



Georgia Institute  
of Technology

# Can a Neural ODE Learn a Chaotic System?

Jayjay Park, Nisha Chandramoorthy

Computational Science & Engineering Department

## Informal Introduction to Dynamical System

- A system whose behavior is described by predefined rules
- Type: Discrete Time vs Continuous Time

### Discrete Time Dynamical System

$$x_t = f(x_{t-1}, t)$$

- $x_t$  = state variable of system at time  $t$
- $f$  = function that determines the rules by which the system changes its state over time

## Lorenz: A Dynamical System that is Non-linear, Discrete-time

Lorenz System

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \sigma(y - x)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = x(\rho - z) - y$$

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = xy - \beta z$$

- Depending on the value of  $\sigma, \beta, \rho$ , lorenz system can be *fixed point*, *periodic*, and *chaotic*

---

<sup>o</sup>Edward N Lorenz. "Deterministic nonperiodic flow". In: *Journal of atmospheric sciences* 20.2 (1963), pp. 130–141.

## Introducing Butterfly Attractor, Lorenz-63

Lorenz-63 is when parameters are  $\sigma = 10, \beta = 8/3, \rho = 28$

- Lorenz-63 is a **chaotic system**
  - deterministic systems,
  - extreme sensitivity to initial points
  - thus behaving like a random system
- Lorenz-63 is an **ergodic system**
  - a dynamic system, whose ensemble average = time average
  - *animation*

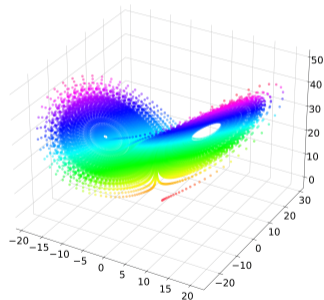


Figure: Lorenz-63

## What would learning Lorenz-63 from data mean?

Learning a chaotic and ergodic system must mean that statistics are reproduced

- Learning a chaotic system would mean
  - Auto-correlation  $\rightarrow 0$
  - Lyapunov Spectrum should match to True Lyapunov Spectrum  
[0.9, 0, -14]
  - Phase Plot should show **strange attractor**
- Learning an ergodic system would mean
  - Time average should converge
  - Wasserstein Distance  $\rightarrow 0$

# Neural ODE

Neural Ordinary Differential

$$\frac{dh(t)}{dt} = \phi_h(h(t), t, \theta) \quad \text{s.t. } t \in [0, T]$$

- $h(t)$  is a hidden layer which produces state at time  $t$ . Models the **dynamics**
- $\theta$  is parameter of hidden layers
- $\phi_h$  is time integrator of  $h(t)$

---

<sup>o</sup>Ricky TQ Chen et al. "Neural ordinary differential equations". In: *Advances in neural information processing systems* 31 (2018).

# Research Question 1: Can a Neural ODE learn a chaotic system?

- 1 What is the learning problem of interest?
- 2 Does Neural ODE learn chaotic system?
  - Is training loss, and train loss reasonably low?
  - How does orbit look like?
  - Does statistical properties discussed above match?
  - Does introducing transition phase in training dataset will influence Neural ODE's learning?

## Learning Problem

- Supervised learning problem:  $(x_i, \phi(x_i))$

Empirical Risk Minimization Problem: Given  $S = \{x_i\}_{i=1}^m, x \in \mathbb{R}^d,$

$$\mathbf{R}(h) = \mathbb{E}_{S \sim D^m} \widehat{\mathbf{R}}_s(h) = \mathbb{E}_{S \sim D^m} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m l(z_i, h)$$

$$MSE\_loss = l(x, h) = \|\phi_h^{\Delta t}(x) - \phi_f^{\Delta t}(x)\|^2$$

$$Neural\_ODE = \frac{d}{dt} \phi_h^t(x) = h(\phi_h^t(x)) \quad t \in \mathbb{R}^+, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \phi_h^t(x) \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$True\_ODE = \frac{d}{dt} \phi_f^t(x) = f(\phi_f^t(x)) \quad t \in \mathbb{R}^+, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \phi_f^t(x) \in \mathbb{R}^d$$



