

Empirical comparison of times series models and tensor product penalised splines for modelling spatial dependence in plant breeding field trials ...

Bev Gogel¹ Sue Welham² Brian Cullis¹

¹Centre for Biometrics and Data Science for Sustainable Primary Industries
National Institute for Applied Statistics and Research Australia

²Stats4Biol Consultancy Limited, Welwyn Garden City, United Kingdom

XVIIIth Eucarpia Biometrics in Plant Breeding Conference, September 21 - 23, 2022



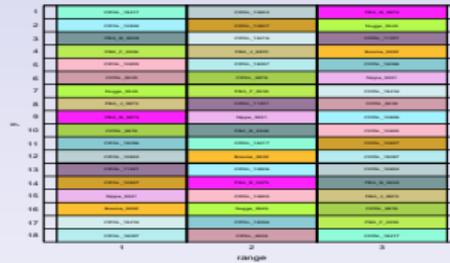
Outline of talk ...

- background information ...
- introduce auto-regressive time-series models and spline models for field trial data ...
 - algebraic description ...
- give an overview of the empirical study we've conducted ...
 - data set we used / approach we took ...
- share the results of the study ...
- summary ...

Background ...

Background ...

- spatial dependence between neighbouring plots occurs naturally in plant breeding field trials laid out as a rectangular lattice ...



- this is due to local variation in soil conditions ... *fertility/ moisture content* ...
- has impacts in terms of producing accurate and reliable estimates of the treatments being tested (or contrasts between them) and their standard errors ...

Background ...

- as early as the 1920's Fisher was concerned that yield observations on neighbouring plots were more highly correlated than they were on plots that were further apart ...
- since then there is a rich literature on methods to deal with spatial dependence in field trial data .. for example ...
 - using the values on neighbouring plots as covariates .. [Papadakis \(1937\)](#) [12], [Bartlett \(1978\)](#) [12] ...
 - differencing the data to remove non-stationarity .. [Wilkinson et al. \(1983\)](#) [21], [Green et al. \(1985\)](#) [9], [Green \(1985\)](#) [10], [Besag and Kempton \(1986\)](#) [1] ...
 - modelling spatial correlation *directly* using low order time series models ...
 - in one dimension and within a linear mixed model (LMM) .. [Gleeson and Cullis \(1987\)](#) [8] ...
 - in two dimensions using separable lattice processes .. [Cullis and Gleeson et al. \(1991\)](#), [Martin \(1990\)](#) [11] ...
 - adding an independent error term to the 2-d process ... [Besag \(1977\)](#) [2], [Gilmour et al. \(1997\)](#) [7] ...
 - LMMs that include extra terms to model non-stationary effects .. [Martin \(1990\)](#) [11], [Gilmour et al. \(1997\)](#) [7] ...

Background: time-series models ...

- empirical evidence over many years has shown that LMMs with ...
 - a separable first order autoregressive process for the lattice of residuals ...
 - called **AR1** × **AR1** or **A** × **A** for simplicity ...
 - plus extra terms to account for non-stationarity ...
- generally works well for the analysis of field trial data ...
- is still in widespread use in practice ...

Background: time-series models ...

- the **AR1** process ...
 - models a pattern of *exponential decay* as the lag between plots increases ...
 - is one of the simplest from the class of **ARIMA** time series models ...
Auto-**R**egressive **I**ntegrated **M**oving **A**verage
- means that if the **A** × **A** model doesn't provide an adequate fit to the data there's a whole class of **ARIMA** models to choose from ...
- this provides a rich and very flexible framework for modelling spatial dependence ...

Background: tensor product penalised splines ...

- recently tensor-product penalised-splines (**TPS**) have been introduced to explicitly model smooth variation in field trial data [Rodriguez-Alvarez et al. 2017](#) [17] ...
- they are fitted as 2-dimensional surface within an LMM ...
- with multiple smooth components to account for small- and large-scale continuous trend effects across the trial area ...

Background: tensor product penalised splines ...

