

A Bayesian Multisource Fusion Model for Spatiotemporal PM_{2.5} in an Urban Setting

From London to Dakar

Abi I. Riley
12/06/2025

Introduction

Project Aims:

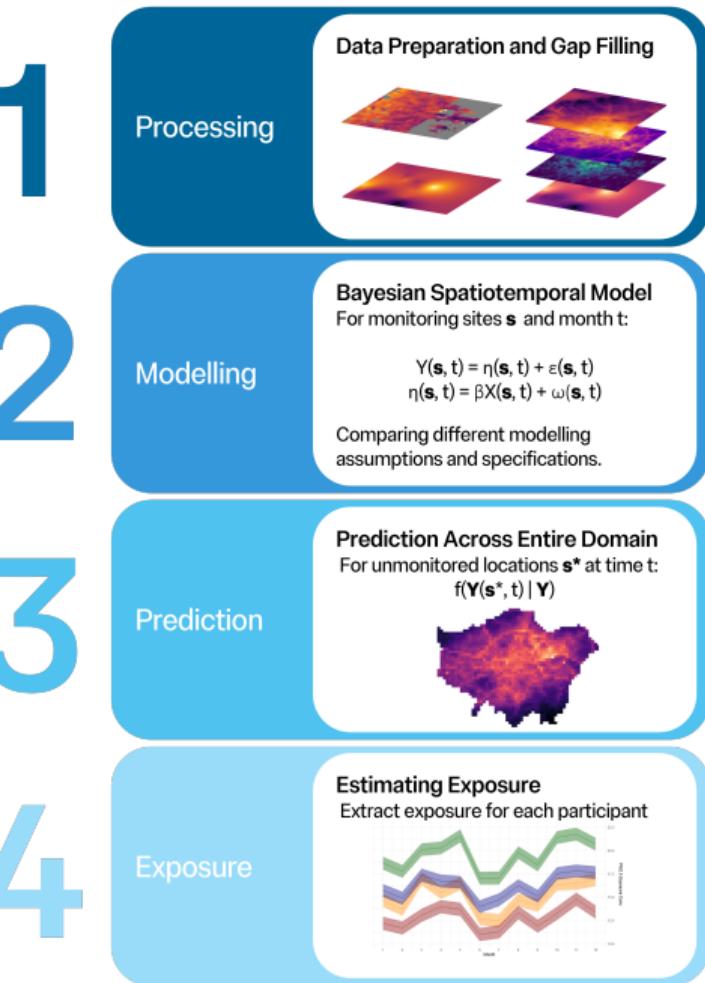
- To develop a Bayesian multisource air pollution model for exposure assessment in Greater London, using monthly data (2014 to 2019) at fine spatial resolution.
- To study the long-term effects of outdoor air pollution on adolescent mental health.

