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Statistical Inference for epidemic models approximated by diffusion processes

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ANR MANEGE, Université Paris 13

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Outline

Provide a framework for estimating key parameters of epidemics

1 Characteristics of the epidemic process

- Constraints imposed by the observation of the epidemic process
- Simple mechanistic models

2 Various mathematical approaches for epidemic spread

- Natural approach: Markov jump process
- First approximation by ODEs
- Gaussian approximation of the Markov jump process
- Diffusion approximation of the Markov jump process

3 Inference for discrete observations of diffusion or Gaussian processes with small diffusion coefficient

- Contrast processes for fixed or large number of observations
- Correction of a non asymptotic bias
- Comparison of estimators on simulated epidemics

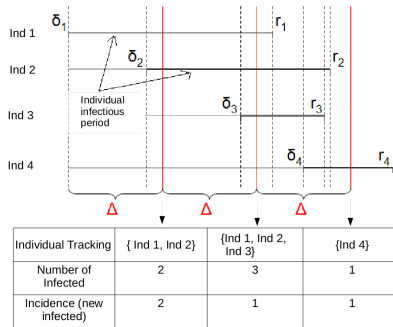
4 Epidemics incompletely observed: partially and integrated diffusion processes (Work in progress)

- Back to epidemic data
- Inference approach: Work in progress

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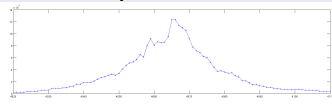
Incomplete Data



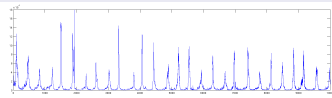
Different dynamics framework

Ex.: Influenza like illness cases (Sentinelles surveillance network)

One outbreak study



Recurrent outbreaks study



Imperfect data

- Incomplete observations
- Temporally aggregated
- Sampling & reporting error
- Unobserved cases

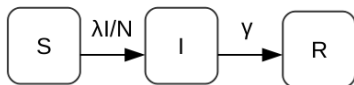
Main goal: key parameter estimation

- Basic reproduction number, R_0 (nb. of secondary cases generated by one primary case in an entirely susceptible population)
- Average infectious time period (d)

Compartmental representation of the population dynamics

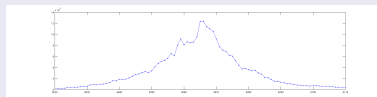
Define: Nb. of health states, possible transitions and associated rates Notations N : population size, λ : transmission rate, γ : recovery rate
 S, I, R : numbers of susceptible, infected, removed individuals

One of the simplest model: SIR



Closed population $\Rightarrow N = S + I + R$
Well-mixing population
 $\Rightarrow (S, I) \xrightarrow{\lambda SI/N} (S - 1, I + 1)$

Convenient to study one epidemics



Key parameters: $R_0 = \frac{\lambda}{\gamma}$, $d = \frac{1}{\gamma}$

Summary: coefficients α_L

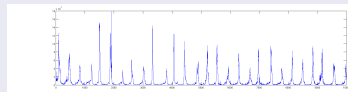
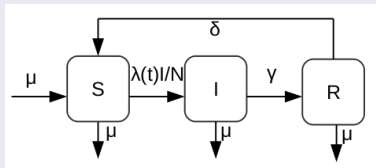
$(S, I) \rightarrow (S - 1, I + 1) = (S, I) + (-1, 1)$ at rate $\alpha_{(-1,1)}(S, I) = \lambda S \frac{I}{N}$ and
 $(S, I) \rightarrow (S, I - 1) = (S, I) + (0, -1)$ at rate $\alpha_{(0,-1)}(S, I) = \gamma I$

Natural extensions of the SIR model

- Increase the number of health states : e.g. Exposed Class \Rightarrow *SEIR* model
- Additional transitions: e.g. $(S, I) \rightarrow (S - 1, I)$ (vaccination)

Temporal dependence: SIRS with seasonality in transmission and demography

Suited to study recurrent epidemics



δ : waning immunity rate (years)
 μ : demographic renewal rate (decades)
 $\lambda(t) = \lambda_0(1 + \lambda_1 \sin(2\pi \frac{t}{T_{per}}))$
 $\lambda_1 = 0 \Rightarrow$ oscillations vanishes

Key parameters: $R_0^{Moy} = \frac{\lambda_0}{\gamma + \mu}$, $d = \frac{1}{\gamma}$

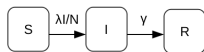
Summary:

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{(-1,1)}(\mathbf{t}, S, I) &= \lambda(\mathbf{t})S \frac{I}{N}, \\ \alpha_{(1,0)}(S, I) &= N\mu + \delta(N - S - I), \\ \alpha_{(-1,0)}(S, I) &= \mu S \\ \alpha_{(0,-1)}(S, I) &= (\mu + \gamma)I\end{aligned}$$

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Markov jump process



$$\alpha_{(-1,1)}(S, I) = \lambda S \frac{I}{N}, \quad \alpha_{(0,-1)}(S, I) = \gamma I$$

