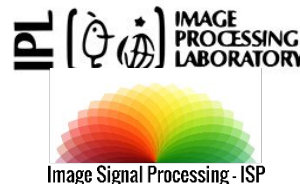


Learning ordinary differential equations from remote sensing data



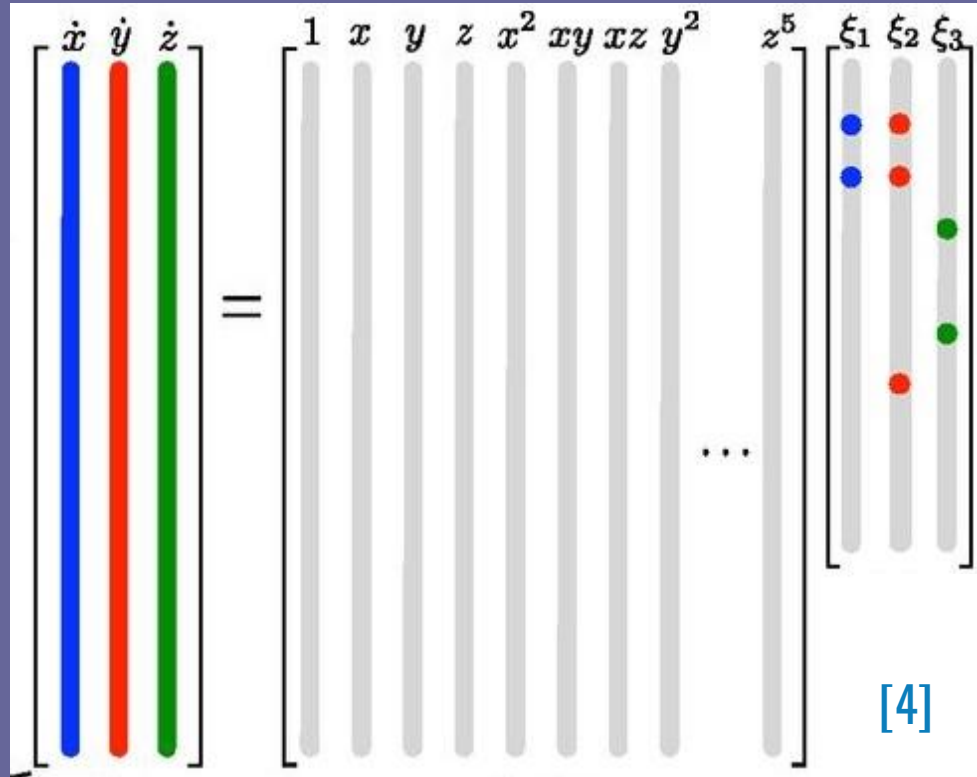
Jose E. Adsuara, Adrián Pérez-Suay, Alvaro Moreno-Martínez, Anna Mateo-Sanchis, Maria Piles, Guido Kraemer, Markus Reichstein, Miguel D. Mahecha, Gustau Camps-Valls.



Introduction

- ❑ Modeling and understanding the Earth system is a constant and challenging scientific endeavour.
- ❑ Learn from observational data using machine learning can be an alternative, but understanding is more difficult than fitting. [1,2,3]
- ❑ We introduce sparse regression to uncover a set of governing equations in the form of a system of ordinary differential equations (ODEs)... [4]
- ❑ ... and used to explicitly describe a simplest ODEs explaining data to model relevant components of the biosphere. [5]

Sparse identification of dynamical systems


$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x & y & z & x^2 & xy & xz & y^2 & z^5 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1 \\ \xi_2 \\ \xi_3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

[4]

Sparse identification of dynamical systems

 We consider dynamical systems of the form:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}(t))$$

$$\mathbf{x}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

that can be expanded as:

$$\frac{d}{dt} x_1(t) = f_1(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} x_2(t) = f_2(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} x_n(t) = f_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

[4] For many systems, the right part of the equations are sparse in the space of possible functions, so a library of candidate functions l_i is needed:

$$\frac{d}{dt} x_1(t) = \varepsilon_{11} l_1(x_1, \dots, x_n) + \varepsilon_{12} l_2(x_1, \dots, x_n) + \dots + \varepsilon_{1m} l_m(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} x_2(t) = \varepsilon_{21} l_1(x_1, \dots, x_n) + \varepsilon_{22} l_2(x_1, \dots, x_n) + \dots + \varepsilon_{2m} l_m(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

