

# Computational Hypergraph Discovery

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Théo Bourdais

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California Institute of Technology

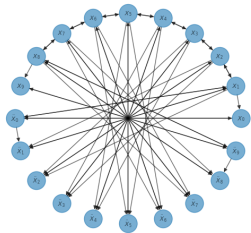
$x_1$	$\ddot{x}_1$	...	$\ddot{x}_{10}$
0.45	0.66	...	-0.23
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\ddots$	$\vdots$
-0.78	-0.12	...	0.89

CHD  
→

$$\ddot{x}_1 = \frac{c^2}{h^2}(x_2 + x_0 - 2x_1)(1 + (x_2 - x_0)^3)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\ddot{x}_{10} = \frac{c^2}{h^2}(x_9 - 2x_{10})(1 - x_9^3)$$



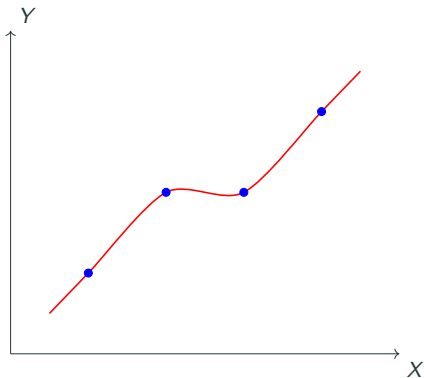
## Computational Hypergraph Discovery, a Gaussian Process Framework for Connecting the Dots.

Théo Bourdais, Pau Batlle, Xianjin Yang, Ricardo Baptista, Nicolas Rouquette, and Houman Owhadi  
*ArXiv, (2023). /abs/2311.17007*

## The regression problem

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Suppose  $y = f(x)$ , given samples  $(X_i, Y_i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , approximate  $f$



Graph representation



For  $(X_i, Y_i) \in \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , approximate  $f$  s.t.  $y = f(x)$ .

### Linear Ridge regression

---

Our approximation is a linear function  $\tilde{f}(x) = \beta^{*T} x$  with

$$\beta^* = \arg \min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \sum_{i=1}^N |Y_i - \beta^T X_i|^2 + \gamma \|\beta\|^2$$

We know that, for  $k(x, y) = x^T y$ ,

$$\tilde{f} \in \mathcal{H}_k = \overline{\left\{ \sum_i \alpha_i k(\cdot, z_i), \text{ for some } z_i, \alpha_i \right\}}$$

For  $(X_i, Y_i) \in \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , approximate  $f$  s.t.  $y = f(x)$ .

### Quadratic Ridge regression

---

Our approximation is a quadratic function  $\tilde{f}(x) = \beta^{*T} \psi(x)$ ,  
 $\psi(x) = (1, x, x^2)$ ,

$$\beta^* = \arg \min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{2p+1}} \sum_{i=1}^N |Y_i - \beta^T \psi(X_i)|^2 + \gamma \|\beta\|^2$$

We know that, for  $k(x, y) = \psi(x)^T \psi(y)$ ,

$$\tilde{f} \in \mathcal{H}_k = \overline{\left\{ \sum_i \alpha_i k(\cdot, z_i), \text{ for some } z_i, \alpha_i \right\}}$$

For  $(X_i, Y_i) \in \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , approximate  $f$  s.t.  $y = f(x)$ .

### Kernel Ridge regression

---

Our approximation is a function in a space  $\mathcal{H}_k^1$  defined by the kernel  $k$ .

$$\tilde{f} = \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{H}_k} \sum_{i=1}^N |Y_i - f(X_i)|^2 + \gamma \|f\|^2$$

We know that,

$$\tilde{f} \in \mathcal{H}_k = \overline{\left\{ \sum_i \alpha_i k(\cdot, z_i), \text{ for some } z_i, \alpha_i \right\}}$$

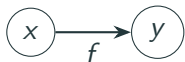
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<sup>1</sup> $\mathcal{H}_k$  is called the Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS) of  $k$

## Computational Hypergraphs

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A computational hypergraph is a graphical representation of a set of equations



$$y = f(x)$$

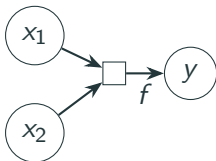
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$$y = f(x_1, x_2)$$



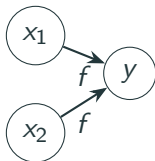
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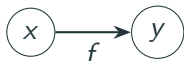


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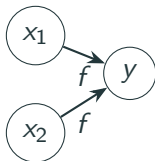
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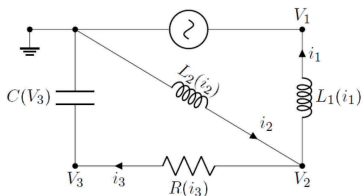


