



Designer DAGs: Bayesian geostatistics with massive data

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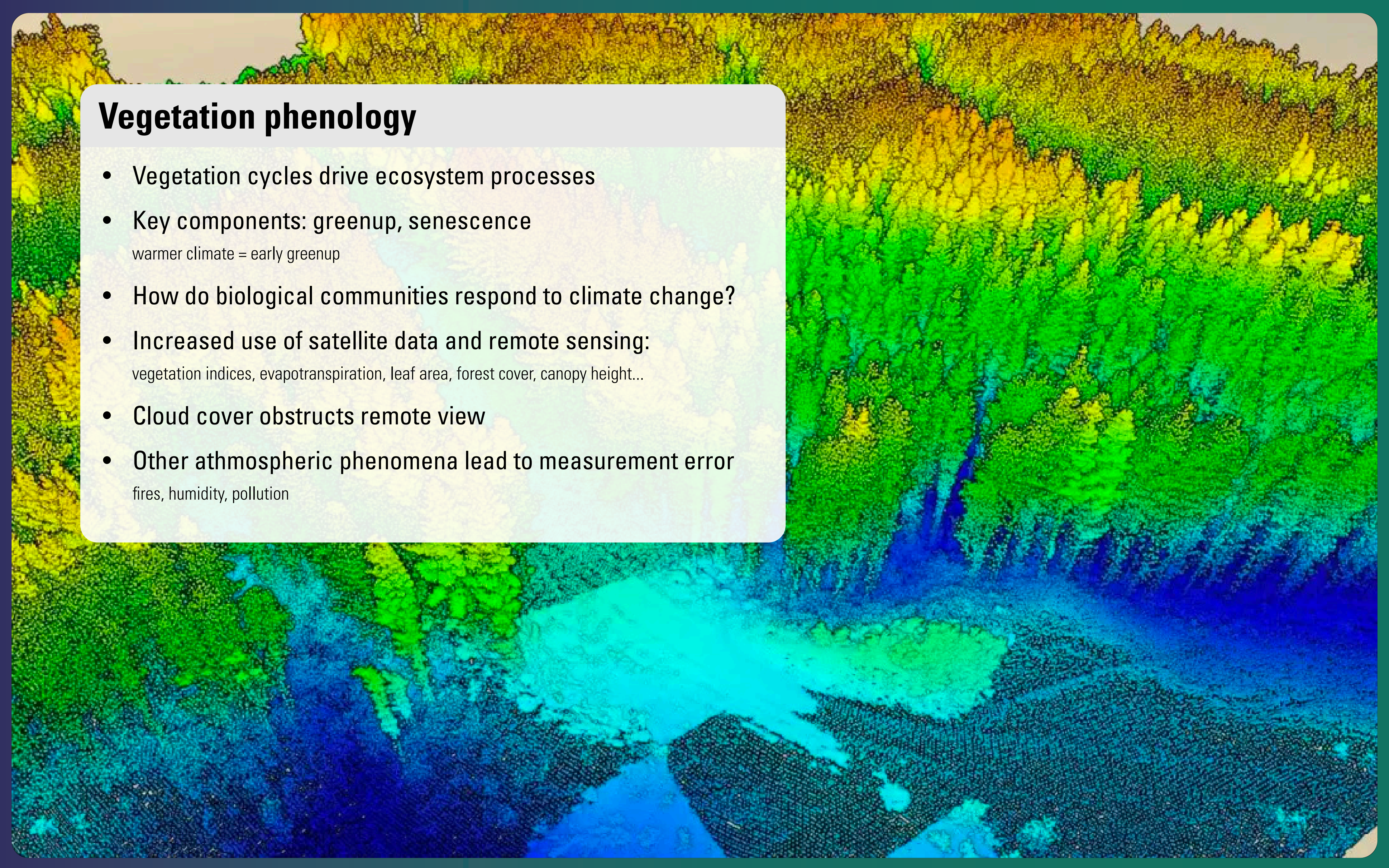
Naresh Neupane (Georgetown)

Vegetation phenology

- Vegetation cycles drive ecosystem processes
- Key components: greenup, senescence
warmer climate = early greenup
- How do biological communities respond to climate change?
- Increased use of satellite data and remote sensing:
vegetation indices, evapotranspiration, leaf area, forest cover, canopy height...
- Cloud cover obstructs remote view
- Other atmospheric phenomena lead to measurement error
fires, humidity, pollution

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Air quality & pollutant exposure monitoring

- Poor air quality linked to adverse health outcomes
- Acute vs chronic exposures
- Ground-level monitors vs satellite imaging
- What health effects? Interactions with other exposures?



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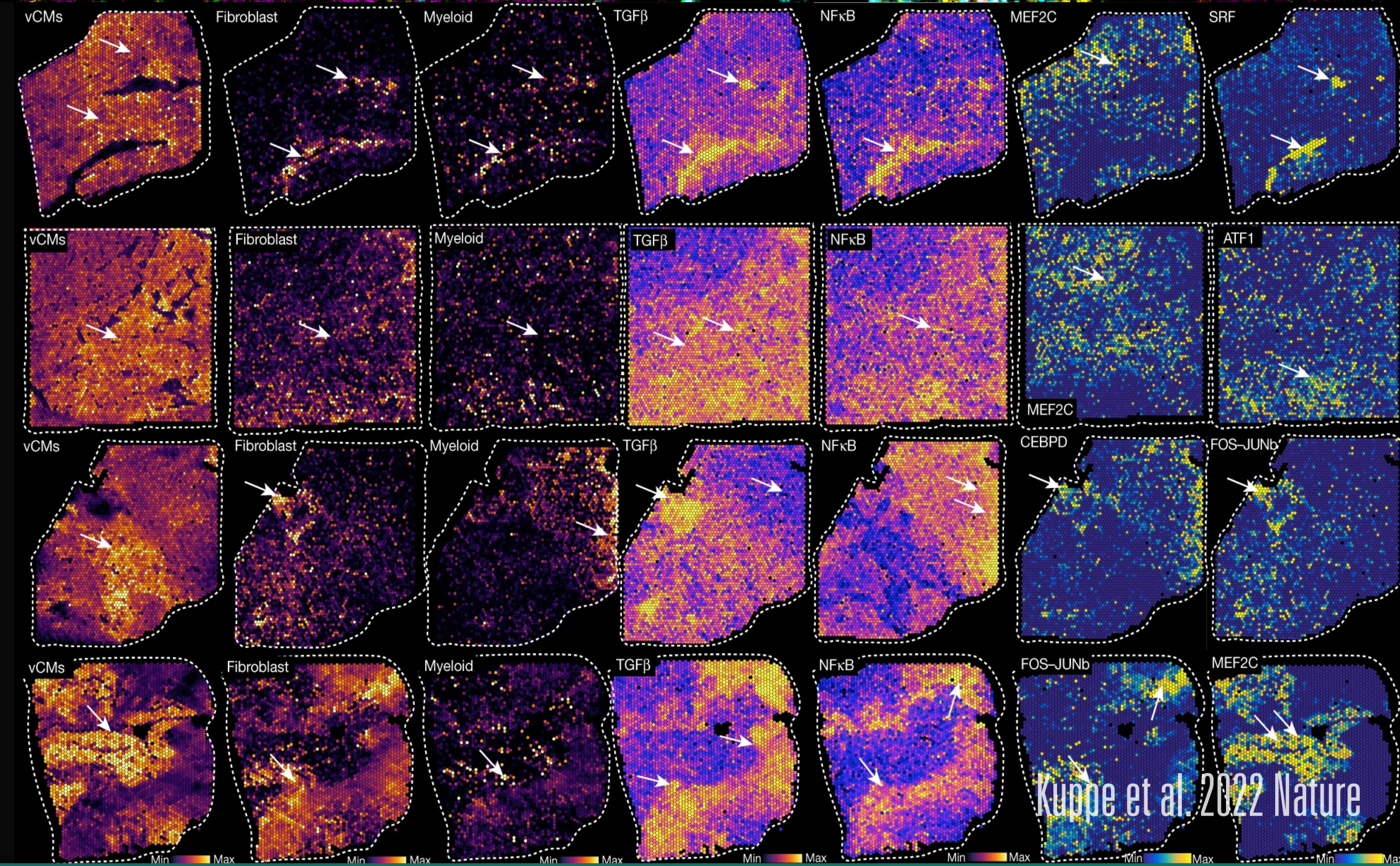
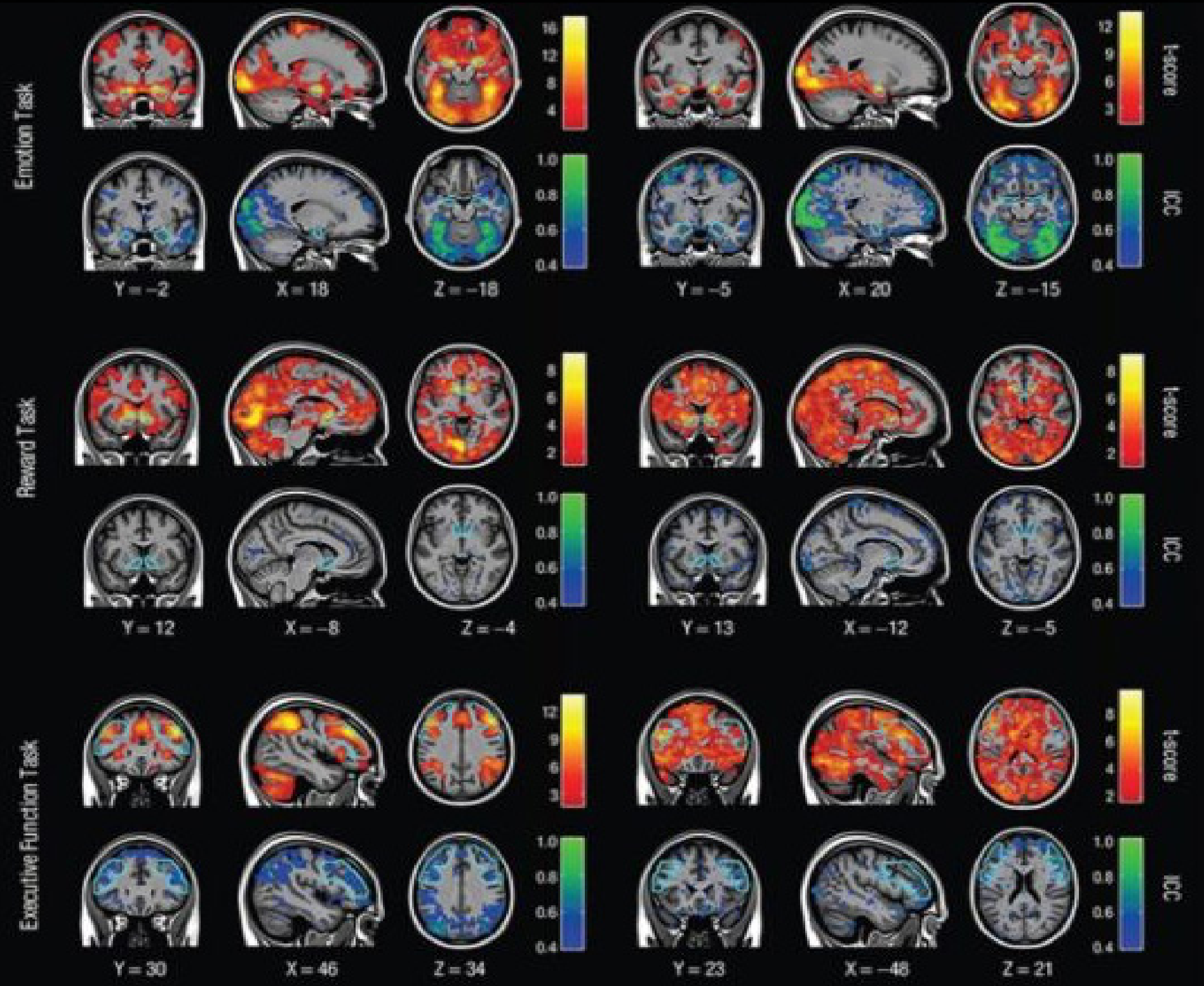
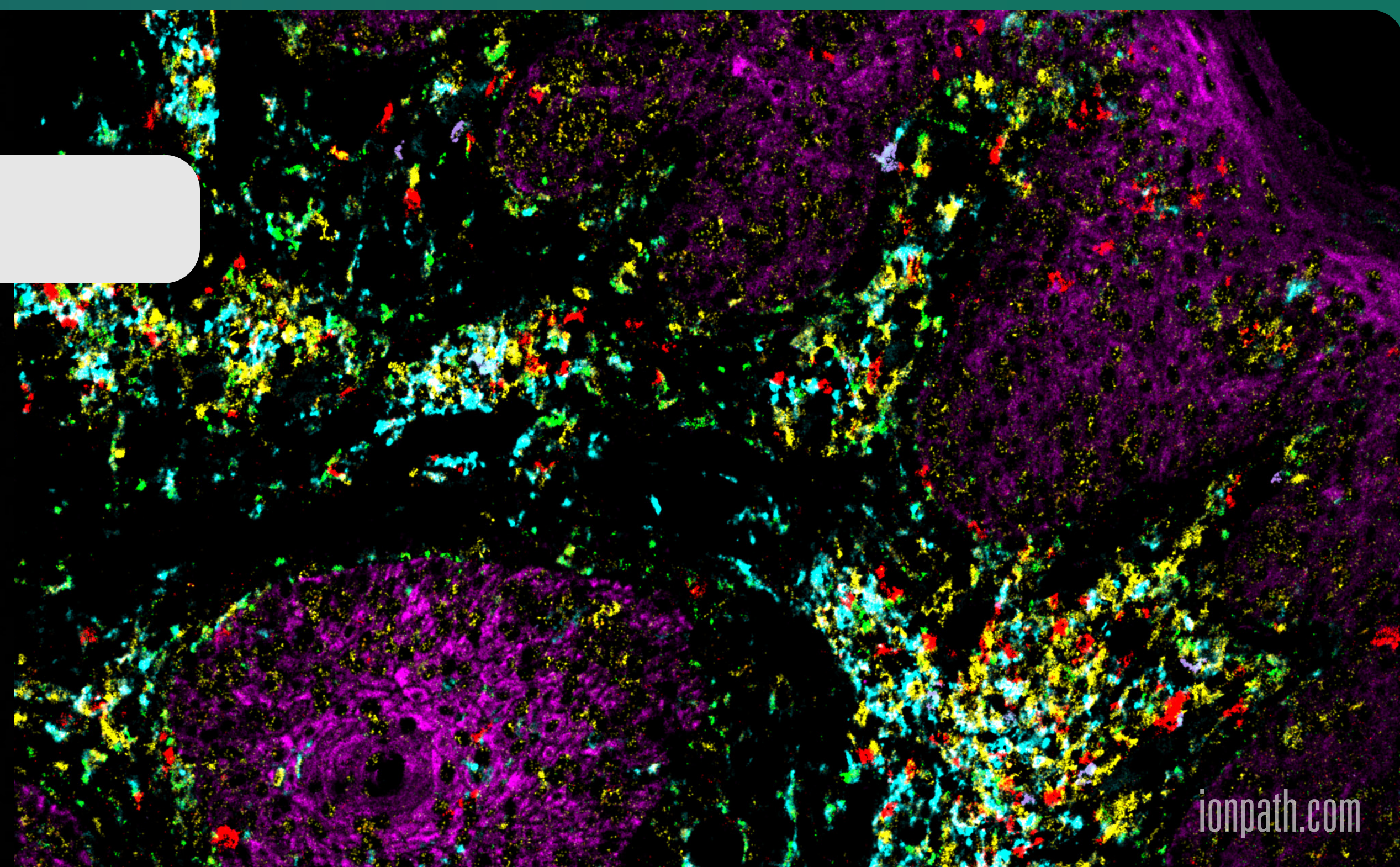
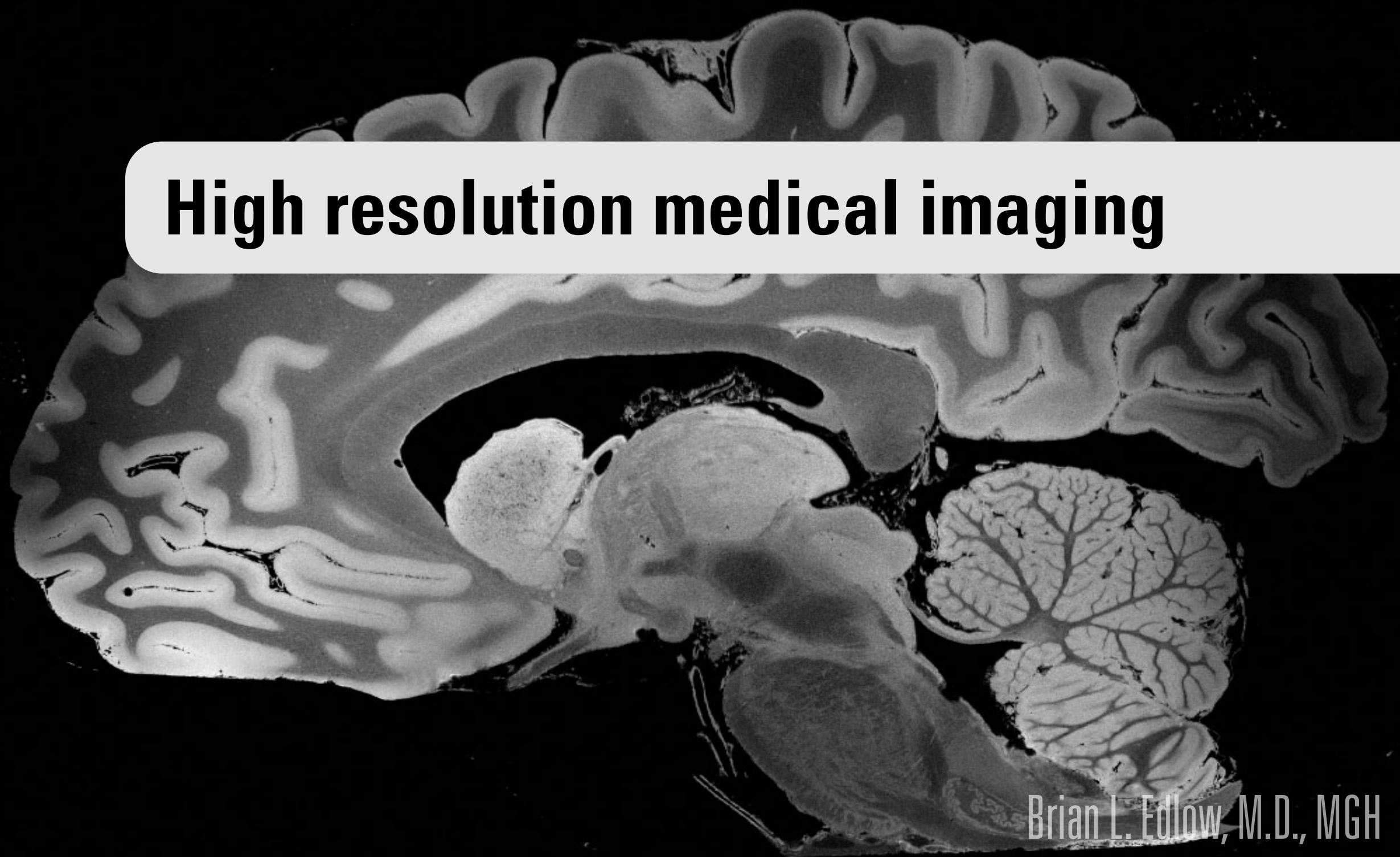
Max Whittaker for The New York Times

Species communities & interactions

- Occurrence of species & their interactions depend on environmental factors
- How do species adapt to climate and environmental change?
- How does species richness vary spatially?
- What are the effects of climate change on richness?



High resolution medical imaging



Plan of action

- Spatial latent effect modeling of multivariate outcomes
- Spatial process modeling with **Designer DAGs**
- Designer DAGs
 - for images with gaps: *Cubic Meshed Gaussian Processes*
 - for multi-source data: *Spatial Multivariate Trees*
 - for multivariate non-Gaussian data: *Simplified Manifold Preconditioner Adaptation*
 - for directional nonstationarity: *Bags of Directed Acyclic Graphs*
 - for provable accuracy in approximating GPs: *Radial Neighbors Gaussian Process*
- Additional topics
 - Multivariate geostatistics with R package `meshed`
 - Gridding and parameter expansion for improving computations in challenging settings
 - Graph Machine Regression & R package `gramar`

Setting up things: the Bayesian paradigm

Bayesian paradigm:

- *probability model* for data
- *prior* distribution:
uncertainty about model parameters
- *hyperprior* distribution(s):
uncertainty about prior parameters

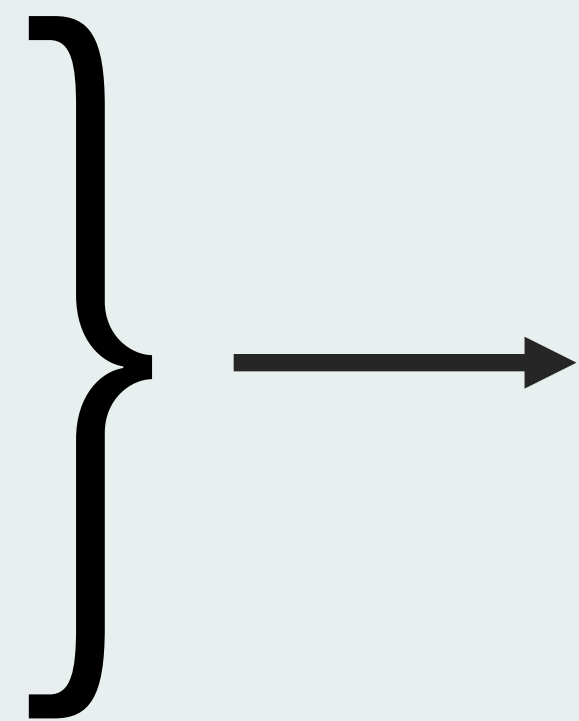


obligatory Thomas Bayes picture

Setting up things: the Bayesian paradigm

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observe data

y_i

$i = 1, \dots, n$

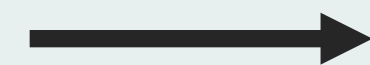


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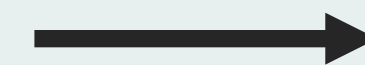
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observe data
 y_i
 $i = 1, \dots, n$



posterior uncertainty about
model parameters



obligatory Thomas Bayes picture

Bayesian hierarchical model with spatial random effects

Suppose we observe data at n locations (coordinates / pixels / voxels)

$$\text{Probability model for outcome } j \quad y_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}) \mid \eta_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}), \tau_j \sim P_j(\eta_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}), \tau_j)$$
$$\boldsymbol{\ell} \in \mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^d \quad j = 1, \dots, q$$

$$\text{Linear predictor} \quad \eta_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}) = \underbrace{\mathbf{x}_j(\boldsymbol{\ell})^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_j}_{\text{features or observed covariates}} + \underbrace{w_j(\boldsymbol{\ell})}_{\text{latent/random/unobserved effects for dependent data}}$$

$$\text{example: Gaussian outcome} \quad y_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}) = \eta_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}) + \varepsilon_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}) \quad \varepsilon_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}) \sim N(0, \tau_j^2)$$

$$\text{vector of random effects at location } \boldsymbol{\ell} \quad \mathbf{w}(\boldsymbol{\ell}) = \begin{bmatrix} w_1(\boldsymbol{\ell}) \\ \vdots \\ w_q(\boldsymbol{\ell}) \end{bmatrix}$$

What prior for $\mathbf{w}(\boldsymbol{\ell})$ at **any** set of locations $\mathbf{L} = \{\boldsymbol{\ell}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{\ell}_n\}$?

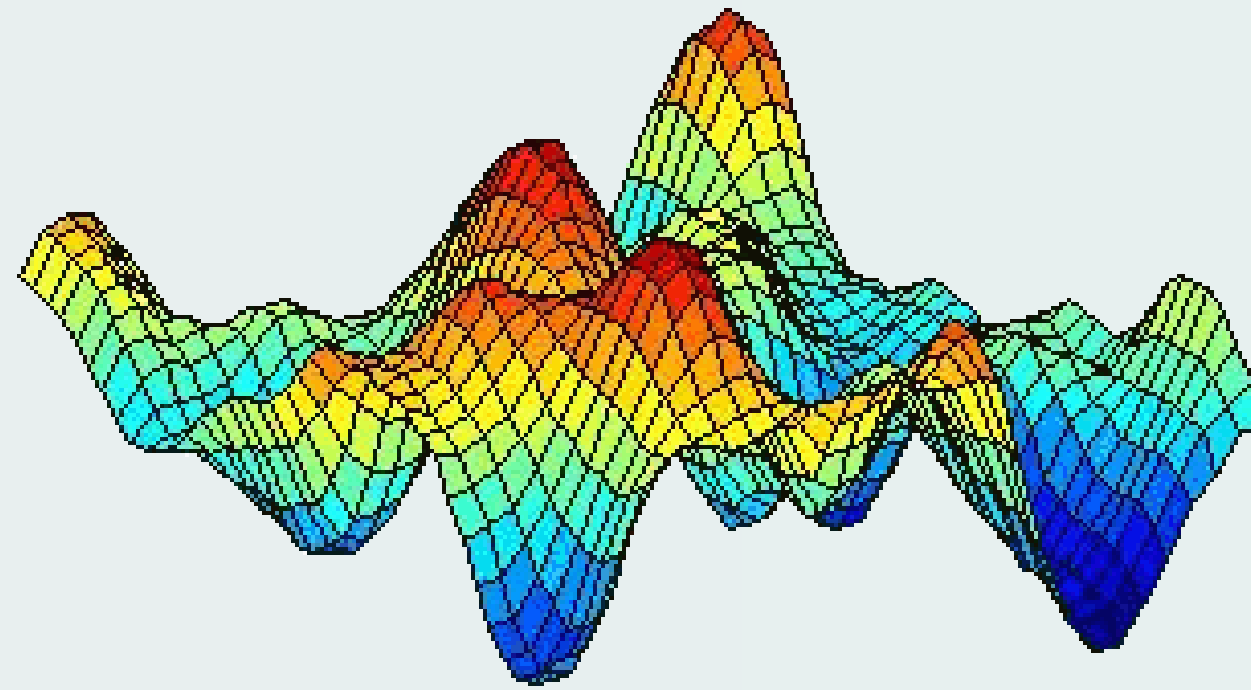
Gaussian process prior for spatial random effects

What prior for $w(\ell)$ at **any** set of locations $\mathbf{L} = \{\ell_1, \dots, \ell_n\}$?

q -variate Gaussian process
for correlating across space, time, outcomes

$$w(\cdot) \sim GP(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_\theta)$$

covariance function



for any \mathbf{L} , a GP gives $\mathbf{w}_L \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_L)$

$$\mathbf{C}_L[i, j] = \mathbf{C}(\ell_i, \ell_j \mid \theta) = \text{cov}(w(\ell_i), w(\ell_j))$$

Example with $q=1$

Elements of \mathbf{C}_θ matrix: Matérn model

exponential covariance

$$\mathbf{C}_\theta(\ell, \ell') = \sigma^2 \frac{2^{1-\nu}}{\Gamma(\nu)} \phi^\nu \|\ell - \ell'\|^\nu K_\nu(\phi \|\ell - \ell'\|)$$

$$(\nu = 0.5) \quad = \sigma^2 \exp\{-\phi \|\ell - \ell'\|\}$$

Gaussian Processes are slow: **WHY?**

Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)

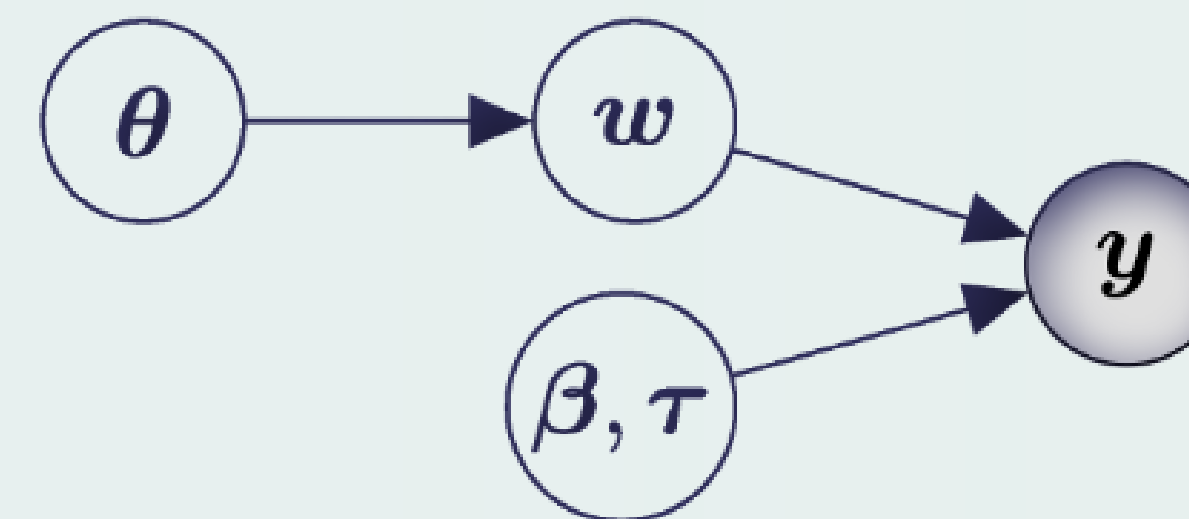
can be used to setup a Gibbs sampler

(procedure can even be automated, e.g. BUGS, JAGS & successors)

Gibbs sampler algorithm

requires knowledge about the *full conditional distributions*

outputs correlated samples from the joint posterior distribution



GIBBS SAMPLER

Cycle through these steps:

- sample w | y, θ, β, τ
- sample θ | w
- sample β | w, y, τ
- sample τ | y, θ, w

With **Gaussian outcomes** we can also:

- Marginalize out w to get $y \sim GP(\mathbf{X}\beta, \mathbf{C}_\theta + \mathbf{D})$
- Model y directly as a GP, i.e. $y \sim GP(\mathbf{X}\beta, \tilde{\mathbf{C}}_{\theta, \tau})$

COLLAPSED/RESPONSE GIBBS SAMPLER

Cycle through these steps:

- sample θ | y
- sample β | y, τ
- sample τ | y, β

Gaussian Processes are slow: **WHY?**

WHEN UPDATING θ WE FIND:

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \boldsymbol{w}) \propto p(\boldsymbol{w} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

q -variate Gaussian process
for correlating across space, time, outcomes

$$\boldsymbol{w}(\cdot) \sim GP(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}})$$

WE NEED TO EVALUATE:

$$p(\boldsymbol{w} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) = |2\pi\mathbf{C}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}|^{-1/2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{w}^{\top} \mathbf{C}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{-1} \boldsymbol{w} \right\}$$

Fill elements of matrix $\mathbf{C}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$



complexity
 $O(n^3 q^3)$

Compute $\mathbf{C}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{-1}$ and its determinant

LARGE DIMENSION
 $nq \times nq$

$n > 10^5$

A short summary...

- Gaussian Processes are **flexible**
- Gaussian Processes are **convenient**
- Gaussian Processes lead to **meaningful uncertainty quantification**

However...

- Gaussian Processes are **slow/do not scale** when:
 - the number of observed locations n is large
 - the number of observed outcomes q is large
- Need to use something
 - similarly flexible
 - scalable to big n , big q .

Gaussian Processes are slow: a quick look at some relevant literature

Gaussian Predictive Process & Inducing points

Quiñonero-Candela and Rasmussen, 2005; Snelson and Ghahramani, 2007; Banerjee et al. 2008; Banerjee et al. 2010; Guhaniyogi et al. 2011; Finley, Banerjee, and Gelfand 2012; Low et al., 2015; Ambikasaran et al., 2016; Huang and Sun, 2018; Geoga et al., 2020

Exploit data structure

Gilboa et al., 2015; Moran and Wheeler, 2020; Loper et al., 2020

Fixed Rank Kriging

Cressie and Johannesson 2008

Multi-resolution approximations

Gramacy and Lee 2008; Fox and Dunson 2012; Katzfuss 2017

Covariance Tapering

Furrer, Genton, and Nychka 2006; Kaufman, Schervish, and Nychka 2008; Bevilacqua et al., 2019

Independent partitioning

Sang and Huang 2012; Stein 2014

Composite likelihood

Bai et al., 2012; Eidsvik et al., 2014; Bevilacqua and Gaetan, 2015

Gaussian Random Markov Fields

Cressie 1993; Rue 2001; Rue and Held 2005

Vecchia's approximation & extensions

Vecchia 1988; Stein et al. 2014; Gramacy and Apley 2015; Datta et al. 2016; Guinness 2018; Heaton et al. 2019; Katzfuss and Guinness 2019; Quiroz et al., 2019; Schafer et al. 2021

Vecchia's approximation & extensions

Fix reference set of locations \mathcal{S} and order on it, then express joint density as product of conditionals

$$p(\mathbf{w} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) = p(\mathbf{w}_1 \mid \boldsymbol{\theta})p(\mathbf{w}_2 \mid \mathbf{w}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \cdots p(\mathbf{w}_n \mid \mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_{n-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

Approximate by limiting the size of conditioning sets picking m nearest neighbors

$$p(\mathbf{w} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \prod_{i=1}^n p(\mathbf{w}_i \mid \mathbf{w}_{N_i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \quad N_i = \{j > 0 : i - m \leq j < i\}$$

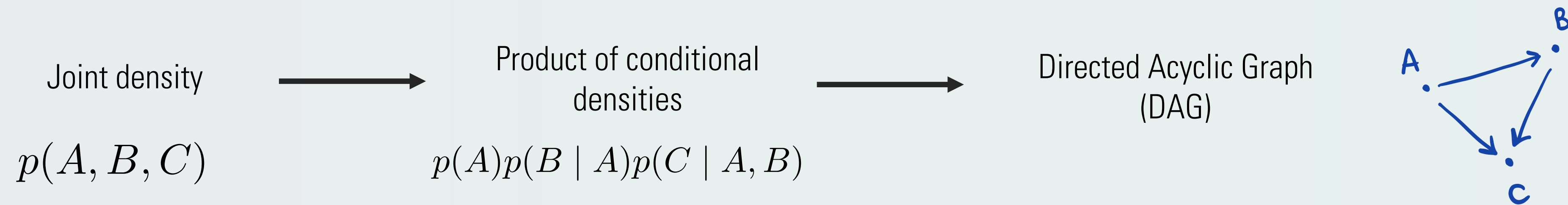
Approximation leads to valid joint density (Vecchia 1988):

$$\prod_{i=1}^n p(\mathbf{w}_i \mid \mathbf{w}_{N_i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \tilde{p}(\mathbf{w} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

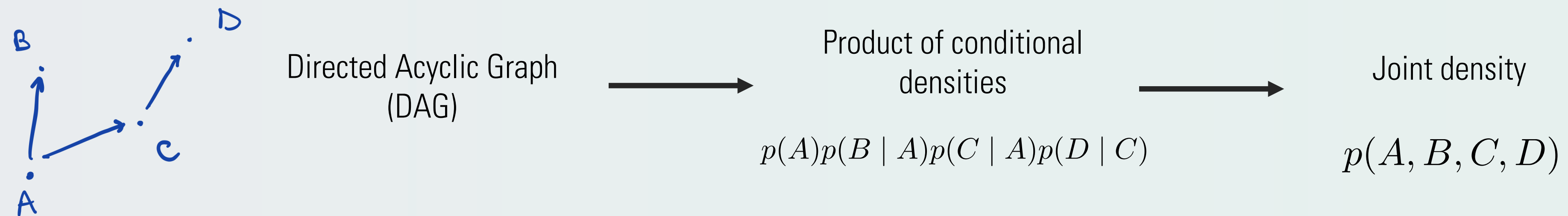
Extensible to valid stochastic process (Datta et al 2016). For any set of locations \mathcal{V} :

$$\tilde{p}(\mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{V}}) = \int \tilde{p}(\mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{U}} \mid \mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{S}}) \tilde{p}(\mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{S}}) \prod_{\{\mathbf{s}_i \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{V}\}} d(\mathbf{w}(\mathbf{s}_i))$$

Vecchia's approximation & extensions



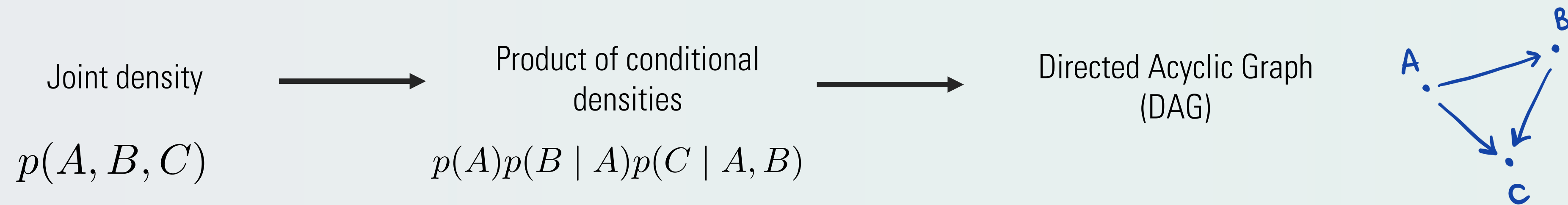
Why Vecchia/NNGP works: DAGs can be used to create new valid densities/processes



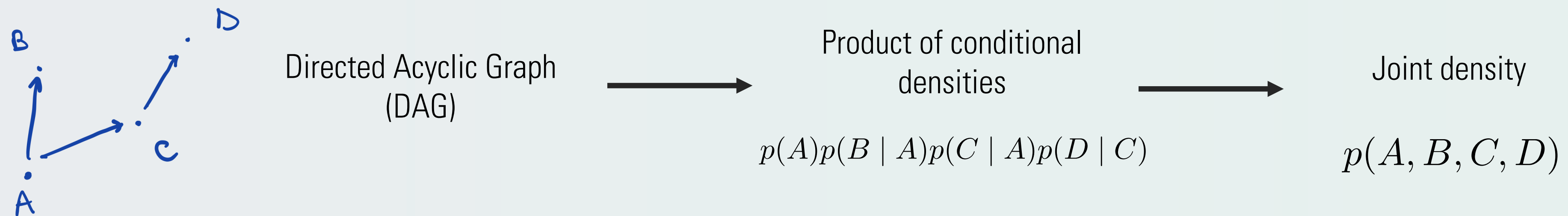
Neighbor-based constructions do not exploit full potential of DAG-based models:

- Challenges to **scalability** in fully Bayesian analyses of diverse data types
- Limited **flexibility** in modeling multivariate data with unusual configurations
- Lack of **theory** support of Vecchia approximations
- No clear path for **intepretable modeling** of certain nonstationary phenomena

Vecchia's approximation & extensions



Why Vecchia/NNGP works: DAGs can be used to create new valid densities/processes



My contributions: carefully designing DAGs for

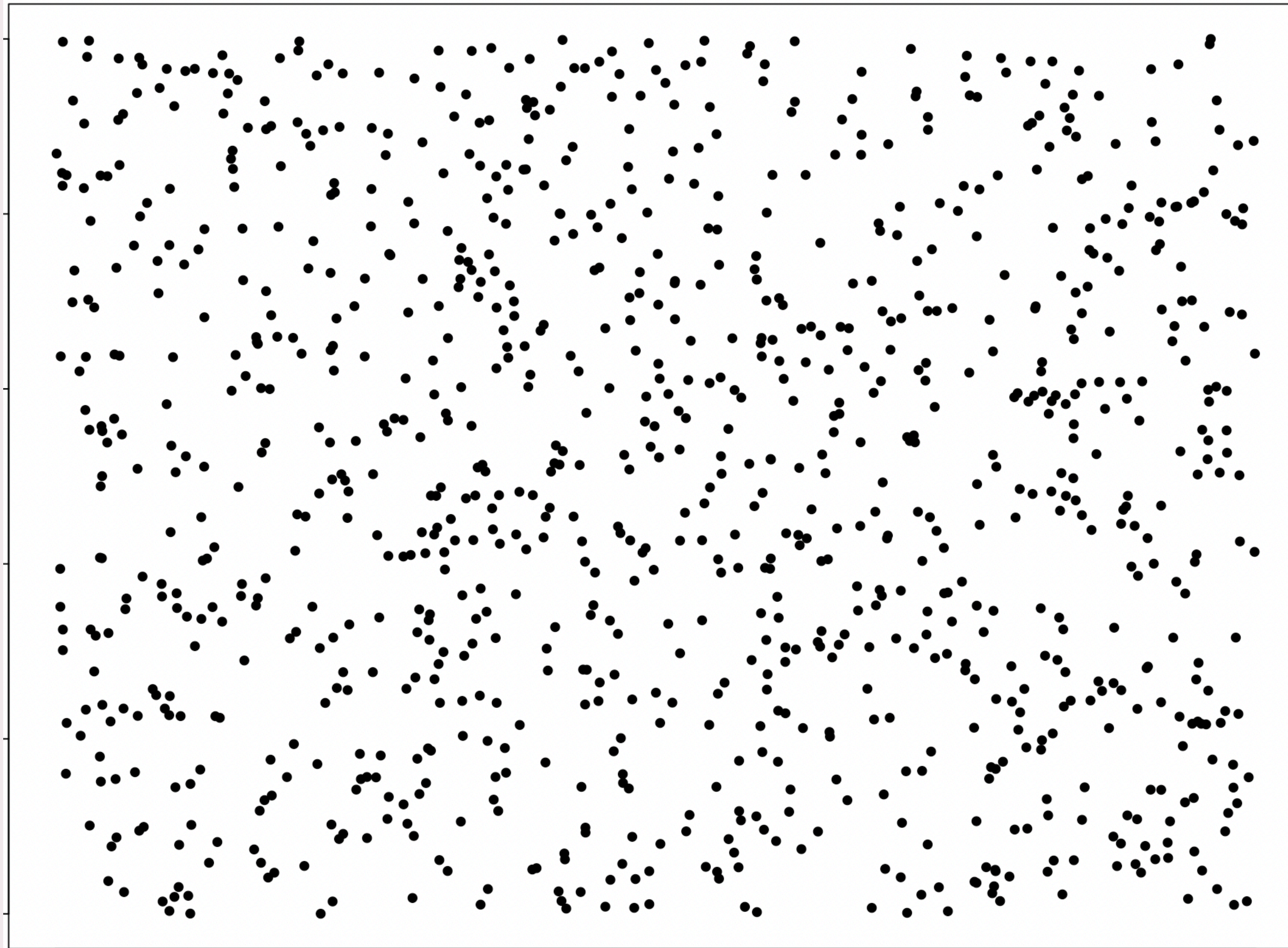
- Better **scalability** in fully Bayesian analyses of diverse data types
- Better **flexibility** in modeling multivariate data with unusual configurations
- New **theory** on quality of approximation of unrestricted GP
- Innovative **interpretable modeling** of certain nonstationary phenomena



