



# ON THE IMPACT OF APPROXIMATION ERRORS ON EXTREME QUANTILE ESTIMATION WITH APPLICATIONS TO FUNCTIONAL DATA ANALYSIS

Based on collaboration with Pauliina Ilmonen, Lauri Viitasaari, Valentin Garino and Benny Avelin

<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2307.03581> (submitted to a journal)

Jaakko Pere

7th of May, 2025

Dep. of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Helsinki

# Agenda of the presentation

Univariate Extreme Value Theory

Multidimensional Extremes and Impact of Approximation Errors

Extreme Quantile Estimation for  $L^p$ -Norms

# Table of Contents

Univariate Extreme Value Theory

Multidimensional Extremes and Impact of Approximation Errors

Extreme Quantile Estimation for  $L^p$ -Norms

## What is Extreme Value Theory?

Extreme value theory is concerned about inference of rare events.

# What is Extreme Value Theory?

Extreme value theory is concerned about inference of rare events.

- Extreme quantile estimation
- Tail probability estimation
- Estimation of the endpoint of a given distribution

### Definition (Maximum domain of attraction)

Let  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  be i.i.d. observations of a random variable  $Y$ . If there exist sequences  $a_n > 0$  and  $b_n \in \mathbb{R}$ , and a random variable  $G$  with a nondegenerate distribution such that

$$\frac{\max(Y_1, \dots, Y_n) - b_n}{a_n} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}} G, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

we say that  $Y$  belongs to the maximum domain of attraction of  $G$ , and denote  $Y \in \text{MDA}(G)$ .

## Extreme Value Index

**Theorem** (Fisher and Tippett, 1928; Gnedenko, 1943)

*Up to location and scale, the distribution of  $G = G_\gamma$  is characterized by the parameter  $\gamma$ , called the extreme value index. That is, the distribution of  $G_\gamma$  is of the type*

$$F_{G_\gamma}(x) = \begin{cases} \exp\left(-(1 + \gamma x)^{-1/\gamma}\right), & 1 + \gamma x > 0 \quad \text{if } \gamma \neq 0, \\ \exp(-e^{-x}), & x \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{if } \gamma = 0. \end{cases}$$

## Extreme Value Index

**Theorem (Fisher and Tippett, 1928; Gnedenko, 1943)**

*Up to location and scale, the distribution of  $G = G_\gamma$  is characterized by the parameter  $\gamma$ , called the extreme value index. That is, the distribution of  $G_\gamma$  is of the type*

$$F_{G_\gamma}(x) = \begin{cases} \exp\left(-(1 + \gamma x)^{-1/\gamma}\right), & 1 + \gamma x > 0 \quad \text{if } \gamma \neq 0, \\ \exp(-e^{-x}), & x \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{if } \gamma = 0. \end{cases}$$

In the case  $\gamma > 0$  the type of  $G_\gamma$  is Fréchet,

$$\Phi_\gamma(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq 0 \\ \exp(-x^{-1/\gamma}), & x > 0. \end{cases}$$



## Tail Quantile Function

Define the tail quantile function corresponding to a distribution  $F$  by

$$U(t) = F^{\leftarrow} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{t} \right), \quad t > 1,$$

where we denote the left-continuous inverse of a nondecreasing function by  $f^{\leftarrow}(y) = \inf \{x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) \geq y\}$ .

## Tail Quantile Function

Define the tail quantile function corresponding to a distribution  $F$  by

$$U(t) = F^{\leftarrow} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{t} \right), \quad t > 1,$$

where we denote the left-continuous inverse of a nondecreasing function by  $f^{\leftarrow}(y) = \inf \{x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) \geq y\}$ .

That is,  $U(1/p)$  is the  $(1 - p)$ -quantile.

### Definition (Regular variation)

A Lebesgue measurable function  $f : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is eventually positive is regularly varying with index  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  if for all  $x > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(tx)}{f(t)} = x^\alpha.$$

Then we denote  $f \in \text{RV}_\alpha$ . Furthermore, we say that a function  $f$  is slowly varying if  $f \in \text{RV}_0$ .

