

Learning Component Reliability with Reduced Information

Louis J. M. Aslett and Simon P. Wilson

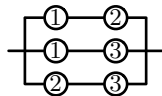
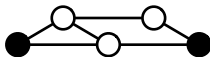
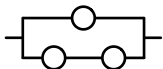
Trinity College Dublin

SIMRIDE, 19th March 2013



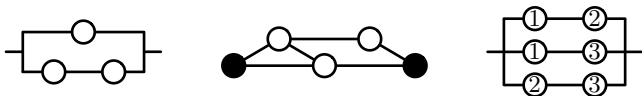
Structural Reliability Theory

- Interest lies in the reliability of 'systems' composed of numerous 'components'.



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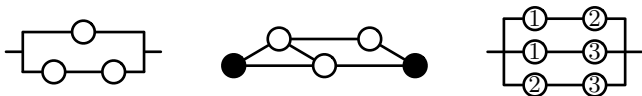


- Lifetime of the system, T , is determined by:
 - the lifetime of the components, $Y_i \sim F_Y(\cdot; \psi_i)$
 - the structure of the system.
 - the possible presence of a repair process.

via either the *structure function* or *signature*.

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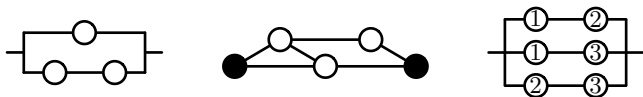
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via *survival signature* (Coolen and Coolen-Maturi, 2012)!

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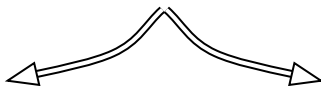


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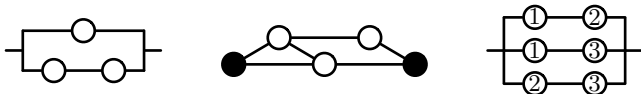
Probabilistic
Analysis



Statistical
Inference

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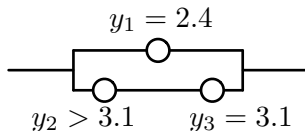
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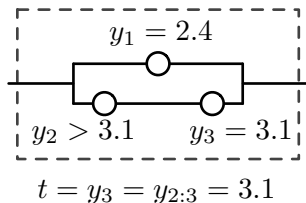
Masked System Lifetime Data (No Repair)

Traditionally, one may have failure time data on components and then infer the parameters ψ of the lifetime distribution.



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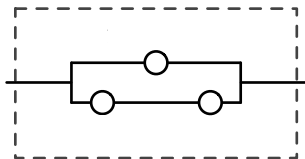
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Inference a quite well understood problem here.

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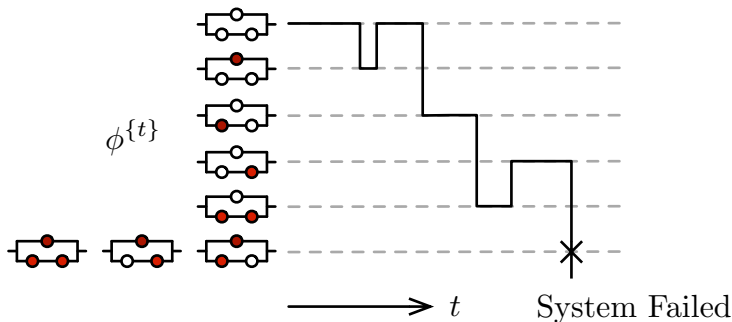


$$t = y_1 = y_{2:3} = 3.1$$

Masked system lifetime data means only the failure time of the system as a whole is known, not the component failure times or indeed which components had failed.

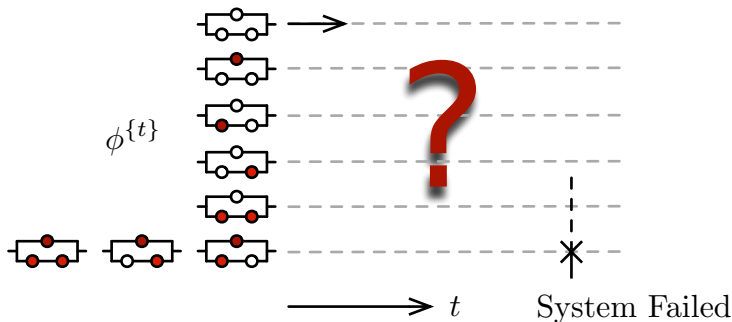
Masked System Lifetime Data (Repair)

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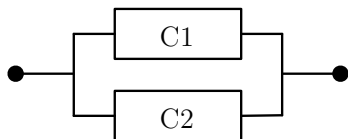
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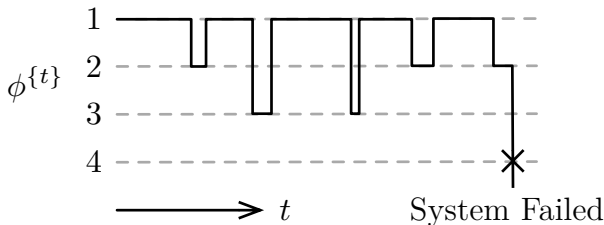
Masked system lifetime data means the schedule of failure and repair is unknown.

