

# Modelling extreme ocean environments for structural design

Philip Jonathan

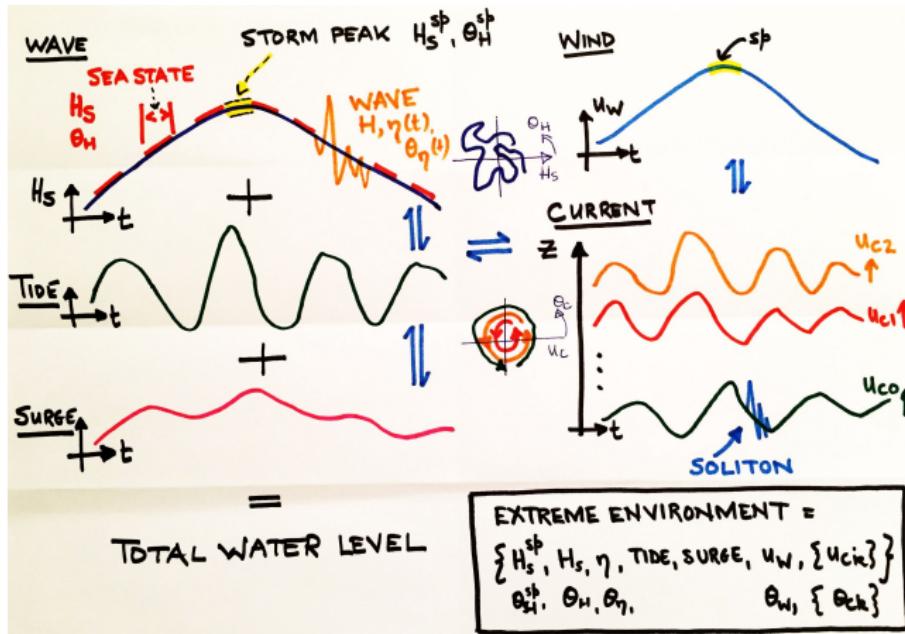
School of Mathematical Sciences, Lancaster University

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(Slides at [www.lancs.ac.uk/~jonathan](http://www.lancs.ac.uk/~jonathan))

... with thanks to countless colleagues!

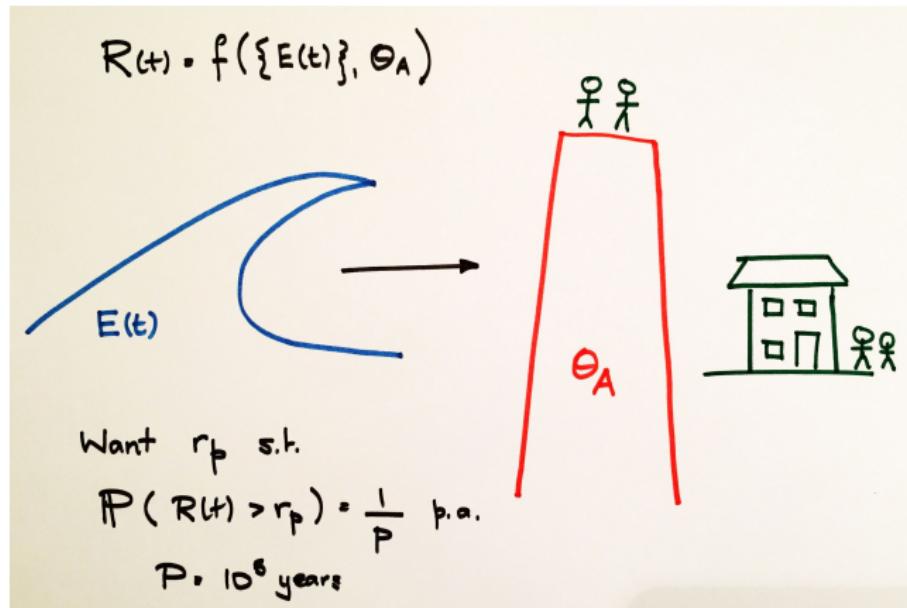


# Modelling ocean storm environment



- Multiple coupled physical processes
- Rare, extreme events

# Modelling structural risk



- Ocean environment is harsh
- Marine structures at risk of failure
- Reliability standards must be met

# Optimal design of marine structure

## Set-up

- Storm storm peak events  $X^{\text{sp}}$  dependent on covariates  $\Theta^{\text{sp}}$
- An evolving within-storm environment  $\{(X_s, \Theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}$  for storm of length  $T$
- Structural “loading”  $Y$
- Everything subject to sources of uncertainty  $Z$
- $Z, \Theta^{\text{sp}}, X^{\text{sp}}, \{(X_s, \Theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}$  and  $Y$  are **multidimensional** random variables

## Unconditional distribution of loading for a **random storm**

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_Y(y) &= \int_{\zeta} \int_{(\{(x_s, \theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau)} \int_{X^{\text{sp}}} \int_{\Theta^{\text{sp}}} \\
 &\times F_{Y|(\{(X_s, \Theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, Z}(y | \{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, T) | X^{\text{sp}}, \Theta^{\text{sp}}, Z} \left( \{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau | X^{\text{sp}}, \Theta^{\text{sp}}, \zeta \right) \\
 &\times f_{X^{\text{sp}} | \Theta^{\text{sp}}, Z}(X^{\text{sp}} | \Theta^{\text{sp}}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{\Theta^{\text{sp}} | Z}(\Theta^{\text{sp}} | \zeta) \\
 &\times f_Z(\zeta) \\
 &\times d\Theta^{\text{sp}} dX^{\text{sp}} d(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau) d\zeta
 \end{aligned}$$

# Optimal design of marine structure

## Typical

- Distribution of **annual maximum** loading (for univariate load here)

$$F_A(y) = \int_m [F_Y(y)]^m f_C(m) dm$$

- Annual rate of occurrence  $f_C$  of storms
- Return value** for return period  $P$  years given by  $F_A^{-1}(1 - 1/P)$

## More generally

- Expected annual utility** for year with  $M$  random storms

$$\mathbb{E}(U_A|\mathcal{R}) = \int_m \int_{y_1} \dots \int_{y_m} U_A(y_1, \dots, y_m | \mathcal{R}) f_{Y_1, \dots, Y_m, M}(y_1, \dots, y_m, m) dy_1 \dots dy_m dm$$

- System annual utility  $U_A(Y_1, \dots, Y_m | \mathcal{R})$  given system “strength” characteristics  $\mathcal{R}$
- $f_{Y_1, \dots, Y_m, M}$  is the joint density of multivariate loading from  $M$  random storms
- Solve for  $\mathcal{R}$  to achieve required expected annual utility

# Historical approach

# Historical approach

## Will discuss:

- Estimation for return values from small samples
  - This is still a major issue today (e.g. LOADS)

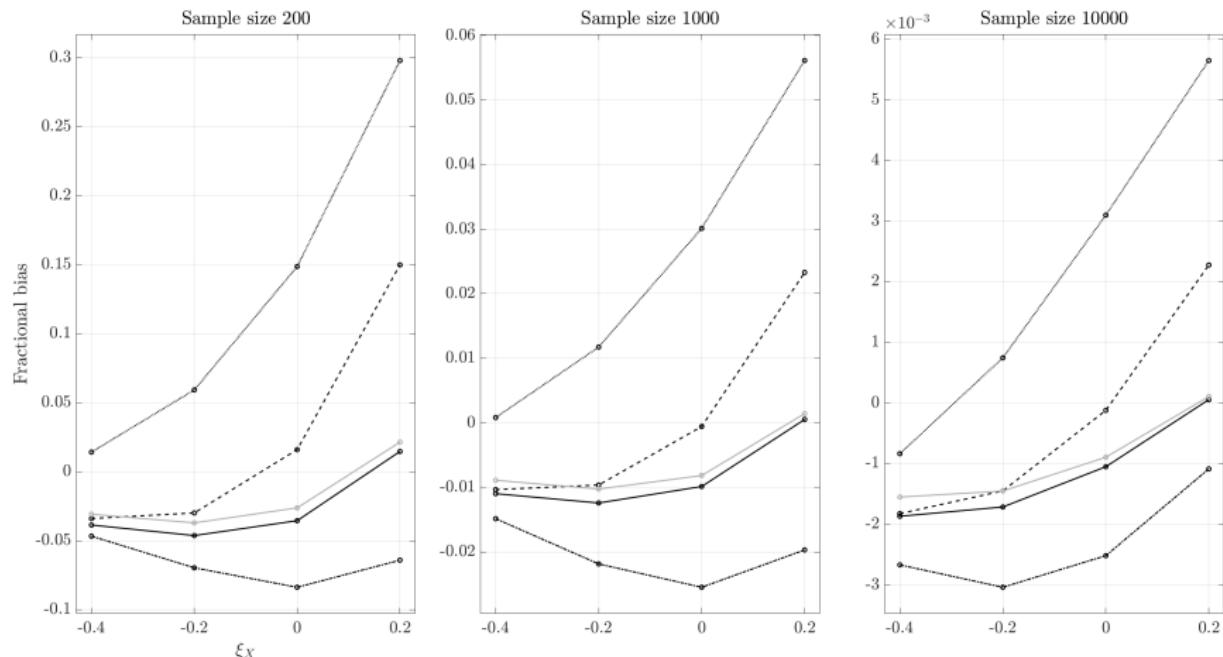
## Generic historical issues:

- Weaker justification (?) for choice of distributional forms for extremes
- Neglect of covariate effects in extremes (direction, season, “climate change”)
- Neglect of spatial and temporal dependence in extremes
- Neglect of joint behaviour of extremes across multiple metocean variables (“associated values”)
- Neglect of uncertainty (“no UQ”)
- Dearth of data, data quality (measured, hindcast, ...) for extremes not clear
- Disconnect with risk (no direct connection with structural failure; “return values”, “design contours”)
- Missing interface between metocean specialists, structural engineers and “statistical modellers”
- “No full empirical model”

## What is a return value?

- $x_P = F_A^{-1}(1 - \frac{1}{P})$  for annual maximum event  $A$
- $F_{A_p}(x_P) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{P}\right)^P \approx \exp(-1)$  for  $P$ -year maximum event  $A_p$
- $F_A$  or  $F_{A_p}$  estimated **with uncertainty** from a sample of data
- $x_P$  can be estimated easily in the absence of uncertainty
- In the presence of uncertainty  $Z$ , we can “integrate it out” using either
  - $\tilde{F}_Y(y) = \int_{\zeta} F_{Y|Z}(x|\zeta)f_Z(\zeta) d\zeta$ , a **predictive distribution** from uncertain  $F_{Y|Z}$
  - $E[g(Z)] = \int_{\zeta} g(\zeta)f_Z(\zeta) d\zeta$ , a **predictive mean** from uncertain  $g(Z)$
- Choices made lead to different estimates of return values and related quantities
- Bias effects can be proven theoretically (and demonstrated numerically)
- Effects are most dramatic for **small sample sizes**

# Fractional bias of return value estimators



Fractional bias of return value estimates from different estimators using maximum likelihood, as a function of sample size and true GP shape  $\xi$ .  
 LHS top to bottom:  $q_3, q_2, q_5, q_1, q_4$ .

- Knock-on effects for **associated values** of the form  $\mathbb{E}_Z(Y|X = q, Z)$

# Return value references and implications

## References

- Return values: Serinaldi [2015], Jonathan et al. [2021]
- Associated values : Towe et al. [2023]
- Lots of other approaches for small samples (e.g empirical Bayes Zhang 2007, Zhang and Stephens 2009, Zhang 2010)

## Implications for today

- Current EV models tend to have high effective dimensionality
- Effective number of degrees of freedom from sample for model fitting can be small ⇒ we have **small effective sample size**
- Momentum in metocean community (e.g. AWARE, LOADS JIPs) to use Bayesian inference ... **great** in principle, but ...
- Characteristics of (posterior) predictive distributions highly dependent on prior specification. Yet not clear how to advise “diverse user community” regarding “rational prior specification”.



