# A Bayesian model of records 

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#### Abstract

We derive a Bayesian model to forecast the continuation of a cumulative progression of records. We show that the model compares favourably to past least-square prediction models for records in running events. We also check the validity of the model for the case where we have access to the underlying attempts, using data from athletic events in the Olympics.


## Highlights

- We explain how to perform Bayesian inference for time series where each data point is the cumulative maximum (or minimum) of an i.i.d. series.
- We compare the results of this framework to a classic minimum mean square error (MMSE) frequentist approach. We use world record data from six athletic events. We find a similar performance between the bayesian mean posterior estimate and the frequentist approach in terms of mean squared error.
- We explore the effect of the choice of distribution of attempts. We find that assuming a Weibull distribution marginally outperforms a Gaussian distribution and that both robustly outperform a Gumbel distribution of attempts.
- We forecast world records for 11 categories of athletic events for the 2022 to 2032 period.
- We introduce fmax, a Python open-source package to model and forecast time series of cumulative minima and maxima. The package can be found at https://github.com/jlindbloom/fmax.

How often and by how much are Olympic records beat? What score do we expect future machine learning systems to attain for classification tasks in the absence of new breakthroughs? With what probability will the fasted speed run for our favorite videogame be beaten within the next year?
In situations such as these, we are interested in characterizing how a historical record has evolved and will evolve in the future. And while properties of order statistics such as the maximum over a set of random variables are well-studied, the running maximum (or minimum) of a time series is markedly less so.

An example of such work is presented in (Tryfos \& Blackmore, 1985), in which the authors present a model for the world record in six major running events using an i.i.d. distribution for attempts. In this article, we present the corresponding Bayesian approach to such models. We use this model to derive predictions for the men's and women's data for the same events considered in (Tryfos \& Blackmore, 1985) and show comparable performance in terms of the squared error given the actual records that followed.

We also discuss the effects of the choice of attempt distribution. We find that a Weibull distribution gives the best fit in terms of loglikelihood, marginally outperforming a Gaussian distribution and robustly outperforming a Gumbel distribution.
Finally, we provide a forecast of records in the next decade for the 11 categories of athletic events we collected data on.

## Previous work

(Tryfos \& Blackmore, 1985) develops the minimum mean square error (MMSE) estimator for a series of cumulative minimums. They derive the estimator for both a normal distribution and extreme value distributions of attempts. In particular, they apply their approach to forecast the world records of six running events, assuming an underlying Gumbel distribution with density $f(x)=\exp \left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}-e^{\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}}\right) \frac{1}{\sigma}$. We use this article as a basis to compare our approach. In section we show how our approaches compare using the same data as the authors.
(Smith, 1988) expands the work of Tryfos and Blackmore to derive the maximum likelihood estimator for a series of cumulative minimums where the attempt distribution is the sum of an i.i.d. random variable $X_{n}$ and a nonrandom drift trend.

$$
Y_{n}=X_{n}+c_{n}
$$

They consider random distributions including the Gaussian, Gumbel and Generalized Extreme Value (GEV) distributions. The drift trends considered include linear drift, quadratic drift, and exponential decay models. The author applies the method to model records in the mile and marathon races.

We could in theory adapt their approach assuming a zero-drift trend $c_{n}=0$. However, in practice with the data, we considered and in short time scales this results in constant extrapolated forecasts $\hat{Y}_{n+k}=Y_{n}$. Future work may include extending the Bayesian framework presented in this paper to the case of non-zero drift and comparing it to this paper.
(Smith \& Miller, 1986) follow Smith by considering a Gumbel model with linear drift, but work within a state-space approach to explicitly construct the forward-looking predictive distribution for the model. They also consider a Bayesian formulation, applying their method to the forecasting of athletic records similar to Tryfos and ourselves.
(Wergen et al., 2013) focuses on the related problem of modeling the probability that timestep n will be a new record given historical data. The authors assume a linear drift in the attempts.
(Kim \& Seo, 2020) derive the Jeffrey prior for the Gumbel distribution, and derive the density function of the conditional forecasted distribution of records of i.i.d. Gumbel variables given previous observations. They compare their result to an ARIMA and DLM approach. As we will discuss in this article, the Gumbel distribution seems to underperform relative to the Weibull and Gaussian distribution, suggesting a natural extension to their work.

