

Minimum contrast estimation for inhomogeneous space-time cluster point processes

Jiří Dvořák^{1,2}, joint work with Michaela Prokešová¹

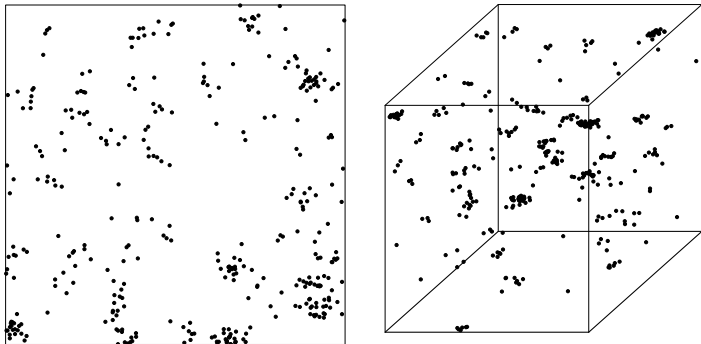
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Spatial Statistics and Image Analysis in Biology

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Point processes – spatial and space-time



Stationary spatial cluster point process

Cox process model with

$$\Lambda(u) = \sum_{v \in \Phi} \mu k(v - u), \quad u \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

Φ – Poisson p. p. in $\mathbb{R}^2$ with intensity $\kappa > 0$

μ – mean number of offsprings per parent point

k – smoothing kernel (p.d.f. on $\mathbb{R}^2$)

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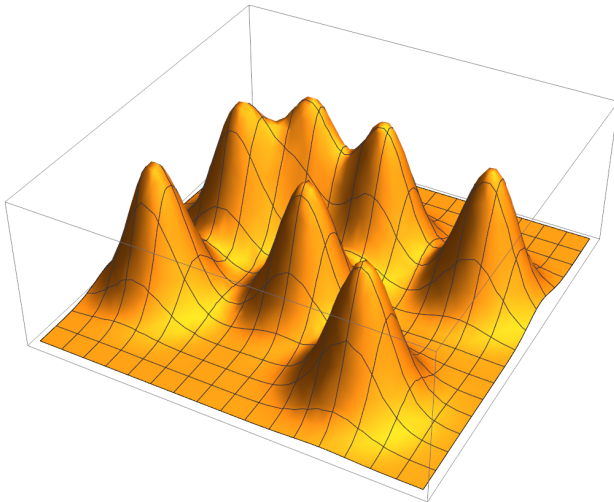
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(Poisson-Neyman-Scott model; similarly for shot-noise Cox processes)

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Stationary space-time cluster point process

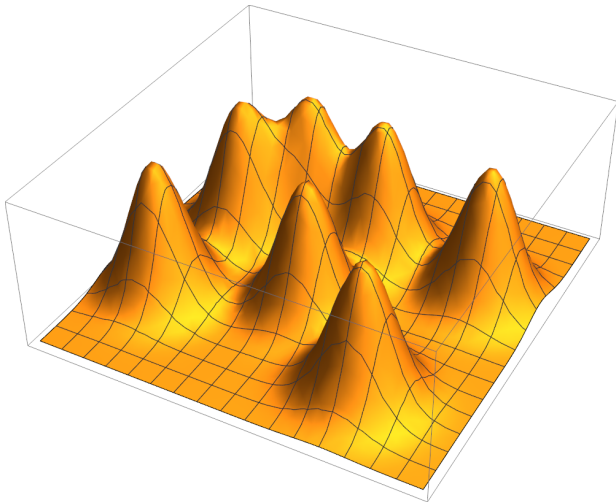
$$\Lambda(u, t) = \sum_{(v, s) \in \Phi} \mu k(v - u, s - t), \quad (u, t) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$$

Φ – Poisson p. p. on $\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ with intensity κ

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Example: location-dependent thinning of a stationary process

Inhomogeneous space-time cluster point process

- inhomogeneity introduced by location-dependent thinning
- $0 \leq f \leq 1$. . . „inhomogeneity function“
- each point (u, t) of a stationary process retained with probability $f(u, t)$, independently of other points
- f may depend on a vector of covariates $z(u, t)$, e.g.
 $f(u, t) \propto \exp \{ \beta^T z(u, t) \}$

Notation and model parametrization

- X ... thinned (inhomogeneous) space-time process
- λ ... its (first order) intensity function
- $W \times T$... observation window, $|W| > 0, |T| > 0$
- k ... smoothing kernel (p.d.f. on $\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$)
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- $\max_{W \times T} f = 1$
- β ... (vector) parameter of the inhom. function $f(\cdot; \beta)$
- ψ ... (vector) parameter of the smoothing kernel $k(\cdot, \cdot; \psi)$
- κ, μ ... intensity of parents, mean number of offsprings per parent

