

Extreme Value Theory

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Lecture Topic

- Asymptotic model for Extreme Value Analysis
- Generalized Extreme Value Distribution
- Generalized Pareto Distribution
- Example application



Learning Objectives

At the end of the lecture, you will be able to:

- **LO1. Discuss** extreme events in statistical terms
- **LO2. Calculate** statistical characteristics of extremes
- **LO3. Identify** distribution functions for modelling extremes
- **LO4. Perform** Extreme Value Analysis in a case study



Asymptotic model for Extreme Value Analysis

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Modelling Extremes – asymptotic model

- $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ sequence of independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) random variables (e.g., daily discharge, daily traffic load)
- $F(x)$ distribution function

We are interested in modeling the statistical behavior of

$$M_n = \max(X_1, \dots, X_n)$$

- M_n maximum of the process

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$$\begin{aligned} Pr(M_n \leq x) &= Pr(\max(X) \leq x) \\ &= Pr(X_1 \leq x, \dots, X_n \leq x) \\ &= Pr(X_1 \leq x) \cdot \dots \cdot Pr(X_n \leq x) = F(x)^n \end{aligned}$$

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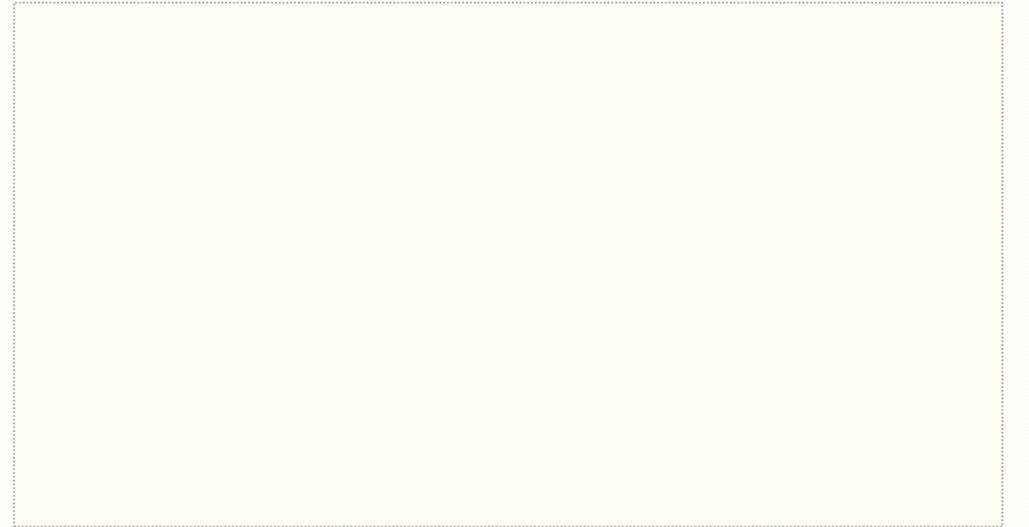
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Example: Estimate $F(x)^n$

- Random generate 100 samples of length $N = 30$ from $N \sim (6, 1)$
- Store the maximum for each sample (x_{\max})
 - *block maximum*

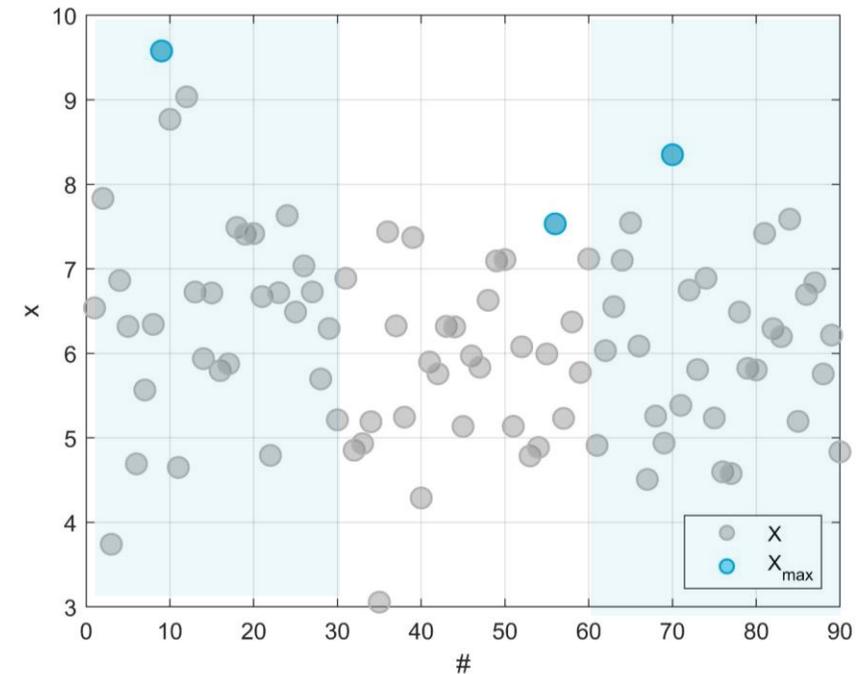
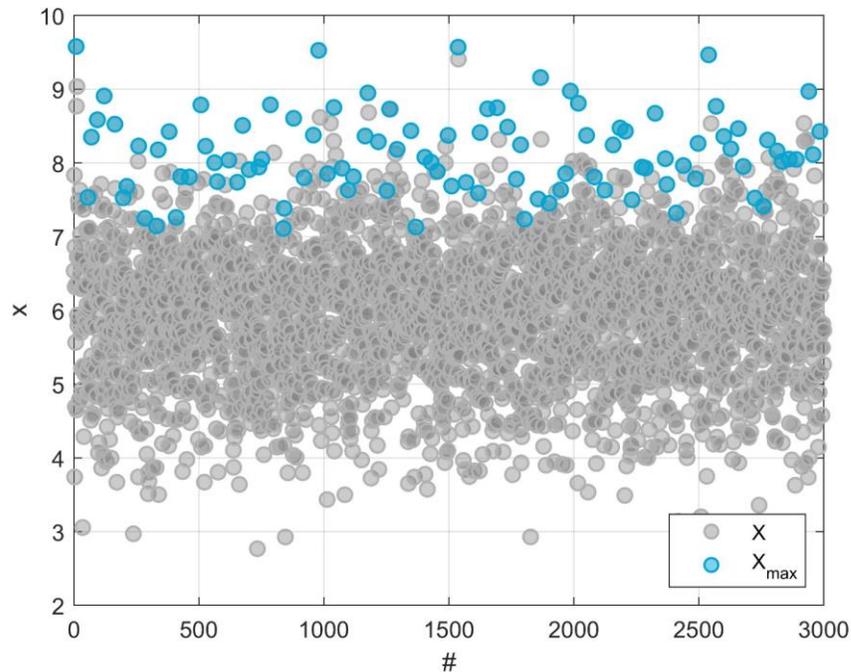


