Accounting for Model Uncertainty in the Identification of Partially Known Models

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Motivation

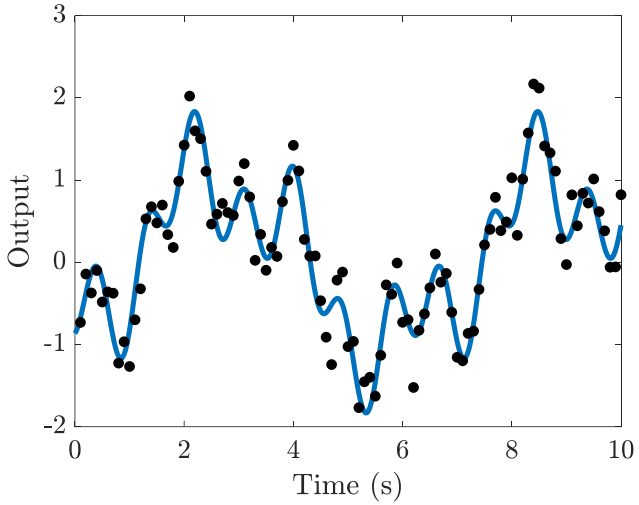
Objective: learn a model of a dynamical system from data

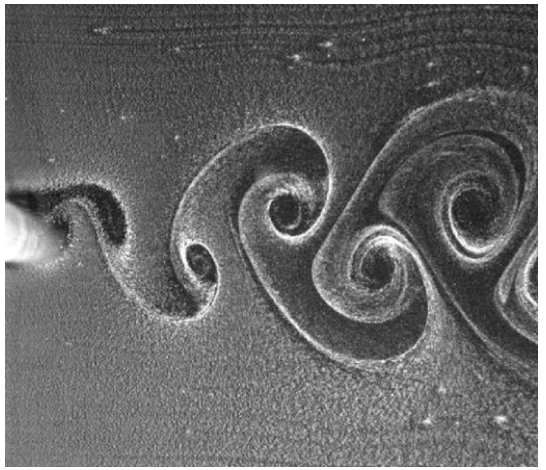
Two primary design choices in system identification:

- Model structure
  - Neural networks
  - Basis expansions
  - Kernels
- **Objective function** (our interest)
  - Least squared error
  - Regularization

A good objective will:

- Be robust to sparse and noisy data
- Handle model inadequacy
- Generalize well beyond training data





Ljung, L. (1999). System identification. *Wiley encyclopedia of electrical and electronics engineering*, 1-19.
Schoukens, J., & Ljung, L. (2019). Nonlinear system identification: A user-oriented road map. *IEEE Control Systems Magazine*, *39*(6), 28-99.

Partially Known Models

Oftentimes, domain knowledge can produce reliable models, but problem-specific parameters may still be unknown

- Common in fields like structural dynamics and systems biology (material properties, kinetic parameters, etc.)
- Data can be expensive or challenging to collect
- Need to find accurate estimates and quantify uncertainty

Contributions

Present an algorithm that can:

- Handle measurement, model, and parameter uncertainty and their interaction
- Accurately identify parameters from sparse and noisy data
- Quantify model uncertainty

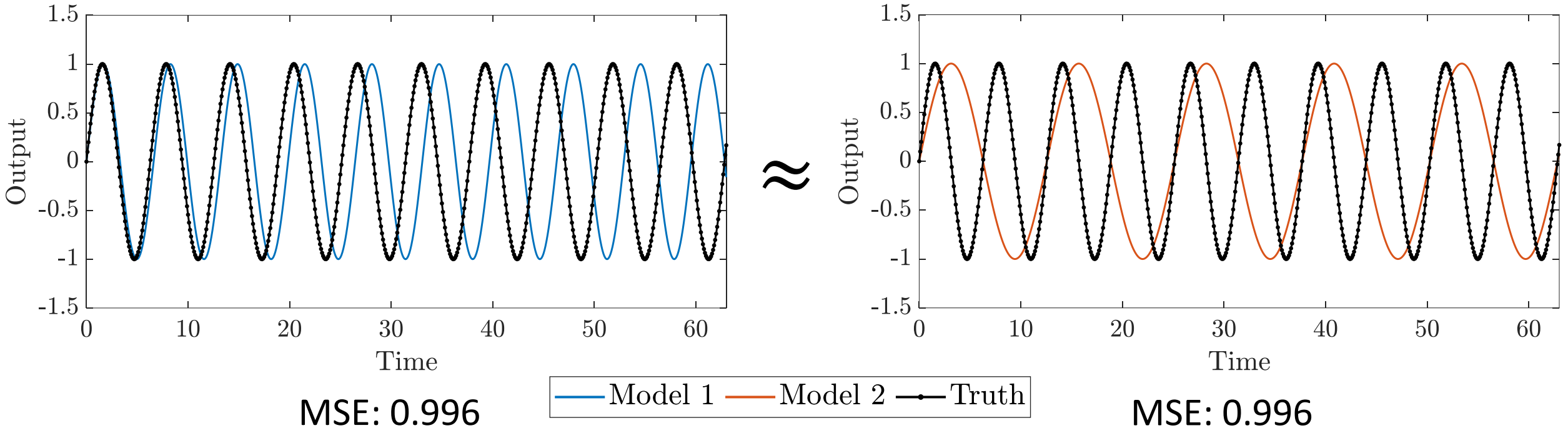
Outline

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

What's wrong with the least squares objective?

The least squared error metric can induce an undesirable ranking of dynamical models

The accumulation of small model errors is given equal weight as large model error



MSE: 0.996

MSE: 0.996

How can we design an objective that prioritizes Model 1 over Model 2?

Existing Approaches

Least squares-based objective functions

(a) Assumes perfect model

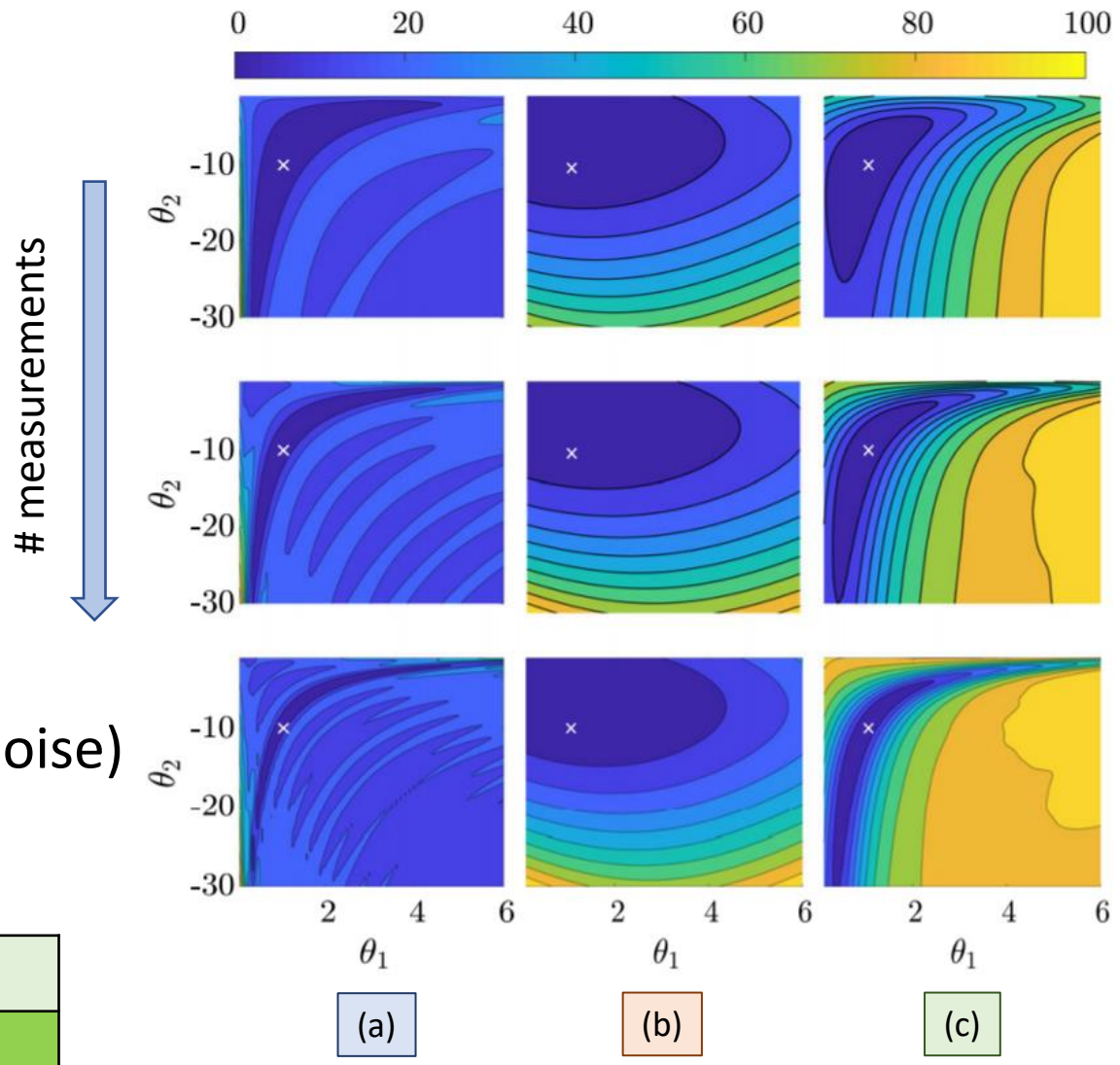
$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{k=1}^{n} \|y_k - h(x(t_k), \theta)\|_2^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{\mathrm{d}t} = f(t, x; \theta)$$

(b) Assumes noiseless measurements

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

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

- Optimal combination of (a) and (b)



