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## **Spatial Modelling of Air Pollution from PM<sub>10</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations during Winter Season in Marmara Region:2013-2014**

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### **Abstract**

It was aimed to characterize spatial variations of air pollutants in Marmara region, Turkey for determining contribution to air pollution status in this study. We used spatial data analysis for measured sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) concentrations recorded in Marmara, which is the most industrialized region of Turkey. GIS technique was used for monitoring air pollution and spatial analyses of these pollutants measured with the period during between October 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014 known as winter (heating) season obtained from 61 air quality monitoring stations located in this region. Spatial distribution maps for these pollutants were generated to determine emission patterns for the study area with the aid of geostatistical techniques. Additionally standard and spatial regression models were employed on the measured emissions to reveal possible factors of air quality in the region using standard ordinary least squares (OLS) and spatially autoregressive (SAR) regression models. The two regression models revealed that all the four explanatory meteorological variables (i.e. temperature, wind speed, humidity and atmospheric pressure) used to depict the pollution levels in relation to air quality. After the definition of the final model parameters, the model was fit to the entire data set and the residuals were examined for the presence of spatial autocorrelation with Moran's I. Compared to the OLS technique, SAR is found to be more appropriate when dependent variables exhibit spatial autocorrelation resulting in a valid model.

**Keywords:** Air Pollution, Geostatistical Analysis, OLS, SAR, Spatial Analysis

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### **Introduction**

Air pollution has emerged as a major health, environmental, economic and social problem all over the world. Aside from its adverse effects on the health of all living organisms, urban air pollution has profound regional and global impacts (Jacob and Winner, 2009; Alcamo et al., 2002; Brunekreef and Holgate, 2002; Jenkin and Clemitshaw, 2000; Güven et al., 2000; Kinney, 2008; Lee et al., 2007; Vautard and Hauglustaine, 2007; Lepeule et al., 2012). Concern on air pollution in the rapidly growing urban regions is receiving increasing emphasis all over the world, especially pollution by gaseous and particulate trace metals (Begüm et al., 2004; Salam et al., 2003). The sources of air pollution are classified as natural and anthropogenic.

Anthropogenic primary pollutants such as carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter (PM), nitrogen oxides (NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>) and lead are harmful to health as well as environment. Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and nitrogen oxides get transformed as sulfuric acid and nitric acid in the atmosphere due to chemical reactions and may fall as acid rain. During the past few decades, the atmosphere has been subjected to a large amount of contaminants via anthropogenic pollutants produced by both stationary (power plants, industrial and residential heating) and diffuse sources (road and marine traffic) (Azimi et al. 2005; Burak et al., 2004; 2009; Demir, 2018, Kural et al., 2018). Coal burning is the main man-made source of sulfur dioxide. Particulate matter consists of both organic and inorganic substances, mainly from dust, fly ash, soot,

smoke, aerosols, fumes, mists and condensing vapors. Ozone is a colorless, pungent, highly reactive gas and is the principal component of smog, which is caused primarily by automobile emissions, heavily in urban areas (Yerramilli et al., 2011). In the literature there are many studies in which air pollution has been examined and analyzed with geospatial methods (Elbir, 2004; Fedra and Haurie, 1999; Lin and Lin, 2002; David et al., 1997; Briggs et al., 2003; Chen et al., 2015; Hee-Jae and Myung-Jin, 2014; Xiao et al., 2014; Rohde and Muller, 2015; Matejicek, 2005; Song, 2008). In order to improve the air quality, geographical information system (GIS) based decision support systems have also been developed for urban areas (Guerrero et al., 2008; Lim et al., 2005; Puliafito et al., 2003; Schmidt and Schafer, 1998; Jensen et al., 2001). Air quality modeling and quality mapping by GIS, preparation of emission inventory and scenario analysis for air pollution reduction are the main components of this spatio-temporal urban air quality management system.

Air quality in Turkey is generally a big concern, measurements show that all over the country increased pollution levels have become a threat to human health. Monitoring air pollution is the key issue for deciding policy measures and technological interventions to reduce air pollution levels. So typical pollutants have been monitored routinely at most official air-quality stations. Air pollution in Marmara region is also one of the important problems of daily life due to rapid population growth, intensive immigration, industrial facilities, utilization of old combustion technologies in industry, usage of poor quality fuels and traffic emissions. Scientific researches have thus been increased for air quality management and air pollution assessment related to the study region (i.e. Marmara region) (Pekey and Özaslan, 2012; Tayanç, 2000; Tayanç and Berçin, 2007; Akyürek et al., 2013; Gümrükçüoğlu and Soyulu, 2011; Karaca, 2012a).

In this study it was aimed to characterize spatial variations of air pollutants such as SO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> for determining pollution status in Marmara region. No systematic air pollution monitoring study with GIS approach was

reported in the region so far. PM<sub>10</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> air pollution values that have recorded as hourly averages were used as dataset in this study between the dates October 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014 which is referred to as the winter (heating) season in Air Quality Evaluation and Management Regulation (AQEMR). Marmara Region was chosen to be the area of study and daily averages from the hourly average data are obtained from the 61 air quality monitoring stations available in the region. Spatial analyses for the pollutant parameters have been carried out within GIS environment and pollution distribution maps created with the aid of kriging method which is one of the geostatistical techniques. In order to examine the contribution of different meteorological parameters on the levels of air pollution regression models were employed. The observed SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are regressed using humidity, temperature, atmospheric pressure and wind speed variables. In the first instance of regression modeling, we apply ordinary least-squares (OLS) regression model. Since the estimation results obtained from the OLS model may have led to biased parameter estimation, the spatiality of the factors studied should be taken into account. In order to avoid model error and to improve the fitting precision, spatially autoregressive modeling (SAR) was applied. SAR modeling is, in fact, a general extension to OLS regression models and solves the issue of spatial autocorrelation in model residuals. The two regression model results of the observed SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were quantitatively analyzed.

