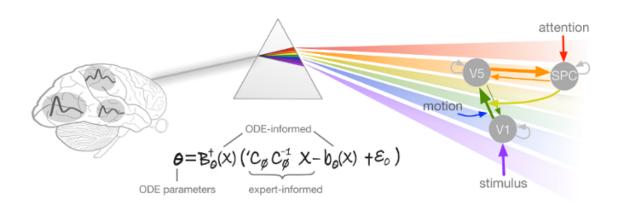
Code Documentation for Variational Gradient Matching for Dynamical Systems



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Contents:

Code documentation for the NIPS (2018) paper Scalable Variational Inference for Dynamical Systems by Nico S. Gorbach, Stefan Bauer and Joachim M. Buhmann. The paper is available at https://papers.nips.cc/paper/7066-scalable-variational-inference-for-dynamical-systems.pdf. Please cite our paper if you use our program for a further publication. Part of the derivation below is described in Wenk et al. (2018)

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Instructional code for the NIPS (2018) paper "Scalable Variational Inference for Dynamical Systems" by Nico S. Gorbach, Stefan Bauer and Joachim M. Buhmann. The paper is available at https://papers.nips.cc/paper/7066-scalable-variational-inference-for-dynamical-systems.pdf. Please cite our paper if you use our program for a further publication. Part of the derivation below is described in Wenk et al. (2018).

1.1 Advantages of Variational Gradient Matching

The essential idea of gradient matching (Calderhead et al., 2002) is to match the gradient governed by the ODEs with that inferred from the observations. In contrast to previous approaches gradient matching introduces a prior over states instead of a prior over ODE parameters. The advantages of gradients matching is two-fold:

- 1. A prior over the functional form of state dynamics as opposed to ODE parameters facilitates a more expertaware estimation of ODE parameters since experts can provide a better *a priori* description of state dynamics than ODE parameters.
- 2. Gradient matching yields a global gradient as opposed to a local one which offers significant computational advantages and provides access to a rich source of sophisticated optimization tools.

Chapter 2

VGM for Lotka-Volterra

Example dynamical system used in this code: Lotka-Volterra system with half of the time points unobserved. The ODE parameters are also unobserved.

2.1 Simulation Settings

2.2 User Input

Kernel parameters ϕ :

```
kernel.param = [10,0.2];
                                                              \% set values of rbf kernel parameters
Error variance on state derivatives (i.e. \gamma):
                                                                  % gamma for gradient matching model
state.derivative_variance = [6,6];
//
\begin{par}
\end{par} \vspace{1em}
\color{RoyalPurple}\begin{verbatim}
time.est = 0:0.1:4;
                                                                        % estimation times
opt_settings.pseudo_inv_type = 'Moore-Penrose';
                                                                      % Type of pseudo inverse; option
opt_settings.coord_ascent_numb_iter = 200;
                                                                     % number of coordinate ascent its
opt_settings.clamp_obs_state_to_GP_fit = false;
                                                                       % The observed state trajector:
```

States x:

2.3 Import ODEs

```
ode = import_odes(symbols);
disp('ODEs:'); disp(ode.raw)

ODEs:
    '[\theta_1].*[prey] - [\theta_2].*[prey].*[predator]'
    '-[\theta_3].*[predator] + [\theta_4].*[prey].*[predator]'
```

2.4 Mass Action Dynamical Systems

A deterministic dynamical system is represented by a set of K ordinary differential equations (ODEs) with model parameters $\theta \in R^d$ that describe the evolution of K states $\mathbf{x}(t) = [x_1(t), \dots, x_K(t)]^T$ such that:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}(t), \theta)$$
 (1).

A sequence of observations, $\mathbf{y}(t)$, is usually contaminated by measurement error which we assume to be normally distributed with zero mean and variance for each of the K states, i.e. $\mathbf{E} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{E}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{D})$, with $\mathbf{D}_{ik} = \sigma_k^2 \delta_{ik}$. For N distinct time points the overall system may therefore be summarized as:

$$Y = X + E$$

where

$$\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{x}(t_1), \dots, \mathbf{x}(t_N)] = [\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_K]^T$$

$$\mathbf{Y} = [\mathbf{y}(t_1), \dots, \mathbf{y}(t_N)] = [\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_K]^T$$
,

and $\mathbf{x}_k = [x_k(t_1), \dots, x_k(t_N)]^T$ is the k'th state sequence and $\mathbf{y}_k = [y_k(t_1), \dots, y_k(t_N)]^T$ are the observations. Given the observations \mathbf{Y} and the description of the dynamical system (1), the aim is to estimate both state variables \mathbf{X} and parameters θ .

We consider only dynamical systems that are locally linear with respect to ODE parameters θ and individual states \mathbf{x}_u . Such ODEs include mass-action kinetics and are given by:

$$f_k(\mathbf{x}(t), \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \theta_{ki} \prod_{j \in \mathcal{M}_{ki}} x_j$$
 (2)

with $\mathcal{M}_{ki} \subseteq \{1, \dots, K\}$ describing the state variables in each factor of the equation (i.e. the functions are linear in parameters and contain arbitrary large products of monomials of the states).

2.5 Simulate Trajectory Observations

```
[state,time,ode] = generate_ground_truth(time,state,ode,symbols,simulation);

[state,time,obs_to_state_relation] = generate_state_obs(state,time,simulation);

state.sym.mean = sym('x%d%d',[length(time.est),length(ode.system)]);
state.sym.variance = sym('sigma%d%d',[length(time.est),length(ode.system)]);
ode_param.sym.mean = sym('param%d',[length(symbols.param),1]); assume(ode_param.sym.mean,'real');
```

Only the state dynamics are (partially) observed.

```
[h_states,h_param,p] = setup_plots(state,time,simulation,symbols);
tic; %start timer
```