MRC
Centre for Environment & Health

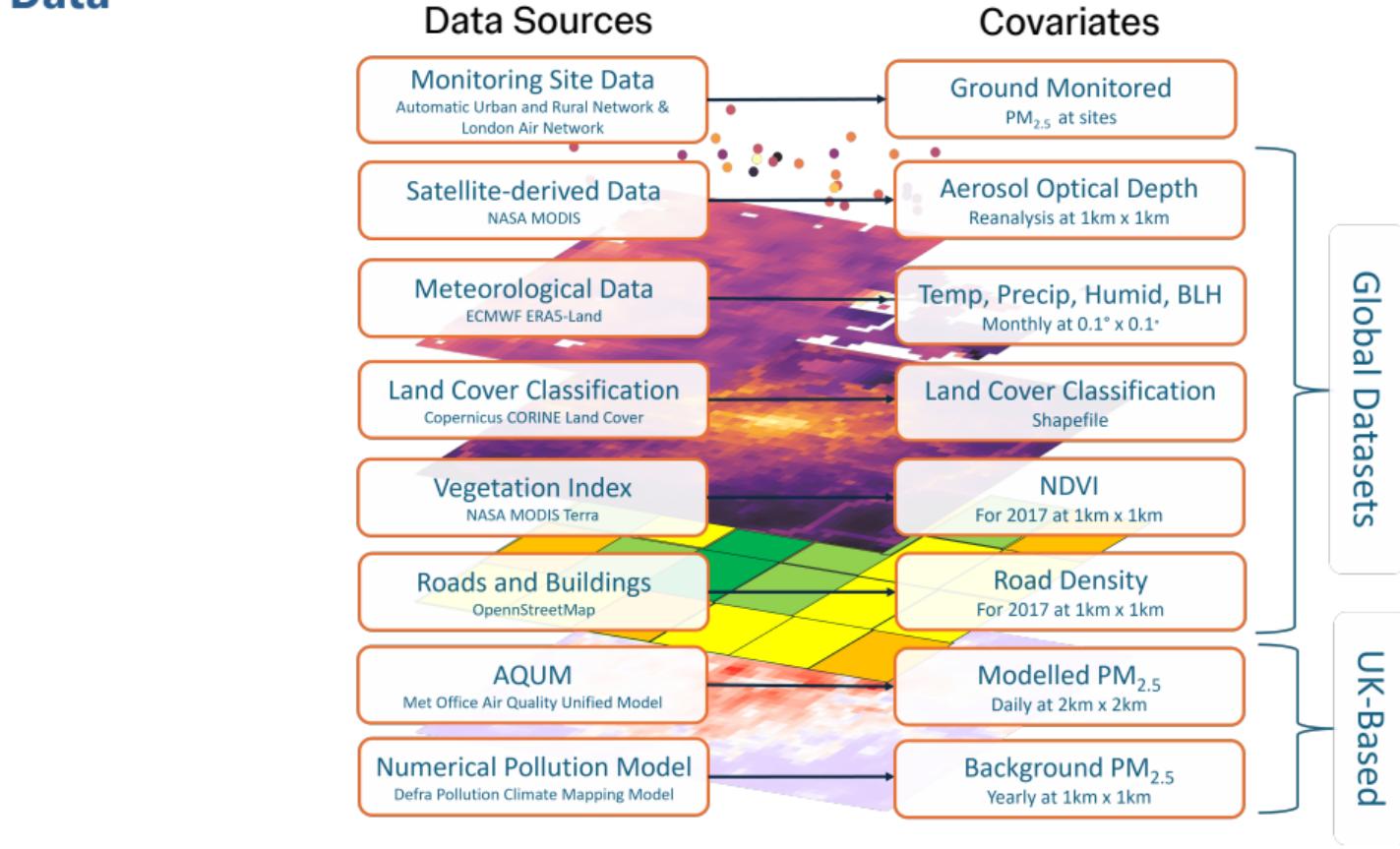


Medical
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Imperial College
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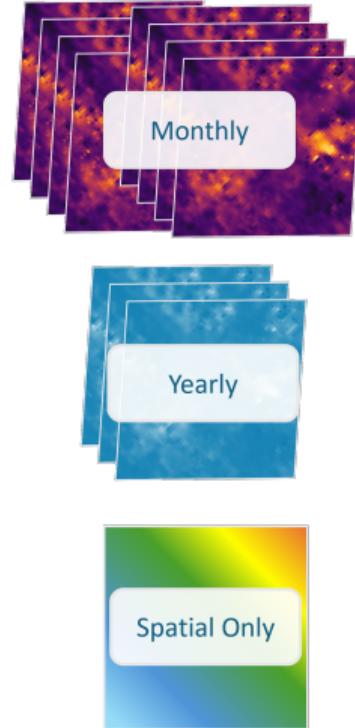
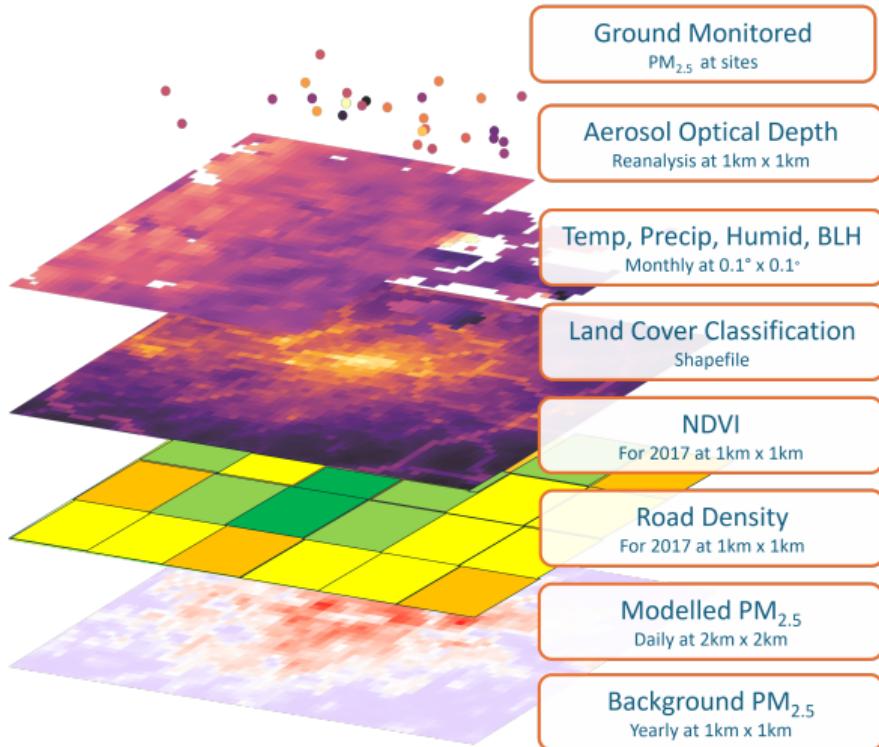