# Full probabilistic modelling

- Model components of “full empirical model”
  - Storm peaks
  - Within-storm evolution
  - Fluid loading
- Marginal modelling
- Dependence modelling

# The full “forward” model

## Unconditional distribution of loading from a random storm

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_Y(y) &= \int_{\zeta} \int_{(\{(x_s, \theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau)} \int_{x^{sp}} \int_{\theta^{sp}} \\
 &\times F_{Y|(\{x_s, \theta_s\}_{s \in S_T}, Z}(y | \{x_s, \theta_s\}_{s \in S_T}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{(\{x_s, \theta_s\}_{s \in S_T}, T) | X^{sp}, \Theta^{sp}, Z} \left( \{x_s, \theta_s\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau | x^{sp}, \theta^{sp}, \zeta \right) \\
 &\times f_{X^{sp} | \Theta^{sp}, Z}(x^{sp} | \theta^{sp}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{\Theta^{sp} | Z}(\theta^{sp} | \zeta) \\
 &\times f_Z(\zeta) \\
 &\times d\theta^{sp} dx^{sp} d(\{x_s, \theta_s\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau) d\zeta
 \end{aligned}$$

## Issues

- Temporal “inter-storm” effects (clustering, climate change)
  - “Random storm” model invalid; even conditional independence assumption invalid (?)
- Spatial dependence of extremes
  - Spatial risk: e.g. de-manning multiple structures
- Estimating each model component is challenging!

# Full model for fluid loading

## General approach

- Linear wave spectrum model
  - e.g. JONSWAP
  - Multivariate extreme value model for all spectral model parameters
  - ⇒ Simulation of arbitrary sea state spectra
- Linear wave theory (potential theory)
  - Linearised boundary conditions
  - Linear surface elevation and kinematics
  - ⇒ Simulation of linear time-series given linear spectrum
- Non-linear transformation (Swan 2020, Gibson 2020)
  - Non-linear surface elevation
  - "Stretched" kinematics
  - ⇒ Simulation of non-linear time-series given linear spectrum
- Conditional simulation of Gaussian time-series (Taylor et al. 1997)
  - Embed extreme excursions in surface elevation and associated kinematics
  - ⇒ Efficient simulation of **extreme** time-series
- Estimate marginal distribution of structural response from random storm
  - Efficient integration using importance sampling and conditional simulation
  - Optimal design in environmental space (Gramstad et al. 2020, Speers et al. 2024)



# Model for size of occurrence

- Sample of **storm peaks**  $X$  over threshold  $\psi_\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ , with **1-D covariate**  $\theta \in \mathcal{D}_\theta$
- Extreme value threshold  $\psi_\theta$  **assumed known**
- $X$  assumed to follow generalised Pareto distribution with shape  $\xi_\theta$ , (modified) scale  $\nu_\theta$

$$f_{\text{GP}}(x|\xi_\theta, \nu_\theta) = \frac{1}{\sigma_\theta} \left(1 + \frac{\xi_\theta}{\sigma_\theta} (x - \psi_\theta)\right)_+^{-1/\xi_\theta - 1} \quad \text{with } \nu_\theta = \sigma_\theta(1 + \xi_\theta)$$

- Shape parameter  $\xi_\theta \in \mathbb{R}$  and scale parameter  $\nu_\theta > 0$
- (Non-stationary Poisson model for rate of occurrence, with rate  $\rho_\theta \geq 0$ )

# Covariate representations in 1-D

- Index set  $\mathcal{I}_\theta = \{\theta_s\}_{s=1}^m$  on **periodic** covariate domain  $\mathcal{D}_\theta$
- Each observation belongs to exactly one  $\theta_s$
- On  $\mathcal{I}_\theta$ , assume

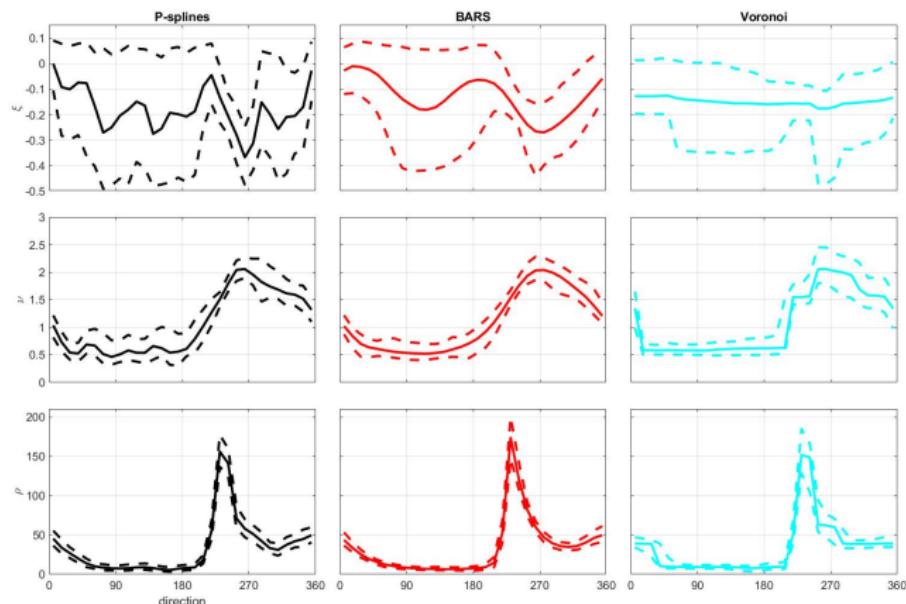
$$\begin{aligned}\eta_s &= \sum_{k=1}^n B_{sk} \beta_k, s = 1, 2, \dots, m, \text{ or} \\ \boldsymbol{\eta} &= \mathbf{B}\boldsymbol{\beta}\end{aligned}$$

- $\eta \in (\xi, \nu)$  (and similar for  $\rho$ )
- $\mathbf{B} = \{B_{sk}\}_{s=1;k=1}^{m;n}$  basis for  $\mathcal{D}_\theta$
- $\boldsymbol{\beta} = \{\beta_k\}_{k=1}^n$  basis coefficients
- Inference reduces to estimating  $n_\xi, n_\nu, B_\xi, B_\nu, \beta_\xi, \beta_\nu$  (and roughnesses  $\lambda_\xi, \lambda_\nu$ )
- P-splines, BARS and Voronoi are different forms of  $\mathbf{B}$
- Tensor products and slick GLAM algorithms for n-D covariate representations

# Posterior parameter estimates for $\xi$ , $\nu$ and $\rho$ for northern North Sea

- MCMC inference (Gibbs sampling, reversible jump, etc.)

- Note colour scheme
- Rate  $\rho$  and  $\nu$  very similar
- Voronoi gives almost constant  $\xi$
- Voronoi piecewise constant
- Land shadow effects
- General agreement**
- ... for other parameters also



- Covariate effects are everywhere, margins and dependence ...

# Practical implications of modelling choices

# Practical implications of modelling choices

- How do “arbitrary choices” in the modelling procedure effect output?
- Case studies (like a southern North Sea location)

## Effects of

- Generalised Pareto (GP) model parameterisation
  - Orthogonal
  - “Mean-max”
- Relative penalty for GP shape and scale
  - Relatively high
  - Very high
- Cross-validation strategy
  - 10-fold
  - Repeated random 2-fold
- Choice of estimator for return value
  - Mean quantile
  - Quantile mean

## Findings

- Material impact on estimates of return values

# Issues and opportunities

## Issues

- EV threshold modelling and UQ
- Many tuning parameters which should be optimised, but rarely are, and UQ w.r.t. these
- Model misspecification
  - Measurement scale, sub-asymptotic models
  - Missing covariates
- Prior specification (or equivalent frequentist choices)
- UQ generally

## Opportunities

- Incorporate new data sources
  - Satellite (e.g. scatterometry)
  - GCM output (but CMIP6 inconsistency)
  - Large simulations (over  $10^3$ s of years; so just “interpolate”)
- Overly-complex models
  - Standard Norge [2022] “immature methodologies”
  - Diagnostics
- “Black box” AI/ML (e.g. KAUST, Saudi A.)
  - “ExaGeoStat” (Genton)
  - Sensible extremes (e.g. GP tail, “interpretable” plus “uninterpretable” covariate effects; Hüser, Richards)
- Just “do the whole planet” and be done with it!

# Marginal extremes references

- Theory : Embrechts et al. [2003], Beirlant et al. [2004]
- Method : Coles [2001], Dey and Yan [2016]
- Motivation : Davison and Smith [1990]
- Covariate effects : Wood [2003], Chavez-Demoulin and Davison [2005], Brezger and Lang [2006], Youngman [2022]
  
- Metocean : Jonathan and Ewans [2013], Feld et al. [2019], Vanem et al. [2022]
- Metocean applications : **Randell et al. [2016]**, Zanini et al. [2020]
- Machine learning: Abdulah et al. [2018], Richards and Huser [2024]
  
- Uncertainties: **Tendijck et al [2024]**



# Multivariate extremes

- Max-stability, AD and AI
- Conditional extremes basics
- Time-series conditional extremes
- Multivariate spatial conditional extremes
- SPAR
- covXtreme

# Modelling margins and dependence

## Context

$$F_{\mathbf{X}^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, \mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}) = C(F_{X_1^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, \mathbf{Z}}(x_1^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}), \dots, F_{X_p^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, \mathbf{Z}}(x_p^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}) | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\zeta})$$

- We already have marginal models  $F_{X_j^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}} (x_j^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \mathbf{Z})$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$
- Now we need a dependence model or copula  $C = C(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_p | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\zeta})$

# Which dependence function?

**Max-stability == multivariate extreme value distribution, MEVD**

- The copula is not unique
- Max-stability is one popular **assumption**, which itself involves a common but often unrealistic assumption of **component-wise maxima**
- On uniform margins, **extreme value copula**:  $C(\mathbf{u}) = C^k(\mathbf{u}^{1/k})$
- On Fréchet margins ( $G_j(z) = \exp(-z^{-1})$ ),  $G(z) = \exp(-V(z))$ , for **exponent measure**  $V$  such that  $V(rz) = r^{-1}V(z)$ , homogeneity order -1
- Rich spatial extensions to **max-stable processes**, MSPs
- Multivariate generalised Pareto distribution, MGPD

## AD and AI

- All MEVD distributions exhibit asymptotic dependence (AD)
- Many common distributions (e.g. the multivariate Gaussian) exhibit asymptotic **independence** (AI)
- So extreme value copulas are not general enough to describe extremal dependence in nature
- Other (e.g. inverted) copula forms do exhibit AI
- The **conditional extremes** model admits AD (on the boundary) and AI
- **SPAR** admits AD and AI



# Conditional extremes ... moving beyond component-wise maxima

- Random variables  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_j, \dots, X_p)$  and  $Y$
- Each  $X$  and  $Y$  have standard Laplace margins ( $f(x) = \exp(-|x|)/2, x \in \mathbb{R}$ )
- Seek a model for  $\mathbf{X}|(Y = y)$  for  $y > u$
  
- Assume we can find  $p$ -dimensional scaling  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} > \mathbf{0}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Z} \leq z | Y = y) &\rightarrow G(z) \quad \text{as} \quad u \rightarrow \infty \\ \text{for } \mathbf{Z} &= \frac{\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{a}(y)}{\mathbf{b}(y)}\end{aligned}$$

- Non-degenerate  $G$  is unknown, and estimated empirically
  
- Typical scaling is  $\mathbf{a} = \alpha y$  and  $\mathbf{b} = y^\beta$ ,  $\alpha \in [-1, 1]^p$ ,  $\beta \in (-\infty, 1]^p$
- So simply fit regression model

$$\mathbf{X}|(Y = y) = \alpha y + y^\beta \mathbf{Z}, \text{ for } y > u$$

- $\alpha = 1, \beta = 0$  : perfect dependence and AD, and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  : AI
  
- Heffernan and Tawn [2004] find choices for  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  for popular bivariate cases
- Bivariate Gaussian :  $\alpha = \rho^2$ ,  $\beta = 1/2$

# Developments of the conditional extremes model

## Canonical extensions

- Basic:  $X|(Y = y), y > u$
- Temporal: "heatwave model"  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_\tau |(X_0 = x_0), x_0 > u$
- Spatial: "spatial conditional extremes"  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_s |(X_0 = x_0), x_0 > u$

## Idea

$$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_p |(Y = y) = \alpha y + y^\beta \mathbf{Z}$$

- Impose appropriate structure on parameters  $\alpha, \beta$  and distribution of  $\mathbf{Z}$ 
  - e.g.  $\alpha$  evolves smoothly in space
  - e.g.  $\mathbf{Z}$  follows a multivariate Gaussian or extension thereof with appropriate mean and covariance forms
- Make a simplifying assumption
  - e.g. apply a low-order model repeatedly  $X_{t+1}, X_{t+2} |(X_t = x) = [\alpha_1 \alpha_2]x + x^{[\beta_1 \beta_2]}[Z_1 Z_2]$

