

Package ‘evmissing’

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Maintainer Paul J. Northrop <p.northrop@ucl.ac.uk>

Description Performs likelihood-based extreme value inferences with adjustment for the presence of missing values based on Simpson and Northrop (2025) <[doi:10.48550/arXiv.2512.15429](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2512.15429)>. A Generalised Extreme Value distribution is fitted to block maxima using maximum likelihood estimation, with the location and scale parameters reflecting the numbers of non-missing raw values in each block. A Bayesian version is also provided. For the purposes of comparison, there are options to make no adjustment for missing values or to discard any block maximum for which greater than a percentage of the underlying raw values are missing. Example datasets containing missing values are provided.

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URL <https://paulnorthrop.github.io/evmissing/>,
<https://github.com/paulnorthrop/evmissing>

BugReports <https://github.com/paulnorthrop/evmissing/issues>

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Author Paul J. Northrop [aut, cre, cph],
Emma S. Simpson [aut, cph]

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evmissing-package *evmissing: Extreme Value Analyses with Missing Data*

Description

Performs likelihood-based extreme value inferences with adjustment for the presence of missing values. A Generalised Extreme Value (GEV) distribution is fitted to block maxima using maximum likelihood estimation, with the GEV location and scale parameters reflecting the numbers of non-missing raw values in each block. A Bayesian version is also provided. For the purposes of comparison, there are options to make no adjustment for missing values or to discard any block maximum for which greater than a percentage of the underlying raw values are missing.

The `evmissing` package was created to accompany Simpson, E. S. and Northrop, P. J. (2025) Accounting for missing data when modelling block maxima. [doi:10.48550/arXiv.2512.15429](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2512.15429)

Details

The main functions are

- `gev_mle`: maximum likelihood inference for block maxima based on a GEV distribution, with S3 methods including `confint`.
- `gev_bayes`: Bayesian inference for block maxima based on a GEV distribution.

For objects returned by `gev_mle`, inferences about return levels are performed by `gev_return`, with with [S3 methods](#) including `confint`.

The function `gev_influence` quantifies the influence that individual extreme (small or large) block maxima have on the maximum likelihood estimators of GEV parameters.

The following example datasets are provided.

- [BloomsburyOzoneMaxima](#): Annual maxima ozone levels at Bloomsbury, London, UK, 1992-2024.
- [PlymouthOzoneMaxima](#): Annual maxima ozone levels at Plymouth, Devon, UK, 1998-2024.
- [BrestSurgeMaxima](#): Annual maxima surge heights at Brest, France, 1846-2007.

Author(s)

Maintainer: Paul J. Northrop <p.northrop@ucl.ac.uk> [copyright holder]

Authors:

- Emma S. Simpson [copyright holder]

See Also

Useful links:

- <https://paulnorthrop.github.io/evmissing/>
- <https://github.com/paulnorthrop/evmissing>
- Report bugs at <https://github.com/paulnorthrop/evmissing/issues>

block_maxima

Block maxima

Description

Extracts block maxima and the number of non-missing observations per block.

Usage

```
block_maxima(data, block_length, block)
```

Arguments

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| <code>data</code> | A numeric vector containing a time series of raw data. |
| <code>block_length</code> | A numeric scalar. Used calculate the maxima of disjoint blocks of <code>block_length</code> contiguous values in the vector <code>data</code> . If <code>length(data)</code> is not an integer multiple of <code>block_length</code> then the values at the end of <code>data</code> that do not constitute a complete block of length <code>block_length</code> are discarded, without warning. |
| <code>block</code> | A numeric vector with the same length as <code>data</code> . The value of <code>block[i]</code> indicates the block into which <code>data[i]</code> falls. For example, <code>block</code> could provide the year in which observation <code>i</code> was observed. |

Details

Exactly one of the arguments `block_length` or `block` must be supplied.

Value

A list, with class `c("list", "block_maxima", "evmissing")`, containing the following numeric vectors:

- `maxima`: the block maxima.
- `notNA`: the numbers of non-missing observations in each block.
- `n`: the maximal block length, that is, the largest number of values that could have been observed in each block.

If a block contains only missing values then its value of `maxima` is `NA` and its value of `notNA` is `0`.

If `block` is supplied then these vectors are named using the values in `block`. Otherwise, these vectors do not have names.

Examples

```
## Simulate example data
set.seed(7032025)
data <- rexp(15)

# Create some missing values
data[c(5, 7:8)] <- NA
# 5 blocks (columns), each with 3 observations
matrix(data, ncol = 5)
# Supplying block_length
block_length <- 3
block_maxima(data, block_length = block_length)
# Supplying block
block <- rep(1:5, each = 3)
block_maxima(data, block = block)

## Data with an incomplete block
data <- c(data, 1:2)

# Supplying block_length (the extra 2 observations are ignored)
block_length <- 3
block_maxima(data, block_length = block_length)
# Supplying block (with an extra group indicator)
block <- c(block, 7, 7)
block_maxima(data, block = block)
```

BloomsburyOzone *Ozone levels at Bloomsbury, UK*

Description

Daily maximum ozone levels at Bloomsbury in London (UK) for the years 1992-2024 inclusive.

Usage

`BloomsburyOzone`

Format

`BloomsburyOzone` is a data frame with 12054 rows and the 3 variables:

- Date: with class "Date" in the format YYYY-MM-DD.
- Year: Values in 1992-2024.
- Ozone: daily maximum ozone level in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Source

The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affair (DEFRA). The London Bloomsbury monitoring site at the [UK-AIR](#) database [Data Selector](#).

See Also

[BloomsburyOzoneMaxima](#) for the annual maxima and numbers of missing values per year.

Examples

```
head(BloomsburyOzone)

# Time series plot of annual maxima ozone levels
plot(BloomsburyOzone$date, BloomsburyOzone$ozone, xlab = "year",
     ylab = "ozone (micrograms / metre cubed)", pch = 16)
```

BloomsburyOzoneMaxima *Annual maxima ozone levels at Bloomsbury, UK*

Description

Annual maxima of daily maximum ozone levels at Bloomsbury in London (UK) for the years 1992-2024 inclusive.

Usage

`BloomsburyOzoneMaxima`

Format

`BloomsburyOzoneMaxima` is a data frame with 33 rows (years 1992 to 2024) and the 4 variables:

- `maxima`: annual maximum ozone level in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
- `notNA` : the number of days of the year for which raw data were available.
- `n` : the number of days in the year (365 or 366).
- `block` : a block number of 1 for year 1992 through to 33 for year 2024.

The row names of `BloomsburyOzoneMaxima` are the years 1992:2024. The raw data are missing for approximately 5% of the days.

Source

The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affair (DEFRA). The London Bloomsbury monitoring site at the [UK-AIR](#) database [Data Selector](#).

See Also

[BloomsburyOzone](#) for the raw time series.

Examples

```
head(BloomsburyOzoneMaxima)

# Time series plot of annual maxima ozone levels
plot(rownames(BloomsburyOzoneMaxima), BloomsburyOzoneMaxima$maxima,
     ylab = "ozone (micrograms / metre cubed)", xlab = "year", pch = 16)

# Time series plot of proportion of non-missing days
plot(rownames(BloomsburyOzoneMaxima),
      BloomsburyOzoneMaxima$notNA / BloomsburyOzoneMaxima$n,
      ylab = "proportion of non-missing days", xlab = "year", pch = 16)

# Plot ozone levels against the proportion of non-missing days
plot(BloomsburyOzoneMaxima$notNA / BloomsburyOzoneMaxima$n,
      BloomsburyOzoneMaxima$maxima,
      ylab = "ozone (micrograms / metre cubed)",
      xlab = "proportion of non-missing days", pch = 16)
```

Description

Number of days in each month relevant to the Brest sea surge heights data [BrestSurgeMaxima](#).

Usage

`BrestSurgeDays`

Format

BrestSurgeDays is a data frame with 162 rows (years 1846 to 2007) and the 12 variables (one for each month of the year). Each value in the data frame gives the number of days in the month in question.

The row names of BrestSurgeMaxima are the years 1946:2007 and the column names are the abbreviated names of the months.

See Also

- [BrestSurgeMaxima](#): Annual maxima surge heights at Brest, France.
- [BrestSurgeMissing](#): numbers of missing values in each month.

