



Geography 38/42:376
GIS II

**Topic 7:
Surface Representation and
Analysis**

(Chang: Chapters 13 & 15)
DeMers: Chapter 10



What can we represent as a Surface?

- ❖ Surfaces can be used to represent:
 - ❖ Continuously distributed phenomena sampled at point locations
 - ❖ Areally discrete data represented at point locations
- ❖ Phenomena may be real or conceptual



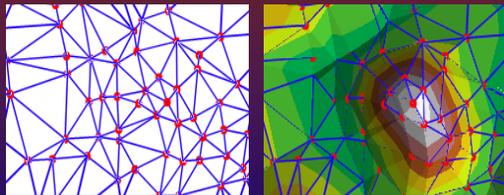
Common Surface Representations

- ❖ Vector data model = TIN
 - ❖ Triangulated Irregular Network
- ❖ Raster data model = DEM
 - ❖ Digital Elevation Model

TINs - vector

- ❖ A network of interlocking triangles
- ❖ Corners “anchored” by control/sampled pts.
- ❖ Each facet has a slope and aspect

TINs

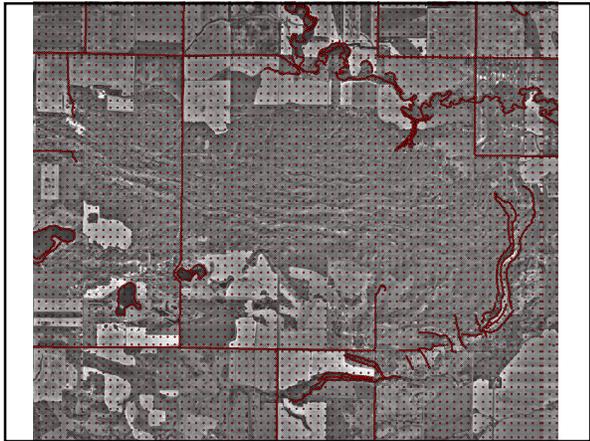


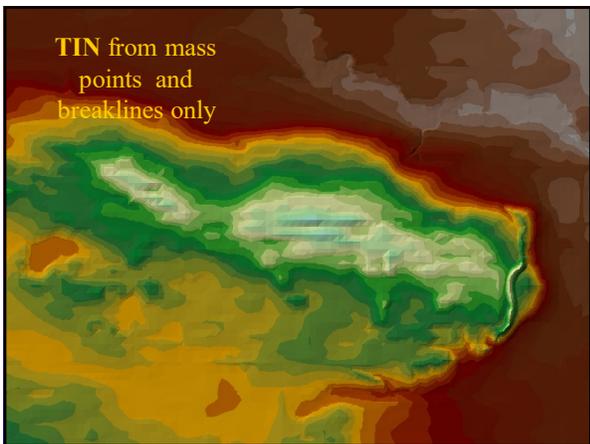
❖ **NOTE:** Level of detail determined by number/distribution of control pts. and resulting size and number of triangles

TINs

- ❖ Can be derived from multiple data sources
 - ❖ Point features (random or irregular)
 - ❖ Mass points
 - ❖ Line features (roads, railways, streams, ridges)
 - ❖ Mass Points (if 3D)
 - ❖ Breaklines
 - ❖ Polygons (study area, water body, drainage basin)
 - ❖ Breaklines
 - ❖ Mass Points (if 3D)
 - ❖ Erase
 - ❖ Replace
 - ❖ Clip







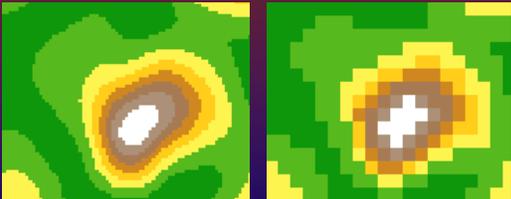
DEM

DEMs

- ❖ Array of discrete grid cells
- ❖ Cell value represents z-value (e.g. elevation amsl)
- ❖ Also improperly used to refer to a regular array of (x,y,z) pts; a lattice

