

Bootstrapping Block Maxima Estimators

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Generated¹ by the prompt: *Create a happy machine kangaroo with a very heavy tail, wearing a shoe in London, trying to pull itself out by the bootstraps in comic style*

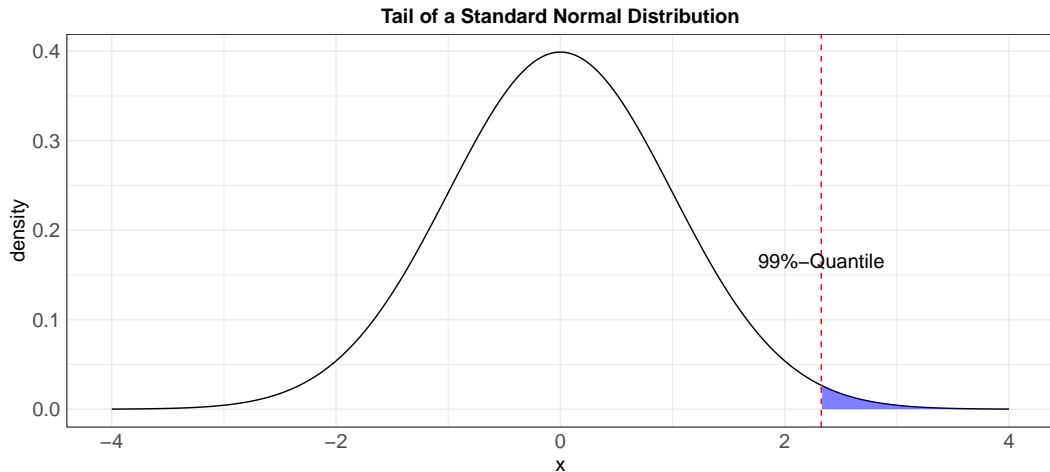
¹DALL-E

Motivation: Extreme Value Statistics

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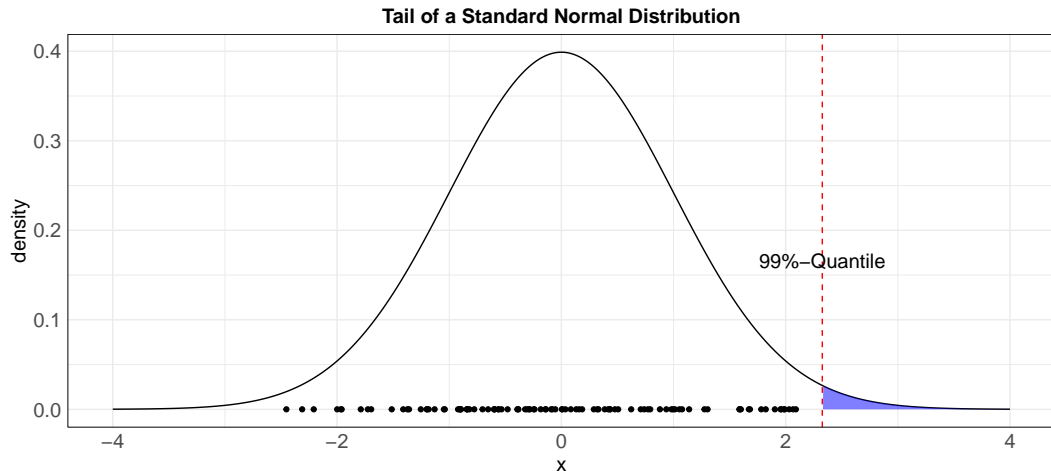


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→ Extreme Value Statistics is of high relevance

Motivation II: why bootstrapping?

Tukey once proposed to call the bootstrap in statistics shotgun as it could blow off the head of every statistical problem if we as statisticians could stand the resulting mess.²

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→ **Aim: use bootstraps in extremes when asymptotic variances are out of reach**

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Motivation III: why block maxima?

