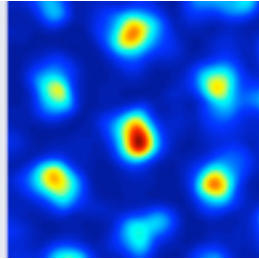




The Kavli Institute for  
Systems Neuroscience



Centre for the  
biology of memory



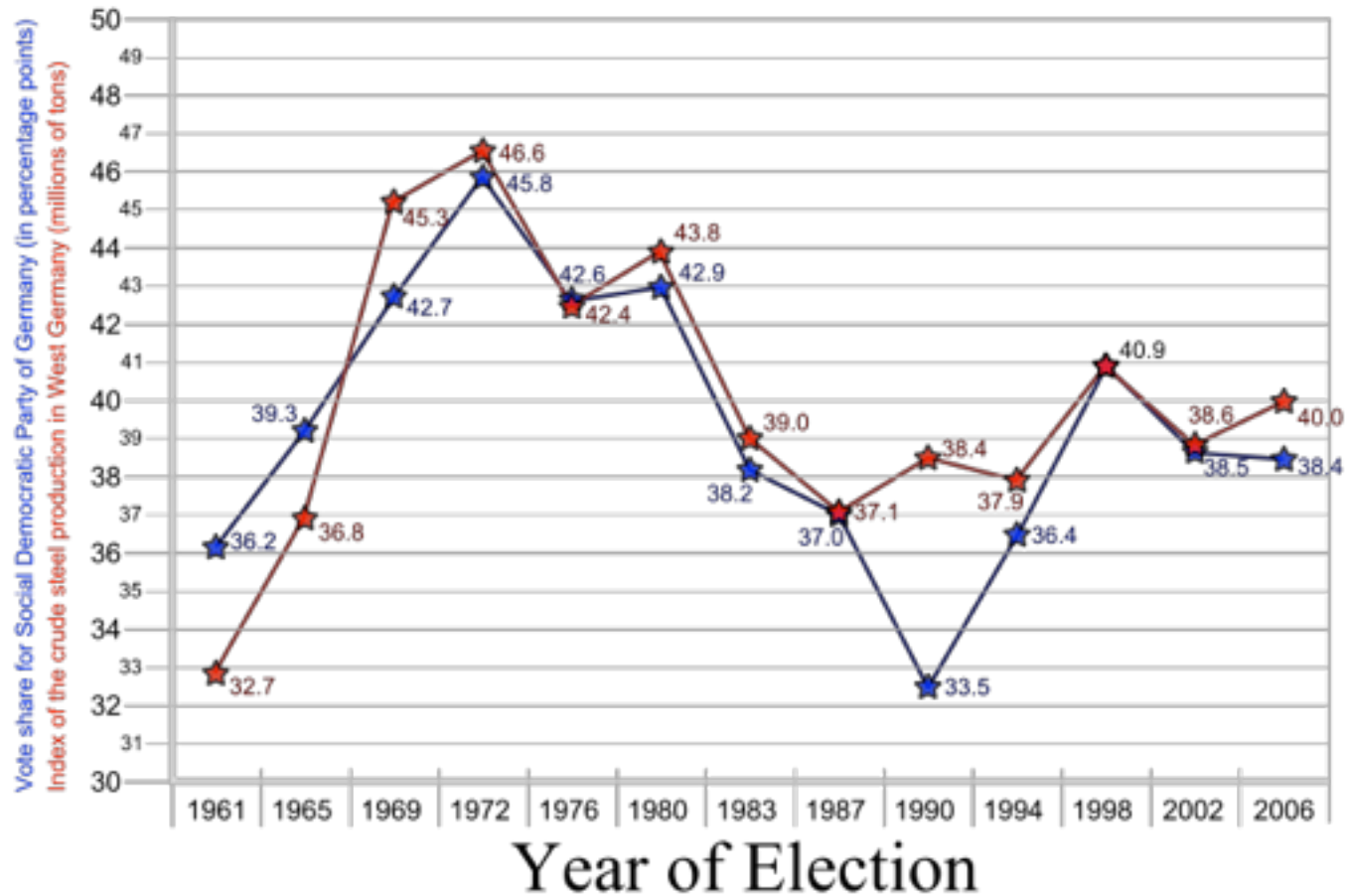
NORDITA  
Nordic Institute  
for Theoretical Physics

# Mean Field Theory for Non-equilibrium Network Reconstruction

Yasser Roudi

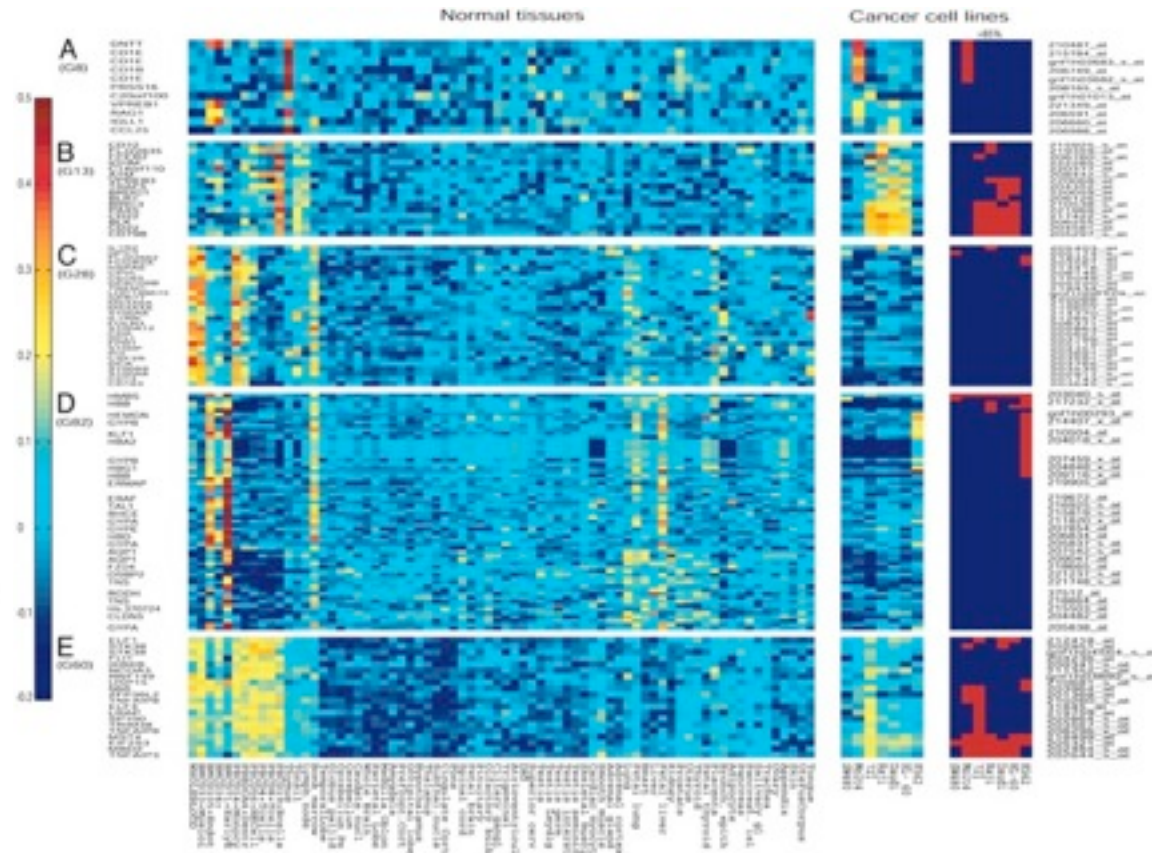
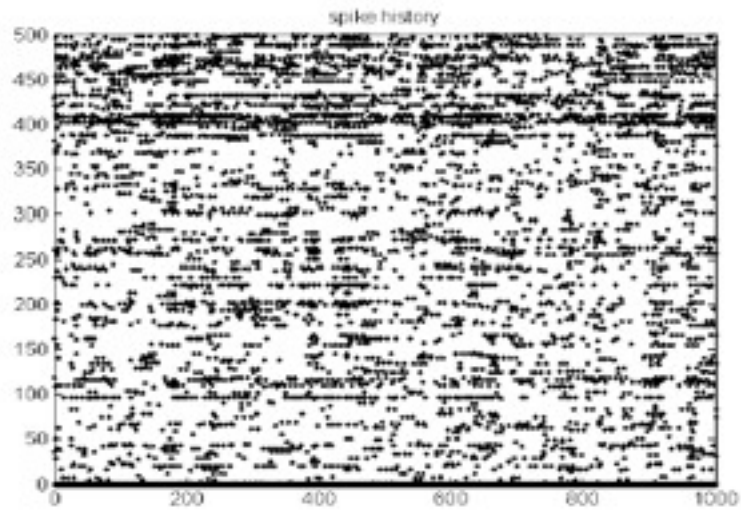
Kavli Institute for Systems Neuroscience, Trondheim  
NORDITA, Stockholm

# correlation is not connection



**Mierscheid Law**  
J. M. Mierscheid  
(1983)

The vote share of the German Social Democratic Party (SPD) equals the index of the crude steel production in the Western federal states (source:Wikipedia)



- observing the covariation of the activities cannot directly tell us about the network connectivity.

can we use this type of data to infer connections?

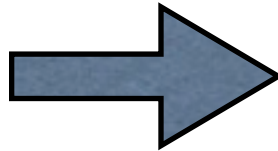
# outline

- A simple model, equilibrium inverse Ising problem, and its shortcomings.
- Fitting the kinetic Ising model.
- Mean-Field and TAP approximations for the kinetic model and quantifying their errors.
- On real data.

# equilibrium inverse Ising problem

$$m_i = \langle s_i \rangle$$

$$C_{ij} = \langle s_i s_j \rangle - \langle s_i \rangle \langle s_j \rangle$$



find  $h_i$  and  $J_{ij}$  of

$$\Pr(s_1, \dots, s_N) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left[ \sum_i h_i s_i + \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} s_i s_j \right]$$

**Boltzmann Machine**

- how to find  $h_i, J_{ij}$  for large N?

