## Bayesian data analysis and Stan

Andrew Gelman

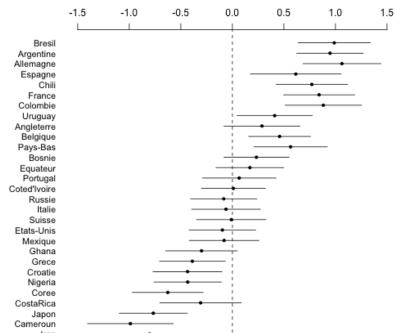
Dept of Statistics and Dept of Political Science
Columbia University, New York

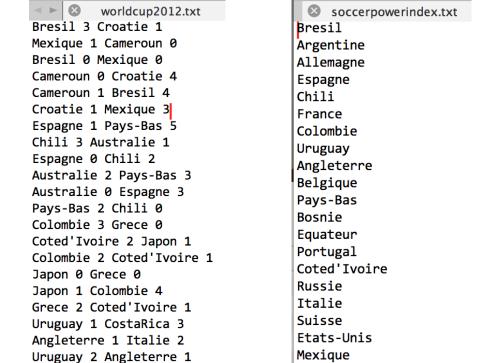
New York, 18-20 July 2016

#### 1. Real-life Stan

- Soccer
- Golf
- "Global climate challenge"

#### Team quality (estimate +/- 1 s.e.)





#### The model in Stan

```
parameters {
  real b:
  real<lower=0> sigma_a;
  real<lower=0> sigma_y;
  vector[nteams] eta_a;
transformed parameters {
  vector[nteams] a;
  a = b*prior_score + sigma_a*eta_a;
model {
  eta_a ~ normal(0,1);
  sqrt_dif = student_t(df, a[team1]-a[team2], sigma_y);
```

## Stan program (part 1)

```
data {
  int nteams;
  int ngames;
  vector[nteams] prior_score;
  int team1[ngames];
  int team2[ngames];
  vector[ngames] score1;
  vector[ngames] score2;
  real df;
transformed data {
  vector[ngames] dif;
  vector[ngames] sqrt_dif;
  dif = score1 - score2;
  sqrt_dif = (step(dif)-.5)*sqrt(fabs(dif));
```

## Stan program (part 2)

```
parameters {
  real b:
  real<lower=0> sigma_a;
  real<lower=0> sigma_y;
  vector[nteams] eta_a;
transformed parameters {
  vector[nteams] a;
  a = b*prior_score + sigma_a*eta_a;
model {
  eta_a ~ normal(0,1);
  sqrt_dif ~ student_t(df, a[team1]-a[team2], sigma_y);
```

## Fitting the model

- ► Go into R
- ► Read in the data
- Fit the Stan model
- Check convergence
- Graph the estimated team abilities
- Re-fit without prior information
- Compare to model with prior information

#### Load Stan into R

```
> setwd("~/AndrewFiles/teaching/stan_short_course/worldcup")
> library ("rstan")
Loading required package: ggplot2
rstan (Version 2.9.0-3, packaged: 2016-02-11 15:54:41 UTC, GitRe
For execution on a local, multicore CPU with excess RAM we recom
rstan_options(auto_write = TRUE)
options(mc.cores = parallel::detectCores())
> rstan_options(auto_write = TRUE)
> options(mc.cores = parallel::detectCores())
```

#### Fit the model

```
teams <- as.vector(unlist(read.table("soccerpowerindex.txt",</pre>
  header=FALSE)))
nteams <- length(teams)</pre>
prior_score <- rev(1:nteams)</pre>
prior_score <- (prior_score - mean(prior_score))/</pre>
  (2*sd(prior_score))
data2014 <- read.table("worldcup2014.txt", header=FALSE)</pre>
ngames <- nrow (data2014)
team1 <- match (as.vector(data2014[[1]]), teams)
score1 <- as.vector(data2014[[2]])</pre>
team2 <- match (as.vector(data2014[[3]]), teams)</pre>
score2 <- as.vector(data2014[[4]])</pre>
df <- 7
fit <- stan("worldcup_first_try.stan", iter=100, chains=4)</pre>
```