- From now on: tail = maximum of a block of a certain size (block length) of the sample:
 $M_{r,t} = \max(X_t, \dots, X_{t+r-1})$
- if block size is large: results from extreme value theory³ state

$$\forall t: \mathcal{L}(M_{r,t}) \approx \text{GEV}(\theta_r),$$

where $\theta_r = (\mu_r, \sigma_r, \gamma) \in \mathbb{R} \times (0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$ are the parameters of the *Generalized Extreme Value* distribution

- μ_r, σ_r are location-scale parameters, while γ^4 determines the shape of the distribution

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This gives rise to the block maxima methods: Disjoint and Sliding block maxima (more: later)

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Variance of block maxima based estimators⁵ might look trivial like

⁵Here: estimating the variance of a block maximum based on sliding block maxima

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Variance of block maxima based estimators⁵ might look trivial like

$$\sigma_{\text{sb}}^2 = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{3\gamma^3} (-3g_4I_{2,2} + 8g_1g_3I_{2,1} - 6g_1^2g_2I_{1,1}), & \gamma > 0 \\ \frac{8}{\gamma^2} (\Gamma(-4\gamma)I_{2,2} - 2g_1\Gamma(-3\gamma)I_{2,1} + g_1^2\Gamma(-2\gamma)I_{1,1}), & \gamma < 0, \\ 2\zeta(3) - 48 - \frac{8}{3}\pi^2 + \frac{32}{3}\log^3(2) - 48\log^2(2) + 96\log(2) + \frac{16}{3}\pi^2\log(2), & \gamma = 0 \end{cases}$$

where $g_j := \Gamma(1 - j\gamma)$, $j < 1/\gamma$;

$$I_{i,k} := \int_0^{1/2} (\alpha_{(j+k)\gamma}(w) - 1) \{w^{-j\gamma-1}(1-w)^{-k\gamma-1} + w^{-k\gamma-1}(1-w)^{-j\gamma-1}\} dw$$

and

$$\alpha_\beta : (0, 1) \rightarrow (0, \infty), \quad w \mapsto \alpha_\beta(w) = \begin{cases} \frac{1-(1-w)^{\beta+1}}{w(\beta+1)}, & \beta \neq -1 \\ -\frac{\log(1-w)}{w}, & \beta = -1 \end{cases}.$$

⁵Here: estimating the variance of a block maximum based on sliding block maxima

Block maxima:

- Disjoint block maxima
- Sliding block maxima

Bootstrapping (sliding) block maxima:

- Naive approaches
- The circular block maxima approach
- Resampling algorithm
- Consistency results

Block maxima

Basic model assumptions:

- Strictly stationary time series excerpt $\mathcal{X}_n = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ with values in \mathbb{R} and c.d.f. F .
- Short range dependency structures allowed
- F in the domain of attraction of G_γ , that is:

$$\mathcal{L}\left(\max(X_1, \dots, X_r)\right) \approx \text{GEV}(\mu_r, \sigma_r, \gamma)$$

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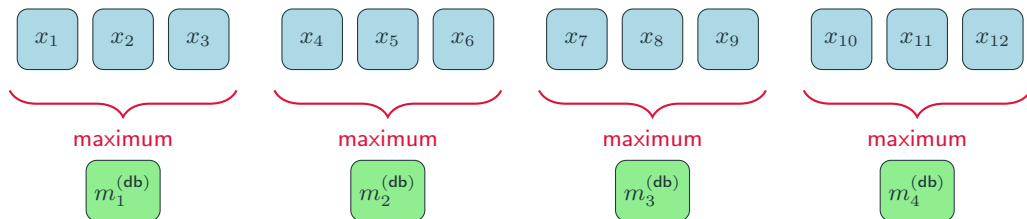
Statistical challenges:

- Estimate γ (many estimators well known: Hill, PWM, (Pseudo-)MLE), extreme quantiles/return levels
- **Confidence intervals/Variance of Estimators** \leftarrow our focus

