## VAST

## James T. Thorson

```
library(tinyVAST)
library(fmesher)
set.seed(101)
```

tinyVAST is an R package for fitting vector autoregressive spatio-temporal (VAST) models. We here explore the capacity to specify the vector-autoregressive spatio-temporal component.

## Spatio-temporal autoregressive model

We first explore the ability to specify a first-order autoregressive spatio-temporal process:

```
# Simulate settings
theta_xy = 0.4
n_x = n_y = 10
n_t = 10
rho = 0.8
spatial_sd = 0.5
# Simulate GMRFs
R = \exp(-\text{theta}_xy * \text{abs}(\text{outer}(1:n_x, 1:n_y, FUN="-")))
d = mvtnorm::rmvnorm(n_t, sigma=spatial_sd^2*kronecker(R,R) )
# Project through time and add mean
for( t in seq_len(n_t) ){
  if(t>1) d[t,] = rho*d[t-1,] + d[t,]
}
d = d + 2
# Shape into longform data-frame and add error
Data = data.frame( expand.grid(time=1:n_t, x=1:n_x, y=1:n_y), "var"="logn", z=as.vector(d))
Data$n = Data$z + rnorm(nrow(Data), sd=0.2)
# make mesh
mesh = fm_mesh_2d(Data[,c('x','y')])
# fit model
out = fit( sem = "logn \rightarrow logn, -1, rho",
           data = Data,
           formula = n ~ 0 + factor(time),
           spatial_graph = mesh,
           quiet = TRUE )
out
```

```
#> $call
\# fit(data = Data, formula = n \sim 0 + factor(time), sem = "logn -> logn, -1, rho",
      spatial_graph = mesh, quiet = TRUE)
#>
#> $opt
#> $opt$par
#> log_kappa
                 alpha
                           alpha
                                     alpha
                                               alpha
                                                          alpha
                                                                    alpha
                                                                              alpha
beta_z log_sigma
#> 0.3874778 -1.6006247
#>
#> $opt$objective
#> [1] 562.4018
#>
#> $opt$convergence
#> [1] 0
#> $opt$iterations
#> [1] 52
#>
#> $opt$evaluations
#> function gradient
#>
       76
#>
#> $opt$message
#> [1] "relative convergence (4)"
#>
#>
#> $sdrep
#> sdreport(.) result
            Estimate Std. Error
#> log_kappa -0.0242655 0.08572333
#> alpha 1.8698540 0.13882963
#> alpha
           1.8358180 0.17847092
            1.8750198 0.20059657
#> alpha
#> alpha
            1.8515331 0.21408285
#> alpha
            1.5253819 0.22262214
#> alpha
            1.7166222 0.22813880
#> alpha
            1.5876683 0.23174392
#> alpha
            1.3815611 0.23411717
#> alpha
            1.5879173 0.23568658
#> alpha
           1.8828027 0.23672744
#> beta z
            0.8165793 0.03015656
            0.3874778 0.01720828
#> beta z
#> log_sigma -1.6006247 0.07505542
#> Maximum gradient component: 0.003510379
#>
#> $run_ time
#> Time difference of 5.24138 secs
```

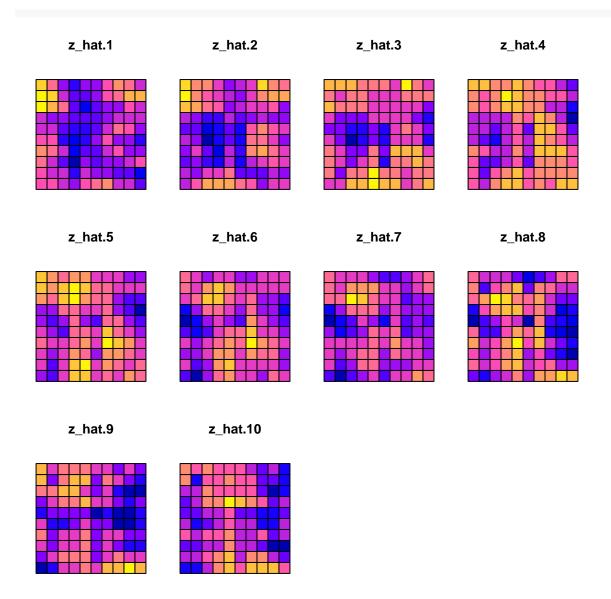
alpha

The estimated values for beta\_z then correspond to the simulated value for rho and spatial\_sd.

We can compare the true densities:

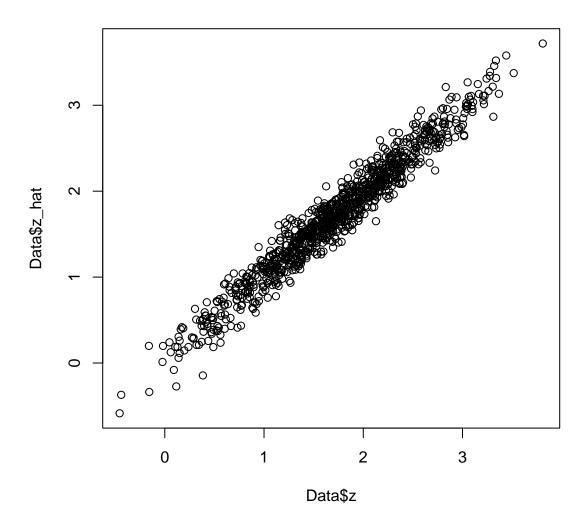
```
library(sf)
\#> Warning: package 'sf' was built under R version 4.3.1
data_wide = reshape( Data[,c('x','y','time','z')],
                     direction = "wide", idvar = c('x','y'), timevar = "time")
sf_data = st_as_sf( data_wide, coords=c("x","y"))
sf_grid = sf::st_make_grid( sf_data )
sf_plot = st_sf(sf_grid, st_drop_geometry(sf_data) )
plot(sf_plot, max.plot=n_t )
         z.1
                              z.2
                                                   z.3
                                                                        z.4
         z.5
                              z.6
                                                   z.7
                                                                        z.8
         z.9
                              z.10
```

with the estimated densities:



where a scatterplot shows that they are highly correlated:

plot( x=Data\$z, y=Data\$z\_hat )