2.6 Prior on States and State Derivatives

Gradient matching with Gaussian processes assumes a joint Gaussian process prior on states and their derivatives:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \dot{\mathbf{X}} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \dot{\mathbf{X}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{\phi} & \mathbf{C}'_{\phi} \\ \dot{\mathbf{X}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{\phi} & \mathbf{C}'_{\phi} \\ \dot{\mathbf{X}} \end{pmatrix}$$
(3)
$$\operatorname{cov}(x_{k}(t), x_{k}(t)) = C_{\phi_{k}}(t, t')$$

$$\operatorname{cov}(\dot{x}_{k}(t), x_{k}(t)) = \frac{\partial C_{\phi_{k}}(t, t')}{\partial t} =: C'_{\phi_{k}}(t, t')$$

$$\operatorname{cov}(x_{k}(t), \dot{x}_{k}(t)) = \frac{\partial C_{\phi_{k}}(t, t')}{\partial t'} =: C''_{\phi_{k}}(t, t')$$

$$\operatorname{cov}(\dot{x}_{k}(t), \dot{x}_{k}(t)) = \frac{\partial C_{\phi_{k}}(t, t')}{\partial t \partial t'} =: C''_{\phi_{k}}(t, t').$$

2.7 Matching Gradients

Given the joint distribution over states and their derivatives (3) as well as the ODEs (2), we therefore have two expressions for the state derivatives:

$$\begin{split} \dot{\mathbf{X}} &= \mathbf{F} + \epsilon_1, \epsilon_1 \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\epsilon_1; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}\gamma\right) \\ \dot{\mathbf{X}} &= {}'\mathbf{C}_{\phi}\mathbf{C}_{\phi}^{-1}\mathbf{X} + \epsilon_2, \epsilon_2 \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\epsilon_2; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{A}\right) \end{split}$$

where $F := f(X, \theta)$, $A := C''_{\phi} - 'C_{\phi}C^{-1}_{\phi}C'_{\phi}$ and γ is the error variance in the ODEs. Note that, in a deterministic system, the output of the ODEs F should equal the state derivatives \dot{X} . However, in the first equation above we relax this contraint by adding stochasticity to the state derivatives \dot{X} in order to compensate for a potential model mismatch. The second equation above is obtained by deriving the conditional distribution for \dot{X} from the joint

distribution in equation (3). Equating the two expressions in the equations above we can eliminate the unknown state derivatives \dot{X} :

$$\mathbf{F} = {}^{\prime}\mathbf{C}_{\phi}\mathbf{C}_{\phi}^{-1}\mathbf{X} + \epsilon_0 \qquad (4),$$

with $\epsilon_0 := \epsilon_2 - \epsilon_1$.

[dC_times_invC,inv_C,A_plus_gamma_inv] = kernel_function(kernel,state,time.est);

2.8 State Couplings in ODEs

coupling_idx = find_state_couplings_in_odes(ode,symbols);

2.9 Rewrite ODEs as Linear Combination in Parameters

We rewrite the ODEs in equation (2) as a linear combination in the parameters:

$$\mathbf{B}_{\theta k}\theta + \mathbf{b}_{\theta k} \stackrel{!}{=} \mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{X}, \theta) \tag{5}$$

where matrices $\mathbf{B}_{\theta k}$ and $\mathbf{b}_{\theta k}$ are defined such that the ODEs $\mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{X}, \theta)$ are expressed as a linear combination in θ .

[ode_param.lin_comb.B,ode_param.lin_comb.b] = rewrite_odes_as_linear_combination_in_parameters(

2.10 Posterior over ODE Parameters

Inserting (5) into (4) and solving for θ yields:

$$\theta = \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+} \left({}^{\prime}\mathbf{C}_{\phi}\mathbf{C}_{\phi}^{-1}\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{b}_{\theta} + \epsilon_{0} \right),$$

where B_{θ}^{+} denotes the pseudo-inverse of B_{θ} .

Since C_{ϕ} is block diagonal we can rewrite the expression above as:

$$\theta = \left(\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T}\mathbf{B}_{\theta}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T}\left(\sum_{k}{'}\mathbf{C}_{\phi_{k}}\mathbf{C}_{\phi_{k}}^{-1}\mathbf{X}_{k} - \mathbf{b}_{\theta k} + \epsilon_{0}^{(k)}\right),$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \left(\mathbf{B}_{ heta}^T \mathbf{B}_{ heta}\right)^{-1} \left(\sum_k \mathbf{B}_{ heta k}^T \left(\mathbf{C}_{\phi_k} \mathbf{C}_{\phi_k}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_k - \mathbf{b}_{ heta k} + \epsilon_0^{(k)} \right) \right),$$

where we substitute the Moore-Penrose inverse for the pseudo-inverse (i.e. $\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+} = \left(\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T}\mathbf{B}_{\theta}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T}$).

We can therefore derive the posterior distribution over ODE parameters:

$$p(\theta \mid \mathbf{X}, \phi, \gamma) = \mathcal{N}\left(\theta; \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+} \left('\mathbf{C}_{\phi}\mathbf{C}_{\phi}^{-1}\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{b}_{\theta}\right), \ \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+} \left(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I}\gamma\right) \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+T}\right)$$

$$= \mathcal{N}\left(\theta; \left(\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T}\mathbf{B}_{\theta}\right)^{-1} \left(\sum_{k} \mathbf{B}_{\theta k}^{T} \left('\mathbf{C}_{\phi k}\mathbf{C}_{\phi k}^{-1}\mathbf{X}_{k} - \mathbf{b}_{\theta k}\right)\right), \ \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+} \left(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I}\gamma\right) \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+T}\right)$$

$$= \prod_{k} \mathcal{N}\left(\theta; \left(\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T}\mathbf{B}_{\theta}\right)^{-1} \left(\mathbf{B}_{\theta k}^{T} \left('\mathbf{C}_{\phi k}\mathbf{C}_{\phi k}^{-1}\mathbf{X}_{k} - \mathbf{b}_{\theta k}\right)\right), \ \mathbf{B}_{\theta k}^{+} \left(\mathbf{A}_{k} + \mathbf{I}\gamma\right) \mathbf{B}_{\theta k}^{+T}\right)$$

$$(6)$$

2.11 Rewrite ODEs as Linear Combination in Individual States

We rewrite the expression $f(X, \theta) - {}^{\prime}C_{\phi}C_{\phi}^{-1}X$ in equation (4) as a linear combination in the individual state x_u :

$$\mathbf{R}_{uk}\mathbf{x}_u + \mathbf{r}_{uk} \stackrel{!}{=} \mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{X}, \theta).$$

where matrices \mathbf{R}_{uk} and \mathbf{r}_{uk} are defined such that the ODE $\mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{X}, \theta)$ is expressed as a linear combination in the individual state \mathbf{x}_u .