- concerns have been raised about the behaviour/performance of **AR1** models ...
 - iterations and convergence behaviour ... [Piepho et al. 2015](#) [14] , [Velazco et al. 2017](#) [18], [Rodriguez-Alvarez et al. 2018](#) [16] ...
 - a model selection process which some consider to be complex and unnecessary [Velazco et al. 2017](#) [18], [Rodriguez-Alvarez et al. 2018](#) [16] ...
- this has prompted us to conduct an empirical study in which we've compared ...
 - two **AR1** models and a **baseline** model ...
 - to the **TPS** model ...

Background: tensor product penalised splines ...

- concerns have been raised about the behaviour/performance of **AR1** models ...
 - iterations and convergence behaviour ... [Piepho et al. 2015](#) [14] , [Velazco et al. 2017](#) [18], [Rodriguez-Alvarez et al. 2018](#) [16] ...
 - a model selection process which some consider to be complex and unnecessary [Velazco et al. 2017](#) [18], [Rodriguez-Alvarez et al. 2018](#) [16] ...
- this has prompted us to conduct an empirical study in which we've compared ...
 - two **AR1** models and a **baseline** model ... **stochastic models** ... *model a correlation structure* ...
 - to the **TPS** model ... **non-stochastic model** ... *models a spatial surface* ...
- all four models can be considered within the same statistical framework ...

Background: tensor product penalised splines ...

- the four models we have considered are ...
 - the $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{A}$ model ...
 - the $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{A}$ model plus an independent error term .. called the $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{Ae}$ model ...
 - together the $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{Ae}$ are the **AR** models
 - the **TPS** model ...
 - a **baseline** model for which there is no modelling of spatial dependence ...

Background: tensor product penalised splines ...

- the **TPS** model is available through the **SpATS** package [17] in **R** [15] ...
- **ARIMA** models available through **ASReml-R** .. *Butler et al. (2018)* [4] in **R** [15] ...

Background: tensor product penalised splines ...

- the **TPS** model is available through the **SpATS** package [17] in **R** [15] ...
- **ARIMA** models available through **ASReml-R** .. **Butler et al. (2018)** [4] in **R** [15] ...
- the **SpATS** package is limited to the assumption of *independent genetic effects* ...
- alternatively, the **TPSbits** package .. **Welham (2020)** [20] www.mmade.org ...
 - generates the design matrices required to fit the **TPS** model in **ASReml-R** ...
 - for LMM that include information on genetic relatedness through either pedigree information or molecular marker data ...
- has allowed us to conduct our study using more plausible models for the genetic effects ...

Algebraic form of the models ...

Linear mixed model: general algebraic form ...

- the LMM for a single trial has this general form ...

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{1}_n\mu + \mathbf{X}_p\boldsymbol{\tau}_p + \mathbf{Z}_g\mathbf{u}_g + \mathbf{Z}_p\mathbf{u}_p + \mathbf{e}$$

- \mathbf{y} is the vector of data ...
- μ is the overall mean and $\mathbf{1}_n$ is a vector of 1's ...
- $\boldsymbol{\tau}_p$ is a vector of fixed effects with design matrix \mathbf{X}_p ...
- \mathbf{u}_g is a vector of random genetic effects with design matrix \mathbf{Z}_g ...
- \mathbf{u}_p is a vector of non-genetic (or peripheral) random effects with design matrix \mathbf{Z}_p ...
 - includes blocking terms ...
 - random row and column terms to deal with non-stationarity, mostly to do with trial management practices ...
- \mathbf{e} is the vector of plot errors ...

Linear mixed model: random effects ...

- \mathbf{u}_g , \mathbf{u}_p and e are assumed to be independent sets of effects with zero mean and block diagonal variance structure ...

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_g \\ \mathbf{u}_p \\ e \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}_g(\sigma_g) & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{G}_p(\sigma_p) & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{R}(\sigma_r) \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

Linear mixed model: genetic effects ...

