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# Using Spatial Data to Estimate Distributions to Rate Area Crop Insurance Policies

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# Contribution

Using Bayesian Kriging to Estimate a  
Linear Regression with Heteroskedasticity

# Rating Crop Insurance

- Prediction
- Calibration

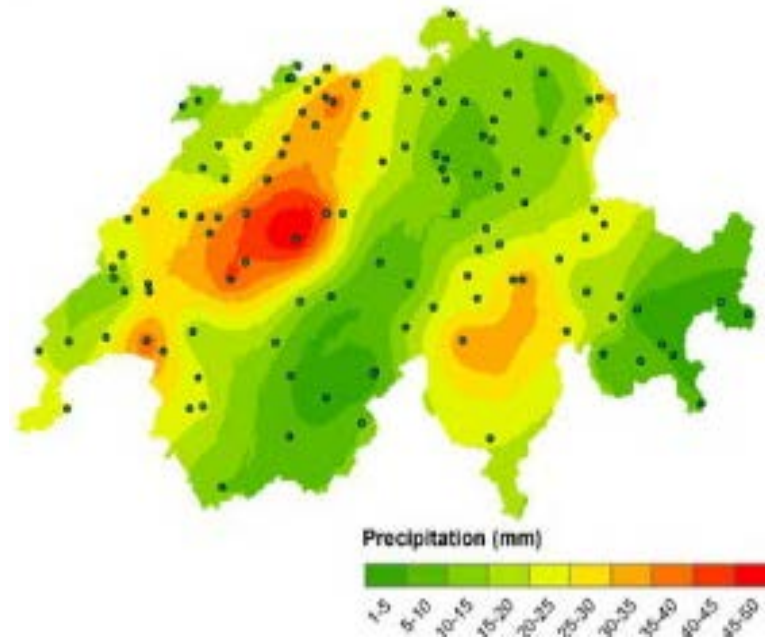
Area Yield/Revenue

# What Data to Use?

- Time Series – structural change
- Spatial – structural change

# Kriging

- Method of interpolation originating from geostatistics.



# Alternative Spatial Models

- Spatial error model (Anselin)
- Spatially weighted regression
- Spatio-temporal model (Ozaki et al. 2008)
- Bayesian model averaging



# Harri et al.

- Time trend
- Heteroskedasticity
- Spatial smoothing



# County Yield Densities

- $Y_{it} \sim N(\mu_{it}, \sigma_{it}^2)$

$$\mu_{it} = \alpha_i + \beta_i t + \varepsilon_{it}$$

$$\sigma_{it}^2 = \gamma_i + \delta_i t + \nu_{it}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\boldsymbol{\alpha}, \boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}, \boldsymbol{\delta})$$

Assume all our parameters vary by location

# Harri et al. model



# Procedures:

- Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling

$$Y \sim p(Y|\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} \sim p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\lambda})$$

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda} \sim p(\boldsymbol{\lambda})$$

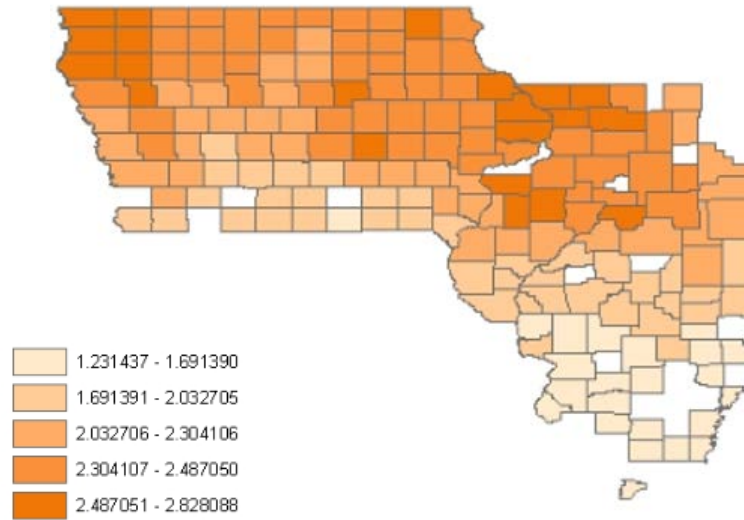
$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}|Y) \propto p(Y|\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) * p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\lambda})$$

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}|Y) \propto p(Y|\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) * p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\lambda}) * p(\boldsymbol{\lambda})$$

