

# Spatial modeling: a comprehensive framework for Principal Coordinates of Neighbor Matrices (PCNM)

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# Introduction

## Space in ecological modeling

spatial structure of  
ecological communities = environment + community-based processes

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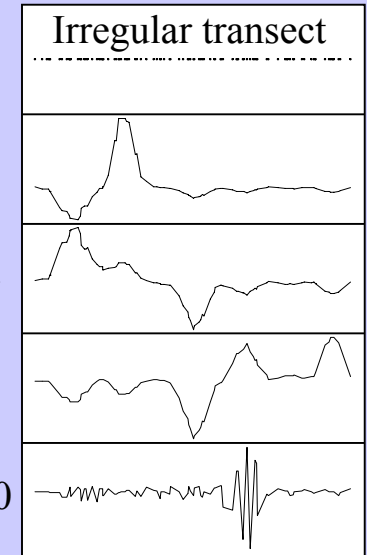
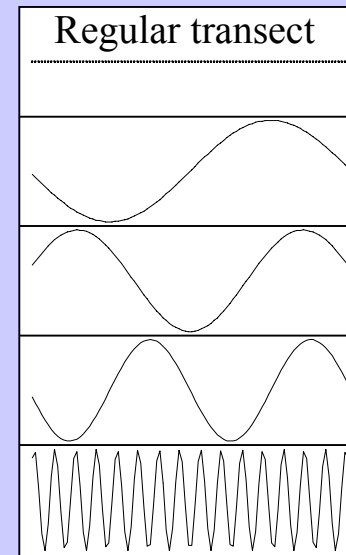
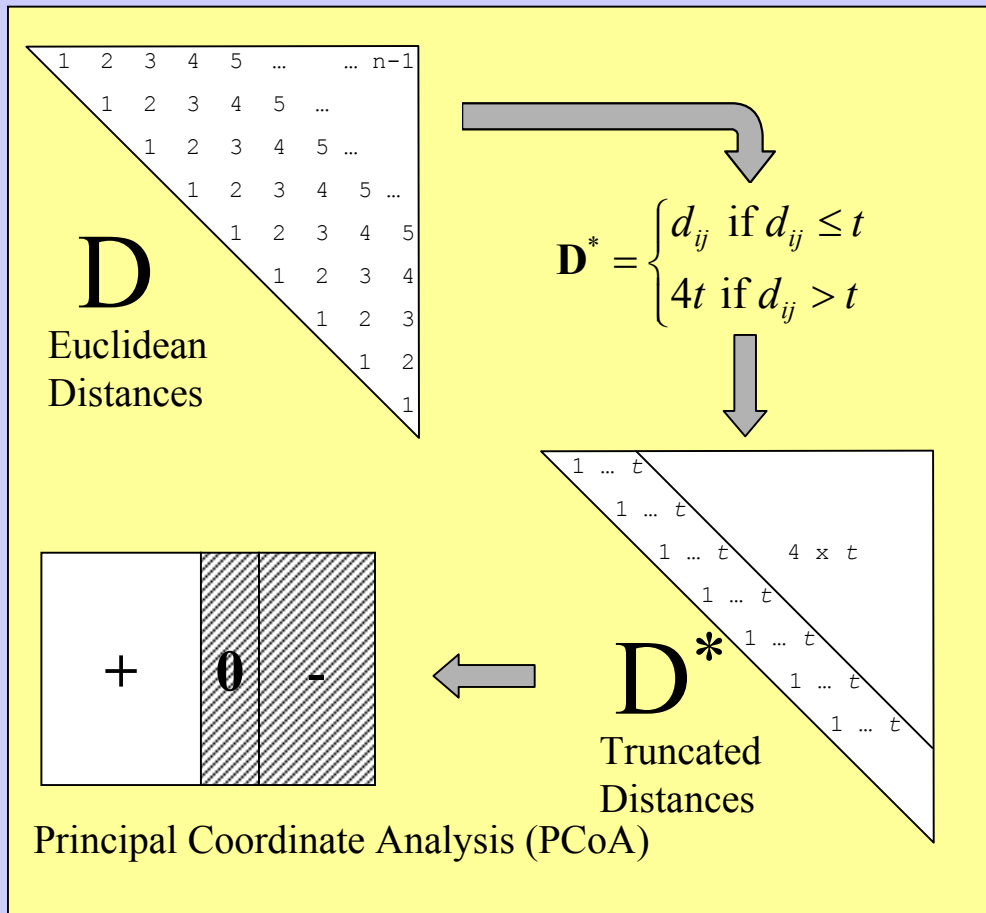
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Multiscale spatial descriptors: PCNM

