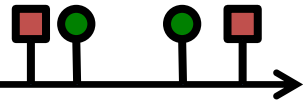


# Sampling and parameter fitting with Hawkes Processes



**HUMAN-CENTERED MACHINE LEARNING**

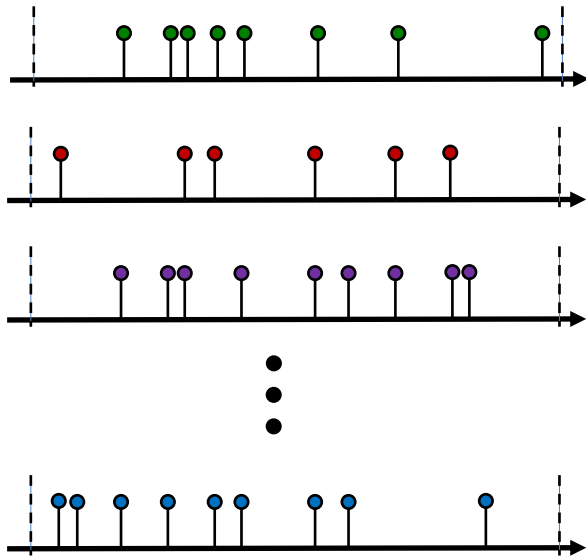
<http://courses.mpi-sws.org/hcml-ws18/>



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE  
FOR SOFTWARE SYSTEMS

# Recap: How to fit and why sample?

## Raw Data



## Infer parameters (Learning)

- Parametrize intensity  $\lambda_{\theta}^*(t)$

- Derive Log-likelihood:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}(T); \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log \lambda_{\theta}^*(t_i) - \int_0^T \lambda_{\theta}^*(\tau) d\tau,$$

- Maximum likelihood estimation:

$$\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}(T); \theta).$$

## Sampling (Predicting)

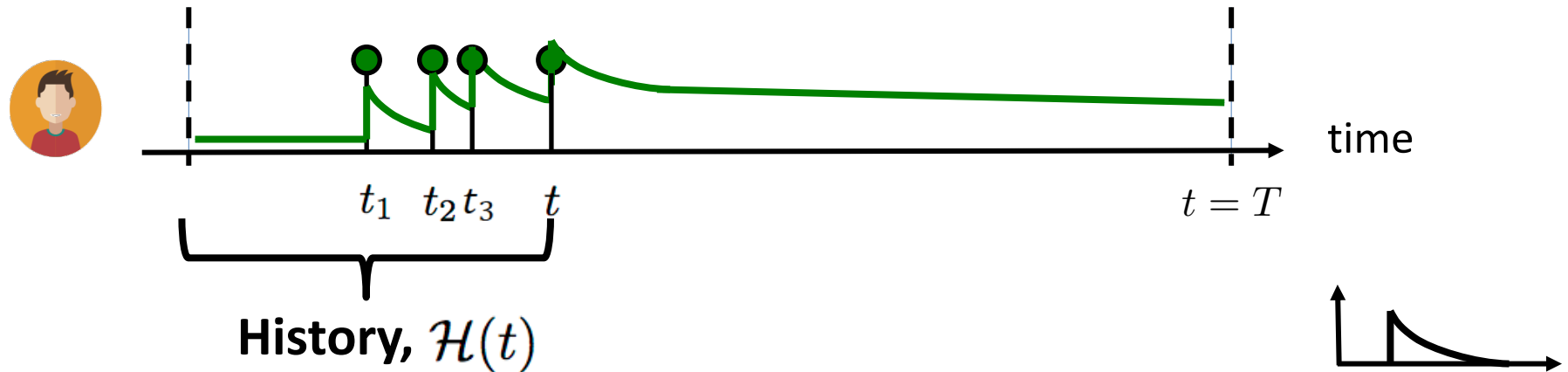
- Event times drawn from:  
 $\lambda_{\theta}^*(t)$  with  $\theta = \hat{\theta}$

- Helps with:

- Prediction
- Model Checking
  - Sanity check
  - Gaining Intuition
- **Simulator**
- Summary statistics

We will first **sample** and then **fit**.

