



PiecewiseInference.jl: a machine learning framework for inverse ecosystem modelling

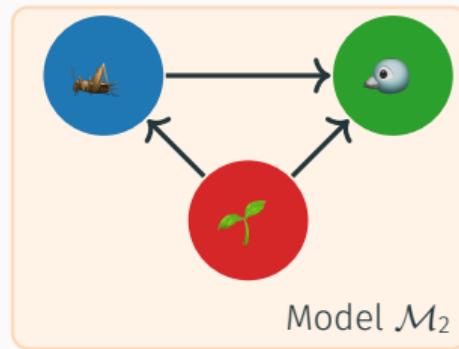
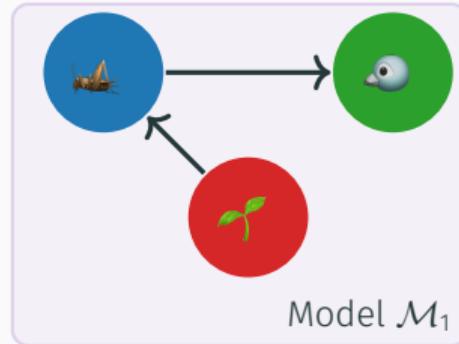
Victor Boussange^{1,2}, Pau Vilimelis Aceituno², and Loïc
Pellissier^{1,2}

April 26, 2023

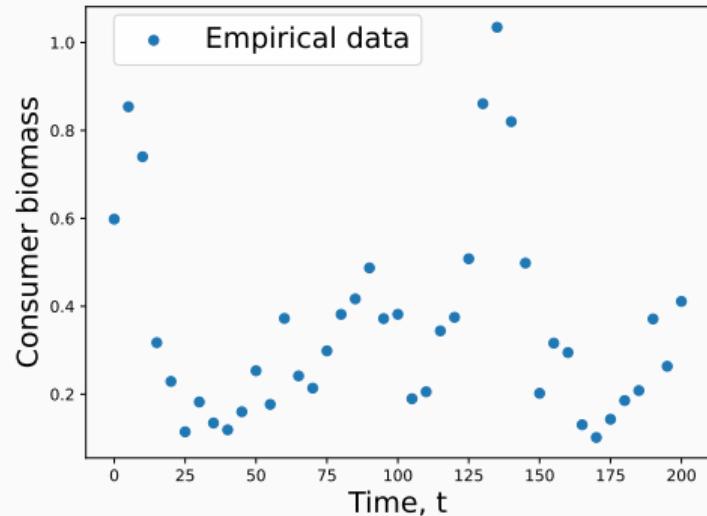
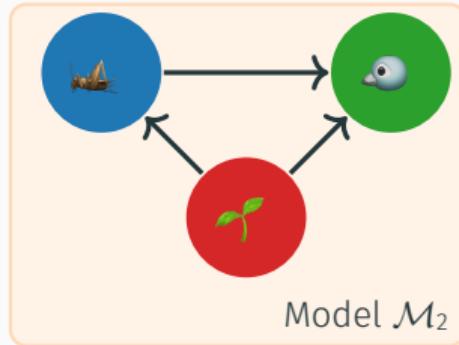
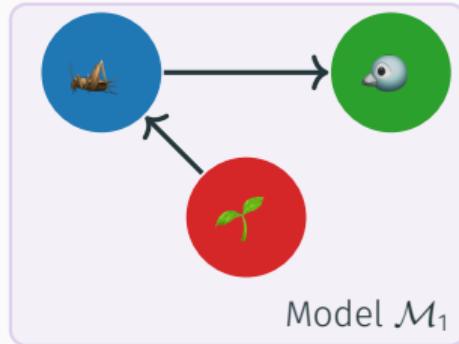
¹WSL Birmensdorf, ²ETH Zürich



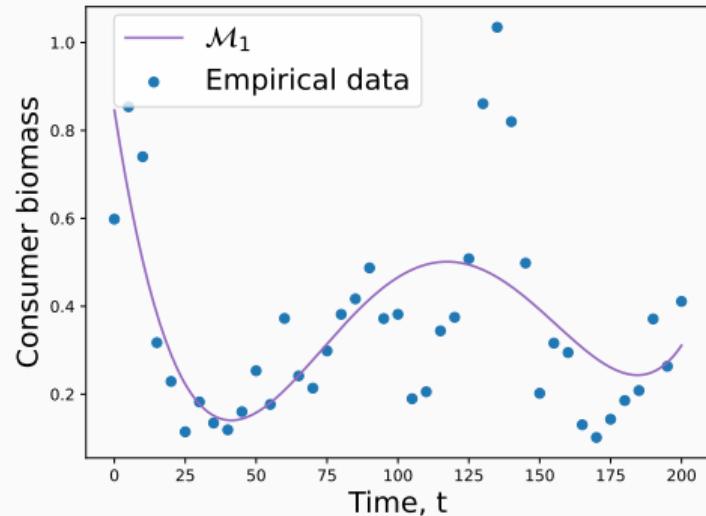
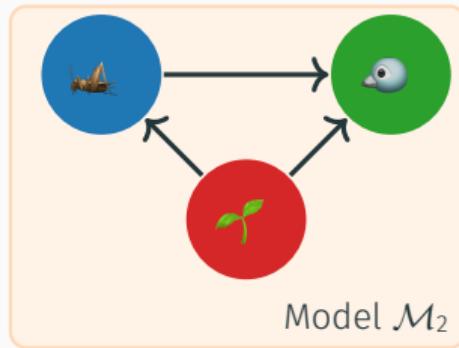
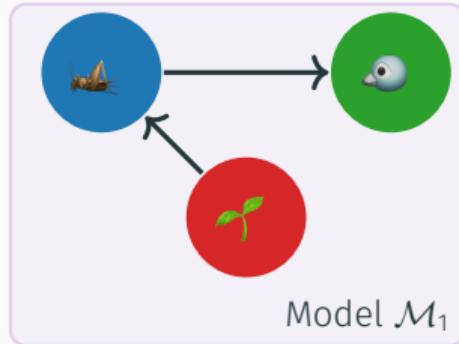
Motivation