Examples

```
head(BrestSurgeDays)
```

BrestSurgeMaxima	<i>Annual maxima sea surge heights at Brest, France</i>
------------------	---

Description

Annual maxima of sea surge heights near high tide at Brest tide gauge station (France) for the years 1846-2007 inclusive.

Usage

```
BrestSurgeMaxima
```

Format

BrestSurgeMaxima is a data frame with 162 rows (years 1846 to 2007) and the 4 variables:

- maxima: annual maximum surge height at high tide in cm.
- notNA : the number of days of the year for which raw data were available.
- n : the number of days in the year (365 or 366).
- block : a block number of 1 for year 1846 through to 162 for year 2007.

The row names of BrestSurgeMaxima are the years 1946:2007.

Note

The raw data are missing for approximately 9% of the days. The data were declustered by the original providers in order to provide a series of independent surge heights at high tide. Specifically, these surge heights are separated by at least two days. A correction was applied to account for trend in the sea-level over the observation period. Although the declustering of the data means that the effective block size is smaller than n, it may be reasonable to suppose that the proportion notNA/n of non-missing values provides a useful measure of the extent to which the size of an annual maximum is likely to be affected by missingness.

Source

The dataset `Brest` in the `Renext` R package, specifically `Brest$OTdata` and `Brest$OTmissing`. Originally, the source was <https://data.shom.fr/>.

References

Deville Y. and Bardet L. (2023). `Renext`: Renewal Method for Extreme Values Extrapolation. R package version 3.1-4. doi:10.32614/CRAN.package.Renext

See Also

- [BrestSurgeMissing](#): numbers of missing values in each month.
- [BrestSurgeDays](#): Number of days per month in 1846-2007.

Examples

```
head(BrestSurgeMaxima)

# Time series plot of annual maxima surges
plot(rownames(BrestSurgeMaxima), BrestSurgeMaxima$maxima,
     ylab = "surge (cm)", xlab = "year", pch = 16)

# Time series plot of proportion of non-missing days
plot(rownames(BrestSurgeMaxima), BrestSurgeMaxima$notNA / BrestSurgeMaxima$n,
     ylab = "proportion of non-missing days", xlab = "year", pch = 16)

# Plot surges against the proportion of non-missing days
plot(BrestSurgeMaxima$notNA / BrestSurgeMaxima$n, BrestSurgeMaxima$maxima,
     ylab = "surge (cm)", xlab = "proportion of non-missing days", pch = 16)
```

`BrestSurgeMissing` *Missing values in sea surge heights at Brest, France*

Description

Numbers of missing values in each month of the Brest sea surge heights data [BrestSurgeMaxima](#).

Usage

`BrestSurgeMissing`

Format

`BrestSurgeMissing` is a data frame with 162 rows (years 1846 to 2007) and the 12 variables (one for each month of the year). Each value in the data frame gives the number of days for which the surge height data were missing in the month in question.

The row names of `BrestSurgeMaxima` are the years 1946:2007 and the column names are the abbreviated names of the months.

Source

The dataset Brest in the Renext R package, specifically Brest\$OTmissing. Originally, the source was <https://data.shom.fr/>.

References

Deville Y. and Bardet L. (2023). Renext: Renewal Method for Extreme Values Extrapolation. R package version 3.1-4. doi:10.32614/CRAN.package.Renext

See Also

- [BrestSurgeMaxima](#): Annual maxima surge heights at Brest, France.
- [BrestSurgeDays](#): Number of days per month in 1846-2007.

Examples

```
head(BrestSurgeMissing)

# Proportion of missing values by year
propn_year <- rowSums(BrestSurgeMissing) /
  days_in_year(rownames(BrestSurgeMissing))
plot(rownames(BrestSurgeMissing), propn_year,
     ylab = "proportion of missing values", xlab = "year", pch = 16)

# Proportion of missing values by year and month
propn_year_month <- BrestSurgeMissing / BrestSurgeDays

# Proportion of missing values by month
plot(1:12, colMeans(propn_year_month), axes = FALSE,
      ylab = "proportion of missing values", xlab = "month", pch = 16)
axis(1, at = 1:12, labels = 1:12)
axis(2)
box()
```

confint_gev_methods *Methods for objects of class "confint_gev"*

Description

Methods for objects of class "confint_gev" returned from [confint.evmissing](#).

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'confint_gev'
print(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'confint_gev'
plot(x, parm = c("mu", "sigma", "xi"), add = TRUE, digits = 2, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	An object inheriting from class "confint_gev", an object returned after a call to confint.evmissing .
<code>...</code>	Further arguments. For <code>print.confint_gev</code> to pass arguments to print . For <code>plot.confint_gev</code> to pass graphical parameters to plot to create the initial plot of the profile log-likelihood.
<code>parm</code>	A character scalar specifying the parameter for which a profile log-likelihood is plotted. Must be a single component of <code>c("mu", "sigma", "xi")</code> .
<code>add</code>	A logical scalar. If <code>add = TRUE</code> then the plot is annotated with a horizontal line indicating the critical value for the profile log-likelihood used to calculate the confidence limits, vertical lines indicating the values of these limits and a legend stating the confidence interval.
<code>digits</code>	An integer. Passed to signif to round the confidence limits in the legend, if <code>add = TRUE</code> .

Details

`print.confint_gev`. A numeric matrix with 2 columns giving the lower and upper confidence limits for the parameters specified by the argument `parm` in [confint.evmissing](#). These columns are labelled as $(1-\text{level})/2$ and $1-(1-\text{level})/2$, expressed as a percentage, by default 2.5% and 97.5%.

`plot.confint_gev`. A plot is produced of the profile log-likelihood for the parameter chosen by `parm`. Only the parameter values used to profile the log-likelihood in the call to [confint.evmissing](#) are included, so if `faster = TRUE` was used then the plot will not be of a smooth curve but will be triangular in the middle.

Value

`print.confint_gev`: the argument `x` is returned, invisibly.

`plot.confint_gev`: a numeric vector containing the confidence limits for the parameter requested in `parm` is returned invisibly.

Examples

See [evmissing_methods](#).

See Also

[gev_mle](#) and [evmissing_methods](#).

confint_return_level_methods*Methods for objects of class "confint_return_level"*

Description

Methods for objects of class "confint_return_level" returned from [confint.return_level](#).

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'confint_return_level'
print(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'confint_return_level'
plot(x, parm = 1, add = TRUE, digits = 2, ...)
```

Arguments

- x An object inheriting from class "confint_return_level", a result of a call to [confint.return_level](#).
- ... Further arguments. For [print.confint_return_level](#) to pass arguments to [print](#)). For [plot.confint_return_level](#) to pass graphical parameters to [plot](#) to create the initial plot of the profile log-likelihood.
- parm An integer scalar. For which component, that is, which return level, in x we require a confidence interval.
- add A logical scalar. If add = TRUE then the plot is annotated with a horizontal line indicating the critical value for the profile log-likelihood used to calculate the confidence limits, vertical lines indicating the values of these limits and a legend stating the confidence interval.
- digits An integer. Passed to [signif](#) to round the confidence limits in the legend, if add = TRUE.

Details

[print.confint_return_level](#). A numeric matrix with 2 columns giving the lower and upper confidence limits for the parameters specified by the argument [parm](#) in [confint.return_level](#). These columns are labelled as $(1-\text{level})/2$ and $1-(1-\text{level})/2$, expressed as a percentage, by default 2.5% and 97.5%.

[plot.confint_return_level](#). A plot is produced of the profile log-likelihood for the parameter chosen by [parm](#).

Value

[print.confint_return_level](#): the argument x is returned, invisibly.

[plot.confint_return_level](#): a numeric vector containing the confidence interval for the return level chosen for the plot.

Examples

See [return_level_methods](#).

See Also

[gev_mle](#), [gev_return](#) and [return_level_methods](#).

days	<i>Days in a year or in a month</i>
------	-------------------------------------

Description

Returns the number of days in each of a vector of years or months.

Usage

```
days_in_year(year)
days_in_month(year, month)
```

Arguments

- | | |
|-------|--|
| year | An integer vector. The years of interest. |
| month | An integer vector. A subset of 1:12. The months of interest. |

Details

The length of the output vector is equal to the length of month. The argument year is recycled to the length of the output vector if necessary.

Value

A numeric vector of the numbers of days in each of the years in year or the months specified by year and month.

Examples

