

# Bootstrapping Block Maxima Estimators

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**Torben Staud** - Ruhr University Bochum  
Axel Bücher - Ruhr University Bochum

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Generated<sup>1</sup> by the prompt: *Create a happy machine kangaroo with a very heavy tail, wearing a shoe in London, trying to pull itself out by the bootstraps in comic style*

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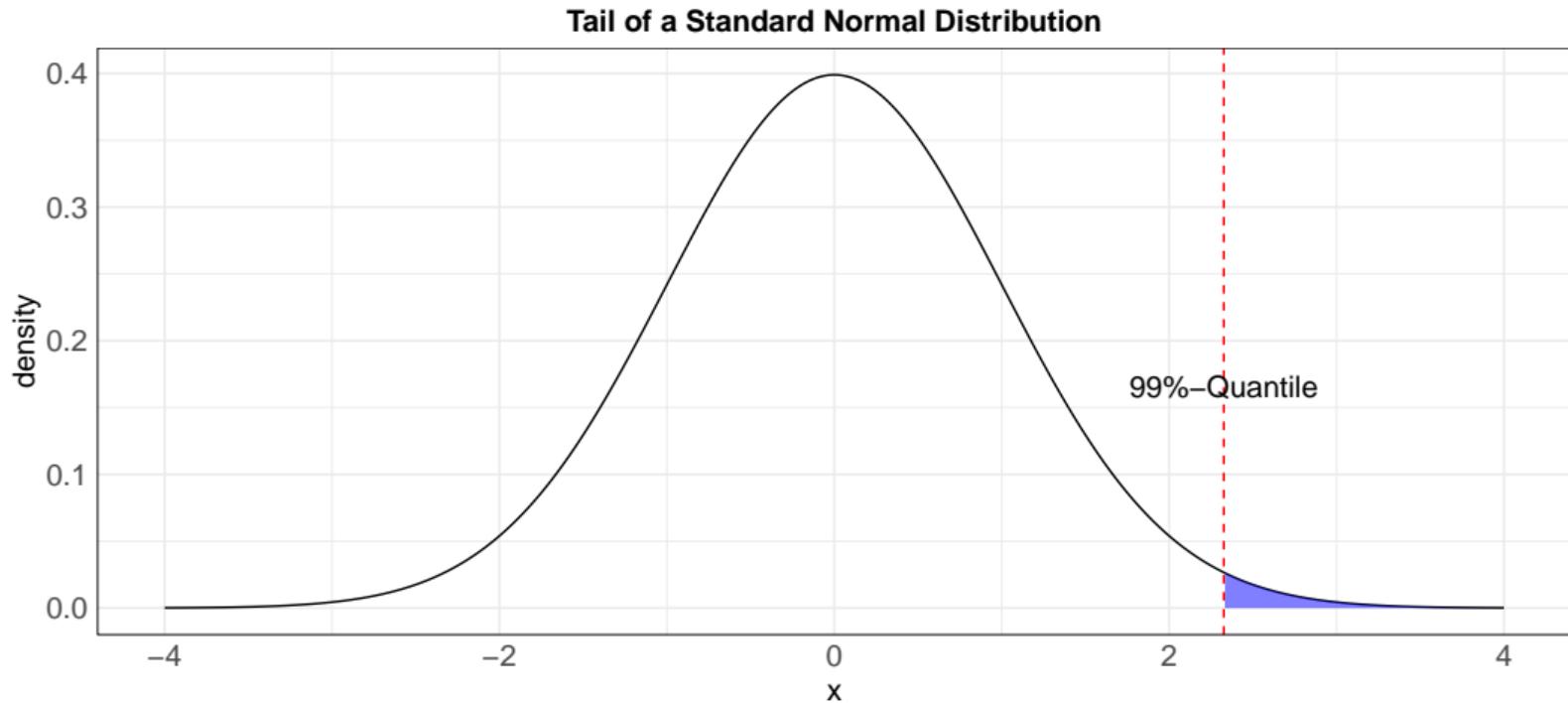
<sup>1</sup>DALL-E

