



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

# Spatial-Temporal Gaussian Processes for Wind Power Generation

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# Overview



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## INTRODUCTION

- Wind energy in Alberta
- Motivation and goal

02

## MODELING

- Spatial-temporal processes
- Covariance functions

03

## APPLICATION

- Kriging prediction
- Aggregate wind power generation

04

## R PACKAGE

- Design of R package

# Overview



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# INTRODUCTION



## Wind Energy in Alberta

(From *CanWEA*)

- ❖ Third largest wind market in Canada
- ❖ 1483 MW installed capacity (Aug. 2018)
- ❖ 901 wind turbines
- ❖ Approximately 8% of electricity demand

link: <https://canwea.ca/wind-energy/alberta/>

# INTRODUCTION

WIND			
ASSET	MC	TNG	
Ardenville Wind (ARD1)*	68	64	
BUL1 Bull Creek (BUL1)*	13	11	
BUL2 Bull Creek (BUL2)*	16	14	
Blackspring Ridge (BSR1)*	300	41	
Blue Trail Wind (BTR1)*	66	6	
Castle River #1 (CR1)*	39	21	
Castle Rock Wind Farm (CRR1)*	77	29	
Cowley Ridge (CRE3)*	20	4	
Enmax Taber (TAB1)*	81	11	
Ghost Pine (NEP1)*	82	12	
Halkirk Wind Power Facility (HAL1)*	150	19	
Kettles Hill (KHW1)*	63	59	
McBride Lake Windfarm (AKE1)*	73	50	
Oldman 2 Wind Farm 1 (OWF1)*	46	41	
Soderglen Wind (GWW1)*	71	69	
Summerview 1 (IEW1)*	66	55	
Summerview 2 (IEW2)*	66	44	
Suncor Chin Chute (SCR3)*	30	14	
Suncor Magrath (SCR2)*	30	29	
Wintering Hills (SCR4)*	88	38	

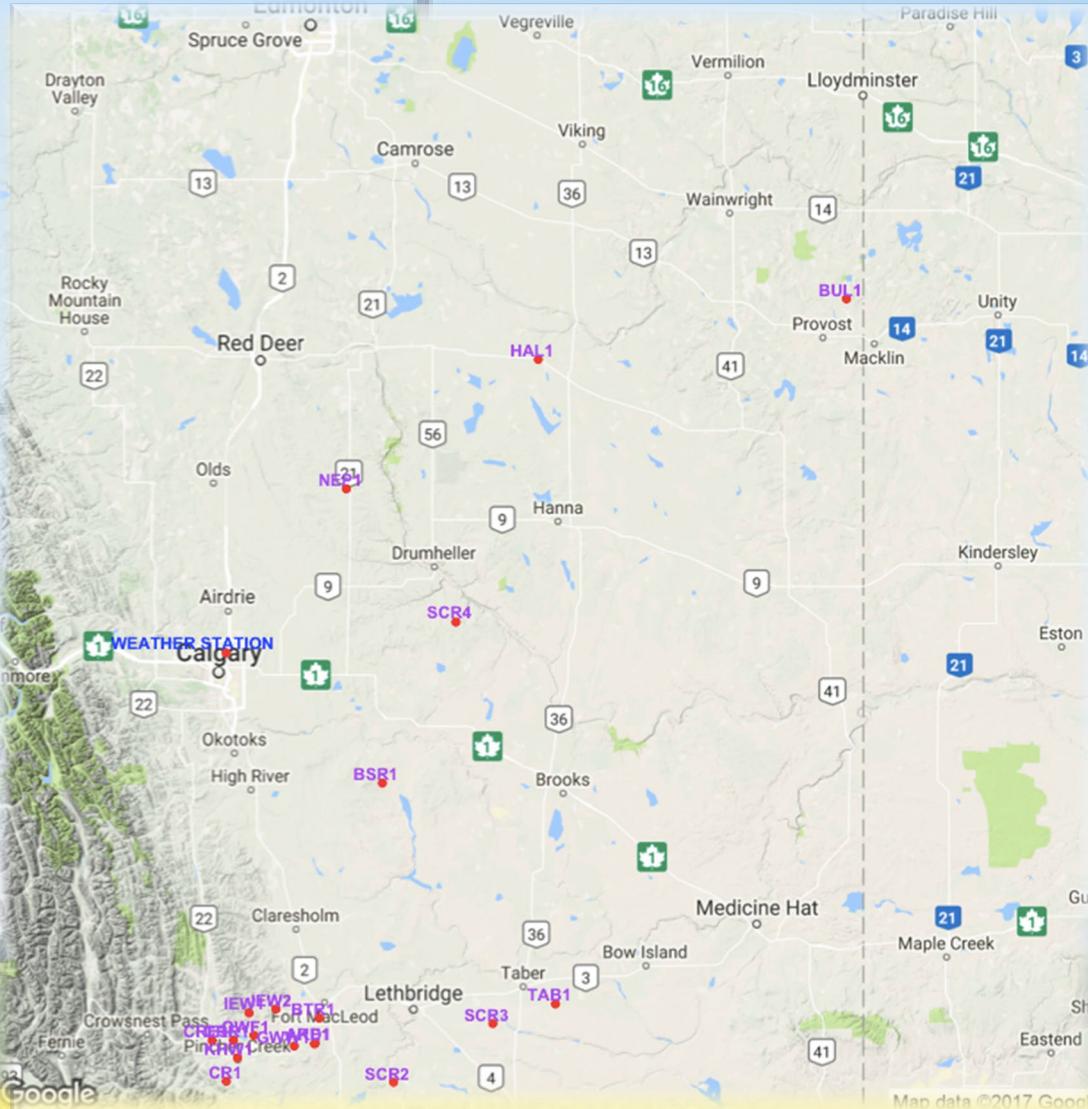
## Wind Farms in Alberta

(From AESO)

- ❖ 20 wind farms
- ❖ MC: Maximum Capacity (NW)
- ❖ TNG: Total Net Generation (NW)

link: [http://ets.aeso.ca/ets\\_web/ip/Market/Reports/CSDReportServlet](http://ets.aeso.ca/ets_web/ip/Market/Reports/CSDReportServlet)

# INTRODUCTION



## Wind Farms in Alberta



### Fact

- Strong westerly winds buffet the Rocky Mountains creating an excellent wind-energy resource in the plains of Alberta.



### Result

- Alberta exhibits substantial wind-energy deployment near the complex terrain of the Rocky Mountains.

# INTRODUCTION

## Motivation

### ► Wind Farm Operator

- Wind energy is the lowest-cost source of new electricity in Alberta.
- Alberta is the only province in Canada with a fully deregulated electricity market and operates on a spot price.

### ► Alberta Government

- For economic and environmental benefits, government expects at least 4,500 MW of new wind energy capacity.

**Challenge: The intermittency of wind**

# INTRODUCTION

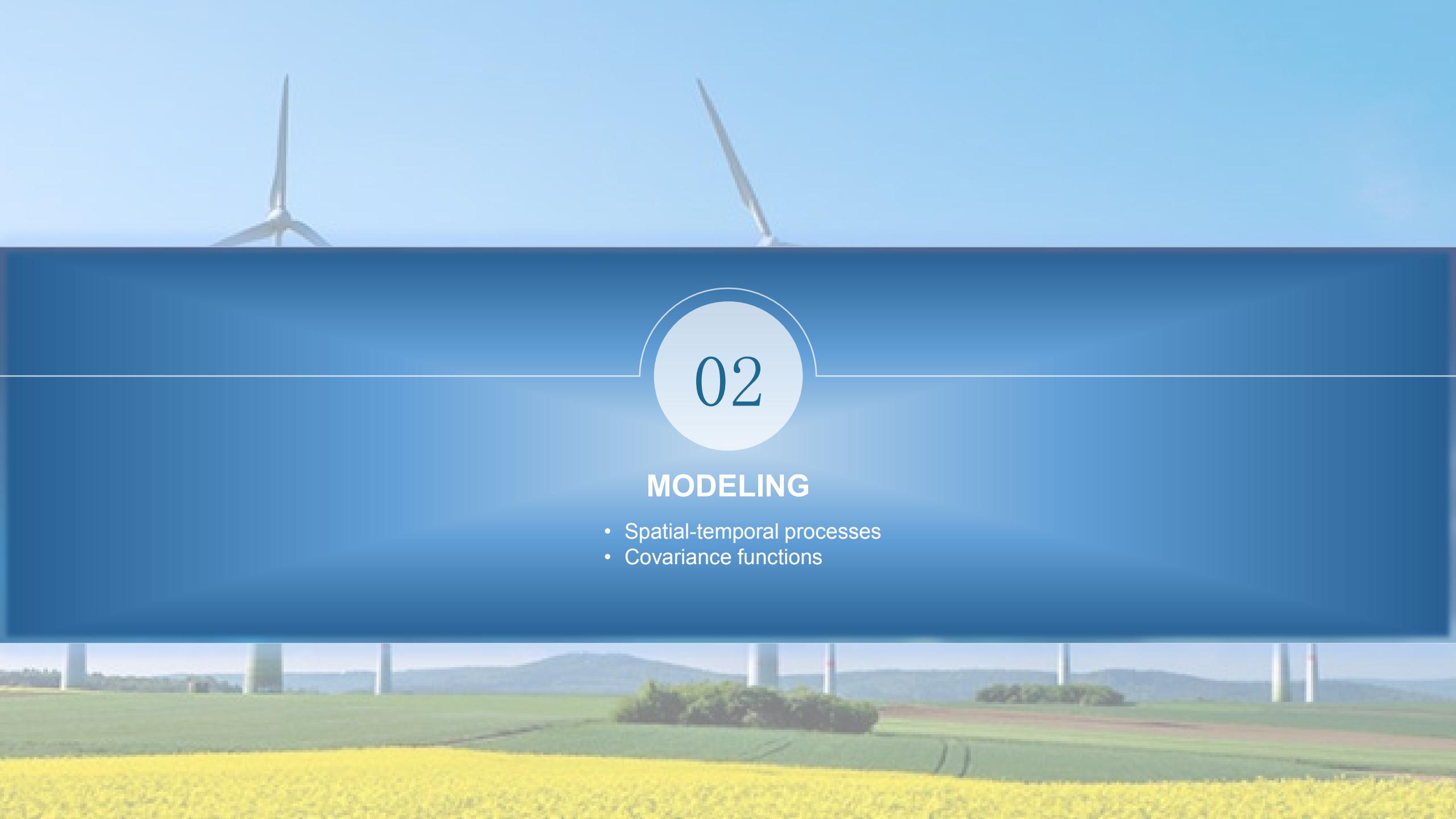
## Goal

### ► Wind Farm Operator

- Probabilistic modeling of wind energy generation in wind farms in Alberta.

