

WinBUGS Example 1: Lip cancer

- Consider the areal data **disease mapping** model:

$$Y_i | \mu_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} Po(E_i e^{\mu_i}), \text{ where}$$

Y_i = observed disease count,

E_i = expected count (known), and

$$\mu_i = \mathbf{x}'_i \boldsymbol{\beta} + \theta_i + \phi_i$$

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- Y_i informs directly only about $\xi_i \equiv \theta_i + \phi_i$
- The \mathbf{x}_i are **explanatory spatial covariates**; typically $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ has a flat prior.
- The θ_i capture **heterogeneity** among the regions via

$$\theta_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, 1/\tau_h) ,$$

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- and the ϕ_i capture regional **clustering** via a conditionally autoregressive (CAR) prior,

$$\phi_i \mid \phi_{j \neq i} \sim N(\bar{\phi}_i, 1/(\tau_c m_i)) ,$$

where $\bar{\phi}_i = m_i^{-1} \sum_{j \in \partial_i} \phi_j$, ∂_i is the set of “**neighbors**” of region i , and m_i is the number of these neighbors

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- Making the **reparametrization** from $(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\phi})$ to $(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\xi})$, we have the joint posterior

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\xi} \mid \mathbf{y}) \propto L(\boldsymbol{\xi}; \mathbf{y}) p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{\xi} - \boldsymbol{\theta}).$$

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- This means that

$$p(\theta_i \mid \theta_{j \neq i}, \boldsymbol{\xi}, \mathbf{y}) \propto p(\theta_i) p(\xi_i - \theta_i \mid \{\xi_j - \theta_j\}_{j \neq i}) .$$

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Since this distribution is free of the data \mathbf{y} , the θ_i are **Bayesianly unidentified** (and so are the ϕ_i).

- BUT: this does not preclude **Bayesian learning** about θ_i ; this would instead require

$$p(\theta_i \mid \mathbf{y}) = p(\theta_i) .$$

[Stronger condition: data have no impact on the **marginal** (not conditional) posterior.]

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- **Dilemma:** Though unidentified, the θ_i and ϕ_i are interesting in their own right, as is

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where $sd(\cdot)$ is the empirical marginal standard deviation.
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Are there **vague but proper** prior values τ_h and τ_c that

- lead to acceptable convergence behavior, but
 - still allow Bayesian learning?
- Tricky to specify a **“fair”** prior balance between heterogeneity and clustering (e.g., one for which $\alpha \approx 1/2$) since θ_i prior is specified **marginally** while the ϕ_i prior is specified **conditionally**!

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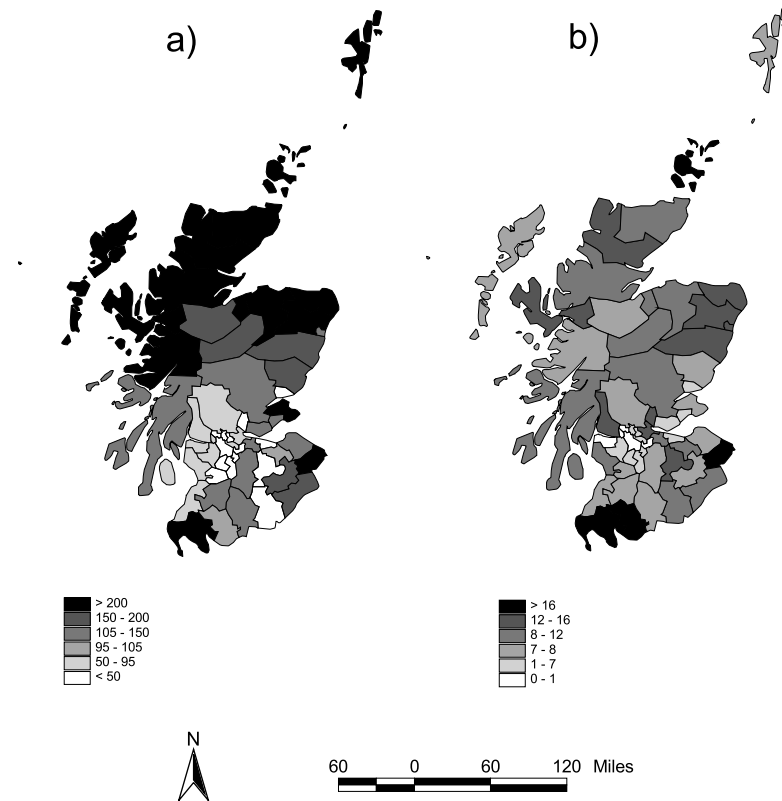
- ★ **left panel:** $100Y_i/E_i$ (SMR), where Y_i = observed and E_i = expected cases for $I = 56$ districts, 1975–1980

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- ★ **right panel:** x_i , % of the population engaged in agriculture, fishing or forestry (AFF covariate)
- ★ **we also have:** a variety of vague, proper, and arguably “fair” priors for τ_c and τ_h

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For actual WinBUGS code, see:

<http://www.biostat.umn.edu/~brad/data/Lipsbrad.odc>

Results:

- AFF covariate appears significantly different from 0 under all 3 priors, although convergence is **very** slow

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- Excess variability in the data is mostly due to clustering ($E(\alpha|\mathbf{y}) > .50$), but the posterior distribution for α does **not** seem robust to changes in the prior.
- convergence for the ξ_i (reasonably well-identified) is rapid; convergence for the μ_i (not shown) is virtually immediate.

