List of Figures

Figures page 1.1 Evolution in structural complexity of nervous systems. (a) In primitive organisms such as 1 a Hydra (a coelenterate), neurons are connected in an unorganized manner. (b) In nematodes such as C. elegans, the nervous system is more nuanced with specialized structures like nerve cords and ganglions. Nervous systems seen as a meta-system comprising of different layer of sub-systems. 2 1.2 Systems biological investigations conducted as part of this thesis invoke these towards answering questions addressing structure, function and control of brain networks. The structure of a simple neuronal circuit required to respond to an external stimulus. 6 2.1 Different network motifs prevalent in biological systems. The feed-forward loop, bi-fan 2.2 8 and biparallel are over-represented, whereas feedback loop is under-represented in gene regulatory networks and neuronal connectivity networks [R Milo et al., 2002]. Figure adapted from [Tran, Choi, and Zhang, 2013]. Illustrations explaining structural control in graphs. (a) Structurally controllable cacti 9 2.3 structure where the driver node is represented in red. (b) Presence of dilations and inaccessible nodes makes the network structurally uncontrollable. The labelled four node complete graph. Red edges represent animosity and green edges 2.4 11 represent positive relationship. Figure adapted from Chapter 5 [Easley and Kleinberg, 2010]. Temporal and spatial resolution of different brain imaging techniques. Figure adapted 2.5 12 from [Meyer-Lindenberg, 2010]. 2.6 fMRI technique assumes causal connection between 'neural activity' and 'BOLD signal'. 12 C. elegans neuronal network: A network representation of C. elegans nervous system. 3.1 15 Strategy to construct degree distribution preserved control. The source nodes are shown 3.2 16 in green, and the target nodes are shown in red. Other nodes of the network are shown in blue. Classification of three node sub-graphs. 17 3.3 Hopcroft-Karp algorithm for maximum matching (adapted from ["Hopcroft-Karp 20 3.4 algorithm," 2017]). (a) A directed graph represented as bipartite with U and V subsets. (b) Perform BFS starting at all the vertices in V without a match. Pick any unmatched leaf and go all the way back to a root using DFS. Match the leaf to the root. Repeat the process to find the next matching is observed. (c) Delete all the instances of 1 and a found in the trees. (d) Match b to 2 and delete b from the tree spanning from 3. (e) In this iteration, 1 is matched to a, 2 is matched to b, and 3, along with c, are left without a match. (f) Perform DFS once again from the unmatched leaf all the way to the root. (g) Thus produced the maximal matching between U and V in the graph. The yellow edge represent matching edge red hops represent depth first search steps. Schematic representation of Augment matching algorithm [Pothen and Fan, 1990]. 22 3.5 3.6 Generic framework for creating a functional network from 4D fMRI data. 23 Diagrammatic representation of *C. elegans* nervous system. The gastrointestinal tract lies 26 4.1 in the middle of the body. Pharyngeal and circumferential ring neurons (yellow) are responsible for communication between dorsal nerve cord and ventral nerve cord. The Gene Co-expression Network for CeNN. Each of the 116 neuronal groups is 4.2 27 represented as a node. A weighted edge between any two neuronal groups represents the extent of gene co-expression. The shape and colour of the neuronal groups depict presence (Red Diamonds) or absence (Blue Circles) of driver neurons in them. The C. elegans co-expression based network is heterogeneous with 9 groups holding all the driver neurons, whereas rest of the 107 groups were devoid of driver neurons. Role of degree in specifying driver nodes. (a) Fraction of driver nodes as found in the 28 4.3 CeNN, and their corresponding random counterparts: Degree Distribution conserved control (DD) and Erdos-Reney graph (ER). (b) Fraction of driver neurons with low, medium and high degree in CeNN. These results are consistent with what is reported by Lui et. al [Y.-Y. Liu et al., 2011]. Distribution of driver neurons across different types of neurons: Sensory, Motor and Inter. 29 4.4 The fraction of driver neurons was computed for each class separately.

