

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).

```
# Load and clean data about precipitation in Madison County
dat.precip <- read_csv(file = "agacis.csv")

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

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

```
#Function to compute Maximum Likelihood
llgamma <- function(par, data, neg = F){
  alpha <- par[1] #get alpha and beta
  beta <- par[2]

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

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

#Compute MLE
MLE.gamma <- optim(par = c(1,1),
                  fn = llgamma,
                  data=dat.precip.long$Precipitation,
```

```

neg=T)

#extract alpha and beta
alpha.MLE <- MLE.gamma$par[1]
beta.MLE <- MLE.gamma$par[2]

#print the values
alpha.MLE

## [1] 4.174581

beta.MLE

## [1] 1.189099

```

We computed the MLEs for these data using a Gamma distribution to obtain $\alpha = 4.1745814$ and $\beta = 1.1890993$.

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

```

#Function to compute Maximum Likelihood
lllognorm <- function(par, data, neg = F){
  mu <- par[1] #get mu and sigma
  sigma <- par[2]

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

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

#Compute MLE
MLE.lognorm <- optim(par = c(1,1),
  fn = lllognorm,
  data=dat.precip.long$Precipitation,
  neg=T)

#extract alpha and beta
mu.MLE <- MLE.lognorm$par[1]
sigma.MLE <- MLE.lognorm$par[2]

#print the values
mu.MLE

## [1] 1.131261

sigma.MLE

## [1] 0.5333417

```

We computed the MLEs for these data using a Log-Normal distribution to obtain $\mu = 1.1312609$ and $\sigma = 0.5333417$.

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

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

```

#compute log-likelihood for Gamma distribution
Gamma.loglik <- llgamma(par = c(alpha.MLE, beta.MLE), data = dat.precip.long$Precipitation, neg

#compute the likelihood ratio
Weibull.loglik <- 2166.496
q.gamma.weibull <- Weibull.loglik/Gamma.loglik

#print Q
q.gamma.weibull

## [1] 1.007135

```

The likelihood ratio of the Weibull and the Gamma distribution is 1.0071345. Because $Q > 1$, the numerator provides a better fit for the data than the denominator. Weibull distribution is in the numerator, so it is a better fit according to the likelihood ratio.

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

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

```

#compute log-likelihood for Log-Normal distribution
Lognorm.loglik <- lllognorm(c(mu.MLE, sigma.MLE), data = dat.precip.long$Precipitation, neg = 7

#compute the likelihood ratio
q.lognorm.weibull <- Weibull.loglik/Lognorm.loglik

#print Q
q.lognorm.weibull

## [1] 0.9828942

```

The likelihood ratio of the Weibull and the Log-Normal distribution is 0.9828942. Because $Q < 1$, the denominator provides a better fit for the data than the numerator. Log-Normal distribution is in the denominator, so it is a better fit according to the likelihood ratio.

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

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

```

#compute the likelihood ratio
q.gamma.lognorm <- Gamma.loglik/Lognorm.loglik

#print Q
q.gamma.lognorm

## [1] 0.9759315

```

The likelihood ratio of the Gamma and the Log-Normal distribution is 0.9759315. Because $Q < 1$, the denominator provides a better fit for the data than the numerator. Log-Normal distribution is in the denominator, so it is a better fit according to the likelihood ratio.

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

- (a) Fit the Distribution for Winter (December-February).
- (b) Fit the Distribution for Spring (March-May).
- (c) Fit the Distribution for Summer (June-August).
- (d) Fit the Distribution for Fall (September-November).
- (e) 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.