

SIRSN and abstract scattering processes

LMS-EP SRC Durham Symposium
on Markov processes, Mixing Times, and Cutoff

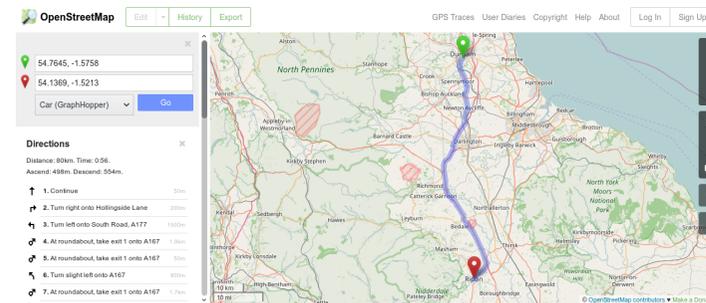
Wilfrid S. Kendall
w.s.kendall@warwick.ac.uk

Department of Statistics, University of Warwick

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Online maps: from Durham to Ripon

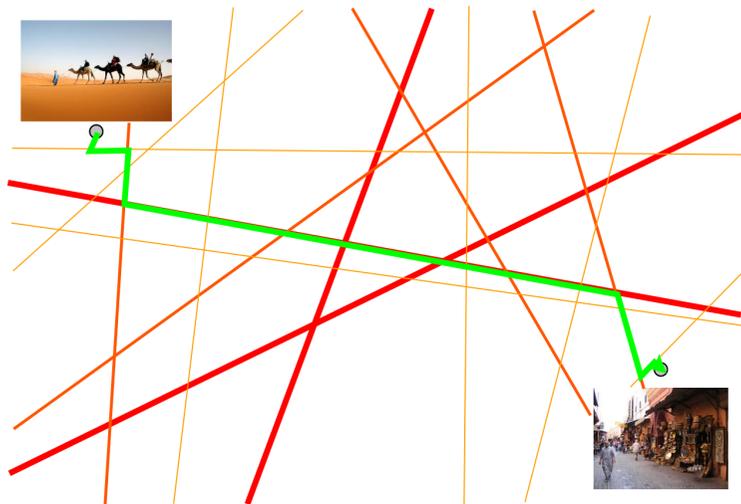


<https://www.openstreetmap.org/>

*Tsakayama, Washington Post, January 30, 2013:
Estimated annual impact of online maps: \$1.6tn.
Estimated growth 30% per year (smartphones!).*

SIRSN – a very short introduction

A journey to the Soukh



$$\frac{\gamma-1}{2} v^{-\gamma} dv \quad dr \quad d\theta \quad \text{for } \gamma > 2.$$

SIRSN axioms

What would a **scale-invariant** (random) network look like?
(Aldous, 2014; Aldous and Ganesan, 2013)

Input: set of nodes x_1, \dots, x_n ;

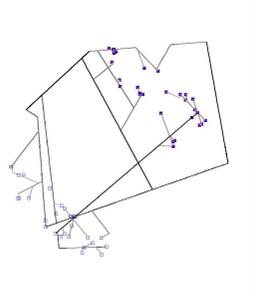
Output:

random network $N(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ connecting nodes.

- (1) **Scale-invariance:** for each Euclidean similarity λ ,
 $\mathcal{L}(N(\lambda x_1, \dots, \lambda x_n)) = \mathcal{L}(\lambda N(x_1, \dots, x_n))$.
- (2) If D_1 is length of fastest route between two points at unit distance apart then $\mathbb{E}[D_1] < \infty$.
- (3) **Weak SIRSN property:** the network connecting points of (independent) unit intensity Poisson point process has **finite average length per unit area**.
(Strong) SIRSN property: the network connecting points of **dense** Poisson point process has **finite average length per unit area of "long-range" part of network** (more than distance 1 from source or destination).

Results and a question

- First SIRS construction based on randomized dyadic lattice: [Aldous \(2014\)](#).
- Improper speed-marked Poisson line process Π produces random map and pre-SIRS: [WSK \(2017\)](#) ... which is actually a strong SIRS: [Kahn \(2016\)](#).
- **But can the Π -geodesics pause *en route*?**
- Hard question, so seek answer for “randomly broken” Π -geodesics?



