

Reconstruction Deconstruction:
A Brief History of
Building Models of Nonlinear Dynamical Systems

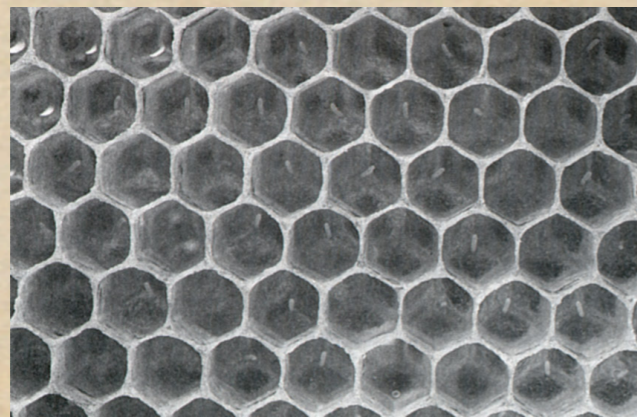
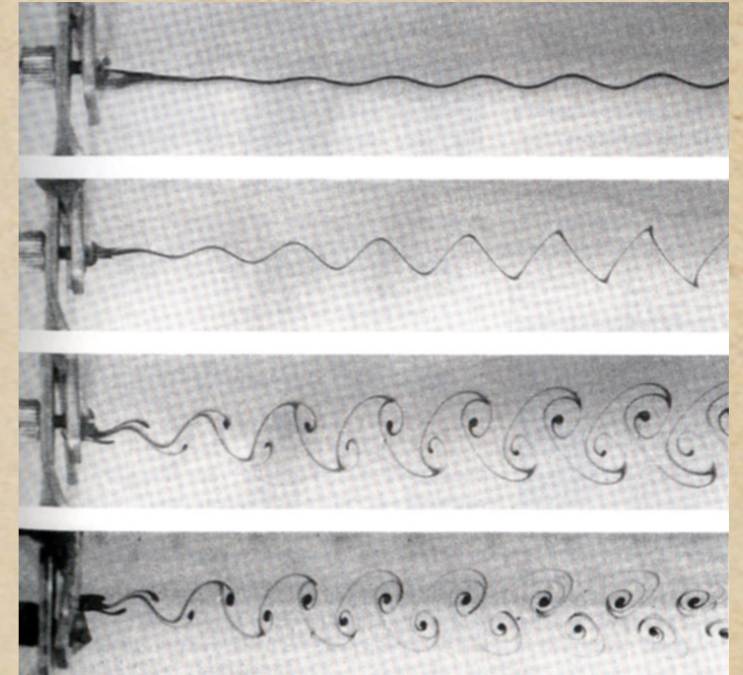
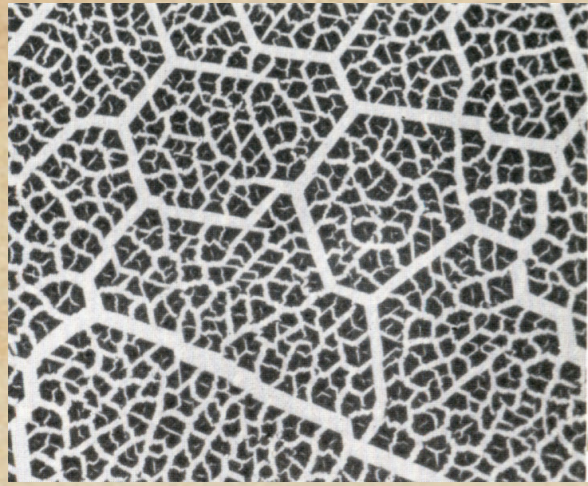
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Neural Information Processing 2006 Workshop on
Revealing Hidden Elements of Dynamical Systems

8 December 2006
Whistler, British Columbia

The Problem



The Goal: Artificial Science

Can we automate scientific discovery
and theory building?

The Guess:

Yes!

Recent advances in nonlinear dynamics

+

Recent advances in machine learning

+

Lots of computational power

The Guess:

Yes!

Recent advances in nonlinear dynamics:

Why?

Better sense of the manifestations of
nonlinearity

(info. gen., self-similarity, hierarchy, ...)

The Guess:

Yes!

Recent advances in machine learning:

Why?

Information-theoretic view of learning

+

Algorithms: Structure v. error

The Guess:

Yes!

Lots of computational power:

Why?

We don't yet know how the brain
does it so quickly

Agenda

- ◆ Nonlinear Dynamics:
 - ◆ History & Geometry
- ◆ Reconstruction and Nonlinear Model Building
 - ◆ Continuous-time & -value
 - ◆ Discrete-time & -value

Nonlinear Dynamics: Selected Historical Highlights

- ◆ Poincare (1892): Discovery of deterministic chaos
- ◆ van der Pol (Nature 1927): Expt'l discovery of chaos
- ◆ Soviet school (1910-1960): Lyapunov and students
- ◆ Kolmogorov (1957): Info theory + dynamical systems
- ◆ Modern era: 1960s onwards ...
 - ◆ Ulam-Lorenz (1962-63): Experimental mathematical studies
 - ◆ 1970s-1980s: Simple systems can be complicated
 - ◆ 1980s-1990s: Complicated systems can be simple (pattern formation)

Nonlinear Dynamics: Mathematical Tools

- ◆ Statistical mechanics; incl. phase transitions
- ◆ Pattern formation: Center manifold theory
- ◆ Nonlinear dynamics:
 - ◆ Qualitative dynamics
 - ◆ Bifurcations: Singularity theory

Nonlinear Dynamics: Geometric Review

Dynamical System:

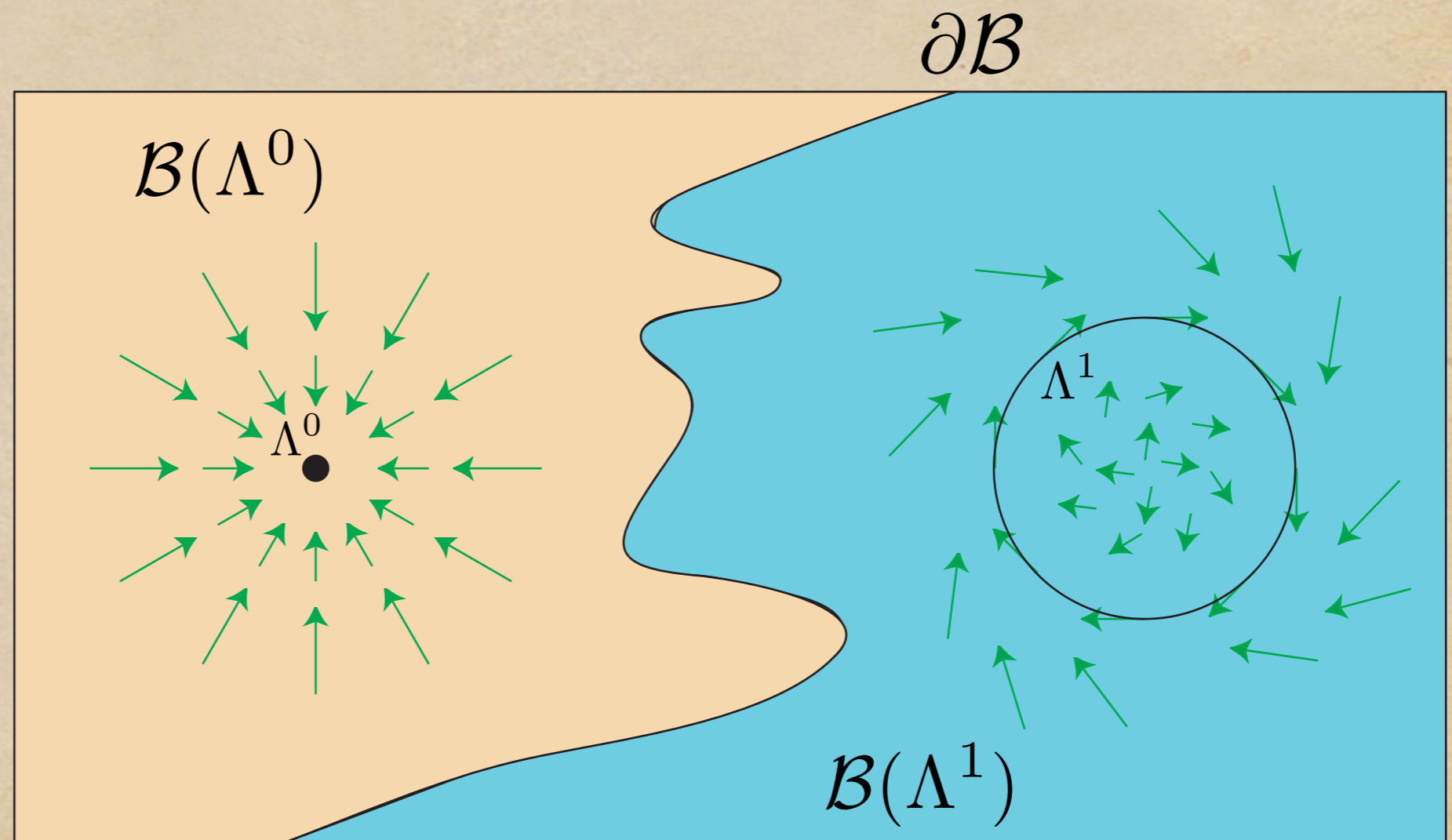
State space

Dynamic

Initial condition

The Attractor-Basin Portrait: The Big Picture

Basins, Attractors, Separatrices

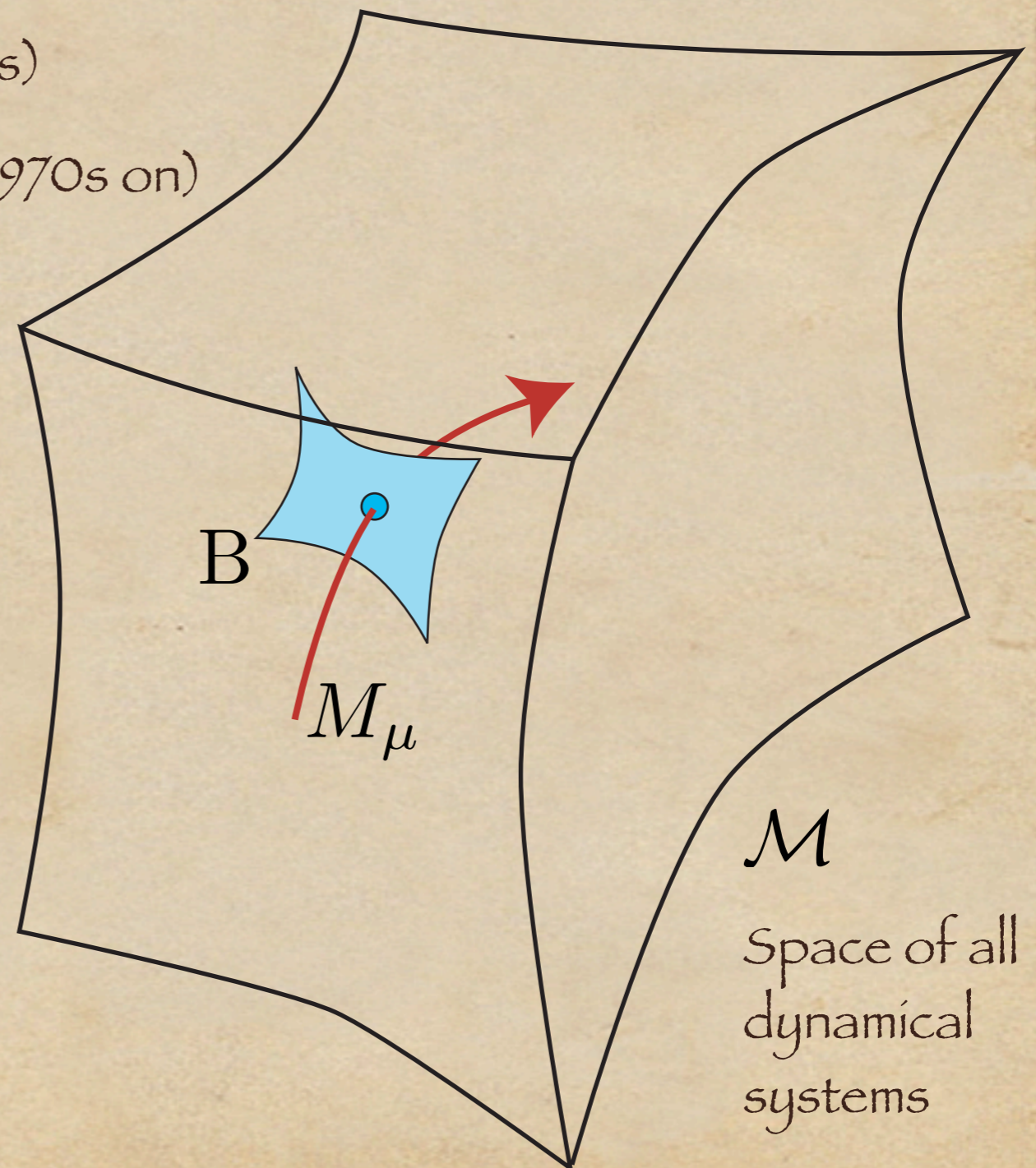


Nonlinear Dynamics: Review ...

◆ Bifurcations: The Big, Big Picture

- ◆ Catastrophe theory (Thom, 1960s)
- ◆ Singularity theory (Arnold et al, 1970s on)

What happens when
you change control
parameters?



Reconstruction:

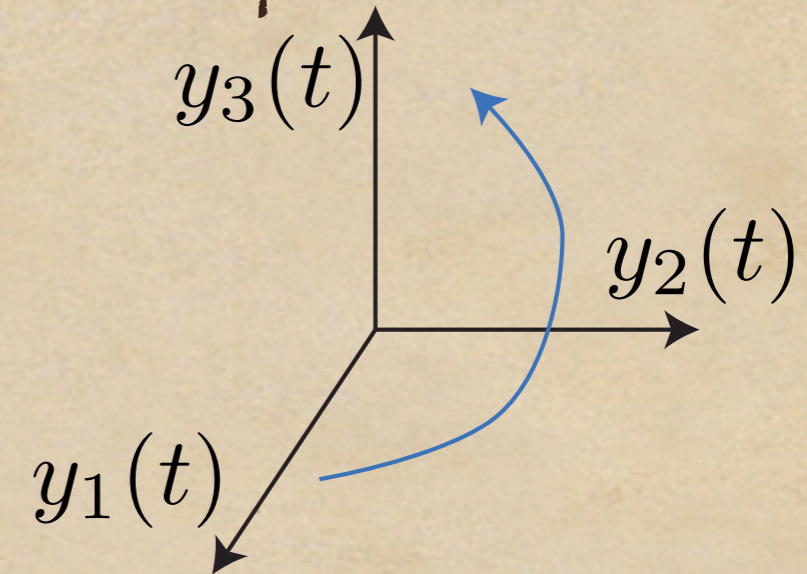
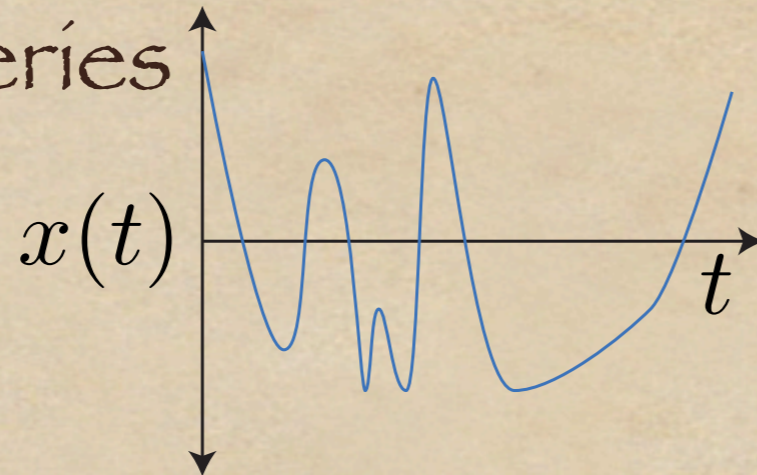
How to build a model of nonlinear system?