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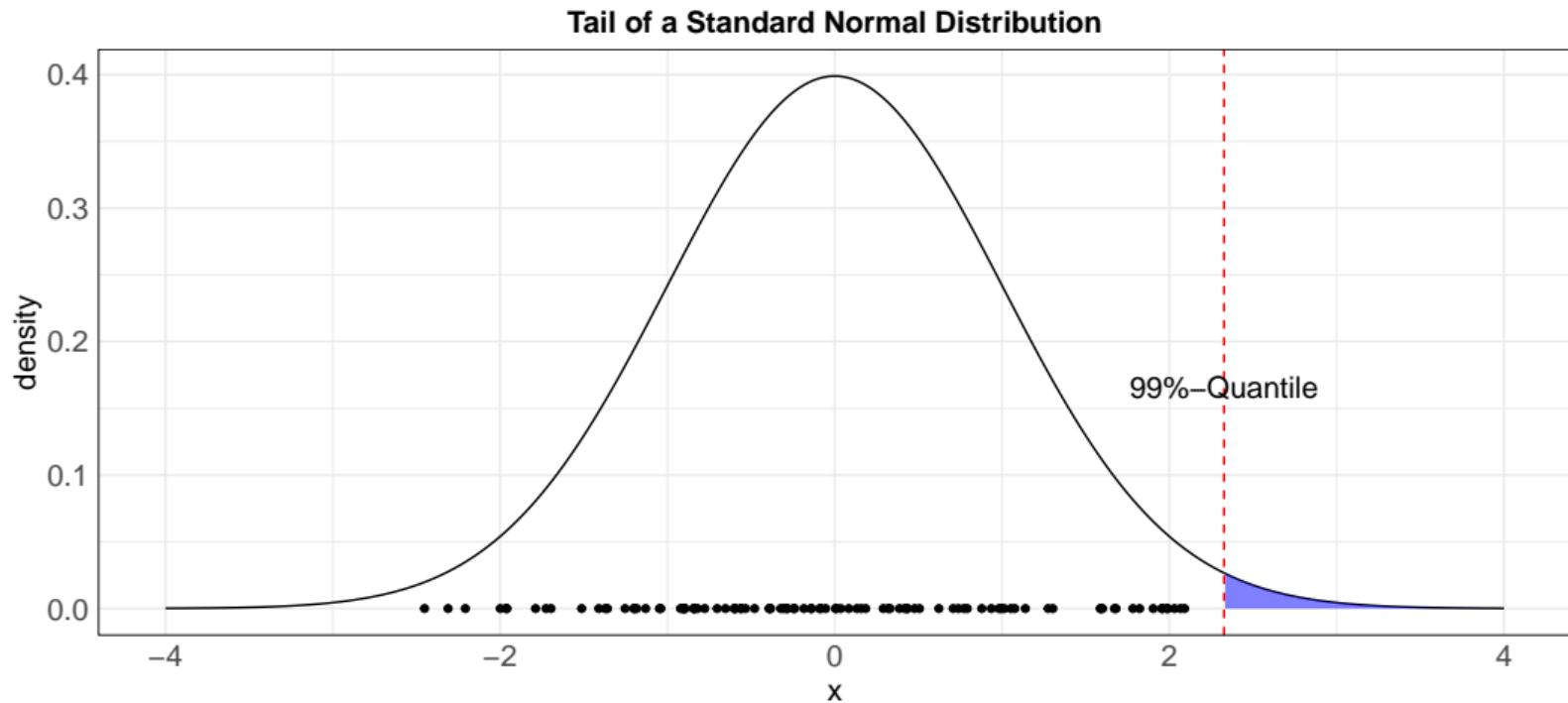


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→ Extreme Value Statistics is of high relevance

## Motivation II: why bootstrapping?

Tukey once proposed to call the bootstrap in statistics shotgun as it could blow off the head of every statistical problem if we as statisticians could stand the resulting mess.<sup>2</sup>

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→ Aim: use bootstraps in extremes when asymptotic variances are out of reach

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## Motivation III: why block maxima?

- From now on: tail = maximum of a block of a certain size (block length) of the sample:  
$$M_{r,t} = \max(X_t, \dots, X_{t+r-1})$$
- if block size is large: results from extreme value theory<sup>3</sup> state

$$\forall t: \mathcal{L}(M_{r,t}) \approx \text{GEV}(\theta_r),$$

where  $\theta_r = (\mu_r, \sigma_r, \gamma) \in \mathbb{R} \times (0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$  are the parameters of the *Generalized Extreme Value* distribution

- $\mu_r, \sigma_r$  are location-scale parameters, while  $\gamma^4$  determines the shape of the distribution

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This gives rise to the block maxima methods: Disjoint and Sliding block maxima (more: later)

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Variance of block maxima based estimators<sup>5</sup> might look trivial like

$$\sigma_{\text{sb}}^2 = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{3\gamma^3} (-3g_4 I_{2,2} + 8g_1 g_3 I_{2,1} - 6g_1^2 g_2 I_{1,1}), & \gamma > 0 \\ \frac{8}{\gamma^2} (\Gamma(-4\gamma) I_{2,2} - 2g_1 \Gamma(-3\gamma) I_{2,1} + g_1^2 \Gamma(-2\gamma) I_{1,1}), & \gamma < 0, \\ 2\zeta(3) - 48 - \frac{8}{3}\pi^2 + \frac{32}{3}\log^3(2) - 48\log^2(2) + 96\log(2) + \frac{16}{3}\pi^2\log(2), & \gamma = 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $g_j := \Gamma(1 - j\gamma)$ ,  $j < 1/\gamma$ ;

$$I_{i,k} := \int_0^{1/2} (\alpha_{(j+k)\gamma}(w) - 1) \{ w^{-j\gamma-1} (1-w)^{-k\gamma-1} + w^{-k\gamma-1} (1-w)^{-j\gamma-1} \} dw$$

and

$$\alpha_\beta : (0, 1) \rightarrow (0, \infty), \quad w \mapsto \alpha_\beta(w) = \begin{cases} \frac{1-(1-w)^{\beta+1}}{w(\beta+1)}, & \beta \neq -1 \\ -\frac{\log(1-w)}{w}, & \beta = -1 \end{cases}.$$

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<sup>5</sup>Here: estimating the variance of a block maximum based on sliding block maxima



# Outline

## Block maxima:

- Disjoint block maxima
- Sliding block maxima

## Bootstrapping (sliding) block maxima:

- Naive approaches
- The circular block maxima approach
- Resampling algorithm
- Consistency results

