## Interpolation and Autocorrelation

HES 505 Fall 2022: Session 17

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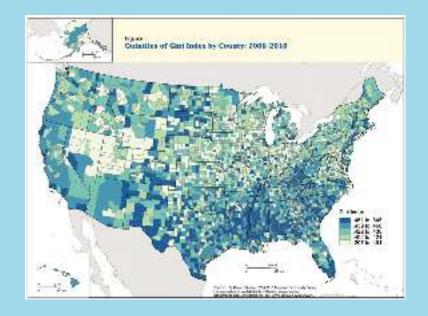
# Objectives

By the end of today you should be able to:

- Distinguish deterministic and stochastic processes
- Define autocorrelation and describe its estimation
- Articulate the benefits and drawbacks of autocorrelation
- Leverage point patterns and autocorrelation to interpolate missing data

#### **Description vs. process?**

- Vizualization and the detection of patterns
- The challenge of geographic data
- Implications for analysis



Inequality in the United States: Quintiles of Gini Index by County: 2006–2010. The greater the Gini index, the more unequal a county's income distribution is.

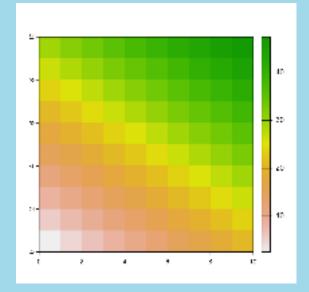
# Patterns as realizations of spatial processes

- A **spatial process** is a description of how a spatial pattern might be *generated*
- Generative models
- An observed pattern as a *possible realization* of an hypothesized process

#### Deterministic vs. stochastic processes

• Deterministic processes: always produces the same outcome

$$z = 2x + 3y$$



• Results in a spatially continuous field

```
1 x <- rast(nrows = 10, ncols=10, xmin = 0, xmax=10,
2 values(x) <- 1
3 z <- x
4 values(z) <- 2 * crds(x)[,1] + 3*crds(x)[,2]</pre>
```

#### Deterministic vs. stochastic

#### processes

 Stochastic processes: variation makes each realization difficult to predict

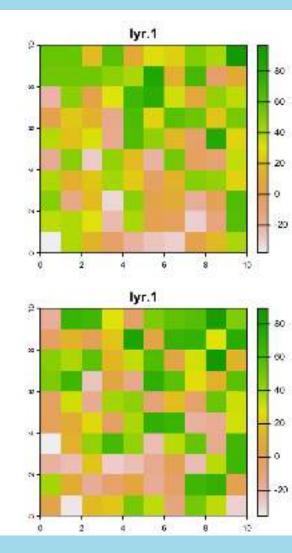
z = 2x + 3y + d

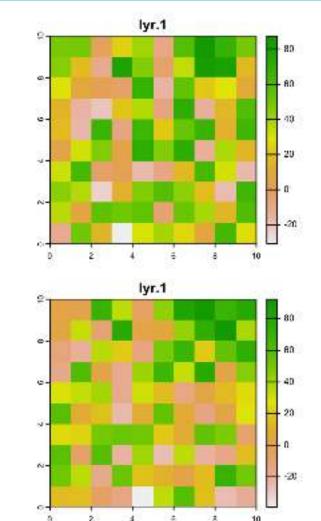
- The *process* is random, not the result (!!)
- Measurement error makes deterministic processes appear stochastic

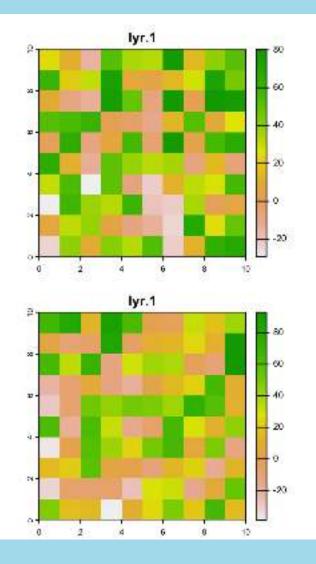
```
x \leq rast(nrows = 10, ncols=10, xmin = 0,
 2 values(x) <- 1
   fun <- function(z){</pre>
 3
   a <- z
 4
   d \leq runif(ncell(z), -50, 50)
   values(a) <- 2 * crds(x)[,1] + 3*crds(x)[,
   return(a)
 8
    }
 9
   b <- replicate(n=6, fun(z=x), simplify=FAI</pre>
10
   d \leq do.call(c, b)
11
```

