

# A Nondestructive Damage Detection Method for Bridge Structures using Information-Theoretic Methods

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# “Loosened” Bridge, Damage Detection/Health Monitoring



**Bridge Location**

New York State Route 345 over big sucker brook in the town of Waddington, NY. Constructed in 1957

Data from Kerop Janoyan’s research group, Department of Civil Engineering, Clarkson University.

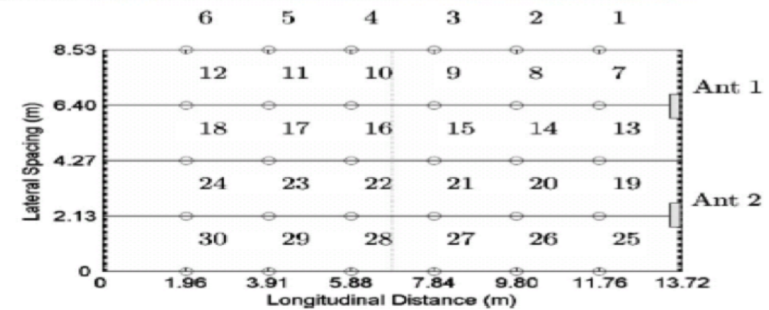
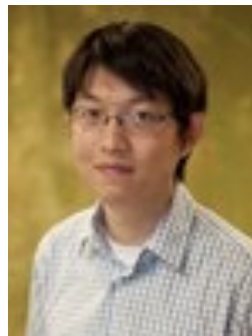


Figure 2: physical locations of the accelerometers ( This figure is taken from ” In-Service Diagnostic of a Highway Bridge from a Progressive Damage Case Study, Matthew J, Whelan, S.M.ASCE, and Kerop D. Janoyan, P.E.,M.ASCE)

Amila  
Ambededara



Kerop Janoyan Jie Sun



**Given: time series from sensors placed on a bridge**

**Problem: to infer effective structural connections among the sensor locations**

Publication: Amila Sudu Ambededara, JS, Kerop Janoyan, and Erik Bolt, *Information-theoretical noninvasive damage detection in bridge structures*, Chaos (2016).

# Engineering structures....sometimes they fail.



A Damaged bridge in Northridge, Canada



A damaged wind turbine at the centre of the Lincolnshire

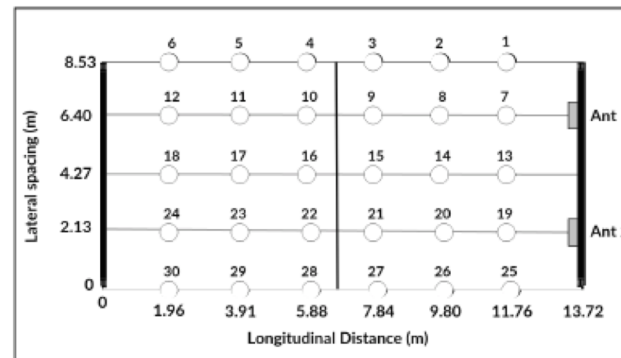


Collapsed Cypress Freeway in Oakland after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake

## Physical Problem - I:



(a)



(b)



(c)

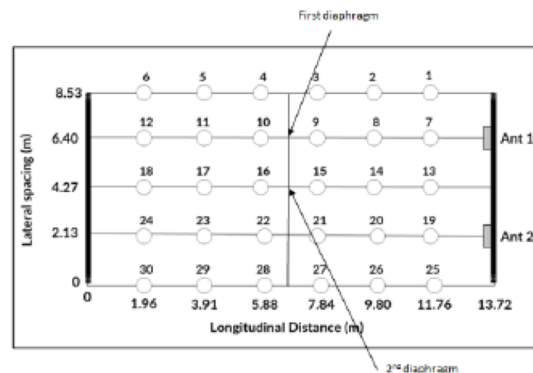
Figure: (a) The Waddington bridge, NY route 345 (b) (Top view) Physical spatial layout of the indexed accelerometers (c) Accelerometer <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mathew J. et.al, 2010

# Field Testing and Damage Introduction



(a)



(b)

## Scenarios

- ▶ Base line - Healthy Structure
- ▶ Damage 1 - Removal of 4 out of 6 bolts
- ▶ Damage 2 - Removal of all 6 out of 6 bolts

Figure: (a) A truck passes back and forth (b) Diaphragm connection

Information flow - **Transfer Entropy answers a question:** *Does process  $x$  depend just on  $x$ , or does it also depend on  $y$ .*

WHICH reality is true:  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n)$  - versus -  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n, y_n)$

The main idea leading to transfer entropy will be to measure the **deviation from the Markov property**, which would presume

$$p(x_{n+1}|x_n^{(k)}) = p(x_{n+1}|x_n^{(k)}, y_n^{(l)}),$$

Decide by **Kullback-Leibler divergence**

$$T_{y \rightarrow x} = D_{KL}(p(x_{n+1}|x_n^{(k)}, y_n^{(l)}) || p(x_{n+1}|x_n^{(k)})),$$

