

Applied Data Assimilation:  
Diabetes phenotyping/forecasting  
+  
Hybrid machine learning approaches

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# Why study the glucose-insulin system?

- High potential impact for improving:
  - Diabetes clinical care
  - Diabetes self-management
  - Our understanding of the pathogenesis of obesity and diabetes
  - Critical care (comatose patients, not necessarily diabetic)
- Data are available
  - Glucose measurement technology is improving!!!
  - Nutrition intake is often self-recorded by patients
  - Methods for capturing self-administration of medications, like insulin
  - Exercise and sleep (Fitbit etc!)
- Models are available
  - Many *mechanistic* models have been proposed and experimentally validated by physiologists, mathematical biologists, et al. These are often non-linear systems of ODE's.
  - Artie's model is novel because it is designed to describe the system, not just a particular clinical test
  - Scientists are also working on machine learning approaches, but have had limited success so far.
- Challenging ( = FUN!)
  - Dynamics are non-linear, time-delayed, and poorly understood overall.
  - Measurements are noisy, missing not a random, limited to a subset of observable states, costly, and invasive.

# Ongoing projects

1. Characterizing endocrine function (i.e. Bayesian inversion of biological parameters) in patients/mice with:
  - Type 2 Diabetes (T2D) [**free living fingersticks—patient-collected data**]
  - Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS) [**OGTT—clinically-collected data**]
  - Cystic Fibrosis-related Diabetes (CFRD) [**free living fingersticks, CGM, OGTT**]
  - **Because data are noisy and partially observed, we need to carefully quantify UNCERTAINTY in our parameter estimations.**
2. Real-time glucose forecasting [**real-world data**] for:
  - Type 2 Diabetes (patient-facing, meal-time decision support)
  - Critically ill patients in the ICU (clinician-facing decision support)
3. Hybrid machine learning + mechanistic models to account for model error when making predictions
  - mechanistic RNN
  - Modeling residual errors

# Parameter Estimation w/ Uncertainty via Bayesian Inversion

Biological Question: What are the relative roles are played by insulin **production** and insulin **sensitivity** in diabetes pathogenesis?

National Institutes of Health (NIH) – Arthur Sherman and Joon Ha

# NIH Longitudinal Diabetes Pathogenesis Model (LDPM)

Glucose  $\dot{G} = \text{Meal} + \text{HGP} - (S_G + S_I I)G$

Insulin  $\dot{I} = \frac{\beta\sigma}{V} \text{ISR}(G) - kI$

# NIH Longitudinal Diabetes Pathogenesis Model (LDPM)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Glucose} \quad \dot{G} &= \text{Meal} + \text{HGP} - (S_G + \boxed{S_I} I) G \\ \text{Insulin} \quad \dot{I} &= \frac{\beta \boxed{\sigma}}{V} \text{ISR}(G) - kI \end{aligned}$$

Insulin Sensitivity

Insulin Production Capacity

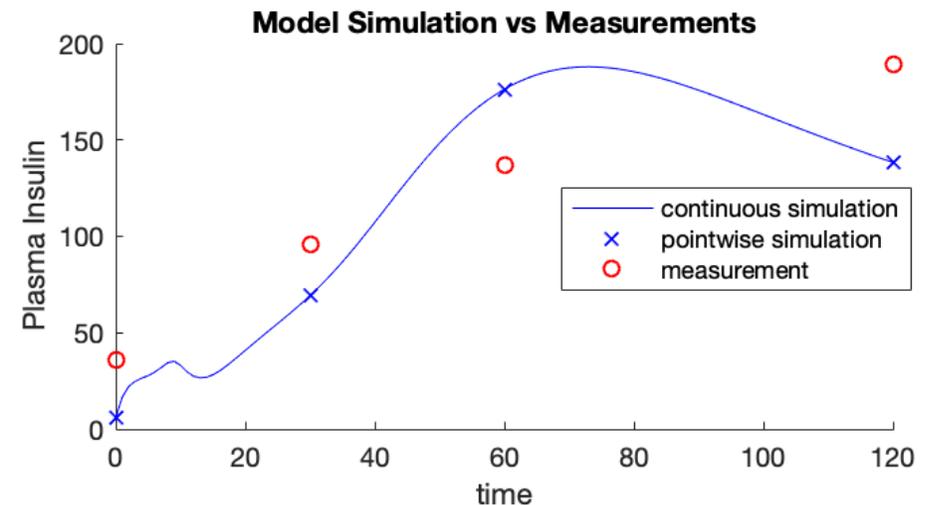
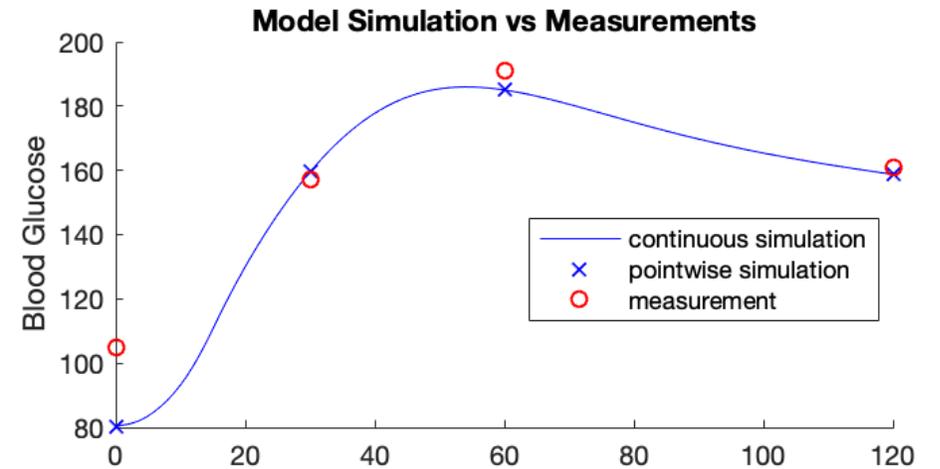
# Goal: Characterize endocrine function with parameter estimation from data...w/ UNCERTAINTY

$$\dot{G} = \text{Meal} + \text{HGP} - (S_G + S_I I)G$$

$$\dot{I} = \frac{\beta\sigma}{V} \text{ISR}(G) - kI$$

## DATA from Oral Glucose Tolerance Test:

- Glucose and Insulin Measurements
- Measurements every 30min for 2-3 hours
- Collected in CLINICAL SETTINGS



# Bayesian Inverse framework

- Consider solution operator to LDPM model

$$\Psi(x(s), t, s, \theta) = x(s) + \int_s^t F(x, \tau, \theta) d\tau$$

- Deterministic state dynamics governed by parameters theta:

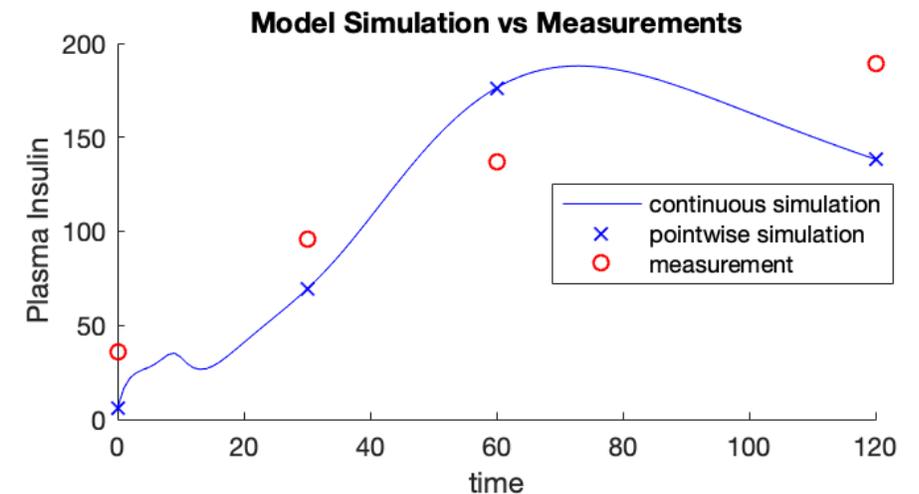
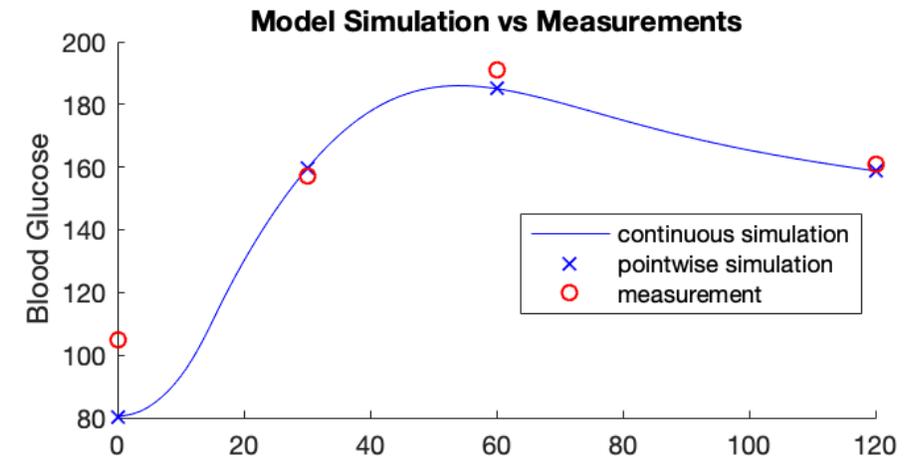
$$x(t) = \Psi(x(s), t, s, \theta)$$