```
days_in_year(1999:2025)

days_in_month(2024, 1:12)
days_in_month(2025, 1:12)
days_in_month(2024:2025, 1:3)
```

evmissing_methods *Methods for objects of class "evmissing"*

Description

Methods for objects of class "evmissing" returned from [gev_mle](#).

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'evmissing'
coef(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'evmissing'
vcov(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'evmissing'
nobs(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'evmissing'
logLik(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'evmissing'
summary(object, digits = max(3, getOption("digits")) - 3L), ...)

## S3 method for class 'summary.evmissing'
print(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'evmissing'
confint(
  object,
  parm = "all",
  level = 0.95,
  profile = FALSE,
  mult = 2,
  faster = FALSE,
  epsilon = 1e-04,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'evmissing'
plot(
  x,
  adjust = TRUE,
  which = c("pp", "qq", "return", "density"),
  m = c(2, 10, 100, 1000),
  level = 0.95,
  profile = TRUE,
```

```

num,
npy = 1,
...
)

```

Arguments

<code>object</code>	An object inheriting from class "evmissing", a result of a call to gev_mle .
<code>...</code>	Further arguments. Only used in the following cases.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <code>plot.evmissing</code>: to pass graphical parameters to the graphical functions <code>plot</code>, <code>matplot</code>, <code>abline</code>, <code>lines</code>, <code>matlines</code> and <code>points</code>. In particular, <code>col</code>, <code>lty</code> and <code>lwd</code> may be used to control the colour, type and width of lines and <code>pch</code> the type of plotting symbol. All data points are coloured black in all plots, which cannot be changed. • <code>print.summary.evmissing</code>: to pass arguments to <code>print</code>.
<code>digits</code>	An integer. Passed to <code>signif</code> to round the values in the summary.
<code>x</code>	An object returned by <code>summary.evmissing</code> .
<code>parm</code>	A character vector specifying the parameters for which confidence intervals are to be calculated. The default, which = "all", produces confidence intervals for all the parameters, that is, μ , σ and ξ . Otherwise, <code>parm</code> must be a subset of <code>c("mu", "sigma", "xi")</code> .
<code>level</code>	The confidence level required. A numeric scalar in (0, 1).
<code>profile</code>	A logical scalar. If TRUE then confidence intervals based on a profile log-likelihood are returned. If FALSE then intervals based on approximate large sample normal theory, which are symmetric about the MLE, are returned.
<code>mult</code>	A positive numeric scalar. Controls the increment by which the parameter of interest is increased/decreased when profiling above/below its MLE. The increment is <code>mult * se / 100</code> where <code>se</code> is the estimated standard error of the estimator of the parameter. Decreasing <code>mult</code> profiles at more points but will be slower. The default, <code>mult = 2</code> should be sufficiently small to produce a smooth looking plot of the profile log-likelihood using plot.confint_gev . To estimate the confidence limits more quickly, the value of <code>mult</code> can be increased and/or the argument <code>faster</code> set to TRUE.
<code>faster</code>	A logical scalar. If <code>faster = TRUE</code> then the profiling of the log-likelihood in search of a lower (upper) confidence limit is started at the corresponding symmetric lower (upper) confidence limit.
<code>epsilon</code>	Only relevant if <code>profile = TRUE</code> . A numeric vector of values that determine the accuracy of the confidence limits. <code>epsilon</code> is recycled to the length of the parameter vector <code>parm</code> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If <code>epsilon[i] > 0</code> then this value is passed as the argument <code>epsilon</code> to the <code>itp::itp</code> function, which estimates the parameter values for which the profile log-likelihood for parameter <code>i</code> drops to the value that defines the confidence limits, once profiling has been successful in finding an interval within which this value lies. • If <code>epsilon[i] < 0</code> quadratic interpolation is used, which will tend to be faster.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If $\text{epsilon}[i] = 0$ then linear interpolation is used, which will be faster still.
adjust	If $\text{adjust} = \text{TRUE}$ then the diagnostic plots produced by <code>plot.evmissing</code> are adjusted for the number of non-missing observations contributing to each block maximum. Otherwise, no adjustment is made.
which	If supplied, this must either be a character scalar, one of "pp", "qq", "return" or "density" or a numeric scalar in $1:4$, with 1 corresponding to "pp" etc. If which is missing then all four plots are produced in a 2 by 2 display.
m	A numeric vector of return periods to label on the horizontal axis of the return level plot . Along with the data, the smallest and largest return period values in m influence the range of return periods for which return level estimates are plotted. All values in m must be greater than 1.
num	An integer scalar. The number of return level estimates to calculate to produce the return level curve and pointwise confidence limits in the return level plot . The default setting is approximately 5 times $\log(\max(m))$, base = 10). If profile = TRUE then reducing num will speed up the calculation of the confidence limits, at the expense of a reduction in smoothness of the curves.
npy	A numeric scalar. The number n_{py} of block maxima per year. If the blocks are of length 1 year then npy = 1. This is only used in the return level plot .

Details

The plots produced by `plot.evmissing` are of a similar form to the visual diagnostics in the `ismev` package and described in Coles (2001), that is, a probability plot (which = "pp" or which = 1), a quantile plot (which = "qq" or which = 2), a return level plot (which = "return" or which = 3) and a histogram of block maxima with a fitted GEV density superimposed (which = "density" or which = 4). Pointwise confidence bands of level 1 level are added to the probability plot and quantile plot.

The default setting for confidence intervals for a return level plot produced by `plot.evmissing` is profile = TRUE, which uses `gev_return` and `confint.return_level`. The plot takes longer to produce, but it avoids the unrealistic feature of the lower confidence limits decreasing as we extrapolate to long return periods.

If $\text{adjust} = \text{TRUE}$ then the empirical values based on the observed block maxima are adjusted for the number of non-missing raw observations in each block based on the fitted GEV parameter values for reduced block sizes. Passing $\text{adjust} = \text{FALSE}$ is not sensible, but, if there are missing data, then it can serve to show that making the adjustment is necessary to give the correct impression of how well the model has fitted the data.

For `confint.evmissing`, the default, $\text{epsilon} = -1$, should work well enough in most circumstances, but to achieve a specific accuracy set epsilon to be a small positive value, for example, $\text{epsilon} = 1e-4$.

Value

`coef.evmissing`: a numeric vector of length 3 with names c("mu", "sigma", "xi"). The MLEs of the parameters μ , σ and ξ .

`vcov.evmissing`: a 3×3 matrix with row and column names c("mu", "sigma", "xi"). The estimated variance-covariance matrix for the model parameters μ , σ and ξ .

`nobs.evmissing`: a numeric scalar. The number of maxima used in the model fit.

`logLik.evmissing`: an object of class "logLik": a numeric scalar with value equal to the maximised log-likelihood. The returned object also has attributes `nobs`, the number of maxima used in the model fit and "df" (degrees of freedom), which is equal to the number of total number of parameters estimated (3).

`summary.evmissing`: an object with class "summary.evmissing" containing the original function call and a matrix of estimates and estimated standard errors with row names c("mu", "sigma", "xi"). The object is printed by `print.summary.evmissing`.

`print.summary.evmissing`: the argument `x` is returned, invisibly.

`confint.evmissing`: an object of class c("confint_gev", "evmissing"). A numeric matrix with 2 columns giving the lower and upper confidence limits for each parameter. These columns are labelled as (1-level)/2 and 1-(1-level)/2, expressed as a percentage, by default 2.5% and 97.5%. The row names are the names of the parameters supplied in `parm`. The ordering "mu", "sigma", "xi" is retained regardless of the ordering of the parameters in `parm`. If `profile = TRUE` then the returned object has extra attributes `crit`, `level` and `for_plot`. The latter is a named list of length 3 with components `mu`, `sigma` and `xi`. Each components is a 2-column numeric matrix. The first column (named `mu_values` etc) contains values of the parameter and the second column the corresponding values of the profile log-likelihood. The profile log-likelihood is equal to the attribute `crit` at the limits of the confidence interval. The attribute `level` is the input argument `level`.