$$= H(x_{n+1}|x_n^{(l)}) - H(x_{n+1}|x_n^{(l)}, y_n^{(k)}).$$

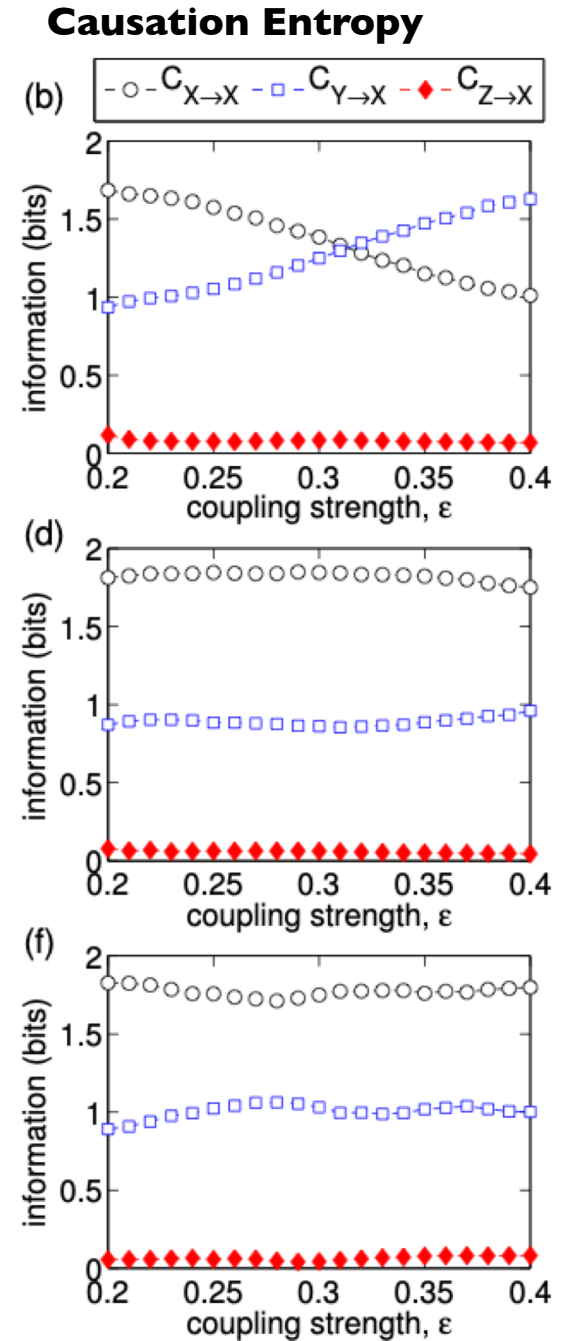
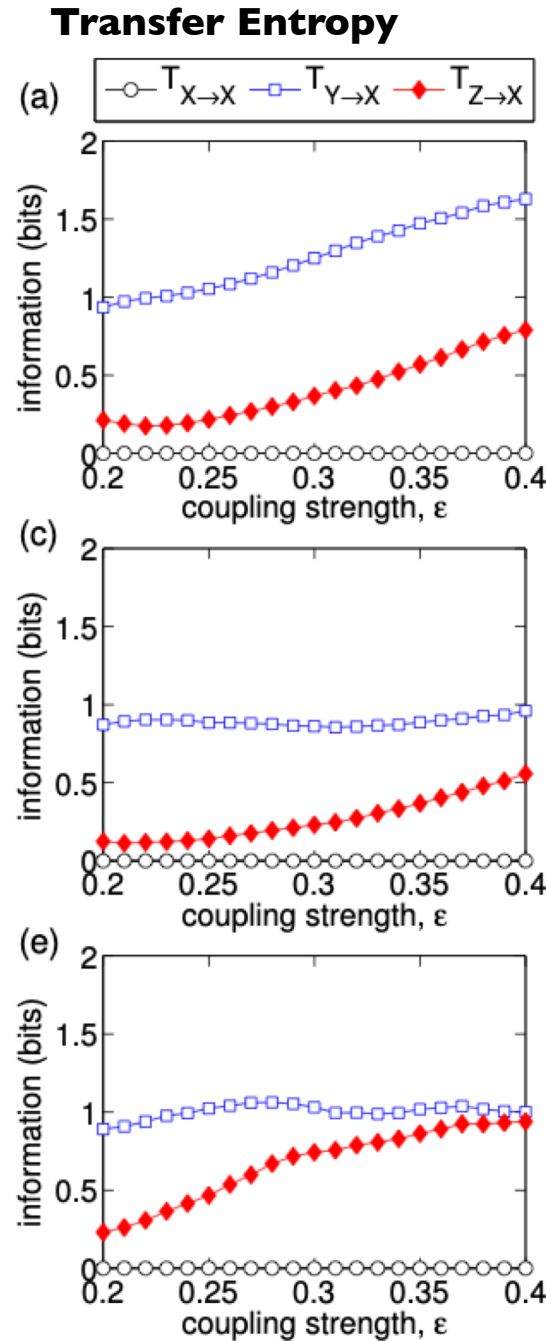
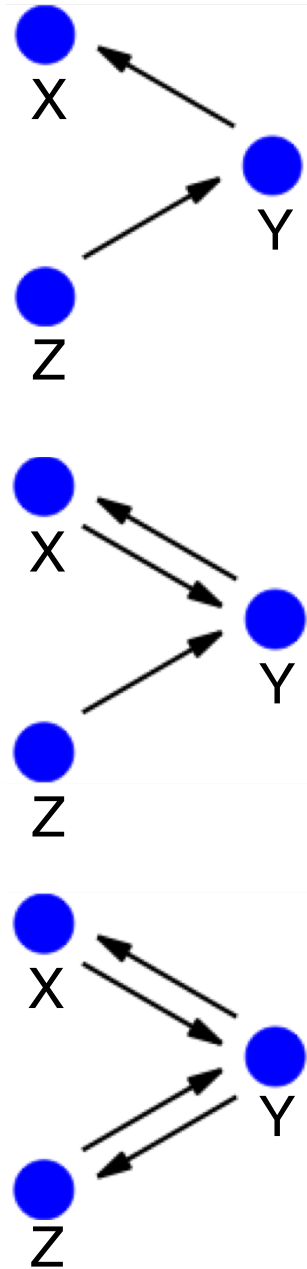
$$= [H(x_{n+1}, x_n) - H(x_n)] - [H(x_{n+1}, x_n, y_n) - H(x_n, y_n)],$$

$$T_{x \rightarrow y} = H(y_{n+1}|y_n^{(l)}) - H(y_{n+1}|x_n^{(l)}, y_n^{(k)}),$$

$$T_{x \rightarrow y} \neq T_{y \rightarrow x}.$$

**-Widely popular applications: Stock Market, Financial Markets, Genomics, Bioinformatics, neural spike trains**

# Transfer Entropy (T) vs. Causation Entropy (C)



Causation entropy correctly identifies the causal network structure.

