



# Fast Prediction of Coastal Flood Hazard Assessment: A Multi-Output Gaussian Process Metamodelling Approach

DRP seminar

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Andrés F. López-Lopera

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Project: Risk-based system for coastal flooding early warning (RISCOPE)

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## MULTI-OUTPUT GAUSSIAN PROCESSES WITH FUNCTIONAL DATA: A STUDY ON COASTAL FLOOD HAZARD ASSESSMENT

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**ABSTRACT.** Most of the existing coastal flood Forecast and Early-Warning Systems do not model the flood, but instead, rely on the prediction of hydrodynamic conditions at the coast and on expert judgment. Recent scientific contributions are now capable to precisely model flood events, even in situations where wave overtopping plays a significant role. Such models are nevertheless costly-to-evaluate and surrogate ones need to be exploited for substantial computational savings. For the latter models, the hydro-meteorological forcing conditions (inputs) or flood events (outputs) are conveniently parametrised into scalar representations. However, they neglect the fact that inputs are actually functions (more precisely, time series), and that floods spatially propagate inland. Here, we introduce a multi-output Gaussian process model accounting for both criteria. On various examples, we test its versatility for both learning spatial maps and inferring unobserved ones. We demonstrate that efficient implementations are obtained by considering tensor-structured data and/or sparse-variational approximations. Finally, the proposed framework is applied on a coastal application aiming at predicting flood events. We conclude that accurate predictions are obtained in the order of minutes rather than the couples of days required by dedicated hydrodynamic simulators.

**Source:** <https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.14052>

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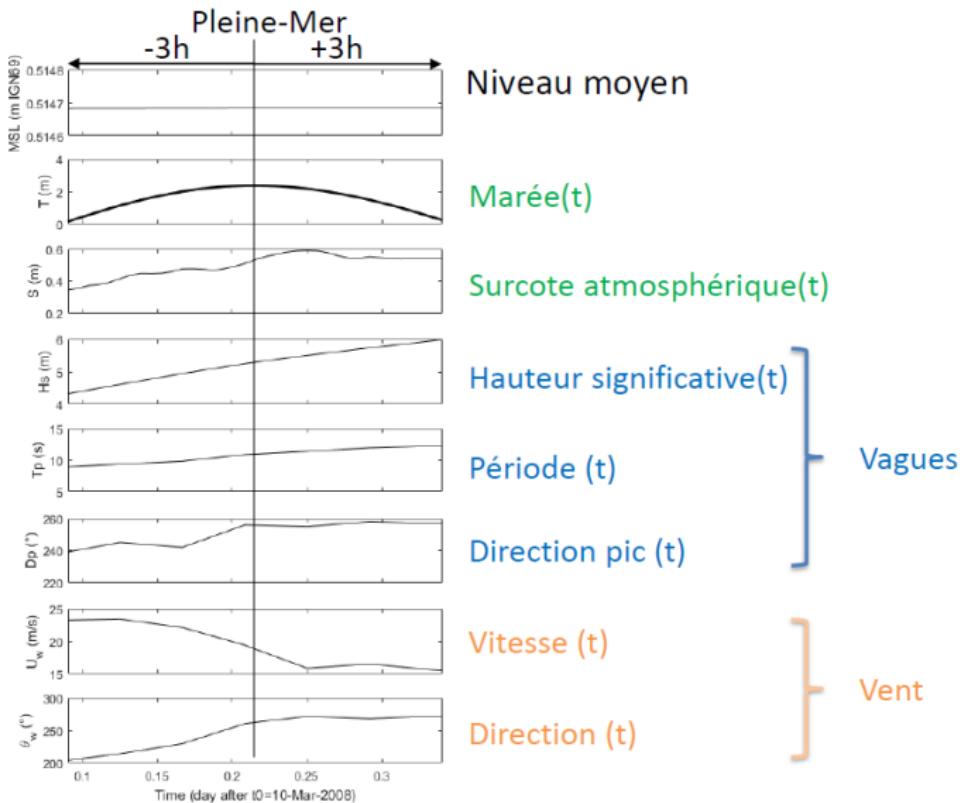
## Motivation

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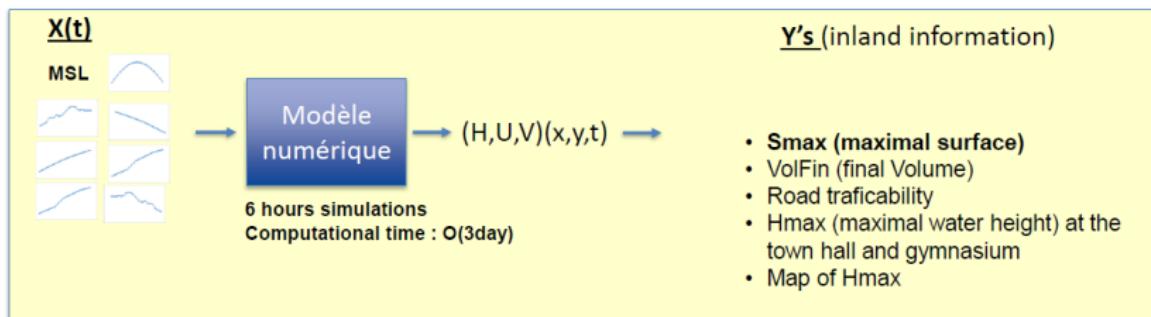
# Study site and dataset



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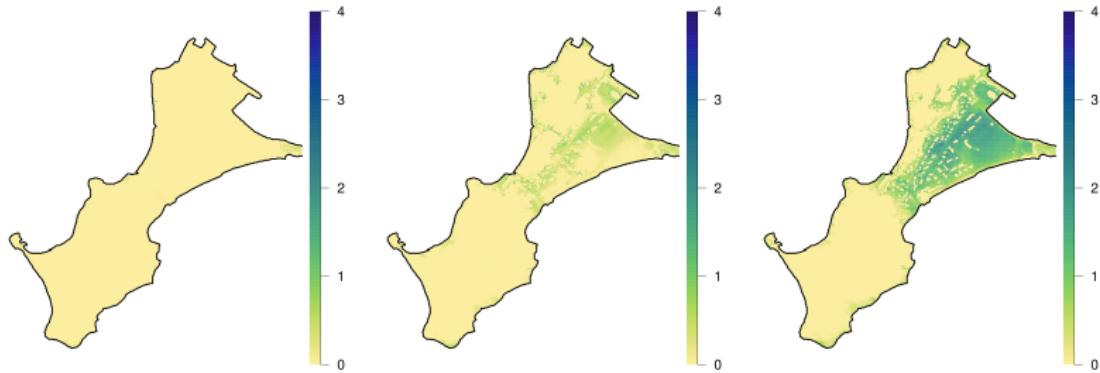


# Study site and dataset



# Challenges

Spatial flood events: maximal inland water level ( $H_{\max}$  [m])

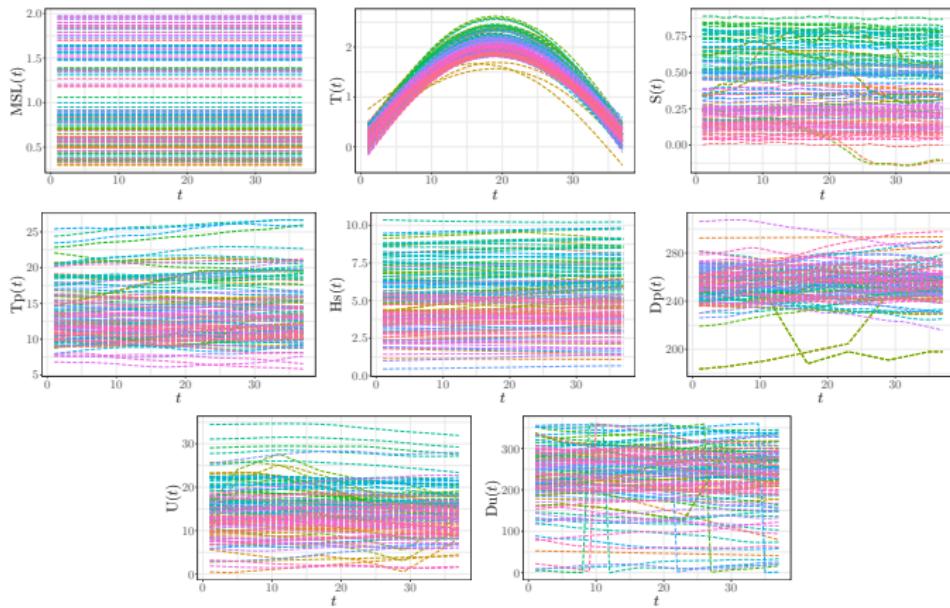


## Challenge 1:

- Each flood event takes  $\sim 3$  days of simulation.

# Challenges

Drivers: hydro-meteorological conditions (tide, surge, wind speed, etc.)

