

Measuring Spatial Autocorrelation

Tobler's first law of geography

*'Everything is related to everything else,
but near things are more related than
distant things'*

*Tobler, W. A computer model simulation of urban growth in the Detroit region.
Economic Geography, 46(2): 234-240*

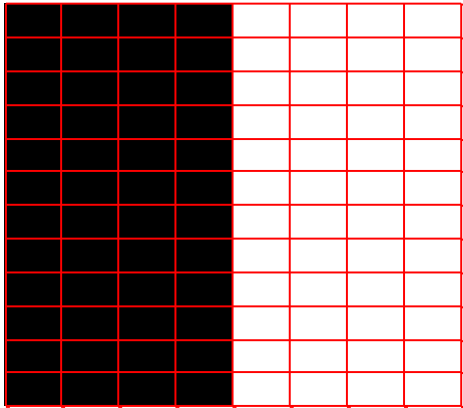
Spatial autocorrelation

'Spatial autocorrelation can be loosely defined as the coincidence of value similarity with locational similarity'

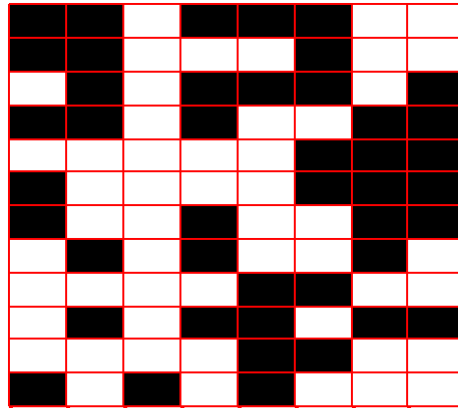
(Anselin and Bera, 1998)

Global autocorrelation

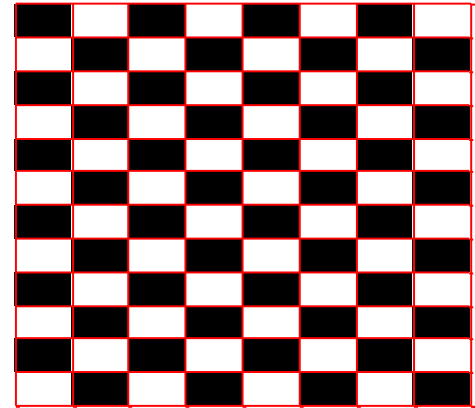
Positive
(most geographical processes)



Random



Negative



Operationalizing the spatial autocorrelation concept

$$y_i = f(y_j) \quad , \quad i=1, \dots, n \quad \text{and } i \neq j$$

What is $f()$?

From Tobler, **need a function that includes the « proximity » between i and j**

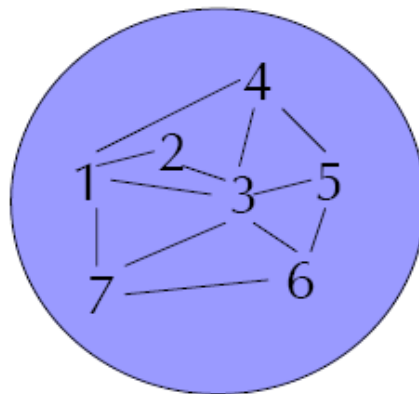
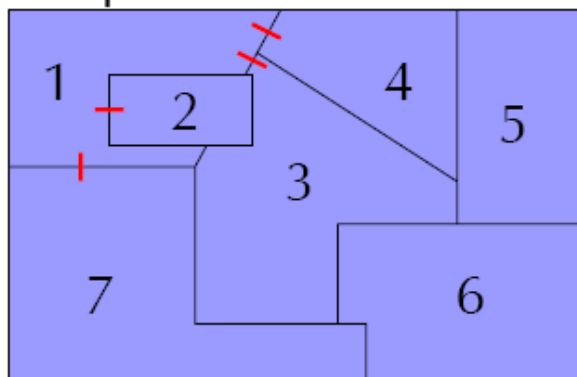
Example:

- a 0/1 matrix representing adjacency between each pair of spatial units
- a **weight matrix** w representing how « proximal » are each pair of spatial units

Weight matrix ? Contiguity (adjacency)

Recall:

Connectivity example:
Map of seven areas



Share border:

Neighbor(1) = {2, 3, 4, 7}

Neighbor(2) = {1, 3}

..

Neighbor(7) = {1, 3, 6}

$$\tilde{W} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Binary/Standardized matrix

Binary W matrix:

$$\tilde{V} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Row standardized W matrix:

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Alternative weight matrix ?

- Second order contiguity, or more
- Distance-based weights
 - Euclidean distance ~potential of spatial interaction $w_{ij} = 1/d_{ij}^\alpha$
 - 0/1 matrix based on distance cutoffs
- Transport cost distance functions
 - Network based
 - generalised i.e. time +cost
- Socio-economic distances $w_{ij} = 1/|x_i - x_j|$

Measuring spatial autocorrelation: Moran's I

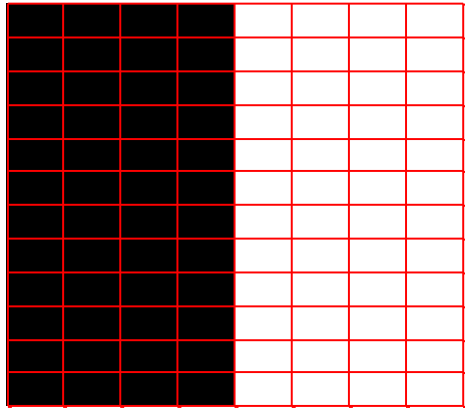
- Most widely used (global) index of autocorrelation

$$I = \frac{1}{p} \frac{\sum_i \sum_j w_{ij} (Y_i - \bar{Y})(Y_j - \bar{Y})}{\sum_i (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}, \text{ where}$$
$$p = \sum_i \sum_j w_{ij} / n$$

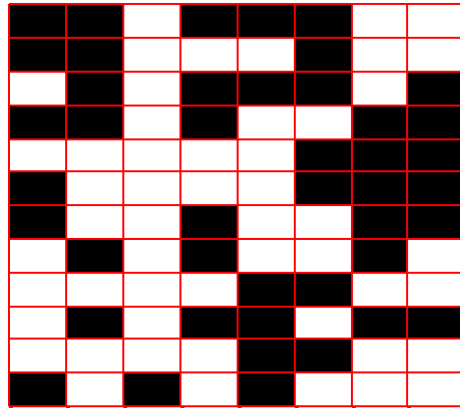
- $I > 0$, positive spatial autocorrelation
- $I < 0$, negative spatial autocorrelation
- Results will depend on specification of w

Measuring spatial autocorrelation: Moran's I

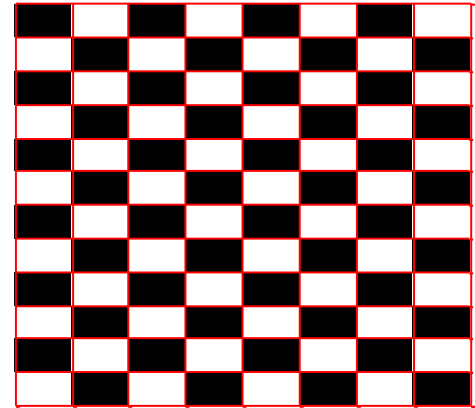
$I > 0$



$I \sim 0$



$I < 0$



ArcToolbox

Spatial Autocorrelation (Morans I) (Spatial Statistics)

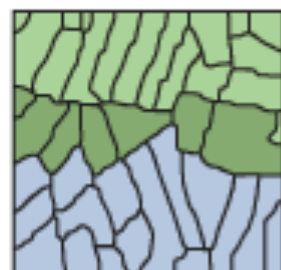
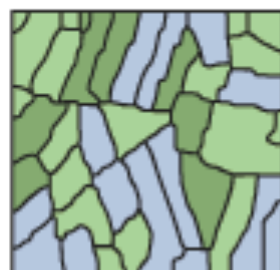
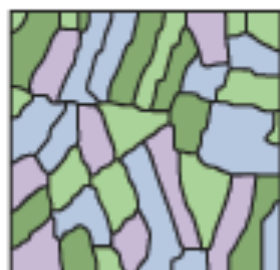
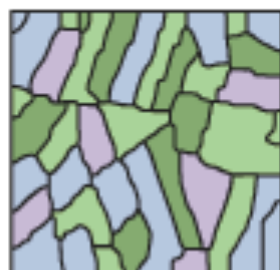
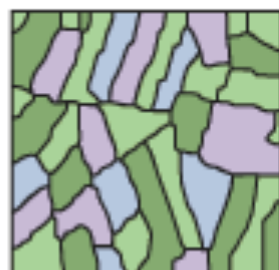
[related topics](#)

[open tool...](#)

Measures spatial autocorrelation based on feature locations and attribute values.