DEM

DEMs

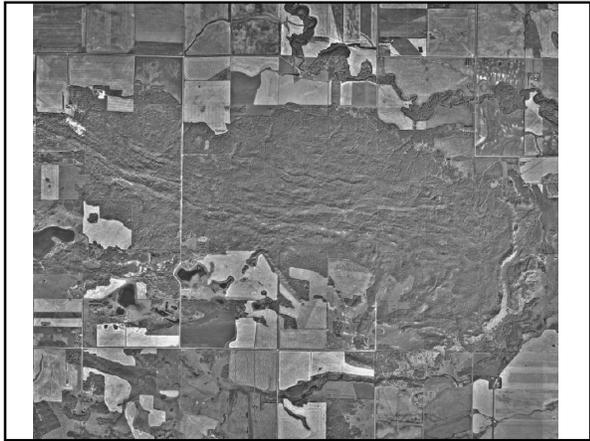


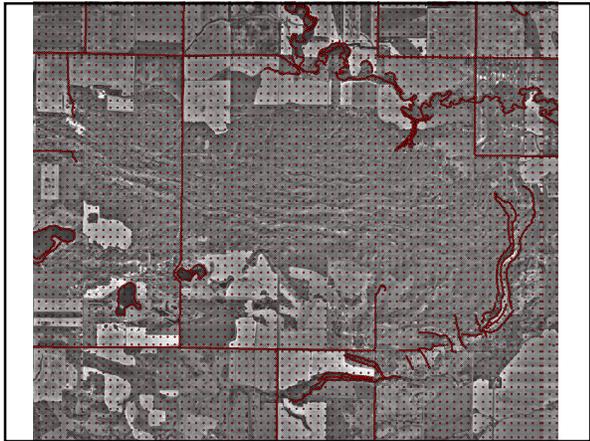
- ❖ Level of detail determined by spatial resolution of raster

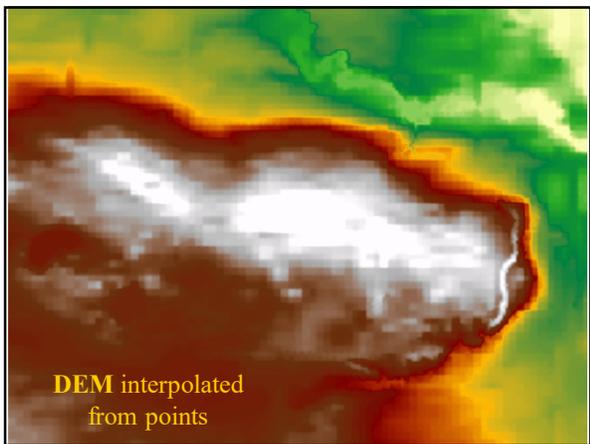
DEM

DEMs

- ❖ Created through process of spatial interpolation
 - ❖ Definition?
- ❖ Limited data sources:
 - ❖ Point features
 - ❖ Line features
 - ❖ But only to define boundaries limiting neighbourhood







TINs vs. DEMs

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ TINs ❖ Vector data model ❖ Variety of data inputs ❖ Variable level of detail ❖ No data redundancy (when z-tolerance used) because triangle size varies ❖ <u>Built not interpolated</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ DEMs ❖ Raster data model ❖ Limited data inputs ❖ Fixed cell size/level detail ❖ May contain significant data redundancy ❖ <u>Interpolated not built</u>
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Spatial Interpolation

- ❖ Process of creating a continuous raster surface:
 - ❖ from cont. data sampled/measured at control pts.
 - ❖ or areally discrete data represented at point locations
- ❖ Each point consists of x, y and z-value
- ❖ Cell values interpolated based on control points
 - ❖ Based on first law of geography
- ❖ Variety of interpolation algorithms

Interpolation Algorithms

- ❖ User is required to:
 - ❖ choose interpolation algorithm
 - ❖ identify z-value
 - ❖ determine size/shape of neighbourhood (if applicable)
 - ❖ don't confuse with focal/neighbourhood operations
 - ❖ specify weight/power value (if applicable)
 - ❖ set output grid cell size (hmmm?)

Spatial Interpolation



What would be a reasonable output grid cell size?

