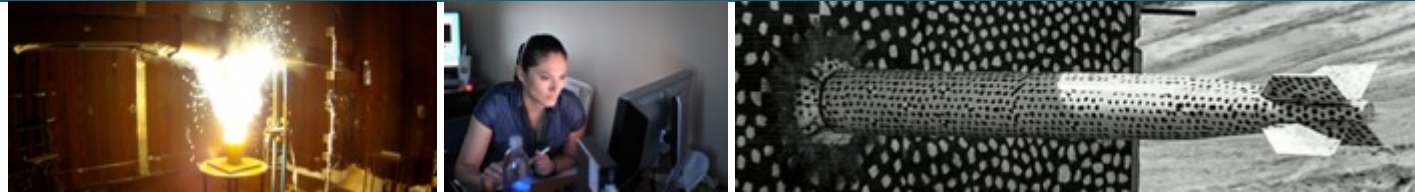


Learning Missing Mechanisms in a Dynamical System from a Subset of State Variable Observations



Portone, T., Acquesta, E., Dandekar, R., Rackauckas, C.



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Motivation

- Universal Differential Equations (UDEs) have been successfully deployed to infer interpretable, predictive dynamics from data [1,2].
- UDEs embed ML models, e.g. neural nets (NNs) within existing scientific models:

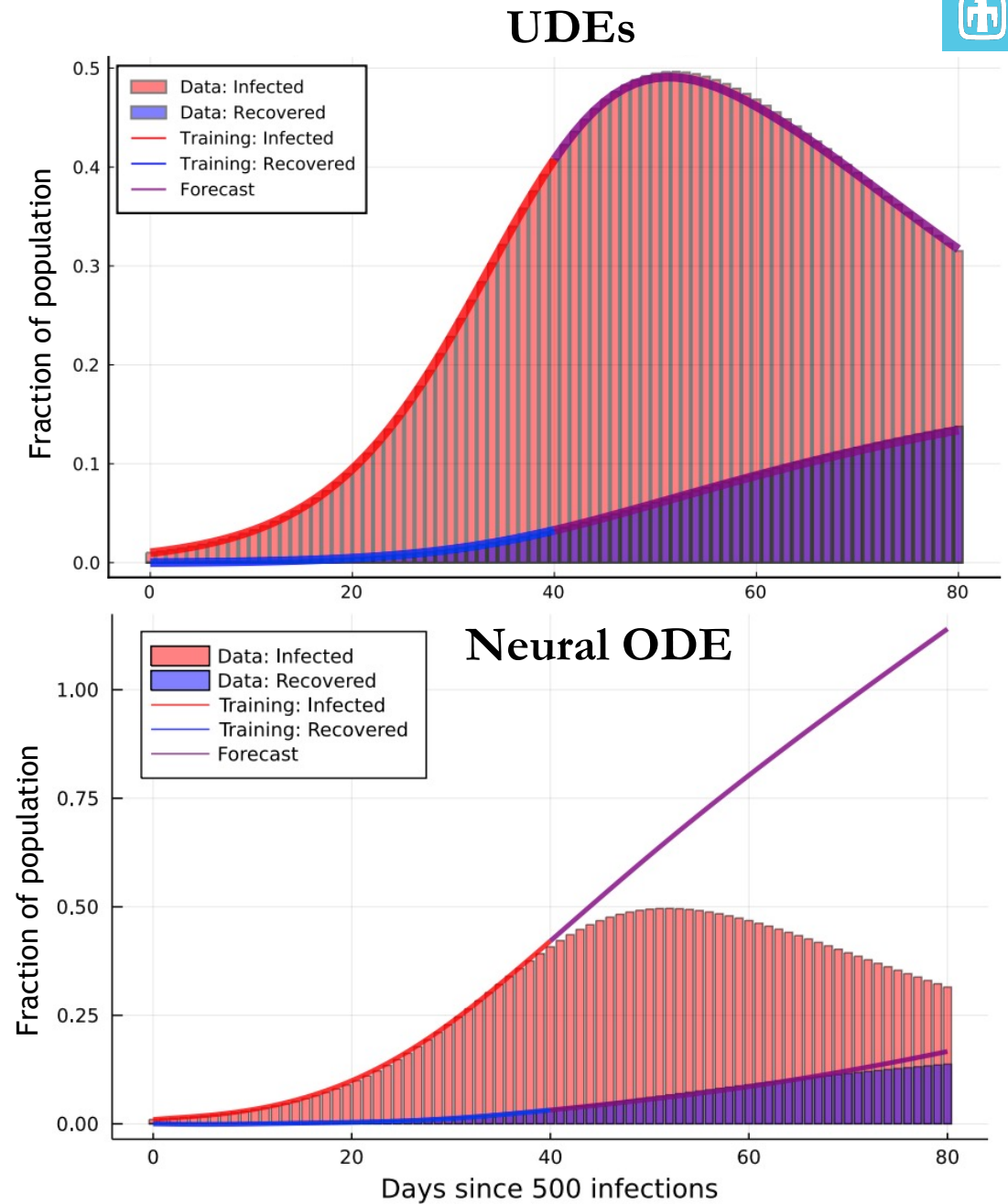
$$\mathbf{u}' = F(\mathbf{u}, t, NN_{\theta}(\mathbf{u}))$$

$$\min_{\theta} \|\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{u}(\theta)\|$$

- Can be formulated to respect physical principles by construction.
- Data-efficient because making use of prior physical information.
- Can be more predictive than Neural ODEs:

$$\mathbf{u}' = NN_{\theta}(\mathbf{u})$$

$$\min_{\theta} \|\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{u}(\theta)\|$$





- UDEs had to date been trained with observations of all state variables.
- Used to infer isolation dynamics early in the COVID-19 pandemic, but only had access to a subset of state variables. [2]

How are inferred dynamics affected by incomplete observations,
e.g. inability to observe all state variables?

