

Regional downscaling of the long-term economic forecast for Hungary

A methodological and literature review

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The NAGiS project

- **National Adaptation Geo-information System** (NAGiS) project: aims to develop a multipurpose geo-information system that can facilitate the policy-making, strategy-building and decision-making process related to the impact assessment of climate change and founding necessary adaptation measures in Hungary
- The aim of our current CERS project is to forecast the **long-term socio-economic development path** of Hungary until 2050, and to foster the adaptation to climate change
- The results (data base) will be integrated into the NAGiS
- NAGiS will be **extended** by new data describing the future socio-economic characteristics of Hungary



Socio-economic forecasts in the NAGiS project

- Our project investigates and quantifies
 - demographical,
 - economic and
 - land-use changeon various geographical and temporal scales,
- taking into account the interdependence of socio-economic spatial processes and climate change
- nater.rkk.hu



Economic forecast

- Macro modelling framework
- Two model blocks:
 - a DSGE (dynamic stochastic general equilibrium) block generating temporary equilibrium
 - a mainstream medium-sized macro model (about 50 variables)
 - households, companies, investment sector, government, external sector
 - „drivers” generating long-term dynamics
 - productivity
 - climate change
 - based on **OECD Env-Growth model**
- Model estimation: Bayesian method (*to be elaborated in the near future*)



Regionalisation

- The macro model provides forecast for the **national level**
- The geographical scale of the required forecast is the **regional and micro-regional scale**, and in some cases, a 10 x 10 km raster depending on the variable type
- Theoretical, methodological and practical problems of decomposition: e.g. GDP
- **Scenarios** concerning future regional trends:
 - baseline: no policy intervention
 - business-as-usual: extends the past trends into the future
 - active regional policy: effective policy intervention (diminishing regional inequalities)

} continuing polarisation



Basic concepts

- What we would like to do: regionalisation, downscaling, regional disaggregation, regional decomposition
- Downscaling is more common in climate models and geostatistics
 - appears only exceptionally in economic models ☹️
- **Downscaling** is the process of transferring the (climate) information from a (climate) model with coarse spatial resolution to the finer resolution required as input by other models that address the effects (of climate) at a more detailed scale