- Solutions at measurement times in observation space:

$$\mathcal{G}(\theta) = \{H(x(t_k))\}_{k=0}^K$$

- Data model:

$$y = \mathcal{G}(\theta) + \eta$$



# Bayesian Inverse framework

- Deterministic state dynamics governed by parameters  $\theta$ :

$$x(t) = \Psi(x(s), t, s, \theta)$$

- Solutions at measurement times in observation space:

$$\mathcal{G}(\theta) = \{H(x(t_k))\}_{k=0}^K$$

- Data model:

$$y = \mathcal{G}(\theta) + \eta$$

---

- Likelihood:

$\mathbb{P}(y|\theta)$  is proportional to  $\exp(-\Phi(\theta; y))$  where

$$\Phi(\theta; y) = \frac{1}{2} \left\| \Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} (y - \mathcal{G}(\theta)) \right\|^2.$$

- Posterior:

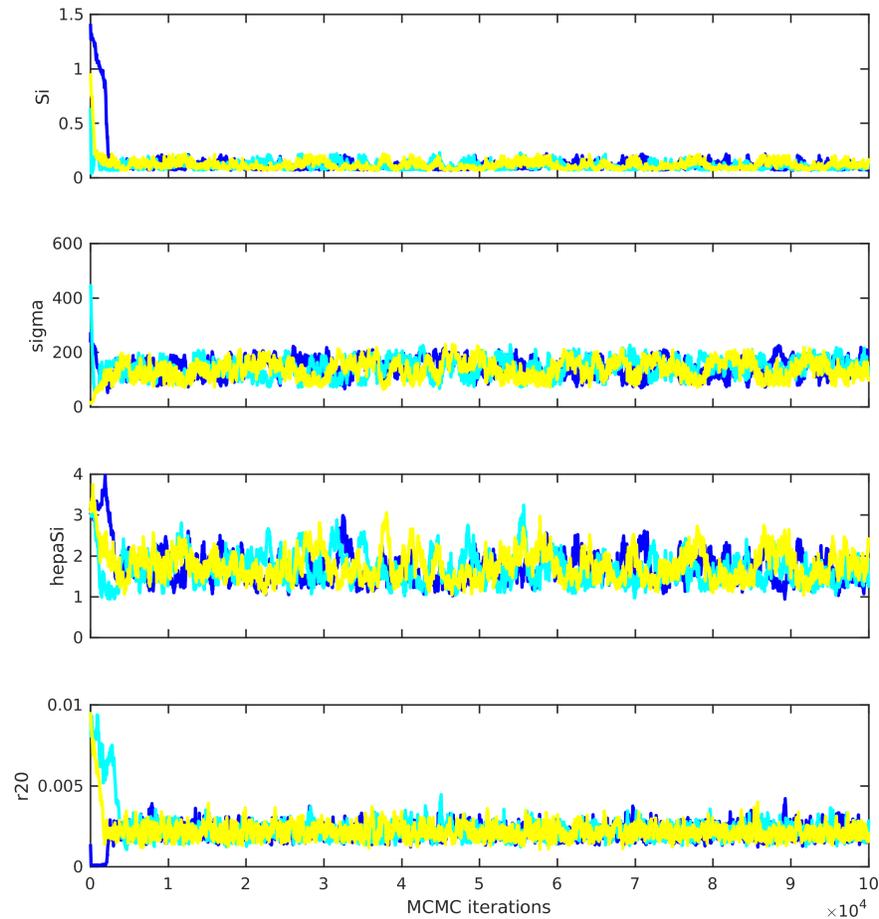
$$\mathbb{P}(\theta|y) \propto \mathbb{P}(y|\theta)\mathbb{P}(\theta)$$

- Uniform Prior

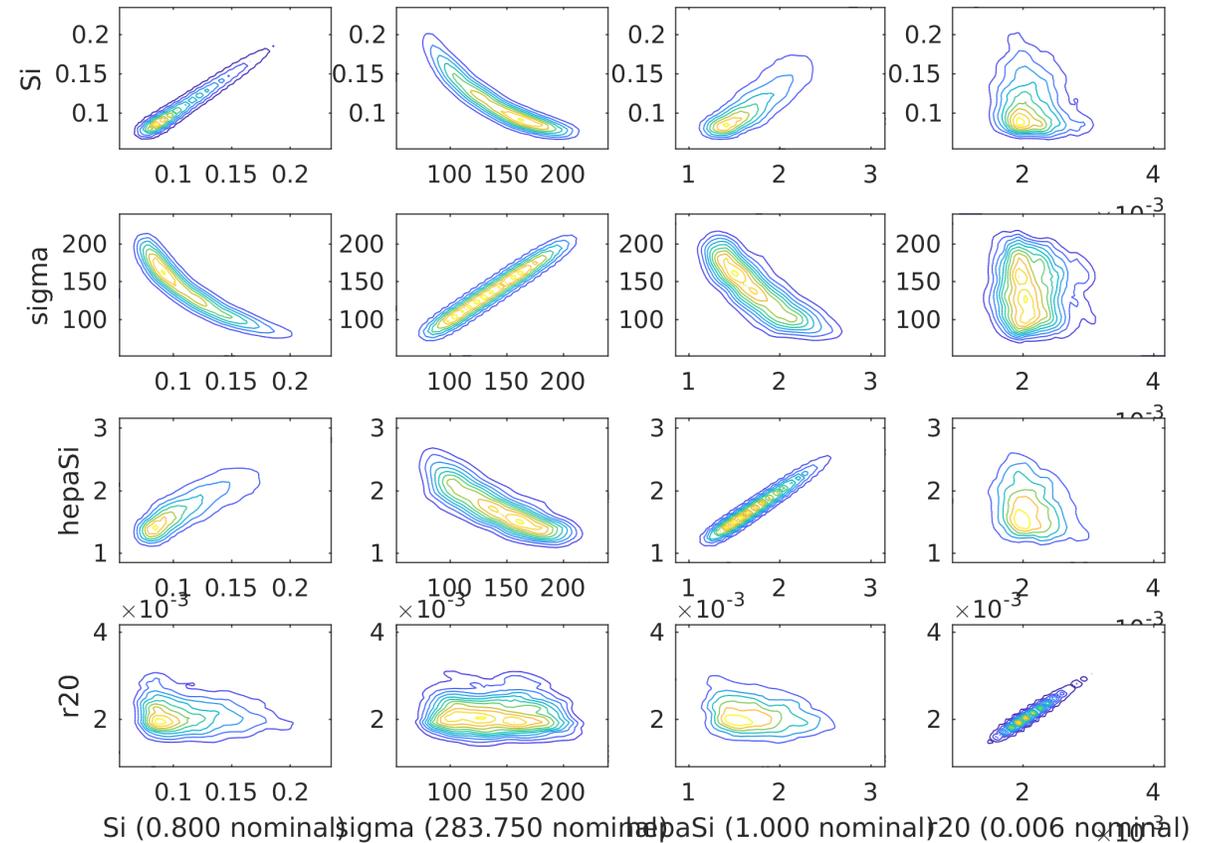
$$\Phi_0(\theta) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \theta \notin S \\ 1 & \text{if } \theta \in S \end{cases}$$

# Ready...set...sample! Metropolis Hastings MCMC (results for 1 single OGTT for 1 single patient)

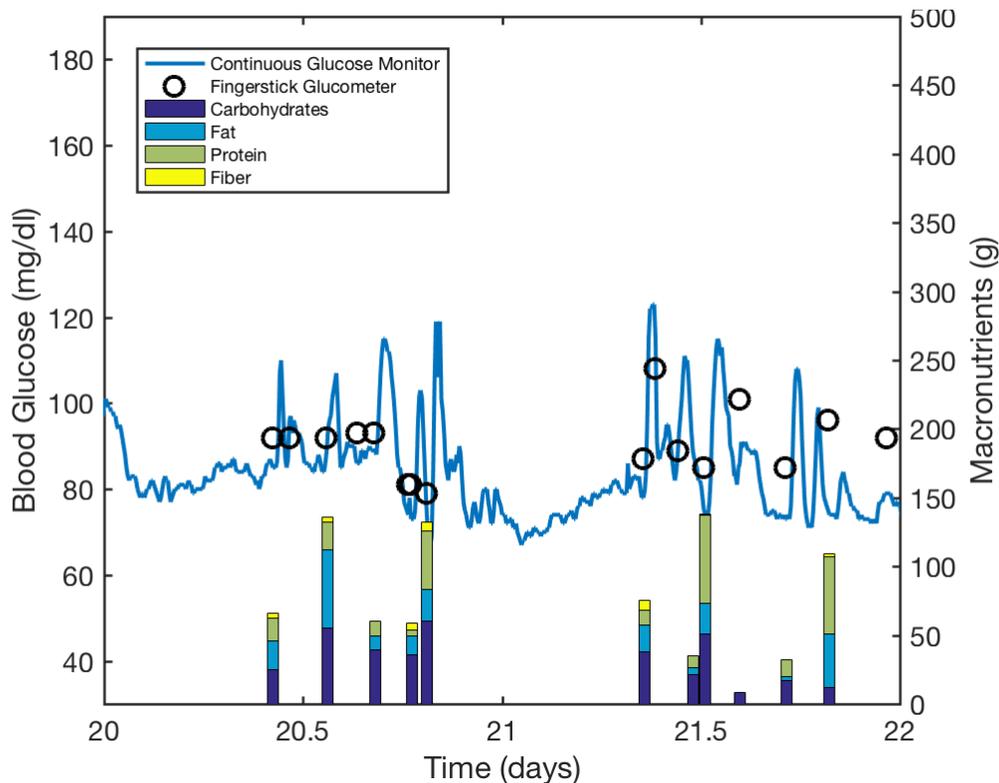
MCMC Sequence



Bivariate MC Densities--Chain 3



# Now, can we estimate parameters from data collected in the wild by patients?



- Sparse, irregular sampling
- No Insulin Measurements
- Long-term (days to weeks)
- Noisy

