

# **Modeling of inhomogeneous spatio-temporal signals by least squares collocation**

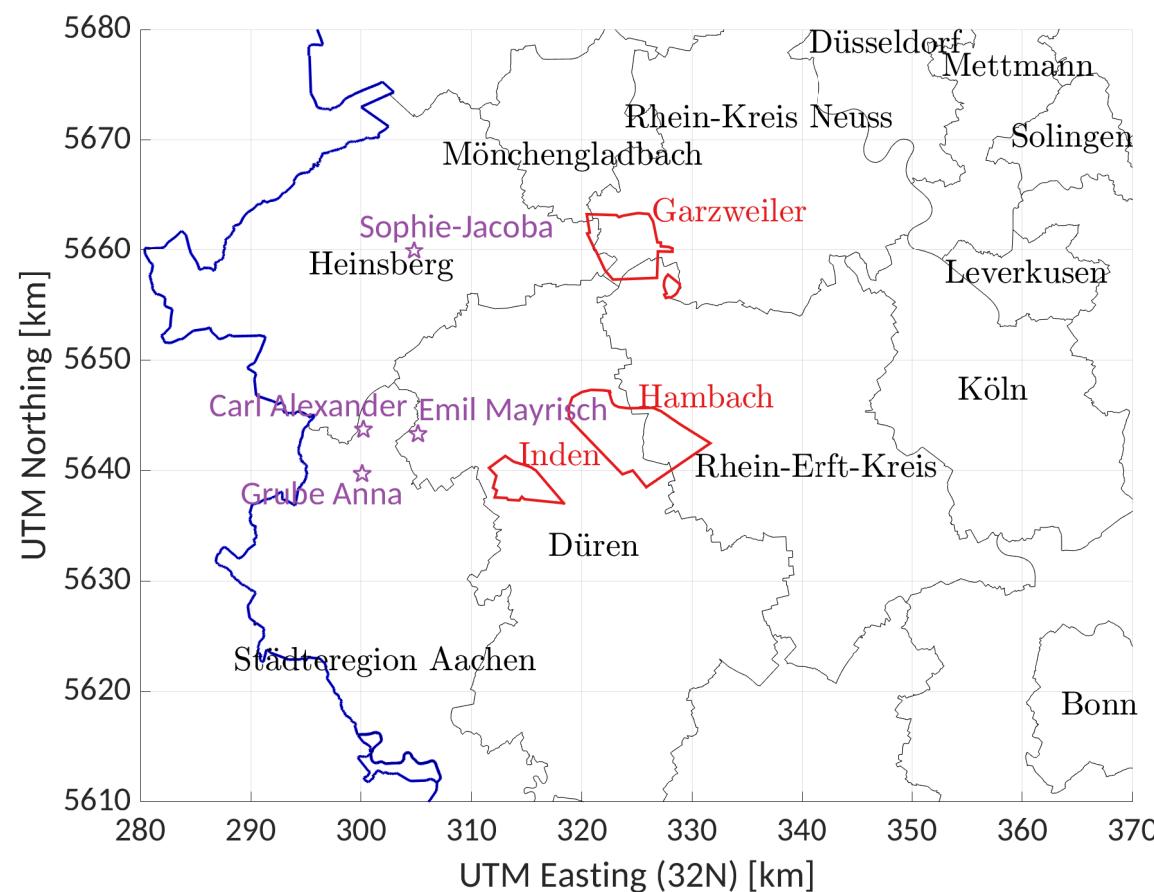
Wolf-Dieter Schuh, Johannes Korte, Till Schubert, Jan Martin Brockmann

Institute of Geodesy and Geoinformation  
Theoretical Geodesy Group  
University Bonn

**X Hotine-Marussi Symposium**  
Milano, June 13-17, 2022

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## Study region: Lower-Rhine-Embayment



open-cast brown coal mines  
**Hambach, Garzweiler, Inden**  
still active



hard coal mines  
**Aachener and Erkelenzer coalfield**  
closed 1992



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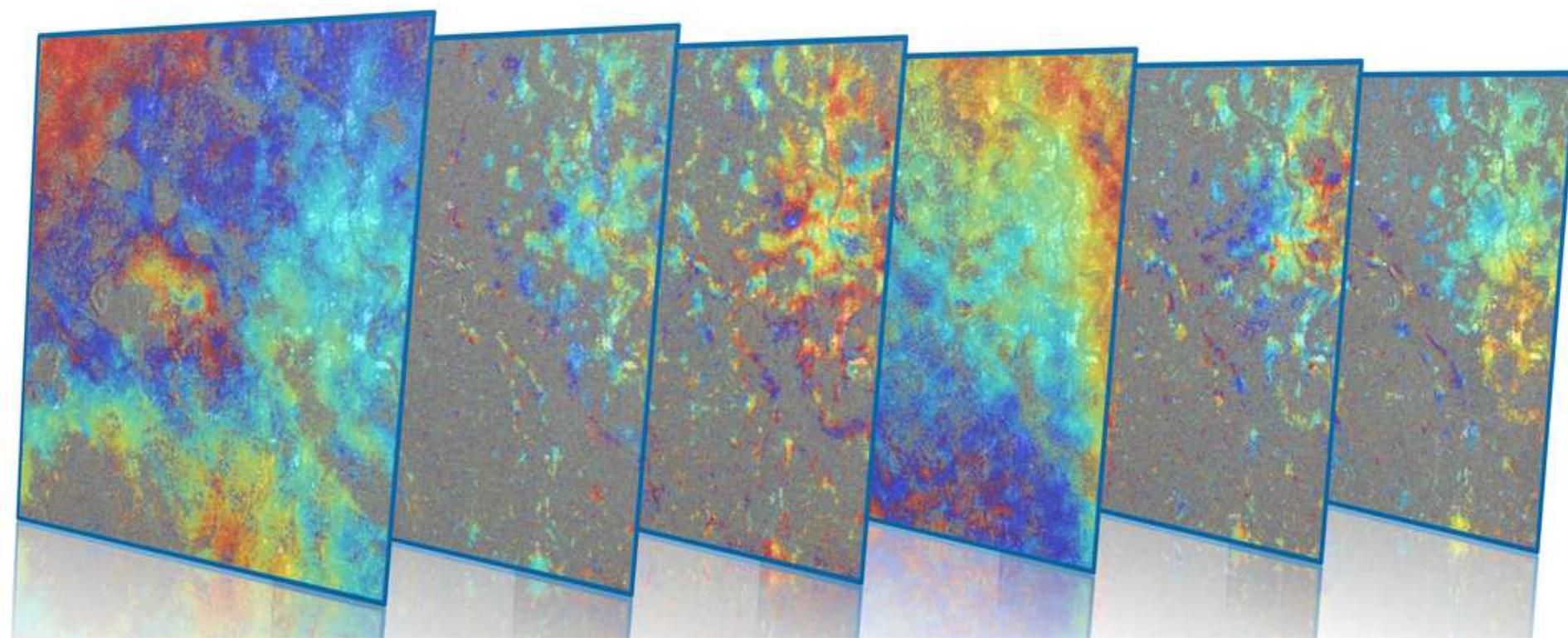
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## Observations: InSAR recordings of the ERS1 und ERS2 mission



DInSAR stack with 64 frames observed at irregular times  
in the period between 1992-05-09 and 2000-12-12

## Processing: DInSAR-SBAS with RSG (Remote-Sensing-Graz) package

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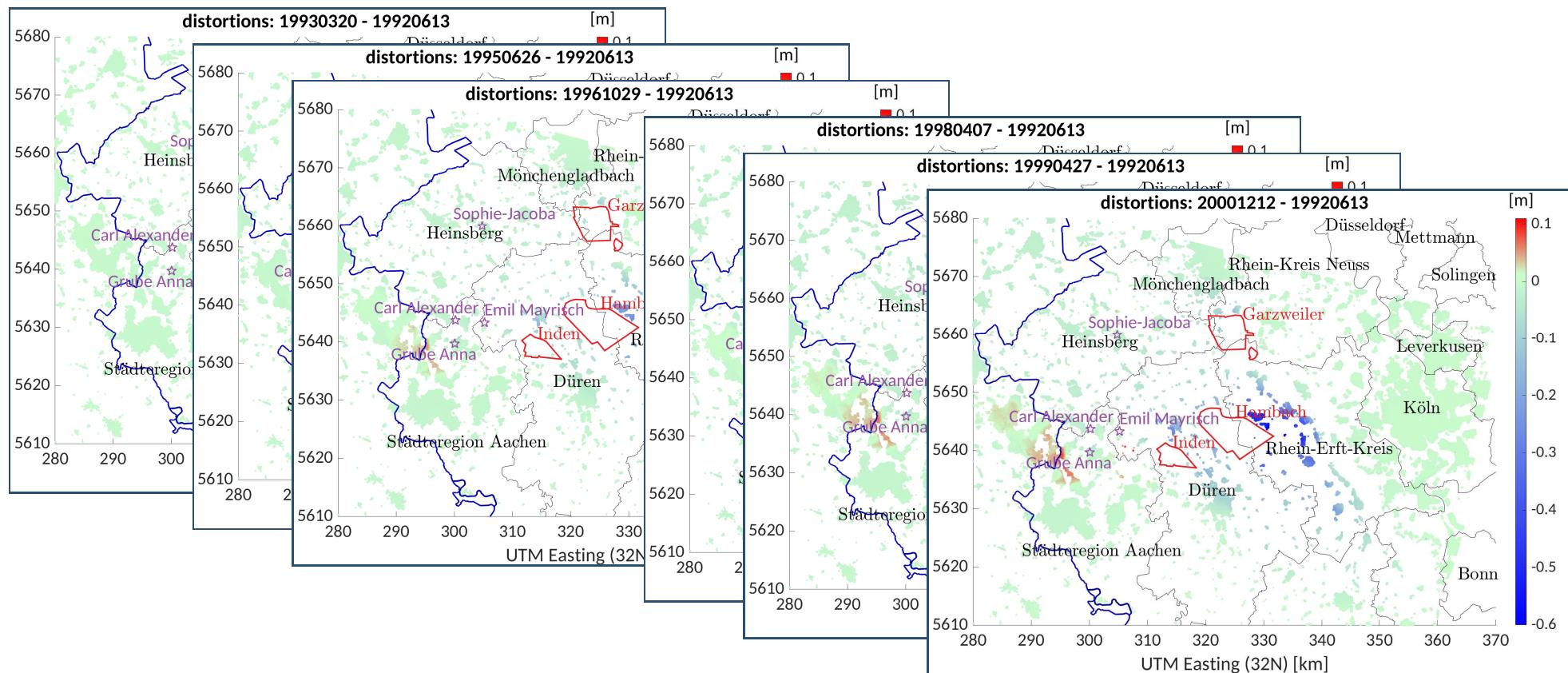
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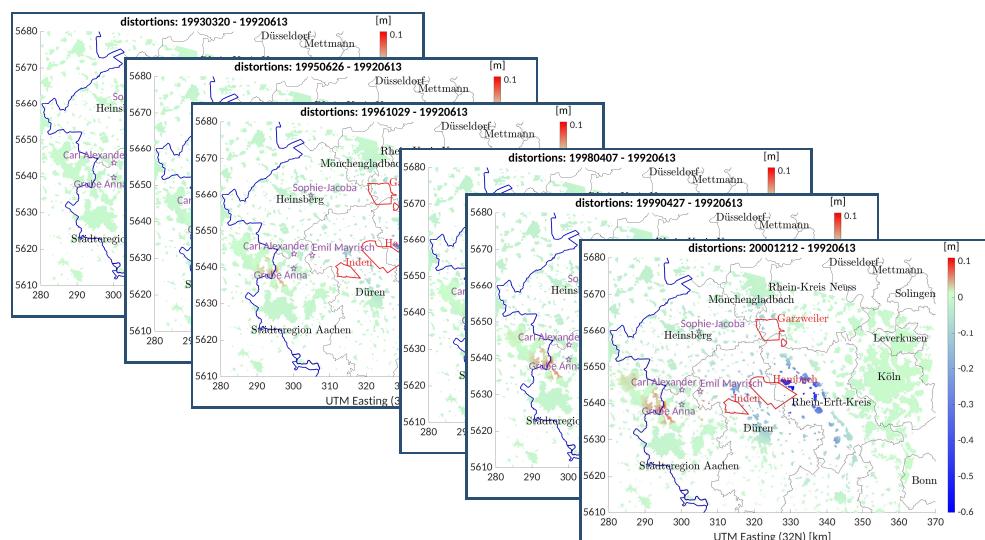
Numeric Design

