

# Changepoint modelling in spatio-temporal processes with application to Ireland wind data

StatScale ECR Meeting, 14-16 Dec 2022, Brighton

---

Gaurav Agarwal

Coauthors: Idris Eckley and Paul Fearnhead

Mathematics & Statistics

Lancaster University

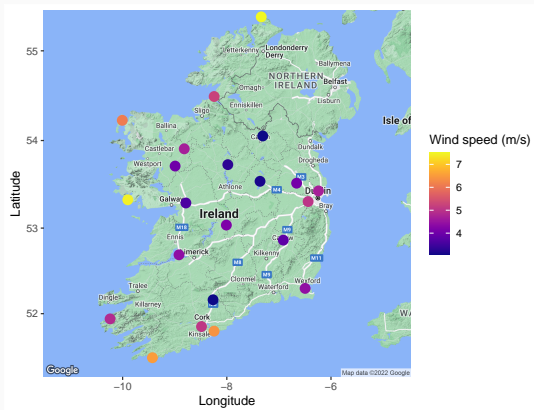
# Motivation: Ireland Wind Data



- global goal of **sustainable environment**, wind power clean energy source
- vital to evaluate country's wind resource

# Motivation: Ireland Wind Data

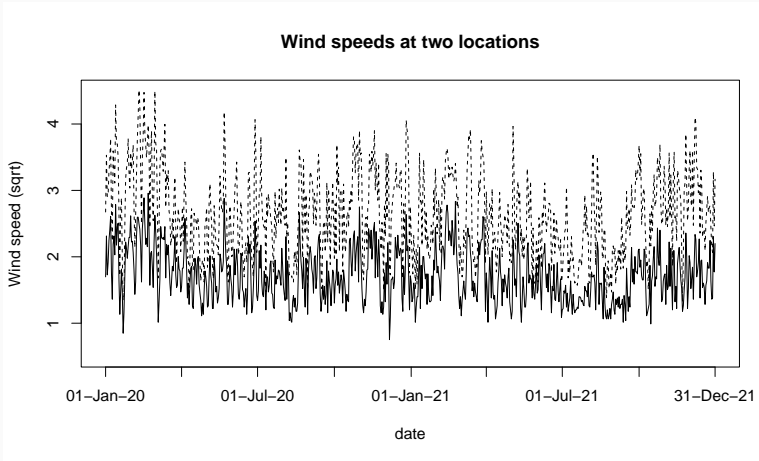
**Spatio-temporal data:** data indexed over space and time



**Spatial** distribution of wind speed, averaged over a two year period (1-Jan-2020 to 31-Dec-2021); may depict a change in pattern of wind speed over time.

# Motivation: Ireland Wind data

## Time series plots



evidence of spatial and temporal dependencies

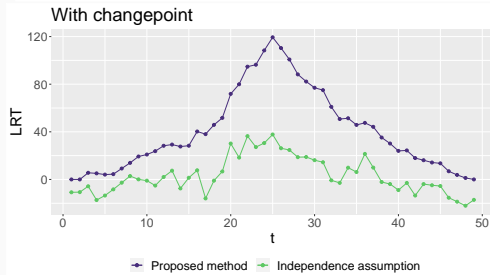
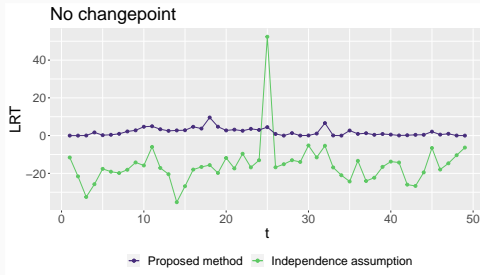
- Changepoints extensively studied for time series, but **limited literature** for change in spatio-temporal processes.
- Increasingly, spatio-temporal data is becoming **routinely available**.
- Assumption of stationarity for practical convenience.
- Spatio-temporal data exhibits **nonstationarity**, requiring methods for detecting changes in the process.

# Existing Methods

- Bayesian methods such as [Majumdar et al. \(2005\)](#) and [Altieri et al. \(2015\)](#) usually have very **specific model** structures for spatio-temporal changes.
- [Gromenko et al. \(2017\)](#) considered at most one change point, assuming **separability** of space and time.
- Recently, [Zhao et al. \(2019\)](#) defined a nonseparable pairwise likelihood-based approach.
- However, for simplicity, assume **data across segments are independent**.