## Baseline Experiment Setting

- 1 Architecture: 3 Layer Feed Forward Network
- 2 Training Algorithm: AdamW
  - Learning rate:  $5e - 4$
  - Number of epoch: 20000
- 3 Data: are generated from  $[0, 180]$  integration time.
  - Time step size:  $1e - 2$
  - Size of Training Data: 10000
  - Size of Test Data: 7500
- 4 Variable for Analysis:
  - For Training: **two transition phase**, chosen from  $\{0, 3\}$  in real time

⇒ Two types of baseline model: MSE\_0, MSE\_3

## Baseline Experiment Result

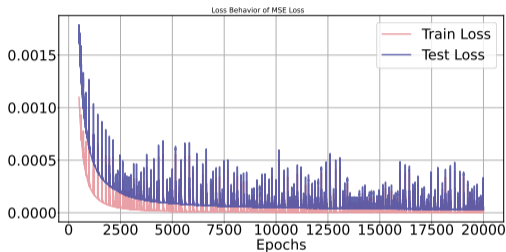


Figure: Train and Test Loss of Neural ODE without transition phase

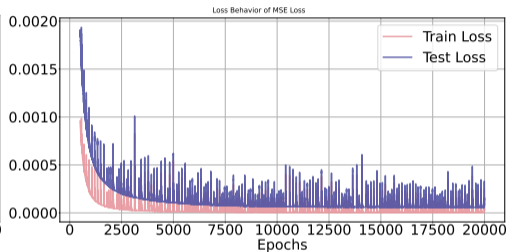


Figure: Train and Test Loss of Neural ODE with transition phase

- As expected, training loss was small
- Low test error also implies that generalization error will be low as well

# Baseline Experiment Result

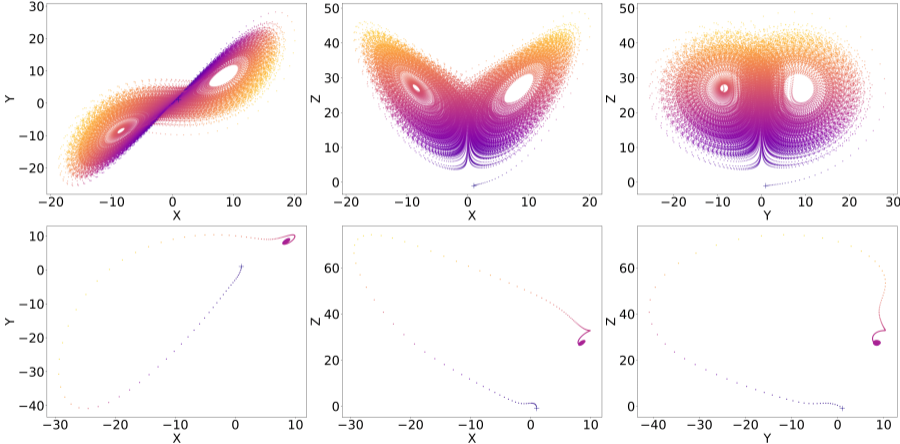


Figure: Phase Plot of True Lorenz and MSE\_3's Lorenz starting from outside of attractor

