Title: Bertil Matérn (1917-2007), the Swedish father of spatial statistics

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Date: Tuesday the 7th of May, 2019

Time: 13.00–14.00

Place: UB338

Abstract

Bertil Matérn became professor of 'Skoglig matematisk statistik' at the Royal College of Forestry in 1963. He was then active at the Swedish University of Agriculture until 1982. His PhD thesis (1960): 'Spatial Variation, stochastic models and their application to some problems in forest surveys and other sampling investigations', made him internationally famous. He has been considered as one of the fathers of spatial statistics. This talk, mainly nontechnical, treats Matérn's environment, his life, and some of his achievements. In a slightly different form, it was earlier given in 2017 at the College of Forestry (Skogshögskolan) in Umeå to celebrate Matérn.