### Deterministic vs. stochastic

#### processes

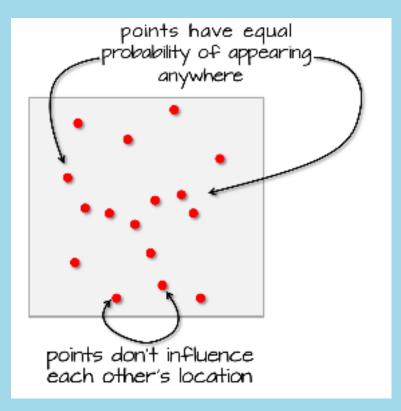






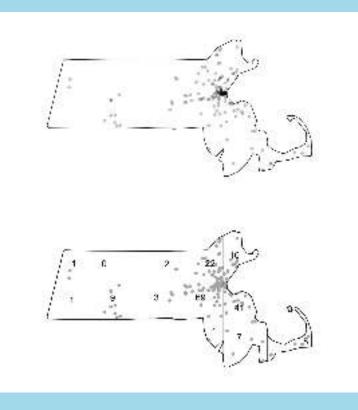
### **Expected values and hypothesis testing**

- Considering each outcome as the realization of a process allows us to generate expected values
- The simplest spatial process is Completely Spatial Random (CSR) process
- **First Order** effects: any event has an equal probability of occurring in a location
- Second Order effects: the location of one event is independent of the other events



From Manuel Gimond

#### **Generating expectations for CSR**



- We can use quadrat counts to estimate the expected number of events in a given area
- The probability of each possible count is given by:

$$P(n,k) = \binom{n}{x} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

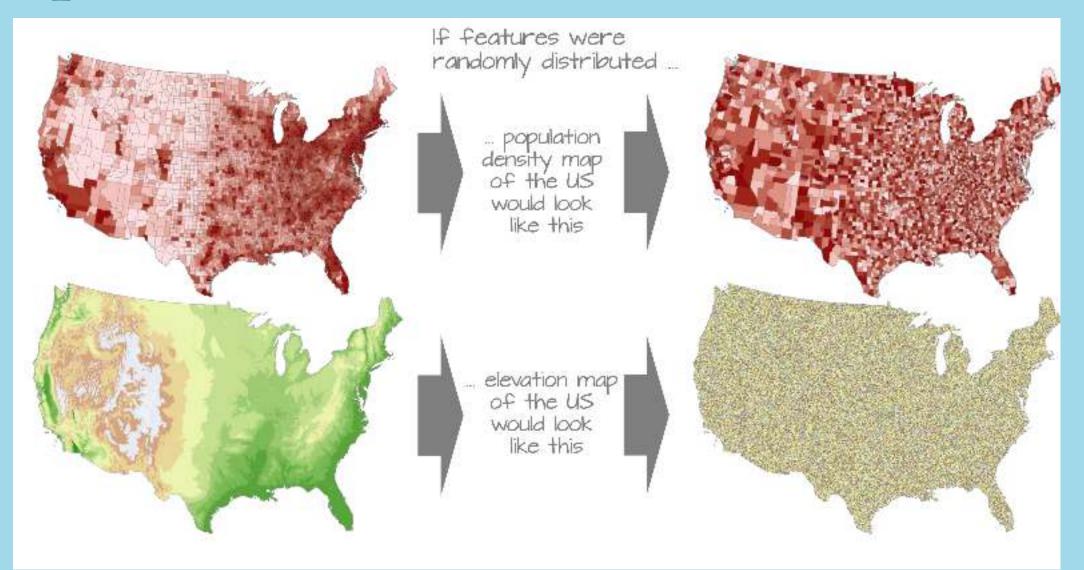
• Given total coverage of quadrats, then  $p = \frac{\frac{a}{x}}{a}$  and

$$P(k, n, x) = {\binom{n}{k}} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^{k} \left(\frac{x-1}{x}\right)^{n-k}$$

