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# On a bounded bimodal two-sided distribution fitted to the Old-Faithful Geyser Data

*"Presentation Short Course: Beyond Beta and Applications"*  
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THE GEORGE  
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# OUTLINE

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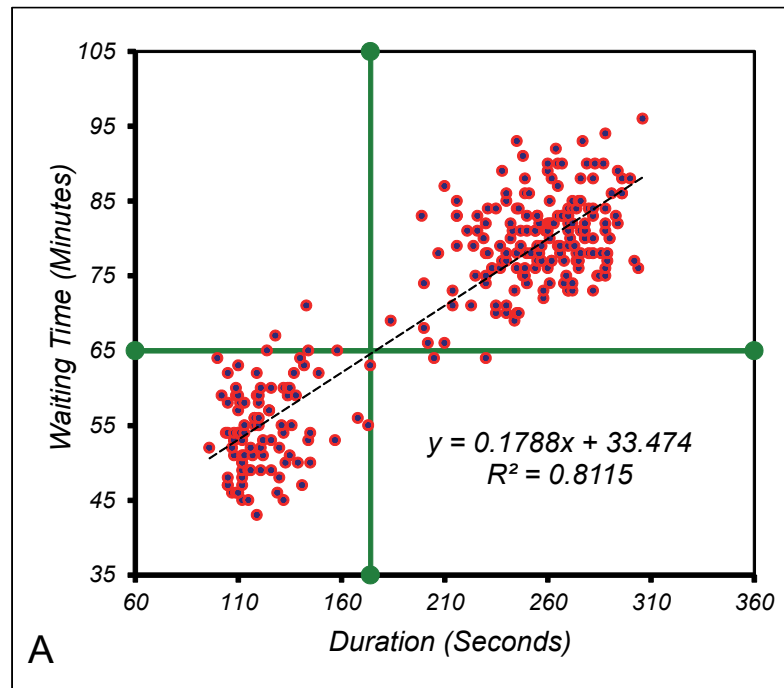
1. **Introduction**
2. A two-sided framework of univariate distributions
3. PDF and CDF of TS-EP distributions
4. Maximum Likelihood Estimation
5. A comparison of the Joint TS-EP fit to a bivariate mixture model fit
6. Concluding Remarks
7. Some References

- **The Old Faithful geyser at Yellowstone National Park**, Wyoming, USA, was observed from August 1st to August 15th, 1985. During that time, data were collected on eruptions. **There were 272 durations ( $D$ ) of and waiting time ( $W$ ) between eruptions observed**, of which 15 data points are listed below.

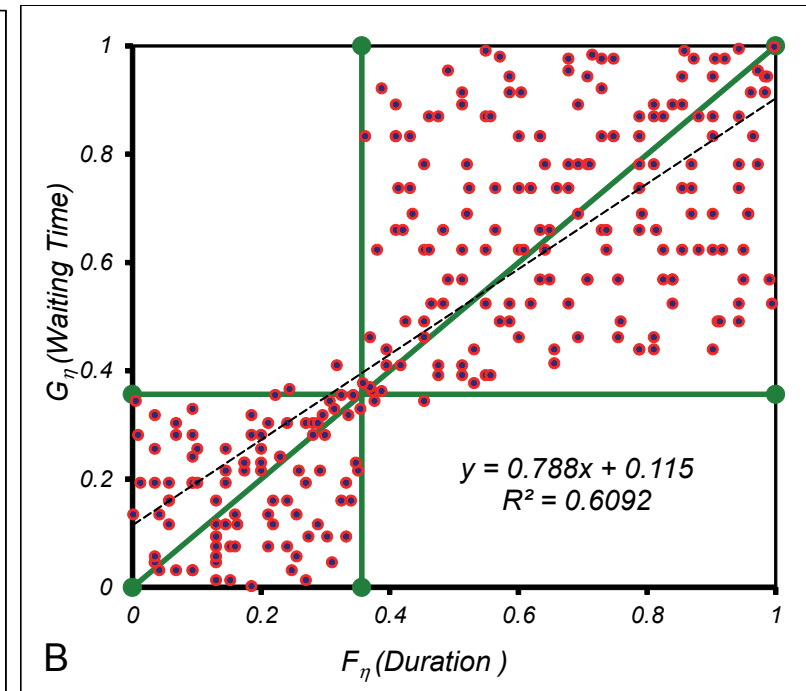
	Duration (s)	Waiting Time (Min)
1	119	43
2	112	45
3	115	45
4	132	45
5	107	46
6	109	46
7	110	46
8	110	46
9	129	46
10	105	47
11	105	47
12	112	47
13	141	47
14	105	48
15	112	48



- It has been a popular data set to demonstrate a variety of statistical techniques e.g: **kernel density estimation** (e.g. Silverman, 1986), **time-series analysis** (e.g. Azzalini and Bowman, 1990), **clustering** (e.g. Atkinson and Riani, 2006), and **distribution theory** (e.g. Eilers and Borgdorff, 2007), to name a few. **This presentation/paper falls in the latter category.**



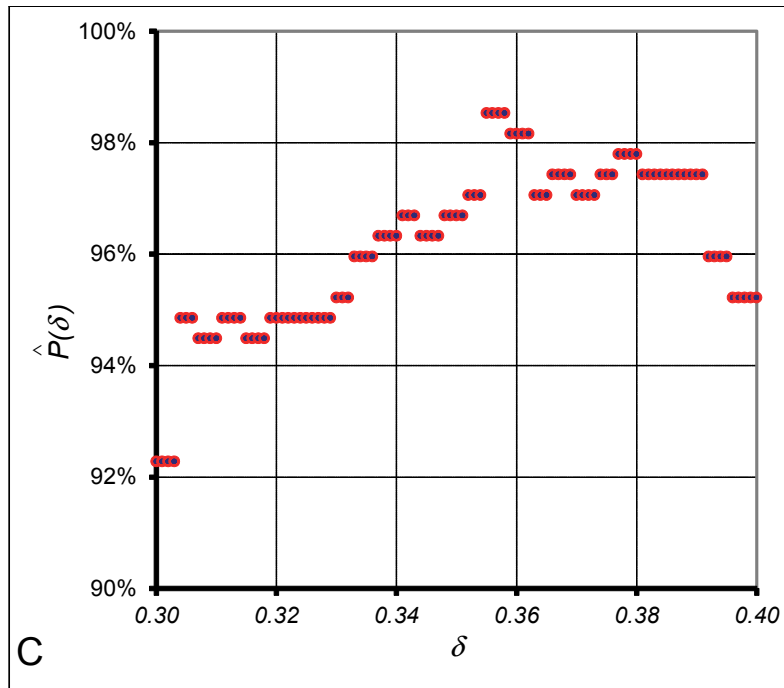
Scatter plot of  $(d_i, w_i)$ .



Scatter plot of  $(F_\eta(d_i), G_\eta(w_i))$ .

$$F_\eta(d_i) = \frac{1}{\eta} \sum_{j=1}^{\eta} 1_{[0, d_i]}(d_j), \quad G_\eta(w_i) = \frac{1}{\eta} \sum_{j=1}^{\eta} 1_{[0, w_i]}(w_j), \quad i = 1, \dots, \eta, \quad \eta = 272$$

- One observes a **clear clustering** and a **strong statistical dependence** in  $(D, W)$ .



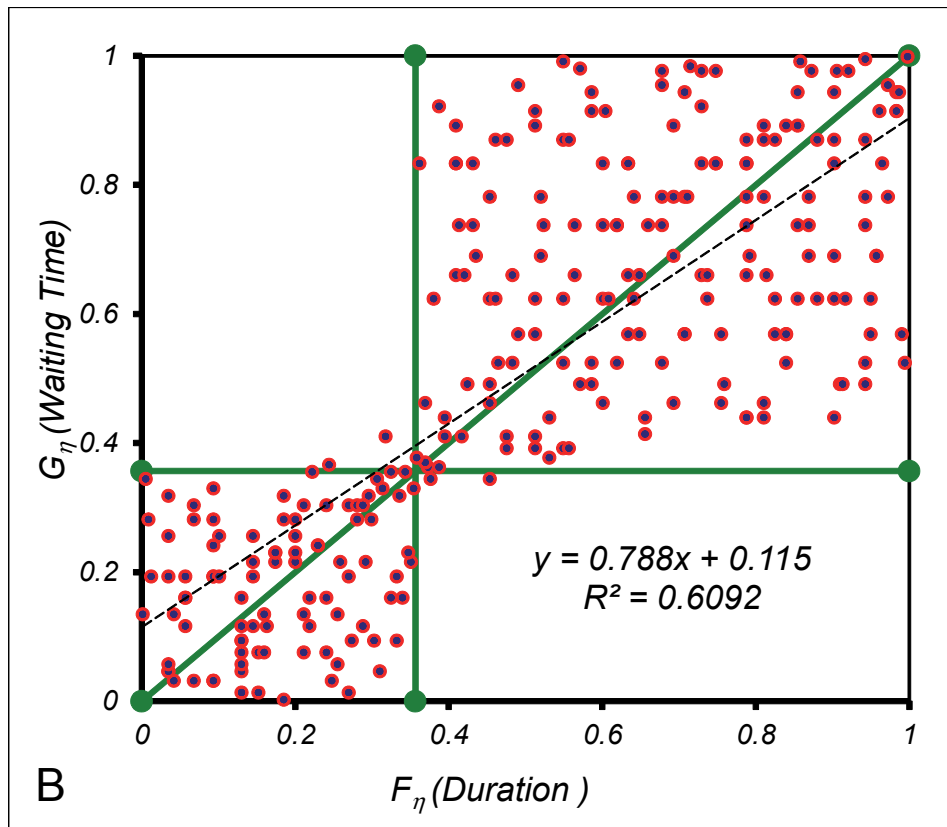
$$\hat{P}(\delta) = \frac{\# \text{ data points in } \in [0, \delta]^2 \cup (\delta, 1]^2}{\eta}$$

- Use **a two-dimensional mixture technique** with  $S(\cdot, \cdot)$  and  $T(\cdot, \cdot)$  **copulas**.

$$C(u, v|\delta) = \delta \times S\left(\frac{u}{\delta}, \frac{v}{\delta}\right) + (1 - \delta)T\left(\frac{u - \delta}{1 - \delta}, \frac{v - \delta}{1 - \delta}\right), (u, v) \in [0, 1]^2, \delta \in [0, 1] \setminus \{1\}$$

It is not difficult to show that  **$C(u, v|\delta)$**  then is too a **copula** on  $[0, 1]^2$ .

