LatticeKrig Vignette

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1 Introduction

In this vignette, we will explore the functions in the LatticeKrig package and show examples of how they can be used to solve problems. The LatticeKrig (LK) model is an example of the spatial statistics method known as kriging, adapted to large data sets.

1.1 What is kriging?

By spatial data, we mean the data contains the observed variable and its location, the variable depends on the location, and observations that are closer are more similar values than those farther apart.

Two quotes by Waldo Tobler sum this up nicely:

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

The phenomenon external to an area of interest affects what goes on inside.

In the methods of this package, we quantify this relatedness of "near things", statistically using correlation.

Kriging (named for South African statistician Daniel Krige) is a method for making predictions from a spatial data set first developed for mineral exploration. As such, kriging can be applied to a variety of important data sets, from geological data to atmospheric data. Moreover, the method generalizes to the coordinates of a surface that need not be geographic or 2D/3D physical locations. The classic method uses a model for the covariance (correlation) of the observations as a function of their distance of separation. The Kriging predictions are weighted sums of the observations, where the weights depend on the covariances and are different at every location.

The standard spatial model for Kriging relates the observation to a sum of three components: a fixed part typically a polynomial function of the locations (and covariates, if provided), a spatial process, and measurement error. This is a practical model for data analysis but involves complicated formulae for the Kriging weights. The LatticeKrig (LK) model like most spatial methods, decomposes the data into these three components.

1.2 The LatticeKrig model

The key feature of LatticeKrig is that we model a spatial process as the sum of radial basis functions (functions that are symmetric around their center and are 0 for far away points) scaled by coefficients, which we assume are correlated. The smooth basis functions and correlated coefficients create a smooth function representation for the spatial process, and the structure of the basis functions and covariance has some flexibility so you can change the structure to make a more reasonable model for a certain problem. The linear polynomial in the locations and covariates is determined using generalized least squares, following the standard approach of Universal Kriging. To approximate the spatial process, we then fit the basis functions to the residuals from the linear model. In terms of linear algebra, the model is

$$\mathbf{y} = X\mathbf{d} + \Phi\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{e}$$

where \mathbf{y} is the vector of variable measurements, X is the matrix of locations and covariates, \mathbf{d} is the vector of coefficients for the linear model, Φ is the matrix of basis functions evaluated at the data points, \mathbf{c} is the vector of coefficients for each basis function, and \mathbf{e} is the measurement error. If we let \mathbf{g} represent the true values of the variable (without measurement error \mathbf{e}), we can unroll the matrix multiplications into sums and get the form

$$g(\mathbf{s}) = \sum_{l=1}^{n} X_l(\mathbf{s}) \hat{\mathbf{d}}_l + \sum_{k=1}^{m} \psi_k(\mathbf{s}) \hat{\mathbf{c}}_k$$

Here $X_l(s)$ is the l'th column of the X matrix for locations s, and $\psi_k(\mathbf{s})$ is the k'th column of Φ (a Wendland covariance function).

We show the derivations of the equations for \mathbf{c} and \mathbf{d} in Appendix A, and show how all of these calculations are done in Appendix C.

The package is named LatticeKrig because of the placement of the basis functions: they are equally spaced in all dimensions on a lattice. We can also consider multiple different lattice sizes simultaneously to better capture different levels of resolution; by default, each additional level has half as much space between the basis functions in each dimension. The following plot shows the basis functions for each of the three default levels.

But before we start with code, here are the R, fields package, and LatticeKrig package versions used throughout this vignette. Use these to check your versions if you get errors and we will try to make this vignette compatible with latter versions.

```
R.Version()$version.string
```

```
## [1] "R version 4.4.1 (2024-06-14)"
```

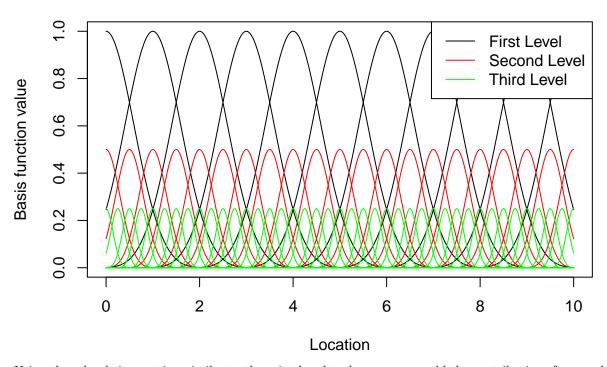
```
packageVersion( "fields")
```

[1] '16.2'

packageVersion("LatticeKrig")

[1] '9.3.0'

Basis Functions for 3 Levels



Using three levels in practice, similar to those in the plot above, we can add the contributions from each level to capture spatial patterns more precisely at different scales.

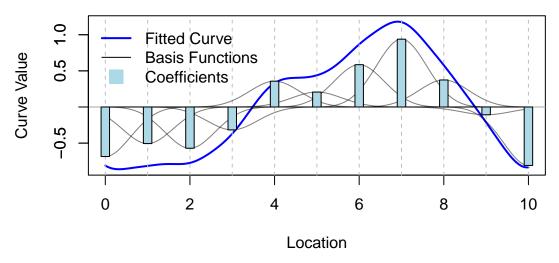
First Level: Captures broad, large-scale trends in the data with basis functions further apart that cover larger areas.

Second Level: Captures medium-scale trends in the data with basis functions closer together.

Third Level: Captures fine-scale variability with tightly spaced basis functions to account for small, localized changes.

To represent a curve, we multiply each basis function by a coefficient and add them together, as shown in the following plot. The blue bars show the coefficient value at each lattice point, and the black line shows the resulting curve from scaling the basis functions with these coefficients and adding them together.

Example 1-D Curve and Coefficients



Now we show a visualization of simulated observed data with the true function and fitted curve in the following plot. The red dots are the observed data that represent actual data points collected (e.g., measurements of a variable like temperature or rainfall). The dashed orange curve represents the true function or "ground truth" that represents the actual relationship between the variable and the location, without noise. The fitted curve is the best approximation of the true function using the basis functions and their coefficients.

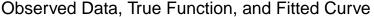
```
## Warning: Using `size` aesthetic for lines was deprecated in ggplot2 3.4.0.
```

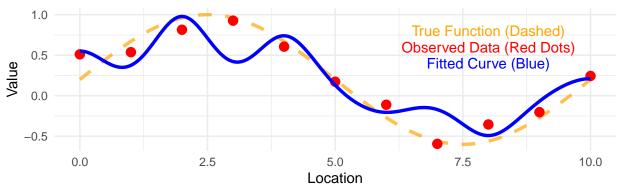
^{##} i Please use `linewidth` instead.

^{##} This warning is displayed once every 8 hours.

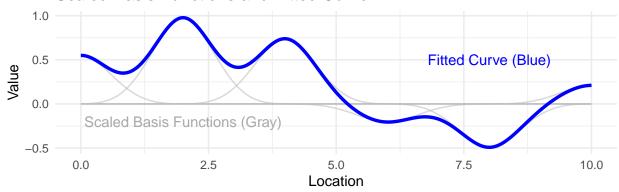
^{##} Call `lifecycle::last_lifecycle_warnings()` to see where this warning was

^{##} generated.





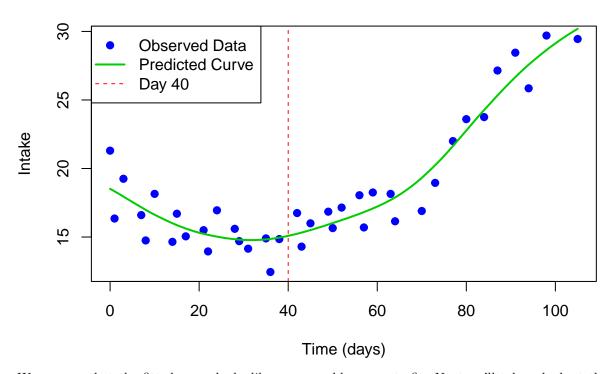
Scaled Basis Functions and Fitted Curve



1.3 Demonstration of Process for Better Intuition

As a primer for the rest of this tutorial, we'll give a brief example of fitting 2D real world data using the LatticeKrig model. The dataset we will use is from GSK pharmaceuticals that was an experiment on rats for an appetite suppressant drug. The y-axis depicts the intake of the rats over the course of the experiment and the x-axis is the span of days, with day 40 being when the appetite suppressant is removed. This is a small dataset that will allow us to more easily interrogate what is going on compared to the large datasets the LatticeKrig model is especially designed for.

Rat Appetite Intake Over Time

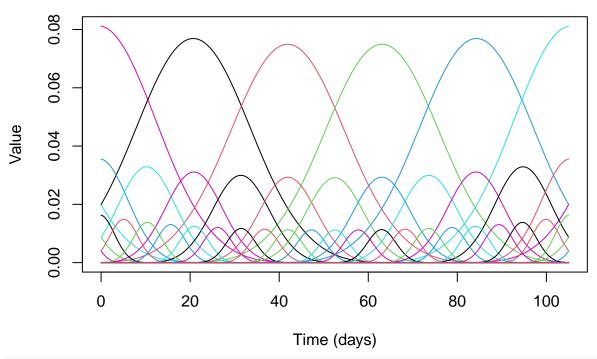


We can see that the fitted curve looks like a reasonably accurate fit. Next we'll take a look at the basis functions that were used to fit this curve.

```
# Evaluate basis functions on grid
basis <- LKrig.basis(sGrid, obj$LKinfo)

# Plot basis functions
matplot(sGrid, basis, type = "1", lty = 1, main = "Basis Functions", xlab = "Time (days)", ylab = "Value"</pre>
```

Basis Functions



Summary of LKinfo obj\$LKinfo

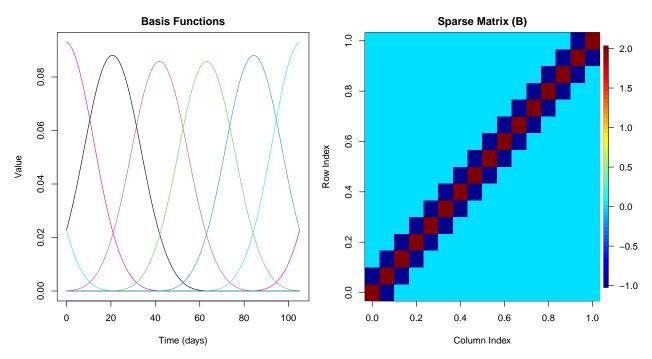
```
## Classes for this object are: LKinfo LKInterval
## The second class usually will indicate the geometry
##
        e.g. 2-d rectangle is LKRectangle
##
## Some details on spatial autoregression flags:
## stationary:
## first order (by level):
## isotropic: TRUE
## Ranges of spatial domain in raw scale:
##
        [,1]
## [1,]
## [2,] 105
## Logical (collapseFixedEffect) if fixed effects will be pooled: FALSE
## Number of levels: 3
## delta scalings: 21 10.5 5.25
## with an overlap parameter of 2.5
## alpha: 0.7619048 0.1904762 0.04761905
## based on smoothness nu = 1
## a.wght: 2.01 2.01 2.01
## Basis type: Radial using WendlandFunction and Euclidean distance.
## Basis functions will be normalized
##
```

```
## Total number of basis functions 68
## Level Basis size
## 1 16 16
## 2 21 21
## 3 31 31
##
## Lambda value: 0.004406991
```

We visualize in the plot above that the coefficients were computed and the curve was fit using three levels of basis functions, similar to the visual in the beginning of the introduction. Looking at the summary of the LKinfo below the basis function plot, we can see each level of basis functions including how many are included in each. Notice that there was a total of 68 basis functions used to fit 39 data points. That may seem excessive but that is the key motivation for using LatticeKrig over other methods for large datasets. LatticeKrig's approach ensures a smooth approximation by leveraging more basis functions than observations, which is especially beneficial for interpolating large, complex datasets. An interesting point to note is that each level of basis functions adds five basis functions on both sides on the specified amount. This is done to eliminate edge effects in this model that is inherint to spatial autoregression (SAR) models.\

Now we'll dig in a little deeper and show how the coefficients are calculated. We'll isolate the first level of basis functions and use these to calculate the coefficients. To do this, we will first extract the basis function matrix that contains just this first level.

