

# A Spatial Analysis of Multivariate Output from Regional Climate Models

Reinhard Furrer, UZH

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NZZ.ch



**University of  
Zurich**<sup>UZH</sup>

# Outline

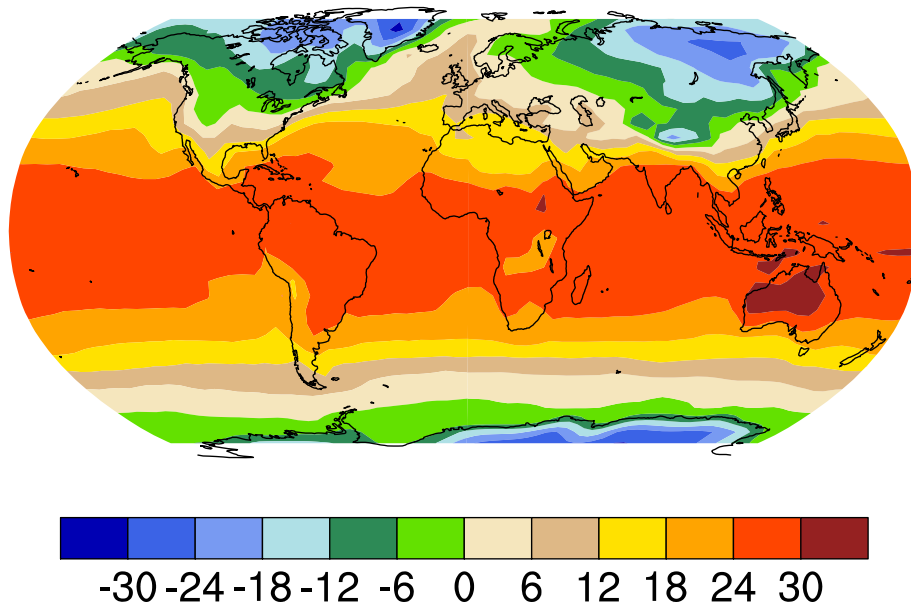
- ▶ Examples of spatial climate data
- ▶ Uni-/Multivariate spatial models
- ▶ General approaches
- ▶ Markovian modeling
- ▶ Example: Regional temperature & precipitation change
- ▶ Outlook



# Spatial data

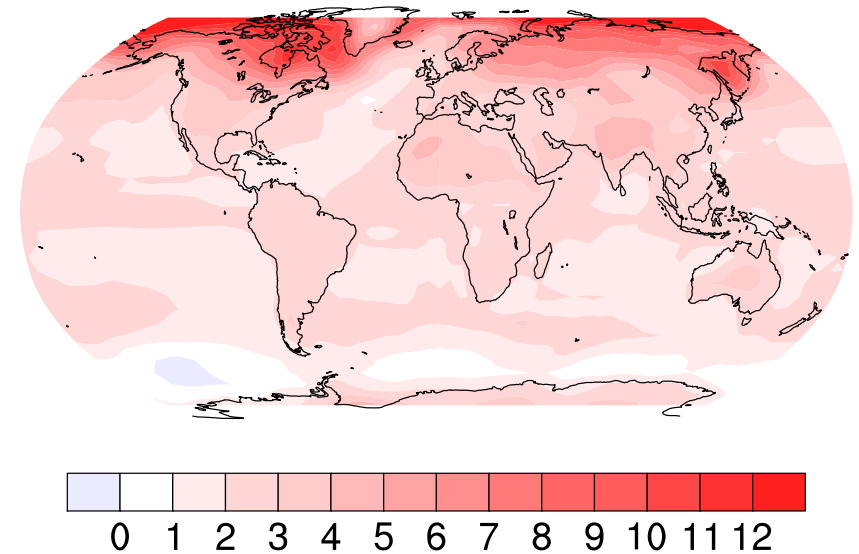
General circulation model data

CCSM3 DJF temperature 2080-2100



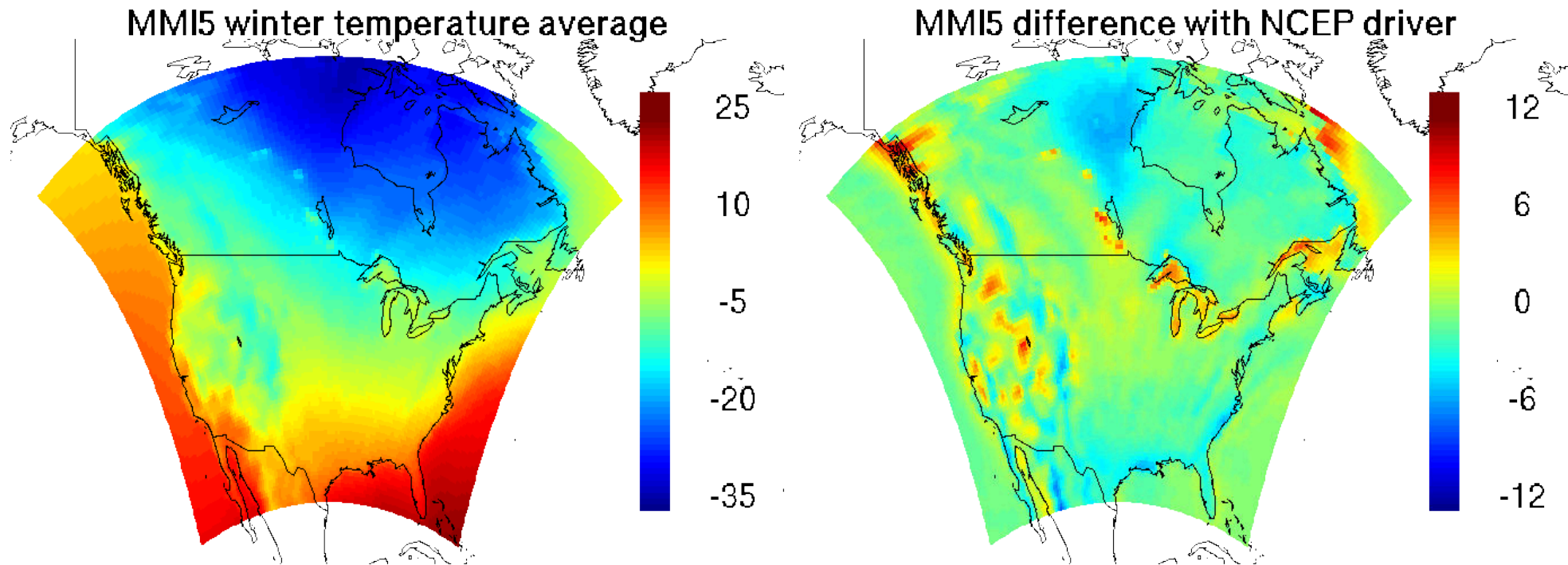
CCSM3 DJF temperature change

2080-2100 vs 1980-2000



# Spatial data

Regional climate model data



# Spatial data

## Typical features

- ▶ Large datasets
- ▶ Complex nonstationarities
- ▶ Unknown dependencies
- ▶ Difficulty visualizing the results

# Univariate modeling: setting

Spatial, additive mixed effects model:

data = signal + noise

= fixed effects + trend + spatial term + noise

# Univariate modeling: setting

Spatial, additive mixed effects model:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{data} &= \text{signal} + \text{noise} \\ &= \text{fixed effects} + \text{trend} + \text{spatial term} + \text{noise}\end{aligned}$$

or

$$Y(\mathbf{s}) = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \alpha(\mathbf{s}) + \gamma(\mathbf{s}) + \varepsilon(\mathbf{s}) \quad \mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \quad d \geq 1$$

with

$Y(\mathbf{s})$ : observations

$\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}$ : fixed effects and trend

$\alpha(\mathbf{s})$ : spline component (trend)

$\gamma(\mathbf{s})$ : zero mean spatial Gaussian process

$\varepsilon(\mathbf{s})$ : iid Gaussian noise, orthogonal to  $\gamma(\mathbf{s})$

# Univariate modeling: setting

Parameters  $\theta = (\beta^\top, \theta_\alpha^\top, \lambda_\alpha, \theta_\gamma^\top, \sigma^2)^\top$ :

$\mathbf{X}\beta$ : coefficients  $\beta$

$\alpha(\mathbf{s})$ : basis function coefficients  $\theta_\alpha$ ; smoothing parameter  $\lambda_\alpha$

$\gamma(\mathbf{s})$ : parameters  $\theta_\gamma$  describing the covariance function

