

# Analysis and Classification of C.Elegans in High-Throughput Experiments

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction and Overview
- 2 Registration and Similarity
  - Dynamic Time Warping
  - Time-Delayed Dynamic Time Warping
- 3 Feature Based Comparison
  - Gabor Wavelet Features
- 4 Unsupervised Learning
  - Hierarchical Clustering
  - Self-Organizing Maps
- 5 Experimental Validation
  - Test Datasets
    - COPAS Data
    - Microscopic Data
- 6 Experimental Results
- 7 Conclusion and Outlook

# C.Elegans



- C.elegans genome fully sequenced in December 1998
- 50-65 % of the currently known human genes have a homologue in the model organism
- Model organism for drug treatment (Alzheimer)
- Green Fluorescent Protein

# Problem Statement



Figure: C.elegans with fluorescent CAN neurons

- CAN neurons develop in the head
- Migrate to the vulva

# COPAS Sorter

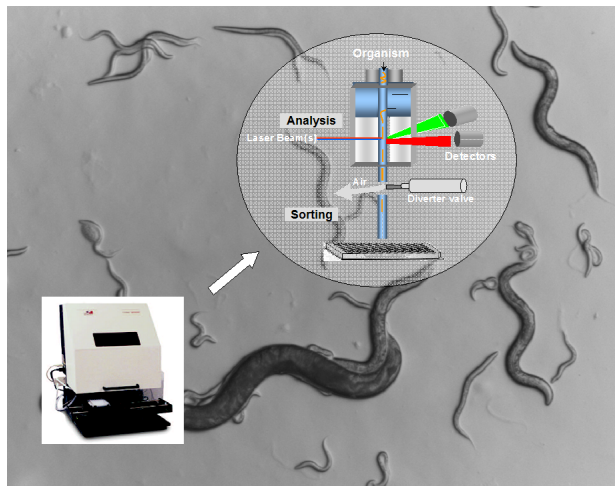


Figure: Workflow of the COPAS sorter

# Problem Statement

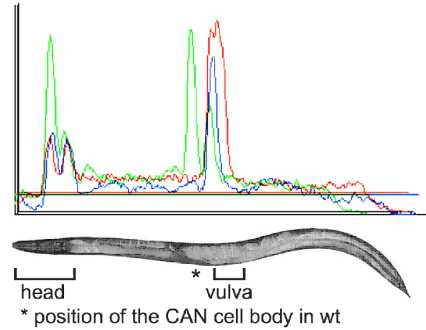


Figure: Exemplary fluorescent profiles

- Readout of COPAS sorter
- Peaks in the head and in the center

# Scope of Pattern Recognition

- 1 Compare individual worm sequences
- 2 Description of a population
- 3 Comparison of populations
- 4 Classification of individual worm sequences

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# Euclidean Distance

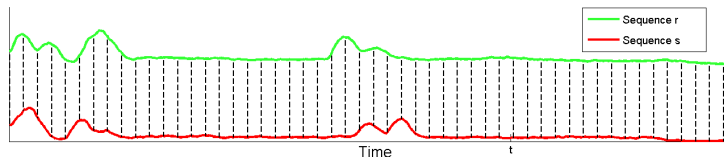


Figure: Euclidean distance measure

Euclidean distance Compare uniformly sampled elements

Disadvantage Small shift  $\rightarrow$  completely different result

# Dynamic Time Warping

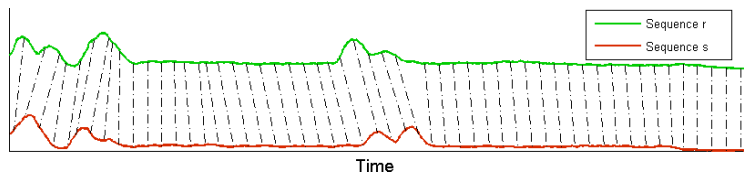


Figure: DTW approach

DTW distance Compare signals at corresponding points

Advantage Small shift  $\rightarrow$  small increment of distance

# Dynamic Time Warping

- 1 Local cost measure: Normalized cross-correlation of patches  $\mathbf{s}_i$  and  $\mathbf{r}_j$  centered at  $i, j$  with regularization term

$$\text{Dist}(i, j) = 1 - \frac{\langle \mathbf{s}_i - \mu_{\mathbf{s}_i}, \mathbf{r}_j - \mu_{\mathbf{r}_j} \rangle}{\|\mathbf{s}_i - \mu_{\mathbf{s}_i}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{r}_j - \mu_{\mathbf{r}_j}\| + \epsilon}$$

- 2 Search path through cost matrix with minimal costs  
Ordering, boundary constraint

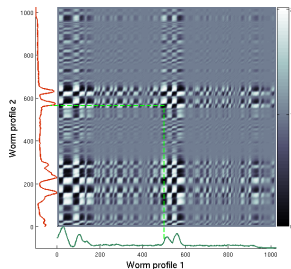


Figure: Distance matrix between the patches of the signals

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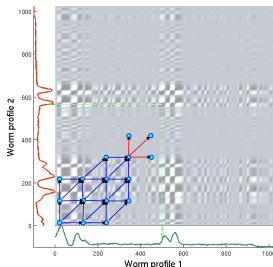


