

# Multivariate smoothing, model selection

# Recap

- How GAMs work
- How to include detection info
- Simple spatial-only models
- How to check those models

Univariate models are fun,  
but...

# Ecology is not univariate

- Many variables affect distribution
- Want to model the **right** ones
- Select between possible models
  - Smooth term selection
  - Response distribution
- Large literature on model selection

# Models with multiple smooths

# Adding smooths

- Already know that + is our friend
- Add everything then remove smooth terms?

```
dsm_all <- dsm(count~s(x, y) +  
              s(Depth) +  
              s(DistToCAS) +  
              s(SST) +  
              s(EKE) +  
              s(NPP),  
              ddf.obj=df_hr,  
              segment.data=segs, observation.data=obs,  
              family=tw())
```

Now we have a huge model,  
what do we do?

# Smooth term selection

- Classically, two main approaches
- Both have problems
- Usually use  $p$ -values

**Stepwise selection** - path dependence

**All possible subsets** - computationally expensive (fishing?)



# p-values

- $p$ -values can calculate
- Test for zero effect of a smooth
- They are **approximate** for GAMs (but useful)
- Reported in summary

# p-values example

```
summary(dsm_all)
```

Family: Tweedie(p=1.25)

Link function: log

Formula:

```
count ~ s(x, y) + s(Depth) + s(DistToCAS) + s(SST) + s(EKE) +  
s(NPP) + offset(off.set)
```

Parametric coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	-20.6369	0.2752	-75	<2e-16 ***

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Approximate significance of smooth terms:

	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value
s(x,y)	5.236	7.169	1.233	0.2928
s(Depth)	3.568	4.439	6.640	1.6e-05 ***
s(DistToCAS)	1.000	1.000	1.503	0.2205
s(SST)	5.927	6.987	2.067	0.0407 *
s(EKE)	1.763	2.225	2.577	0.0696 .
s(NPP)	2.393	3.068	0.855	0.4680

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

# Shrinkage or extra penalties

- Use penalty to remove terms during fitting
- Two methods
- Basis `s(..., bs="ts")` - thin plate splines with shrinkage
  - nullspace should be shrunk less than the wiggly part
- `dsm(..., select=TRUE)` - extra penalty
  - no assumption of how much to shrink the nullspace

# Shrinkage example

```
dsm_ts_all <- dsm(count~s(x, y, bs="ts") +  
  s(Depth, bs="ts") +  
  s(DistToCAS, bs="ts") +  
  s(SST, bs="ts") +  
  s(EKE, bs="ts") +  
  s(NPP, bs="ts"),  
  ddf.obj=df_hr,  
  segment.data=segs, observation.data=obs,  
  family=tw())
```

# Shrinkage example

```
summary(dsm_ts_all)
```

Family: Tweedie(p=1.277)

Link function: log

Formula:

```
count ~ s(x, y, bs = "ts") + s(Depth, bs = "ts") + s(DistToCAS,
  bs = "ts") + s(SST, bs = "ts") + s(EKE, bs = "ts") + s(NPP,
  bs = "ts") + offset(off.set)
```

Parametric coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	-20.260	0.234	-86.59	<2e-16 ***

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Approximate significance of smooth terms:

	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value
s(x,y)	1.888e+00	29	0.705	3.56e-06 ***
s(Depth)	3.679e+00	9	4.811	2.15e-10 ***
s(DistToCAS)	9.339e-05	9	0.000	0.6797
s(SST)	3.827e-01	9	0.063	0.2160
s(EKE)	8.196e-01	9	0.499	0.0178 *
s(NPP)	3.570e-04	9	0.000	0.8359

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

# Extra penalty example

```
dsm_sel <- dsm(count~s(x, y) +  
              s(Depth) +  
              s(DistToCAS) +  
              s(SST) +  
              s(EKE) +  
              s(NPP),  
              ddf.obj=df_hr,  
              segment.data=segs, observation.data=obs,  
              family=tw(), select=TRUE)
```

# Extra penalty example

```
summary(dsm_sel)
```

Family: Tweedie(p=1.266)

Link function: log

Formula:

```
count ~ s(x, y) + s(Depth) + s(DistToCAS) + s(SST) + s(EKE) +  
s(NPP) + offset(off.set)
```

Parametric coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	-20.4285	0.2454	-83.23	<2e-16 ***

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Approximate significance of smooth terms:

	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value
s(x,y)	7.694e+00	29	1.272	2.67e-07 ***
s(Depth)	3.645e+00	9	4.005	3.24e-10 ***
s(DistToCAS)	1.944e-05	9	0.000	0.7038
s(SST)	2.010e-04	9	0.000	0.8216
s(EKE)	1.417e+00	9	0.630	0.0127 *
s(NPP)	2.318e-04	9	0.000	0.5152

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

# EDF comparison

	allterms	select	ts
s(x,y)	5.236	7.6936	1.8875
s(Depth)	3.568	3.6449	3.6794
s(DistToCAS)	1.000	0.0000	0.0001
s(SST)	5.927	0.0002	0.3827
s(EKE)	1.763	1.4174	0.8196
s(NPP)	2.393	0.0002	0.0004



# Double penalty can be slow

- Lots of smoothing parameters to estimate

```
length(dsm_ts_all$sp)
```

```
[1] 6
```

```
length(dsm_sel$sp)
```

```
[1] 12
```

Let's employ a mixture of  
these techniques

# How do we select smooth terms?

## 1. Look at EDF

- Terms with  $\text{EDF} < 1$  may not be useful
- These can usually be removed

## 2. Remove non-significant terms by $p$ -value

- Decide on a significance level and use that as a rule

(In some sense leaving “shrunk” terms in is more “consistent”, but can be computationally annoying)

# Example of selection

# Selecting smooth terms

Family: Tweedie(p=1.277)  
Link function: log

Formula:

```
count ~ s(x, y, bs = "ts") + s(Depth, bs = "ts") + s(DistToCAS,  
  bs = "ts") + s(SST, bs = "ts") + s(EKE, bs = "ts") + s(NPP,  
  bs = "ts") + offset(off.set)
```

Parametric coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	-20.260	0.234	-86.59	<2e-16 ***

---  
Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Approximate significance of smooth terms:

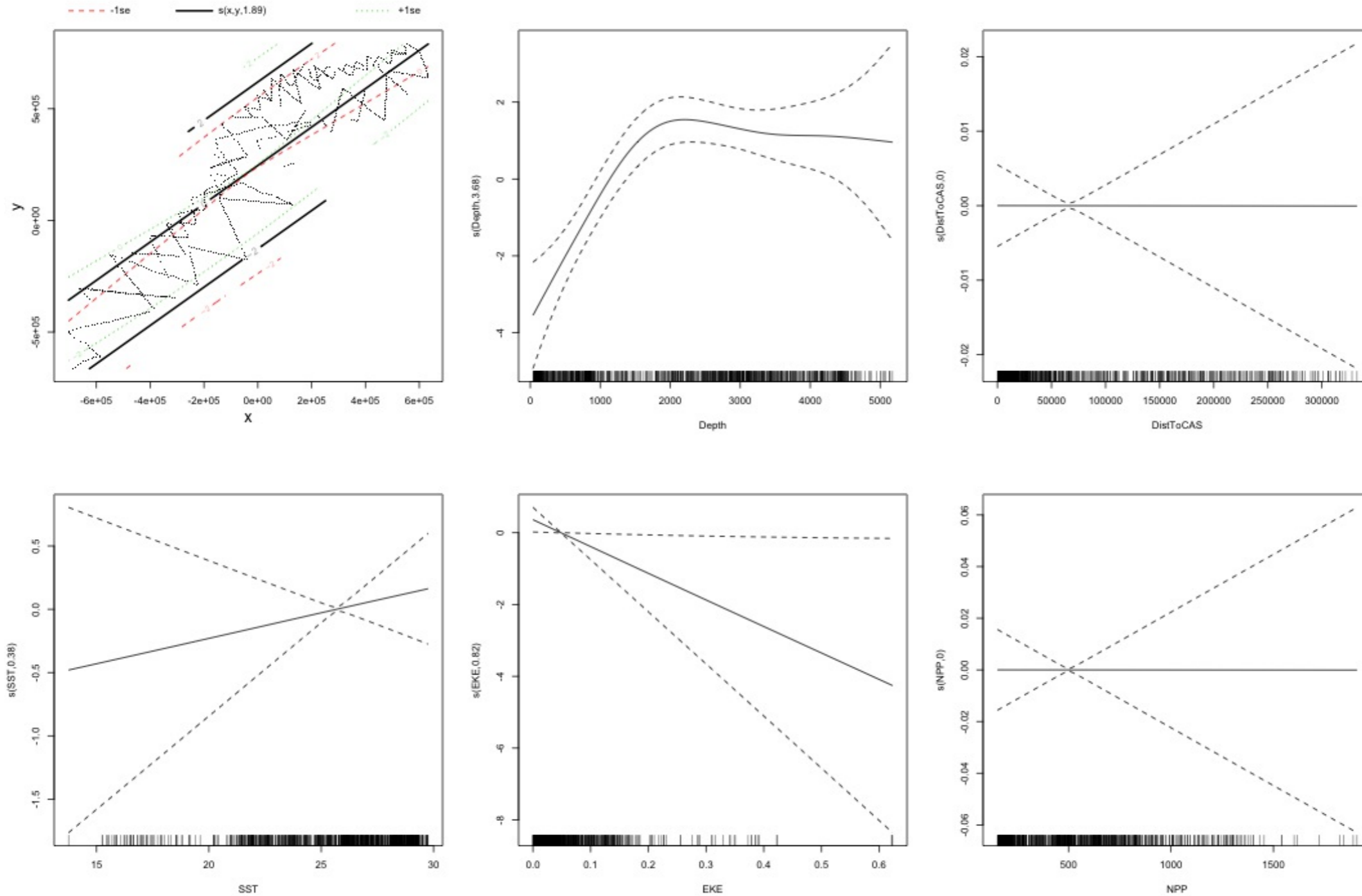
	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value
s(x,y)	1.888e+00	29	0.705	3.56e-06 ***
s(Depth)	3.679e+00	9	4.811	2.15e-10 ***
s(DistToCAS)	9.339e-05	9	0.000	0.6797
s(SST)	3.827e-01	9	0.063	0.2160
s(EKE)	8.196e-01	9	0.499	0.0178 *
s(NPP)	3.570e-04	9	0.000	0.8359

---  
Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

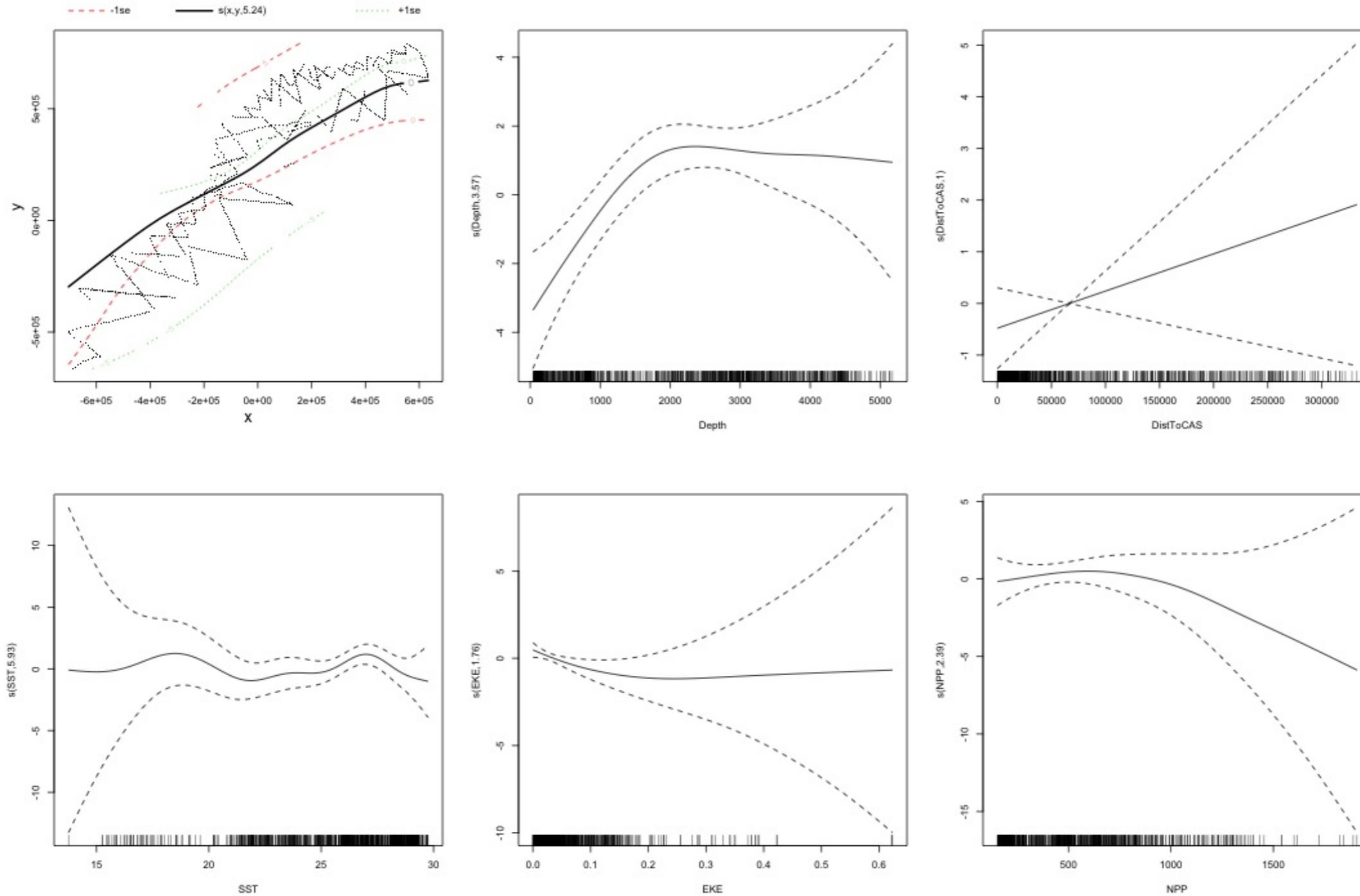
R-sq.(adj) = 0.11 Deviance explained = 35%