Compartment-based disease models [3]

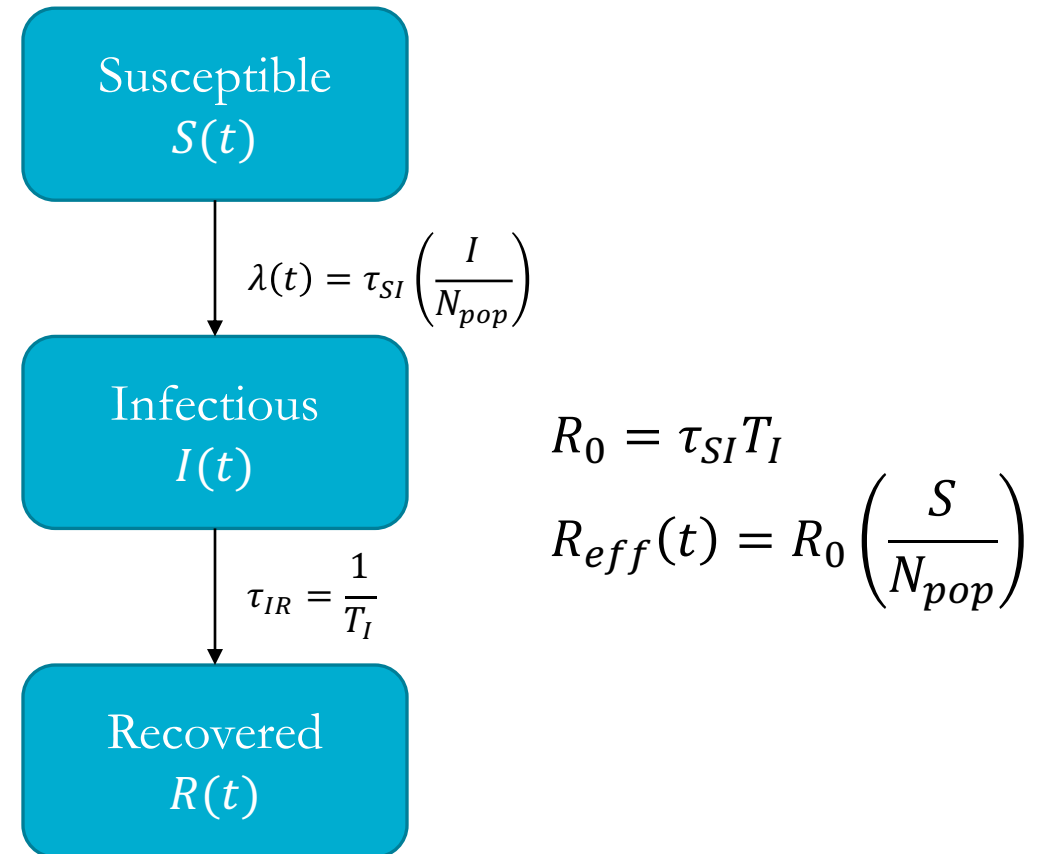


Let $N_{pop} = S(t) + I(t) + R(t)$.

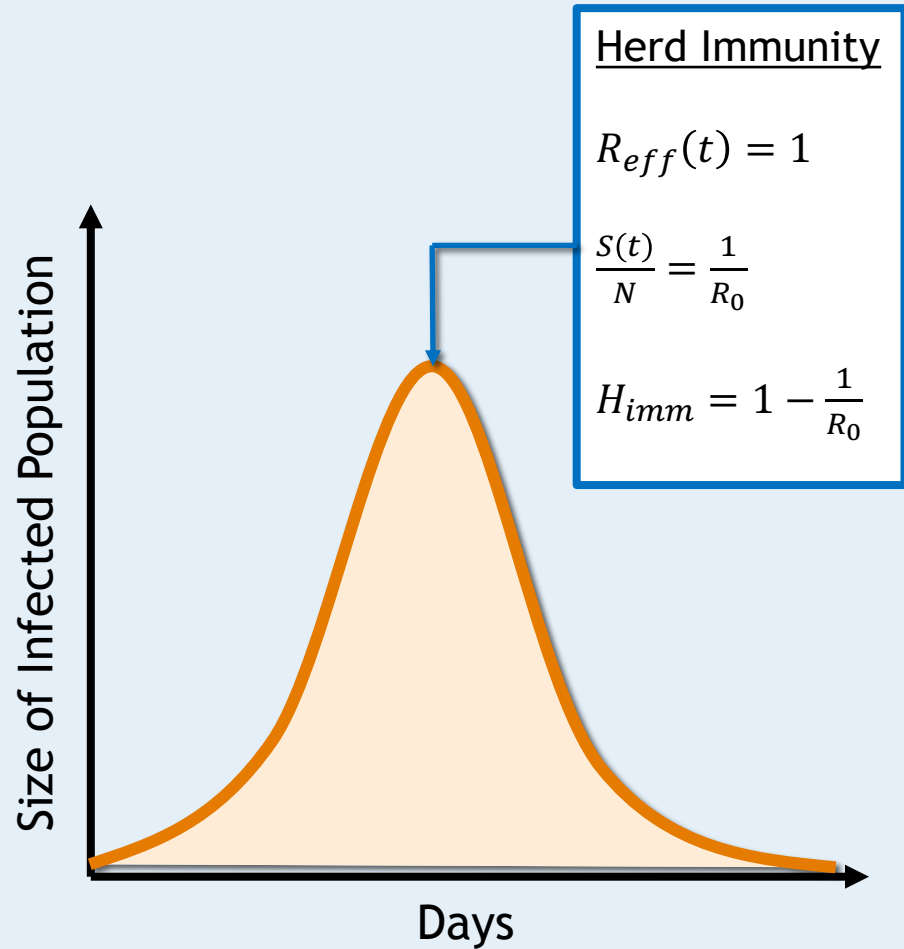
$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{\tau_{SI}IS}{N_{pop}}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\tau_{SI}IS}{N_{pop}} - \tau_{IR}I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \tau_{IR}I$$



- SIR a common, simple model of disease spread.
- Lots of assumptions, but can provide basic understanding of the aggressiveness of disease spread through R_0, R_{eff} .

Notional Plot of Infected Population, $I(t)$ 

We know the classic SIR model is under-representative of the real-world phenomenon it is intended to simulate.

New reported cases

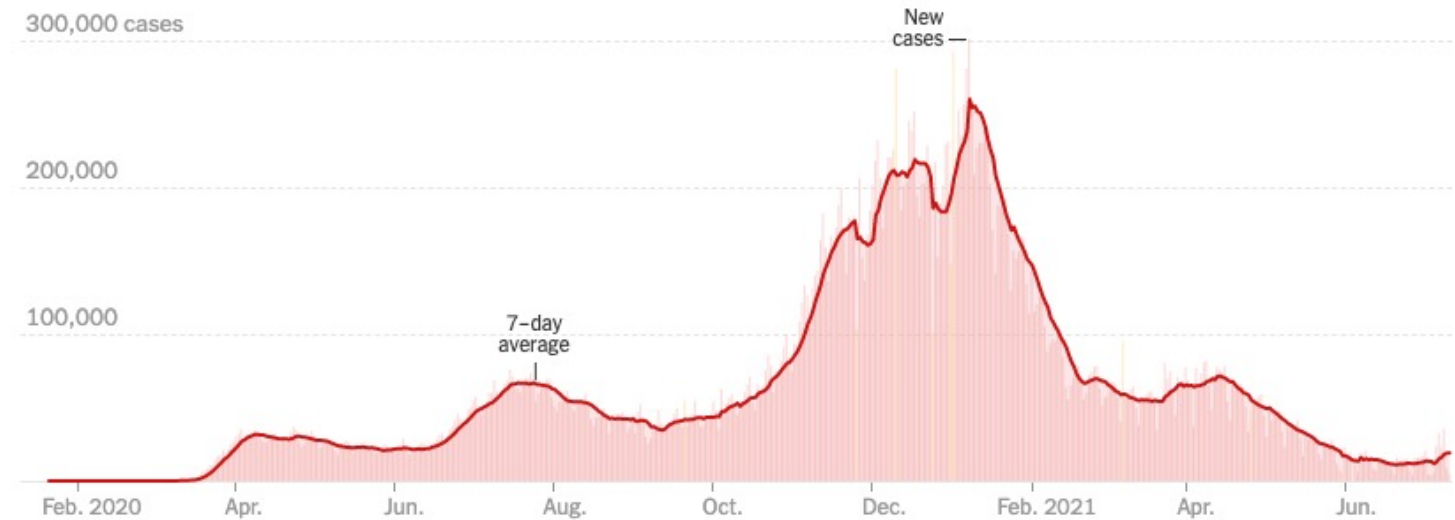


Image Credit: NYT <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/us/covid-cases.html> [accessed 2020/07/12]