# Causation Entropy: Measure of Causality in Networks

**Definition 1 (Causation Entropy).** *The causation entropy from process  $Q$  to process  $\mathcal{P}$  conditioned on the set of processes  $\mathcal{S}$  is defined as*

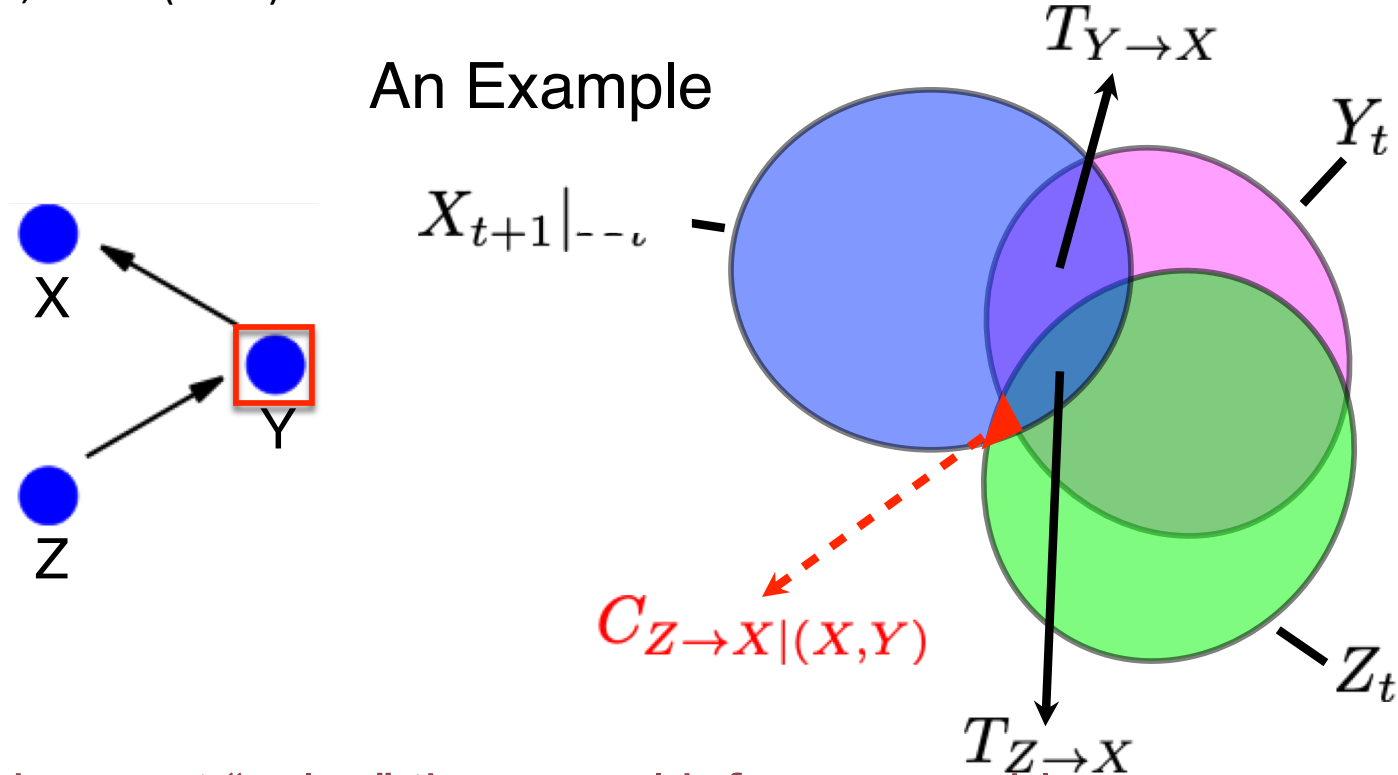
$$C_{Q \rightarrow \mathcal{P} | (\mathcal{S})} = H(\mathcal{P}_{t+1} | \mathcal{S}_t) - H(\mathcal{P}_{t+1} | \mathcal{S}_t, Q_t).$$

JSun, E. Bollt (Physica D, 2013).

JSun, D Taylor, E. Bollt, SIADS (2015)

uncertainty of P's  
future given S

uncertainty of P's  
future given S and Q



1. CSE itself does not “solve” the causal inference problem.
2. Definition simply emphasizes the fact that cause-and-effect involves all three parts (**cause**, **effect**, and **conditioning**).



# Basic Information Measures

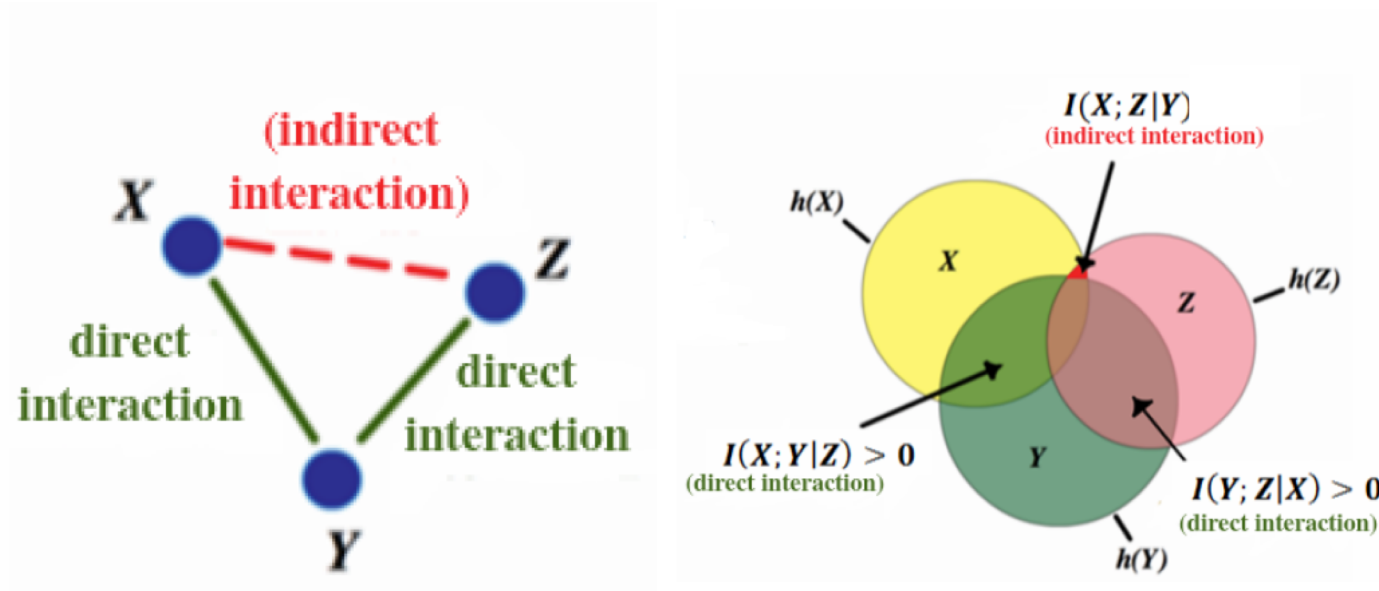


Figure: Direct and indirect mutual information interactions of continuous random variables