-BFMI = 385.04 Scale est = 4.5486 n = 949

# Shrinkage in action



# Same model with no shrinkage



# Let's remove some smooth terms & refit

```
dsm_all_tw_rm <- dsm(count~s(x, y, bs="ts") +  
  s(Depth, bs="ts") +  
  #s(DistToCAS, bs="ts") +  
  #s(SST, bs="ts") +  
  s(EKE, bs="ts"),#+  
  #s(NPP, bs="ts"),  
  ddf.obj=df_hr,  
  segment.data=segs,  
  observation.data=obs,  
  family=tw())
```



# What does that look like?

Family: Tweedie(p=1.279)  
Link function: log

Formula:

count ~ s(x, y, bs = "ts") + s(Depth, bs = "ts") + s(EKE, bs = "ts") +  
offset(off.set)

Parametric coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	-20.258	0.234	-86.56	<2e-16 ***

---  
Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Approximate significance of smooth terms:

	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value
s(x,y)	1.8969	29	0.707	1.76e-05 ***
s(Depth)	3.6949	9	5.024	1.08e-10 ***
s(EKE)	0.8106	9	0.470	0.0216 *

---  
Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

R-sq.(adj) = 0.105 Deviance explained = 34.8%  
-REML = 385.09 Scale est. = 4.5733 n = 949

# Removing EKE...

Family: Tweedie(p=1.268)  
Link function: log

Formula:

count ~ s(x, y, bs = "ts") + s(Depth, bs = "ts") + offset(off.set)

Parametric coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	-20.3088	0.2425	-83.75	<2e-16 ***

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Approximate significance of smooth terms:

	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value
s(x,y)	6.443	29	1.322	4.75e-08 ***
s(Depth)	3.611	9	4.261	1.49e-10 ***

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

R-sq.(adj) = 0.141 Deviance explained = 37.8%  
-REML = 389.86 Scale est. = 4.3516 n = 949

# General strategy

For each response distribution and non-nested model structure:

1. Build a model with the smooths you want
2. Make sure that smooths are flexible enough ( $k=...$ )
3. Remove smooths that have been shrunk
4. Remove non-significant smooths

# Comparing models

# Comparing models

- Usually have  $>1$  option
- How can we pick?
- Even if we have 1 model, is it any good?

# Nested vs. non-nested models

- Compare  $\sim s(x) + s(\text{depth})$  with  $\sim s(x)$ 
  - nested models
- What about  $s(x) + s(y)$  vs.  $s(x, y)$ 
  - don't want to have all these in the model
  - not nested models

# Measures of "fit"

- Two listed in summary
  - Deviance explained
  - Adjusted  $R^2$
- Deviance is a generalisation of  $R^2$
- Highest likelihood value (*saturated* model) minus estimated model value
- (These are usually not very high for DSMs)

# AIC

- Can get AIC from our model
- Comparison of AIC fine (but not the end of the story)

```
AIC(dsm_all)
```

```
[1] 1238.307
```

```
AIC(dsm_ts_all)
```

```
[1] 1225.822
```



