# Remaining Useful Life Prediction for Gamma Degradation Processes: A Recursive Bayesian Approach

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Conjugate Prior and Posterior Sampling

### Simulation







**Online RUL Prediction** 







#### Simulation



5 Online RUL Prediction

#### Case study



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## **Degradation Models**

- General path model.
- Stochastic process: Wiener, gamma, inverse Gaussian (IG), variance gamma, Ornstein–Uhlenbeck, etc.
- Review papers: Si et al. (2011), Ye and Xie (2015), Zhang et al. (2018).

# Remaining useful life (RUL)



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### Literature review

- For Wiener-based degradation models, the Kalman filter or its extended methods are often utilized to conduct online RUL predictions (Wang et al, 2011; Si et al., 2013; Wang and Tsui, 2018; Zhang et al., 2018).
- For gamma process, Paroissin (2017) and Xu and Shen (2018) developed recursive linear estimators for the mean and variance of the gamma process.
  - Using the same techniques for RUL prediction and interval estimation remains challenging.
  - As new observations emerge, conducting statistical analysis mandates a reiteration for the updated dataset, posing challenges with growing sample sizes in terms of data storage and computational efficiency.







### Conjugate Prior and Posterior Sampling

#### Simulation





#### Case study

## Gamma process

### Definition

Gamma process  $\{\mathcal{Y}(t), t \geq 0\}$  satisfies the following properties:

- i)  $\mathcal{Y}(0) = 0$  with probability 1;
- ii)  $\{\mathcal{Y}(t), t \geq 0\}$  has independent increments;
- iii) The increment  $\Delta Y_t = \mathcal{Y}(t) \mathcal{Y}(s)$  follows gamma distribution (  $Ga(\alpha(t-s),\beta)$ ) with probability density function (PDF)

$$f(y|\alpha,\beta) = \frac{\beta^{\alpha(t-s)}y^{\alpha(t-s)-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha(t-s))} \exp\left\{-\beta y\right\}, t > s,$$

where  $\Gamma(\cdot)$  denotes the gamma function.

We denote the gamma process  $\{\mathcal{Y}(t), t \geq 0\}$  as  $\mathcal{GP}(\alpha t, \beta)$ .

### Lifetime

- $\bullet$  Let  ${\mathcal C}$  denote the threshold level for the degradation path.
- Lifetime of the system is defined as  $\mathcal{T} = \inf\{t | \mathcal{Y}(t) \geq \mathcal{C}\}.$
- The reliability function of T is  $R_{\mathcal{T}}(t|\alpha,\beta) = P(\mathcal{T} \ge t) = P(\mathcal{Y}(t) < \mathcal{C}).$

### Data

- Degradation of system's performance characteristic follows gamma process  $\mathcal{GP}(\alpha t, \beta)$ .
- *n* systems from population are randomly selected and tested.
- Assume that the measurement time epochs are t<sub>1</sub> < t<sub>2</sub> < ··· < t<sub>m</sub>, and the corresponding degradation value of the *i*-th system at time epoch t<sub>j</sub> is Y<sub>ij</sub>, i = 1,...,n, j = 1,...,m.
- For the sake of simplifying notations, we assume that the time intervals between measurements are equal. That is, the measurement time epoch  $t_j = jl$ .
- Let  $y_{ij} = Y_{ij} Y_{ij-1}$ , where  $Y_{i0} = 0$ , i = 1, ..., n, j = 1, ..., m.
- Then we have  $y_{ij} \sim Ga(\alpha l, \beta)$ .

• Denote the observed data as  $\boldsymbol{y} = \{y_{ij}, i = 1, \dots, n, j = 1, \dots, m\}.$ 

### Likelihood

### Based on the data $\boldsymbol{y}$ , the likelihood function is

$$L(\boldsymbol{y}|\alpha,\beta) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \prod_{j=1}^{m} \frac{\beta^{\alpha l}}{\Gamma(\alpha l)} y_{ij}^{\alpha l-1} \exp\{-\beta y_{ij}\}$$

$$\propto \frac{\beta^{mnl\alpha}}{[\Gamma(\alpha l)]^{mn}} \bar{y}_{g}^{mnl\alpha} \exp\{-mn\bar{y}_{a}\beta\},$$

$$(1)$$

where 
$$\bar{y}_g = \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \prod_{j=1}^m y_{ij}\right]^{1/(mn)}$$
 and  $\bar{y}_a = \frac{1}{mn} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m y_{ij}$ .