### ► Alberta Government

- Inference on the future aggregate wind energy generation in wind power system.

A photograph of a wind farm with several tall, thin wind turbines standing in a green field under a clear blue sky. The turbines have three blades each and are positioned at different heights. In the foreground, there's a yellow field, possibly rapeseed, and some low-lying bushes.

02

## MODELING

- Spatial-temporal processes
- Covariance functions

# Spatio-Temporal Process

## ► Definition

- A collection of random variables
- $$Y(s, t), \quad s \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^d, t \in [0, T) \subset \mathbb{R}$$
- $D$ : A geographical region such as Alberta.
- $s$ : Geographical coordinates of sites in  $D$ .  $s = (x, y)$  if  $d = 2$ .
- $Y(s, t)$ : Wind power generated at location  $s$  and time  $t$ .

# Spatio-Temporal Process

## ▶ Hourly Energy Generation in Alberta (from AESO)

Select Report: --- Metered Volumes (All) Format: Begin Date:(MM/DD/YYYY) End Date:(MM/DD/YYYY)

09 01 2018 09 01 2018 OK

Current Historical

**Metered Volumes (All)**

Report Date: September 10, 2018.

September 01, 2018.

Pool Participant ID	Asset Type	Asset ID	Metered Volumes (All)																			
			Hour 1	Hour 2	Hour 3	Hour 4	Hour 5	Hour 6	Hour 7	Hour 8	Hour 9	Hour 10	Hour 11	Hour 12	Hour 13	Hour 14	Hour 15	Hour 16	Hour 17	Hour 18	Hour 19	Hour 20
9496	RETAILER	941A	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9496	RETAILER	941C	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9496	RETAILER	941E	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9496	RETAILER	941F	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9496	RETAILER	941L	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9496	RETAILER	941P	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9496	RETAILER	941R	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9496	RETAILER	941U	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9496	RETAILER	941X	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9558	IPP	G035	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0432	0.4026	0.4835	0.5072	0.4881	0.3402	0.2600	0.1257	0.0022	0.0000	0.0000
9558	IPP	G036	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0026	0.0000	0.0338	0.3354	0.3339	0.2362	0.3660	0.3624	0.3994	0.2469	0.0597	0.0122	0.0000
9558	RETAILER	951A	3.0417	2.9107	2.8636	2.8354	2.8315	2.8451	2.9521	3.1326	3.4374	3.3876	3.6601	3.7839	3.5619	3.4721	3.5040	3.5860	3.6458	3.5667	3.5851	3.4824
9558	RETAILER	951E	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9558	RETAILER	951L	0.0592	0.0545	0.0518	0.0500	0.0496	0.0500	0.0543	0.0579	0.0661	0.0733	0.0777	0.0798	0.0804	0.0796	0.0809	0.0827	0.0858	0.0879	0.0845	0.0803
9558	RETAILER	951R	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9558	RETAILER	951U	11.1334	10.8675	10.7171	10.5166	10.5538	10.7230	11.1560	11.7478	12.0838	12.8100	12.9287	12.9821	12.8970	12.7351	12.5166	12.4268	12.6568	12.9530	12.9076	12.5838

Download link: [http://ets.aeso.ca/ets\\_web/docroot/Market/Reports/HistoricalReportsStart.html](http://ets.aeso.ca/ets_web/docroot/Market/Reports/HistoricalReportsStart.html)

# Gaussian Process

## ► Definition

- A collection of random variables, any finite number of which have a multivariate normal distribution.

## ► Property

- A Gaussian process  $\{f(x): x \in \mathcal{X}\}$  is completely specified by its mean function  $m(x) = E[f(x)]$ ,
- and covariance function  $C(x, y) = E[f(x) - m(x)][f(y) - m(y)]$ .
- Thus,  $f(x) \sim \mathcal{GP}(m(x), C(x, y))$ .

# Gaussian Process

## ▷ Example

- For any finite subset of elements  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathcal{X}$ , the associated finite set of random variables  $f(x_1), \dots, f(x_k)$  have distribution,
- $f(x_i) \sim N(m(x_i), \sigma^2(x_i)), \quad i = 1, \dots, k$
- $$\begin{bmatrix} f(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ f(x_k) \end{bmatrix} \sim N\left(\begin{bmatrix} m(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ m(x_k) \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} C(x_1, x_1) & \dots & C(x_1, x_k) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ C(x_k, x_1) & \dots & C(x_k, x_k) \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

# Gaussian Process

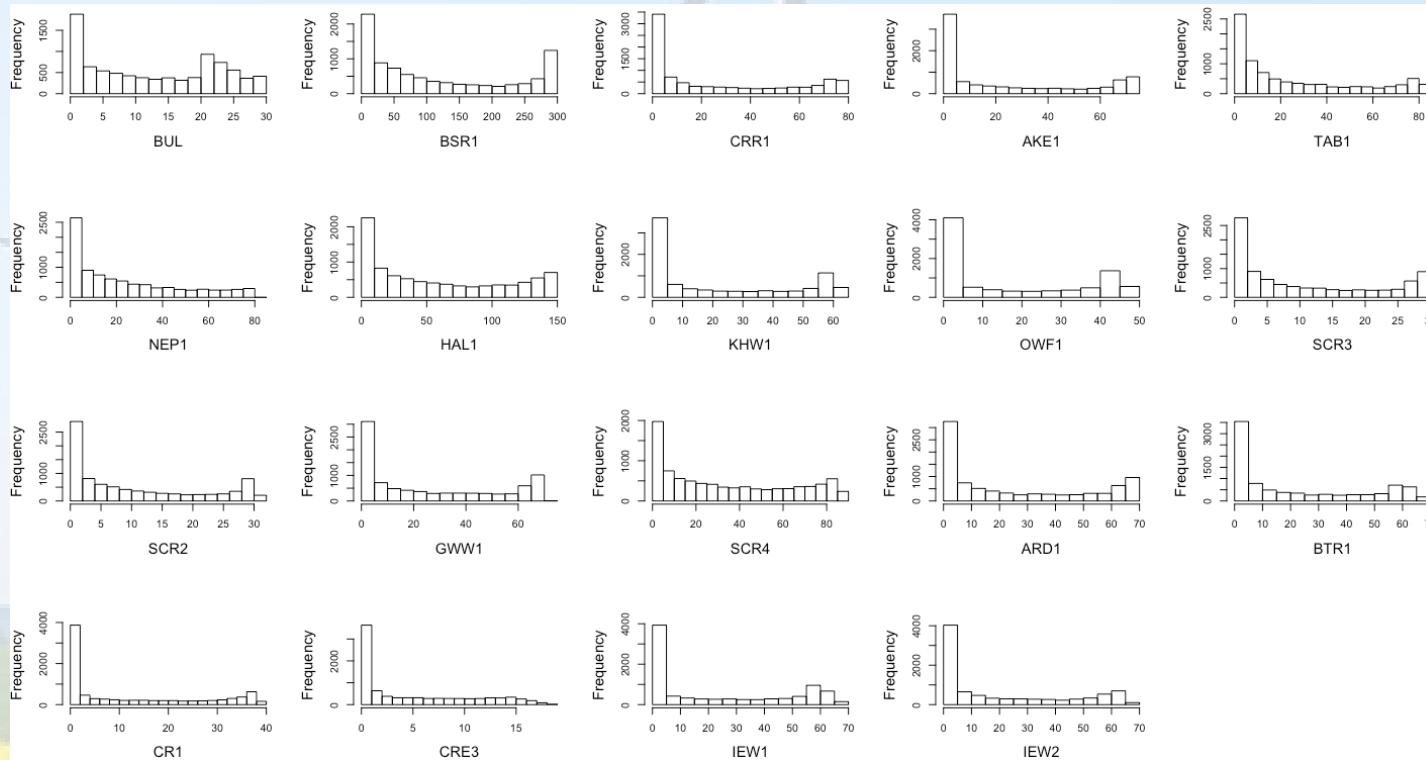
## ► Advantages

- If a Gaussian process is assumed to have mean zero, defining the covariance function completely defines the process' behaviour.
- In a spatial-temporal process, covariance function is written as:

$$C(s_1, s_2, t_1, t_2) = \text{Cov}\{Y(s_1, t_1), Y(s_2, t_2)\}$$

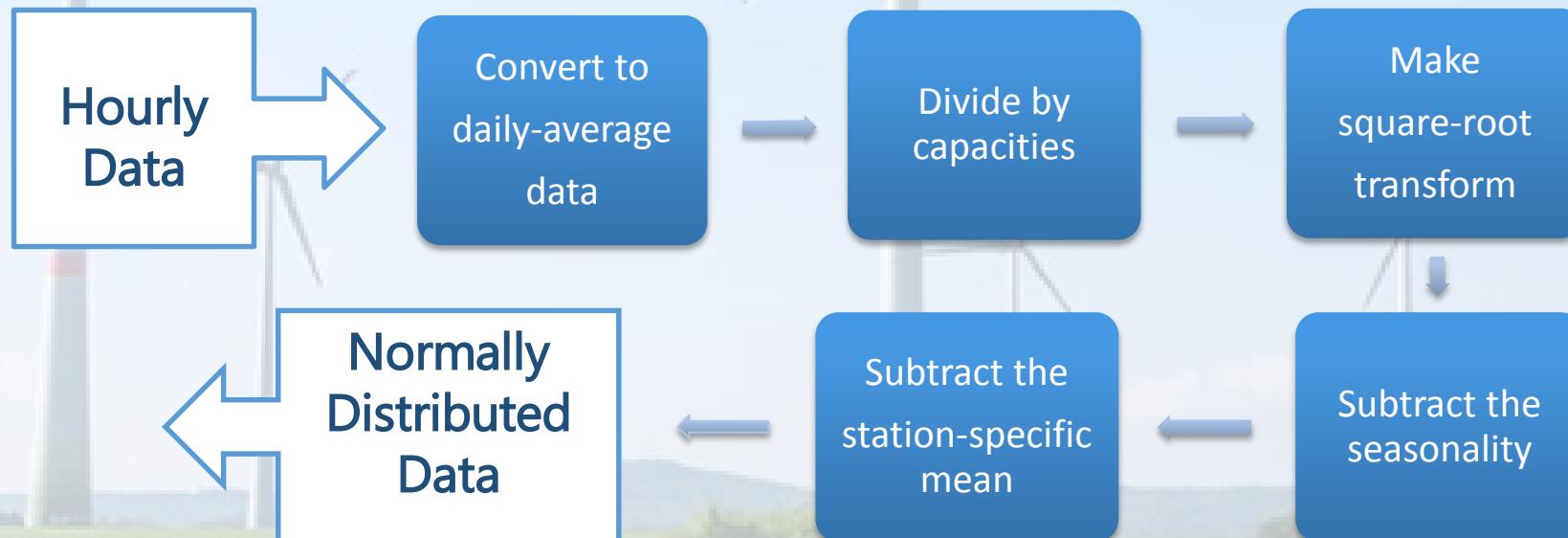
# Spatio-Temporal Process

## ▶ Frequency Histograms of Hourly Wind Energy Generation



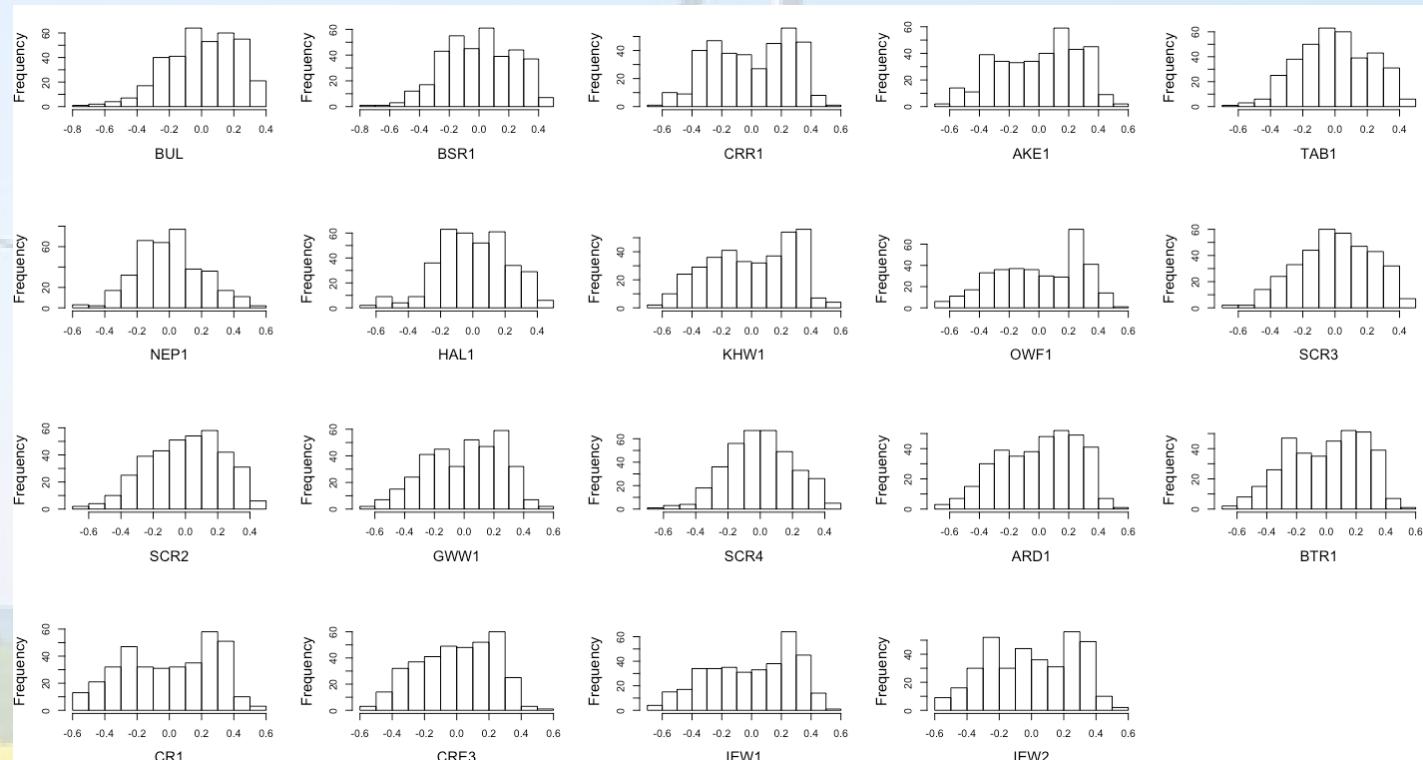
# Gaussian Process

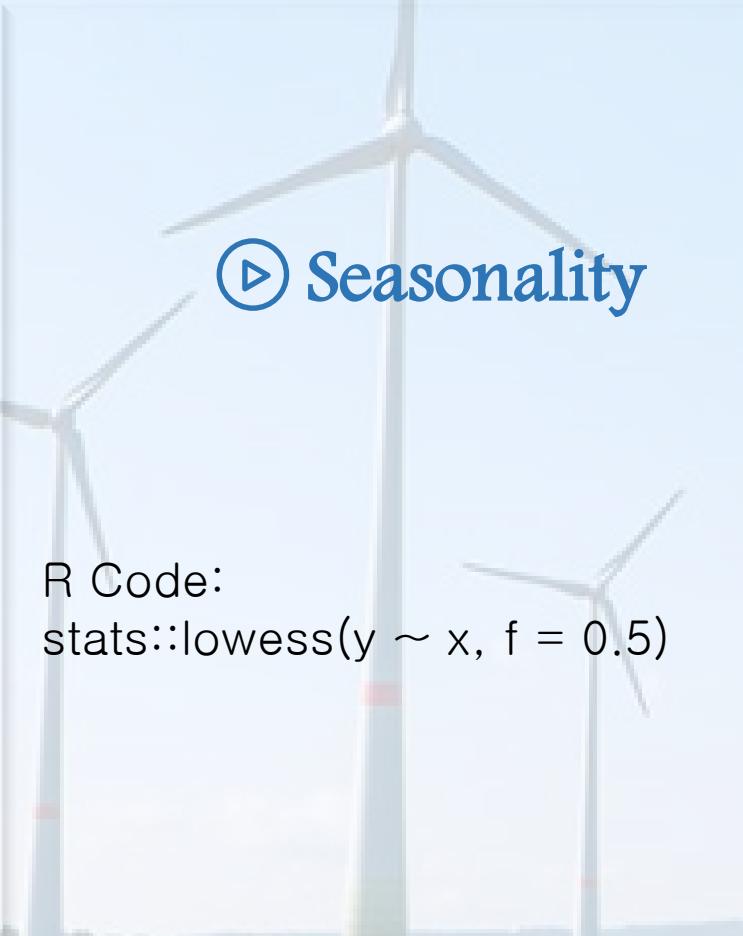
## ► Data Preprocessing



# Gaussian Process

► Preprocessed Daily-Average Wind Energy Generation (from AESO)

