

Optimization of Stochastic Epidemiological Models for Disease Control and Prediction

Dr. Khalil Al Handawi

Joint work with: Prof. Michael Kokkolaras

Journées de l'optimisation 2022

July 24, 2023

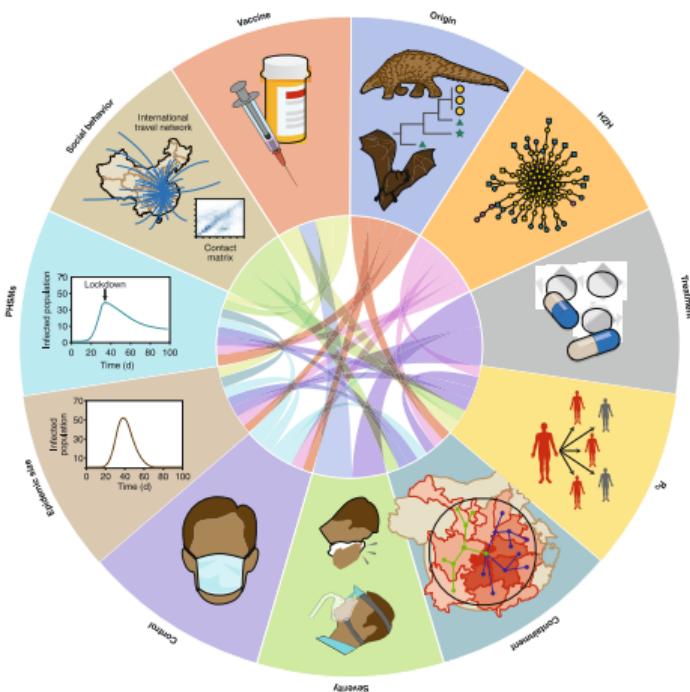


Research disciplines in epidemiology

Forecasting novel epidemics is a multidisciplinary field involving multiple *targets*

In the early stages of epidemics, we have access to:

Simulation models can be developed based on this information and used in public health and social measures (PHSMs) policy-making.





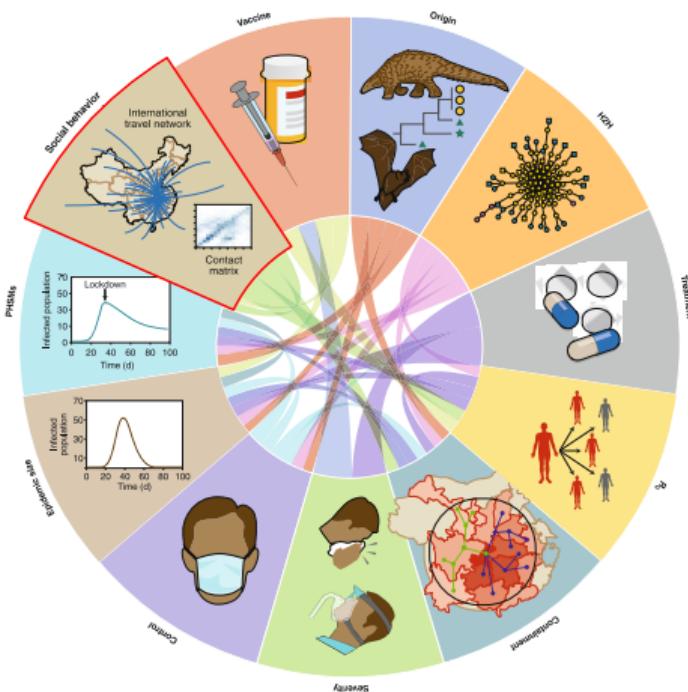
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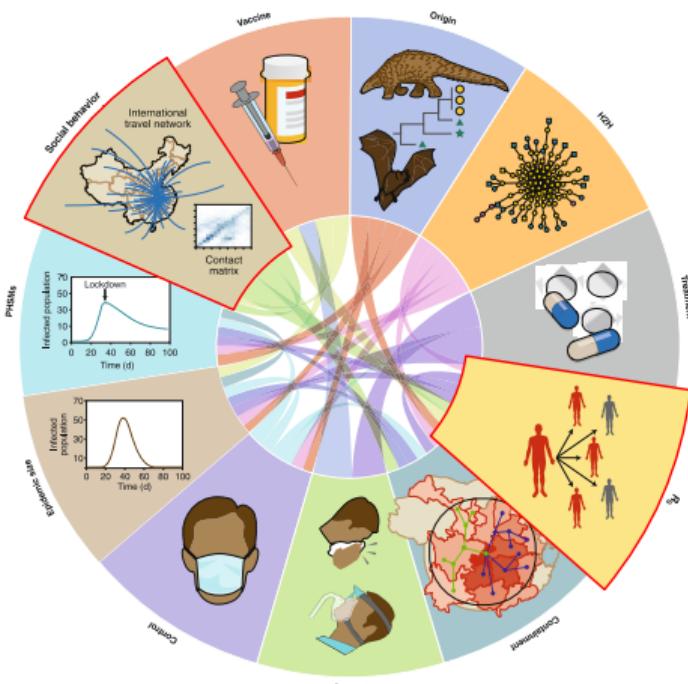
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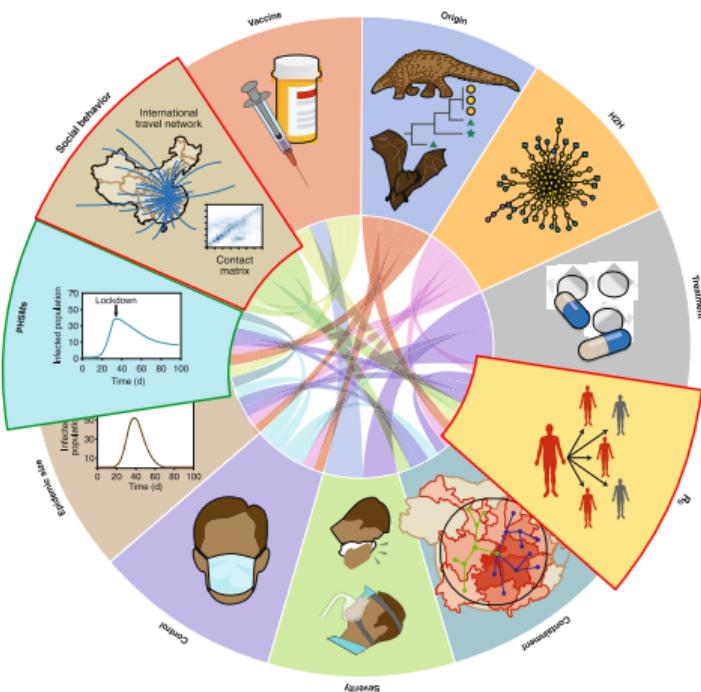
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Simulation and modeling of pandemics in early stages

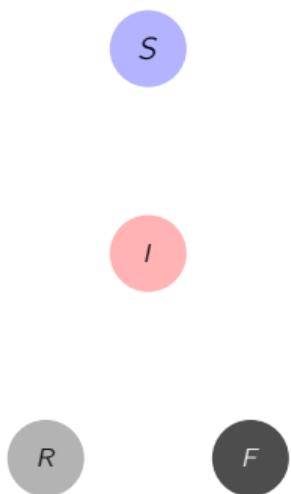
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Background: epidemiological models

What are compartmental epidemiological models?

S susceptible I infected R recovered F fatality



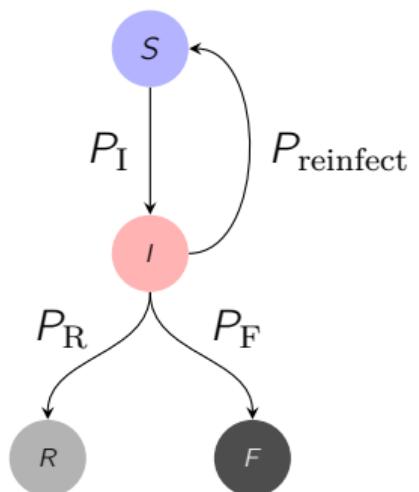


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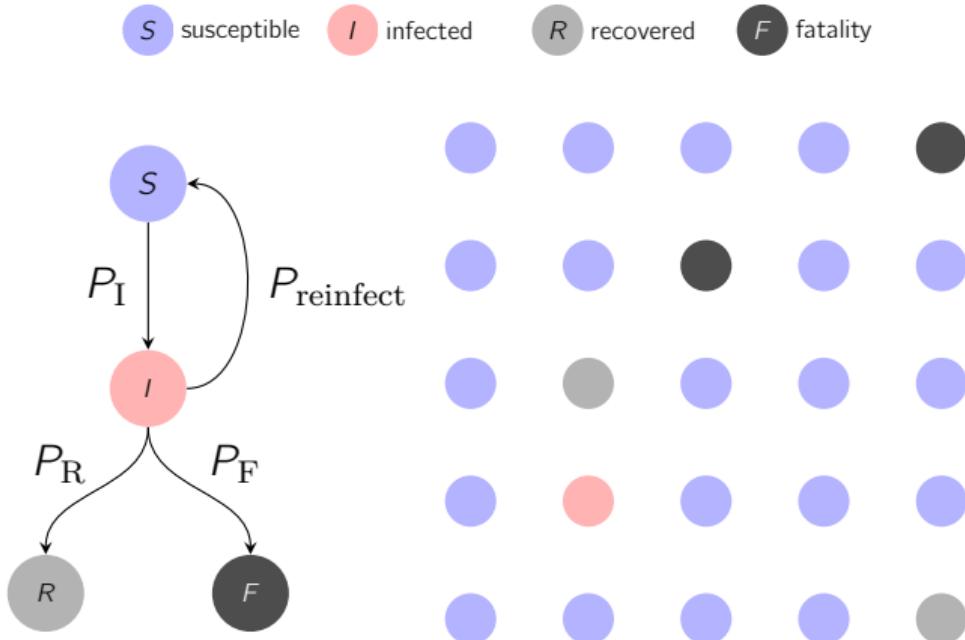




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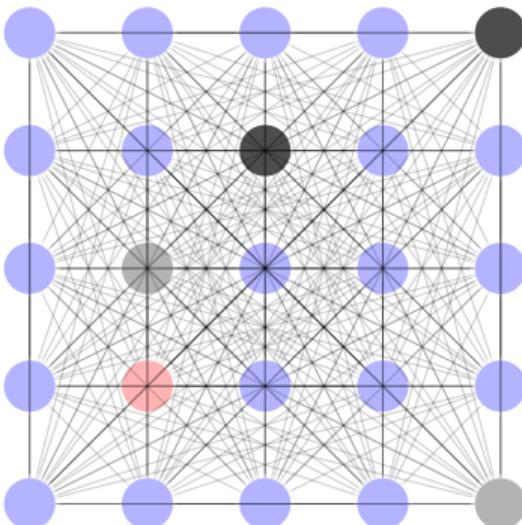
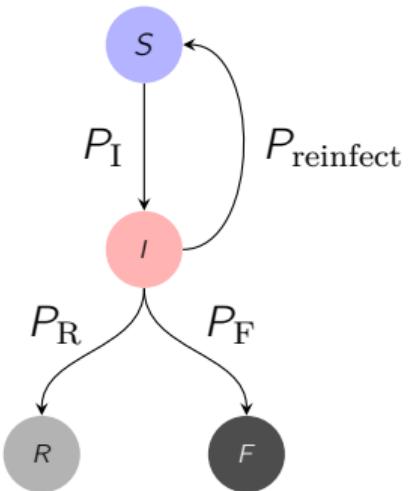


Background: epidemiological models

What are compartmental epidemiological models?

- Described by a *stochastic* process
- Assumes *homogenous* interaction

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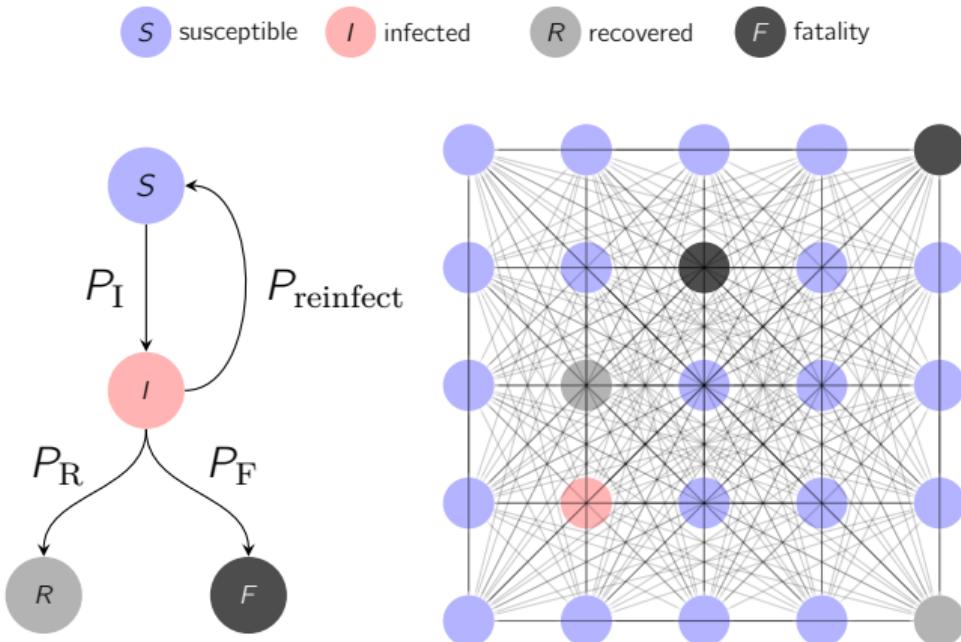




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- Assumes *homogenous* interaction
- Deterministic response for large N



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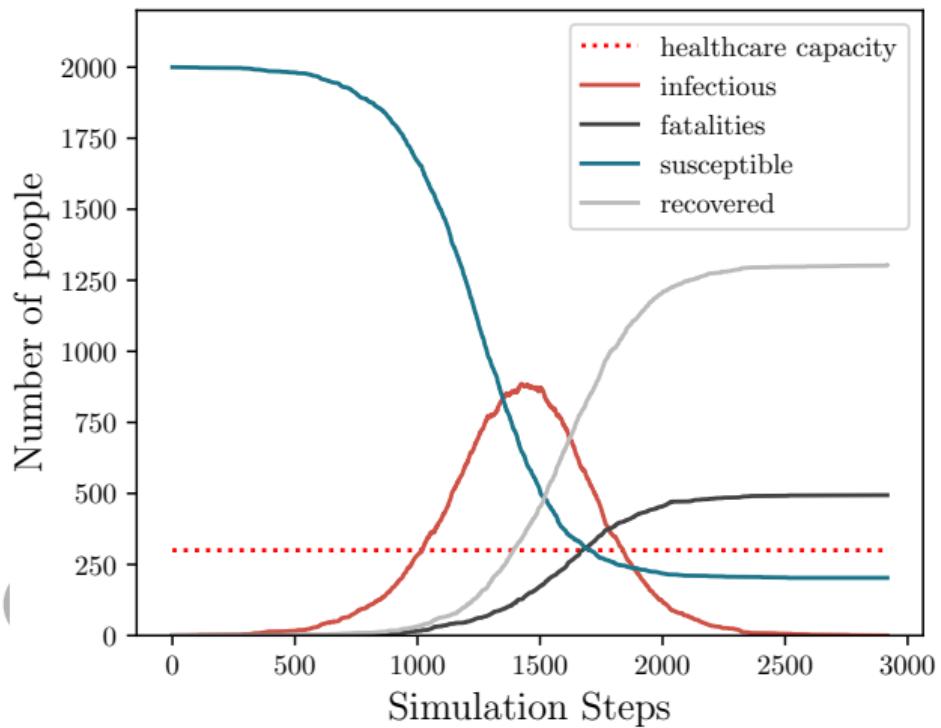
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$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{\beta IS}{N},$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\beta IS}{N} - \gamma I,$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I,$$

where $N = S + I + R$, β controls infection spread, and γ controls recovery rate



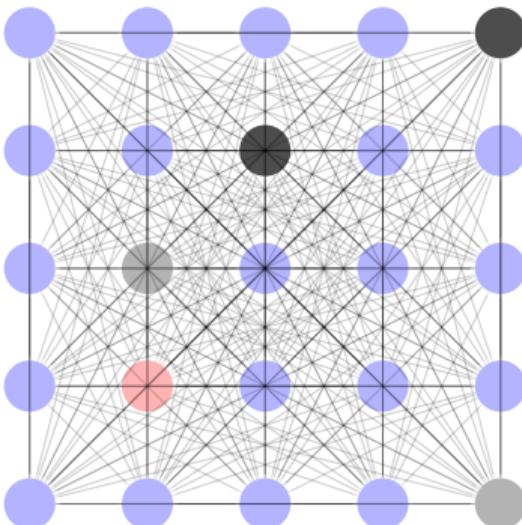
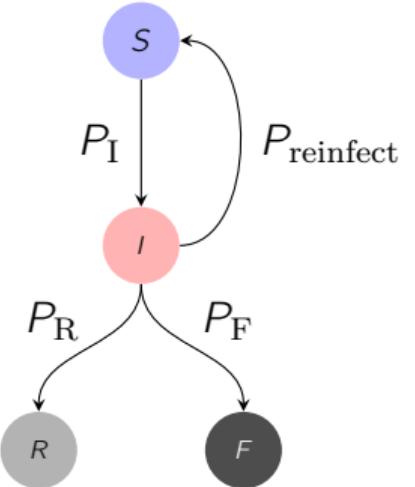


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What are compartmental epidemiological models?

- ✓ Analytical solutions are available

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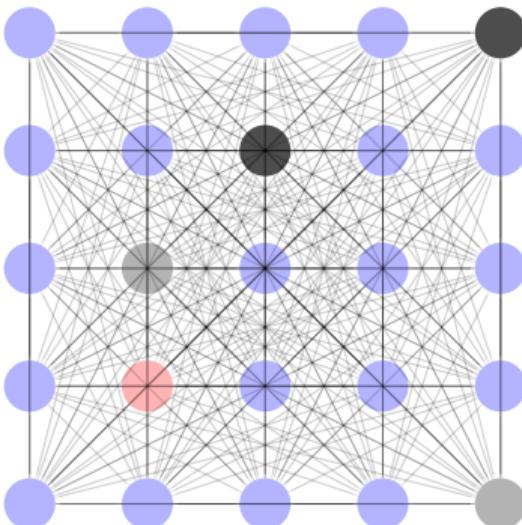
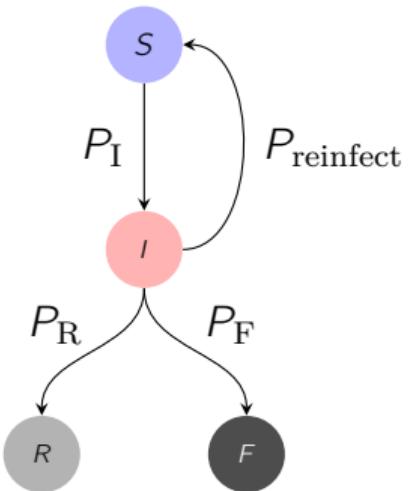


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- ✓ Analytical solutions are available
- ✓ Captures large-scale population dynamics

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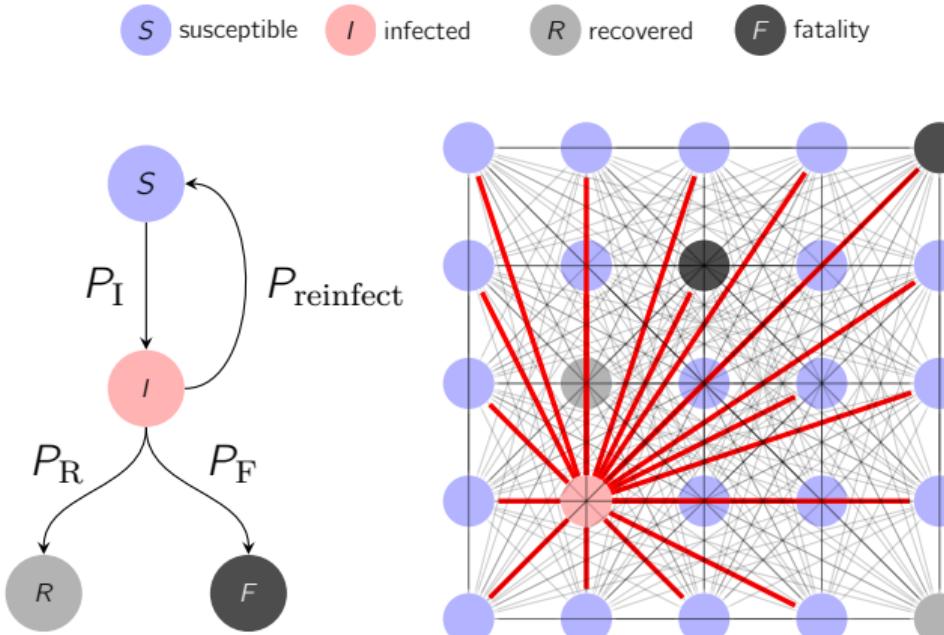




Background: epidemiological models

What are compartmental epidemiological models?

- ✓ Analytical solutions are available
- ✓ Captures large-scale population dynamics
- ✗ Does not account for *geography*

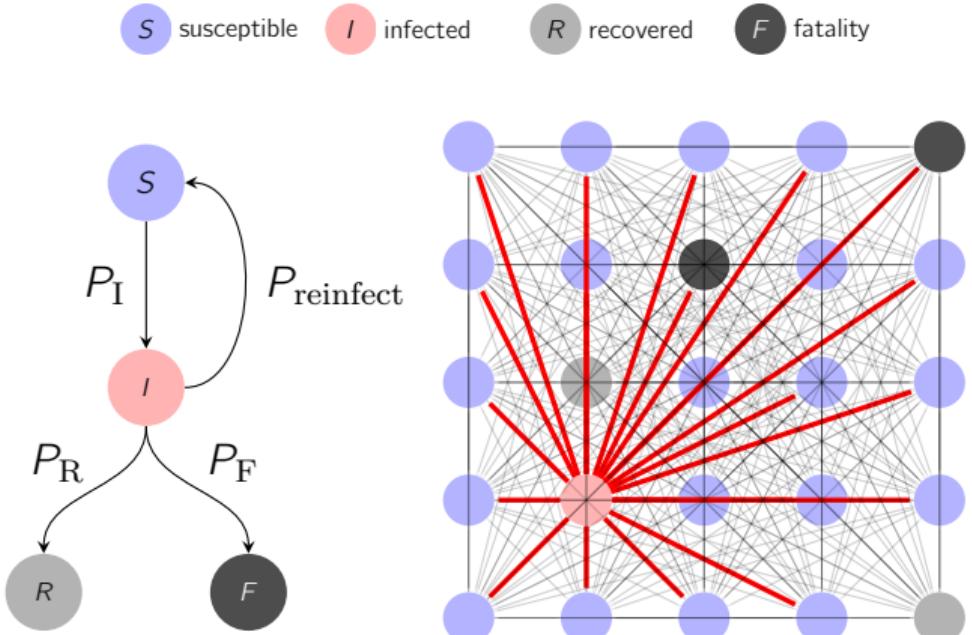




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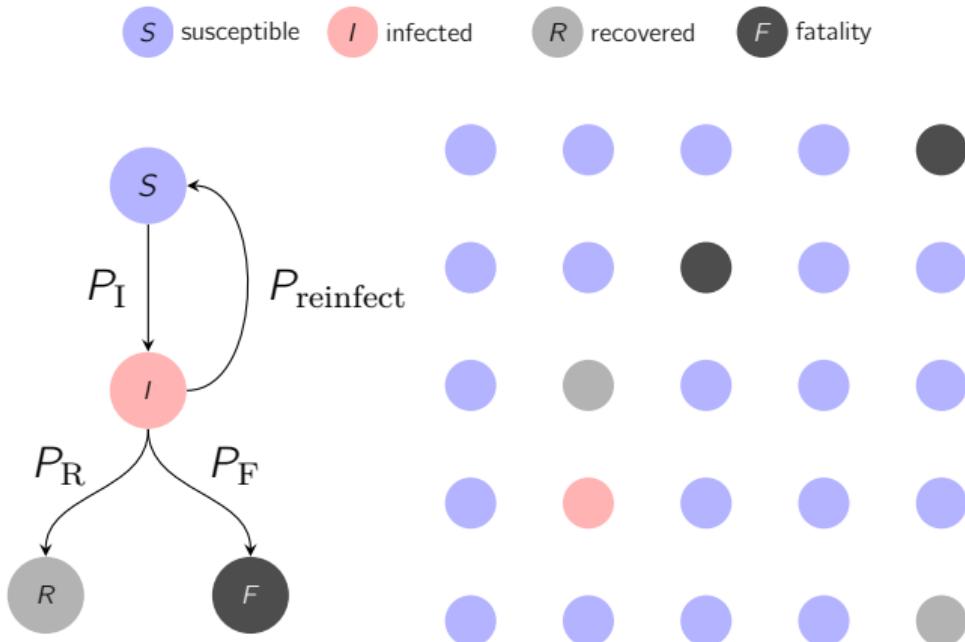
- ✓ Analytical solutions are available
- ✓ Captures large-scale population dynamics
- ✗ Does not account for *geography*
- ✗ Cannot model effect of intervention policies





Background: epidemiological models

What are agent-based epidemiological models?



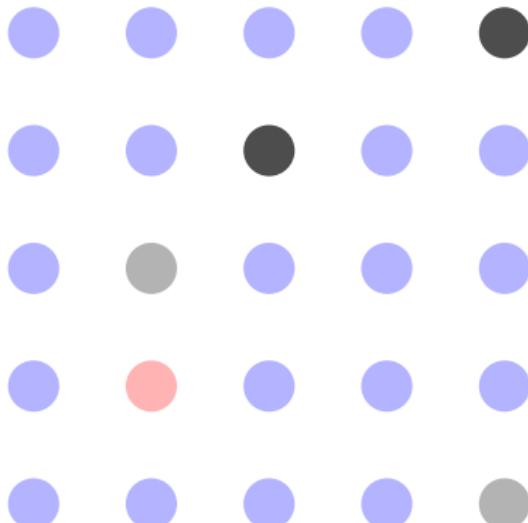
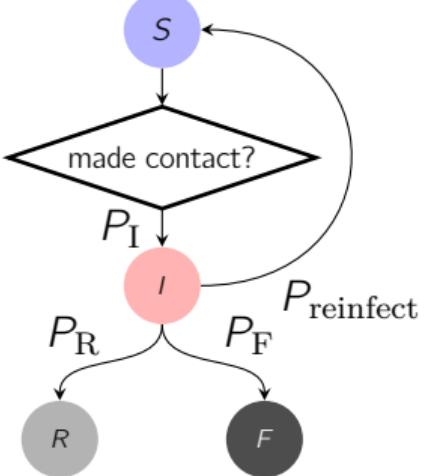


Background: epidemiological models

What are agent-based epidemiological models?



- Stochastic process

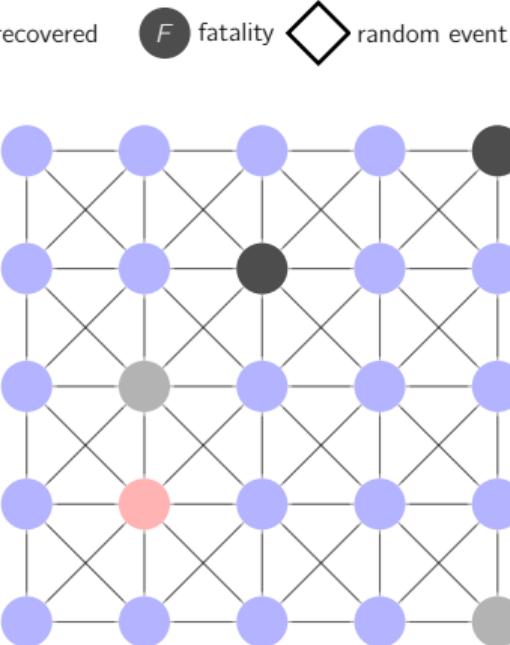
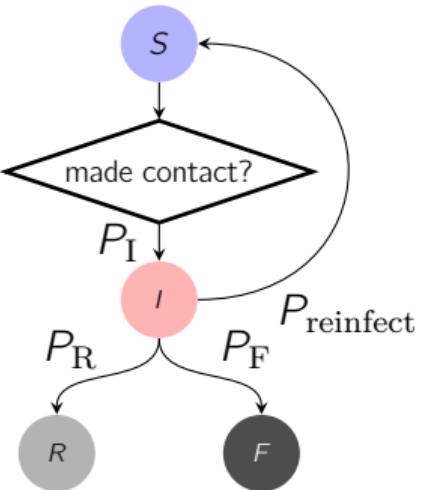




Background: epidemiological models

What are agent-based epidemiological models?