Is X independent of Y given Z?

$$H_0 : X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z$$

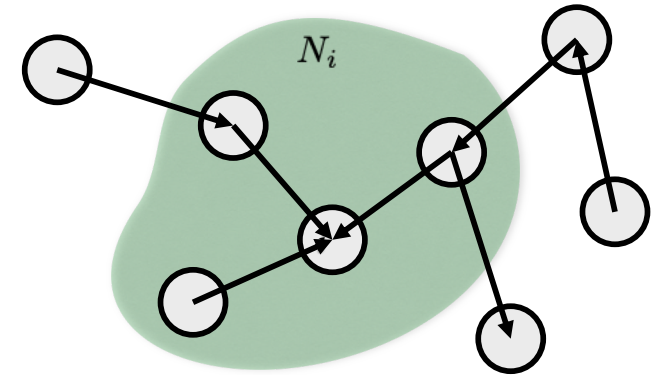
$$H_1 : X \not\perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z.$$

$$I_{X:Y|Z} = 0 \text{ if and only if } X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z.$$

# Solving the Causal Network Inference Problem

## The Causal Network Inference Problem

Given data samples of the process,  $\{X_t^{(i)}\}$   
Goal: infer  $N_i$  (“causal parents”) for each  $i$ .



**Optimal Causation Entropy (oCSE) Principle:** The set of causal “parents” is the *minimal* set of nodes which *maximizes* causation entropy.

$$\begin{cases} C_{\max} = \max_K I(X_{t-1}^{(K)}; X_t^{(i)}) \\ N_i = \arg \min_{I(X_{t-1}^{(K)}; X_t^{(i)}) = C_{\max}} |K| \end{cases}$$

## Optimal Causation Entropy (oCSE) Algorithm:

- (Iterative, incremental) local search
  - Forward discovery + Backward removal
- Model-free, fast (computationally efficient), and quick convergence (data efficient).**

# On nonParametric Estimation of the entropies

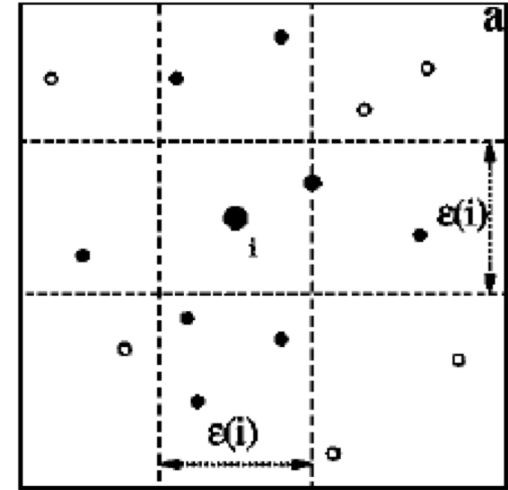
PHYSICAL REVIEW E **69**, 066138 (2004)

## Estimating mutual information

Alexander Kraskov, Harald Stögbauer, and Peter Grassberger

*John-von-Neumann Institute for Computing, Forschungszentrum Jülich, D-52425 Jülich, Germany*

**Rather than use bins**, estimate invariant density in those bins, compute the various joint and conditional densities – and then **entropies** from there



Make the estimation based on sampled points, and the densities and so **entropies are related to sizes of neighborhoods, of “kth” nearest neighbors.**

“knn methods” also benefit from kdtree searches for near neighbors – knnsearch

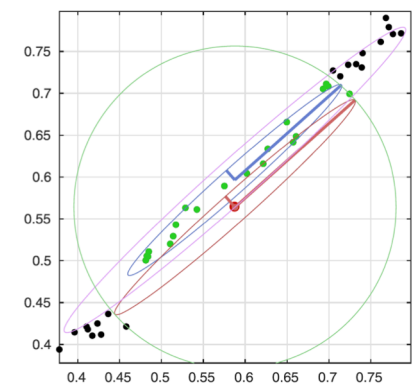
The “jist of it”

$c_d = \pi^{d/2} / \Gamma(1 + d/2) / 2^d$  for the Euclidean

$\psi(x)$  is the digamma function

$p_i(\epsilon) \approx c_d \epsilon^d \mu(x_i)$

$$\hat{H}(X) = -\psi(k) + \psi(N) + \log c_d + \frac{d}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \log \epsilon(i)$$



Lord, Sun, Bollt, (2018)

-Kozachenko and Leonenko (1987), Kraskov et al. (2004)

