

# Topics in Likelihood Inference

STA4508H

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A4 | NEWS

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## Omicron less lethal than Delta, research finds

Although variant isn't as likely to lead to severe illness, transmissibility has caused daily death counts to eclipse those of previous wave

ANDREA WOO

People infected with the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2 are less likely to die or experience severe outcomes compared with those infected with the Delta variant, emerging research shows.

However, the variant's hyper-transmissibility has led to daily death numbers that have eclipsed those of the previous wave, and a record number of hospitalizations, with Canada's older population still at highest risk.

Federal and provincial governments have begun to signal a turning point in the fight against COVID-19, with some leaders pointing to the variant's relatively less severe outcomes as one reason to lift remaining restrictions within weeks. But experts caution that measures should be eased only when governments have done everything possible to protect the most vulnerable residents.

Sumir Sinha, director of geriatrics at St. Michael's and the Univ.



Nurses tend to a COVID-19 patient in the intensive-care unit at a Santa, Ont., hospital last month. Canada recorded almost 170 deaths a day during the peak of the Omicron wave in late January, based on a seven-day rolling average. (CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS)

evident among vaccinated and unvaccinated patients and those with or without a prior COVID-19 infection, wrote the authors of the study, which has not yet been peer-reviewed.

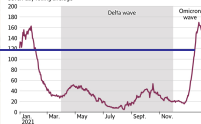
The authors note that while such findings are encouraging, the higher transmissibility of Omicron, as well as the fact that prior infection and vaccination are not as effective in fighting off the variant, have led to unprecedented surges of COVID-19 that have overwhelmed health care sys-

tems, and Jan. 28, 2022.

Of those hospitalized with Delta, 37.5 per cent needed critical care, and 14.2 per cent died. In comparison, 13.1 per cent of those hospitalized with Omicron required critical care, and 4.5 per cent died. The median length of hospital stay was seven days for Delta, and four days for Omicron.

Reviews of 550 cases of people across B.C. admitted to hospital with COVID-19 show that 4.4 per cent who were hospitalized for severe COVID-19 died, the study

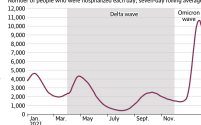
Daily COVID-19 deaths in Canada  
Seven-day rolling average



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: GLOBE COVID-19 DATA TRACKER

COVID-19 hospitalization in Canada

Number of people who were hospitalized each day, seven-day rolling average



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# Various 'types' of likelihood

1. likelihood, marginal and conditional likelihood, profile likelihood, adjusted profile
2. semi-parametric likelihood, partial likelihood
3. quasi-likelihood, composite likelihood misspecified models
4. empirical likelihood, penalized likelihood
5. likelihood inference in high dimensions
6. simulated likelihood, indirect inference
7. bootstrap likelihood,  $h$ -likelihood, weighted likelihood, pseudo-likelihood, local likelihood, sieve likelihood

- Feb 16 Angela: Cox (2013)  
Robert: Barndorff-Nielsen and Cox (1979)  
Shiki: Solomon and Cox (1992)
- Feb 23 Hengchao: Rotnitzky et al. (2000)  
Siyue: De Stavola and Cox (2008)  
Manuel: Battey and Cox (2018)  
Ziang: Cox (1975)

Feb 16 in SS 1087; Feb 23 online

typo in exercise 2 for Feb 2  $\exp\{\ell(\theta) - \ell(\hat{\theta})\}$

correct version now on web page

exercises Jan 26 has details about report structure

- $y_1, \dots, y_n$  independent observations  $\sim G(\cdot)$ , density  $g(\cdot)$
- we fit the **incorrect** model  $f(y; \theta)$
- Kullback-Liebler (KL) divergence between  $f(y; \theta)$  and  $g(y)$  is defined as

$$KL(\theta) = \int \log \left\{ \frac{g(y)}{f(y; \theta)} \right\} g(y) dy$$

Wikipedia writes  $D_{KL}(G||F)$  or more precisely  $D_{KL}(P_G||P_F)$

- $KL(\theta) \geq 0$ , and  $KL(\theta) = 0 \iff f(y; \theta) \equiv g(y)$
- define  $\theta^* = \arg \min KL(\theta)$
- $f(y; \theta^*)$  is **closest to  $G(\cdot)$**  in the family  $\{f(\cdot; \theta), \theta \in \Theta\}$

$$KL(\theta) = \int \log \left\{ \frac{g(y)}{f(y; \theta)} \right\} g(y) dy$$

- $\theta^* = \arg \min_{\theta} KL(\theta)$
- $\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} \int \log \{f(y; \theta)\} g(y) dy = \arg \max_{\theta} E_G \{\ell(\theta; y)\}$
- leads to a proof that the maximum likelihood estimator converges to  $\theta^*$  under some smoothness conditions, etc.
- if  $g(y) = f(y; \theta_0)$ , then  $\theta^* = \theta_0$  true density is in the model family
- otherwise  $\theta^*$  is the 'least false' parameter value