Global vs. Local Interpolators

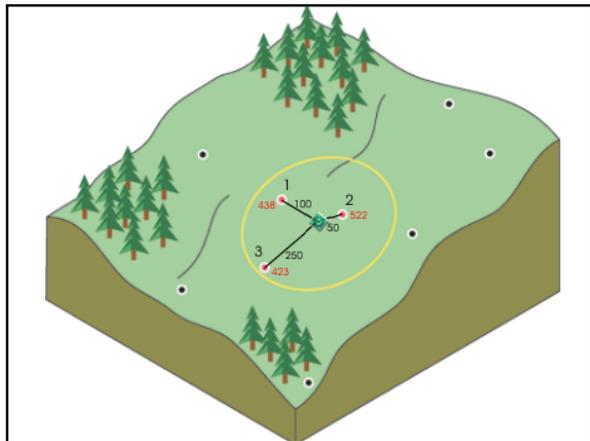
- ❖ Global interpolators consider value at all sampled locations when estimating each cell value
- ❖ Local interpolators consider sampled values within a defined neighbourhood
 - ❖ a specified number
 - ❖ a specified distance

Exact vs. Inexact Interpolators

- ❖ Exact interpolators result in surface that conforms exactly to the sampled locations
- ❖ Inexact interpolators result in surface that may not conform to sampled locations

Inverse Distance Weighting

- ❖ Interpolated value equal to mean of control points within defined neighbourhood
- ❖ Mean weighted inversely proportional to distance
- ❖ Sample points are identified:
 - ❖ By specifying an exact number of points
 - ❖ Defining a specific search radius



Inverse Distance Weighting

$$z_0 = \frac{[\sum z_i 1/d^k]}{[\sum 1/d^k]}$$

Where:
 z_i = value at known location
 d = distance
 k = power of exponent

Power=2		$z_i 1/d^k$	$1/d^k$
$z_1=438$	$d_1=100$	0.0438	0.0001
$z_2=522$	$d_2=50$	0.2088	0.0004
$z_3=423$	$d_3=250$	0.006768	0.000016
	$\Sigma =$	0.259368	0.000516

$z_0 = 502.65$

If Power = 6

$$z_0 = [\sum z_i 1/d^k] / [\sum 1/d^k]$$

Where:
 z_i = value at known location
 d = distance
 k = power of exponent

Power=6		$z_i 1/d^k$	$1/d^k$
$z_1=438$	$d_1=100$	4.4×10^{-10}	1.0×10^{-12}
$z_2=522$	$d_2=50$	3.3×10^{-8}	6.4×10^{-11}
$z_3=423$	$d_3=250$	1.7×10^{-12}	4.1×10^{-15}
	$\Sigma =$	3.3×10^{-8}	6.5×10^{-11}



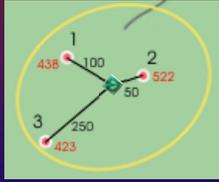
$z_0 = 520.73$

If Power = 1

$$z_0 = [\sum z_i 1/d^k] / [\sum 1/d^k]$$

Where:
 z_i = value at known location
 d = distance
 k = power of exponent

Power=1		$z_i 1/d^k$	$1/d^k$
$z_1=438$	$d_1=100$	4.38	0.01
$z_2=522$	$d_2=50$	10.44	0.02
$z_3=423$	$d_3=250$	1.692	0.004
	$\Sigma =$	16.512	0.034



$z_0 = 485.65$

If Power = 0

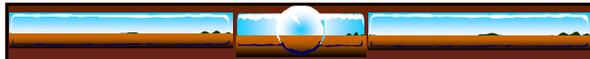
$$z_0 = [\sum z_i 1/d^k] / [\sum 1/d^k]$$

Where:
 z_i = value at known location
 d = distance
 k = power of exponent

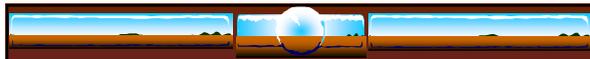
Power=0		$z_i 1/d^k$	$1/d^k$
$z_1=438$	$d_1=100$	438	1
$z_2=522$	$d_2=50$	522	1
$z_3=423$	$d_3=250$	423	1
	$\Sigma =$	1383	3