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```
mu      = 6
Sigma   = 1
N       = 30

for i = 1:100
    x(:,i) = normrnd(mu, sigma, N, 1)
    x_max(i) = max(x(:,i))
end
```



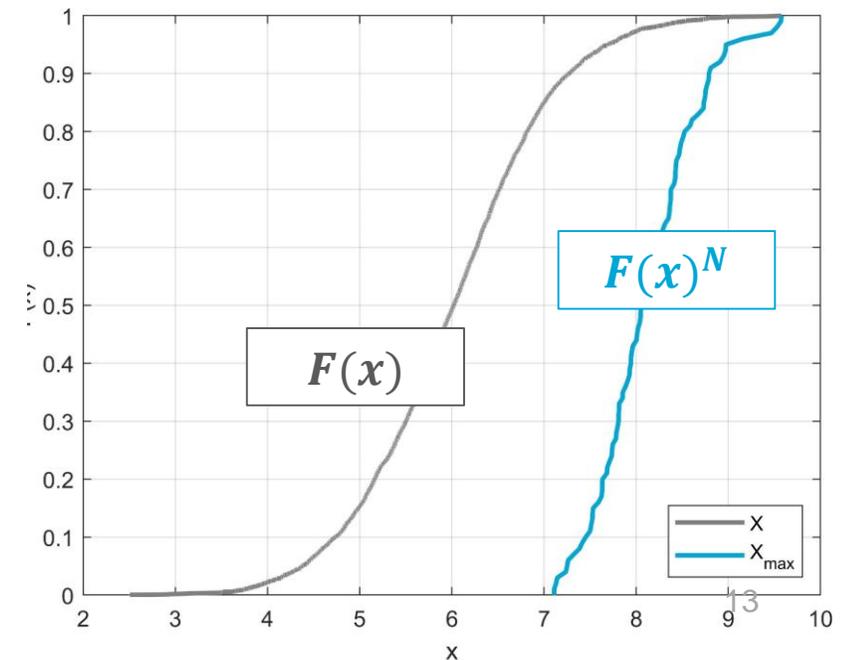
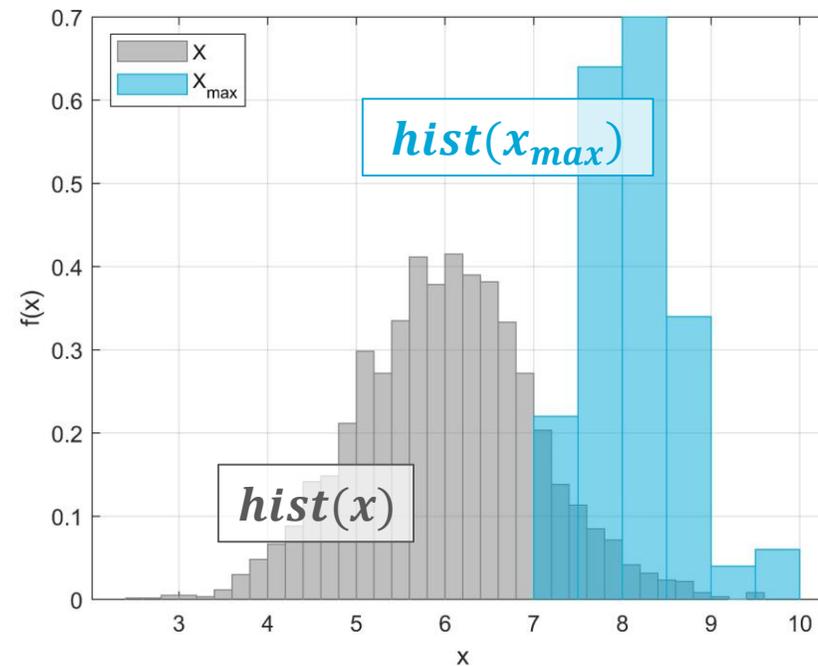
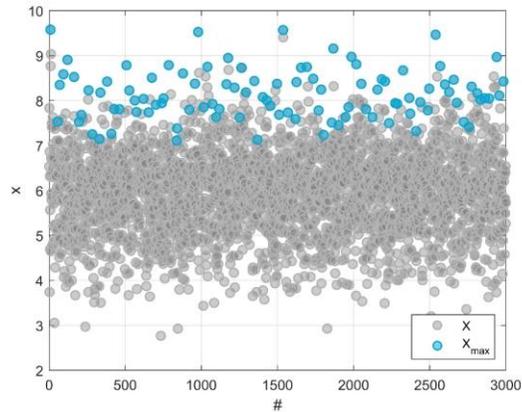
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- Plot the distribution of the maxima

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end

plot histogram(x_max)
plot x_max empirical cdf
```



