

An Introduction to Statistical and Variational Methods for Assimilation and Real Time Modeling

Miguel Alfonso Mendez

mendez@vki.ac.be

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1. A bit of context: real time modeling today... and digital twins !

What is a Digital Twin ? Industry 4.0

Slide 3

A **digital twin** is a *dynamic* digital representation of a physical object or system, using sensors and real-time data to predict *in real time* its real-world counterpart's behavior, maintenance needs, and performance, enabling optimization, decision-making and troubleshooting.

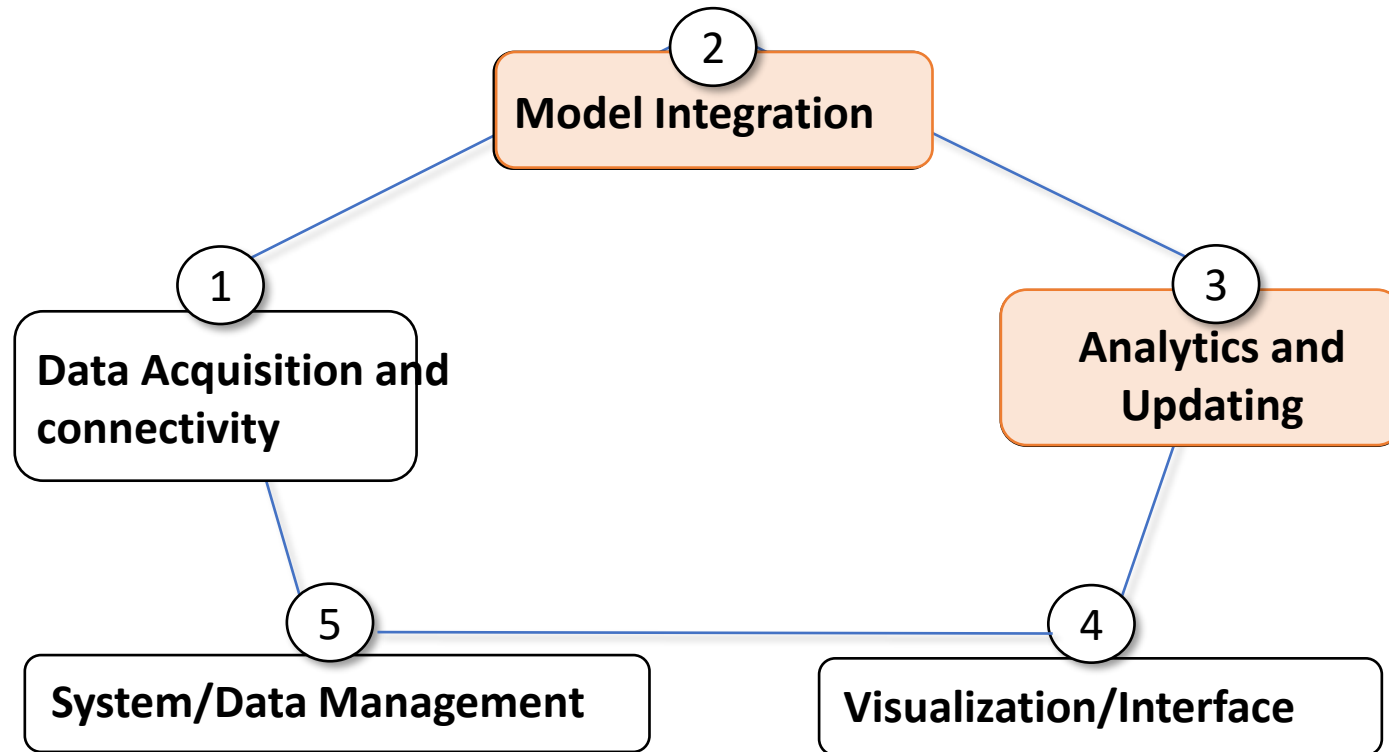
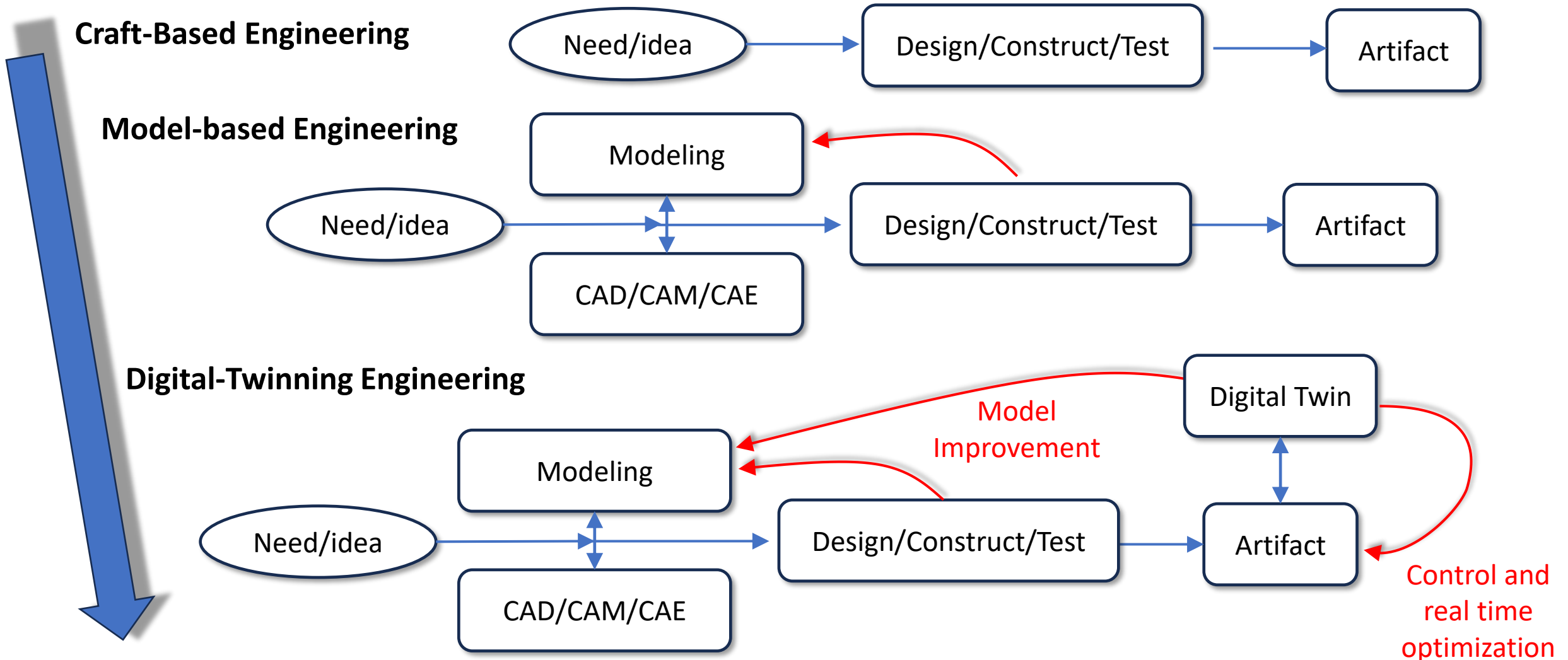