Summary



spatio-temporal point cloud with surface distortions

Esch et al. (2019a,b)

Motivation**Objective**Collocation ApproachStochastic DesignNumeric DesignSummary**spatio-temporal point cloud  
(SBAS-stack):**

- huge number of data
- + identical scatterer in each time frame — 144.302 scatterer
- irregularly distributed in space
- clustered in urban areas
- + organized in 64 time frames
- irregularly distributed in time

Motivation

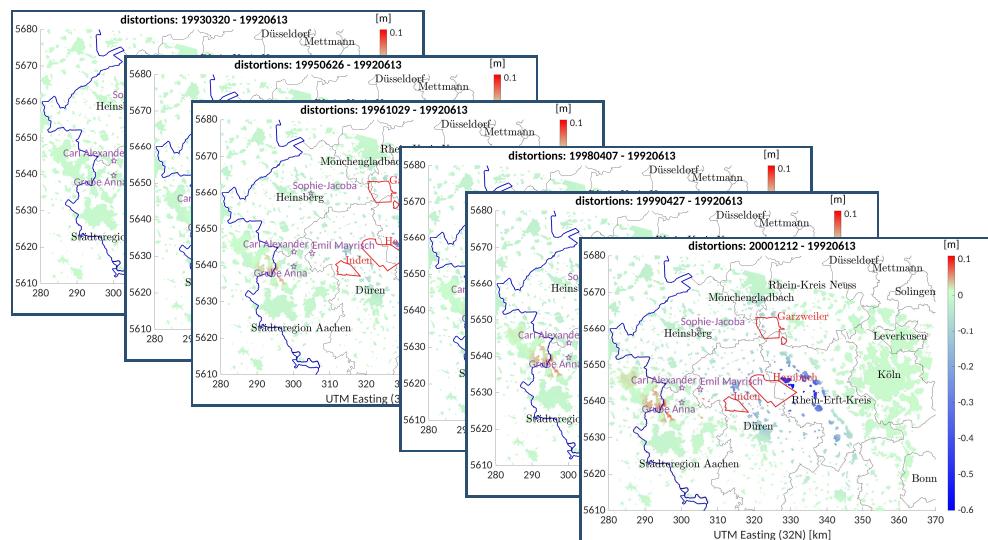
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**Challenge:**  
**design of a spatio-temporal  
collocation model**

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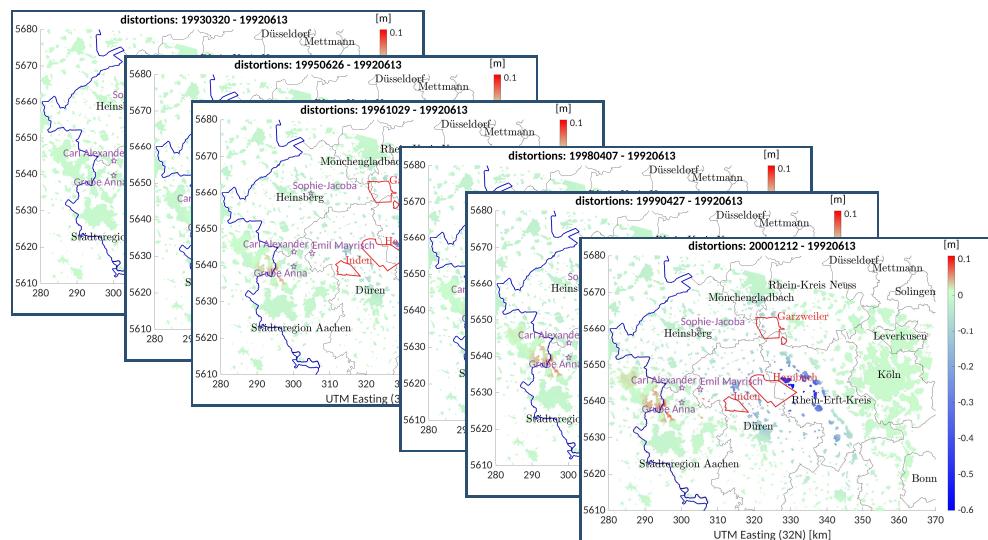
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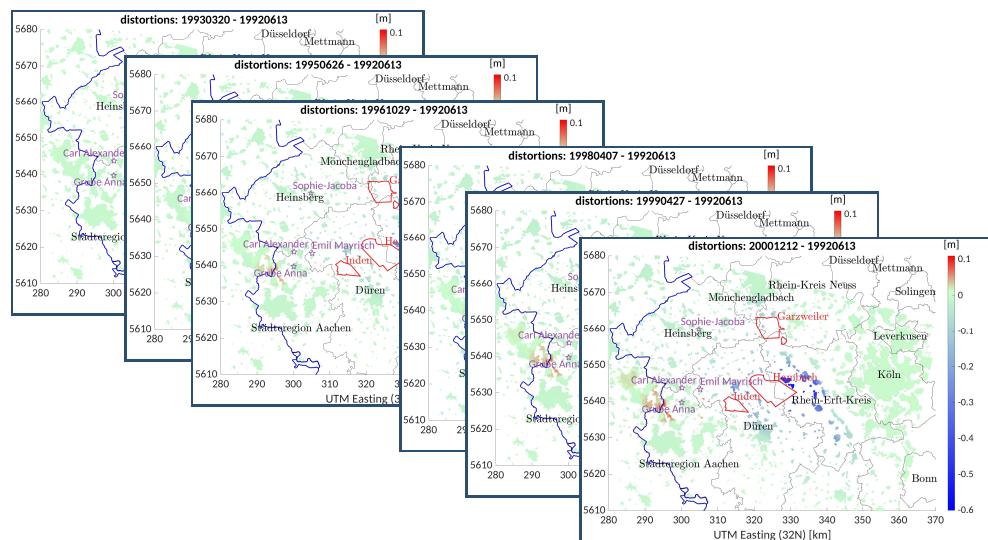
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**BLUP**

Crucial Points

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## Best Linear Unbiased Predictor (BLUP)

$$\tilde{s}_p = \Sigma_s\{x_p, x_o\} \left( \Sigma_s\{x_o, x_o\} + \Sigma_N\{x_o, x_o\} \right)^{-1} \Delta\ell$$

$\tilde{s}_p$  ... best predictor

$\Delta\ell$  ... trend reduced observations at location  $x_o$

$\Sigma_s\{x_o, x_o\}$  ... variance/covariance matrix of the signal between the observation points

$\Sigma_N\{x_o, x_o\}$  ... variance/covariance matrix of the noise between the observation points

$\Sigma_s\{x_p, x_o\}$  ... cross-covariance matrix of the signal between the points to predict and the observation points

$$\Sigma\{\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_s\} = \Sigma_s\{x_p, x_p\} - \Sigma_s\{x_p, x_o\} \left( \Sigma_s\{x_o, x_o\} + \Sigma_N\{x_o, x_o\} \right)^{-1} \Sigma_s\{x_o, x_p\}$$

$\Sigma\{\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_s\}$  ... estimation of the uncertainty of the predictor

„Wiener-Kolmogorov-Principle“

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- **definition of the covariance function**

- **overcoming numerical complexity**

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- **definition of the covariance function**

spatio-temporal function in general: joint function

$$\gamma(x, t) = \gamma(\text{space, time})$$

in particular: separable function

$$\gamma(x, t) = \gamma_{sp}(\text{space}) \cdot \gamma_t(\text{time})$$

$\gamma_{sp}$ (space) .... covariance function in space

$\gamma_t$ (time) .... covariance function in time

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- **overcoming numerical complexity**

very huge variance/covariance matrix:

(here in particular:  $144302 \times 64 \sim 9$  Mio.)

?

- consider using finite covariance functions

?

