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Spatial Statistics

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Editorial: The impact of spatial statistics



Spatial statistics has developed into a major scientific domain during the last 10 years. We have witnessed interactions between spatial statistics and the environment, hydrology, soil science and agriculture, and we have noticed the role of spatial statistics during the recent pandemic (about which a special issue has appeared recently). We also see interactions with mathematical and stochastic theory and with technologies like remote sensing. Additionally, we can easily identify novel opportunities for further impact of our domain in the future, in particular in the our golden age of spatial big data.

The journal, *Spatial Statistics*, appeared with its first issue in 2012. The journal and the series of conferences that we have organized from 2011 onwards have been instrumental to support the development in our domain. Both the journal and the conferences have motivated young and senior researchers to enter the field, helping to strengthen the theory as well as the wide range of applications. At its 10th anniversary, we look both back and forward in an attempt to explore the impact that spatial statistics has had and may have in the future. The aim of this special issue is to identify the impact of spatial statistics in science and society during the last 10 years. Conversely, we also aim to assess the impact of society and other sciences on the development of our domain. To provide a representative overview, the associate editors, a former editor, the authors from the first volume and the editors of special issues have provided their views on the impact of spatial statistics.

In addition, we have invited several authors to provide their views on where they see major opportunities of impact: this includes both scientific and societal impact. In all, we conclude that the journal serves a clear need in science and society and that there are still miles to go in the years to come.

The list of invited contributors to this special issue is provided below, alphabetized by surname, and the papers have been sequenced by these surnames. We thank those that have made this issue possible, maintaining the high quality level that we are always seeking: the reviewers, the journal editor and other support from Elsevier Science. For now, we hope that you enjoy reading the issue.

Alfred Stein

Alan Gelfand

The invited authors

Denis Allard

Pete Atkinson

Liliane Bel

Howard Chang

Stewart Fotheringham

Reinhard Furrer

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Alan Gelfand
Dan Griffith
Yongtao Guan
Ephraim Hanks
Gerard Heuvelink
Murray Lark
Marie-Colette van Lieshout
Ying MacNab
Jorge Mateu
María Dolores Ruiz Medina
Håvard Rue
Marian Scott
Alfred Stein
Christien Thiart
Emmanouil Varouchakis
Jinfeng Wang
Zhao Xi
Ge Yong
Andrew Zammit Mangion

Alfred Stein*
Alan Gelfand

E-mail addresses: a.stein@utwente.nl, alan@duke.edu (A. Stein).

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* Corresponding editor.