Notations:

$$E = \{0, \dots, N\}^d$$

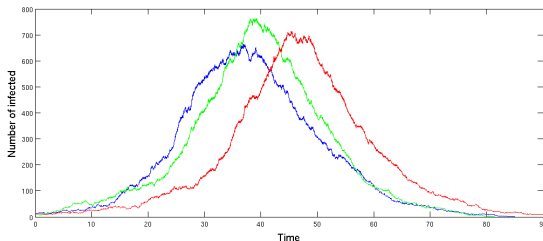
$\forall L \in E^- = \{-N, \dots, N\}^d$, we define $\alpha_L(\cdot) : E \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$

We define (Z_t) the Markov jump process on E with Q -matrix: $q_{X,Y} = \alpha_{Y-X}(X)$

Assume $\alpha(X) = \sum_{L \in E^-} \alpha_L(X) < +\infty \Rightarrow$ Sojourn time $\mathcal{E}xp(\alpha(X))$

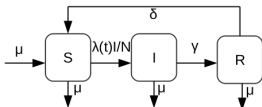
Easily simulated (using Gillespie algorithm)

3 realizations for $N = 10000$, $\lambda = 0.5$, $\gamma = 1/3$, $(S_0, I_0) = (9990, 10)$



Interest of the deterministic approach

$$\lambda(t) = \lambda_0(1 + \lambda_1 \sin(2\pi t / T_{per}))$$



SIRS ODE solution

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \mu(1 - s) + \delta(1 - s - i) - \lambda(t)si$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} = \lambda(t)si - (\mu + \gamma)i$$

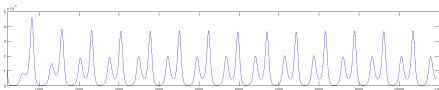
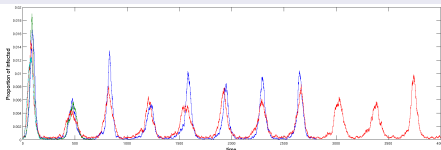
$$\lambda(t) = \lambda_0(1 + \lambda_1 \sin(2\pi t / T))$$

$$(s(0), i(0)) = \frac{Z_0}{N}$$

ODE trajectory

Some trajectories of the SIRS Markov proc. :

$N = 10^5$, $R_0 = 1.5$, $d = 3$, $\frac{1}{\delta T_{per}} = 2$, $\frac{1}{\mu T_{per}} = 50$



Drawbacks of the Markov jump approach

- $N = 10^7$: more than 10^5 events in one week (MLE: observation of all the jumps required)
- Extinction probability non negligible

Link between the two approaches

As $N \rightarrow +\infty$ we have $\frac{Z_t}{N} \xrightarrow[N \rightarrow \infty]{} x(t)$, where $x(t)$ is the deterministic solution of the ODE:

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = b(x(t))$$

Function b is explicit

Beyond deterministic limit : Gaussian process

Additional assumption: smooth version of α_L, β_L

We have $\alpha_L : E \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$ transition rate : $X \xrightarrow{\alpha_L(x)} X + I$

Assume $\beta_L : [0, 1]^d \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$ well define and regular :

$$\forall x \in [0, 1]^d, \left(\frac{1}{N} \alpha_L(\lfloor Nx \rfloor) \right) \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \beta_L(x)$$

$$\text{SIR: } \alpha_{(-1,1)}(S, I) = \lambda S \frac{I}{N} \Rightarrow \beta_{(-1,1)}(x) = \lambda x_1 x_2, \alpha_{(0,1)}(S, I) = \gamma I \Rightarrow \beta_{(0,-1)}(x) = \gamma x_2$$

Definition of function $b \left(\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = b(x(t)) \right)$

$$b(x) = \sum_{L \in E^-} L \beta_L(x), \text{ SIR: } b((\lambda, \gamma), (s, i)) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \lambda s i + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \gamma i = \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda s i \\ \lambda s i + \gamma i \end{pmatrix}$$

ODE approximation : no longer dependance w.r.t. N

Asymptotic expansion w.r.t. N : Gaussian process

$\sqrt{N} \left(\frac{Z_t}{N} - x(t) \right) \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} g(t)$ where $g(t)$ centered Gaussian process:

$$dg(t) = \frac{\partial b}{\partial x}(x(t))g(t)dt + \sigma(x(t))dB_t, \text{ where } \sigma^t \sigma(x) = \Sigma(x) = \sum_{L \in E^-} L^t L \beta_L(x)$$

$$\text{SIR: } \Sigma((\lambda, \gamma), (s, i)) = \lambda s i \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \gamma i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda s i & -\lambda s i \\ -\lambda s i & \lambda s i + \gamma i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Cholesky algorithm } \Rightarrow \sigma(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda s i} & 0 \\ -\sqrt{\lambda s i} & \sqrt{\gamma i} \end{pmatrix}$$