- *Stochastic process*
- Assume *heterogenous* interaction

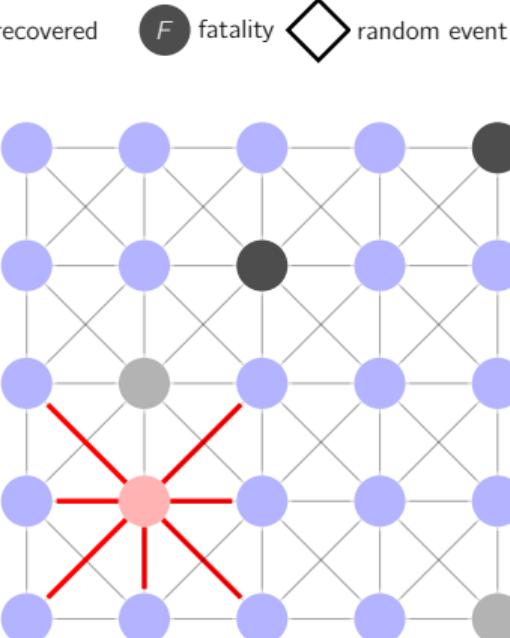
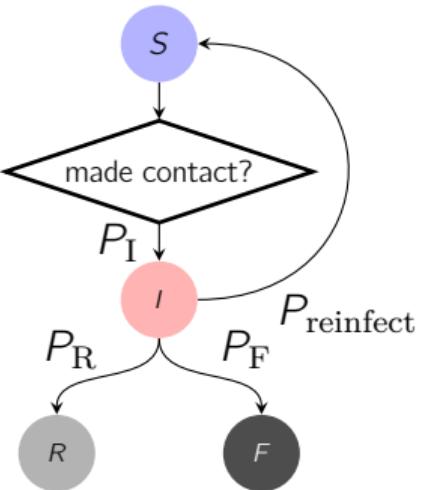


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What are agent-based epidemiological models?

Realization 1

- *Stochastic* process
- Assume *heterogenous* interaction
- Stochastic response



Background: epidemiological models

What are agent-based epidemiological models?

Realization 2

- *Stochastic* process
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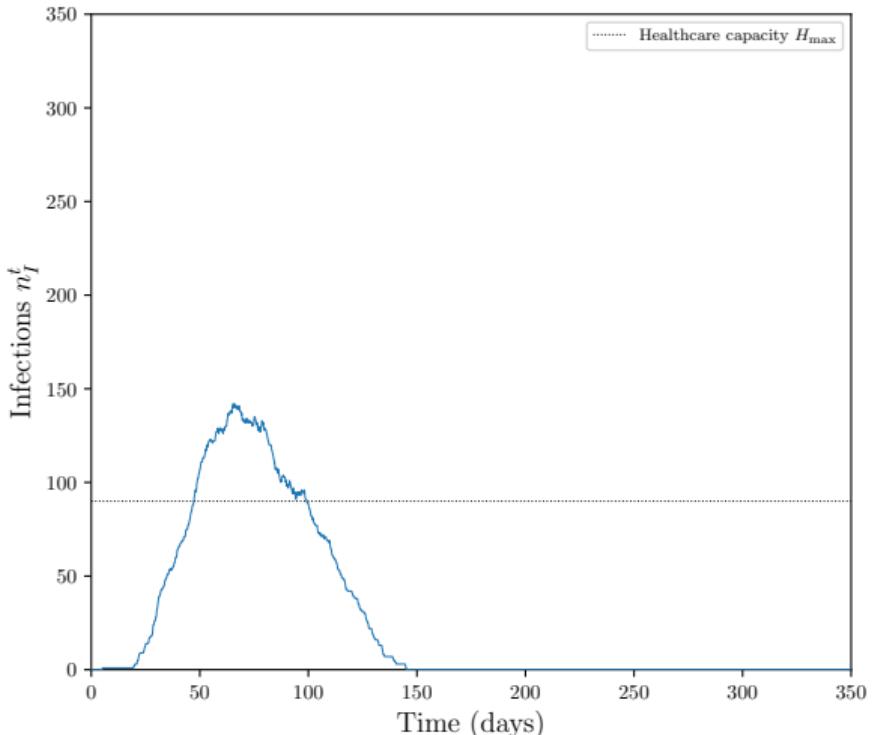


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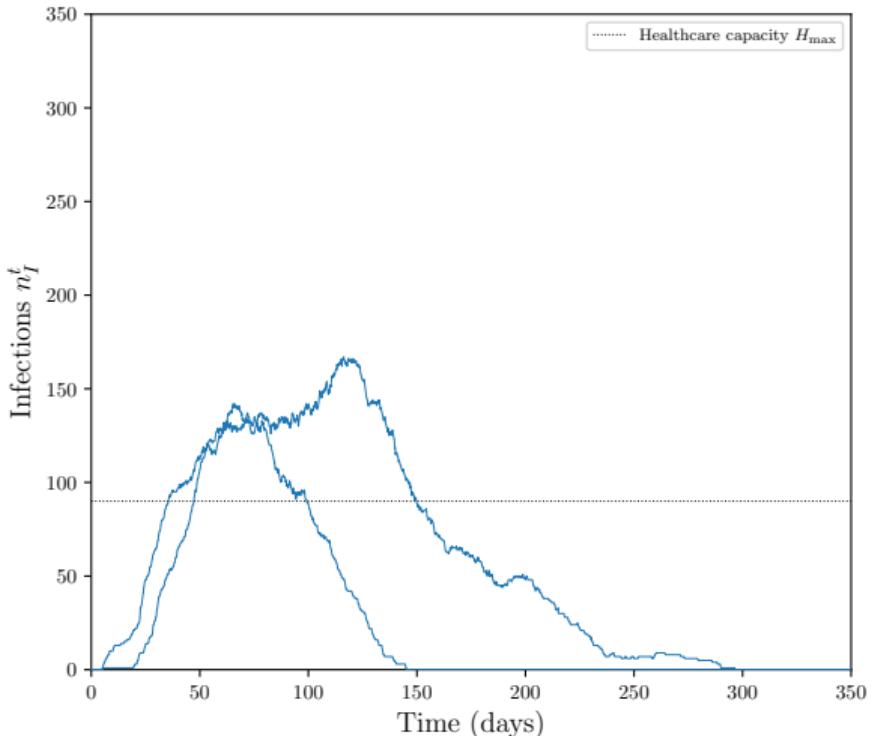


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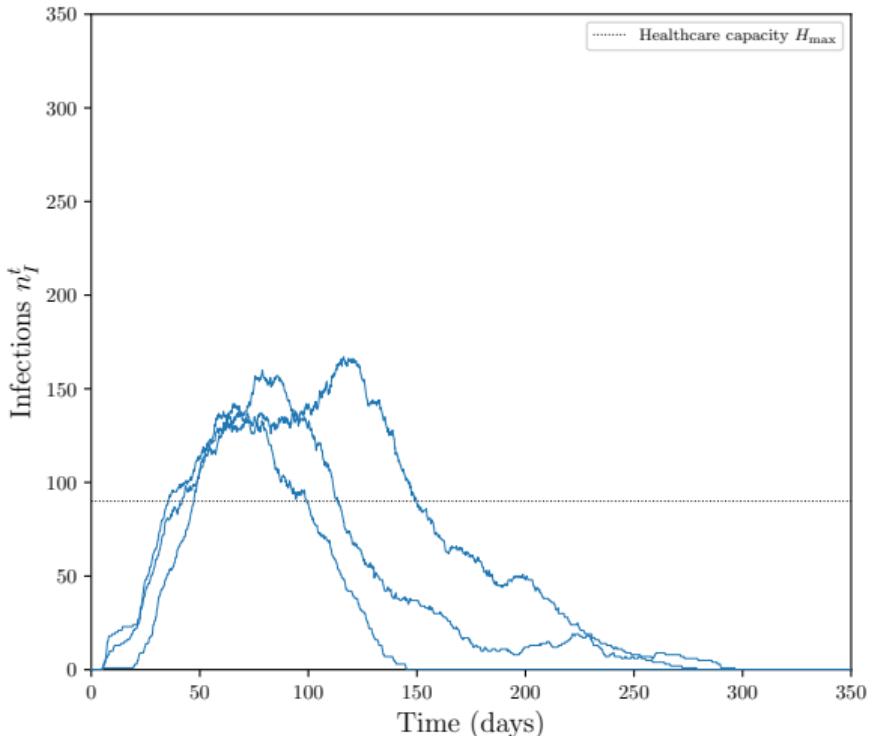




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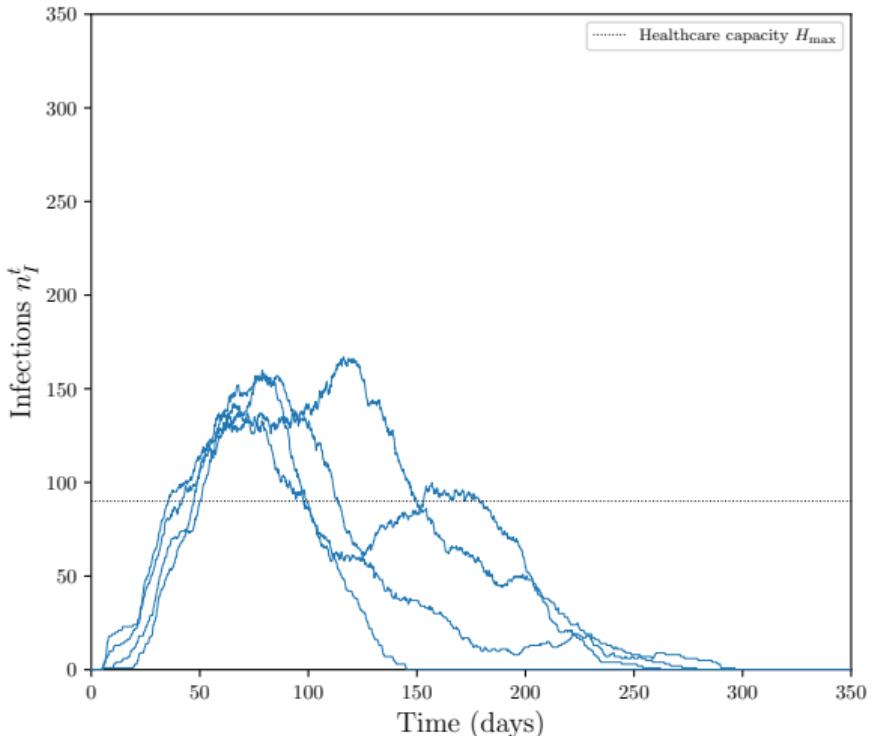




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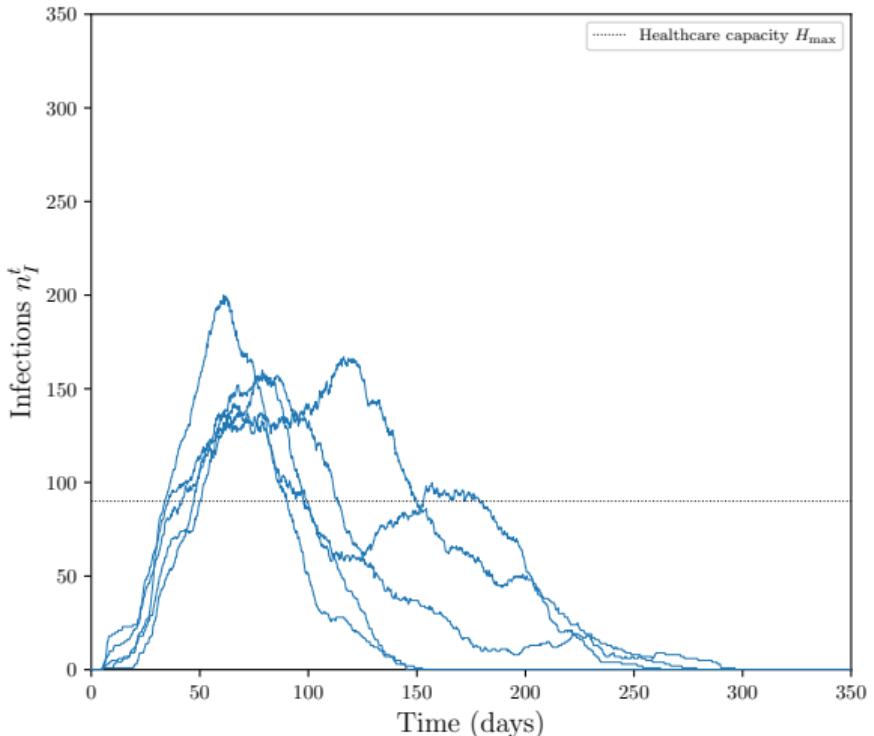




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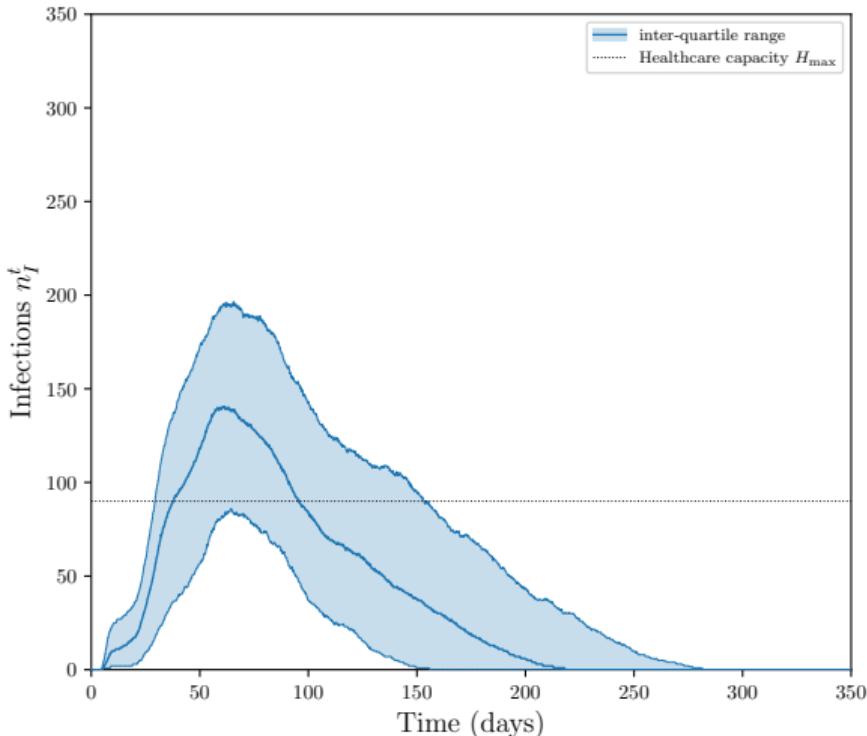




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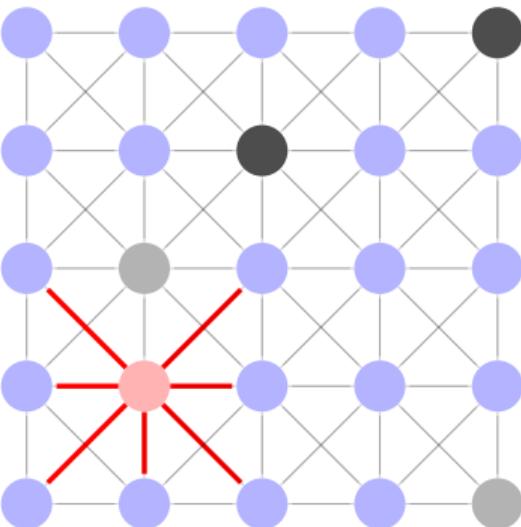
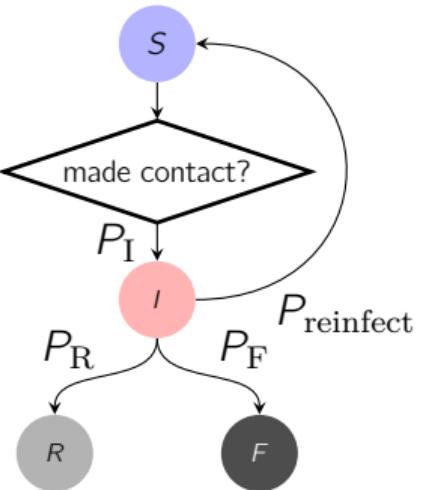


Background: epidemiological models

What are agent-based epidemiological models?

S susceptible I infected R recovered F fatality \diamond random event

- ✓ Account for *geography* and *demographics*



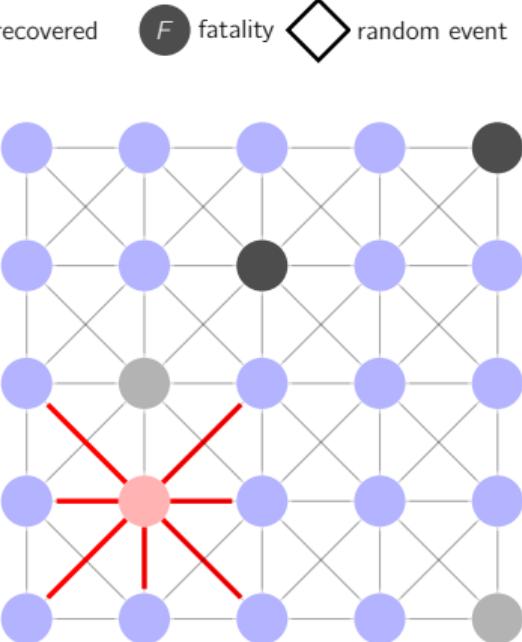
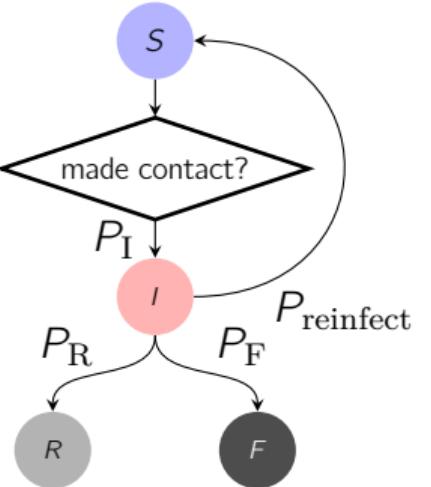


Background: epidemiological models

What are agent-based epidemiological models?



- ✓ Account for *geography* and *demographics*
- ✓ Describe local phenomena



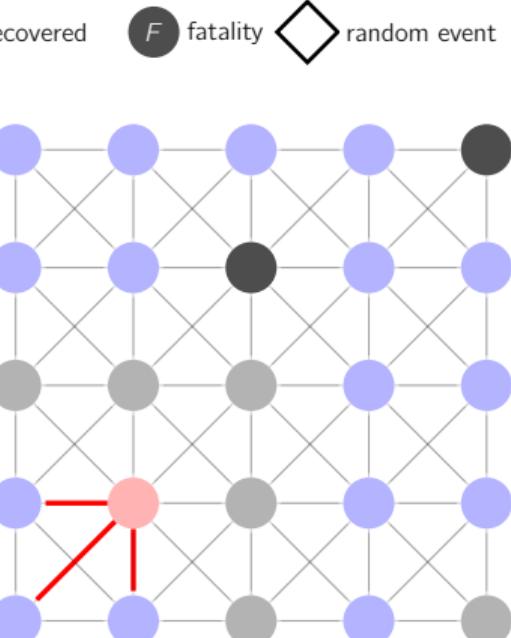
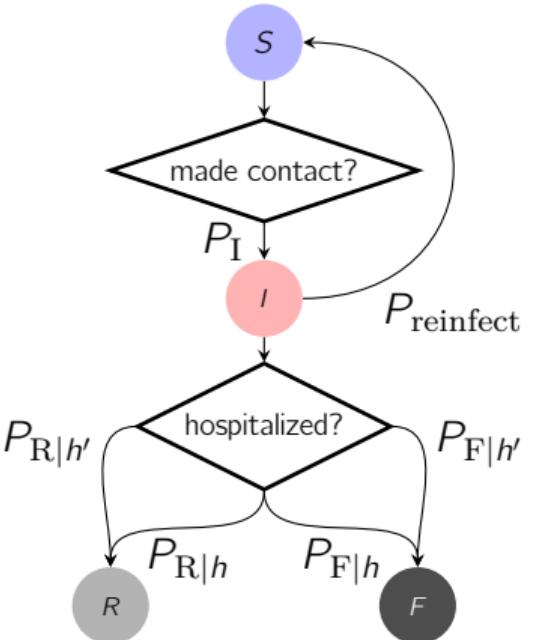


Background: epidemiological models

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- ✓ Account for *geography* and *demographics*
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susceptible infected recovered fatality random event



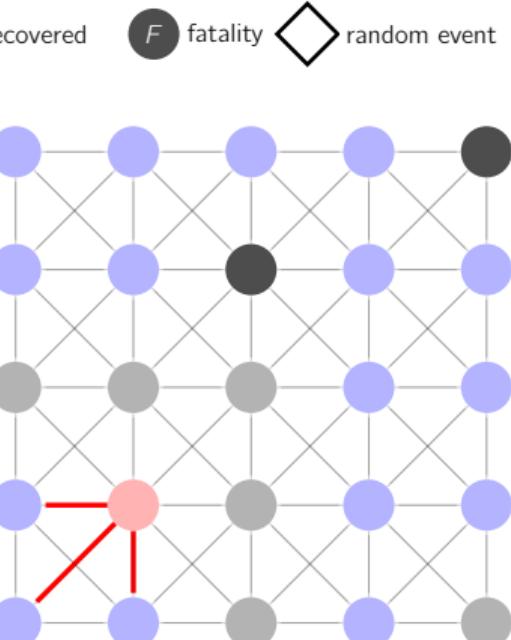
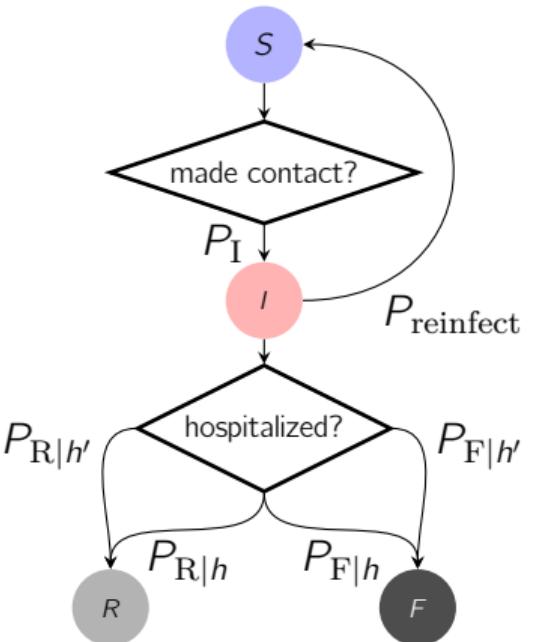


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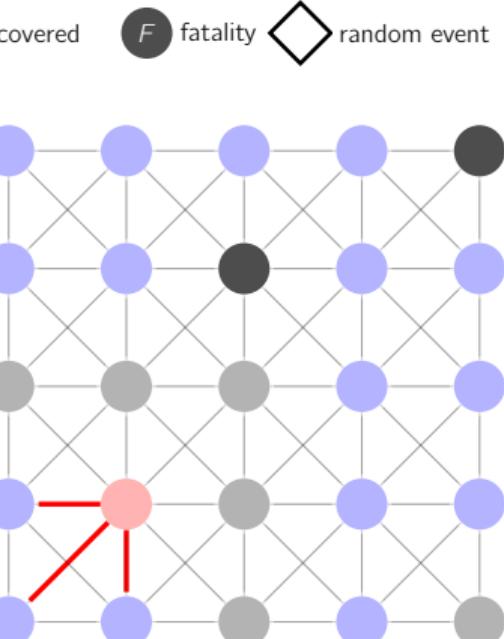
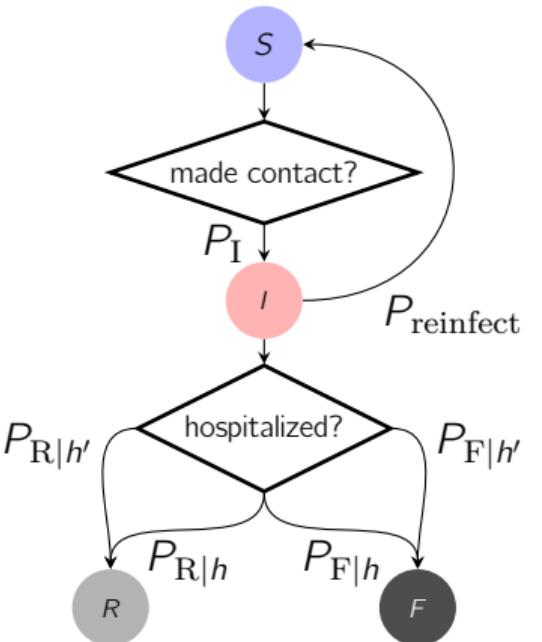


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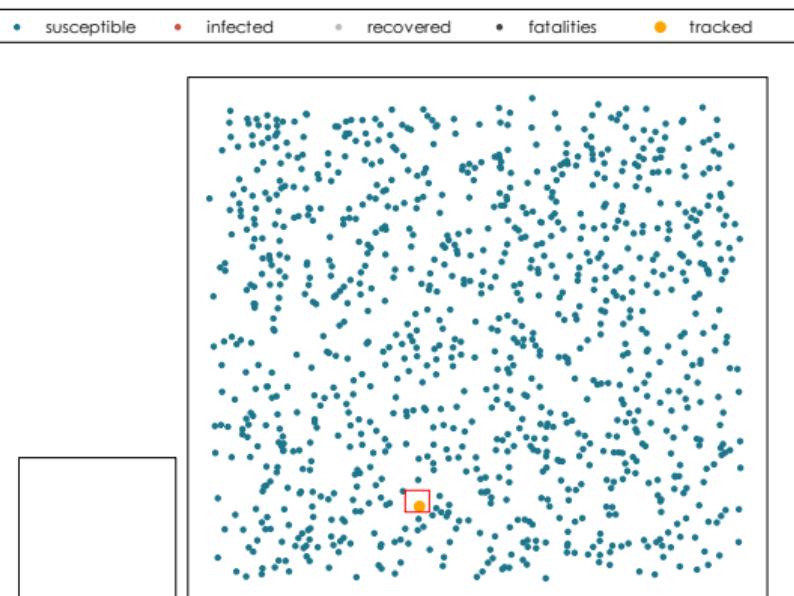




Public health policy-making problem formulation

What is the **cost** of public health interventions?