Image generated with ChatGPT4

Perspectives: a change of paradigm?

Slide 4



The key enablers

1. Sensor technology: cost and availability

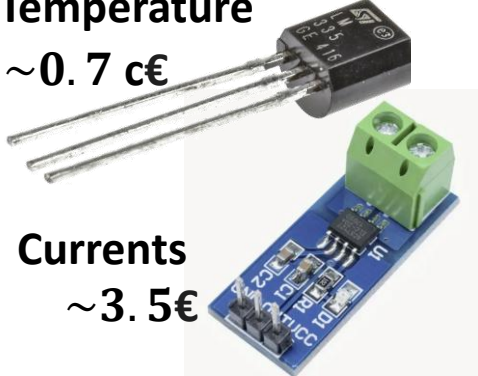
Light



~0.01 €

Temperature

~0.7 c€

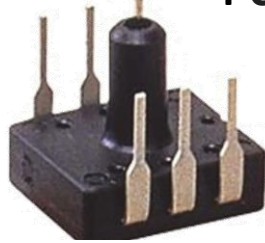


Currents

~3.5€

Pressure

~4 €



Acceleration

~6 €



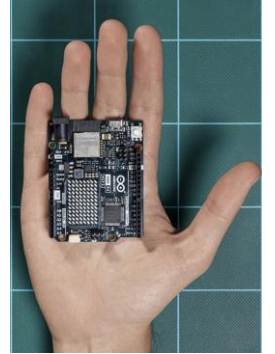
Camera (3MP)+ objective



~25 € + 20 €

Micro controller (wifi)

~30 €



2. Connectivity and Internet of Things



3. Machine Learning Engineering

Machine Learning + Domain knowledge + Data Assimilation and Inverse Modeling + Control Engineering

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2. [A general setting](#)

A general setting for modeling

Consider a dynamical system which depends on some parameters.
These can be link to the system's state by a closure law:

State vector and its time derivative

$$\mathbf{s}(t), \dot{\mathbf{s}}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_s}$$

'engineering' model parameters

$$\mathbf{p}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_p}$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{s}}(t) &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{s}(t), \mathbf{p}) \\ \mathbf{p}(t) &= \tilde{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{s}(t); \mathbf{w}_p) \\ \mathbf{s}(0) &= \mathbf{s}_0 . \end{cases}$$

'surrogate' model parameters

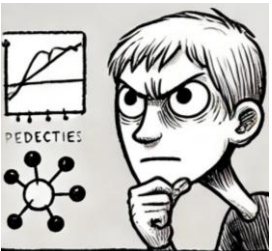
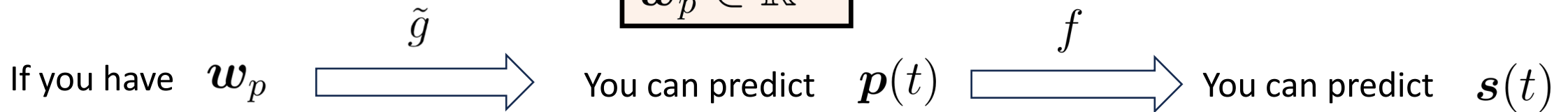
$$\mathbf{w}_p \in \mathbb{R}^{n_w}$$

(preferably from physics)

$$\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R}^{n_s \times n_p} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_s}$$

closure law
(machine learning)

$$\tilde{\mathbf{g}} : \mathbb{R}^{n_s \times n_w} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_p}$$



Modelists

We look for the model parameters that minimize the discrepancy with the available data.

$$\mathcal{J}_p(\mathbf{w}_p)$$

A general setting for control

Consider a dynamical system which depends on some parameters.
These can be link to the system's state by a closure law:

State vector and its time derivative

$$\mathbf{s}(t), \dot{\mathbf{s}}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_s}$$

Control Action

$$\mathbf{a}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_a}$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{s}}(t) &= f(\mathbf{s}(t), \mathbf{a}) \\ \mathbf{a}(t) &= \pi(\mathbf{s}(t); \mathbf{w}_a) \\ \mathbf{s}(0) &= \mathbf{s}_0 . \end{cases}$$