# Motivation- Issues of independent segment assumptions

statistical inconsistencies



## Methodology: Background

- Let  $Y(\mathbf{s}, t)$  be a stochastic process, where  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ : location, and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ : time point.
- For each time  $t = t_1, \dots, t_T$ , there are  $m$  observations.
- $\mathbf{Y} = \{Y(\mathbf{s}_1, t_1), \dots, Y(\mathbf{s}_m, t_1), \dots, Y(\mathbf{s}_1, t_T), \dots, Y(\mathbf{s}_m, t_T)\}^\top$ , with  $n = mT$  observations.
- The vector  $\mathbf{Y} \sim \mathcal{MVN}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{n \times 1}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{n \times n})$ , where  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = [\text{Cov}\{Y(\mathbf{s}_i, t_i), Y(\mathbf{s}_j, t_j)\}]_{i,j=1}^n$  is the **covariance** matrix and  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = [E\{Y(\mathbf{s}_1, t_1)\}, \dots, E\{Y(\mathbf{s}_m, t_T)\}]$ .



Consider a spatio-temporal process

$$Y(\mathbf{s}, t) = \mu(\mathbf{s}, t) + \epsilon(\mathbf{s}, t),$$

$t = 1, \dots, T$  and  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}$ , where  $\mu(\mathbf{s}, t)$  is deterministic mean and  $\epsilon(\mathbf{s}, t)$  is the mean-zero error process.

- Use a parametric nonseparable **nonstationary** space-time **covariance function**, which allows spatial process to evolve over time (Qadir, G.A. and Sun, Y., 2022).
- Considers **time-varying** spatial parameters.
- $\text{Cov}\{Y(\mathbf{s}, t_i), Y(\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{h}, t_j)\} = C(\mathbf{h}, t_i, t_j)$

## Change in spatial process

Denote all the spatial covariance parameters by  $\theta$ , nuisance parameters by  $\gamma$ , the null hypothesis of no change is

$$H_0 : \mu_1 = \mu_2 = \dots \mu_T \quad \text{and} \quad \theta_1 = \theta_2 = \dots \theta_T = \theta_0,$$

against change in mean or spatial dependence

$$H_{A_1} : \mu_1 = \dots \mu_\tau = \mu^{(1)} \neq \mu_{\tau+1} = \dots \mu_T = \mu^{(2)}, \quad \text{or}$$

$$\theta_1 = \dots \theta_\tau = \theta^{(1)} \neq \theta_{\tau+1} = \dots \theta_T = \theta^{(2)}.$$

**Likelihood ratio test statistics:**

$$LR_\tau = -2 \ln \left[ \frac{\max_{\mu, \theta_0, \gamma_0} f_Y(\mathbf{y}; \mu, \theta_0, \gamma_0)}{\max_{\mu^{(1)}, \mu^{(2)}, \theta^{(1)}, \theta^{(2)}, \gamma_1} f_Y\{\mathbf{y}; \mu^{(1)}, \mu^{(2)}, \theta^{(1)}, \theta^{(2)}, \gamma_1\}} \right].$$

# Markov Likelihood and Estimation

- Log-likelihood of  $\mathbf{Y}$ :  $\ell(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{Y}) = -\{\log \det \Sigma(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^\top \Sigma(\boldsymbol{\theta})^{-1} (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) + n \log 2\pi\} / 2$
- **computationally challenging**: it involves the inverse of a high-dimensional covariance matrix, complexity  $O(m^3 T^3)$
- storing very large matrices can exhaust the memory of the machine
- To **overcome** the computational issues, we implement a **Markov likelihood** approach for optimization

# Markov Likelihood and Estimation

- The joint distribution of  $\mathbf{Y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_T$ :

$$\{\mathbf{Y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_T\} = \{\mathbf{Y}_T \mid \mathbf{Y}_{T-1}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_1\} \dots \{\mathbf{Y}_3 \mid \mathbf{Y}_2, \mathbf{Y}_1\} \{\mathbf{Y}_2 \mid \mathbf{Y}_1\} \{\mathbf{Y}_1\}$$