Glucose

$$\dot{G} = \text{Meal} + \text{HGP} - (S_G + S_I I)G$$

Insulin

$$\dot{I} = \frac{\beta \sigma}{V} \text{ISR}(G) - kI$$

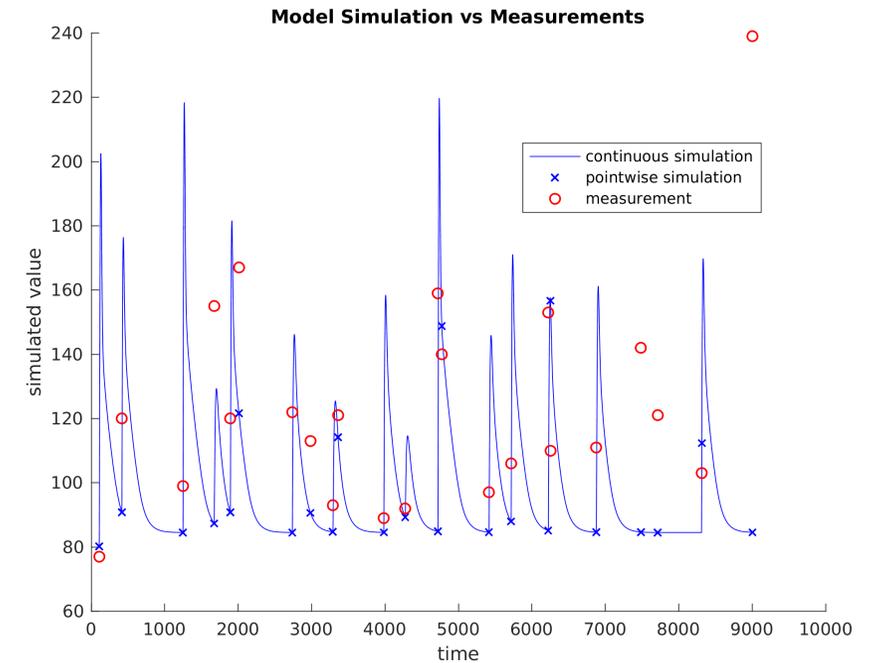
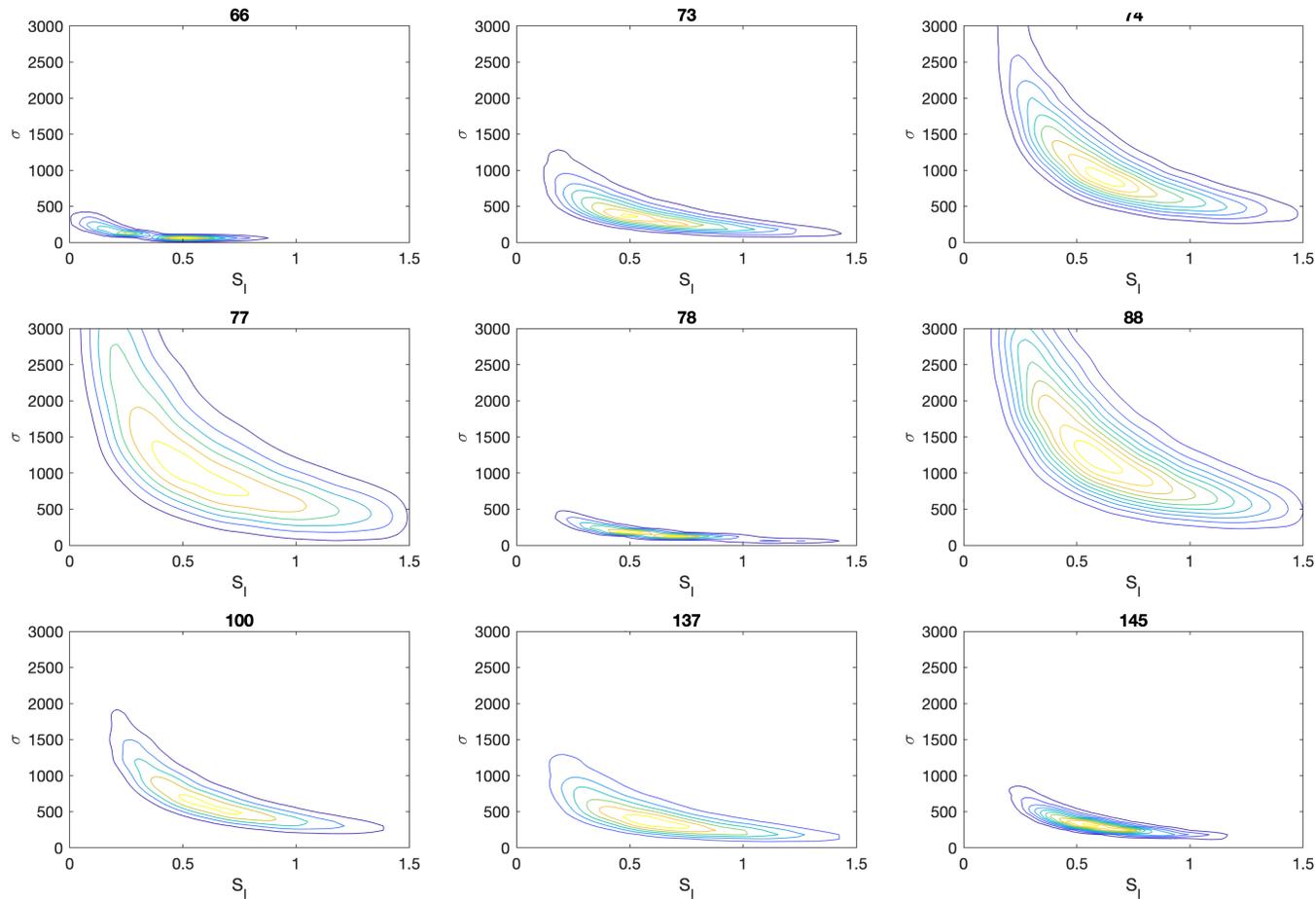
Insulin Production Capacity

Insulin Sensitivity

**NEARLY UNIDENTIFIABLE**

# Large uncertainty in parameter estimates from free-living data

Posterior probability distributions  $\mathbb{P}(\theta|y)$



# Summary

## Takeaways

- Endocrine inference is highly uncertain and parameters are unidentifiable, especially in free-living data
- This uncertainty/identifiability can be CHARACTERIZED with MCMC and other sampling techniques
- Can be USED to generate posterior distribution of Disposition Index (DI)

## Future directions

- Estimate posterior parameter distributions for patients from a population
- Assemble these estimates into a “**population distribution**”
- Use this “**population distribution**” to better inform future inferences on this population