- **98.5%** of data  $(F_\eta(d_i), G_\eta(w_i)) \in [0, \delta]^2 \cup (\delta, 1]^2$  for  $\delta \in (0.355, 0.358)$ .
- In fact, **only 4 out of the 272 data points** do not fall within this area.
- A challenge in modeling **a bivariate distribution** for this data is the lack of observations in  $[0, \delta] \times [\delta, 1]$  and  $[\delta, 1] \times [0, \delta]$  areas.
- A copula is **a joint distribution with  $U[0, 1]$  marginals**.

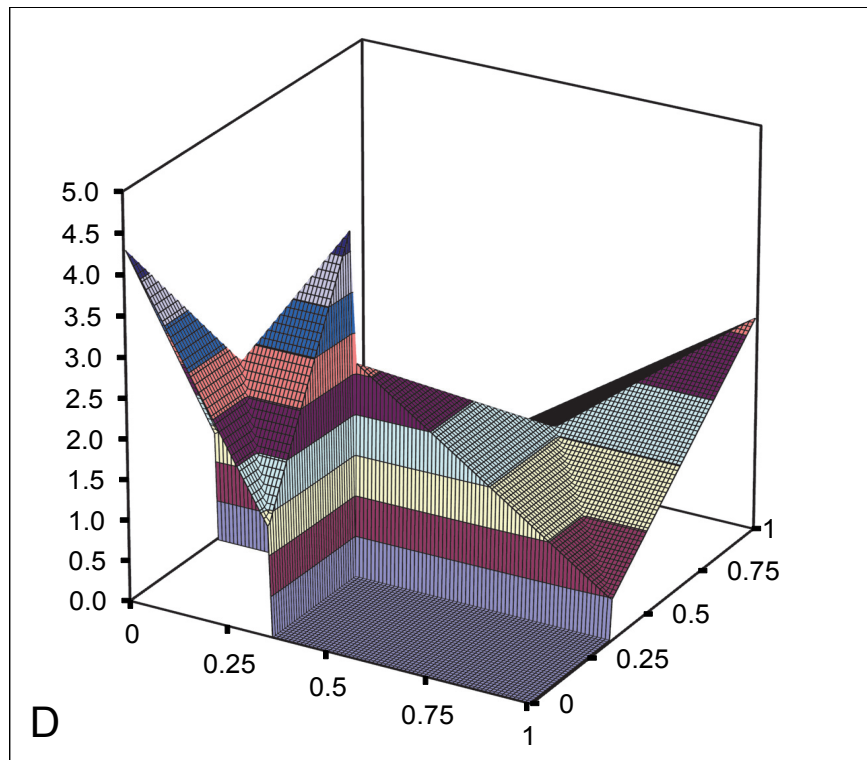


- Set  $\delta$  equal to mid-point of interval:  

$$\delta = (0.355 + 0.358)/2 = 0.3565.$$
- $S(\cdot, \cdot)$  a copula with  $\rho = 0.214$ ,  
 $T(\cdot, \cdot)$  a copula with  $\rho = 0.278$   
 $\Rightarrow$  bivariate copula  $C(u, v|\delta)$  captures these characteristics of figure to the left.
- For  $S(\cdot, \cdot | \alpha_s)$  and  $T(\cdot, \cdot | \alpha_t)$  select **generalized diagonal band copulas with Two-Sided slope generating densities** (see, Kotz and van Dorp, 2010) with

$$\rho(\alpha_s) = -\frac{2}{5} + \frac{2}{5}\alpha_s \in [-0.4, 0.4].$$

$$\rho(\alpha_s) = 0.214, \rho(\alpha_t) = 0.278 \Rightarrow \alpha_s = 1.535, \alpha_t = 1.696.$$



- We have for the density  $S(u, v | \alpha_s)$  :

$$\begin{cases} \alpha_s - 2(\alpha_s - 1)v, & (x, y) \in A_1, \\ \alpha_s - 2(\alpha_s - 1)u, & (x, y) \in A_2, \\ \alpha_s - 2(\alpha_s - 1)(1 - u), & (x, y) \in A_3, \\ \alpha_s - 2(\alpha_s - 1)(1 - v), & (x, y) \in A_4, \end{cases}$$

where  $0 \leq \alpha_s \leq 2$  and **areas**:

$$A_1 = \{(u, v) \in [0, 1]^2 | 0 < u + v \leq 1, -1 < u - v \leq 0\},$$

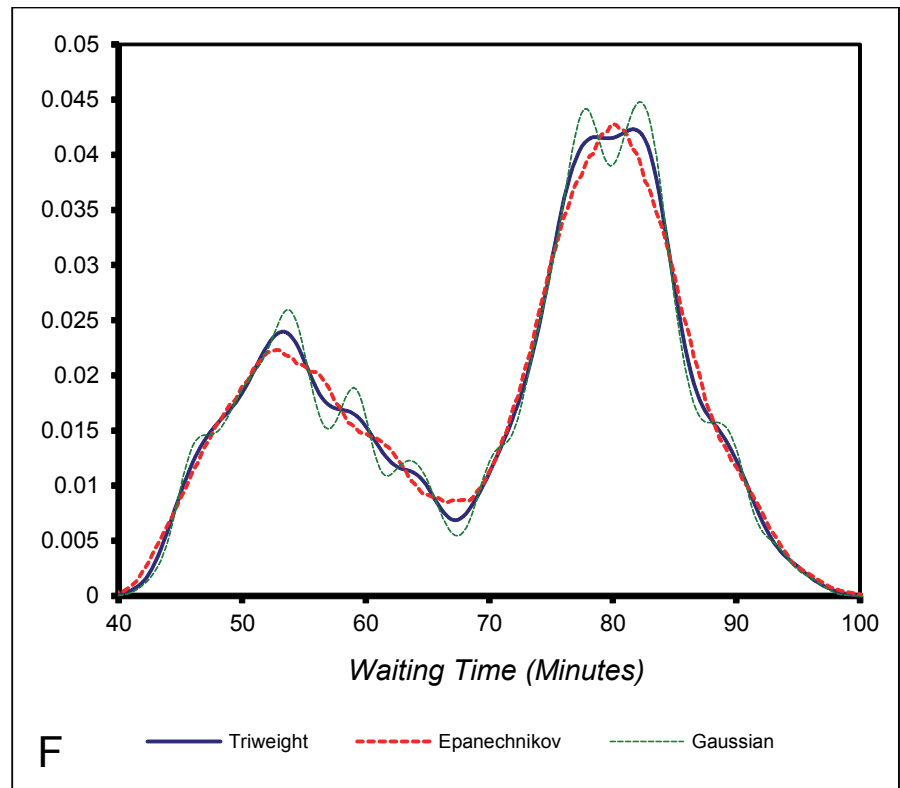
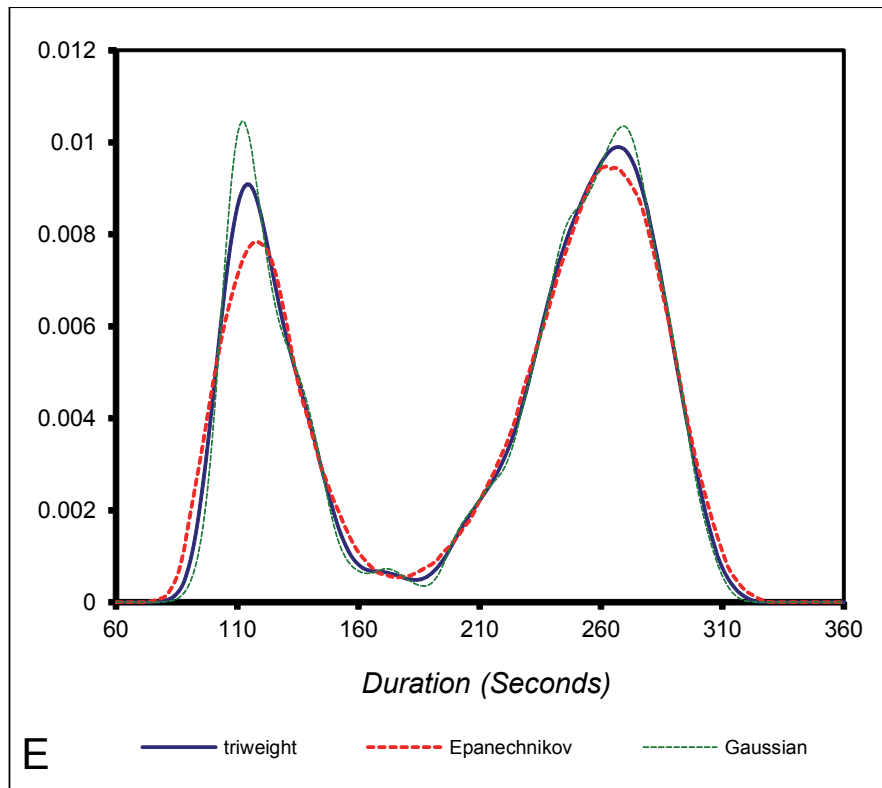
$$A_2 = \{(u, v) \in [0, 1]^2 | 0 < u + v \leq 1, 0 < u - v < 1\},$$