# Recap: What are Hawkes processes?



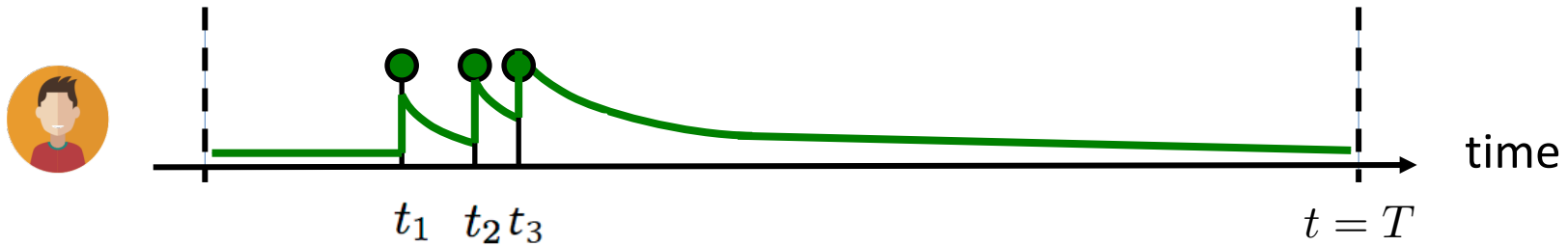
Intensity of self-exciting  
(or Hawkes) process:

$$\lambda^*(t) = \mu + \alpha \sum_{t_i \in \mathcal{H}(t)} \kappa_\omega(t - t_i)$$

Observations:

1. Clustered (or bursty) occurrence of events
2. Intensity is stochastic and history dependent

# Recap: How to fit a Hawkes process?



$$\mathcal{L} = \lambda^*(t_1) \lambda^*(t_2) \lambda^*(t_3) \cdots \lambda^*(t_n) \exp\left(-\int_0^T \lambda^*(\tau) d\tau\right)$$

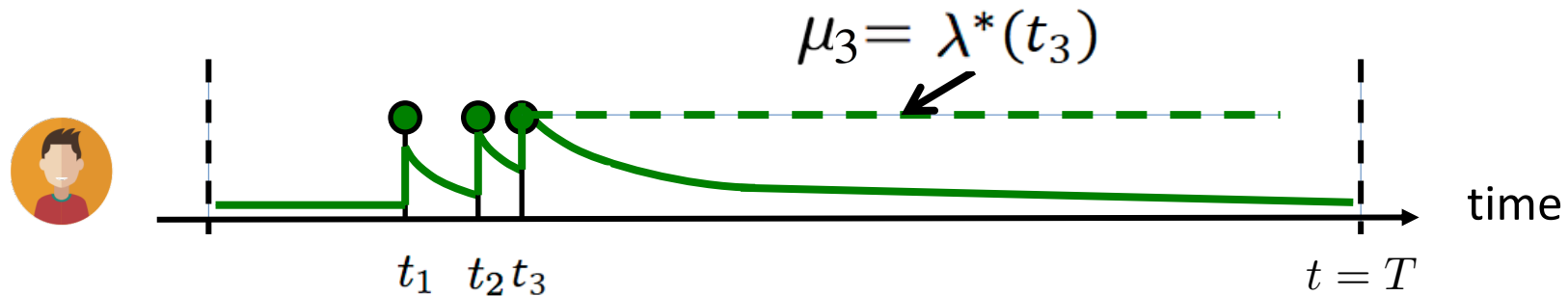
$$\lambda^*(t) = \mu + \alpha \sum_{t_i \in \mathcal{H}(t)} \kappa_\omega(t - t_i)$$

Maximum likelihood

maximize  $\sum_{i=1}^n \log \lambda^*(t_i) - \int_0^T \lambda^*(\tau) d\tau$   
 $\mu, \alpha$

The max. likelihood is **jointly convex** in  $\mu$  and  $\alpha$  (use CVX!)