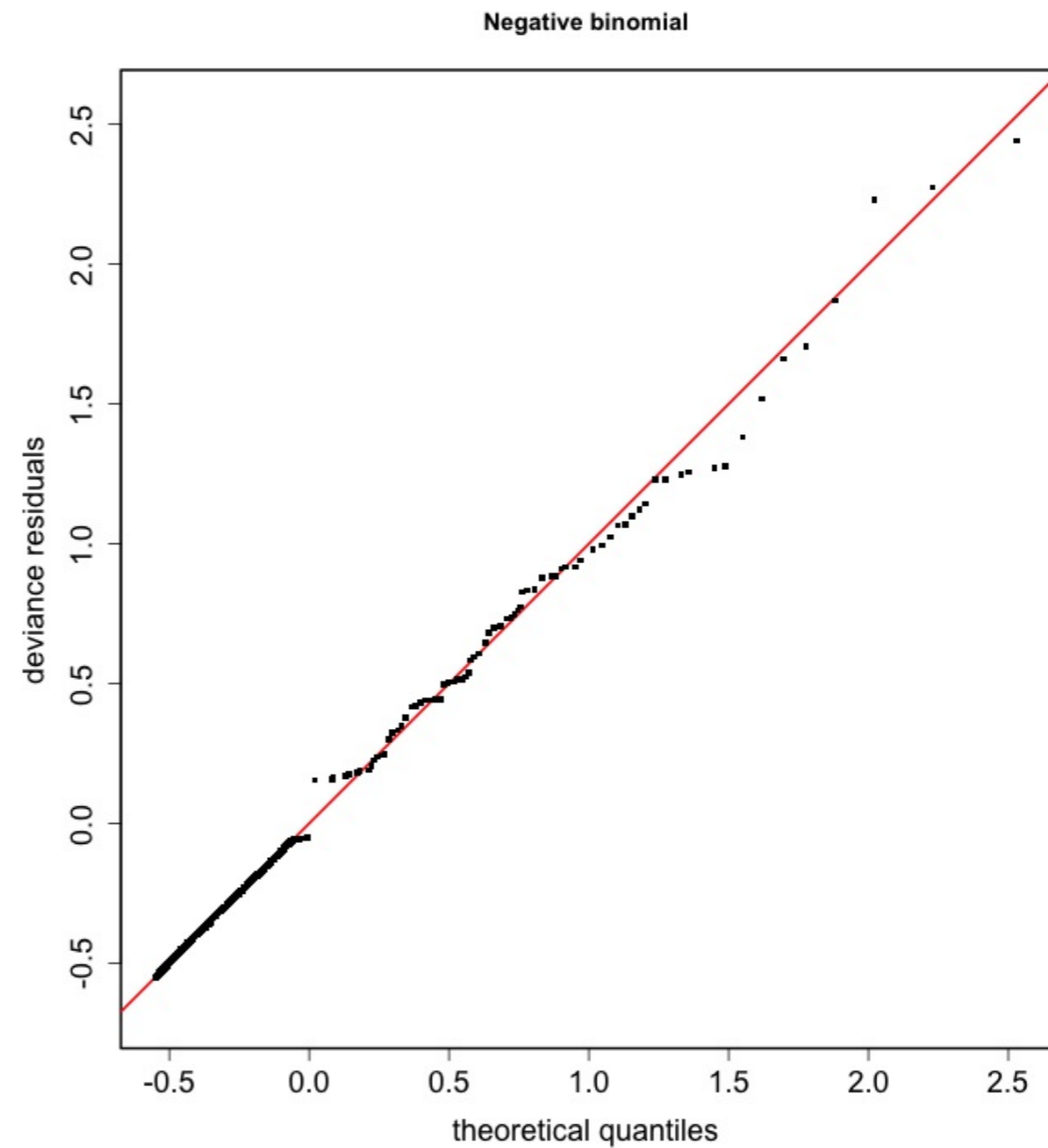
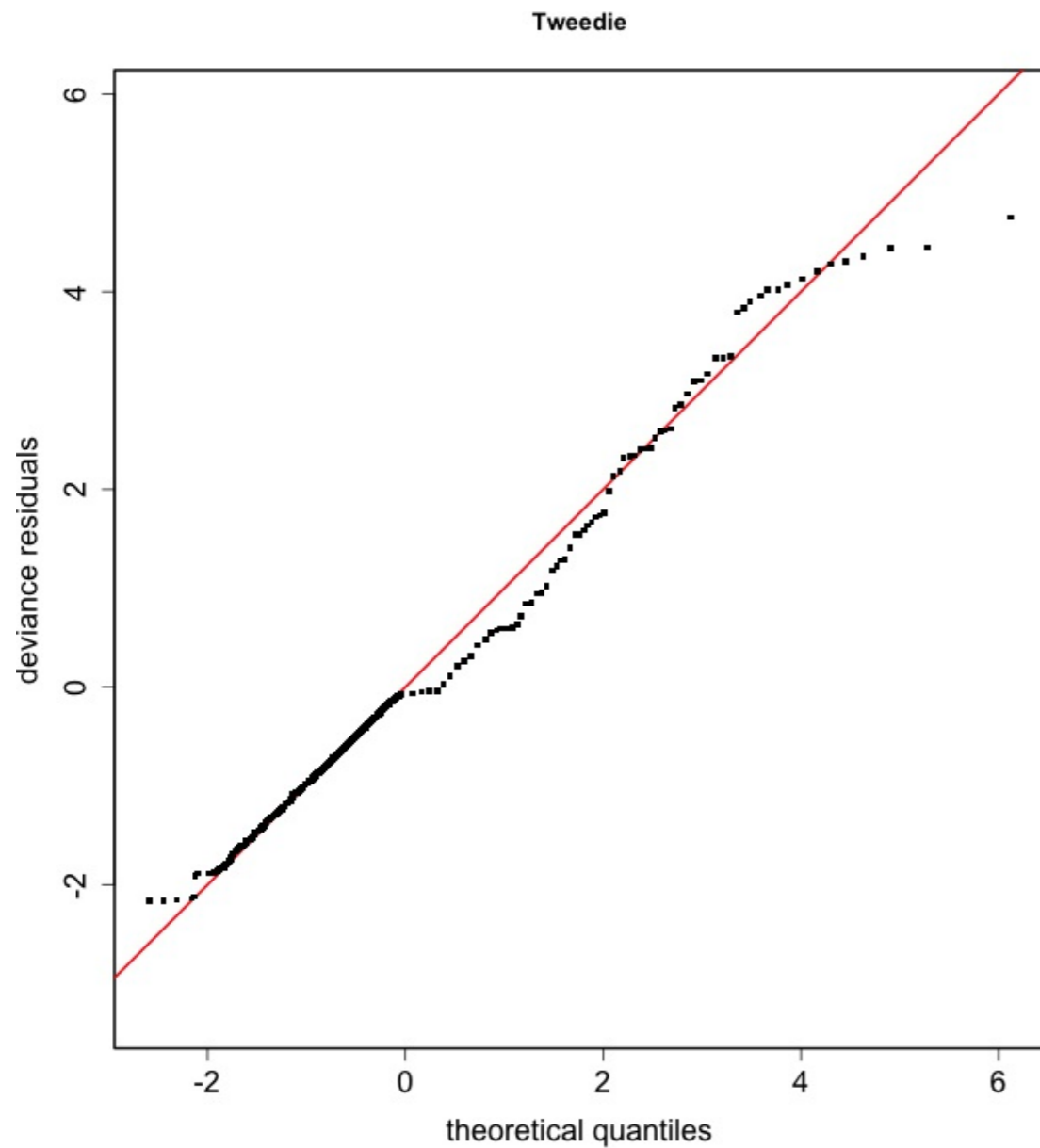
# A quick note about REML scores

- Use REML to select the smoothness
- Can also use the score to do model selection
- **BUT** only compare models with the same fixed effects
  - (i.e., same “linear terms” in the model)
- $\Rightarrow$  **All terms** must be penalised
  - `bs="ts"` or `select=TRUE`