Next, we compare this against the current version of VAST

```
myVAST = fit_model( settings=settings,
                Lat_i = Data[,'y'],
                Lon_i = Data[,'x'],
                t_i = Data[,'time'],
                b_i = exp(Data[,'n']),
                a_i = rep(1,nrow(Data)),
                observations_LL = cbind(Lat=Data[,'y'],Lon=Data[,'x']),
                grid dim km = c(100, 100),
                ObsModel = c(1,4),
                newtonsteps = 0,
                loopnum = 0,
                control = list(eval.max=100, iter.max=100, trace=0) )
#> Warning: The `returnclass` argument of `ne_download()` sp as of rnaturalearth 1.0.0.
#> i Please use `sf` objects with {rnaturalearth}, support for Spatial objects (sp) will be removed in
#> i The deprecated feature was likely used in the FishStatsUtils package.
#> Please report the issue to the authors.
#> This warning is displayed once every 8 hours.
#> Call `lifecycle::last_lifecycle_warnings()` to see where this warning was generated.
#> Warning in FishStatsUtils:::inla.barrier.fem.copy(mesh = anisotropic_mesh, : Please install the `INL
#> which contains an implementation that runs faster!
#>
               Component_1 Component_2
#> Omega
                        -1
                                   -1
#> Epsilon
                        -2
                                   -1
                        -2
                                   -2
#> Beta
#> Epsilon time
                                    -3
#> Eta1 Eta2
#> -1 -1
     Coefficient_name Number_of_coefficients
#> 1
             beta1_ft
                                         10 Fixed
                                          1 Fixed
#> 2
       Epsilon_rho1_f
         L\_epsilon1\_z
#> 3
                                          1 Fixed
                                          1 Fixed
#> 4
            logkappa1
#> 5
            logSigmaM
                                          1 Fixed
#> 6 Epsiloninput1_sff
                                       1360 Random
#>
   0:
           4894.2283: 20.0000 20.0000 20.0000 20.0000 20.0000 20.0000 20.0000 20.0000 20.0000
#>
    1:
           4438.1813: 19.9995 19.9995 19.9995 19.9995 19.9995 19.9995 19.9995 19.9994 19.9995
#>
    2:
           4425.9216: 19.9871 19.9864 19.9871 19.9869 19.9812 19.9849 19.9824 19.9787 19.9820
#>
    3:
           4410.5566: 19.5801 19.5608 19.5799 19.5742 19.4176 19.5182 19.4501 19.3473 19.4398
#>
    4:
           4259.7142: 14.6347 14.4725 14.6561 14.6065 13.1418 14.0869 13.4506 12.4874 13.3478
#>
           4184.8409: 12.6473 12.4300 12.6777 12.6109 10.6372 11.9104 11.0528 9.75485 10.9142
    5:
#>
    6:
           3883.8869: 8.51254 8.23137 8.51344 8.39364 5.91481 7.45055 6.36317 4.74708 6.19091
#> Warning in nlminb(start = startpar, objective = fn, gradient = gr, control = nlminb.control, : NA/Na
           3429.2064: 4.31122 3.99694 4.30956 4.13994 1.25063 2.97992 1.70061 -0.171716 1.5001
#>
    7:
#> Warning in nlminb(start = startpar, objective = fn, gradient = gr, control = nlminb.control, : NA/Na
#>
   8:
           3181.2403: 2.61824 2.33640 2.63385 2.40572 -0.513021 1.13494 -0.177412 -2.05427 -0.343
#>
   9:
           2752.0904: 2.60860 2.34357 2.62177 2.36867 -0.438463 1.09902 -0.173796 -1.98127 -0.314
           2692.9981: 2.58078 2.35240 2.60481 2.30909 -0.330328 1.03964 -0.173797 -1.88290 -0.279
#> 10:
#> 11:
           2524.1742: 2.38827 2.19480 2.42028 2.07078 -0.397943 0.790873 -0.364955 -1.97958 -0.428
           2484.1287: 2.38740 2.19524 2.41958 2.06840 -0.393764 0.788209 -0.365340 -1.97588 -0.427
#> 12:
#> 13:
           2475.8920: 2.38549 2.19625 2.41803 2.06305 -0.384490 0.782159 -0.366342 -1.96778 -0.424
           2473.3779: 2.42816 2.24524 2.46366 2.10372 -0.323073 0.821311 -0.320157 -1.90742 -0.372
#> 14:
#> 15:
           2466.5210: 2.47704 2.33184 2.52336 2.10678 -0.157839 0.804363 -0.285000 -1.77883 -0.289
#> 16:
           2465.0350: 2.52992 2.42097 2.58177 2.12244 -0.000242209 0.794713 -0.251257 -1.64502 -0.
```

```
17:
           2457.4230: 2.63922 2.72944 2.67644 1.98309 0.670643 0.443700 -0.372721 -1.11277 0.03439
   18:
           2451.9494: 2.79709 3.05871 2.83630 2.05927 1.25362 0.380820 -0.255511 -0.470920 0.4149
#>
   19:
           2445.8974: 2.56599 2.91929 2.59635 2.15139 1.15237 0.443918 -0.0960517 0.115605 0.6342
#>
   20:
           2444.2949: 2.56505 2.91648 2.59612 2.15053 1.15140 0.445779 -0.0928384 0.115063 0.6328
#>
           2443.6387: 2.55895 2.90409 2.59251 2.14266 1.14890 0.447399 -0.0835520 0.114173 0.6257
#>
   21:
#>
   22:
           2442.7980: 2.54661 2.88288 2.58347 2.12596 1.14561 0.444389 -0.0726652 0.113963 0.6125
#>
   23:
           2442.1636: 2.54153 2.87158 2.58035 2.12055 1.14214 0.448763 -0.0627556 0.112418 0.6063
           2441.3384: 2.52861 2.84968 2.56967 2.10314 1.13857 0.446703 -0.0518165 0.111325 0.5922
#>
   24:
#>
           2440.7351: 2.52504 2.84002 2.56782 2.10073 1.13450 0.454232 -0.0408404 0.109338 0.5875
   25:
           2439.9154: 2.51202 2.81755 2.55622 2.08290 1.13096 0.453936 -0.0289248 0.107046 0.5727
#>
   26:
#>
   27:
           2439.3645: 2.50735 2.80561 2.55335 2.08005 1.12582 0.463669 -0.0154226 0.104759 0.5670
#>
   28:
           2438.5410: 2.49420 2.78289 2.54081 2.06213 1.12227 0.464776 -0.00308151 0.101762 0.552
#>
   29:
           2437.9948: 2.48815 2.76828 2.53652 2.05880 1.11589 0.477212 0.0133159 0.0992179 0.5452
           2437.1793: 2.47473 2.74538 2.52289 2.04087 1.11242 0.479625 0.0259217 0.0959573 0.5303
#>
   30:
           2436.7024: 2.46759 2.72914 2.51716 2.03733 1.10527 0.494030 0.0439490 0.0934880 0.5231
#>
   31:
#>
   32:
           2435.8541: 2.45398 2.70632 2.50250 2.01955 1.10221 0.497747 0.0567641 0.0903360 0.5086
#>
   33:
           2435.3782: 2.44576 2.68865 2.49520 2.01581 1.09450 0.513951 0.0760981 0.0881433 0.5013
#>
   34:
           2434.5439: 2.43172 2.66580 2.47923 1.99817 1.09168 0.518539 0.0887000 0.0855052 0.4874
           2434.1089: 2.42259 2.64719 2.47046 1.99428 1.08377 0.536030 0.108716 0.0837924 0.48027
#>
   35:
#>