Policy Parameters

$$\mathbf{w}_a \in \mathbb{R}^{n_\pi}$$

(preferably from physics)

$$f : \mathbb{R}^{n_s \times n_p} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_s}$$

Action policy

$$\pi : \mathbb{R}^{n_s \times n_\pi} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_a}$$



$$\mathcal{J}_a(\mathbf{w}_a)$$

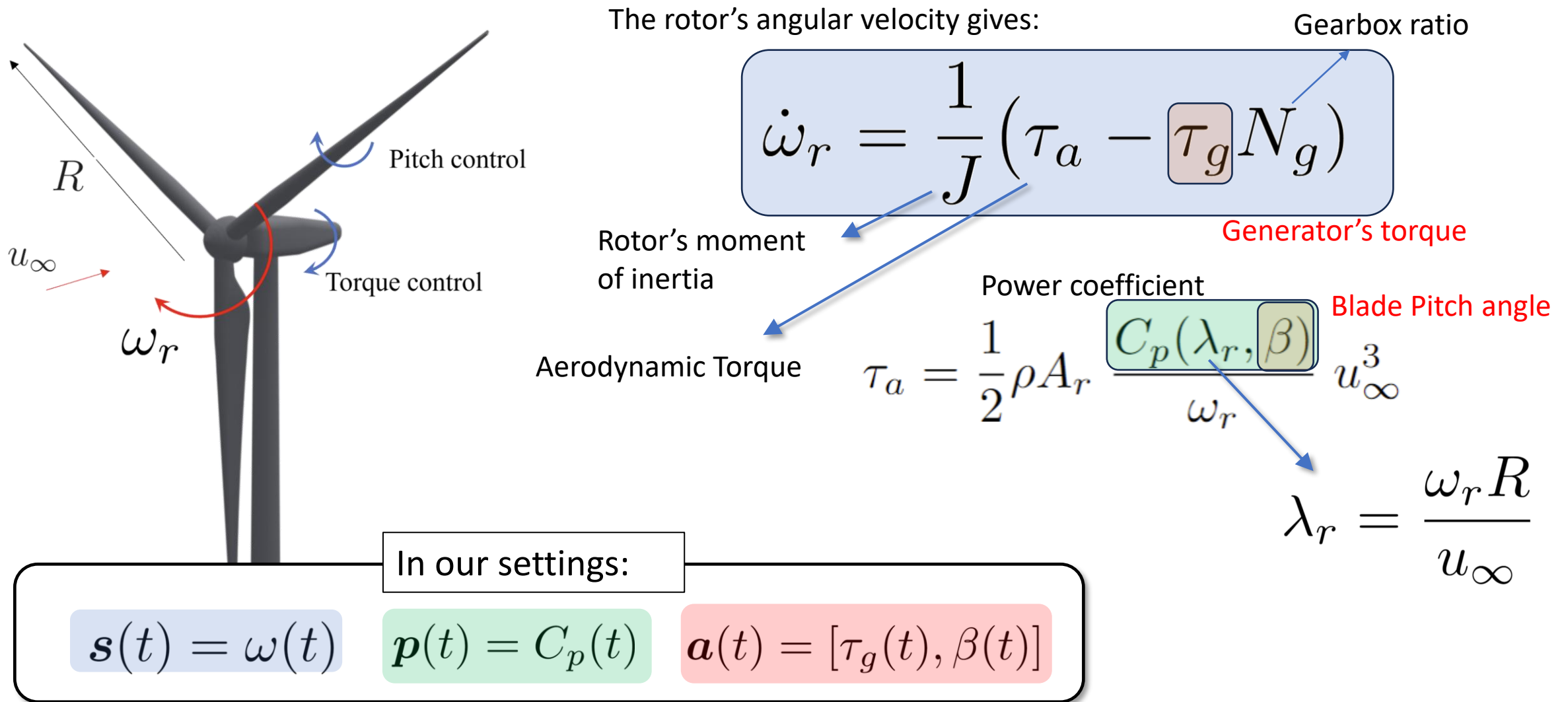
We look for the policy parameters that drive the systems to the desired trajectory

Controlists



An example: Wind turbine modeling/control

Slide 9



Control goal: maximize energy production without overloading the blades

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3. Possible challenges and tools

Challenges and tools in this short course

1. Training a machine learning model embedded in a dynamical system requires an efficient strategy to compute the gradients giving the learning



The Adjoint Method

This lecture

2. Sometimes both our measurement and models are incomplete, and the system might be too sensitive to incomplete and noisy measurements

