

From last lecture: lack of asymptotic optimality

$p$  density on  $\mathbb{R}$

$p \in H^2$ , i.e.  $\int (p''(x))^2 dx \leq L^2$ .

Using 1st order kernel,  $MISE \approx n^{-4/5}$ .

Thm. If we use a second kernel  $\|K\|_{L^2} < \infty$ .

Then  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , take  $h = n^{-4/5} \varepsilon^{-1} \int K^2(u) du$

We have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{4/5} \cdot \mathbb{E} \int (\hat{P}_n(x) - p(x))^2 dx \leq \varepsilon.$$

Remark: Only for fixed density  $p$ ,  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .  
 In practice, don't know when such an asymptotic holds in (depends on  $p$ ).  
 the "hardest problem"

Rule of thumb: For fixed  $n$ ,  $H^2$  depends on value of  $n$ .

Key step:

$$(*) \int b^2(x) dx = \frac{h^4}{4} \left( \int u^2 K(u) du \right)^2 \cdot \int (p''(x))^2 dx + o(h^4).$$

$$\int \sigma^2(x) dx \approx \frac{1}{nh} \quad \text{Trade-off.}$$

Proof of (\*).

$$b(x) = h^2 \int u^2 K(u) \left[ \int_0^1 (1-\tau) \underbrace{p''(x + \tau uh)}_{\approx p''(x)} d\tau \right] du.$$

*(h small)*

$$\tilde{b}(x) = h^2 \int u^2 K(u) \left[ \int_0^1 (1-\tau) p''(x) d\tau \right] du$$

$$\int \tilde{b}(x)^2 dx = \frac{h^4}{4} \cdot \left( \int u^2 K(u) du \right)^2 \left( \int (p''(x))^2 dx \right).$$

approx. err. by  $\tilde{b}$ .

It remains to bound

$$\left| \int (b^2(x) - \tilde{b}^2(x)) dx \right|$$

$$\leq \left( \int (b(x) + \tilde{b}(x))^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \cdot \left( \int (b(x) - \tilde{b}(x))^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$$

For  $p \in H^2$ ,

$$\int \left\{ \int u^2 K(u) \cdot \left[ \int_0^1 (1-\tau) (p''(x + \tau uh) + p''(x)) d\tau \right] du \right\}^2 dx < +\infty$$

(By Generalized Minkowski).

$$= \int \left\{ \int u^2 K(u) \cdot \left[ \int_0^1 (1-\tau) (p''(x + \tau uh) - p''(x)) d\tau \right] du \right\}^2 dx$$

$$\leq \left( \int_0^1 u^2 |K(u)| \cdot \left\{ \left[ \int_0^1 |p''(x+\tau uh) - p''(x)| d\tau \right]^2 dx \right\}^{1/2} du \right)^2.$$

$\leq \int_0^1 \int (p''(x+\tau uh) - p''(x))^2 dx d\tau$

So we have

$$\int \left( b(x) - \tilde{b}(x) \right)^2 dx$$

$$\leq \int u^2 |K(u)| \cdot \sup_{\tau \in [0,1]} \|p''(\cdot + \tau uh) - p''\|_{L^2} du$$

$$\leq 2 \|p''\|_{L^2} \cdot \begin{cases} u^2 |K(u)| du & \text{as } h \rightarrow 0 \\ \sup_{|u| > \sqrt{\tau} h} u^2 |K(u)| du & \text{Bounded} \end{cases}$$

$$\sup_{0 < \tau \leq 1} \begin{cases} u^2 |K(u)| du & \text{as } h \rightarrow 0 \\ \sup_{|u| < \sqrt{\tau} h} u^2 |K(u)| du & \text{Bounded} \end{cases}$$

Bounded.

Bounding the key term

$$p \in H^2, \quad p'' \in L^2$$

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \quad \exists g \in C_c \quad \|p'' - g\|_{L^2} \leq \varepsilon.$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \|p''(\cdot + \tau uh) - p''\|_{L^2} \\ & \leq \|p''(\cdot + \tau uh) - g(\cdot + \tau uh)\|_{L^2} + \|g(\cdot + \tau uh) - g\|_{L^2} + \|g - p''\|_{L^2} \\ & \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{as } \tau uh \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

QED.

Back to nonparametric regression.