- check if a Kronecker representation of the variance/covariance matrix is possible

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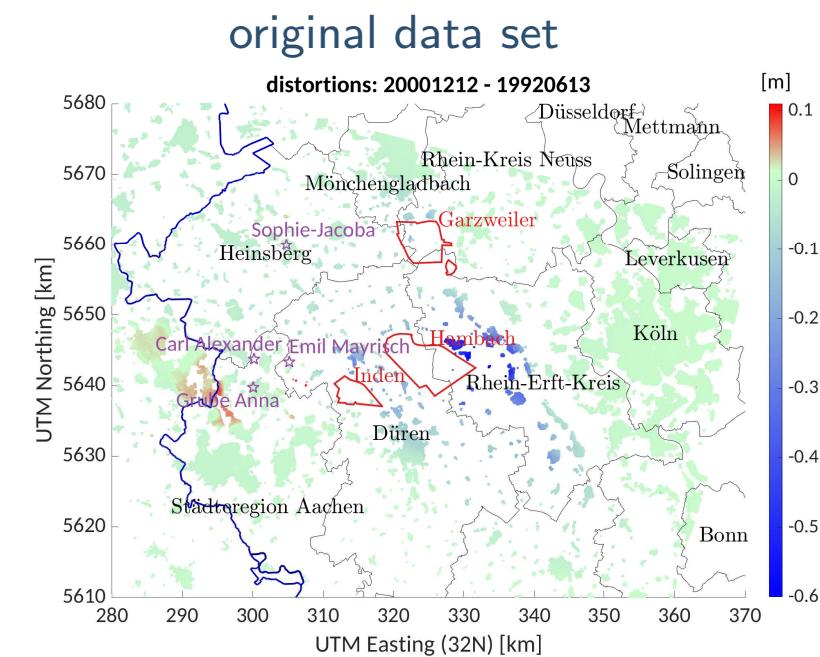
Summary

## • data characteristics:

- unevenly distributed in space
- clustered in urban regions
- non-stationary in time

## • work around:

- find a homogeneous data distribution for the whole area
  - ⇒ divide the area in quadratic regions and select randomly the same number of points for each region
- make the covariances in space independent from the time
  - ⇒ consider the distortions only with respect to equal time differences



suggestions from: Leonhardt (2019)

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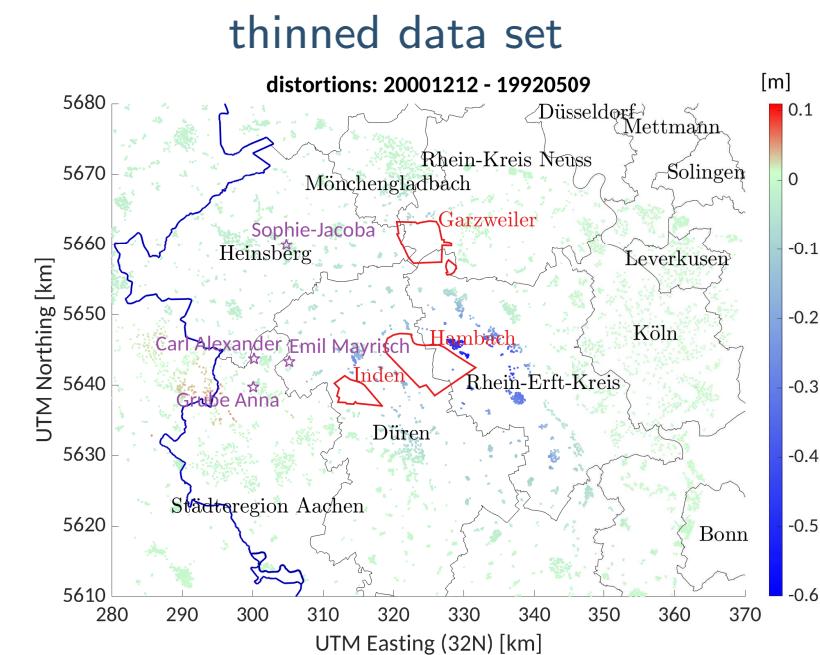
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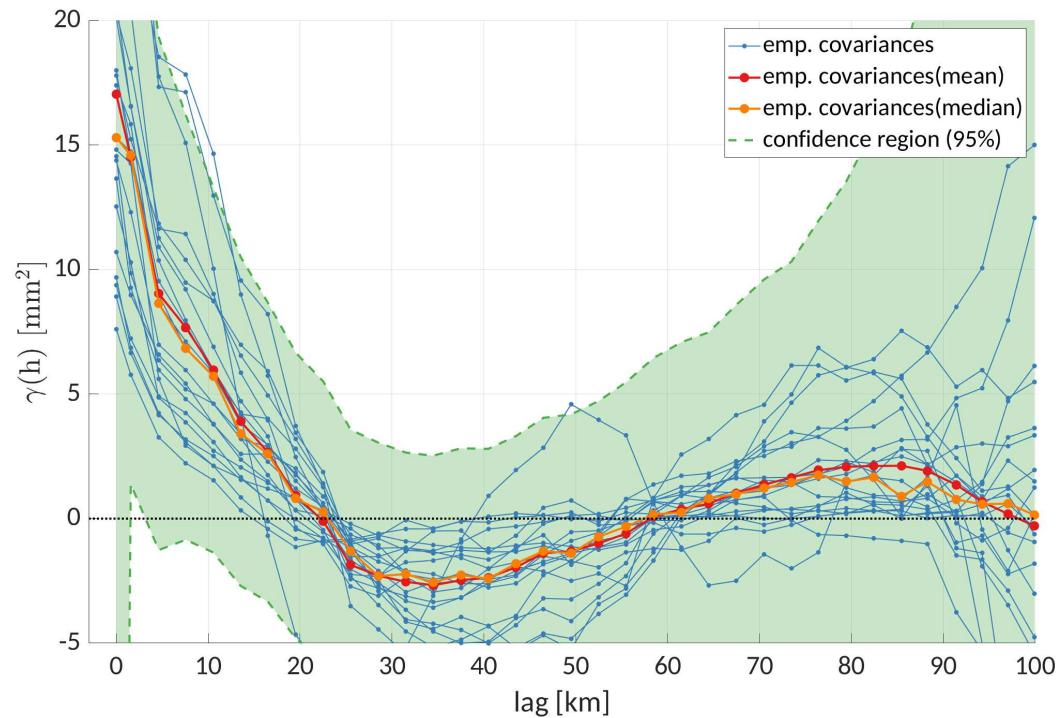
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## • empirical spatial covariance functions for lag $\Delta x$



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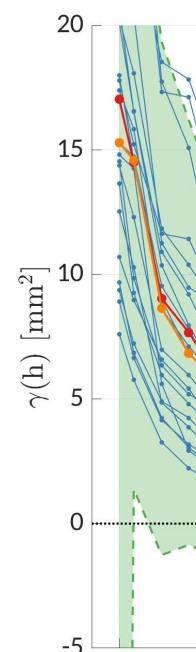
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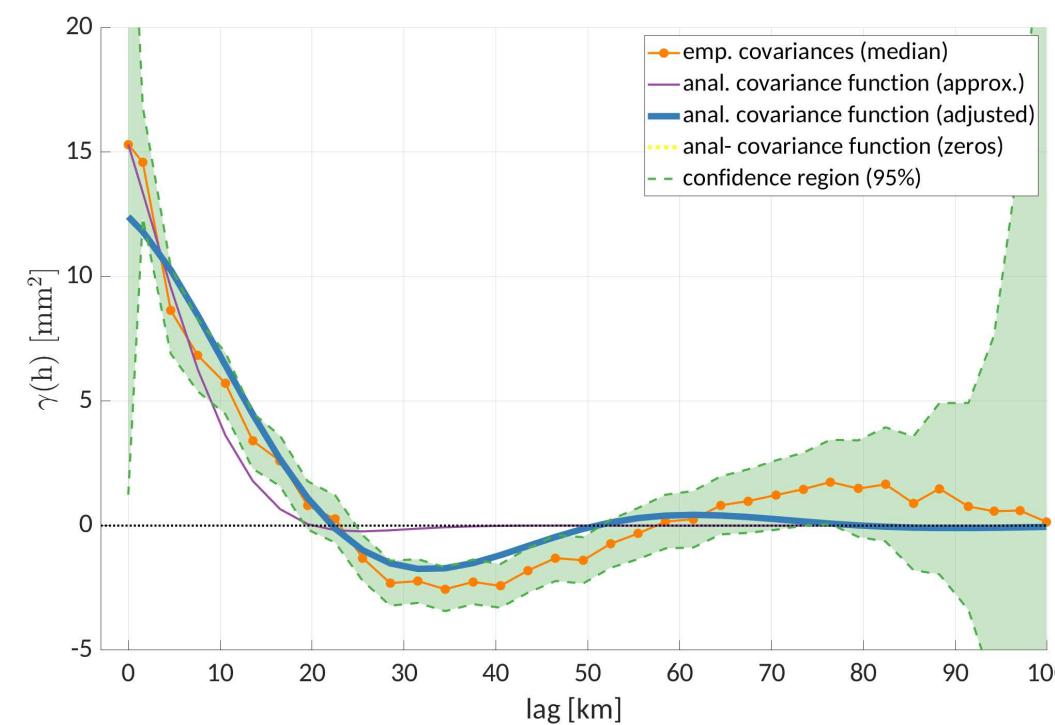
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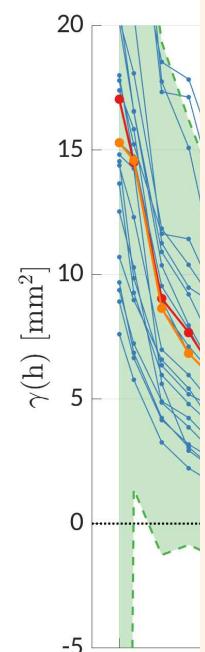
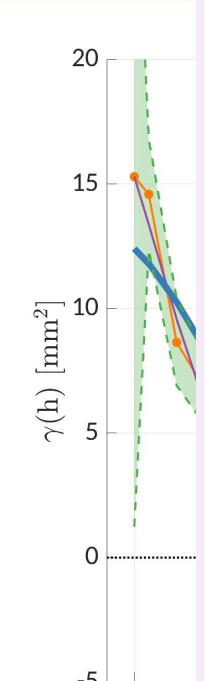
• empirica