# Selecting between response distributions

# Goodness of fit tests

- Q-Q plots
- Closer to the line == better

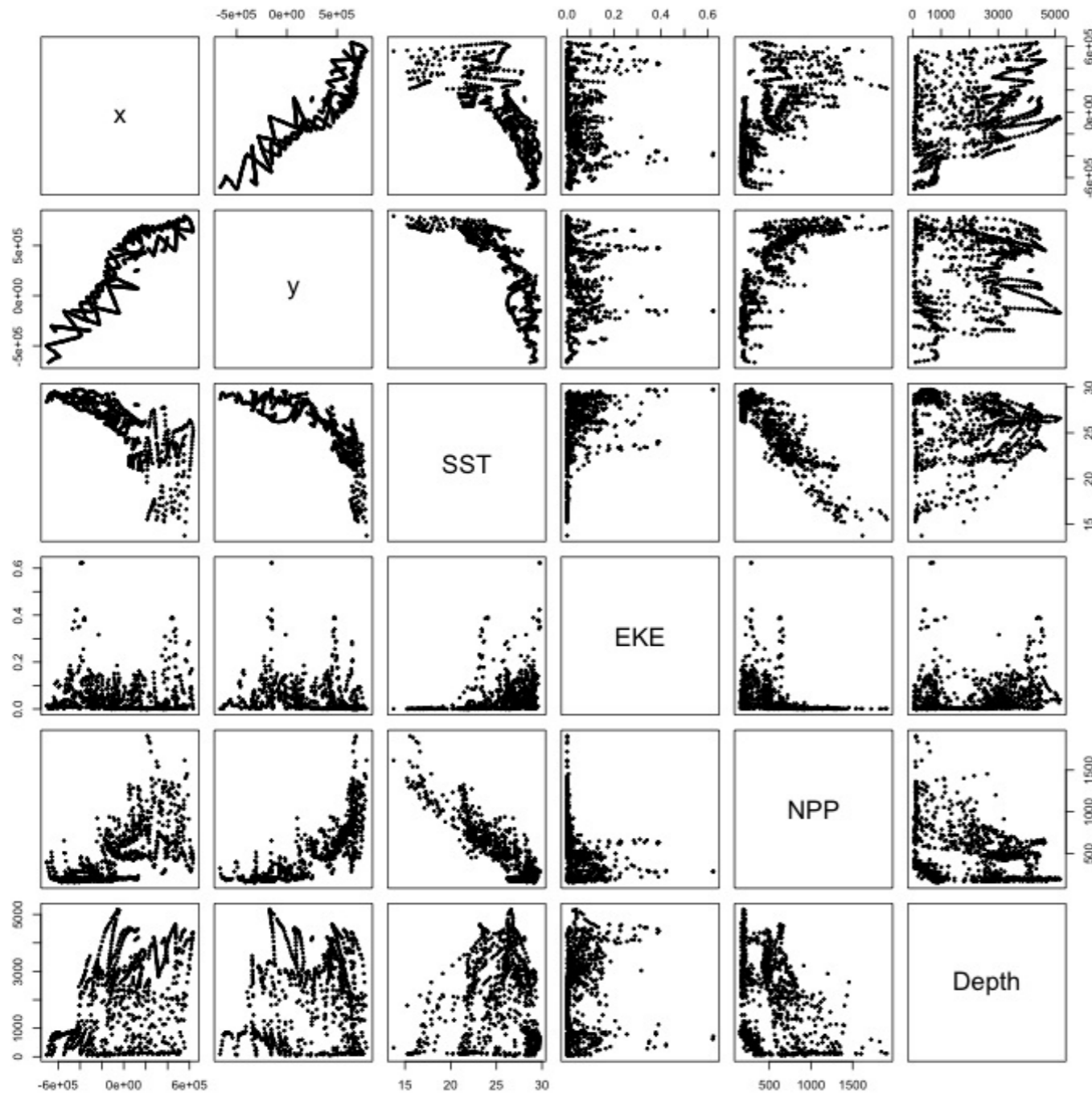


# Tobler's first law of geography

“Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things”

Tobler (1970)

# Implications of Tobler's law



Covariates are not only correlated (linearly)...

...they are also “concurve”

“How much can one smooth be approximated by one or more other smooths?”

# Concurvity (model/smooth)

```
concurvity(dsm_all)
```

```
      para  s(x,y) s(Depth) s(DistToCAS)  s(SST)  s(EKE)
worst  2.539199e-23 0.9963493 0.9836597  0.9959057 0.9772853 0.7702479
observed 2.539199e-23 0.9213461 0.8275679  0.9883162 0.6951997 0.6615697
estimate 2.539199e-23 0.7580838 0.9272203  0.9642030 0.8978412 0.4906765
      s(NPP)
worst  0.9727752
observed 0.8258504
estimate 0.8694619
```

