

# Model-based adaptive spatial sampling for occurrence map construction

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# Mapping spatial processes in environmental management

## Different problems depending on observations nature

- Data visualization
  - Complete observations (everywhere)
  - Perfect observations (No errors/missing data)

⇒ How to visualize data?
- Map reconstruction
  - Complete observations
  - Noisy observations

⇒ How to reconstruct the “true” map?
- Sampling and map construction
  - Incomplete observations (not everywhere)
  - Noisy observations

⇒ Where to observe? / How to reconstruct?

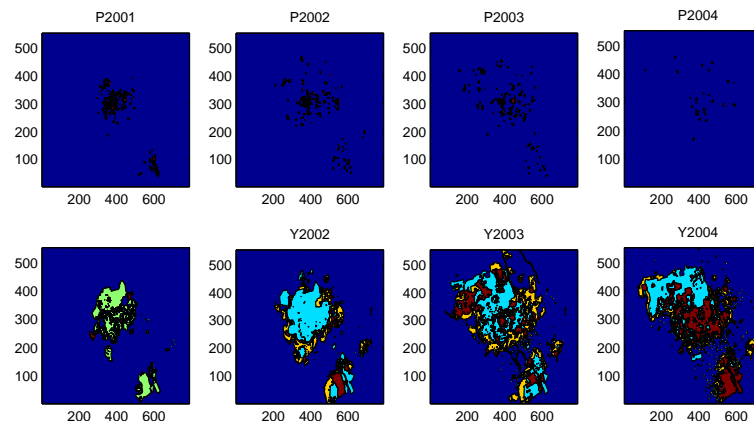


# Mapping spatial processes in environmental management



## Mapping pest occurrence

- Building pest occurrence map in order to eradicate
- Observations costly
- Errors in mapping also costly

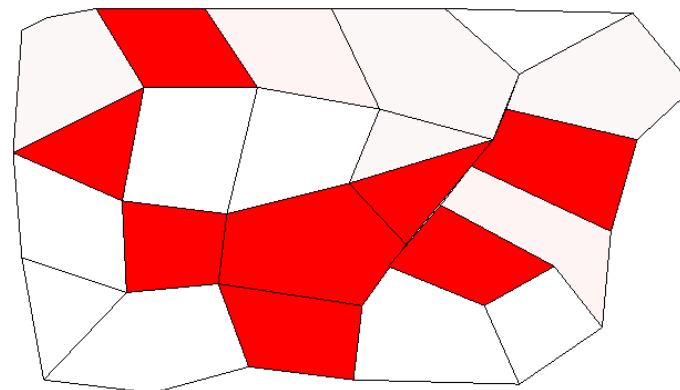




# Mapping spatial processes in environmental management

How to design an efficient spatial sampling method to estimate an occurrence (0/1) map when

- ✓ process to map has spatial structure
- ✓ observations are imperfect/incomplete
- ✓ sampling is costly
- ✓ process does not evolve during the sampling period





# Overview of the proposed approach

## Optimization approach for designing spatial sampling policies

The **Hidden Markov Random Field** model is used for:

- Representing current uncertain knowledge about map to reconstruct
- Updating knowledge after observations
- Defining a unique criterion for
  - map reconstruction from observed data
  - spatial sampling actions selection
- Tradeoff between **sampling actions cost** and **expected quality of the reconstructed map**

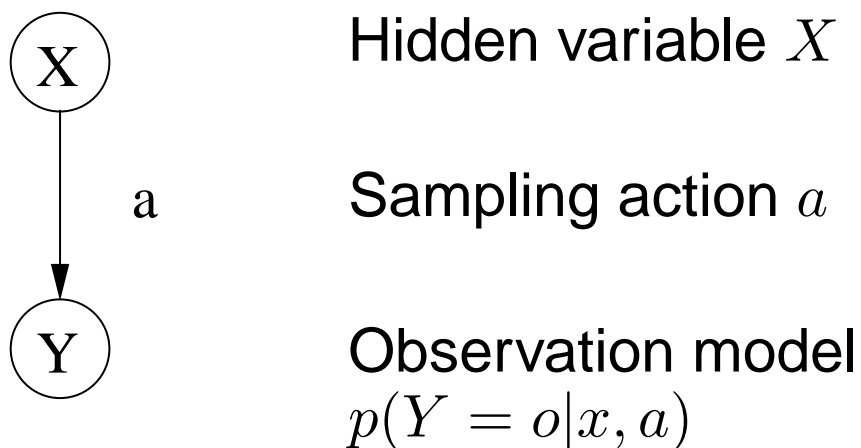


# Contents

- 1- Optimal sampling of a hidden random variable
- 2- Defining optimal spatial sampling problems
- 3- Approximate computation of an optimal strategy
- 4- Evaluation of proposed method on simulated data



# Optimal sampling problem



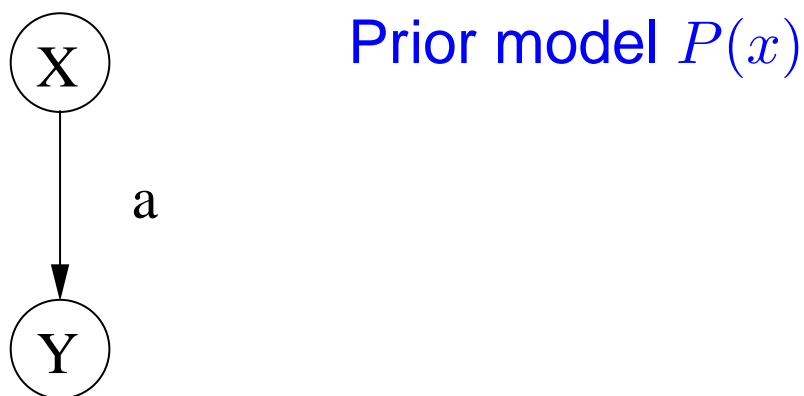
**Question:** How to reconstruct hidden variable  $X$  using sampling actions?

