

Optimizing the cost of gradient computation with JAX for Experience with *Tunax*

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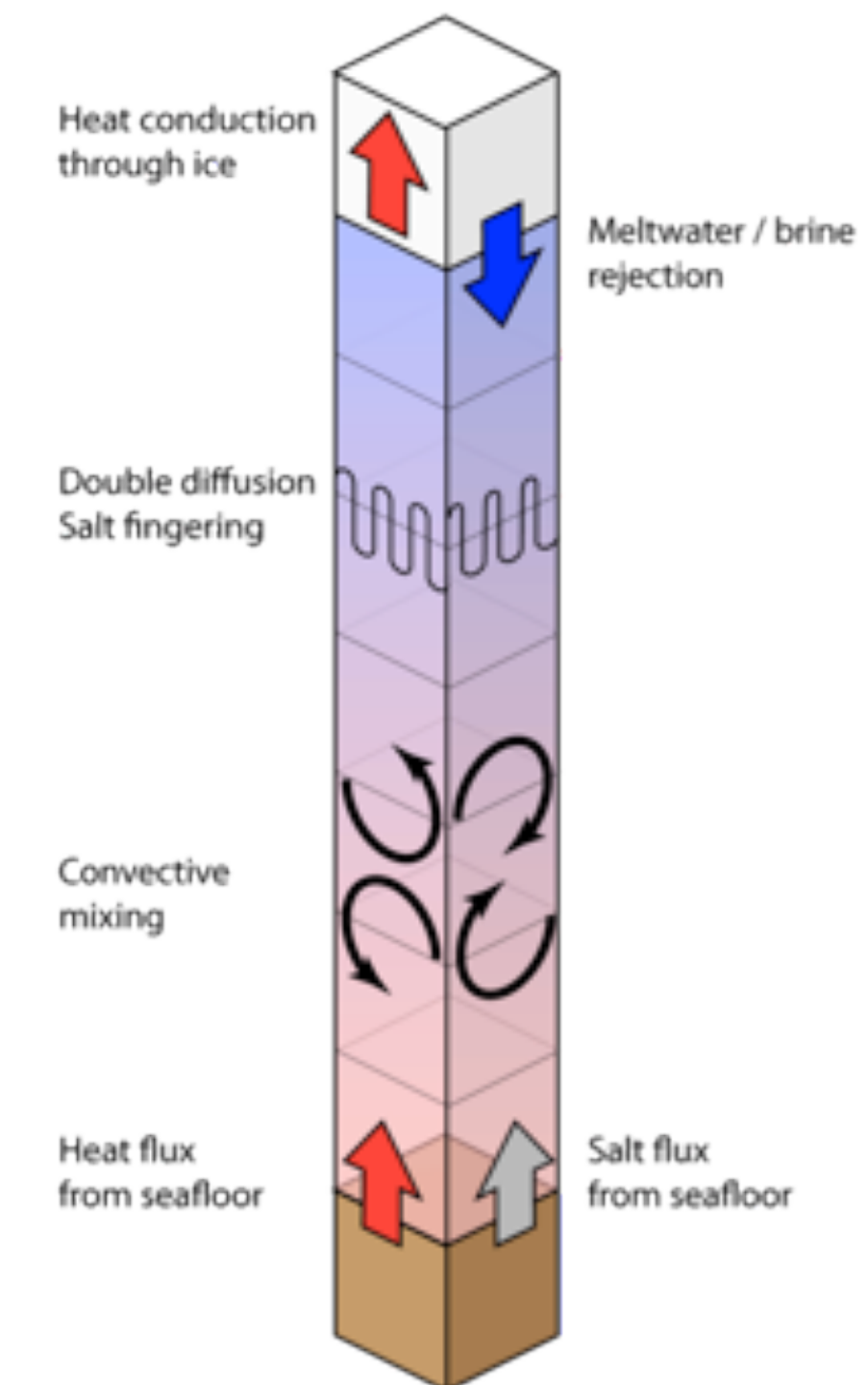
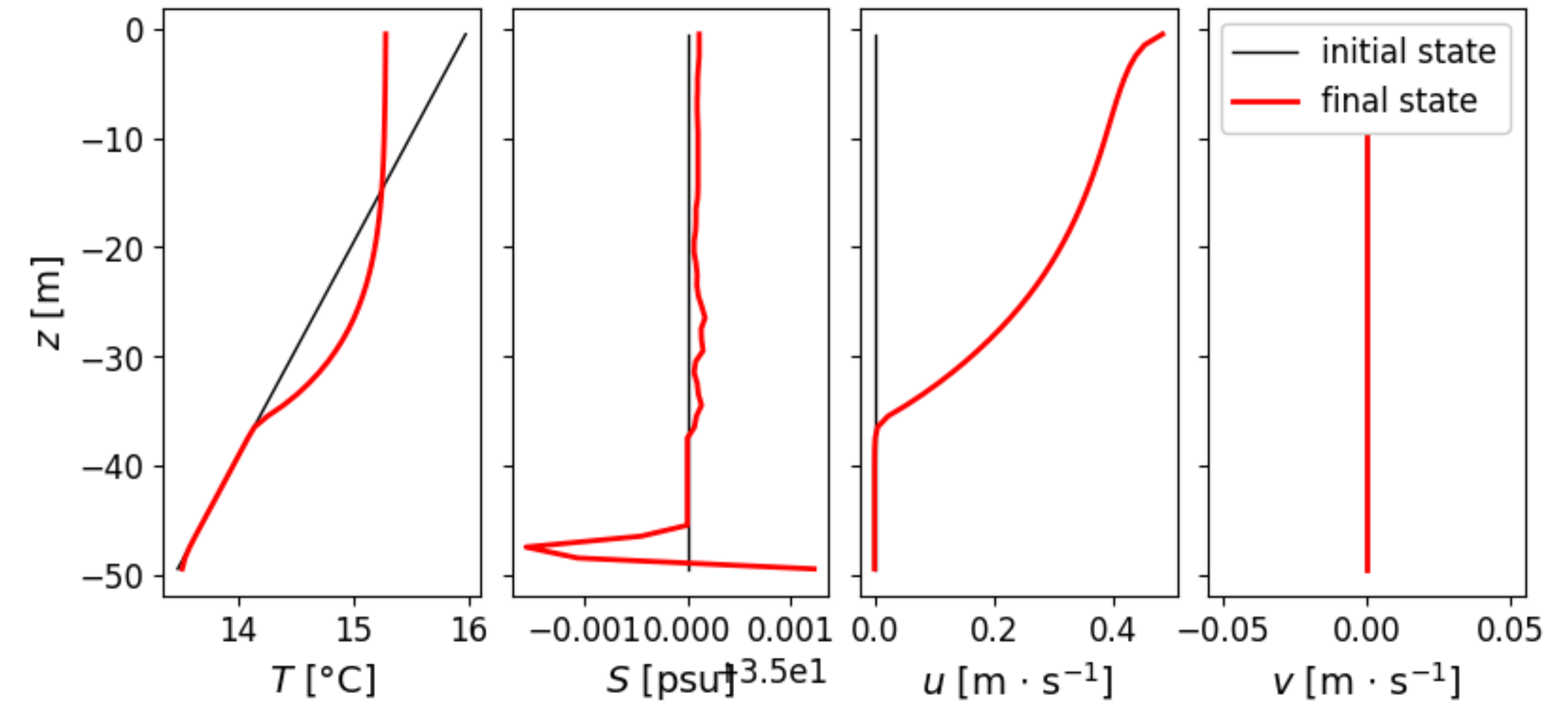
Jaxathon March 12th 2025