No interventions applied



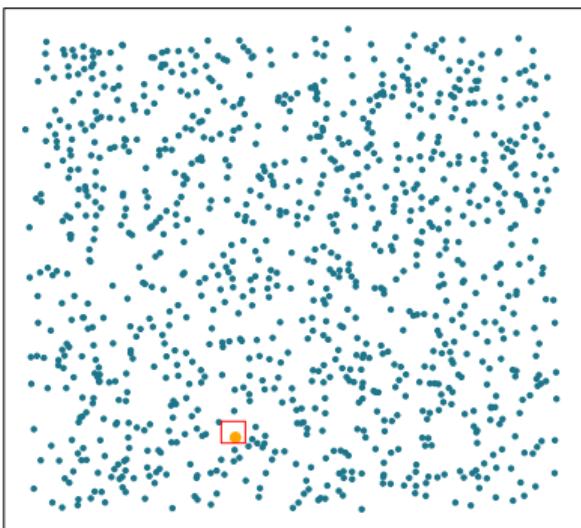
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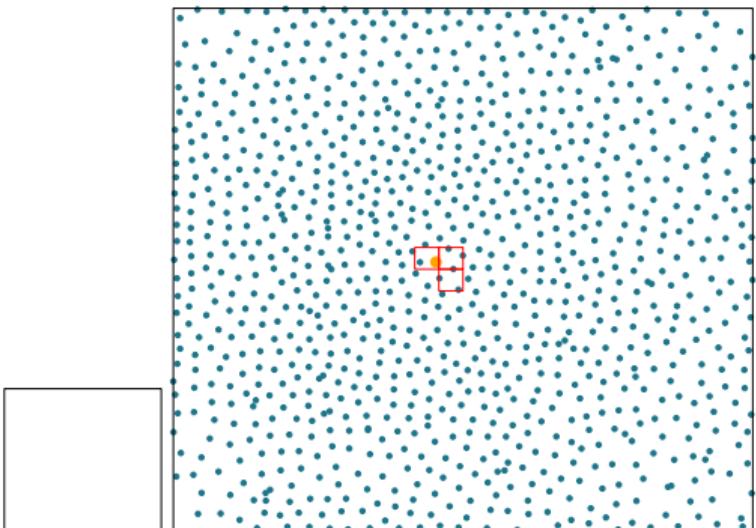
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• susceptible • infected • recovered • fatalities • tracked



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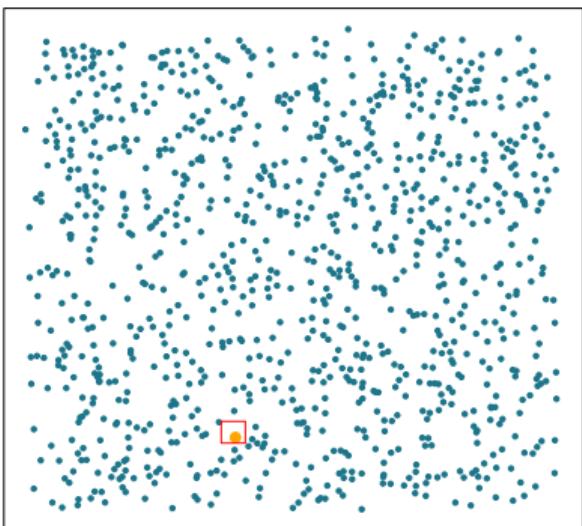
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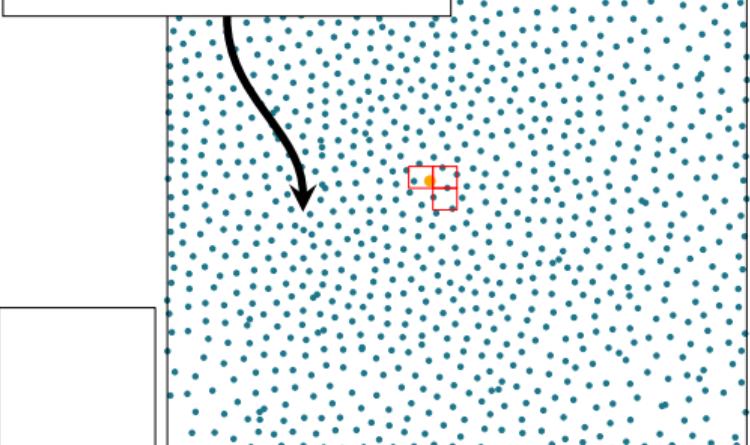
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with intervention

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essential workers



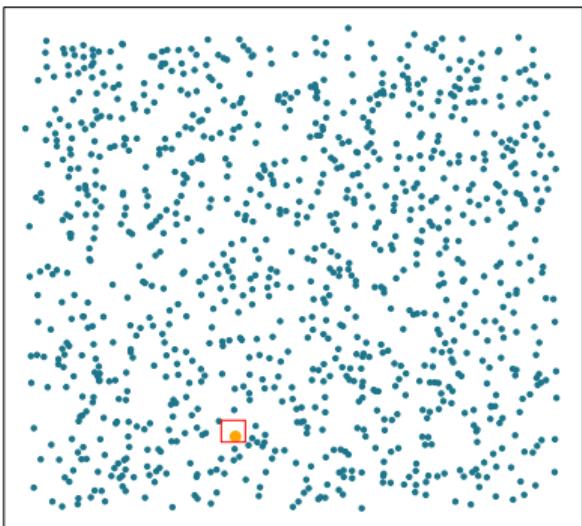
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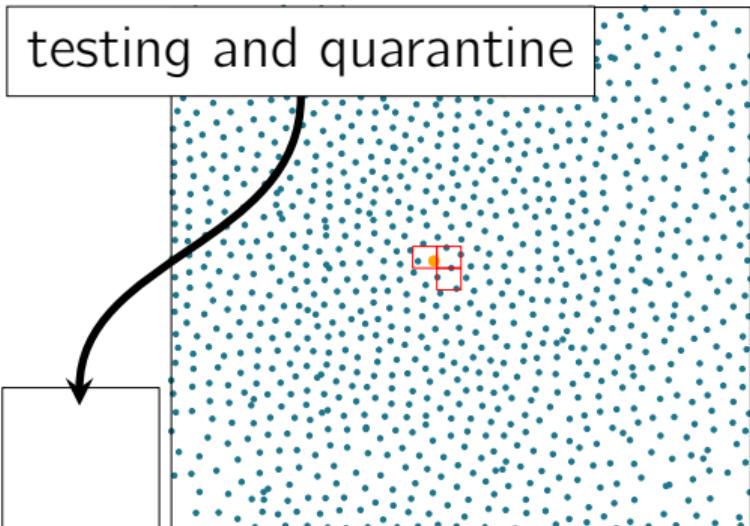
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testing and quarantine



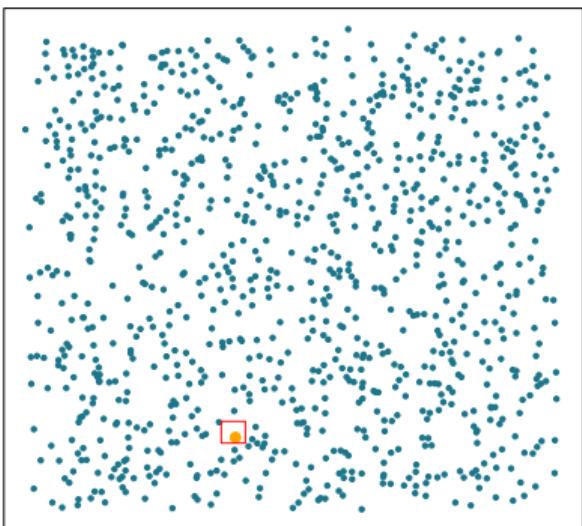
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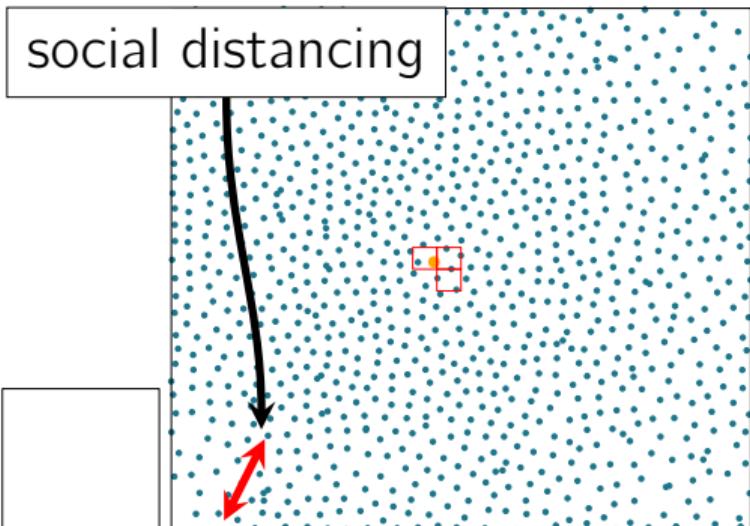
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social distancing





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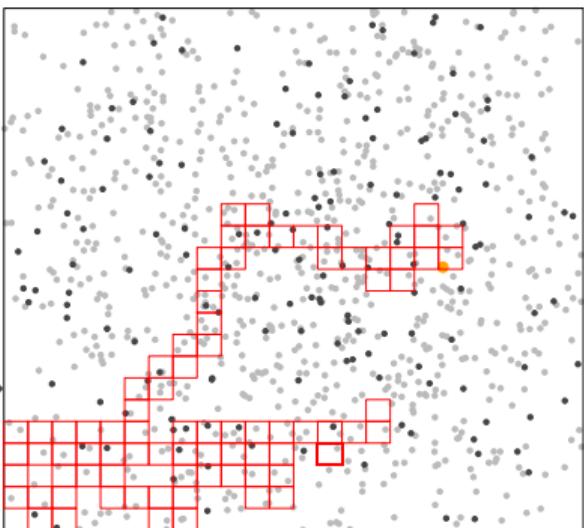
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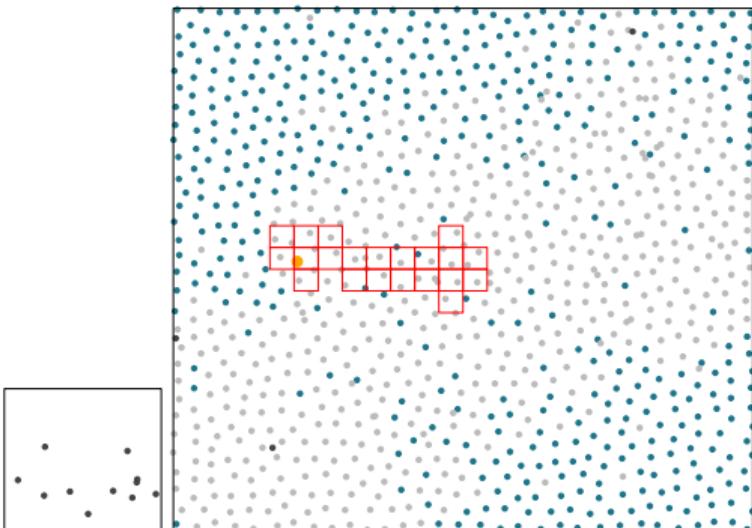
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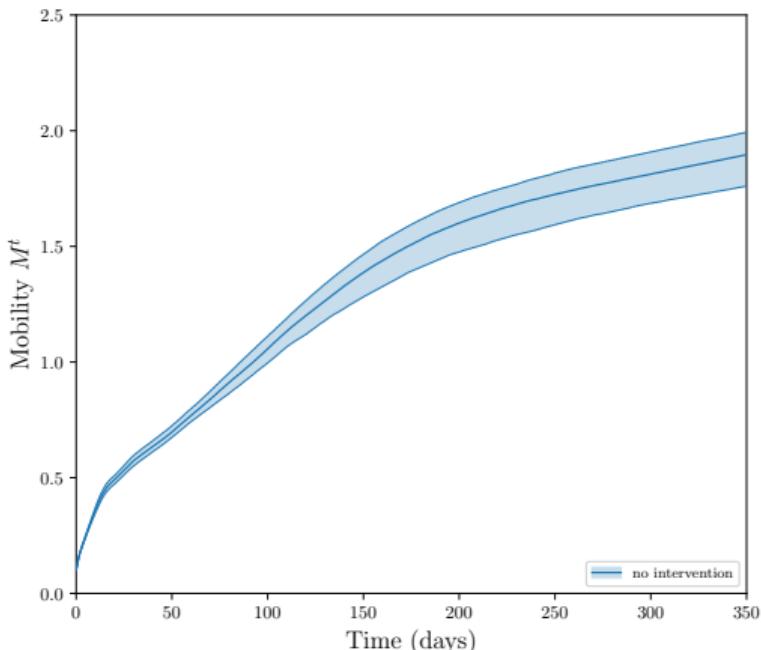
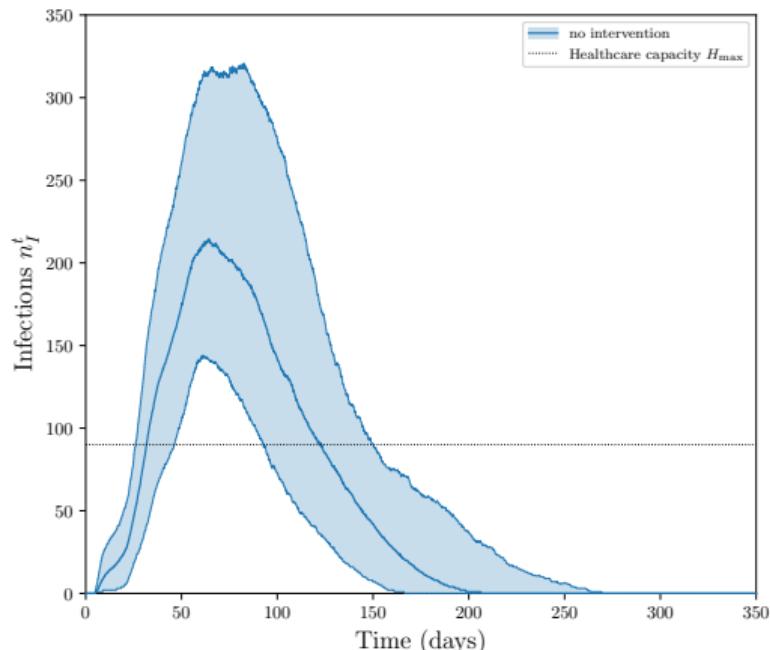
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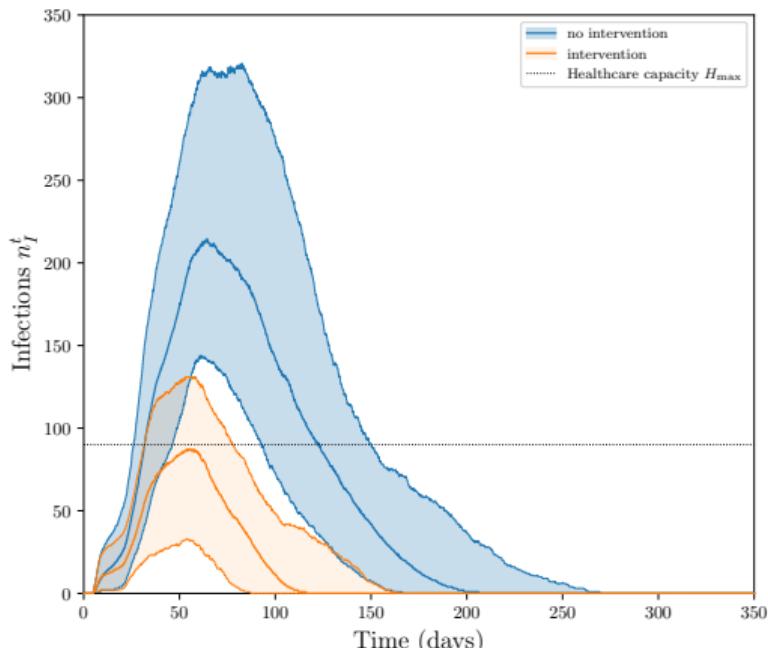




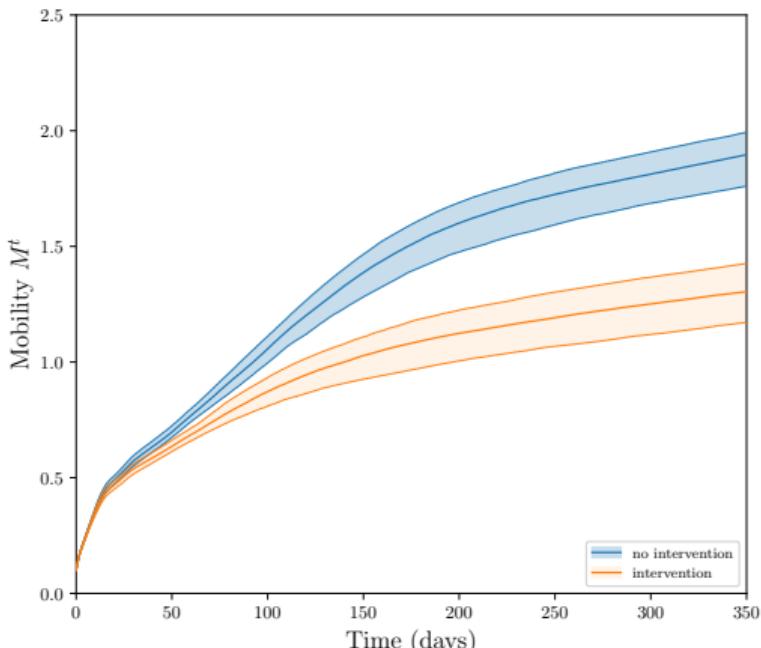
Public health policy-making problem formulation

What is the **cost** of public health interventions?

infections ↓



mobility ↓



Optimization problem

Objective and constraints

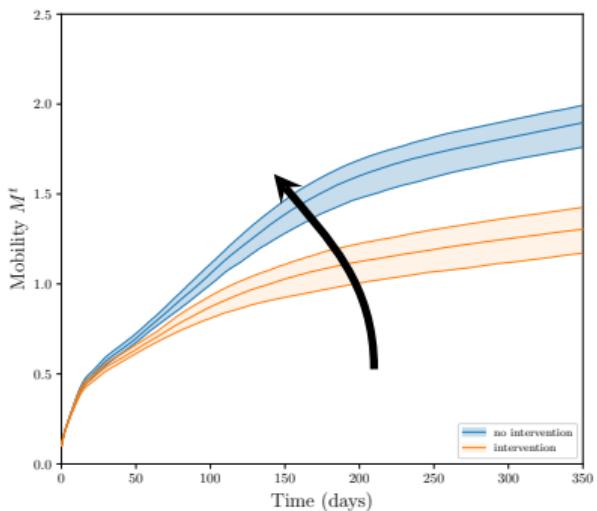
$$\min_x \quad f(x) = -M^T$$

subject to

where $x = [n_E, S_D, n_T]^T$

Design variables

- n_E : Number of essential workers
- S_D : Social distancing factor
- n_T : Number of tests daily



Optimization problem

No gradient information available, blackbox is expensive and noisy

Objective and constraints

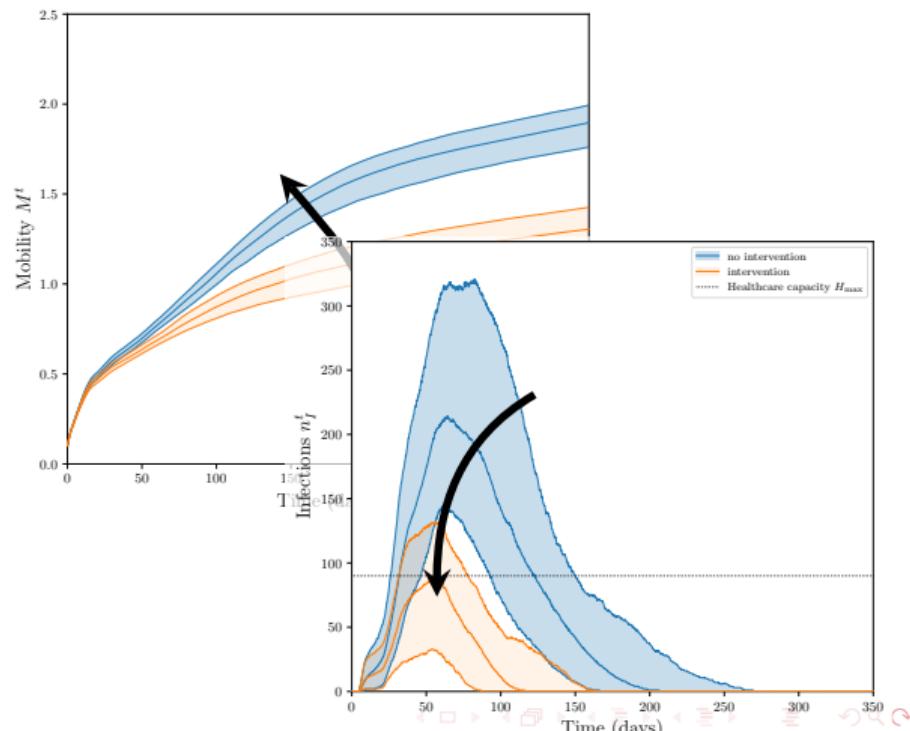
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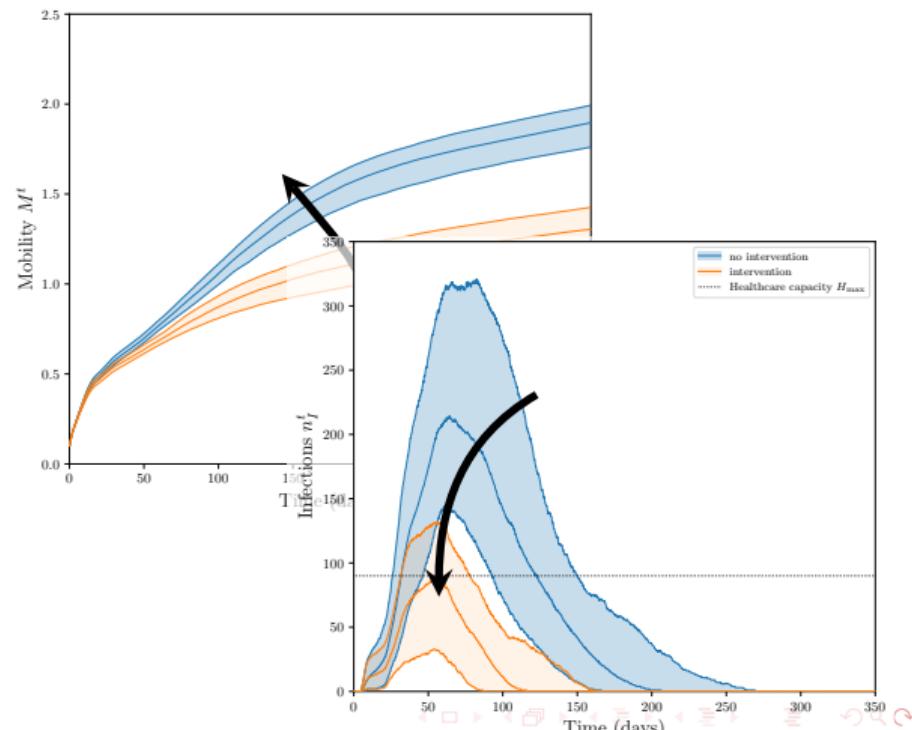
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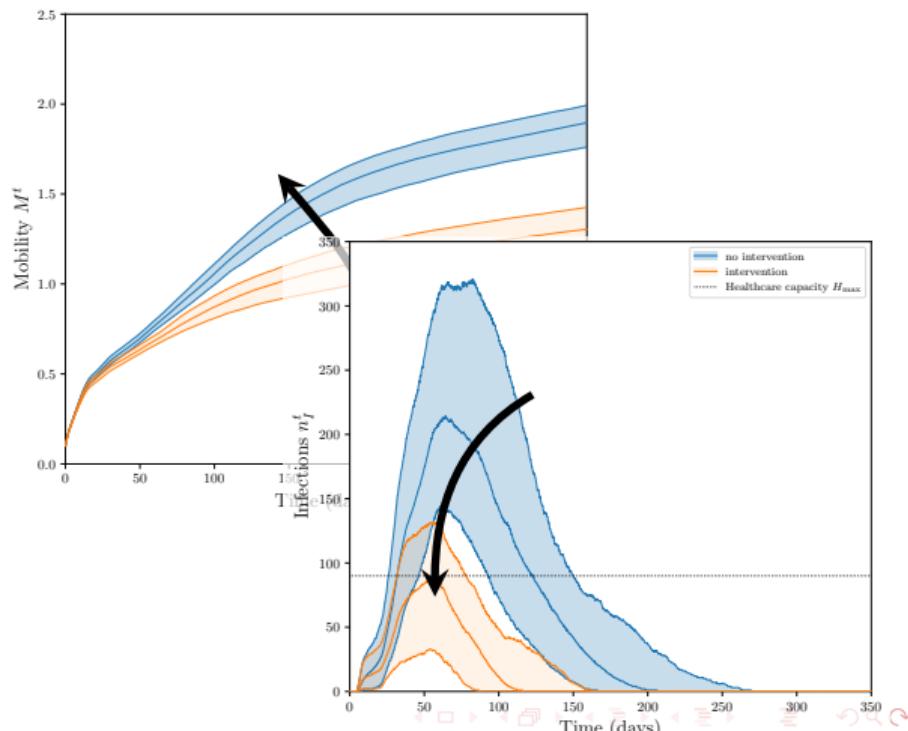
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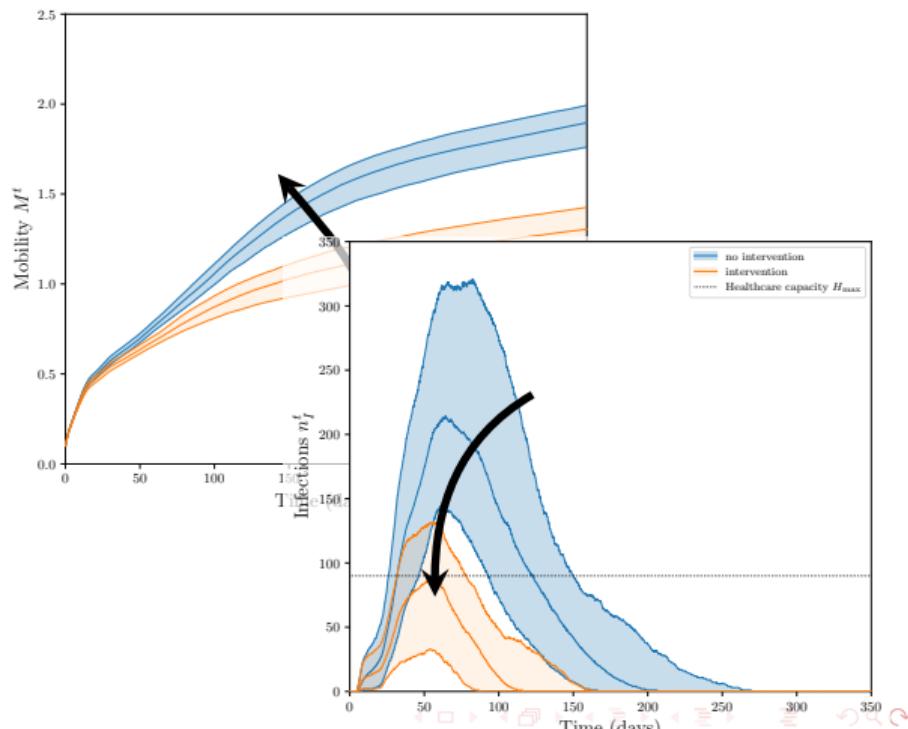
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Randomly seeded parameters

- Initial conditions
- Interactions, demographics





Optimization results

StoMADS, NOMAD, and genetic algorithms were used to solve the problem

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 sampling rate $n^k = 4$

Objective and constraints

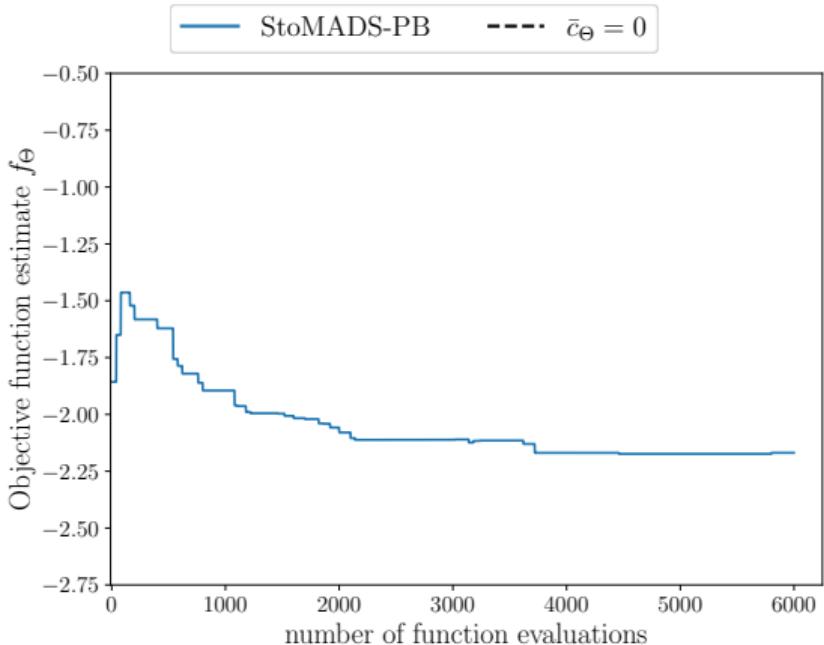
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- n_E : Number of essential workers
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Randomly seeded parameters

