Neural Jump Stochastic Differential Equations

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https://github.com/000Justin000/torchdiffeq/tree/jj585

Motivation & Problem Statement

Many real-world systems evolve continuously over time but are interrupted by stochastic events. For example, a social network user might have some evolving interest in a product that is abruptly changed by seeing an ad. How can we simultaneously learn continuous and discrete dynamics?

Given:

- $\mathcal{H}_t = \{(\tau_j, \mathbf{k}_j)\}_{\tau_j<t}$ — events up to time t; τ_j is a timestamp and $\mathbf{k}_j$ is an (optional) discrete or continuous label

Goal:

- learn the latent dynamics that generated $\mathcal{H}_t$
- predict the likelihood or label of future events

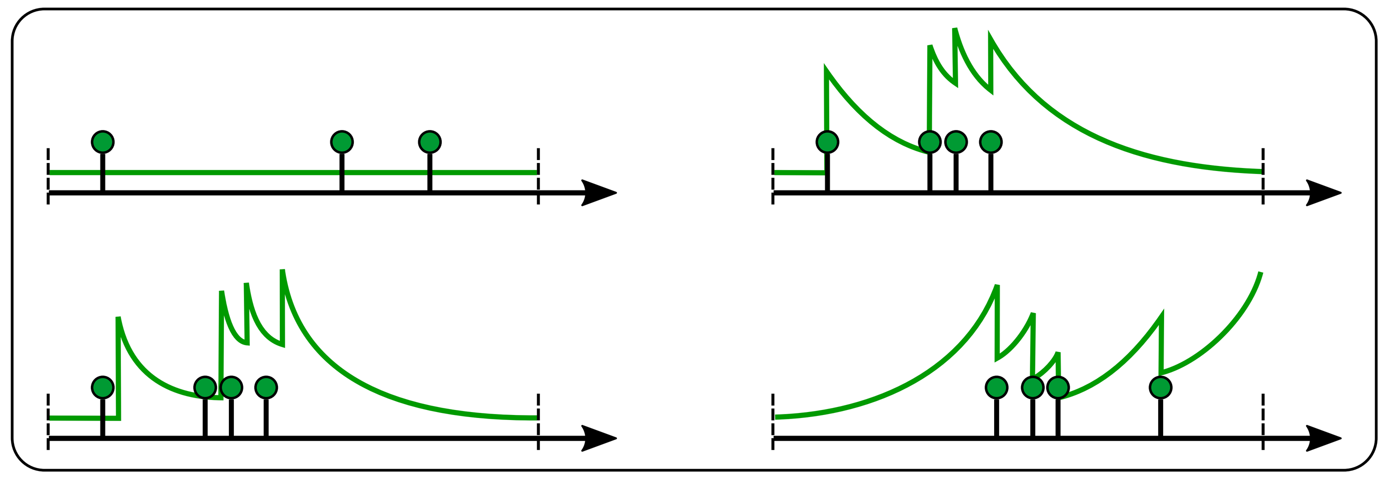
Background on Point Process Models

We model event sequences are with point processes, where event generation is described by a conditional intensity:

$$\mathbb{P}\{\text{event in } [t, t+dt) \mid \mathcal{H}_t\} = \lambda(t)\cdot dt$$

Intensity dynamics depend on $\mathcal{H}_t$ and can be written as a jump SDE. If $N(t)$ counts the number of events before t:

$$d\lambda(t) = \beta\cdot[\lambda(t) - \lambda_0]\cdot dt + \alpha\cdot dN(t)$$



Limitation: the functional form of $\lambda(t)$ dynamics for must be provided . Some widely-used function forms shown above.

[1] Chen et al., Neural ordinary differential equations, NeurIPS (2018).

[2] Du et al., Embedding event history to vector, KDD (2016).

[3] Mei and Eisner, The neural Hawkes process, NeurIPS (2017).

[4] Corner et al., Adjoint Sensitivity Analysis of Hybrid Multibody Dynamical Systems, arXiv (2018).