Designer DAGs

Spatial meshing: spatial processes via designer DAGs

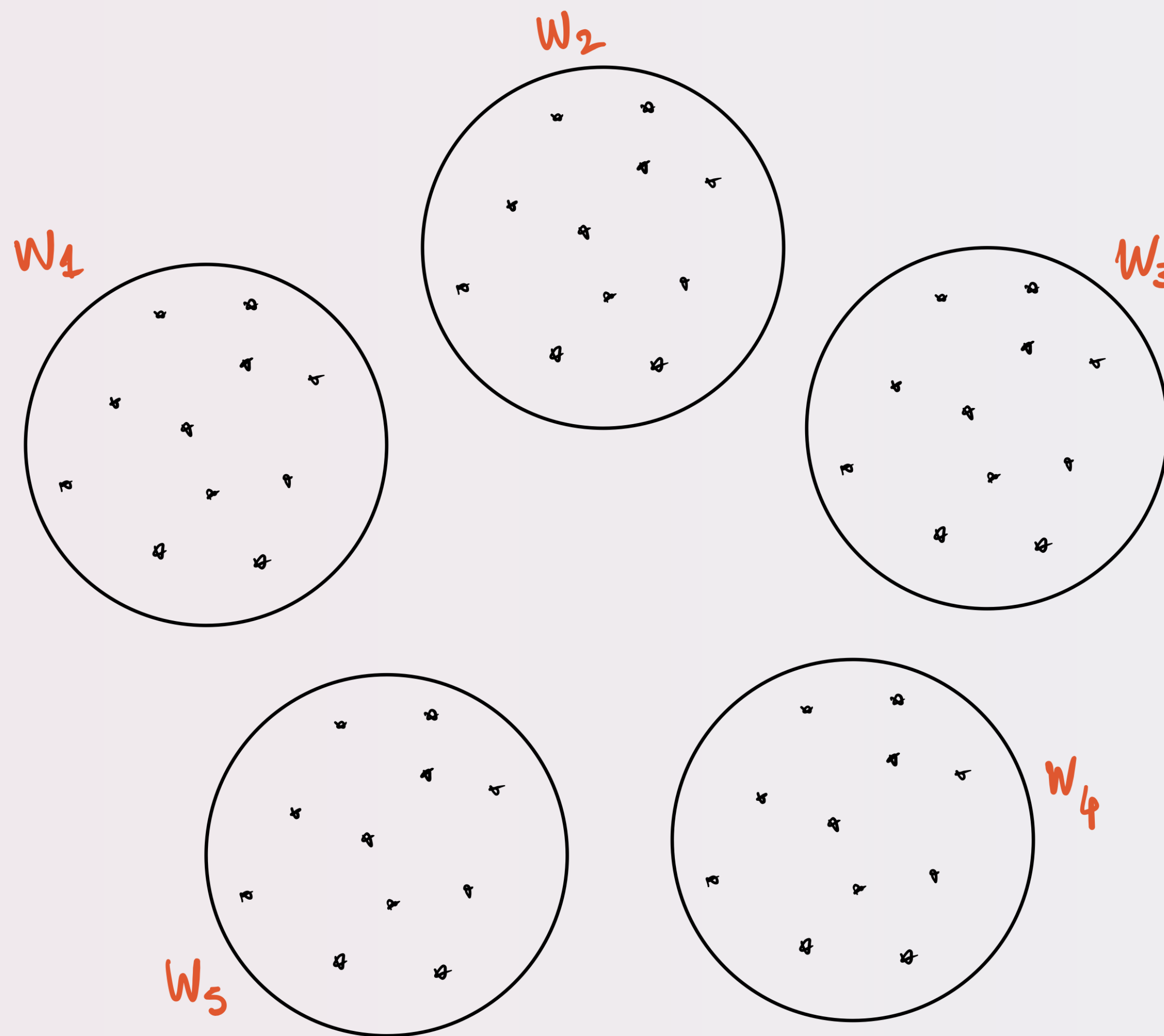
Defining a stochastic process = characterize the distribution of any finite set of random variables
Spatial process = each random variable is associated to a spatial coordinate (location)



Data locations

Spatial meshing: spatial processes via designer DAGs

Fix a reference set of locations \mathcal{S} , then partition process realizations at \mathcal{S} into M blocks
Random variables in each block are fully connected (edges hidden here)



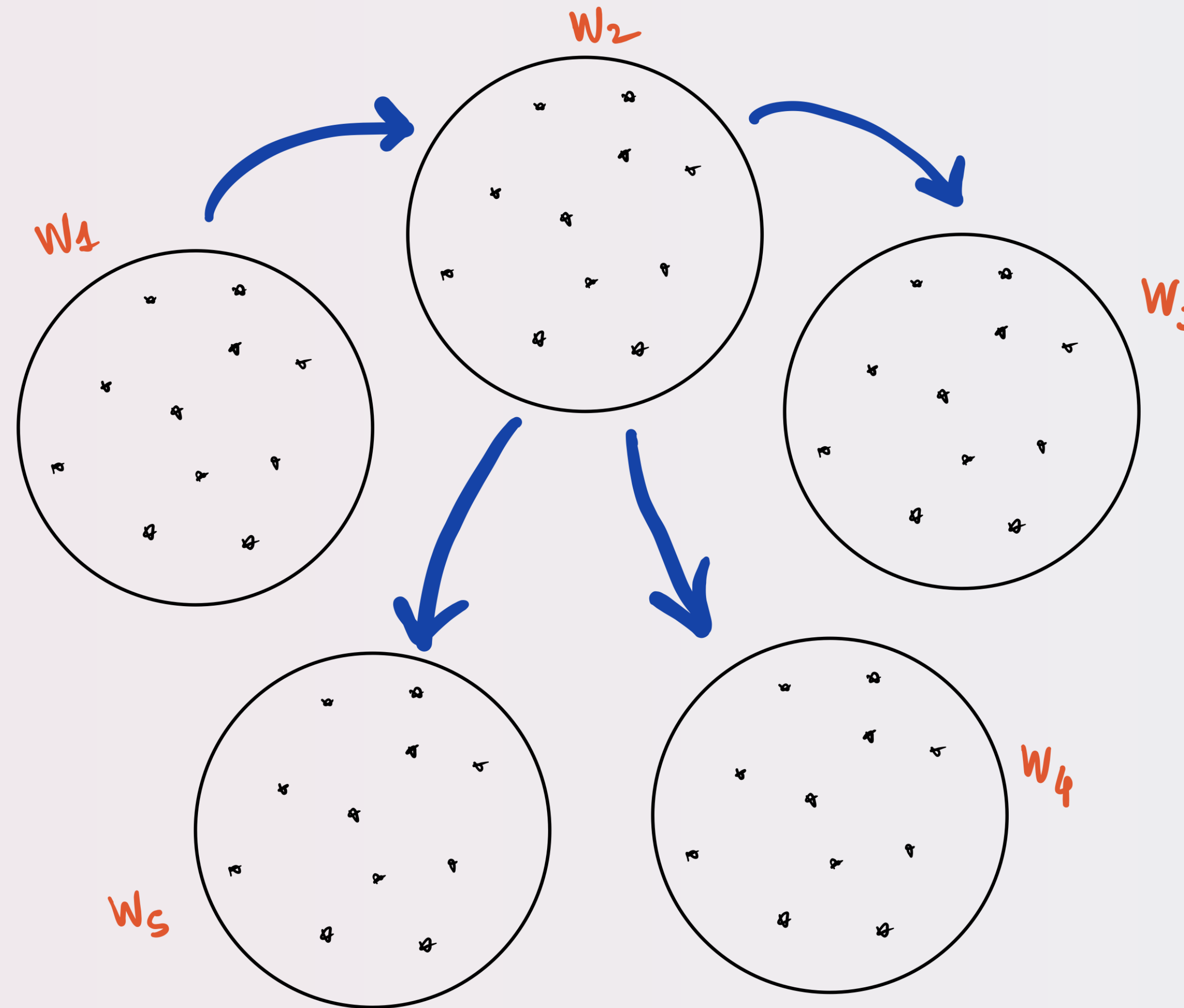
Spatial meshing: spatial processes via designer DAGs

Place edges between blocks to create a sparse DAG

Example:

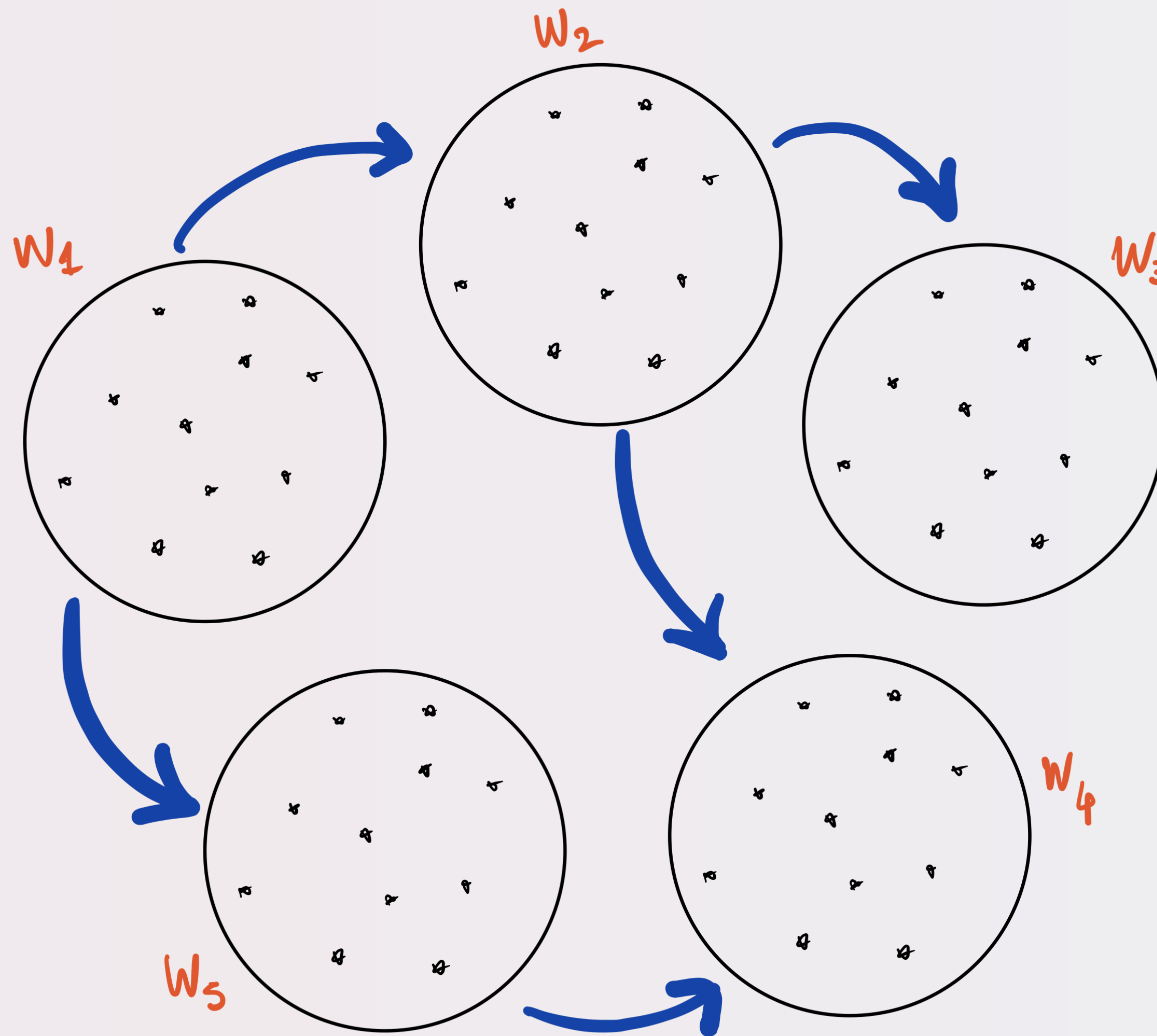
block 2 is the parent node of block 3

$$w_{[3]} = w_2$$



Spatial meshing: spatial processes via designer DAGs

Place edges between blocks to create a sparse DAG



Example: blocks {2,5} are the parent nodes of block 4

$$w_{[4]} = \begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ w_5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Spatial meshing: spatial processes via designer DAGs

Approximate by assuming joint density factorizes according to chosen DAG:

$$p(\mathbf{w} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \prod_{j=1}^M p(\mathbf{w}_j \mid \mathbf{w}_{[j]}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \quad [j] = \{i : i \rightarrow j \text{ in } \mathcal{G}\}$$

Approximation leads to valid density & can be extended to standalone stochastic process via Kolmogorov conditions (*P et al 2022 JASA*)

$$\prod_{j=1}^M p(\mathbf{w}_j \mid \mathbf{w}_{[j]}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \tilde{p}(\mathbf{w} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

For any set \mathcal{V} of locations, we have

$$\tilde{p}(\mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{V}}) = \int \tilde{p}(\mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{U}} \mid \mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{S}}) \tilde{p}(\mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{S}}) \prod_{\{\mathbf{s}_i \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{V}\}} d(\mathbf{w}(\mathbf{s}_i))$$

Where other locations \mathcal{U} are similarly partitioned and can only have parents in \mathcal{S} .

Spatial meshing: spatial processes via designer DAGs

Assuming a Gaussian base density gives us

$$\mathbf{H}_i = \mathbf{C}_{i,[i]} \mathbf{C}_{i,[i]}^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_i = \mathbf{C}_i - \mathbf{C}_{i,[i]} \mathbf{C}_{i,[i]}^{-1} \mathbf{C}_{[i],i}$$

$$\prod_{i=1}^M N(\mathbf{w}_i; \mathbf{H}_i \mathbf{w}_{[i]}, \mathbf{R}_i) = N(\mathbf{w}; \mathbf{0}, \tilde{\mathbf{C}}_{\theta}) \approx N(\mathbf{w}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_{\theta})$$

Complexity (number of flops) for evaluating $N(\mathbf{w}; \mathbf{0}, \tilde{\mathbf{C}}_{\theta})$:

$$O(M J^3 m^3)$$

#blocks max #parents in DAG max block size

Assuming blocks of equal size: $O(n J^3 m^2) \ll O(n^3)$

Spatial meshing: spatial processes via designer DAGs

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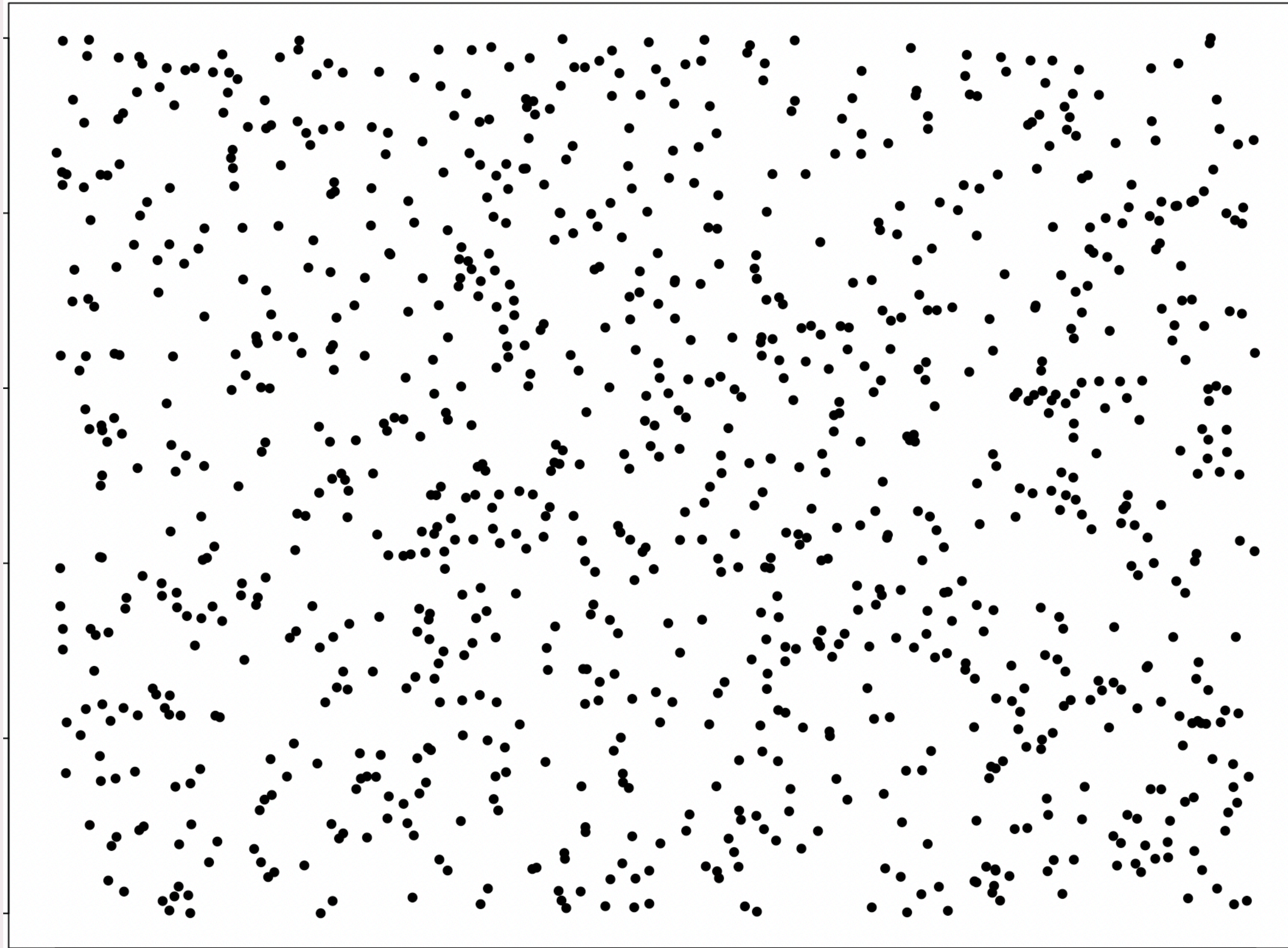
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Extension to standalone stochastic process leads to **Meshed Gaussian Process**

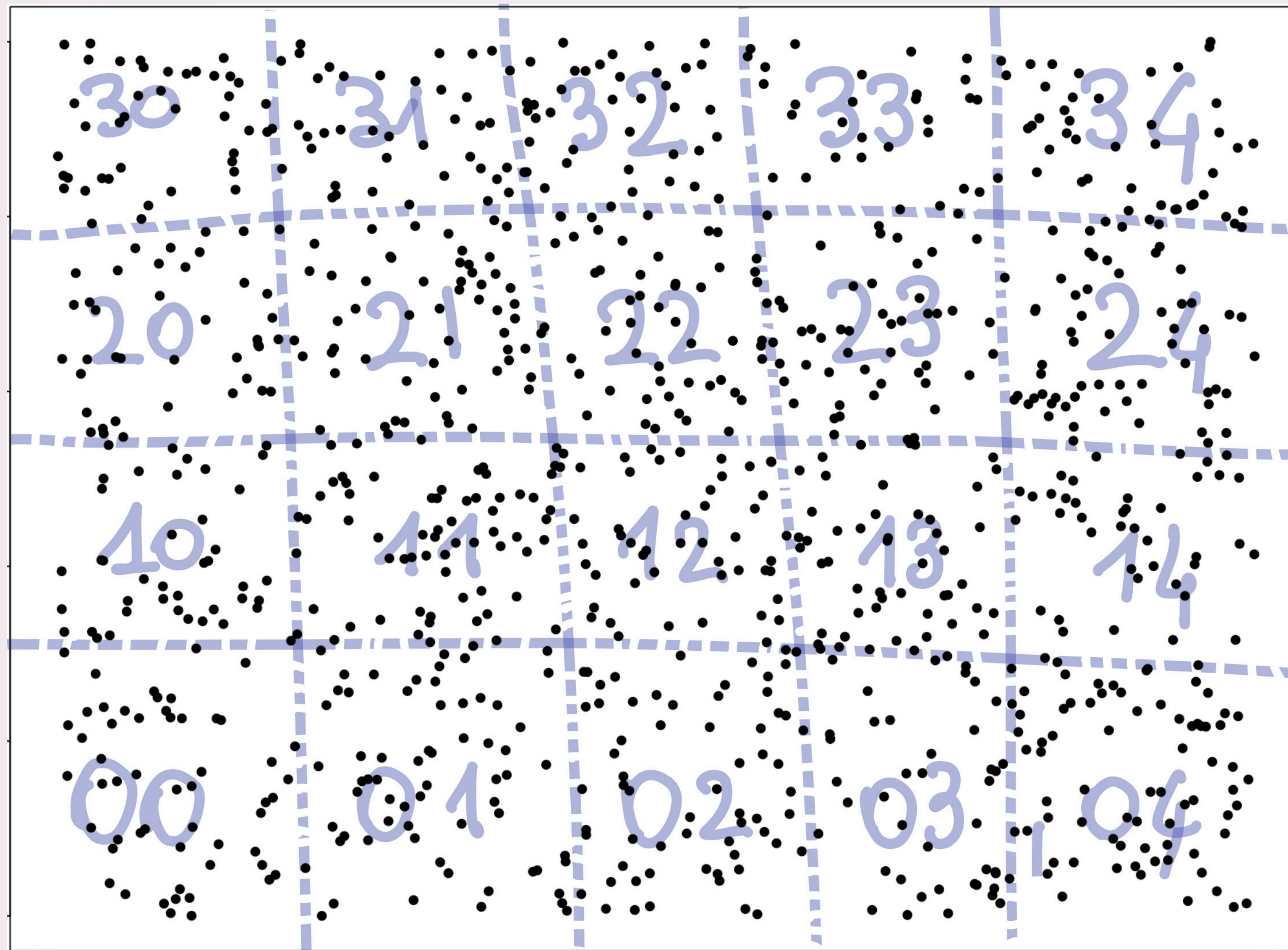
- Scalable replacement of GP in Bayesian hierarchical model
- Process based estimation and predictions at new locations
- Exact posterior sampling methods for Meshed GPs via Gibbs samplers
- Alternatively, Meshed GPs are interpretable as an approximation of $GP(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_{\theta})$

QMGP: axis-parallel tessellation and 2-parent DAG



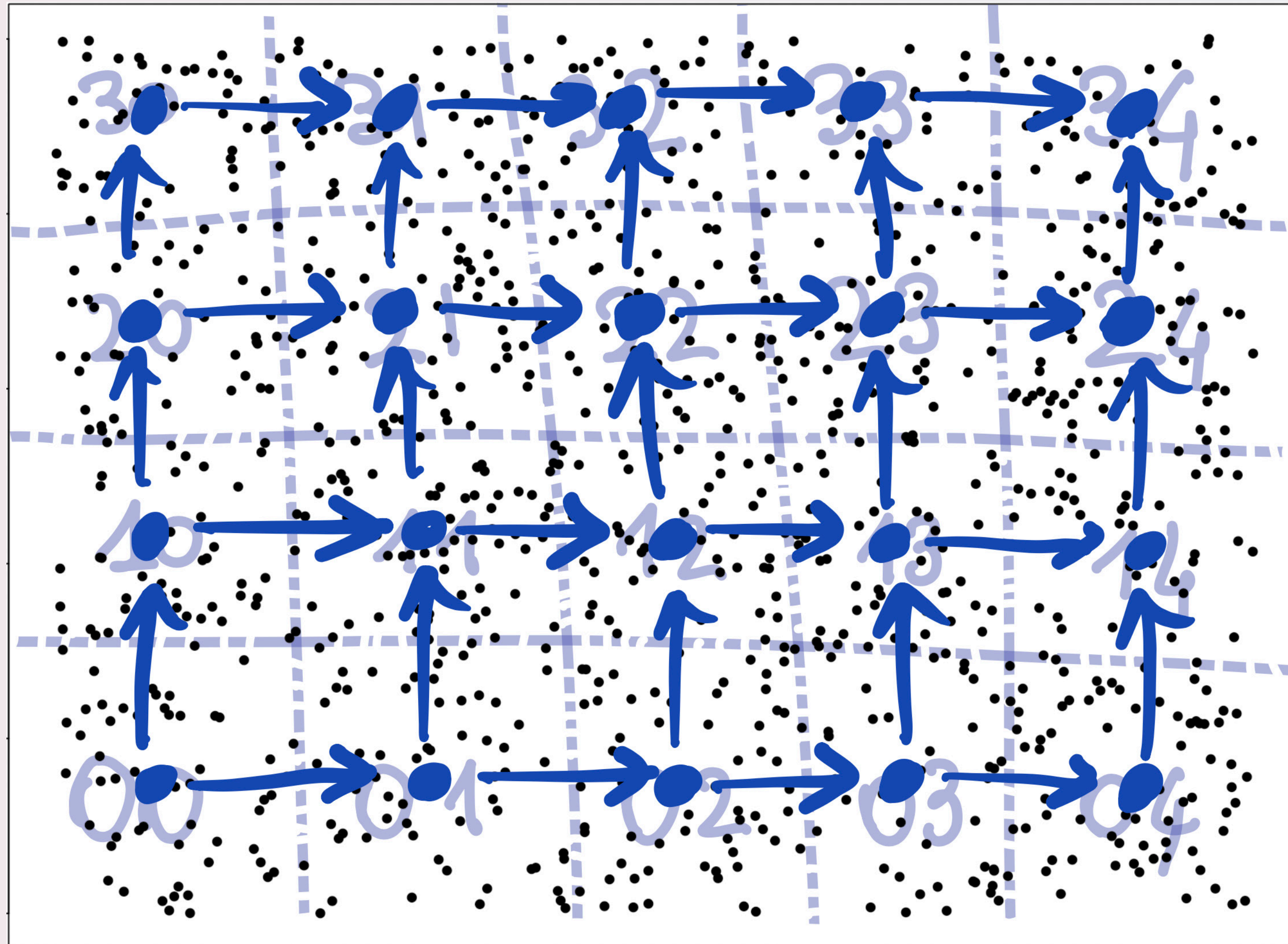
Data locations

QMGP: axis-parallel tessellation and 2-parent DAG



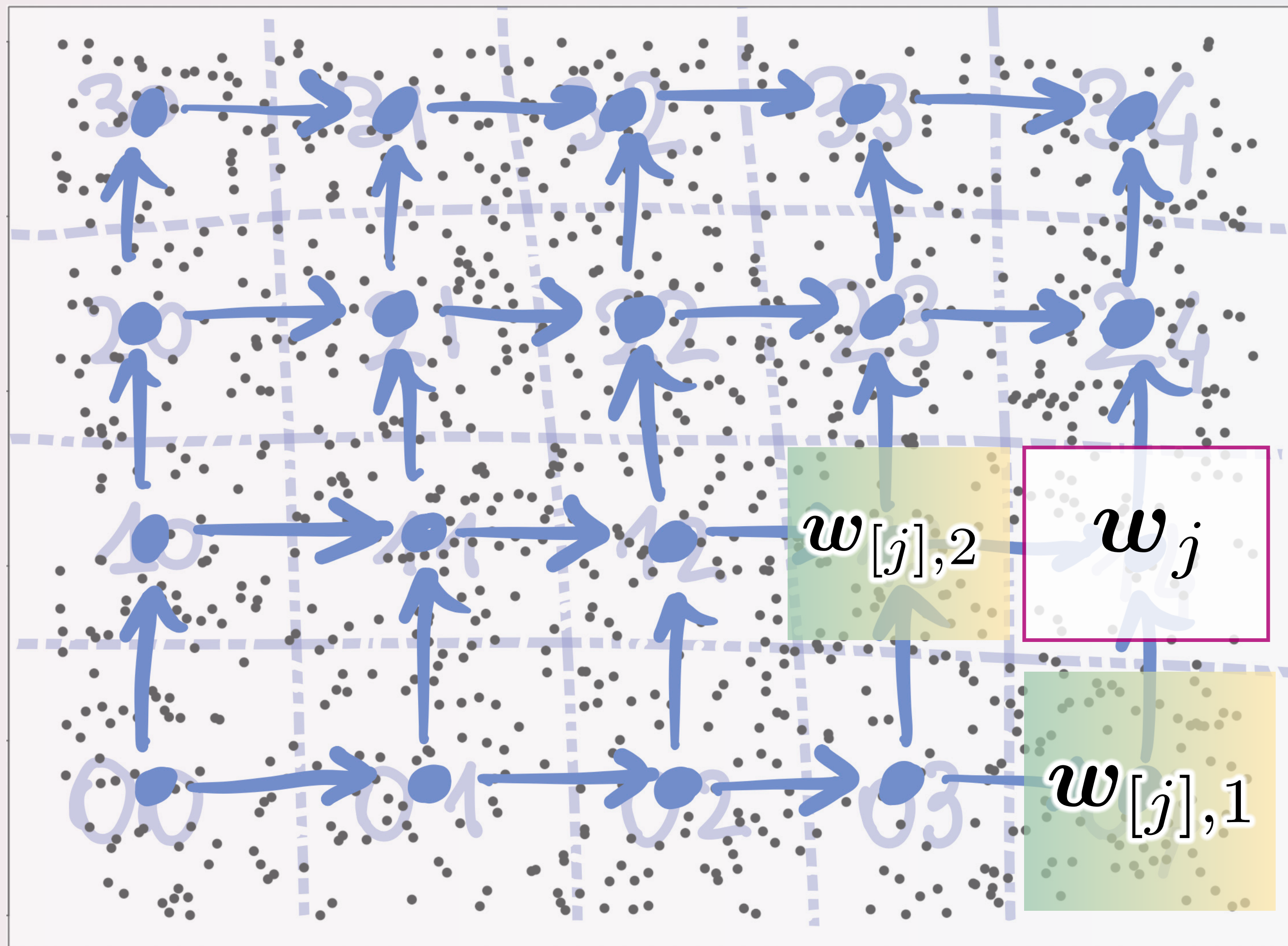
Domain partitioning

QMGP: axis-parallel tessellation and 2-parent DAG



DAG links domain partitions

QMGP: axis-parallel tessellation and 2-parent DAG



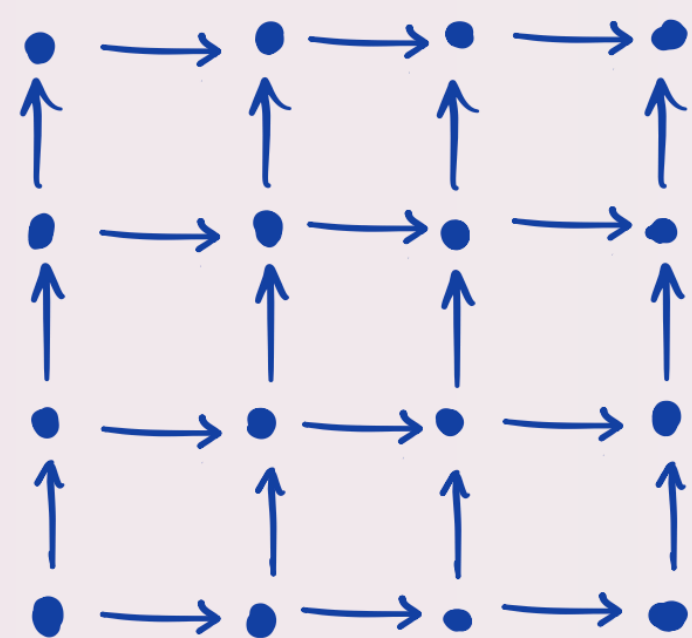
DAG links domain partitions

$$\prod_{j=1}^M N(\mathbf{w}_j; \mathbf{H}_j \mathbf{w}_{[j]}, \mathbf{R}_j) = N(\mathbf{w}; \mathbf{0}, \tilde{\mathbf{C}}_\theta)$$

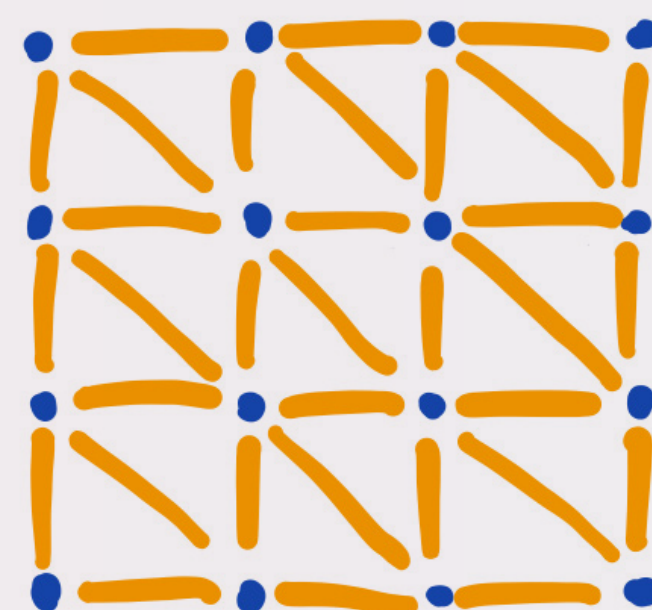
$$\mathbf{H}_j = \mathbf{C}_{j,[j]} \mathbf{C}_{[j]}^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_j = \mathbf{C}_{j,j} - \mathbf{H}_j \mathbf{C}_{[j],j}$$

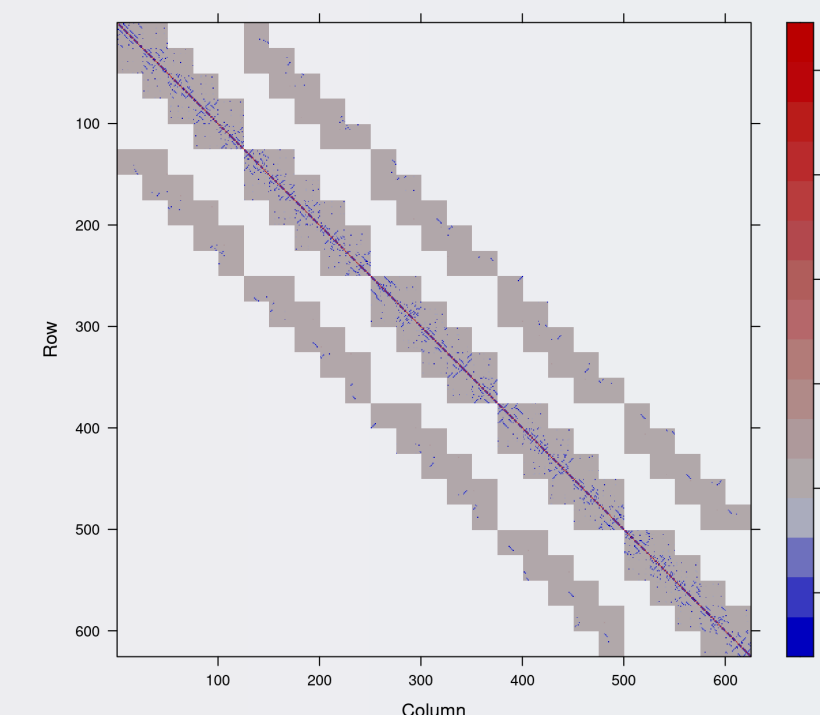
Sparse pattern DAG (mesh)



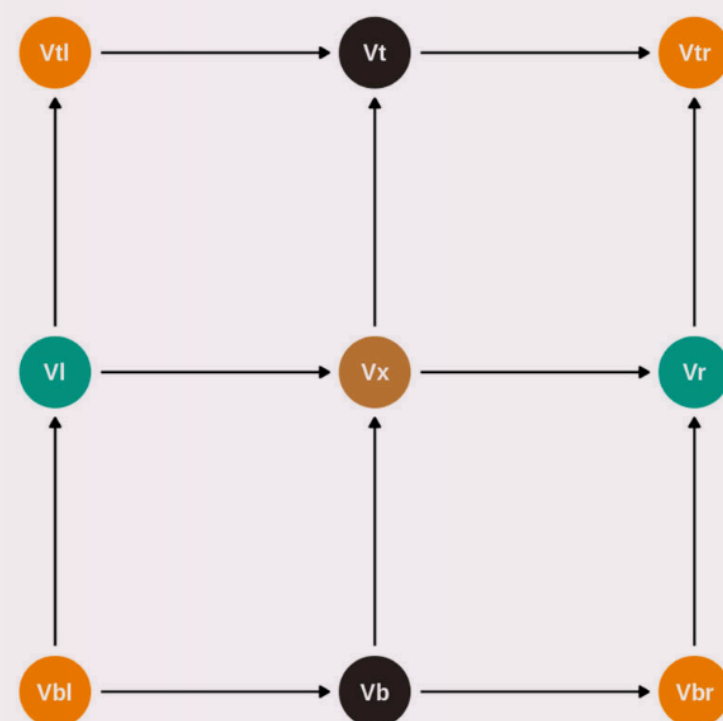
Undirected moral graph



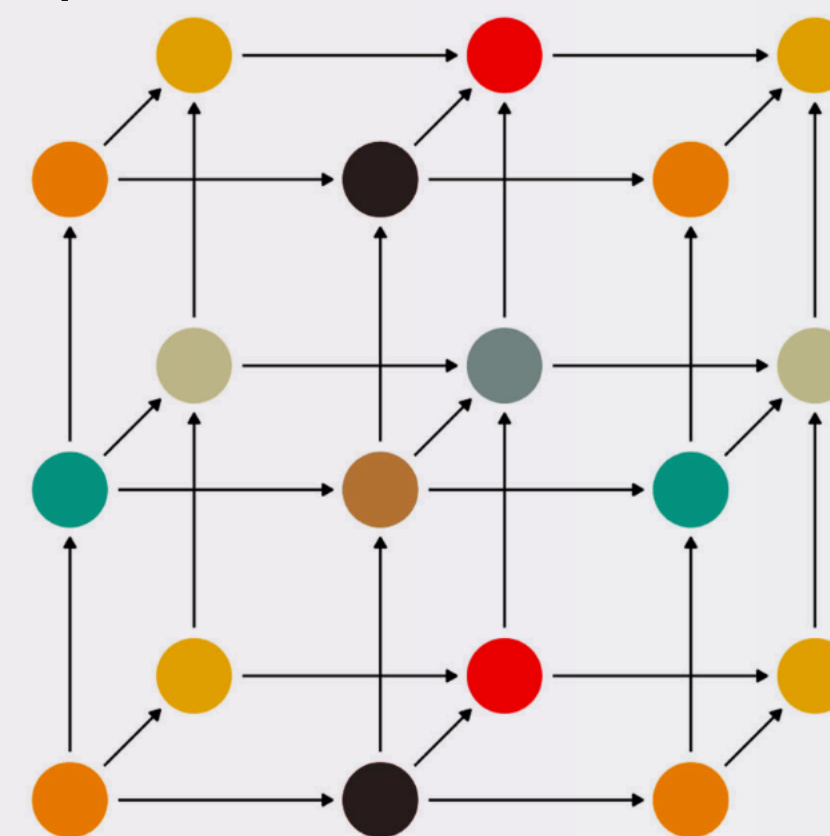
Sparsity pattern of $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}_\theta^{-1}$



Graph coloring
parallel block Gibbs sampling



3D extension
space-time data models



Probability model for outcome j $y_j(\ell) \mid \eta_j(\ell), \tau_j \sim P_j(\eta_j(\ell), \tau_j)$

$$\ell \in \mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^d \quad j = 1, \dots, q$$

Linear predictor $\eta_j(\ell) = \mathbf{x}_j(\ell)^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_j + w_j(\ell)$

Prior for spatial random effects

$$\mathbf{w}(\cdot) \sim \text{meshedGP}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_\theta, \mathcal{G}, \mathbf{T})$$