## Definition (Regular variation)

A Lebesgue measurable function  $f : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is eventually positive is regularly varying with index  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  if for all  $x > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(tx)}{f(t)} = x^\alpha.$$

Then we denote  $f \in \text{RV}_\alpha$ . Furthermore, we say that a function  $f$  is slowly varying if  $f \in \text{RV}_0$ .

Intuition:

$$f \in \text{RV}_\alpha \iff f(x) = L(x)x^\alpha, \quad L \in \text{RV}_0.$$

We also have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^{-\varepsilon} L(x) = 0, \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

# Construction of an Extreme Quantile Estimator

Theorem (de Haan, 1970; Gnedenko, 1943)

Let  $\gamma > 0$ . We have

$$Y \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma) \iff 1 - F \in \text{RV}_{-1/\gamma} \iff U \in \text{RV}_\gamma.$$

## Construction of an Extreme Quantile Estimator

Theorem (de Haan, 1970; Gnedenko, 1943)

Let  $\gamma > 0$ . We have

$$Y \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma) \iff 1 - F \in \text{RV}_{-1/\gamma} \iff U \in \text{RV}_\gamma.$$

Choose  $t = n/k$  and  $x = k/(np)$  to get the approximation

$$U\left(\frac{1}{p}\right) \approx U\left(\frac{n}{k}\right) \left(\frac{k}{np}\right)^\gamma.$$

## Extreme Quantile Estimation

Suppose  $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$  is an i.i.d. sample of  $Y \in \text{MDA}(\mathbf{G}_\gamma)$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ . Denote order statistics corresponding to the sample  $\mathbf{Y}$  by  $\mathbf{Y}_{1,n} \leq \dots \leq \mathbf{Y}_{n,n}$ . Then an estimator for the extreme  $(1 - p)$ -quantile  $x_p = U(1/p)$  can be given as

$$\hat{x}_p(\mathbf{Y}) = \mathbf{Y}_{n-k,n} \left( \frac{k}{np} \right)^{\hat{\gamma}(\mathbf{Y})},$$

where  $\hat{\gamma}$  is an estimator for the extreme value index  $\gamma$ .

## The Hill Estimator (Hill, 1975; Mason, 1982)

Suppose  $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$  is an i.i.d. sample of  $Y \in \text{MDA}(\mathbf{G}_\gamma)$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ . The Hill estimator is defined as

$$\hat{\gamma}_H(\mathbf{Y}) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \ln \left( \frac{\mathbf{Y}_{n-i,n}}{\mathbf{Y}_{n-k,n}} \right).$$



## The Hill Estimator (Hill, 1975; Mason, 1982)

Suppose  $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$  is an i.i.d. sample of  $Y \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma)$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ . The Hill estimator is defined as

$$\hat{\gamma}_H(\mathbf{Y}) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \ln \left( \frac{\mathbf{Y}_{n-i,n}}{\mathbf{Y}_{n-k,n}} \right).$$

If additionally as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $k = k_n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $k/n \rightarrow 0$ , then

$$\hat{\gamma}_H(\mathbf{Y}) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} \gamma, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

# Table of Contents

Univariate Extreme Value Theory

Multidimensional Extremes and Impact of Approximation Errors

Extreme Quantile Estimation for  $L^p$ -Norms

## A Traditional Approach to Extremes

### Definition (Multivariate regular variation)

Let  $\Theta$  be a probability measure on the unit sphere  $\mathbb{S}^{d-1} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1\}$ . A  $d$ -dimensional random vector  $X$  is multivariate regularly varying with the extreme value index  $\gamma > 0$  and the probability measure  $\Theta$  if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbb{P}(\|X\|_2 \geq tx, X/\|X\|_2 \in A)}{\mathbb{P}(\|X\|_2 \geq t)} = x^{-1/\gamma} \Theta(A),$$

for every  $x > 0$  and for every Borel set  $A$  in  $\mathbb{S}^{d-1}$  with  $\Theta(\partial A) = 0$ .