## Exact method: Boltzmann learning

$$\delta J_{ij} = \eta \left[ \langle S_i S_j \rangle_{data} - \langle S_i S_j \rangle_{current J, h} \right]$$

$$\delta h_i = \eta \left[ \langle S_i \rangle_{data} - \langle S_i \rangle_{current J, h} \right]$$

Ackley, Hinton, Sejnowski 85

requires long Monte Carlo runs to compute model statistics

fast and reliable approximate methods exist

- independent-pairs

Roudi et al 09

- high absolute magnetization expansion

Roudi et al 09

$$m_i, m_j \rightarrow -1 \quad J_{ij} = \frac{1}{4} \log \left[ 1 + \frac{C_{ij}}{(1+m_i)(1+m_j)} \right]$$

- nMFT

$$h_i = \tanh^{-1} m_i - \sum_j J_{ij} m_j \quad C_{ij}^{-1} = \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial m_j} = \frac{\delta_{ij}}{1-m_i^2} - J_{ij}$$

- TAP

$$h_i = \tanh^{-1} m_i - \sum_j J_{ij} m_j + m_i \sum_j J_{ij}^2 (1-m_j^2) \quad C_{ij}^{-1} = -J_{ij} - 2J_{ij}^2 m_i m_j$$

Kappen & Rodriguez 98, Tanaka 98

- Sessak-Monasson, BP, SusP

Sessak & Monasson 09

Mezard & Mora 09

Aurell, Olion & Roudi 10



# binary representation of spike trains

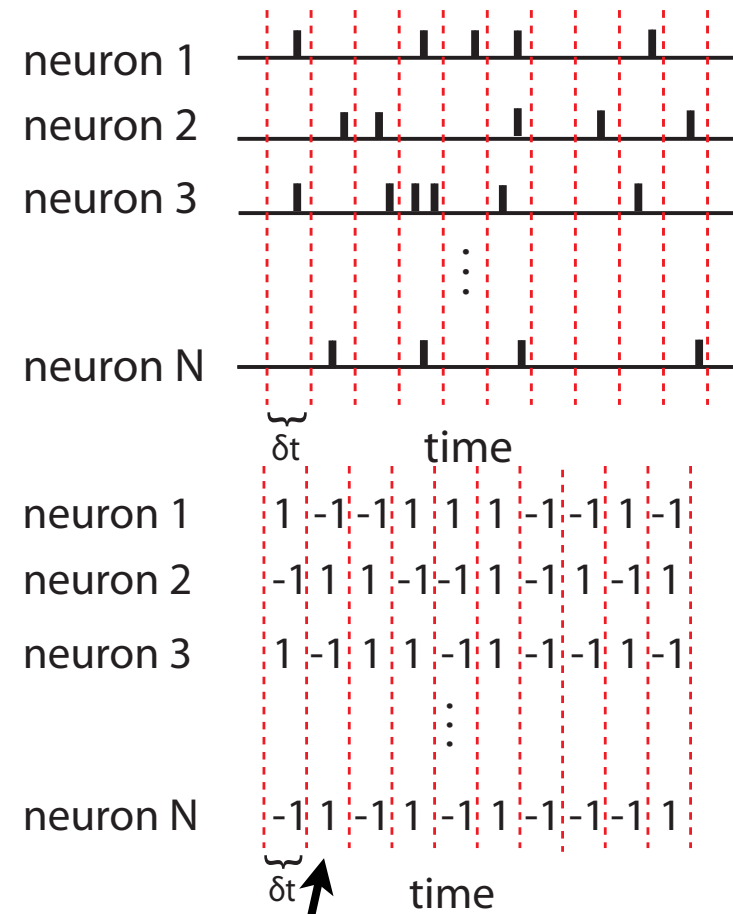
- bin the spike train
- for each neuron  $i$ , if it
  - spiked in bin  $t \rightarrow s_i(t) = 1$
  - did not spike in bin  $t \rightarrow s_i(t) = -1$

- a binary representation of spike trains  $S(t) = (s_1(t), s_2(t), \dots, s_N(t))$

- compute experimental means and corr.

$$\langle s_i \rangle_{\text{data}} = \frac{1}{T} \sum s_i(t)$$

$$\langle s_i s_j \rangle_{\text{data}} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_t s_i(t) s_j(t)$$



$$S(t = 2) = (1, -1, \dots, -1)$$

fit the Ising distribution (find  $h_s$  and  $J_s$ )

$$\text{Pr}_{\text{pair}}(\mathbf{S}) = \frac{1}{Z_{\text{pair}}} \exp \left[ \sum_i h_i s_i + \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} s_i s_j \right]$$

such that

$$\langle s_i \rangle_{\text{pair}} = \langle s_i \rangle_{\text{data}}$$

$$\langle s_i s_j \rangle_{\text{pair}} = \langle s_i s_j \rangle_{\text{data}}$$

**functional couplings**



this yields the simplest probability model for the spike trains that  
the maximum entropy distribution given means and correlations.

Schneidman et al Nature 05, Shlens et al J. Neurosci. 06

- how good are these approximations compared to the exact learning for neural data?

**simplified model of circuitry in a small  
(~0.5 mm) region of neocortex**

**2 populations in network:**

Excitatory, Inhibitory

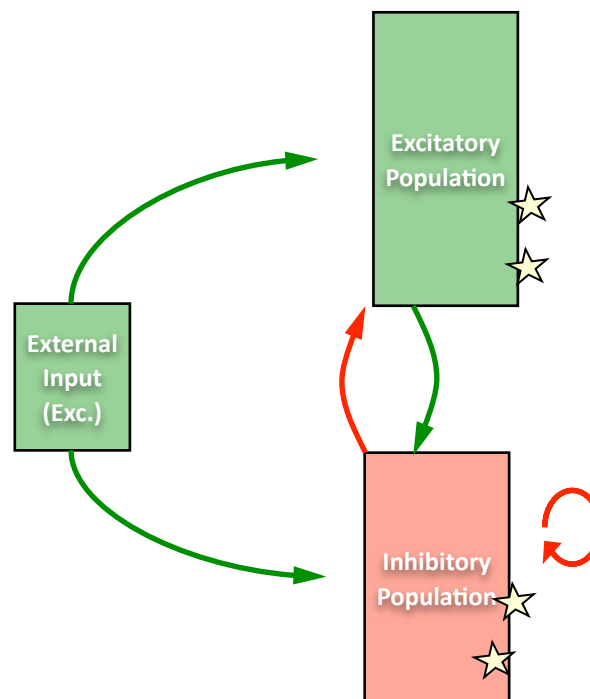
Excitatory external drive (“rest of brain”)

realistic modeling: Hodgkin-Huxley-like  
neurons, conductance-based synapses

**Random connectivity:**

Probability of connection between any two  
neurons is  $c = K/N$ , where  $N$  is the size of  
the population and  $K$  is the average  
number of presynaptic neurons.

Results here for  
 $c = 0.1, N = 1000$

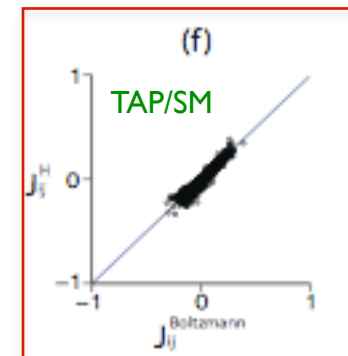
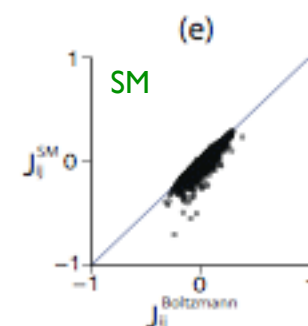
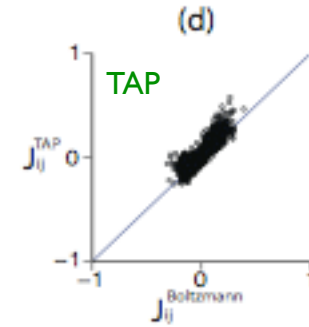
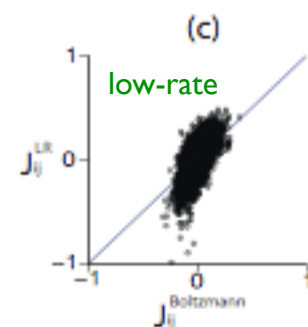
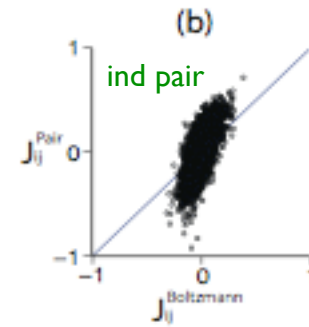
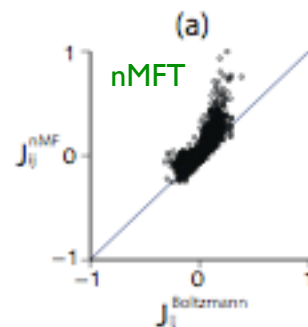
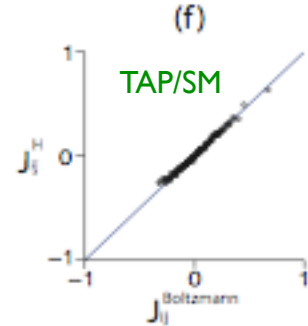
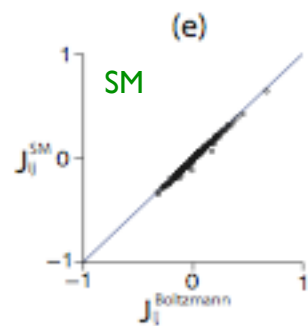
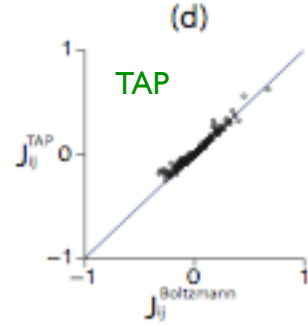
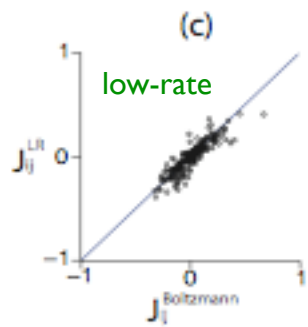
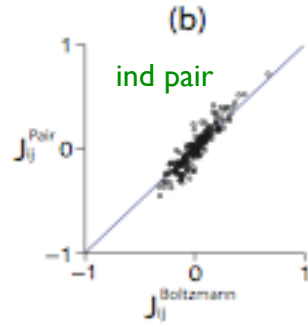
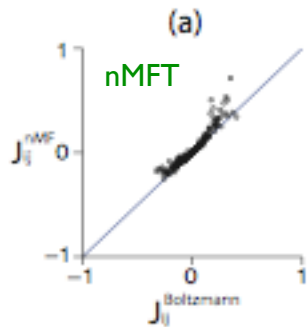


