

# high (dimensional) life

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[ChaosBook.org/overheads/dimension](https://ChaosBook.org/overheads/dimension)

Mathematical Methods in Computational Neuroscience  
Fred Kavli Science Center – Eresfjord

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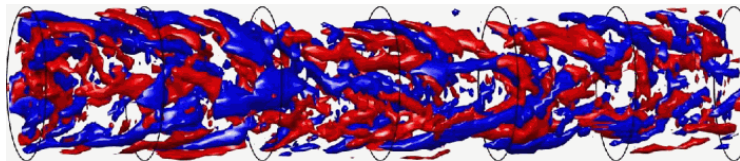
## overview

- 1 what is "dimension"
- 2 neural manifold
- 3 state space
- 4 dimension of the neural manifold

## example : pipe experiment data point

### a state of turbulent pipe flow at instant in time

Stereoscopic Particle Image Velocimetry  $\rightarrow$  3-*d* velocity field over the entire pipe<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup>B. Hof et al., Science 305, 1594–1598 (2004).

## a life in extreme dimensions

### Navier-Stokes equation

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}$$

requires at least  $\approx 100,000$ -dimensional DNS  
(direct numerical simulation)

the 'manifold' dimension is still unknown: at least 100?

## where are we?

### you have a brain

neuron  $i$  activity = axis  $x_i$  : 86 billion neurons

### experiment $\Rightarrow$ neural manifolds data

embedded in state space : many low-dimensional manifolds

### data $\Rightarrow$ neural manifold models

each can be modeled as a dynamical system

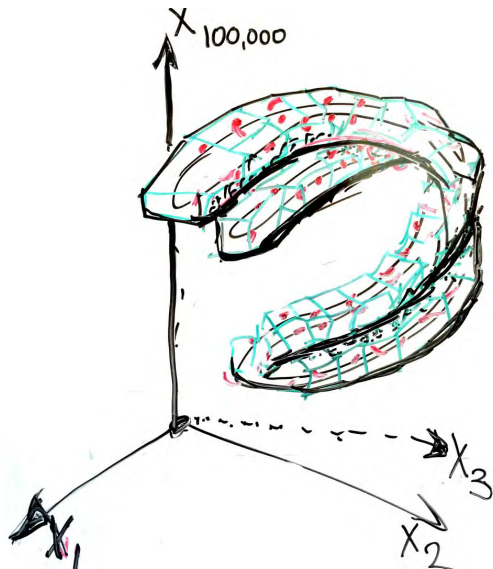
2,3

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<sup>2</sup>J. A. Gallego et al., Nat. Commun. **9**, 4233 (2018).

<sup>3</sup>J. Ladenbauer et al., Nat. Commun. **10**, 4933 (2019).

neural manifold



strange attractor stuffed into a **finite-dimensional** body bag

**Q: what is the dimension of a neural manifold ?**

**question**

does an attractor of a dissipative flow have a “dimension” ?

## Q: what is the dimension of a neural manifold ?

### question

does an attractor of a dissipative flow have a “dimension” ?

Ginelli, Chaté, Radons, *et al*<sup>4,5,6,7</sup>

### covariant vectors answer

‘covariant vectors’ split into

(a) finite number of directions, in the tangent space of the neural manifold

(b) infinitely many hyperbolically decaying directions that are isolated and do not mix and

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<sup>4</sup>A. Politi et al., *Physica D* **224**, 90–101 (2006).

<sup>5</sup>F. Ginelli et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **99**, 130601 (2007).

<sup>6</sup>H.-I. Yang et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **102**, 074102 (2009).

<sup>7</sup>K. A. Takeuchi et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **103**, 154103 (2009).