## Block maxima

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## Block maxima

**Basic model assumptions:**

- Strictly stationary time series excerpt  $\mathcal{X}_n = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$  with values in  $\mathbb{R}$  and c.d.f.  $F$ .
- Short range dependency structures allowed
- $F$  in the domain of attraction of  $G_\gamma$ , that is:

$$\mathcal{L}\left(\max(X_1, \dots, X_r)\right) \approx \text{GEV}(\mu_r, \sigma_r, \gamma)$$

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### Statistical challenges:

- Estimate  $\gamma$  (many estimators well known: Hill, PWM, (Pseudo-)MLE), extreme quantiles/return levels
- **Confidence intervals/Variance of Estimators** ← our focus

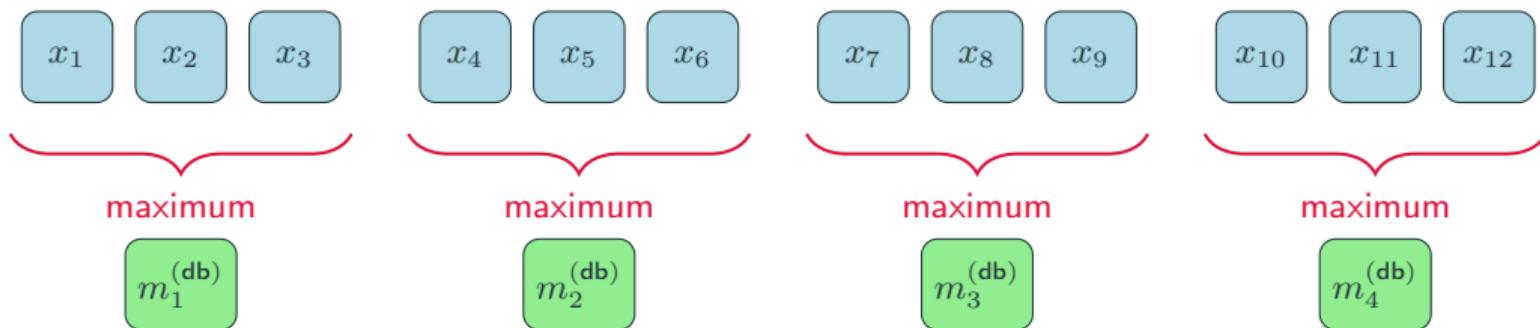
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**Observations**  $x_1, \dots, x_{12}$ ;    **block size**  $r = 3$



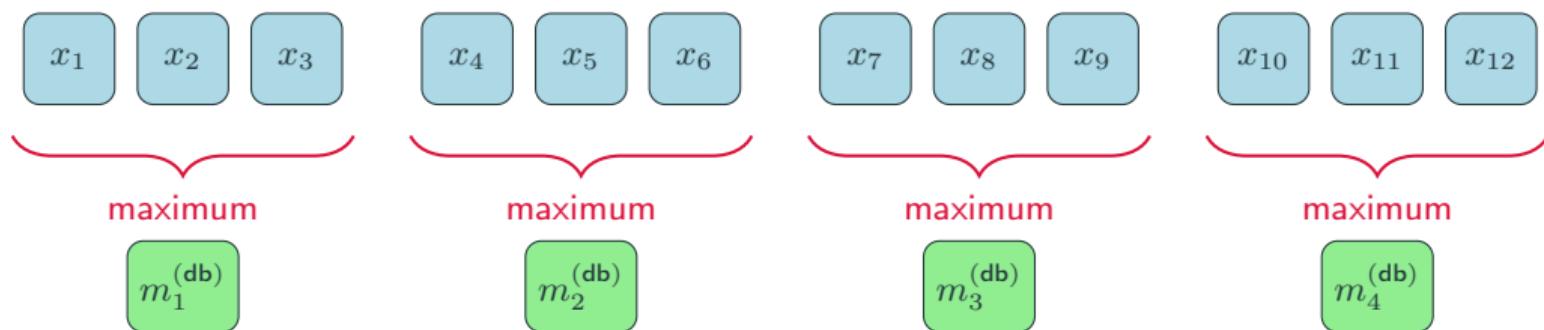
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**Disjoint block maxima sample**  $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{db})} = (m_1^{(\text{db})}, \dots, m_4^{(\text{db})})$