Random wandering on a SIRS

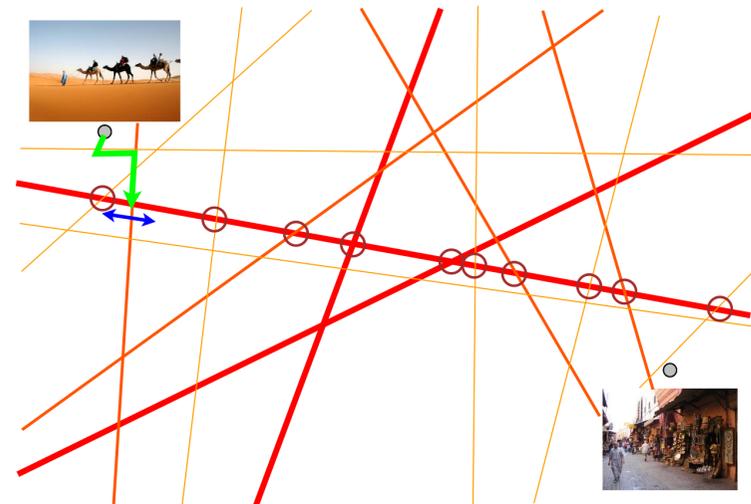
Options: (thanks to Banerjee, Croydon for helpful conversations!)

1. Random walk, connecting between successive jumps using Π -geodesics.
(Con: Always stopping and starting!)
2. Brownian motion on the line pattern.
(Con: Relationship with speed limits is not explicit.)
3. Rayleigh random flight:
 - Proceed at top speed along current line;
 - Switch to intersecting lines depending on relative speeds;
 - Choose new direction equi-probably.
4. This is **SIRS-RRF**: a “randomly broken Π -geodesic”.
Can it be made to be **speed-neighbourhood-recurrent**?

Scattering – an abstract approach (I)

- How to define a SIRS-RRF?
 - Proceed at top speed along current line;
 - Switch to intersecting lines depending on relative speeds;
 - Choose new direction equi-probably.
- Suffices to sample process when it changes speed.
- Since Π is improper line process, opportunities to change speed are dense along each line!
- Convenient to take an abstract view:
Advantages of axiomatic method
“same as the advantages of theft over honest toil”
([Russell, 1919, p.71](#)).

Scattering – an abstract approach (sketch)



Scattering – an abstract approach (II)

Generalization (possibly of wider interest?):

1. A discrete-time Markov chain on countable state-space is an **abstract scattering process** if $p_{ab} = \omega_{ab}s_b$ for (symmetric) **transmission probabilities** ω_{ab} and **scattering probabilities** s_b (set $\omega_{a,\tilde{a}} = 0, s_a > 0$ for all a).
2. (Consider a matrix (ω_{ab}) : if row-vectors $(\omega_{a\cdot})$ all lie in ℓ^1 then the Hahn-Banach theorem can be used to characterize whether (ω_{ab}) is transmission matrix.)
3. Require **dynamically reversibility** for measure π :
 Involution $a \leftrightarrow \tilde{a}$ preserving measure π ,
 with $\pi_a p_{a,\tilde{b}} = \pi_b p_{b,\tilde{a}}$.
4. Relate $\pi_a/s_{\tilde{a}}$ to **scatter-equivalence classes** (“lines”):
 if there is a chain $a = b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n = c$ with
 $\omega_{b_{m-1},\tilde{b}_m} > 0$, then $\pi_a/s_{\tilde{a}} = \pi_c/s_{\tilde{c}}$.

Scattering – an abstract approach (III)

- 5 Adopt “Metropolis-Hastings recipe”: divide state-space into equivalence classes using ω ,
 - set $\pi_a = \min\{\kappa, \kappa'\}$ where we choose κ, κ' as positive constants belonging to classes of a and \tilde{a} ,
 - set scattering probability $s_a = \min\{1, \kappa/\kappa'\}$ (dynamic reversibility is then automatic!).
- 6 In case of a suitable **total ordering** $<$ for each “line”, transmission probabilities are functions of scattering probabilities.

