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# Instructions for Paper Submissions to AISTATS 2023: Supplementary Materials

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## 1 THEORETICAL DERIVATIONS

### 1.1 Proof that $\hat{\sigma}^2(z_1, z_2)$ is an unbiased estimator of $\sigma_*^2(z_1, z_2)$

In Section .. we use that  $\hat{\sigma}^2(z_1, z_2)$  is an unbiased estimator of  $\sigma_*^2(z_1, z_2) = \frac{\int_{z_1}^{z_2} \mathbb{E}_{X_c|X_s=z} [(f^s(z, X_c) - \mu(z_1, z_2))^2] \partial z}{z_2 - z_1}$ , under the assumption that the points are uniformly distributed in  $[z_1, z_2]$ , i.e.,  $x_s^i \sim \mathcal{U}(z_1, z_2)$ .

**Proof** We have made the hypothesis that the points  $\mathbf{x}^i$  are coming from the distribution  $\mathcal{S} = p(X_c|X_s)p(X_s) = p(X_c|X_s)\mathcal{U}(x_s; z_1, z_2) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_c|z)}{z_2 - z_1}$  uniformly distributed in the interval  $[z_1, z_2]$  in terms

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{S}}[\hat{\sigma}^2(z_1, z_2)] = \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{S}}\left[\frac{1}{|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{S}|} (f^s(\mathbf{x}^i) - \mu(z_1, z_2))^2\right] \quad (1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{S}|} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{S}}[(f^s(\mathbf{x}^i) - \mu(z_1, z_2))^2] \quad (2)$$

$$= \frac{1}{|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{S}|} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{S}}[(f^s(\mathbf{x}^i) - \mu(z_1, z_2))^2] \quad (3)$$

$$(4)$$

$$\sigma_*^2(z_1, z_2) = \frac{\int_{z_1}^{z_2} \mathbb{E}_{X_c|X_s=z} [(f^s(z, X_c) - \mu(z_1, z_2))^2] \partial z}{z_2 - z_1} \quad (5)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim \mathcal{U}(z_1, z_2)} \mathbb{E}_{X_c|X_s=z} [(f^s(z, X_c) - \mu(z_1, z_2))^2] \quad (6)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_X [(f^s(X) - \mu(z_1, z_2))^2] \quad (7)$$

### 1.2 Proof Of Theorem 3.1

If we define (a) the residual  $\rho(z)$  as the difference between the expected effect at  $z$  and the bin-effect, i.e  $\rho(z) = \mu(z) - \mu(z_1, z_2)$  and (b)  $\mathcal{E}(z_1, z_2)$  as the mean squared residual of the bin, i.e.  $\mathcal{E}(z_1, z_2) = \frac{\int_{z_1}^{z_2} \rho^2(z) \partial z}{z_2 - z_1}$ , then it holds that:

$$\sigma_*^2(z_1, z_2) = \sigma^2(z_1, z_2) + \mathcal{E}(z_1, z_2) \quad (8)$$

**Proof**

$$\sigma_*^2(z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{z_2 - z_1} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \mathbb{E}_{X_c|z} \left[ (f^s(z, X_c) - \mu(z_1, z_2))^2 \right] \partial z \quad (9)$$

$$= \frac{1}{z_2 - z_1} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \mathbb{E}_{X_c|z} \left[ (f^s(z, X_c) - \mu(z) + \rho(z))^2 \right] \partial z \quad (10)$$

$$= \frac{1}{z_2 - z_1} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \mathbb{E}_{X_c|z} \left[ (f^s(z, X_c) - \mu(z))^2 + \rho(z)^2 + 2f^s(z, X_c)\mu(z) \right] \partial z \quad (11)$$

$$= \frac{1}{z_2 - z_1} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \left( \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{X_c|z} [(f^s(z, X_c) - \mu(z))^2]}_{\sigma^2(z)} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{X_c|z} [\rho^2(z)]}_{\rho^2(z)} + 2 \underbrace{(\mathbb{E}_{X_c|z} [f^s(z, X_c)] - \mu(z))}_{\mu(z)} \rho(z) \right) \partial z \quad (12)$$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{1}{z_2 - z_1} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \sigma^2(z) \partial z}_{\sigma^2(z_1, z_2)} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{z_2 - z_1} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \rho^2(z) \partial z}_{\mathcal{E}^2(z_1, z_2)} = \sigma^2(z_1, z_2) + \mathcal{E}^2(z_1, z_2) \quad (13)$$