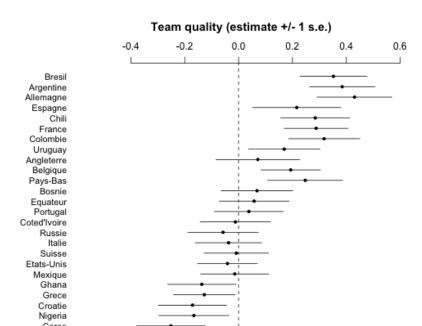
## Check convergence

```
> print(fit)
Inference for Stan model: worldcup_first_try.
4 chains, each with iter=100; warmup=50; thin=1;
post-warmup draws per chain=50, total post-warmup draws=200.
```

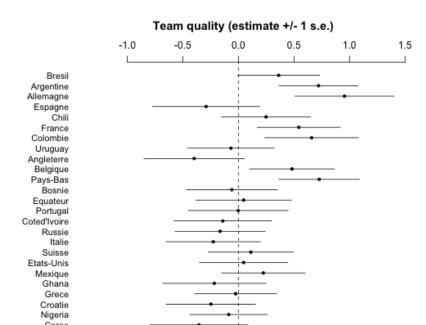
	mean	$se\_mean$	sd	25%	50%	75%	n_eff Rhat
b	0.47	0.01	0.09	0.42	0.47	0.54	200 0.99
$sigma_a$	0.12	0.01	0.07	0.07	0.12	0.16	67 1.05
$sigma_y$	0.43	0.00	0.05	0.39	0.43	0.46	126 1.03
eta_a[1]	-0.17	0.06	0.90	-0.84	-0.19	0.48	200 0.99
eta_a[2]	0.10	0.06	0.91	-0.53	0.14	0.75	200 0.99
eta_a[3]	0.48	0.06	0.83	0.00	0.53	0.98	200 1.00
eta_a[4]	-0.57	0.06	0.86	-1.19	-0.57	0.05	200 1.01
eta_a[5]	0.02	0.07	0.98	-0.69	-0.02	0.79	200 0.98

. . .

#### Graph the estimates



## Re-fit the model without prior rankings



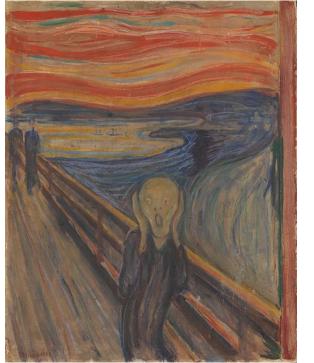
## Checking model fit

- Still inside R
- ► For each game, plot actual score differential and 95% predictive intervals
  - Not cross-validated but no big deal in this case because n is large
- ▶ The predictions don't fit the data!!
- Redoing the predictive intervals
- Re-plot, still a problem!

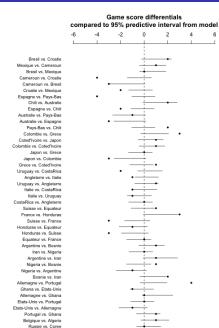
#### Compare model to predictions

# Game score differentials compared to 95% predictive interval from model

-6 Bresil vs. Croatie Mexique vs. Cameroun Bresil vs. Mexique Cameroun vs. Croatie Cameroun vs. Bresil Croatie vs. Mexique Espagne vs. Pays-Bas Chili vs. Australie Espagne vs. Chili Australie vs. Pays-Bas Australie vs. Espagne Pays-Bas vs. Chili Colombie vs. Grece Coted'Ivoire vs. Japon Colombie vs. Coted'Ivoire Japon vs. Grece Japon vs. Colombie Grece vs. Coted'Ivoire Uruguay vs. CostaRica Angleterre vs. Italie Uruguay vs. Angleterre Italie vs. CostaRica Italie vs. Uruguay CostaRica vs. Angleterre Suisse vs. Equateur Eronan un Manduran



