

A PROBABILITY MODEL FOR SURVIVAL ANALYSIS OF CANCER PATIENTS

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Abstract

It has been observed by statistician that to find a suitable model for the survival analysis of cancer patients is really challenging. The main reasons for that is the highly positively skewed nature of datasets. During recent decades several statistician tried to propose one parameter, two-parameter, three-parameter, four-parameter and five-parameter probability models but due to either theoretical or applied point of view the goodness of fit provided by these distributions are not very satisfactory. In this paper a compound probability model called gamma-Sujatha distribution, which is a compound of gamma and Sujatha distribution, has been proposed for the modeling of survival times of cancer patients. Many important properties of the suggested distribution including its shape, moments (negative), hazard function, reversed hazard function, quantile function have been discussed. Method of maximum likelihood has been used to estimate its parameters. A simulation study has been conducted to know the consistency of maximum likelihood estimators. Two real datasets, one relating to acute bone cancer and the other relating to head and neck cancer, has been considered to examine the applicability, suitability and flexibility of the proposed distribution. The goodness of fit of the proposed distribution shows quite satisfactory fit over other considered distributions.

Keywords: Survival analysis, compounding, hazard function, reversed hazard rate function, stress-strength parameter, maximum likelihood estimation, applications.

I. Introduction

Several statistical distributions have been extensively used for the modeling and analysis of survival times (time to event) data, also known as reliability data in biomedical sciences. On comparative studies on gamma and Weibull [1] distribution done by Shanker et al [2] shows that on some datasets relating to head and neck cancer these two classical two-parameter lifetime distributions does not provide good fit and on some datasets they perform diversely. During recent decades researchers were trying to modify Weibull distribution which would provide better fit to survival times of cancer patients. We know that the Weibull distribution is the most popular distribution for modeling survival data that properly explain the mortality and failure. Several authors have extended the Weibull distribution by adding one or more additional shape parameters to bring more flexibility in the shape of the distribution to accommodate the nature of

the data. For example, exponentiated generalized Weibull (EGW) distribution by Cordeiro et al [3], Beta-Weibull (BW) distribution by Famoye et al [4], Kumaraswamy Weibull (Kum-W) distribution by Cordeiro et al [5], exponentiated Kumaraswamy Weibull (EKumW) distribution by Eissa [6], Alpha power Weibull (APW) distribution by Nassar et al [7], are some among others. Although, these two, three and four parameters extended Weibull distribution provide good fit to survival times of cancer patients, but are not quite satisfactory because, in general, cancer data are highly positively skewed.

During recent decades several researchers have been trying to derive a suitable lifetime distribution to model data which are highly positively skewed, especially survival times of cancer patients. The search for highly positively skewed continuous distribution (mean is much less than the variance) has been studied by several researchers using compounding technique as the compounding always provides a highly positively skewed distributions. For instance, gamma distribution is a positively skewed distribution and its compounding with other positively skewed distribution provides highly positively skewed distribution. A compound gamma distribution arises when a random variable say X , follows gamma distribution with a shape parameter φ and scale parameter λ and the parameter λ itself behaves as a random variable with some distribution which is known as mixing distribution. There are four important one parameter positively skewed lifetime distributions namely, exponential distribution, Lindley distribution by Lindley [8], Shanker distribution by Shanker [9] and Sujatha distribution by Shanker [10] for modeling and analysis of survival time of cancer patients and out of these four distributions, Sujatha distribution provides much better fit as compared to the other distributions. The gamma-Lindley distribution (G-LD) proposed by Abdi et al [11] which is a compound of gamma distribution with Lindley distribution of Lindley [8] is highly positively skewed distribution. The gamma – Shanker distribution (G-SD) introduced by Ray and Shanker [12], which is a compound of gamma distribution with Shanker distribution of Shanker [9] is also highly positively skewed distribution. Further exponential-Shanker distribution (E-SD) suggested by Ray and Shanker [13] which is the compound of exponential distribution with Shanker distribution is also positively skewed distribution. The G-LD and the G-SD for $x > 0, \varphi > 0, \omega > 0$ are defined by its probability density function (pdf) and cumulative density function (cdf) as follows

$$f_{G-LD}(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{\varphi \omega^2 (1 + \varphi + \omega + x) x^{\varphi-1}}{(\omega + 1)(\omega + x)^{\varphi+2}} \tag{1}$$

$$F_{G-LD}(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{x^\varphi [(\omega + 1)x + (1 + \varphi + \omega)\omega]}{(\omega + 1)(\omega + x)^{\varphi+1}} \tag{2}$$

$$f_{G-SD}(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{\varphi \omega^2 (1 + \varphi + \omega x + \omega^2) x^{\varphi-1}}{(1 + \omega^2)(\omega + x)^{2+\varphi}} \tag{3}$$

$$F_{G-SD}(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{x^\varphi [x(1 + \omega^2) + (1 + \varphi + \omega^2)\omega]}{(1 + \omega^2)(\omega + x)^{1+\varphi}} \tag{4}$$

Sujatha distribution is defined by its pdf and cdf

$$f_{SUD}(x; \omega) = \frac{\omega^3 (1 + x + x^2) e^{-\omega x}}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)} \tag{5}$$

$$F_{SUD}(x; \omega) = 1 - \left[1 + \frac{\omega x (\omega x + \omega + 2)}{\omega^2 + \omega + 2} \right] e^{-\omega x} \tag{6}$$

The motivations for considering the gamma-Sujatha distribution (G-SUD), the compound of gamma and Sujatha distribution are as follows:

(i). Suppose X is the lifetime of component following gamma distribution with shape parameter φ and scale parameter λ . If the sample is drawn from the population having variability in the scale parameter λ , then the variability can be well explained by assuming the distribution of λ to be Sujatha distribution.

(ii). In real life situation, the sustainability of the components of population differs from each other in terms of heterogeneity. The analysis of data from such populations, heterogeneity can easily be taken into consideration using compound distributions. G-LD and G-SD are the two compound distributions proposed for the analysis of such variation in the components of populations. As Sujatha distribution provides better fit over Lindley and Shanker distributions, it is the expectation that the G-SUD would provide better fit over existing compound distributions.

(iii). In general, compound distribution is the most suited distributions for the datasets having long right tail, which have been observed in some real lifetime datasets relating to cancer datasets.

(iv). As Sujatha distribution performs well compared to exponential and Lindley distribution so it is hoped that G-SUD would performs better over the classical gamma and Weibull distributions as well as other two-parameters distributions.

The whole paper is divided into eleven sections. The section one is introductory in nature. The gamma-Sujatha probability model and some of its results are given in section two. The hazard function and the reversed hazard function of the proposed probability model are given in section 3. Section four contains the quantile and the moments of the distribution. The extreme order statistics and the stochastic ordering of the distribution are given in sections 5 and 6 respectively. The maximum likelihood estimation of parameters and the estimation of stress-strength parameter of the distribution are discussed in sections seven and eighth. The simulation study to know the consistency of maximum likelihood estimators and applications of the distribution are provided in sections nine and ten respectively. The conclusion of the whole paper is given in section eleven.

II. Gamma-Sujatha Distribution

The pdf and the cdf of gamma-Sujatha distribution (G-SUD) are obtained as

$$f_{G-SUD}(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{\varphi \omega^3 \left[(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \right] x^{\varphi-1}}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{\varphi+3}}; x > 0, \varphi > 0, \omega > 0 \tag{7}$$

$$F_{G-SUD}(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{x^\varphi \left[(\omega + x)^2 \{ \omega + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + 2) \} - 2x(\omega + x) \{ \omega + \varphi(\varphi + 2) \} + \varphi(\varphi + 1)x^2 \right]}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{2+\varphi}}; x > 0, \varphi > 0, \omega > 0 \tag{8}$$

Figure 1 and 2 shows the pdf and cdf of G-SUD for selected values of parameters. The G-SUD shows the tendency to accommodate right tail and for particular values of parameters, the tail approach to zero at a faster rate. This means that G-SUD would provide better fit appropriately to those datasets where there is an extended right tail or the right tail approaches to zero at a faster rate. Such datasets are quite prevalent in the biomedical sciences relating to survival times of cancer patients.