Figure: Path search within a trellis



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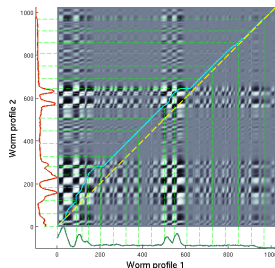


Figure: Path with minimum costs

## DTW and Time-Delayed DTW

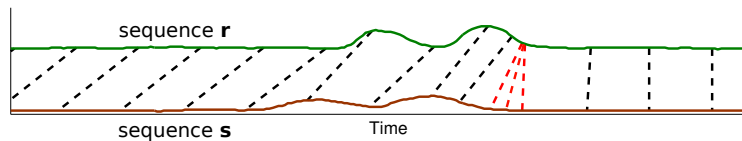


Figure: One-to-many alignment

- DTW may align an element to a segment
- Viterbi algorithm can be extended on second order terms or refined with an open snake.

# Time-delayed Dynamic Time Warping

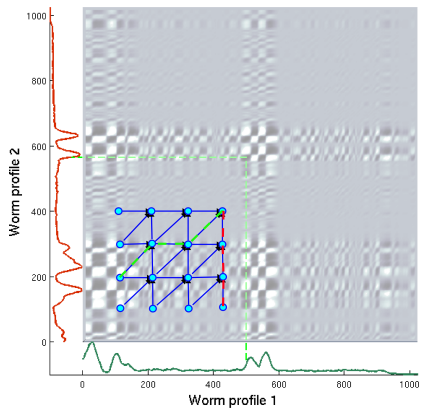


Figure: Path search within a trellis with a time-delayed decision

# Time-delayed Dynamic Time Warping

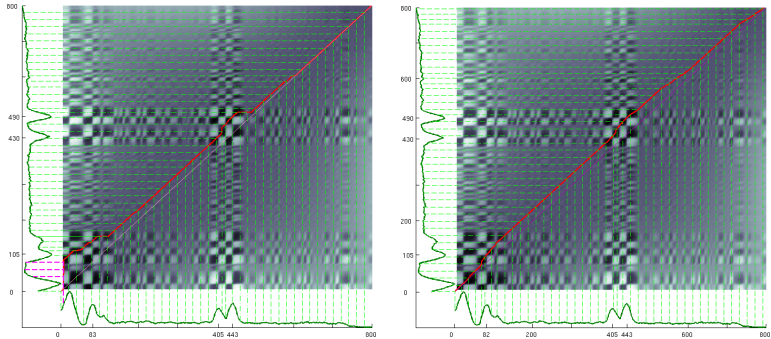
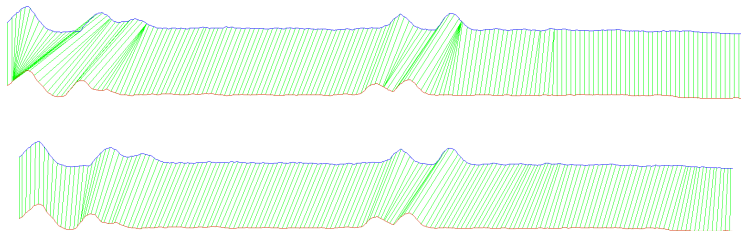


Figure: DTW and refined DTW

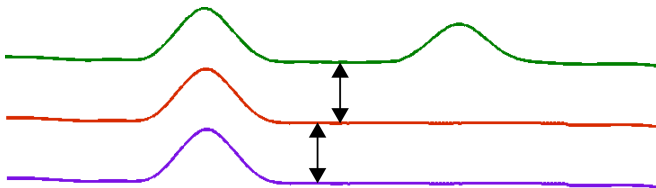
## DTW and Time-Delayed DTW



- DTW extended on second order terms
- ⇒ Smooth alignment

## Distance measure and Noise

- Accumulated costs along warp path
- Problem:



- Deformation as similarity measure.
  - Low variance as indicator for noise.
- ⇒ Weighting and penalizing of correlation results.

- Penalize paths with little signal to signal matches
- Weight deformation with minimum signal level

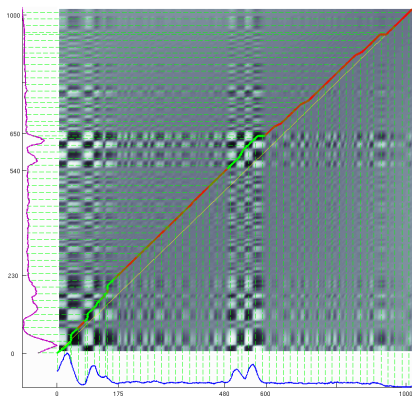
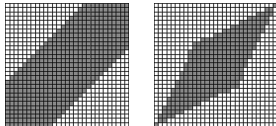


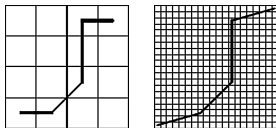
Figure: Signals and the expected noise value along the warp path.

