

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.

The MLEs for the Gamma distribution are $\hat{\alpha} = 4.1742$, $\hat{\beta} = 0.8411$, and a negative log-likelihood ($-\mathcal{L}(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta} | \mathbf{x})$) of 2151.149.

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

The MLEs for the Log-Normal distribution are $\hat{\mu} = 1.1314$, $\hat{\sigma} = 0.5333$, and a negative log-likelihood ($-\mathcal{L}(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma} | \mathbf{x})$) of 2204.201.

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

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

```
log.lik.weib <- -2166.496
log.lik.gamma <- -2151.149
(q <- exp(log.lik.weib - log.lik.gamma))

## [1] 2.162134e-07
```

Since likelihood ratio, $Q < 1$, the Gamma distribution has a better fit for our 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?

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

```
log.lik.weib <- -2166.496
log.lik.lognorm <- -2204.201
(q <- exp(log.lik.weib - log.lik.lognorm))

## [1] 2.371775e+16
```

Since likelihood ratio $Q > 1$, the Weibull distribution has a better fit for our 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?

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

```
(q <- exp(log.lik.gamma - log.lik.lognorm))
## [1] 1.09696e+23
```

Since likelihood ratio $Q > 1$, the Gamma distribution has a better fit for our 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.

Code for Q1:

```
library(tidyverse)
library(nleqslv)
data <- read_csv("agacis.csv")
dat.precip.long <- data |>
  # clean the data
  dplyr::select(-Annual) |> # Remove annual column
  # pivot the column data into one col
  pivot_longer(cols = c(Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr,
                        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))

#####
# Maximum likelihood (Gamma)
#####
llgamma <- function(par, data, neg=F){
  alpha <- par[1]
  beta <- par[2]
  loglik <- sum(log(dgamma(x=data, shape=alpha, scale = beta)), na.rm = T)
  return(ifelse(neg, -loglik, loglik))
}
gamma.MLEs <- optim(fn = llgamma,
                   par = c(1,1),
                   data = dat.precip.long$Precipitation,
                   neg=T)

#####
# Maximum likelihood (Log Normal)
#####
ll.lognorm <- function(par, data, neg=F){
  mu <- par[1]
  sigma <- par[2]
  loglik <- sum(log(dlnorm(x=data, meanlog = mu, sdlog = sigma)), na.rm = T)
  return(ifelse(neg, -loglik, loglik))
}
lognorm.MLEs <- optim(fn = ll.lognorm,
                     par = c(0,1),
                     data = dat.precip.long$Precipitation,
                     neg=T)
```