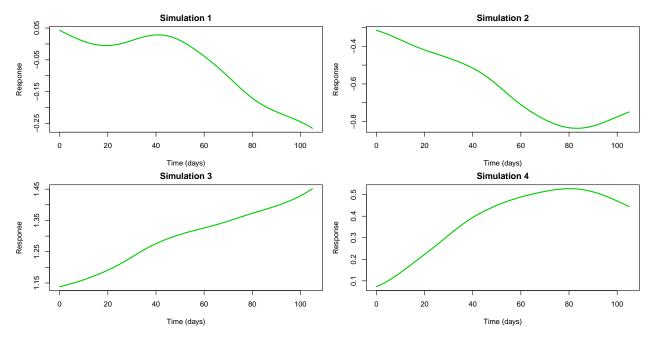
```
# Set up model parameters
LKinfo <- LKrigSetup(s,
                     a.wght = 2.01,
                     nlevel = 1,
                     NC = 6,
                     LKGeometry = "LKInterval")
# Evaluate basis functions
look <- LKrig.basis(sGrid, LKinfo) # Evaluate basis functions at sGrid
# Construct sparse matrix
B <- LKrigSAR(LKinfo, Level = 1)
B_dense <- spind2full(B) # Convert sparse matrix to dense format for visualization
# Visualize basis functions and sparse matrix side by side
par(mfrow = c(1, 2), mar = c(4, 4, 2, 1), oma = c(0, 0, 0, 5))
# Plot basis functions
matplot(sGrid, look, type = "l", lty = 1, col = 1:6,
        main = "Basis Functions", xlab = "Time (days)", ylab = "Value")
# Plot sparse matrix
imagePlot(B_dense, main = "Sparse Matrix (B)", xlab = "Column Index", ylab = "Row Index")
```



When we multiply the inverse of this sparse matrix by a vector of random iid standard normal values, we will obtain a random realization of our coefficients. That is, the coefficients are calculated as

$$c = B^{-1}r$$
, where $r \sim N(0, I)$

```
# Simulate coefficients
# Basis matrix evaluated at all grid points
B<- spind2full(B) # Since B is constructed as a sparse matrix, we need to convert this into a dense mat
PhiGrid<- LKrig.basis(sGrid,
                      LKinfo)
# Set up 2x2 plotting layout
par(mfrow = c(2, 2), mar = c(4, 4, 2, 1)) # 2x2 grid with appropriate margins
# Simulate and plot four realizations
set.seed(222) # Ensure reproducibility
for (i in 1:4) {
  cSim <- solve(B) %*% rnorm(16)
                                            # Generate coefficients
  ySim <- PhiGrid %*% cSim
                                           # Simulate Gaussian process
  plot(sGrid, ySim, type = "1", col = "green3", lwd = 2,
       main = paste("Simulation", i),
       xlab = "Time (days)", ylab = "Response")
}
```



Each of the above realizations of the normally distributed coefficients represents a possible fit of coefficients that are consistent with the covariance of a Gaussian Process model. Each one shows heavy correlation as a result of being a spatial autoregression (SAR). In the context of our example, we are assuming that the rat intake response over time is a realization of a Gaussian Process and the randomness of the coefficients reflects the variability and uncertainty in the process. These multiple different realizations help better visualize this concept.

1.4 Glossary of important package functions

- LatticeKrig: A top level function that sets up the default spatial model, estimates some key spatial parameters, and uses the LKrig function for the kriging computation. LatticeKrig can use a minimal set of inputs and is a quick way to fit a kriging model to data.
- LKrig: Performs the Kriging computation and evaluates the Gaussian spatial likelihood function for a fixed LatticeKrig model. This is the main computational step in the package, and is common to all choices of geometries and models.
- LKrigSetup: Creates an LKinfo object, which is used to describe the complete spatial model for a LatticeKrig or LKrig call; especially useful for examining the effect of changing one parameter on the model
- surface: Plots a fitted surface in 2D space as a color plot and adds contour lines.
- imagePlot orimage.plot : Plots a dataset or fitted surface in 2D space as an image plot and adds a color bar legend.
- predictSurface: Takes a Kriging model and evaluates its fitted function on a grid of locations.

2 Quick Start Guide

In this section, we will lay out the bare essentials of the package as a quick overview for the impatient reader. To fit a surface and interpolate data using LatticeKrig, the only required arguments are, naturally, the measurement locations (formatted in a matrix where each row indexes one location) and measurement values. However, we highly recommend using some of the optional parameters (see Section 3) to customize the model to your specific data problem - several ways to do this are illustrated in this vignette. Calling the LatticeKrig function and passing in the locations and values will produce a LatticeKrig object that contains all the information needed to predict the variable at any location. Also, some spatial parameters are estimated by maximum likelihood if not specified.

For a simple, 1-dimensional example, we will take our locations to be 50 randomly spaced points on the interval [-6, 6], and our observations to be the values of $\sin(x)$ at these locations with some added error. The goal of our kriging fit is to estimate this smooth curve from the observations.

2.1 One dimensional LatticeKrig example

```
#Making the synthetic data
set.seed(223)
locations <- runif(50, min=-6, max=6)
locations <- as.matrix(locations)
observations <- sin(locations) + rnorm(50, sd = 1e-1)
#Fit to the data, with parameters tau and sigma2 found by maximum likelihood.
kFit1D <- LatticeKrig(locations, observations)</pre>
```

Now we will print out the LatticeKrig object: this list features the data's estimated covariance scale sigma² and estimated standard measurement error tau, and the basis function description: the type of basis function, how distance is measured, and the number and spacing of basis functions. In this example, all of this information is determined by LatticeKrig from defaults, but can be changed with optional parameters (see Section 3).

```
print(kFit1D)
```

```
## Call:
## LatticeKrig(x = locations, y = observations)
##
##
##
    Number of Observations:
                                                 50
##
    Number of parameters in the fixed component 2
##
    Effective degrees of freedom (EDF)
                                                 10.34
##
       Standard Error of EDF estimate:
                                                 0.9605
   MLE tau
                                                 0.1062
##
##
    MLE sigma2
                                                 91.19
##
    MLE lambda = tau^2/sigma2
                                                 0.0001237
##
## Fixed part of model is a polynomial of degree 1 (m-1)
##
## Summary of estimated fixed model coefficients
##
                Estimate Std. Error
                                          t value Pr(>|t|)
## Intercept -0.03902803
                           8.812590 -0.004428667 0.9964848
## x1
              0.29434576
                           0.558455 0.527071572 0.6005715
    Standard errors are based on generalized LS
##
##
    and for covariance parameters fixed at the estimated values
##
## Basis function : Radial
```

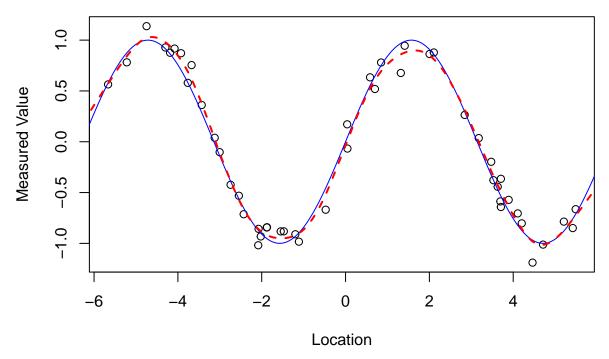
```
## Basis function used: WendlandFunction
## Distance metric: Euclidean
##
## Lattice summary:
## 3 Level(s) 75 basis functions with overlap of 2.5 (lattice units)
##
   Level Lattice points
##
                           Spacing
##
        1
                      17 1.8592024
##
        2
                      23 0.9296012
##
        3
                      35 0.4648006
##
## Nonzero entries in Ridge regression matrix 803
## NULL
```

In the printout above, tau is the estimated standard deviation of the measurement error; we set it to be 0.1, so the estimate 0.106 is great. EDF is a measurement of how strictly the model matches the original data; when EDF = 1, the model will be a straight line; when EDF equals the number of observations, the model will exactly match each recorded data point. We can also see the type of radial basis function used: in this case it is the Wendland function. We also have the default 3 levels to capture different effect scales.

2.2 Plotting the results

Now, we'll make a plot of the original 50 data points and the true function $(\sin(x))$ and the LatticeKrig fit at 200 equally spaced points to compare them.

1-Dimensional LatticeKrig Example



For this example, the fitted curve (in red) matches the true function (in blue) rather closely, though error increases near the endpoints and we underestimate some peaks and troughs.

2.3 Inference and error analysis

Although it is beyond the scope of this Vignette to go into the details of conditional simulation, it is useful to explain how the package is designed to do this computation – and what it is good for! Suppose you have fit a model to data, with the results in MyFit as an LKrig or LatticeKrig object and suppose Z1 is the covariates at the locations x1.

The following code generates 10 draws from the distribution of the unknown process given (i.e. conditional on) the observations. This random sample is often called an ensemble. As a frequentist-based package, the conditioning in LatticeKrig also assumes that tau, sigma2, alpha and a.wght covariance parameters are known. (A Bayesian approach would also sample these from their posterior distribution.)

(The covariance parameters alpha and a wght are chosen by default in LatticeKrig. See Section 3 for information on those parameters.)

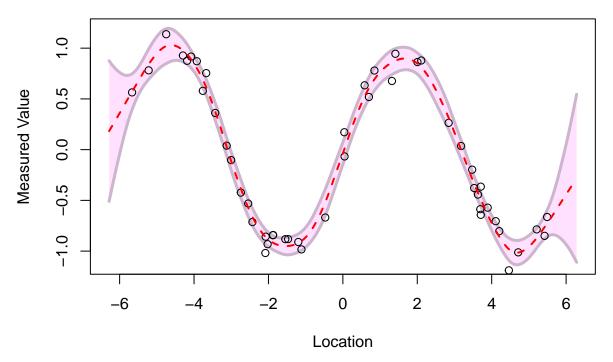
```
aDraw <- LKrig.sim.conditional(MyFit, M = 10, x.grid = x1, Z.grid = Z1)
```

The interpretation of aDraw is that each column of aDraw is an equally likely representation of the process and linear model at locations x1 given the observed data. As M becomes large the sample mean of the ensemble will converge to the estimate from LKrig. These simulations are easier to compute than the standard error for large data sets and so they are used to estimate the standard error of a model in LatticeKrig. The sample covariances of the ensemble will converge to the correct covariance matrix expressing the uncertainty in the estimate.