# A Traditional Approach to Extremes

## Definition (Multivariate regular variation)

Let  $\Theta$  be a probability measure on the unit sphere  $\mathbb{S}^{d-1} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1\}$ . A  $d$ -dimensional random vector  $X$  is multivariate regularly varying with the extreme value index  $\gamma > 0$  and the probability measure  $\Theta$  if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbb{P}(\|X\|_2 \geq tx, X/\|X\|_2 \in A)}{\mathbb{P}(\|X\|_2 \geq t)} = x^{-1/\gamma} \Theta(A),$$

for every  $x > 0$  and for every Borel set  $A$  in  $\mathbb{S}^{d-1}$  with  $\Theta(\partial A) = 0$ .

- Estimation of multivariate extreme quantile regions under multivariate regular variation based on
  - density (Cai et al., 2011), and
  - half-space depth (He & Einmahl, 2016).

# An Alternative Framework

## 1. Approach in multidimensional extremes:

- Let  $X \in \mathbb{S}$  be a random object, where, e.g.,  $\mathbb{S} = \mathbb{R}^d$  or  $\mathbb{S} = L^p([0, 1]^d)$ .

# An Alternative Framework

## 1. Approach in multidimensional extremes:

- Let  $X \in \mathbb{S}$  be a random object, where, e.g.,  $\mathbb{S} = \mathbb{R}^d$  or  $\mathbb{S} = L^p([0, 1]^d)$ .
- Apply extreme value theory to  $g(X)$ , where  $g$  is a suitable map depending on the context.

## An Alternative Framework

### 1. Approach in multidimensional extremes:

- Let  $X \in \mathbb{S}$  be a random object, where, e.g.,  $\mathbb{S} = \mathbb{R}^d$  or  $\mathbb{S} = L^p([0, 1]^d)$ .
- Apply extreme value theory to  $g(X)$ , where  $g$  is a suitable map depending on the context.

### 2. Often instead of the sample $\mathbf{Y}$ , only approximations $\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = (\hat{Y}_1, \dots, \hat{Y}_n)$ are available.

# An Alternative Framework

## 1. Approach in multidimensional extremes:

- Let  $X \in \mathbb{S}$  be a random object, where, e.g.,  $\mathbb{S} = \mathbb{R}^d$  or  $\mathbb{S} = L^p([0, 1]^d)$ .
- Apply extreme value theory to  $g(X)$ , where  $g$  is a suitable map depending on the context.

## 2. Often instead of the sample $\mathbf{Y}$ , only approximations $\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = (\hat{Y}_1, \dots, \hat{Y}_n)$ are available.

- How the approximation error affects the asymptotics?



## Applications

- Elliptical extreme quantile region estimation (Pere et al., 2024).
- Extreme value index estimation for latent model (Virta et al., 2024).
- Estimation of the extreme value index corresponding to functional PCA scores (Kim & Kokoszka, 2019).

## Approximated $L^p$ -Norms

- Let  $X \in L^p([0, 1]^d)$ , and let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be i.i.d. copies of  $X$ .
- We wish to estimate extreme value index and extreme quantiles corresponding to  $\|X\|_p \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma)$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ .

## Approximated $L^p$ -Norms

- Let  $X \in L^p([0, 1]^d)$ , and let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be i.i.d. copies of  $X$ .
- We wish to estimate extreme value index and extreme quantiles corresponding to  $\|X\|_p \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma)$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ .
- In practice we never observe  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ .

## Approximated $L^p$ -Norms

- Let  $X \in L^p([0, 1]^d)$ , and let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be i.i.d. copies of  $X$ .
- We wish to estimate extreme value index and extreme quantiles corresponding to  $\|X\|_p \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma)$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ .
- In practice we never observe  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ .
- Approximate norms with Riemann sums or Monte Carlo integration.
- Use approximated norms  $\hat{Y}_i$  in the estimation.