$\varepsilon(\mathbf{s})$ : variance  $\sigma^2$



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Statistical tasks:

- ▶ estimation of  $\theta$
- ▶ smoothing or prediction
- ▶ uncertainty assessment
- ▶ model validation



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# Multivariate modeling: setting

Spatial, additive mixed effects model:

$$Y_1(\mathbf{s}) = \mathbf{X}_1\boldsymbol{\beta}_1 + \alpha_1(\mathbf{s}) + \gamma_1(\mathbf{s}) + \varepsilon_1(\mathbf{s})$$

$\vdots$

$$Y_p(\mathbf{s}) = \mathbf{X}_p\boldsymbol{\beta}_p + \alpha_p(\mathbf{s}) + \gamma_p(\mathbf{s}) + \varepsilon_p(\mathbf{s}) \quad \mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \quad d \geq 1$$

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# Multivariate modeling: setting

Modeling the spatial processes themselves:

		Random field:	
		GRF	GMRF
Dependency:	common process(es)	①	②
	cross-correlation model	③	④

# Inlet: dependency modeling

Common process(es):

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{X} &\sim \mathcal{N}_n(\boldsymbol{\mu}_\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{X}) & \mathbf{Z} &\sim \mathcal{N}_n(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{Z}) \\ \mathbf{Y} &\sim \mathcal{N}_n(\boldsymbol{\mu}_\mathbf{Y}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{Y})\end{aligned}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Z} \\ \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{Z} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}_{2n} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_\mathbf{X} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_\mathbf{Y} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{X} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{Z} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{Z} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{Z} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{Y} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{Z} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

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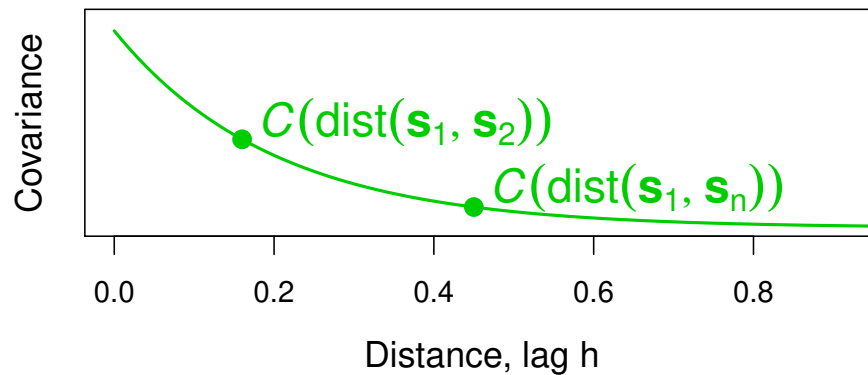
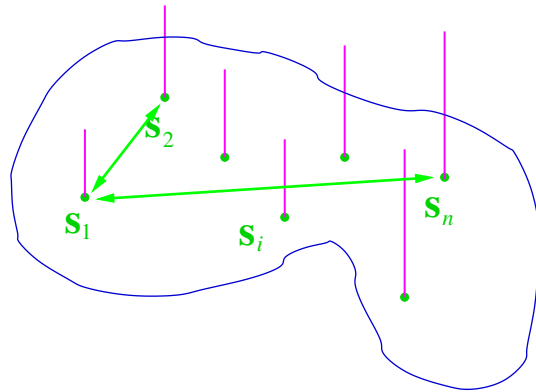
Cross-correlation model:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{X} &\sim \mathcal{N}_n(\boldsymbol{\mu}_\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{X}) & \text{Cov}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) &= \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} \\ \mathbf{Y} &\sim \mathcal{N}_n(\boldsymbol{\mu}_\mathbf{Y}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{Y})\end{aligned}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{Y} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}_{2n} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_\mathbf{X} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_\mathbf{Y} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{X} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}^\top & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\mathbf{Y} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

# Inlet: random field modeling

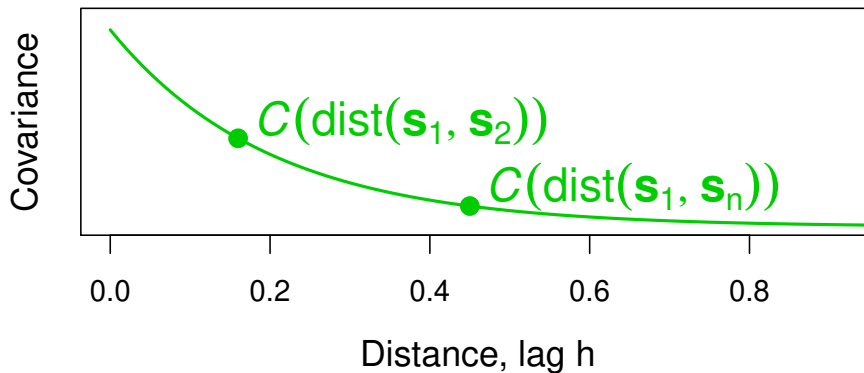
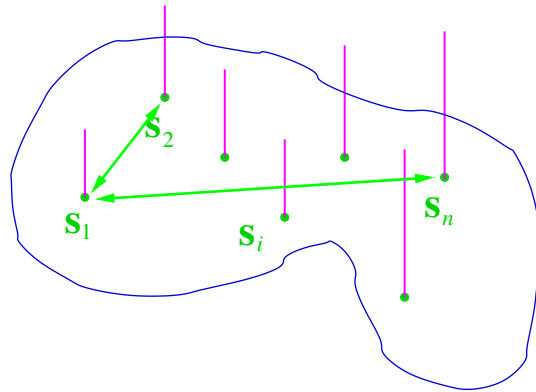
Spatial process (GRF):



Covariance matrix:  $\Sigma$

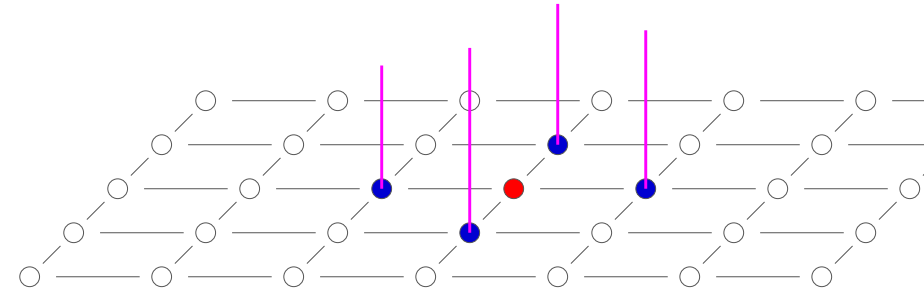
# Inlet: random field modeling

Spatial process (GRF):



Covariance matrix:  $\Sigma$

Lattice data (GMRF):



$$E[y_i | y_{-i}] = \beta \sum_{j \text{ neighbor of } i} y_j$$

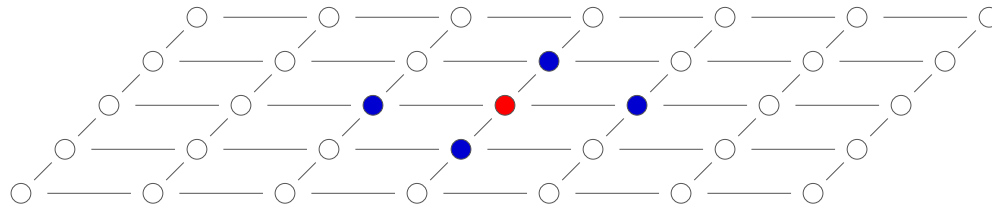
$$\text{Var}[y_i | y_{-i}] = \tau^2$$

Gaussianity and regularity conditions:

$$\Sigma = \tau^2 (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{B})^{-1}$$