           2433.2524: 2.40827 2.62453 2.45335 1.97693 1.08131 0.541218 0.120860 0.0819129 0.46728
   36:
           2432.8130: 2.39831 2.60512 2.44313 1.97284 1.07341 0.559741 0.141330 0.0807968 0.46051
   37:
#>
#>
   38:
           2431.9676: 2.38364 2.58248 2.42489 1.95574 1.07121 0.565317 0.152976 0.0798196 0.44846
#>
   39:
           2431.5464: 2.37281 2.56234 2.41307 1.95097 1.06371 0.584149 0.173385 0.0793822 0.44204
           2430.6918: 2.35793 2.53981 2.39394 1.93418 1.06186 0.590020 0.184578 0.0793688 0.43106
#>
   40:
           2430.2783: 2.34661 2.51930 2.38102 1.92923 1.05473 0.609285 0.204952 0.0796499 0.42536
#>
   41:
#>
   42:
           2429.4233: 2.33157 2.49681 2.36111 1.91273 1.05319 0.615365 0.215770 0.0806210 0.41545
#>
   43:
           2429.0040: 2.31945 2.47560 2.34661 1.90677 1.04676 0.634304 0.235717 0.0816798 0.41017
#>
           2428.1586: 2.30428 2.45305 2.32602 1.89050 1.04559 0.640655 0.246378 0.0836546 0.40136
   44:
           2427.7273: 2.29145 2.43120 2.30999 1.88341 1.03997 0.658935 0.265676 0.0855313 0.39655
#>
   45:
#>
           2426.8986: 2.27620 2.40855 2.28878 1.86736 1.03918 0.665604 0.276324 0.0885506 0.38889
   46:
           2426.4512: 2.26268 2.38603 2.27118 1.85898 1.03440 0.682898 0.294778 0.0913029 0.38456
#>
   47:
           2425.6438: 2.24744 2.36322 2.24942 1.84316 1.03413 0.690119 0.305732 0.0954615 0.37822
#>
   48:
#>
   49:
           2425.1785: 2.23344 2.34023 2.23050 1.83367 1.03022 0.706473 0.323417 0.0991740 0.37459
#>
   50:
           2424.3960: 2.21829 2.31725 2.20826 1.81815 1.03056 0.714501 0.334996 0.104639 0.369846
#>
   51:
           2423.9112: 2.20397 2.29389 2.18819 1.80768 1.02761 0.729978 0.352053 0.109516 0.367195
           2423.1555: 2.18908 2.27082 2.16567 1.79265 1.02883 0.739352 0.364855 0.116626 0.364576
#>
   52:
#>
   53:
           2422.6498: 2.17477 2.24741 2.14489 1.78164 1.02712 0.754543 0.381898 0.123092 0.363607
#>
   54:
           2416.9743: 1.80216 1.65897 1.55225 1.38986 1.12153 1.01591 0.742850 0.383206 0.378278
           2413.9521: 1.83467 1.63004 1.55186 1.44221 1.20890 1.25707 0.974291 0.499839 0.572938
#>
   55:
           2410.5992: 1.75624 1.64408 1.60392 1.57803 1.21778 1.36744 1.13168 0.825915 0.879241
#>
   56:
#>
   57:
           2410.3696: 1.75861 1.64413 1.60611 1.57788 1.21645 1.36595 1.13255 0.823480 0.880902
   58:
           2410.2605: 1.76204 1.64438 1.60929 1.57769 1.21447 1.36376 1.13363 0.820051 0.883390
#>
                      1.76471 1.64517 1.61297 1.57916 1.21553 1.36490 1.13902 0.822284 0.889381
#>
   59:
           2410.0962:
                      1.76854 1.64623 1.61685 1.57964 1.21410 1.36356 1.14130 0.820445 0.893727
   60:
#>
           2409.9854:
#>
   61:
           2409.8548:
                      1.77101 1.64782 1.62018 1.58150 1.21571 1.36580 1.14659 0.823830 0.899884
#>
   62:
           2409.7557:
                      1.77445 1.64980 1.62399 1.58289 1.21573 1.36646 1.15010 0.824862 0.905651
                      1.77680 1.65197 1.62707 1.58504 1.21774 1.36948 1.15515 0.828971 0.911899
#>
   63:
           2409.6493:
                      1.77991 1.65445 1.63062 1.58685 1.21849 1.37112 1.15880 0.831275 0.918068
#>
   64:
           2409.5606:
#>
   65:
           2409.4675:
                      1.78214 1.65689 1.63355 1.58922 1.22079 1.37457 1.16363 0.835783 0.924405
#>
   66:
                      1.78499 1.65958 1.63695 1.59131 1.22203 1.37674 1.16731 0.838820 0.930845
           2409.3868:
           2409.3027: 1.78711 1.66212 1.63982 1.59385 1.22457 1.38042 1.17206 0.843589 0.937310
   67:
#>
           2409.2283: 1.78975 1.66488 1.64316 1.59616 1.22617 1.38289 1.17579 0.847123 0.943969
#>
   68:
           2409.1510: 1.79176 1.66742 1.64603 1.59884 1.22891 1.38670 1.18052 0.852093 0.950556
   69:
```

```
70:
           2409.0816: 1.79423 1.67019 1.64933 1.60133 1.23081 1.38937 1.18432 0.856003 0.957380
#>
   71:
                      1.79613 1.67271 1.65221 1.60414 1.23372 1.39325 1.18907 0.861140 0.964061
           2409.0097:
   72:
                      1.79845 1.67545 1.65551 1.60677 1.23585
                                                                1.39607 1.19295 0.865349 0.971003
#>
           2408.9443:
   73:
           2408.8768: 1.80026 1.67794 1.65840 1.60968 1.23889 1.40001 1.19773 0.870629 0.977750
#>
           2408.8149: 1.80244 1.68066 1.66169 1.61243 1.24122 1.40294 1.20168 0.875085 0.984772
#>
   74:
#>
   75:
           2408.7510: 1.80416 1.68311 1.66459 1.61543 1.24438 1.40693 1.20649 0.880490 0.991564
#>
   76:
           2408.6921: 1.80622 1.68581
                                       1.66787 1.61828 1.24687 1.40996 1.21052 0.885153 0.998643
           2408.6313: 1.80787 1.68822 1.67079 1.62135 1.25013 1.41400 1.21537 0.890665 1.00547
#>
   77:
#>
   78:
           2408.5749:
                      1.80981
                               1.69089
                                       1.67405 1.62428 1.25276 1.41712 1.21946 0.895504
                                                                                          1.01258
   79:
                               1.69327 1.67697 1.62741 1.25611
                                                                1.42120 1.22435 0.901111
                                                                                          1.01942
#>
           2408.5169:
                      1.81139
#>
   80:
           2408.4628:
                      1.81324
                              1.69590 1.68023 1.63041 1.25887 1.42441 1.22850 0.906101
                                                                                          1.02657
#>
   81:
           2408.4072:
                      1.81476
                              1.69825
                                      1.68315 1.63360 1.26229
                                                                1.42854 1.23343 0.911790
                                                                                          1.03342
   82:
                      1.81652
                              1.70085 1.68638 1.63665 1.26517