This first plot shows the 95% confidence intervals for the individual locations, based on a collection of simulations.

```
#simulates 50 curves based on the given data
uncertainty <- LKrig.sim.conditional(kFit1D, x.grid = as.matrix(xGrid), M=50)</pre>
```

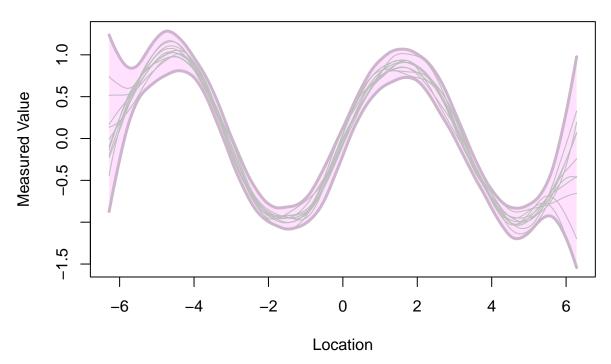
Data with Confidence Intervals



For any given location, we can be 95% confident that that point on the true curve falls within the envelope above.

This next plot adds a collection of simulations based on the fitted curve and the 95% confidence envelope for the entire fitted curve.

Simulated Curves with Confidence Envelope

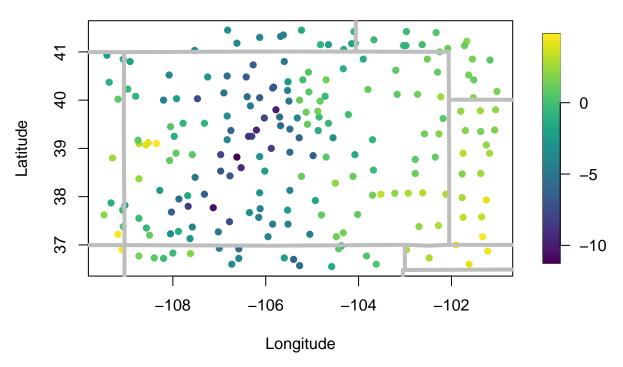


We can be 95% confident that the entire true curve falls within the envelope above. We can see that the simulations get farther apart, meaning the confidence envelope gets wider, where there aren't many data points and especially at the edges of the region.

2.4 Two dimensional example

For another, more practical example, we will predict the average daily mean spring temperature for locations throughout Colorado, using the data set COmonthlyMet. First, let's plot the observed data. Use the US function to draw in the USA state borders to show where Colorado is.

Observed Spring Temperature Across Colorado



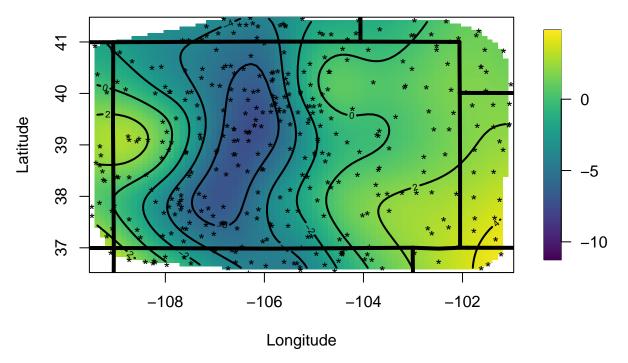
We can make a surface showing our predictions at unobserved locations over this range of longitudes and latitudes using LatticeKrig, and draw the points where data was recorded. Notice that LatticeKrig will automatically discard any data points with missing values (NAs) if needed.

```
kFitWeather <- LatticeKrig(locations, observations)
## Warning in LatticeKrig(locations, observations): NAs removed
print(kFitWeather)
## Call:</pre>
```

```
## LatticeKrig(x = locations, y = observations)
##
##
##
   Number of Observations:
                                                 213
   Number of parameters in the fixed component 3
##
##
    Effective degrees of freedom (EDF)
                                                 36.96
       Standard Error of EDF estimate:
                                                 1.685
##
##
   MLE tau
                                                 1.566
##
   MLE sigma2
                                                 1832
##
   MLE lambda = tau^2/sigma2
                                                 0.001338
##
## Fixed part of model is a polynomial of degree 1 (m-1)
##
## Summary of estimated fixed model coefficients
##
                Estimate Std. Error
                                        t value Pr(>|t|)
## Intercept -21.2429320 376.156171 -0.0564737 0.9550181
              -0.5027981
                           3.310397 -0.1518845 0.8794238
##
  lon
                           3.564150 -0.1938543 0.8464773
## lat
              -0.6909259
   Standard errors are based on generalized LS
   and for covariance parameters fixed at the estimated values
```

```
##
## Basis function: Radial
## Basis function used: WendlandFunction
## Distance metric: Euclidean
##
## Lattice summary:
## 3 Level(s) 797 basis functions with overlap of 2.5 (lattice units)
##
##
   Level Lattice points Spacing
##
        1
                     168
                           2.820
##
        2
                     238
                           1.410
        3
                           0.705
##
                     391
##
## Nonzero entries in Ridge regression matrix 51222
## NULL
surface(kFitWeather, main = "Spring Temperature Estimates across Colorado",
        xlab="Longitude", ylab="Latitude",
        zlim=c(min(observations[!is.na(observations)]), max(observations[!is.na(observations)])))
points(locations, pch = '*')
US(add=TRUE, col='black', lwd=4)
```

Spring Temperature Estimates across Colorado



This plot is useful, but we can do better. We can see that the coldest temperatures are in the Rocky Mountains at higher elevations, which is not surprising. Thus, we might expect that we will get a more accurate fit by having LatticeKrig account for the elevation at each location as well. Another way we can improve the plot is by increasing its resolution - the current image is somewhat pixelated. The surface function will evaluate the surface at more points if we increase the nx and ny arguments: setting nx=200, ny=150 will produce a grid of 30,000 points, which will take longer to compute but produces a nicer looking, more detailed plot. Finally, we can also have surface extend the evaluation all the way to the corners of the window by using the extrap argument; by default it doesn't extrapolate outside of the existing data, since the error often

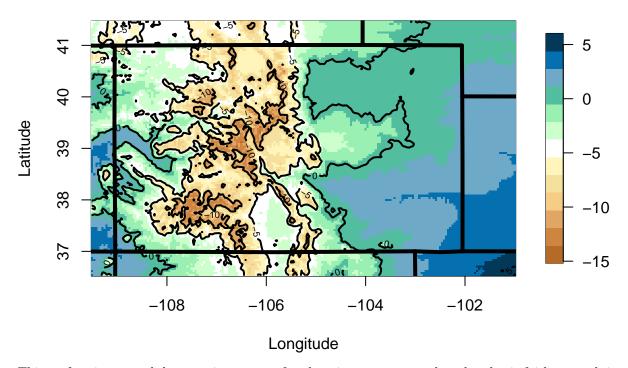
increases dramatically when predicting outside of the given data. However, extending the plot to the corners will make it look nicer. For the sake of example, we will also change the color scale in the image by setting the col parameter.

```
data(COmonthlyMet)
locations <- CO.loc</pre>
observations <- CO.tmean.MAM.climate
elevations <- CO.elev
kFitWeather <- LatticeKrig(locations, observations, Z=cbind(elevations))
## Warning in LatticeKrig(locations, observations, Z = cbind(elevations)): NAs
## removed
print(kFitWeather)
## Call:
## LatticeKrig(x = locations, y = observations, Z = cbind(elevations))
##
##
  Number of Observations:
                                             213
##
  Number of parameters in the fixed component 4
  Number of covariates
##
##
    Effective degrees of freedom (EDF)
                                             16.69
      Standard Error of EDF estimate:
                                             1.085
##
## MLE tau
                                             1.204
## MLE sigma2
                                             64.43
  MLE lambda = tau^2/sigma2
                                             0.02248
##
## Fixed part of model is a polynomial of degree 1 (m-1)
##
## Summary of estimated fixed model coefficients
                          Std. Error
##
                Estimate
                                         t value
                                                    Pr(>|t|)
## Intercept -7.245607910 74.883839129 -0.09675797 9.230113e-01
            ## lon
            -0.604936610 0.710644609 -0.85125054 3.956045e-01
## lat
            ## Z1
   Standard errors are based on generalized LS
##
   and for covariance parameters fixed at the estimated values
##
## Basis function : Radial
## Basis function used: WendlandFunction
## Distance metric: Euclidean
##
## Lattice summary:
## 3 Level(s) 797 basis functions with overlap of 2.5 (lattice units)
##
##
   Level Lattice points Spacing
##
       1
                   168
                         2.820
                    238
##
       2
                         1.410
                    391
                         0.705
##
##
## Nonzero entries in Ridge regression matrix 51222
```

Compared to the previous fit, we can see that this new fit with the covariate has much fewer effective degrees

of freedom and a much lower sigma2, which means that the covariate was able to explain a significant amount of the variation in the data.

Improved Spring Temperature Estimates across Colorado



This surface is so rough because it accounts for elevation; we can see that the plot is fairly smooth in the eastern half of the state, and extremely rough in the mountains.

Finally, it is important to note some potential issues that LatticeKrig calculations won't catch. Because LatticeKrig estimates some parameters of the data, the model could be a poor fit if the estimates aren't reasonable. See section 6.4 for more details on this. The LatticeKrig model also approximates a thin plate spline by default, which may not be a good fit for a given problem. Finally, as with other curve fitting techniques, you should examine the residuals of the model for any patterns or features that may indicate a poor fit.

2.5 Simulating a spatial process from the LatticeKrig model

As a final topic we describe how to generate realizations from the Gaussian model in this package. The LKinfo object has a full description of the model and so simulation is easy. In the two examples of this section this object was set up from the top level function LatticeKrig and is the LKinfo component of the returned results. For more control over the model, however, we recommend that this object be created separately. (See Section 3)

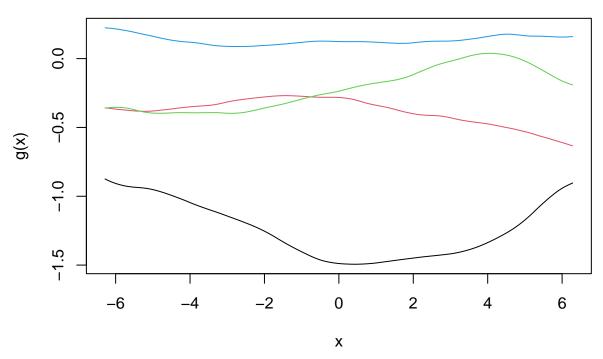
For kFit1D from Section 2.1 note that a listing of the full model is shown from:

print(kFit1D\$LKinfo)

Here we simulate 4 sample curves from this model and evaluate them on a finer grid of points than the observations. The random seed is set to reproduce these particular psuedo random draws.

```
set.seed(123)
gSim <- LKrig.sim(xGrid, kFit1D$LKinfo, M=4)
matplot(xGrid, gSim, type="l", lty=1, xlab="x", ylab="g(x)")
title("Simulated curves from LK model")</pre>
```

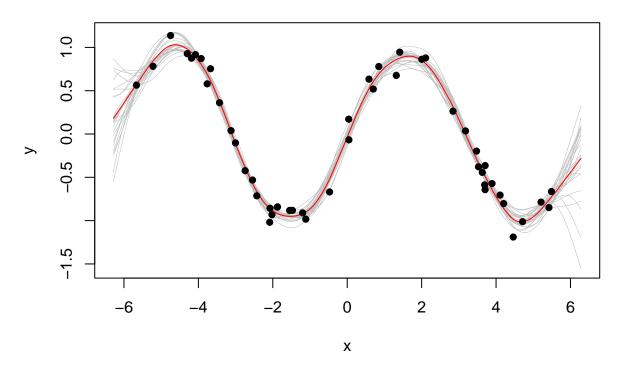
Simulated curves from LK model



Note that in actually fitting the data a linear function is also included, but since this is not a random component it is not part of the simulated process. Also the variance of the process is set to one.