## ... misspecified models

- Example: true model  $G$  is log-normal  $\log y \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$   $g(y) = ?$
- fitted model has density  $f(y; \theta) = \frac{1}{\theta} \exp(-\frac{y}{\theta})$
- $E_G\{\ell(\theta; y)\} = -\log \theta - E_G(\frac{y}{\theta})$
- $\theta^* = E_G(y) = \exp(\mu + \sigma^2/2)$   $\arg \max_{\theta} E_G\{\ell(\theta; y)\}$
- If we fit  $\{f(y; \theta) : \theta > 0\}$  to a sample  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  we get  $\hat{\theta} = \bar{y}$
- WLLN under sampling from  $G(\cdot)$ ,  $\bar{y} \xrightarrow{P} E_G(y) = \theta^*$

$\theta^*$  is a 'meaningful' parameter, regardless of the underlying model

## ... misspecified models

- viewing  $\theta$  as a convenient summary of the data, we can consider properties of likelihood-based inference under the true model  $g$   
Kent, White, 1982
- this can be cumbersome: studying robustness to local departures from an assumed model might be more relevant in practice
- composite likelihood is a special type of misspecification  
Lindsay, 1988
- another is the framework of generalized estimating equations, with dependence modelled by using a 'working covariance'  
Liang & Zeger, 1986
- indirect inference also uses a working (simplified) model that is adjusted using simulations from the true model

Gouerieroux et al, 1993

# Likelihood inference in misspecified models

- maximum likelihood estimate as usual:  $(\partial/\partial\theta)\ell(\hat{\theta}; y) = 0$
- consistent for  $\theta^*$ , the 'least-false' value
- $E_G U(\theta) = E_G(\partial/\partial\theta)\ell(\theta; y) = \int (\partial/\partial\theta)\ell(\theta; y)g(y)dy = 0$ , only at  $\theta^*$
- $E_G(-\partial^2/\partial\theta^2)\ell(\theta; y) = \int (-\partial^2/\partial\theta^2)\ell(\theta; y)g(y)dy \equiv H(\theta) = H_G(\theta)$
- $E_G\{(\partial/\partial\theta)\ell(\theta; y)\}^2 = \int \{(\partial/\partial\theta)\ell(\theta; y)\}^2 g(y)dy \equiv J(\theta) \neq H(\theta)$
- $(\hat{\theta} - \theta^*) = H(\theta^*)^{-1}U(\theta^*)\{1 + o_p(1)\}$   $U(\theta) = (\partial/\partial\theta)\ell(\theta)$
- $\hat{\theta} \sim N\{\theta^*, \mathcal{G}^{-1}(\theta^*)\}$   $\mathcal{G}(\theta) = H(\theta)J^{-1}(\theta)H(\theta)$

# Examples

- $y_1, \dots, y_n$  i.i.d.  $\sim G$ ; we assume  $f(y; \theta)$  is  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

- $\hat{\mu} = \bar{y}, \quad \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum (y_i - \bar{y})^2$

$$\mu^* = \mu_G, \sigma^{*2} = \sigma_G^2$$

- $\partial_\theta \ell(\theta; y) = [\Sigma(y_i - \mu)/\sigma^2, \quad -(n/2\sigma^2) + \Sigma(y_i - \mu)^2/(2\sigma^4)]$

- $H(\theta_G) = n \begin{bmatrix} 1/(\sigma_G^2) & 0 \\ 0 & 1/(2\sigma_G^4) \end{bmatrix}$

$$H(\theta) = -E_G \ell''(\theta; y)$$

$$J(\theta) = \text{Var}_G \ell'(\theta; y)$$

$$J(\theta_G) = n \begin{bmatrix} 1/(\sigma_G^2) & \mu_3/(2\sigma_G^6) \\ \mu_3/(2\sigma_G^6) & (\mu_4 - \sigma_G^4)/(4\sigma_G^8) \end{bmatrix}$$

ntbc

- $\mathcal{G}(\theta_G) = n^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_G^2 & \mu_3 \\ \mu_3 & \mu_4 - \sigma_G^4 \end{bmatrix}$

not uncorrelated

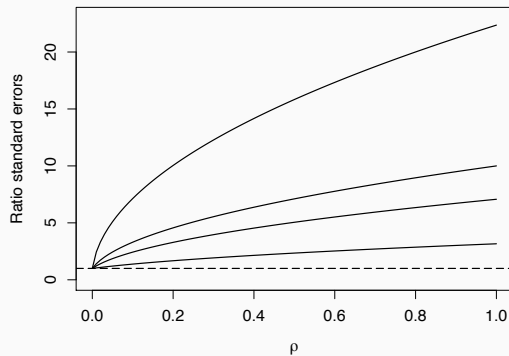
## ... examples

- linear regression model  $G: y = X\beta_0 + \epsilon, \quad \epsilon \sim (0, \sigma^2 R)$   
linear regression; correlated errors
- working model  $f(y; \beta) = N(X\beta, \sigma^2 I)$   
uncorrelated errors
- $\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$   
least squares estimator; mle under normality
- $E_G(\hat{\beta}) = \beta_0$   
LSE unbiased (consistent)
- $\text{var}_G(\hat{\beta}) = \sigma^2 (X^T X)^{-1} X^T R X (X^T X)^{-1}$   
sandwich variance
- working model variance is incorrect  
 $\sigma^2 (X^T X)^{-1}$
- single intercept model  $\hat{\beta} = \bar{y}, R_{ij} = \rho, \text{var}(\bar{y}) = (\sigma^2/n)\{1 + \rho(n-1)\}$   
dependence is a killer