[Learn more about how Spatial Autocorrelation: Moran's I works](#)

Illustration



Dispersed



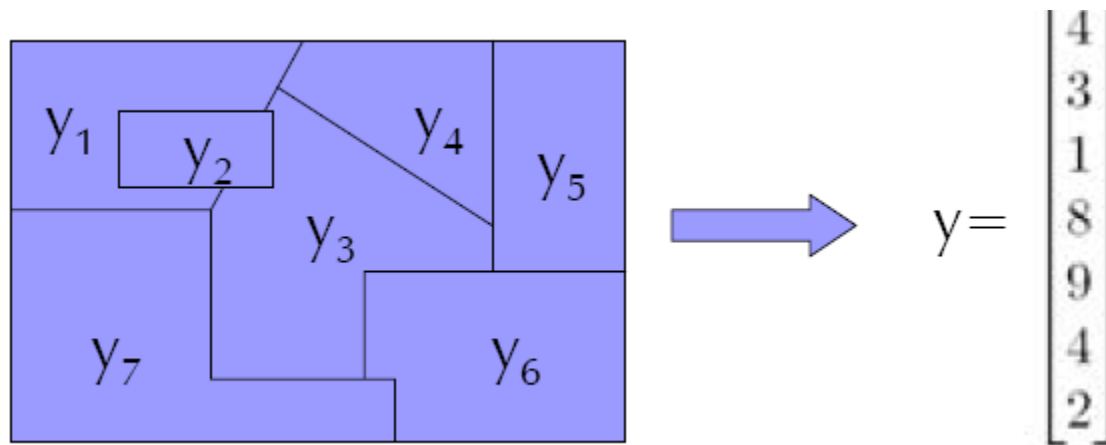
Clustered

Measuring spatial autocorrelation

Graphical interpretation of Moran and linking
with local spatial association (LISA)

Measuring spatial autocorrelation

- Suppose the following Y values (e.g. crime)



Measuring spatial autocorrelation

- Define the Proximity relationship: weight matrix (row-standardized)

Binary W matrix:

$$\tilde{V} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Row standardized W matrix:

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Measuring spatial autocorrelation

- Compute

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 8 \\ 9 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad W = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Wy = \begin{bmatrix} 3(\frac{1}{4}) + 1(\frac{1}{4}) + 8(\frac{1}{4}) + 2(\frac{1}{4}) \\ 4(\frac{1}{2}) + 1(\frac{1}{2}) \\ 4(\frac{1}{6}) + 3(\frac{1}{6}) + 8(\frac{1}{6}) + 9(\frac{1}{6}) + 4(\frac{1}{6}) + 2(\frac{1}{6}) \\ 4(\frac{1}{3}) + 1(\frac{1}{3}) + 9(\frac{1}{3}) \\ 1(\frac{1}{3}) + 8(\frac{1}{3}) + 4(\frac{1}{3}) \\ 1(\frac{1}{3}) + 9(\frac{1}{3}) + 2(\frac{1}{3}) \\ 4(\frac{1}{3}) + 1(\frac{1}{3}) + 4(\frac{1}{3}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (7/2) \\ (5/2) \\ 5 \\ (14/3) \\ (13/3) \\ 4 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

« *Wy is high in i when neighbours of i have high crime value* »

Measuring spatial autocorrelation

- Compute

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 8 \\ 9 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad W = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

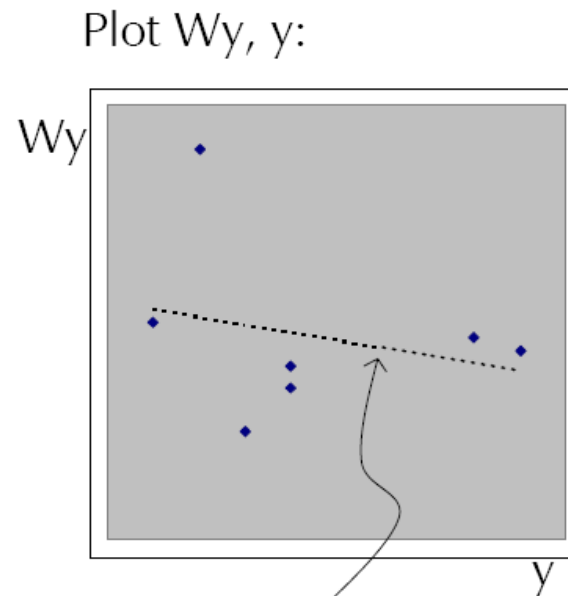
$$Wy = \begin{bmatrix} 3(\frac{1}{4}) + 1(\frac{1}{4}) + 8(\frac{1}{4}) + 2(\frac{1}{4}) \\ 4(\frac{1}{2}) + 1(\frac{1}{2}) \\ 4(\frac{1}{6}) + 3(\frac{1}{6}) + 8(\frac{1}{6}) + 9(\frac{1}{6}) + 4(\frac{1}{6}) + 2(\frac{1}{6}) \\ 4(\frac{1}{3}) + 1(\frac{1}{3}) + 9(\frac{1}{3}) \\ 1(\frac{1}{3}) + 8(\frac{1}{3}) + 4(\frac{1}{3}) \\ 1(\frac{1}{3}) + 9(\frac{1}{3}) + 2(\frac{1}{3}) \\ 4(\frac{1}{3}) + 1(\frac{1}{3}) + 4(\frac{1}{3}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (7/2) \\ (5/2) \\ 5 \\ (14/3) \\ (13/3) \\ 4 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

Wy is a « spatially lagged » transform of Y

Measuring spatial autocorrelation

- Scatterplot of Y and W_Y

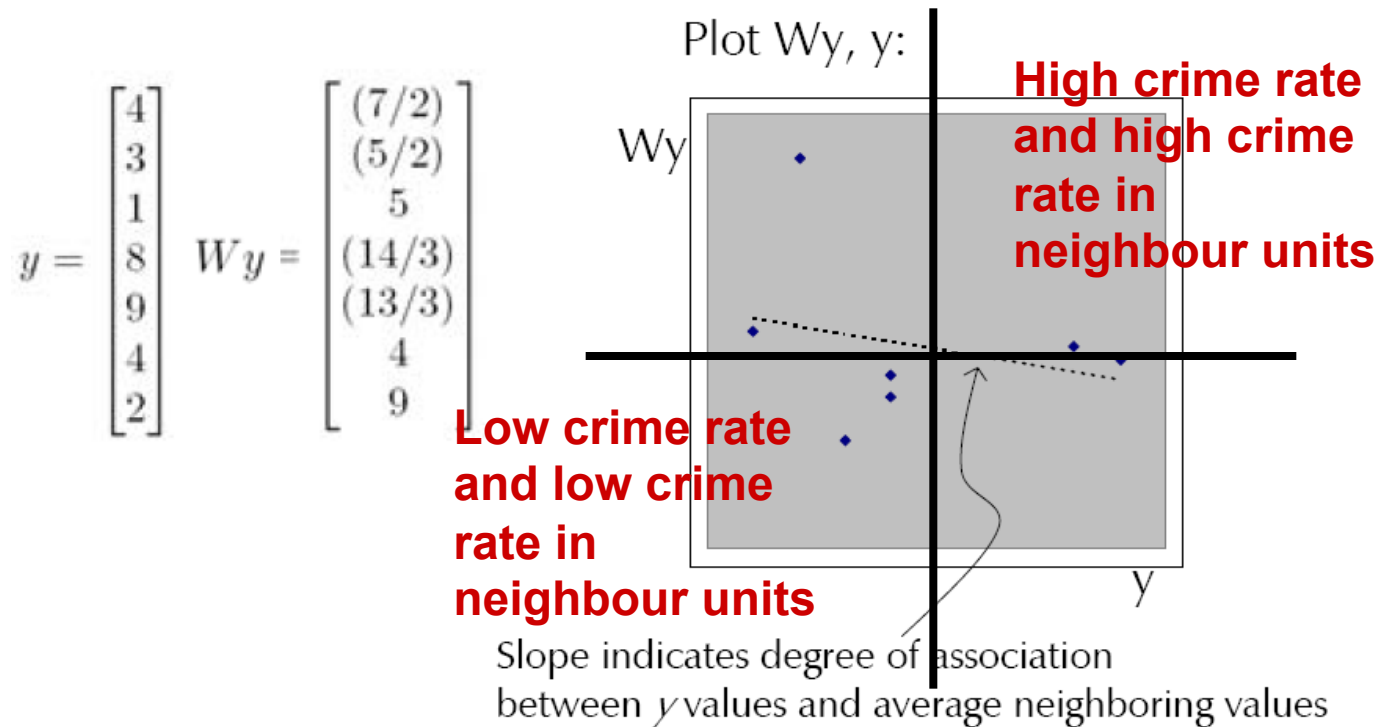
$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 8 \\ 9 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad Wy = \begin{bmatrix} (7/2) \\ (5/2) \\ 5 \\ (14/3) \\ (13/3) \\ 4 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$