These simulated curves are referred to as unconditional because they are unrelated to the actual data except in terms of the range of the x values. Another form of simulation is to generate the process conditional on the observed data. This technique turns out to be very useful for quantifying the uncertianty in the curve estimate, and is the Monte Carlo method used to generate standard errors and confidence envelopes in the previous section. The example below creates 25 conditional draws from fitting the 1D example. All these curves are "equally likely" or plausible given the observations. This function returns several different parts of the estimate and so a list format is used. Note the use of the predict function to recover the estimated curve and also that the data is part of the fitted object. Within the range of the data all the conditional curves tend to track the estimate and the data, however, as one might expect beyond on the range of the observations there is much more variability among the simulated curves.

Estimating minimum with conditional simulation



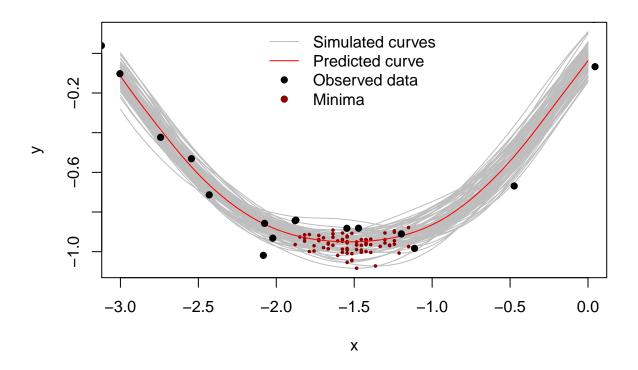
2.6 Extra credit!

Here is a final example illustrating the power of determining the uncertainty by Monte Carlo. We generate a larger conditional sample over the subinterval [-3,0], find the minimum of each realization and plot the minimum and its location. Note that this represents uncertainty in both the minimum value itself and its location on the x-axis. Of course, because we know the true curve is a sine wave, we know the true minimum is exactly -1 at $x = -\pi/2$. This two dimensional distribution of minima and their locations is a valid approach to approximate the uncertainty of the estimated minimum of the true curve in this range. It would be difficult to derive an analytic formula for this distribution so the Monte Carlo approach is quite useful.

```
xGrid2 <- as.matrix(seq(-3, 0, length.out=100))
set.seed(333)
suppressMessages(
   gCondSim <- LKrig.sim.conditional(kFit1D, x.grid=xGrid2, M=75)
)</pre>
```

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

Monte Carlo Simulation of Function Minima



3 LKrigSetup

The only required arguments for the LatticeKrig function are the set of locations and variable observations. However, LatticeKrig also allows for a variety of optional arguments to adapt the model to be more realistic. The LKrigSetup function is a convenient (and, in some cases, the only) way to pass in a group of parameters to LatticeKrig or LKrig. We will cover the required parameters and some of the more important optional parameters here; for full descriptions, check the help pages for LatticeKrig and LKrigSetup.

This code will printout the LKinfo object created by LatticeKrig in the quick start guide's one-dimensional example.

```
print(kFit1D$LKinfo)
```

We could make such an LKinfo object directly from the LKrigSetup function as follows:

```
kFit1DInfo <- LKrigSetup(x = locations, nlevel = 3, NC = 6, nu = 1, a.wght = 2.01)
```

3.1 Required Parameters for LKrigSetup

• X

The parameter x is used to find the range of the data locations in each dimension for the lattice. As such, it is often easiest to pass in the matrix of observation locations, but you can also just pass in the range directly. For example, to use the unit square as your range, format it as x = rbind(c(0,0), c(1,1)).

• nlevel

The parameter nlevel is an integer that determines the number of different lattice sizes the computation should run on. This is set to 3 by default in LatticeKrig. Increasing nlevel will increase the potential detail of the fitted surface, and will increase the computation time significantly. The coefficients at each different lattice size are computed independently, and the resulting coefficients are scaled by the weights in alpha.

• NC

The parameter NC is an integer that determines the number of basis functions to put along the largest dimension at the first level. Recall that each basis function is centered on a lattice point, so NC equivalently controls the number of lattice points to set across the region in the longest dimension. Note that the actual number of basis functions may be different. By default, 5 additional basis functions (this can be changed with the optional NC.buffer parameter) are added outside the domain on each side. For example, if the spatial domain is a rectangle whose length is double its width and NC = 6, the first level of basis functions will contain 16x13 = 208 basis functions (6x3 inside the domain with 5 extended from each edge) and the second level will contain 21x15 = 315 basis functions (11x5 inside the domain with 5 extended from each edge).

• alpha or alphaObject or nu

At least one of alpha, alphaObject, and nu must be set. In most cases you will use alpha or nu. The parameter alpha should be a vector of length nlevel that holds the weights that scale the basis functions on each different lattice size; nu is a scalar that controls how quickly the values in alpha decay. When nu is set, alpha will be filled by setting $\texttt{ttt}\{alpha[i] = 2^*\}$ (-2 * i * nu), then scaling so the sum of the weights in alpha is 1. This scaling should always be done before passing in alpha to make sure the model fits correctly. The alphaObject and a.wghtObject below can be used for nonstationary models, which are not discussed in this vignette.

• a.wght or a.wghtObject

The parameter a.wght determines the diagonal values of the precision matrix, which is an intermediate calculation step we touch upon lightly later in this vignette. At least one of a.wght and a.wghtObject must be set. In most cases you will use a.wght, which can be either a scalar or a vector of length nlevel. The minimum value for this parameter varies depending on the geometry and the number of dimenions: in the

default Euclidean geometry, the minimum value is two times the number of dimensions. For example, in 2 dimensions, you might set a.wght = 4.01. When using the LKSphere geometry, the minimum value for a.wght is 1, and again a small decimal should be added on.

3.2 Optional parameters

• lambda

Lambda is an estimate of the noise to signal ratio in the data. If not listed, LatticeKrig and LKrig will estimate it using maximum likelihood. There is a one-to-one relationship between this parameter and the effective degrees of freedom (EDF) of the curve estimate. However, EDF is more expensive to compute so lambda is preferred for computing.

• LKGeometry

The LKGeometry specifies the geometry used for the LK model (Euclidean by default). For example, if the dataset covers the whole earth, it would be more appropriate to base the kriging on a sphere than a rectangle. This is covered in more depth in the next section.

• distance.type

When using a different LKGeometry than default (Euclidean), you may also need to change the distance.type. This is also covered in more depth in the next section.

• NC.buffer

This parameter determines how many lattice points (each corresponding to an additional basis function) to add outside the range of the data on each side. The effect of changing this parameter is relatively minor compared to the effect of changing NC, and it usually will only affect the prediction near the edges of the data, where the supports of the additional basis functions overlap with the data range..

• normalize

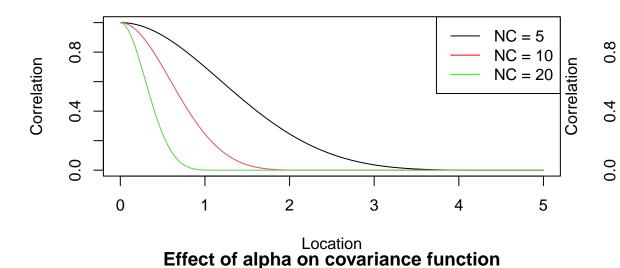
This parameter determines whether or not to normalize the basis functions after computing them, making the variance 1. This is set to TRUE by default, sacrificing some computing time to reduce edge and lattice artifacts created by the model that aren't present in the data.

3.3 Relationships between parameters and the covariance function

The following plots show how different values of NC, a.wght, alpha, and nu affect the covariance function. These plots are all one dimensional for ease of viewing; the covariance function is radially symmetric in higher dimensions and has similar dependence on these parameters.

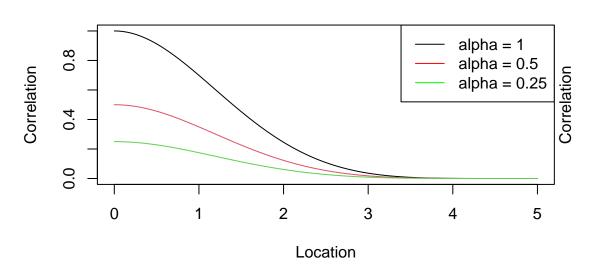


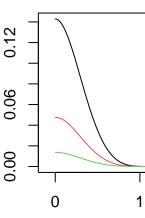
Effect



Effect of nu on

0





3.4 Additional Visualizations

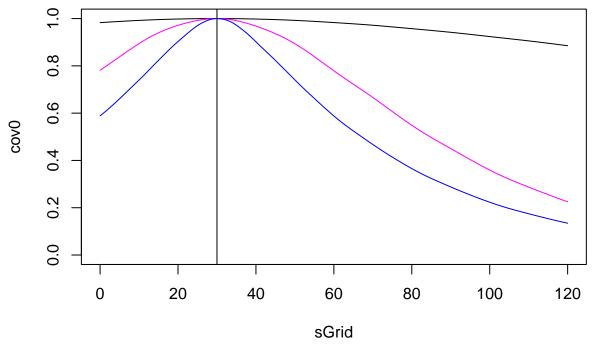
Covariance comparison under different setups:

```
# rat diet example
s<- cbind(rat.diet$t)
z<- rat.diet$trt
obj<- LatticeKrig(s,z)
sGrid<- seq( 0, 120,.5)
# Alternative setups

cov0<- LKrig.cov(sGrid, 30, LKinfo = LKinfo)
plot( sGrid, cov0, type="l", ylim=c(0,1))
xline(30)

LKinfo1<- LKrigSetup(s,
a.wght=2.5,
nlevel=1,</pre>
```

```
NC=6,
LKGeometry = "LKInterval")
cov1<- LKrig.cov(sGrid, 30, LKinfo = LKinfo1)
lines( sGrid, cov1, col="magenta")
LKinfo2<- LKrigSetup(s,
a.wght=2.5,
nlevel=3,
NC=6,
nu=.5,
LKGeometry = "LKInterval")
cov2<- LKrig.cov(sGrid, 30, LKinfo = LKinfo2)
lines( sGrid, cov2, col="blue2")</pre>
```



