

# Spatial Extremes in Atmospheric Problems

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# Brief Overview of Spatial Extremes Methods

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- Multivariate Extremes and max-stable processes
- Copulas (e.g., Renard and Lang, 2006; Mikosch, 2006, and ensuing discussions).
- Regional Frequency Analysis (RFA)
- Loss function approach (IWQSEL), e.g. Craigmile et al. (2006)
- Upcrossings (e.g., Åberg and Guttorp, 2008, and references therein)
- Bayesian (e.g., Casson and Coles, 1999; Cooley et al., 2007)
- Spatio-temporal Models (e.g., Davis and Mikosch, 2006; Wikle and Cressie, 1999)
- EVD with Spatial Model on Parameters

# Brief Overview: Multivariate Extremes

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Coles (2001, chapter 8)

Schlather and Tawn (2003)

## Max-stable processes

Smith (1990, and references therein)

Schlather (2002, and references therein)

Cooley et al. (2006)

## Conditional approach

Heffernan and Tawn (2004, and ensuing discussions),  
see also Mendes and Pericchi (2008)

# Brief Overview: Regional Frequency Analysis (RFA)

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Hosking and Wallis (1997)

## Flood maps

Daly et al. (2002)

Daly et al. (1994)

Sveinsson et al. (2002)

## Precipitation

Schaefer (1990)

Fowler et al. (2005)

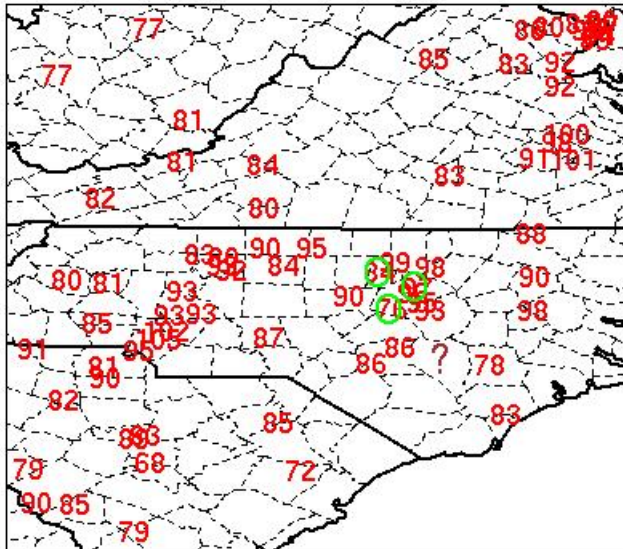
Fowler and Kilsby (2003)

# A couple of simple approaches

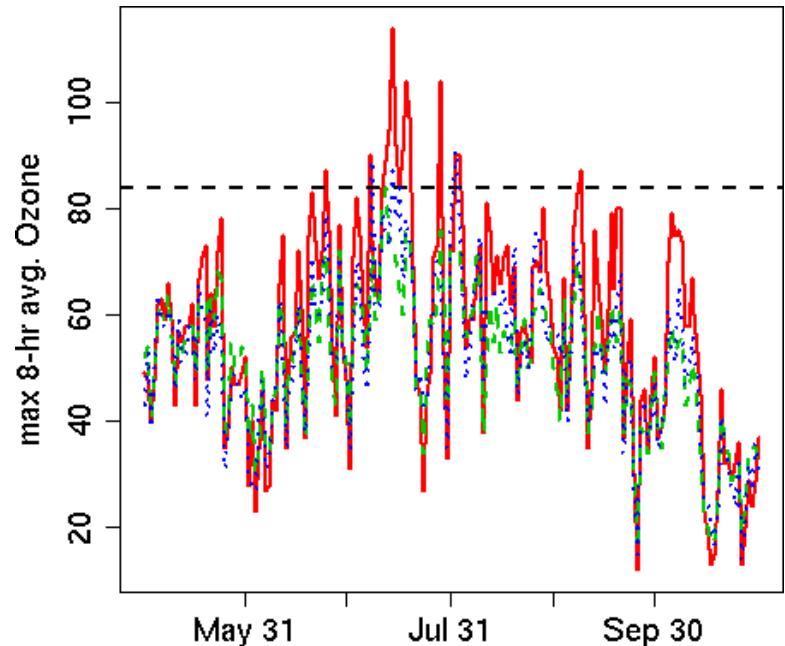
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## Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

