



A recurrences based technique for detecting genuine extremes

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Did we use the right approach to extremes?

What we want?

- **Define** when an event is **extreme**.
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What we could do?

- **Link the results to asymptotic theories** verified for toy models.
- **Let the method ensure** that the **data are enough.**

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Simple models and Complex phenomena

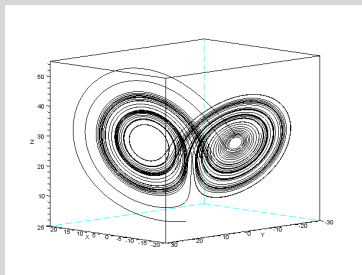


Simple models and Complex phenomena





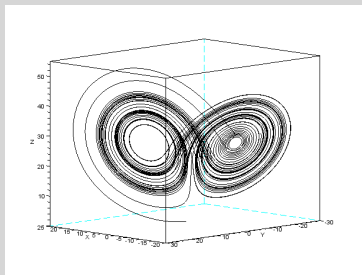
Lorenz attractor



System of ODEs with well known Geometrical (attractor) and Dynamical properties.



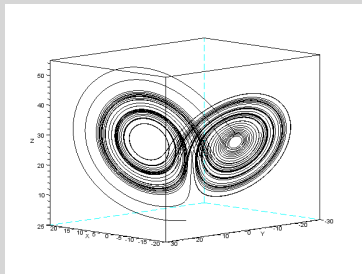
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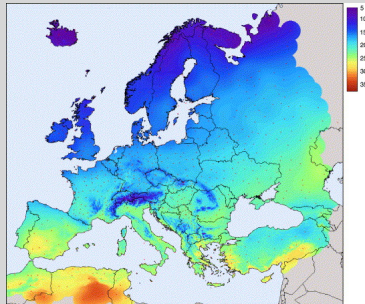


Lorenz attractor



System of ODEs with well known Geometrical (attractor) and Dynamical properties.

Mean daily Temperatures



Complex system living on an **undetermined attractor**. Spatial-temporal chaos.

Common issues in matching models and data



For time series...

- The **attractor** is usually **unknown** i.e. we do not know the **dimension of the phase space**.
- Measurements are perturbed by **instrument errors**.
- **Traditionally**: Pure **statistical approach** for extracting information on the dynamics.

Common issues in matching models and data



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However...

- **Statistical properties** should match some **quantitative properties** of the systems.
- **Low dimensional models** usually provide interesting information about **the dynamics of much complicated systems**.

Goal and instruments

Goal

- **What?** Discriminate real extreme events from normal variability.
- **How?** By defining a rigorous approach to the study the recurrences in time series.
- **Why?** Because the classical definitions are not linked to the dynamics.

Goal and instruments

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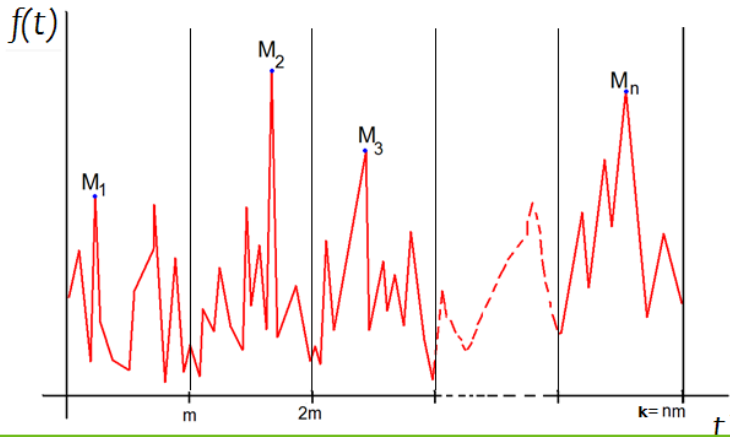
- **What?** Discriminate real extreme events from normal variability.
- **How?** By defining a rigorous approach to the study the recurrences in time series.
- **Why?** Because the classical definitions are not linked to the dynamics.

Theoretical instruments

- **What?** Extreme Value Theory (EVT) of recurrences for dynamical systems
- **How?** By studying the recurrences of time series like they are output of perturbed dynamical systems.
- **Why?** Because this technique provides a self-consistent check of the convergence to the expected values and does not depend on the phase space dimension.

How to select the Extremes

Time series whose maxima can be extracted at **fixed time intervals** e.g. annual maxima (minima) or daily maxima (minima).





For **independent and identically distributed variables** (i.i.d.), the cumulative distribution of maxima M_n converges, asymptotically, to the **GEV distribution** (Gnedenko (1943)):

$$F_{GEV}(x; \mu, \sigma, \xi) = \exp \left\{ - \left[1 + \xi \left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \right]^{-1/\xi} \right\}$$

which holds for $1 + \xi(x - \mu)/\sigma > 0$.

- μ is the **location parameter**.



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which holds for $1 + \xi(x - \mu)/\sigma > 0$.

- μ is the **location parameter**.
- σ is the **scale parameter**.
- ξ discriminates the **type of distribution**:
 - $\xi \rightarrow 0$: Type 1 (Exponential tails) - **Gumbel**
 - $\xi > 0$: Type 2 (Power law tails) - **Fréchet**
 - $\xi < 0$: Type 3 (Tails bounded from above) - **Weibull**.



Consider a **discrete time dynamical systems**:

$$x_{t+1} = T(x_t) \text{ with } t = 0, 1, 2, \dots \text{ and initial condition } x_0.$$

Mixing Stochastic processes

whose independence among maxima is guaranteed by existence of **mixing conditions**, allow for replacing i.i.d variables

Extreme Values in Dynamical Systems



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Observables of the distances among points of the trajectories

ensure convergences towards the **three different extreme value laws** through special functional forms.