# comparing the approximations

$N=20$

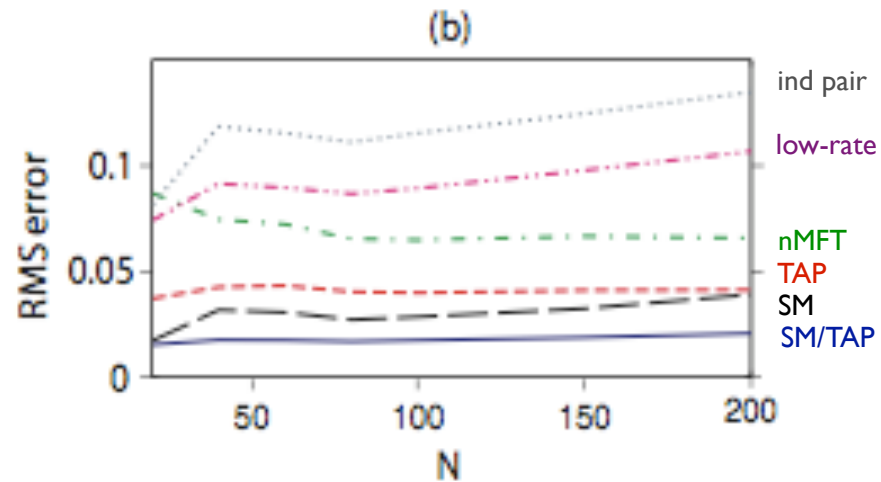
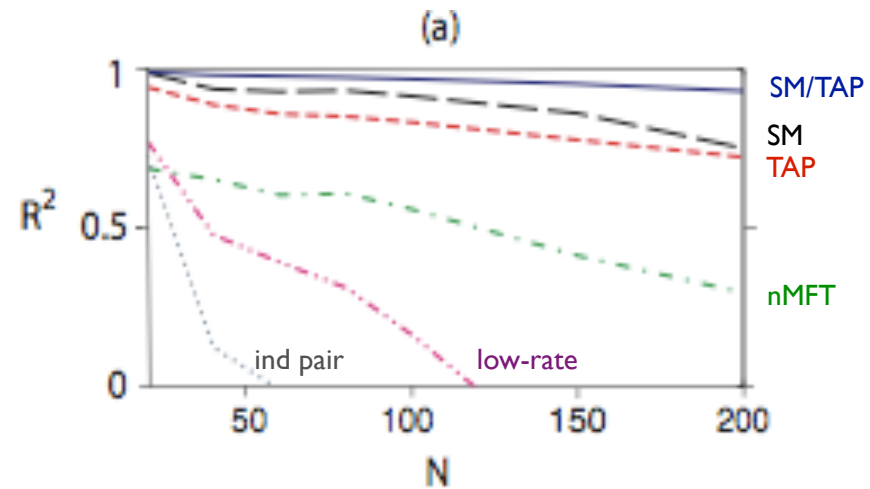
$\delta t=10$  ms

$N=200$



the winner!

# N-dependence of error measures

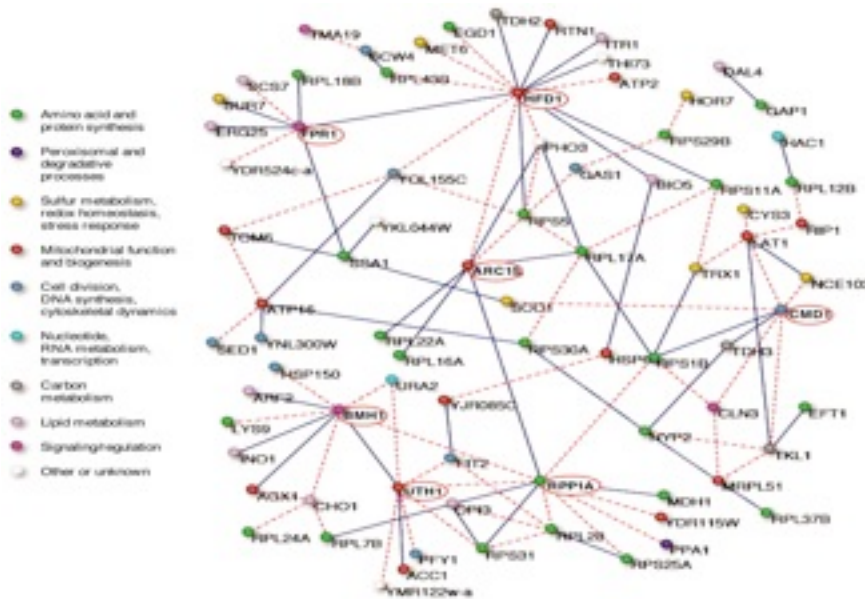


we have fast approximations that can work for large networks

but what can we learn from the inferred connections?

# relation to real network connectivity

~ inferring gene regulatory network



Lazon et al 06

microarray expression data from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

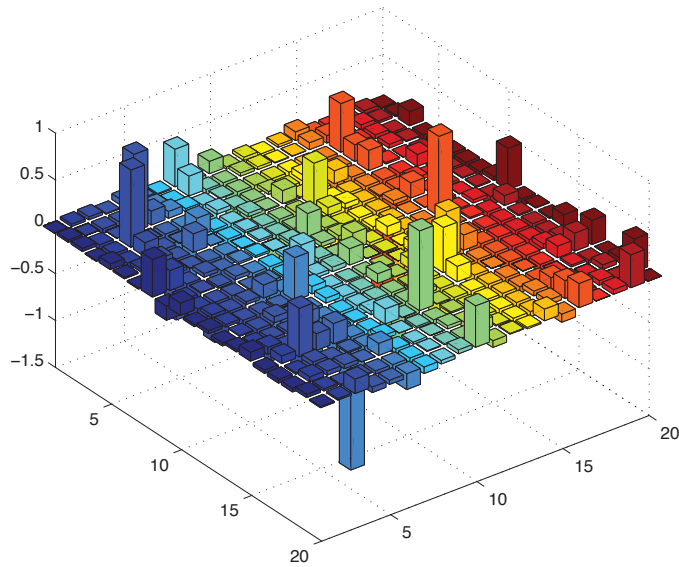
~ Reconstructing protein complexes from co-evolution of contacting residues (#a.a. ~  $10^2$ ; #data ~  $10^3$ - $10^4$ )

Weigt, White, Szurmant, Hoch, Hwa (PNAS 2009)

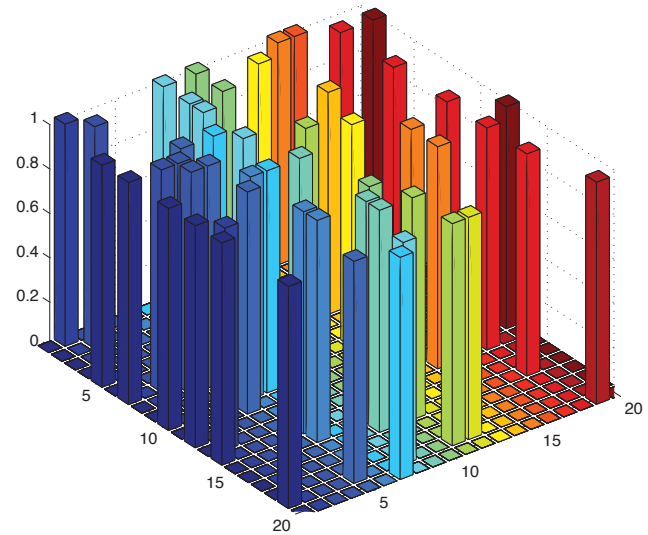


# neural data

inferred



real



~ forcing the connections to be symmetric

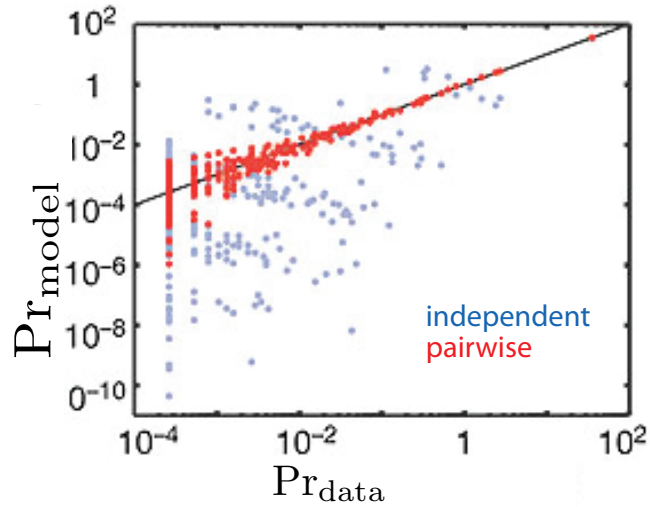
~ equilibrium vs non-equilibrium

- the equilibrium inverse Ising model is not a good model for inferring the connections

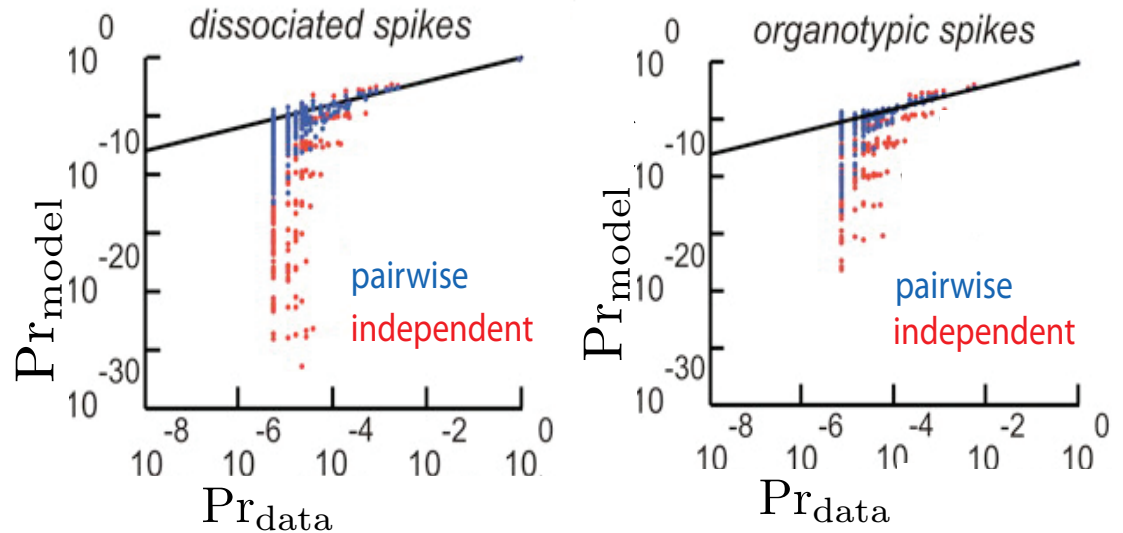
parentheses

- is it a good probability model?