Infinitesimal generator approach: diffusion approximation

Renormalized version of the Markov jump process (\tilde{Z}_t):(\tilde{Z}_t) Markov jump process on E with transition rates $q_{X,Y} = N\beta_{Y-X}(X)$ $\tilde{Z}_t = \frac{Z_t}{N}$ normalized processAsymptotic development of the infinitesimal generator of Z_t (Ethier & Kurtz (86))

$$\text{Generator of } \tilde{Z}_t: \mathcal{A}f(x) = \sum_{L \in E^-} NL\beta_L(x)(f(x+L) - f(x))$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Generator of } \tilde{Z}_t: \bar{\mathcal{A}}f(x) = b(x) \cdot \nabla f(x) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i,j=1}^d \Sigma_{i,j}(x) \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(x) + O\left(\frac{1}{N^2}\right)$$

Dropping negligible terms leads to the generator of a diffusion process:

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}\sigma(X_t)dB_t, \text{ where } b(x) = \sum_{L \in E^-} L\beta_L(x), \Sigma(x) = \sum_{L \in E^-} L^{\otimes 2}\beta_L(x)$$

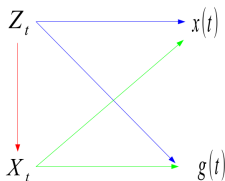
Temporal dependence $\beta_L(t, x)$: generator approach no longer availableDecomposition of the diffusion process using Gaussian process ($\epsilon = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$)

Taylor's stochastic formula (Wentzell-Freidlin(79), Azencott (82))

Let $dX_t = b(X_t)dt + \epsilon\sigma(X_t)dB_t, X_0 = x_0$ Then, under regularity assumptions, $X_t = x(t) + \epsilon g(t) + O_{\mathbb{P}}(\epsilon^2)$

Links between approximations

- Z_t Markov jump process on E with transition $q_{X,Y} = \alpha_{Y-X}(X)$
- \bar{Z}_t Markov jump process on E/N with transition $q_{x,y} = N\beta_{\lfloor Nx \rfloor - \lfloor Ny \rfloor}(x)$
- $\bar{Z}_t \sim x(t) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}g(t)$ with $x(\cdot)$ the ODE solution and g a Gaussian process
- X_t : $dX_t = b(x(t))dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}\sigma(x(t))dB_t$ diffusion with small diffusion coefficient
and $\mathbb{P}\left\{\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|\bar{Z}_t - X_t\| > C_T \frac{\log(N)}{N}\right\} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} 0$
- $X_t = x(t) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}g(t) + \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}}(\frac{1}{N})$



- Diffusion approximation
- Expansion in N of the process
- Taylor's stochastic expansion

Important : All mathematical representations completely defined by (α_L)

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Classical Estimators

Maximum likelihood estimation for the SIR Markov Jump process (Andersson & Britton (00))

- Observation of all jumps
- Analytic expression of the estimators for SIR model:

$$\hat{\lambda} = N \frac{s(0) - s(T)}{\int_0^T s(t) I(t) dt}, \quad \hat{\gamma} = \frac{s(0) + I(0) - s(T) - I(T)}{\int_0^T I(t) dt}$$

- $\sqrt{N}(\hat{\theta}_{MLE} - \theta_0) \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{N}(0, I_b^{-1}(\theta_0))$, where

$$I_b^{-1}((\lambda_0, \gamma_0)) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\lambda_0^2}{s(0) - s(T)} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\gamma_0^2}{s(0) + I(0) - s(T) - I(T)} \end{pmatrix}$$

Maximum likelihood estimation for homoscedastic observations of the ODE

- n observations at n discrete times t_k of $x_\theta(t_k) + \xi_k$, with $\xi_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, C_N(\theta_0)I_d)$
- MLE=LSE
- $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_{LSE} - \theta_0) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{N}(0, I^N(\theta_0))$

Specificities of the statistical framework

Model:

We define X_t : $dX_t = b(\theta_1, X_t)dt + \epsilon\sigma(\theta_2, X_t)dB_t$, $X_0 = x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$

⇒ separation of the parameters θ_1 , θ_2 required (not estimated at the same rate)

Continuous observation of the diffusion on $[0, T]$ (Kutoyants (80))

$$\text{MLE} : \epsilon^{-1} \left(\theta_1^{MLE} - \theta_1^0 \right) \rightarrow \mathcal{N} \left(0, I_b(\theta_1^0, \theta_2^0)^{-1} \right)$$

Existing discrete observation results : estimation of θ_2 at rate \sqrt{n}

Observations:

We observe X_{t_k} for $t_k = k\Delta$, $k \in \{0, \dots, n\}$, $t_k \in [0, T]$ ($n\Delta = T$), T is fixed

Two different asymptotics: $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ & n (Δ) is fixed // $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ & $n \rightarrow \infty$ ($\Delta \rightarrow 0$)

Notation: $\eta = (\theta_1, \theta_2)$

SIR: $\epsilon = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$, $\theta_1 = \theta_2 = \theta = (\lambda, \gamma)$, and $I_b(\theta_1^0, \theta_2^0)$ equals the Markov jump process Fisher Information matrix

Main idea: study of $g_\eta(t)$ (Multidimensionnal generalization of Genon-Catalot(90))

Gaussian process: $Y_t = x_{\theta_1}(t) + \epsilon g_\eta(t)$, n obs. at regular time intervals $t_k = k\Delta$, for $k = 1, \dots, n$.

