Extreme ocean environments

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Extreme oceans

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Acknowledgement and overview

Thanks

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- Metocean Research Limited (NZ): Kevin Ewans
- Shell : Graham Feld, Matthew Jones, David Randell, Emma Ross, Ross Towe
- UK Metoffice : Rob Shooter

Overview

- Motivation
- Marginal extremes
- Multivariate conditional extremes

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Modelling ocean storm environment



- Multiple coupled physical processes
- Rare, extreme events

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Modelling structural risk



- Ocean environment is harsh
- Marine structures at risk of failure
- Reliability standards must be met

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Spectacular scale



Offshore Portugal, 24m wave height, November 2017 (The Guardian)

Nazaré is a great source of huge coastal waves

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Spectacular scale



Laser readings, 1 January 1995. Wave 25.6m, crest 18.5m (Statoil / Equinor)

- Maximum recorded wave height > 30m (multiple events, various sources)
- Maximum recorded significant wave height : 19.0m (buoy, North Atlantic, 4 Feb 2013, WMO)

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Wave impact damage



Norwegian Dream, Atlantic, 2007 (gcaptain.com)



Ike, Gulf of Mexico, 2008 (Joe Richard)

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Optimal design

Set-up

- $\circ\,$ A marine system with "strength" specifications ${oldsymbol{\mathcal{S}}}$
- An ocean environment X dependent on covariates Θ
- A structural "loading" Y as a result of environment X and covariates Θ
- System utility (or risk) $U(Y|\mathcal{S})$ for loading Y and specification \mathcal{S}
- Desired *U* typically specified in terms of annual probability of failure
- $Y|X, \Theta$ and $X|\Theta$ (and *U*?) subject to uncertainty Z
- Z, Θ, X, Y are multidimensional random variables

Optimal design

- Estimate a model $f_{X|\Theta,Z}$ for the environment
- Estimate a model $f_{Y|X,\Theta,Z}$ for environment-structure interaction
- Estimate a model $f_{\Theta|Z}$ for the covariates

$$\mathbb{E}[U|\mathcal{S}] = \int_{z} \int_{y} \int_{x} \int_{\theta} U(y|\mathcal{S}, Z) f_{Y|X,\Theta,Z}(y|x, \theta, z) f_{X|\Theta,Z}(x|\theta, z) f_{\Theta|Z}(\theta|z) f_{Z}(z) \, d\theta \, dx \, dy \, dz$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{ solve for } \mathcal{S} \text{ to achieve required (safety) utility}$$

Return values : conventional engineering practice

- Estimating $\mathbb{E}[U|\boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}}]$ is difficult
- Design to extreme quantile of marginal annual distribution of single *X* instead $F_A(x) = \int_{\mathbf{Z}} \int_{\theta} \int_k F_{X|\Theta,\mathbf{Z}}^k(x|\theta,\mathbf{Z}) f_{C|\Theta,\mathbf{Z}}(k|\theta,z) f_{\Theta|\mathbf{Z}}(\theta|z) f_{\mathbf{Z}}(z) \, dk \, d\theta \, dz$

where $f_{C|\Theta,Z}$ is the density of annual rate of events given covariate Θ . • Set the return value x_T (for T = 1000 years say) such that

$$F_A(x_T) = 1 - \frac{1}{T}$$

- Specify conditional return values for other *Xs* given $X = x_T$
- Potentially as a function of covariates
- Ambiguous ordering of expectation operators ... a can of worms!