Beyond the aforementioned articles, we could not find much work on forecasting cumulative records, especially from a Bayesian perspective. This points to a gap in the literature that we aim to fill.

## The General Model

In this section, we introduce a general framework for deriving the likelihood of the distribution.
First we establish the notation we will use through the paper. Then we derive the likelihood functions for a cumulative distribution of maxima and minima. These are, respectively:

$$
\mathcal{L}_{Y_{1: n}}\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{N}\right)=\prod_{i \in R} f_{X}\left(y_{i}\right) \prod_{i \notin R} F_{X}\left(y_{i}\right)
$$

$$
\mathcal{L}_{Y_{1: n}}\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{N}\right)=\prod_{i \in R} f_{X}\left(y_{i}\right) \prod_{i \notin R}\left(1-F_{X}\left(y_{i}\right)\right)
$$

Finally, we show how we can use these results to forecast future records.

## Notation

Suppose we would like to model some time series for the running record for some task, where the record is the maximum or minimum over some sequence of attempts. We'll first consider the case where the record is of a minimum - the derivation for the maximum requires only a slight modification. We assume that the record is a continuous quantity, rather than discrete. Let $\left\{X_{t}\right\}_{t \in \mathbb{N}}$ denote a discrete-time stochastic process representing the results from some sequence of attempts at a task. We assume that the $X_{i}$ are i.i.d. according to some random variable $X$ with a common CDF given by $F_{X}$ and PDF given by $f_{X}$. When we make inferences about $X$ we will assume that $X$ lies in some parametric family parameterized by $\theta \in \Theta$.

Our observed data of the record is some time-series $\left\{r_{1}, r_{2}, \ldots, r_{n}\right\}$ where $n$ is the number of time periods for which the record has been observed. In the case the record is of a minimum, note that we must have $r_{i} \geq r_{j}$ whenever $i \leq j$. To match our observed data, we define a sequence $\left\{Y_{t}\right\}_{t \in \mathbb{N}}$ where

$$
Y_{i}:=\max \left\{X_{1}, \ldots, X_{i}\right\}
$$

We treat $\left\{r_{1}, r_{2}, \ldots, r_{n}\right\}$ as noiseless, truncated observations along some sample path $\omega=$ $\left\{r_{1}, r_{2}, \ldots, r_{n}, \ldots\right\}$.

## The Likelihood Function

To perform Bayesian inference on the model parameters $\theta$, we need to be able to compute the likelihood function. The marginal distribution of each record is easy enough to derive:

## Lemma 1: Marginal distribution of a historical record

Let $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ be a collection of i.i.d. i.id random continuous variables with PDF $f_{X}$ and CDF $F_{X}$, and define $Y_{n}:=\max _{i \leq n} X_{i}$. Then the marginal likelihood of $Y_{n}$ is equal to:

$$
\mathcal{L}_{Y_{n}}\left(o_{n}\right)=n\left[F_{X}\left(o_{n}\right)\right]^{n-1} f_{X}\left(o_{n}\right)
$$

Proof: The CDF of $Y_{n}$ is:

$$
\begin{aligned}
F_{Y_{n}}\left(o_{n}\right) a m p ; & =P\left(Y_{n} \leq o_{n}\right)=P\left(\max \left\{X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}\right\} \leq o_{n}\right) \\
a m p ; & =\prod_{i \leq n} P\left(X_{i} \leq o_{n}\right) \\
a m p ; & =\prod_{i \leq n} F_{X}\left(o_{n}\right) \\
a m p ; & =\left[F_{X}\left(o_{n}\right)\right]^{n}
\end{aligned}
$$

Differentiation of the CDF gives us the desired result.
However, to use all the data available to us in the inference we need to derive the joint likelihood of all the cumulative records:

$$
f_{Y_{1: n}}\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{n} \mid \theta\right)
$$

where $f_{Y_{1: n}}(\cdot \mid \theta)$ denotes the joint density of $Y_{1}, \ldots, Y_{n}$, given parameters $\theta$. Since

$$
\max \left\{X_{1}, \ldots, X_{j}, X_{j+1}\right\}=\max \left\{X_{j}, X_{j+1}\right\}
$$

for any $j$, we conclude that each of the $Y_{i}$ are independent of all of the previous except for $Y_{i-1}$. The likelihood function must then factorize like

$$
f_{Y_{1: n}}\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{n} \mid \theta\right)=f_{Y_{1}}\left(y_{1} \mid \theta\right) \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} f_{Y_{j+1} \mid Y_{j}=y_{j}}\left(y_{j+1} \mid \theta\right)
$$

