

# Supplementary Material: Detection of spatiotemporal changepoints – a generalised additive model approach

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## 1 Simulation Studies Full Details

This section presents the full details of the simulation studies undertaken to evaluate the performance of GAM-PELT. Two main sets of scenarios are run, with the first involving different underlying spatial and temporal distributions but no changepoints (see Table S1); the second introduces changepoints at times 50, 100, and 150 with a change in either the spatial, temporal or spatio-temporal structure between segments (see Table S2). For all scenarios, the number of time points and spatial locations were fixed at 200 and 50 respectively. For each scenario 100 replicates were run and the spatial locations were generated at random at the start of each replicate uniformly from  $u \sim \text{Unif}(-3,3)$ ,  $v \sim \text{Unif}(40,60)$ , rounded to 1 decimal place.

In the tables, we use summary notation for the different components of each scenario. In the following we unpack what this means in the practical construction of the simulations. Each component is additive. For all scenarios, the mean and variance are fixed a 0.0 and 1.0 respectively for the first segment and “random draw” means equally weighted.

Time:

**Independent** Errors are independent and identically distributed  $N(0, 1)$ .

**AR1:Same** Errors are AR1 models with the AR parameter simulated from a Truncated Normal  $TN(0, 1, 0.1, 0.9)$ . A single AR parameter is simulated and applied to all spatial locations.

**AR1:Random** Errors are AR1 models with the AR parameter simulated from a Truncated Normal  $TN(0, 1, 0.1, 0.9)$ . A different AR parameter is simulated for each spatial location.

**Mean & Variance** The mean parameters for each segment are drawn from a normal distribution ( $N(0.0, 5.0)$ ) and the variance parameters from a lognormal distribution ( $\log\text{-}N(0.0, \frac{\log(10)}{2})$ ).

| Scenario | Time                                                                                                  | Space                                                 |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1        | AR1: Same all locations<br>Mean: Same all spatial locations<br>Variance: Same all spatial locations   | Constant                                              |
| 2        | AR1: Random all locations<br>Mean: Same all spatial locations<br>Variance: Same all spatial locations | Constant                                              |
| 3        | Independent                                                                                           | Constant                                              |
| 4        | Independent                                                                                           | Independent                                           |
| 5        | Independent                                                                                           | Structured correlation                                |
| 6        | Independent                                                                                           | 2-D <code>gamSim</code> example ( <code>mgcv</code> ) |

Table S1: Summary of scenarios where there are no spatial and/or temporal changes in the simulated dataset.

Spatial:

**Constant** Each spatial location has the same value in space drawn from  $N(0, 5^2)$ .

**Independent** Each spatial location has a different value in space independently drawn from  $N(\mu, \sigma^2, 0.0, 5.0)$ .

**Structured** Each spatial location is spatially correlated using an unconditional Gaussian simulation from the `gstat` R package (E. J. Pebesma 2004; Gräler, E. Pebesma, and Heuvelink 2016). To ensure quantitatively different spatial distributions in each replicate, the range, sill and `nmax` (number of nearest observations used in Gaussian simulation) were sampled from  $range \sim \text{Unif}(10, 1000)$ ,  $sill \sim \text{Unif}(5.0, 5000.0)$  and  $nmax \sim \text{Unif}(10, 200)$  respectively.

**2-d `gamSim`** The underlying spatial distribution was generated using the 2-D `gamSim` example from `mgcv`.

## 2 AURN dataset details

To demonstrate an application of GAM-PELT on a real-world dataset we utilised data from the United Kingdom (UK)’s Automatic, Urban and Rural Network (AURN) of air quality monitoring stations (Defra 2024a). The AURN is a network of 281 monitoring stations that provide measurements of key air quality pollutants covering the time period of 1<sup>st</sup> July 1972 through to the present day. Out of the 281 sites, 175 are currently still actively monitoring and are located at various urban, rural, roadside and industrial locations around England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Pollutant data is available for ozone ( $O_3$ ), Nitric oxide (NO), Nitrogen dioxide ( $NO_2$ ) Nitrogen oxides as nitrogen dioxide ( $NO_x$ ), Sulphur dioxide ( $SO_2$ ), Carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter of