So far,

- Constrained LS, general, sub-optimal in non-Donsker (entropy integral diverges)
- Projection (Fourier truncation), optimal  $L^2$ -rate in specialized case

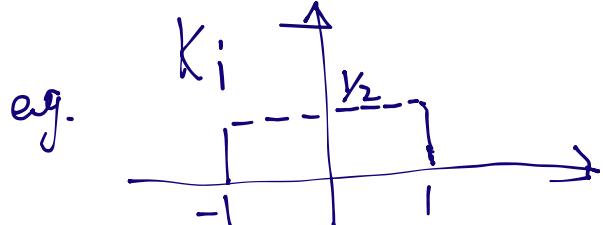
Local polynomial fitting.

- Able to achieve pointwise bound.
- Works well without need to find orthonormal basis.

Warmup: Nadaraya-Watson estimator. (Data:  $(x_i, y_i)_{i=1}^n$ ).

$$\hat{f}_n(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i K\left(\frac{x_i-x}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x_i-x}{h}\right)}.$$

$x_i$  not necessarily  $x_n$   
 $x_i$  deterministic



$\hat{f}_n$  takes average of obs within  $[x-h, x+h]$

Notations:  $(\hat{f}_n \text{ is a linear function of } (y_i)_{i=1}^n)$

$$W_{n,i}(x) = \frac{K\left(\frac{x_i-x}{h}\right)}{\sum_{j=1}^n K\left(\frac{x_j-x}{h}\right)}$$

weight of i-th data  
when estimating for  $x$ .

$$b(x_0) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n f^*(x_i) \cdot K\left(\frac{x_i - x_0}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x_i - x_0}{h}\right)} - f^*(x_0)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n W_{n,i}(x_0) \cdot \left( f^*(x_i) - f^*(x_0) \right).$$

$$\sigma^2(x_0) = \sum_{i=1}^n W_{n,i}(x_0)^2$$

When  $f \in \Sigma(\beta, L)$  for some  $\beta \in (0, 1]$ .

$$|f(x_i) - f(x_0)| \leq L \cdot |x_i - x_0|^\beta.$$

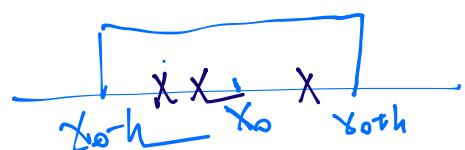
Choice of  $K$  is unimportant,  $K = \frac{1}{2} \int_{x \in [-1]} 1$

$$|b(x_0)| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n W_{n,i}(x_0) \cdot L \cdot |x_i - x_0|^\beta$$

non zero only when  $|x_i - x_0| \leq h$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^n W_{n,i}(x_0) \cdot L \cdot h^\beta$$

$$= L \cdot h^\beta.$$



$$\sigma^2(x_0) = \sum_{i=1}^n W_{n,i}(x_0)^2$$

$$\leq \max_i |W_{n,i}(x_0)| \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n |W_{n,i}(x_0)|$$

$$\leq \left| \{j \in [n] : |x_j - x_0| \leq h\} \right|^{-1}.$$

If Equi-spaced design, for  $h > n^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  Require weaker assumption than Equispace.

$$|\{j : |x_j - x_0| \leq h\}| \geq [2nh].$$

$$\sigma(x_0)^2 \geq \frac{c}{nh}$$

Only needs  $x_i$ 's in dense enough

$$h_n^* = n^{-\frac{1}{2\beta+1}}$$

$$MSE(x_0) \leq C \cdot n^{-\frac{2\beta}{2\beta+1}}$$

Dealing with  $\beta > 1$ ?

Idea: use linear estimator w/ better weights.

Alternative perspective on NW:

$$\hat{f}_n(x) = \arg \min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \theta) \cdot K\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right)$$

Zero-th order approximation to  $f$  around  $x$ .

How about higher-order expansion?

$$x_1 \text{ Near } x, f(x_1) \approx f(x) + f'(x)(x_1 - x) + \frac{f''(x)}{2!}(x_1 - x)^2 + \dots + \frac{f^{(t)}}{t!}(x_1 - x)^t.$$

$$U(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ t \\ t^2/2 \\ \vdots \\ t^t/t! \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{\theta}_n(x) = \underset{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{t+1}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( Y_i - \theta^\top U\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right) \right)^2 K\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right)$$

$$\hat{f}_n(x) = e_1^\top \hat{\theta}_n(x)$$

Still linear in  $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n$

$$W_{n,i}(x) = \frac{1}{nh} e_1^\top B_{n,x}^{-1} U\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right) \cdot K\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right)$$

$$\text{where } B_{n,x} := \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=1}^n U\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right) U\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right)^\top \cdot K\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right).$$

(normalize by  $\frac{1}{nh}$  since there are  $O(nh)$  terms when  $K$  has compact support).

