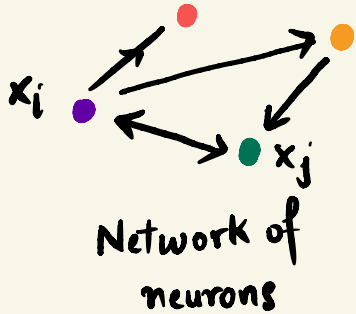


THRESHOLD  
LINEAR  
NETWORKS



# SETUP



$\implies$

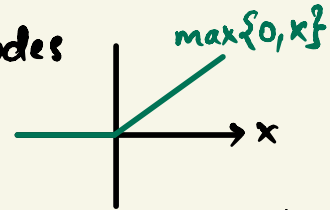
- $x_i(t)$  represents the firing rate or activity level of node  $i$ .

- $$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = -x_i(t) + \left[ \sum W_{ij} x_j(t) + b_i(t) \right]_+$$

or, 
$$\dot{\vec{x}} = -\vec{x} + \left[ W\vec{x} + \vec{b} \right]_+$$

- $W$  is a real valued matrix and it encodes the interaction strengths between nodes

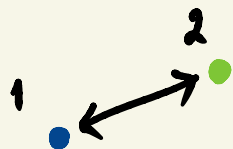
- $[\cdot]_+ : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is RELU function



- $b_i(t)$  is external input (usually this is constant)

recurrent  
neural  
network

## EXAMPLE 0



Take  $W = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= -x_1 + [-x_2 + \theta]_+ \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_2 + [2x_1 + \theta]_+\end{aligned}$$

( $\theta = b$  is a positive real number)

# INHIBITION DOMINATED TLNs

$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = -x_i + \left[ \sum W_{ij} x_j + b_j \right]_+ \quad (1)$$

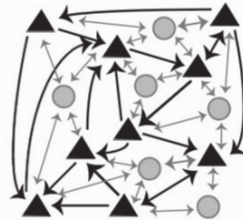
← RELU notation

- take  $W$  to be entrywise nonpositive.
- $\Leftrightarrow$  interaction between neurons is inhibitory.

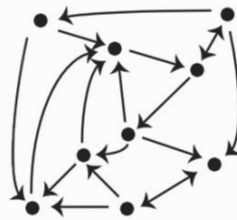
Figure 6.

**CTLNs.** A neural network with excitatory pyramidal neurons (triangles) and a background network of inhibitory interneurons (gray circles) that produces a global inhibition. The corresponding graph (right) retains only the excitatory neurons and their connections.

neural network



graph



WHY?

[CURTO, MORRISON]

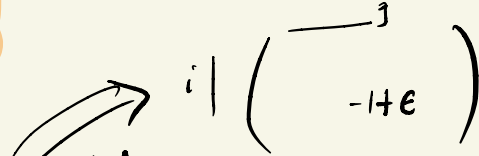
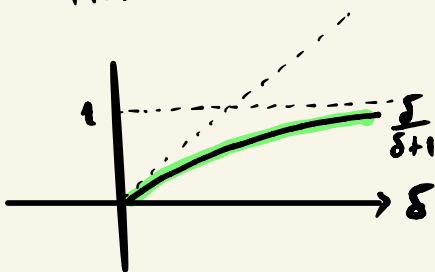
# SPECIALIZATION (inhibition dominated TLNs)

## COMBINATORIAL THRESHOLD LINEAR NETWORKS

$$W_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i=j \\ -1+\epsilon & \text{if } j \rightarrow i \text{ in } G \\ -1-\delta & \text{if } j \not\rightarrow i \text{ in } G \end{cases}$$

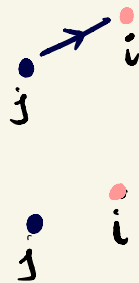
and  $b_i = \theta$  positive constant

Here  $\delta > 0$ ,  $0 < \epsilon < \frac{\delta}{\delta+1}$



Note:

- when  $j \rightarrow i$  neuron  $j$  inhibits  $i$  less than itself.
- when  $j \not\rightarrow i$  neuron  $j$  inhibits  $i$  more than it inhibits itself.



