Field trends from UAV imaging

NPPN – 6P3, WP2

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Background

$$Y_i = G_i \times E_i \times M_i + error_i$$



Normalized Excess Green index as example



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Smoothing the residuals

K-nearest neighbours (KNN)

- Locally averaging adjacent subfields
- Requires manually setting the number of neighbours, k
- This approach is sensitive to the border cultivars separating subexperiments.



KNN residual smoothing workflow



Field trends over the season



0.01

0.00

-0.01

-0.02



A second approach

- Spatial analysis of a trial using P-splines to model field trends
- 2-dimensional polynomial explicitly modelling spatial dependence within a (complex) mixed model

 $\boldsymbol{y} = f(\boldsymbol{u}, \boldsymbol{v}) + \boldsymbol{x}_d \beta_d + \boldsymbol{Z}_r \boldsymbol{c}_r + \boldsymbol{Z}_c \boldsymbol{c}_c + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon},$

• Less sensitive to the border cultivars separating sub-experiments.

Rodríguez-Álvarez et al. (2018)



Field trends over the season, P-splines approach



Comparing methods, season summaries

0.2

0.0

-0.2





Spatial trends based on yield measurements







Field trends in ExG vs yield

Raw data

P-splines spatial trend



Field trends in ExG vs yield, another example

Raw data

P-splines spatial trend



Where to go from here

- Design of experiments
- Data analysis
- Build in to PlotCut3

References

 Rodríguez-Álvarez, M. X., Boer, M. P., van Eeuwijk, F. A., & Eilers, P. H. C. (2018). Correcting for spatial heterogeneity in plant breeding experiments with P-splines. *Spatial Statistics*, *23*, 52–71. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.spasta.2017.10.003