# Recap: How to sample from a Hawkes process



## Thinning procedure (similar to rejection sampling):

1. Sample  $t$  from Poisson process with intensity  $\mu_3$

$$t \sim -\frac{1}{\mu_3} \log(1 - u) + t_3$$

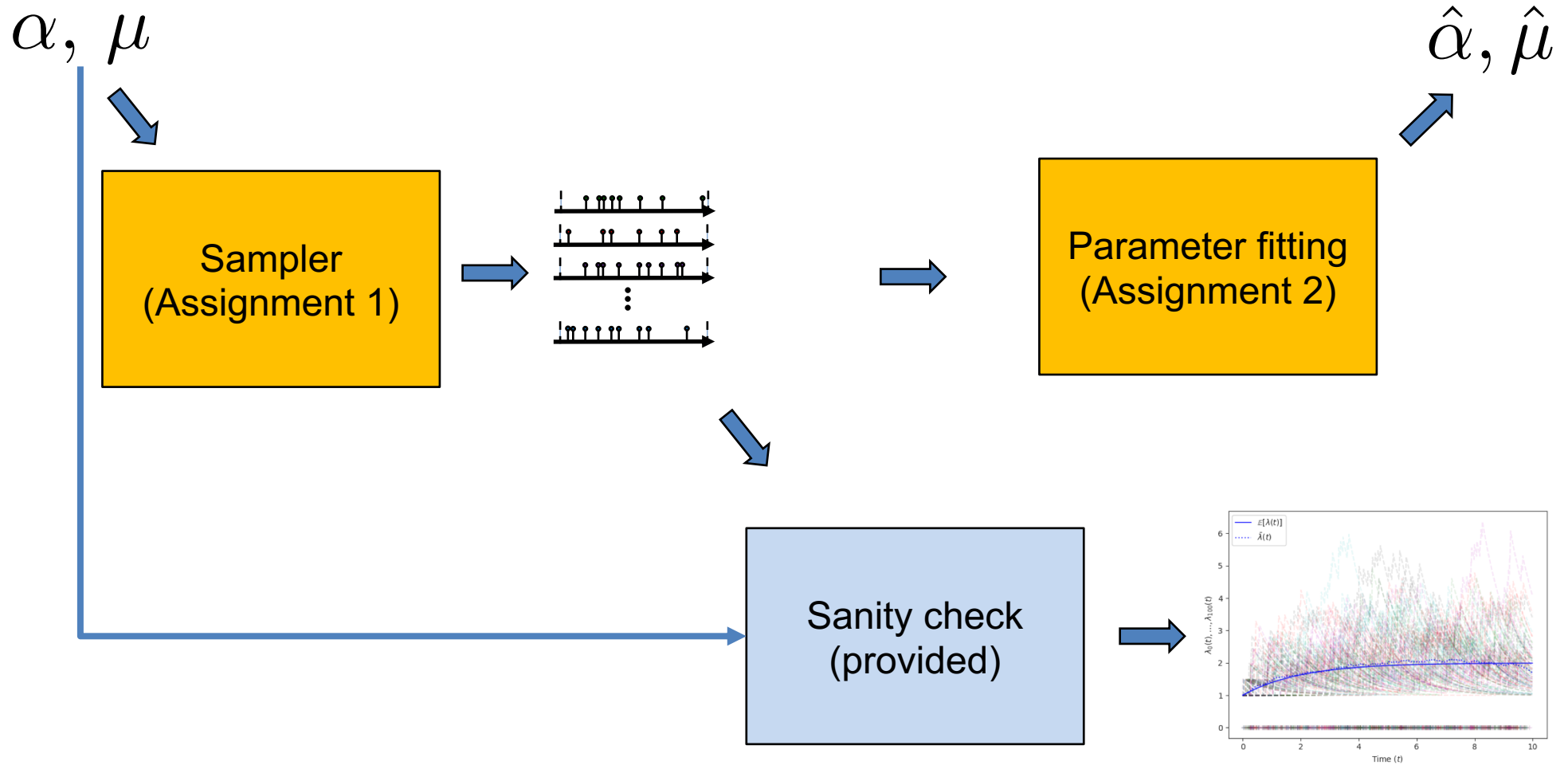
*Uniform*(0, 1)  
↓

} Inversion sampling

2. Generate  $u_2 \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$

3. Keep the sample if  $u_2 \leq \lambda^*(t) / \mu_3$
- } Keep sample with prob.  $\lambda^*(t) / \mu_3$

# Coding assignment overview



# Sampling: Ogata's algorithm

## Ogata's method of thinning

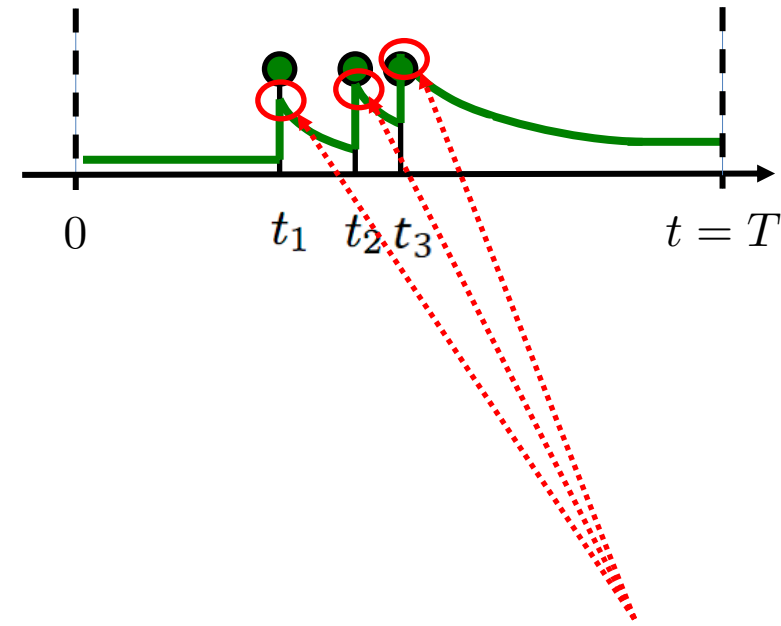
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### Algorithm 1: Hawkes Sampling using Thinning

