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Presentation of the French handbook of spatial analysis

With the support of Eurostat, the French national statistical institute (Insee) has undertaken the writing of a Handbook of spatial analysis, whose specific objectives are:

- to propose a list and the description of the statistical methods which could be implemented in the scope of the point based system
- to disseminate, promote and share the results among NSIs.
- to promote the application of spatial statistics into the statistical production chain, and feed into the work on the integration of statistics and geospatial information.

In order to provide a pedagogical answer to concrete issues faced by members of the statistical institutes, the pedagogy is specifically addressed to public institute statisticians: the application examples use public statistic's data and are written with R open source programmation language. The theoretical level is high enough to understand all the subtleties of the implementation with R, yet the Handbook doesn't present the latest theoretical developments. The Handbook emphasizes specific issues with which the NSIs are concerned and which do not appear in most of the handbooks: spatial sampling, spatial econometrics on survey data, confidentiality of spatial data, etc. Most of the chapters describe well known methods, yet the Handbook also addresses some innovative subjects or some promising methods that are not yet used in NSIs such as distance based measure, determinantal sampling or spatial econometrics on panel data.

The presentation during the EFGS conference will consist of a global description of the Handbook and a short summary of some the chapters.