Toy Example : Redundant Repairable Components



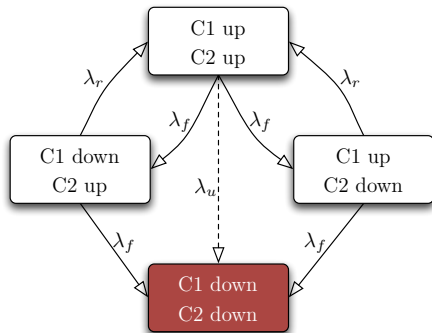
State	Meaning
1	both C1 and C2 work
2	C1 failed, C2 working
3	C1 working, C2 failed
4	system failed

∴ a general stochastic process, e.g.



Continuous-time Markov Chain Model for

State	Meaning
1	both C1 and C2 work
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$$\Rightarrow \pi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} -2\lambda_f & \lambda_f & \lambda_f & 0 \\ \lambda_r & -\lambda_r - \lambda_f & 0 & \lambda_f \\ \lambda_r & 0 & -\lambda_r - \lambda_f & \lambda_f \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Definition of Phase-type Distributions

An absorbing continuous time Markov chain is one in which there is a state that, once entered, is never left. That is, the $n + 1$ state generator matrix can be written:

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{S} & \mathbf{s} \\ \mathbf{0} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where \mathbf{S} is $n \times n$, \mathbf{s} is $n \times 1$ and $\mathbf{0}$ is $1 \times n$, with

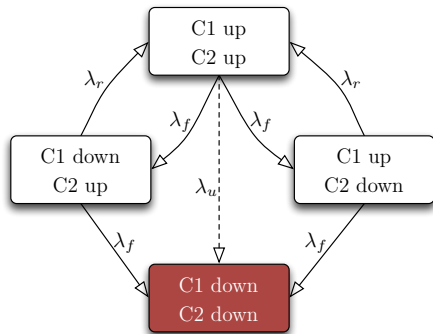
$$\mathbf{s} = -\mathbf{S}\mathbf{e}$$

Then, a *Phase-type distribution* (PHT) is defined to be the distribution of the time to entering the absorbing state.

$$Y \sim \text{PHT}(\boldsymbol{\pi}, \mathbf{S}) \implies \begin{cases} F_Y(y) = 1 - \boldsymbol{\pi}^T \exp\{y\mathbf{S}\}\mathbf{e} \\ f_Y(y) = \boldsymbol{\pi}^T \exp\{y\mathbf{S}\}\mathbf{s} \end{cases}$$

Relating to the Toy Example

State	Meaning
1	both PS working
2	1 failed, 2 working
3	1 working, 2 failed
4	subsystem failed



$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{T} = \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} -2\lambda_f & \lambda_f & \lambda_f & 0 \\ \lambda_r & -\lambda_f & 0 & \lambda_f \\ \lambda_r & 0 & -\lambda_r - \lambda_f & \lambda_f \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \mathbf{S}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \boldsymbol{\pi}^T \exp\{y\mathbf{S}\}\mathbf{s}$$

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Inferential Setting

Cano *et al.* (2010) provide Bayesian learning results in the context of analysing repairable systems when the stochastic process leading to absorption is observed.

Data

For each system failure time, one has:

- Starting state
- Length of time in each state
- Number of transitions between each state
- Ultimate system failure time

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Reduced information scenario \implies Bladt *et al.* (2003) provide a Bayesian MCMC algorithm, or Asmussen *et al.* (1996) provide a frequentist EM algorithm.

Slide for Statisticians!

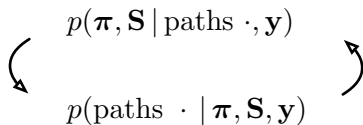
Strategy is a top-level Gibbs step which achieves the goal of simulating from

$$p(\boldsymbol{\pi}, \mathbf{S} \mid \mathbf{y})$$

by sampling from

$$p(\boldsymbol{\pi}, \mathbf{S}, \text{paths} \cdot \mid \mathbf{y})$$

through the iterative process



where $p(\text{paths} \cdot \mid \boldsymbol{\pi}, \mathbf{S}, \mathbf{y})$ is achieved by a rejection sampling within Metropolis-Hastings algorithm.

High-level Description of Bladt et al.

The following are key points to note about the MCMC scheme:

- fully dense rate matrix with separate parameters, e.g.