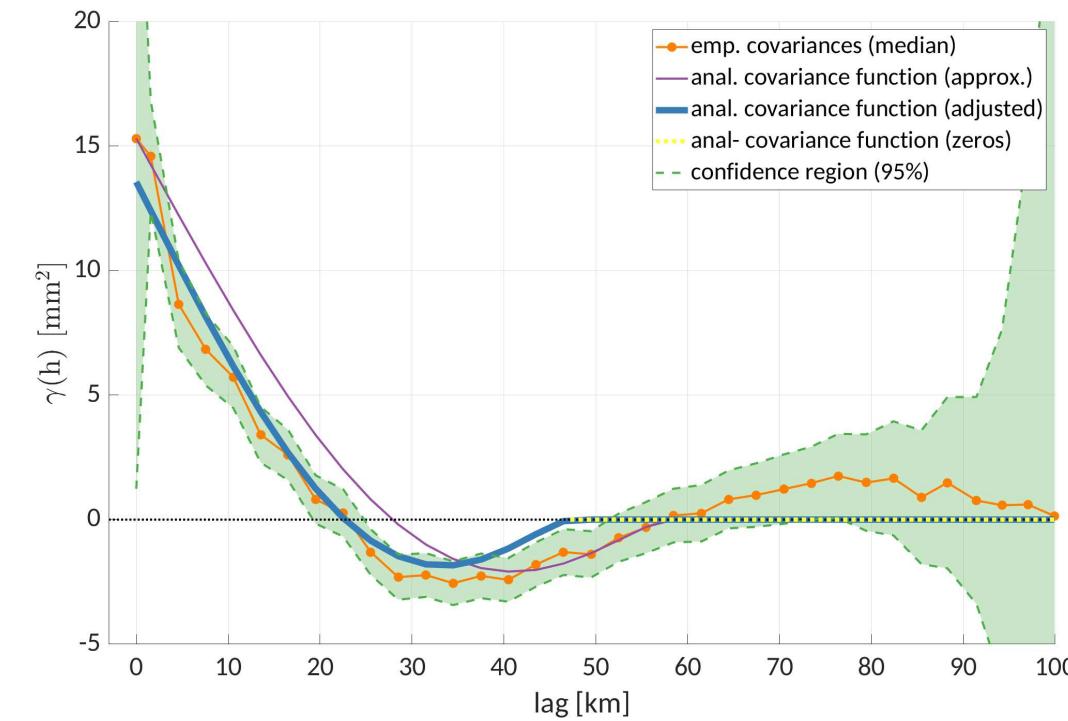
• adapt an analytical covariance model

$$\gamma_{sp}(\Delta x) = ae^{-b|\Delta x|} J_0(\Delta x)$$



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$$\gamma_{sp}(\Delta x) = f_{S2}(\Delta x, R)$$



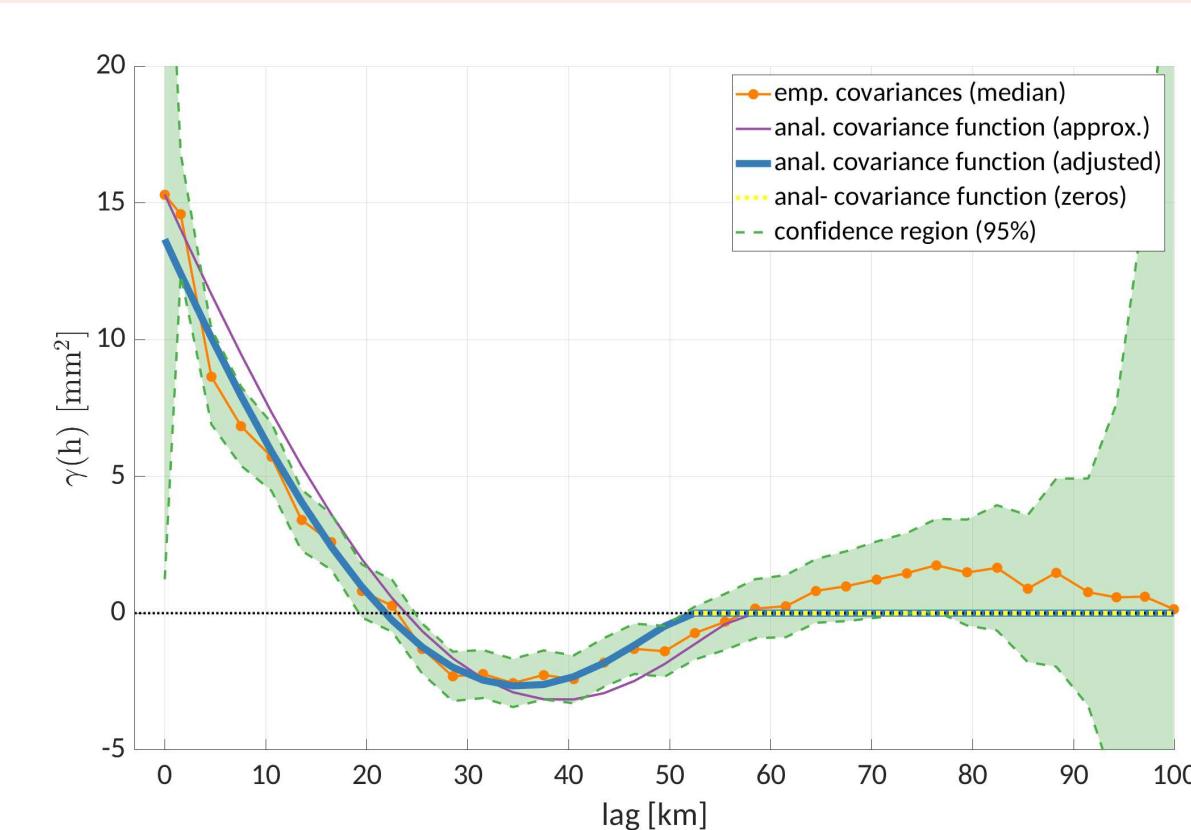
Sansò und Schuh (1987); Schuh (2016)

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**or better:**

use the new family of **flexible finite** covariance functions  
constructed by autocorrelation of polynomial base functions



⇒ see Poster today by Schubert und Schuh (2022)

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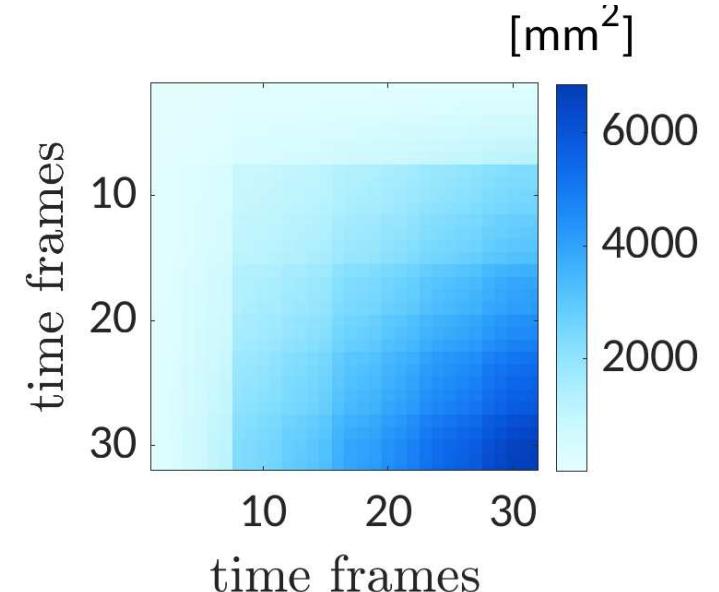
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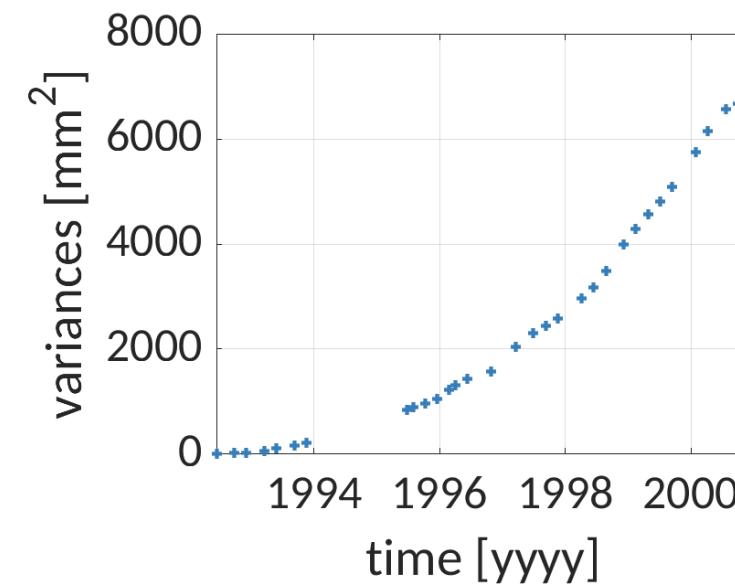
- **data characteristics:**

- non stationary in time
- unevenly distributed in time
- time slices / frames

- **empirical temporal variances/covariances:**



variance/covariance matrix



variances

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## Modeling of the non-stationary processes with Time-Variable AutoRegressive (TVAR) processes

- **Approach:** time-variable TVAR(1) processes:

$$\mathcal{S}_t := \alpha_{\textcolor{red}{t}} \mathcal{S}_{t-1} + \mathcal{E}_t = \prod_{j=1}^t \alpha_j \mathcal{S}_0 + \sum_{k=1}^t \prod_{j=k+1}^t \alpha_j \mathcal{E}_k$$

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- Variances/covariances derived by the second central moment:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_t(t, \Delta t) &= \Sigma \{\mathcal{S}_t, \mathcal{S}_{t+\Delta t}\} \\ &= E \{(\mathcal{S}_t - E \{\mathcal{S}_t\})(\mathcal{S}_{t+\Delta t} - E \{\mathcal{S}_{t+\Delta t}\})\} \\ &= \underbrace{\prod_{n=t+1}^{t+\Delta t} \alpha_n \left( \prod_{j=1}^t \alpha_j^2 \sigma_{\mathcal{S}_0}^2 + \sum_{k=1}^t \prod_{j=k+1}^t \alpha_j^2 \sigma_{\mathcal{E}}^2 \right)}_{= \gamma_t(t, 0)}, \quad \Delta t > 0 \end{aligned}$$