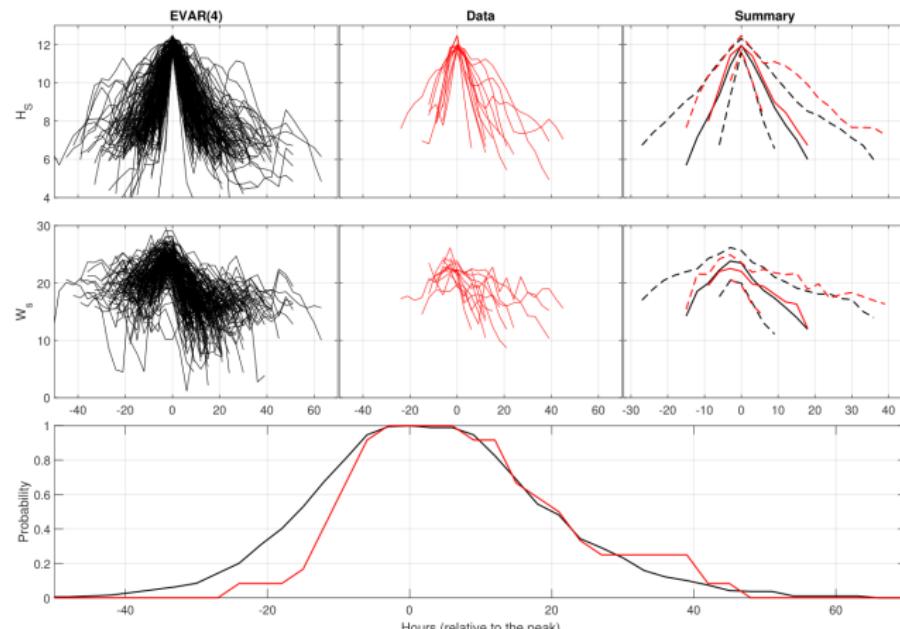
## Further extensions

- Non-stationary and multivariate temporal and spatial models

# Extremal vector auto-regression (EVAR) for within-storm evolution

On Laplace margins, with component-wise operations and  $\mathbf{X}_t \in \mathbb{R}^d$ :

$$\mathbf{X}_{t+k} | (\mathbf{X}_t, \dots, \mathbf{X}_{t+k-1}, \mathbf{X}_{t,1} = \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{\ell=1}^k A_\ell \mathbf{X}_{t+k-\ell} + \mathbf{y}^b \mathbf{Z}, \quad \mathbf{y} > \mathbf{u} \gg 0$$



Excursions of  $H_S$  (top) and  $W_S$  (middle) from EVAR(4) model (left; black), observed (middle; red) on original margins with storm peak  $H_S \in [11.5, 12.5]$ ; right-hand plots summarise the observed (red) and EVAR(4) (black) excursions, using median (solid), 10% and 90% quantiles (dashed). In the bottom panel, we plot survival probabilities for observed (red) and EVAR(4) (black) excursions relative to the time of the excursion maximum.



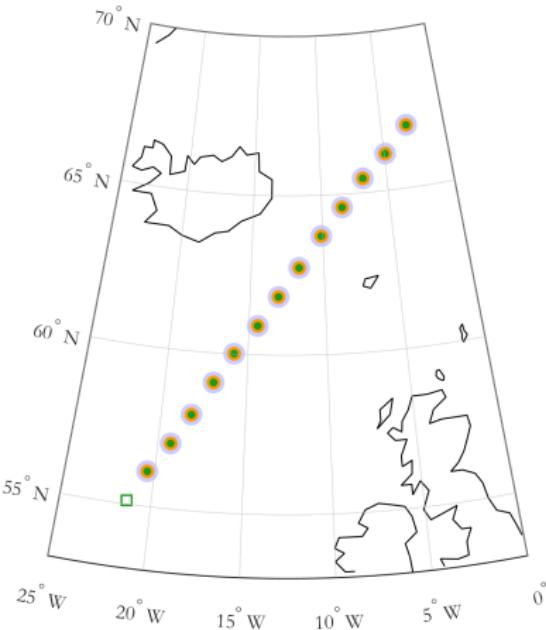
## Motivation

- How useful are satellite observations of ocean waves and winds?
- Could they become the primary data source for decisions soon?
- What are the **spatial characteristics of extremes** from satellite observations?

## Overview

- A look at the data : **satellite wind**, **hindcast wind**, **hindcast wave**
- Brief overview of methodology
- Results for joint spatial structure of extreme scatterometer wind speed, hindcast wind speed and hindcast significant wave height in the North Atlantic
- Implications for future practical applications

# Methodology in a nut-shell



- Transform to standard margins using independent non-stationary GP models
- Condition on **large value**  $x$  of **first quantity**  $X_{01}$  at **one location**  $j = 0$  (**green square**)
- Estimate “conditional spatial profiles” for  $m > 1$  quantities  $\{X_{jk}\}_{j=1,k=1}^{p,m}$  at  $p > 0$  **other locations** (**green, orange** and **blue** circles)

$$X_{jk} \sim \text{Lpl}$$

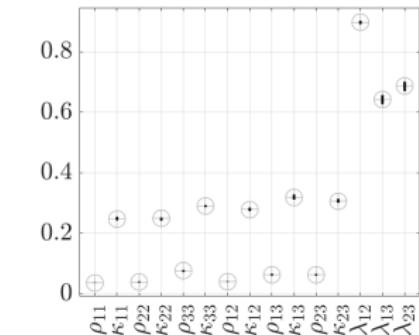
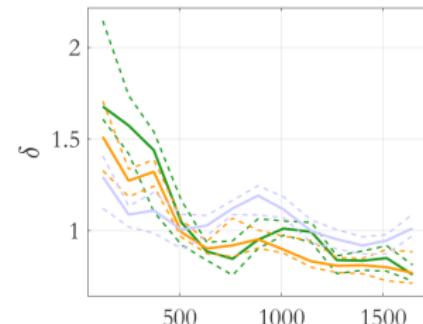
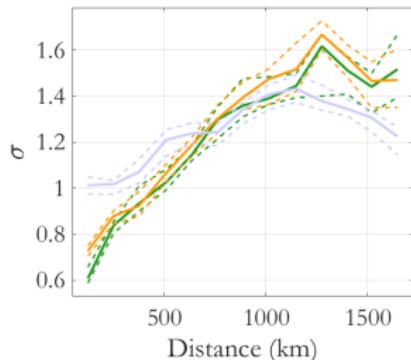
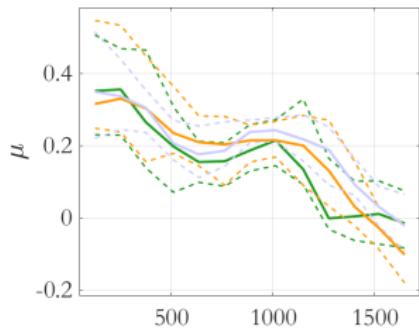
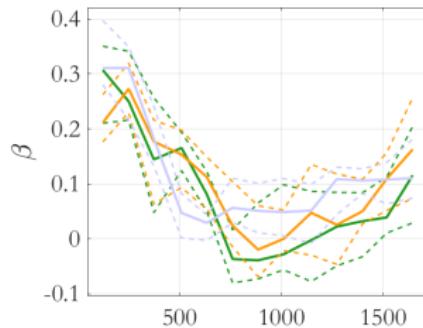
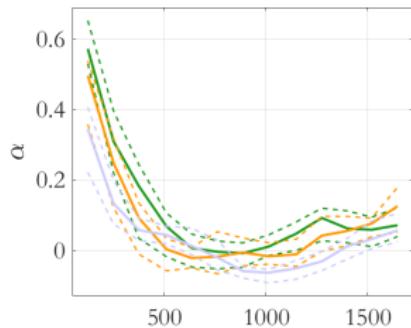
$$x > u$$

$$\mathbf{X} | \{X_{01} = x\} = \boldsymbol{\alpha}x + x^\beta \mathbf{Z}$$

$$\mathbf{Z} \sim \text{DL}(\mu, \sigma^2, \delta; \Sigma(\lambda, \rho, \kappa))$$

- MCMC to estimate  $\alpha, \beta, \mu, \sigma, \delta$  and  $\rho, \kappa, \lambda$
- $\alpha, \beta, \mu, \sigma, \delta$  spatially smooth for each quantity
- DL = delta-Laplace = generalised Gaussian
- Residual correlation  $\Sigma$  for conditional Gaussian field, powered-exponential decay with distance

# Parameter estimates



Estimates for  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\mu$ ,  $\sigma$  and  $\delta$  with distance, and residual process estimates  $\rho$ ,  $\kappa$  and  $\lambda$ . Model fitted with  $\tau = 0.75$

StlWnd (green), HndWnd (orange), HndWav(blue)

Residual Gaussian field :  $\rho$ =scale (need to  $\times 100$ km),  $\kappa$ =exponent (need to  $\times 5$ ),  $\lambda$ =cross-correlation

# Applied conditional extremes references

- Non-stationary : Jonathan et al. [2014]
- Time-series : Winter and Tawn [2016], Tendijck et al. [2019], **Tendijck et al. [2024]**
- Mixture model : Tendijck et al. [2023]
- Spatial : Shooter et al. [2021b], Shooter et al. [2021a], **Shooter et al. [2022]**
- Lots more

# Semi-parametric angular-radial representations (SPAR)

# SPAR

## Basics

- Radial  $R$  and angular  $Q$  components. Then **joint density** factorised as

$$f_{R,Q}(r, q) = f_Q(q)f_{R|Q}(r|q)$$

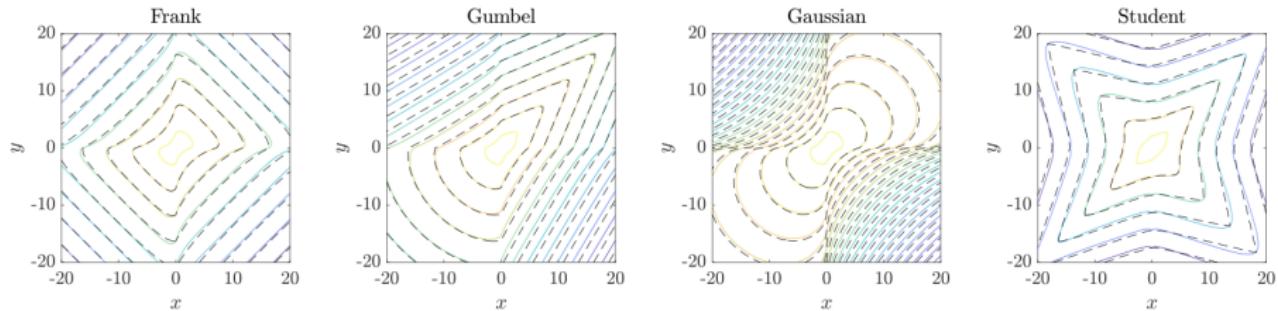
- Assume GP conditional tail for  $R|(Q = q)$ , with parameters varying smoothly with angle  $q$  above some threshold  $\psi(q)$  with non-exceedance probability  $\tau(q)$

$$f_{R,Q}(r, q) = f_Q(q) \times \tau(q) f_{GP}(r - \psi(q)|\xi(q), \sigma(q)), \quad r > \psi(q)$$

with smoothly varying  $\psi(q)$ ,  $\tau(q)$ ,  $\xi(q)$  and  $\sigma(q)$ . Also assume angular density  $f_Q(q)$  varies smoothly with  $q$

- SPAR representation shown to provide good approximations to a large set of copula functions on standard margins
- Is transformation to standard margins necessary?
- Different possible angular-radial decompositions using “generalised co-ordinates”
- ⇒ multivariate extremes is just “non-stationary univariate” extremes!