$$A_3 = \{(u, v) \in [0, 1]^2 | 1 < u + v \leq 2, -1 < u - v \leq 0\},$$

$$A_4 = \{(u, v) \in [0, 1]^2 | 1 < u + v \leq 2, 0 < u - v < 1\}.$$

- Same for the density  $T(u, v | \alpha_t)$

- Advantages of copulas  $S(u, v | \alpha_s)$ ,  $T(u, v | \alpha_T)$  and  $C(u, v | \delta)$**  are they have **closed form pdfs and cdfs**. Most importantly, they were **shown to be approximately least informative in the entropy sense** given their correlation constraints (see, Kotz and van Dorp, 2010).



- **All that remains** is the **modeling of the marginal distributions** for the old faithful geyser data. Naturally, one could follow the traditional approach of non-parametric density estimation through **kernel density estimation**.
- Our goal is to **develop a parametric model for these marginals**.



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- **Vicari et al.'s (2008) Two-Sided (TS) framework** using cdfs  $G(\cdot | \Phi)$  and  $H(\cdot | \Psi)$ :

$$Pr(Y \leq y | \Theta) = \begin{cases} p(\Omega) \left\{ G\left(\frac{y}{\theta} | \Phi\right) \right\}^m, & \text{for } 0 < y < \theta, \\ 1 - \{1 - p(\Omega)\} \left\{ 1 - H\left(\frac{y-\theta}{1-\theta} | \Psi\right) \right\}^n, & \text{for } \theta \leq y < 1, \end{cases}$$

where  $\Theta = (\Omega, \Phi, \Psi)$ ,  $\Omega = (\theta, m, n)$  are the TS power parameters and

$$p(\Omega) = \frac{\theta n}{(1 - \theta)m + \theta n} \text{ (not a function of } G(\cdot | \Phi) \text{ and } H(\cdot | \Psi)\text{)}.$$

- One obtains for the corresponding **probability density function (pdf)** :

$$f_Y(y | \Theta) = \frac{mn}{(1 - \theta)m + \theta n} \begin{cases} g\left(\frac{y}{\theta}\right) \left\{ G\left(\frac{y}{\theta} | \Phi\right) \right\}^{m-1}, & \text{for } 0 < y < \theta, \\ h\left(\frac{y-\theta}{1-\theta}\right) \left\{ 1 - H\left(\frac{y-\theta}{1-\theta} | \Psi\right) \right\}^{n-1}, & \text{for } \theta \leq y < 1, \end{cases}$$

- $f_Y(\theta^+ | \Theta) - f_Y(\theta^- | \Theta) = h(0 | \Psi) - g(1 | \Phi) \Rightarrow$  **discontinuous when  $\neq 0$ .**

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- Use a **reflected** **elevated power distribution on [0, 1]** García et al (2011) with pdfs:

$$g(x|\alpha, \phi) = \phi + (1 - \phi)\alpha(1 - x)^{\alpha-1},$$

$$h(x|\beta, \psi) = \psi + (1 - \psi)\beta x^{\beta-1},$$

where  $\phi, \psi \in [0, 1]$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \geq 1$ . Observe **elevated power distributions** are themselves **mixtures of a uniform and a power distribution**.

- One obtains the **probability density function (pdf)**:

$$f_Y(y|\Theta) = \frac{mn}{(1 - \theta)m + \theta n} \times \begin{cases} \left\{ \phi + (1 - \phi)\alpha \left(\frac{\theta - y}{\theta}\right)^{\alpha-1} \right\} \left\{ 1 - \phi \left(\frac{\theta - y}{\theta}\right) - (1 - \phi) \left(\frac{\theta - y}{\theta}\right)^{\alpha} \right\}^{m-1}, & \text{for } 0 < y < \theta, \\ \left\{ \psi + (1 - \psi)\beta \left(\frac{y - \theta}{1 - \theta}\right)^{\beta-1} \right\} \left\{ \psi \left(\frac{y - \theta}{1 - \theta}\right) + (1 - \psi) \left(\frac{y - \theta}{1 - \theta}\right)^{\beta} \right\}^{n-1}, & \text{for } \theta \leq y < 1, \end{cases}$$

- $f_Y(\theta^+|\Theta) - f_Y(\theta^-|\Theta) = \psi - \phi \Rightarrow$  **continuous on [0, 1] provided  $\psi = \phi$** .

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- For a random ordered sample  $\underline{X} = (X_{(1)}, \dots, X_{(s)})$  the **log likelihood function** is :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Log}\{L(\underline{X}, \Theta)\} &= s \text{Log}\left\{\frac{mn}{(1-\theta)m + \theta n}\right\} + \\ &\sum_{i=1}^r \text{Log}\left\{g\left(\frac{X_{(i)}}{\theta} \mid \alpha, \phi\right)\right\} + (m-1) \sum_{i=1}^r \text{Log}\left\{G\left(\frac{X_{(i)}}{\theta} \mid \alpha, \phi\right)\right\} + \\ &\sum_{i=r+1}^s \text{Log}\left\{h\left(\frac{X_{(i)} - \theta}{1-\theta} \mid \beta, \psi\right)\right\} + (n-1) \sum_{i=r+1}^s \text{Log}\left\{1 - H\left(\frac{X_{(i)} - \theta}{1-\theta} \mid \beta, \psi\right)\right\}, \end{aligned}$$

and  $r$  is a positive integer such that

$$X_{(r)} \leq \theta < X_{(r+1)}.$$

- The log likelihood function **does not have to be concave**.
- There is **no guarantee an MLE algorithm** above converges to a global maximum.
- This stresses the **importance of specifying a reasonable starting  $\Theta^*$**  which can be obtained through **some exploratory analysis**.

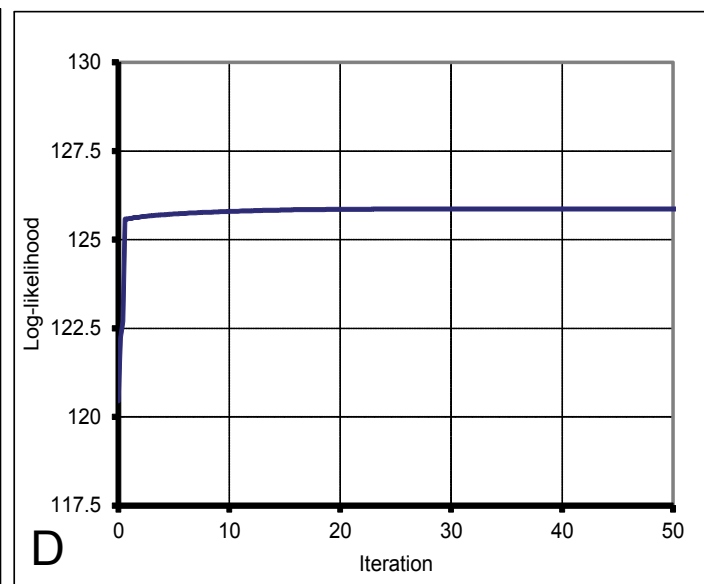
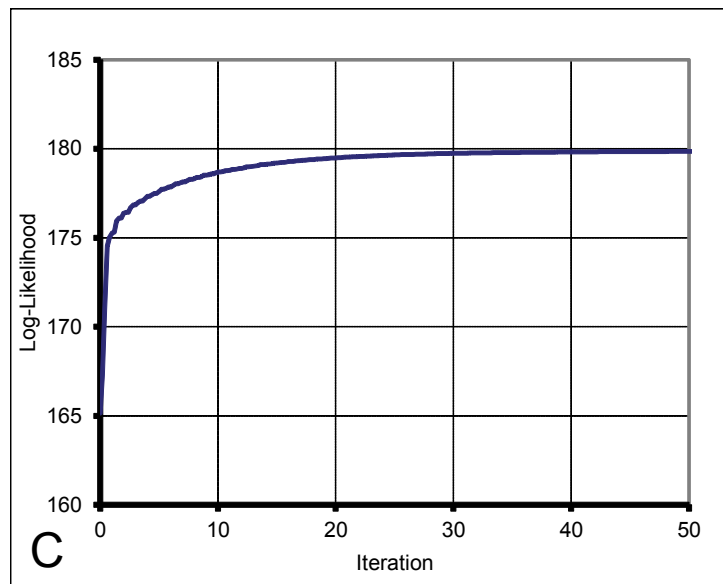
- **We propose the following algorithm** to maximize the **log likelihood**  $\text{Log}\{L(\underline{X}, \Theta)\}$  using a feasible starting point

$$\Theta^* = (\Omega^*, \Phi^*, \Psi^*), \Omega^* = (m^*, n^*, \theta^*), \Phi^* = (\alpha^*, \phi^*), \Psi^* = (\beta^*, \psi^*)$$

and as its ***k*-th iteration**:

- Step 0: Set  $k = 1$ ,  $m_1 = m^*$ ,  $n_1 = n^*$ ,  $\theta_1 = \theta^*$ ,  $\Omega_1 = (m_1, n_1, \theta_1)$   
 $\alpha_1 = \alpha^*$ ,  $\phi_1 = \phi^*$ ,  $\Phi_1 = (\alpha_1, \phi_1)$ ,  $\beta_1 = \beta^*$ ,  $\psi_1 = \psi^*$ ,  $\Psi_1 = (\beta_1, \psi_1)$
- Step 1: Determine  $\Omega_{k+1}$  by maximizing  $\text{Log}\{L(\underline{X}|\Omega, \Phi_k, \Psi_k)\}$  over  $\Omega = (m, n, \theta)$ .
- Step 2: Determine  $\Phi_{k+1}$  by maximizing  $\text{Log}\{L(\underline{X}|\Omega_{k+1}, \Phi, \Psi_k)\}$  over  $\Phi = (\alpha, \phi)$ .
- Step 3: Determine  $\Psi_{k+1}$  by maximizing  $\text{Log}\{L(\underline{X}|\Omega_{k+1}, \Phi_{k+1}, \Psi)\}$  over  $\Psi = (\beta, \psi)$ .
- Step 4: If  $|\text{Log}\{L(\underline{X}|\Omega_{k+1}, \Phi_{k+1}, \Psi_{k+1})\} - \text{Log}\{L(\underline{X}|\Omega_k, \Phi_k, \Psi_k)\}| < \epsilon$   
**STOP**  
 Else  $k = k + 1$  and Goto Step 1.

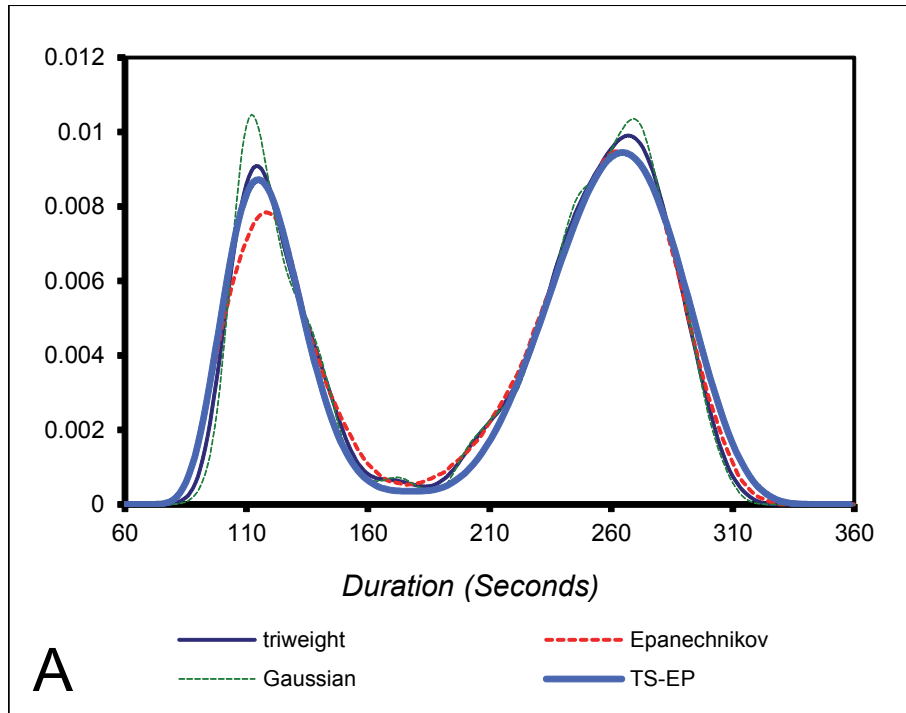
	Duration (seconds)	Waiting Time (minutes)
<b>Starting Point</b>		
TS framework	$m = 12, n = 10, \theta = 0.4$	$m = 20, n = 12, \theta = 0.45$
Left branch	$\phi = 0.01, \alpha = 4.5$	$\phi = 0.05, \alpha = 4.5$
Right branch	$\psi = \phi = 0.01, \beta = 3.5$	$\psi = \phi = 0.05, \beta = 3$
<b>MLE estimates</b>		
TS framework	$m = 27.23, n = 20.51, \theta = 0.4142$	$m = 14.89, n = 10.14, \theta = 0.4468$
Left branch	$\phi = 0.0085, \alpha = 5.808$	$\phi = 0.0526, \alpha = 4.168$
Right branch	$\psi = \phi = 0.0085, \beta = 4.184$	$\psi = \phi = 0.0526, \beta = 2.888$



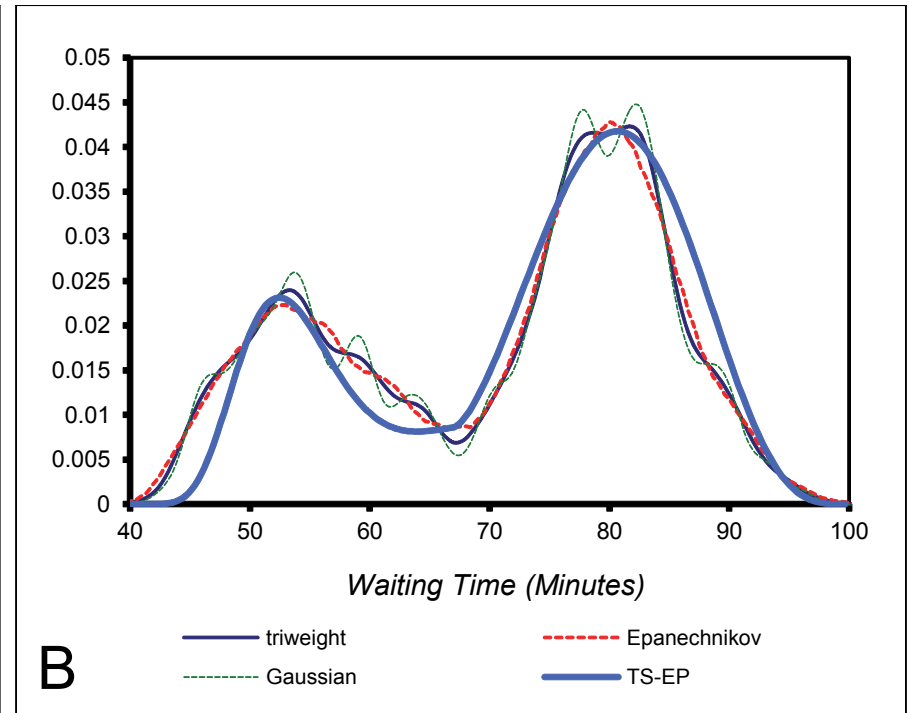
**Log-Likelihood progression by iteration**