# Baseline Experiment Result

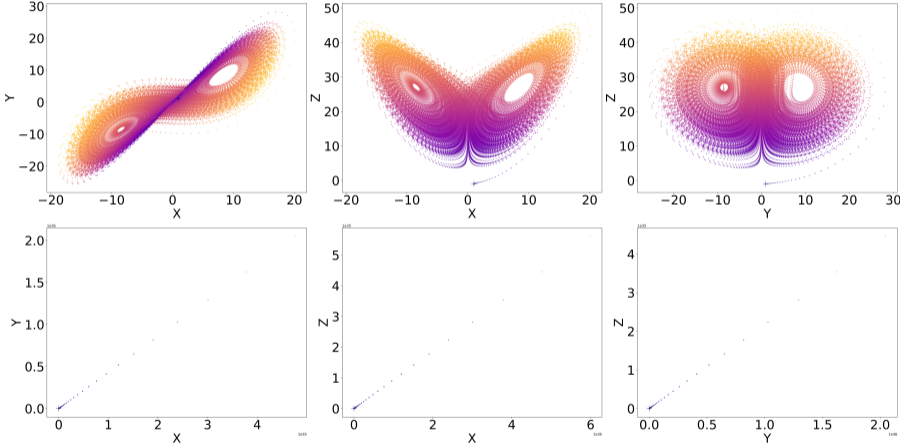


Figure: Phase Plot of True Lorenz and MSE\_0's Lorenz starting from outside of attractor

## Baseline Experiment Result

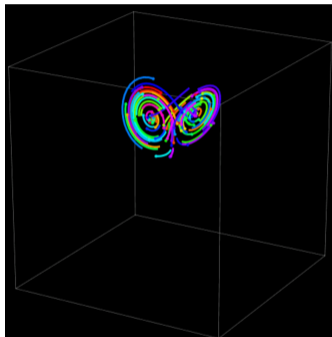


Figure: Animation of 3D Attractor

## Finding

- 1 Transition phase in training dataset impacts learning

	Phase Plot	LE
MSE_0	wrong	incorrect [0.8926, -0.0336, -6.0616]
MSE_3	wrong	incorrect [0.9122, -0.0187, -6.1176]

- 2 Neural ODE's learned dynamic is not ergodic.

⇒ Generalization error of Neural ODE being small does not imply that true dynamics are learned!

## Research Question 2: How can we make a Neural ODE learn the true dynamics and its statistics?

- 1 What is our proposed algorithm?
- 2 Using the same metric above, can we observe that it can learn true chaotic, ergodic system?

## The Proposed Algorithm

- Same supervised learning problem:  $(x_i, \phi(x_i))$
- Introducing new loss function

New Empirical Risk Minimization Problem

$$\text{Jacobian loss} = l_{new}(x, h) = \|\phi_h^{\Delta t}(x) - \phi_f^{\Delta t}(x)\|^2 + \lambda \|\nabla h(x) - \nabla f(x)\|$$

- $\lambda$  is regularization parameter



## New Model's Experiment Setting

- 1 Architecture: 3 Layer Feed Forward Network
- 2 Training Algorithm: AdamW
  - Learning rate:  $5e - 4$
  - Number of epoch: 20000
- 3 Data: are generated from  $[0, 180]$  integration time.
  - Time step size:  $1e - 2$
  - Size of Training Data: 10000
  - Size of Test Data: 7500
- 4 Variable for Analysis:
  - For training, **Transition phase**: chosen from  $\{0, 3\}$  in real time

⇒ Two types of new model: JAC\_0, JAC\_3

## Summary of Two Experiments

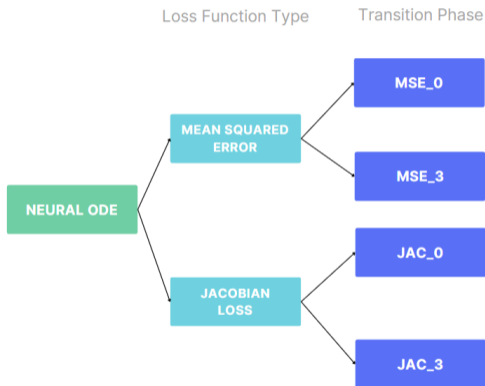


Figure: 4 Models

- "0" means transition phase is included
- "3" means transition phase of 300 data points is excluded
- **But what difference does it make?**