Title

- 4.5 Distribution of driver neurons across other phenotypic features (location and span). (a) 30 Location of neurons within the body of the organism. (b) Span of neurons in accordance with the length of axons.
- 4.6 Visualization of driver neurons in CeNN and distribution of driver neurons across the body. 30 The neurons are arranged in accordance with Cartesian coordinates presented within the body. This figure clearly shows presence of driver neurons in the mid-ventral region of the organism.
- 4.7 Nine neuronal groups (clusters) obtained starting from GCN using affinity propagation 31 algorithm [Morris et al., 2011]. The three largest clusters contain driver nodes (red diamonds) hinting at possible role they play. Cluster three forms a perfect clique with highest number of unique genes expressed within a cluster.
- 4.8 Phenotypic distribution of neurons in the clusters of GCN in accordance with, (a) 32 functional types, (b) location of the body, (c) Span of the neuronal axon.
- 5.1 Network structure of C. <u>elegans</u> nervous system. Functionally relevant driver neurons (34 36 nodes highlighted in white) were identified with maximum matching criterion. Beyond explaining the small world nature, saturation of feed forward motifs and observed number driver neurons, the distance constrained synaptic plasticity model accurately identifies specific driver neurons.
- 5.2 Statistics for unidirectional three node motifs depicting over-representation of feed 37 forward motifs. The Z-Score was computed in comparison to 100 instances of random controls (ER) of CeNN.
- 5.3 The 1D ring model, with neurons linked for maximizing number of feed forward motifs, 38 was rewired with increasing probability of synaptic rewiring. Starting with an asymptotic model (with 277 nodes and 8 out-going edges) saturated with FFMs, synaptic rewiring was emulated with probability *p*. The model exhibits a spectrum of topological variations between extreme regularity and randomness. The figure shows an illustration for 10 nodes and 2 outgoing edges. See Figure C.1 of Annexure C for another illustration with larger network size.
- 5.4 Response of 1D ring model with changing probability of synaptic rewiring was measured 39 in terms of average clustering coefficient (\overline{C}) , characteristic path-length (L), number of FFMs (n_{FFM}) and number of driver nodes (n_D) . For intermediate values of p, the model exhibits small world phenomenon as well as FFM saturation, but cannot account for controllability $(n_D = 0 \forall p)$. All parameters were normalized with respect to the initial ring graph (p = 0). Error bars represent standard deviation over 100 instances. Please see Figure C.2, Figure C.3 and Figure C.4 in Annexure C for non-normalized data.
- 5.5 Empirical distance constrained synaptic connectivity pattern observed in *C. elegans* 40 neuronal wiring. The number of synapses that connect neurons at distance *d* follows a power law pattern with an exponent of $\alpha = 2.02 (p value = 0.92)$ [Clauset, Shalizi, and Newman, 2009].
- 5.6 Response of distance constrained models of CeNN (DCR and DCP) with increasing 42 constraint (α) measured in terms of (a) average clustering coefficient (\overline{C}), (b) characteristic path-length (L), (c) number of FFMs (n_{FFM}), and (d) number of driver nodes (n_D). The lower the α more heterogenous are the synaptic lengths (larger proportion of long range synapses). For $\alpha = 0$, DCR and DCP models converge to ER and DD controls, respectively. For asymptotic limits of $\alpha < \infty$ both the models converge to the Cartesian model, a regular model with saturation of FFMs coupled with high clustering but devoid of driver nodes. While the small world nature (reflected in high clustering and low path-length) and FFM saturation is realized by both DCR and DCP models, DCP model stands out in reproducing all key features of CeNN for $0.6 < \alpha < 1.8$ (highlighted with gray background). Please see Figure C.5, Table C.6 and Table C.7 of Annexure C for data associated with this figure.
- 5.7 Accuracy of identification of specific driver neurons with changing distance constraint 43 exponent. The DCR model, with random synaptic connectivity pattern, fared poorly. The performance of DCP model was consistently better than that of the DCR model indicating the critical role played by the distance constraint in specifying the control of the neuronal network. For optimum distance constraint ($\alpha = 0.6$) DCP model provides the best match with the reality ($F1 \ score = 0.77$), better than what could be accounted for by only neuronal connectivity (DD control; indicated with a dashed line). The spectrum of distance constraint regime for which DCP model is closest to CeNN ($0.6 \le \alpha \le 1.8$) is highlighted with gray background.