Now we are ready to derive the likelihood function .
Proposition 1. Let $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ be a collection of i.i.d. continuous random variables with common PDF $f_{X}$ and CDF $F_{X}$, and define $Y_{j}:=\max _{i \leq j} X_{i}$. We assume that $f_{X} \in C^{1}$. Then the joint likelihood for the sequence $Y_{1}, \ldots, Y_{N}$ is given by

$$
\mathcal{L}_{Y_{1: n}}\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{N}\right)=\prod_{i \in R} f_{X}\left(y_{i}\right) \prod_{i \notin R} F_{X}\left(y_{i}\right)
$$

where $R \subseteq\{1, \ldots, n\}$ is the set of indices where the record was broken and a new maximum was established. Proof: See appendix.

Proposition 2. Let $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ be a collection of i.i.d. continuous random variables with common PDF $f_{X}$ and CDF $F_{X}$, and define $Y_{j}:=\min _{i \leq j} X_{i}$. We assume that $f_{X} \in C^{1}$. Then the joint likelihood for the sequence $Y_{1}, \ldots, Y_{N}$ is given by

$$
\mathcal{L}_{Y_{1: n}}\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{N}\right)=\prod_{i \in R} f_{X}\left(y_{i}\right) \prod_{i \notin R}\left(1-F_{X}\left(y_{i}\right)\right)
$$

where $R \subseteq\{1, \ldots, n\}$ is the set of indices where the record was broken and a new minimum was established.
Proof: Analogous to proposition 1.

## Forecasting future records

Given the likelihood, we can use a Bayesian posterior sampling method like the No-U-Turn Sampler (NUTS) (Homan \& Gelman, 2014) to sample the posterior distribution of the model parameters $\theta$. We draw samples from the conditional distribution of the records given the parameters (the posterior predictive distribution), and compare simulated data generated from these samples to the actual data for a sanity check of our model.

Given the distribution over the parameters, we can also generate $n$ new samples of the attempt distribution $X_{N+1}, \ldots, X_{N+n}$ and take the cumulative maximum to generate a distribution of records in future timesteps.
To help us and others with this process, we have developed and released fmax, a Python library built on top of PyMC3 (Salvatier et al., 2016) to model and forecast future series. This expands on our previous article (Sevilla \& Lindbloom., 2021).

## Empirical results

With our theoretical framework established, we now study its applications with real-world data.
We will study the application of the framework to extrapolate the world record times for six athletic events (mile run, 1000 meters, 5000 meters, 10000 meters, 20000 meters, and marathon).
This is the same data discussed in (Tryfos \& Blackmore, 1985). We extend the dataset they used with data up until the present day, and also include data from the corresponding women's events. We gathered the data from the World Athletics sports federation. A snapshot of the data is available in Figure 1.


Figure 1: World records for 11 categories of athletic events. The vertical axis indicates the record times in seconds. Source: [X]

We use this data to:

1. Compare the results of the Bayesian posterior with a Gaussian attempt distribution to the reported results of the MMSE estimator.
2. Study the effects of modeling the problem using different attempt distributions and parameter priors.
3. Produce forecasts for the record progressions for each event over the course of the next decade.

## Comparison with the Tryfos MMSE approach

(Tryfos \& Blackmore, 1985) provided forecasts for future records of the six men categories between 1983 and 1997, for their model fit to the records in the previous years 1968 to 1982. Their approach is to derive the Minimum Mean Square Error (MMSE) estimator assuming an underlying Gumbel distribution of attempts. Here we compare the results from their approach to an analogous Bayesian model using our approach with a Gumbel attempt distribution. Note that the MMSE estimator of (Tryfos \& Blackmore, 1985) is a maximum likelihood estimate that does not incorporate a prior for the solution. To make an accurate comparison, we
opt to use highly uninformative priors for the parameters of the underlying Gumbel attempt distribution used in our approach.