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Posterior and MCMC convergence summaries:

	posterior for α			posterior for β		
priors for τ_c, τ_h	mean	sd	l1acf	mean	sd	l1acf
G(1.0, 1.0), G(3.2761, 1.81)	.57	.058	.80	.43	.17	.94
G(.1, .1), G(.32761, .181)	.65	.073	.89	.41	.14	.92
G(.1, .1), G(.001, .001)	.82	.10	.98	.38	.13	.91
	posterior for ξ_1			posterior for ξ_{56}		
priors for τ_c, τ_h	mean	sd	l1acf	mean	sd	l1acf
G(1.0, 1.0), G(3.2761, 1.81)	.92	.40	.33	-.96	.52	.12
G(.1, .1), G(.32761, .181)	.89	.36	.28	-.79	.41	.17
G(.1, .1), G(.001, .001)	.90	.34	.31	-.70	.35	.21

WinBUGS Example 2: Home prices

Here we illustrate a **non-Gaussian** model for **point-referenced** spatial data:

- **Data:** Observations are home values (based on recent real estate sales) at 50 locations in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA.

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- The response $Y(\mathbf{s})$ is a **binary** variable, with

$$Y(\mathbf{s}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if price is "high" (above the median)} \\ 0 & \text{if price is "low" (below the median)} \end{cases}$$

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- Observed covariates include the house's **age** and total **living area**

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- We fit a generalized linear model where

$$Y(\mathbf{s}_i) \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p(\mathbf{s}_i)), \quad \text{logit}(p(\mathbf{s}_i)) = \mathbf{x}^T(\mathbf{s}_i)\boldsymbol{\beta} + w(\mathbf{s}_i)$$

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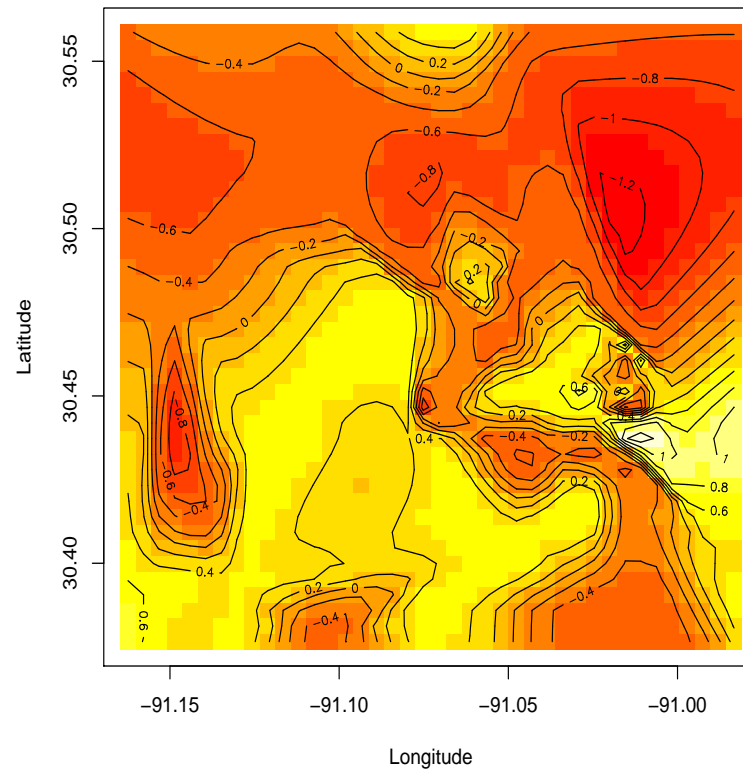
- We fit a generalized linear model where
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- Assume vague priors for $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, a Uniform(0, 10) prior for ϕ , and an Inverse Gamma(0.1, 0.1) prior for σ^2 .