# PCNM approach

## Principle

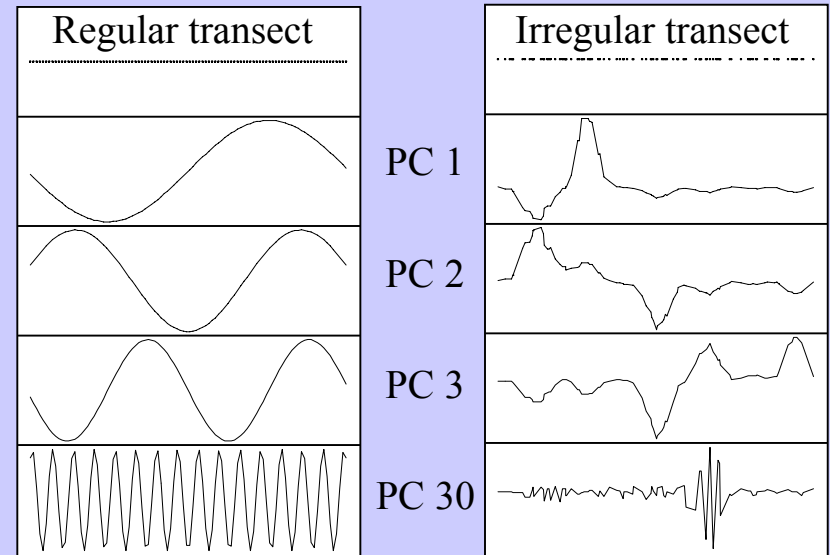
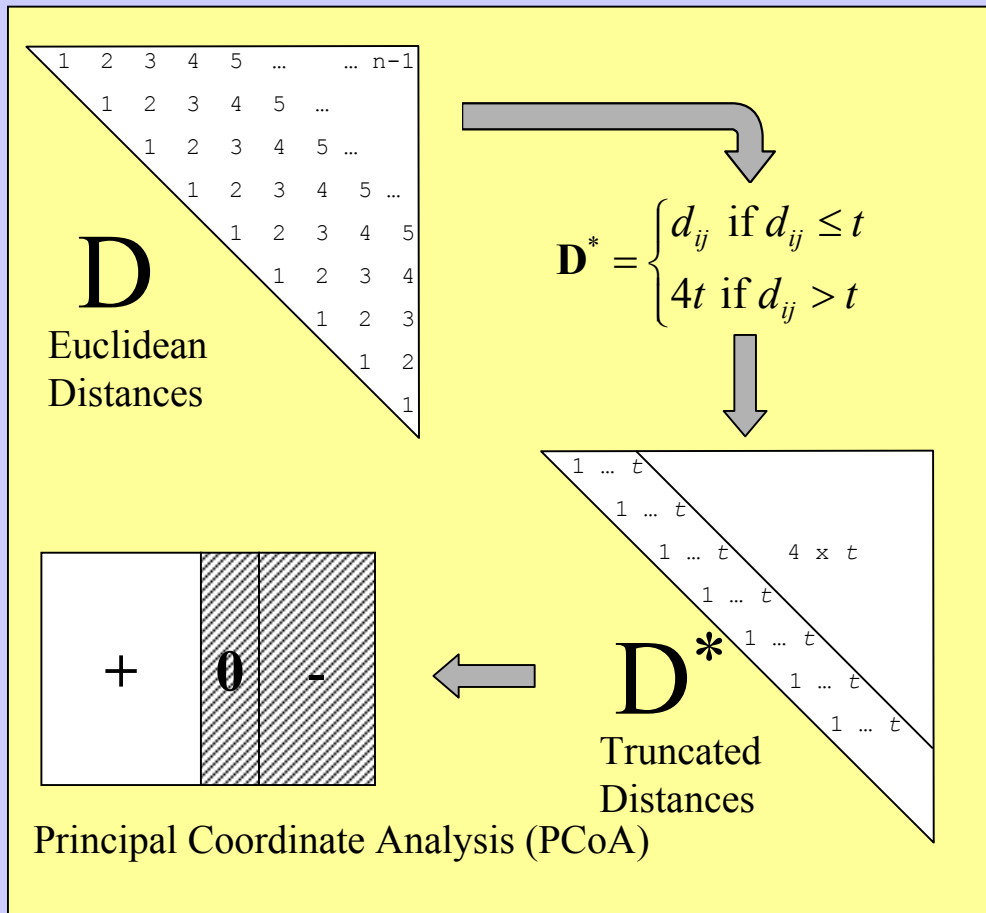
BORCARD & LEGENDRE (2002)



# PCNM approach

## Principle

BORCARD & LEGENDRE (2002)



“This paper raises a number of mathematical questions [...] We hope that the paper will attract the interest of mathematicians who can help us understand these properties and develop methods of spatial modelling further.”