$$y = f(x_1, x_2)$$



$$y = f(x)$$

$$z = g(y)$$



$$i_1 + i_3 = i_2$$

$$i_3 = C(V_3) \frac{dV_3}{dt}$$

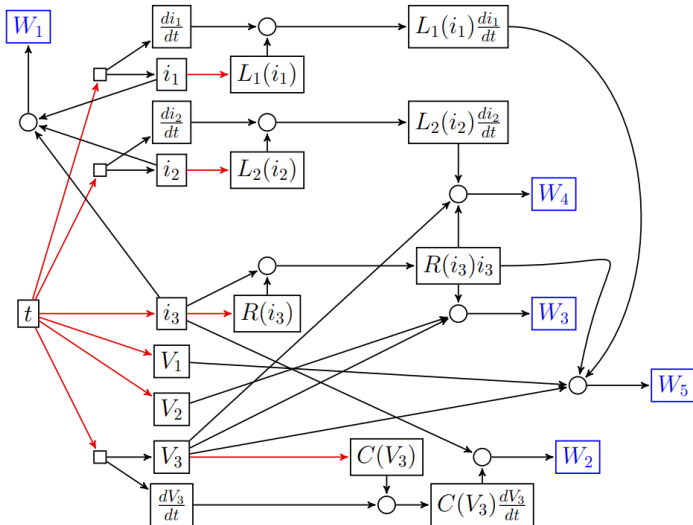
$$V_2 - V_3 = R(i_3) i_3$$

$$-V_2 = L_2(i_2) \frac{di_2}{dt}$$

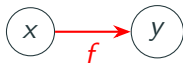
$$V_2 - V_1 = L_1(i_1) \frac{di_1}{dt}$$

<sup>2</sup>Owhadi, *Computational Graph Completion*.

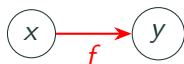
Since any set of equations can be represented as a Computational Hypergraph, we can obtain:



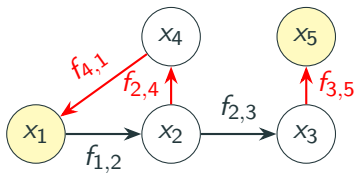
**Regression** Given samples  $Y_i = f(X_i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , approximate  $f$



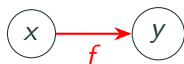
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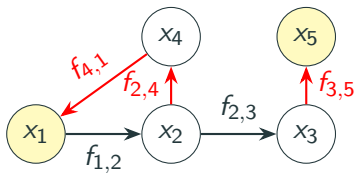
**Hypergraph Completion** Given the graph's structure and samples of its variables, approximate unknown edges, and missing data.



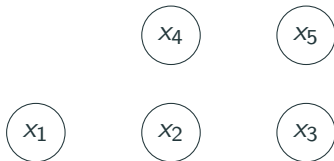
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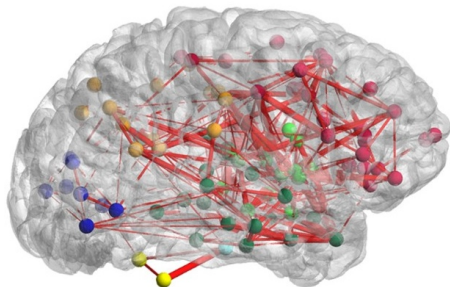
**Hypergraph Completion** Given the graph's structure and samples of its variables, approximate unknown edges, and missing data.



**Hypergraph discovery** Given samples of the variables, find the structure of the graph.



- Brain networks



**Figure 1:** Image from Shu-Hsien Chu et al.

**Objective:** Discover functional dependencies between the activities of different brain regions.



- Brain networks
- Economic networks

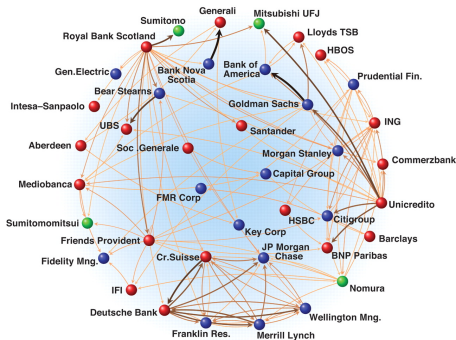


Figure 1: Image from Schweitzer et al.

**Objective:** Discover functional dependencies between economic markers of different banks

- Brain networks
- Economic networks
- Weather modelling

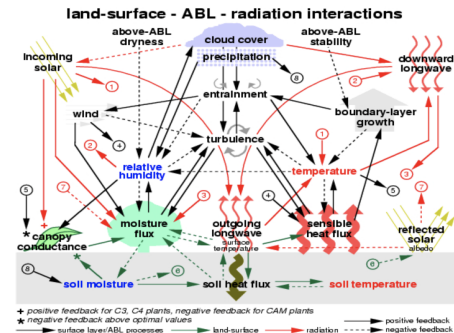


Figure 1: Image from Michael Ek.

**Objective:** Discover functional dependencies between the different variables

### Causal inference and Probabilistic graphs

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- Usually tackle a different problem (e.g., conditional independence or causality)
- Relies on strong assumptions (e.g., access to a distribution)

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## Sparse regressions

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- Uses knowledge of sparse representations in a dictionary of functions
- Example: SINDY

## The CHD problem

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Given  $N$  samples of our variables, recover the functional dependencies between them (i.e., the structure of the graph).



## The CHD problem

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Given  $N$  samples of  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5$ , recover the functional dependencies (i.e. the structure of the graph).

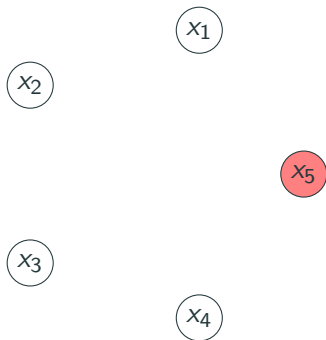
**Ancestors:** If  $x_5 = f(x_1, x_4)$  for some  $f$ ,  $x_1, x_4$  are ancestors of  $x_5$ .