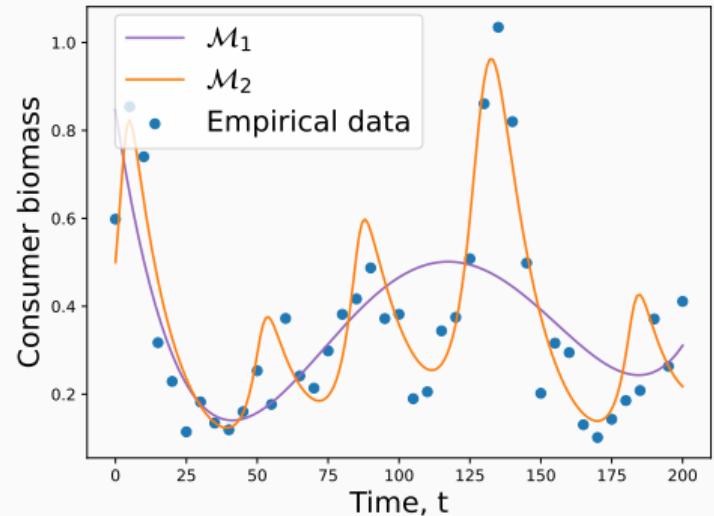
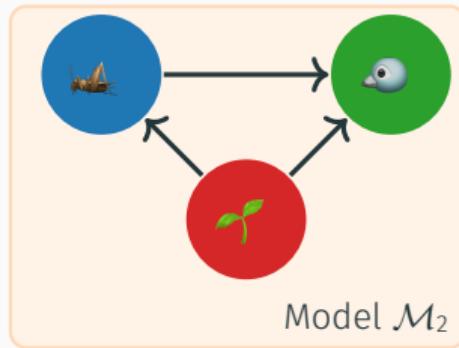
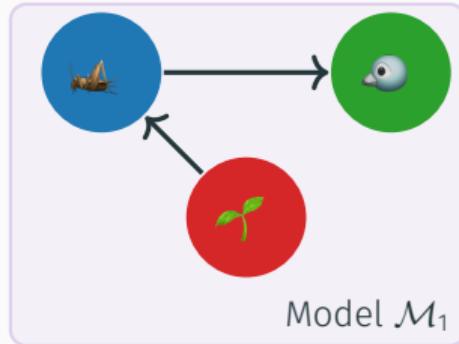
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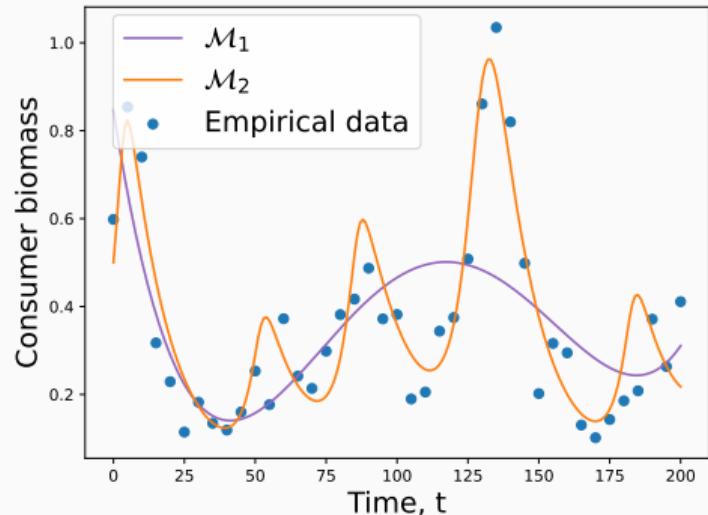
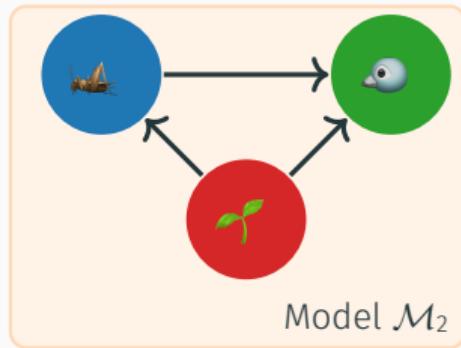
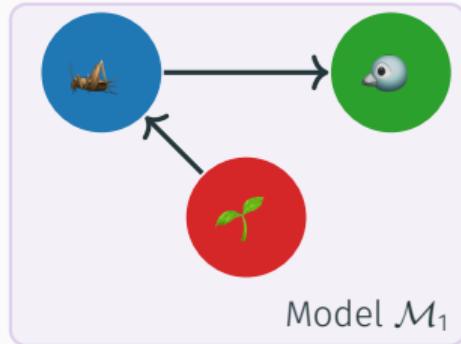
Motivation