# From distances to similarities...

Diagonalization

$$\Delta \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{U} \Lambda \text{ with } \mathbf{U}' \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}$$

$$PC_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i} \mathbf{u}_i$$

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- of distances

### PCoA of $\mathbf{D}$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &= -\frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{I} - \frac{\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}'}{n} \right) \mathbf{D}_2 \left( \mathbf{I} - \frac{\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}'}{n} \right) \\ &= \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (d^2_{ij} - d^2_{i\cdot} - d^2_{\cdot j} + d^2_{\cdot\cdot}) \right] \end{aligned}$$

### PCNM (PCoA of $\mathbf{D}^*$ )

$$\Delta^* = -\frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{I} - \frac{\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}'}{n} \right) \mathbf{D}_2^* \left( \mathbf{I} - \frac{\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}'}{n} \right)$$

# From distances to similarities...

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$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &= \frac{1}{2d_{\max}^2} \left( \mathbf{I} - \frac{\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^t}{n} \right) \mathbf{S} \left( \mathbf{I} - \frac{\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^t}{n} \right) \\ \text{where } s_{ij} &= 1 - \left( \frac{d_{ij}}{d_{\max}} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$s_{ij} = 1 \Leftrightarrow d_{ij} = 0$$

$$s_{ij} = 0 \Leftrightarrow d_{ij} = \max(d_{ij})$$

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$$\text{where } s_{ij}^* = 1 - \left( \frac{d_{ij}^*}{4t} \right)^2$$

$$s_{ij} = 1 \Leftrightarrow d_{ij}^* = d_{ij} = 0$$

$$s_{ij} = 0 \Leftrightarrow d_{ij}^* = 4t \Leftrightarrow d_{ij} > t$$



# ... to spatial weighting matrix

## Spatial weighting matrix

indicates the strength of the potential interaction among the spatial units

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{B} \circ \mathbf{A}$$

connectivity matrix                      weighting matrix

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \text{ neighbor of } j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*e.g.* geographic similarity  
 $1 - (d_{ij} / \max(d_{ij}))$   
 $d_{ij}^k, d_{ij}^{-k}, \ln d_{ij} \dots$

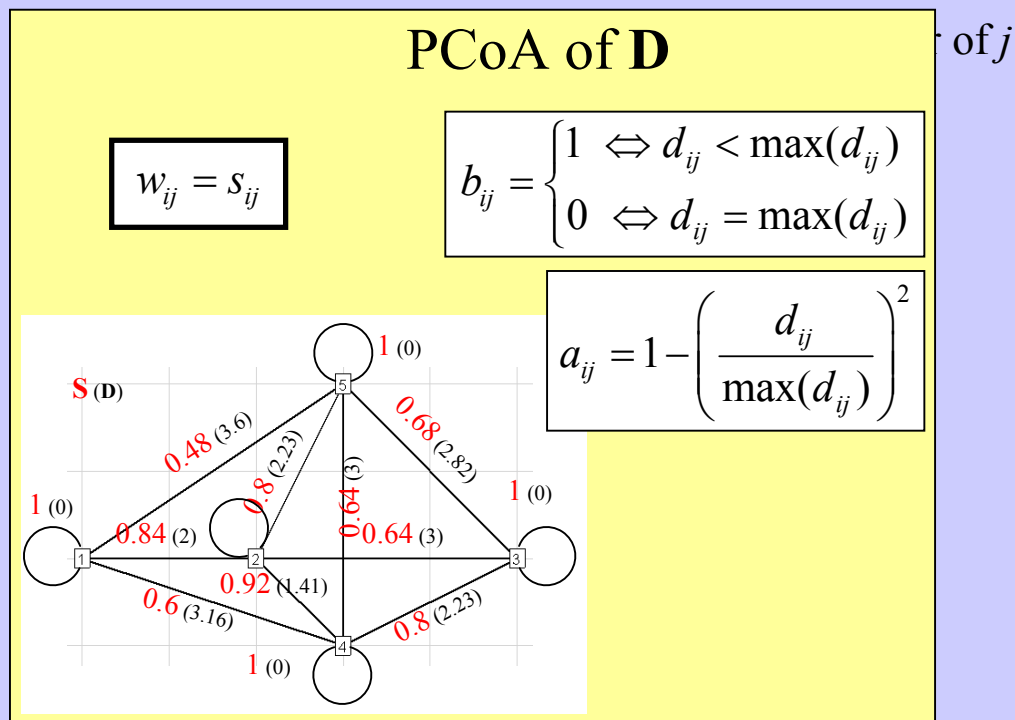
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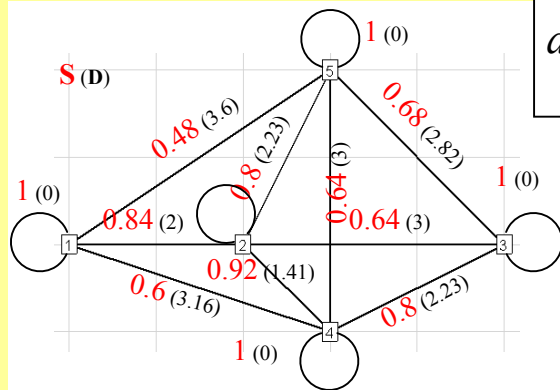
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### PCoA of $\mathbf{D}$