| Scenario | Time                                                                                                                                             | Space                                                                                                                  |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1a       | <i>All spatial locations change:</i><br>AR1, Mean & Variance                                                                                     | <i>No change:</i><br>Constant                                                                                          |
| 1b       | <i>All spatial locations change:</i><br>AR1, Mean & Variance                                                                                     | <i>No change:</i><br>All random                                                                                        |
| 1c       | <i>All spatial locations change:</i><br>AR1, Mean & Variance                                                                                     | <i>No change:</i><br>Correlated                                                                                        |
| 2a       | <i>1 spatial location at random changes:</i><br>AR1, Mean & Variance                                                                             | <i>No change:</i><br>Constant                                                                                          |
| 2b       | <i>1 spatial location at random changes:</i><br>AR1, Mean & Variance                                                                             | <i>No change:</i><br>All random                                                                                        |
| 2c       | <i>1 spatial location at random changes:</i><br>AR1, Mean & Variance                                                                             | <i>No change:</i><br>Correlated                                                                                        |
| 3a       | <i>No change:</i><br>AR1, Mean & Variance                                                                                                        | <i>Change:</i><br>Constant → Constant                                                                                  |
| 3b       | <i>No change:</i><br>AR1, Mean & Variance                                                                                                        | <i>Change:</i><br>All random → All random                                                                              |
| 3c       | <i>No change:</i><br>AR1, Mean & Variance                                                                                                        | <i>Change:</i><br>Correlated → Correlated                                                                              |
| 4a       | <i>AR1, Mean &amp; Variance change:</i><br>Random draw from:<br>1) All spatial locations change<br>2) 1 spatial location changes<br>3) No change | <i>Spatial structure change:</i><br>Random draw from:<br>1) Constant<br>2) All random<br>3) Correlated<br>4) No Change |
| 4b       | <i>AR1, Mean &amp; Variance change:</i><br>Random draw from:<br>1) All spatial locations change<br>2) 1 spatial location changes                 | <i>Spatial structure change:</i><br>Random draw from:<br>1) Constant<br>2) All random<br>3) Structured correlation     |

Table S2: Summary of scenarios where there are changepoints introduced into the simulated dataset and there is a change in either the spatial, temporal or spatio-temporal structure between segments .

size smaller than 10 micron ( $\text{PM}_{10}$ ), and particulate matter of size smaller than 10 micron ( $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ) at hourly frequency. This provides good coverage of key air quality pollutants across the UK. The AURN data is actively updated daily and is made available under an Open Government Licence by Defra through the UK-Air website (Defra 2024b) or using the API called from the `OpenAir` R package (Carslaw and Ropkins 2012).

For the data application the period 1<sup>st</sup> February - 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 (213 days) was chosen as this covers the timeline of the UK’s first nationwide COVID-19 lockdown, whereby impacts on pollutant concentrations would be expected to be seen in some effect at all monitoring locations. We focus on 2 primary (directly emitted) pollutants namely  $\text{NO}_2$  (measured at 74 spatial locations) and  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  (30 spatial locations), and 1 secondary pollutant (formed in the atmosphere and thus behaves differently), namely  $\text{O}_3$  (30 spatial locations). For the purposes of this application, the hourly data was aggregated to daily averages which yielded 74 locations for  $\text{NO}_2$ , 30 locations for  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and 30 locations for  $\text{O}_3$  that had complete daily records for the lockdown period (station locations for each pollutant are shown in Figure S1). Figure S2 shows example daily time series of  $\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{NO}_2$  and  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  for sites located in Southend and Wigan Centre where all 3 pollutants are measured concurrently.

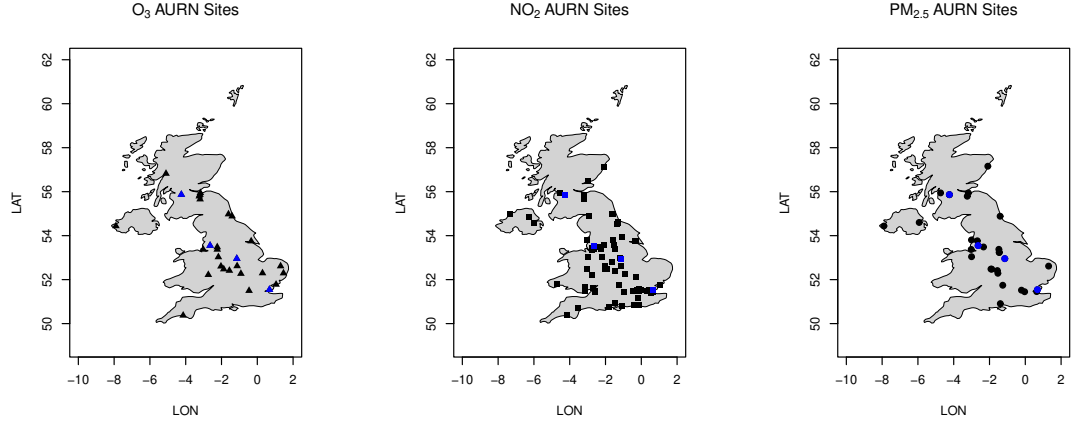


Figure S1: Locations of the AURN measurement locations for  $\text{O}_3$  (triangles),  $\text{NO}_2$  (squares) and  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  (circles). Sites where all 3 pollutants are measured concurrently are highlighted in blue.