Tunax

Ocean Single Column Model

- 1D vertical
- **variables** : T, S, b, u, v
- heat, wind, freshwater **forcings**
- turbulent kinetic diffusion -> physical **closure**
 - TKE, $k - \varepsilon$, KPP, ...
 - physical parameters to calibrate $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$

Initial and final states of Kato-Phillips case run with $k - \varepsilon$ closure

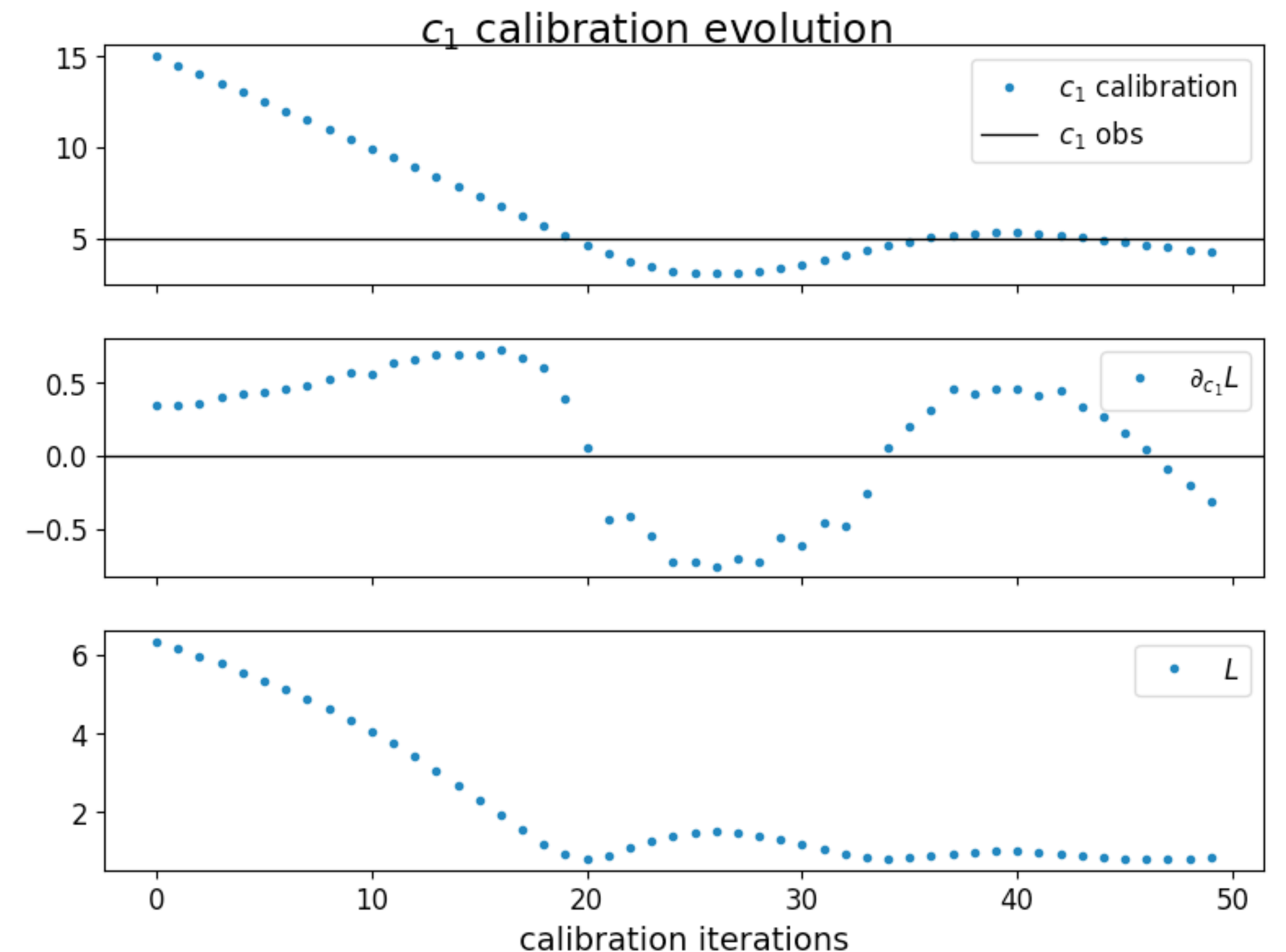
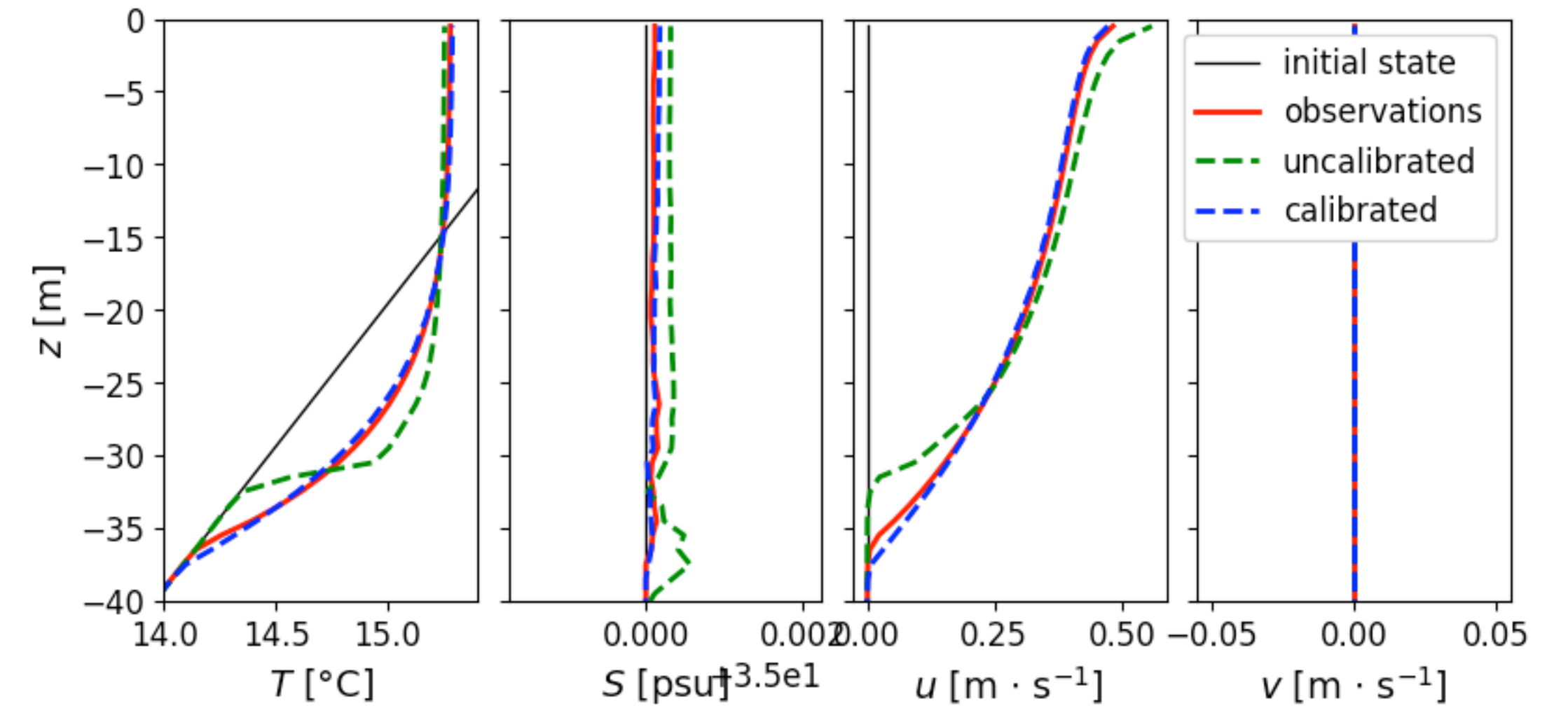