- $y_i \sim N(\beta, \sigma^2), \quad R_{ij} = \rho$
- $\text{var}_G(\hat{\beta}) = (\sigma^2/n)\{1 + \rho(n-1)\}$

$\rho = 0.1, n = 100$  ratio of se's 3.3

$n = 10, 50, 100, 500$



## Recap: Composite likelihood

- **Vector observation:**  $Y \sim f(y; \theta)$ ,  $Y \in \mathcal{Y} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- **Set of events:**  $\{\mathcal{A}_k, k \in K\}$

- Composite Log-Likelihood:

Lindsay, 1988

$$cl(\theta; y) = \sum_{k \in K} w_k \ell_k(\theta; y)$$

- $\ell_k(\theta; y) = \log\{f(\{y \in \mathcal{A}_k\}; \theta)\}$  log-likelihood for an event
- $\{w_k, k \in K\}$  a set of weights
- Note that  $\theta$  is **assumed** to have the same meaning in  $\ell_k$  and in the full model
- This makes it different from a completely mis-specified model

## Derived quantities

sample  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$  with joint density  $f(y; \theta)$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^m, \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$

score function  $U_{CL}(\theta) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \mathbf{cl}(\theta; y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \mathbf{cl}(\theta; y_i)$

maximum composite  
likelihood estimate  $\hat{\theta}_{CL} = \hat{\theta}_{CL}(y) = \arg \sup_{\theta} \mathbf{cl}(\theta; y)$

score equation  $U_{CL}(\hat{\theta}_{CL}) = \mathbf{cl}'(\hat{\theta}_{CL}) = \mathbf{0}$

composite LRT  $w_{CL}(\theta) = 2\{\mathbf{cl}(\hat{\theta}_{CL}) - \mathbf{cl}(\theta)\}$

Godambe information  $G(\theta) = G_n(\theta) = H_n(\theta)J_n^{-1}(\theta)H_n(\theta) = O(n)$

- **Sample:**  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$ , i.i.d.,  $CL(\theta; \underline{y}) = \prod_{i=1}^n CL(\theta; y_i)$
- $\hat{\theta}_{CL} - \theta \sim N\{\mathbf{o}, G^{-1}(\theta)\}$        $G_n(\theta) = H(\theta)J(\theta)^{-1}H(\theta)$
- $U(\hat{\theta}_{CL}) \doteq U(\theta) + (\hat{\theta}_{CL} - \theta)\partial_\theta U(\theta)$   $U = U_{CL}$
- $\hat{\theta}_{CL} - \theta \doteq -\partial_\theta U(\theta)^{-1}U(\theta) \doteq H^{-1}(\theta)U(\theta)$
- $U(\theta) \sim N\{\mathbf{o}, J(\theta)\}$
- $H^{-1}(\theta)U(\theta) \sim N\{\mathbf{o}, H^{-1}(\theta)J(\theta)H^{-T}(\theta)\}$
- conclude  
$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_{CL} - \theta) \sim N\{\mathbf{o}, G^{-1}(\theta)\}$$

- $w(\theta) = 2\{\text{cl}(\hat{\theta}_{\text{CL}}) - \text{cl}(\theta)\} \sim \sum_{a=1}^d \mu_a Z_a^2 \quad Z_a \sim N(0, 1)$

- $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_d$  eigenvalues of  $J(\theta)H(\theta)^{-1}$

$$\text{cl}(\hat{\theta}_{\text{CL}}) - \text{cl}(\theta) \doteq \frac{1}{2}(\hat{\theta}_{\text{CL}} - \theta)^{\text{T}} \{-\text{cl}''(\hat{\theta}_{\text{CL}})\}(\hat{\theta}_{\text{CL}} - \theta)$$

- non-central  $\chi^2$  limit

- $J(\theta) = \text{var}U(\theta), \quad H(\theta) = -\text{E}\partial_{\theta}U(\theta)$

- if  $J(\theta) = H(\theta)$ ,  $w(\theta) \sim \chi_d^2$

- if  $d = 1$ ,  $w(\theta) \sim \mu_1 \chi_1^2 = J(\theta)H^{-1}(\theta)\chi_1^2$