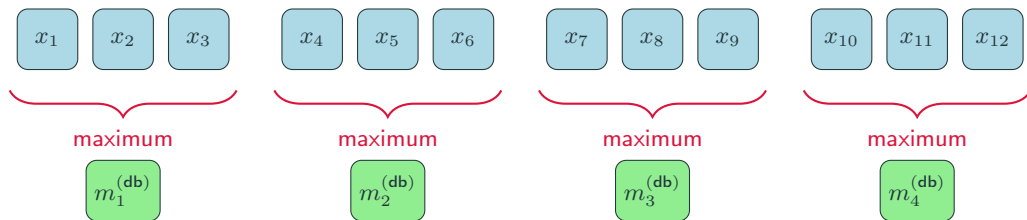
Observations x_1, \dots, x_{12} ; **block size** $r = 3$



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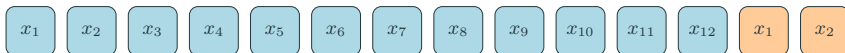


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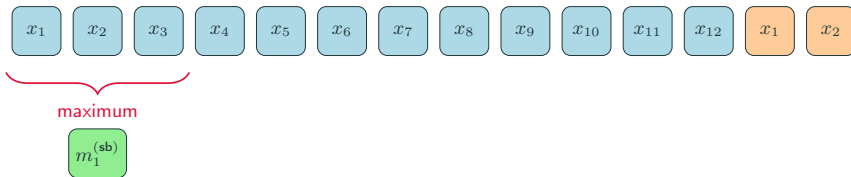
Disjoint block maxima sample $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{db})} = (m_1^{(\text{db})}, \dots, m_4^{(\text{db})})$