## Speeding up DTW

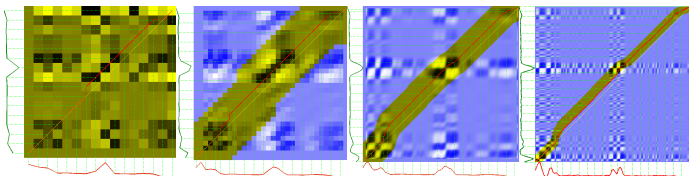
- Runtime DTW:  $O(n^2)$
- Evaluate less cells



- Compute path at lower resolution and project onto finer resolution.



- Multiscale DTW





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# Gabor Wavelets

- Multiplication of Gaussian with a complex exponential

$$f(x) = \underbrace{\exp(-i\mu_0(x - x_0))}_{\text{complex exponential}} \underbrace{\exp\left(-\frac{(x - x_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}_{\text{Gaussian}}$$

- Expand patches in frequency domain.
- Resolution in spatial and frequency domain.
- Multiresolution analysis with self-similar family of Gabor wavelets.

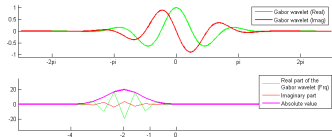


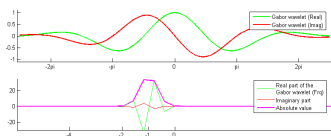
Figure: Gabor filter in spatial and frequency domain.

# Gabor Wavelets

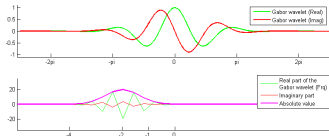
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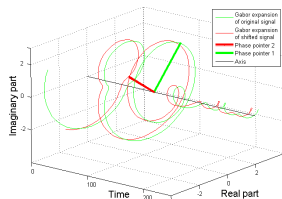
(a) Gabor filter (lower freq)



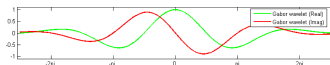
(b) Gabor filter (higher freq)

## Phase Shift and Gabor Wavelets

- Displacement between signals  $\Rightarrow$  phase shift
- Increase displacement:  
Smooth phase shift
- Different effect on different Gabor features



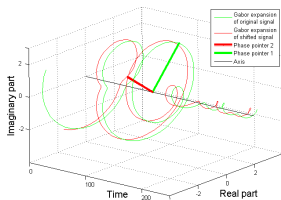
(c) Signals expanded (lower frq)



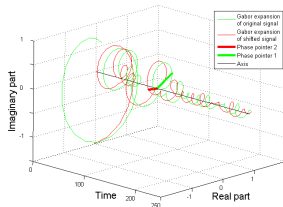
(e) Gabor filter (lower frq)

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(e) Signals expanded (lower frq)



(f) Signals expanded (higher frq)

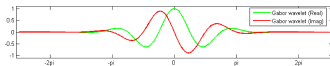
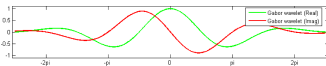


Figure: Gabor wavelets and phase shifts

## Distance Measure in Gabor Feature Space

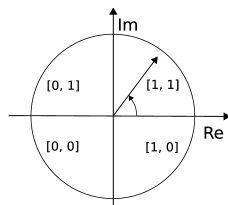
- Encoding and demodulation of signal  $s$  at scale  $k$

$$h_{\{\text{Re}, \text{Im}\}}^k(t) = \text{sgn}_{\{\text{Re}, \text{Im}\}} \int_x s(x-t) e^{-i(k\omega)(x-t)} e^{-\frac{(x-t)^2}{2(\sigma/k)^2}} dx$$

$$= \text{sgn}_{\{\text{Re}, \text{Im}\}}(s * f_k)(t)$$

- $h_{\{\text{Re}, \text{Im}\}}^k$  is a complex valued bit sequence.
- Bit sequences at different scale  $\Rightarrow$  Code to describe a worm
- Compare sequence codes using the Hamming distance:

$$\text{HD}_{\text{worm}} = \|(codeA \otimes codeB)\|$$



(a) Quadrant Demodulation Code

## Distance Measure in Gabor Feature Space

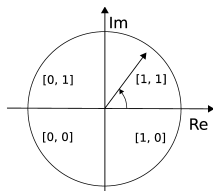
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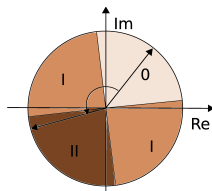
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(g) Quadrant Demodulation Code

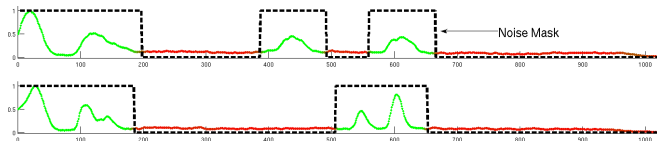


(h) Cosine difference

## Comparing Bit Sequences with Noise Handling

- Exclude noise patches
- ⇒ Fractional Hamming distance

$$HD_{\text{worm}} = \frac{\|(\text{codeA} \otimes \text{codeB}) \cap (\text{maskA} \cup \text{maskB})\|}{\|\text{maskA} \cup \text{maskB}\|} \quad (1)$$



(i) Two masks created with the assumed noise model.



