



# Accounting for Model Errors in Probabilistic Linear Identification of Nonlinear PDE Systems

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# Motivation

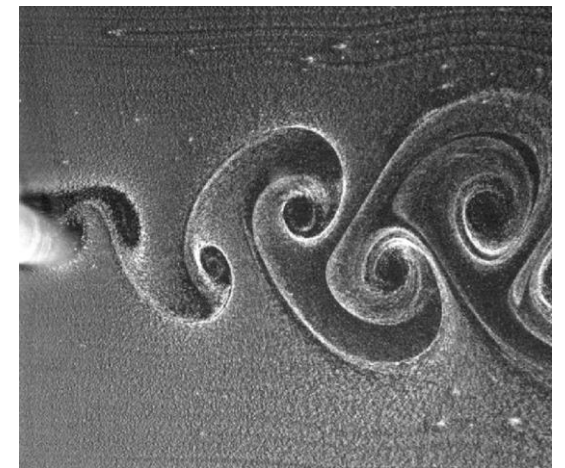
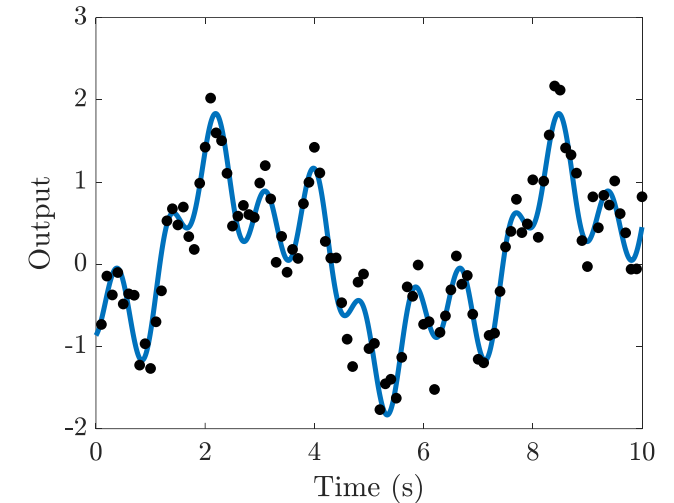
Objective: learn a model of a dynamical system from data

Two primary design choices in system identification:

- Model structure
  - Neural networks
  - Universal approximators
- Objective function
  - Least squared error
  - Regularization

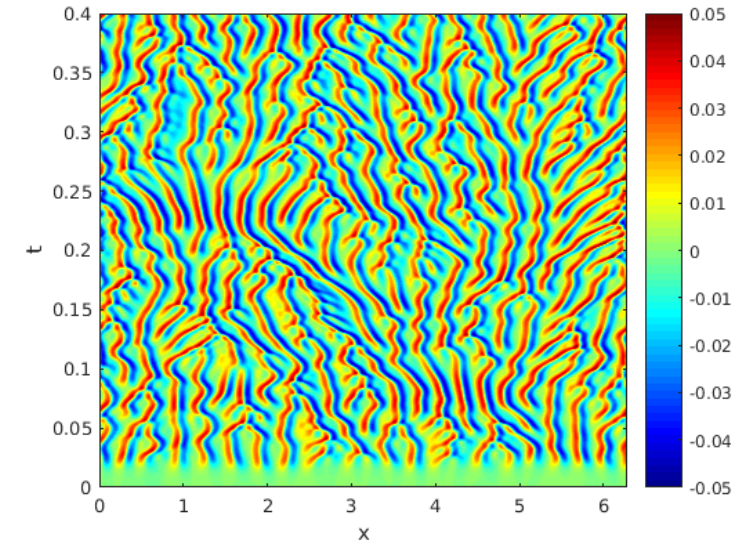
A good algorithm will:

- Handle sparse and noisy data
- Scale well with dimension
- Trade off bias and variance optimally



# Motivation

- Linear approximations are commonly used to reduce the computational burden of evaluating a model
  - Estimation of high-dimensional models can be intractable
  - Real-time prediction/control requires inexpensive models
- Estimating a model that does not match the underlying system introduces uncertainty into the problem
- Common methods struggle when this model uncertainty is accompanied with measurement noise
- Good estimation requires proper management of (1) model, (2) measurement, and (3) parameter uncertainty



Gouasmi, et. al



# Outline

1. Existing approaches
2. Probabilistic formulation
3. Bayesian inference
4. Algorithm/Marginal likelihood
5. Results
6. Takeaways

# Existing Approaches

Least squares-based objective functions

(a) Assumes perfect model

$$J(\theta) = \sum_{k=1}^n \|y_k - h(x(t_k), \theta)\|_2^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = f(t, x; \theta)$$