[state.lin_comb.R,state.lin_comb.r] = rewrite_odes_as_linear_combination_in_ind_states(ode,symbol)

2.12 Posterior over Individual States

Given the linear combination of the ODEs w.r.t. an individual state, we define the matrices \mathbf{B}_u and \mathbf{b}_u such that the expression $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{X}, \theta) - {}'\mathbf{C}_{\phi}\mathbf{C}_{\phi}^{-1}\mathbf{X}$ is rewritten as a linear combination in an individual state:

$$\mathbf{B}_{u}\mathbf{x}_{u} + \mathbf{b}_{u} \stackrel{!}{=} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{X}, \theta) \tag{7}.$$

Inserting (7) into (4) and solving for x_u yields:

$$\mathbf{x}_u = \mathbf{B}_u^+ (\epsilon_0 - \mathbf{b}_u),$$

Since C_{ϕ} is block diagonal we can rewrite the expression above as:

$$\mathbf{x}_{u} = \left(\mathbf{B}_{u}\mathbf{B}_{u}^{T}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{B}_{u}^{T}\sum_{k}\left(\epsilon_{0}^{(k)} - \mathbf{b}_{uk}\right)$$

$$= \left(\mathbf{B}_{u}\mathbf{B}_{u}^{T}\right)^{-1} \sum_{k} \mathbf{B}_{uk}^{T} \left(\epsilon_{0}^{(k)} - \mathbf{b}_{uk}\right),$$

where \mathbf{B}_u^+ denotes the pseudo-inverse of \mathbf{B}_u . We can therefore derive the posterior distribution over an individual state \mathbf{x}_u :

$$p(\mathbf{x}_u \mid \mathbf{X}_{-u}, \phi, \gamma) = \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}_u; -\mathbf{B}_u^+ \mathbf{b}_u, \; \mathbf{B}_u^+ \; (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I}\gamma) \; \mathbf{B}_u^{+T}\right)$$

$$= \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}_{u}; \left(\mathbf{B}_{u} \mathbf{B}_{u}^{T}\right)^{-1} \left(-\sum_{k} \mathbf{B}_{uk}^{T} \mathbf{b}_{uk}\right), \ \mathbf{B}_{u}^{+} \left(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I} \gamma\right) \mathbf{B}_{u}^{+T}\right) \tag{8},$$

with X_{-u} denoting the set of all states except state x_u .

2.13 Mean-field Variational Inference

To infer the parameters θ , we want to find the maximum a posteriori estimate (MAP):

$$\theta^* := arg \max_{\theta} \ln p(\theta \mid \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \gamma, \sigma)$$

$$= arg \max_{\theta} \ln \int p(\theta, \mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \gamma, \sigma) d\mathbf{X}$$

$$= arg \max_{\theta} \ln \int p(\theta \mid \mathbf{X}, \phi, \gamma) p(\mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \sigma) d\mathbf{X}$$
 (9).

However, the integral above is intractable due to the strong couplings induced by the nonlinear ODEs \mathbf{f} which appear in the term $p(\theta \mid \mathbf{X}, \phi, \gamma)$.

We use mean-field variational inference to establish variational lower bounds that are analytically tractable by decoupling state variables from the ODE parameters as well as decoupling the state variables from each other. Note that, since the ODEs described by equation (2) are **locally linear**, both conditional distributions $p(\theta \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \gamma, \sigma)$ (equation (6)) and $p(\mathbf{x}_u \mid \theta, \mathbf{X}_{-u}, \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \gamma, \sigma)$ (equation (8)) are analytically tractable and Gaussian distributed as mentioned previously.

The decoupling is induced by designing a variational distribution $Q(\theta, \mathbf{X})$ which is restricted to the family of factorial distributions:

$$Q := \{Q : Q(\theta, \mathbf{X}) = q(\theta) \prod_{u} q(\mathbf{x}_u) \}.$$

The particular form of $q(\theta)$ and $q(\mathbf{x}_u)$ are designed to be Gaussian distributed which places them in the same family as the true full conditional distributions. To find the optimal factorial distribution we minimize the Kullback-Leibler divergence between the variational and the true posterior distribution:

$$\hat{Q} := arg \min_{Q(\theta, \mathbf{X}) \in \mathcal{Q}} \operatorname{KL}\left[Q(\theta, \mathbf{X}) \mid\mid p(\theta, \mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \gamma, \sigma)\right] \tag{10}$$

where \hat{Q} is the proxy distribution. The proxy distribution that minimizes the KL-divergence (10) depends on the true full conditionals and is given by:

$$\hat{q}(\theta) \propto \exp\left(E_{Q_{-\theta}} \ln p(\theta \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \gamma, \sigma)\right)$$
(11)
$$\hat{q}(\mathbf{x}_u) \propto \exp\left(E_{Q_{-u}} \ln p(\mathbf{x}_u \mid \theta, \mathbf{X}_{-u}, \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \gamma, \sigma)\right)$$
(12).

2.14 Fitting observations of state trajectories

We fit the observations of state trajectories by standard GP regression. The data-informed distribution $p(\mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \sigma)$ in euqation (9) can be determined analytically using Gaussian process regression with the GP prior $p(\mathbf{X} \mid \phi) = \prod_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_k; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_{\phi})$:

$$p(\mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \gamma) = \prod_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_k; \mu_k(\mathbf{y}_k), \Sigma_k),$$

where
$$\mu_k(y_k) := \sigma_k^{-2} \left(\sigma_k^{-2} I + C_{\phi_k}^{-1} \right)^{-1} y_k$$
 and $\Sigma_k^{-1} := \sigma_k^{-2} I + C_{\phi_k}^{-1}$.