$$w_{ij} = s_{ij}$$

$$b_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \Leftrightarrow d_{ij} < \max(d_{ij}) \\ 0 & \Leftrightarrow d_{ij} = \max(d_{ij}) \end{cases}$$

$$a_{ij} = 1 - \left( \frac{d_{ij}}{\max(d_{ij})} \right)^2$$

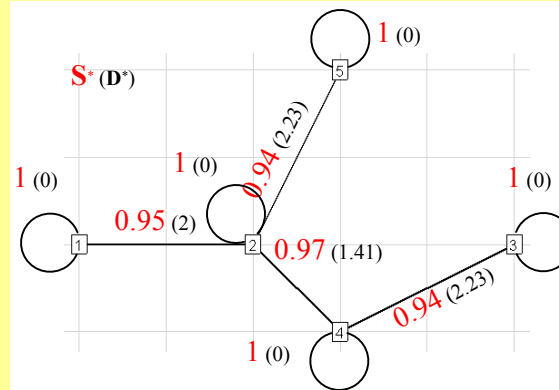


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# Moran's Eigenvector Maps (MEM)

## Spatial autocorrelation

$$I(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{n \sum_{(2)} w_{ij} (x_i - \bar{x})(x_j - \bar{x})}{\sum_{(2)} w_{ij} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \quad I(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{n}{\mathbf{1}' \mathbf{W} \mathbf{1}} \frac{\mathbf{x}' (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}' / n) \mathbf{W} (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}' / n) \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}' (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}' / n) \mathbf{x}}$$

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### A general framework : MEM

- $\mathbf{u}_i$  are vectors with unit norm maximizing Moran's  $I$  under the constraint of orthogonality

$$I(\mathbf{u}_i) = (n / \mathbf{1}' \mathbf{W} \mathbf{1}) \lambda_i$$

- eigenvalues can be either positive or negative  
**GRIFFITH (1996)**

$$\max(I(\mathbf{x})) = (n / \mathbf{1}' \mathbf{W} \mathbf{1}) \lambda_{\max}$$

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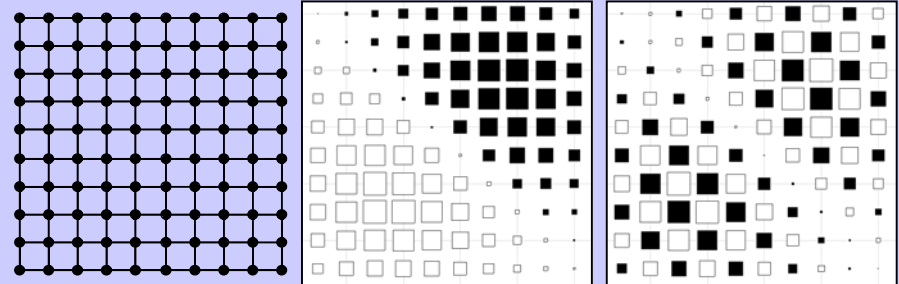
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**DE JONG (1984)**



$$\lambda_1 = 3.60$$

$$\lambda_{89} = -3.83$$

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**DBEM**

$$PCNM \subset DBEM \subset MEM$$

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Negative eigenvectors  $\Rightarrow$  local structures (territoriality, competition...)