Key property of  $W_{n,i}(\cdot)$ :

Lemma. for any degree- $t$  polynomial  $Q$

$$\text{we have } \sum_{i=1}^n Q(x_i) W_{n,i}(x) = Q(x).$$

(LP exactly reproduces polynomials, no bias).

Proof.  $\sum_{i=1}^n Q(x_i) W_{n,i}(x)$  is LP estimator evaluated at  $x$  by taking  $(Q(x_i))_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  as inputs.

$$\underset{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{t+1}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( Q(x_i) - \theta^\top U\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right) \right)^2 K\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right)$$

min value  $\geq 0$ .

Construct  $\theta^* = \begin{bmatrix} Q(x) \\ Q'(x) \cdot h \\ \vdots \\ Q^{(t)}(x) \cdot h \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{t+1}$

(Obj function at  $\theta^*$ ) = 0.

$B_{n,x} > 0 \Rightarrow$  minimizer is unique.

So the LP outputs  $Q(x)$   
completing the proof of lemma.

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Consequently,  $\sum_{i=1}^n w_{n,i}(x) \leq$

for  $k=1, 2, \dots, t \quad \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x)^k w_{n,i}(x) = 0.$

$$(Q(z) := (z-x)^k)$$


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Analysis of LP.  $f^* \in \Sigma(\beta, L)$

$t :=$  largest int strictly less than  $\beta$ .

$$\begin{aligned} b(x_0) &= \sum_{i=1}^n w_{n,i}(x_0) \cdot (f^*(x_i) - f^*(x_0)) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n w_{n,i}(x_0) \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{t-1} \frac{f^{(k)}(x_0) (x_i - x_0)^k}{k!} + \frac{f^{(t)}(x_0 + t_i(x_i - x_0))}{t!} (x_i - x_0)^t \right] \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore,  $\sum_{i=1}^n w_{n,i}(x_0) \cdot (x_i - x_0)^t \cdot \frac{f^{(t)}(x_0)}{t!} = 0.$

$$\text{So, } b(x_0) = \sum_{i=1}^n W_{n,i}(x_0) \cdot \frac{f^{(t)}(x_0 + t_i(x_i - x_0)) - f^{(t)}(x_0)}{t!} (x_i - x_0)^t.$$

$$|b(x_0)| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |W_{n,i}(x_0)| \cdot \frac{L}{t!} \cdot |t_i(x_i - x_0)|^{\beta-t} \cdot (x_i - x_0)^t \quad (\text{by } (g_1))$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^n |W_{n,i}(x_0)| \cdot L \cdot h^\beta \quad (K \text{ supported on } [-h, h]).$$

$$J^2(x_0) = \sum_{i=1}^n W_{n,i}(x_0) \leq \max_i |W_{n,i}(x_0)| \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n |W_{n,i}(x_0)|.$$

Holding true under

- $K$  supported on  $[-N, N]$

- $B_{n,x} \succ 0$ .

Need to bound  $(1) \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |W_{n,i}(x_0)| \quad (2) \sum_{i=1}^n |W_{n,i}(x_0)|$ .

$$(1). |W_{n,i}(x_0)| = \frac{1}{nh} \left| e^T B_{n,x}^{-1} u\left(\frac{x_i - x_0}{h}\right) \cdot K\left(\frac{x_i - x_0}{h}\right) \right|$$

$|K| \in K_{\max}$

$$\leq \frac{K_{\max}}{nh} \cdot \|e\|_2 \cdot \|u\left(\frac{x_i - x_0}{h}\right)\|_2 \cdot \|B_{n,x}^{-1}\|_{\text{op}}$$

$$\|u\left(\frac{x_i - x_0}{h}\right)\|_2^2 \leq \sum_{k=0}^t \frac{1}{(k!)^2} \cdot \left(\frac{x_i - x_0}{h}\right)^{2k}$$

$$\leq \sum_{k=0}^t \frac{1}{(k!)^2} \leq 3.$$

$$|W_{n,i}(x_0)| \leq \frac{2}{nh} K_{\max} \cdot \|B_{n,x}^{-1}\|_{\text{op}}.$$