[mu,inv_sigma] = fitting_state_observations(state,inv_C,obs_to_state_relation,simulation);

2.15 Coordinate Ascent Variational Gradient Matching

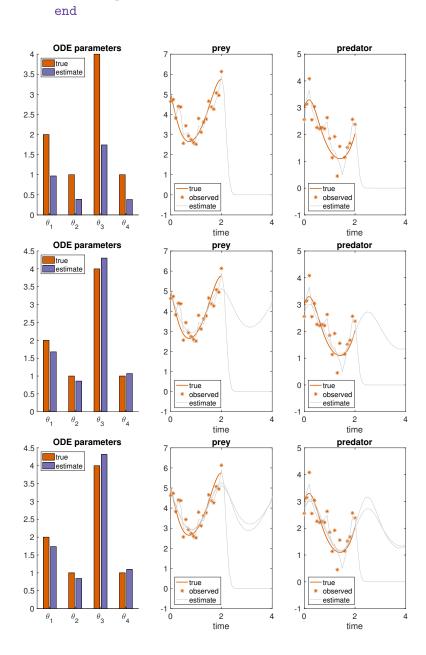
We minimize the KL-divergence in equation (10) by coordinate descent (where each step is analytically tractable) by iterating between determining the proxy for the distribution over ODE parameters $\hat{q}(\theta)$ and the proxies for the distribution over individual states $\hat{q}(\mathbf{x}_u)$.

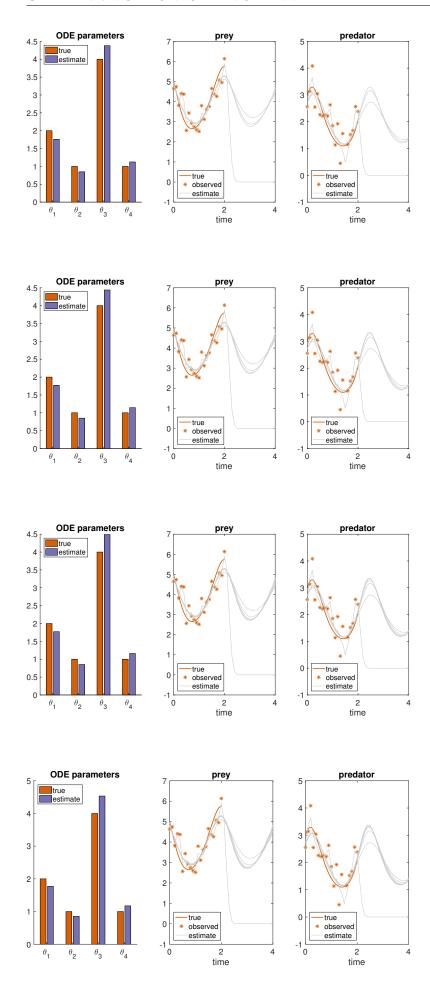
Expanding the proxy distribution in equation (11) for θ yields:

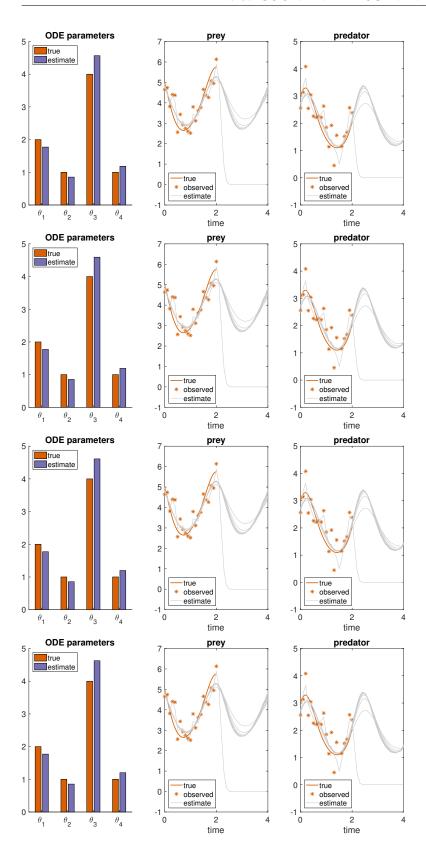
$$\hat{q}(\theta) \overset{(a)}{\propto} \exp \left(E_{Q-\theta} \ln p(\theta \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \gamma, \sigma) \right)$$

$$\begin{split} &\overset{(b)}{\propto} \exp \left(\, E_{Q_{-\theta}} \ln \mathcal{N} \left(\theta; \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+} \, \left({}^{\prime} \mathbf{C}_{\phi} \mathbf{C}_{\phi}^{-1} \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{b}_{\theta} \right), \, \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+} \, \left(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I} \boldsymbol{\gamma} \right) \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+T} \right) \, \right) \\ &= \exp \left(\, E_{Q_{-\theta}} \mathcal{N} \left(\theta; \left(\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T} \mathbf{B}_{\theta} \right)^{-1} \left(\sum_{k} \mathbf{B}_{\theta k}^{T} \, \left({}^{\prime} \mathbf{C}_{\phi k} \mathbf{C}_{\phi k}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{k} - \mathbf{b}_{\theta k} \right) \right), \, \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+} \, \left(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I} \boldsymbol{\gamma} \right) \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+T} \right) \, \right), \end{split}$$

which can be normalized analytically due to its exponential quadratic form. In (a) we recall that the ODE parameters depend only indirectly on the observations Y through the states X and in (b) we substitute $p(\theta \mid \mathbf{X}, \phi, \gamma)$ by its density given in equation (6).