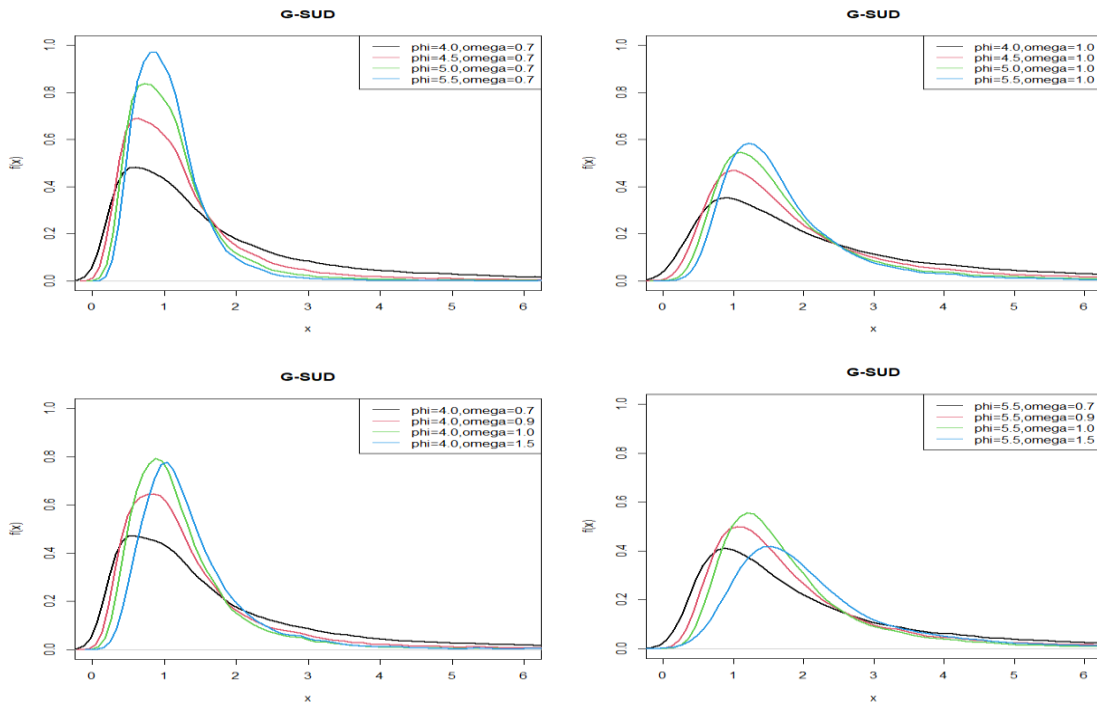


Fig. 1: pdf plots of G-SUD

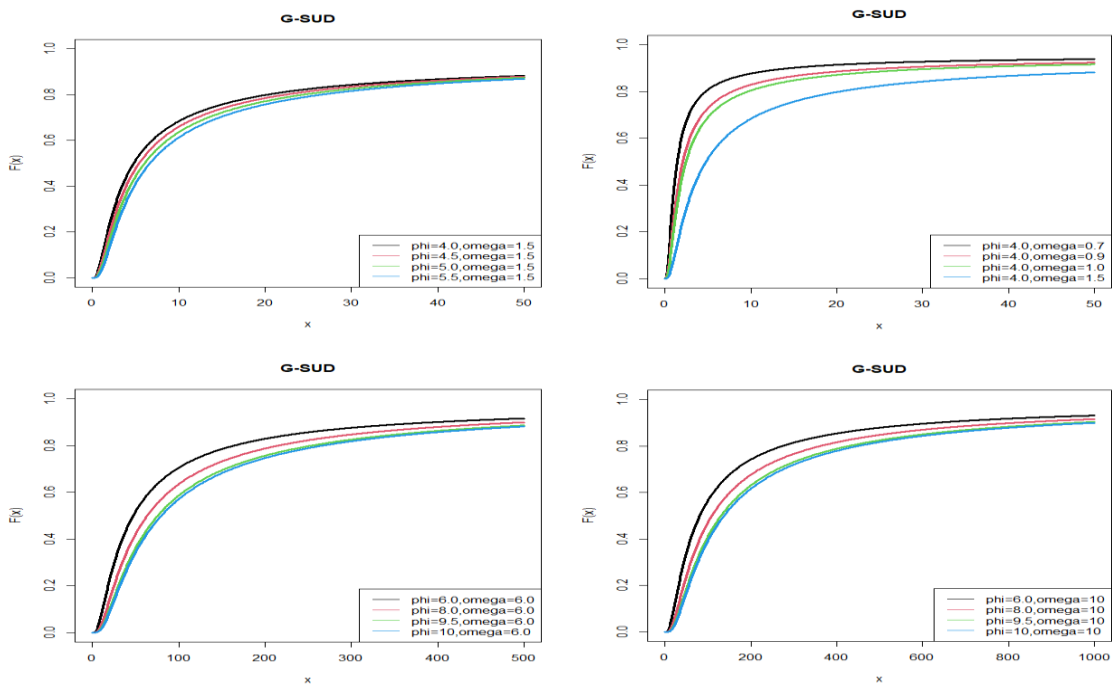


Fig. 2: cdf plots of G-SUD

Theorem 1: The G-SUD is decreasing for $\varphi \leq 1$.

Proof: We have,

$$f(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{\varphi \omega^3 \left[(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \right] x^{\varphi-1}}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{\varphi+3}}; x > 0, \varphi > 0, \omega > 0$$

$$\log f(x; \varphi, \omega) = \log \left[(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \right] + (\varphi - 1) \log(x) - (\varphi + 3) \log(\omega + x) + C.$$

where C is a constant. We have

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log f(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{\varphi - 1}{x} - \left[\frac{(\varphi + 1) \{ (\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 2)(\varphi + \omega + x + 3) \}}{(\omega + x) \{ (\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \}} \right]$$

For $\varphi \leq 1$, $\frac{d}{dx} \log f(x; \varphi, \omega) < 0$ and this means that $f(x)$ is decreasing for all x

III. Hazard function and Reversed hazard function

The hazard function and the reverse hazard function are two important functions of a distribution. The reliability (survival) function of G-SUD is given by

$$R(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{\varphi+2} - x^\varphi \left[(\omega + x)^2 \{ \omega + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + 2) \} - 2x(\omega + x) \{ \omega + \varphi(\varphi + 2) \} + \varphi(\varphi + 1)x^2 \right]}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{\varphi+2}} \quad (9)$$

The corresponding hazard and reversed Hazard function of G-SUD are given by

$$h(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{f(x; \varphi, \omega)}{R(x; \varphi, \omega)} = \frac{\varphi \omega^3 x^{\varphi-1} \left[(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\omega + x) + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + 2) \right]}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{\varphi+3} - x^\varphi \left[(\omega + x)^2 \{ \omega + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + 2) \} - 2x(\omega + x) \{ \omega + \varphi(\varphi + 2) \} + \varphi(\varphi + 1)x^2 \right]} \quad (10)$$

$$r(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{f(x; \varphi, \omega)}{F(x; \varphi, \omega)} = \frac{\varphi \omega^3 \left[(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \right]}{x(\omega + x) \left[(\omega + x)^2 \{ \omega + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + 2) \} - 2x(\omega + x) \{ \omega + \varphi(\varphi + 2) \} + \varphi(\varphi + 1)x^2 \right]} \quad (11)$$