- ◆ Goals:
 - ◆ What are the states?
 - ◆ What are the equations of motion?
- ◆ Two cases:
 - ◆ Continuous measurements
 - ◆ Discrete measurements

Reconstruction: Continuous Dynamics

State space

◆ Time series



◆ Reconstructed state space?

- ◆ Derivative embedding: $\vec{y}(t) = (x(t), \dot{x}(t), \ddot{x}(t), \dots)$

- ◆ Time-delay embedding:

$$\vec{y}(t) = (x(t), x(t - \tau), x(t - 2\tau), \dots)$$

- ◆ Embedding dimension: Number of active degrees of freedom

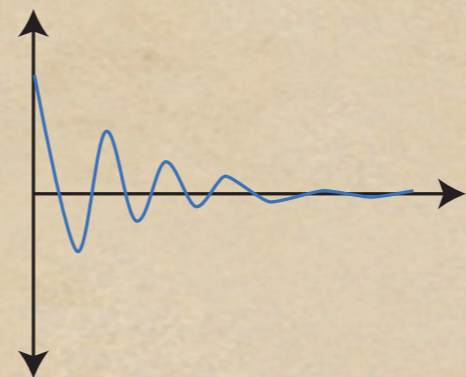
N. H. Packard, J. P. Crutchfield, J. D. Farmer, and R. S. Shaw, "Geometry from a Times Series", *Physical Review Letter* 45 (1980) 712-715.

F. Takens, "Detecting Strange Attractors in Fluid Turbulence", in *Symposium on Dynamical Systems and Turbulence*, D. A. Rand and L. S. Young, editors, *Lect. Notes Math.* 898, Springer-Verlag (Berlin 1981).

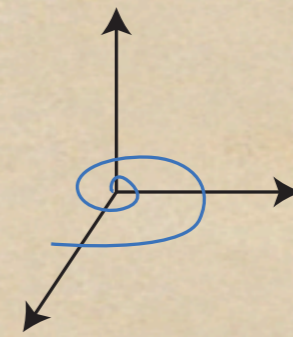
Reconstruction: Continuous Dynamics

- ◆ Fixed point

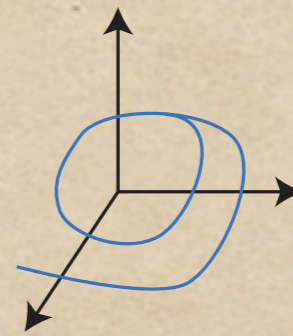
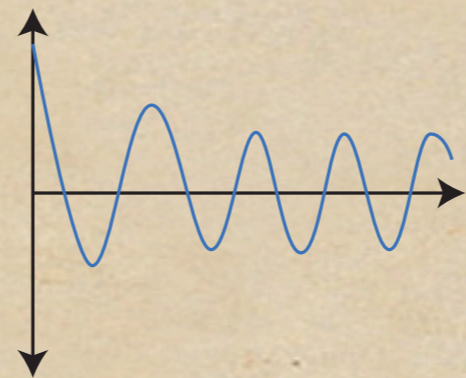
Times Series



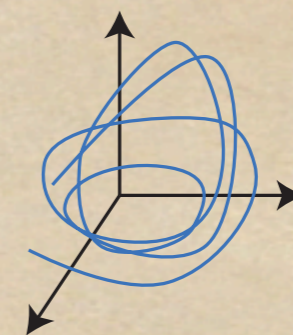
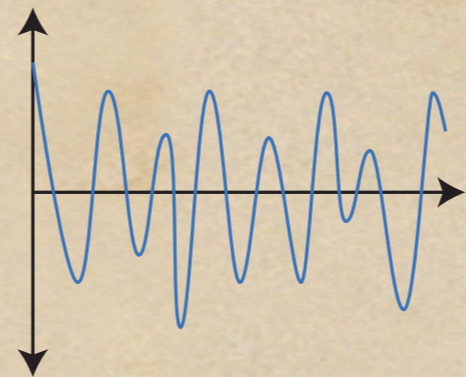
State Space



- ◆ Limit Cycle

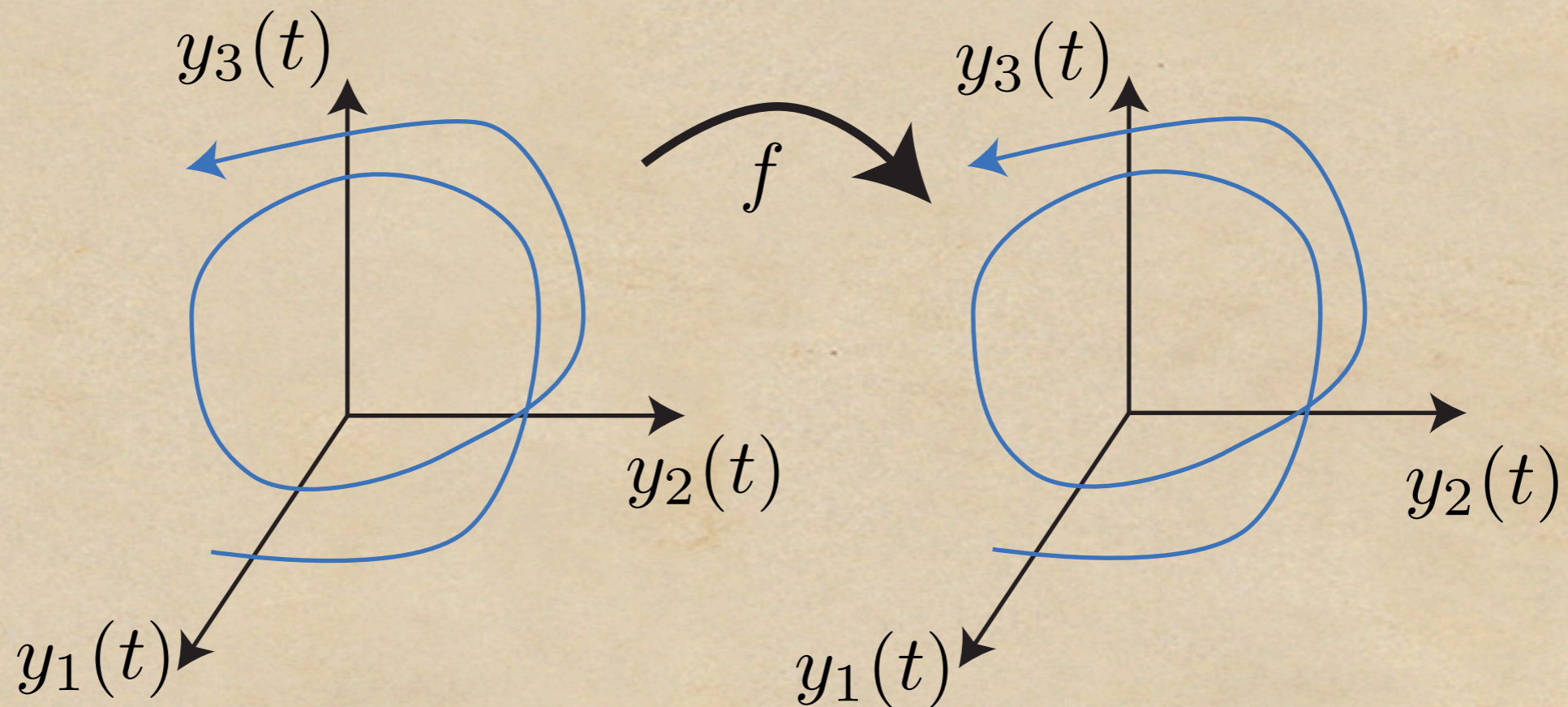


- ◆ Chaotic Attractor



Reconstruction: Continuous Dynamics

- ◆ Equations of motion? $\dot{\vec{y}} = \vec{f}(\vec{y})$
- ◆ Find $f : \vec{y}(t) \rightarrow \vec{y}(t + dt)$



