DSADM: Stationarity of random space-time covariances

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1 Introduction

Here we provide a sketch of the proof of the statement that the space-time covariances $\gamma(t, t', s, s')$ are stationary in space-time random processes.

2 Recursive equations for the field covariances

Recall the equations for the simultaneous time-discrete field covariances Γ_k ,

$$\Gamma_k = \mathbf{F}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_k) \, \Gamma_{k-1} \, \mathbf{F}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_k)^\top + \mathbf{Q}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_k), \tag{1}$$

and the lagged field covariances Γ_{kj} ,

$$\Gamma_{kj} = \mathbf{F}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_k) \, \Gamma_{k-1,j}. \tag{2}$$

3 Explicit equations for the field covariances

3.1 Computation

Equations (1) and (2) allow us to express all covariances $\Gamma_k \equiv \Gamma_{kk}$ and Γ_{kj} (for j < k) from Γ_0 and $\mathbf{Q}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{1:k})$ as follows.

Let's prove this by induction. This is, certainly, true for k = 1. Assume this is true for some k and prove that this holds also for k + 1. Indeed, knowing Γ_k , we compute $\Gamma_{k+1,k+1}$ from Eq.(1). Then, for any j < k + 1, we compute $\Gamma_{k+1,j}$ using Eq.(2):

$$\Gamma_{k+1,j} = \mathbf{F}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{k+1}) \, \Gamma_{kj}. \tag{3}$$

This completes the proof.

3.2 Explicit equations

Take the simultaneous covariances Γ_k and k large enough, apply Eq.(1) recursively, and use the fact that \mathbf{F} is a contraction, so that the series

$$\Gamma_k = \mathbf{Q}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_k) + \mathbf{F}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_k) \mathbf{Q}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{k-1}) \mathbf{F}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_k)^\top + \mathbf{F}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_k) \mathbf{F}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{k-1}) \mathbf{Q}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{k-2}) \mathbf{F}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{k-1})^\top \mathbf{F}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_k)^\top + \dots (4)$$

is a.s. convergent.

4 Stationarity

Since the probability distributions of any collection of $\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{j_m}$ (for $m=1,\ldots,M$) are invariant to translations over k and rotations over the spatial coordinate, Eq.(4) immediately implies that so are the probability distributions of any collection of the spatial field covariances Γ_k . An extension to the lagged field covariances is straightforward.

This shows that $\gamma(t, t', s, s')$ are (strongly) stationary in space-time random processes.

5 Conclusion

The solution to DSADM is a non-stationary in space-time random field, while its space-time covariances are stationary in space-time random processes.