

# Introduction to multivariate state-space models

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*FISH 507 – Applied Time Series Analysis*

24 January 2019

# Topics

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## Lecture

- Short example of multivariate observations
- Examples of multivariate structure in population data
- How to express these structures mathematically
- Adding a multivariate observation process

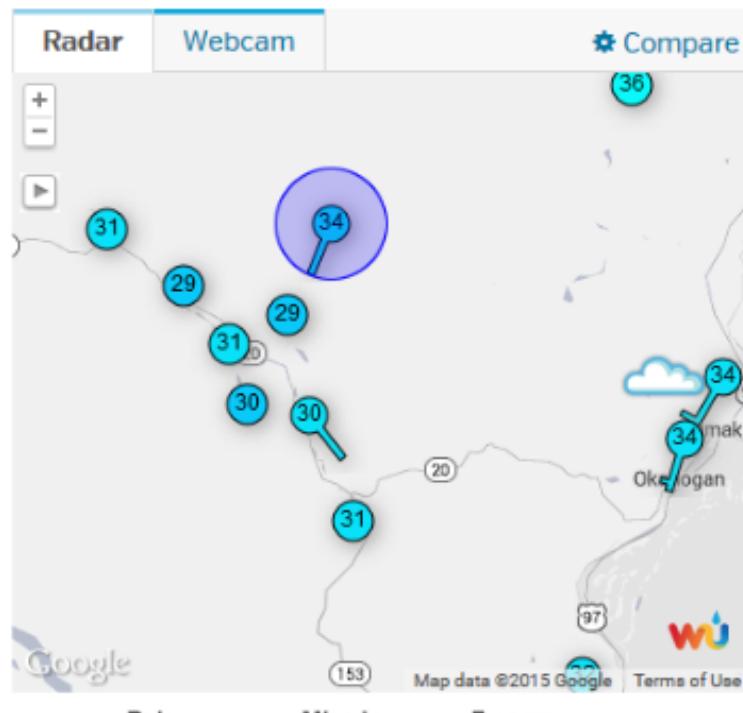
## Computer Labs

- Analysis of population structure using multi-site data
- Combining diverse data sources to estimate an underlying model

# Other examples

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Combine multiple station data into a single metric

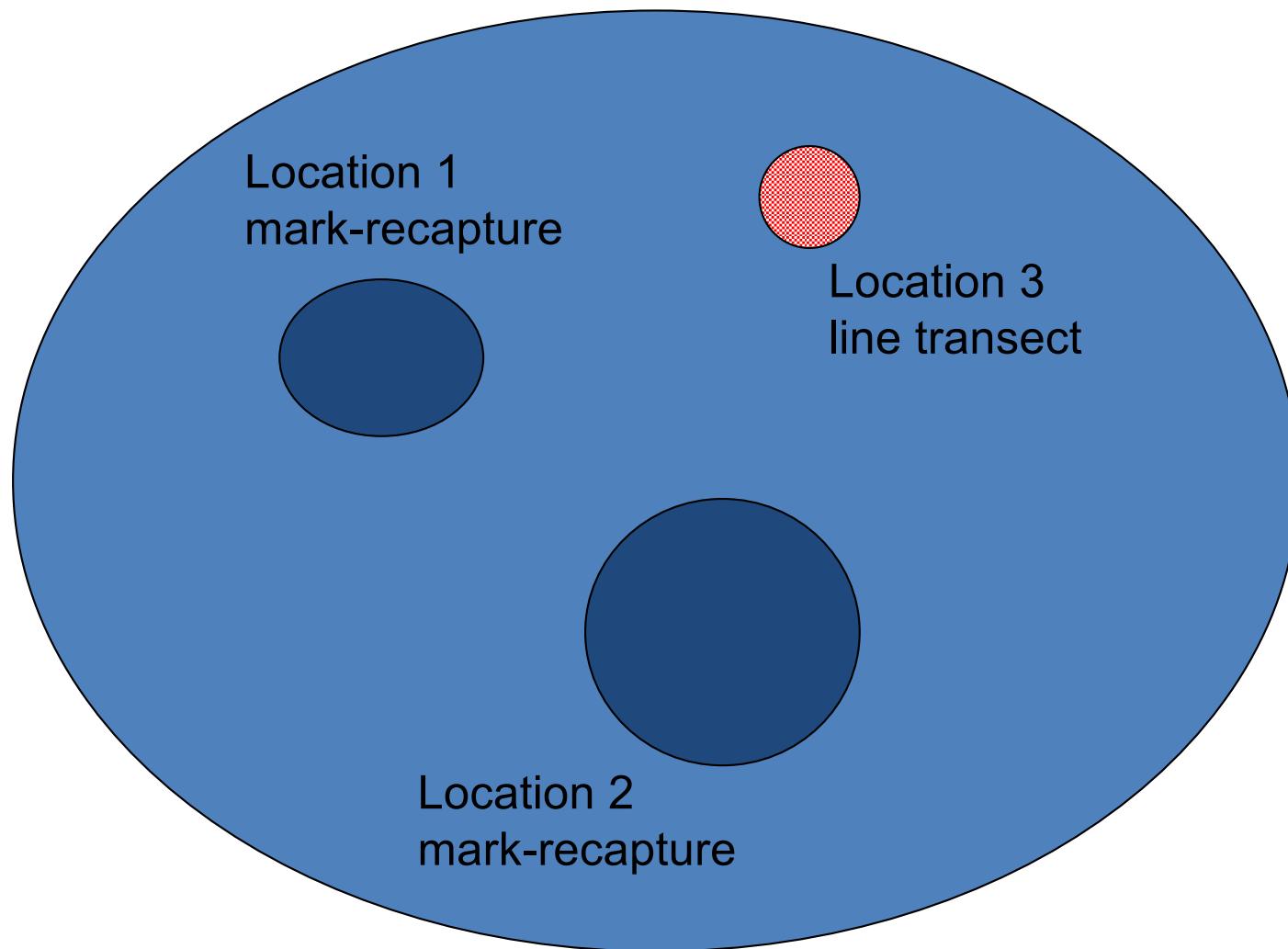


Multiple individuals measured over time



# Imagine we have 3 sampling locations for a population

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# Mathematically we can write

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$$x_t = x_{t-1} + u + w_t, w_t \sim N(0, q)$$

$$y_{1,t} = x_t + v_{1,t}, v_{1,t} \sim N(a_1, r_1)$$

$$y_{2,t} = x_t + v_{2,t}, v_{2,t} \sim N(a_2, r_2)$$

$$y_{3,t} = x_t + v_{3,t}, v_{3,t} \sim N(a_3, r_3)$$

observations

population  
size

noise

# The observation part can be rewritten

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We need to fix one of the  $a$ 's.  
Traditionally we fix to the first to 0.