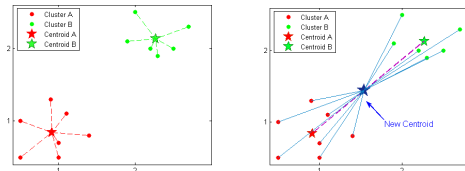
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# Hierarchical Clustering

- Group sequences in a tree structure
- Initialization: Each sequence is a cluster
- Merge sequences with the distances of the DTW and a linkage function:

Nearest neighbor, average distance, Ward's variance criteria



**Figure:** By merging two groups the centroid changes. Ward's linkage merges clusters with the lowest increment of variance.

# Self-Organizing Maps - Motivation

**Goal** Quantitative description of population

- Population consist of different subgroups
  - Continuous transitions between subgroups
- ⇒ Self-Organizing Maps

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## Self-Organizing Maps - Structure

- SOM consists of neurons  $n_k$ .
- Connected to model vectors  $\mathbf{m}_k$  and to input vectors.
- During the matching process the BMU is detected.
- Activation of neuron depends on distance to the BMU.
- Update model vector according to activation of connected neuron.

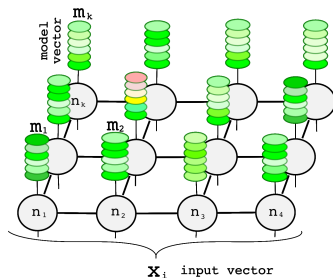


Figure: Model of a Self Organizing map.

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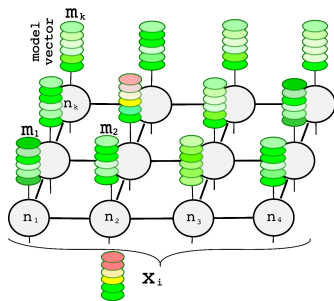


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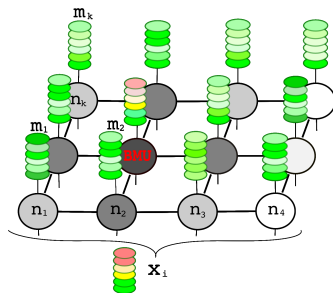


Figure: Model of a Self Organizing map.



# Self-Organizing Maps - Learning

Initialization Model vectors = random sequences

Matching Compute position of BMU  $n_b$ :  $\mathbf{r}_b = (x, y)^T$

$$\mathbf{r}_b = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{r}_k} \{ \operatorname{dist}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{m}_k) \} \quad (2)$$

Update

$$\mathbf{m}_k^{(t+1)} \leftarrow \mathbf{m}_k^{(t)} + h_{bk}(t) \left\| \mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{m}_k^{(t)} \right\| \quad (3)$$

$h_{bk}(t)$  is the “neighborhood” function.

Activation

$$h_{bk}(t) = \alpha(t) \cdot \underbrace{\exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{r}_b - \mathbf{r}_k\|}{2\sigma^2(t)}\right)}_{\text{Gaussian centered at BMU}} \quad (4)$$

$\alpha(t)$  returns a learning rate  $\alpha(t) \in [0, 1]$  at time step  $t$ .

$\sigma(t)$  implies the width of the Gaussian kernel.

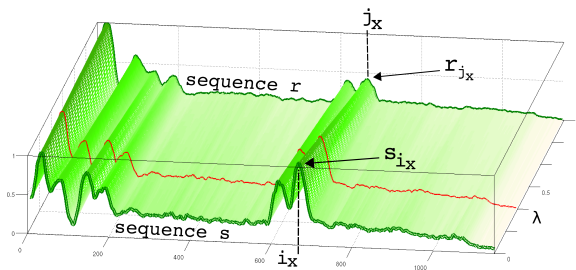
## SOMs and DTW

- Update process requires weighted average.
  - Registration between  $s$  and  $r$ :  $s_{i_x} \leftrightarrow r_{j_x}$
- ⇒ Morphed model vector.

$$w_x = (1 - \lambda) \cdot s_{i_x} + \lambda \cdot r_{j_x}$$

$$t_x = (1 - \lambda) \cdot i_x + \lambda \cdot j_x$$

- $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  warping factor
- $t$  are sampling instances of the weighted average  $w$ .  
 $f(t_i) := w_i$  describes the morphed signal. Interpolate  $f$  at uniformly scaled sampling points.



