# Design Interface: Interactive tools for editing and evaluating spatial designs.

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- The problem
- Spatial models for air quality
- Di Toolbar
- An Example: 8-hour average ozone in NC

## National Center for Atmospheric Research



 $\approx$  1000 people total, several hundred PH D (physical) scientists, half the budget ( $\approx$  60M) is a single grant from NSF-ATM

Research on nearly every aspect related to the atmosphere Climate, Weather, the Sun, Ocean/atmosphere, Ecosystems, Economic impacts, Air quality, Instrumentation, Scientific computing and ...

Statistical methods for the geosciences

#### Translating monitoring measurements into informative spatial information.

Spatial statistics can provide extensive information about the spatial characteristics of a pollutant and also the precision of a monitoring network.



*Design Interface* was proposed as a means to make this statistical information readily available to nonstatisticians.

- What is a best estimate of a pollutant at an unmonitored location?
- What is the estimate of an air quality standard?
- What is the uncertainty in the spatial predictions?
- What is the effect of increasing or decreasing the monitoring locations on spatial prediction?

## **Basic premises:**

- Measurements made at a point location have some relevance for an area surrounding the site.
- Correlations among locations are roughly consistent over time.

The first assumption suggests using spatial statistics to predict pollutants at unmonitored locations.

The second allows for modeling the spatial structure using data at more than one time.

## **Spatial Models**

Starting points for a spatial model

- Measurement is normally distributed or can be transformed (e.g. square root) to be normal  $z(\mathbf{x})$ .
- Each location has an associated mean level and variance
- The correlation among any two locations is specified.

Each of these items can slowly vary over time or depend on seasonality.

## **Ingredients for a spatial model**

## Mean field



## Variance field



## Spatial dependence



distance (Miles)

## **DI** functions

How DI works: Creates, modifies and displays a network object using the S statistical environment. The initial version assumes that the basic data has been read into S.

The Tool Bar



- Define a covariance
- Create a network: locations, covariance and Data (optional)
- Network summary plot
- Spatial prediction plot
- Editing a network



Create a new covaraince object		
New Covariance Object Name NC.cov.obj	Туре	<ul> <li>CM.cov</li> <li>Exponential</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>
	Create Object	
OK Cancel Apply R >	current	Help

CM.cov Correlation model

## Adding some details:

make.CMcov.obj		
✓ Longitude and latitude	Correlation Mean Object NC.mean Standard Deviation NC.sd	
	Fit	NC.cor.fit
OK Cancel K >	current	Help

NC.mean and NC.sd are the mean and standard deviation surfaces. NC.cor.fit is correlation as a function of distance.



## Creating a network object

Create a new ne	twork object	
Return Value		Covariance Object
Network Object	NC.net	Covariance Object NC.cov.obj 💽
Design		Grid Points
Locations	NC.ex\$loc	Grid Points for Prediction
Measurements	NC.ozmax8	<b>T</b>
		x lower
		x upper
		y lower
		y upper
		Number of x grid points
		50
		Number of y grid points
		80
OK Cancel Apply K Help		

We used the covariance NC.cov.obj from previous step. Location (lon/lat) information is NC.ex\$loc Data matrix is NC.ozmax8.



Network Plots			
Network Object	NC.net 💌	Contours	
🔽 Image		🔽 US Map	
		County Boundaries	
OK Cancel Apply k > current Help			

## Standard errors of prediction within RTP, NC.





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Summary plot probability of exceedence, mean and standard error.



#### Editing a network



## **Future work**

- GUI support for simple I/O to common formats.
- Tutorial on identifying spatial models.
- Diagonostics for adequacy of spatial model.
- Spatial models for the ozone standard (third highest yearly 8 hour average)