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A model for the (non-stationary multivariate extreme) environment

- Expected utility and return values are dominated by extreme environments
 Have to estimate tails of distributions well
- Focus on a simple **Z**-free 2-D environment with stationary dependence $F_{\mathbf{X}|\Theta,\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{x}|\theta, \mathbf{z}) = C\Big(F_{X_1|\Theta}(x_1|\theta), F_{X_2|\Theta}(x_2|\theta)\Big) \text{ for simplicity, so}$ $f_{\mathbf{X}|\Theta,\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{x}|\theta, \mathbf{z}) = f_{X_1,X_2|\Theta}(x|\theta)$ $= f_{X_1|\Theta}(x_1|\theta)f_{X_2|\Theta}(x_2|\theta) \times c\Big(F_{X_1|\Theta}(x_1|\theta), F_{X_2|\Theta}(x_2|\theta)\Big) \text{ typically}$
- Marginal models (non-stationary, extreme) $f_{X_1|\Theta}(x_1|\theta), f_{X_2|\Theta}(x_2|\theta)$
- Multivariate model on standard marginal scale (stationary, "extreme") $c(u_1, u_2)$

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Marginal extremes

- Theory : Embrechts et al. [2003], Beirlant et al. [2004]
- Method : Coles [2001], Dey and Yan [2016]

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Generalised extreme value distribution

- F_X^n is the distribution of the maximum of *n* independent draws of *X*
- If F_X^n "looks like" $F_X^{n'}$, we say F_X is max-stable
- More formally, F_X is max-stable if there exist sequences of constants $a_n > 0$, b_n , and non-degenerate G_{ξ} such that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}F_X^n\left(a_nx+b_n\right)=G_{\xi}(x)$$

- We say $F_X \in D(G_{\xi})$ or that F_X lies in the max-domain of attraction of G_{ξ}
- The Fisher–Tippett–Gnedenko theorem states that G_{ξ} is the generalised extreme value distribution with parameter ξ

$$G_{\xi}(y) = \exp\left(-\left(1+\xi y
ight)^{-1/\xi}
ight)$$
, $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$

• For large *n*, makes sense to model block maxima of *n* iid draws using G_{ξ} (with $(x - \mu)/\sigma$ in place of *y* above)

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Generalised Pareto distribution

- Now suppose we have an exceedance *X* of high threshold $\psi \in \mathbb{R}$
- The Pickands-Balkema-De Haan theorem states

$$\begin{split} \lim_{\psi \to \infty} \mathbb{P}[X \le x | X > \psi] &= \lim_{\psi \to \infty} \frac{F_X(x)}{1 - F_X(\psi)} \\ &= GP(x | \xi, \sigma, \psi) \\ &= 1 - \left(1 + \frac{\xi}{\sigma}(x - \psi)\right)_+^{-1/\xi}, \quad \sigma > 0, \quad \xi \in \mathbb{R} \end{split}$$

Theory

Practicalities

- Derived from max-stability of F_X
- Threshold-stability property
- "Poisson \times GP = GEV"

- How to isolate independent threshold exceedances from observed time-series?
- How to specify extreme threshold ψ ?
- ξ , σ , ψ functions of covariates
- Davison and Smith [1990]

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Marginal extremes in practice

- Motivation : Chavez-Demoulin and Davison [2005]
- Practicalities : Jonathan and Ewans [2013], Feld et al. [2019]
- Semi-parametric : Randell et al. [2016], Zanini et al. [2020]
- Lots more : Wood [2003]
- Non-stationary marginal extremes

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- Environmental extremes vary smoothly with multidimensional covariates
- Generic modelling framework for different covariate representations
- Statistical and computational efficiency for n-D covariates
- Full (Bayesian or Bayes-Price?) uncertainty quantification



Typical data for northern North Sea. Storm peak H_5 on direction, with $\tau = 0.8$ extreme value threshold. Rate and size of occurrence varies with direction.