-For CMI: Frenzel and Pompe, 2007; Ve-jmelka and Palu's, 2008

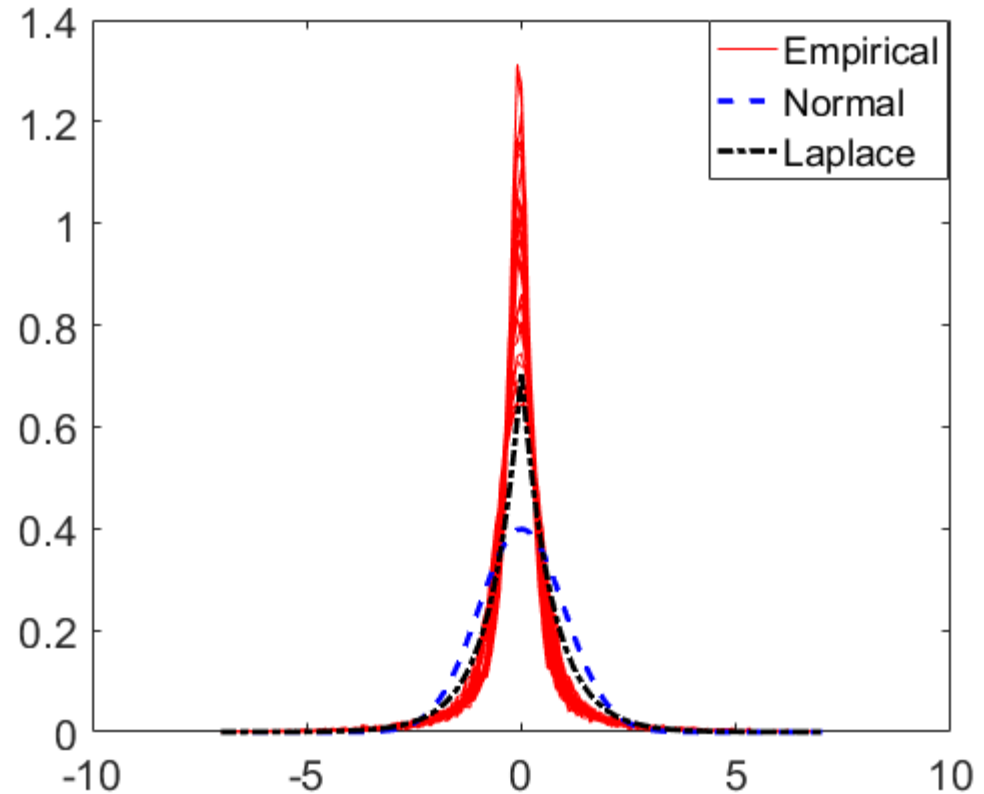
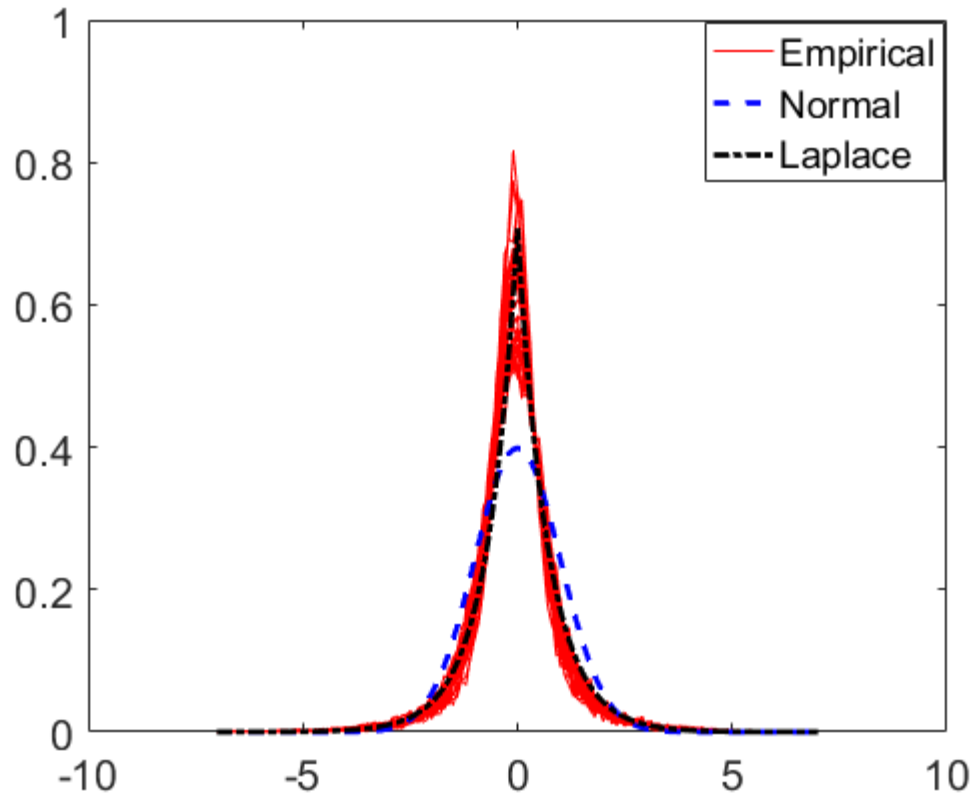
## A parametric estimator

Normal pdf:

$$f(x) \propto \exp(-\alpha x^2)$$

Laplace pdf:

$$f(x) \propto \exp(-\beta|x|)$$



Accelerations at most of the sensor locations are better captured by the Laplace distribution than the Normal (Gaussian) distribution.

Publication: Amila Sudu Ambededara, JS, Kerop Janoyan, and Erik Bolt, *Information-theoretical noninvasive damage detection in bridge structures*, Chaos (2016).

# Basic Statistical Findings

Sensor data follow a Laplace distribution rather than normal distribution:

$$f_X(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2\pi^{(d/2)}} \frac{2}{\lambda} \frac{K_{(d/2)-1} \left( \sqrt{\frac{2}{\lambda}} q(\mathbf{x}) \right)}{\left( \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{2}} q(\mathbf{x}) \right)^{(d/2)-1}} \quad (1)$$

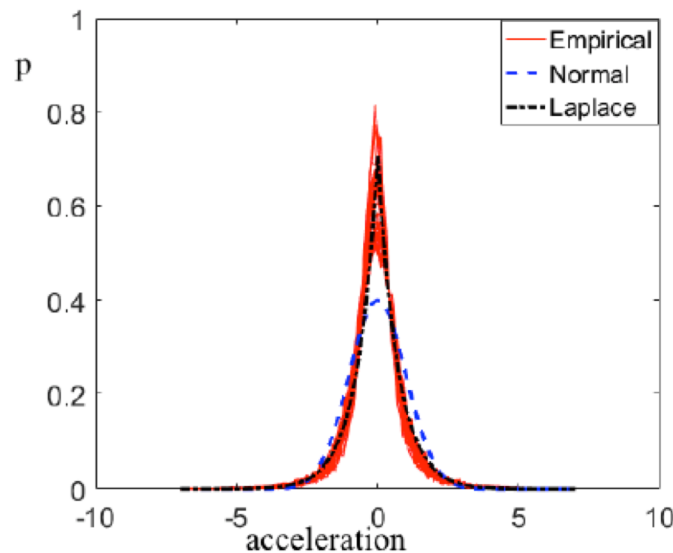


Figure: Distribution of the sensor data

$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $K_{(d/2)-1}$  - modified Bessel function of the second kind with order  $(d/2) - 1$  evaluated at  $\mathbf{x}$ ,

$$q(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda (\mathbf{x} - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mu),$$

$\mu$  - mean vector,  $\Sigma$  - covariance matrix,  $\lambda = \sqrt{\det(\Sigma)}$ .