`plot.evmissing`: if a return level plot has been requested, a 3-column matrix containing the values plotted in the return level plot. Column 2 contains the estimated return levels and columns 1 and 3 the lower and upper confidence limits.

References

Coles, S. G. (2001) *An Introduction to Statistical Modeling of Extreme Values*, Springer-Verlag, London. doi:[10.1007/9781447136750_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/9781447136750_3)

Heffernan, J. E. and Stephenson, A. G. (2018). *ismev: An Introduction to Statistical Modeling of Extreme Values*. R package version 1.42. doi:[10.32614/CRAN.package.ismev](https://doi.org/10.32614/CRAN.package.ismev)

See Also

`gev_mle` and `confint_gev_methods`.

Examples

```
## Plymouth ozone data

# Make adjustment for the numbers of non-missing values per block
fit <- gev_mle(PlymouthOzoneMaxima)
coef(fit)
vcov(fit)
nobs(fit)
logLik(fit)
summary(fit)

## Model diagnostic plots
```

```

# When profile = FALSE the return confidence limits are unrealistic
# for long return periods
plot(fit, profile = FALSE)

# Create the return level plot only
# When profile = TRUE (the default) the confidence limits are fine
# but the plot takes longer
# For speed, we reduce the number, num, of points used to plot the curves
plot(fit, which = 3, num = 8)

# If we do not reflect the adjustment in the plot then it gives a false
# impression of how well the model has fitted the data
plot(fit, adjust = FALSE, profile = FALSE)

## Confidence intervals

# Confidence limits that are symmetric about the respective MLEs
confint(fit)

# Calling confint to produce a smooth profile log-likelihood plot
x <- confint(fit, profile = TRUE)
x
plot(x, parm = "xi")

# Doing this more quickly when we only want the approximate confidence limits
x <- confint(fit, profile = TRUE, mult = 32, faster = TRUE)
x
plot(x, parm = "xi", type = "b")

```

gev_bayes

GEV Bayesian Inference with Adjustment for Missing Data

Description

Performs Bayesian inference using a GEV distribution using block maxima, with the option to make an adjustment for the numbers of non-missing raw values in each block.

Usage

```

gev_bayes(
  data,
  block_length,
  block,
  adjust = TRUE,
  discard = 0,
  init = "quartiles",
  prior = revdbayes::set_prior(prior = "flat", model = "gev"),
  n = 1000,
  ...
)

```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	Either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a numeric vector containing a time series of raw data, • an object returned from <code>block_maxima</code>, a list with components <code>maxima</code>, <code>notNA</code> and <code>n</code>, • a data frame or named list containing the same information, that is, the variables <code>maxima</code>, <code>notNA</code> and <code>n</code>, as an object returned from <code>block_maxima</code>, such as the data frame <code>BrestSurgeMaxima</code>.
<code>block_length</code>	A numeric scalar. Used calculate the maxima of disjoint blocks of <code>block_length</code> contiguous values in the vector <code>data</code> . If <code>length(data)</code> is not an integer multiple of <code>block_length</code> then the values at the end of <code>data</code> that do not constitute a complete block of length <code>block_length</code> are discarded, without warning.
<code>block</code>	A numeric vector with the same length as <code>data</code> . The value of <code>block[i]</code> indicates the block into which <code>data[i]</code> falls. For example, <code>block</code> could provide the year in which observation <code>i</code> was observed.
<code>adjust</code>	A logical scalar or a numeric scalar in <code>[0, 100]</code> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If <code>adjust = TRUE</code> then the adjustment, described in Details, for the numbers of non-missing values underlying each block maximum is performed. • If <code>adjust = FALSE</code> then no adjustment is made, that is, the block maxima are treated as if the underlying raw data have no missing values.
<code>discard</code>	A numeric scalar. Any block maximum for which greater than <code>discard</code> percent of the underlying raw values were missing is discarded. Whether or not an adjustment for missingness is made for the block maxima that remain is determined by <code>adjust</code> .
<code>init</code>	Either a character scalar, one of "quartiles" or "moments", or a numeric vector of length 3 giving initial estimates of the GEV location, scale and shape parameters: μ , σ and ξ . If <code>init = "quartiles"</code> then initial estimates of μ and σ are based on sample quartiles of block maxima, ignoring the underlying numbers of non-missing raw data, and a value of 0 for ξ . If <code>init = "moments"</code> then instead we use the sample mean and variance of these maxima and an initial value of 0.1 for ξ .
<code>prior</code>	Specifies a prior distribution for the GEV parameters. This is most easily set using <code>revdbayes::set_prior</code> . The default is a prior $\pi(\mu, \sigma, \xi) \propto \sigma^{-1}$ for $\sigma > 0$. See <code>revdbayes::set_prior</code> for details.
<code>n</code>	A non-negative integer. The number of values to simulate from the posterior distribution for (μ, σ, ξ) .
...	Further arguments to be passed to <code>rust::ru</code> .

Details

The likelihood described in `gev_mle` is combined with the prior density provided by `prior` to produce, up to proportionality, a posterior density for (μ, σ, ξ) .

A function to evaluate the log-posterior is passed to `rust::ru` to simulate a random sample from this posterior distribution using the generalised ratio-of-uniforms method, using relocation of the

mode of the density to the origin to increase efficiency. The value of `init` is used as an initial estimate in a search for the posterior mode. Arguments to `rust::ru` can be passed via `...`. The default setting is `trans = "none"`, that is, no transformation of the margins, and `rotate = TRUE`, rotation of the parameter axes to improve isotropy with a view to increasing efficiency.

Value

An object returned from `rust::ru`. The following components are added to this list

- `model`: = "gev".
- `data, prior`: the inputs `data` and `prior`.
- `call`: the call to `gev_bayes`.
- `maxima`: the vector of block maxima used to fit the model.
- `notNA`: the number of non-missing raw values on which the maxima in `maxima` are based.
- `n`: the maximal block length, that is, the largest number of values that could have been observed in each of these blocks.
- `adjust`: a logical scalar indicating whether or not the adjustment in the **Details** section of `gev_mle` was performed. This is `TRUE` only if the input argument `adjust` was `TRUE`.
- `adjust_discard`: the values of these input arguments.

The class of the returned object is `c("evpost", "ru", "bayes", "evmissing")`. Objects of class "evpost" have `print`, `summary` and `plot` S3 methods.

Examples

```
## Simulate data with missing values

set.seed(24032025)
blocks <- 50
block_length <- 365

# Simulate raw data from an exponential distribution
sdata <- sim_data(blocks = blocks, block_length = block_length)

block_length <- sdata$block_length
# Sample from the posterior based on block maxima from full data
post1 <- gev_bayes(sdata$data_full, block_length = block_length)
summary(post1)

# Sample with adjustment for the number of non-missing values per block
post2 <- gev_bayes(sdata$data_miss, block_length = block_length)
summary(post2)

# Do not make the adjustment
post3 <- gev_bayes(sdata$data_miss, block_length = block_length,
                    adjust = FALSE)
summary(post3)

# Remove all block maxima with greater than 25% missing values and
# do not make the adjustment
```

```

post4 <- gev_bayes(sdata$data_miss, block_length = block_length,
                     adjust = FALSE, discard = 25)
summary(post4)

## Brest sea surge data

post <- gev_bayes(BrestSurgeMaxima)
summary(post)
plot(post)

```

gev_influence*GEV influence curves***Description**

Calculates influence function curves for maximum likelihood estimators of Generalised Extreme Value (GEV) parameters.

Usage

```

gev_influence(z, mu = 0, sigma = 1, xi = 0)

## S3 method for class 'gev_influence'
plot(x, xvar = c("z", "y"), sep_xi = TRUE, vlines, ...)

```

Arguments

z	A numeric vector. Values of normal quantiles z at which to calculate the GEV influence function. See Details .
mu, sigma, xi	Numeric scalars supplying the values of the GEV parameters μ, σ and ξ .
x	An object inheriting from class "gev_influence", from a call to gev_influence .
xvar	A logical scalar. If xvar = "z" then the influence curves are plotted against the standard normal quantiles in x [, "z"]. If xvar = "y" then the influence curves are plotted against the corresponding GEV quantiles in x [, "y"].
sep_xi	A logical scalar. If sep_xi = TRUE then separate vertical scales are used for ξ and (μ, σ) . The scale for ξ appears on the left and the scale for (μ, σ) on the right.
vlines	A numeric vector. If vlines is supplied then black dashed vertical lines are added to the plot at the values in vlines on the horizontal axis. This might be used to indicate the values of certain observations in a dataset.
...	For plot.gev_influence : to pass graphical parameters to the graphical functions matplotlib and legend . The parameters col , lty and lwd can be used to control line colour, type and width, with the parameters in the usual order, that is, (μ, σ, ξ) .