UDEs for compartment-based disease models

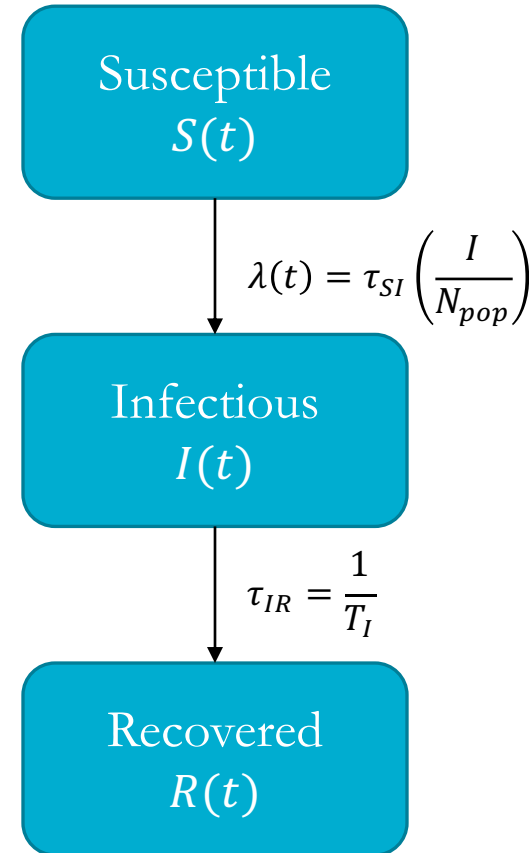


Let $N_{pop} = S(t) + I(t) + R(t)$.

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{\tau_{SI}IS}{N_{pop}}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\tau_{SI}IS}{N_{pop}} - \tau_{IR}I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \tau_{IR}I$$



$$R_0 = \tau_{SI}T_I$$

$$R_{eff}(t) = R_0 \left(\frac{S}{N_{pop}} \right)$$

- Does not account for significant portion of infected population being isolated as we saw for COVID-19.
- Isolation dynamics could depend nonlinearly on all state variables.

UDEs for compartment-based disease models



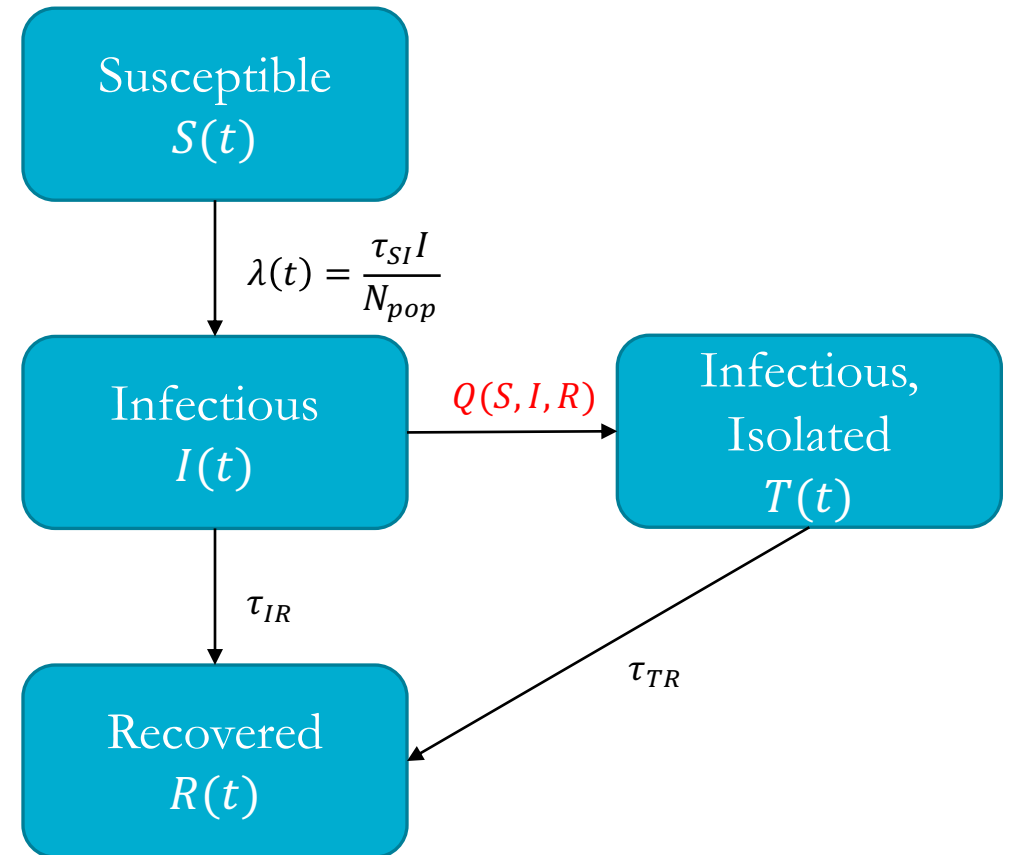
Let $N_{pop} = S + I + R + T$.

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{\tau_{SI}IS}{N_{pop}}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\tau_{SI}IS}{N_{pop}} - \tau_{IR}I - Q(S, I, R)I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \tau_{IR}I + \tau_{TR}T$$

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = Q(S, I, R)I - \tau_{TR}T$$



- [2] introduced isolation state T , used UDE for the nonlinear, evolving transition rate into T , denoted Q .
- Q represented with small neural network depending on S, I & R , denoted NN_Q .
- By definition constrained to conserve population, i.e. $\frac{dN_{pop}}{dt} = 0$.