(b) Assumes noiseless measurements

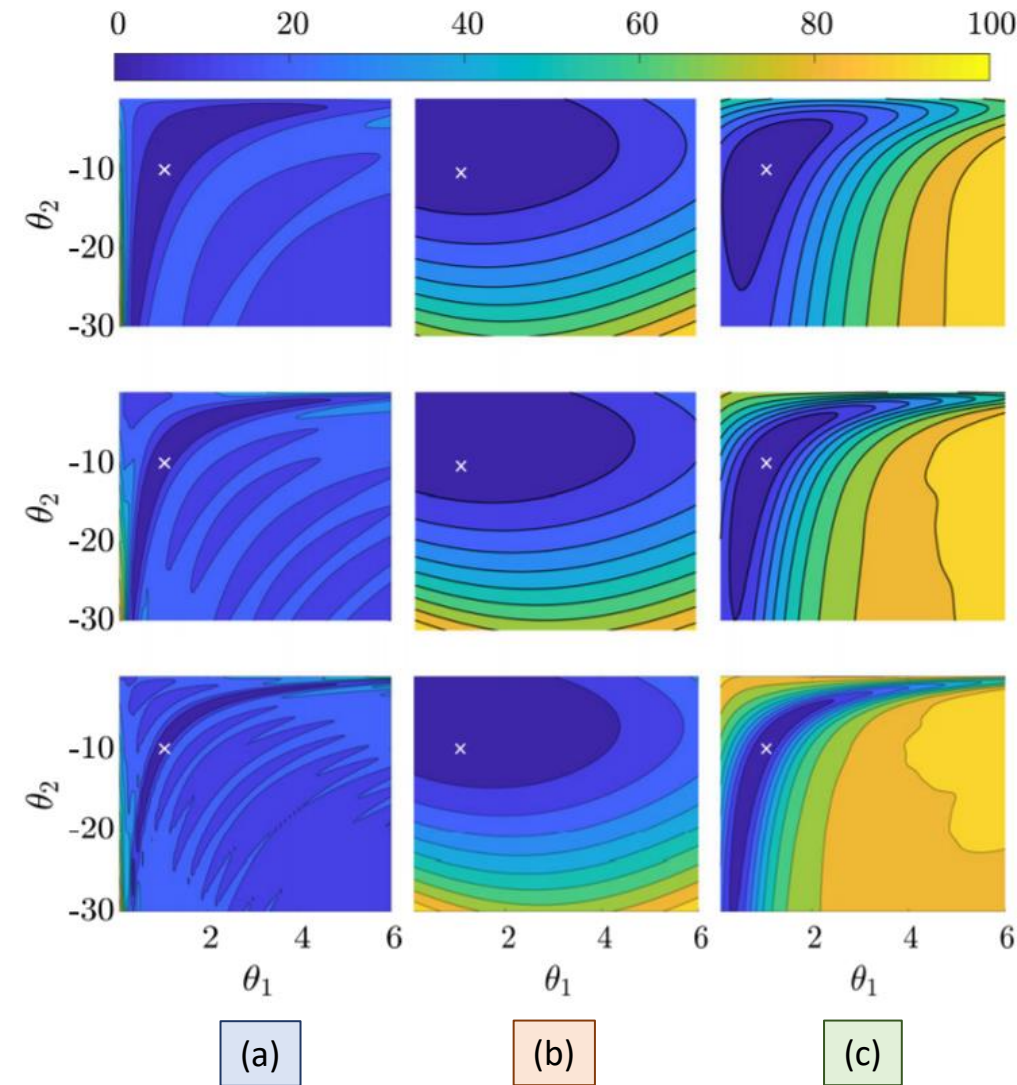
$$J(\theta) = \sum_{k=1}^n \|y_k - \Psi(y_{k-1}; \theta)\|_2^2$$

(c) Noisy measurements + model error (process noise)

- Optimal combination of (a) and (b)

	(a)	(b)	(c)
Steep optimization surfaces without plateaus	✓	✗	✓
Suppresses local minima	✗	✓	✓
Increased confidence with data	✓	✗	✓