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & S_{12} & S_{13} & s_1 \\ S_{21} & \cdot & S_{23} & s_2 \\ S_{31} & S_{32} & \cdot & s_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- no censored data
- slow computational speed in some common scenarios
- focused on ‘distribution fitting’

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→ we extend to allow structure to be imposed

- no censored data

→ we accommodate censoring

- slow computational speed in some common scenarios

→ we provide novel sampling scheme

- focused on ‘distribution fitting’

→ all together shifts focus to stochastic modelling

Statistical -vs- Stochastic

In other words, we adapt the MCMC algorithm to be fit for performing inference when Phase-types are used for stochastic rather than statistical modelling.

Stochastic Model → Aslett & Wilson

“Stochastic models seek to represent an underlying physical phenomenon of interest, albeit often in a highly idealised way, and have parameters that are physically interpretable.” — Isham

Statistical Model → Bladt et al

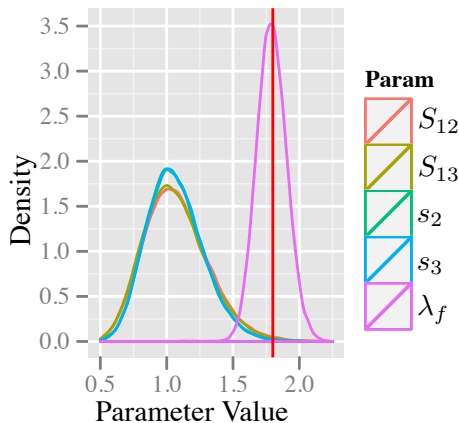
“In contrast, statistical models are descriptive, and represent the statistical properties of data and their dependence on covariates, without aiming to encapsulate the physical mechanisms involved.” — Isham

Toy Example Results

100 uncensored
observations simulated
from PHT with

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} -3.6 & 1.8 & 1.8 \\ 9.5 & -11.3 & 0 \\ 9.5 & 0 & -11.3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\implies \lambda_f = 1.8, \lambda_r = 9.5$$

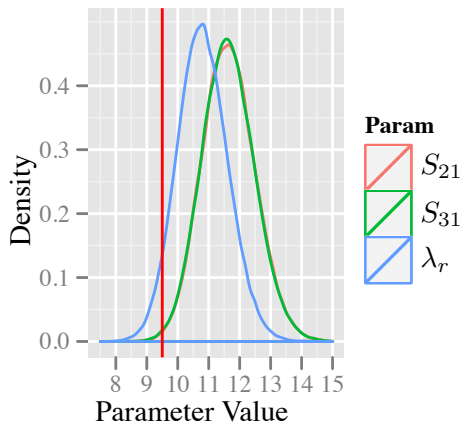


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Reliability less sensitive to λ_r

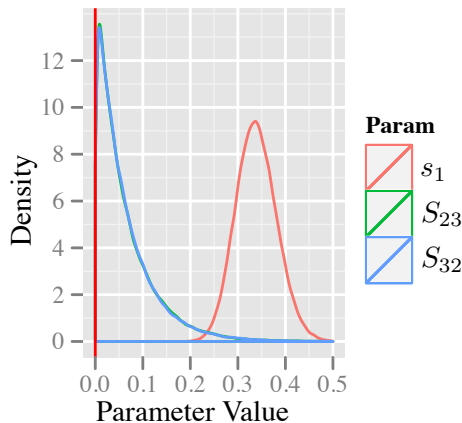
Daneshkhah and Bedford (2008)

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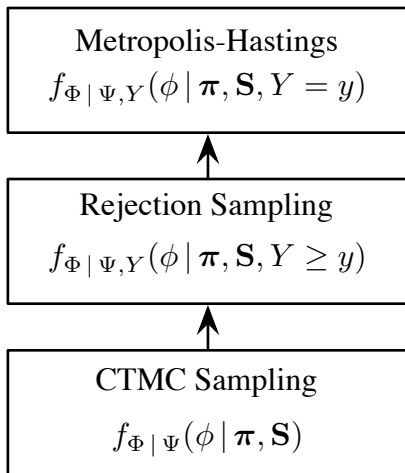
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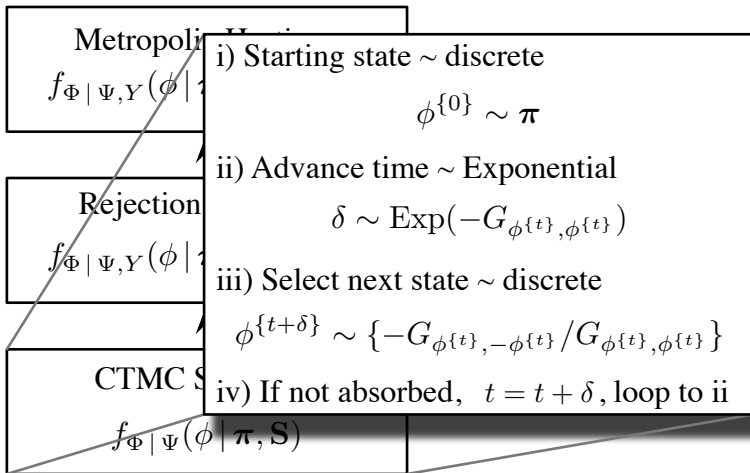
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Solution: “Exact Conditional Sampling”



