

COA 616 Geostatistics in Environmental Sciences

## Lecture 12 – Modelling areal data

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### Modeling areal data (SAR)

Simultaneous autoregressive model (SAR): Uses a regression on the values from the other areas to account for the spatial dependence. The error terms  $\varepsilon$  are modeled so that they depend on each other in the following way:

$$Z = \mu + e$$

$$e_i = \sum_{j=1}^m b_{ij} e_j + \varepsilon_i$$

$\varepsilon_i$  represents residual errors,  $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_m) \sim N(\vec{0}, \vec{\Lambda})$  with  $\vec{\Lambda}$  diagonal

$b_{ij}$  values are used to represent spatial dependence between areas,

$b_{ii}$  must be set to 0 so that each area is not regressed on itself.

If we express the error terms as  $e = B(Y - X^T \beta) + \varepsilon$ , the model can also be expressed as

$$Z = X^T \beta + B(Y - X^T \beta) + \varepsilon$$

Hence, the model can be formulated in a matrix form as follows :

$$(I - B)(Y - X^T \beta) = \varepsilon$$

where  $B = (b_{ij})$ ,  $I$  is the  $m$  dimensional identity matrix

$I - B$  must be non - singular

## SAR cont.

$$[Z] \sim N(X^T \beta, (I - B)^{-1} \Sigma_e (I - B^T)^{-1})$$

Often  $\Sigma_e = \sigma^2 I$  then

$$[Z] \sim N(X^T \beta, \sigma^2 (I - B)^{-1} (I - B^T)^{-1})$$

Let  $B = \lambda W$  where  $\lambda$  is a spatial autocorrelation parameter and  $W$  is a matrix that represents spatial dependence (often symmetric), then

$$\text{var}(Z) = \sigma^2 (I - \lambda W)^{-1} (I - \lambda W^T)^{-1}$$

## Modeling areal data (CAR)

Conditional autoregressive model (CAR): Relies on the conditional distribution of the spatial error term.

$$e_i | e_{j \sim i} \sim N\left(\frac{\sum_{j \sim i} c_{ij} e_j}{\sum_{j \sim i} c_{ij}}, \frac{\sigma_{e_i}^2}{\sum_{j \sim i} c_{ij}}\right)$$

$$Z(A_i) | Z(A_j) \sim N\left(\mu_i + \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} (Z(A_j) - \mu_j), \tau_i^2\right)$$

$$Z \sim N(\vec{\mu}, (\vec{I}_n - \vec{C})^{-1} \vec{T})$$

where  $c_{ij}$  are dependence parameters similar to  $b_{ij}$

$$\vec{C} = (c_{ij}), \text{ and } \vec{T} = \text{diag}(\tau_1^2, \tau_2^2, \dots, \tau_n^2)$$

$$\sigma_j^2 c_{ij} = \sigma_i^2 c_{ji}$$

The structure of  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  are specified by the shape of lattice. One common way is with a singular parameter that scales neighborhood matrix  $\mathbf{W}$  that indicates whether the regions are neighbor or not.

$$w_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if region } A_i \text{ shares the same border or vertex with region } A_j \\ 0 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## CAR cont.

CAR models are typically specified in a hierarchical Bayesian framework, with inference based on Markov Chain Monte Carlo simulation.

1. Data likelihood

$$Z_k \sim f(z_k | \mu_k, \nu^2) \text{ for } k=1, 2, \dots, m$$

$$g(\mu_k) = x_k^T \beta + \phi_k + O_k$$

$\phi$ : random effects

$O$ : known offsets

2. Priors

2.1) Independent prior

$$\phi_k \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

$$\sigma^2 \sim U(0, M_\sigma)$$

2.2) Global priors

$$\phi_k | \phi_{-k}, W, \tau^2 \sim N\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_{ki} \phi_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_{ki}}, \frac{\tau^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_{ki}}\right)$$

$$\tau^2 \sim U(0, M_\tau)$$

## CARBayes

Besag-York-Mollie (BYM) (1991) CAR model (CARbym())

$$\varphi_k = \phi_k + \theta_k$$

$$\phi_k | \phi_{-k}, W, \tau^2 \sim N\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_{ki} \phi_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_{ki}}, \frac{\tau^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_{ki}}\right)$$

$$\theta_k \sim N(0, \theta^2)$$

$$\tau^2, \theta^2 \sim \text{Inverse-Gamma}(a, b)$$

Leroux et al. (1999) (CARleroux())

$$\varphi_k = \phi_k$$

$$\phi_k | \phi_{-k}, W, \tau^2, \rho \sim N\left(\frac{\rho \sum_{i=1}^n w_{ki} \phi_i}{\rho \sum_{i=1}^n w_{ki} + 1 - \rho}, \frac{\tau^2}{\rho \sum_{i=1}^n w_{ki} + 1 - \rho}\right)$$

$$\tau^2 \sim \text{Inverse-Gamma}(a, b)$$

$$\rho \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$$