

# Regression, Mutual Information and Point Processes

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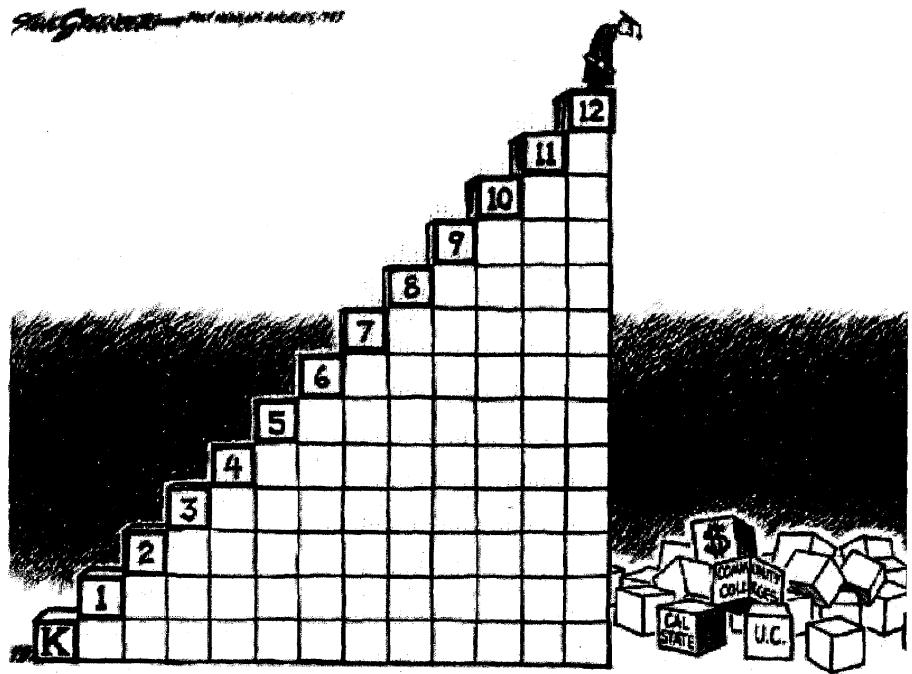
$$2\pi \neq 1$$

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*"I hate getting all these Canadian coins, but I  
guess that's the price of living in Toronto."*



## **Layout.**

1. Introduction
2. Regression
3. Mutual information
4. Examples - neuron, soccer, river flow
5. Extensions
6. Summary
7. References
8. Some proofs

## **1. Introduction.**

Science studies relationships

Regression analysis studies relations between variables  $Y$  and  $X$

Question: what is the strength of a particular relationship?

One answer: the coefficient of determination

Another answer: the coefficient of mutual information

## 2. Classical regression.

*Coefficient of determination*

$$\rho_{XY}^2 = \text{corr}\{X, Y\}^2 \quad X, Y \text{ real-valued}$$

Symmetric and invariant for:

- 1) independence
- 2) explained variation
- 3) **linear** dependence
- 4) uncertainty of estimates

One wishes for more!

### 3. Mutual information.

*Discrete variates.*

$$\text{Prob}\{X_j = j, Y_k = k\} = p_{jk}$$

$$I_{XY} = \sum_{j,k} p_{jk} \log \frac{p_{jk}}{p_j p_k}, \quad p_{jk} \neq 0$$

*Continuous variates.*

Given  $x_j \in \delta_j$ ,  $y_k \in \Delta_k$  and  $|\delta|$ ,  $|\Delta|$  small,

$$\text{Prob}\{X \in \delta_j, Y \in \Delta_k\} \approx p(x_j, y_k) |\delta| |\Delta|$$

leading to

$$\iint p(x, y) \log \frac{p(x, y)}{p_X(x)p_Y(y)} dx dy, \quad p \neq 0$$

*Prediction* - lower bound

$$E\{Y - g(X)\}^2 \geq \frac{1}{2\pi e} \exp\{2(I_{YY} - I_{XY})\}$$

*Incorrect model* - upper bound

$$\begin{aligned} \iint p(x,y) \log \frac{p(x,y)}{p_X(x)p_Y(y)} dx dy &\geq \iint p(x,y) \log \frac{q(x,y)}{q_X(x)q_Y(y)} dx dy \\ &\geq \underset{X,Y}{E} \left[ \log \frac{q_{Y|X}(Y|X)}{q_Y(Y)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

E.g. take  $q$  to be bivariate normal

*Properties of  $I_{XY}$ .*

- 1) Non-negative,  $I_{XY} \geq 0$
- 2) Invariant,  $I_{XY} = I_{UV}$  if 1-1 transformations
- 3) Measures strength of dependence
  - i)  $I_{XY} = 0 \Leftrightarrow X \text{ indep } Y$
  - ii)  $I_{XY} = \infty$  if  $Y = g(X)$
  - iii)  $I_{XZ} \leq I_{XY}$  if  $X \text{ indep } Z | Y$        $X - Y - Z$
- 4) Bivariate normal,  $I_{XY} = .5 * \log(1 - \rho_{XY}^2)$

Disadvantage -  $IM$  is "just" a number

**Uses.**

*Questions* - change? trend? serial correlation?  
dimension? model fit? ...