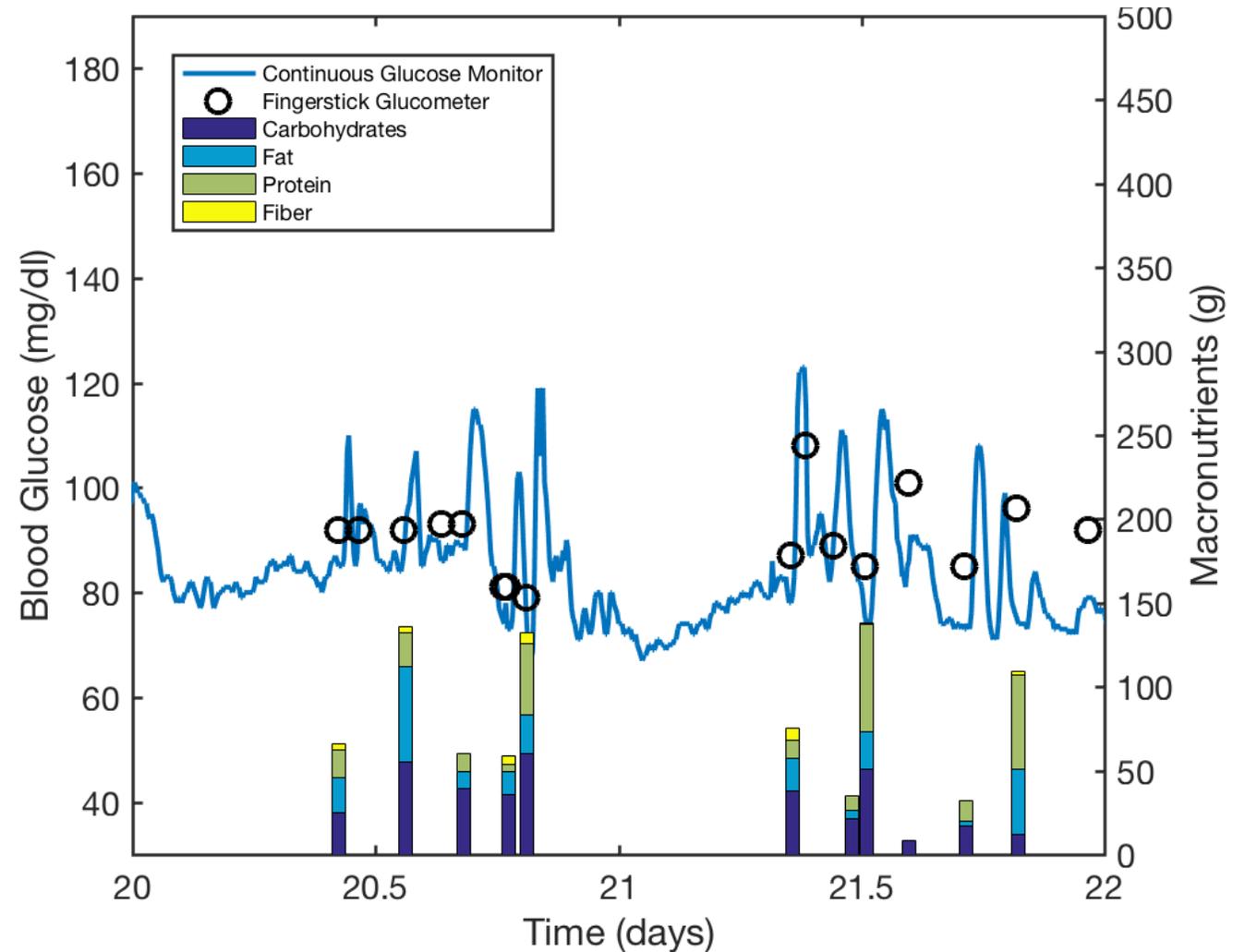
# Real-time glucose forecasting via Data Assimilation

# Data Assimilation for real-time prediction

- Applications
  - Type 2 Diabetes (patient-facing, meal-time decision support)
  - Critically ill patients in the ICU (clinician-facing decision support)
- The challenge
  - Incorporate ("*assimilate*") new/changing information into current belief about present and future...*in real-time*
  - *We NEVER observe insulin measurements in the wild!*
- Our approach: *Stochastic Filtering*
  - Linear models -> Kalman Filter
  - Non-linear models -> Non-linear filters (Particle Filters, Unscented KF, EnKF)

# Type 2 Diabetes Self-Monitoring Data

- Sparse, irregular sampling
- No Insulin Measurements
- Long-term (days to weeks)
- Noisy



# Data Assimilation: Mathematical Framing

Consider the discrete-time dynamical system with noisy state transitions and noisy observations in the form:

$$\text{Dynamics Model: } v_{j+1} = \Psi(v_j) + \xi_j, \quad j \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

$$\text{Data Model: } y_{j+1} = h(v_{j+1}) + \eta_{j+1}, \quad j \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

$$\text{Probabilistic Structure: } v_0 \sim N(m_0, C_0), \quad \xi_j \sim N(0, \Sigma), \quad \eta_j \sim N(0, \Gamma)$$

$$\text{Probabilistic Structure: } v_0 \perp \{\xi_j\} \perp \{\eta_j\} \text{ independent}$$

For linear models, use a Kalman Filter!

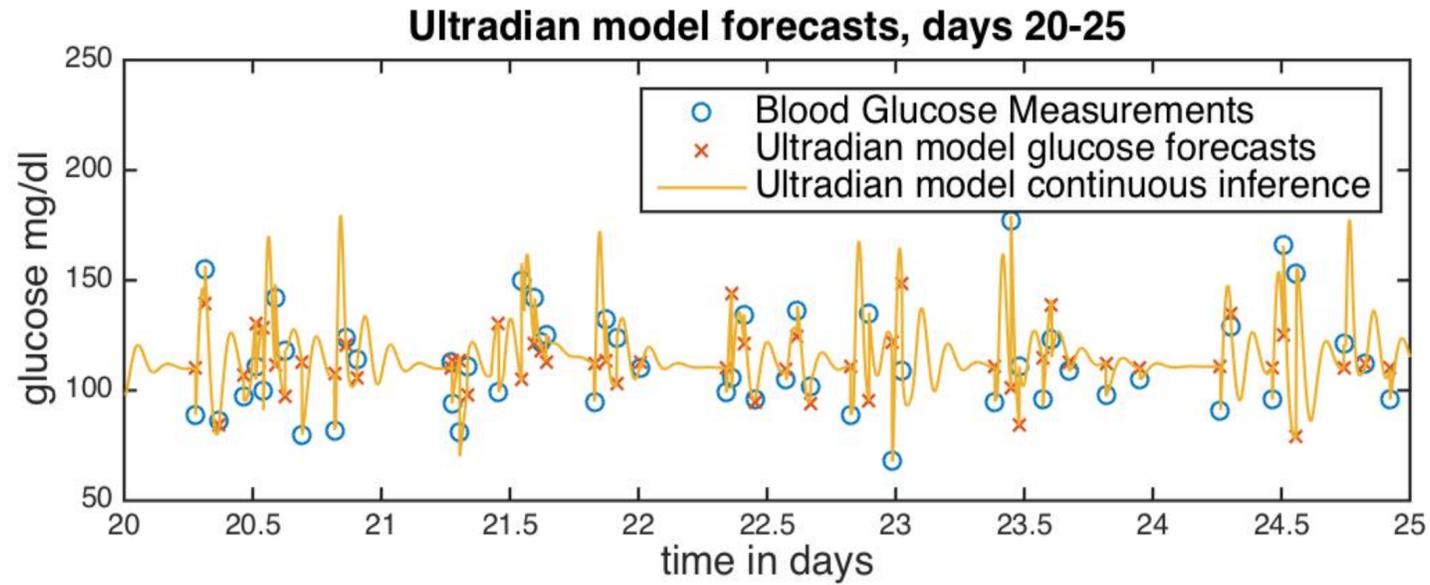
For non-linear models, need to approximate the mapping of the distribution...use non-linear filter!

Here,  $h$  chooses the glucose state, and the dynamics are governed by a continuous-time system

# Unscented Kalman Filter for personalized glucose forecasting

Albers, Levine, Gluckman, Ginsberg, Hripcsak, and Mamykina 2017

- Iterative prediction-correction scheme
- Can track states and parameters (dual, joint)

