

Assume that the number found positive for malaria parasitaemia at location i is Y_i out of N_i examined then Y_i is a binomial random variable:

$$Y_i \approx \text{Bin}(N_i, p_i)$$

The bivariate ordinary logistic regression model is given by:

$$\log\left(\frac{p_i}{1-p_i}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{env}_i$$

Where β_0 is the intercept, env_i is the environmental covariate, β_1 is the corresponding regression parameter. The spatial correlation is modelled by inclusion of a random effect S_i :

$$\log\left(\frac{p_i}{1-p_i}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{env}_i + S_i$$

The spatial component, S_i , is defined by the isotropic, exponentially decaying correlation function:

$$f(d_{ij}; \phi) = \exp[-(\phi \cdot d_{ij})]$$

The range Φ measures the rate of decay of spatial autocorrelation, and $d_{i,j} = x_i - x_j$ measures the Euclidian distance between locations x_i and x_j .