### **Tobler's Law**

'everything is usually related to all else but those which are near to each other are more related when compared to those that are further away'. Waldo Tobler

#### **Spatial autocorrelation**

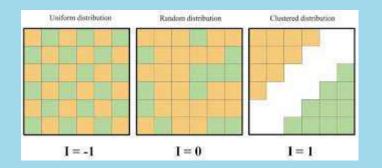


From Manuel Gimond

#### (One) Measure of autocorrelation

• Moran's I

$$I(d) = \frac{\sum_{i}^{n} \sum_{j \neq i}^{n} w_{ij} (x_{i} - \overline{x}) (x_{j} - \overline{x})}{S^{2} \sum_{i}^{n} \sum_{j \neq i}^{n} w_{ij}}$$



#### Moran's I: An example

- Use **spdep** package
- Estimate neighbors
- Generate weighted average

```
1 set.seed(2354)
 2 # Load the shapefile
   s <- readRDS(url("https://github.com/mgimond/Data/raw/gh-pages
 3
 4
   # Define the neighbors (use gueen case)
 5
   nb <- poly2nb(s, queen=TRUE)</pre>
 6
 7
   # Compute the neighboring average homicide rates
 8
   lw <- nb2listw(nb, style="W", zero.policy=TRUE)</pre>
 9
10 #estimate Moran's I
11 moran.test(s$HR80,lw, alternative="greater")
```

```
Moran I test under randomisation
```

data: s\$HR80
weights: lw
Moran I statistic standard deviate = 1.8891, p-value = 0.02944
alternative hypothesis: greater
sample estimates:
Moran I statistic Expectation Variance
 0.136277593 -0.015151515 0.006425761



#### Moran's I: An example

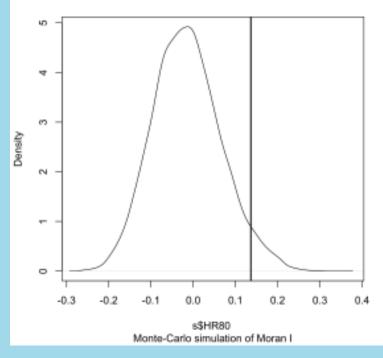
```
1 M1 <- moran.mc(s$HR80, lw, nsim=9999, alte
2
3
4
5 # Display the resulting statistics
6 M1</pre>
```

Monte-Carlo simulation of Moran I

```
data: s$HR80
weights: lw
number of simulations + 1: 10000
```

```
statistic = 0.13628, observed rank = 9575, p-
value = 0.0425
alternative hypothesis: greater
```





#### The challenge of areal data

- Spatial autocorrelation threatens *second order* randomness
- Areal data means an infinite number of potential distances
- Neighbor matrices, *W*, allow different characterizations

# Interpolation

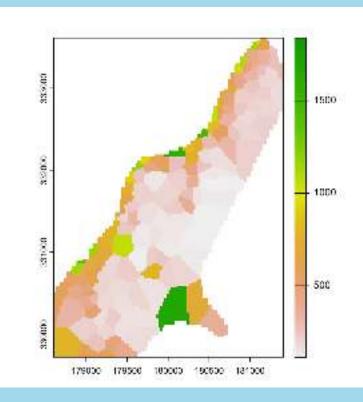
#### Interpolation

- Goal: estimate the value of z at new points in  $x_i$
- Most useful for continuous values
- Nearest-neighbor, Inverse Distance Weighting, Kriging