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$x_1$

$x_2$

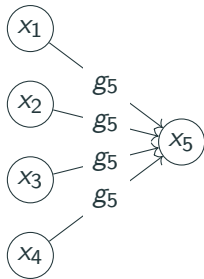
$x_3$

$x_4$

$x_5$



or



$x_5$  is not a function of

$$x_1, \dots, x_4$$

There is a function  $g_5$  s.t.

$$x_5 = g_5(x_1, \dots, x_4)$$

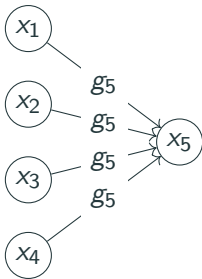
There are three questions:

- Does  $x_5$  have any ancestors?



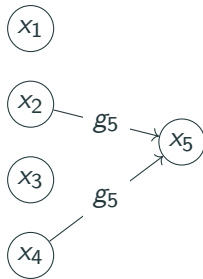
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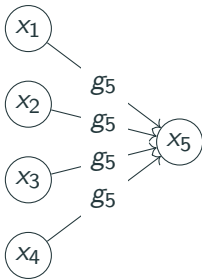
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- If so, what is the minimum set of ancestors?

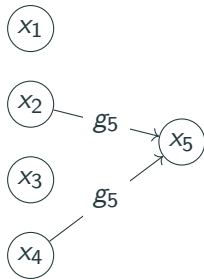


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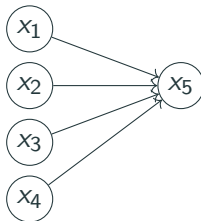
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There are three questions:

- Does  $x_5$  have any ancestors?
- If so, what is the minimum set of ancestors?
- What kind of function is  $g_5$ ?

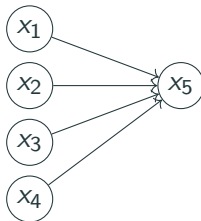
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**Ancestors,**  
samples gathered in  $X$



**Target**  
samples gathered in  $Y$

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Let's see if there is  $g_5$  s.t.  $x_5 = g_5(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$  using a Gaussian Process (kernel  $k$  and noise variance  $\gamma$ ):

$$g_5 = \arg \min_f \|f\|_k^2 + \frac{1}{\gamma} |f(X) - Y|^2 \quad (1)$$

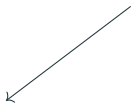
To see if this model correctly describes the data, we perform a nonlinear variance decomposition:

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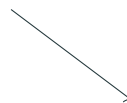
(variance of data  
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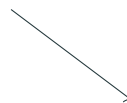
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The diagram shows the optimization problem above being split into two parts by arrows. The left arrow points to the term  $\|g_5\|_k^2$ , and the right arrow points to the term  $\frac{1}{\gamma} |g_5(X) - Y|^2$ .

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- True noise from the data
- Unexplained data variance
  - Quantifies model misspecification

## Noise-to-signal ratio

---

$\frac{n}{n+s} \in [0, 1]$ , quantifies how much the data agrees with  $x_5$  having  $x_1, \dots, x_4$  as ancestors

- if  $\frac{n}{n+s} \approx 0$ : The model is well specified.
- if  $\frac{n}{n+s} \approx 1$ : The model is misspecified.

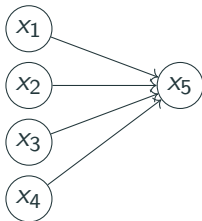
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If  $\frac{n}{n+s} < 0.5$ ,  $x_5$  has ancestors



or

If  $\frac{n}{n+s} > 0.5$ ,  $x_5$  has no ancestors



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$g_5$  linear

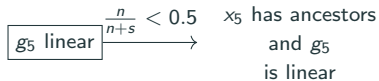


Linear Functions

**Current kernel: Linear**

$$k(x, y) = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i$$

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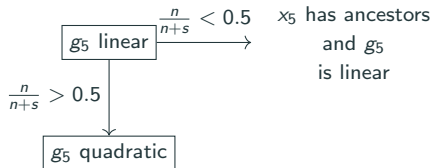
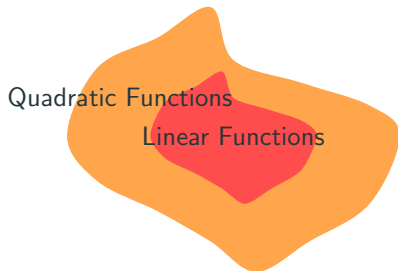


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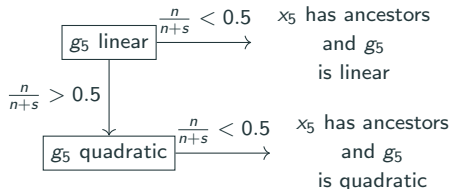
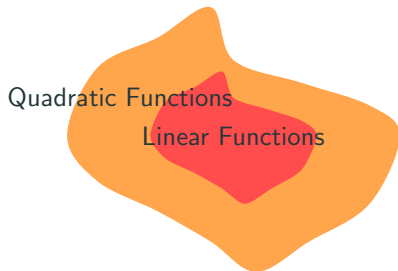
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**Current kernel: Quadratic**