## Conjugate prior

#### Theorem 1

Given the likelihood function (1), the conjugate prior for  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is

$$\pi(\alpha,\beta) = C \frac{(\beta\omega)^{\delta l\alpha}}{[\Gamma(l\alpha)]^{\delta}} \exp\{-\delta\lambda\beta\},\tag{2}$$

where C is a normalized constant,  $\delta$ ,  $\omega$  and  $\lambda$  are hyperparameters with nonnegative values, which describe kurtosis, shape and scale of the distribution, respectively.

## Visualization of conjugate prior ( $\delta = 2, \omega = 0.5, \lambda = 1.5$ )



# Visualization of conjugate prior ( $\delta = 2, \omega = 1, \lambda = 1.5$ )



## Visualization of conjugate prior ( $\delta = 2, \omega = 0.5, \lambda = 3$ )



## Visualization of conjugate prior ( $\delta = 5, \omega = 0.5, \lambda = 1.5$ )



## Determination of hyperparameters

Choosing the values of hyperparemeters according to amount of prior information

- Informative priors: large  $\delta$ , small  $\omega$ , or large  $\lambda$ .
- Diffuse priors: small  $\delta$ , large  $\omega$ , or small  $\lambda$ .

### The joint prior distribution (2) can be written as

$$\pi(\alpha,\beta) = \pi(\beta|\alpha)\pi(\alpha)$$

$$\propto \frac{(\delta\lambda)^{\delta l\alpha+1}\beta^{\delta l\alpha}}{\Gamma(1+\delta l\alpha)} \exp\{-\delta\lambda\beta\} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(1+\delta l\alpha)}{\left[\Gamma(l\alpha)\right]^{\delta}} \exp\left\{-\alpha\delta l\log\left(\frac{\delta\lambda}{\omega}\right)\right\}.$$

- $\beta | \alpha \sim Ga(1 + \delta l\alpha, \delta \lambda).$
- $\bullet\,$  The marginal density of  $\alpha$  is proportional to

$$h(\alpha) = \frac{\Gamma(1 + \delta l \alpha)}{\left[\Gamma(l\alpha)\right]^{\delta}} \exp\left\{-\alpha \delta l \log\left(\frac{\delta \lambda}{\omega}\right)\right\}.$$
 (3)

• Using Stirling's formula and  $\alpha \to \infty$ ,

$$\frac{\Gamma(1+\delta l\alpha)}{\left[\Gamma(l\alpha)\right]^{\delta}} \equiv O\left(\alpha^{(\delta+1)/2} \exp\{\alpha \delta l \log(\delta)\}\right).$$

- When  $\alpha \to \infty$ ,  $h(\alpha) \equiv O\left(\alpha^{(\delta+1)/2} \exp\left\{-\alpha \delta l \log\left(\frac{\lambda}{\omega}\right)\right\}\right)$ .
- Thus, to make the conjugate prior  $\pi(\alpha,\beta)$  proper, the condition  $\omega<\lambda$  should be satisfied.
- Then the tail of  $\pi(\alpha)$  can be approximated by  $Ga\left(\frac{\delta+3}{2}, \delta l \log\left(\frac{\lambda}{\omega}\right)\right)$ .
- We call  $\pi(\alpha, \beta)$  approximated-gamma-gamma distribution, denoted as  $AGG(\delta, \omega, \lambda)$ .

# Marginal prior of $\alpha$



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## Generate random numbers from $AGG(\delta, \omega, \lambda)$

### Algorithm 1: Gibbs sampling (GS)

 $\ \, \bigcirc \ \, \beta | \alpha \sim Ga(1+\delta l\alpha,\delta\lambda).$ 

(2) Given  $\beta$ , the conditional density of  $\alpha$  is proportional to  $\frac{(\beta \omega)^{\delta l \alpha}}{[\Gamma(l\alpha)]^{\delta}}$ , which is log-concave.

## Generation of random numbers from $AGG(\delta, \omega, \lambda)$

### Algorithm 2: Discrete grid sampling (DGS)

Discrete grid sampling is utilized for generating random numbers from  $\pi(\alpha)$  approximately.