                                                                1.43184 1.23766 0.916913
                                                                                          1.04058
#>
           2408.3553:
#>
   83:
           2408.3020:
                      1.81798
                               1.70317
                                       1.68930
                                               1.63988 1.26866
                                                                 1.43602 1.24263 0.922675
                                                                                          1.04744
                                                                1.43939 1.24692 0.927915
#>
   84:
           2408.2520:
                      1.81966
                              1.70573 1.69251 1.64299 1.27163
                                                                                          1.05461
#>
   85:
           2408.2007:
                      1.82106
                               1.70802
                                       1.69542 1.64625 1.27519
                                                                 1.44362 1.25193 0.933742
                                                                                          1.06148
#>
   86:
           2408.1525:
                      1.82268
                               1.71054
                                       1.69861
                                               1.64940 1.27825
                                                                 1.44708 1.25629 0.939084
                                                                                          1.06865
#>
   87:
           2408.1032:
                      1.82403
                               1.71280
                                       1.70151 1.65269 1.28186
                                                                 1.45135 1.26134 0.944970
                                                                                          1.07552
                                                                1.45488 1.26576 0.950404 1.08269
#>
   88:
                     1.82558 1.71528 1.70467 1.65587 1.28501
           2408.0567:
#>
   89:
                              1.71750 1.70755 1.65919 1.28868 1.45921 1.27085 0.956344 1.08957
           2408.0092: 1.82688
                              1.71994 1.71069 1.66240 1.29190 1.46281 1.27534 0.961861 1.09674
#>
   90:
           2407.9644: 1.82836
#>
   91:
           2407.9185: 1.82961
                               1.72213 1.71355 1.66573 1.29561
                                                                 1.46718 1.28047 0.967849 1.10361
#>
   92:
           2407.8753:
                      1.83104
                               1.72452 1.71666 1.66896 1.29890
                                                                1.47086 1.28501 0.973441
                                                                                          1.11078
                                                                 1.47527 1.29018 0.979475
                                                                                          1.11766
#>
   93:
           2407.8311:
                      1.83224
                              1.72667 1.71949 1.67230 1.30265
           2407.7893:
                     1.83361
                               1.72902 1.72256 1.67554 1.30600
                                                                 1.47901 1.29478 0.985136 1.12483
#>
   94:
#>
   95:
           2407.7467:
                     1.83477 1.73112 1.72537 1.67890 1.30979 1.48346 1.29998 0.991213 1.13171
#>
   96:
           2407.7063: 1.83609 1.73342 1.72840 1.68214 1.31319 1.48727 1.30464 0.996937 1.13888
#>
   97:
                      1.83720 1.73548 1.73117 1.68549 1.31701 1.49175 1.30988 1.00305 1.14577
           2407.6652:
                              1.73773 1.73416
#>
   98:
           2407.6261:
                      1.83846
                                               1.68874 1.32045 1.49561 1.31459 1.00884
                                                                                          1.15294
#> 99:
           2407.5865:
                      1.83952
                              1.73974
                                       1.73690 1.69208 1.32430 1.50013 1.31985 1.01499
                                                                                          1.15984
#> 100:
           2407.5487:
                      1.84074
                               1.74195 1.73984
                                               1.69533 1.32778 1.50404 1.32461 1.02083
                                                                                          1.16701
                              1.74391 1.74253
                                               1.69865 1.33164 1.50857 1.32990 1.02703
                                                                                          1.17393
#> 101:
           2407.5104:
                      1.84176
#> 102:
           2407.4739:
                      1.84292 1.74606 1.74543 1.70188
                                                        1.33516 1.51253 1.33470 1.03292
                                                                                          1.18112
                                                                                          1.18805
#> 103:
           2407.4368:
                     1.84390 1.74797 1.74807 1.70518 1.33903 1.51708 1.34002 1.03915
#> 104:
           2407.4015: 1.84502 1.75006 1.75091 1.70838 1.34256 1.52106 1.34485 1.04509
                                                                                          1.19525
                              1.75193 1.75351 1.71165 1.34643 1.52562 1.35019 1.05136 1.20221
#> 105:
           2407.3657: 1.84595
#> 106:
           2407.3314: 1.84703
                              1.75397 1.75630 1.71483 1.34997 1.52962 1.35505 1.05734
                                                                                          1.20943
#> 107:
           2407.2968: 1.84792