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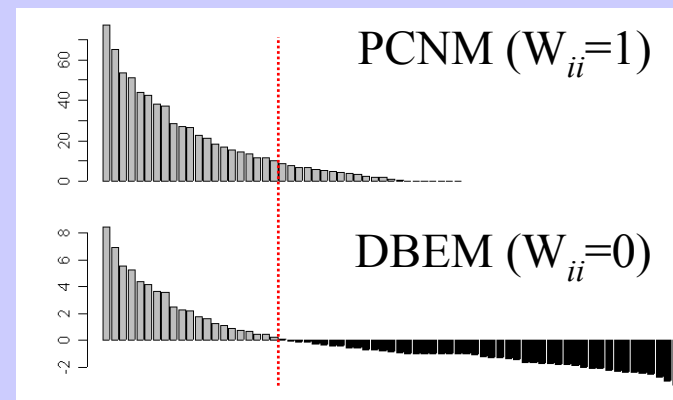
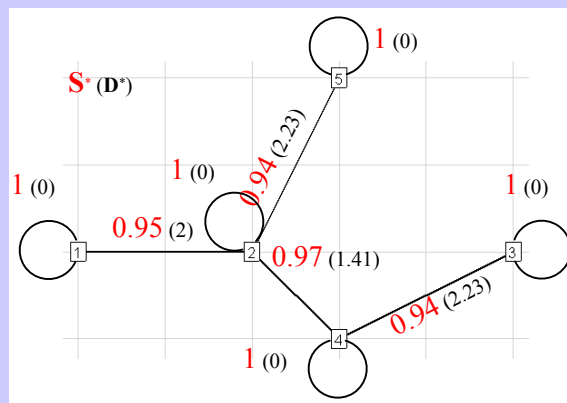
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- $4t$ , why 4?

*“beyond a factor of four times the threshold for the ‘large’ distances, the principal coordinates remain the same to within a multiplicative constant”*

**BORCARD & LEGENDRE**  
(2002)

$$a_{ij} = 1 - \left( \frac{d_{ij}}{4t} \right)^2 \approx 1$$

# Moran's Eigenvector Maps (MEM)

## Flexibility

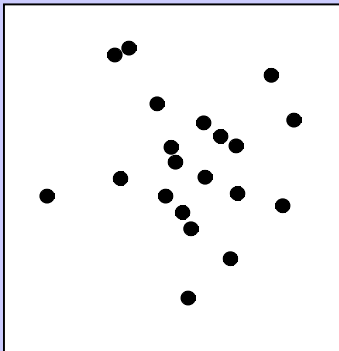
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CLIFF & ORD (1973)



*“a collection of functions to create **spatial weights matrix** objects from polygon contiguities, from point patterns by distance and tessellations, for summarising these objects, and for permitting their use in spatial data analysis”*

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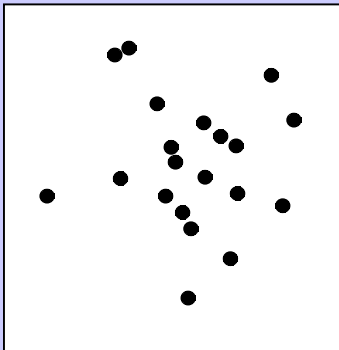
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## spdep

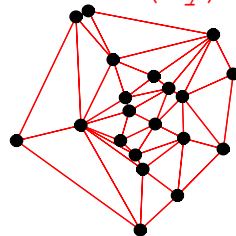
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Delaunay triangulation

`tri2nb(xy)`





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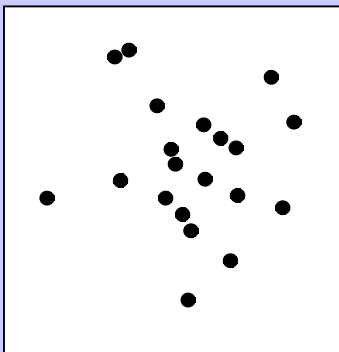
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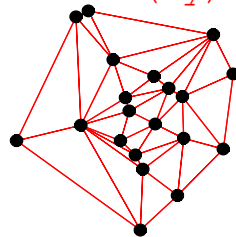
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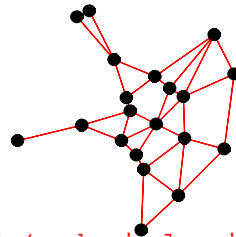
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Gabriel Graph