$H, J$  both scalars

## Example: symmetric normal

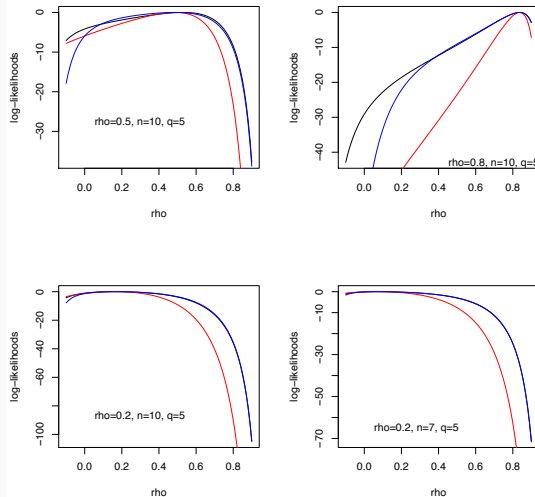
- $Y_i \sim N(0, R)$ ,  $\text{var}(Y_{ir}) = 1$ ,  $\text{corr}(Y_{ir}, Y_{is}) = \rho$
- compound bivariate normal densities to form pairwise likelihood

$$\text{cl}(\rho; y_1, \dots, y_n) = -\frac{nm(m-1)}{4} \log(1-\rho^2) - \frac{m-1+\rho}{2(1-\rho^2)} SS_w \\ - \frac{(m-1)(1-\rho)}{2(1-\rho^2)} \frac{SS_b}{m}$$

$$SS_w = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{s=1}^m (y_{is} - \bar{y}_{i.})^2, \quad SS_b = \sum_{i=1}^n y_{i.}^2$$

$$\ell(\rho; y_1, \dots, y_n) = -\frac{n(m-1)}{2} \log(1-\rho) - \frac{n}{2} \log\{1 + (m-1)\rho\} \\ - \frac{1}{2(1-\rho)} SS_w - \frac{1}{2\{1 + (m-1)\rho\}} \frac{SS_b}{m}$$

## ... symmetric normal LRT



## Nuisance parameters $\theta = (\psi, \lambda)$

- constrained estimator:  $\tilde{\theta}_\psi = \sup_{\theta=\theta(\psi)} \text{cl}(\theta; \mathbf{y})$
- $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\psi}_{\text{CL}} - \psi) \sim N\{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{G}^{\psi\psi}(\theta)\}$        $\mathbf{G}(\theta) = \mathbf{H}(\theta)\mathbf{J}(\theta)^{-1}\mathbf{H}(\theta)$
- profile composite log-likelihood test     $w(\psi) = 2\{\text{cl}(\hat{\theta}_{\text{CL}}) - \text{cl}(\tilde{\theta}_\psi)\} \sim \sum_{a=1}^{d_0} \mu_a Z_a^2$
- $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_{d_0}$  are the eigenvalues of  $(\mathbf{H}^{\psi\psi})^{-1}\mathbf{G}^{\psi\psi}$
- Godambe information needs to be estimated

Kent, 1982

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{H}}(\theta) &= -\partial^2 \text{cl}(\hat{\theta}_{\text{CL}}) / \partial \theta \partial \theta^T \\ \hat{\mathbf{J}}(\theta) &= n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{U}_{\text{CL}}(\theta; \mathbf{y}_i) \mathbf{U}_{\text{CL}}^T(\theta; \mathbf{y}_i)\end{aligned}$$

latter needs independent samples; can be biased and/or inefficient

- Akaike's information criterion

Varin and Vidoni, 2005

$$AIC = -2\text{cl}(\hat{\theta}_{CL}) + 2 \text{dim}(\theta)$$

- derivation of AIC for misspecified likelihood leads to

$$TIC = -2\text{cl}(\hat{\theta}_{CL}) + 2 \text{tr}\{H(\hat{\theta}_{CL})G^{-1}(\hat{\theta}_{CL})\}$$

Takeuchi information criterion

- Bayesian information criterion

Gao and Song, 2009

$$BIC = -2\text{cl}(\hat{\theta}_{CL}) + \log n \text{dim}(\theta)$$

used for selection of tuning parameters

## Example: CL with dichotomized MV Normal

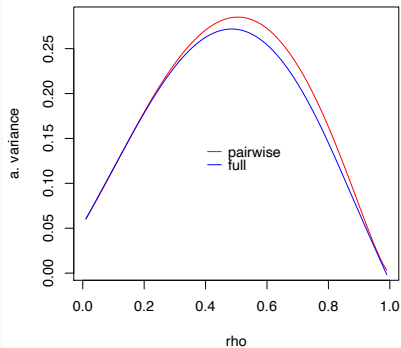
$$Y_{ir} = 1\{Z_{ir} > 0\} \quad Z \sim N(0, R) \quad r = 1, \dots, m; i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ell_2(\rho) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{s < r} \{ & y_{ir} y_{is} \log P(y_r = 1, y_s = 1) + y_{ir}(1 - y_{is}) \log P_{10} \\ & + (1 - y_{ir})y_{is} \log P_{01} + (1 - y_{ir})(1 - y_{is}) \log P_{00} \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{a.var}(\hat{\rho}_{CL}) = \frac{1}{n} \frac{4\pi^2}{m^2} \frac{(1 - \rho^2)}{(m - 1)^2} \text{var}(T) \quad T = \sum_{s < r} (2y_{ir}y_{is} - y_{ir} - y_{is})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}(T) = m^4(p_{1111} - 2p_{111} + 2p_{11} - p_{11}^2 + \frac{1}{4}) + \\ m^3(-6p_{1111\dots}) + m^2(\dots) + m(\dots) \end{aligned}$$