Inferring transition into quarantine with incomplete data



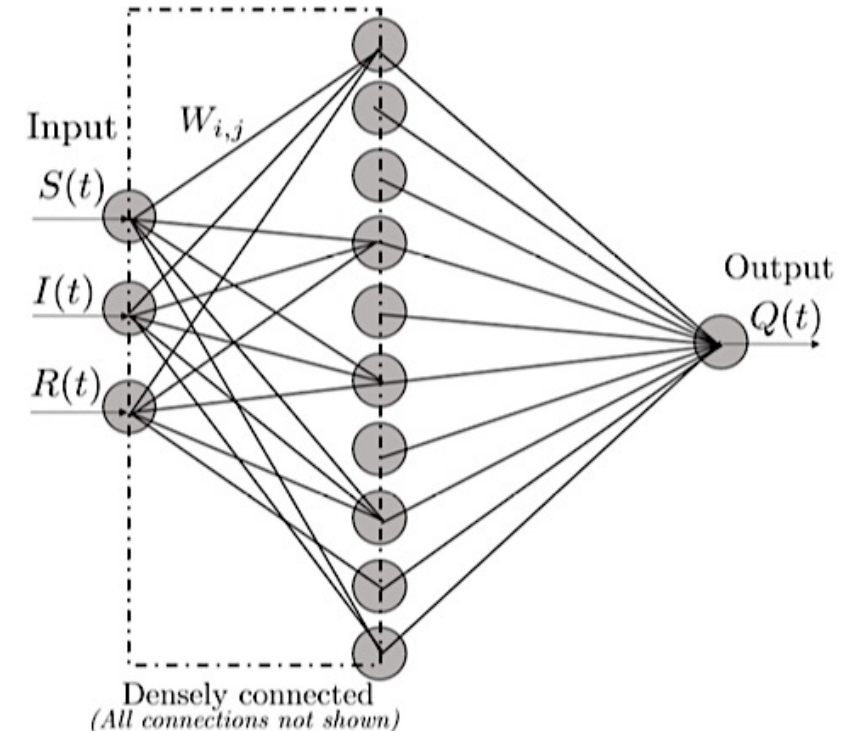
- (Dandekar 2020 [2]) used observations of I, R to infer transition rates (including Q) for COVID-19.
 - *Only a subset of the state variables could be observed.*
- How does this affect the ability to recover “useful” information about Q & disease dynamics?

Plan

- Generate synthetic data with prespecified NN_Q, τ_* .
- Infer NN_Q & transition rate parameters τ_* from combinatorial subsets of state variable observations.
 - Data = $[I, R, T], [I, R], [I, T], [R, T], [I], [R], [T]$
- Study MSE of inferred Q vs “true” Q for each dataset to determine when inference degrades.

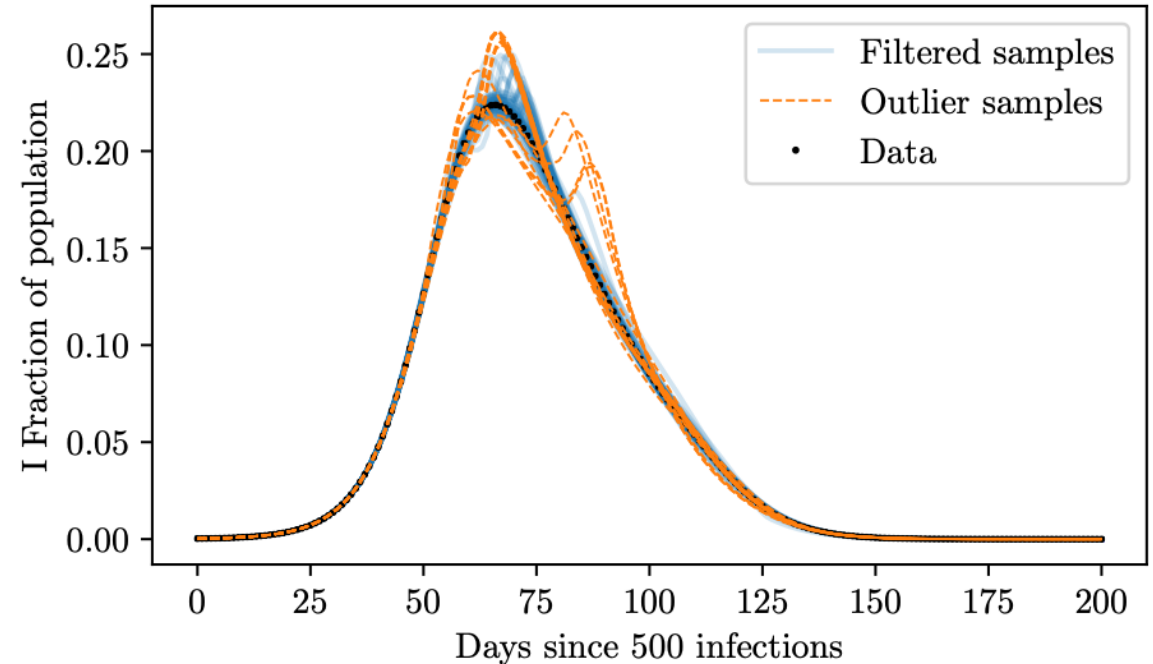
Problem Specification/State of Knowledge

- NN_Q : fully-connected NN of depth 1, width 10, ReLU activation functions.
 - Architecture the same for data generation & inference.
- Synthetic data not corrupted by noise, full time trace used.
- Initial condition assumed known.
- All transition rate parameters τ_* uncertain; distributions derived from literature.
- NN parameters and τ_* trained using ADAM (learning rate 10^{-2} , 10^5 iterations).
- Models and training implemented using Julia's SciML libraries:
<https://sciml.ai>

