
Extreme Value Theory in Civil Engineering

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Preliminaries: Return period

- IID random variables $\{X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots\}$ with CDF F_X
 - Occurrence (or success) = $\{X_i > x_p\}$ in i^{th} trial
 - $p = P\{\text{success}\} = P\{X_i > x_p\} = 1 - F_X(x_p)$
 - x_p = level corresponding to exceedance probability p
- Sequence of independent and identical Bernoulli trials:
 - Geometric random variable
 - Time between successive occurrences is random
 - **“Mean Return Period”** associated with x_p is $1/p$ (in units of trial time interval)

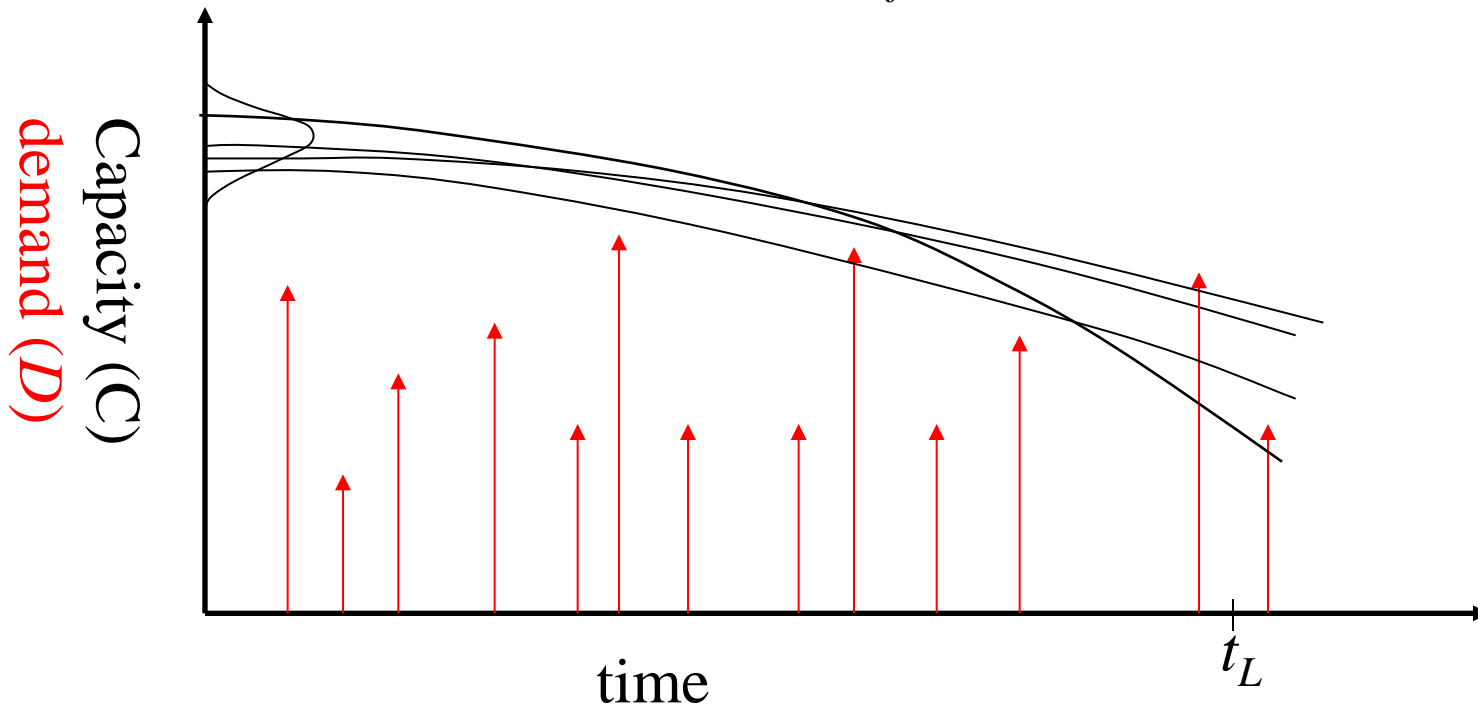
Preliminaries: Characteristic value

- IID random variables $\{X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots\}$ with CDF F_X
 - Success = $\{X_i > x_p\}$ in i^{th} trial
 - $p = P\{\text{success}\} = P\{X_i > x_p\} = 1 - F_X(x_p)$
 - x_p = level corresponding to exceedance probability p
- n repeated trials – Binomial random variable
 - Mean number of occurrences = np
- x_n = **Characteristic value** of X_i
 - if mean number of occurrences, $np(x_n) = 1$
 - that is, $1 - F_X(x_n) = 1/n$