- **()** Choose an interval  $(A_1, A_2)$ , in which the probability that  $\alpha$  lies in is nearly 1.
- Select M grids equally lies in the interval  $(A_1, A_2)$ , and compute the unnormalized marginal distribution of  $\alpha$  (3) on the grids.
- Having computed the relative posterior density at a grid, we normalize by approximating π(α) as discrete distribution over the grids and setting the total probability in the grids to 1.
- **(**) Generate random numbers of  $\alpha$  from the normalized discrete distribution.
- Solution Given  $\alpha$ , generate  $\beta$  from  $Ga(1 + \delta l\alpha, \delta \lambda)$ .

## Generate random numbers from $AGG(\delta, \omega, \lambda)$

### Algorithm 3: Sampling importance resampling (SIR)

**(**) Choose Ga(a, b) as the instrumental distribution.

- 2 The values of a and b can be determined as follows.
  - Let  $\tilde{\alpha} = \underset{\alpha}{\arg \max \log h(\alpha)} \text{ and } I(\tilde{\alpha}) = \frac{\partial^2 \log h(\alpha)}{\partial \alpha^2} \Big|_{\alpha = \tilde{\alpha}}.$

• Initialize 
$$b$$
 as  $b_0 = \delta l \log \left(\frac{\lambda}{\omega}\right)$  and  $a$  as  $a_0 = \tilde{\alpha} b_0$ .

• Compute the precision ratio  $R = \frac{b_0^2/a_0}{I(\tilde{\alpha})}$ , and update  $a = a_0/R$  and  $b = b_0/R$ .

- 3 Then generate M random numbers from Ga(a, b), and the weight of each number can be computed by function  $h(\alpha)/f_{Ga}(\alpha|a, b)$ , where  $f_{Ga}(\alpha|a, b)$  denotes PDF of Ga(a, b).
- **(**) Resampling  $\alpha$  with replacement from the weighted M random numbers.
- **(a)** Given  $\alpha$ , generate  $\beta$  from  $Ga(1 + \delta l\alpha, \delta \lambda)$ .

## Posterior distribution

#### Theorem 2

Given the likelihood function (1) and prior  $\pi(\alpha, \beta)$  (2), the joint posterior distribution of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is

$$AGG\left(mn+\delta, \ \bar{y}_{g}^{\frac{mn}{mn+\delta}}\omega^{\frac{\delta}{mn+\delta}}, \ \frac{mn\bar{y}_{m}+\delta\lambda}{mn+\delta}\right)$$

• Special values of hyperparameters  $\omega$  and  $\lambda$ :  $\omega = \bar{y}_g$ ,  $\lambda = \bar{y}_m$ . Then the joint posterior is  $AGG(mn + \delta, \bar{y}_g, \bar{y}_m)$ .

• In this setting, the hyperparameter  $\delta$  behaves like number of measurements. The value of  $\delta$  can be determined according to measurement-equivalent of the amount of information.













## Laser degradation data (Meeker & Escobar, 1998)



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### Estimates

- Prior:  $AGG(1, \bar{y}_g, \bar{y}_m)$ .
- Parameters:  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and reliability at time 4500 hours R(4500).
- Gibbs sampling: 3000 iterations with the first 1000 burn-in sample
- Discrete grid sampling: 10000 grids in the interval (0,10), and finally generate posterior sample with sample size 1000.
- SIR: 10000 random numbers from instrumental distribution, and resampling posterior sample with sample size 1000.

Table 1: The point and 95% CI estimates of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and R(4500).

Estimate	GS				DGS		SIR		
	α	$\beta$	R(4500)	$\alpha$	$\beta$	R(4500)	$\alpha$	$\beta$	R(4500)
Point	0.0309	15.342	0.879	0.0308	15.325	0.878	0.0310	15.438	0.882
2.5%	0.0258	12.693	0.740	0.0260	12.698	0.737	0.0256	12.677	0.743
97.5%	0.0366	18.332	0.963	0.0370	18.328	0.962	0.0366	18.368	0.964

### Simulation settings

- $\alpha = 0.031$ ,  $\beta = 15.35$ , R(4500) = 0.88, and mean-time-to-failure (MTTF) = 4976.74.
- m = 16, n = 15, l = 250.
- Hyperparameters  $\delta = 0, 1, m/4$  and m/2;  $\omega = \bar{y}_g$ ;  $\lambda = \bar{y}_m$ .
- 10000 repetitions for comparing three algorithms.
- Indexes of assessing different algorithms: absolute relative error (ARB) and squared root of mean squared error (RMSE) of Bayesian point estimates, frequentist coverage probability (FCP) of 95% credible interval, computational time.