*Estimation* -

lag

image registration

selection of variables

model selection

association

...

*Parametric estimation.* Data  $(x_i, y_i, i=1, \dots, n)$

Model  $p(x, y | \theta)$ , with  $X$  and  $Y$  independent when

$$\theta = 0$$

$$p(x, y | 0) = p_X(x)p_Y(y)$$

Test of independence of  $X$  and  $Y$

$$\hat{I}_{XY} = -\log(\text{likelihood ratio})/n$$

( $n$  sample size)

Approximate null distribution, when  $(X_i, Y_i)$  independent

$$\chi^2_v / 2n, \quad v = \dim(\theta)$$

$$\iint p(x, y) \log p(x, y) dx dy - \iint p(x)p(y) \log p(x)p(y) dx dy$$

*Non-parametric estimation.*

$\hat{p}(x,y)$  estimate of  $p(x,y)$ , e.g. histogram or kernel-based

$$I_{XY} \doteq \sum_{j,k} \hat{p}(u_j, v_k) \log \frac{\hat{p}(u_j, v_k)}{\hat{p}_X(u_j)\hat{p}_Y(v_k)}$$

Approx null distribution

$$\chi_v^2 / 2n, \quad v = (J-1)*(K-1)$$

Non-null

$$\hat{I}_{XY} \rightarrow I_{XY} \text{ in prob, etc.}$$

(Entropy - Bilmes, Fernandes, Hall & Morton, Joe, Kozachenko & Leonenko, Parzen, Robinson)

*The point process case.* Isolated points

*Univariate.* points  $\{\tau_k\}$ , counts  $N(t) = \#\{\tau_k \leq t\}$ ,

intervals  $\{Y_k = \tau_{k+1} - \tau_k\}$ , history  $H_N^t = B(\tau_k \leq t)$

conditional intensity

$$\text{Prob}\{dN(t) = 1 \mid H_N^t\} \approx \mu_N(t)dt$$

likelihood

$$\prod_k \mu_N(\tau_k) \exp\left\{-\int_0^T \mu_N(t) dt\right\}$$

entropy

$$E_N \left\{ \int_0^T \log \mu_N(t) dN(t) - \int_0^T \mu_N(t) dt \right\}$$

*Bivariate.*  $M(t) = \#\{\sigma_j \leq t\}$ ,  $N(t) = \#\{\tau_k \leq t\}$

history  $H_{MN}^t = B(\sigma_j, \tau_k \leq t)$

$$\text{Prob}\{dM(t) = 1 | H_{MN}^t\} \approx \gamma_M(t)dt, \quad \text{Prob}\{dN(t) = 1 | H_{MN}^t\} \approx \gamma_N(t)dt$$

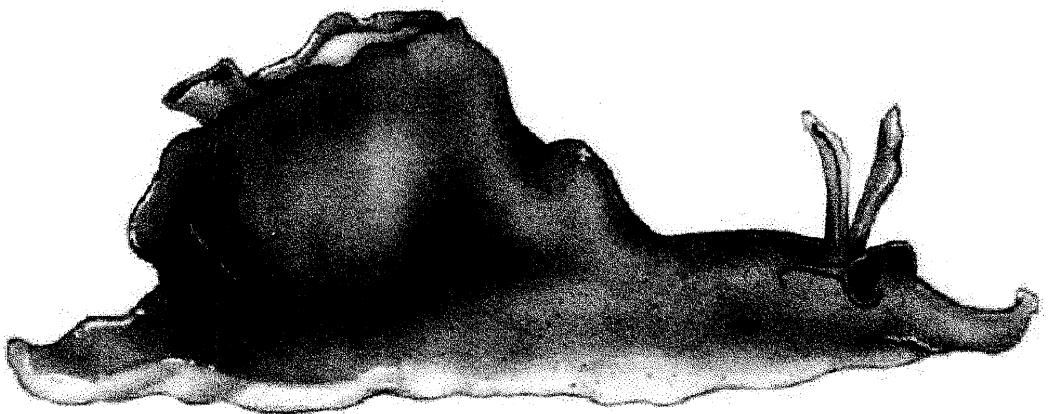
entropy

$$E_{M,N} \left\{ \int_0^T \log \gamma_M(t) dM(t) + \int_0^T \log \gamma_N(t) dN(t) - \int_0^T \gamma_M(t) dt - \int_0^T \gamma_N(t) dt \right\}$$

mutual information

$$E_{M,N} \left\{ \int_0^T \log \frac{\gamma_M(t)\gamma_N(t)}{\mu_M(t)\mu_N(t)} dt \right\}$$