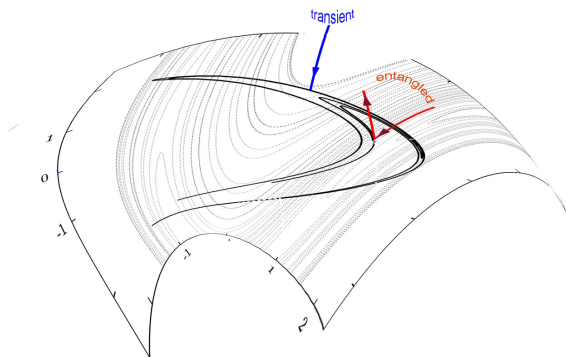
## part 2

- 1 neural manifold
- 2 state space
- 3 dimension of the neural manifold

## what is "dimension"

### the attracting set of a dissipative flow

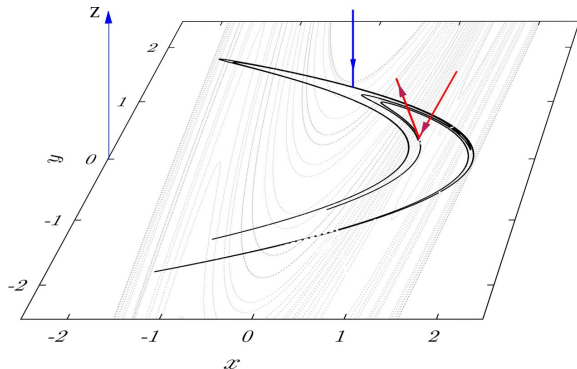
is the curvilinear neural manifold  
embedded into  $\infty$ -dimensional state space



but try to draw THAT :)

## what is "dimension":

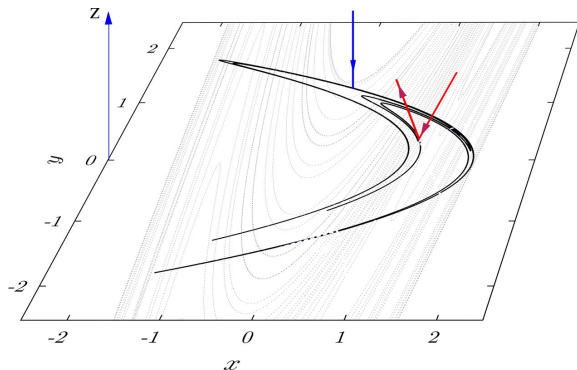
it is believed that the attracting set of a dissipative flow



- is confined to :  
a finite-dimensional smooth *neural manifold*
- “z” directions :  
the remaining  $\infty$  of *transient dimensions*

## what is "dimension":

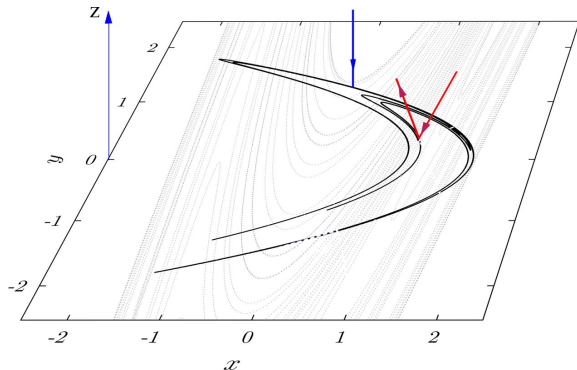
### state space of dissipative flow is split into



- neural manifold : spanned locally by **entangled covariant vectors**, tangent to unstable / stable manifolds
- the rest : spanned by the remaining  $\infty$  of the contracting, decoupled, **transient covariant vectors**

## what is "dimension":

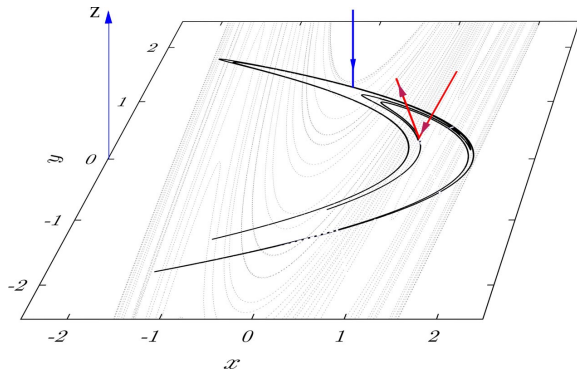
### neural manifold



- dynamics of the **vectors** that span the neural manifold is entangled, with small angles and frequent tangencies
- any **transient covariant vector** : isolated, nearly orthogonal to all other covariant vectors

## what is "dimension":

### goal : construct neural manifold



- tile it with a finite collection of bricks centered on recurrent states, each **brick  $\approx 10 - 100$  dimensions**
- span of  $\infty$  of **transient covariant vectors** :  
no intersection with the entangled modes

## part 3

- 1 neural manifold
- 2 **state space**
- 3 dimension of the neural manifold

**if all this works out, it is kinda amazing**

### **simulation of a neuronal network**

requires at least

→ integration of  $10^4$ - $10^6$  coupled computational modes

### **neuronal manifold, tiled**

50(?) linear tiles cover the (nonlinear, curved) attracting manifold

each tile low-dimensional



## part 4

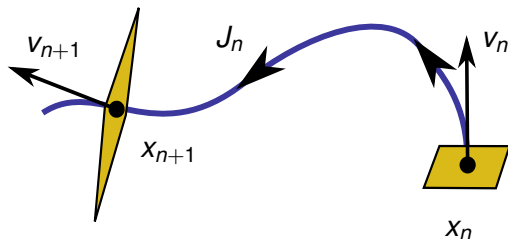
- 1 neural manifold
- 2 state space
- 3 **dimension of the neural manifold**

