

MATH3/4/68181: EXTREME VALUES AND FINANCIAL RISK
SEMESTER 1
A SOLUTION TO QUIZ PROBLEM 1

Suppose X is a random variable with cumulative distribution function

$$F(x) = 1 - \exp \{-a [\exp(bx) - 1]\}$$

for $x > 0$, $a > 0$ and $b > 0$. It is easy to see that $w(F) = \infty$.

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - F(t + xg(t))}{1 - F(t)} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - [1 - \exp \{-a [\exp(bt + bxg(t)) - 1]\}]}{1 - [1 - \exp \{-a [\exp(bt) - 1]\}]} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\exp \{-a [\exp(bt + bxg(t)) - 1]\}}{\exp \{-a [\exp(bt) - 1]\}} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \exp [a \exp(bt) - a \exp(bt + bxg(t))] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \exp \{a \exp(bt) [1 - \exp(bxg(t))]\} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left\{ a \exp(bt) \left[1 - \left(1 + bxg(t) + \frac{(bxg(t))^2}{2!} + \frac{(bxg(t))^3}{3!} + \dots \right) \right] \right\} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left\{ -a \exp(bt) bxg(t) - a \exp(bt) \frac{(bxg(t))^2}{2!} - a \exp(bt) \frac{(bxg(t))^3}{3!} - \dots \right\} \\ &= \exp(-x) \end{aligned}$$

if $g(t) = 1/[ab \exp(bt)]$. Hence, F belongs to the Gumbel domain of attraction.

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AN ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION TO QUIZ PROBLEM 1

Suppose X is a random variable with cumulative distribution function

$$F(x) = 1 - \exp \{-a [\exp(bx) - 1]\}$$

for $x > 0$, $a > 0$ and $b > 0$. It is easy to see that $w(F) = \infty$.

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - F(t + xg(t))}{1 - F(t)} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - [1 - \exp \{-a [\exp(bt + bxg(t)) - 1]\}]}{1 - [1 - \exp \{-a [\exp(bt) - 1]\}]} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\exp \{-a [\exp(bt + bxg(t)) - 1]\}}{\exp \{-a [\exp(bt) - 1]\}} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \exp [a \exp(bt) - a \exp(bt + bxg(t))] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \exp \{a \exp(bt) [1 - \exp(bxg(t))]\}. \end{aligned}$$

Now assume $g(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Then using $\exp(y) \sim 1 + y$ as $y \rightarrow 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - F(t + xg(t))}{1 - F(t)} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \exp \{a \exp(bt) [1 - (1 + bxg(t))]\} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \exp \{-ab \exp(bt) g(t) x\} \\ &= \exp \{-x\} \end{aligned}$$

if $g(t) = 1/[ab \exp(bt)]$. Hence, F belongs to the Gumbel domain of attraction. Note that $g(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ as assumed.