Failure tolerance of synchronization in complex dynamical networks



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A single Hindmarsh-Rose neuron

The Hindmarsh-Rose equations for a single neuron:

$$\begin{cases} x'(t) = y - x^3 + 3x^2 - z + I, \\ y'(t) = 1 - 5x^2 - y, \\ z'(t) = 0.005(4(x + 1.6) - z), \end{cases}$$

where

- x is the membrane potential;
- y is associated with the fast current, for example Na⁺ or K⁺;
- z is associated with the slow current, for example Ca^{2+} ;
- I is the external current input.

Time evolution of a single HR neuron with I = 3.0



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Watts-Strogatz-type small-world networks

 Duncan J. Watts and Steven H. Strogatz, Collective dynamics of 'small-world' networks, *Nature*, 393 (1998), pp. 440-442.



• Small-world property: Highly clustered as regular networks and small distance as random networks.

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A coupled dynamical network with community structure



Hindmarsh-Rose neural network

• Linearly coupled dynamical network of Hindmarsh-Rose neurons:

$$\mathbf{x}'_{i}(t) = F(\mathbf{x}_{i}(t)) - c \sum_{j=1}^{m} \ell_{ij} \Gamma \mathbf{x}_{j}(t), \quad i = 1, 2, \cdots, m,$$
(1)

where

- *m* is the total number of neurons in the network;
- $\mathbf{x}_i(t) = (x_i(t), y_i(t), z_i(t))^\top$ is the state variable of neuron *i*;
- $F(\mathbf{x}_i)$ describes the intrinsic dynamics of neuron *i*, that is,

$$F(\mathbf{x}_i) = \begin{pmatrix} y_i + 3x_i^2 - x_i^3 - z_i + 3.0\\ 1 - 5x_i^2 - y_i\\ 0.005(4(x_i + 1.6) - z_i) \end{pmatrix};$$

- *c* > 0 is the coupling strength;
- $\Gamma = diag\{1, 0, 0\}$ is the inner-coupling matrix which determines the coupled components of the neurons.

Laplacian matrix

- Assume that the network is undirected and does not contain self loops.
- The adjacency matrix $A = (a_{ij})_{m \times m}$ of the given network is a real symmetric matrix with

$$\begin{cases} a_{ii} = 0, & \text{for all } i, \\ a_{ij} = a_{ji} = 1, & \text{if the pair of nodes } (i,j) \text{ is connected by a link}, \\ a_{ij} = a_{ji} = 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The matrix L = (ℓ_{ij})_{m×m} is the Laplacian matrix, that is, L = D − A, here the matrix D = diag{d₁, d₂, · · · , d_m} is the degree matrix with d_i = ∑_{j=1}^m a_{ij} for i = 1, 2, · · · , m.



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Properties of the Laplacian matrix

- *L* is a symmetric matrix with zero row sums and $\ell_{ij} \leq 0$ for all $i \neq j$.
- The zero row sums condition implies that there exists a completely synchronized state

$$\mathbf{x}_1(t) = \mathbf{x}_2(t) = \cdots = \mathbf{x}_m(t) = \mathbf{s}(t),$$

where $\dot{\mathbf{s}}(t) = F(\mathbf{s}(t))$.

- All the eigenvalues of *L* are nonnegative;
- L always has at least one zero eigenvalue, say λ₁ = 0;
- There is only one zero eigenvalue if the network is connected.
- Assume the network is connected $\implies 0 = \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_m$.

Synchronization analysis based on master stability function method

- Louis M. Pecora and Thomas L. Carroll, Master stability functions for synchronized coupled systems, *Physical Review Letters*, 80 (1998), pp. 2109-2112.
- Idea: Consider perturbations around the completely synchronized state.
 We need to know whether the perturbations grow or decay in time.



(left) complete synchronization and (right) synchronized state

Linear stability

- Let δx_i(t) = x_i(t) − s(t), for i = 1, 2, · · · , m, be the time evolution of the set of infinitesimal perturbation about s(t).
- The variational equation of (1) is given by

$$\frac{d}{dt}\delta \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{D}F(\mathbf{s})\delta \mathbf{x}_i - c\sum_{j=1}^m \ell_{ij}\Gamma \delta \mathbf{x}_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \cdots, m.$$
(2)

• Let
$$\delta \mathbf{y}_i = Q^{-1} \delta \mathbf{x}_i$$
 for $i = 1, 2, \cdots, m$, we have

$$\frac{d}{dt}\delta \mathbf{y}_i = [\mathbf{D}F(\mathbf{s}) - c\lambda_i \Gamma]\delta \mathbf{y}_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \cdots, m.$$
(3)

- For $\lambda_1 = 0$, we have $\frac{d}{dt}\delta \mathbf{y}_1 = \mathbf{D}F(\mathbf{s})\delta \mathbf{y}_1$ which corresponds the perturbation parallel to the synchronized state.
- The other m-1 systems correspond to transverse directions and should be damped out to have a sychronized state.