Consider the mile run event. In Figures 2, 3, and 4, we present the results of the Bayesian model on the mile run in comparison to the MMSE estimator. Here we have used the No-U-Turn Sampler (NUTS) implementation of PyMC3 to compute 10 independent chains of 25,000 samples each, with posterior statistics calculated using samples from all chains.


Figure 2: Histograms of samples of the marginal posterior distributions on the mean and standard deviation of the underlying Gumbel attempt distribution for the mile run.


Figure 3: The posterior predictive distribution over the historical records for the mile run, using a Gumbel attempt distribution. The red curve tracks the historical record, while the blue curves summarize the posterior.

| Event | Tryfos MMSE | Bayes Mean | Constant Baseline |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
| Mile Run | 1.923 | $\mathbf{1 . 1 3 5}$ | 3.425 |
| 1000 Meters | 0.310 | 1.461 | $\mathbf{0 . 0 0 0}$ |
| 5000 Meters | 43.371 | $\mathbf{4 1 . 0 5 3}$ | 65.494 |
| 10000 Meters | 496.971 | $\mathbf{4 2 7 . 2 2 1}$ | 607.342 |
| 20000 Meters | 192.800 | $\mathbf{1 0 8 . 6 4 0}$ | 383.957 |
| Marathon | 3500.800 | $\mathbf{9 8 1 . 3 1 2}$ | 5341.133 |

Posterior Forecast for the Mile Run, Gumbel Attempts


Figure 4: The posterior predictive distribution over the future records for the mile run, using a Gumbel attempt distribution. The red curve tracks the historical record, while the blue curves summarize the posterior. The actual observed record over the forecasted period (1983-1997) is shown in black.

We repeat this same calculation for each of the remaining events in the Tryfos dataset, but with only 5000 posterior samples per chain since we observe little difference in our results compared with the longer chains. To compare the performance of the Bayesian posterior with the MMSE, we compute the MSE of both the posterior mean and the MMSE estimator compared to the actual observed records over the forecasted period (1983-1997). We also include in our comparison a constant baseline estimator that always predicts the last observed record.

The performance of the Tryfos MMSE estimator and the mean of the Bayesian posterior are comparable, both strictly better than the constant baseline (except for the 1000 meters event, where the observed record saw no change during the hold-out period). The largest difference between the two predictors was observed for the Marathon event, where the posterior mean estimator performed significantly better than both Tryfos MMSE and the constant baseline. While the magnitude of the difference is partly driven by the scale of the marathon times, in Figure 5 we see that the posterior median estimator correctly tracks the actual observed records.


Figure 5: The posterior predictive distribution over the future records for the Marathon event, using a Gaussian attempt distribution.

Our approach allows us to produce credence intervals to quantify the uncertainty in our predictions. In this comparison, we cannot compare the credence intervals produced from the Trfyos MMSE estimator approach with our approach since they were not stated alongside their predictions.

We emphasize that even though the Tryfos MMSE estimator approach can produce credence intervals, they express uncertainty only in sampling variability and do not capture parametric uncertainty. Our approach also captures parametric uncertainty in the fit of our model, which provides a possible explanation for why the posterior mean estimator for the Marathon event performs better than the Tryfos MMSE.

## Comparison of different attempt distributions

Our approach extends seamlessly to other attempt distributions. In this section, we repeat the same exercise on the Tryfos dataset but instead consider the effect of varying the form of the attempt distribution. Specifically, we compare the performance of a Gaussian attempt distribution with that of a Gumbel and of a Weibull attempt distribution. For this experiment, we again choose uninformative priors for each of the parameters of the underlying attempt distributions.

From our results, we cannot draw any strong conclusions about whether one of the underlying distributions tends to perform better than the others. However, the model using a Weibull attempt distribution appears to give a good balance between predictive accuracy and maximizing the average log probability.