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⇒ oral presentation on Tuesday Korte et al. (2022) for further strategies to design time-variable AR-processes

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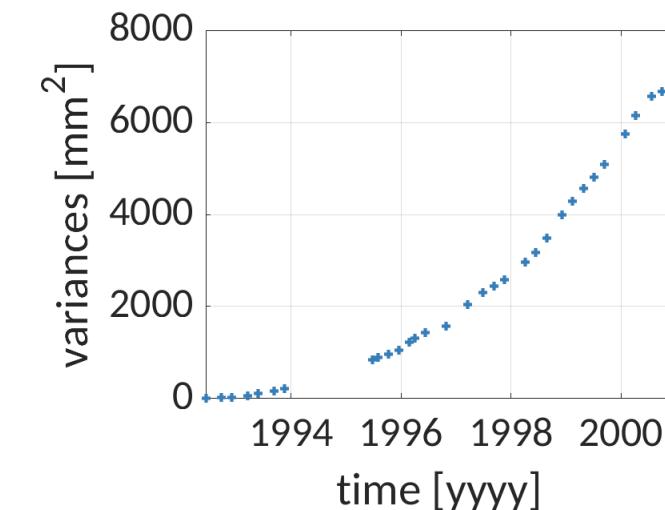
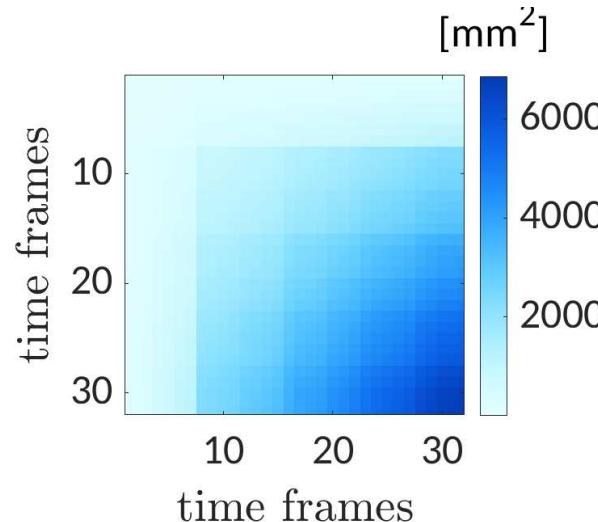
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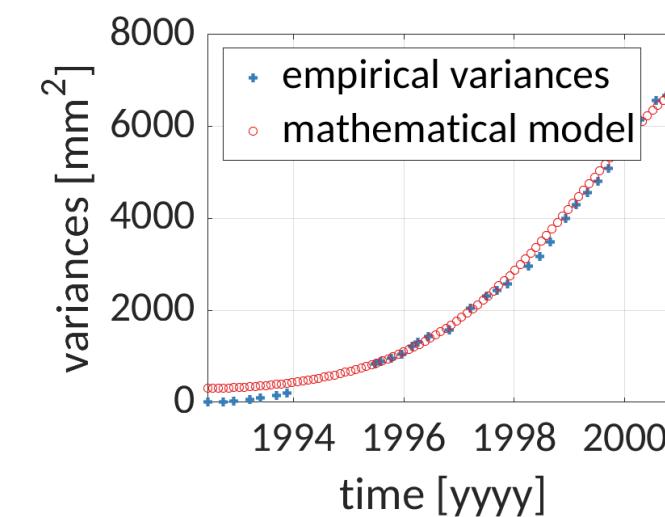
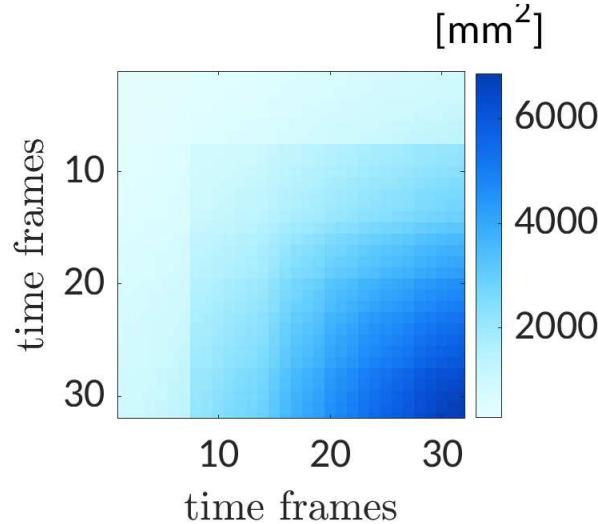
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Summary

- empirical temporal variances/covariances:



- analytical covariance function



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- **definition of the covariance function**

spatio-temporal function in general: joint function

$$\gamma(x, t) = \gamma(\text{space, time})$$

in particular: separable function

$$\gamma(\Delta x, t) = \gamma_{sp}(\Delta x) \cdot \gamma_t(t, \Delta t)$$

$\gamma_{sp}(\Delta x)$ ... homogeneous covariance function in space

$\gamma_t(t, \Delta t)$ ... time-variant covariance function in time

- **overcoming numerical complexity**

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## ● **overcoming numerical complexity**

very huge variance/covariance matrix:

(here in particular:  $144302 \times 64 \sim 9$  Mio.)

✓ consider using finite covariance functions

? check if an approach via Kronecker representation of the variance/covariance matrix is possible

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## Is a Kronecker representation possible?

- Covariance function is separable!

$$\gamma(\Delta x; t, \Delta t) = \gamma_{sp}(\Delta x) \cdot \gamma_t(t, \Delta t)$$

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- identical scatterers  $x_o$  in each time slice  $t_o$ !  
 $x_o$  ... observed positions,  $t_o$  ... observed time

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- identical scatterers  $x_o$  in each time slice  $t_o$ !  
 $x_o$  ... observed positions,  $t_o$  ... observed time

- variance/covariance matrix of the signal is separable!

- variance/covariance matrix between the observed points

$$\Sigma_s\{x_o, t_o; x_o, t_o\} = \Sigma_s^t\{t_o, t_o\} \otimes \Sigma_s^{sp}\{x_o, x_o\}$$

- covariance matrix between predicted and observed points

$$\Sigma_s\{x_p, t_p; x_o, t_o\} = \Sigma_s^t\{t_p, t_o\} \otimes \Sigma_s^{sp}\{x_p, x_o\}$$

- covariance matrix of noise

$$\Sigma_N\{x_o, t_o; x_o, t_o\} := \Sigma_N$$

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## Predictor:

$$\tilde{s}_p = \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^t\{t_p, t_o\} \otimes \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^{sp}\{x_p, x_o\} \left( \underbrace{\Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^t\{t_o, t_o\} \otimes \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^{sp}\{x_o, x_o\} + \Sigma_{\mathcal{N}}}_{\text{Kronecker representation ???}} \right)^{-1} \Delta \ell$$

$$\Sigma_{\mathcal{S}+\mathcal{N}}^t\{t_o, t_o\} \otimes \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}+\mathcal{N}}^{sp}\{x_o, x_o\}$$

if a Konecker representation is possible then a **compact predictor** exists!

$$\tilde{S}_p = \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^{sp}\{x_p, x_o\} (\Sigma_{\mathcal{S}+\mathcal{N}}^{sp}\{x_o, x_o\})^{-1} \Delta L (\Sigma_{\mathcal{S}+\mathcal{N}}^t\{t_o, t_o\})^{-1} \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^t\{t_o, t_p\}$$

and the computation can be split up into a time-wise and space-wise component.

confer e.g. Blaha (1977); Rauhala (1974)

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## possible representations for the noise:

- $\Sigma_{\mathcal{N}} = \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^t \{t_o, t_o\} \otimes \mathbb{1}_{sp} \sigma_{sp}^2$  Kronecker of  $(\cdot)$  exists: yes but: interpretation?
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- $\Sigma_{\mathcal{N}} = \mathbb{1}_t \otimes \mathbb{1}_{sp} \sigma_{\mathcal{N}}^2 = \mathbb{1} \sigma_{\mathcal{N}}^2$  Kronecker of  $(\cdot)$  exists: no? white (i.i.d.) noise

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$$\tilde{s}_p = \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^t \{t_p, t_o\} \otimes \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^{sp} \{x_p, x_o\} \left( \underbrace{\Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^t \{t_o, t_o\} \otimes \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^{sp} \{x_o, x_o\} + \Sigma_{\mathcal{N}}}_{\text{Kronecker representation ???}} \right)^{-1} \Delta \ell$$

## possible representations for the noise:

- $\Sigma_{\mathcal{N}} = \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^t \{t_o, t_o\} \otimes \mathbb{1}_{sp} \sigma_{sp}^2$  Kronecker of  $(\cdot)$  exists: yes but: interpretation?
- $\Sigma_{\mathcal{N}} = \mathbb{1}_t \sigma_t^2 \otimes \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^{sp} \{x_o, x_o\}$  Kronecker of  $(\cdot)$  exists: yes but: interpretation?
- $\Sigma_{\mathcal{N}} = \mathbb{1}_t \otimes \mathbb{1}_{sp} \sigma_{\mathcal{N}}^2 = \mathbb{1} \sigma_{\mathcal{N}}^2$  Kronecker of  $(\cdot)$  exists: no? white (i.i.d.) noise

We have to work on the third option !!!