Master stability function

- Observation: Each system of (3) has the same form with only the parameter α_i = cλ_i being different.
- This leads to the master stability equation

$$\mathbf{y}' = [\mathbf{D}F(\mathbf{s}) - \alpha \Gamma]\mathbf{y}.$$
 (4)

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- Calculate the largest Lyapunov exponent Λ(α), which is called the master stability function (MSF).
- For large t, $\|\mathbf{y}(t)\| \approx \|\mathbf{y}(0)\| \exp(\Lambda(\alpha)t)$ and $\mathbf{y} \to 0$ if $\Lambda(\alpha) < 0$.
- Note that the MSF being negative is a necessary but not sufficient condition for synchronization to actually occur.

The MSF for Hindmarsh-Rose neuron

• The MSF for Hindmarsh-Rose neuron:



- $\Lambda(\alpha)$ is negative on the interval (α_1, ∞) , where $\alpha_1 \approx 0.9250$.
- The condition for synchronization becomes $c\lambda_2 > \alpha_1$.
- λ₂ can be used as an indicator of the synchronizability of the network.
- Question: How the network structures affect the synchronizability?

Centrality measure – degree centrality

- Centrality: Which are the most important or central node in a network?
- Degree centrality: $C_D(n_i) = \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij}$.
- An important node is involved in large number of interactions.



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Centrality measure - eigenvector centrality

• Eigenvector centrality:

- Let μ be the largest eigenvalue of A with corresponding eigenvector $V = (v_1, v_2, \cdots, v_m)^{\top}$, that is, $AV = \mu V$.
- V is the eigenvector centrality.
- Specifically, $C_E(n_i) = v_i = \mu^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} v_j$.
- Perron-Frobenius theorem $\implies \mu > 0$ and $v_i > 0, \forall i$
- An important node is connected to important neighbors.

$$1 \qquad 2 \qquad 3 \qquad 4 \\ 5 \qquad V = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2610 \\ 0.5573 \\ 0.4647 \\ 0.4352 \\ 0.4674 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow C_E(n_2) \\ \leftarrow C_E(n_3) \\ \leftarrow C_E(n_4) \\ \leftarrow C_E(n_4) \\ \leftarrow C_E(n_5) \end{pmatrix}$$

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Centrality measure - closeness centrality

• Closeness centrality:

- p_{ij} = the length of the shortest path from node *i* to node *j*.
- The mean distance from node *i* to other nodes is $\overline{p}_i = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m p_{ii}$.

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$$C_C(n_i) = \frac{1}{\overline{p}_i}$$

• An important node is typically "close" to, and can communicate quickly with, the other nodes in the network.



Centrality measure – betweenness centrality

Betweenness centrality:

- σ_{uv} = total number of shortest paths from node *u* to node *v*.
- $\sigma_{uv}(n_i)$ = the number of shortest paths from node u to node v that pass through node *i*.
- $C_B(n_i) = \sum_{u \neq n: \neq v} \frac{\sigma_{uv}(n_i)}{\sigma_i}$.

An important node will lie on a high proportion of paths between other nodes in the network.



Component failure

- Netwroks may undergo failures in one or more of their components, i.e., nodes and/or edges.
- The failures are of two types in general:
 - Random failure ⇔ errors, or
 - Systematic failure \Leftrightarrow attacks.
- **Objective:** We will discuss how random and systematic failures in the nodes of a network influence its synchronizability.



Strategies

- To choose candidate nodes for removal, five strategies were considered:
 - Random failure
 - Systematic failure based on degree centrality
 - Systematic failure based on eigenvector centrality
 - Systematic failure based on closeness centrality
 - Systematic failure based on betweenness centrality

Connection networks

- We considered artificially constructed model networks:
 - Total number of nodes m = 400.
 - The number of clusters is M = 20 and each of which is a WS-type network with intra-connection probability P_{intra} .
 - The *M* clusters are arranged on a ring and the inter-connections between different clusters exist randomly with the probability *P*_{inter}.



An example

- Here, we choose a network with eigenvalue $\lambda_2(A) = 0.0727$.
- Let $c = 13 \Longrightarrow c\lambda_2(A) \in (\alpha_1, \infty)$.
- The waveforms of $\operatorname{Err}(t) = \max_{i < j} ||x_i(t) x_j(t)||_{\infty}$ is depicted as follows:



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An example (continued)

 Based on different systematic failure strategies, we removed one node and observed the location of cλ₂.



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An example (continued)



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Inter-connection probability $P_{inter} = 0.05$



All data points are averaged over 20 network realizations

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Intra-connection probability $P_{intra} = 0.1$



All data points are averaged over 20 network realizations

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Concluding remarks

- We have studied how random and systematic failures in the nodes of a network influence its synchronizability.
- Failures based on the betweenness centrality, that is, removing the nodes with high values of the betweenness centrality, has the significant effect on the network synchronizability.
- The synchronizability of the constructed networks is robust against random removal of nodes.

Thank you for your attention!



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