These results match common sense - the Weibull distribution arises whenever we take the minimum out of a series of samples from an i.i.d. distribution with a finite lower bound (Fréchet, 1927). At each time step,

|  | Gaussian | Gumbel |  |  |  | Weibull |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Avg. Log Probability | MSE | Avg. Log Probability | MSE | Avg. Log Probability |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Men's Mile Run | -11.794 | 0.462 | -33.634 | 1.135 | $\mathbf{- 1 0 . 6 5 7}$ |  |
| Men's 1000 Meters | -2.486 | 4.443 | $\mathbf{- 2 . 3 3 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 4 6 1}$ | $\mathbf{- 2 . 8 0 8}$ |  |
| Men's 5000 Meters | -42.163 | 33.407 | -238.417 | 41.053 | $\mathbf{- 3 5 . 8 6 0}$ |  |
| Men's 10000 Meters | -133.376 | $\mathbf{3 5 0 . 2 2 6}$ | -21846.803 | 427.221 | $\mathbf{- 7 7 . 8 6 7}$ |  |
| Men's 20000 Meters | $\mathbf{- 1 6 . 2 8 9}$ | 213.791 | -21.031 | $\mathbf{1 0 8 . 6 4 0}$ | $\mathbf{- 1 6 . 4 8 1}$ |  |
| Men's Marathon | $\mathbf{- 2 6 . 6 3 9}$ | $\mathbf{1 6 2 . 0 7 3}$ | -39.445 | 981.312 | $\mathbf{- 2 6 . 7 3 3}$ |  |
| Women's Mile Run | $\mathbf{- 1 6 . 7 7 3}$ | 7.754 | -18.008 | $\mathbf{0 . 8 6 5}$ | $\mathbf{- 1 7 . 5 5 4}$ |  |
| Women's 1000 Meters | -16.975 | 436.421 | $\mathbf{- 1 6 . 1 2 0}$ | $\mathbf{9 3 . 3 9 8}$ | $\mathbf{- 1 7 . 4 7 7}$ |  |
| Women's 5000 Meters | -54.615 | 565.344 | -166.077 | 668.257 | $\mathbf{- 4 2 . 0 6 2}$ |  |
| Women's 10000 Meters | -36.218 | $\mathbf{3 5 8 . 3 4 8}$ | -40.090 | 2722.824 | $\mathbf{- 3 6 . 1 7 7}$ |  |
| Women's Marathon | -17.989 | $\mathbf{7 1 2 9 . 1 5 3}$ | -18.243 | 24141.174 | $\mathbf{- 1 7 . 6 2 0}$ |  |

the attempt to beat the record reflects the minimum time out of all runners that year. Since runs cannot obtain a time less than 0 , the conditions are met for a Weibull distribution.

## Predicting future records

In this section, we provide our best attempt at predicting the records for the next decade using our proposed framework. We fit Weibull models using all available records since 1968, presenting forecasts for the years 2022-2032. We hope this will help evaluate the performance of the method a decade from now, and other researchers who might want to benchmark their results against ours. We report our results for each year as a credence interval. We highlight the $5 \%, 15 \%, 50 \%, 85 \%$, and $95 \%$ quantiles of the prediction. An example forecast is presented in Figure 6, and a panel of the forecasts for all of the men's events is presented in Figure 7. Tables containing the forecasts for all events, as well as individual plots for each event, can be found in Appendix B.


Figure 6: Forecast for the women's mile run event, using a Weibull attempt model.


Figure 7: A collection of forecasts for the men's events. Full resolution plots available in Appendix B.

## Conclusion

Predicting records is of paramount importance for science - with use cases ranging from predicting temperature records to forecasting the development of new technologies.

In this article, we have developed a Bayesian account for predicting records. Our work is quite general and extends to all situations in which the underlying attempts follow an i.i.d. distribution.

We have shown that our approach is competitive with a previous frequentist method by (Tryfos \& Blackmore, 1985) in terms of MSE for predicting records in 6 athletic events.

We have also investigated the predictive accuracy of different attempt distributions on data for 11 athletic events. While the conclusions aren't clear-cut, the evidence suggests that the Weibull distribution results in a better fit for the data in terms of a log-likelihood loss.

Using our method we have forecasted the records for these 11 athletic events for the period of 2022 to 2032. We hope other researchers will be able to use this as a basis for comparison.

We have released an open-source PyMC3 package accompanying this paper, fmax. Researchers and practitioners can use this framework to model record distributions using their own data.