Algorithm		δ	= 0		$\delta = 1$				
	α	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	$\alpha$	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	
GS	0.0245	0.0256	0.0161	0.00109	0.0243	0.0254	0.0161	0.00108	
DGS	0.0245	0.0256	0.0161	0.0011	0.0245	0.0256	0.0161	0.00109	
SIR	0.0245	0.0256	0.0161	0.00109	0.0245	0.0256	0.0161	0.00109	
Algorithm		δ	$=\frac{m}{4}$		$\delta = \frac{m}{2}$				
	α	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	$\alpha$	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	
GS	0.0233	0.0247	0.0153	0.00136	0.0234	0.0248	0.0151	0.00137	
DGS	0.0234	0.0249	0.0152	0.00137	0.0233	0.0247	0.0151	0.00136	
SIR	0.0234	0.0249	0.0152	0.00138	0.0232	0.0246	0.0151	0.00136	

Table 2: ARBs of point estimates of the parameters.

Algorithm		δ	= 0		$\delta = 1$			
	$\alpha$	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	α	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF
GS	0.00292	1.491	0.0573	113.28	0.00291	1.489	0.0574	113.25
DGS	0.00290	1.484	0.0574	113.22	0.00289	1.482	0.0573	113.19
SIR	0.00289	1.483	0.0573	113.21	0.00289	1.482	0.0574	113.20
Alaavithaa		$\delta$ :	$=\frac{m}{4}$		$\delta = \frac{m}{2}$			
Algorithm	α	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	α	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF
GS	0.00289	1.484	0.0569	113.68	0.00290	1.486	0.0568	113.70
DGS	0.00286	1.479	0.0569	113.63	0.00287	1.475	0.0567	113.59
SIR	0.00284	1.479	0.0568	113.60	0.00286	1.476	0.0567	113.55

Table 3: RMSEs of point estimates of the parameters.

Algorithm		Ċ	$\delta = 0$		$\delta = 1$				
	α	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	$\alpha$	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	
GS	0.0109	5.588	0.224	447.444	0.0109	5.585	0.224	446.609	
DGS	0.0109	5.629	0.224	446.274	0.0109	5.620	0.223	445.596	
SIR	0.0110	5.630	0.224	446.414	0.0109	5.624	0.223	445.318	
A		δ	$=\frac{m}{4}$		$\delta = \frac{m}{2}$				
Algorithm	α	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	$\alpha$	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	
GS	0.0108	5.541	0.222	444.082	0.0107	5.502	0.220	440.493	
DGS	0.0108	5.582	0.221	443.013	0.0107	5.535	0.219	439.562	
SIR	0.0109	5.581	0.221	443.131	0.0108	5.536	0.219	439.373	

Table 4: Lengths of 95% credible intervals of the parameters.

A.L		δ	= 0		$\delta = 1$			
Algorithm	α	β	R(4500)	MTTF	α	β	R(4500)	MTTF
GS	0.938	0.937	0.9434	0.9447	0.938	0.9359	0.9444	0.9464
DGS	0.9364	0.9417	0.9441	0.9463	0.936	0.9401	0.9438	0.9451
SIR	0.9454	0.9412	0.9441	0.9442	0.9446	0.9429	0.9436	0.9438
A		$\delta$ :	$=\frac{m}{4}$		$\delta = \frac{m}{2}$			
Algorithm	α	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF	$\alpha$	$\beta$	R(4500)	MTTF
GS	0.9384	0.9366	0.9456	0.9476	0.9328	0.9342	0.9431	0.9444
DGS	0.9318	0.944	0.9449	0.9463	0.9276	0.9398	0.9419	0.9439
SIR	0.9433	0.9433	0.9433	0.9466	0.9404	0.9413	0.9428	0.9428

Table 5: Frequentist coverage probabilities of 95% credible intervals of the parameters.