#### Use posterior simulations rather than point estimates

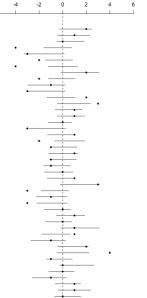


#### Game score differentials compared to 95% predictive interval from model

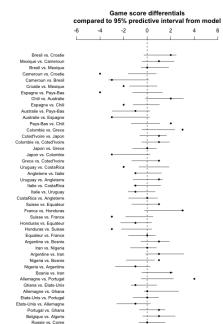


Belgique vs. Algerie

Russia vs. Corea



## Round the predictions to integer score differentials

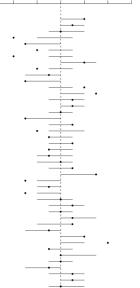


# Compared to 95% predictive interval from model -6 -4 -2 0 2 4 6

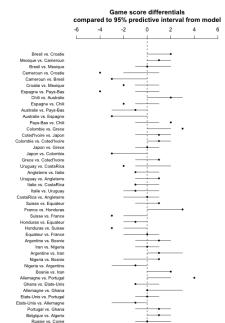


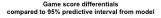
Belgique vs. Algerie

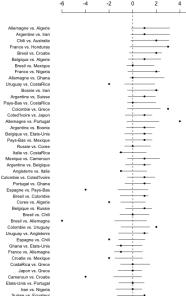
Russia vs. Corea



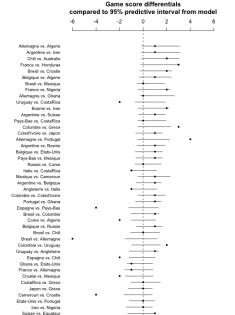
#### Plot in order of predicted score differential



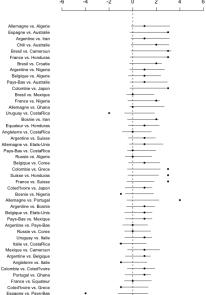




#### Sign so expected outcomes are always positive



#### Game score differentials compared to 95% predictive interval from model



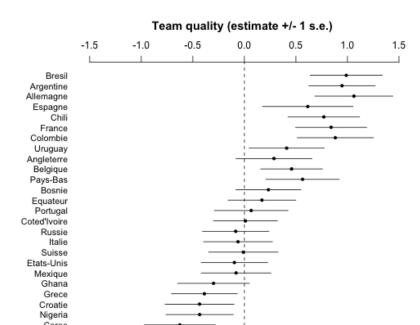
## I found the bug!

- Still inside R
- Re-fit the model on the original scale
- Display the estimated team abilities
- Updated plot of data with predictive intervals—now it's ok!
- Go back and find the bug in the square-root-scale model
- Re-fit the debugged model

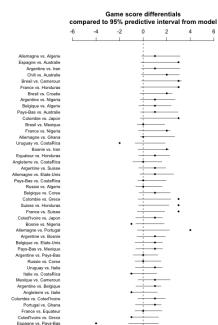
## Our original model in Stan

```
parameters {
  real b:
  real<lower=0> sigma_a;
  real<lower=0> sigma_y;
  vector[nteams] eta_a;
transformed parameters {
  vector[nteams] a;
  a = b*prior_score + sigma_a*eta_a;
model {
  eta_a ~ normal(0,1);
  sqrt_dif ~ student_t(df, a[team1]-a[team2], sigma_y);
```

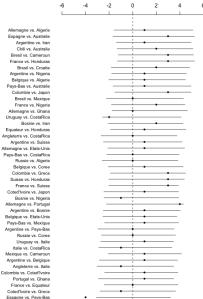
#### Model fit to data on raw scale



#### Compare data to predictive intervals



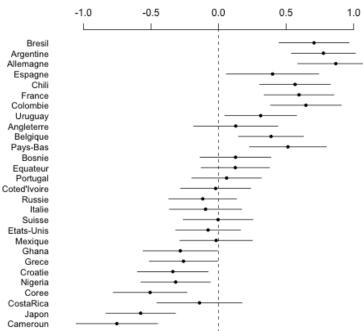
#### Game score differentials compared to 95% predictive interval from model