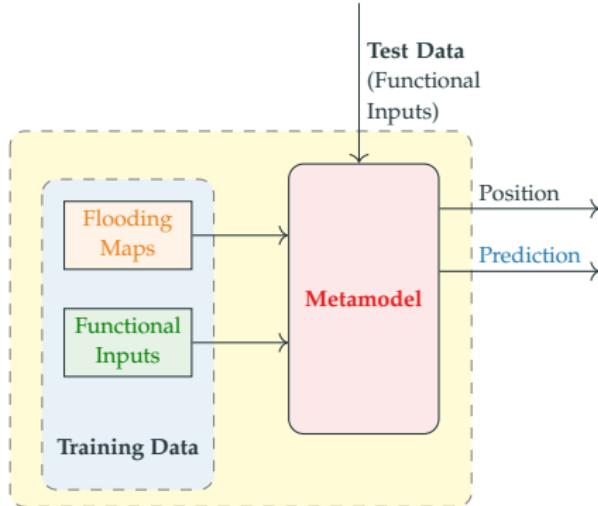


## Challenge 2:

- To consider inputs as functions (time-series) rather than scalars.

# Research subject

**Goal:** to build a **metamodel** accounting for both **spatial** and **functional** data



- This will lead to **faster (approximate) predictions**.

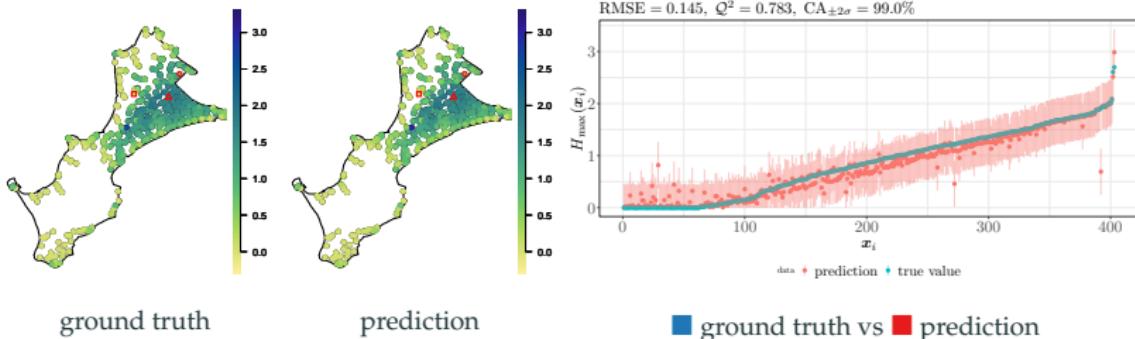
**Application:** forecasting and early warning systems.

# Research subject

- To do so...
  - We further investigate a **metamodel** based on **Gaussian process**.
  - This results in a **multi-output process**:
    - **correlated spatial flood events** are driven by (functional) hydro-meteorological inputs.
  - Efficient implementations are based on **Python** and **R codes**.

# Research subject

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  - We further investigate a **metamodel** based on **Gaussian process**.
  - This results in a **multi-output process**:
    - **correlated spatial flood events** are driven by (functional) hydro-meteorological inputs.
    - Efficient implementations are based on **Python and R codes**.
- Our developments provide fast (tens of seconds) and accurate predictions:

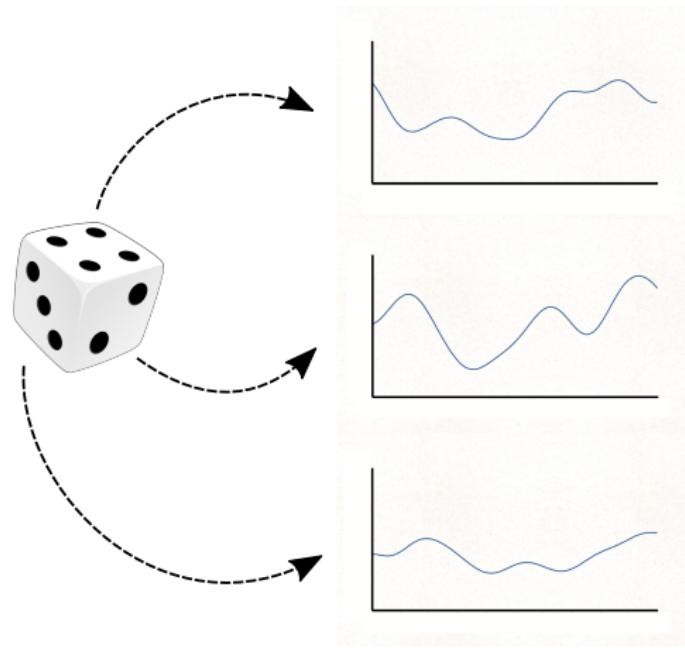


## Spatial Gaussian processes

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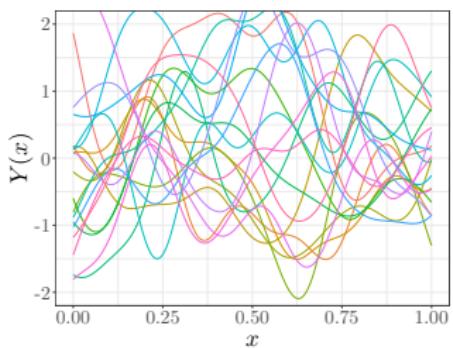
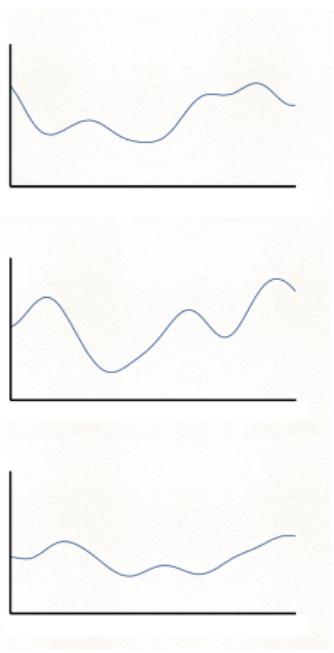
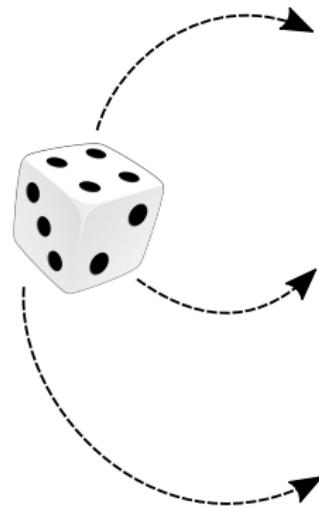
# Random processes

- A **random process** can be defined as a collection of *random variables* (*r.v.'s*).



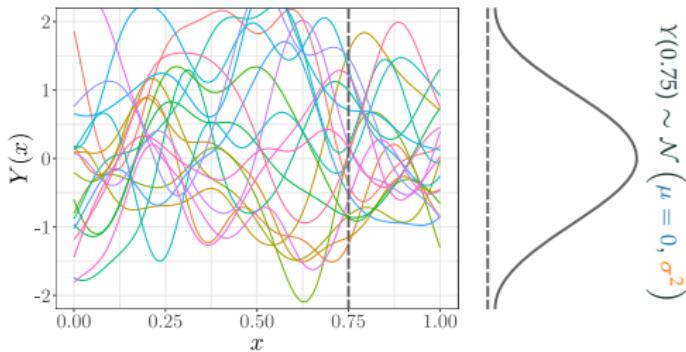
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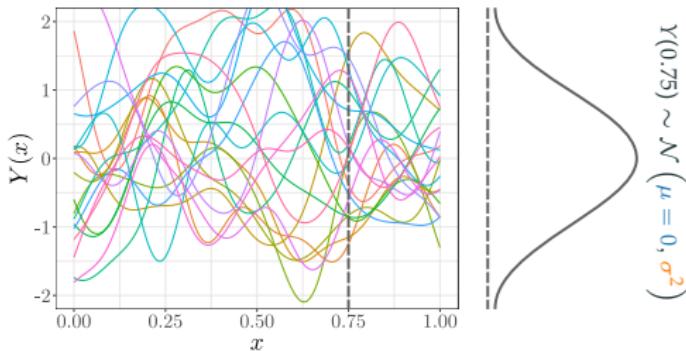
## Gaussian processes (GPs)

- A GP  $\{Y(x); x \in \mathbb{R}\}$  is then defined as a collection of *Gaussian r.v.'s*:



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- For a given finite number of design points  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ :

$$\mathbf{Y}_n = [Y(x_1), \dots, Y(x_n)]^\top \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}(= \mathbf{0}), \mathbf{K}), \quad (1)$$

with mean vector  $\boldsymbol{\mu}$  and covariance matrix  $\mathbf{K} = (\mathbf{k}(x_i, x_j))_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$ .