## what is the dimension of a neural manifold?

determine it in many independent ways

- Lyapunov exponents (diagnostic only)
- covariant vectors (sharp)
- periodic orbits (sharp)

## linearized deterministic flow



$$x_{n+1} + z_{n+1} = f(x_n) + J_n z_n, \quad J_{ij} = \partial f_i / \partial x_j$$

in one time step a linearized neighborhood of  $x_n$  is

- (1) advected by the flow
- (2) transported by the Jacobian matrix  $J_n$  into a neighborhood given by the  $J$  eigenvalues and eigenvectors<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> (F. Ginelli et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **99**, 130601 [2007])  
call these “covariant Lyapunov vectors”

## algorithmic advance

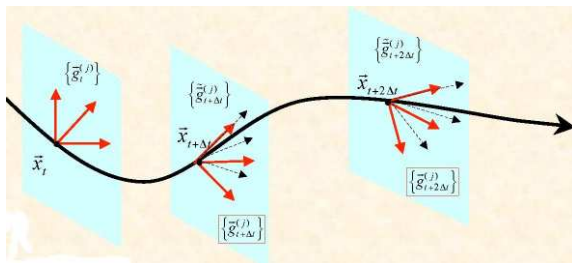
F. Ginelli, H. Chaté, G. Radons, A. Politi, P. Poggi, A. Turchi, R. M. Samelson, C. L. Wolfe:

### computation of covariant “Lyapunov” vectors

Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 130601 (2007); Tellus A 59, 355 (2007);

J. Phys. A 46, 254005 (2013)

### covariant vectors are non-normal



(references are hyperlinked)

## beautiful insight of

F. Ginelli, H. Chaté, G. Radons, A. Politi, P. Poggi, A. Turchi,  
H.-I. Yang, K. A. Takeuchi

**neural manifold dynamics** is hyperbolically separated from  
the infinity of **transient modes** :

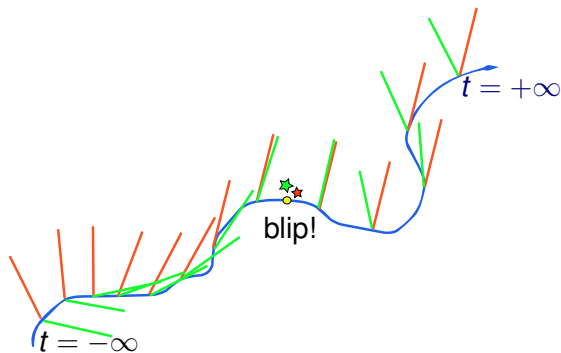
### **dimension of a neural manifold**

Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 074102 (2009); Phys. Rev. E 84, 046214 (2011);

Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 024101 (2016)

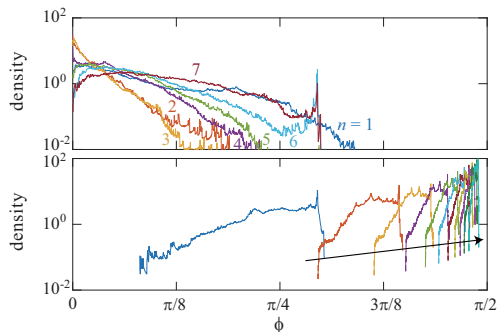
(references are hyperlinked)

## eigenvectors span the neural manifold



a pair of “entangled” eigenvectors  
distinct Lyapunov exponents  
dance along  $t$  from  $-\infty$  to  $-\infty$  orbit  
at the instant “blip!” they are (nearly) collinear

## distribution of angles between eigenvectors



histogram of angles between  $n$ th leading covariant vector and the next, accumulated over many long orbits :

- (top) For  $n = 1 \dots 7$  (eigenvector within the entangled manifold) the angles can be **arbitrarily small**
- (bottom ) For the remaining, transient eigenvectors,  $n = 8, 11, 12, \dots$  : angles are **bounded away from zero**

## part 5

- 1 neural manifold
- 2 state space
- 3 dimension of the neural manifold
- 4 cartography of the neural manifold



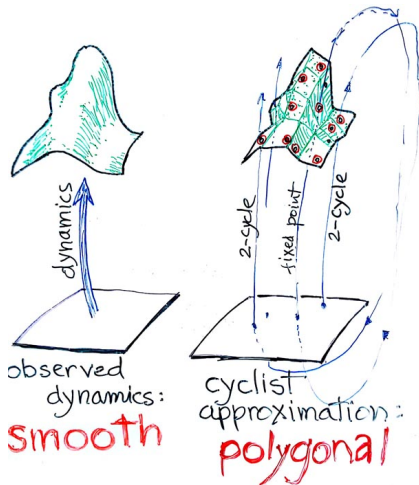
## cartography for neuro dynamicists

cover the neural manifold with a set of flat charts

we can do this with

finite-dimensional bricks embedded in  $10^{100\,000}$  dimensions!