$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = -x_i + [\dots (-1-\delta)x_j \dots]$$

$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = -x_i + [\dots (-1+\epsilon)x_j + \dots]$$

$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = -x_i$$



# MOTIVATING QUESTIONS

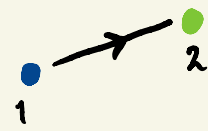
- Given the model defined by (1), what is the emergent dynamics?
  - fixed points? — stable?  
— unstable?
  - attracting sets? — periodic?  
— quasi-periodic? chaotic?
- What can the graph  $G$  tell about the dynamics?

MEMORY



$$(1) \quad \dot{\vec{x}} = -\vec{x} + [W\vec{x} + \theta]_+$$

# CTLNs AND HYPERPLANE ARRANGEMENTS



$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad W = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1-\delta \\ -1+\epsilon & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\epsilon, \delta > 0 \quad \theta > 0$$

$$0 < \epsilon < 1$$

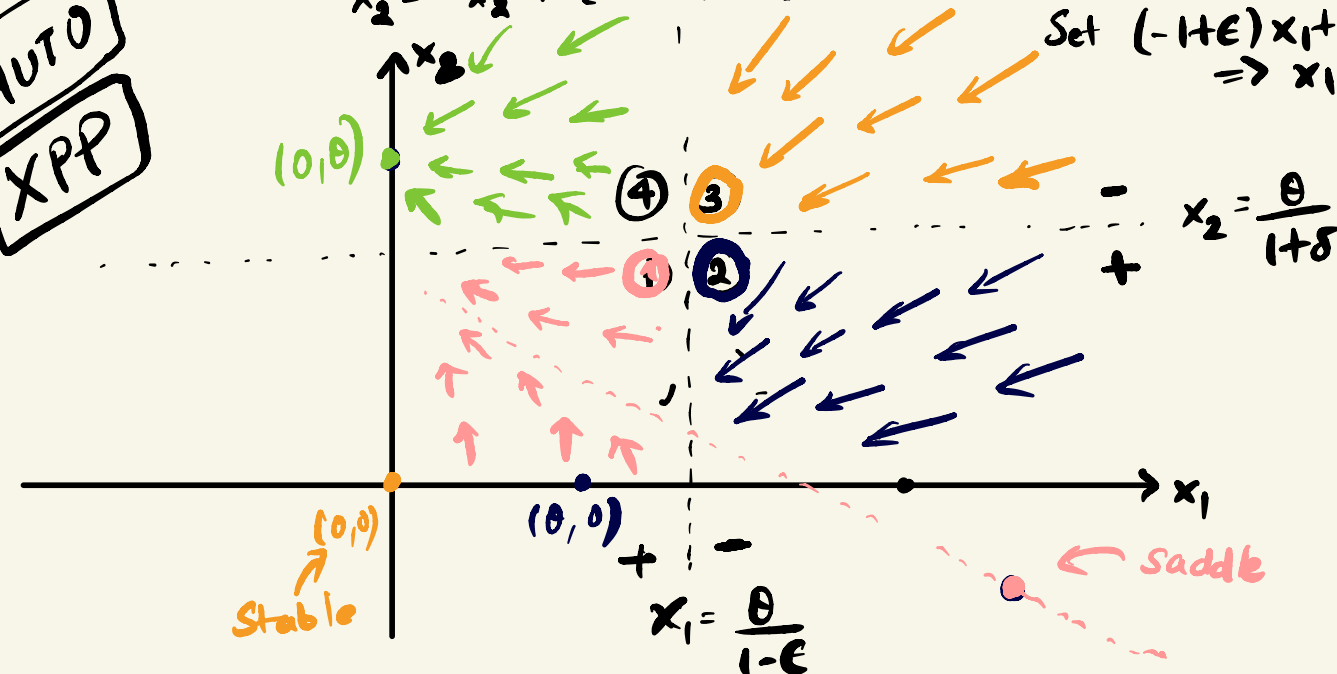
$$\dot{x}_1 = -x_1 + [(-1-\delta)x_2 + \theta]_+$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = -x_2 + [(-1+\epsilon)x_1 + \theta]_+$$

Set  $(-1-\delta)x_2 + \theta = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow x_2 = \frac{\theta}{1+\delta}$

Set  $(-1+\epsilon)x_1 + \theta = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow x_1 = \frac{\theta}{1-\epsilon}$