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Appendix A: Proof of proposition 1

To reason about the conditional density $f_{Y_{i+1} \mid Y_{i}=y_{i}}$ it is useful to consider the procedure of drawing a sample of the corresponding random variable. Suppose at time $t=j$ the observed record for the minimum is $y_{j}$. Then, given that the CDF of $X_{j+1}$ is $F_{X_{j+1}}=F_{X}$, the probability that the record $Y_{j+1}$ exceeds $y_{j}$ is

$$
P\left(Y_{j+1} \geq Y_{j} \mid Y_{j}=y_{j}\right)=1-F_{X}\left(y_{j}\right)
$$

and in this case we must have $y_{j+1}=y_{j}$ since the attempt doesn't change the record for the minimum. In the alternative case that $Y_{j+1}$ is less than $y_{j}$, a sample is drawn from the distribution of $X$ conditioned on the event $X \leq y_{j}$. Let $Z_{j}$ denote a random variable that admits a PDF

$$
f_{Z_{j}}(z)=\frac{1}{F_{X}\left(y_{j-1}\right)} f_{X}(z) \chi_{z \leq y_{j-1}}
$$

where $\chi$ denotes the indicator function. Then our sampling procedure can be summarized as

$$
\begin{aligned}
u a m p ; & \sim \operatorname{Bernoulli}\left(F_{X}\left(y_{j}\right)\right), \\
y_{j+1} a m p ; & \sim \begin{cases}Z_{j}, & a m p ; \text { if } u=1, \\
\operatorname{Constant}\left(y_{j}\right), & a m p ; \text { if } u=0 .\end{cases}
\end{aligned}
$$

From this expression it is clear that the random variable $Y_{j+1} \mid Y_{j}=y_{j}$ is a mixed random variable, meaning that it consists of both a discrete and a continuous component. The PDF of such a random variable involves Dirac delta functions and the CDF has jump discontinuities. Omitting its derivation (see the Appendix), the likelihood function for a sequence of observed records $\left\{r_{1}, r_{2}, \ldots, r_{n}\right\}$ can be expressed as

$$
\begin{aligned}
f_{Y_{1: n}}\left(r_{1}, \ldots, r_{n} \mid \theta\right) a m p & =\left(\prod_{j \in C} F_{X}\left(r_{j-1}\right) f_{Z_{j}}\left(r_{j}\right)\right)\left(\prod_{j \in D}\left(1-F_{X}\left(r_{j-1}\right)\right)\right) \\
a m p ; & =\left(\prod_{j \in C} F_{X}\left(r_{j-1}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{F_{X}\left(r_{j-1}\right)} f_{X}\left(r_{j}\right) \chi_{r_{j} \leq y_{j-1}}\right)\left(\prod_{j \in D}\left(1-F_{X}\left(r_{j}\right)\right)\right) \\
a m p ; & =\left(\prod_{j \in C} f_{X}\left(r_{j}\right)\right)\left(\prod_{j \in D}\left(1-F_{X}\left(r_{j}\right)\right)\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

where $C$ denotes the set of time indices for the records which changed the running minimum and $D$ denotes the set of time indices for the records which didn't change the running minimum. Note that we can determine the sets $C$ and $D$ by checking successively checking whether or not arecord changed since the previous record. Note also that we drop the factors $\chi_{z \leq y_{j-1}}$ from the likelihood since they are redundant ; $j \in C$ if and only if $r_{j} \leq y_{j-1}$. Presuming that we can evaluate the CDF and PDF of $X$ for any $\theta$, the evaluation of this form of the likelihood is straightforward. If we seek a model for a running maximum rather than a minimum, we can make a similar argument to find that the likelihood in this case becomes

$$
\begin{aligned}
f_{Y_{1: n}}\left(r_{1}, \ldots, r_{n} \mid \theta\right) a m p & ;=\left(\prod_{j \in C}\left(1-F_{X}\left(r_{j-1}\right)\right) \cdot \frac{1}{\left(1-F_{X}\left(r_{j-1}\right)\right)} f_{X}\left(r_{j}\right) \chi_{r_{j} \geq y_{j-1}}\right)\left(\prod_{j \in D} F_{X}\left(r_{j}\right)\right) \\
a m p ; & =\left(\prod_{j \in C} f_{X}\left(r_{j}\right)\right)\left(\prod_{j \in D} F_{X}\left(r_{j}\right)\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

with the appropriate modifcations in notation for switching to the maximum.