- More generally, for the infinite-dimensional case, we have:

$$Y \sim \mathcal{GP}(\boldsymbol{\mu}(= \mathbf{0}), \mathbf{k}), \quad (2)$$

# Gaussian processes (GPs)

- Regularity assumptions are encoded in the **kernel  $k$** :

Squared Exponential (SE):

$$k_{\sigma^2, \ell}(r) = \sigma^2 \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} r_\ell^2 \right\},$$

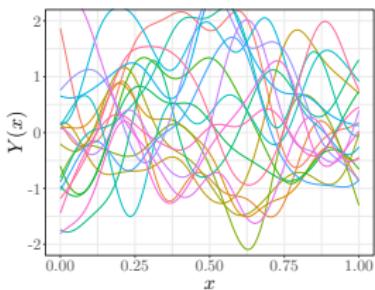
Matérn 5/2:

$$k_{\sigma^2, \ell}(r) = \sigma^2 \left( 1 + \sqrt{5}|r|_\ell + \frac{5}{3} r_\ell^2 \right) \exp \left\{ -\sqrt{5}|r|_\ell \right\},$$

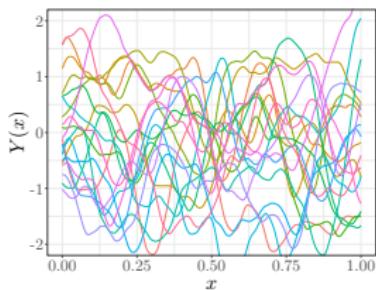
Exponential:

$$k_{\sigma^2, \ell}(r) = \sigma^2 \exp \left\{ -|r|_\ell \right\},$$

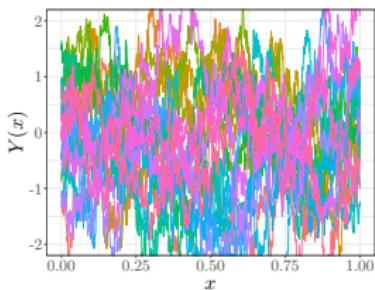
with  $r_\ell = (x - x')/\ell$ , variance  $\sigma^2$  and length-scale  $\ell$ .



(a) SE



(b) Matérn 5/2



(c) Exponential

█ █ ... █ samples

Effect of different kernels

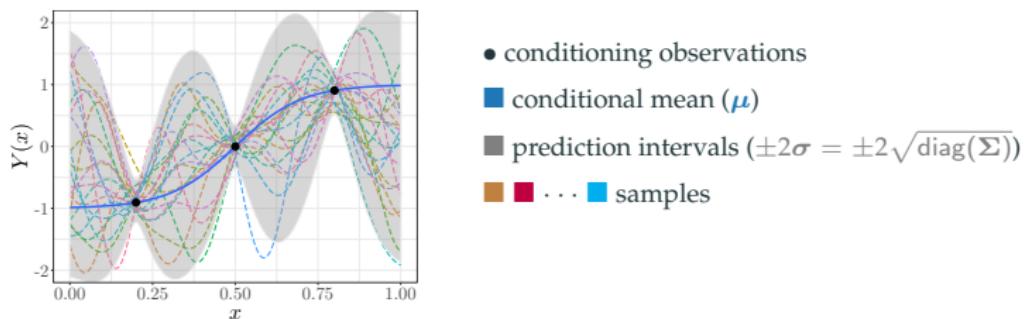
# Gaussian process regression

- The distribution of  $\mathbf{Y}_*$ , knowing  $\mathbf{Y}_n = \mathbf{y}$  for a given observation vector  $\mathbf{y} = [y_1, \dots, y_n]^\top$ , is given by

$$\mathbf{Y}_* | \{\mathbf{Y}_n = \mathbf{y}\} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{m}, \Sigma). \quad (3)$$

with conditional parameters [Rasmussen and Williams, 2005]:

$$\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{Y}_*, \mathbf{Y}_n} \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{Y}_n, \mathbf{Y}_n}^{-1} \mathbf{y}, \quad \Sigma = \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{Y}_*, \mathbf{Y}_*} - \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{Y}_*, \mathbf{Y}_n} \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{Y}_n, \mathbf{Y}_n}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{Y}_*, \mathbf{Y}_n}^\top. \quad (4)$$

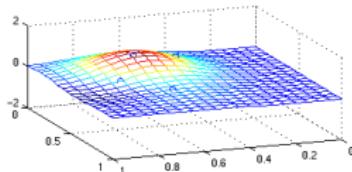
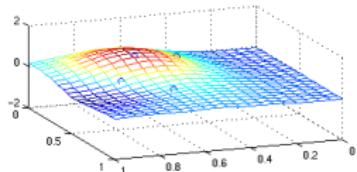
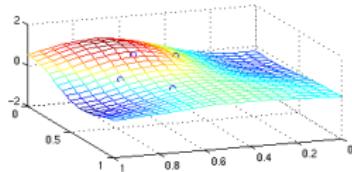
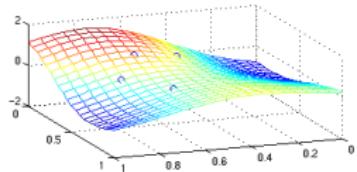
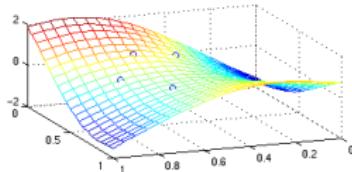
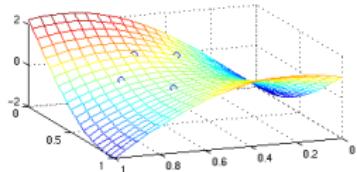


Note:  $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{Y}_n, \mathbf{Y}_n}^{-1}$  is challenging when  $n$  is large.

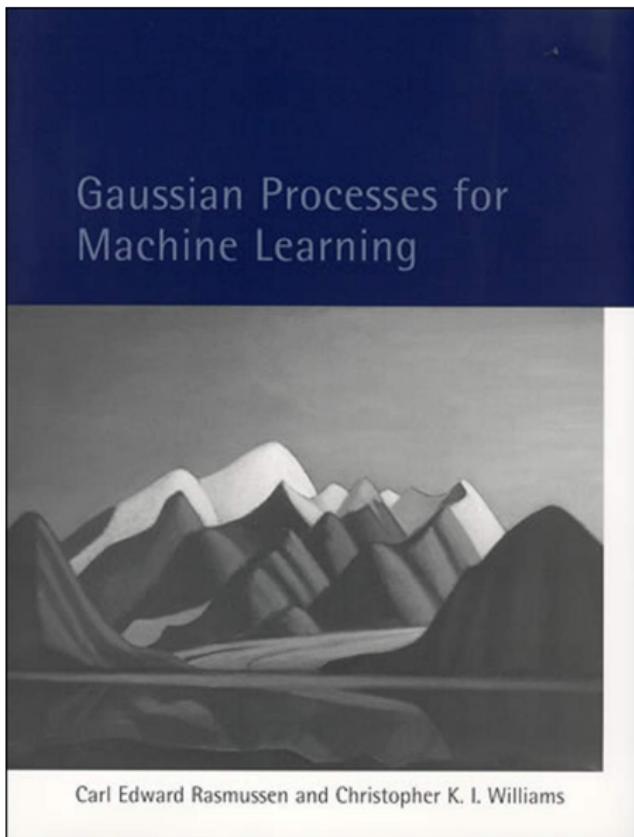
[Demo]

# Spatial Gaussian processes

- For  $\{Y(x); x \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$  a spatial GP:



- In our case, the spatial process corresponds to a coastal flood one.



## Spatial Gaussian processes with functional inputs

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# Spatial Gaussian processes with functional inputs

- Let  $\{Y(\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{F}); \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2, \mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{T}, \mathbb{R})^Q\}$  be a GP with spatial inputs  $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)$  and functional inputs  $\mathcal{F} = (f_1, \dots, f_Q)$ .

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- Then,  $Y \sim \mathcal{GP}(0, k)$  with kernel  $k$ :

$$k((\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{F}), (\mathbf{x}', \mathcal{F}')) = \text{cov} \{ Y(\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{F}), Y(\mathbf{x}', \mathcal{F}') \} \quad (5)$$

- $k$  must be defined according to the structure of data (i.e. regularity).

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- $k$  must be defined according to the structure of data (i.e. regularity).
- Here, we consider that  $k$  is a *separable kernel*:

$$k((\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{F}), (\mathbf{x}', \mathcal{F}')) = k_s(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') k_f(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}'), \quad (6)$$

with sub-kernels  $k_s : \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $k_f : \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{T}, \mathbb{R})^Q \times \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{T}, \mathbb{R})^Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

# Gaussian processes with functional inputs

- For  $k_f$ , we need a *measure of “dissimilarity”* [Betancourt et al., 2020], e.g.:

$$d(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}') = \|\mathcal{F} - \mathcal{F}'\|_{\ell} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^Q \|\mathbf{f}_i - \mathbf{f}'_i\|_{\ell_i}^2}, \quad (7)$$

with the  $L^2$ -norm given by

$$\|\mathbf{f}_i - \mathbf{f}'_i\|_{\ell_i}^2 = \frac{\int_T (\mathbf{f}_i(t) - \mathbf{f}'_i(t))^2 dt}{\ell_i^2}. \quad (8)$$

- **Note:**  $\mathbf{f}_i, \mathbf{f}'_i$  are projected onto *basis functions* (e.g. PCA) for computing (8).