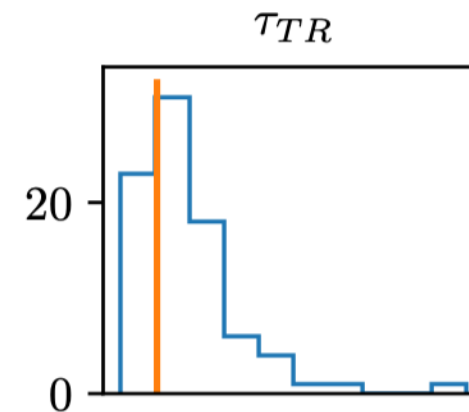
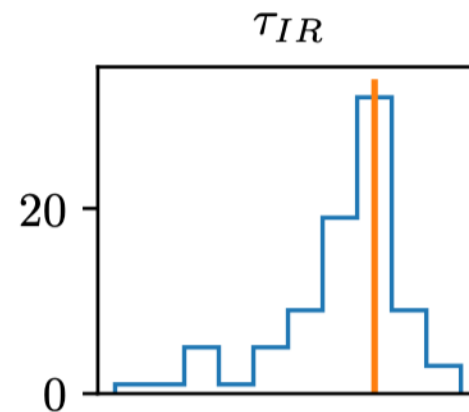
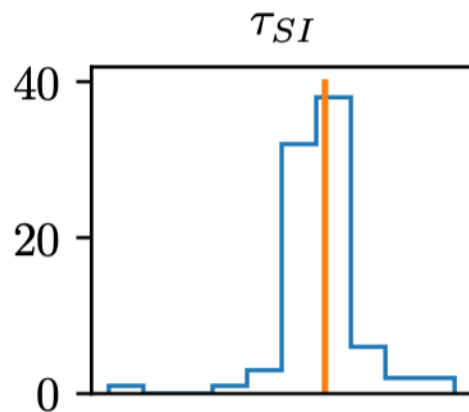
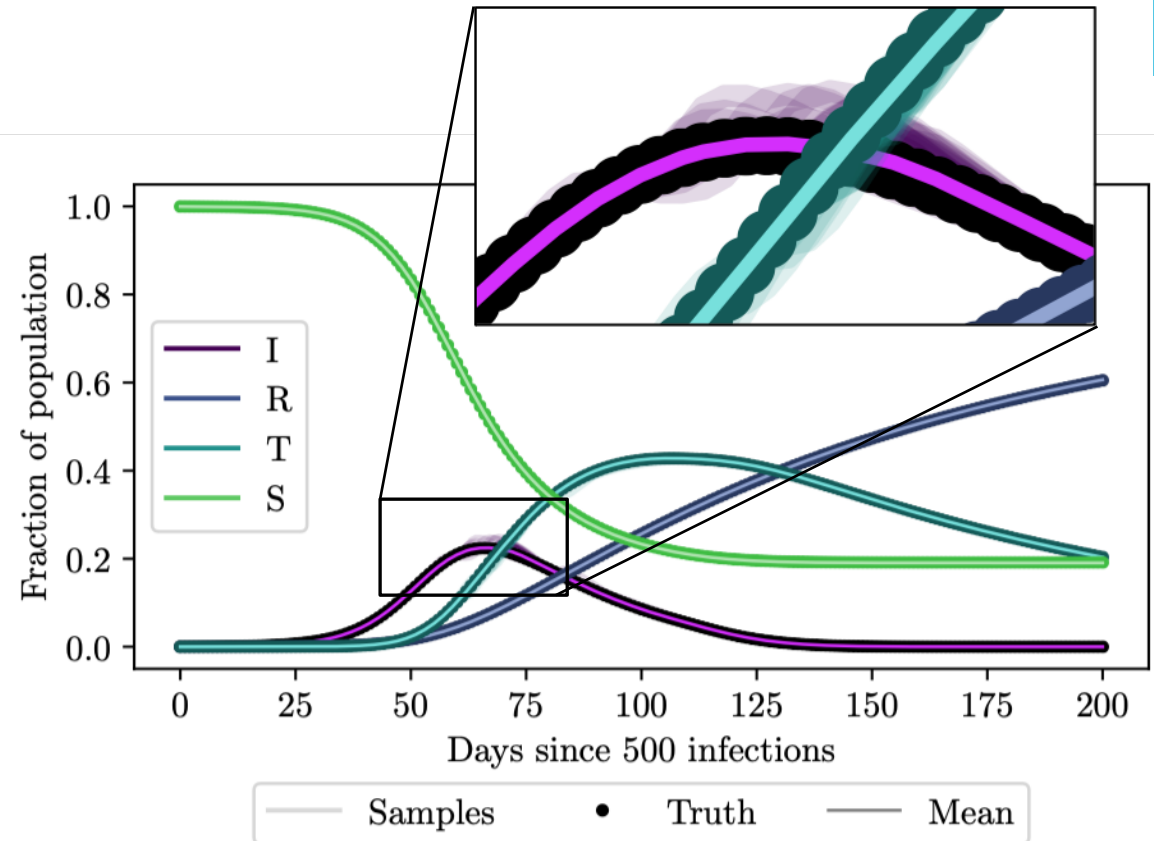
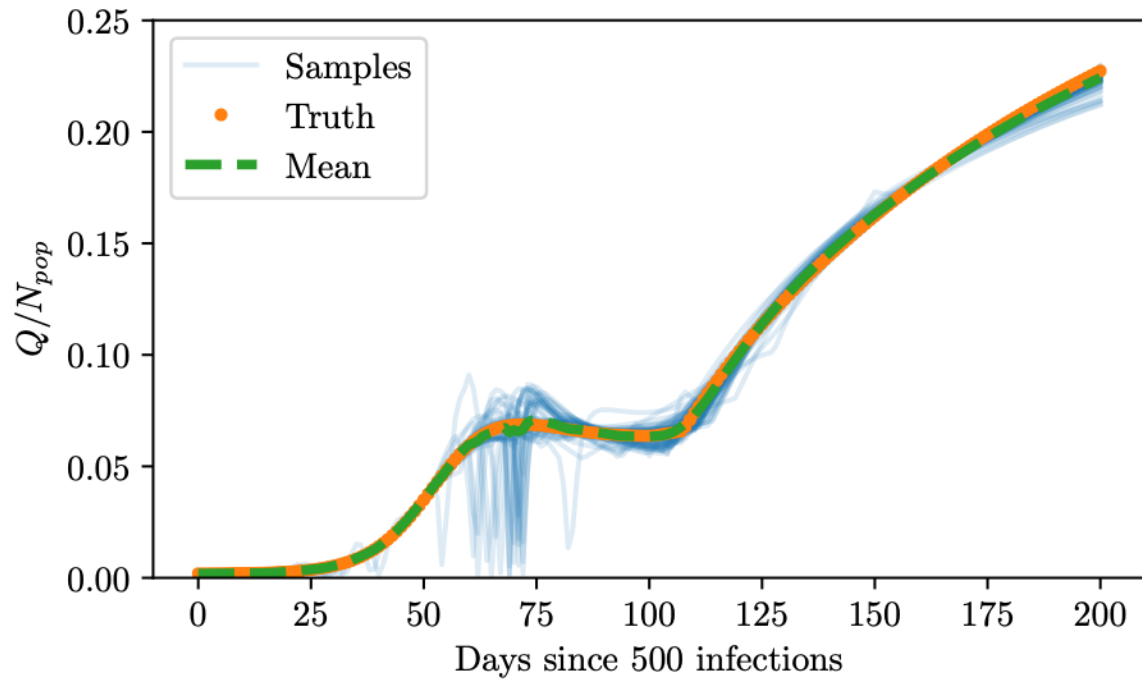