AUTO  
XPP



①

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= -x_1 + (-1-\delta)x_2 + \theta \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_2 + (-1+\epsilon)x_1 + \theta \end{aligned} \right\}$$

fixed points  $\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = (-1-\delta)x_2 + \theta \\ x_2 = (-1+\epsilon)x_1 + \theta \end{cases}$

$$x_2 = \frac{(-1+\epsilon)\delta\theta}{\delta - \epsilon - \epsilon\delta} + \theta$$

$$= \frac{-\cancel{\delta\theta} + \epsilon\delta\theta + \cancel{\delta\theta} - \epsilon\theta - \epsilon\delta\theta}{\delta - \epsilon - \epsilon\delta}$$

$$= \frac{-\epsilon\theta}{\delta - \epsilon - \epsilon\delta}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1-\delta \\ -1+\epsilon & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Saddle

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = (-1-\delta)(-1+\epsilon)x_1 + (-1-\delta)\theta + \theta \\ \quad = (-1-\delta)(-1+\epsilon)x_1 - \delta\theta + \theta \\ \Rightarrow [(-1-\delta)(-1+\epsilon) - 1]x_1 = \delta\theta \\ \Rightarrow [1 - \epsilon + \delta - \epsilon\delta - 1]x_1 = \delta\theta \\ \Rightarrow x_1 = \frac{\delta\theta}{\delta - \epsilon - \epsilon\delta} \end{cases}$$

$$\left( \frac{\delta\theta}{\delta - \epsilon - \epsilon\delta}, \frac{-\epsilon\theta}{\delta - \epsilon - \epsilon\delta} \right) \text{ is a}$$

fixed point for



$$\frac{-\epsilon\delta}{\delta - \epsilon - \epsilon\delta} \leftarrow \text{negative}$$

$$\underbrace{\delta - \epsilon - \epsilon\delta}$$

denominator positive

$$\epsilon < \frac{\delta}{\delta + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon\delta + \epsilon < \delta$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= -x_1 + (-1-\delta)x_2 + 0 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_2 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ f.p. } \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} x_2 &= 0 \\ x_1 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1-\delta \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

eigenvalues are  $-1$  twice

$(0, 0)$  is a fixed point  
 $\Rightarrow$  stable

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= -x_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_2 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\text{f.p. } x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{stable}$$

④

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= -x_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_2 + (-1+\epsilon)x_1 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\text{f.p. } \begin{aligned} x_1 &= 0 \\ x_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$(0, 0)$  is a fixed point

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ -1+\epsilon & -1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{stable}$$



GO  
TO  
JUPYTER

## SOME THEOR (YIEMS)

### THEOREM [Curto et al.]

Let  $G$  be a graph with **no sinks**. Then for any parameters  $\epsilon, \delta, \theta$  in the legal range, the associated CTLN has **no stable fixed points**.



THEOREM [MORRISON, DEGERATU, ITSKOV, CURTO]

Let  $(W, b)$  be a competitive nondegenerate TLM on  $n$  nodes, with  $b_i > 0$  for all  $i \in [n]$ . Then

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \text{FP}(W, b)} \text{idx}(\sigma) = +1$$

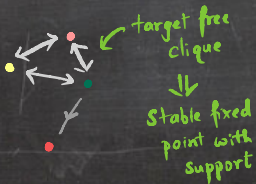
$$\text{idx}(\sigma) = \text{sgn det}(I - W_\sigma)$$

$\sigma$  is support of fixed point  
so some subset of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$

In particular, the total number of fixed points  $|\text{FP}(W, b)|$  is always odd.

# THEOREM [MDIC]

Let  $G$  be a simple directed graph, and consider an associated nondegenerate CTLN with  $W = W(G, \varepsilon, \delta)$  for any choice of the parameters  $\varepsilon, \delta, \theta > 0$  with  $\varepsilon < 1$ . If  $\sigma$  is a clique of  $G$ , then there exists a stable fixed point with support  $\sigma$  if and only if  $\sigma$  is target-free.



• is a target



there is no stable fixed point with support



## REFERENCES

- Morrison, Degeratu, Itskov, Curto. Diversity of emergent dynamics in competitive threshold-linear networks. 2023
- Curto, Morrison. Graph rules for recurrent neural network dynamics. 2023

Hopfield network

• +1 -1

$\underline{W} = \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{pmatrix}$

$W = \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{pmatrix}$

nonsymmetric

60's 70's