- ▶ Identify the maximal MI pairwise interaction between sensors
- ▶ Use shuffle test to confirm its influence as information transference
- ▶ Algorithm 1: Discovery Stage

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**Input:** time series  $X_t = \{x_t^{(i)}\}_{i=1,\dots,N;t=1,\dots,T}$  and component  $i$

**Output:**  $K_i$

- 1: Initialize:  $K_i \leftarrow \{\emptyset\}$ ,  $p \leftarrow \phi$ ,  $x \leftarrow 1$
  - 2: **while**  $x > 0$  **do**
  - 3:    $p \leftarrow \arg \max_{j \neq \{i, K_i\}} I(X_t^{(i)}; X_t^{(j)} | X_t^{(K_i)})$
  - 4:   **if**  $(X_t^{(i)}; X_t^{(p)}; X_t^{(K_i)})$  passes the Shuffle Test (Algorithm 3) **then**
  - 5:      $K_i \leftarrow K_i \cup \{p\}$
  - 6:   **else**
  - 7:      $x \leftarrow 0$
  - 8:   **end if**
  - 9: **end while**
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# Removal Stage

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- ▶ Remove the indirect nodes in the set  $K_i$
- ▶ Use shuffle test to check the direct influence
- ▶ Algorithm 2: Removal Stage

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**Input:** time series  $X_t = \{x_t^{(i)}\}_{i=1,\dots,N;t=1,\dots,T}$ , component  $i$ , and set  $K_i$

**Output:**  $\hat{K}_i$

```
1: for every  $j \in K_i$  do
2:   if  $(X_t^{(i)}; X_t^{(j)}; X_t^{(K_i/\{j\})})$  fails the Shuffle Test (Algorithm 3) then
3:      $K_i \leftarrow K_i / \{j\}$ 
4:   end if
5: end for
6:  $\hat{K}_i \leftarrow K_i$ 
```

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# Shuffle Test

Is X independent of Y given Z?

$$H_0 : X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z$$

$$H_1 : X \not\perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z.$$

$$I_{X:Y|Z} = 0 \text{ if and only if } X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y \mid Z$$

- ▶ A method for stopping criteria
- ▶ Algorithm 3: Shuffle Test

Since no finite size sample behavior for CMI

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**Input:** time series  $(X_t^{(i)} = \{x_t^{(i)}\}; X_t^{(j)} = \{x_t^{(j)}\}; X_t^{(K)} = \{x_t^{(K)}\}, t = 1, \dots, T)$ ,  
threshold  $\theta$  and number of shuffles  $N_s$

**Output:** pass/fail

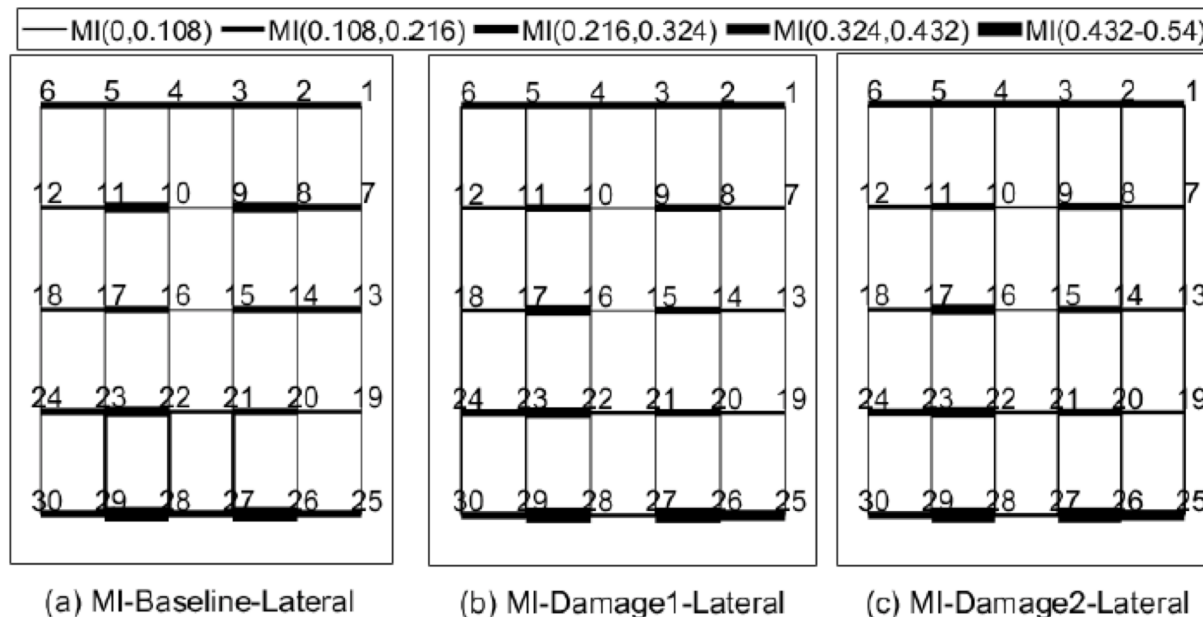
- 1: **for**  $\ell = 1, \dots, N_s$  **do**
- 2:     generate a random permutation:  $\sigma : \{1, \dots, T\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, T\}$
- 3:     use  $\sigma$  to obtain a shuffled time series,  $Y_t = \{y_t\}$ , where  $y_t \leftarrow x_{\sigma(t)}^{(j)}$
- 4:     compute  $I_\ell \leftarrow I(X_t^{(i)}, Y_t | X_t^{(K)})$
- 5: **end for**
- 6:  $S \leftarrow$  the  $\lfloor (1 - \theta)N_s \rfloor$ th largest value from  $\{I_1, \dots, I_{N_s}\}$
- 7: **if**  $I(X_t^{(i)}; X_t^{(j)} | X_t^{(K)}) > S$  **then**
- 8:     **output:** pass
- 9: **else**
- 10:    **output:** fail
- 11: **end if**

Idea: to simulate independence, randomly permute  
x-values in  $\{x_i, y_i, z_i\}_{i=1}^n$

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# Pair Wise Mutual Interactions



- ▶ Categorize MI into five ranges
- ▶ Thickness of the line is proportional to magnitude of the MI