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

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Probabilistic Formulation

Joint parameter-state estimation with stochastic dynamics

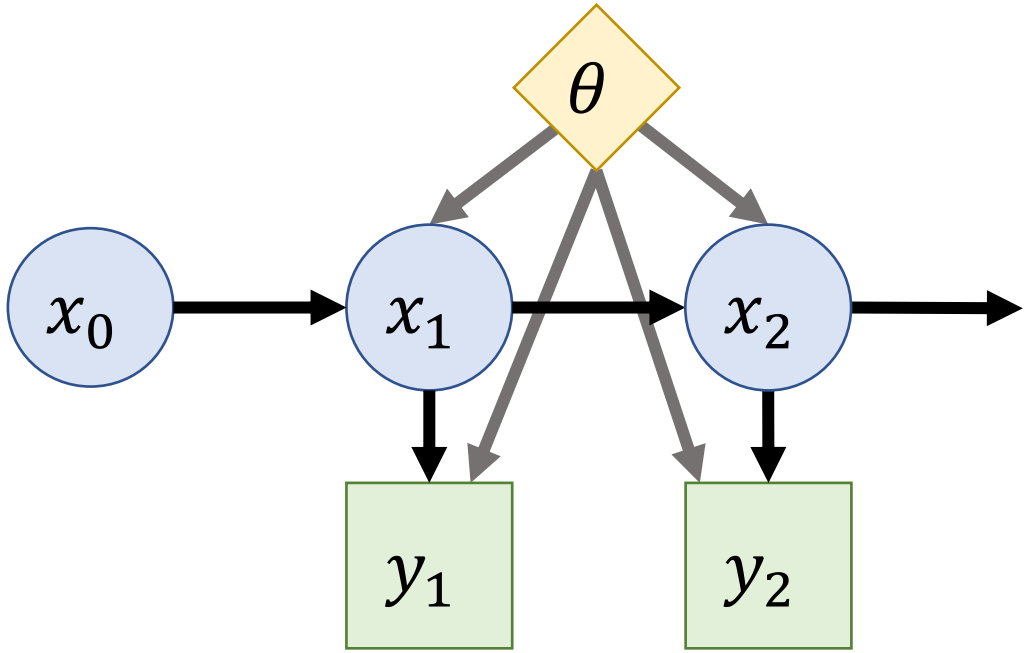
$$X_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_x}, \qquad Y_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_y}, \qquad \theta = (\theta_\Psi, \theta_h, \theta_\Sigma, \theta_\Gamma) \in \mathbb{R}^{d_\theta}$$

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

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

The process noise term ξ_k accounts for model error

- Parameter error
- Integration error
- Insufficient model expressiveness



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

Posterior Flow Chart

Log Joint Likelihood

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

Deterministic dynamics:

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

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

- ODE-Net; Chen et al., 2018
- PDE-Net; Long et al., 2018
- UDE; Rackauckas et al., 2019

Identity observations:

$$y_k = x_k$$

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

- DMD; Schmid, 2010
- SINDy; Brunton et al., 2019
- Hamiltonian NN; Greydanus et al., 2019

Chen, R. T., Rubanova, Y., Bettencourt, J., & Duvenaud, D. K. (2018). Neural ordinary differential equations. *Advances in neural information processing systems*, *31*.
Long, Z., Lu, Y., Ma, X., & Dong, B. (2018, July). Pde-net: Learning pdes from data. In *International Conference on Machine Learning* (pp. 3208-3216).
Rackauckas, C., Ma, Y., Martensen, J., Warner, C., Zubov, K., Supekar, R., ... & Edelman, A. (2020). Universal differential equations for scientific machine learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2001.04385*.
Schmid, P. J. (2010). Dynamic mode decomposition of numerical and experimental data. *Journal of fluid mechanics*, *656*, 5-28.
Brunton, S. L., Proctor, J. L., & Kutz, J. N. (2016). Discovering governing equations from data by sparse identification of nonlinear dynamical systems. *Proceedings of the national academy of sciences*, *113*(15), 3932-3937.
Greydanus, S., Dzamba, M., & Yosinski, J. (2019). Hamiltonian neural networks. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, *32*.

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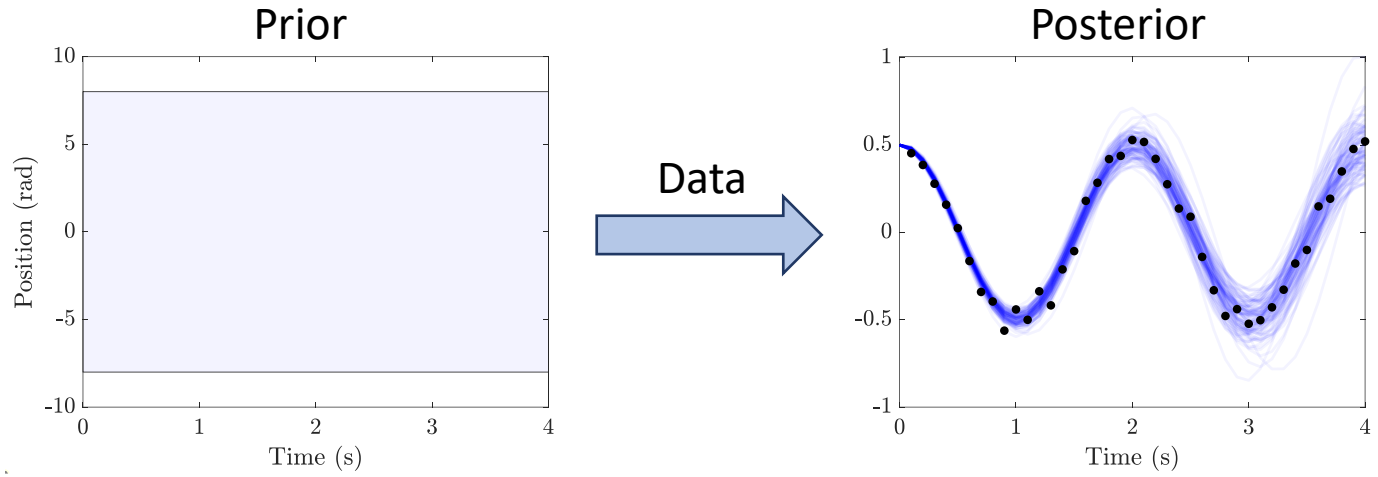
Bayesian Inference

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



- 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 θ

   Evaluate posterior: $p(\theta|\mathcal{Y}_n) = p(\theta)\prod_{k=1}^{n}\mathcal{L}_k(\theta;\mathcal{Y}_k)$
3. **for** $k = 0, \dots, n-1$
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. Marginalize: $\mathcal{L}_{k+1}(\theta;\mathcal{Y}_{k+1}) = \int p(y_{k+1}|X_{k+1},\theta)p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k,\theta)dX_{k+1}$
6. Update: $p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_{k+1},\theta) = \frac{p(y_{k+1}|X_{k+1},\theta)p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k,\theta)}{p(y_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k,\theta)}$
7. **end for**
8. Accept θ with Metropolis-Hastings probability; otherwise reject
9. **end for**

Kalman Filter / Probabilistic Filter

MCMC

Särkkä, S. (2013). *Bayesian filtering and smoothing* (No. 3). Cambridge University Press.

Marginal Likelihood of a Linear System

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 weighted least-squares objective with regularization

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta; \mathcal{Y}_n) = \prod_{k=1}^{n} \mathcal{N}(y_k;\ H(\theta)m_k^-(\theta), S_k)$$

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

Low output variance

Low output error when $|S_k|$ small

Where

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

A dynamics matrix

H observation matrix

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Lorenz ’63

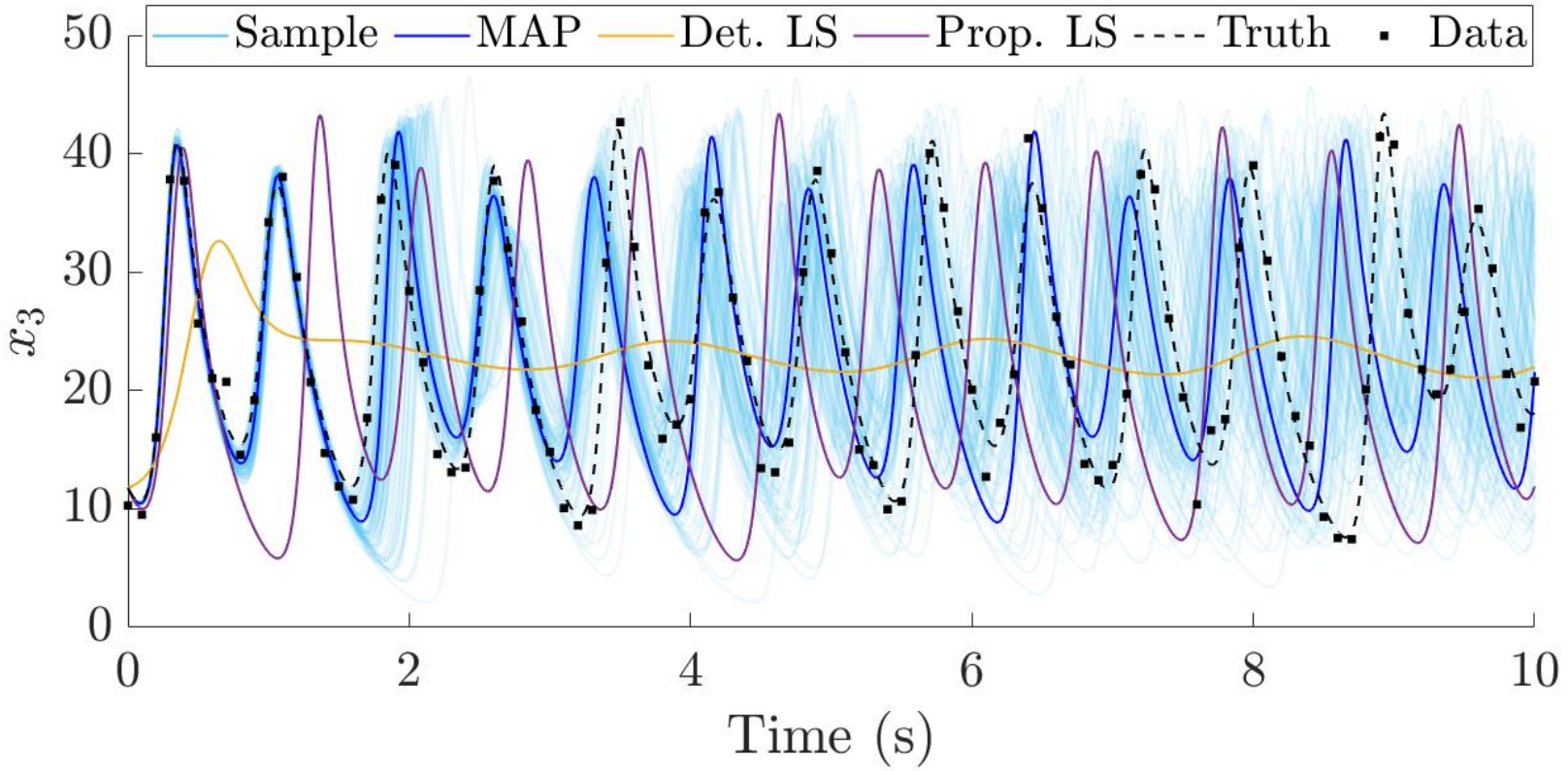
Accounting for model error enhances robustness