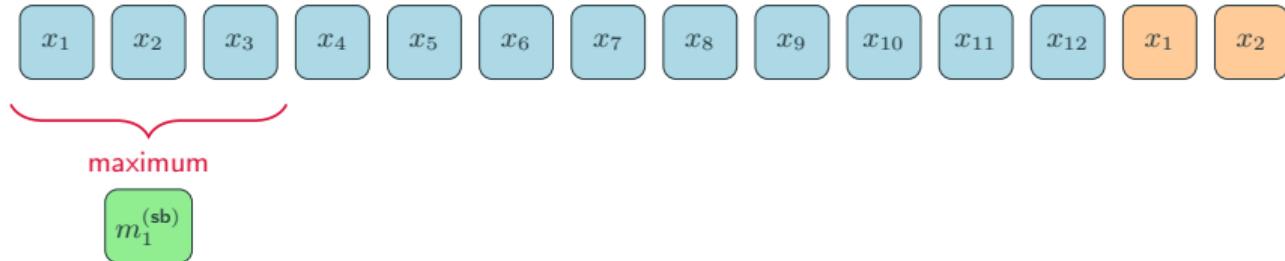
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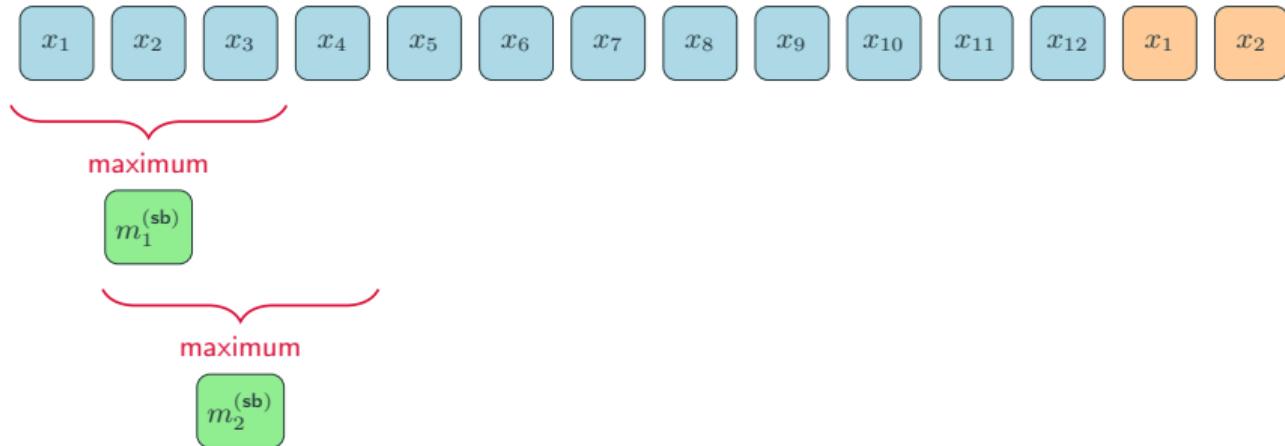
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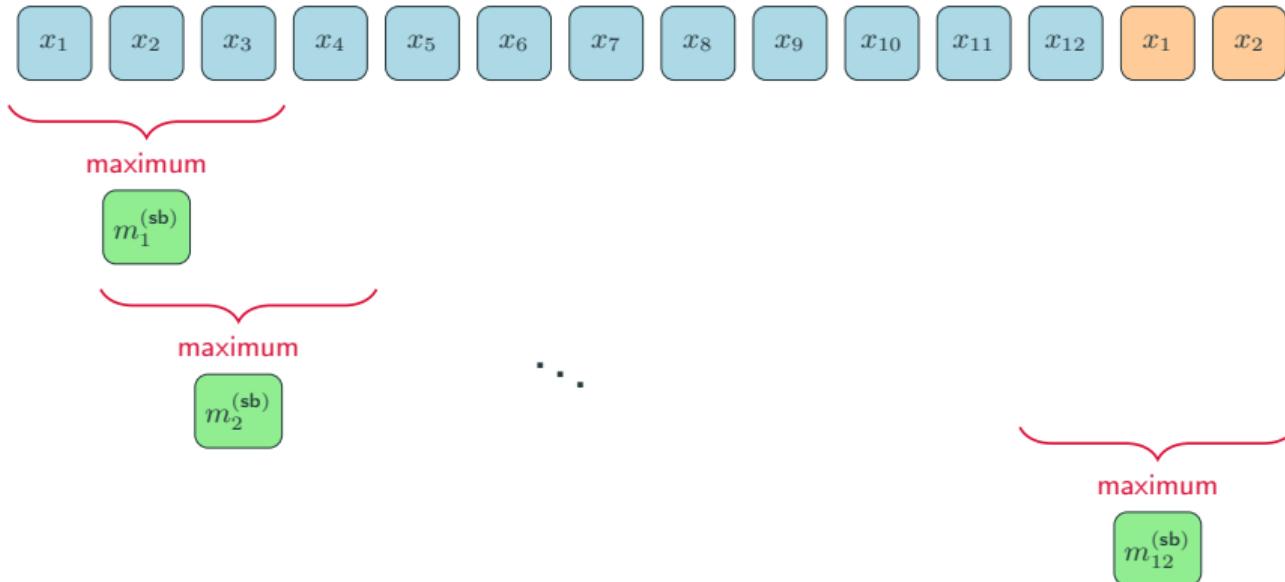
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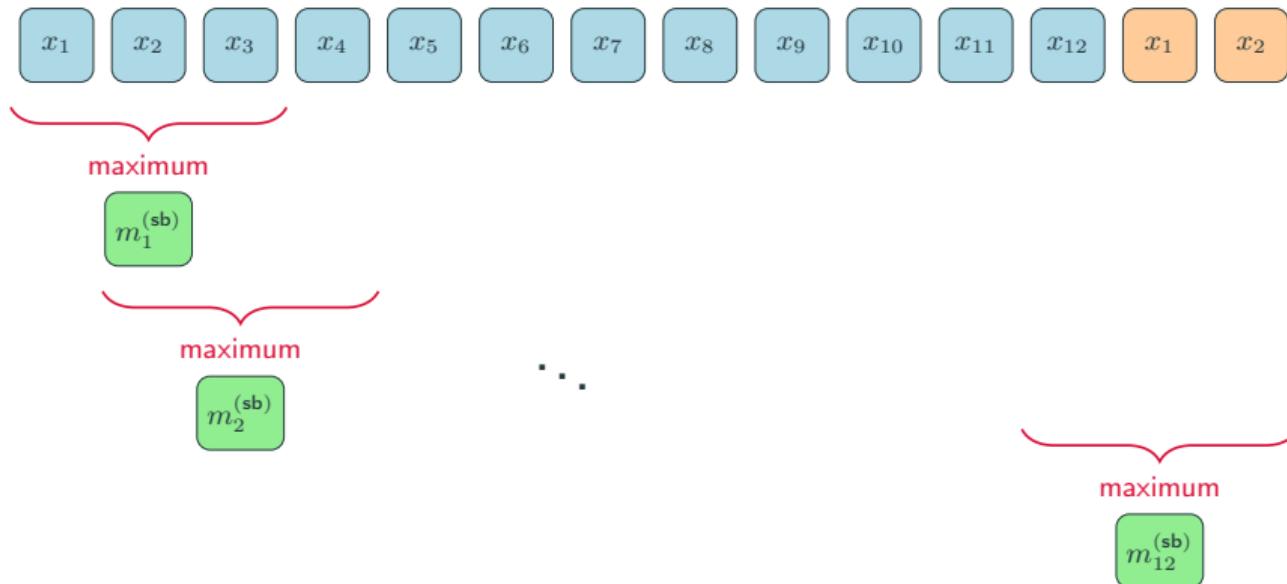
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Observations  $x_1, \dots, x_{12}$ ; block size  $r = 3$