- when there is information on genetic relatedness the total effects in \mathbf{u}_g are written as the sum of ...
 - a set of additive genetic effects, \mathbf{u}_a ... *linked to the pedigree or the molecular marker data* ...
 - a set of non-additive (or residual) genetic effects, \mathbf{u}_e ...

$$\mathbf{u}_g = \mathbf{u}_a + \mathbf{u}_e$$

- with this variance structure ...

$$\begin{aligned}\text{var}(\mathbf{u}_g) &= \text{var}(\mathbf{u}_a) + \text{var}(\mathbf{u}_e) \\ &= \sigma_a^2 \mathbf{A} + \sigma_e^2 \mathbf{I}_m\end{aligned}$$

- \mathbf{A} is a known relationship matrix ... *linked to the pedigree or marker information* ...
- this genetic model was assumed for all four models in our empirical study .. $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{A}$, $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{A}_e$, **TPS**, **baseline** ...

Linear mixed model: non-genetic fixed/random effects and residuals ...

| model | fixed terms: X_p | non-genetic random terms: Z_p | residual variance structure: $R(\sigma_r)$ | total variance parameters |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| baseline | $\mathbf{1}_n$ | $[Z_b \ Z_{row} \ Z_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n$ | $p + 5$ |
| A × A | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ r \ c]$ | $[Z_b \ Z_{row} \ Z_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 \Sigma_c(\rho_c) \otimes \Sigma_r(\rho_r)$ | $p + 7$ |
| A × Ae | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ r \ c]$ | $[Z_b \ Z_{row} \ Z_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 (\Sigma_c(\rho_c) \otimes \Sigma_r(\rho_r) + \alpha \mathbf{I}_n)$ | $p + 8$ |
| TPS | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ r \ c \ rc \ X_b]$ | $[Z_{row} \ Z_{col} \ Z_s]$ | $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n$ | 10 |

- **baseline** model includes ...
 - an **overall mean** ... *the only fixed model term* ...
 - IID random terms for **blocks**, and the **row** and **column** effects ...
 - a simple **independent error** model with no modelling of spatial dependence ...

Linear mixed model: non-genetic fixed/random effects and residuals ...

| | fixed | non-genetic random | residual variance | total variance |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|----------------|
| model | terms: X_p | terms: Z_p | structure: $R(\sigma_r)$ | parameters |
| baseline | $\mathbf{1}_n$ | $[Z_b \ Z_{row} \ Z_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n$ | $p + 5$ |
| A × A | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ r \ c]$ | $[Z_b \ Z_{row} \ Z_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 \Sigma_c(\rho_c) \otimes \Sigma_r(\rho_r)$ | $p + 7$ |
| A × Ae | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ r \ c]$ | $[Z_b \ Z_{row} \ Z_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 (\Sigma_c(\rho_c) \otimes \Sigma_r(\rho_r) + \alpha \mathbf{I}_n)$ | $p + 8$ |
| TPS | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ r \ c \ rc \ X_b]$ | $[Z_{row} \ Z_{col} \ Z_s]$ | $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n$ | 10 |

- the **A × A** model includes ...
 - linear trends in the **row** and **column** directions to model this form of non-stationarity ...
 - an **AR1 × AR1** process for the residuals ...

Linear mixed model: non-genetic fixed/random effects and residuals ...

| model | fixed terms: X_p | non-genetic random terms: Z_p | residual variance structure: $R(\sigma_r)$ | total variance parameters |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| baseline | $\mathbf{1}_n$ | $[Z_b \ Z_{row} \ Z_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n$ | $p + 5$ |
| A × A | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ r \ c]$ | $[Z_b \ Z_{row} \ Z_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 \Sigma_c(\rho_c) \otimes \Sigma_r(\rho_r)$ | $p + 7$ |
| A × Ae | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ r \ c]$ | $[Z_b \ Z_{row} \ Z_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 (\Sigma_c(\rho_c) \otimes \Sigma_r(\rho_r) + \alpha \mathbf{I}_n)$ | $p + 8$ |
| TPS | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ r \ c \ rc \ X_b]$ | $[Z_{row} \ Z_{col} \ Z_s]$ | $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n$ | 10 |

- the **A × Ae** model is the **A × A** model plus a set of independent errors ...