# Comparing Populations

- 1 Learn SOM on all worm sequences of all populations  
⇒ Prototypes
- 2 Quantification of each population by histogram over SOM codebook
- 3 Comparison of histograms:

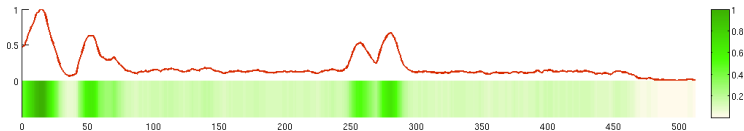
$$D(i,j) = \frac{\text{hist}_{\text{popA}}(i,j)}{\sum_{i,j} \text{hist}_{\text{popA}}(i,j)} - \frac{\text{hist}_{\text{popB}}(i,j)}{\sum_{i,j} \text{hist}_{\text{popB}}(i,j)}$$

- ⇒ Typical differences

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## Exemplary Color Assignment



**Figure:** An example for the color assignment of a worm sequence to its image illustration.

# COPAS Data

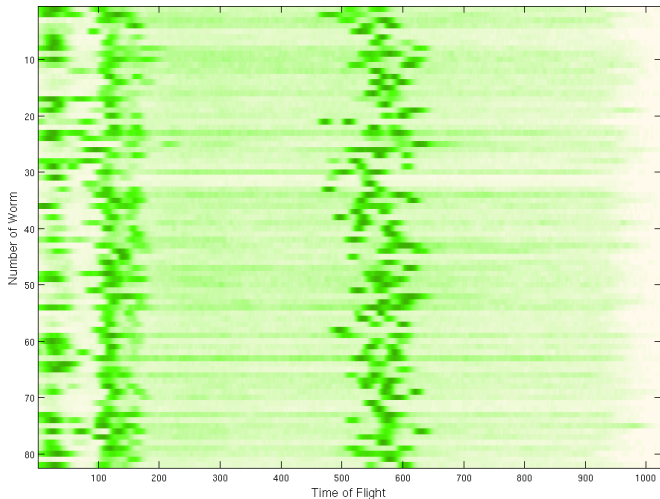


Figure: Wild type (82 worms)

# COPAS Data

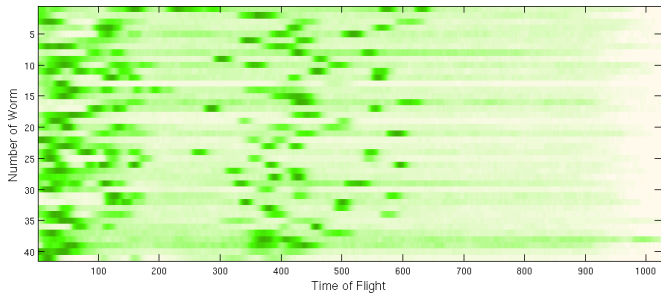
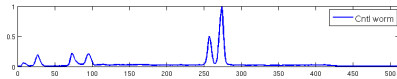
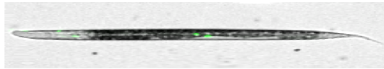
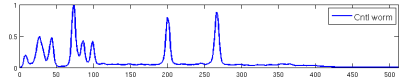
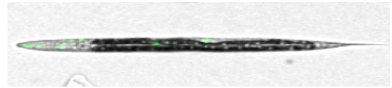


Figure: Mutants (41 worms)

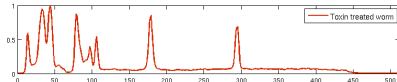
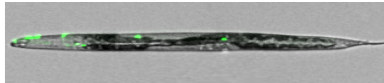
# Microscopic Data



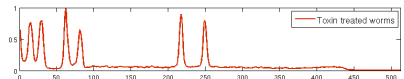
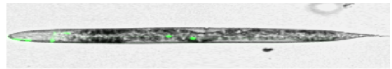
(a) Control worm