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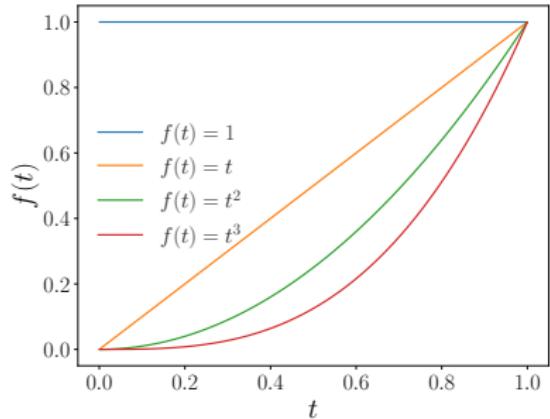
- **Note:**  $f_i, f'_i$  are projected onto *basis functions* (e.g. PCA) for computing (8).
- Then, an example of a valid kernel is then given by

$$(\text{Squared Exponential}) \quad k_{f, \sigma^2, \ell}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}') = \sigma^2 \exp \left\{ -\frac{\|\mathcal{F} - \mathcal{F}'\|_{\ell}^2}{2} \right\}. \quad (9)$$

# Gaussian processes with functional inputs

		$k(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}')$		
		$\mathcal{F}_1$	$\mathcal{F}_2$	$\mathcal{F}_3$
$\mathcal{F}_1$	1.0	0.85	0.77	0.73
$\mathcal{F}_2$	0.85	1.0	0.98	0.96
$\mathcal{F}_3$	0.77	0.98	1.0	1.0
$\mathcal{F}_4$	0.73	0.96	1.0	1.0
	$\mathcal{F}_1$	$\mathcal{F}_2$	$\mathcal{F}_3$	$\mathcal{F}_4$

(a) Squared Exponential



(e) target functions

Effect of the kernels considering  
 $\mathcal{F}_1 = (f(t) = 1)$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_2 = (f(t) = t)$ ,  
 $\mathcal{F}_3 = (f(t) = t^2)$  and  $\mathcal{F}_4 = (f(t) = t^3)$ .

# Gaussian processes with functional inputs

$k(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}')$				
$\mathcal{F}_1$	1.0	0.85	0.77	0.73
$\mathcal{F}_2$	0.85	1.0	0.98	0.96
$\mathcal{F}_3$	0.77	0.98	1.0	1.0
$\mathcal{F}_4$	0.73	0.96	1.0	1.0
$\mathcal{F}_1$	$\mathcal{F}_2$	$\mathcal{F}_3$	$\mathcal{F}_4$	

(a) Squared Exponential

$k(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}')$				
$\mathcal{F}_1$	1.0	0.78	0.69	0.64
$\mathcal{F}_2$	0.78	1.0	0.97	0.94
$\mathcal{F}_3$	0.69	0.97	1.0	0.99
$\mathcal{F}_4$	0.64	0.94	0.99	1.0
$\mathcal{F}_1$	$\mathcal{F}_2$	$\mathcal{F}_3$	$\mathcal{F}_4$	

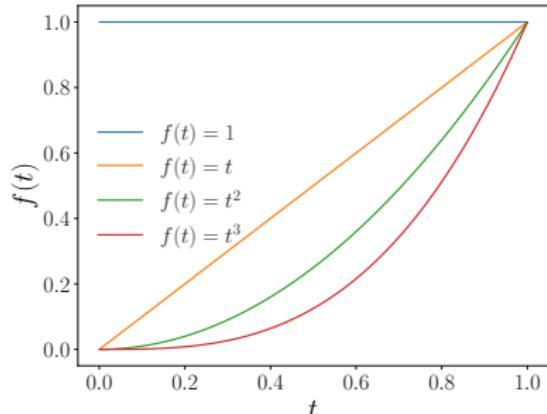
(b) Matérn 5/2

$k(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}')$				
$\mathcal{F}_1$	1.0	0.74	0.64	0.6
$\mathcal{F}_2$	0.74	1.0	0.96	0.92
$\mathcal{F}_3$	0.64	0.96	1.0	0.99
$\mathcal{F}_4$	0.6	0.92	0.99	1.0
$\mathcal{F}_1$	$\mathcal{F}_2$	$\mathcal{F}_3$	$\mathcal{F}_4$	

(c) Matérn 3/2

$k(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}')$				
$\mathcal{F}_1$	1.0	0.47	0.43	0.41
$\mathcal{F}_2$	0.47	1.0	0.65	0.59
$\mathcal{F}_3$	0.43	0.65	1.0	0.73
$\mathcal{F}_4$	0.41	0.59	0.73	1.0
$\mathcal{F}_1$	$\mathcal{F}_2$	$\mathcal{F}_3$	$\mathcal{F}_4$	

(d) Exponential



(e) target functions

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## Link with multi-output Gaussian processes

- Note that  $Y$  can be written as a multi-output process  $Z$ :

$$Z_i(\mathbf{x}) := Y(\mathcal{F}_i, \mathbf{x}), \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, R. \quad (10)$$

- In that case,  $\mathbf{k}$  can be rewritten as:

$$\mathbf{k}_{i,j}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = b_{i,j} \mathbf{k}_s(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'), \quad (11)$$

with  $b_{i,j} := \mathbf{k}_f(\mathcal{F}_i, \mathcal{F}_j)$ , for  $i, j = 1, \dots, R$ .

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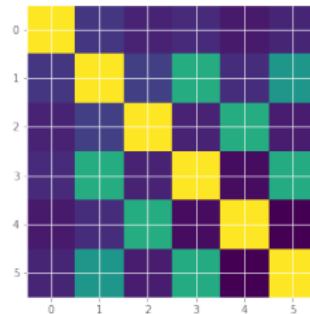
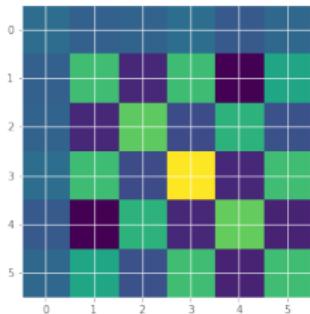
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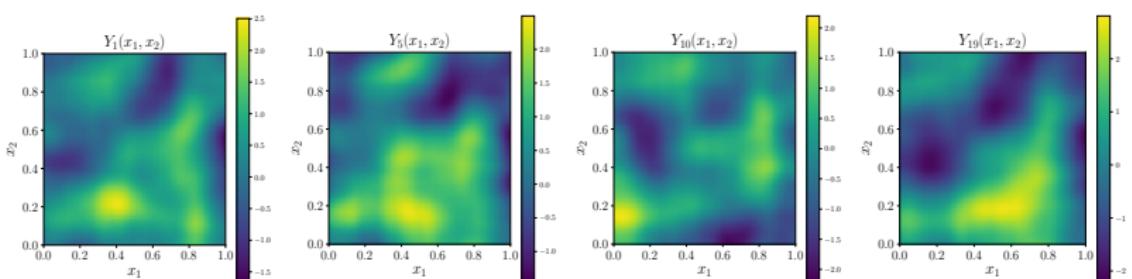
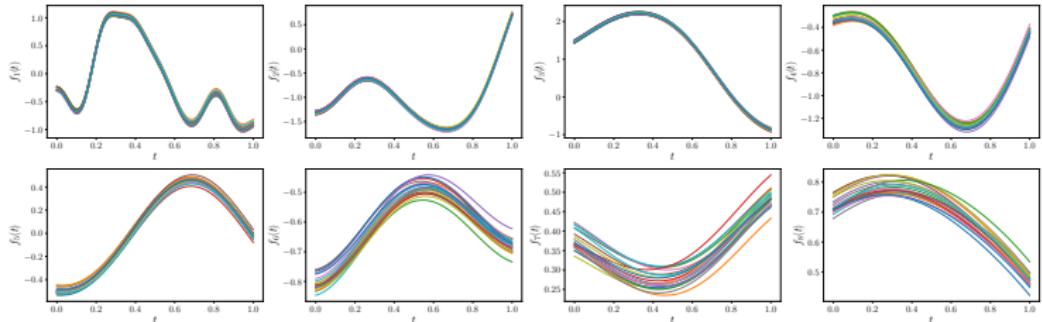
- $\mathbf{k}$  follows the structure of the *linear models of coregionalisation* (LMC):



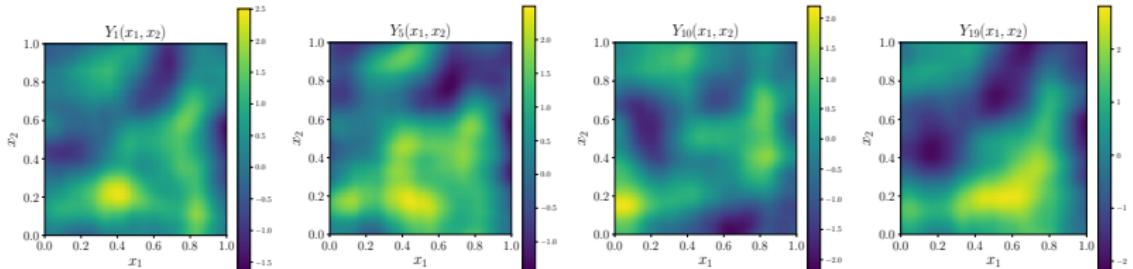
Coregionalisation matrix

# Numerical illustration: multi-output task

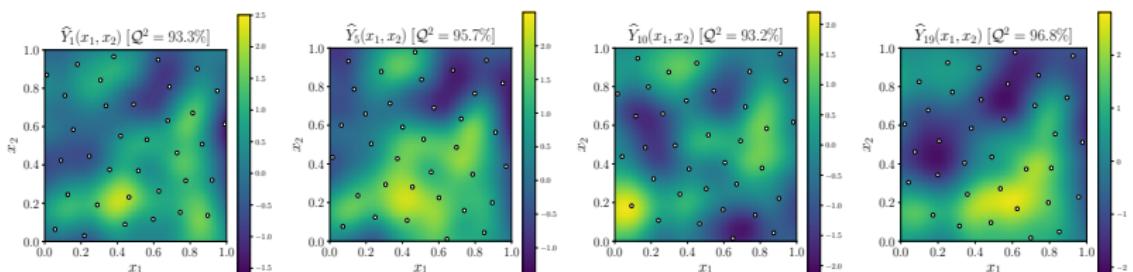
- Synthetic example with **8 functional inputs** and **20 spatial outputs**.