`graph2nb(gabrielneigh(xy))`



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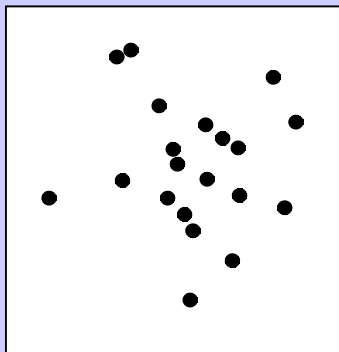
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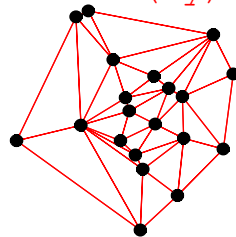
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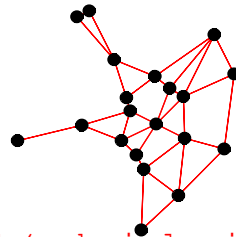
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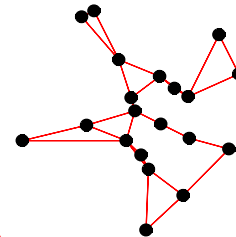
Gabriel Graph

`graph2nb(gabrielneigh(xy))`



nearest neighbors (k=2)

`knn2nb(knearneigh(xyir, k=2))`



# Moran's Eigenvector Maps (MEM)

## Flexibility

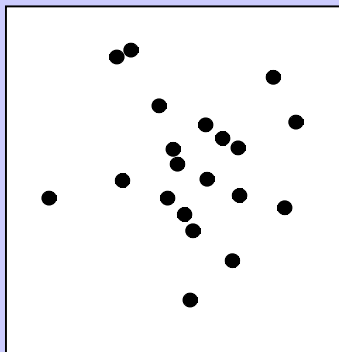
*“the use of a generalised weighting matrix [...] allows the investigator to choose a set of weights which he deems appropriate from prior considerations. This allows great flexibility”*

CLIFF & ORD (1973)



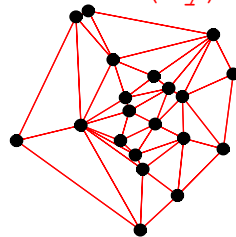
*“a collection of functions to create **spatial weights matrix** objects from polygon contiguities, from point patterns by distance and tessellations, for summarising these objects, and for permitting their use in spatial data analysis”*

BIVAND (2002)



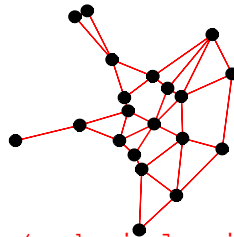
Delaunay triangulation

`tri2nb(xy)`



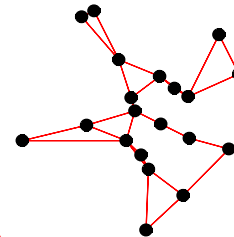
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Gabriel Graph

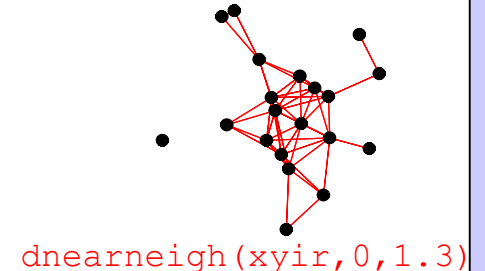


nearest neighbors (k=2)

`knn2nb(knearneigh(xyir, k=2))`



neighbors if  $0 < d < 1.3$



`dnearneigh(xyir, 0, 1.3)`

# Moran's Eigenvector Maps (MEM)

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For a linear model with  $n$  individuals and  $K$  variables

$$AIC = -n \log(RSS / n) + 2K$$

If  $n$  is small

$$AIC_c = AIC + 2K(K + 1) / (n - K - 1)$$

For RDA

$$RSS = \text{trace}(\mathbf{Y}^t \mathbf{Y}) - \text{trace}(\hat{\mathbf{Y}}^t \hat{\mathbf{Y}})$$

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Define a set of possible spatial weighting matrices

For each candidate

Compute MEM

Sort the eigenvectors by  $R^2$

Enter the  $K$  eigenvectors one by one ( $K$  models)

Compute  $AIC_c$  for each model

Select the spatial weighting matrix corresponding to the model with the lowest  $AIC_c$

# Application: Oribatid mite data

**W**

Delaunay triangulation (**tri**)

Gabriel graph (**gab**)

