Madras Institute of Development Studies

DEVELOPMENT ANALYTICS

MIDS WORKSHOP SERIES

A ONE-DAY ONLINE WORKSHOP ON

SPATIAL ECONOMETRICS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY DESIGN

FROM MAPS TO MODELS

9 August 2025

10 AM to 4 PM, via Zoom

BACKGROUND

The increasing spatial dimension of socioeconomic and environmental issues demands a methodological shift in how we understand and model regional data. Traditional econometric approaches often ignore spatial dependencies and heterogeneities, leading to biased or incomplete policy inferences. Spatial Econometrics addresses this gap by incorporating spatial relationships into model specifications, thereby enabling more accurate and policy-relevant insights. With the growing availability of geocoded data and GIS tools, spatial econometrics has gained importance in areas such as regional development, poverty mapping, agricultural economics, infrastructure planning, environmental policy, and public health. However, the complexity of spatial models and the limited exposure to practical applications often pose challenges to researchers and policymakers alike. This workshop aims to bridge the theoretical understanding and practical application of spatial econometrics, enabling participants to move from maps to models, and ultimately to evidence-based policy design.

SCOPE

The workshop will cover both conceptual foundations and hands-on applications of spatial econometrics:

- Core spatial econometric theories
- Specification and estimation of spatial models such as SAR, SEM, and SDM
- Construction and interpretation of spatial weights matrices and indices
- Practical implementation using Stata
- Real-world policy examples and case studies

OBJECTIVES

- Introduce participants to the fundamental principles of spatial econometrics.
- Equip participants with tools to detect and model spatial dependence and heterogeneity.
- Provide hands-on experience in using Stata for spatial data analysis and model estimation.
- Enable participants to interpret spatial model results and assess their policy relevance.
- Foster the ability to design data-driven spatially-aware policy interventions.

LEARN FROM EXPERIENCED ACADEMICIANS AND PROFESSIONALS WITH EXPERTISE IN DATA ANALYSIS

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WHO IS THIS FOR

- Researchers and faculty in economics, regional studies, environmental science, public health, and planning and other relevant social science studies.
- Government officers, policy analysts, and development practitioners.
- PhD scholars and postgraduate students working with spatial or regional data.
- Data scientists and GIS professionals interested in applied econometrics.
- Think-tanks engaged in evidence-based programme design and evaluation

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the workshop, participants will:

- Gain a conceptual and applied understanding of spatial econometrics.
- Be capable of constructing spatial weights and conducting spatial diagnostics.
- Learn to estimate and interpret spatial econometric models using Stata.
- Understand the policy relevance of spatial analysis through real-life examples.
- Be empowered to incorporate spatial thinking into research and policy design.

CERTIFICATE

An e-certificate will be provided to the participants subject to full participation.

RESOURCE PERSON

BALAJI S J, PhD

Scientist (Agricultural Economics)
ICAR–NIAP, New Delhi
&
Fulbright Fellow (Postdoc,
University of Georgia, USA)

SCAN QR TO REGISTER

REGISTRATION LINK

https://forms.gle/BpGmRaLJ7xU5qvtd9

REGISTRATION FEE

- Rs. 200 for students
- Rs. 300 for others

PAYMENT DETAILS

Account Name	Madras Institute of Development Studies
Bank Name	Indian Bank
A/c no.	7141704392
IFSC	IDIB000A002
Branch	Gandhi Nagar, Adyar, Chennai
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LAST DATE TO REGISTER

5 August 2025, 5 PM

COORDINATORS

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