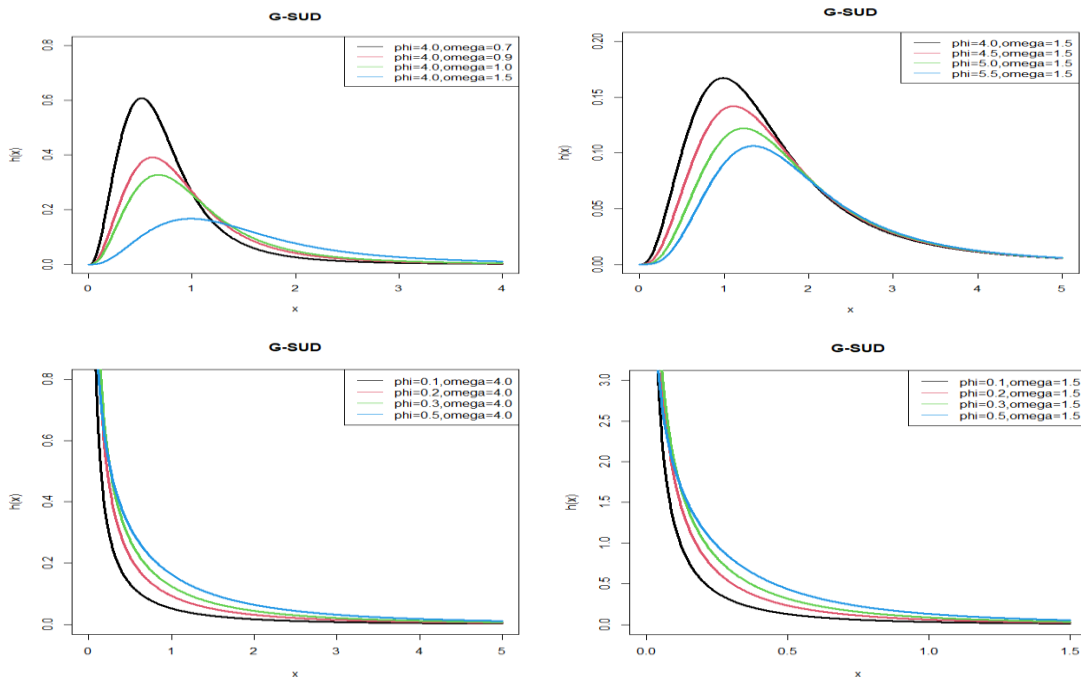


Fig.3: Hazard function of G-SUD

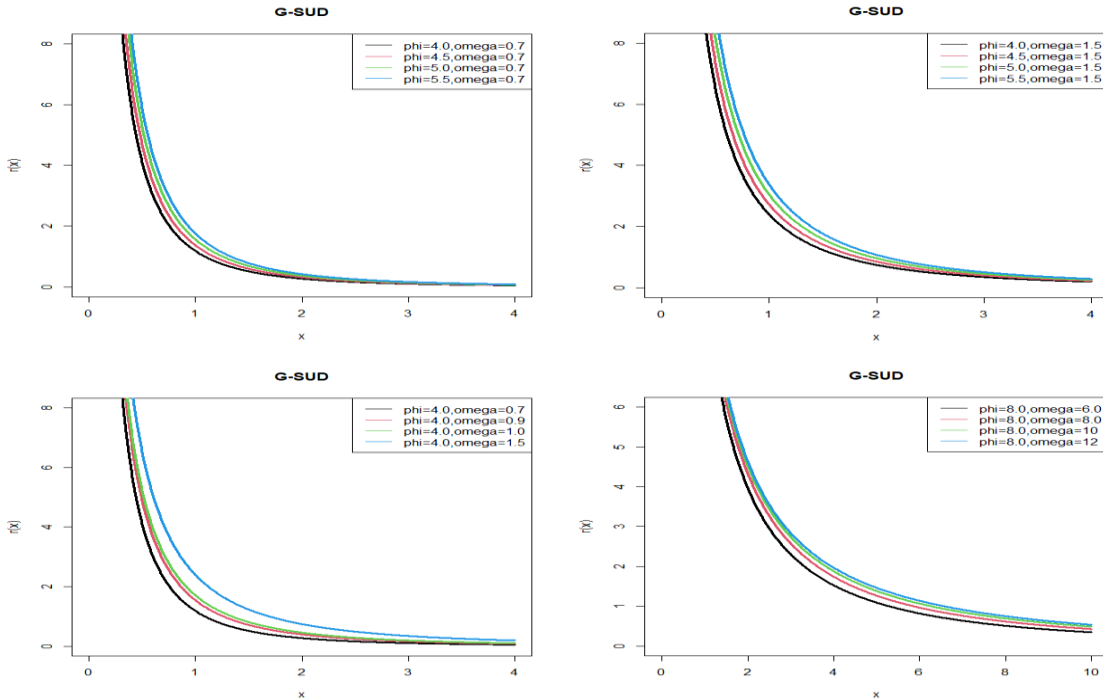


Fig.4: Reverse hazard function of G-SUD

Theorem 2: For $\varphi \leq 1$, the hazard function of the G-SUD is decreasing and for $\varphi > 1$ it is unimodal.

Proof: We have

$$f(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{\varphi \omega^3 \left[(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \right] x^{\varphi-1}}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{\varphi+3}}; x > 0, \varphi > 0, \omega > 0, \text{ and}$$

$$f'(x; \varphi, \omega) = \frac{\varphi \omega^3 \left[(\varphi \omega - \omega - 4x) \left\{ (\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \right\} + x(\omega + x)(\varphi + 2\omega + 2x + 1) \right] x^{\varphi-1}}{x(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{\varphi+4}}; x > 0, \varphi > 0, \omega > 0$$

Now, suppose that

$$\xi(x) = -\frac{f'(x; \varphi, \omega)}{f(x; \varphi, \omega)}$$

$$= -\frac{(\varphi - 1)}{x} + \frac{\left\{ (\omega + x)(\varphi^2 + \varphi(\omega + x + 3) + (\omega + x + 2)) + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + 2)(\varphi + 3) \right\}}{(\omega + x) \left\{ (\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \right\}}$$

This gives

$$\xi'(x) = \frac{(\varphi - 1)}{x^2} + \frac{(\omega + x) \left\{ (\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \right\} \left\{ \varphi^2 + \varphi(2\omega + 2x + 3) + (2\omega + 2x + 2) \right\} - \left\{ (\omega + x)(\varphi^2 + \varphi(\omega + x + 3) + (\omega + x + 2)) + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + 2)(\varphi + 3) \right\} \times \left\{ (\omega + x)(\varphi + 3\omega + 3x + 1) + (\varphi + 2)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \right\}}{(\omega + x)^2 \left\{ (\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2) \right\}}$$

It is quite obvious that for $\varphi \leq 1$, $\xi'(x) < 0$ and for $\varphi > 1$, $\xi'(x) < 0$ has a global maximum at mode (say x_0).

Theorem 3: The G-SUD has decreasing reverse hazard function.