Expanding the proxy distribution in equation (12) over the individual state \mathbf{x}_u :

$$\begin{split} \hat{q}(\mathbf{x}_u) &\overset{(a)}{\propto} \exp \left(\ E_{Q_{-u}} \ln(p(\mathbf{x}_u \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{X}_{-u}, \boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}) p(\mathbf{x}_u \mid \mathbf{Y}, \boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\sigma})) \ \right) \\ \overset{(b)}{\propto} \exp \left(\ E_{Q_{-u}} \ln \mathcal{N} \left(\mathbf{x}_u; -\mathbf{B}_u^+ \mathbf{b}_u, \ \mathbf{B}_u^+ \ (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I} \boldsymbol{\gamma}) \ \mathbf{B}_u^{+T} \right) + E_{Q_{-u}} \ln \mathcal{N} \left(\mathbf{x}_u; \boldsymbol{\mu}_u(\mathbf{Y}), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_u \right) \right) \end{split}$$

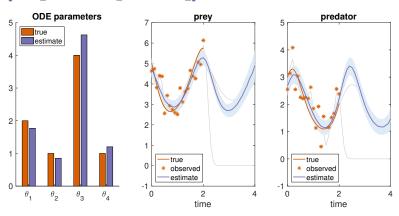
$$=\exp\left(\;E_{Q_{-u}}\ln\mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}_{u};\left(\mathbf{B}_{u}\mathbf{B}_{u}^{T}\right)^{-1}\left(-\sum_{k}\mathbf{B}_{uk}^{T}\mathbf{b}_{uk}\right),\;\mathbf{B}_{u}^{+}\left(\mathbf{A}+\mathbf{I}\gamma\right)\mathbf{B}_{u}^{+T}\right)+E_{Q_{-u}}\ln\mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}_{u};\mu_{u}(\mathbf{Y}),\Sigma_{u}\right)\right),$$

which, once more, can be normalized analytically due to its exponential quadratic form. In (a) we decompose the full conditional into an ODE-informed distribution and a data-informed distribution and in (b) we substitute the ODE-informed distribution $p(\mathbf{x}_u \mid \theta, \mathbf{X}_{-u}, \phi, \gamma)$ with its density given by equation (8).

[state.proxy.mean,state.proxy.inv_cov] = proxy_for_ind_states(state.lin_comb,state.proxy.mean
param_proxy_mean',dC_times_invC,coupling_idx.states,symbols,mu,inv_sigma,state.obs_idx,...
A_plus_gamma_inv,opt_settings);

end

plot_results(h_states,h_param,state,time,simulation,param_proxy_mean,p,'final');



2.16 Time Taken

disp(['time taken: ' num2str(toc) ' seconds'])

time taken: 64.8955 seconds

2.17 References

• Gorbach, N.S., Bauer, S. and Buhmann, J.M., Scalable Variational Inference for Dynamical Systems. 2017a. Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS).

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- Calderhead, B., Girolami, M. and Lawrence. N.D., 2002. Accelerating Bayesian inference over nonlinear differential equation models. *In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS)*. 22.

The authors in bold font have contributed equally to their respective papers.

Subroutines 2.18

Gradient matching with Gaussian processes assumes a joint Gaussian process prior on states and their deriva-

tives:
$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{X} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{C}_{\phi} & \mathbf{C}_{\phi}^{b} \\ \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{Y} & \mathbf{C}_{\phi} & \mathbf{C}_{\phi}^{b} \end{pmatrix},$$

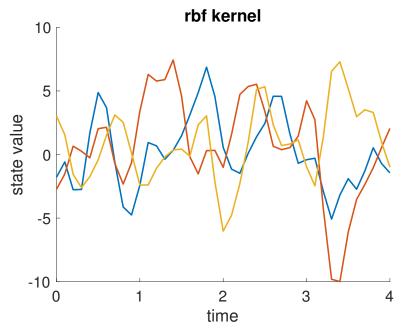
$$\operatorname{cov}(x_{k}(t), x_{k}(t)) = \mathcal{C}_{o_{k}}(t, t') \\ \operatorname{cov}(\dot{x}_{k}(t), x_{k}(t)) = \frac{\mathcal{C}_{o_{k}}(t, t')}{\partial t} = : C_{o_{k}}'(t, t') \\ \operatorname{cov}(x_{k}(t), \dot{x}_{k}(t)) = \frac{\mathcal{C}_{o_{k}}(t, t')}{\partial t} = : C_{o_{k}}'(t, t') \\ \operatorname{cov}(\dot{x}_{k}(t), \dot{x}_{k}(t)) = \frac{\mathcal{C}_{o_{k}}(t, t')}{\partial t} = : C_{o_{k}}'(t, t'). \\ \text{function} \left[\operatorname{dC}_{\text{times}_invC}, \operatorname{inv}_{\text{C}}, A_{\text{plus}_gamma_inv} \right] = \operatorname{kernel}_{\text{function}}(\operatorname{kernel}, \operatorname{state}_{\text{c}}, \operatorname{time2}'); \operatorname{assume}(\operatorname{kernel}, \operatorname{time1} = \operatorname{sym}''\operatorname{time1}'); \operatorname{assume}(\operatorname{kernel}, \operatorname{time1}, \operatorname{treal}'); \operatorname{kernel}_{\text{time2}} = \operatorname{sym}''\operatorname{time2}'); \operatorname{assume}(\operatorname{kernel}, \operatorname{time1} = \operatorname{cov}(\operatorname{kernel}, \operatorname{param_sym}, \operatorname{cov}(\operatorname{kernel},$$

inv_C = inv_chol(chol(C,'lower'));

dC_times_invC = dC * inv_C;

plot samples from GP prior

```
figure(3);
hold on; plot(time_est,mvnrnd(zeros(1,length(time_est)),C(:,:,1),3),'LineWidth',2);
h1 = gca; h1.FontSize = 20; h1.XLabel.String = 'time'; h1.YLabel.String = 'state value';
h1.Title.String = [kernel.name ' kernel'];
```



determine $A + I\gamma$:

end

We fit the observations of state trajectories by standard GP regression.

$$p(\mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{Y}, \phi, \gamma) = \prod_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_k; \mu_k(\mathbf{y}_k), \Sigma_k),$$

where
$$\mu_k(\mathbf{y}_k) := \sigma_k^{-2} \left(\sigma_k^{-2}\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{C}_{\phi_k}^{-1}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{y}_k$$
 and $\Sigma_k^{-1} := \sigma_k^{-2}\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{C}_{\phi_k}^{-1}$.