$$p_{1111} = \Pr(Z_r > 0, Z_s > 0, Z_t > 0, Z_u > 0)$$



Numbers incorrect in Cox & Reid 2004 Table 1

|        |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $\rho$ | 0.02  | 0.05  | 0.12  | 0.20  | 0.40  | 0.50  |
| ARE    | 0.998 | 0.999 | 0.995 | 0.992 | 0.968 | 0.953 |

|        |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $\rho$ | 0.60  | 0.70  | 0.80  | 0.90  | 0.95  | 0.98  |
| ARE    | 0.938 | 0.903 | 0.900 | 0.874 | 0.869 | 0.850 |

- latent variable:  $z_{ir} = \mathbf{x}'_{ir}\beta + b_i + \epsilon_{ir}, \quad \epsilon_{ir} \sim N(0, 1)$
- binary observations:  $y_{ir} = 1(z_{ir} > 0); \quad r = 1, \dots, m_i; i = 1, \dots, n$
- probit model:  $Pr(y_{ir} = 1 | b_i) = \Phi(\mathbf{x}'_{ir}\beta + b_i); \quad b_i \sim N(0, \sigma_b^2)$

- likelihood

$$L(\beta, \sigma_b) = \prod_{i=1}^n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{r=1}^{m_i} \Phi(\mathbf{x}'_{ir}\beta + b_i)^{y_{ir}} \{1 - \Phi(\mathbf{x}'_{ir}\beta + b_i)\}^{1-y_{ir}} \phi(b_i, \sigma_b^2) db_i$$

- pairwise likelihood

$$CL(\beta, \sigma_b) = \prod_{i=1}^n \prod_{r < s} p_{11}^{y_{ir}y_{is}} p_{10}^{y_{ir}(1-y_{is})} p_{01}^{(1-y_{ir})y_{is}} p_{00}^{(1-y_{ir})(1-y_{is})}$$

- each  $Pr(y_{ir} = j, y_{is} = k)$  evaluated using  $\Phi_2(\cdot, \cdot; \rho_{irs})$

## ... multi-level probit

- computational effort doesn't increase with the number of random effects
- pairwise likelihood numerically stable
- efficiency losses, relative to maximum likelihood, of about 20% for estimation of  $\beta$
- somewhat larger for estimation of  $\sigma_b^2$

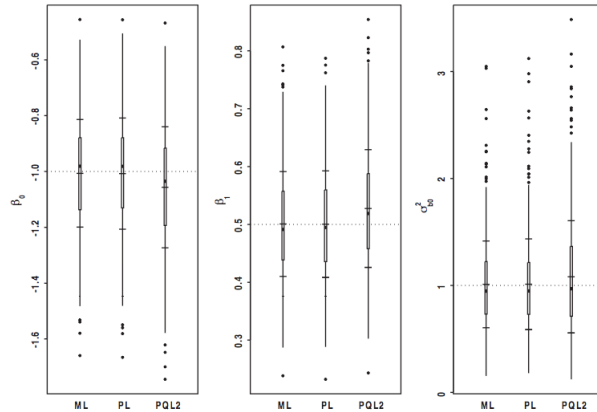


Fig. 5. Boxplots of ML, PL and PQL2 simulated parameter estimates under Model (10) with random intercept.

- subjects  $i = 1, \dots, n$
- observations counts  $y_{ir}, r = 1, \dots, m_i$
- model  $y_{ir} \sim \text{Poisson}(u_{ir}x_{ir}^T\beta)$
- $u_{i1}, \dots, u_{im_i}$  gamma-distributed random effects
- but correlated  $\text{corr}(u_{ir}, u_{is}) = \rho^{|r-s|}$
- joint density has combinatorial number of terms in  $m_i$ ; impractical
- weighted pairwise composite likelihood

$$cL_{pair}(\beta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{m_i - 1} \prod_{r=1}^{m_i} \prod_{s=r+1}^{m_i} f(y_{ir}, y_{is}; \beta)$$

- weights chosen so that  $\mathcal{L}_{pair} = \text{full likelihood}$  if  $\rho = 0$

## Example: Varin & Czado 2010

- pain severity scores recorded at four time points

morning, noon, evening, bed

- 119 patients; varying number of days per patient
- covariates: personal and weather
- response: pain score 0 1 2 3 4 5