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Model for size of occurrence

- Sample of storm peaks *Y* over threshold $\psi_{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}$, with 1-D covariate $\theta \in \mathcal{D}_{\theta}$
- Extreme value threshold ψ_{θ} assumed known
- *Y* assumed to follow generalised Pareto distribution with shape ξ_{θ} , (modified) scale v_{θ}

$$f_{\rm GP}(y|\xi_{\theta},\nu_{\theta}) = \frac{1}{\sigma_{\theta}} \left(1 + \frac{\xi_{\theta}}{\sigma_{\theta}} \left(y - \psi_{\theta} \right) \right)_{+}^{-1/\xi_{\theta}-1} \text{ with } \nu_{\theta} = \sigma_{\theta}(1+\xi_{\theta})$$

- Shape parameter $\xi_{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}$ and scale parameter $\nu_{\theta} > 0$
- (Non-stationary Poisson model for rate of occurrence, with rate $\rho_{\theta} \ge 0$)

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Covariate representations in 1-D

- Index set $\mathcal{I}_{\theta} = \{\theta_s\}_{s=1}^m$ on periodic covariate domain \mathcal{D}_{θ}
- Each observation belongs to exactly one θ_s
- On \mathcal{I}_{θ} , assume $\eta_s = \sum_{k=1}^n B_{sk} \beta_k$, s = 1, 2, ..., m, or $\eta = B\beta$
- $\eta \in (\xi, \nu)$ (and similar for ρ)
- $\boldsymbol{B} = \{B_{sk}\}_{s=1;k=1}^{m;n}$ basis for \mathcal{D}_{θ}
- $\boldsymbol{\beta} = {\{\beta_k\}_{k=1}^n}$ basis coefficients
- Inference reduces to estimating n_{ξ} , n_{γ} , B_{ξ} , B_{γ} , β_{ξ} , β_{γ} (and roughnesses λ_{ξ} , λ_{γ})
- P-splines, BARS and Voronoi are different forms of *B*

Basis representations ... BARS and others

Bayesian adaptive regression splines (BARS)

- *n* irregularly-spaced knots on \mathcal{D}_{θ}
- B consists of n B-spline bases
- Order d
- Each using *d* + 1 consecutive knot locations
- Local support
- Wrapped on \mathcal{D}_{θ}
- Knot locations $\{r_k\}_{k=1}^n$ vary
- Number of basis functions *n* varies



Periodic BARS knot birth and death

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P-splines and Voronoi partition

- P-splines use fixed number of regularly-spaced knots
- · Voronoi partition uses piecewise-constant representation, trivially extended to n-D

Prior specification

Prior for β

prior density of
$$\boldsymbol{\beta} \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\beta}'\boldsymbol{P}\boldsymbol{\beta}\right)$$

- $P = \lambda D'D$, D is a $n \times n$ (wrapped) differencing matrix
- P-splines: D represents first-difference; prior equivalent to local roughness penalty
- BARS and Voronoi: *D* is *I_n*; prior is "ridge-type" for Bayesian regression

Prior for λ

$$\lambda~\sim~$$
Gamma

Prior for *n* (BARS and Voronoi)

 $n \sim \text{Poisson}$

Prior for r_k , k = 1, 2, ..., n (**BARS and Voronoi**)

 $r_k \sim \text{Uniform}$

Inference for GP

Parameter set Ω

- P-splines: $\Omega = \{\beta_{\xi}, \lambda_{\xi}, \beta_{\nu}, \lambda_{\nu}\}$ with $n_{\xi}, r_{\xi}, n_{\nu}$ and r_{ν} pre-specified
- BARS and Voronoi: $\Omega = \{n_{\xi}, \mathbf{r}_{\xi}, \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\xi}, \lambda_{\xi}, n_{\nu}, \mathbf{r}_{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\nu}, \lambda_{\nu}\}$

•
$$\mathbf{r} = \{r_k\}_{k=1}^n, \, \boldsymbol{\beta} = \{\beta_k\}_{k=1}^n$$

Inference

- Gibbs sampling when full conditionals available
- Otherwise Metropolis-Hastings (MH) within Gibbs, using suitable proposal mechanisms, mMALA where possible
- Reversible-jump for *n*, *r* (satisfy dimension-jumping detailed balance)