- most real-world spatio-temporal processes can be characterized conditional on the process in the **recent past**.
- First-order Markov assumption, joint distribution

$$\{\mathbf{Y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_T\} = \prod_{t=2}^T \{\mathbf{Y}_t \mid \mathbf{Y}_{t-1}\} \times \{\mathbf{Y}_1\}.$$

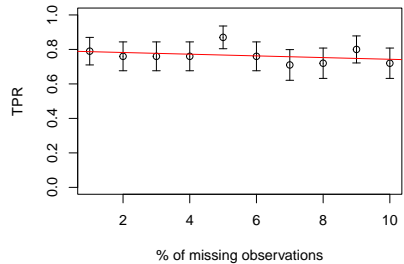
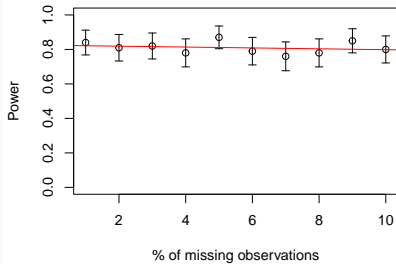
- relatively simple conditional distributions, **complexity reduced** to  $O(m^3T)$  from  $O(m^3T^3)$ .

## Optimistic search and multiple changepoint

- Searching through all candidate changepoints  $\tau = 1, \dots, T - 1$ , computationally demanding.
- Each point requires fitting a spatio-temporal model.
- Use optimistic search strategy (Kovács et al., 2020), adaptively determine the next search point,  $O(\log T)$  evaluations instead of  $O(T)$ .
- Combine with binary segmentation for multiple changepoints.

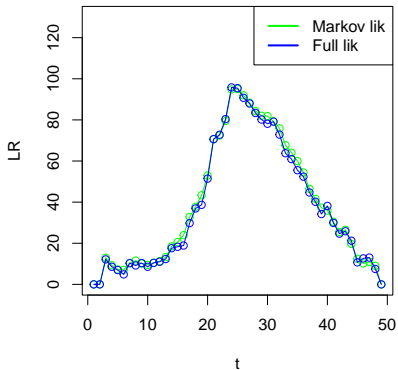
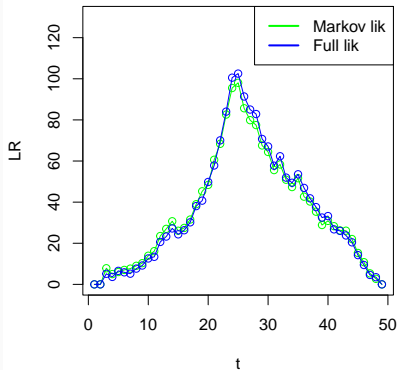
# Simulation study: missing observations

method works with missing observations, quite common in spatio-temporal data



# Simulation study: Markov approximation

comparison of Markov likelihood with Full likelihood



## Simulation results

change in spatial dependence

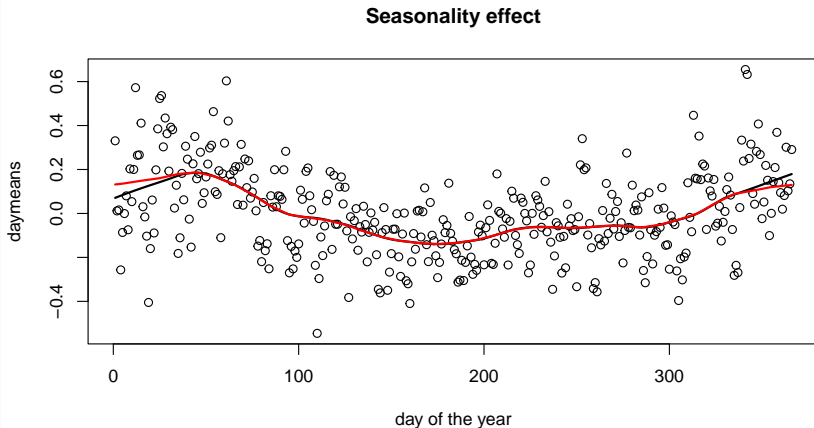
size of change	Method	Power	TPR
0.025	Proposed (Markov Lik)	0.7	0.4
	Proposed (Full Lik)	0.74	0.43
	Ind Segment (Pair Lik)	0	0
0.05	Proposed (Markov Lik)	1	0.91
	Proposed (Full Lik)	1	0.95
	Ind Segment (Pair Lik)	0.4	0.1
0.2	Proposed (Markov Lik)	1	1
	Proposed (Full Lik)	1	1
	Ind Segment (Pair Lik)	0.7	0.2
0.3	Proposed (Markov Lik)	1	1
	Proposed (Full Lik)	1	1
	Ind Segment (Pair Lik)	0.95	0.5