- $y_{ij}$  response at time  $t_{ij}$  for observation  $j$  on subject  $i, j = 1, \dots, m_i$
- $y_{ij}^*$  a **latent variable**, continuous  $y_{ij}^* = \mathbf{x}_{ij}^T \beta + u_i + \epsilon_{ij}$
- $y_{ij} = k \Leftrightarrow a_{k-1} < y_{ij}^* < a_k$
- if  $u_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$  and  $\epsilon_{ij} \sim N(0, 1)$

$$L(\theta; \mathbf{y}) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(y_{i1}, \dots, y_{im_i}) = \prod_{i=1}^n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{j=1}^{m_i} \{ \Phi(a_{y_{ij}} - \mathbf{x}_{ij}^T \beta - u_i) - \Phi(a_{y_{ij}-1} - \mathbf{x}_{ij}^T \beta - u_i) \} \phi\left(\frac{u_i}{\sigma}\right) du_i$$

$$\theta = (\mathbf{a}, \beta, \sigma^2)$$

## ... pain severity scores

- $y_{ij}^*$  and  $y_{ij'}^*$  have constant correlation  $\sigma^2/(\sigma^2 + 1)$
- points nearer in time might be expected to have higher correlation
- change  $\epsilon_{ij}$  i.i.d.  $N(0, 1)$  to  $\text{corr}(\epsilon_{ij}, \epsilon_{ij'}) = \exp(\delta|t_{ij} - t_{ij'}|)$   $\tilde{a}_{ij} = a_{ij} - x_{ij}^T \beta / \sqrt{(\sigma^2 + 1)}$

$$L(\theta; y) = \prod_{i=1}^n \int_{\tilde{a}_{y_{i1}-1}}^{\tilde{a}_{y_{i1}}} \cdots \int_{\tilde{a}_{y_{im_i}-1}}^{\tilde{a}_{y_{im_i}}} \phi_{n_i}(z_{i1}, \dots, z_{im_i}; R_i) dz_{i1} \dots dz_{im_i}$$

•

$$R_{ijj'} = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + 1} + \frac{e^{-\delta|t_{ij} - t_{ij'}|}}{\sigma^2 + 1}$$

- pairwise log-likelihood:

$$c\ell(\theta; y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j < j'}^{m_i} \log f_2(y_{ij}, y_{ij'}; \theta) \mathbf{1}_{[-q, q]}(t_{ij} - t_{ij'})$$

Table 5: Migraine data. Estimates and standard errors from the pairwise likelihood with  $q = 12$  for the base model (first two columns) and the best model (last two columns) accordingly to CLIC. The levels of the variable **change** are 1: change from low to high atmospheric pressure, 2: substantially unchanged atmospheric pressure, 3: change from high to low atmospheric pressure. The baseline is “no university degree, no intake of analgesics, change from low to high pressure”.

|                       | est.   | s.e.  | est.   | s.e.  |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| $\alpha_2$            | 0.588  | 0.046 | 0.588  | 0.046 |
| $\alpha_3$            | 1.136  | 0.069 | 1.136  | 0.069 |
| $\alpha_4$            | 1.786  | 0.079 | 1.787  | 0.080 |
| $\alpha_5$            | 2.505  | 0.109 | 2.506  | 0.111 |
| intercept             | -0.474 | 0.226 | -0.522 | 0.223 |
| university            | -0.523 | 0.172 | -0.523 | 0.174 |
| analgesics            | 0.558  | 0.202 | 0.561  | 0.205 |
| change2               | —      | —     | 0.031  | 0.051 |
| change3               | —      | —     | 0.164  | 0.053 |
| $\gamma_F$            | 0.415  | 0.094 | 0.424  | 0.094 |
| $\gamma_T$            | 0.556  | 0.030 | 0.557  | 0.030 |
| $\gamma_T - \gamma_F$ | 0.142  | 0.098 | 0.133  | 0.098 |
| $\sigma^2$            | 0.566  | 0.110 | 0.564  | 0.111 |

- vector observations  $(X_{1i}, \dots, X_{mi})$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$
- example rainfall at each of  $m$  locations
- component-wise maxima  $Z_1, \dots, Z_m$ ;  $Z_j = \max(X_{j1}, \dots, X_{jn})$
- $Z_j$  are transformed (centered and scaled)

- general theory says

$$\Pr(Z_1 \leq z_1, \dots, Z_m \leq z_m) = \exp\{-V(z_1, \dots, z_m)\}$$

- function  $V(\cdot)$  can be parameterized via Gaussian process models
- example

$$\begin{aligned} V(z_1, z_2) = & z_1^{-1} \Phi\{(1/2)a(h) + a^{-1}(h) \log(z_2/z_1)\} + \\ & z_2^{-1} \Phi\{(1/2)a(h) + a^{-1}(h) \log(z_1/z_2)\} \end{aligned}$$

$$Z(h) = (z_1, z_2), Z(o) = (o, o), a(h) = h^T \Omega^{-1} h$$

$$\Pr(Z_1 \leq z_1, \dots, Z_d \leq z_m) = \exp\{-V(z_1, \dots, z_m)\}$$

- to compute log-likelihood function, need the density
- combinatorial explosion in computing joint derivatives of  $V(\cdot)$