Assume that  $B_{n,x} \succ x_0 I$  for some  $x_0 > 0$  independent of  $(n, h)$

See Tsybakov, w/ equipspaced design

$B_{n,x} \rightarrow$  something positive definite as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $h \rightarrow 0$ ,  $nh \rightarrow \infty$ .  
(When  $n$  large enough,  $B_{n,x} \succ \lambda_0 I$ ).

e.g. When  $x_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} p$ .

$$B_{n,x} = \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=1}^n U\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right) \cdot U\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right)^T \mathbb{1}_{\{x_i \in [x-h, x+h]\}}$$

Using empirical process / LLN on  $\mathbb{R}^{(t+1) \times (t+1)}$ .

$$\mathbb{E}_p \left[ U\left(\frac{x-x}{h}\right) \cdot U\left(\frac{x-x}{h}\right)^T \mathbb{1}_{\{x \in [x-h, x+h]\}} \right] \|_{op} \leq \dots$$

$$\| B_{n,x} - \frac{\mathbb{E}_p \left[ U\left(\frac{x-x}{h}\right) \cdot U\left(\frac{x-x}{h}\right)^T \mathbb{1}_{\{x \in [x-h, x+h]\}} \right]}{h} \|_{op}$$

$$(2). \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \left| W_{n,i}(x) \right| \leq \frac{2K_{\max}}{nh\lambda_0} \left| \left\{ i : |x_i - x| \leq h \right\} \right| \leq \frac{4K_{\max} \alpha_0}{\lambda_0}.$$

Assumption. for any interval A

$$\frac{1}{n} \left| \left\{ i : x_i \in A \right\} \right| \leq \alpha_0 \cdot \max \left( |A|, \frac{1}{n} \right)$$

To conclude.

$$\bullet \quad B_{n,x} \succ \lambda_0 I_{t+1}$$

- $K$  supported on  $[-h, h]$ ,  $|K| \leq K_{\max}$
- $\frac{1}{n} |\{x_i - x_j \in A\}| \leq c_0 \cdot \max(|A|, \frac{1}{n})$

When we have

$$|b(x_0)| \leq \frac{4K_{\max} \alpha_0}{\lambda_0} \cdot L \cdot h^\beta$$

$$\sigma^2(x_0) \leq \frac{8K_{\max} \alpha_0}{\lambda_0^2} \cdot \frac{1}{nh}.$$

$$h_n = c n^{-\frac{1}{2\beta+1}} \quad \text{MSE}(x_0) \leq C \cdot n^{-\frac{2\beta}{2\beta+1}}.$$

Information theoretically optimal?

Tools I introduced earlier:

- Le Cam two point
- Bayesian CR

(• Fano's method using mutual information).

Recall Thm (Le Cam)

for any  $f_0, f_1 \in \mathcal{F}$

$$\inf_{\hat{T}} \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \mathbb{E} [\hat{T} - T(f)]^2 \geq \inf_{\hat{T}} \sup_{f \in \{f_0, f_1\}} \mathbb{E} [\hat{T} - T(f)]^2$$

(hw 1).

$$\geq \frac{1}{8} |T(f_1) - T(f_0)|^2 \cdot \left(1 - d_{\text{TV}}(P_0, P_1)\right)$$

Goal: Construct  $f_0, f_1$  s.t.  $\int |T(f_1) - T(f_0)|$  large  
 $d_{TV} \leq \frac{1}{2}$ .

Facts:

- $d_{TV} \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} D_{KL}}$  (Pinsker)

- $D_{KL}\left(\bigotimes_{i=1}^n P_i \parallel \bigotimes_{i=1}^n Q_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n D_{KL}(P_i \parallel Q_i)$ .

(Strategy applies to  $\chi^2$ , Hellinger).

