

Model Calibration with the FME package

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Foreword

This is an R Markdown document. Markdown is a simple formatting syntax for authoring PDF documents.

When you click the **Knit** button in Rstudio a pdf will be generated that includes both content as well as the output of any embedded R code chunks within the document. You can then modify the code inside the r chunk and update the pdf accordingly.

Objectives

This is an example of script, as should be produced during practical session of the lecture “Modélisation des écosystèmes et des cycles biogéochimiques” (Partim : Resource competition). It consist in calibrating the parameter of a simple growth function, in order to render observation of growth rates measured at different resource availability. (Those data have been created artificially and are located in a [text file](#)). To do so we will exploit functions from “FME” library (Soetaert and Petzoldt 2010). The notions we are going to consider are pretty well explained in [this documentation](#).

To start, we simply load the FME library (which will automatically load the dependence libraries).

```
library(FME)
```

```
## Loading required package: deSolve
```

```
## Loading required package: rootSolve
```

```
## Loading required package: coda
```

Now we load the data using the `read.table` function which store them in a “data frame” structure (`datain`). We then assign names to the columns of `datain`. (Remember the command `c("R","g")` create a vector with two elements : “R” and “g”). Here *R* goes for *ressource availability* and *g* for corresponding *growth rates*.

```
datain<-read.table(file="G1R1.txt")
colnames(datain)<-c("R","g")
```

The next block defines the function `Growth` using a simple Michalis-Menten function form

$$g = g_{max} \frac{R}{R + k}$$

`Growth` takes two arguments :

- `pars` is a vector of two parameter : `gM` (g_{max}) is the maximum growth rate, and `k` is the constant which determines how strongly the resource availability restricts growth (when $R = k$, $g = g_{max}/2$).
- `R` is the resource availability

The function returns a data frame with the *R* values, and corresponding growth rates.

```
Growth <-function (pars,R) {
  with(as.list(pars),{
    g <- gM*(R / (R + k ))
    return (data.frame(R=R,g=g))
  })
}
```

Now we define a vector of parameter `parms` with guess values and will use it to plot a curve depicting how the growth rate vary with the resource availability. Note that the growth rates are obtained using the function `Growth` previously defined, and depend on the set of parameter we are passing when calling this function.

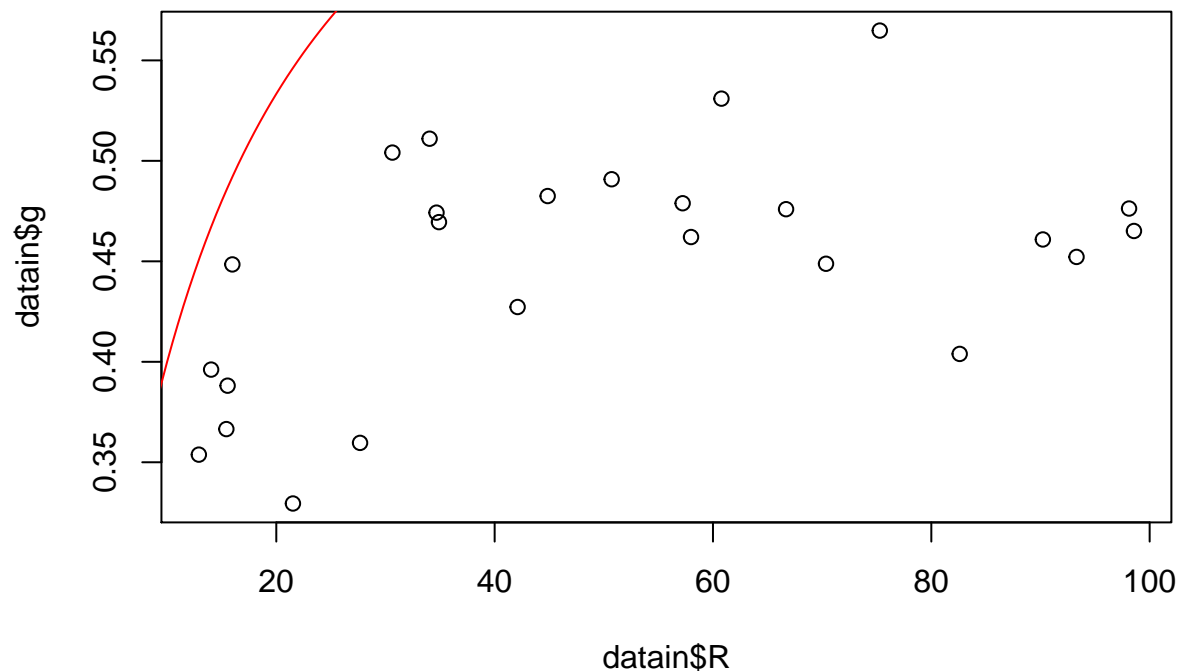
The function `Growth` returns a data frame with both input R and resulting g . This is why in the following we have to use the nomenclature `growthoutput$g` to extract the column g from the data frame `growthoutput`.

```
parms <- c(k = 10, gM=.8)

# Plot data points from the text file
plot( x=datain$R ,y=datain$g)

growthoutput=Growth(parms,seq(0,100,.5))

# Plot computed growth rates for a range R going from 0 to 100 by step of .5
lines(x=growthoutput$R,y=growthoutput$g, col="red")
```