**B** relative neighborhood graph (**rel**)

minimum spanning tree (**mst**)

distance criterion (**dnn**)  $d_{ij} < \gamma$

$$1.012 \leq \gamma \leq 4$$

$$\mathbf{f}_0 = 1$$

$$\mathbf{f}_1 = 1 - d_{ij} / \max(d_{ij})$$

**A**  $\mathbf{f}_2 = 1 - (d_{ij} / \max(d_{ij}))^\alpha$

$$\mathbf{f}_3 = 1 / d_{ij}^\beta$$

$$2 \leq \beta \leq 10, 2 \leq \alpha \leq 10$$



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**dnn,  $\mathbf{f}_2$**

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**-100.91 (8)**

**pcnm**

**-92.87 (9)**

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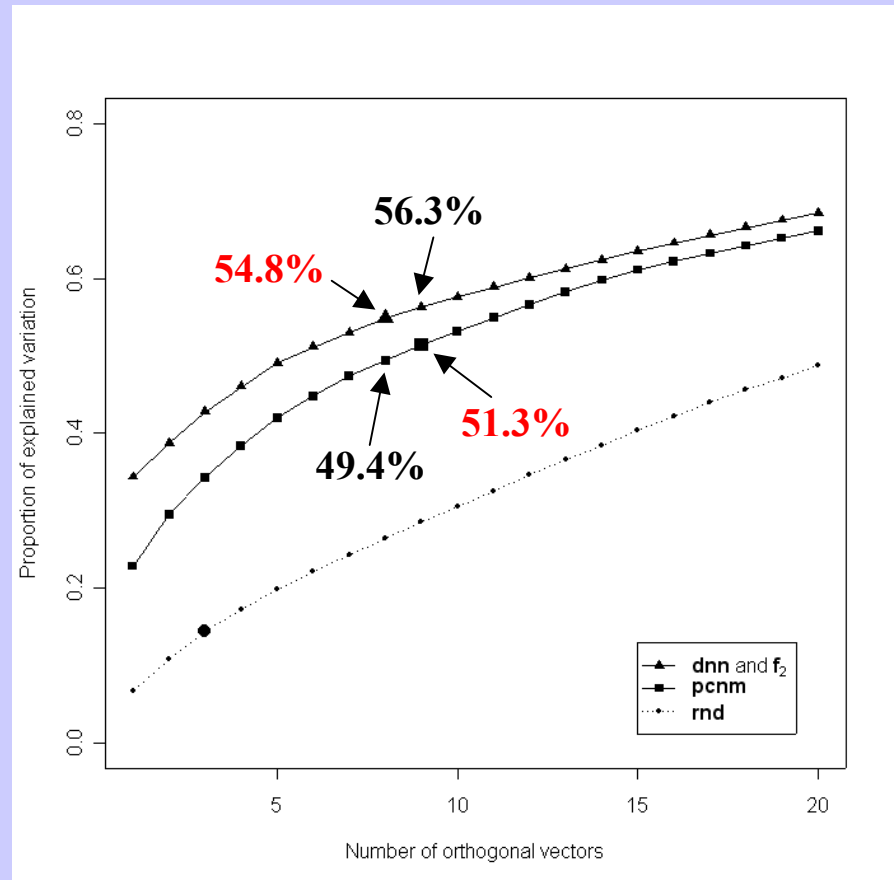
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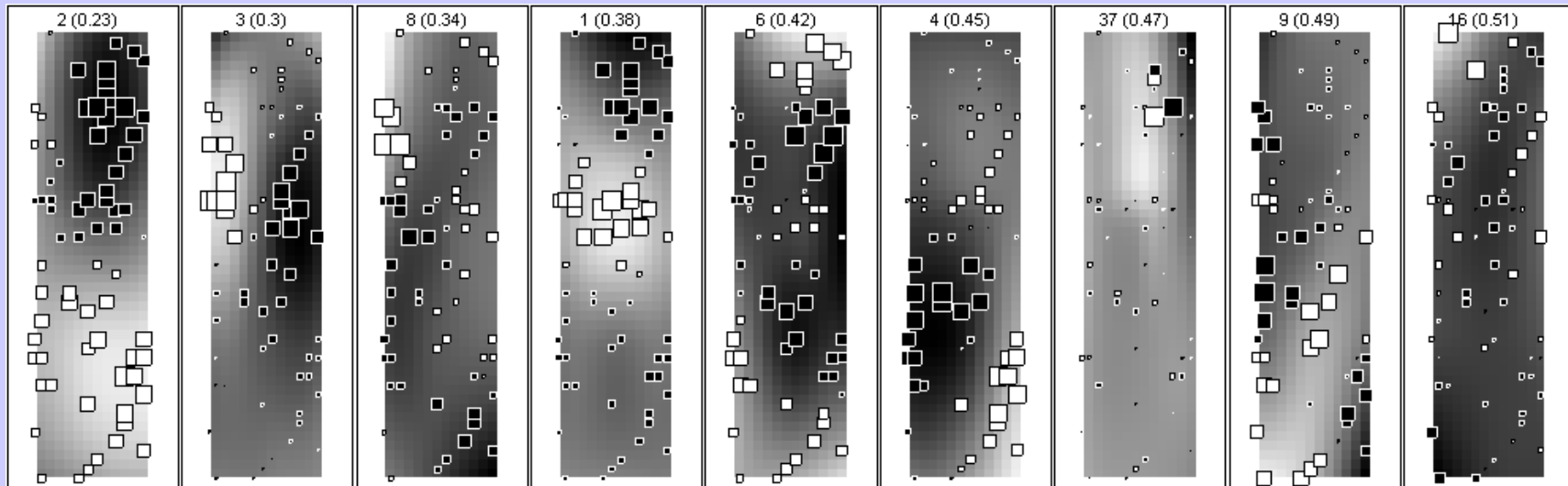
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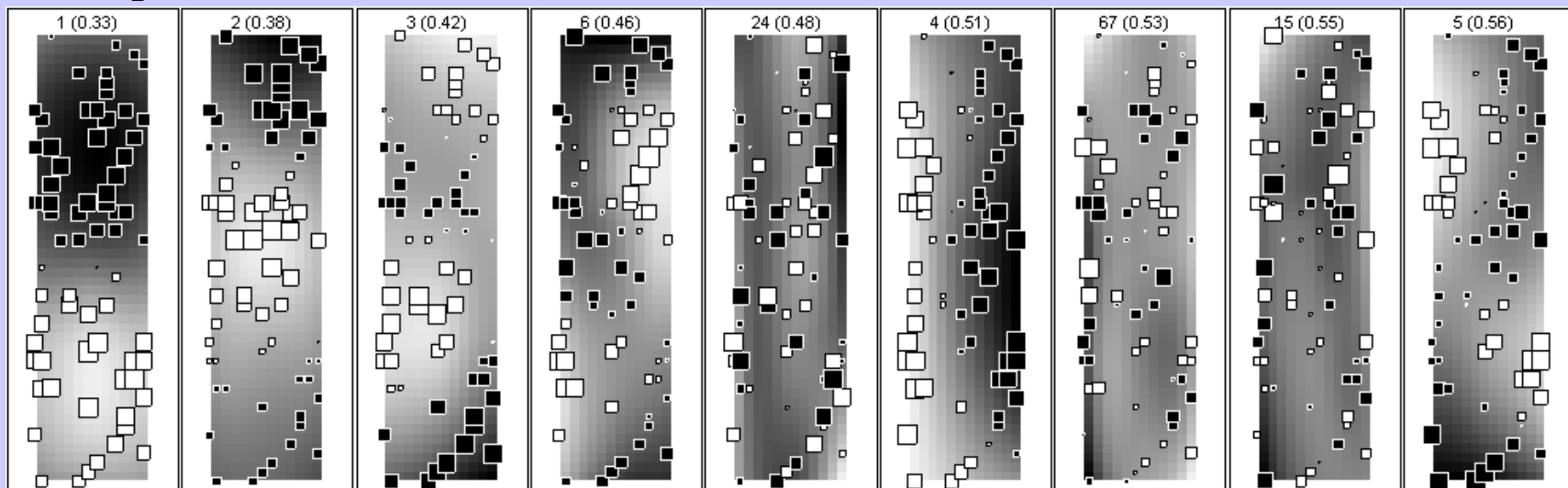


# Application: Oribatid mite data

pcnm



dnn,  $f_2$



# Conclusions and perspectives

Mathematical formalism extends the original PCNM approach:

⇒ various definitions of spatial weighting matrices

⇒ negative spatial autocorrelation

⇒ analytical formulation (cos and sin) for regular sampling (GRIFFITH 2000)

⇒ very large datasets (*e.g.*, satellite data)

Selection of the eigenvectors to be introduced as spatial predictors

Forward selection is too liberal when  $K$  is large

⇒  $AICc$ ,  $RSS$  and Moran's  $I$ ?

Extension to non-symmetric spatial weighting matrices

*e.g.*, upstream and downstream connectivities in river networks

# References

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Thanks to Pierre, Pedro and Daniel.