# qualitative picture



Schneidman et al, Nature 2006



Tang et al, J. Neuro. 2008

# quantitative picture

- Compute  $D_{KL}(\text{Pr}_{\text{true}}||\text{Pr}_{\text{pair}})$ .
- Normalise it by  $D_{KL}(\text{Pr}_{\text{true}}||\text{Pr}_{\text{ind}})$

$$\text{Pr}_{\text{ind}}(\mathbf{S}) = \frac{1}{Z_{\text{ind}}} \exp \left[ \sum_i b_i s_i \right] \quad b_i = \tanh^{-1}(\langle s_i \rangle_{\text{data}})$$

- pairwise model quality

$$\Delta = \frac{D_{KL}(\text{Pr}_{\text{data}}||\text{Pr}_{\text{pair}})}{D_{KL}(\text{Pr}_{\text{data}}||\text{Pr}_{\text{ind}})} = \frac{\text{Entropy}_{\text{pair}} - \text{Entropy}_{\text{data}}}{\text{Entropy}_{\text{ind}} - \text{Entropy}_{\text{data}}}$$

$\Delta$  near zero  $\implies$  pairwise model is good

$\Delta$  near one  $\implies$  pairwise model is bad

- **EXPERIMENTAL DATA:  $\Delta \approx 0.01 - 0.1$**

Schneidman et al, Nature 2006  
Shlens et al, J. Neuro. 2006

Tang et al, J. Neuro. 2008  
Shlens et al, J. Neuro. 2009

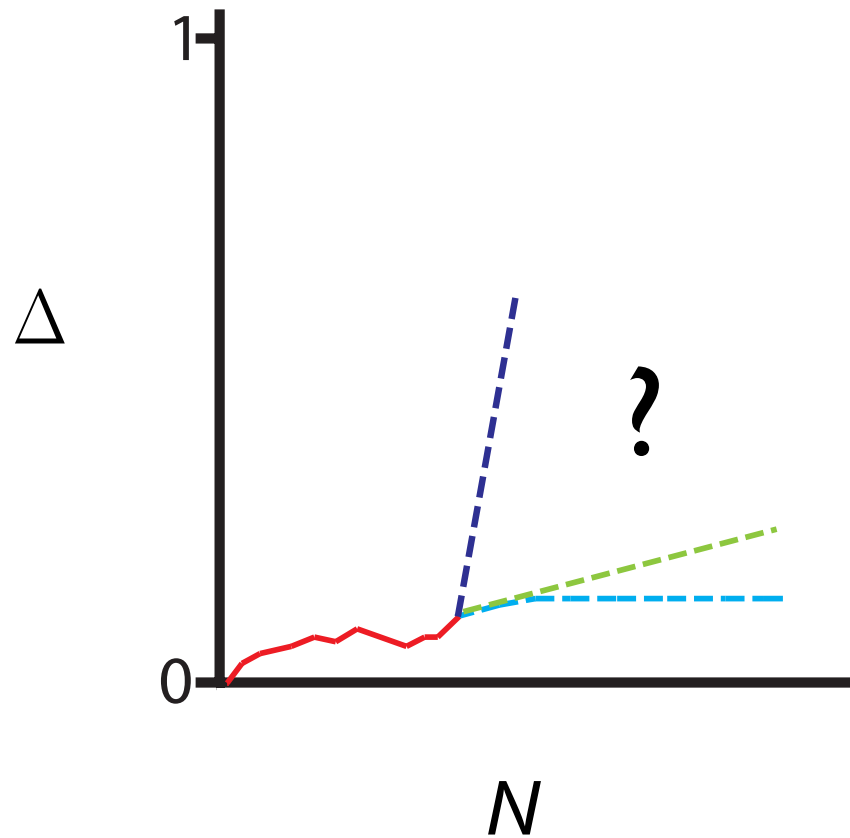
“pairwise models are exceptionally powerful”

**This was calculated for small number of  
neurons  $N \leq 10$ .**

- can we conclude that pairwise models are good for real sized systems?

Roudi et al, PLoS Comp. Biol., 2009  
Roudi et al, Phys. Rev. E., 2009  
Roudi et al, Frontiers in CN, 2009

# extrapolation problem



perturbation for small  $N \delta$

$N$  number of neurons

$\delta$  average number of spikes per bin

- assume  $N\delta \ll 1$ .

*experiments were done in this regime.*

- compute  $D_{\text{KL}}(P_{\text{true}} || P_{\text{pair}})$  and  $D_{\text{KL}}(P_{\text{true}} || P_{\text{ind}})$  perturbatively.

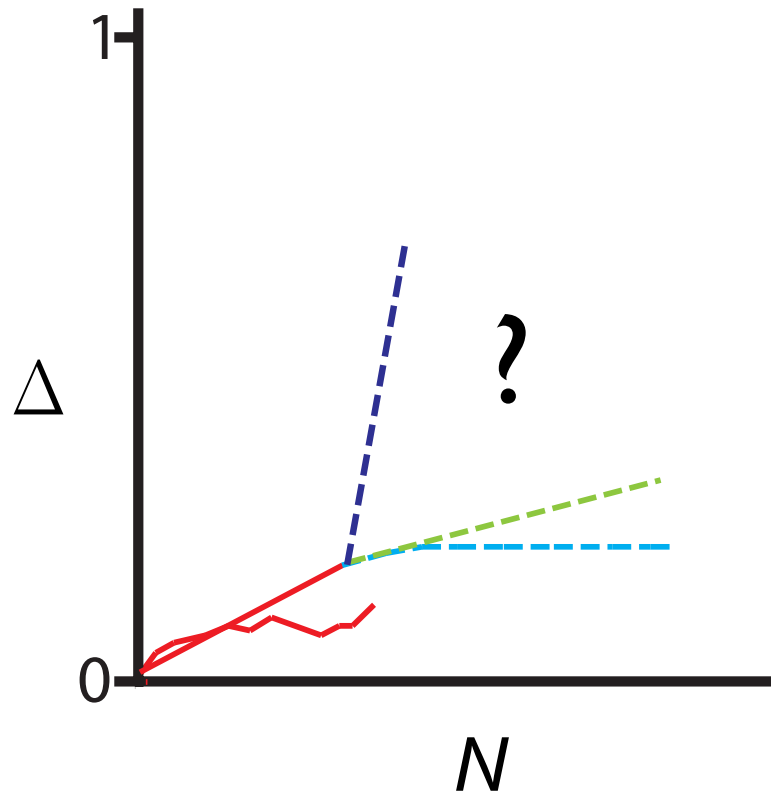
$$D_{\text{KL}}(P_{\text{true}} || P_{\text{ind}}) \propto N (N-1) \delta^2$$

$$D_{\text{KL}}(P_{\text{true}} || P_{\text{pair}}) \propto N (N-1) (N-2) \delta^3$$

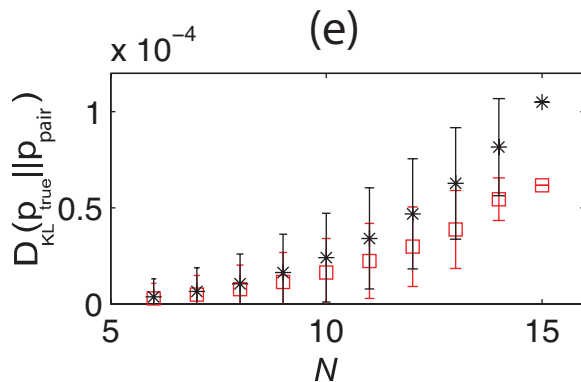
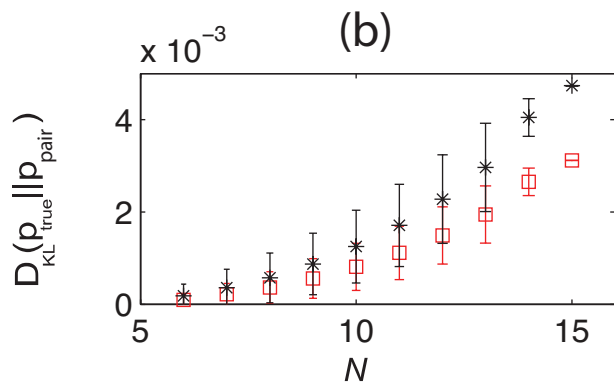
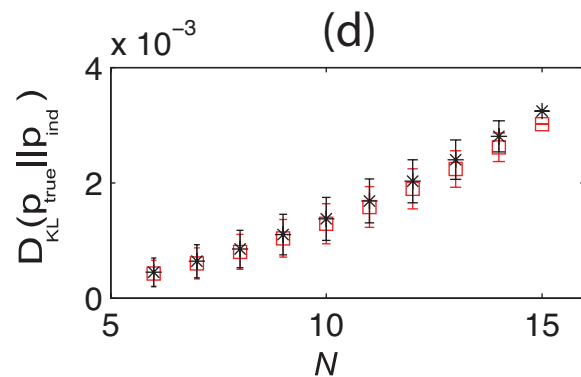
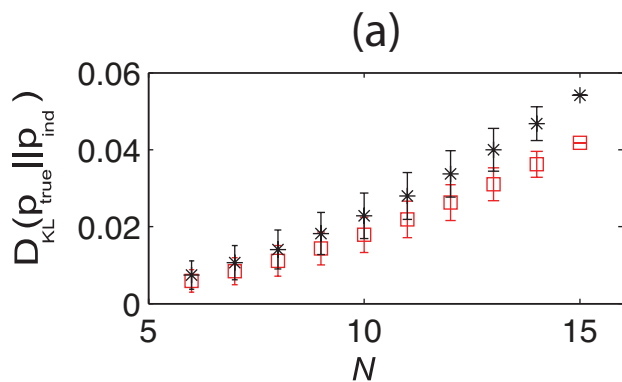
$$\Delta \propto (N-2) \delta \ll 1$$

$\Delta$  is guaranteed to be small for small subsystems, but it has no predictive power.

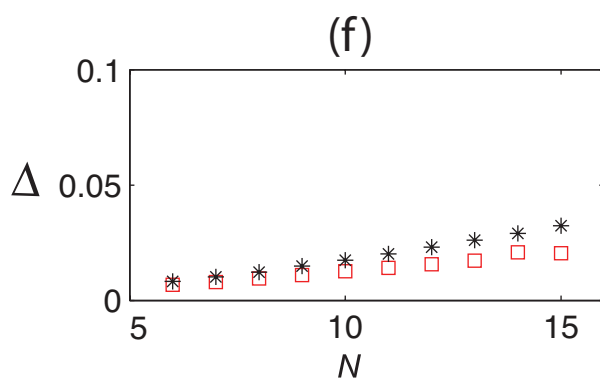
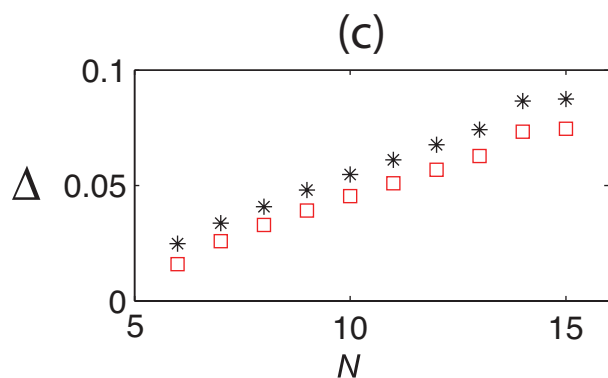




the experimentally observed power of pairwise models  
**cannot be extrapolated** to large systems.