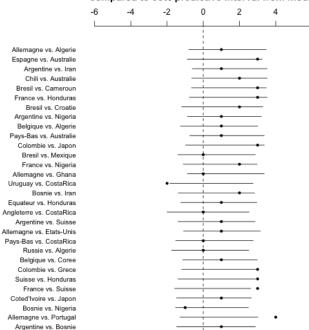
## Our original Stan program (part 1)

```
data {
  int nteams;
  int ngames;
  vector[nteams] prior_score;
  int team1[ngames];
  int team2[ngames];
  vector[ngames] score1;
  vector[ngames] score2;
  real df;
transformed data {
  vector[ngames] dif;
  vector[ngames] sqrt_dif;
  dif = score1 - score2;
  sqrt_dif <- (step(dif)-.5)*sqrt(fabs(dif));</pre>
```

#### Team quality (estimate +/- 1 s.e.)



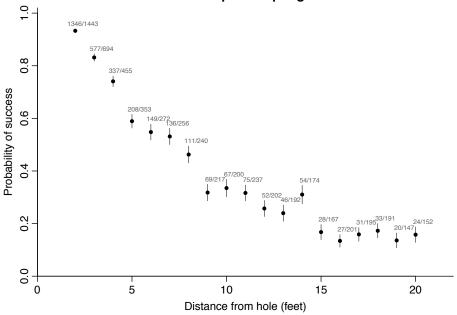
# Game score differentials compared to 95% predictive interval from model

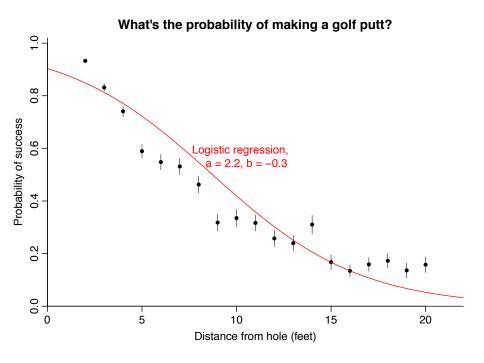


## Lessons from World Cup example

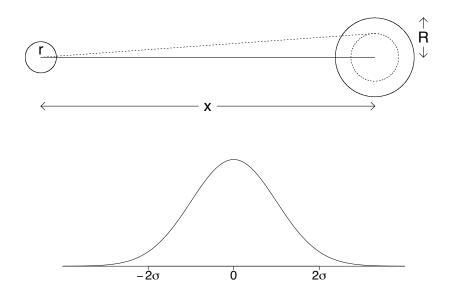
- Model score differential, not simple wins and losses—even if your only goal is to predict wins and losses
- Same thing in education (model test scores rather than pass/fail) and elections (model vote share not win/loss)
- ▶ Jump in and fit a model, then check its fit to data
- Combine sources of information
- Compare different fits graphically

#### Data on putts in pro golf





# Geometry-based model



#### Stan code

```
data {
  int J;
  int n[J];
  real x[J];
  int y[J];
  real r;
  real R;
parameters {
  real<lower=0> sigma;
model {
  real p[J];
  p = 2*Phi(asin((R-r)/x) / sigma) - 1;
  y ~ binomial(n, p);
```

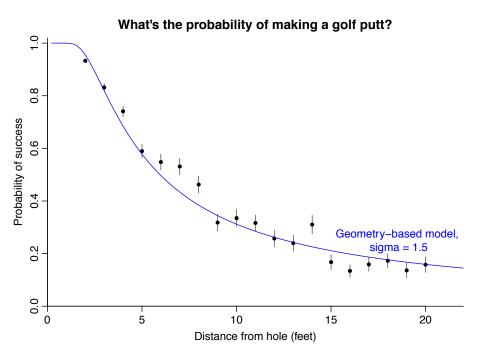
#### Fit the model

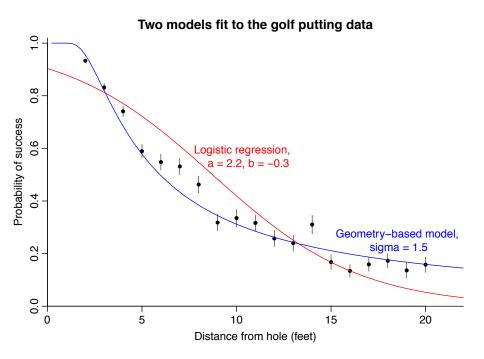
```
golf <- read.table("golf.txt", header=TRUE, skip=2)
x <- golf$x
y <- golf$y
n <- golf$n
J <- length(y)
r <- (1.68/2)/12
R <- (4.25/2)/12
se <- sqrt((y/n)*(1-y/n)/n)</pre>
fit1 <- stan("golf1.stan")
```