## Materials and Methods

Today, the urbanization is one of the most important factors affecting the air quality profile of Turkey. Significant efforts in recent years, such as the fuel shift from coal to natural gas, have aimed at reducing the air pollution levels in Turkey. Most of the metropolitan cities have built natural gas pipeline systems for use in residential heating and in industries. Significant improvements in the air quality have thus been observed in some cities, and the air pollution profile of Turkey has begun to change. However, some regions of Turkey still suffer from air pollution, as in the Marmara region. Low-quality fuel usage, dominating

meteorological factors, land use characteristics and industrial sources influence local and regional air quality parameters in the region (Deniz and Durmusoglu, 2008; Karaca, 2012b).

Study region is the Marmara Region situated between 26° and 31° Eastern longitudes and 38° and 42° Northern latitudes with a population of 23,202,727 people. In 2012 - 2013, 779,434 people have been immigrated to, and 654.171 people have been immigrated from the Marmara Region which shelters the provinces equipped with intense industrial facilities (Bursa, İstanbul, Kocaeli, Tekirdağ) within its body, and has a population in proportion to the intensity thereof (<http://www.tuik.gov.tr>). Due to the improving industrialization and rapid growth of the regional population, increased pollution levels have becoming a threat to human health in the region. Monitoring air pollutants in the region are gaining more importance due to harmful effects. For this reason pollution levels should be monitored in the region attentively. It is thus required to observe and monitor the major pollutant parameters, such as PM<sub>10</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>, since these pollutants are emitted from the industrial facilities and originated from the solid fuels generally used for the residential heating purposes.

National Air Quality Monitoring Network of Turkey has been established, introducing air quality monitoring stations in 81 provinces within the body of the Ministry of Environment and Urban Planning in 2005-2007, in order to monitor air quality and take required measures

in a timely manner. There are 125 air quality monitoring stations, three of them are mobile in Turkey as of the year 2014. SO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, nitrogen oxides, CO and O<sub>3</sub> parameters are measured in a fully automatically manner in all of the air quality monitoring stations established. Some of the stations are also capable of measuring some meteorological data additionally. Measurement data accumulated in the monitoring stations are transferred to the Data Processing Center of Environmental Reference Laboratory belonging to the Ministry of Environment and Urban Planning. In addition, 39 air quality monitoring stations have been founded in the region by the Directorate of Marmara Clean Air Center (MCAC) within the body of the relevant ministry. We used all possible data belonging to the specified period as daily average values of PM<sub>10</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> measurements belonging to those stations after a data treatment and validation process. These two pollutant parameters are commonly monitored at the stations connected to the system network.

In many countries, the limit values set forth by the European Union (EU) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are used locally in order to keep air pollution under control. Long-term exposure limit values, short-term limit values, winter season average values and warning thresholds for PM<sub>10</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> are specified in the AQEMR published in the year 2008 in Turkey. Average limit values for PM<sub>10</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> pollutants specified in AQEMR and international regulations are given in Table 1.

Table 1 PM<sub>10</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> pollutants with the national and international limits

| Pollutant        | Turkish Limit Values (AQEMR) (µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | EU regulations (µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | WHO guidelines (µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) |
|------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| PM <sub>10</sub> | 90 (24h)  | 50 (24h)                            | 50 (24h)                            |
|                  | 56 (ann.)   | 40 (ann.)                           | 20 (ann.)                           |
| SO <sub>2</sub>  | 470 (1h)  | 350 (1h)                            | 20 (24h)                            |
|                  | 225 (24h)   | 125 (24h)                           | 500 (10 min)                        |
|                  | 20 (ann.)   | 20 (ann.)                           |                                     |

PM<sub>10</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> air pollution emissions that have been recorded as hourly averages between the dates October 1 and March 31 which is referred to as the winter season in AQEMR, were used as dataset in this study.

Marmara Region was chosen to be the study area as previously explained and daily averages have been calculated from the hourly average data obtained from the 61 air quality monitoring stations available in the

region are given in Fig. 1, and monthly air pollution values are obtained from these daily averages. GIS have been used as a platform for spatio-temporal analysis of urban air quality. Air pollution values have been stored

in the form of dbf tables which are a database format and transferred to the geodatabase environment.