Details

An influence function measures the effect on a parameter estimator of changing one observation in a sample. See Hampel (2005) and, in the context of extreme value analyses of threshold exceedances, Davison and Smith (1990). Let $\theta = (\mu, \sigma, \xi)$. The GEV influence curve is defined, as a function of an observation y , by $IC(y) = \{IC_\mu(y), IC_\sigma(y), IC_\xi(y)\} = i_\theta^{-1} d\ell(y; \theta)/d\theta$, where $\ell(y; \theta)$ is the GEV log-likelihood function and i_θ^{-1} is the GEV expected information matrix. The value of y is related to z by $y = G^{-1}\{\Phi(z)\}$, where Φ and G are the distribution functions of a standard normal and $GEV(\mu, \sigma, \xi)$ distribution, respectively. Plotting influence curves on the standard normal z scale can help to aid interpretation.

The value of $IC(y)$ is invariant to the value of μ . For a given value of ξ , the values of $IC_\mu(y)$ and $IC_\sigma(y)$ scale with the scale parameter σ , that is, doubling σ doubles $IC_\mu(y)$ and $IC_\sigma(y)$. Typically, interest focuses on the shape parameter ξ , but if the input scale parameter σ is large then this may hide the influence of y on ξ . Therefore, the default setting of `plot.gev_influence, sep_xi = TRUE`, separates the plotting of the influence curve for ξ from those of μ and σ .

The example in **Examples** shows that extremely large block maxima have a strong positive influence on the MLE $\hat{\xi}$ and also that extremely small block maxima have a strong negative influence on $\hat{\xi}$.

Value

`gev_influence`: an object with class `c("gev_influence", "matrix", "array")`, a `length(z)` by 5 numeric matrix. The first two columns contain the input values in z and the corresponding values of y . Columns 3-5 contain the values of the GEV influence function for μ , σ and ξ respectively at the values of z .

`plot.gev_influence`: a list of the graphical parameters used in producing the plot, either the defaults or supplied via `...`, is returned invisibly.

References

- Hampel, F. R., Ronchetti, E. M., Rousseeuw, P. J., and Stahel, W. A. (2005). Robust Statistics. Wiley-Interscience, New York. [doi:10.1002/9781118186435](https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118186435)
- Davison, A. C. and Smith, R. L. (1990). Models for exceedances over high thresholds. Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B (Methodological), 52(3):393–425. [doi:10.1111/j.2517-6161.1990.tb01796.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.2517-6161.1990.tb01796.x)

See Also

[gev_influence_rl](#)

Examples

```
# Influence curve for the default mu = 0, sigma = 1, xi = 0 case
z <- seq(from = -3, to = 3, by = 0.01)
inf <- gev_influence(z = z)
plot(inf)

# Influence curves based on the adjusted fit to the Plymouth ozone data
fit <- gev_mle(PlymouthOzoneMaxima)
pars <- coef(fit)
```

```
infp <- gev_influence(z = z, mu = pars[1], sigma = pars[2], xi = pars[3])
plot(infp)
```

gev_influence_rl *GEV influence curves for return levels*

Description

Calculates influence function curves for maximum likelihood estimators of 3 return levels based on Generalised Extreme Value (GEV) parameters.

Usage

```
gev_influence_rl(z, mu = 0, sigma = 1, xi = 0, m, npy = 1)

## S3 method for class 'gev_influence_rl'
plot(x, xvar = c("z", "y"), vlines, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>z</code>	A numeric vector. Values of normal quantiles z at which to calculate the GEV influence function. See Details .
<code>mu, sigma, xi</code>	Numeric scalars supplying the values of the GEV parameters μ , σ and ξ .
<code>m</code>	A numeric vector of length 3 containing 3 unique return periods in years. All entries in <code>m</code> must be greater than 1.
<code>npy</code>	A numeric scalar. The number n_{py} of block maxima per year. If the blocks are of length 1 year then <code>npy</code> = 1.
<code>x</code>	An object inheriting from class "gev_influence_rl", returned from a call to gev_influence_rl .
<code>xvar</code>	A logical scalar. If <code>xvar</code> = "z" then the influence curves are plotted against the standard normal quantiles in <code>x[, "z"]</code> . If <code>xvar</code> = "y" then the influence curves are plotted against the corresponding GEV quantiles in <code>x[, "y"]</code> .
<code>vlines</code>	A numeric vector. If <code>vlines</code> is supplied then black dashed vertical lines are added to the plot at the values in <code>vlines</code> on the horizontal axis. This might be used to indicate the values of certain observations in a dataset.
<code>...</code>	For <code>plot.gev_influence_rl</code> : to pass graphical parameters to the graphical functions matplotlib and legend . The parameters <code>col</code> , <code>lty</code> and <code>lwd</code> can be used to control line colour, type and width, with the return levels in the order that they were supplied in <code>m</code> .

Details

See [gev_influence](#) for information about influence functions in general and influence curves for the parameters of a GEV distribution in particular. The GEV influence curves are reparameterised from (μ, σ, ξ) to the required return levels.

Value

`gev_influence_rl`: an object with class `c("gev_influence_rl", "matrix", "array")`, a length(`z`) by 5 numeric matrix. The first two columns contain the input values in `z` and the corresponding values of `y`. Columns 3-5 contain the values of the GEV influence function for the return levels in `m` respectively at the values of `z`.

`plot.gev_influence_rl`: a list of the graphical parameters used in producing the plot, either the defaults or supplied via . . . , is returned invisibly.

References

Hampel, F. R., Ronchetti, E. M., Rousseeuw, P. J., and Stahel, W. A. (2005). Robust Statistics. Wiley-Interscience, New York. doi:[10.1002/9781118186435](https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118186435)

Davison, A. C. and Smith, R. L. (1990). Models for exceedances over high thresholds. Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B (Methodological), 52(3):393–425. doi:[10.1111/j.2517-6161.1990.tb01796.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.2517-6161.1990.tb01796.x)

See Also

[gev_influence](#), [gev_return](#)

Examples

```
# Influence curves based on the adjusted fit to the Plymouth ozone data
z <- seq(from = -3, to = 3, by = 0.01)
fit <- gev_mle(PlymouthOzoneMaxima)
pars <- coef(fit)
m <- c(25, 50, 100)
infp <- gev_influence_rl(z = z, mu = pars[1], sigma = pars[2], xi = pars[3],
                           m = m)
plot(infp)
```

Description

Fits a GEV distribution to block maxima using maximum likelihood estimation, with the option to make an adjustment for the numbers of non-missing raw values in each block. The GEV location and scale parameters are adjusted to reflect the proportion of raw values that are missing.

Usage