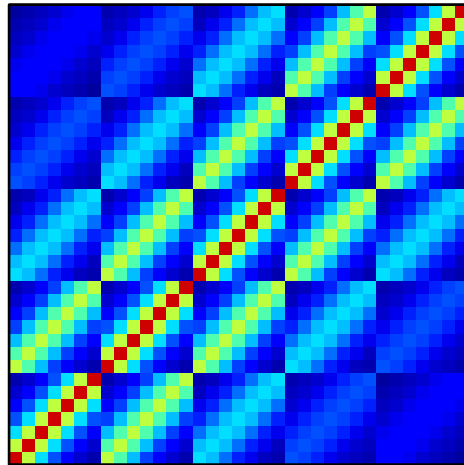
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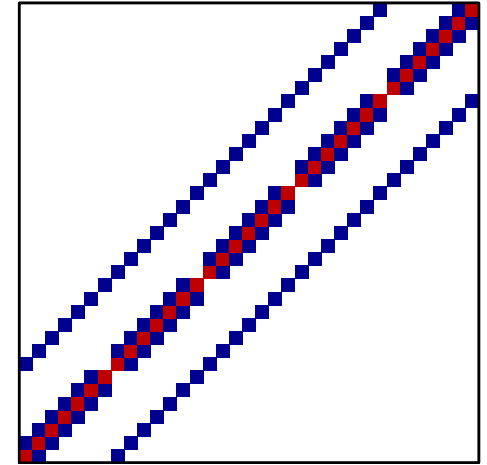
Spatial process:

Lattice data:

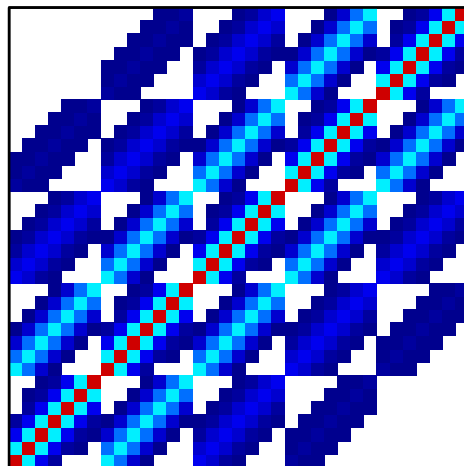
$\Sigma$



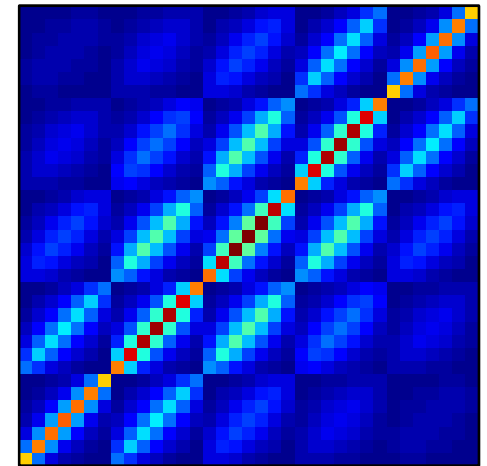
$\Sigma^{-1}$



$\Sigma_{\text{tapered}}$



$\Sigma$



# Multivariate modeling: approaches

- ▶ Iterative approaches
  - + Flexible, numerically feasible
  - Uncertainties
- ▶ Maximum likelihood
  - + Uncertainties, asymptotics
  - Numerical issues
- ▶ Bayesian hierarchical models
  - + Flexible, uncertainties
  - MCMC



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Backfitting: ① ② ③ ④ ◀



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Tapering: ① ③; ② ④ ◀

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Dimension-reduction: ④ ◀



# Multivariate modeling: backfitting

Recall:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_1(\mathbf{s}) &= \mathbf{X}_1\boldsymbol{\beta}_1 + \alpha_1(\mathbf{s}) + \gamma_1(\mathbf{s}) + \varepsilon_1(\mathbf{s}) \\ &\vdots \\ Y_p(\mathbf{s}) &= \mathbf{X}_p\boldsymbol{\beta}_p + \alpha_p(\mathbf{s}) + \gamma_p(\mathbf{s}) + \varepsilon_p(\mathbf{s}) \end{aligned}$$

# Multivariate modeling: backfitting

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Extending the 'classical' backfitting approach to dependent data:

```
repeat until convergence
  repeat until convergence
    estimate fixed effects
  for all 'stochastic' effects
    estimate parameters
  predict smooth field
```

# Multivariate modeling: backfitting

- ▶ Intuitive, stable.
- ▶ Computationally easy to implement, handles very large datasets. Limitation of handling is one single  $\alpha_i(\mathbf{s})$  or  $\gamma_i(\mathbf{s})$  field.
- ▶ Known covariance structure:  
Equivalence after convergence and convergence.
- ▶ Unknown covariance structure:  
'Nothing' can be said.
- ▶ Uncertainties . . .

See Furrer, Sain (2009) StCo; Heersink, Furrer (subm.) LAA.



# Multivariate modeling: tapering

Univariate case: tapering based on infill asymptotics and equivalent Gaussian measures.

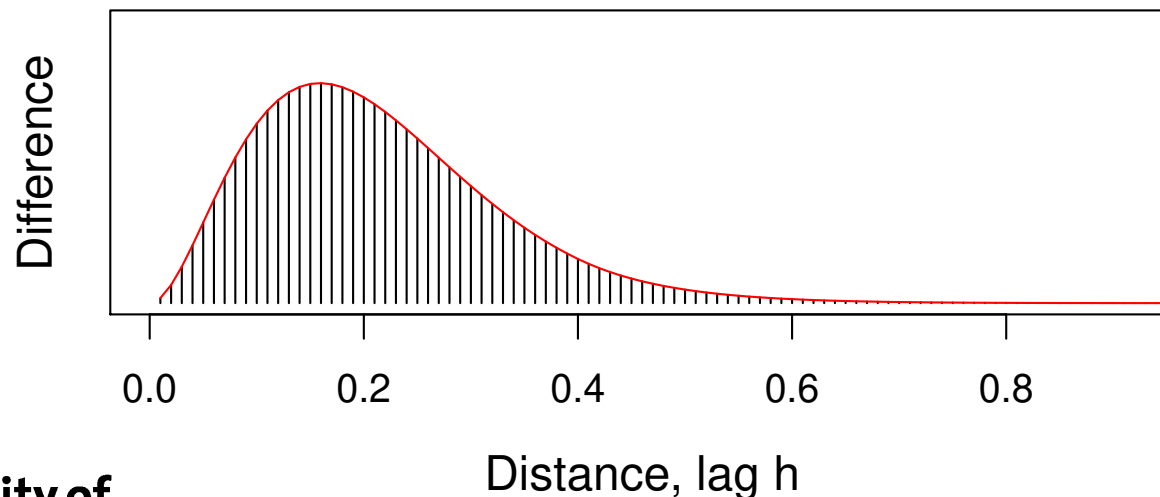
# Multivariate modeling: tapering

Univariate case: tapering based on infill asymptotics and equivalent Gaussian measures.

Idea:

choose an asymptotic framework such that original and tapered covariance matrix are asymptotically equivalent.

Then the difference in the likelihoods tends to zero almost surely.



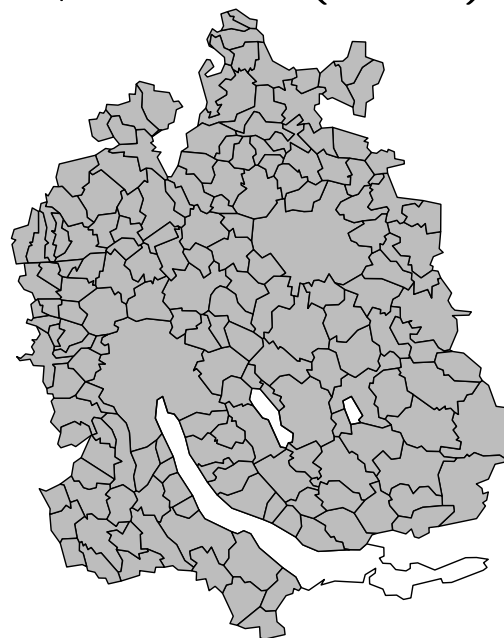
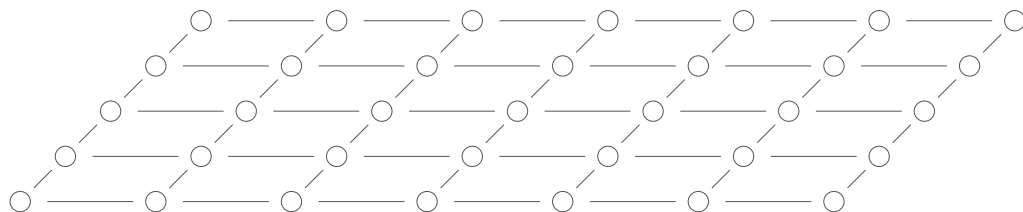
# Multivariate modeling: dim-reduction

Difficulty in modeling flexibly joint multivariate processes

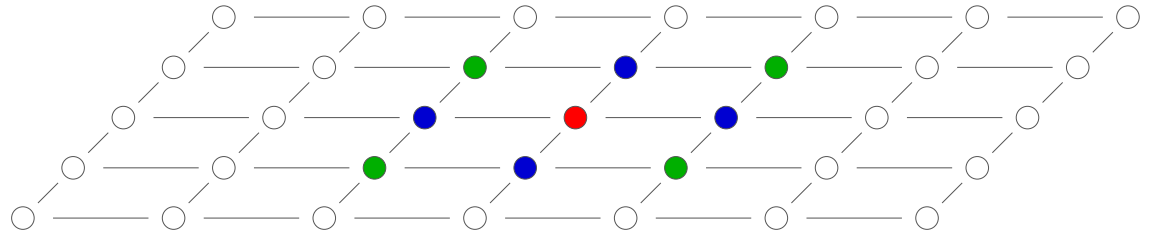
Idea for lattice data:

For conditional autoregressive models (CARs), consider one three-dimensional lattice instead of several two-dimensional lattices.