**Aplysia californica**



## **Examples.**

a) *Interval analysis - Aplysia californica*

Neuron, L10, discharging spontaneously

Spike train  $\{\tau_k\}$

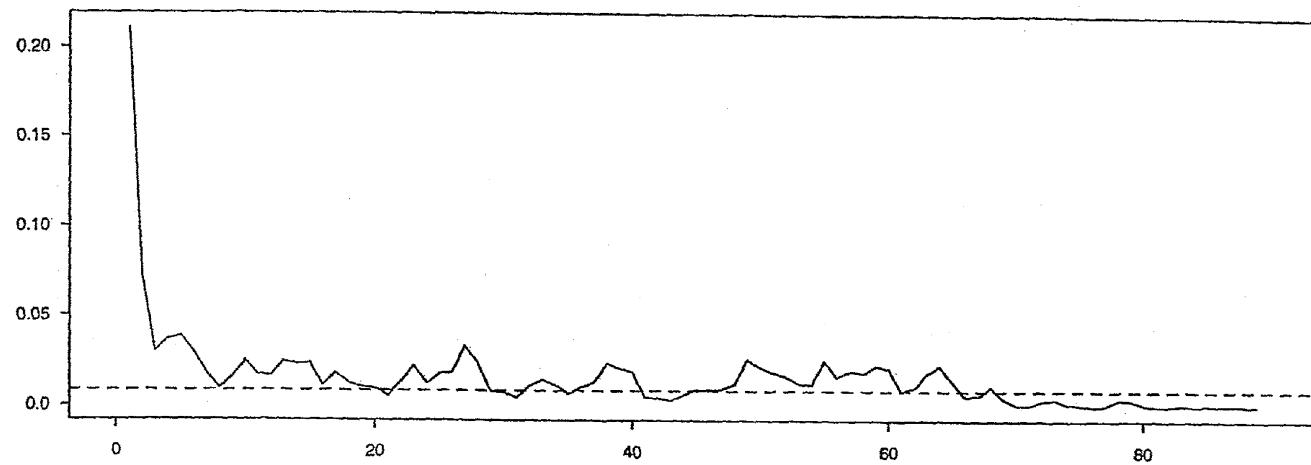
$\{Y_k = \tau_{k+1} - \tau_k\}$  intervals between firings

Many models imply that intervals i.i.d. (renewal)

Estimate coefficient of determination and MI, as  
functions of lag,  $k$

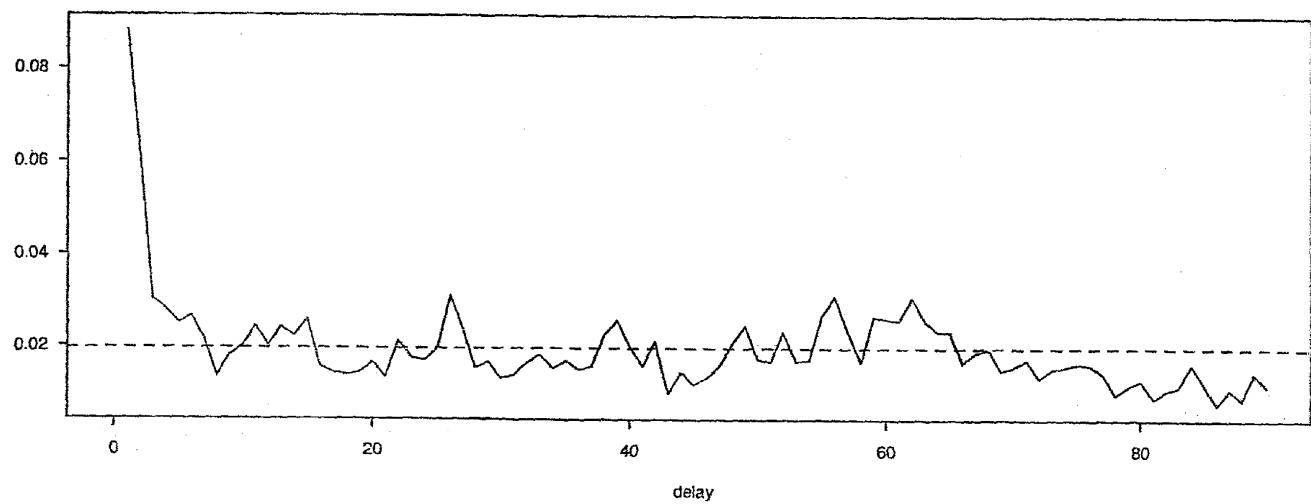
## Intervals between firings of an Aplysia neuron

Coefficient of determination



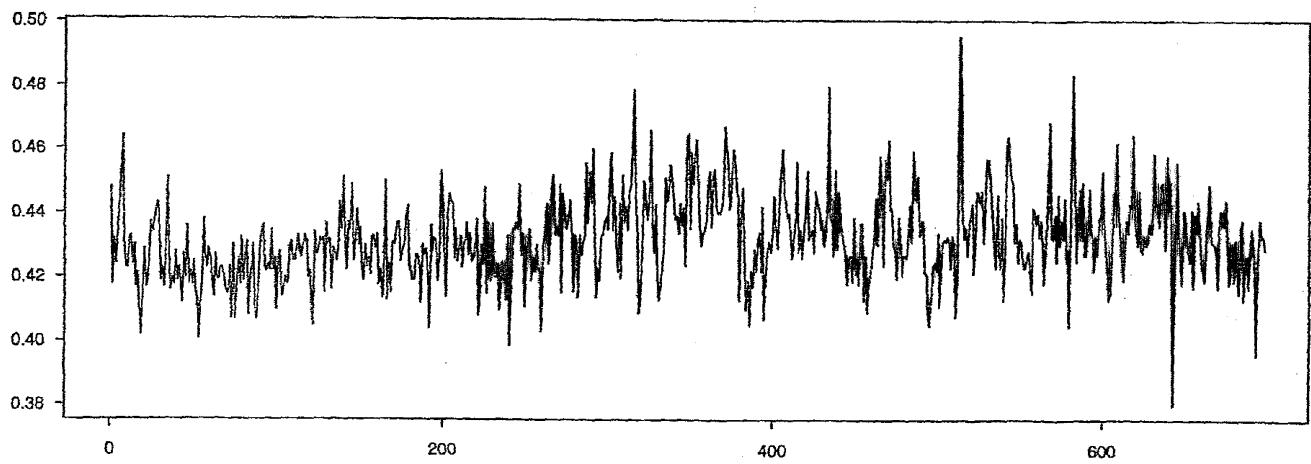
delay  
The dashes give the critical level of 99%