J. P. Crutchfield and B. S. McNamara, "Equations of Motion from a Data Series",
Complex Systems 1 (1987) 417 - 452.

Reconstruction: Symbolic Dynamics

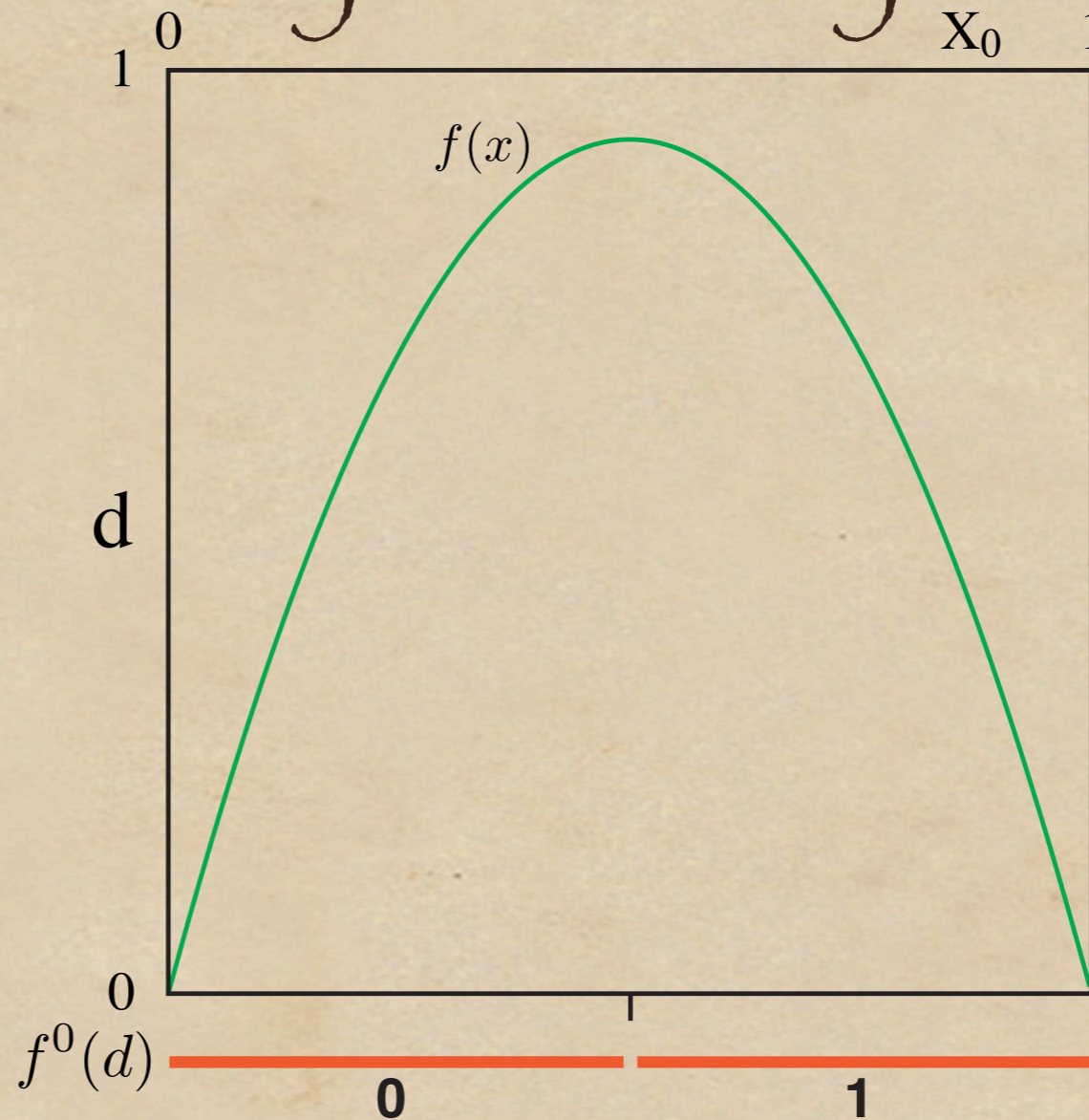
Simplest Dynamical System:

State space:

$$x \in [0, 1]$$

Equations of motion:

$$x_{n+1} = f(x_n)$$



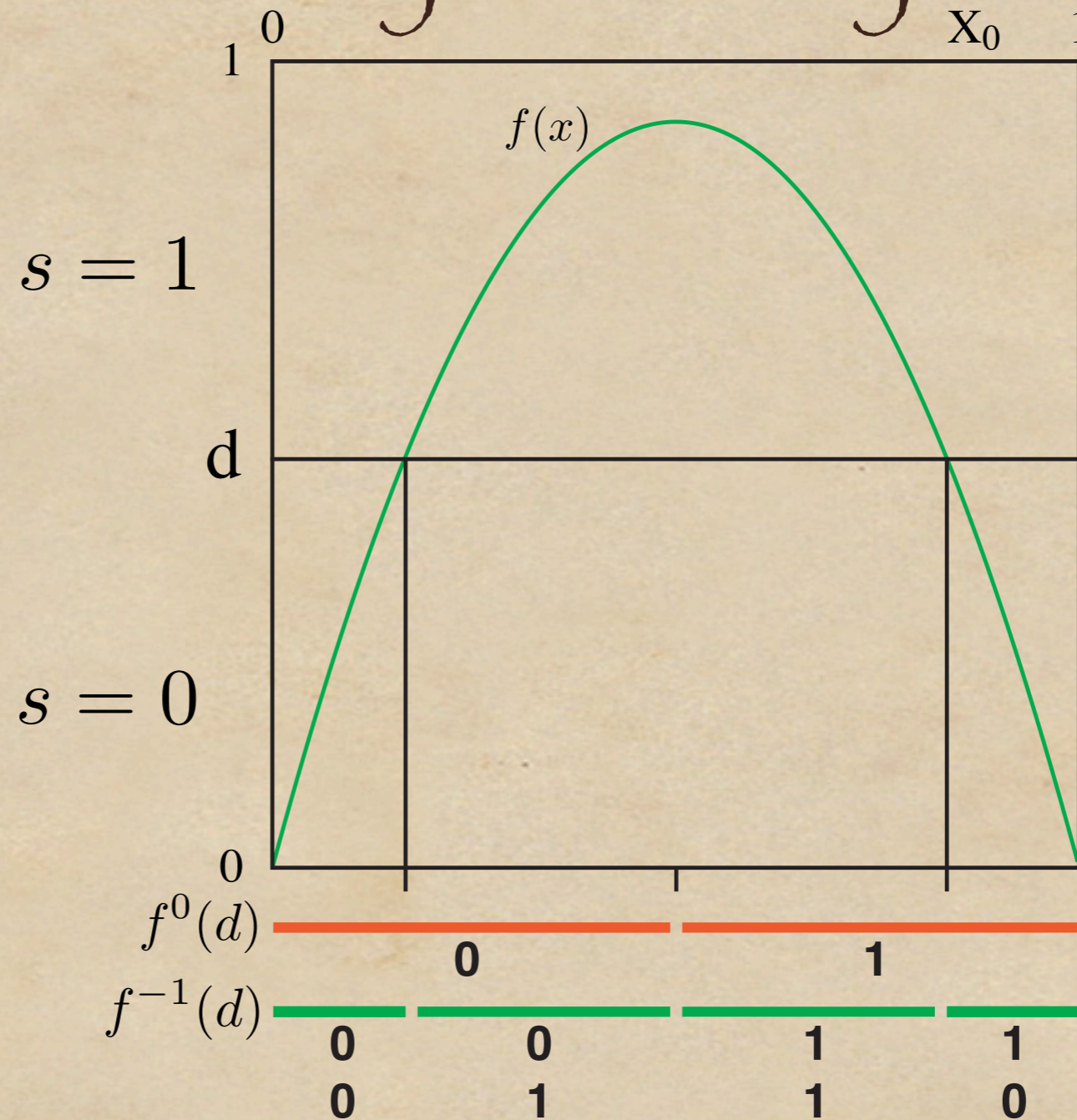
Binary instrument:

$$\mathcal{P} = \{0 \sim x \in [0, d], 1 \sim x \in (d, 1]\}$$

Decision point: $d \in [0, 1]$

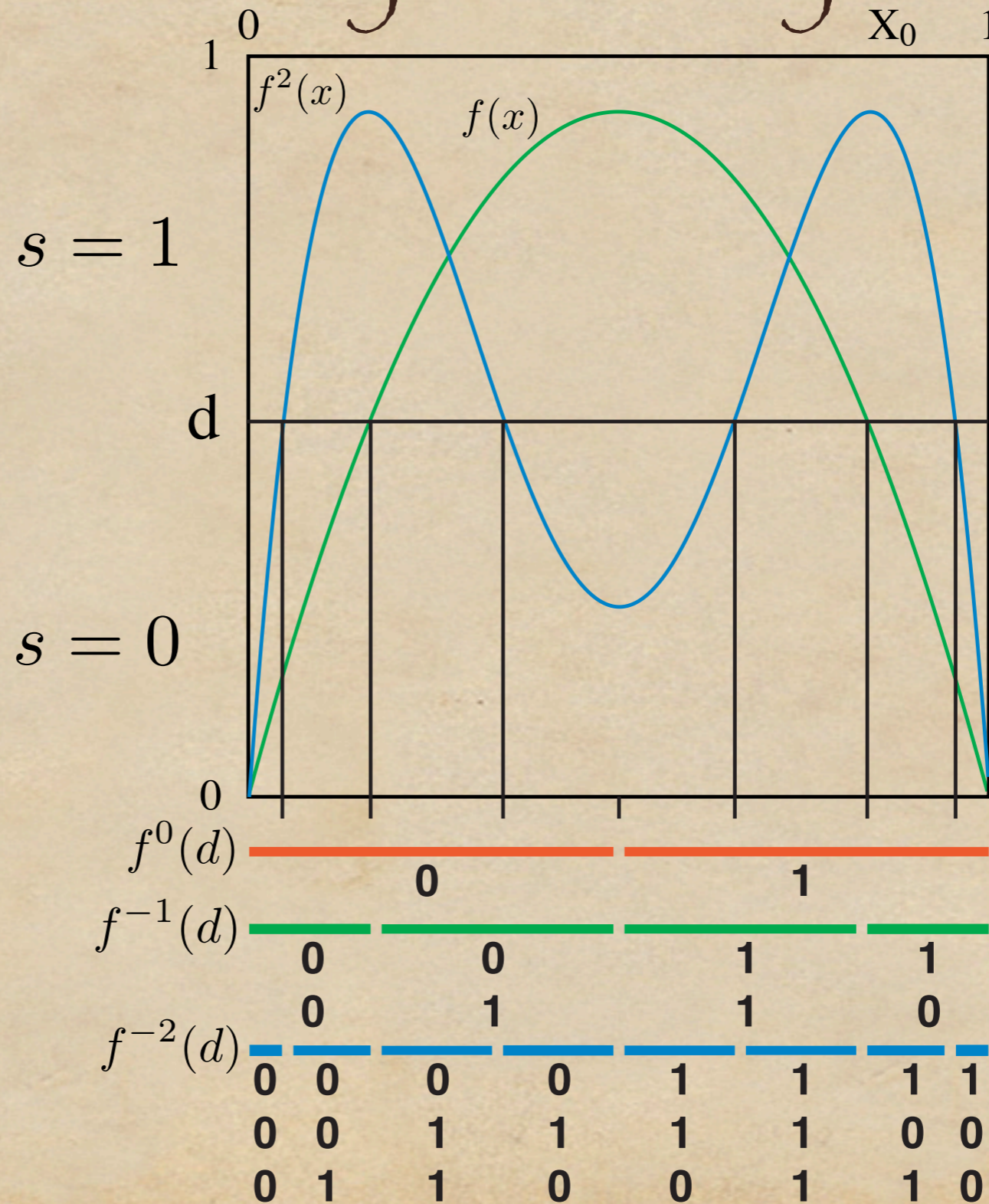
Reconstruction: Symbolic Dynamics

One time
step



Reconstruction: Symbolic Dynamics

Two time steps



Reconstruction: Symbolic Dynamics

When are partitions good?

When symbol sequences **encode** orbits

Diagram **commutes**:

$$T(x) = \Delta \circ \sigma \circ \Delta^{-1}(x)$$

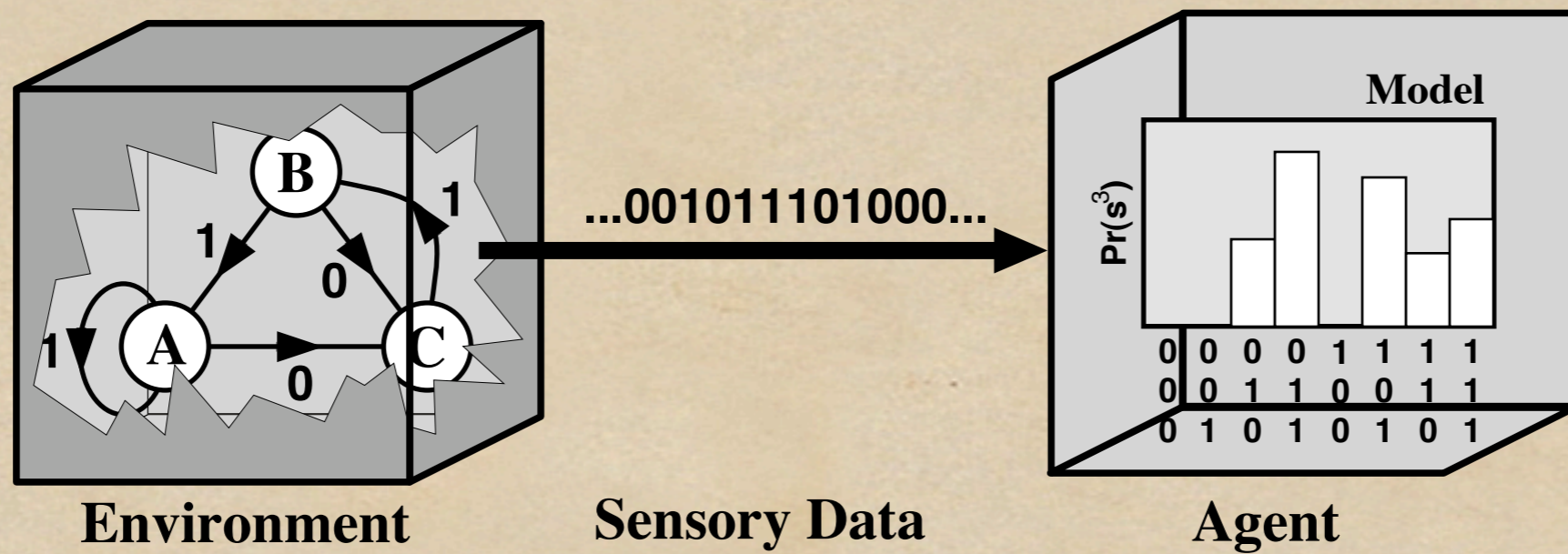
$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{T} & M \\ \Delta \uparrow & & \Delta \uparrow \\ \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{Z}} & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{Z}} \end{array}$$

Good kinds of instruments:

Markov partitions

Generating partitions

Measurement Channel



Goals: (i) States? (ii) Dynamic?