See Sain, Furrer, Cressie (2011) AOAS.



# Multivariate modeling: dim-reduction



- ▶ Univariate CAR:

$$E[y_i | y_{-i}] = \mu_i + \sum_{j \neq i} \beta_{ij} (y_j - \mu_j)$$

$$\text{Var}[y_i | y_{-i}] = \tau_i^2$$

+ regularity conditions

- ▶ Multivariate CAR:

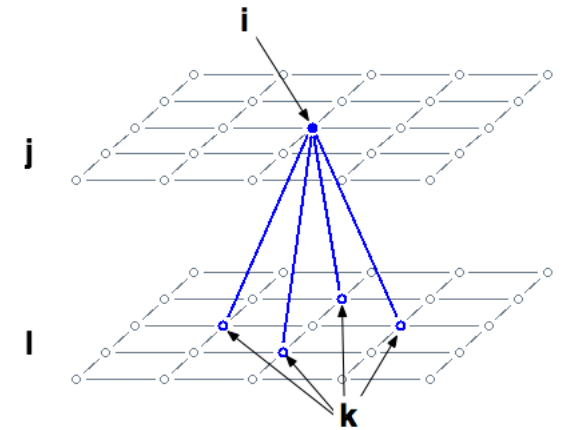
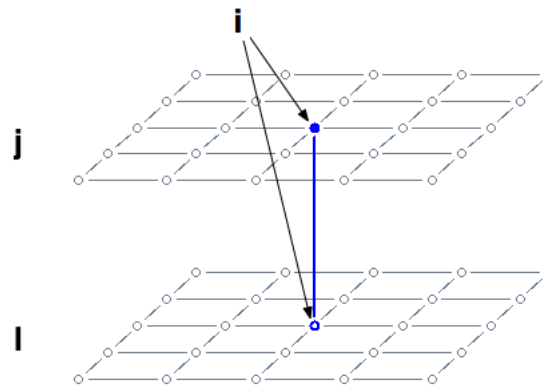
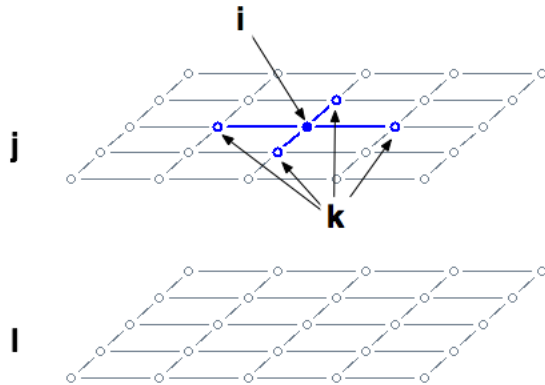
$$E[\mathbf{y}_i | \mathbf{y}_{-i}] = \mu_i + \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{B}_{ij} (\mathbf{y}_j - \mu_j)$$

$$\text{Var}[\mathbf{y}_i | \mathbf{y}_{-i}] = \mathbf{T}_i$$

+ regularity conditions

- ▶ Multivariate CAR, alternative formulation:  
(following slide)

# Multivariate modeling: dim-reduction



$$\begin{aligned}
 E[y_{ij}|y_{-\{ij\}}] &= \mu_{ij} + \sum_{k \neq i} \beta_{ijkj} (y_{kj} - \mu_{kj}) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{l \neq j} \beta_{ijil} (y_{il} - \mu_{il}) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{k, l \neq i, j} \beta_{ijkl} (y_{kl} - \mu_{kl}) \\
 \text{Var}[y_{ij}|y_{-\{ij\}}] &= \tau_{ij}^2 \\
 &\quad + \text{regularity conditions}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Multivariate modeling: dim-reduction

Overparameterized! Simplify to:

- ▶ constant variance
- ▶ constant dependencies + symmetry

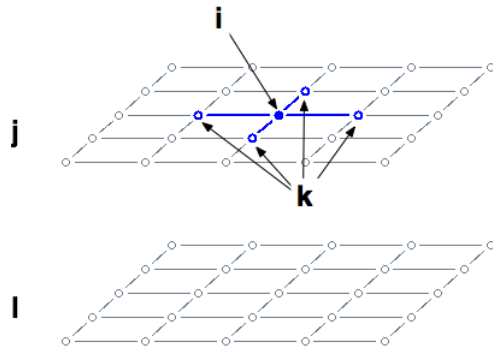
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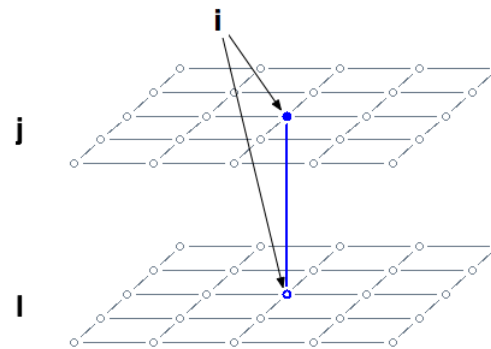
- ▶ constant variance
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For example:  $b_{ijil} = \rho_{jl}\tau_j\tau_l$      $b_{ijkl} = \phi_{jl}\tau_j\tau_l$     results in:

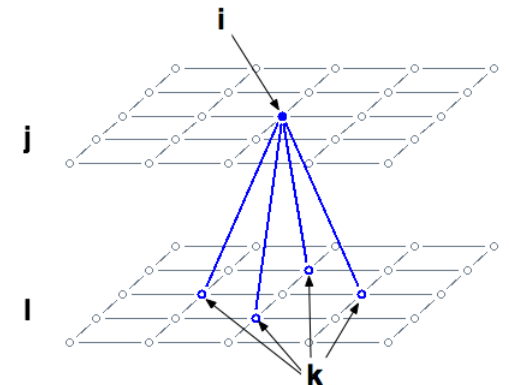
$\{\phi_{jj}\}$ :



$\{\rho_{jl}\}$ :



$\{\phi_{jl}\}$



plus  $p$  variance parameters:  $\{\tau_j\}$

# Multivariate modeling: dim-reduction

- ▶ Falls within the framework of a unidimensional lattice model
- ▶ Guarantees sparse precision matrices
- ▶ Flexibly modeling multivariate spatial dependencies
- ▶ MCMC is (often) required and may be difficult to tame
- ▶ Possibility to implement asymmetric cross-dependencies, . . .