Motivation: Time-dependent reliability

First Passage Time: $T = \inf [t : C(t, \underline{x}) < D(t, \underline{x}), t \geq 0, \underline{x} \in \Omega]$

Probability of failure: $P_f(t_L) = P[T \leq t_L]$



Design issues

- Maximum load
- Minimum capacity
- Associated uncertainties
- Data driven

Reliability problem statement

- Time-dependent failure probability

$$P_f(t) = P[R(\tau) - D - L(\tau) \leq 0 \quad \text{for any } \tau \in [0, t]]$$

- Simplification

$$P_f(t) = P[R_e - D - L_{\max, t} \leq 0]$$

- Need to estimate $L_{\max, t}$

Maximum live load estimation

- Maximum live load

$$L_{\max,t} = \max \{ L_1, L_2, \dots, L_{N(t)} \}$$

- Distribution function

$$F_{L_{\max,t}}(l) = P[L_1 \leq l, L_2 \leq l, \dots, L_{N(t)} \leq l]$$

- Simplifications

- independence
- stationarity

$$F_{L_{\max,t}}(l) = [F_L(l)]^{N(t)}$$

Extreme value theory: problem statement

- Sequence of random variables $\{X_i\}$
- What are the limiting forms of Z_n and W_n ?

$$Z_n = \max(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \sim H_n$$

$$W_n = \min(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \sim L_n$$

- Issues
 - n unknown
 - Degeneracy of limit distributions: n infinite
 - Nature of population distributions, F_i
 - Dependence in the sequence
 - Non-stationarity of the sequence

IID (classical) case

- $\{X_i\}$ is an IID sequence
 - X_i and X_j are independent for $i \neq j$
 - $F_i = F$ are same for all i
- $H_n(x)$ and $L_n(x)$ are degenerate distributions

$$P[Z_n \leq x] = H_n(x) = F^n(x)$$

$$P[W_n \leq x] = L_n(x) = 1 - (1 - F(x))^n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} H_n(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < \omega(F) \\ 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\omega(F)$ = upper end point of F