# measurements



# Probabilistic Formulation

Joint parameter-state estimation with stochastic dynamics

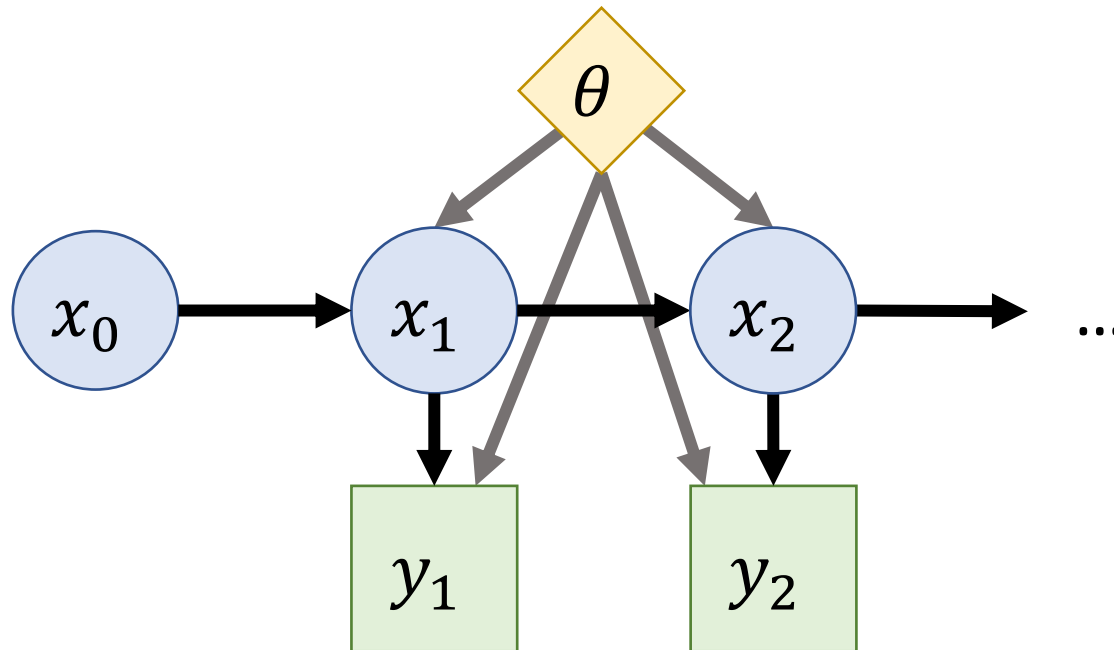
$$X_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_x}, \quad Y_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_y}, \quad \theta = (\theta_\Psi, \theta_h, \theta_\Sigma, \theta_\Gamma) \in \mathbb{R}^{d_\theta}$$

$$X_k = \Psi(X_{k-1}, \theta_\Psi) + \xi_k; \quad \xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma(\theta_\Sigma))$$

$$Y_k = h(X_k, \theta_h) + \eta_k; \quad \eta_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Gamma(\theta_\Gamma))$$

The process noise term  $\xi_k$  accounts for model error

- Parameter error
- Integration error
- Insufficient model expressiveness



1. Parameter Uncertainty
2. Model Uncertainty
3. Measurement Uncertainty

# Probabilistic Formulation (Linear)

Joint parameter-state estimation with stochastic dynamics

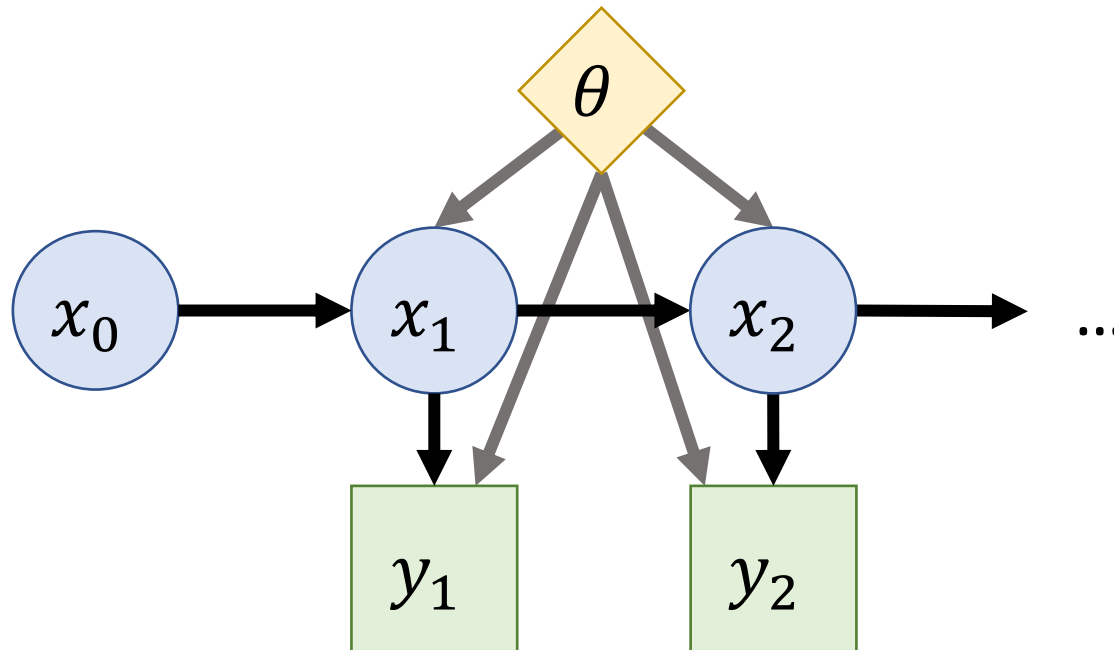
$$X_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_x}, \quad Y_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_y}, \quad \theta = (\theta_\Psi, \theta_h, \theta_\Sigma, \theta_\Gamma) \in \mathbb{R}^{d_\theta}$$

$$X_k = A(\theta_\Psi)X_{k-1} + B(\theta_\Psi)u_{k-1} + \xi_k; \quad \xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma(\theta_\Sigma))$$

$$Y_k = H(\theta_\Psi)X_k + \eta_k; \quad \eta_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Gamma(\theta_\Gamma))$$