$D = 10$ , one likelihood eval is a sum over 100,000 terms

- Davison et al. (2012, *Statistical Science*) used pairwise composite likelihood
- compared the fits of several competing models, using AIC analogue described above
- applied to annual maximum rainfall at several stations near Zurich

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A. C. DAVISON, S. A. PADOAN AND M. RIBATET

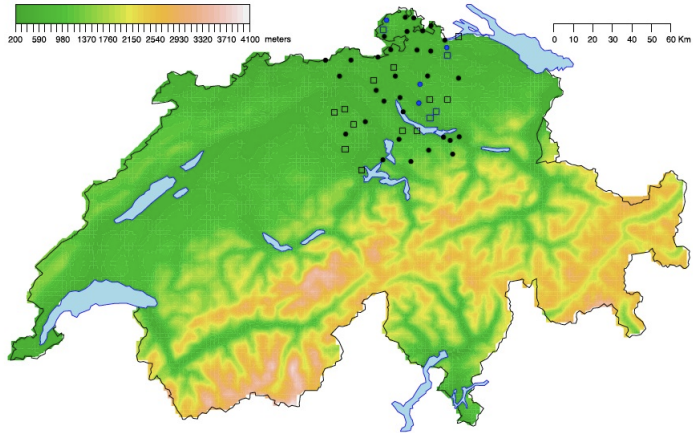


FIG. 1. Map of Switzerland showing the stations of the 51 rainfall gauges used for the analysis, with an insert showing the altitude. The 36 stations marked by circles were used to fit the models, and those marked with squares were used to validate the models. Data for the pairs of stations with blue symbols appear in Figure 2.

## MODELING OF SPATIAL EXTREMES

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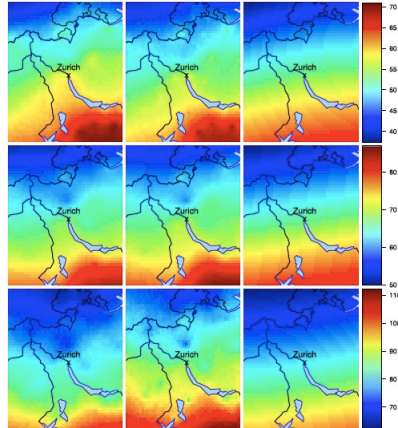


FIG. 3. Maps of the (predictive) pointwise 25-year return level estimates for rainfall (mm) obtained from the latent variable and max-stable models. The top and bottom rows show the lower and upper bounds of the 95% pointwise credible/confidence intervals. The middle row shows the predictive pointwise posterior mean and pointwise estimates. The left column corresponds to the latent variable model assuming  $\text{Gamma}(5, 3)$  prior on  $\lambda$ . The middle column assumes the less informative priors  $\lambda_\eta \sim \text{Gamma}(1, 100)$ ,  $\lambda_\tau \sim \text{Gamma}(1, 10)$  and  $\lambda_g \sim \text{Gamma}(1, 10)$ . The right column corresponds to the extremal  $t$  copula model.

## Example: Ising model

Ising model:

$$f(\mathbf{y}; \theta) = \exp\left(\sum_{(j,k) \in E} \theta_{jk} y_j y_k\right) \frac{1}{Z(\theta)} \quad j, k = 1, \dots, K$$

neighbourhood contributions

$$f(y_j \mid \mathbf{y}_{(-j)}; \theta) = \frac{\exp(2y_j \sum_{k \neq j} \theta_{jk} y_k)}{\exp(2y_j \sum_{k \neq j} \theta_{jk} y_k) + 1} = \exp \ell_j(\theta; \mathbf{y})$$

penalized CL estimation based on sample  $\mathbf{y}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{y}^{(n)}$

$$\max_{\theta} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^K \ell_j(\theta; \mathbf{y}^{(i)}) - \sum_{j < k} P_{\lambda}(|\theta_{jk}|) \right\}$$

Xue et al., 2012

Ravikumar et al., 2010

## Some surprises

- Godambe information  $G(\theta)$  can **decrease** as more component CLs are added
- pairwise CL can be **less efficient** than independence CL
- this can't always be fixed by weighting

Xu, 12

- parameter constraints can be important

- Example: binary vector  $Y$ ,

$$P(Y_j = y_j, Y_k = y_k) \propto \frac{\exp(\beta y_j + \beta y_k + \theta_{jk} y_j y_k)}{\{1 + \exp(\beta y_j + \beta y_k + \theta_{jk} y_j y_k)\}}$$

- this model is inconsistent

need  $\theta_{jk} \equiv \theta$

- parameters may not be identifiable in the CL, even if they are in the full likelihood