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Motivation



$$P(\mathcal{M}_2 \mid \text{Data}) > P(\mathcal{M}_1 \mid \text{Data})$$

Inverse modelling methods

Global search
(e.g. Bayesian inference with MCMC)



- 👍 Provide uncertainties estimations
- 👎 Suffer from the **curse of dimensionality**

Inverse modelling methods

Global search
(e.g. Bayesian inference with MCMC)



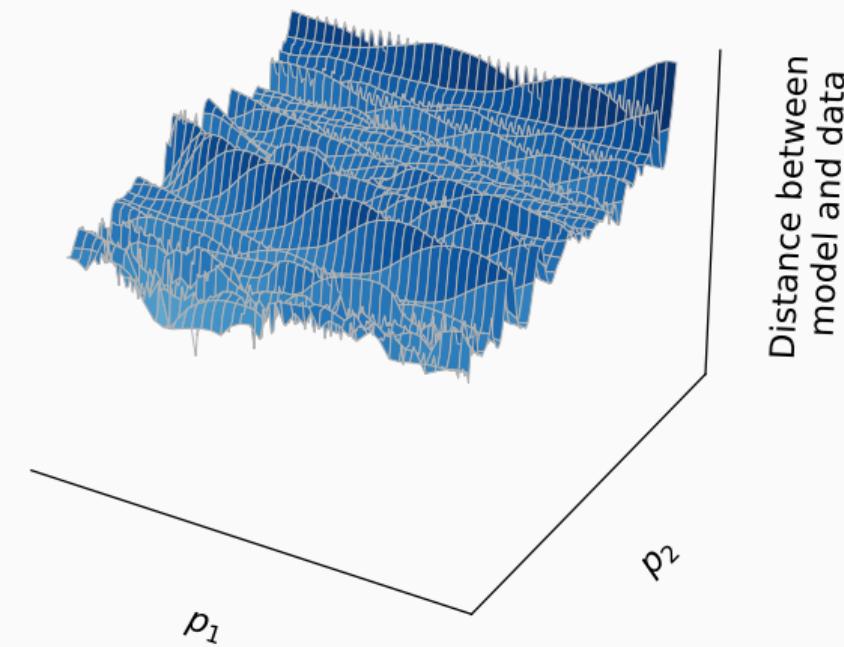
- 👍 Provide uncertainties estimations
- 👎 Suffer from the **curse of dimensionality**

Local search
(e.g. gradient descent)



- 👍 Do not suffer from the **curse of dimensionality**
- 👎 Convergence to local minima

Model non-linearities lead to highly complex likelihood landscapes



A framework for inverse ecosystem modelling

PiecewiseInference.jl

A framework for inverse ecosystem modelling

PiecewiseInference.jl

- is a **framework for inverse modeling** of complex dynamical systems.

A framework for inverse ecosystem modelling

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- is a **framework for inverse modeling** of complex dynamical systems.
- Built upon
 - **gradient descent with Deep Learning optimization algorithm** (Adam)

A framework for inverse ecosystem modelling

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- is a **framework for inverse modeling** of complex dynamical systems.
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 - automatic differentiation

A framework for inverse ecosystem modelling

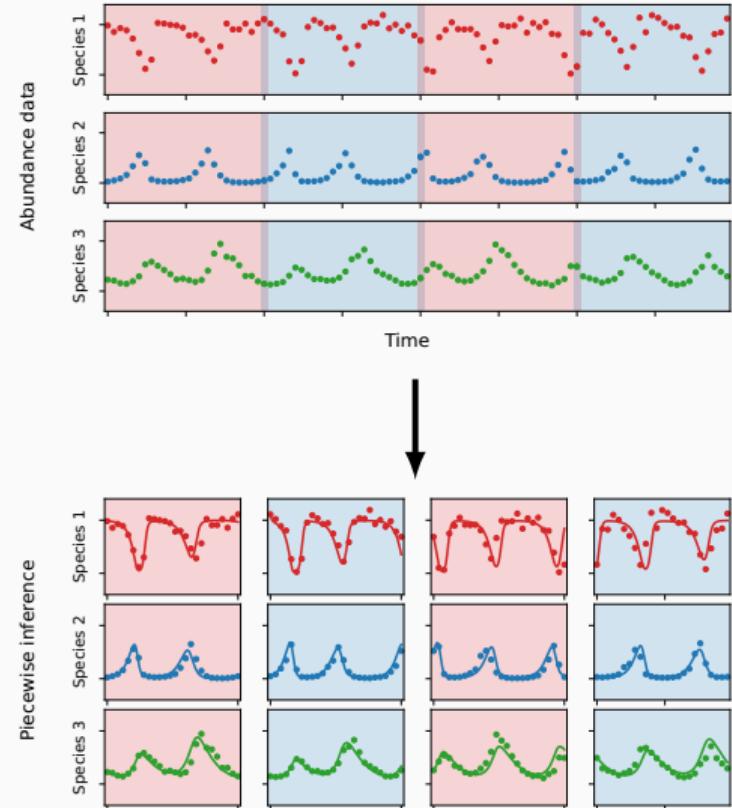
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 - **automatic differentiation**
 - **a training strategy that improves the convergence** of local search methods by regularizing the inference problem