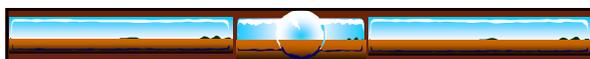
$z_0 = 461$

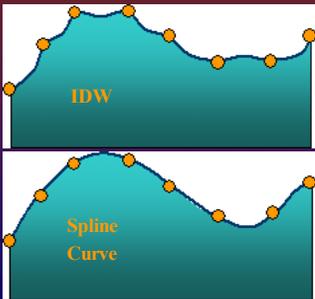

Inverse Distance Weighting

- ❖ How is an appropriate k value determined?
- ❖ As $k \uparrow$, influence of more distant points \downarrow
 - ❖ good if rate of change in z value is exponential
- ❖ When $k = 1$, linear relationship exists
 - ❖ good if rate of change is linear


Inverse Distance Weighting

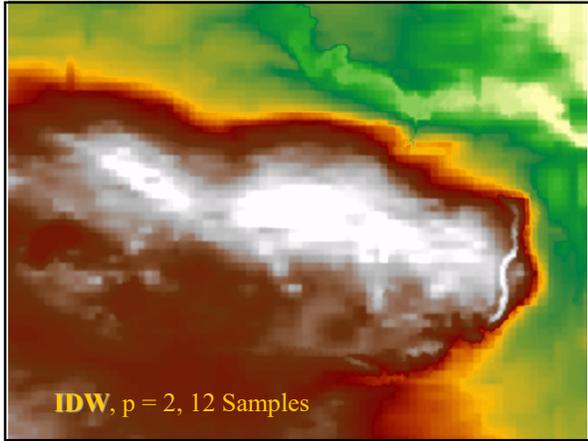
- ❖ IDW is an exact interpolator
 - ❖ when $d = 0$ division error; defaults to sample value
- ❖ IDW is a local interpolator
 - ❖ neighbourhood is defined
- ❖ z_0 is limited to range of control points
 - ❖ results in “bulls-eye” effect at sample points