Sliding block maxima sample  $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{sb})} = (m_1^{(\text{sb})}, \dots, m_{12}^{(\text{sb})})$

## Bootstrapping block maxima

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## Statistical setting

Estimation of  $\theta_r = E[h(M_{r,1})]$  where  $h: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$  satisfies minimal regularity conditions

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$$\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{mb})} = \frac{1}{n_{(\text{mb})}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{(\text{mb})}} \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{M}_{r,i}^{(\text{mb})}), \quad \text{mb} \in \{\text{db}, \text{sb}\},$$

where  $n_{(\text{db})} = n/r, n_{(\text{sb})} = n$ .

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where  $n_{(\text{db})} = n/r, n_{(\text{sb})} = n$ .

**Aim: Bootstrap**  $\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{mb})} - \theta_r$

## Naive approach I

Consider first  $\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{db})}$

- Time series structure  $\rightsquigarrow$  have to bootstrap blocks of observations
  - Bootstrap block size of  $r$  is natural
- $\rightsquigarrow$  Draw with replacement<sup>6</sup> from the sample of disjoint block maxima  $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{db})}$

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### Algorithm 1 Disjoint block maxima bootstrap

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**Require:**  $n/r \in \mathbb{N}, \mathcal{M}^{(\text{db})} = (m_1, \dots, m_{n/r}), B \in \mathbb{N}$

- 1: **for**  $b = 1$  to  $B$  **do**
  - 2:     Draw  $n/r$  times with replacement from  $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{db})}$  and concatenate to obtain  $m_{b,1}^*, \dots, m_{b,n/r}^*$
  - 3:     Compute  $\hat{\theta}_{n,b}^{*,(\text{db})} = r/n \sum_{i=1}^{n/r} h(m_{b,i}^*)$
  - 4: **end for**
  - 5: **return**  $\hat{\theta}_{n,1}^{*,(\text{db})}, \dots, \hat{\theta}_{n,B}^{*,(\text{db})}$  ▷ Bootstrap replicates
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## Naive approach II

Does it work?

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Yes; formally this means:

**Theorem (Bücher and S., 2024)** Under regularity conditions, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$d_K \left( \mathcal{L}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n^{(\text{db}),*} - \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n^{(\text{db})} \mid \mathcal{X}_n), \mathcal{L}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n^{(\text{db})} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_r) \right) = o_{\mathbb{P}}(1).$$

Now consider  $\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{sb})}$

- Problem:  $\text{sliding-max}(x_1, \dots, x_r)$  does not make sense as opposed to its disjoint counterpart
- Instead one could draw  $r$ -blocks  $M_{I_i}^{(\text{sb})} = \{m_{(i-1)r+1}^{(\text{sb})}, \dots, m_{ir}^{(\text{sb})}\}$  of the sliding sample,  
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## Naive approach III

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Does this work?<sup>7</sup>

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Does this work?<sup>7</sup>

No!