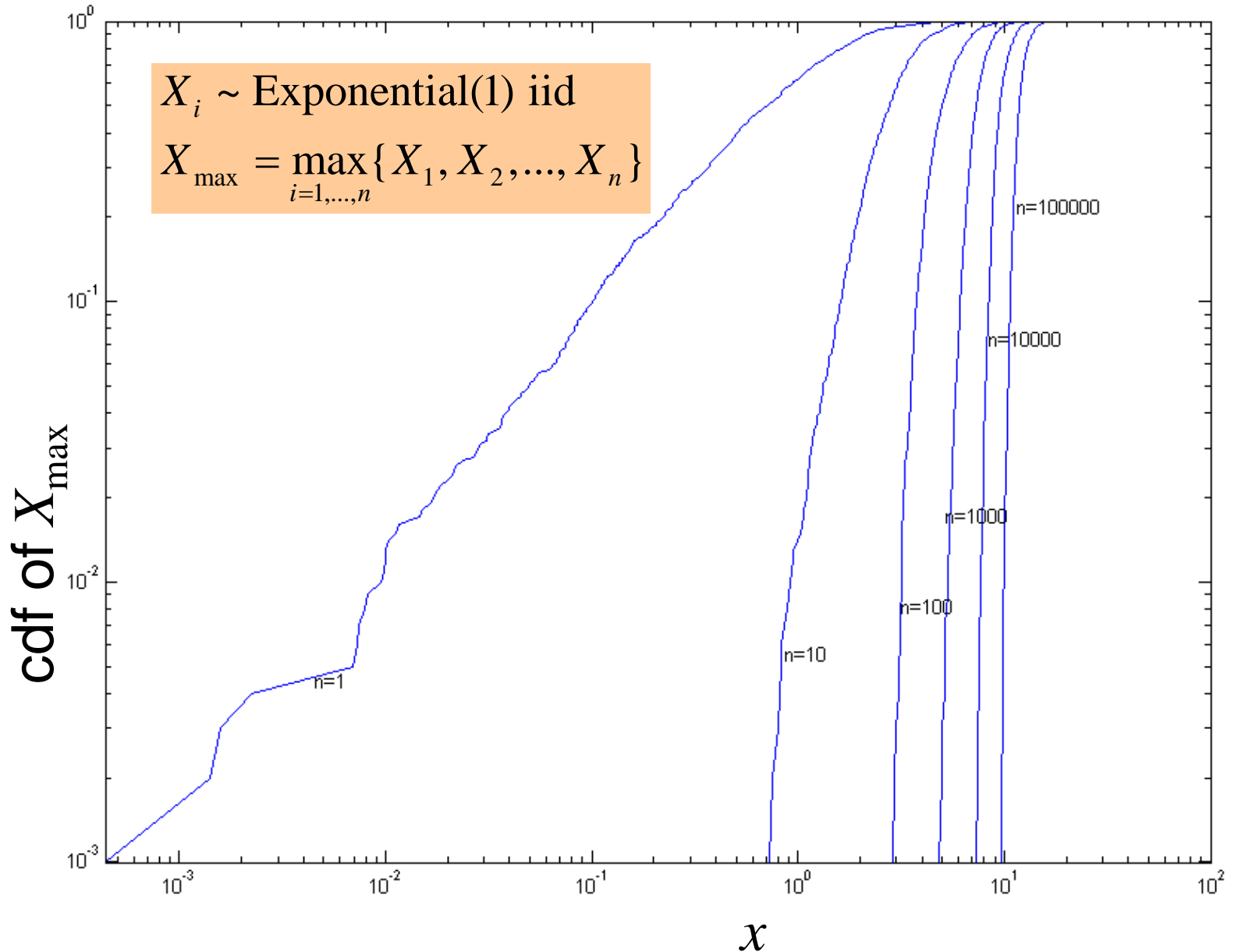
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_{(n)}(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq \alpha(F) \\ 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\alpha(F)$ = lower end point of F

Code for CDF of X_{\max} vs. n

- %This program generates a sequence of n IID exponential RVs and stores its maximum, x_{\max}
- %It then repeats the process mct times
- %The distribution of x_{\max} is plotted
- %The plot is repeated for a different n
- clear all;
- mct=1000;
- n=input('give n\n');
- for mcti=1:mct,
- for i=1:n,
- x(i)=-log(rand);
- end
- xmax(mcti)=max(x);
- freq(mcti)=mcti/(mct+1);
- end
- xmaxsorted=sort(xmax);
- loglog(xmaxsorted,freq);
- sizes=['n=' num2str(n)];
- hold on;
- text(xmaxsorted(mct/2),.5,[sizes],'BackgroundColor',[1 1 1],'EdgeColor','black');
- axis([0,100,0,1]);

Example: degeneracy for large n



- Can we normalize Z_n and help matters?

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \left[\frac{Z_n - a_n}{b_n} \leq x \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} H_n(a_n + b_n x) = H(x)$$

- Issues
 - How many possible forms for H ?
 - How does H depend on F ?
 - How to find a_n and b_n
 - What is the speed of convergence?

- Can we normalize $W_{(n)}$ and help matters?

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \left[\frac{W_{(n)} - a_n}{b_n} \leq z \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_{(n)}(a_n + b_n z) = L(z)$$

- Issues
 - How many possible forms for L ?
 - How does L depend on F ?
 - How to find a_n and b_n
 - What is the speed of convergence?