Figure: Pairwise mutual information

# Difference of the Pairwise MI

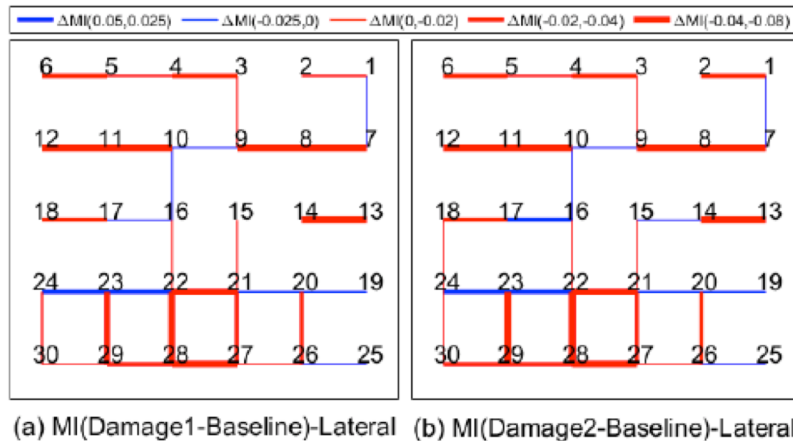
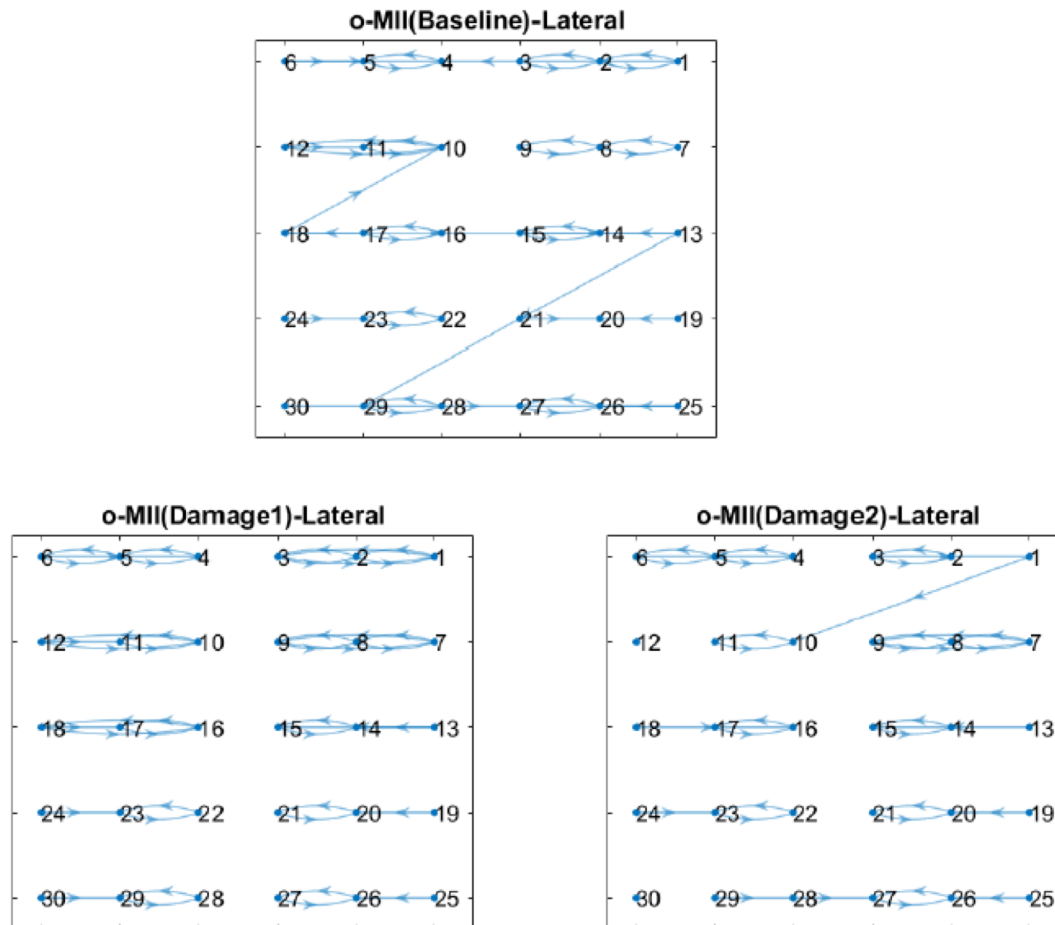


Figure: Difference of the pairwise mutual information

- ▶ Red - negative changes after the damage is introduced
- ▶ Blue - positive changes the damage is introduced
- ▶ Some connections entirely vanished after the damage is introduced

- ▶ Damage to the structure seems to generally lower the value of mutual information in the lateral direction between spatially nearby sites (a lower coupling)
- ▶ Such changes can be improved with further structural damage

# oMII Interactions



- ▶ The bridge structure supports more information flow in the same direction as the truck lanes
- ▶ Exceptions are near the center -Due to the first diaphragm

Figure: The optimal mutual information interaction between baseline and damaged bridges

# Difference of the oMII Interactions

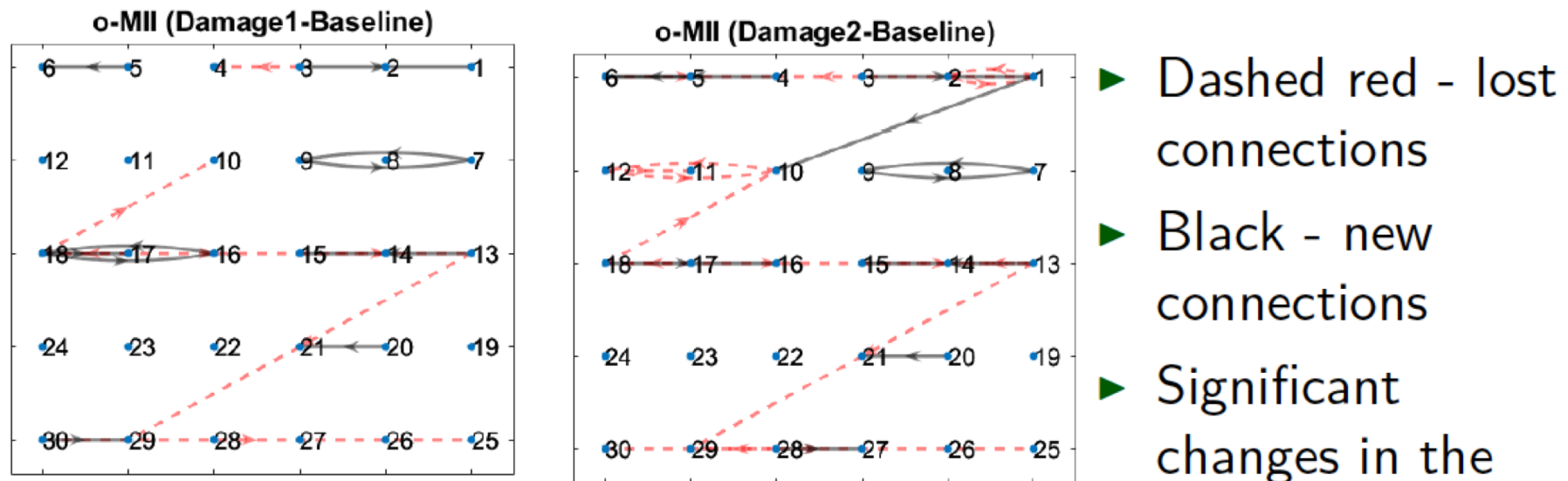
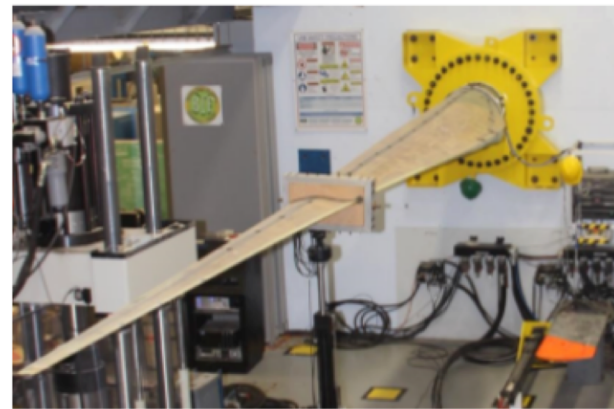