- 6.1 Motif tuning algorithm. Strategy implemented to (a) increase the number of feed-forward 46 motifs and to (b) decrease the number of feed-forward motifs.
- 6.2 Feed-forward motifs are significantly over-represented in CeNN, followed by feedback 48 motifs, as measured in terms of Z-score against a background of random networks.
- 6.3 Asymmetric controllability response (enumerated with the number of driver neurons, D_n) 49 of *C. elegans* neuronal network with monotonic increase/decrease in number of FFMs (n_{FFM}) . The random control (ER), on the other hand, does not show any change in D_n . This implies that while CeNN exhibits robust control response to systematic increase in FFMs, it is extremely sensitive to systematic depletion of FFMs. Dashed lines represent the starting points for the models. Error bars indicate standard deviation over 1000 instances.
- 6.4 Change in n_{FFM} per rewiring for different strategies. DC and MTA+ show a positive Δn_{FFM} 50 whereas random and MTA- were presented with negative Δn_{FFM} . This implies that MTA+ and distance constrained rewiring lead to robust response.
- 6.5 Robust control response of CeNN under distance constrained rewiring. (a) With increasing 51 extent of rewiring, the number of FFMs are preserved. The stronger the constraint, the better is the response. (b) Correspondingly, the number of driver nodes is preserved with distance constrained rewiring. (c) With increasing power law exponent the average change in number of FFMs (Δn_{FFM}) is diminished.
- 7.1 Visualization of structural balance on the basis of positive and negative edges. Green 53 edges represents a positive relationship, red edges represents a negative relationship between two nodes.
- 7.2 Diagrammatic depiction of signed graph creation.

55

- 7.3 Visualization of signed graph. (a) C. elegans neuronal network signed graph; green edges 57 represents positive (excitatory) edge red edge represents negative (inhibitory) edge. (b) Positively signed subgraph. (c) Negatively signed subgraph.
- 8.1 Strategy implemented for modeling 4-D fMRI data as brain functional network and its 62 topological characterization.
- 8.2 Detailed procedure implemented for pre-processing of raw fMRI data, creation of brain 64 functional network of independent components and its characterization using graph theoretical metrics.
- 8.3 Normalized distance matrices and their corresponding weighted BFNs for a 65 representative healthy control (40018) and schizophrenic patient (40009). In the distance matrices lighter gray colours represent lower distances thus higher correlation. The weighted BFNs with 30 components (nodes) show nodes sizes scaled to 'clustering coefficient'. The larger the node, higher is its clustering coefficient. The networks were visualized using Cytoscape 3.2.0 [Shannon et al., 2003].
- 8.4 Percentage contribution of features with combined discrimination accuracy above 50% in 66 binary and weighted BFNs (Table D.1 of Annexure D). 'Others' represents remaining parameters in both types of BFNs.
- 8.5 Best accuracy obtained for classification between BFN models of healthy and 67 schizophrenia brain data with increased order of feature combinations. The error bars represent standard error for 100 experiments of 10-cross fold tests.
- C.1 Regular graph for maximum number of Feed forward motifs with graph growth. Edges 81 are directed and point from nodes to nearest neighbours along with neighbour of neighbours and so on. This representation is for n = 20 and k = 4.
- C.2 Response of average clustering coefficient to rewiring. 82
- C.3 Response of characteristic path-length to rewiring. 82
- C.4Response of number of feed forward motifs to rewiring.83C.5Degree distributions of CeNN, its controls and distance constrained models.83

х