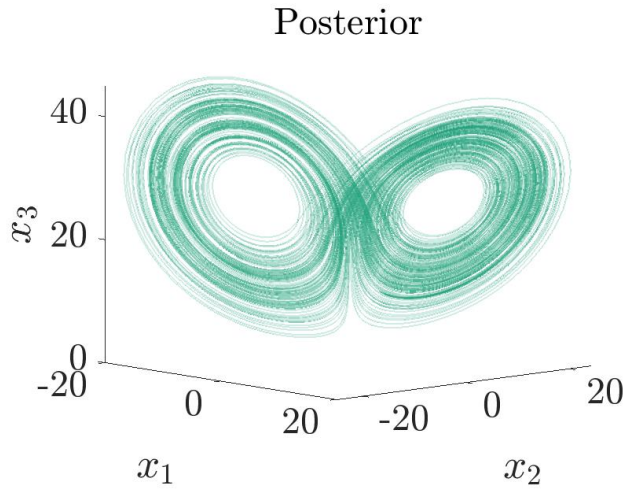
$$\dot{x}_1 = \sigma(x_2 - x_1)$$
$$\dot{x}_2 = x_1(\rho - x_3) - x_2$$
$$\dot{x}_3 = x_1 x_2 - \beta x_3$$

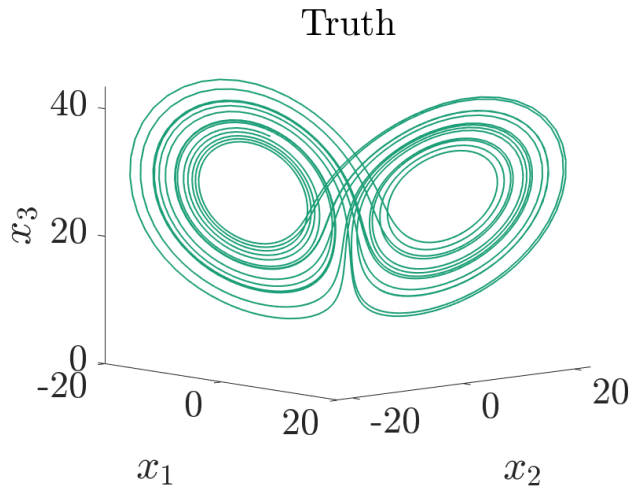
Fully observed

$$y(t_k) = x(t_k)$$

$n = 100$
$\Delta t = 0.10s$
$\sigma_R = 2.0$

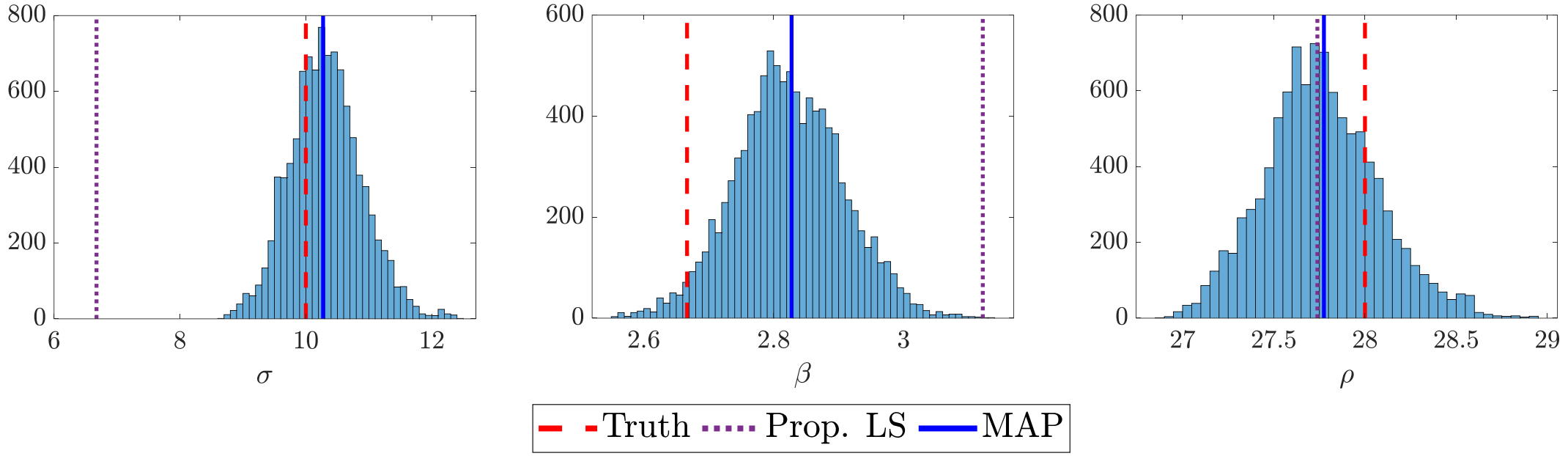






Lorenz ’63

The MAP estimate is more accurate than both LS estimates



$$\dot{x}_1 = \sigma(x_2 - x_1)$$
$$\dot{x}_2 = x_1(\rho - x_3) - x_2$$
$$\dot{x}_3 = x_1 x_2 - \beta x_3$$

	Truth	Det. LS	Prop. LS	MAP
σ	10.00	2.08	6.67	10.27
ρ	2.67	0.29	3.12	2.83
β	28.00	23.96	27.74	27.78
L2 Error	**0.00**	**9.20**	**3.37**	**0.39**

Chaotic Duffing Oscillator: Formulation

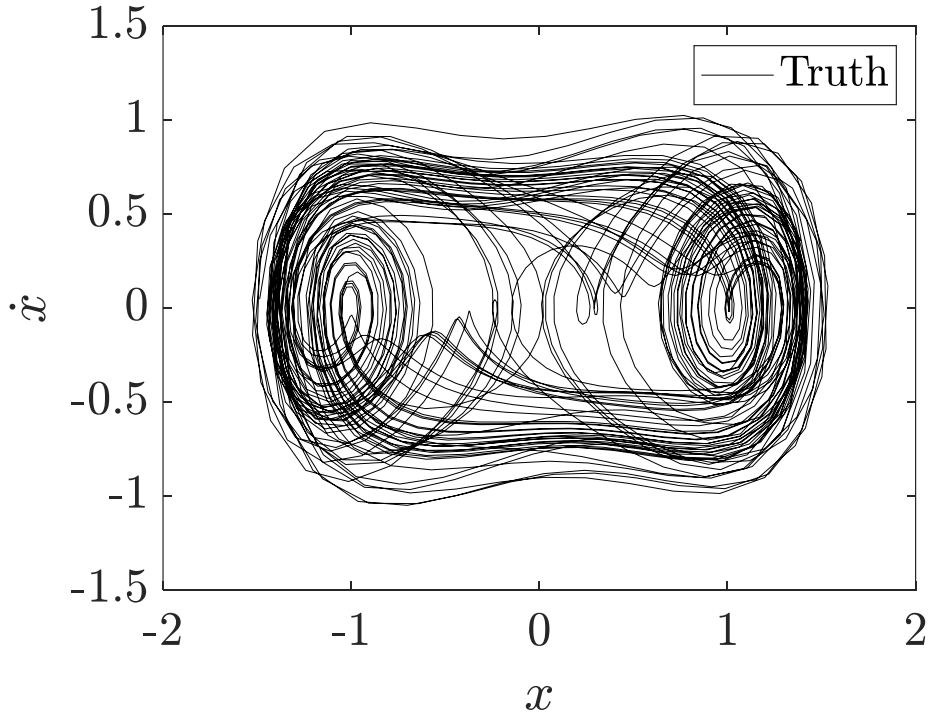
$$\dot{x_1} = x_2$$
$$\dot{x_2} = \alpha x_1 + \delta x_2 + \beta x_1^3 + \cos(0.5t)$$

We choose parameters that give a chaotic solution[1]

Observe only the position

$$y_k = (x_1)_k$$

The system possesses an underlying attractor



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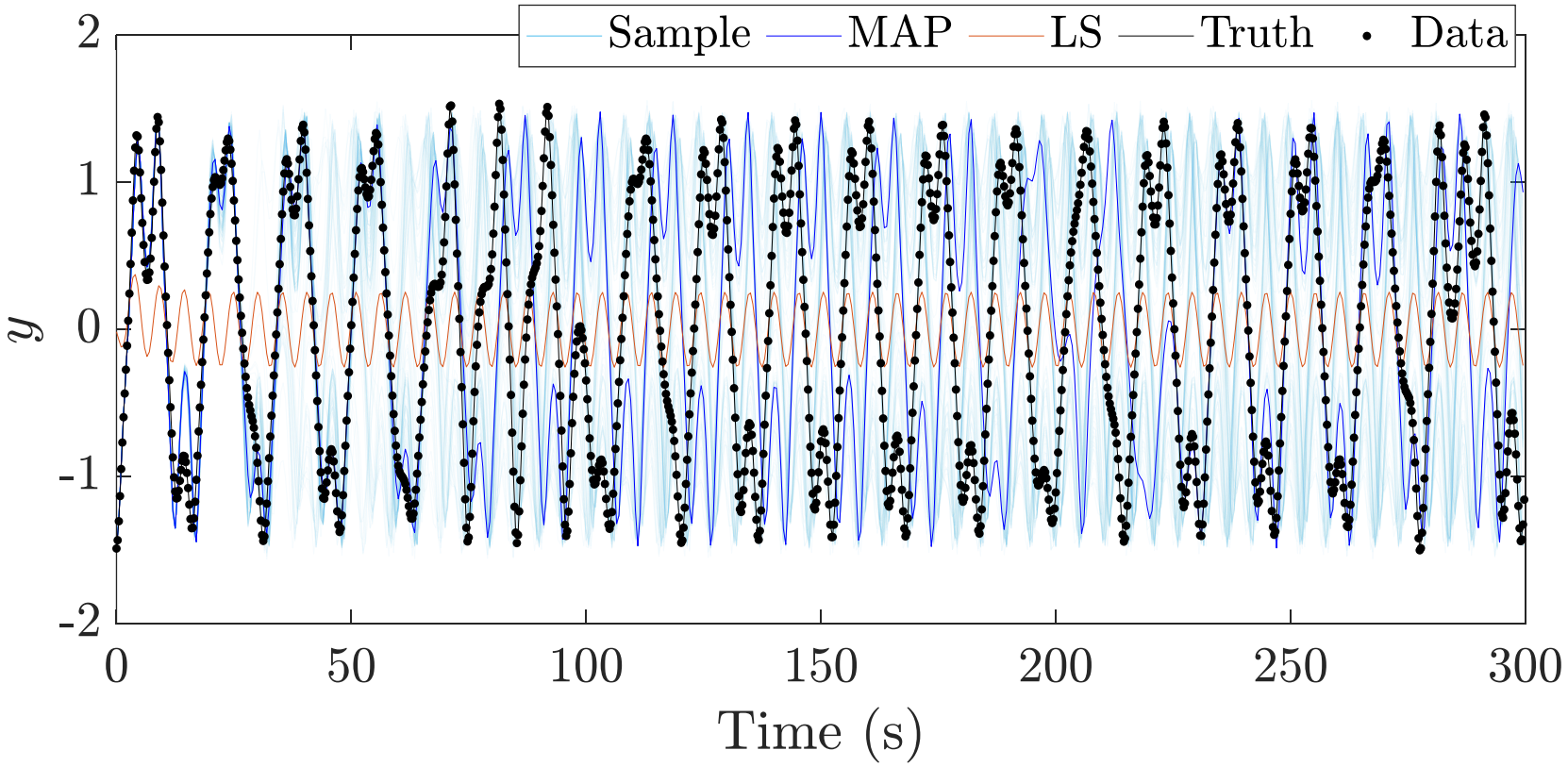
1. Jordan, D., & Smith, P. (2007). *Nonlinear ordinary differential equations: an introduction for scientists and engineers* (Vol. 10). Oxford University Press on Demand.