## STARTING POINT MLE ALGORITHM

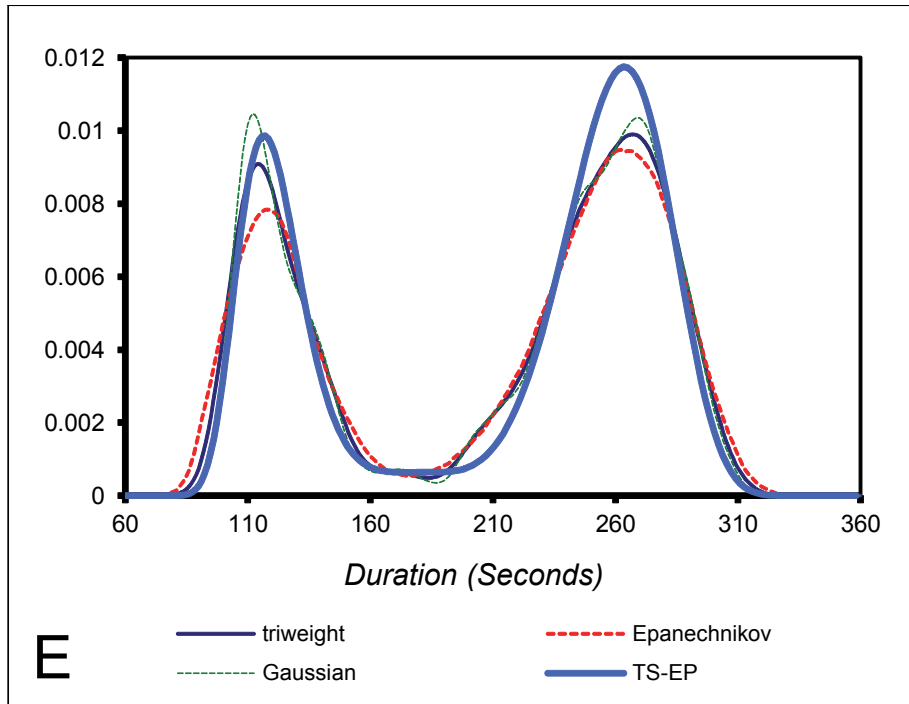


Duration

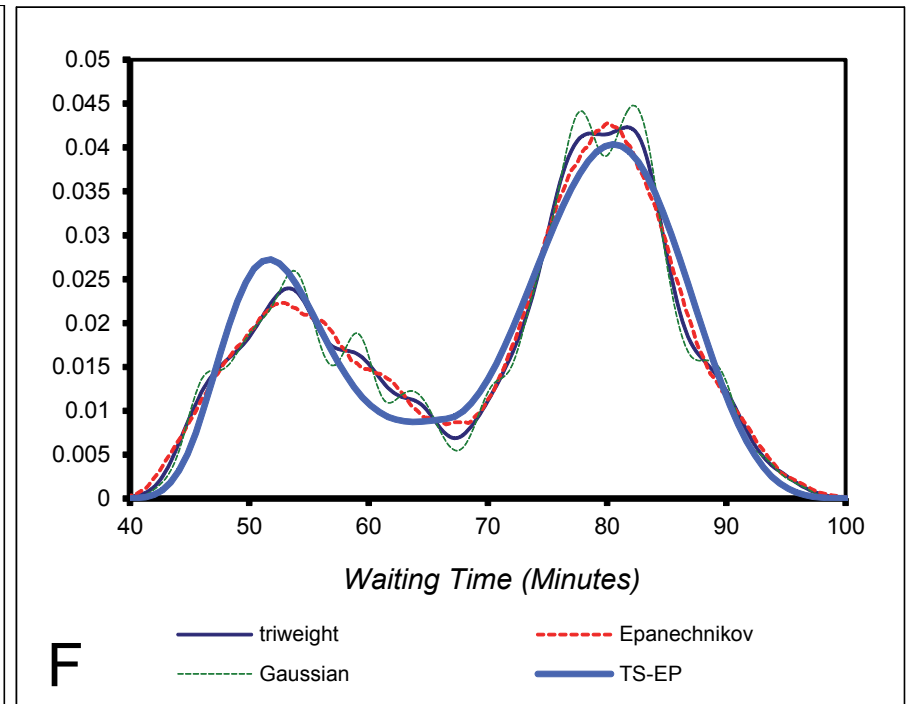


Waiting Time

## SOLUTION MLE ALGORITHM



Duration



Waiting Time

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- **Compare fit** to the Old-Faithful data using construction method **herein totaling 15 parameters** with modeling **bivariate multi modal distribution**

$$f(x, y) = \lambda BVN_1(x, y|\underline{\mu}_1, \Sigma_1) + (1 - \lambda)BVN_2(x, y|\underline{\mu}_2, \Sigma_2), \quad (20)$$

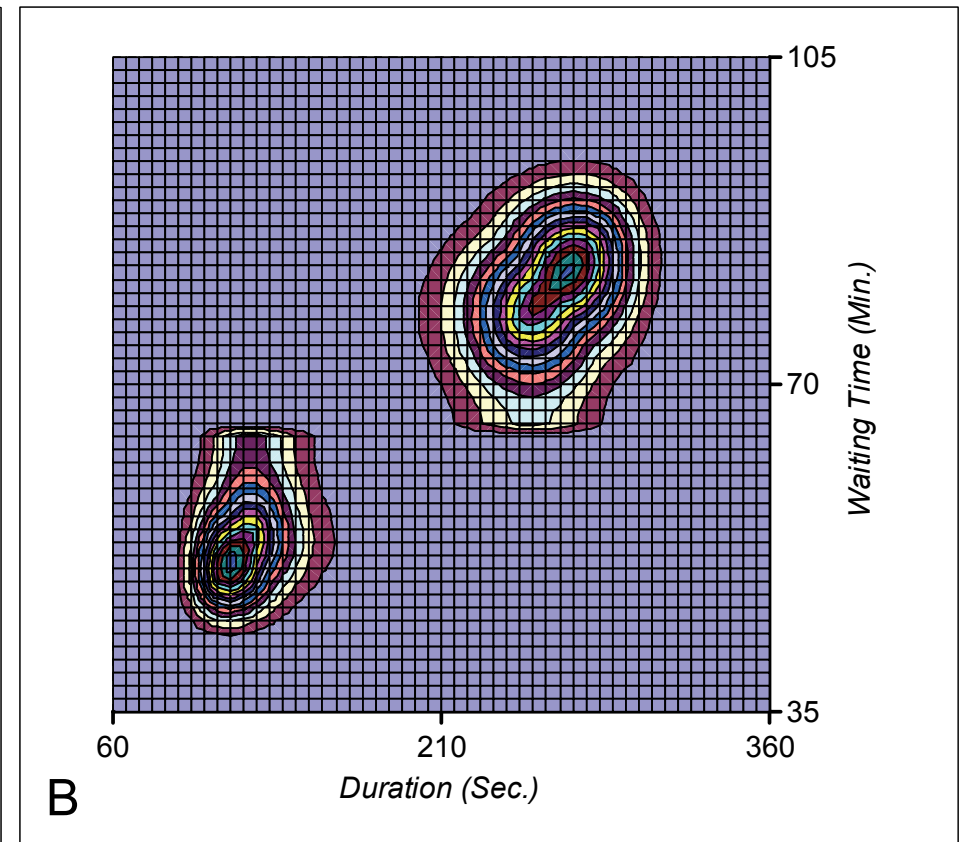
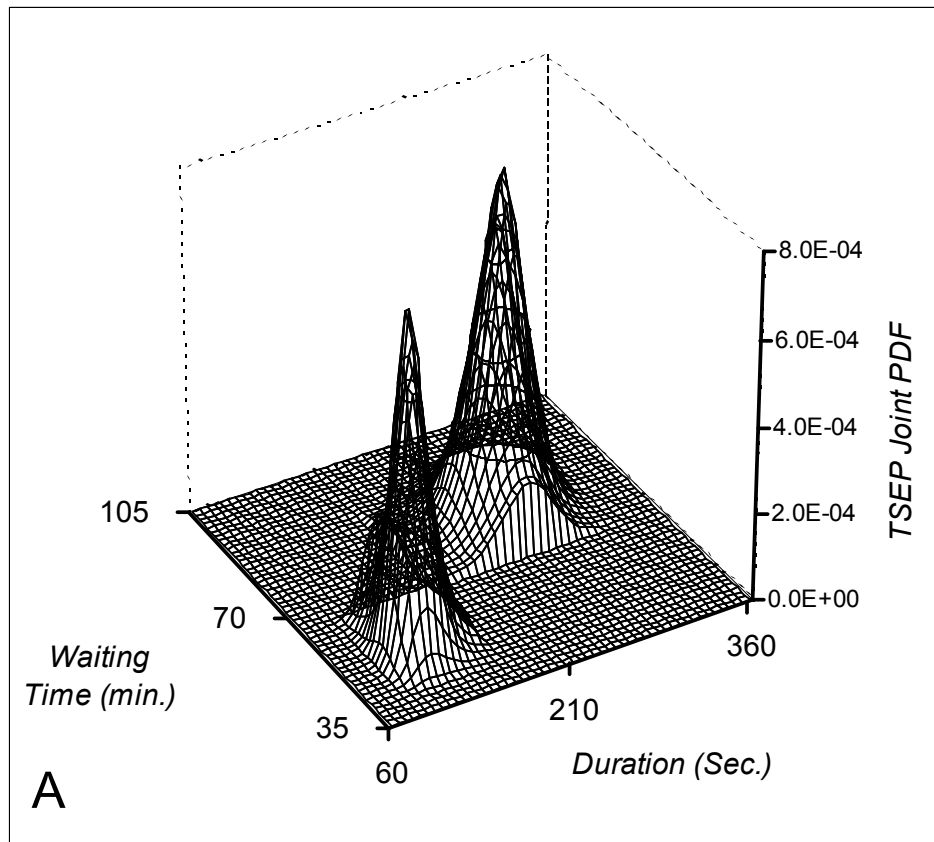
where **its 11 parameters** are estimated at:

$$\lambda = 0.356, \underline{\mu}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2785 \\ 0.2076 \end{pmatrix}, \underline{\mu}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.6427 \\ 0.65802 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (21)$$