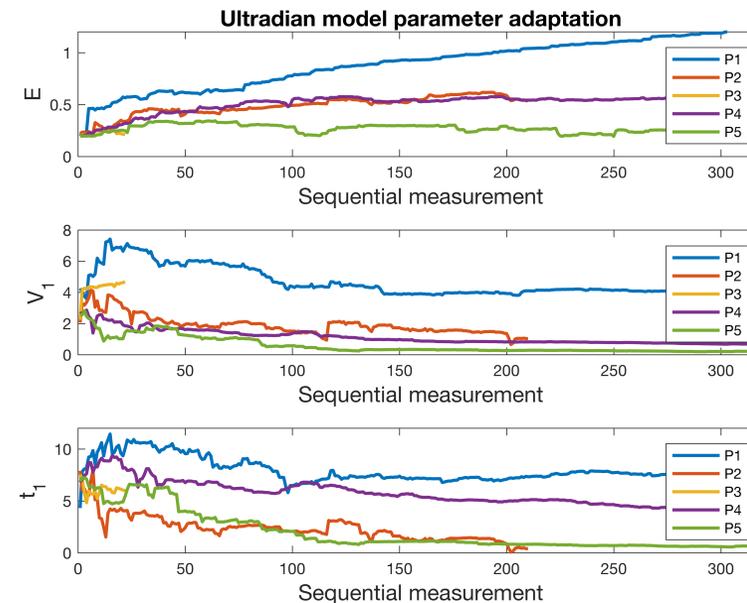


# Unscented Kalman Filter for personalized glucose forecasting

Albers, Levine, Gluckman, Ginsberg, Hripcsak, and Mamykina 2017

## Significant challenges exist in parameter estimation with dual UKF.

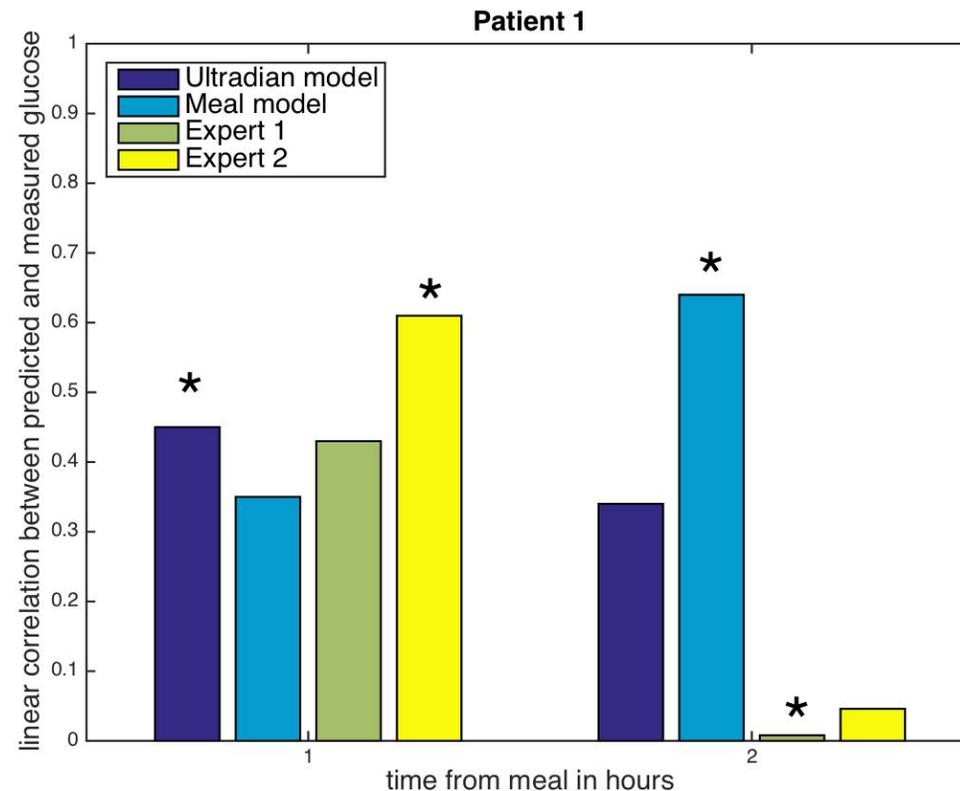
- Parameter estimates often do not converge
- UKF does not explore full parameter space
- Parameter tracking is designed to adapt to *between-measurement dynamics*, not dynamics across multiple measurements



# Unscented Kalman Filter for personalized glucose forecasting

Albers, Levine, Gluckman, Ginsberg, Hripcsak, and Mamykina 2017

**Dual UKF often matches or beats clinical experts forecasts.**



# Results from real-time glucose forecasting

- **PREVIOUS WORK:** UKF w/ Cobelli model is operationalized in a patient-facing mobile application that is used by people with T2D for meal-time decision support (*Albers et al. Plos Comp Bio 2017*)
  - Learning parameters is ESSENTIAL
- **More recently:**
  - *Simpler, non-mechanistic models seem to have better predictive performance*
  - **Can CONSTRAIN the state space of EnKF, and this helps for operationalizing**

# Ensemble Kalman Filter (Evensen 2003)

Consider the discrete-time dynamical system with noisy state transitions and noisy observations in the form:

$$\text{Dynamics Model: } v_{j+1} = \Psi(v_j) + \xi_j, \quad j \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

$$\text{Data Model: } y_{j+1} = h(v_{j+1}) + \eta_{j+1}, \quad j \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

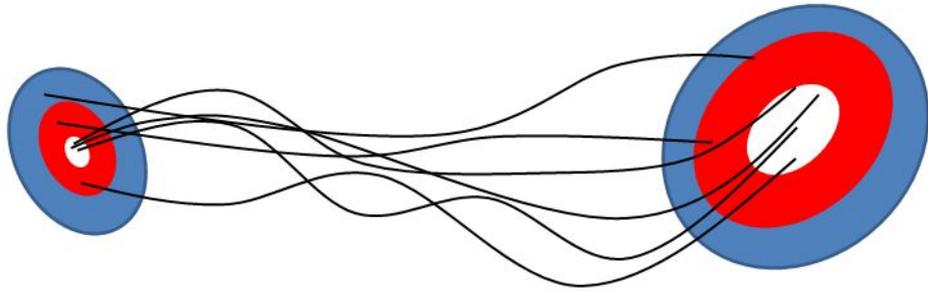
$$\text{Probabilistic Structure: } v_0 \sim N(m_0, C_0), \quad \xi_j \sim N(0, \Sigma), \quad \eta_j \sim N(0, \Gamma)$$

$$\text{Probabilistic Structure: } v_0 \perp \{\xi_j\} \perp \{\eta_j\} \text{ independent}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Assume Gaussian states: } & P(v_j | y_j) \sim N(m_j, C_j) \\ & P(v_{j+1} | y_j) \sim N(\hat{m}_j, \hat{C}_j) \end{aligned}$$

# Ensemble Kalman Filter

The prediction step is

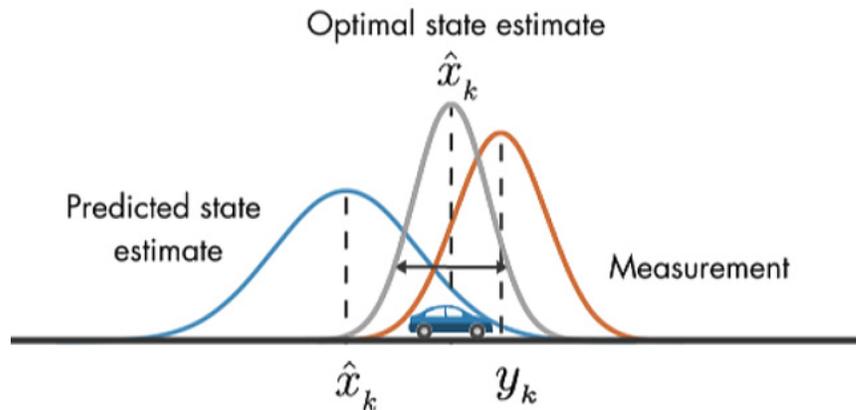


$$\hat{v}_{j+1}^{(n)} = \Psi(v_j^{(n)}) + \xi_j^{(n)}, n = 1, \dots, N \quad (2.1a)$$

$$\hat{m}_{j+1} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \hat{v}_{j+1}^{(n)} \quad (2.1b)$$

$$\hat{C}_{j+1} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (\hat{v}_{j+1}^{(n)} - \hat{m}_{j+1})(\hat{v}_{j+1}^{(n)} - \hat{m}_{j+1})^T \quad (2.1c)$$

The update step is then



$$S_{j+1} = H\hat{C}_{j+1}H^T + \Gamma \quad (2.4a)$$

$$K_{j+1} = \hat{C}_{j+1}H^T S_{j+1}^{-1} \quad (\text{Kalman Gain}) \quad (2.4b)$$

$$y_{j+1}^{(n)} = y_{j+1} + s\eta_{j+1}^{(n)}, n = 1, \dots, N \quad (2.4c)$$

$$v_{j+1}^{(n)} = (I - K_{j+1}H)\hat{v}_{j+1}^{(n)} + K_{j+1}y_{j+1}^{(n)}, n = 1, \dots, N \quad (2.4d)$$

# Constrained Ensemble Kalman Filtering—Why?

PROBLEM: Gaussian has infinite support, but our problem space often only makes sense on a compact set

## GOALS:

- Enforce model physicality (e.g. positivity)
- Maintain problem well-posedness (e.g. avoid parameter regimes that make forward map intractable)
- Provide robustness to outlier data

# Ensemble Kalman Filtering (EnKF) framework

The prediction step is

$$\hat{v}_{j+1}^{(n)} = \Psi(v_j^{(n)}) + \xi_j^{(n)}, n = 1, \dots, N \quad (2.1a)$$

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# Kalman update can be rewritten as a quadratic minimization

The prediction step is

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The update step is then

$$v_{j+1}^{(n)} = \underset{v}{\operatorname{argmin}} I_{\text{filter},j,n}(v)$$

where

$$I_{\text{filter},j,n}(v) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \|y_{j+1}^{(n)} - Hv\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|v - \hat{v}_{j+1}^{(n)}\|_{\hat{C}_{j+1}}^2 & \text{if } v - \hat{v}_{j+1}^{(n)} \in \mathcal{R}(\hat{C}_{j+1}). \\ \infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (2.3a)$$

# Constrained EnKF (Inverse Problems 2019)

Why constrain the system?

- Ensure physicality (e.g. Positivity of a physical concentrations)
- Ensure tractability of forward model

How to constrain the system?