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- The **WinBUGS** code and data for this example are at www.biostat.umn.edu/~brad/data/BatonRougebinary.bug:

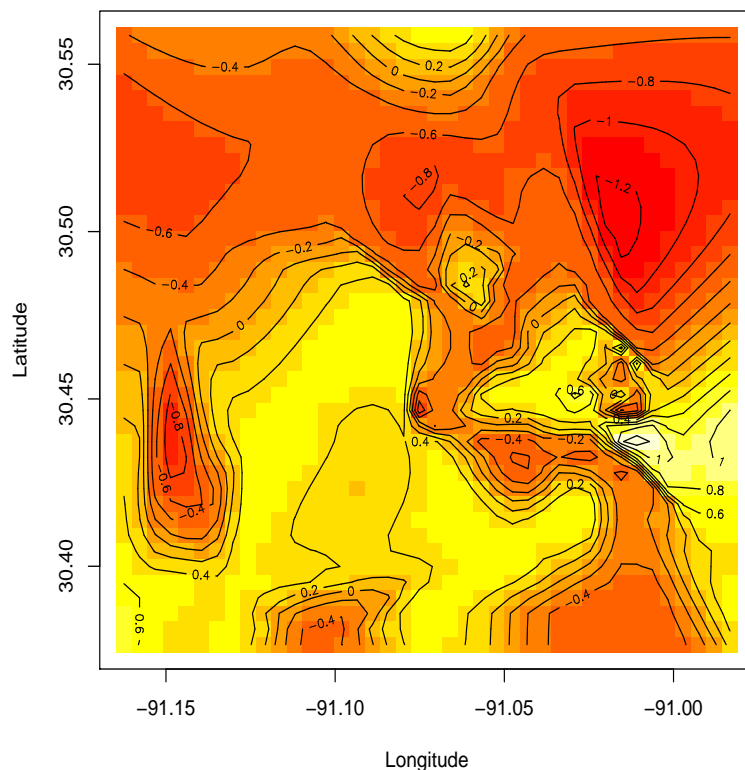
```
for (i in 1:N) {  
  Y[i] ~ dbern(p[i])  
  logit(p[i]) <- w[i]  
  mu[i] <- beta[1]+beta[2]*LivingArea[i]/1000+beta[3]*Age[i] }  
for (i in 1:3) beta[i] ~ dnorm(0.0,0.001)  
w[1:N] ~ spatial.exp(mu[], x[], y[], spat.prec, phi, 1)  
phi ~ dunif(0.1,10)  
spat.prec ~ dgamma(0.1, 0.1)  
sigmasq <- 1/spat.prec
```

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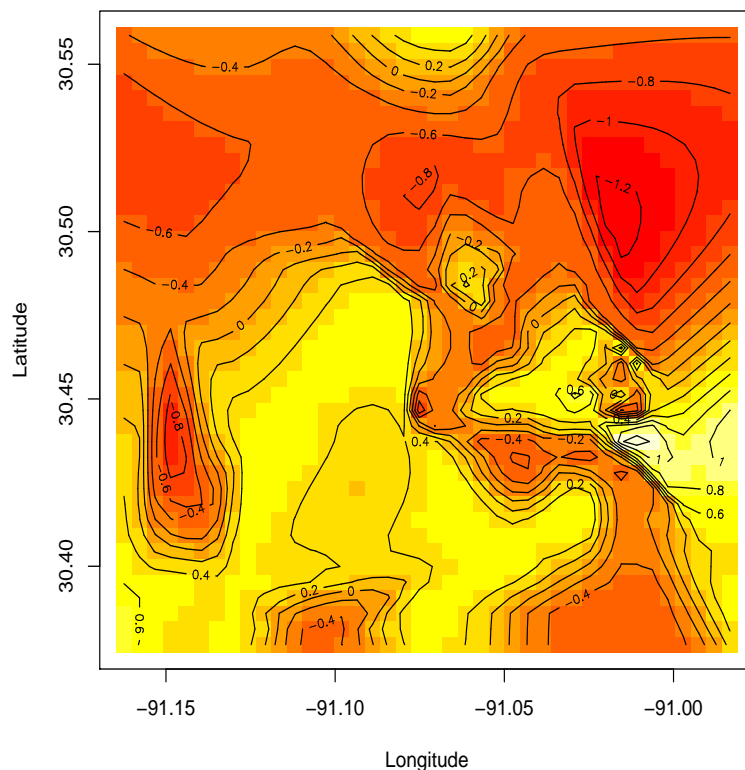
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- **negative** residuals (i.e., **lower** prices) in the north;
positive residuals (i.e., **higher** prices) in the south

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- Use `image` and `contour` on w_i posterior medians in `R`
- **negative** residuals (i.e., **lower** prices) in the north;
positive residuals (i.e., **higher** prices) in the south
- smooth flat stretches across the central parts;
downward slopes toward the north and southeast.

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Parameter estimates (posterior medians and upper and lower .025 points):

Parameter	50%	(2.5%, 97.5%)
β_1 (intercept)	-1.096	(-4.198, 0.4305)
β_2 (living area)	0.659	(-0.091, 2.254)
β_3 (age)	0.009615	(-0.8653, 0.7235)
ϕ	5.79	(1.236, 9.765)
σ^2	1.38	(0.1821, 6.889)

The covariate effects are generally uninteresting, though living area seems to have a marginally significant effect on price class.