**1.3 Proof Of Corollary**

If a bin-splitting  $\mathcal{Z}$  minimizes the accumulated error, then it also minimizes  $\sum_{k=1}^K \sigma_*^2(z_{k-1}, z_k) \Delta z_k$

We want to show that

$$\mathcal{Z}^* = \arg \min_{\mathcal{Z}} \sum_{k=1}^K \sigma_*^2(z_{k-1}, z_k) \Delta z_k \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{Z}^* = \arg \min_{\mathcal{Z}} \sum_{k=1}^K \mathcal{E}^2(z_{k-1}, z_k) \Delta z_k$$

**Proof**

$$\mathcal{Z}^* = \arg \min_{\mathcal{Z}} \sum_{k=1}^K \sigma_*^2(z_{k-1}, z_k) \Delta z_k \quad (14)$$

$$= \arg \min_{\mathcal{Z}} \left[ \sum_{k=1}^K (\sigma^2(z_{k-1}, z_k) + \mathcal{E}^2(z_{k-1}, z_k)) \Delta z_k \right] \quad (15)$$

$$= \arg \min_{\mathcal{Z}} \left[ \sum_{k=1}^K \left( \frac{\Delta z_k}{\Delta z_k} \int_{z_{k-1}}^{z_k} \sigma^2(z) \partial z + \mathcal{E}^2(z_{k-1}, z_k) \Delta z_k \right) \right] \quad (16)$$

$$= \arg \min_{\mathcal{Z}} \left[ \underbrace{\int_{z_0}^{z_K} \sigma^2(z) \partial z}_{\text{independent of } \mathcal{Z}} + \sum_{k=1}^K \mathcal{E}^2(z_{k-1}, z_k) \Delta z_k \right] \quad (17)$$

$$= \arg \min_{\mathcal{Z}} \sum_{k=1}^K \mathcal{E}^2(z_{k-1}, z_k) \Delta z_k \quad (18)$$

**2 Dynamic Programming**

For achieving a computationally-grounded solution we set a threshold  $K_{max}$  on the maximum number of bins which also discretizes the solution space. The width of the bin can take discrete values that are multiple of the minimum step  $u = \frac{x_{s,max} - x_{s,min}}{K_{max}}$ . For defining the solution, we use two indexes. The index  $i \in \{0, \dots, K_{max}\}$  denotes the point  $(z_i)$  and the index  $j \in \{0, \dots, K_{max}\}$  denotes the position of the  $j$ -th multiple of the minimum step, i.e.,  $x_j = x_{s,min} + j \cdot u$ . The recursive cost function  $T(i, j)$  is the cost of setting  $z_i = x_j$ :

$$\mathcal{T}(i, j) = \min_{l \in \{0, \dots, K_{max}\}} [\mathcal{T}(i-1, l) + \mathcal{B}(x_l, x_j)] \quad (19)$$

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where  $\mathcal{T}(0, j)$  equals zero if  $j = 0$  and  $\infty$  in any other case.  $\mathcal{B}(x_l, x_j)$  denotes the cost of creating a bin with limits  $[x_l, x_j]$ :

$$\mathcal{B}(x_l, x_j) = \begin{cases} \infty, & \text{if } x_j > x_l \text{ or } |\mathcal{S}_{(x_j, x_l)}| < N \\ 0, & \text{if } x_j = x_l \\ \hat{\sigma}^2(x_j, x_l), & \text{if } x_j \leq x_l \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

The optimal solution is given by solving  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{T}(K_{max}, K_{max})$  and keeping track of the sequence of steps.

### 3 EXPERIMENTS APPEARED AT THE MAIN PAPER

#### 3.1 Simulation 1

#### 3.2 Simulation 2

#### 3.3 Real World Example

### 4 Further Experimentation