Spatial Distributions of Precipitation Events from Regional Climate Models

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Outline

- Climate Models
- North American Regional Climate Change Program
- Proportion plots
- Empirical orthogonal functions

Challenges:

Spatial and functional data, design and analysis of computer experiments, computational statistics for large problems.

What is climate?

Climate is what you expect . . . weather is what you get.

Weather:





Climate: For example, the 30 year *average* rainfall for this area. Refers to the *distribution* of extreme events.

Why Regional Climate Models?

The global models on their own do not give enough detailed information at regional and local scales.

32km

256km



0 2000 4000 6000 8000 10000 12000

Proportion Plots $\hat{z}(x) = \frac{1}{N} \{ \# P_{\mu,\nu} : P_{\mu,\nu} > x \}$



Singular Value Decomposition

 $z(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{J} \alpha_j \delta_j(x)$

 $z = UDV^T$

N. Lenssen Spatial Distributions of Climate Models

6

(1)

(2)

Basis Functions



Amount of Precipitation Relative to the Mean



Amount of Precipitation Relative to the Mean

Coefficient Plots



Contours



Thank you!

Questions?