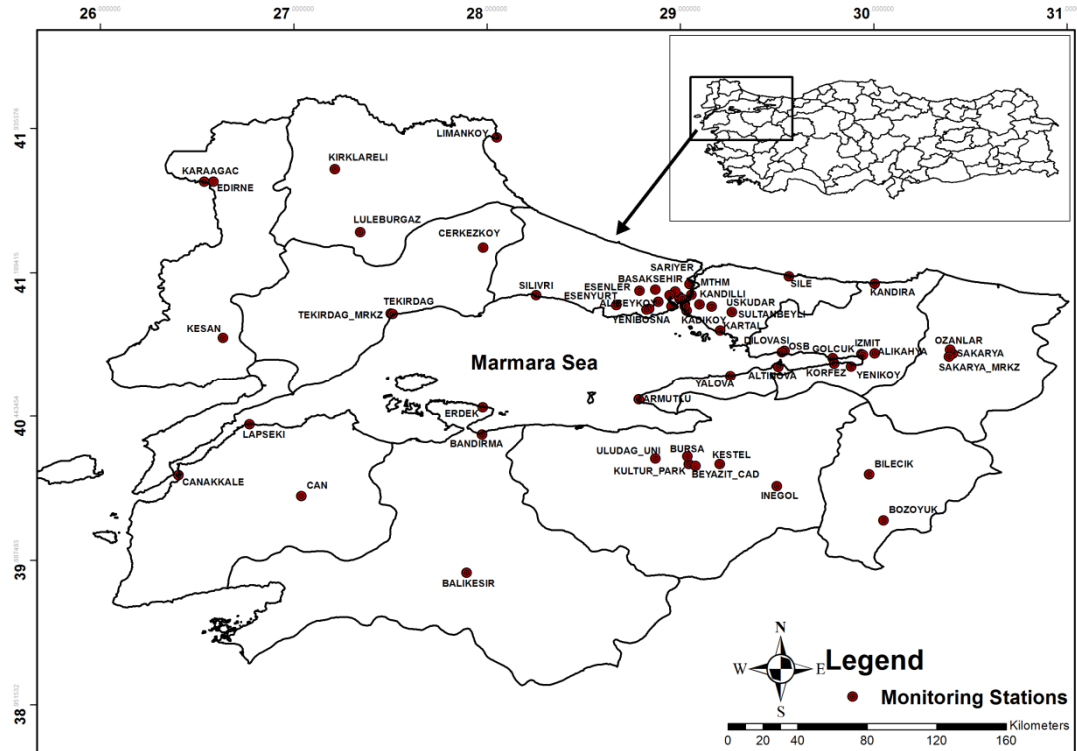


Fig. 1. 61 Air quality monitoring stations available in the Marmara region

Because of its unique spatial and temporal analysis functions, GIS has been widely used in pollution monitoring and evaluation of air quality. In the study it was benefited from ArcGIS 10.1 software for the operations related to database formation, querying, and analysis of air pollution. It was aimed to map spatial distributions of the measured pollutant parameters using geostatistical method in the study region. With the aid of geostatistical analysis module available in the ArcGIS software,  $PM_{10}$  and  $SO_2$  air pollution parameters belonging to the winter season have been analyzed according to the kriging method and spatial pollution distribution maps have been generated for the region.

The distributions of five pollutant parameters obtained from the GIS environment are given in Fig. 2. Higher  $PM_{10}$  concentrations generally have been observed in the

industrial territories and at places where solid fuels were used for residential heating purposes. During the course of winter season, higher concentration values as monthly averages have been measured in the cities such as Kocaeli, Sakarya, Bursa, Tekirdağ and İstanbul where the industrial facilities are rather intensive. As seen from the Fig. 2 higher  $PM_{10}$  concentration values were obtained from Sakarya and Bursa provinces. Measured pollutants are still high in Edirne, Kocaeli, İstanbul, Bilecik and Tekirdağ cities. Minimum concentrations were observed in Yalova city. It should be noted that  $SO_2$  concentration values measured in Edirne and Çanakkale provinces are especially higher than the others (Fig. 2). That is why solid fuels (i.e. coal, etc.) have been used for residential heating in Keşan district (in Edirne) and its surroundings. The other hand there is a thermal power plant

located in Çan district (in Çanakkale) within its borders which uses lignite coal to generate electric power. Measured NO and NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are higher in İstanbul than the other cities in region. Monthly average O<sub>3</sub>

concentrations have high values in Balıkesir and Kırklareli cities.

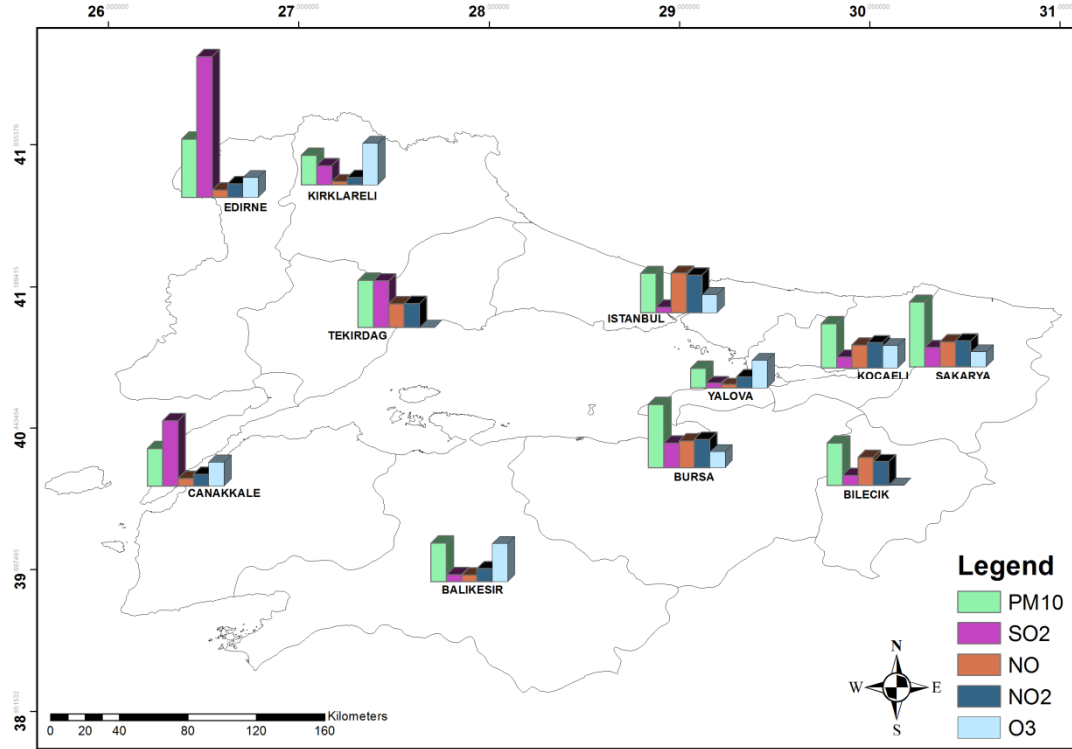


Fig. 2. Distribution of pollutant parameters of winter season for the provinces in GIS environment

### Results and Discussion

It is observed that monthly averages for the measured PM<sub>10</sub> pollutant obtained from the Marmara region exceeded the international limits (i.e. EU and WHO). Investigating hourly concentrations it can be seen that measurement values of the pollutant have exceeded the adopted limits for many times. Monthly averages for the SO<sub>2</sub> pollutant obtained from the region have found to be higher than the limits adopted in WHO regulation and conversely found to be lower

than limits of EU. In addition to this hourly measurement values of the pollutant have exceeded the adopted limits for many times. These results indicate that the region has been facing increasing urban air pollution. Descriptive statistics for the measured PM<sub>10</sub> parameter as monthly averages are shown in the Table 2 for winter season. Limit value is also given for the pollutant parameter for comparing the measurement concentrations. Concentrations as monthly averages are higher than limit values for all the months in the season except October.