 The computational time of the three algorithms for each sample are 0.602, 0.00341 and 0.00499 seconds in a desktop with Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-10700 CPU at 2.9 GHz and 16 GB RAM running under a Windows 11 operating system.

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#### Case study

### Data

- Assume that heterogeneity exists among systems. The degradation of the *i*-th system's performance characteristic follows gamma process *GP*(αt, β<sub>i</sub>).
- Let  $Y_{ij}$  be the degradation value of the *i*-th system at time epoch  $t_j = jl$ , i = 1, ..., n, j = 1, ..., m.
- Let  $y_{ij} = Y_{ij} Y_{ij-1}$ , where  $Y_{i0} = 0$ , i = 1, ..., n, j = 1, ..., m.
- Then we have  $y_{ij} \sim Ga(\alpha l, \beta_i)$ .
- Denote the observed data as  $y_{(m)} = \{y_{ij}, i = 1, \dots, n, j = 1, \dots, m\}.$

### Likelihood

### Based on the data $y_{(m)}$ , the likelihood function is

$$L(\boldsymbol{y_{(m)}}|\alpha,\beta_1,\ldots,\beta_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \prod_{j=1}^m \frac{\beta_i^{\alpha l}}{\Gamma(\alpha l)} y_{ij}^{\alpha l-1} \exp\{-\beta_i y_{ij}\}$$

$$\propto \frac{\bar{\beta}_g^{mnl\alpha}}{[\Gamma(\alpha l)]^{mn}} \bar{y}_g^{mnl\alpha} \exp\left\{-\sum_{i=1}^n m \bar{y}_i \beta\right\},$$
(4)

where 
$$\bar{\beta}_g = \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \beta_i\right]^{1/n}$$
 and  $\bar{y}_i = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m y_{ij}$ ,  $i = 1, ..., n$ .

## Conjugate prior

#### Theorem 3

Given the likelihood function (4), the conjugate prior for  $(\alpha, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_n)'$  is

$$\pi(\alpha,\beta_1,\ldots,\beta_n) = C \frac{\left(\bar{\beta}_g \omega\right)^{\delta_1 l \alpha}}{\left[\Gamma(l\alpha)\right]^{\delta_1}} \exp\left\{-\sum_{i=1}^n \delta_2 \lambda_i \beta_i\right\},\tag{5}$$

where C is a normalized constant,  $\delta_1$ ,  $\delta_2$ ,  $\omega$  and  $\lambda_i$ s are hyperparameters with nonnegative values.

#### Heterogeneity

### Decomposition

$$\pi(\alpha, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \pi(\beta_i | \alpha) \pi(\alpha)$$

$$\propto \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{(\delta_2 \lambda_i)^{1+\delta_1 l \alpha/n} \beta_i^{\delta_1 l \alpha/n}}{\Gamma(1+\delta_1 l \alpha/n)} \exp\{-\delta_2 \lambda_i \beta_i\}$$

$$\times \frac{[\Gamma(1+\delta_1 l \alpha/n)]^n}{[\Gamma(l\alpha)]^{\delta_1}} \exp\left\{-\alpha \delta_1 l \left[\log\left(\frac{\delta_2}{\omega}\right) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log \lambda_i\right]\right\}.$$

• 
$$\beta_i | \alpha \sim Ga(1 + \delta_1 l \alpha / n, \delta_2 \lambda_i).$$

 ${\ensuremath{\, \circ }}$  The marginal density of  $\alpha$  is proportional to

$$g(\alpha) = \frac{\left[\Gamma(1+\delta_1 l\alpha/n)\right]^n}{\left[\Gamma(l\alpha)\right]^{\delta_1}} \exp\left\{-\alpha\delta_1 l\left[\log\left(\frac{\delta_2}{\omega}\right) + \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n \log\lambda_i\right]\right\}.$$
 (6)

#### Heterogeneity

• Using Stirling's formula and  $\alpha \to \infty$ ,

$$g(\alpha) \equiv O\left(\alpha^{\frac{\delta_1+n}{2}} \exp\left\{-K\alpha\right\}\right),$$

where 
$$K = \delta_1 l \left[ \log \left( \frac{n \delta_2}{\delta_1} \right) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log \left( \frac{\lambda_i}{\omega} \right) \right].$$