## Experiment Result 1: Loss Behavior

	Train Loss (Jac or MSE)	Test Loss (MSE)
MSE_0	$1.1158e - 05$	$3.0489e - 05$
MSE_3	$9.6705e - 05$	0.0001
JAC_0	1.1301	<b><math>9.6022e - 06</math></b>
JAC_3	1.0507	$2.6281e - 05$

Table: Loss

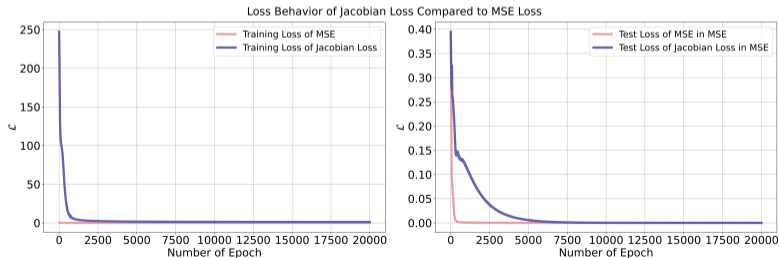


Figure: Train & Test Loss of MSE and JAC

# Experiment Result 2: Orbit

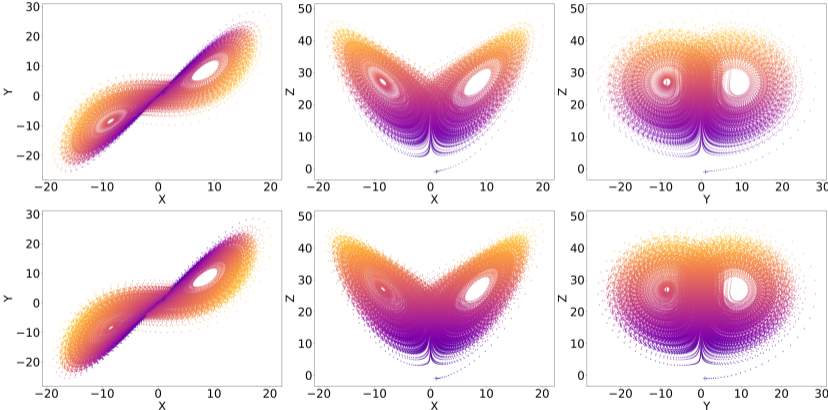


Figure: Phase plot from JAC\_0 solution

## Experiment Result 3-1: Wasserstein Distance

Model	from attractor	out of attractor
MSE_0	[0.2211, 0.2188, 0.2597]	trajectory explodes
MSE_3	[4.9432, 5.1924, 3.7964]	[10.2379, 10.8456, 7.8666]
JAC_0	<b>[0.2649, 0.2863, 0.0934]</b>	<b>[1.0547, 1.0669, 0.0991]</b>
JAC_3	[0.5337, 0.5399, 0.1708]	[1.0872, 1.1359, 0.3524]

Table: Wasserstein Distance

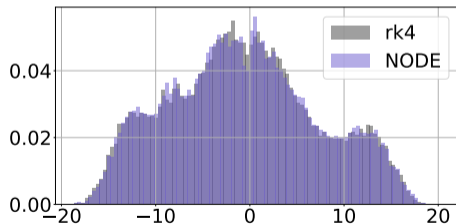
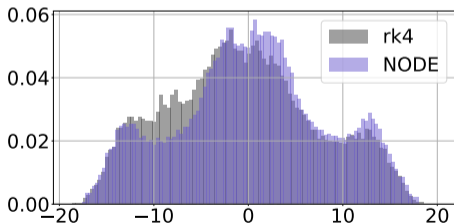


Figure: Distribution for MSE\_0's x component    Figure: Distribution for JAC\_0's x component

## Experiment Result 3-2: Time Average

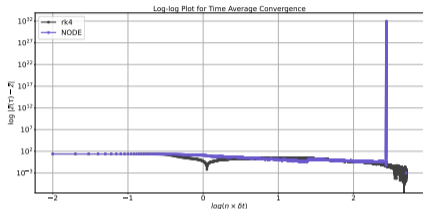


Figure: MSE\_0, Init\_Point = [1.0, 1.0, -1.0]