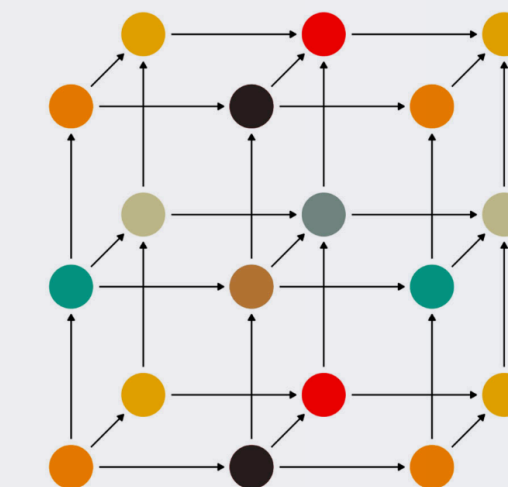
GIBBS SAMPLER

Cycle through these steps:

- sample $\mathbf{w}_j \mid \mathbf{w}_{-j}, \mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\tau}$
- update $\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{w}$ (MH accept/reject)
- sample $\boldsymbol{\beta} \mid \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\tau}$
- sample $\boldsymbol{\tau} \mid \mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{w}$

Cubic Meshed GP:
 computationally **much cheaper**

Take advantage of graph coloring for
parallel sampling



- Spatial DAG extends Bayesian model DAG
- Posterior computations via MCMC proceed straightforwardly
 (valid spatial process = no need to verify detailed balance conditions)
- Scalable to large data sets thanks to known properties of chosen DAG

Probability model for outcome j $y_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}) \mid \eta_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}), \tau_j \sim P_j(\eta_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}), \tau_j)$

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Cubic Meshed GP:
 computationally **much cheaper**

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \boldsymbol{w}) \propto \prod_{j=1}^M p(\boldsymbol{w}_j \mid \boldsymbol{w}_{[j]}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

and

$$p(\boldsymbol{w}_j \mid \boldsymbol{w}_{[j]}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = N(\boldsymbol{w}_j; \mathbf{H}_j \boldsymbol{w}_{[j]}, \mathbf{R}_j)$$

where

$$\mathbf{H}_j = \mathbf{C}_{j,[j]} \mathbf{C}_{[j]}^{-1}$$

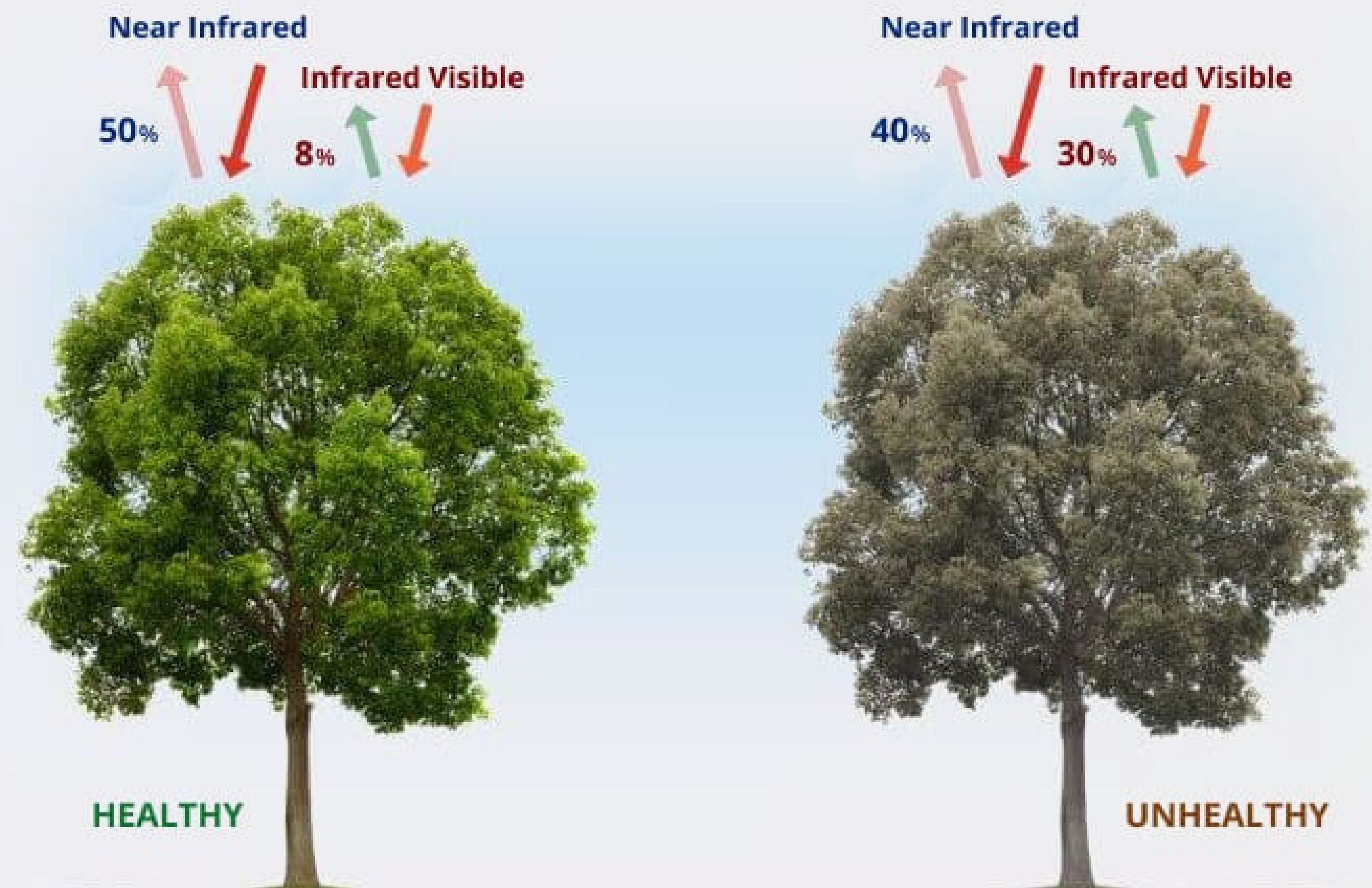
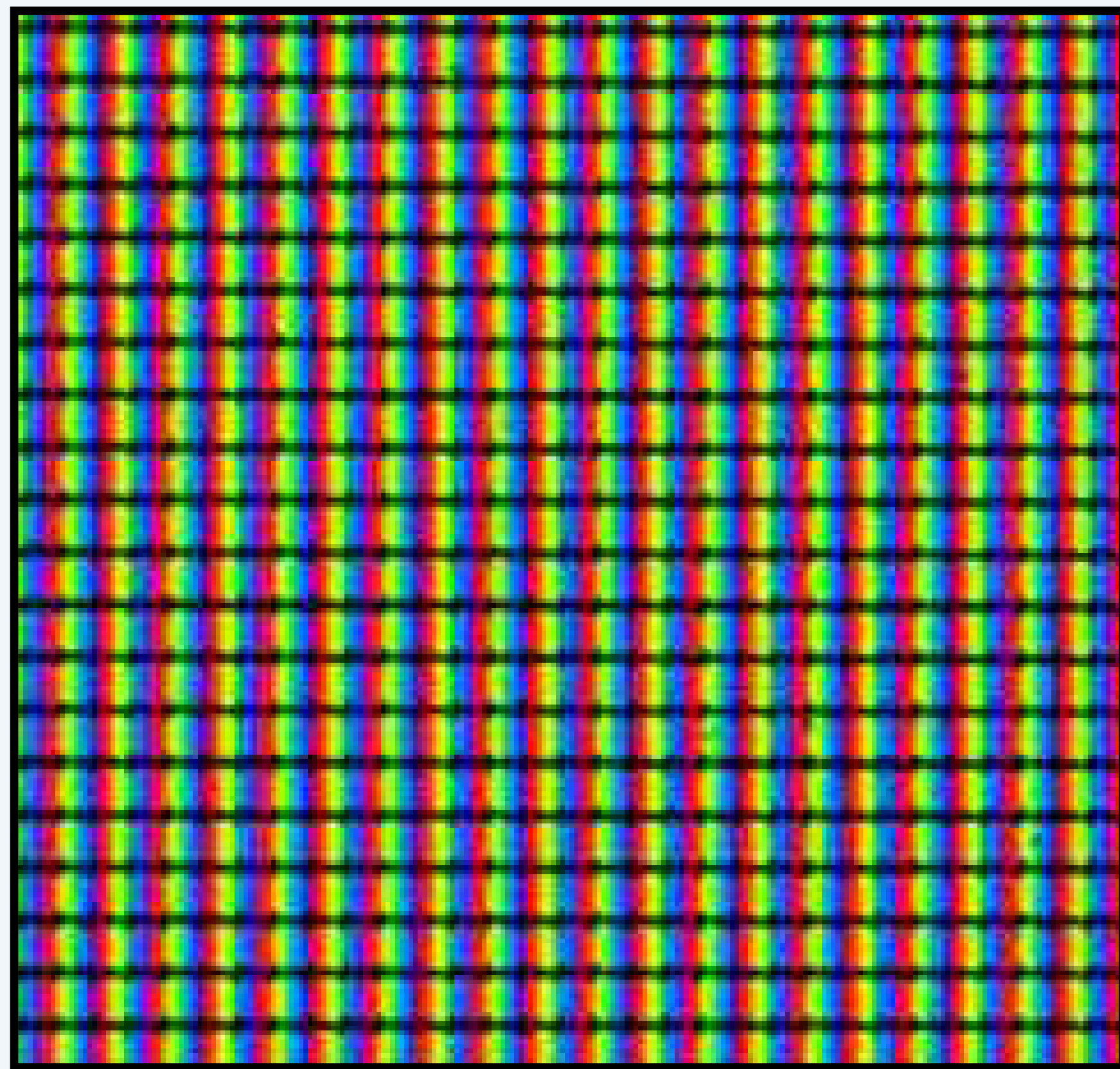
$$\mathbf{R}_j = \mathbf{C}_{j,j} - \mathbf{H}_j \mathbf{C}_{[j],j}$$

and $\mathbf{C}_{[j]}^{-1}$ is **small for all j :**

$$O(nJ^3 m^2) \ll O(n^3)$$

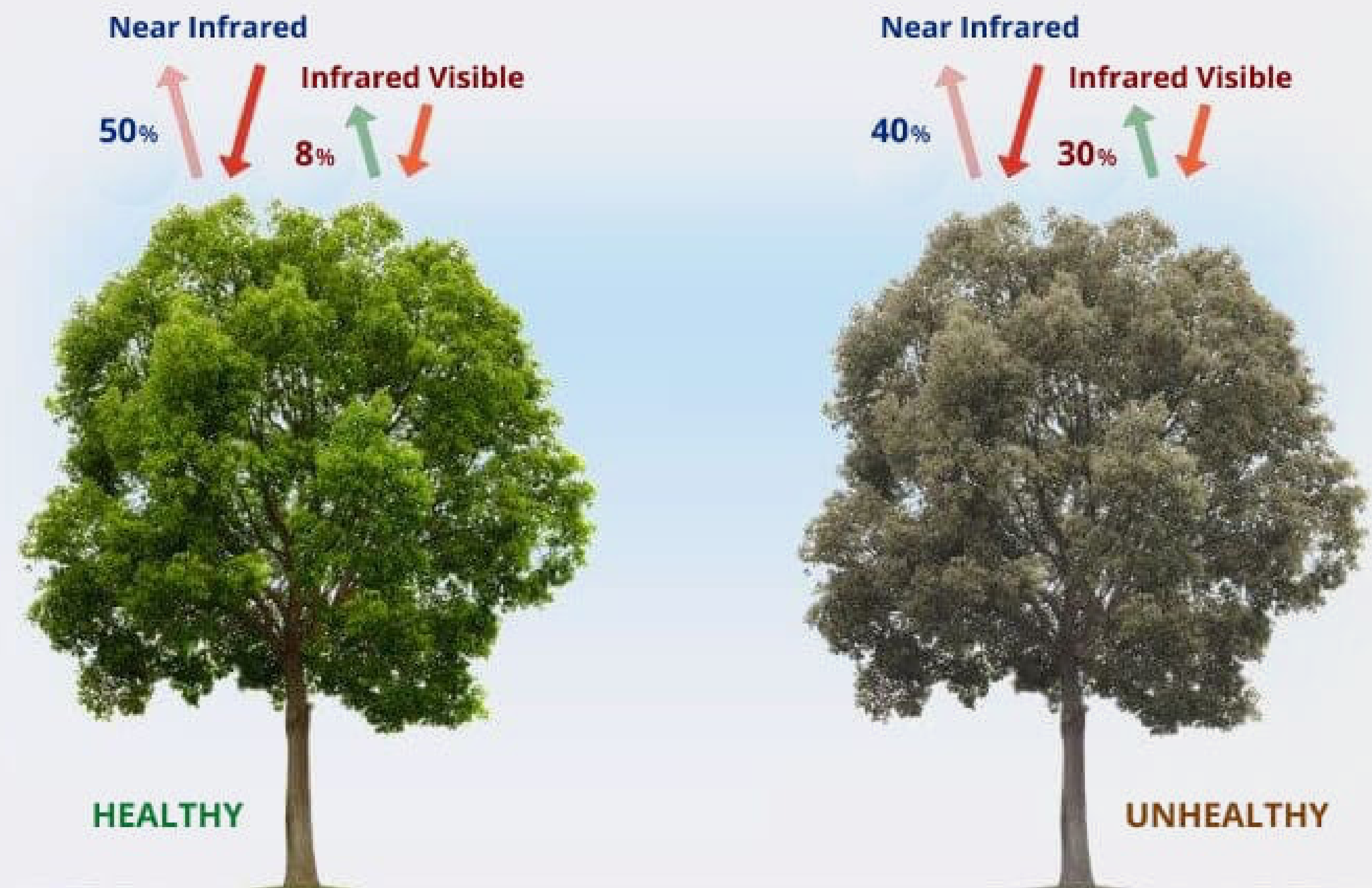
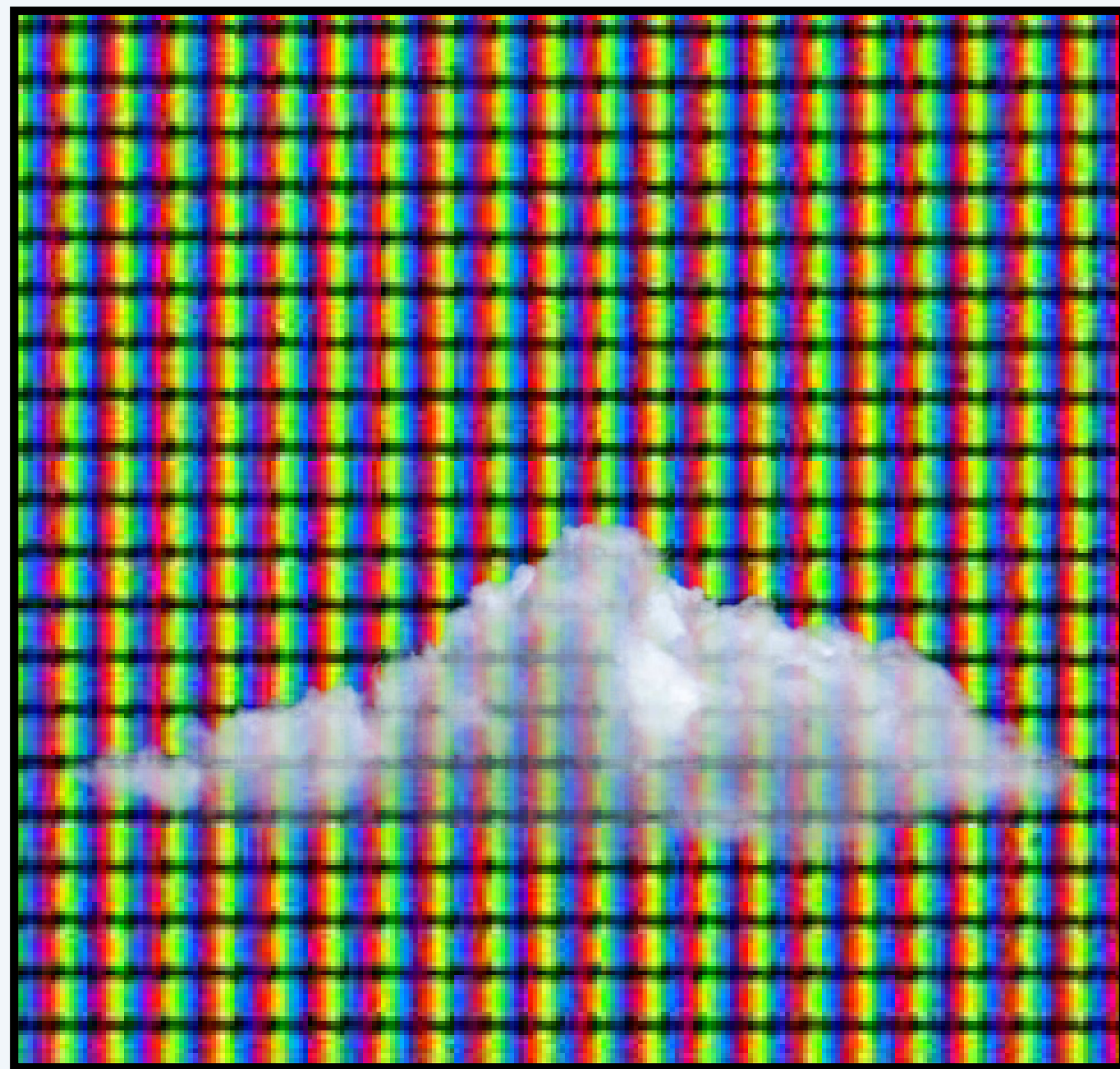
Application: NDVI imagery

- Satellite images store different bands of the electromagnetic spectrum
- Using these bands, Normalized Difference Vegetation Index can be calculated
- Results in a NDVI "image" at regular grid of pixels



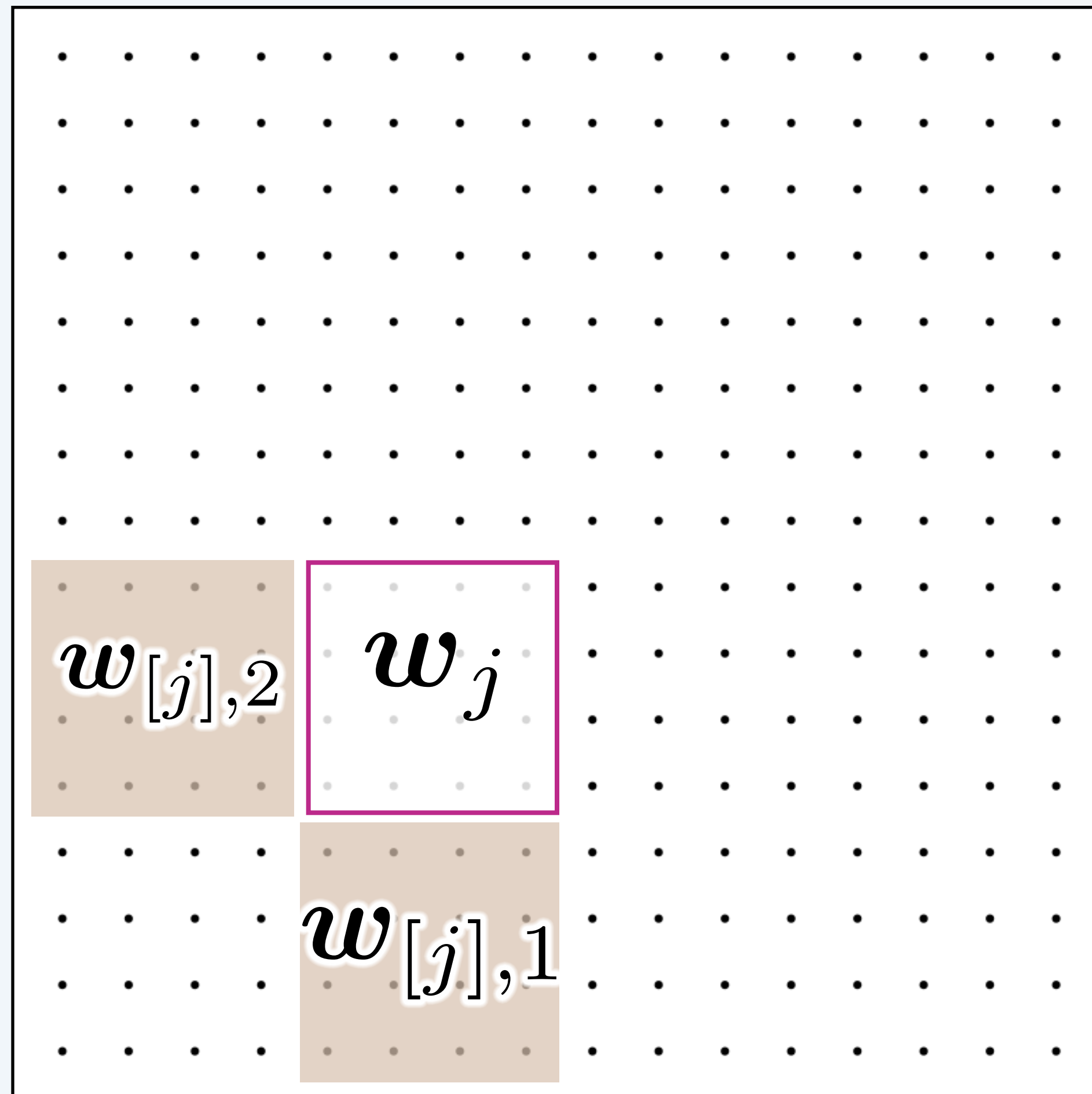
Application: NDVI imagery

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Application: NDVI imagery – why use QMGP?

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$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \boldsymbol{w}) \propto \prod_{j=1}^M p(\boldsymbol{w}_j \mid \boldsymbol{w}_{[j]}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

$$p(\boldsymbol{w}_j \mid \boldsymbol{w}_{[j]}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = N(\boldsymbol{w}_j; \boldsymbol{H}_j \boldsymbol{w}_{[j]}, \boldsymbol{R}_j)$$

where

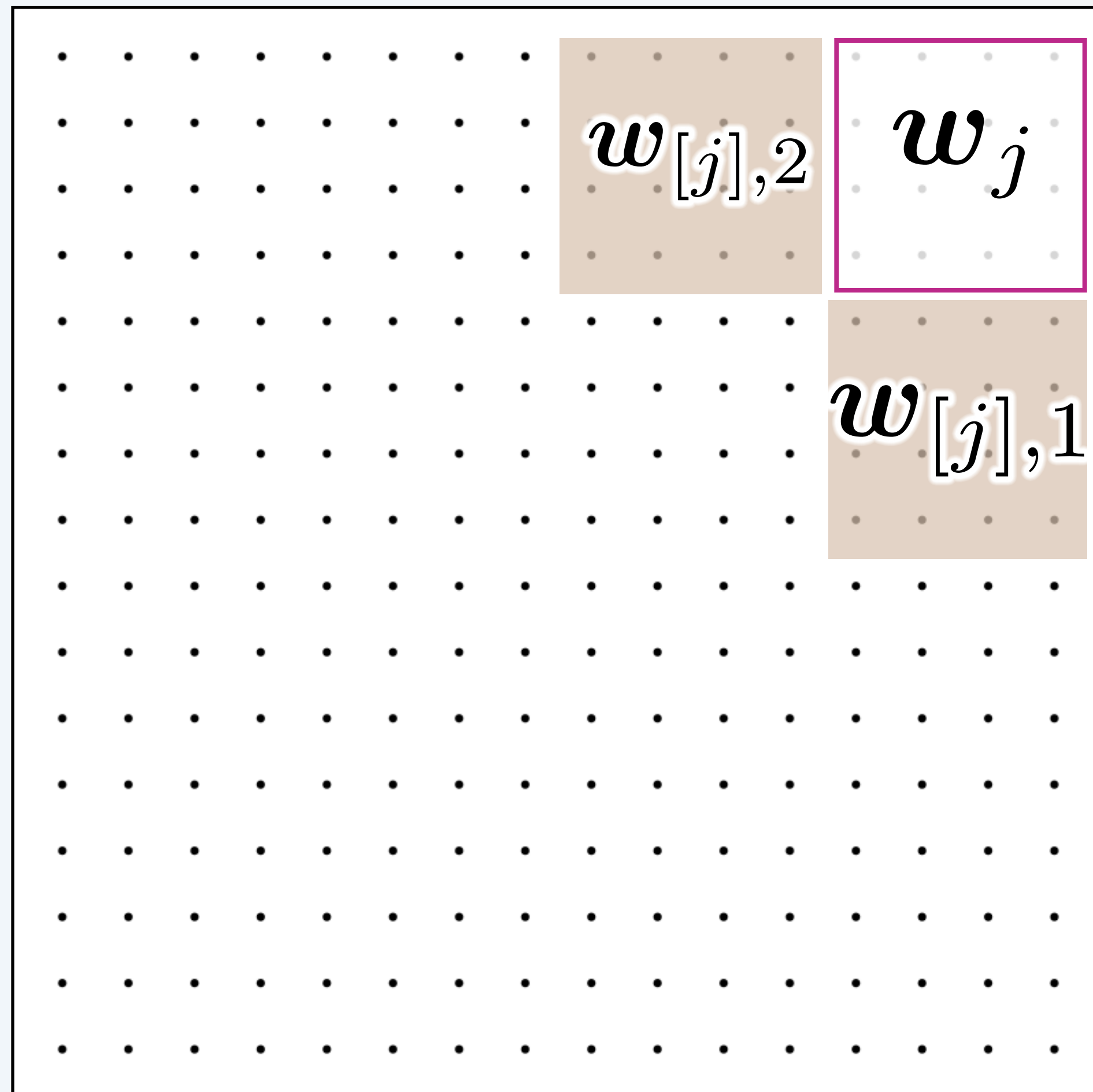
$$\boldsymbol{H}_j = \boldsymbol{C}_{j,[j]} \boldsymbol{C}_{[j]}^{-1}$$

$$\boldsymbol{R}_j = \boldsymbol{C}_{j,j} - \boldsymbol{H}_j \boldsymbol{C}_{[j],j}$$

- These matrices only depend on relative distance between locations

Application: NDVI imagery – why use QMGP?

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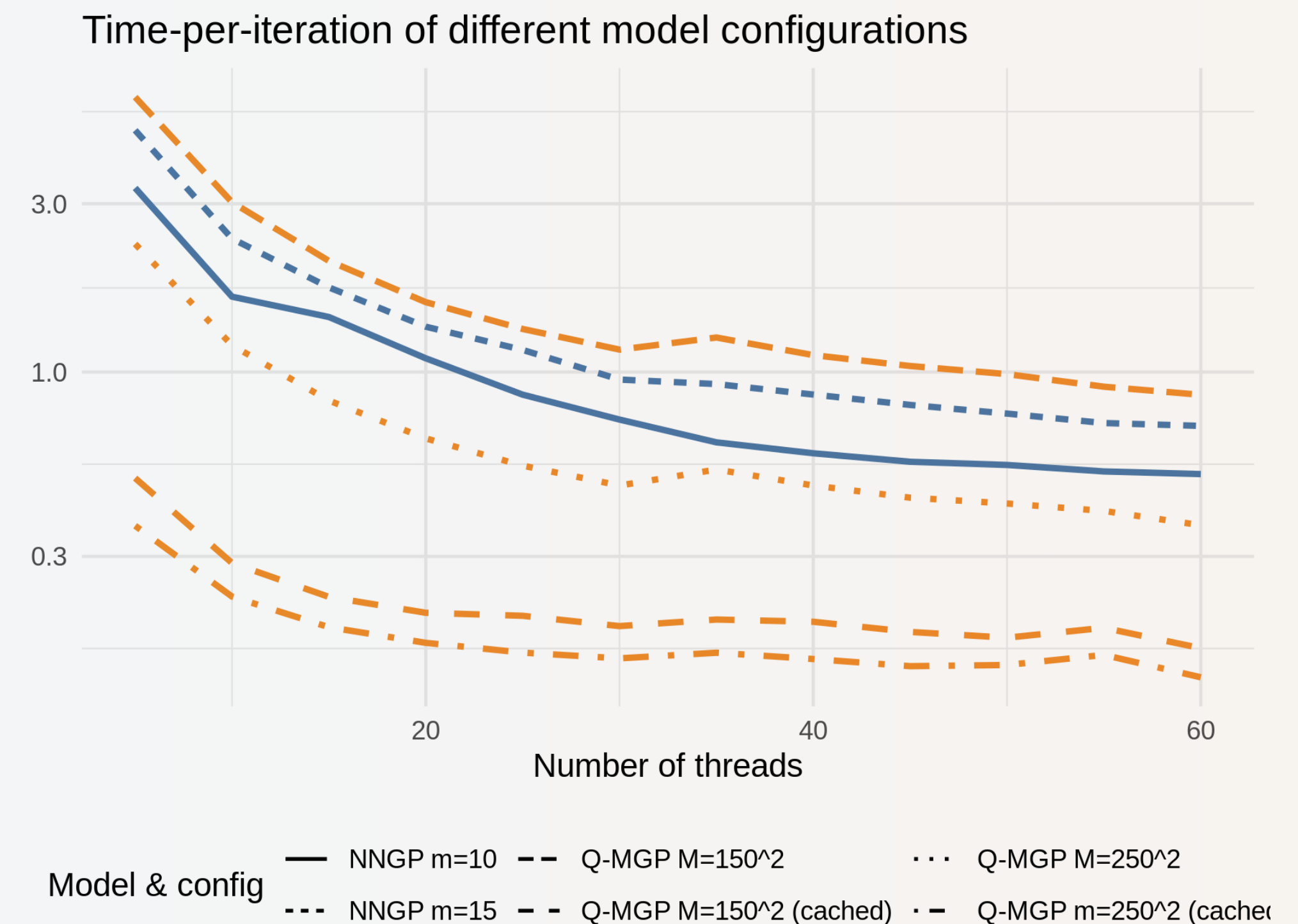
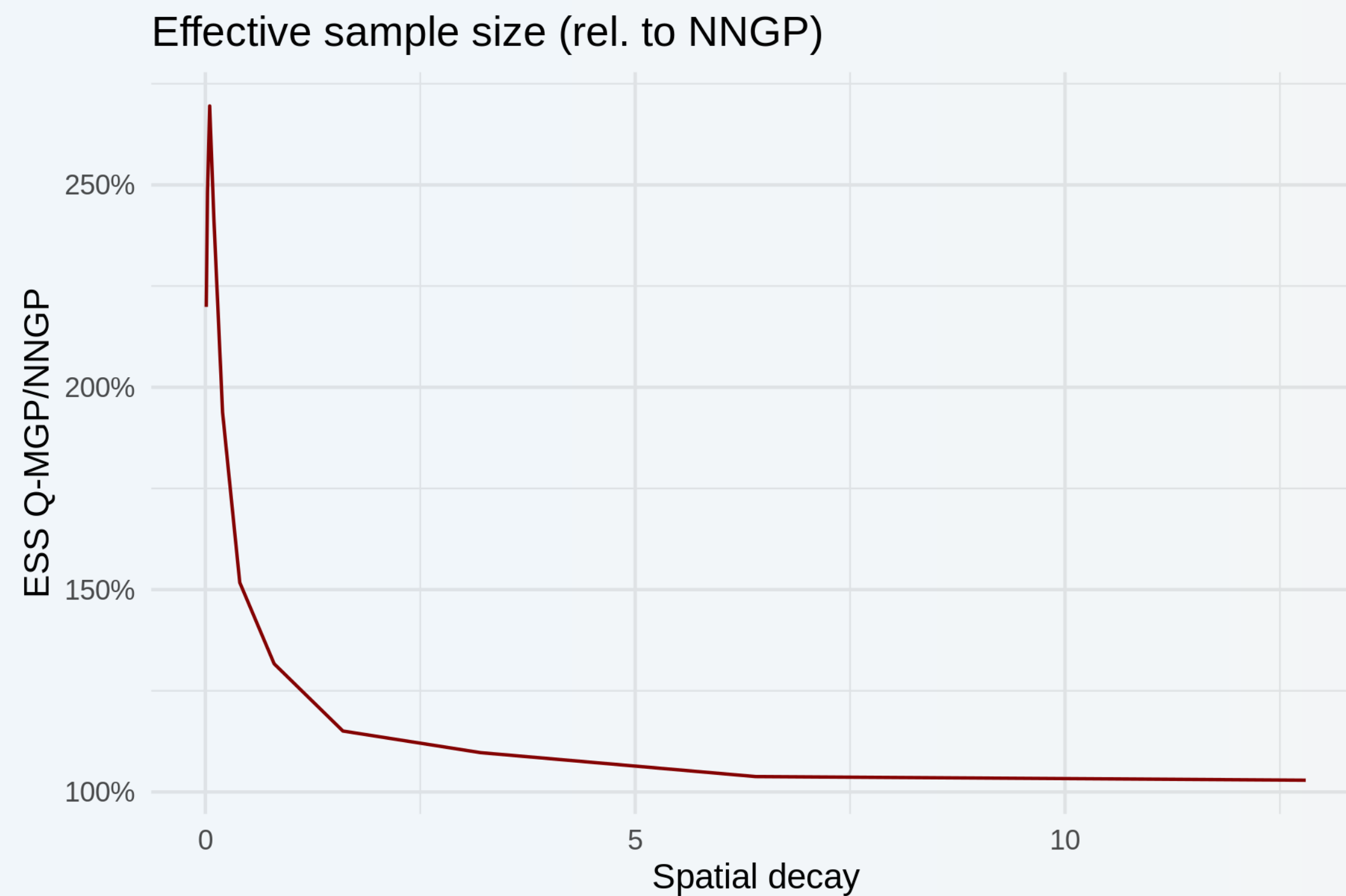
$$\boldsymbol{R}_j = \boldsymbol{C}_{j,j} - \boldsymbol{H}_j \boldsymbol{C}_{[j],j}$$

- These matrices only depend on relative distance between locations
- We only need to calculate \boldsymbol{M}^* of them, where $\boldsymbol{M}^* = \mathbf{O}(1)$
- **Density evaluation cost down to $O(nJm)$ from $O(nJ^3m^2)$**
- Cost dominated by sampling: $O(nm^2)$

Cubic MGPs compared to Nearest-neighbor GPs

M. Peruzzi, S. Banerjee & A.O. Finley (2022)
Highly Scalable Bayesian Geostatistical Modeling via Meshed Gaussian Processes on Partitioned Domains.
Journal of the American Statistical Association 117(538): 969-982.
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01621459.2020.1833889>

- Favorable comparison with state-of-the-art alternatives
- Up to **10x faster** (wall clock time)
- Up to **2.5x more efficient** Markov-chain Monte Carlo
- Total **25x** improvement
- Improvements are due to the ability to design purpose-made DAGs

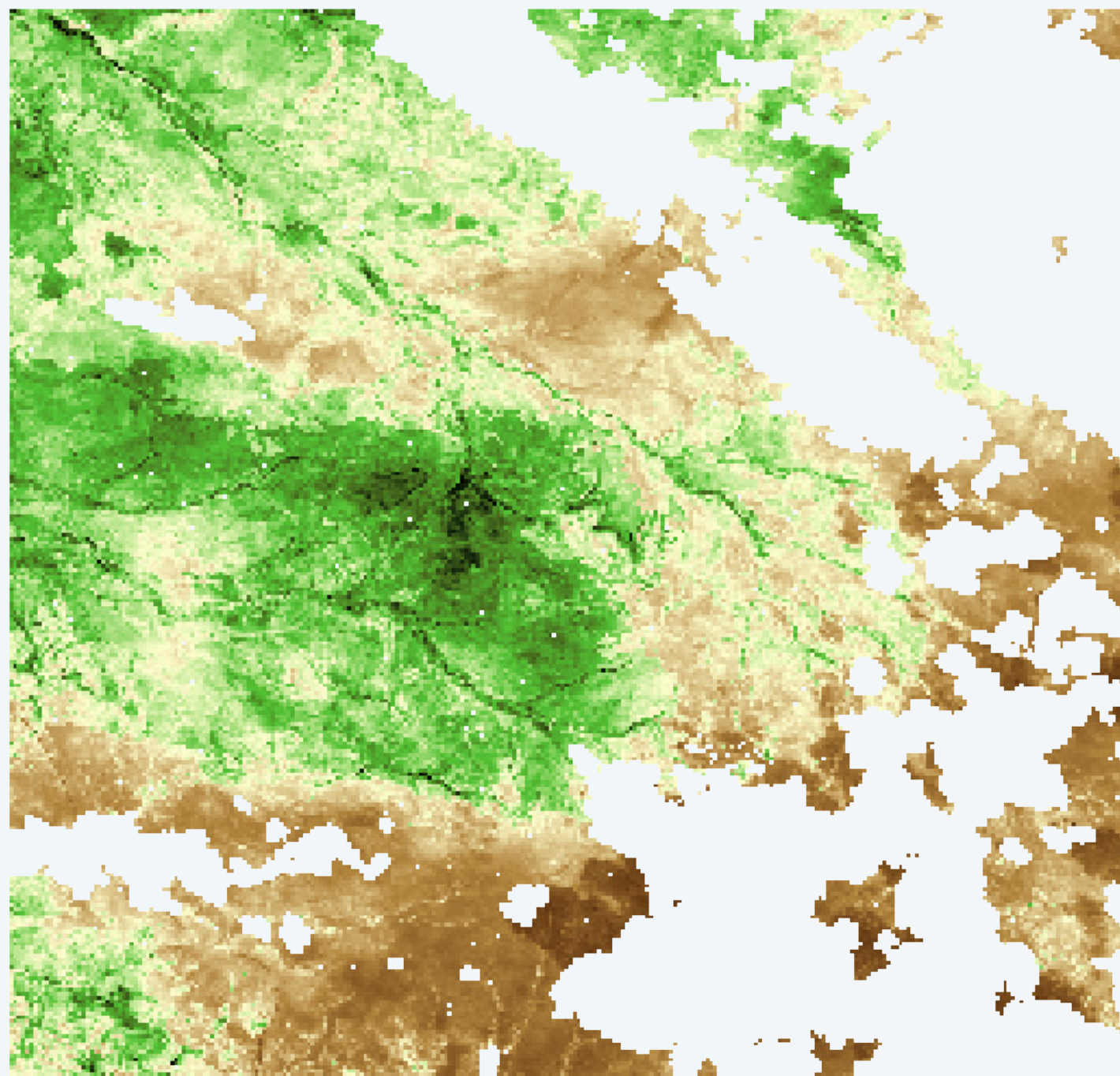


Application: Serengeti NDVI probabilistic gap filling

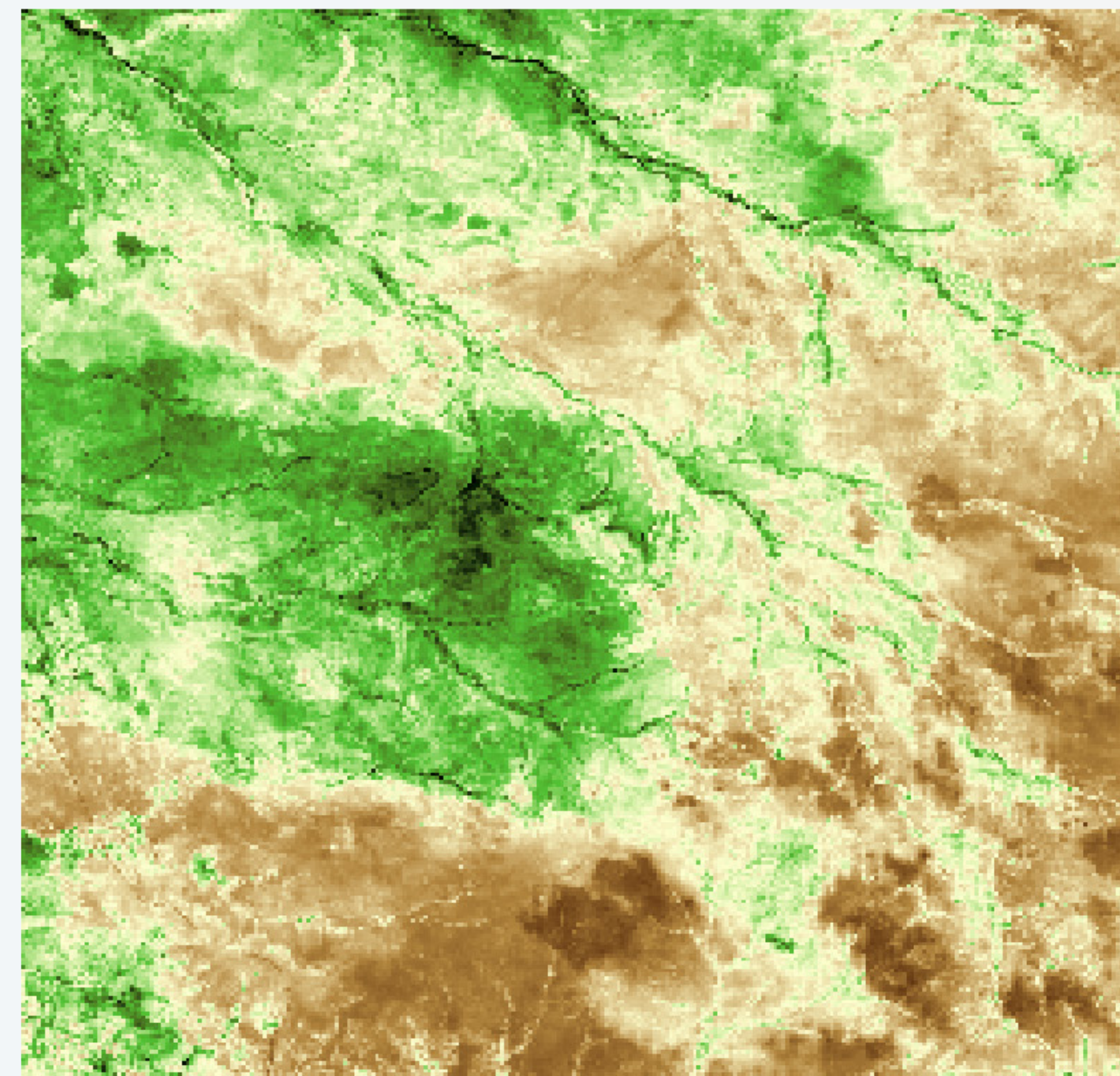
M. Peruzzi, S. Banerjee & A.O. Finley (2022)
Highly Scalable Bayesian Geostatistical Modeling via Meshed Gaussian Processes on Partitioned Domains.
Journal of the American Statistical Association 117(538): 969-982.
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01621459.2020.1833889>

- Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) measured by LANDSAT over **Serengeti park area**
- **16 million locations** in space & time
- Frequent **cloud cover** obfuscates images
- Bayesian model for probabilistic recovery of data behind clouds
- Model univariate NDVI outcome using spatiotemporally varying coefficient regression on 2 regressors (intercept, elevation)
- Posterior sampling for a **bivariate latent MGP**
- Results in less than 2 days (this is fast)

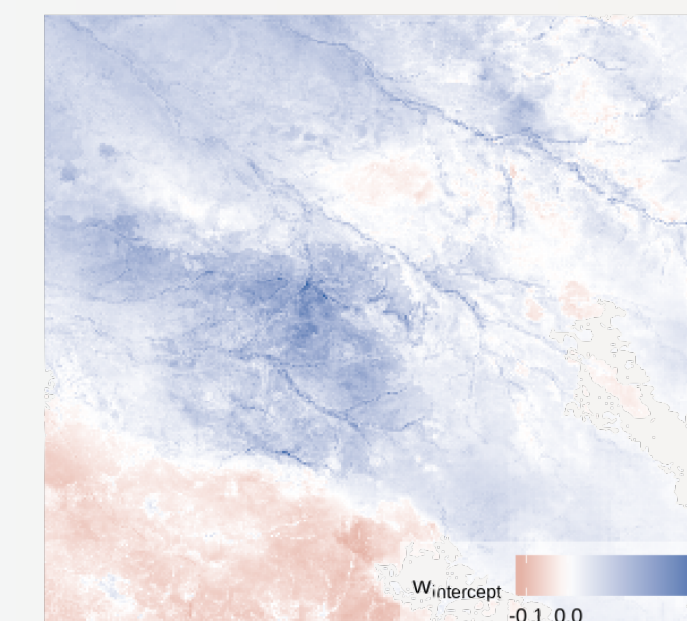
Observed NDVI



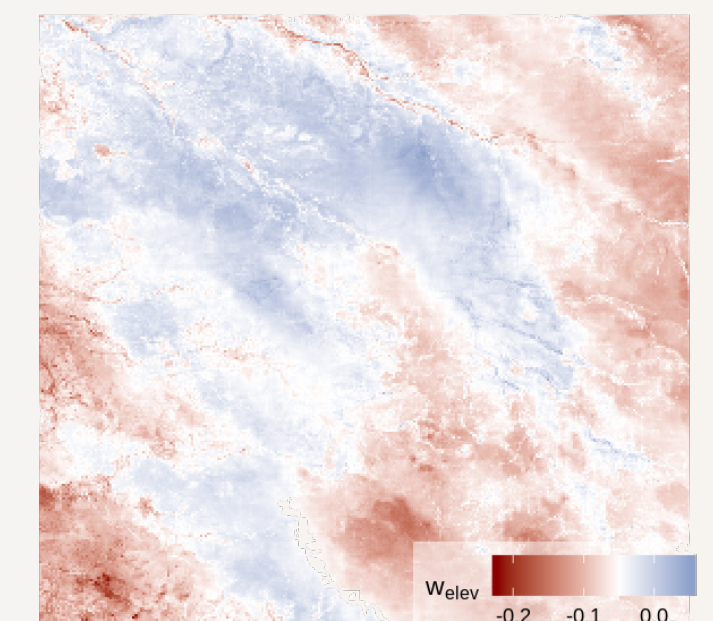
Predicted NDVI



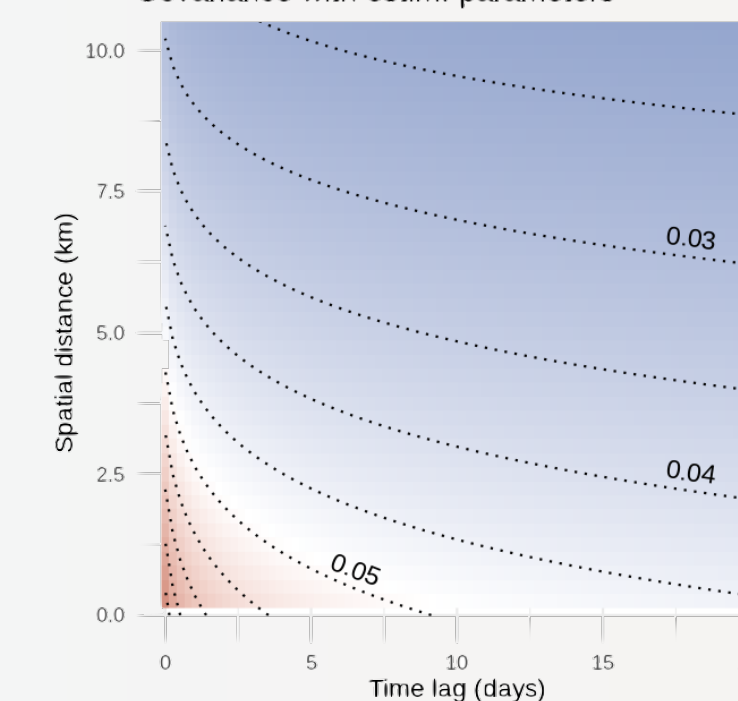
Residual spatial effect



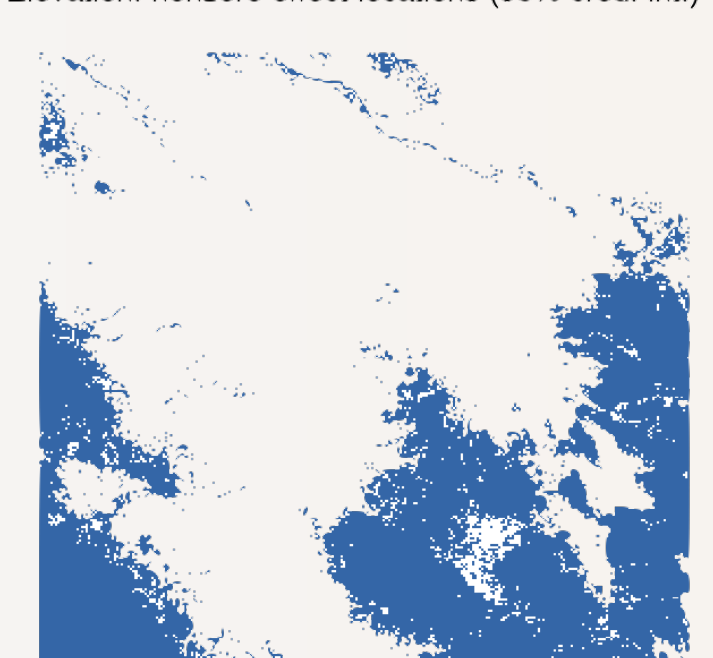
Elevation: effect on NDVI



Covariance with estim. parameters

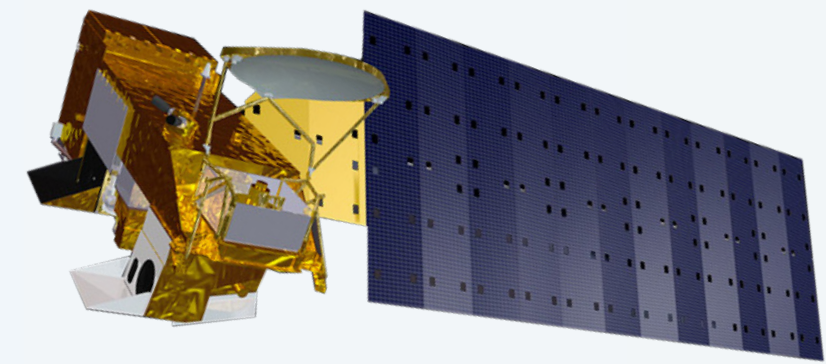


Elevation: nonzero effect locations (95% cred. int.)

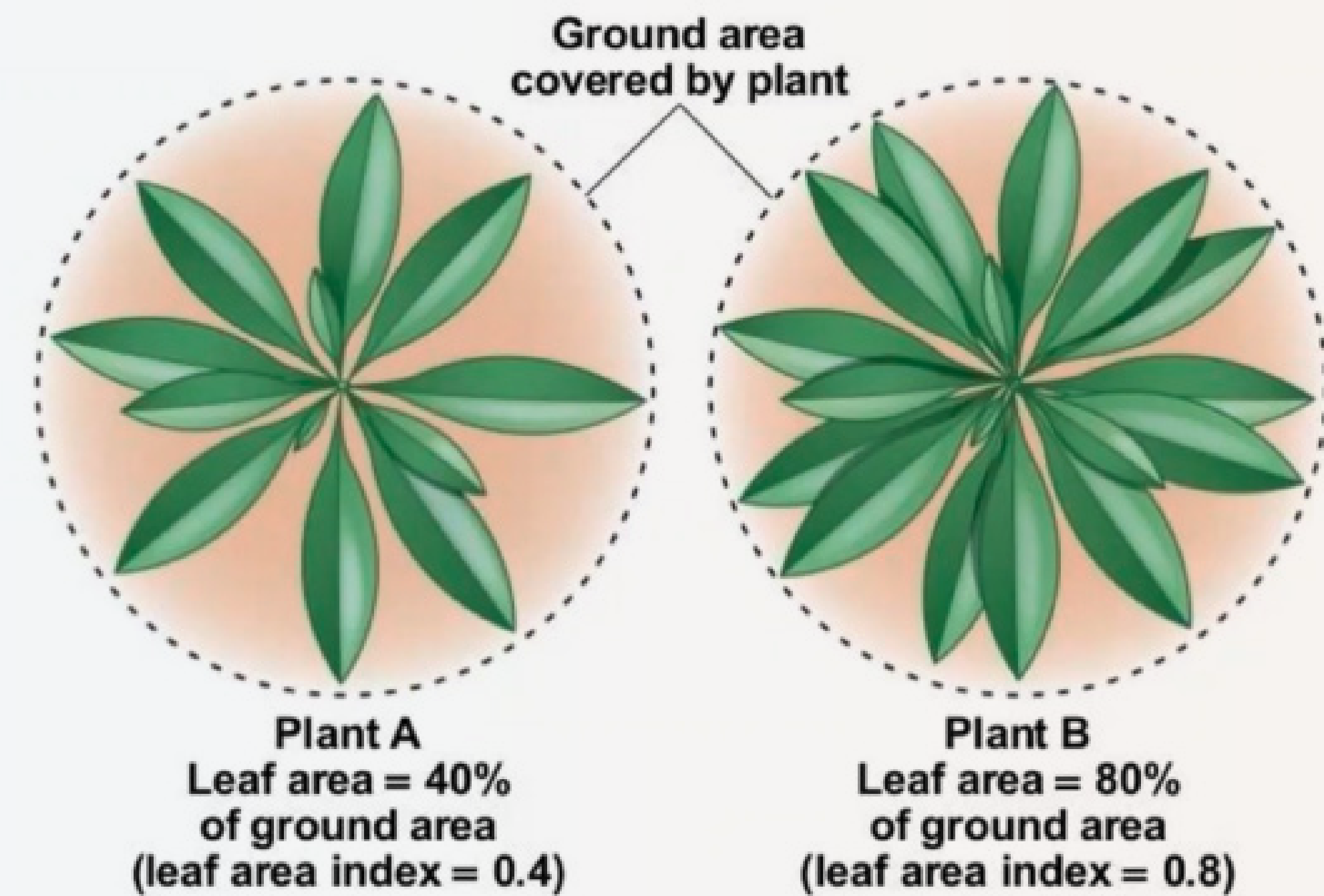


Application: MODIS Alpine Snow/Tree cover data

MODIS satellite data



- **Snow cover:** number of days with snow within 8-day period
- **Leaf area index:** leaf surface relative to ground surface (an integer)



High performance methods for non-Gaussian data

- In many cases, Gaussian assumption is inappropriate
- Latent Gaussian process models still useful with non-Gaussian first stage
- Use-case: **multivariate multi-type data** using spatial factor model

$$y_j(\ell) \sim P_j(\eta_j(\ell), \tau_j) \quad j = 1, \dots, q$$

$$\eta = \mathbf{X}\beta + \Lambda w$$

$$w(\cdot) \sim \text{meshedGP}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_\theta)$$

GIBBS SAMPLER

Cycle through these steps:

- sample $w_j \mid w_{-j}, y, \theta, \Lambda, \beta, \tau$

- sample $\theta \mid w$

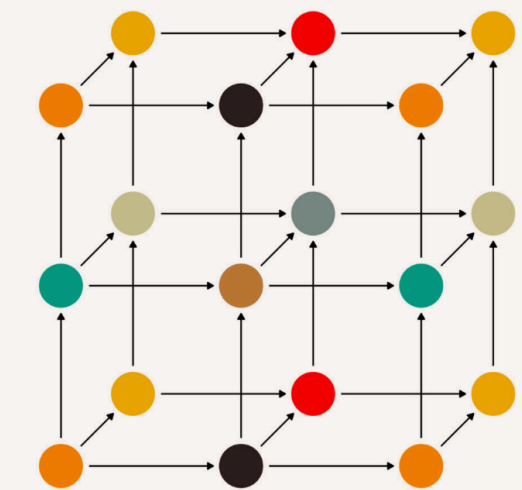
Meshed GP:
computationally cheap

- sample $\beta \mid w, y, \tau$

- sample $\tau \mid y, \theta, w$

Cubic Meshed GP:
computationally **much cheaper**

Take advantage of graph coloring for
parallel sampling



High performance methods for non-Gaussian data

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GIBBS SAMPLER

Cycle through these steps:

- sample $w_j \mid w_{-j}, y, \theta, \Lambda, \beta, \tau$

Lack of conjugacy:

How can we update w_j efficiently?

- sample $\theta \mid w$

Meshed GP:
computationally cheap

- sample $\beta \mid w, y, \tau$

- sample $\tau \mid y, \theta, w$

- Target update: preconditioned MALA (simple, fast, efficient)
- Adaptively & quickly build the preconditioner using **simplified Manifold MALA**

1 – Propose a new value for \mathbf{w}_j

$$\mathbf{w}_j^* \mid \mathbf{w}_{[j]}, \mathbf{w}_{[j \rightarrow i]}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\beta}, \mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\tau} \sim N\left(\mathbf{w}_j + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} \mathbf{M}_{(m)}^* \mathbf{g}, \epsilon^2 \mathbf{M}_{(m)}^*\right)$$

Where $\mathbf{w}_{[j]}$ are the parents and $\mathbf{w}_{[i \rightarrow j]}$ the children in the DAG, ϵ the step size, and

$$\mathbf{M}_{(m)}^* = \mathbf{M}_{(m-1)} + \kappa(\mathbf{G}_{\mathbf{w}_j} - \mathbf{M}_{(m-1)}) \quad \text{Adaptation of preconditioner}$$

This is what Simplified Manifold MALA would use!

$$\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{R}_j^{-1} \mathbf{H}_j \mathbf{w}_{[j]} + \sum_{i \in [j \rightarrow i]} \mathbf{H}_{[i] \setminus j}^\top \mathbf{R}_i^{-1} \mathbf{w}_{[i] \setminus j} + \mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\tau}}$$

2 – Accept/Reject based on Metropolis ratio

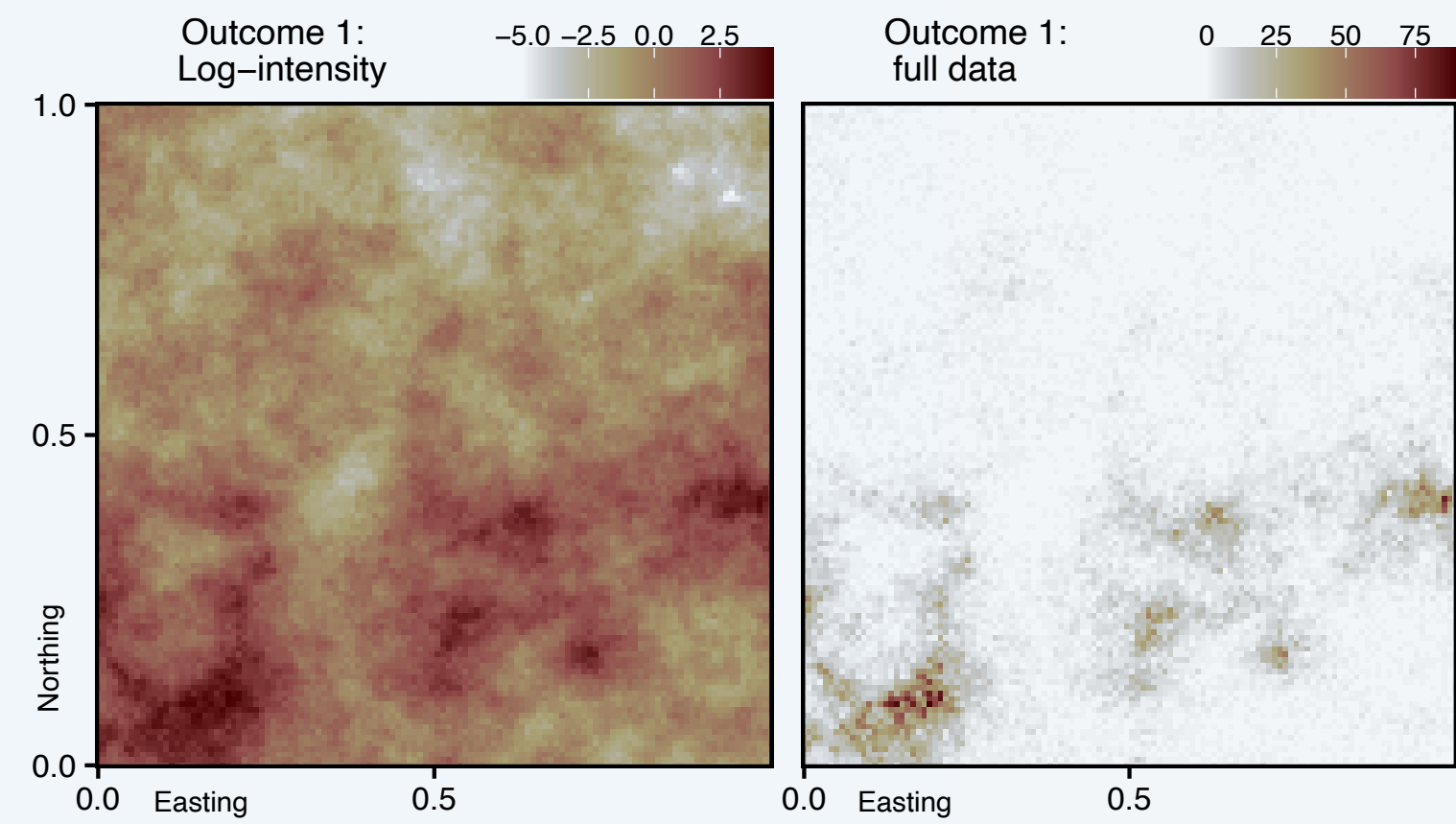
3 – With probability $\gamma_m \downarrow 0$, Update $\mathbf{M}_{(m)}$ based on choice at step 2.

- **Cost** $O(q^2 n_j^2)$ after adaptation period
- **Efficient move** due to using second order info

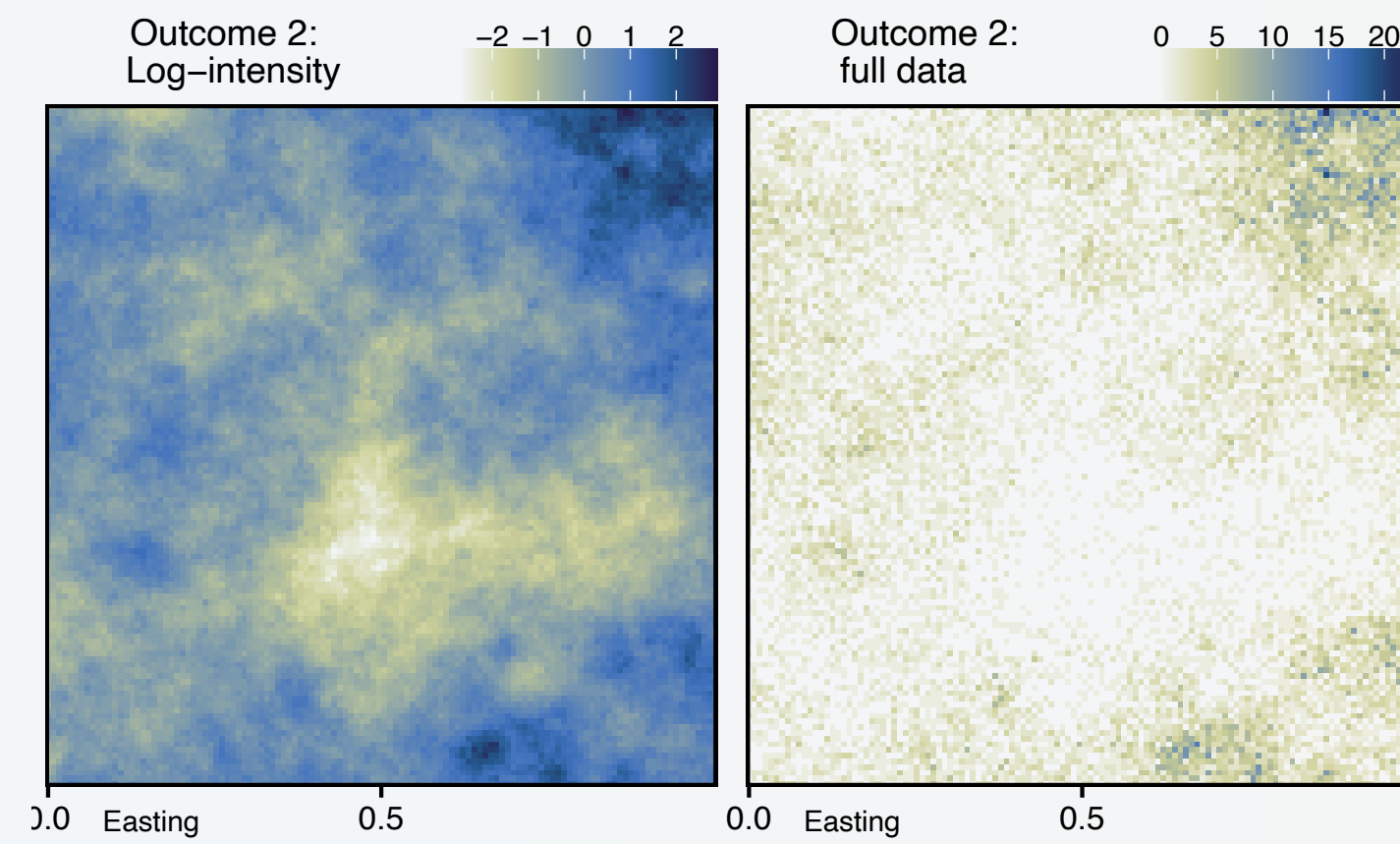
SiMPA: Simplified Manifold Preconditioner Adaptation

M. Peruzzi & D.B. Dunson (2022)
Spatial Meshing for General Bayesian Multivariate Models.
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.10080>

Poisson outcome 1

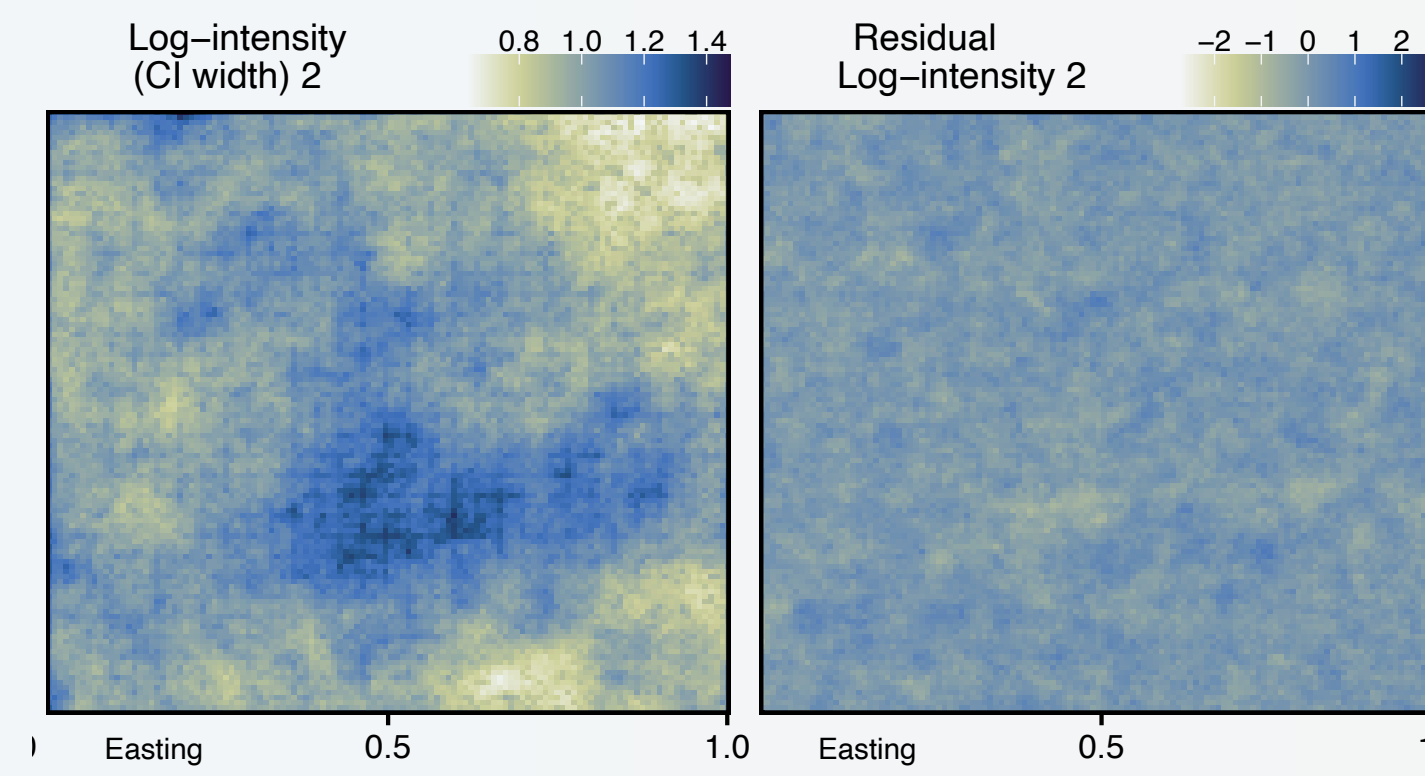
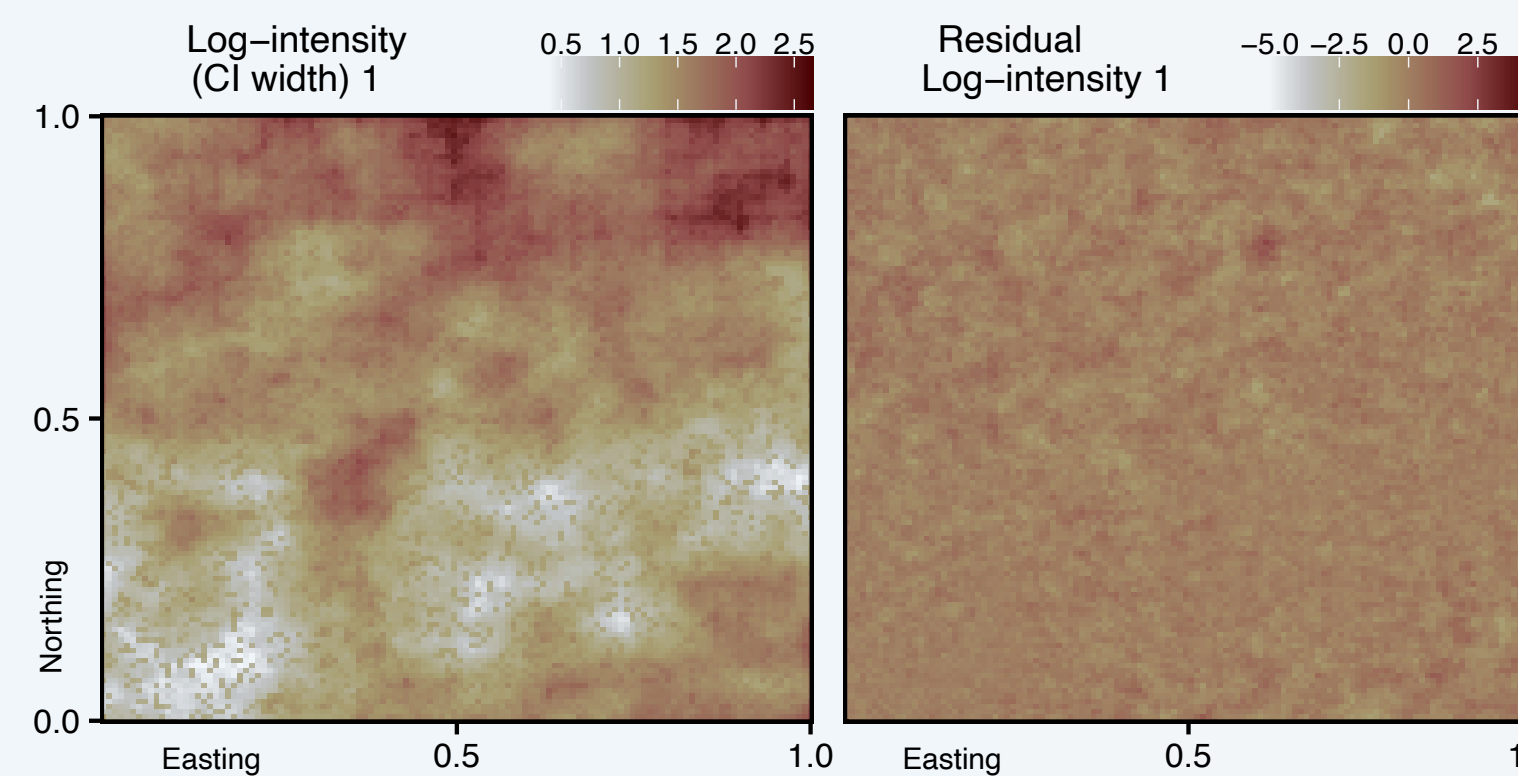
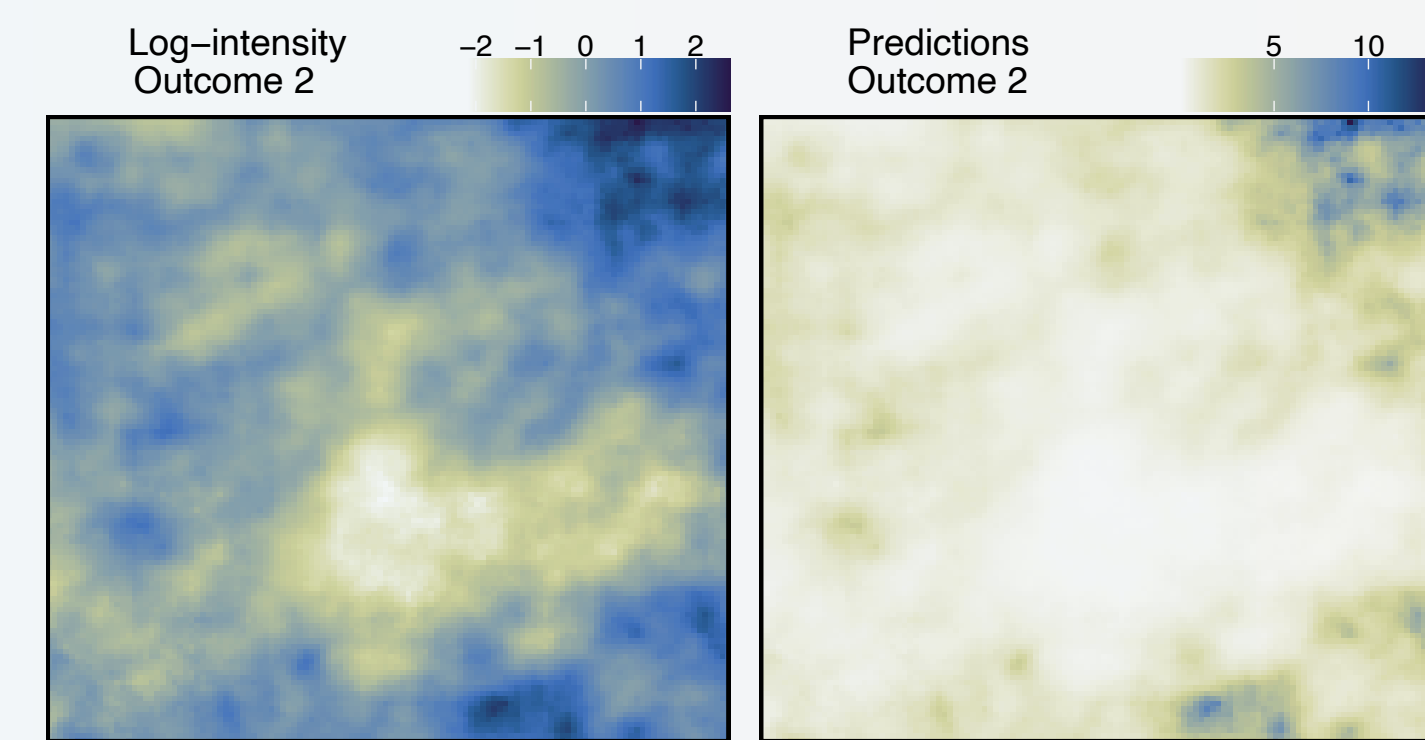
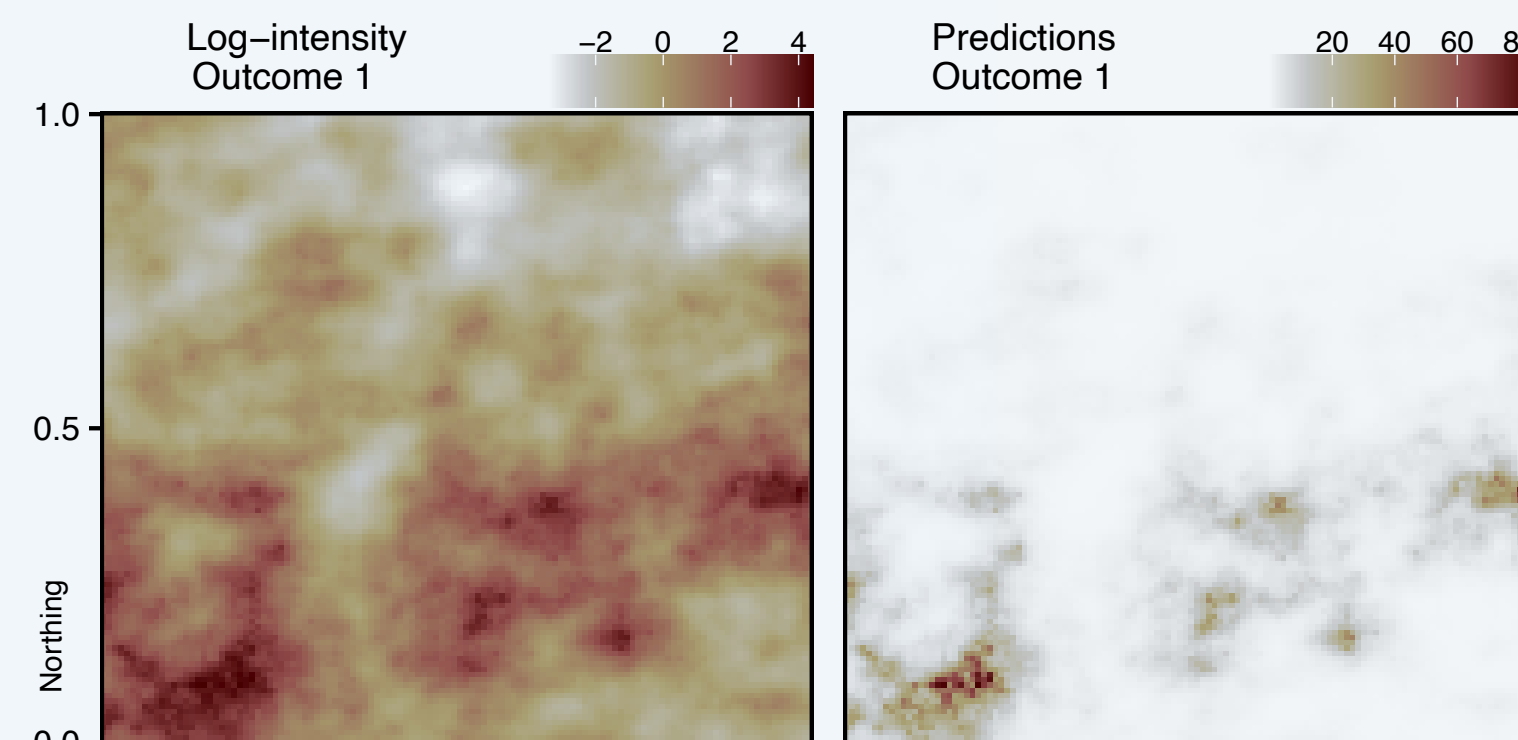


Poisson outcome 2



- Two related count outcomes
 - $n=3600$
 - leave out 20% of data
- Goals
 - prediction
 - recovery of latent log-intensity
 - uncertainty quant. about log-intensity