```
gev_mle(
  data,
  block_length,
  block,
  adjust = TRUE,
```

```
discard = 0,
init = "quartiles",
...
)
```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	Either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a numeric vector containing a time series of raw data, • an object returned from <code>block_maxima</code>, a list with components <code>maxima</code>, <code>notNA</code> and <code>n</code>, • a data frame or named list containing the same information, that is, the variables <code>maxima</code>, <code>notNA</code> and <code>n</code>, as an object returned from <code>block_maxima</code>, such as the data frame <code>BrestSurgeMaxima</code>.
<code>block_length</code>	A numeric scalar. Used calculate the maxima of disjoint blocks of <code>block_length</code> contiguous values in the vector <code>data</code> . If <code>length(data)</code> is not an integer multiple of <code>block_length</code> then the values at the end of <code>data</code> that do not constitute a complete block of length <code>block_length</code> are discarded, without warning.
<code>block</code>	A numeric vector with the same length as <code>data</code> . The value of <code>block[i]</code> indicates the block into which <code>data[i]</code> falls. For example, <code>block</code> could provide the year in which observation <code>i</code> was observed.
<code>adjust</code>	A logical scalar or a numeric scalar in <code>[0, 100]</code> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If <code>adjust = TRUE</code> then the adjustment, described in Details, for the numbers of non-missing values underlying each block maximum is performed. • If <code>adjust = FALSE</code> then no adjustment is made, that is, the block maxima are treated as if the underlying raw data have no missing values.
<code>discard</code>	A numeric scalar. Any block maximum for which greater than <code>discard</code> percent of the underlying raw values were missing is discarded. Whether or not an adjustment for missingness is made for the block maxima that remain is determined by <code>adjust</code> .
<code>init</code>	Either a character scalar, one of "quartiles" or "moments", or a numeric vector of length 3 giving initial estimates of the GEV location, scale and shape parameters: μ , σ and ξ . If <code>init = "quartiles"</code> then initial estimates of μ and σ are based on sample quartiles of block maxima, ignoring the underlying numbers of non-missing raw data, and a value of 0 for ξ . If <code>init = "moments"</code> then instead we use the sample mean and variance of these maxima and an initial value of 0.1 for ξ .
...	Further arguments to be passed to <code>stats::optim</code> .

Details

If `data` is numeric vector then exactly one of the arguments `block_length` or `block` must be supplied. The parameters are fitted using maximum likelihood estimation.

The adjustment for the numbers of non-missing values underlying the block maxima is based on the strong assumption that missing values occur completely at random. We suppose that a block maximum M_n based on a full (no missing raw values) block of length n has a $\text{GEV}(\mu, \sigma, \xi)$ distribution,

with distribution function $G(x)$. Let n_i be the number of non-missing values in block i and let M_{n_i} denote the block maximum of such a block. We suppose that M_{n_i} has a $\text{GEV}(\mu(n_i), \sigma(n_i), \xi)$ distribution, where

$$\begin{aligned}\mu(n_i) &= \mu + \sigma[(n_i/n)^\xi - 1]/\xi, \\ \sigma(n_i) &= \sigma(n_i/n)^\xi.\end{aligned}$$

These expressions are based on inferring the parameters of an approximate GEV distribution for M_{n_i} from its approximate distribution function $[G(x)]^{n_i/n}$.

A likelihood is constructed as the product of contributions from the maxima from distinct blocks, under the assumption that these maxima are independent. Let $\theta = (\mu, \sigma, \xi)$ and let $\ell_F(\underline{z}; \theta)$ denote the usual, unadjusted, GEV log-likelihood for the full-data case where there are no missing values. It can be shown that our adjusted log-likelihood $\ell(\theta, \underline{z})$ is given by

$$\ell(\theta, \underline{z}) = \ell_F(\underline{z}; \theta) - \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log G(z_i; \theta)$$

where $p_i = 1 - n_i/n$ is the proportion of missing values in block i .

The negated log-likelihood is minimised using a call to `stats::optim` with `hessian = TRUE`. If `stats::optim` throws an error then a warning is produced and the returned object has NA values for the components `par`, `loglik`, `vcov` and `se` and an extra component `optim_error` containing the error message. If the estimated observed information matrix is singular then a warning is produced and the returned object has NA values for the components `vcov` and `se`.

Value

A list, returned from `stats::optim` (the MLEs are in the component `par`), with the additional components:

- `loglik`: value of the maximised log-likelihood.
- `vcov`: estimated variance-covariance matrix of the parameters.
- `se`: estimated standard errors of the parameters.
- `maxima`: the vector of block maxima used to fit the model.
- `notNA`: the number of non-missing raw values on which the maxima in `maxima` are based.
- `n`: the maximal block length, that is, the largest number of values that could have been observed in each of these blocks.
- `adjust`, `discard` : the values of these input arguments.

The call to `gev_mle` is provided in the attribute "call".

The class of the returned object is `c("evmissing", "mle", "list")`.

Objects inheriting from class "evmissing" have `coef`, `logLik`, `nobs`, `summary`, `vcov` and `confint` methods. See `evmissing_methods`.

Examples

```

## Simulate raw data from an exponential distribution

set.seed(13032025)
blocks <- 50
block_length <- 365
sdata <- sim_data(blocks = blocks, block_length = block_length)

# sdata$data_full have no missing values
# sdata$data_miss have had missing values created artificially

# Fit a GEV distribution to block maxima from the full data
fit1 <- gev_mle(sdata$data_full, block_length = sdata$block_length)
summary(fit1)

# An identical fit supplying the block indicator instead of block_length
fit1b <- gev_mle(sdata$data_full, block = sdata$block)
summary(fit1b)

# Make adjustment for the numbers of non-missing values per block
fit2 <- gev_mle(sdata$data_miss, block_length = sdata$block_length)
summary(fit2)

# Do not make the adjustment
fit3 <- gev_mle(sdata$data_miss, block_length = sdata$block_length,
                 adjust = FALSE)
summary(fit3)

# Remove all block maxima with greater than 25% missing values and
# do not make the adjustment
fit4 <- gev_mle(sdata$data_miss, block_length = sdata$block_length,
                 adjust = FALSE, discard = 25)
summary(fit4)

## Plymouth ozone data

# Calculate the values in Table 3 of Simpson and Northrop (2025)
# discard = 50 is chosen to discard data from 2001 and 2006
fit1 <- gev_mle(PlymouthOzoneMaxima)
fit2 <- gev_mle(PlymouthOzoneMaxima, adjust = FALSE)
fit3 <- gev_mle(PlymouthOzoneMaxima, discard = 50)
fit4 <- gev_mle(PlymouthOzoneMaxima, adjust = FALSE, discard = 50)
se <- function(x) return(sqrt(diag(vcov(x))))
MLEs <- cbind(coef(fit1), coef(fit2), coef(fit3), coef(fit4))
SEs <- cbind(se(fit1), se(fit2), se(fit3), se(fit4))
round(MLEs, 2)
round(SEs, 2)

```

Description

Calculates point estimates of m -year return levels for fitted model objects returned from [gev_mle](#).

Usage

```
gev_return(x, m = 100, npy = 1)
```

Arguments

x	An object inheriting from class evmissing returned from gev_mle .
m	A numeric vector. Values of m , the return periods of interest, in years.
npy	A numeric scalar. The number n_{py} of block maxima per year. If the blocks are of length 1 year then npy = 1.

Details

For $\xi \neq 0$, the m -year return level is given by $z_m = \mu + \sigma(y_p^{-\xi} - 1)/\xi$, where $y_p = -\log(1 - p)$ and $p = 1 - (1 - 1/m)^{1/n_{py}}$. For $\xi = 0$, $z_m = \mu - \sigma \log y_p$. Equivalently, we could note that $z_m = \mu - \sigma BC(y_p, -\xi)$, where $BC(x, \lambda)$ is a Box-Cox transformation.

Value

An object with class c("return_level", "numeric", "evmissing"). A numeric vector containing the MLEs of the required return levels, with names indicating the return period. The fitted model object returned from [gev_mle](#) is included as an attribute called "gev_mle". The input arguments m and npy are also included as attributes as is the call to [gev_return](#).

References

Coles, S. G. (2001) *An Introduction to Statistical Modeling of Extreme Values*, Springer-Verlag, London. [doi:10.1007/9781447136750_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/9781447136750_3)

See Also

[return_level_methods](#) for print, summary, coef, vcov and confint methods.

Examples

```
## Simulate raw data from an exponential distribution

set.seed(13032025)
blocks <- 50
block_length <- 365
sdata <- sim_data(blocks = blocks, block_length = block_length)

# sdata$data_full have no missing values
# sdata$data_miss have had missing values created artificially

# Fit a GEV distribution to block maxima from the full data
fit1 <- gev_mle(sdata$data_full, block_length = sdata$block_length)
```

```

summary(fit1)

# Make adjustment for the numbers of non-missing values per block
fit2 <- gev_mle(sdata$data_miss, block_length = sdata$block_length)
summary(fit2)

gev_return(fit1, m = c(100, 1000))
gev_return(fit2, m = c(100, 1000))

## Plymouth ozone data

fit <- gev_mle(PlymouthOzoneMaxima)
rl <- gev_return(fit, m = c(100, 200))

# Symmetric confidence intervals
sym <- confint(rl)

# Profile-based confidence intervals

prof <- confint(rl, profile = TRUE)
prof
plot(prof, digits = 4)
plot(prof, parm = 2, digits = 3)