---

```
1: Input:  $\mu, \alpha, \omega$  (parameters),  $T$  (end time)
2: Output:  $\{t_i\}$  (time of the events)
3:  $i \leftarrow 1; t_0 \leftarrow 0$ 
4: repeat
5:    $\lambda_{\max} \leftarrow \lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t_{i-1}^+)$ 
6:    $t \leftarrow t_{i-1}$ 
7:   repeat
8:      $u_1 \leftarrow \text{Unif}[0, 1]$ 
9:      $t \leftarrow t - \log(1 - u_1) / \lambda_{\max}$ 
10:     $u_2 \sim \text{Unif}[0, 1]$ 
11:    until  $u_2 \leq \lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t) / \lambda_{\max} \vee t > T$ 
12:    if  $t < T$  then
13:       $t_i \leftarrow t; i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
14:    end if
15: until  $t > T$ 
16: return  $\{t_i\}_{[i \geq 1]}$ 
```

---



Drawing 1 sample with intensity  $\lambda_{\max}$

Accepting it with prob  $\lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t) / \lambda_{\max}$

# Sampling: Achtung I

## Ogata's method of thinning

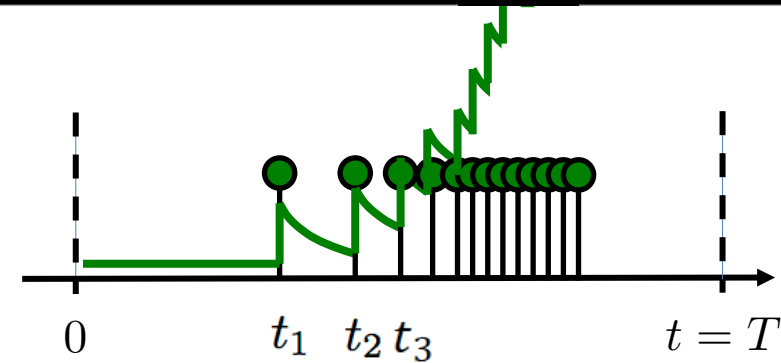
---

### Algorithm 1: Hawkes Sampling using Thinning

---

```
1: Input:  $\mu, \alpha, \omega$  (parameters),  $T$  (end time)
2: Output:  $\{t_i\}$  (time of the events)
3:  $i \leftarrow 1; t_0 \leftarrow 0$ 
4: repeat
5:    $\lambda_{\max} \leftarrow \lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t_{i-1}^+)$ 
6:    $t \leftarrow t_{i-1}$ 
7:   repeat
8:      $u_1 \leftarrow \text{Unif}[0, 1]$ 
9:      $t \leftarrow t - \log(1 - u_1) / \lambda_{\max}$ 
10:     $u_2 \sim \text{Unif}[0, 1]$ 
11:    until  $u_2 \leq \lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t) / \lambda_{\max} \quad \forall t > T$ 
12:    if  $t < T$  then
13:       $t_i \leftarrow t; i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
14:    end if
15: until  $t > T$ 
16: return  $\{t_i\}_{[i \geq 1]}$ 
```

---



**Careful about exploding intensities!**

➤ **Include a check on  $i$ .**

➤ **Ensure**  $\frac{\alpha}{\omega} < 1$



# Sampling: Achtung II

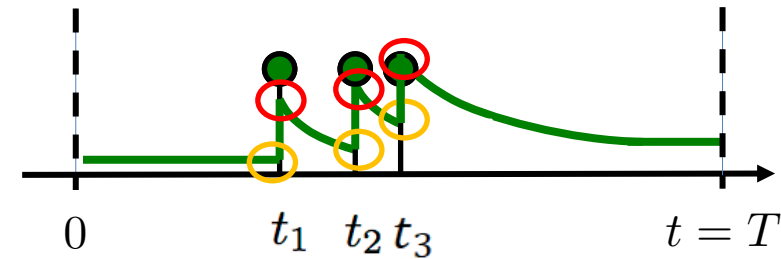
## Ogata's method of thinning

---

### Algorithm 1: Hawkes Sampling using Thinning

---

- 1: **Input:**  $\mu, \alpha, \omega$  (parameters),  $T$  (end time)
  - 2: **Output:**  $\{t_i\}$  (time of the events)
  - 3:  $i \leftarrow 1; t_0 \leftarrow 0$
  - 4: **repeat**
  - 5:    $\lambda_{\max} \leftarrow \lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t_{i-1}^+)$
  - 6:    $t \leftarrow t_{i-1}$
  - 7:   **repeat**
  - 8:      $u_1 \leftarrow \text{Unif}[0, 1]$
  - 9:      $t \leftarrow t - \log(1 - u_1) / \lambda_{\max}$
  - 10:      $u_2 \sim \text{Unif}[0, 1]$
  - 11:     **until**  $u_2 \leq \lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t) / \lambda_{\max} \vee t > T$
  - 12:     **if**  $t < T$  **then**
  - 13:        $t_i \leftarrow t; i \leftarrow i + 1$
  - 14:     **end if**
  - 15: **until**  $t > T$
  - 16: **return**  $\{t_i\}_{[i \geq 1]}$
- 