North Carolina



Three sites



FHDA – Fourth Highest Daily maximum 8-hr Average ozone

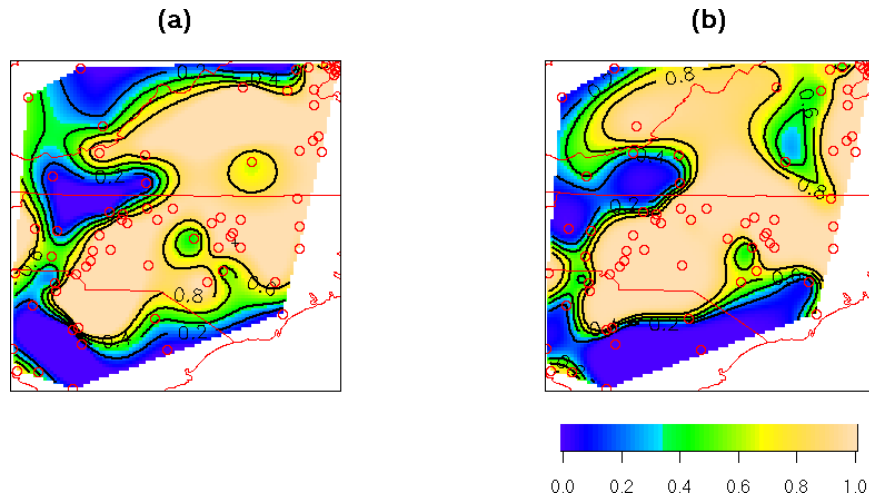
# A couple of simple approaches

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## Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo (Gilleland and Nychka, 2005)

GPD with spatial model on scale parameter (Gilleland et al., 2006)



$$\Pr \{ \text{FHDA}_{1997} > 80 \}$$

## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

$$y(\mathbf{s}; t) = \sigma(\mathbf{s})u(\mathbf{s}; t) + \mu(\mathbf{s}; t)$$

$$u(\mathbf{s}; t) = \rho(\mathbf{s})u(\mathbf{s}; t - 1) + \varepsilon(\mathbf{s}; t)$$

$$\varepsilon(\cdot; t) \sim \text{Gau}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Sigma})$$

## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = [\text{cov}(\mathbf{s}_i, \mathbf{s}_j)],$$

$$\text{cov}(\mathbf{s}_i, \mathbf{s}_j) = \psi(h) \quad (\text{Stationary}).$$



## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

$$\text{cov}(u(\mathbf{s}; t), u(\mathbf{s}'; t - \tau)) = \frac{(\rho(\mathbf{s}))^\tau \sqrt{1 - \rho^2(\mathbf{s})} \sqrt{1 - \rho^2(\mathbf{s}')}}{1 - \rho(\mathbf{s})\rho(\mathbf{s}')} \psi(h),$$

for  $\tau \geq 0$ .