Data



Data Fusion

Spatial and Temporal Misalignment

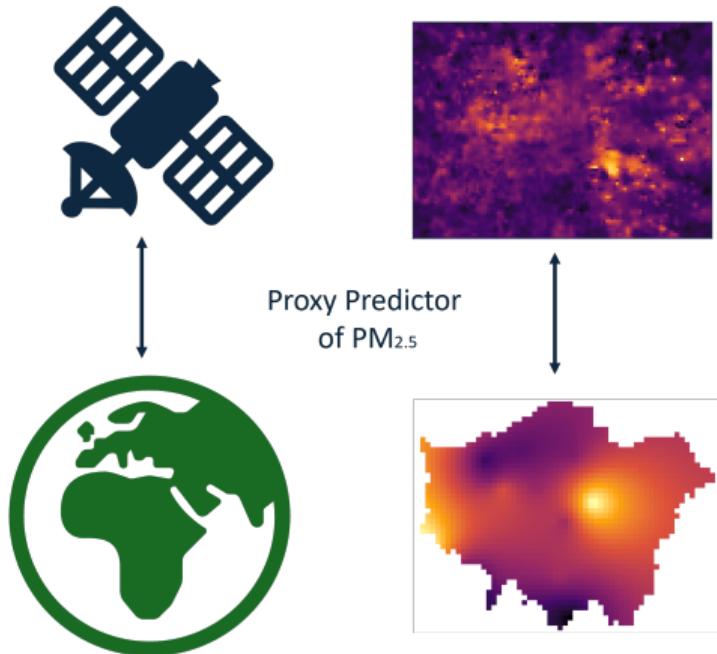


Satellite-derived Datasets

Processing and Interpolation

Aerosol Optical Depth

- Global NASA product MCD19A2
- Daily 1km x 1km grids
- Proxy measurement for particulate matter
Christopher, S. et. al, 2020



Methods

Bayesian Spatiotemporal Model

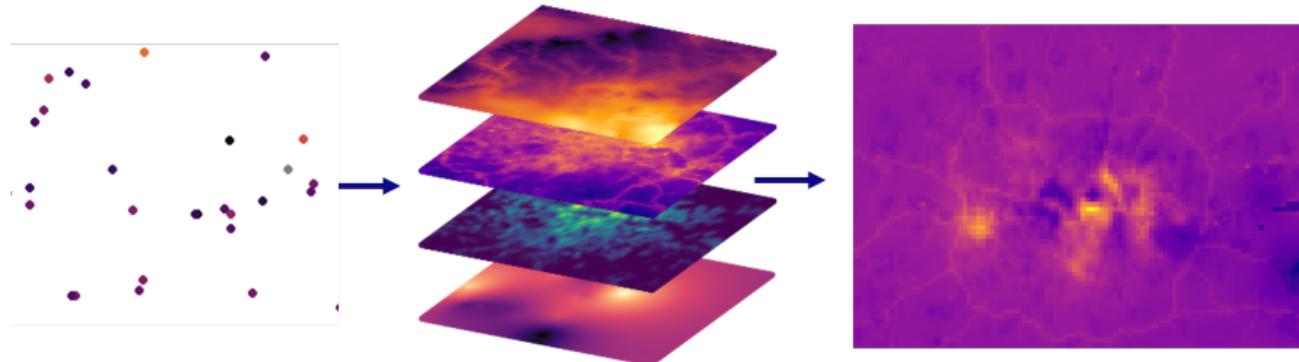
A Bayesian Hierarchical Model

For pollution concentrations $Y(\mathbf{s}, t)$:

$$Y(\mathbf{s}, t) = \eta(\mathbf{s}, t) + \epsilon(\mathbf{s}, t)$$

$$\eta(\mathbf{s}, t) = \mu(\mathbf{s}, t) + \omega(\mathbf{s}, t)$$

with random error $\epsilon(\mathbf{s}, t) \sim N(0, \sigma_\epsilon^2)$ and the spatiotemporal SPDE model $\omega(\mathbf{s}, t)$. Cameletti, M. et. al, 2019



Methods

Spatiotemporal AR(1) Model

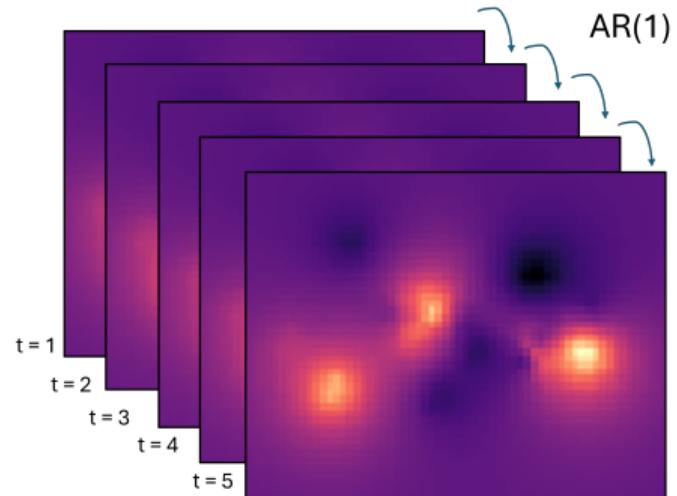
Spatiotemporal Process Term

A mean-zero stationary Gaussian process evolving in time according to an order 1 autoregressive process:

$$\omega(\mathbf{s}, t) = a\omega(\mathbf{s}, t - 1) + u(\mathbf{s}, t)$$

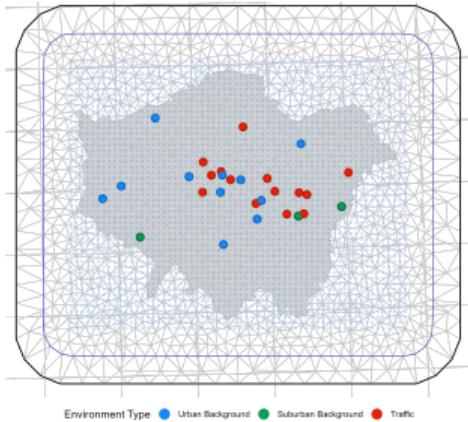
$$u(\mathbf{s}, 1) \sim N(0, \sigma_u^2 / (1 - a^2))$$

for $t = 1, \dots, T$.