Inverse Distance Weighting



IDW

Spline Curve

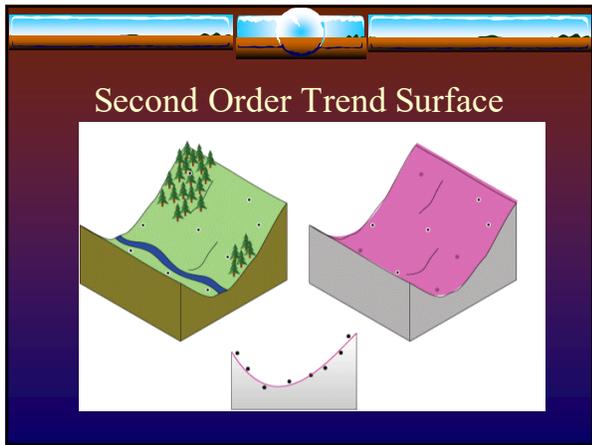


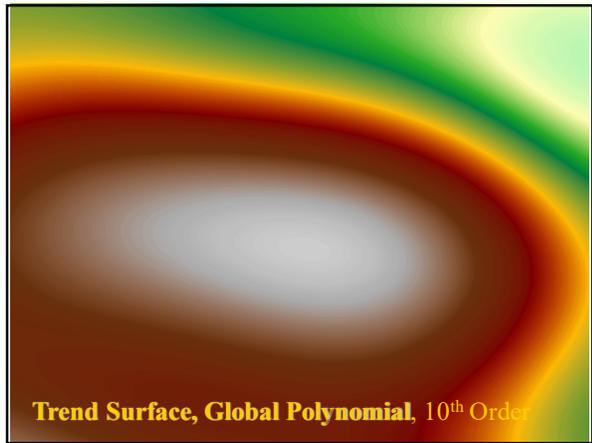
Trend Surface

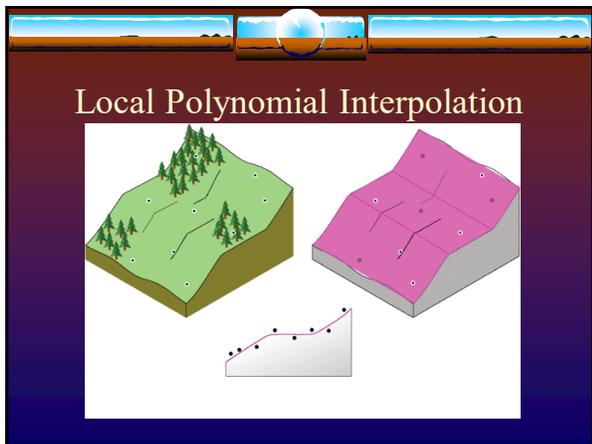
- ❖ Control points used to derive least-squares polynomial equation to represent entire surface
- ❖ x, y are independent variables, z dependent variable

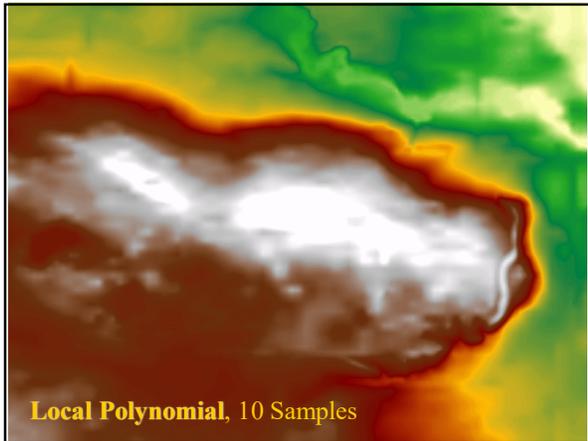
- ❖ Order of equation adjusted to “fit” sampled points

First Order Trend Surface





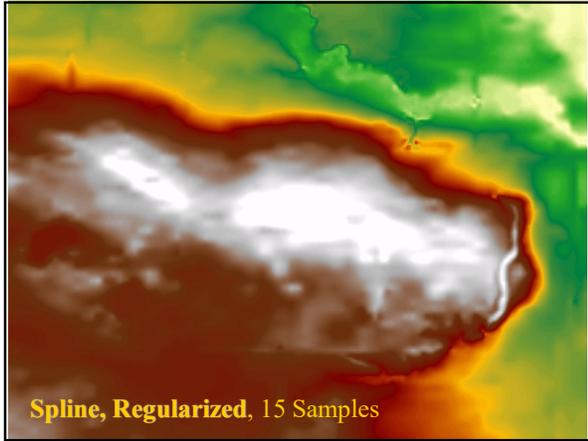


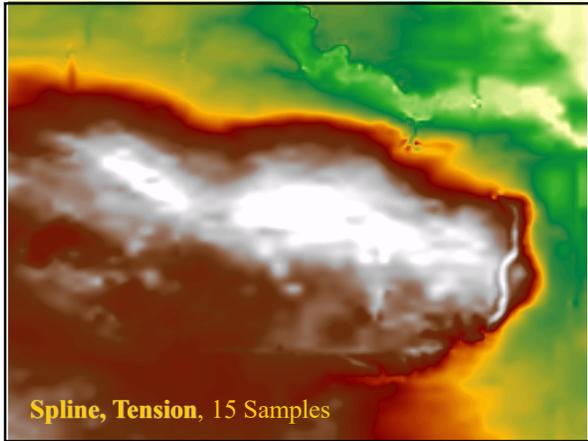


Spline Curves

- ❖ Creates a minimum curvature surface between control points
- ❖ Surface passes through control points
- ❖ Uses a specified number of neighbouring sample points
- ❖ Predicted values are not limited to range of selected sample values

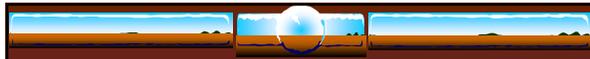
Spline Curves





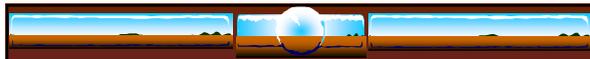

Kriging

- ❖ Limitations of deterministic methods:
 - ❖ Selection of sample points
 - ❖ Orientation/shape of neighbourhood
 - ❖ Best weight/power fcn to use
 - ❖ Identifying, measuring, or estimating errors