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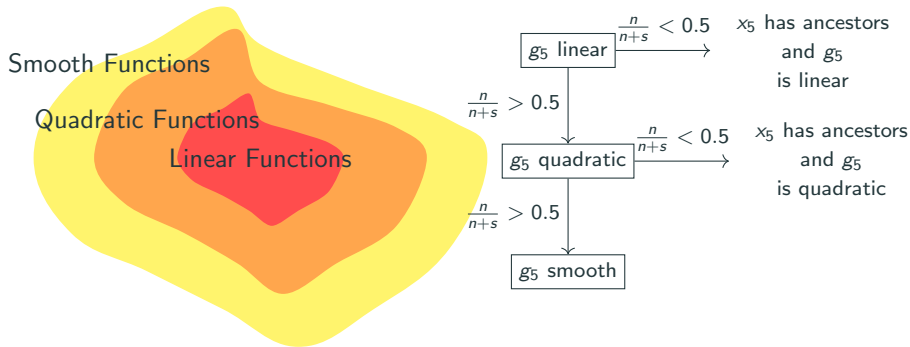
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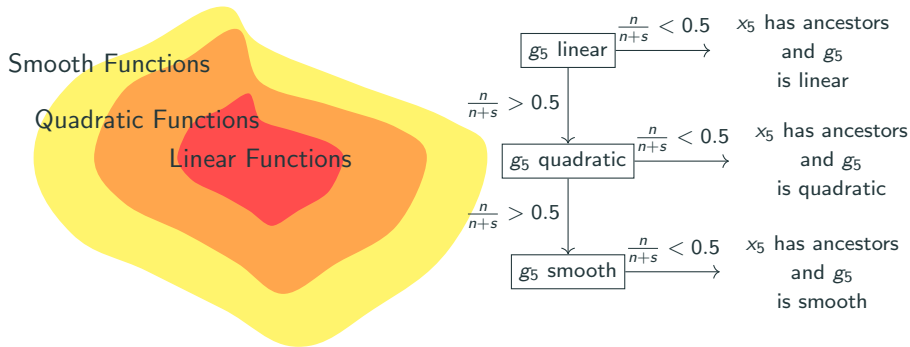
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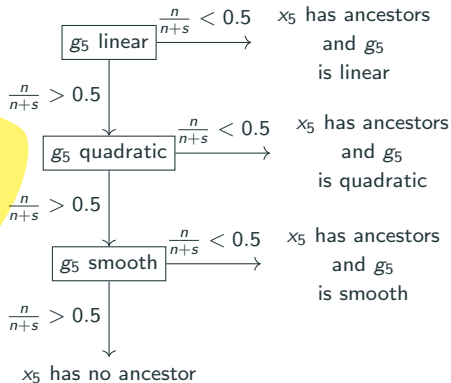
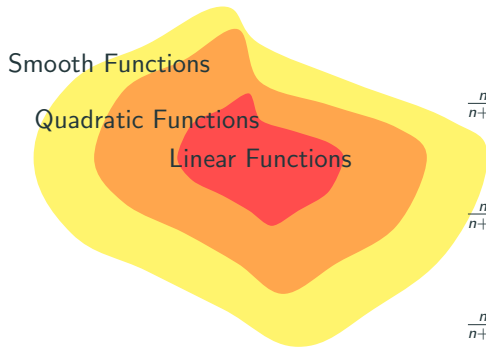
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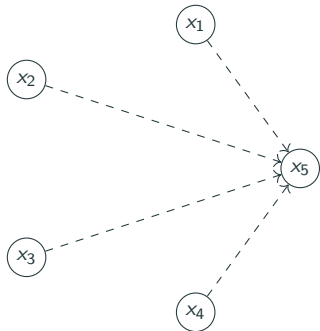
We can define the activation  $a_2$ , which quantifies the contribution of  $x_2$  to the signal data variance:

$$a_2 = \frac{\|f_2\|_{k_2}^2}{\|g_5\|_k^2}$$

## Alg. for discovering the ancestors of $x_5$

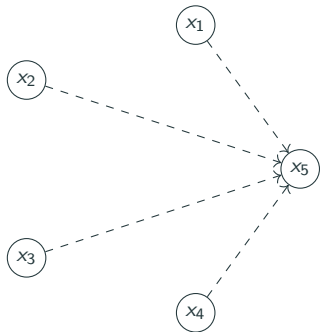
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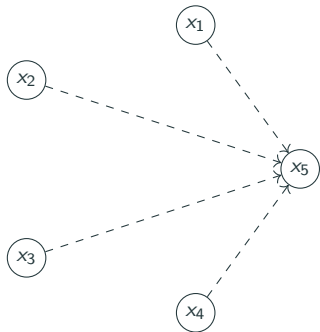