Slope indicates degree of association
between y values and average neighboring values

Measuring spatial autocorrelation

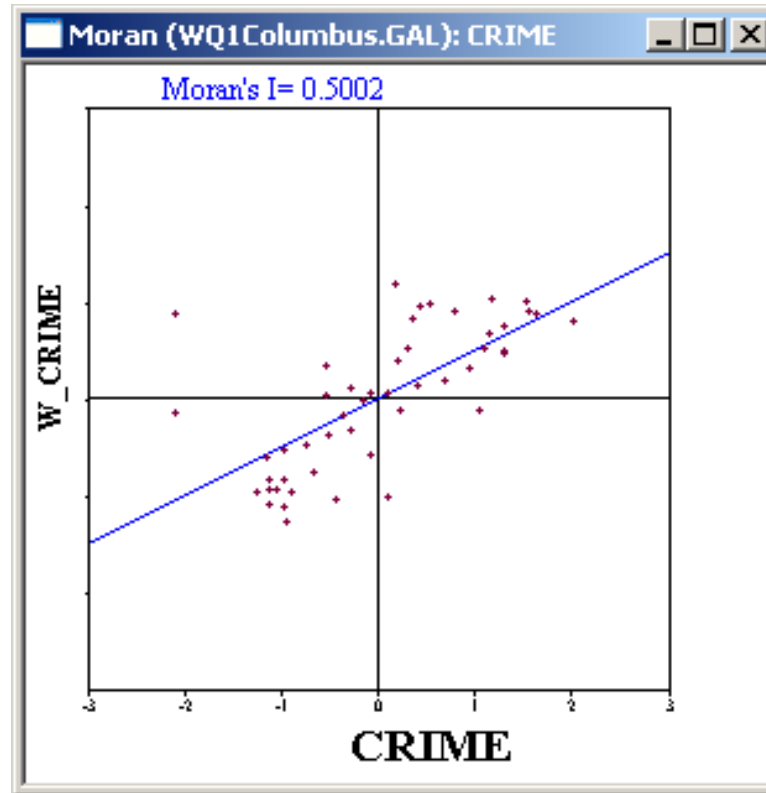
- Scatterplot of Y and W_Y



Measuring spatial autocorrelation

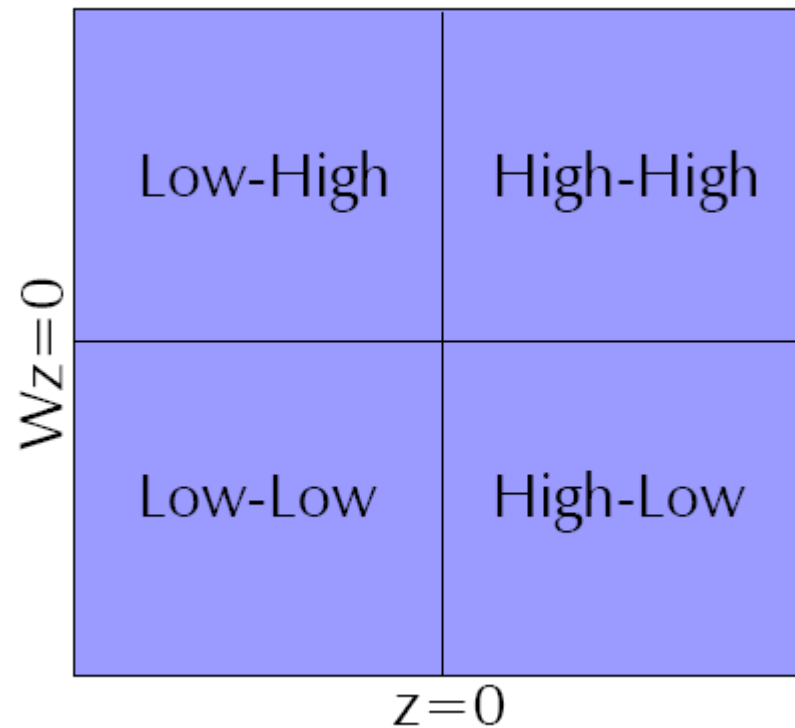
- Moran's scatterplot: idem but with standardized Y values
- Index Moran's I is then the slope of the linear curve fitted in the scatterplot
- *If $I > 0 \Rightarrow$ positive correlation between crime rate in a place and crime rate in neighbouring places = positive spatial autocorrelation*

Real example: crime in Columbus, US



Source: see GEODA on Wikipedia

Moran's scatterplot

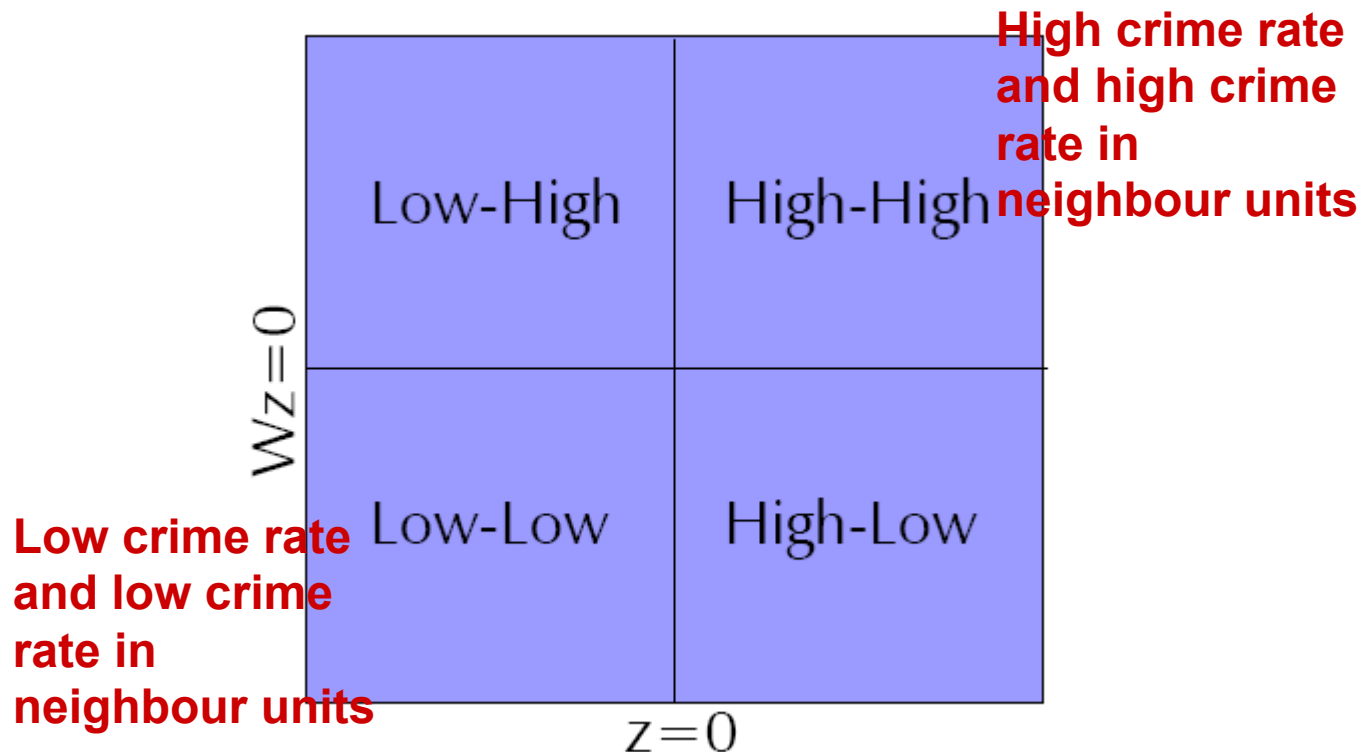


Global Moran -> Local Moran

- Global autocorrelation analysis (I) yields only one statistic to summarize the whole study area
 - => Assumes homogeneity.
 - => If homogeneity assumption does not hold, having only one statistic does not make sense
 - => the statistic should differ over space = Local Index of Spatial Association (LISA)**
- LISA (or Local Moran) is the crossproduct of the lagged variable and the variable itself (normalized).
- LISA values can be found easily from Moran scatterplot

Moran's scatterplot > Local Moran

- Places having similar value as their neighbours:

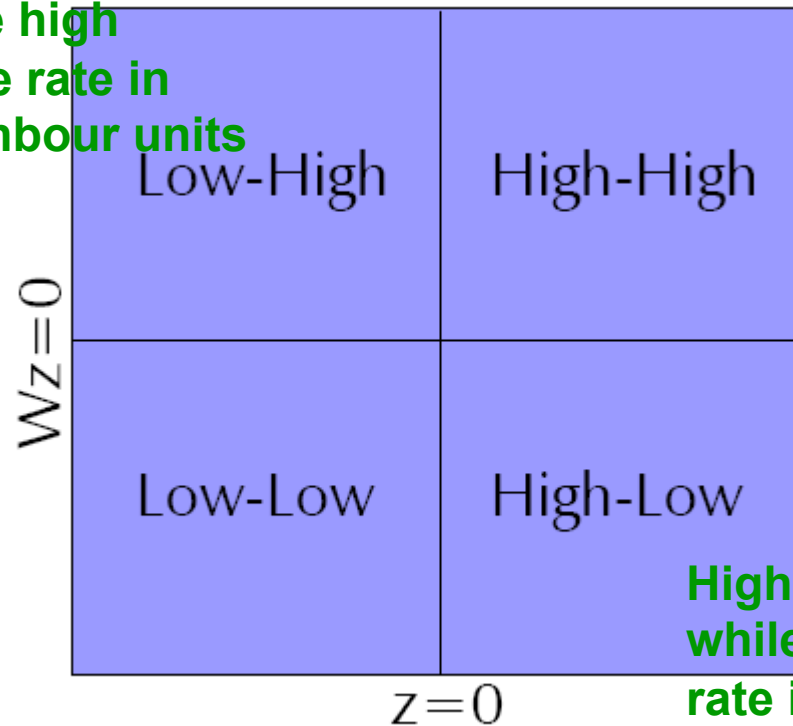


- LISA: $I_i > 0$

Moran's scatterplot > Local Moran

- Places having value different from their neighbours:

Low crime rate
while high
crime rate in
neighbour units



High crime rate
while low crime
rate in
neighbour units

- LISA: $I_i < 0$

LISA concept

Local indicator of spatial association (LISA)

- *« The LISA for each observation gives an indication of significant spatial clustering of similar values around that observation »*
- *« The sum of LISAs for all observations is proportional to a global indicator of spatial association »*

From: Anselin, L, 1995, Local indicators of spatial association—LISA, Geographical Analysis, 27, 93-115

LISA=>Hot and Cold Spot map

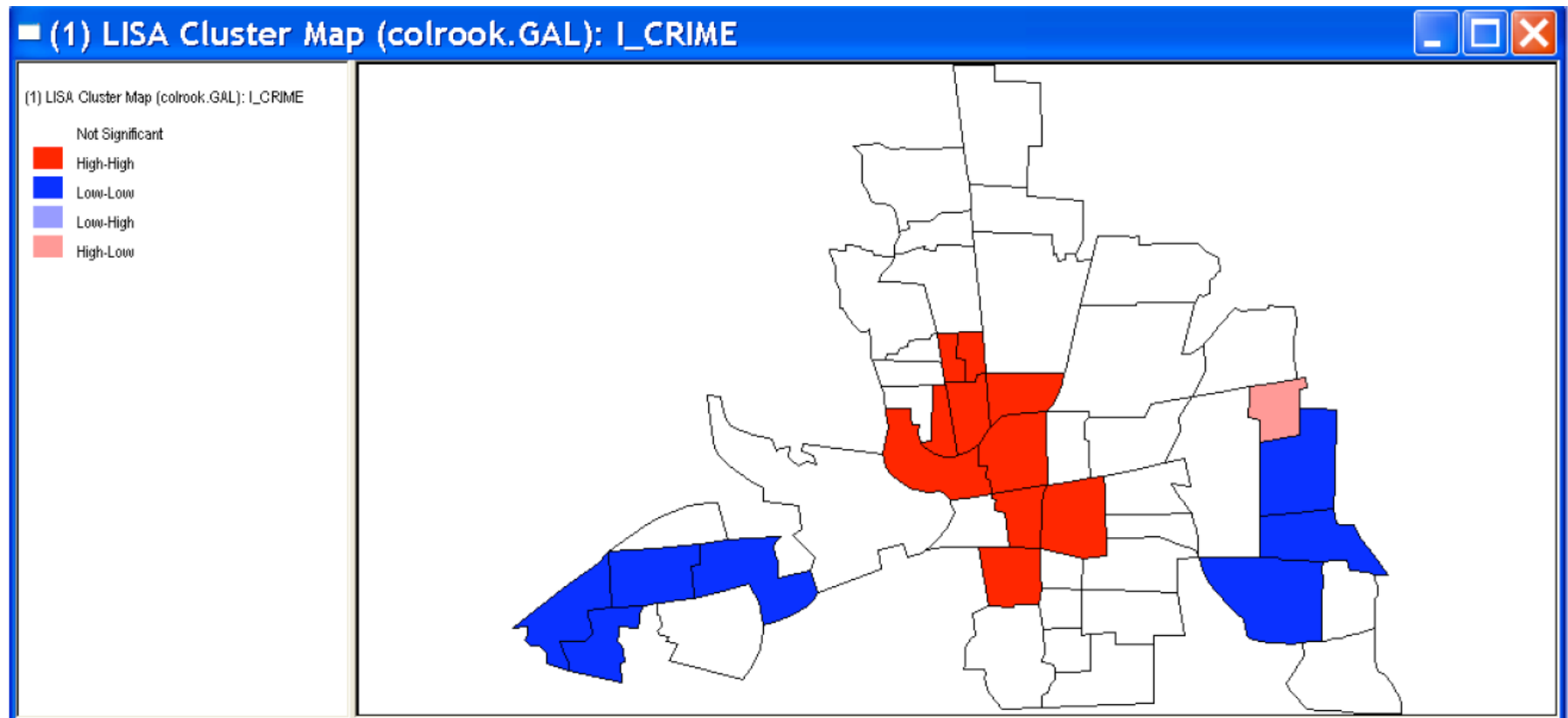


Figure 154. LISA cluster map for Columbus **CRIME**.

ArcToolbox

Cluster and Outlier Analysis: Anselin Local Moran's I (Spatial Statistics)

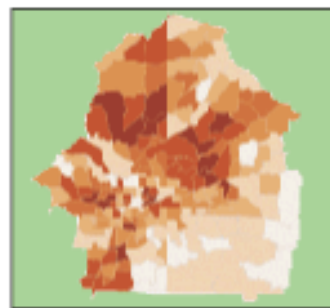
[related topics](#)

[open tool...](#)

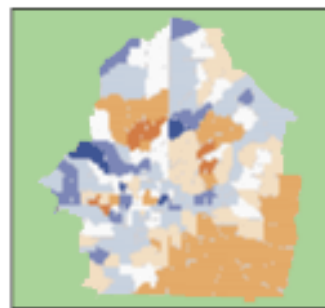
Given a set of weighted data points, identifies those clusters of points with values similar in magnitude and those clusters of points with very heterogeneous values.

[Learn more about how Cluster and Outlier Analysis: Anselin Local Moran's I works](#)

Illustration



INPUT



LOCAL I
(Diversity)

