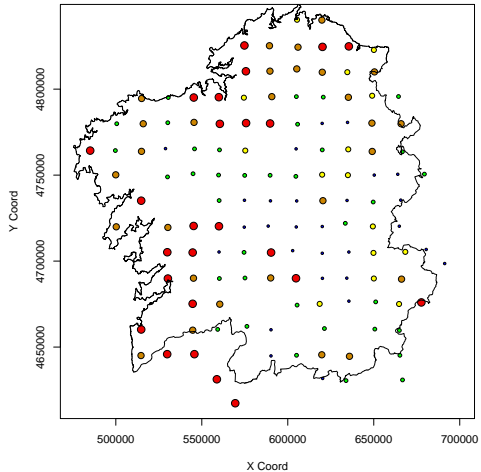


Lecture 2

The linear geostatistical model

1. Formulation of linear geostatistical models and assumptions.
2. Brief introduction to Gaussian processes.
3. Understanding the nugget effect.
4. Parameter estimation via the maximum likelihood method.

Where we observe matters



Geostatistical lead pollution in Galicia

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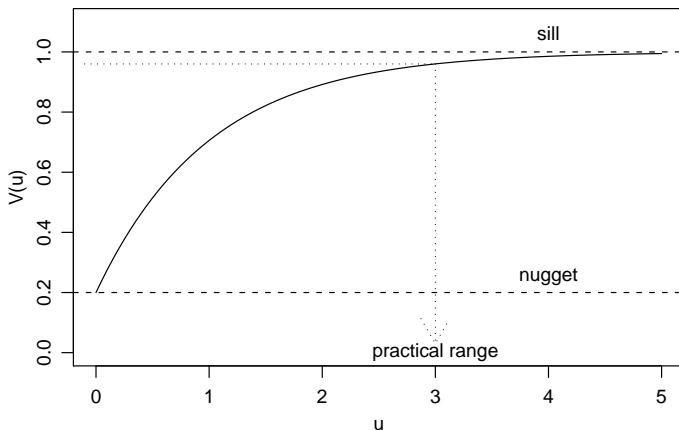
- ▶ How do we choose $\rho(\cdot)$?
- ▶ Example: $\rho(u) = \exp\{-u/\phi\}$

The theoretical variogram (continued)

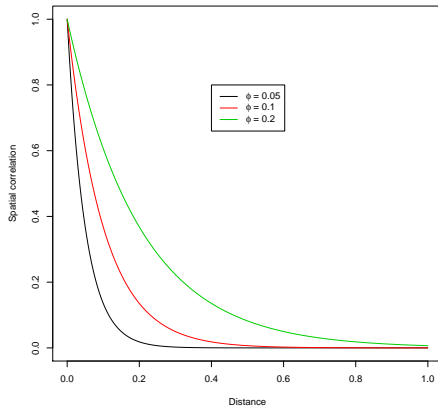
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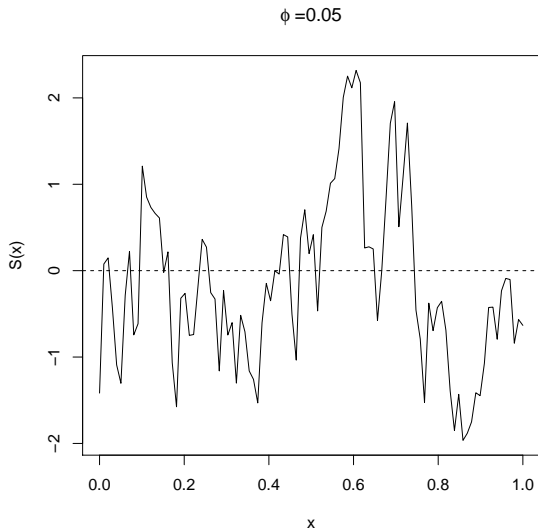
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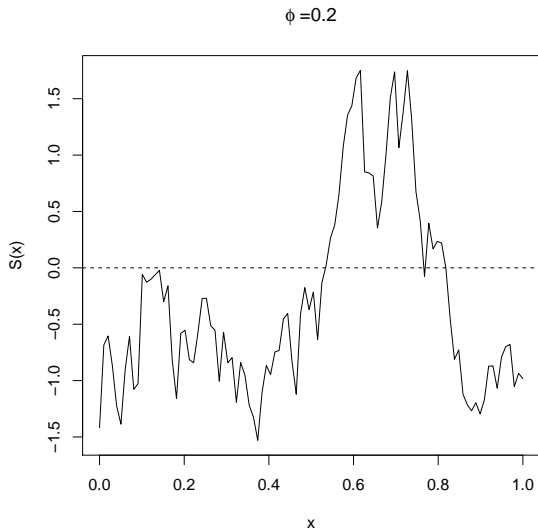
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The Matérn correlation function