Computational Mechanics

How to circumvent representation choice?
Is there a preferred representation?

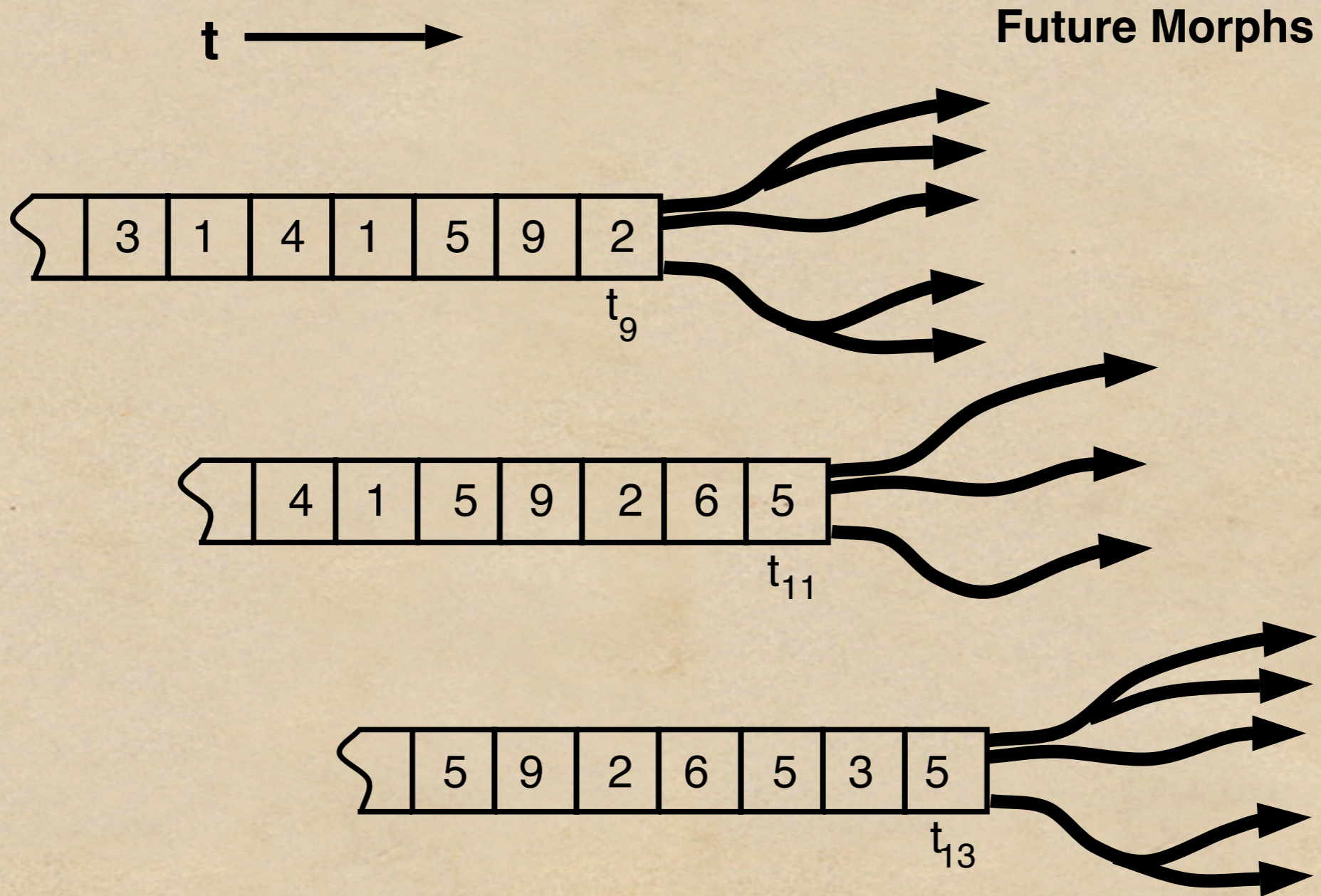
J. P. Crutchfield and K. Young, "Inferring Statistical Complexity",
Physical Review Letters 63 (1989) 105-108.

J. P. Crutchfield, "The Calculi of Emergence: Computation, Dynamics, and Induction",
Physica D 75 (1994) 11-54.

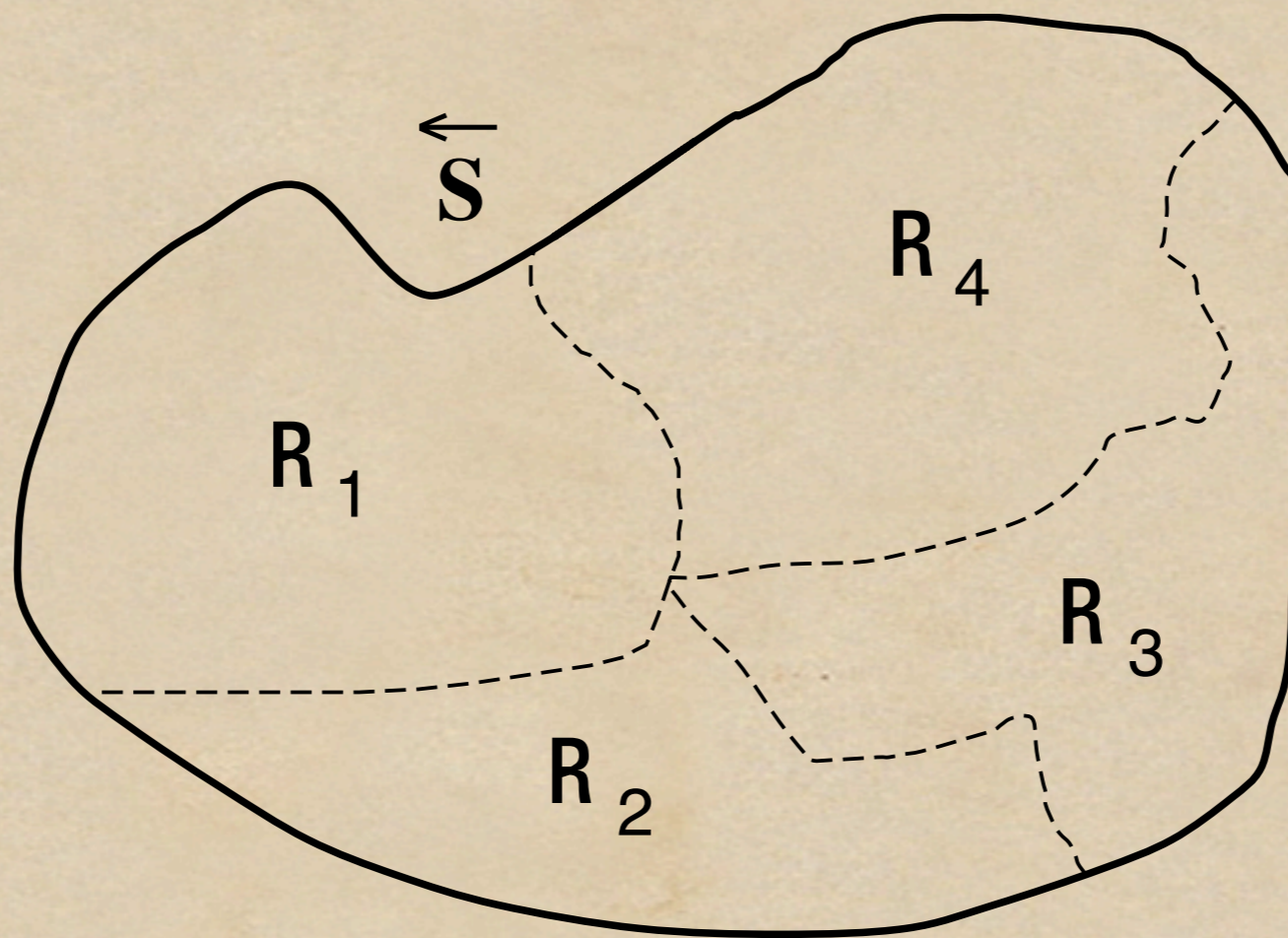
C. R. Shalizi and J. P. Crutchfield, "Computational Mechanics: Pattern and Prediction, Structure and Simplicity",
Journal of Statistical Physics 104 (2001) 817-879.