- Linear kernel:  $\frac{n}{n+s} = 0.81$
- Quadratic kernel:  $\frac{n}{n+s} = 0.12$
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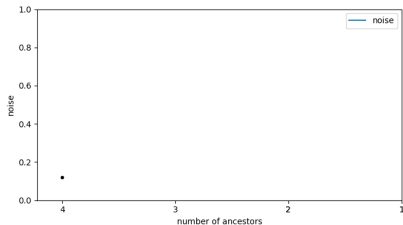
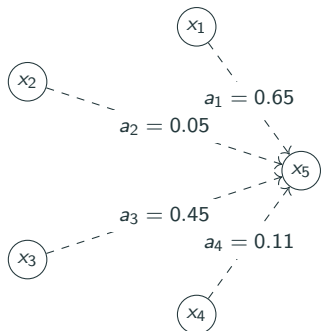
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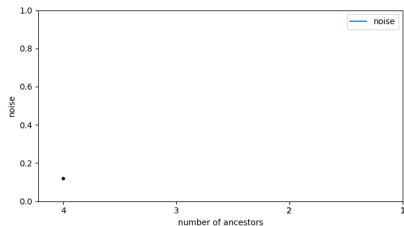
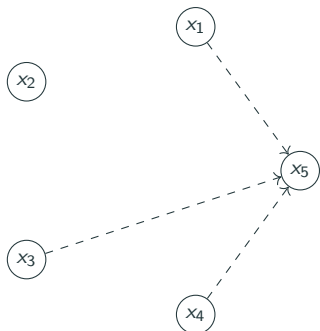
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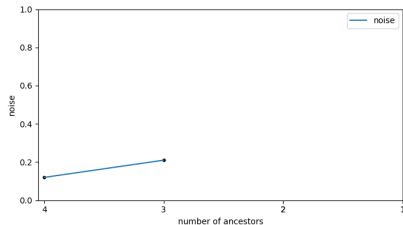
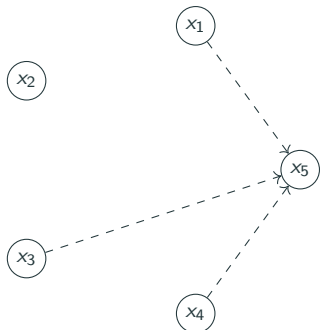
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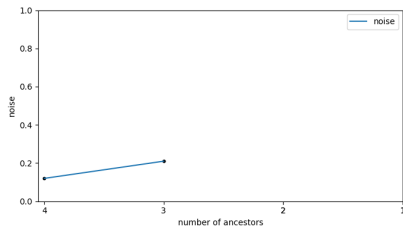
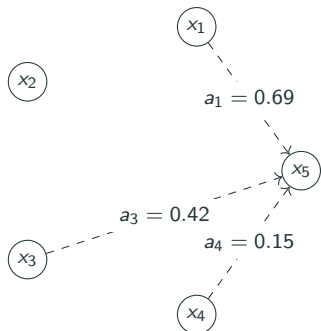
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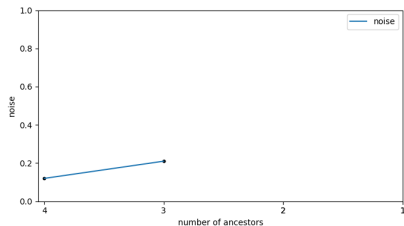
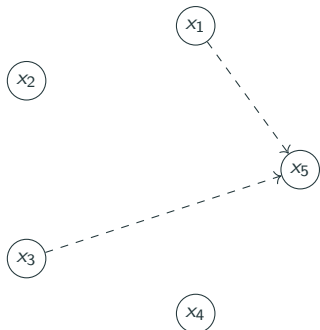
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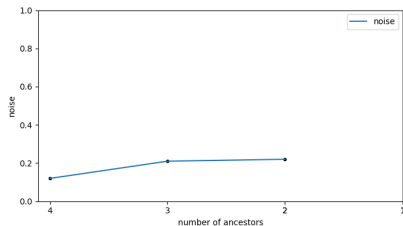
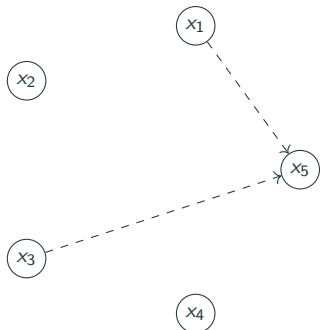
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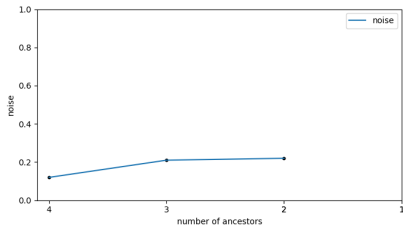
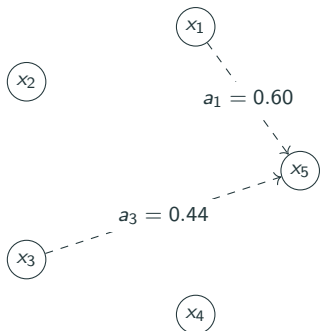
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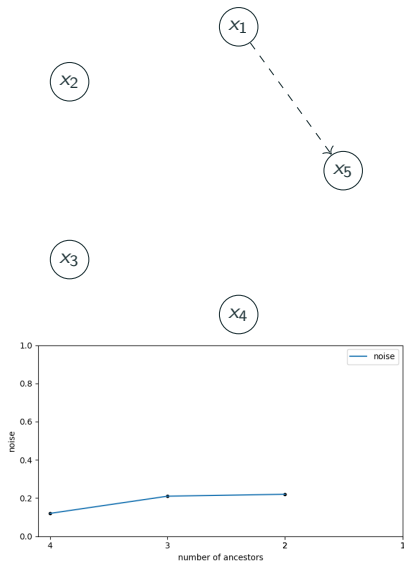
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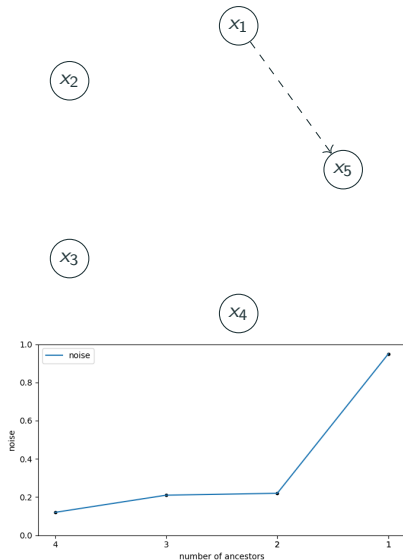
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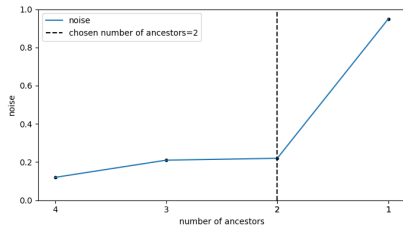
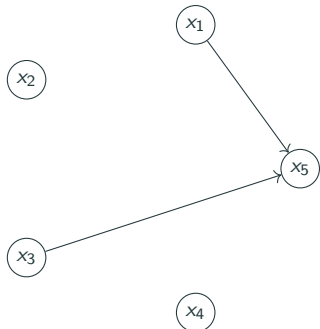
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Let  $N = 10$  masses, for  $i = 0, \dots, N - 1$ , their displacement from equilibrium  $x_i$ . We have:

$$\ddot{x}_i = \frac{c^2}{h^2}(x_{i+1} + x_{i-1} - 2x_i)(1 + (x_{i+1} - x_{i-1})^2) \quad (2)$$

Boundary condition:  $x_{-1} = x_N = 0$

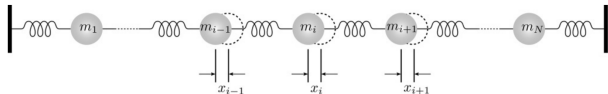


Figure 2: Nelson et al., 2018

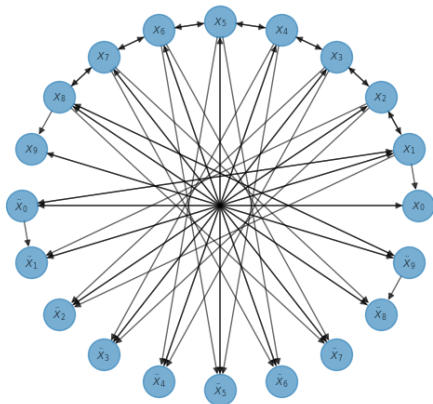
$$\ddot{x}_i = \frac{c^2}{h^2}(x_{i+1} + x_{i-1} - 2x_i)(1 + (x_{i+1} - x_{i-1})^2) \quad (3)$$

We observe  $n = 1000$  snapshots of  $x_i, \dot{x}_i, \ddot{x}_i, i = 0, \dots, 9$ .

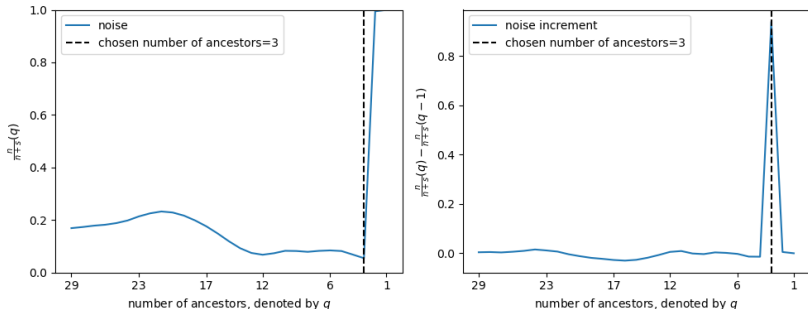


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We observe  $n = 1000$  snapshots of  $x_i, \dot{x}_i, \ddot{x}_i, i = 0, \dots, 9$ . We recover the graph perfectly, even with uninformative prior:



A typical evolution of the noise (for  $\ddot{x}_7$ ):



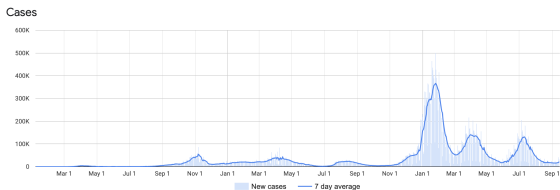
**Figure 3:** **Left:** evolution of noise-to-signal ratio . **Right:** Increment in noise  $(\frac{n}{n+s}(q) - \frac{n}{n+s}(q-1))$  for  $q$  the number of ancestors)

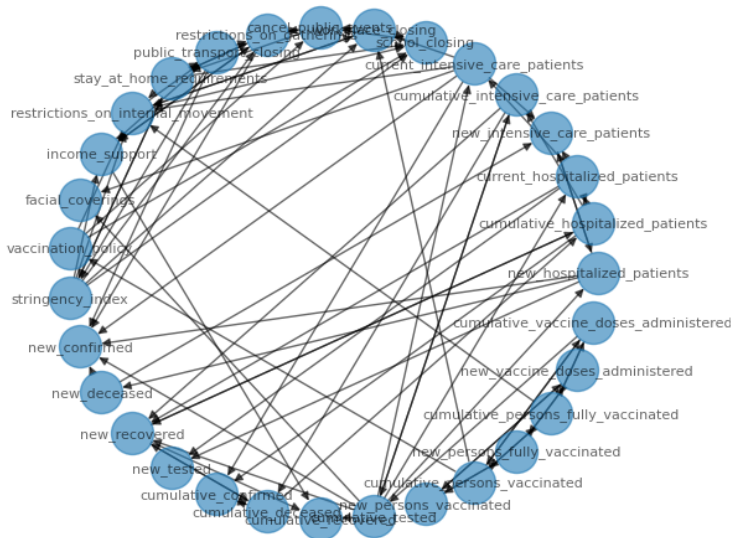
## The dataset: Google's COVID data on France