The process noise term  $\xi_k$  accounts for model error

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# Posterior Flow Chart

## Log Joint Likelihood

$$\log \mathcal{L}(\theta; \mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n) \propto -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \|y_k - h(x_k, \theta_h)\|_{\Gamma(\theta_\Gamma)}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \|x_k - \Psi(x_{k-1}, \theta_\Psi)\|_{\Sigma(\theta_\Sigma)}^2$$

Deterministic dynamics:

$$x_k = \Psi(x_{k-1})$$

$$\log \mathcal{L}(\theta; \mathbf{y}_n) \propto -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \|y_k - h(\Psi^k(x_0, \theta_\Psi), \theta_h)\|^2$$

- Ayed et al., 2019
- Long et al., 2018
- Zhong et al., 2019

Identity observations:

$$y_k = x_k$$

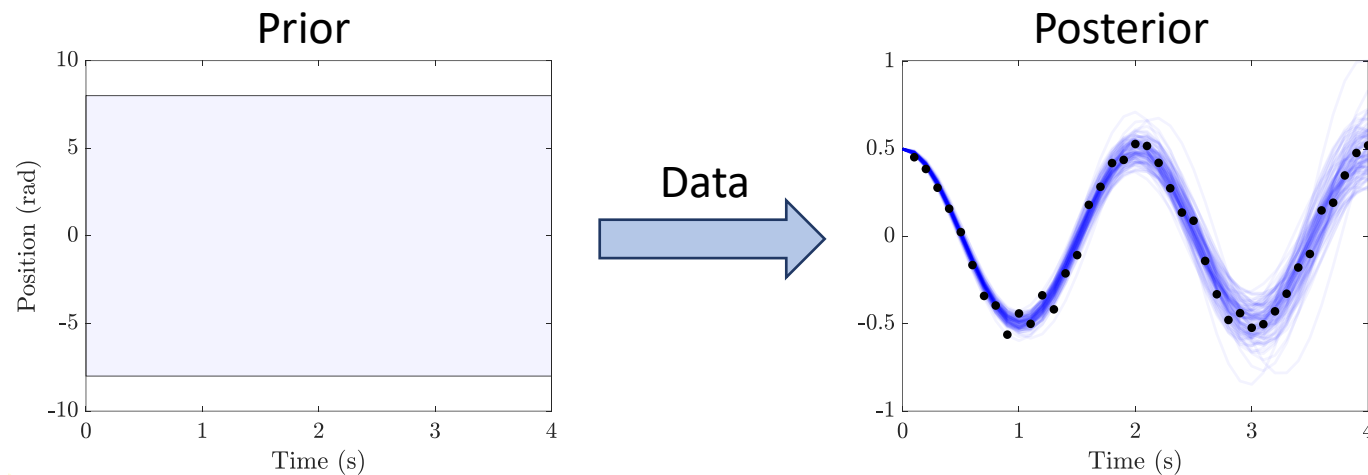
$$\log \mathcal{L}(\theta; \mathbf{y}_n) \propto -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=2}^n \|y_k - \Psi(y_{k-1}, \theta_\Psi)\|^2$$

- Hills et al., 2015
- Qin et al., 2019
- Raissi, 2018



# Bayesian Inference

- Goal: compute  $p(\theta|\mathcal{Y}_n)$  where  $\mathcal{Y}_n = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$
- Bayes' rule:  $p(\theta|\mathcal{Y}_n) = \frac{\mathcal{L}(\theta; \mathcal{Y}_n)p(\theta)}{p(\mathcal{Y}_n)}$

