Oracle properties of local adaptive grouped regularization

Wesley Brooks

1. Spatially varying coefficients regression

1.1. Model

Consider n data points, observed at sampling locations $\mathbf{s}_i = (s_{i,1} \ s_{i,2})^T$ for $i = 1, \dots, \mathbf{s}_n$, which are distributed in a spatial domain $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ according to a density $f(\mathbf{s})$. For $i = 1, \dots, n$, let $y(\mathbf{s}_i)$ and $\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{s}_i)$ denote the univariate response variable, and a (p+1)-variate vector of covariates measured at location \mathbf{s}_i , respectively. At each location \mathbf{s}_i , assume that the outcome is related to the covariates by a linear model where the coefficients $\boldsymbol{\beta}(\mathbf{s}_i)$ may be spatially-varying and $\varepsilon(\mathbf{s}_i)$ is random error at location \mathbf{s}_i . That is,

$$y(s_i) = x(s_i)'\beta(s_i) + \varepsilon(s_i). \tag{1}$$

Further assume that the error term $\varepsilon(s_i)$ is normally distributed with zero mean and variance σ^2 , and that $\varepsilon(s_i)$, i = 1, ..., n are independent. That is,

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \sigma^2\right).$$
 (2)

In the context of nonparametric regression, the boundary-effect bias can be reduced by local polynomial modeling, usually in the form of a locally linear model (Fan and Gijbels, 1996). Here, locally linear coefficients are estimated by augmenting the local design matrix with covariate-by-location interactions in two dimensions as proposed by Wang et al. (2008). The augmented local design

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matrix at location s_i is

$$Z(s_i) = (X L_i X M_i X)$$
(3)

where X is the unaugmented matrix of covariates, $L_i = \text{diag}\{s_{i'_1} - s_{i_1}\}$ and $M_i = \text{diag}\{s_{i'_2} - s_{i_2}\}$ for i' = 1, ..., n.

Now we have that $Y(s_i) = \{Z(s_i)\}_i^T \zeta(s_i) + \varepsilon(s_i)$, where $\{Z(s_i)\}_i^T$ is the *i*th row of the matrix $Z(s_i)$ as a row vector, and $\zeta(s_i)$ is the vector of local coefficients at location s_i , augmented with the local gradients of the coefficient surfaces in the two spatial dimensions, indicated by ∇_u and ∇_v :

$$oldsymbol{\zeta}(oldsymbol{s}_i) = \left(oldsymbol{eta}(oldsymbol{s}_i)^T \
abla_u oldsymbol{eta}(oldsymbol{s}_i)^T \
abla_v oldsymbol{eta}(oldsymbol{s}_i)^T
ight)^T$$

1.2. Estimation

The values of the local coefficients $\zeta(s)$ are estimated at location s by penalized weighted least squares. The weights are computed from a kernel function $K_h(\cdot)$ such as the Epanechnikov kernel:

$$K_{h}(\|\mathbf{s}_{i} - \mathbf{s}_{i'}\|) = h^{-2}K\left(h^{-1}\|\mathbf{s}_{i} - \mathbf{s}_{i'}\|\right)$$

$$K(x) = \begin{cases} (3/4)(1 - x^{2}) & \text{if } x < 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } x \geqslant 1. \end{cases}$$
(4)

Letting W(s) be a diagonal weight matrix where $W_{ii}(s) = K_h(||s - s_i||)$, the weighted least squares

objective and its minimizer are:

$$S\{\zeta(s)\} = (1/2)\{Y - Z(s)\zeta(s)\}^T W(s)\{Y - Z(s)\zeta(s)\}^T$$
$$\therefore \tilde{\zeta}(s) = \{Z^T(s)W(s)Z(s)\}^{-1} Z^T(s)W(s)Y$$
(5)

2. Local variable selection and parameter estimation

2.1. Local variable selection

Local adaptive grouped regularization (LAGR) is explored as a method of local variable selection and coefficient estimation in SVCR models. The proposed LAGR penalty is an adaptive ℓ_1 penalty akin to the adaptive group lasso (Wang and Leng, 2008; Zou, 2006).

Grouped variables are selected together for inclusion in the model. Each group in a LAGR model consists of one covariate and its interactions on the two dimensions of spatial location. That is, $\zeta_j(s) = (\beta_j(s) \ \nabla_u \beta_j(s) \ \nabla_v \beta_j(s))^T$ for $j = 1, \dots, p$.

The objective function for the LAGR at location s is:

$$Q\{\zeta(s)\} = S\{\zeta(s)\} + \mathcal{J}\{\zeta(s)\}$$

$$= (1/2)\{Y - Z(s)\zeta(s)\}^T W(s)\{Y - Z(s)\zeta(s)\}^T + \sum_{j=1}^p \phi_j(s) \|\zeta_j(s)\|$$
(6)

which is the sum of the weighted sum of squares $\mathcal{S}\{\zeta(s)\}\$ and the LAGR penalty $\mathcal{J}\{\zeta(s)\}\$.