(b) Control worm



(c) Toxin treated worm

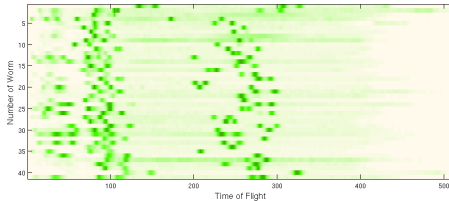


(d) Toxin treated worm

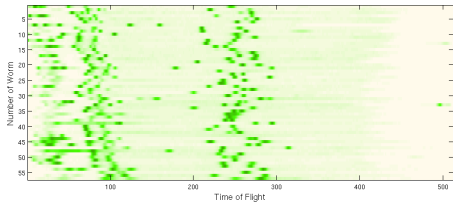
Figure: Toxin treated and control worms



# Microscopic Data



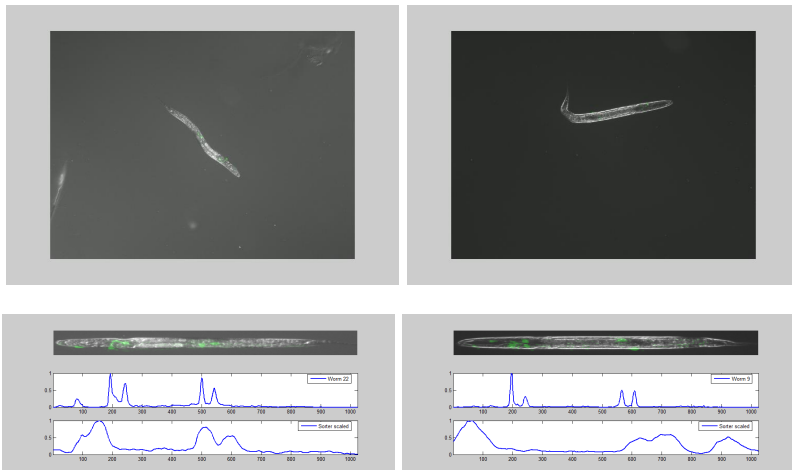
(a) 41 Control worms



(b) 56 Toxin treated worms

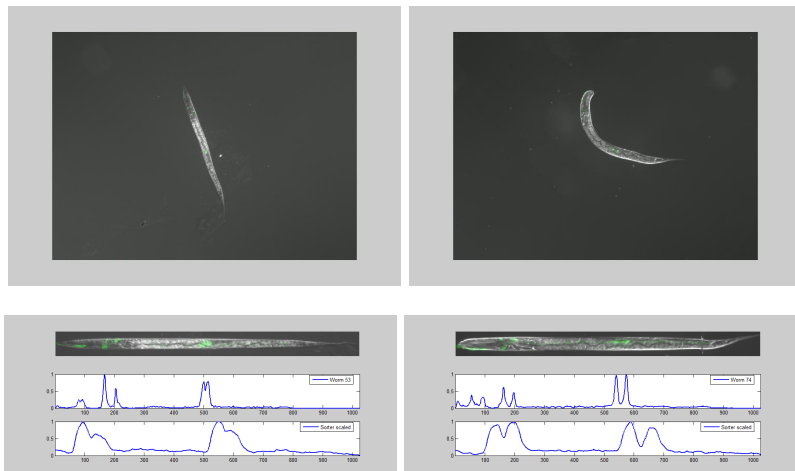
Figure: Toxin treated worms and control worms

## Microscopic and COPAS Data



**Figure:** Top-down: original image, images of segmented and aligned worm, the extracted GFP sequence and the corresponding COPAS sorter result.

## Microscopic and COPAS Data



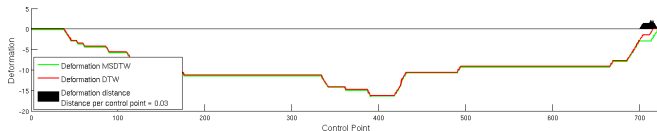
**Figure:** Top-down: original image, images of the segmented and aligned worm, the extracted GFP sequence and the corresponding COPAS sorter result.

# Outline

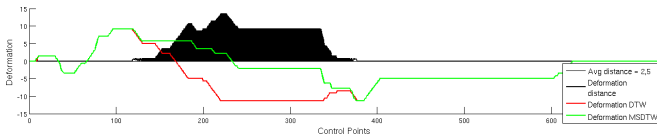
- 1 Introduction and Overview
- 2 Registration and Similarity
  - Dynamic Time Warping
  - Time-Delayed Dynamic Time Warping
- 3 Feature Based Comparison
  - Gabor Wavelet Features
- 4 Unsupervised Learning
  - Hierarchical Clustering
  - Self-Organizing Maps
- 5 Experimental Validation
  - Test Datasets
    - COPAS Data
    - Microscopic Data
- 6 Experimental Results
- 7 Conclusion and Outlook

# MSDTW and DTW

Quality metric: Deformation difference



(a) Most of the deformation models differ insignificantly.

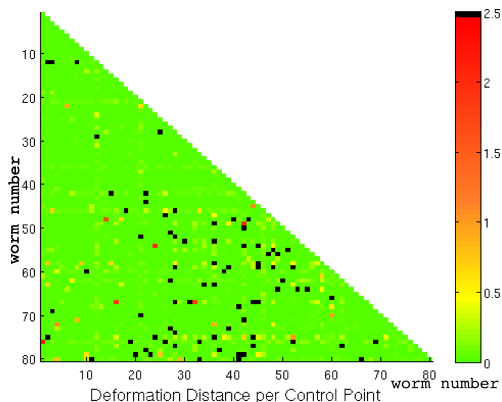


(b) An outlier with strong deformation differences.

**Figure:** The deformation models are plotted in red and green.

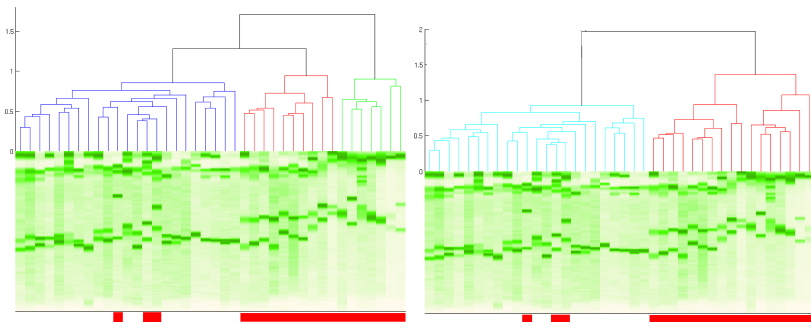
- Deformation and deformation difference between the MSDTW and the DTW.
- Black area indicates the absolute difference.