Dimensions

```
numb_states = size(state.sym.mean,2);
numb_time_points = size(state.sym.mean,1);
```

Variance of state observations

```
state_obs_variance = simulation.state_obs_variance(state.obs);
Form block-diagonal matrix out of C_{\phi_i}^{-1}
inv_C_replicas = num2cell(inv_C(:,:,ones(1,numb_states)),[1,2]);
inv_C_blkdiag = sparse(blkdiag(inv_C_replicas{:}));
GP posterior inverse covariance matrix: \Sigma_k^{-1} := \sigma_k^{-2} \mathrm{I} + \mathrm{C}_{\phi_k}^{-1}
dim = size(state_obs_variance,1)*size(state_obs_variance,2);
% covariance matrix of error term (big E):
D = spdiags(reshape(state_obs_variance.^(-1),[],1),0,dim,dim) * speye(dim);
A_times_D_times_A = obs_to_state_relation' * D * obs_to_state_relation;
inv_sigma = A_times_D_times_A + inv_C_blkdiag;
GP posterior mean: \mu_k(\mathbf{y}_k) := \sigma_k^{-2} \left(\sigma_k^{-2}\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{C}_{\phi_k}^{-1}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{y}_k
mu = inv_sigma \ obs_to_state_relation' * D * reshape(state.obs,[],1);
Reshape GP mean
mu_u = zeros(numb_time_points,numb_states);
for u = 1:numb_states
    idx = (u-1)*numb_time_points+1:(u-1)*numb_time_points+numb_time_points;
    mu_u(:,u) = mu(idx);
end
Reshape GP inverse covariance matrix
inv_sigma_u = zeros(numb_time_points,numb_time_points,numb_states);
for i = 1:numb states
    idx = [(i-1)*numb time points+1:(i-1)*numb time points+numb time points];
    inv_sigma_u(:,:,i) = inv_sigma(idx,idx);
end
end
function coupling_idx = find_state_couplings_in_odes(ode,symbols)
state sym = sym('state%d',[1,length(ode.system)]); assume(state sym,'real');
for k = 1:length(ode.system)
    tmp_idx = ismember(state_sym,symvar(ode.system_sym(k))); tmp_idx(:,k) = 1;
    ode_couplings_states(k,tmp_idx) = 1;
end
for u = 1:length(symbols.state)
    coupling_idx.states{u} = find(ode_couplings_states(:,u));
end
end
```

```
\mathbf{B}_{\theta k}\theta + \mathbf{b}_{\theta k} \stackrel{!}{=} \mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{X}, \theta),
```

where matrices $\mathbf{B}_{\theta k}$ and $\mathbf{b}_{\theta k}$ are defined such that the ODEs $\mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{X}, \theta)$ are expressed as a linear combination in θ .

```
function [B,b] = rewrite_odes_as_linear_combination_in_parameters(ode,symbols)
```

Initialization of symbolic variables

```
param_sym = sym('param%d',[1,length(symbols.param)]); assume(param_sym,'real');
state_sym = sym('state%d',[1,length(symbols.state)]); assume(state_sym,'real');
stateO_sym = sym('stateO'); assume(stateO_sym,'real');
state_const_sym = sym('state_const'); assume(state_const_sym,'real');
```

Rewrite ODEs as linear combinations in parameters (global)

```
[B_sym,b_sym] = equationsToMatrix(ode.system_sym,param_sym);
b sym = -b sym; % See the documentation of the function "equationsToMatrix"
```

Operations locally w.r.t. ODEs

end

$$\mathbf{R}_{uk}\mathbf{x}_u + \mathbf{r}_{uk} \stackrel{!}{=} \mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{X}, \theta).$$

where matrices \mathbf{R}_{uk} and \mathbf{r}_{uk} are defined such that the ODEs $\mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{X}, \theta)$ is rewritten as a linear combination in the individual state \mathbf{x}_u .

```
function [R,r] = rewrite_odes_as_linear_combination_in_ind_states(ode,symbols,coupling_idx)
```

Initialization of symbolic variables

```
param_sym = sym('param%d',[1,length(symbols.param)]); assume(param_sym,'real');
state_sym = sym('state%d',[1,length(symbols.state)]); assume(state_sym,'real');
stateO_sym = sym('stateO'); assume(stateO_sym,'real');
state_const_sym = sym('state_const'); assume(state_const_sym,'real');
```