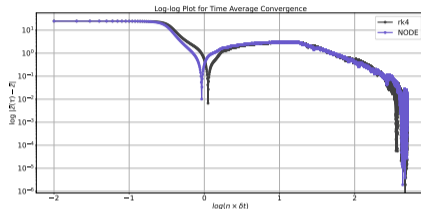


Figure: JAC\_0, Init\_Point = [1.0, 1.0, -1.0]

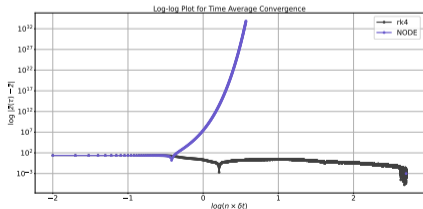


Figure: MSE\_0, Init\_Point = [1.0, 0., 0.]

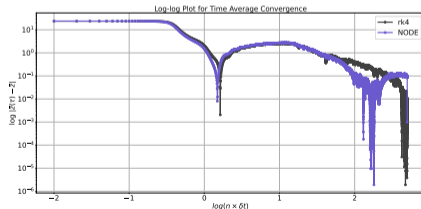


Figure: JAC\_0, Init\_Point = [1.0, 0., 0.]

## Experiment Result 3-3: Lyapunov Exponent

	Lyapunov Exponent	Norm Difference
<b>True LE</b>	[0.9, 0, -14]	
MSE_0	[0.8926, -0.0336, -6.0616]	8.4715
MSE_3	[0.9122, -0.0187, -6.1176]	8.4155
JAC_0	[0.9022, -0.0024, -14.4803]	<b>0.0655</b>
JAC_3	[0.8493, 0.099, -14.5299]	0.0973

Table: Lyapunov Exponent

# Experiment Result 3-4: Auto-Correlation

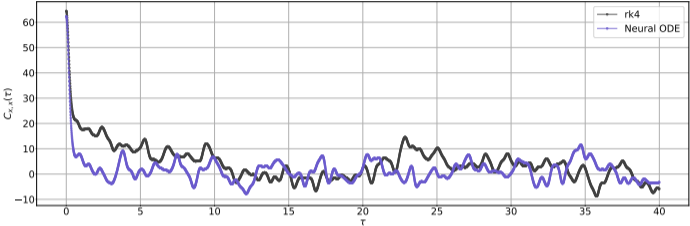


Figure: MSE\_0, Init\_Point = [1.0, 1.0, -1.0]

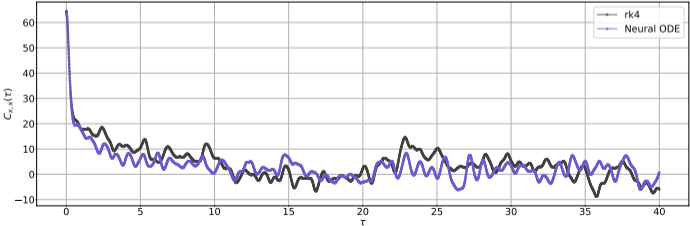


Figure: JAC\_0, Init\_Point = [1.0, 1.0, -1.0]



## Finding

- Adding Jacobian to the loss for Neural ODE learns the correct dynamics for lorenz-63 and its statistics!  $\Rightarrow$  ergodic, and chaotic dynamics
  - Better simulated auto-correlation
  - Computes correct Lyapunov Spectrum
  - Reproduces correct phase plot
  - Time average converges
  - Simulated dataset shows similar distribution

## Future Work

- For Lyapunov Exponents, it makes sense that adding jacobian to loss will lead to better estimation of LEs
- But in general, does this work for any dynamical system? Why?
- **Must redefine generalization error to reflect true learning of ergodic dynamics**

Thank you for coming! Any Questions?