# Numerical illustration: multi-output task



synthetic  $100 \times 100$  maps



predictions (35 spatial design points per map)

$$Q^2 = 1 - \text{SMSE}(\mathbf{Y}, \hat{\mathbf{Y}})$$

# Spatial Gaussian processes with functional inputs

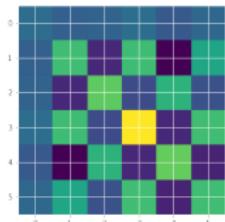
## Advantages

Our approach accounts for both **spatial outputs** and **functional inputs**

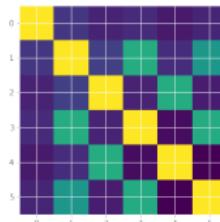
*Regularity assumptions* are encoded into **kernels**:

$$k((x, \mathcal{F}), (x', \mathcal{F}')) = k_s(x, x')k_f(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}').$$

The *coregionalisation matrix* enjoys of **positive semi-definitiveness**



**B**



$k_f(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}')$

## Disadvantage

The **computational complexity**:  $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$  with  $N = R \times S$

- $R$ : number of functional inputs
- $S$ : number of spatial design points per map

## Extension to large datasets

---

- To scale the proposed GP framework to large datasets, we can:
  - via *Kronecker-products* [see, e.g., Alvarez et al., 2012],
  - via *dimension reduction* of the output space [see, e.g., Perrin et al., 2020],
  - via *sparse-variational inference* [see, e.g., Van der Wilk et al., 2020].

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  - via *sparse-variational inference* [see, e.g., Van der Wilk et al., 2020].

- By considering tensor-structured data, we have:

$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K}_s \otimes \mathbf{K}_f. \quad (12)$$

- Using (12) leads to simplifications that can be exploited, e.g.:

$$\mathbf{K}^{-1} = \mathbf{K}_s^{-1} \otimes \mathbf{K}_f^{-1}, \quad (13)$$

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{L}_s \otimes \mathbf{L}_f,$$

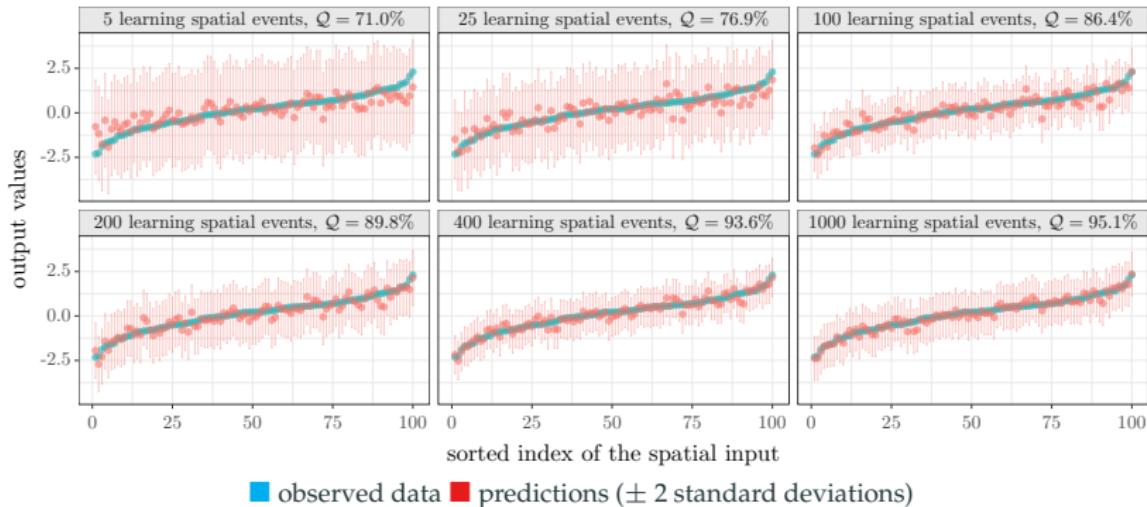
where  $\mathbf{L}$ ,  $\mathbf{L}_s$ ,  $\mathbf{L}_f$  are (lower triangular) Cholesky matrices of  $\mathbf{K}$ ,  $\mathbf{K}_s$ ,  $\mathbf{K}_f$ .

- Further efficient computations can also be proposed for **forwardly (or backwardly) solving systems of linear equations**:

$$\mathbf{z} = (\mathbf{L}_s \otimes \mathbf{L}_f) \mathbf{y}. \quad (14)$$

# Numerical illustration: forecasting task

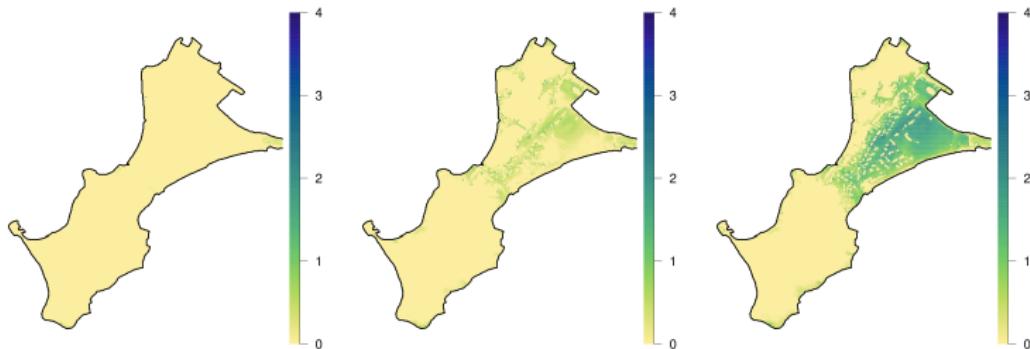
- Synthetic: 8 functional inputs and 1001 spatial outputs
- Goal: predict the map 1001 using data from the other ones



## **Coastal flooding application**

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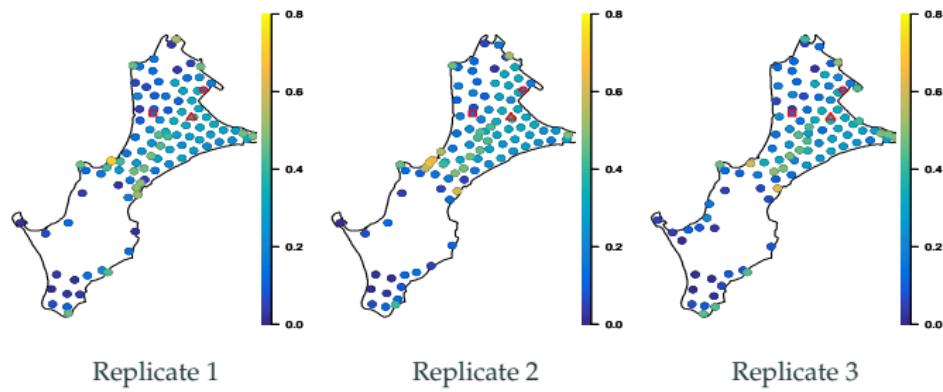
## Spatial flood events: maximal inland water level ( $H_{\max}$ [m])



- **174 flood/no flood events** containing 65k inland observations.
  - *21 historical* meteo-oceanic conditions (9 flood) [Idier et al., 2020]
  - *16 reinforced* historical conditions of the 9 historical flood events
  - *94 extreme* meteo-oceanic conditions (flood, non flood)
  - *43 modifications* of some of the 94 extreme conditions (flood/no flood)

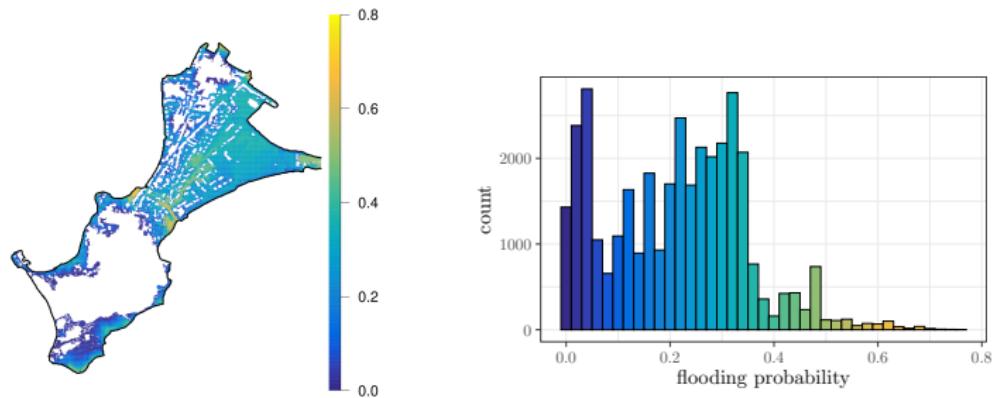
# Design of Experiments (DoE)

- Due to computational limitations, we focus on a tractable amount of points.