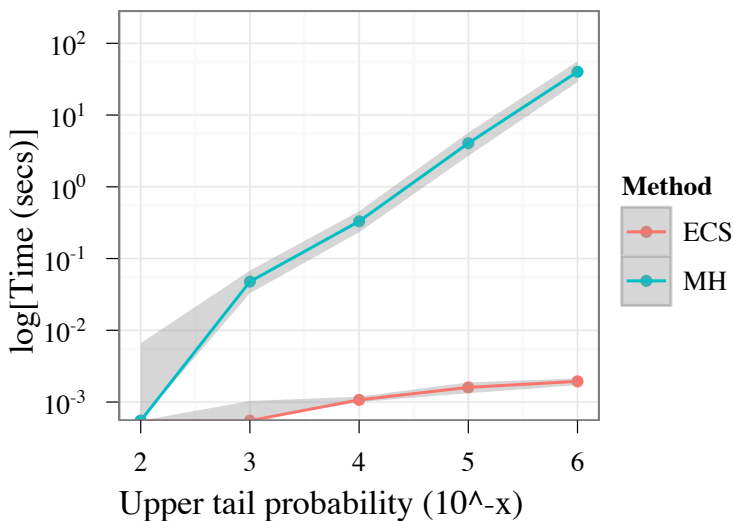
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Metropolis $f_{\Phi \Psi, Y}(\phi \dots)$	<p>e.g. Starting state mass function changes with conditioning:</p> $\mathbb{P}(\phi^{\{0\}} = i \boldsymbol{\pi}, \mathbf{S}) = \pi_i$ <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> $\mathbb{P}(\phi^{\{0\}} = i \boldsymbol{\pi}, \mathbf{G}, Y = y) = \frac{\mathbf{e}_i^T \exp\{\mathbf{S}y\} \boldsymbol{\pi}}{\boldsymbol{\pi}^T \exp\{\mathbf{S}y\}}$
Rejection $f_{\Phi \Psi, Y}(\phi \dots)$	
CTMC $f_{\Phi \Psi, Y}(\phi \boldsymbol{\pi}, \mathbf{S}, Y = y)$	

'Tail Depth' Performance Improvement



Overall Performance Improvement

This shows the new method keeping pace in ‘nice’ problems and significantly outperforming otherwise.

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0.01 & 1.99 & 0 \\ 1 & -300 & 0 & 299 \\ 299 & 0 & -300 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

No problems i-iii

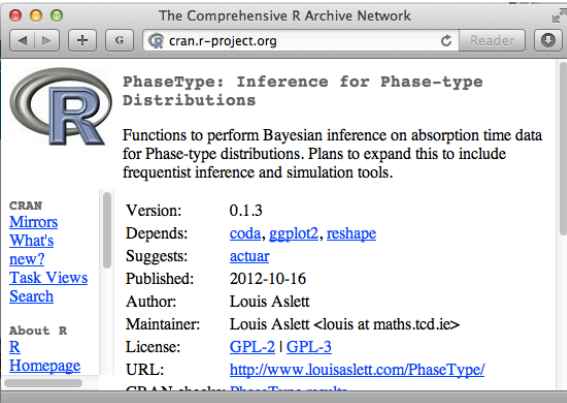
	MH	ECS
\bar{t}	1.6	7.2
s_t	104	19

All problems i-iii

	MH	ECS
\bar{t}	10.2 hours	0.016 secs
s_t	9.4 hours	0.015 secs

2,300,000 × faster on average in hard problem

R Package: PhaseType



The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "The Comprehensive R Archive Network" with the address bar displaying "cran.r-project.org". The main content area features the R logo and the package title "PhaseType: Inference for Phase-type Distributions". Below the title is a description: "Functions to perform Bayesian inference on absorption time data for Phase-type distributions. Plans to expand this to include frequentist inference and simulation tools." To the left of the main text is a sidebar with links: "CRAN", "Mirrors", "What's new?", "Task Views", "Search", "About R", "R", and "Homepage". To the right of the sidebar is a list of package metadata: "Version: 0.1.3", "Depends: coda, ggplot2, reshape", "Suggests: actuar", "Published: 2012-10-16", "Author: Louis Aslett", "Maintainer: Louis Aslett <louis at maths.tcd.ie>", "License: GPL-2 | GPL-3", and "URL: http://www.louisaslett.com/PhaseType/".