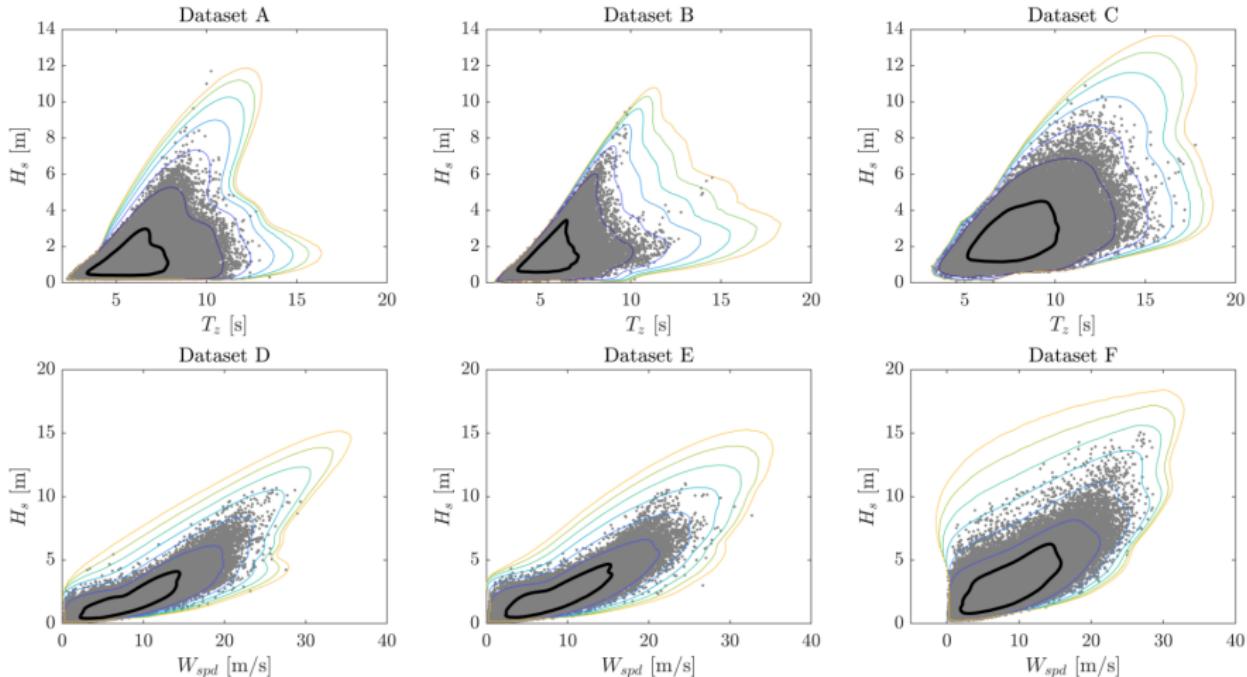
# SPAR fits to extreme value copulas



Density contours of various copulas on Laplace margins. All copulas have Pearson correlation coefficient 0.6. Student-t copula has two degrees of freedom.  
Solid lines: true contours at logarithmic increments. Dashed lines: SPAR-estimated contours.

- SPAR admits asymptotic independence (e.g. upper tails of Frank and Gaussian) and asymptotic dependence (e.g. upper tails of Gumbel and Student-t)
- SPAR handles all directions (not just “first quadrant”)
- Link to limit sets

# Density contours from SPAR fits to data



Density contours from SPAR model for 6 samples.



# Pragmatic non-stationary multivariate extremes with UQ

- Fit generalised Pareto marginal models for peaks over threshold data  $\hat{X}$  and  $\hat{Y}$ 
  - Physics-based identification of peaks from time-series
  - Multiple thresholds, simple piecewise constant model for covariates  $\Theta$
  - Diagnostics: threshold stability
- Transform to standard Laplace scale  $X$  and  $Y$ 
  - Transform full sample
- Fit conditional extremes model  $X|(Y = y)$  for  $y > u$ 
  - Multiple thresholds, simple piecewise constant covariate model for  $\alpha$
  - Diagnostics: threshold stability, residual structure
- Calculate probabilities of extreme sets
  - MC simulation, importance sampling
  - Estimate environmental contours
- Free **covXtreme** software for MATLAB does all of above
  - UQ: incorporates epistemic uncertainty using bootstrapping cradle to grave
  - Model averaging: incorporates multiple models for different threshold combinations
  - Multidimensional  $X$  and covariates
  - Cross-validation for optimal parameter roughness in marginal and dependence models
  - Careful return value and associated value definitions
  - <https://lfenergy.org/projects/covXtreme/>, Towe et al. [2024]

# Multivariate extremes references

- Theory : Beirlant et al. [2004]
- Copulas : Joe [2014]
- Method : Dey and Yan [2016]
- Key ideas in AI : Ledford and Tawn [1996], Ledford and Tawn [1997], Coles et al. [1999], Heffernan and Tawn [2004]
- Modelling across dependence classes : Wadsworth et al. [2017], Huser and Wadsworth [2022]
- “Geometric extremes”, limit sets and SPAR : Nolde and Wadsworth [2022], Mackay and Jonathan [2023], Huser et al. [2024], Murphy-Barltrop et al. [2024], Papastathopoulos et al. [2024], Simpson and Tawn [2024], Wadsworth and Campbell [2024], Mackay et al. [2025]
- Metocean : Parametric conditional models (e.g. Haver 1987, Bitner-Gregersen and Haver 1991), design contours (e.g. Huseby et al. 2013, Haselsteiner et al. 2021).
- covXtreme: Towe et al. [2024]

# Summary

# Summary

## Why?

- Careful quantification of “rare-event” risk
- Characterise tails of (multivariate) distributions
- Limited observations
- Combine solid theory and pragmatic application, UQ
- Immediate real-world consequences

## The next 10 years?

- Univariate : fuller covariate descriptions, exploit measurement scale / sub-asymptotics, UQ, provide real-world decision-support
- Multivariate : theoretical development, computational tractability, expansion in scope (time-series, spatial), serious real-world applications
- More demanding regulatory framework

Tusen takk! / Diolch yn fawr!

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## What is a return value?

- Random variable  $A$  represents the maximum value of some physical quantity X **per annum**
- Forget about all complicating issues like serial dependence, covariates and other sources of dependence and uncertainty
- The  $P$ -year return value  $x_P$  of  $X$  is then defined by the equation

$$F_A(x_P) = \Pr(A \leq x_P) = 1 - \frac{1}{P}$$

- Or

$$x_P = F_A^{-1}\left(1 - \frac{1}{P}\right)$$

- Typically  $P \in [10^2, 10^8]$  years

## An alternative definition

- Random variable  $A_P$  represents the  $P$ -year maximum value of  $X$
- The  $P$ -year return value  $x'_P$  of  $X$  can be found from  $F_{A_P}$  for large  $P$ , assuming **independent annual maxima** since

$$F_A(x_P) = 1 - \frac{1}{P}$$

$$\Rightarrow F_{A_P}(x_P) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{P}\right)^P \approx \exp(-1)$$

- Use  $F_{A_P}(x'_P) = \exp(-1)$  to define an alternative return value  $x'_P$

## Estimating a return value

- To estimate  $x_P$ , we need knowledge of the distribution function  $F_A$  of the annual maximum
- We might estimate  $F_A$  using extreme value analysis on a sample of independent observations of  $A$
- Typically more efficient to estimate the distribution  $F_{X|X>\psi}$  of threshold exceedances of  $X$  above some high threshold  $\psi$  using a sample of independent observations of  $X$ , and use this in turn to estimate  $F_A$  and  $x_P$
- How is this done?

## Estimating a return value

- Asymptotic theory suggests for high threshold  $\psi \in (-\infty, \infty)$  that

$$F_{X|X>\psi}(x|\psi, \sigma, \xi) = 1 - \left(1 + \frac{\xi}{\sigma}(x - \psi)\right)_+^{-1/\xi}$$

for  $x > \psi$ , shape  $\xi \in (-\infty, \infty)$  and scale  $\sigma \in (0, \infty)$

- The full distribution of  $X$  is  $F_X(x) = \tau + (1 - \tau)F_{X|X>\psi}(x)$  where  $\tau = \Pr(X \leq \psi)$
- Thus

$$F_A(x) = \Pr(A \leq x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} f_C(k) F_X^k(x)$$

where  $C$  is the number of occurrences of  $X$  per annum, with probability mass function  $f_C$  to be estimated (say with a Poisson model with parameter  $\lambda$ )

- So what's the problem?

## Parameter uncertainty

- $x_P$  can be estimated easily in the absence of uncertainty
- In reality, we **estimate** parameters  $\lambda$ ,  $\psi$ ,  $\sigma$  and  $\xi$  from a sample of data, and **we cannot know their values exactly**
- How does this **epistemic uncertainty** affect return value estimates?
- A number of different **plausible estimators** for return values under uncertainty
- Different estimators perform differently (bias and variance)
- Which estimators are likely to perform reasonably in fairly general circumstances?
- Is it even **sensible or desirable** to estimate return values?

## Incorporating uncertainty

- If a distribution  $F_{Y|Z}$  of random variable  $Y$  is known conditional on random variables  $Z$ , and the joint density  $f_Z$  of  $Z$  is also known, the unconditional **predictive** distribution  $\tilde{F}_Y$  can be evaluated using

$$\tilde{F}_Y(y) = \int_{\zeta} F_{Y|Z}(y|\zeta) f_Z(\zeta) d\zeta$$

- The expected value of deterministic function  $g$  of parameters  $Z$  given joint density  $f_Z$  is

$$E[g(Z)] = \int_{\zeta} g(\zeta) f_Z(\zeta) d\zeta$$

- $\zeta = (\lambda, \psi, \sigma, \xi)$ ,  $Y = A$  (or  $Y = A_P$ )

## Different estimators of return value

- **Uncertain** estimates of GP model parameters from fit to sample represented by random variables  $\mathbf{Z}$
- Estimate distribution  $F_{A|\mathbf{Z}}$  of **annual maximum** event using  $\mathbf{Z}$
- Estimate  **$P$ -year return value** by finding the  $1 - 1/P$  quantile of  $F_{A|\mathbf{Z}}$
- Various options available, including:

$$q_1 = F_{A|\mathbf{Z}}^{-1}(1 - 1/P \mid \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Z}}[\mathbf{Z}]) = F_{A|\mathbf{Z}}^{-1}(1 - 1/P \mid \int_{\zeta} \zeta f_{\mathbf{Z}}(\zeta) d\zeta)$$

$$q_2 = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Z}}[F_{A|\mathbf{Z}}^{-1}(1 - 1/P \mid \mathbf{Z})] = \int_{\zeta} F_{A|\mathbf{Z}}^{-1}(1 - 1/P \mid \zeta) f_{\mathbf{Z}}(\zeta) d\zeta$$

$$q_3 = \tilde{F}_A^{-1}(1 - 1/P) \text{ where } \tilde{F}_A(x) = \int_{\zeta} F_{A|\mathbf{Z}}(x \mid \zeta) f_{\mathbf{Z}}(\zeta) d\zeta$$

$$q_4 = \tilde{F}_{A_p}^{-1}(\exp(-1)) \text{ where } \tilde{F}_{A_p}(x) = \tilde{F}_A^P(x)$$

$$q_5 = \text{med}_{\mathbf{Z}}[F_{A|\mathbf{Z}}^{-1}(1 - 1/P \mid \mathbf{Z})]$$

- For **small samples**, these have very different properties

# Storm peaks

## Context: unconditional distribution of loading

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_Y(y) &= \int_{\zeta} \int_{(\{(x_s, \theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau)} \int_{x^{sp}} \int_{\theta^{sp}} \\
 &\times F_{Y|(\{(x_s, \Theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, Z}(y | \{(x_s, \theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{(\{(X_s, \Theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, T) | X^{sp}, \Theta^{sp}, Z} \left( \{(x_s, \theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau | x^{sp}, \theta^{sp}, \zeta \right) \\
 &\times f_{X^{sp} | \Theta^{sp}, Z}(x^{sp} | \theta^{sp}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{\Theta^{sp} | Z}(\theta^{sp} | \zeta) \\
 &\times f_Z(\zeta) \\
 &\times d\theta^{sp} dx^{sp} d(\{(x_s, \theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau) d\zeta
 \end{aligned}$$

## Storm peaks: modelling margins and dependence

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{X^{sp} | \Theta^{sp}, Z}(x^{sp} | \theta^{sp}, \zeta) &= \left[ \prod_{j=1}^p f_{X_j^{sp} | \Theta^{sp}, Z}(x_j^{sp} | \theta^{sp}, \zeta) \right] \\
 &\times c(F_{X_1^{sp} | \Theta^{sp}, Z}(x_1^{sp} | \theta^{sp}, \zeta), \dots, F_{X_p^{sp} | \Theta^{sp}, Z}(x_p^{sp} | \theta^{sp}, \zeta) | \theta^{sp}, \zeta)
 \end{aligned}$$

More to come in a minute!