A framework for inverse ecosystem modelling

PiecewiseInference.jl

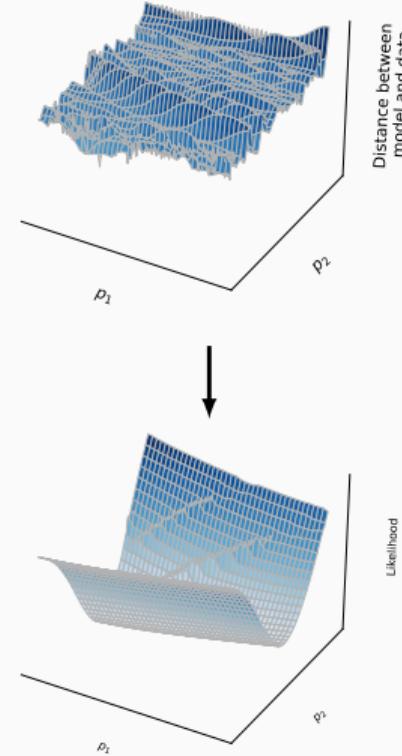
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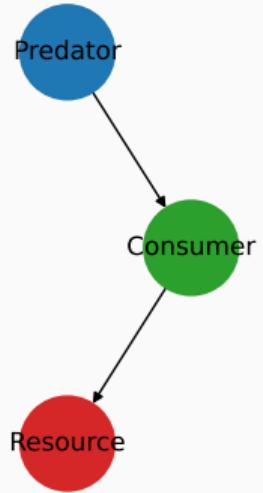
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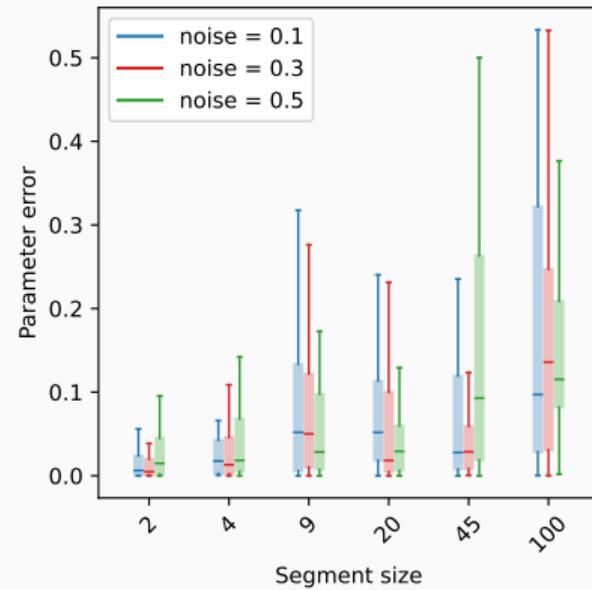
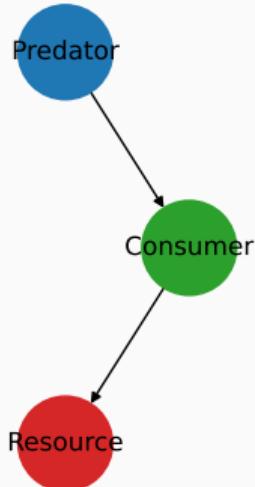
Optimal segment size



Chaotic food web
system

Hastings et al. 1991.