Calibration

To adjust the parameters we need a transfer function that receives parameters and returns the residuals (ie, the difference between the measured and predicted g)

```
ModelCosta <- function(P) {
  out <- Growth(P, datain$R)
  return( datain$g-out$g ) # residuals
}
```

We can now use the function `ModFit`, to find the set of parameters that minimize the residuals given by `ModelCosta`. Here, we selected the “Pseudo” search algorithm and imposed bounds for the parameters $[0, 1000]$ and $[0, 1000]$ (type ‘`?ModFit`’ for more Details).

```
Fita <- modFit(f = ModelCosta,
              p = parms,
              method="Pseudo",
```

```
lower=c(0,0),
upper=c(10000,10000))
```

Fita is now an object of the class `modFit`, which contains a number of attributes, and which can be used as an argument to dedicated functions as illustrated below

- `summary` gives some stats on the calibration procedure
- `coef` returns the value of the best parameters

```
# What is the value of the fitted parameters, and the standard error on those parameters ?
summary(Fita)
```

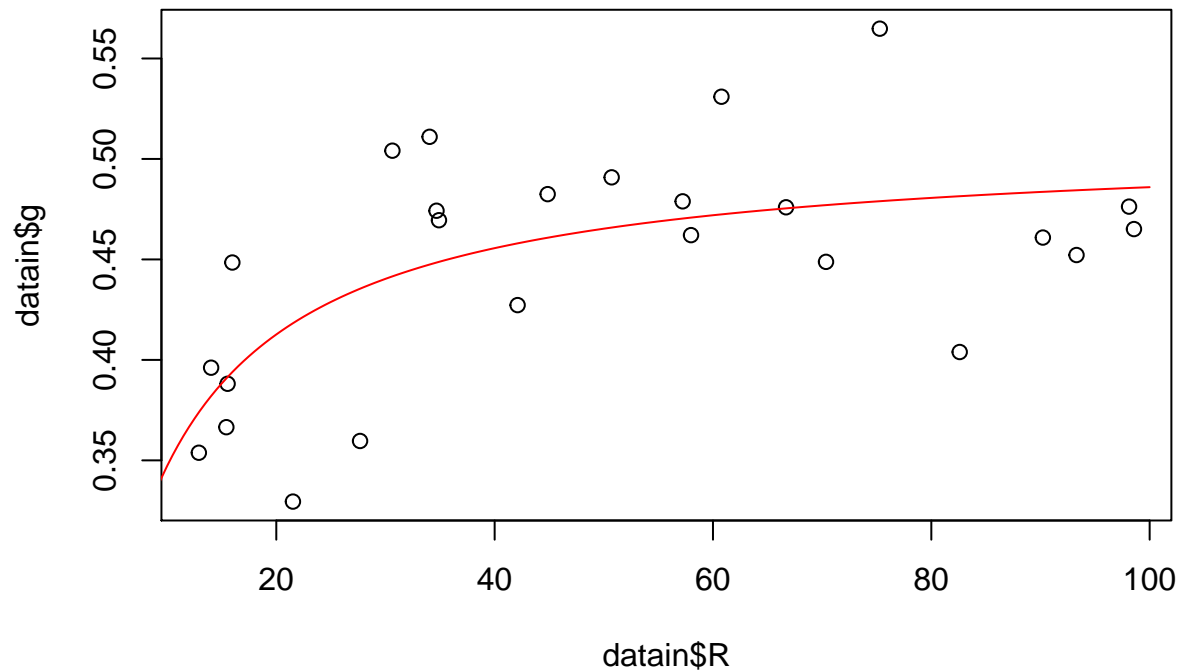
```
##
## Parameters:
##      Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## k      4.64666    1.47467   3.151  0.00447 **
## gM     0.50854    0.02011  25.291 < 2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.04602 on 23 degrees of freedom
##
## Parameter correlation:
##           k      gM
## k  1.0000  0.8561
## gM  0.8561  1.0000
```

```
coef(Fita)
```

```
##           k      gM
## 4.6466571 0.5085355
```

