

# proposed figs 1-3 for imperfect data

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Reading over the introduction, it seems to me that in order to illustrate the aggregation progress and the two sources of reporting error (aggregation-based mismatch and imperfect reporting), 3 figures are required instead of just 2.

I'd suggest these three figs:

1. Wide view showing time series of  $I$  and time series of imperfect case reports, showing the 10 years approaching epidemic threshold.
2. The aggregation process figure, showing time series of  $I$  and 7-day and 30-day case reports (under perfect reporting conditions), with the individual cases graphed below as segments.
3. Example of the difference between perfect and imperfect reporting ( $\rho < 0.125$ , dispersion = .1) without aggregation-based mismatch

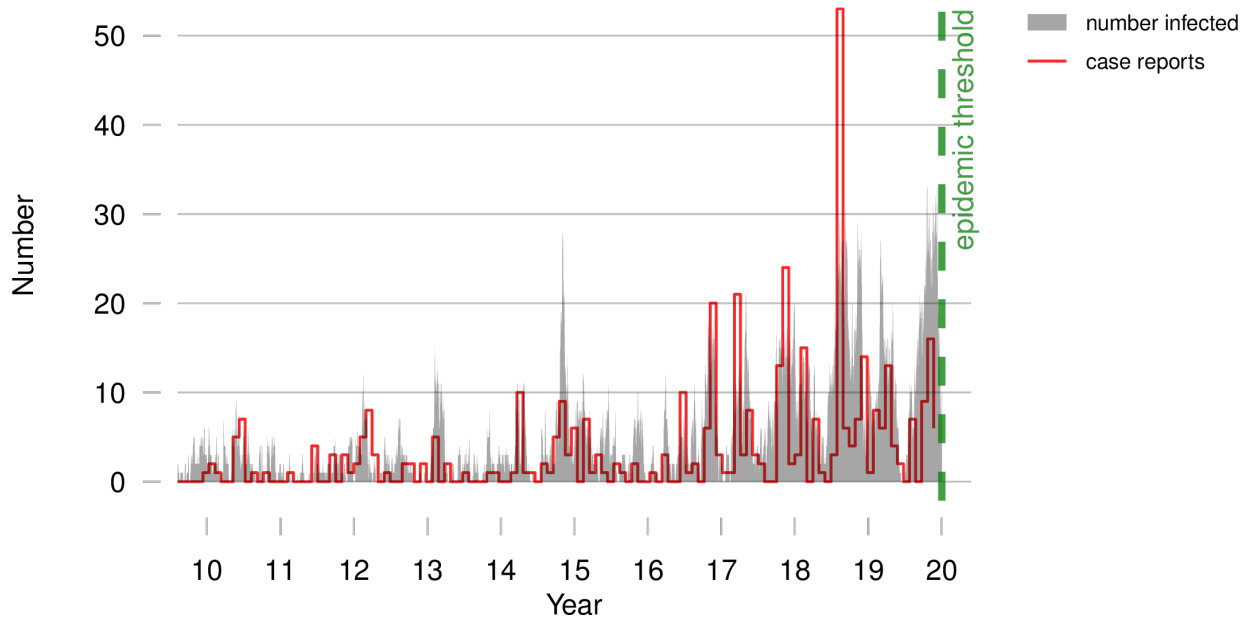


Figure 1: Figure 1. Simulated epidemic approaching epidemic threshold (grey) and simulated monthly case reporting (red). Average infectious period = 7 days. Aggregation period = 30 days. Error arises from a) mismatch between infectious period and aggregation period, and b) and reporting error (such as unreported cases and false positives). In this simulation, reporting probability = 0.125 and the dispersion parameter of the negative binomial = 1.

