## S3 Text

## Kernel-ABC settings.

For the kernel-ABC, the prior distributions of the four parameters of interest were defined as in the example.DiffRisk.json file provided by the kamphirmaster software package (in the kamphir-master/settings/ directory), all remaining parameters were fixed to their true value.

For our ABC-LASSO, we used exactly the same prior distributions and the same starting and stopping conditions (the latter being defined earlier) as for kernel-ABC, to simulate 10,000 "training" trees with the **rcolgem** coalescent framework [1, 2], for each set of target trees.

As defined in [3], we used the following kernel-ABC settings for the differentialrisk model :

- $\lambda = 0.3$  (constant decay factor)
- $\sigma = 2.0$  (Gaussian radial basis function tolerance parameter)
- $\tau_0 = 0.005$  (initial tolerance)
- $\tau_{min} = 0.002$  (minimum tolerance)
- $\lambda_{\tau} = 0.0025$  (exponential decay rate)
- 10,000 MCMC steps

We used a modified version of the kernel-ABC software to infer the four epidemiological parameters of the SI-DR model using this approach. This version is freely accessible from http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.4235354.

## References

- Volz EM. Complex population dynamics and the coalescent under neutrality. Genetics. 2012 Jan;190(1):187-201. Available from: http://dx.doi.org/10. 1534/genetics.111.134627.
- [2] Rasmussen DA, Volz EM, Koelle K. Phylodynamic inference for structured epidemiological models. PLoS Comput Biol. 2014 Apr;10(4):e1003570. Available from: http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1003570.
- [3] Poon AFY. Phylodynamic Inference with Kernel ABC and Its Application to HIV Epidemiology. Mol Biol Evol. 2015 Sep;32(9):2483-2495. Available from: http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msv123.