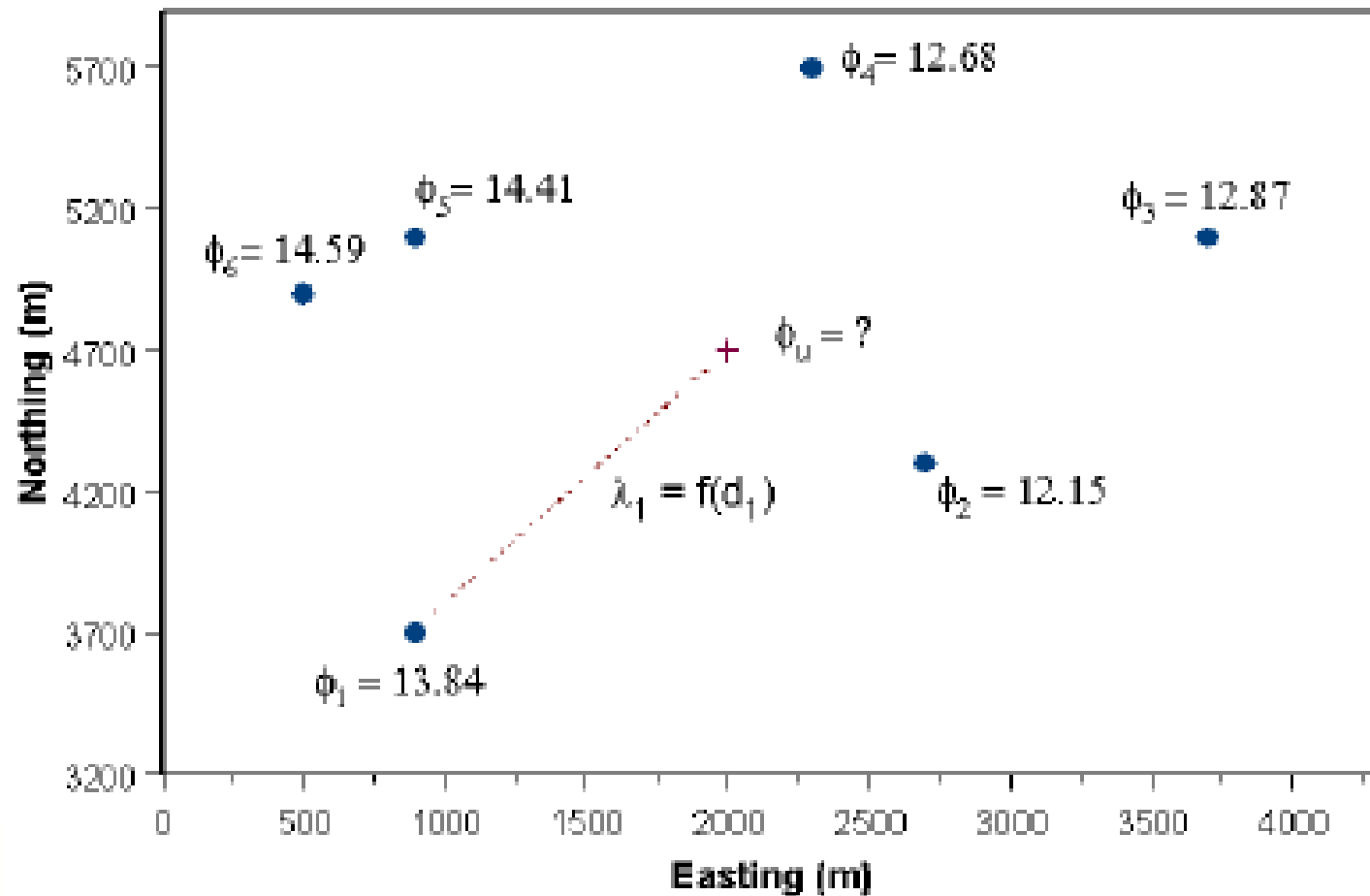
Basic concepts

- **Statistical interpolation**: apply statistical relations between historical data at greater spatial resolution and smaller resolution
 - the estimation of a variable at an unmeasured location from observed values at surrounding locations
- **Kriging** (or Gaussian process regression)
 - named after Danie G. Krige
 - Interpolation algorithms estimate the value at a given location as a weighted sum of data values at surrounding locations
 - Almost all assign weights according to functions that give a decreasing weight with increasing distance
 - kriging assigns weights according to a data-driven weighting function (based on spatial covariance values)



Spatial interpolation

- Bohling et al. 2005 p2.



Other methods

- Inverse Distance Weighting interpolation
 - based on the common fact that the interpolated surface should be influenced most by nearby points and less by more distant points
 - the interpolation result is a weighted average of the scattered points
 - the weighting coefficients assigned to each scattered point diminish as the distance from the interpolation point to the scatter point increases
 - after a certain spatial limit the weights become 0 (no influence)
- Spatial interpolation through evaluating spatial autoregressive models
 - impose a linear regression structure to the spatial model
- Linear regression based method
 - the disaggregated data are regressed against the aggregated data or, alternatively, against a “driving” variable
- Simple decomposition based on time-invariant spatial weight structure
 - the initial weights are constant at the forecast period
 - the weight structure is based on a driving variable such as population or a complex index number
 - two kinds of weights:
 - isotropic (a certain distribution is assumed with a mean and variance)
 - anisotropic



My ideas

- Regressing regional variables against the national-level variable and extrapolate the trend
- Regressing regional variables against population as a driving variable
- Mixing these two alternatives
- Using population forecast as a driving variable when allocating regional weights
- ???



Thank you for your attention!

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