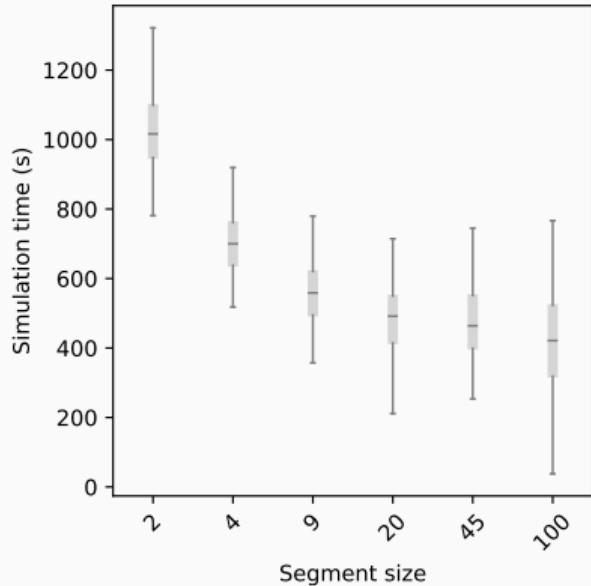
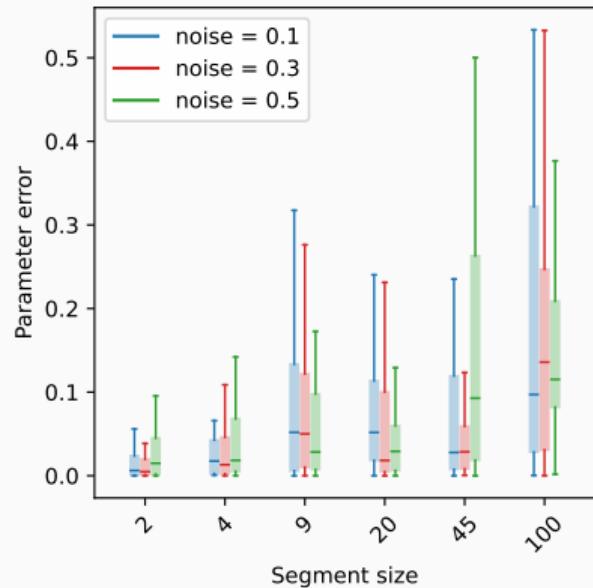
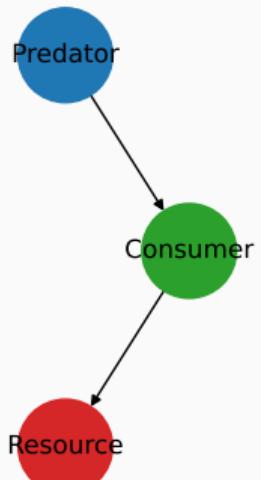
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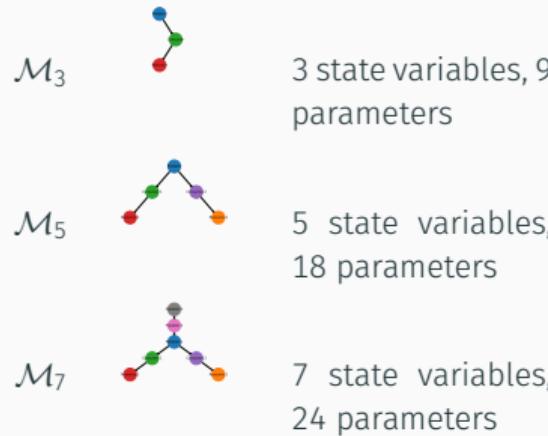
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