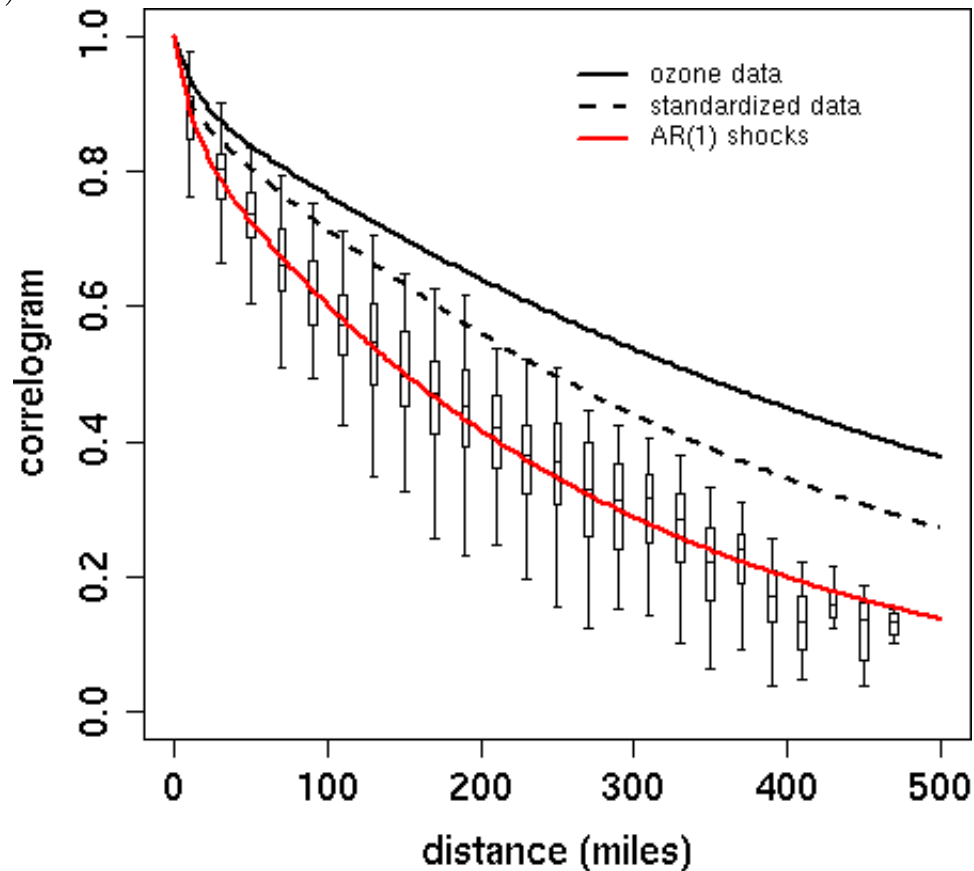
If  $\rho(\mathbf{s}) = \rho$ , then  $\text{cov}(u(\mathbf{s}; t), u(\mathbf{s}'; t - \tau)) = \rho^\tau \psi(h)$ .

# A couple of simple approaches

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## Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

### Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

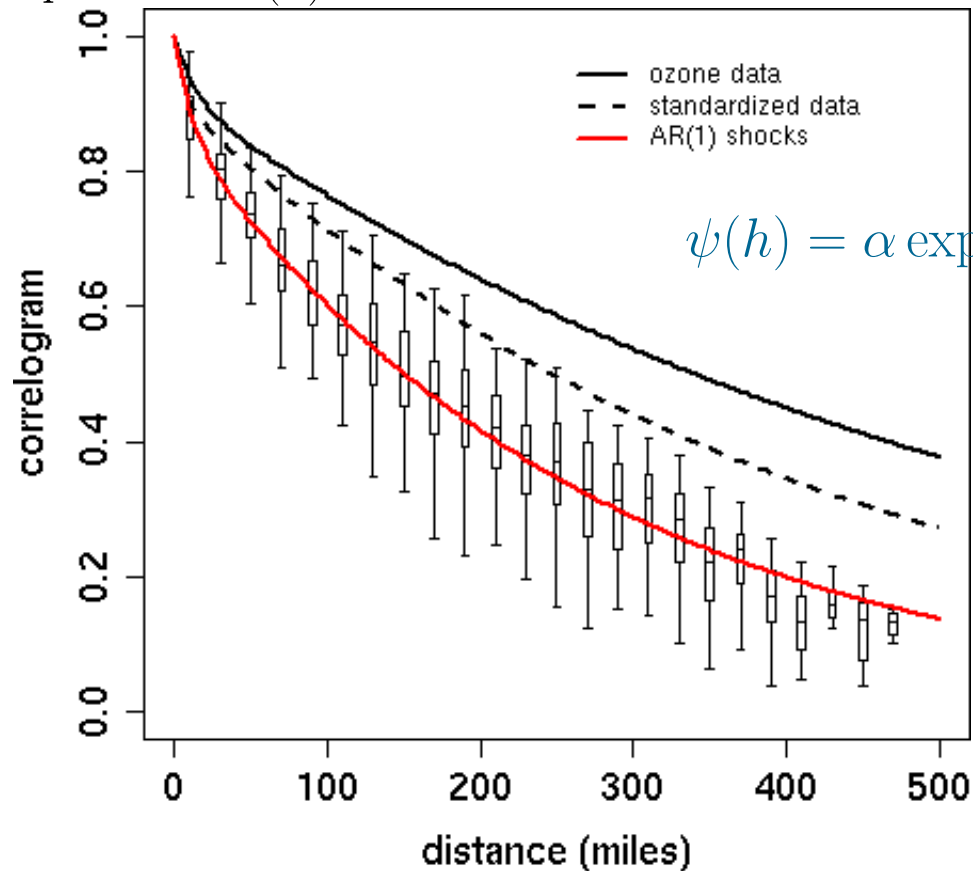


# A couple of simple approaches

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## Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

### Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo



$$\psi(h) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{h}{\theta_1}\right) + (1-\alpha) \exp\left(-\frac{h}{\theta_2}\right)$$

## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

$$\psi(h) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{h}{\theta_1}\right) + (1 - \alpha) \exp\left(-\frac{h}{\theta_2}\right)$$

Here:  $\hat{\alpha} \approx 0.13$  ( $\pm 0.02$ ),  $\hat{\theta}_1 \approx 11$  miles ( $\pm 3.37$  miles) and  $\hat{\theta}_2 \approx 272$  miles ( $\pm 16.89$  miles).

Uncertainty via parametric bootstrap.

## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

*Algorithm to predict FHDA at unobserved location( $s$ ),  $\mathbf{s}_0$ .*

1. Simulate  $u(\mathbf{s}_0; t)$  for an entire ozone season
  - (a) Interpolate spatially from  $u(\mathbf{s}, 1)$  to get  $\hat{u}(\mathbf{s}_0, 1)$ .
  - (b) Also interpolate spatially to get  $\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{s}_0)$ ,  $\hat{\mu}(\mathbf{s}_0, \cdot)$  and  $\hat{\sigma}(\mathbf{s}_0)$ .
  - (c) Sample shocks at time  $t$  from  $[\varepsilon(\mathbf{s}_0, t) | \varepsilon(\mathbf{s}, t)]$ .
  - (d) Propagate AR(1) model.

## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

*Algorithm to predict FHDA at unobserved location,  $\mathbf{s}_0$ .*

1. Simulate  $u(\mathbf{s}_0; t)$  for an entire ozone season.
2. Back transform  $\hat{y}(\mathbf{s}_0, t) = \hat{u}(\mathbf{s}_0, t)\hat{\sigma}(\mathbf{s}_0) + \hat{\mu}(\mathbf{s}_0, t)$
3. Take fourth-highest value from Step 2.
4. Repeat Steps 1 through 3 many times to get a sample of FHDA at unobserved location(s).

## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

*Distribution for the AR(1) shocks*

$[\varepsilon(\mathbf{s}_0, t) | \varepsilon(\mathbf{s}, t)]$  (Step 1c) given by

$$\text{Gau}(\mathbf{M}, \mathbf{\Sigma})$$

with

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{k}'(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}) \mathbf{k}^{-1}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}) \varepsilon(\mathbf{s}, t)$$

and

$$\mathbf{\Sigma} = \mathbf{k}'(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_0) - \mathbf{k}'(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}) \mathbf{k}^{-1}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}) \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}_0),$$

where  $\mathbf{k}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = [\psi(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_j)]$  the covariance matrix for two sets of spatial locations.

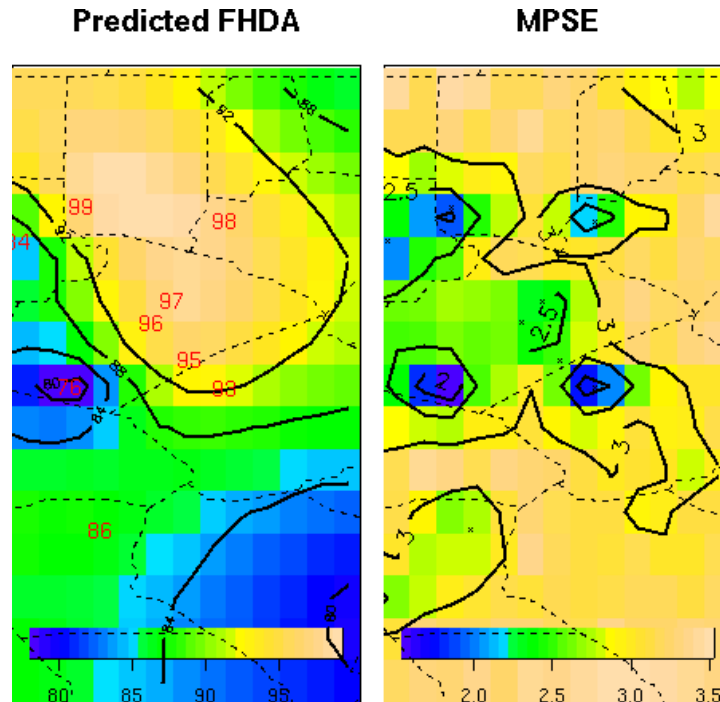
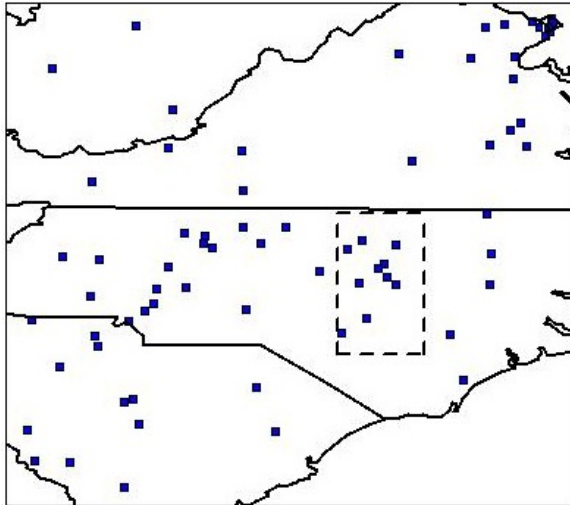
# A couple of simple approaches