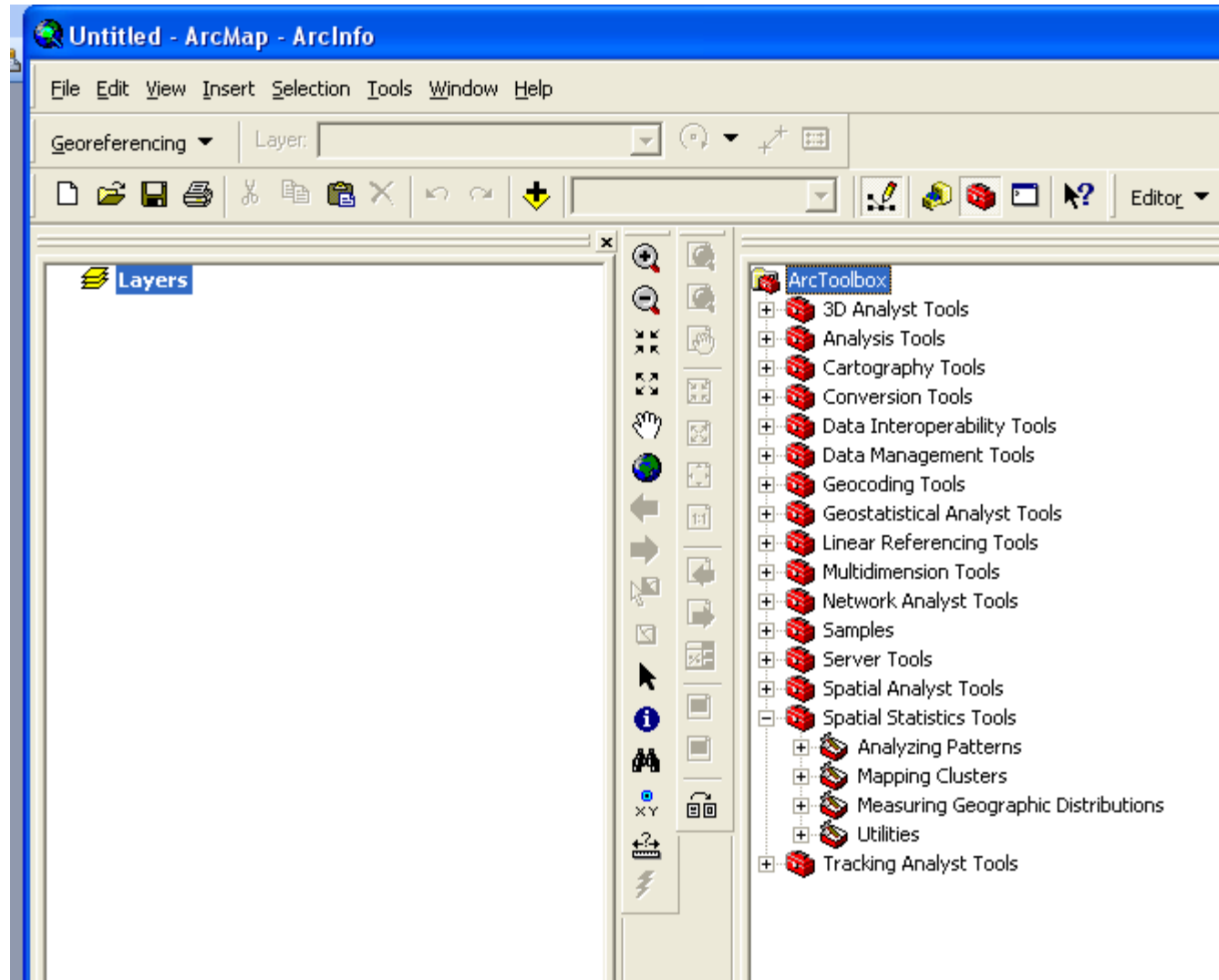


Z SCORE
(Statistical Significance)

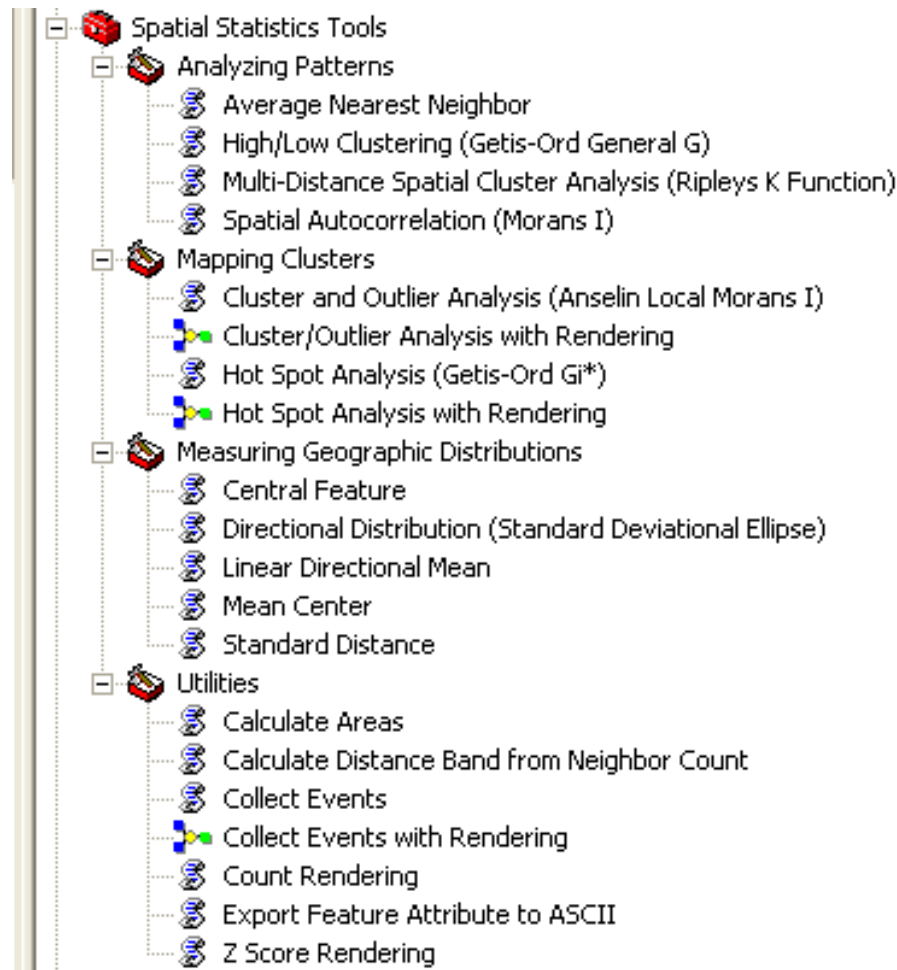


LISA cluster map + significance test (based on p-value)

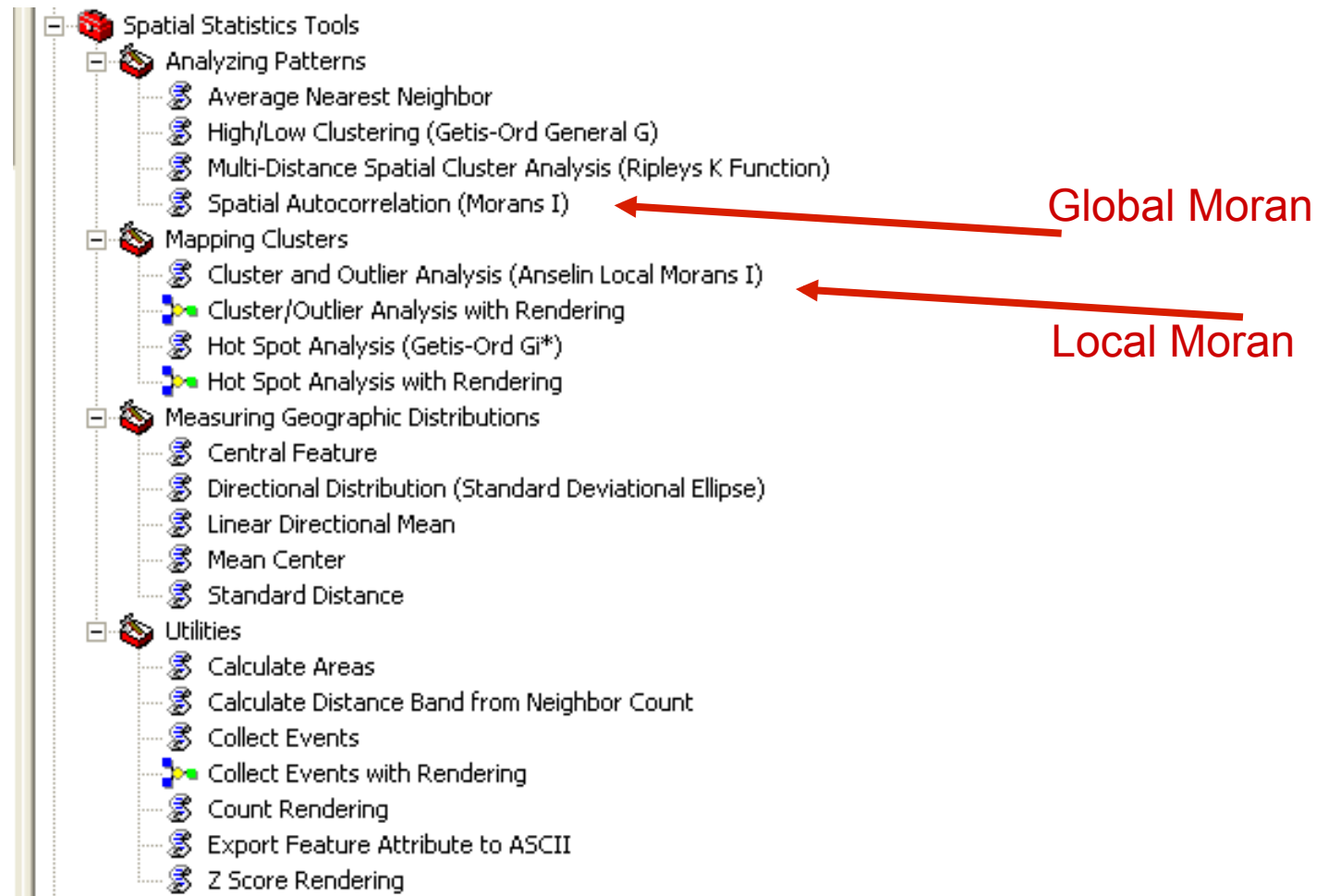
ArcToolbox – Spatial Statistics Tools



ArcToolbox – Spatial Statistics Tools



ArcToolbox – Spatial Statistics Tools



Moran's I – dialog box

Spatial Autocorrelation (Moran's I)