Methods

Spatiotemporal Model using INLA-SPDE



Gaussian Field and Covariance function

Let $u(\mathbf{s}, t)$ be a zero-mean Gaussian field with temporally independent Matérn covariance function

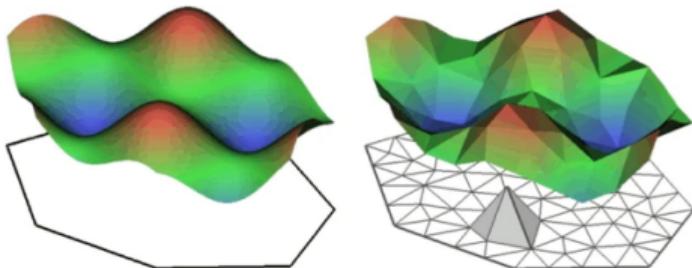
$$\text{Cov}(u(\mathbf{s}_i), u(\mathbf{s}_j)) = \sigma_u^2 \frac{2^{1-\nu}}{\Gamma(\nu)} (\kappa d)^\nu K_\nu(\kappa d)$$

where $d = \|\mathbf{s}_i - \mathbf{s}_j\|$.

Stochastic Partial Differential Equations (SPDE)

Approach

An approximation method using Gaussian Markov Random Fields and a discredited mesh of spatial points. Creating an n -dimensional precision matrix for the correlations between points, Σ .



Methods

Model 1

Model 1: Baseline Spatiotemporal Model

- Based on Cameletti, M. et. al, 2019
- Linear additive covariates, β

$$\eta(\mathbf{s}, t) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \mathbf{BG}(\mathbf{s}) + \beta_2 \mathbf{PCM}(\mathbf{s}, t) + \beta_3 \mathbf{AQUM}(\mathbf{s}, t) + \omega(\mathbf{s}, t) \quad (1)$$

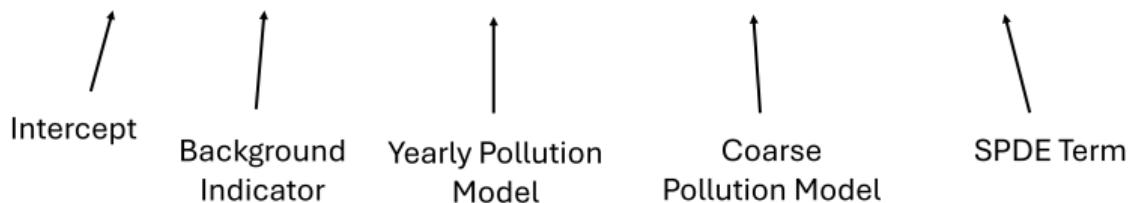
Methods

Model 1

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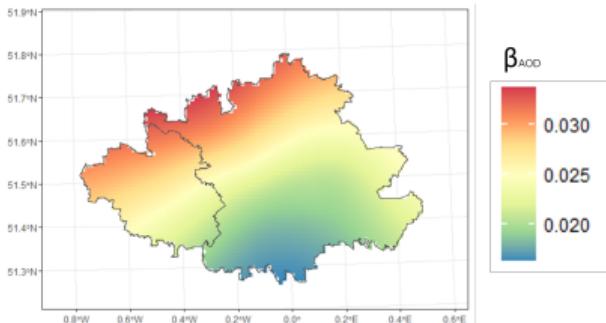
Methods

Model 2

Model 2: Spatially-Varying Coefficients Model

Using a spatial SPDE model with a covariate-weighted projection matrix:

$$\beta_k(\mathbf{s}) \sim N(0, \sigma_\beta^2 \Sigma)$$



- Allowing covariate effects to vary spatially
- Non-linear and non-stationary spatial process
- To capture complex physical and chemical dynamics

$$\eta(\mathbf{s}, t) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{BG}(\mathbf{s}) + \beta_2 \text{PCM}(\mathbf{s}, t) + \beta_3(\mathbf{s}) \text{AQUM}(\mathbf{s}, t) + \omega(\mathbf{s}, t) \quad (3)$$

Methods

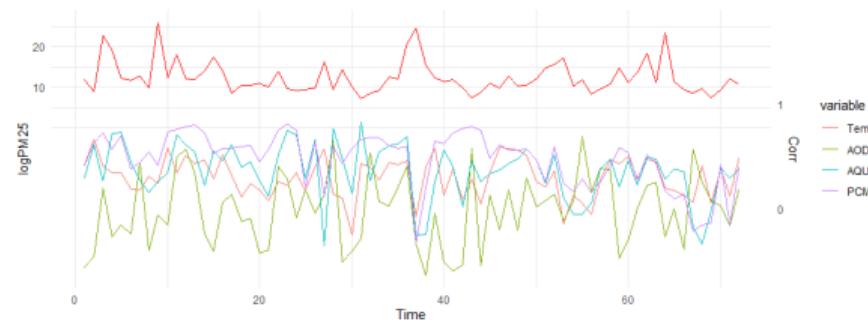
Model 3

Model 3: Time-Varying Coefficients Model

Time-varying coefficient for NDVI, $\beta(t)$, based on Franco-Villoria, M., et. al, 2019