Tunax

Calibration module

- best value of $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$ to fit a **database**
- **differentiable** calibration -> **JAX**
- use of `jax.grad` on the whole SCM
- databases
 - perfect model
 - observations
 - **Large Eddy Simulations (LES)**

Final states before and after the calibration of the parameter c_1



Tunax

Calculation cost issue

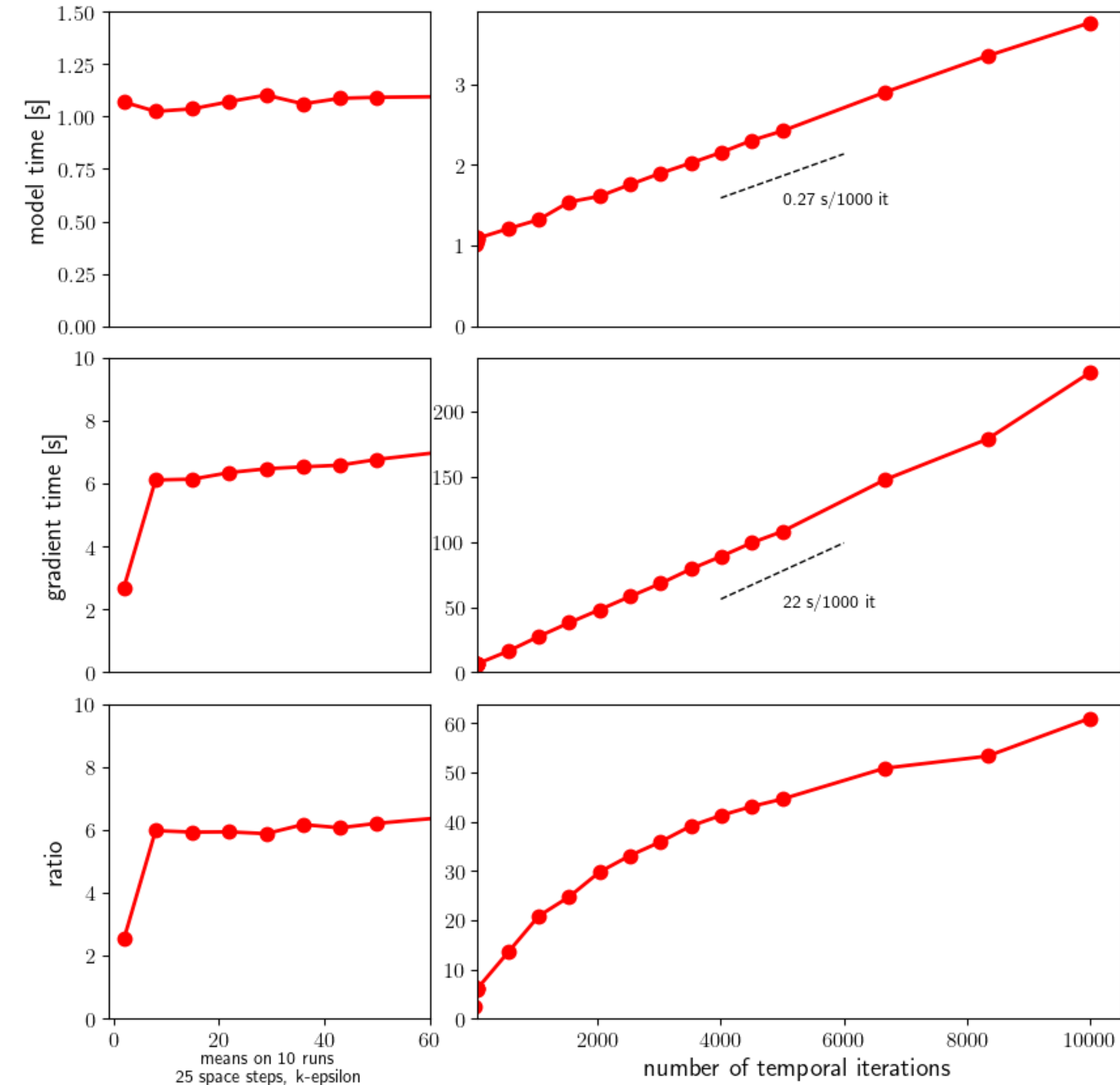
- for non-trivial databases : explosion of calibration