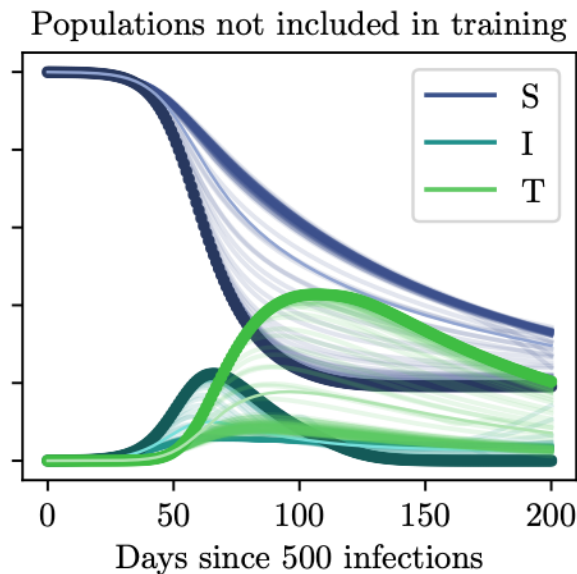
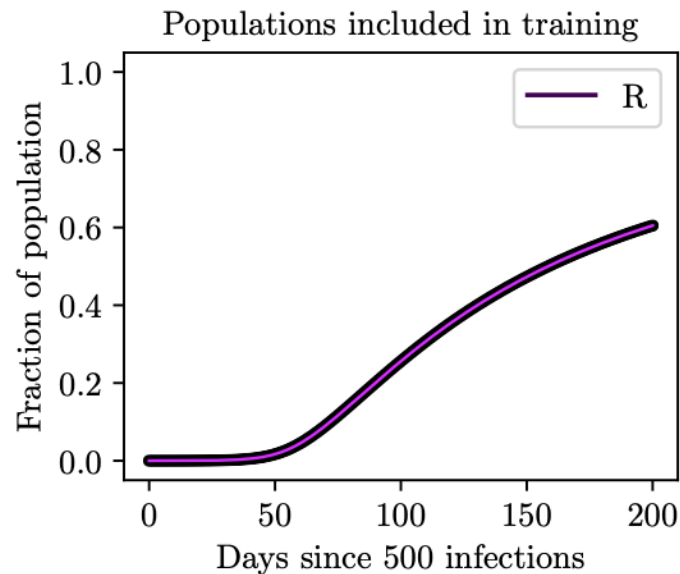
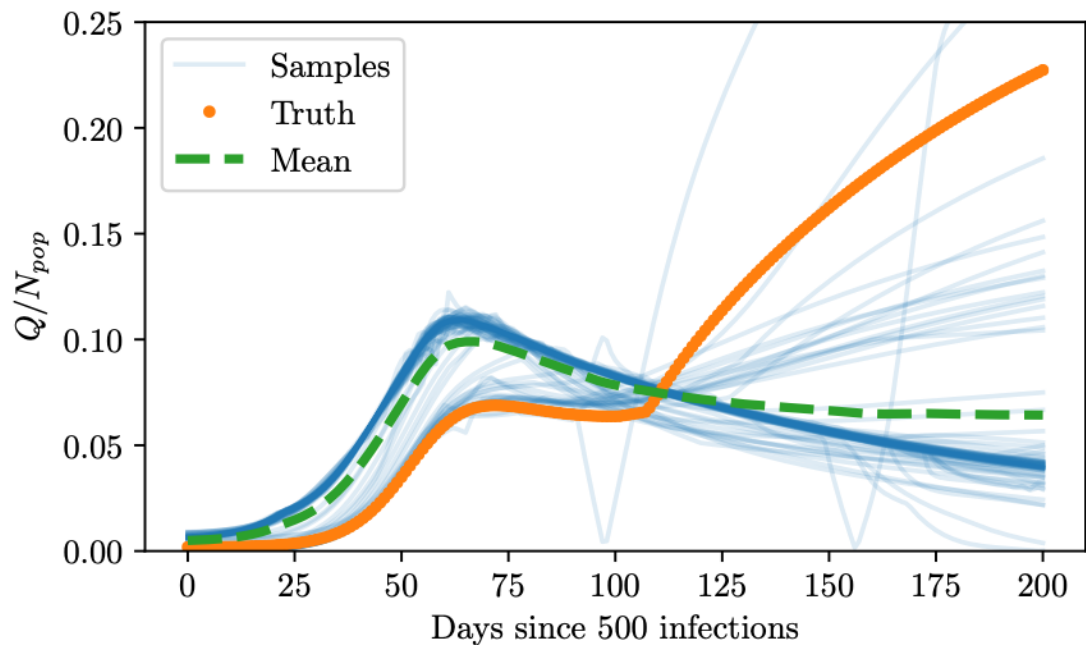
- **Challenges:**
 - Optimization can get stuck in local minima
 - Solution sensitive to initial guess
 - Uncertainty in parameters
- Generated ensemble of training solutions by generating 100 random initial guesses.
 - NN parameters from Glorot initialization
 - Distributions for transition rate parameters derived from literature.
- Mitigates effect of local minima in NN training.
 - Filtered out outlier ensemble members (those with very large mean-squared error).
- Provides uncertainty information about training results. How much spread in
 - unobserved state variable trajectories?
 - optimized transition rate parameters?
 - Q trajectories?



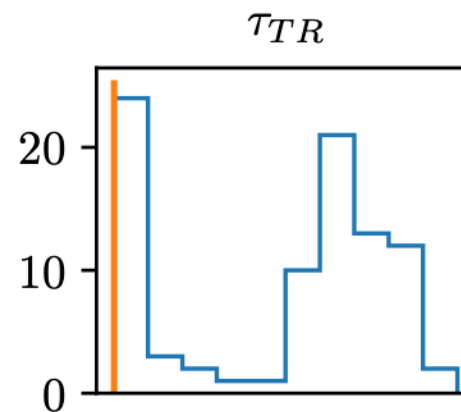
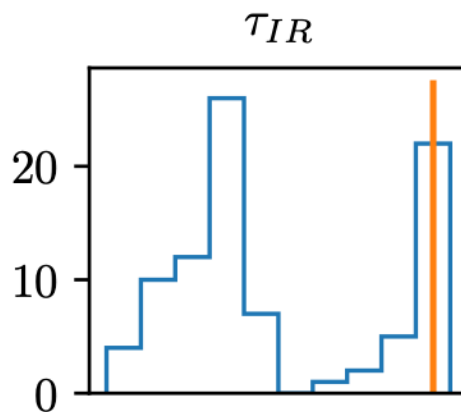
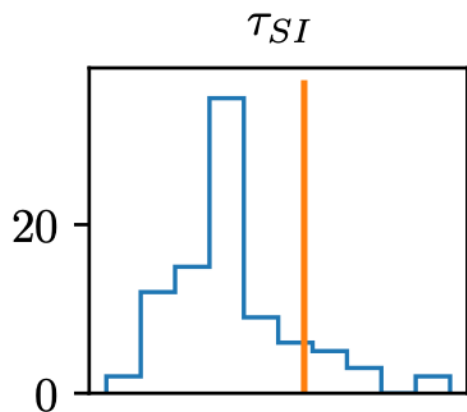
Training results, data = $[I, R, T]$