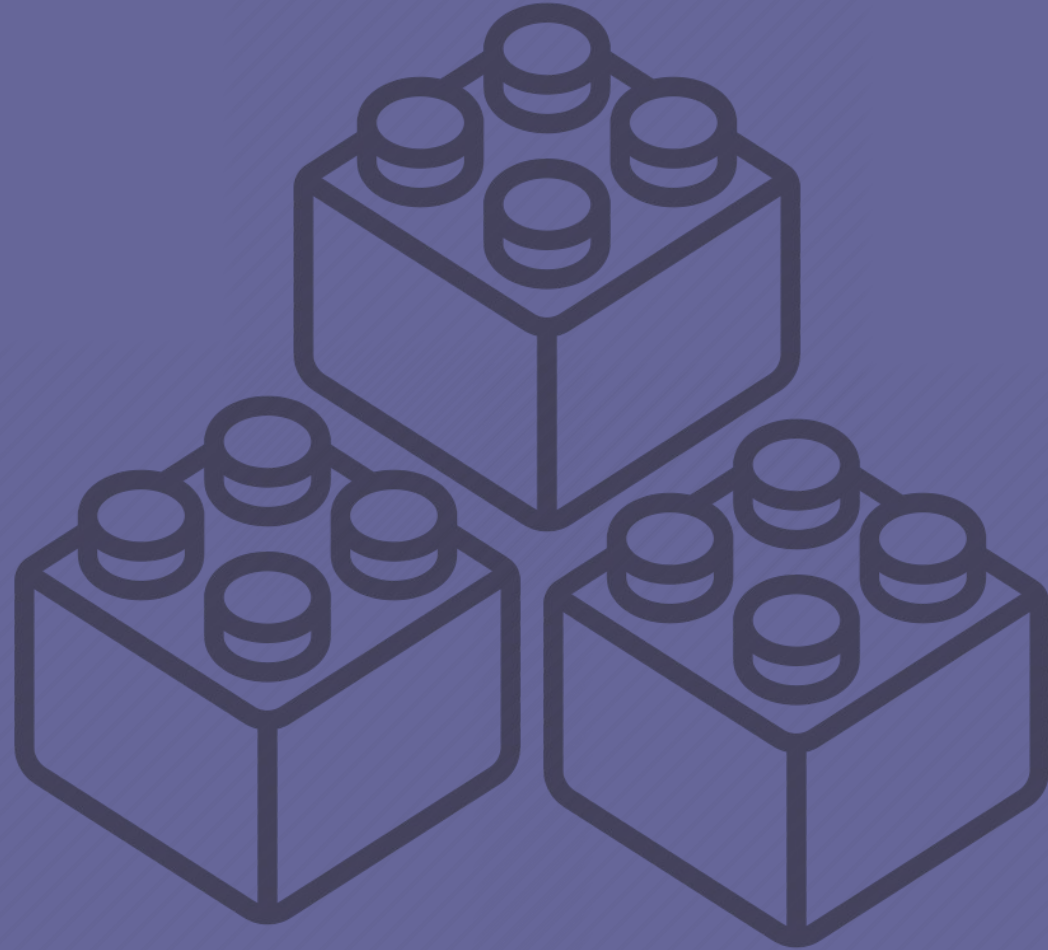
$$\vdots$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} x_n(t) = \varepsilon_{n1} l_1(x_1, \dots, x_n) + \varepsilon_{n2} l_2(x_1, \dots, x_n) + \dots + \varepsilon_{nm} l_m(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

- ❑ l_1, l_2, \dots, l_m is a predefined finite library of candidate functions.
- ❑ express x_i as a linear combinations of them with coefficients.
- ❑ learn scalar coefficients ε_{ij} using ridge regression (RLR), LASSO (maximizes the number of zeros) or Elastic Net (ENet) (convex combination of the above)
- ❑ we need computing derivatives of the data: finite differences or by kernel regression aka Gaussian processes. [3, 6]

Results

- Lotka-Volterra
- Biosphere indicators
- Exploring other data



Toy problem: Lotka-Volterra system

$$\frac{d \text{Rabbit}}{dt} = \alpha \text{Rabbit} - \beta \text{Rabbit} \text{Wolf}$$