Step-wise parameter estimation

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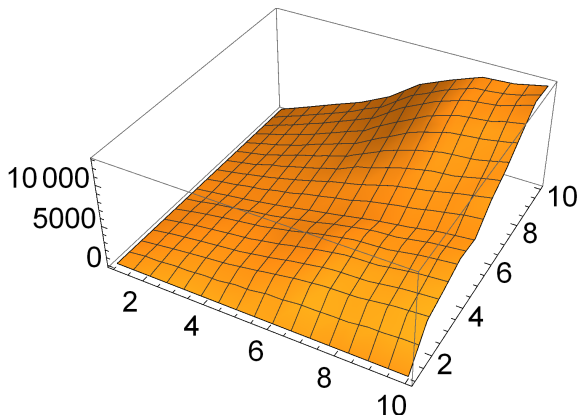
MLE computationally demanding, an alternative approach (inspired by Waagepetersen, Guan, 2009):

- 1 estimate the inhomogeneity parameters β by maximizing the Poisson likelihood function
- 2 estimate the interaction parameters ψ using minimum contrast on the space-time K -function
- 3 estimate the remaining parameters (κ, μ) from the previous estimates and the total intensity of points

Second step – minimum contrast estimation

Beneš et al. (2015), “full minimum contrast”

$$\hat{\psi} = \arg \min \int_{r_{\min}}^{r_{\max}} \int_{t_{\min}}^{t_{\max}} (\hat{K}(r, t)^q - K(r, t; \psi)^q)^2 dt dr$$



Second step – minimum contrast estimation

$$\hat{K}(r, t) = \frac{1}{|W \times T|} \sum_{\substack{\neq \\ (u_i, t_i), (u_j, t_j) \in X \cap (W \times T)}} \frac{I(\|u_i - u_j\| \leq r, |t_i - t_j| \leq t)}{w_1(u_i, u_j) w_2(t_i, t_j) \lambda(u_i, t_i; \hat{\beta}) \lambda(u_j, t_j; \hat{\beta})}$$

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Can we have the + without the -?

Assume (Møller, Ghorbani, 2012):

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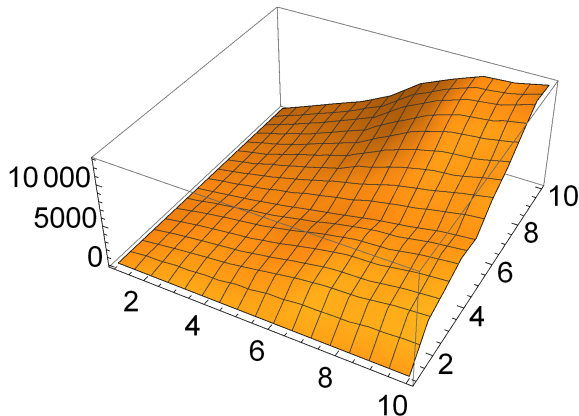
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Even “very non-separable” choices of k (e.g. ambit processes) result in little deviation from this structure – not possible to see from empirical estimate of $K(r, t)$.

Profile contrast estimation

$$K(r, t) = 2\pi r^2 t + \frac{1}{\kappa} \cdot P_1(r; \psi_1) \cdot P_2(t; \psi_2), \quad r \geq 0, t \geq 0$$



- choose spatial range $R > 0$
- estimate $\hat{K}(R, t)$ as a function of t
- use minimum contrast on

$$\begin{aligned} K(R, t) &= 2\pi R^2 t + \frac{1}{\kappa} \cdot P_1(R; \psi_1) \cdot P_2(t; \psi_2) \\ &= 2\pi R^2 t + c(\kappa, \psi_1, R) \cdot P_2(t; \psi_2) \end{aligned}$$

- choose temporal lag $\tau > 0$
- estimate $\hat{K}(r, \tau)$ as a function of r
- use minimum contrast on

$$\begin{aligned} K(r, \tau) &= 2\pi r^2 \tau + \frac{1}{\kappa} \cdot P_2(\tau; \psi_2) \cdot P_1(r; \psi_1) \\ &= 2\pi r^2 \tau + c(\kappa, \psi_2, \tau) \cdot P_1(r; \psi_1) \end{aligned}$$

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- in simulation studies
 - with reasonable initialization, almost as efficient as full minimum contrast
 - with bad initialization, much more stable than full minimum contrast

- ① Beneš, V. et al. (2015). *Space-time models in stochastic geometry*. In: Stochastic Geometry, Spatial Statistics and Random Fields: Models and Algorithms (ed. V. Schmidt). Springer, Heidelberg.
- ② Møller, J., Ghorbani, M. (2012). *Aspects of second-order analysis of structured inhomogeneous spatio-temporal point processes*. Stat. Neerlandica **66**, 472 – 491.
- ③ Waagepetersen, R. P., Guan, Y. (2009). *Two-step estimation for inhomogeneous spatial point processes*. J. R. Stat. Soc. B **71**, 685 – 702.