The LAGR penalty for the jth group of coefficients $\zeta_j(s)$ at location s is $\phi_j(s) = \lambda_n(s) \|\tilde{\zeta}_j(s)\|^{-\gamma}$, where $\lambda_n(s) > 0$ is a the local tuning parameter applied to all coefficients at location s and $\tilde{\zeta}_j(s)$ is the vector of unpenalized local coefficients from (5).

3. Asymptotic properties

Consider the local model at location s where there are $p_0 < p$ covariates with nonzero local regression coefficients. Without loss of generality, assume these are covariates $1, \ldots, p_0$.

Let
$$h = O(n^{-1/6})$$
.

Let $a_n = \max\{\phi_j(s), j \leq p_0\}$ be the largest penalty applied to a covariate group whose true coefficient norm is nonzero, and $b_n = \min\{\phi_j(s), j > p_0\}$ be the smallest penalty applied to a covariate group whose true coefficient norm is zero.

Let $Z_k(s)$ be the design matrix for covariate group k, and $Z_{-k}(s)$ be the design matrix for all the data except covariate group k, respectively. Similarly, let $\zeta_k(s)$ be the coefficients for covariate group k and $\zeta_{-k}(s)$ be the coefficients for all covariate groups except k.

Finally, let
$$\kappa_0 = \int_{R^2} K(\|\boldsymbol{s}\|) ds$$
 and $\kappa_2 = \int_{R^2} [(1,0)\boldsymbol{s}]^2 K(\|\boldsymbol{s}\|) ds = \int_{R^2} [(0,1)\boldsymbol{s}]^2 K(\|\boldsymbol{s}\|) ds$.

3.1. Asymptotic normality

Theorem 3.1. If
$$h^{-1}n^{-1/2}a_n \xrightarrow{p} 0$$
 and $hn^{-1/2}b_n \xrightarrow{p} \infty$ then $h\sqrt{n}\left[\hat{\zeta}(s) - \zeta(s) - \frac{\kappa_2 h^2}{2\kappa_0}\left\{\nabla^2_{uu}\zeta(s) + \nabla^2_{vv}\zeta(s)\right\}\right] \xrightarrow{d} N(0,\cdot)$

Proof. Define $V_4^{(n)}(\boldsymbol{u})$ to be the

$$V_{4}^{(n)}(\boldsymbol{u}) = Q\left\{\zeta(s) + h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\boldsymbol{u}\right\} - Q\left\{\zeta(s)\right\}$$

$$= (1/2)\left[\boldsymbol{Y} - \boldsymbol{Z}(s)\left\{\zeta(s) + h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\boldsymbol{u}\right\}\right]^{T}\boldsymbol{W}(s)\left[\boldsymbol{Y} - \boldsymbol{Z}(s)\left\{\zeta(s) + h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\boldsymbol{u}\right\}\right]$$

$$+ \sum_{j=1}^{p} \phi_{j}(s)\|\zeta_{j}(s) + h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\boldsymbol{u}_{j}\|$$

$$- (1/2)\left\{\boldsymbol{Y} - \boldsymbol{Z}(s)\zeta(s)\right\}^{T}\boldsymbol{W}(s)\left\{\boldsymbol{Y} - \boldsymbol{Z}(s)\zeta(s)\right\} - \sum_{j=1}^{p} \phi_{j}(s)\|\zeta_{j}(s)\|$$

$$= (1/2)\boldsymbol{u}^{T}\left\{h^{-2}n^{-1}\boldsymbol{Z}^{T}(s)\boldsymbol{W}(s)\boldsymbol{Z}(s)\right\}\boldsymbol{u} - \boldsymbol{u}^{T}\left[h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\boldsymbol{Z}^{T}(s)\boldsymbol{W}(s)\left\{\boldsymbol{Y} - \boldsymbol{Z}(s)\zeta(s)\right\}\right]$$

$$+ \sum_{j=1}^{p} n^{-1/2}\phi_{j}(s)n^{1/2}\left\{\|\zeta_{j}(s) + h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\boldsymbol{u}_{j}\| - \|\zeta_{j}(s)\|\right\}$$

$$(7)$$

Note the different limiting behavior of the third term between the cases $j \leq p_0$ and $j > p_0$:

Case
$$j \leq p_0$$
. If $j \leq p_0$ then $n^{-1/2}\phi_j(s) \to n^{-1/2}\lambda_n(s)\|\zeta_j(s)\|^{-\gamma}$ and $\|\sqrt{n}\{\|\zeta_j(s) + h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\boldsymbol{u}_j\| - \|\zeta_j(s)\|\}\| \leq h^{-1}\|\boldsymbol{u}_j\|$ so $\lim_{n\to\infty}\phi_j(s)\left(\|\zeta_j(s) + h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\boldsymbol{u}_j\| - \|\zeta_j(s)\|\right) \leq h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\phi_j(s)\|\boldsymbol{u}_j\| \leq h^{-1}n^{-1/2}a_n\|\boldsymbol{u}_j\| \to 0$

Case
$$j > p_0$$
. If $j > p_0$ then $\phi_j(s) (\|\zeta_j(s) + h^{-1}n^{-1/2}u_j\| - \|\zeta_j(s)\|) = \phi_j(s)h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\|u_j\|$.