**Thoughts:** Have a look on the spectral representation of the sum



$$A + \mathbb{1}\sigma^2 = ? \quad \text{with} \quad A = U_A \Lambda_A U_A^T$$

$U_A$  ... eigenvectors  
 $\Lambda_A$  ... eigenvalues

$$A + \mathbb{1}\sigma^2 = U_A \Lambda_A U_A^T + U_{\mathbb{1}} \mathbb{1} U_{\mathbb{1}}^T \sigma^2$$

$$= U_A \Lambda_A U_A^T + U_A \mathbb{1} U_A^T \sigma^2$$

notice:

eigenspace  $E_{\mathbb{1}}(1) \equiv \mathbb{V}_n$

$U_{\mathbb{1}} \implies U_A$

$$A + \mathbb{1}\sigma^2 = U_A (\Lambda_A + \mathbb{1}\sigma^2) U_A^T$$

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**Thoughts:** Have a look on the spectral representation of the sum



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$$A = B \otimes C \quad \text{with} \quad B = U_B \Lambda_B U_B^T \quad \text{and} \quad C = U_C \Lambda_C U_C^T$$

$$A = U_B \Lambda_B U_B^T \otimes U_C \Lambda_C U_C^T$$

with  $(\Lambda_B \otimes \Lambda_C)$  ... diagonal

$$A = (U_B \otimes U_C)(\Lambda_B \otimes \Lambda_C)(U_B \otimes U_C)^T$$



$$\bullet \quad \mathbf{A} + \mathbb{1}\sigma^2 = (\mathbf{U}_B \otimes \mathbf{U}_C) \underbrace{\left( \Lambda_B \otimes \Lambda_C + \mathbb{1}_B \otimes \mathbb{1}_C \sigma^2 \right)}_{\text{diagonal matrix}} (\mathbf{U}_B \otimes \mathbf{U}_C)^T$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{n_B} (\mathbf{U}_B(:, k) \otimes \mathbf{U}_C) \left( (\Lambda_B)_k \Lambda_C + \mathbb{1}_C \sigma^2 \right) (\mathbf{U}_B(:, k) \otimes \mathbf{U}_C)^T$$



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$\mathbf{A} + \mathbb{1}\sigma^2$  can be expressed as a Kronecker product !!!

- 

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$$(\mathbf{A} + \mathbb{1}\sigma^2)^{-1} = \sum_{k=1}^{n_B} \mathbf{U}_B(:, k) \mathbf{U}_B(:, k)^T \otimes \mathbf{U}_C \left( (\Lambda_B)_k \Lambda_C + \mathbb{1}_C \sigma^2 \right)^{-1} \mathbf{U}_C^T$$

$(\mathbf{A} + \mathbb{1}\sigma^2)^{-1}$  can be computed component-by-component

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## Predictor:

$$\tilde{s}_p = \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^t\{t_p, t_o\} \otimes \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^{sp}\{x_p, x_o\} \underbrace{\left( \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^t\{t_o, t_o\} \otimes \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^{sp}\{x_o, x_o\} + \mathbb{1}_t \otimes \mathbb{1}_{sp} \sigma_{\mathcal{N}}^2 \right)^{-1}}_{\text{Kronecker representation } \checkmark} \Delta\ell$$

reshaping observation/predictor vector into a matrix      columns: time slices ( $t$ )  
 rows: scatterer ( $sp$ )

$$\Delta L := \text{reshape}(\Delta\ell, n_o^{sp}, n_o^t) \quad \tilde{S}_p := \text{reshape}(\tilde{s}_p, n_p^{sp}, n_p^t)$$

## Compact Predictor:

$$\tilde{S}_p = \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^{sp}\{x_p, x_o\} \underbrace{\left( \sum_{k=1}^{n_B} U_{sp} \left( (\Lambda_t)_k \Lambda_{sp} + \mathbb{1}_{sp} \sigma_{\mathcal{N}}^2 \right)^{-1} U_{sp}^T \Delta L U_t(:, k) U_t(:, k)^T \right)}_{X} \Sigma_{\mathcal{S}}^t\{t_o, t_p\}$$

with  $X$  ... reshaped solution of  $x = (\Sigma_{\mathcal{S}} + \Sigma_{\mathcal{N}})^{-1} \Delta\ell$

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⇒ collocation can be separated into a time-wise and space-wise component

## Goal: Rigorous collocation of inhomogeneous spatio-temporal DInSAR-stack

Crucial points:

- **definition of the covariance function**

design of separable spatio-temporal function

$$\gamma(\Delta x, t) = \gamma_{sp}(\Delta x) \cdot \gamma_t(t, \Delta t)$$

✓  $\gamma_{sp}(\Delta x)$ ... homogeneous covariance function in space

✓  $\gamma_t(t, \Delta t)$ ... time-variant covariance function in time

- **overcoming numerical complexity**

very huge variance/covariance matrix:

(here in particular:  $144.302 \times 64 \sim 9$  Mio.)

✓ using finite covariance function

✓ inclusion of a realistic noise model

✓ rigorous solution through Kronecker representation

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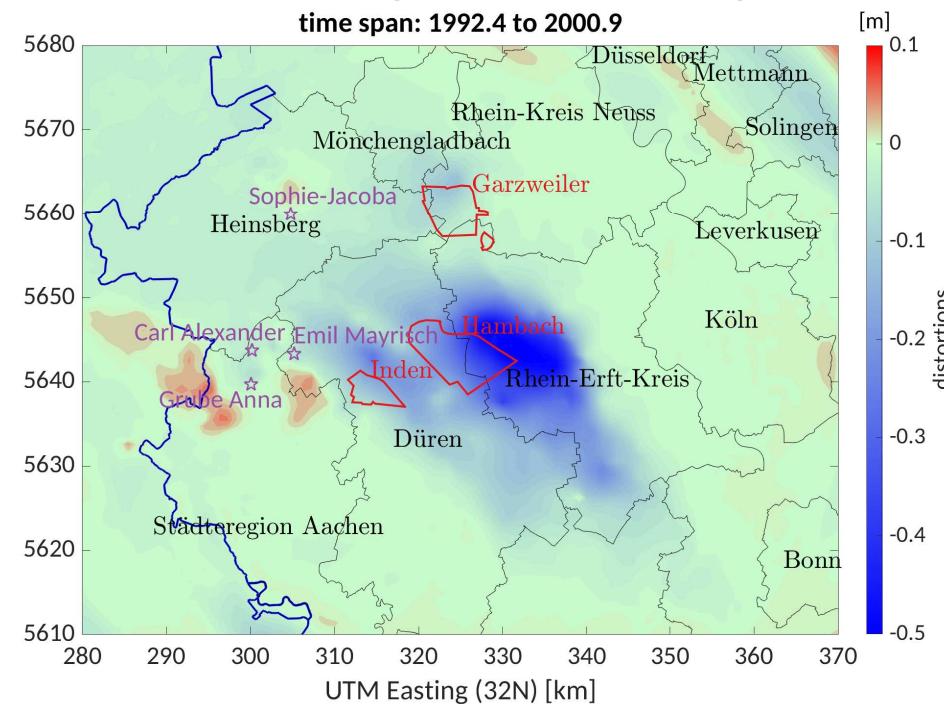
✓ rigorous solution through Kronecker representation

**Take home message: The huge collocation problem can be rigorously solved on a notebook**

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## Let's have a look on the results:

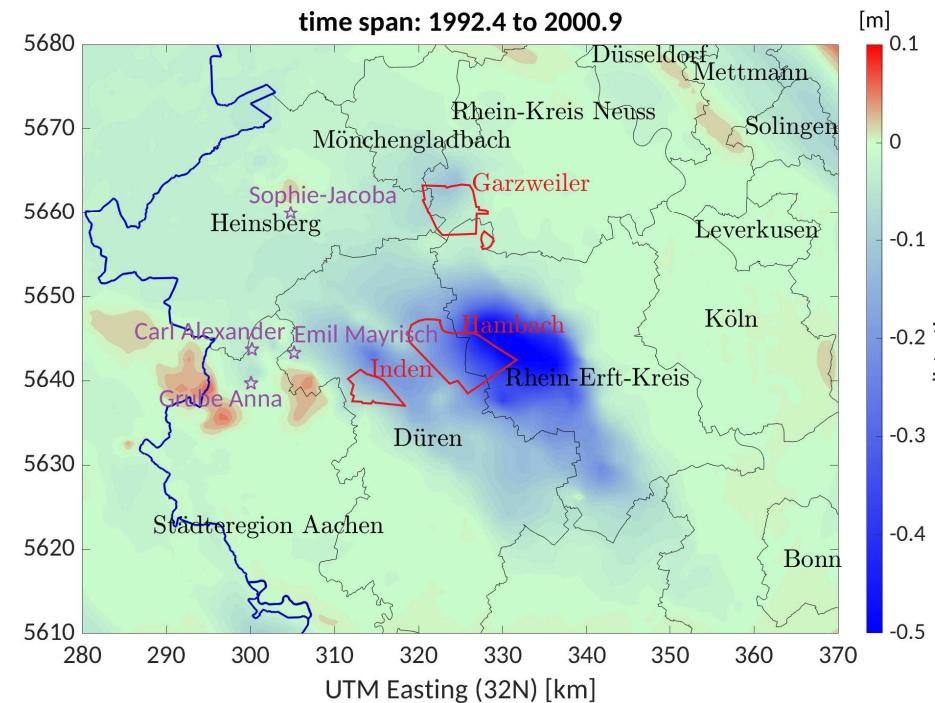
continuous prediction in space



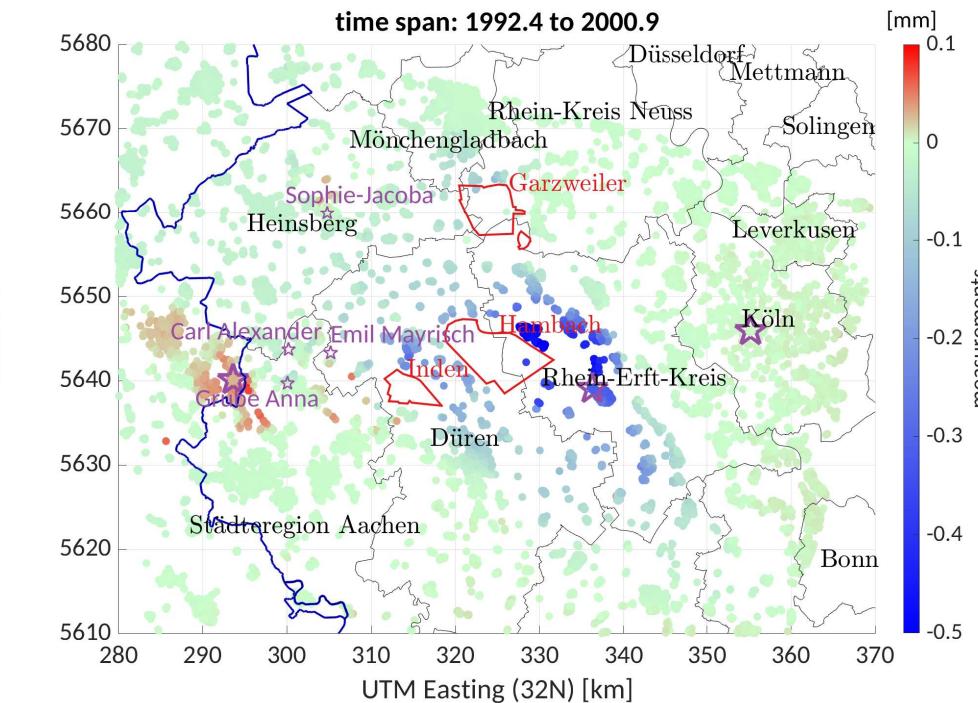
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## Let's have a look on the results:

continuous prediction in space



equispaced sequences in time



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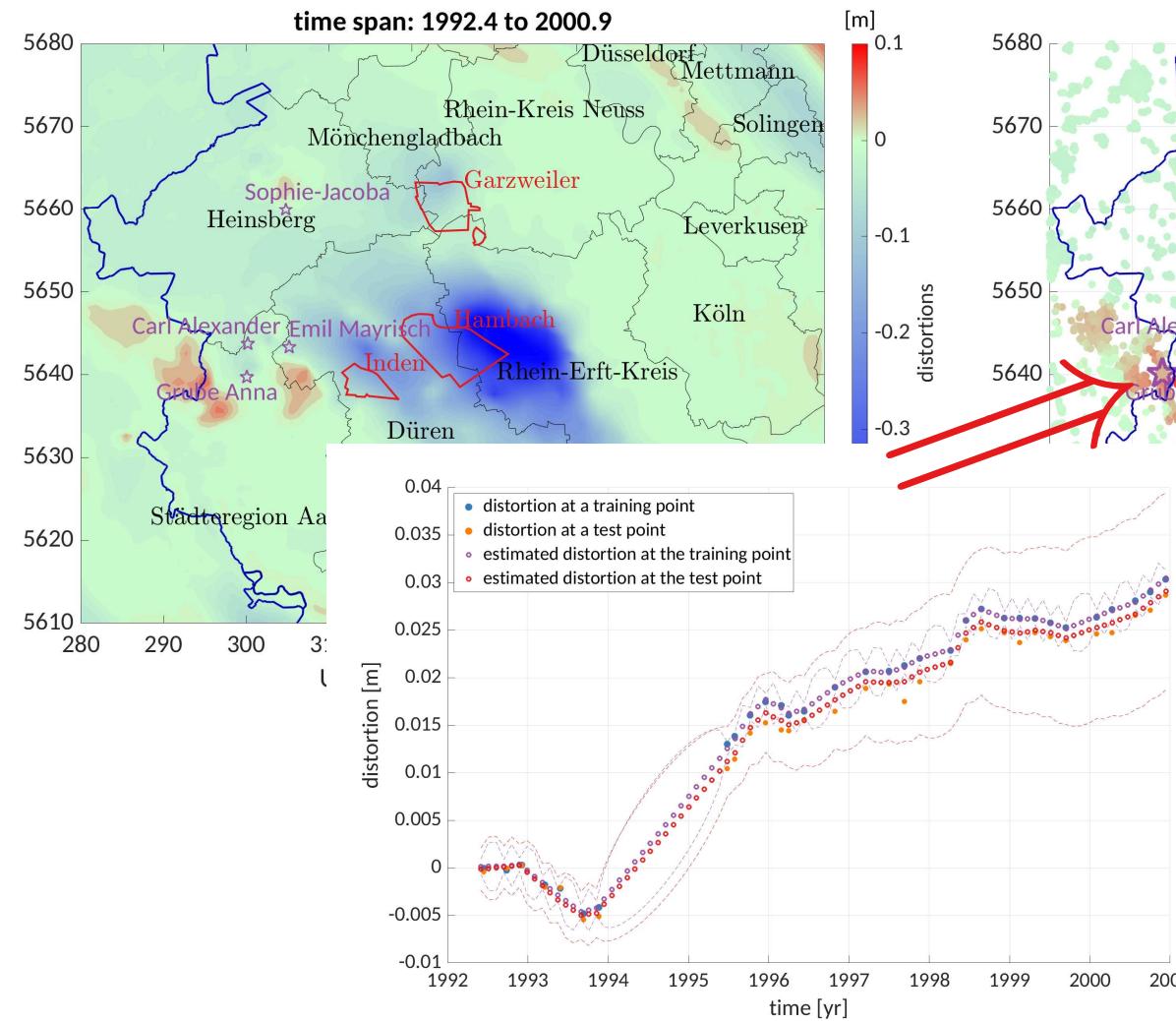
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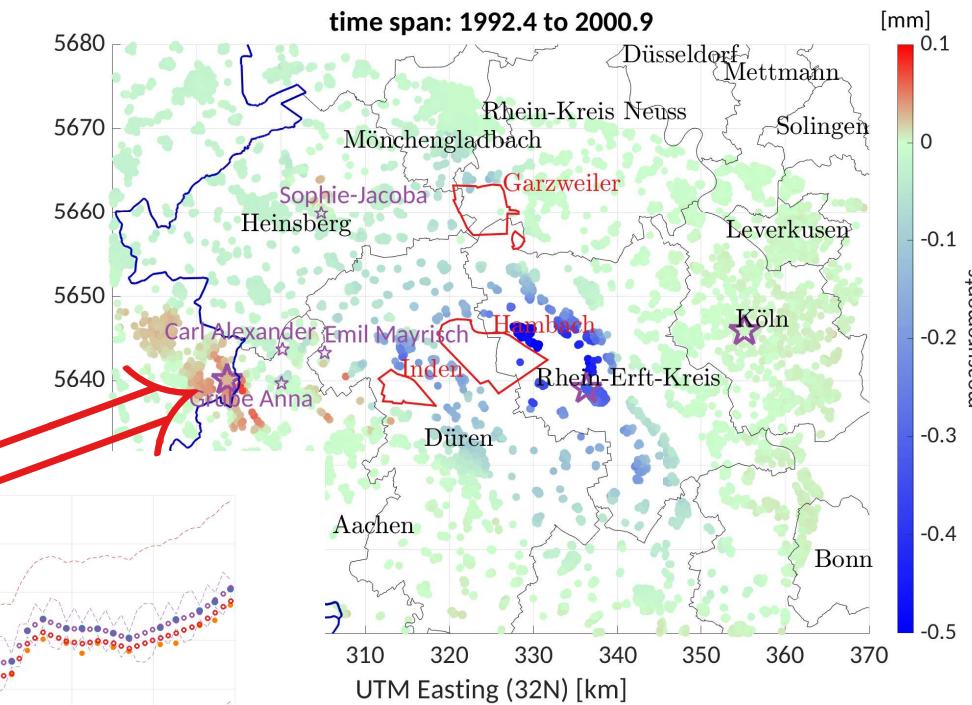
References

## Let's have a look on the results:

continuous prediction in space



equispaced sequences in time



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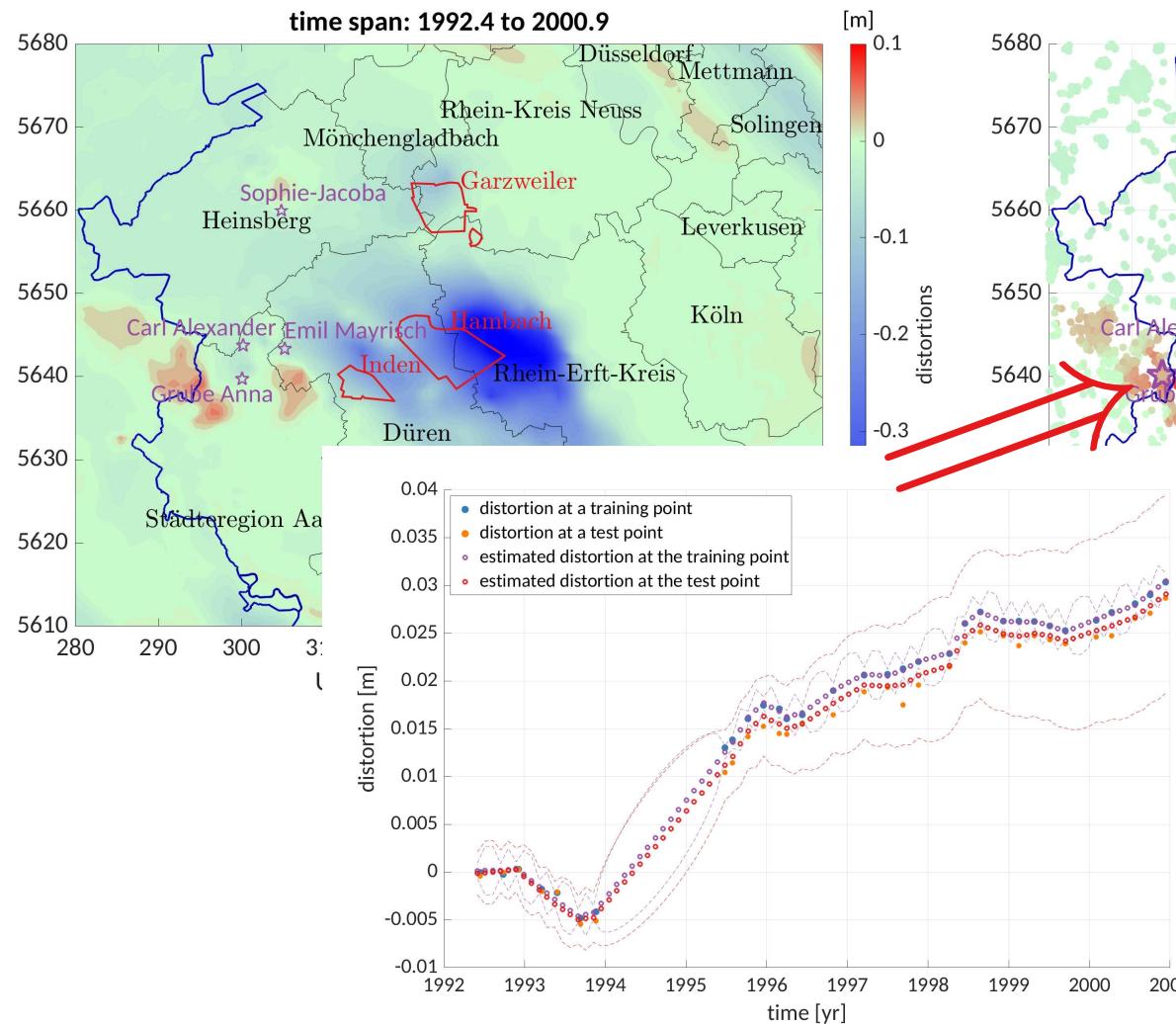
Summary

