### Spatial Statistics for Climate and Weather

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Removing the noise (smoothing)



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Filling in the gaps (prediction)



### Quantify differences (characterization)



### What-if scenarios (simulation)



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What is spatial statistics?

Typical goals:

- Removing the noise (smoothing)
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Important in all goals is to quantify the uncertainty.

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Outline:

- Nonstationary processes
- Large datasets
- Multivariate processes

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Outline:

- Extreme(ly nonstationary) processes
- Extreme(ly large) datasets
- Extreme(ly multivariate) processes

### Colorado Data

Data: 145 stations from the Global Historical Climatology Network. Daily minimum temperature, 1893-2011.



## Stevenson Screen and Rain Gauge at Niwot Ridge



### Minimum Temperature: June 1, 2010



## Notation and Preliminary Ideas

 $Z(\mathbf{s})$ , indexed by location  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , is a Gaussian process if

For any  $s_1, \ldots, s_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $(Z(s_1), \ldots, Z(s_n))^T$  is multivariate normal, requiring

- i) Mean function:  $\mathbb{E} Z(\mathbf{s}) = \mu(\mathbf{s})$  for all  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- ii) Covariance function:  $\text{Cov}(Z(\mathbf{s}_1), Z(\mathbf{s}_2)) = C(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2)$  for all  $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

Why Gaussian? Model is complete with  $\mu(\cdot)$  and  $C(\cdot, \cdot)$ .

### Standard Observational Model

Consider an observed process  $Y(\mathbf{s}), \mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$Y(\mathbf{s}) = \mu(\mathbf{s}) + Z(\mathbf{s}) + \varepsilon(\mathbf{s}),$$

where

- $\mu(\mathbf{s})$  fixed mean function
- Z(s) is a mean zero Gaussian process
- $\varepsilon(\mathbf{s})$  is Gaussian white noise ("nugget effect")

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where

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- ► Z(s) is a mean zero Gaussian process
- $\varepsilon(\mathbf{s})$  is Gaussian white noise ("nugget effect") Momentarily use

$$Y(\mathbf{s}) = Z(\mathbf{s}) + \varepsilon(\mathbf{s}),$$

where  $\mu(\mathbf{s})$  has already been estimated.

# Kriging

Typical goal: Smooth observations  $Y(\mathbf{s}_1), \ldots, Y(\mathbf{s}_n)$  to estimate  $Z(\mathbf{s}_0)$ .

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$$\hat{Z}(\mathbf{s}_0) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_i) Y(\mathbf{s}_i)$$

for weights  $w(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_1), \ldots, w(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_n)$  that minimize

$$\mathbb{E}\big(Z(\mathbf{s}_0)-\hat{Z}(\mathbf{s}_0)\big)^2.$$

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If  $\operatorname{Cov}(Z(\mathbf{s}_1), Z(\mathbf{s}_2)) = C(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2)$  and  $\operatorname{Var} \varepsilon(\mathbf{s}) = \tau^2$ ,

$$\hat{Z}(\mathbf{s}_0) = \mathbf{c}^{\mathrm{T}} \left( \Sigma + \tau^2 I \right)^{-1} \mathbf{Y}$$

where  $\mathbf{c} = (C(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_i))_i$  and  $\Sigma = (C(\mathbf{s}_i, \mathbf{s}_j))_{ij}$ .

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# Kriging Uncertainty

The kriging predictor is

$$\hat{Z}(\mathbf{s}_0) = \mathbf{c}^{\mathrm{T}} \left( \Sigma + \tau^2 I \right)^{-1} \mathbf{Y}$$

with predictive mean squared error

$$\mathbb{E}(Z(\mathbf{s}_0) - \hat{Z}(\mathbf{s}_0))^2 = C(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_0) - \mathbf{c}^{\mathrm{T}} \left(\Sigma + \tau^2 I\right)^{-1} \mathbf{c}.$$

MSE can be approximated via conditional simulations.