Training results, data = $[R]$



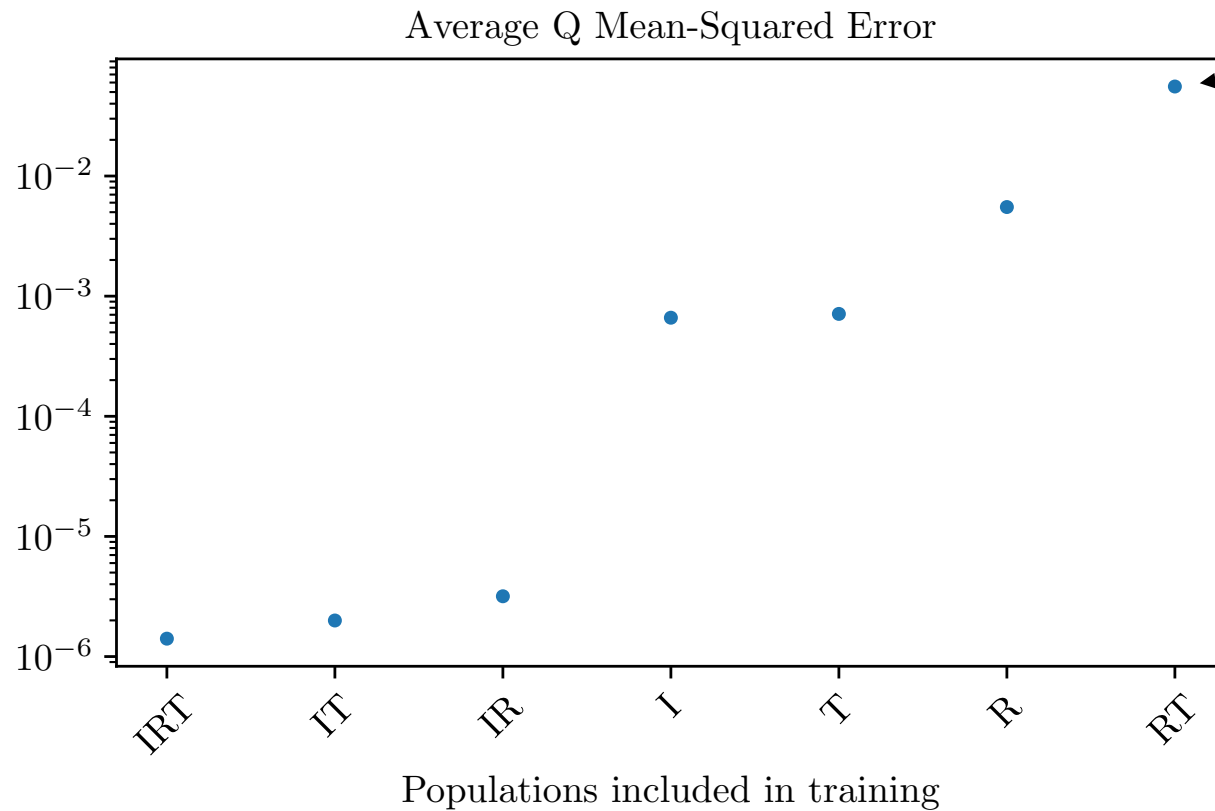
— Samples • Data — Mean



Ranking Q recovery by data subset

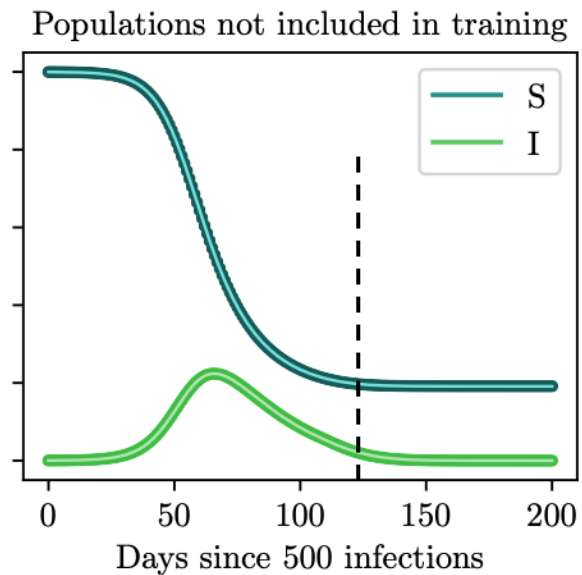
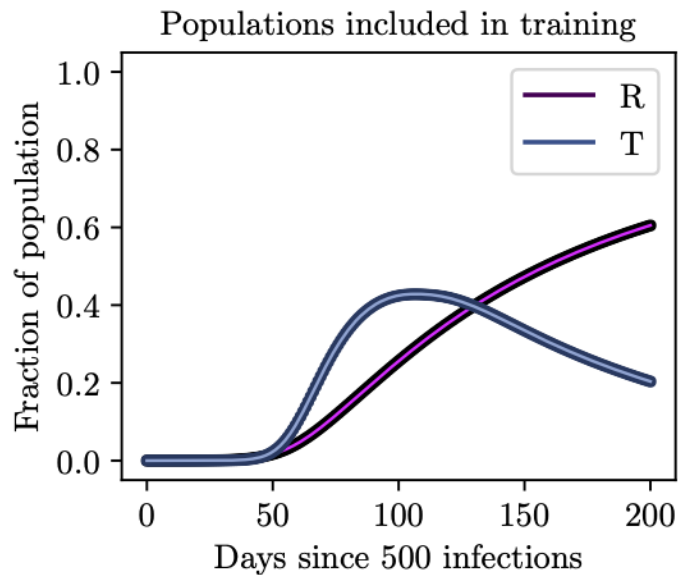
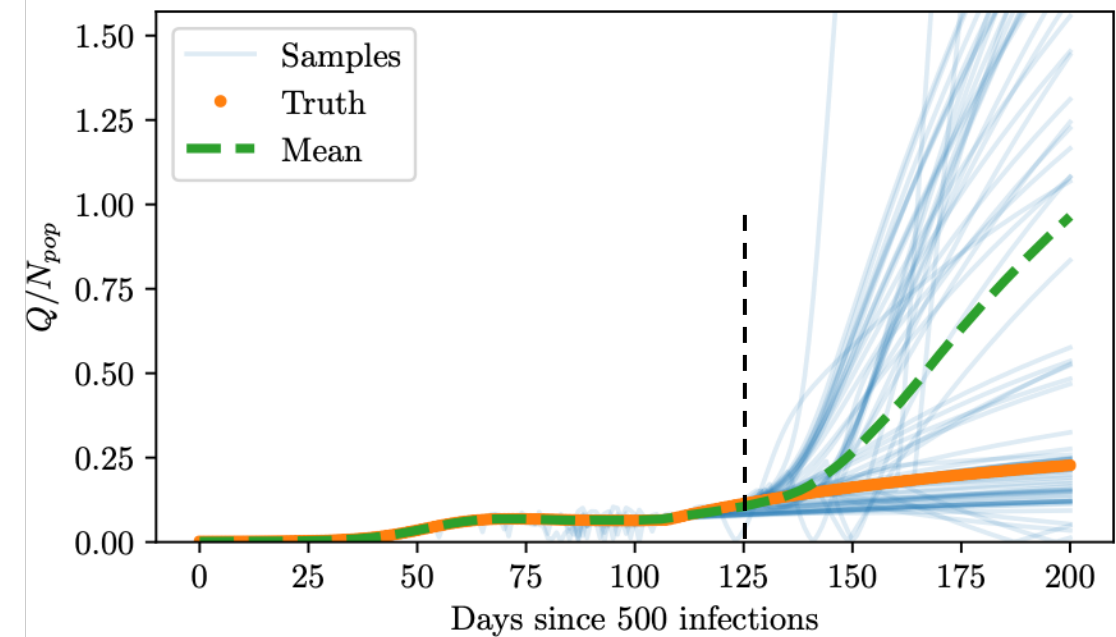