Basic conditional structure for non-dimension-jumping

$$\begin{array}{lll} f(\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\eta}|\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{\Omega}\setminus\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\eta}) & \propto & f(\boldsymbol{y}|\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\eta},\boldsymbol{\Omega}\setminus\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\eta}) \times f(\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\eta}|\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\eta}) \\ f(\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\eta}|\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{\Omega}\setminus\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\eta}) & \propto & f(\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\eta}|\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\eta}) \times f(\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\eta}) \\ f(\boldsymbol{r}_{\eta}|\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{\Omega}\setminus\boldsymbol{r}_{\eta}) & \propto & f(\boldsymbol{y}|\boldsymbol{r}_{\eta},\boldsymbol{\Omega}\setminus\boldsymbol{r}_{\eta}) \times f(\boldsymbol{r}_{\eta}), \end{array}$$

• $\eta \in (\xi, \nu)$ (and ρ)

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Posterior parameter estimates for ξ , ν and ρ for northern North Sea

- Note colour scheme
- Rate ρ and ν very similar
- Voronoi gives almost constant ξ
- Voronoi piecewise constant
- Land shadow effects
- General agreement
- ... for other parameters also



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Fit diagnostic

- Empirical tail (blue) 0
- Posterior means and 0 95% credible intervals for quantile levels from different models
- General consistency



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Directional posterior predictive distribution of T = 1000-year maximum



- Box-whiskers with 2.5%, 25%, 50%, 75% and 97.5% percentiles
- Uncertainties larger for P-splines?
- General consistency
- This is more-or-less what the engineer needs to design a "compliant" structure

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Extension to 2D : directional-seasonal



• 2-D tensor product P-spline bases for same northern North Sea location

• Marginal posterior median estimates (plus posterior density for τ)

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Multivariate extremes

- Theory : Beirlant et al. [2004]
- Copulas : Joe [2014]
- Method : Dey and Yan [2016]
- Key ideas in AI : Ledford and Tawn [1996], Ledford and Tawn [1997], Coles et al. [1999], Heffernan and Tawn [2004]
- Modelling across dependence classes : Wadsworth et al. [2017], Huser and Wadsworth [2020]

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Multivariate extreme value distribution, MEVD

- $X_i = (X_{i1}, ..., X_{ij}, ..., X_{iv}), i = 1, ..., n$ iid *p*-vectors, distribution *F*
- $M_{n,i} = \max_i X_{ij}$, component-wise maximum
- The component-wise maximum is not "observed" (especially as $n \to \infty$) 0
- Then for $Z_{n,j} = (M_{n,j} b_{n,j})/a_{n,j}$, normalised with scaling constants: $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Z} \leq \mathbf{z}) = F^n (\mathbf{a}_n \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{b}_n) \to G(\mathbf{z}) \text{ as } n \to \infty$
- Non-degenerate G(z) must be max-stable, so $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, \exists \alpha_k > 0, \beta_k$ s.t. 0

$$G^k(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_k \boldsymbol{z} + \boldsymbol{\beta}_k) = G(\boldsymbol{z})$$

We say $F \in D(G)$ 0

Margins $G_1, ..., G_p$ are unique GEV, but G(z) is not unique 0

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MEVD on common margins

- On uniform margins, we have extreme value copula: $C(u) = C^k(u^{1/k})$
- On standard Fréchet margins ($G_j(z) = \exp(-z^{-1})$)

 $G(z) = \exp(-V(z))$, for exponent measure V

- Max-stability : $V(rz) = r^{-1}V(z)$, homogeneity order -1
- Rich spatial extensions to max-stable processes, MSPs
- Multivariate generalised Pareto distribution, MGPD

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MEVD on common margins

• On standard Fréchet margins with pseudo-polars (*r*, *w*)

$$G(z) = \exp(-V(z))$$

with $V(z) = \int_{\Delta} \max_{j} \{\frac{w_{j}}{z_{j}}\} S(dw)$, on $\Delta = \{w \in \mathbb{R}^{p} : ||w|| = 1\}$
and $1 = \int_{\Delta} w_{j} S(dw)$, $\forall j$, for angular measure S