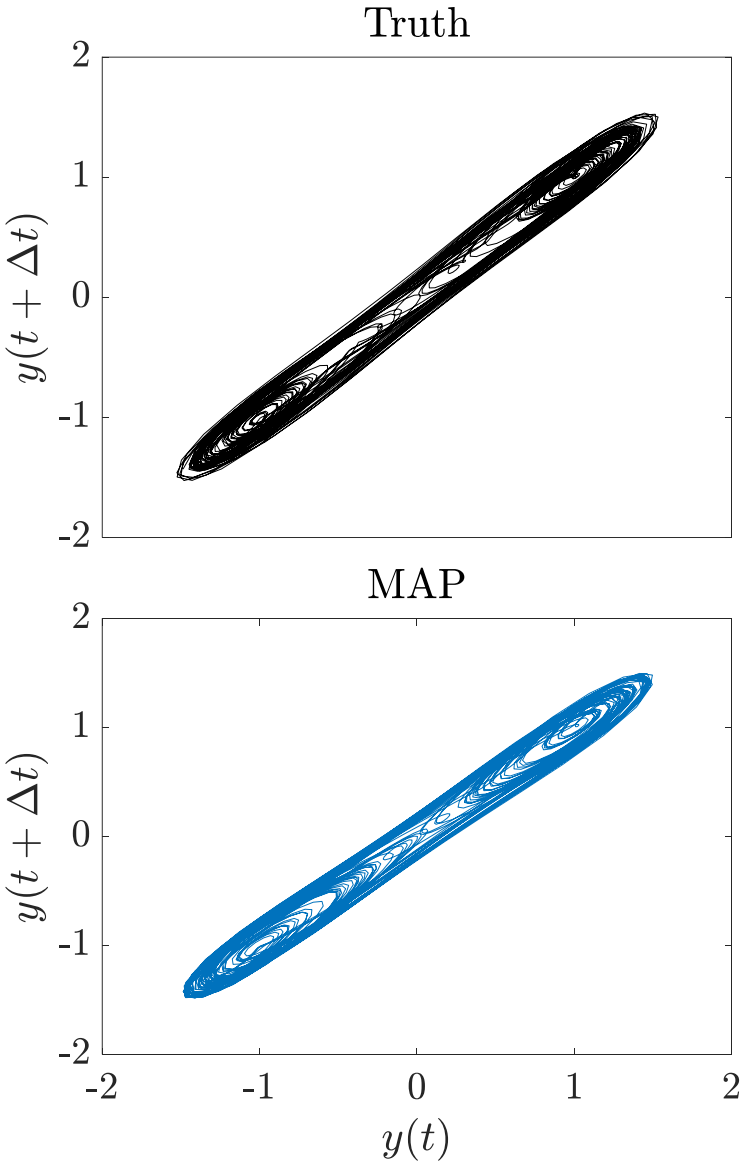
Chaotic Duffing Oscillator

The MAP estimate recovers the attractor despite having larger training MSE than the least squares (LS) estimate



$n = 1200$ data points over $T = 300$ seconds

Standard deviation of $\sigma = 10^{-3}$



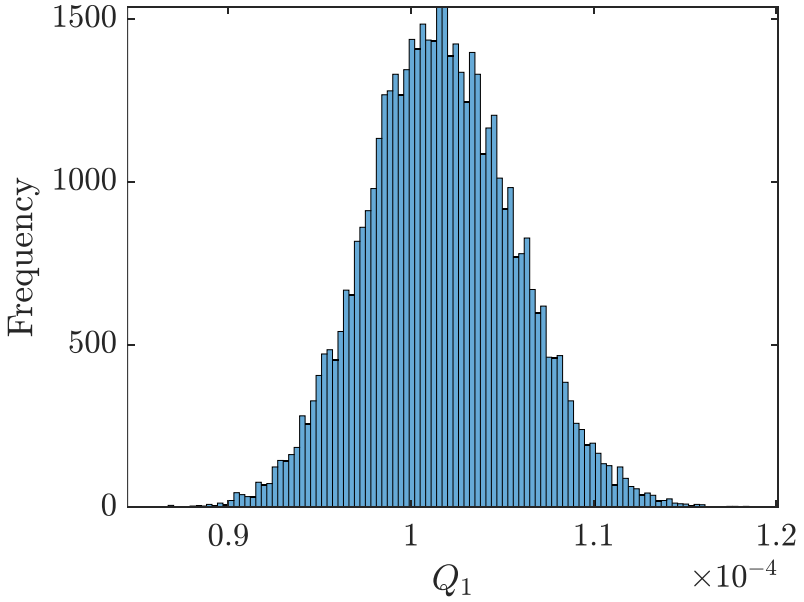
Phase space for twice the training time period

Chaotic Duffing Oscillator

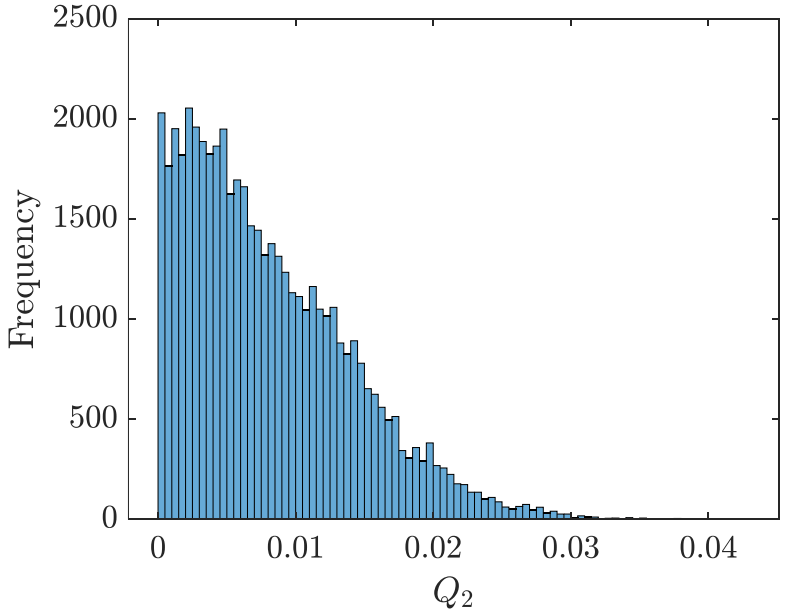
The estimated process noise variance reflects the model uncertainty

Dynamics of the observed state has orders of magnitude lower uncertainty

Observed component



Unobserved component



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Main Takeaways

- Optimally accounting for different types of uncertainty can lead to robustness even for chaotic systems
- 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). 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

Appendix

Recursive Marginal Likelihood Evaluation

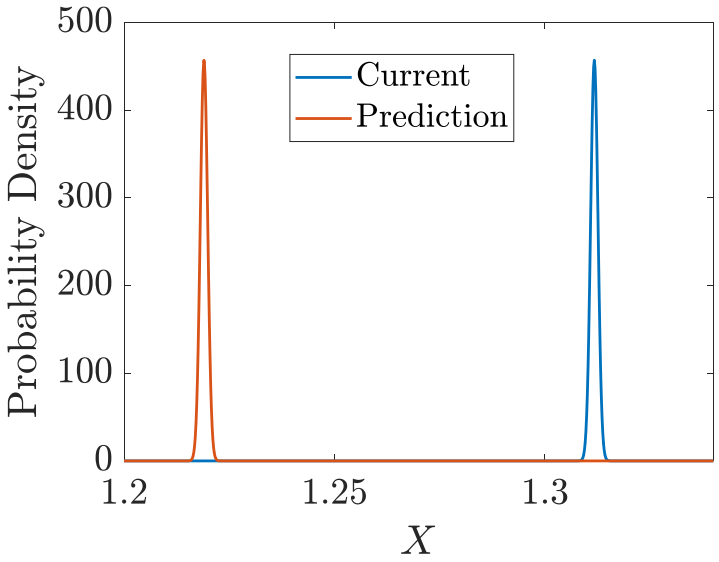
for $k = 0, \ldots, n-1$

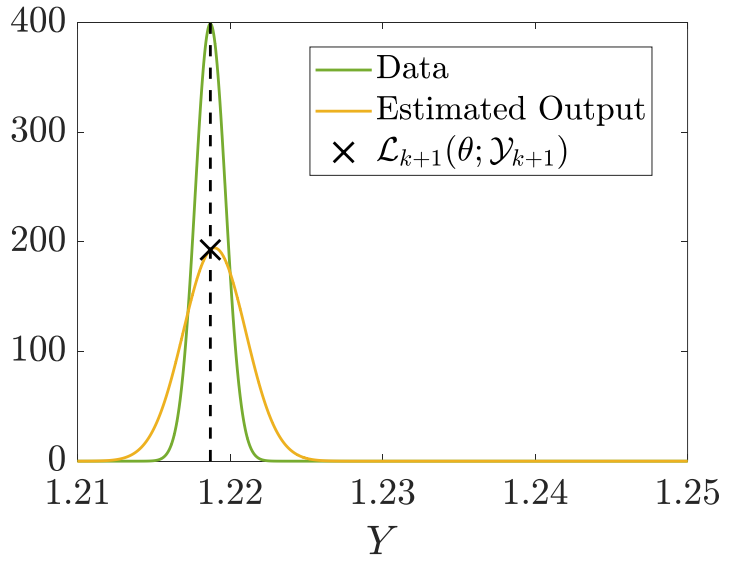
Predict: $p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k, \theta) = \int p(X_{k+1}|X_k, \theta)p(X_k|\mathcal{Y}_k, \theta)dX_k$