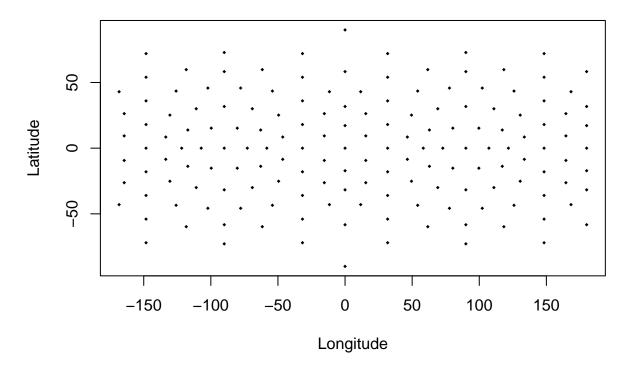
4 Kriging in Different Geometries

By default, LatticeKrig will interpret the location data it receives as points in n-dimensional Euclidean space, and calculate the distance accordingly. However, this package also supports distance metrics for other geometries. One example is locations on a sphere (e.g. observations on the Earth's surface), expressed as azimuth (longitude) and zenith (latitude). There are also other options for non-Euclidean geometries: a cylinder using 3 dimensional cylindrical coordinates (z, θ , and radius), and a ring using 2 dimensional cylindrical coordinates (z and θ at a fixed radius). To set the geometry, set the LKGeometry parameter in LKrigSetup. These are the current choices:

- "LKInterval": 1 dimensional Euclidean space
- "LKRectangle": 2 dimensional Euclidean space
- "LKBox": 3 dimensional Euclidean space
- "LKSphere": 2 dimensional spherical coordinates
- "LKCylinder": 3 dimensional cylindrical coordinates
- "LKRing": 2 dimensional cylindrical coordinates

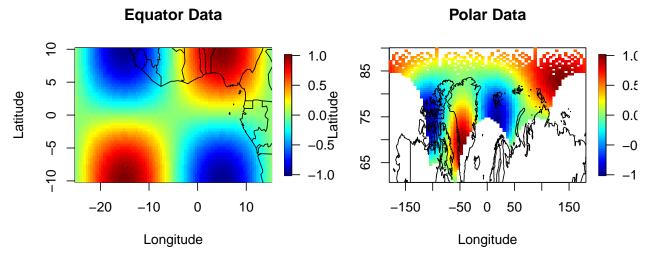
By default, LKinfo will use either LKInterval, LKRectangle, or LKBox, depending on the number of columns in the data locations. However, it is best to set LKGeometry explicitly; failing to do so can cause errors. When using the LKSphere geometry, there are also different ways of measuring distance using the distance.type argument of the LKinfo object - the default is "GreatCircle", which measures the shortest distance over the surface of the sphere, or you can use "Chordal" to measure the straight-line distance, treating the coordinates as 3-dimensional Euclidean locations. Finally, when using the spherical geometry, you need to set startingLevel, which serves a similar role to NC from the Euclidean space. The startingLevel parameter controls how fine of a grid to use at the first level of the fit in spherical coordinates. When startingLevel is high, more tightly-packed basis functions will be used. The following plot shows the centers of the basis functions at startingLevel = 3, where they are at the vertices of an icosohedron inscribed in the sphere; for more information, check the LKSphere help page and the example in the IcosohedronGrid help page using the rgl library.

Spherical Grid Centers



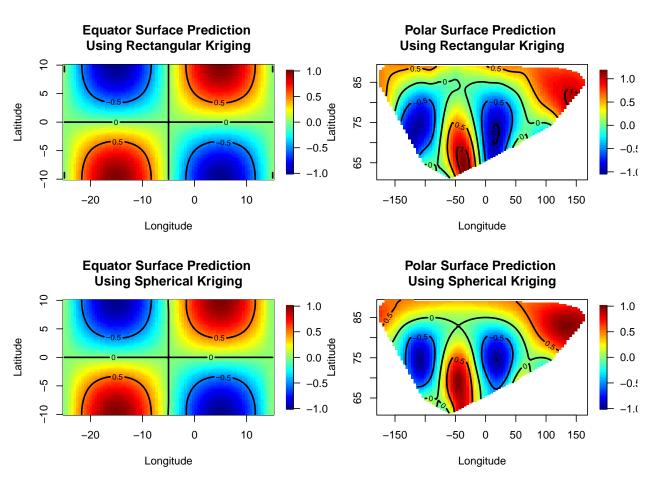
4.1 Working with spherical coordinates

For an example of fitting data taken on the globe using spherical geometry, we will load 2 copies of the same sample data – one near the equator, one near the north pole – and compare the models computed on the LKRectangle geometry and LKSphere geometry. We will compare the kriging predictions at the equator and at the pole for both both geometries, expecting to see very similar results for the two spherical models and noticeably different results for the two rectangular models. We will also print out the root mean squared errors as a measurement of how accurately the different fits match the data.



Remember that, even though the second plot looks radically different from the first, they are both plots of the same data over equally spaced data points - the distortions in the second map are caused by the map projection failing near the pole.

Now, we will use LatticeKrig to approximate these surfaces in both rectangular and spherical geometries, and print out the root mean square error of all four models.



As we can see, the rectangular model performs very differently at the equator and at the pole. It matches the true data nicely at the equator, but its predictions at the pole produce very uneven contour lines, despite the true data being the same at both locations. Meanwhile, the spherical model predicts similarly smooth contour lines at the equator and the pole, both matching the true data nicely.

```
rectEqPreds <- predict(rectEqFit, equatorGrid)
rectPolePreds <- predict(rectPoleFit, polarGrid)
sphereEqPreds <- predict(sphereEqFit, equatorGrid)
spherePolePreds <- predict(spherePoleFit, polarGrid)

sqrt( mean( (rectEqPreds - equatorGridValues)^2 ) )

## [1] 0.0009866568
sqrt( mean( (rectPolePreds - polarGridValues)^2 ) )

## [1] 0.02638541
sqrt( mean( (sphereEqPreds - equatorGridValues)^2 ) )

## [1] 0.005267225
sqrt( mean( (spherePolePreds - polarGridValues)^2 ) )</pre>
```

[1] 0.001764795

These root mean squared errors of the models agree. The rectangular model performs three orders of magnitude worse at the pole than at the equator, but the spherical model performs similarly at both places. So, while the two models are nearly indistinguishable at the equator, the importance of geometry becomes clearer at the pole.

5 Using Sparse Matrices

LatticeKrig, along with other statistical models for large spatial data sets, makes use of sparse linear algebra for efficient computation. Sparse matrices are generated in the LK model in two ways. First, the basis functions have compact support, meaning they are 0 outside a fixed region, so many of the entries in the basis function matrix will be 0. Second, the precision matrix for the coefficients is also constructed to be sparse.

Computing with sparse matrices can be much faster than the equivalent dense matrices, since one can save memory by only keeping track of the indices and values of the nonzero entries, and algorithms can skip all of the 0 entries. This optimization makes sparse matrix computations on large data sets orders of magnitude faster than the traditional corresponding computations.

In this package, we use the spam package for sparse matrices. This package has built-in methods for storing, multiplying, and solving sparse matrices, as well as finding their Cholesky decomposition, all of which are used heavily in LatticeKrig. The Cholesky decomposition of a matrix A finds the lower triangular matrix L such that $LL^T = A$. This is heavily used in LatticeKrig because it is significantly easier to solve a triangular system than a normal system $(\mathcal{O}(n^2) \text{ v.s. } \mathcal{O}(n^3))$, which combines with the optimization of using sparse matrices to make our calculations practical on very large data sets.

5.1 Timing sparse v.s. dense matrices

To demonstrate the difference sparse matrices can make, we will time how long it takes to compute the Cholesky decomposition with and without taking advantage of the sparsity. We will consider 100×100 , 300×300 , 1000×1000 , and 2000×2000 matrices. For each size, we will first do the Cholesky decomposition on the full matrix representation, then on the sparse representation. Recall that even though many of the matrix entries are 0, the decomposition doesn't take advantage of this feature unless we use the sparse formatting.

```
sizes <- c(100, 300, 1000, 2000)
NTotal <- length( sizes)
tab<- matrix( NA, nrow= NTotal, ncol=3)
dimnames(tab)<- list( NULL, c("N", "Dense", "Sparse"))</pre>
for(k in 1:NTotal) {
  N<- sizes[k]
  SMat \leftarrow LKDiag(c(-1, 5, -1), N)
  FMat <- spam2full(SMat)</pre>
startTime <- Sys.time()</pre>
  FChol <- chol(FMat)</pre>
  deltaF<- Sys.time() - startTime</pre>
  startTime <- Sys.time()</pre>
  SChol <- chol(SMat)</pre>
  deltaS<- Sys.time() - startTime</pre>
  tab[k,]<- c(N,deltaF, deltaS )</pre>
}
```

Timing table of dense verses sparse Cholesky decompositions (seconds)

```
print(tab,digits=3)
## N Dense Sparse
```

As you can see from the output above, with sizable inputs the sparse matrix computation is nearly 3 orders of magnitude faster than the traditional dense matrix computation, and this advantage increases with larger inputs.

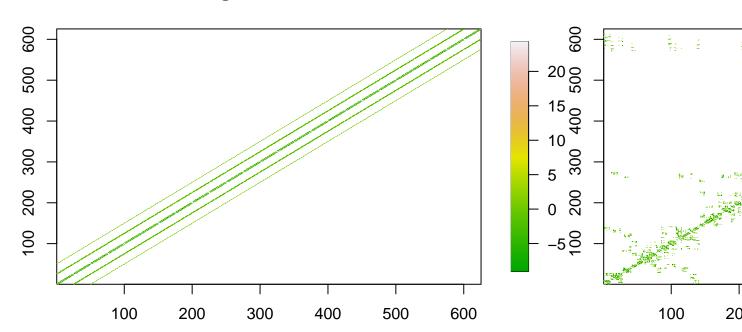
5.2 Precision matrix example

Here is another example of sparse timing that also illustrates how to create a single level precision matrix (aka Q) for the 2D LatticeKrig model.

Visualizing the sparsity pattern in Q:

Original Q matrix

Permuted Q n



Q is in spam format. Find Cholesky in this format and also as a dense matrix.

```
startTime <- Sys.time()
# sparse Cholesky
cQ <- chol(Q)
deltaS<- Sys.time() - startTime

startTime <- Sys.time()
# sparse Cholesky
cQF <- chol( spam2full(Q) )
deltaF<- Sys.time() - startTime
cat("Sparse time", deltaS, "Dense time", deltaF, fill=TRUE)</pre>
```

 $\hbox{\tt \#\# Sparse time 0.001616955 Dense time 0.03372812}$

6 LatticeKrig Implementation Details

This package is designed to be modular and separate the steps of computation, prediction and simulation. It also uses R's function overloading with S3 and S4 objects to simplify the coding. This strategy is especially helpful for different geometries and distance functions. Finally, the use of sparse matrix methods is also implemented as S4 methods through the spam package, so much of the linear algebra uses the standard R matrix multiplication operator %*% even through sparse computations are being done behind the scenes.

Despite this complexity it is important to keep in mind the computation and statistical results are just the usual ones associated with Kriging and maximum likelihood based on Gaussian spatial process models. The difference is that the spatial process is specified in a way that is suited to generating sparse matrices for the computations. Also, overloading function calls makes the code handling different geometries easier to read and write, as demonstrated below.