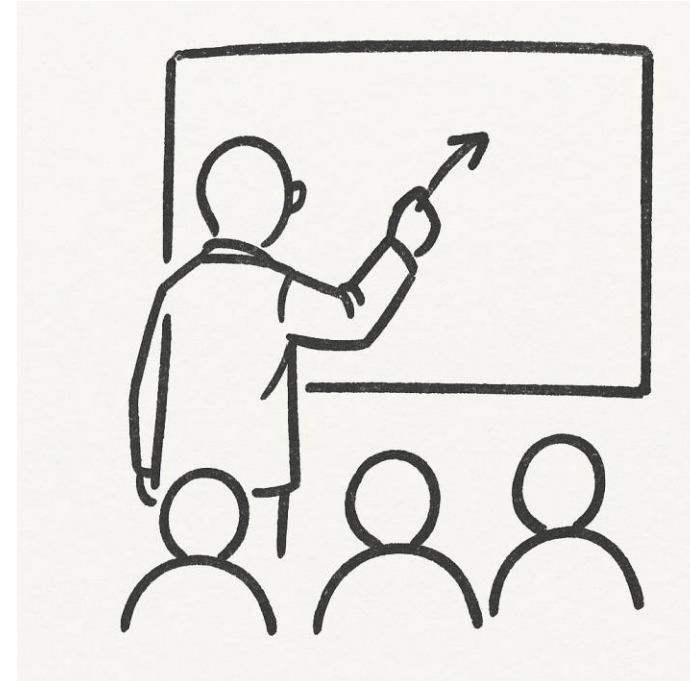


The Kalman Filter

Next Lecture

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- 4. Blackboard time !**

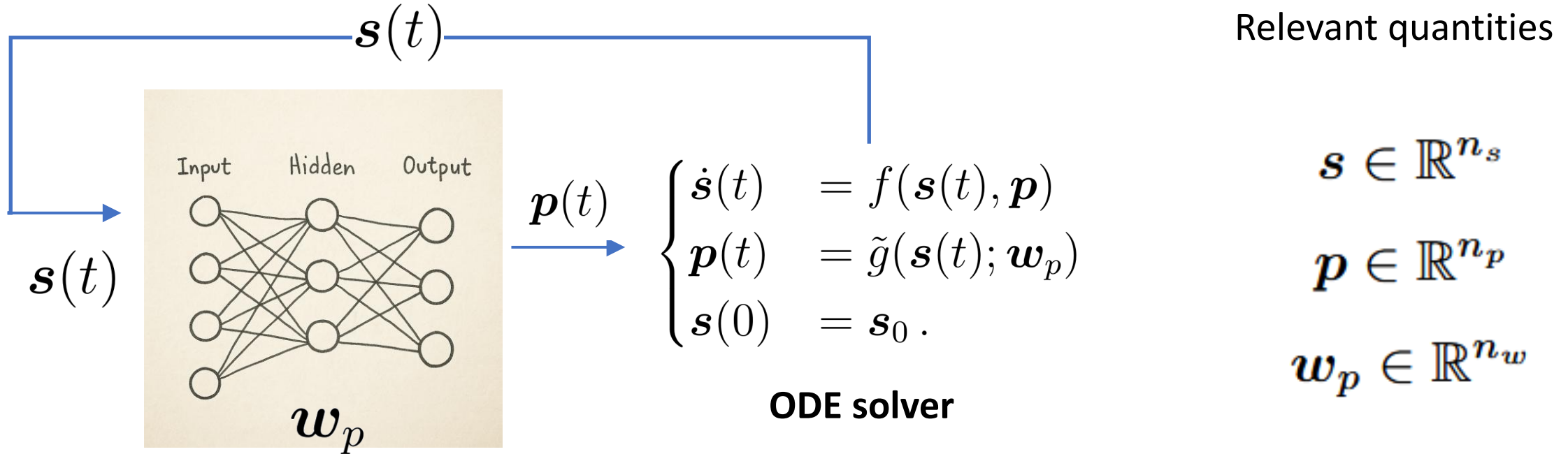


Blackboard time

- Make sure you follow the derivation for

- 1. Baseline: gradients in the training of a stand-alone ML problem*
- 2. Gradients in a dynamical system integration*
- 3. The forward problem*
- 4. The backward problem*

The problem set



We want to minimize the following cost function (this is the simplest possible!)

$$\mathcal{J}(w_p) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \|\dot{s}(t) - s(p(w_p))\|^2 dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \mathcal{L}(s(p(w_p))) dt$$

The forward approach

Given
$$\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{w}_p) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \|\check{\mathbf{s}}(t) - \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{w}_p))\|^2 dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{w}_p))) dt$$

The gradient is
$$\frac{d\mathcal{J}}{d\mathbf{w}_p} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d\mathbf{w}_p} dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{s}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{s}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right) \frac{d\mathbf{p}}{d\mathbf{w}_p} dt$$

Were the sensitivities are solution of the forward problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{s}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{s}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{s}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{s}}{\partial \mathbf{p}}(0) = \mathbf{0} \end{array} \right.$$

Note:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{s}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_s \times n_p}$$



The more parameters, the larger the forward problem

The backward (the adjoint!) approach

Step 1: Forward integration (state equation)

Integrate the state equation forward in time:

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = f(s, p), \quad s(0) = s_0,$$

to obtain $s(t)$ for $t \in [0, T]$

Step 2: Backward integration (adjoint equation)

Solve the adjoint equation backward in time:

$$\frac{d\lambda}{dt} = - \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right)^\top \lambda - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial s}, \quad \lambda(T) = \mathbf{0},$$

to obtain the adjoint variable $\lambda(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_s}$

Step 3: Gradient evaluation

Evaluate the gradient of the cost function with respect to w_p as

$$\frac{d\mathcal{J}}{dw_p} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \lambda^\top \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} \frac{dp}{dw_p} dt.$$



The size of the backward problem does not depend on the number of parameters

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A toy exercise

We consider the classical Lotka–Volterra predator–prey model:

$$\frac{ds_1}{dt} = as_1 - bs_1s_2$$

$$\frac{ds_2}{dt} = -cs_2 + ds_1s_2$$

The system state is defined as $\mathbf{s}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} s_1(t) \\ s_2(t) \end{bmatrix}$

