# Goodness of fit

Oswaldo Morales Napoles Patricia Mares Nasarre





#### Goodness of fit

- Fit a statistical model to data
- See for example likelihood lecture
- How "good" is our model?
- Assess through goodness of fit techniques
- Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) test
- Graphical methods (not in detail in this lecture)





### KS statistic

- $D_n = \sup_x |\hat{F}(x) F(x)|$
- $\hat{F}(x)$  is the empirical cumulative distribution
  - (# samples ≤ x) / n
- F(x) is some parametric cumulative distribution
- The statistic is (roughly) the maximum distance between  $\hat{F}(x)$  and F(x)





# KS statistic (example)

- $X = \{19.54; 9.12; 11.89; -0.29; 2.65; 3.63; 10.49; 3.61; 8.50; -5.25; ... 3.23; 0.88; -2.88; 7.53; 6.40; 5.16; -1.66; 10.63; 6.75; 3.50\}$
- $D_n = \sup_x |\hat{F}(x) F(x)| \approx 0.1054$
- Test statistic not enough.
- Formal hypothesis test
  - $H_0: \hat{F} \sim F$  ( $\hat{F}$  has the same distribution as F)





## KS statistic (example)

- Formal hypothesis test
  - $H_0: \widehat{F} \sim F$  ( $\widehat{F}$  has the same distribution as F)
- The distribution of  $D_n$  is required
  - Implemented in statistical software
  - For different cases
- We cannot reject  $H_0$  for a N(5.17, 5.76)





# KS statistic (example)

- Formal hypothesis test
  - $H_0: \widehat{F} \sim F$  ( $\widehat{F}$  has the same distribution as F)
- The distribution of  $D_n$  is required
  - Implemented in statistical software
- **Can** reject  $H_0$  for an Exp(12)
  - No reason to believe sample comes from an Exp(12) distribution





### KS remarks

- Formal hypothesis test
- Relatively easy to understand (Relatively intuitive)
- Widely used & implemented in statistical software
- Many other methods available. For example:
  - Graphical GOF techniques



# **Graphical procedures**

- Graphical procedures:
  - data presentation
  - confirmation of analysis



Source: https://monsterwriterblog.wordpress.com/category/how-to-perform-visual-assessment/



# **Graphical procedures**

- Graphical procedures:
  - data presentation
  - confirmation of analysis
- Two techniques here:
  - QQ-plot
  - Probability plot



Source: https://monsterwriterblog.wordpress.com/category/how-to-perform-visual-assessment/



# QQ-plot

- X-axis: quantiles of the observations
  X = {19.54;9.12;11.89;-0.29;2.65;3.63;10.49; ...
  3.61;8.50;-5.25;3.23;0.88;-2.88;7.53;6.40; ...
  5.16:-1.66;10.63;6.75;3.50}
- Y-axis: quantiles predicted by the fitted distribution, N(5.17,5.76) or Exp(-5.25, 0.10)
- Perfect fit: 45-degrees line





### Probability plot

 Grid of one axis is adapted to a theoretical distribution function, so when it is plotted, a line is obtained.







Source: https://stats.stackexchange.com/questions/554193/whatdetermines-y-axis-scaling-on-a-normal-probability-plot





# Probability plot

- Grid of one axis is adapted to a theoretical distribution function, so when it is plotted, a line is obtained.
- <u>Example</u>: Exponential cdf

**T**UDelft

$$F(x)=1-\exp(-\lambda(x-\mu)) \rightarrow \ln[1-F(x)]=-\lambda(x-\mu)$$

•  $\ln[1-F(x)]$  vs. x  $\longrightarrow$  Linear relationship



# Probability plot (example)

•  $X = \{19.54; 9.12; 11.89; -0.29; 2.65; 3.63; 10.49; 3.61; 8.50; -5.25; ... 3.23; 0.88; -2.88; 7.53; 6.40; 5.16; -1.66; 10.63; 6.75; 3.50\}$ 

- Fitted *N*(5.17,5.76)
- Fitted Exp(-5.25, 0.10)
- X-axis: In[1-*F*(*x*)]
- Y-axis: x





# Let's get practical

Observations wave height [cm] Europlatform





# Is it a good model?

- Maximum likelihood fit to a Lognormal distr.
  - mean = 127.9,
  - sd = 91.91
  - pdf and cdf
- $P(X>x)=1-F_x(x)$
- Sometimes called
  - Survivor or Reliability function
  - Exceedance probability







# Is it a good model?

- For design purposes
  - Find  $x_{\text{large}}$  s.t.  $P(X > x_{\text{large}}) = 10^{-5}$

- Extrapolate through parametric distribution
  - Lognormal x<sub>large</sub>=15.30m
  - Weibull x<sub>large</sub>=5.95m





## Use common sense!

- Be careful with extrapolation
- "Very large" or "very small" values (tails of the distribution) are extreme values
  - Extreme Value Analysis





### **Final Remarks**

- Good models are those that are useful.
- No model is perfect. If it were, it would not be a model.
- Best check is common sense. A good model is one which provides reasonable useful answers.



Source: https://schoolbag.info/mathematics/numbers/103.html