- Strong seasonality across variables
- AR1 model in time
- Complex time interactions
- Cyclic monthly relationships

$$\begin{aligned}\beta_4(1) &\sim N(0, \sigma_{\beta}^2 (1 - \phi_{\beta}^2)^{-1}) \\ \beta_4(t) &= \phi_{\beta} \beta_4(t-1) + \epsilon_t\end{aligned}$$



$$\eta(\mathbf{s}, t) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 BG(\mathbf{s}) + \beta_2 PCM(\mathbf{s}, t) + \beta_3(s) AQUM(\mathbf{s}, t) + \beta_4(t) NDVI(\mathbf{s}, t) + \omega(\mathbf{s}, t) \quad (4)$$

Methods

Model 4

Model 4: Mixed Coefficients Model

Spatially-varying coefficient for AQUM, $\beta(\mathbf{s})$ and Time-varying coefficient for NDVI, $\beta(t)$

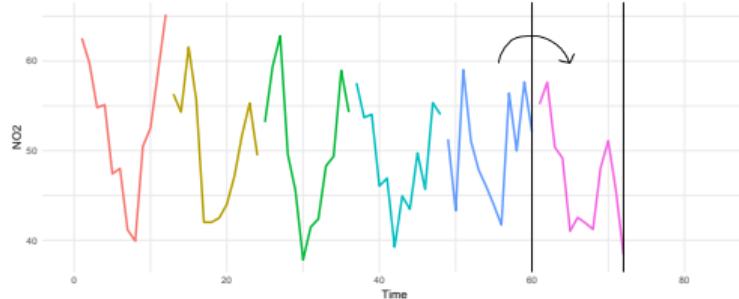
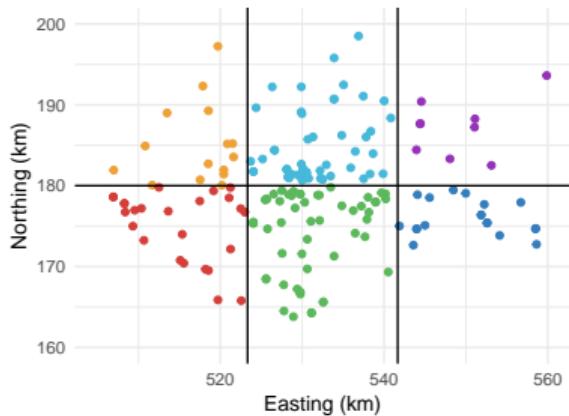
$$\eta(\mathbf{s}, t) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{BG}(\mathbf{s}) + \beta_2 \text{PCM}(\mathbf{s}, t) + \beta_3(\mathbf{s}) \text{AQUM}(\mathbf{s}, t) + \beta_4(t) \text{NDVI}(\mathbf{s}, t) + \omega(\mathbf{s}, t) \quad (5)$$

Model Selection

Model Fit

To compare model goodness-of-fit we use:

- Fitted vs Observed R^2
- Posterior Predictive Model Choice Criterion
Gelfand, A. et. al, 1998



Predictive Performance

To compare predictions we use k-fold cross-validation methods:

- Block spatial folds
- Temporal forecasting

Comparing:

- Predicted vs Observed R^2
- Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE)
- Bias
- 95% Coverage (Cov)

Results

Comparing Model Statistics

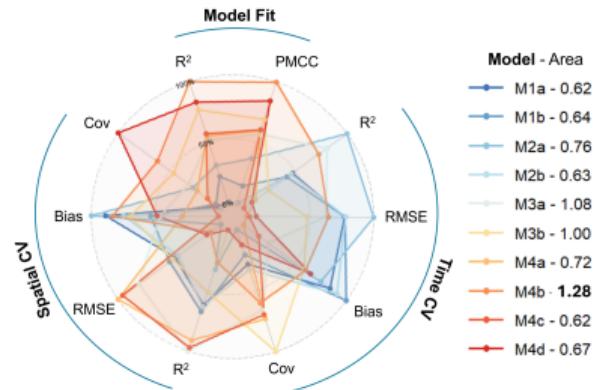
	Model Fit	
Model	R ²	PMCC
1	0.94	194
2	0.94	189
3	0.94	188
4	0.94	185

	Spatial Cross-Validation				Temporal Cross-Validation			
Model	R ²	RMSE	Bias	Cov	R ²	RMSE	Bias	Cov
1	0.69	0.22	-0.024	0.91	0.71	0.19	0.003	0.89
2	0.69	0.22	-0.023	0.91	0.72	0.19	0.004	0.89
3	0.70	0.21	-0.027	0.91	0.72	0.19	0.012	0.90
4	0.68	0.22	-0.024	0.91	0.72	0.19	-0.007	0.90