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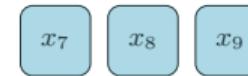
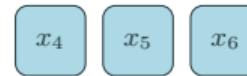
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$x_{10}$     $x_{11}$     $x_{12}$

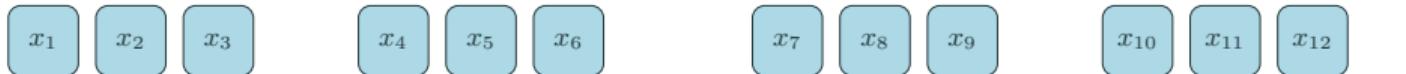
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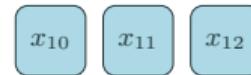
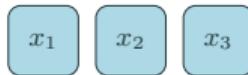
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Repeat first two ( $= r - 1$ ) observations of each block of blocks at the end



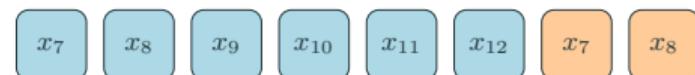
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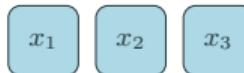


slid-maximum

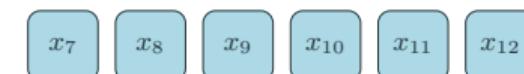
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**Circular block maxima sample**  $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{cb})} = (m_1^{(\text{cb})}, \dots, m_{12}^{(\text{cb})})$

The natural estimator for estimating  $\theta_r$  is  $n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n h(M_{r,i}^{(\text{cb})})$

**Lemma (Bücher, S., 2024)** Under regularity conditions, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\frac{\text{Var}(\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{cb})})}{\text{Var}(\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{sb})})} \rightarrow 1.$$

## Circmax bootstrap I

~> bootstrap  $\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{sb})}$  via  $\hat{\theta}^{(\text{cb})}$

denote by  $\mathcal{M}_i^{(\text{cb})} = \{m_{(i-1)2r+1}, \dots, m_{2ri}\}$  the  $i$ th  $2r$  block of the circmax sample;  $i = 1, \dots, n/(2r)$

---

### Algorithm 3 circmax block maxima bootstrap

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**Require:**  $n/r \in \mathbb{N}, \mathcal{M}^{(\text{sb})} = (m_1, \dots, m_n), B \in \mathbb{N}$

- 1: **for**  $b = 1$  to  $B$  **do**
  - 2:     Draw  $n/(2r)$  times with replacement from  $\{\mathcal{M}_i^{(\text{cb})}: i = 1, \dots, n/(2r)\}$  and concatenate to obtain
  - 3:      $m_{b,1}^*, \dots, m_{b,n}^*$
  - 4:     Compute  $\hat{\theta}_{n,b}^{*,(\text{cb})} = 1/n \sum_{i=1}^n h(m_{b,i}^*)$
  - 5: **end for**
  - 6: **return**  $\hat{\theta}_{n,1}^{*,(\text{cb})}, \dots, \hat{\theta}_{n,B}^{*,(\text{cb})}$  ▷ Bootstrap replicates
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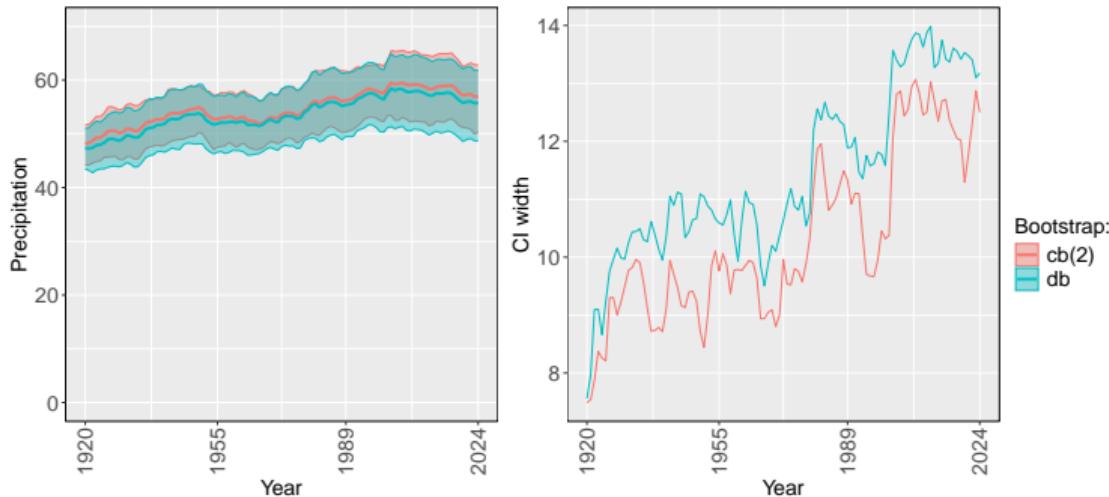
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- Allows for many applications: PWM-Estimator, Pseudo-MLE for Fréchet/GEV( $\gamma$ ), Moment estimators for the block maxima distribution (mean, variance ...)

## Case Study

Confidence Intervals for the expected yearly maximum precipitation (in mm) at a fixed location<sup>8</sup>



- Left: Estimates (lines in the middle) and confidence intervals (ribbons) for the estimation of  $\theta_r = E[M_t]$
- Right: Width of the respective confidence intervals

<sup>8</sup>Hohenpeißenberg, Germany; data from 1879–2023

## Conclusion

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- Naive bootstrapping fails for sliding block maxima
- Introduced a new method **circular block maxima**
- Circmax enjoys advantages from disjoint and sliding world<sup>9</sup>
- Circmax based bootstraps are consistent for the sliding max estimation error

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<sup>9</sup>small drawback: additional bias, but was found to be insignificant in simulation studies