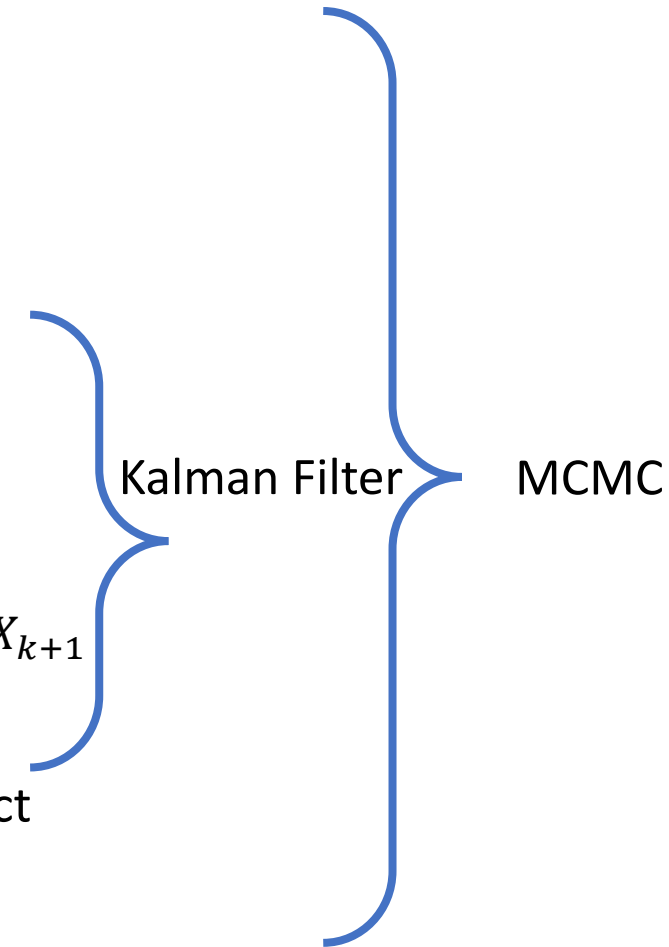


- Due to uncertainty in the states, we can only access the joint likelihood:  $\mathcal{L}(\theta; \mathcal{X}_n, \mathcal{Y}_n)$
- To get the marginal likelihood, we must evaluate the integral

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta; \mathcal{Y}_n) = \int \mathcal{L}(\theta; \mathcal{X}_n, \mathcal{Y}_n) d\mathcal{X}_n$$

# Marginal Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Algorithm (Särkkä, 2013)

1. **for**  $i = 1, \dots, N$
2. Propose sample  $\theta^*$   
Evaluate posterior:
3. **for**  $k = 1, \dots, n$
4. Predict:  $p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k, \theta) = \int p(X_{k+1}|X_k, \theta)p(X_k|\mathcal{Y}_k, \theta)dX_k$
5. Update:  $p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_{k+1}, \theta) = \frac{p(y_{k+1}|X_{k+1}, \theta)p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k, \theta)}{p(y_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k, \theta)}$
6. Marginalize:  $\mathcal{L}_{k+1}(\theta; \mathcal{Y}_{k+1}) = \int p(y_{k+1}|X_{k+1}, \theta)p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k, \theta)dX_{k+1}$
7. **end for**
8. Accept  $\theta^*$  with Metropolis-Hastings probability; otherwise reject
9. **end for**



# Marginal Likelihood

## Regularization derived from first principles

Let the state be distributed normally as  $X_k \sim \mathcal{N}(m_k, P_k)$

The negative log-likelihood is equivalent to a time-varying generalized least-squares objective with regularization

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta; \mathcal{Y}_n) \propto \sum_{k=1}^n \|y_k - H(\theta)m_k^-(\theta)\|_{S_k^{-1}(\theta)}^2 + \log |2\pi S_k(\theta)|$$

Where

$$P_k^-(\theta) = A(\theta)P_{k-1}^+(\theta)A^T(\theta) + Q(\theta)$$
$$S_k(\theta) = H(\theta)P_k^-(\theta)H^T(\theta) + R(\theta)$$

This objective prioritizes:

- low bias:  $\|y_k - H(\theta)m_k^-(\theta)\|_{S_k^{-1}(\theta)}^2$
- low variance:  $\log |2\pi S_k(\theta)|$

# Duffing Oscillator with Forcing

Our method resists over-fitting

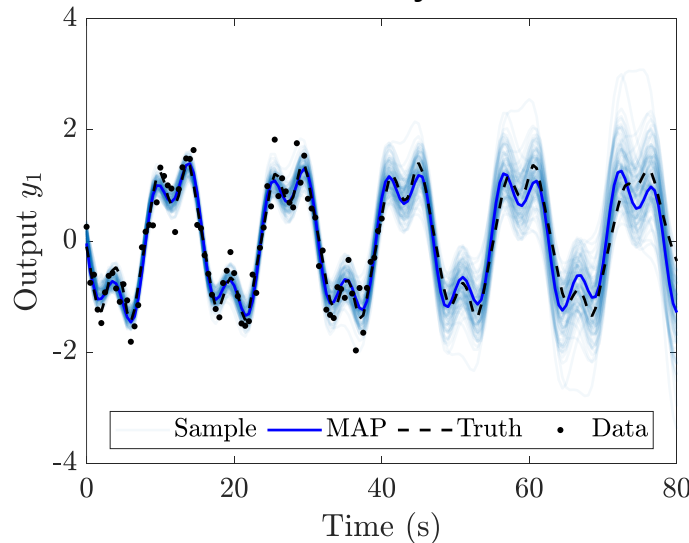
$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{x} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \alpha & \delta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \dot{x} \end{bmatrix} + \beta \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ x^3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \gamma \cos(\omega t), \quad y_k = \begin{bmatrix} x_k \\ \dot{x}_k \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\alpha = 1, \delta = -0.3, \beta = -1, \gamma = 0.5, \omega = 1.2$$