## Application: Ireland Wind data

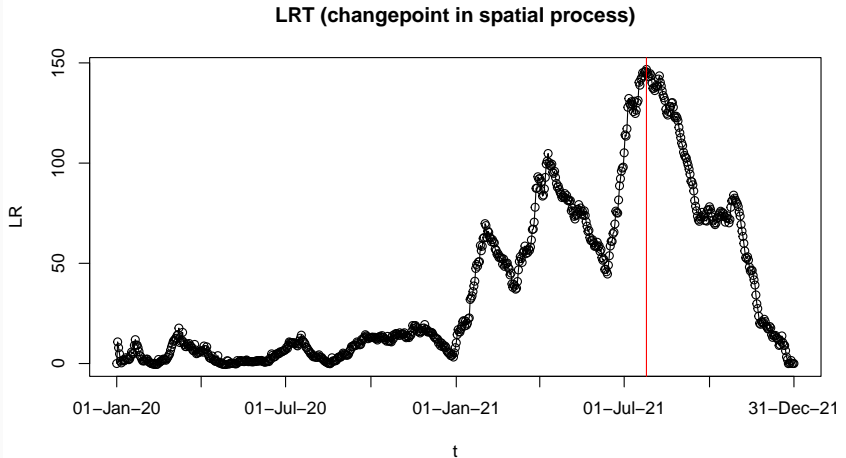
- The Irish Meteorological Service (**Met Éireann**) provides wind speed data at **22 synoptic weather** stations across the country.
- This data can be used to monitor, analyse and predict Ireland's wind power resource.
- We consider daily **wind speed** data over a **2 year** period for the 22 synoptic weather stations.
- The data is available at <https://www.met.ie/climate/available-data>.

# Application: Ireland Wind data



seasonality estimated using 5 years historical data from 2015-2019,  
smoothed at start and end of year (in red)

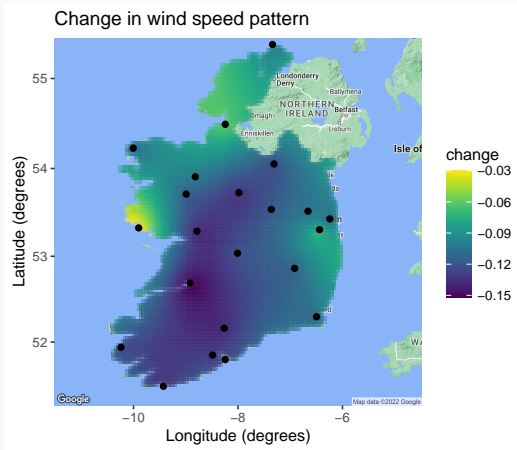
# Application: Ireland Wind data



change point: 24 July 2021, threshold 20-30

reason: climate statement about heatwaves

# Application: Ireland Wind data



changes higher at some locations than others.

## Application: Ireland Wind data

- Use spatio-temporal kriging for **prediction**.
- Left 20% data out to check the prediction accuracy with changepoint model (CP) and compare with a no-change model (No CP).
- Point prediction: Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE)
- Probabilistic prediction: Continuous Rank Probability Scores (CRPS), Logarithmic Score (logS)

Metric	No CP	CP
RMSE	0.54	0.52
CRPS	0.32	0.29
logS	0.87	0.83

# Summary

- A likelihood-based methodology for estimation of **changepoints** and model parameters of **spatio-temporal processes**.
- Fit a nonstationary changepoint model **without any independent segment** assumption
- computationally efficient **Markov approximation**
- changepoint detection and missing data prediction in daily **wind speeds** across different synoptic weather stations in Ireland over two years

Thank you for your attention ([g.agarwal@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:g.agarwal@lancaster.ac.uk)).