Examples of DoE considering 103 spatial locations

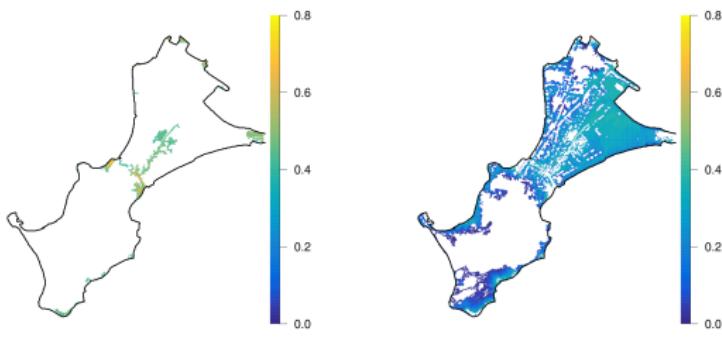
# Design of Experiments (DoE)



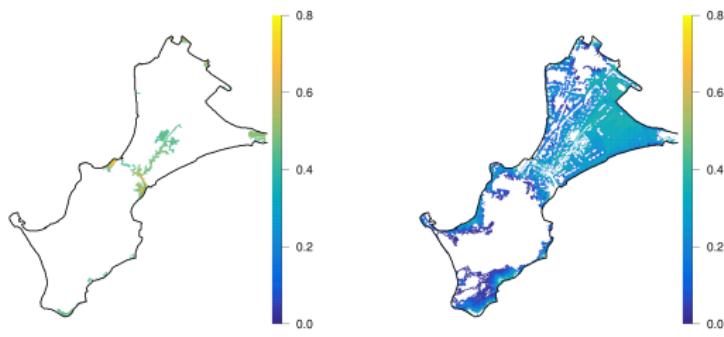
Non-Zero Empirical Flooding Probability (EFP)

- Since the dataset seems “unbalanced”, we split it into two classes:
  - **Class 1:** spatial locations with  $EFP \in [0.4, 0.8]$  ( $\sim 2.5k$  points).
  - **Class 2:** spatial locations with  $EFP \in (0, 0.4)$  ( $\sim 31.5k$  points).

# Design of Experiments (DoE)

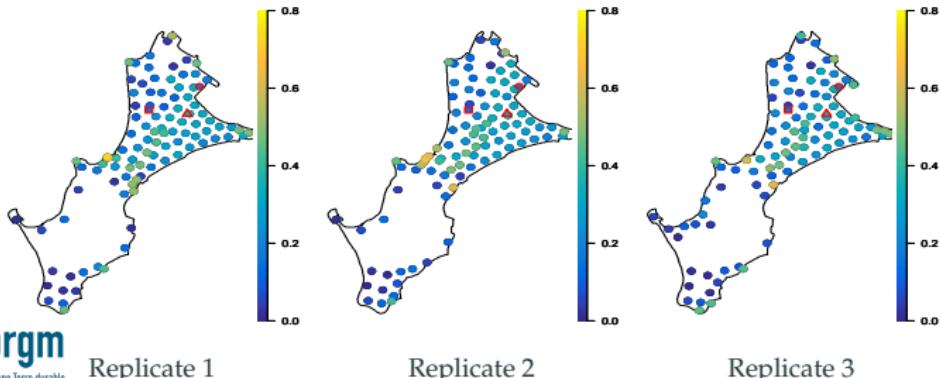


# Design of Experiments (DoE)



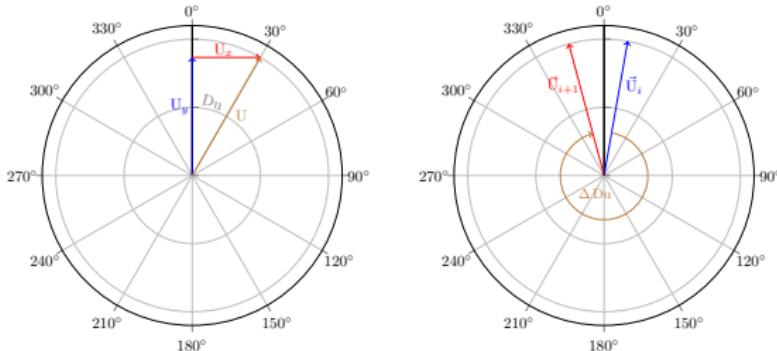
Class 1: EFP  $\in [0.4, 0.8]$       Class 2: EFP  $\in (0, 0.4)$   
Non-Zero Empirical Flooding Probability (EFP)

- We then propose DoEs based on k-means clustering: inputs =  $(x_1, x_2, \text{EFP})$



# Data preprocessing

- Some hydro-meteorological inputs are defined in the *nautical convention*:



- We replace  $(H_s, D_p)$  and  $(U, D_u)$  by the Cartesian tuples:

$$H_{sx} = H_s \cdot \sin(D_p), \quad H_{sy} = H_s \cdot \cos(D_p), \quad U_x = U \cdot \sin(D_u), \quad U_y = U \cdot \cos(D_u).$$

- This results in a set of **8 functional inputs**:

$$\text{Inputs} = (\text{MSL}, \text{Tide}, \text{Surge}, T_p, H_{sx}, H_{sy}, U_x, U_y)$$

**LOO test:** each scenario is predicted using data of the other ones.

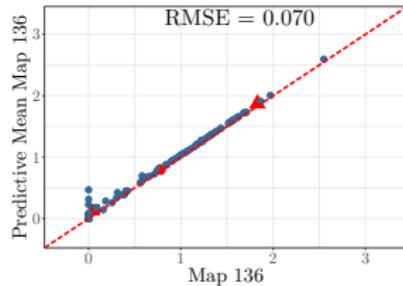
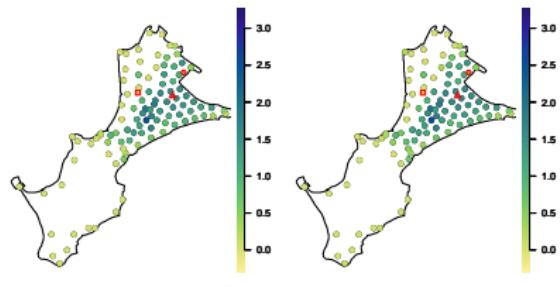
- Therefore, **174 GP metamodels** are trained and tested.
- We fix **103 spatial design points per map**.
  - including the **town-hall** (■), **gym** (●) and **sports field** (▲) at Gâvres.
- We use **Matérn 5/2 kernels** as covariance matrices.
- We use a **PCA representation** of the functional inputs.
  - A 99.9% of the inertia led to:

$$\mathbf{p} = [1, 4, 3, 3, 3, 6, 5, 5] \quad (\text{MSL}, \text{Tide}, \text{Surge}, \text{Tp}, \text{Hs}_x, \text{Hs}_y, \text{U}_x, \text{U}_y)$$

# Leave-one-out (LOO) test

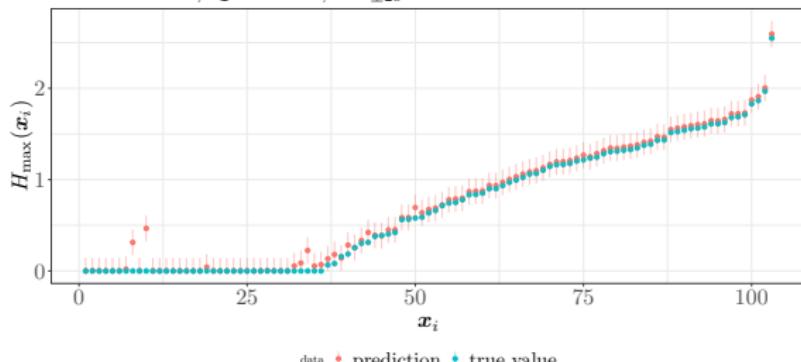
## Flooding scenario 136: significant flood event

■ Town-Hall ● Gym ▲ Sports Field



ground truth vs prediction

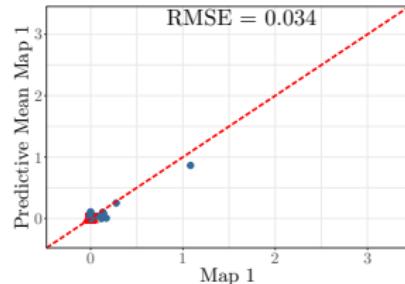
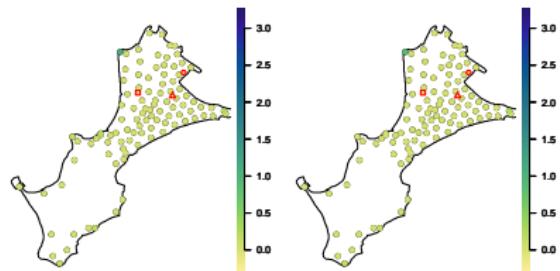
RMSE = 0.070,  $Q^2 = 0.965$ ,  $CA_{\pm 2\sigma} = 97.1\%$