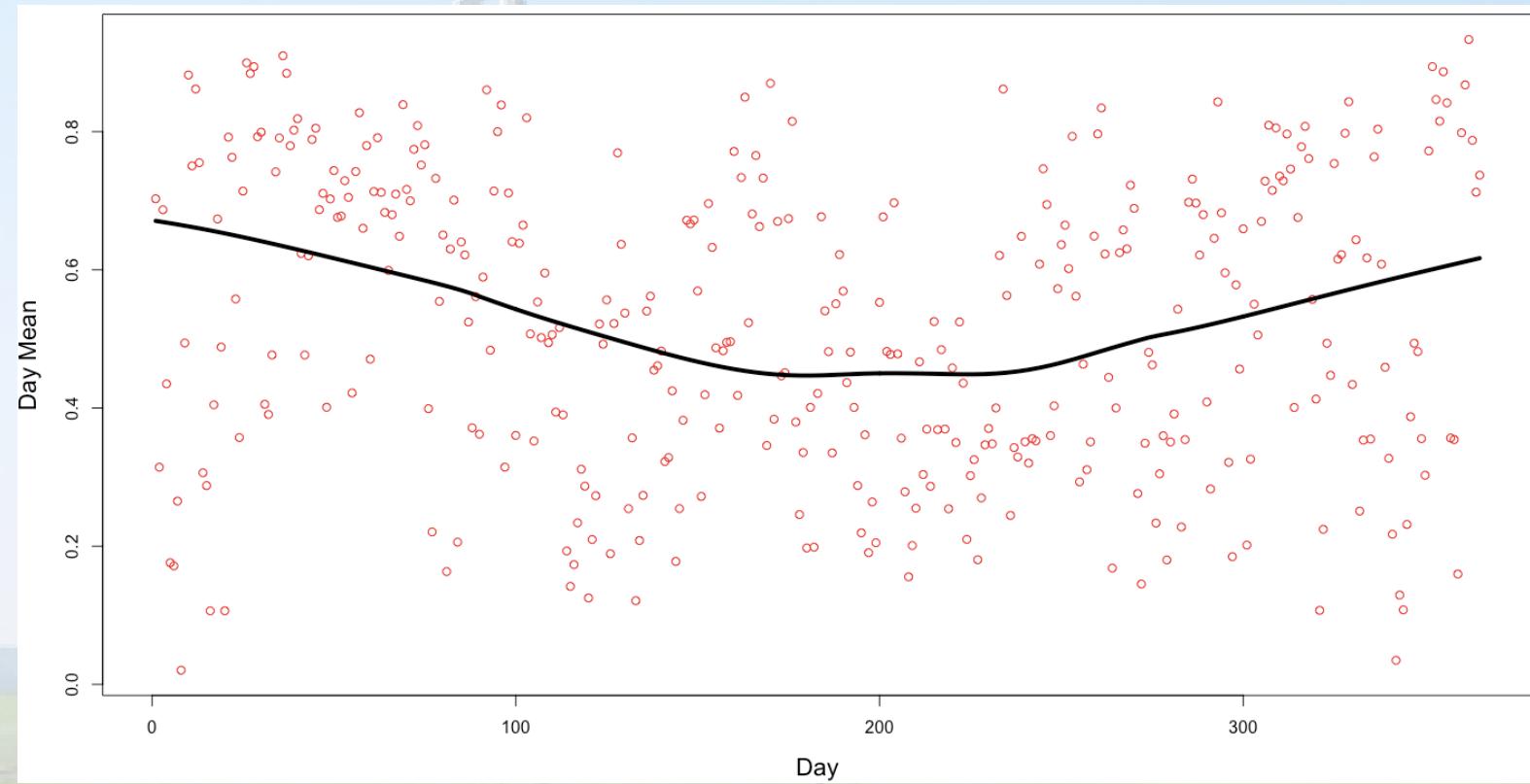


A faint background image of several wind turbines standing in a green field under a blue sky.

► Seasonality

R Code:  
`stats::lowess(y ~ x, f = 0.5)`

## Gaussian Process



# Covariance Function

## ▷ Example of spatial-temporal covariance matrix

- Data in 4 sites during 6 days (24 elements):

$$Y(s_1, t_1), \dots, Y(s_1, t_6), Y(s_2, t_1), \dots, Y(s_2, t_6), Y(s_3, t_1), \dots, Y(s_3, t_6), Y(s_4, t_1), \dots, Y(s_4, t_6)$$

- Covariance matrix (24 X 24):

$$\begin{bmatrix} C(Y(s_1, t_1), Y(s_1, t_1)) & \dots & C(Y(s_1, t_1), Y(s_1, t_6)) & \dots & C(Y(s_1, t_1), Y(s_4, t_1)) & \dots & C(Y(s_1, t_1), Y(s_4, t_6)) \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ C(Y(s_1, t_6), Y(s_1, t_1)) & \dots & C(Y(s_1, t_6), Y(s_1, t_6)) & \dots & C(Y(s_1, t_6), Y(s_4, t_1)) & \dots & C(Y(s_1, t_6), Y(s_4, t_6)) \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ C(Y(s_4, t_1), Y(s_1, t_1)) & \dots & C(Y(s_4, t_1), Y(s_1, t_6)) & \dots & C(Y(s_4, t_1), Y(s_4, t_1)) & \dots & C(Y(s_4, t_1), Y(s_4, t_6)) \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ C(Y(s_4, t_6), Y(s_1, t_1)) & \dots & C(Y(s_4, t_6), Y(s_1, t_6)) & \dots & C(Y(s_4, t_6), Y(s_4, t_1)) & \dots & C(Y(s_4, t_6), Y(s_4, t_6)) \end{bmatrix}$$

## Covariance Function

### ▷ Constraint

- Positive Definiteness:

$$\text{Var} \left( \sum_{i=1}^m a_i Y(s_i, t_i) \right) = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^m a_i a_j C(s_1, s_2, t_1, t_2) > 0$$

### ▷ Selection

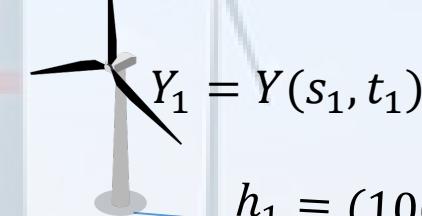
- To ensure that a covariance function is valid, we should consider a parametric family whose members are known to be positive definite functions.

# Covariance Function

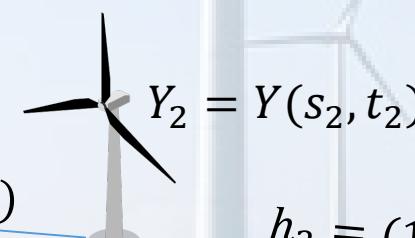
## ▷ Stationarity

$$C(s_1, s_2, t_1, t_2) = C(s_2 - s_1, t_2 - t_1) = C(h, u)$$

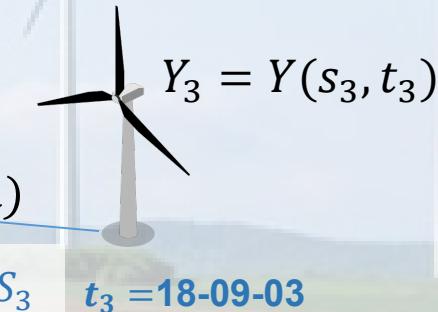
$$C(s_1, s_2, t_1, t_2) = \textcolor{red}{C}(h_1, u_1) \quad \equiv \quad \textcolor{red}{C}(h_2, u_2) = C(s_2, s_3, t_2, t_3)$$



$h_1 = (100\text{km}, 10\text{km})$   
 $u_1 = 1d$



$h_2 = (100\text{km}, 10\text{km})$   
 $u_2 = 1d$



$s_3$     $t_3 = 18-09-03$

## Covariance Function

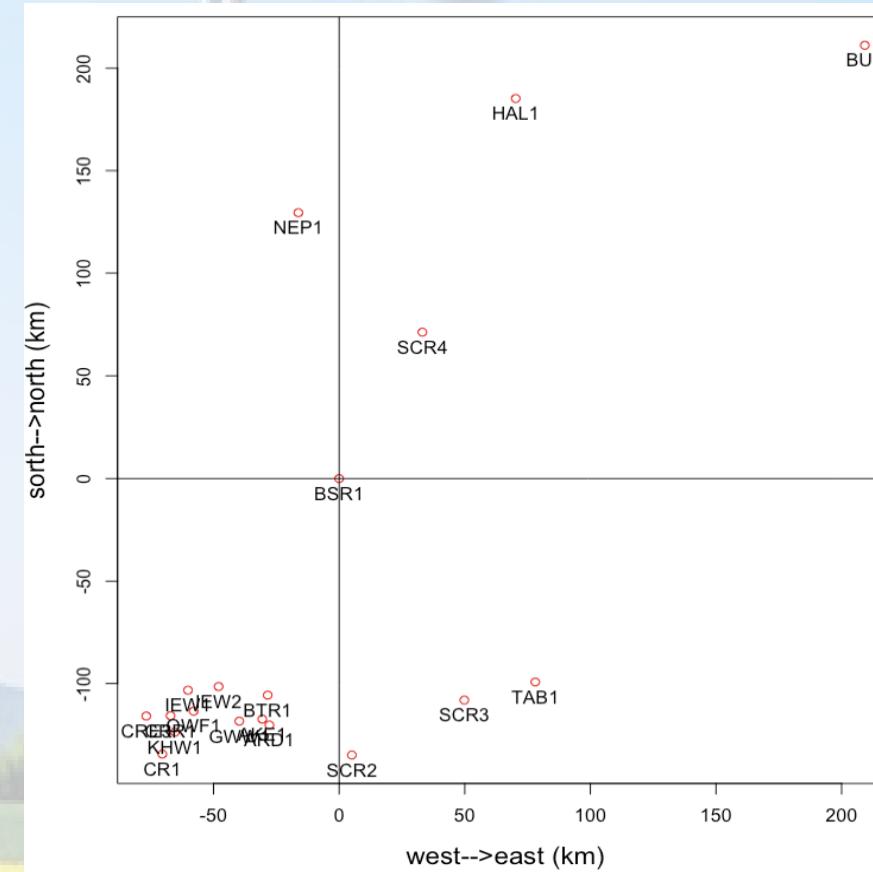
### ▷ Stationarity

- Spatial-temporal stationarity is hard to justify.
- Temporal stationary is reasonable to assume by subtracting the seasonality of time series.
- However, spatial stationarity is not always realistic because of the variation of geographical conditions between different sites, but it is always ignored in most statistical modeling.