Appendix B: Forecasts for all events using a Weibull attempt distribution.
The plots show the historical record in green, and the forecasted distribution in blue. In purple we show the mean.
In the tables we include the $5 \%, 15 \%, 50 \%, 85 \%, 95 \%$ percentiles and the mean of the distribution for each year between 2023 and 2032 .


Figure 8: Forecast for the men's mile run event, using a Weibull attempt model.

| Men's Mile Run |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
| $5 \%$ | 221.700 | 219.869 | 218.541 | 217.771 | 217.238 | 216.563 | 216.140 | 215.528 | 215.176 | 214.816 |
| $15 \%$ | 223.130 | 223.032 | 222.037 | 221.249 | 220.630 | 220.089 | 219.710 | 219.338 | 219.067 | 218.806 |
| $50 \%$ | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.023 |
| $85 \%$ | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 |
| $95 \%$ | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 | 223.130 |
| Mean | 222.872 | 222.667 | 222.452 | 222.247 | 222.070 | 221.875 | 221.717 | 221.549 | 221.402 | 221.270 |



Figure 9: Forecast for the men's 5000 meter run event, using a Weibull attempt model.

| Men's 5000 M |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
| $5 \%$ | 746.244 | 735.782 | 731.595 | 727.079 | 723.798 | 721.009 | 719.030 | 717.754 | 715.459 | 714.333 |
| $15 \%$ | 755.360 | 751.862 | 746.984 | 742.987 | 739.913 | 737.276 | 735.411 | 733.734 | 732.101 | 730.642 |
| $50 \%$ | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 753.827 | 752.492 | 751.146 |
| $85 \%$ | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 |
| $95 \%$ | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 | 755.360 |
| Mean | 754.027 | 752.664 | 751.529 | 750.305 | 749.156 | 748.189 | 747.294 | 746.391 | 745.469 | 744.723 |



Figure 10: Forecast for the men's 10000 meter run event, using a Weibull attempt model.

| Men's 10000 M |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 |
| $5 \%$ | 1549.133 | 1529.001 | 1515.671 | 1507.667 | 1499.729 | 1493.763 | 1488.453 | 1483.908 | 1480.733 |
| $15 \%$ | 1571.000 | 1560.467 | 1549.666 | 1541.676 | 1535.418 | 1530.620 | 1526.658 | 1522.914 | 1519.520 |
| $50 \%$ | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1570.128 | 1566.447 | 1562.402 |
| $85 \%$ | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 |
| $95 \%$ | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 | 1571.000 |
| Mean | 1567.684 | 1564.612 | 1561.785 | 1559.197 | 1556.670 | 1554.383 | 1552.431 | 1550.498 | 1548.441 |



Figure 11: Forecast for the men's 20000 meter run event, using a Weibull attempt model.

| Men's 20000 M |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 |
| $5 \%$ | 3346.052 | 3322.007 | 3306.363 | 3294.180 | 3286.358 | 3279.879 | 3271.824 | 3270.657 | 3265.552 |
| $15 \%$ | 3380.020 | 3366.939 | 3351.314 | 3341.700 | 3332.459 | 3326.468 | 3321.829 | 3317.942 | 3314.704 |
| $50 \%$ | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3375.903 | 3372.039 |
| $85 \%$ | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 |
| $95 \%$ | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 | 3380.020 |
| Mean | 3375.214 | 3371.503 | 3367.896 | 3364.506 | 3361.333 | 3358.737 | 3355.898 | 3353.788 | 3351.885 |



Figure 12: Forecast for the men's Marathon event, using a Weibull attempt model.

| Men's Marathon |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 |
| $5 \%$ | 7210.013 | 7120.834 | 7072.999 | 7025.397 | 6995.733 | 6977.074 | 6949.472 | 6934.098 | 6913.576 |
| $15 \%$ | 7299.000 | 7282.595 | 7230.468 | 7191.317 | 7161.068 | 7141.663 | 7119.901 | 7100.728 | 7085.708 |
| $50 \%$ | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7291.665 |
| $85 \%$ | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 |
| $95 \%$ | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 | 7299.000 |
| Mean | 7285.462 | 7274.152 | 7264.177 | 7253.715 | 7244.807 | 7236.743 | 7227.567 | 7219.616 | 7211.340 |



Figure 13: Forecast for the women's mile run event, using a Weibull attempt model.

