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Analysis of Environmental Data
Week 8 Reading Questions
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Worked with Juliana Berube

1. Describe the key difference between the non-parametric model (Ch. 7.1) and the parametric model (Ch. 8.1).

   Non-parametric models do not associate the distribution with any set of parameters. Because of this, inference about the population cannot be made. In the parametric model, there are set parameters known about the population. This means there is room to make inference about the population based on the model.

2. Interpolation and extrapolation may both be used to make predictions. What is the difference between interpolation and extrapolation?

   Interpolation is taking information that is expressed from the data or model to make prediction, while extrapolation infers something that is not explicitly expressed in the data.

3. Explain why extrapolation has more pitfalls than interpolation.

   Extrapolation is done with major dependency on the type of model used. This means different models can lead to a wide range of predictions between the models and from beyond the measured data. It is important to keep this in mind when conducting extrapolations.