We can now check visually that the fitted parameters provides a better description of the data, by evaluating Growth on the same range of R but using the new parameters.

```
# Plot
plot(x=datain$R,y=datain$g)
lines(x=seq(0,100,.5),y=Growth(coef(Fita),seq(0,100,.5))$g, col="red")
```



Sensitivity

Which parameter has the more impact on the model output ?

The function `sensFun` evaluates sensitivity function around the prescribed parameter values (type `?sensFun` for definitions).

$$S_{i,j} = \frac{\partial y_i}{\partial \Theta_j}$$

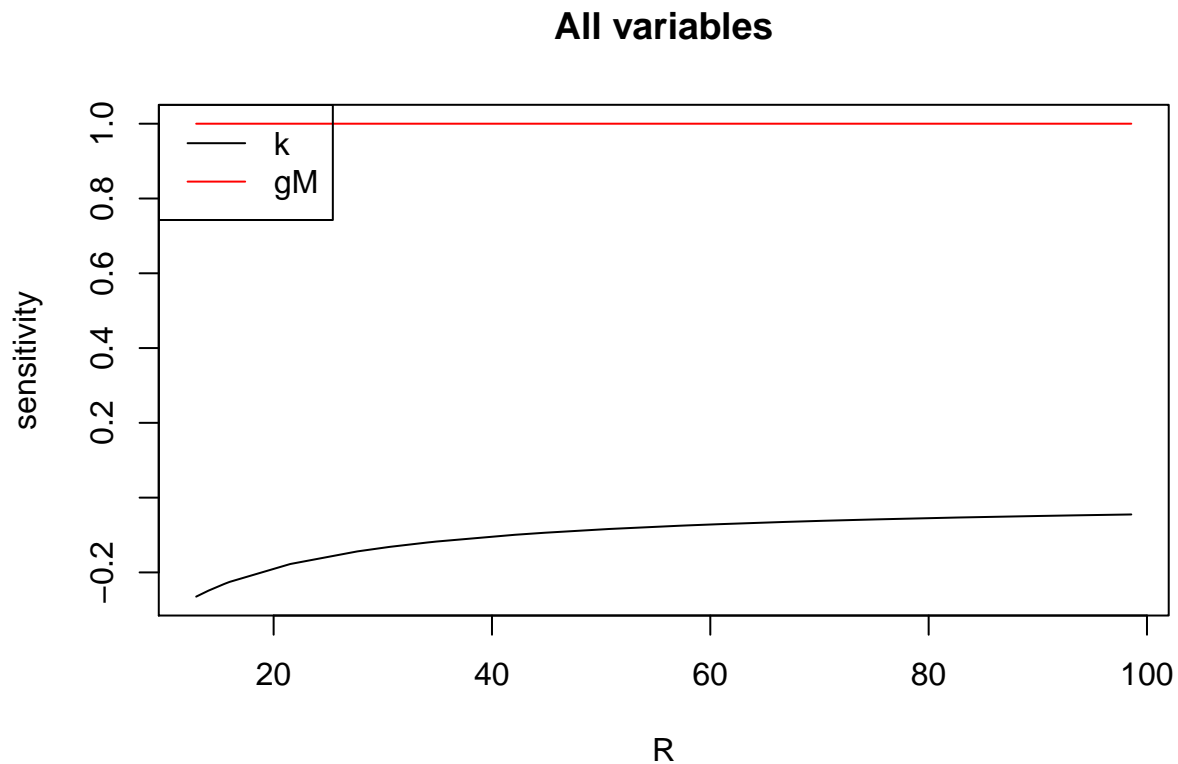
where, * y_i is the output variable (g in our case) * Θ_j is a parameter

```
ModelFun <- function(P) {
  # the values in datain$R are sorted only for graphical reasons
  out <- Growth(P, sort(datain$R))
  return(out)
}

sF <- sensFun(f = ModelFun, parms= coef(Fita))
summary(sF)
```

```
##   value scale   L1    L2 Mean  Min  Max  N
## k   4.65  4.65 0.12 0.027 -0.12 -0.26 -0.045 25
## gM  0.51  0.51 1.00 0.200  1.00  1.00  1.000 25
```

```
plot(sF)
```