#### Check convergence

```
> print(fit1)
Inference for Stan model: golf1.
4 chains, each with iter=2000; warmup=1000; thin=1;
post-warmup draws per chain=1000, total post-warmup draws=4000.
```

	mean	se_mean	sd	25%	50%	75%	$n_{eff}$	Rhat
sigma	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.03	1692	1
sigma_degrees	1.53	0.00	0.02	1.51	1.53	1.54	1692	1





"Global climate challenge"

On Dec 7, 2015, at 11:16 AM, Tom Daula < \*\*\* @ \*\*\*.com > wrote:

Interesting applied project for your students, or as a warning for decisions under uncertainty / statistical significance. Real money on the line so the length of time and number of entries required to get a winner may be an interesting dataset after this is all done.

http://www.informath.org/Contest1000.htm

# Terms of the Contest

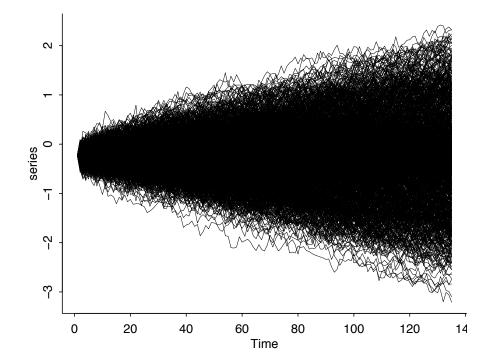
The file Series1000.txt contains 1000 simulated time series. Each series has length 135: the same length as that of the most commonly studied series of global temperatures (which span 1880-2014). The 1000 series were generated as follows. First, 1000 random series were obtained (for more details, see below). Then, some of those series were randomly selected and had a trend added to them. Each added trend was either 1°C/century or -1°C/century. For comparison, a trend of 1°C/century is greater than the trend that is claimed for global temperatures.

A prize of \$100 000 (one hundred thousand U.S. dollars) will be awarded to the first person who submits an entry that correctly identifies at least 900 series: which series were generated without a trend and which were generated with a trend.

For instructions on how to submit an entry, see the Contest Entry page. Each entry must be accompanied by a payment of \$10; this is being done to inhibit non-serious entries. There is a limit of one entry per person.

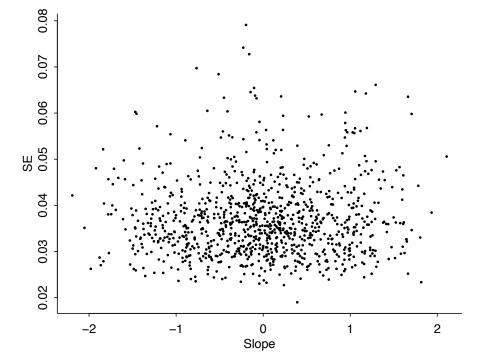
### Download and graph the data

```
series <- matrix(scan("Series1000.txt"), nrow=1000, ncol=135,
  byrow=TRUE)
T <- 135
N < -1000
pdf("series_1.pdf", height=5, width=6)
par(mar=c(3,3,2,0), tck=-.01, mgp=c(1.5,.5,0))
plot(c(1,T), range(series), bty="l", type="n",
  xlab="Time", ylab="series")
for (n in 1:N)
  lines(1:T, series[n,], lwd=.5)
dev.off()
```