• Condition of multivariate regular variation, MRV

$$\frac{1-F(t\mathbf{x})}{1-F(t\mathbf{1})} \to \lambda(\mathbf{x}) \text{ as } t \to \infty, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p$$

useful to prove that $F \in D(G)$ for some MEVD *G*

Lots more

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Asymptotic dependence ... admitted by MEVD

• On uniform margins

$$\chi(u) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(U > u, V > u)}{\mathbb{P}(U > u)} = \frac{\bar{C}(u, u)}{1 - u} \quad \rightarrow \chi \text{ as } u \rightarrow 1$$

- $\chi = 1$ perfect dependence
- $\circ \chi \in (0, 1)$ asymptotic dependence, AD
- $\chi = 0$ perfect independence

$$\theta(u) = \frac{\log \mathbb{P}(U \le u, V \le u)}{\log \mathbb{P}(U \le u)} = \frac{\log C(u, u)}{\log u} \quad \to \theta \text{ as } u \to 1$$

• $\theta = 2 - \chi$

- χ and θ describe AD
- MEVD admits AD

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Asymptotic independence ... not admitted by MEVD

• On uniform margins

$$\bar{\chi}(u) = 2 \frac{\log \mathbb{P}(U > u)}{\log \mathbb{P}(U > u, V > u)} - 1 = 2 \frac{\log(1 - u)}{\log \bar{C}(u, u)} - 1 \quad \rightarrow \bar{\chi} \text{ as } u \rightarrow 1$$

- $\circ \,\, ar{\chi} = 1$ perfect dependence and AD
- $\circ \,\, ar{\chi} \in (0,1)$ asymptotic independence, AI
- $\bar{\chi} = 0$ perfect independence
- $\circ~$ On Fréchet margins ($F(z) = \exp\left(-z^{-1}\right)$), assume

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}(Z_1 > z, Z_2 > z)}{\left(\mathbb{P}(Z_1 > z)\right)^{1/\eta}} = \mathcal{L}(z)$$

where \mathcal{L} is slowly varying : $\mathcal{L}(xz)/\mathcal{L}(z) \to 1$ as $z \to \infty$ $\circ \ \bar{\chi} = 2\eta - 1$

- Idea : use non-extreme value copulas or inverted EV copulas
- \circ Also $\mathbb{P}(Z_2 > z | Z_1 > z) \approx C z^{1-1/\eta}$ from above
- Idea : assume a max-stable-like normalisation for conditional extremes

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Extremal dependence (bivariate Gaussian)

• Many (almost all?) environmental extremes problems involve asymptotic independence, at least in part ... bivariate Gaussian is one example!



Colours are correlations ρ on -0.9, -0.8, ..., 0.9 (Recreated from Coles et al. 1999)

Conditional extremes ... moving beyond component-wise maxima

- $X = (X_1, ..., X_j, ..., X_p)$
- Each *X* and *Y* have standard Laplace margins $(f(x) = \exp(-|x|)/2, x \in \mathbb{R})$
- Seek a model for X|(Y = y) for y > u
- Assume we can find *p*-dimensional scaling *a*, *b* > 0 such that

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Z} \le \mathbf{z} | Y = y) \rightarrow G(\mathbf{z}) \text{ as } u \rightarrow \infty$$

for $\mathbf{Z} = \frac{\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{a}(y)}{\mathbf{b}(y)}$

- Non-degenerate G is unknown, and estimated empirically
- Typical scaling is $a = \alpha y$ and $b = y^{\beta}$, $\alpha \in [-1, 1]^p$, $\beta \in (-\infty, 1]^p$
- So simply fit regression model

$$X|(Y=y) = \alpha y + y^{\beta} Z$$

• $\alpha = 1$, $\beta = 0$: perfect dependence and AD, and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$: AI