A few question to reflect on :

- Why it the sensitivity to g_{max} always equal to 1 ?
- Why is the sensitivity to k always negative ?
- Why is the sensitivity to k decreasing at large R values ?

Distribution of parameters

Instead of identifying a single set of “best” parameters, other approaches provides a probability distribution for parameter value. It is better in the sense that is is statistically exploitable to derive error on model estimates. One such method is to use Monte Carlo Markov Chain. Here the transfer function returns an object `ModCost`.

```
ModelCostb <- function(P) {  
  out <- Growth(P, datain$R)  
  return(  
    modCost(obs=datain,mod=out,x="R")  
  )  
}
```

```
Fitb <- modFit(f = ModelCostb,  
  p = parms,  
  method="Pseudo",  
  lower=c(0,0),  
  upper=c(10000,10000))
```

```
sss<-summary(Fitb)
```

```
MCa <- modMCMC(f = ModelCostb,
```

```

p = coef(Fitb),lower=c(0,0),
upper=c(100,100),
var0 = Fitb$var_ms,
jump=sss$cov.scaled * 2.4^2/5,
updatecov = 50,
wvar0 = 0.1,niter=5000)#,

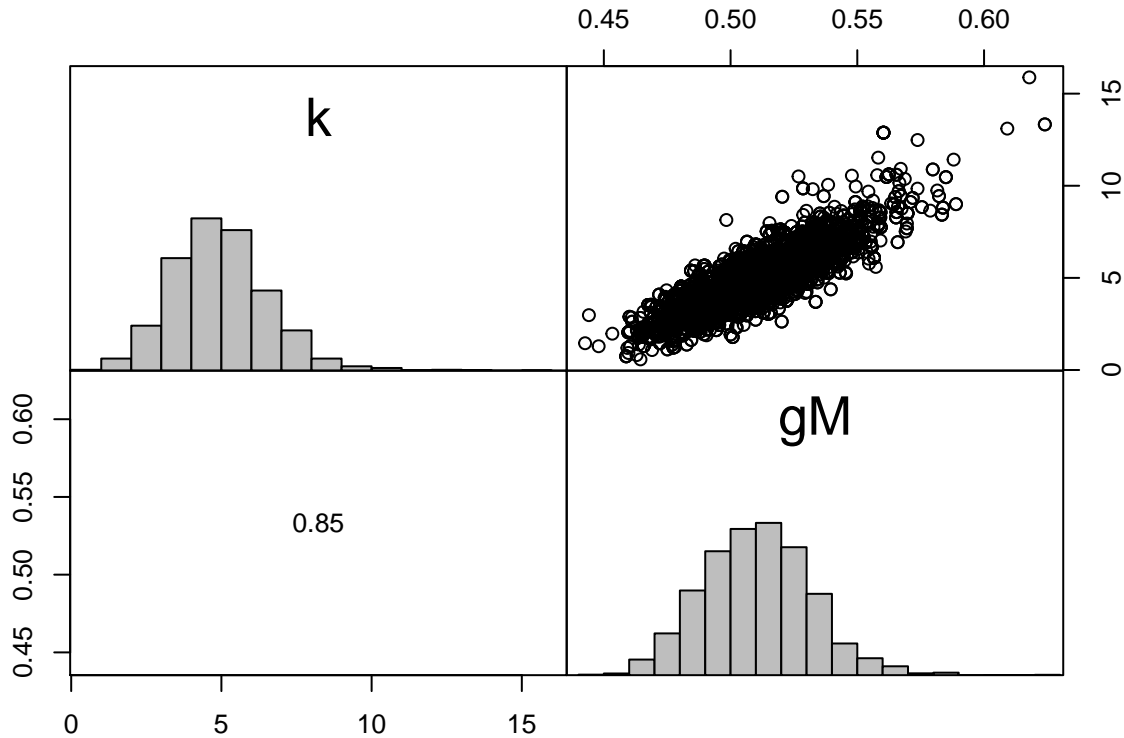
```

```
## number of accepted runs: 1780 out of 5000 (35.6%)
```

```

# This plots provides the selected parameter distributions
pairs(MCa)