Generalized Extreme Value Distribution

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Generalized Extreme Value Distribution

- We are interested in modeling the statistical behavior of the maximum of the sequence X_1, \dots, X_n of independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) random variables, $M_n = \max(X_1, \dots, X_n)$, where n is the number of observations in a block (e.g., annual maximum).
- We can prove that, for **large n**

$$\Pr(M_n \leq x) \rightarrow G(x)$$

- Where G belongs to the **Generalized Extreme Value family of distributions** *regardless of the distribution of X*

Generalized Extreme value distribution

GEV for block maxima

$$G(x) = \exp \left\{ - \left[1 + \xi \cdot \left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{\xi}} \right\}, \quad \left(1 + \xi \cdot \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma} \right) > 0$$

parameters: location ($-\infty < \mu < \infty$), scale ($\sigma > 0$), and shape ($-\infty < \xi < \infty$)

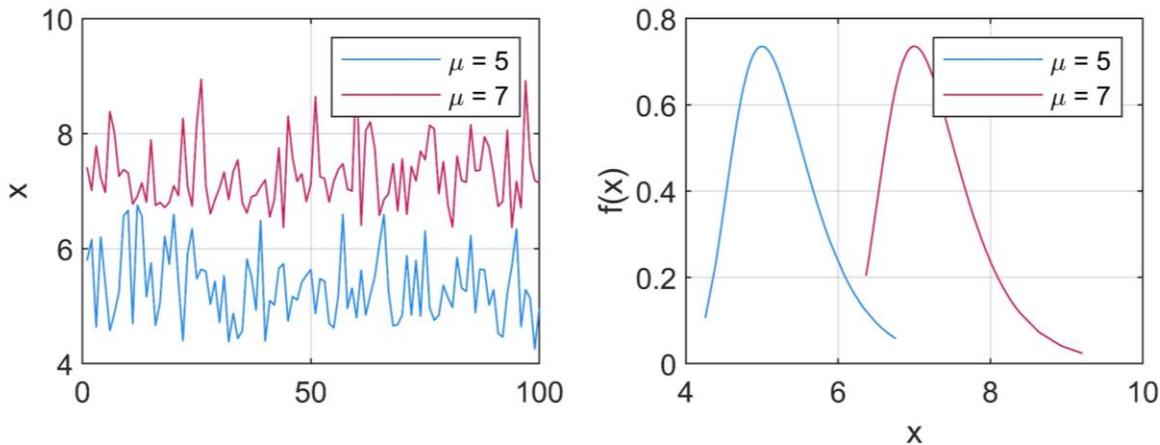
Generalized Extreme value distribution

GEV for block maxima

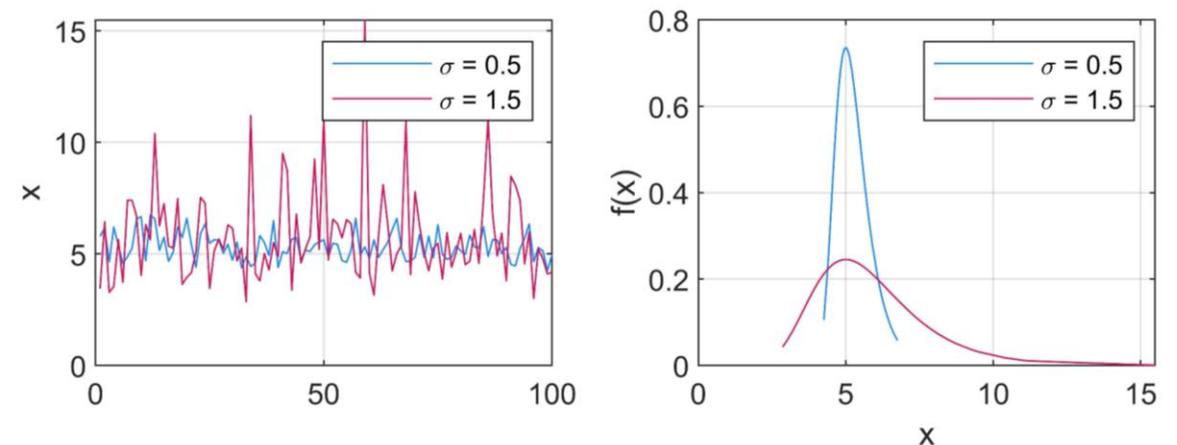
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Location - μ