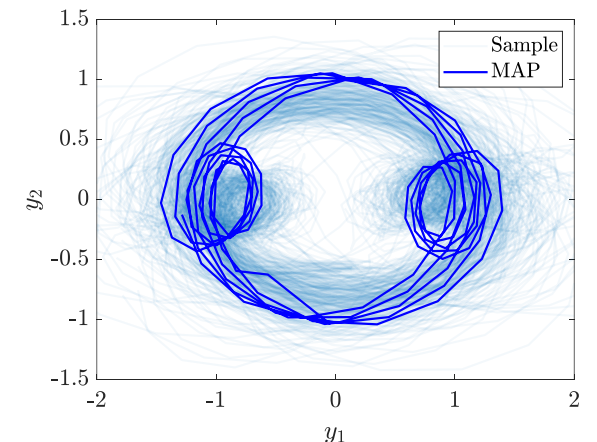
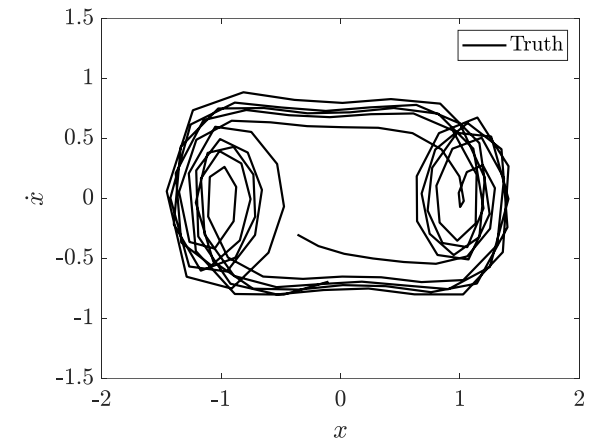
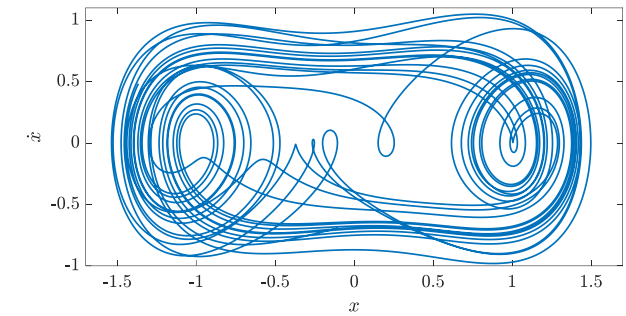
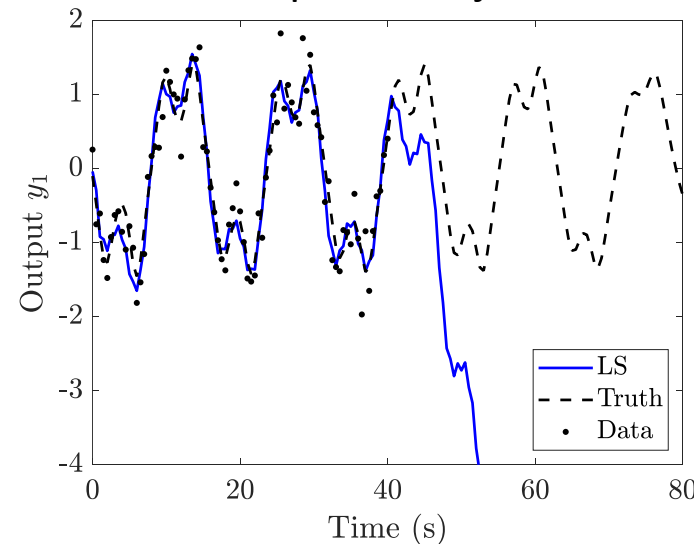
Chaotic solution<sup>1</sup>

We estimate  $A(\theta)$ ,  $B(\theta)$ ,  $H(\theta)$ , and  $x_0(\theta)$  with dimension  $d_x = 6$