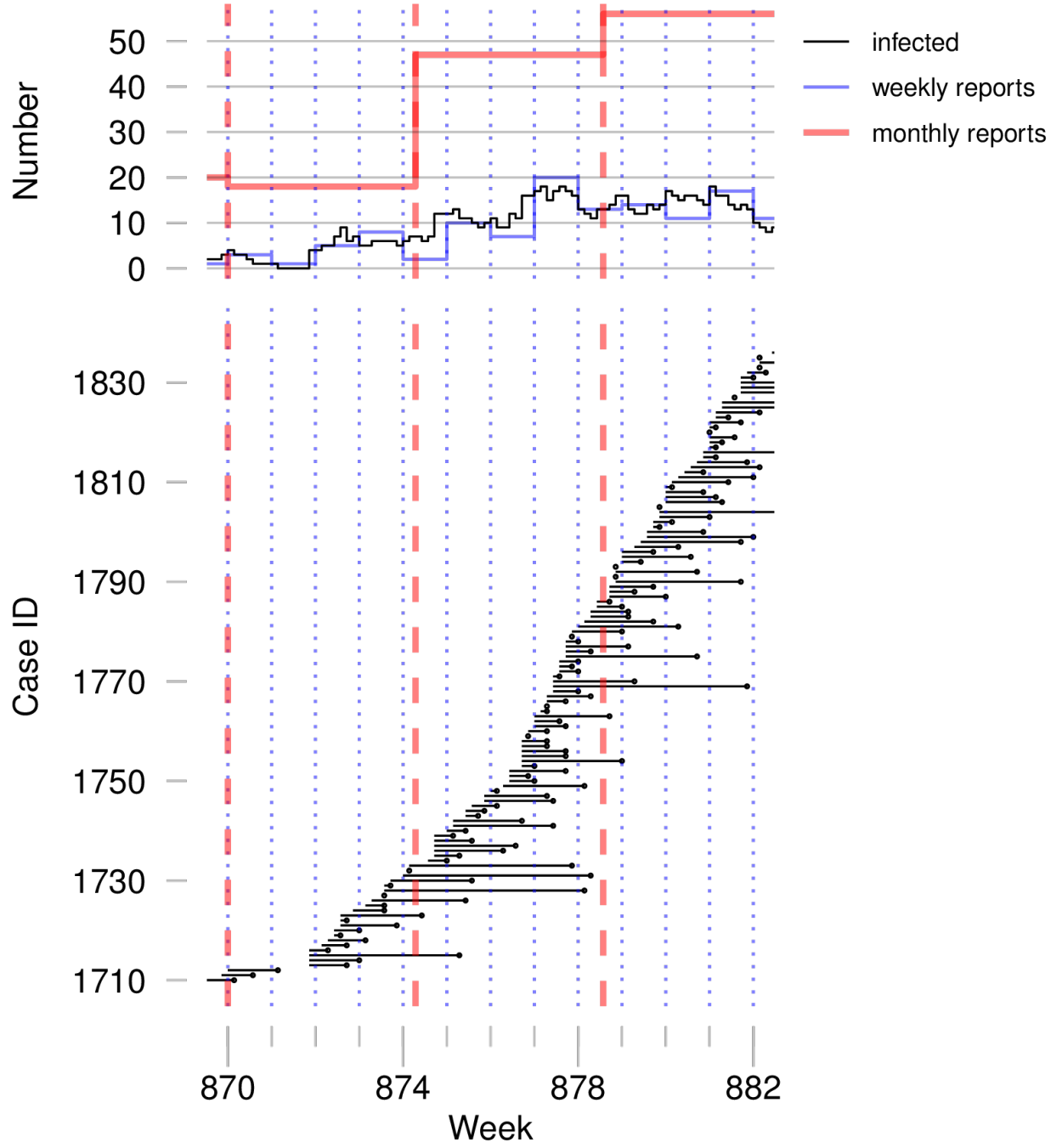


Figure 2: Figure 2. Example of aggregation process and aggregation-based mismatch. Illustration of the aggregation of case reports for a disease with average infectious period of 7 days. In the lower panel, each black line segment represents the infectious period of a simulated individual, from onset of infection to recovery. Each black dot represents a case report, which in this simulation corresponds to recovery of the individual ( $I \rightarrow R$  transitions). Dotted blue verticals delineate one-week reporting windows; dashed red verticals delineate 30-day reporting windows. Counting the number of segments present at any given time gives the true number of infected, plotted as a black trace in the upper plot. Counting the number of dots in a given window gives the number of case reports for that window, plotted as blue (7-day) and red (30-day) traces in the upper plot.

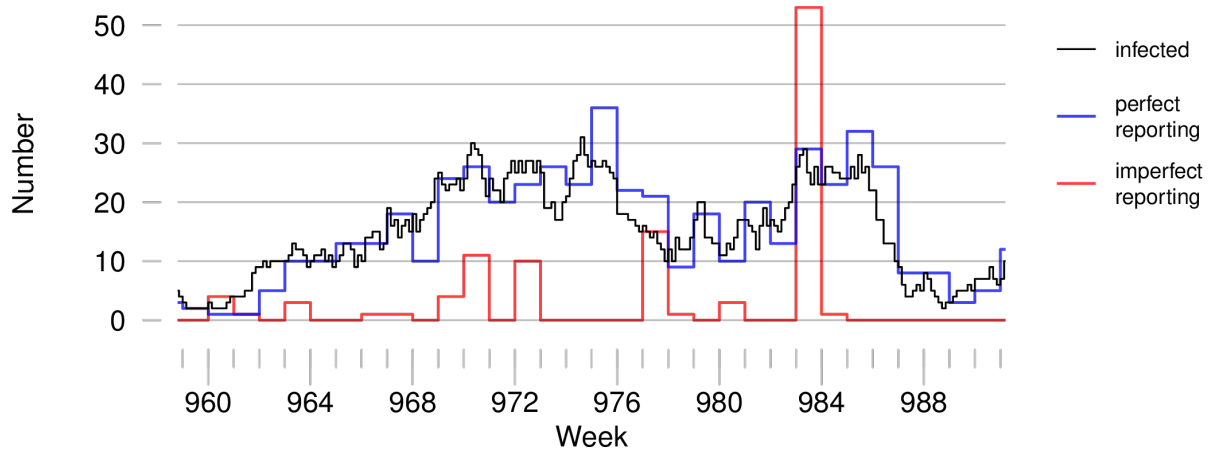


Figure 3: Figure 3. Example of reporting error. Simulation of an  $SIR$  model with average infectious period of 7 days, showing abundance of the infected class  $I$  (black trace), case reports aggregated weekly under “perfect reporting” conditions (blue trace), and imperfect conditions (red trace). Under “perfect” conditions, the reporting probability = 1. Under imperfect conditions, reporting probability = 0.125 and the dispersion parameter of the negative binomial is 0.1.