# Doing this more quickly when we only care about the confidence limits
prof <- confint(rl, profile = TRUE, mult = 32, faster = TRUE)
plot(prof, digits = 3, type = "b")
plot(prof, parm = 2, digits = 3, type = "b")

```

gev_weighted

Weighted GEV ML Inference with Adjustment for Missing Data

Description

Fits a GEV distribution to block maxima using maximum likelihood estimation, with the option to make an adjustment for the numbers of non-missing raw values in each block using one of the two weighting schemes proposed in McVittie and Murphy (2025).

Usage

```
gev_weighted(data, scheme = 1, block_length, block, init = "quartiles", ...)
```

Arguments

data	Either
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a numeric vector containing a time series of raw data,
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an object returned from <code>block_maxima</code>, a list with components <code>maxima</code>, <code>notNA</code> and <code>n</code>,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a data frame or named list containing the same information (variables <code>maxima</code>, <code>notNA</code> and <code>n</code>) as an object returned from <code>block_maxima</code>, such as the data frame <code>BrestSurgeMaxima</code>.
<code>scheme</code>	A numeric scalar. Pass <code>scheme = 1</code> for the first weighting scheme, or <code>scheme = 2</code> for the second weighting scheme, in McVittie and Murphy (2025). Any value other than 1 or 2 result in an unweighted fit, that is, all weight are set to 1. See Details .
<code>block_length</code>	A numeric scalar. Used calculate the maxima of disjoint blocks of <code>block_length</code> contiguous values in the vector data. If <code>length(data)</code> is not an integer multiple of <code>block_length</code> then the values at the end of data that do not constitute a complete block of length <code>block_length</code> are discarded, without warning.
<code>block</code>	A numeric vector with the same length as <code>data</code> . The value of <code>block[i]</code> indicates the block into which <code>data[i]</code> falls. For example, <code>block</code> could provide the year in which observation <code>i</code> was observed.
<code>init</code>	Either a character scalar, one of "quartiles" or "moments", or a numeric vector of length 3 giving initial estimates of the GEV location, scale and shape parameters: μ , σ and ξ . If <code>init = "quartiles"</code> then initial estimates of μ and σ are based on sample quartiles of block maxima, ignoring the underlying numbers of non-missing raw data, and a value of 0 for ξ . If <code>init = "moments"</code> then instead we use the sample mean and variance of these maxima and an initial value of 0.1 for ξ .
...	Further arguments to be passed to <code>stats::optim</code> .

Details

Suppose that a full (no missing values) block will contain n raw values. Let n_i be the number of non-missing values, and m_i the observed block maximum, in block i . The contribution of block maximum m_i to the GEV log-likelihood is weighted (multiplied) by the weight w_i . The set of weights depends on the weighting scheme chosen by `scheme` as follows.

- If `scheme = 1` then $w_i = n_i/n$, for $i = 1, \dots, n$.
- If `scheme = 2` then $w_i = \hat{F}(m_i)^{n-n_i}$, for $i = 1, \dots, n$, where \hat{F} is the empirical distribution function of m_1, \dots, m_n .

For any other value of `scheme` all weights are set to 1, that is, an unweighted fit is performed.

For each weighting scheme, the larger the number $n - n_i$ of missing values the smaller the weight. See McVittie and Murphy (2025) for further details.

Value

A list, returned from `stats::optim` (the MLEs are in the component `par`), with the additional components:

- `loglik`: value of the maximised log-likelihood.
- `vcov`: estimated variance-covariance matrix of the parameters.
- `se`: estimated standard errors of the parameters.
- `maxima`: the vector of block maxima used to fit the model.

- `notNA`: the number of non-missing raw values on which the maxima in `maxima` are based.
- `n`: the maximal block length, that is, the largest number of values that could have been observed in each of these blocks.
- `weights`: the weights used in the fitting.

The call to `gev_mle` is provided in the attribute "call".

The class of the returned object is `c("evmissing", "weighted_mle", "list")`.

Objects inheriting from class "evmissing" have `coef`, `logLik`, `nobs`, `summary`, `vcov` and `confint` methods. See [evmissing_methods](#).

References

McVittie, J. H. and Murphy, O. A. (2025) Weighted Parameter Estimators of the Generalized Extreme Value Distribution in the Presence of Missing Observations. [doi:10.48550/arXiv.2506.15964](#)

Examples

```
## Simulate raw data from an exponential distribution

set.seed(13032025)
blocks <- 50
block_length <- 365
sdata <- sim_data(blocks = blocks, block_length = block_length)

# sdata$data_full have no missing values
# sdata$data_miss have had missing values created artificially

## Fits to full data: fit0, fit 1 and fit2 should give the same results

# Fit a GEV distribution to block maxima from the full data
fit0 <- gev_mle(sdata$data_full, block_length = sdata$block_length)
summary(fit0)

# Fit to the full data using weighting scheme 1
fit1 <- gev_weighted(sdata$data_full, scheme = 1,
                      block_length = sdata$block_length)
summary(fit1)

# Fit to the full data using weighting scheme 2
fit2 <- gev_weighted(sdata$data_full, scheme = 2,
                      block_length = sdata$block_length)
summary(fit2)

## Fits to the data with missings

# Make adjustment for the numbers of non-missing values per block
fit0 <- gev_mle(sdata$data_miss, block_length = sdata$block_length)
summary(fit0)

# Make adjustment using weighting scheme 1
fit1 <- gev_weighted(sdata$data_miss, scheme = 1,
```

```
block_length = sdata$block_length)
summary(fit1)

# Make adjustment using weighting scheme 2
fit2 <- gev_weighted(sdata$data_miss, scheme = 2,
                      block_length = sdata$block_length)
summary(fit2)
```

PlymouthOzone

Ozone levels at Plymouth, UK

Description

Daily maximum ozone levels at Plymouth in London (UK) for the years 1998-2024 inclusive.

Usage

```
PlymouthOzone
```

Format

PlymouthOzone is a data frame with 9862 rows and the 3 variables:

- Date: with class "Date" in the format YYYY-MM-DD.
- Year: Values in 1998-2024.
- Ozone: daily maximum ozone level in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Source

The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). The Plymouth Centre monitoring site at the [UK-AIR](#) database [Data Selector](#).

See Also

[PlymouthOzoneMaxima](#) for the annual maxima and numbers of missing values per year.

Examples

```
head(PlymouthOzone)

# Time series plot of annual maxima ozone levels
plot(PlymouthOzone$date, PlymouthOzone$ozone, xlab = "year",
      ylab = "ozone (micrograms / metre cubed)", pch = 16)
```

PlymouthOzoneMaxima *Annual maxima ozone levels at Plymouth, UK*

Description

Annual maxima of daily maximum ozone levels at Plymouth in Devon (UK) for the years 1998-2024 inclusive.

Usage

```
PlymouthOzoneMaxima
```

Format

PlymouthOzoneMaxima is a data frame with 27 rows (years 1998 to 2024) and the 4 variables:

- maxima: annual maximum ozone level in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
- notNA : the number of days of the year for which raw data were available.
- n : the number of days in the year (365 or 366).
- block : a block number of 1 for year 1998 through to 27 for year 2024.

The row names of PlymouthOzoneMaxima are the years 1998:2024. The raw data are missing for approximately 10% of the days.

Source

The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affair (DEFRA). The Plymouth Centre monitoring site at the [UK-AIR database Data Selector](#).

See Also

[PlymouthOzone](#) for the raw time series.

Examples

```
head(PlymouthOzoneMaxima)

# Time series plot of annual maxima ozone levels
plot(rownames(PlymouthOzoneMaxima), PlymouthOzoneMaxima$maxima,
     ylab = "ozone (micrograms / metre cubed)", xlab = "year", pch = 16)

# Time series plot of proportion of non-missing days
plot(rownames(PlymouthOzoneMaxima),
      PlymouthOzoneMaxima$notNA / PlymouthOzoneMaxima$n,
      ylab = "proportion of non-missing days", xlab = "year", pch = 16)

# Plot ozone levels against the proportion of non-missing days
plot(PlymouthOzoneMaxima$notNA / PlymouthOzoneMaxima$n,
```