Proof: We have,

$$r(x) = \frac{\varphi\omega^3 \left[(\omega+x)^2 + (\varphi+1)(\varphi+\omega+x+2) \right]}{x(\omega+x) \left[(\omega+x)^2 \{ \omega + (\varphi+1)(\varphi+\omega+2) \} - 2x(\omega+x) \{ \omega + \varphi(\varphi+2) \} + \varphi(\varphi+1)x^2 \right]}$$

This gives

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log r(x) = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} \varphi\omega \{ \varphi + \omega + 2(2x+2-x^2) \} \\ -\varphi\omega \left[-\omega \{ \omega(3+4x) - 2x(2-3x) - 7 \} - 2 \left[\omega \{ \omega(\omega^2 + x^2 + x) + 2x \} + x^2 \right] \right. \\ \left. -x \{ 5x - \varphi(4-3x) - 2 \} \right] \end{bmatrix}}{\left\{ (\omega+x)^2 + (\varphi+1)(\varphi+\omega+x+2) \right\} \left[\begin{bmatrix} (\omega+x)^2 \{ \omega + (\varphi+1)(\varphi+\omega+2) \} \\ -2x(\omega+x) \{ \omega + \varphi(\varphi+2) \} + \varphi(\varphi+1)x^2 \end{bmatrix} \right]} - \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{(\omega+x)} < 0$$

This proves the theorem for all φ, ω .

IV. Quantiles and Moments

The p th quantiles x_p of G-SUD is defined by $F(x_p) = p$, is the root of the equation

$$\frac{x_p^\varphi \left[(\omega+x_p)^2 \{ \omega + (\varphi+1)(\varphi+\omega+2) \} - 2x(\omega+x_p) \{ \omega + \varphi(\varphi+2) \} + \varphi(\varphi+1)x_p^2 \right]}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega+x_p)^{2+\varphi}} = p \tag{12}$$

This gives

$$x_p = \frac{(\omega+x_p)^2 \{ \omega + (\varphi+1)(\varphi+\omega+2) \} - 2x(\omega+x_p) \{ \omega + \varphi(\varphi+2) \} + \varphi(\varphi+1)x_p^2}{p(\omega^2 + \omega + 2) \left(1 + \frac{\omega}{x_p} \right)^{\varphi+1}} \tag{13}$$

It should be noted that this x_p may be used to generate G-SUD random variates. Further, the median of G-SUD can be obtained from above equation by taking $p = \frac{1}{2}$.

The moments of G-SUD can be obtained as follows:

If $X \sim \text{G-SUD}(\varphi, \omega)$ then,

$$E(X) = E(E(X | \lambda)) = E\left(\frac{\varphi}{\lambda}\right) = \varphi E\left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right) = \infty$$

Thus, in general, $E(X^r) = \infty$ for $r \geq 1$. This means that all moments of G-SUD are infinite and hence G-SUD has no mean. As G-SUD has no mean, if we take a sample (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) from G-SUD, then mean \bar{X} does not tend to a particular value. Since G-SUD has no raw and central moments, we have to derive inverse moments. Negative moments are useful in several life applications, such as life testing problems and estimation purpose. The negative moments for G-SUD can be obtained as follows:

The r^{th} negative moment (about origin) $\mu_{(-r)}'$, of the G-SUD is given by,

$$\mu_{(-r)}' = \frac{\Gamma(\varphi-r)}{\Gamma(\varphi)} \cdot \frac{r! \left[\omega^2 + \omega(r+2) + (r+1)(r+2) \right]}{\omega^r (\omega^2 + \omega + 2)}; r = 1, 2, 3, \dots \tag{14}$$

Thus, for $r = 1, 2, 3$ and 4 , we have

$$\mu_{(-1)}' = \frac{(\omega^2 + 2\omega + 6)}{\omega(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\varphi - 1)}, \varphi > 1 \tag{15}$$

$$\mu_{(-2)}' = \frac{2(\omega^2 + 3\omega + 12)}{\omega^2(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\varphi - 1)(\varphi - 2)}, \varphi > 2 \tag{16}$$

$$\mu_{(-3)}' = \frac{6(\omega^2 + 4\omega + 20)}{\omega^3(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\varphi - 1)(\varphi - 2)(\varphi - 3)}, \varphi > 3 \tag{17}$$

$$\mu_{(-4)}' = \frac{24(\omega^2 + 5\omega + 30)}{\omega^4(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\varphi - 1)(\varphi - 2)(\varphi - 3)(\varphi - 4)}, \varphi > 4 \tag{18}$$

It is obvious from the above expressions for negative moments that negative moments are not defined for $\varphi \leq 1$.

V. Extreme Order Statistics

Let, $X_{1:n}, \dots, X_{n:n}$ be the order statistics of a random sample of size n from the G-SUD(φ, ω) distribution with distribution function $F(x)$. The cdf of the minimum order statistic $X_{1:n}$ is given by

$$F_{X_{1:n}}(x) = 1 - \left[\frac{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{2+\varphi} - x^\varphi \left[(\omega + x)^2 \{ \omega + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + 2) \} - 2x(\omega + x) \{ \omega + \varphi(\varphi + 2) \} + \varphi(\varphi + 1)x^2 \right]}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{2+\varphi}} \right]^n$$

The cdf of the maximum order statistic $X_{n:n}$ is given by

$$F_{X_{n:n}}(x) = \left\{ \frac{x^\varphi \left[(\omega + x)^2 \{ \omega + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + 2) \} - 2x(\omega + x) \{ \omega + \varphi(\varphi + 2) \} + \varphi(\varphi + 1)x^2 \right]}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)(\omega + x)^{2+\varphi}} \right\}^n$$

VI. Stochastic Orderings

In probability theory and Statistics, a stochastic order quantifies the concept of one random variable being “bigger” than other. In many problems, it becomes necessary to compare two lifetime distributions with reference to some of their characteristics. Stochastic orders provide the necessary tools in such case.

A random variable X is said to be smaller than a random variable Y in the

- i. Stochastic order ($X \prec_{st} Y$) if $F_X(x) \geq F_Y(y)$ for all x
- ii. Hazard rate order ($X \prec_{hr} Y$) if $h_X(x) \geq h_Y(y)$ for all x
- iii. Mean residual life order ($X \prec_{mrl} Y$) if $m_X(x) \geq m_Y(y)$ for all x
- iv. Likelihood ratio order ($X \prec_{lr} Y$) if $\frac{f_X(x)}{f_Y(Y)}$ decrease in x
- iv. Likelihood ratio order ($X \prec_{lr} Y$) if $\frac{f_X(x)}{f_Y(Y)}$ decrease in x

The following results due to Shaked and Shantikumar [14] are well known for establishing

stochastic ordering of distributions:

$$\begin{aligned} X \prec_{lr} Y &\Rightarrow X \prec_{hr} Y \Rightarrow X \prec_{mrl} Y \\ &\Downarrow \\ X &\prec_{st} Y \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 4: Let $X_1 \sim \text{G-SUD}(\varphi_1, \omega_1)$ and $X_2 \sim \text{G-SUD}(\varphi_2, \omega_2)$. If $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2 = \varphi$ and $\omega_1 \leq \omega_2$ if $\omega_1 = \omega_2 = \omega \geq 1$ with $\varphi_1 \leq \varphi_2$, then $X_1 \prec_{lr} X_2 \Rightarrow X_1 \prec_{hr} X_2 \Rightarrow X_1 \prec_{st} X_2$.