Scale - σ



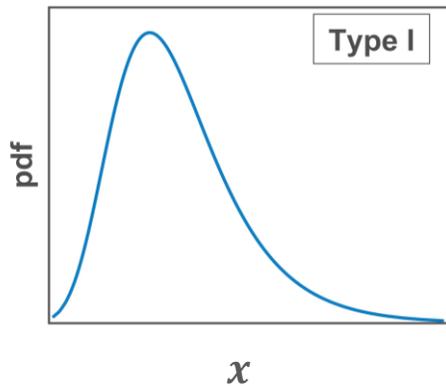
Generalized Extreme value distribution

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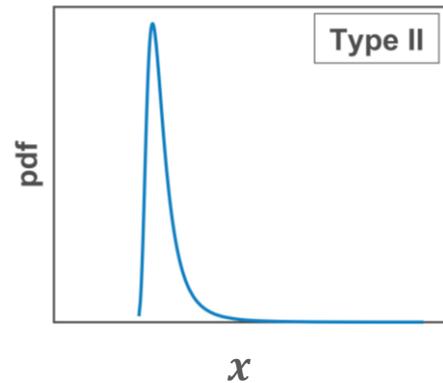
Gumbel



$\xi \rightarrow 0$

Exponential decay

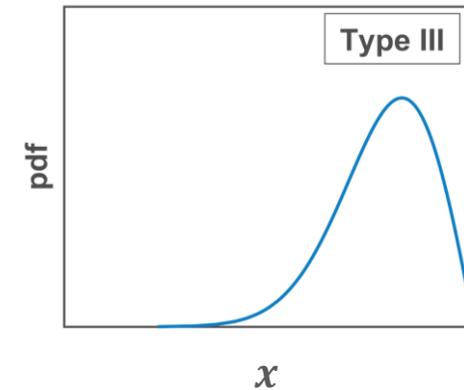
Fréchet



$\xi > 0$

Polynomial decay

Reverse Weibull



$\xi < 0$

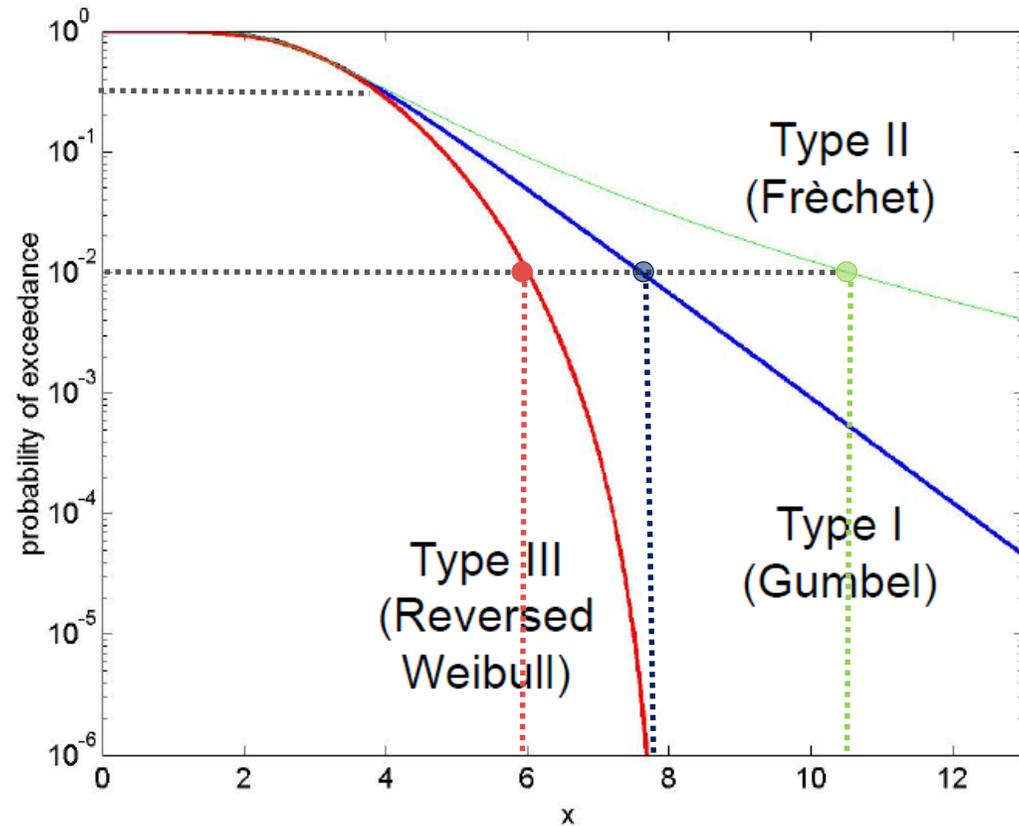
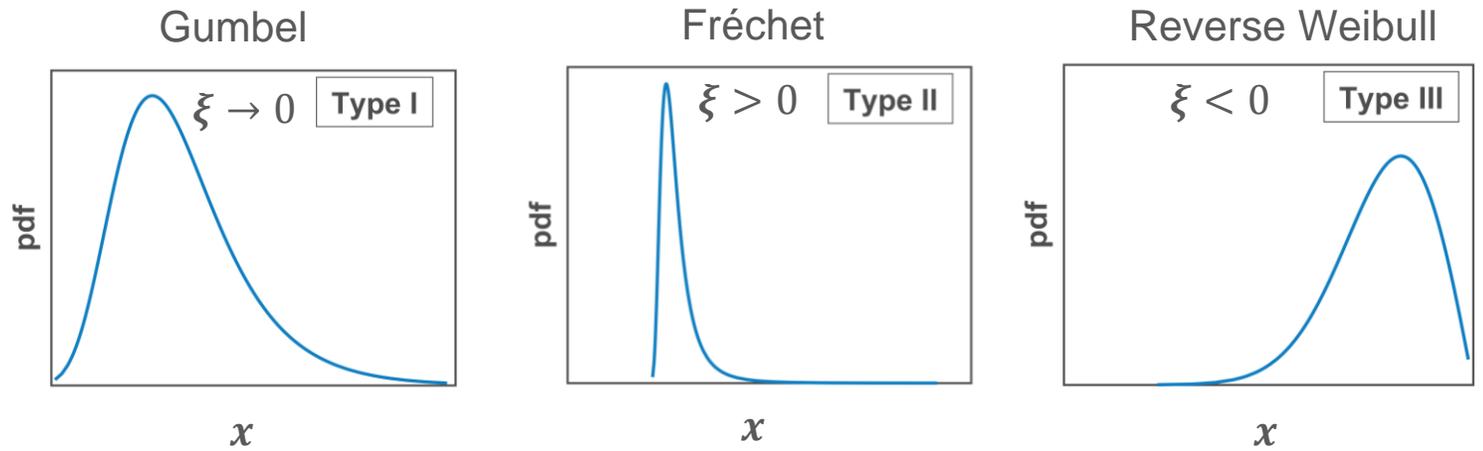
Upper bound ($\mu - \sigma/\xi$)