# Within-storm evolution

## Context: unconditional distribution of loading

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_Y(\mathbf{y}) &= \int_{\zeta} \int_{(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, \tau)} \int_{\mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}}} \int_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}} \\
 &\times F_{Y|(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, Z)}(\mathbf{y} | \{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\Theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, T)} | \mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, Z \left( \{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, \tau | \mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \zeta \right) \\
 &\times f_{\mathbf{X}^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, Z}(\mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}} | Z}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}} | \zeta) \\
 &\times f_Z(\zeta) \\
 &\times d\boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}} d\mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}} d(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, \tau) d\zeta
 \end{aligned}$$

## Models for within-storm evolution

- History matching: Feld et al. [2019], Hansen et al. [2020]
- Extreme value time-series model (an extension of **conditional extremes**): Tendijck et al. [2019], Tendijck et al. [2024]

# Fluid loading

## Context: unconditional distribution of loading

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_Y(y) &= \int_{\zeta} \int_{(\{(x_s, \theta_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau)} \int_{x^{sp}} \int_{\theta^{sp}} \\
 &\times F_{Y|(\{x_s, \Theta_s\}_{s \in S_T}, Z)}(y | \{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\Theta}_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, T) | \mathbf{x}^{sp}, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{sp}, Z} \left( \{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau | x^{sp}, \theta^{sp}, \zeta \right) \\
 &\times f_{X^{sp} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{sp}, Z}(x^{sp} | \theta^{sp}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{sp} | Z}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{sp} | \zeta) \\
 &\times f_Z(\zeta) \\
 &\times d\theta^{sp} dx^{sp} d(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in S_T}, \tau) d\zeta
 \end{aligned}$$

## Models for fluid loading

- Incorporate kinematics, estimate Morison loads (e.g. LOADS, AWARE JIPs): Swan [2020], Gibson [2020]
- Interface environment and fluid loading software for full “forward model”
- Fundamentals paper: Speers et al. [2024]

# Motivating marginal extremes

## Storm peaks: modelling margins and dependence

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\mathbf{X}^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, \mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}) &= \left[ \prod_{j=1}^p f_{X_j^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, \mathbf{Z}}(x_j^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}) \right] \\ &\times c(F_{X_1^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, \mathbf{Z}}(x_1^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}), \dots, F_{X_p^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, \mathbf{Z}}(x_p^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}) | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}) \end{aligned}$$

# Generalised Pareto distribution

- Suppose we have an exceedance  $X$  of high threshold  $\psi \in \mathbb{R}$
- The Pickands-Balkema-De Haan theorem states

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{\psi \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[X \leq x | X > \psi] &= \lim_{\psi \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_X(x)}{1 - F_X(\psi)} \\ &= \text{GP}(x|\xi, \sigma, \psi) \\ &= 1 - \left(1 + \frac{\xi}{\sigma}(x - \psi)\right)_+^{-1/\xi}, \quad \sigma > 0, \quad \xi \in \mathbb{R}\end{aligned}$$

## Theory

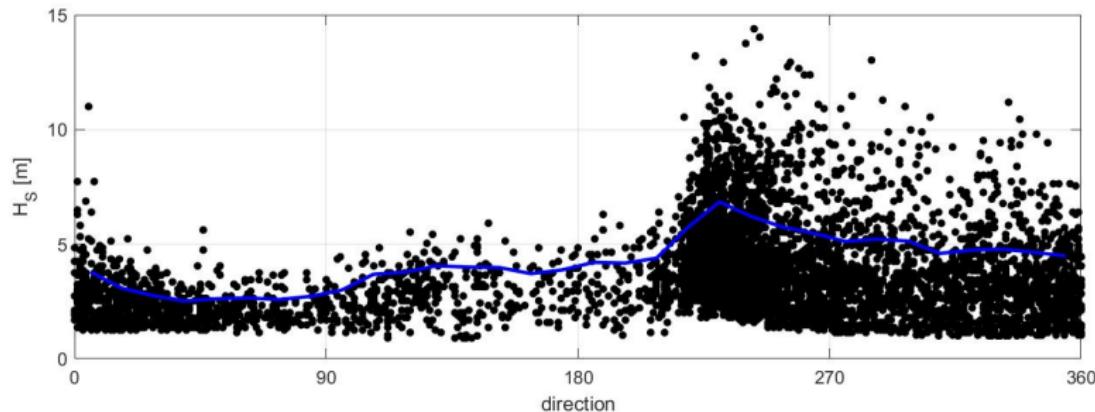
- Derived from **max-stability** of  $F_X$
- Threshold-stability property
- "Poisson  $\times$  GP = GEV"

## Practicalities

- How to isolate independent threshold exceedances from observed time-series?
- How to specify extreme threshold  $\psi$ ?
- $\xi, \sigma, \psi$  functions of covariates

# Motivation

- Environmental extremes vary smoothly with multidimensional covariates
- Generic modelling framework for different covariate representations
- Statistical and computational efficiency for **n-D** covariates
- Thorough Bayesian uncertainty quantification

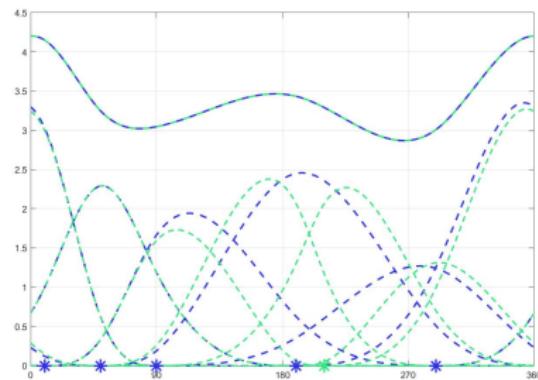


Typical data for northern North Sea. Storm peak  $H_S$  on direction, with  $\tau = 0.8$  extreme value threshold.  
Rate and size of occurrence varies with direction.

# Basis representations ... BARS and others

## Bayesian adaptive regression splines (BARS)

- $n$  irregularly-spaced knots on  $\mathcal{D}_\theta$
- $B$  consists of  $n$  B-spline bases
- Order  $d$
- Each using  $d + 1$  consecutive knot locations
- Local support
- Wrapped on  $\mathcal{D}_\theta$
- Knot locations  $\{r_k\}_{k=1}^n$  vary
- Number of basis functions  $n$  varies

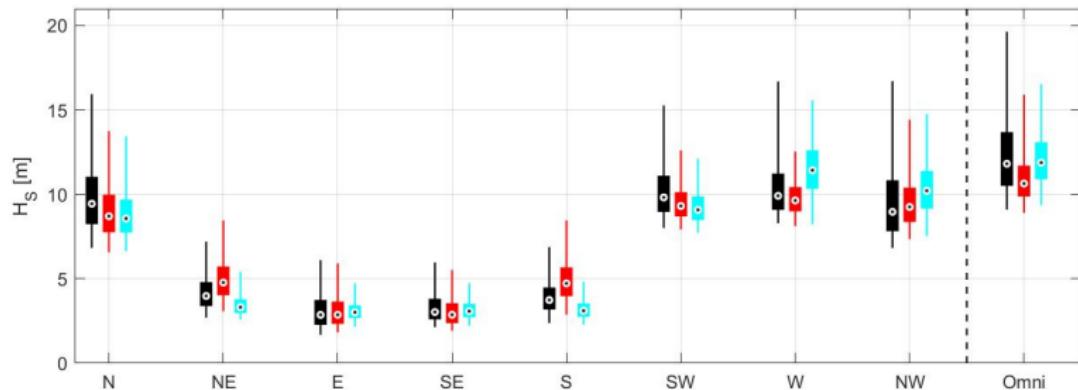


Periodic BARS knot birth and death

## P-splines and Voronoi partition

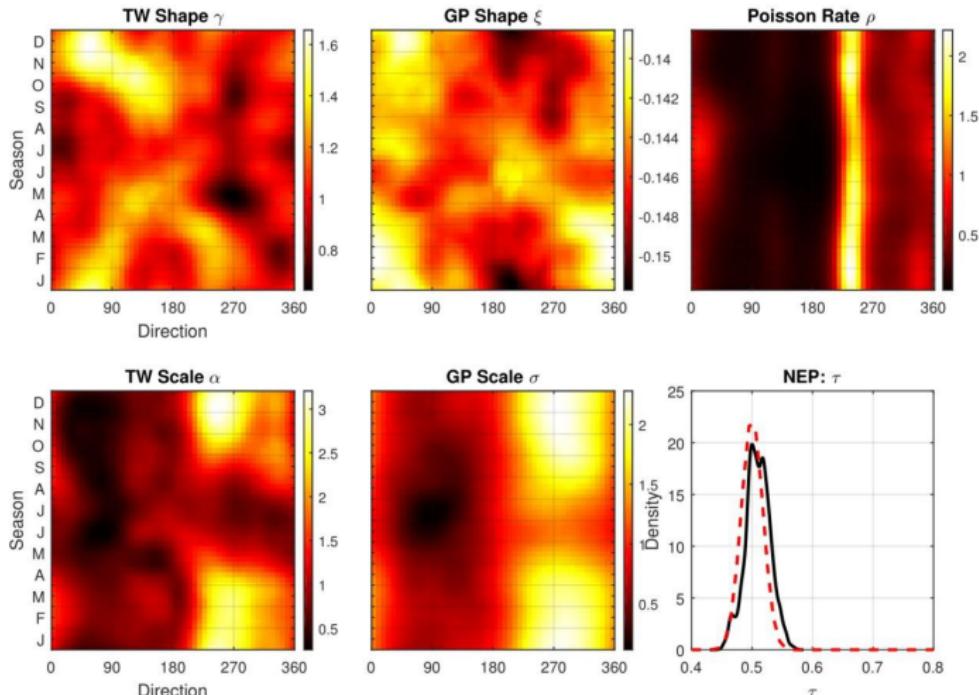
- P-splines use fixed number of regularly-spaced knots
- Voronoi partition uses piecewise-constant representation, trivially extended to n-D

# Directional posterior predictive distribution of $P = 1000$ -year maximum



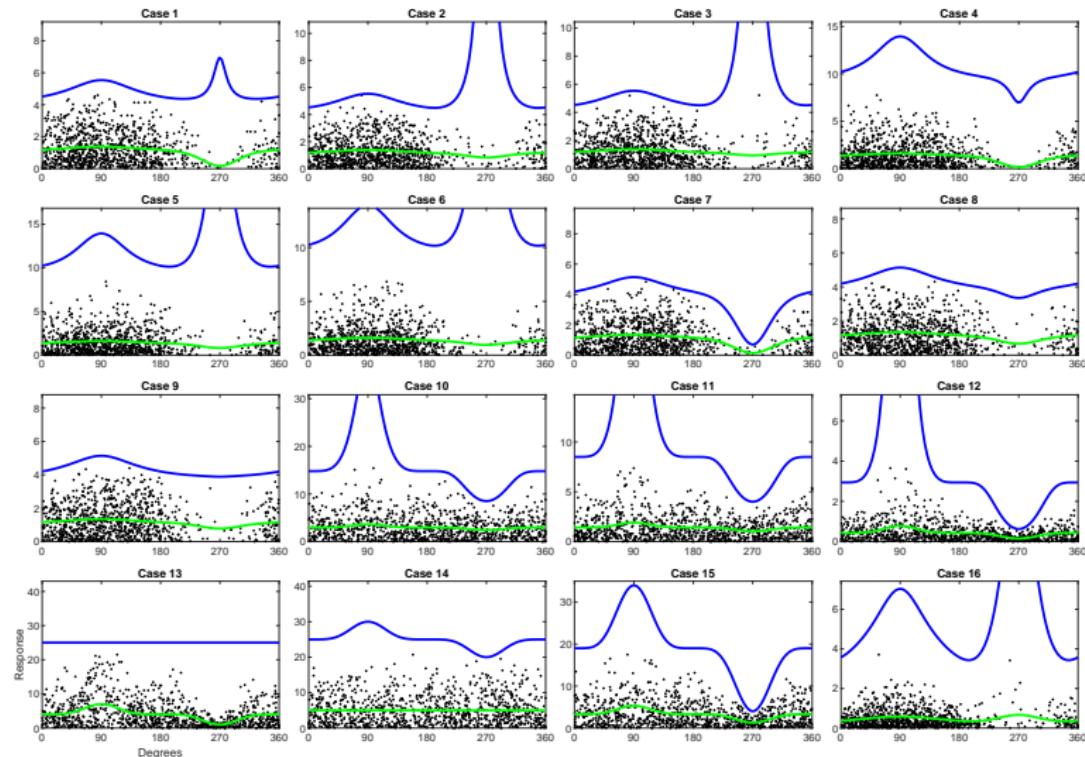
- Box-whiskers with 2.5%, 25%, 50%, 75% and 97.5% percentiles
- General agreement
- This is more-or-less what the engineer currently uses to design a “compliant” structure

