Unifying observables through latent dynamics Shared trajectories of brain, body, and behavior



Ryan Raut

Shanahan Foundation Fellow

Allen Institute & University of Washington, Seattle

Co-authors: Zachary Rosenthal, Xiaodan Wang, Adam Bauer, Steven Brunton, Bingni Brunton, J. Nathan Kutz

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Neuroscience: A problem in theory

- <u>Problem</u>: Theoretical frameworks in neuroscience have limited ability to account for data
- <u>Alternative approach</u>: Address challenge by shifting emphasis from *predesignated* elements of brain/behavior to <u>data-driven dynamical models</u>
 - Seek reduced order models that can reconstruct observations
- <u>Goal</u>: In a minimally biased way, reveal intrinsic relationships between high-dimensional, multimodal observables and the lower-dimensional dynamical processes underlying them

Challenges with complex systems

- High-dimensional...
- Feedback/circular causation...
- No governing laws...
- Don't know the "right" variables... (suboptimal coordinate system)
- Couldn't access them all anyway... (partial measurements)

How can we make progress in this setting? Knowledge-based theory + data-driven analyses





Approach

 Theory-based approach to infer unobserved processes that interrelate known quantities
Data-driven approach to identify the model form



Global waves synchronize the brain's functional systems with fluctuating arousal Sci Adv (2021)

Ryan V. Raut¹*, Abraham Z. Snyder^{1,2}, Anish Mitra³, Dov Yellin⁴, Naotaka Fujii⁵, Rafael Malach⁴, Marcus E. Raichle^{1,2}







Discovery problem: Arousal as a process



Discovery problem: Arousal as a process



Computational formulation







Experimentalists









Adam Bauer



99 seconds





Brain states segregate along an "arousal manifold"



brain states



(*k*-means clustering applied to widefield image frames)

Trajectory in widefield PC coordinates



Trajectory in pupil delay coordinates



Reconstruction from shared dynamics



Reconstruction from shared dynamics



Dynamical modeling

3 seconds



Summary

- A data-driven framework for parsimoniously linking observations to a shared latent dynamical system
- Empirical support for a hypothesized arousal-related process underlying diverse measurements of interest across brain, body, behavior
- A combined theory-based and data-driven approach to brain and behavior based upon reduced-order modeling

Thank you!

Collaborators

Computational/Theory

Nathan Kutz Bing Brunton Steve Brunton

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Experimental

Zach Rosenthal Xiaodan Wang Adam Bauer

Washington University in St. Louis





Questions / complaints? Please get in touch! ryan.raut@alleninstitute.org