Normalization

As $n \rightarrow \infty$,

Instead of $F_{\max}(x) = F_X^n(x)$

Look at $F_X^n(x_n)$ where $x_n = f(x, n)$

Simplest form for x_n :

$$x_n = a_n + b_n x$$

Normalization example

$X_i \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$

$$F_{\max}(x) = F_X^n(x) = (1 - \exp(-x))^n$$

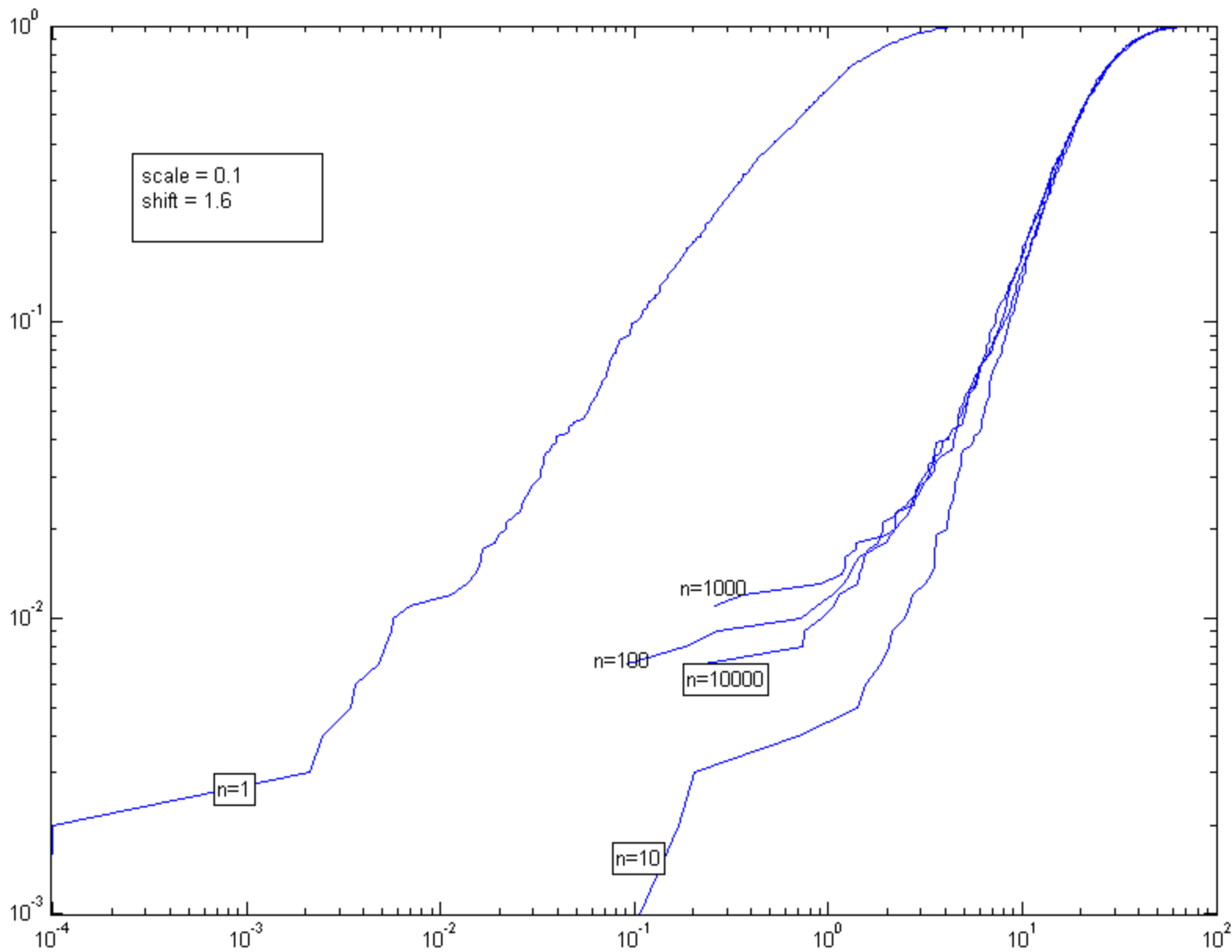
As $n \rightarrow \infty$,

Replace $x \leftarrow \alpha(x - u) + \ln(n)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Obtain: } F_{\max}(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{\exp(-\alpha(x - u))}{n} \right)^n \\ &= \exp(-\exp(-\alpha(x - u))) \end{aligned}$$