Observations x_1, \dots, x_{12} ; block size $r = 3$



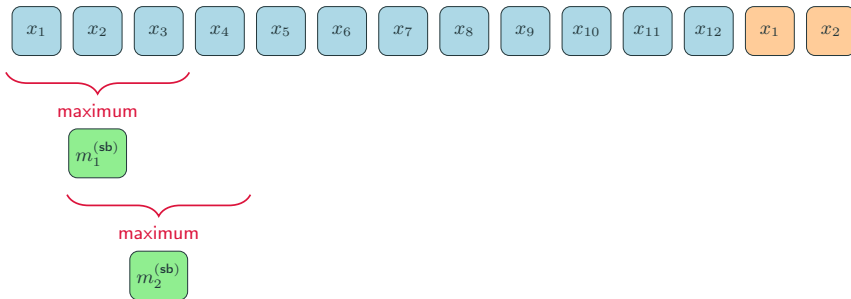
Sliding block maxima

Observations x_1, \dots, x_{12} ; block size $r = 3$



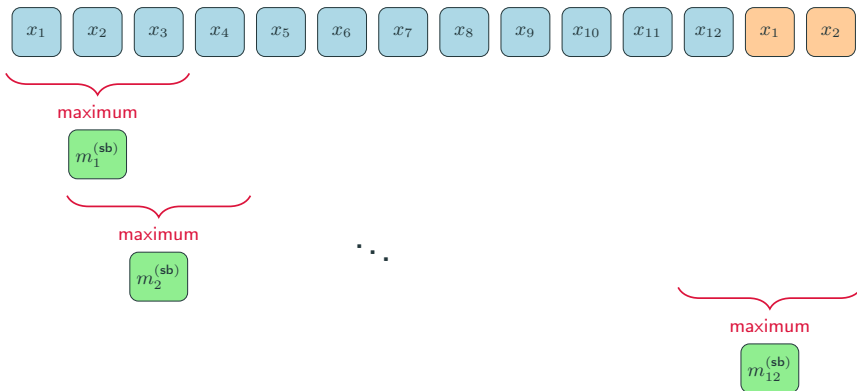
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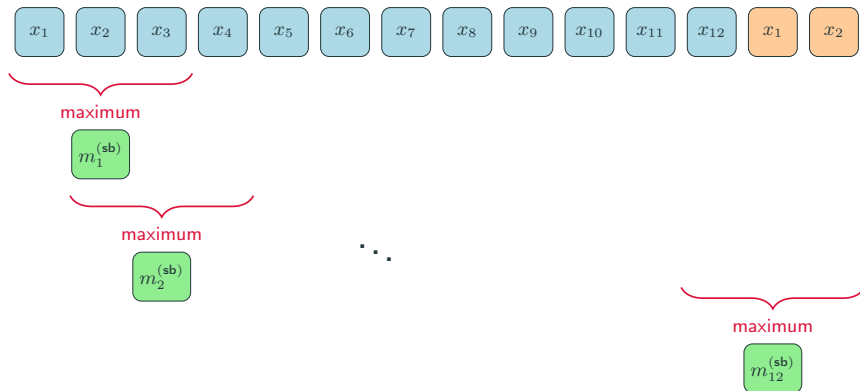


Sliding block maxima

Observations x_1, \dots, x_{12} ; block size $r = 3$



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Sliding block maxima sample $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{sb})} = (m_1^{(\text{sb})}, \dots, m_{12}^{(\text{sb})})$

Bootstrapping block maxima

Estimation of $\theta_r = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{M}_{r,1})]$ where $\mathbf{h}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$ satisfies minimal regularity conditions

- Obtain the following sensible estimators for θ_r

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$$\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{mb})} = \frac{1}{n_{(\text{mb})}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{(\text{mb})}} \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{M}_{r,i}^{(\text{mb})}), \quad \text{mb} \in \{\text{db}, \text{sb}\},$$

where $n_{(\text{db})} = n/r, n_{(\text{sb})} = n$.

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where $n_{(\text{db})} = n/r, n_{(\text{sb})} = n$.

Aim: Bootstrap $\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{mb})} - \theta_r$

Consider first $\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{db})}$

- Time series structure \rightsquigarrow have to bootstrap blocks of observations
 - Bootstrap block size of r is natural
- \rightsquigarrow Draw with replacement⁶ from the sample of disjoint block maxima $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{db})}$

⁶Multiplier bootstraps also possible

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Algorithm 1 Disjoint block maxima bootstrap

Require: $n/r \in \mathbb{N}$, $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{db})} = (m_1, \dots, m_{n/r})$, $B \in \mathbb{N}$

- 1: **for** $b = 1$ to B **do**
 - 2: Draw n/r times with replacement from $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{db})}$ and concatenate to obtain $m_{b,1}^*, \dots, m_{b,n/r}^*$
 - 3: Compute $\hat{\theta}_{n,b}^{*,(\text{db})} = r/n \sum_{i=1}^{n/r} h(\mathbf{m}_{b,i}^*)$
 - 4: **end for**
 - 5: **return** $\hat{\theta}_{n,1}^{*,(\text{db})}, \dots, \hat{\theta}_{n,B}^{*,(\text{db})}$ ▷ Bootstrap replicates
-

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Does it work?

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Yes; formally this means:

Theorem (Bücher and S., 2024) Under regularity conditions, as $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$d_K\left(\mathcal{L}(\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{db}),*} - \hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{db})} \mid \mathcal{X}_n), \mathcal{L}(\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{db})} - \theta_r)\right) = o_{\mathbb{P}}(1).$$

Now consider $\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{sb})}$

- Problem: $\text{sliding-max}(x_1, \dots, x_r)$ does not make sense as opposed to its disjoint counterpart
- Instead one could draw r -blocks $M_{I_i}^{(\text{sb})} = \{m_{(i-1)r+1}^{(\text{sb})}, \dots, m_{ir}^{(\text{sb})}\}$ of the sliding sample,
 $i = 1, \dots, n/r$

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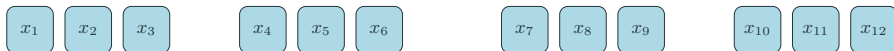
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Does this work?⁷

No!