## ▷ Stationarity

R Code:  
`sp::spDists(longlat, longlat=TRUE)`

# Covariance Function



## Covariance Function

### ▷ Separable covariance function

$$C_{sep}(h, u) = C_s(\|h\|) \times C_T(|u|)$$

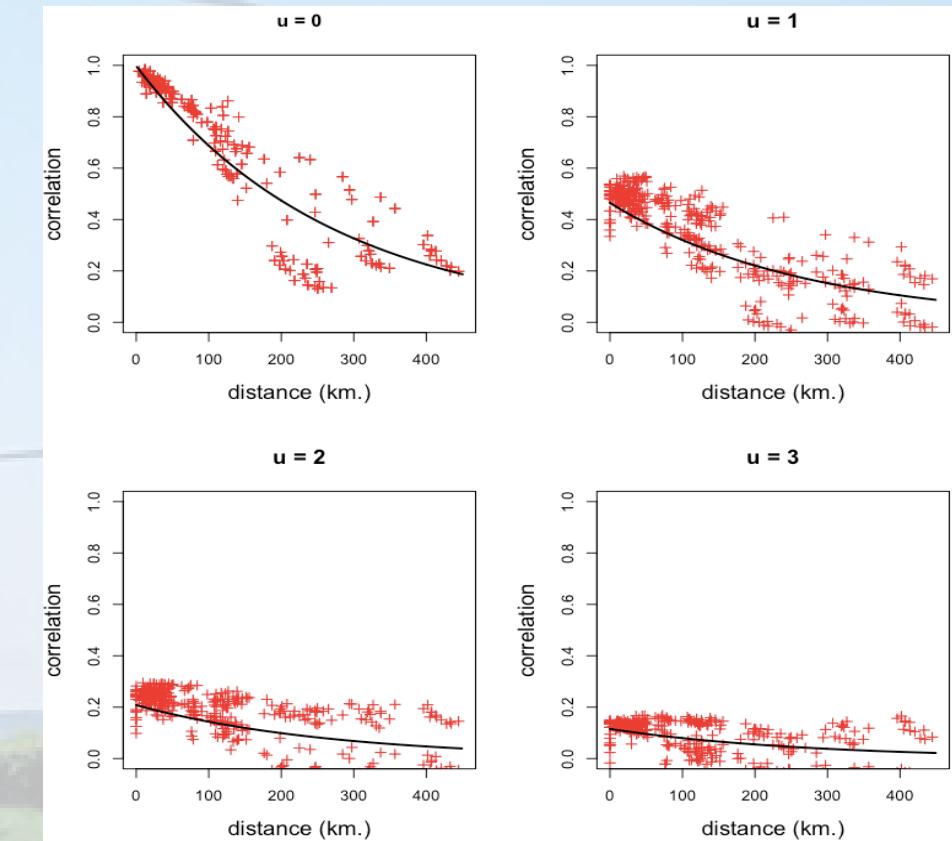
- $C_s(\|h\|) = (1 - \vartheta) \exp(-c\|h\|) + \vartheta \delta_{h=0}$
- $C_T(|u|) = (1 + a|u|^{2\alpha})^{-1}$

## ▷ Empirical Cross-covariance

R Code:

```
stats::ccf(x, y, lag.max = 3, type =  
c("correlation", "covariance"), ...)
```

# Covariance Function



## Covariance Function

- ④ Non-separable but fully symmetric covariance function

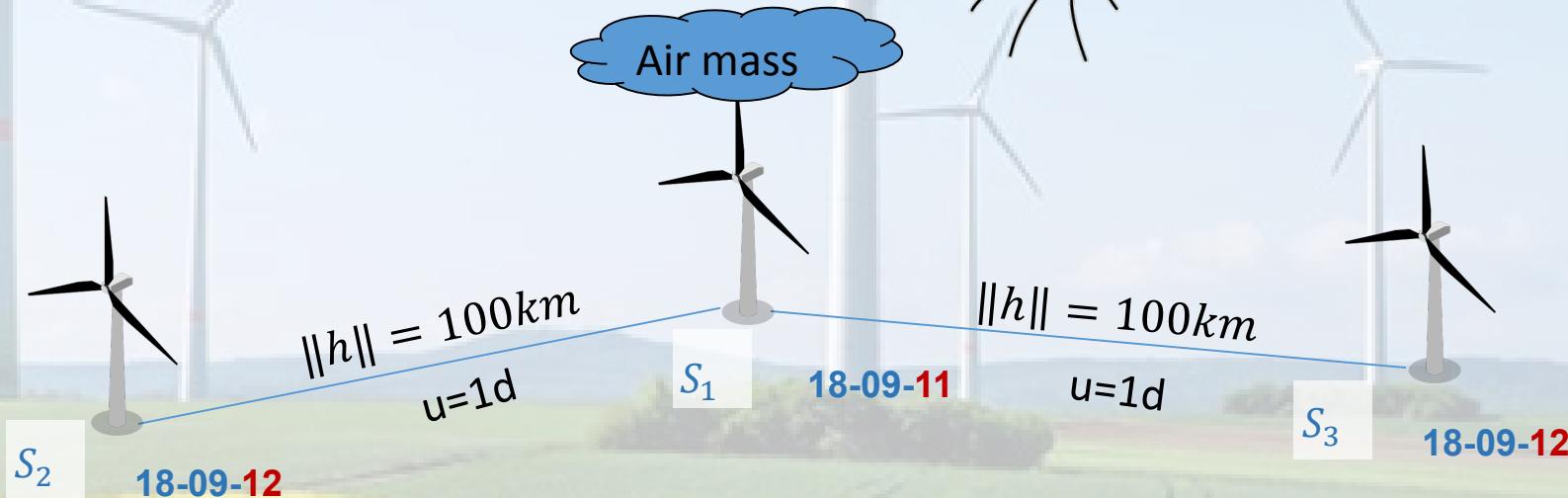
$$C_{FS}(h, u) = C(\|h\|, |u|)$$

$$C_{FS}(h, u) = \frac{1 - \vartheta}{(1 + a|u|^{2\alpha})} \left( \exp \left( \frac{-c\|h\|}{(1 + a|u|^{2\alpha})^{\frac{\beta}{2}}} \right) + \frac{\vartheta}{1 - \vartheta} \delta_{h=0} \right)$$

## Covariance Function

### ▷ Lack of fully symmetry

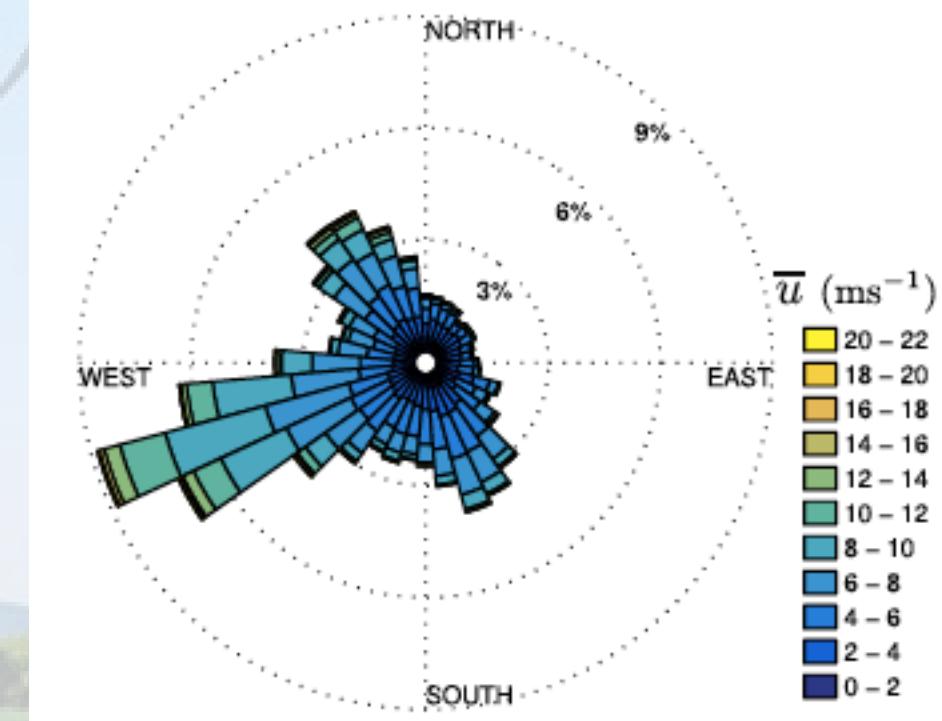
- $C(h, u) = C(\|h\|, |u|)$  is violated because of strong wind



## Covariance Function

### ▷ Lack of fully symmetry

- Prevailing wind:  
West-southwesterly wind
- R Code:  
`openair::windRose(mydata,  
ws = "ws", wd = "wd", ...)`

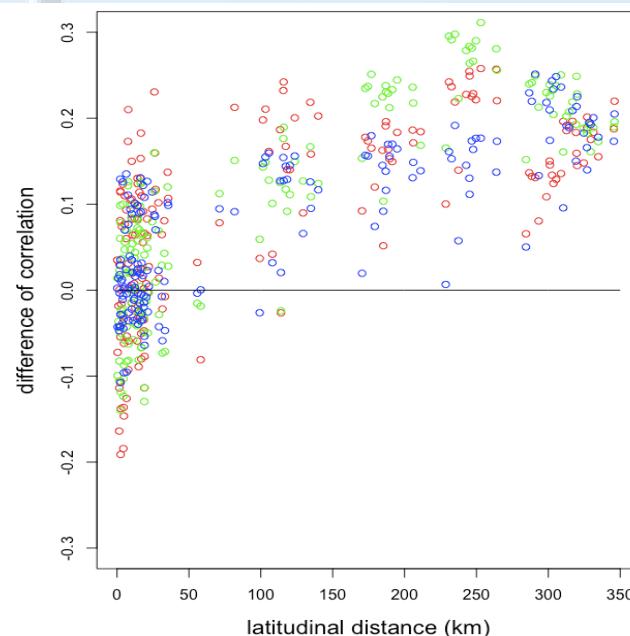
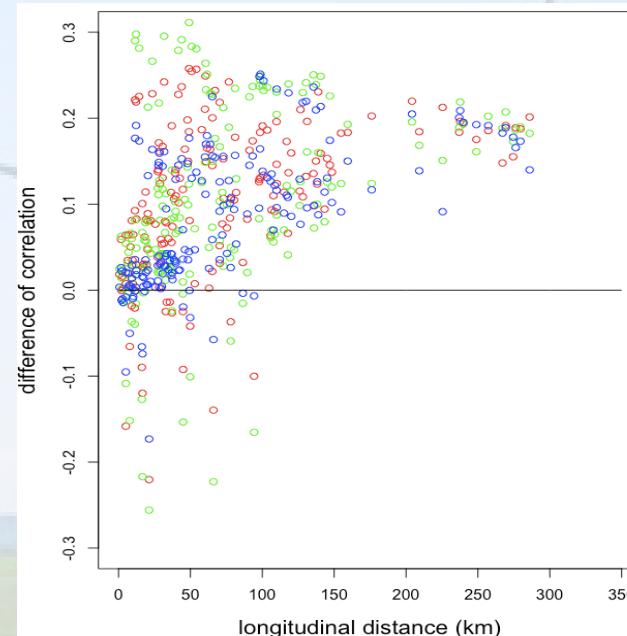