\* data  
 □ theory



$\delta = 0.073$   
 $\delta t = 10 \text{ ms}$

$\delta = 0.019$   
 $\delta t = 2 \text{ ms}$

- equilibrium model does not help you find the connections.
- it is not a good probability model for data unless you're dealing with a brain of  $N \sim 10-20$ .

- ~ forcing the connections to be symmetric
- ~ equilibrium vs non-equilibrium

study kinetic models

GLM models

network of IF neurons

# kinetic Ising model

synchronous discrete time

$$\beta = 1$$

$$\Pr(\{s_i(t+1)\}|\{s_i(t)\}) = \prod_i \frac{\exp \left[ \beta s_i(t+1) h_i(t) + \sum_j \beta J_{ij} s_i(t+1) s_j(t) \right]}{2 \cosh \left[ \beta h_i(t) + \sum_j \beta J_{ij} s_j(t) \right]}$$

asynchronous, continuous time

$$s_i \rightarrow -s_i \quad \text{with probability} \quad \gamma \delta t \left[ 1 - s_i \tanh(\beta h_i + \sum_j J_{ij} s_j) \right]$$

suppose we have observed **R repeats** each of length **L**

$$\mathbf{s}^r(t) = \{s_1^r(t), \dots, s_N^r(t)\}, \quad r = 1 \dots R.$$

log likelihood of this data is

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{h}, \mathbf{J}) = \sum_{t,r,i} \left[ h_i s_i^r(t+1) + \sum_j J_{ij} s_i^r(t+1) s_j^r(t) - \log 2 \cosh(h_i(t) + \sum_j J_{ij} s_j^r(t)) \right].$$

exact learning by maximizing the likelihood by gradient decent

$$\delta h_i = \eta_h \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial h_i} \quad \mid \quad \delta J_{ij} = \eta_J \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial J_{ij}}$$

$$\delta h_i(t) = \eta_h \left\{ \langle s_i(t+1) \rangle_r - \langle \tanh[h_i(t) + \sum_k J_{ik} s_k(t)] \rangle_r \right\}$$

$$\delta J_{ij} = \eta_J \left\{ \langle s_i(t+1) s_j(t) \rangle - \langle \tanh[h_i(t) + \sum_k J_{ik} s_k(t)] s_j(t) \rangle \right\}$$

like (batch version) delta-rule for  $N$  independent perceptrons

Much faster than Boltzmann learning for the symmetric case because it doesn't need long Monte Carlo runs to evaluate the second term

Exact algorithm: mean square error  $\sim 1/L$

Weak- coupling limit: 
$$\left\langle \left( J_{ij}^{calculated} - J_{ij}^{true} \right)^2 \right\rangle = \frac{1}{(1 - m_i^2)L}$$

# Mean field theory for the kinetic learning

I do this for the stationary case first for simplicity



$$\delta J_{ij} = \eta_J \left\{ \langle s_i(t+1) s_j(t) \rangle - \langle \tanh[h_i(t) + \sum_k J_{ik} s_k(t)] s_j(t) \rangle \right\}$$

after the learning is converged  $\delta J_{ij} = 0$

$$\langle s_i(t+1) s_j(t) \rangle = \langle \tanh[h_i(t) + \sum_k J_{ik} s_k(t)] s_j(t) \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_i &= m_i + \delta S_i \\ m_i &= \langle s_i \rangle \end{aligned}$$

expanding 1st order in  $\delta s$  and assuming  $m_i = \tanh(h_i + \sum_j J_{ik}^{\text{MF}} m_k)$

$$\langle \delta s_i(t+1) \delta s_j(t) \rangle = (1 - m_i^2) \sum_k J_{ik}^{\text{MF}} \langle \delta s_k(t) \delta s_j(t) \rangle.$$

$$\mathbf{J}^{\text{MF}} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{C}^{-1}$$

$$C_{ij} = \langle \delta s_i(t) \delta s_j(t) \rangle \quad D_{ij} = \langle \delta s_i(t+1) \delta s_j(t) \rangle$$

$$\delta J_{ij} = \eta_J \left\{ \langle s_i(t+1) s_j(t) \rangle - \langle \tanh[h_i(t) + \sum_k J_{ik} s_k(t)] s_j(t) \rangle \right\}$$

after the learning is converged  $\delta J_{ij} = 0$

$$\langle s_i(t+1) s_j(t) \rangle = \langle \tanh[h_i(t) + \sum_k J_{ik} s_k(t)] s_j(t) \rangle \quad \begin{aligned} S_i &= m_i + \delta S_i \\ m_i &= \langle s_i \rangle \end{aligned}$$

expanding 3rd order in  $\delta s$  and assuming

$$m_i = \tanh[h_i + \sum_k J_{ik}^{\text{TAP}} m_k - m_i \sum_k (J^{\text{TAP}})_{ik}^2 (1 - m_k^2)]$$

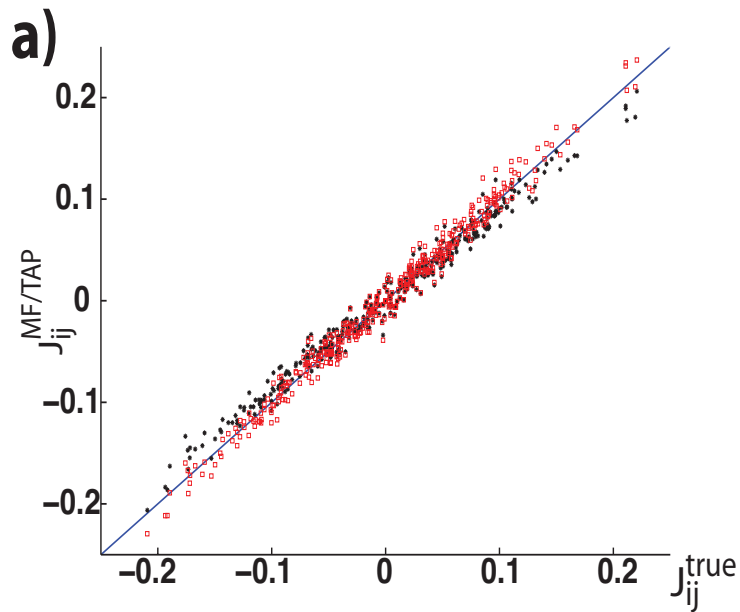

---

$$J_{ij}^{\text{TAP}} = A^{\text{TAP}}{}^{-1} \text{DC}^{-1} = J_{ij}^{\text{MF}} / (1 - F_i)$$

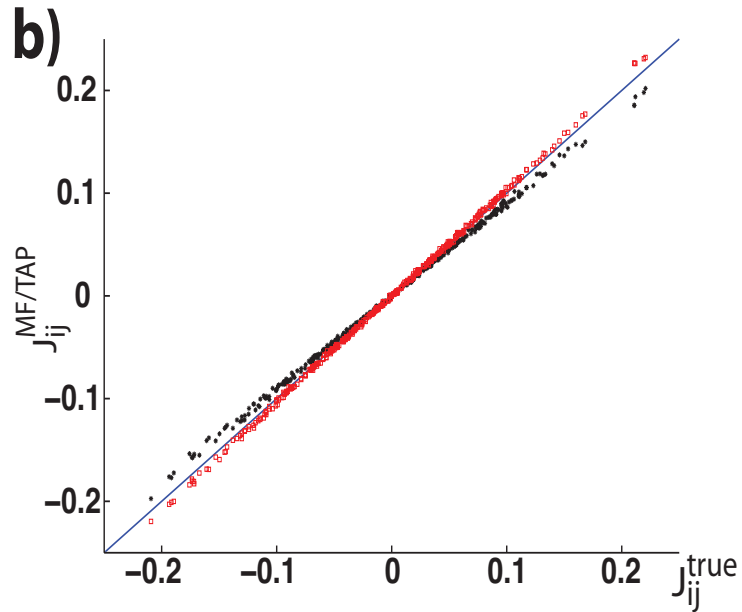
$$A_{ii}^{\text{TAP}} = (1 - m_i^2)(1 - F_i), \quad F_i(1 - F_i^2) = (1 - m_i^2) \sum_j (J^{\text{MF}})_{ij}^2 (1 - m_j^2).$$

$$C_{ij} = \langle \delta s_i(t) \delta s_j(t) \rangle \quad D_{ij} = \langle \delta s_i(t+1) \delta s_j(t) \rangle$$

MF and TAP tested on data generated from a kinetic Ising model:



$L = 10^4$



$L = 10^6$

L time steps, generated by a model with random couplings:

$$\langle J_{ij} \rangle = 0 \quad \langle J_{ij}^2 \rangle = \frac{g^2}{N} \quad (\text{asymmetric Sherrington-Kirkpatrick model})$$

# quantifying the errors

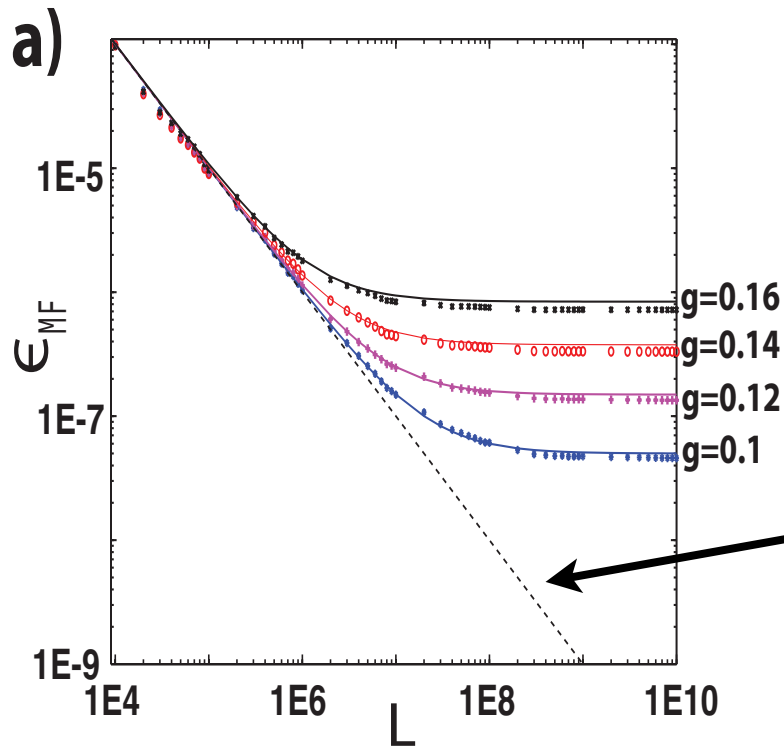
exact algorithm is satisfied when

$$D_{ij} = \langle \tanh[h_i(t) + \sum_k J_{ik} s_k(t)] s_j(t) \rangle$$

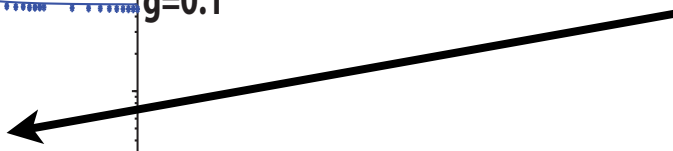
at zero field  $D_{in} = \sum_k J_{ik} \langle s_k s_n \rangle - \frac{1}{3} \sum_{klm} J_{ik} J_{il} J_{im} \langle s_k s_l s_m s_n \rangle + \dots$

using  $J^{\text{MF}} = A^{-1} D C^{-1}$ , yields  $J_{ij}^{\text{MF}} = J_{ij} - \sum_k J_{ik}^2 J_{ij}$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (J_{ij} - J_{ij}^{\text{MF}})^2 \rangle &= \langle \sum_k J_{ik}^2 \rangle^2 \langle J_{ij}^2 \rangle = (g^2)^2 \cdot \frac{g^2}{N} \\ &= \frac{g^6}{N} \end{aligned}$$