6.1 An example of classes and methods

To fix some concepts we give a simple illustration of overloading a function using S3 methods. The (trival) operation is to find an equally spaced grid based on some ranges and a spacing delta and we would like this for 1D and 2D. First we define the method makeGrid for the two classes: 1D and 2D.

The first function is a template that is used for dispaching and the two following functions actually handle the two cases. Now to use these we create some objects and just call makeGrid. Notice that even though we call the makeGrid function both times, the outputs are completely different based on the class of each input.

```
## [1] 0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.2 1.4 1.6 1.8 2.0
```

The analogy in the LatticeKrig coding is that defining a spatial model involves top level functions that perform generic steps, and these functions don't need to include many different cases based on geometry. Rather, they benefit from using methods, like makeGrid does in this example. Here, one could just have a line such as out <- makeGrid(gridInfo) and the class of gridInfo would direct which function is called.

6.2 LKinfo object

The model computation is controlled by the LKinfo object. This is a list of class LKinfo that has all the information needed to specify the spatial model. One could build this list directly including all the necessary information, although is it is easier to use the function LKrigSetup to make sure all the details are filled in correctly. This function will also make some checks on the passed arguments and will fill in some with defaults if not specified.

This package provides a print method for this object class which creates the summary of the model when this object is printed. Printing this object as a raw list would usually be a big mess of output and not very helpful! See the source code for print.LKinfo to see how this is done and where different components are located in the object.

The LKinfo object actually has two classes, the first being LKinfo, and the second being the geometry, such as LKRectangle. This controls how other components in this object are filled in. In particular the component LatticeInfo will change, reflecting different lattices based on different geometries. See help(LKGeometry) for more details on what needs to done for a given geometry.

As a specific example here is how these steps fill in the lattice information for the LKInterval geometry, the 1-D model.

In LKrigSetup is the code

The LKinfo object in this case has already been given the geometry class "LKInterval" and so the call to LKrigSetupLattice branches to the actual function LKrigSetupLattice.LKInterval. The interested reader may want to list out this short function to see the details of this lowest code level.

Although all the details of this function are not important for this illustration, there are several key features. First, all the information for constructing the lattice comes from components of LKinfo. Here NC, the number of initial lattice points in the spatial interval, is used to determine the grid spacing and a for loop is used to fill in the lattice points at each resolution level, if there is more than one level specified. Finally, all the resulting parts describing the lattice are combined as a list: this object becomes the component latticeInfo in the LKinfo object. These top level components are consistent across the different geometries and so it makes it possible to have a single summary/print method for the LKinfo object.

6.3 LKrig function

The basic computation where the basis coefficients are estimated based on locations and data is done in LKrig. These steps track the explicit linear algebra in Section 11.1 and as coded, hide the details from different models. As mentioned earlier, LKrig is the function that runs all the logic to compute the kriging fit:

- creating the covariate matrix, basis function matrix, and precision matrix;
- running a series of intermediate calculations;
- calculating the estimates for coefficient vectors **c** and **d**;
- using those coefficients to calculate the fitted values and residuals;
- calling a function that estimates the likelihood of the calculated fit;
- estimating the effective degrees of freedom in the fitted surface.

Essentially the LKinfo object is the reference for what needs to be done. And the coding at this level does not have explicit branches to different geometries.

For example the line

```
Q <- LKrig.precision(LKinfo)
```

Creates the correct precision matrix for the basis function coefficients by using the information from LKinfo.

This line in LKrig

```
G \leftarrow t(wX) \% WX + LKinfo$lambda * (Q)
```

assembles the G matrix (a key part of the intermediate calculations mentioned earlier) from the precision matrix, the value of lambda and the weighted basis function matrix. Although these matrices are in sparse format, note that the %*% operator is used because the spam package has provided methods for addition and multiplication using the typical operators. Creating the different components of the model in LatticeKrig is also an example of overloading where the class is the value of LKgeometry.

One advantage of this structure is that new features can be added to the LatticeKrig models without having to change the basic LKrig function and its computational steps. It also results in many key steps only happening one place. For example, the Cholesky decomposition of the G matrix created above is done only in one place in this package. Moreover, the subsequent steps of finding the basis coefficients (LKrig.coef), computing the predicted values, evaluating the likelihood (LKrig.lnPlike), and finding the approximate model degrees of freedom (LKrig.traceA) are the same for any model. That is, they are unique functions that work for any geometry or configuration of the lattice and SAR weights. Of course the advantage here is that the code base needs to changed in only one place if any of these basic steps are modified or corrected.

6.4 Estimating covariance parameters.

The function LKrig is designed to compute the model fit assuming the parameters a.wght and lambda are known. With these parameters fixed the likelihood can be maximized in closed form for the remaining parameters, d, tau and sigma2. By default these values are used in fitting the model in this function. The component lnProfileLike returned in the LKrig object is the log likelihood having maximized over d, tau and sigma2.

The parameters lambda and a.wght are estimated using maxmimum liklihood with built in optimizers in R and the wrapper functions LKrigFindLambda for a fixed a.wght (using optim) and LKrigFindLambdaAwght for finding both parameters (using optimize). In either case, the likelihood is evaluated by calls from the optimizer to LKrig. The search over lambda is done in the log scale and over a.wght in a scale (called omega) that is proportional to the log of the correlation range parameter. For a 2-D rectangle this is log(a.wght - 4)/2. (See Awght2Omega)

One useful feature of the optimization code is that each evalution of the likelihood is saved and these are returned as part of the optimization object. This helps to get an idea of the likelihood surface and determine the reliability of the result as a global maximum. See the component MLE\$1nLike.eval in the LatticeKrig output object. Although one could call the LKrig function over a grid of parameters to explore the likelihood surface in finer detail, often the points of opportunity evaluated by the optimizer are enough to interrogate the surface.

6.5 LatticeKrig

The top level function LatticeKrig sets up the default spatial model, estimates some key spatial parameters, and then calls the LKrig function for the actual kriging computation. This makes it an easy way to estimate these model parameters from a minimal specification of the model and then to evaluate using these estimates. It is also convenient to setup the LKinfo object. In particular LatticeKrig also makes use of the LatticeKrigEasyDefaults method depending on LKGeometry and provides flexibility of filling in standard model default choices without continually retyping them.

6.6 Prediction

Model predictions at the data locations are returned in the fitted.values component of the LatticeKrig and LKrig objects. Predictions of the fitted curve or surface at arbitrary locations are found by multiplying the new covariate vectors with the d.coef linear model parameters and multiplying the basis functions with the c.coef coefficients. It is probably no surprise that creating the basis functions depends on the components of the LKinfo object. But with this structure we have a simple form for making predictions, in keeping with other methods in R. In general if MyLKinfo is the model fit using LKrig or LatticeKrig and x1 are the locations for evaluating the process, we predict the model at the locations with the line

```
gHat <- predict(MyLKinfo,x1)</pre>
```

Here the returned vector has the predictions of the smooth function and the low order polynomial terms (if present) at the locations x1. That is, the *fixed part* and the *spatial process* explained in Section 1.

One complication in this process is the need to evaluate the predictions on a grid of covariates. In the Colorado climate example one may want to predict the smooth function of climate based on latitude and longitude or add to it the linear model adjustment due to elevation. Moreover, one might want to evaluate these on a grid to make it easier to plot the results on a map. In 2 or more dimensions keeping track of the grids adds a step to this process; refer to the help files and the Quick Start example for more details.

6.7 Simulation

A feature of the LatticeKrig model is that it is efficient to simulate realizations of the process. This operation, called *unconditional simulation*, can be then used to generate conditional simulations (conditioned on the data points) to determine approximate prediction standard errors and quantify the estimate's uncertainty.

The LKinfo object contains all the model attributes needed to simulate a realization of the process. In general if MyLKinfo is the model specification and x1 are the locations for evaluating the process,

```
gSim <- LKrig.sim(x1, LKinfo)
```

simulates the process at the locations and returns the values as a vector in gSim. Note that this function is designed to only simulate the random process part of the model. The fixed linear part involving the Z covariates is not included.

We note that like the unconditional simulation this code depends on the LKinfo object in MyFit, and applies the estimate computation from LKrig and the predict function for an LKrig object. In this way the basic computational algorithms are reused from the code base and appear in only one place.

7 Common Error Messages and Frequently Asked Questions

7.1 Could not find function

Make sure that the library is installed (install.packages("LatticeKrig")) and loaded (library(LatticeKrig)).

- 7.2 Need to specify NC for grid size
- 7.3 Invalid 'times' argument
- 7.4 Only one alpha specifed for multiple levels
- 7.5 Missing value where TRUE/FALSE needed

All of these errors can be caused by using LKrig instead of LatticeKrig. The LatticeKrig function has ways to either supply defaults or estimate all of the optional parameters that LKrig doesn't, so LKrig will produce errors like the ones above while LatticeKrig will work correctly.

7.6 Non-conformable arguments

This error can occur when using LKrigSetup (or LatticeKrig, by extension) on a 1-dimensional problem if you don't explicitly set LKGeometry = "LKInterval" for LKrigSetup. More generally, this problem occurs when trying to multiply matrices with incompatible dimensions.

7.7 Argument is of length zero

This error most commonly occurs when using LKrigSetup in one dimension and passing in the range of the data explicitly. For example, LKrigSetup(c(0,1), ...) will cause this error (assuming the other arguments are provided correctly). The issue is that the c function doesn't format the input as a matrix, which is the format LKrigSetup expects. To fix this, just call as.matrix on the first parameter you give to LKrigSetup-so we would correct the example above to LKrigSetup(as.matrix(c(0,1)), ...).

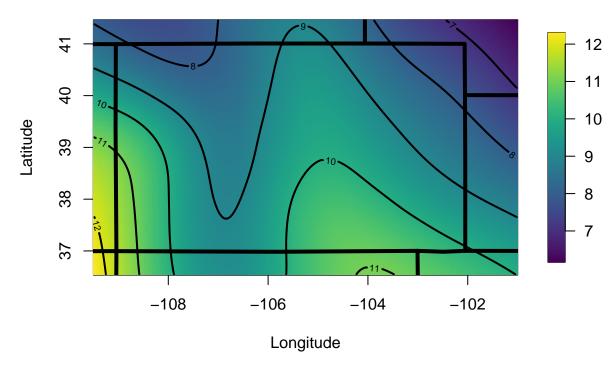
7.8 Does the order of the parameters matter?

The order of the parameters only matters when you pass them in without specifying their names: for example LatticeKrig(locations, values) works, but LatticeKrig(values, locations) doesn't. However, if the names are specified, either order will work correctly: both LatticeKrig(x = locations, y = values) and LatticeKrig(y = values, x = locations) work as intended. The optional parameters can also be listed without their names, but then they would need to be in the correct order and every single one would need to be specified, so it is highly recommended to include the names alongside each optional parameter. For this reason, it is best practice to use the names of the parameters while passing them in, except in cases where it is obvious.