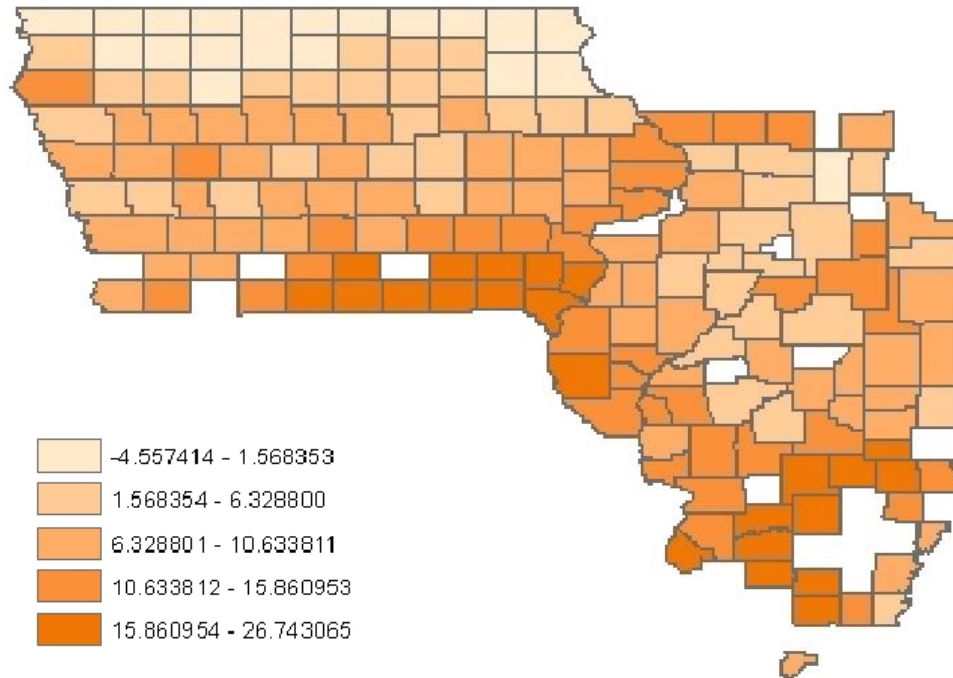
# Computational Issues

- Takes 1-2 days to run
- R is notoriously slow

# Results: 2015 Mean Trend

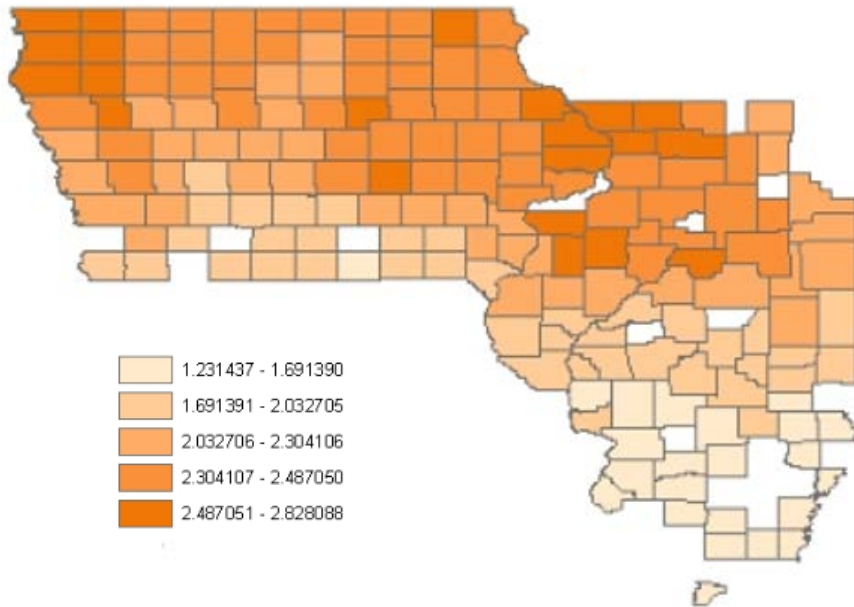


# Results: 2015 Variance Trend

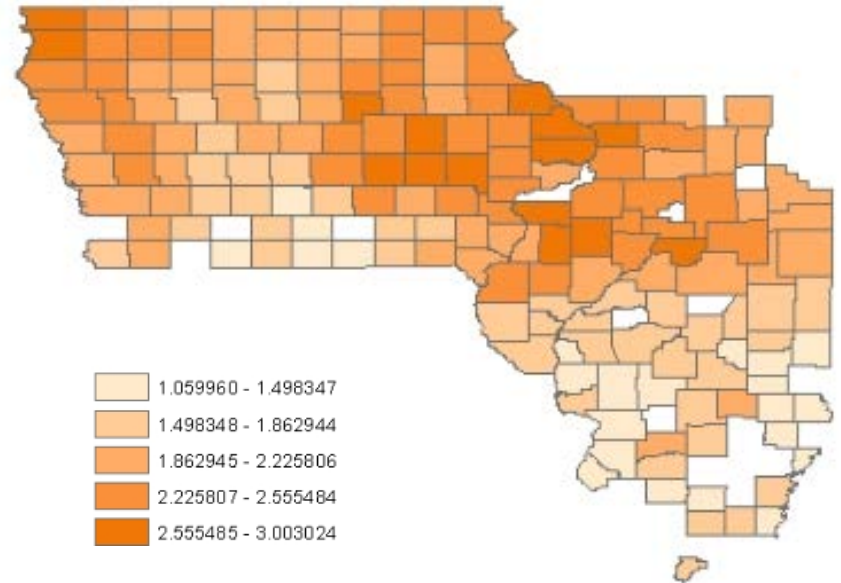


## Comparing trend of mean equation

### Bayesian Kriging (2015)



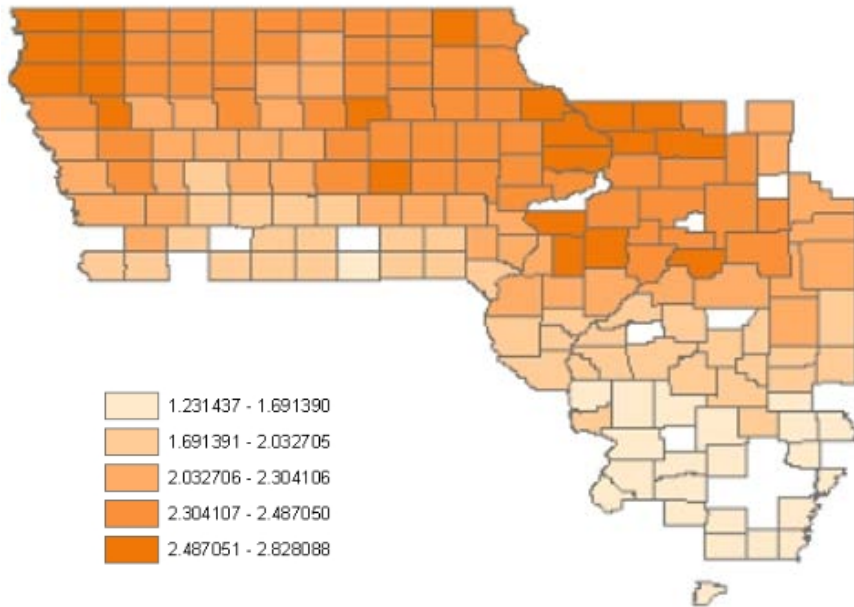