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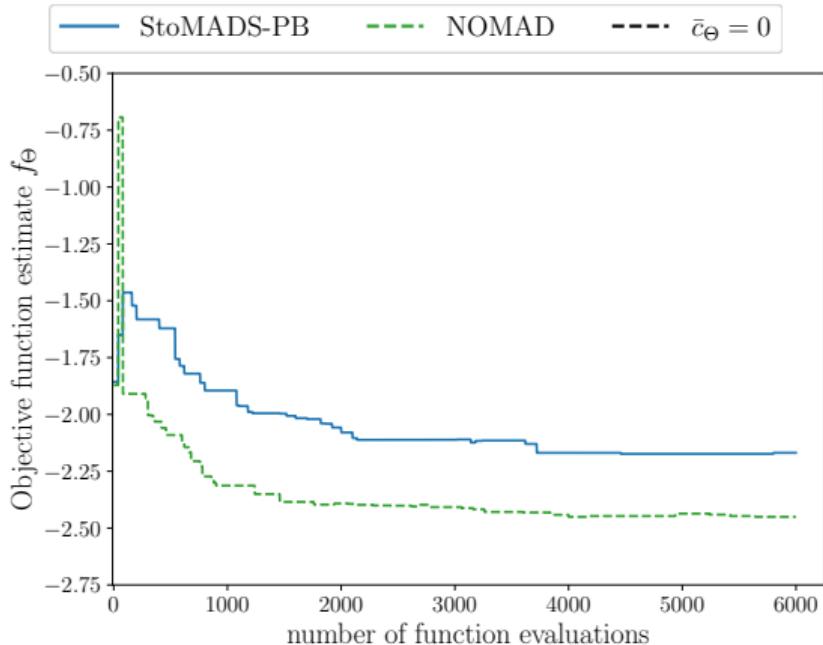
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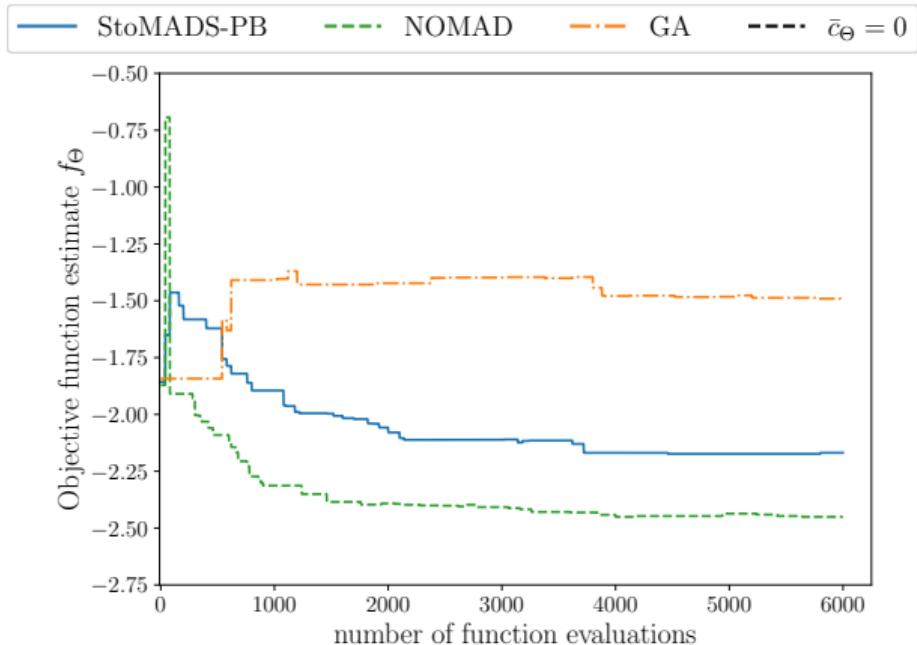
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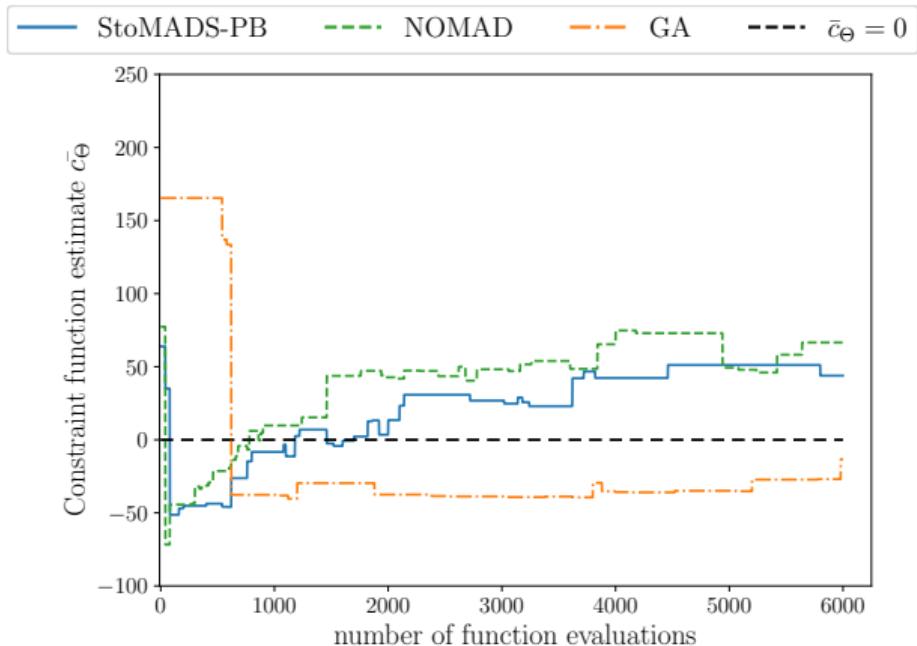
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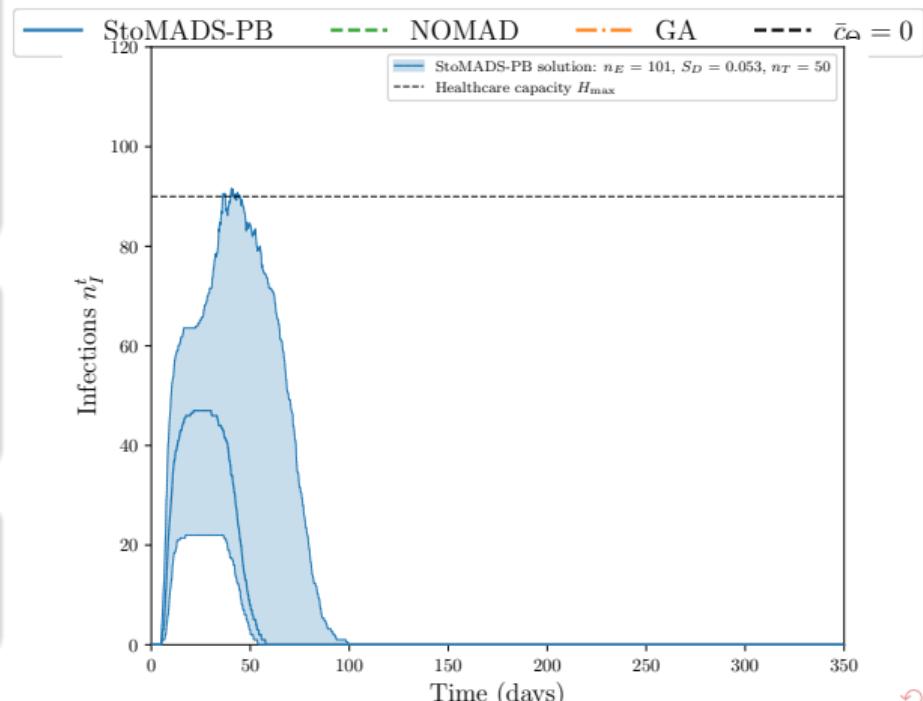
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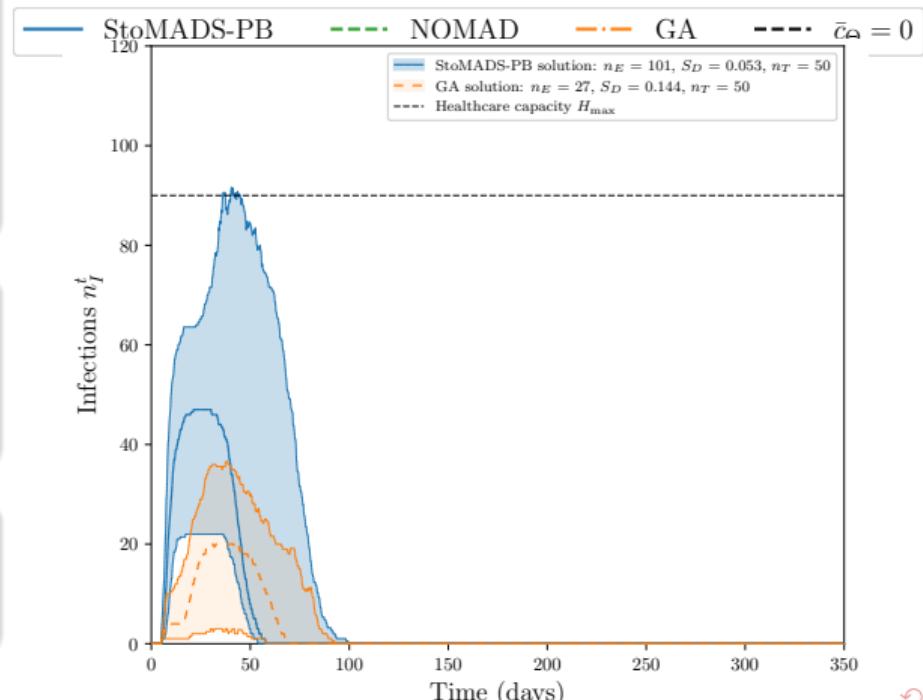
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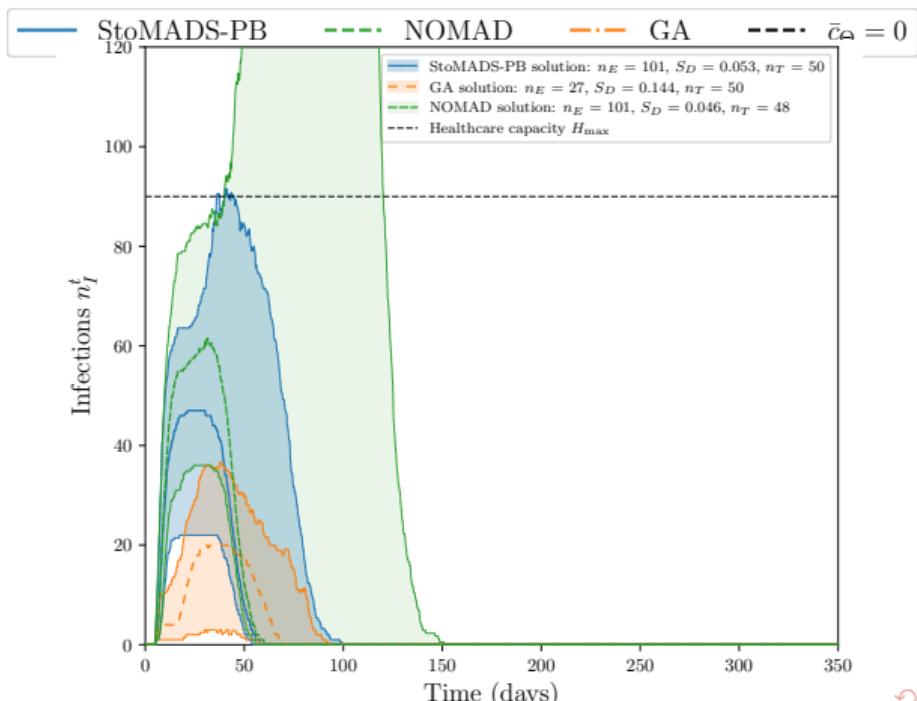
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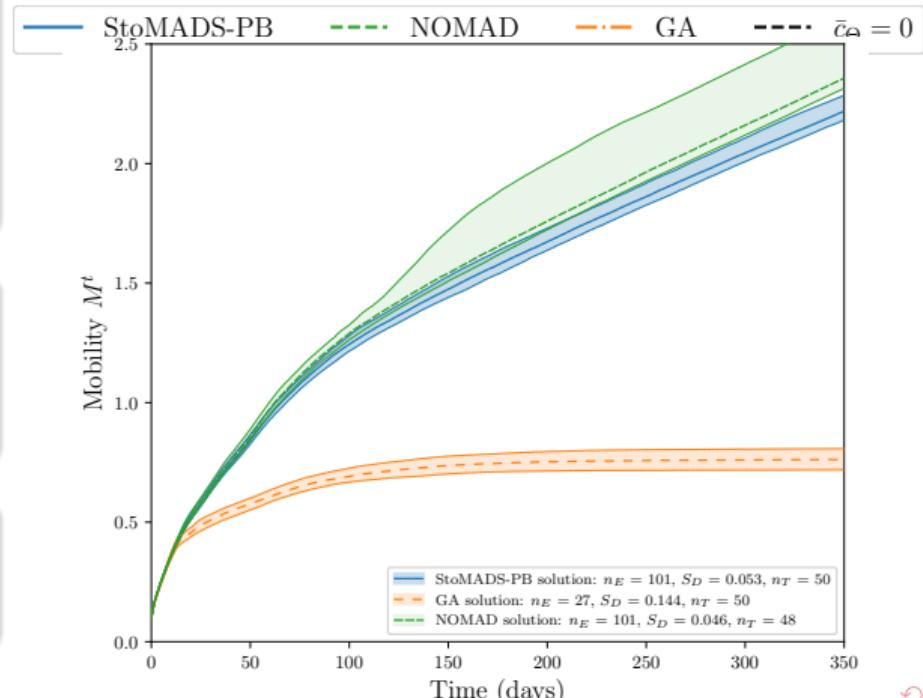
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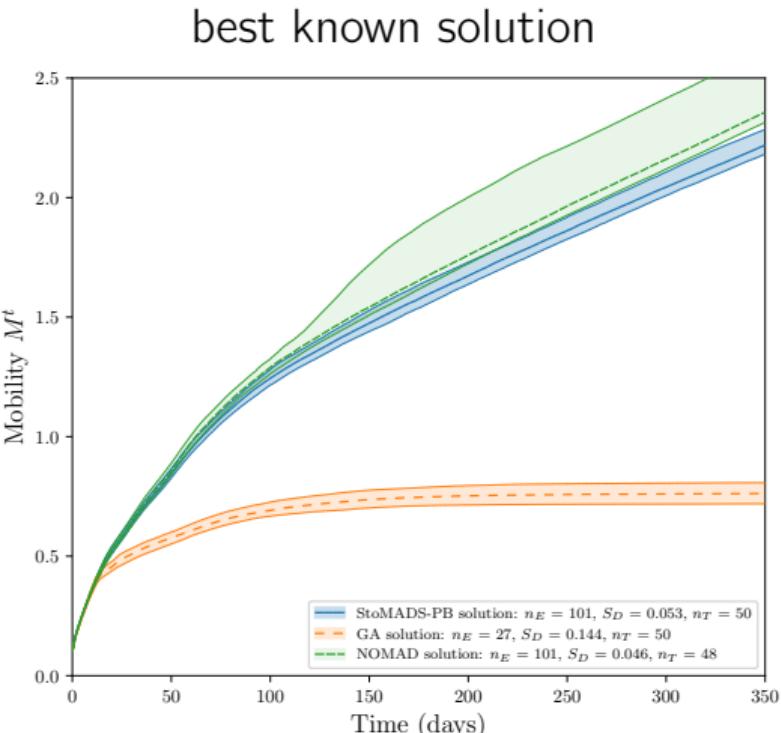




Conclusion

Formulated and solved public health policy-making problems

- Identified a public health policy that favored

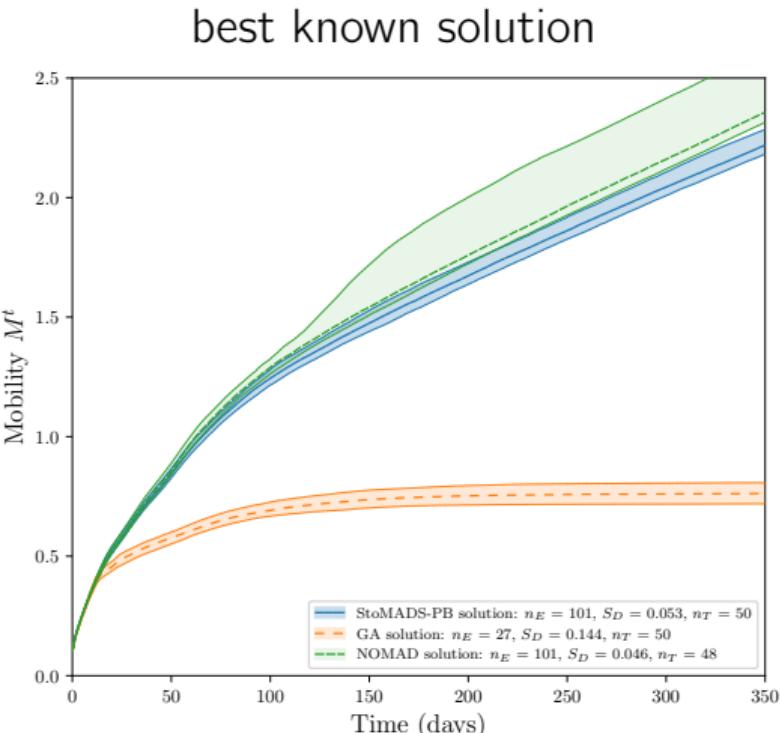




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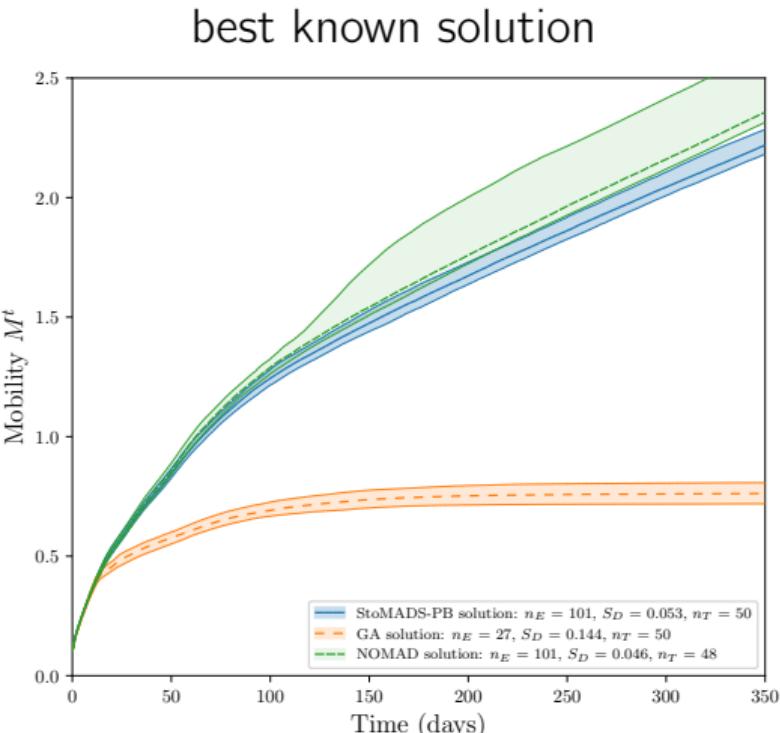




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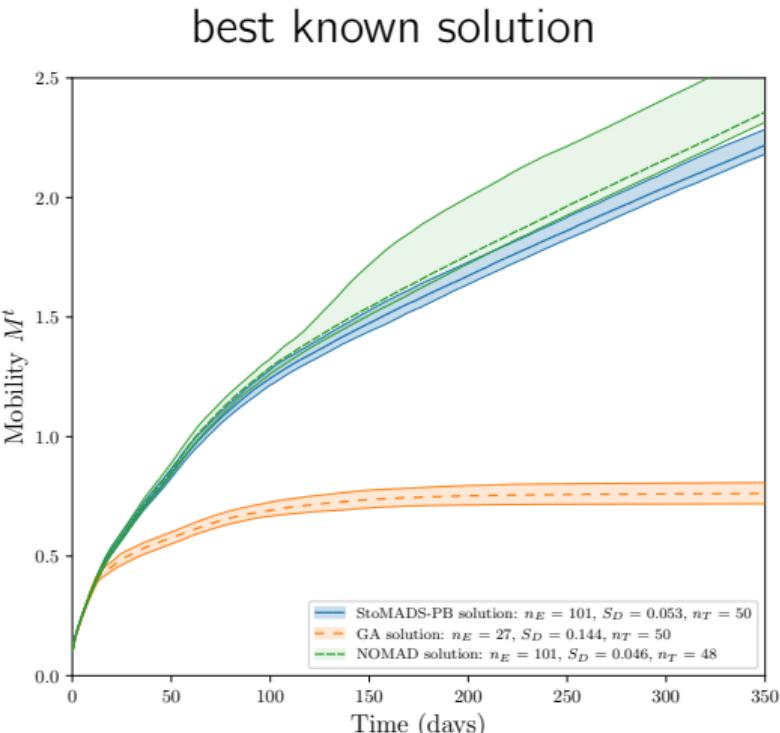




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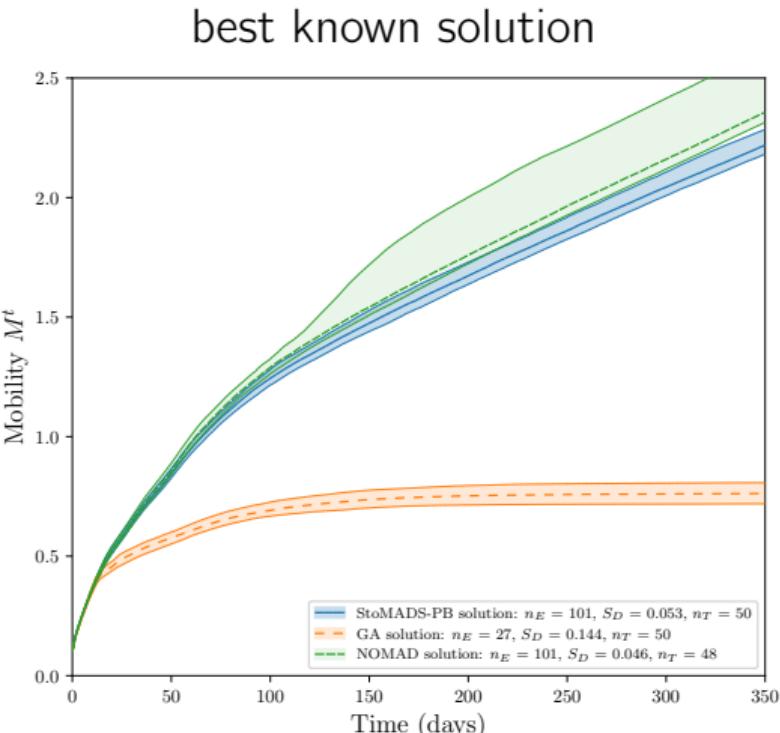
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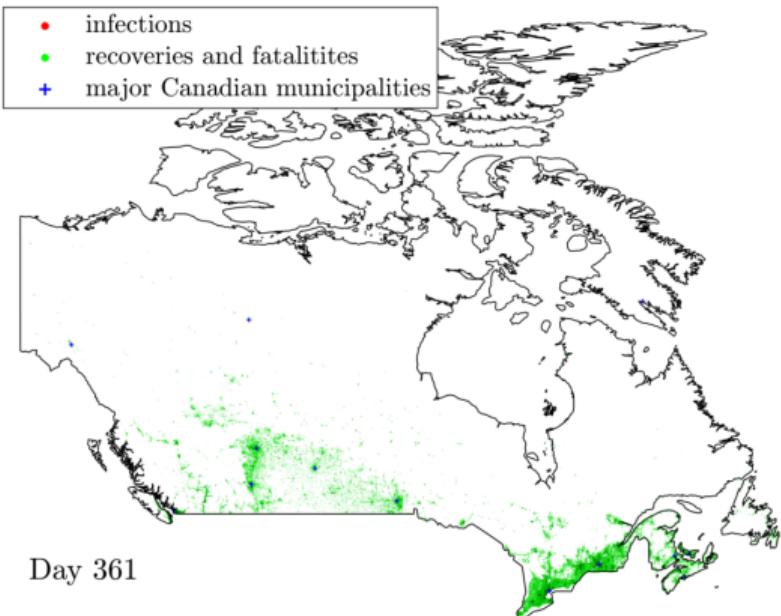
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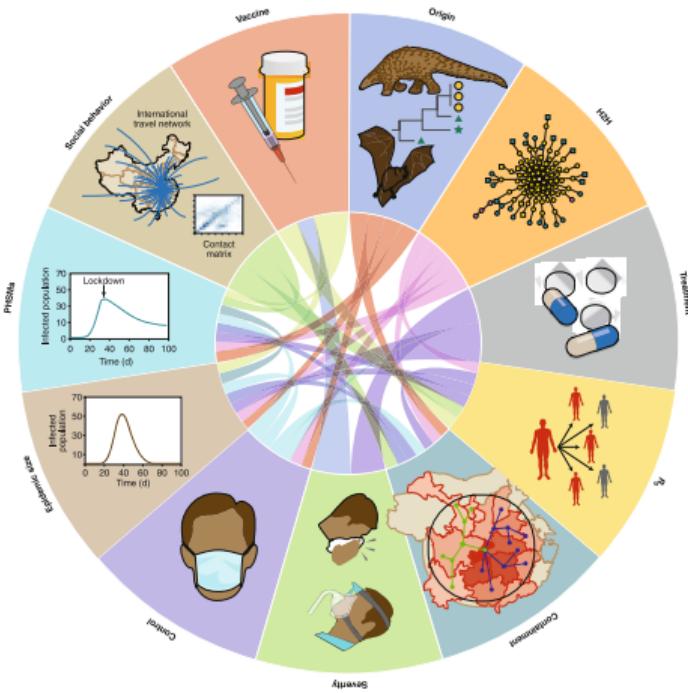
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Research disciplines in epidemiology

Forecasting novel epidemics is a multidisciplinary field involving multiple *targets*
Inputs for forecasting **epidemic size**:

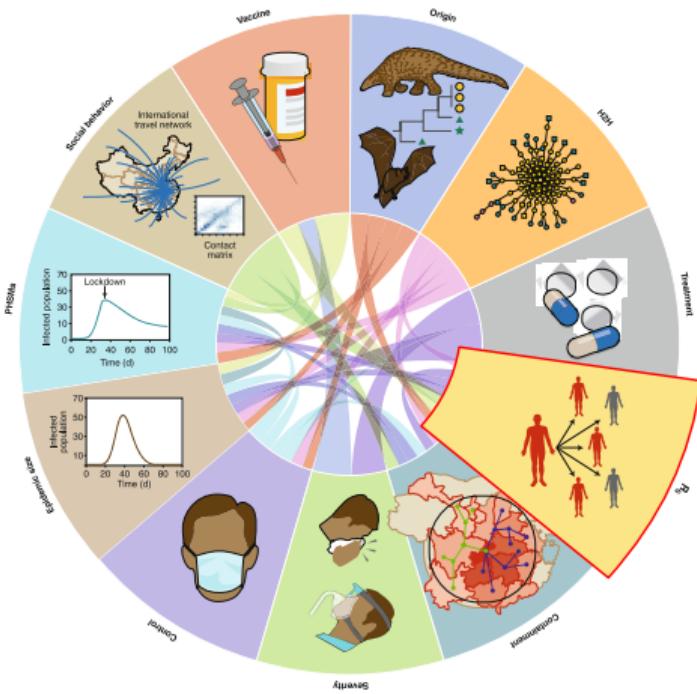




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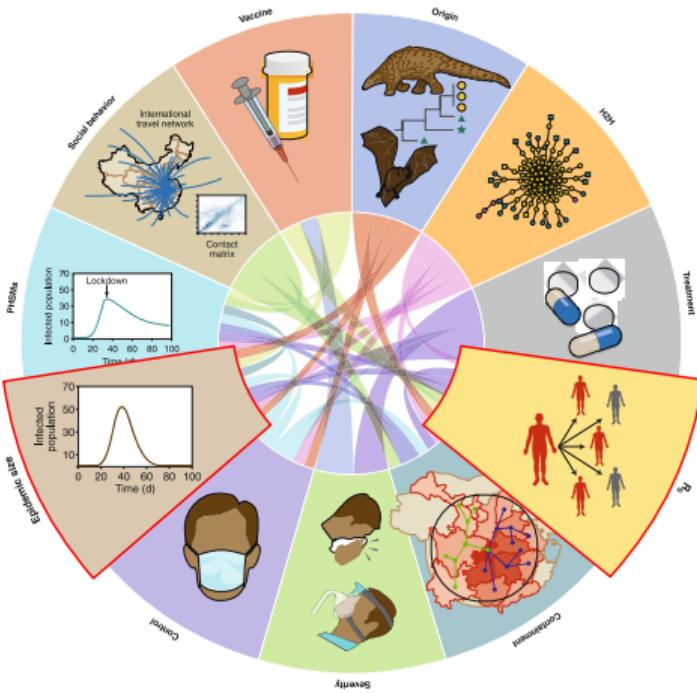
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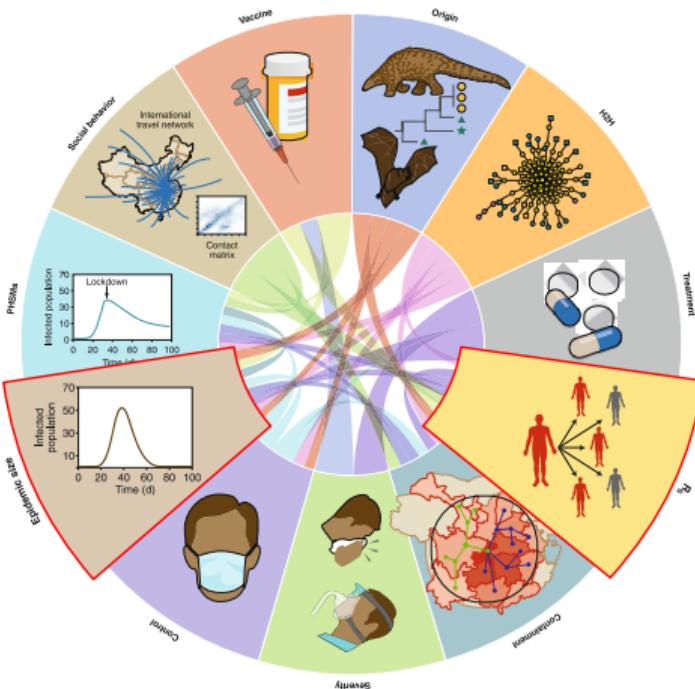