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix}_t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_t + \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}_t$$

observations      Z matrix      population size      bias      noise

# The model with one a fixed to zero

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$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix}_t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}_t$$

observations      Z matrix      population size      bias      noise

# The observation errors are multivariate. For now, let's assume Normality

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The variance-covariance matrix tells you how the observation errors are related. Are they independent? Or do they covary? Do have the same variance or difference variances?

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}_t \sim MVN \left( 0, \begin{bmatrix} \eta_1^2 & \eta_{1,2} & \eta_{1,3} \\ \eta_{1,2} & \eta_2^2 & \eta_{3,2} \\ \eta_{1,3} & \eta_{3,2} & \eta_3^2 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

# Example observation error var-cov matrices

$$\begin{bmatrix} \eta_1^2 & \eta_{1,2} & \eta_{1,3} \\ \eta_{1,2} & \eta_2^2 & \eta_{3,2} \\ \eta_{1,3} & \eta_{3,2} & \eta_3^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

unconstrained

$$\begin{bmatrix} \eta^2 & \alpha & \alpha \\ \alpha & \eta^2 & \alpha \\ \alpha & \alpha & \eta^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

“equal varcov”

$$\begin{bmatrix} \eta_1^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \eta_2^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \eta_3^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

diagonal

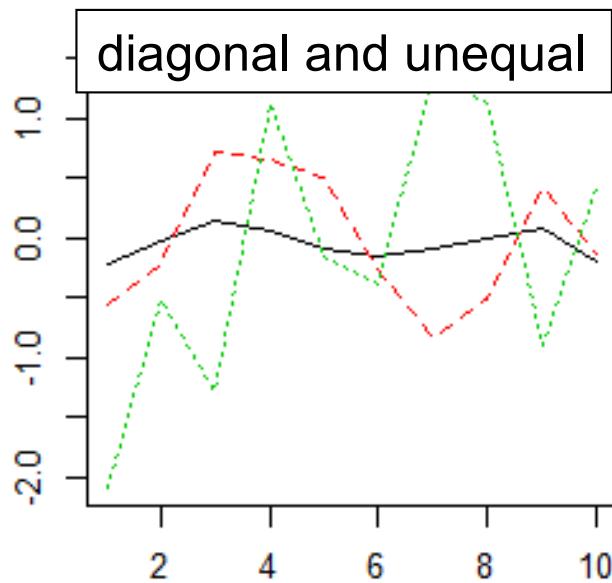
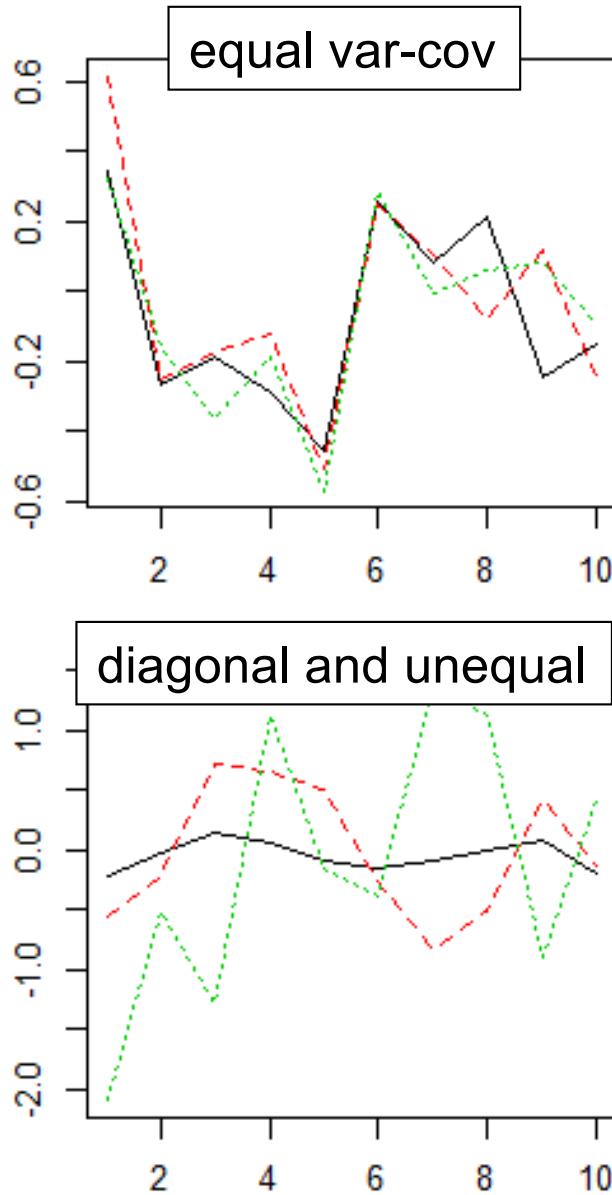
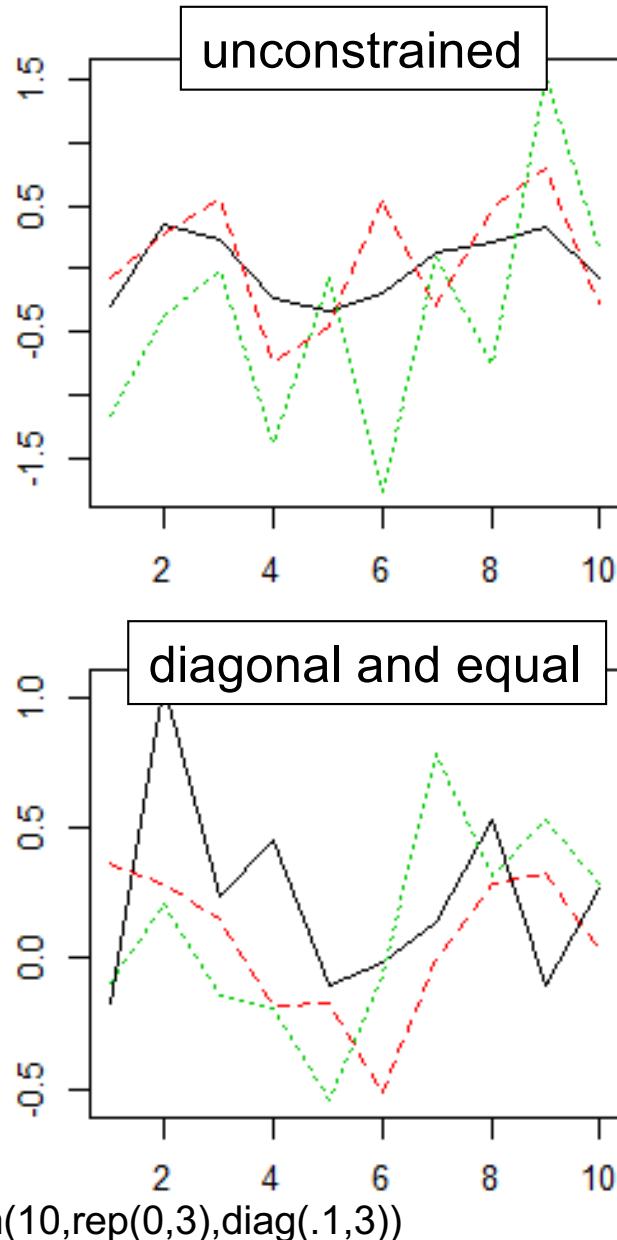
unique variances and  
uncorrelated errors