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 - ▶ $\kappa = 0.5$ gives $\rho(u) = \exp\{u/\phi\}$
 - ▶ $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$ gives $\rho(u) = \exp\{(u/\phi)^2\}$

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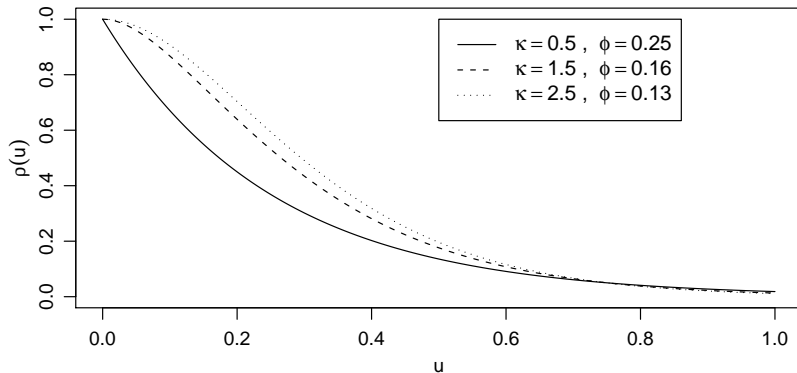
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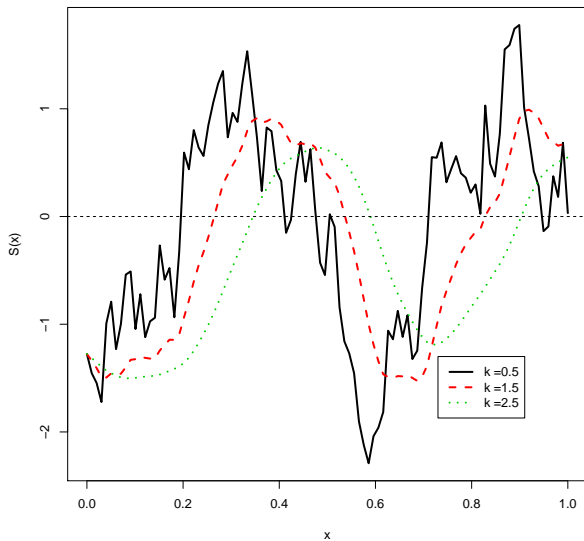
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- ▶ Often sufficient to choose amongst $\kappa = 0.5, 1.5, 2.5$

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Interpreting the nugget effect





1. Measurement error



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2. Small scale spatial correlation

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$$Y_i = \alpha + S(x_i) + Z(x_i)$$
$$\text{cor}\{Z(x), Z(x')\} = \begin{cases} \delta & \text{if } \|x - x'\| < u^* \\ 0 & \text{if } \|x - x'\| \geq u^* \end{cases}$$

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If $u^* < u_{min}$ then $Z(x_i)$ is pure noise.



- ▶ Widely used, but **not recommended** except for initial analysis.
- ▶ $\theta = (\sigma^2, \phi, \tau^2)$
- ▶ Weighted least squares criterion:

$$W(\theta) = \sum_k n_k [\hat{v}(u_k) - v(u_k; \theta)]^2$$

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- ▶ Arbitrary binning and upper limit for u_k .
- ▶ Standard errors not available.



- ▶ **Multivariate Gaussian distribution:** $Y \sim MVN(D\beta, \sigma^2 R + \tau^2 I)$.
 - ▶ D matrix of covariates: $[D]_{ik} = d_k(x_i)$
 - ▶ R matrix of spatial correlation: $[R]_{ij} = \rho(u_{ij})$, with $u_{ij} = \|x_i - x_j\|$.

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- ▶ **Fitting process**
 1. Initialise β , e.g. using ordinary least squares.
 2. Initialise θ , e.g. using the empirical variogram
 3. Maximize

$$l(\theta) = \log\{f(y; \beta, \theta)\}$$

where $f(\cdot; \beta; \theta)$ denotes the density of the multivariate Gaussian distribution.