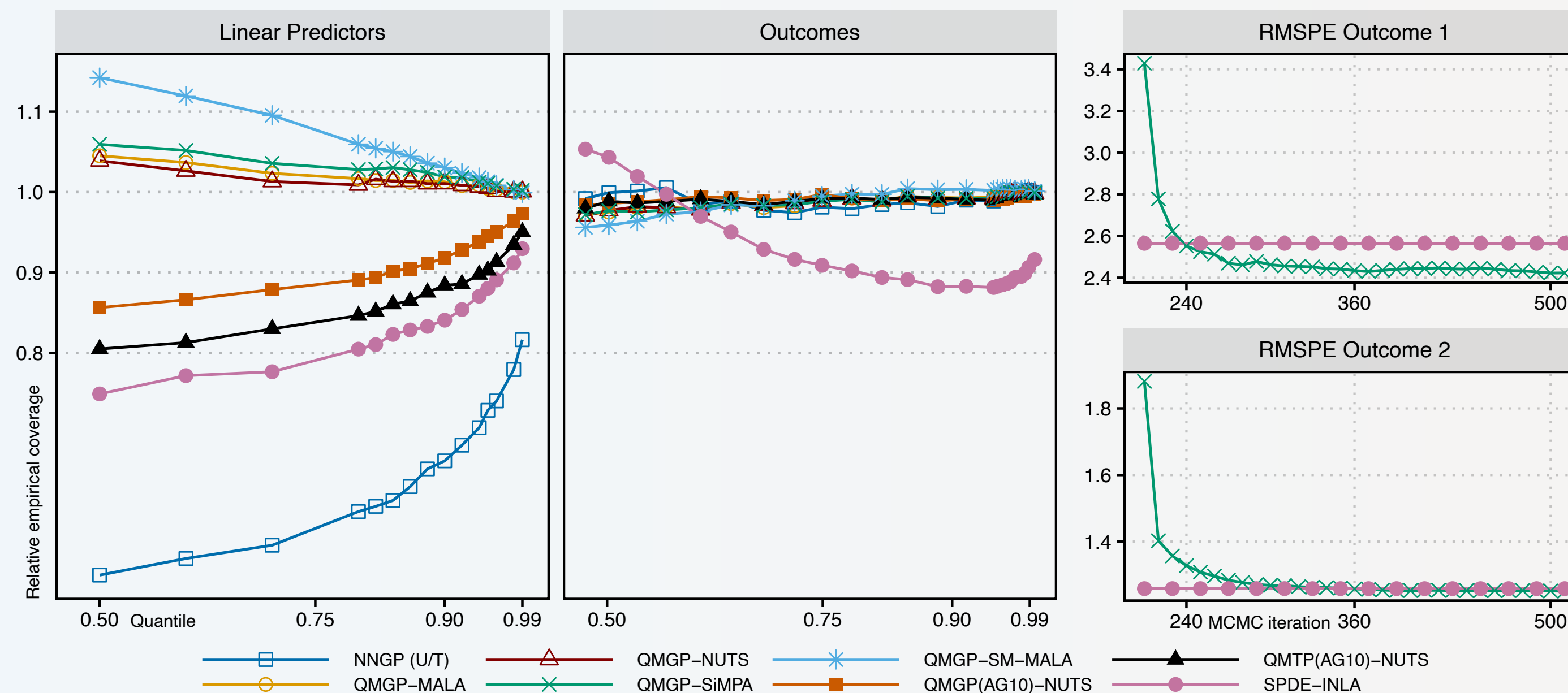
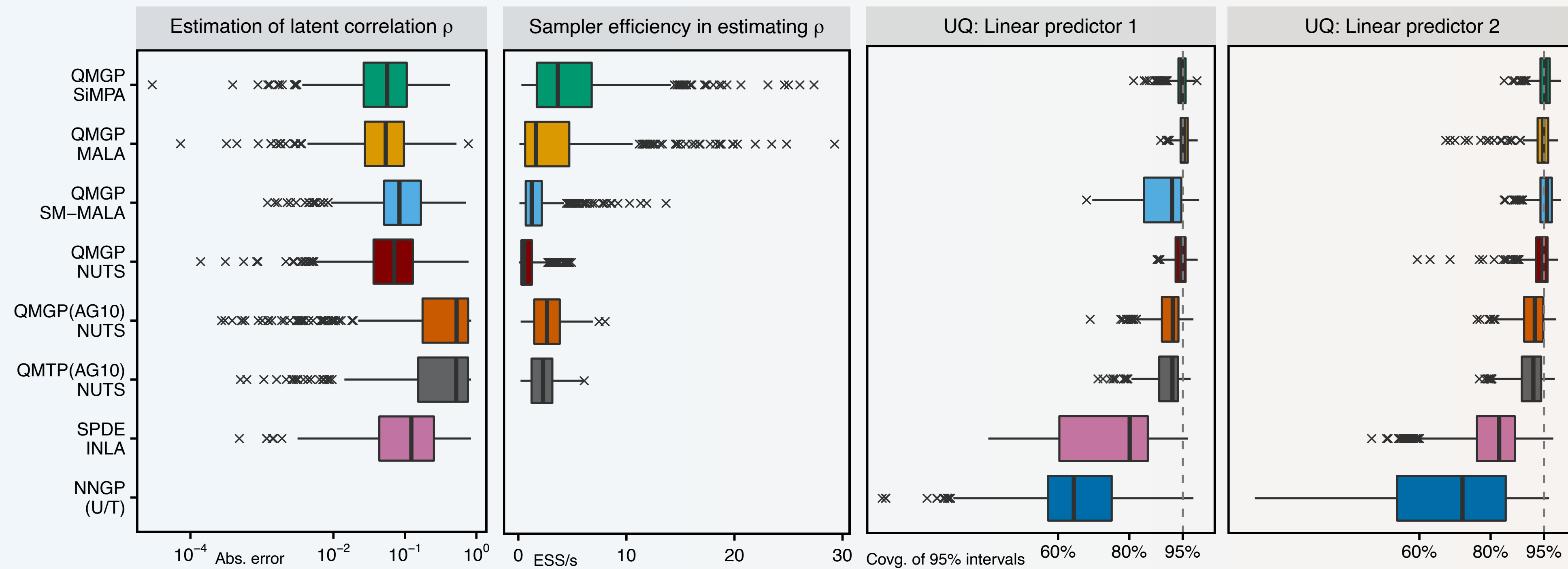
QMGP-SiMPA



- meshed GPs with SiMPA
 - results in <10s
 - orders of magnitude faster than full GP

SiMPA: Simplified Manifold Preconditioner Adaptation

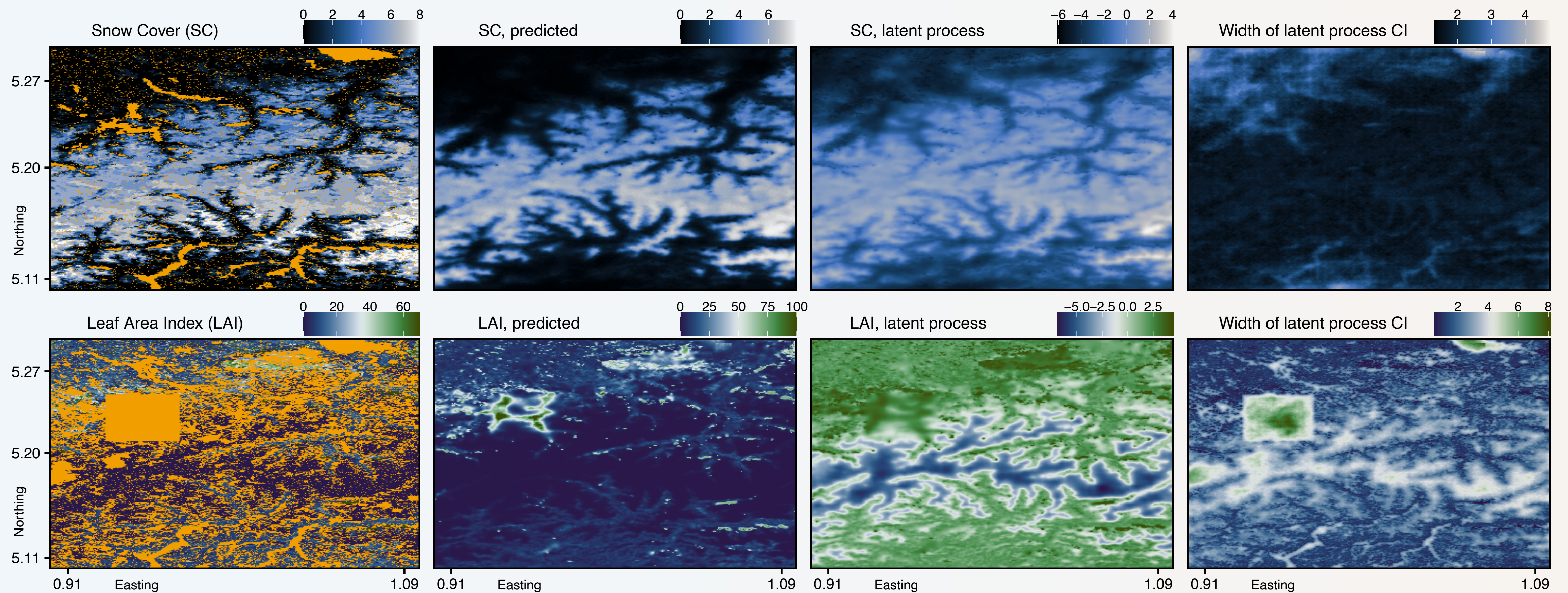
M. Peruzzi & D.B. Dunson (2022)
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<https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.10080>

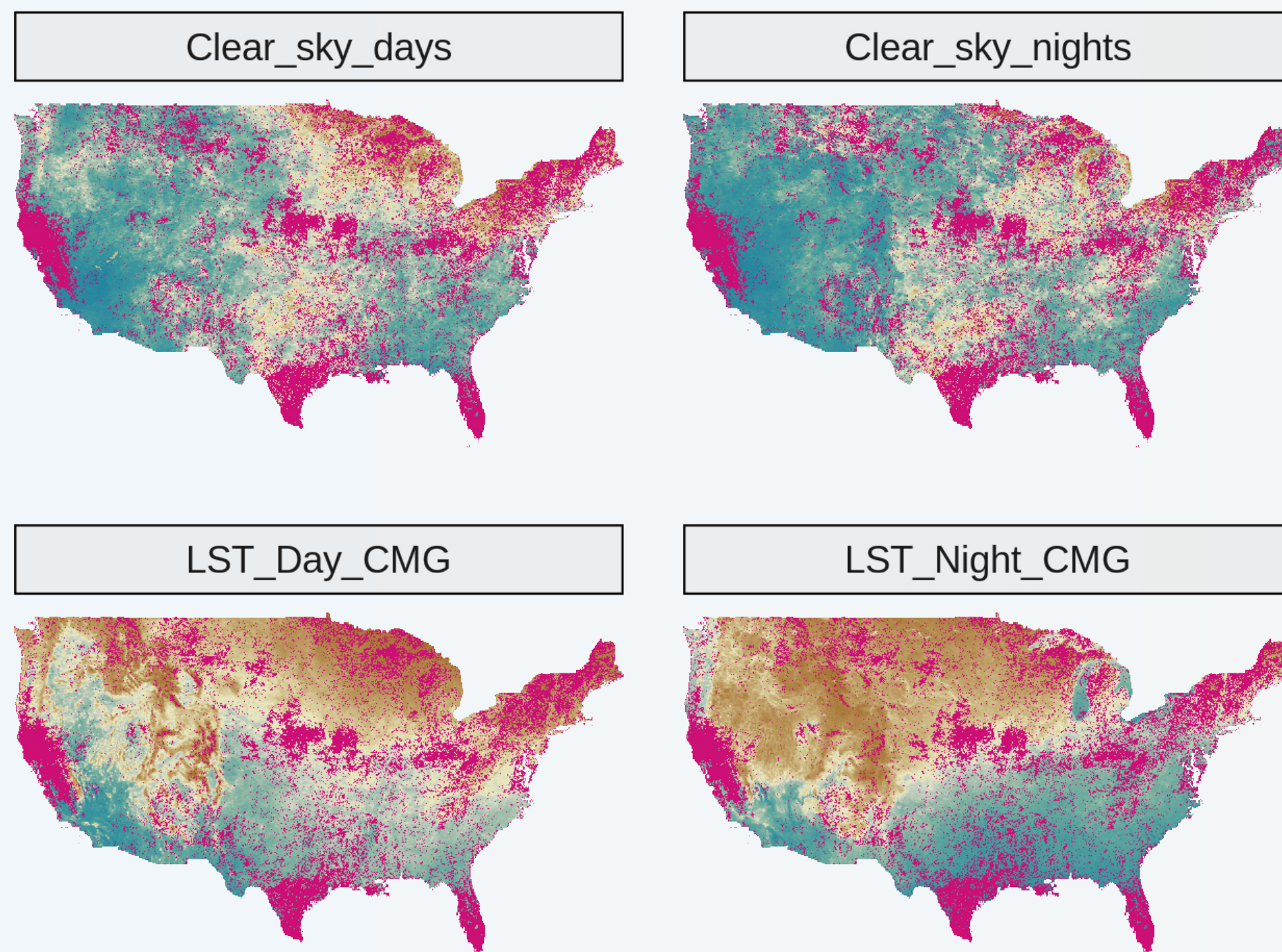
- MODIS data on Snow cover and Leaf Area Index over the central Alps
- Data size is about 250,000
- **Snow cover**: number of days with snow within 8-day period
- **Leaf area index**: leaf surface relative to ground surface (an integer)



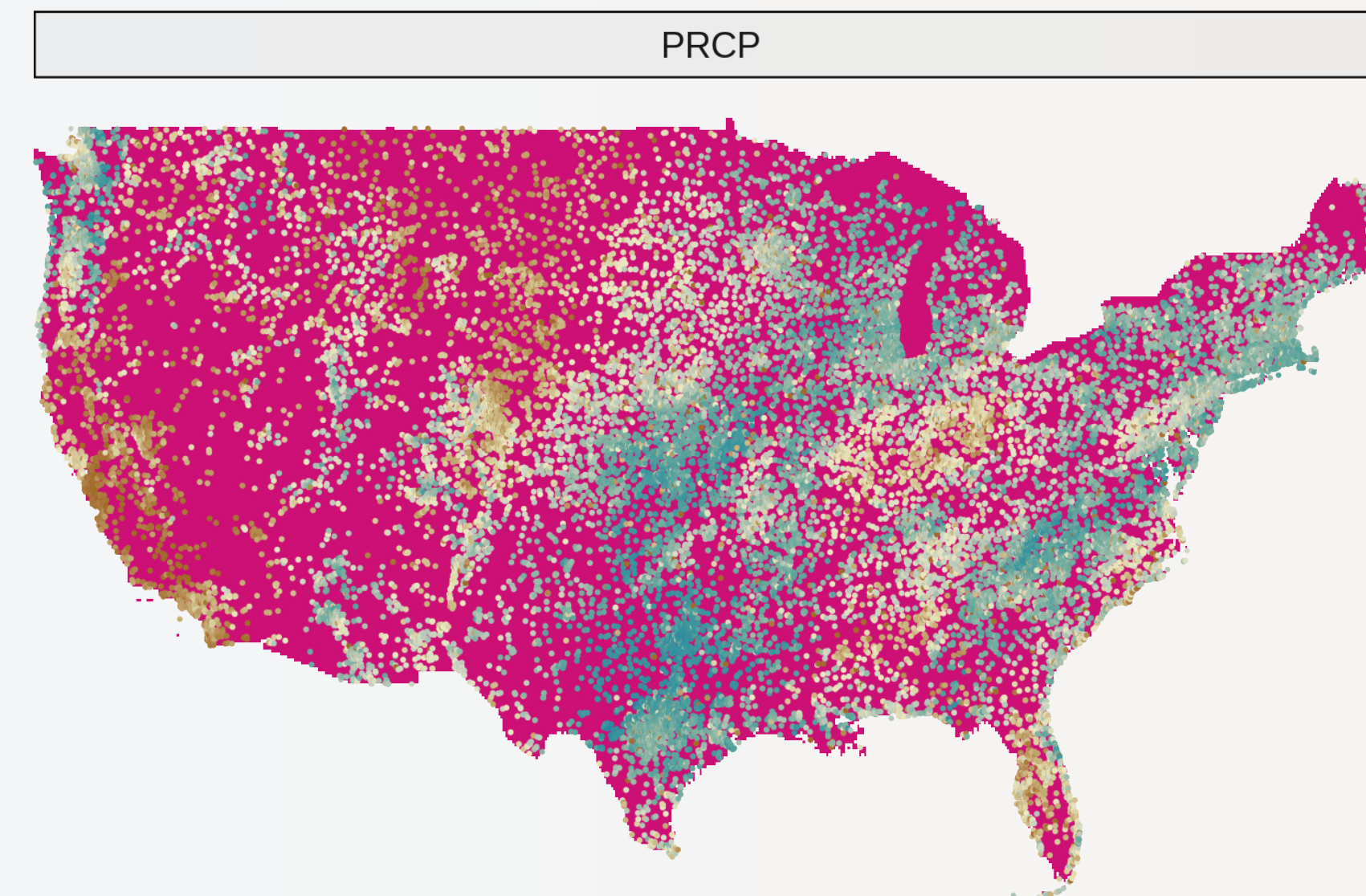
Multivariate misaligned data from MODIS (satellite) and GHCN (land based)

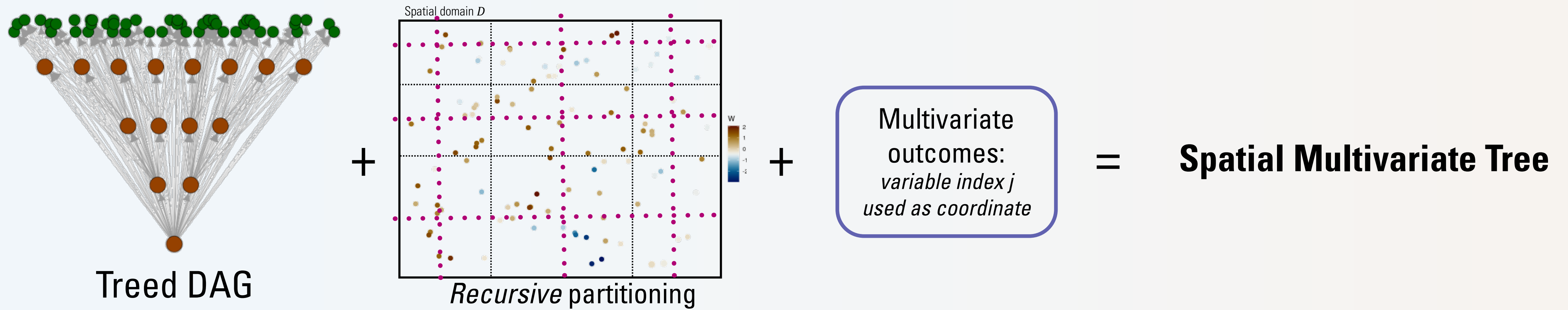
- Multivariate **misaligned data** difficult for methods based on neighbor search (QMGP, NNGP, Vecchia)
- Need DAG to produce reasonable spatial conditional independence
- The set of “neighbors” might include no data from some variable
- Develop new method to account for **different resolutions** of multiple measured outcomes

Missing data: MODIS



Missing data: GHCN



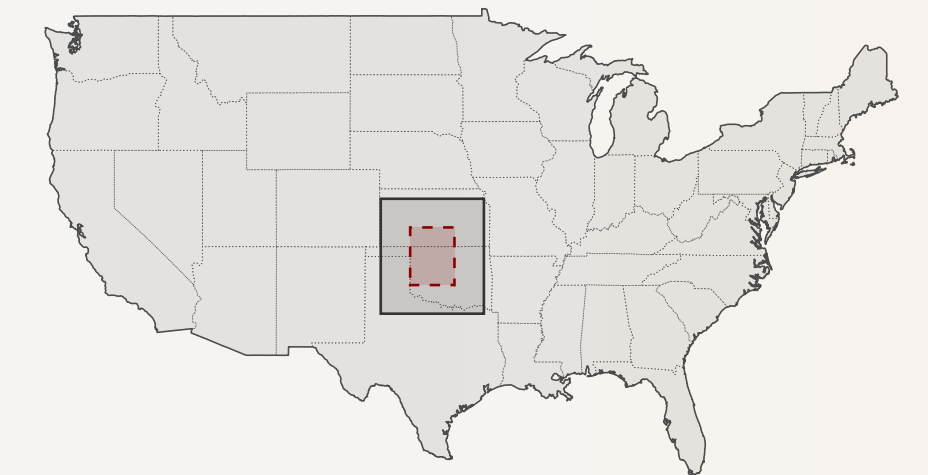


- Recursive domain partitioning & recursive treed DAG
- Outcomes at low resolution are placed **near the tree root**: reasonable **within-outcomes** conditional independence restriction
- Outcomes at high resolution fill the tree to ensure reasonable **between-outcomes** conditional independence restriction
- Large conditioning sets for variables at top levels (“information never hurts” principle)
- Reduced cost of building large $C_{[j]}^{-1}$: if j is at level $T > 0$ of the tree, $[j]$ has size Tm but cost is $O(\cancel{X}^3 m^3)$

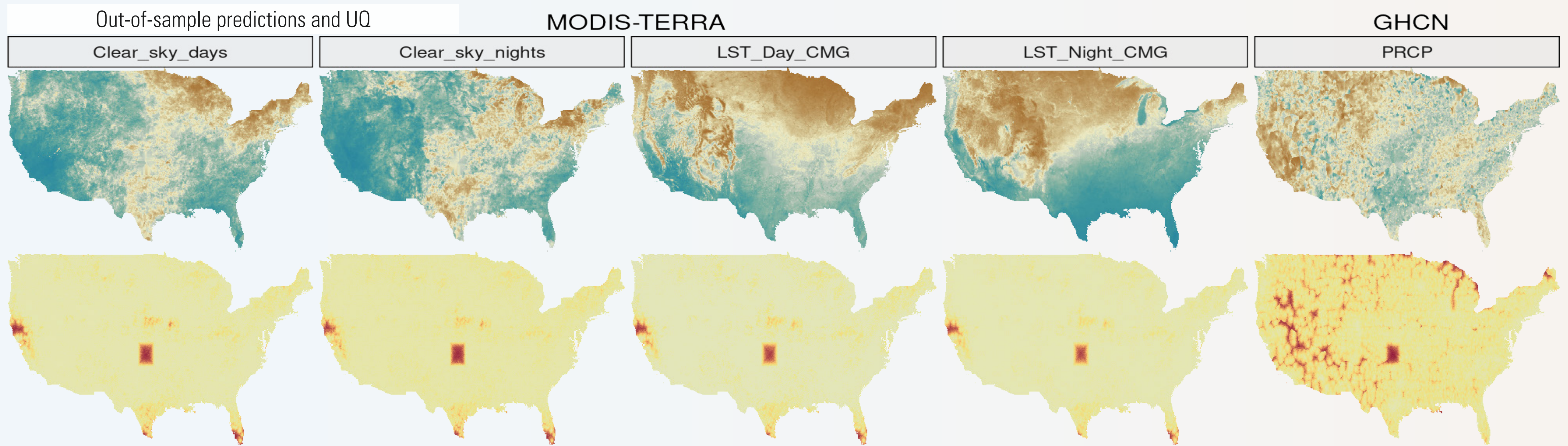
$$C_{[j]}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{[i]}^{-1} + H_i^\top R_i^{-1} H_i & -H_i^\top R_i^{-1} \\ -R_i^{-1} H_i & R_i^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

Spatial Multivariate Trees: MODIS and GHCN weather data

- 5 outcomes from 2 different sources
- MODIS **satellite** data
- GHCN **land-based station** data
- PRCP more sparsely observed
- Misalignment
- Data size ~ **1M**
- Compute time 16 hours or less



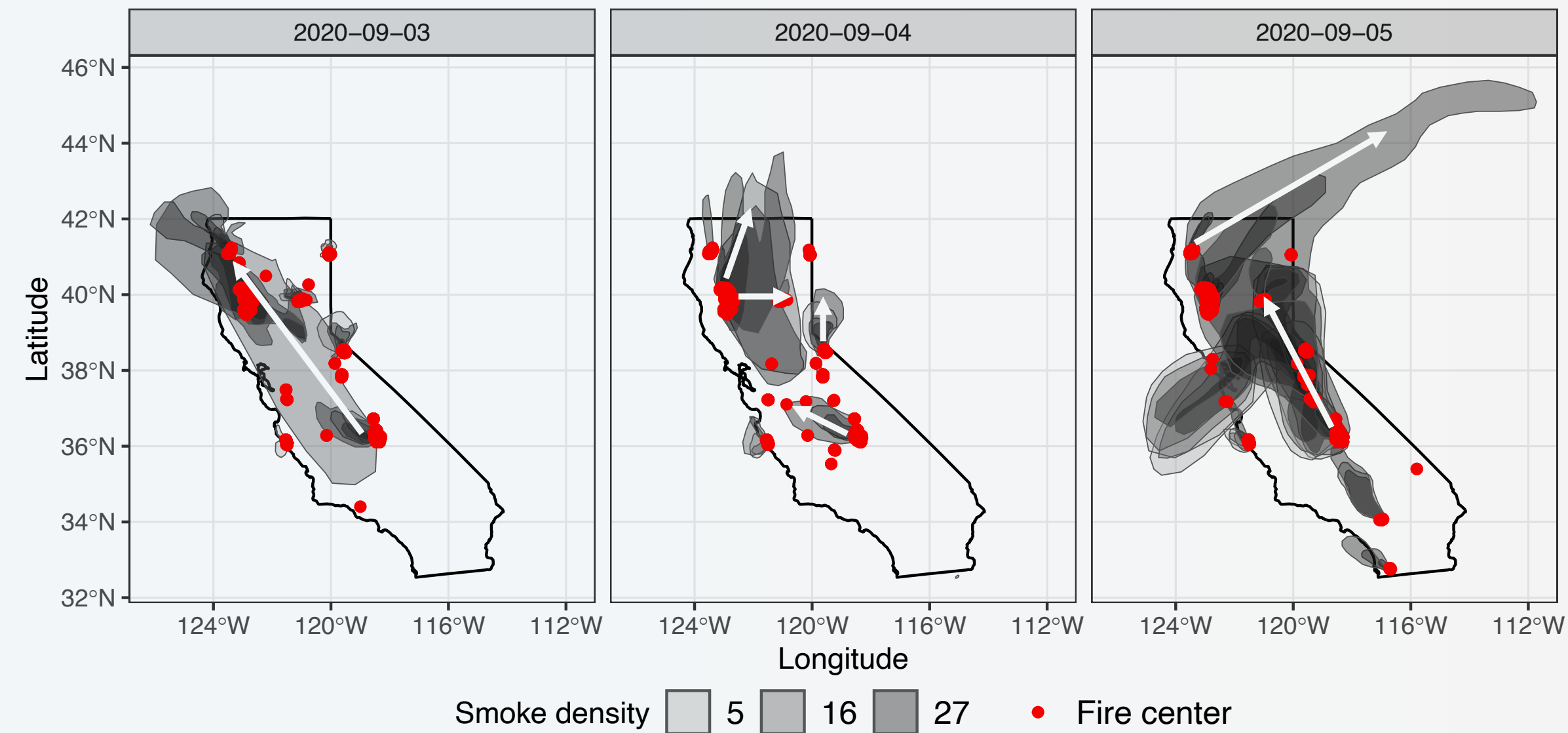
Test set



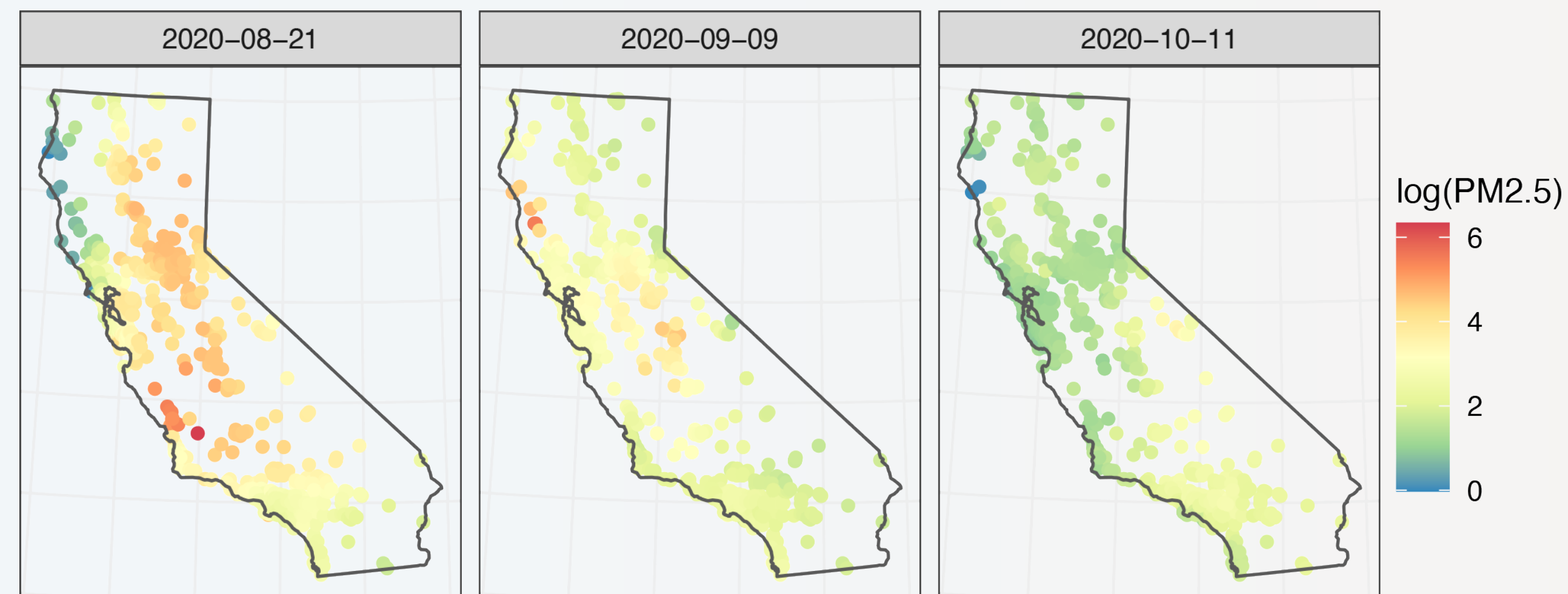
BAGs: Bags of directed Acyclic Graphs

B. Jin, M. Peruzzi, D.B. Dunson (2021)
Bag of DAGs: Flexible & Scalable Modeling of Spatiotemporal Dependence.
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.11870>

- **Application:** PM 2.5 due to forest fires depends on winds
- Measure PM2.5 using network of PurpleAir monitors
- Forest fires in California cause acute exposure to PM2.5

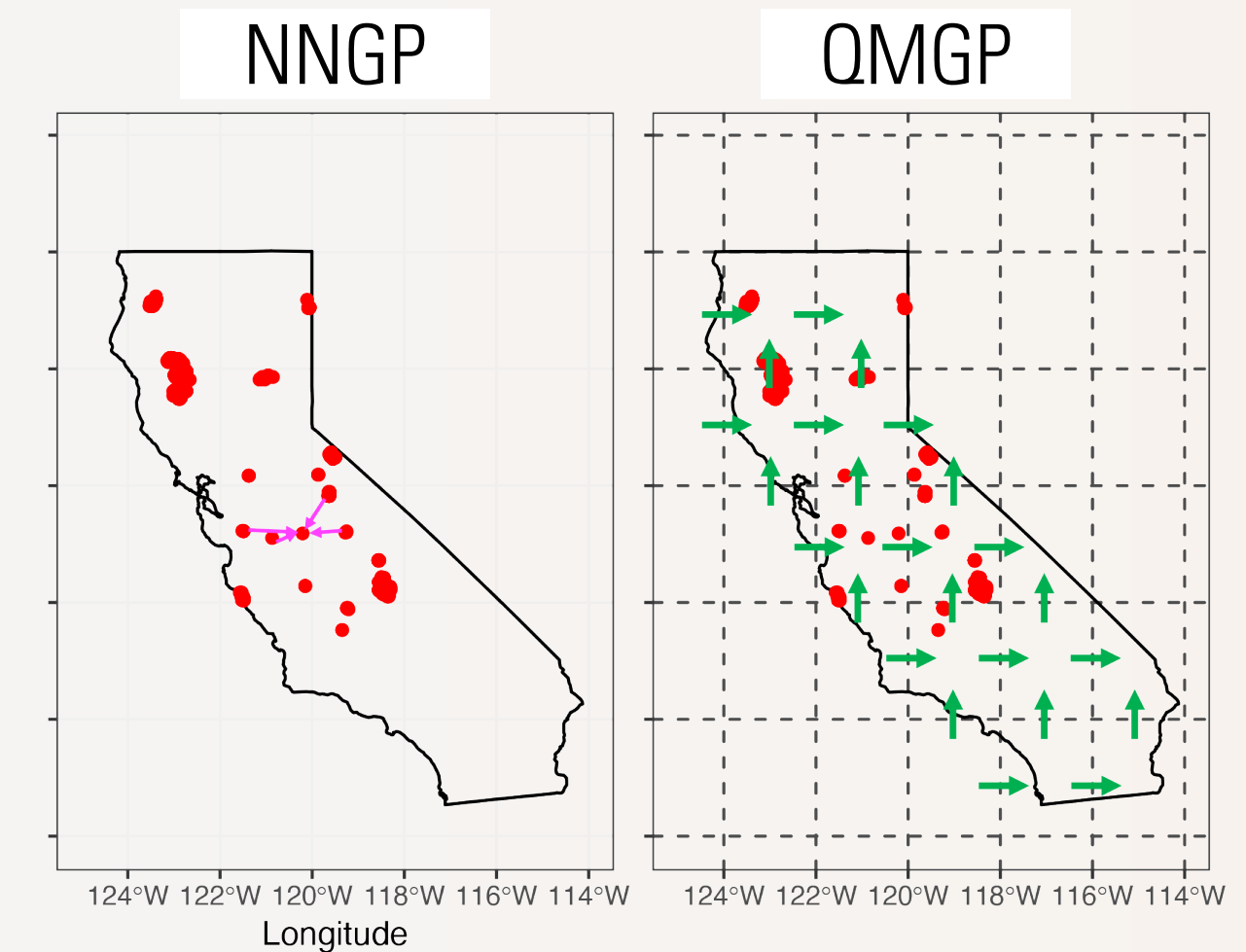
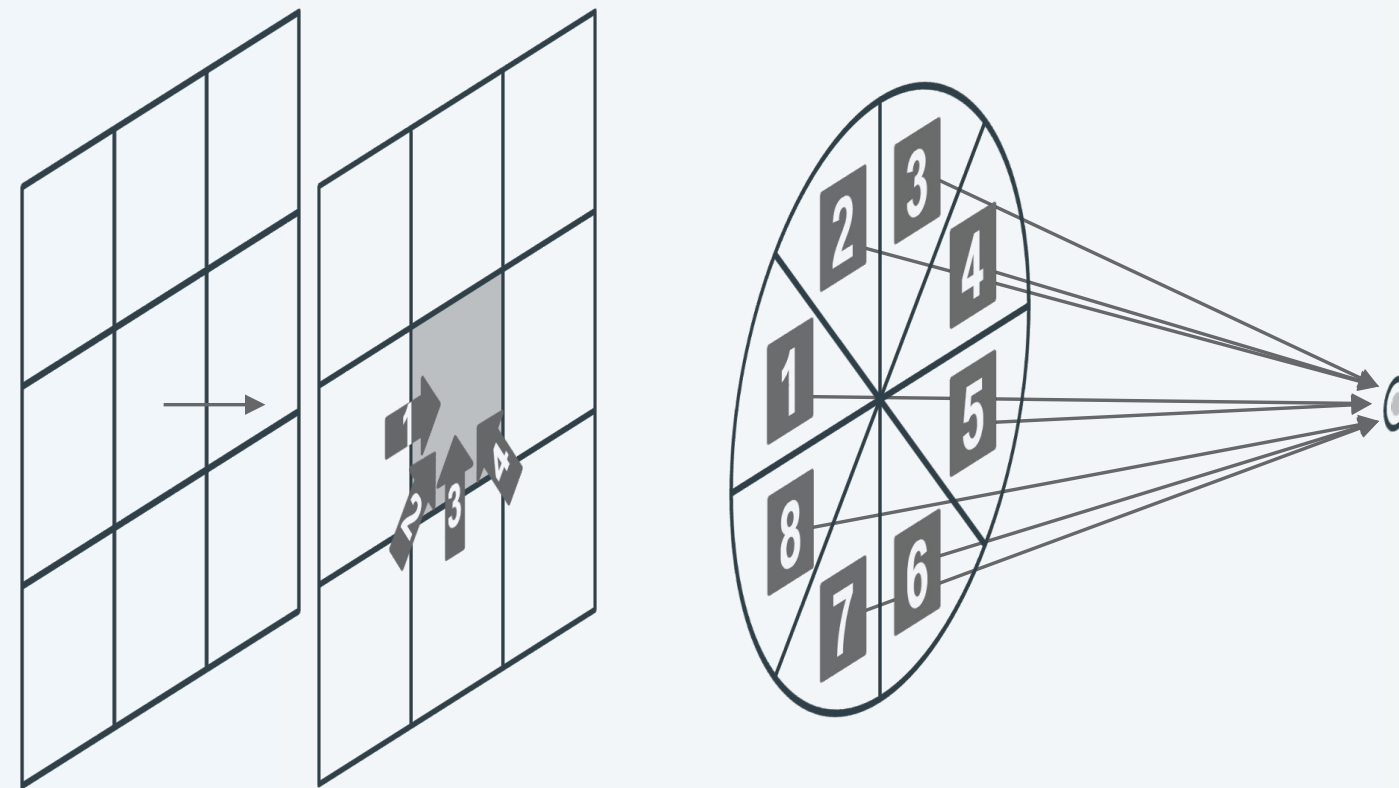


PM2.5 data

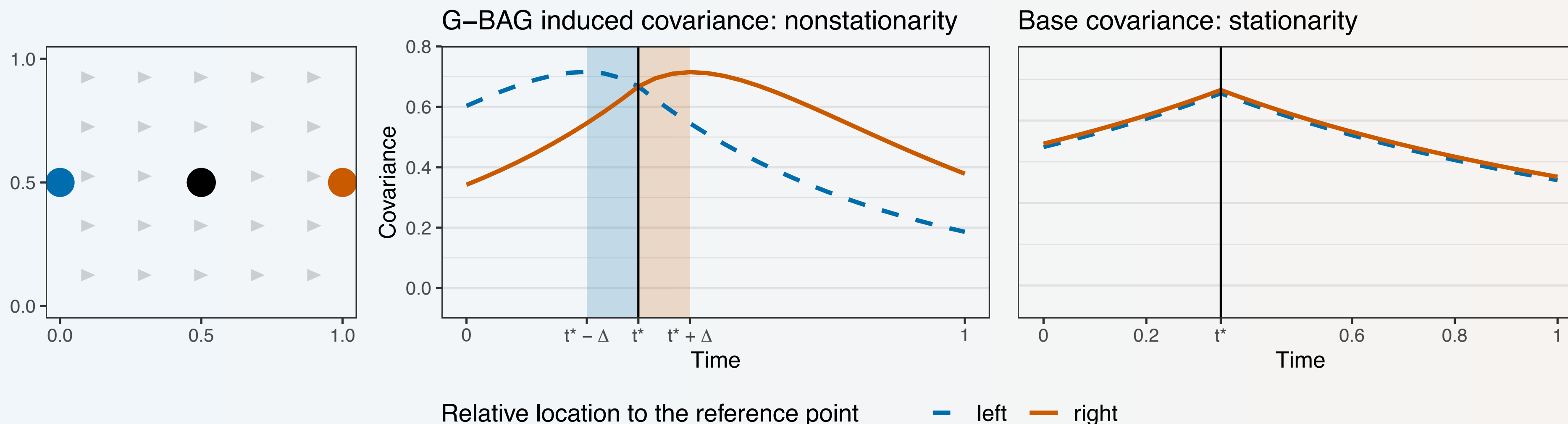


BAGs: Bags of directed Acyclic Graphs

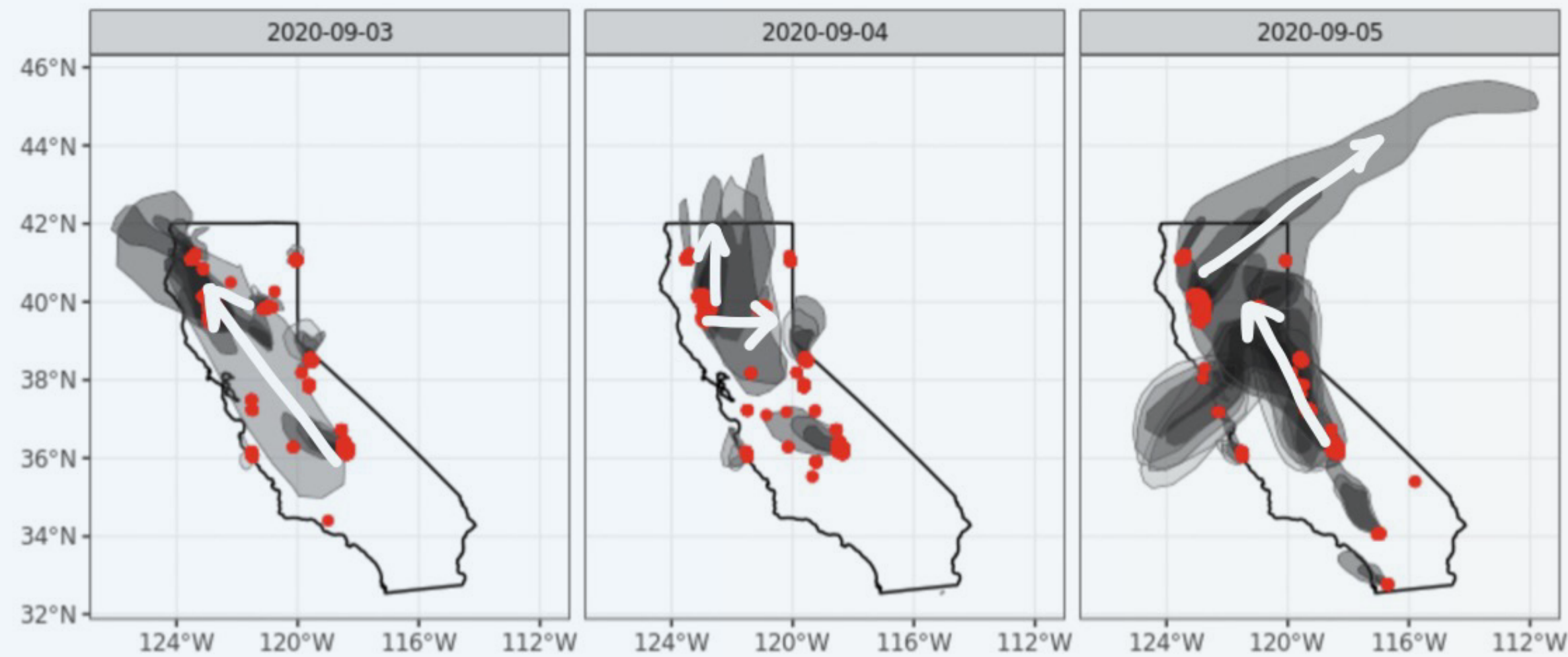
- Directed graphical models have **causal interpretation**
- Fixed DAG may lead to **wrong** conditional independence assumptions