1. Hidden variable model
2. Updated model after sampling result
3. Hidden variable reconstruction
4. Sampling action optimization



# Optimal sampling problem

## Hidden variable model



**Question:** How to reconstruct hidden variable  $X$  using sampling actions?

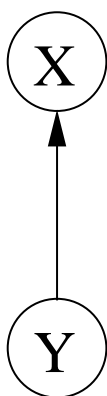
1. Hidden variable model
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# Optimal sampling problem

## Updated model



a

$$\text{Posterior: } P(x|o, a) = \frac{P(o|x, a)P(x)}{P(o|a)}$$

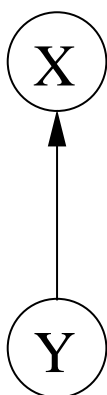
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# Optimal sampling problem

## Hidden variable reconstruction



$$x^*(o, a) = \arg \max_x P(x|o, a)$$

$$V(o, a) = f(P(x^*|o, a))$$

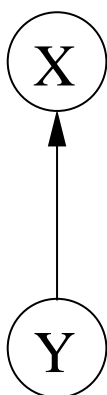
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# Optimal sampling problem

## Hidden variable reconstruction



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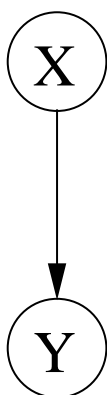
**Question:** How to reconstruct hidden variable  $X$  using sampling actions?

- $x^*(o, a)$  is the **best reconstruction** given sampling result  $(o, a)$
- $V(o, a)$  is the **value of reconstructed variable** after sampling result  $(o, a)$



# Optimal sampling problem

## Sampling action optimization



$$U(a) = -c(a) + \sum_o P(o|a)V(o, a)$$

$$a^* = \arg \max_a U(a)$$

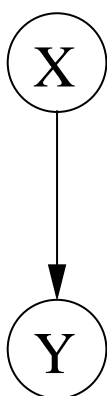
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# Optimal sampling problem

## Sampling action optimization



$$U(a) = -c(a) + \sum_o P(o|a)V(o, a)$$

$$a^* = \arg \max_a U(a)$$

**Question:** How to reconstruct hidden variable  $X$  using sampling actions?

The **value of an action** is a tradeoff between

- The **cost**  $c(a)$  of the action and
- The **expected quality of the reconstructed variable** (over all possible sample results)

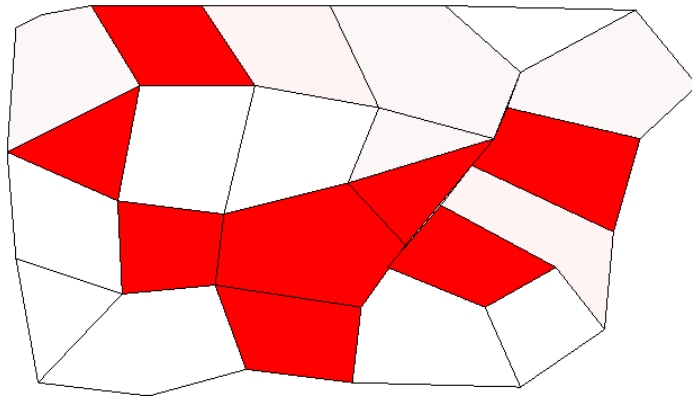


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# Spatial sampling optimization



The hidden variable  $x$  is a map

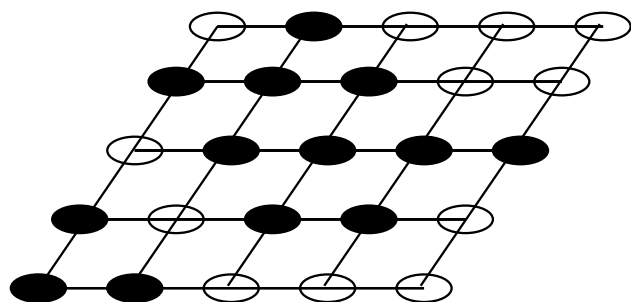
⇒ The sampling optimization problem has to be revisited

**Question:** How to reconstruct hidden map  $x$  using sampling actions?

1. Hidden map model
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# Pairwise Markov random field (1)



- Multiple interacting variables
  - Independence given neighborhood
- ⇒ Pairwise Markov random field

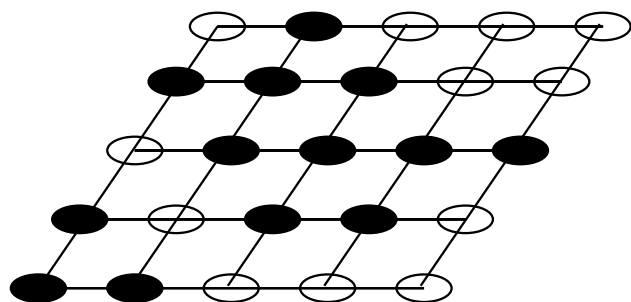
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## Pairwise Markov random field (2)



- Multiple interacting variables
- Independence given neighborhood

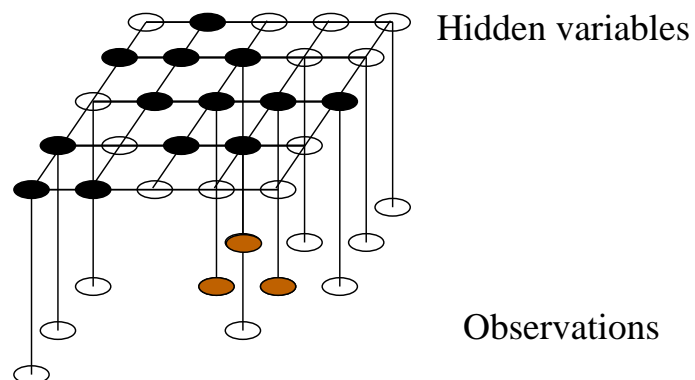
⇒ Pairwise Markov random field

- Interaction graph  $G = (V, E)$
- $\psi_i$ : “weights” on states of vertex  $i$
- $\psi_{ij}$ : correlations “strength” between neighbor vertices
- $Z$ : normalizing constant / partition function

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \left( \prod_{i \in V} \psi_i(x_i) \right) \left( \prod_{(i,j) \in E} \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \right)$$



# Hidden Markov random field (1)



- $a \in \{0, 1\}^{|V|}$ : subset of  $V$  selected for sampling
- Independent observations:

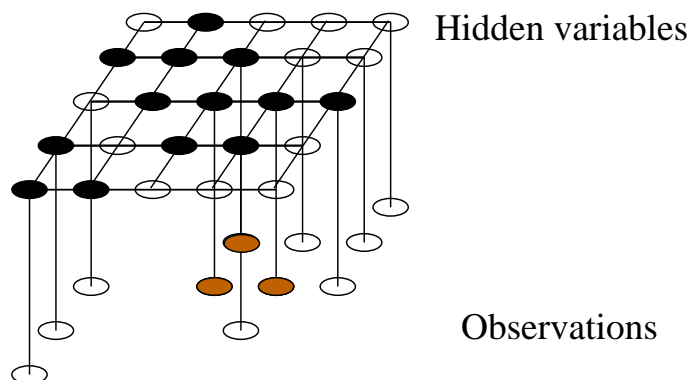
$$P(o|x, a) = \prod_{i \in V} P_i(o_i|x_i, a_i)$$

**Question:** How to reconstruct hidden map  $x$  using sampling actions?

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# Hidden Markov random field (2)



- $a \in \{0, 1\}^{|V|}$ : subset of  $V$  selected for sampling
- Independent observations:

$$P(o|x, a) = \prod_{i \in V} P_i(o_i|x_i, a_i)$$

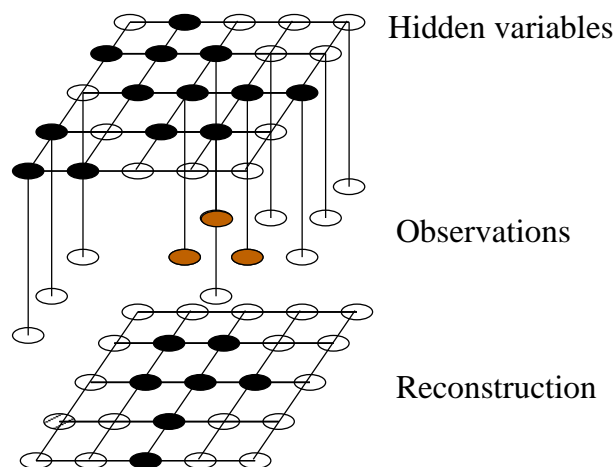
## Updated Markov random field

$$P(x|o, a) = \frac{1}{Z} \left( \prod_{i \in V} \psi'_i(x_i, o_i, a_i) \right) \left( \prod_{(i,j) \in E} \psi_{ij}(x_i, x_j) \right) \text{ where}$$

$$\psi'_i(x_i, o_i, a_i) = \psi_i(x_i) P_i(o_i|x_i, a_i)$$



# Hidden map reconstruction (1)



Global (MAP):

$$x^* = \arg \max_x P(x|o, a)$$

Local (MPM):

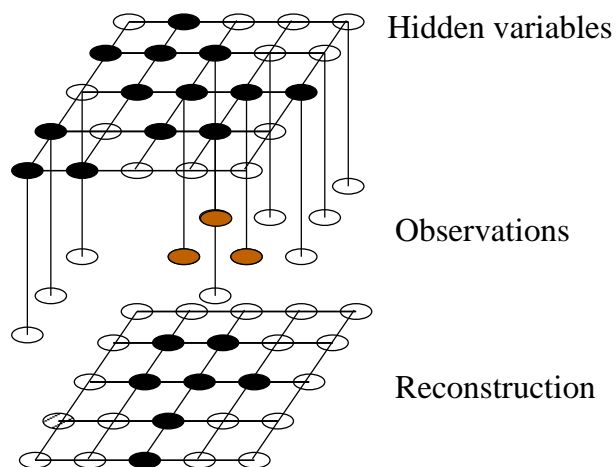
$$x_i^* = \arg \max_{x_i} P_i(x_i|o, a), \forall i \in V$$

**Question:** How to reconstruct hidden map  $x$  using sampling actions?

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# Hidden map reconstruction (2)



Global (MAP):

$$x^* = \arg \max_x P(x|o, a)$$

Local (MPM):

$$x_i^* = \arg \max_{x_i} P_i(x_i|o, a)$$

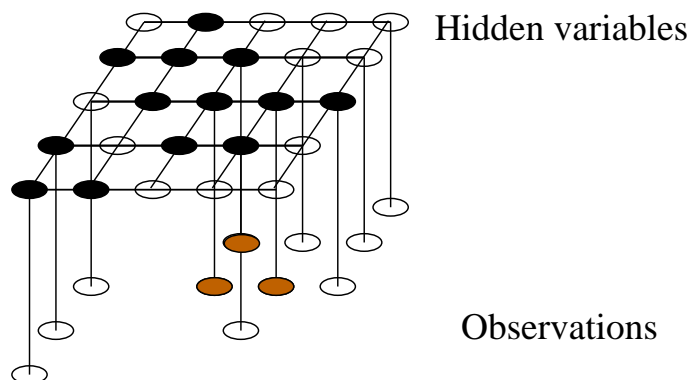
## Value of reconstructed map

$$V^{MAP}(o, a) = f\left(\max_x P(x|o, a)\right)$$

$$V^{MPM}(o, a) = f\left(\sum_{i \in V} \max_{x_i} P_i(x_i|o, a)\right)$$



# Sampling action optimization (1)



- $a \in \{0, 1\}^{|V|}$  selected for sampling
- Independent observations  $o \in \{0, 1\}^{|V|}$

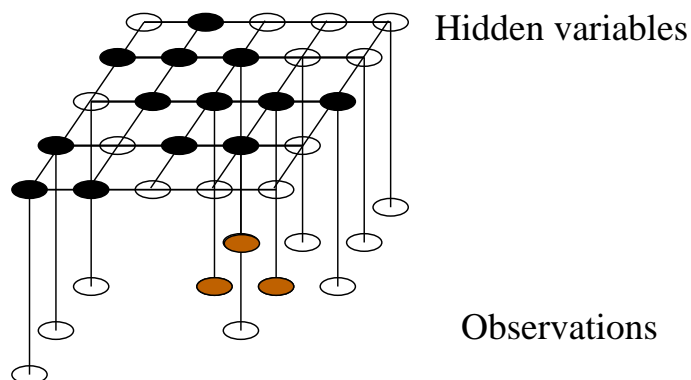
⇒ How to optimize the choice of  $a$ ?