$$\lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t) = \mu + \alpha \sum_{t_i \in \mathcal{H}(t)} e^{-\omega(t-t_i)}$$

History up to  
but not including  
 $t$ .

# Sampling: Achtung III

## Ogata's method of thinning

---

### Algorithm 1: Hawkes Sampling using Thinning

---

1: **Input:**  $\mu, \alpha, \omega$  (parameters),  $T$  (end time)

2: **Output:**  $\{t_i\}$  (time of the events)

3:  $i \leftarrow 1; t_0 \leftarrow 0$

4: **repeat**

5:    $\lambda_{\max} \leftarrow \lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t_{i-1}^+)$

6:    $t \leftarrow t_{i-1}$

7:   **repeat**

8:      $u_1 \leftarrow \text{Unif}[0, 1]$

9:      $t \leftarrow t - \log(1 - u_1) / \lambda_{\max}$

10:     $u_2 \sim \text{Unif}[0, 1]$

11:    **until**  $u_2 \leq \lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t) / \lambda_{\max} \quad \forall t > T$

12:    **if**  $t < T$  **then**

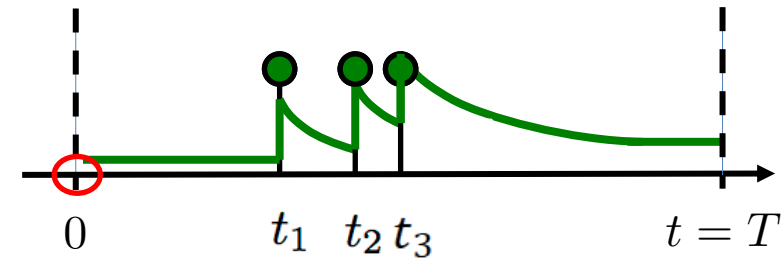
13:      $t_i \leftarrow t; i \leftarrow i + 1$

14:    **end if**

15: **until**  $t > T$

16: **return**  $\{t_i\}_{[i \geq 1]}$

---



$t_0 = 0$  is not an actual sample!

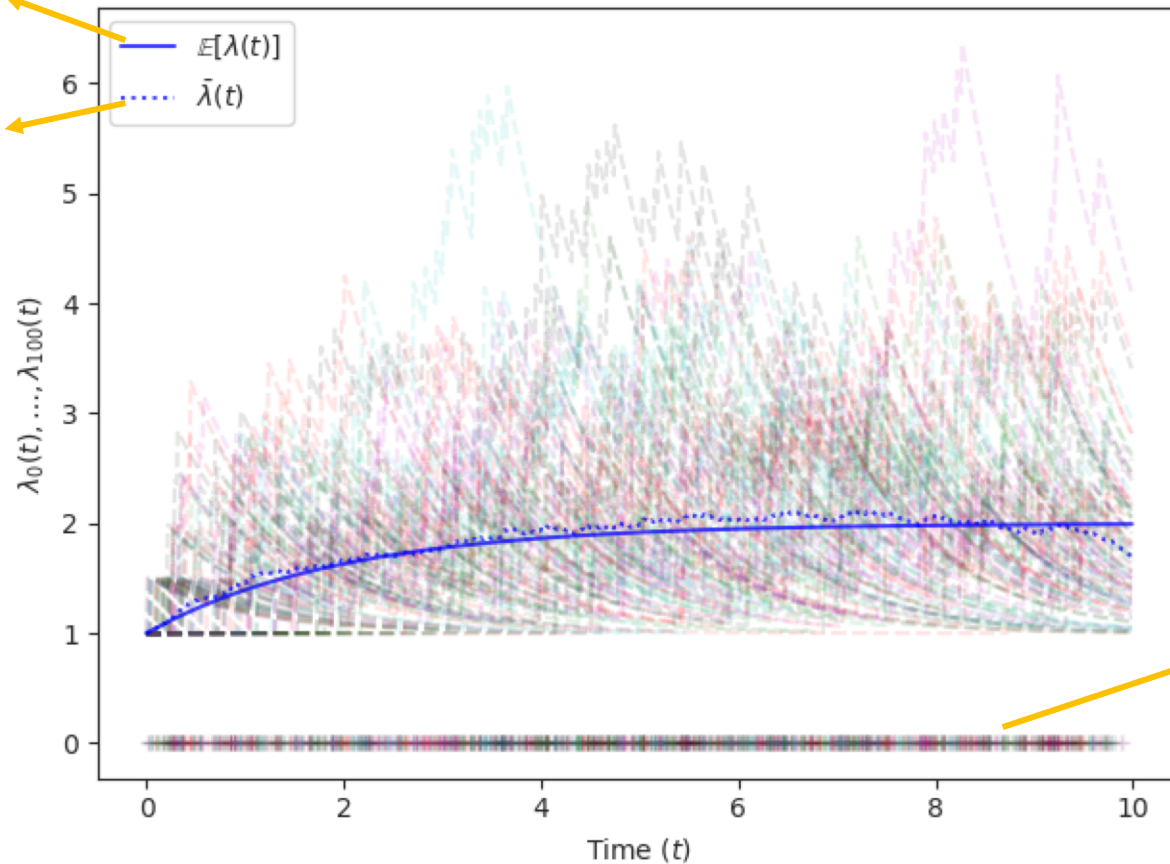
# Sampling: Evaluation

```
python plot_hawkes.py 1.0 0.5 1.0 10 sampled-sequences.txt output-plot.png
```