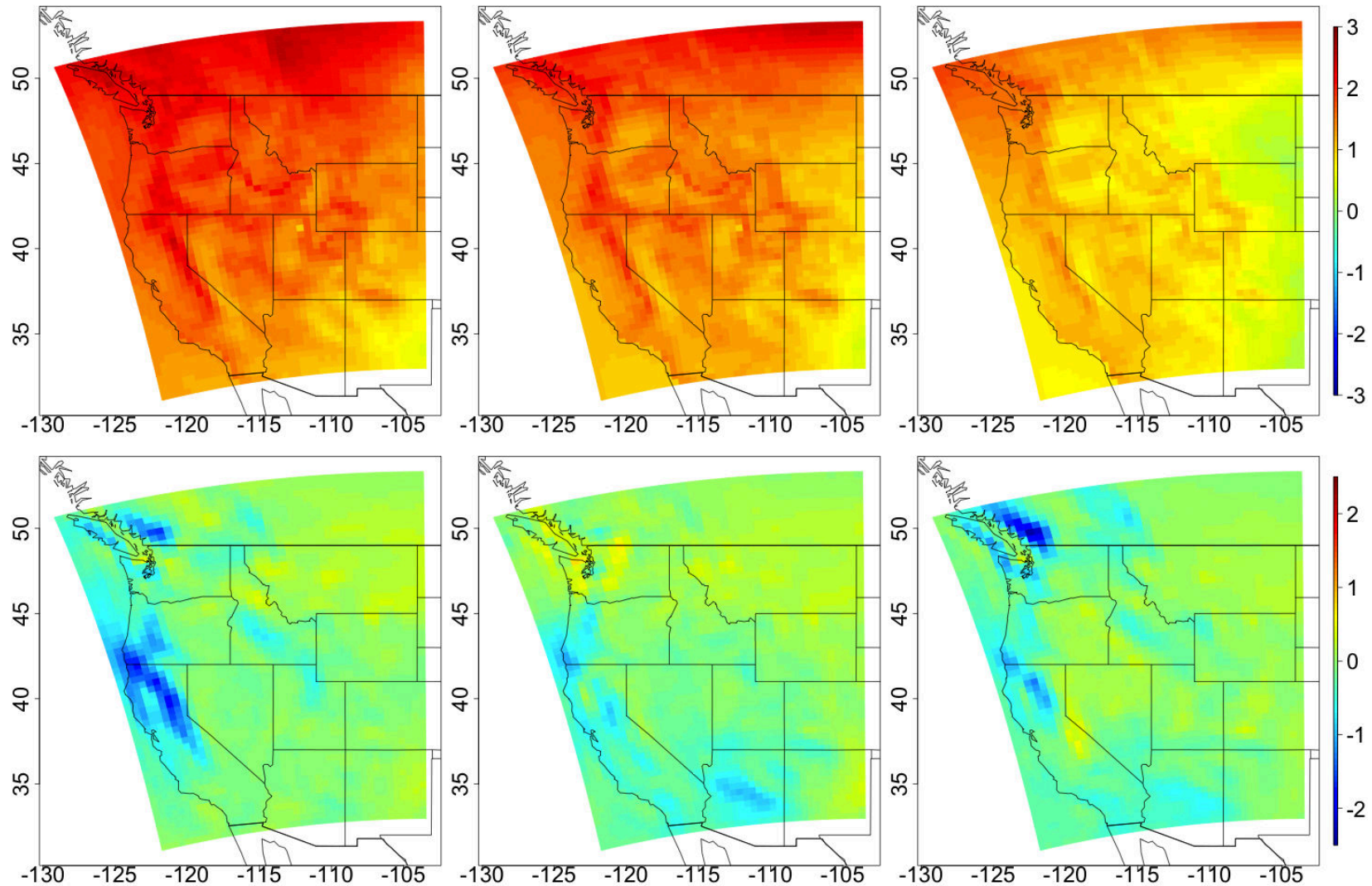
# Example: temp. & precip. change

“Multivariate” RCM experiment:

- ▶ NCAR/DOE Parallel Climate Model to drive the NCAR/Penn State Mesoscale Model (MM5)
- ▶ One control run from 1995–2015 and three future runs (ensemble members) from 2040–2060 (1% annual increase in the amount of greenhouse gases)
- ▶ Difference between future and control twenty-year winter (DJF) and summer (JJA) average temperature and average total precipitation
- ▶ Spatial fields with  $44 \times 56 = 2464$  grid boxes



# Example: temp. & precip. change



Differences in DJF temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{K}$ ) and in total precipitation (in).



# Example: temp. & precip. change

Hierarchical model:

Data level

$$\text{data}_{\text{var}, \text{run}} = \text{fixed effects}_{\text{var}} + \text{random effects}_{\text{var}, \text{run}} + \text{error}$$

Process level

$$\text{fixed effects}_{\text{var}} = \text{lat}_{\text{var}} + \text{lon}_{\text{var}} + \text{elevation}_{\text{var}}$$

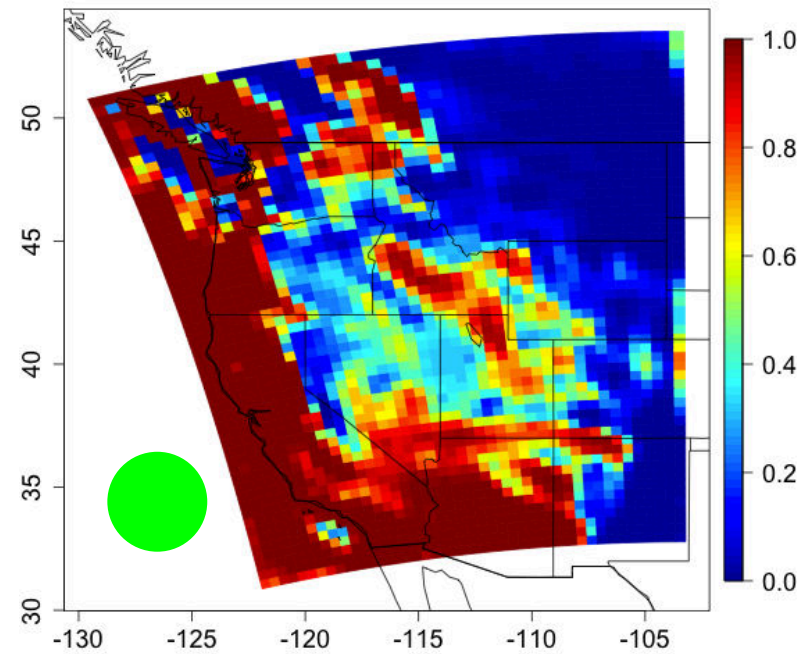
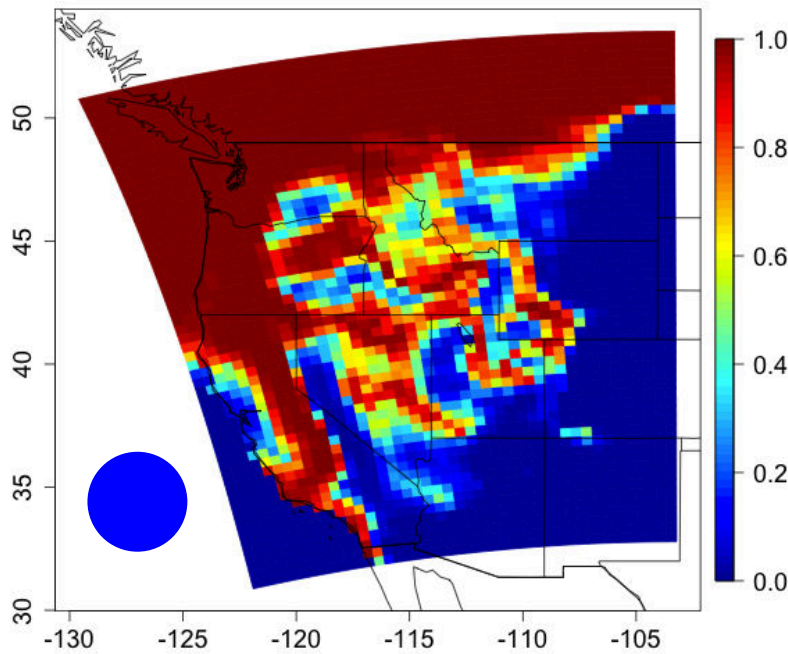
$$\text{random effects}_{\text{var}, \text{run}} = \text{intercept}_{\text{var}, \text{run}} + \text{MGMRF}_{\text{var}, \text{run}}$$