Definition : Resolvent matrix of the linearized ODE system Φ_{θ_1}

Let Φ_{θ_1} be the invertible matrix solution of

$$\frac{d\Phi_{\theta_1}}{dt}(t, t_0) = \frac{\partial b}{\partial x}(x_{\theta_1}(t))\Phi_{\theta_1}(t, t_0), \text{ with } \Phi_{\theta_1}(t_0, t_0) = I_d.$$

Important property of g_η

$$g_\eta(t_k) = \Phi_{\theta_1}(t_k, t_{k-1})g_\eta(t_{k-1}) + \sqrt{\Delta}Z_k^\eta$$

$(Z_k^\eta)_{k \in \{1, \dots, n\}}$ independent Gaussian vectors with covariance matrix S_k^η

$$S_k^\eta = \frac{1}{\Delta} \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \Phi_{\theta_1}(t_k, s) \Sigma(\theta_2, x_{\theta_1}(s)) \Phi_{\theta_1}^t(t_k, s) ds$$

Function of the observations

Let $y \in \mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$

$$N_k(\theta_1, y) = y(t_k) - x_{\theta_1}(t_k) - \Phi_{\theta_1}(t_k, t_{k-1}) [y(t_{k-1}) - x_{\theta_1}(t_{k-1})] (= \epsilon \sqrt{\Delta} Z_k^\eta)$$

Back to the diffusion process: $dX_t = b(\theta_1, X_t)dt + \epsilon\sigma(\theta_2, X_t)dB_t$

(Z_k^η) Gaussian family \Rightarrow Likelihood tractable:

$$-L_{\Delta, \epsilon}(\eta) = \epsilon^2 \sum_{k=1}^n \log[\det(S_k^\eta)] + \frac{1}{\Delta} \sum_{k=1}^n {}^t N_k(\theta_1, Y)(S_k^\eta)^{-1} N_k(\theta_1, Y)$$

$\hat{\theta}_2$ has good properties as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, only if $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ ($n \rightarrow +\infty$)

1. n fixed, $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$: General case (low frequency contrast with θ_2 unknown)

$$\bar{U}_\epsilon(\theta_1) = \frac{1}{\Delta} \sum_{k=1}^n {}^t N_k(\theta_1, X) N_k(\theta_1, X) \Rightarrow \text{Associated MCE } \bar{\theta}_{1, \epsilon} = \underset{\theta_1 \in \Theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \bar{U}_\epsilon(\theta_1)$$

2. n fixed, $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$: Case $\theta_2 = f(\theta_1)$ (low frequency contrast with information on θ_2)

$$\tilde{U}_\epsilon(\theta_1) = \frac{1}{\Delta} \sum_{k=1}^n {}^t N_k(\theta_1, X) (\tilde{S}_k^{\theta_1, f(\theta_1)})^{-1} N_k(\theta_1, X) \Rightarrow \tilde{\theta}_{1, \epsilon} = \underset{\theta_1 \in \Theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \tilde{U}_\epsilon(\theta_1)$$

3. $n \rightarrow \infty$, $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ (high frequency contrast)

$$\begin{aligned} \check{U}_{\Delta, \epsilon}(\theta_1, \theta_2) &= \epsilon^2 \sum_{k=1}^n \log[\det(\Sigma(\theta_2, X_{t_{k-1}}))] + \frac{1}{\Delta} \sum_{k=1}^n {}^t N_k(\theta_1, X) \Sigma^{-1}(\theta_2, X_{t_{k-1}}) N_k(\theta_1, X) \\ &\Rightarrow \check{\theta}_{1, \epsilon, \Delta}, \check{\theta}_{2, \epsilon, \Delta} = \underset{\eta \in \Theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \check{U}_{\epsilon, \Delta}(\eta) \end{aligned}$$

What kind of distance is minimized: comparison with Least squares

$$N_k(\theta_1, y) = y(t_k) - x_{\theta_1}(t_k) - \Phi_{\theta_1}(t_k, t_{k-1}) [y(t_{k-1}) - x_{\theta_1}(t_{k-1})]$$