Results

Comparing Model Statistics

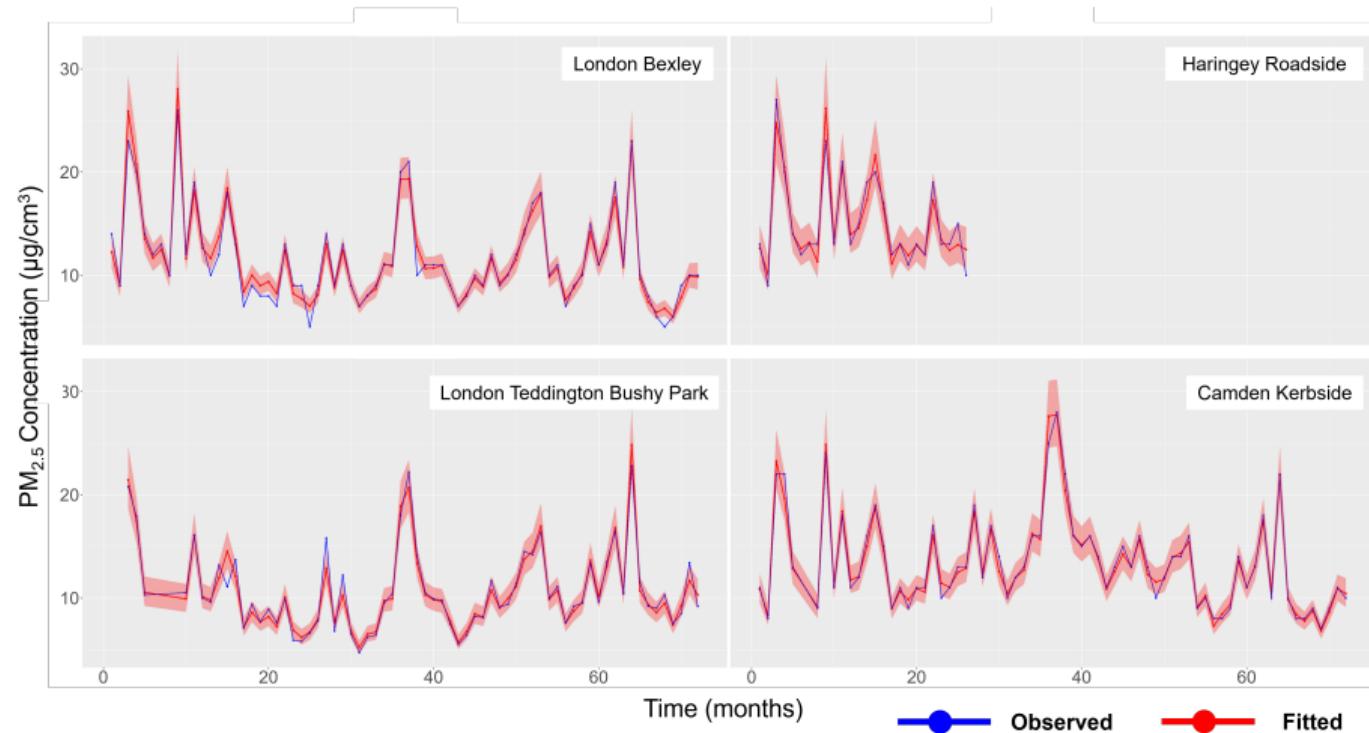
Model Fit		
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	Spatial Cross-Validation				Temporal Cross-Validation			
Model	R ²	RMSE	Bias	Cov	R ²	RMSE	Bias	Cov
1	0.69	0.22	-0.024	0.91	0.71	0.19	0.003	0.89
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4	0.68	0.22	-0.024	0.91	0.72	0.19	-0.007	0.90