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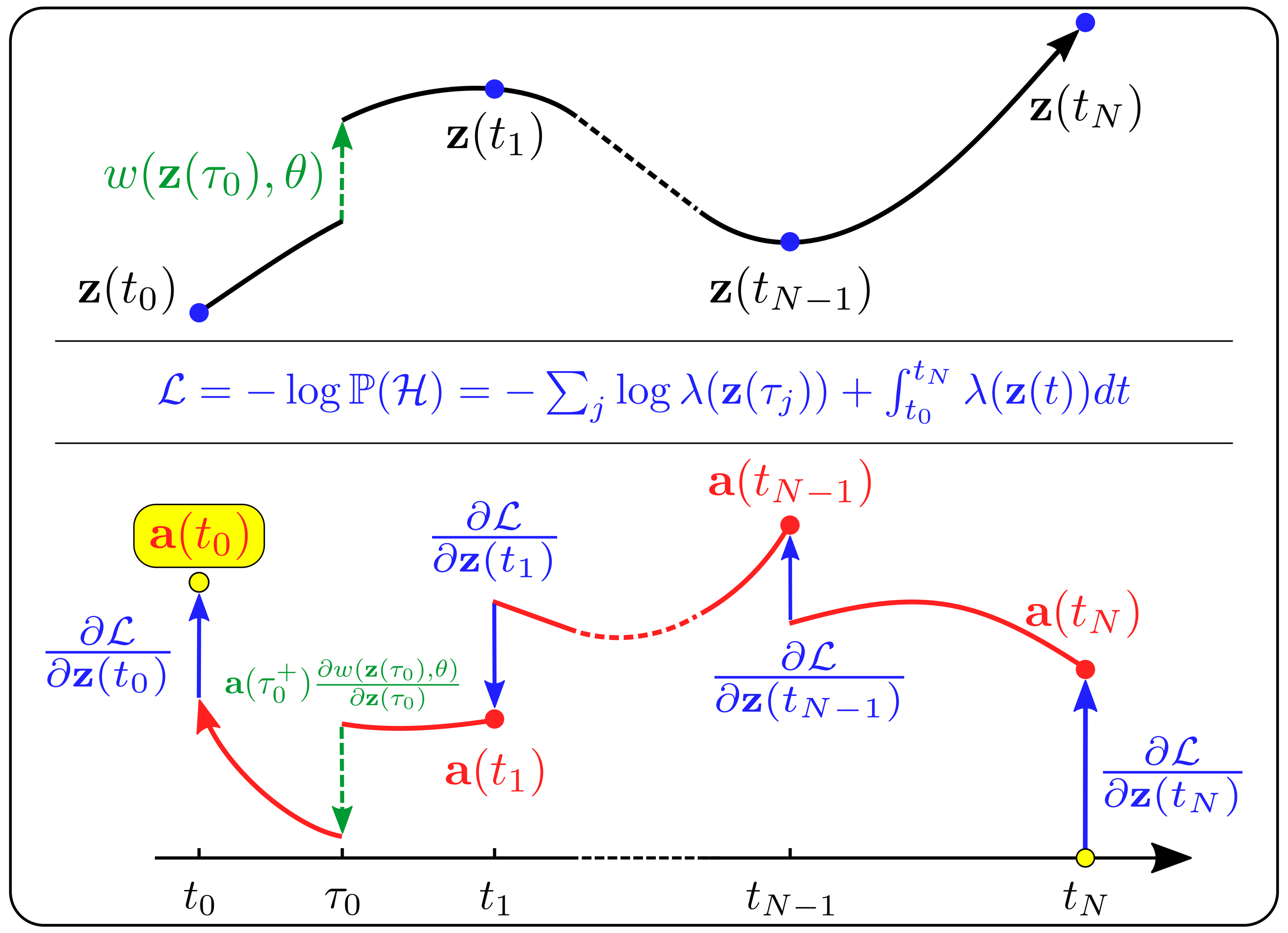
Model and Learning

We follow the ideas of Neural ODEs[1] and parameterize the jump SDE model with neural nets and a latent $z(t)$. This gives our neural jump SDE model (NJSDE):

$$d\mathbf{z}(t) = f(\mathbf{z}(t),\theta)\cdot dt + w(\mathbf{z}(t),\theta)\cdot dN(t)$$
$$\lambda(t) = \lambda(\mathbf{z}(t),\theta)$$

We can use learned latent continuous dynamics $\mathbf{z}(t)$ for simulation and prediction.



Training with the adjoint method[1,4]
(here just to compute the gradient $\partial\mathcal{L}/\partial\mathbf{z}(t_0) = \mathbf{a}(t_0)$)

1. for desired loss or likelihood $\mathcal{L}$, set $\mathbf{a}(t_N) = \frac{\partial\mathcal{L}}{\partial\mathbf{z}(t_N)}$
2. integrate $\frac{d\mathbf{a}(t)}{dt} = -\mathbf{a}(t)\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{z}(t),\theta)}{\partial\mathbf{z}(t)}$ backwards until event at τ
3. update $\mathbf{a}(\tau) = \mathbf{a}(\tau^+) + \mathbf{a}(\tau^+)\frac{\partial w(\mathbf{z}(\tau),\theta)}{\partial\mathbf{z}(\tau)}$
4. go to step 2