Linear mixed model: non-genetic fixed/random effects and residuals ...

| | fixed | non-genetic random | residual variance | total variance |
|-----------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| model | terms: \mathbf{X}_p | terms: \mathbf{Z}_p | structure: $\mathbf{R}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_r)$ | parameters |
| baseline | $\mathbf{1}_n$ | $[\mathbf{Z}_b \ \mathbf{Z}_{row} \ \mathbf{Z}_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n$ | $p + 5$ |
| A × A | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ \mathbf{r} \ \mathbf{c}]$ | $[\mathbf{Z}_b \ \mathbf{Z}_{row} \ \mathbf{Z}_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_c(\rho_c) \otimes \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_r(\rho_r)$ | $p + 7$ |
| A × Ae | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ \mathbf{r} \ \mathbf{c}]$ | $[\mathbf{Z}_b \ \mathbf{Z}_{row} \ \mathbf{Z}_{col}]$ | $\sigma^2 (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_c(\rho_c) \otimes \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_r(\rho_r) + \alpha \mathbf{I}_n)$ | $p + 8$ |
| TPS | $[\mathbf{1}_n \ \mathbf{r} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{rc} \ \mathbf{X}_b]$ | $[\mathbf{Z}_{row} \ \mathbf{Z}_{col} \ \mathbf{Z}_s]$ | $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n$ | 10 |

- for the **TPS** model ...
 - we use a cubic spline basis with second-order differencing ... $d = 2$, the **SpATS** default ...
 - the **blocking** terms are included in the fixed part of the model (\mathbf{X}_b)...
 - the *fixed part of the TPS* consists of **bilinear trend across the lattice surface** ...
 - linear trends in rows (\mathbf{r}) and columns (\mathbf{c}) and their interaction (\mathbf{rc}) ...
 - the *random part of the TPS* represents **smooth 2-d variation across the lattice surface** ...
 - written as partitioned matrix $\mathbf{Z}_s = [\mathbf{Z}_r \ \mathbf{Z}_{rl} \ \mathbf{Z}_c \ \mathbf{Z}_{cl} \ \mathbf{Z}_{rc}]$ where each partition (5) has its own variance component ...
 - a simple IID variance structure is assumed for the **plot errors** ...

Empirical study ...

Empirical study: overview ...

- we have compared the **A** × **A**, **A** × **Ae**, **TPS** and **baseline** models ...
- for a set of 110 early generation lentil and field pea trials ...
- considered to be representative of early stage plant breeding data in Australia ...

Empirical study: data set ...

- 110 Stage 0, 1 and 2 trials: 48 lentil trials and 62 field pea trials ...
- 73 environments in New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia and Victoria ...
- each trial was laid out as a rectangular lattice ...
- trials at each stage were either p-rep trials, RCB trials or a mix of both ...
 - blocking in either 1 or 2 directions ...
- before 2019 the trials were generated as model based designs *without the use of* pedigree information ...
 - **DiGger Coombes (2109)** [5] or **Butler (2013)** [3] ...
- since 2019 they have been generated as model based designs *utilizing* pedigree information **Cullis et al. (2020)** [6] ...
- for analysis, pedigree information was available for 5771 individuals for the lentil data set and 11482 individuals for the field pea data set ...

Empirical study: approach ...

- analysed each trial using the **A** × **A**, **A** × **Ae**, **TPS** and **baseline** models ...
- for the **TPS** model we specified equally spaced knots at a rate of about 1 knot per 2 rows or columns ...
- we have compared the models based on ...
 - iterations and convergence behaviour ...
 - goodness of fit using information criteria ...
 - measures of discrepancy based on the predicted genetic effects ...
 - *correlation and rates of mis-classification for selection* ...
- our main question ...
 - ... is there any real difference in the fit of the different models?**

Empirical study results: approach ...

- judged models using AIC of Verbyla (2019) [19] ...
- model with lowest AIC = judged **Best**
 - 14%, 67%, 15%, 4% ...
 - our assumption is that the outputs for the **Best** model are closest to those of the underlying true model ...
- in comparing models for a trial, we were most interested in ...
 - the performance of each model relative to the best fitting model for that trial ...
 - if a model wasn't the best fitting model, how close did it get to the best fitting model ...*
- so our measures are *mostly* based on **95** (**A × A**), **35** (**A × Ae**), **94** (**TPS**), **105** (**baseline**) trials ...
- going to ignore **baseline** model as it wasn't competitive ...