# Covariance Function

▷ Lack of fully symmetry

$$C(h, u) - C(h, -u), \quad u = 1, 2, 3 \text{ days}$$

Red:  $u = 1$   
Green:  $u = 2$   
Blue:  $u = 3$



## Covariance Function

### ▷ Lagrangian covariance function

$$C_{LRG}(h, u) = C_s(h - vu)$$

$$\begin{aligned} C(100,1) &= C(100 - 30 \times 1,0) \\ &= C_s(70) \end{aligned}$$



$S_2$   
 $t_2 = 18-09-02$

$$\|h\| = 70 \text{ km} = 100 \text{ km}$$

$u=0d$

$u=1d$

$S_1$        $t_1 = 18-09-02$

$$v = 30 \text{ km/d}$$



Air mass

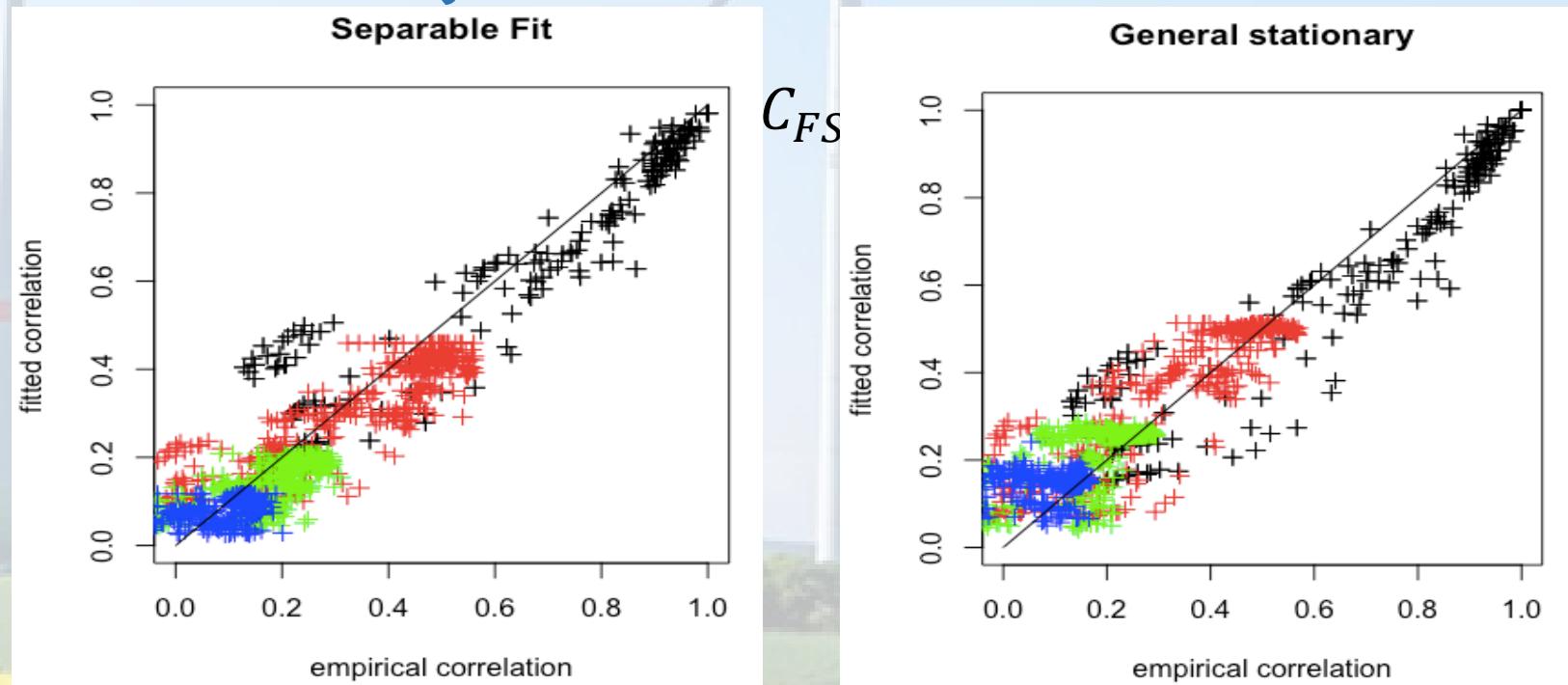
$S_1$

$18-09-01$

# Covariance Function

## ▷ General stationary covariance function

Black:  $u = 0$   
Red:  $u = 1$   
Green:  $u = 2$   
Blue:  $u = 3$



A photograph of a wind farm with several white wind turbines standing in a green field under a clear blue sky.

03

## APPLICATION

- Kriging prediction
- Aggregate wind power generation

## Prediction for Individual Wind Farm

### ▷ Kriging Prediction

- An interpolation algorithm, widely used to predict spatial data at an unobserved point in geostatistics.

$$\hat{Y}_{N+1} - m_{N+1} = \sum_{I=1}^N w_i (Y_i - m_i)$$

- Simple Kriging

$$\hat{Y}_{N+1} = \sum_{I=1}^N w_i Y_i$$

# Prediction for Individual Wind Farm

## ▷ Kriging Prediction

- Weight Selection:
  - ❖ Always generated from the covariance function
  - ❖ Less weight to a site having a low correlation with the predictand.
  - ❖ Determine the weights by minimizing
$$Var(\hat{X}_{N+1} - X_{N+1})$$
  - ❖ Under the unbiasedness constraint
$$E(\hat{X}_{N+1} - X_{N+1}) = 0$$

# Prediction for Individual Wind Farm

## ▷ Kriging Prediction

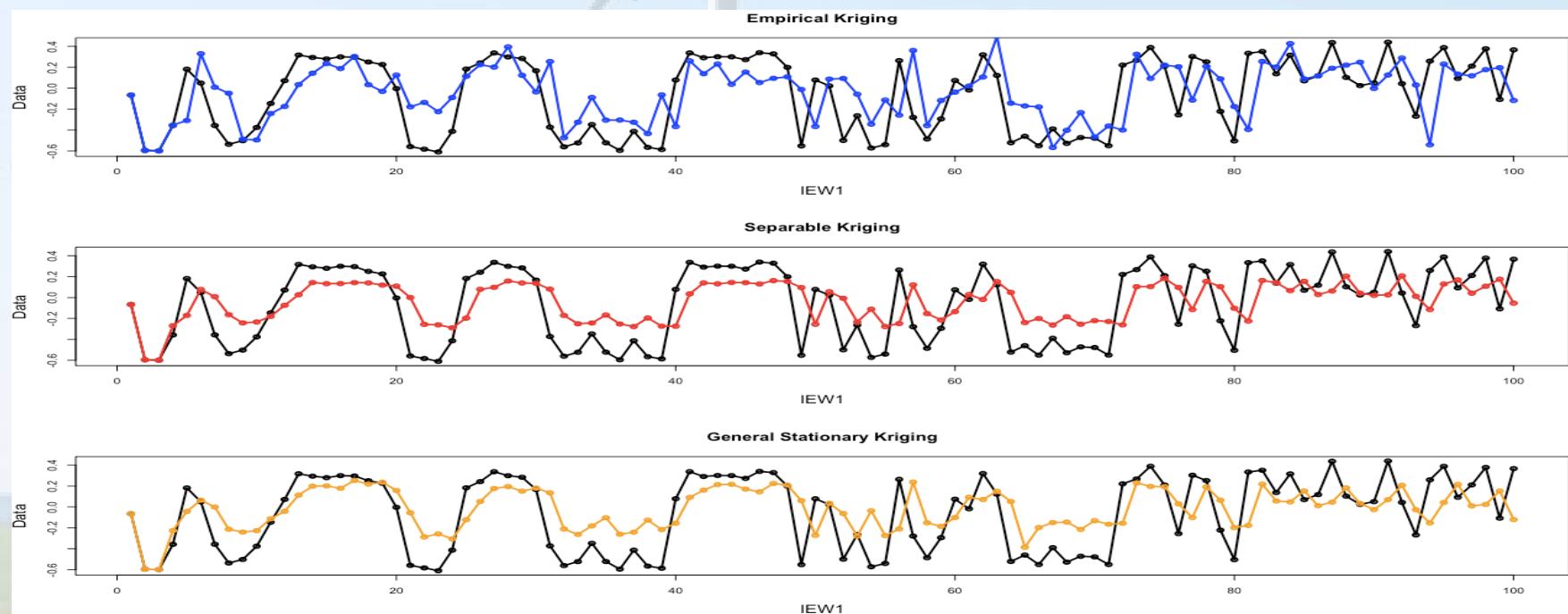
- Simple Kriging :  $\hat{Y}_{N+1} = C'_{N+1} \Sigma^{-1} Y$
- $\Sigma$  : Covariance matrix of observations
- $C_{N+1}$ : Covariance matrix between observations and predictand