$$\begin{bmatrix} \eta^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \eta^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \eta^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

identical variances and  
uncorrelated errors

# Example of errors coming from these variance-covariance matrices

error  
= how  
much  
the pop.  
growth  
rate is  
above or  
below  
average



# Fitting MARSS models using the MARSS R Package

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- Fits MARSS models
- *Model specification is 1-to-1 with the equation for the model*
- General, fits any MARSS model with Gaussian errors.
- **BUT**
- Maximum likelihood
- Slow for large data sets. Huge speed improvements are possible by coding their models in TMB (or ADMB or greta). Mark will talk about this.

# MARSS R Package Model Syntax

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$$X(t) = \mathbf{B} X(t-1) + \mathbf{U} + w(t), w(t) \sim N(0, \mathbf{Q})$$

$$Y(t) = \mathbf{Z} X(t) + \mathbf{A} + v(t), v(t) \sim N(0, \mathbf{R})$$

- `fit2=MARSS(y, model=mod.list)`
- **y** is data; **model** tells MARSS what the parameters are
- The parameters are MATRICES
- You write matrices just like they appear in your model on paper. Matrices must be MATRICES (not scalars, not vectors)
- You pass **model** to MARSS as a list

$$X(t) = \mathbf{B} X(t-1) + \mathbf{U} + w(t), w(t) \sim N(0, \mathbf{Q})$$

$$Y(t) = \mathbf{Z} X(t) + \mathbf{A} + v(t), v(t) \sim N(0, \mathbf{R})$$

```

mod.list=list(
  U=matrix("u"),
  x0=matrix(0),
  B=matrix(1),
  Q=matrix(0.1),
  Z=matrix(1),
  A=matrix(0),
  R=matrix("r"),
  tinitx=0)
mod.list=list(
  Q=matrix(0.1)
)

```

Let's say we want to fit this model:

$$x_t = x_{t-1} + u + w_t, w_t \sim N(0, 0.1)$$

$$y_t = x_t + v_t, v_t \sim N(0, r)$$

$$x_0 = 0$$

Write in matrix form:

$$[x]_t = [1][x]_{t-1} + [u] + [w]_t, [w]_t \sim MVN(0, [0.1])$$

$$[y]_t = [1][x]_t + [v]_t, [v]_t \sim MVN(0, [r])$$

$$x_0 = [0]$$

$$X(t) = \mathbf{B} X(t-1) + \mathbf{U} + w(t), w(t) \sim N(0, \mathbf{Q})$$

$$Y(t) = \mathbf{Z} X(t) + \mathbf{A} + v(t), v(t) \sim N(0, \mathbf{R})$$

```
mod.list=list(
  U=matrix("u"),
  x0=matrix(0),
  B=matrix(1),
  Q=matrix(0.1),
  Z=matrix(1,2,1),
  A= matrix(list(0,"a2"),2,1),
  R= matrix(list("r",0,0,"r")),
  tinitx=0)
```

Let's say we want to fit a model where two sites are sampling temperature  $x$  in a lake:

Our temperature model:

$$\begin{aligned}[x]_t &= [1][x]_{t-1} + [u] + [w]_t, [w]_t \sim MVN(0, [0.1]) \\ [x]_0 &= [0]\end{aligned}$$

Our two temperature sensors:

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix}_t &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} [x]_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ a_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix}_t \\ \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix}_t &\sim MVN \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} r & 0 \\ 0 & r \end{bmatrix} \right)\end{aligned}$$