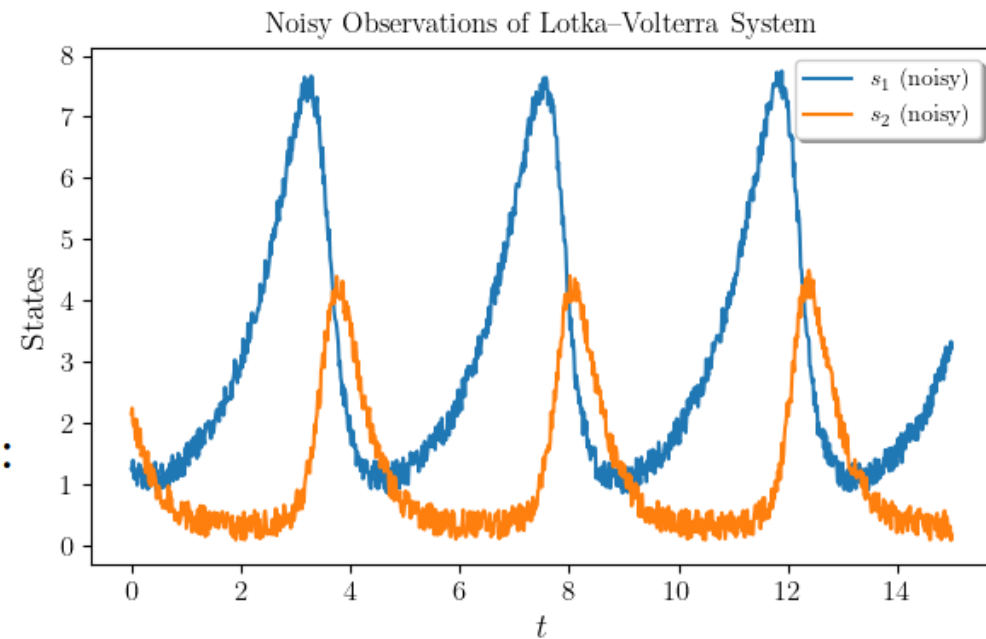
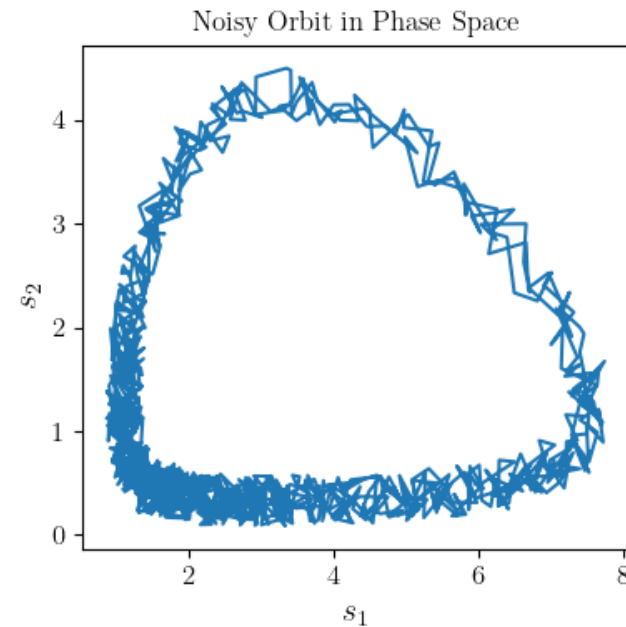
The set of parameters is $\mathbf{p}^* = [a, b, c, d] = [1, 1, 3, 1]$

We observe over the interval $t \in [0, 15]$

The system starts at $\mathbf{s}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$


Observations are simulated by adding random perturbations:

$$\check{\mathbf{s}}(t_i) = \mathbf{s}(t_i) + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_i, \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_i \sim \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{0}, \delta \mathbf{I})$$