Prior level

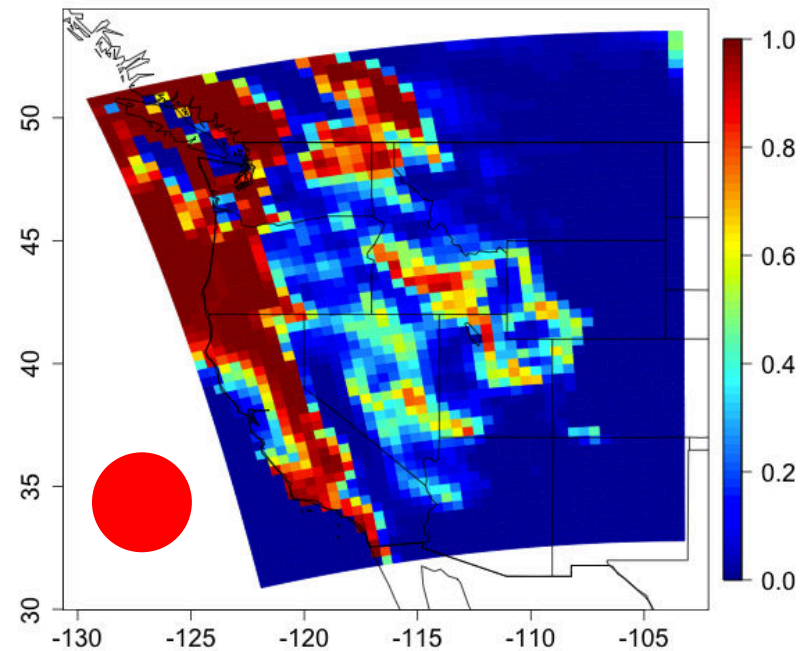
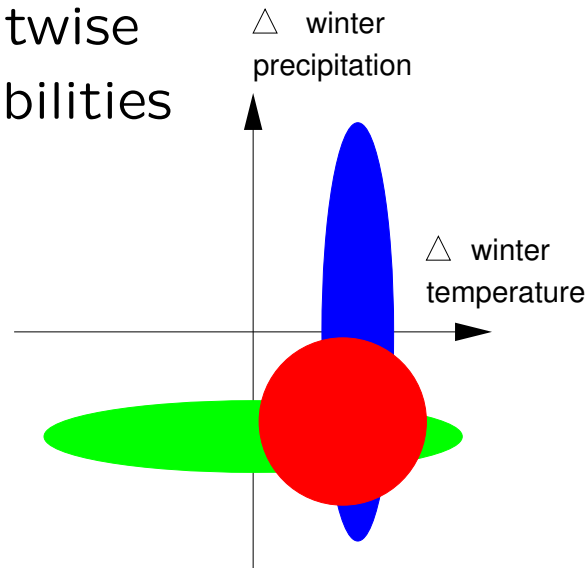
conjugate or uniform over valid parameter range

→ run MCMC beast

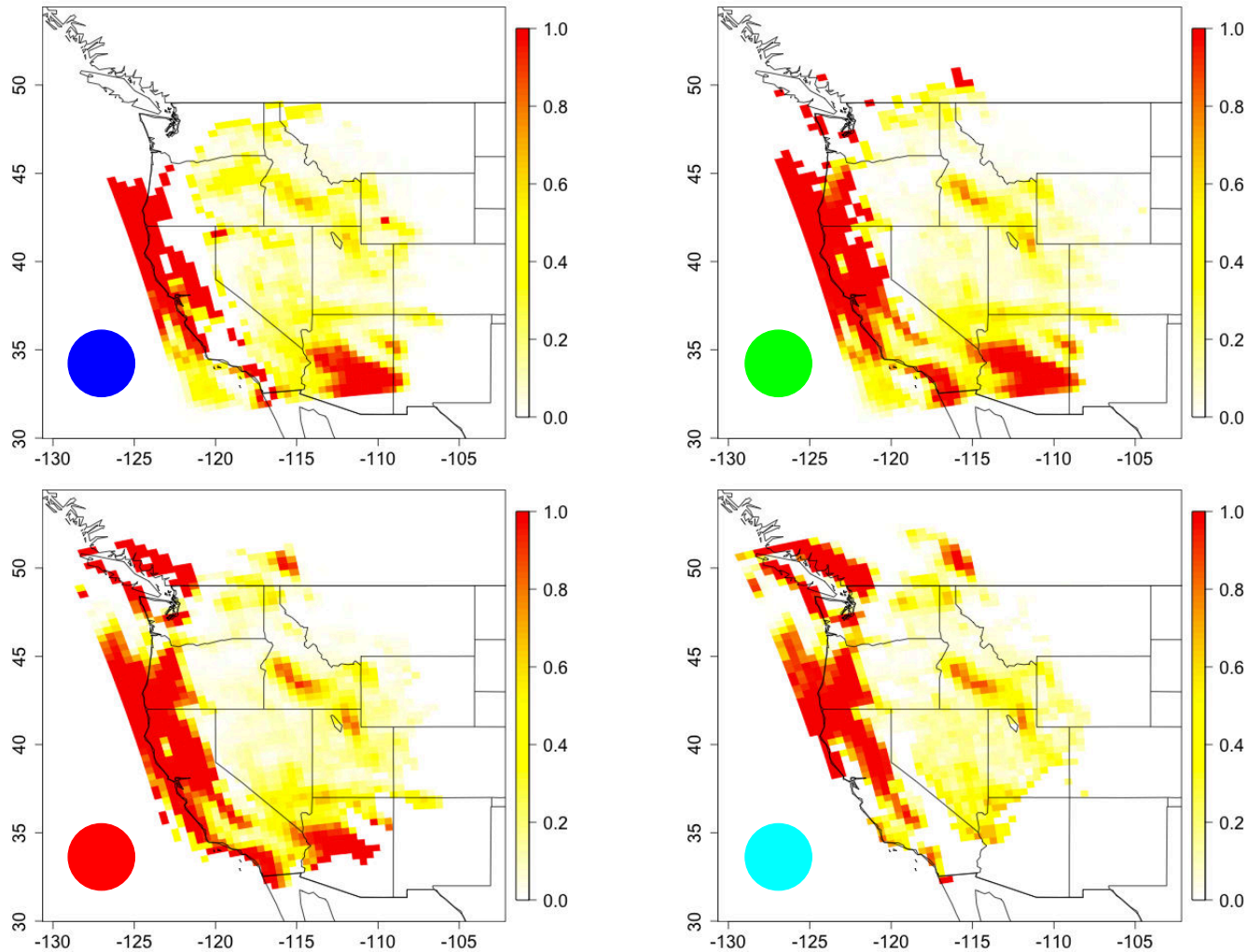
# Example: temp. & precip. change



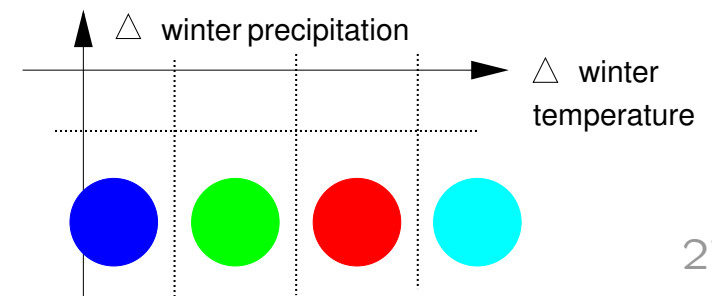
Estimated pointwise posterior probabilities