# Some short examples

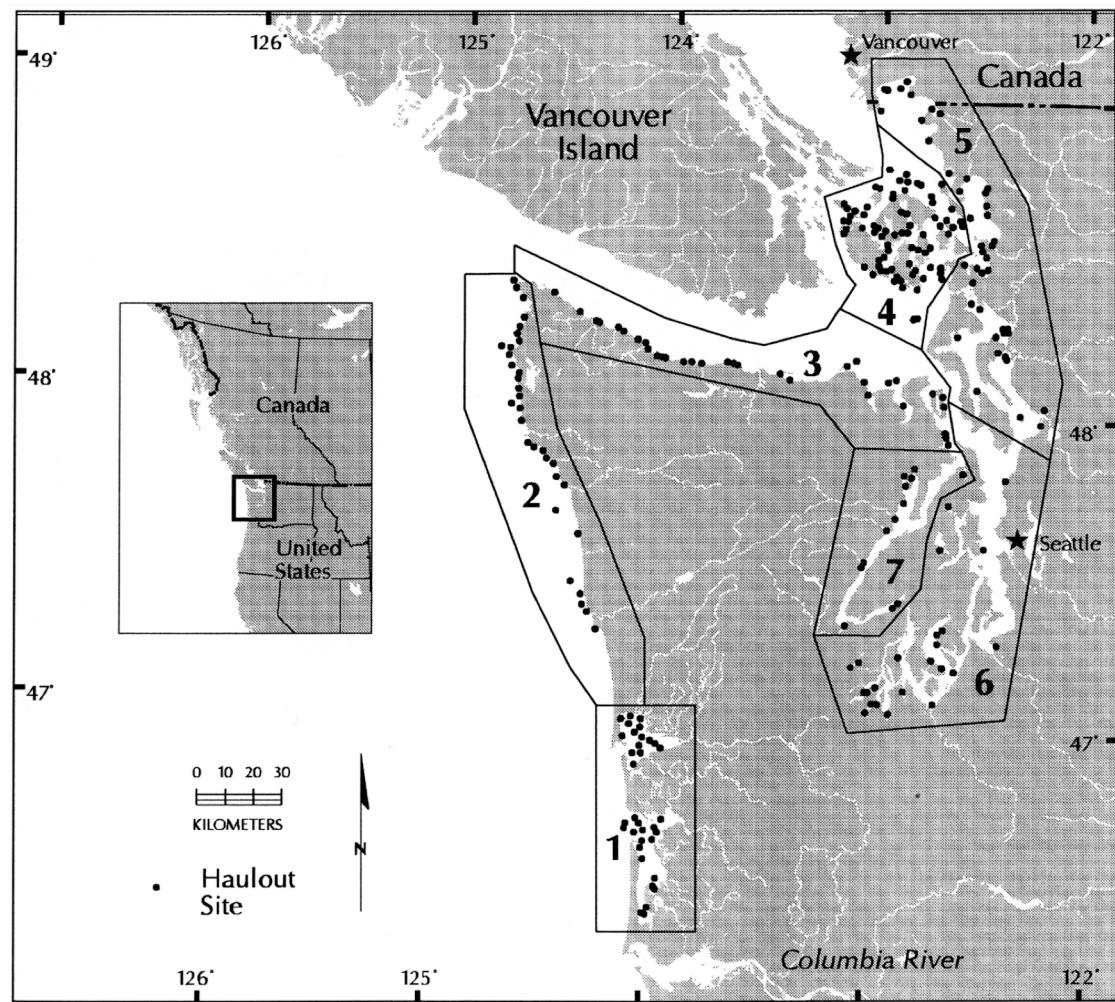
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- marss\_example\_1.R
- marss\_example\_2.R
- marss\_example\_3.R

# An example: modeling the population dynamics of harbor seals in Puget Sound, WA

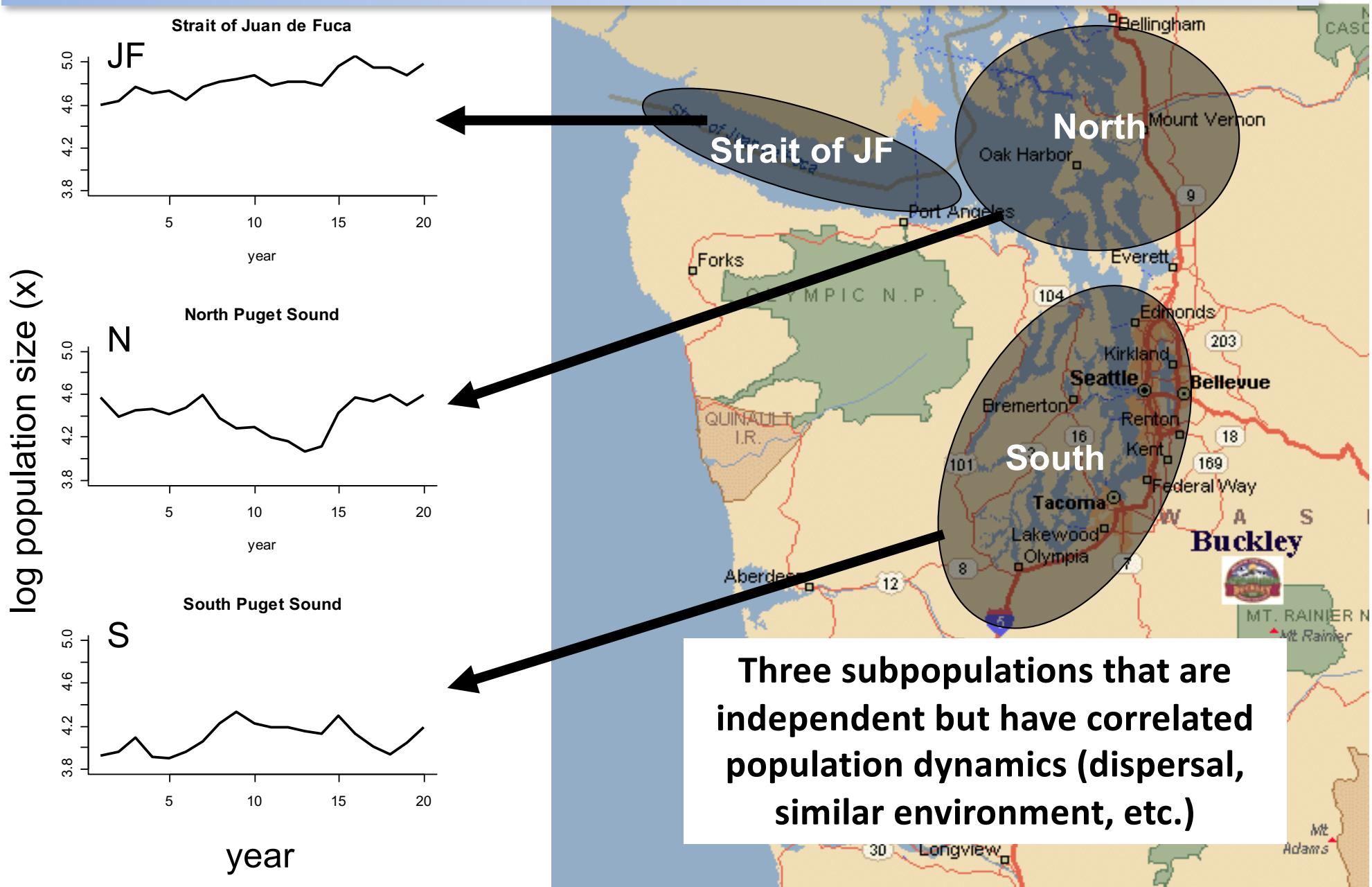


# Multi-site data (Pacific harbor seals)



Jeffries et al. 2003. Trends and Status of Harbor Seals in WA State: 1978-1999. J of Wildlife Management 67: 208-219.