cost

- issue : gradient on an **iterative** function

- $U_{\theta}^n = \mathcal{M}_{\theta}(U^0) = \mathcal{S}_{\theta}^n(U^0)$

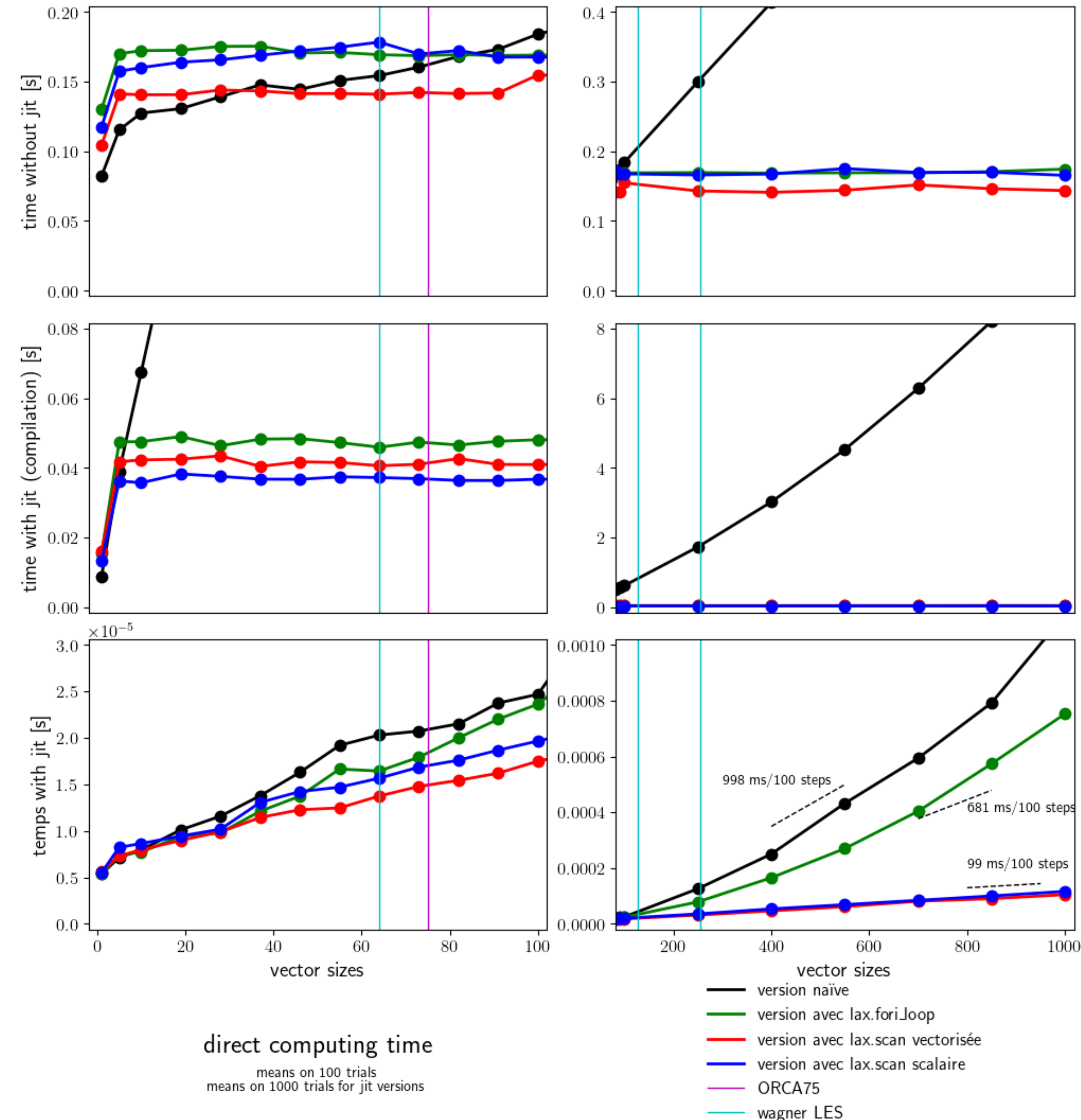
- **ratio** between model and gradient $\simeq 30$ instead of 3