Table 2 Descriptive statistics for PM<sub>10</sub> parameter by month during winter (heating) season in 2013-2014

|          | Minimum<br>(µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | Maximum<br>(µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | Average<br>(µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | Standard<br>Deviation | Limit Value<br>(annually) |
|----------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| October  | 9                               | 104                             | 54.53                           | 22.13                 | 56 µg/m <sup>3</sup>      |
| November | 8                               | 125                             | 58.07                           | 24.87                 |                           |
| December | 10                              | 173                             | 72.57                           | 33.28                 |                           |
| January  | 8                               | 153                             | 72.31                           | 29.55                 |                           |
| February | 8                               | 159                             | 65.76                           | 29.76                 |                           |
| March    | 10                              | 127                             | 57.59                           | 24.65                 |                           |

Descriptive statistics for the measured SO<sub>2</sub> parameter as monthly averages are shown in the Table 3 for winter season. Limit value is also given for the pollutant parameter for comparing the measurement concentrations.

Concentrations exceeded the limit value for all the months in the season except October particularly. The measured concentration has risen to two times the limit value in December and January.

Table 3 Statistical data for SO<sub>2</sub> parameter by month during winter (heating) season in 2013-2014

|          | Minimum<br>(µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | Maximum<br>(µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | Average<br>(µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | Standard<br>Deviation | Limit Value<br>(annually) |
|----------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| October  | 3                               | 308                             | 17.49                           | 42.67                 | 20 µg/m <sup>3</sup>      |
| November | 2                               | 554                             | 30.68                           | 81.18                 |                           |
| December | 5                               | 893                             | 51.09                           | 133.41                |                           |
| January  | 1                               | 700                             | 41.15                           | 107.07                |                           |
| February | 2                               | 590                             | 35.49                           | 88.77                 |                           |
| March    | 3                               | 553                             | 33.61                           | 79.76                 |                           |

Figure 3 demonstrates, PM<sub>10</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> pollution parameter concentrations respectively generated by the calculation of monthly averages from daily averages obtained from MHTM for Keşan and Çan districts in 2014, and limit values (denoted as dotted lines) specified in AQEMR belonging to these parameters. SO<sub>2</sub> parameter, in particular, has been measured quite above the limit value during the winter months in both districts. SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations measured in Keşan were greater than the national limit value of 150 µg/m<sup>3</sup> approximately by a factor of five (i.e. five times) in the months January and November and by a factor of four in February. It is clear that such air pollution was resulting from the domestic heating since the values measured during summer months

dropped down to zero. In particular, when hourly averages related to SO<sub>2</sub> pollutant parameter are taken into consideration in Keşan, throughout the whole winter season, it is observed that pollutant concentration shows exceptional rises at certain hours of a day. These hours correspond to the hours of operating the heaters and lighting the stoves during morning and evening hours for the heating purposes. The measured values of PM<sub>10</sub> pollutant emissions reach the same high value as proportional to the SO<sub>2</sub> peak hours. These concentration values for both pollutants continue to keep their high levels throughout the whole winter season at the specified hours of the day (when the heaters and stoves are fired up in the morning and evening).

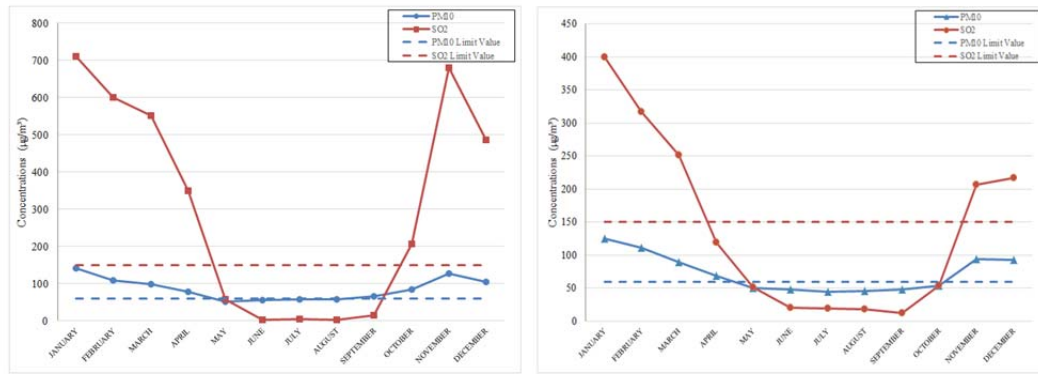


Fig. 3. PM<sub>10</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and limit values of Keşan (left) and Çan (right) in the year 2014.

Spatial variability with spatial-dependence relations of air pollutants can be examined by determining spatial patterns related to air pollution parameters and generating spatial distribution maps of air pollution with the aid of GIS. Spatial distribution maps are generated by obtaining dependences and probabilities determined from the semivariograms with the support of classical (ordinary) kriging method, which is one of the spatial analysis techniques. The pollution distribution maps presented in Fig. 4 show monthly variations of the PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations. The particulate matter concentration measured by months, December and January which are literally the middle of this time period became the maximum. As seen from the Fig. 4a PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations did not exceed limit values of AQEMR (national standard) across in the Marmara region on October. As seen from the figure higher measured concentration values are observed in Dilovası, Kocaeli where intensive industrial plants and organized industrial zones are located, and in Bursa province and also in Sakarya province where solid fuel is used (Gümrükçüoğlu and Soylu, 2011).

PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations have slightly increased in the same region on November as shown in Fig. 4b. It is clearly be seen from the distribution map belonging to the December in Fig. 4c, PM<sub>10</sub> levels are generally high throughout the region. Air pollution seem to be high in the districts where industrial facilities (Bursa, Kocaeli and Sakarya,

Tekirdağ provinces) and solid fuel is still used for residential heating in Edirne and Çanakkale provinces. Relatively high pollution levels can generally be seen in the region from the distribution map for January in Fig. 4d but air pollution is decreased to a certain extent in Istanbul and Kocaeli provinces. Higher pollution levels can be seen in industrial zones and the districts where solid fuel is widely used as the beginning of the winter season in the distribution map created for February month in Fig. 4e. There seems to be a declining tendency of pollution in the other provinces. Pollutant values are very close to the limit values throughout the region in the map for March in Fig. 4f.

