

# K function

## K function

We previously looked at the  $F(d)$  and  $G(d)$  functions, which corresponded to *CDFs, as a function of distance, for open space and distance between points.*

Another interesting feature of a point process is the number of points in a specified area. Consider  $E(\text{Num}(\mathbf{s}, d, \mathbf{S}))$ , the expected number of points in  $\delta_d \mathbf{s}$ , a circle of radius  $d$  centered at  $\mathbf{s}$ .

*Ripley's K or just the K function, considers the expected number of points within a distance  $d$  of an arbitrary point. Formally this is defined for CSR as*

$$K(d) = \frac{E(\text{number of points within } d)}{\lambda}$$

*. In other words, this is scaled by  $\lambda$*

With CSR,  $K(d) = \frac{\lambda \pi d^2}{\lambda} = \pi d^2$ .

To estimate  $K(d)$ , we use

$$\hat{K}(d) = (\hat{\lambda})^{-1} \sum_i \sum_j 1(\|\mathbf{s}_i - \mathbf{s}_j\| \leq d)/n$$

where  $\hat{\lambda} = n/|\mathcal{D}|$ , note the typo in the book.

The empirical  $K$  statistic is compared with  $\pi d^2$ . For  $K > \pi d^2$ , the series exhibits clustering, for  $K < \pi d^2$  the process exhibits inhibition.

Recall the dataset with medieval grave site information.

```
data(grave)
plot(envelope(grave, Kest, verbose = F))
```