## Extension to 2D : directional-seasonal



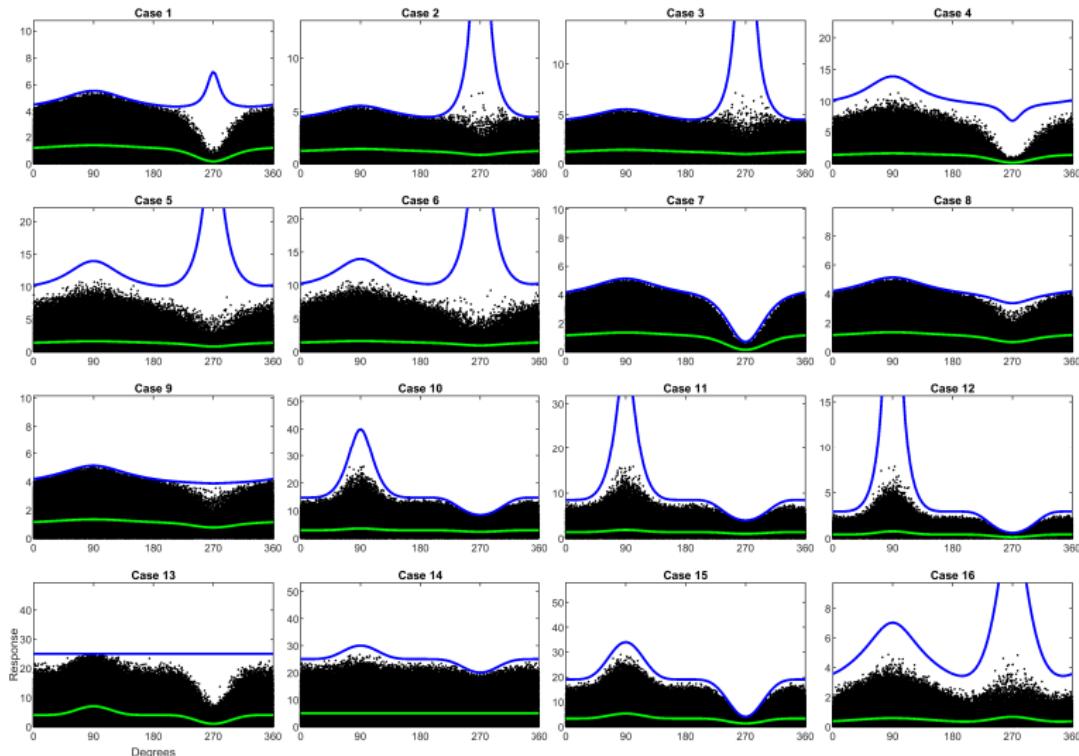
- 2-D tensor product P-spline bases for same northern North Sea location
- Marginal posterior median estimates (plus posterior density for  $\tau$ )

# Case studies



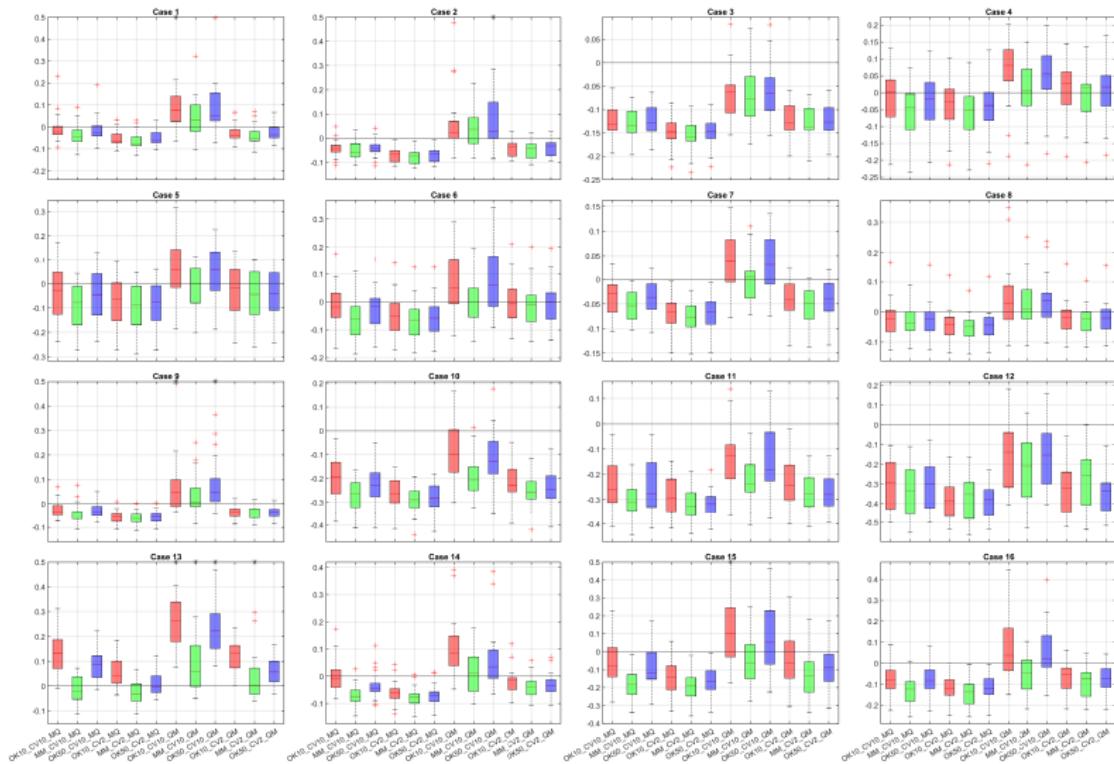
- Small samples

# Case studies



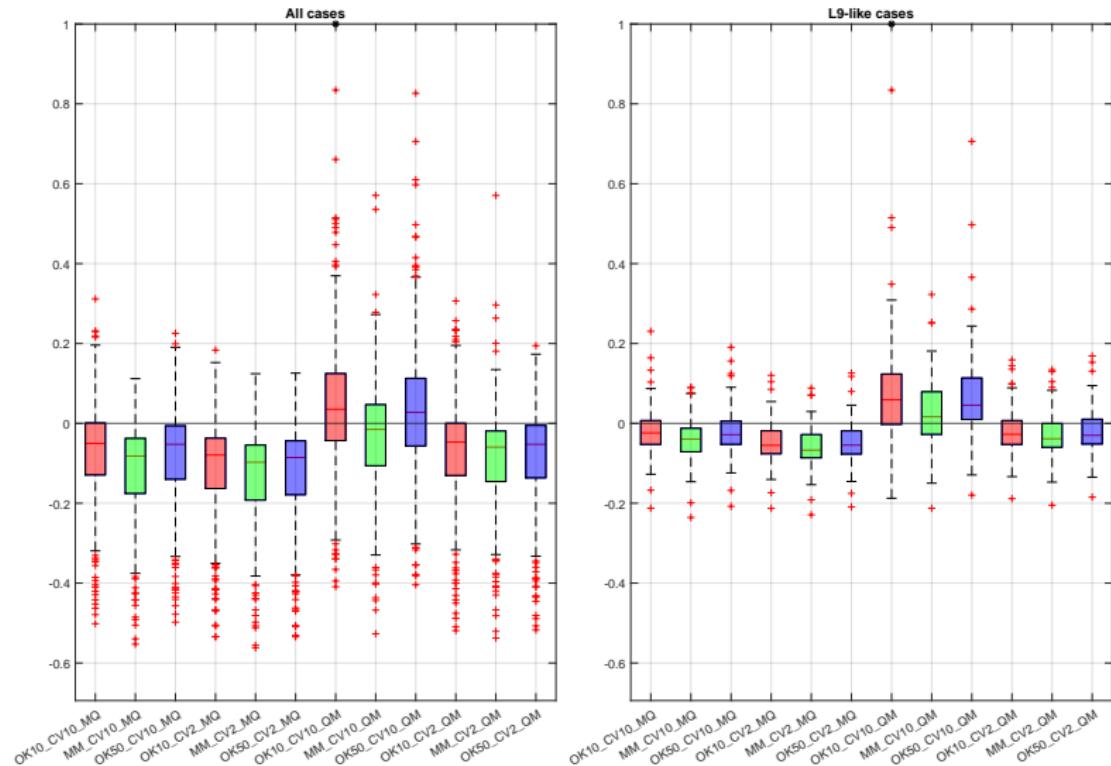
- Large samples

## Case studies



- Performance by case

# Case studies



- Aggregate performance

# Extremal vector auto-regression (EVAR) for within-storm evolution

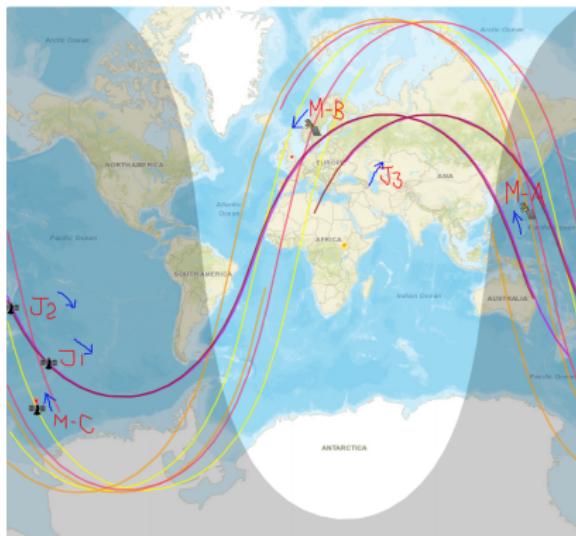
## Context: unconditional distribution of loading

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_Y(\mathbf{y}) &= \int_{\zeta} \int_{(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, \tau)} \int_{\mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}}} \int_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}} \\
 &\times F_{Y|(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, Z}(\mathbf{y} | \{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\Theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, T) | \mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, Z} \left( \{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, \tau | \mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \zeta \right) \\
 &\times f_{\mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}}, Z}(\mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}}, \zeta) \\
 &\times f_{\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{\text{sp}} | Z}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}} | \zeta) \\
 &\times f_Z(\zeta) \\
 &\times d\boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{sp}} d\mathbf{x}^{\text{sp}} d(\{(\mathbf{x}_s, \boldsymbol{\theta}_s)\}_{s \in \mathcal{S}_T}, \tau) d\zeta
 \end{aligned}$$

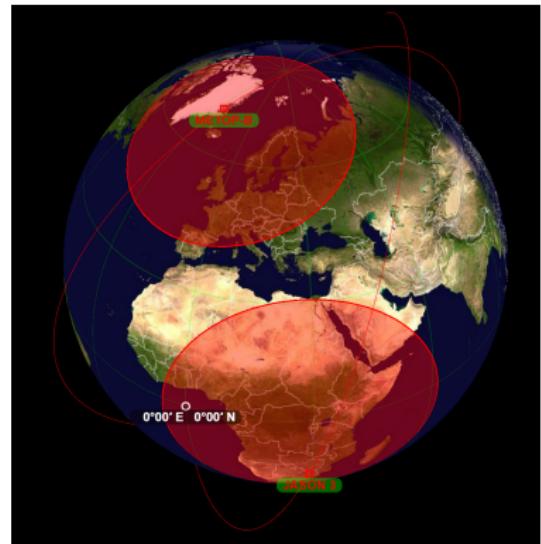
## Models for within-storm evolution

- History matching: Feld et al. [2019], Hansen et al. [2020]
- Extreme value time-series model (an extension of **conditional extremes**): Tendijck et al. [2019], Tendijck et al. [2024]

# JASON and METOP



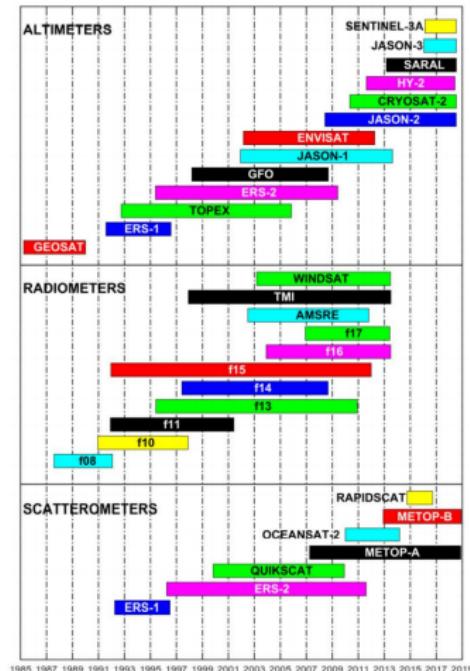
[n2yo.com, accessed 06.09.21 at around 1100UK]



[stltracker.github.io, accessed 27.08.2021 at around 1235UK]

- JASON and METOP similar polar orbits
- JASON all ascending, METOP all descending over North Atlantic
- Joint occurrence of JASON and METOP over North Atlantic rare

# Satellite observation



[Ribal and Young 2019]