N. Ay and J. P. Crutchfield, "Reductions of Hidden Information Sources",
Journal of Statistical Physics 210:3-4 (2005) 659-684.

Effective States

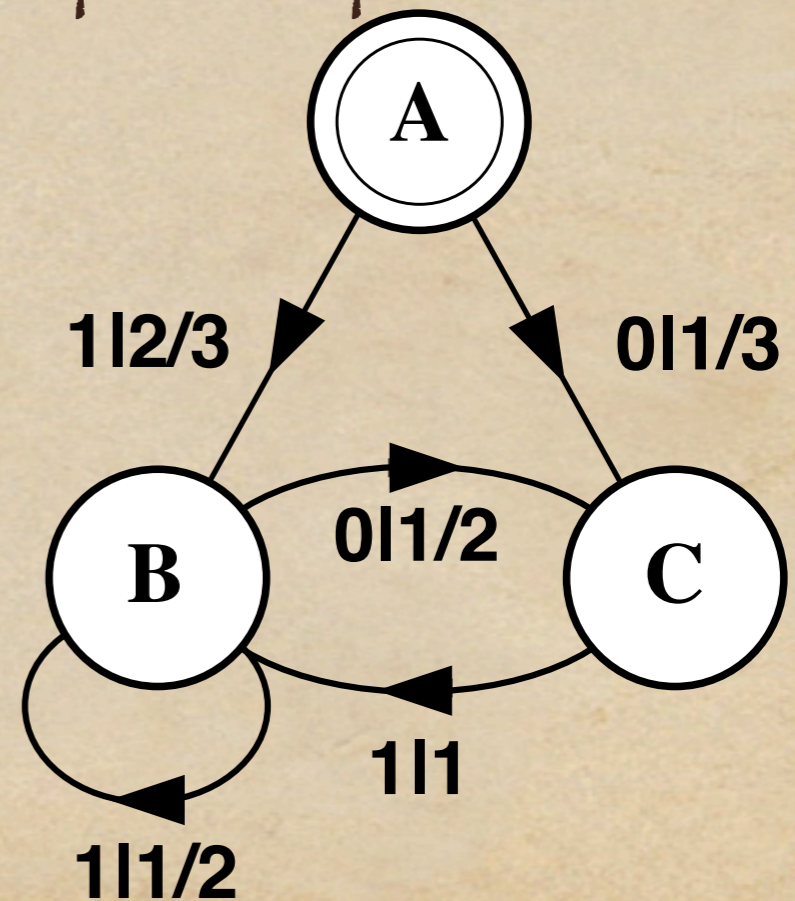


Space of Histories Partitioned



Causal States

- ◆ $\overleftrightarrow{S} = \overleftarrow{S} \overrightarrow{S}$
- ◆ $\overleftarrow{S} \sim \overleftarrow{S}' \Leftrightarrow \Pr(\overrightarrow{S} | \overleftarrow{S}) = \Pr(\overrightarrow{S} | \overleftarrow{S}')$
- ◆ ϵ -Machine = $\{S, \mathcal{T}\}$
- ◆ Theorems: Unique, minimal, & optimal predictor
- ◆ Form = ϵ -Machine semigroup



Stored Information (1989)

$$C_{\mu} = - \sum_{S \in \mathcal{S}} Pr(S) \log_2 Pr(S)$$

Information Production (1948)

$$h_{\mu} = - \sum_{S \in \mathcal{S}} Pr(S) \sum_{S' \in \mathcal{S}} Pr(S'|S) \log_2 Pr(S'|S)$$

Excess Entropy (1982)

(all-point mutual information)

$$\mathbf{E} = I(\overleftarrow{S}, \overrightarrow{S}) \quad (\text{Thm: } \mathbf{E} \leq C_\mu)$$

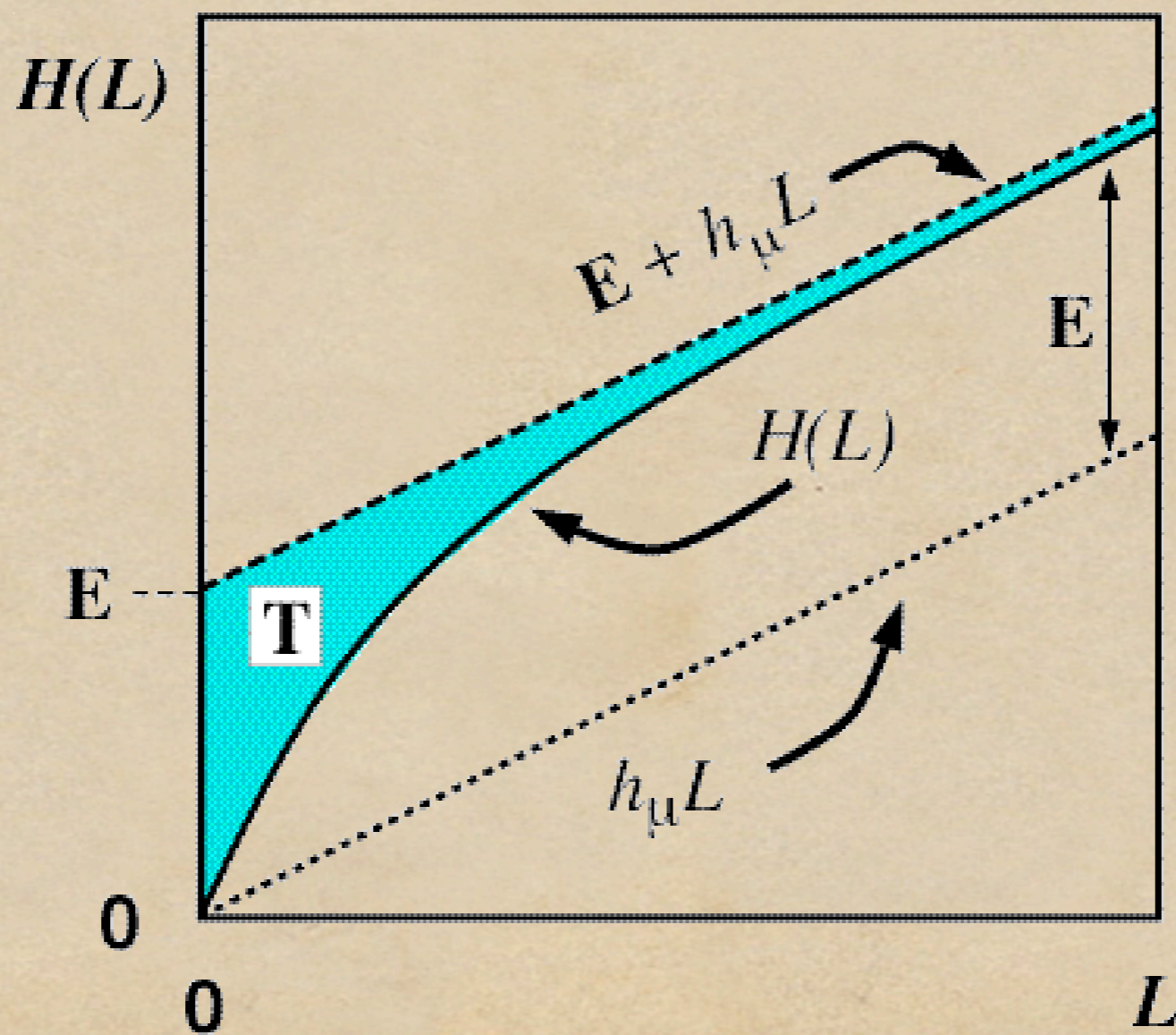
Sync-Transient Information (2005)