| best model | trial number | Model | | | | total trials | % of total | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------|--------|-----|----------|--------------|------------|----|-----|----|-----|
| | | A × A | A × Ae | TPS | baseline | | | | | | |
| A × A | 1 | B | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 15 | 14% | | | | |
| | 2 | B | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | | | | | | |
| ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | | | | | | | |
| 15 | B | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| A × Ae | 16 | ✓ | B | ✓ | ✓ | | | 74 | 67% | | |
| | 17 | ✓ | B | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | | | | | | |
| | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | | | | | | |
| 89 | ✓ | B | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| TPS | 90 | ✓ | ✓ | B | ✓ | | | | | 16 | 15% |
| | 91 | ✓ | ✓ | B | ✓ | | | | | | |
| | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | | | | | | |
| | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | | | | | | |
| 105 | ✓ | ✓ | B | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| baseline | 106 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | B | 5 | 4% | | | | |
| | 107 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | B | | | | | | |
| | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | | | | | | |
| | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | | | | | | |
| 110 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | B | | | | | | | |
| total trials | | 95 | 35 | 94 | 105 | | | | | | |

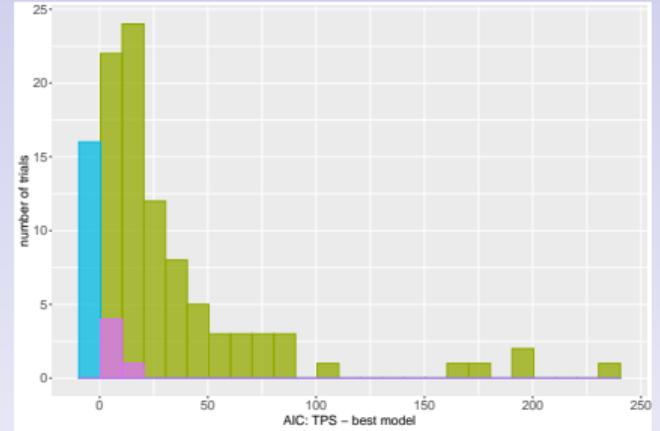
Empirical study results ...

Empirical study results: iterations and convergence behaviour ...

- for the full set of 440 analyses ... **4 models** × **110 trials** ...
 - just one analysis for the **A** × **Ae** model failed to converge ...
 - represents an almost 100% rate of convergence for our study ...
- differences in run time between the **AR** and **TPS** models were negligible ...

Empirical study results: goodness of fit ...

- histogram of the difference in AIC between the **TPS** model and the **best** model ...
 - **blue** = 14.5% of trials where **TPS** was best ...
 - **green** = 81% of trials where **AR** were best ...
 - **purple** = 4.6% of trials where **baseline** was best ...



- on average, the best model was an improvement over **TPS** by 34 AIC units ...
- the **TPS** model was best by at most 9.6 AIC units ...
- the **AR** models were best by as much as 240 AIC units ...
- ultimately what we found ...
 - in general, when the **TPS** model outperforms the **AR** models it does so by only a small amount while the **AR** models can win by a substantial margin ...

Empirical study results: predicted genetic effects ...

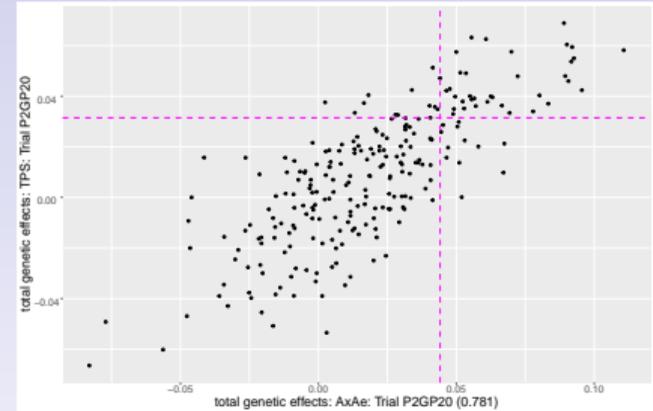
- in field trial analysis the predicted additive and total genetic effects are of key importance as they drive selection decisions ...
- for each trial we determined ...
 - the predicted genetic effects for the two sets for each of the four models ...
 - their correlation with those of the **best** fitting model ...