## Approximated $L^p$ -Norms

- Let  $X \in L^p([0, 1]^d)$ , and let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be i.i.d. copies of  $X$ .
- We wish to estimate extreme value index and extreme quantiles corresponding to  $\|X\|_p \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma)$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ .
- In practice we never observe  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ .
- Approximate norms with Riemann sums or Monte Carlo integration.
- Use approximated norms  $\hat{Y}_i$  in the estimation.
- As the estimator of the extreme value index we choose the Hill estimator

$$\hat{\gamma}(\hat{\mathbf{Y}}) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \ln \left( \frac{\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{n-i,n}}{\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{n-k,n}} \right).$$

## Draft of the Main Result

Let  $\gamma > 0$ . Let  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  be i.i.d. copies of  $Y \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma)$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = (\hat{Y}_1, \dots, \hat{Y}_n)$  the corresponding approximations. Denote errors by  $E_i = |\hat{Y}_i - Y_i|$ . If

$$\sqrt{k} \frac{\mathbf{E}_{n,n}}{U_Y(n/k)} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

then

$$\sqrt{k} \left( \hat{\gamma}(\hat{\mathbf{Y}}) - \gamma \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\sqrt{k}}{\ln(k/(np))} \left( \frac{\hat{x}_p(\hat{\mathbf{Y}})}{U(1/p)} - 1 \right)$$

are asymptotically normally distributed under the standard assumptions (second-order condition, rate for  $p = p_n$ ,  $k = k_n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $k/n \rightarrow 0$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ).

# Table of Contents

Univariate Extreme Value Theory

Multidimensional Extremes and Impact of Approximation Errors

Extreme Quantile Estimation for  $L^p$ -Norms

## Riemann Sum Approximated Norms

Let  $\gamma > 0$ . Let  $X_i$  be i.i.d. copies of  $X \in L^p([0, 1])$ ,  $p \in [1, \infty]$ , s.t.  $Y = \|X\|_p \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma)$ . Let  $\hat{Y}_i$  be the Riemann sum approximated norms (based on discretizations with  $m$  equidistant observed points). Suppose for all  $s, t \in [0, 1]$ ,  $X$  satisfies

$$|X(t) - X(s)| \leq V\phi(|t - s|) \quad a.s.,$$

for some random variable  $V \in \text{MDA}(G_{\gamma'})$ ,  $\gamma' > 0$ , and for some continuous decreasing function  $\phi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  with  $\phi(0) = 0$ .



## Riemann Sum Approximated Norms

Let  $\gamma > 0$ . Let  $X_i$  be i.i.d. copies of  $X \in L^p([0, 1])$ ,  $p \in [1, \infty]$ , s.t.  $Y = \|X\|_p \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma)$ . Let  $\hat{Y}_i$  be the Riemann sum approximated norms (based on discretizations with  $m$  equidistant observed points). Suppose for all  $s, t \in [0, 1]$ ,  $X$  satisfies

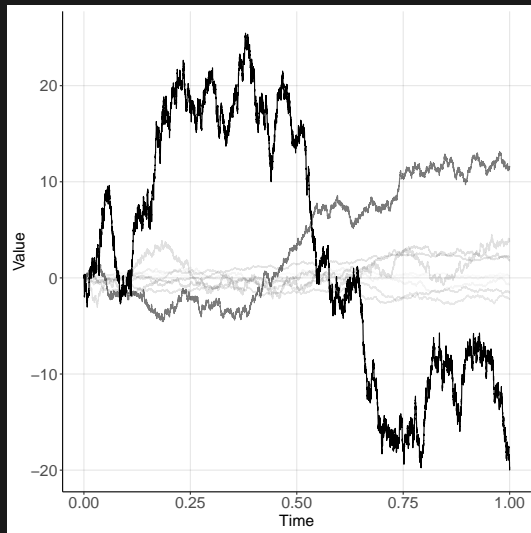
$$|X(t) - X(s)| \leq V\phi(|t - s|) \quad a.s.,$$

for some random variable  $V \in \text{MDA}(G_{\gamma'})$ ,  $\gamma' > 0$ , and for some continuous decreasing function  $\phi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  with  $\phi(0) = 0$ . Then the condition

$$\sqrt{k} \frac{\mathbf{E}_{n,n}}{U_Y(n/k)} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

translates into

$$\sqrt{k} \phi\left(\frac{1}{m}\right) k^\gamma n^{\gamma' - \gamma} \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$