### OLS for each county (2015)



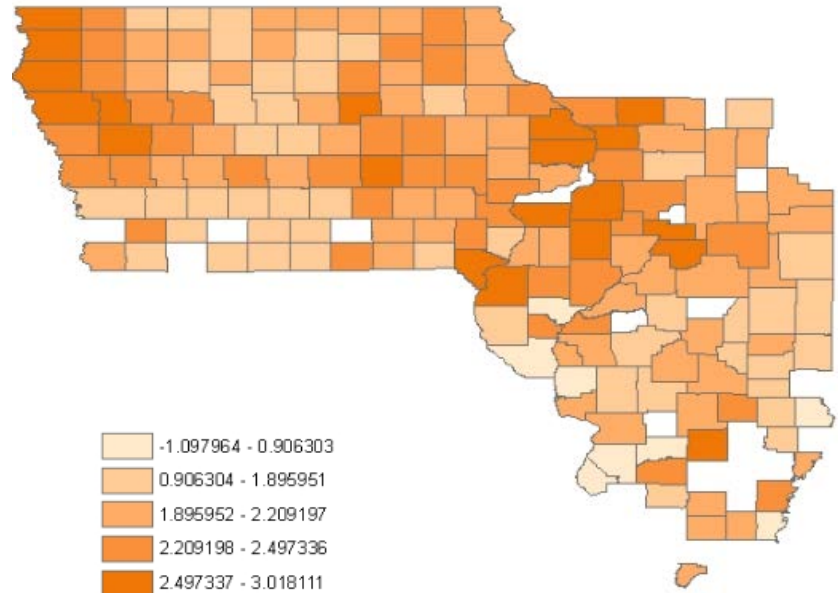


## Comparing trend of mean equation

### Bayesian Kriging (2015)



### BMA (2015)



# Conclusions

- Bayesian Kriging leads to smoother maps
- Out of sample forecasting?
- Tool that could work with a wide variety of spatial data