- Minimize  $I_{\text{filter}}$  subject to linear equality and inequality constraints

The update step is then

$$v_{j+1}^{(n)} = \underset{v}{\operatorname{argmin}} I_{\text{filter},j,n}(v)$$

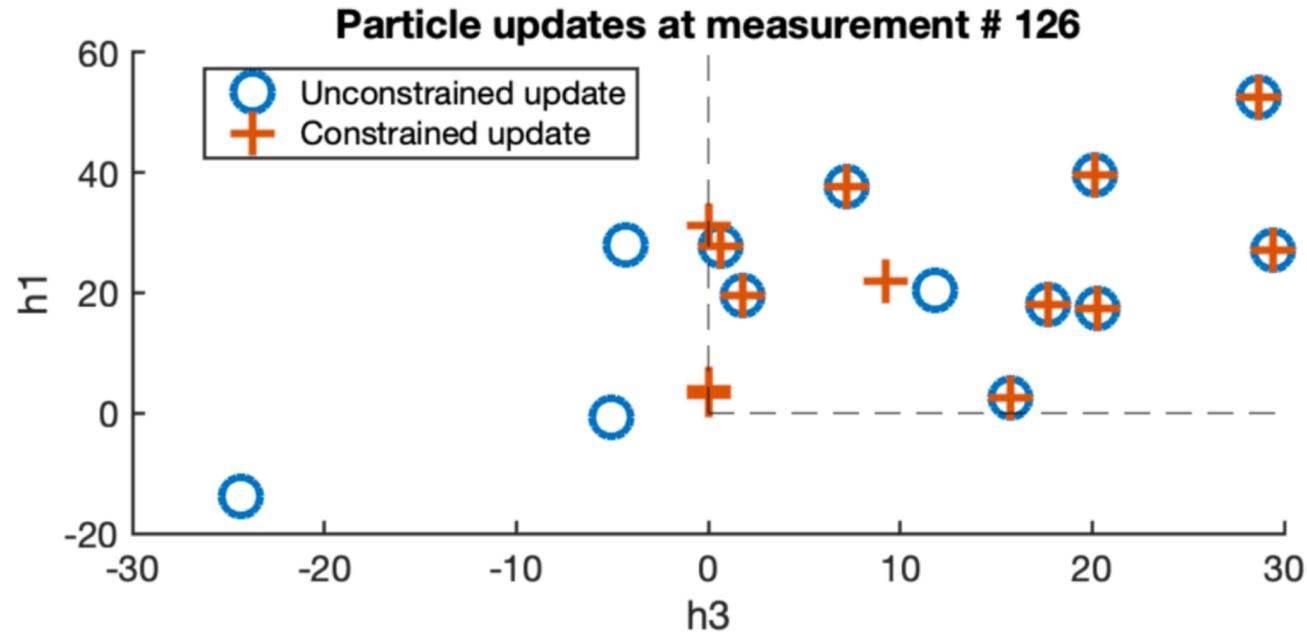
$$Fv = f,$$

$$Gv \preceq g.$$

where

$$I_{\text{filter},j,n}(v) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \|y_{j+1}^{(n)} - Hv\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|v - \hat{v}_{j+1}^{(n)}\|_{\hat{C}_{j+1}}^2 & \text{if } v - \hat{v}_{j+1}^{(n)} \in \mathcal{R}(\hat{C}_{j+1}). \\ \infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (2.3a)$$

# Numerical results from Constrained EnKF application



**Figure 2** Particle updates at a given time-step (here, measurement 126) are shown using a traditional Kalman gain versus using the constrained optimization. The black lines denote lower bound constraints on the states  $h_1$  and  $h_3$ .

# Open questions/problems for real-time glucose forecasting

- Improvements with Offline/Online parameter estimation
- UQ of forecasts
- Incorporate new, informative data elements (protein, fat, sleep, exercise, insulin, medications)
- Model Selection/Averaging/Blending with Machine Learning

Uniting mechanistic modeling  
and machine learning for  
enhanced time-series predictions

# Forecasting a dynamical system (simple, naive setting)

- Say we observe data from the true system: a discrete, deterministic dynamical system of form

$$u_{k+1} = \Psi(u_k)$$

- But we only have a model hypothesis  $\tilde{\Psi}$
- How do we predict future trajectory?
- Scenarios
  1. We know a lot about the system, and believe our hypothesis is true up to a specific parameterization...in this case, use DA for filtering!
    - i.e. Block on a spring experiment
  2. We know NOTHING about the system, so our hypothesis is a general function class...this is ML/deep learning/etc.

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    - i.e. Block on a spring experiment
  2. We know NOTHING about the system, so our hypothesis is a general function class...this is ML/deep learning/etc.
  3. **We hypothesize a specific mechanism with modest predictive power, but substantial inadequacies.**

Start with simple Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)

$$r_{k+1} = \sigma(a + Ar_k + Bd_k)$$

$$d_{k+1} = b + Cr_{k+1}, \quad \text{with parameter set } \Theta = \{A, B, C, a, b\}$$

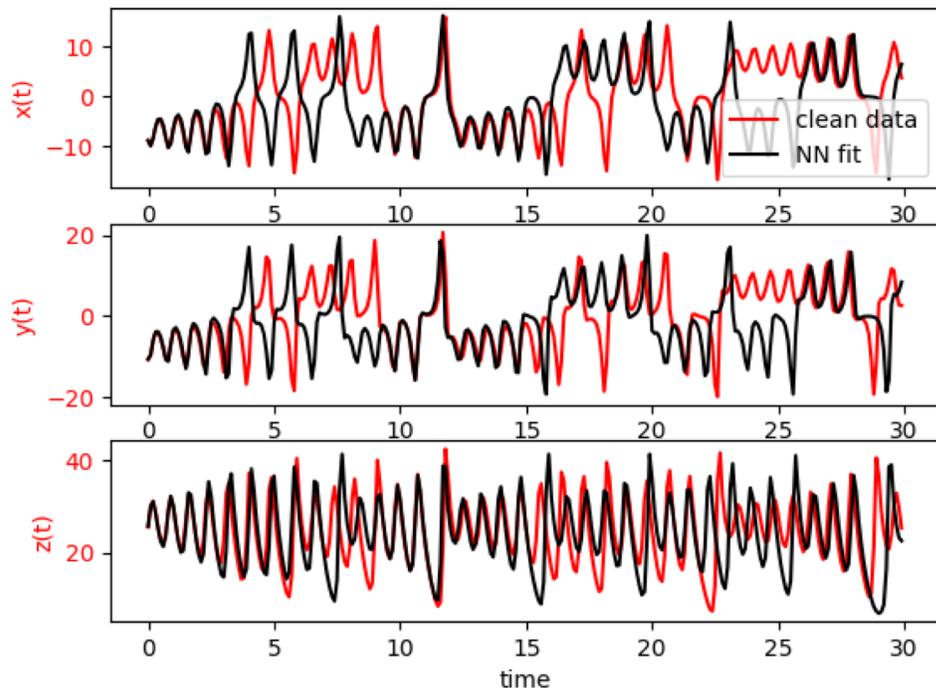
$$\Theta^* = \underset{\Theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{k=1}^K \|u_k - d_k\|^2$$

RNN can learn to predict the Lorenz 63 system

$$r_{k+1} = \sigma(a + Ar_k + Bd_k)$$

$$d_{k+1} = b + Cr_{k+1}, \quad \text{with parameter set } \Theta = \{A, B, C, a, b\}$$

$$\Theta^* = \underset{\Theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{k=1}^K \|u_k - d_k\|^2$$



But can the RNN do better with more information? We propose the “mechRNN”

**mechRNN**

$$\begin{aligned} r_{k+1} &= \sigma \left( a + Ar_k + B \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Psi}(d_k) \\ d_k \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ d_{k+1} &= b + C \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Psi}(d_k) \\ r_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

with parameter set  $\Theta = \{A, B, C, a, b\}$

$$\Theta^* = \underset{\Theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{k=1}^K \|u_k - d_k\|^2$$

Analogous to Reservoir Computing approach by Pathak et al. (Chaos 2018)

# Lorenz 63 with perturbed parameter: A model for model error

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= -a(x + y) \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= bx - y - xz \quad \text{with } a = 10, b = 28, c = 8/3, \\ \frac{dz}{dt} &= -cz + xy,\end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{u} = \tilde{f}(u) = f(u, \tilde{b}) \quad \text{Lorenz 63 with perturbed } b \text{ parameter}$$

$$\Psi(u_k) = u_k + \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} f(u(t)) dt \quad \text{TRUE generating system for training data}$$

$$\tilde{\Psi}(u_k) = u_k + \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} \tilde{f}(u(t)) dt \quad \text{ASSUMED, but WRONG generating system for training data}$$

So can the RNN do better with imperfect information? Yes!

