

In lecture 16, we looked at precipitation amounts in Madison County (at Morrisville station). We found that the Weibull distribution had a good fit to the monthly precipitation amounts.

We found that the MLEs for the Weibull distribution were

$$\hat{a} = 2.1871$$

$$\hat{\sigma} = 3.9683$$

and

$$-\mathcal{L}(\{\hat{a}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x}) = 2166.496$$

is the realized negative log-likelihood. Note this means that the log-likelihood is

$$\mathcal{L}(\{\hat{a}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x}) = -2166.496,$$

and the usual likelihood is

$$L(\{\hat{a}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x}) = e^{[\mathcal{L}(\{\hat{a}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x})]} \approx e^{-2166.496},$$

which R cannot differentiate from 0.

1. Someone asked “why Weibull?” in class. That is, why wouldn’t we use another right-skewed distribution like the Gamma (see Lecture 15), or the Log-Normal (see Lecture 17).

- (a) Compute the MLEs for these data using a Gamma distribution.

```
library(tidyverse)
dat.precip <- read_csv(file = "agacis.csv")

#data cleaning from lecture
dat.precip.long <- dat.precip |>
  dplyr::select(-Annual) |> # Remove annual column
  pivot_longer(cols = c(Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, # pivot the column data into one col
                        May, Jun, Jul, Aug,
                        Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec),
               values_to = "Precipitation", # store the values in Precipitation
               names_to = "Month") |> # store the months in Month
  mutate(Precipitation = case_when(Precipitation == "M" ~ NA_character_,
                                   TRUE ~ Precipitation)) |>
  mutate(Precipitation = as.numeric(Precipitation))

#log likelihood function for Gamma
llgamma <- function(par, data, neg=F){
  alpha <- par[1]
  beta <- par[2]

  ll <- sum(log(dgamma(x=data, shape=alpha, rate=beta)), na.rm=T) #log likelihood

  return(ifelse(neg, -ll, ll))
}

gamma.MLEs <- optim(fn = llgamma,
                   par = c(1,1),
                   data = dat.precip.long$Precipitation,
                   neg=T) #negative of the minimum
gamma.MLEs$par #estimated parameters

## [1] 4.174581 1.189099
```

Estimated alpha = 4.174581, estimated beta = 1.189099

- (b) Compute the MLEs for these data using the Log-Normal distribution.

```
#log likelihood function for Log normal
lllognorm <- function(par, data, neg=F){
  mu <- par[1]
  sigma <- par[2]

  ll <- sum(log(dlnorm(x=data, meanlog = mu, sdlog = sigma)), na.rm=T) #log likelihood

  return(ifelse(neg, -ll, ll))
}

lognorm.MLEs <- optim(fn = lllognorm,
```

```

par = c(1,1),
data = dat.precip.long$Precipitation,
neg=T)
lognorm.MLEs$par #estimated parameters

## [1] 1.1312609 0.5333417

```

Estimated mu = 1.1312609, estimated sigma = 0.5333417

- (c) Compute the likelihood ratio to compare the Weibull and the Gamma distribution. Which has a better fit according to the likelihood ratio?

$$Q = \frac{L(\{\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x})}{L(\{\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}\}|\mathbf{x})} = e^{[\mathcal{L}(\{\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x}) - \mathcal{L}(\{\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}\}|\mathbf{x})]}$$

```

ll.weibull = -2166.496 #log-likelihood for Weibull
ll.gamma = -gamma.MLEs$value #log-likelihood for Gamma
(weibull.lognorm = exp(ll.weibull - ll.gamma)) #likelihood ratio for Weibull and Gamma

## [1] 2.161318e-07

```

Because this ratio is less than one, then the distribution in the denominator (Gamma) has a greater maximum likelihood value. So the Gamma distribution is a better fit to the data.

- (d) Compute the likelihood ratio to compare the Weibull and the Log-Normal distribution. Which has a better fit according to the likelihood ratio?

$$Q = \frac{L(\{\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x})}{L(\{\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x})} = e^{[\mathcal{L}(\{\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x}) - \mathcal{L}(\{\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x})]}$$

```

ll.lognorm = -lognorm.MLEs$value #log-likelihood for Lognorm
(weibull.lognorm = exp(ll.weibull - ll.lognorm)) #likelihood ratio for Weibull and Lognorm

## [1] 2.370668e+16

```

Because this ratio is greater than one, then the distribution in the numerator (Weibull) has a greater maximum likelihood value. So the Weibull distribution is a better fit to the data.

- (e) Compute the likelihood ratio to compare the Gamma and the Log-Normal distribution. Which has a better fit according to the likelihood ratio?

$$Q = \frac{L(\{\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}\}|\mathbf{x})}{L(\{\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x})} = e^{[\mathcal{L}(\{\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}\}|\mathbf{x}) - \mathcal{L}(\{\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}\}|\mathbf{x})]}$$

```

(gamma.lognorm = exp(ll.gamma - ll.lognorm)) #likelihood ratio for Gamma and Lognorm

## [1] 1.096862e+23

```

Because this ratio is greater than one, then the distribution in the numerator (Gamma) has a greater maximum likelihood value. So the Gamma distribution is a better fit to the data.

2. Optional Coding Challenge. Choose the “best” distribution and refit the model by season.

- Fit the Distribution for Winter (December-February).
- Fit the Distribution for Spring (March-May).
- Fit the Distribution for Summer (June-August).
- Fit the Distribution for Fall (September-November).
- Plot the four distributions in one plot using **cyan3** for Winter, **chartreuse3** for Spring, **red3** for Summer, and **chocolate3** for Fall. Note any similarities/differences you observe across the seasons.