Exceedance Probability - GEV

The three types behave differently at the tails

This is even more evident for very small probability of exceedance, e.g. event with a very low probability of occurrence

- Gumbel – “Light tail”
- Fréchet – “Heavy tail”
- Weibull - Bounded



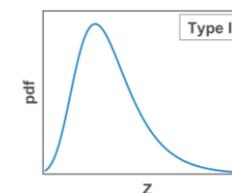
GEV – Domain of Attraction

Parent Distribution

**Asymptotic type maximum
(D.A.)**

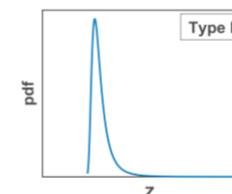
Normal, Exponential, Gamma,
Lognormal, Weibull

Gumbel



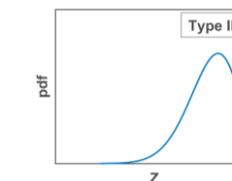
Pareto, Cauchy, Student-t (fat
tail)

Fréchet



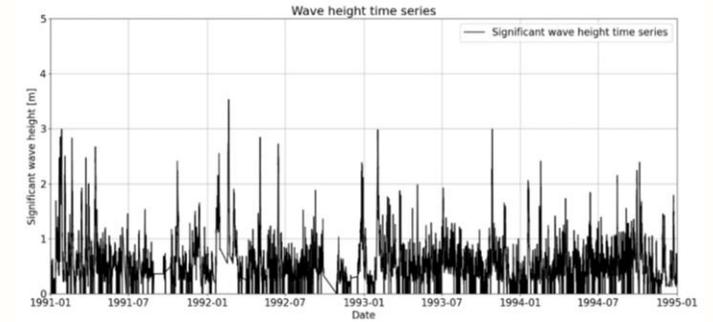
Uniform, Beta (short tail)

Reverse Weibull



Example Case: how big is the 100-year event?

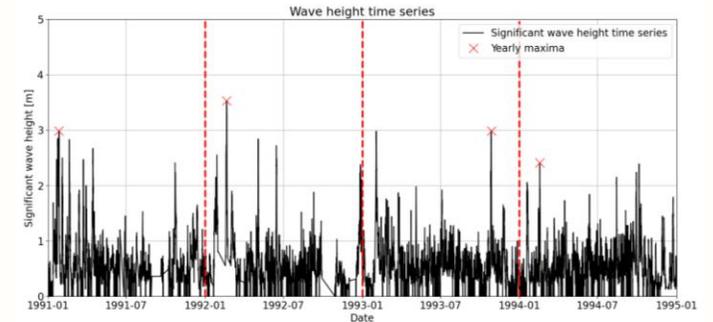
```
>> read observations
```



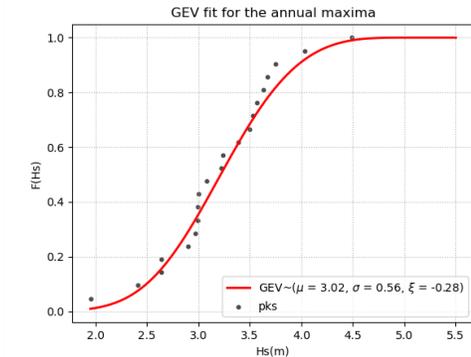
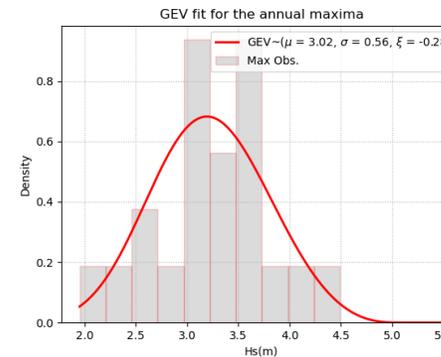
```
>> for each year i
```

```
    OBSmax(i) = max(observations in year i)
```

```
end
```