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## Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

*Results of predicting FHDA spatially with daily model (1997)*





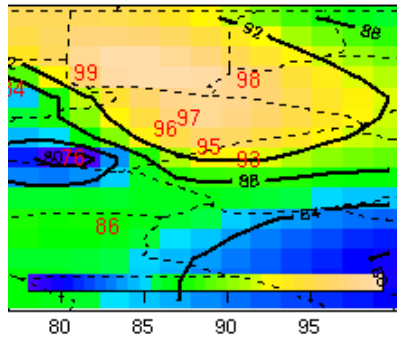
# A couple of simple approaches

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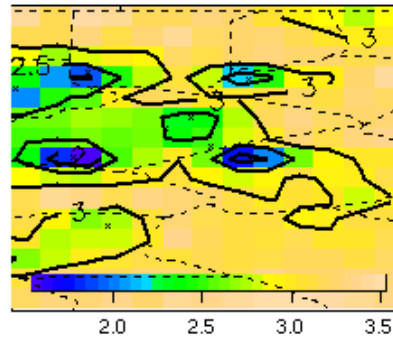
## Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

### Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

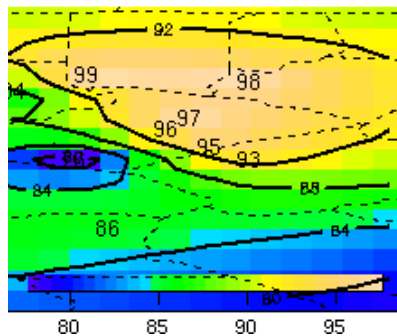
**Predicted FHDA (Daily)**



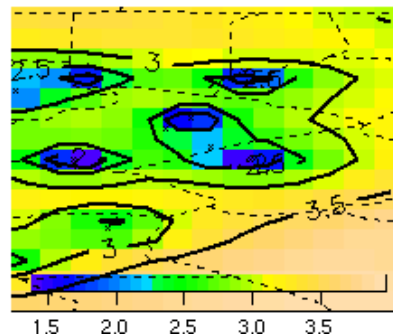
**MPSE (Daily)**



**Predicted FHDA (Seasonal)**



**MPSE (Seasonal)**



## A couple of simple approaches

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Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

GPD with spatial model on scale parameter

Given a spatial process,  $Z(\mathbf{s})$ , what can be said about

$$\Pr\{Z(\mathbf{s}) > z\}$$

when  $z$  is large?

## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

#### GPD with spatial model on scale parameter

Given a spatial process,  $Z(\mathbf{s})$ , what can be said about

$$\Pr\{Z(\mathbf{s}) > z\}$$

when  $z$  is large?

#### Note:

This is not about dependence between  $Z(\mathbf{s})$  and  $Z(\mathbf{s}')$ —this is another topic!

## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

#### GPD with spatial model on scale parameter

Given a spatial process,  $Z(\mathbf{s})$ , what can be said about

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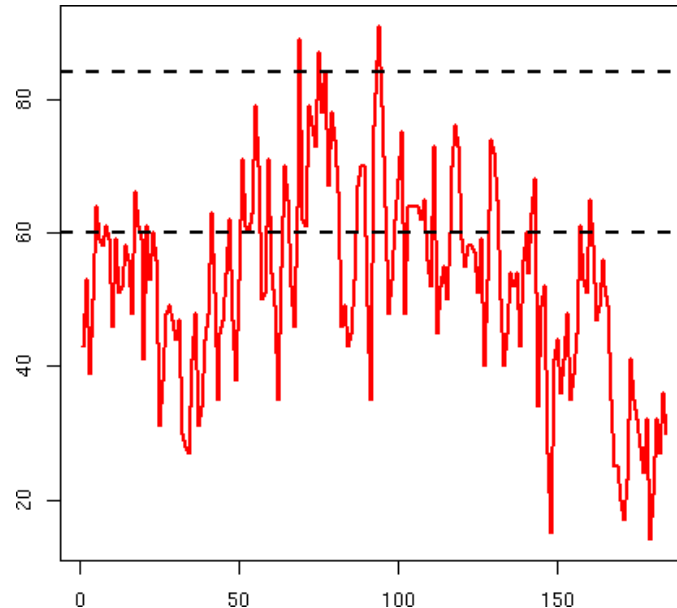
Spatial structure on parameters of distribution (not FHDA).

## A couple of simple approaches

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Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

GPD with spatial model on scale parameter



For a (large) threshold  $u$ , the GPD is given by

$$\Pr\{X > x | X > u\} \approx \left[1 + \frac{\xi}{\sigma}(x - u)\right]^{-1/\xi}$$

# A couple of simple approaches

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Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

GPD with spatial model on scale parameter

*Observation Model:*

$y(\mathbf{s}, t)$  surface ozone at location  $\mathbf{s}$  and time  $t$

$$[y(\mathbf{s}, t) | \sigma(\mathbf{s}), \xi(\mathbf{s}), u, y(\mathbf{s}, t) > u]$$

*Spatial Process Model:*

$$[\sigma(\mathbf{s}), \xi(\mathbf{s}), u | \boldsymbol{\theta}]$$

*Prior for hyperparameters:*

$$[\boldsymbol{\theta}]$$

## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

#### GPD with spatial model on scale parameter

##### *A Hierarchical Spatial Model*

Assume extreme observations to be *conditionally independent* so that the joint pdf for the data and parameters is

$$\prod_{i,t} [y(\mathbf{s}_i, t) | \sigma(\mathbf{s}), \xi(\mathbf{s}), u, y(\mathbf{s}_i, t) > u] [\sigma(\mathbf{s}), \xi(\mathbf{s}), u | \boldsymbol{\theta}] [\boldsymbol{\theta}]$$

$t$  indexes time and  $i$  stations.

## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

#### GPD with spatial model on scale parameter

##### *Shortcuts and Assumptions*

- Assume threshold,  $u$ , fixed.
- $\xi(\mathbf{s}) = \xi$  (i.e., shape is constant over space). *Justified by univariate fits.*
- Assume  $\sigma(\mathbf{s})$  is a Gaussian process with isotropic Matérn covariance function.
- Fix Matérn smoothness parameter at  $\nu = 2$ , and let the range be very large—leaving only  $\lambda$  (ratio of variances of nugget and sill).



## A couple of simple approaches

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### Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

GPD with spatial model on scale parameter

*More on  $\sigma(\mathbf{s})$*

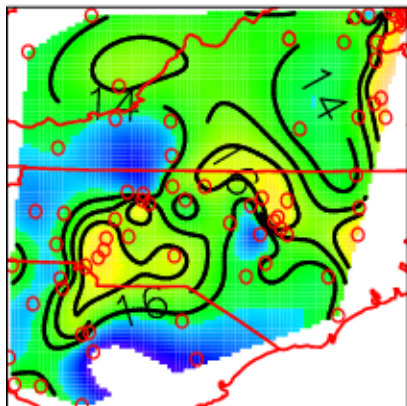
$$\sigma(\mathbf{s}) = P(\mathbf{s}) + e(\mathbf{s}) + \eta(\mathbf{s})$$

with  $P$  a linear function of space,  $e$  a smooth spatial process, and  $\eta$  white noise (nugget).