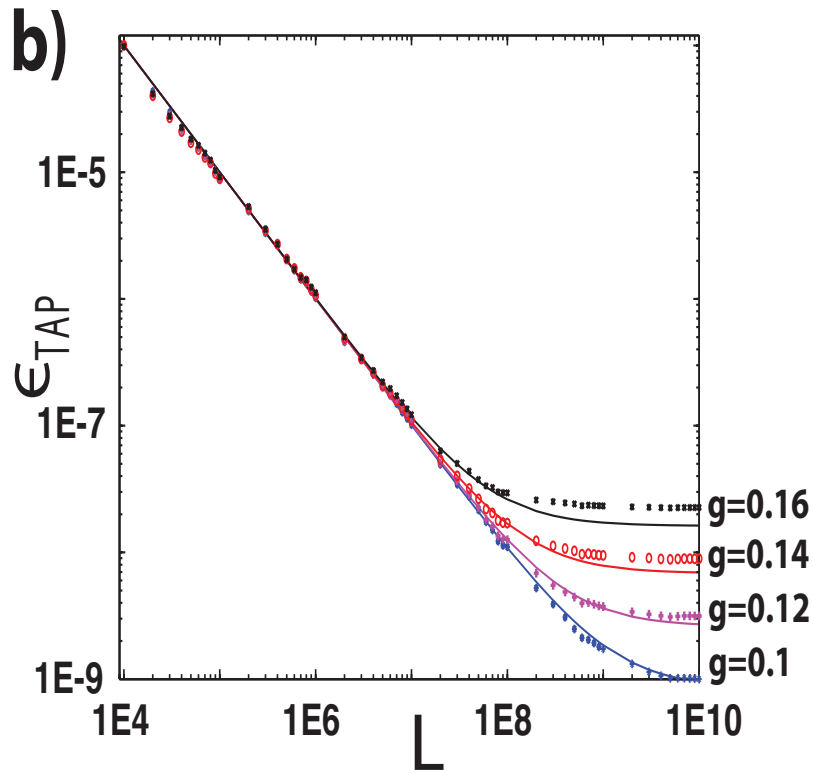
exact  
algorithm



TAP error

$$4g^{10}/N.$$

much smaller than what simulations show



$$4g^{10}/N + (20g^6)/(3N^3).$$

finite size effect  
negligible only for  $N \gg 1/g^2$

# Nonstationary

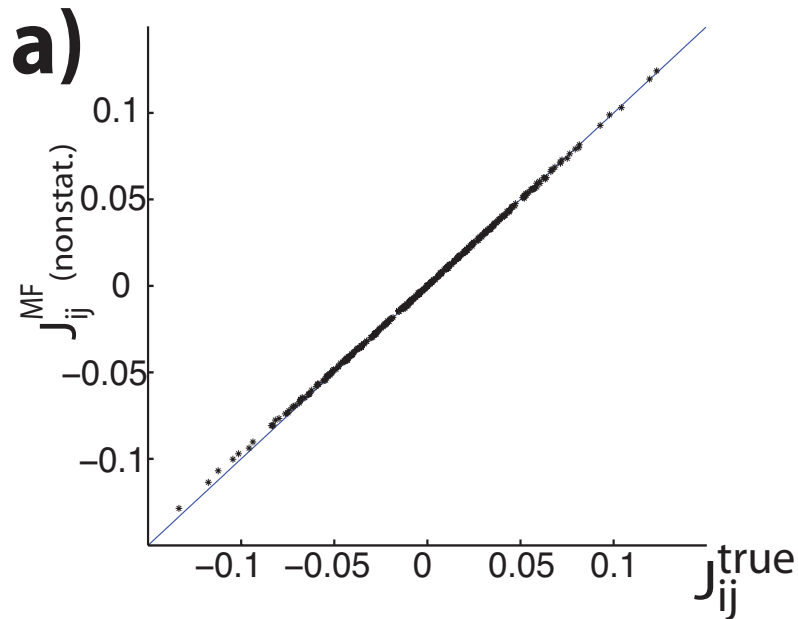
**MF**

$$m_i(t + 1) = \tanh[h_i(t) + \sum_j J_{ij}^{\text{MF}} m_j(t)].$$

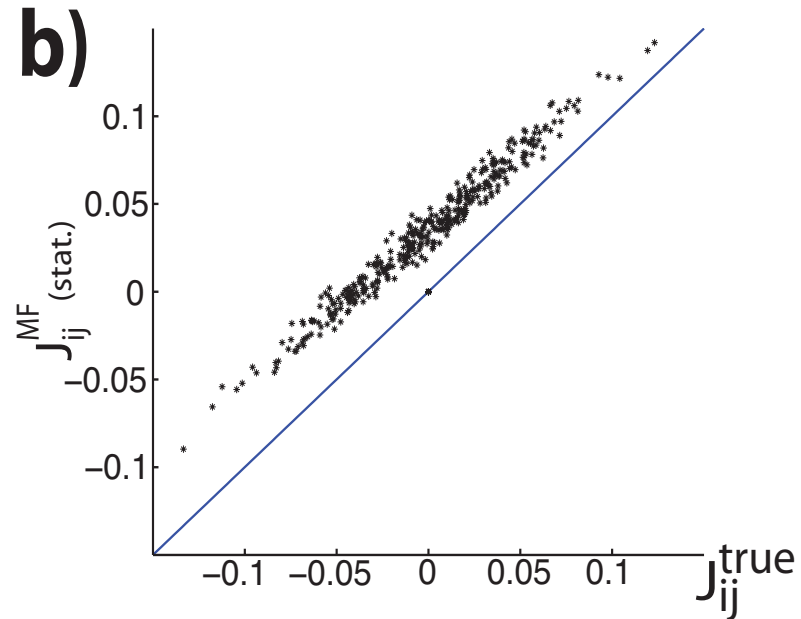
**TAP**

$$m_i(t + 1) = \tanh[h_i(t) + \sum_j J_{ij}^{\text{TAP}} m_j(t) - m_i(t + 1) \sum_j (J^{\text{TAP}})_{ij}^2 (1 - m_j^2(t))].$$

# sinusoidal field applied to all spins



nonstationary MF inference  
applied to nonstationary data

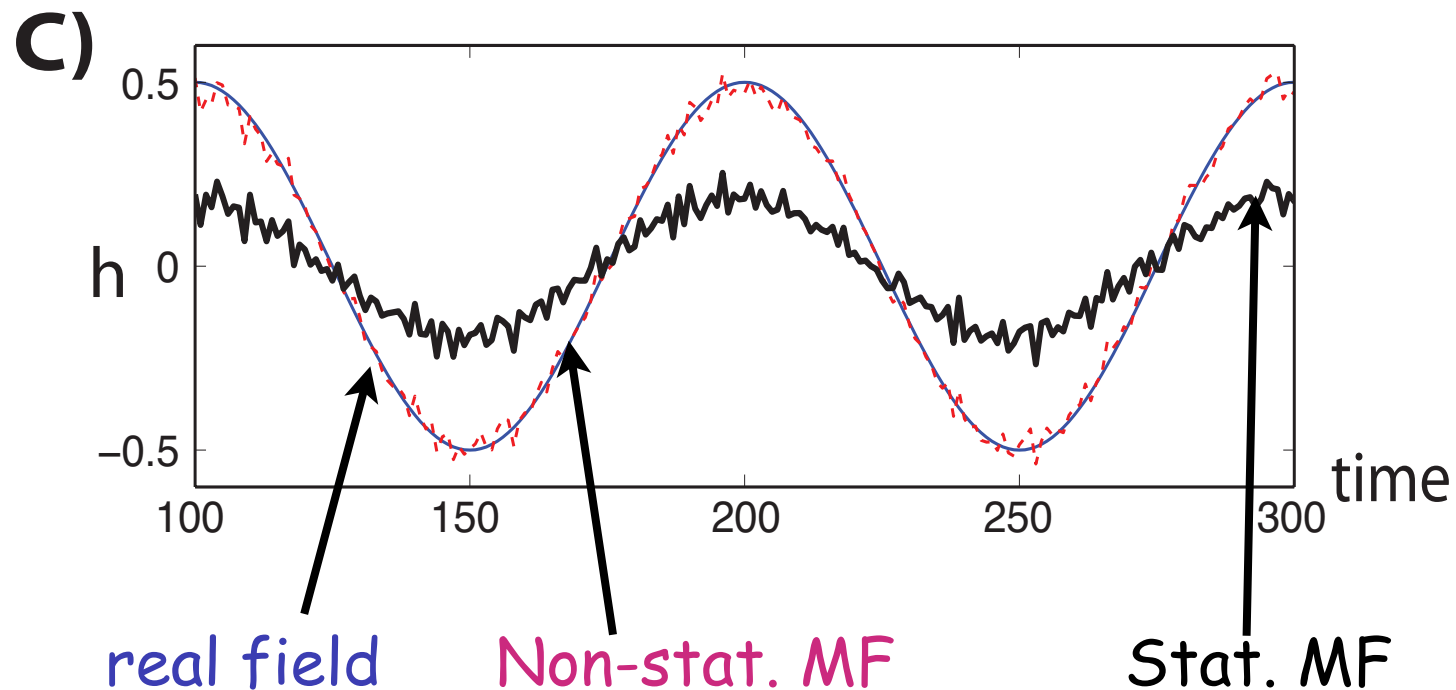


stationary MF inference  
applied to nonstationary data



after we inferred the couplings, we can infer the fields

$$m_i(t + 1) = \tanh[h_i(t) + \sum_j J_{ij}^{\text{MF}} m_j(t)].$$



# real data

- for *in vivo* and *in vitro* real data, we don't know the connectivity
- so we use **in silico real data.**