```
PlymouthOzoneMaxima$maxima,
ylab = "ozone (micrograms / metre cubed)",
xlab = "proportion of non-missing days", pch = 16)
```

return_level_methods *Methods for objects of class "return_level"*

Description

Methods for objects of class "return_level" returned from [gev_return](#).

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'return_level'
coef(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'return_level'
print(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'return_level'
vcov(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'return_level'
summary(object, digits = max(3,getOption("digits") - 3L), ...)

## S3 method for class 'summary.return_level'
print(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'return_level'
confint(
  object,
  parm = 1:length(object),
  level = 0.95,
  profile = FALSE,
  mult = 2,
  faster = FALSE,
  epsilon = 1e-04,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| object, x | An object inheriting from class "return_level", a result of a call to gev_return .
object is a named numeric vector of MLEs of return levels. |
| | For print.summary.return_level, this is an object returned by the function summary.return_level. |

...	Further arguments. Only used for <code>print.summary.return_level</code> to pass arguments to <code>print</code> .
<code>digits</code>	An integer. Passed to <code>signif</code> to round the values in the summary.
<code>parm</code>	A numeric vector. For which components, that is, which return levels, in <code>object</code> we require a confidence interval.
<code>level</code>	The confidence level required. A numeric scalar in (0, 1).
<code>profile</code>	A logical scalar. If TRUE then confidence intervals based on a profile log-likelihood are returned. If FALSE then intervals based on approximate large sample normal theory, which are symmetric about the MLE, are returned.
<code>mult</code>	A positive numeric scalar. Controls the increment by which the parameter of interest is increased/decreased when profiling above/below its MLE. The increment is <code>mult * se / 100</code> where <code>se</code> is the estimated standard error of the estimator of the return level. Decreasing <code>mult</code> profiles at more points but will be slower.
<code>faster</code>	A logical scalar. If <code>faster</code> = TRUE then the profiling of the log-likelihood in search of a lower (upper) confidence limit is started at the corresponding symmetric lower (upper) confidence limit.
<code>epsilon</code>	Only relevant if <code>profile</code> = TRUE. A numeric vector of values that determine the accuracy of the confidence limits. <code>epsilon</code> is recycled to the length of the parameter vector <code>parm</code> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If <code>epsilon[i] > 0</code> then this value is passed as the argument <code>epsilon</code> to the <code>itp::itp</code> function, which estimates the parameter values for which the profile log-likelihood for parameter <code>i</code> drops to the value that defines the confidence limits, once profiling has been successful in finding an interval within which this value lies. • If <code>epsilon[i] < 0</code> quadratic interpolation is used, which will tend to be faster. • If <code>epsilon[i] = 0</code> then linear interpolation is used, which will be faster still.

Details

For `confint.return_level`, the default, `epsilon = -1`, should work well enough in most circumstances, but to achieve a specific accuracy set `epsilon` to be a small positive value, for example, `epsilon = 1e-4`.

Value

`print.return_level` and `coef.return_level`: a numeric vector containing the MLEs of return return levels.

`vcov.return_level`: a `length(object)` by `length(object)` matrix with row and column names indicating the return periods of the return levels. The estimated variance-covariance matrix for the return levels in `object`. The diagonal elements give the estimated variances associated with the individual return level estimates.

`summary.return_level`: an object containing the original function call and a matrix of estimates of return levels and associated estimated standard errors with row names indicating the respective return periods. The object is printed by `print.summary.return_level`.

`print.summary.return_level`: the argument `x` is returned, invisibly.
`confint.return_level`: an object of class `c("confint_return_level", "evmissing")`. A numeric matrix with 2 columns giving the lower and upper confidence limits for each return level. These columns are labelled as `(1-level)/2` and `1-(1-level)/2`, expressed as a percentage, by default 2.5% and 97.5%. The row names indicate the return levels. If `profile = TRUE` then the returned object has extra attributes `crit`, `level` and `for_plot`. The latter is a named list of length `parm` with components named after the return periods. Each components is a 2-column numeric matrix. The first column contains values of the return level and the second column the corresponding values of the profile log-likelihood. The profile log-likelihood is equal to the attribute `crit` at the limits of the confidence interval. The attribute `level` is the input argument `level`.

See Also

[gev_mle](#) and [gev_return](#), for examples of the use of `confint.return_level`.

Examples

```
## Plymouth ozone data

# See ?gev_return for confidence intervals for return levels
fit <- gev_mle(PlymouthOzoneMaxima)
rl <- gev_return(fit, m = c(100, 200))
rl
vcov(rl)
summary(rl)
```

sim_data

Simulate raw data

Description

Simulates data from a user-supplied distribution and creates missing values artificially. Functions `mcar` and `mcar2` provides an example mechanisms for doing this based on a Missing Completely At Random (MCAR) assumption.

Usage

```
sim_data(
  blocks = 50,
  block_length = 365,
  distn = "exp",
  missing_fn = mcar,
  missing_args = formals(missing_fn)$missing_args,
  ...
)

mcar(
  sim_data,
```

```

blocks,
block_length,
missing_args = list(p0miss = 0, min = 0, max = 0.5)
)

mcar2(sim_data, missing_args = list(pmiss = 0.5))

```

Arguments

<code>blocks</code>	A numeric scalar. The number of blocks of data required. Usually, this will be a positive integer, but <code>blocks = 0</code> returns a list containing in the input arguments, in particular, <code>distrn</code> , <code>distrn_args</code> and <code>block_length</code> . This feature is provided so that a simulation setup could be replicated in without actually simulating data.
<code>block_length</code>	A numeric scalar. The number of raw observations per block.
<code>distrn</code>	A character scalar. Specifies the distribution from which raw data are simulated. The name in the <code>xxx</code> part of the <code>dxxx</code> , <code>pxxx</code> , <code>qxxx</code> and <code>rxxx</code> distributional functions in the <code>stats</code> package. See stats::Distributions .
<code>missing_fn</code>	A function to simulate the positions of the missing values within each block year. See Details .
<code>missing_args</code>	Arguments to be passed to <code>missing_fn</code> . If <code>missing_fn</code> is <code>mcar</code> then a subset of <code>p0miss</code> , <code>min</code> and <code>max</code> may be supplied in the list <code>missing_args</code> . The values of the remaining components will be set at their default values.
<code>...</code>	Further arguments to the function <code>stats::rxxx</code> . The argument <code>n</code> is set within <code>sim_data</code> to be equal to <code>block_length * blocks</code> .
<code>sim_data</code>	A numeric vector of raw observations into, some of which will be made missing.

Details

The function `missing_fn` must return a, possibly empty, subset of `c(1, 2, ..., block_length)`. This function is applied within each simulated block, independently of other blocks.

The default function `mcar` simulates the numbers of missing values in the blocks as follows.

- A proportion `p0miss` of the blocks have **no** missing values.
- In the other blocks, the number of missing values is `ceiling(prop_miss * block_length)`, where `prob_miss` is a value simulated from a `Uniform(min, max)` distribution. The positions of these missing values within the block is random.

The function `mcar2` identifies at random a proportion `pmiss` of the simulated raw observations to become missing.

Care may need to be taken if these simulated data are used as input to `gev_mle` using an approach that discards block maxima based on more than a certain percentage of missing values, that is, with `discard > 0`. For example, using the default argument `blocks = 50` and `missing_fn = mcar`, with its default `missing_args`, may result in a sample size of retained block maxima that contains insufficient information to make reliable inferences, leading to difficulties finding an appropriate MLE for the shape parameter ξ and/or a singular observed information matrix.

Value

If `blocks > 0`, a list with the following components:

- `data_full`: simulated raw data with no missing values.
- `data_miss`: simulated data after missing values have been created.
- `blocks`, `block_length`: the respective input values of `blocks` and `block_length`.
- `block`: a block indicator vector, suitable as an argument to [gev_mle](#).
- `distn`: the input argument `distn`.
- `distn_args`: further arguments to `stats::rxxx` supplied via

If `blocks = 0`, a list containing all the inputs arguments.

See Also

[gev_mle](#) and [gev_bayes](#).

Examples

```
# Using missing_fn = mcar
sdata <- sim_data()

# Using missing_fn = mcar2
sdata2 <- sim_data(missing_fn = mcar2)
```

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