## References

- Pebesma, Edzer J. (2004). “Multivariable geostatistics in S: the gstat package”. In: *Computers & Geosciences* 30, pp. 683–691.

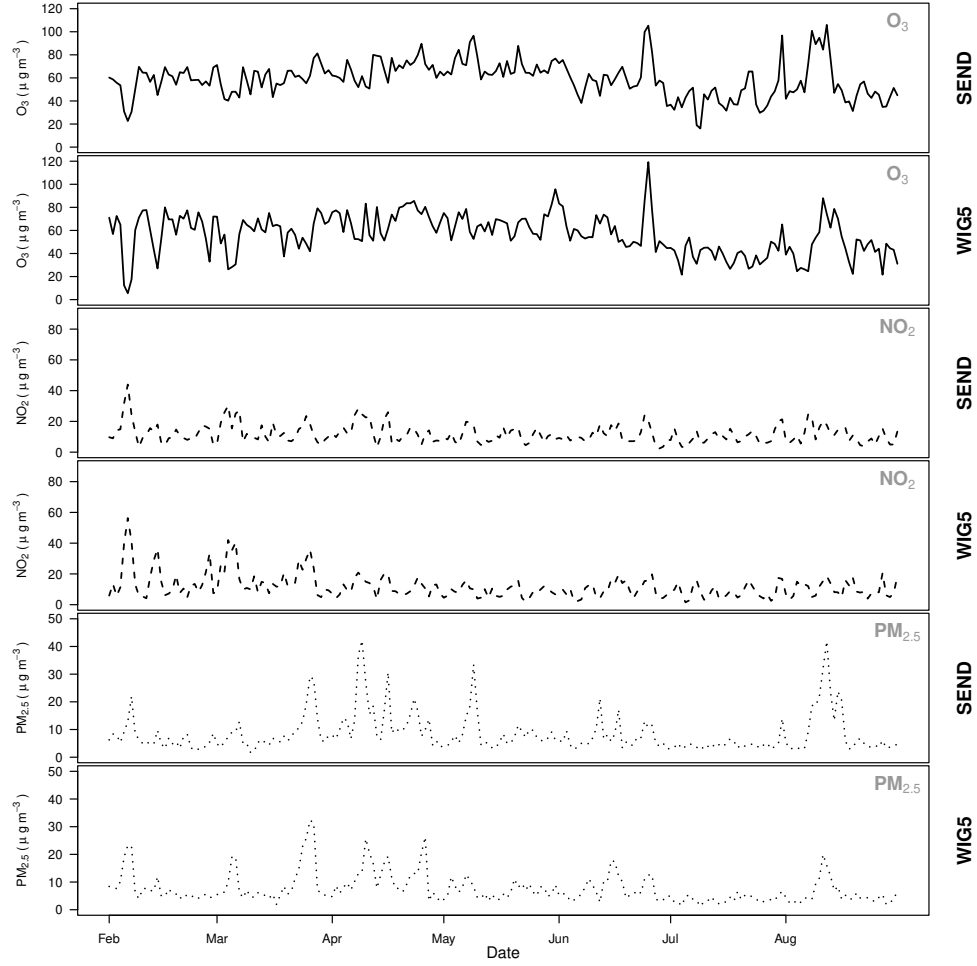


Figure S2: Daily concentration measurements of  $O_3$ ,  $NO_2$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  at Southend-on-Sea (SEND) and Wigan Centre (WIG5) for the period 1<sup>st</sup> February - 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020. The top 2 plots show  $O_3$  concentrations, the middle 2 plots show  $NO_2$  concentrations and the bottom 2 plots show  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations.

Carlsaw, David C. and Karl Ropkins (2012). “openair — An R package for air quality data analysis”. In: *Environmental Modelling & Software* 27–28.0, pp. 52–61. ISSN: 1364-8152. DOI: 10.1016/j.envsoft.2011.09.008.

Gräler, Benedikt, Edzer Pebesma, and Gerard Heuvelink (2016). “Spatio-Temporal Interpolation using gstat”. In: *The R Journal* 8 (1), pp. 204–218. URL:

<https://journal.r-project.org/archive/2016/RJ-2016-014/index.html>.

- Defra (2024a). *Automatic Urban and Rural Network (AURN)*. Accessed: 2024-06-06. URL: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/networks/network-info?view=aurn>.
- (2024b). *UK AIR: Air Information Resource Data Selector*. Accessed: 2024-06-06. URL: [https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/data/data\\_selector](https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/data/data_selector).