### Stationarity

A Gaussian process Z(s) is stationary if

- $\mathbb{E}Z(\mathbf{s}) = \mu$  is constant across the domain and
- Cov(Z(s₁), Z(s₂)) = C(s₁ − s₂) depends only on the lag between locations.

**Isotropic** if 
$$C(\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2) = C(||\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2||)$$
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### $Z(\mathbf{s})$ is nonstationary if it isn't stationary.

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## Nonstationary Processes

What might covariance nonstationarity look like?

 $C(\mathbf{s}_1,\mathbf{s}_2)\neq C(\mathbf{s}_1-\mathbf{s}_2)$ 



### Minimum Temperature: June 1, 2010



## **Statistical Model**

Model minimum temperature  $Y(\mathbf{s}, t)$ 

$$Y(\mathbf{s}, t) = \boldsymbol{\beta}(\mathbf{s})^{\mathrm{T}} X(\mathbf{s}, t) + Z(\mathbf{s}, t) + \varepsilon(\mathbf{s}, t)$$
$$= \boldsymbol{\beta}(\mathbf{s})^{\mathrm{T}} X(\mathbf{s}, t) + W(\mathbf{s}, t)$$
$$= \text{Local Climate + Weather}).$$

 $X(\mathbf{s}, t)$  includes seasonal terms and AR(1) behavior.

- Nonstationary mean, estimated locally by least squares
- Is  $W(\mathbf{s}, t)$  nonstationary?

(To interpolate local climate, interpolate  $\beta(s)$ ).

### Minimum Temperature Residuals: June 1, 2010



### How to Model Nonstationarity

- Regularize an empirical covariance matrix (Loader and Switzer 1989; Oehlert 1993)
- Stationary in regions (Haas 1990; Kim et al. 2005)
- Deformation (Sampson and Guttorp 1992)
- Scale mixtures: adaptive spectra (Pintore and Holmes 2007), nonstationary Matérn (Paciorek and Schervish 2006; Stein 2005)
- Process convolution (Higdon 1998; Higdon et al. 1999; Fuentes and Smith 2002)
- Basis-constructed processes (Nychka et al. 2002; Lindgren et al. 2011)

### **Temperature Example**

Temperature model covariance assumptions:

$$Cov(W(\mathbf{s},t), W(\mathbf{s},t+1)) = 0$$

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$$Cov(W(\mathbf{s}_1, t), W(\mathbf{s}_2, t)) = C(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, d(t)) + \tau(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2)^2 \mathbb{1}_{[\mathbf{s}_1 = \mathbf{s}_2]}$$

### Temperature Example

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$$Cov(W(\mathbf{s}_1, t), W(\mathbf{s}_2, t)) = C(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, d(t)) + \tau(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2)^2 \mathbb{1}_{[\mathbf{s}_1 = \mathbf{s}_2]}$$

Estimator for  $C(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, d(t))$ :

$$\frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T}\sum_{k=1}^{n}\sum_{\ell=1}^{n}K_{\lambda_{t}}\left(\|d(t_{0}), d(t)\|_{d}\right)K_{\lambda}\left(\|\mathbf{s}_{1}-\mathbf{s}_{k}\|\right)K_{\lambda}\left(\|\mathbf{s}_{2}-\mathbf{s}_{\ell}\|\right)W(\mathbf{s}_{k}, t)W(\mathbf{s}_{\ell}, t)}{\sum_{t=1}^{T}\sum_{k=1}^{n}\sum_{\ell=1}^{n}K_{\lambda_{t}}(\|d(t_{0}), d(t)\|_{d})K_{\lambda}(\|\mathbf{s}_{1}-\mathbf{s}_{k}\|)K_{\lambda}(\|\mathbf{s}_{2}-\mathbf{s}_{\ell}\|)}$$