                              1.75579
                                       1.75884 1.71806 1.35384 1.53417 1.36039 1.06365
                                                                                          1.21642
                              1.75779
                                       1.76158 1.72120 1.35737 1.53817 1.36527 1.06966
#> 108:
           2407.2635: 1.84897
                                                                                          1.22367
                              1.75957 1.76407 1.72439 1.36123 1.54272 1.37061
#> 109:
           2407.2299: 1.84983
                                                                                 1.07601
                                                                                          1.23070
                                                                                          1.23798
#> 110:
           2407.1976: 1.85086 1.76154 1.76677 1.72749 1.36475 1.54670 1.37550 1.08205
                                                                                          1.24505
                     1.85170 1.76329 1.76922 1.73064 1.36859 1.55122 1.38083 1.08843
#> 111:
           2407.1650:
                                                                                          1.25237
#> 112:
           2407.1336: 1.85272
                              1.76524 1.77189 1.73370 1.37208 1.55517 1.38570 1.09449
#> 113:
                      1.85355
                               1.76698
                                       1.77432
                                               1.73681
                                                        1.37590 1.55966 1.39102 1.10088
                                                                                          1.25947
           2407.1017:
#> 114:
           2407.0711:
                      1.85459
                               1.76894
                                       1.77699
                                               1.73985
                                                        1.37936 1.56356
                                                                         1.39586 1.10694
                                                                                          1.26683
#> 115:
           2407.0401:
                      1.85544
                               1.77070
                                       1.77943
                                               1.74294
                                                        1.38316
                                                                1.56800
                                                                         1.40115 1.11334
                                                                                          1.27396
#> 116:
                               1.77270
                                       1.78213
                                               1.74597
                                                        1.38658
                                                                 1.57184 1.40594
                                                                                 1.11936
                                                                                          1.28136
           2407.0101:
                      1.85651
#> 117:
           2406.9798:
                      1.85740
                               1.77452
                                       1.78460 1.74907 1.39035
                                                                 1.57623 1.41119
                                                                                  1.12575
                                                                                          1.28851
#> 118:
           2406.9505:
                      1.85855
                               1.77660
                                      1.78739 1.75212 1.39372 1.57998 1.41590 1.13171
                                                                                          1.29593
#> 119:
           2406.5926:
                      1.87626
                              1.81852 1.84483 1.83551
                                                        1.50456 1.71286 1.56765 1.30924
                                                                                          1.47333
#> 120:
                      1.86111
                               1.80902 1.84847 1.83163 1.49772 1.69550 1.55719
                                                                                 1.29873
                                                                                          1.48966
           2406.5687:
#> 121:
           2406.4527:
                      1.86820 1.79611 1.83532 1.82193 1.48461
                                                                1.67822 1.53650
                                                                                 1.29643
                                                                                          1.49251
#> 122:
           2406.4334: 1.88364 1.83032 1.83555 1.81021 1.47608 1.67715 1.55159 1.28854
                                                                                          1.50931
```

```
#> 123:
           2406.4113: 1.89525 1.83715 1.84756 1.81080 1.47304 1.68099 1.55100 1.29767 1.50550
#> 124:
           2406.3846: 1.89454 1.84096 1.86088 1.82100 1.48031 1.68445 1.55917 1.30247 1.50745
#> 125:
           2406.3670: 1.89541 1.84300 1.86202 1.83788 1.49141 1.68867 1.55906 1.30151
                                                                                         1.51100
           2406.3635: 1.89346 1.84326 1.87075 1.84263 1.50011 1.70094 1.55330 1.30020 1.52176
#> 126:
           2406.3424: 1.89179 1.84892 1.88073 1.84941 1.50245 1.69834 1.56362 1.31017 1.52339
#> 127:
#> 128:
           2406.3406: 1.89273 1.84873 1.88075 1.84995 1.50185 1.69835 1.56309 1.31078 1.52340
#> 129:
           2406.3373: 1.89400 1.84880 1.88069 1.85067 1.50169 1.69803 1.56327 1.31155
                                                                                         1.52381
#> 130:
           2406.3352: 1.89537 1.84890 1.88075 1.85138 1.50142 1.69777 1.56337 1.31247 1.52436
#> 131:
           2406.3331: 1.89664 1.84937 1.88079 1.85178 1.50118 1.69762 1.56356 1.31347 1.52497
#> 132:
           2406.3313: 1.89755 1.85012 1.88096 1.85169 1.50075 1.69779 1.56348 1.31447 1.52558
#> 133:
           2406.3297: 1.89827 1.85028 1.88159 1.85164 1.50051 1.69797 1.56379 1.31544
                                                                                         1.52675
#> 134:
           2406.3283: 1.89886 1.85035 1.88193 1.85210 1.50051 1.69806 1.56417 1.31636 1.52794
#> 135:
           2406.3269: 1.89890 1.85125 1.88153 1.85252 1.50047 1.69846 1.56386 1.31698 1.52823
#> 136:
           2406.3257:
                     1.89951
                              1.85106 1.88239 1.85301 1.50062 1.69861 1.56431
                                                                                1.31777
                                                                                         1.52949
           2406.3249: 1.90010 1.85082 1.88330 1.85350 1.50090 1.69875 1.56493 1.31855
#> 137:
                                                                                         1.53077
#> 138:
           2406.3236:
                     1.90032 1.85148 1.88382 1.85389 1.50127 1.69937 1.56522 1.31940
                                                                                         1.53164
#> 139:
           2406.3225: 1.90045
                              1.85224 1.88401 1.85449
                                                      1.50156 1.69995 1.56531 1.32017 1.53233
#> 140:
           2406.3215:
                     1.90089 1.85220 1.88453 1.85532 1.50208
                                                                1.70017 1.56601
                                                                                1.32096
                                                                                         1.53352
#> 141:
           2406.3207: 1.90133 1.85234 1.88525 1.85587 1.50231 1.70049 1.56649 1.32182 1.53468
#> 142:
           2406.3196: 1.90144 1.85291 1.88597 1.85602 1.50268 1.70129 1.56692 1.32267 1.53563
#> 143:
           2406.3188: 1.90181 1.85342 1.88615 1.85685 1.50290 1.70153 1.56719 1.32347 1.53648
#> 144:
           2406.3178: 1.90216 1.85358 1.88648 1.85776 1.50358 1.70185 1.56794 1.32427 1.53753
           2406.3148: 1.90303 1.85505 1.89117 1.85916 1.50636 1.70593 1.57171 1.32915 1.54393
#> 145:
#> 146:
           2406.3075: 1.90591 1.85974 1.89509 1.86788 1.51421 1.71293 1.58044 1.33958 1.55543
           2406.3060: 1.90422 1.86154 1.89492 1.86777 1.51434 1.71675 1.58198 1.34261
                                                                                         1.55822
#> 147:
#> 148:
           2406.3041: 1.90541 1.86110 1.89548 1.86996 1.51583 1.71825 1.58586 1.34631 1.56277
#> 149:
           2406.3025: 1.90848 1.86366 1.89801 1.87059 1.51816 1.72033 1.58909 1.35030 1.56559
#> 150:
           2406.3007: 1.90619 1.86223 1.90056 1.87464 1.52265 1.72422 1.59433 1.35608 1.57448
                                               1.88064 1.52966 1.73039 1.59939 1.36256
#> 151:
           2406.2993:
                     1.90783 1.86719 1.90588
                                                                                         1.58032
#> 152:
           2406.2984: 1.91072 1.86963 1.90878 1.88500 1.53166 1.73632 1.60776 1.37042 1.58790
#> 153:
           2406.2980: 1.91045 1.86881
                                      1.90668
                                              1.88218 1.53016 1.73500 1.60752 1.37193
                                                                                         1.59037
#> 154:
           2406.2979: 1.91161 1.87018 1.90857
                                               1.88441 1.53364 1.73715 1.60891 1.37253 1.59141
#> 155:
           2406.2978:
                     1.91161
                              1.87029 1.90895
                                               1.88450 1.53360
                                                                1.73765 1.60937 1.37275
                                                                                         1.59156
#> 156:
           2406.2978: 1.91139 1.87041 1.90889 1.88450 1.53359 1.73720 1.60914 1.37333 1.59207
#> 157:
           2406.2978: 1.91129 1.87065 1.90922 1.88470 1.53361 1.73758 1.60951 1.37383
                                                                                         1.59242
#> 158:
           2406.2978: 1.91125 1.87030 1.90888 1.88416 1.53319 1.73730 1.60944 1.37375 1.59254
#> 159:
           2406.2978: 1.91129 1.87034 1.90884
                                               1.88428 1.53326 1.73725 1.60933 1.37358
                                                                                         1.59242
#> 160:
           2406.2978: 1.91128 1.87036 1.90889 1.88431 1.53331 1.73731 1.60938 1.37365 1.59242
myVAST
#> fit_model(.) result
#> $par
#>
        beta1_ft
                      beta1_ft
                                    beta1_ft
                                                  beta1_ft
                                                                beta1_ft
                                                                              beta1_ft
#>
       1.9112804
                     1.8703625
                                   1.9088857
                                                 1.8843138
                                                               1.5333074
                                                                             1.7373072
#>
        beta1_ft
                  L_epsilon1_z
                                   logkappa1 Epsilon_rho1_f
                                                               logSigmaM
#>
       1.9129480
                    -0.4256334
                                  -4.5141119
                                                 0.9396206
                                                              -1.1819730
#>
#> $objective
#> [1] 2406.298
#>
#> $iterations
#> [1] 5
#>
#> $evaluations
```