**mechRNN**

$$\begin{aligned} r_{k+1} &= \sigma \left( a + Ar_k + B \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Psi}(d_k) \\ d_k \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ d_{k+1} &= b + C \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Psi}(d_k) \\ r_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

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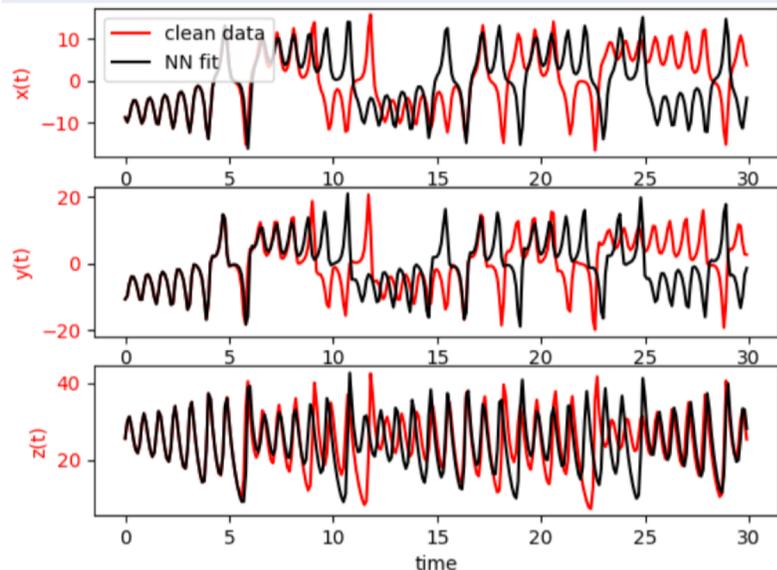
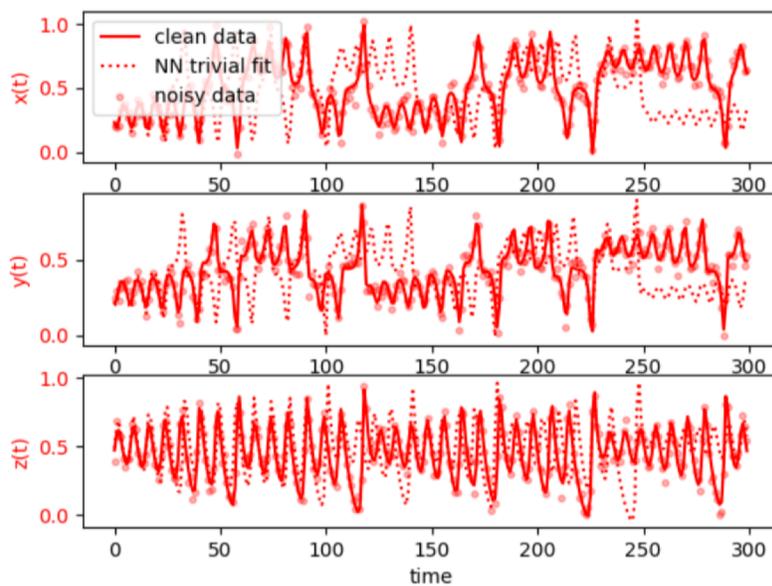
$$d_{k+1} = b + C \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Psi}(d_k) \\ r_{k+1} \end{bmatrix}$$

with parameter set  $\Theta = \{A, B, C, a, b\}$

$$\Theta^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\Theta} \sum_{k=1}^K \|u_k - d_k\|^2$$

Analogous to Reservoir Computing approach by Pathak et al. (Chaos 2018)

**mechRNN w/  $\tilde{\Psi}$  s.t.  $\tilde{b} = (1 + \varepsilon)b, \varepsilon = 0.05$**

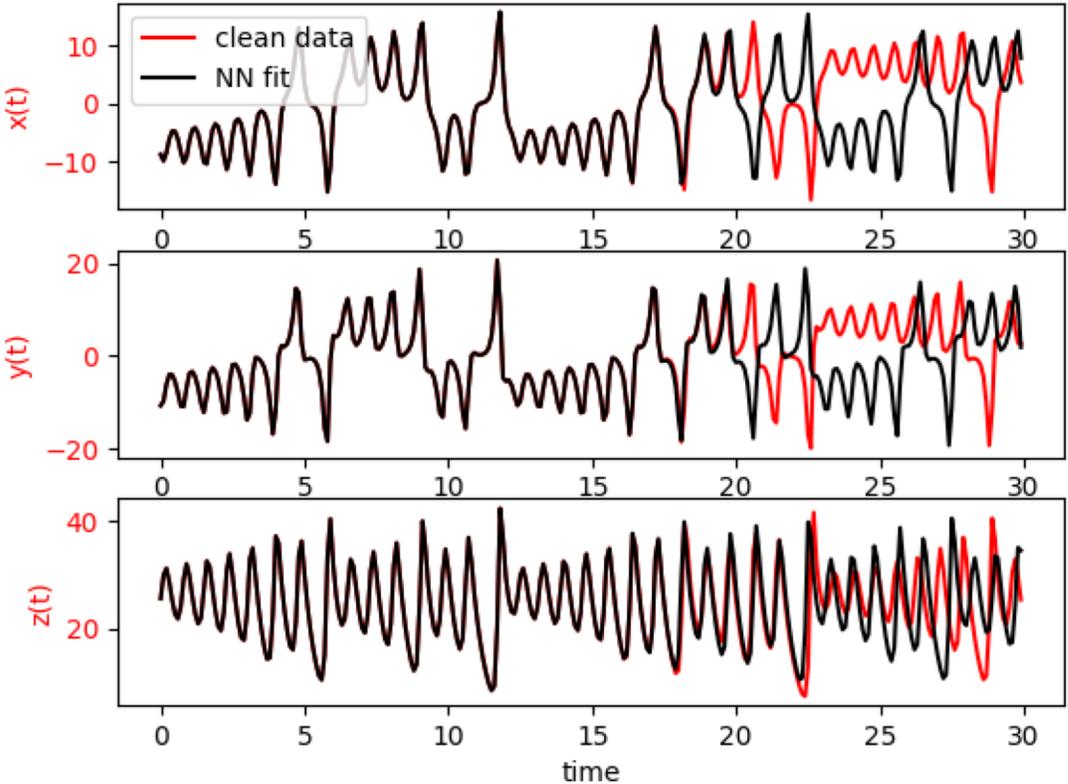


- **Training data** comes from high-fidelity solutions to Lorenz 63 with classical chaotic parameters
- **mechRNN** only sees the solution operator to a perturbed version of the true system

Even simpler, can we learn residual errors? Yes!

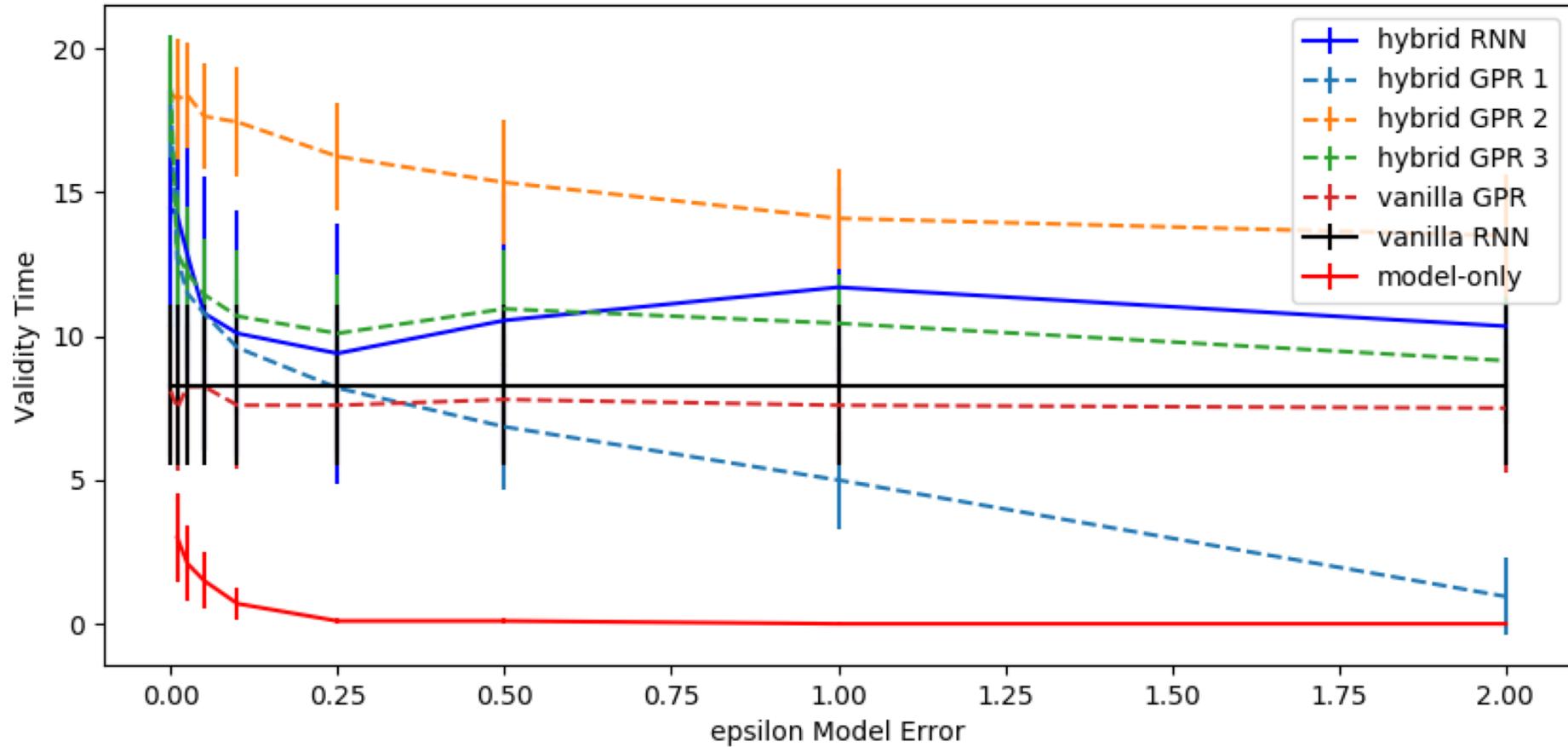
$$d_{k+1} = \tilde{\Psi}(d_k) + G \left( P \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Psi}(d_k) \\ d_k \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