**Question:** How to reconstruct hidden map  $x$  using sampling actions?

1. Hidden map model
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4. **Sampling action optimization**



# Sampling action optimization (2)



- $a \subseteq V$  selected for sampling
- Independent observations  $o$  result

⇒ How to optimize the choice of  $a$ ?

$$U(a) = -c(a) + \sum_y P(y|a)V(y, a)$$

$$a^* = \arg \max_a U(a)$$

- The computation of  $a^*$  is hard! (NP-hard)
- Only feasible for small problems or needs approximation!



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# Approximate spatial sampling (1)

Approximate the computation of

$$a^* = \arg \max_a -c(a) + \sum_o P(o|a) V^{MPM}(o, a)$$

- Explore cells where initial knowledge is the most uncertain: marginal  $P_i(x_i|o, a)$  closest to  $\frac{1}{2}$

$$\tilde{a} = \arg \max_a -c(a) + f \left( \sum_{i, a_i=1} \min \left\{ P_i(X_i = 1|o, a), P_i(X_i = 0|o, a) \right\} \right)$$

- Marginals computation is itself *NP-hard*  
 $\Rightarrow$  approximation using belief propagation (sum prod) algorithm



## Approximate spatial sampling (2)

The approximation corresponds to two simplifying assumptions

- Additional observations are reliable and there are no passive observations:  $\theta_1 = 1$  and  $\theta_0 = 0$
- Joint probability approximated as a product of “approximate conditional marginals”:  $P(x|o, a) \sim \prod_{i \in V} \tilde{P}_i(x_i|o, a)$



# Adaptive spatial sampling (1)

- Idea:
  - Sampling locations not settled once for all before the sampling campaign
  - Intermediate observations are taken into account to design next sampling step
  - Possibility to visit a cell more than once

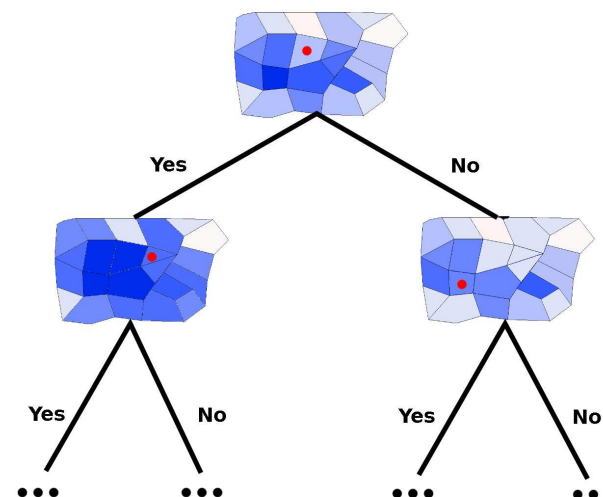


## Adaptive spatial sampling (2)

- a sampling strategy  $\delta$  is a tree
- a trajectory in  $\delta$ :  
 $\tau = (a^1, o^1, \dots, a^K, o^K)$

### Value of a leaf

$$U(\tau) = - \sum_{k=1}^K c(a^k) + V^{MPM}(o^0, o^1, \dots, o^K, a^0, a^1, \dots, a^K)$$



**Value of a strategy**  $V(\delta) = \sum_{\tau} U(\tau)P(\tau | \delta)$



# Heuristic adaptive spatial sampling

- Exact computation is *PSPACE-hard* !
  - ⇒ Heuristic algorithm
    - on line computation
    - approximate method for static sampling at each step

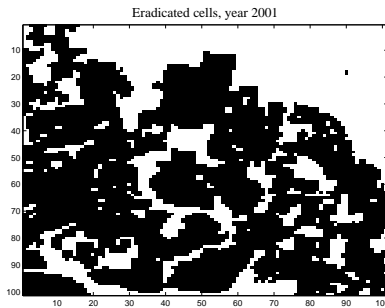


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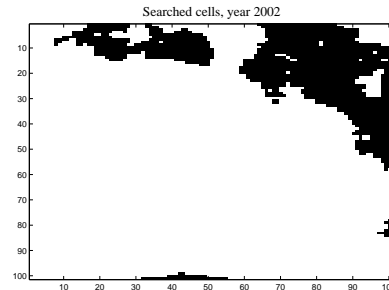


# HMRF model for fire ants problem (1)



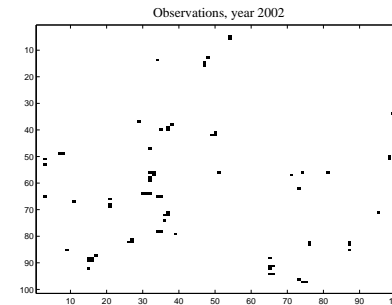
Eradication

(*e*)



Search actions

(*a*)



Observations

(*o*)

- eradication (at previous year):  $e_i \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$
- search actions: passive search or active search,  $a_i \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$
- observations: no nest detected / at least one nest detected,  $o_i \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$



# HMRF model for fire ants problem (2)

- Distribution on maps = Potts model

$$P_e(x \mid \alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left( \sum_{i \in V} \alpha_{e_i} \text{eq}(x_i, 1) + \beta \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \text{eq}(x_i, x_j) \right)$$

- Distribution of observation given map,  $P_{a_i}(o_i \mid x_i, \theta)$

$o_i \setminus x_i$	0	1
0	1	$1 - \theta_{a_i}$
1	0	$\theta_{a_i}$

with  $\theta_0 < \theta_1$



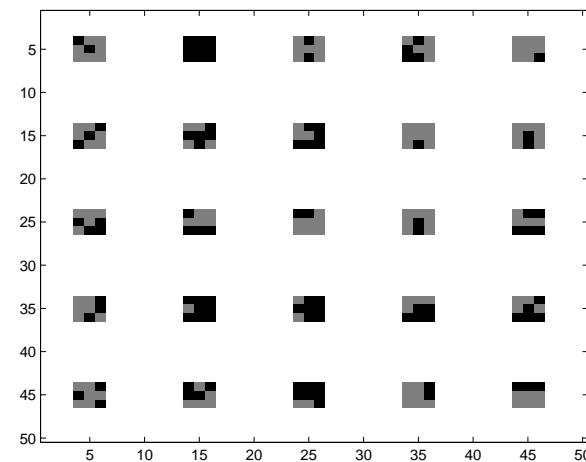




# HMRF model for fire ants problem (3)

An initial arbitrary sampling  $(a^0, o^0)$  is used for:

- Parameters estimation:  $\lambda = (\alpha, \beta, \theta)$   
 approximate version of EM for HMRF (Simul field EM)
  - identification problem between  $\alpha$  and  $\theta$
  - OK if  $\theta$  known: use of expert values
- Marginals computation:  $P_i(x_i | o_i^0, a_i^0)$





# Heuristic sampling methods evaluation (1)

- Evaluation on simulated data
- Comparison of behavior of
  - random sampling (RS)
  - adaptive cluster sampling (ACS)
  - static heuristic sampling (SHS)
  - **adaptive heuristic sampling (AHS)**

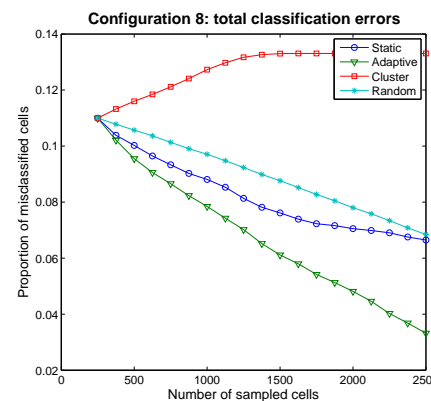
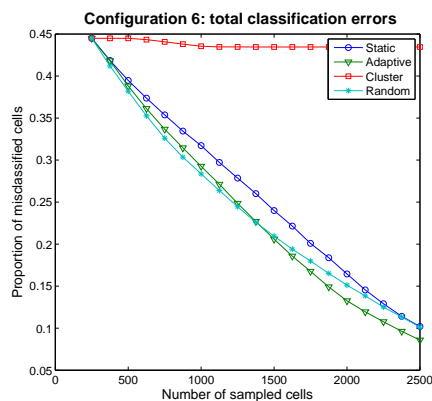
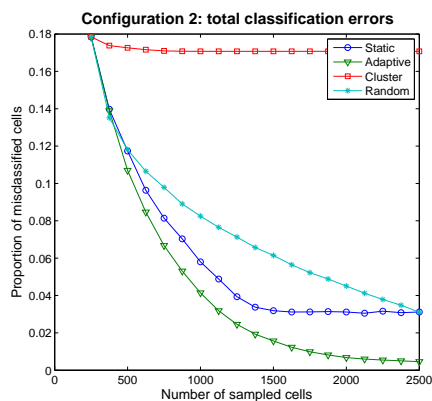


# Heuristic sampling methods evaluation (2)

- Procedure: repeat 10 times
  - simulate hidden map  $x$  from  $P(x | \alpha, \beta)$  ( $50 \times 50$  cells)
  - apply regular sampling (about 10% of area):  $a^0$
  - simulate  $o^0$  from  $P_{a_i}(o_i | x_i, \theta)$  (regular sampling plus passive search)
  - estimate initial knowledge
  - apply RS, ACS, SHS, AHS, 10 times



# Rate of misclassified cells



$$\alpha = (0, -2), \beta = 0.8$$

$$\alpha = (0, 0), \beta = 0.5$$

$$\alpha = (1 - 1), \beta = 0.4$$

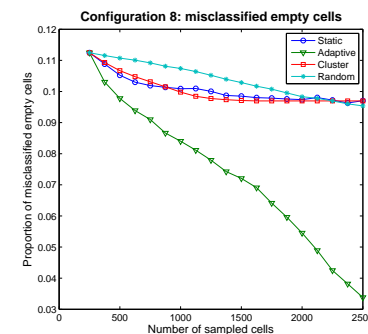
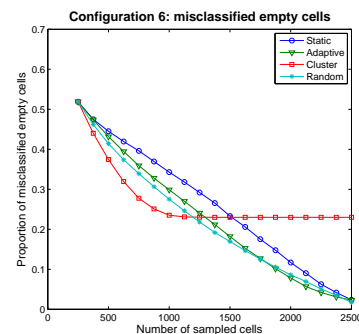
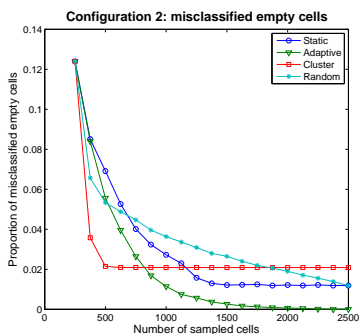
$$\theta = (0, 0.8)$$

legend: SHS AHA ACS RS

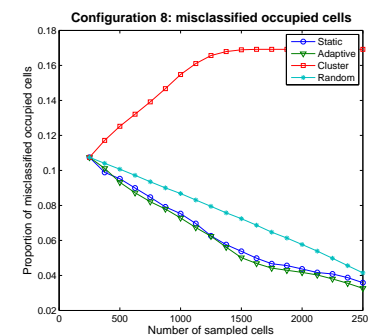
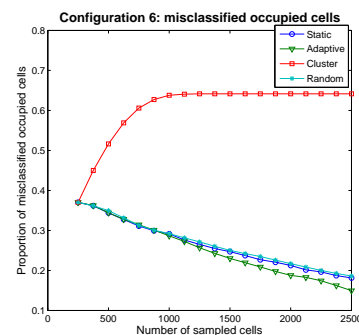
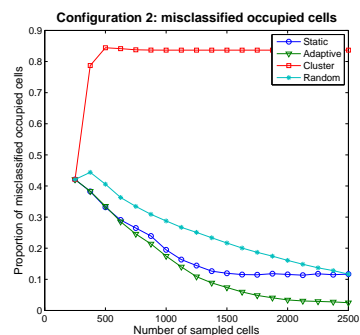


# Per color error rate

misclassified  
empty cells



misclassified  
occupied  
cells



Legend:

SHS (blue) AHA (green) ACS (red)  
 RS (cyan)

$$\alpha = (0, -2)$$

$$\beta = 0.8$$

$$\alpha = (0, 0)$$

$$\beta = 0.5$$

$$\alpha = (1 - 1)$$

$$\beta = 0.4$$



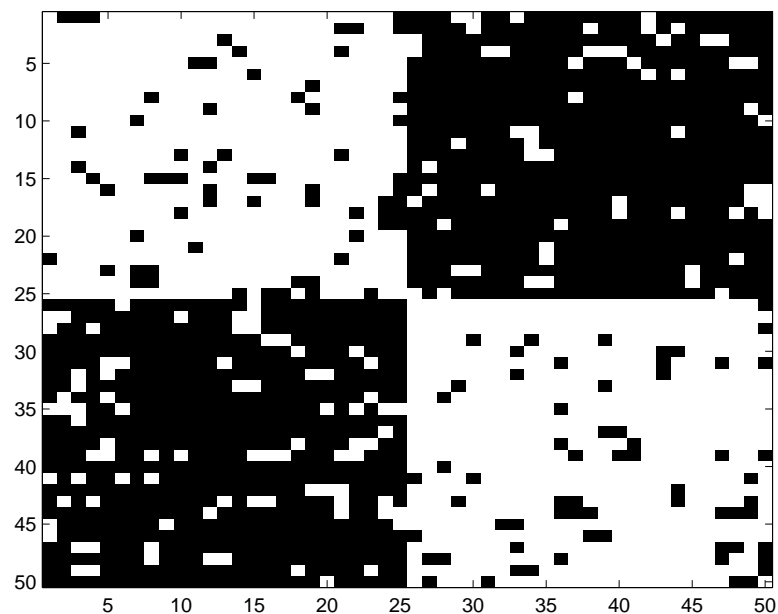
## General behavior

- ACS is not adapted (as expected): poor results
- Adaptive HS  $\geq$  Static HS  $\geq$  Random S
- Discrepancy between Adaptive HS and Static HS increases with
  - sampling resources
  - hidden map structure



