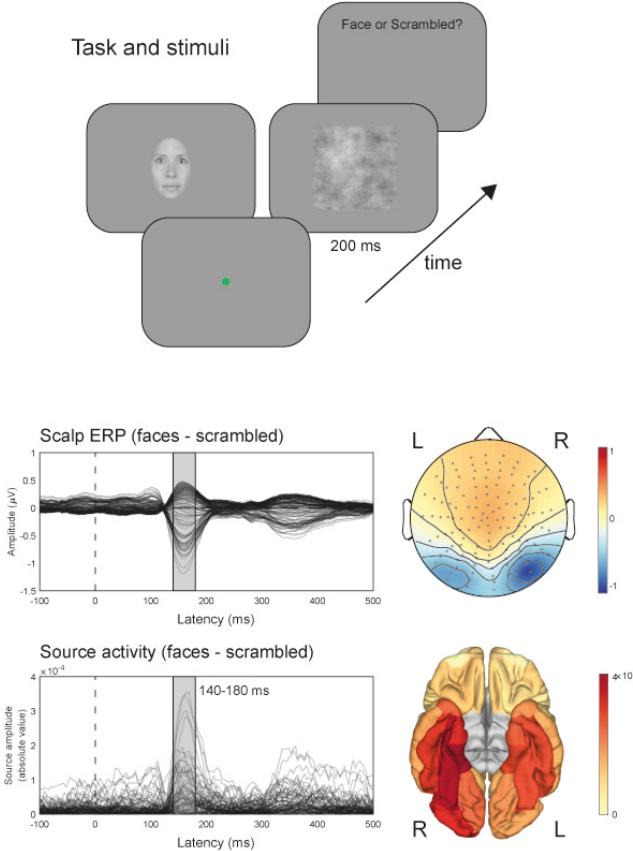
SC from meta-analysis of histologically defined axonal connections

https://github.com/PscDavid/dynet_toolbox

<https://github.com/joanrue/pydynet>

Pascucci et al., (2021). BioRxiv.





Summary

- Dynamic and directed connectivity based on adaptive filtering can help to characterize large-scale rhythmic interactions in brain networks at the time scale of perception and cognition.
- Methods that allow the incorporation of structural priors from meta-analysis studies and other imaging modalities (e.g., DTI, fMRI), are promising tools for multimodal imaging.
- We present an algorithm for multimodal, high-temporal resolution and directed FC, optimized for tracking dynamic connectivity patterns during event-related activity.

REFS:

- ✓ Milde, T., et al. (2010). A new Kalman filter approach for the estimation of high-dimensional time-variant multivariate AR models and its application in analysis of laser-evoked brain potentials. *Neuroimage*.
- ✓ Pagnotta, M. F., & Plomp, G. (2018). Time-varying MVAR algorithms for directed connectivity analysis: Critical comparison in simulations and benchmark EEG data. *PLoS one*.
- ✓ Pascucci, D., Rubega, M., & Plomp, G. (2020). Modeling time-varying brain networks with a self-tuning optimized Kalman filter. *PLoS computational biology*.
- ✓ Pascucci, D., Rubega, M., Rué-Queralt, J., Tourbier, S., Hagmann, P., & Plomp, G. (2021). Structure supports function: informing directed and dynamic functional connectivity with anatomical priors. *bioRxiv*.

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