#### Nearest neighbor

- find i such that  $|\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}|$  is minimized
- The estimate of z is z<sub>i</sub>

```
1 data(meuse)
 2 r <- rast(system.file("ex/meuse.tif", package="terra"))</pre>
    sfmeuse <- st as sf(meuse, coords = c("x", "y"), crs=crs(r))</pre>
 3
   nodes <- st make grid(sfmeuse,</pre>
 4
                             cellsize = 25.
 5
                            what = "centers")
 6
 7
    dist <- distance(vect(nodes), vect(sfmeuse))</pre>
 8
    nearest <- apply(dist, 1, function(x) which(x == min(x)))
 9
    zinc nn <- sfmeuse$zinc[nearest]</pre>
10
   preds <- st as sf(nodes)</pre>
11
   preds$zn <- zinc nn
12
   preds <- as(preds, "Spatial")</pre>
13
   gridded(preds) <- TRUE</pre>
14
   preds.rast <- rast(preds)</pre>
15
16 r.resamp <- resample(r, preds.rast)</pre>
   preds.rast <- mask(preds.rast, r.resamp)</pre>
17
```



• Weight closer observations more heavily

$$\hat{z}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i z_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i}$$

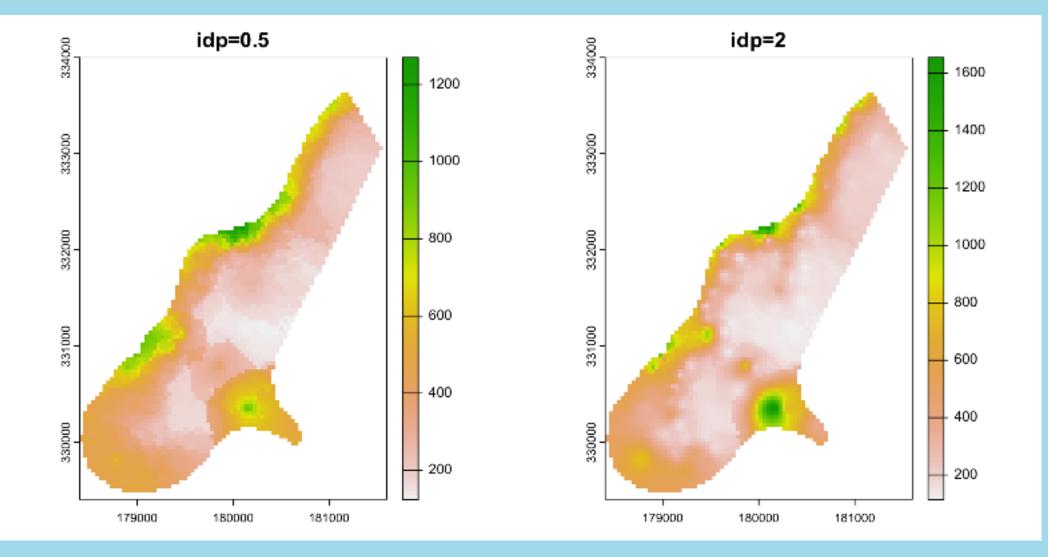
where

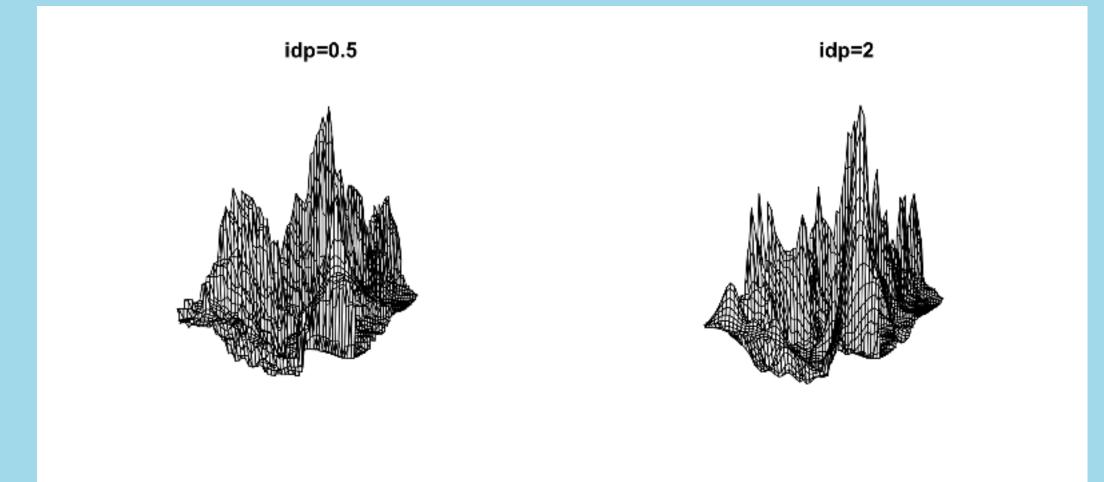
$$\mathbf{w}_i = |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i|^{-\alpha}$$

