

Zooplankton

Exercise 2

Model seasonal variation of Zooplankton densities. The data is taken from the article Hierarchical generalized additive models in ecology: an introduction with mgcv (<https://peerj.com/preprints/27320/>) (GitHub-Repo (<https://github.com/eric-pedersen/mixed-effect-gams>)) and was originally collected by Richard Lathrop approximately bi-weekly from 1976 to 1994 (Article (https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-1-4612-4410-3_8)).

Setup

```
require(mgcv)

## Loading required package: mgcv

## Loading required package: nlme

## This is mgcv 1.8-28. For overview type 'help("mgcv-package")'.
```

```
require(gratia)

## Loading required package: gratia
```

Data

```
prj = '/home/scharm Mueller/Projects/workshop-sefs11'
zop = read.csv(file.path(prj, '/data/zooplankton_example.csv'))
head(zop)
```

```
##   day year   lake      taxon density density_adj min_density
## 1  10 1980 Mendota C. sphaericus   28000         2.9       1000
## 2  10 1980 Mendota Calanoid copepods    5000         0.6       2000
## 3  10 1980 Mendota Cyclopoid copepods     0         0.1       3000
## 4  10 1980 Mendota   D. mendotae    6000         0.7       1000
## 5  10 1980 Mendota   D. thomasi 1867000       186.8       2000
## 6  10 1980 Mendota   K. cochlearis 116000        11.7       2000
##   density_scaled
## 1      -0.27400738
## 2      -1.28909028
## 3      -2.41458699
## 4       0.24808375
## 5       1.30285978
## 6      -0.09197228
```

```
summary(zop)
```

```
##           day           year           lake           taxon
## Min.      : 10.0   Min.      :1976   Kegonsa: 656   D. mendotae      : 793
## 1st Qu.: 130.0   1st Qu.:1980   Mendota:2079   L. siciloides     : 755
## Median : 194.0   Median :1983   Menona :2367   Calanoid copepods : 754
## Mean     : 191.3   Mean     :1984   Waubesa: 746   D. thomasi        : 754
## 3rd Qu.: 258.0   3rd Qu.:1987           C. sphaericus     : 752
## Max.     : 362.0   Max.     :1994   Cyclopoid copepods: 750
##                                     (Other)      :1290
##           density           density_adj           min_density           density_scaled
## Min.      :      0   Min.      : 0.10   Min.      :1000   Min.      : -3.55411
## 1st Qu.:    4000   1st Qu.: 0.50   1st Qu.:1000   1st Qu.: -0.77963
## Median :   24000   Median : 2.50   Median :2000   Median : 0.03233
## Mean     : 114562   Mean     :11.56   Mean     :1864   Mean      : 0.00000
## 3rd Qu.:  86000   3rd Qu.: 8.70   3rd Qu.:2000   3rd Qu.: 0.74271
## Max.     :7112000   Max.     :711.30   Max.     :3000   Max.      : 3.12516
##
```

Variables

day = day of the year year lake = name of the lake (categorical) taxon = zooplankton taxon density = zooplankton density (count) density_adj = zooplankton density adjusted density_scaled = zooplankton density scaled (to the area and volume of the net)

Task

Estimate seasonal variability of Cyclopoid copepods in different lakes

- use density_adj as a response
- Which distributional family would you pick?
- use the variable day to model possible seasonal patterns
- which smoothing basis would you use for seasonal data?
- account for the different lakes in the model
- as random effects
- as factor-smooth interaction (using the bs = 'fs' argument)
- as factor-smooth interaction (using the by = argument)
- account for inter-year variability in each lake
- make year a factor

- Pick the best model