Optimizing gradient cost

Using `jax.lax`

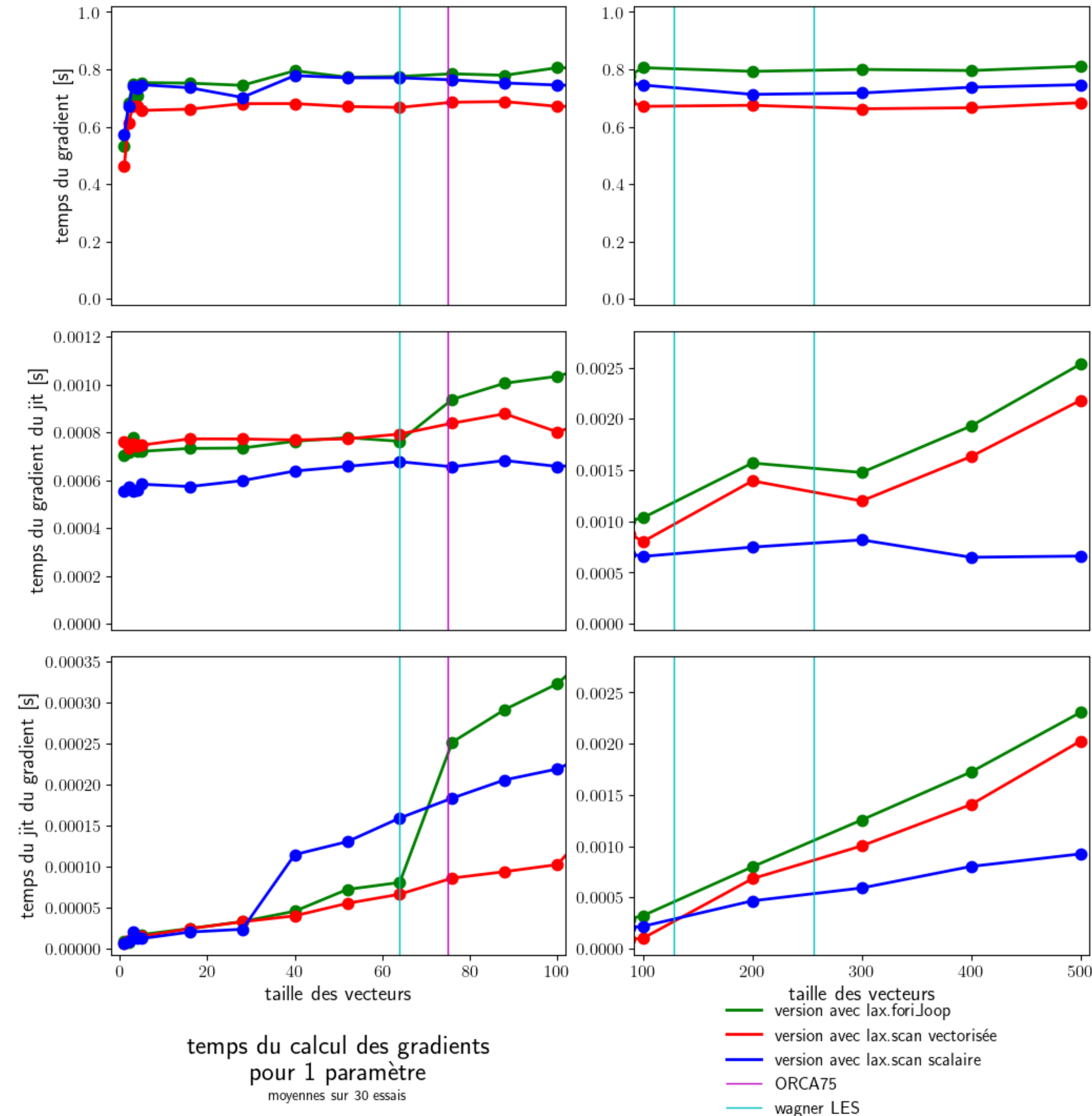
- work on inner **vectorized functions**
- `jax.lax.scan` > `jax.lax.fori_loop`
- work on **integration loop**
- hard to implement but efficient (ratio 3)