and  $\alpha > 0$  ( $\alpha = 1$  is inverse;  $\alpha = 2$  is inverse square)

- terra::interpolate provides flexible interpolation methods
- Use the gstat package to develop the formula

```
mgsf05 <- gstat(id = "zinc", formula = zinc~1, data=sfmeuse, nmax=7, set=1</pre>
1
  mgsf2 <- gstat(id = "zinc", formula = zinc~1, data=sfmeuse, nmax=7, set=li</pre>
2
  interpolate gstat <- function(model, x, crs, ...) {</pre>
3
      v <- st as sf(x, coords=c("x", "y"), crs=crs)</pre>
4
5
      p <- predict(model, v, ...)</pre>
      as.data.frame(p)[,1:2]
6
7
  }
 zsf05 <- interpolate(r, mgsf05, debug.level=0, fun=interpolate gstat, crs=c</pre>
8
  zsf2 <- interpolate(r, mgsf2, debug.level=0, fun=interpolate gstat, crs=crs</pre>
9
```





#### Kriging

- Previous methods predict z as a (weighted) function of distance
- Treat the observations as perfect (no error)
- If we imagine that z is the outcome of some spatial process such that:

 $z(\mathbf{x}) = \mu(\mathbf{x}) + \epsilon(\mathbf{x})$ 

then any observed value of z is some function of the process  $(\mu(\mathbf{x}))$  and some error  $(\epsilon(\mathbf{x}))$ 

• Kriging exploits autocorrelation in  $\epsilon(\mathbf{x})$  to identify the trend and interpolate accordingly

#### Autocorrelation

- Correlation the tendency for two variables to be related
- Autocorrelation the tendency for observations that are closer (in space or time) to be correlated
- Positive autocorrelation neighboring observations have
   ϵ with the same sign
- Negative autocorrelation neighboring observations have
   ε with a different sign (rare in geography)

### **Ordinary Kriging**

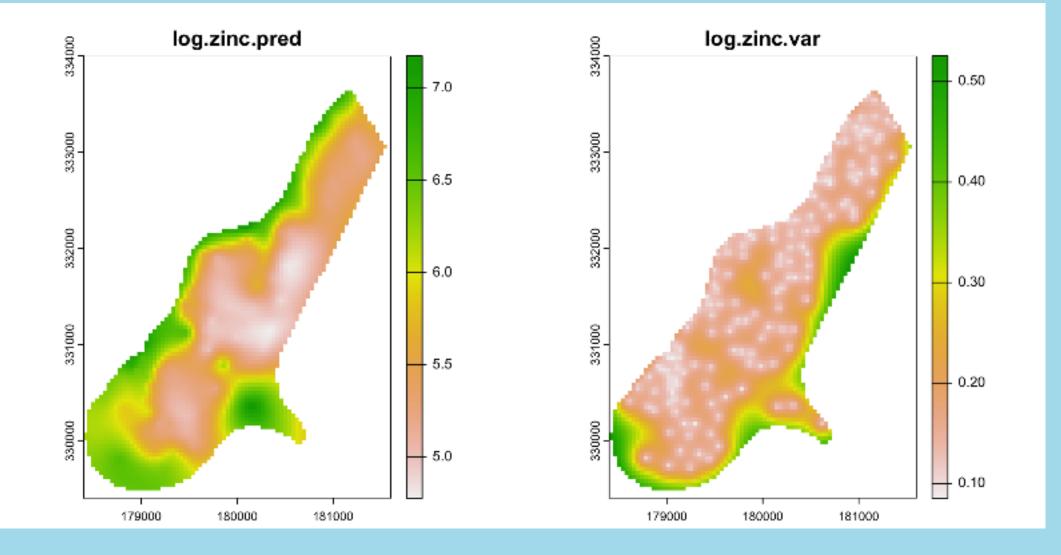
• Assumes that the deterministic part of the process  $(\mu(\mathbf{x}))$  is an unknown constant  $(\mu)$ 