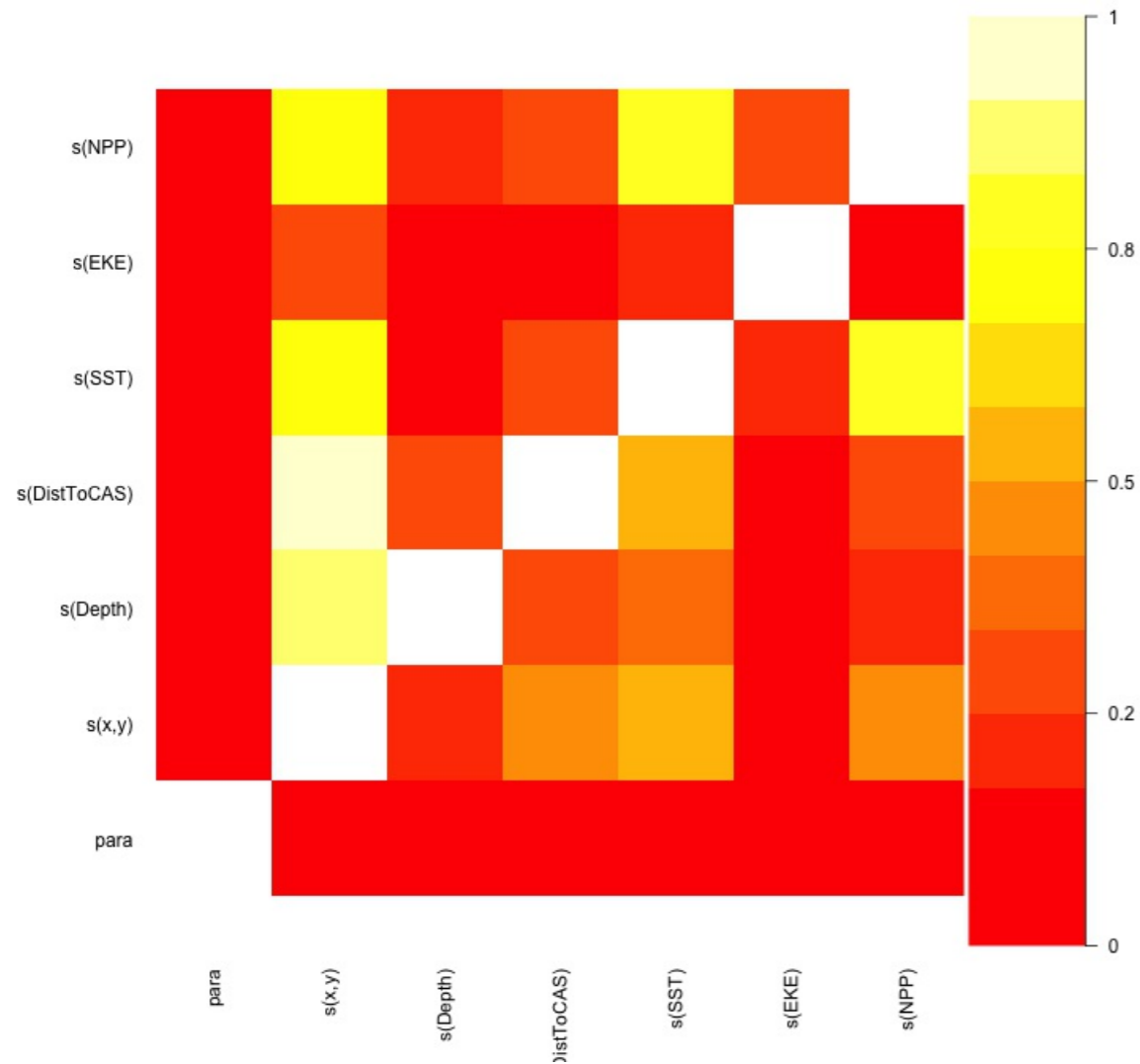
# Concurvity between smooths

```
concurvity(dsm_all, full=FALSE)$estimate
```

```
      para  s(x,y)  s(Depth) s(DistToCAS)
para  1.000000e+00 4.700364e-26 4.640330e-28 6.317431e-27
s(x,y) 8.687343e-24 1.000000e+00 9.067347e-01 9.568609e-01
s(Depth) 1.960563e-25 2.247389e-01 1.000000e+00 2.699392e-01
s(DistToCAS) 2.964353e-24 4.335154e-01 2.568123e-01 1.000000e+00
s(SST) 3.614289e-25 5.102860e-01 3.707617e-01 5.107111e-01
s(EKE) 1.283557e-24 1.220299e-01 1.527425e-01 1.205373e-01
s(NPP) 2.034284e-25 4.407590e-01 2.067464e-01 2.701934e-01
      s(SST)  s(EKE)  s(NPP)
para  5.042066e-28 3.615073e-27 6.078290e-28
s(x,y) 7.205518e-01 3.201531e-01 6.821674e-01
s(Depth) 1.232244e-01 6.422005e-02 1.990567e-01
s(DistToCAS) 2.554027e-01 1.319306e-01 2.590227e-01
s(SST) 1.000000e+00 1.735256e-01 7.616800e-01
s(EKE) 2.410615e-01 1.000000e+00 2.787592e-01
s(NPP) 7.833972e-01 1.033109e-01 1.000000e+00
```



# Visualising concurrency between terms



- Previous matrix output visualised
- High values (yellow) = BAD

# Path dependence

# Sensitivity

- General path dependency?
- What if there are highly concave smooths?
- Is the model is sensitive to them?

# What can we do?

- Fit variations excluding smooths
  - Concurve terms that are excluded early on
- Appendix of Winiarski et al (2014) has an example

# Sensitivity example

- $s(\text{Depth})$  and  $s(x, y)$  are highly concurve (0.9067)
- Refit removing Depth first