Major source of SO<sub>2</sub> are the solid fuels used for the residential heating purposes. For this reason, as it is seen in the distribution maps (Fig. 5), throughout the whole heating season, much higher pollution values than other stations have been measured in Keşan and its surroundings where solid fuels are used in the houses for heating purposes and Çan where there is a thermal power plant within its borders using lignite coal in order to produce electricity. In addition, high SO<sub>2</sub> values have been recorded in the air quality monitoring stations located in the provinces such as Kocaeli, Sakarya, Bursa and Tekirdağ where the industrial facilities are rather concentrated.

Since direct proportion was observed between the two measured pollutants in this



district, interactions of the pollutants are also evaluated to reveal the relationships between the measured concentrations in different districts of the whole region. Fig. 6 shows correlations between the measured SO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> pollutants obtained from the different stations in Marmara region. It is clearly be seen that there is a linear relationship between the pollutants. This result is, in fact, typical since sources of these two pollutants

are nearly the same as stated in the literature (Tayanç, 2000). Maximum correlation value ( $R^2=0.97$ ) is observed in Kandıra district on December as shown in Fig. 6c. Minimum correlation coefficient is observed ( $R^2=0.73$ ) in Keşan district as illustrated in Fig. 6a. Evaluating relationship between SO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in the other parts of the region direct proportion was seen similarly.

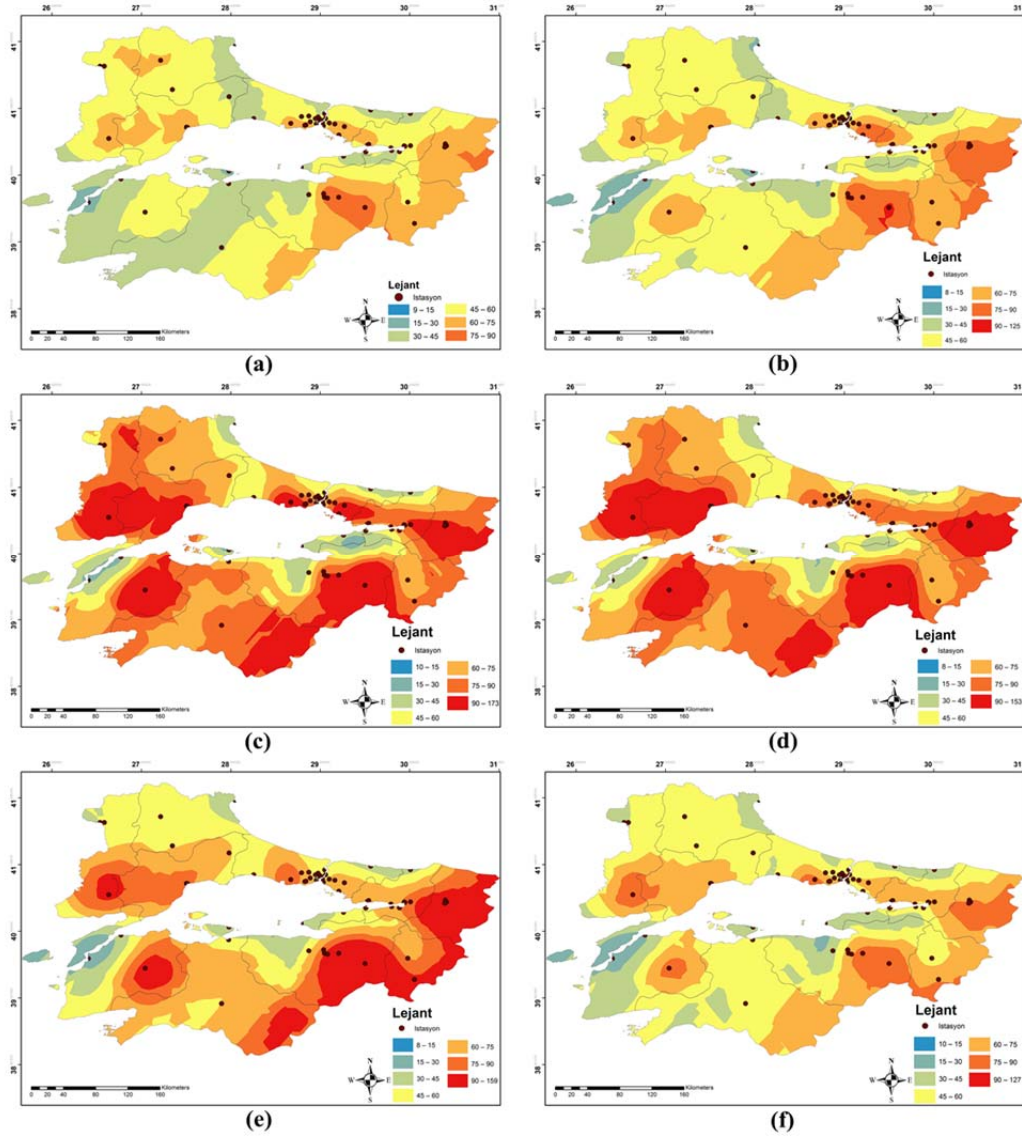


Fig. 4. PM<sub>10</sub> pollutant distribution maps for winter season in the Marmara region; (a) October (b) November (c) December (d) January (e) February (f) March