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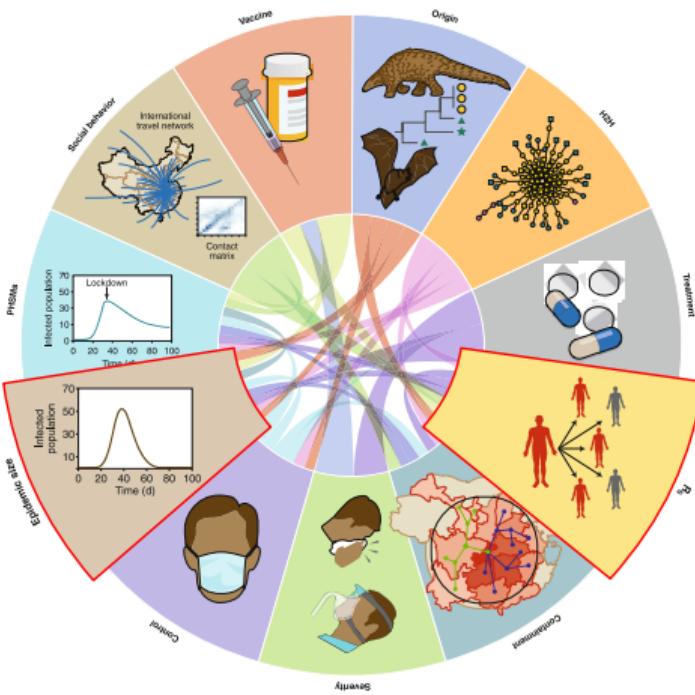
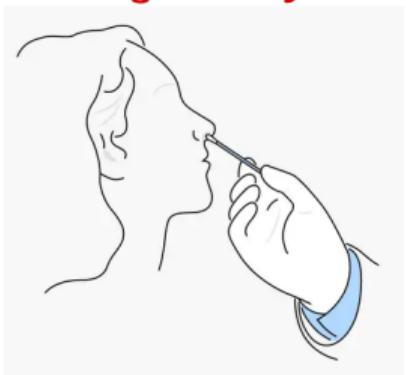




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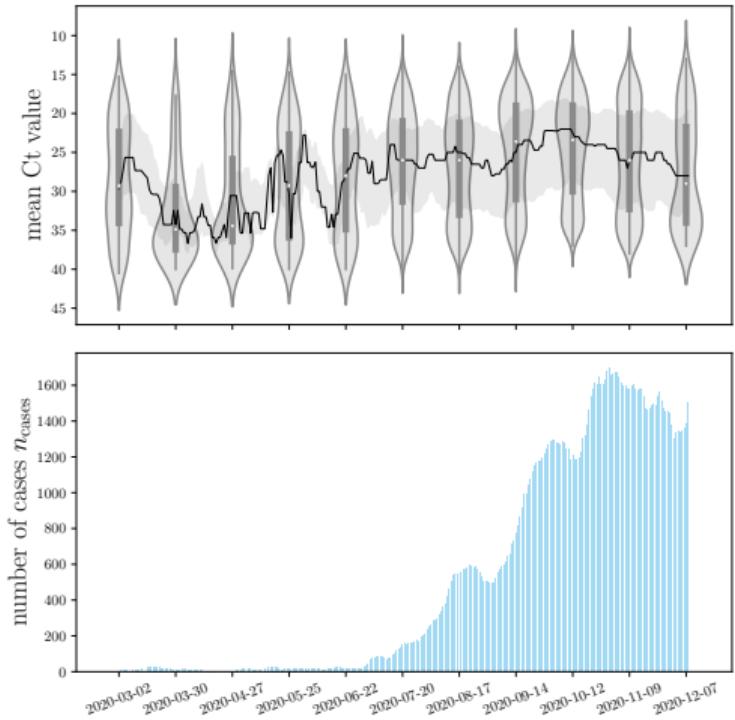
Nowcasting epidemic trajectory using statistical models

Joint work with: Dr. Ibrahim Chamseddine, Dr. Athar Khalil, and Prof. Michael Kokkolaras



COVID-19 incidence forecasting

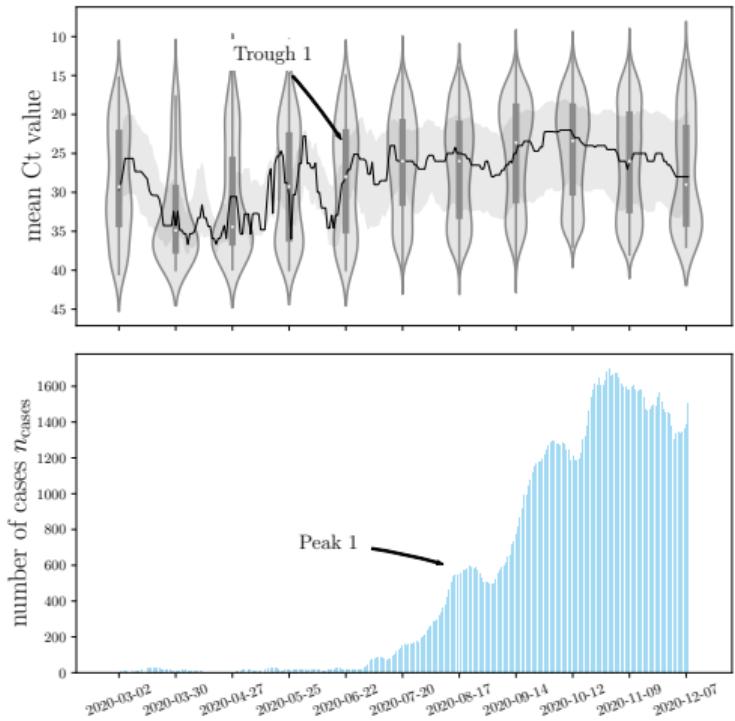
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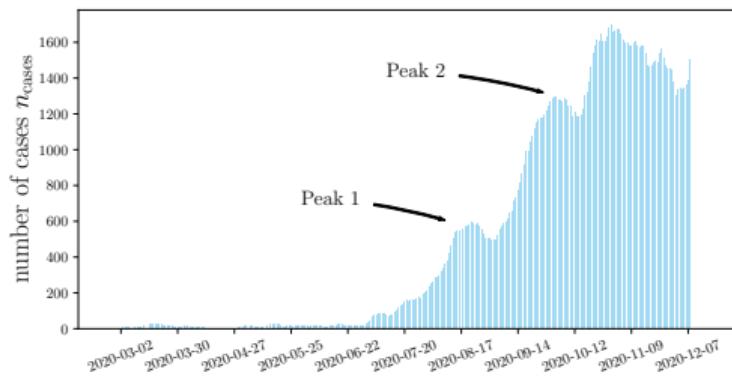
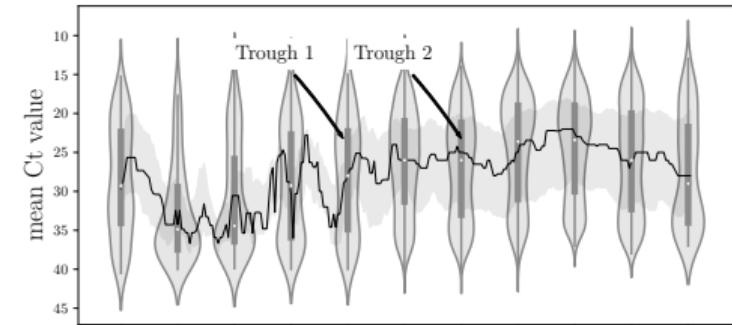
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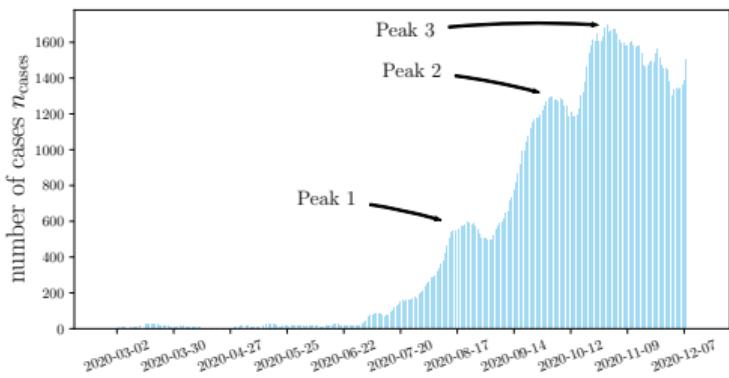
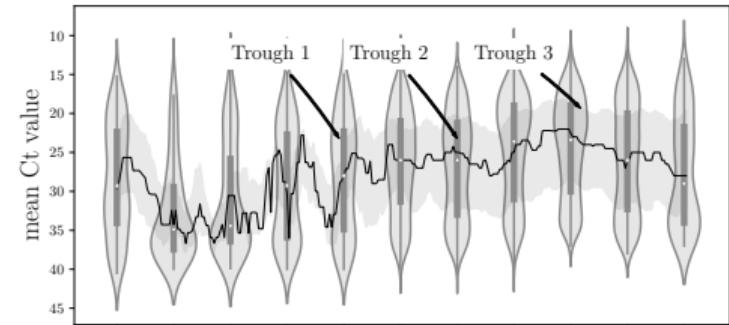
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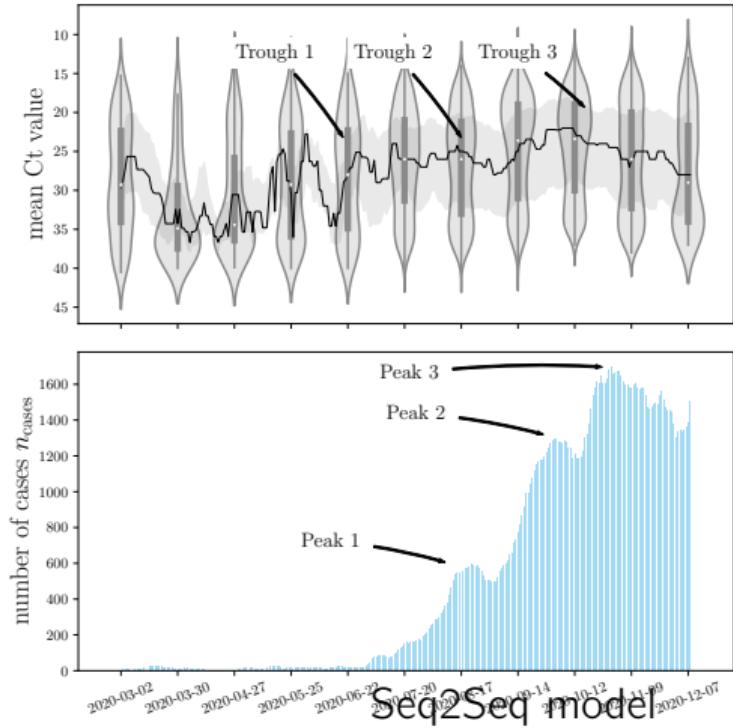
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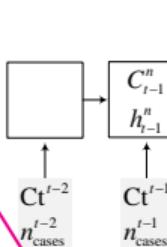
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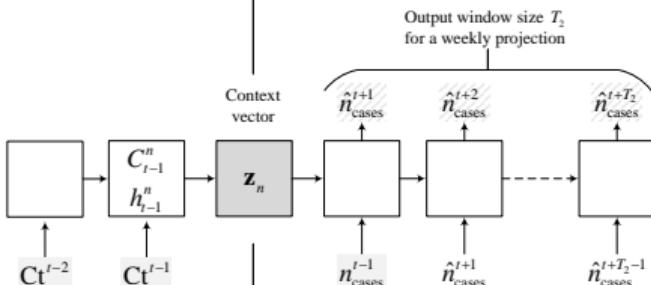
Seq2Seq model



Encoder



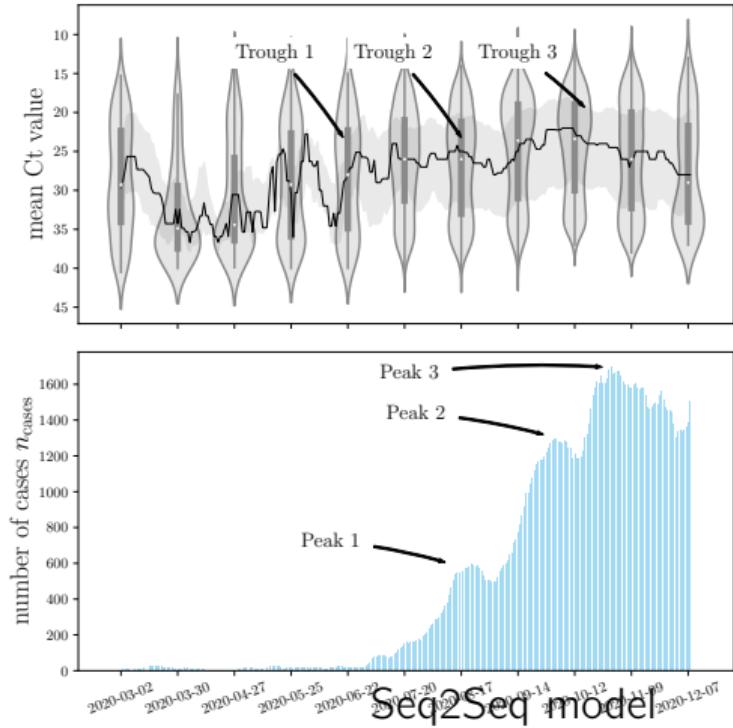
Decoder



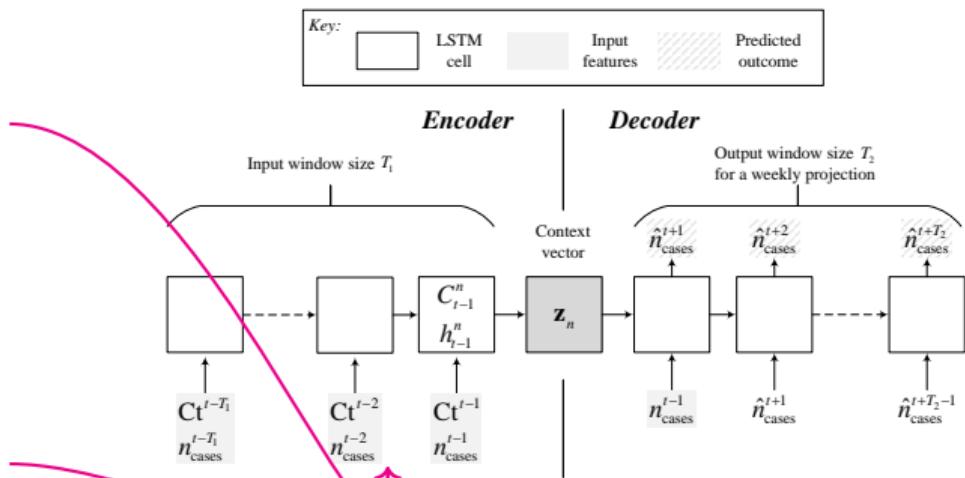


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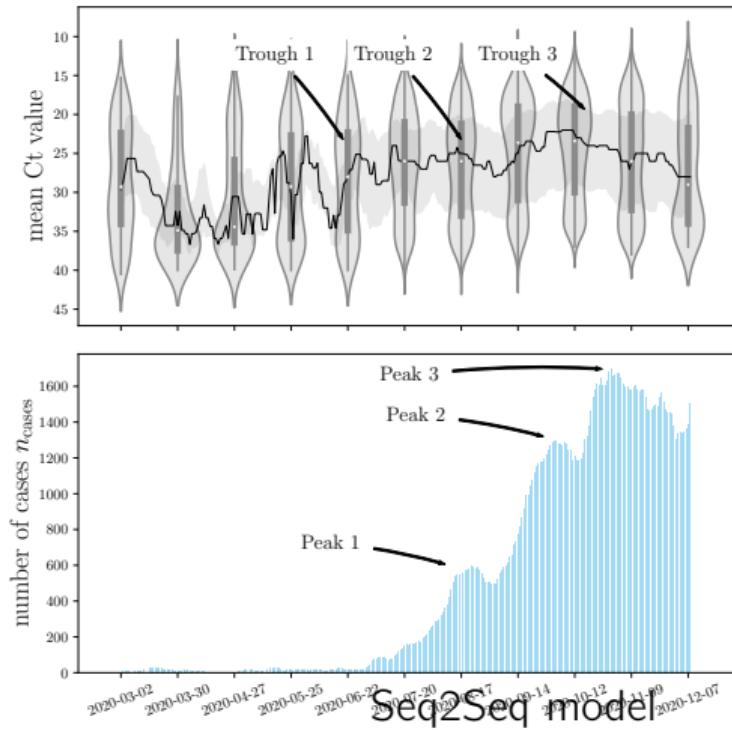
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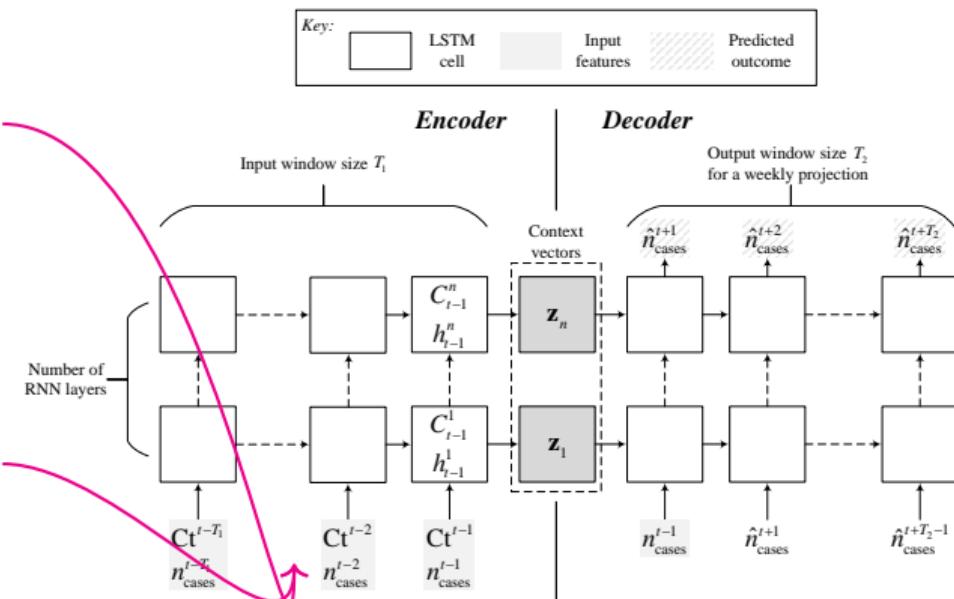


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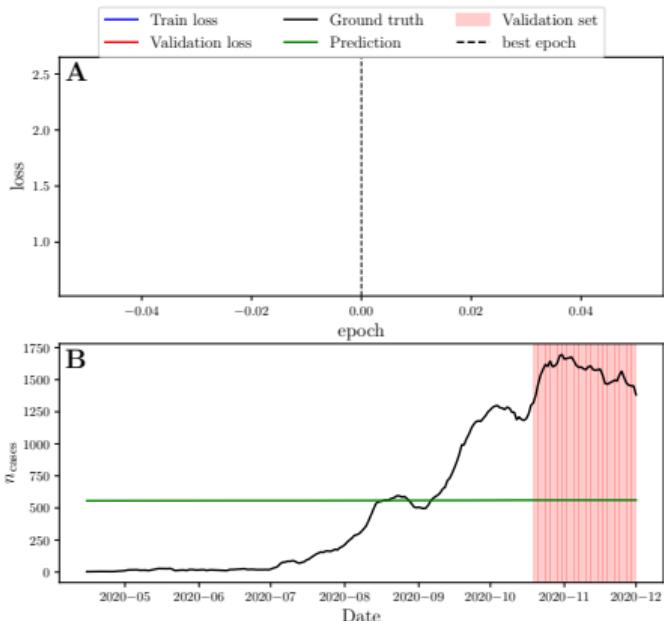




Training the model

There are several challenges associated with hyperparameter optimization

- The number of epochs can be tuned using *early stopping*
- This is a form of *regularization* to reduce over-fitting



Effect of number of epochs on testing loss



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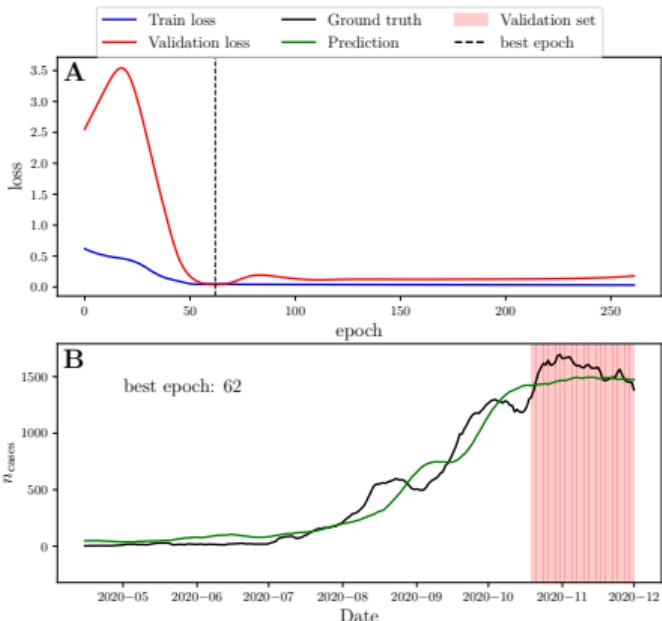


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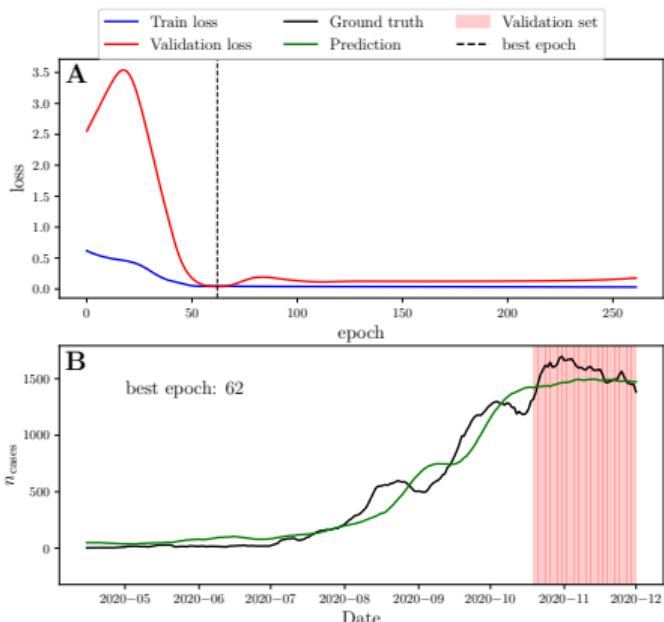
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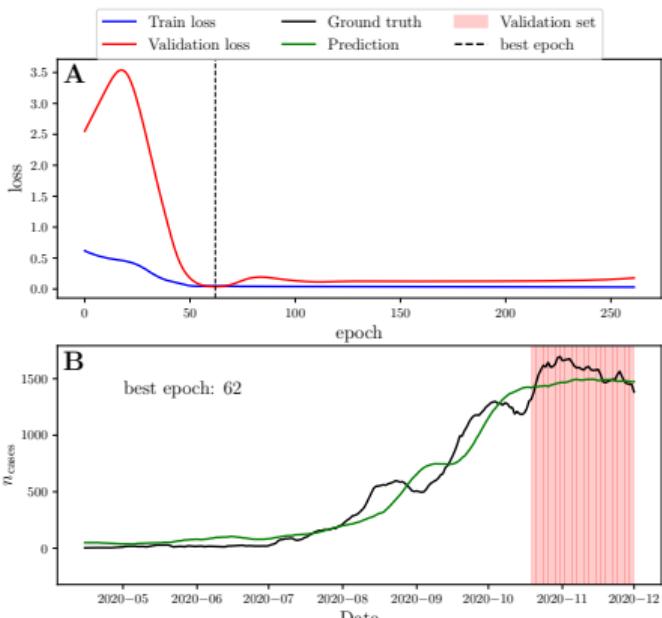
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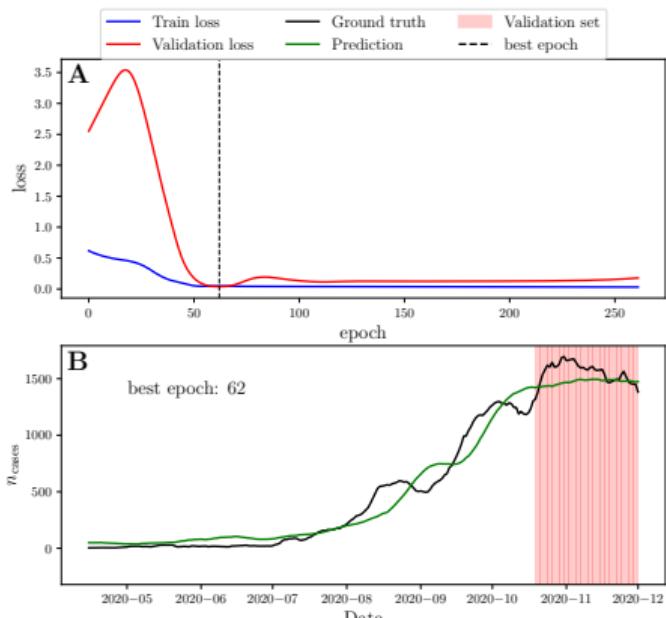
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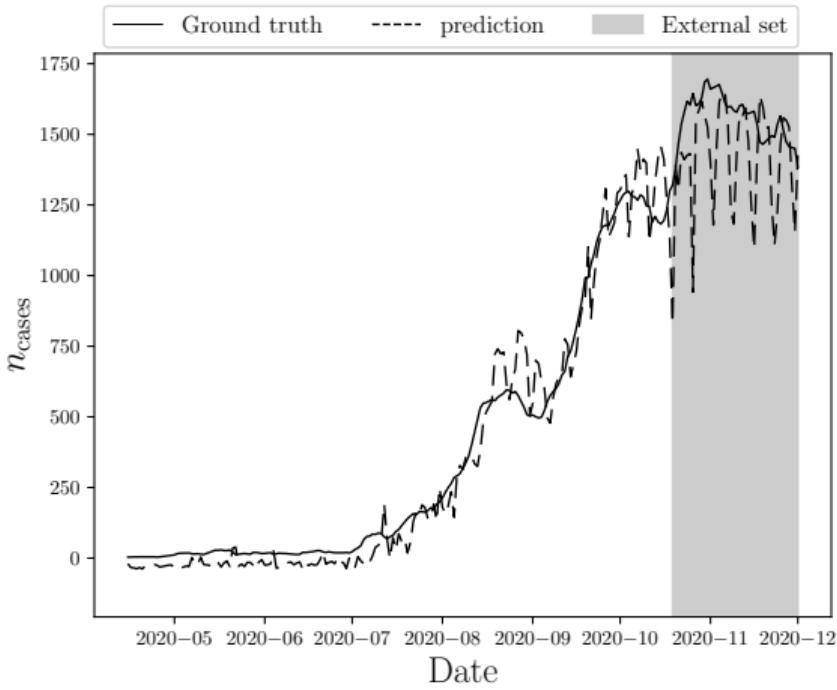
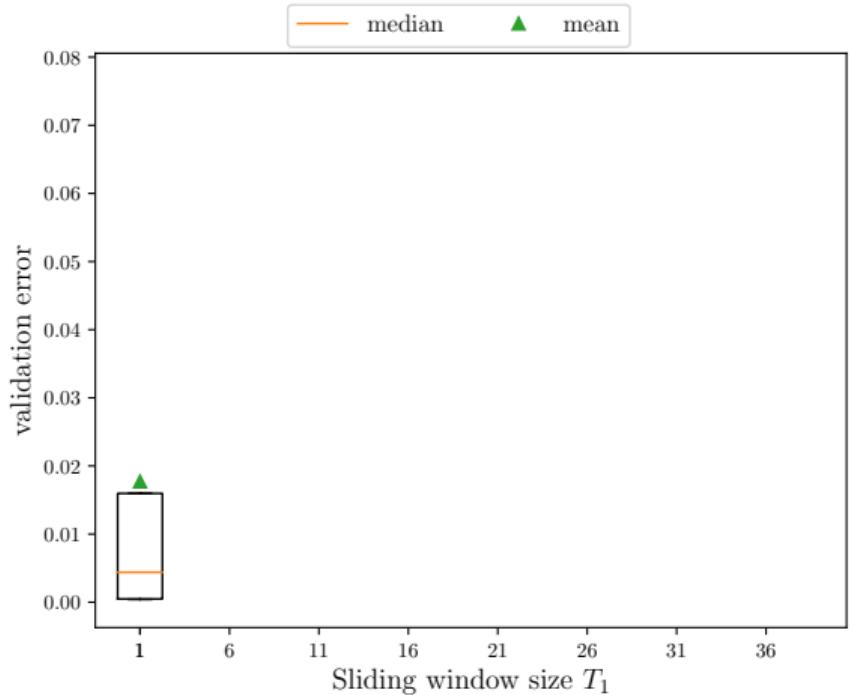