Exponential growth
Gets eaten by wolves

$$\frac{d \text{Wolf}}{dt} = \delta \text{Rabbit} \text{Wolf} - \gamma \text{Wolf}$$

Increases with more food
Decreases with competition

- Prey-predator model in ecology:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}x &= \alpha x - \beta xy \\ \frac{d}{dt}y &= -\gamma y + \delta xy \end{aligned}$$

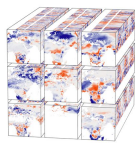
- We set $\alpha = 3/2, \beta = 1, \gamma = 3, \delta = 1/2$.
- Synthetic data + two levels of AWGN: 40dB, 5dB.
- ridge regression, finite differences.
- train/test in 75%-25% samples.

- accurated correlation coefficient (R)...
- ... so, ODE coefficients recovered accurately.
- critical points recovered without a qualitative change in their type (a saddle point & a center of cycles). 6

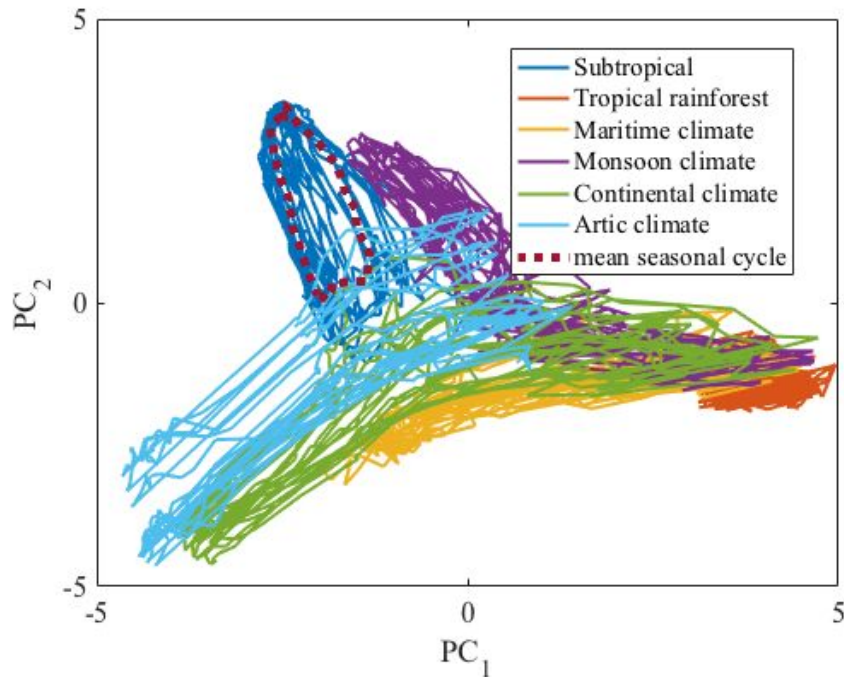
Library functions	Coefficients			
	40 dB		5 dB	
	$\frac{d}{dt}x$	$\frac{d}{dt}y$	$\frac{d}{dt}x$	$\frac{d}{dt}y$
x	1.3822	0	1.1404	0
y	0	-2.9123	0	-2.7946
x^2	0	0	0	0
xy	-0.9797	0.4849	-0.9520	0.4710
y^2	0	0	0	0
x^3	0	0	0	0
y^3	0	0	0	-0.0001
1	0	0	0	0
R	0.9999		0.8674	

Biospheric indicators: data

- ❑ We use the biosphere indices proposed in [5] for summarizing the state of an ecosystem.
- ❑ [Earth System Data Lab \(ESDL\)](#)
 - ❑ 12 variables (common spatiotemporal grid: 0.25° in space, 8 days in time)
 - ❑ PCA incorporating information about latitude
- ❑ First two principal components explained 73% of variance → two biosphere indicators:
 - ❑ PC₁ summary of vegetation productivity
 - ❑ PC₂ summary of water availability



EARTH
SYSTEM
DATA
LAB



Trajectories in the phase space of this first two PCs for the most paradigmatic ecosystems along 11 years.