7.9 The predicted values from my Kriging fit are nowhere near the data; what's wrong?

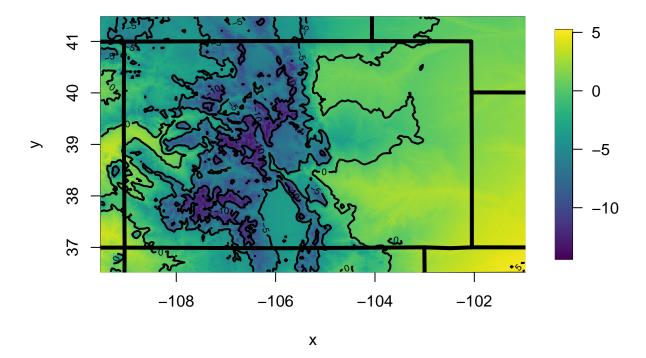
If your model includes covariates (the Z parameter of LatticeKrig and LKrig), your plot may not have included the effect of the covariate. The following code demonstrates this issue using the Colorado temperature data and kriging fit from the quick start guide, and how to fix the issue. Using the surface function will leave out the covariate, resulting in a plot that doesn't match the original data and is smoother than we might expect.

Plot missing covariate



To fix this, call surface on a predictSurface object instead of on an LKrig object, and make sure to pass in the grid.list and ZGrid parameters to the predictSurface call.

Plot with covariate



7.10 Why aren't the settings in my LKrigSetup object being used by the kriging fit?

First, make sure everything is spelled correctly; R variables are case sensitive. For example, LatticeKrig(x, y, LKInfo = info) will not work, because the 'i' in "LKinfo" must be lowercase. Next, make sure that every parameter is being set correctly: in particular, don't confuse x with X or alpha with a.wghts. Also make sure that parameters that need to be passed as strings are in quotes, e.g. LKGeometry = "LKSphere", distance.type="GreatCircle". If everything is set correctly and spelled correctly, make sure that the list from LKrigSetup is being passed in to your LatticeKrig or LKrig call.

8 Appendix A: The Linear Algebra of Kriging

Suppose we have a vector \mathbf{y} of observations, where each observation y_i is taken at location \mathbf{s}_i and a covariate vector \mathbf{X}_i containing the coordinates of the locations and possibly other related information. Assuming that the observations are a linear combination of the covariates with a Gaussian process of mean 0, we have

$$y_i = \mathbf{z}_i^T \mathbf{d} + g(\mathbf{s}_i) + \epsilon_i$$

where $\epsilon \sim MN(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 I)$ and $g(\mathbf{s})$ is a Gaussian Process with mean zero and covariance function $k(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}')$. The covariance function describes how strongly correlated observations at varying distances are; as such, we would expect that it has a maximum when $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s}'$. We can make further assumptions about the covariance function to make computations easier. In LatticeKrig, we assume the covariance function is a Wendland function, which has compact support on [0,1]. This compact support will lead to a sparse Σ , which makes computing with Σ significantly faster and allows us to compute kriging estimates on very large data sets in a reasonable amount of time. Alternatively, in fixed-rank kriging, it is assumed that $\Sigma = S^T K S$, where K is a matrix of fixed size, independent of the number of observations. This form of Σ also makes computations easier, making it another technique for kriging on large data sets.

In LatticeKrig, we assume that $g(\mathbf{s}) = \Phi \mathbf{c} + \epsilon$, where Φ is a matrix of radial basis functions (so ϕ_{ij} is the j^{th} basis function evaluated at the i^{th} point), and \mathbf{c} is the vector of coefficients that scale each basis function. Thus, our total model is $\mathbf{y} = X\mathbf{d} + \Phi \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{e}$. We can't predict measurement error, so instead we focus on predicting $\mathbf{f} = X\mathbf{d} + \Phi \mathbf{c}$ at new locations. The matrix of covariates X and the matrix of basis functions Φ are both determined from the points we choose to predict at: the unknowns we need to estimate are \mathbf{c} and \mathbf{d} . We estimate \mathbf{d} by using the generalized least squares estimate: $\mathbf{d} = (X^T \Sigma^{-1} X)^{-1} X^T \Sigma^{-1}$. Estimating \mathbf{c} is more involved. First, we partition X and \mathbf{y} into two parts: the parts corresponding to the known data, X_1 and \mathbf{y}_1 , and the parts corresponding to the data we want to predict, X_2 and \mathbf{y}_2 . Since we assume that y follows a Gaussian process, we can write

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}_1 \\ \mathbf{y}_2 \end{pmatrix} \sim N \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

It is known from multivariate probability theory that

$$E[\mathbf{y}_2|\mathbf{y}_1] = \mu_2 + \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}(\mathbf{y}_1 - \mu_1).$$

Where μ_1 and μ_2 are the means of \mathbf{y}_1 and \mathbf{y}_2 , respectively. Since $\epsilon = \Phi \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{e}$ has mean 0, the mean must come from the $X\mathbf{d}$ term: that is, $\mu_1 = X_1\mathbf{d}$ and $\mu_2 = X_2\mathbf{d}$. Since $E[\mathbf{y}_2|\mathbf{y}_1]$ is the best estimator of the values of \mathbf{y}_2 , we want to find a value of \mathbf{c} that makes our model reproduce this estimator, so we set $E[\mathbf{y}_2|\mathbf{y}_1] = X_2\mathbf{d} + \Phi_2\mathbf{c}$, where Φ_2 is the matrix of all basis functions evaluated at the points where we're trying to predict \mathbf{y} . This gives us the equation

$$X_2 \mathbf{d} + \Phi_2 \mathbf{c} = X_2 \mathbf{d} + \Sigma_{21} \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_1 - \mu_1).$$

Now, consider what happens if we make the covariance function and basis function match. Each entry in Σ_{21} is the covariance function of the distance between the j^{th} data point and the i^{th} prediction point, which would be equal to the basis function of the distance between the j^{th} data point and the i^{th} prediction point, which is each entry in Φ_2 . This means we can substitute $\Phi_2 = \Sigma_{21}$ into our equation, giving us:

$$X_{2}\mathbf{d} + \Phi_{2}\mathbf{c} = X_{2}\mathbf{d} + \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}(\mathbf{y}_{1} - \mu_{1})$$

$$\Phi_{2}\mathbf{c} = \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}(\mathbf{y}_{1} - \mu_{1})$$

$$\Phi_{2}\mathbf{c} = \Phi_{2}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}(\mathbf{y}_{1} - \mu_{1})$$

$$\mathbf{c} = \Sigma_{11}^{-1}(\mathbf{y}_{1} - \mu_{1})$$

This gives the best coefficient vector if each basis function is centered at a data point. Since our basis functions are instead centered on a lattice, we need $\hat{\mathbf{c}} = P\Phi^T\mathbf{c}$, where P is the covariance matrix for the centers of the basis functions and Φ is the basis function matrix. Thus, our final estimate for \mathbf{c} is $\hat{\mathbf{c}} = P\Phi^T\Sigma_{11}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - X\mathbf{d})$.

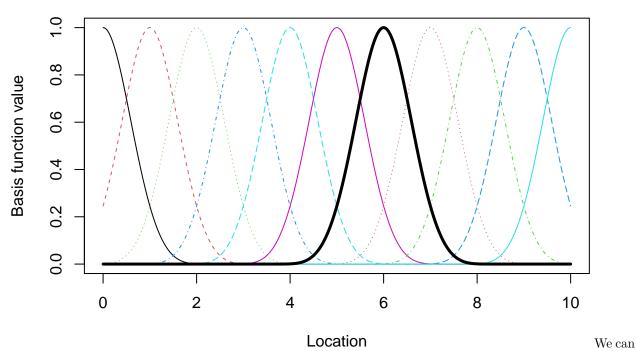
8.1 Sparse Matrix Algorithms

As mentioned earlier, the LatticeKrig package is able to handle large data sets because the covariance function equals 0 for large input. Recall that we make the simplifying assumption that the covariance function is the same as the radial basis function. In LatticeKrig, this function is a Wendland function:

$$\phi(d) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3}(1-d)^6(35d^2 + 18d + 3) & 0 \le d \le 1\\ 0 & 1 < d \end{cases}$$

More specifically, a given radial basis function will be 0 at a distance of at least the gap in the lattice multiplied by the parameter overlap (which is 2.5 by default). This description is rather opaque, so here is a visualization for the 1-dimensional case.

1-D Basis Functions



see that the basis functions all overlap significantly, which is necessary to get a smooth fit. We can see from the highlighted basis function, centered around 6, that the radius of each basis function is 2.5, so the highlighted function is 0 outside of the interval (3.5, 8.5). The graphs appear to reach 0 at a radius of 2 because they go to 0 smoothly, so they don't get far enough from 0 to see the difference near the borders. The basis functions behave similarly in higher dimensions; they are all radially symmetric about their centers.

Since the basis functions and covariance functions are nonzero only on a compact interval, the covariance between many pairs of points will be 0, and equivalently the basis functions will be 0 at many of the points

they are evaluated at. This means that the matrices P, Φ , and Σ_{11}^{-1} will all be sparse, which makes the computations much faster. For a further improvement, we can use the Cholesky decomposition of these matrices, which is both triangular and sparse, to speed up calculations even more.

9 Appendix B: Comparison with mKrig function from fields package

In this section we will compare the kriging done in LatticeKrig with ordinary kriging, such as the kriging done in fields. The chief difference is that LatticeKrig assumes a particular covariance function that leads to a sparse precision matrix (the precision matrix is the inverse of the covariance matrix). However, when we do ordinary kriging with this particular covariance function, we will see that the results come out the same for both algorithms, though the ordinary kriging uses dense matrix operations so it takes much longer with large data. To investigate this, we will use LKrig (the function that does the computation in LatticeKrig) and mKrig to compute models for the data. To make sure the parameters match up, we use an LKinfo object to store the parameters for the kriging.

After loading in the data, we start by filtering out the NA values in y

These two kriging fits produce identical predicted values and standard errors. To make mKrig use the same covariance function as LKrig, we set the parameter cov.function="LKrig.cov". The LKrig.cov function is a top level function that computes the covariance between arbitrary sets of locations according to the model specified by the LKinfo object. Note that LKrig uses the (sparse) precision matrix instead of inverting the covariance matrix, which is one of the reasons that LKrig is much faster than mKrig for large data sets.

10 Appendix C: Explicit linear algebra for a LatticeKrig calculation

The computations inside of LatticeKrig and LKrig can be hard to understand, so here we will work through several examples showing all of the linear algebra used. Some of the variable names will be changed from the code in the previous section so that they match the names in the linear algebra appendix and in the JCGS article. Although not explored here, note that for sdmall problems these computations can also be reproduced from the fields package and with the mKrig function using the LatticeKrig covariance function. Thus, there are 3 separate routes to verify these estimates.