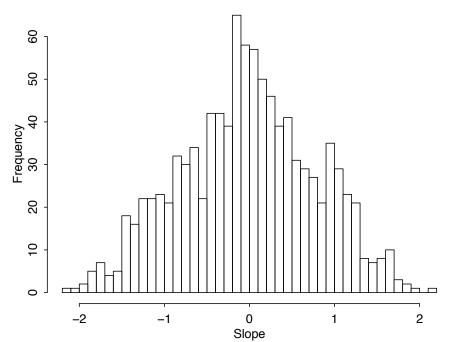


## Fit a regression to each line and plot the estimated slopes

```
library("arm")
slope <- rep(NA, N)</pre>
se <- rep(NA, N)
for (n in 1:N){
  data <- series[n,]</pre>
  time <- 1:T
  fit <- lm(data ~ time)
  slope[n] \leftarrow 100*coef(fit)[2]
  se[n] \leftarrow 100*se.coef(fit)[2]
pdf("series_2.pdf", height=5, width=6)
par(mar=c(3,3,2,0), tck=-.01, mgp=c(1.5,.5,0))
plot(slope, se, bty="1", xlab="Slope", ylab="SE",pch=20,cex=.5)
dev.off()
```



## Histogram of slope



# Program a mixture model in Stan

```
data {
  int K;
  int N;
  real y[N];
  real mu[K];
parameters {
  simplex[K] theta;
  real<lower=0> sigma;
model {
  real ps[K];
  sigma \sim cauchy(0,2.5);
  mu ~ normal(0,10);
  for (n in 1:N) {
    for (k in 1:K)
      ps[k] = log(theta[k]) + normal_log(y[n], mu[k], sigma);
    increment_log_prob(log_sum_exp(ps));
```

### Fit the model in R

y <- slope K <- 3

```
mu <- c(0,-1,1)
mix <- stan("mixture.stan")
print(mix)

Inference for Stan model: mixture.</pre>
```

post-warmup draws per chain=1000, total post-warmup draws=4000.

```
    mean
    se_mean
    sd
    25%
    50%
    75%
    n_eff
    Rhat

    theta[1]
    0.54
    0 0.02
    0.52
    0.54
    0.55
    2449
    1

    theta[2]
    0.24
    0 0.02
    0.23
    0.24
    0.25
    2537
    1

    theta[3]
    0.22
    0 0.02
    0.21
    0.22
    0.23
    2444
    1

    sigma
    0.40
    0 0.02
    0.39
    0.40
    0.42
    2078
    1
```

4 chains, each with iter=2000; warmup=1000; thin=1;

# For each series, compute probability of it being in each component

```
generated quantities {
  matrix[N,K] p;
  for (n in 1:N){
    vector[K] p_raw;
    for (k in 1:K)
        p_raw[k] = theta[k]*exp(normal_log(y[n], mu[k], sigma));
    for (k in 1:K)
        p[n,k] = p_raw[k]/sum(p_raw);
  }
}
```

### Results

```
[,1] [,2] [,3]
 [1,] 0.09 0.00 0.91
[2,] 0.41 0.59 0.00
 [3,] 0.93 0.01 0.06
[4,] 0.83 0.17 0.00
[5,] 0.82 0.17 0.00
[6,] 0.95 0.01 0.05
 [7,] 0.74 0.00 0.26
[8,] 0.86 0.14 0.00
[9,] 0.11 0.00 0.89
[10.] 0.87 0.00 0.13
[11,] 0.94 0.01 0.06
[12.] 0.29 0.71 0.00
[13.] 0.09 0.91 0.00
[14.] 0.67 0.33 0.00
[15.] 0.93 0.01 0.06
[16.] 0.95 0.01 0.04
[17,] 0.16 0.84 0.00
[18,] 0.95 0.04 0.01
[19,] 0.77 0.23 0.00
```

### **Summaries**

Best guess for each series:

```
1 2 3
559 232 209
```

Expected # correct and sd:

```
854.1 10.3
```

Probability of getting at least 900 correct:

```
> pnorm(expected_correct, 899.5, sd_correct)
[1] 5.421277e-06
```

▶ Ummmmm . . .

```
> 1/pnorm(expected_correct, 899.5, sd_correct)
[1] 184458.4
```

# Should I play the \$100,000 challenge?

From the discussion thread:

#### Richard Tol (@RichardTol) says:

November 20, 2015 at 8:31 pm

Why don't you guys just pay £10 to win £100,000? You don't need to accept that the challenge has any bearing on climate change — it has not — but it is a great opportunity to make £99,990.

Expected return on \$10 bet:

$$(5.4 * 10^{-6}) * 10^5 = $0.54$$

► What would *you* do?