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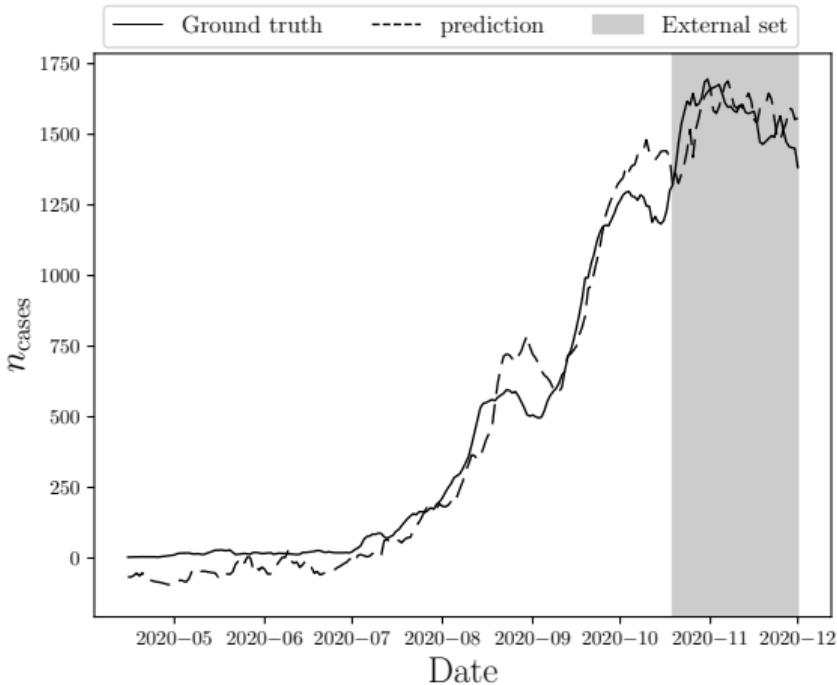
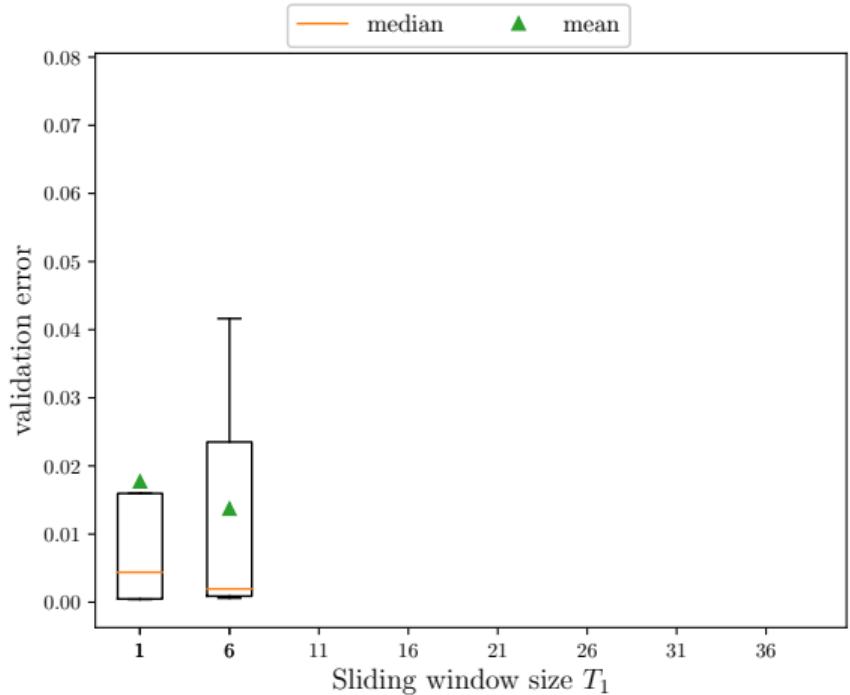
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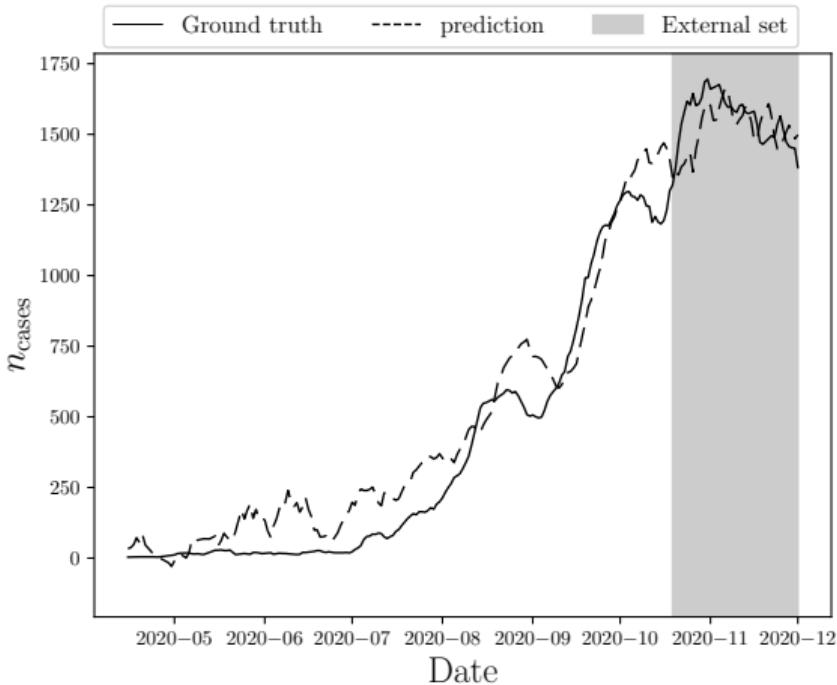
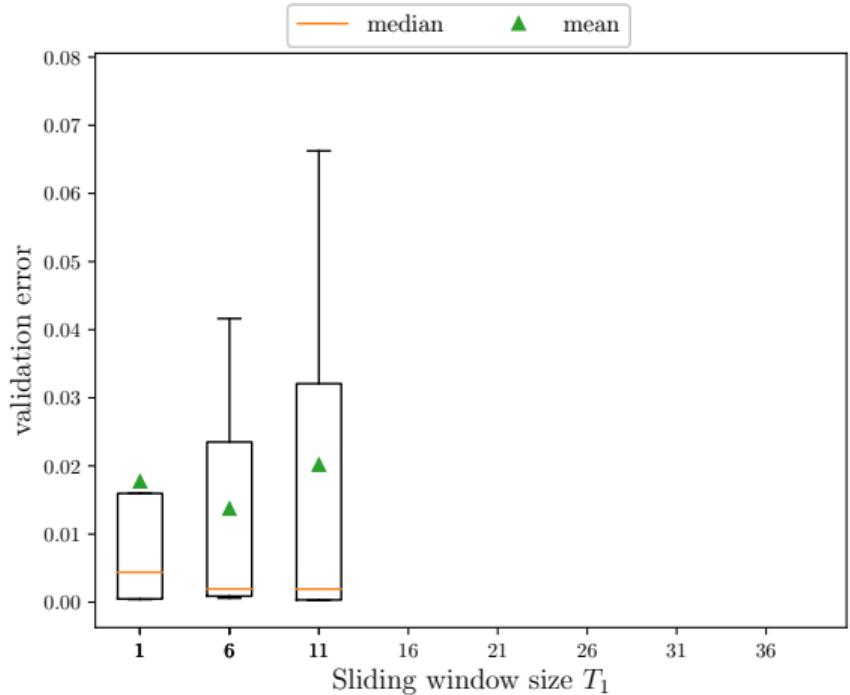
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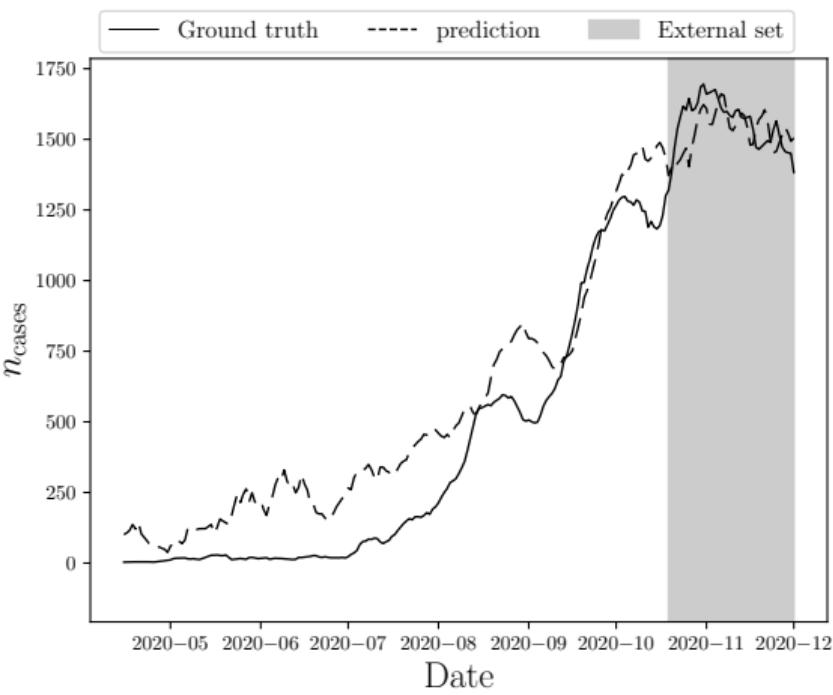
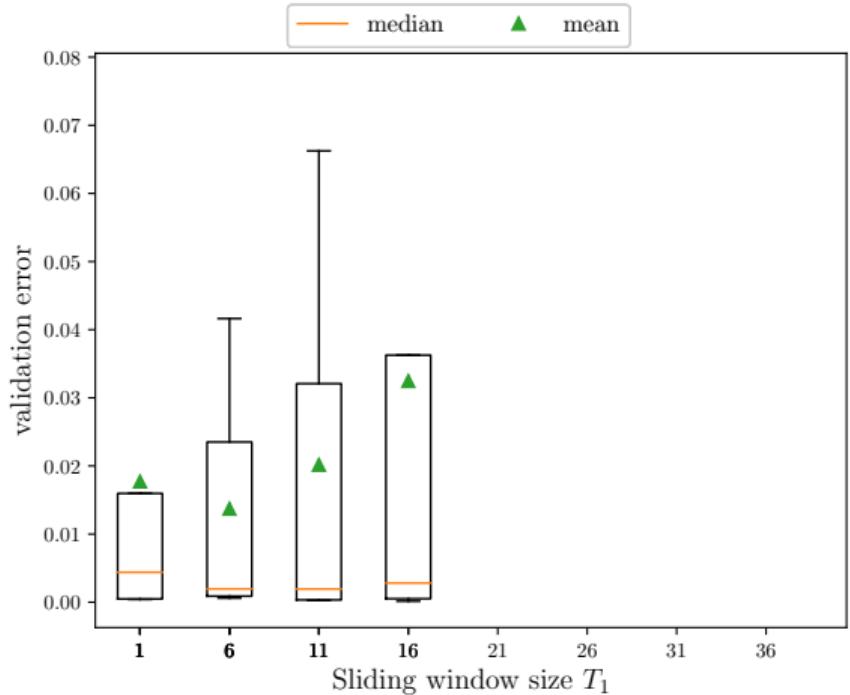
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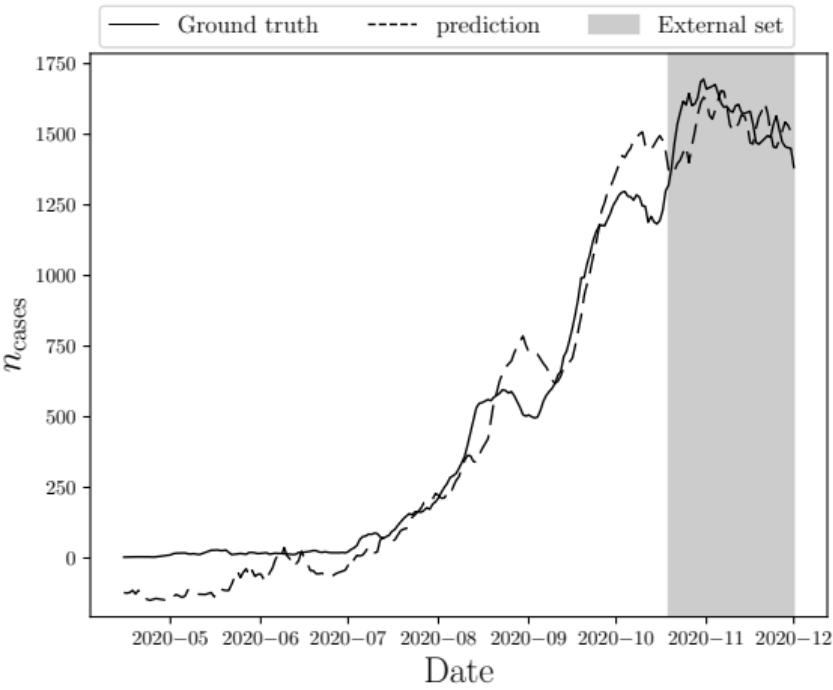
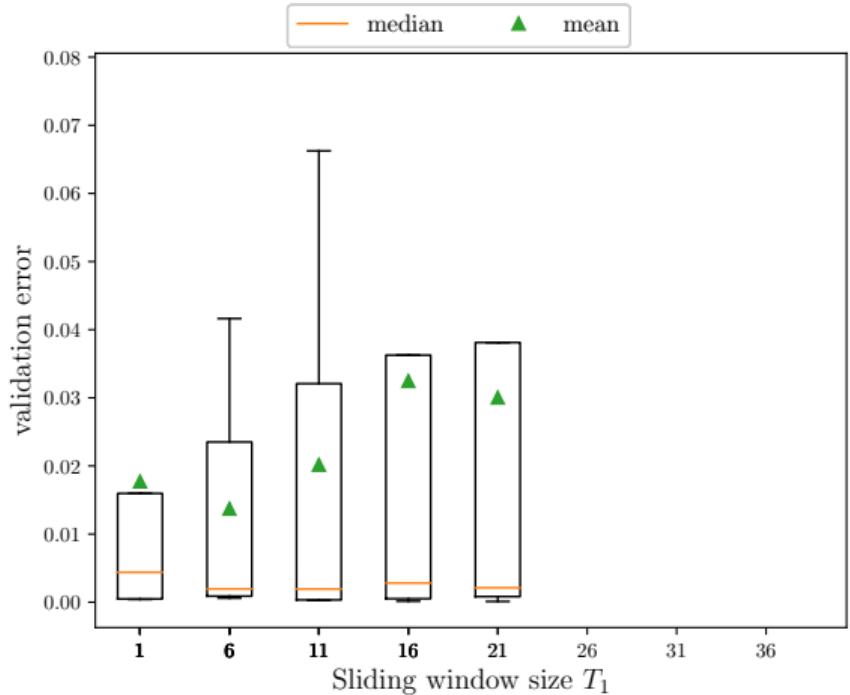
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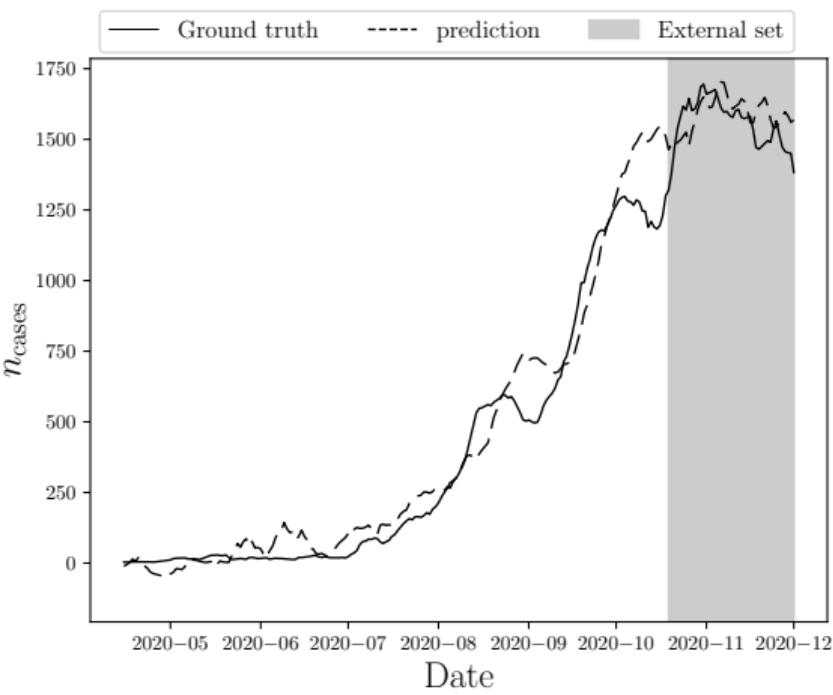
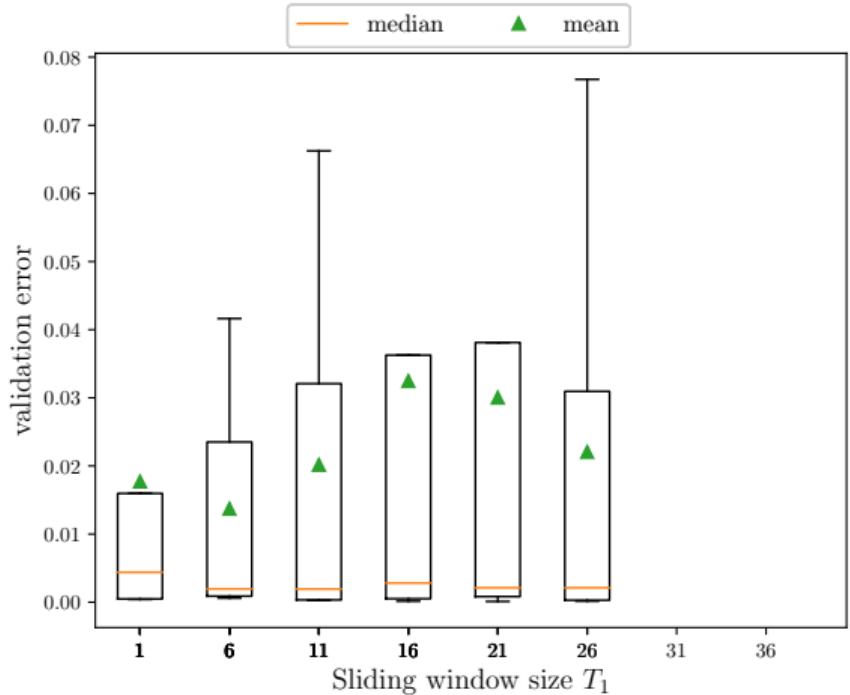
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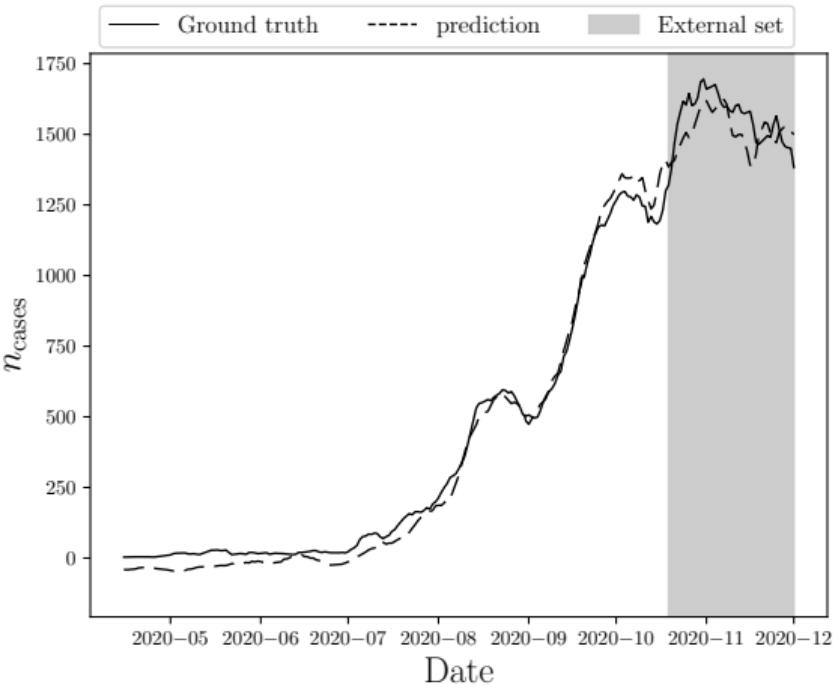
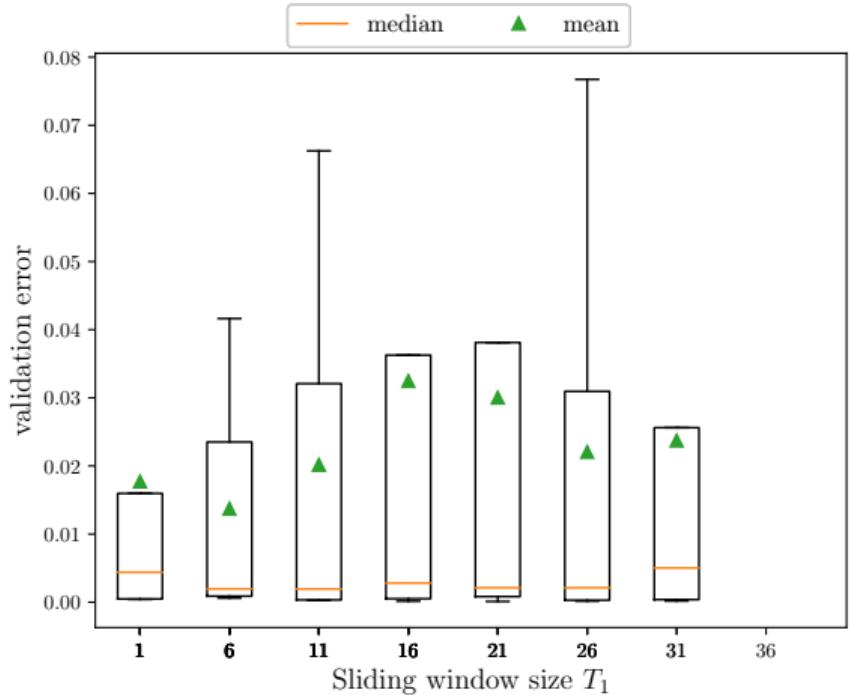
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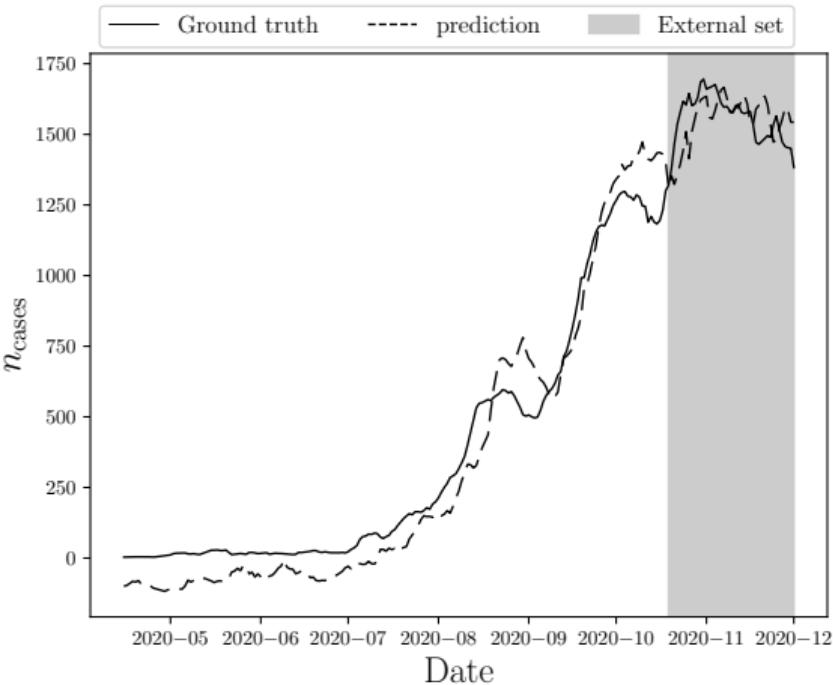
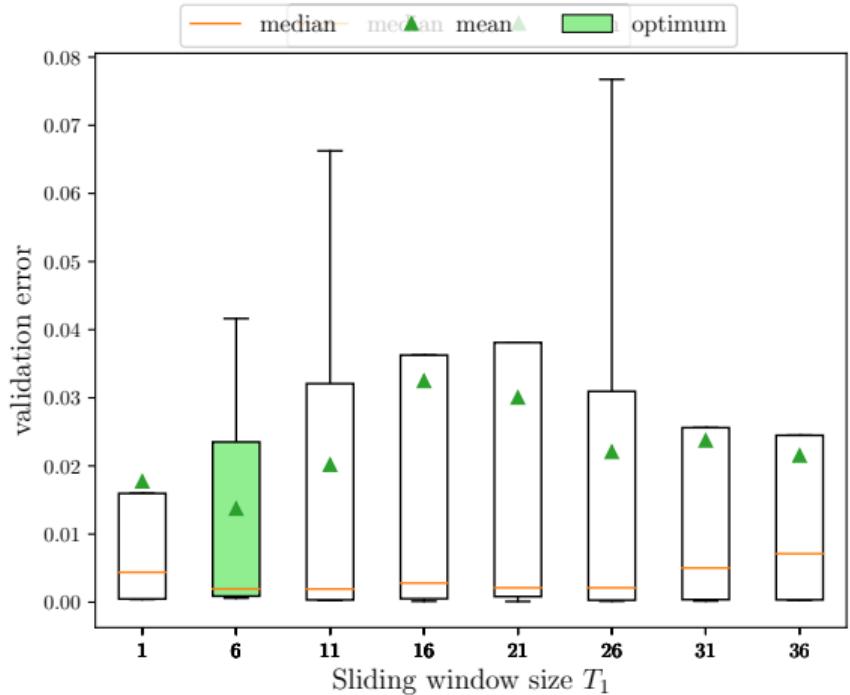
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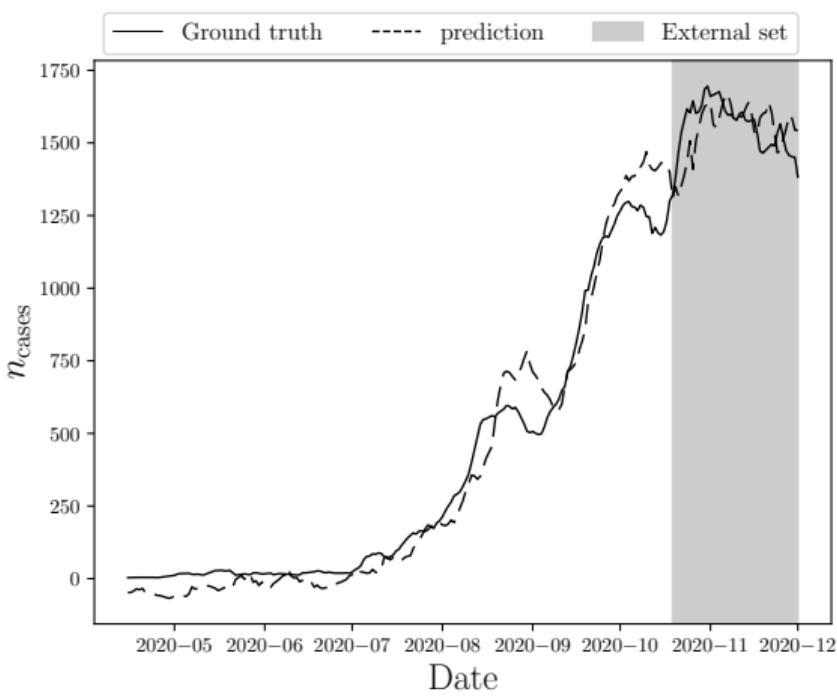
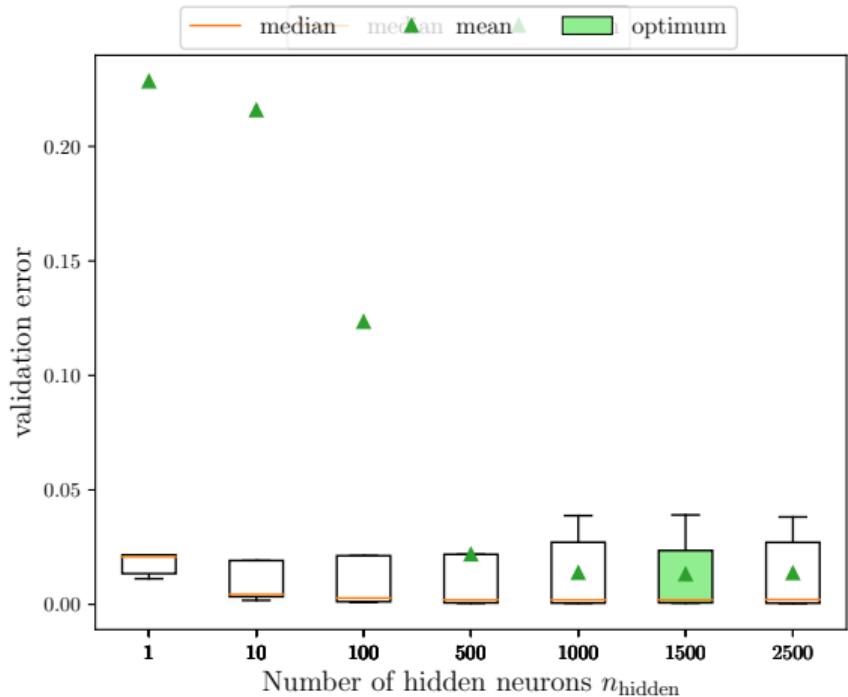
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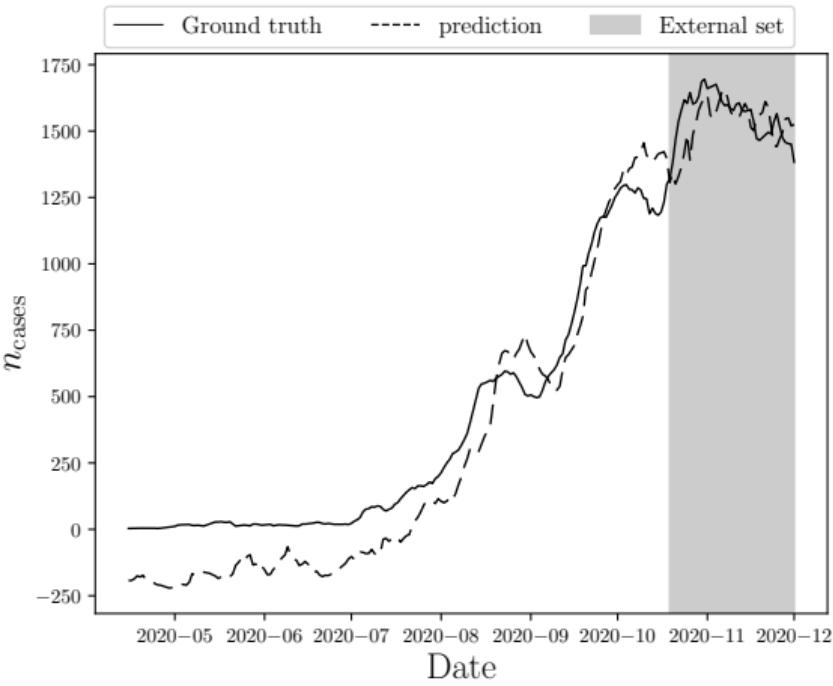
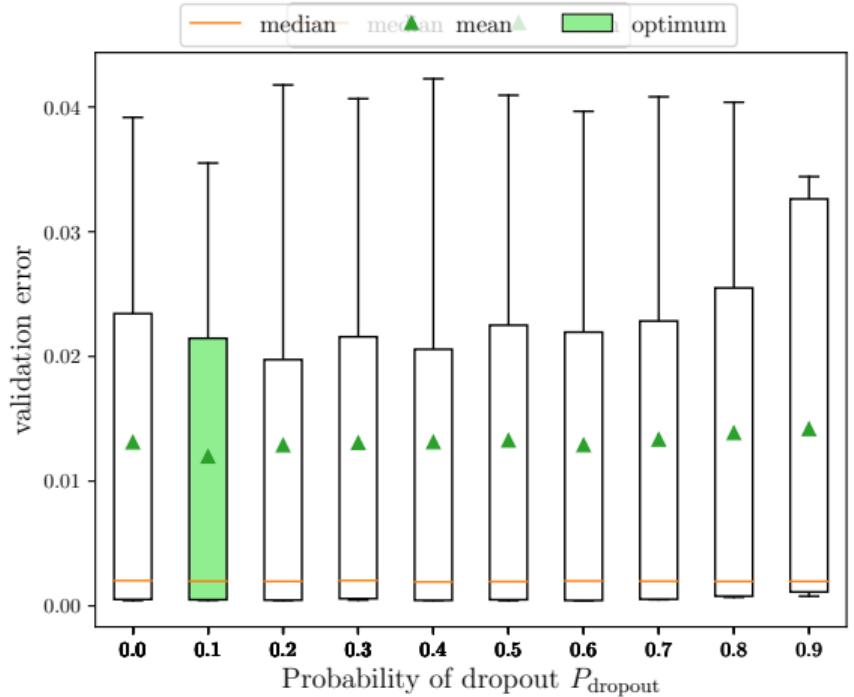
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$$\min_x \quad f(x) = \mathbb{E}_{\Theta} [f_{\Theta}(x) = \text{error}_{\text{CV}}]$$