Kriging

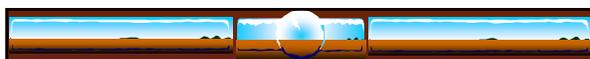
- ❖ Kriging is a geostatistical method
- ❖ Recognizes naturally occurring surfaces cannot be modeled by a smooth mathematical function
- ❖ Stochastic method in that it recognizes random but spatially autocorrelated variability



Kriging

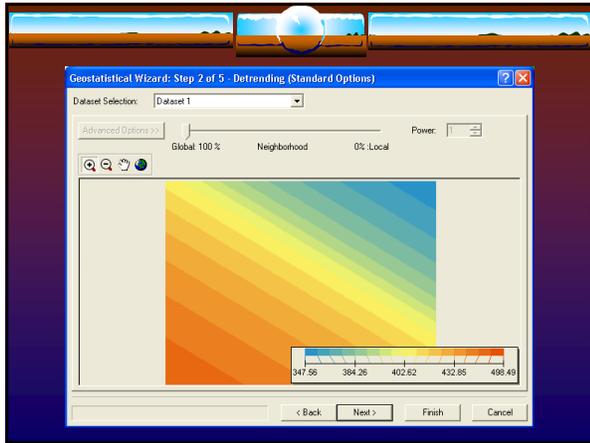
- ❖ Regionalized variable theory states that spatial variation of any phenomena can be predicted by considering three components:
 1. Overall trend/drift modeled by a deterministic function
 2. Random but spatially autocorrelated component; regionalized variable
 3. Spatially uncorrelated, random, unpredictable noise

$$Z(x) = m(x) + e'(x) + e''(x)$$



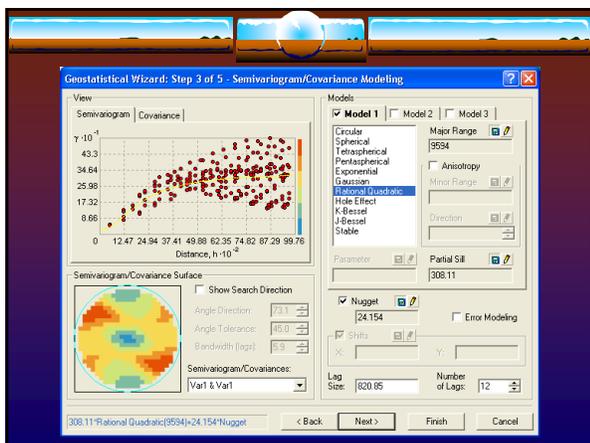
Kriging

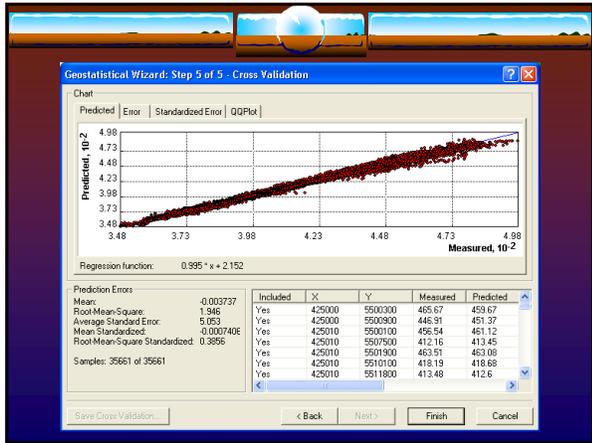
- ❖ Theoretically, once the overall trend is accounted for, the remaining deviations (minus random error) can be accounted for by spatially autocorrelated variations that are a function of distance