Mutual information



delay

The data



We estimate the 99% critical level via random permutations of the intervals.

There is evidence against the assumption of a renewal process

Unusual test of normality

**The world's first game of soccer...**



[www.hallucinot.com](http://www.hallucinot.com)

*b. Two discrete variables - soccer*

Question - In which country is the relationship strongest between the number of goals teams score and their playing at home?

Data for the Premier Leagues, 2001-2002

<http://sunsite.tut.fi/rec/riku/soccer2.html>

$Y = 0,1,2,3,4+$  goals

$X=1,0$  - playing at home or away

## Brazilian Serie A - Games played so far

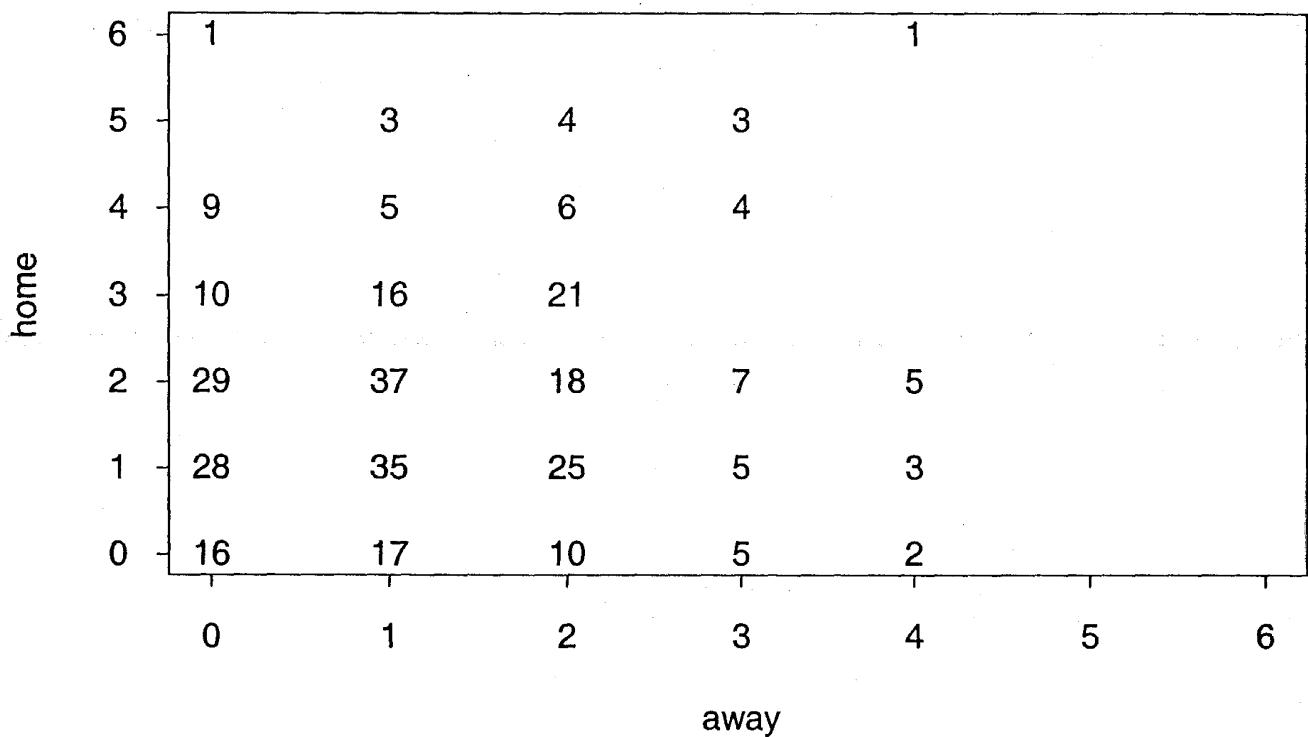
[Latest] [Tables] [Results] [Fixtures] [Status] [Archive] [External] [Clubs] [Home]  
[Euro Leagues] [Euro Cups] [WC2002] [Euro2000] [WC98] [Links Collection] [Philosophy] [Author]

