

Machine Learning: A New Tool for the Physics Box?

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Machine learning: New tool in the box

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A recent burst of activity in applying machine learning to tackle fundamental questions in physics suggests that associated techniques may soon become as common in physics as numerical simulations or calculus.



Problem: energy transport in molecular networks

Model: HEOM

Supervised Learning application





- Research Goal: To understand energy transport in complex photosynthetic molecules and transfer the results to artificial systems
- Funding:

DFG-*Realistic Simulations of Photoactive Systems on HPC Clusters with Many-Core Processors* 2015-2017, Prof. A. Reinefeld, Dr. T. Kramer, Dr. Y. Zelinskyy, M. Noack H2020-Marie Curie IF-*Control and optimization of energy flow in complex molecular networks*, April 2016-March 2018, Dr. M. Rodriguez







Photosynthesis in Green Sulfur Bacteria





Antenna

few photons per day

Light-harvesting complex

Reaction Center

pico (10⁻¹²) seconds time scale



Optical probes are used to map the flow through the molecular network







Theoretical results



Our goal: Any size light harvesting complexes



GD Scholes et al, Lessons from Nature about solar harvesting, Nature Chemistry 3, 763 (2011)



Model:

Quantum transport across a network with strong environmental noise

Model for energy transfer





Hierarchical Equations of Motion (HEOM)



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Quantum dynamics described in terms of a hierarchy of time-dependent differential equations labeled with d-tuples $\vec{n} = (n_1, \dots, n_{\text{baths}}), n_i \in N^0$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}\sigma^{\vec{n}}(t) = -\frac{\mathrm{i}}{\hbar}\left[\mathcal{H},\sigma^{\vec{n}}(t)\right] + \sum_{i}^{n_{\mathrm{baths}}}\mathcal{A}_{i}\sigma^{\vec{n}-}(t) + \sum_{i}^{n_{\mathrm{baths}}}\mathcal{B}_{i}\sigma^{\vec{n}+}(t)$$



each box represents a $d \times d$ complex-valued matrix for a different excitation level

1	0	0	0	5	2	0	0	9	1	0	1	13	0	0	3	17	1	0	2
2	1	0	0	6	0	2	0	10	0	1	1	14	2	1	0	18	0	2	1
3	0	1	0	7	0	0	2	11	3	0	0	15	1	2	0	19	0	1	2
4	0	0	1	8	1	1	0	12	0	3	0	16	2	0	1	20	1	1	1

Progress towards large system sizes

• HEOM performance model: FLOP ~16 d³ d^k Memory use ~ 2x2x8 d^k d²

Computational intensity =d/2 FLOP/byte d: system dimension k: coupling to environment

Scalable implementation of the HEOM



Machine Learning in Theoretical Physics



- -We need to generate the training data
- -We have very good theoretical models
- +Models are expensive ~ N^6 scaling
- +It may save computational time for disorder/noise averaging
- +Picks interesting patterns, missed by the models or parametrisation
- +Neural Networks accurately describe non-linear processes (key in most Physics problems)
- +It may provide size-independent solutions



Can Machine
Learning predict
Quantum behaviour
in light harvesting
complexes?

Quantum behavior in photosynthesis



Gitt Panitchayangkoon et al. PNAS 2010;107:12766-12770



Engel et al NATURE 2007; Collini et al NATURE 2010

Training set:

Supervised learning of transfer probability within a molecular network

- 1) Initialize the network in site 1
- 3) Measure the probabilities at end-site

- (site energies, hopping strengths) \rightarrow transfer probability
- 10⁴ random realizations of hopping and site energies
- Fixed temperature (100K), fixed environmental coupling







Quantum vs. classical/thermal behaviour

• classical thermalisation



• quantum



Supervised Learning is able to predict quantum behaviour in the network





Wolfram Mathematica 11 Amazon MXNet Learning Framework

- Physics model calculation
- ° SL preliminary results