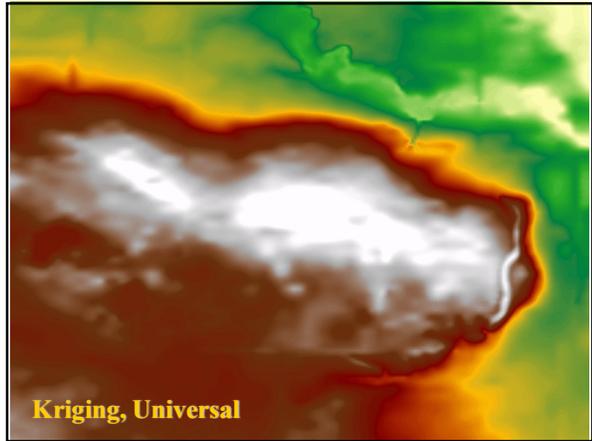


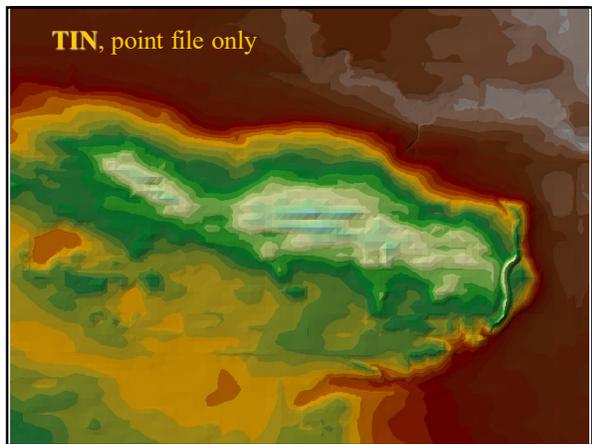
Kriging

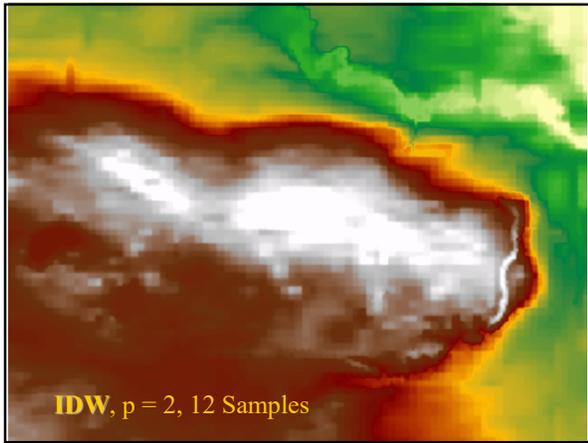
- ❖ Regional variable can be estimated from sample data by creating a plot of:
 - ❖ $\gamma(h)$ = variance
 - ❖ against h = lag distance
- ❖ This is known as a semivariogram
 - ❖ Provides optimal information for interpolation:
 - ❖ the lag distance (i.e. size/shape of neighbourhood)
 - ❖ and an estimate of the unpredictable random component of the equation