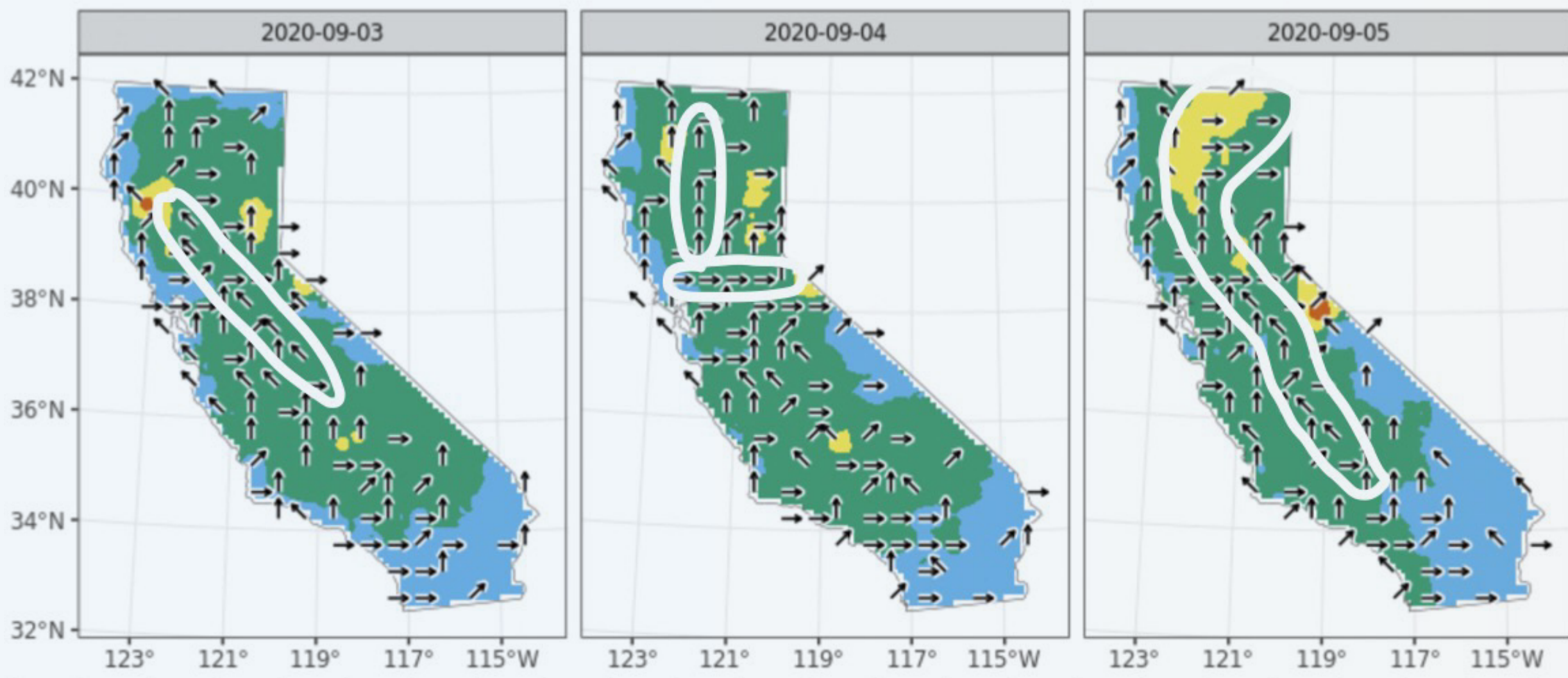
- Reduce sensitivity by **stochastically searching reasonable DAG edges** from a bag of allowed directions
- Inferred DAG edges inform about prevalent wind directions
- Interpretable, process based inference of directional dependence
- Scalable because DAG is sparse



BAGs: Bags of directed Acyclic Graphs

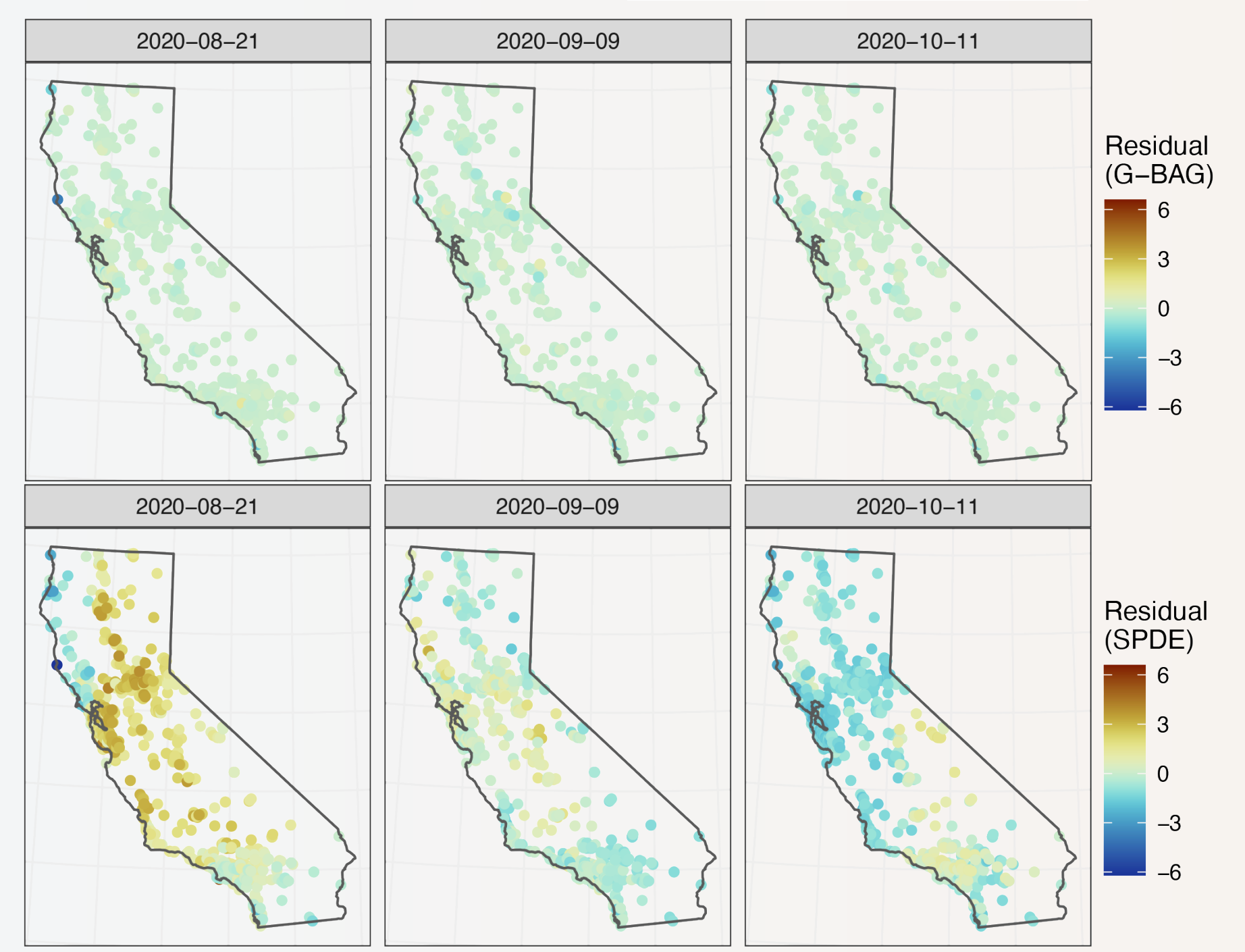


	G-BAG	Fixed DAG	SPDE-nonstationary
β	0.003 (-0.011, 0.016)	0.008 (-0.003, 0.021)	-0.038 (-0.054, -0.021)
τ^2	0.011 (0.011, 0.011)	0.011 (0.011, 0.011)	0.079 (0.076, 0.081)
σ^2	3.781 (3.600, 3.990)	4.410 (4.410, 4.410)	-
a	3.099 (2.963, 3.241)	1.262 (1.262, 1.262)	-
c	0.009 (0.008, 0.009)	0.010 (0.010, 0.010)	-
κ	0.011 (0.000, 0.041)	0.152 (0.152, 0.152)	-
RMSPE	0.296	0.343	0.343
MAPE	0.154	0.213	0.174
95% CI coverage	0.963	0.969	0.961
95% CI width	1.504	1.794	1.216



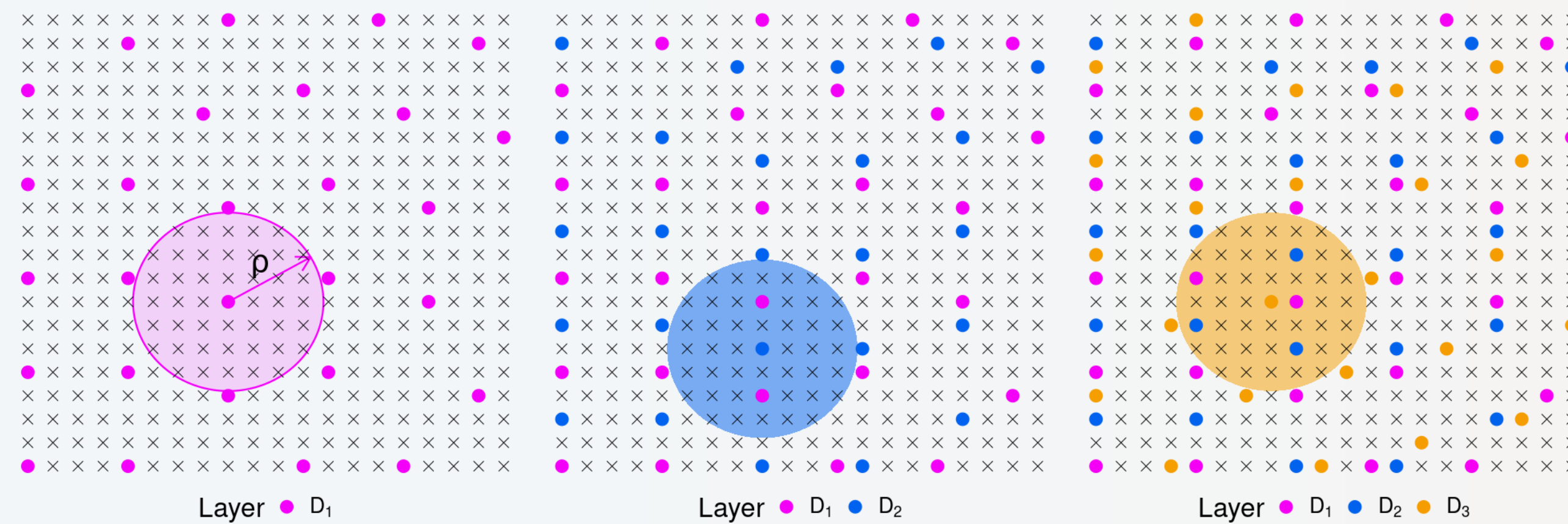
Inferred winds and levels of PM2.5

BAGs vs SPDE residuals

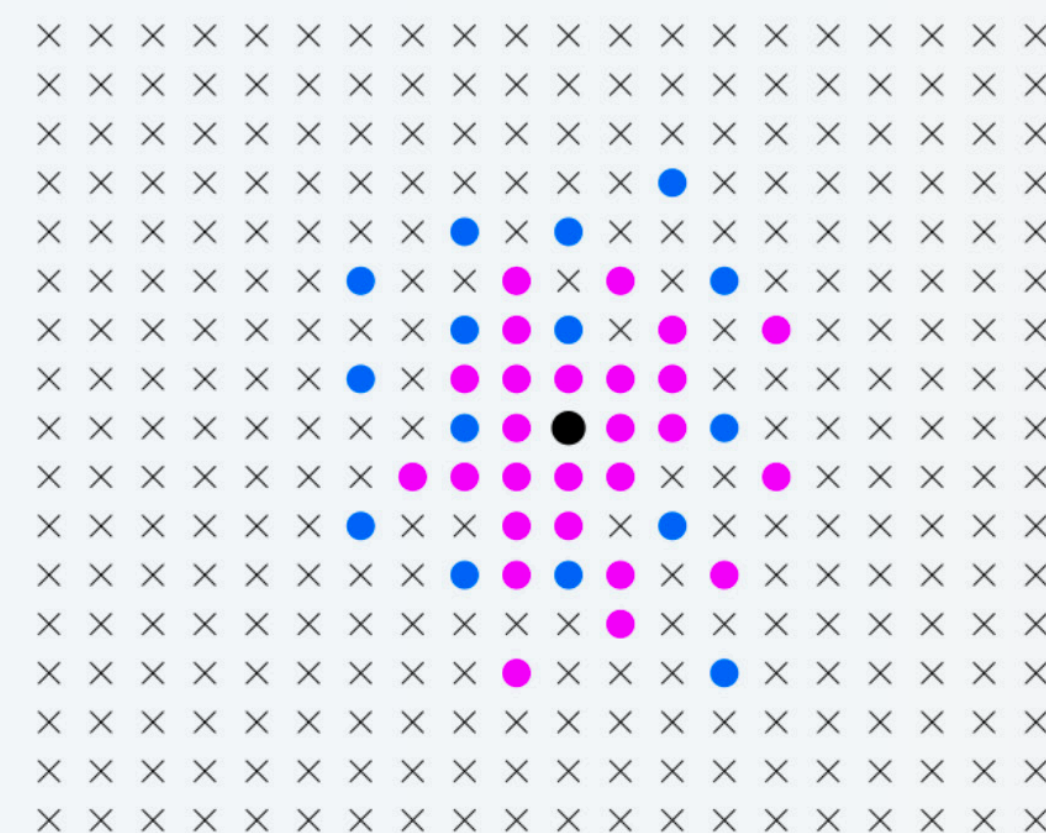


RadGP: provable approximation accuracy

- Dual interpretation: approximation to a GPs or standalone processes based on a parent GP
- NNGP / Vecchia GP / MGP lack theoretical results on **approximation quality**
- Alternating partition construction leads to **Radial neighbors Gaussian process**
- Draw a radius around location: all other locations within radius are either parents or children in DAG

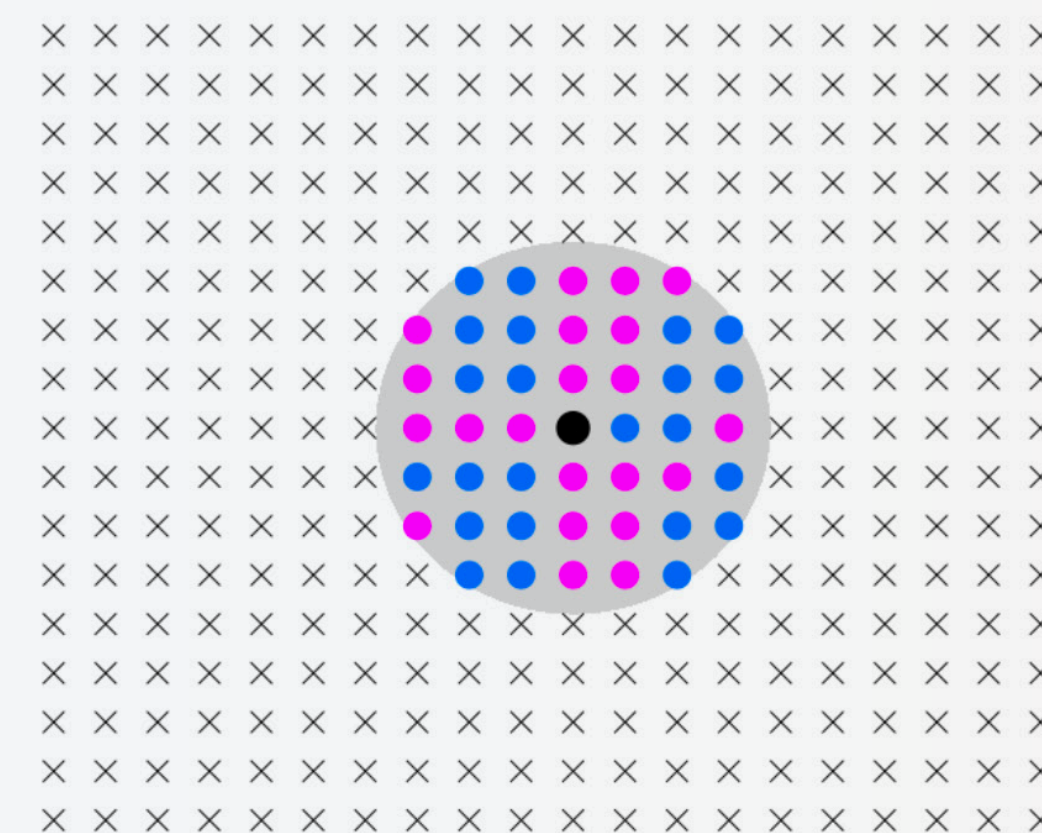


Vecchia GP DAG



Type ● children ● parents ● self

RadGP DAG



Type ● children ● parents ● self

INTUITION:

- If covariance matrix entries decay “fast enough” then its inverse inherits such property
- Take advantage of theory on norm-controlled inversion (Grochenig and Klotz 2014, Fang and Shin 2020)

The Gaussian process $Z(\cdot)$ has the isotropic covariance function $\text{Cov}(Z(s_1), Z(s_2)) = K_0(\|s_1 - s_2\|_2)$.

Case 1 If the covariance function decays faster than any polynomials:

- Define the rate function $v_r(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{+\infty} x^k / (k!)^r$;
- Define the family $\mathcal{Z}_{v_r} = \left\{ Z = (Z_s : s \in \Omega) : K_0(\|s_1 - s_2\|_2) \leq \frac{1}{v_r(\|s_1 - s_2\|_2)(1 + \|s_1 - s_2\|_2^{d+1})} \right\}$.

Theorem 1 For the family \mathcal{Z}_{v_r} with $r > 1$, if $0 < q < 1$, then

$$\sup_{Z \in \mathcal{Z}_{v_r}} W_2^2(Z_{\mathcal{D}}, \hat{Z}_{\mathcal{D}}) \lesssim \frac{n}{v_r(\rho/\sqrt{d})} \{\phi_0(c_2/q)\}^{-5} q^{-d} v_{r-1}(c_3 \{\phi_0(c_2/q)\}^{-1}).$$

Else if $q \geq 1$, then $\sup_{Z \in \mathcal{Z}_{v_r}} W_2^2(Z_{\mathcal{D}}, \hat{Z}_{\mathcal{D}}) \lesssim n/v_r(\rho/\sqrt{d})$.

Case 2 Else if the covariance function decays no faster than some polynomials:

- Define the rate function $c_r(x) = (1 + |x|)^r$;
- Define the family $\mathcal{Z}_{c_r} = \left\{ Z = (Z_s : s \in \Omega) : K_0(\|s_1 - s_2\|_2) \leq \frac{1}{c_r(\|s_1 - s_2\|_2)} \right\}$.

Theorem 2 For the family \mathcal{Z}_{c_r} with $r \geq d + 1$, if $0 < q < 1$, then,

$$\sup_{Z \in \mathcal{Z}_{c_r}} W_2^2(Z_{\mathcal{D}}, \hat{Z}_{\mathcal{D}}) \lesssim \frac{n}{(1 + \rho/\sqrt{d})^{-(r-d-1)}} q^{(r-8)d} \{\phi_0(c_2/q)\}^{-(r+9/2)} (c_1 c_5 d 2^{d-1} \pi / \sqrt{6})^r.$$

Else if $q \geq 1$, then $\sup_{Z \in \mathcal{Z}_{c_r}} W_2^2(Z_{\mathcal{D}}, \hat{Z}_{\mathcal{D}}) \lesssim n(1 + \rho/\sqrt{d})^{-(r-d-1)} \{c_1 c_5 d 2^{d-1} \phi_0(c_2/q) \pi / \sqrt{6}\}^r$.

- If minimal separation distance q and approximation radius are fixed,
 then approximation accuracy **will not improve with increasing n**
- When minimal separation distance q is fixed, if the GP covariance decays fast enough
 then we can be **arbitrarily accurate** for any n by increasing the approximation radius
- If minimal separation distance q decreases with increasing n ,
 then a **larger approximation radius is required** to compensate for near-singular cov. matrix

EXAMPLES

Covariance function $K_0(\ \Delta s\ _2)$	Lower bounds for ρ
Matérn: $\frac{\sigma^2 2^{1-\nu}}{\Gamma(\nu)} (\alpha \ \Delta s\)^\nu \mathcal{K}_\nu(\alpha \ \Delta s\ _2)$	$\rho \gtrsim \frac{\sqrt{d}}{\alpha} \left[c_{m,1} \left(1 + \frac{c_2^2}{\alpha^2 q^2} \right)^{\nu + \frac{d}{2}} \ln \left\{ c_{m,1} n q^{-d} \left(1 + \frac{c_2^2}{\alpha^2 q^2} \right)^{5(\nu + \frac{d}{2})} \right\} \right]^3$
Gaussian: $\exp(-a \ \Delta s\ _2^2)$	$\rho \gtrsim \frac{\sqrt{d}}{\alpha} \left[e^{\frac{c_2^2}{4a q^2}} \left\{ \ln(n q^{-d}) + \frac{c_2^2}{4a q^2} \right\} \right]^3$
G-Cauchy: $\sigma^2 \left\{ 1 + (\ s_1 - s_2\ /\alpha)^\delta \right\}^{-\lambda/\delta}$	$\rho \gtrsim q^{-\left\{ \frac{25}{2} \lambda d + \delta(\lambda + \frac{9}{2}) \right\} / \{\lambda - (d+1)\}}$

R package meshed

`meshed::spmeshed` targets the following **spatial factor model** for multivariate outcomes:

$$y_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}) \sim P_j(\eta_j(\boldsymbol{\ell}), \tau_j) \quad j = 1, \dots, q$$

$$\boldsymbol{\eta}(\boldsymbol{\ell}) = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{B} + \boldsymbol{\Lambda}\mathbf{v}$$

$$\mathbf{v}(\cdot) \sim \text{meshedGP}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_\theta)$$

where \mathbf{C}_θ is a cross-correlation function with indep. Matérn margins, $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ a $q \times k$ lower triangular matrix with positive diagonal

Accepting any combination of:

- gridded data, or data at irregular spatial locations
- spatial or spatiotemporal data (using Gneiting's nonseparable space-time correlation)
- univariate or multivariate outcomes
- spatial misalignment of multivariate outcomes
- outcomes of different types (Gaussian, binomial, Poisson, negative binomial, beta)

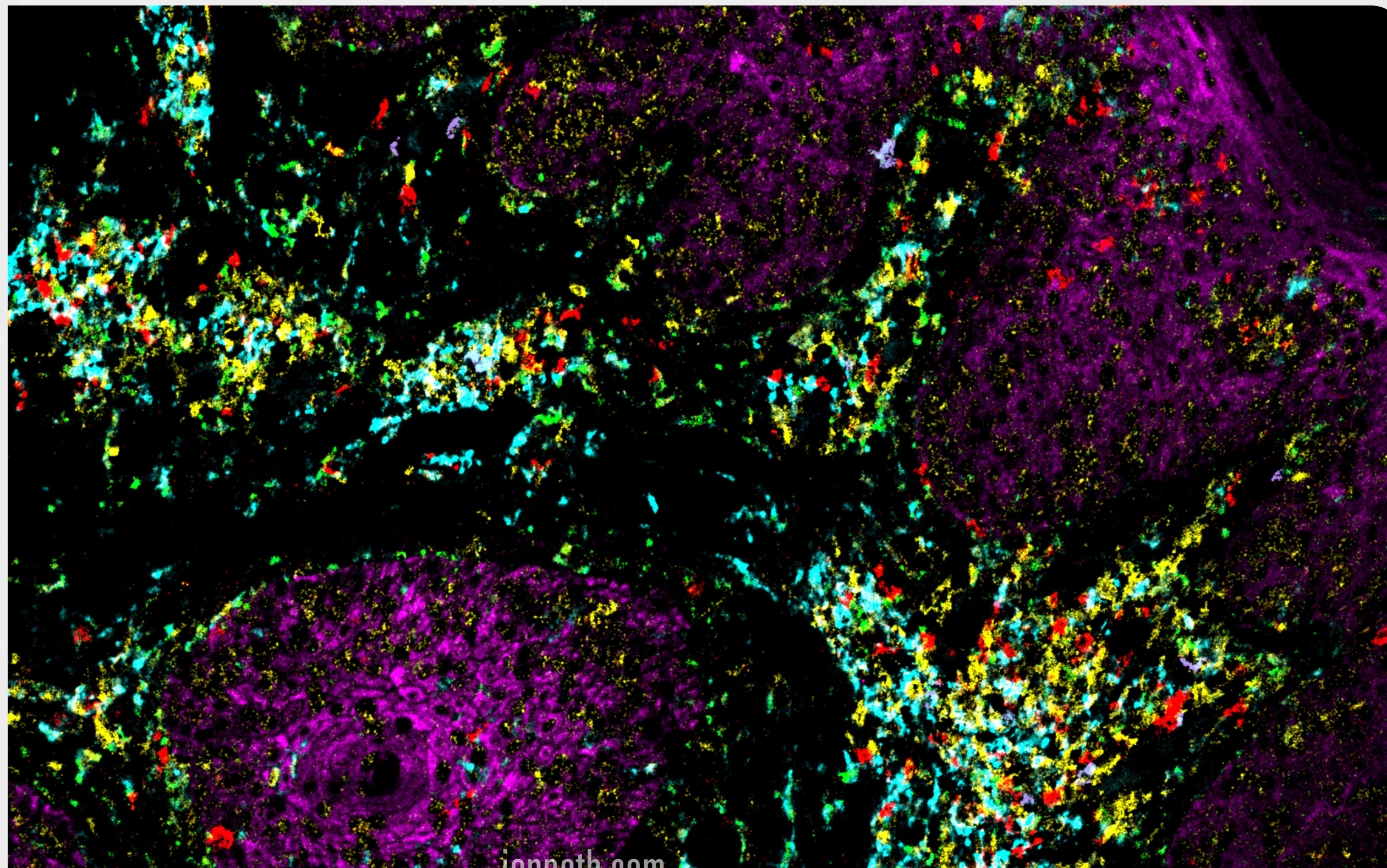
- Works with fast **BLAS/Lapack** libraries and in parallel using **OpenMP** if you let it
- Compares favorably to `spNNGP` in univariate settings (`spNNGP` does not do multivariate)

A deep field of galaxies, showing a vast array of shapes and colors, from bright yellow and white galaxies to faint, reddish-orange ones. The background is dark, with a grid of thin blue lines overlaid. Several bright starburst patterns, consisting of multiple sharp points of light, are scattered across the field, particularly at the intersections of the grid lines.

Looking ahead

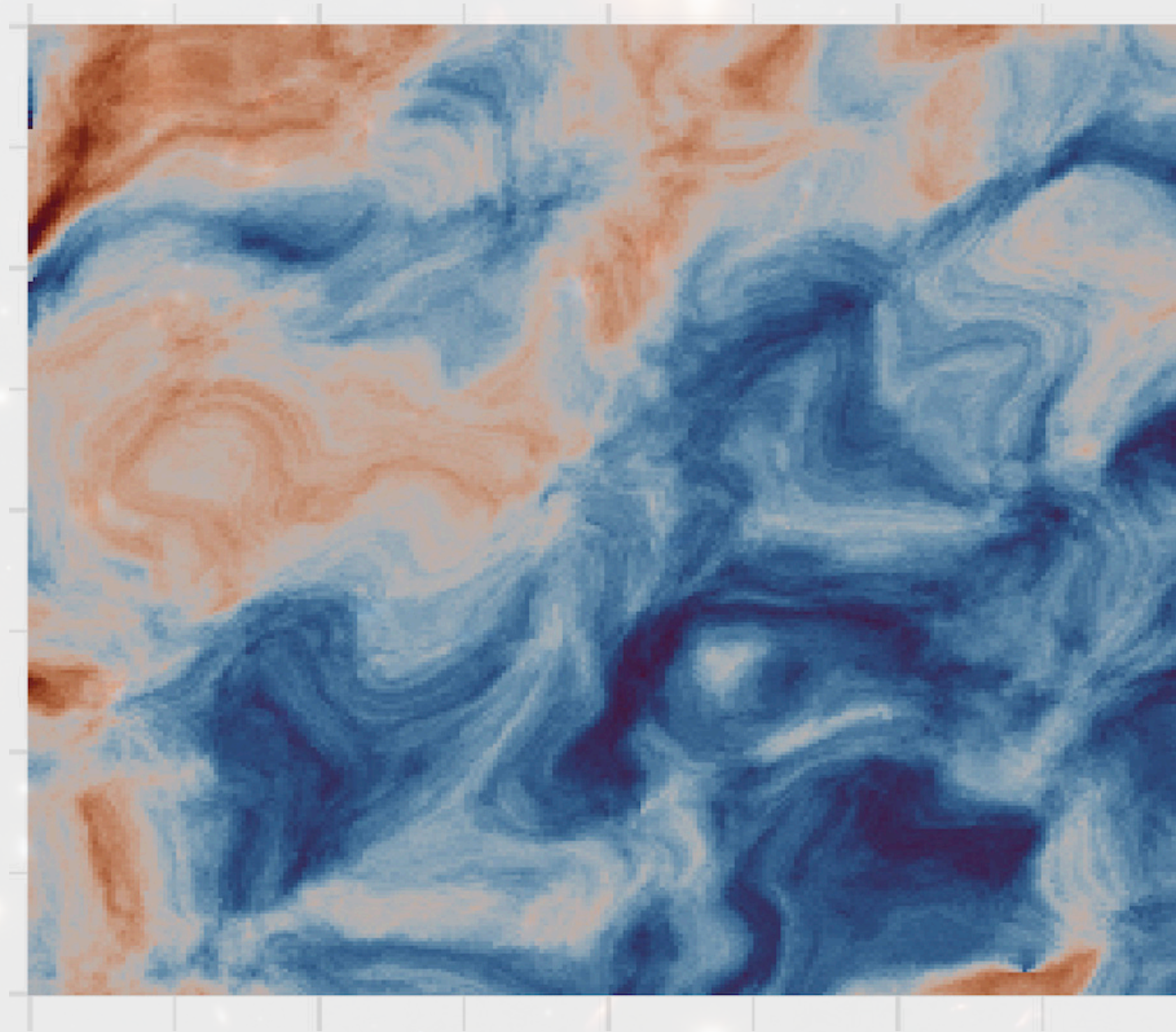
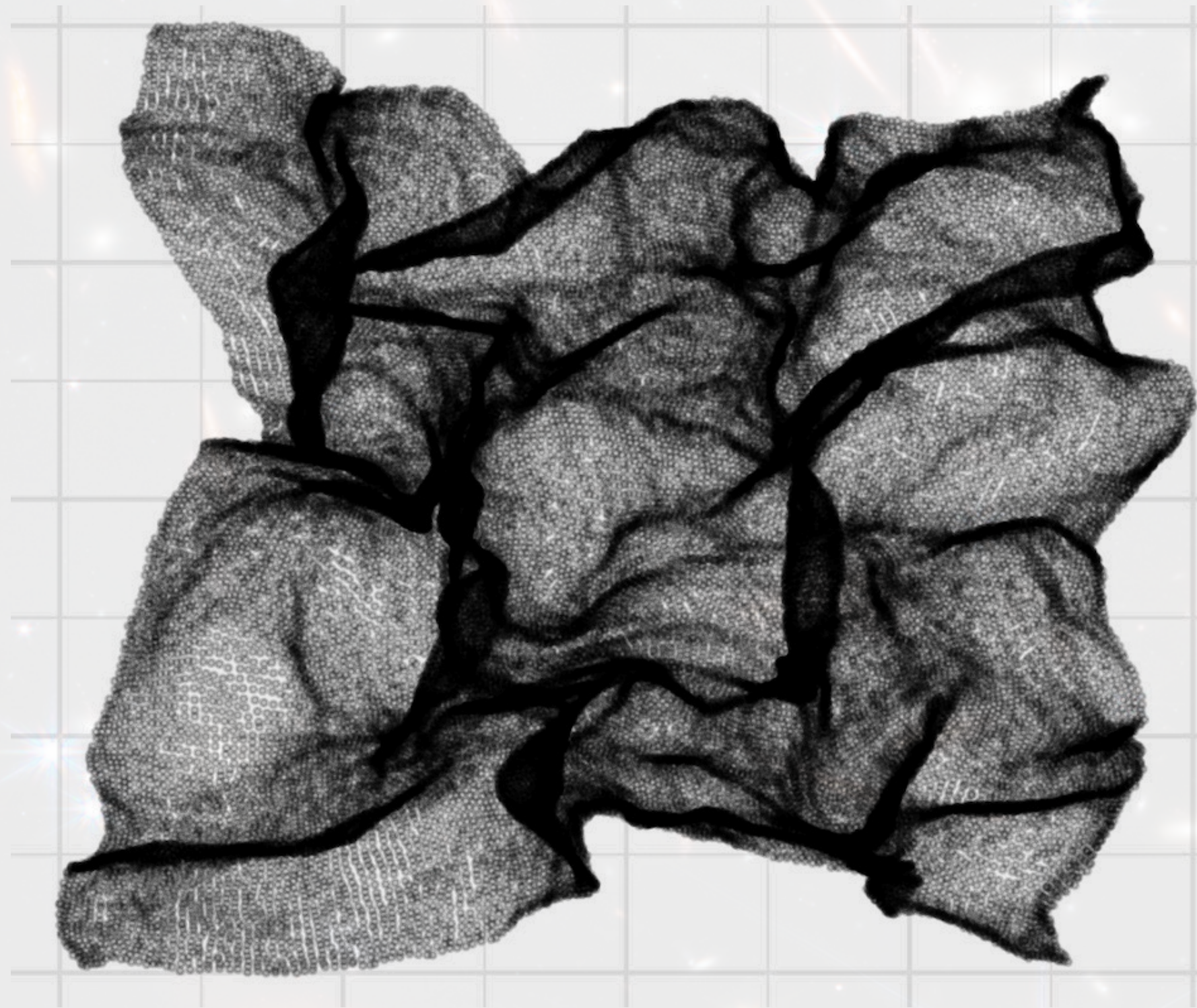
Some ideas: application/modeling/computational challenges

- Interest in modeling *spatial* co-variability of different protein types?
- Spatial occurrence of proteins in cells = multivariate spatial latent factor model
- Multiple cells or multiple subjects = common factor loadings, possibly hierarchically to borrow strength
- Multiple subjects (healthy vs not?): characterize groups via differences in spatial variability. Early detection?
- Odd “shape” of cell structures? Use spatial deformation/deep GP.



Some ideas: application/modeling/computational challenges

- Interest in modeling **spatial** co-variability of different protein types?
- Spatial occurrence of proteins in cells = multivariate spatial latent factor model
- Multiple cells or multiple subjects = common factor loadings, possibly hierarchically to borrow strength
- Multiple subjects (healthy vs not?): characterize groups via differences in spatial variability. Early detection?
- Odd “shape” of cell structures? Use spatial deformation/deep GP. Scalability to high resolution cell data? TBD.



Thank you!

contact: **michele.peruzzi@duke.edu**

M. Peruzzi, S. Banerjee & A.O. Finley (2022)

Highly Scalable Bayesian Geostatistical Modeling via Meshed Gaussian Processes on Partitioned Domains.

Journal of the American Statistical Association 117(538): 969-982.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01621459.2020.1833889>

M. Peruzzi & D.B. Dunson (2022)

Spatial Multivariate Trees for Big Data Bayesian Regression.

Journal of Machine Learning Research 23(17):1–40.

<https://www.jmlr.org/papers/v23/20-1361.html>

M. Peruzzi & D.B. Dunson (2022)

Spatial Meshing for General Bayesian Multivariate Models.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.10080>

M. Peruzzi, S. Banerjee, D.B. Dunson & A.O. Finley (2021)

Grid-Parametrize-Split (GriPS) for Improved Scalable Inference in Spatial Big Data Analysis.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.03579>

Y. Zhu, **M. Peruzzi**, C. Li, D.B. Dunson (2022)

Radial Neighbors for Provably Accurate Scalable Approximations of Gaussian Processes.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.14692>

B. Jin, **M. Peruzzi**, D.B. Dunson (2021)

Bag of DAGs: Flexible & Scalable Modeling of Spatiotemporal Dependence.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.11870>

N. Neupane, **M. Peruzzi**, L. Ries, A. Arab, S. J. Mayor, J. C. Withey, A. O. Finley (2022)

A novel model to accurately predict continental-scale green-up timing.