Results

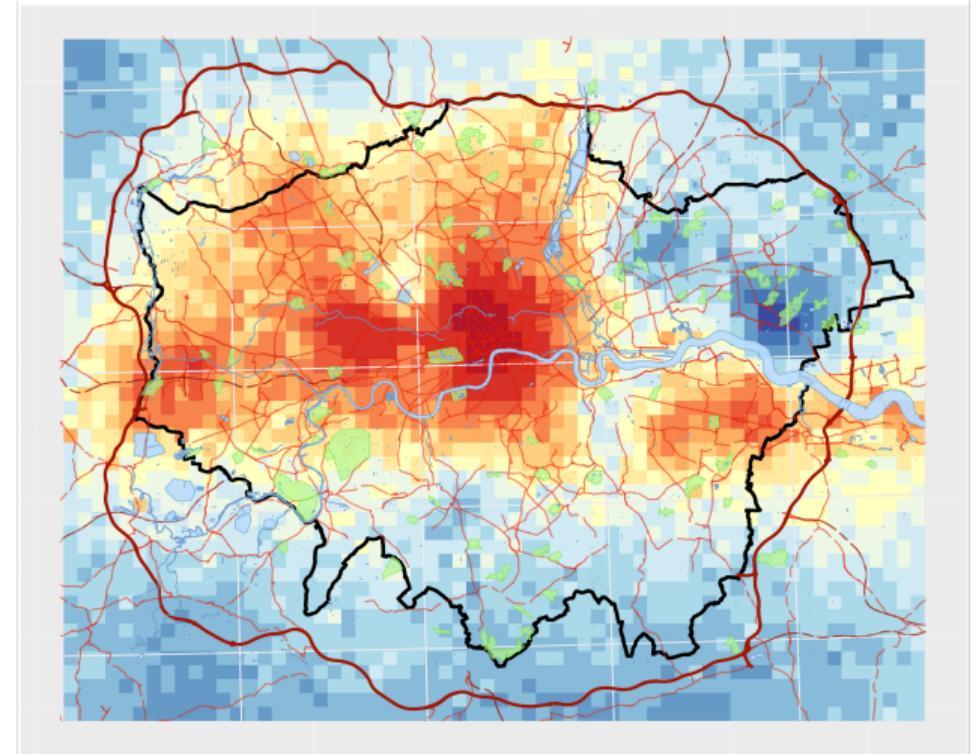
Model Fit



Results

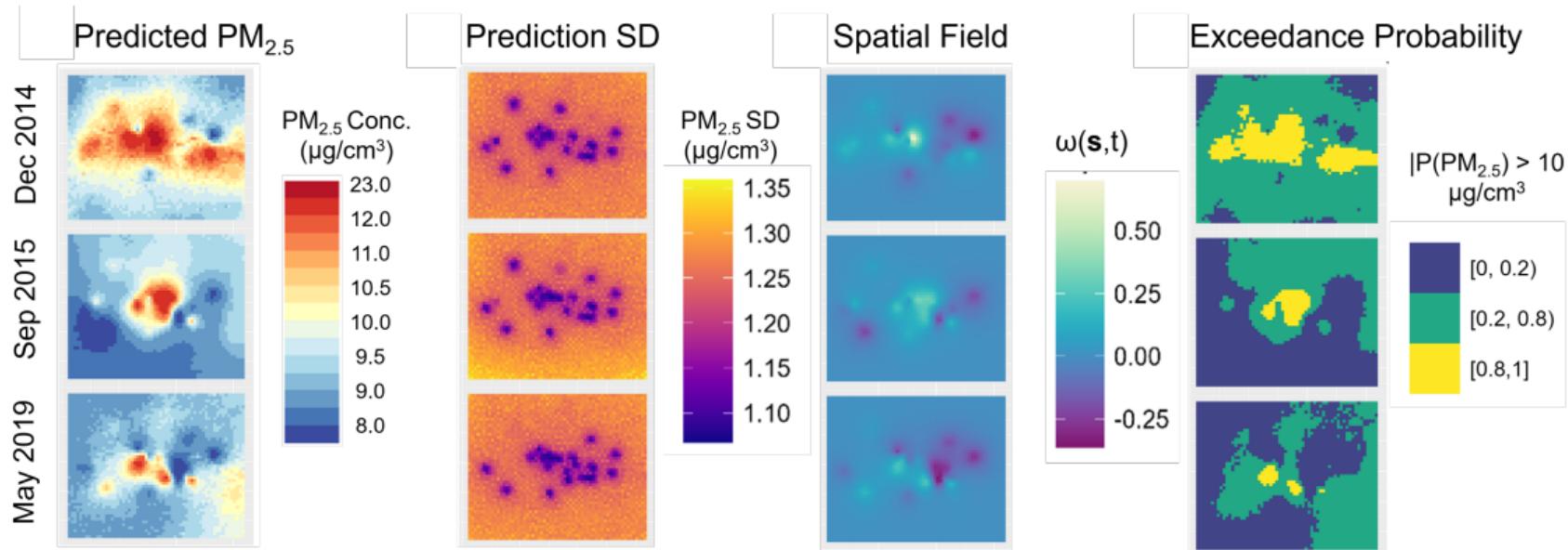
Model Prediction

- Captures overall temporal trends and seasonality
- Shows spatial features across London:
 - Major Roads, e.g. M25
 - Heathrow and City airports
 - Large greenspaces



Results

Posterior Maps



What have we learnt?

Bayesian hierarchical approach

The Bayesian framework readily includes measurement error and produces posterior predictive distributions.

Multisource data

The models combine many different sources of data, especially calibrating the observed monitoring site data with the PCM annual background and the AQUM low-spatial resolution model.
However, AOD was not found to be useful over London.

Model Complexity

The 'best' chosen model includes some of the more complex model options, but still balances model performance with computational load.

Outputs

Paper Under Review



A Bayesian Multisource Fusion Model for Spatiotemporal PM_{2.5} in an Urban Setting

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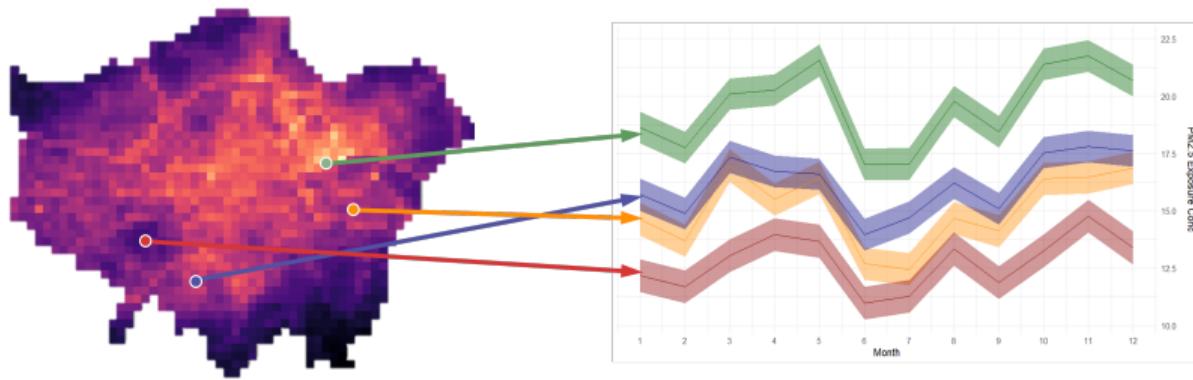
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Abstract