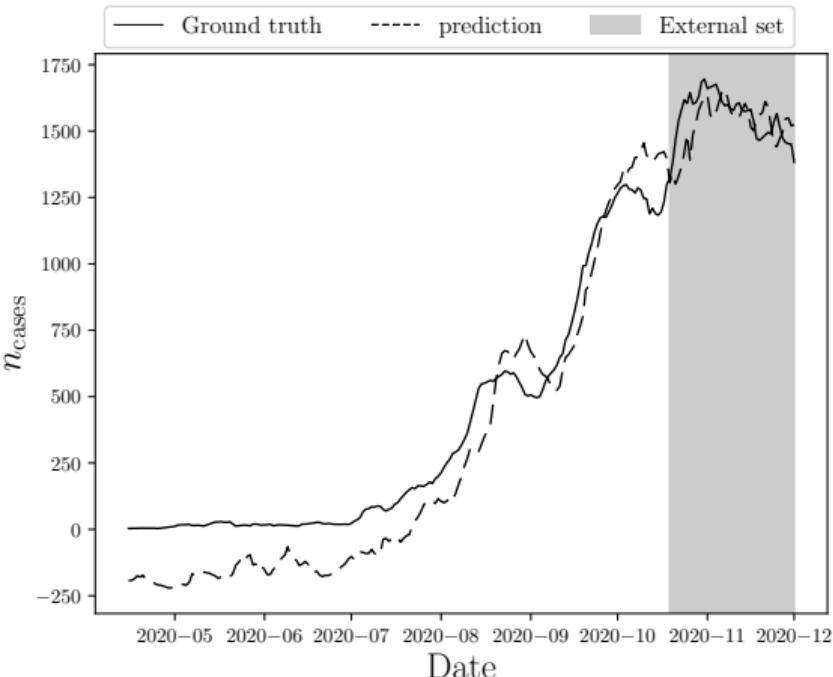
where Θ : realizations

Design variables (\mathbf{x})

- T_1 : Input dimension
- n_{hidden} : Number of hidden neurons
- P_{dropout} : Probability of dropout, etc.

Randomly seeded parameters

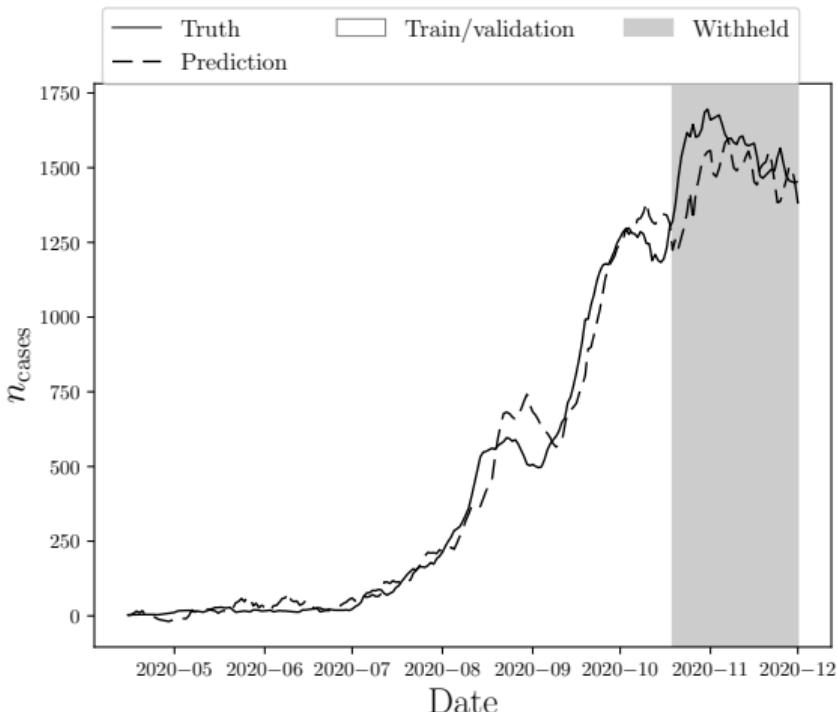
- Initial weights
- Gradient descent steps



Results: Optimal hyperparameters

Optimal hyperparameters for the *Seq2Seq* model:

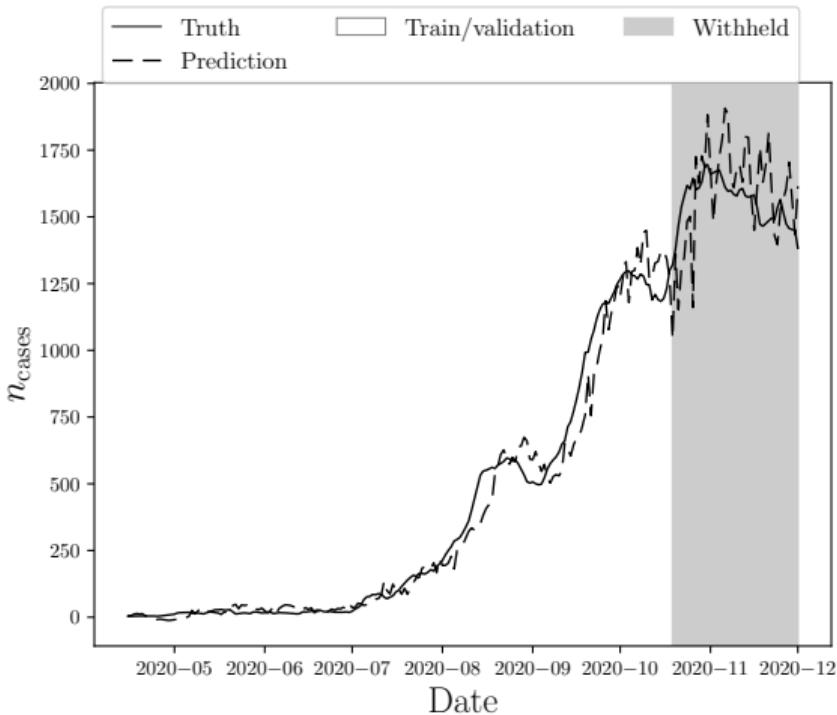
| Hyperparameter | | Value |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Sliding window size | T_1 | 6 |
| Number of hidden neurons | n_{hidden} | 1500 |
| Probability of dropout | P_{dropout} | 0.8 |
| Number of hidden layers | n_{hidden} | 2 |
| Teacher forcing probability | P_{teacher} | 0.3 |
| Learning rate | l_{rate} | 1×10^{-4} |
| batch size | b_{size} | 32 |



Results: Optimal hyperparameters

Optimal hyperparameters for the *support vector machine regression (SVR)* model:

| Hyperparameter | | Value |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Sliding window size | T_1 | 6 |
| Ridge factor | λ | 1×10^{-4} |
| Margin of tolerance | ϵ | 1×10^{-2} |
| Stopping criteria tolerance | ϵ_{tol} | 0.1 |
| Learning rate | l_{rate} | 1×10^{-5} |



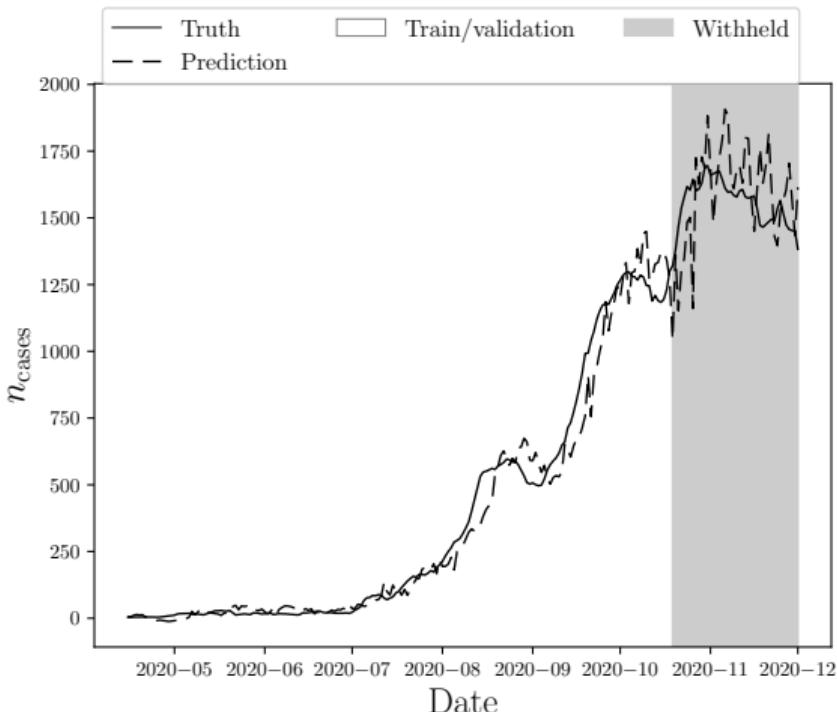


Results: Optimal hyperparameters

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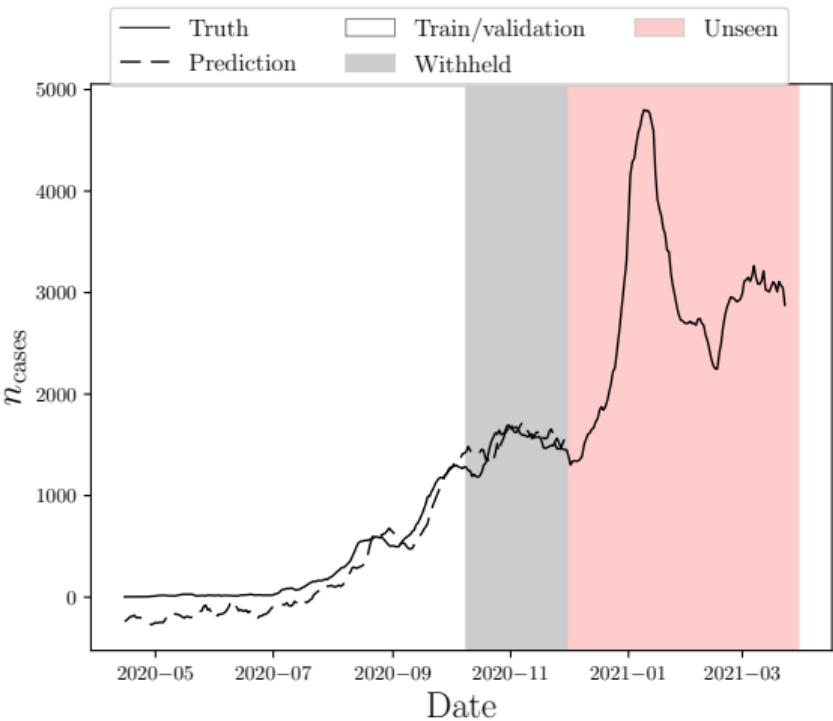
Support vector machine models have
deterministic performance



Results: Prospective validation

Performance of models on **unseen** data (first 4 months of 2021):

| Model | Test error |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Seq2Seq | 0.571 |
| Long short term memory (LSTM) cell | 0.326 |
| feedforward neural network | 0.255 |
| Support vector machine | 0.168 |
| Gradient boosting | 1.444 |
| Linear regression | 0.160 |

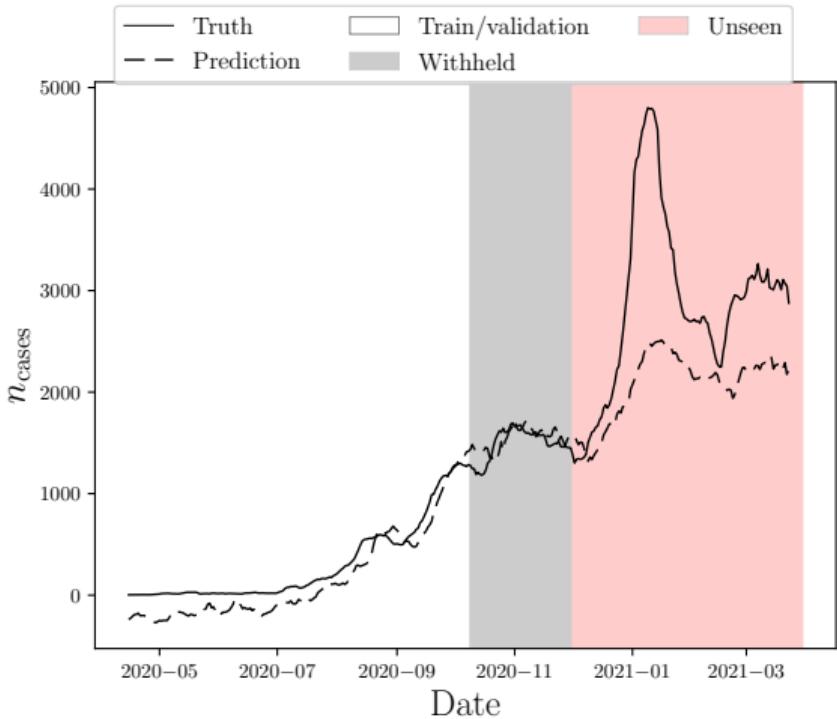




Results: Prospective validation

Performance of models on **unseen** data (first 4 months of 2021):

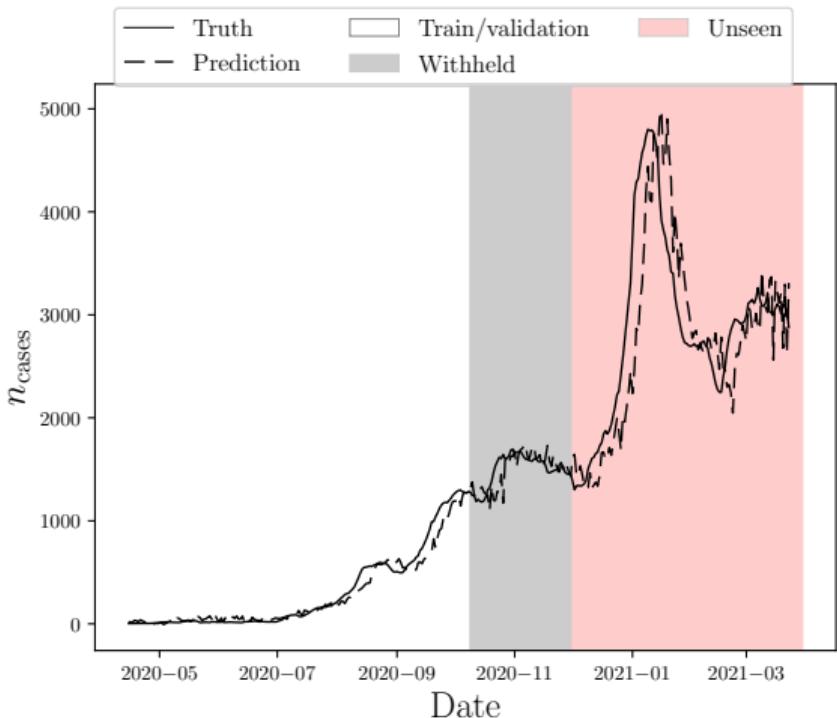
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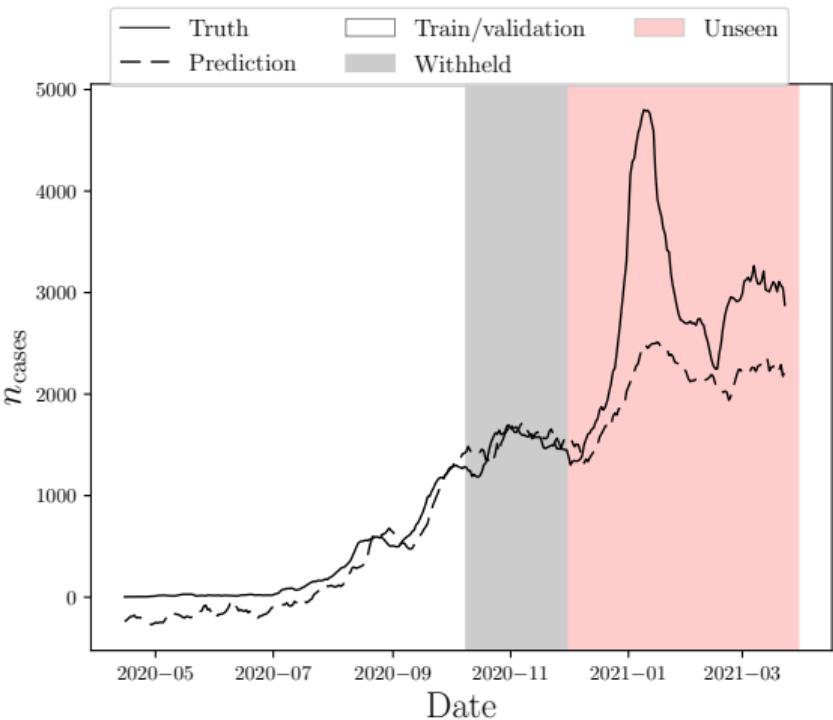
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Results: Prospective validation

Effect of increasing number of training days (Adding 1 month of data):

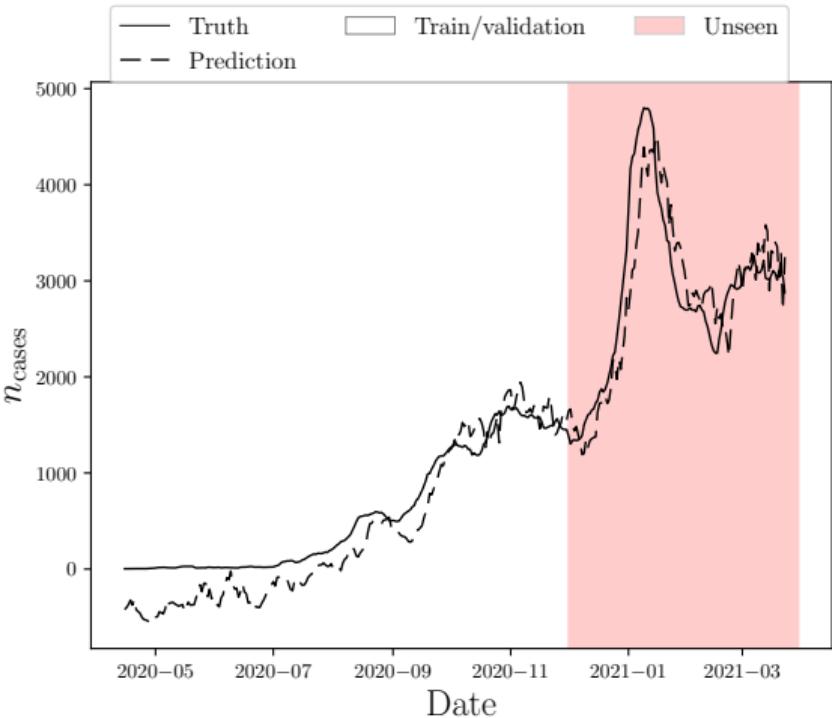
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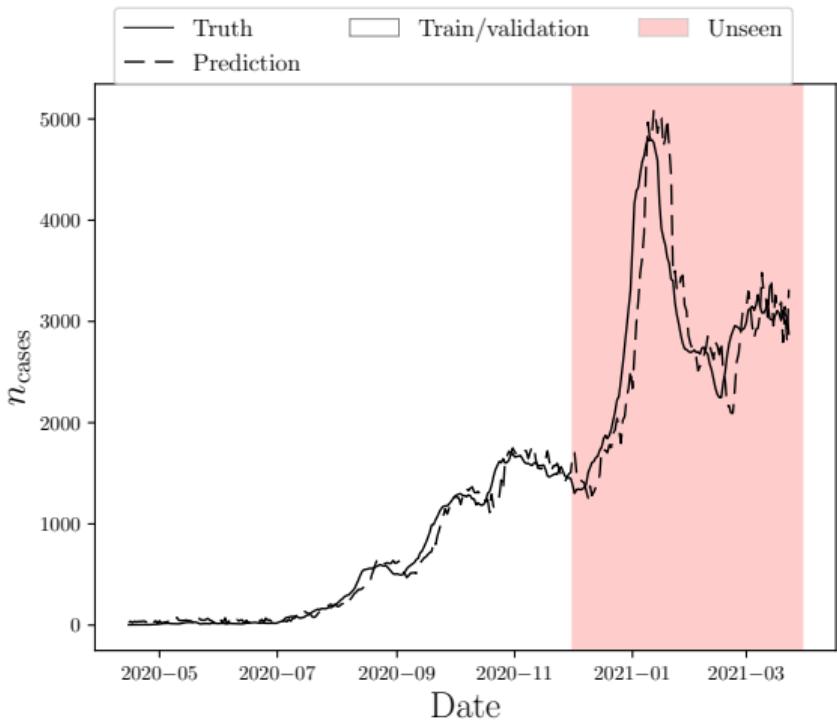
| Model | Test error |
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| Seq2Seq | 0.106 |
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Conclusion and future directions