Biospheric indicators: learned dynamical model

- ❑ We start by focusing on the particular subtropical ecosystem.
- ❑ Work with the mean seasonal cycle trajectory, which summarizes the state of the ecosystem throughout the year.

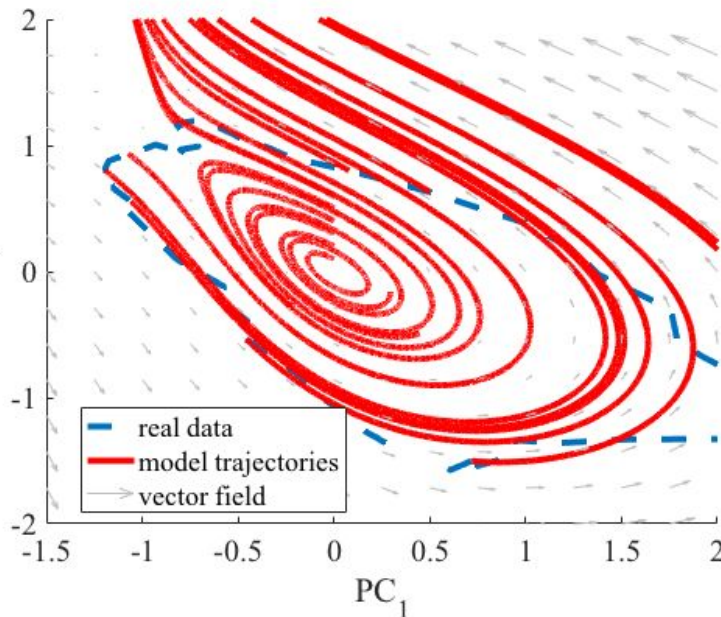
$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}PC_1 &= \varepsilon_{11}l_1(PC_1, PC_2) + \dots + \varepsilon_{1m}l_m(PC_1, PC_2) \\ \frac{d}{dt}PC_2 &= \varepsilon_{21}l_1(PC_1, PC_2) + \dots + \varepsilon_{2m}l_m(PC_1, PC_2).\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}PC_1 &= -37.5PC_1 - 55.6PC_2 - 31.9PC_1PC_2 \\ \frac{d}{dt}PC_2 &= 67.2PC_1 + 44.8PC_2 - 74.0PC_1PC_2\end{aligned}$$

(x 10⁻⁴)

- ❑ System analysis: attractor at 0.000365 ± 0.00451995j
- ❑ (removing real part and recover the new system?)

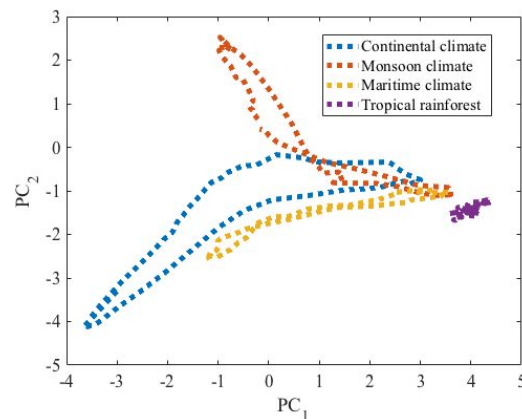
R2 = 0.73 (Coefficient of determination)



Biospheric indicators: learned dynamical model (II)

- ❑ We complete the study for the rest of the paradigmatic ecosystems.
- ❑ We learn the models not only using the first two PCs, but also for the first three PCs.
- ❑ Monomials with max. deg. from 2 up to 12. (bid.: $\{x^2, xy, y^2\}$, $\{x^3, x^2y, xy^2, y^3\}$, ..., $\{x^{12}, x^{11}y, \dots, y^{12}\}$; trid.: $\{x^i y^j z^k: i+j+k=12\}$)
- ❑ We repeat each experiment 10 times with 10 different train/test partitions (in 75%-25%)

bidimensional: PC ₁ , PC ₂			tridimensional: PC ₁ , PC ₂ , PC ₃		
Ecosystem	max. deg. (method)	R2	Ecosystem	max. deg. (method)	R2
Continental	3 (LASSO)	<u>0.87 ± 0.06</u>	Continental	3 (LASSO)	0.79 ± 0.23
Monsoon	4 (RLR)	0.25 ± 0.23	Monsoon	3 (LASSO)	<u>0.60 ± 0.29</u>
Maritime	3 (RLR)	0.38 ± 0.25	Maritime	2 (RLR)	0.35 ± 0.16
Tropical	2 (RLR)	0.20 ± 0.12	Tropical	2 (RLR)	0.40 ± 0.17