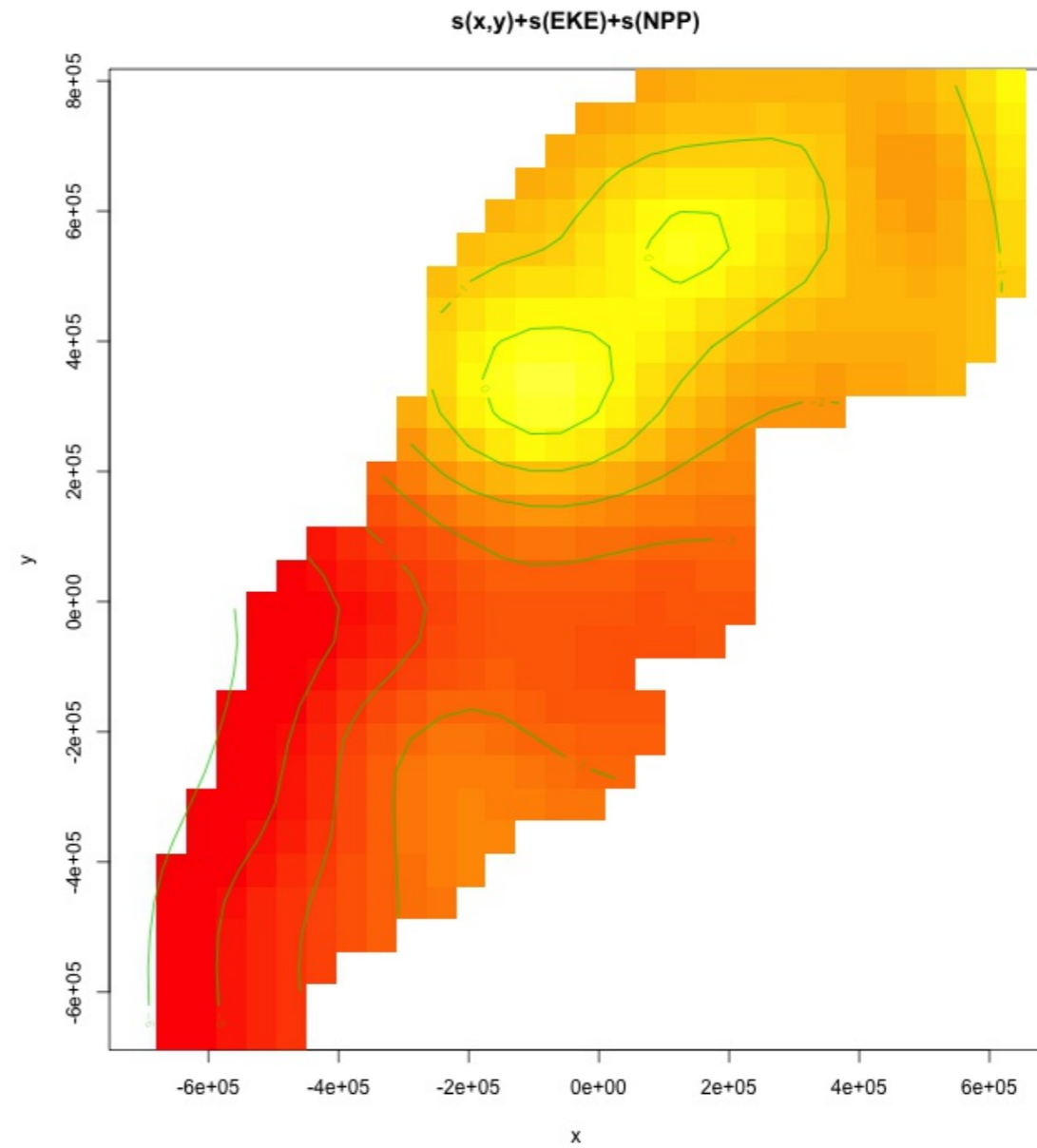
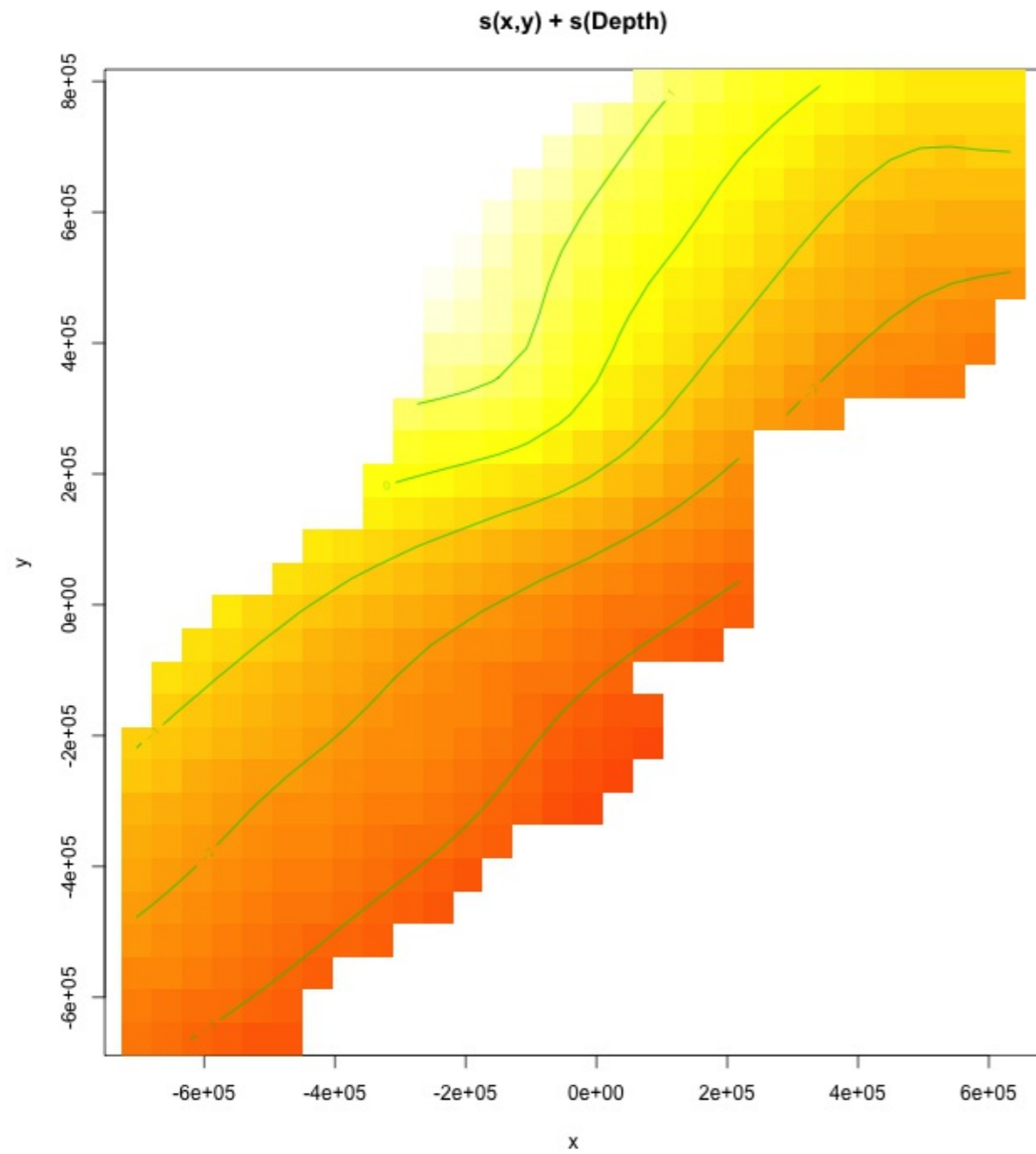
```
# with depth
```

	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value
$s(x,y)$	6.443109	29	1.321664	4.75402e-08
$s(\text{Depth})$	3.611031	9	4.261217	1.48593e-10

```
# without depth
```

	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value
$s(x,y)$	13.7776636	29	2.589135	1.161592e-12
$s(\text{EKE})$	0.8448449	9	0.566980	1.050411e-02
$s(\text{NPP})$	0.7994187	9	0.362814	3.231808e-02

# Comparison of spatial effects



# Sensitivity example

- Refit removing x and y...