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Divide observations into disjoint blocks of $2 * r = 6$



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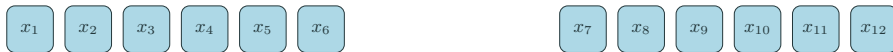
Repeat first two ($= r - 1$) observations of each block of blocks at the end



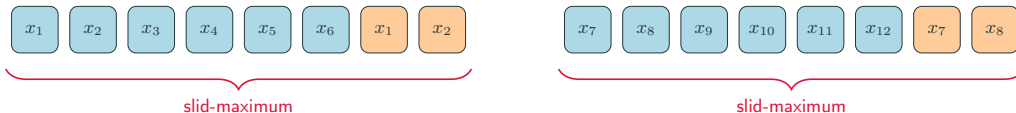
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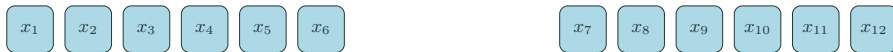
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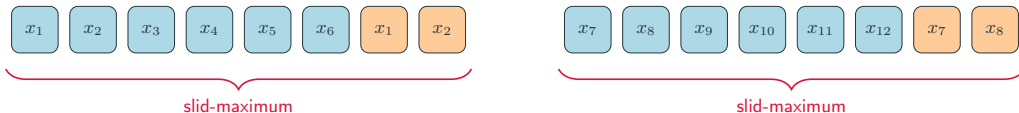
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Divide observations into disjoint blocks of $2 * r = 6$



Repeat first two ($= r - 1$) observations of each block of blocks at the end



Circular block maxima sample $\mathcal{M}^{(cb)} = (m_1^{(cb)}, \dots, m_{12}^{(cb)})$

The natural estimator for estimating θ_r is $n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{h}(M_{r,i}^{(\text{cb})})$

Lemma (Bücher, S., 2024) Under regularity conditions, as $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\frac{\text{Var}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n^{(\text{cb})})}{\text{Var}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n^{(\text{sb})})} \rightarrow 1.$$

\rightsquigarrow bootstrap $\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{sb})}$ via $\hat{\theta}^{(\text{cb})}$

denote by $\mathcal{M}_i^{(\text{cb})} = \{m_{(i-1)2r+1}, \dots, m_{2ri}\}$ the i th $2r$ block of the circmax sample; $i = 1, \dots, n/(2r)$

Algorithm 3 circmax block maxima bootstrap

Require: $n/r \in \mathbb{N}$, $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{sb})} = (m_1, \dots, m_n)$, $B \in \mathbb{N}$

1: **for** $b = 1$ to B **do**

2: Draw $n/(2r)$ times with replacement from $\{\mathcal{M}_i^{(\text{cb})} : i = 1, \dots, n/(2r)\}$ and concatenate to obtain

3: $m_{b,1}^*, \dots, m_{b,n}^*$

4: Compute $\hat{\theta}_{n,b}^{*,(\text{cb})} = 1/n \sum_{i=1}^n h(m_{b,i}^*)$

5: **end for**

6: **return** $\hat{\theta}_{n,1}^{*,(\text{cb})}, \dots, \hat{\theta}_{n,B}^{*,(\text{cb})}$

▷ Bootstrap replicates

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Theorem (Bücher, S., 2024) Under regularity conditions, as $n \rightarrow \infty$

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- Allows for many applications: PWM-Estimator, Pseudo-MLE for Fréchet/GEV(γ), Moment estimators for the block maxima distribution (mean, variance ...)