Proof: We have

$$\frac{f_{X_1}(x)}{f_{X_2}(x)} = \frac{\varphi_1 \omega_1^3 \left[(\omega_1 + x)^2 + (\varphi_1 + 1)(\varphi_1 + \omega_1 + x + 2) \right] (\omega_2^2 + \omega_2 + 2) (\omega_2 + x)^{\varphi_2 + 3}}{\varphi_2 \omega_2^3 \left[(\omega_2 + x)^2 + (\varphi_2 + 1)(\varphi_2 + \omega_2 + x + 2) \right] (\omega_1^2 + \omega_1 + 2) (\omega_1 + x)^{\varphi_1 + 3}} x^{\varphi_1 - \varphi_2} \quad (19)$$

Case I: For $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2 = \varphi$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} G_1(x) &= \frac{\omega_1^3 \left[(\omega_1 + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega_1 + x + 1) \right] (\omega_2^2 + \omega_2 + 2) \left(\frac{\omega_2 + x}{\omega_1 + x} \right)^{\varphi + 3}}{\omega_2^3 \left[(\omega_2 + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega_2 + x + 1) \right] (\omega_1^2 + \omega_1 + 2) \left(\frac{\omega_2 + x}{\omega_1 + x} \right)^{\varphi + 3}} \\ \frac{d \log G_1(x)}{dx} &= \left(\frac{\varphi + 3}{\omega_2 + x} - \frac{2(\omega_2 + x) + (\varphi + 1)}{(\omega_2 + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega_2 + x + 2)} \right) - \left(\frac{\varphi + 3}{\omega_1 + x} - \frac{2(\omega_1 + x) + (\varphi + 1)}{(\omega_1 + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega_1 + x + 2)} \right) \\ &= Q(\omega_2) - Q(\omega_1) \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Where

$$\begin{aligned} Q(\omega) &= \left(\frac{\varphi + 3}{\omega + x} - \frac{2(\omega + x) + (\varphi + 1)}{(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2)} \right) \\ \frac{d}{d\omega} Q(\omega) &= \frac{-(\varphi + 3)}{(\omega + x)^2} - \frac{2(\omega + x)(\varphi - \omega - x + 1) + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + 2)}{\{(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2)\}^2} < 0 \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

The X_1 is stochastically smaller than X_2 with respect to the likelihood ratio for $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2 = \varphi$ provided $\omega_1 \leq \omega_2$.

Case II: For $\omega_1 = \omega_2 = \omega \geq 1$, we get

$$G_2(x) = \frac{\varphi_1 \left[(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi_1 + 1)(\varphi_1 + \omega + x + 2) \right] \left(\frac{x}{\omega + x} \right)^{\varphi_1 - \varphi_2}}{\varphi_2 \left[(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi_2 + 1)(\varphi_2 + \omega + x + 2) \right] \left(\frac{x}{\omega + x} \right)^{\varphi_1 - \varphi_2}} \quad (22)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d \log G_2(x)}{dx} &= \left(\frac{2(\omega + x) + (\varphi_1 + 1)}{(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi_1 + 1)(\varphi_1 + \omega + x + 2)} + \frac{\varphi_1}{x} - \frac{\varphi_1}{\omega + x} \right) - \left(\frac{2(\omega + x) + (\varphi_2 + 1)}{(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi_2 + 1)(\varphi_2 + \omega + x + 2)} + \frac{\varphi_2}{x} - \frac{\varphi_2}{\omega + x} \right) \\ &= S(\varphi_1) - S(\varphi_2) \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Where

$$\begin{aligned} S(\varphi) &= \left(\frac{2(\omega + x) + (\varphi + 1)}{(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2)} + \frac{\varphi}{x} - \frac{\varphi}{\omega + x} \right) \\ \frac{d}{d\varphi} S(\varphi) &= \frac{-\{\omega(\omega + 4\varphi + 6) + x(x + 4\varphi + 2\omega + 6) + 2\varphi\}}{\{(\omega + x)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + \omega + x + 2)\}^2} + \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{\omega + x} > 0 \text{ for } \omega \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, for $\varphi_1 \leq \varphi_2$, $\frac{d \log G_2(x)}{dx} < 0$. The X_1 is stochastically smaller than X_2 with respect to the likelihood ratio for $\omega_1 = \omega_2 = \omega \geq 1$ provided $\varphi_1 \leq \varphi_2$.

VII. Estimation of parameters

Let (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) be the observed values of a random sample (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) from the G-SUD. Then the log-likelihood function is given by

$$L(\varphi, \omega) = \left(\frac{\varphi \omega^3}{\omega^2 + \omega + 2} \right)^n \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n \left[(\omega + x_i)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\omega + x_i) + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + 2) \right] \left(\prod_{i=1}^n x_i \right)^{\varphi - 1}}{\prod_{i=1}^n (\omega + x_i)^{\varphi + 3}}$$

The log-likelihood function of G-SUD is thus obtained as

$$\begin{aligned} \ln L(\varphi, \omega) = n \ln \varphi + 3n \ln \omega - n \ln (\omega^2 + \omega + 2) + \sum_{i=1}^n \ln \left[(\omega + x_i)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\omega + x_i) + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + 2) \right] \\ + (\varphi - 1) \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(x_i) - (\varphi + 3) \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(\omega + x_i) \end{aligned}$$

The maximum likelihood estimators of φ and ω , say $\hat{\varphi}$ and $\hat{\omega}$ are the simultaneous solutions of the following log likelihood

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \varphi} = \frac{n}{\varphi} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(\omega + x_i) + (2\varphi + 3)}{(\omega + x_i)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\omega + x_i)} + \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(x_i) - \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(\omega + x_i) = 0 \\ \frac{\partial \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \omega} = \frac{3n}{\omega} - \frac{n(2\omega + 1)}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{2(\omega + x_i) + (\varphi + 1)}{\left\{ (\omega + x_i)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\omega + x_i) + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + 2) \right\}} - (\varphi + 3) \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(\omega + x_i)} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

It is very difficult to solve these two log-likelihood equations directly, so we will use Fisher's scoring method. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \varphi^2} = \frac{-n}{\varphi^2} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{2 \left[(\omega + x_i)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\omega + x_i) \right] - (\omega + x_i) \left[(\omega + x_i) + (2\varphi + 3) \right]}{\left\{ (\omega + x_i)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\omega + x_i) \right\}^2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \varphi \partial \omega} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{- \left[(\omega + x_i) + (2\varphi + 3) \right] \left[2(\omega + x_i) + (\varphi + 1) \right]}{\left\{ (\omega + x_i)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\omega + x_i) \right\}^2} - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\omega + x_i} = \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \omega \partial \varphi} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \omega^2} = \frac{-3n}{\omega^2} - \frac{2n \left[(\omega^2 + \omega + 2) - n(2\omega + 1)^2 \right]}{(\omega^2 + \omega + 2)^2} - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{2\omega \left[(\omega + x_i)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\omega + x_i) + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + 2) \right] - \left[2(\omega + x_i) + (\varphi + 1) \right]^2}{\left\{ (\omega + x_i)^2 + (\varphi + 1)(\omega + x_i) + (\varphi + 1)(\varphi + 2) \right\}^2} \end{aligned}$$

The following equation can be solved for MLE's of $\hat{\varphi}$ and $\hat{\omega}$ of G-SUD

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \varphi^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \varphi \partial \omega} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \omega \partial \varphi} & \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \omega^2} \end{pmatrix}_{\substack{\hat{\varphi} = \varphi_0 \\ \hat{\omega} = \omega_0}} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\varphi} - \varphi_0 \\ \hat{\omega} - \omega_0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \varphi} \\ \frac{\partial \ln L(\varphi, \omega)}{\partial \omega} \end{pmatrix}_{\substack{\hat{\varphi} = \varphi_0 \\ \hat{\omega} = \omega_0}}$$

where φ_0 and ω_0 are initial value of φ and ω respectively. The initial values of the parameters taken in this paper for estimating parameters are $\varphi_0 = 0.5$ and $\omega_0 = 0.5$.