Heffernan and Tawn [2004] find choices for *α* and *β* for popular bivariate cases
Bivariate Gaussian : *α* = *ρ*², *β* = 1/2

Conditional extremes in practice

- Non-stationary : Jonathan et al. [2014]
- Time-series : Winter and Tawn [2016], Tendijck et al. [2019]
- Mixture model : Tendijck et al. [2021]
- Spatial : Shooter et al. [2021b], Shooter et al. [2021a]
- Lots more
- Multivariate spatial : Shooter et al. [2022]

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Multivariate spatial conditional extremes (MSCE)

Motivation

- How useful are satellite observations of ocean waves and winds?
- Could they become the primary data source for decisions soon?
- What are the spatial characteristics of extremes from satellite observations?

Overview

- A look at the data : satellite wind, hindcast wind, hindcast wave
- Brief overview of methodology
- Results for joint spatial structure of extreme scatterometer wind speed, hindcast wind speed and hindcast significant wave height in the North Atlantic
- Implications for future practical applications

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In a nut-shell



- Condition on large value x of first quantity X₀₁ at one location j = 0 (green square)
- Estimate "conditional spatial profiles" for m > 1 quantities {X_{jk}}^{p,m}_{j=1,k=1} at p > 0 other locations (green, orange and blue circles)



- MCMC to estimate α , β , μ , σ , δ and ρ , κ , λ
- α , β , μ , σ , δ spatially smooth for each quantity
- DL = delta-Laplace = generalised Gaussian
- Residual correlation Σ for conditional Gaussian field, powered-exponential decay with distance

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Swath wind speeds



Daily descending METOP swaths. Satellite swath location changes over time. Spatial structure evident

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Scatter plots on physical scale

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Covariate dependence on physical scale



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Scatter plots on Laplace scale



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Inference

$$X_{jk} \sim Lpl, \quad x > u, \quad X | \{X_{01} = x\} = \alpha x + x^{\beta} Z, \quad Z \sim DL(\mu, \sigma^2, \delta; \Sigma(\lambda, \rho, \kappa))$$

• Delta-Laplace residual margins

$$f_{Z_{j,k}}(z_{j,k}) = \frac{\delta_{j,k}}{2\kappa_{j,k}\sigma_{j,k}\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{\delta_{j,k}}\right)} \exp\left\{-\left|\frac{z-\mu_{j,k}}{\kappa_{j,k}\sigma_{j,k}}\right|^{\delta_{j,k}}\right\}, \quad \kappa_{j,k}^2 = \Gamma\left(1/\delta_{j,k}\right)/\Gamma\left(3/\delta_{j,k}\right)$$

• Gaussian residual dependence

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{A}^{*}(j,k)\mathcal{A}^{*}(j',k')}^{*} = \lambda_{k,k'}^{|k-k'|} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{\operatorname{dist}(r_{j},r_{j'})}{\rho_{k,k'}}\right)^{\kappa_{k,k'}}\right)$$

- Piecewise linear forms for α , β , μ , σ , δ with distance using n_{Nod} spatial nodes
- Adaptive MCMC, Roberts and Rosenthal [2009]
- Total of $m(5n_{\text{Nod}} + (3m + 1)/2)$ parameters
- Rapid convergence, 10k iterations sufficient

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Parameter estimates



MSCE

Summary

Why?

- Careful quantification of "rare-event" risk
- Characterise tails of (multivariate) distributions
- Limited observations
- Immediate real-world consequences

The next 10 years?

- Univariate : fuller covariate descriptions, exploit measurement scale / sub-asymptotics, UQ, provide real-world decision-support
- Multivariate : theoretical development, computational tractability, expansion in scope (time-series, spatial), serious real-world applications

An interesting field for research?

• Environmental extremes is a nice area if you like a mix of statistical theory, method, computation and serious physical science-based application

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Thanks for listening / Diolch am wrando!