$N = 1000$, $R_0 = 1.5$, $d = 3$ days, 1 obs/day, $T = 50$ days

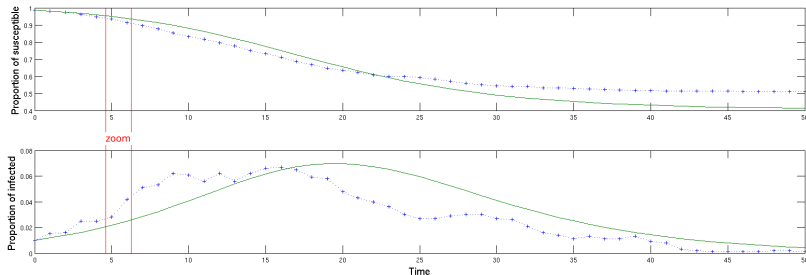
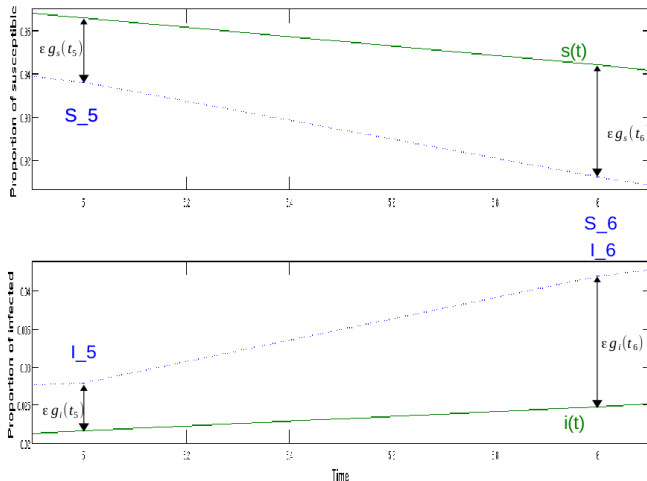


Figure: Diffusion (blue), $x_{\theta_1}(t)$ (green)

What kind of distance is minimized: comparison with Least squares

Zoom between $t = 5$ and $t = 6$

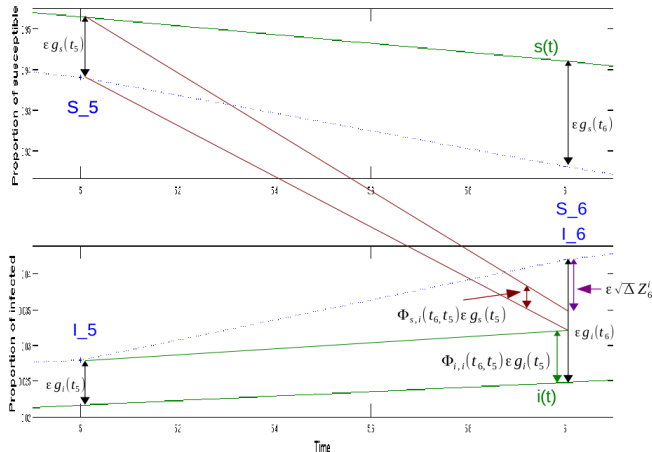
$$g_{\eta}(t_k) = \Phi_{\theta_1}(t_k, t_{k-1})g_{\eta}(t_{k-1}) + \sqrt{\Delta}Z_k^{\eta}$$



What kind of distance is minimized: comparison with Least squares

Zoom between $t = 5$ and $t = 6$

$$g_{\eta}(t_k) = \Phi_{\theta_1}(t_k, t_{k-1})g_{\eta}(t_{k-1}) + \sqrt{\Delta}Z_k^{\eta}$$



What kind of distance is minimized: comparison with Least square

Figure: Distance to the deterministic model

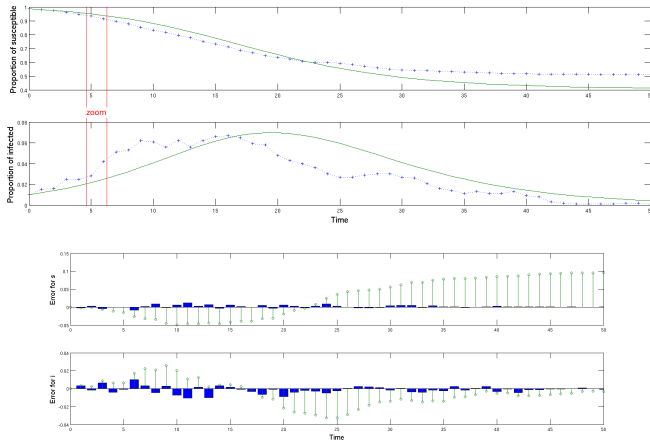


Figure: Comparison: $N_k(X, \theta_1)$ (blue) and $X_{t_k} - x_{\theta_1}(t_k)$ (green)

Results about $dX_t = b(\theta_1, X_t)dt + \epsilon\sigma(\theta_2, X_t)dB_t$

Under classical regularity assumptions on b and σ , we proved

n fixed, $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, low frequency contrast

Identifiability assumption: $\theta_1 \neq \theta'_1 \Rightarrow \{\exists k, 1 \leq k \leq n, x_{\theta_1}(t_k) \neq x_{\theta'_1}(t_k)\}$.