Code for CDF of normalized X_{\max} vs. n

- %This program generates n IID Exponentials and stores the maximum x_{\max} .
- % x_{\max} is then recentered and scaled as a function of n
- %The process is repeated n times
- clear all;
- mct=1000;
- n=input('give n\n');
- scale=input('give scale\n');
- shift=input('give shift\n');
- if n==1, scale=1; shift=0; end
- for mcti=1:mct,
- for i=1:n,
- x(i)=-log(rand);
- end
- xmax(mcti)=(max(x)-log(n)+shift)/scale;
- freq(mcti)=mcti/(mct+1);
- end
- xmaxsorted=sort(xmax);
- loglog(xmaxsorted, freq);
- sizes=['n=' num2str(n)];
- hold on;
- text(xmaxsorted(mct/2), .5, [sizes], 'BackgroundColor', [1 1 1], 'EdgeColor', 'black');
- axis([0, 100, 0, 1]);



Limit distributions in IID case

- There are only three types of non-degenerate distributions $H(x)$ for maxima
- There are only three types of non-degenerate distributions $L(x)$ for minima
- Necessary and sufficient conditions exist for $F(x)$ to yield above max or min distributions
 - Note: Two distributions F and G are of the same “type”, if $F(x) = G(ax+b)$ where a, b are constants

Generalized EV distribution for maxima

In IID case, $H(z)$ must be of the same type as:

$$H_c(z) = \exp\left[-(1 + cz)^{-1/c}\right], \quad 1 + cz > 0$$

$c = 0 \Rightarrow$ Gumbel (Type I) distribution: $H_G(z) = e^{-e^{-z}}, \quad -\infty < z < \infty$

$c > 0 \Rightarrow$ Frechet (Type II) distribution: $H_F(z) = \begin{cases} e^{-z^{-\gamma}}, & z > 0 \\ 0 & , z \leq 0 \end{cases}$

$c < 0 \Rightarrow$ Weibull (Type III) distribution: $H_W(z) = \begin{cases} 1, & z > 0 \\ e^{-(-z)^{-\gamma}}, & , z \leq 0 \end{cases}$

where $\gamma = |1/c|$

Generalized EV distribution for minima

In IID case, $L(z)$ must be of the same type as:

$$L_c(z) = 1 - \exp\left[-(1 - cz)^{-1/c}\right], \quad 1 - cz > 0$$

$c = 0 \Rightarrow$ Gumbel (Type I) distribution: $L_G(z) = 1 - e^{-e^z}$, $-\infty < z < \infty$

$c > 0 \Rightarrow$ Frechet (Type II) distribution: $L_F(z) = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-(-z)^{-\gamma}}, & z \leq 0 \\ 1, & z > 0 \end{cases}$

$c < 0 \Rightarrow$ Weibull (Type III) distribution: $L_W(z) = \begin{cases} 0, & z < 0 \\ 1 - e^{-z^\gamma}, & z \geq 0 \end{cases}$

where $\gamma = |1/c|$

Domains of attraction for maxima

$$(A) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - F(tx)}{1 - F(t)} = x^{-\gamma}, \quad \gamma > 0$$

$$(B) \quad \int_a^{\omega(F)} (1 - F(x)) dx < \infty, \text{ any finite } a, \quad \alpha(F), \omega(F) = \text{lower and upper end points of } F$$

$$(C) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \omega(F)} \frac{1 - F(t + xR(t))}{1 - F(t)} = e^{-x}, \quad R(t) = E(X - t \mid X > t), t > \alpha(F)$$