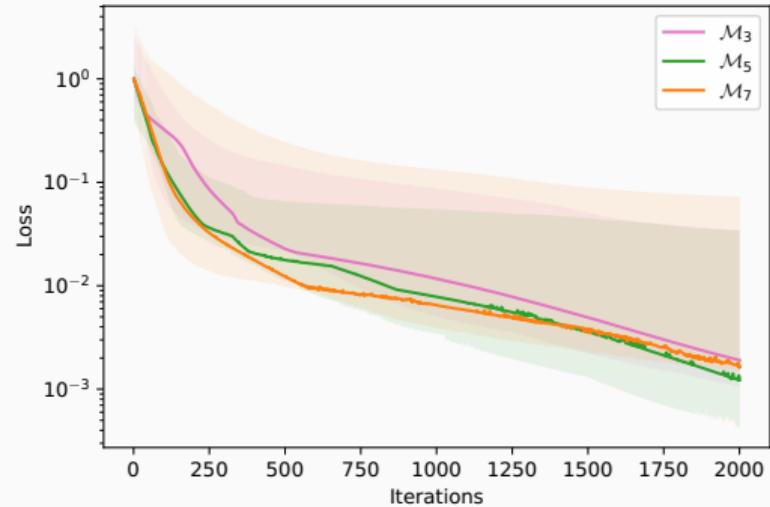
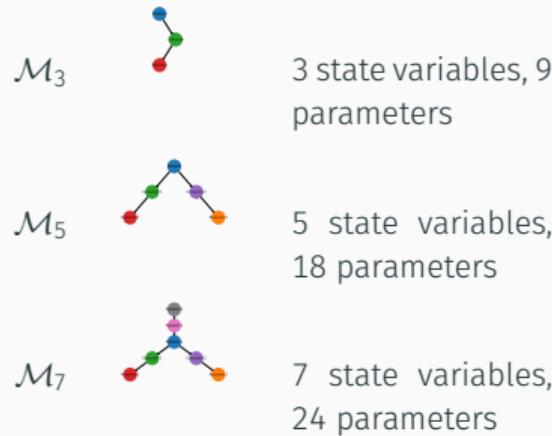
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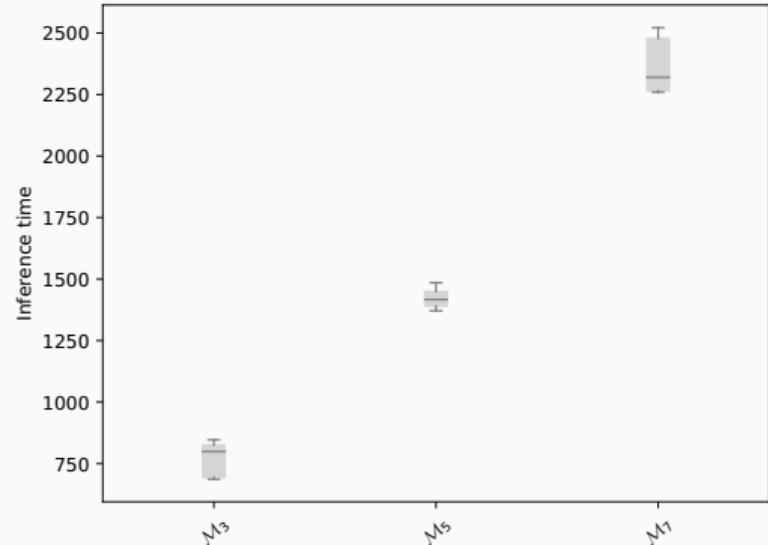
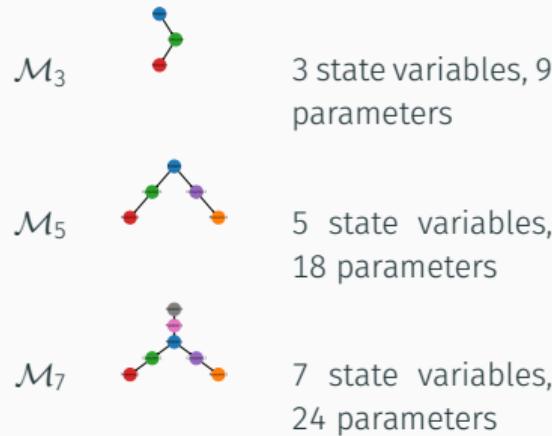
Scaling with model complexity