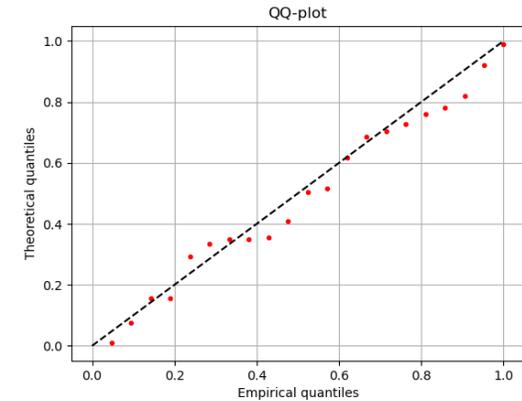


```
>> fit a GEV on OBSmax
```



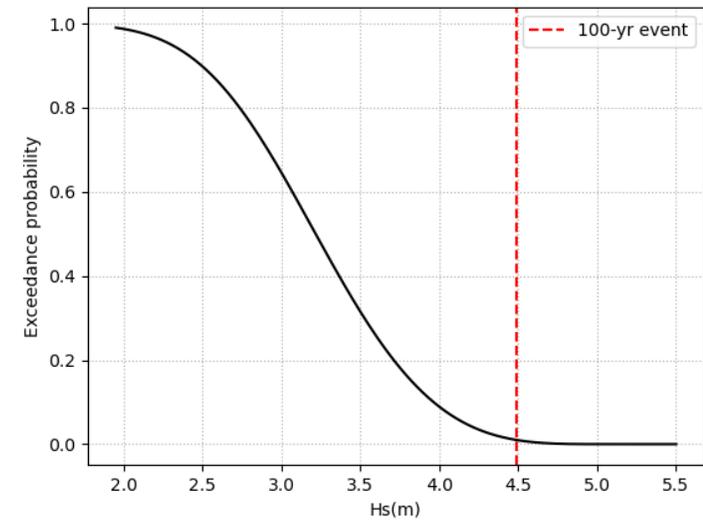
Example Case: how big is the 100-year event?

>> **check** the fit (e.g. QQ-plot)



>> **design event:** inverse of GEV for yearly exceedance probability $p_{ex} = 1/100 = 0.01$

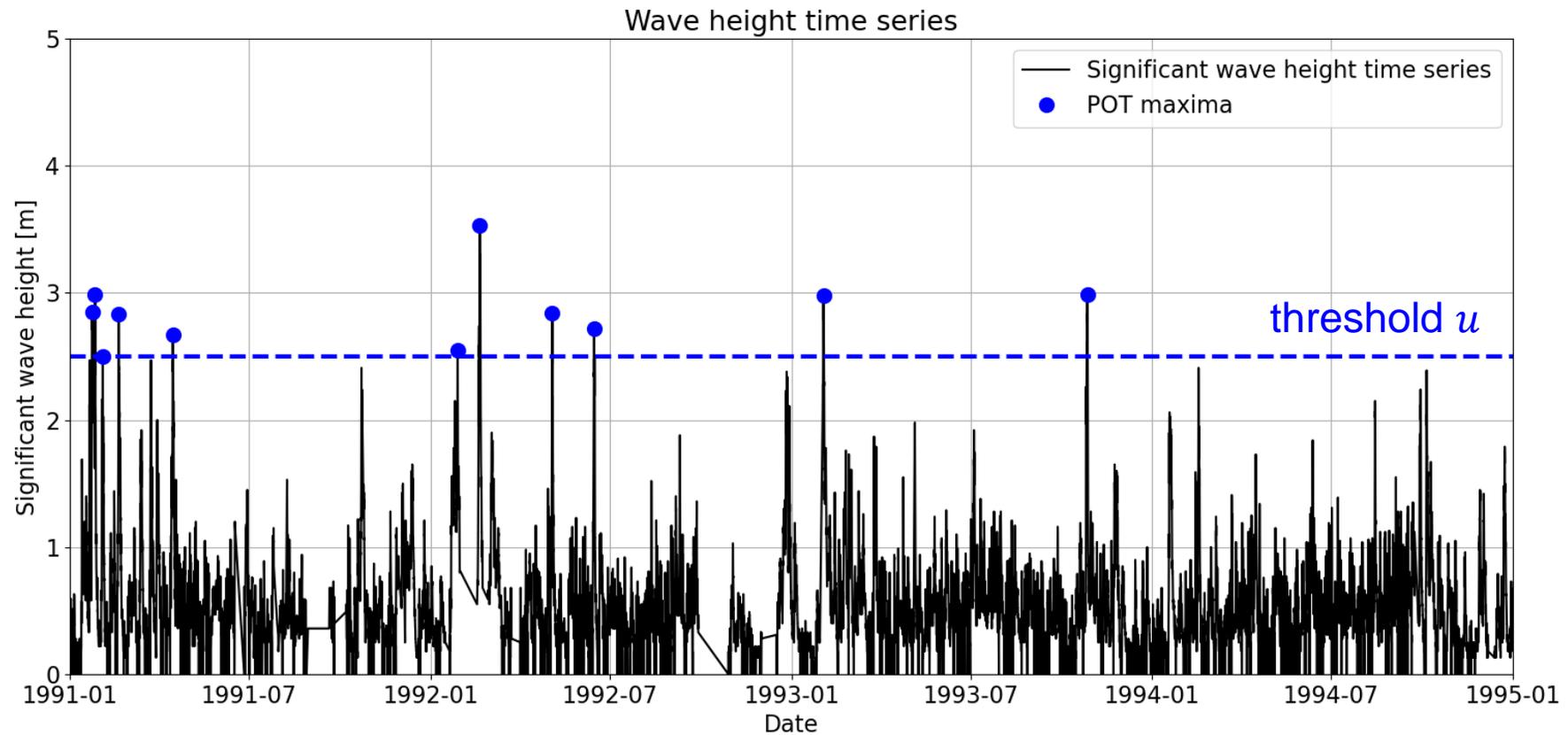
$$z_p = G^{-1}(1 - p_{ex}) = \begin{cases} \mu - \frac{\sigma}{\xi} [1 - \{-\log(1 - p_{ex})\}^{-\xi}], & \text{for } \xi \neq 0 \\ \mu - \sigma \log\{-\log(1 - p_{ex})\}, & \text{for } \xi = 0 \end{cases}$$