Yi, 12

- Hammersley-Clifford theorem for conditionals; nothing similar (?) for marginals

when does a set of conditional densities determine a valid joint density

- Recall: generalized linear model  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  independent, with

$$f(y_i | x_i; \beta, \phi) = \exp[\{y_i\theta_i - c(\theta_i)\}/\phi + h(y_i, \phi)]$$

- $\phi$  a scale parameter in this exponential family
- $E(y_i) = \mu_i = c'(\theta_i)$
- $\text{var}(y_i) = \phi V(\mu_i) = \phi c''(\theta_i)$

variance function

- $g(\mu_i) = x_i^T \beta$
- link function converts  $\theta_{n \times 1}$  to  $\beta_{p \times 1}$
- Standard  $V(\mu)$ : Normal– 1; Gamma–  $\mu^2$ ; Poisson–  $\mu$ ; Bernoulli–  $\mu(1 - \mu)$

link function

$$\ell(\beta, \phi; \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{y_i \theta_i - c(\theta_i)}{\phi} + h(y_i, \phi) \right\}$$

- log-likelihood

$$\ell(\beta, \phi; \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{y_i \theta_i - c(\theta_i)}{\phi} + h(y_i, \phi) \right\}$$

- score function

$$\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \beta_r} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial \mu_i} \frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial \beta_r} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{y_i - \mu_i}{\phi V(\mu_i)} \frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial \beta_r}$$

- MLE

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{y_i - \mu_i}{V(\mu_i)} \frac{x_{ir}}{g'(\mu_i)} = \mathbf{0}$$

- Bartlett identity:

$$\mathbb{E} \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \beta_r \partial \beta_s} + \frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \beta_r} \frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \beta_s} \right\} = \mathbf{0}$$

- Suppose instead of a generalized linear model, we had only a partially specified model:

$$E(y_i) = \mu_i, \text{var}(y_i) = \phi V(\mu_i), g(\mu_i) = \mathbf{x}_i^T \beta$$

- $g(\cdot), V(\cdot)$  known
- unbiased estimating equation

$$g(\mathbf{y}; \beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{y_i - \mu_i}{V(\mu_i)} \frac{\mathbf{x}_{ir}}{g'(\mu_i)}$$

- if  $g(\mathbf{y}; \tilde{\beta}) = \mathbf{0}$ , then asymptotic variance of  $\tilde{\beta}$  is

$$E \left\{ -\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{y}; \beta)}{\partial \beta^T} \right\}^{-1} \text{var}\{g(\mathbf{y}; \beta)\} E \left\{ -\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{y}; \beta)}{\partial \beta} \right\}^{-1}$$

as with composite likelihood

- With  $g(y; \beta) = \sum g_i(y_i; \beta) = \sum \frac{y_i - \mu_i}{\phi V(\mu_i)} \frac{x_{ir}}{g'(\mu_i)}$
- $E \left\{ -\frac{\partial g(y; \beta)}{\partial \beta^T} \right\} = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i x_i^T \frac{1}{g'(\mu_i)^2 \phi V(\mu_i)} = \phi^{-1} X^T W X = \text{var}\{g(y; \beta)\}$
- $W = \text{diag}(w_j), \quad w_j = \{g'(\mu_j)^2 V(\mu_j)\}^{-1}, j = 1, \dots, n$
- quasi-likelihood function

$$Q(\beta; y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{y_i}^{\mu_i} \frac{y_i - u}{\phi V(u)} du$$

- this only works for models of this form
- called quasi-likelihood because  $\partial Q / \partial \beta$  gives estimating equation with expected value 0, and 2nd Bartlett identity holds

# Longitudinal data

- suppose now our observations come in groups:  $y_{ij}, j = 1, \dots, m_i; i = 1, \dots, n$
- could be repeated measurements on subjects
- or measurements of members of the same cluster/family/group
- assume GLM-type structure  $E(y_{ij}) = \mu_{ij}, g(\mu_{ij}) = x_{ij}^T \beta + z_{ij}^T b_i$
- random effects  $b_i$  induce correlation among observations in the same group; e.g. assume  $b_i \sim N(0, \Omega_b)$
- GLM variance structure  $\text{var}(y_{ij}) = V_i(\beta, \alpha)$  for example
- $\alpha$  are extra parameters in the variance-covariance matrix
- QL-type estimating equations

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial \beta^T} \right)^T V_i^{-1}(\alpha, \beta) (y_i - \mu_i) = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial \mu_i}{\partial \beta^T} \right)^T V_i^{-1}(\alpha, \beta) (y_i - \mu_i) = \mathbf{0}$$

- parameter  $\alpha$  in variance function doesn't divide out, as in univariate case
- we will need an estimate  $\hat{\alpha}$  from somewhere

many suggestions in the literature

- Liang & Zeger suggested using a “working covariance matrix” to get an estimate of  $\beta$
- e.g. could assume independence, or  $AR(1)$ , or ...
- estimates of  $\beta$  will still be consistent, but the asymptotic variance will be of the sandwich form as the model is misspecified
- there is no integrated function that serves as a quasi-likelihood in this setting