Posterior Objective



Least Squares Objective



Data:  
 $\Delta t = 0.5$   
 $\sigma = 0.3$   
 $n = 80$

# High-Dimensional Systems

Main idea: project data onto low-dimensional subspace with SVD

1. Collect all data into one matrix  $Y$

$$Y = [y_1 \ y_2 \ \dots \ y_N] \in \mathbb{R}^{d_y \times N}$$

2. Take the SVD

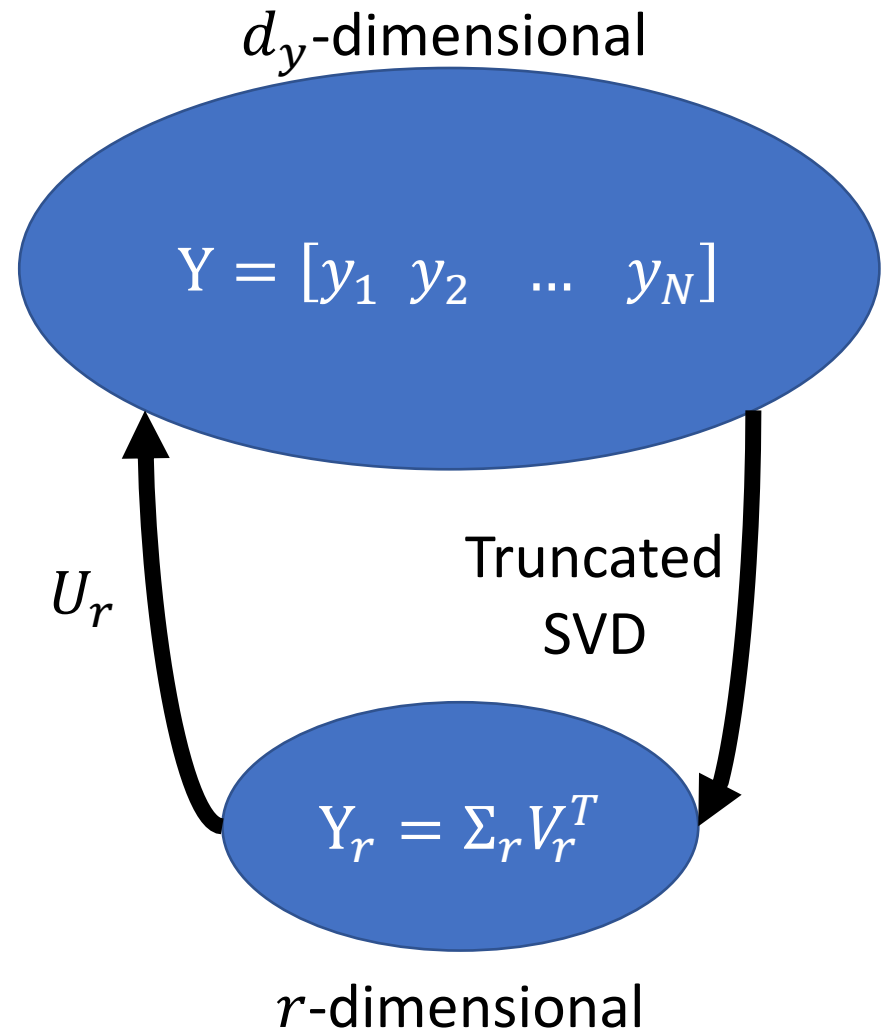
$$Y = U \Sigma V^T$$

3. Truncate the SVD to rank  $r \ll d_y$ , and let the transformed data  $Y_r$  be defined as

$$Y_r = \Sigma_r V_r^T \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times N}$$

4. Perform inference as usual with the transformed data
5. Map predictions back to high-dimensional space

$$\hat{y} = U_r \hat{y}_r$$



# Results: Kuramoto-Sivashinsky Equation

Our approach can be applied to high-dimensional systems

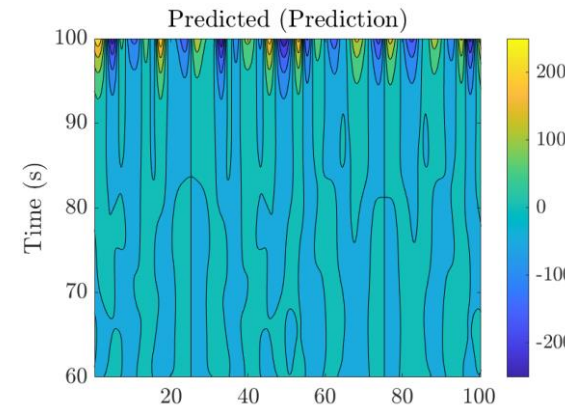
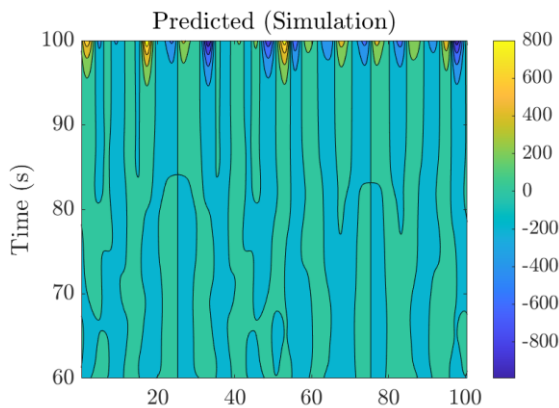
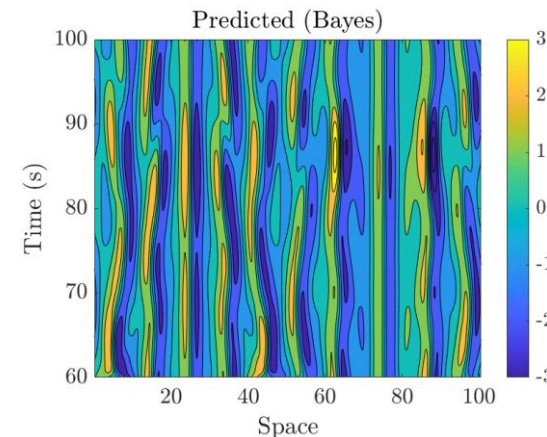
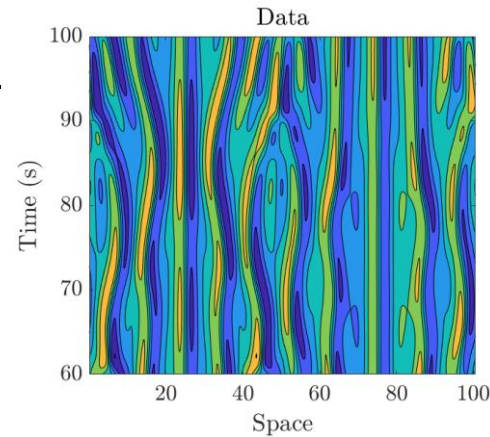
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4}$$