beta

1.609

```
#> function gradient
#>
   9
#> $time_for_MLE
#> Time difference of 0.4639349 secs
#> $max_gradient
#> [1] 0.0009569113
#>
#> $Convergence_check
#> [1] "The model is likely not converged"
#>
#> $number_of_coefficients
#> Total Fixed Random
#> 1374
           14 1360
#>
#> $AIC
#> [1] 4840.596
#>
#> $diagnostics
#>
             Param starting value
                                    Lower MLE
                                                          Upper final_gradient
#> 1
           beta1_ft 1.9112762
                                     -Inf 1.9112804
                                                          Inf -1.601276e-04
#> 2
                       1.8703611
                                      -Inf 1.8703625
                                                            Inf -1.014944e-04
          beta1_ft
                                                           Inf 2.265398e-05
#> 3
          beta1\_ft
                       1.9088872
                                      -Inf 1.9088857
                                       -Inf 1.8843138
                                                                2.843907e-05
#> 4
           beta1_ft
                        1.8843134
                                                            Inf
                                      -Inf 1.5333074
                                                            Inf 9.096140e-05
#> 5
          beta1\_ft
                       1.5333092
#> 6
          beta1\_ft
                       1.7373075
                                       -Inf 1.7373072
                                                            Inf 8.865084e-05
#> 7
                       1.6093756
                                       -Inf 1.6093746
                                                           Inf 1.162509e-04
          beta1\_ft
#> 8
           beta1\_ft
                        1.3736500
                                       -Inf 1.3736440
                                                            Inf
                                                                1.717719e-04
#> 9
           beta1\_ft
                       1.5924244
                                       -Inf 1.5924303
                                                            Inf -1.646457e-04
#> 10
                       1.9129472
                                       -Inf 1.9129480
                                                            Inf -1.281410e-04
          beta1\_ft
                                       -Inf -0.4256334
#> 11
      L\_epsilon1\_z
                       -0.4256342
                                                            Inf
                                                                 5.249374e-04
                       -4.5141158 -6.214608 -4.5141119 -3.565449 -1.934060e-04
#> 12
         logkappa1
#> 13 Epsilon_rho1_f
                       0.9396210 -0.990000 0.9396206 0.990000 -9.569113e-04
#> 14
                       -1.1819727
                                      -Inf -1.1819730 10.000000 -4.258738e-05
         logSigmaM
#>
#> $SD
#> sdreport(.) result
                  Estimate Std. Error
#> beta1_ft
                 1.9112804 0.12533621
#> beta1_ft
                 1.8703625 0.16951598
#> beta1_ft
                1.9088857 0.20052381
#> beta1_ft
                1.8843138 0.22442668
#> beta1_ft
                 1.5333074 0.24390978
#> beta1_ft
                1.7373072 0.25938468
#> beta1_ft
                1.6093746 0.27247405
#> beta1_ft
                 1.3736440 0.28383066
#> beta1_ft
                 1.5924303 0.29303093
#> beta1_ft
                1.9129480 0.30089411
#> L_epsilon1_z -0.4256334 0.02168763
#> logkappa1
               -4.5141119 0.10217800
#> Epsilon_rho1_f 0.9396206 0.02503805
                -1.1819730 0.03921188
#> logSigmaM
```

```
#> Maximum gradient component: 0.0009569113
#>
#> $time_for_sdreport
#> Time difference of 1.938026 secs
#>
#> $time_for_run
#> Time difference of 19.85776 secs
```

Or with sdmTMB

```
library(INLA)
library(sdmTMB)

#> Warning: package 'sdmTMB' was built under R version 4.3.1
mesh = make_mesh(Data, c("x","y"), n_knots=n_x*n_y)

start_time = Sys.time()
mysdmTMB = sdmTMB(
    formula = n ~ factor(time),
    data = Data,
    mesh = mesh,
    spatial = "off",
    spatiotemporal = "ar1",
    time = "time"
)
Sys.time() - start_time
#> Time difference of 4.568448 secs
```

## Bivariate spatio-temporal autoregressive model

We next highlight how to specify a bivariate spatio-temporal model with a cross-laggged (vector autoregressive) interaction.

```
# Simulate settings
theta_xy = 0.2
n_x = n_y = 10
n_t = 20
B = rbind(c(0.5, -0.25),
           c(-0.1, 0.50))
# Simulate GMRFs
R = \exp(-\text{theta}_xy * \text{abs}(\text{outer}(1:n_x, 1:n_y, FUN="-")))
d1 = mvtnorm::rmvnorm(n_t, sigma=0.2*kronecker(R,R) )
d2 = mvtnorm::rmvnorm(n_t, sigma=0.2*kronecker(R,R) )
d = abind::abind( d1, d2, along=3 )
# Project through time and add mean
for( t in seq len(n t) ){
  if(t>1) d[t,,] = t(B%*%t(d[t-1,,])) + d[t,,]
d[,,1] = d[,,1] + 2
d[,,2] = d[,,2] + 3
```

```
# Shape into longform data-frame and add error
Data = data.frame( expand.grid(time=1:n_t, x=1:n_x, y=1:n_y, "var"=c("d1","d2")), z=as.vector(d))
Data$n = Data$z + rnorm(nrow(Data), sd=0.2)
# make mesh
mesh = fm_mesh_2d( Data[,c('x','y')] )
# Define sem
sem = "
 d1 -> d1, -1, b11
 d2 \rightarrow d2, -1, b22
 d2 \rightarrow d1, -1, b21
 d1 -> d2, -1, b12
 d1 <-> d1, 0, var1
 d2 <-> d2, 0, var1
# fit model
out = fit( sem = sem,
          data = Data,
          formula = n \sim 0 + var,
          spatial_graph = mesh,
          quiet = TRUE )
#> Warning in Ops.factor(variables, 0): '>' not meaningful for factors
out
#> $call
\# fit(data = Data, formula = n \sim 0 + var, sem = sem, spatial_graph = mesh,
     quiet = TRUE)
#> $opt
#> $opt$par
                                                             beta\_z
                  alpha
                           alpha
                                      beta\_z \qquad beta\_z
                                                                        beta\_z
                                                                                     beta_z lo
#>
#> $opt$objective
#> [1] 1232.655
#> $opt$convergence
#> [1] 0
#>
#> $opt$iterations
#> [1] 54
#>
#> $opt$evaluations
#> function gradient
#>
       76
#>
#> $opt$message
#> [1] "relative convergence (4)"
#>
#>
#> $sdrep
#> sdreport(.) result
```

The values for  $beta_z$  again correspond to the specified value for interaction-matrix B