| effect type | model | number of trials | median | mean |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|-------|
| additive | A × A | 95 | 0.994 | 0.988 |
| | A × Ae | 35 | 0.998 | 0.996 |
| | TPS | 94 | 0.986 | 0.968 |
| | baseline | 105 | 0.969 | 0.936 |
| total | A × A | 95 | 0.991 | 0.982 |
| | A × Ae | 35 | 0.997 | 0.994 |
| | TPS | 94 | 0.983 | 0.965 |
| | baseline | 105 | 0.963 | 0.932 |

- median and mean correlations were *highest* for the **A × Ae** model ...
- **TPS** model was *less correlated* with the best fitting model than both **AR** models ...

Empirical study results: mis-classification of entries ...

- plot of the predicted total effects for a FP trial for **TPS** vs **A × Ae** ...
 - difference in AIC = -200 units ...
 - correlation between predicted genetic effects = 0.78 ...
 - **A × Ae** model the **best** model ...
 - pink horizontal line separates out top 20% of entries under the **TPS** model ... 49 entries above line ...
 - pink vertical line separates out top 20% of entries under the **A × Ae** model ... 49 entries to right of line ...
- top right and bottom left quadrants contain the sets of 37 and 180 entries that would be selected or rejected under both models ...
- the top left and bottom right quadrants contain the 12 entries that would be selected by one model but rejected by the other model ...
- represents a 24.5% rate of mis-classification for the **TPS** model given the **A × Ae** model was the **best** fitting model ...



Empirical study results: mis-classification of entries for the full set of trials ...

- we have summarised the % mis-classification for the four models across the full set of trials ...
- this is the median % mis-classification for the **TPS**, **A × A** and **A × Ae** models ...
 - 10.42% additive, 11.52% total for **TPS** ...
 - 6.52% additive, 8.33% total for **A × A** ...
 - 4.08% additive, 4.17% total for **A × Ae** ...
- the **A × Ae** model had the *lowest median rate of mis-classification* ...
- the **TPS** model had a *higher median rate of mis-classification than both AR models* ...
- this is important information for breeding programs since **maximising genetic gain can only be achieved through accurate selection decisions** ...

Technicalities with the TPS model ...

Technicalities with the TPS model ...

- **Piepho et al. (2022) [13]** have pointed out that an extra correlation parameter is needed to make the **TPS** model with second order differencing ($d = 2$) invariant to any choice of basis for the *unpenalised* terms ...
- **Welham (2022)** has found that additional parameters are needed to achieve this same invariance for the *penalised* terms ... *for any order of differencing ...*
- **Piepho et al. (2022)** recommend a process of **model selection** that uses a **TPS** model with first-order differencing ($d = 1$) in response to the issue they have raised ...
- given ...
 - lack of invariance in the **TPS** model ...
 - that the process of model selection is not avoided in using the **TPS** model ...
 - the relative performance of the **AR** models compared to the **TPS** model ...
- we recommend the use of low order **ARIMA** models for field trial analysis ...

Summary ...

Summary ...

- the **AR** and **TPS** models offer different approaches for the analysis of field trial data ...
 - modelling spatial correlation .. *the AR models* ...
 - modelling spatial trend .. *the TPS model* ...
- in our study ...
 - the **AR** models generally outperformed the **TPS** based on AIC ... *particularly the $A \times Ae$ model* ...
 - we found that when the **TPS** model is best it is generally by only a small amount compared to the **AR** models which can be the best model by a large amount ...
 - the **TPS** model had consistently higher rates of mis-classification for selection than the **AR** models ...
- to achieve high rates of genetic gain plant breeding programs need to be making accurate selection decisions ...
- again, based on our study results, we recommend **AR** models in preference to the **TPS** model for use in field trial analysis and evaluation systems ...

Thanks and acknowledgements ...

Thanks to ...

- my co-authors Sue Welham and Brian Cullis for the journey ...

BASF, BBCC - Innovation Center Gent, Belgium ...



Grains Research and Development Corporation ...