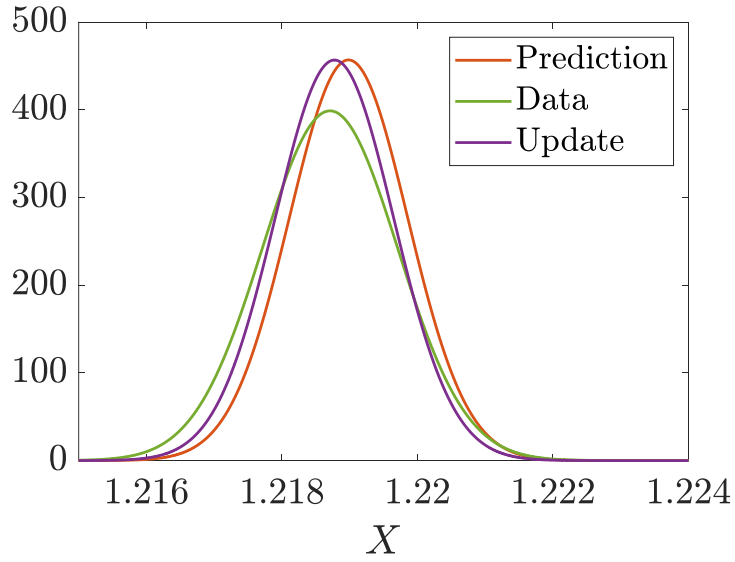
Marginalize: $\mathcal{L}_{k+1}(\theta; \mathcal{Y}_{k+1}) = \int p(y_{k+1}|X_{k+1}, \theta)p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k, \theta)dX_{k+1}$

Update: $p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_{k+1}, \theta) = \frac{p(y_{k+1}|X_{k+1}, \theta)p(X_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k, \theta)}{p(y_{k+1}|\mathcal{Y}_k, \theta)}$

end for







Estimated outputs that fit the data and have low variance yield the largest marginal likelihood

Särkkä, S. (2013). *Bayesian filtering and smoothing* (No. 3). Cambridge University Press.

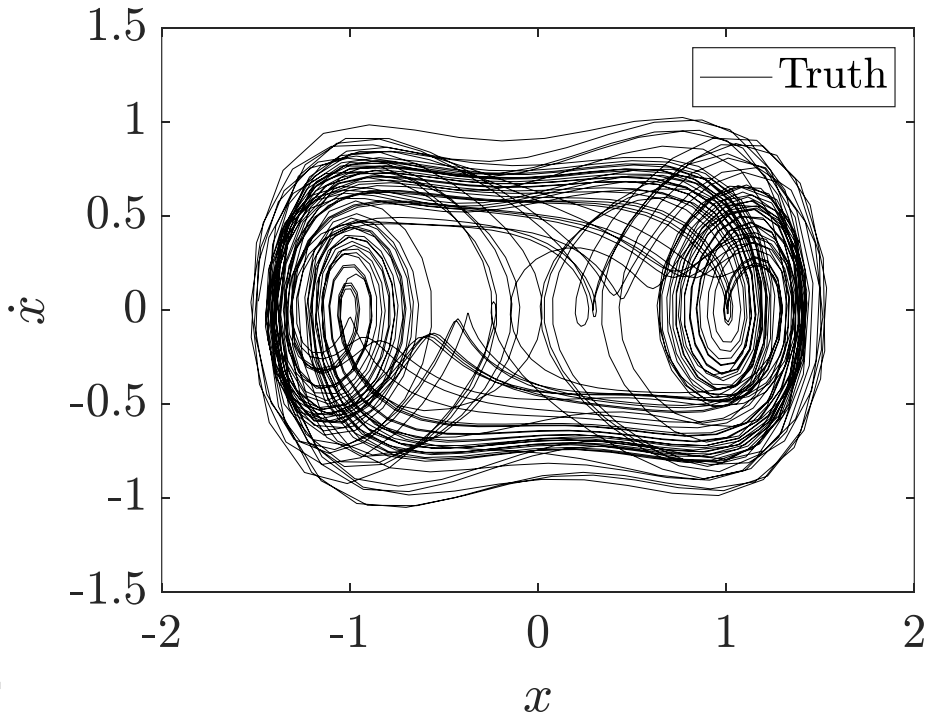
Chaotic Duffing Oscillator: Formulation

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

$$y_k = x_k$$

We choose parameters that give a chaotic solution[1]

The system possesses an underlying attractor



Model parametrization:

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{x}_0(\theta),\ d_{\mathbf{x}} = 2$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = f(\mathbf{x}_k, u_k; \theta) + \xi_k, \qquad \xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}\big(0, \Sigma(\theta)\big)$$

$$y_k = [1 \quad 0]\mathbf{x}_k + \eta_k, \qquad \eta_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Gamma)$$

Neural network architecture[2]; 15 nodes/hidden layer

$$f(\mathbf{x}, u; \theta) = A_1(\theta)\tanh\left(A_2(\theta)\begin{bmatrix}\mathbf{x}\\ u\end{bmatrix} + b_2(\theta)\right) + A_3(\theta)\begin{bmatrix}\mathbf{x}\\ u\end{bmatrix} + b_3(\theta)$$

Weakly informative priors in order to emphasize the strength of the proposed likelihood

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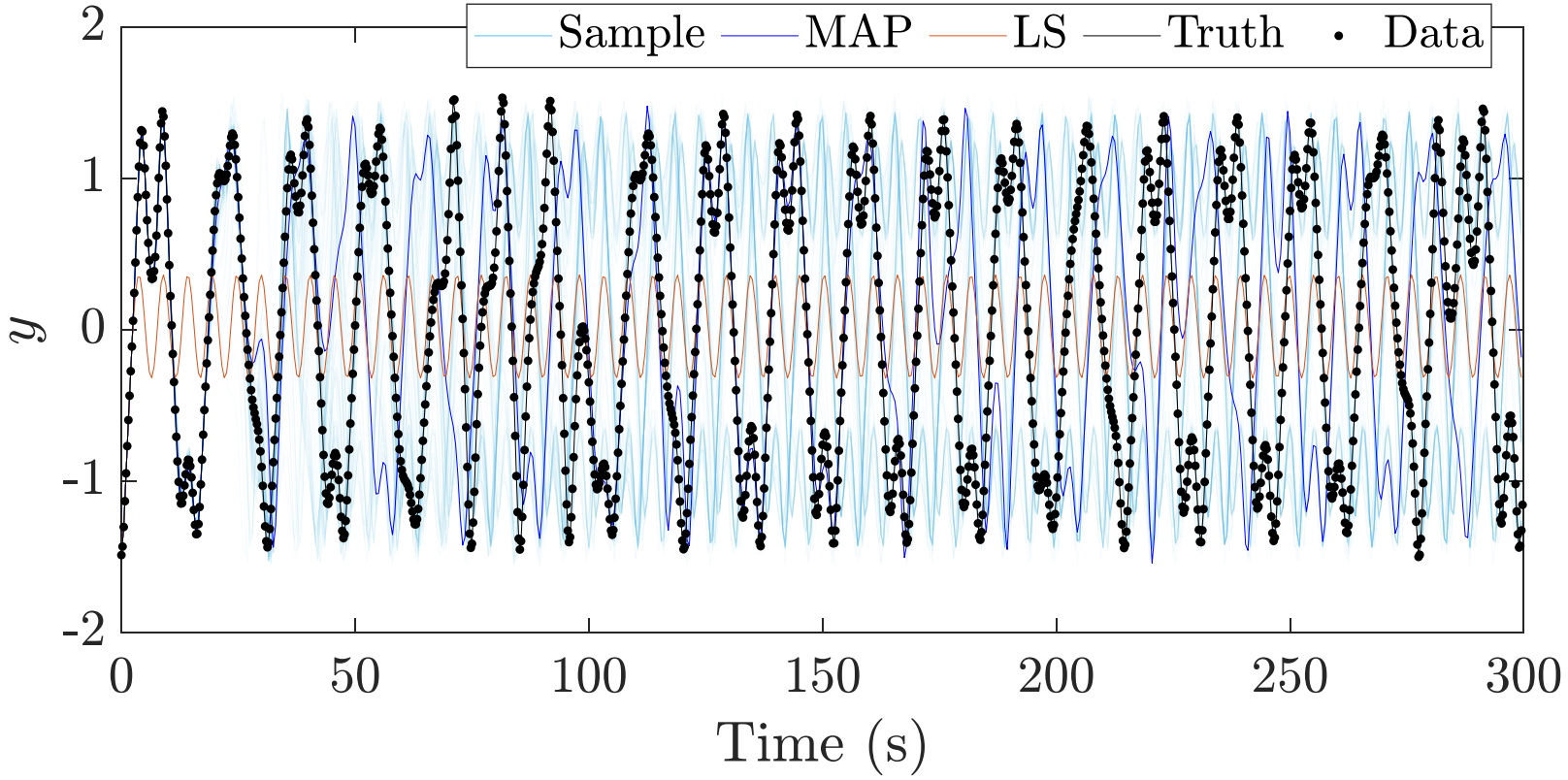
1. Jordan, D., & Smith, P. (2007). *Nonlinear ordinary differential equations: an introduction for scientists and engineers* (Vol. 10). Oxford University Press on Demand.
2. Beintema, G., Toth, R., & Schoukens, M. (2021, May). Nonlinear state-space identification using deep encoder networks. In *Learning for Dynamics and Control* (pp. 241-250). PMLR.