- Computed MSE of ensemble-mean (average) \bar{Q} vs. true Q used to generate the data.
- Ranked data scenarios by MSE.

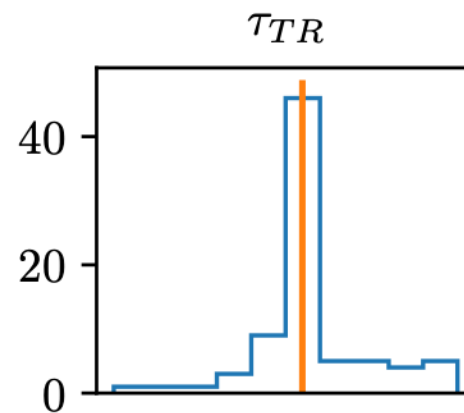
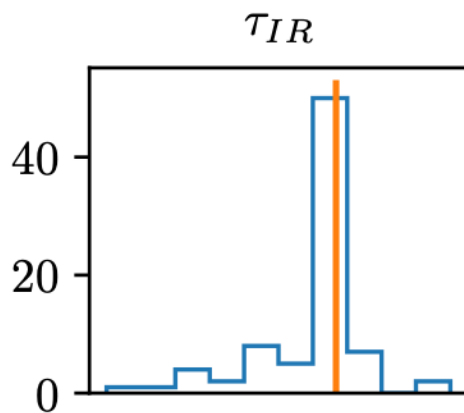
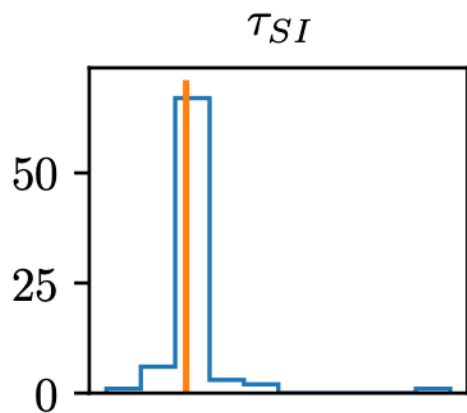


Why is this case the worst?

Training results, data = $[R, T]$

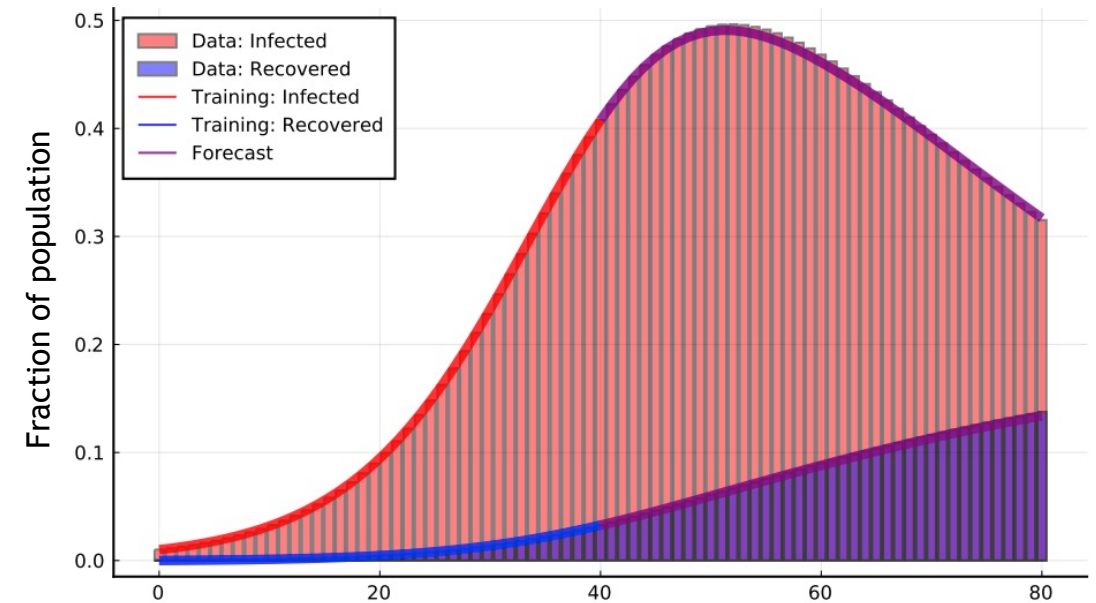


— Samples • Data — Mean





- Developed a procedure to study success of UDE training when only able to observe subsets of state variables.
- Ensemble of training results provides understanding of uncertainty in inferred dynamics.
- Next steps:
 - Noisy and/or sparse data
 - Data generated from more complex model
- For more complex model must determine appropriate accuracy metric (no “true Q ” to compare to).
- Potential metric: Error in observed state variables extrapolated beyond time horizon of training data.
 - Incorporate prediction uncertainty using Bayesian neural UDEs [6] or Deep Ensembles [7].





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Appendix



Initial sampling of transition rate params



- τ_{SI} bounds reported directly in [4] for several locations; used max and min over locations to define a uniform distribution.
- No direct bounds reported for τ_{IR} .
- When one pathway out of a population, transition rate is inverse of residence time in population, i.e.

$$\tau_{IR} = \frac{1}{T_I}$$

- Instead defined distribution on T_I .
- $T_I = T_{presymptom} + T_{postsymptom}$
- $T_{presymptom} \sim \mathcal{U}[1,3]$ days [5], $T_{postsymptom} \sim \mathcal{U}[0,10]$ days (CDC guidance for symptomatic people)
- $T_T = T_{postsymptom}$ (assuming infected won't isolate until symptom development)

Filtering procedure



- Computed MSE for each ensemble member, each population in the data.
- Filtered out any ensemble member whose MSE was deemed an outlier using the interquartile range (IQR) heuristic threshold:

$$Q_3 + 1.5 IQR = Q_3 + 1.5(Q_3 - Q_1)$$

where $Q_1 = 0.25$ quantile, $Q_3 = 0.75$ quantile.