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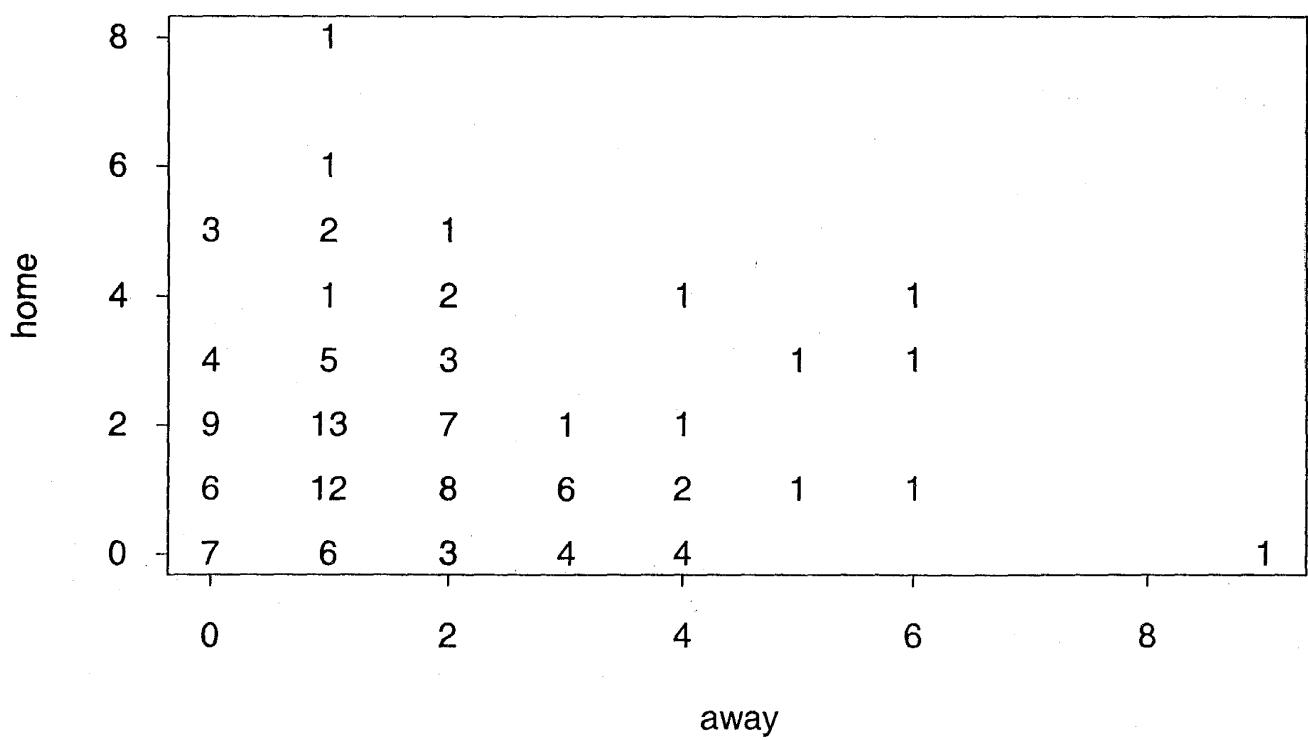
Aug 10, 2002	Vasco	- Figueirense	2 - 0
	Sao_Paulo	- Paysandu	4 - 2
	Parana	- Sao_Caetano	2 - 1
	Santos	- Botafogo-RJ	2 - 1
	Goias	- Portuguesa	3 - 1
Aug 11, 2002	Fluminense	- Cruzeiro	5 - 1
	Palmeiras	- Gremio	1 - 1
	At.Mineiro	- Corinthians	1 - 2
	Internacional	- Flamengo	1 - 3
	Guarani	- Atletico-PR	2 - 1
	Coritiba	- Vitoria	1 - 0
	Bahia	- Gama	1 - 0
	Juventude	- Ponte_Preta	1 - 0
Aug 14, 2002	Sao_Caetano	- Fluminense	2 - 0
	Botafogo-RJ	- At.Mineiro	1 - 1
	Cruzeiro	- Palmeiras	1 - 1
	Gremio	- Vasco	2 - 2