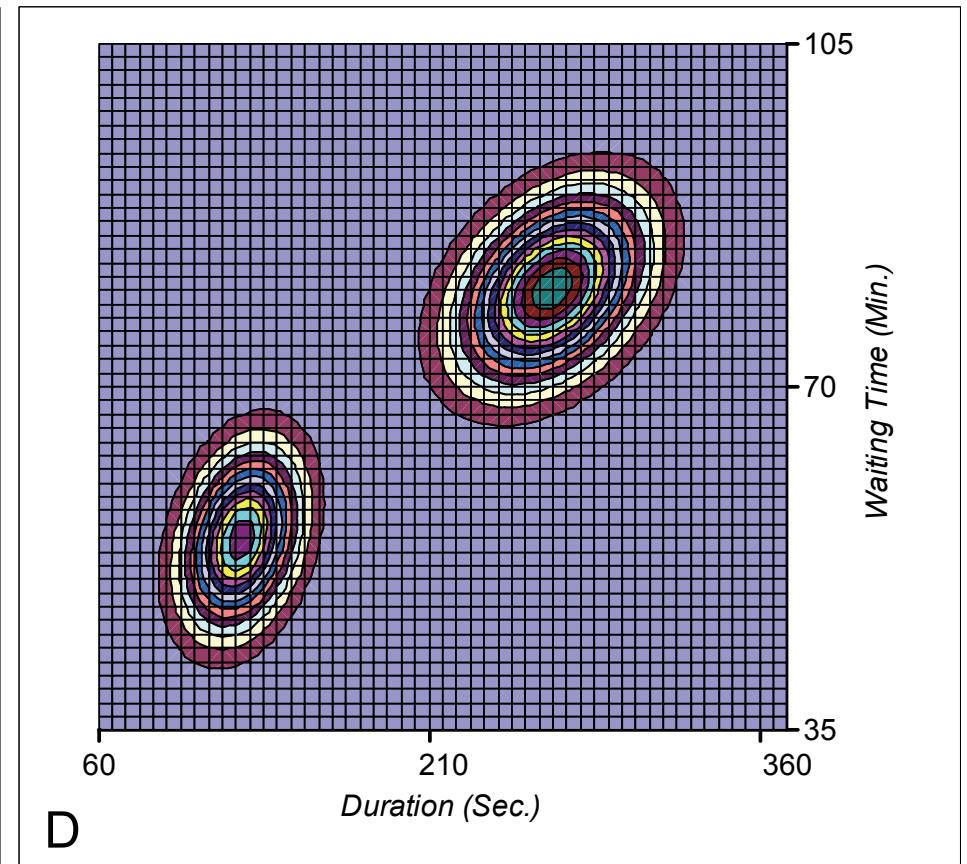
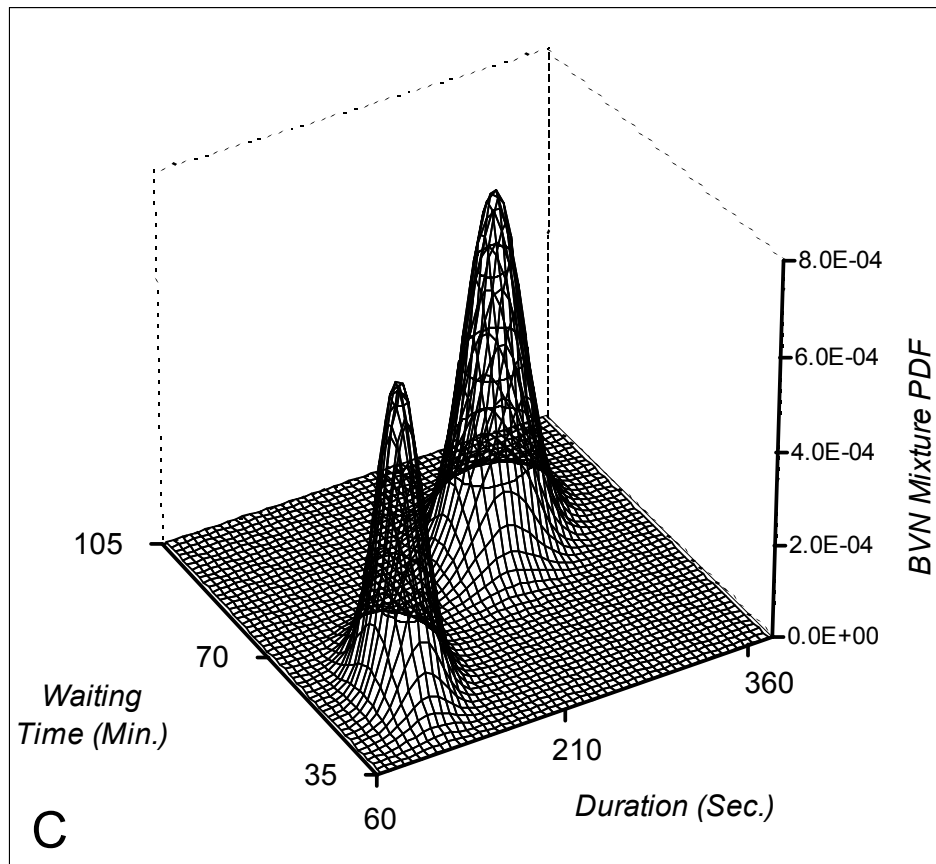
$$\Sigma_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 6.90e - 3 & 1.26e - 3 \\ 1.26e - 3 & 2.77e - 3 \end{pmatrix}, \Sigma_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 7.27e - 3 & 2.67e - 3 \\ 2.67e - 3 & 6.78e - 3 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (22)$$

- From  $\Sigma_1$  we have a **correlation of 0.28 (0.38)** for **the first (second)** component.
- **A two component BVN mixture with 11 parameters** was favored over **a three component BVN one with 17 parameters** using **the least squares criterion**.
- **Parameters** of two component mixture of bivariate normal distributions **were estimated via the EM algorithm** (see, e.g., Meng and Rubin, 1993).

## Joint Probability Density Function Two-Sided Elevated Power Model

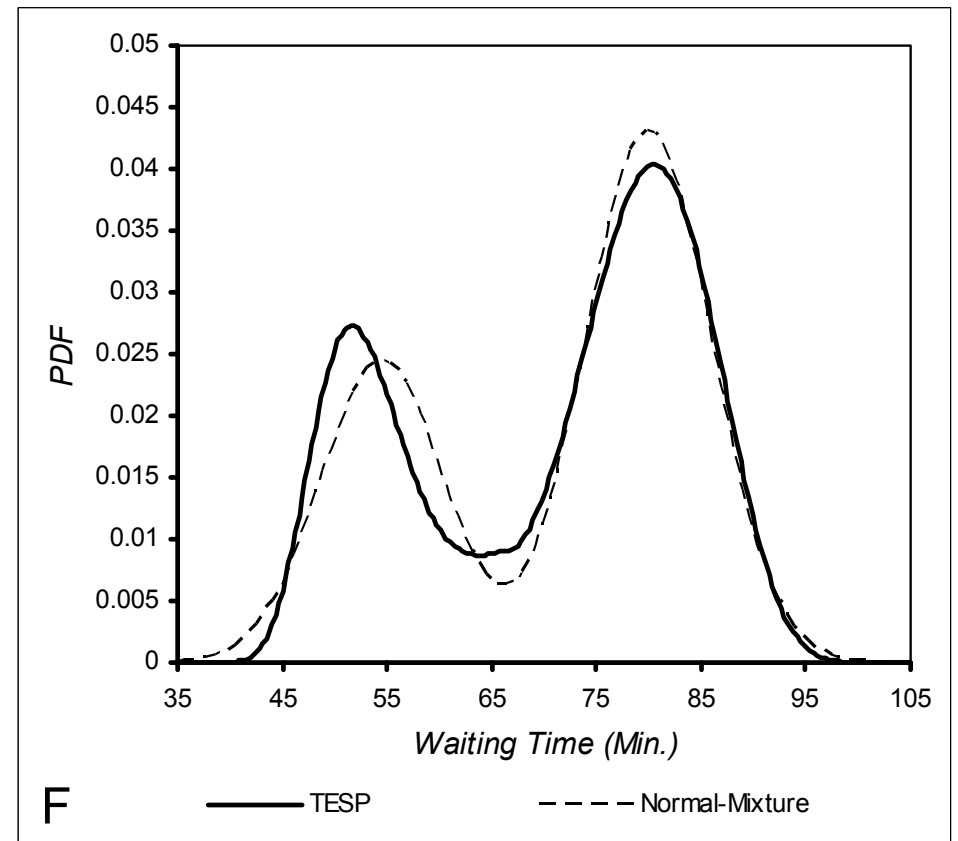
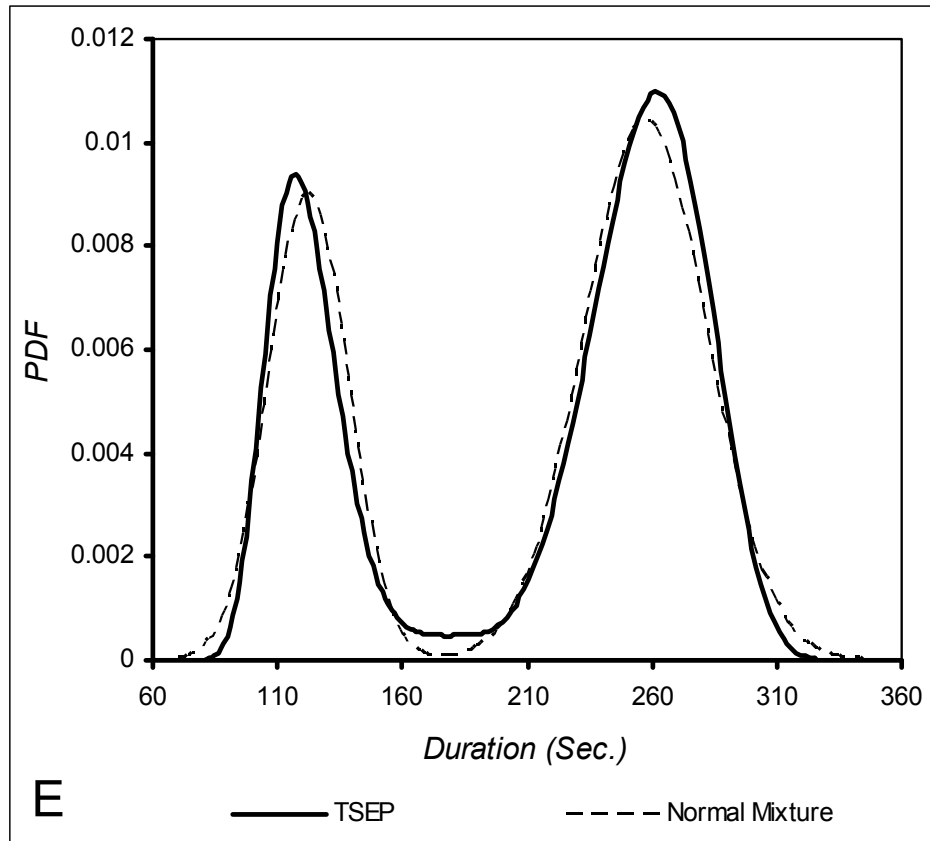