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# **Spatial Correlation**



### **Temperature Data**

Leave-one-out pseudo-cross-validation comparing kriging under

- Isotropic Matérn model estimated by maximum likelihood
- Nonstationary kernel-smoothed empirical covariances

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Results:

	RMSE	CRPS
Stationary	1.808	0.983
Nonstationary	1.805	0.983

### A Closer Look



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## A Closer Look (Trinidad)



### Temperature Data Minus Trinidad

Leave-one-out pseudo-cross-validation comparing kriging under

- Isotropic Matérn model estimated by maximum likelihood
- Nonstationary kernel-smoothed empirical covariances

Results:

	RMSE	CRPS	RMSE	CRPS
Stationary	1.808	0.983	1.811	0.984
Nonstationary	1.805	0.983	1.749	0.964

## Temperature Data Minus Trinidad

Leave-one-out pseudo-cross-validation comparing kriging under

- Isotropic Matérn model estimated by maximum likelihood
- Nonstationary kernel-smoothed empirical covariances

Results:

	RMSE	CRPS	RMSE	CRPS
Stationary	1.808	0.983	1.811	0.984
Nonstationary	1.805	0.983	1.749	0.964

A whopping 2-3% improvement.

## Nonstationarity: Last Thoughts

Spatially varying nugget effect seems apparent.



Fuglstad et al. (2014) had a similar experience.

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#### Precipitation anomalies: 7,352 stations



 $\hat{Z}(\mathbf{s}_0) = \mathbf{c}^{\mathrm{T}} (\Sigma + \tau^2 I)^{-1} \mathbf{Y}$ 

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## GPM data: 4,320,000 grid points



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#### Popular approaches

- Fixed rank kriging: low rank representation (Cressie and Johannesson 2008)
- Predictive processes: conditioning leads to a low rank representation (Banerjee et al. 2008)
- Covariance tapering: sparsity via compactly supported covariance (Furrer et al. 2006; Kaufman et al. 2008)
- Full scale approximation: low rank + compactly supported small scale variation (Stein 2008; Sang and Huang 2012)
- Stochastic partial differential equations (Lindgren et al. 2011)
- Multiresolution representations (Nychka et al. 2002; Ferreira and Lee 2007; Nychka et al. 2015; Katzfuss 2016)

Recall model

$$Y(\mathbf{s}) = Z(\mathbf{s}) + \varepsilon(\mathbf{s})$$

and the kriging predictor

$$\hat{Z}(\mathbf{s}_0) = \mathbf{c}^{\mathrm{T}} \left( \Sigma + \tau^2 I \right)^{-1} \mathbf{Y}$$
$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_i) Y(\mathbf{s}_i)$$

How does  $w(\cdot, \cdot)$  behave as a function of  $s_1, \ldots, s_n$ ?



Sample size 30

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Sample size 4000

As  $n \to \infty$  it can be shown that

 $w(\mathbf{s}_1,\mathbf{s}_2) \rightarrow G(\mathbf{s}_1,\mathbf{s}_2)$ 

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where G is an idealized kernel called the equivalent kernel.

- ► For basis representation models *G* is known analytically
- For "run of the mill" isotropic covariances, G is defined as an integral (→ numerical approximation required).

What if we try

$$\hat{Z}_{EK}(\mathbf{s}_0) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n G(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_i) Y(\mathbf{s}_i)$$
$$\approx \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w(\mathbf{s}_0, \mathbf{s}_i) Y(\mathbf{s}_i)$$

(equivalent kriging)?

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#### **Generic Basis Model**

Suppose

$$Z(\mathbf{s}) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i \phi_i(\mathbf{s})$$

- ► *c<sub>i</sub>* are stochastic
- $\phi_i(\mathbf{s})$  are some fixed, useful basis functions

### **Multiresolution Process**



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#### Generic Basis Model Equivalent Kernel

Suppose

$$Z(\mathbf{s}) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i \phi_i(\mathbf{s}),$$

then the equivalent kernel is

$$G(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2) = \Phi(\mathbf{s}_1)^{\mathrm{T}} (P + \lambda Q)^{-1} \Phi(\mathbf{s}_2)$$

where  $\lambda = \tau^2/n$ .