Rewrite ODEs as linear combinations in parameters (locally)

```
for u = 1:length(symbols.state)
      for k = coupling_idx{u}'
        [R_sym,r_sym] = equationsToMatrix(ode.system{k}(state_sym,param_sym'),state_sym(:,u));
            r_sym = -r_sym; % See the documentation of the function "equationsToMatrix"
           R{u,k} = matlabFunction(R_sym,'Vars',{state_sym,param_sym});
           r{u,k} = matlabFunction(r_sym,'Vars',{state_sym,param_sym});
      end
end
end
\hat{q}(\theta) \propto \exp \left( \ E_{Q_{-\theta}} \ln \mathcal{N} \left( \theta; \left( \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^T \mathbf{B}_{\theta} \right)^{-1} \left( \sum_k \mathbf{B}_{\theta k}^T \ \left( {}^\prime \mathbf{C}_{\phi k} \mathbf{C}_{\phi k}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_k - \mathbf{b}_{\theta k} \right) \right), \ \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^+ \left( \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I} \gamma \right) \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+T} \right) \ \right),
function [param_proxy_mean,param_proxy_inv_cov] = proxy_for_ode_parameters(state_proxy_mean,...
      dC_times_invC,lin_comb,symbols,A_plus_gamma_inv,opt_settings)
Initialization
state0 = zeros(size(dC_times_invC,1),1);
param_proxy_inv_cov = zeros(length(symbols.param));
global_scaling = zeros(length(symbols.param));
global_mean = zeros(length(symbols.param),1);
Iteratate through ODEs
for k = 1:length(symbols.state)
unpack matrices B and b
      B = lin_comb.B{k}(state_proxy_mean,state0,ones(size(state_proxy_mean,1),1));
      b = lin_comb.b{k}(state_proxy_mean,state0,ones(size(state_proxy_mean,1),1));
Local operations
      if strcmp(opt_settings.pseudo_inv_type,'Moore-Penrose')
The Moore-Penrose inverse of \mathbf{B}_{\theta} is given by: \mathbf{B}_{\theta} is given by: \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+} := \left(\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T} \mathbf{B}_{\theta}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T}
local mean: \mathbf{B}_{\theta k}^T \left( {}^\prime \mathbf{C}_{\phi_k} \mathbf{C}_{\phi k}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_k - \mathbf{b}_{\theta k} \right)
           local_mean = B' * (dC_times_invC * state_proxy_mean(:,k) - b);
           local_scaling = B' * B;
           local_inv_cov = B' * A_plus_gamma_inv * B;
      elseif strcmp(opt_settings.pseudo_inv_type,'modified Moore-Penrose')
```

```
The modified Moore-Penrose inverse of \mathbf{B}_{\theta} is given by: \mathbf{B}_{\theta} is given by: \mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{+} := \left(\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I}\gamma)\mathbf{B}_{\theta}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I}\gamma)
local mean: \mathbf{B}_{\theta k}^{T}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I}\gamma) \left( {}^{\prime}\mathbf{C}_{\phi_{k}}\mathbf{C}_{\phi k}^{-1}\mathbf{X}_{k} - \mathbf{b}_{\theta k} \right)
         local_mean = B' * A_plus_gamma_inv * (dC_times_invC * state_proxy_mean(:,k) - b);
            local_scaling = B' * A_plus_gamma_inv * B;
            local_inv_cov = local_scaling;
      end
Global operations
      global_mean = global_mean + local_mean;
      global_scaling = global_scaling + local_scaling;
      % Inverse covariance of ODE param proxy distribution
      param_proxy_inv_cov = param_proxy_inv_cov + local_inv_cov;
end
Check scaling of covariance matrix
[~,D] = eig(param_proxy_inv_cov);
if any(diag(D)<0)
      warning('param_proxy_inv_cov has negative eigenvalues!');
elseif any(diag(D)<1e-3)</pre>
      warning('param_proxy_inv_cov is badly scaled')
      disp('perturbing diagonal of param_proxy_inv_cov')
      perturb = abs(max(diag(D))-min(diag(D))) / 10000;
    param_proxy_inv_cov(logical(eye(size(param_proxy_inv_cov,1)))) = param_proxy_inv_cov(logical
            + perturb.*rand(size(param_proxy_inv_cov,1),1);
end
Mean of parameter proxy distribution (option: Moore-penrose inverse example): \left(\mathbf{B}_{\theta}^{T}\mathbf{B}_{\theta}\right)^{-1}\left(\sum_{k}\mathbf{B}_{\theta k}^{T}\left({}^{\prime}\mathbf{C}_{\phi k}\mathbf{C}_{\phi k}^{-1}\mathbf{X}_{k}-\mathbf{b}_{\theta k}\right)\right)
param_proxy_mean = global_scaling \ global_mean;
end
\hat{q}(\mathbf{x}_u) \propto \exp \left( \ E_{Q_{-u}} \ln \mathcal{N} \left( \mathbf{x}_u ; \left( \mathbf{B}_u \mathbf{B}_u^T \right)^{-1} \left( - \sum_k \mathbf{B}_{uk}^T \mathbf{b}_{uk} \right), \ \mathbf{B}_u^+ \left( \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I} \gamma \right) \mathbf{B}_u^{+T} \right)
                             +E_{Q_{-u}}\ln\mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}_{u};\mu_{u}(\mathbf{Y}),\Sigma_{u}\right),
function [state_proxy_mean,state_proxy_inv_cov] = proxy_for_ind_states(lin_comb,state_proxy_mean)
      ode_param,dC_times_invC,coupling_idx,symbols,mu,inv_sigma,state_obs_idx,...
      A_plus_gamma_inv,opt_settings)
```

Clamp observed states to GP fit

```
if opt_settings.clamp_obs_state_to_GP_fit
    state_enumeration = find(~state_obs_idx);
else
    state_enumeration = 1:length(symbols.state);
for u = state_enumeration
Initialization
    state_proxy_inv_cov(:,:,u) = zeros(size(dC_times_invC));
    global_scaling = zeros(size(dC_times_invC));
    global_mean = zeros(size(dC_times_invC,1),1);
Iteratate through ODEs
    for k = coupling_idx{u}'
unpack matrices R and r
         R = diag(lin_comb.R{u,k}(state_proxy_mean,ode_param));
         r = lin_comb.r{u,k}(state_proxy_mean,ode_param);
         if size(R,1) == 1; R = R.*eye(size(dC_times_invC,1)); end
         if length(r)==1; r = zeros(length(global mean),1); end
Define matrices B and b such that \mathbf{B}_{uk}\mathbf{x}_u + \mathbf{b}_{uk} \stackrel{!}{=} \mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{X}, \theta) - {}'\mathbf{C}_{\phi_k}\mathbf{C}_{\phi_k}^{-1}\mathbf{X}
         if k~=u
             B = R;
             b = r - dC times invC * state proxy mean(:,k);
              B = R - dC_times_invC;
              b = r;
         end
Local operations
         if strcmp(opt_settings.pseudo_inv_type,'Moore-Penrose')
              % local mean: $\mathbf{B}_{uk}^T \left(\epsilon_0^{(k)})
              % -\mathbf{b}_{uk}
              local_mean = -B' * b;
              local_scaling = B' * B;
              local_inv_cov = B' * A_plus_gamma_inv * B;
         elseif strcmp(opt_settings.pseudo_inv_type,'modified Moore-Penrose')
```

local_mean = -B' * A_plus_gamma_inv * b;
local_scaling = B' * A_plus_gamma_inv * B;

local_inv_cov = local_scaling;