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## Brazilian teams goals



## Canadian teams goals

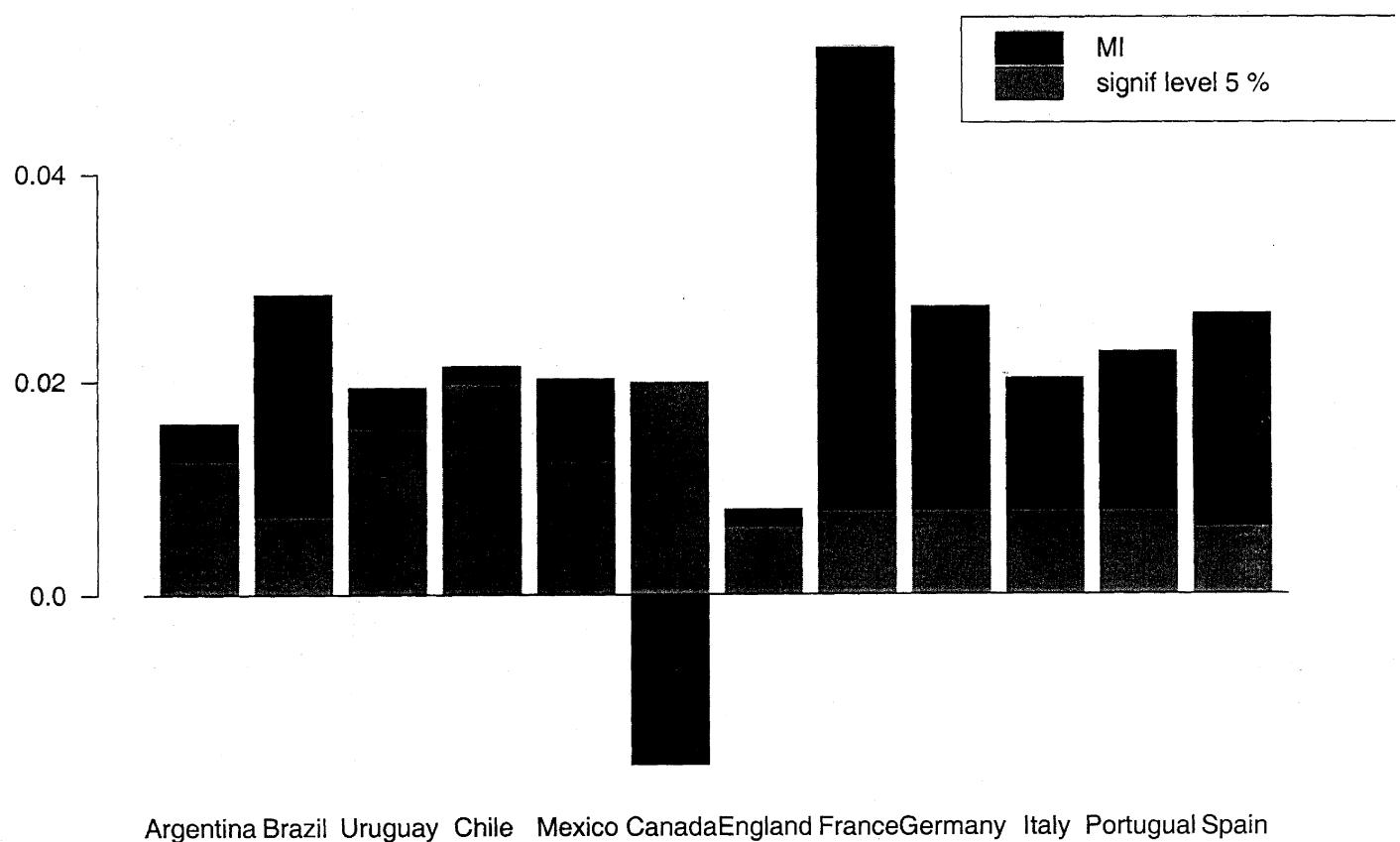


## *Discussion.*

Marginal analyses

Games i.i.d. ?