1. General case (no information on θ_2)

$$\epsilon^{-1} (\bar{\theta}_{1\epsilon} - \theta_1^0) \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{N}(0, J_{\Delta}^{-1}(\theta_1^0, \theta_2^0))$$

2. case $\theta_2 = f(\theta_1)$ (with information on θ_2)

$$\epsilon^{-1} (\tilde{\theta}_{1\epsilon} - \theta_1^0) \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{N}(0, I_{\Delta}^{-1}(\theta_1^0, \theta_2^0))$$

3. $n \rightarrow \infty$ $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$: high frequency contrast

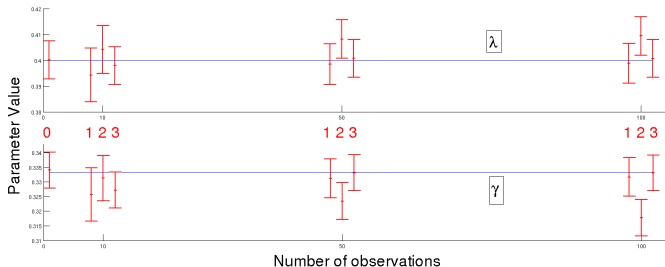
$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \epsilon^{-1} (\check{\theta}_{1\epsilon, \Delta} - \theta_1^0) \\ \sqrt{n} (\check{\theta}_{2\epsilon, \Delta} - \theta_2^0) \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty, \epsilon \rightarrow 0} N \left(0, \left(\begin{array}{cc} I_b^{-1}(\theta_1^0, \theta_2^0) & 0 \\ 0 & I_{\sigma}^{-1}(\theta_1^0, \theta_2^0) \end{array} \right) \right)$$

Remarks

- Epidemics: $\epsilon = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$, $\theta = \theta_1 = \theta_2$, then for contrast 3: I_b is the same as for the Markov jump process (all jumps observed)
- J_{Δ} is not optimal, but I_{Δ} is, in the sense that $I_{\Delta}(\theta_1, \theta_2) \xrightarrow{\Delta \rightarrow 0} I_b(\theta_1, \theta_2)$

Results on SIR for $N = 10000$, empirical mean estimators on 1000 runs and 95% theoretical CI
($R_0 = 1.2$, $d = 3$)

Figure: 0: MLE, 1: $\tilde{\theta}_{1\epsilon}$ low frequency MCE (general case), 2: $\tilde{\theta}_{1\epsilon}$ low frequency MCE ($\theta_1 = \theta_2$), 3: $\tilde{\theta}_{1\epsilon,\Delta}$ high frequency MCE



About unrepresented results

- Good results even for $N = 100$ (our methods seem more robust than MLE)
- Similar performance (w.r.t. MLE) on more sophisticated models

About $\tilde{\theta}_{1\epsilon}$ (Low frequency with information on θ_2)

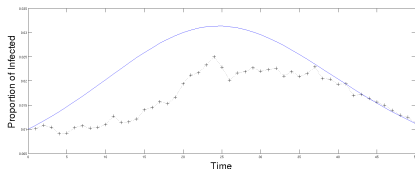
θ_2 unknown

$$1. \bar{U}_\epsilon(\theta_1) = \frac{1}{\Delta} \sum_{k=1}^n {}^tN_k(\theta_1, X) N_k(\theta_1, X)$$

With information on θ_2

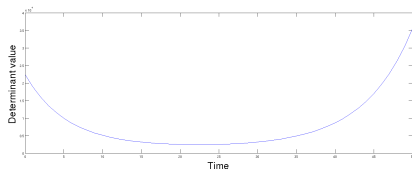
$$2. \tilde{U}_\epsilon(\theta_1) = \frac{1}{\Delta} \sum_{k=1}^n {}^tN_k(\theta_1, X) (\tilde{S}_k^{\theta_1})^{-1} N_k(\theta_1, X)$$

Figure: Comparison between Data and ODE
($x_{\tilde{\theta}_1}(t)$)



Not good fit of the data

Figure: Evolution of $\det(\Sigma^{-1}(\theta_1^0, x_{\theta_1^0}(t)))$



Too much weight on the boundaries

About $\tilde{\theta}_{1\epsilon}$ (Low frequency with information on θ_2)

Comparing to high frequency contrast

$$3. \check{U}_{\Delta, \epsilon}(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \epsilon^2 \sum_{k=1}^n \log [\det(\Sigma_k)] + \frac{1}{\Delta} \sum_{k=1}^n {}^t N_k(\theta_1) \Sigma_k^{-1} N_k(\theta_1)$$

where $\Sigma_k = \Sigma(\theta_2, X_{t_{k-1}})$

Corrected contrast with information on θ_2

$$2'. \check{U}_{\epsilon}^{cor}(\alpha) = \epsilon^2 \sum_{k=1}^n \log [\det(\check{S}_k^{\theta_1})] + \frac{1}{\Delta} \sum_{k=1}^n {}^t N_k(\theta_1) (\check{S}_k^{\theta_1})^{-1} N_k(\theta_1)$$