For each $a < b$, there are $\omega_{a,\pm}$ summing to 1 with

$$p_{a,\tilde{b}} = \omega_{a,\tilde{b}}s_{\tilde{b}} = \omega_{a,+} \left(\prod_{a < c < b} (1 - s_{\tilde{c}}) \right) s_{\tilde{b}},$$

and similar for $p_{b,\tilde{a}}$ using $\omega_{b,-}$.

All follows from choice of the class constants κ

(and say equiprobable choice of direction $\omega_{a,\pm} = \frac{1}{2}$).

Application

Define the SIRSN-RRF, sampled at changes in direction, by specifying equilibrium probabilities at intersections of lines.

1. Scaling invariance: $\pi_{(\ell_1,\ell_2)} = \min\{v_1^\alpha, v_2^\alpha\}$, parameter α .
2. Scattering probability: $s_{(\ell_1,\ell_2)} = \min\{1, (v_2/v_1)^\alpha\}$.
3. Dynamical reversibility: non-symmetric Dirichlet form.
4. Apply **Campbell-Slivnyak-Mecke theorem (twice!)** to identify (translated, rotated, scaled) “**environment viewed from particle**” via reduced non-symmetric Dirichlet form.
5. Resulting log-relative-speed-changes X_1, X_2, \dots form a stationary process.

Dynamical reversibility

Let $f(x, \Pi)$ be bounded, measurable, x an intersection of lines $\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2$ in Π .

For convenience set $\tilde{f}(\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2; \Pi) = f(\mathcal{L}_2, \mathcal{L}_1; \Pi)$.

Consider the non-symmetric form

$$B(f, g) = \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbb{E} \left[\mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{\mathcal{L}_1 \neq \mathcal{L}_2 \in \Pi} \tilde{f}(\tilde{Z}_0; \Pi) \times g(Z_1; \Pi) \times \pi_x \mid Z_0 = x = (\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2) \mid \Pi \right] \right] \right].$$

Using Campbell-Mecke-Slivnyak theory twice, this can be **reduced** (taking out translations, rotations, scale-changes) to the study of

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{\mathcal{L}_3 \in \Pi} f^{(2)}(\mathcal{L}_1^*; \Pi \cup \{\mathcal{L}_1^*\}) s_{(\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_0, \mathcal{L}_1^*)} \left(\prod_{\mathcal{L} \in \Pi: \mathcal{L} \text{ separates origin from } \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_0 \cap \mathcal{L}_3} (1 - s_{(\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_0, \mathcal{L})}) \right) \times s_{(\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_0, \mathcal{L}_3)} g^{(2)}(\mathcal{L}_3; \Pi \cup \{\mathcal{L}_1^*\}) \right]$$

Read off equilibrium distribution from reduced non-symmetric form: at critical $\alpha = 2(\gamma - 1)$, typical log-relative-speed-change X has stationary symmetric Laplace distribution.

Outline of remainder of argument

- Adapt [Kozlov \(1985, Section 2\)](#) to show X is ergodic (depends on nice properties of Poisson line process!).
- Critical case $\mathbb{E}[X] = 0$, i.e. $\alpha = 2(\gamma - 1)$: apply continuum adaptation of Kesten-Spitzer-Whitman range theorem ([Spitzer, 1976, Page 38](#)) to show log-speed process $\sum X$ is neighbourhood recurrent.
- In this **critical case** $\alpha = 2(\gamma - 1)$, SIRS N-RRF provides a “randomly-broken Π -geodesic” which avoids slowing down to zero speed (or speeding up to infinite speed).

Conclusion

- Critical case ($\alpha = 2(\gamma - 1)$): SIRS N-RRF speed is neighbourhood-recurrent.
- Sub-critical case ($\alpha < 2(\gamma - 1)$): SIRS N-RRF converges to a random limiting point in the plane (trapped by cells of tessellation of high-speed lines).
- Super-critical case ($\alpha > 2(\gamma - 1)$): SIRS N-RRF disappears off to infinity (consider high-speed tessellation).
- So a critical “randomly-broken Π -geodesic” does not halt *en route*. What about Π -geodesics themselves?

THANK YOU!

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