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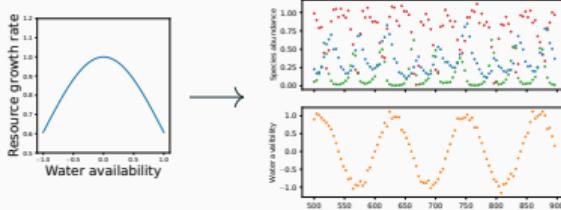
Hypothesis testing and processes discovery



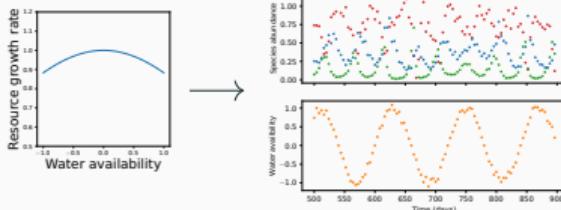
Hypothesis testing and processes discovery



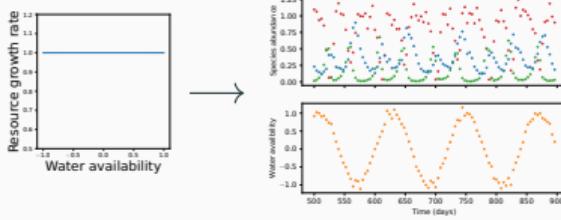
$s=1$



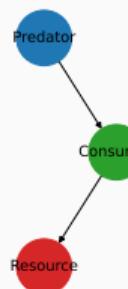
$s=0.5$



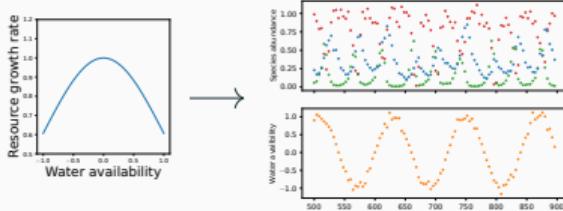
$s=0$



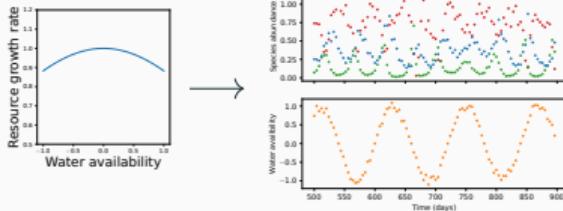
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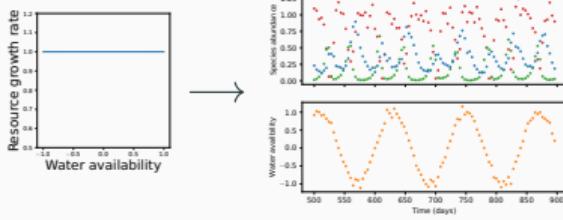
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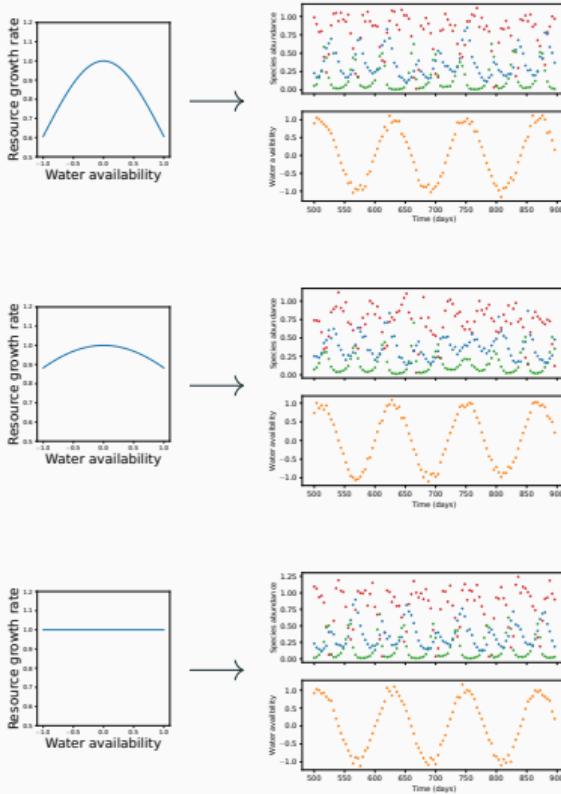
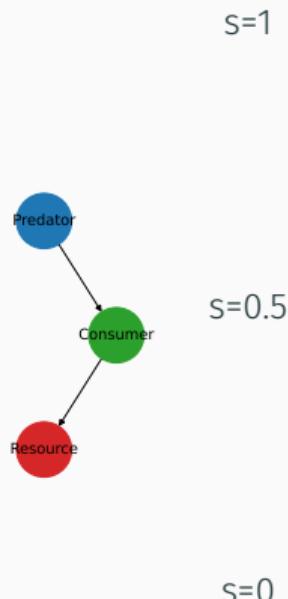
$s=0$



$$r_R = \text{cst.}$$

Model \mathcal{M}

Hypothesis testing and processes discovery



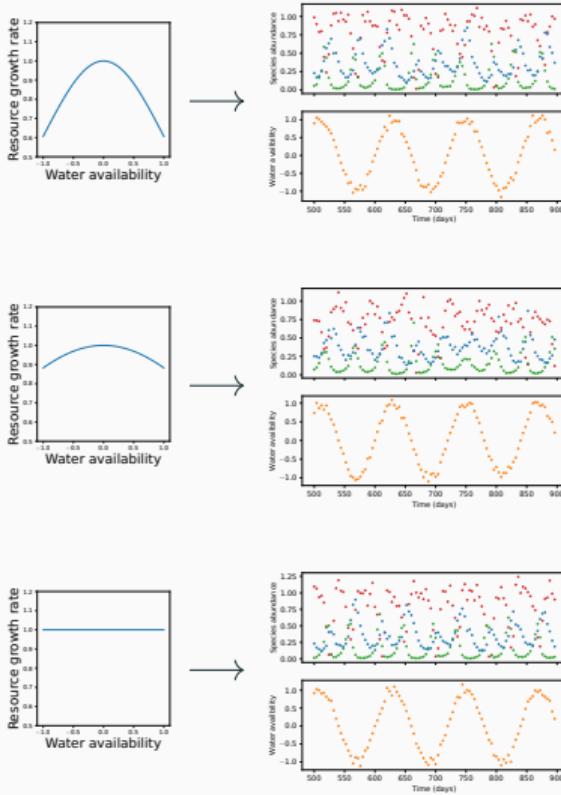
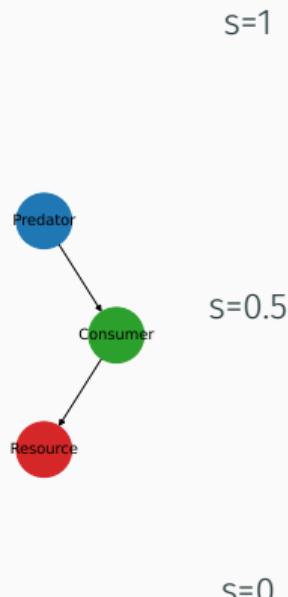
$$r_R = \text{cst.}$$