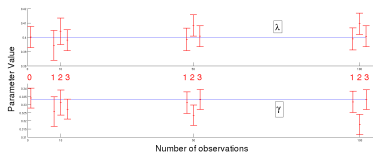


Figure: Previous results

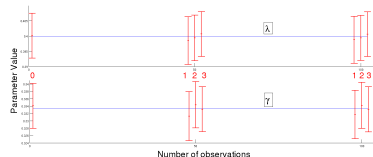


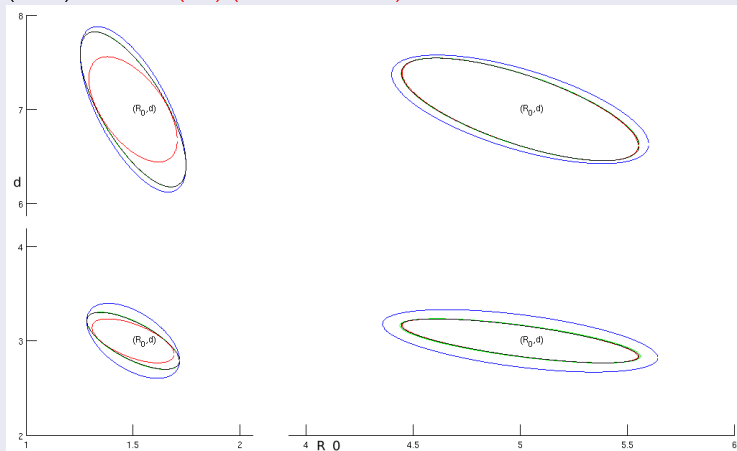
Figure: Corrected results

Different shapes of the confidence ellipsoids

SIR Model confidence ellipsoids for the corrected contrast

$N = 1000$, $(R_0, d) = \{(1.5, 3), (1.5, 7), (5, 3), (5, 7)\}$

Number of observations: $n = 10$ (blue), $n = 1000/\text{day} \approx 40$ d. (green), $n = 2000$ (black), MLE CR (red) (Theoretical limit)



Bias of MLE ($N = 400$; $R_0 = 1.5$; $d = \{3, 7\}$; $(s_0, i_0) = (0.99, 0.01)$)

Too much variability

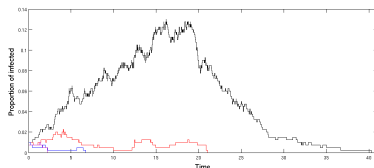
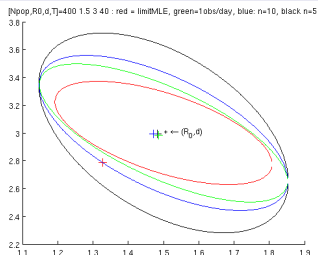


Figure: Trajectories for $d=3$

Need of an empiric threshold: 5% of infected

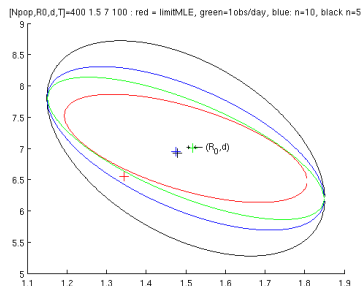
Estimation results ($d = 3$)



Other values of d were investigated

Other thresholds: time of extinction, number max of infected

Results ($d = 7$, time of extinction)



Zoom on the red trajectory (see Figure)

$(R_0, d)_{MLE} = (0.8749, 2.9945)$

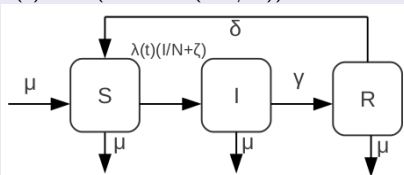
$(R_0, d)_{LSE} = (0.94, 2.5794)$

$(R_0, d)_{cont} = (1.01, 3.0973)$

Temporal dependence (SIRS) : λ_1 difficult to estimate

SIRS with constant immigration in I class

$$\lambda(t) = \lambda_0(1 + \lambda_1 \sin(2\pi t/T))$$



Values

$$R_0 = 1.5; d = 3d; \frac{1}{\delta T_{per}} = 2y,$$

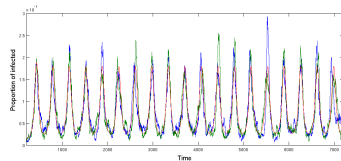
$$\lambda_1 = \{0.05, 0.15\}$$

$$\text{Fixed: } T_{per} = 365, \mu = 1/50 T_{per}, \zeta = \frac{10}{N},$$

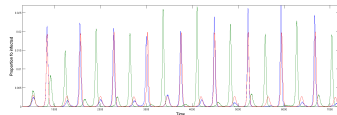
$$N = 10^7, 1 \text{ obs/day(week) for 20 years}$$