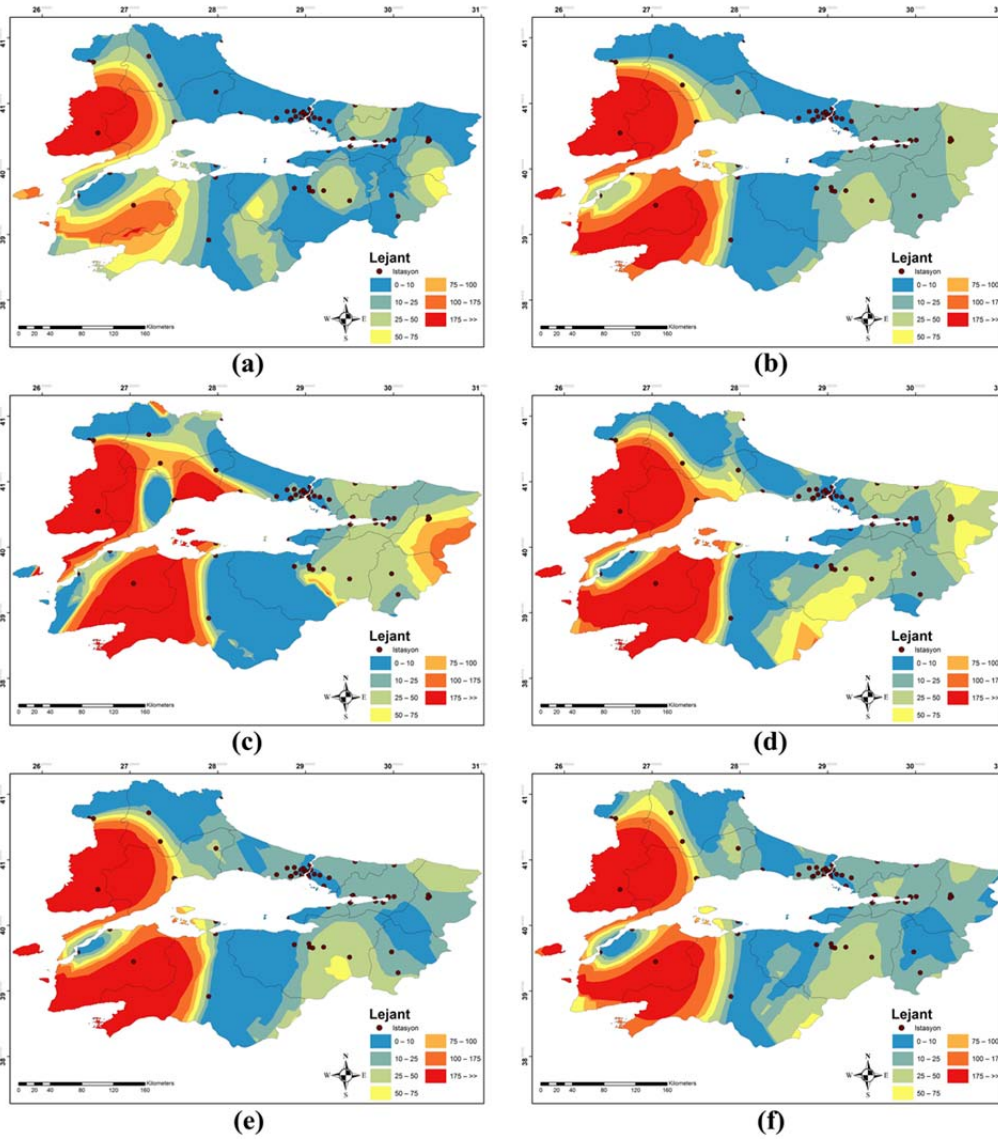


Fig. 5. SO<sub>2</sub> pollutant distribution maps for winter season in the Marmara region; (a) October (b) November (c) December (d) January (e) February (f) March

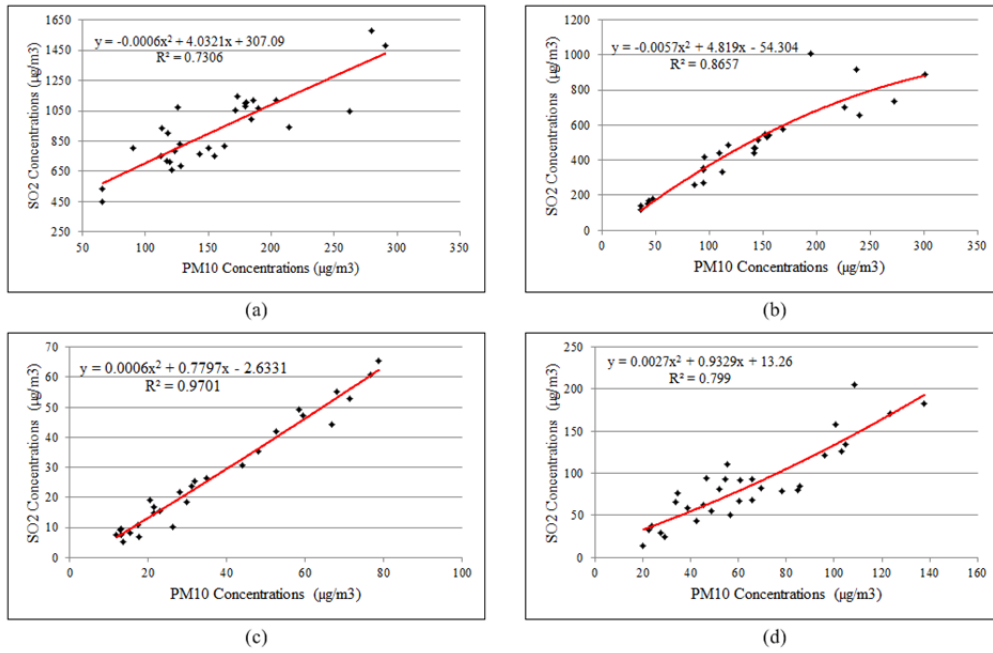


Fig. 6. Relationship between SO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for districts; (a) Keşan (b) Çan (c) Kandıra (d) Lüleburgaz

In addition, we know from existing experience that air pollution has a strongly trans-regional character; it inevitably affects neighboring regions (i.e. spatial autocorrelation). This characteristic breaks with the basic precondition for classical regression analysis that is if we undertake OLS estimation under this circumstance, the results are in fact likely to be biased. If spatial autocorrelation exists in the spatial units being addressed, an appropriate spatial regression model must be chosen. Spatial regression models allow researchers to account for dependence among their observations, which often arises when observations are collected from points or regions located in space. The spatial lag model (SAR) is spatially constant coefficient model that can be used to produce a spatial extension of OLS, thereby correcting certain spatial dependence problems. Use of the SAR model is appropriate when spatial dependence is suspected in the values of the dependent variable, an occurrence that can give rise to auto-regressive problems. It is widely recognized that description of spatial patterns using variograms is sometimes prone

to errors and incorporating the autocorrelation structure into modeling may be an important task. Spatial autocorrelation measures the similarity or strength of correlation between samples for a given variable as a function of spatial distance. For quantitative variables, such as pollutant parameters, the Moran's I coefficient is the most commonly used coefficient in univariate autocorrelation analyses. Spatial data are known to exhibit spatial non-stationarity, inconstant spatial variability, and can imply inconstant relationships among variables over space. This property leads to spatial instability of regression coefficients and can be associated with autocorrelated regression residuals (Fotheringham et al., 1998). Spatial autocorrelation is commonly addressed by spatially autoregressive modeling and different forms of autoregressive models have been recently applied in environmental ecology (Lichstein et al., 2002; Tognelli and Kelt, 2004; Fortin and Dale, 2005). These models have been mainly used as a way to take the spatial structure into account in data and, at the same time, to evaluate how different environmental

predictors are related to spatial variations in concentration values.