# Let's hypothesize (and model) that the population has 3 subpopulations



## A multivariate model for the population (not the observations but the actual population)

### Multivariate stochastic exponential growth

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{JF,t} \\ x_{N,t} \\ x_{S,t} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{JF,t-1} \\ x_{N,t-1} \\ x_{S,t-1} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} u_{JF} \\ u_N \\ u_S \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} w_{JF,t} \\ w_{N,t} \\ w_{S,t} \end{bmatrix}$$

3 different x's, one for  
each subpopulation

3 mean  
population  
growth rate  
terms

3 different  
process errors

$e \sim \text{MVN}(0, \mathbf{Q})$

# The population model in matrix form

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Exponential population growth with drift (tendency to increase or decline)

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{x}_{t-1} + \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{w}_t$$

$$\mathbf{w}_t \sim \text{MVN}(0, \mathbf{Q})$$

Each parameter has “structure”. Different structures imply different population structure.

# The mean population growth rates ( $u$ ) can have spatial structure

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$$\begin{bmatrix} u_{JF} \\ u_N \\ u_S \end{bmatrix}$$

unconstrained (all different)

$$\begin{bmatrix} u \\ u \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

all the same

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_{JF} \\ u_{N\&S} \\ u_{N\&S} \end{bmatrix}$$

Strait of Juan de Fuca different  
North and South same

# The process error var-cov matrix can have structure: $\mathbf{w}_t \sim \text{MVN}(0, \mathbf{Q})$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{JF}^2 & \sigma_{JF,N} & \sigma_{JF,S} \\ \sigma_{JF,N} & \sigma_N^2 & \sigma_{N,S} \\ \sigma_{JF,S} & \sigma_{N,S} & \sigma_S^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

unconstrained

variances all different and year-to-year  
population changes covary

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{JF}^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_N^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_S^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

diagonal

unique variances and year-to-year population  
changes are uncorrelated

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

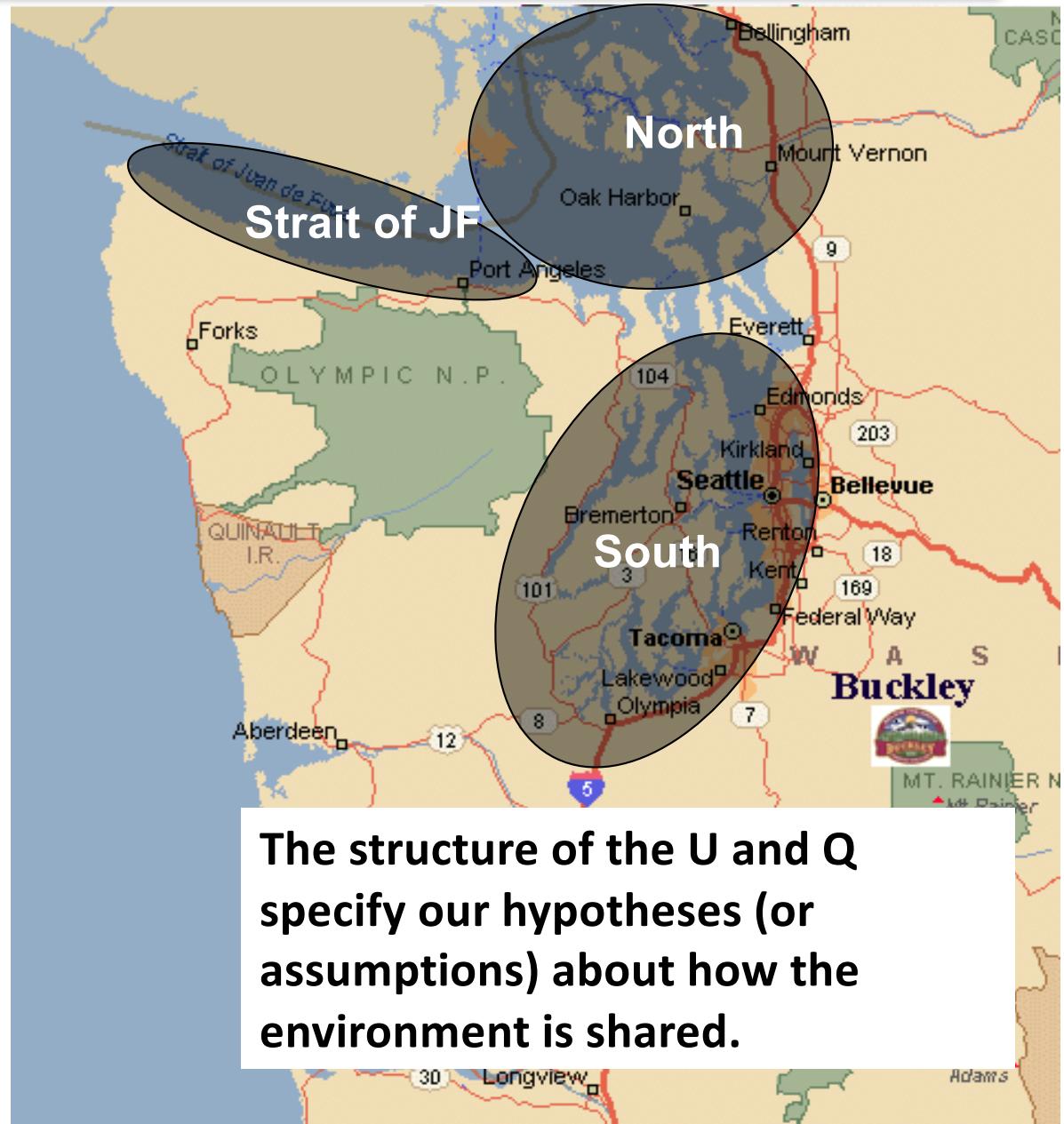
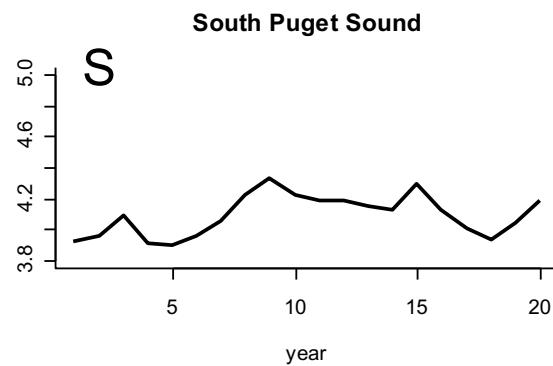
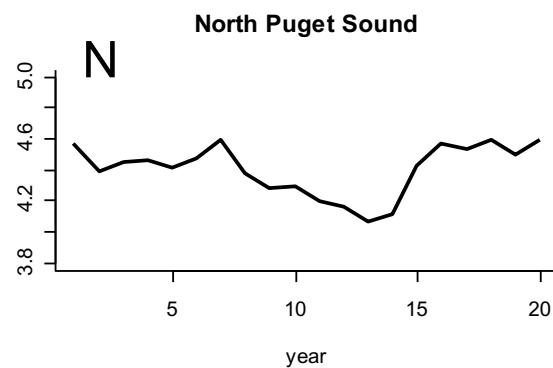
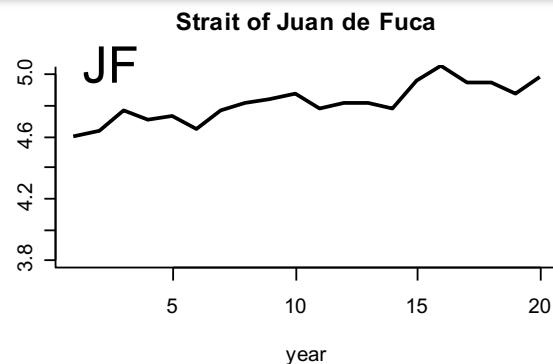
diagonal