- Thus, to make the conjugate prior π(α, β<sub>1</sub>,..., β<sub>n</sub>) proper, the condition K > 0 should be satisfied.
- Then the tail of  $\pi(\alpha)$  can be approximated by  $Ga\left(\frac{\delta_1+n+2}{2},K\right)$ .
- We call  $\pi(\alpha, \beta)$  approximated-gamma-multivariate-gamma distribution, denoted as  $AGMG_n(\gamma, \omega, \xi)$ , where  $\gamma = (\delta_1, \delta_2)'$ , and  $\xi = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)'$ .

# Sampling from $AGMG_n\left(oldsymbol{\gamma}, \ \omega, \ oldsymbol{\lambda} ight)$

### Algorithm 4: SIR

- **1** Choose Ga(a, b) as the instrumental distribution.
- 2 The values of a and b can be determined as follows.
  - Let  $\tilde{\alpha} = \underset{\alpha}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \log g(\alpha)$  and  $I(\tilde{\alpha}) = \frac{\partial^2 \log g(\alpha)}{\partial \alpha^2} \Big|_{\alpha = \tilde{\alpha}}$ .
  - Initialize b as  $b_0 = K$  and a as  $a_0 = \tilde{\alpha} b_0$ .
  - Compute the precision ratio  $R = \frac{b_0^2/a_0}{I(\tilde{\alpha})}$ , and update  $a = a_0/R$  and  $b = b_0/R$ .
- 3 Then generate M random numbers from Ga(a, b), and the weight of each number can be computed by function  $g(\alpha)/f_{Ga}(\alpha|a, b)$ .
- **(**) Resampling  $\alpha$  with replacement from the weighted M random numbers.
- **(**) Given  $\alpha$ , generate  $\beta_i$  from  $Ga(1 + \delta_1 l\alpha/n, \delta_2 \lambda_i)$ .

## Posterior distribution

#### Theorem 4

Given the likelihood function (4) and prior (5), the joint posterior distribution of  $(\alpha, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_n)'$  is

 $AGMG_n\left(\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{(m)}, \ \omega_{(m)}, \ \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{(m)}\right),$ 

where 
$$\gamma_{(m)} = (mn + \delta_1, m + \delta_2)'$$
,  $\omega_{(m)} = \bar{y}_{g(m)}^{\frac{mn}{mn+\delta_1}} \omega^{\frac{\delta_1}{mn+\delta_1}}$ ,  
 $\bar{y}_{g(m)} = \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \prod_{j=1}^m y_{ij}\right]^{\frac{1}{mn}}$ ,  $\lambda_{(m)} = \left(\frac{m\bar{y}_1 + \delta_2\lambda_1}{m+\delta_2}, \dots, \frac{m\bar{y}_n + \delta_2\lambda_n}{m+\delta_2}\right)'$ .

• Special values of hyperparameters  $\omega$  and  $\lambda_i$ :  $\omega = \bar{y}_{g(m)}, \ \lambda_i = \bar{y}_{i(m)}$  Then the joint posterior is  $AGMG_n\left(\gamma_{(m)}, \ \bar{y}_{g(m)}, \ (\bar{y}_{1(m)}, \dots, \bar{y}_{n(m)})'\right)$ .

• The hyperparameters  $\delta_1$  and  $\delta_2$  behave like number of measurements.

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#### 3 Simulation





#### Case study

• Assume that all the degradation values of the *i*-th system until time  $t_m$  are less than C. The remaining useful life (RUL) of the *i*-th system at time  $t_m$  is defined as

 $Z_{it_m} = \inf\{z: \mathcal{Y}_i(z+t_m) \ge \mathcal{C} | \mathcal{Y}_i(t_m) < \mathcal{C}\}.$ 

• The reliability function of  $Z_{it_m}$  is

$$R_{Z_{it_m}}(z|\alpha,\beta_i) = P(Z_{it_m} \ge z) = P(\mathcal{Y}_i(z+t_m) < \mathcal{C}).$$