A spatially autoregressive model (SAR) was calculated to produce a valid model when spatial structure occurs in the error terms of ordinary least squares regression models. The SAR model contains an autoregressive term ( $qy_i$ ), multiplied by a spatial weights matrix ( $W$ ), which selects spatially autocorrelated units (Getis and Aldstadt, 2004).

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \sum_k \beta_k x_{ik} + \rho W y_i + \varepsilon_i \quad (1)$$

where the response variable at location  $i$ , i.e.,  $y_i$ , (e.g., observed SO<sub>2</sub> values), is expressed as a function of  $k$  meteorological predictors, i.e.,  $x_{i1}$  through  $x_{ik}$ . The  $\beta_0$  through  $\beta_k$  regression coefficients were estimated using the SAR model. Note that if the autoregressive term is ignored in this equation, standard regression model form is obtained. Both standard regression and spatial autoregressive models were employed to examine the contribution of different sources of air pollution on the levels of pollutants observed in study region. Pollution concentrations (i.e. SO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>) were modelled as a function of the selected predictors which included to temperature, wind speed, humidity and atmospheric pressure. Hence, standard estimation method,

i.e. OLS regression, was used to investigate the influence factors for SO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Through the OLS estimation, the R<sup>2</sup> (goodness of fit) of the model was found to be 0.977, the adjusted R<sup>2</sup> was 0.94 and the  $F$ -value was 10.784 are shown in the Table 4. The four meteorological variables account for 97.7% of the variation in SO<sub>2</sub> (for January). The global regression model is obtained from the estimation as in the following.

$$y(\text{SO}_2) = -68.097 - 4.85 \text{temperature} + 4.37 \text{windspeed} - 0.41 \text{humidity} + 0.14 \text{pressure} + \varepsilon \quad (2)$$

The significance tests of the coefficients showed that the regression coefficients to have different signs—that is to say, the selected explanatory variables were shown to have both positive and negative effects in relation to pollutant values. The most important explanatory variable is humidity according to the standardized regression coefficient (-0.835). All the variables passed the significance test at the 1% level. Wind speed was found to have less influence in relation to SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations. Akaike information criterion (AIC) was also used to select the best model. This AIC criterion of the OLS model was -46.8. The diagnostic tests (i.e., Moran's  $I$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ) indicate a possibility of problems with autocorrelation.

Table 4 OLS modelling Results for January SO<sub>2</sub> as a response variable and 4 predictor variables

| Variable   | Coeff.  | Std Coeff. | VIF   | Std Error | t      | P Value |
|--|---------|------------|-------|-----------|--------|---------|
| Constant   | -68.097 | 0          | 0     | 97.061    | -0.702 | < 0.01  |
| Temperature  | -4.85   | -0.484     | 2.008 | 2.136     | -2.271 | < 0.01  |
| Wind Speed   | 4.37    | 0.207      | 2.653 | 5.174     | 0.845  | < 0.01  |
| Humidity   | -0.41   | -0.835     | 1.157 | 0.079     | -5.159 | < 0.01  |
| Pressure   | 0.14    | 0.36       | 3.802 | 0.114     | 1.226  | < 0.01  |
| n: 6    r: 0.989    r <sup>2</sup> : 0.977    r <sup>2</sup> adj: 0.943    F: 10.784    P: 0.008 |         |            |       |           |        |         |
| Akaike's Information Criterion (AIC): -46.8  |         |            |       |           |        |         |

To compare to ordinary linear regression, we set up SAR regression model. SAR regression model for SO<sub>2</sub> concentration data yielded 96.6% R<sup>2</sup> value. The  $F$ -value was 8.613 and AIC was -12.662 are shown in the Table 5. In this model humidity is the most

important variable again according to the standardized regression coefficient. The difference between R<sup>2</sup> values suggest that the autoregressive term accounts for a slightly small portion of the model fit. This comparison might be evaluated to be suggest

some model stability however by comparing AIC values of the OLS and SAR models, the SAR regression model was considered the more appropriate model. Thus, the results suggest that the chosen model is adequate for modeling the spatial structure in the residuals. Table 5 provides the detailed results of the SAR estimation. The SAR regression model is obtained from the estimation as in the following.

$$y(\text{SO}_2) = -78.267 - 5.16 \text{temperature} + 3.26 \text{windspeed} - 0.38 \text{humidity} + 0.15 \text{pressure} + e \quad (3)$$

On the whole, the value of the parameters estimated using SAR were higher than those obtained using OLS. As a result for predictive purposes, using any model is better than assuming that no spatial autocorrelation exists, especially considering the relative high  $R^2$  values of all autoregressive models.

Table 5 SAR modelling results for January SO<sub>2</sub> as a response variable and 4 predictor variables

| Variable    | OLS Coeff. | SAR Coeff. | Std Coeff. | Std Error | t       | P Value |
|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Constant    | -68.097    | -78.267    | 0          | 37.041    | -2.113  | < 0.01  |
| Temperature | -4.85      | -5.16      | -0.515     | 0.848     | -6.088  | < 0.01  |
| Wind Speed  | 4.37       | 3.263      | 0.155      | 2.132     | 1.531   | < 0.01  |
| Humidity    | -0.41      | -0.387     | -0.788     | 0.032     | -12.053 | < 0.01  |
| Pressure    | 0.14       | 0.153      | 0.394      | 0.044     | 3.515   | < 0.01  |

n: 6 F: 8.613 P: 0.012

Total Explained (Predictor + Space): r: 0.981 r<sup>2</sup>:0.962 AIC: -12.662

Spatial autoregressive parameter (rho): -0.772

Alpha: 1.0

It is also plausible to explore spatial patterns in the model, especially in model residuals (Fig. 7 and Fig. 8). There is relatively high Moran's I values in the first distance class, indicating error terms are biased. Additionally there is a lack of explanation of concentration values at these short distances. As it is known Moran's I usually varies between -1.0 and 1.0, for maximum negative and positive autocorrelation, respectively.