# Approximation of *w* (With Corrections)



## Statistical Models: Timing

- US data: multiresolution covariance with 52674 basis functions
- GPM data: exponential covariance

Parameters estimated by cross-validation.

- US data: Kriging to 524888 locations (with remainders): 2.6 seconds
- GPM data: Kriging to 4320000 locations: 81 seconds

### **Precipitation Results**



Longitude

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### **Precipitation Results**



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## Timing Results: Covariance Tapering



### NOAA Global Ensemble Forecast System Reforecast

GEFS reforecast project version 2:

- 2012 version of NCEP's GEFS
- 11-member ensemble, daily from 00 UTC initial conditions
- Finite T254 ( $\sim$  50 km) to 8 days, T190 ( $\sim$  70 km) to 16 days

Sea level pressure at forecast horizons:

- 0 hours
- 24 hours, 48 hours, ..., 192 hours (8 days)

over first 90 days of 2014.

#### Statistical goal:

 Quantify the improvement and similarity between forecasts and realizing surfaces



#### **Spatial Statistics**



#### **Spatial Statistics**



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#### **Spatial Statistics**










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### **Spatial Statistics**

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# Introduction to Multivariate Spatial Modeling

A typical model for *p* observed spatial processes is

$$\begin{pmatrix} Y_1(\mathbf{s}) \\ Y_2(\mathbf{s}) \\ \vdots \\ Y_p(\mathbf{s}) \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{Y} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + \mathbf{Z} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1(\mathbf{s}) \\ \mu_2(\mathbf{s}) \\ \vdots \\ \mu_p(\mathbf{s}) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} Z_1(\mathbf{s}) \\ Z_2(\mathbf{s}) \\ \vdots \\ Z_p(\mathbf{s}) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_1(\mathbf{s}) \\ \varepsilon_2(\mathbf{s}) \\ \vdots \\ \varepsilon_p(\mathbf{s}) \end{pmatrix}$$

where

- $\mu(s)$  is a fixed unknown vector of functions
- Z(s) is a mean zero *p*-variate correlated stochastic process
- $\varepsilon(s)$  is a mean zero *p*-variate white noise process

## **Cross-Covariance Functions**

Dependence is usually specified by choosing

- (Direct)-Covariance functions  $C_{ii}(\mathbf{s}_1 \mathbf{s}_2) = \text{Cov}(Z_i(\mathbf{s}_1), Z_i(\mathbf{s}_2))$
- Cross-covariance functions  $C_{ij}(\mathbf{s}_1 \mathbf{s}_2) = \operatorname{Cov}(Z_i(\mathbf{s}_1), Z_j(\mathbf{s}_2)), i \neq j$ .

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We require these to be nonnegative definite in that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{p} \sum_{j=1}^{p} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \sum_{\ell=1}^{n} a_{ik} a_{j\ell} C_{ij}(\mathbf{s}_{k} - \mathbf{s}_{\ell}) \ge 0.$$

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This is a very difficult condition to ensure for some arbitrary proposed model, so most models are constructed to satisfy it.

## Correlations vs. Cross-Correlations



# Marginal Range, Smoothness



# **Correlation Coefficient**



## **Cross-Range**



### **Cross-Smoothness**



# Spectra for Multivariate Random Fields

Consider

$$f_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} C_{ij}(\mathbf{h}) \exp(-i\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{h}) \mathrm{d}\mathbf{h}.$$

- $f_{ii}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$  is the spectral density for  $C_{ii}(\mathbf{h})$
- $f_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$  is the cross-spectral density for  $C_{ij}(\mathbf{h})$

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- $f_{ii}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$  is the spectral density for  $C_{ii}(\mathbf{h})$
- $f_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$  is the cross-spectral density for  $C_{ij}(\mathbf{h})$
- ►  $f_{ii}(\omega)$  is the amount of variability of  $Z_i(\mathbf{s})$  that can be attributed to frequency  $\omega$ .
- What about  $f_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$ ?