$$\mathbf{T} = \sum_{L=0}^{\infty} [\mathbf{E} + h_\mu L - H(L)]$$

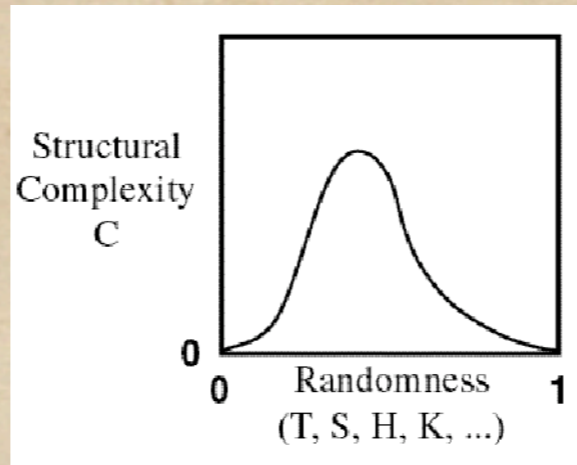
J. P. Crutchfield and D. P. Feldman, "Regularities Unseen, Randomness Observed: Levels of Entropy Convergence", CHAOS 13:1 (2005) 25-54".

Entropy Hierarchy

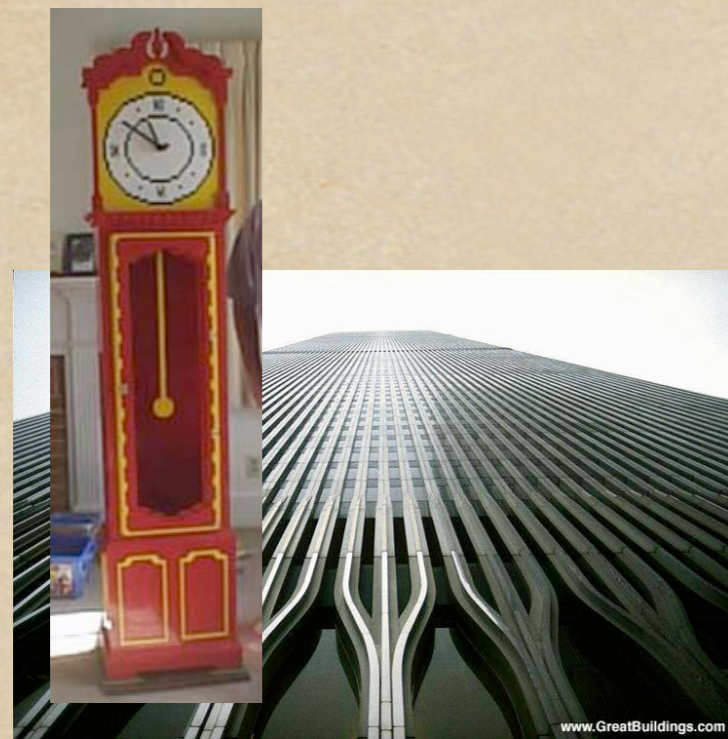
Entropy growth $H(L)$



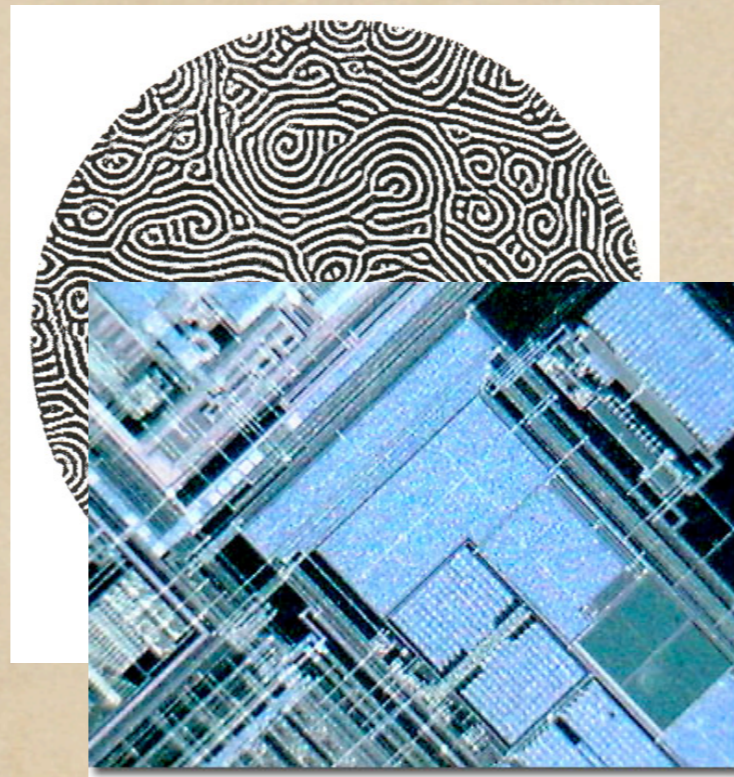
One Lesson: Structure v. Randomness



Boredom



Delight



Confusion



Variatio Delectat

Concluding Remarks

- ◆ Yes, there is a preferred representation:
 ϵ -Machine: Causal architecture
- ◆ Structure can be formalized (and quantified)
- ◆ Intrinsic computation:
 Structure = how a system stores & processes info
- ◆ Question:
 How does all this affect modeling nonlinear systems?

Background

Chaos and Time-Series Analysis by J. C. Sprott (2003)

Nonlinear Time Series Analysis: Second Edition by H. Kantz and T. Schreiber (2006)

Chaos and Nonlinear Dynamics: An Introduction for Scientists and Engineers by R. Hilborn (2001)

Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos: With Applications to Physics, Biology, Chemistry and Engineering by S. H. Strogatz (2001)

Advert: Chris Streliaoff @ Saturday Workshop
Bayesian Estimation of Information Production

Thanks!

Panel Discussion

- ◆ In what cases do you think the approach you propose would be better compared to other approaches? Where would it be worse?
- ◆ What are the special features of dynamical system learning that separate it from other learning problems?
- ◆ How can statistical and information theoretic techniques be combined with the theoretical structure of dynamical systems?
- ◆ Are there generic features that can be extracted from time-series data?
- ◆ How can we combine static and time series data for modeling dynamic systems?

Panel Discussion

- ◆ In what cases do you think the approach you propose would be better compared to other approaches?
 - ◆ Goal is scientific understanding. Learning *the* laws!
 - ◆ Results come from verified predictions, not a competition.
- ◆ Where would it be worse?
 - ◆ Do we have a choice?

Panel Discussion

- ◆ What are the special features of dynamical system learning that separate it from other learning problems?
 - ◆ Time, time, and time.
 - ◆ Please: NO MORE IID SAMPLING!
 - ◆ Use deep math'l knowledge to constrain search/estimation:
Ergodicity, dissipation, genericity, structural stability, bifurcations, smoothness, ...

Panel Discussion

- ◆ How can statistical and information theoretic techniques be combined with the theoretical structure of dynamical systems?
 - ◆ Information theory **is** a fundamental part of dynamical systems theory
 - ◆ Historically and practically.
 - ◆ Interesting Q: How do the information storage and production properties of dynamical systems affect the learning complexity?

Panel Discussion

- ◆ Are there generic features that can be extracted from time-series data?
 - ◆ Yes.
 - ◆ System invariants: Entropy rate, embedding dimension, statistical complexity, excess entropy, ...
 - ◆ Ensembles of experiments: Equations of motion, component forces, ...

Panel Discussion

- ◆ How can we combine static and time series data for modeling dynamic systems?
- ◆ Fussy note: “Dynamic systems” is not “Dynamical systems”.
- ◆ Former linear, latter unconstrained.
- ◆ Not sure about question, though: Is this about state-space averages versus time averages? (I.e., about ergodicity?)