## Approximation

- The PDF of  $Z_{it_m}$ :  $f_{Z_{it_m}}(z|\alpha,\beta_i) = -\frac{\partial R_{Z_{it_m}}(z|\alpha,\beta_i)}{\partial z}$ , which is too complicated.
- Park and Padgett (2005) recommended a two-parameter Birnbaum–Saunders distribution  $BS(\alpha^*, \beta_i^*)$  with CDF  $\Phi\left(\frac{1}{\alpha_i^*}\left[\sqrt{\frac{z}{\beta_i^*}} \sqrt{\frac{\beta_i^*}{z}}\right]\right)$  to approximate the distribution of  $Z_{it_m}$ , where  $\alpha_i^* = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\beta_i(\mathcal{C}-Y_{im})}}$  and  $\beta_i^* = \frac{\beta_i(\mathcal{C}-Y_{im})}{\alpha}$ ,  $\Phi(\cdot)$  is the CDF of standard normal distribution.
- Then mean of  $Z_{it_m}$  can be approximated by

$$\mu_{im}(\alpha,\beta_i) = \beta_i^* \left( 1 + \left(\alpha_i^*\right)^2 / 2 \right) = \frac{1 + 2\beta_i (\mathcal{C} - Y_{im})}{2\alpha}.$$

• The lower  $\rho$ -th quantile of the distribution of  $Z_{it_m}$  can be approximated by

$$\mu_{im}^{\rho}(\alpha,\beta_i) = \frac{\beta_i^*}{4} \left[ u_{\rho} \alpha^* + \sqrt{\left(u_{\rho} \alpha^*\right)^2 + 4} \right]^2,$$

where  $u_{\rho}$  is the  $\rho$ -th quantile of the standard normal distribution.

## **RUL** prediction

• Bayesian point prediction of RUL of the *i*-th system at time  $t_m$ :

$$\tilde{\mu}_{im} = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \mu_{im}(\alpha, \beta_i) \pi(\alpha, \beta_i | \boldsymbol{y_{(m)}}) d\alpha d\beta_i.$$
(7)

• Bayesian interval prediction of RUL of the *i*-th system at time  $t_m$  with  $1 - \rho$  credible level:

$$\left(\tilde{\mu}_{im}^{\rho/2}, \tilde{\mu}_{im}^{1-\rho/2}\right),\tag{8}$$

where  $\tilde{\mu}_{im}^{\rho} = \int_{0}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{\infty} \mu_{im}^{\rho}(\alpha, \beta_i) \pi(\alpha, \beta_i | \boldsymbol{y_{(m)}}) \mathrm{d}\alpha \mathrm{d}\beta_i.$ 

### Procedure of online RUL prediction

- **①** Collect new observations  $(y_{1m+1}, \ldots, y_{nm+1})$  at time  $t_{m+1} = (m+1)l$
- 2 Update the hyperparameters in the posterior distribution of  $(lpha, eta_1, \dots, eta_n)'$  iteratively:

$$\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{(m+1)} = \boldsymbol{\gamma}_{(m)} + (n,1)', \\ \omega_{(m+1)} = \omega_{(m)}^{\frac{mn+\delta_1}{(m+1)n+\delta_1}} \left[\prod_{i=1}^m y_{im+1}\right]^{\frac{(m+1)n+\delta_1}{(m+1)n+\delta_1}}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{(m+1)} = \frac{m+\delta_2}{m+1+\delta_2} \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{(m)} + \frac{1}{m+1+\delta_2} (y_{1m+1}, \dots, y_{nm+1})'.$$

- **3** Generate posterior sample of  $(\alpha, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)'$  by algorithm 4.













- Using linear interpolation method, we can obtain the true failure time for the first, sixth and tenth devices, which are 3785.75, 3506.75 and 3351.25 hours, respectively.
- Prediction of RUL of the three devices starts from the second measurement (500 hours).





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The 6th Device



The 10th Device



### Conclusion

- Conjugate prior for the homogeneous gamma process is derived, and the properties of the prior are investigated.
- Three advanced algorithms (Gibbs sampling, DGS, and SIR) are proposed to simulate random numbers from the posterior distribution.
- The conjugate prior framework is extended to encompass the gamma process with heterogeneous effects.
- An innovative online algorithm is developed for simultaneous RUL prediction across multiple systems.

# **Thanks!**