- $F \in D(H_F)$ if and only if $\omega(F) = \infty$ and (A) holds for F

$$a_n = 0, b_n = \inf(x : 1 - F(x) \leq 1/n)$$

- $F \in D(H_W)$ if and only if $\omega(F) < \infty$ and (A) holds for

$$F^*(x) = F(\omega(F) - 1/x)$$

$$a_n = \omega(F), b_n = \omega(F) - \inf(x : 1 - F(x) \leq 1/n)$$

- $F \in D(H_G)$ if and only if $\omega(F) = \infty$ and (B), (C) hold

$$a_n = \inf(x : 1 - F(x) \leq 1/n), b_n = R(a_n)$$

Domains of attraction for minima

$$(A) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F(tx)}{F(t)} = x^{-\gamma}, \quad \gamma > 0$$

$$(B) \quad \int_{\alpha(F)}^a F(x) dx < \infty, \text{ any finite } a, \quad \alpha(F), \omega(F) = \text{lower and upper end points of } F$$

$$(C) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \alpha(F)} \frac{F(t + xr(t))}{F(t)} = e^x, \quad r(t) = E(t - X \mid X < t), t > \alpha(F)$$

- $F \in D(L_F)$ if and only if $\alpha(F) = -\infty$ and (A) holds for F

$$c_n = 0, d_n = \sup(x : F(x) \leq 1/n)$$

- $F \in D(L_W)$ if and only if $\alpha(F) > -\infty$ and (A) holds for

$$F^*(x) = F(\alpha(F) - 1/x), \quad x < 0$$

$$c_n = \alpha(F), d_n = \sup(x : F(x) \leq 1/n) - \alpha(F)$$

- $F \in D(L_G)$ if and only if (B), (C) hold

$$c_n = \sup(x : F(x) \leq 1/n), d_n = r(c_n)$$

- Cauchy
- Uniform
- Exponential
- Rayleigh

- Limit distribution for minima from Cauchy parent

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\arctan(x)}{\pi}; \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

Check Eqn (A) for minima:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{F(tx)}{f(t)} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\arctan(tx)}{\pi}}{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\arctan(t)}{\pi}} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\frac{x}{1+(tx)^2}}{1+t^2} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x(1+t^2)}{1+t^2x^2} = x^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

That is, $\gamma = -1$, and Cauchy lies in the domain of attraction of Frechet for minima.

The normalizing constants are:

$$c_n = 0$$

$$d_n = \tan \left[\pi \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{n} \right) \right]$$

- Limit distribution for maxima from uniform parent

The complementary CDF of the uniform is:

$$F^*(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{x}, \quad x \leq 1$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - F^*(tx)}{1 - F^*(t)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{tx}}{\frac{1}{t}} = x^{-1}$$

Since $\gamma = 1$, uniform gives rise to Weibull maxima.

The normalizing constants are:

$$a_n = \omega(F) = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \omega(F) - F^{-1}\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \\ &= 1 - 1 + \frac{1}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \end{aligned}$$

- Limit distribution for minima from exponential parent

$$F^*(x) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)$$
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{F^*(tx)}{F^*(t)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1 - \exp\left(-\frac{1}{tx}\right)}{1 - \exp\left(-\frac{1}{t}\right)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{tx}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{t^2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)}{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{t}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{t^2}\right)} = x^{-1}$$

Since $\gamma = 1$, exponential gives rise to Weibull minima.

$$c_n = \alpha(F) = 0$$

$$d_n = F^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) - \alpha(F) = -\log\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \approx \frac{1}{n}$$

Domains of attraction

Domain of Attraction Type		
Distribution	For maximum	For minimum
Normal	Gumbel	Gumbel
Exponential	Gumbel	Weibull
Log-normal	Gumbel	Gumbel
Gamma	Gumbel	Weibull
Gumbel _M	Gumbel	Gumbel
Gumbel _m	Gumbel	Gumbel
Rayleigh	Gumbel	Weibull
Uniform	Weibull	Weibull
Weibull _M	Weibull	Gumbel
Weibull _m	Gumbel	Weibull
Cauchy	Frechet	Frechet
Pareto	Frechet	Weibull
Frechet _M	Frechet	Gumbel
Frechet _m	Gumbel	Frechet

M=for maximum

m=for minimum

Estimation of EV distribution parameters

- Block maxima – probability plot
- Return period plot
- Problem: not all data are utilized

Generalized Pareto Distribution

Exceedances of X over high threshold u

Define: $Y = X - u$

$$G(y) = P[Y \leq y \mid Y > 0] = 1 - [1 + (cy / a)]^{-1/c}$$

$$a > 0, 1 + (cy / a) > 0$$

same c as in GEV distribution