## Joint Probability Density Function Bivariate Normal Mixture



## Durations Old Faithfull Data

## Waiting Times Old Faithfull Data



## Fit Comparison Durations Old-Faithful data

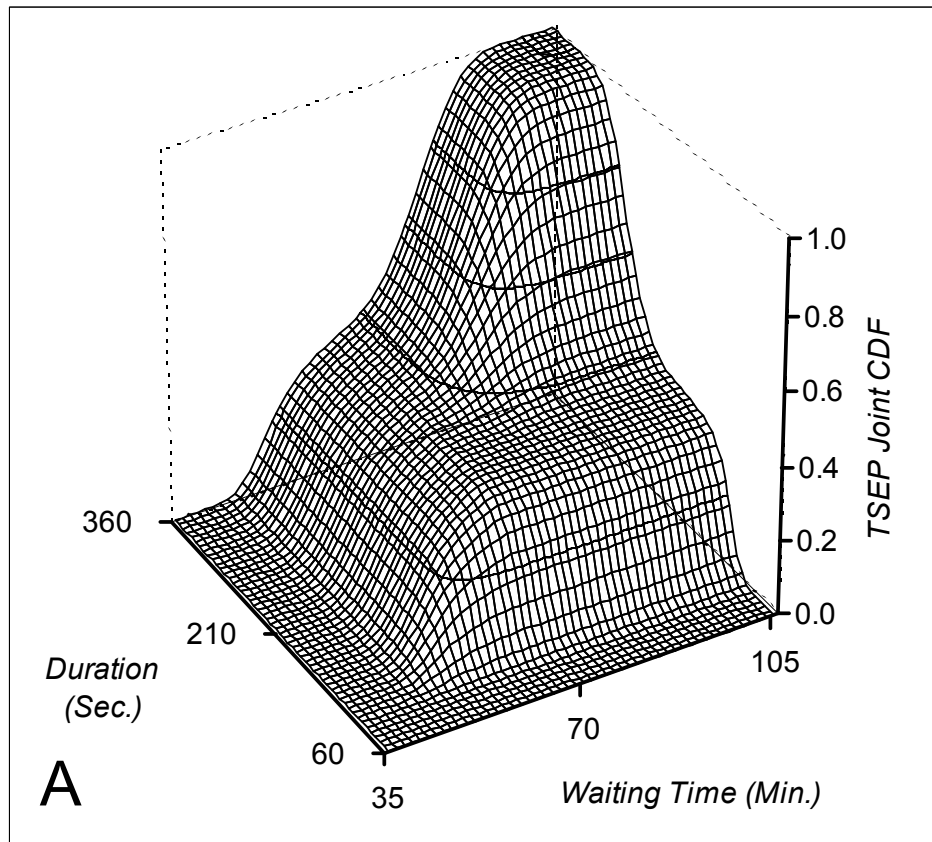
	TS-EP pdf	Normal mixture pdf
$\chi^2$ <i>p</i> -value	<b>0.260</b>	$4.13e - 3$
Log-Likelihood	<b>178.59</b>	160.94
AIC	– <b>345.19</b>	– 311.88
BIC	– <b>323.55</b>	– 293.85
KS - criterion	<b>0.037</b>	0.045
SS - criterion	<b>0.043</b>	0.11

## Fit Comparison Waiting Time Data Old-Faithful data

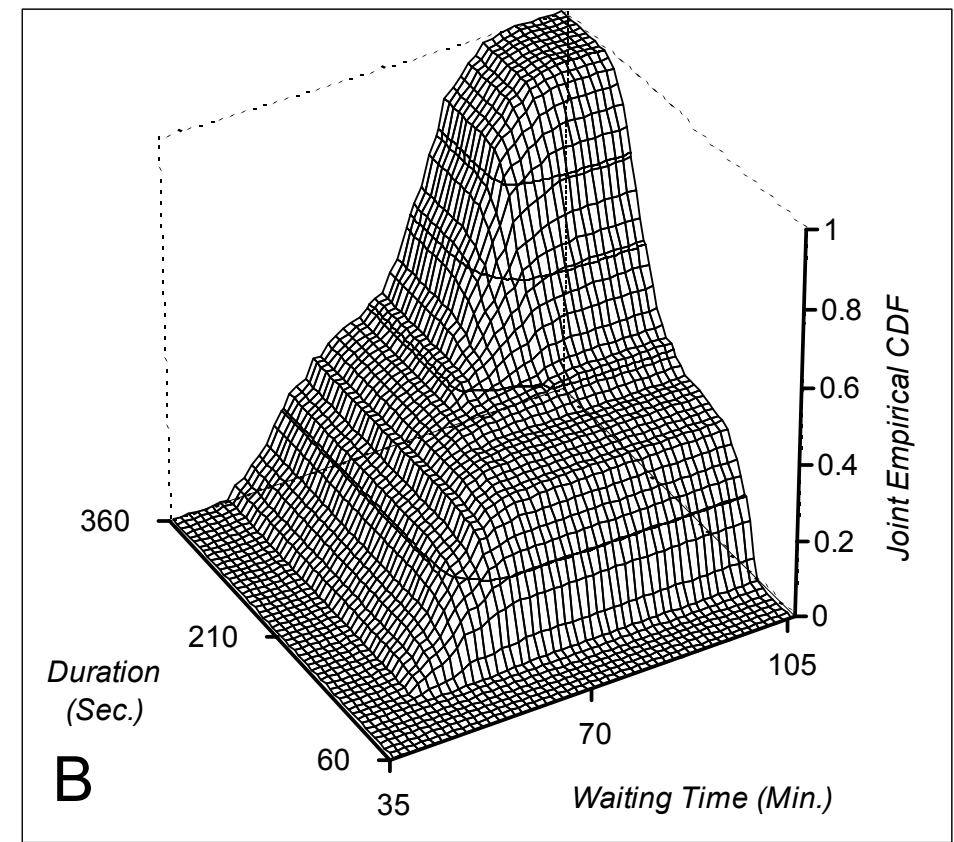
	TS-EP pdf	Normal mixture pdf
$\chi^2$ <i>p</i> -value	0.150	<b>0.353</b>
Log-Likelihood	<b>125.81</b>	122.39
AIC	– <b>239.63</b>	– 234.78
BIC	– <b>217.99</b>	– 216.75
KS - criterion	0.037	<b>0.044</b>
SS - criterion	0.043	<b>0.058</b>