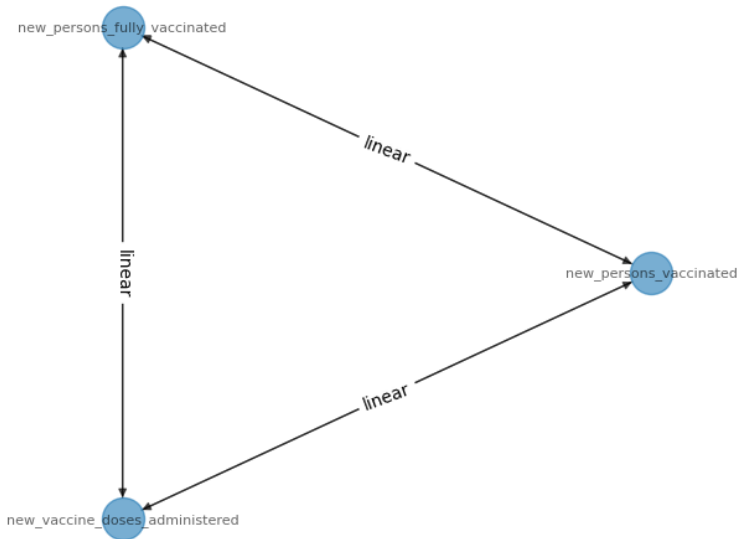
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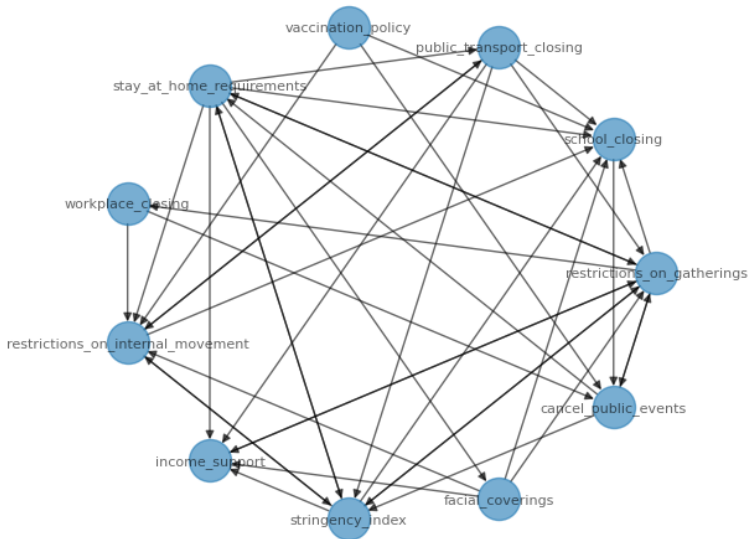
Daily values of 31 variables during 500 days:

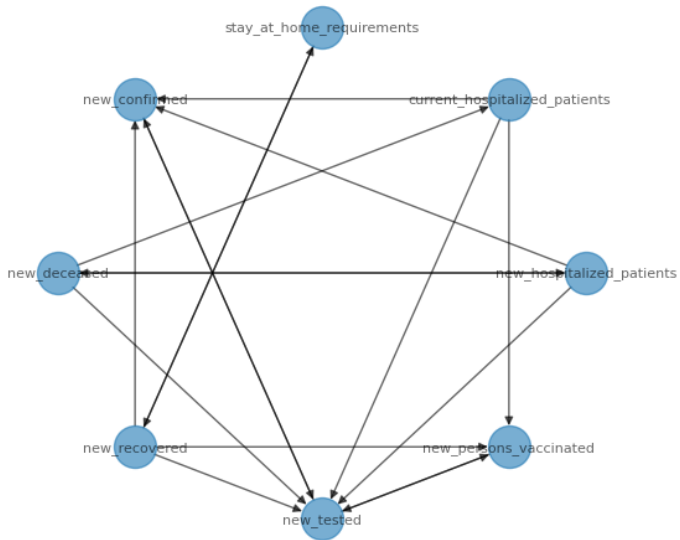
- Epidemiology dataset (new infections, cumulative deaths,...)
- Hospital dataset (number of admitted patients, patients in intensive care, etc.)
- Vaccine dataset (number of vaccinated individuals,...)
- Policy dataset (indicators related to government responses: school closures, lockdown measures, etc.)