VIII. Estimation of the Stress-Strength parameter $R = P(X > Y)$

In reliability, the stress-strength model describes the life of a component which has a random strength X subjected to a random stress Y . The component fails at the instant that the stress applied to it exceeds the strength, and the component will function satisfactory Whenever $X > Y$. In this section our objective is to estimate $R = P(X > Y)$ when

$X \sim \text{G-SUD}(\varphi_1, \omega_1)$ and $Y \sim \text{G-SUD}(\varphi_2, \omega_2)$, X and Y are independently distributed. The, the Stress- Strength Parameter is given by

$$\begin{aligned} R &= P(X > Y) = \int_0^\infty P(X > Y | Y = y) f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int_0^\infty [1 - F_X(y)] f_Y(y) dy \\ &= 1 - \int_0^\infty \frac{\varphi_2 \omega_2^3 \left[\begin{array}{l} (\omega_1 + y)^2 \{ \omega_1 + (\varphi_1 + 1)(\omega_1 + \varphi_1 + 2) \} \\ - 2y(\omega_1 + y) \{ \omega_1 + \varphi_1(\varphi_1 + 2) \} \\ + \varphi_1(\varphi_1 + 1)y^2 \end{array} \right] \times \left[\begin{array}{l} (\omega_2 + y)^2 + (\varphi_2 + 1)(\omega_2 + y) \\ + (\varphi_2 + 1)(\varphi_2 + 2) \end{array} \right]}{(\omega_1^2 + \omega_1 + 2)(\omega_2^2 + \omega_2 + 2)(\omega_1 + y)^{\varphi_1 + 2} (\omega_1 + y)^{\varphi_2 + 3}} y^{\varphi_1 + \varphi_2 - 1} dy \\ &= G(\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) \end{aligned}$$

Let, (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) be the observed value of a random sample of size n from $\text{G-SUD}(\varphi_1, \omega_1)$ and (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m) be the observed value of a random sample of size m from $\text{G-SUD}(\varphi_2, \omega_2)$.

The log-likelihood function of $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \omega_1$ and ω_2 is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \ln L(\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \omega_1, \omega_2) &= n \ln(\varphi_1) + 3n \ln(\omega_1) - n \ln(\omega_1^2 + \omega_1 + 2) + \sum_{i=1}^n \ln \left[(\omega_1 + x_i)^2 + (\varphi_1 + 1)(\omega_1 + x_i) + (\varphi_1 + 1)(\varphi_1 + 2) \right] \\ &+ (\varphi_1 - 1) \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(x_i) - (\varphi_1 + 3) \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(\omega_1 + x_i) + m \ln(\varphi_2) + 3m \ln(\omega_2) - m \ln(\omega_2^2 + \omega_2 + 2) \\ &+ \sum_{i=1}^m \ln \left[(\omega_2 + y_i)^2 + (\varphi_2 + 1)(\omega_2 + y_i) + (\varphi_2 + 1)(\varphi_2 + 2) \right] + (\varphi_2 - 1) \sum_{i=1}^m \ln(y_i) - (\varphi_2 + 3) \sum_{i=1}^m \ln(\omega_2 + y_i) \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\varphi}_1 &= \frac{n}{\varphi_1} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(\omega_1 + x_i) + (2\varphi_1 + 3)}{(\omega_1 + x_i)^2 + (\varphi_1 + 1)(\omega_1 + x_i)} + \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(x_i) - \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(\omega_1 + x_i) = 0 \\ \hat{\varphi}_2 &= \frac{m}{\varphi_2} + \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(\omega_2 + y_i) + (2\varphi_2 + 3)}{(\omega_2 + y_i)^2 + (\varphi_2 + 1)(\omega_2 + y_i)} + \sum_{i=1}^m \ln(y_i) - \sum_{i=1}^m \ln(\omega_2 + y_i) = 0 \\ \hat{\omega}_1 &= \frac{3n}{\omega_1} - \frac{n(2\omega_1 + 1)}{(\omega_1^2 + \omega_1 + 2)} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{2(\omega_1 + x_i) + (\varphi_1 + 1)}{(\omega_1 + x_i)^2 + (\varphi_1 + 1)(\omega_1 + x_i) + (\varphi_1 + 1)(\varphi_1 + 2)} - (\varphi_1 + 3) \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(\omega_1 + x_i)} = 0 \\ \hat{\omega}_2 &= \frac{3m}{\omega_2} - \frac{m(2\omega_2 + 1)}{(\omega_2^2 + \omega_2 + 2)} + \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{2(\omega_2 + y_i) + (\varphi_2 + 1)}{(\omega_2 + y_i)^2 + (\varphi_2 + 1)(\omega_2 + y_i) + (\varphi_2 + 1)(\varphi_2 + 2)} - (\varphi_2 + 3) \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{(\omega_2 + y_i)} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Solving these non-linear equations using any iterative methods available in R packages we can obtain the MLEs of the parameters as $(\hat{\varphi}_1, \hat{\varphi}_2, \hat{\omega}_1, \hat{\omega}_2)$ and hence the MLE of R can thus be obtained as

$$\hat{S} = G(\hat{\phi}_1, \hat{\phi}_2, \hat{\omega}_1, \hat{\omega}_2)$$

IX. A Simulation Study

This section contains a simulation study to examine the consistency of maximum likelihood estimators of the G-SUD. The mean, bias (B), MSE and variance of the MLE's are computed using the formulae

$$Mean = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{H}_i, B = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{H}_i - H), MSE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{H}_i - H)^2, Variance = MSE - B^2$$

Where, $H = (\omega, \varphi)$ and $\hat{H} = (\hat{\omega}_i, \hat{\phi}_i)$.

The simulation results for different parameter values of G-SUD have been presented in tables 1 and 2 respectively using acceptance-rejection method:

a. Acceptance -rejection method for generating random samples from the G-SUD consists of following steps.

- i. Generate a random variable Y from exponential (ω) and U from Uniform (0,1)
- ii. If $U \leq \frac{f(y)}{M g(y)}$, then set $X = Y$ ("accept the sample"); otherwise ("reject the sample")

and if reject then repeat the whole process until we get the required samples, where M is a constant.

b. The sample sizes $n = 25, 50, 100, 150, 200$ are taken

c. The parameter values are considered as $\varphi = 5.5, \omega = 0.6$ and $\varphi = 6, \omega = 10$

d. Each sample size is replicated 10000 times

Tables 1 and 2 reveal that for increasing sample size, the value of the biases, MSE and variances of the MLE of the parameters of G-SUD becoming smaller and certify the first-order asymptotic theory of maximum likelihood estimators.

Table 1: The mean, Biases, MSE and Variances of G-SUD for $\varphi = 5.0, \omega = 0.6$

Parameters	Sample Size	Mean	Bias	MSE	Variance
$\hat{\phi}$	25	5.105803	0.1058031	0.01352763	0.002333342
	50	5.097851	0.0978509	0.01195673	0.00238192
	100	5.093918	0.0939184	0.0109286	0.00210792
	150	5.092278	0.0922778	0.01075683	0.00224162
	200	5.089048	0.0890482	0.00983284	0.00190325
$\hat{\omega}$	25	0.595456	-0.0045436	0.00004471	0.00002407
	50	0.595628	-0.0043716	0.00004846	0.00002935
	100	0.596119	-0.0038801	0.00004259	0.00002753
	150	0.596454	-0.0035456	0.00003761	0.00002504
	200	0.596588	-0.0034117	0.00003651	0.00002487

Table 2: The mean, Biases, MSE and Variances of G-SUD for $\varphi = 6.0, \omega = 10$

Parameters	Sample Size	Mean	Bias	MSE	Variance
$\hat{\phi}$	25	5.945172	-0.05482844	0.0042597	0.00125354
	50	5.961664	-0.03833594	0.0027186	0.00271866
	100	5.980525	-0.01947528	0.0025010	0.00212172
	150	5.985068	-0.01893228	0.0023664	0.00200800
	200	5.987536	-0.01246439	0.0022490	0.00209365
$\hat{\omega}$	25	10.08853	0.08852744	0.0120358	0.00419872
	50	10.06313	0.06317850	0.0088113	0.00481984

	100	10.03813	0.03813436	0.0064691	0.00501485
	150	10.02125	0.02124674	0.0064981	0.00604670
	200	10.00821	0.00820760	0.0055774	0.00550691