Optimizing gradient cost

jit◦grad vs. grad◦jit

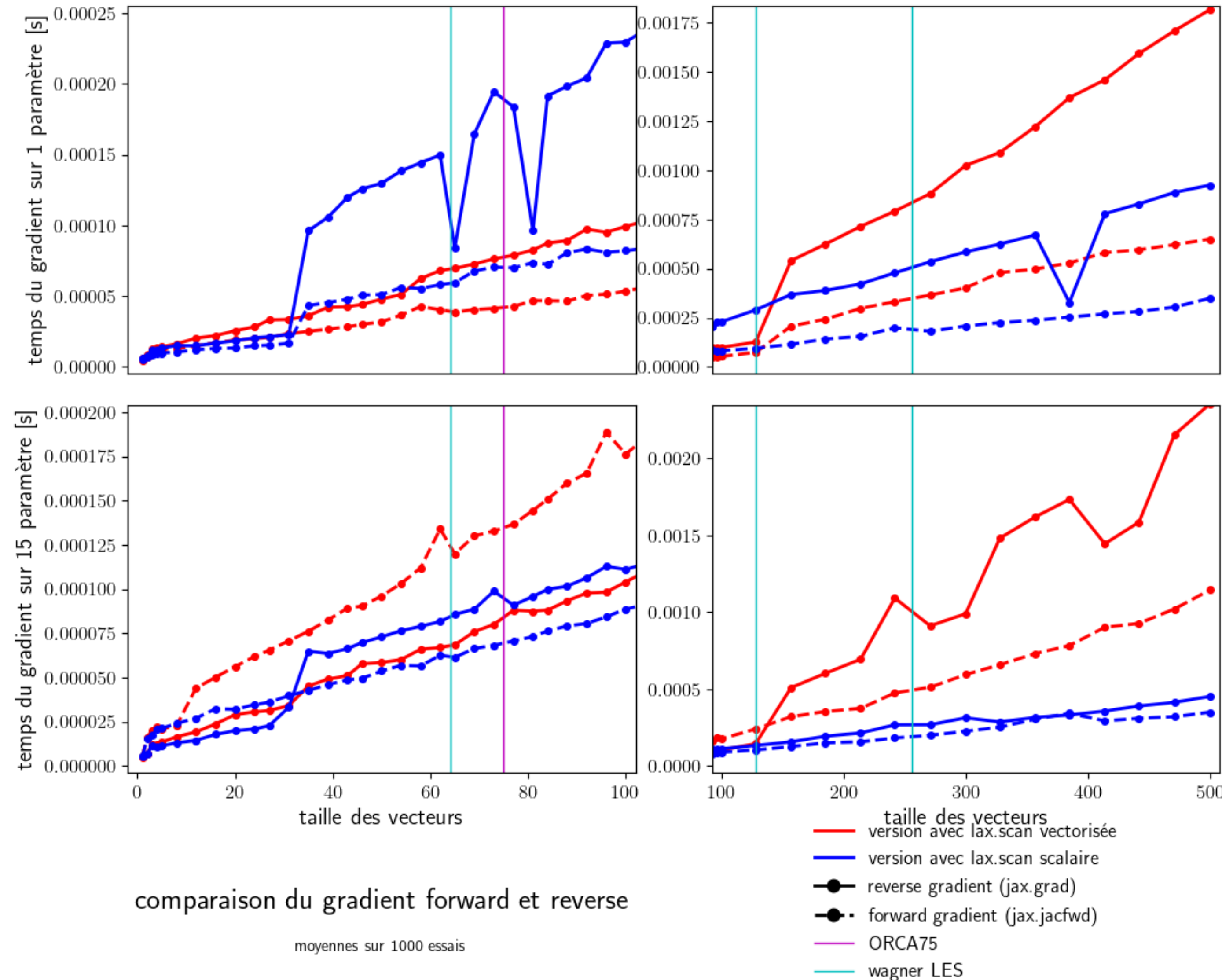
- no jit
 - usually too long
- grad◦jit
 - user friendly (same function for direct model and gradient)
 - faster compilation
 - good for small functions
- jit◦grad
 - faster -> best choice



Optimizing gradient cost

Reverse vs. forward

- **reverse gradient**
 - use of memory for long and complex functions -> potential bottleneck
- **forward gradient** (jax.jacfwd)
 - faster when more outputs than inputs



Optimizing gradient cost

Results

- results on surrogate model with
 - forward gradient
 - `jax.lax.scan` on vectorized functions and integration loop
 - jitification outside gradient
- **ratio model/gradient 30 -> 3**
- **Next steps**
 - study of memory cost
 - checkpointing for reverse gradient