$\mu, \alpha, \omega, T$

Theoretical value

Empirical average



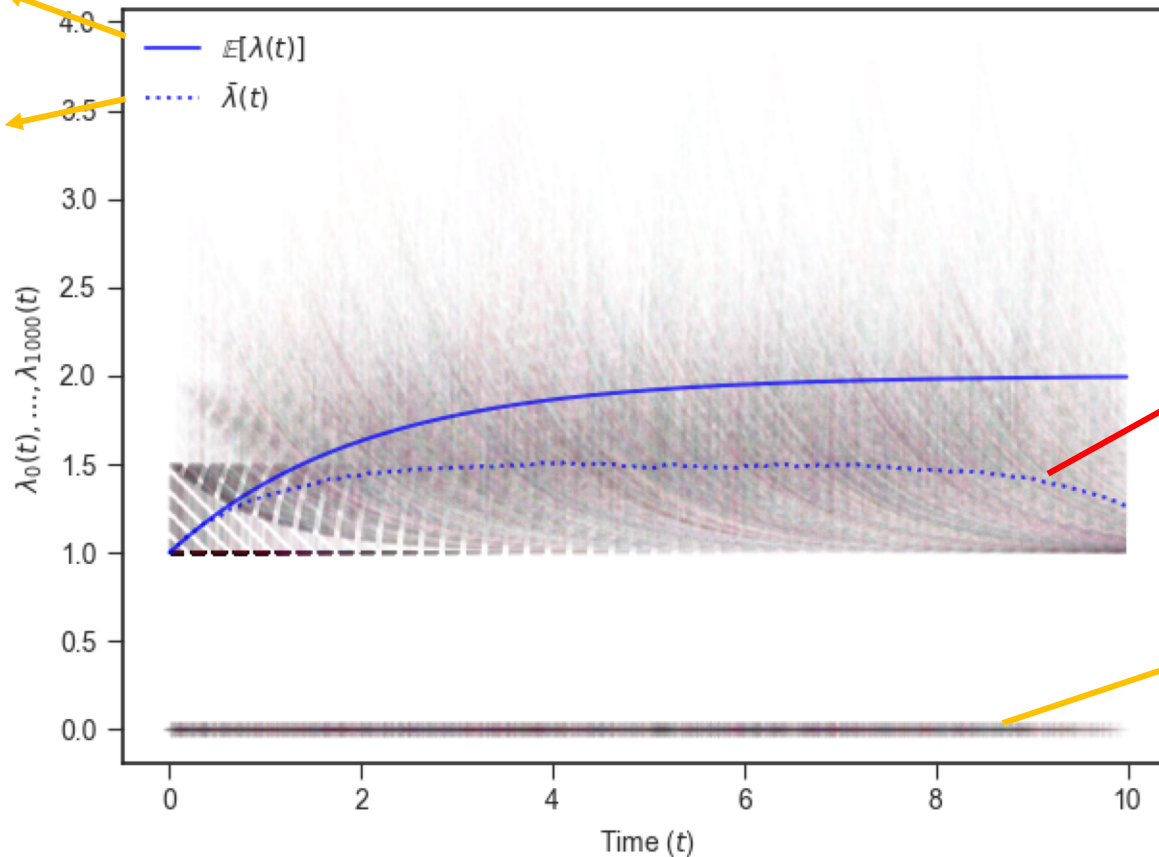
Juxtaposed events from sequences

# Sampling: Evaluation

```
python plot_hawkes.py 1.0 0.5 1.0 10 sampled-sequences.txt output-plot.png
```

$\mu, \alpha, \omega, T$

Theoretical value



Empirical average

Poisson (incorrect) sampler

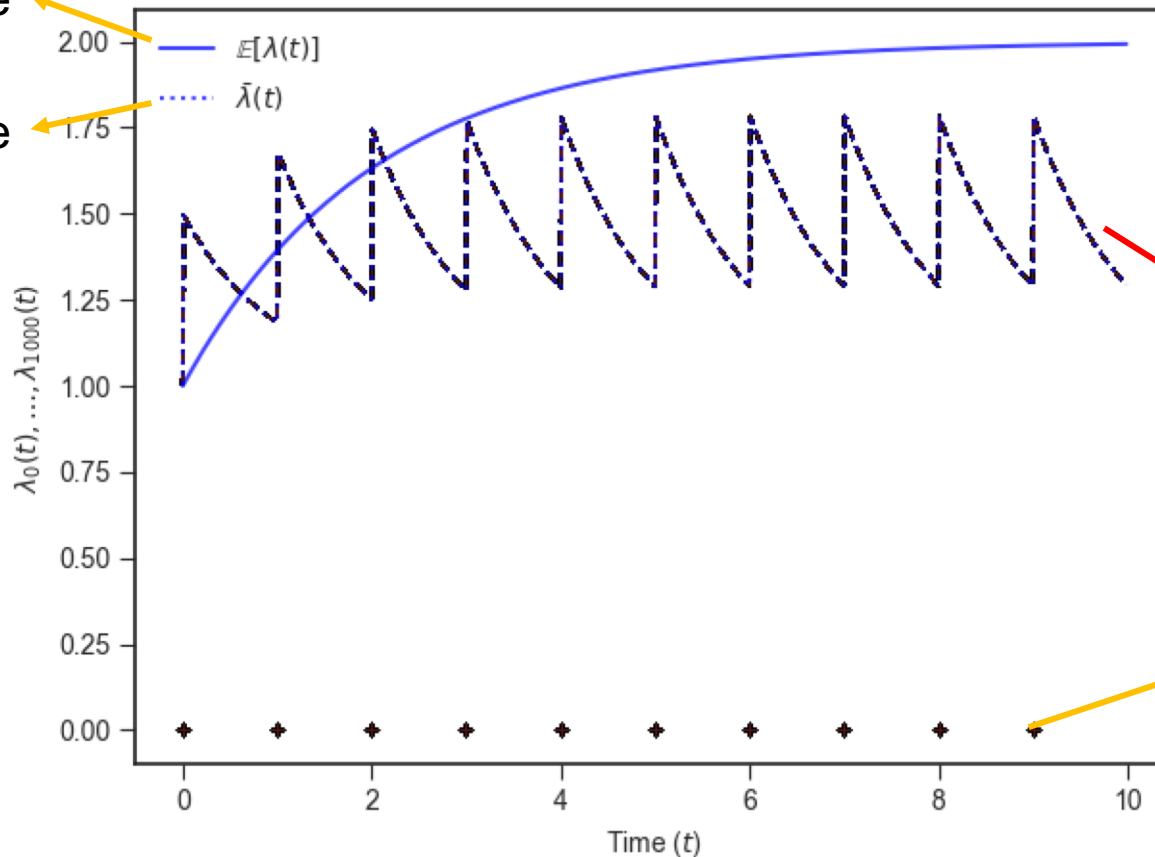
Juxtaposed events from sequences

# Sampling: Evaluation

```
python plot_hawkes.py 1.0 0.5 1.0 10 sampled-sequences.txt output-plot.png
```

$\mu, \alpha, \omega, T$

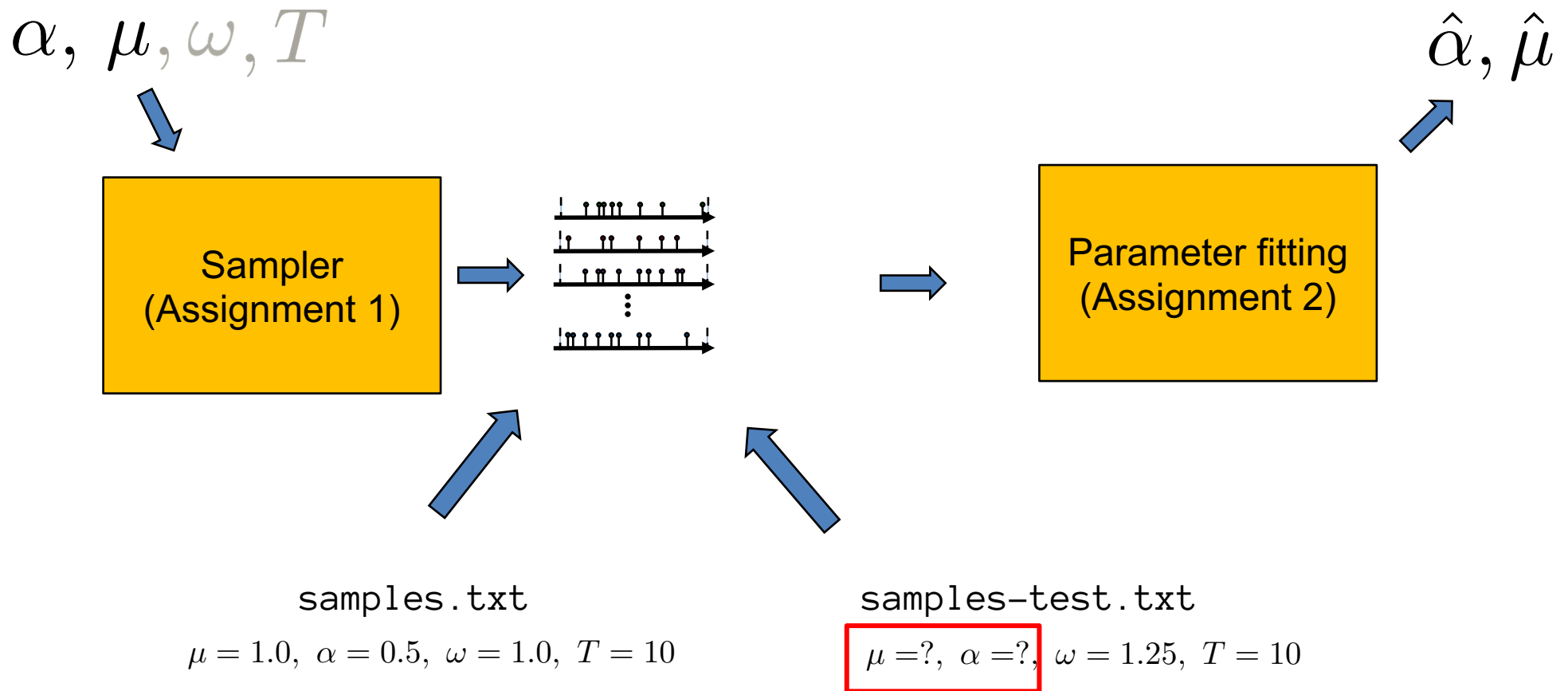
Theoretical value



# Live coding

- Show baseline + sanity check
- Show Poisson + sanity check

# Parameter fitting: Problem setting



# Parameter fitting: Method

Maximum likelihood estimation:  $\hat{\mu}, \hat{\alpha} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\mu, \alpha} \mathfrak{L}(\mathcal{H}(T))$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{L}(\mathcal{H}(T)) &= \sum_{t_i \in \mathcal{H}(T)} \log \lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(t_i) - \int_0^T \lambda_{\mu, \alpha}^*(\tau) d\tau \\ &= \sum_{t_i \in \mathcal{H}(T)} \left[ \log \left( \mu + \alpha \sum_{t_j \in \mathcal{H}(t_i)} e^{-\omega(t_i - t_j)} \right) - \alpha \int_{t_i}^T e^{-\omega(t - t_i)} dt \right] - \mu T \end{aligned}$$

Nested sum  
 $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$

Can we do it faster for exponential kernels?



# Parameter fitting: Using cvxpy

```
import cvxpy as cp
import numpy as np

# Problem data.
m = 30
n = 20
np.random.seed(1)
A = np.random.randn(m, n)
b = np.random.randn(m)

# Construct the problem.
x = cp.Variable(n)
objective = cp.Minimize(cp.sum_squares(A*x - b))
constraints = [0 <= x, x <= 1]
prob = cp.Problem(objective, constraints)

# The optimal objective value is returned by `prob.solve()`.
result = prob.solve()
# The optimal value for x is stored in `x.value`.
print(x.value)
```

$$\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)]$$

$$\mathbf{b} = [b_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)]$$

$$\underset{\mathbf{x}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}\|^2$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \forall i. 0 \leq x_i \leq 1$$

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$$\underset{\mathbf{x}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}\|^2$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \forall i. 0 \leq x_i \leq 1$$

Change this to maximize the likelihood  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}(T))$

# Live coding

- Show baseline + desired output
- Evaluation via sampling

# Happy coding and holidays!

## Questions?

- Drop me an e-mail at [utkarshu@mpi-sws.org](mailto:utkarshu@mpi-sws.org)
- Skype: utkarsh.upadhyay