X. Applications

This section deals with the goodness of fit of G-SUD over G-LD, G-SD, Weibull and gamma distributions to illustrate its applications and using two real datasets relating to survival time of acute bone cancer and head and neck cancer patients. The summary of the two datasets are presented in tables 3 and 4 respectively. The total time to test (TTT) plots of the two datasets are given in figures 5 and 6 respectively. The goodness of fit of the considered distributions for two datasets is provided in tables 5 and 6 respectively. The fitted plots of the considered distributions for the two datasets are given in figure 7. The p-p plots of the considered distributions for the two datasets are finally presented in figures 8 and 9 respectively. The datasets are as follows:

Dataset 1: Acute bone cancer

This dataset represents the survival times (in days) of 73 patients who diagnosed with acute bone cancer available in Mansour et al [15] and are as follows:

0.09, 0.76, 1.81, 1.10, 3.72, 0.72, 2.49, 1.00, 0.53,0.66, 31.61, 0.60, 0.20, 1.61, 1.88, 0.70, 1.36, 0.43, 3.16, 1.57, 4.93, 11.07, 1.63, 1.39, 4.54, 3.12,86.01, 1.92, 0.92, 4.04, 1.16, 2.26, 0.20, 0.94, 1.82, 3.99, 1.46, 2.75, 1.38, 2.76, 1.86, 2.68, 1.76,0.67, 1.29, 1.56, 2.83, 0.71, 1.48, 2.41, 0.66, 0.65, 2.36, 1.29, 13.75, 0.67, 3.70, 0.76, 3.63, 0.68,2.65, 0.95, 2.30, 2.57, 0.61, 3.93, 1.56, 1.29, 9.94, 1.67, 1.42, 4.18, 1.37.

Table 3: The summary of acute bone cancer dataset

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	Variance	3rd Qu.	Max.
0.090	0.920	1.570	3.755	112.33	2.750	86.010

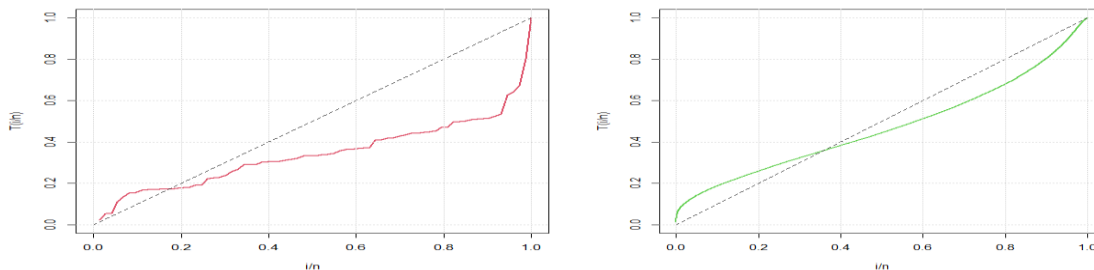


Fig.5: TTT-plot of the acute bone cancer dataset and simulated data of G-SUD respectively.

Dataset 2: Head and Neck cancer

This dataset is the survival time of 44 patients diagnosed by Head and Neck cancer disease are available in Efron [16] and are given by

12.20, 23.56, 23.74, 25.87, 31.98, 37, 41.35, 47.38, 55.46, 58.36, 63.47, 68.46, 78.26, 74.47, 81.43, 84, 92, 94, 110, 112, 119, 127, 130, 133, 140, 146, 155, 159, 173, 179, 194,195, 209, 249, 281, 319, 339, 432, 469, 519, 633, 725, 817, 1776

Table 4: The summary of head and neck cancer dataset

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	Variance	3rd Qu.	Max.
12.20	67.21	128.50	223.48	93286.41	219.00	1776.00

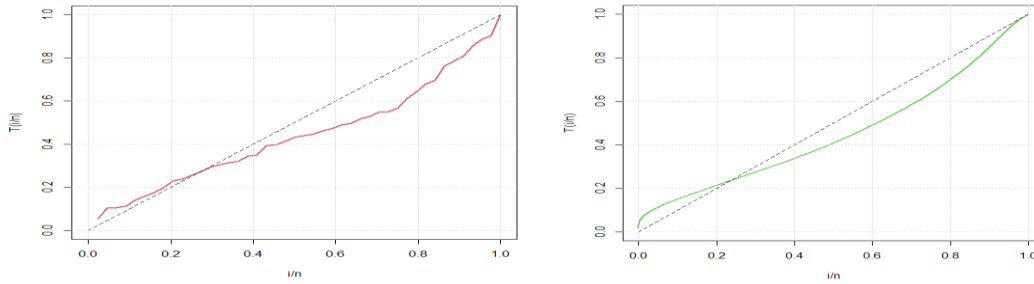


Fig.6: TTT-plot of the head and neck cancer dataset and simulated data of G-SUD respectively.

Table5: ML estimates, $-2\log L$, AIC , BIC and K-S statistics with their P-values of the distributions for acute bone cancer data set

Distributions	ML estimates $\hat{\phi}(S.E\ of\ \hat{\phi})$ $\hat{\omega}(S.E\ of\ \hat{\omega})$	$-2\log L$	AIC	BIC	K-S	p- value
G-SUD	4.4567 (1.1253) 0.7646 (0.1776)	281.7757	285.7757	300.0857	0.09	0.86
G-SD	4.8969(1.3904) 0.4967(0.1360)	282.8051	286.8051	301.1151	0.10	0.39
G-LD	5.1600(1.8468) 0.4375(0.1602)	284.315	288.315	302.625	0.11	0.33
Gamma	0.1985(0.0389) 0.7456(0.1057)	334.5311	338.5311	352.8411	0.56	0.00
Weibull	0.4395(0.0687) 0.7655(0.0567)	322.8033	326.8033	341.1133	0.25	0.00

Table 6: ML estimates, $-2\log L$, AIC,BIC and K-S statistics with their P-values of the distributions for head and neck cancer dataset.

Distributions	ML estimates $\hat{\phi}(S.E\ of\ \hat{\phi})$ $\hat{\omega}(S.E\ of\ \hat{\omega})$	$-2\log L$	AIC	BIC	K-S	p- value
G-SUD	8.6223 (11.3202) 11.1699(14.5932)	558.4763	562.4763	576.7863	0.08	0.90
G-SD	8.6787(11.7435) 10.0923(14.8515)	558.4641	562.4641	576.7741	0.09	0.81
G-LD	8.4483(10.4902) 11.1557(14.3688)	558.4555	562.4555	576.7655	0.09	0.70
Gamma	0.0047(0.0010) 1.0522(0.1886)	564.0254	568.0254	582.3354	1.00	0.00
Weibull	0.0070(0.0034) 0.9234(0.0809)	563.7155	567.7155	582.0255	0.5	0.04

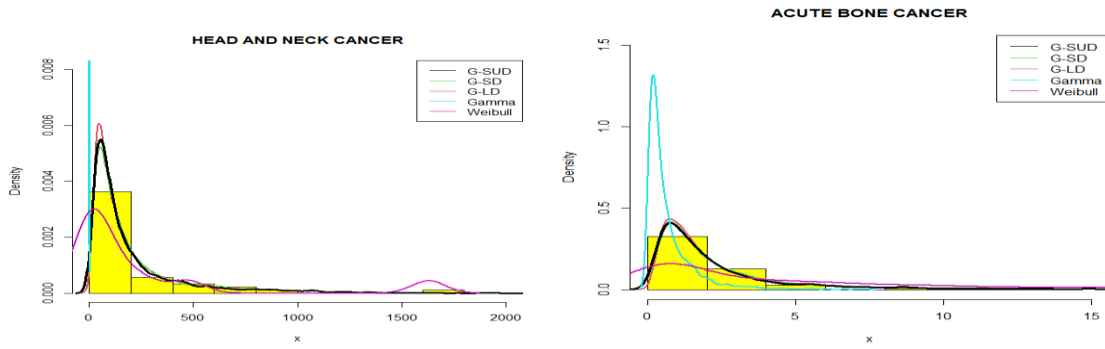


Fig. 7: Fitted plots of distributions for acute bone cancer and neck cancer datasets