## Joint Cumulative Distribution Function

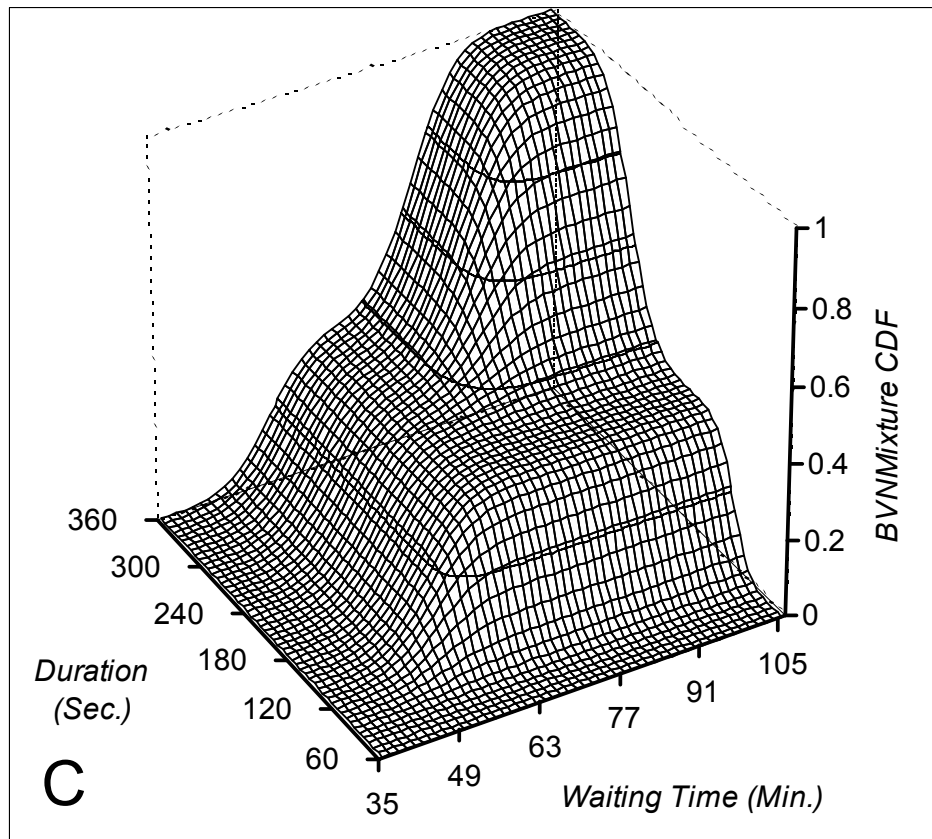


Two-Sided Elevated Power Model

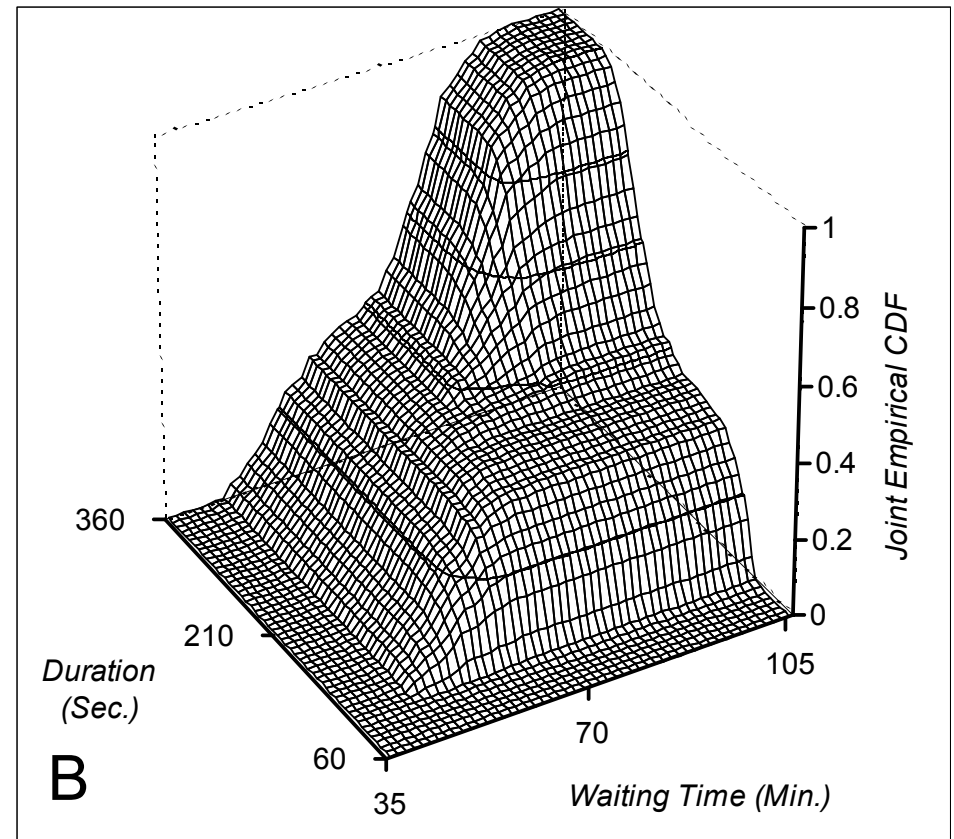


Empirical CDF

## Joint Cumulative Distribution Function

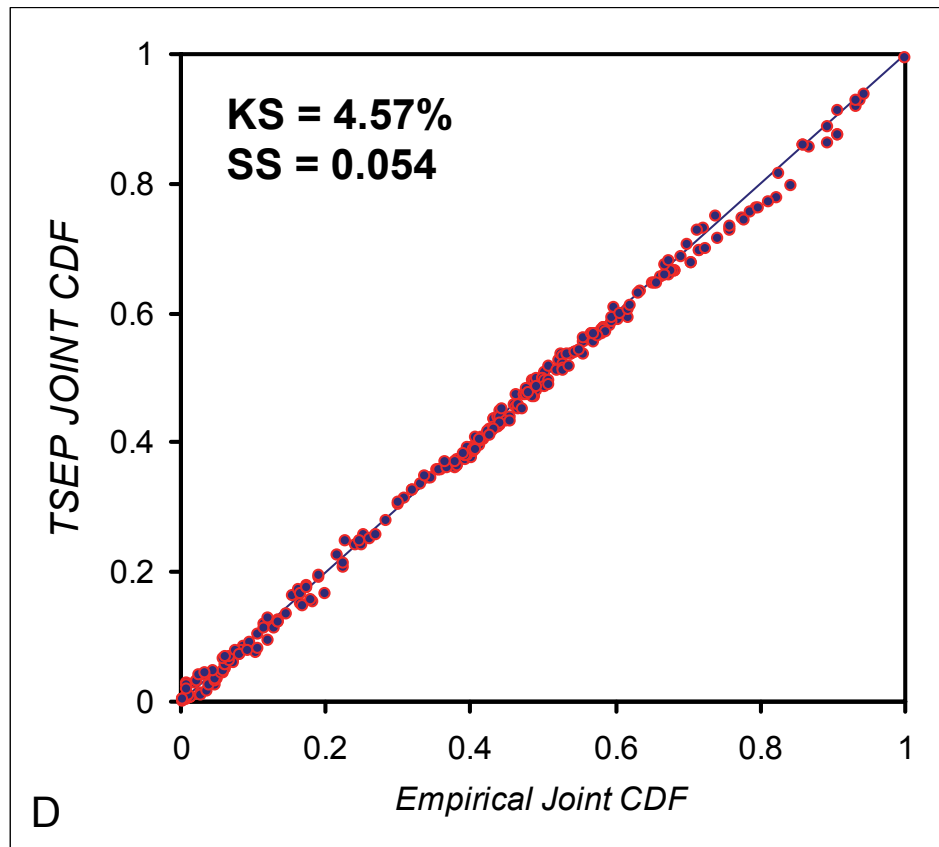


**Bivariate Normal Mixture Model**

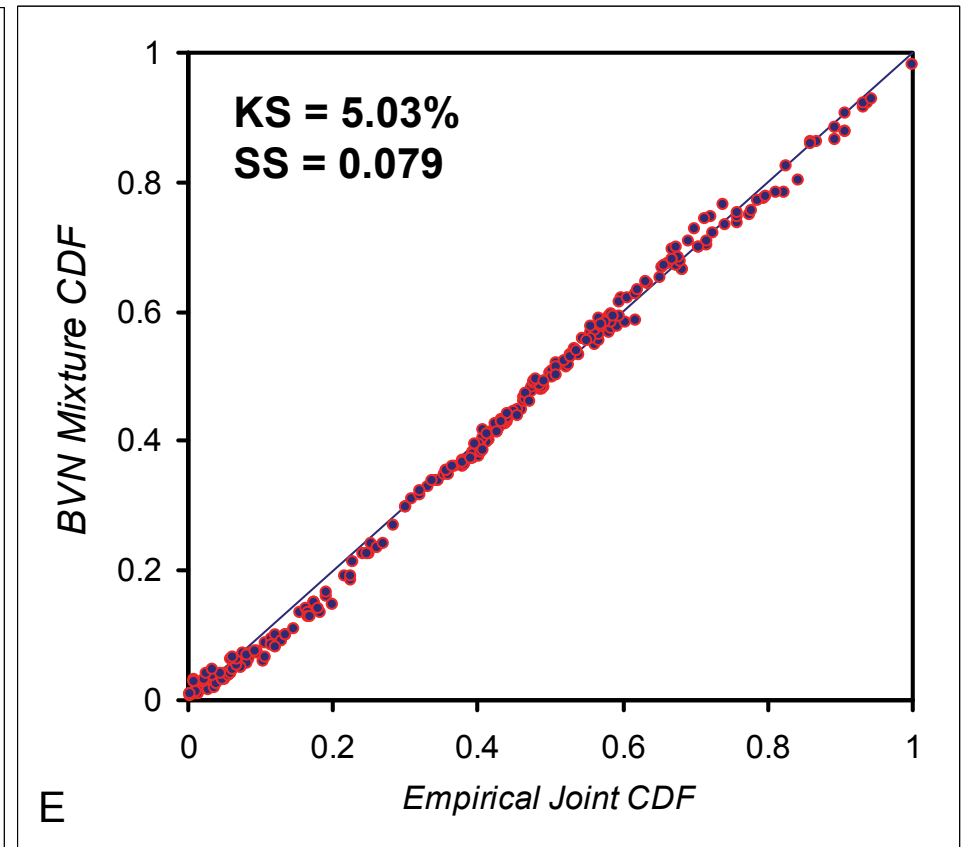


**Empirical CDF**

## Probability-Probability Plots of Joint CDF Functions



**Two-Sided Elevated Power Model**



**Bivariate Normal Mixture Model**

- **Not much can be concluded by visually** comparing the empirical cdf graphs.
- From the joint P-P plots we visually observe that **the TS-EP joint cdf outperforms** the joint Gaussian mixture cdf **in the lower quantile ranges** translating in a better Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) and Sum-of-Squares (SS) criterion.
- **Truth be told**, however, the joint **Gaussian mixture cdf** only uses **11 parameters**, whereas the **TS-EP joint cdf** estimates a total of **15 parameters**.
- From **a marginal distribution perspective** one could argue **the TS-EP models perform at least as well as the Gaussian Mixture model**,
- Such a **conclusion cannot be made in a joint sense** due to the **difference in number of estimated parameters**.
- **Preference** of either model **may depend on the application context**. For example, the closed form expressions of **the copula mixture model using TS-EP marginals** allow for **a straightforward bivariate sampling algorithm**. This is certainly **more challenging** in case of a mixture of bivariate Gaussian distributions.

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## 6. CONCLUDING REMARKS...

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- **A novel procedure for modeling the classical Old Faithful data set** was presented.
- In particular **two aspects** deserve attention:
  - (a) The **introduction of a two-sided bivariate mixture technique utilizing two copulas** as its components and the resulting mixture again being a copula.
  - (b) The second one is the introduction of **a novel univariate distribution for modeling bimodal distributions** with **a closed form cdf**.
- **Both aspects** are **integrated in the bivariate distribution model** for the Old Faithful Geyser data set outperforming the tradition bivariate normal mixture approach.
- While tempting to compare the **correlations 0.287 and 0.380** of the components of the bivariate normal mixture with the copula component **correlations 0.214 and 0.278**, one needs to recognize that the former are **Pearson moment correlations**, whereas the latter are **Spearman rank correlations**.

## 7. REFERENCES...

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