Model \mathcal{M}

$$r_R = f(\text{water avail.})$$

Model \mathcal{M}^*

Hypothesis testing and processes discovery



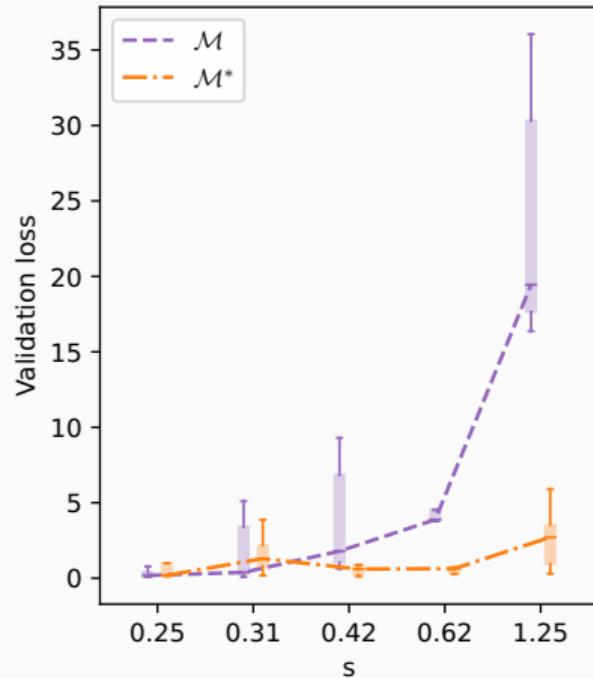
$$r_R = \text{cst.}$$

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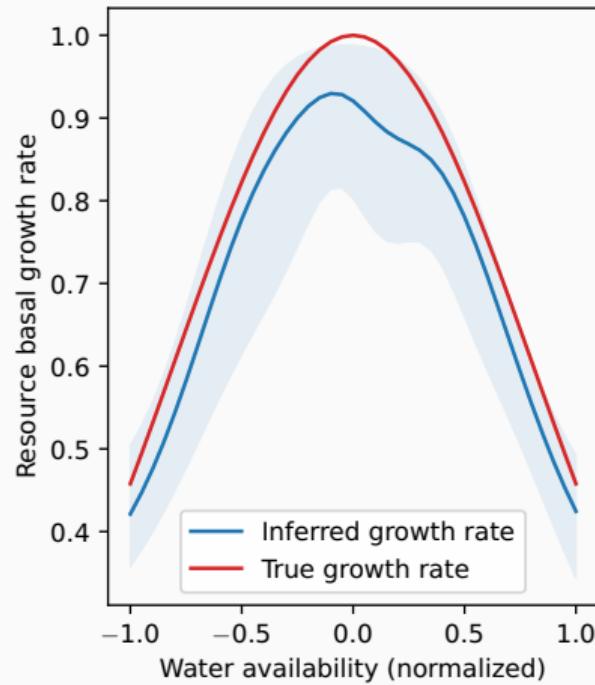
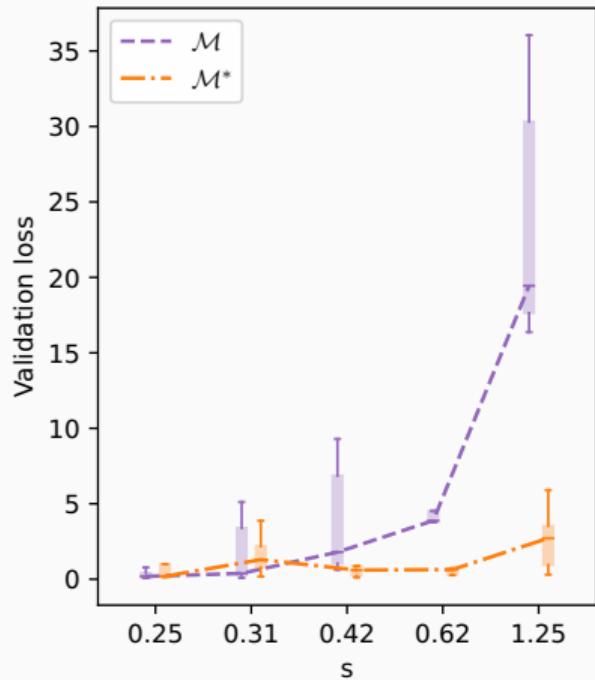
$$r_R = f(\text{water avail.})$$
$$f \equiv \text{NN}$$

Model \mathcal{M}^*

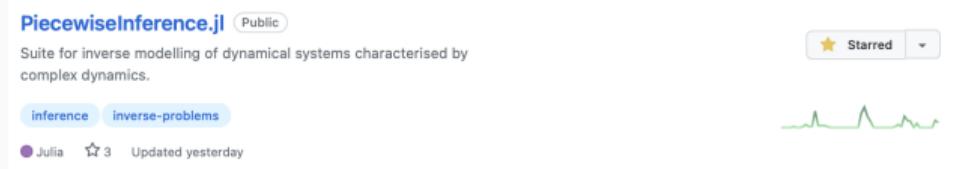
Hypothesis testing and processes discovery



Hypothesis testing and processes discovery



The ecosystem we are developing, and the next projects



The ecosystem we are developing, and the next projects

PiecewiseInference.jl Public

Suite for inverse modelling of dynamical systems characterised by complex dynamics.

 Starred ▾



Inference inverse-problems

Julia 3 Updated yesterday

ParametricModels.jl Public

An AD friendly wrapper for consistently handling dynamical models

 Star ▾



Julia MIT License Updated on Feb 21

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PiecewiseInference.jl (Public)

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Inference inverse-problems

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Ongoing projects

- Food webs dynamic in the Bay of Biscay with **Trawl Survey Data** 🚢
- Artic plant community build-up with **sedaDNA** 💎

Summary and perspectives

- PiecewiseInference.jl: an efficient inference framework combining a segmentation method together with automatic differentiation and Deep Learning optimizers

Summary and perspectives

- PiecewiseInference.jl: an efficient inference framework combining **a segmentation method** together with **automatic differentiation** and **Deep Learning optimizers**
- Our framework can help better understand and predict the dynamics of biodiversity by allowing
 - the **testing ecological theory against data**
 - **learning the parametrization** of ecological processes

Boussange, V., Vilimelis-Aceituno, P., Pellissier, L., *Mini-batching ecological data to improve ecosystem models with machine learning*. [bioRxiv] (2022)

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Thanks for your attention!