| Women's Mile Run |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
| $5 \%$ | 241.485 | 234.801 | 231.596 | 229.318 | 227.781 | 226.558 | 224.863 | 223.427 | 221.937 | 220. |
| $15 \%$ | 252.283 | 245.752 | 241.983 | 239.613 | 238.127 | 236.486 | 235.269 | 234.183 | 233.128 | 232. |
| $50 \%$ | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 251.367 | 249.670 | 248.360 | 247.266 | 246.249 | 245. |
| $85 \%$ | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252. |
| $95 \%$ | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252.330 | 252. |
| Mean | 250.877 | 249.520 | 248.320 | 247.274 | 246.355 | 245.462 | 244.665 | 243.919 | 243.170 | 242. |



Figure 14: Forecast for the women's 1000 meter run event, using a Weibull attempt model.

| Women's 1000 M |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
| $5 \%$ | 123.219 | 115.159 | 110.267 | 106.359 | 103.893 | 101.900 | 100.132 | 98.667 | 96.914 | 95.522 |
| $15 \%$ | 138.311 | 129.567 | 124.976 | 121.006 | 118.971 | 116.652 | 115.022 | 113.370 | 112.215 | 111.41 |
| $50 \%$ | 148.980 | 148.980 | 144.257 | 141.208 | 138.617 | 136.360 | 134.727 | 132.935 | 131.534 | 130.44 |
| $85 \%$ | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.908 | 147.303 | 145.996 | 144.78 |
| $95 \%$ | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.980 | 148.98 |
| Mean | 144.572 | 141.231 | 138.629 | 136.306 | 134.407 | 132.723 | 131.338 | 129.911 | 128.699 | 127.69 |



Figure 15: Forecast for the women's 5000 meter run event, using a Weibull attempt model.

| Women's 5000 M |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
| $5 \%$ | 815.144 | 792.258 | 779.824 | 772.488 | 765.834 | 758.765 | 754.099 | 750.127 | 745.510 | 741.99 |
| $15 \%$ | 846.620 | 831.699 | 818.445 | 809.310 | 801.140 | 794.899 | 790.372 | 786.619 | 782.870 | 780.14 |
| $50 \%$ | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 844.468 | 840.244 | 836.266 | 832.596 | 829.30 |
| $85 \%$ | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.62 |
| $95 \%$ | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.620 | 846.62 |
| Mean | 842.557 | 838.839 | 835.247 | 832.066 | 828.752 | 825.707 | 823.162 | 820.880 | 818.680 | 816.64 |



Figure 16: Forecast for the women's 10000 meter run event, using a Weibull attempt model.

| Women's 10000 M |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 |
| $5 \%$ | 1550.304 | 1448.169 | 1384.777 | 1345.584 | 1313.976 | 1292.429 | 1269.354 | 1248.860 | 1231.7 |
| $15 \%$ | 1720.029 | 1614.853 | 1549.713 | 1515.500 | 1479.115 | 1455.277 | 1432.242 | 1414.355 | 1393.7 |
| $50 \%$ | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1735.545 | 1701.818 | 1676.206 | 1654.447 | 1635.369 | 1618.3 |
| $85 \%$ | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.0 |
| $95 \%$ | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.030 | 1741.0 |
| Mean | 1715.697 | 1690.610 | 1668.621 | 1649.936 | 1630.922 | 1614.456 | 1599.926 | 1586.273 | 1573.3 |



Figure 17: Forecast for the women's marathon event, using a Weibull attempt model.

| Women's Marathon |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 |
| $5 \%$ | 6861.300 | 6359.315 | 6031.158 | 5803.483 | 5642.323 | 5550.896 | 5435.129 | 5310.331 | 5254. |
| $15 \%$ | 7826.202 | 7255.647 | 6913.038 | 6664.624 | 6488.961 | 6335.872 | 6245.672 | 6128.398 | 6048. |
| $50 \%$ | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 7922.313 | 7736.367 | 7582.565 | 7446.883 | 7336.415 | 7243. |
| $85 \%$ | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044. |
| $95 \%$ | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044.000 | 8044. |
| Mean | 7880.817 | 7738.886 | 7604.671 | 7490.326 | 7385.662 | 7289.743 | 7206.064 | 7124.282 | 7050. |

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