### Estimated MI - soccer

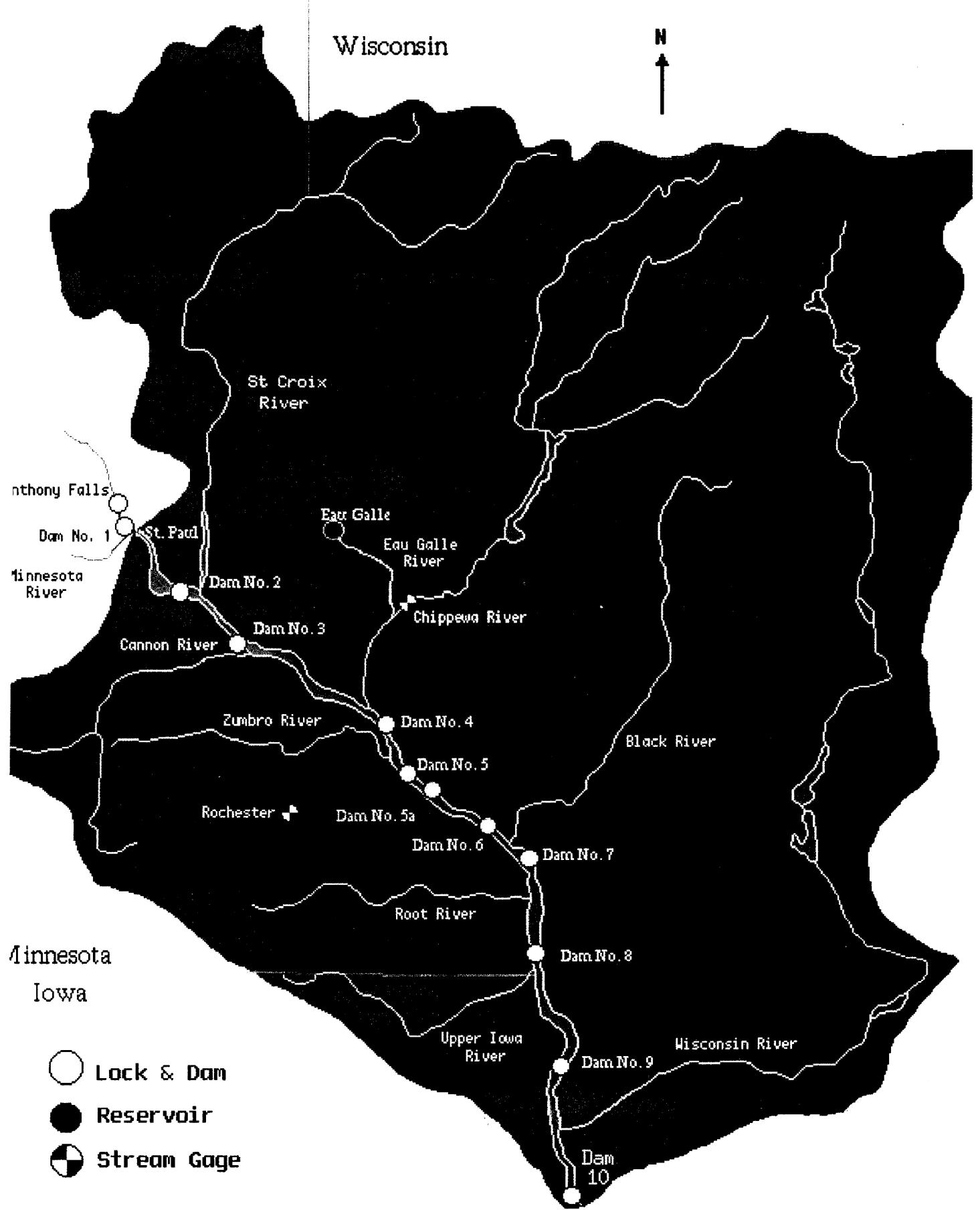




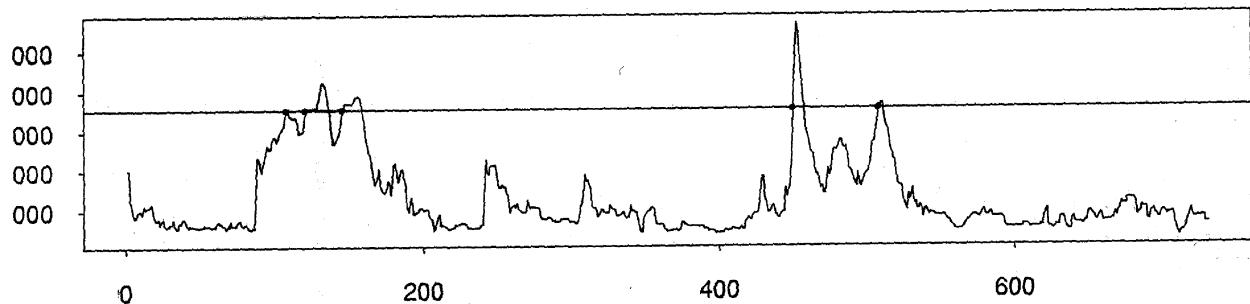


The Great Mississippi River Flood of 1927,  
photographed in Illinois on March 25.

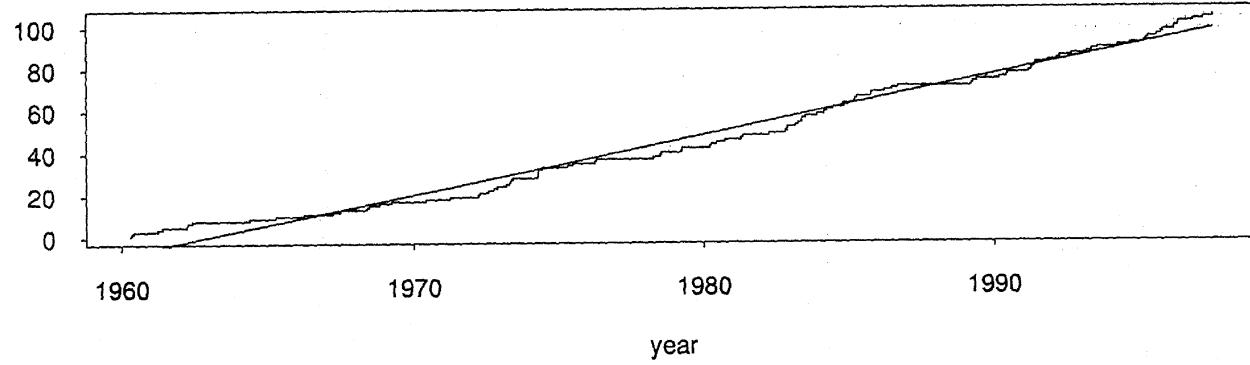
"The Floods of 1927 in the Mississippi Basin," Frankenfeld, H.C., 1927 Monthly Weather Review Supplement No. 29



### Dam 8 flow in 1960 & 1961



day  
threshold at 10th percentile of yearly maxima  
Cumulative count of upcrossings



c. *Bivariate point process case.* Mississippi River flow

Question - Strength of dependence between flows  
as function of distance between dams?

10 dams from St. Paul, Minnesota to Iowa

Daily flow from 1/1/1960 to 31/12/1997

$$\{Y_i(t), t=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots, i=1, \dots, 10\}$$

Have distances between dams

Upcrossing times of 10th percentile of series yearly maxima

***Model.***

Two 0-1 series  $X_t$  and  $Y_t$ .