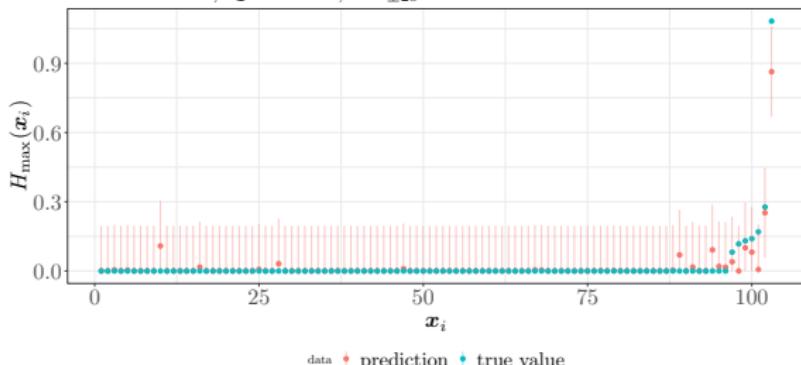
# Leave-one-out (LOO) test

## Flooding scenario 1: minor flood event

■ Town-Hall ● Gym ▲ Sports Field



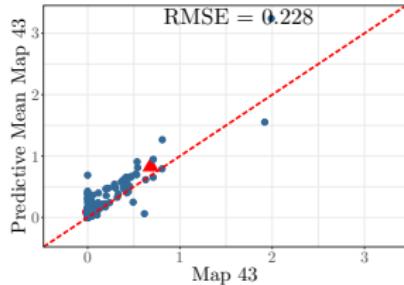
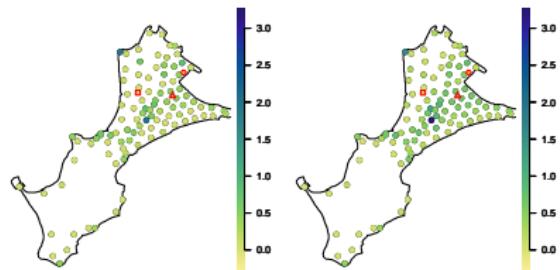
RMSE = 0.034,  $Q^2 = 0.991$ ,  $CA_{\pm 2\sigma} = 99.0\%$



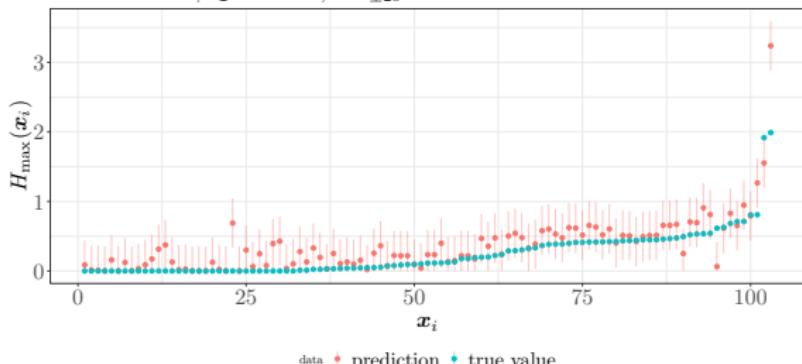
# Leave-one-out (LOO) test

## Flooding scenario 43: moderate flood event

■ Town-Hall ● Gym ▲ Sports Field



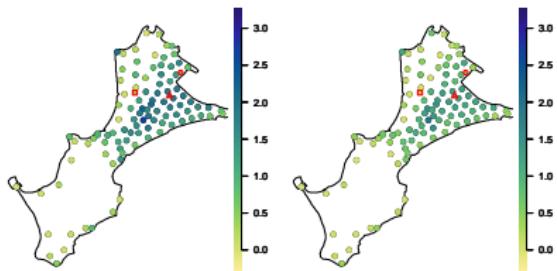
RMSE = 0.228,  $Q^2 = 0.624$ ,  $CA_{\pm 2\sigma} = 91.3\%$



# Leave-one-out (LOO) test

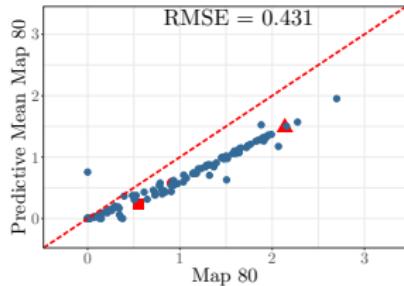
## Flooding scenario 80: misprediction

■ Town-Hall ● Gym ▲ Sports Field



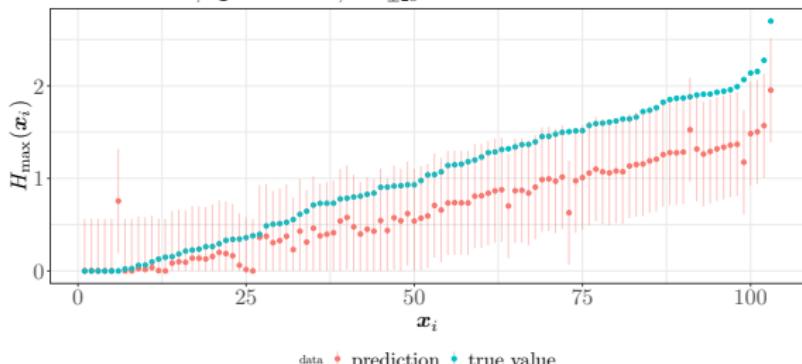
ground truth

prediction



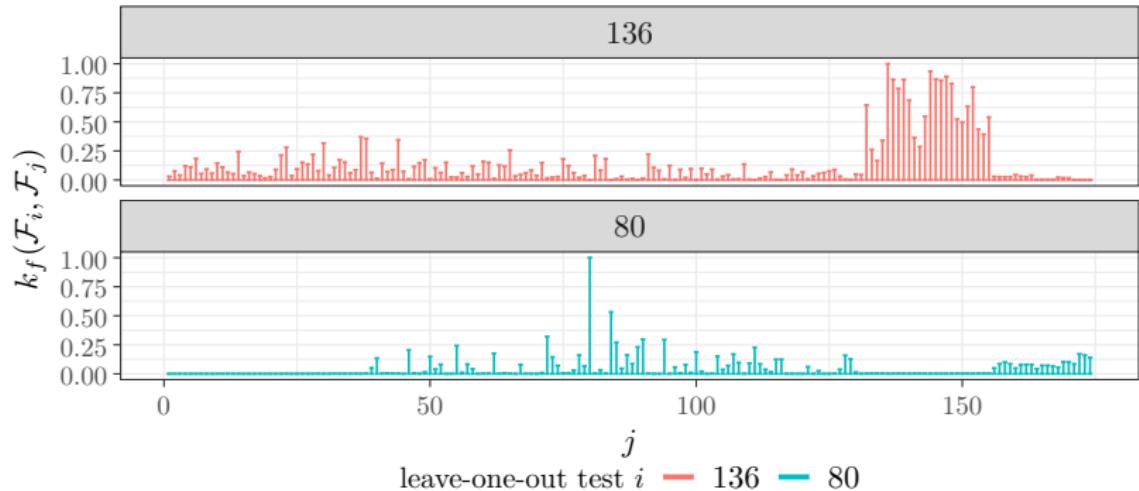
ground truth vs prediction

RMSE = 0.431,  $Q^2 = -0.340$ ,  $CA_{\pm 2\sigma} = 79.6\%$



# Leave-one-out (LOO) test

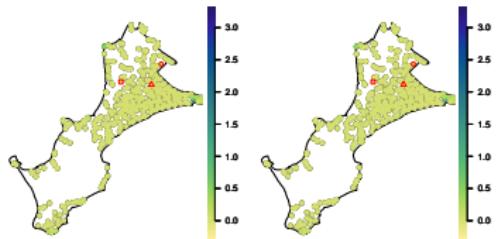
## Flooding scenario 80: misprediction (discussion)



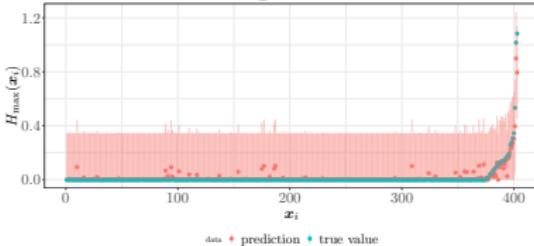
Correlations between functional inputs after covariance parameter estimation via ML

