

# STAT 8025

## Lecture 7: Non-Gaussian Spatial Data

Dr. Emily Lei Kang

Division of Statistics & Data Science  
Department of Mathematical Sciences  
University of Cincinnati

Copyright ©2023 Emily L. Kang

# Introduction

- ▶ We can generalize our models to handle non-Gaussian data
  - ▶ Spatial binary data:  $Y(s) = 1$  if site  $s$  is diseased and  $Y(s) = 0$  otherwise
  - ▶ Spatial count data:  $Y(s) \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  is the number of days at site  $s$  with extreme temperature
- ▶ The multivariate normal distribution or GP is convenient, but this doesn't provide a good model for such non-Gaussian data (at least not directly)
- ▶ What models do you know for non-Gaussian data?

# Generalized Linear Model

- ▶ For some link function  $g(\cdot)$ , we have

$$\eta_i = g(E(Y_i)) = \mathbf{X}_i' \boldsymbol{\beta}$$

- ▶ For binary data and logistic regression we have  $g(r) = \log \frac{r}{1-r}$
- ▶ For count data and Poisson regression we have  $g(r) = \log(r)$
- ▶ Estimation is done via iterative reweighted least squares (IRWLS)
  - ▶ Consider the effective response  $z \equiv \eta(x) + (Y - r(x))g'(r(x))$
  - ▶ Consider  $\text{var}(z)$  and then perform weighted least squares (iteratively)

How to do this with spatial data?

- ▶ Peter Diggle: Spatial dependence is often induced by adding Gaussian random effects to a generalized linear model.
- ▶ Let's think about the Gaussian case:

- ▶ We assume

$$Y(s) = X(s)' \beta + w(s) + \epsilon(s)$$

where  $w(\cdot)$  is a GP with mean zero and covariance function  $C(\cdot, \cdot)$ ;  $\epsilon(\cdot)$  is iid Gaussian white noise with variance  $\tau^2$

- ▶ One way to write the model is:

$$Y(s) | w(s) \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} N(X(s)' \beta + w(s), \tau^2)$$

$$w(\cdot) \sim \mathcal{GP}(0, C(\cdot, \cdot))$$

- ▶ Conditioning on  $w(\cdot)$ ,  $Y(\cdot)$  becomes spatially independent.
  - ▶ Marginally, (integrating out the random effects  $w(\cdot)$ ),  $Y(\cdot)$  is a GP with mean  $\mu(s) = X(s)' \beta$  and covariance function  $C(\cdot, \cdot) + \tau^2 1(s = t)$ .

# Spatial GLM

- ▶ We assume

$$w(\cdot) \sim \mathcal{GP}$$

with mean zero and covariance function  $C(\cdot, \cdot)$ .

- ▶ Given  $w(\cdot)$ ,  $Y(s)$  are independent with

$$g(E(Y(s))) = X(s)' \beta + w(s)$$

- ▶ Marginalizing over the random effects  $w(\cdot)$ , we will have spatially dependent  $Y(s)$ 's.
- ▶ However, it is often hard to get the closed-form expression for the marginal distribution of  $Y(\cdot)$ .

# Spatial GLM for binary data

Given  $w(s)$ ,

$$Y(s) \stackrel{\text{indep.}}{\sim} \text{Bern}(p(s))$$

where

$$\text{logit}(p(s)) = X(s)' \beta + w(s)$$

# Spatial GLM for count data

Given  $w(s)$ ,

$$Y(s) \stackrel{\text{indep.}}{\sim} \text{Pois}(\lambda(s))$$

where

$$\log(\lambda(s)) = X(s)' \beta + w(s)$$

Marginal distribution of  $Y(s)$  for the Poisson case:

- ▶ Integration will be complicated... I cannot solve it.
- ▶ Let's consider the first two moments.

- ▶ Mean

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y(s)) &= E(E(Y(s)|w(s))) \\ &= E(\exp(X(s)'\beta + w(s))) \\ &= e^{X(s)'\beta} E(e^{w(s)}) \\ &= e^{X(s)'\beta + \sigma^2/2} \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Variance

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(Y(s)) &= VE(Y(s)|w(s)) + EV(Y(s)|w(s)) \\ &= V(e^{X(s)'\beta + w(s)}) + E(e^{X(s)'\beta + w(s)}) \\ &= V(e^{X(s)'\beta + w(s)}) + e^{X(s)'\beta + \sigma^2/2} \end{aligned}$$

Overdispersion

- ▶  $\text{Cov}(Y(s), Y(u))$  will be more complicated...



# How to fit the model

- ▶ MLE?
  - ▶ Try the likelihood
  - ▶ I cannot solve it... approximation/computing?
- ▶ Bayesian inference
  - ▶ Straightforward but MCMC is needed and parameters including  $\beta$  may need to be updated with MH
  - ▶ A special case is the probit regression model for binary data

# Spatial probit model for binary data

- ▶ Non-spatial probit regression:

$$\text{Prob}(Y_i = 1) = \Phi(X_i\beta)$$

where  $\Phi(\cdot)$  is the CDF of standard normal.

- ▶ Introducing the latent variable  $Z_i$  such that

$$Y_i = I(Z_i > 0)$$

where

$$Z_i \sim N(X_i'\beta, 1)$$

- ▶ Why should we set  $\sigma^2 \equiv \text{var}(Z_i)$  to be 1? Identifiability! We would not be able to separate  $\beta$  and  $\sigma$
- ▶ MCMC imputes  $Z_i$  in each iteration. Conditioning on  $Z_i$ 's, it is equivalent to our classical regression with Gaussian assumption.
- ▶ Spatial version?

We set

$$Z(s) = X(s)' \beta + \sqrt{r} w(s) + \sqrt{(1-r)} \epsilon(s)$$

where

- ▶  $w(s)$  is GP with mean zero and variance 1 and (say) Matérn covariance function
- ▶  $\epsilon(s)$  iid  $N(0, 1)$
- ▶ Most parameters are conjugate, but we need MH for covariance parameters.
- ▶ Not everyone includes nugget in the model.

## Summary

- ▶ Non-Gaussian spatial data

## Preview:

- ▶ Nonstationary models