- Term for λ_1 in $I_b(\theta_0)$ very small $\Rightarrow N > 10^5$ for satisfactory CI
- λ_1 bifurcation parameter for the ODE

- $\lambda_1 = 0.05$ (weak seasonality)



- $\lambda_1 = 0.15$ (stronger seasonality)



Detailed results not shown

Main idea: R_0, d, δ well estimated
 λ_1 : biased (often estimated to 0)

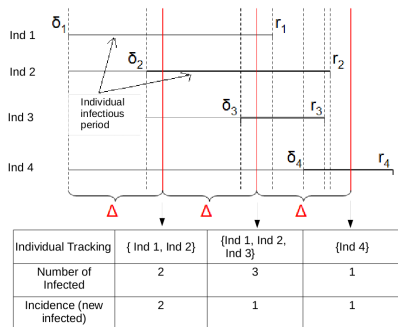
Outline

- 1 Characteristics of the epidemic process
 - Constraints imposed by the observation of the epidemic process
 - Simple mechanistic models
- 2 Various mathematical approaches for epidemic spread
 - Natural approach: Markov jump process
 - First approximation by ODEs
 - Gaussian approximation of the Markov jump process
 - Diffusion approximation of the Markov jump process
- 3 Inference for discrete observations of diffusion or Gaussian processes with small diffusion coefficient
 - Contrast processes for fixed or large number of observations
 - Correction of a non asymptotic bias
 - Comparison of estimators on simulated epidemics
- 4 Epidemics incompletely observed: partially and integrated diffusion processes (Work in progress)
 - Back to epidemic data
 - Inference approach: Work in progress

Incidence for SIR models

Discrete observation of all the coordinates

- Confined studies
- Childhood diseases



SIR Model:

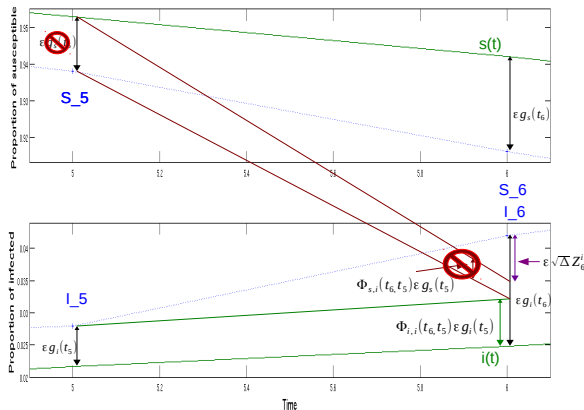
- Incidence at t_2 : $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \lambda S(t) \frac{I(t)}{N} dt$
- High frequency data $\approx \lambda S(t_2) \frac{I(t_2)}{N}$
- d small : new infected \approx new removed,
 $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \gamma I(t) dt = R(t_2) - R(t_1)$

Diffusion perspectives

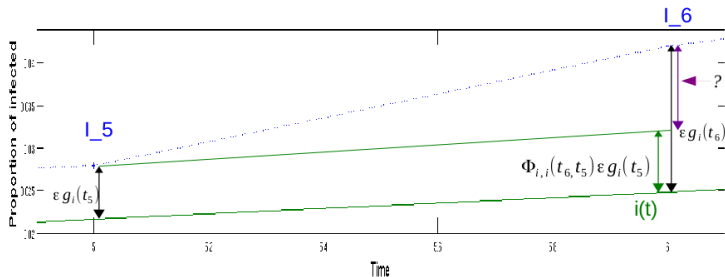
- Partial and discrete obs. of the diffusion process (Itô's formula)
- Partial and Integrated discrete obs.

Partially observed diffusion process: initial idea

Previous main idea not directly applicable:



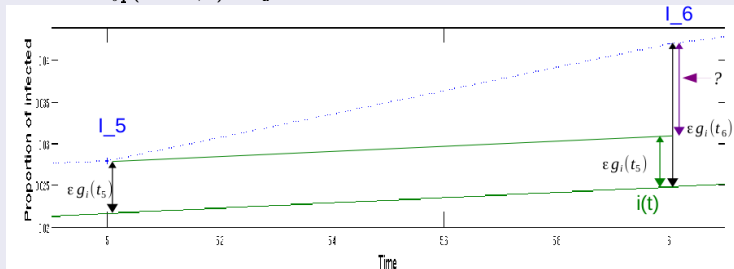
Partially observed diffusion process: initial idea



No good properties for n fixed, $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$.

Partially observed diffusion process: initial idea

Use that $\Phi_{\theta_1}(t + \Delta, t) \approx I_d$ as $\Delta \rightarrow 0$



Function of the observations : $I_{t_k} - i(t_k) - I_{t_{k-1}} + i(t_{k-1})$

Integrated diffusion process

Integration of the relation : $g_\eta(t_k) = \Phi_{\theta_1}(t_k, t_{k-1})g_\eta(t_{k-1}) + \sqrt{\Delta}Z_k^\eta$

⇒ link between g and the integrated process : similar to Kalman filtering techniques