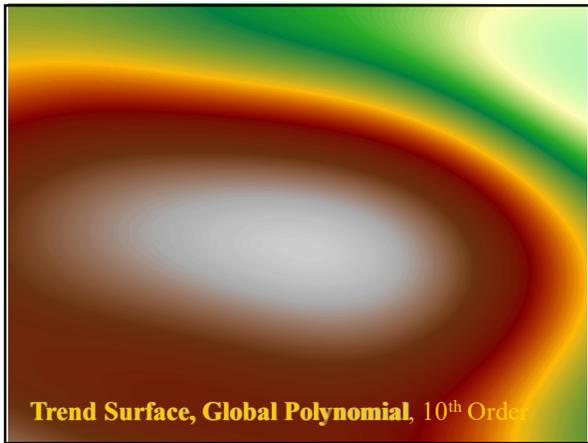


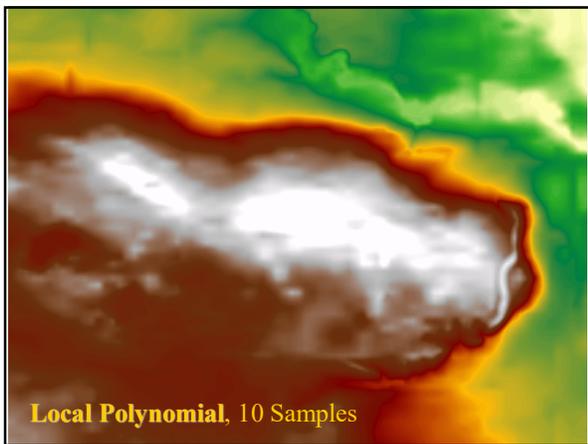


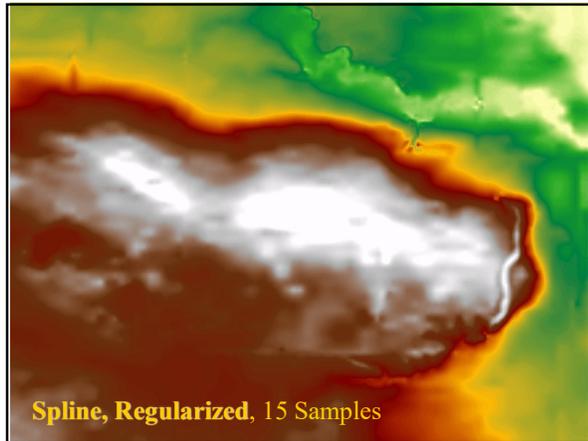


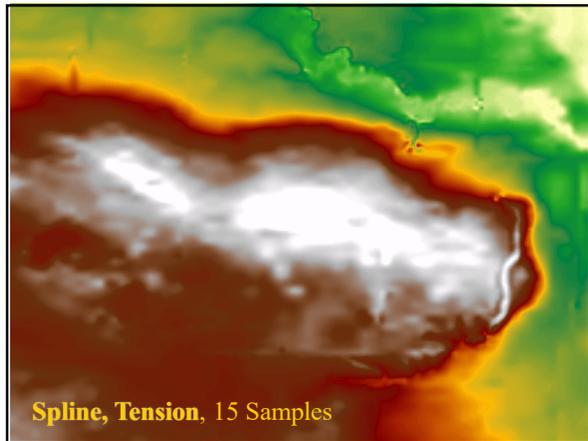


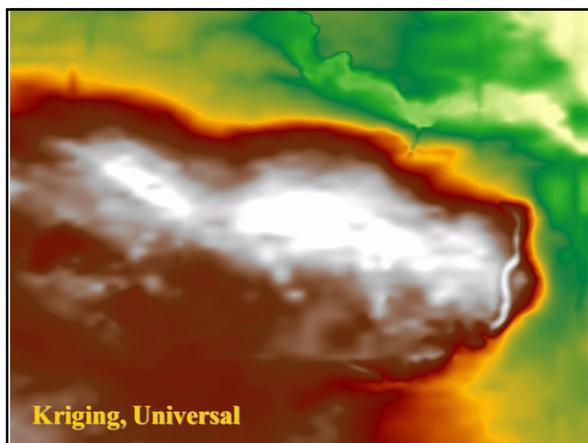


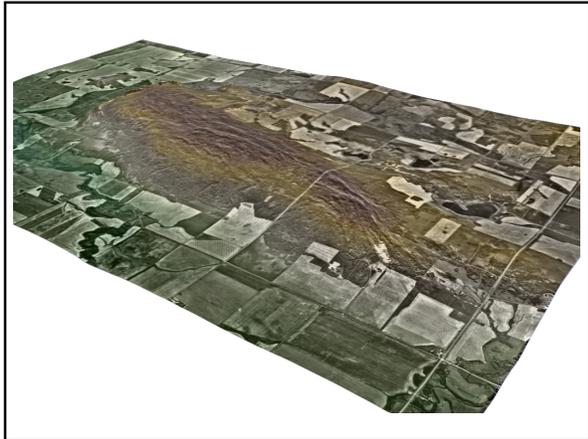












Other “Surfaces”: Thiessen Polygons

- ❖ Network of triangles constructed around points
- ❖ Also derived from Delaunay triangles
 - ❖ Thiessen polys created by drawing lines perpendicular to midpoint
- ❖ A built surface not interpolated
- ❖ Used to assign catchment or service areas

Other Surfaces: Density Surface

- ❖ Created from input point or line data
- ❖ Numeric field can be specified or count of features
- ❖ Results in raster output
 - ❖ Cell value is calculated density per unit area