PhaseType: Inference for Phase-type Distributions

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
CRAN
[Mirrors](#)
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About R
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Version: 0.1.3
Depends: [coda](#), [ggplot2](#), [reshape](#)
Suggests: [actuar](#)
Published: 2012-10-16
Author: Louis Aslett
Maintainer: Louis Aslett <louis at maths.tcd.ie>
License: [GPL-2](#) | [GPL-3](#)
URL: <http://www.louisaslett.com/PhaseType/>

<http://cran.r-project.org/package=PhaseType>

Missing Data


Again, the missing data is what makes the inference hard. Tanner and Wong (1987) is a classic solution to this in a Bayesian framework if the missing data can be simulated. Consider the system  from the introduction, with observed system failure times:

$$\mathbf{t} = \{1.1, 4.2\}$$

Need realisations concordant with each observation:

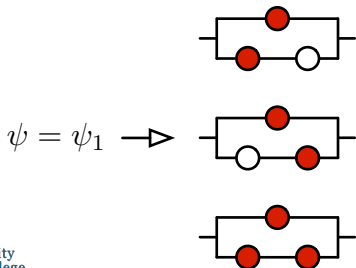
$$\psi = \psi_1$$

Missing Data


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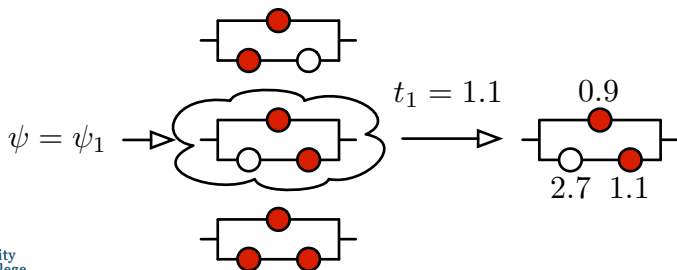


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
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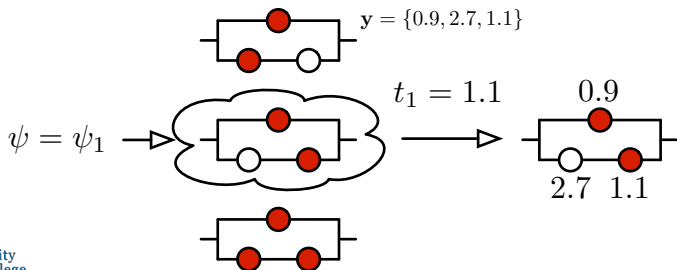


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
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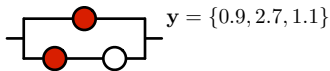


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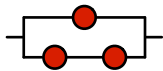
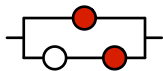
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
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$$\psi = \psi_1 \rightarrow$$

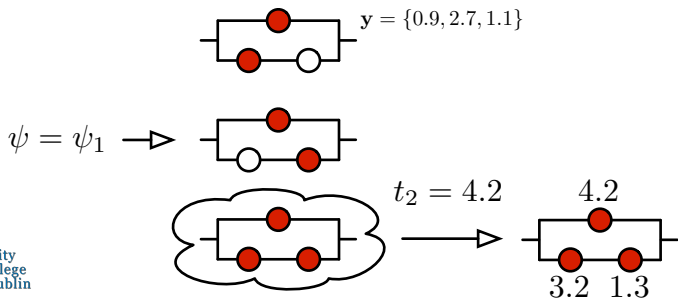


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
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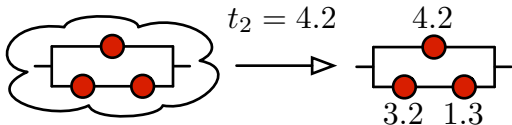
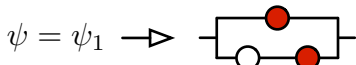
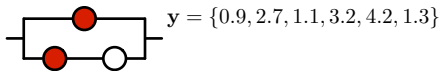


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
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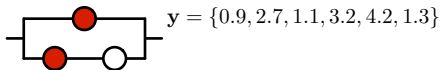


Missing Data

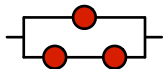
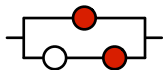
Again, the missing data is what makes the inference hard. Tanner and Wong (1987) is a classic solution to this in a Bayesian framework if the missing data can be simulated. Consider the system  from the introduction, with observed system failure times:

$$\mathbf{t} = \{1.1, 4.2\}$$


Need realisations concordant with each observation:



$$\psi = \psi_1 \rightarrow$$



Missing Data

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$$\mathbf{t} = \{1.1, 4.2\}$$

Need realisations concordant with each observation:

$$\mathbf{y} = \{0.9, 2.7, 1.1, 3.2, 4.2, 1.3\}$$

$$\psi = \psi_2$$



Missing Data

For any statisticians, that is:

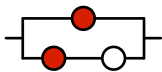
$$\begin{array}{c}
 f_{Y|\Psi,T}(\mathbf{y}_{1\cdot}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{m\cdot} | \psi, \mathbf{t}) \\
 \curvearrowright \\
 f_{\Psi|Y,T}(\psi | \mathbf{y}_{1\cdot}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{m\cdot}, \mathbf{t}) \curvearrowleft
 \end{array}$$

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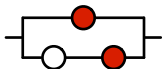
$$\begin{array}{c}
 f_{Y|\Psi,T}(\mathbf{y}_{1\cdot}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{m\cdot} | \psi, \mathbf{t}) \\
 \swarrow \quad \searrow \\
 f_{\Psi|Y,T}(\psi | \mathbf{y}_{1\cdot}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{m\cdot}, \mathbf{t})
 \end{array}$$

What is the challenge?

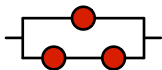


$$\mathbb{P}(\text{circuit diagram} | \psi_1, t_1) = ?$$

$\psi = \psi_1 \rightarrow$



$$\mathbb{P}(\text{circuit diagram} | \psi_1, t_1) = ?$$



$$\mathbb{P}(\text{circuit diagram} | \psi_1, t_1) = ?$$

System Signatures

The signature (Samaniego, 1985) is less widely used than the structure function, but in some ways more elegant.

Definition (Signature)

The *signature* of a system is the n -dimensional probability vector $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_n)$ with elements:

$$s_i = \mathbb{P}(T = Y_{i:n})$$

where T is the failure time of the system and $Y_{i:n}$ is the i th order statistic of the n component failure times.

System Signatures

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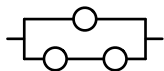
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e.g.



$$\implies \mathbf{s} = \left(0, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right)$$

Sampling Latent Failure Times

It can be shown:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & f_{Y|T}(y_{i1}, \dots, y_{in}; \psi | t) \\
 & \propto \sum_{j=1}^n \left[f_{Y|Y<t}(y_{i(1)}, \dots, y_{i(j-1)}; \psi) \right. \\
 & \quad \times f_{Y|Y>t}(y_{i(j+1)}, \dots, y_{i(n)}; \psi) \\
 & \quad \times \mathbb{I}_{\{t\}}(y_{i(j)}) \\
 & \quad \left. \times \binom{n-1}{j-1} F_Y(t; \psi)^j \bar{F}_Y(t; \psi)^{n-j+1} s_j \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Signature based data augmentation

- 1 With probability

$$\mathbb{P}(j) \propto \binom{n-1}{j-1} F_Y(t_i; \psi)^j \bar{F}_Y(t_i; \psi)^{n-j+1} s_j$$

it was the j th failure that caused system failure.

- 2 Having drawn a random j , sample
 - $j-1$ values, $y_{i1}, \dots, y_{i(j-1)}$, from $F_{Y|Y < t_i}(\cdot; \psi)$, the distribution of the component lifetime conditional on failure before t_i
 - $n-j$ values, $y_{i(j+1)}, \dots, y_{in}$, from $F_{Y|Y > t_i}(\cdot; \psi)$, the distribution of the component lifetime conditional on failure after t_i

and set $y_{ij} = t_i$.

Prerequisites

This is a very general method. The prerequisites for use are,

- 1 The signature of the system;
- 2 The ability to perform standard Bayesian inference with the full data;
- 3 The ability to sample from $F_{Y|Y < t_i}(\cdot; \psi)$ and $F_{Y|Y > t_i}(\cdot; \psi)$.

Prerequisites

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- 1 The signature of the system;

Easy for systems that are not huge

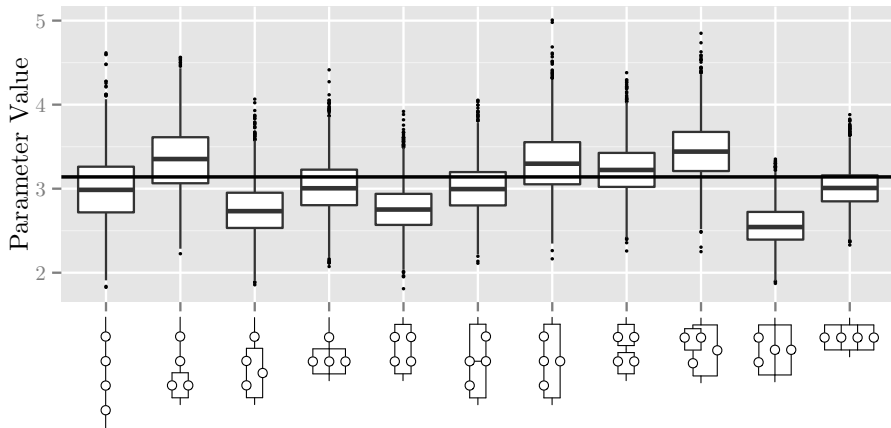
- 2 The ability to perform standard Bayesian inference with the full data;

Easy for common lifetime distributions

- 3 The ability to sample from $F_{Y|Y < t_i}(\cdot; \psi)$ and $F_{Y|Y > t_i}(\cdot; \psi)$.