same variances and year-to-year population  
changes are uncorrelated

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma^2 & \alpha & \alpha \\ \alpha & \sigma^2 & \alpha \\ \alpha & \alpha & \sigma^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

JF has unique variance;  
N & S share the same variance  
yr-to-yr changes have equal covariance

$$X_t = X_{t-1} + U + W_t$$



# We observe our subpopulations and those observations have error

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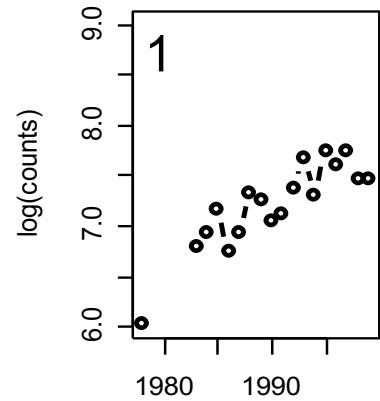
For example, some surveys are from boats. Counting is not perfect and some animals are in the water.



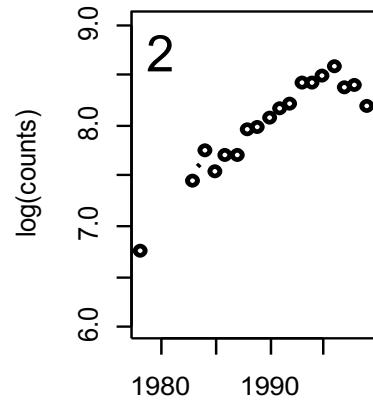
NEFSC/NOAA

# The obs. err. model specifies how the observed time series are related to the true subpopulation sizes

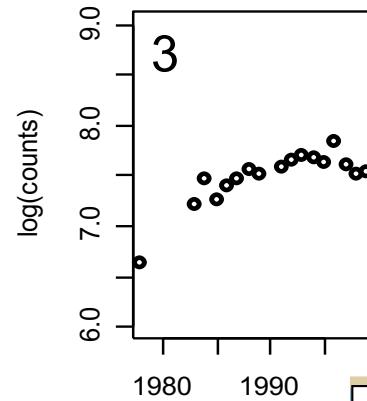
Str.Juan.de.Fuca



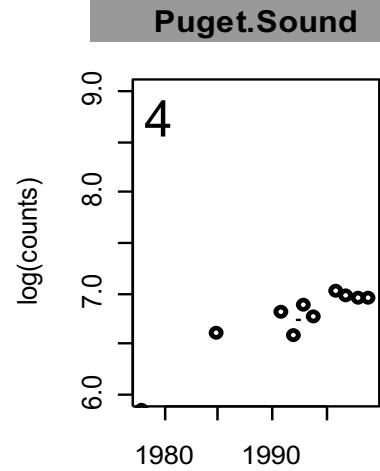
San.Juan.Islands



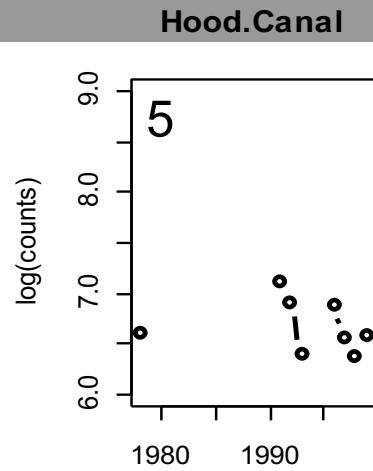
Eastern.Bays



Puget.Sound



Hood.Canal

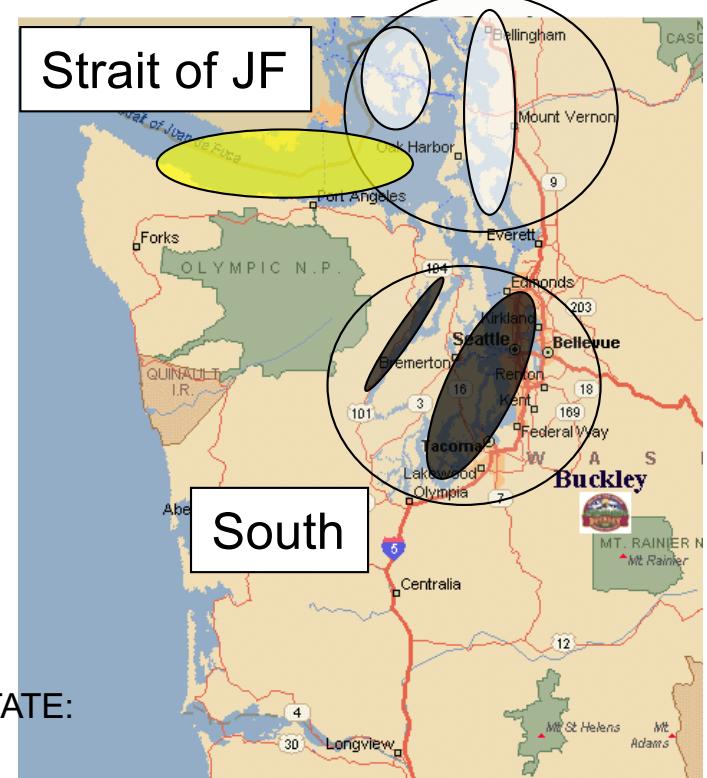


5 sampling locations

North

Strait of JF

South



# The observation model

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Log of counts} \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} y_{1,t} \\ y_{2,t} \\ y_{3,t} \\ y_{4,t} \\ y_{5,t} \end{array} \right] = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \times \left[ \begin{array}{c} x_{JF,t} \\ x_{N,t} \\ x_{S,t} \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \\ a_5 \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c} \eta_{1,t} \\ \eta_{2,t} \\ \eta_{3,t} \\ \eta_{4,t} \\ \eta_{5,t} \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

*JF N S*

true population “hidden”

**Z matrix**

relates each observation time series to a different state process

observations

observation biases

measurement errors

# The observation errors have a var-cov matrix

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$$\begin{bmatrix} \eta_1^2 & \eta_{1,2} & \eta_{1,3} & \eta_{1,4} & \eta_{1,5} \\ \eta_{1,2} & \eta_2^2 & \eta_{3,2} & \eta_{2,4} & \eta_{2,5} \\ \eta_{1,3} & \eta_{3,2} & \eta_3^2 & \eta_{3,4} & \eta_{3,5} \\ \eta_{1,4} & \eta_{2,4} & \eta_{3,4} & \eta_4^2 & \eta_{4,5} \\ \eta_{1,5} & \eta_{2,5} & \eta_{3,5} & \eta_{4,5} & \eta_5^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \eta_1^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \eta_2^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \eta_3^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \eta_4^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \eta_5^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \eta^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \eta^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \eta^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \eta^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \eta^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

unconstrained

unique  
variances and  
uncorrelated  
errors

diagonal

identical  
variances and  
uncorrelated  
errors

diagonal

# The harbor seal multivariate state-space model in matrix form

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$$\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}_{t-1} + \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{w}_t \quad \text{where } \mathbf{w}_t \sim MVN(0, \mathbf{Q})$$

3x1 vectors

3x3 matrix

$$\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{v}_t \quad \text{where } \mathbf{v}_t \sim MVN(0, \mathbf{R})$$

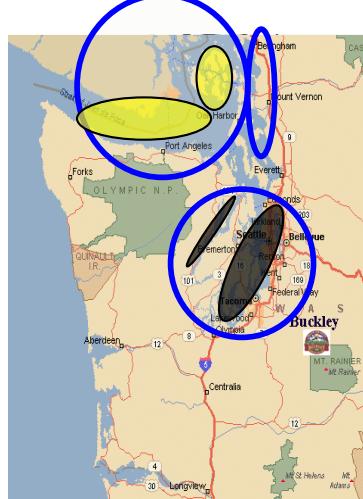
5x1 vectors

5x5 matrix

Instead of N, S, Str. J subpopulations, we could have other combinations and numbers of subpopulations

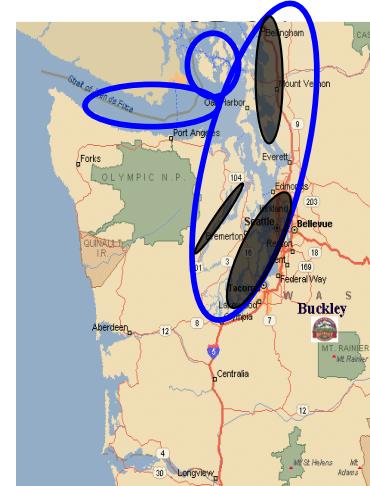
$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Str. JF} \\ \text{San Isl.} \\ \text{E. Bays} \\ \text{P.S.} \\ \text{Hood C.} \end{array} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Str of Juan de Fuca & San Juan Is  
sites = 1st subpop  
Eastern bays = 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Hood C. & S. Puget S. = 3<sup>rd</sup>



$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Strait of Juan de Fuca = 1<sup>st</sup> sub pop  
San Juan Is sites = 2nd  
Eastern bays, Hood Canal & S. Puget Sound = 3<sup>rd</sup>



$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{array} \right]$$

One Puget Sound population and all sites are sampling it  
**One population**



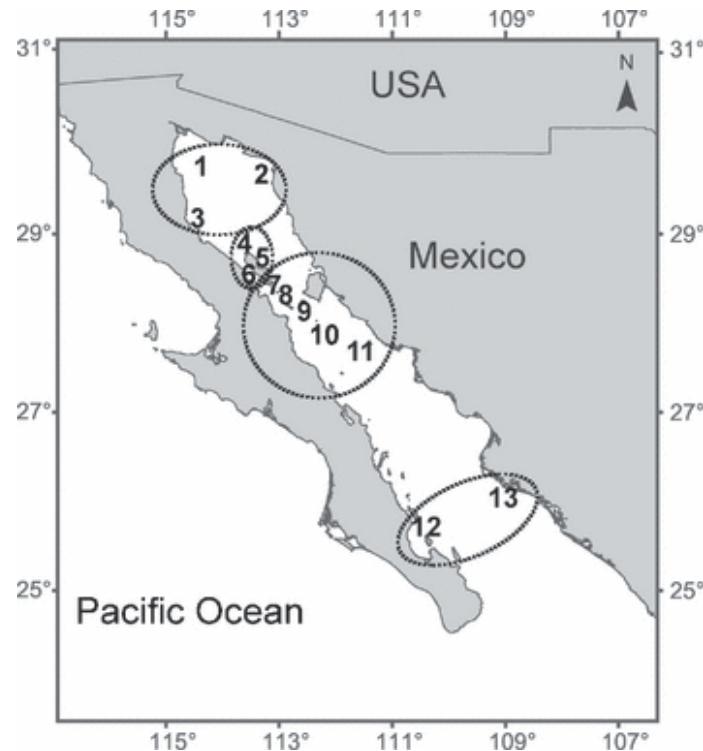
The same model can capture many different underlying population structures and observation structures

