Latent Variable Modeling of Neural Population Dynamics - Where Do We Go From Here?

February 1

Tuesday, 12:30pm

Online Webinar

For Researchers



Speaker:

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Host: Yutaka Yoshida, Ph.D.

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Abstract

Large-scale recordings of neural activity are providing new opportunities to study network-level dynamics with unprecedented detail. However, the sheer volume of data and its dynamical complexity are major barriers to uncovering and interpreting these dynamics. I will present machine learning frameworks that enable inference of dynamics from neuronal population spiking activity on single trials and millisecond timescales, from diverse brain areas, and without regard to behavior. I will then demonstrate extensions that allow recovery of dynamics from two-photon calcium imaging data with

surprising precision. Finally, I will discuss our efforts to facilitate comparisons within our field by curating datasets and standardizing model evaluation, including a currently active modeling challenge, the 2021 Neural Latents Benchmark [neurallatents.github.io].



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Keshtkaran MR*, Sedler AR*, Chowdhury RH**, Tandon R**, Basrai D, Nguyen SL, Sohn H, Jazayeri M, Miller LE, Pandarinath C. A large-scale neural network training framework for generalized estimation of single-trial population dynamics. (2022) Nature Methods, in press. Preprint on BioRxiv: 10.1101/2021.01.13.426570, posted Jan 15, 2021.

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