Study carefully the four .ipynb files

 1_Lotka_Volterra_Data_Generation.ipynb

 2_Adam_Optimization_Demo.ipynb

 3_Forward_Sensitivity_LotkaVolterra.ipynb

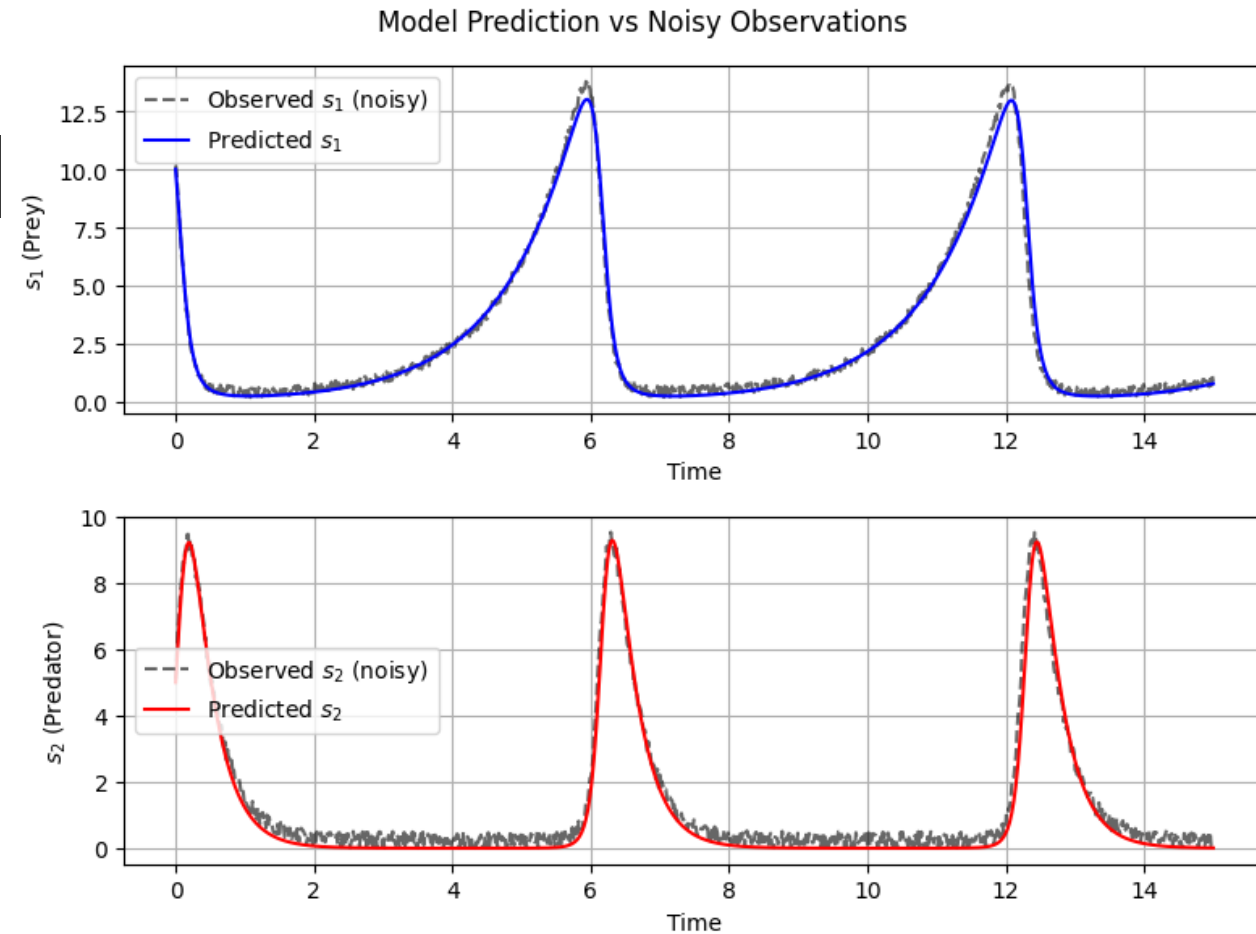
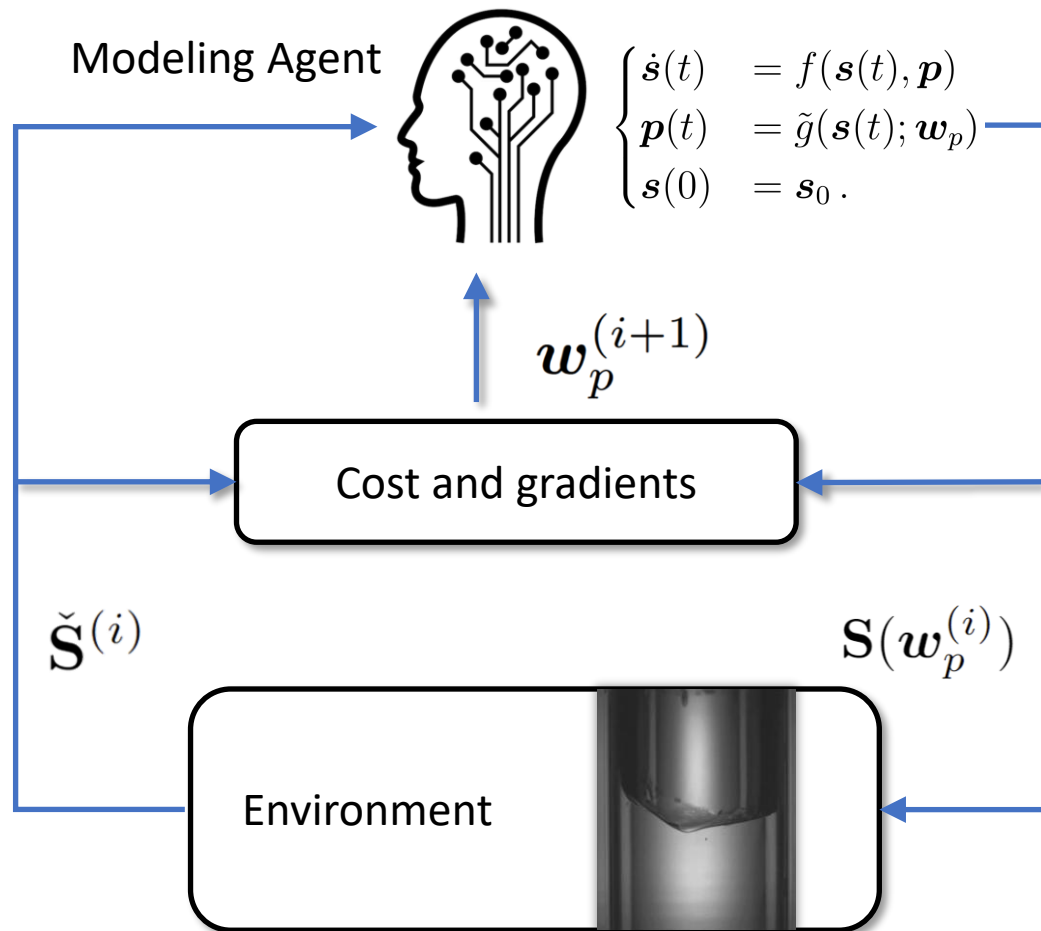


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- 6. Some research on the topic**

Ingredients for the “twinning”