# Where do we sample?

Hidden map

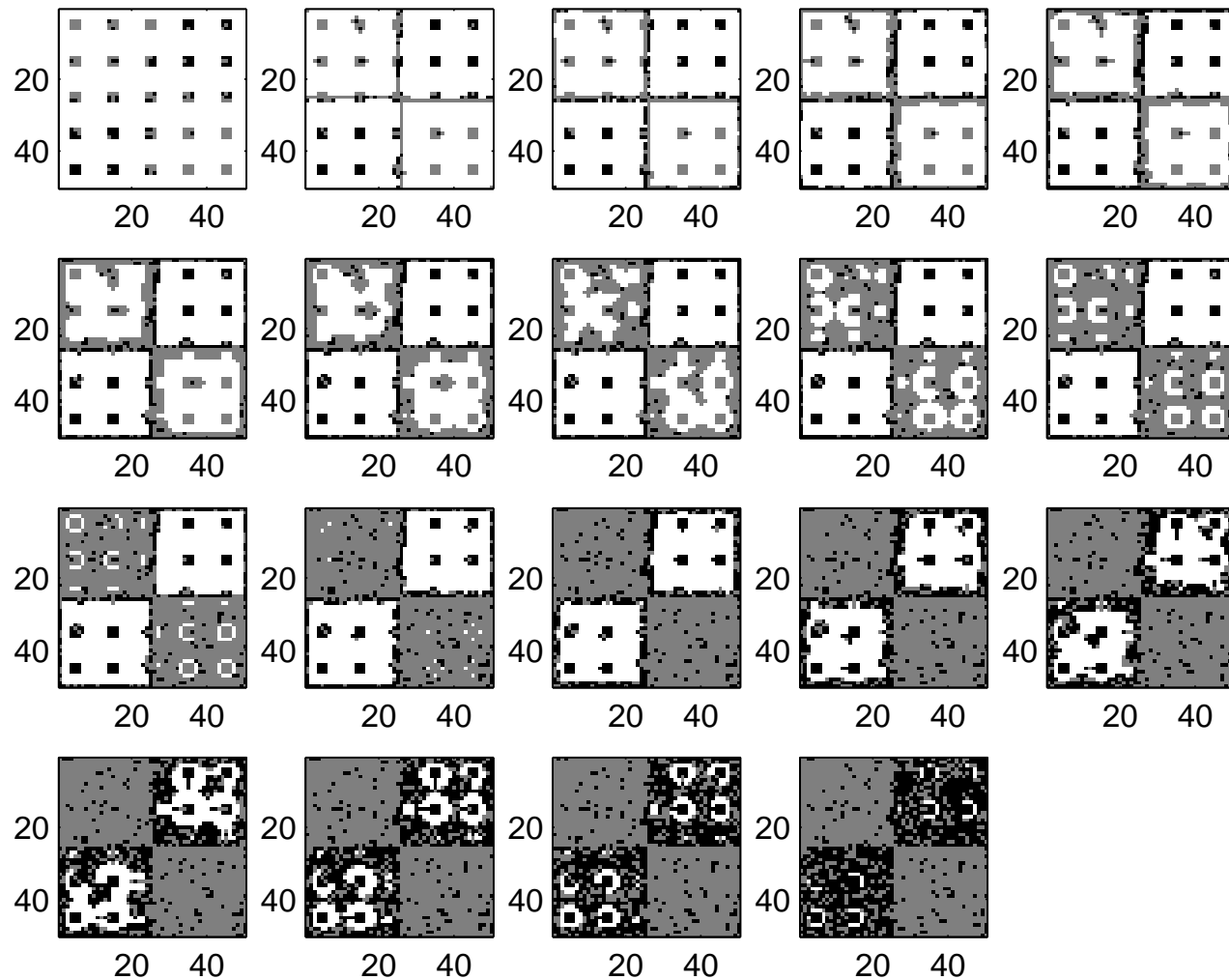


$$\alpha = (1, -1), \beta = 0.4, \theta = (0, 0.8)$$



# Where do we sample?

Static sampling: A and O

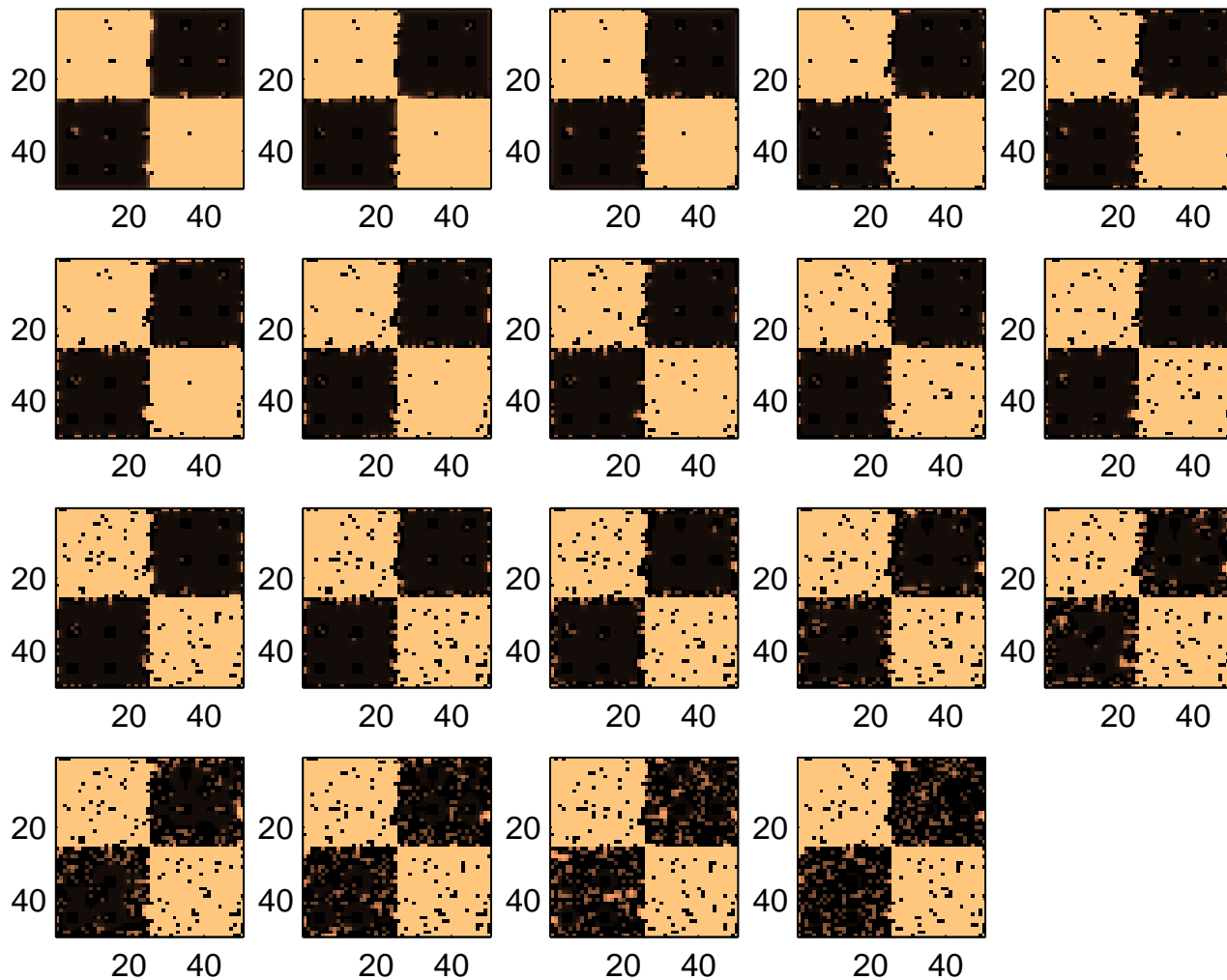






# Where do we sample?

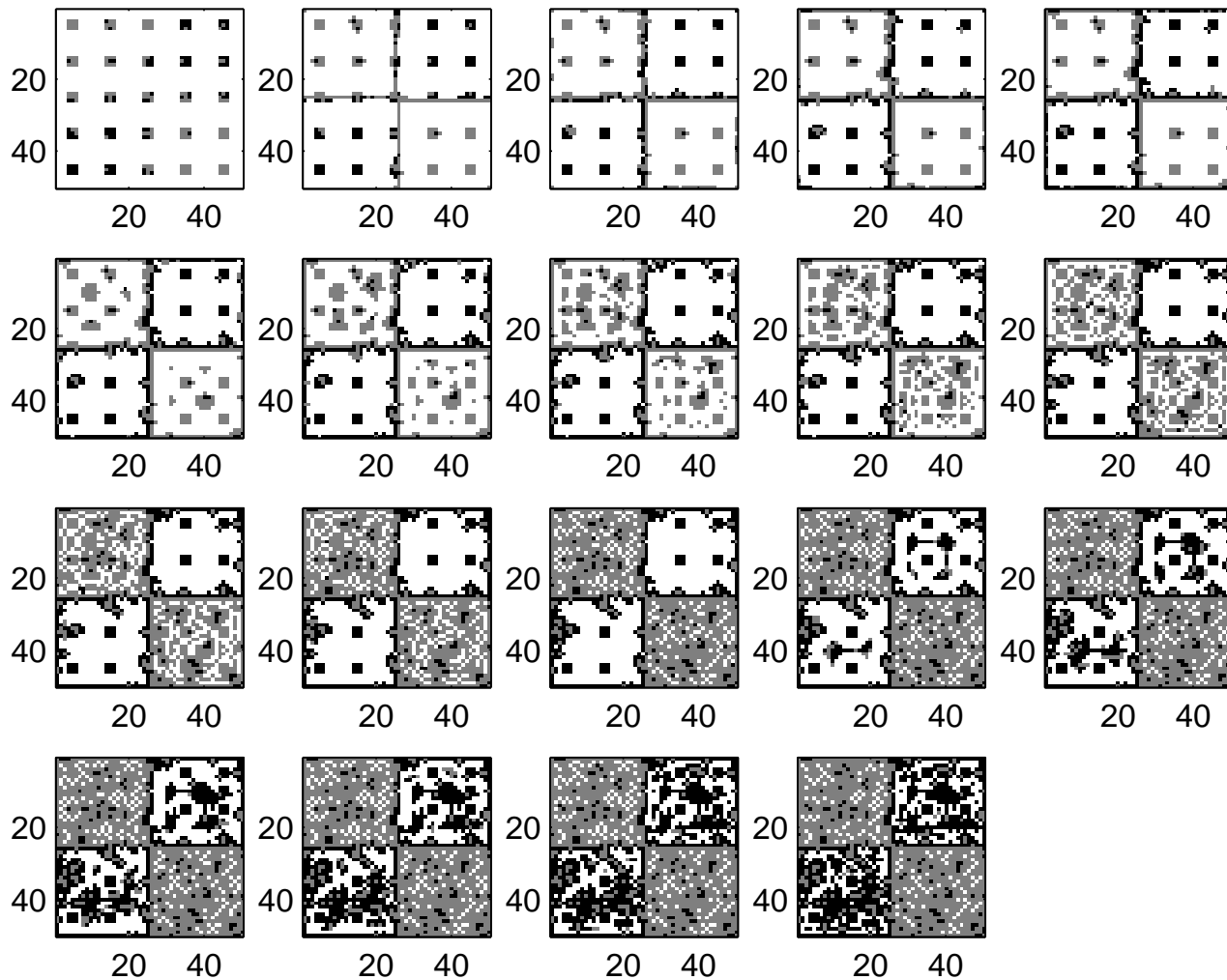
Static sampling:marginals





# Where do we sample?

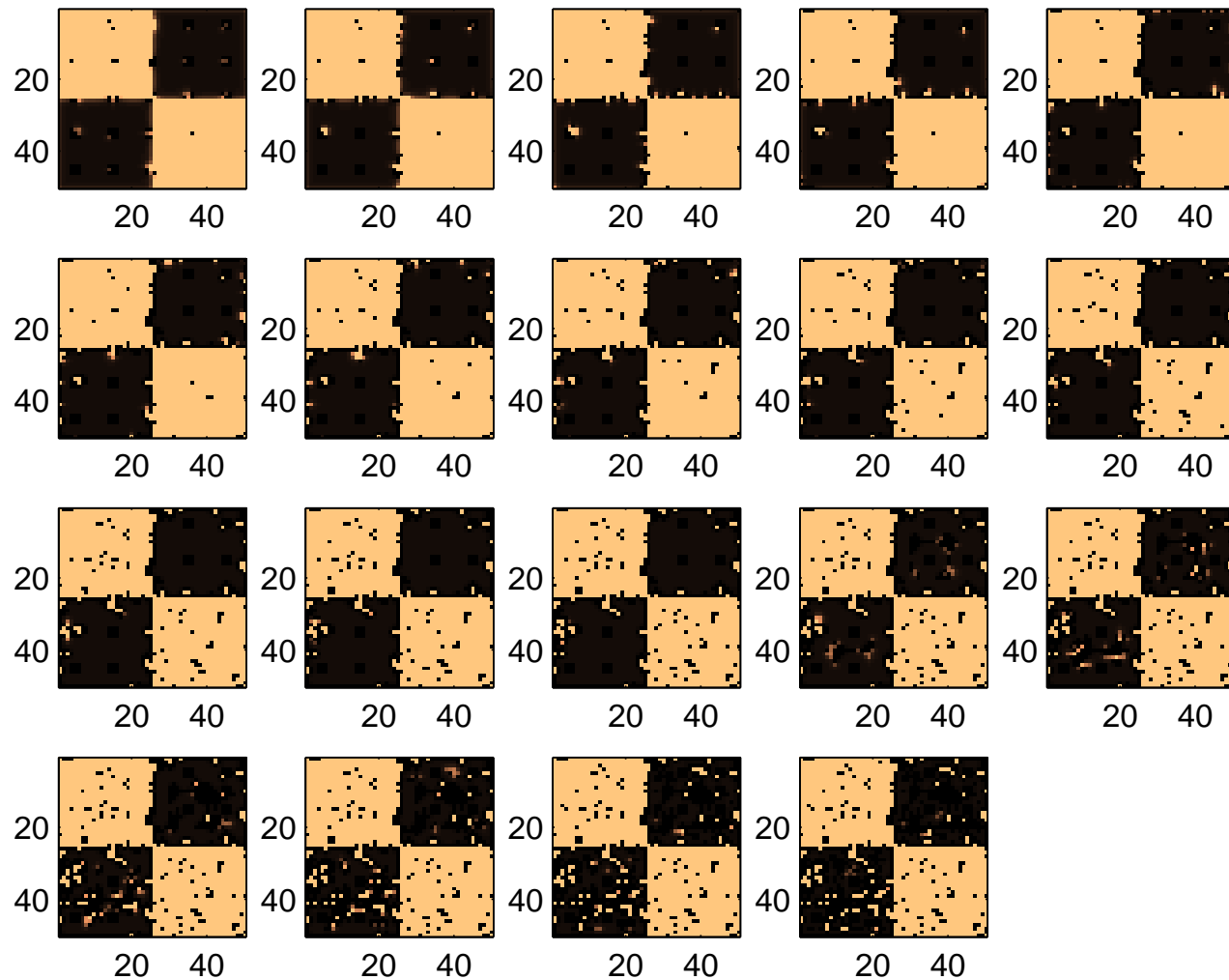
Adaptive sampling: A and O (cumul)





# Where do we sample?

Adaptive sampling: marginals





# Where do we sample?

- No sampling in large empty areas
- Sampling preferably near detected occupied sites within low density areas
- If sampling resources increase
  - SHS complete exploration until the whole area is covered
  - AHA can visit several times a site before extending exploration to another area



## Concluding remarks

- A framework for spatial sampling optimization:
  - based on Hidden Markov random fields
  - different map quality criteria
  - extended to “adaptive” sampling
- Problems too complex for exact resolution  
⇒ Heuristic solution based on approximate marginals computation



## Ongoing work

- Exact algorithms for small problems (Usman Farrokh): combining variable elimination and tree search
- “Random sets + kriging” approach (Mathieu Bonneau): development of a dedicated approximate method and comparison to the HMRF approach
- PhD thesis on *adaptive spatial sampling for weeds mapping at the scale of the agricultural area* (Sabrina Gaba, INRA-Dijon).



# Future work

- Smarter/finer approximation methods:
  - relaxing the assumptions of independence and reliable observation
  - simulation-based optimization (reinforcement learning)
- Using space-time data for estimating current prior
- Interleaving estimation and optimization (adaptive case)
- Considering controlled “dynamic” spatial processes (invasion/eradication):
  - ⇒ **Spatial partially observed Markov decision processes**



# Questions?

# Thanks for listening