**Figure:** Independent and identically distributed observations from a stochastic process  $X(t) = \mathcal{R}Z(t)$ , where  $\mathcal{R} \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma)$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ , and  $Z$  is a Brownian motion.

## Concentration for $\hat{\gamma}(\hat{\mathbf{Y}})$

In order to give concentration inequality for  $\mathbb{P} \left( \left| \hat{\gamma}(\hat{\mathbf{Y}}) - \hat{\gamma}(\mathbf{Y}) \right| > x \right)$  one needs to control the errors

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\mathbf{E}_{n,n}}{U_Y(n/k)} > x \right)$$

and the convergence

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \left| \frac{\mathbf{Y}_{n-k,n}}{U(n/k)} - 1 \right| > x \right).$$

## Chernoff-Type Bound for Intermediate Order Statistics

Let  $\gamma > 0$ . Let  $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$  be an i.i.d. sample of  $Y \in \text{MDA}(G_\gamma)$  and assume that, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $k = k_n \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $k/n \rightarrow 0$ . Then for sufficiently large  $n$

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \left| \frac{\mathbf{Y}_{n-k,n}}{U(n/k)} - 1 \right| > x \right) \leq C_1 e^{-C_2 k},$$

where the constants  $C_1 > 0$  and  $C_2 > 0$  depend on  $x$  and  $\gamma$ .

Thank you for your attention!

- Link to the manuscript (arXiv):  
<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2307.03581>
- Link to slides (Github):  
<https://github.com/perej1/ics-and-related>

## References I

- Cai, J.-J., Einmahl, J. H. J., & de Haan, L. (2011). Estimation of extreme risk regions under multivariate regular variation. *The Annals of Statistics*, 39(3), 1803–1826. <https://doi.org/10.1214/11-AOS891>
- de Haan, L. (1970). *On Regular Variation and Its Application to Weak Convergence of Sample Extremes* [Doctoral dissertation].
- Fisher, R. A., & Tippett, L. H. C. (1928). Limiting forms of the frequency distribution of the largest or smallest member of a sample. *Mathematical Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society*, 24(2), 180–190. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0305004100015681>
- Gnedenko, B. (1943). Sur la distribution limite du terme maximum d'une série aléatoire. *Annals of Mathematics*, 44(3), 423–453. <https://doi.org/10.2307/1968974>

## References II

- He, Y., & Einmahl, J. H. J. (2016). Estimation of extreme depth-based quantile regions. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B: Statistical Methodology*, 79(2), 449–461. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rssb.12163>
- Hill, B. M. (1975). A simple general approach to inference about the tail of a distribution. *The Annals of Statistics*, 3(5), 1163–1174. <https://doi.org/10.1214/aos/1176343247>
- Kim, M., & Kokoszka, P. (2019). Hill estimator of projections of functional data on principal components. *Statistics*, 53(4), 699–720. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02331888.2019.1609476>
- Mason, D. M. (1982). Laws of large numbers for sums of extreme values. *The Annals of Probability*, 10(3), 754–764. <https://doi.org/10.1214/aop/1176993783>

## References III

- Pere, J., Ilmonen, P., & Viitasaari, L. (2024). On extreme quantile region estimation under heavy-tailed elliptical distributions. *Journal of Multivariate Analysis*, 202, 105314. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmva.2024.105314>
- Virta, J., Lietzén, N., Viitasaari, L., & Ilmonen, P. (2024). Latent model extreme value index estimation. *Journal of Multivariate Analysis*, 202, 105300. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmva.2024.105300>