Application to nonpara regression.

$$Y_i = f^*(x_i) + \varepsilon_i$$

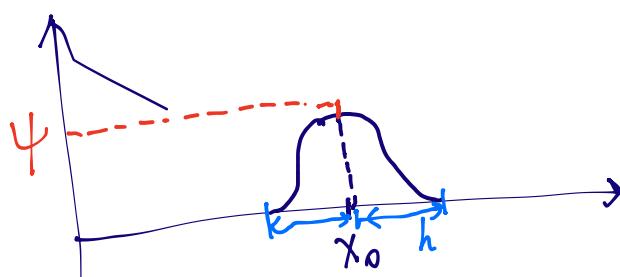
$$\varepsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(0, 1).$$

$$f^* \in \mathcal{F} = \Sigma(\beta, L).$$

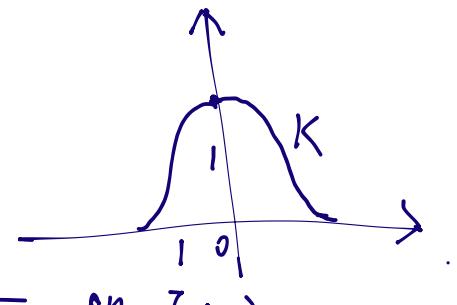
$$T(f) = f(x_0)$$

Idea of construction

- $f_0$  and  $f_1$  differs only near  $x_0$
- WLOG, assume  $f_0 = 0$



$$f_i(x) = \psi \cdot K\left(\frac{x - x_0}{h}\right).$$



$K : C^\infty$  smooth, bounded support on  $(-1, 1)$ .

$$K(u) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{1-u^2}\right) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{\{|u| < 1\}}$$

Under construction.

- $|f_i(x_0) - f_0(x)| = \psi.$

- $2 d_{TV}^2(P_i^{(n)}, P_0^{(n)}) \leq D_{KL}(P_i^{(n)} \parallel P_0^{(n)})$   
 $= \sum_{i=1}^n D_{KL}(P_{i,i} \parallel P_{0,i})$

( $P_{z,i}$  denotes the distribution of  $Y_i$  under  $f_z$  for  $z \in \mathbb{D}_N$ ).

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (f_i(x_i) - f_0(x_i))^2$$

$$\leq \frac{\psi^2}{2} \cdot \left| \{ i : |x_i - x_0| \leq h \} \right|.$$

(under same assumption as LP)

$$\leq \frac{\psi^2}{2} \cdot a_0 \cdot nh \quad (\text{when } h > \frac{1}{n}).$$

$$\inf_{\hat{T}} \sup_{f \in [f_0, f_1]} \mathbb{E}[(\hat{T} - T(f))^2] \geq \frac{1}{8} 4^2 \cdot \left( L \cdot \frac{\psi}{2} \sqrt{a_0 nh} \right)$$

Need to make sure  $f_1 \in \Sigma(\beta, L)$ .

$$f_1(x) = \psi \cdot K\left(\frac{x-x_0}{h}\right).$$

$$f_1^{(t)}(x) = \frac{\psi}{h^t} \cdot K\left(\frac{x-x_0}{h}\right)$$

$$|f_1^{(t)}(x) - f_1^{(t+1)}(y)| = \frac{\psi}{h^t} \cdot |K\left(\frac{x-x_0}{h}\right) - K\left(\frac{y-x_0}{h}\right)|.$$

( $K^{(t)}$  is a Lipschitz function)

$$\leq C_t \cdot \frac{|x-y|}{h} \cdot \frac{\psi}{h^t} \leq C_t \cdot \frac{|x-y|^{\beta-t}}{h} \xrightarrow{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\psi}{h^t}$$

if  $\exists$  s.t.  $|x-y|^{\beta-t}$

$$8th = 2C_t \cdot \frac{\psi}{h^\beta} \leq L$$

$$\begin{aligned} \cdot \psi &\leq \frac{L}{2C_t} \cdot h^\beta \\ \cdot \psi \cdot \sqrt{a_0 nh} &\leq 1 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{maximize } \psi. \\ \hline \end{array} \right.$$

$$\text{Take } h_n = c' \cdot n^{-\frac{1}{2\beta+1}}$$

$$\psi_n = c'' \cdot n^{-\frac{\beta}{2\beta+1}}.$$

$$\text{So } \inf_{\hat{T}} \sup_{f \in \Sigma(\beta, L)} \mathbb{E} [ |f(x_0) - \hat{T}|^2 ] \gtrsim c \cdot n^{-\frac{2\beta}{2\beta+1}}.$$