Good observables are functions of the distances in the phase space (Collet, Freitas-Freitas, Todd), e.g.:

$$g_i(y, t) = -\log(\text{dist}(y, \zeta))$$

where $y = T^t(x_0)$ and the point ζ is chosen on the attractor.

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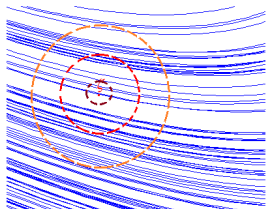
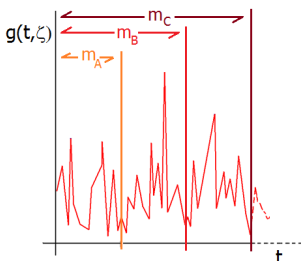
- **The observable function must achieve a global maximum at ζ and be monotonically decreasing.**
- By choosing the logarithm we **fix the asymptotic EVL to be type 1:**

$$\xi = 0 \quad \sigma = 1/D$$

A geometric perspective



The link with the geometry is evident:
Maxima of $g_i(t, x_0, \zeta) = -\log(\text{dist}(T^t(x_0), \zeta))$ are entrances in a ball centred in ζ .



GEV distributions are given in terms of the mass of the ball: this explains why the parameters depend on the **local dimension** (Lucarini et al (2012)).

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Dynamical noise

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Observational noise

- It is the effect of the combined **accuracy and precision** of an instrument.
- For **temperature data both effects** are relevant.

- In the most general case:

$$\begin{aligned}x(\vec{\xi}, t) &= f(x(t-1)) + \epsilon \xi(t) & \xi(t) \text{ random,} \\y(\vec{\xi}, \psi(t), t) &= x(\vec{\xi}, t) + \eta \psi(t) & \psi(t) \text{ random.}\end{aligned}$$

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EVT for stochastic perturbations

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Dynamical noise

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- For periodic or quasi-periodic, convergence towards the GEV model is found if the noise is *sufficiently* large.

Observational noise

- EVLs found for mixing and aperiodic orbits.
- The properties of the **underlying attractor are preserved** with this kind of perturbation.



The convergence is ensured only asymptotically and two limits must be ideally satisfied:

- 1** **The number of observations m** in each bin should be large enough to sample a *real* extreme event.



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Dataset dimension required for observing convergence to the EVLs

We have shown that in chaotic systems **we need at least $n > 100$ and $m > 300$** to achieve good agreement with respect to the theory.

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- 4 Once $y(t)$ in n bins each containing m data ($mn = s$), **extract the maxima** M_j , $j = 1, \dots, n$ for the series $y(t)$.
- 5 **Fit the maxima to the GEV model**, perform a test to check whether the fit succeeded or failed.

Our definition of extreme events



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Fit succeeds



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Fit fails

- **The recurrences of ζ can be considered as extreme events.**
- One can **increase the bin length m** and check the smallest m such that the fit converges. The definition of extreme events is therefore relative to m .

The datasets

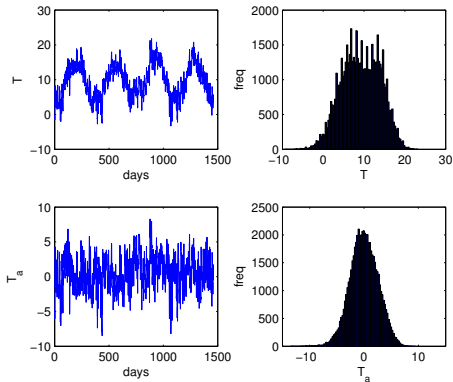


Figure : **Top:** An example of **temperature series** and its **histogram**. **Bottom:** the same for a **temperature anomalies** series. All the plots refer to Armagh (UK) weather station.

Results: Temperatures

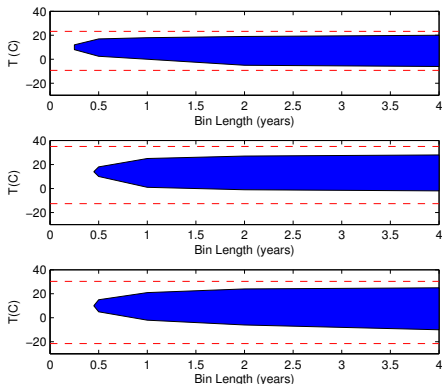


Figure : Region of temperature with convergent Gumbel fit (blue area) for different bin length. Red dotted lines: absolute extremes of the temperature series for Armagh (top), Milan (middle) and Vienna (bottom). **Extremes are located in the white area** of the plots between the two dotted lines.

Results: Temperature fluctuations

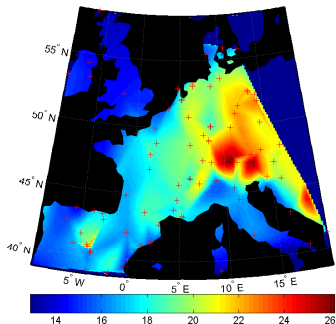


Figure : Map of the range of *admissible anomalies* for the European region, obtained considering the **interval of temperature anomalies ζ such that the fit passes the Kolmogorov Smirnov test**. The red crosses represent the location of the stations used for the analysis.



Remarks

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- The method presents a built-in test of convergence to the predicted EVT.
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Open questions

- What happens to variables with non continuous supports?
- Can we define EVT on observable defined on networks?



- Faranda, Davide, et al. Journal of Statistical Physics 145.5 (2011): 1156-1180.



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