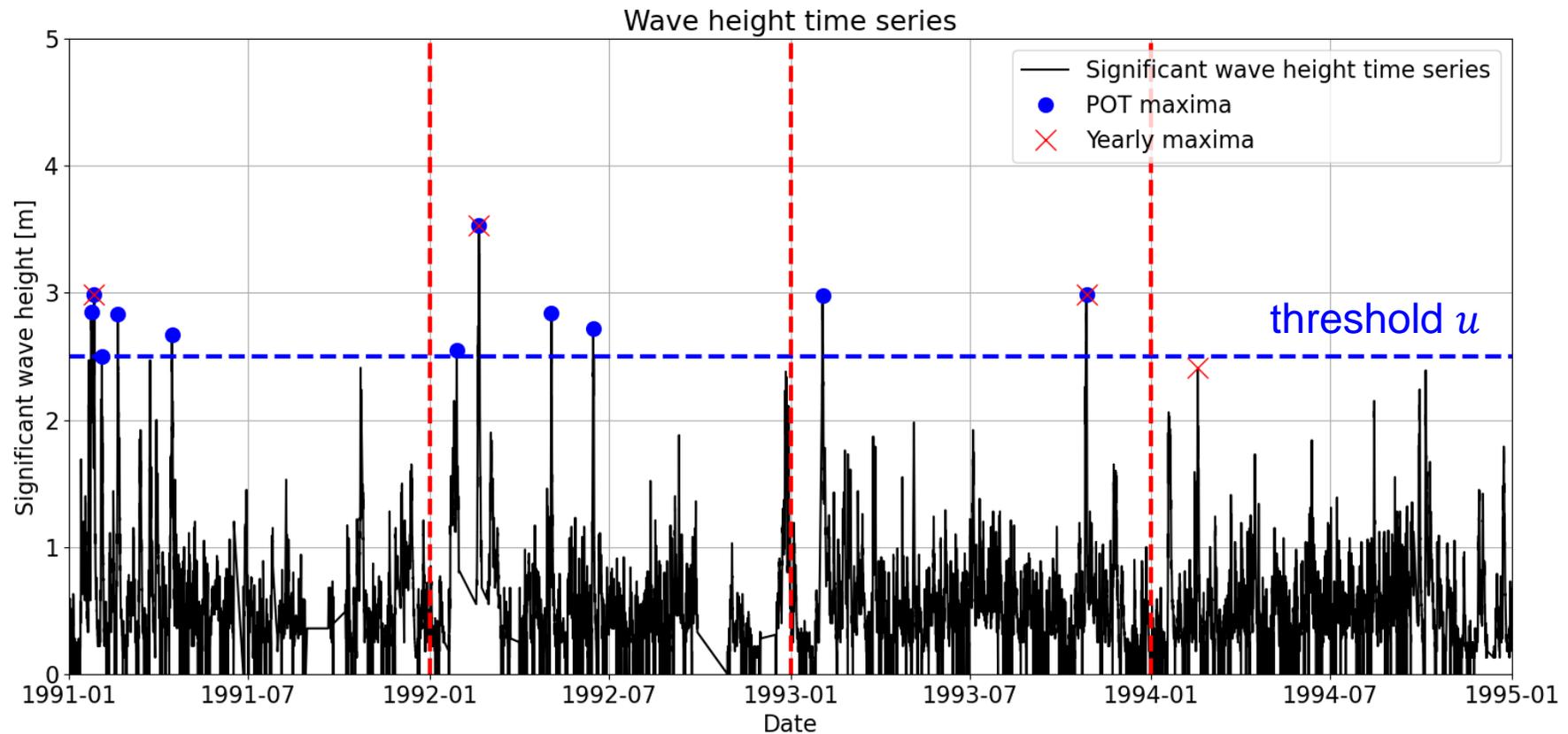
Generalized Pareto Distribution

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Different definition of extreme



Different definition of extreme



Generalized Pareto Distribution

Given, X_1, \dots, X_n a sequence of independent random variables, with a common distribution function $F(x)$, and $M_n = \max(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ so that for large n

$$\Pr(M_n \leq z) \approx G(z)$$

where:

$$G(z) = \exp \left\{ - \left[1 + \xi \cdot \left(\frac{z - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{\xi}} \right\}$$

for $\mu, \xi, \sigma > 0$.

Generalized Pareto

Then, for large enough u

$$\Pr(X - u \leq y \mid X > u) = H(y) = 1 - \left(1 + \frac{\xi \cdot y}{\tilde{\sigma}} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\xi}}$$

defined on $y: y > 0, 1 + \left(\frac{\xi \cdot y}{\tilde{\sigma}} \right) > 0$, and $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma + \xi \cdot (u - \mu)$

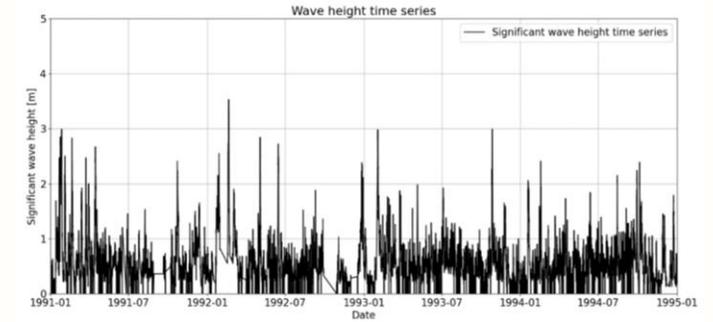
Generalized Pareto Distribution

Important aspects to keep in mind when working with POT

- Threshold selection
- Excesses
 - independent
 - Poisson process
- Pareto distribution conditional probability:
 - $Pr(X < x) = P(X > u) \cdot Pr(X < x | X > u) = \zeta_u \cdot \left(1 - \left(1 + \frac{\xi \cdot (x - u)}{\sigma}\right)^{-\frac{1}{\xi}}\right)$
- On average more than one excesses per year

Example Case: how big is the 100-year event?