Results

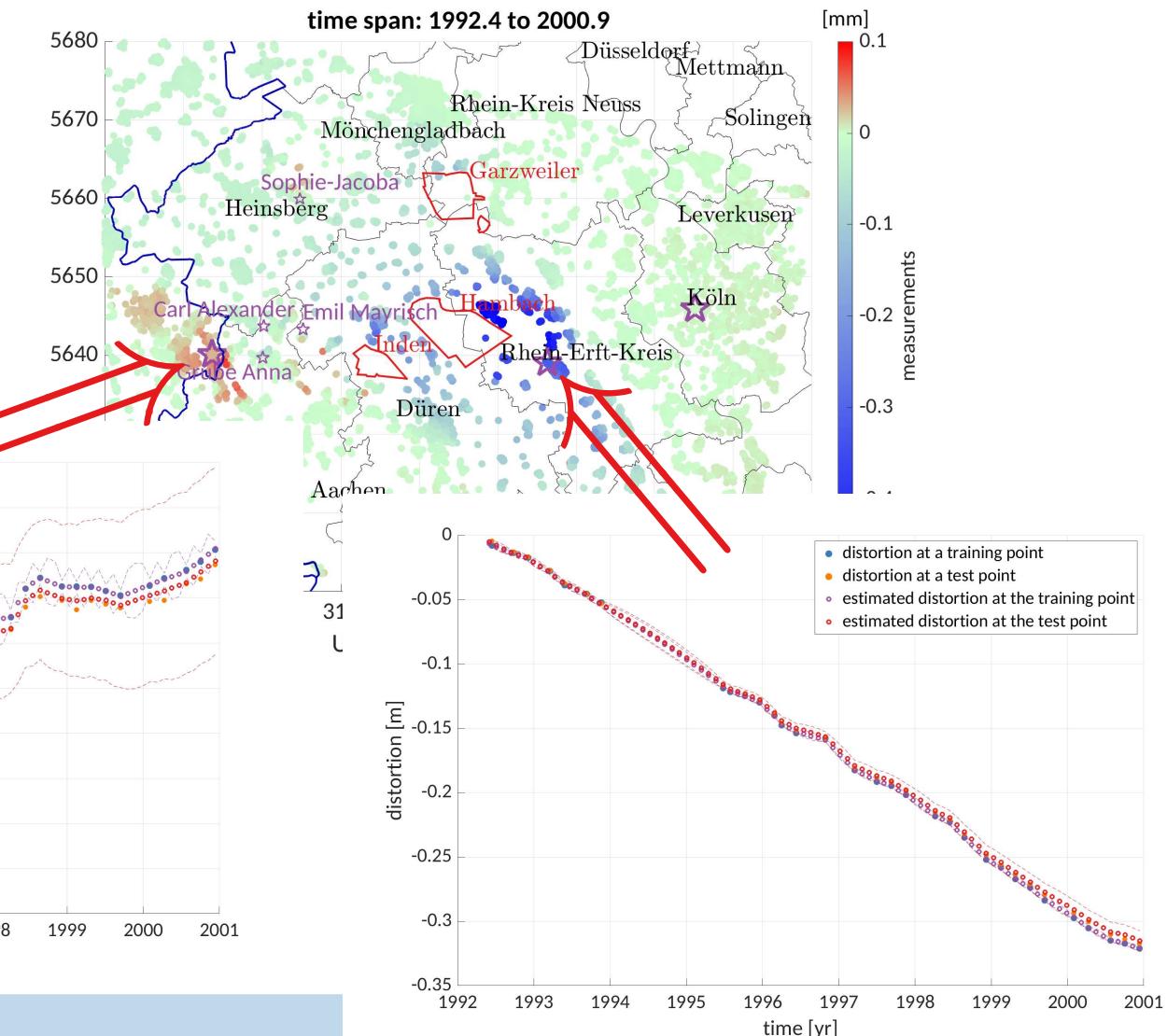
References

## Let's have a look on the results:

### continuous prediction in space



### equispaced sequences in time

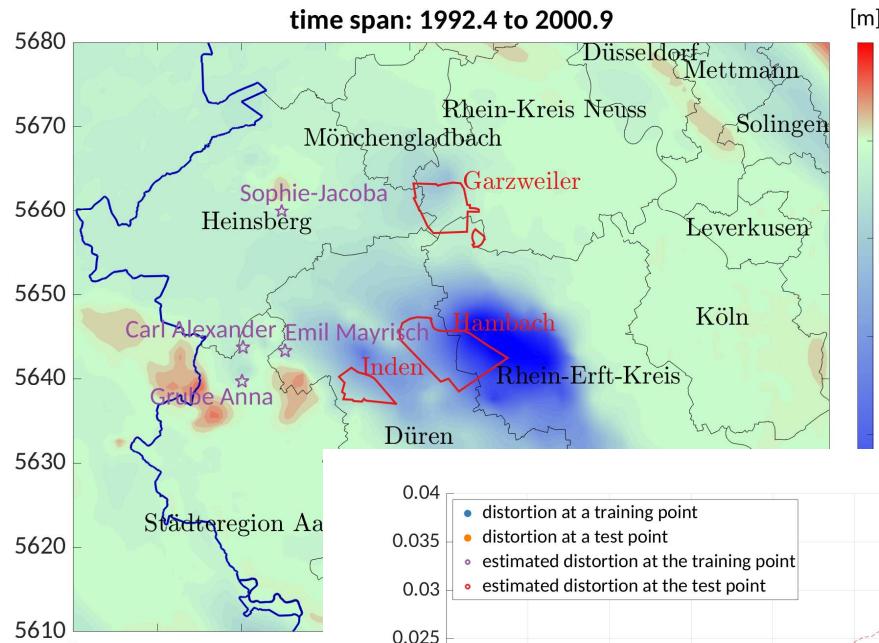


# Results of the rigorous collocation of a DInS

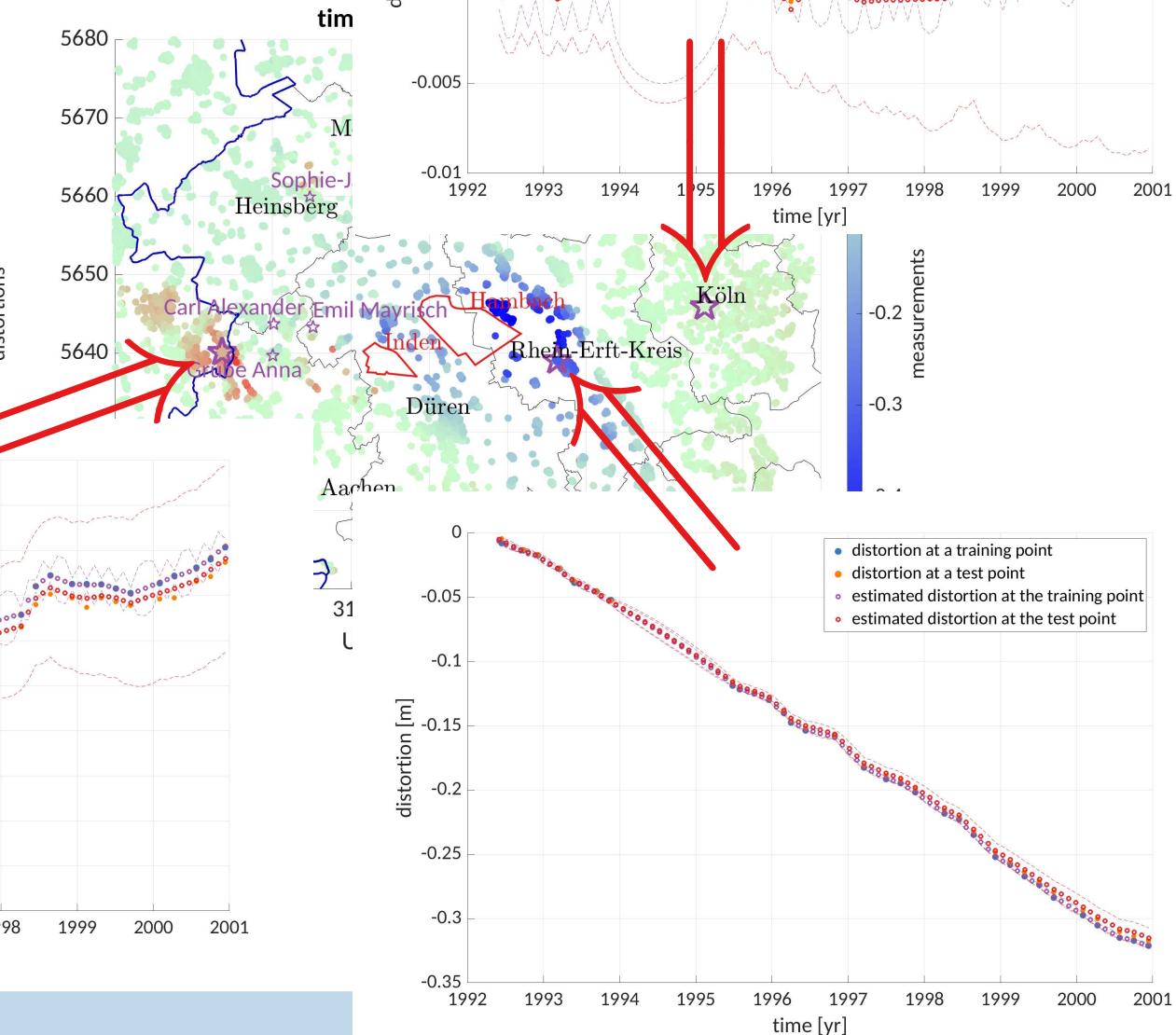
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## Let's have a look on the results:

### continuous prediction in space



### equispac



## Rigorous collocation of inhomogeneous spatio-temporal signals

predictor

estimation error

## Rigorous collocation of inhomogeneous spatio-temporal signals

predictor

estimation error

## Rigorous collocation of inhomogeneous spatio-temporal signals

predictor **Thank you for your attention!** estimation error

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