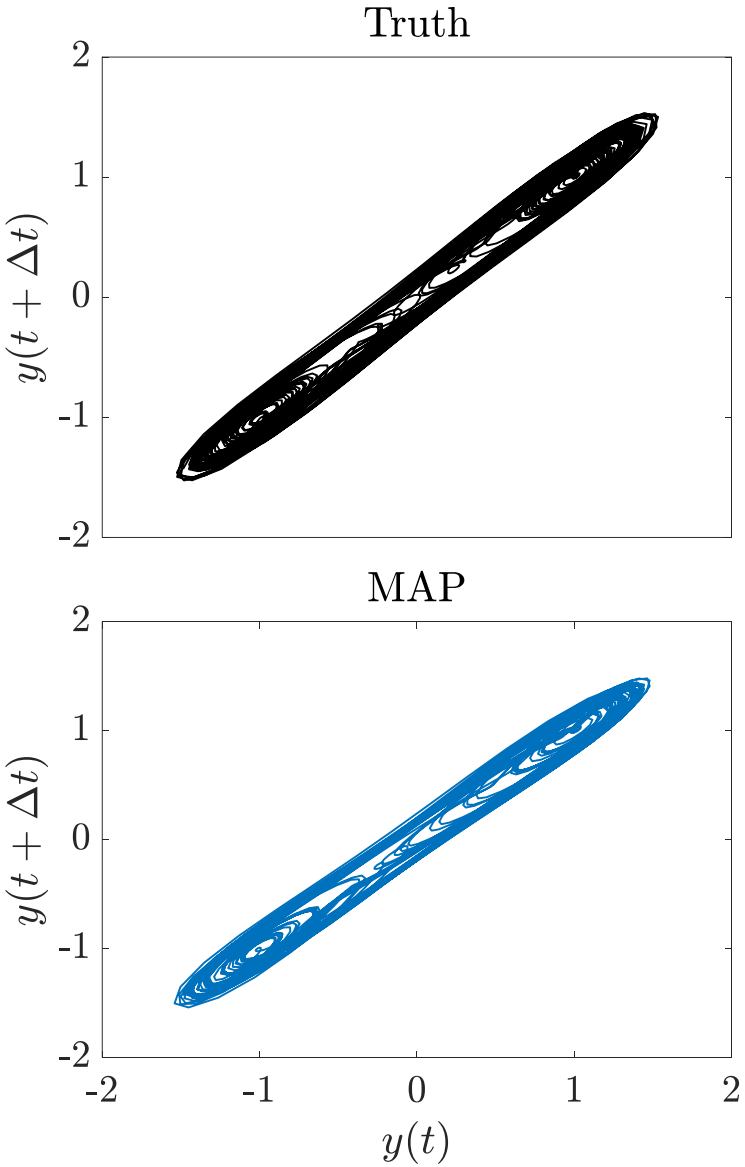
Chaotic Duffing Oscillator

The MAP estimate recovers the attractor despite having larger training MSE than the least squares (LS) estimate



$n = 1200$ data points over $T = 300$ seconds

Standard deviation of $\sigma = 10^{-3}$

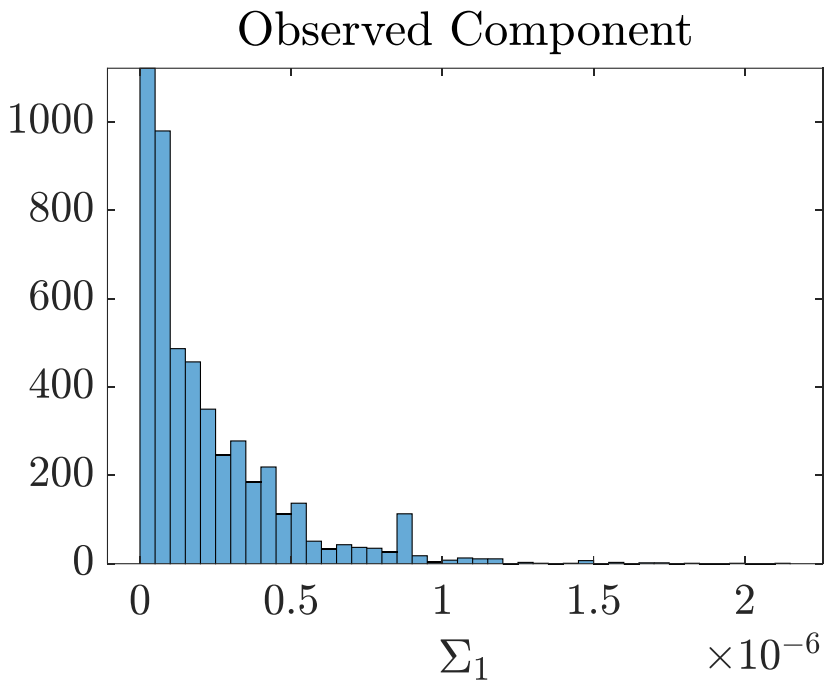


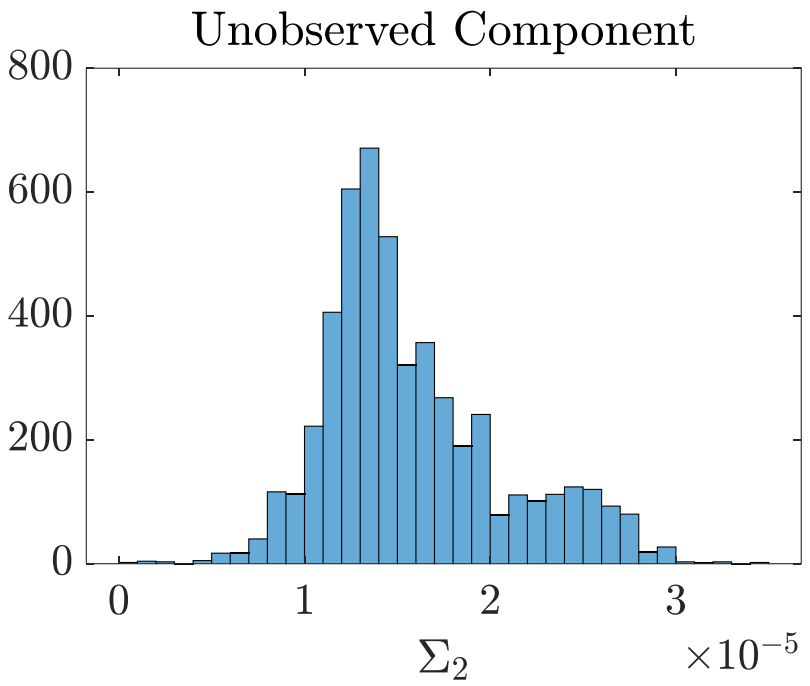
Phase space for twice the training time period

Chaotic Duffing Oscillator

Order of magnitude greater uncertainty in the dynamics of the unobserved variable

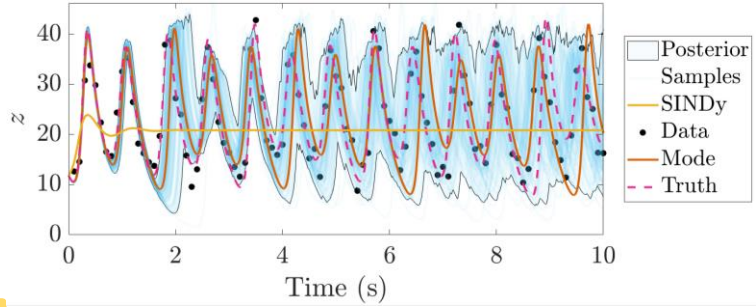
Marginals of process noise variance parameters:





Results: Lorenz ’63

Accounting for model error enhances robustness

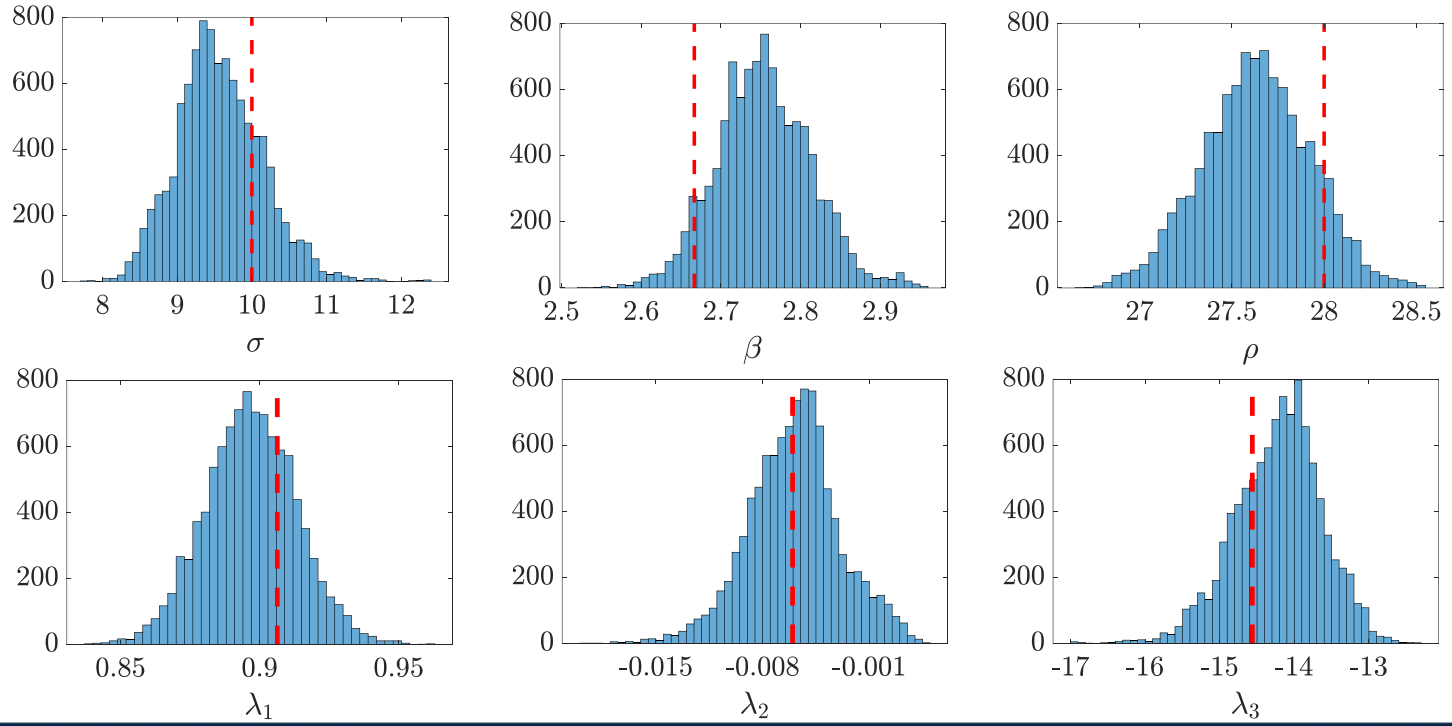


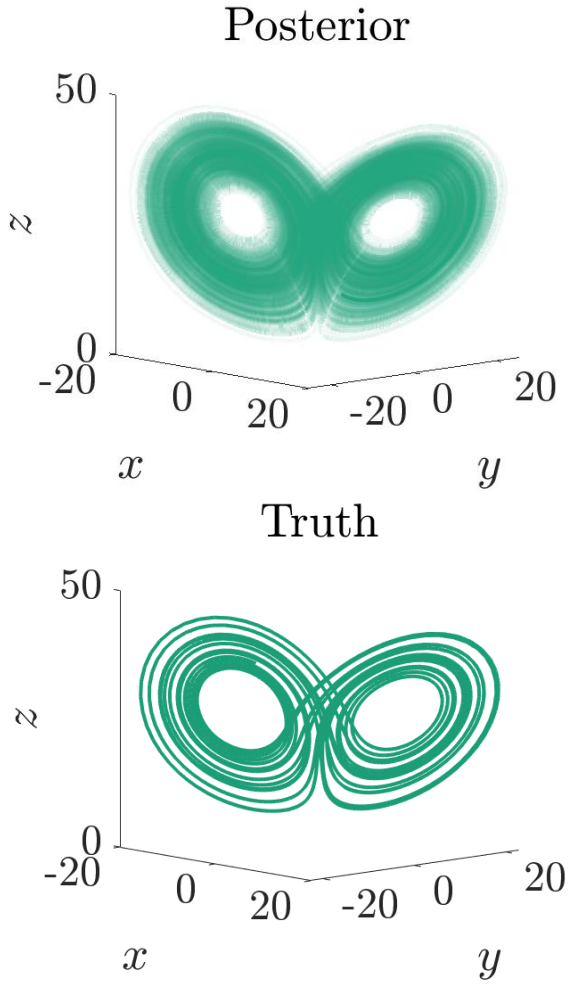
Most positive Lyapunov exponent: $\lambda_1 = 0.906$

$$\dot{x} = \sigma(y - x)$$
$$\dot{y} = x(\rho - z) - y$$
$$\dot{z} = xy - \beta z$$

Recent works[1,2,3] commonly use:
$n = 300$
$\Delta t = 0.01s$
$\sigma_R = 0.0$

$n = 100$
$\Delta t = 0.10s$
$\sigma_R = 2.0$





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1. Lazzús, J. A., Rivera, M., & López-Caraballo, C. H. (2016). Parameter estimation of Lorenz chaotic system using a hybrid swarm intelligence algorithm. *Physics Letters A*, *380*(11-12), 1164-1171.
2. Xu, S., Wang, Y., & Liu, X. (2018). Parameter estimation for chaotic systems via a hybrid flower pollination algorithm. *Neural Computing and Applications*, *30*(8), 2607-2623.
3. Zhuang, L., Cao, L., Wu, Y., Zhong, Y., Zhangzhong, L., Zheng, W., & Wang, L. (2020). Parameter Estimation of Lorenz Chaotic System Based on a Hybrid Jaya-Powell Algorithm. *IEEE Access*, *8*, 20514-20522.

PDE Quantity of Interest

Suppose we have a PDE system, but we are only interested in a low-dimensional quantity of interest (QoI)

Can we learn the dynamics of this QoI without modeling the full field?

Allen-Cahn Quantity of Interest (QoI)

1D PDE with forcing u, spatial coordinate $\xi \in [-1, 1]$ and time coordinate $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} = 0.2\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \xi^2} + w(1 - w^2) + \chi_{[-0.5,0.2]}(\xi)u(t)$$

χ is indicator function
Neumann boundary conditions

$$y_k = \int_{-1}^{1} w(\xi)^2 d\xi + \eta_k \qquad \eta_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 20^2)$$

101 measurements with $\Delta t = 0.10s$

Model parametrization:

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{x}_0(\theta),\ d_{\mathbf{x}} = 8$$
$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = f(\mathbf{x}_k, u_k; \theta) + \xi_k, \qquad \xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}\big(0, \Sigma(\theta)\big)$$
$$y_k = [1 \quad \mathbf{0}_{1\times 7}]\mathbf{x}_k + \eta_k, \qquad \eta_k \sim \mathcal{N}\big(0, \Gamma(\theta)\big)$$

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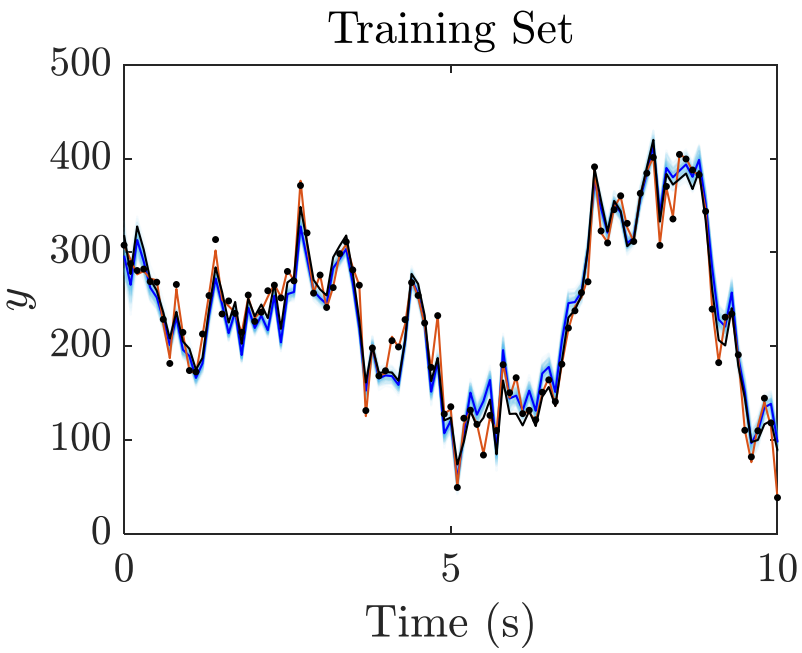
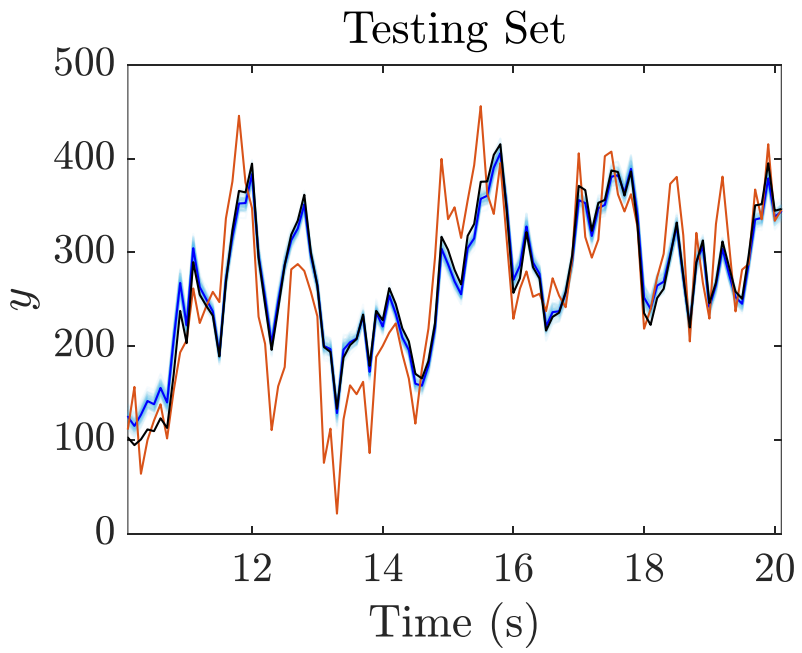
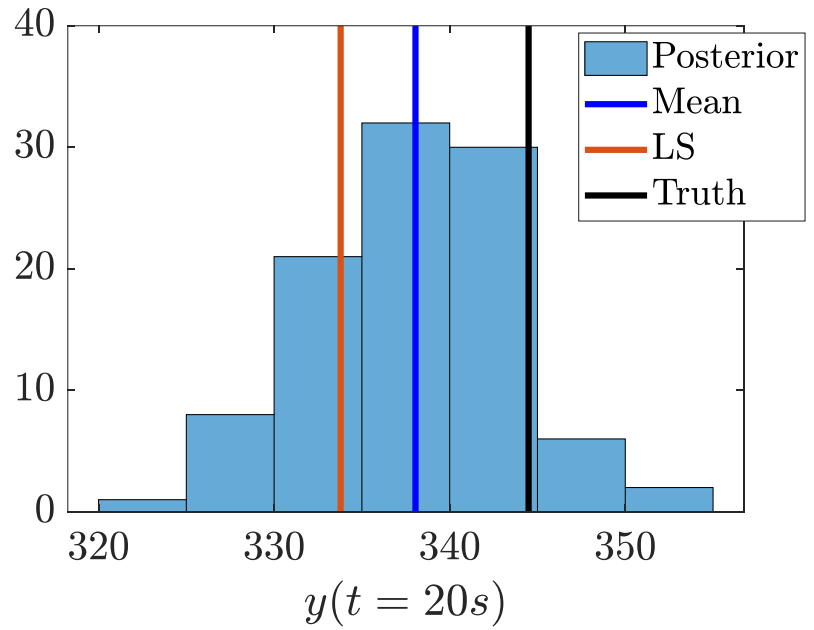
Dolgov, S., Kalise, D., & Kunisch, K. K. (2021). Tensor Decomposition Methods for High-dimensional Hamilton--Jacobi--Bellman Equations. *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing*, *43*(3), A1625-A1650.

Allen-Cahn Quantity of Interest (QoI)

The LS estimate overfits, but the inherent regularization of the Bayesian approach yields a more generalizable model







Testing MSE

Posterior Mean	72.35
Least Squares	3,404.