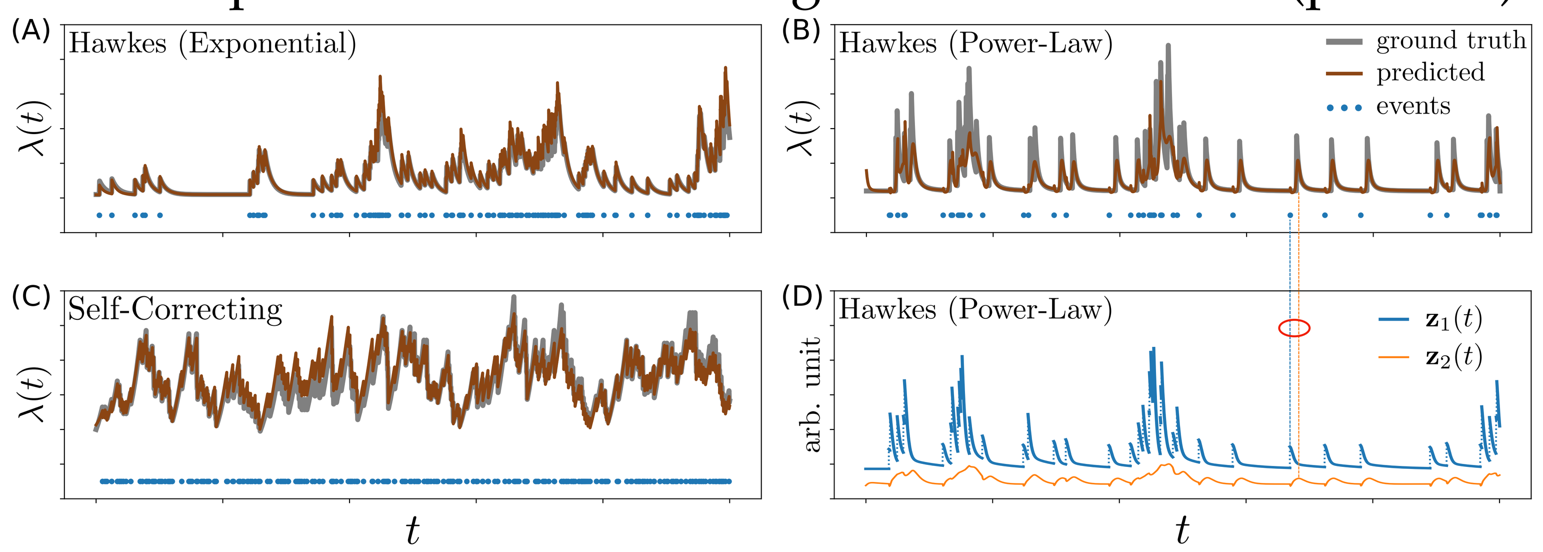
By augmenting $\mathbf{z}(t)$ to include θ, this method can be used to learn all of the latent dynamics. (See paper for details.)

Learning true conditional intensities

- Input: event sequences from classical point processes
- Output: accurately learned conditional intensities $\lambda(t)$, as measured by mean absolute percentage error (MAPE)

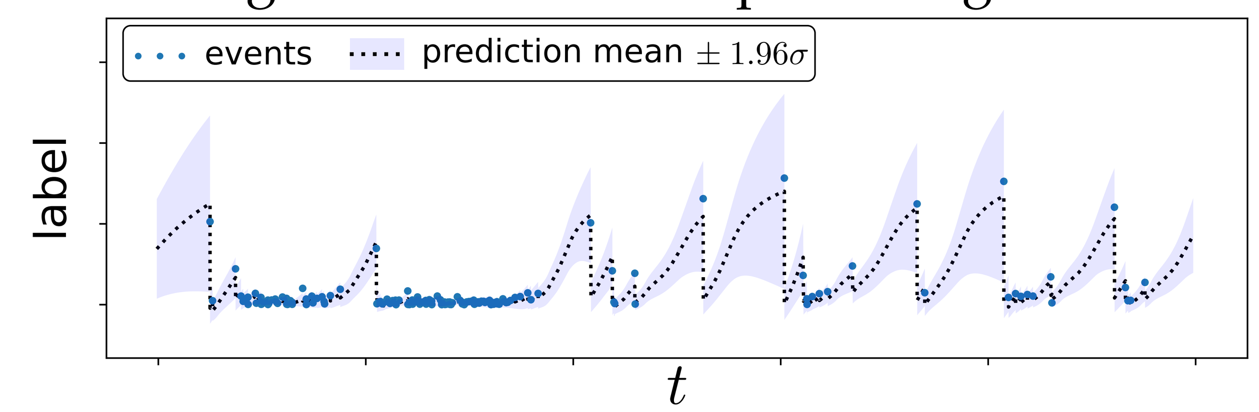
MAPE	Hawkes (E)	Hawkes (PL)	Self-Correcting
Hawkes (E)	3.5	155.4	29.1
Hawkes (PL)	128.5	9.8	29.1
Self-Correcting	101.0	87.1	1.6
RNN	22.0	20.1	24.3
NJSDE	**5.9**	**17.1**	**9.3**

The NJSDE can learn complex delaying effect of power-law Hawkes process with interacting latent dimensions (panel D).



Predicting continuous outcomes (synthetic)

Event labels are sampled from a distribution $\mathbf{k} \sim p(\mathbf{k}|\mathbf{z}(t),\theta)$. Our model can predict labels with mean absolute error 0.35, an order of magnitude lower than predicting the mean (3.65).



Predicting discrete outcomes (Web / medical data)

Each event sequence is the awards history of a Stack Overflow user or the clinical visit history of a patient. The goal is to predict the award type or visiting reason for each event.

Error Rate	[2]	[3]	NJSDE
Stack Overf ow	54.1	53.7	**52.7**
MIMIC2	18.8	**16.8**	19.8