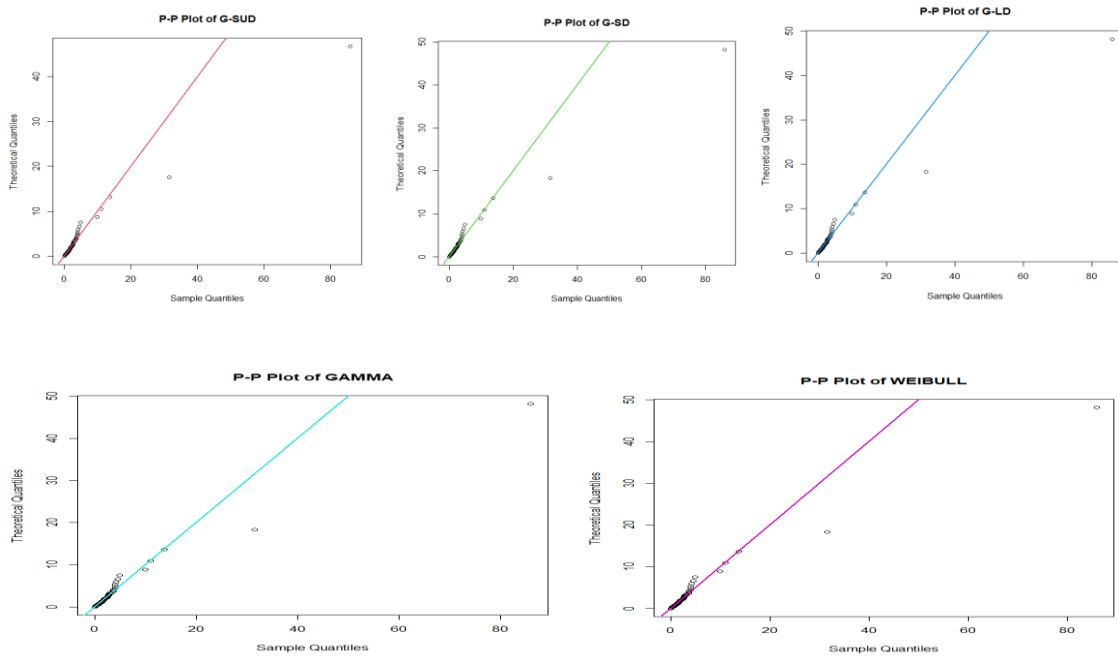


Fig. 8: P-P plots for considered distributions of acute bone cancer dataset

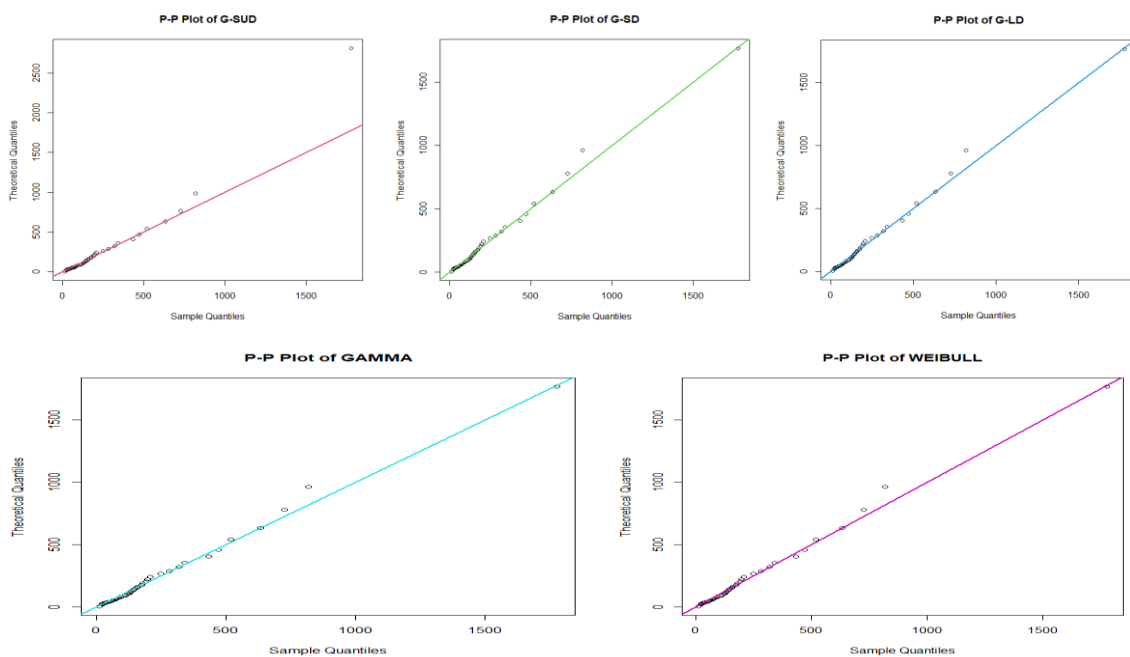


Fig. 9: P-P plots for considered distributions of head and neck cancer dataset

From the summary of the two datasets in tables 3 and 4, it is quite obvious that the considered datasets are highly positively skewed and highly over-dispersed. Based on the values of $-2\log L$, AIC (Akaike information criterion), Kolmogorov – Smirnov (K-S) statistic and the fitted plots of two parameter lifetime distributions, it is crystal clear from the goodness of fit that two parameters G-SUD is the best for modelling survival times of patients suffering from acute bone cancer and head and neck cancer. It can be recalled that recently Klakattawi [17] proposed a new extended Weibull distribution with five parameters and used it for analysing survival time of cancer patients and found that it gave much better fit than several two-parameter, three parameter, four parameter and five parameter lifetime distribution including Weibull distribution, alpha power Weibull (APW) distribution by Nassar et al [7], Beta-Weibull (BW) distribution by Famoye et al [4], Kumararaswamy-Weibull (Kum-W) distribution by Cordeiro et al [5], exponentiated generalized Weibull (EGW) distribution by Cordeiro et al [3], a new Kumaraswamy family of generalized Weibull distribution by Ahmed et al [18] and exponentiated Kumaraswamy Weibull distribution by Eissa [6], some among others. Here we would like to emphasize that the proposed gamma-Sujatha distribution (G-SUD) provides much closure fit than all these two-parameter, three-parameter, four-parameter and five-parameter lifetime distributions as it can be seen from the test of goodness of fit given by Klakattawi [17]. The most interesting feature of G-SUD is that being two-parameter distribution is much easier to characterize and handle the distribution as compared to three-parameter, four-parameter and five parameter distributions and hence it can be considered an important probability model for modeling survival time of cancer patients.

XI. Concluding Remarks

In this paper, we propose a gamma-Sujatha probability model, a compound of gamma and Sujatha distribution to model data of long tails. Some important statistical and reliability properties have been discussed. Maximum likelihood estimation has been discussed for estimating parameters and simulation studies to know the consistency of ML estimators are presented. The goodness of fit of the G-SUD has been compared with several well-known two-parameter distributions and observed that it provides much better fit and hence it can be considered as an important probability models for survival time of patients suffering from acute bone cancer and head and neck cancer in biomedical science. As the proposed distribution is the new probability model, a lot of works can be done in the future and definitely it will draw the attention of research workers in biomedical sciences and biomedical engineering.

Conflict of Interest

The Authors declare that there is no conflict of Interest.

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