# Prediction for Individual Wind Farm

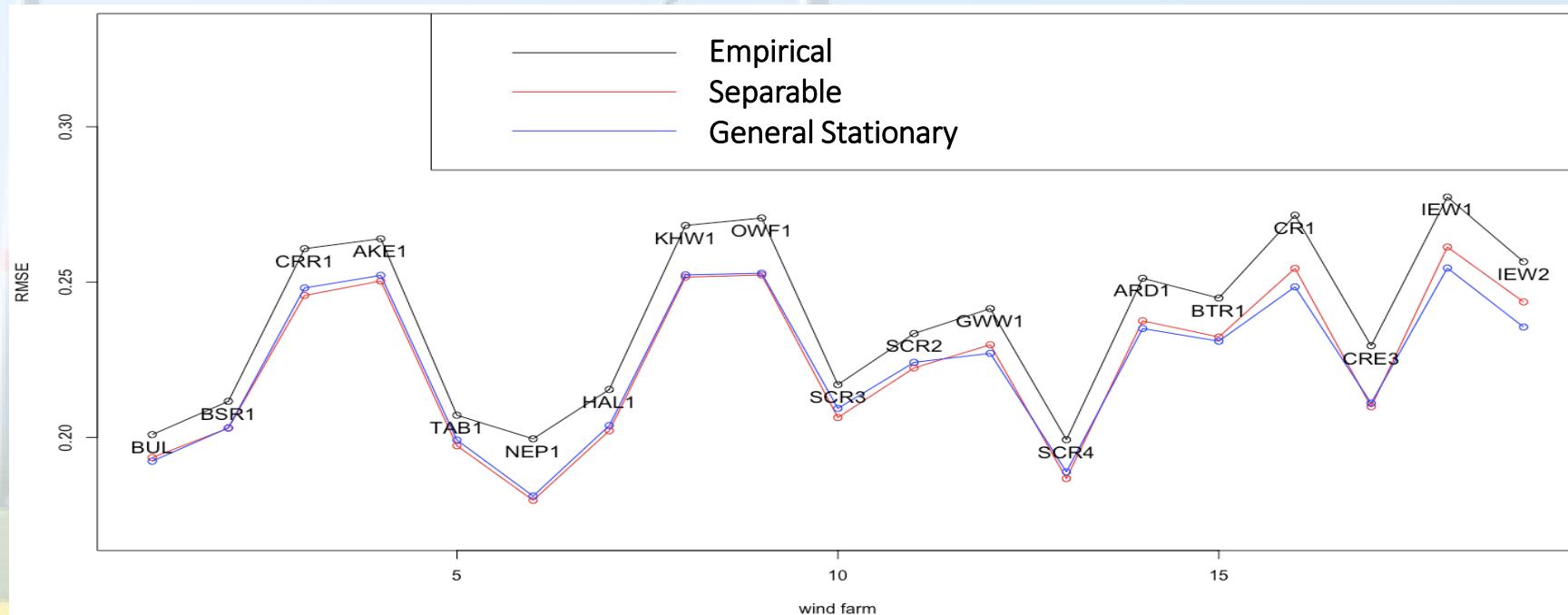
## ▷ Kriging Prediction (existing wind farm)

- Empirical
- Separable
- Stationary



# Prediction for Individual Wind Farm

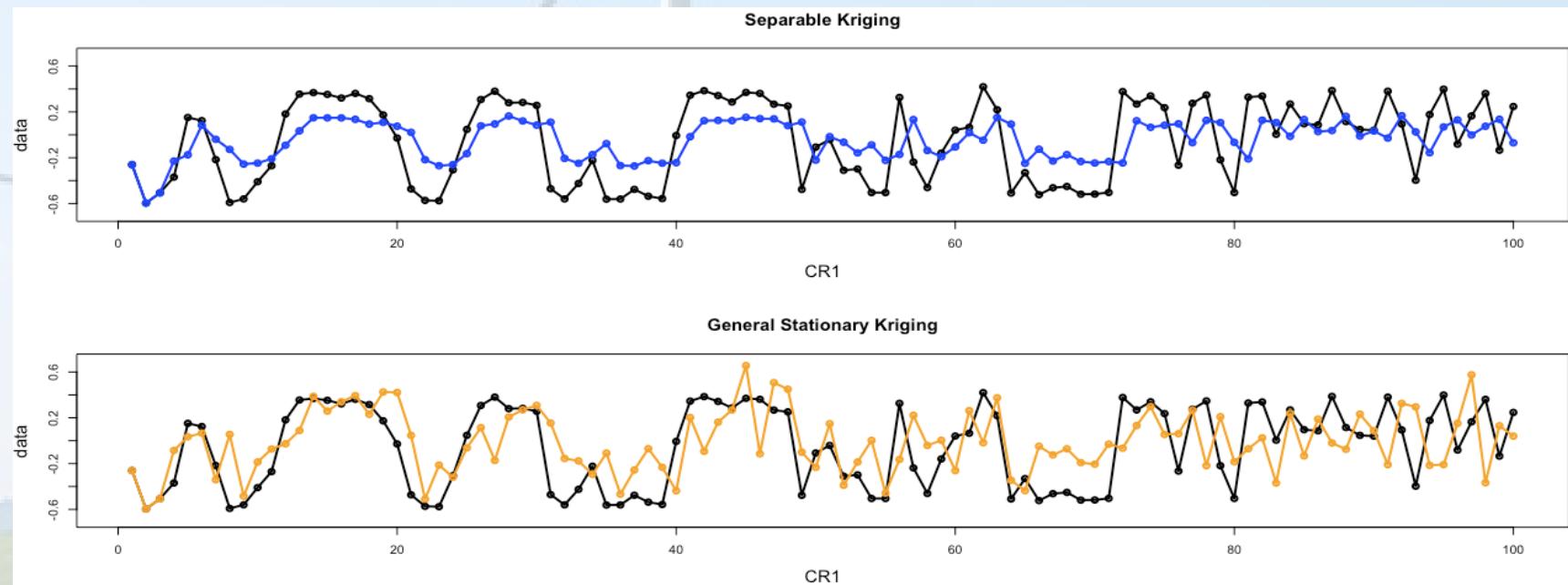
## ▷ Kriging Prediction (existing wind farm)



# Prediction for Individual Wind Farm

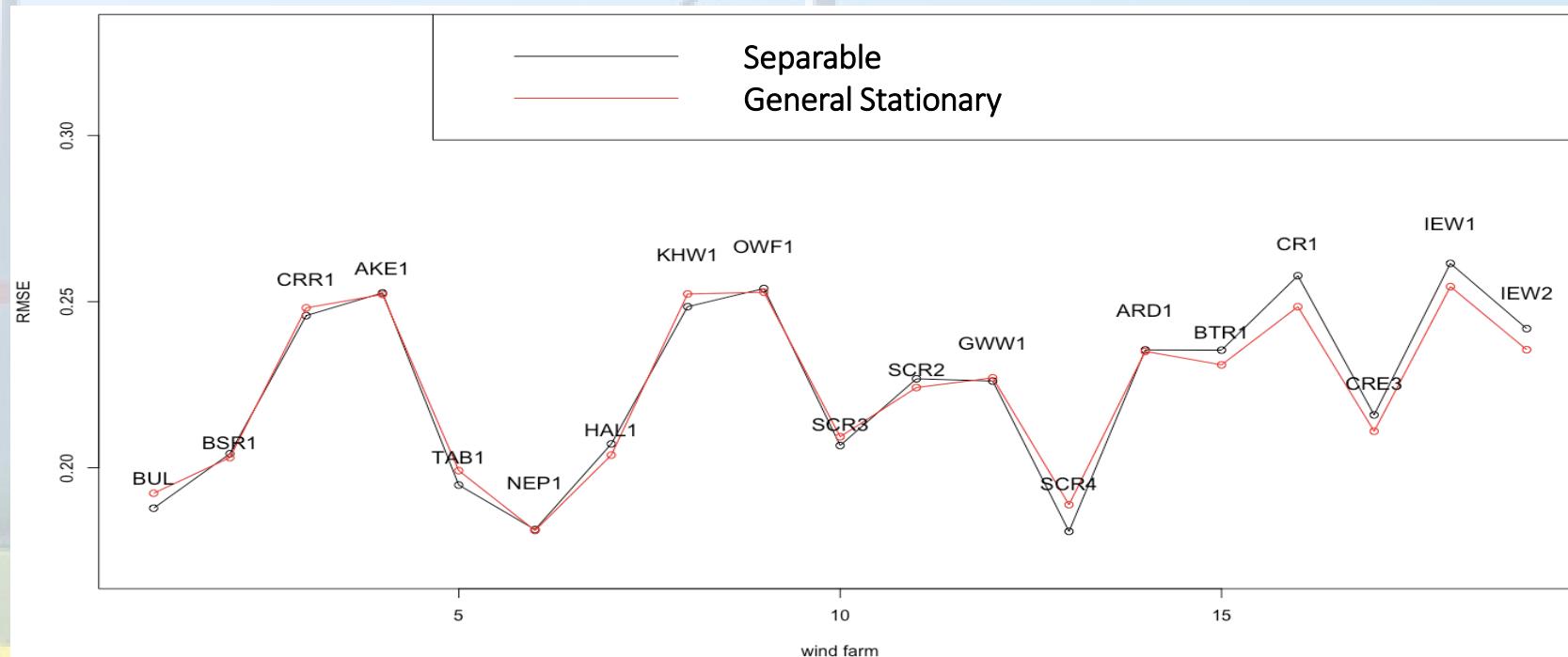
## ▷ Kriging Prediction (new wind farm)