Hamiltonian Systems

In mechanical systems, the Hamiltonian $\mathcal{H}$ is the sum of potential energy U and kinetic energy T

$$\mathcal{H}(q,p) = T(q,p) + U(q,p)$$

q generalized position
p generalized momentum

Equations of motion are derived from the Hamiltonian

$$\dot{q} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p} \quad \dot{p} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q}$$

Hamiltonian systems have a number of physical properties

- Conservation
- Reversibility
- Symplecticness

Dynamical Model Parameterization

Ensures the learned system is Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H}(q,p,\theta_\Psi) = \frac{1}{2}p^T p + U(q,\theta_\Psi)$$

Differentiation

$$\dot{q} = p, \qquad \dot{p} = -\frac{\partial U(q,\theta_\Psi)}{\partial q}$$

Conserves Hamiltonian and preserves symplectic structure throughout evaluation

Leapfrog Method

$$\Psi(q_k,p_k;\theta_\Psi) = \begin{bmatrix} q_k + \Delta t p_k - \frac{\Delta t^2}{2}\frac{\partial U(q,\theta_\Psi)}{\partial q}\Big|_{q_k} \\ p_k - \frac{\Delta t}{2}\left(\frac{\partial U(q,\theta_\Psi)}{\partial q}\Big|_{q_k} + \frac{\partial U(q,\theta_\Psi)}{\partial q}\Big|_{q_{k+1}}\right) \end{bmatrix}$$

Results: Hénon-Heiles

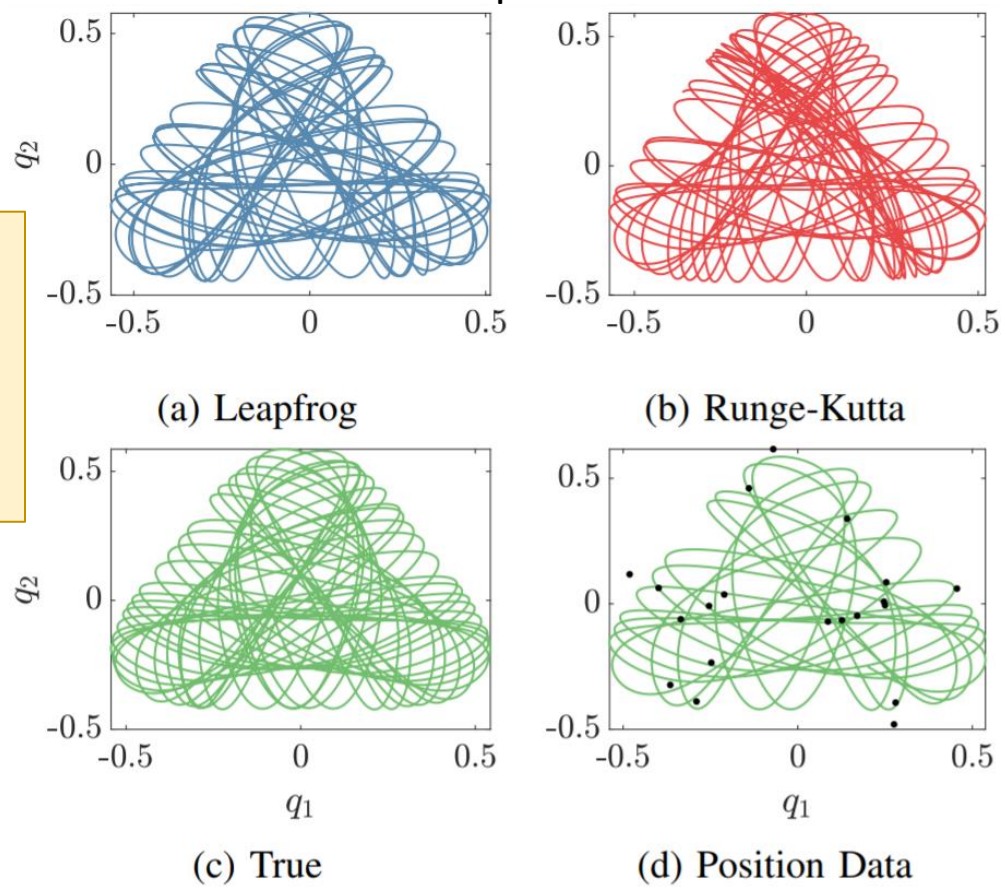
The symplectic approach learns a more accurate Hamiltonian

Truth: $U(q_1, q_2) = \frac{1}{2}q_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}q_2^2 + q_1^2 q_2 - \frac{1}{3}q_2^3$

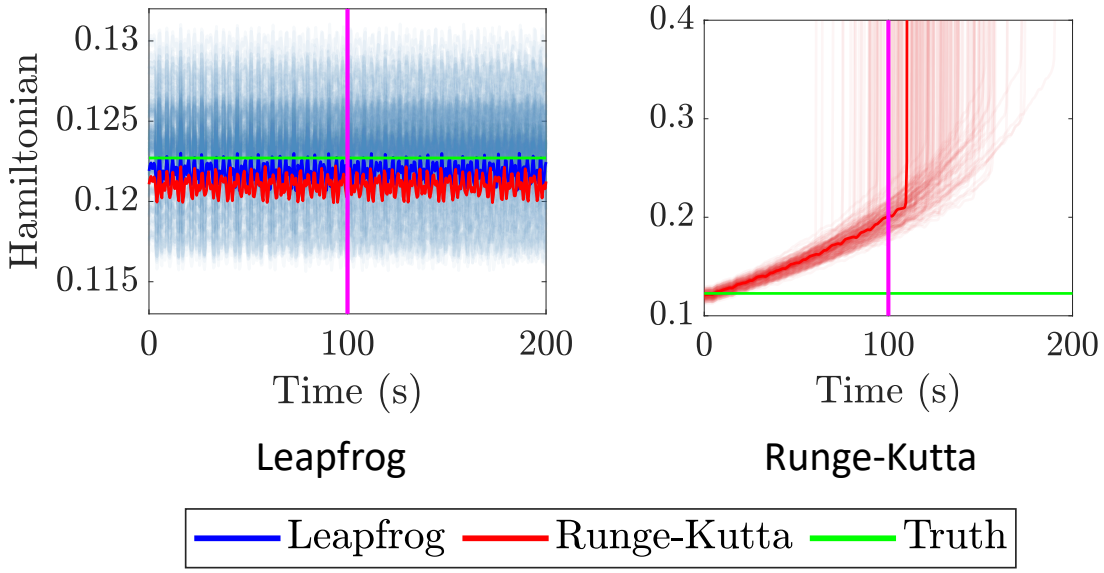
Data Generation:

- $n = 20$
- $\Delta t = 5$
- $\sigma = 0.05$

Phase plots



Hamiltonian over time

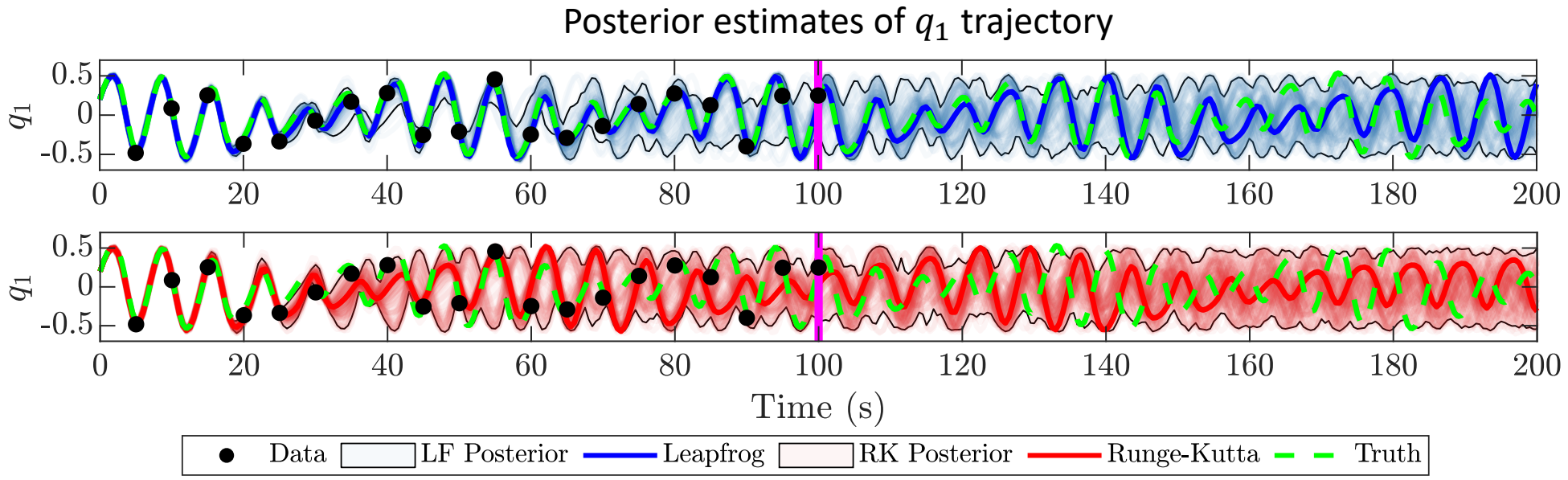


The method equipped with RK must learn a smaller Hamiltonian to compensate for being non-conservative

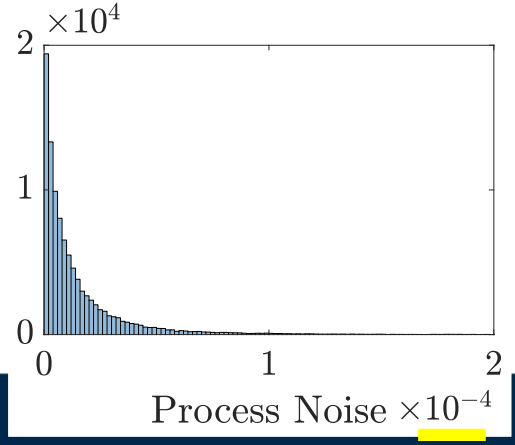
Relative mean error:
Leapfrog: 0.7%; Runge-Kutta: 1.3%

Results: Hénon-Heiles

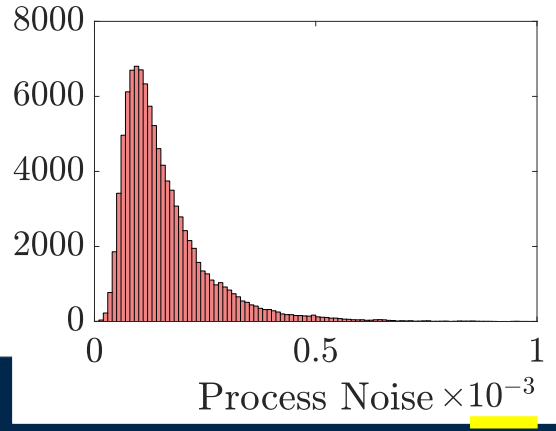
The symplectic approach yields greater certainty



Process noise marginal posteriors



Leapfrog



Runge-Kutta

Symplectic approach learns a model with an order of magnitude greater certainty