```

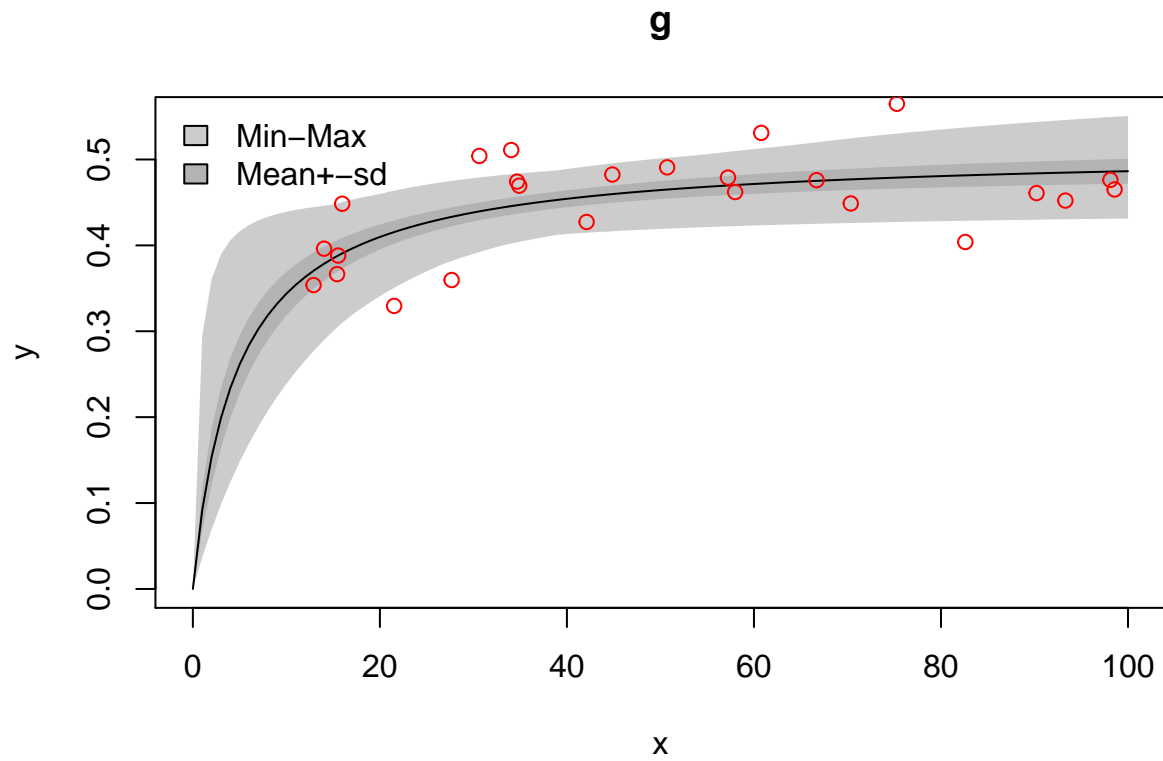


Given a distribution of parameters, such as provided from the previous procedure, the function `sensRange` allows to assess the distribution of model outputs. In this case we can consider it illustrates the uncertainties deriving from the uncertainty on the calibrated parameters.

```

sR <- sensRange(func=Growth, parms = coef(Fitb),
               parInput = MCa$par,
               R=seq(0,100,1),
               num = length(MCa$par))
plot(summary(sR))
points(datain,col='red')

```



References

Soetaert, Karline, and Thomas Petzoldt. 2010. "Inverse modelling, sensitivity and monte carlo analysis in R using package FME." *Journal of Statistical Software* 33 (3): 1–28.