**simplified model of circuitry in a small  
(~0.5 mm) region of neocortex**

**2 populations in network:**

Excitatory, Inhibitory

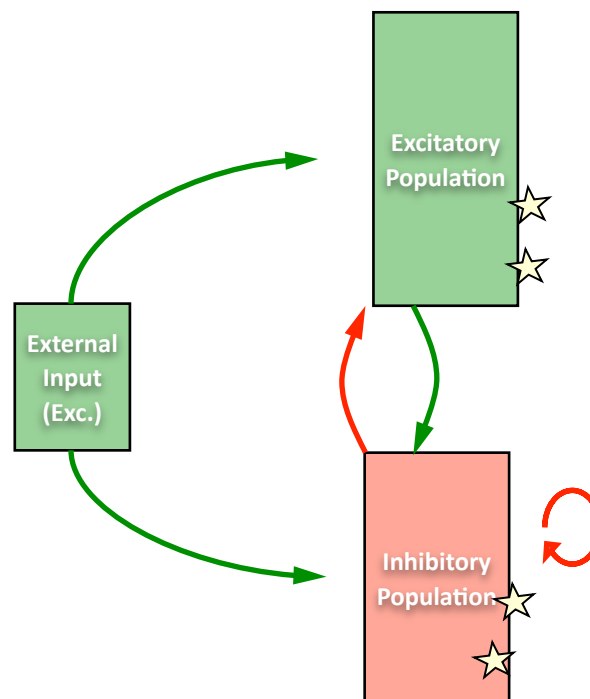
Excitatory external drive (“rest of brain”)

realistic modeling: Hodgkin-Huxley-like  
neurons, conductance-based synapses

**Random connectivity:**

Probability of connection between any two  
neurons is  $c = K/N$ , where  $N$  is the size of  
the population and  $K$  is the average  
number of presynaptic neurons.

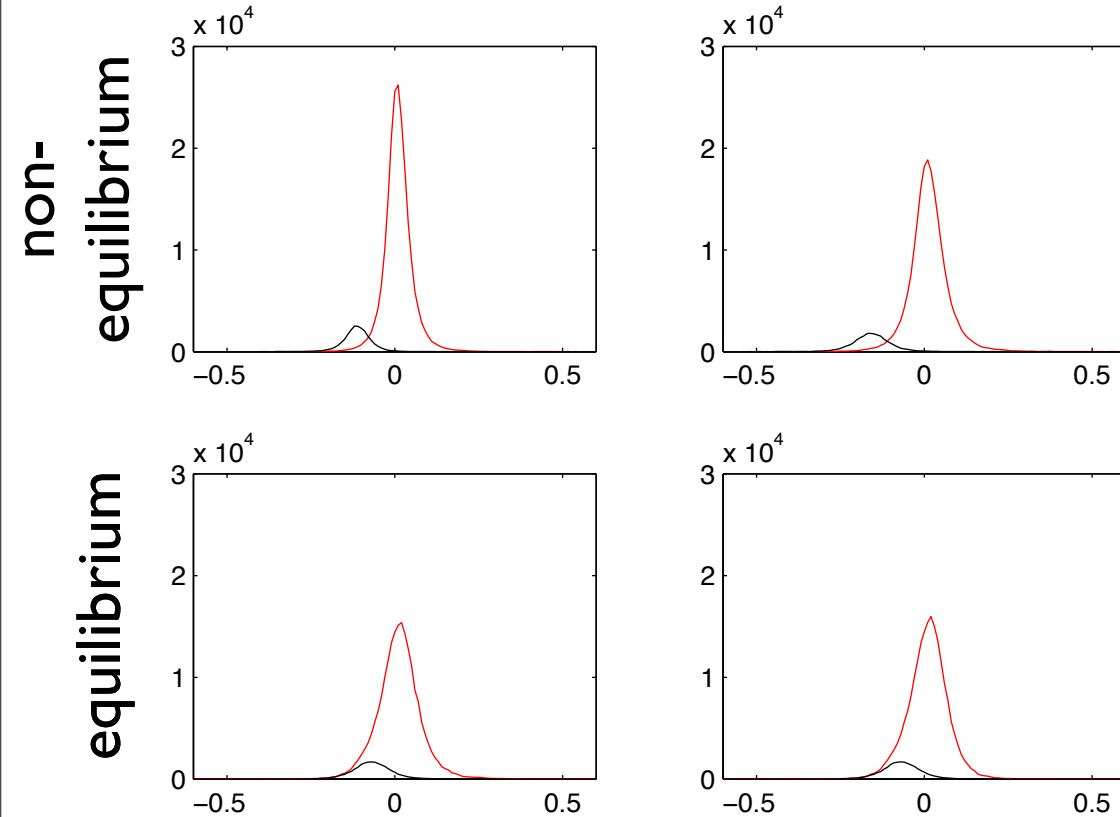
Results here for  
 $c = 0.1, N = 1000$



# inhibitory-inhibitory connections

MF

TAP



--- : synaptic connection present  
in original network  
--- : synaptic connection absent  
in original network

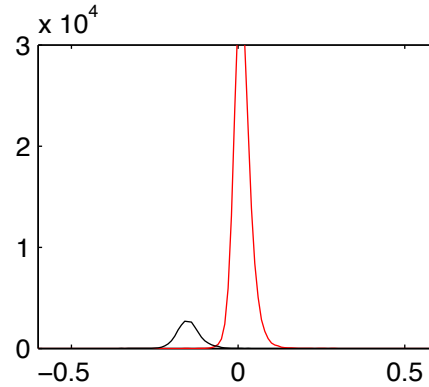
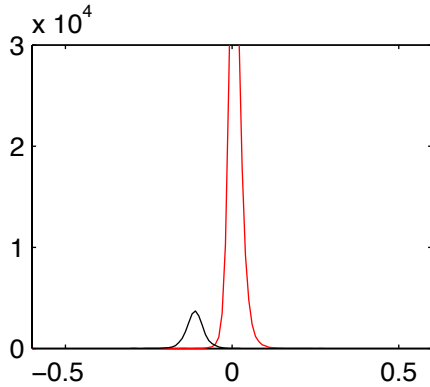
**L = 10000**

# inhibitory-inhibitory connections

MF

TAP

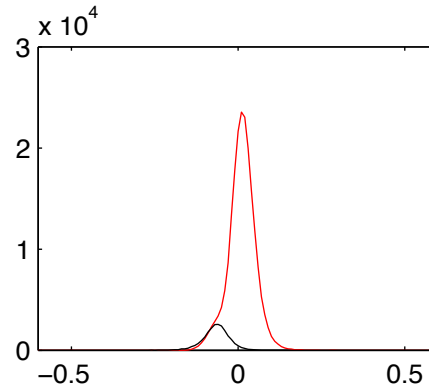
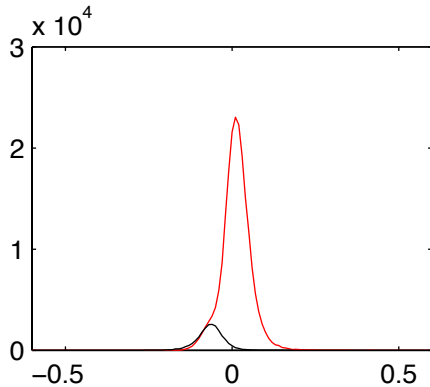
non-  
equilibrium



--- : synaptic connection present  
in original network

--- : synaptic connection absent  
in original network

equilibrium



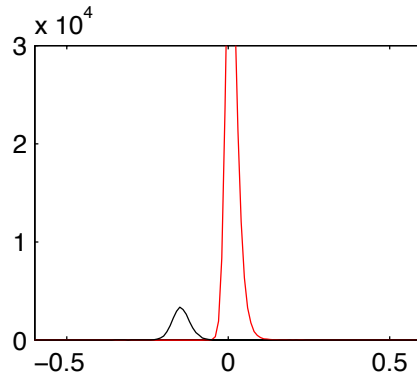
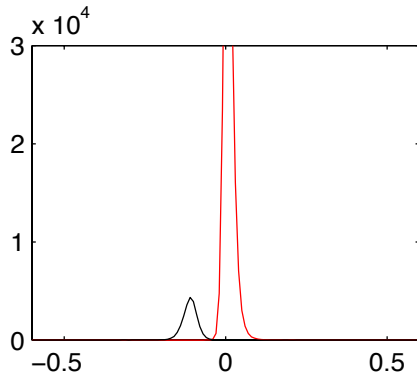
$L = 100000$

# inhibitory-inhibitory connections

MF

TAP

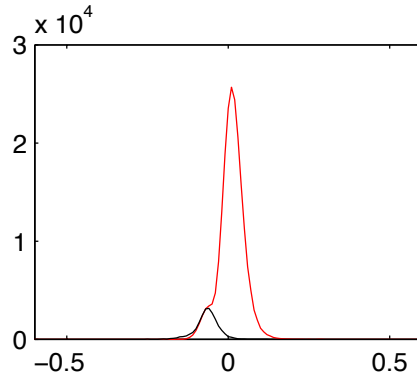
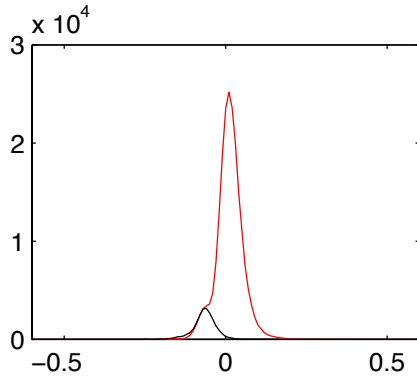
non-  
equilibrium



