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Sommario/riassunto	Warum sollen Regionen innerhalb eines Landes unabhängige Inseln sein? Und warum sollen, über das gesamte Land hinweg, einheitlich starke ökonomische oder soziale Wirkungszusammenhänge bestehen? Diese zwei Annahmen werden in der angewandten empirischen Wirtschafts- und Sozialforschung üblicherweise implizit unterstellt. Wie in statistischen Verfahren von dieser unrealistischen Modellstruktur unter Ausnutzung der räumlichen Strukturen in beobachteten Variablen und unterstellten Zusammenhängen abgewichen werden kann, diskutiert Norbert Schanne im vorliegenden Band. Möglichkeiten, unser Verständnis der Ökonomie zu vertiefen, werden ebenso verdeutlicht, wie Chancen und Tücken beim Einsatz der Methoden in Studien zu verschiedenen Aspekten der Arbeitsmarktdynamik. Are regions within a country really independent islands? Do economic relations and effects really have a homogenous, unique size across an entire country? These two assumptions are often imposed implicitly in empirical economic and social research. In his doctoral thesis, Norbert Schanne discusses how statistical methods can deviate from this unrealistic model structure through employing spatial patterns in both observable variables and presumed relations. Opportunities to improve our understanding of the economy as well as chances and perils in the application of such methods are demonstrated in a number of studies on aspects of regional labour market dynamics.