# Influence of the number of design points

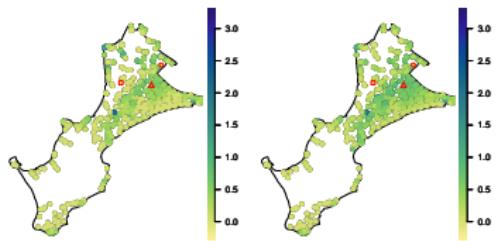
Flooding map 1



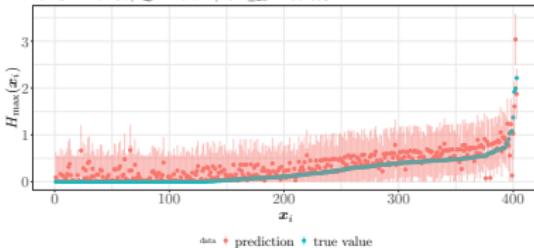
RMSE = 0.027,  $Q^2 = 0.995$ , CA $_{\pm 2\sigma}$  = 100.0%



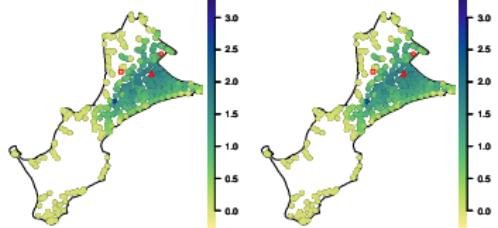
Flooding map 43



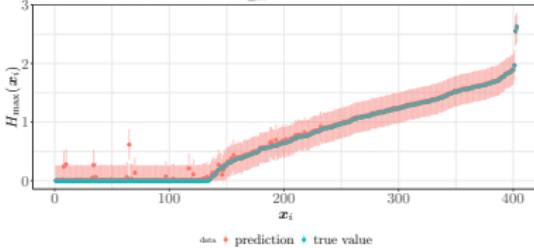
RMSE = 0.197,  $Q^2 = 0.722$ , CA $_{\pm 2\sigma}$  = 99.0%



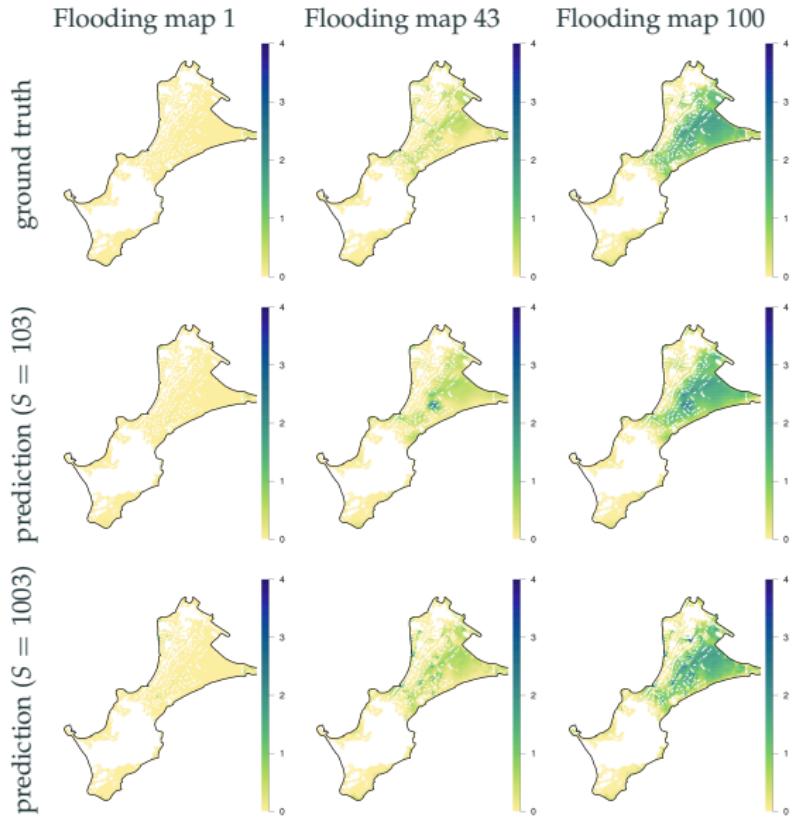
Flooding map 136



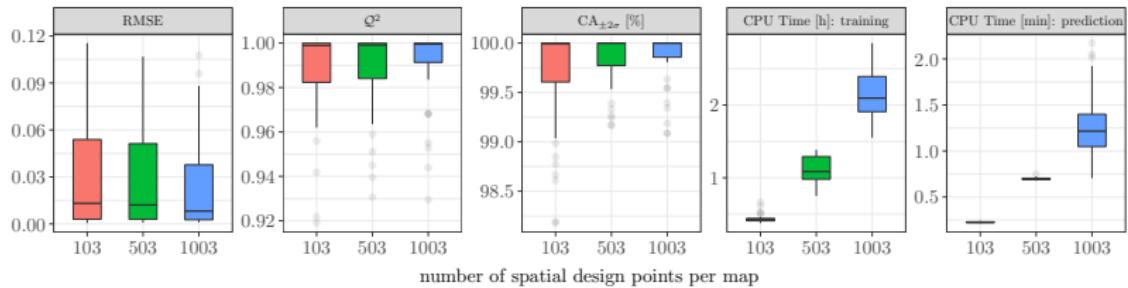
RMSE = 0.045,  $Q^2 = 0.985$ , CA $_{\pm 2\sigma}$  = 99.3%



# Influence of the number of design points



# Influence of the number of design points

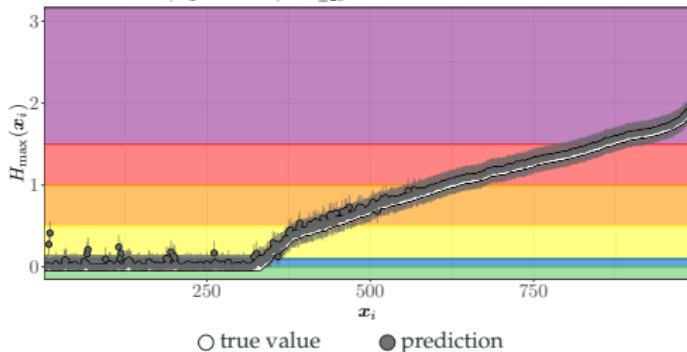


Performance indicators computed on a dataset based on **131 flood events**

# Influence of the number of design points

Assessment using the flood categories suggested by the French Risk Prevention Plan

$$\text{RMSE} = 0.038, Q^2 = 0.994, \text{CA}_{\pm 2\sigma} = 99.1\%$$



minor:  $H_{\max} \leq 0.5$

moderate:  $0.5 < H_{\max} \leq 1$

serious:  $1 < H_{\max} \leq 1.5$

severe:  $H_{\max} > 1.5$

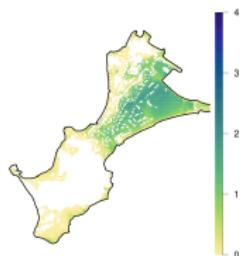
Flood Category	Proportions [%] per Category								
	Scenario 1			Scenario 43			Scenario 100		
	$H_{\max}$	$\hat{H}_{\max}^{(103)}$	$\hat{H}_{\max}^{(1003)}$	$H_{\max}$	$\hat{H}_{\max}^{(103)}$	$\hat{H}_{\max}^{(1003)}$	$H_{\max}$	$\hat{H}_{\max}^{(103)}$	$\hat{H}_{\max}^{(1003)}$
minor	99.9	<b>99.7</b>	99.6	90.9	<b>86.6</b>	83.3	50.6	51.3	<b>50.8</b>
moderate	0.1	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	7.9	<b>12.0</b>	15.4	16.1	<b>17.3</b>	19.9
serious	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	0.1	0.9	0.8	<b>0.9</b>	20.0	<b>20.9</b>	18.0
severe	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	0.3	0.6	<b>0.4</b>	13.4	10.5	<b>11.2</b>

Proportions computed on a dataset based on 131 flood events

## Advantages

Approximate predictions under **smoothness assumptions**.

Numerical simulator

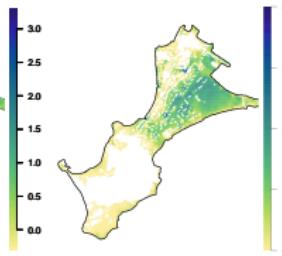


~ 3 days  
(~ 65k points)

GP metamodel



~ 2 seconds  
(~ 1k points)



~ 1 min  
(~ 34k points)

## Challenges:

**Non-stationary kernels** for heterogeneous data [e.g., Remes et al., 2017].

**Dimension reduction of the output space:**

- e.g. via Wavelets decomposition [e.g., Perrin et al., 2020].

**Non-negative** and/or **zero-inflated GP priors** for flood events.

## **Conclusions**

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## In summary...

- We further investigated a **Multi-output GP-based framework**:
  - It accounts for both **spatial outputs** and **functional inputs**.
  - Regularity assumptions are encoded into **kernel functions**.
- We applied our approach as a **metamodel of coastal computer codes**:
  - **Fast and (locally) accurate predictions** are obtained.
  - The **availability and diversity of learning events** are key.
- We provided **Python** and **R codes** ([github.com/anfelopera/spatfGPs](https://github.com/anfelopera/spatfGPs)):
  - **Efficient implementations** are developed based on *sparse-variational inference* or *Kronecker-based operations*.

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