Input Feature Class

Input Field

☐ Display Output Graphically

Conceptualization of Spatial Relationships
Inverse Distance

Distance Method
Euclidean Distance

Standardization
None

Distance Band or Threshold Distance
0

Weights Matrix File (optional)

OK Cancel Environments... Show Help >>

Moran's I – parameters








<Input_Feature_Class>	The feature class for which spatial autocorrelation will be calculated.	Feature Layer
<Input_Field>	The numeric field used in measuring spatial autocorrelation.	Field
<Display_Output_Graphically>	Specifies whether the tool will display the Moran's I and z score values graphically. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • True—The output will be displayed graphically. • False—The output will not be displayed graphically. 	Boolean
<Inverse Distance Inverse Distance Squared Fixed Distance Band Zone of Indifference Polygon Contiguity (First Order) Get Spatial Weights From File>	Specifies how spatial relationships between features are conceptualized. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inverse Distance—The impact of one feature on another feature decreases with distance. • Inverse Distance Squared—Same as Inverse Distance, but the impact decreases more sharply over distance. • Fixed Distance Band—Everything within a specified critical distance is included in the analysis; everything outside the critical distance is excluded. • Zone of Indifference—A combination of Inverse Distance and Fixed Distance Band. Anything up to a critical distance has an impact on your analysis. Once that critical distance is exceeded, the level of impact quickly drops off. • Polygon Contiguity (First Order)—The neighbors of each feature are only those with which the feature shares a boundary. All other features have no influence. • Get Spatial Weights From File—Spatial relationships are defined in a spatial weights file. The pathname to the spatial weights file is specified in the Weights Matrix File parameter. 	String
<Euclidean Distance Manhattan Distance>	Specifies how distances are calculated when measuring spatial autocorrelation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euclidean (as the crow flies)—The straight-line distance between two points. • Manhattan (city block)—The distance between two points measured along axes at right angles. Calculated by summing the (absolute) differences between point coordinates. 	String

Moran's I – parameters

<None Row >	<p>The standardization of spatial weights provides more accurate results.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None—No standardization of spatial weights is applied.• Row—Spatial weights are standardized by row. Each weight is divided by its row sum.	String
<Distance_Band_or_Threshold_Distance>	<p>Specifies a distance cutoff value. When determining the neighbors for a particular feature, features outside the specified Distance Band or Threshold Distance are ignored in the cluster analysis. The value entered for this parameter should be in the units of the Input Feature Class' coordinate system. A value of zero indicates that no threshold distance is applied. This is only valid with the "Inverse Distance" and "Inverse Distance Squared" spatial conceptualizations. This parameter has no effect when "Polygon Contiguity" and "Get Spatial Weights From File" spatial conceptualizations are selected.</p>	Double
{Weights_Matrix_File}	<p>The pathname to a file containing spatial weights that define spatial relationships between features.</p>	File

LISA – same dialog box

Cluster and Outlier Analysis (Anselin Local Morans I)

- Input Feature Class 
- Input Field 
- Output Feature Class 
- Conceptualization of Spatial Relationships
Inverse Distance 
- Distance Method
Euclidean Distance 
- Standardization
None 
- Distance Band or Threshold Distance
0
- Weights Matrix File (optional) 

OK Cancel Environments... << Hide Help

Significance test

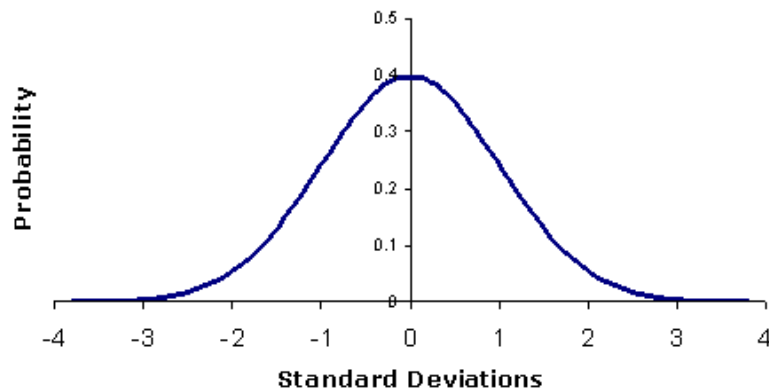
ArcToolbox

What is a Z Score?

Most statistical tests begin by identifying a null hypothesis. The null hypothesis for pattern analysis tools essentially states that there is no pattern; the expected pattern is one of hypothetical random chance. The Z Score is a test of statistical significance that helps you decide whether or not to reject the null hypothesis.

Z scores are measures of standard deviation. For example, if a tool returns a Z score of +2.5 it is interpreted as "+2.5 standard deviations away from the mean". Z score values are associated with a standard normal distribution. This distribution relates standard deviations with probabilities and allows significance and confidence to be attached to Z scores.

Standard Normal Distribution



Very high or a very low Z scores are found in the tails of the normal distribution. From the graph above, it is evident that the probabilities in the tails of the distribution are very low. When you perform a feature pattern analysis and it yields either a very high or a very low Z Score, this indicates it is very UNLIKELY that the observed pattern is some version of the theoretical spatial pattern represented by your null hypothesis.

In order to reject or accept the null hypothesis, you must make a subjective judgment regarding the degree of risk you are willing to accept for being wrong. This degree of risk is often given in terms of critical values and/or confidence level.

To give an example: the critical Z score values when using a 95% confidence level are -1.96 and +1.96 standard deviations. If your Z score is between -1.96 and +1.96 you cannot reject your null hypothesis; the pattern exhibited is a pattern that could very likely be one version of a random pattern. If the Z score falls outside that range (for example -2.5 or +5.4), the pattern exhibited is probably too unusual to be just another version of random chance. If this is the case, it is possible to reject the null hypothesis and proceed with figuring out what might be causing either the statistically significant clustered or statistically significant dispersed pattern.

R - spdep

```
>  
> library(spdep)
```

```
Le chargement a nécessité le package : tripack  
Le chargement a nécessité le package : sp  
Le chargement a nécessité le package : maptools  
Le chargement a nécessité le package : foreign  
Le chargement a nécessité le package : boot  
Le chargement a nécessité le package : Matrix  
Le chargement a nécessité le package : lattice
```

```
Attachement du package : 'lattice'
```


```
The following object(s) are masked from package:boot :
```

```
melanoma
```