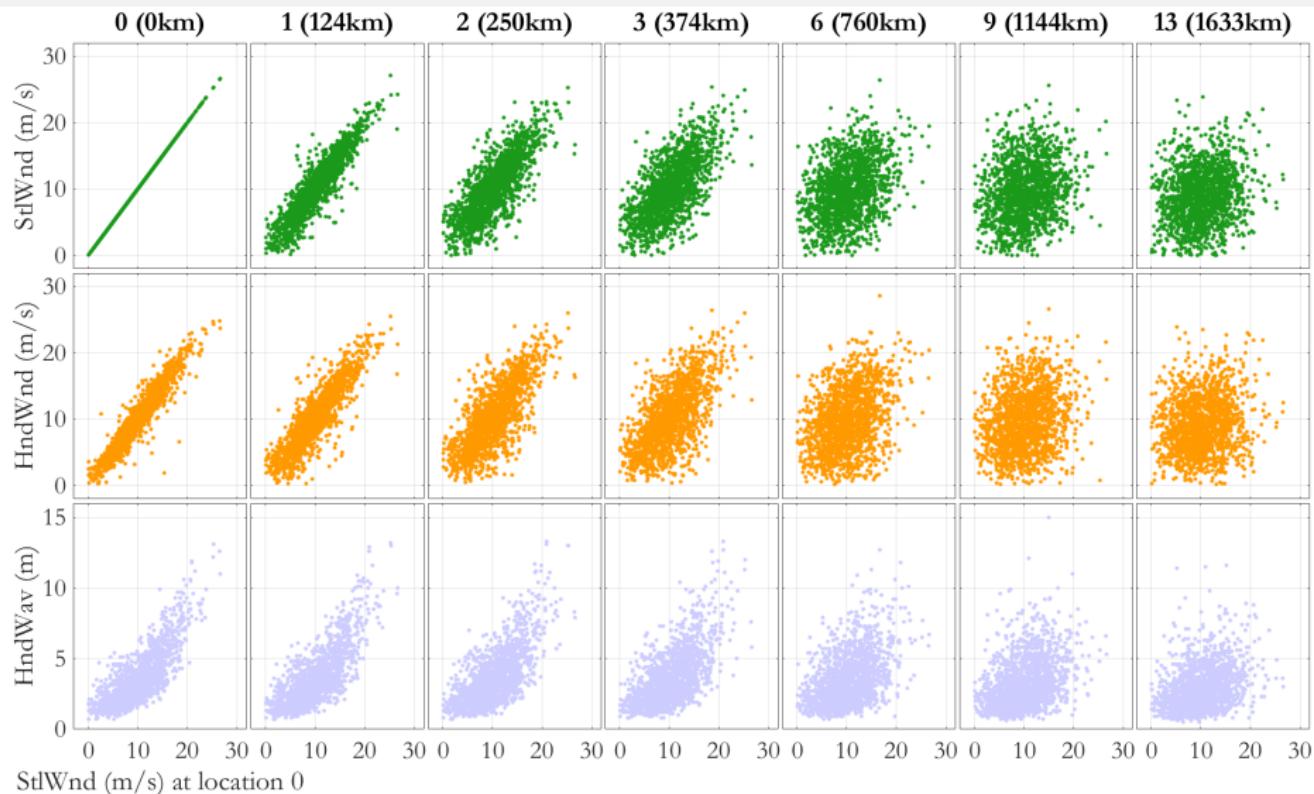
## Features

- Altimetry:  $H_S$  and  $U_{10}$
- Scatterometry: best for  $U_{10}$  and direction
- > 30 years of observations
- Spatial coverage is by no means complete: one observation daily if all well
- Calibration necessary (to buoys and reanalysis datasets, Ribal and Young 2020)
- METOP(-A,-B,-C) since 2007

$H_S$ : significant wave height (m)

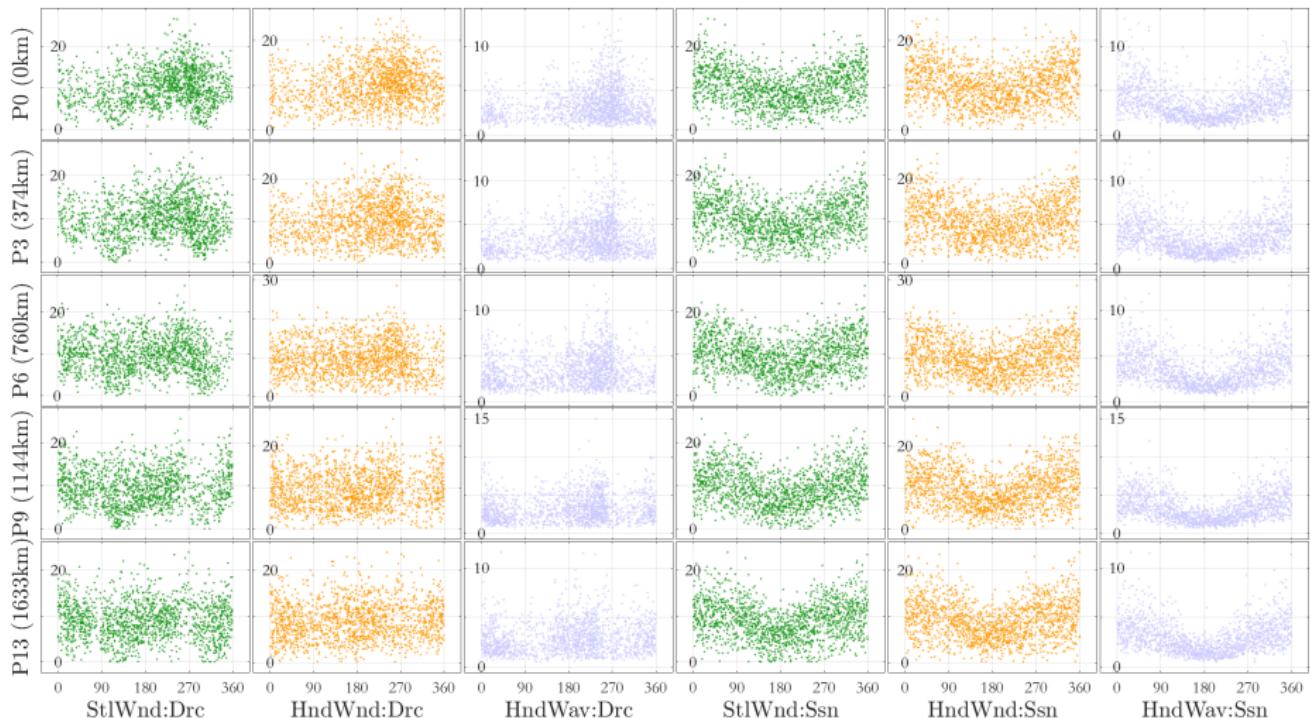
$U_{10}$ : wind speed ( $\text{ms}^{-1}$ ) at 10m (calibrated to 10-minute average wind speed)

# Scatter plots on physical scale



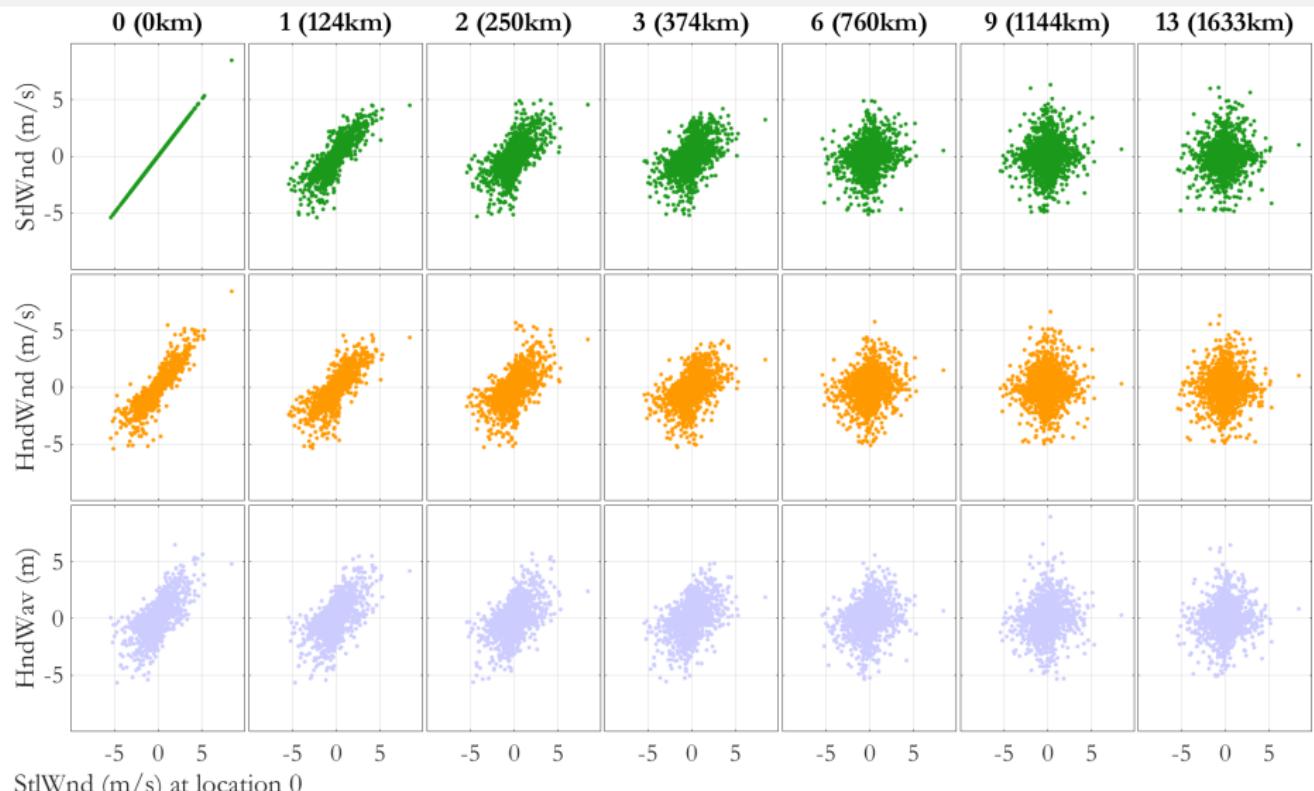
Scatter plots of registered data : StlWnd (green), HndWnd (orange), HndWav(blue)

# Covariate dependence on physical scale



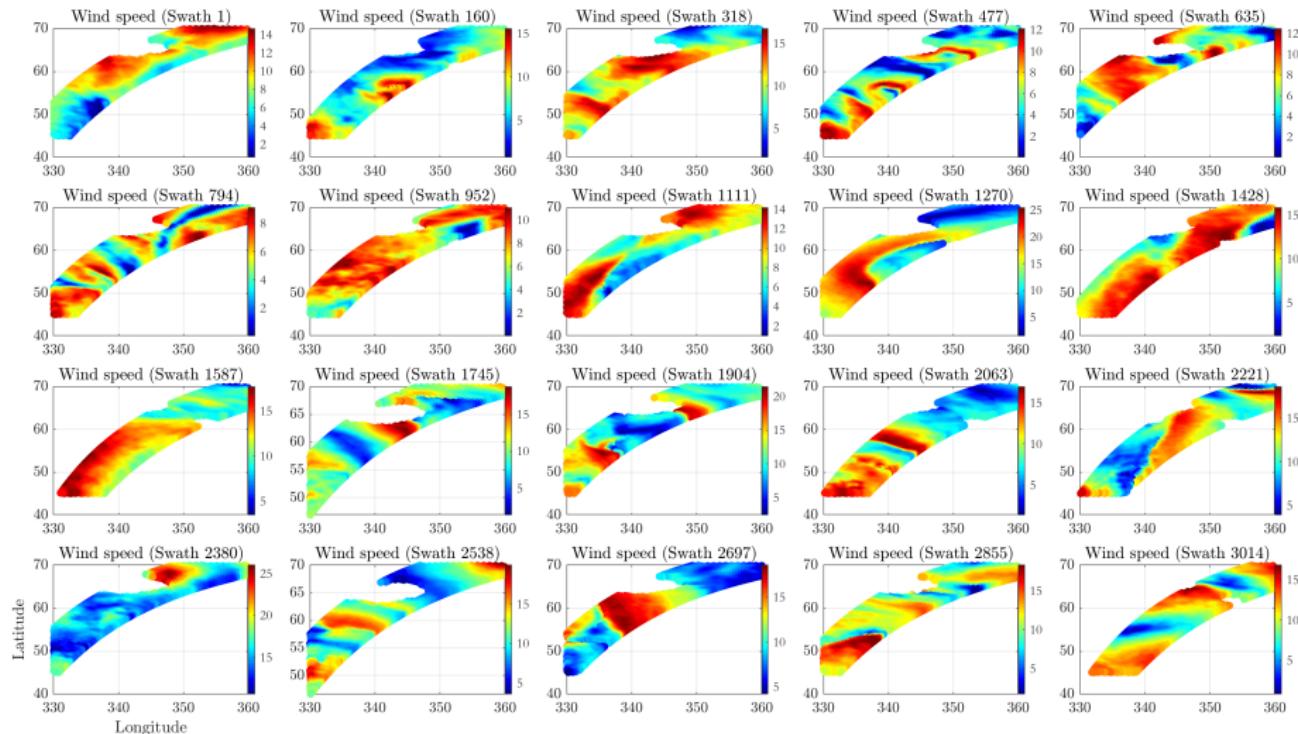
Directional and seasonal dependence. "Direction" is that from which fluid flows measured clockwise from North  
StlWnd (green), HndWnd (orange), HndWav(blue)