## MSDTW and DTW



- Deformation distance between the MSDTW and DTW matrix of 80 worms
- Black points: 85 outliers with an average deformation  $\geq 2.5$  pixel

# Clustering



(a) Correlation along the warp path.

(b) Penalizing paths with a low signal to signal relation

**Left** Clustering with summed up correlation along warp path

**Right** Penalizing paths with little signal elements

⇒ Distance of the clusters increases

# Clustering - Example

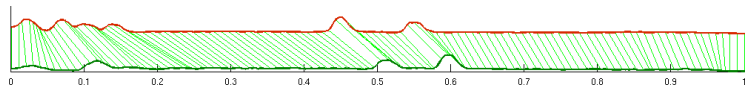
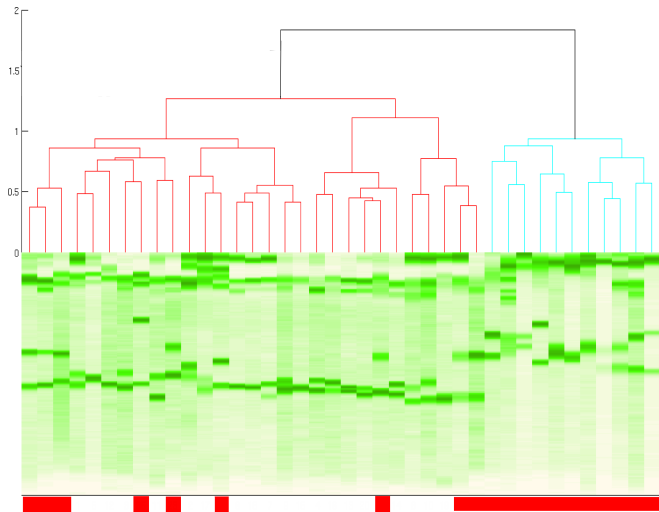


Figure: Wild type and mutant signals



# Fast Comparison - Clustering



# Self-Organizing Maps

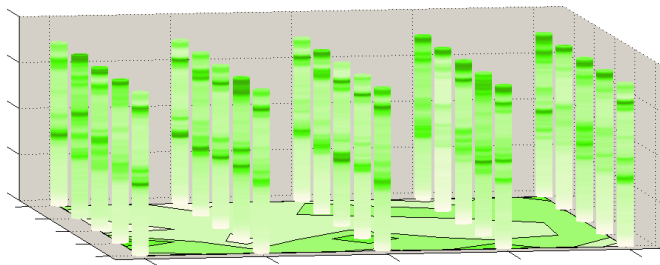
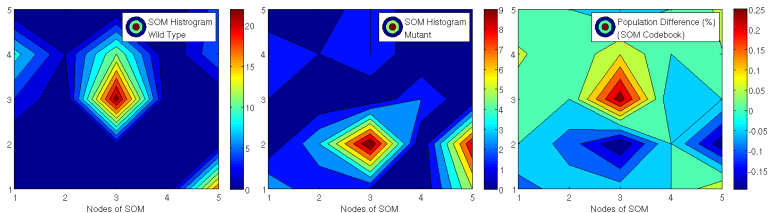


Figure:  $5 \times 5$  SOM

- SOM after 500 iterations
- Cylindric objects represent the model vectors
- Ground plot  $\rightarrow$  How often BMU.

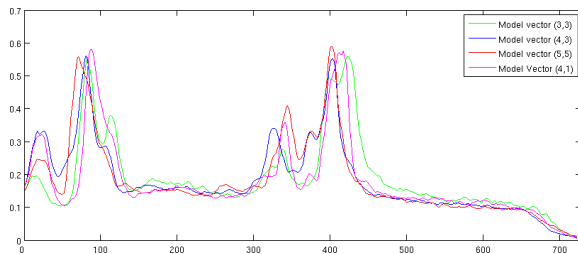
# Comparing Populations



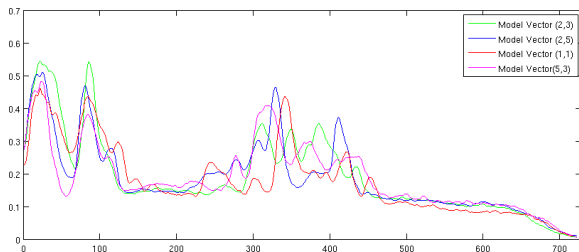
(a) Histogram of wild type population (b) Histogram of mutant population (c) Histogram differences population

- Quantification of the populations according to the SOM codebook.
- Each element of a population is assigned to its best matching unit (BMU) on the SOM.
- Difference of normalized histograms (right).
- Preferred areas are visible.