Airborne particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) is a major public health concern in urban environments, where population density and emission sources exacerbate exposure risks. We present a novel Bayesian spatiotemporal fusion model to estimate monthly PM_{2.5} concentrations over Greater London (2014–2019) at 1km resolution. The model integrates multiple PM_{2.5} data sources, including outputs from two atmospheric air quality dispersion models and predictive variables, such as vegetation and satellite aerosol optical depth, while explicitly modelling a latent spatiotemporal field. Spatial misalignment of the data is addressed through an upscaling approach to predict across the entire area. Building on stochastic partial differential equations (SPDE) within the integrated nested Laplace approximations (INLA) framework, our method introduces spatially- and temporally-varying coefficients to flexibly calibrate datasets and capture fine-scale variability. Model

Application

Exposure Estimation



- PM_{2.5} concentrations
- High-resolution monthly data 2014-2019
- With model uncertainty

This model will be used to estimate the monthly exposures of a cohort of children in London and study the potential adverse effects on their mental health and well-being.

Application

Uncertainty Propagation

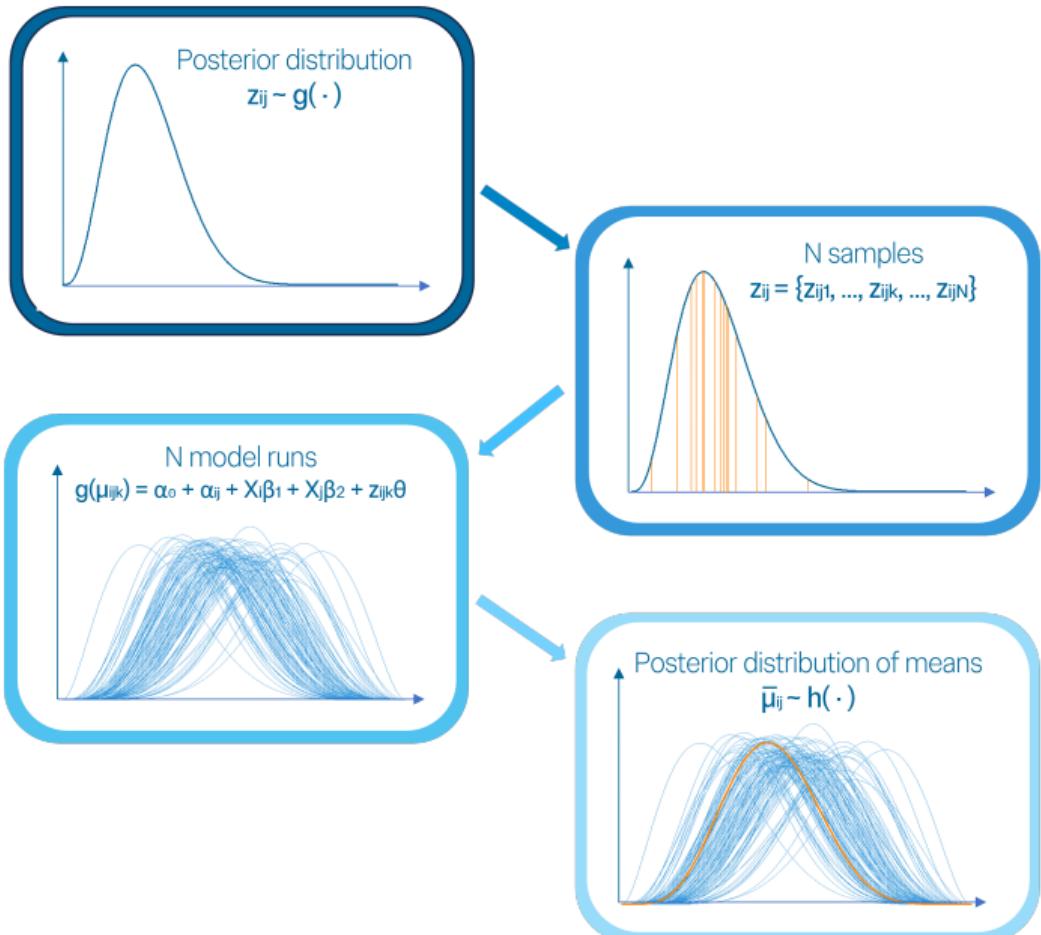
For participant i, Y_i :

$$Y_i | \mu_i, \xi \sim f(y | \mu_i, \xi)$$

$$g(\mu_i) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_i + X_i \beta_1 + X_j \beta_2 + z_i \theta$$

for:

- α_i : individual random intercept
- X_i : covariates
- z_i : exposure estimate



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Thank you. Any questions?

Supervised by: Monica Pirani, Marta Blangiardo, Fred Piel and James Kirkbride.