Model discovery and development facilitated by hyperparameter optimization



Conclusion and future directions

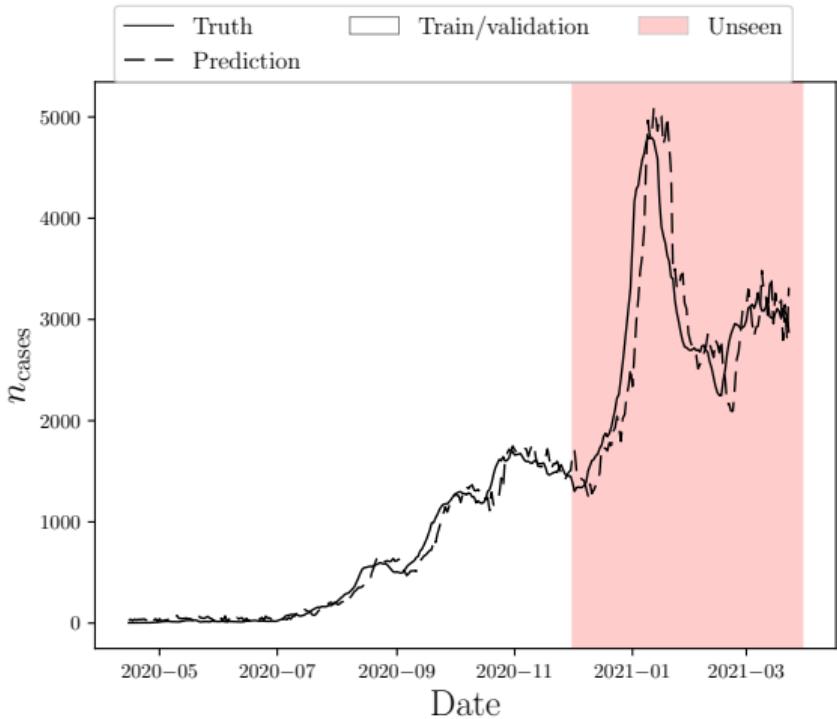
Model discovery and development facilitated by hyperparameter optimization

- Cycle Threshold (C_t) is a useful feature for incidence projection



Model discovery and development facilitated by hyperparameter optimization

- Cycle Threshold (C_t) is a useful feature for incidence projection
- Model that generalizes well on unseen data

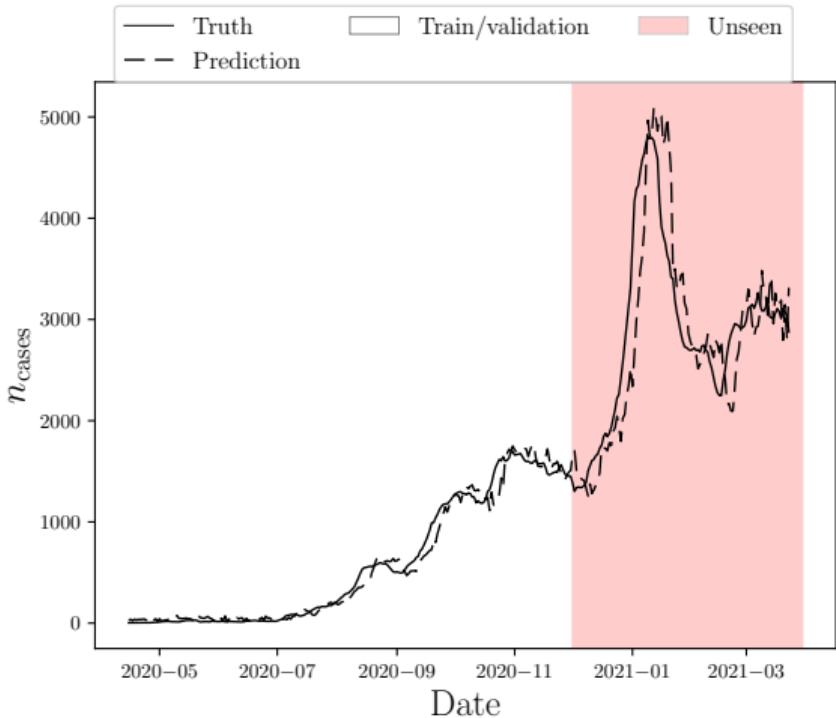


Conclusion and future directions



Model discovery and development facilitated by hyperparameter optimization

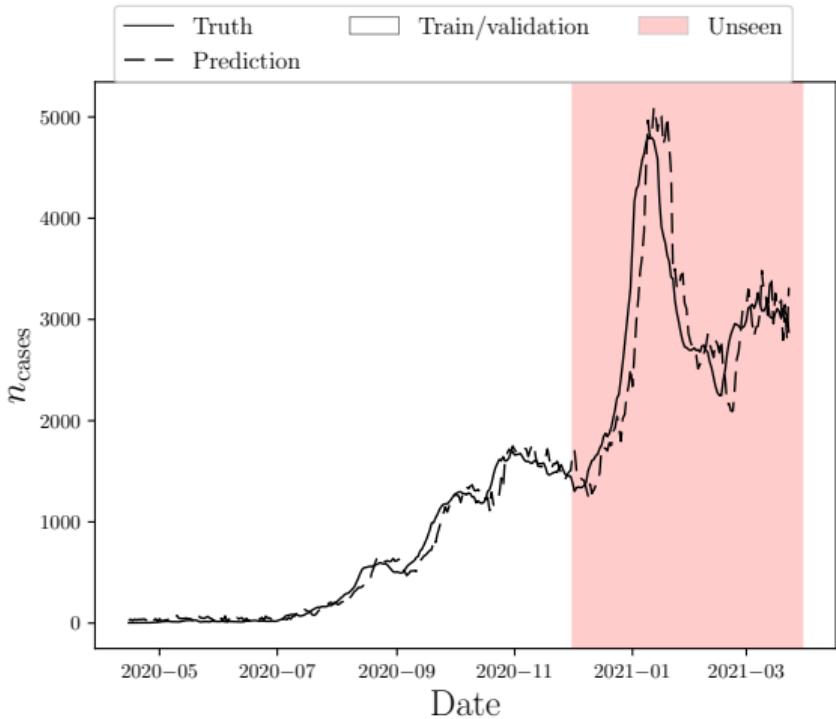
- Cycle Threshold (C_t) is a useful feature for incidence projection
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- Simpler models perform well when historical data is limited





Model discovery and development facilitated by hyperparameter optimization

- Cycle Threshold (C_t) is a useful feature for incidence projection
- Model that generalizes well on unseen data
- Simpler models perform well when historical data is limited
- Works well on other datasets¹



Conclusion and future directions

StoMADS can be improved to solve a wide variety of HPO problems

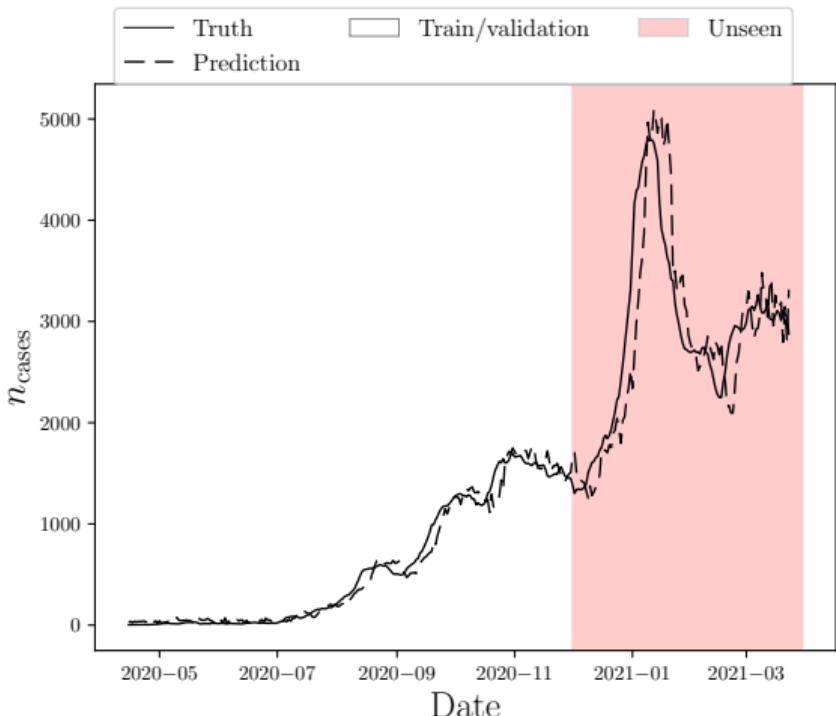
- Can be used to meet deployment targets

Objective and constraints

$$\min_x \quad f(x) = \mathbb{E}_{\Theta} [f_{\Theta}(x) = \text{error}_{\text{CV}}]$$

$$\text{subject to} \quad c(x) = \text{inference time} - \text{threshold} \leq 0$$

where Θ : realizations



Conclusion and future directions

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- Can be used to meet deployment targets

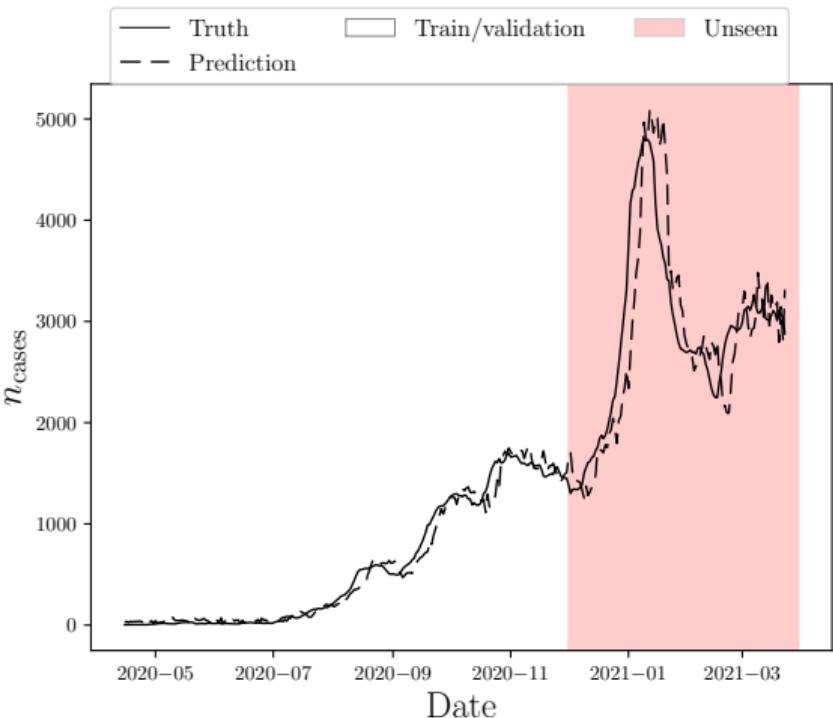
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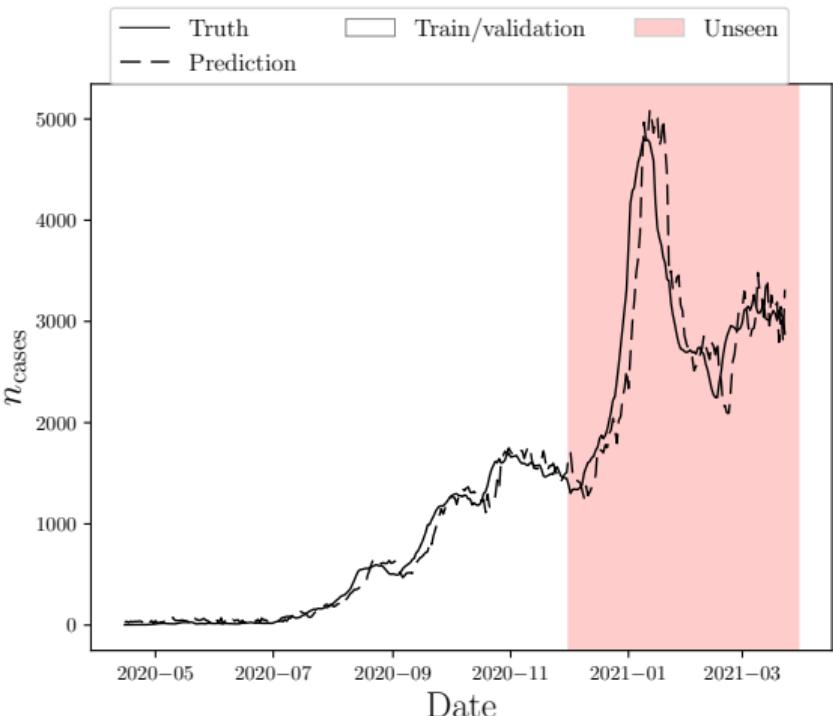
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- Should be benchmarked against HyperNOMAD¹, Bayesian optimization²
- Mixed variable version is needed



Thank you for your time



Open source GPU implementation of agent-based modeling



Overview of stochastic mesh adaptive direct search

No gradient information available, blackbox is expensive and **noisy**

Objective and constraints

$$\min_x \quad f(x) = \mathbb{E}_\Theta [f_\Theta(x)]$$

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where x : variables Θ : realizations

- Constructs estimates of objective:

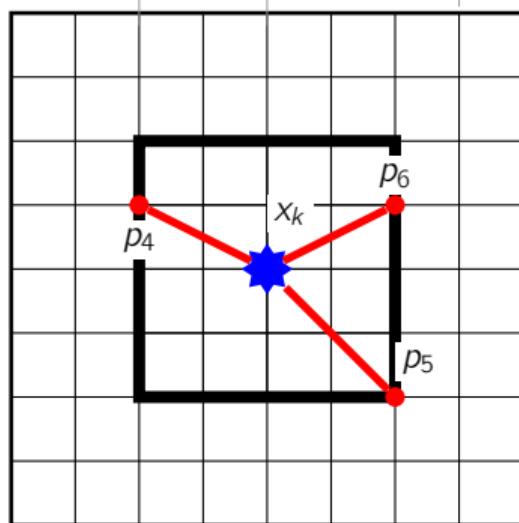
$$f^k = \frac{1}{n^k} \sum_{i=1}^{n^k} f_{\Theta_0,i}(x_k)$$

- n^k is the sampling rate

Poll failure

$$\delta_{\text{poll}}^k = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\delta_{\text{mesh}}^k = \frac{1}{4}$$





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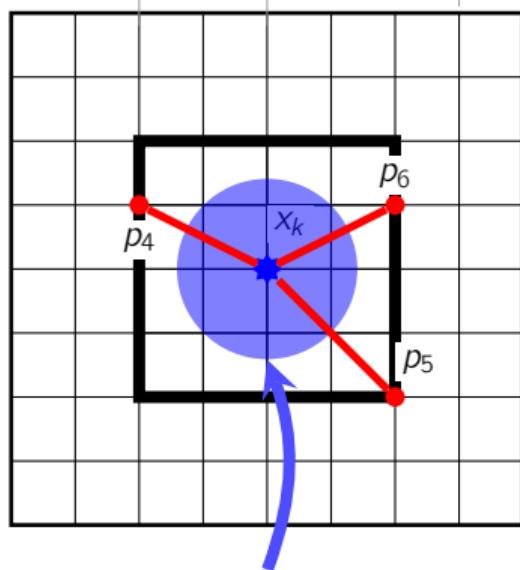
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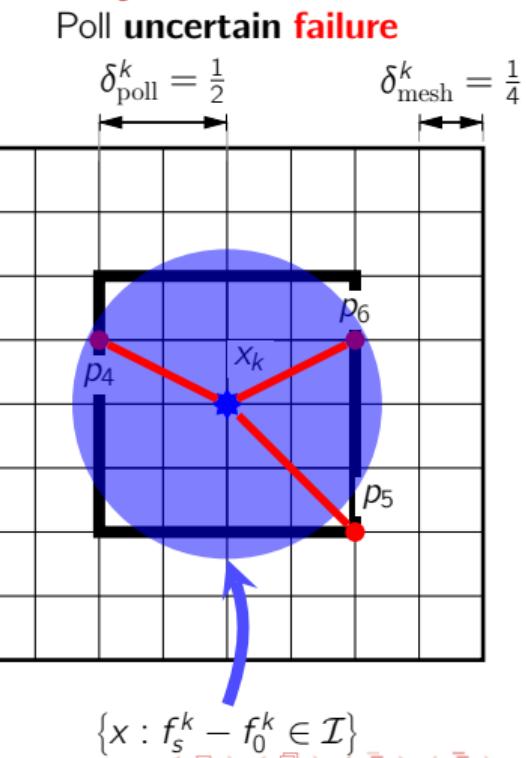
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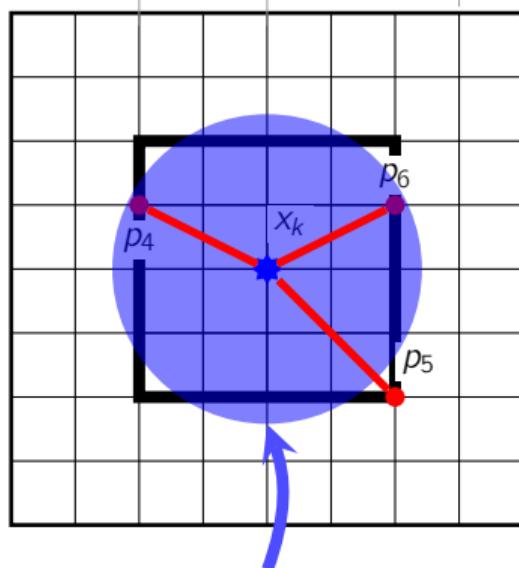
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Constraint handling using the *progressive barrier* approach²

Poll **uncertain failure**

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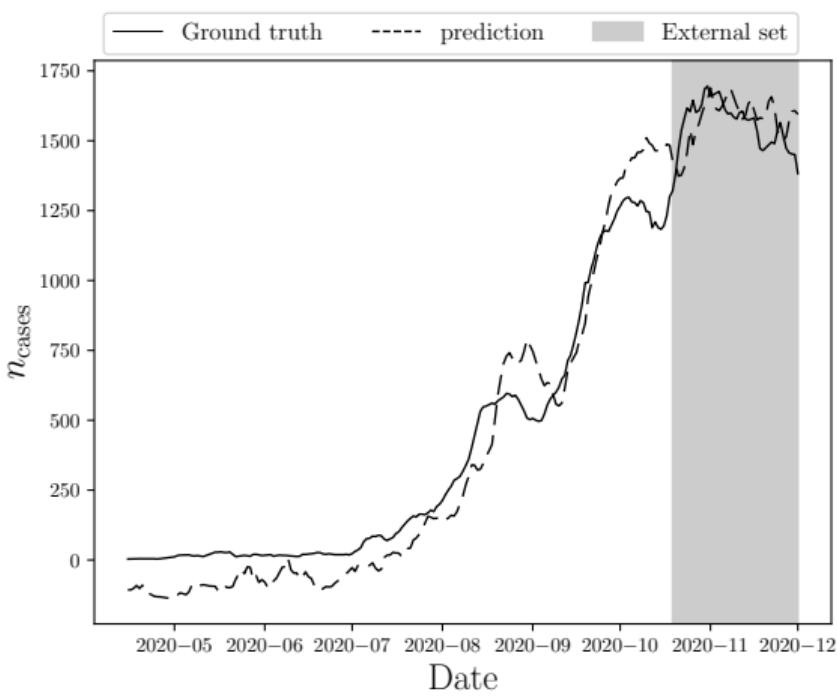
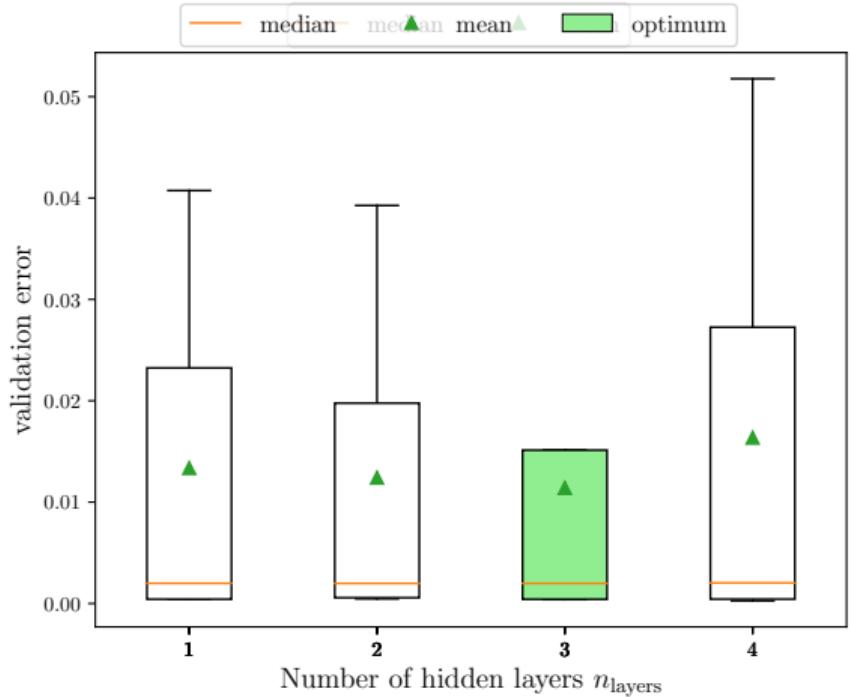
$$\delta_{\text{mesh}}^k = \frac{1}{4}$$



$$\{x : f_s^k - f_0^k \in \mathcal{I}\}$$

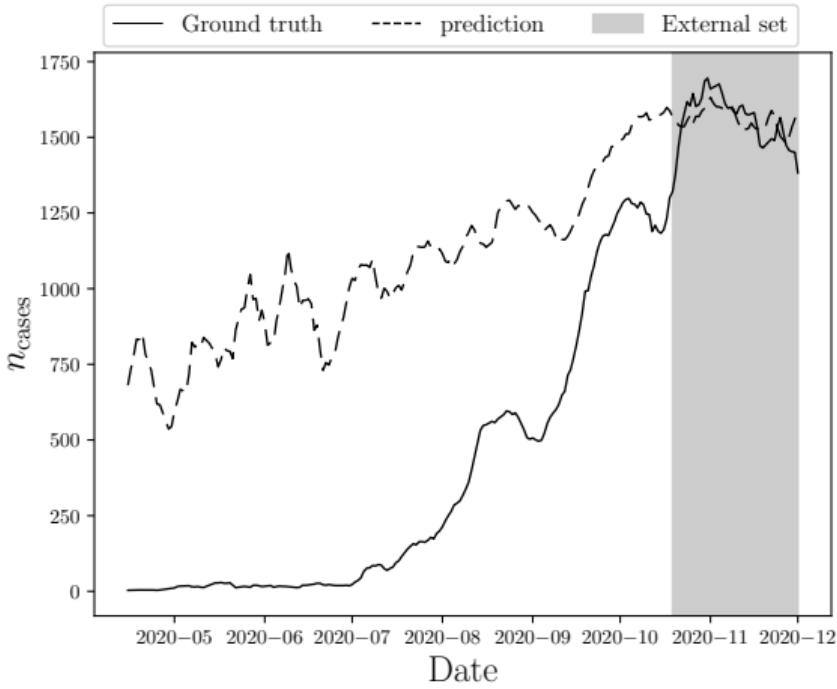
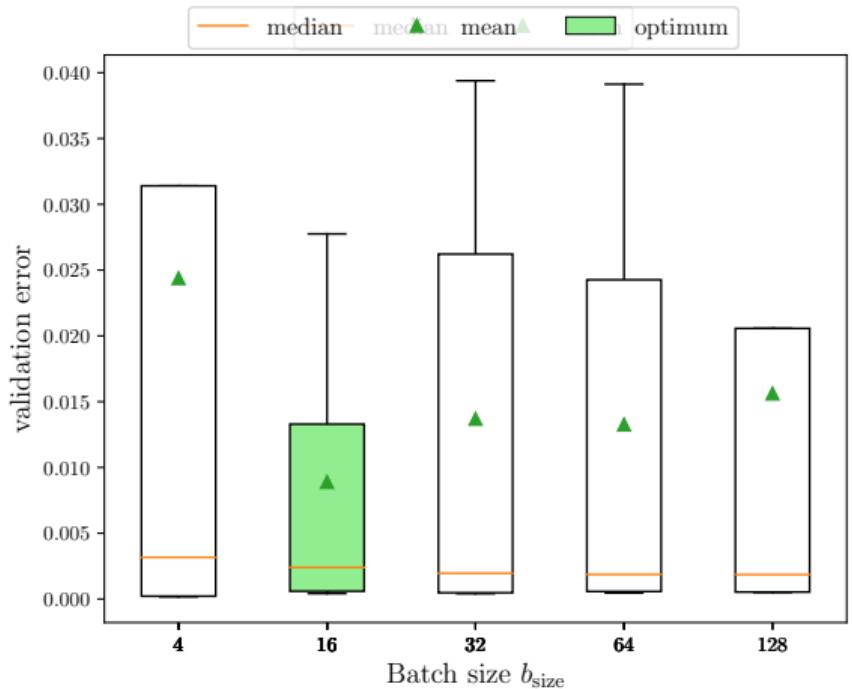
Hyperparameter tuning: other hyperparameters

We can use StoMADS to solve such hyperparameter optimization problems



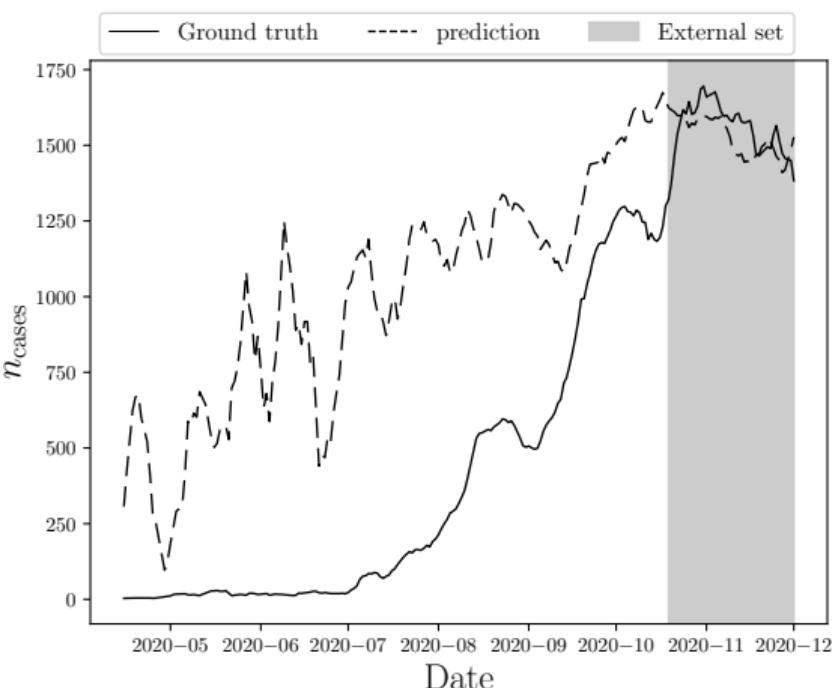
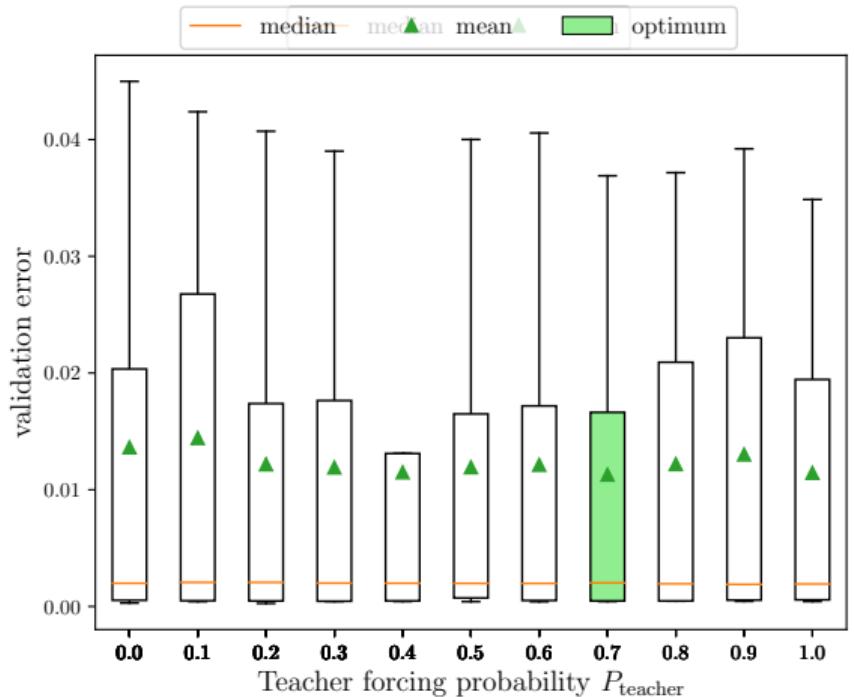
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