Depends!

Canonical Exponential Component Lifetime Example



Unknown Topologies

A little 'blue skies' academic thinking ...



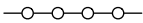

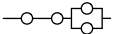
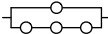
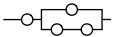





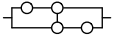
$$t = y? = y?:3 = 3.1$$

Uniqueness of the Signature

Type	Order	Signature repetition							Total
		Unique	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Coherent systems	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
	4	14	3	0	0	0	0	0	20
	5	43	15	2	6	2	10	1	180
Coherent systems /w graph	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
	4	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
	5	27	4	0	0	0	0	0	35

Signature & Topology

Order 4 coherent systems with graph representation.

System Topology	Signature	System Topology	Signature
	$(1, 0, 0, 0)$		$(0, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, 0)$
	$(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0, 0)$		$(0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$
	$(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{7}{12}, \frac{1}{6}, 0)$		$(0, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{7}{12}, \frac{1}{4})$
	$(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, 0)$		$(0, 0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$
	$(0, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, 0)$		$(0, 0, 0, 1)$
	$(0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0)$		

Jointly Inferring the Topology

$$\begin{array}{c}
 f_{Y|\Psi,T}(\mathbf{y}_{1\cdot}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{m\cdot} | \psi, \mathbf{t}) \\
 \curvearrowleft \\
 f_{\Psi|Y,T}(\psi | \mathbf{y}_{1\cdot}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{m\cdot}, \mathbf{t}) \curvearrowright
 \end{array}$$

Jointly Inferring the Topology

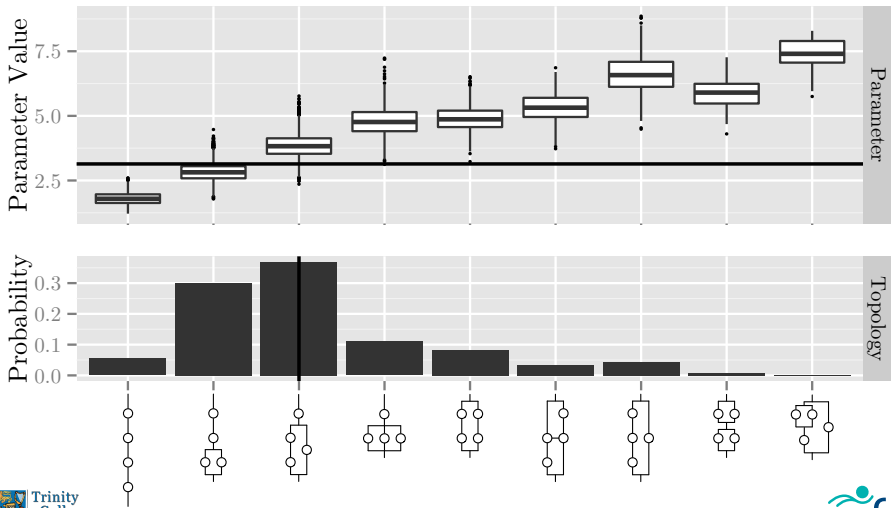
$$\begin{array}{c}
 f_{Y|\Psi,T}(\mathbf{y}_{1\cdot}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{m\cdot} \mid \psi, \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{s}) \\
 \curvearrowleft \\
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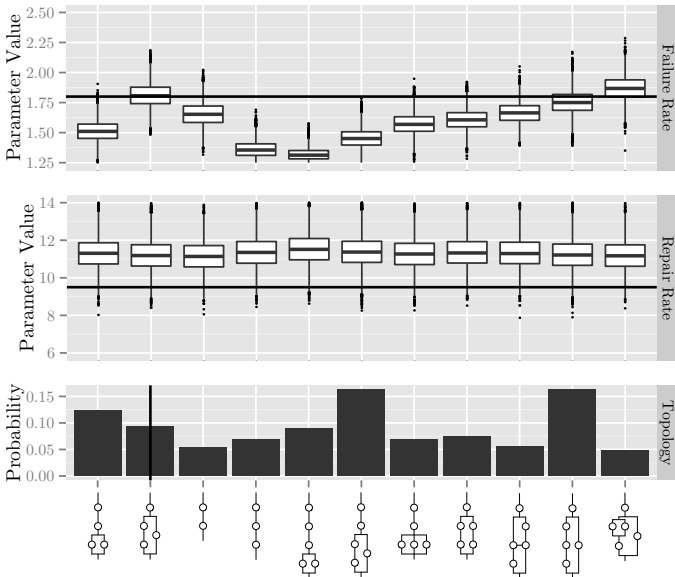
$$\begin{array}{c}
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 \curvearrowleft \qquad \qquad \qquad \curvearrowright \\
 f_{\Psi|Y,T}(\psi \mid \mathbf{y}_{1\cdot}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{m\cdot}, \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{s})
 \end{array}$$

After satisfying a few technical subtleties, implementation is not too difficult.