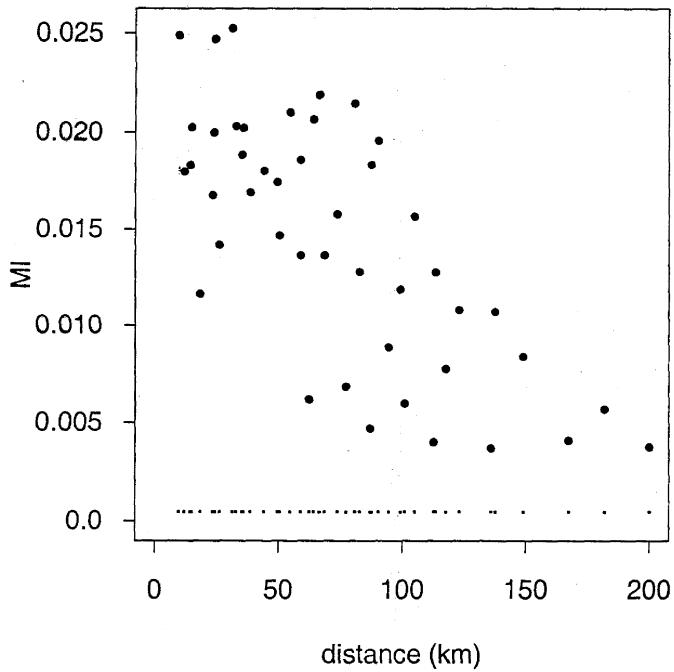
$$\text{logit } \text{Prob}\{X_t=1 | H_t\} = \alpha_1 X_{t-1} + \dots + \alpha_p X_{t-p} + \beta_1 Y_{t-1} + \dots + \beta_q Y_{t-q}$$

$$\text{logit } \text{Prob}\{Y_t=1 | H_t\} = \gamma_1 Y_{t-1} + \dots + \gamma_p Y_{t-p} + \delta_1 X_{t-1} + \dots + \delta_q X_{t-q}$$

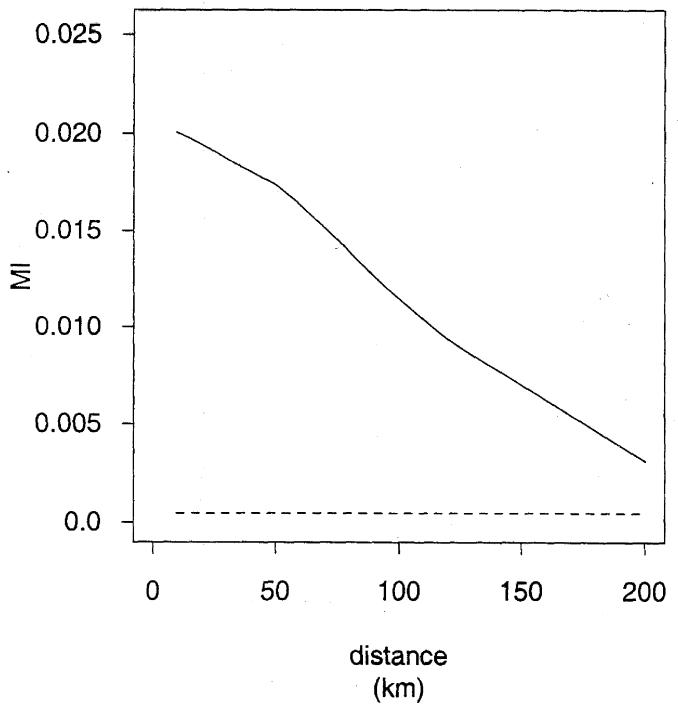
Include recent times and some from a year earlier

Proceed via likelihood ratio test of no connection.

Mutual information



Smoothed mutual information



*Discussion.*

For asymptotics need full model to "fit".

Estimate spectral density matrix of residuals.

## **5. Extensions.**

*MI* decomposes ,  $I_{YX} = I_{YX_1} + I_{YX_2|X_1}$

Uncertainty (permutations, jackknife, bootstrap,...)

Local estimates

Multivariate cases

*Other estimates of entropy.*

Discrete alphabet

$R_n$ : time until the first  $n$ -string repeats

$$(\log R_n)/n \rightarrow \text{entropy} \quad a.s.$$

## **6. Summary.**

$MI$  is a concept extending correlation, substitutes  
for  $r^2$  and  $R^2$

*"The hypothesis of independence is rejected."*  
becomes

*"The estimated strength of dependence is  $\hat{M}I$ ."*

Functional forms useful, new parameters suggested

Google: *corr* 3,340,000 hits, *MI* 40,400  
(5/31/2003)

## **7. References**

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- Cover, T. and Thomas, J. (1991). Elements of Information Theory. J. Wiley, New York.
- Granger, C. W. J. and Lin, J-L. (1994). Using the mutual information coefficient to identify lags in nonlinear models. J. Time Series Anal. 15, 371-384.
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- Joe, H. (1989). Relative entropy measures of multivariate dependence. J. American Statistical Association 84, 157-164.
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## **8. Some proofs.**

Jensen's Inequality.

For  $g$  convex

$$E\{g(Y)\} \geq g(E\{Y\})$$

with equality iff  $Y$  is degenerate