$$z(\mathbf{x}) = \mu + \epsilon(\mathbf{x})$$

\* Specified in call to variogram and gstat as y~1 (or some other constant)

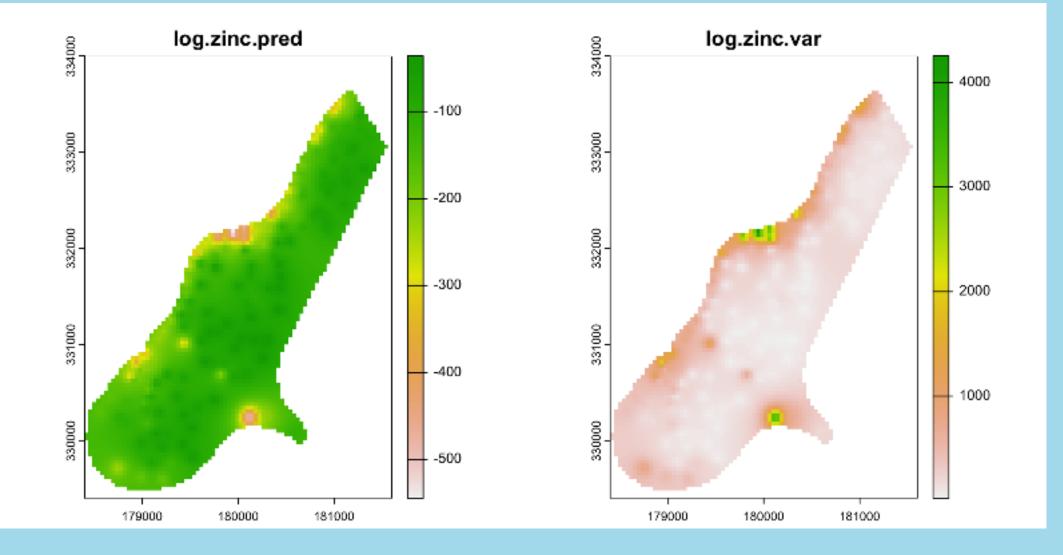
```
1 v <- variogram(log(zinc)~1, ~x+y, data=meuse)
2 mv <- fit.variogram(v, vgm(1, "Sph", 300, 1))
3 gOK <- gstat(NULL, "log.zinc", log(zinc)~1, meuse, locations=~x+y, model=mv
4 OK <- interpolate(r, gOK, debug.level=0)</pre>
```