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$$\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{x}_{t-1} + \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{w}_t \text{ where } \mathbf{w}_t \sim MVN(0, \mathbf{Q})$$

$$\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{v}_t \text{ where } \mathbf{v}_t \sim MVN(0, \mathbf{R})$$

# *Inferring spatial structure from time-series data: using multivariate state-space models to detect metapopulation structure of California sea lions in the Gulf of California, Mexico*



(NOAA, Channel Is)

Hypotheses about the population structure:  
Diet, Disease, DNA, Distance  
(2 null models: no structure and fully structured)

**Table 1.** Model performance, given by Akaike's Information Criterion (AIC) *b*-value, across the six hypotheses for the subpopulation configuration

Parameters			Hypotheses ( <i>m</i> = no. subpopulations)					
<b>u</b>	<b>Q</b>	<b>R</b>	Panmictic ( <i>m</i> = 1)	Diet ( <i>m</i> = 4)	Disease ( <i>m</i> = 4)	Distance ( <i>m</i> = 4)	DNA ( <i>m</i> = 2)	Independent ( <i>m</i> = 11)
Same	Same	Same	68·2	48·4	49·8	26·8	38·9	22·2
Unique	Same	Same		63·9	72·8	46·9	46·6	25·5
Same	Unique	Same		55·8	57·6	26·6	34·2	64·4
Same	Same	Unique	97·3	74·4	73·2	68·4	67·3	32·5
Unique	Same	Unique		87·1	91·3	71·8	69·3	65·6
Unique	Unique	Same		61·4	84·1	39·8	38·3	50·0
Same	Unique	Unique		102·8	103·8	202·1	82·7	114·7
Unique	Unique	Unique		111·8	133·8	167·8	77·5	169·2
Same	Correlated	Same		40·3	63·1	37·0	38·3	4804·7
<b>Unique</b>	<b>Correlated</b>	<b>Same</b>		44·9	87·2	<b>13·7</b>	39·6	989·4
Same	Correlated	Unique		110·3	163·8	321·4	102·2	NA
Unique	Correlated	Unique		116·3	176·5	467·9	94·5	NA

Process errors (Q) may be independent (a diagonal matrix) with variances that are the same magnitude across subpopulations (same), independent with unequal variances across subpopulations (unique) or may be temporally correlated, meaning an unconstrained Q matrix (correlated). The growth rate (u) and observation error matrix (R) parameters may also be equal (same) or unique across subpopulations. The model best supported by the data is shown in bold; complex models that did not fully converge are not applicable.

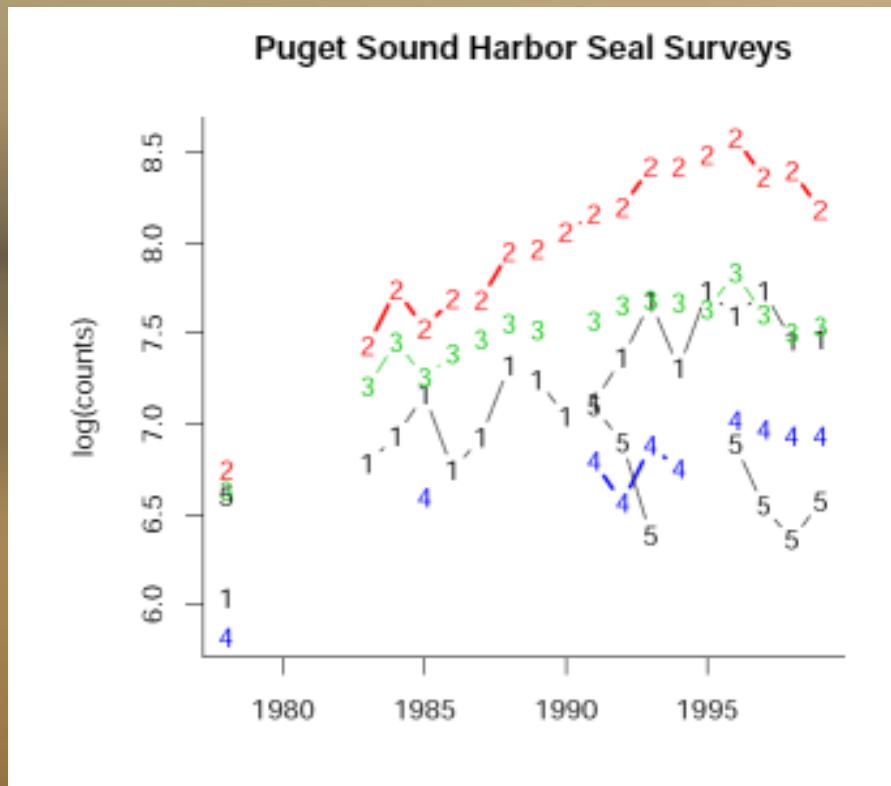
# The MARSS manual has two chapters using MARSS models to analyze spatial count data

harbor seal count data from the west coast of the USA



# Chapter 7 in HWS 2014

## Chapter 7: Combining multi-site data to estimate regional population trends



# Chapter 8 in HWS 2014

Identifying spatial  
structure and covariance  
in harbor seals on the  
west coast of the USA

2000km



# Shortcut for the Z matrix

count      Coastal Estuaries      Olympic Peninsula      Str. Juan de Fuca      San Juan Islands      Eastern Bays      Puget Sound      CA.Mainland      CA.ChannelIslands      OR North Coast      OR South Coast      Georgia Strait

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{wa.or,t} \\ x_{ps,t} \\ x_{ca,t} \end{bmatrix} + a + v$$

Z matrix

```
factor(c("or.wa","or.wa","ps","ps","ps","ps","ca","ca","or.wa","or.wa","ps"))
```