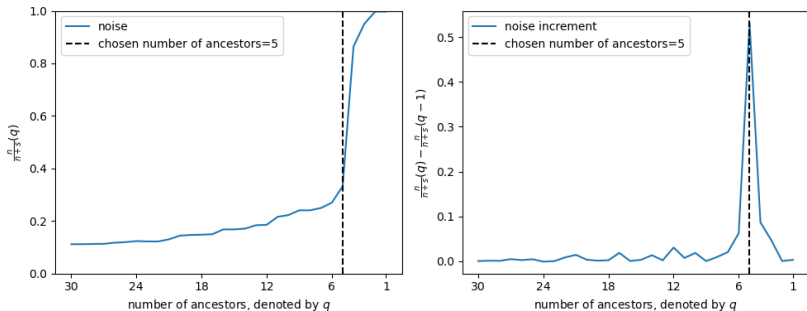












**Figure 4:** Evolution of the noise-to-signal ratio when pruning ancestors for the cumulative number of hospitalized patients.



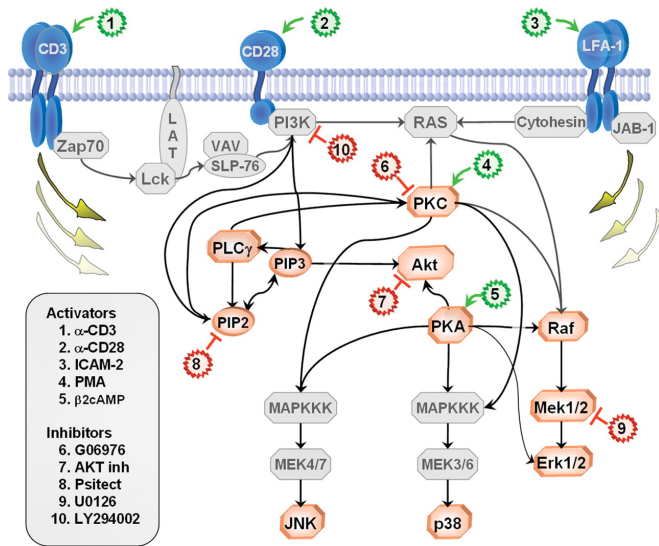
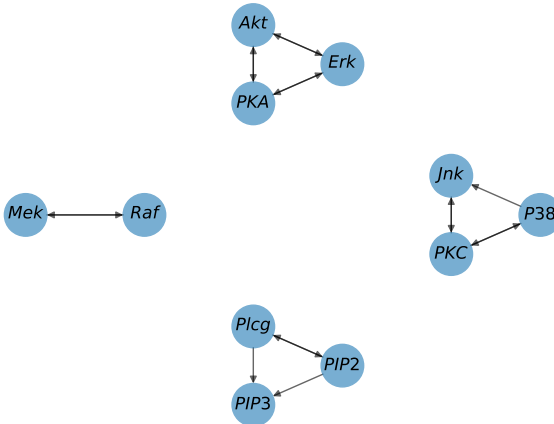
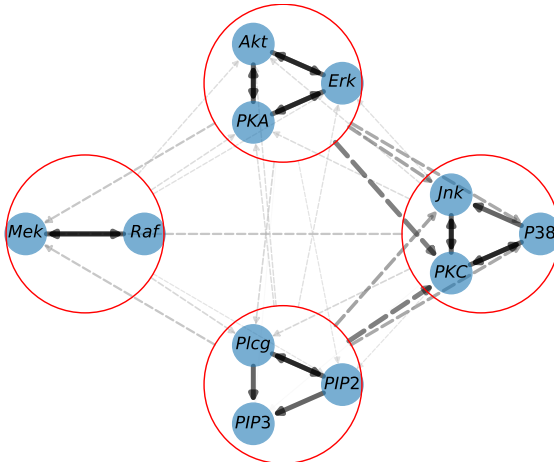


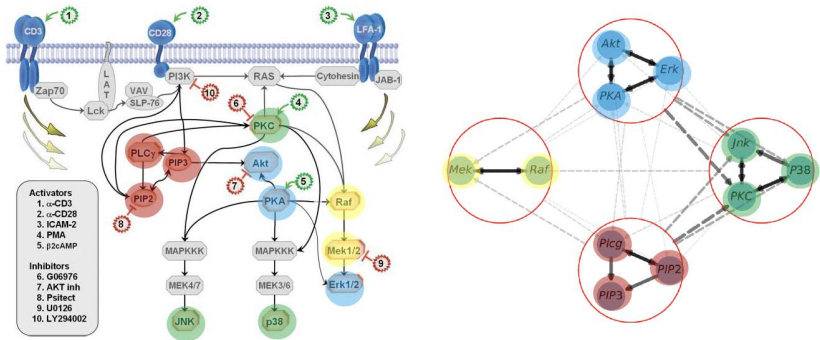
Figure 5: Sachs et al, 2005

In this dataset, some variables are strongly dependent, while other dependencies are weaker. To tackle this disparity, we cluster the nodes:



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**Figure 8:** Comparison of recovered graph and protein signaling network

## Contributions

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We developed a Gaussian Process-based framework to recover functional dependencies between variables


- Works for any unlabelled dataset, with few assumptions
- interpretable
- Recovers known equations in toy examples
- Yields plausible results for real datasets

## Computational Hypergraph Discovery, a Gaussian Process Framework for Connecting the Dots

Théo Bourdais, Pau Batlle, Xianjin Yang, Ricardo  
Baptista, Nicolas Rouquette, and Houman Owhadi  
*ArXiv, (2023). /abs/2311.17007*



 ComputationalHypergraphDiscovery

 `pip install ComputationalHypergraphDiscovery`

[Blog post on my website](#)