# Comparing Populations



(d) Prototypical sequences of the wild type population



(e) Prototypical sequences of the mutant population

# Outline

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# Conclusion

- DTW** Considers shape of the profiles and alignment  
 Time-delayed DTW  $\Rightarrow$  excellent registration and similarity results
- MSDTW** MSDTW yields nearly same results.  
 Adequate: Long sequences with weak deformations.
- Cluster** Grouping from coarse to fine structure differences  
 DTW distance measure  $\Rightarrow$  intuitive groups
- SOM** SOM combined with DTW to model a sparse representation of all populations  
 Trying to enforce a global topological order  $\Rightarrow$  Quality of prototypes decreased  
 SOM could partially model the two worm populations
- DTW** Runtime  $O(n^2)$ , 0.8 seconds with  $n = 512$
- Gabor** 80 Worms  $n = 1024$   
 Quadrant: 9 sec      Cosine: 22 sec      Noise: 43 sec

# Outlook

**SOM** Incorrect registration leads to artefacts

Evaluation on huge datasets

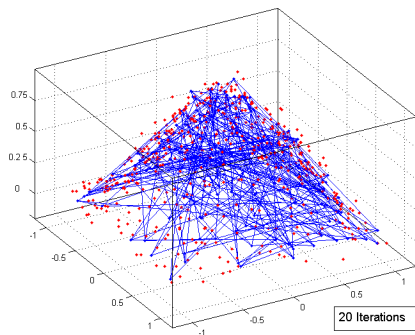
**COPAS** Improve quality of sorter data.

Thank you for your attention.



# Self-Organizing Maps - Example

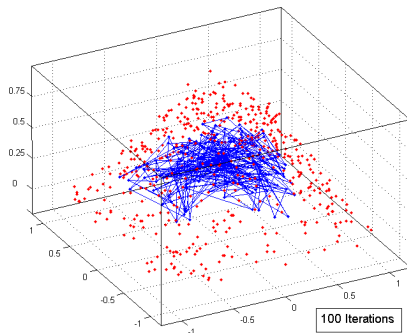
**Figure:** The SOM was initialized with random data values. It appears like a 'haystack'



A bell-shape was formed with 20000 data points. Some of them are illustrated in the red points. They were added with Gaussian noise. The blue lines indicate a SOM with its neighborhood relation. The SOM was created with  $12 \times 12$  neurons and an Euclidean distance measure.

# Self-Organizing Maps - Example

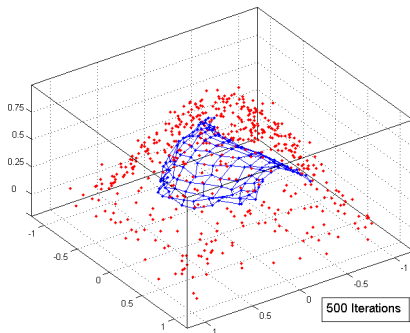
Figure: After 100 Iterations. The SOM learns fast within a huge neighborhood.



A bell-shape was formed with 20000 data points. Some of them are illustrated in the red points. They were added with Gaussian noise. The blue lines indicate a SOM with its neighborhood relation. The SOM was created with  $12 \times 12$  neurons and an Euclidean distance measure.

# Self-Organizing Maps - Example

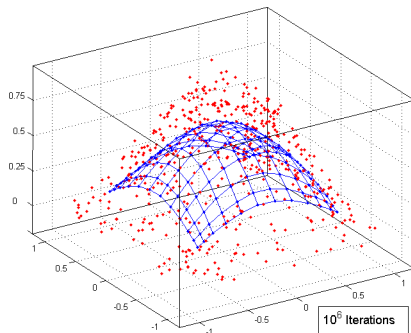
Figure: After 500 Iterations. The topology of the data gets visible.



A bell-shape was formed with 20000 data points. Some of them are illustrated in the red points. They were added with Gaussian noise. The blue lines indicate a SOM with its neighborhood relation. The SOM was created with  $12 \times 12$  neurons and an Euclidean distance measure.

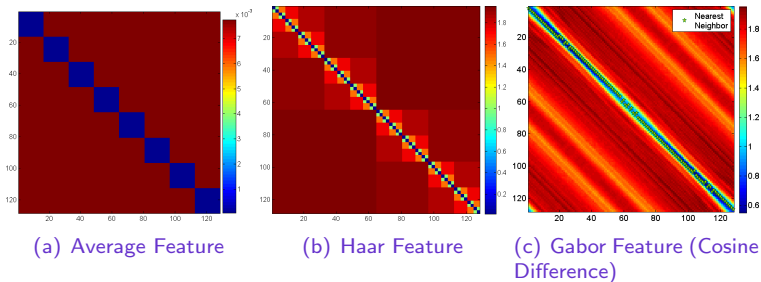
## Self-Organizing Maps - Example

**Figure:** After  $10^6$  iterations the SOM is in the refinement stage. The topology of the bell was nearly reconstructed.



A bell-shape was formed with 20000 data points. Some of them are illustrated in the red points. They were added with Gaussian noise. The blue lines indicate a SOM with its neighborhood relation. The SOM was created with  $12 \times 12$  neurons and an Euclidean distance measure.

# Fast Comparison - Shift invariance



**Figure:** Applying the feature based methods onto a shifted delta impulse. The illustrated similarity matrices show that only the results of the Gabor feature comparisons (c and d) are invariant to a shift of the signals.