Non-zero values of Moran's I indicate that SO<sub>2</sub> pollutant values at a given spatial distance are more similar or less similar. From these figures it can be concluded that there is a spatial structure on residuals to a some extent degree. Relatively high values of Moran's I (i.e., I > 0.1) remain in the residuals of the two (OLS and SAR) models.

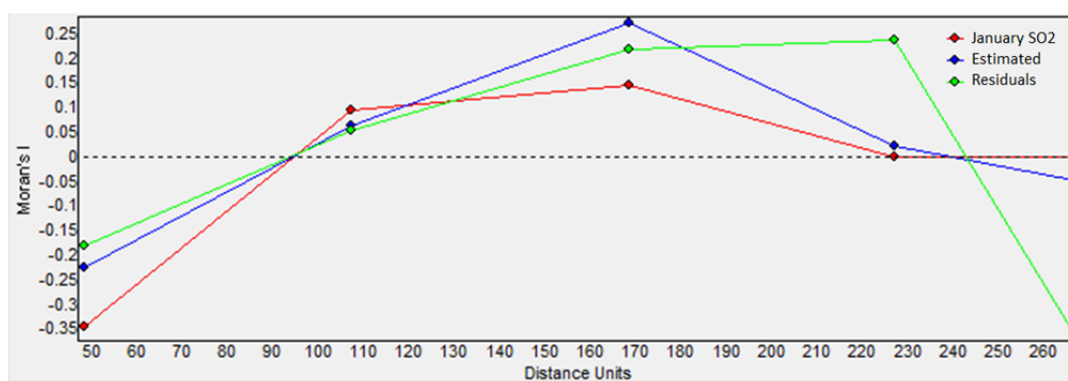


Fig. 7. OLS regression model residual analysis

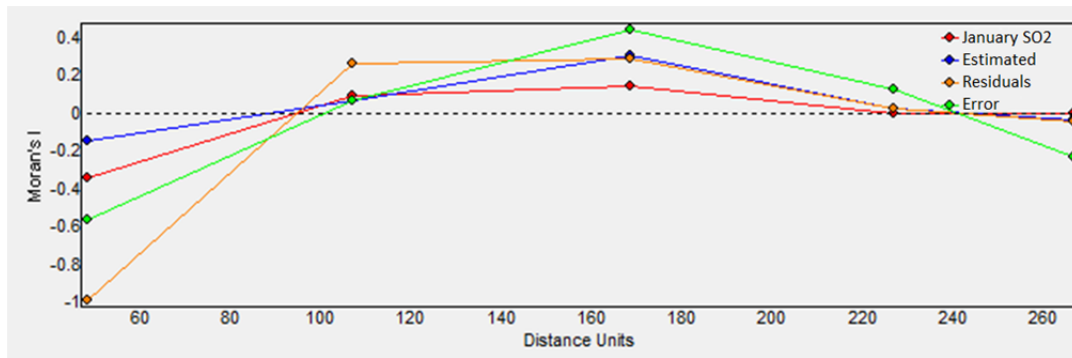


Fig. 8. SAR regression model residual analysis

The residuals from the linear regression model were spatially correlated (i.e. according to Moran's I values), which indicates that the model was not meeting the independence of errors assumption. Briefly, the use of the spatial autoregressive model was effective to remove the spatial autocorrelation that occurred in the residuals of the ordinary least squares regression model.

### Conclusion

This study conducted a spatial analysis on the emission patterns of two major air pollutants named  $PM_{10}$  and  $SO_2$  for winter period from 2013 through 2014 in Marmara region. One of the main contributions of the study is to show that GIS based spatial analysis can be a powerful tool for air quality management. The technique is effectively used for monitoring and analyzing air pollution in large areas like the study region. Pollution distribution patterns were identified by means of generated pollution distribution maps made by geostatistical interpolation technique for the determination of high concentrations of air pollution sources. It should be noted that considerable increases have been obtained in the measured concentrations of  $SO_2$  and  $PM_{10}$  during the winter season forming a serious air pollution in the region. The results indicate that industry and residential heating seem to be responsible for pollution in the study area. The values of  $PM_{10}$  measured especially in Bursa, Kocaeli, Sakarya and Tekirdağ provinces where industrial facilities are abundant, were high, and such a trend has

been also observed in the pollution distribution maps. In addition,  $PM_{10}$  values were observedly high in the surroundings of Keşan and Çan districts as well where solid fuels are used for the residential heating purposes. Considering the fact that  $SO_2$  is generated from the solid fuels used for the heating purposes, in places where natural gas is available for the heating purposes,  $SO_2$  pollution value was measured below the limit values. However, pollution concentrations measured in such places where solid fuels are used for the residential heating purposes as, in particular, Keşan and Çan districts were above the hourly, daily and monthly threshold values in the records.

This study then analyzed the measured emissions to reveal possible factors (predictors) of air quality in the region using standard OLS and SAR regression models. SAR model has been mainly used as a way to take the spatial structure into account in data. The two regression models revealed that all the four explanatory meteorological variables used to depict the pollution levels in relation to air quality. Among the variables, temperature, wind speed, humidity and atmospheric pressure were all found to have had a significant influence over air quality. The humidity variable had the highest univariate  $R^2$  value for all the univariate regressions, which highlights the importance of humidity into the models. After the specification of the final model parameters, the model was fit to the entire data set and the residuals were examined for the presence of spatial autocorrelation with Moran's I. Compared to the OLS technique, SAR is

more appropriate when dependent variables exhibit spatial autocorrelation.

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