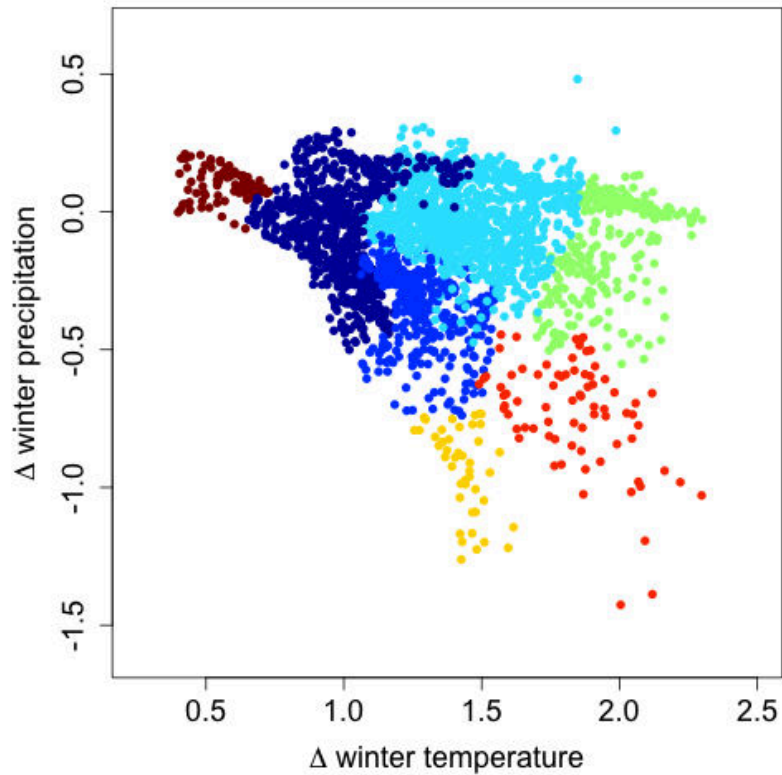
# Example: temp. & precip. change



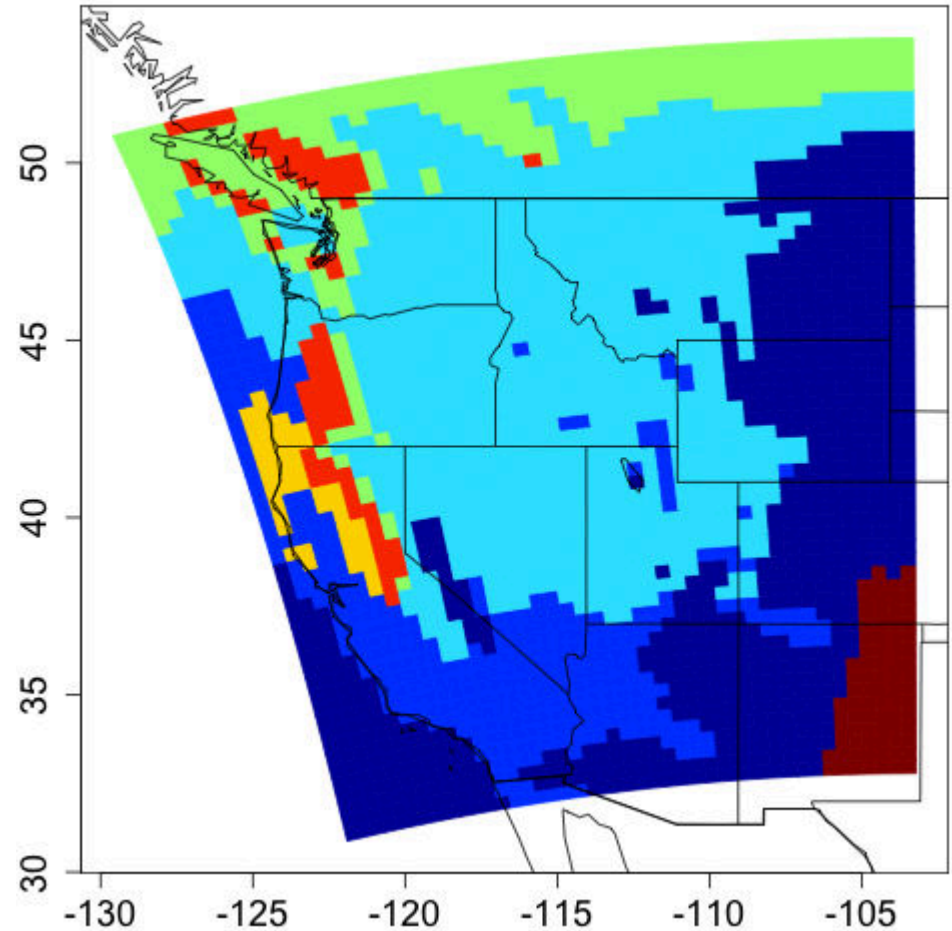
Probability of large decrease in winter precipitation conditional on increase in temperature.