void loop () {

1. Collect Observations $\tilde{S}^{(i)}$

2. Predict $S(w_p^{(i)})$

3. Get Performance and Gradients $\mathcal{J}_p(w_p)$ $d\mathcal{J}/dw_p$

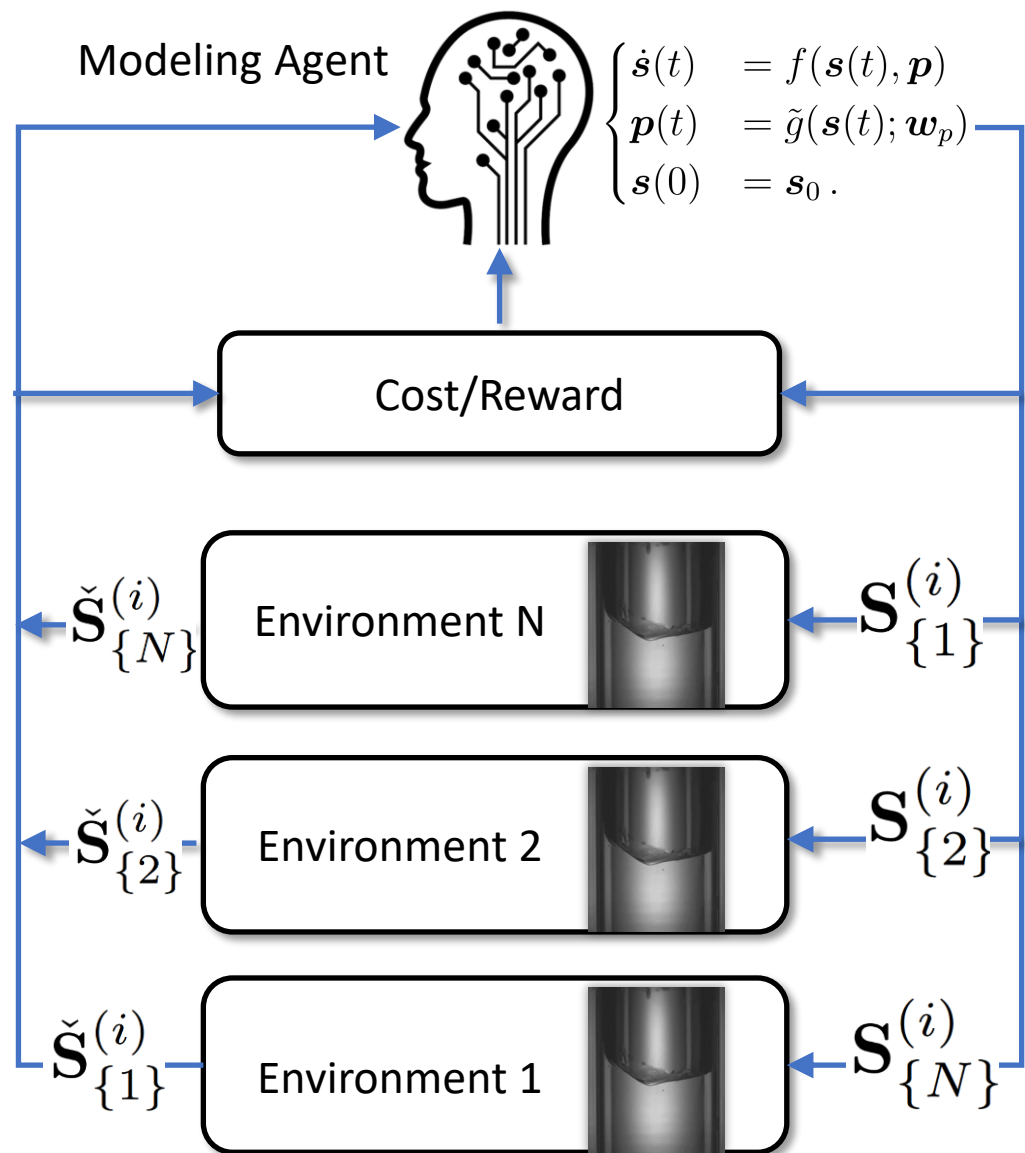
Ensemble averaged,
Adjoint-based

4. Update parameters

$$w_p^{(i+1)} \leftarrow \text{Update}(w^{(i)}, d\mathcal{J}^{(i)} / dw_p)$$

}

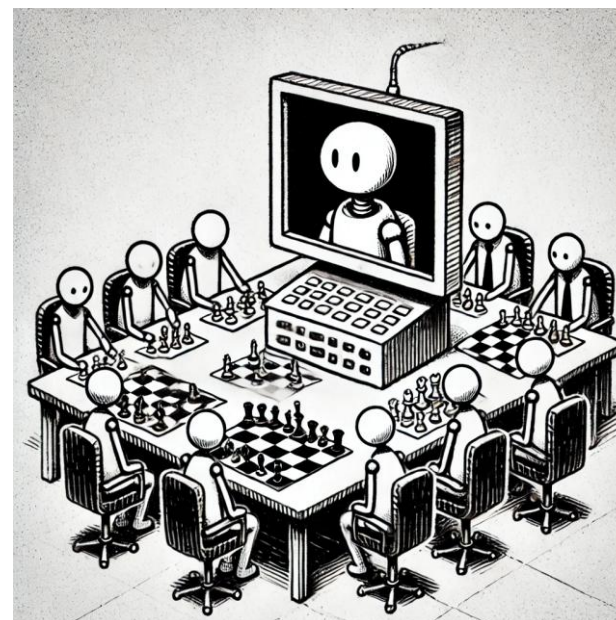
Collaborative Twinning



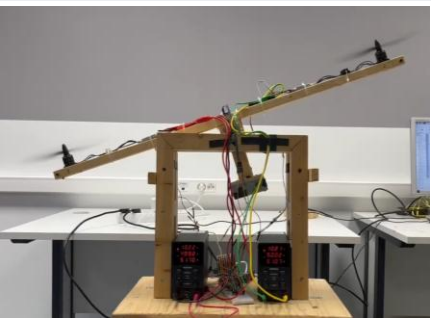
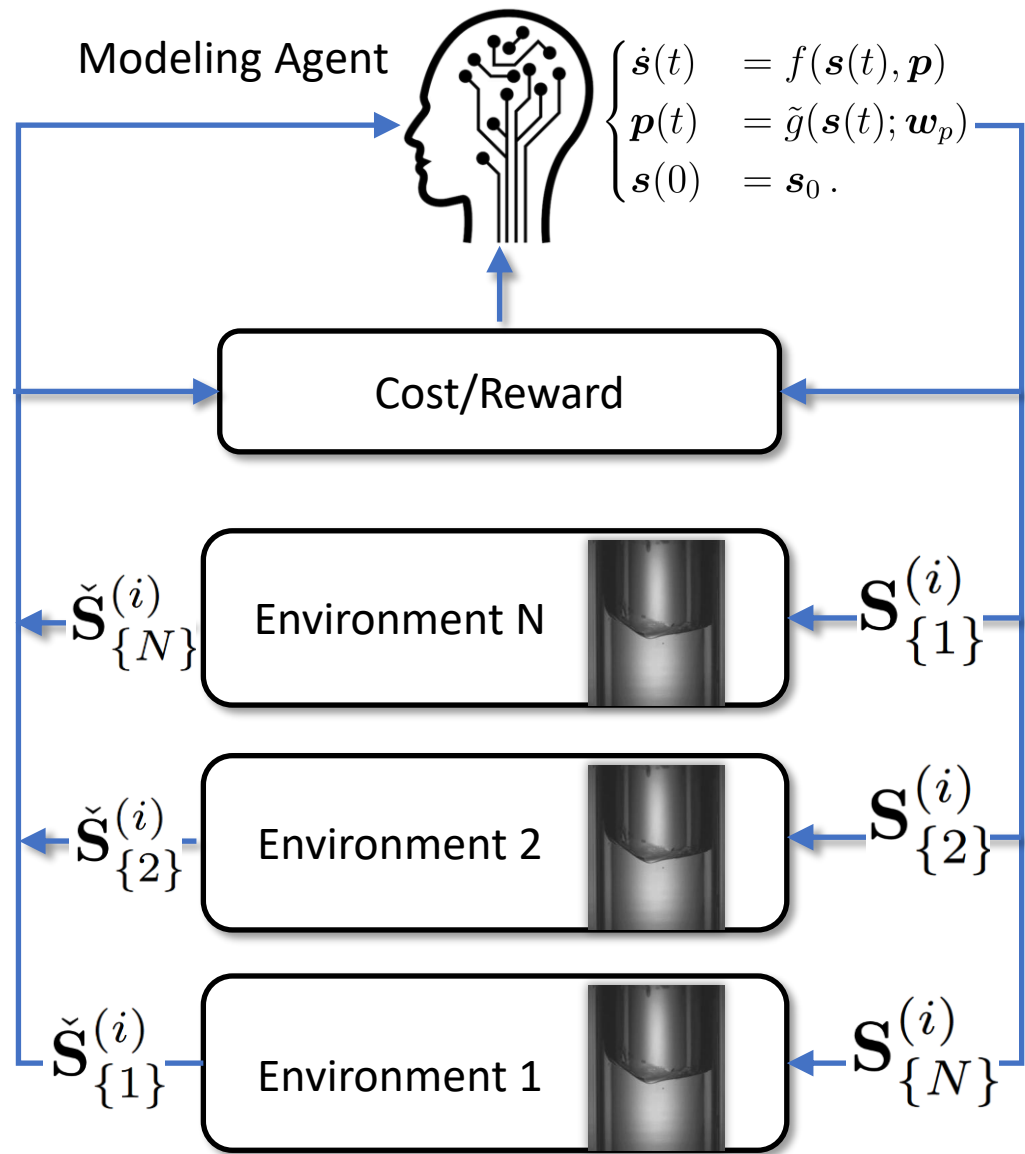
The total cost is the average of the cost in each environment:

$$\mathcal{J}(w_p) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{T_o} \mathcal{J}_{p, \{n\}}$$

$$\frac{d\mathcal{J}}{dw_p} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{T_o} \left. \frac{d\mathcal{J}}{dw_p} \right|_{\{n\}}$$

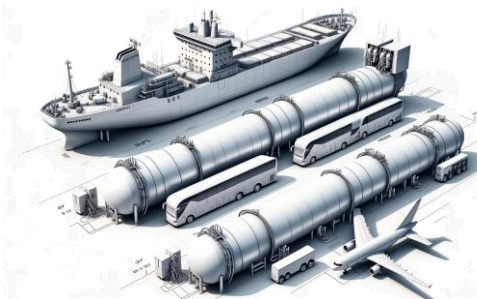


Collaborative Twinning

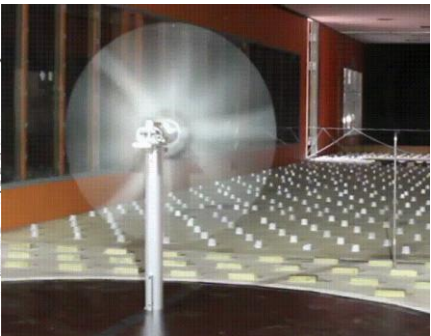


Drones

Cryogenic Storage Units



Wind Turbine Control



Re-Twist:
Reinforcement
Twinning Systems

Summary and Outlook

You have learned that how to propagate gradients through dynamical systems. You should now be able to implement both forward and backward techniques

- ✓ 1. The forward approach offers a robust tool for computing sensitivities
- ✓ 2. The backward approach avoids sensitivities and gives the gradient in two integrations.
- ✓ 3. Combined with quasi newton methods, they provide extremely fast convergence
- ✓ 4. Both methods could be combined with more complex solvers (e.g. FEM or FVM)

On the other hand, you should consider that...

- ✗ 1. The forward problem is unfeasible when the number of parameters is too large
- ✗ 2. The backward time integration is very fragile.
- ✗ 3. Computing Jacobians for large scale numerical problems is difficult !
- ✗ 4. Inverse modeling is ill posed: strong sensitivity to the initial guess and many local minima.
(try different initial guesses!)



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Thank You !