Confidence Intervals for the expected yearly maximum precipitation (in mm) at a fixed location⁸



- Left: Estimates (lines in the middle) and confidence intervals (ribbons) for the estimation of $\theta_r = E[M_t]$
- Right: Width of the respective confidence intervals

⁸Hohenpeißenberg, Germany; data from 1879–2023

Conclusion

- Naive bootstrapping fails for sliding block maxima
- Introduced a new method **circular block maxima**
- Circmax enjoys advantages from disjoint and sliding world⁹
- Circmax based bootstraps are consistent for the sliding max estimation error

⁹small drawback: additional bias, but was found to be insignificant in simulation studies

- ▶ Bücher, S. (2024). Bootstrapping Estimators based on the Block Maxima Method. [arXiv:2409.08661](#). Submitted for publication
- ▶ Bücher, Segers (2018). Inference for heavy tailed stationary time series based on sliding blocks. *Electron. J. Statist.* 12(1): 1098-1125
- ▶ de Haan, Zhou (2024). Bootstrapping Extreme Value Estimators. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 119:545, 382-393
- ▶ Efron (1979). Bootstrap methods: another look at the jackknife. *Ann. Statist.* 7(1): 1-26
- ▶ Ferreira, de Haan (2015). On the block maxima method in extreme value theory: PWM estimators. *Ann. Statist.* 43(1): 276-298
- ▶ Zou, Volgushev, Bücher (2021). Multiple block sizes and overlapping blocks for multivariate time series extremes. *Ann. Statist.* 49(1): 295-320



Generated¹⁰ by the prompt: *Create a comic style picture of a very happy block which is sliding down a slide shouting "thank you"*

¹⁰DALL-E

Notes about $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{db})}$:

- Only $n/r = o(n)$ disjoint block maxima
- No overlap between blocks (disjoint)
- Asymptotic independence between $m_i^{(\text{db})}, m_j^{(\text{db})}$ for $i \neq j$ (**desirable property**)
- Asymptotic theory for many estimators established (Ferreira, de Haan, 2015)

Notes about $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{sb})}$:

- Small modification: repeat the first $r - 1$ observations at the end to ensure fair weighing
- After modifying we have n sliding block maxima
- Large overlap between blocks nearby
- Asymptotic **dependence** between $m_i^{(\text{sb})}, m_j^{(\text{sb})}$ for $i \neq j$, which can be described by a Marshall-Olkin type copula (in the one-dimensional case)
- **Linear estimators based on sliding blocks have smaller variance than their disjoint counterpart:** (Zou et. al. 2021)

Notes about $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{cb})}$:

- Essentially combines disjoint block with sliding block method
- Size of the circmax sample is n
- Large overlap between blocks nearby (sliding effect) but no overlap between $2 * r$ blocks (disjoint effect)
- Repeating observations induces non-stationarity but does not hurt¹¹

¹¹does not hurt to much: asymptotic variance stays the same but there is negligible (compared to classical) bias

- Extendable to U-statistics of circular block maxima
- Extendable to non-stationary situations: piecewise stationary time series
- Purely of mathematical interest: one can define circular blocks with irrational outer block length $k \rightsquigarrow$ then circmax defines a spectrum of maxima methods with $k = 1$ corresponding to disjoint block maxima $k = n/r$ corresponding to sliding block maxima; non-trivial things happening for $k \in (1, 2)$

Statistical model:

- $\mathcal{X}_n = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ strictly stationary time series and \mathbb{R} -valued
- \mathcal{X}_n belongs to the Fréchet DoA, that is: $\exists \alpha_0 > 0, (\sigma_r)_r \in (0, \infty)^{\mathbb{N}}$, s.t.

$$\max \left(\frac{X_1}{\sigma_r}, \dots, \frac{X_r}{\sigma_r} \right) \rightsquigarrow P_{\alpha_0},$$

where $P_{\alpha_0} \sim \text{Fréchet}(\alpha_0)$

- Basic model assumptions still hold (block size, dependency structure)
- Goal: estimation of α_0, σ_r