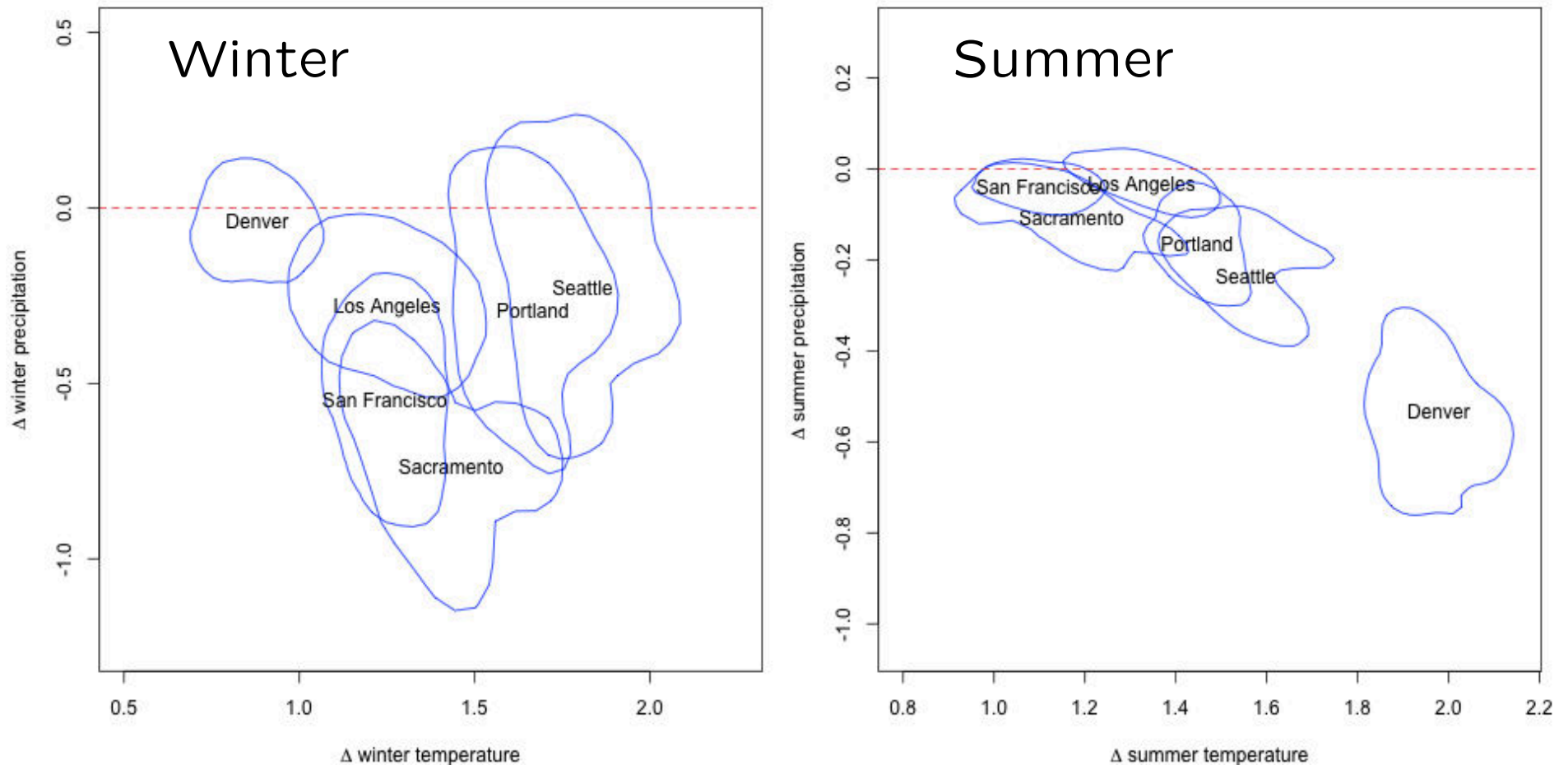
# Example: temp. & precip. change



Clustering based on the posterior distribution

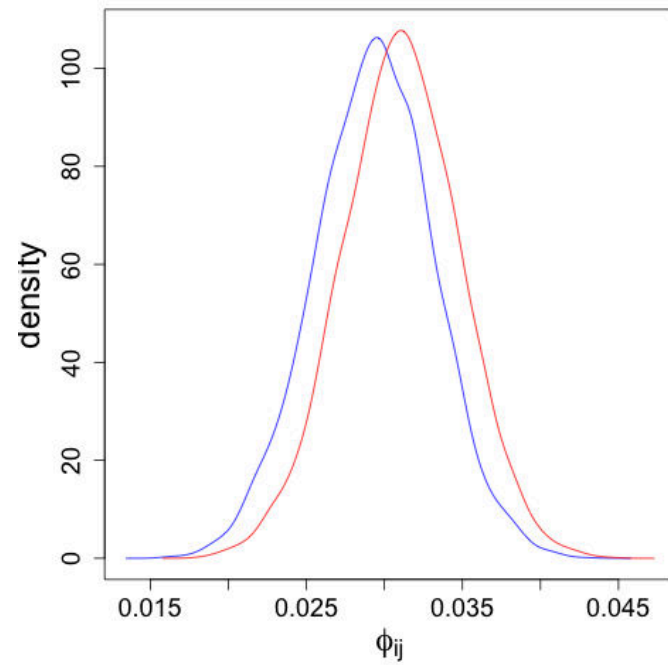
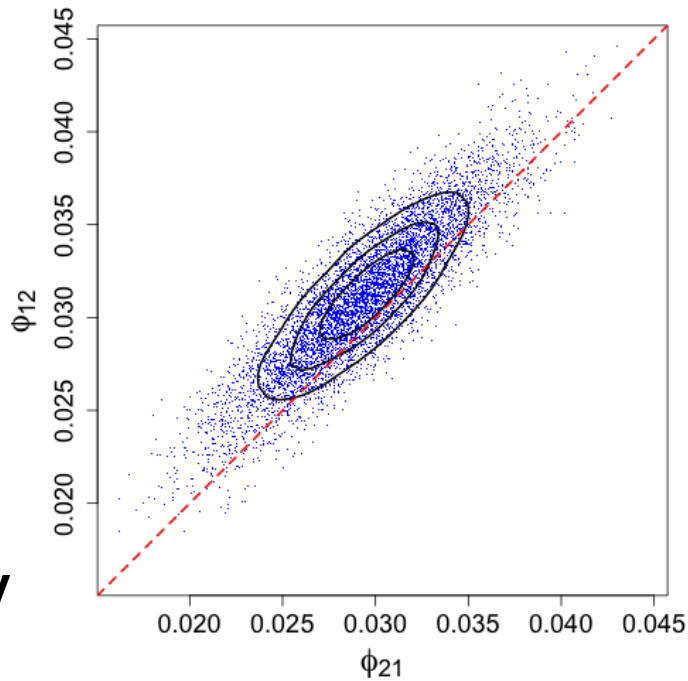
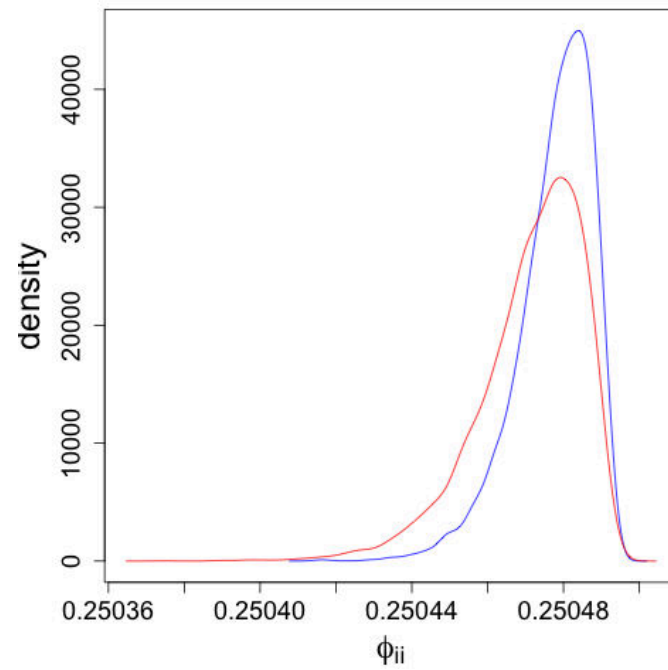
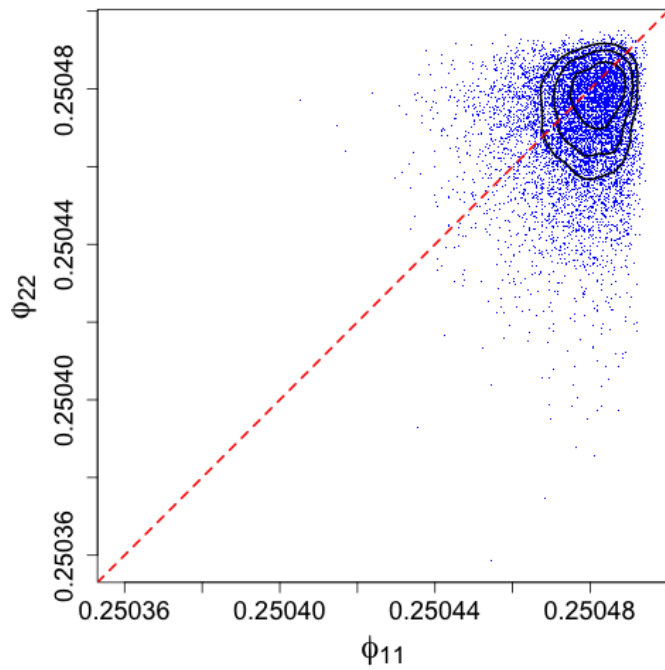


# Example: temp. & precip. change



Approximate 95% contours for the average change in temperature and precipitation for five consolidated metropolitan areas.

# Example: temp. & precip. change





# Outlook

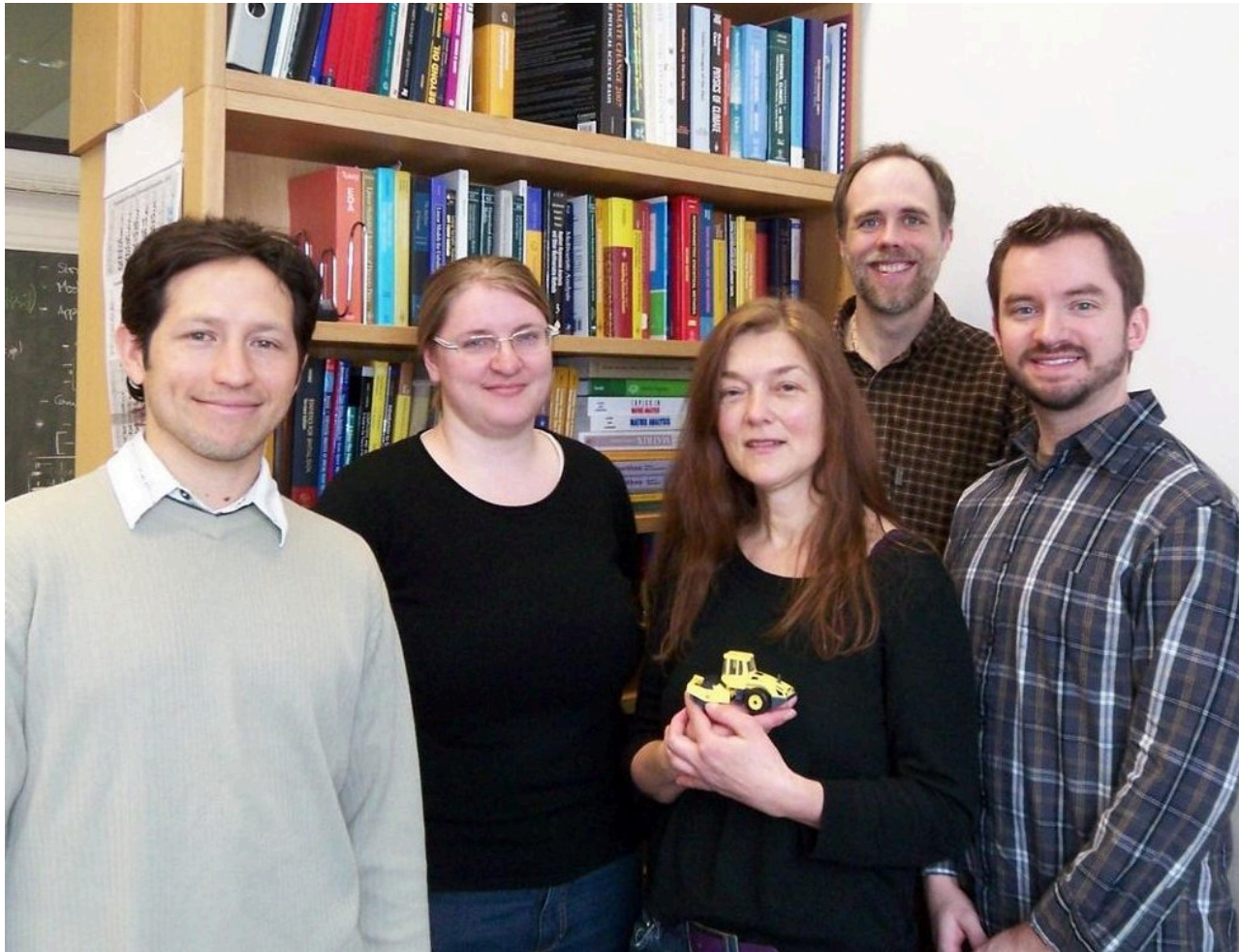
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Tapering: ① ③; ② ④ ◀

Dimension-reduction: ④ ◀





Collaboration with:  
Stephan Sain, NCAR  
Noel Cressie, OSU  
Reto Knutti, ETHZ  
Simon Wood, Bath  
...

URPP Systems Biology / Functional Genomics

# References

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