### Coherence

Define the coherence at frequency  $\omega$  between  $Z_1(s)$  and  $Z_2(s)$  as

$$\gamma(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \frac{|f_{12}(\boldsymbol{\omega})|}{\sqrt{f_{11}(\boldsymbol{\omega})f_{22}(\boldsymbol{\omega})}} \in [0,1].$$

Coherence is the amount of variability that can be attributed to a linear relationship between two processes at frequency  $\omega$ .

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Coherence is the amount of variability that can be attributed to a linear relationship between two processes at frequency  $\omega$ .

Moreover, the  $K(\mathbf{u})$  that minimizes

$$\mathbb{E}\left|Z_1(\mathbf{s}_0) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{s}_0) Z_2(\mathbf{u}) \mathrm{d}\mathbf{u}\right|^2$$

is

$$K(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sqrt{\frac{f_{11}(\boldsymbol{\omega})}{f_{22}(\boldsymbol{\omega})}} \gamma(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \exp(-i\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{u}) \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\omega}.$$

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# Simple Coherence Example

### Suppose

$$Z_1(s) = U_1 \cos(\omega_0 s)$$
  

$$Z_2(s) = U_1 \cos(\omega_0 s) + U_2 \cos(\omega_1 s)$$

for  $\omega_0 \neq \omega_1$  and  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  uncorrelated. Then

$$\gamma(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & \omega = \omega_0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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## **Cross-Correlations**



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# Cross-Correlations vs. Coherences



# Multivariate Matérn Implications

A bivariate Matérn model has

$$\gamma(\boldsymbol{\omega})^{2} = \rho^{2} \frac{\Gamma(\nu_{12} + d/2)^{2} \Gamma(\nu_{1}) \Gamma(\nu_{2})}{\Gamma(\nu_{1} + d/2) \Gamma(\nu_{2} + d/2) \Gamma(\nu_{12})^{2}} \frac{a_{12}^{4\nu_{12}}}{a_{1}^{2\nu_{1}} a_{2}^{2\nu_{2}}} \\ \times \frac{(a_{1}^{2} + \|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|^{2})^{\nu_{1} + d/2} (a_{2}^{2} + \|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|^{2})^{\nu_{2} + d/2}}{(a_{12}^{2} + \|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|^{2})^{2\nu_{12} + d}}.$$

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Results:

- ► Force v<sub>12</sub> > (v<sub>1</sub> + v<sub>2</sub>)/2, else coherence does not decay at arbitrarily high frequencies
- ► *a*<sub>12</sub> controls location of peak of coherence

# Estimation: Periodogram

The spatial periodogram matrix is  $\mathbf{I}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = (I_{k\ell}(\boldsymbol{\omega}))_{k,\ell=1}^p$  where

$$I_{k\ell}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \frac{\delta}{(2\pi)^p N} \left( \sum_{k=1}^N Z_k(\mathbf{s}_k) \exp(-i\mathbf{s}_k^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\omega}) \right) \overline{\left( \sum_{k=1}^N Z_\ell(\mathbf{s}_k) \exp(-i\mathbf{s}_k^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\omega}) \right)}$$

and is available at Fourier frequencies.

- Need to smooth periodograms for consistency
- GEFS example: average empirical coherences over 90 days in dataset

# **GEFS SLP Coherences**



Estimated absolute coherence functions for the GEFS pressure data between (a) 0h and 168h (7 days), (b) 0h and 96h (4 days) and (c) 0h and 24h (1 day).

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# **GEFS** Pressure Example



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## Discussion

- Nonstationarity: what is the goal?
- Estimation for large datasets: which scales do we care about?
- Multivariate processes: what are we modeling?

Unfair reference list:

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