end

Global operations

```
global_mean = global_mean + local_mean;
         global_scaling = global_scaling + local_scaling;
Inverse covariance for state proxy distribution
         state_proxy_inv_cov(:,:,u) = state_proxy_inv_cov(:,:,u) + local_inv_cov;
    end
Mean of state proxy distribution (option: Moore-penrose inverse example): (\mathbf{B}_u\mathbf{B}_u^T)^{-1}\sum_k\mathbf{B}_{uk}^T\left(\epsilon_0^{(k)}-\mathbf{b}_{uk}\right)
   state_proxy_mean(:,u) = (global_scaling + inv_sigma(:,:,u)) \ (global_mean + (inv_sigma(:,:,u)
end
end
function ode = import_odes(symbols)
Path to system of ODEs
path_ode = './Lotka_Volterra_ODEs.txt';
Import ODEs
ode.raw = importdata(path_ode);
ode.refined = ode.raw;
Refine ODEs
for k = 1:length(ode.refined)
for u = 1:length(symbols.state); ode.refined{k} = strrep(ode.refined{k},[symbols.state{u}],['sta
for j = 1:length(symbols.param); ode.refined{k} = strrep(ode.refined{k}, symbols.param{j},['param
for k = 1:length(ode.refined); ode.system{k} = str2func(['@(state,param)(' ode.refined{k} ')']);
end
function [state,time,ode] = generate ground truth(time,state,ode,symbols,simulation)
Integration times
```

```
time.true=0:simulation.int_interval:simulation.final_time;
                                                                           % ture times
Tindex=length(time.true);
                                                                           % index time
TTT=length(simulation.time_samp);
                                                               % number of sampled points
itrue=round(simulation.time_samp./simulation.int_interval+ones(1,TTT));
                                                                            % Index of sample time
Symbolic computations
param_sym = sym('param%d',[1,length(symbols.param)]); assume(param_sym,'real');
state_sym = sym('state%d',[1,length(symbols.state)]); assume(state_sym,'real');
for i = 1:length(ode.system)
    ode.system_sym(i) = ode.system{i}(state_sym,param_sym);
end
Fourth order Runge-Kutta (numerical) integration
ode_system_mat = matlabFunction(ode.system_sym','Vars',{state_sym',param_sym'});
[~,OutX_solver]=ode45(@(t,x) ode_system_mat(x,simulation.ode_param'), time.true, simulation.ini
state.true_all=OutX_solver;
state.true=state.true_all(itrue,:);
Pack
state.obs_idx = simulation.state_obs_idx;
end
function [state,time,obs_to_state_relation] = generate_state_obs(state,time,simulation)
State observations
state_obs_variance = simulation.state_obs_variance(state.true);
state.obs = state.true + sqrt(state_obs_variance) .* randn(size(state.true));
Mapping between states and observations
if length(simulation.time_samp) < length(time.est)</pre>
    time.idx = munkres(pdist2(simulation.time_samp',time.est'));
  time.ind = sub2ind([length(simulation.time_samp),length(time.est)],1:length(simulation.time_
    time.idx = munkres(pdist2(time.est',simulation.time_samp'));
  time.ind = sub2ind([length(time.est),length(simulation.time_samp)],1:length(time.est),time.i
time.obs_time_to_state_time_relation = zeros(length(simulation.time_samp),length(time.est)); ti
state_mat = eye(size(state.true,2));
obs_to_state_relation = sparse(kron(state_mat,time.obs_time_to_state_time_relation));
time.samp = simulation.time_samp;
```

end

```
function [h_states,h_param,p] = setup_plots(state,time,simulation,symbols)
Refine ODE parameter symbols
for i = 1:length(symbols.param); symbols.param{i} = symbols.param{i}(2:end-1); end
Figure size and position setup
figure(1); set(1, 'Position', [0, 200, 1200, 500]);
ODE parameters
h_param = subplot(1,3,1); h_param.FontSize = 20; h_param.Title.String = 'ODE parameters';
set(gca,'XTick',[1:length(symbols.param)]); set(gca,'XTickLabel',symbols.param);
hold on; drawnow
States
for u = 1:2
  h_states{u} = subplot(1,3,u+1); cla; p.true = plot(time.true,state.true_all(:,u),'LineWidth',:
  hold on; p.obs = plot(simulation.time_samp,state.obs(:,u),'*','Color',[217,95,2]./255,'Marker
  h_states{u}.FontSize = 20; h_states{u}.Title.String = symbols.state{u}(2:end-1); h_states{u}.
    h_states{u}.XLabel.String = 'time'; hold on;
end
end
function plot_results(h_states,h_param,state,time,simulation,param_proxy_mean,p,plot_type)
for u = 1:2
    if strcmp(plot_type, 'final')
        % State proxy variance
        state_proxy_variance = diag(state.proxy.inv_cov(:,:,u)^(-1));
     shaded_region = [state.proxy.mean(:,u)+1*sqrt(state_proxy_variance); flip(state.proxy.mean
     f = fill(h_states{u},[time.est'; flip(time.est',1)], shaded_region, [222,235,247]/255); set
        % Replot true states
     p.true = plot(h_states{u},time.true,state.true_all(:,u),'LineWidth',2,'Color',[217,95,2].
        % Replot state obbservations
     p.obs = plot(h_states{u}, simulation.time_samp, state.obs(:,u),'*','Color',[217,95,2]./255,
        % State proxy mean (final)
     hold on; p.est = plot(h_states{u},time.est,state.proxy.mean(:,u),'Color',[117,112,179]./25
        % state proxy mean (not final)
     hold on; p.est = plot(h_states{u},time.est,state.proxy.mean(:,u),'LineWidth',0.1,'Color',[
```

end

```
% Specify legend entries
legend(h_states{u},[p.true,p.obs,p.est],{'true','observed','estimate'},'Location','southwesend

% ODE parameters
cla(h_param); b = bar(h_param,1:length(param_proxy_mean),[simulation.ode_param',param_proxy_mean)
b(1).FaceColor = [217,95,2]./255; b(2).FaceColor = [117,112,179]./255;
h_param.XLim = [0.5,length(param_proxy_mean)+0.5]; h_param.YLimMode = 'auto';
legend(h_param,{'true','estimate'},'Location','northwest');
drawnow
```