Non-linear contributions to interactions in climate networks: sources, relevance, nonstationarity

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EGU General Assembly Vienna 2012

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data-driven analysis

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 - quantitative characterization
 - dimensionality reduction (poster XY400, Wed 15.30)
 - feature & change detection (poster XY399, Wed 15.30)

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Measuring dependence:

Pearson's correlation $\rho_{X,Y} = \frac{\text{cov}(X,Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} = \frac{E[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)]}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}$



Measuring dependence:





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Mutual information:

$$I(X;Y) = \sum_{y \in Y} \sum_{x \in X} p(x,y) \log \left(\frac{p(x,y)}{p(x)p(y)} \right)$$

What are the key characteristics of nonlinear interactions in (monthly) climate data?

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nonlinear interaction: deviation from linear interaction

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- nonlinear interaction: deviation from linear interaction
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- nonlinear interaction: deviation from linear interaction
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 - strength
 - localization
 - sources/form/origin
 - relevance for higher-order analysis
 - treatment

Data and methods

Data: NCEP/NCAR reanalysis dataset

- surface air temperatures
- monthly data (years 1948 2007; 720 timepoints)
- ▶ global grid 73 × 144 points (2.5 deg ×2.5 deg sampling)

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yearly cycle removed (anomalies)

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Methods: interaction/dependence quantification

- nonlinear: mutual information (pdf estimated using equiprobable binning; N=8)
- linear
 - Pearson's correlation
 - mutual information on linear surrogate data

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Results: Existence





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Controling for method bias:



Results: Existence



Controling for method bias:



Localization of nonlinear contributions

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Localization of nonlinear contributions





Form/origin





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Form/origin



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introduce conservative preprocessing: month-wise variance equalization

Form/origin



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Form/origin



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Statistical testing against surrogates: 8% links above 95th percentile

Form/origin II Temperature anomalies:



After additional normalization of variance:



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What about remaining 'non-linearities'?









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More examples





Form/origin III Temperature anomalies:



After additional normalization of variance:



Form/origin III Temperature anomalies:



After additional detrending:



existence: deviations from linear dependences (non-linearities) confirmed



existence: deviations from linear dependences (non-linearities) confirmed **strength:** non-linearities are relatively minor



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existence: deviations from linear dependences (non-linearities) confirmed strength: non-linearities are relatively minor localization: non-linearities are spatially sparse



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What if linear and nonlinear measures disagree?

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What about genuine non-linearities?

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Questions

- What if linear and nonlinear measures disagree?
- What about genuine non-linearities?

Thank you for your attention!

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This study was supported by the Czech Science Foundation project No. P103/11/J068.

Relevance for graph topology

Donges et al., 2009: nonlinearity key for global topology



Other datasets: ERA







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