Example: MLE for Fréchet based on block maxima extracted from a time series

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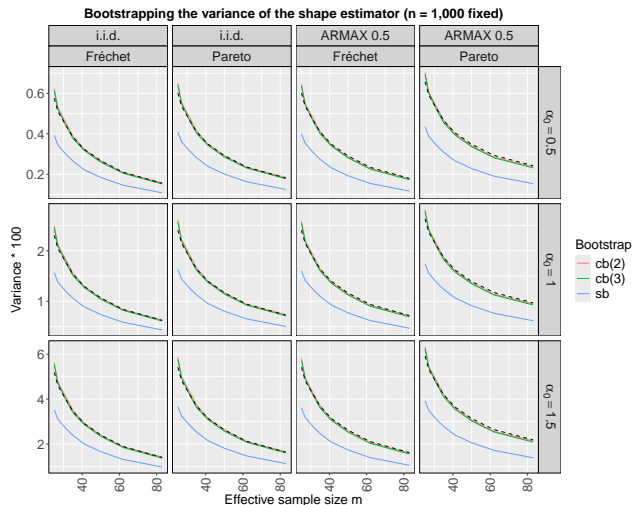
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Good performing estimator (Bücher, Segers, 2018)

$$\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{sb})} := (\hat{\alpha}_n^{(\text{sb})}, \hat{\sigma}_n^{(\text{sb})})^\top := \underset{\theta=(\alpha, \sigma) \in (0, \infty)^2}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{M_i \in \mathcal{M}_{n,r}^{(\text{sb})}} \ell_\theta(M_i \vee c),$$

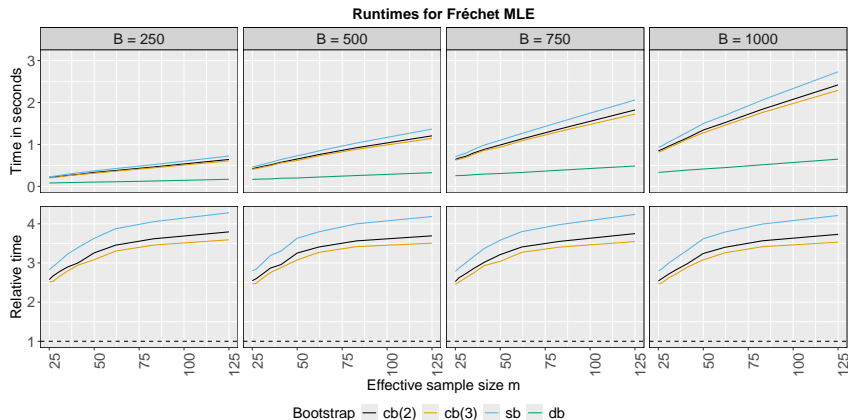
where $c > 0$ arbitrary, ℓ_θ denotes log-likelihood of $\text{Fréchet}(\alpha_0, \sigma)$

Bootstrap the variance of $\hat{\alpha}_n^{(\text{sb})}$ (asymptotically: complicated function of α_0)



- variance of $\hat{\alpha}_n^{(\text{sb})}$ obtained via presimulating 10^6 time series of sample size $n = 10^3$, calculating for each sample $\hat{\alpha}_n^{(\text{sb})}$ and taking the empirical variance (black dashed line)
- different bootstrap procedures displayed; based on $B = 10^3$ bootstrap replicates, $N = 5 * 10^3$ repetitions (averaged)
- inconsistency of sliding visible
- circmax bootstrapping works

In applications important: large bootstrap replicate numbers not too expensive



Absolute and relative median runtimes of different bootstrap algorithms for bootstrapping $\hat{\theta}_n^{(mb)}$ (relative to the runtime of the disjoint blocks bootstrap) for fixed sample size $n = 1,000$ as a function of the effective sample size and for different numbers of bootstrap replicates B ; based on 500 runs.