Thank you ...

References ... I



J. Besag and R. A. Kempton.

Statistical analysis of field experiments using neighbouring plots.
Biometrics, 42:231–251, 1986.



Julian Besag.

Errors-in-variables estimation for gaussian lattice schemes.
Journal of the Royal Statistical Society. Series B, Methodological, 39(1):73–78, 1977.



D. G. Butler.

On the Optimal Design of Experiments Under the Linear Mixed Model.
PhD thesis, School of Mathematics and Physics, The University of Queensland, 2013.



D. G. Butler, B. R. Cullis, A. R. Gilmour, B. J. Gogel, and R. Thompson.

ASReml-R Reference Manual Version 4.
VSN International, 2018.



N. E. Coombes.

DiGger, a spatial design program.
Biometric bulletin, NSW Department of Primary Industries, 2009.



B. R. Cullis, A. B. Smith, N. A. Cocks, and D. G. Butler.

The design of early-stage plant breeding trials using genetic relatedness.
Journal of Agricultural, Bioclogical and Environmental Statistics, 25:553–578, 2020.



A. R. Gilmour, B. R. Cullis, and A. P. Verbyla.

Accounting for natural and extraneous variation in the analysis of field experiments.
Journal of Agricultural, Biological, and Environmental Statistics, 2:269–273, 1997.



A. C. Gleeson and B. R. Cullis.

Residual maximum likelihood (REML) estimation of a neighbour model for field experiments.
Biometrics, 43:277–288, 1987.

References ... II



P. J. Green, C. Jennison, and A. H. Seheult.

Analysis of field experiments by least squares smoothing.
Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B, 47:299–315, 1985.



Peter J. Green.

Linear models for field trials, smoothing and cross-validation.
Biometrika, 72(3):527–537, 12 1985.



R. J. Martin.

The use of time-series models and methods in the analysis of agricultural field trials.
Communications in Statistics - Theory and Methods, 19(1):55–81, 1990.



J. S.. Papadakis.

Methode statistique pour des experiences sur champ.
Bulletin scientifique, Institut d'Amelioration des Plantes a Thessaloniki (Grece), 1937.



Hans-Peter Piepho, Martin Boer, and Emlyn Williams.

Two-dimensional p-spline smoothing for spatial analysis of plant breeding trials.
Biometrical Journal, 64(5):1–23, 02 2022.



Hans-Peter Piepho, Jens Möhring, Markus Pflugfelder, Winfried Hermann, and Emlyn Williams.

Problems in parameter estimation for power and $ar(1)$ models of spatial correlation in designed field experiments.
Communications in Biometry and Crop Science, 10:3–16, 01 2015.



R Development Core Team.

R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing.
R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria, 2020.
ISBN 3-900051-07-0.

References ... III



María Xosé Rodríguez-Álvarez, Martin P. Boer, Fred A. van Eeuwijk, and Paul H. C. Eilers.
Modelling spatial trends in sorghum breeding field trials using a two-dimensional p-spline mixed model.
Spatial Statistics, 23:52–71, 2018.



María Xosé Rodríguez-Álvarez, Martin P. Boer, Fred A. van Eeuwijk, and Paul H.C. Eilers.
Correcting for spatial heterogeneity in plant breeding experiments with p-splines.
Spatial Statistics, 23:52 – 71, 2017.



J. G. Velazco, M. X. Rodríguez-Álvarez, Martin P. Boer, D. R. Jordan, P. H. C. Eilers, M. Malosetti, and F. van Eeuwijk.
Modelling spatial trends in sorghum breeding field trials using a two-dimensional p-spline mixed model.
TAG. Theoretical and applied genetics. Theoretische und angewandte Genetik, 130(7):1375—1392, July 2017.



Arunas Petras Verbyla.
A note on model selection using information criteria for general linear models estimated using reml.
Australian & New Zealand Journal of Statistics, 61(1):39–50, 2019.



S. J. Welham.
TPSbits package, 2020.



G. N. Wilkinson, S. R. Eckert, T. W. Hancock, and O. Mayo.
Nearest neighbour (NN) analysis of field experiments (with discussion).
Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B, 45:151–211, 1983.