GPR2 Testing fit

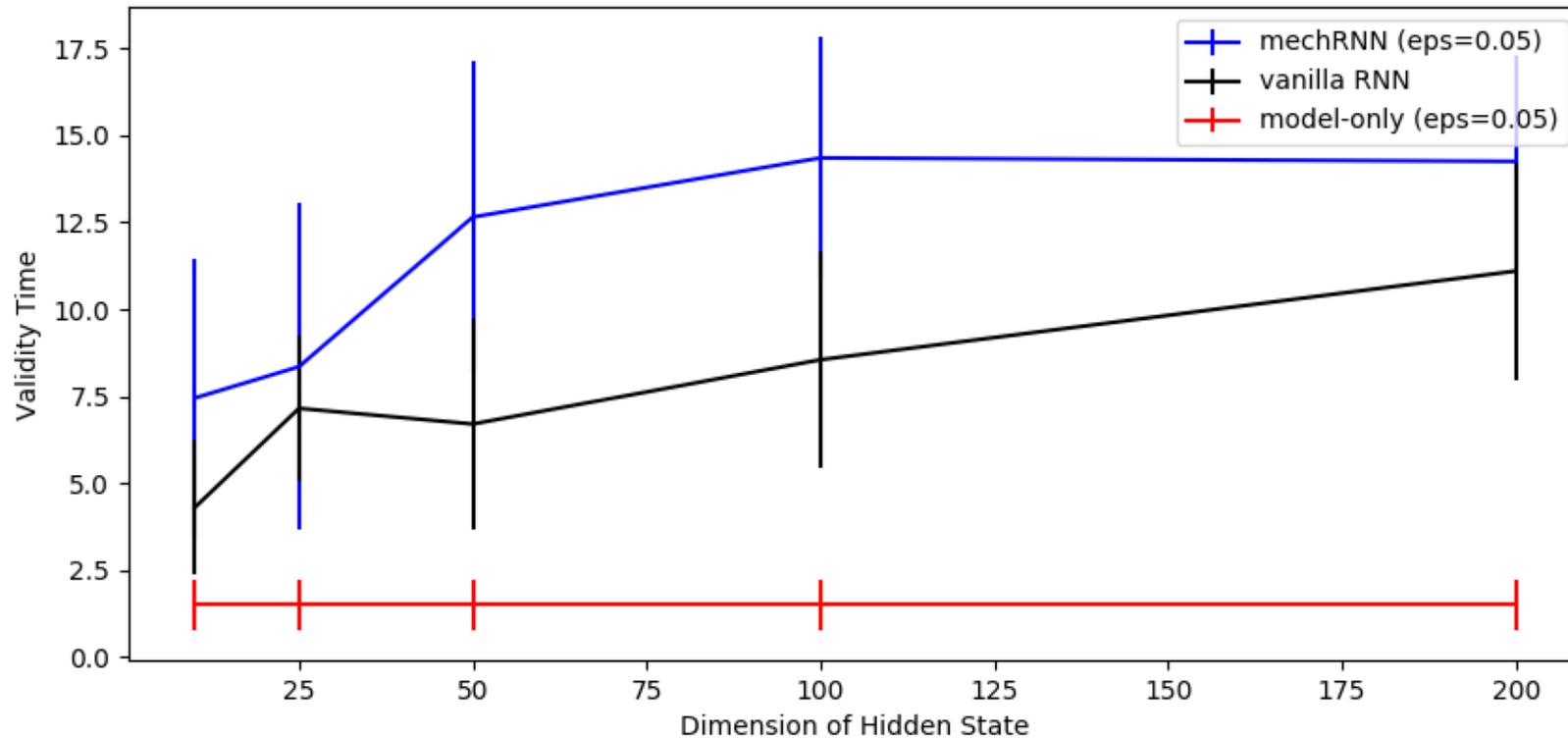


We learn  $G$  as a Gaussian Process Regression

# Hybrid methods correct for large arbitrary model error

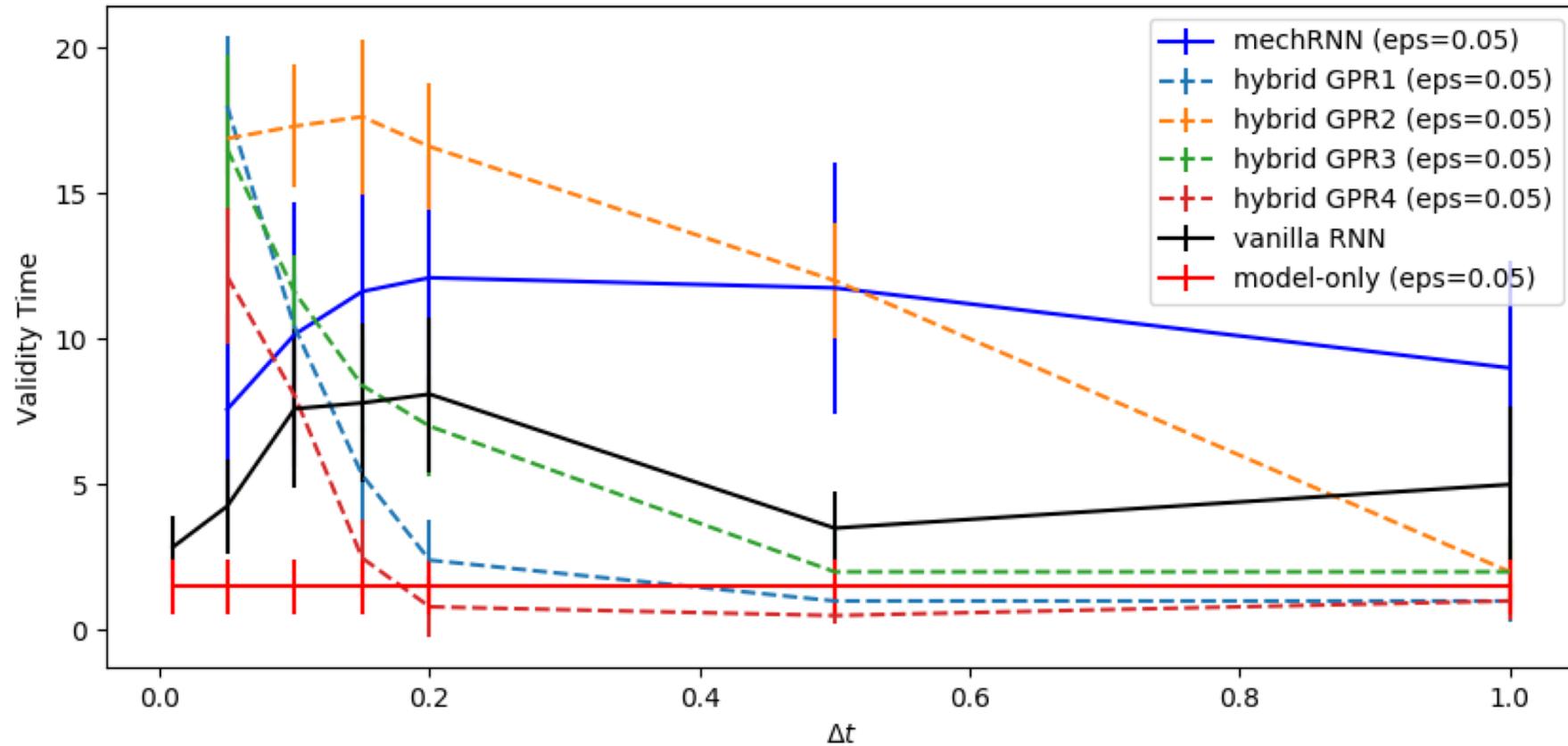


# mechRNN requires fewer parameters than vanillaRNN



mech RNN w/  $\tilde{\Psi}$  s.t.  $\tilde{b} = (1 + \varepsilon)b$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.05$

# Tradeoff between mechRNN and GP-based residual learning---a function of the data's sampling rate



# Future Directions for mechanisms+ML

- Extend to data assimilation context (partial, noisy observations with irregular sampling)
- Flexible model averaging: exploit a family of models  $\{\tilde{\Psi}_i\}_{i=1}^N$
- Extend to non-autonomous systems
- Allow for parameter inference within the mechanistic model
- **In diabetes free-living case, use to ensemble models AND learn temporal impact of fat/protein/fiber and exercise.**

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