International J. of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation 108:102747

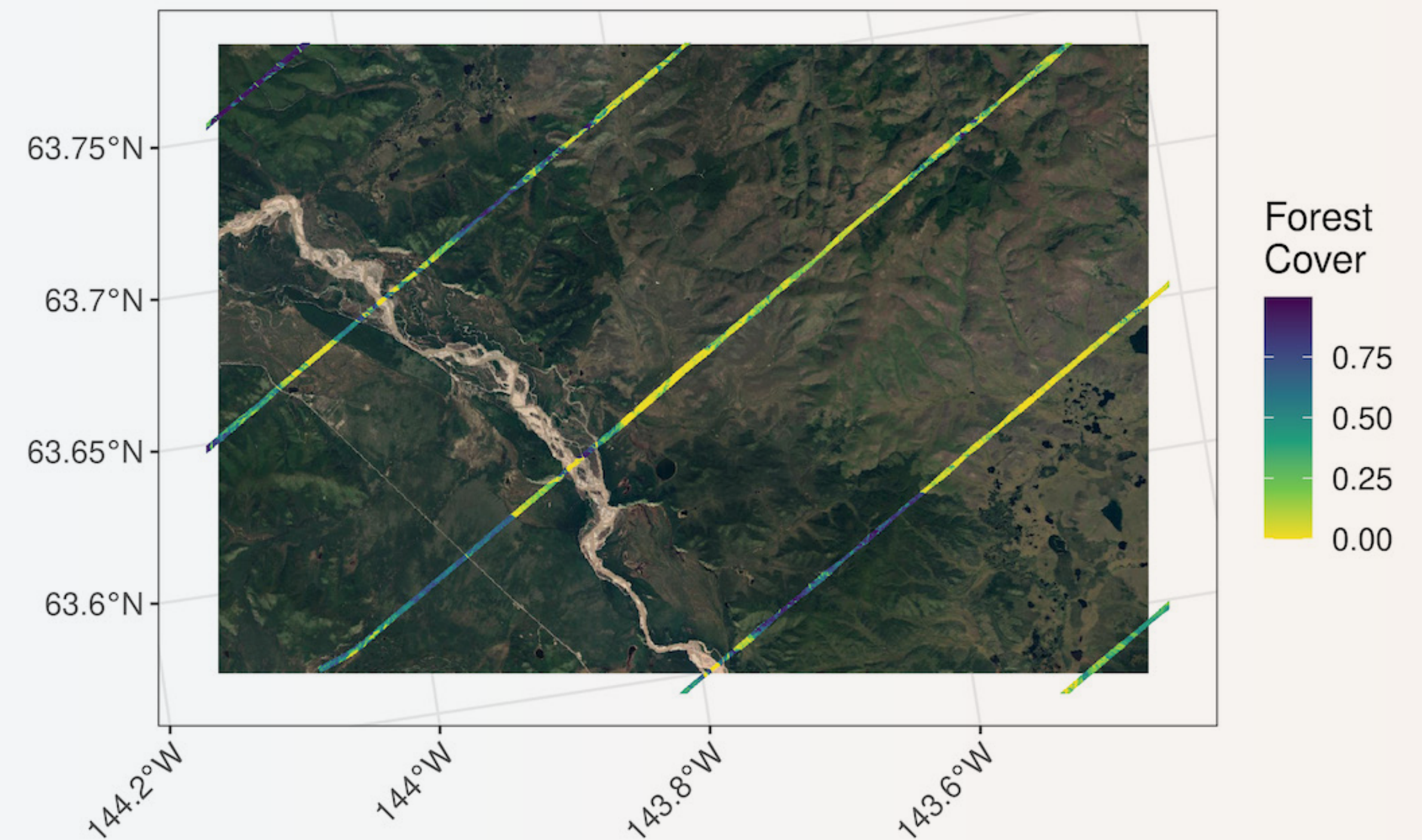
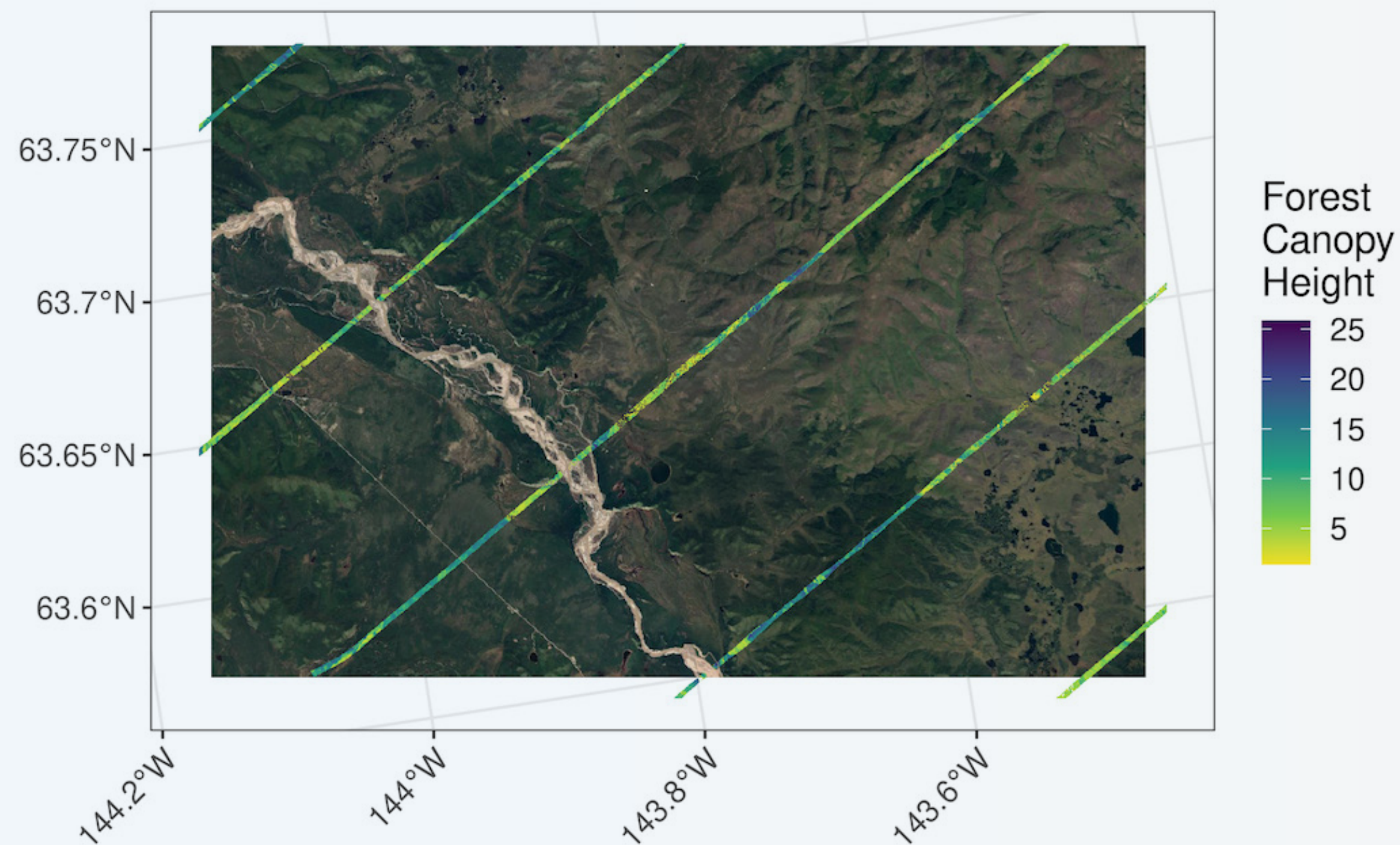
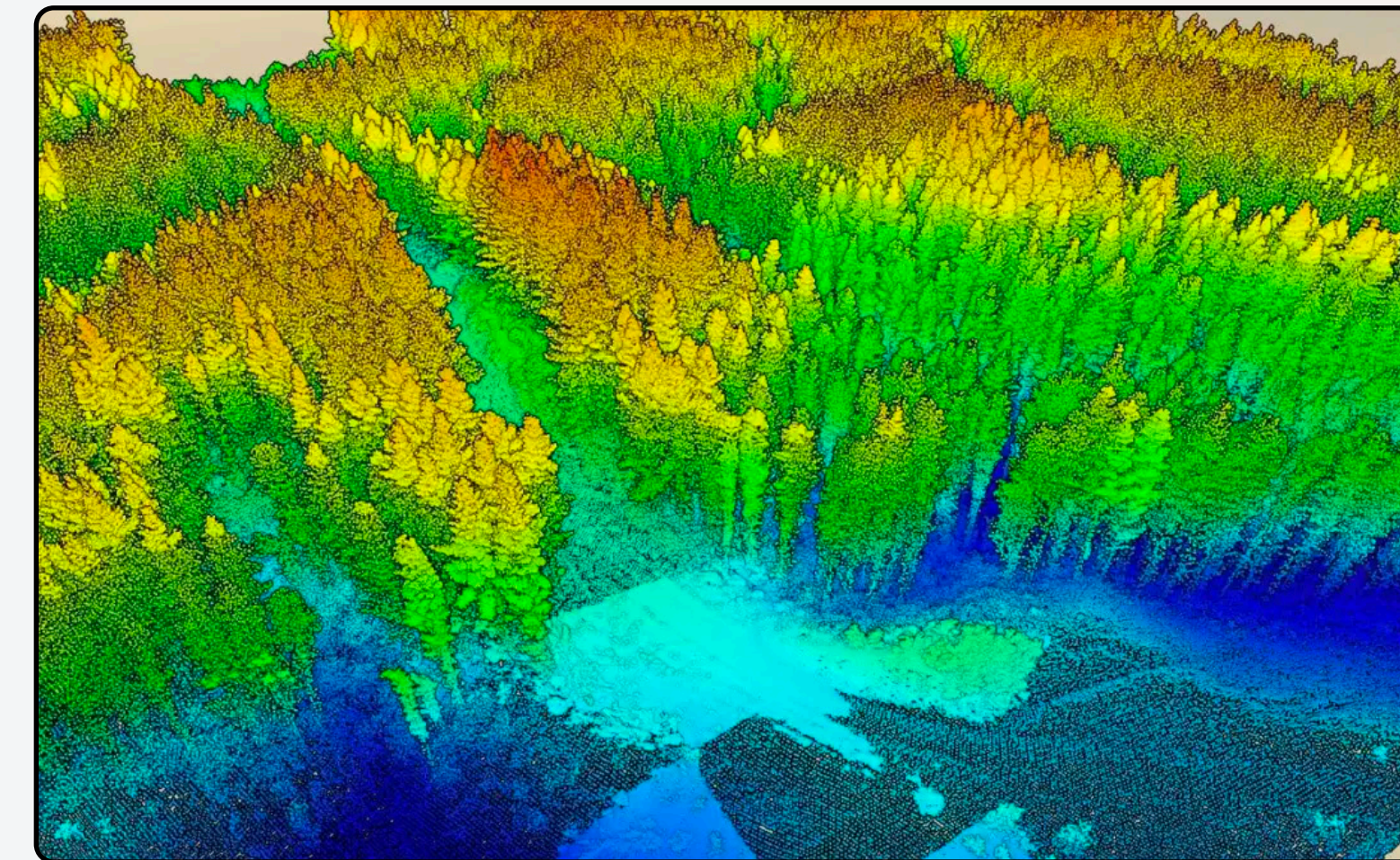
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jag.2022.102747>

GriPS: Gridding and parameter expansion for better MCMC

M. Peruzzi, S. Banerjee, D.B. Dunson & A.O. Finley (2021)
Grid-Parametrize-Split (GriPS) for Improved Scalable Inference in Spatial Big Data Analysis.
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.03579>

Application: LiDAR data

- Tanana forest, Alaska: 2 outcomes at **2.5M locations**
- Forest cover and canopy height
- Data measured at thin strips, 9km apart
- Difficult to set up usual NNGP or a standard QMGP
- Take advantage of **modeling flexibility of MGPs**
- Highly customized setup for MGPs for under 48h compute time
- Custom grid

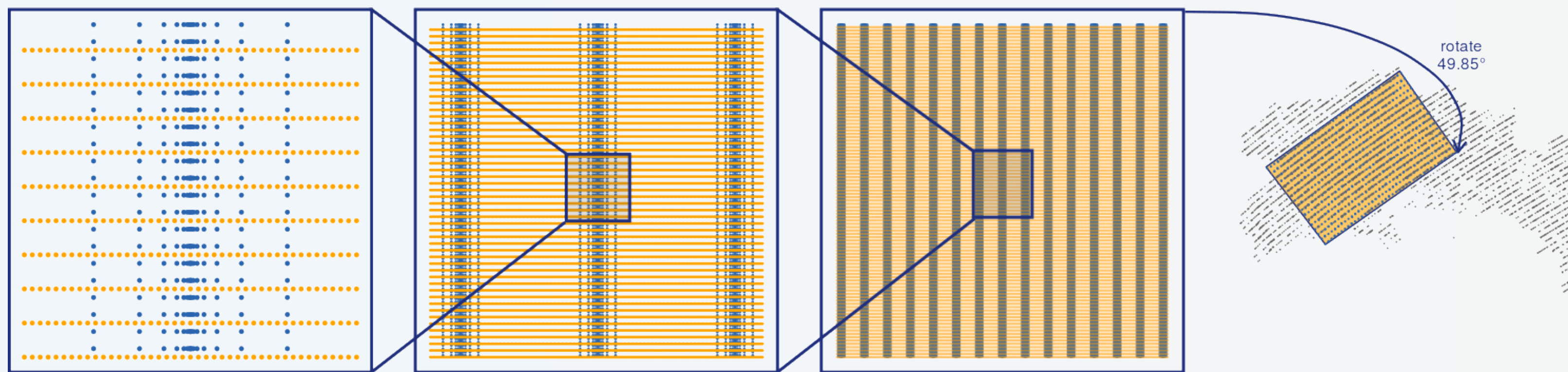


GriPS: Gridding and parameter expansion for better MCMC

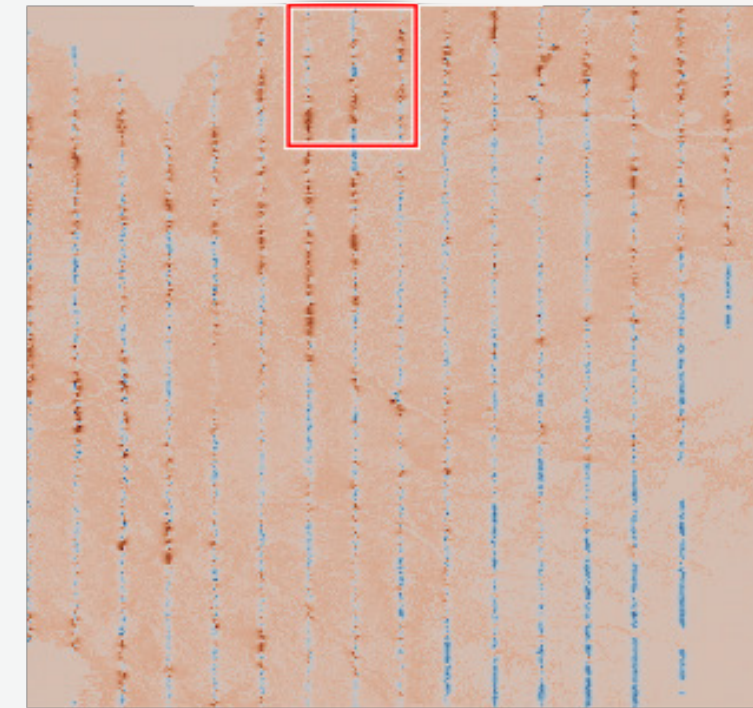
M. Peruzzi, S. Banerjee, D.B. Dunson & A.O. Finley (2021)
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Application: LiDAR data

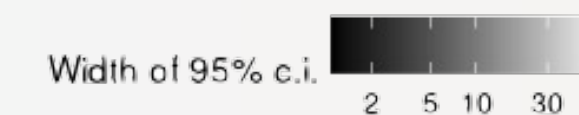
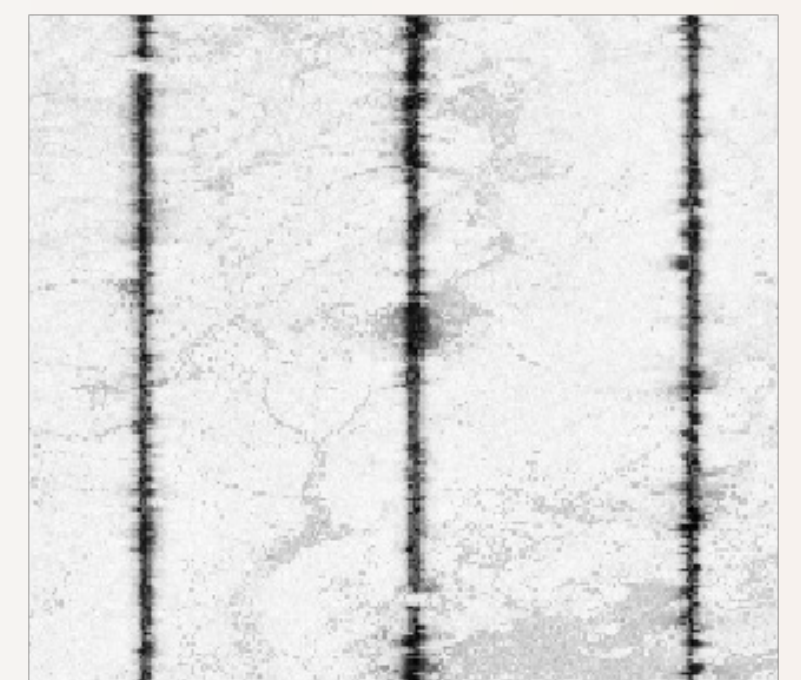
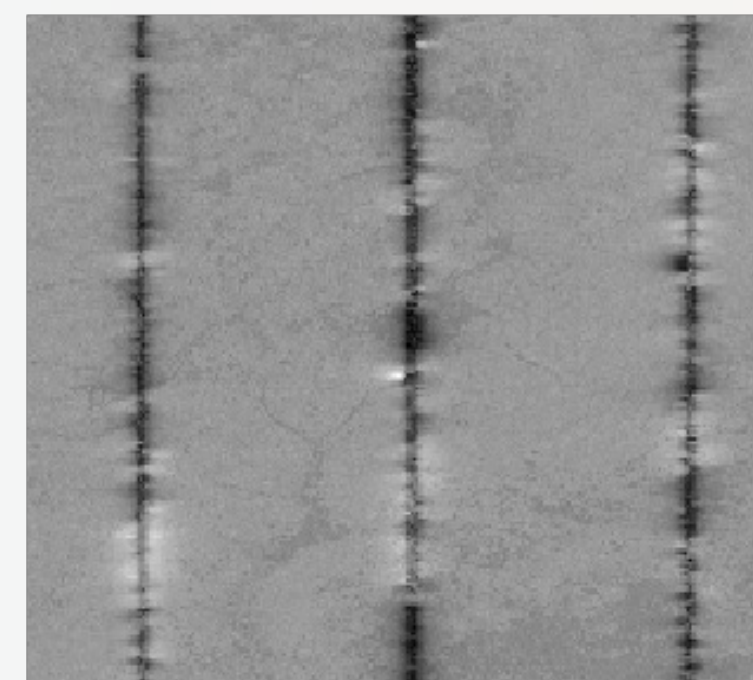
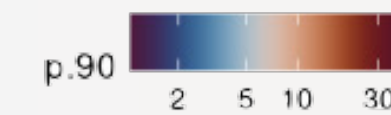
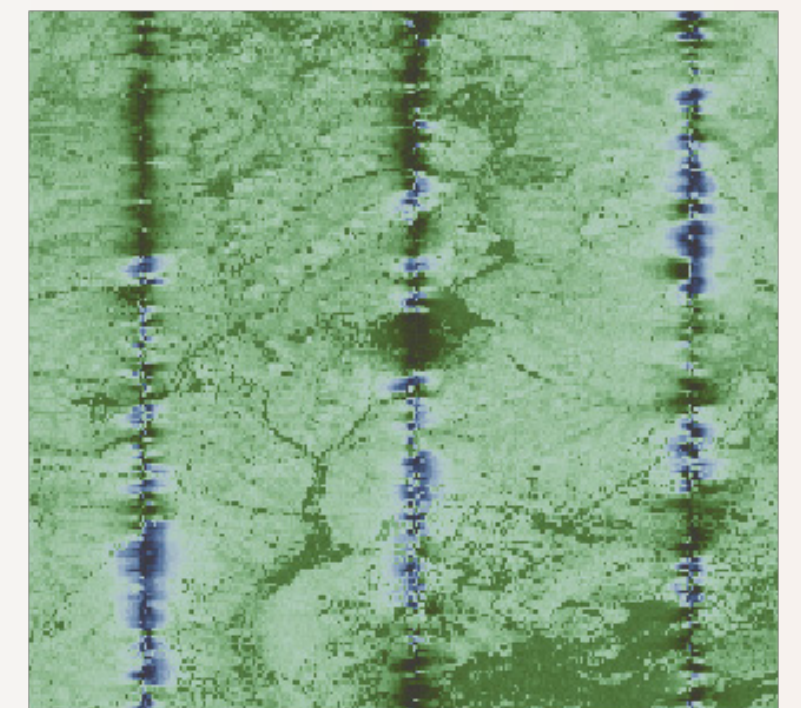
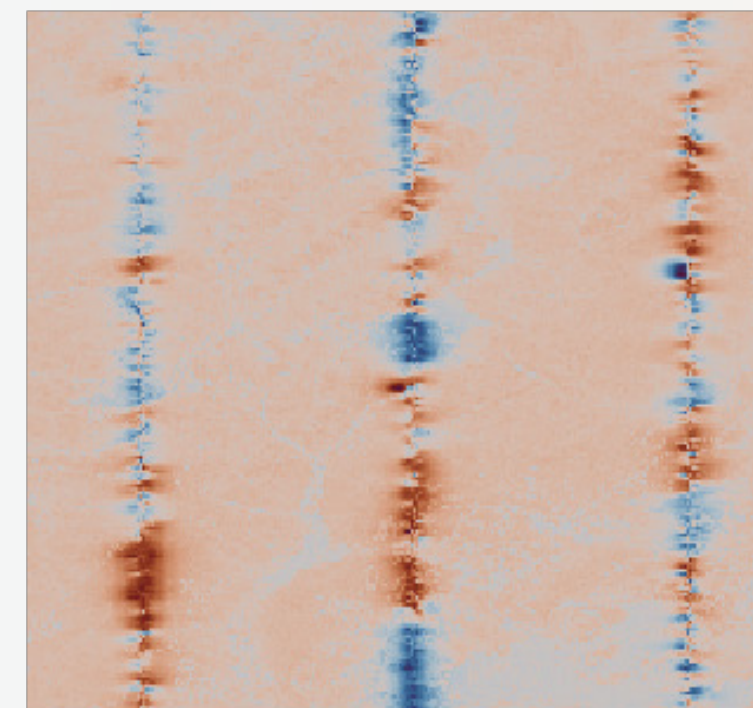
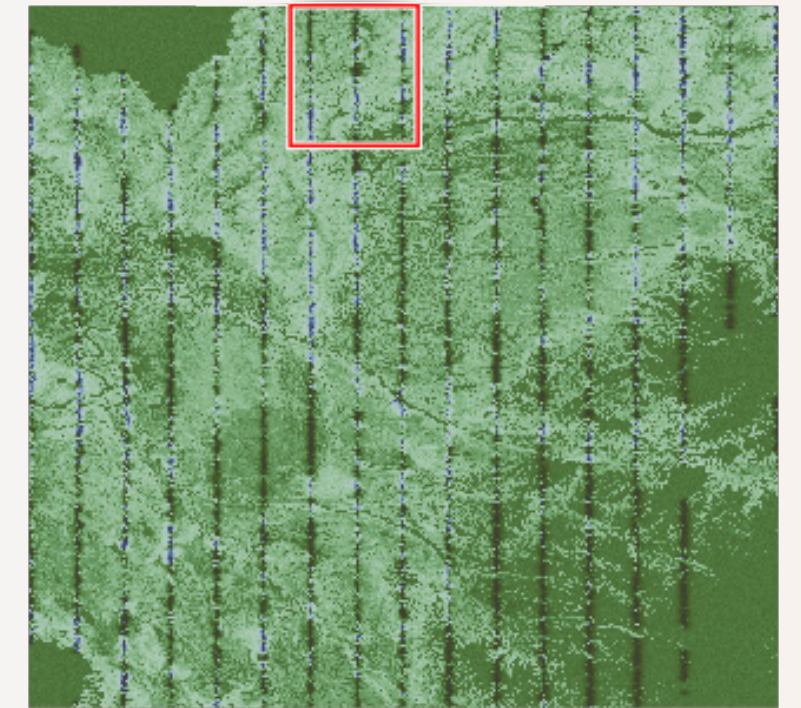
- Tanana forest, Alaska: 2 outcomes at **2.5M locations**
- Forest cover and canopy height
- Highly customized setup for MGPs for under 48h compute time
- Custom grid



Forest Canopy Height (p.90)



Forest Cover (f.cvr)



- Matérn covariance **weakly identifiable**: high posterior dependence between σ^2, ϕ, ν
- Targeting the usual identifiable LMC model $\mathbf{y}(\ell) = \mathbf{X}(\ell)^\top \boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \mathbf{w}(\ell) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\ell)$ we actually run MCMC on the expanded model:

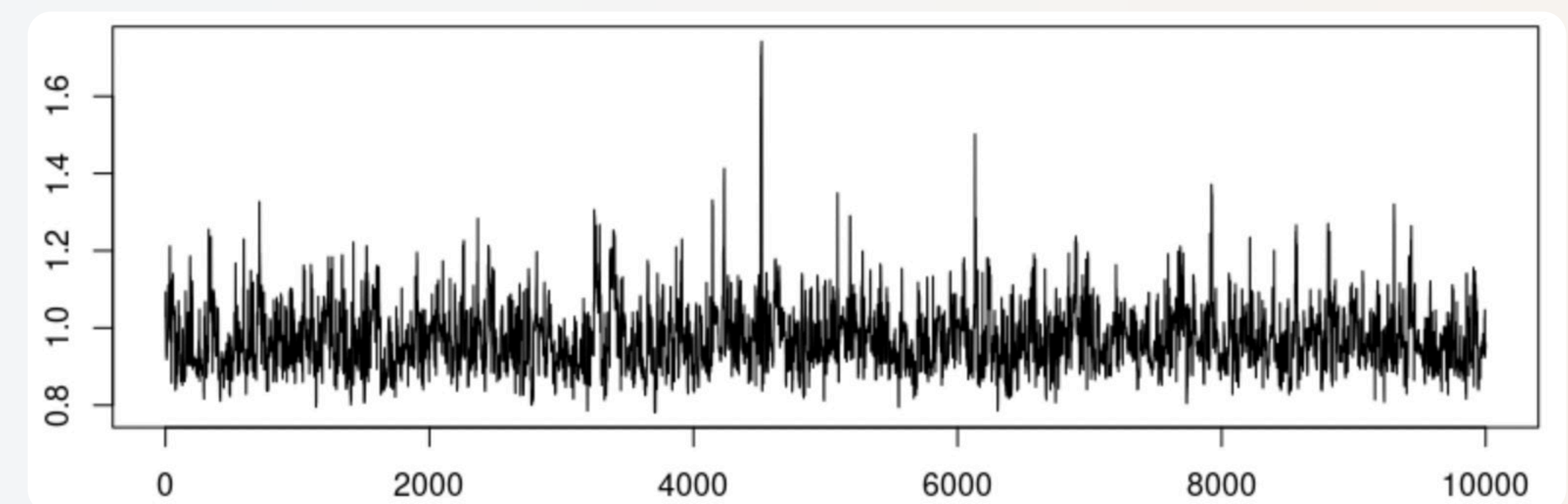
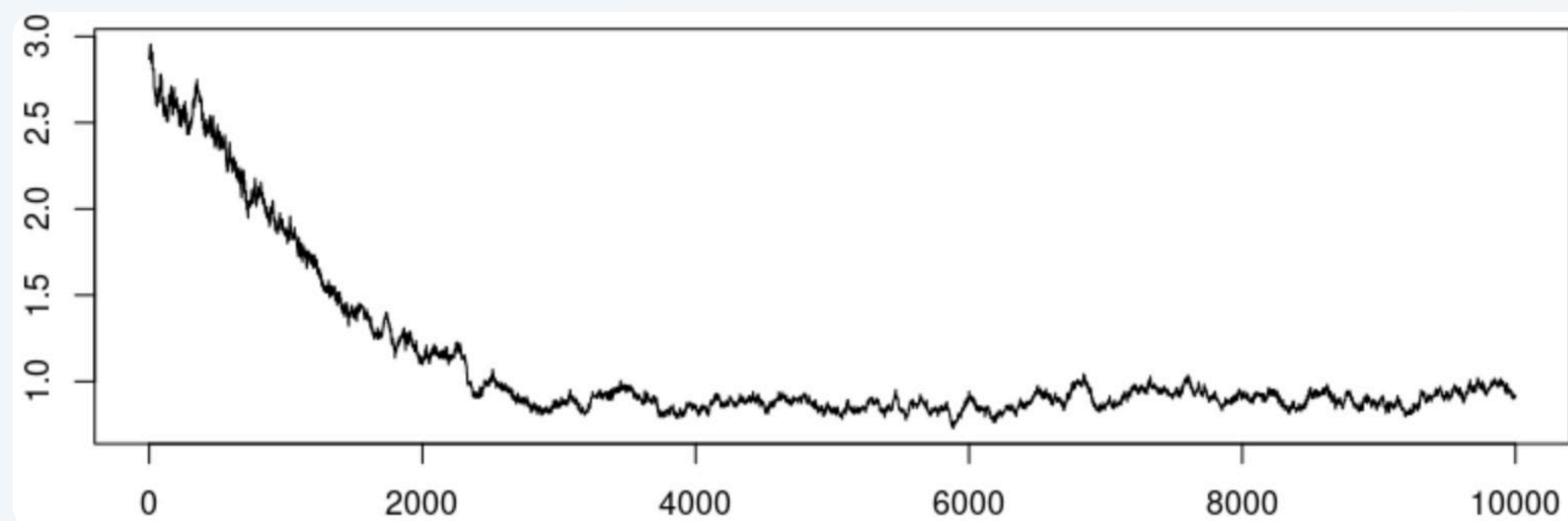
$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{r} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}' ; \quad \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}' \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{D}_n + \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

$$\mathbf{Z} = (\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A})\mathcal{H} \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = (\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A})\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{A}^\top)$$

\mathbf{A} is lower triangular with positive diagonal
 \mathbf{r} is a k-variate MGP with independent margins.
 The j-th base covariance is $\mathbf{C}_j(\cdot, \cdot) = \sigma_j^2 / \phi_j^{2\nu} \rho_{\phi_j, \nu}(\cdot, \cdot)$, where $\rho_{\phi_j, \nu}(\cdot, \cdot)$ is Matérn correlation
 \mathcal{H} and \mathcal{R} are derived from kriging relations and allow \mathbf{r} to be located on a regular grid

- After running MCMC, postprocess to get original model parameters
- Over **10x efficiency** in estimating σ_j^2, ϕ_j in some settings
- Takes advantage of the multiple **parametrizations** of the hierarchical model with latent effects

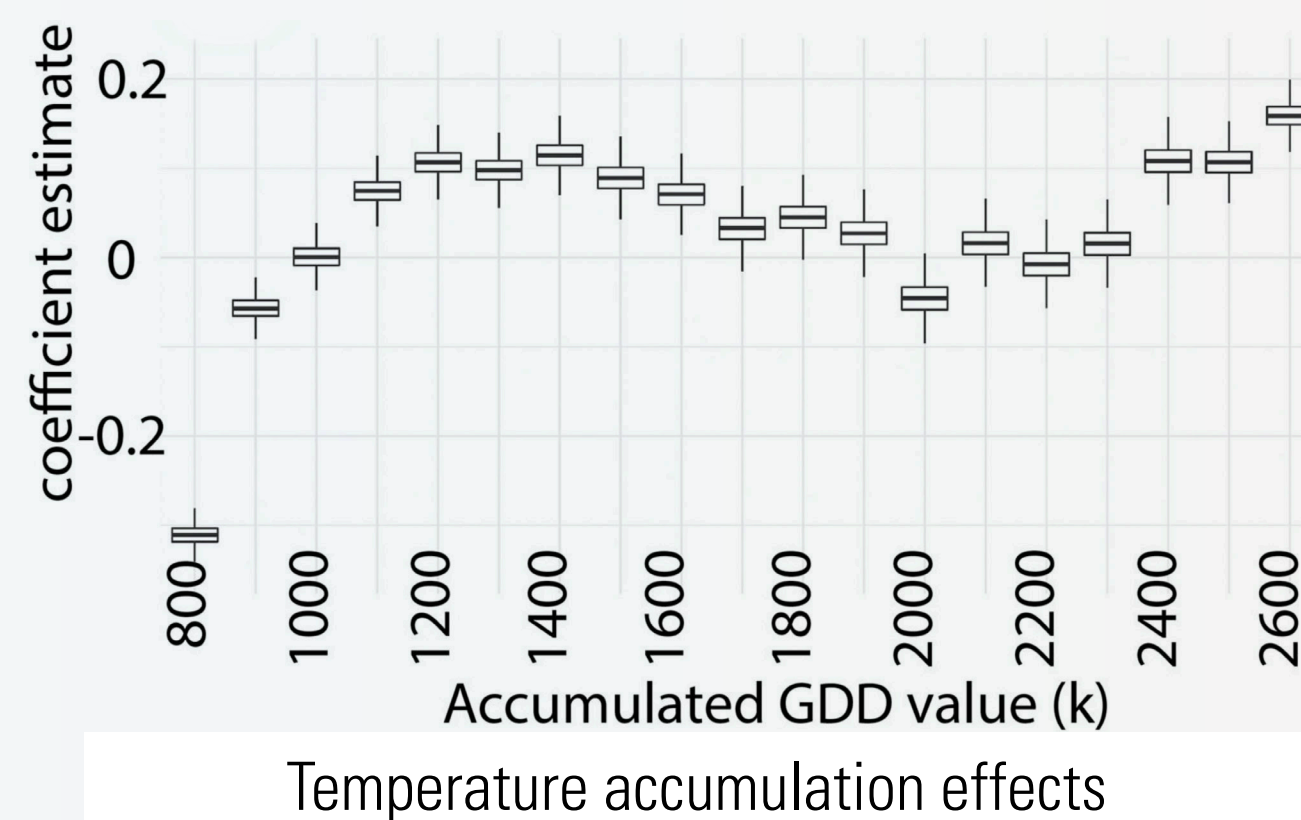
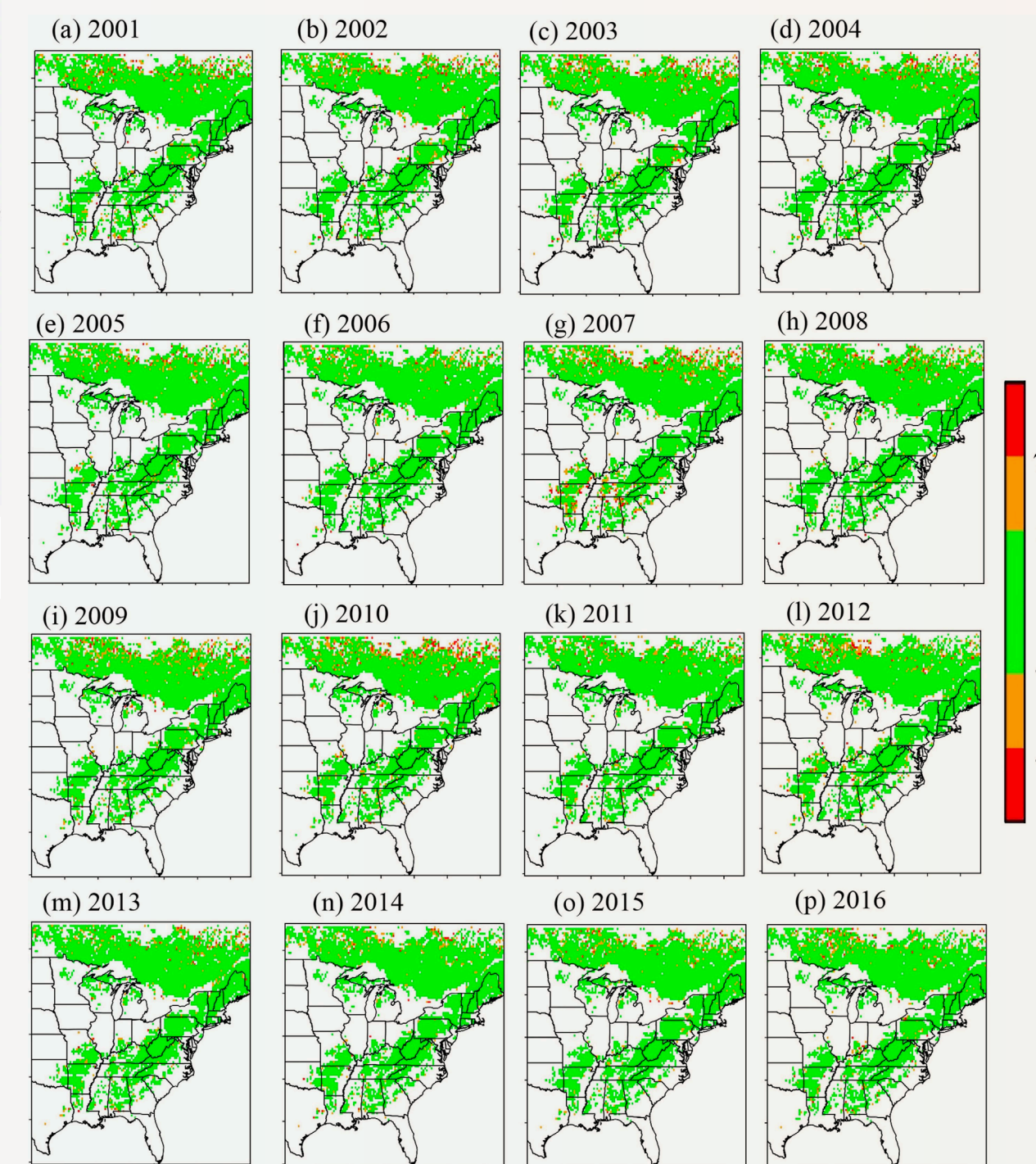
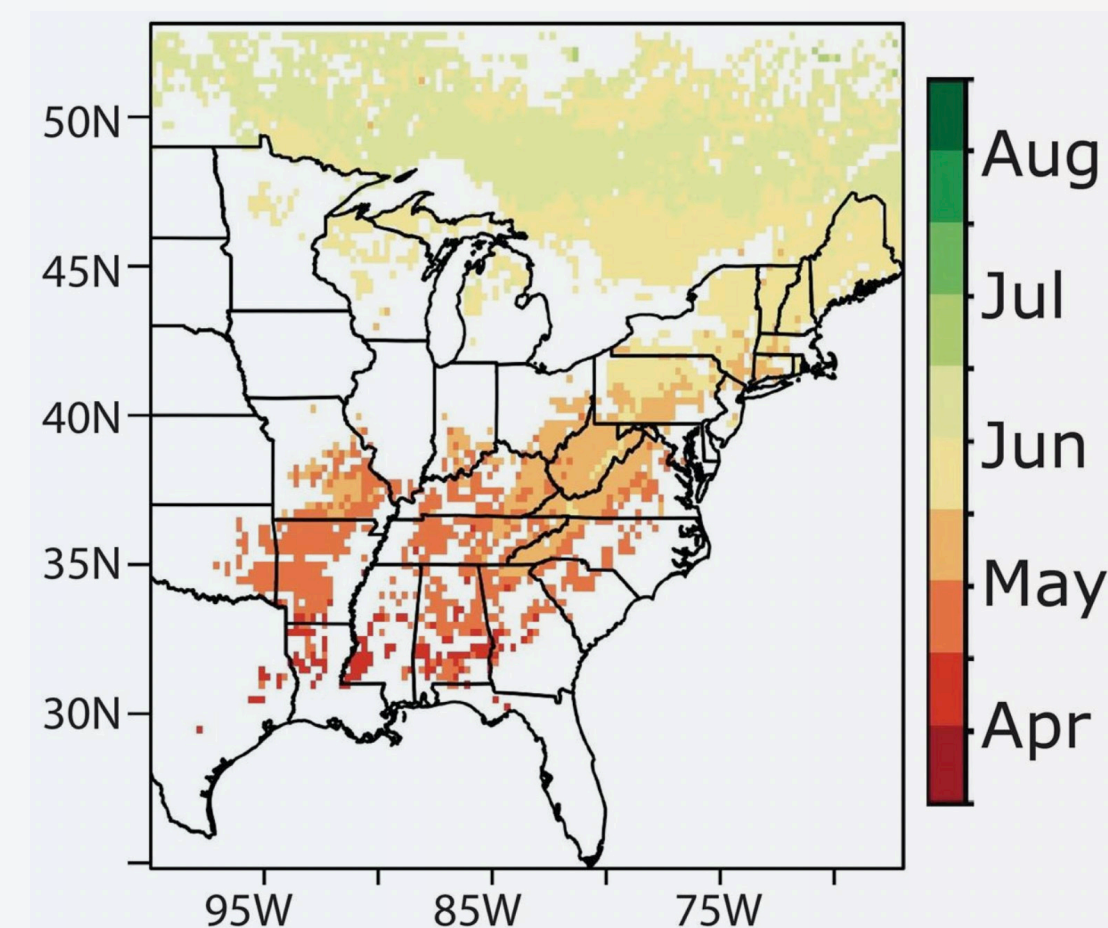
Extreme case: Noncentered parametrization vs GriPS. No thinning.



Application: Greenup timing study using MODIS data

N. Neupane, M. Peruzzi, L. Ries, A. Arab, S. J. Mayor, J. C. Withey, A. O. Finley (2022)
 A novel model to accurately predict continental-scale green-up timing.
International J. of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation 108:102747
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jag.2022.102747>

- **Vegetation phenology** study. “Greenness cycles”
- Interest: **when** there is peak greenness
- Vegetation buildup depends on **temperature**
- We consider North American data east of 100W
- With high-res satellite data, can make **continental-level** predictions
- Use MGP + temperature accumulation “speed”
- **1.7 million** space-time locations
- Predict next 2 years
- **Large gains** relative to same model without spatial random effects



- **Future:** how does climate change affect greenness cycles?

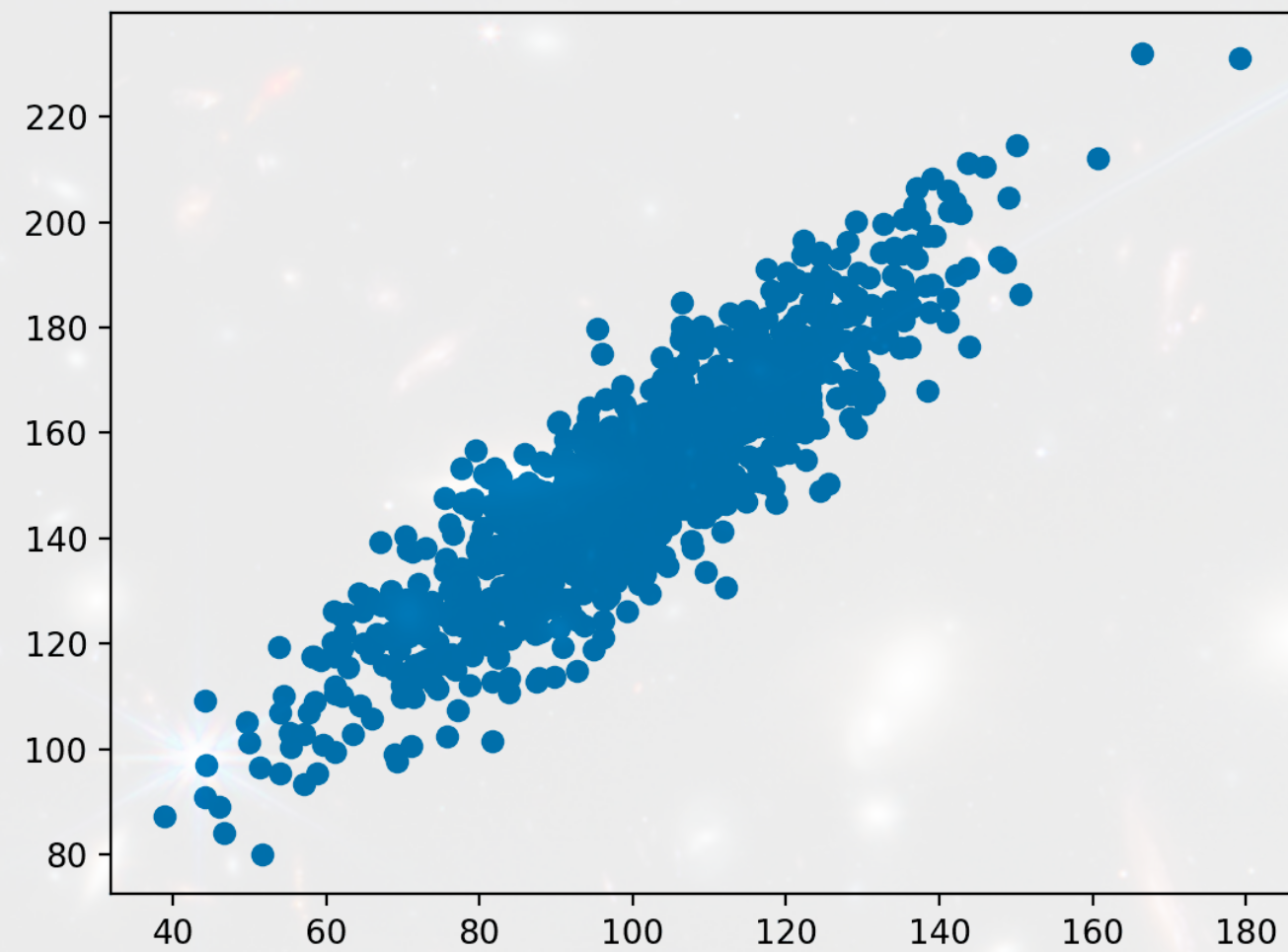
Out-of-sample predictions vs linear regression

Model	Forest	Validation set				2017 prediction				2018 prediction			
		MAPE	RMSE	95% Covg	Width (days)	MAPE	RMSE	95% Covg	Width (days)	MAPE	RMSE	95% Covg	Width (days)
SVI	no	4.841	8.2384	95.70%	33.8	6.4687	10.1459	95.20%	40.89	5.9737	9.156	97.98%	46.92
SVI	yes	4.8174	8.2227	95.32%	32.7	6.5488	10.1969	95.71%	43.43	6.1102	9.2742	98.42%	51.68
SLR	yes	10.5255	15.4441	93.35%	60.7	10.7402	17.0653	91.10%	60.7	8.1921	12.9737	95.78%	60.68

A deep field of galaxies, showing a vast array of shapes and colors, from bright yellow and white stars to reddish and blue galaxies. The background is dark, with a grid of thin blue lines overlaid. Several bright starburst patterns, consisting of multiple sharp points of light, are scattered across the field. The text "Looking ahead: beyond spatial data" is centered in the middle of the image.