Figure: Difference of the optimal mutual information interaction between baseline and damaged bridges

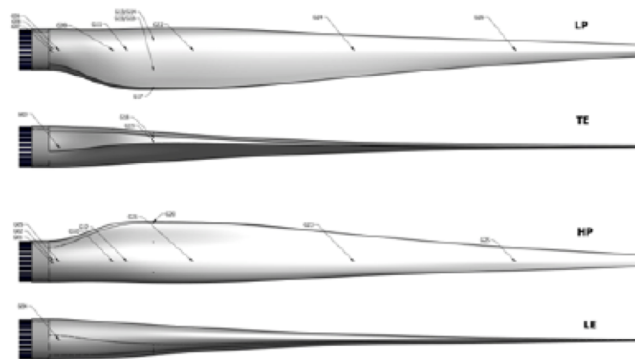
- ▶ Sudu Ambededara, Amila, et. al. "Information-theoretical noninvasive damage detection in bridge structures." *Chaos: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Nonlinear Science* 26.11 (2016): 116312.

# Future Work

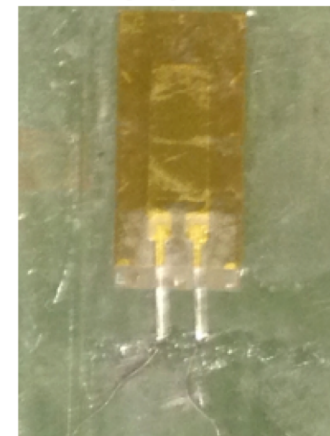
## A Fatigue Test for Wind Blades Using Information Theoretical Measures



(a)



(b)



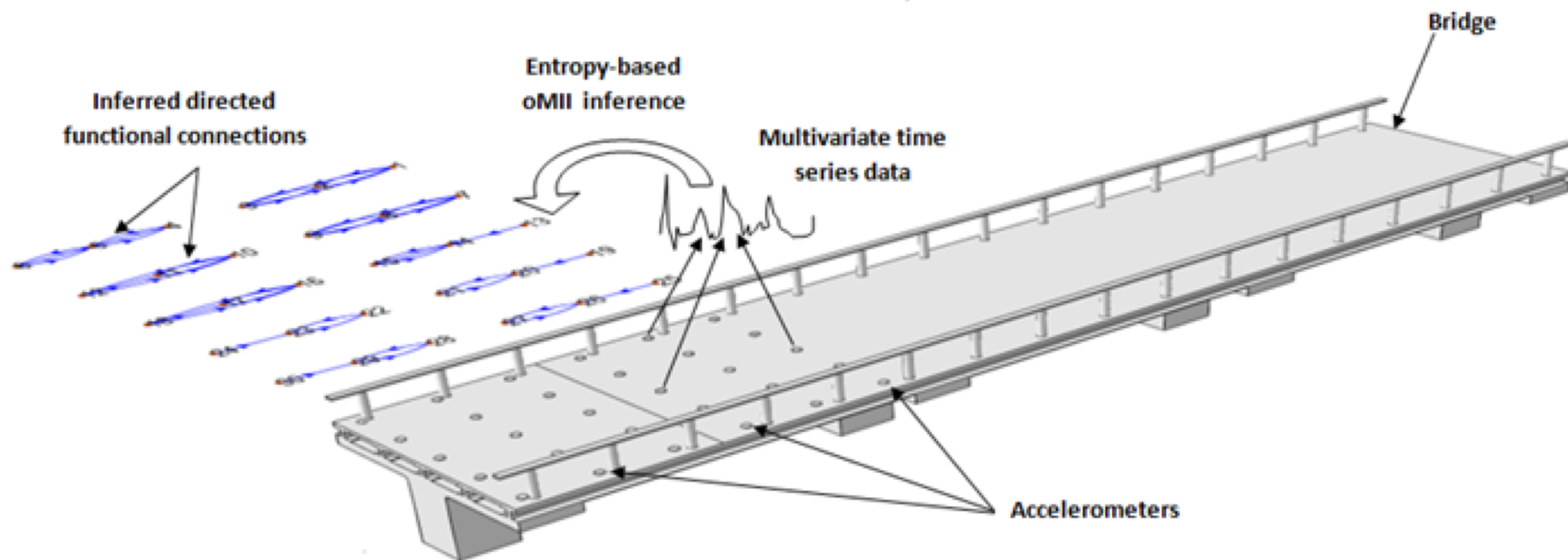
(c)

Figure: (a) Blade System Design Studies blade mounted for fatigue test (b) Strain gauges locations on the wind blade (c) A Strain gauge

## Noninvasive Damage Detection

Publication: Amila Sudu Ambededara, JS, Kerop Janoyan, and Erik Boltt, *Information-theoretical noninvasive damage detection in bridge structures*, Chaos (2016).

- (1) Directed connections are mostly in the direction of traffic flow
- (2) The identified vertical “gap” corresponds to a structural “boundary”



SIAM NEWS BLOG



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## An Information Theory-Based ‘Thermometer’ to Uncover Bridge Defects

By [Lakshmi Chandrasekaran](#)