- Separable
- Stationary

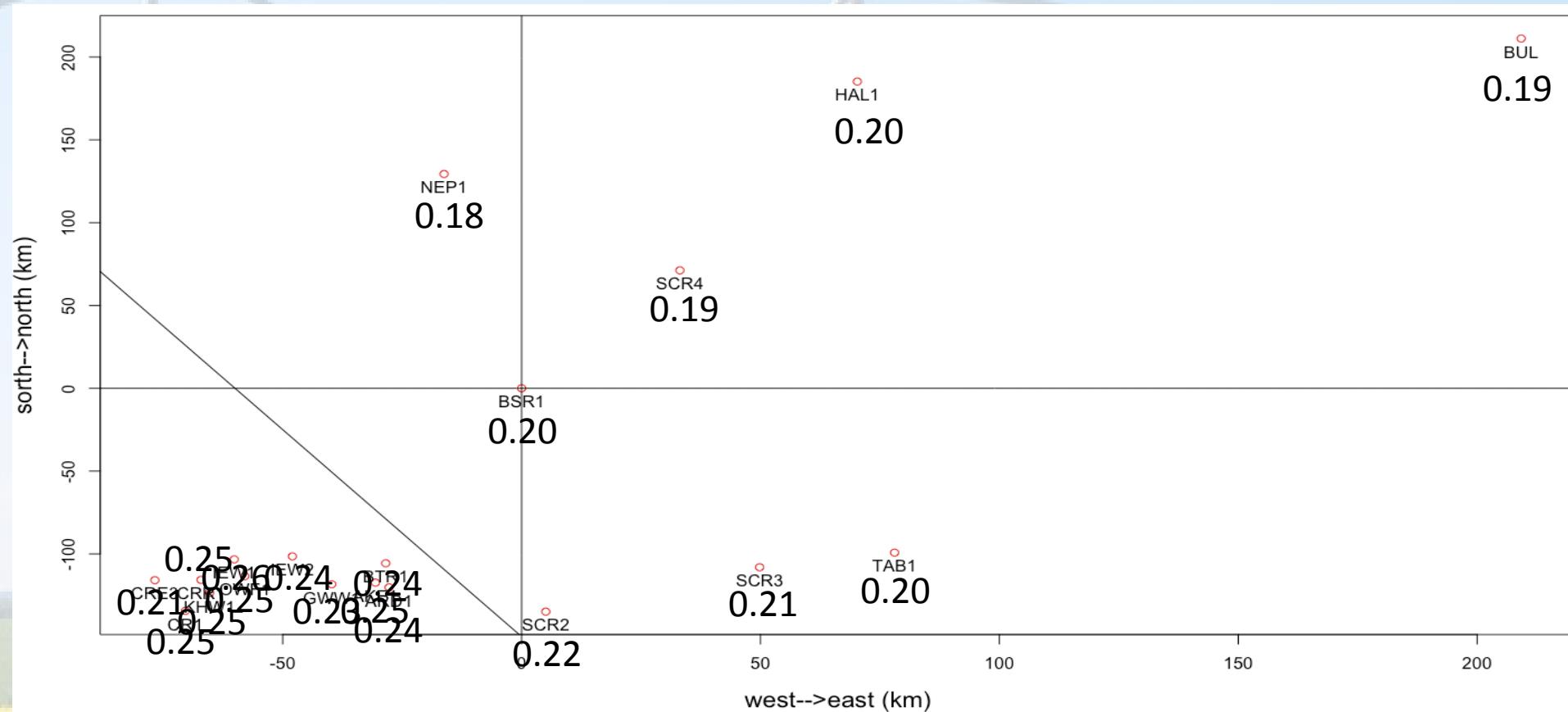


# Prediction for Individual Wind Farm

## ▷ Kriging Prediction (new wind farm)



# Prediction for Individual Wind Farm



# Aggregate Wind Power Generation

## ▷ Definition

- $W(x, t)$ : Actual daily-average wind power generation divided by capacities.
- $Y(x, t)$ : Spatial-temporal stationary Gaussian process
- $S(t)$ : Seasonality at time  $t$
- $m(x)$ : Station-specific mean at site  $x$

$$Y(x, t) = \sqrt{W(x, t)} - (S(t) + m(x))$$

# Aggregate Wind Power Generation

## ▷ Definition

- Aggregate wind power generation at time  $t^*$

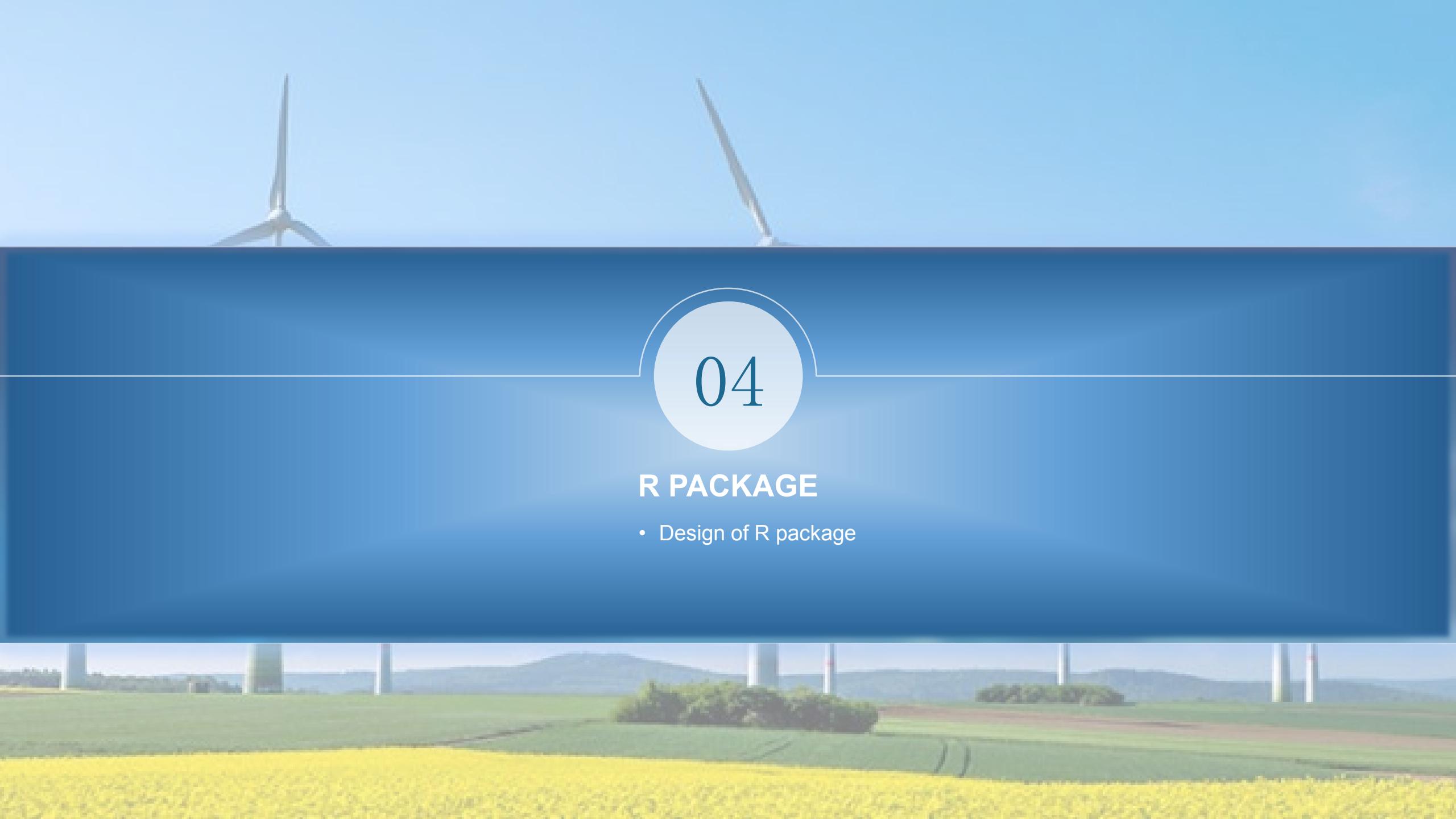
$$G_{agg}(t^*) = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i^c W(x_i^c, t^*) + \sum_{j=1}^p c_j^f W(x_j^f, t^*)$$

- Locations of current wind farms:  $X^c = \{x_1^c, \dots, x_k^c\}$
- Locations of future wind farms:  $X^f = \{x_1^f, \dots, x_p^f\}$
- Capacities of current wind farms:  $C^c = \{c_1^c, \dots, c_k^c\}$
- Capacities of future wind farms:  $C^f = \{c_1^f, \dots, c_p^f\}$

## Aggregate Wind Power Generation

- ▷ “Best” Scenario of new wind farms

Locations	Means	Variances
one farm above the split line	1076.8	683931.5
two farms above the split line	1073.8	654072.1
three farms above the split line	1071.3	627529.3
four farms above the split line	1068.8	601594
five farms above the split line	1066.2	575885.5

A photograph of a wind farm with several white wind turbines standing in a green field under a clear blue sky.

04

## R PACKAGE

- Design of R package

# Design of R Package

## ④ R Package: YLWind

### Data Input:

#### 1. Wind energy generation

`STdata = matrix(data, dimnames=list(c(time),c (names of wind farms) )`

#### 2. Locations of wind farms

`Loc = data.frame(longitude, latitude)`

#### 3. Wind data (optional)

`Wind = data.frame(direction, speed)`

# Design of R Package

## ④ R Package: YLWind

### Preprocessing Functions:

1. Wind energy generation → Gaussian process  
Fn: PreST(object = STdata, train = [1: n], test = [-1:n], histogram = T)  
Return: two matrices (`trainset` & `testset`)
2. Locations of wind farms → Distance  
Fn: Predists(object = Loc, longlat = T)  
Return: distance matrices (`dists` & `londists` & `latdists`)
3. Wind data (optional) → Average wind direction and wind speed  
Fn: Avgwind(object = Wind)  
Return: two numbers (`wv` & `sv`)

# Design of R Package

## ④ R Package: YLWind

**Class:** `ywind`

**\$Data**

`List( STdata, Loc, Wind (optional))`

**\$model**

`list("separable", "Fully Symmetric", "General Stationary"))`

**Summary.ywind:** parameter optimization.

**Predict.ywind:** Kriging prediction values, RMSE and MAE errors.

**Plot.ywind:** Goodness of fit plots, Kriging prediction plots.

**Agg.ywind:** mean and variance of the aggregate wind power generation.



# Thank You !

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