## References

- ▷ Bücher, S. (2024). Bootstrapping Estimators based on the Block Maxima Method. [arXiv:2409.08661](https://arxiv.org/abs/2409.08661). Submitted for publication
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- ▷ Efron (1979). Bootstrap methods: another look at the jackknife. *Ann. Statist.* 7(1): 1-26
- ▷ Ferreira, de Haan (2015). On the block maxima method in extreme value theory: PWM estimators. *Ann. Statist.* 43(1): 276-298
- ▷ Zou, Volgushev, Bücher (2021). Multiple block sizes and overlapping blocks for multivariate time series extremes. *Ann. Statist.* 49(1): 295-320



Generated<sup>10</sup> by the prompt: *Create a comic style picture of a very happy block which is sliding down a slide shouting "thank you"*

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<sup>10</sup>DALL-E

Notes about  $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{db})}$ :

- Only  $n/r = o(n)$  disjoint block maxima
- No overlap between between blocks (disjoint)
- Asymptotic independence between  $m_i^{(\text{db})}, m_j^{(\text{db})}$  for  $i \neq j$  (**desirable property**)
- Asymptotic theory for many estimators established (Ferreira, de Haan, 2015)

## Sliding block maxima II

Notes about  $\mathcal{M}^{(\text{sb})}$ :

- Small modification: repeat the first  $r - 1$  observations at the end to ensure fair weighing
- After modifying we have  $n$  sliding block maxima
- Large overlap between blocks nearby
- Asymptotic **dependence** between  $m_i^{(\text{sb})}, m_j^{(\text{sb})}$  for  $i \neq j$ , which can be described by a Marshall-Olkin type copula (in the one-dimensional case)
- **Linear estimators based on sliding blocks have smaller variance than their disjoint counterpart:** (Zou et. al. 2021)

Notes about  $\mathcal{M}^{(cb)}$ :

- Essentially combines disjoint block with sliding block method
- Size of the circmax sample is  $n$
- Large overlap between blocks nearby (sliding effect) but no overlap between  $2 * r$  blocks (disjoint effect)
- Repeating observations induces non-stationarity but does not hurt<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>11</sup>does not hurt too much: asymptotic variance stays the same but there is negligible (compared to classical) bias

- Extendable to U-statistics of circular block maxima
- Extendable to non-stationary situations: piecewise stationary time series
- Purely of mathematical interest: one can define circular blocks with irrational outer block length  $k \rightsquigarrow$  then circmax defines a spectrum of maxima methods with  $k = 1$  corresponding to disjoint block maxima  $k = n/r$  corresponding to sliding block maxima; non-trivial things happening for  $k \in (1, 2)$

## Example: MLE for Fréchet based on block maxima extracted from a time series

Statistical model:

- $\mathcal{X}_n = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$  strictly stationary time series and  $\mathbb{R}$ -valued
- $\mathcal{X}_n$  belongs to the Fréchet DoA, that is:  $\exists \alpha_0 > 0, (\sigma_r)_r \in (0, \infty)^{\mathbb{N}}$ , s.t.

$$\max \left( \frac{X_1}{\sigma_r}, \dots, \frac{X_r}{\sigma_r} \right) \rightsquigarrow P_{\alpha_0},$$

where  $P_{\alpha_0} \sim \text{Fréchet}(\alpha_0)$

- Basic model assumptions still hold (block size, dependency structure)
- Goal: estimation of  $\alpha_0, \sigma_r$

## Example: MLE for Fréchet based on block maxima extracted from a time series

Statistical model:

- $\mathcal{X}_n = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$  strictly stationary time series and  $\mathbb{R}$ -valued
- $\mathcal{X}_n$  belongs to the Fréchet DoA, that is:  $\exists \alpha_0 > 0, (\sigma_r)_r \in (0, \infty)^{\mathbb{N}}$ , s.t.

$$\max \left( \frac{X_1}{\sigma_r}, \dots, \frac{X_r}{\sigma_r} \right) \rightsquigarrow P_{\alpha_0},$$

where  $P_{\alpha_0} \sim \text{Fréchet}(\alpha_0)$

- Basic model assumptions still hold (block size, dependency structure)
- Goal: estimation of  $\alpha_0, \sigma_r$

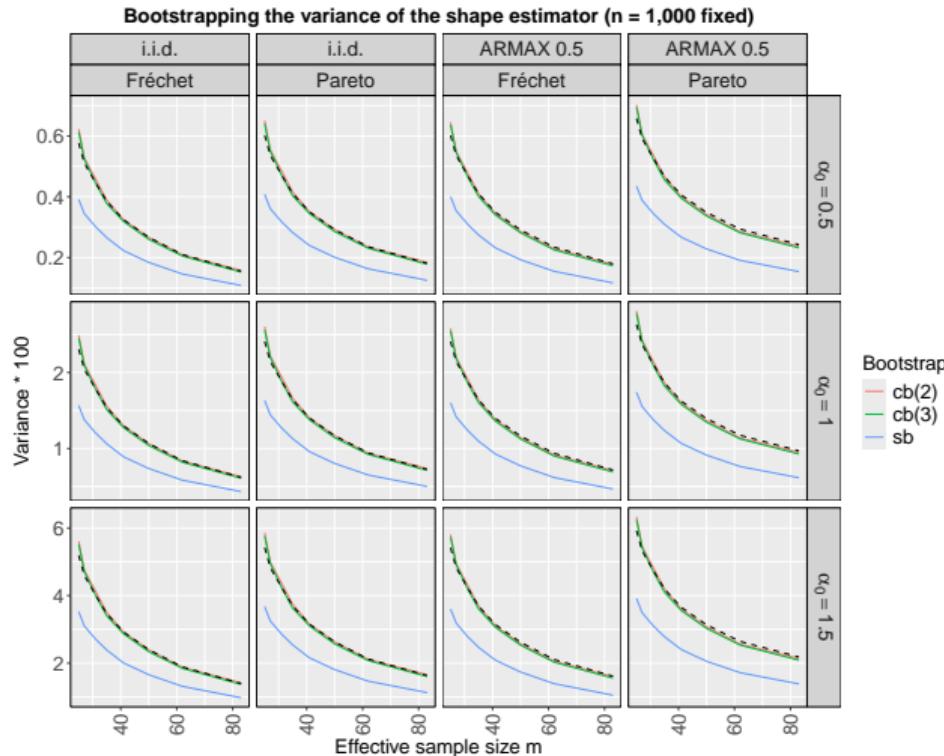
Good performing estimator (Bücher, Segers, 2018)