#### **Ordinary Kriging**

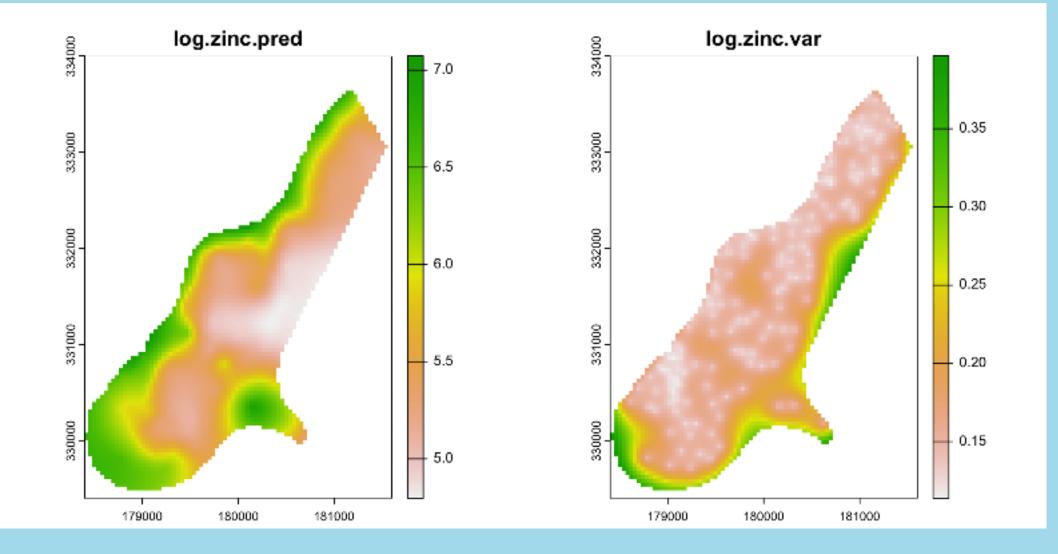


- Assumes that the deterministic part of the process  $(\mu(\mathbf{x}))$  is now a function of the location  $\mathbf{x}$
- Could be the location or some other attribute
- Now **y** is a function of some aspect of **x**

```
1 vu <- variogram(log(zinc)~elev, ~x+y, data=meuse)
2 mu <- fit.variogram(vu, vgm(1, "Sph", 300, 1))
3 gUK <- gstat(NULL, "log.zinc", log(zinc)~elev, meuse, locations=~x+y, model
4 names(r) <- "elev"
5 UK <- interpolate(r, gUK, debug.level=0)</pre>
```



- 1 vu <- variogram(log(zinc)~x +  $x^2$  + y +  $y^2$ , ~x+y, data=meuse)
- 2 mu <- fit.variogram(vu, vgm(1, "Sph", 300, 1))</pre>
- 3 gUK <- gstat(NULL, "log.zinc", log(zinc)~x + x<sup>2</sup> + y + y<sup>2</sup>, meuse, location
- 4 names(r) <- "elev"
- 5 UK <- interpolate(r, gUK, debug.level=0)</pre>



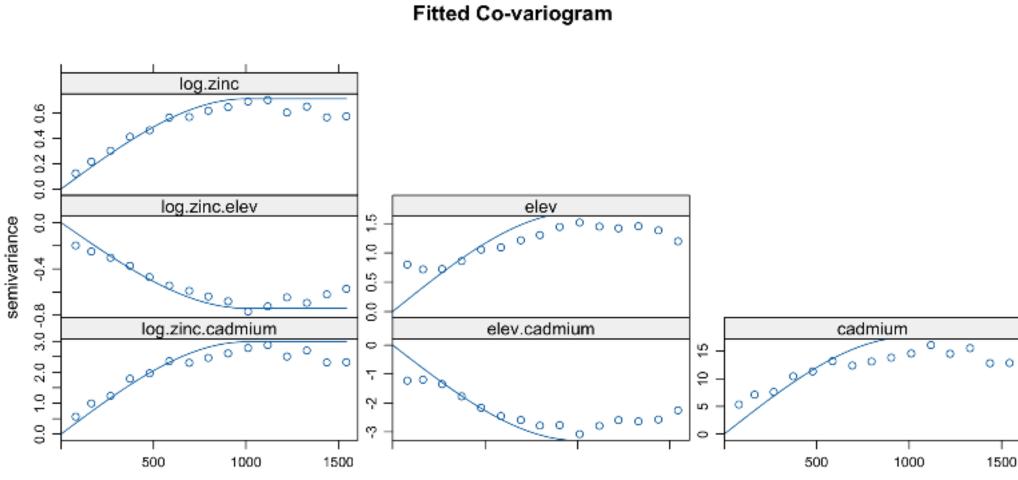
- relies on autocorrelation in ε<sub>1</sub>(**x**) for z<sub>1</sub> AND cross correlation with other variables (z<sub>2...j</sub>)
- Extending the ordinary kriging model gives:

 $z_1(\mathbf{x}) = \mu_1 + \epsilon_1(\mathbf{x})$  $z_2(\mathbf{x}) = \mu_2 + \epsilon_2(\mathbf{x})$ 

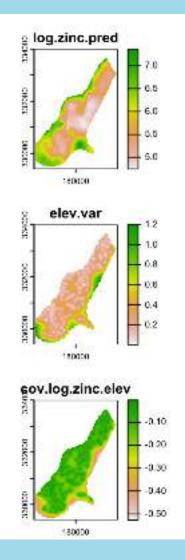
\* Note that there is autocorrelation within both  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  (because of the  $\epsilon$ ) and cross-correlation (because of the location, **x**)

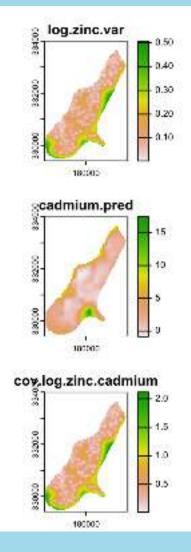
#### • Process is just a linked series of **gstat** calls

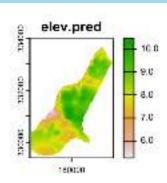
```
1 gCoK <- gstat(NULL, 'log.zinc', log(zinc)~1, meuse, locations=~x+y)
2 gCoK <- gstat(gCoK, 'elev', elev~1, meuse, locations=~x+y)
3 gCoK <- gstat(gCoK, 'cadmium', cadmium~1, meuse, locations=~x+y)
4 coV <- variogram(gCoK)
5 coV.fit <- fit.lmc(coV, gCoK, vgm(model='Sph', range=1000))
6
7 coK <- interpolate(r, coV.fit, debug.level=0)</pre>
```

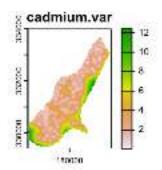


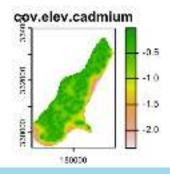
distance







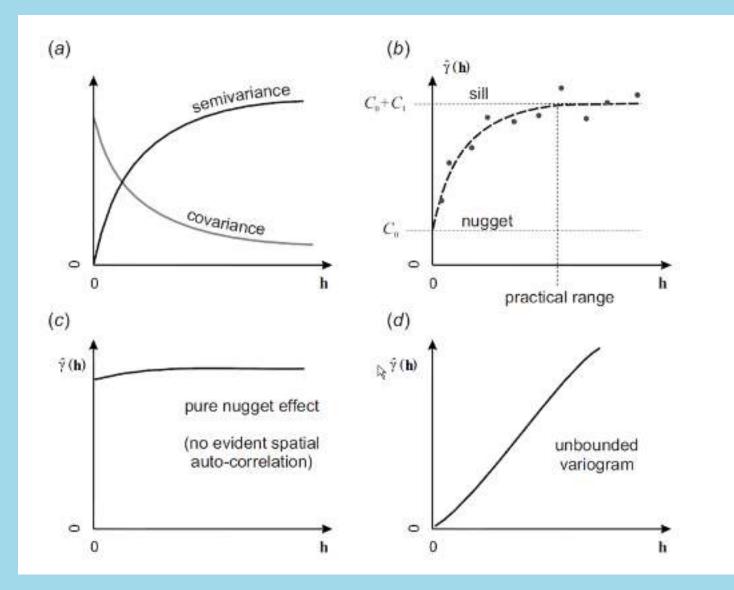




#### A Note about Semivariograms

- **nugget** the proportion of semivariance that occurs at small distances
- **sill** the maximum semivariance between pairs of observations
- range the distance at which the sill occurs
- experimental vs. fitted variograms

#### A Note about Semivariograms



#### **Fitted Semivariograms**