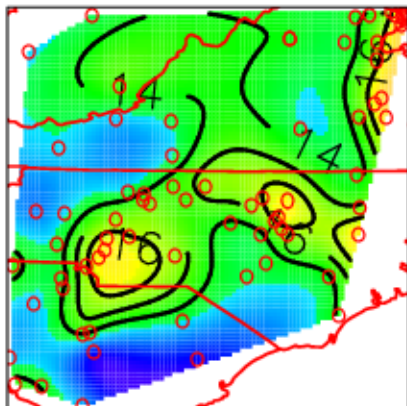
$\lambda$  is the only hyper-parameter

- As  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ , the posterior surface tends toward just the linear function.
- As  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$ , the posterior surface will fit the data more closely.

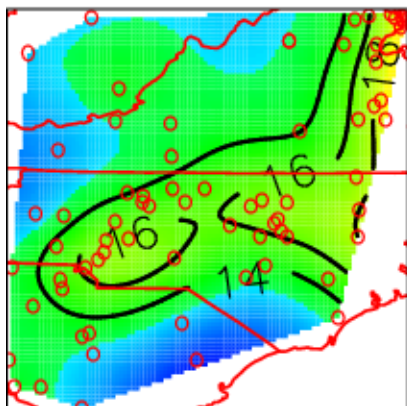
(a)  $\lambda=0$



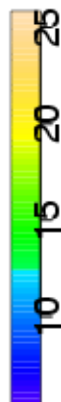
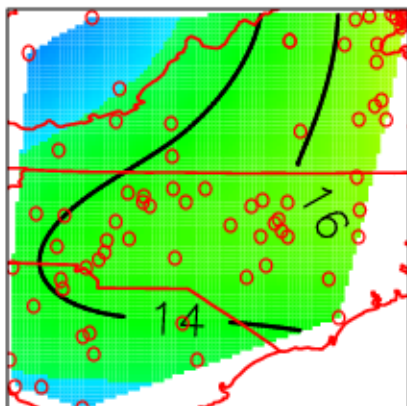
(b)  $\lambda=1e-6$



(c)  $\lambda=1e-4$



(d)  $\lambda=1e-2$



## A couple of simple approaches

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Spatial Distribution for fourth-largest order statistic

GPD with spatial model on scale parameter

*log of joint distribution*

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \ell_{\text{GPD}}(y(\mathbf{s}_i, t), \sigma(\mathbf{s}_i), \xi) - \lambda(\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta})^T K^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta})/2 - \log(|\lambda K|) + C$$

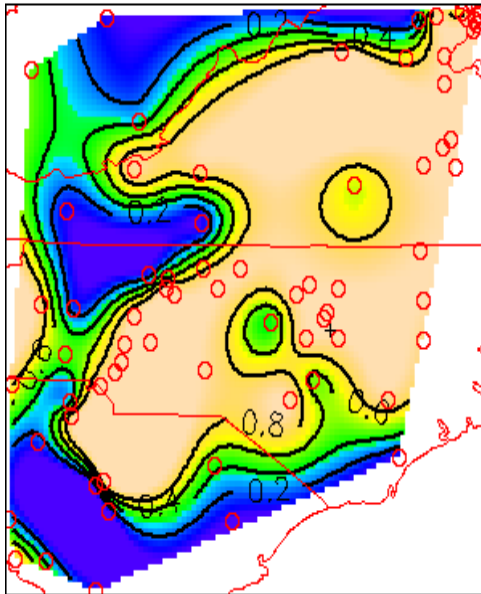
$K$  is the covariance for the prior on  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  at the observations.

*This is a penalized likelihood:*

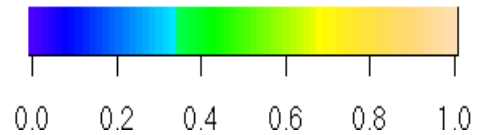
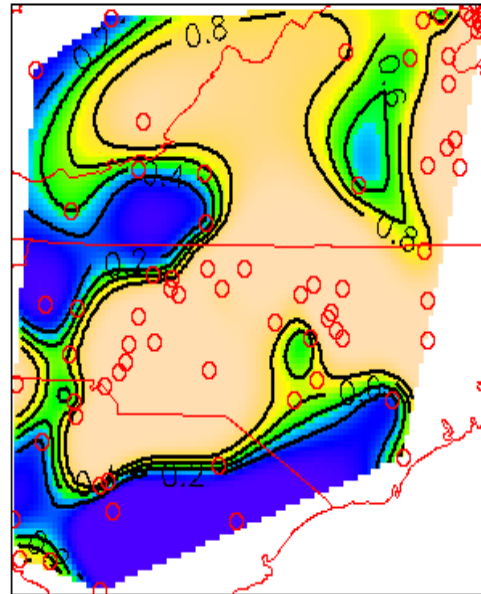
The penalty on  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  results from the covariance and smoothing parameter  $\lambda$ .