*Looking ahead:
beyond spatial data*

Higher dimensional input spaces

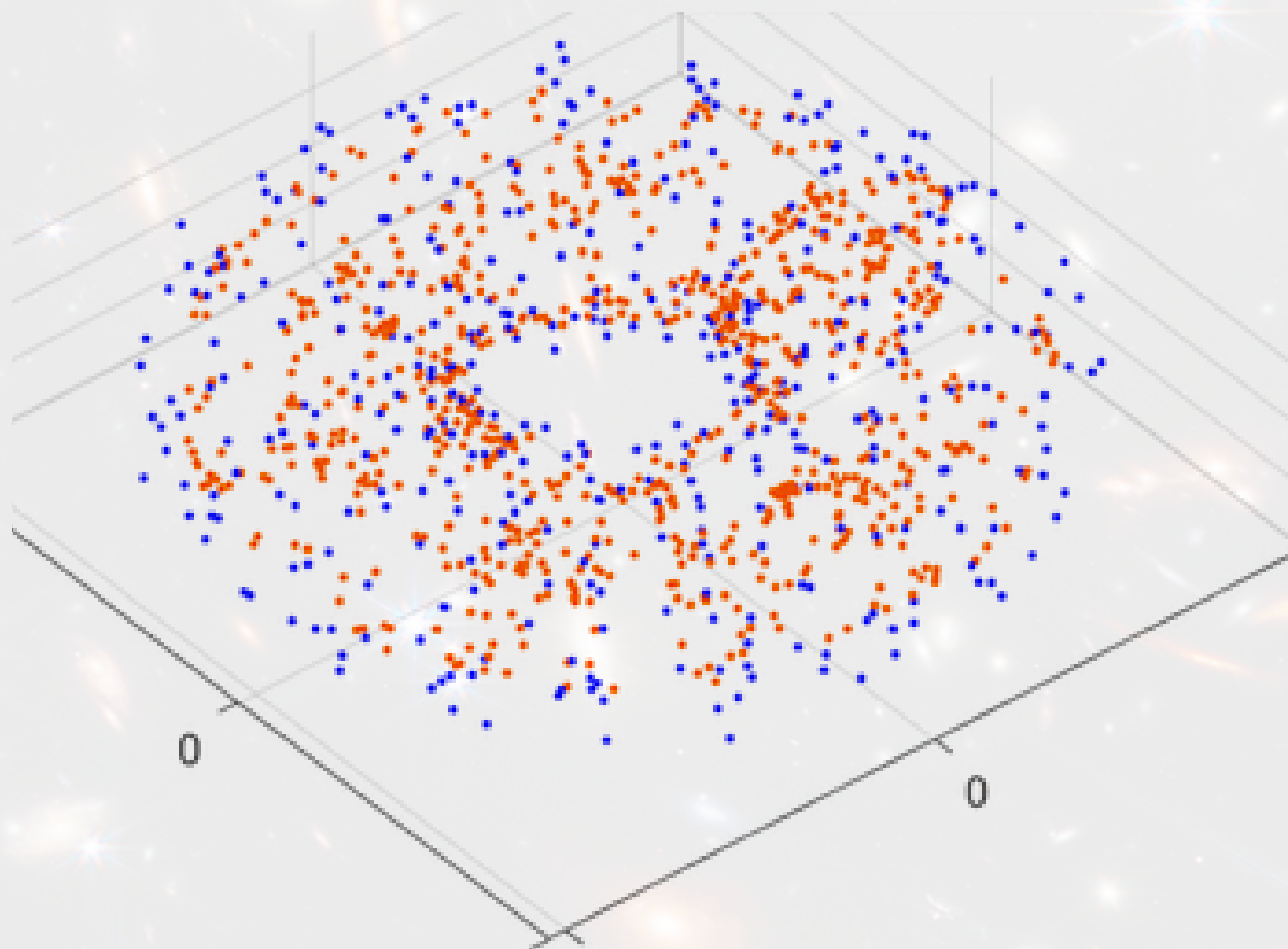


REALITY:

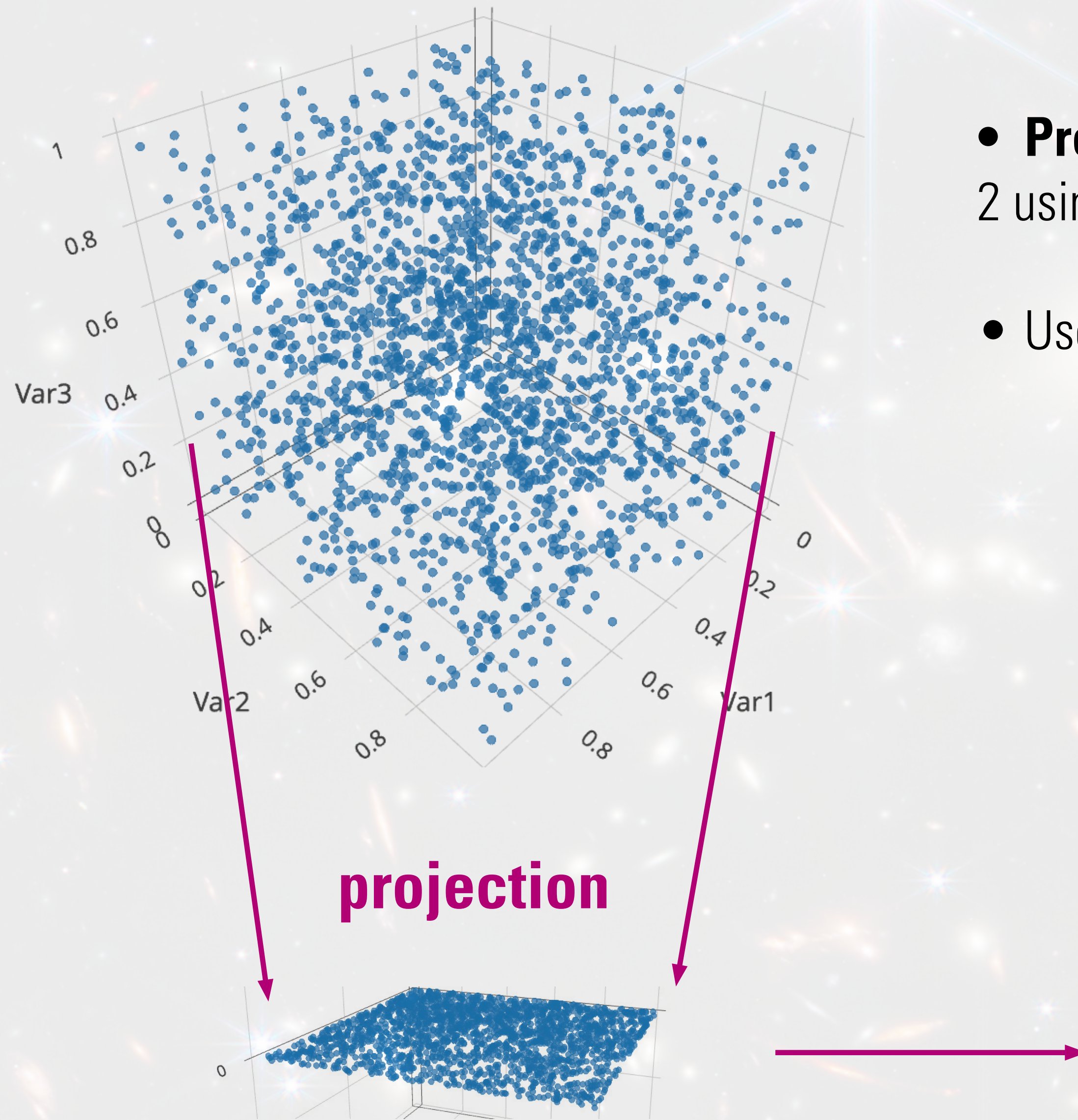
- Correlated inputs (e.g. chemical exposures)
- Extreme case: some inputs on lower dimensional manifold
- Scalability depends on notion of neighbor
- Difficult to find “good” neighbors with high dimension input

IDEA:

- **Take advantage** of input structure
- **Create** a 2D input space when a natural one does not exist



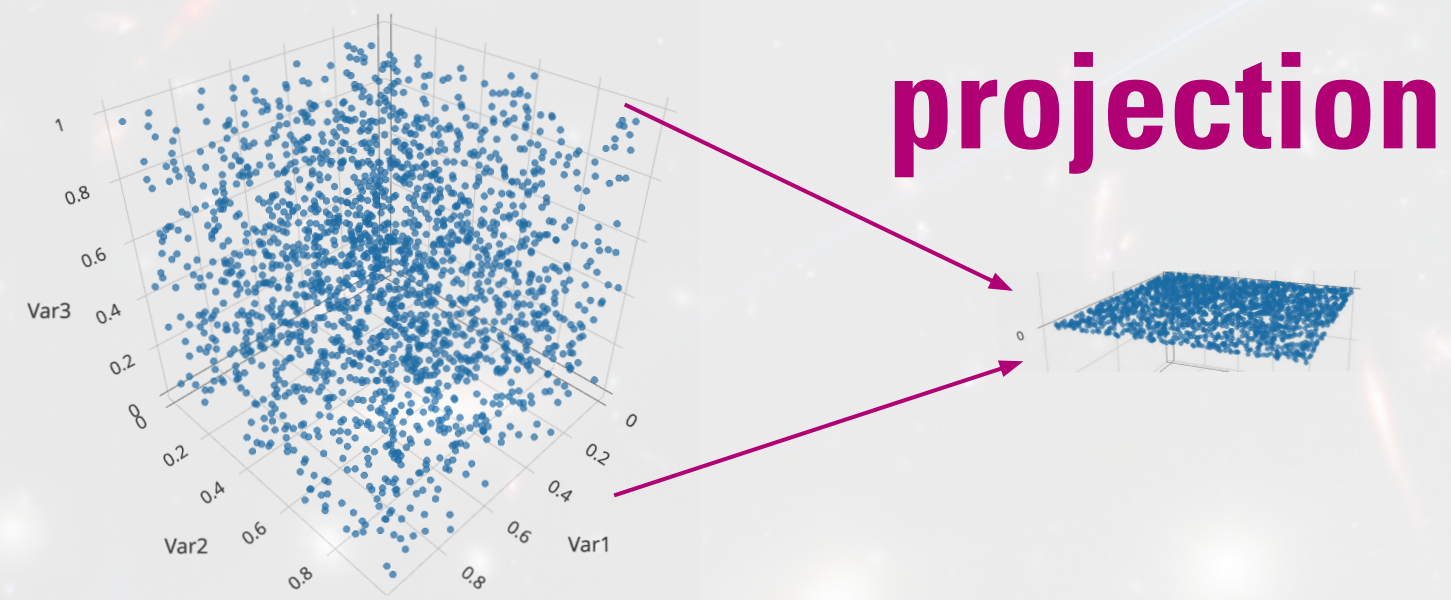
Graph Machine Regression



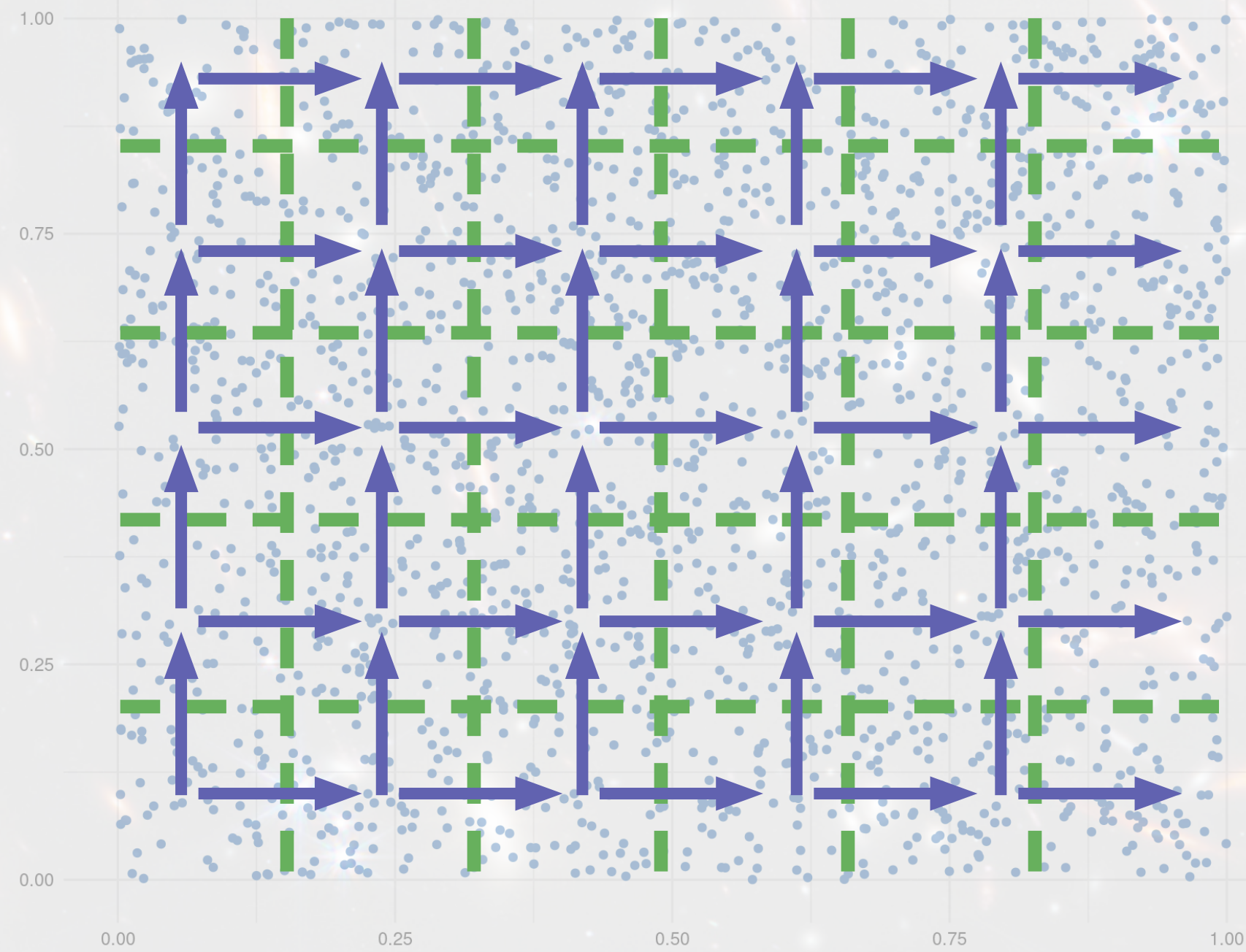
- **Project** original input space onto a new one of dimension 2 using PCA (easy!), Laplacian Eigenmaps?, other?
- Use projected space as a **spatial coordinate system**



Graph Machine Regression



+ partition + DAG



y_i health outcome/phenotype for subject i

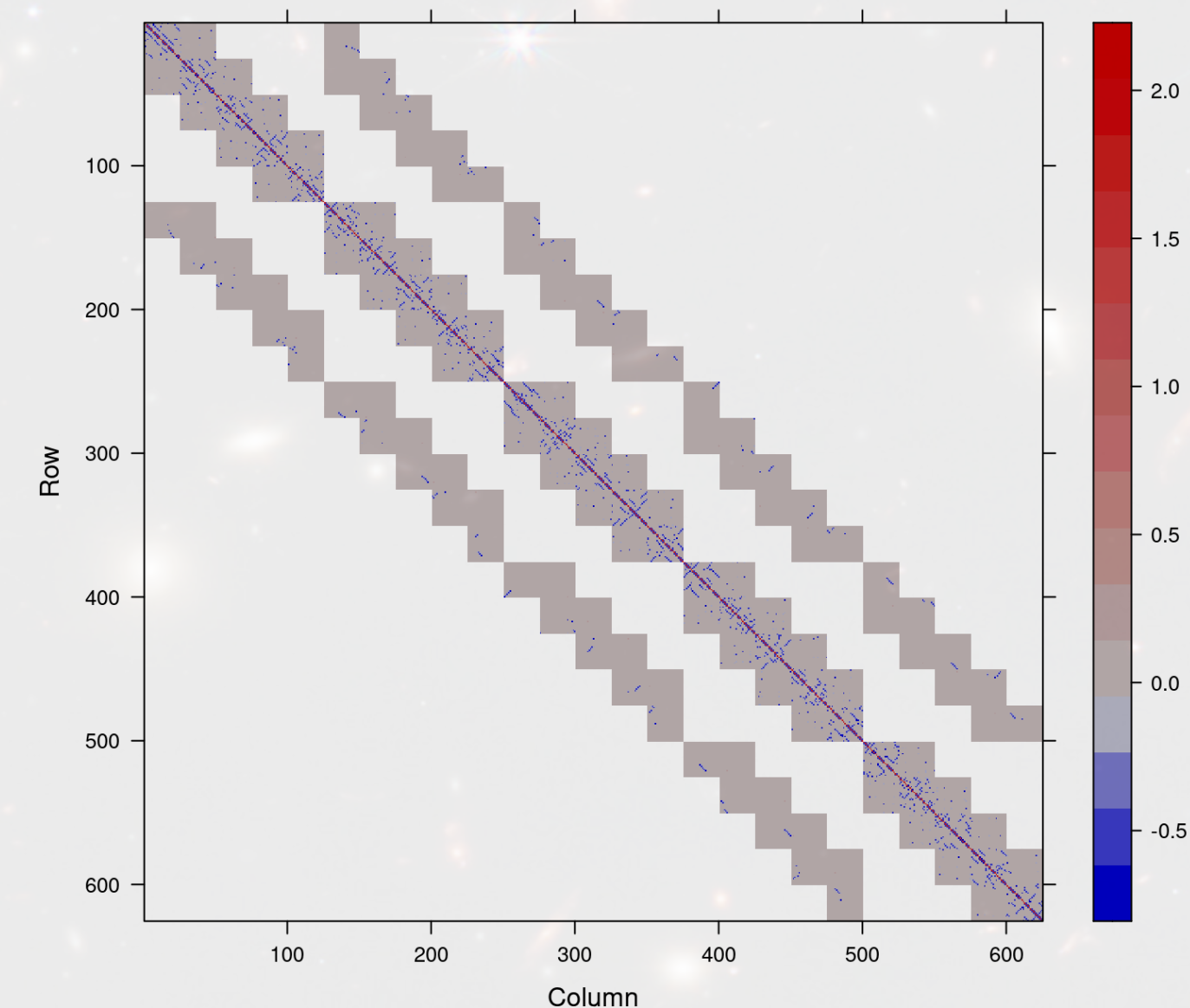
\mathbf{x}_i vector of predictors, dimension p

$f(\cdot)$ unknown function

$$y_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i) + \varepsilon_i \quad \varepsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2) \\ i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$p_{\text{meshed}}(\mathbf{f}) \propto |\widetilde{\mathbf{K}}|^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{f}^\top \widetilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \mathbf{f} \right\}$$

the **precision matrix is sparse** with pattern:

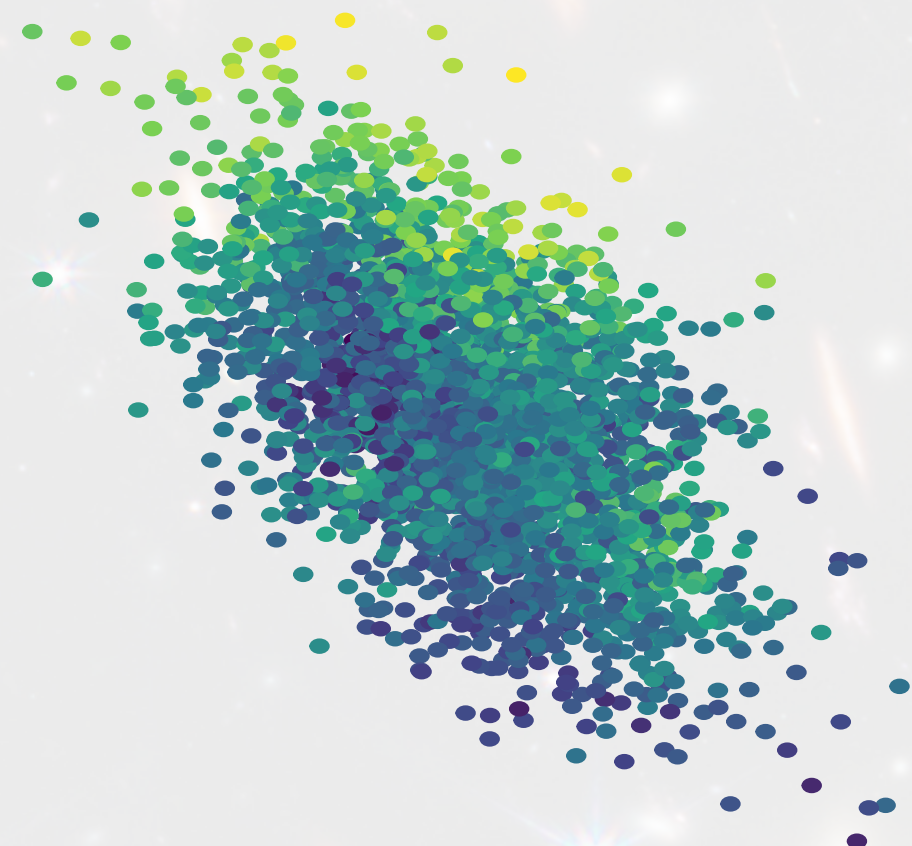


Graph Machine Regression

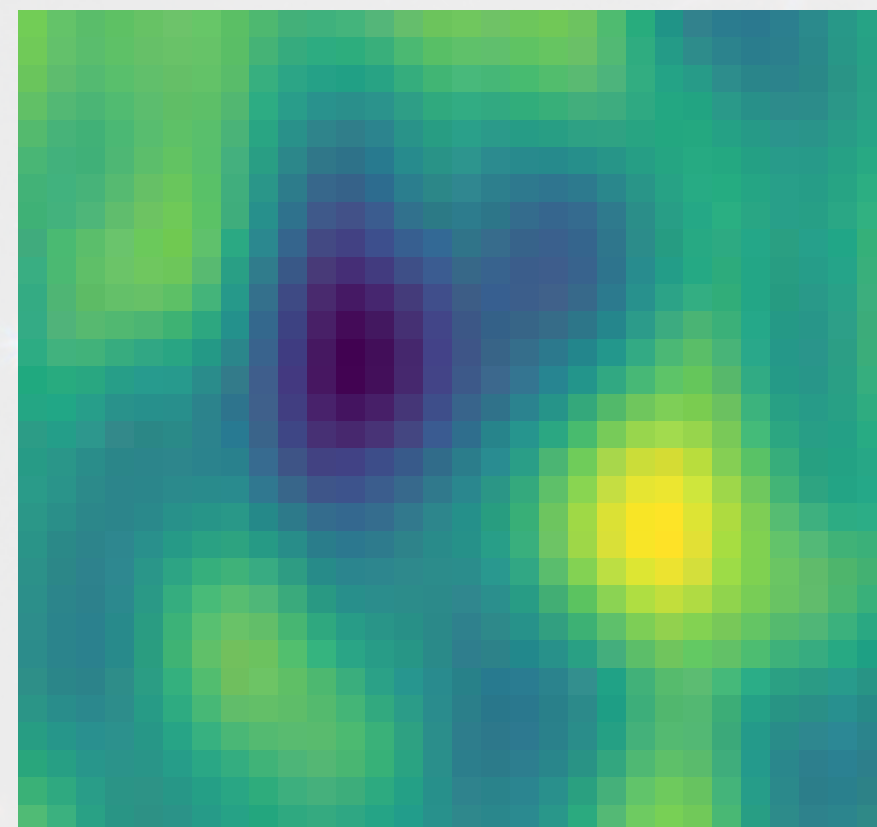
- 1 outcome
- data size ~3000
- **15 correlated inputs**

using new package **gramar** (github.com/mkln/gramar)

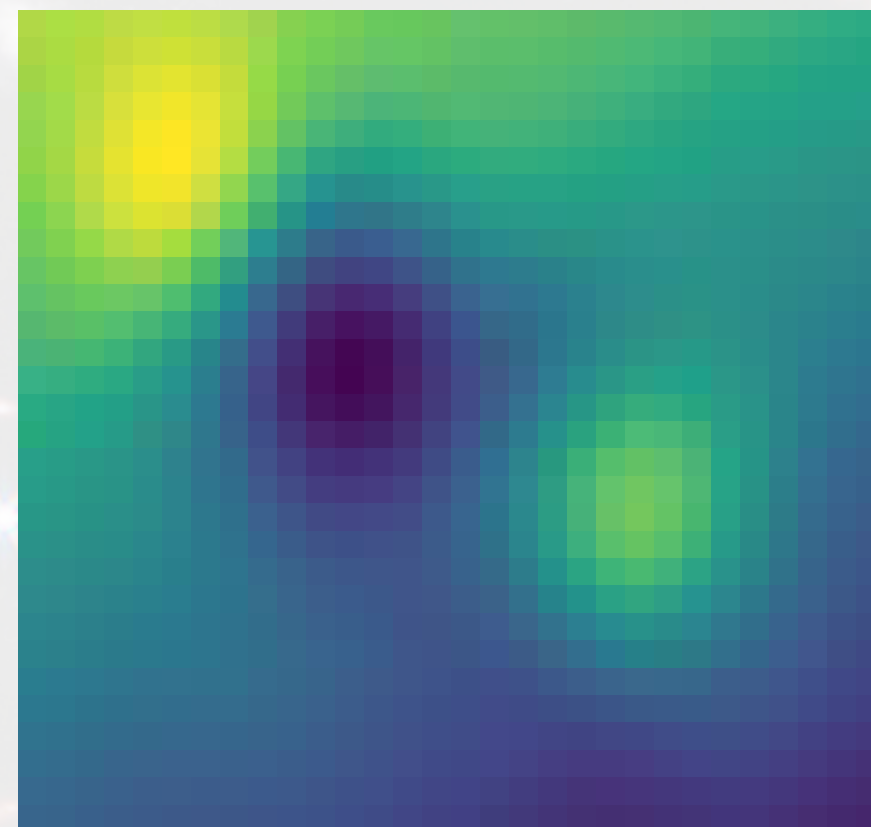
- for univariate outcomes
- uses a collapsed sampler
- **0.017** seconds/iteration (compare with BKMR implementing full GP: 0.838 seconds/iteration, **50x slower**)



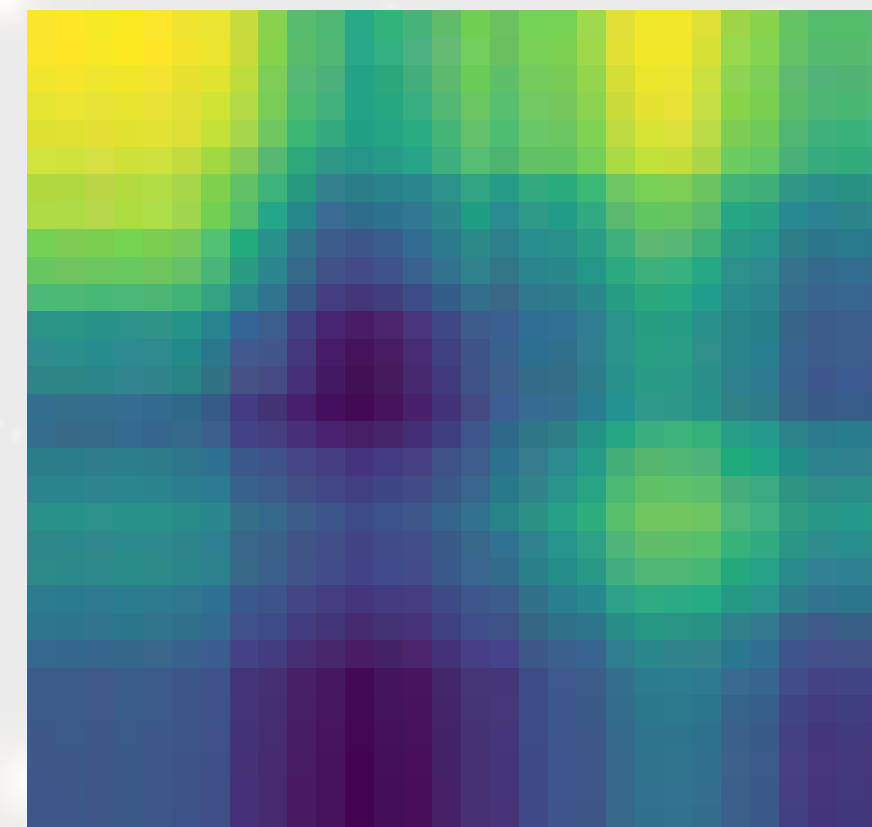
Observed data



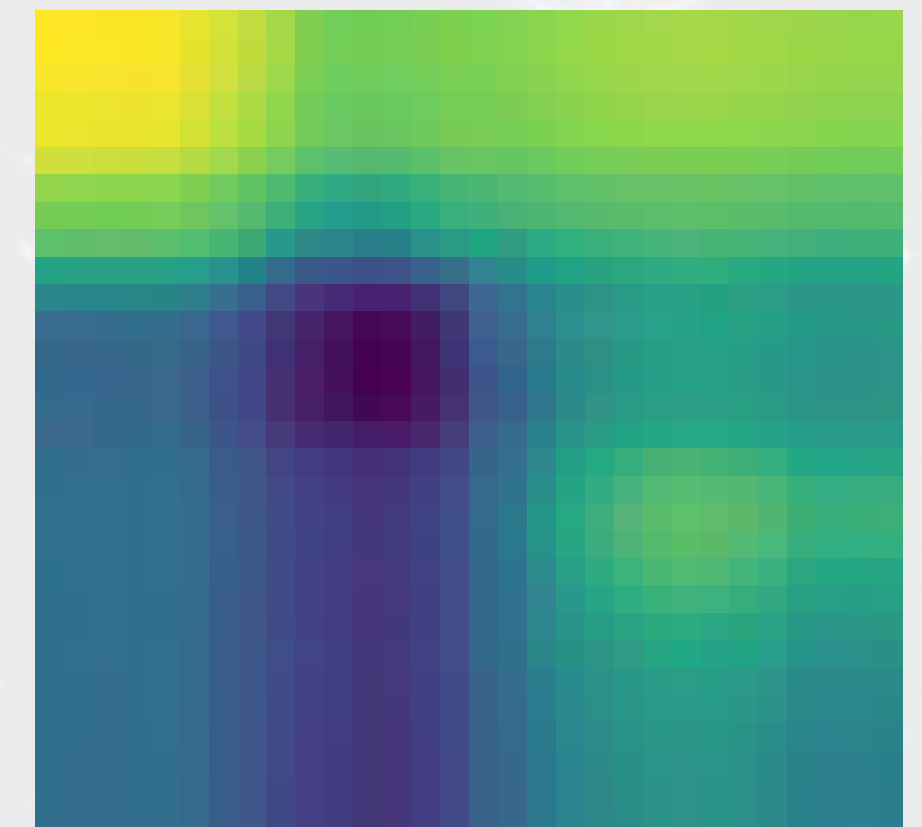
Latent X1-X2 surface



GRAMAR



RandomForest

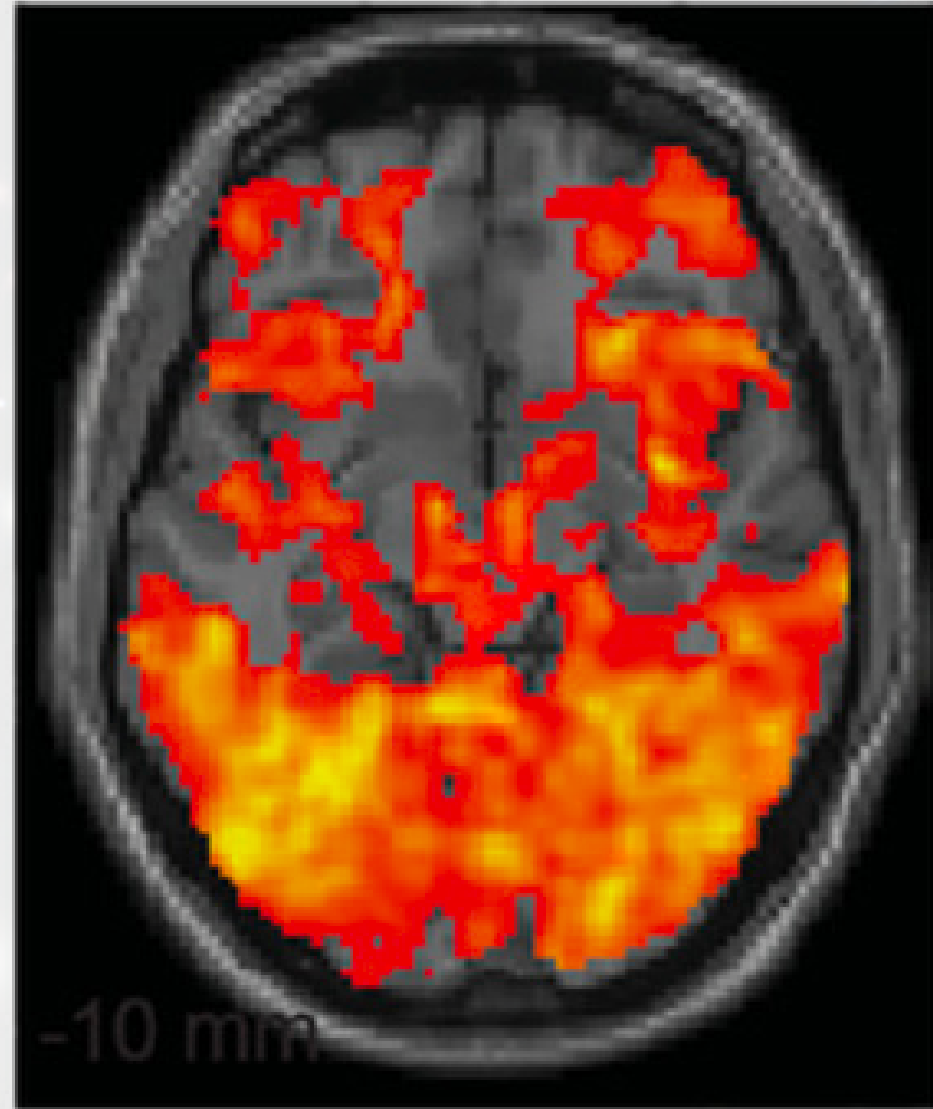


BART

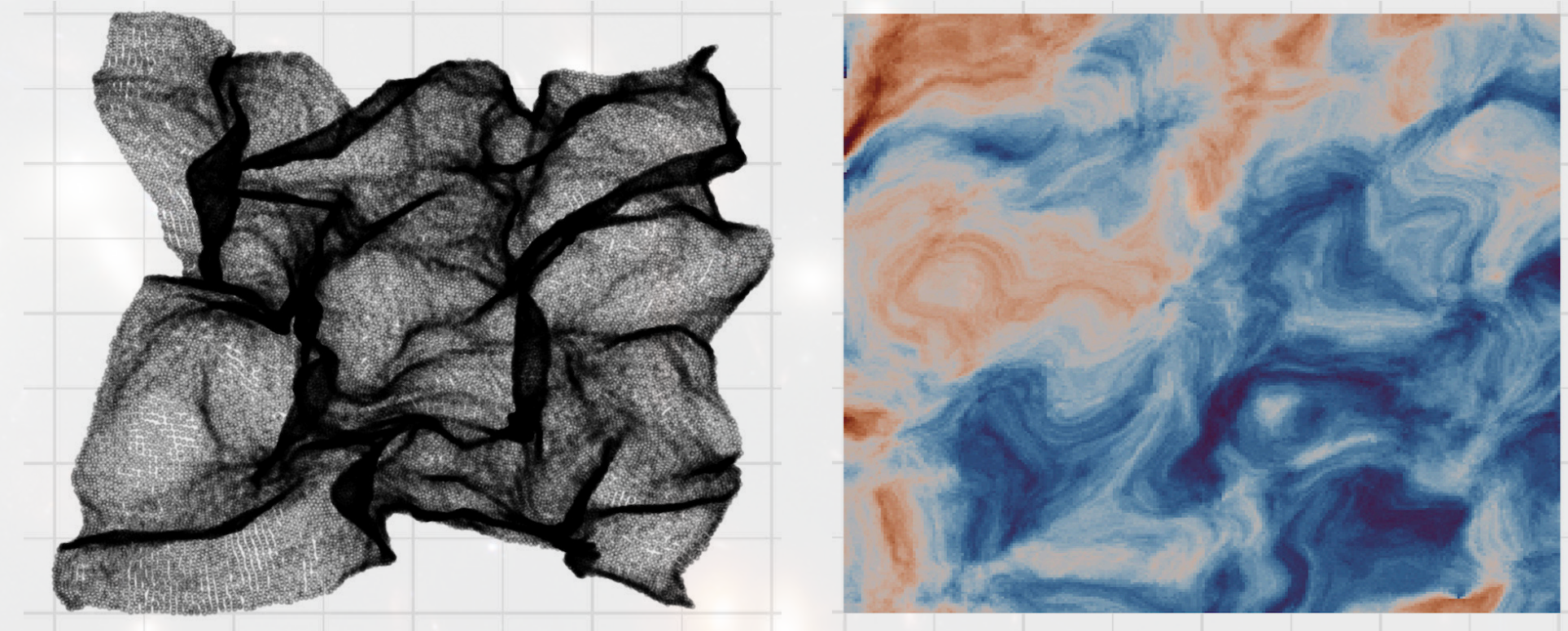
Recovered surfaces

Some future directions

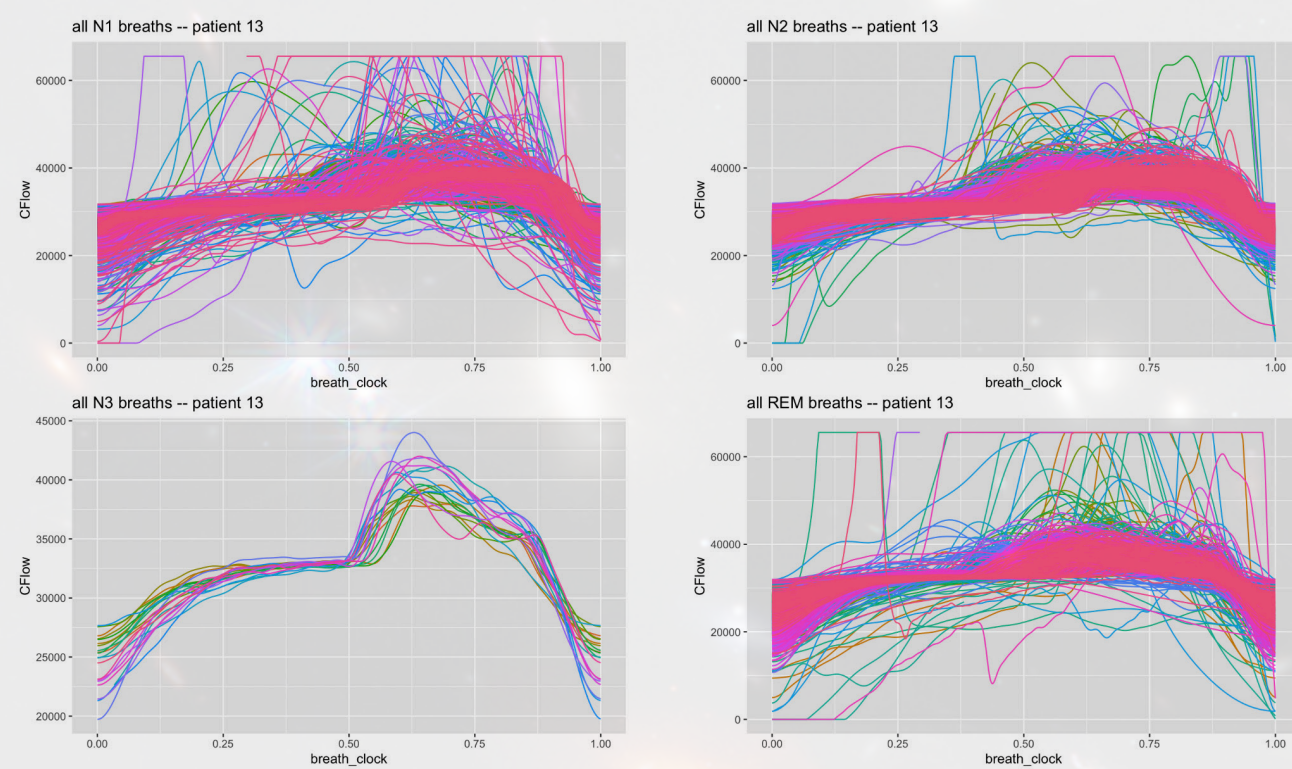
Other kinds of images



Nonstationary data via complex warping



Sleep studies



Activity tracking