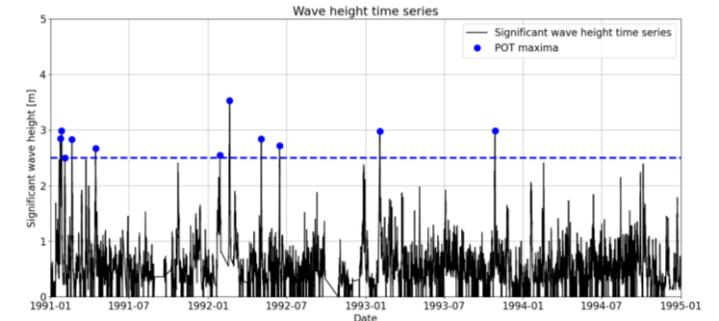
>> read observations



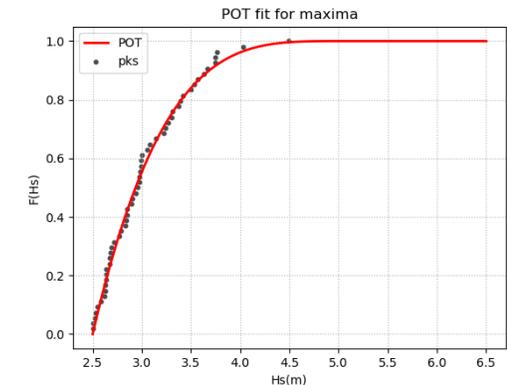
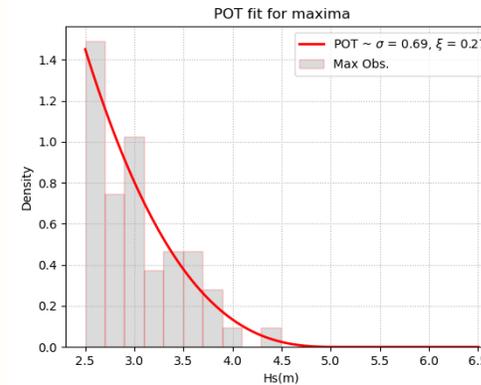
>> select Excesses = (OBS > U) - U

Important to consider also

- Threshold selection ($u = 2.5$ m)
- Declustering time (storm duration 2 days)

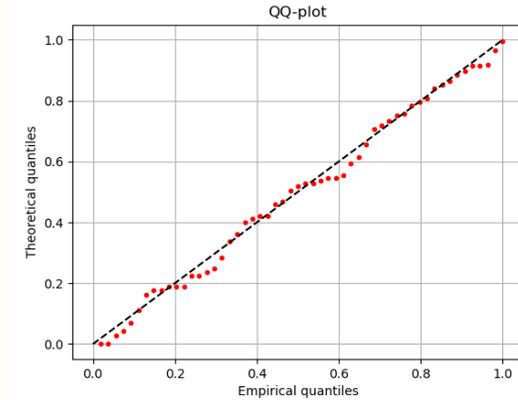


>> fit a GP on Excesses



Example Case: how big is the 100-year event?

>> **check** the fit (e.g. QQ-plot)



>> **design event:** inverse of GP for exceedance probability corresponding to 100 yr return period

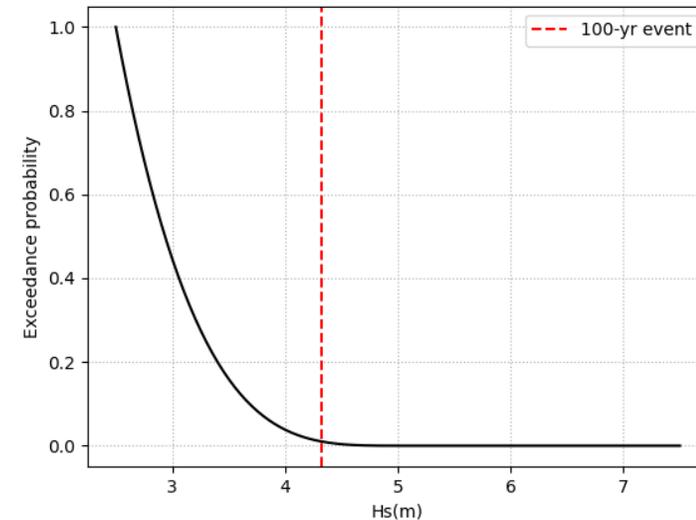
probability of exceedance must be adjusted depending on the number of exceedance per year:

$$\gg T_{adj} = T * (n_y * N_{Excesses} / N_{OBS})$$

Design value:

$$\gg Z_{crt} = U + \sigma * \log(T_{adj}) \text{ if } \xi = 0$$

$$\gg Z_{crt} = U + \sigma / \xi * ((T_{adj})^{\xi} - 1) \text{ otherwise}$$



Model Selection

When selecting a model:

- Number of observations used
- Results of GoF tests
- Uncertainty