# Scatter plots on Laplace scale



Registered data on Laplace scale: StdWnd (green), HndWnd (orange), HndWav(blue)

# Swath wind speeds



Daily descending METOP swaths. Satellite swath location changes over time. Spatial structure evident

# Inference

$$X_{jk} \sim \text{Lpl}, \quad x > u, \quad X| \{X_{01} = x\} = \alpha x + x^\beta Z, \quad Z \sim \text{DL}(\mu, \sigma^2, \delta; \Sigma(\lambda, \rho, \kappa))$$

- Delta-Laplace residual margins

$$f_{Z_{j,k}}(z_{j,k}) = \frac{\delta_{j,k}}{2\kappa_{j,k}\sigma_{j,k}\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{\delta_{j,k}}\right)} \exp\left\{-\left|\frac{z - \mu_{j,k}}{\kappa_{j,k}\sigma_{j,k}}\right|^{\delta_{j,k}}\right\}, \quad \kappa_{j,k}^2 = \Gamma\left(1/\delta_{j,k}\right)/\Gamma\left(3/\delta_{j,k}\right)$$

- Gaussian residual dependence

$$\Sigma_{\mathcal{A}^*(j,k)\mathcal{A}^*(j',k')}^* = \lambda_{k,k'}^{|k-k'|} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{\text{dist}(r_j, r_{j'})}{\rho_{k,k'}}\right)^{\kappa_{k,k'}}\right)$$

- Piecewise linear forms for  $\alpha, \beta, \mu, \sigma, \delta$  with distance using  $n_{\text{Nod}}$  spatial nodes
- Adaptive MCMC, Roberts and Rosenthal [2009]
- Total of  $m(5n_{\text{Nod}} + (3m + 1)/2)$  parameters
- Rapid convergence, 10k iterations sufficient

# Generalised extreme value distribution

- $F_X^n$  is the distribution of the maximum of  $n$  independent draws of  $X$
- If  $F_X^n$  “looks like”  $F_X^{n'}$ , we say  $F_X$  is **max-stable**
- More formally,  $F_X$  is max-stable if there exist sequences of constants  $a_n > 0, b_n$ , and **non-degenerate**  $G_\xi$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_X^n(a_n x + b_n) = G_\xi(x)$$

- We say  $F_X \in D(G_\xi)$  or that  $F_X$  lies in the **max-domain of attraction** of  $G_\xi$
- The Fisher–Tippett–Gnedenko theorem states that  $G_\xi$  is the generalised extreme value distribution with parameter  $\xi$

$$G_\xi(y) = \exp\left(- (1 + \xi y)^{-1/\xi}\right), \quad \xi \in \mathbb{R}$$

- For large  $n$ , makes sense to model **block maxima** of  $n$  iid draws using  $G_\xi$  (with  $(x - \mu)/\sigma$  in place of  $y$  above)

# Multivariate extreme value distribution (MEVD)

- $\mathbf{X}_i = (X_{i1}, \dots, X_{ij}, \dots, X_{ip})$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  iid  $p$ -vectors, distribution  $F$
- $M_{n,j} = \max_i X_{ij}$ , component-wise maximum
- The component-wise maximum is not “observed” (especially as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ )
- Then for  $Z_{n,j} = (M_{n,j} - b_{n,j})/a_{n,j}$ , normalised with scaling constants:

$$\mathbb{P}(Z \leq z) = F^n(a_n z + b_n) \rightarrow G(z) \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

- Non-degenerate  $G(z)$  must be max-stable, so  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, \exists \alpha_k > 0, \beta_k$  s.t.

$$G^k(\alpha_k z + \beta_k) = G(z)$$

- We say  $F \in D(G)$
- Margins  $G_1, \dots, G_p$  are unique GEV, but  $G(z)$  is **not unique**

# MEVD on common margins

- On standard Fréchet margins with pseudo-polars  $(r, w)$

$$G(z) = \exp(-V(z))$$

with  $V(z) = \int_{\Delta} \max_j \left\{ \frac{w_j}{z_j} \right\} S(dw), \quad \text{on } \Delta = \{w \in \mathbb{R}^p : \|w\| = 1\}$

and  $1 = \int_{\Delta} w_j S(dw), \quad \forall j$ , for **angular measure**  $S$

- Condition of **multivariate regular variation**, MRV

$$\frac{1 - F(tx)}{1 - F(t\mathbf{1})} \rightarrow \lambda(x) \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty, x \in \mathbb{R}^p$$

useful to prove that  $F \in D(G)$  for some MEVD  $G$

- Lots more

## Asymptotic dependence ... admitted by MEVD

- On uniform margins

$$\chi(u) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(U > u, V > u)}{\mathbb{P}(U > u)} = \frac{\bar{C}(u, u)}{1 - u} \rightarrow \chi \text{ as } u \rightarrow 1$$

- $\chi = 1$  perfect dependence
- $\chi \in (0, 1)$  **asymptotic dependence**, AD
- $\chi = 0$  perfect independence

$$\theta(u) = \frac{\log \mathbb{P}(U \leq u, V \leq u)}{\log \mathbb{P}(U \leq u)} = \frac{\log C(u, u)}{\log u} \rightarrow \theta \text{ as } u \rightarrow 1$$

- $\theta = 2 - \chi$
- $\chi$  and  $\theta$  describe AD
- MEVD admits AD

## Asymptotic independence ... not admitted by MEVD

- On uniform margins

$$\bar{\chi}(u) = 2 \frac{\log \mathbb{P}(U > u)}{\log \mathbb{P}(U > u, V > u)} - 1 = 2 \frac{\log(1-u)}{\log \bar{C}(u,u)} - 1 \rightarrow \bar{\chi} \text{ as } u \rightarrow 1$$

- $\bar{\chi} = 1$  perfect dependence and AD
- $\bar{\chi} \in (0, 1)$  asymptotic independence, AI
- $\bar{\chi} = 0$  perfect independence
- On Fréchet margins ( $F(z) = \exp(-z^{-1})$ ), assume

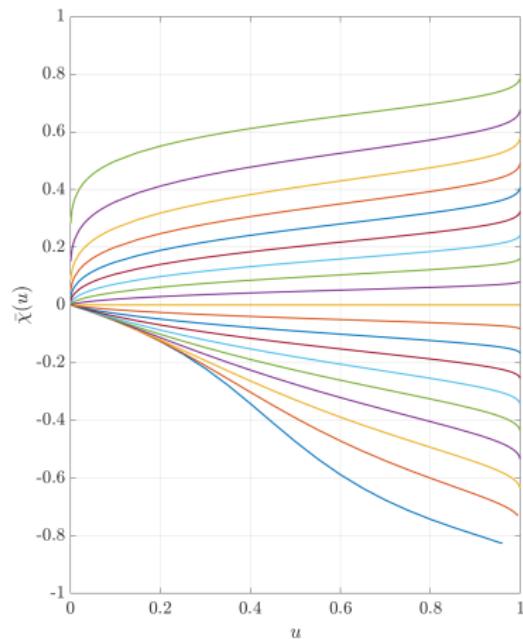
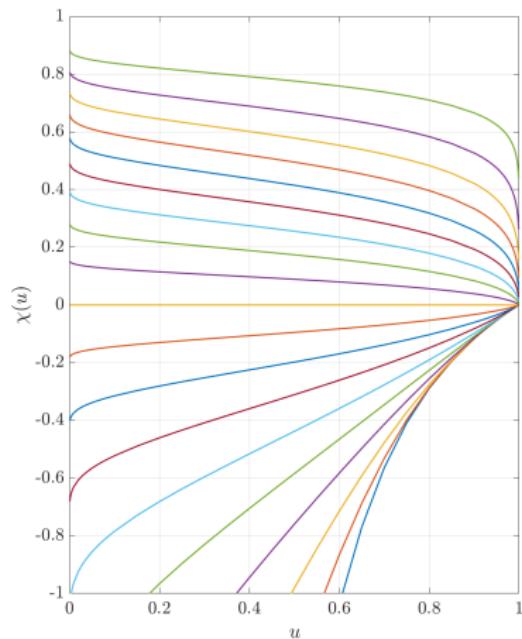
$$\frac{\mathbb{P}(Z_1 > z, Z_2 > z)}{(\mathbb{P}(Z_1 > z))^{1/\eta}} = \mathcal{L}(z)$$

where  $\mathcal{L}$  is slowly varying :  $\mathcal{L}(xz)/\mathcal{L}(z) \rightarrow 1$  as  $z \rightarrow \infty$

- $\bar{\chi} = 2\eta - 1$
- Idea : use non-extreme value copulas or inverted EV copulas
- Also  $\mathbb{P}(Z_2 > z | Z_1 > z) \approx Cz^{1-1/\eta}$  from above
- Idea : assume a max-stable-like normalisation for conditional extremes

## Extremal dependence (bivariate Gaussian)

- Many (almost all?) environmental extremes problems involve asymptotic independence, at least in part ... bivariate Gaussian is one example!



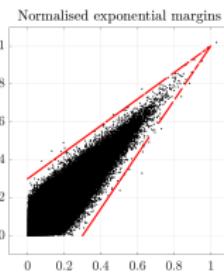
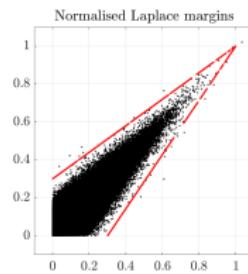
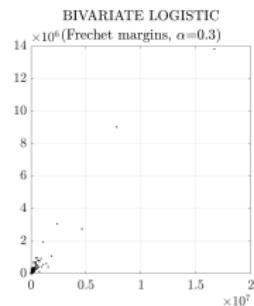
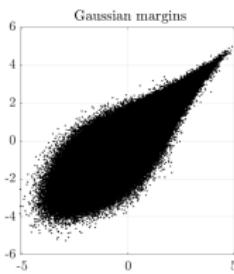
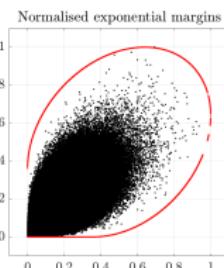
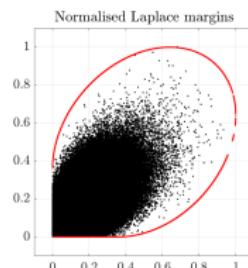
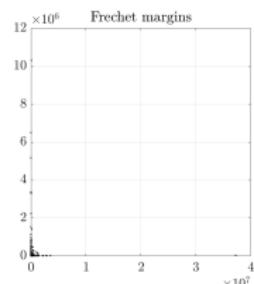
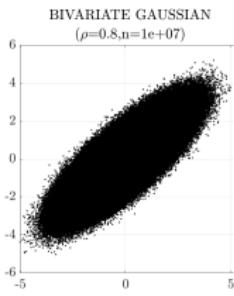
$\chi(u)$  and  $\bar{\chi}(u)$  for bivariate Gaussian ( $\Rightarrow \chi = 0, \bar{\chi} = \rho$ )

Colours are correlations  $\rho$  on  $-0.9, -0.8, \dots, 0.9$  (Recreated from Coles et al. 1999)

# Limit sets

## Intuition

- Transform your sample  $X$  (empirically) to certain standard margins  $X_S$  (e.g. Laplace or exponential)
- Divide each value of  $X_S$  by a simple known function of  $n$  (like  $\log(n/2)$  for Laplace) appropriate for that marginal scale
- The normalised values must be contained within a limit set in red below (which you can work out from theory)
- The cloud shape reveals dependence structure (e.g. AI (top) or AD (bottom))
- Value of HT  $\alpha$  where red curve touches  $y = 1$  or  $x = 1$



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