$$\hat{\theta}_n^{(\text{sb})} := (\hat{\alpha}_n^{(\text{sb})}, \hat{\sigma}_n^{(\text{sb})})^\top := \underset{\theta = (\alpha, \sigma) \in (0, \infty)^2}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{M_i \in \mathcal{M}_{n,r}^{(\text{sb})}} \ell_\theta(M_i \vee c),$$

where  $c > 0$  arbitrary,  $\ell_\theta$  denotes log-likelihood of  $\text{Fréchet}(\alpha_0, \sigma)$

## Finite sample results

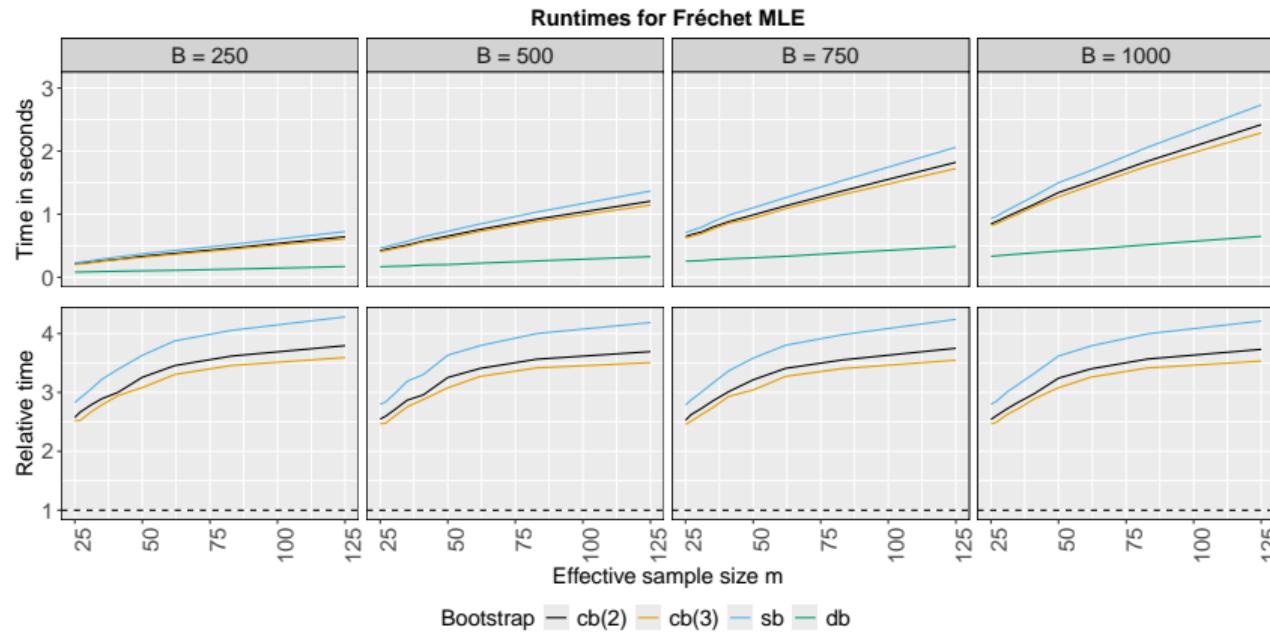
Bootstrap the variance of  $\hat{\alpha}_n^{(sb)}$  (asymptotically: complicated function of  $\alpha_0$ )



- variance of  $\hat{\alpha}_n^{(sb)}$  obtained via presimulating  $10^6$  time series of sample size  $n = 10^3$ , calculating for each sample  $\hat{\alpha}_n^{(sb)}$  and taking the empirical variance (black dashed line)
- different bootstrap procedures displayed; based on  $B = 10^3$  bootstrap replicates,  $N = 5 * 10^3$  repetitions (averaged)
- inconsistency of sliding visible
- circmax bootstrapping works

## Runtime comparison

In applications important: large bootstrap replicate numbers not too expensive



Absolute and relative median runtimes of different bootstrap algorithms for bootstrapping  $\hat{\theta}_n^{(mb)}$  (relative to the runtime of the disjoint blocks bootstrap) for fixed sample size  $n = 1,000$  as a function of the effective sample size and for different numbers of bootstrap replicates  $B$ ; based on 500 runs.