deg: best maximum degree
R2: coefficient of determination

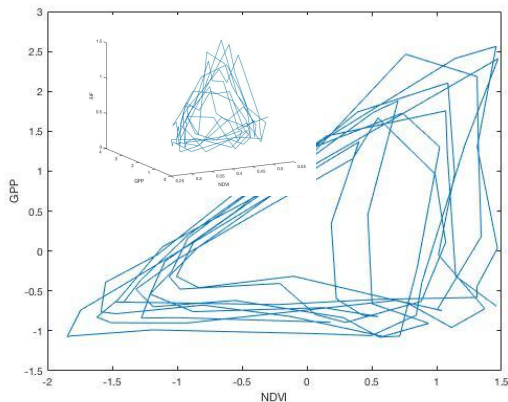
Exploring other data: NDVI/GPP models, GPP/VOD models, ...

NDVI/GPP

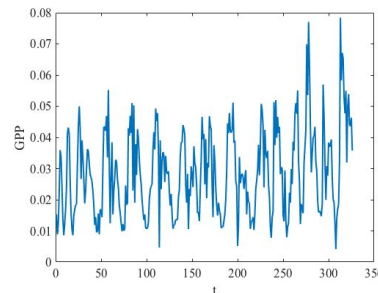
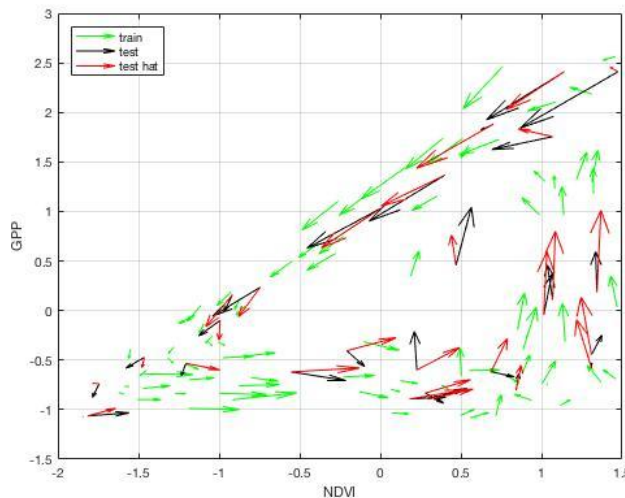
- ☐ looking for “good” pixels.
- ☐ 9 years of data.
- ☐ One measure per month.

GPP/VOD

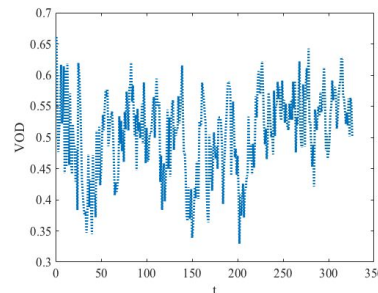
- ☐ GPP tower: lat = -35.6557, lon = 148.1521



$R^2=0.75$



$R^2=0.81$



Conclusions and future work



Conclusions and future work

- ❑ Presented a methodology for obtaining an analytic model with ODEs from data using sparse identification.
- ❑ Applied to both a toy model and a set of biosphere indices obtained from EO.
- ❑ Learned model captures the dynamics of the system: water availability and vegetation productivity strongly coupled with exponential grow/decays.
- ❑ Study other (less aggressive) sparse-promoting strategies.
- ❑ Study other types of (more physically-inspired or large) orthonormal basis of functions.
- ❑ Interventional studies like distortions in the eigenvalues and its effects on the phase space.
- ❑ More careful study of the models with new data.

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- [3] G. Camps, et al. A survey on Gaussian processes for earth observation data analysis, GRS (2016)
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- [5] G. Kraemer, et al., Summarizing the state of the terrestrial biosphere in few dimensions, Biogeosciences (2020)
- [6] J. E. Johnson, et al., Disentangling derivatives, uncertainty and error in gaussian process models, IGARSS (2018)

Thanks!



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