10.1 First Example: One level, no normalization

First, we create the data, create the basis/covariance function basis, and call LKrig to fit the data.

```
lambda = 0.05
overlap = 2.5
# this is the function WendlandFunction used in package ...
psi <- function(d) {
   return(1/3 * (1-d)^6 * (35*d^2 + 18*d + 3) * (d < 1))
}

#clear x and y to make sure our data doesn't get overwritten
rm(x, y)
data(KrigingExampleData)
x<- KrigingExampleData$x
y<- KrigingExampleData$y</pre>
```

Next, we create an equally spaced lattice of 6 points in [0,1] and add 5 additional points on either side; since we only have 1 level in 1 dimension, this is relatively easy.

```
nc <- 6
ncBuffer <- 5

#finding the spacing for the lattice
delta <- 1/(nc-1)
latInside <- seq(from=0, to=1, by=delta)

#adding the buffer lattice points outside the interval
latBefore <- seq(to=0-delta, by=delta, length.out = ncBuffer)
latAfter <- seq(from=1+delta, by=delta, length.out = ncBuffer)
lattice <- c(latBefore, latInside, latAfter)
# compare to info$latticeInfo$grid below -- should be identical
m <- length(lattice)</pre>
```

Now we create the covariance matrix for \mathbf{y} , which is M_{λ} , and the covariance matrix for the basis functions, which is P. Throughout we use the direct linear algebra to find the components of the LatticeKrig model. This makes the steps clear and easy to reproduce, however, for larger problems the direct linear algebra is hopeless – hence the LK algorithms.

```
# the basis function matrix
Phi <- psi(rdist(x, lattice) / (overlap*delta) )
# SAR matrix built by hand
B <- (
   LKDiag(c(-1, 2.01, -1), m)
   )
# coerce to a dense matrix from spam format where zeroes are filled in</pre>
```

```
B <- spam2full(LKDiag(c(-1, 2.01, -1), m))

# proportional to the precision matrix
Q <- t(B) %*% B

# proportional to the covariance matrix for the basis coefficients.
P <- solve(Q)

# the covariance of the observations includeing nugget/ measurement error
M <- Phi %*% P %*% t(Phi) + lambda*diag(1, length(x))

# don't do this if m is large! several thousand works.

Minverse <- solve(M)
```

Finally, we can calculate our estimates for **c** and **d**: **cHat** and **dHat**, respectively. This fit is compared to a call directly to the LKrig function. The function **test.for.zero** is handy function used throughout to compare to sets of numerical values.

```
ones <- rep(1, length(x))
Z <- cbind(ones, x)</pre>
dHat <- solve(t(Z) \%*\% Minverse \%*\% Z, t(Z) \%*\% Minverse \%*\% y)
G <- t(Phi) %*% Phi + lambda*Q
cHat <- solve(G) %*% t(Phi) %*% (y - Z %*% dHat)
# make sure all these arguments match what we have use "by hand"
info <- LKrigSetup(as.matrix(c(0,1)), NC = 6, NC.buffer = 5,</pre>
                   nlevel = 1, a.wght = 2.01,
                    alpha = 1, lambda = 0.05, overlap=2.5,
                    normalize = FALSE,
                   LKGeometry = "LKInterval")
krigFit <- LKrig(x, y, LKinfo = info)</pre>
#compare kriging prediction with calculated prediction
xGrid \leftarrow seq(0,1,length = 200)
krigPredictions <- predict(krigFit, xGrid)</pre>
PhiPredict <- psi(rdist(xGrid, lattice) / (overlap*delta))</pre>
ZPredict <- cbind(rep(1, length(x)), xGrid)</pre>
predictions <- ZPredict ** dHat + PhiPredict ** cHat
#making covariance matrix and comparing it to the LKrig one
testCov <- Phi %*% P %*% t(Phi)
targetCov <- LKrig.cov(x, x, info)</pre>
test.for.zero(testCov, targetCov)
## PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08
test.for.zero(dHat, krigFit$d.coef)
## PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08
test.for.zero(cHat, krigFit$c.coef)
## PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08
test.for.zero(krigPredictions, predictions)
```

PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08

10.2 Second example: One level with normalization

In this example, we normalize Phi so that the basis functions have covariance 1 at each data point. This normalization will reduce artifacts in the kriging model that aren't present in the data near the edges of the window. We also print out the diagonal of the covariance matrix, $\Phi P \Phi^T$ - note that it is all ones.

```
D <- Phi %*% P %*% t(Phi)
#discarding the off-diagonal elements of D
# and finding inverse square root
DS \leftarrow diag(D)^(-1/2)
Phi <- diag(DS) ** Phi
diag(Phi %*% P %*% t(Phi))
## [39] 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
#calculating Phi matrix for prediction locations
xGrid \leftarrow seq(0,1,length = 200)
PhiPredict <- psi(rdist(xGrid, lattice) / (overlap*delta))</pre>
#normalizing PhiPredict too
DPredict <- PhiPredict %*% P %*% t(PhiPredict)</pre>
#discarding the off-diagonal elements of D
DPredictS <- diag(diag(DPredict)^(-1/2))</pre>
PhiPredict <- DPredictS %*% PhiPredict
The rest of the calculations proceed in the same way as the first section without normalization.
M <- Phi %*% P %*% t(Phi) + lambda*diag(1, length(x))
Minverse <- solve(M)</pre>
Z \leftarrow cbind(1, x)
ZPredict <- cbind(1, xGrid)</pre>
dHat <- solve(t(Z) %*% Minverse %*% Z, t(Z) %*% Minverse %*% y)
G <- t(Phi) %*% Phi + lambda*Q
cHat <- solve(G) %*% t(Phi) %*% (y - Z %*% dHat)
predictions <- ZPredict %*% dHat + PhiPredict %*% cHat
info <- LKrigSetup(as.matrix(c(0,1)), NC = 6, NC.buffer = 5, nlevel = 1,
                   a.wght = 2.01, alpha = 1, lambda = 0.05, LKGeometry = "LKInterval")
krigFit <- LKrig(x, y, LKinfo = info)</pre>
krigPredictions <- predict(krigFit, xGrid)</pre>
#making covariance matrix and comparing it to the LKrig one
testCov <- Phi %*% P %*% t(Phi)
targetCov <- LKrig.cov(x, x, info)</pre>
test.for.zero(testCov, targetCov)
## PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08
test.for.zero(dHat, krigFit$d.coef)
## PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08
test.for.zero(cHat, krigFit$c.coef)
```

PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08

```
test.for.zero(krigPredictions, predictions)
```

PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08

10.3 Third Example: Three levels, no normalization

The setup in this example is almost the same as in the first one; the only differences are the different random seed and the different values of nlevel and alpha in the LKinfo object. The value of alpha is chosen so that each level has half as much weight as the previous and the sum of all the weights is 1. These direct computations mirror the sparse matrix and precision approach of LatticeKrig.

```
lambda <- 0.05
overlap <- 2.5</pre>
```

Making the lattice is now more complicated, since we need to create three different levels. However, note that the first level is the same as before, and the new levels just have lattice points 2x and 4x closer together. This lattice is created in the package through the LKrigSetup call.

```
nc <- 6
ncBuffer <- 5
delta <- 1 / (nc-1)
L1Inside <- seq(from=0, to=1, by=delta)
L1Before <- seq(to=0-delta, by=delta, length.out = ncBuffer)
L1After <- seq(from=1+delta, by=delta, length.out = ncBuffer)
L1 <- c(L1Before, L1Inside, L1After)
L2Inside <- seq(from=0, to=1, by=delta/2)
L2Before <- seq(to=0-delta/2, by=delta/2, length.out = ncBuffer)
L2After <- seq(from=1+delta/2, by=delta/2, length.out = ncBuffer)
L2 <- c(L2Before, L2Inside, L2After)
L3Inside <- seq(from=0, to=1, by=delta/4)
L3Before <- seq(to=0-delta/4, by=delta/4, length.out = ncBuffer)
L3After <- seq(from=1+delta/4, by=delta/4, length.out = ncBuffer)
L3 <- c(L3Before, L3Inside, L3After)
s1 <- length(L1)
s2 <- length(L2)
s3 <- length(L3)
c(s1, s2, s3)
```

```
## [1] 16 21 31
```

Note that the values of s1, s2, s3 don't follow a strict 1:2 ratio as we might expect; this is because of the lattice points outside the region, and because of the boundaries. Specifically, s1 = 16 because there are nc = 6 lattice points covering the interval, with 5 gaps between them, and an additional 5 lattice points on each side of the interval. At the second level, the gaps are half as wide, so the 5 gaps become 10; there are now 11 lattice points in the interval and 5 on each side, giving the total s2 = 21. Similarly, at the third level the 10 gaps become 20, making 21 lattice points in the interval and 5 on either side, so we have s3 = 31.

Now we create the covariance matrix for \mathbf{y} , which is M_{λ} , and the covariance matrix for the basis functions, which is P. Now that we have 3 different lattice sizes, making $Q = P^{-1}$ becomes more difficult, since it's a block-diagonal matrix with a block entry for each different lattice size.

```
alpha <- c(4, 2, 1)/7
Phi1 <- psi(rdist(x, L1) / (overlap*delta) )* sqrt(alpha[1])
Phi2 <- psi(rdist(x, L2) / (overlap*delta/2)) * sqrt(alpha[2])</pre>
```

```
Phi3 <- psi(rdist(x, L3) / (overlap*delta/4)) * sqrt(alpha[3])
Phi <- cbind(Phi1, Phi2, Phi3)
B1 <- ( LKDiag(c(-1, 2.01, -1), s1, full=TRUE) )
B2 <- ( LKDiag(c(-1, 2.01, -1), s2, full=TRUE) )
B3 <- ( LKDiag(c(-1, 2.01, -1), s3, full=TRUE) )
B1 <- spam2full(LKDiag(c(-1, 2.01, -1), s1))
B2 \leftarrow spam2full(LKDiag(c(-1, 2.01, -1), s2))
B3 \leftarrow spam2full(LKDiag(c(-1, 2.01, -1), s3))
Q1 <- t(B1) %*% B1
Q2 <- t(B2) %*% B2
Q3 <- t(B3) %*% B3
Q \leftarrow matrix(0, nrow = s1+s2+s3, ncol = s1+s2+s3)
#putting Q1, Q2, Q3 into block-diagonal matrix Q
Q[1:s1, 1:s1] \leftarrow Q1
Q[(s1+1):(s1+s2), (s1+1):(s1+s2)] \leftarrow Q2
Q[(s1+s2+1):(s1+s2+s3), (s1+s2+1):(s1+s2+s3)] \leftarrow Q3
P <- solve(Q)
M <- Phi ** P ** t(Phi) + lambda*diag(1, length(x))
Minverse <- solve(M)</pre>
Finding coefficients
ones <- rep(1, length(x))
Z <- cbind(ones, x)</pre>
dHat <- solve(t(Z) %*% Minverse %*% Z, t(Z) %*% Minverse %*% y)
G <- t(Phi) %*% Phi + lambda*Q
cHat <- solve(G) %*% t(Phi) %*% (y - Z %*% dHat)
info \leftarrow LKrigSetup(as.matrix(c(0,1)), NC = 6, nlevel = 3, a.wght = 2.01, alpha = c(4,2,1)/7,
                    lambda = 0.05, normalize = FALSE, LKGeometry = "LKInterval")
krigFit <- LKrig(x, y, LKinfo = info)</pre>
#making covariance matrix and comparing it to the LKrig one
targetBasis <- spam2full(LKrig.basis(x, info))</pre>
test.for.zero(targetBasis, Phi)
## PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08
testCov <- Phi %*% P %*% t(Phi)
targetCov <- LKrig.cov(x, x, info)</pre>
test.for.zero(testCov, targetCov)
## PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08
test.for.zero(dHat, krigFit$d.coef)
## PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08
test.for.zero(cHat, krigFit$c.coef)
## PASSED test at tolerance 1e-08
```