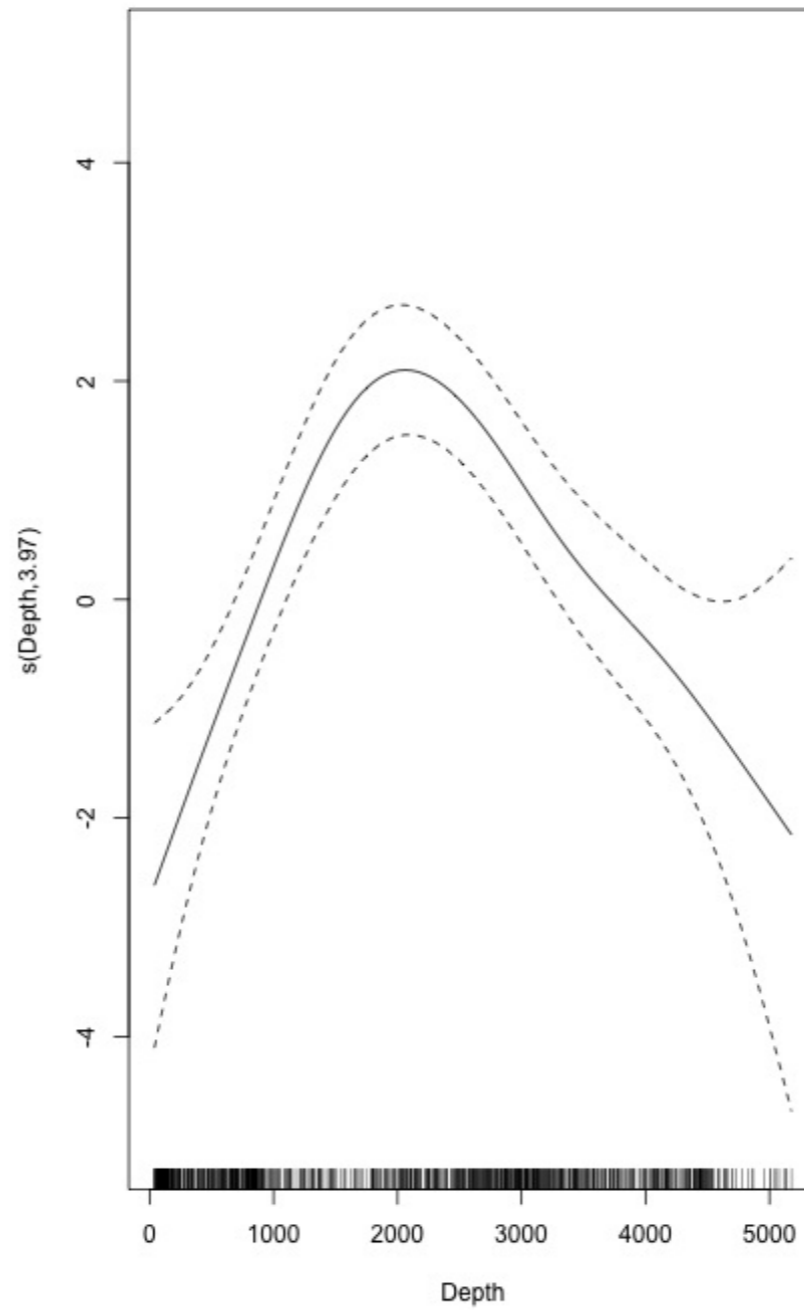
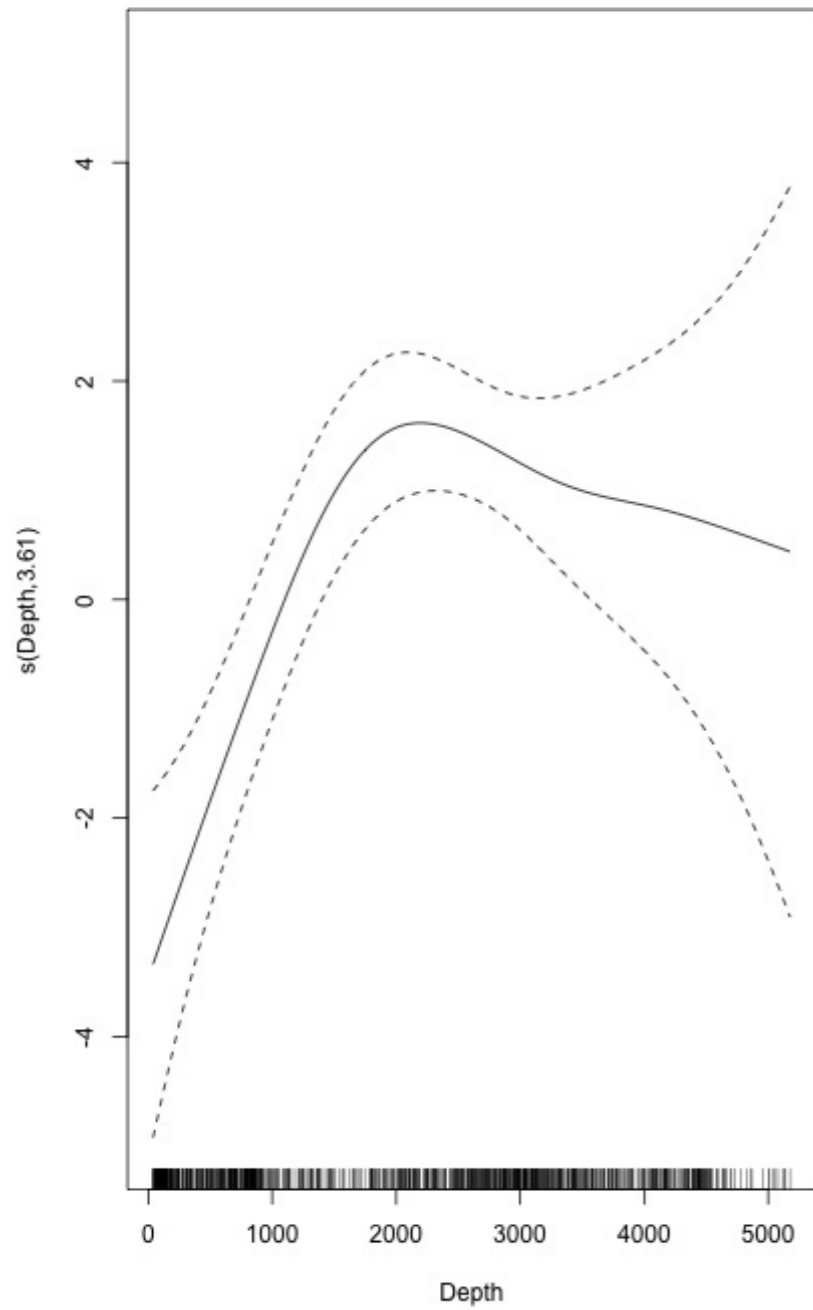
```
# without xy
```

	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value
s(SST)	4.583260	9	3.244322	3.118815e-06
s(Depth)	3.973359	9	6.799043	4.125701e-14

```
# with xy
```

	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value
s(x,y)	6.443109	29	1.321664	4.75402e-08
s(Depth)	3.611031	9	4.261217	1.48593e-10

# Comparison of depth smooths





# Comparing those three models...

Model	AIC	Deviance
$s(x,y) + s(\text{Depth})$	1229.888	37.84
$s(x,y)+s(\text{EKE})+s(\text{NPP})$	1248.167	34.44
$s(\text{SST})+s(\text{Depth})$	1228.152	35.77

- “Full” model still explains most deviance
- No depth model requires spatial smooth to “mop up” extra variation
- We'll come back to this when we do prediction

Recap

# Recap

- Adding smooths
- Removing smooths
  - $p$ -values
  - shrinkage/extra penalties
- Comparing models
- Comparing response distributions
- Sensitivity