# Probability of exceeding the standard

(a)



(b)



# Conclusions and Possible Extensions

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## Spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo

- Each part simple, but can model relatively complex processes
- Lower CV than naïve approach assuming  $\text{FHDA} \sim \text{Gau}(\mathbf{M}, \mathbf{V})$
- Computationally intensive
- Prediction standard errors too optimistic?
- Let  $u(\mathbf{s}; t) = \rho(\mathbf{s})u(\mathbf{s}; t - 1) + \beta\varepsilon_1(\mathbf{s}; t) + (1 - \beta)\varepsilon_2(\mathbf{s}; t)$
- Allow  $\psi$  to be nonstationary for larger domains
- Incorporate meteorological covariates

## Conclusions and Possible Extensions

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### GPD with spatial model on scale parameter

- Simple extension to independent fits at each spatial location
- Compares relatively well with spatial AR(1) Monte Carlo approach
- Direct use of EVA
- More difficult if region is not homogeneous
- Does not model the underlying process spatially
- Apply spatial model to the return levels instead of the parameters
- Incorporate meteorological covariates

That's it...

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References will be posted on my web page at

<http://www.ral.ucar.edu/~ericg>

Questions/Comments

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# Brief Overview: Multivariate Extremes

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## General Formulation

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \Pr \left[ \frac{M_{n1}(\mathbf{x}_1) - b_{n1}}{a_{n1}} \leq x_1, \dots, \frac{M_{nd}(\mathbf{x}_d) - b_{n1}}{a_{n1}} \leq x_d \right] \right) = G(x_1, \dots, x_d),$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_i = (x_{1i}, \dots, x_{ni})$  are iid  $d$ -dimensional random vectors,  $M_{ni}(\mathbf{x}_i) = \max_{j=1, \dots, n} (x_{ji})$ ,  $a_{n1}, \dots, a_{nd} > 0$  and  $b_{n1}, \dots, b_{nd}$  are normalizing constants, and  $G$  is a non-degenerate  $d$ -dimensional cdf.

# Brief Overview: Multivariate Extremes

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## General Formulation

Simplify by assuming each  $\boldsymbol{x}_i$  has a standard Fréchet marginal cdf. Then,

$$G(x_1, \dots, x_d) = \exp\{-V(x_1, \dots, x_d)\},$$

where

$$V(x_1, \dots, x_d) = \int \max_{j=1, \dots, d} \left\{ \frac{w_j}{x_j} \right\} dH(w_1, \dots, w_d)$$

# Brief Overview: Multivariate Extremes

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## General Formulation

Extremal coefficient measures dependence in the tails.

$$\theta = \int \max_{j=1, \dots, d} w_j dH(w_1, \dots, w_d)$$

# Brief Overview: Copulas

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## General Formulation

$\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_d)$  a  $d$ -dimensional random vector with cdf

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_d) = \Pr(X_1 \leq x_1, \dots, X_d \leq x_d).$$

A *copula* is a function,  $c$ , s.t.  $c : [0, 1]^d \mapsto [0, 1]$  and

$$F(x_1, \dots, x_d) = c(F_1(x_1), \dots, F_d(x_d))$$

## Brief Overview: Copulas

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Assuming the marginal distributions  $F_i$ , then

- $c$  exists, and
- if the  $F_i$ 's are continuous, then  $c$  is unique.
- The dependence structure of  $\mathbf{X}$  can be reconstructed from the copula and the  $F_i$ 's.

# Brief Overview: Regional Frequency Analysis (RFA)

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## General Formulation

Multiple-step procedure:

1. Determine relatively homogeneous regions.
2. Normalize annual maxima series by an index (flood) measure.
3. Fit a distribution (e.g., GEV) to pooled dimensionless sample.
4. Scale distribution from 3 by indexes from 2 to get local distributions.

## Brief Overview: Regional Frequency Analysis (RFA)

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- L-moments used for parameter estimation.
- Criteria based on L-moments are suggested for selecting homogeneous regions and for choosing a probability distribution.
- Uncertainty obtained via bootstrap methods.