--- : synaptic connection present  
in original network

--- : synaptic connection absent  
in original network

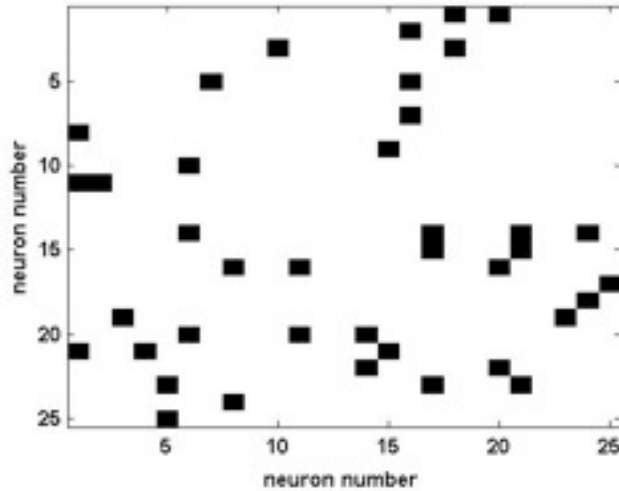
equilibrium



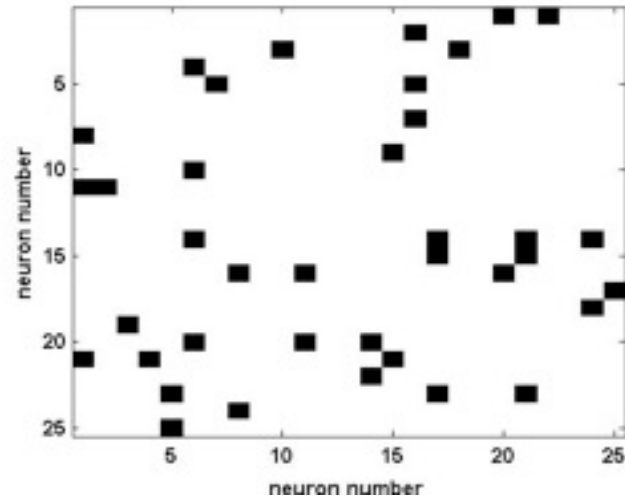
$L = 1000000$

# one example: 25 neurons

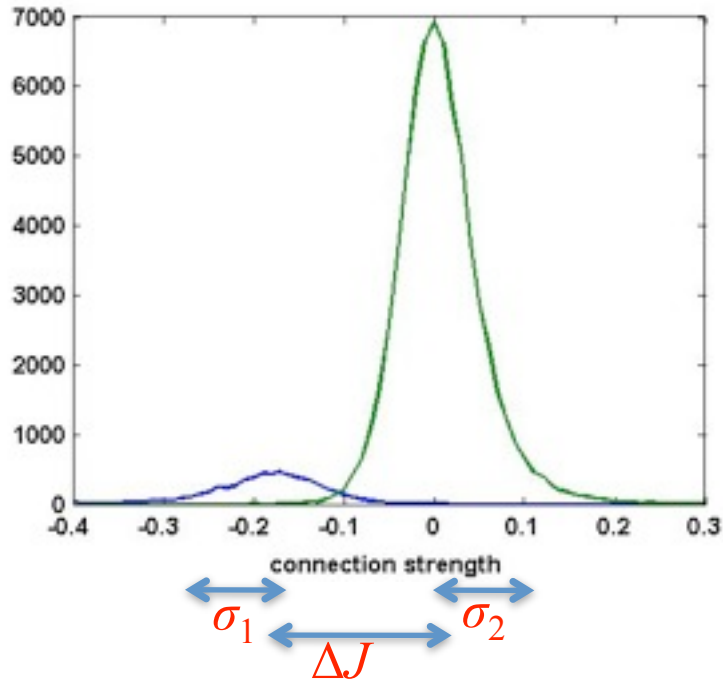
model connections:



inferred connections:



# noise/signal ratio

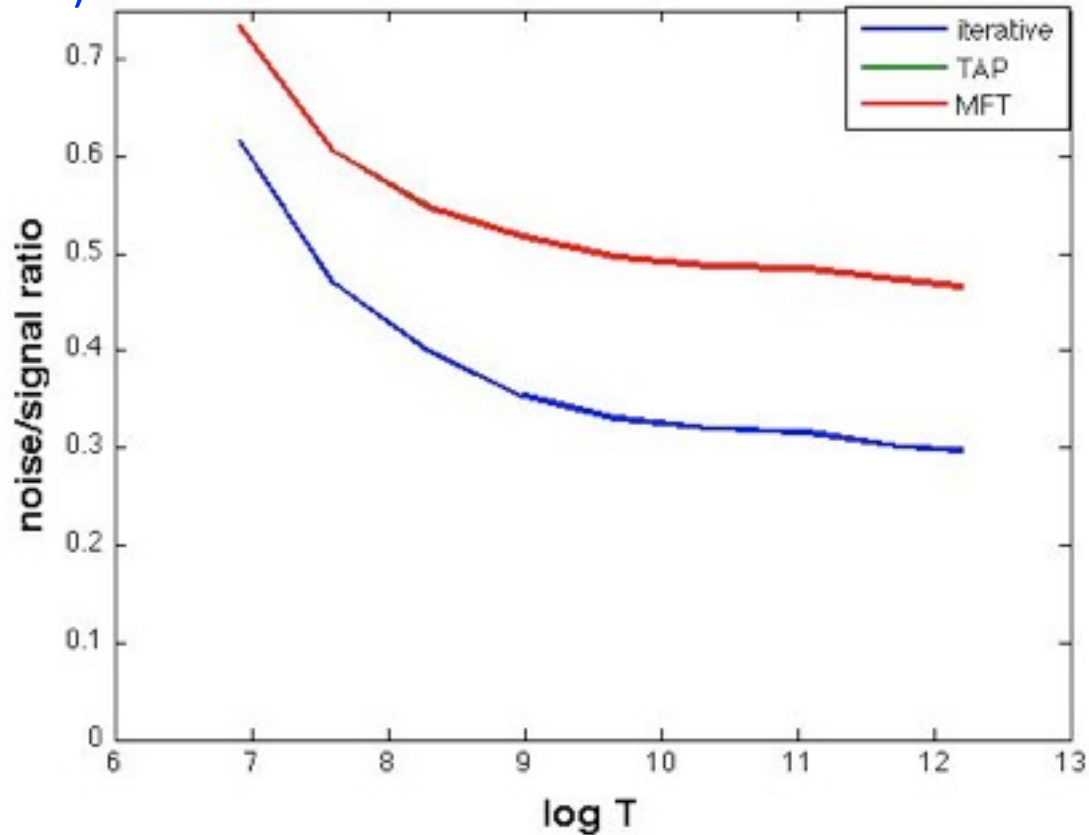


$$\text{nsr} = \frac{\sigma_1 + \sigma_2}{\Delta J}$$
$$= 0.5212$$



# nsr as function of data set size

(95 neurons)



TAP and MFT  
give same  
results here

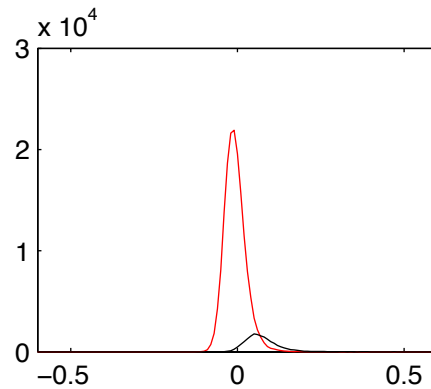
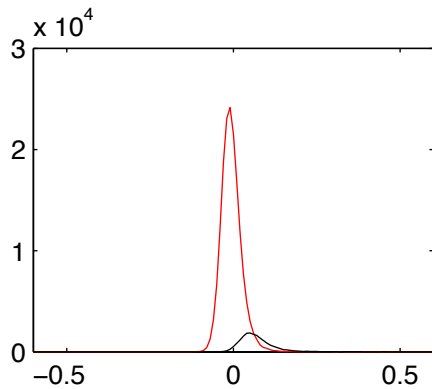
(1000-200000 10-ms time bins)

# excitatory-excitatory connections

MF

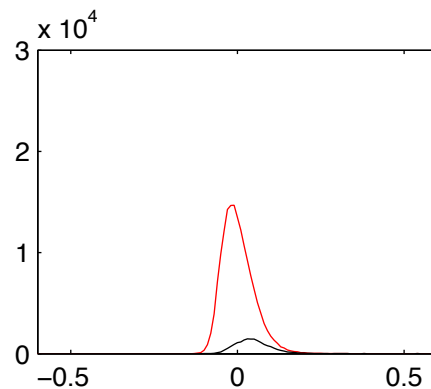
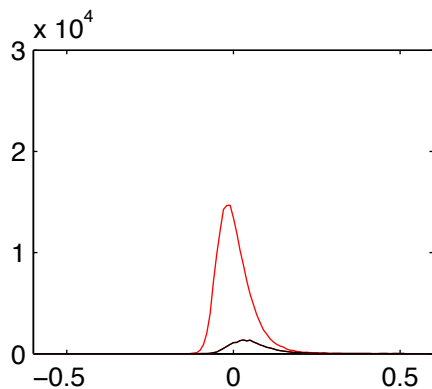
TAP

non-  
equilibrium



--- : synaptic connection present  
in original network  
--- : synaptic connection absent  
in original network

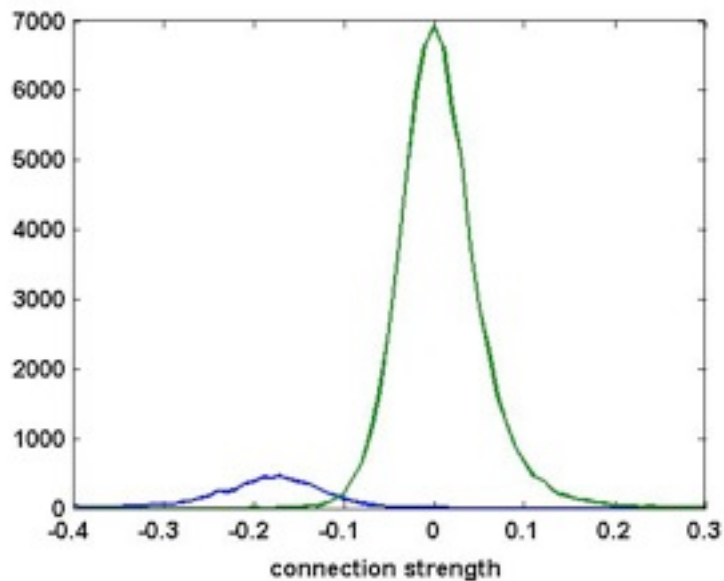
equilibrium



$L = 1000000$

# summary

- we can develop exact, MF and TAP approximate learning rules for the non-equilibrium case.
- the error can be quantified in the weak couplings (high  $Y$ ) regime, leading to an asymptotic error of  $g^6/N$  for MF and  $g^{10}/N$  for TAP (+ finite size).
- we can also extend everything to the nonstationary regime.
- for simulated data, we can infer the strong connections.



from some point, width of these histograms does not shrink with increasing data set size:

Residual error reflects misfit between original network and Ising model

# future

- quantify the error for the non-stationary case.
- the issue of subsampling, i.e. observing only part of the system.
- relation to non-equilibrium FDTs.
- asynchronous (continuous time) dynamics (Erik Aurell et al)

based on

Roudi, Tyrcha, Hertz, 2009, Phys. Rev. E  
Roudi, Aurell, Hertz, 2009, Frontiers. C. N.  
Roudi, Nirenberg, Latham, 2009, PLoS C. B.  
Hertz, Roudi et al, 2010, BMC Neur.  
Aurell, Olions, Roudi, EPJ B, 2010  
Roudi & Hertz, 2010, [arXiv:1009.5946](https://arxiv.org/abs/1009.5946)

in collaboration with

John Hertz  
Peter Latham  
Erik Aurell  
Joanna Tyrcha  
Sheila Nirenberg

financial Support

THE  KAVLI FOUNDATION

  
NORDITA