Canonical Exponential Component Lifetime Example

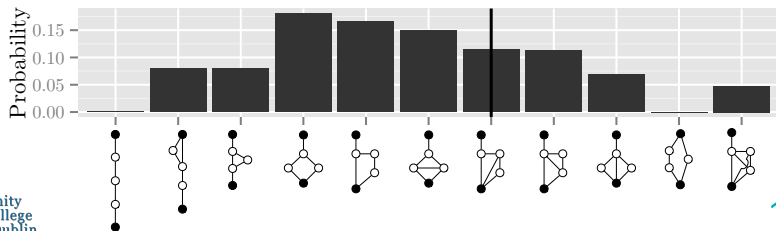
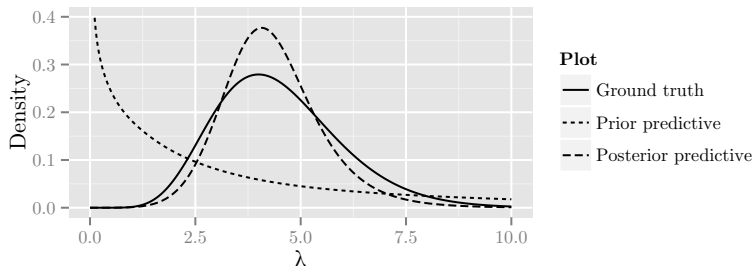


Phase-type Component Lifetime Example



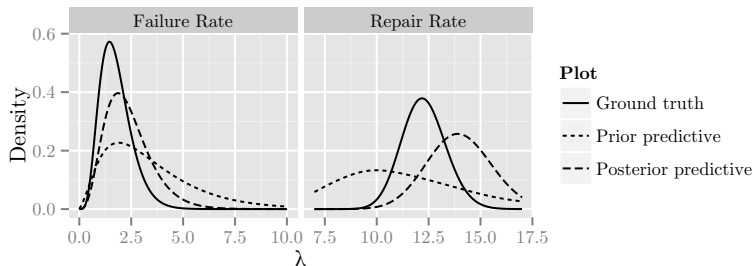
Exchangeable Systems

The i.i.d. systems assumption easily relaxed to exchangeability.



Phase-type Component Lifetimes

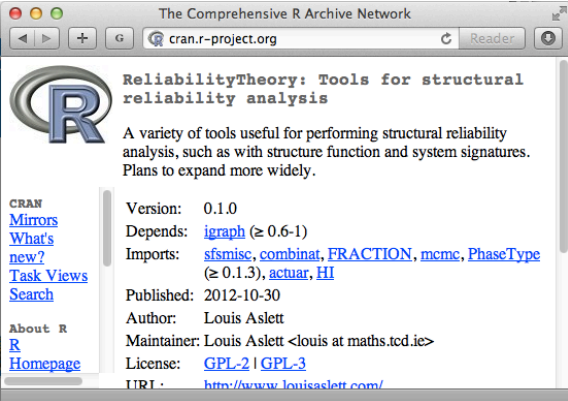
Extreme generality of the solution allows wide variety of component lifetime distributions. Solutions to the prerequisites have been derived for Phase-type distributed components.



May interpret as:

- Repairable redundant subsystems;
- Theoretically dense in function space of all positively supported continuous distributions.

R Package: ReliabilityTheory



The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "The Comprehensive R Archive Network" with the address bar displaying "cran.r-project.org". The page content includes the R logo, the package name "ReliabilityTheory: Tools for structural reliability analysis", a description, and a list of package details.

ReliabilityTheory: Tools for structural reliability analysis

A variety of tools useful for performing structural reliability analysis, such as with structure function and system signatures. Plans to expand more widely.

CRAN

- [Mirrors](#)
- [What's new?](#)
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About R

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Version: 0.1.0

Depends: [igraph](#) (≥ 0.6-1)

Imports: [sfsmisc](#), [combinat](#), [FRACTION](#), [mcmc](#), [PhaseType](#) (≥ 0.1.3), [actuar](#), [HI](#)

Published: 2012-10-30

Author: Louis Aslett

Maintainer: Louis Aslett <louis at maths.tcd.ie>

License: [GPL-2](#) | [GPL-3](#)

URI: <http://www.louisaslett.com/>

<http://cran.r-project.org/package=ReliabilityTheory>

Future Work

A couple of the many important avenues to be pursued:

- Many partial information scenarios between full information and the extreme presented here.
- Extend the non-repairable work to non-identical components using the survival signature (Coolen and Coolen-Maturi, 2012).

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