Most positive Lyapunov exponent<sup>1</sup>:  $\lambda_1 = 0.088$

Training data<sup>2</sup>:  $n = 50$   
from 60s to 79.6s

$d_x = 8$   
 $d_y = 1,024$

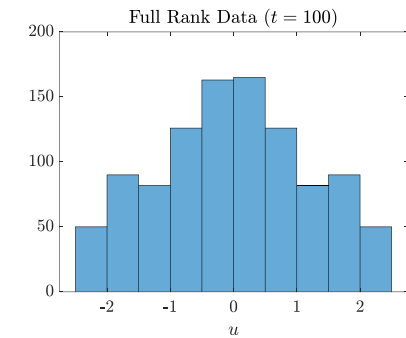
Least squares objectives yield over-fit models.  
Note the colorbar scale!



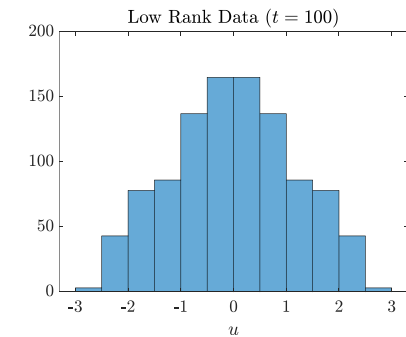
$$J(\theta) = \sum_{k=1}^n \left\| y_k - A^k(\theta) x_0 \right\|_2^2$$

$$J(\theta) = \sum_{k=1}^n \left\| y_k - A(\theta) y_{k-1} \right\|_2^2$$

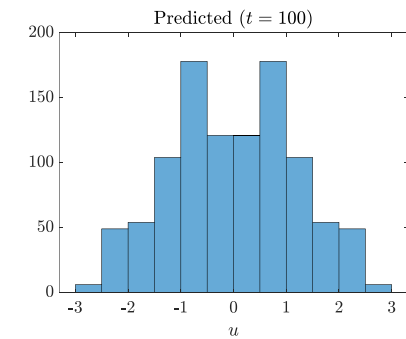
Histograms of  $u(t = 100)$



Full rank data:  
 $\mu = 1.20 \times 10^{-16}$   
 $\sigma^2 = 1.3972$



Low rank data:  
 $\mu = -1.98 \times 10^{-16}$   
 $\sigma^2 = 1.3608$



Predicted:  
 $\mu = 2.22 \times 10^{-18}$   
 $\sigma^2 = 1.3924$

Our model accurately predicts the statistical properties



# Main Takeaways

- Optimally accounting for different types of uncertainty can lead to robustness even when data are few and/or noisy
- Modeling deterministic systems with stochastic models introduces built-in regularization and optimization benefits

## Related Works

1. Galioto, N., & Gorodetsky, A. A. (2020). Bayesian system ID: optimal management of parameter, model, and measurement uncertainty. *Nonlinear Dynamics*, 102(1), 241-267.
2. Galioto, N., & Gorodetsky, A. A. (2021, May). A New Objective for Identification of Partially Observed Linear Time-Invariant Dynamical Systems from Input-Output Data. In *Learning for Dynamics and Control* (pp. 1180-1191). PMLR.

## Funding

- DARPA Physics of AI Program
  - “Physics Inspired Learning and Learning the Order and Structure of Physics.”
- AFOSR Program in Computational Mathematics