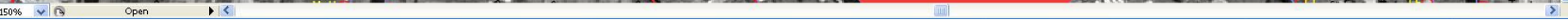
```
>
```

Example

- Caruso, Kolnberger (ongoing)
- Retail location in Phnom Penh

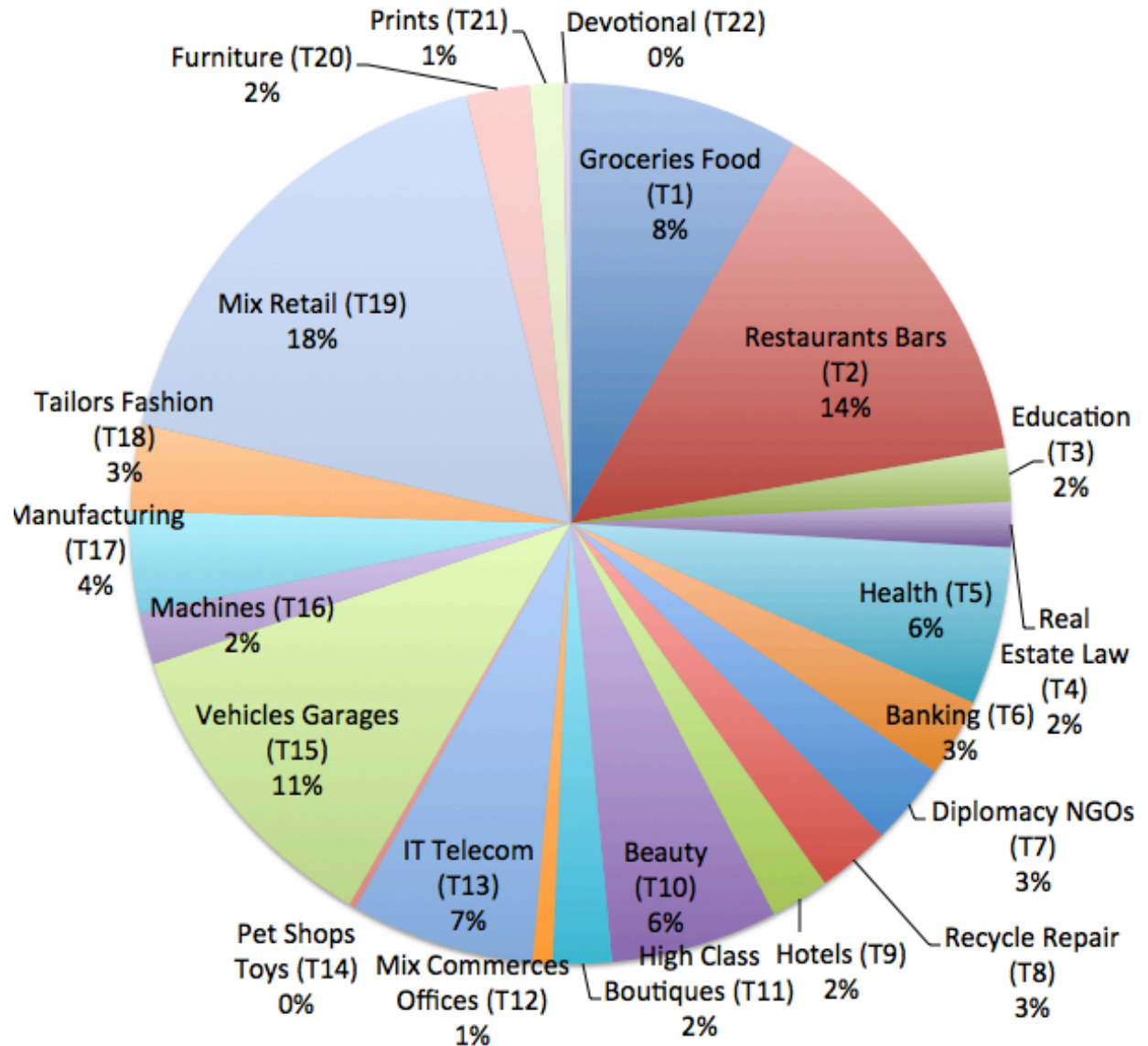
An aerial photograph of a densely populated urban area, likely in China, showing a mix of multi-story buildings and lower-rise structures. A prominent white text box is overlaid on the image, containing the text "The „pavement economy“ of the *Chinese shophouse*:". The text box is positioned in the upper-middle part of the image. Below the text box, there is a red rectangular outline that highlights a specific row of buildings. At the bottom of the image, there is a yellow rectangular area that appears to be a highlighted section of the ground or a specific area of interest.

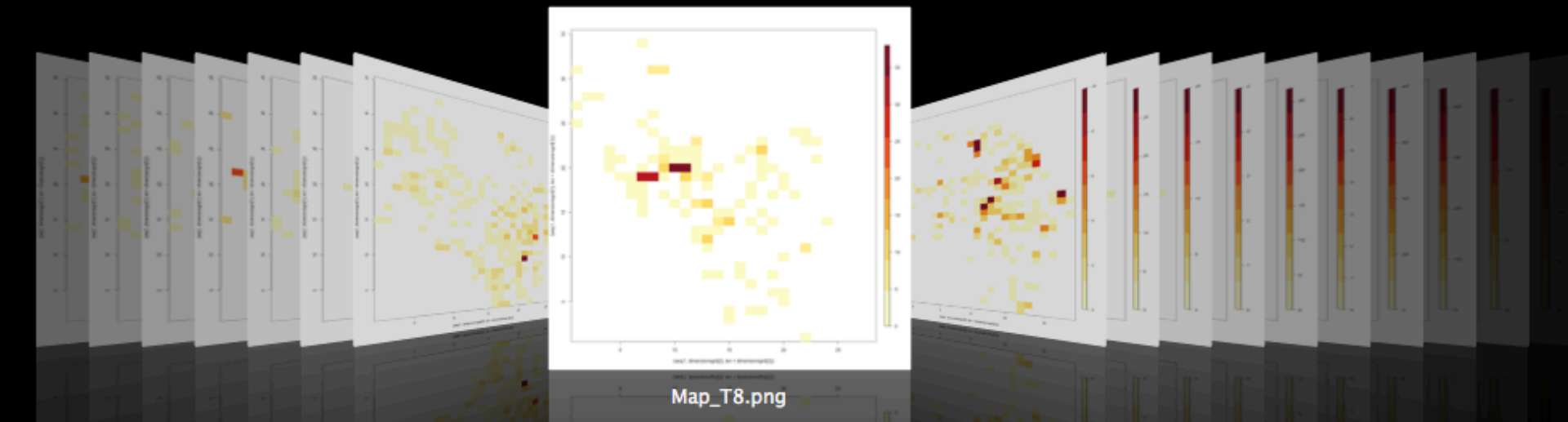
The „pavement economy“
of the *Chinese shophouse*:



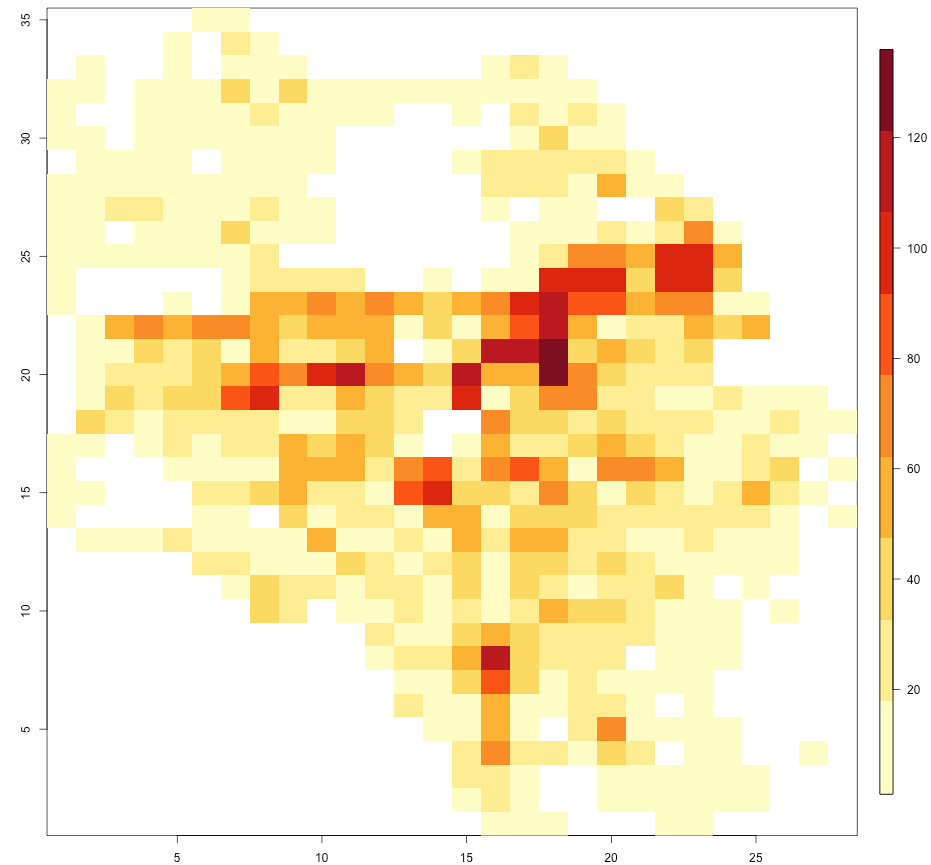
Dataset to explore

- 14549 businesses
- 558 blocks with at least one shop
- 200 m blocks
- 111 subcategories
- 22 categories