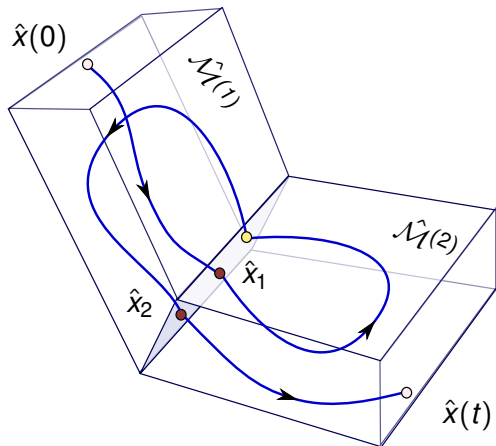
# tile the neural manifold by recurrent flows



a fixed point  
a 2-cycle, etc.

smooth dynamics (left frame)  
tesselated by the skeleton of recurrent flows,  
together with (right frame) their linearized neighborhoods

## charting the neural manifold

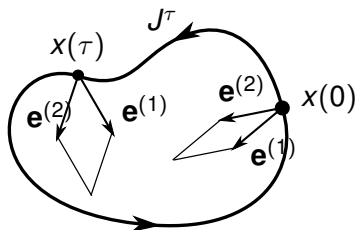


two tangent “entangled” tiles = finite-dimensional bricks

shaded plane :

when integrating your equations, switch the local chart

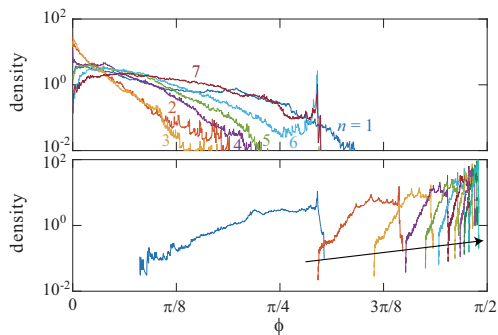
## (2) covariant vectors



a parallelepiped spanned by a pair of covariant eigenvectors ('covariant vectors') transported along the orbit

- Jacobian matrix not self-adjoint : the eigenvectors are not orthogonal, the eigenframe is 'non-normal'
- Measure the angle between eigenvectors  $\mathbf{e}^{(i)}(x(t))$  and  $\mathbf{e}^{(j)}(x(t))$

## (2) distribution of principal angles between covariant subspaces

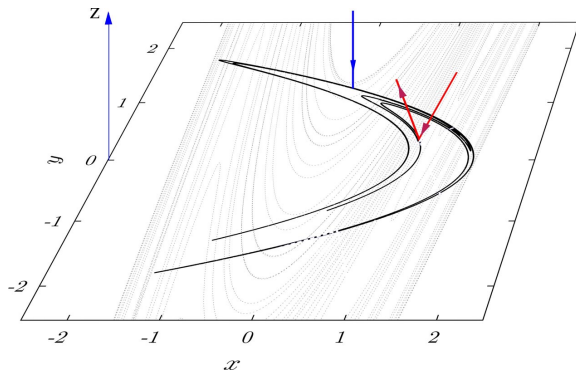


histogram of angles between  $S_n$  ( $n$  leading covariant vectors) and  $\bar{S}_n$  (the rest), accumulated over the 400 orbits :

- (top) For  $n = 1 \dots 7$  ( $S_n$  within the entangled manifold) the angles can be **arbitrarily small**
- (bottom ) For the  $\bar{S}_n$  spanned by transient modes,  $n = 8, 10, 12, \dots, 28$  : angles **bounded away from unity**

## summary for the impatient

### state space of dissipative flow is split into



- neural manifold : spanned locally by **entangled covariant vectors**, tangent to unstable / stable manifolds
- the rest : spanned by the remaining  $\infty$  of the contracting, decoupled, **transient covariant vectors**

the leading covariant vectors are tangent to the attractor.  
Perturbations that are on the attractor can be found in the  
subspace of the leading covariant vectors

the approximate orthogonality of the 'isolated' ones provides a  
clear threshold between the neural manifold and the rest

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