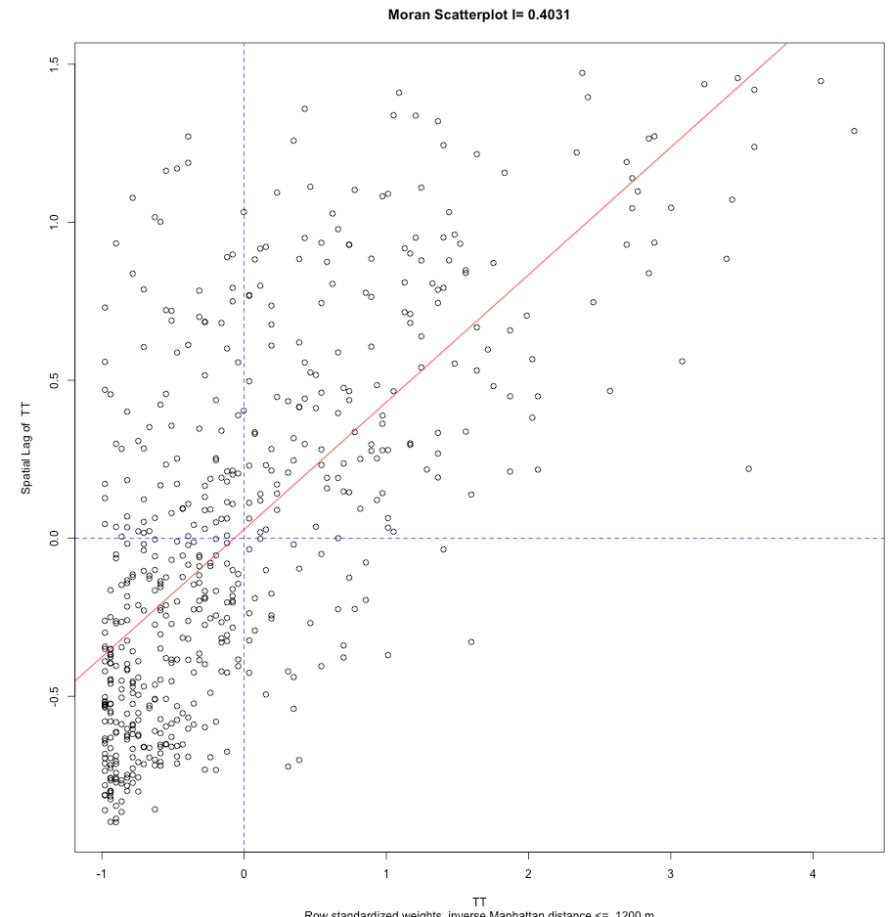
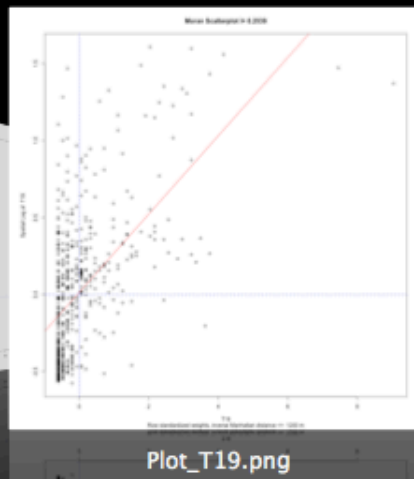




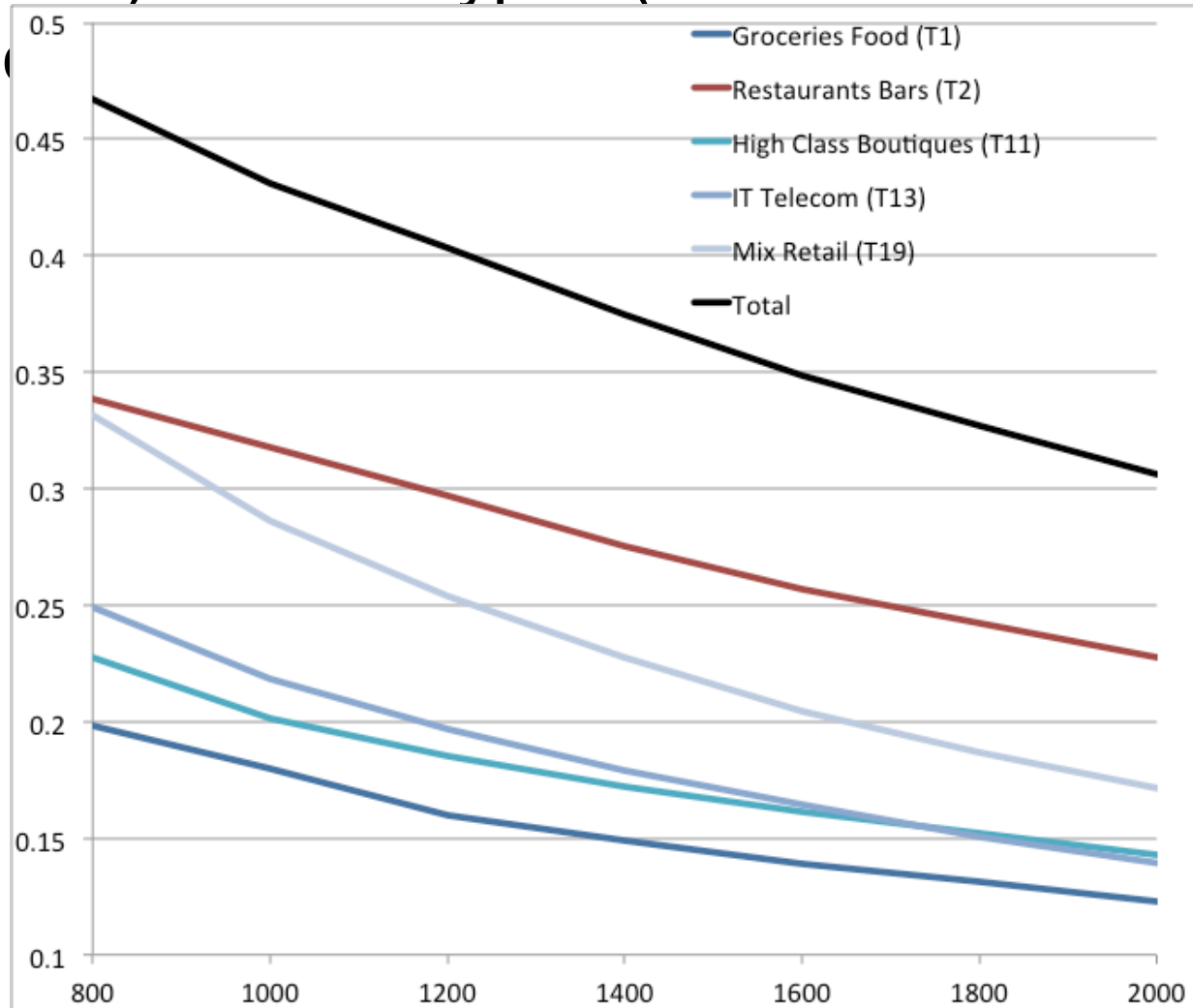
- Total business density

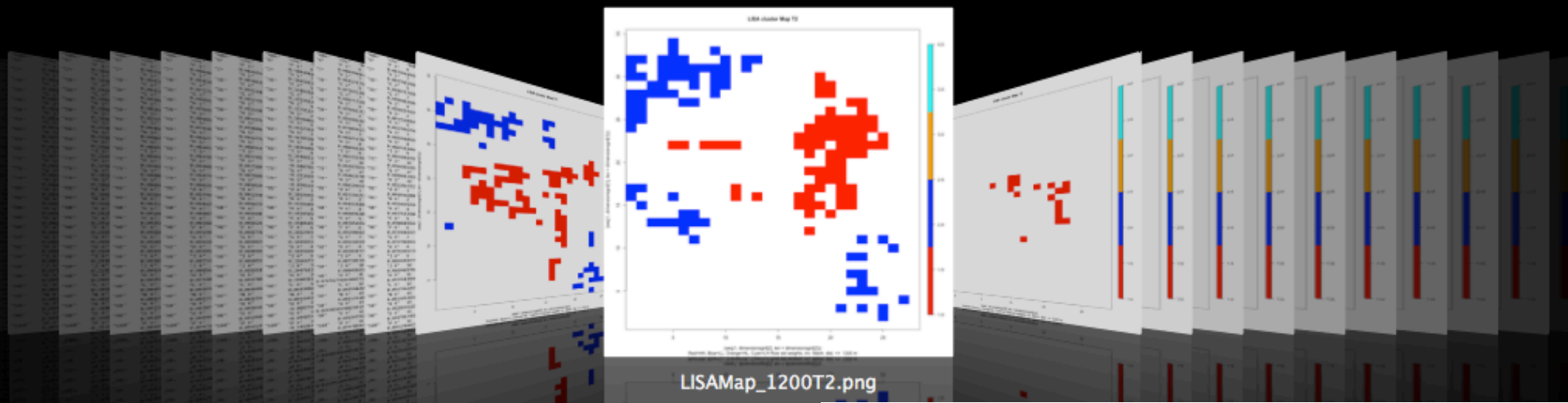


- Total business
Moran's scatterplot



- Moran's I vs distance lags
 - Significant positive global autocorrelation of (almost) all retail types (robust across 4 to 8 bl





- Total business LISA clusters
 - 1 strong central HH cluster spreading W and S
 - Significant LL for newer residential dvlpt (NW) and river bank (SE)
- No significant HL LH across categories and distance bands !