And note that $h = O(n^{-1/6})$ so that if $hn^{-1/2}b_n \xrightarrow{p} \infty$ then $h^{-1}n^{-1/2}b_n \xrightarrow{p} \infty$.

Now, if $\|\mathbf{u}_j\| \neq 0$ then $h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\phi_j(\mathbf{s})\|\mathbf{u}_j\| \geqslant h^{-1}n^{-1/2}b_n\|\mathbf{u}_j\| \to \infty$. On the other hand, if $\|\mathbf{u}_j\| = 0$ then $h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\phi_j(\mathbf{s})\|\mathbf{u}_j\| = 0$.

Thus, the limit of $V_4^{(n)}(\boldsymbol{u})$ is the same as the limit of $V_4^{*(n)}(\boldsymbol{u})$ where

$$V_4^{*(n)}(\boldsymbol{u}) = \begin{cases} (1/2)\boldsymbol{u}^T \left\{ h^{-2}n^{-1}\boldsymbol{Z}^T(\boldsymbol{s})\boldsymbol{W}(\boldsymbol{s})\boldsymbol{Z}(\boldsymbol{s}) \right\} \boldsymbol{u} - \boldsymbol{u}^T \left[h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\boldsymbol{Z}^T(\boldsymbol{s})\boldsymbol{W}(\boldsymbol{s}) \left\{ \boldsymbol{Y} - \boldsymbol{Z}(\boldsymbol{s})\boldsymbol{\zeta}(\boldsymbol{s}) \right\} \right] & \text{if } \|\boldsymbol{u}_j\| = 0 \ \forall j > p_0 \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

From which it is clear that $V_4^{*(n)}(\boldsymbol{u})$ is convex and its unique minimizer is $\hat{\boldsymbol{u}}^{(n)}$:

$$0 = \left\{ h^{-2} n^{-1} \mathbf{Z}^{T}(s) \mathbf{W}(s) \mathbf{Z}(s) \right\} \hat{\mathbf{u}}^{(n)} - \left[h^{-1} n^{-1/2} \mathbf{Z}^{T}(s) \mathbf{W}(s) \left\{ \mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{Z}(s) \zeta(s) \right\} \right]$$

$$\therefore \hat{\mathbf{u}}^{(n)} = \left\{ n^{-1} \mathbf{Z}^{T}(s) \mathbf{W}(s) \mathbf{Z}(s) \right\}^{-1} \left[h n^{-1/2} \mathbf{Z}^{T}(s) \mathbf{W}(s) \left\{ \mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{Z}(s) \zeta(s) \right\} \right]$$
(8)

By the epiconvergence results of Geyer (1994) and Knight and Fu (2000), the minimizer of the limiting function is the limit of the minimizers $\hat{\boldsymbol{u}}^{(n)}$. And since, by Lemma 2 of Sun et al. (2014),

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{u}}^{(n)} \stackrel{d}{\to} N \left(\frac{\kappa_2 h^2}{2\kappa_0} \{ \nabla_{uu}^2 \boldsymbol{\zeta}_j(\boldsymbol{s}) + \nabla_{vv}^2 \boldsymbol{\zeta}_j(\boldsymbol{s}) \}, f(\boldsymbol{s}) \kappa_0^{-2} \nu_0 \sigma^2 \Psi^{-1} \right)$$
(9)

the result is proven. \Box

3.2. Selection

Theorem 3.2. If $h^{-1}n^{-1/2}a_n \stackrel{p}{\to} \infty$ and $hn^{-1/2}b_n \stackrel{p}{\to} \infty$ then $P\left\{\hat{\zeta}_j(s) = 0\right\} \to 0$ if $j \leqslant p_0$ and $P\left\{\hat{\zeta}_j(s) = 0\right\} \to 1$ if $j > p_0$.

Proof. We showed in Theorem 3.1 that $\hat{\zeta}_j(s) \xrightarrow{p} \zeta_j(s) + \frac{\kappa_2 h^2}{2\kappa_0} \{ \nabla^2_{uu} \zeta_j(s) + \nabla^2_{vv} \zeta_j(s) \}$, so to complete

the proof of selection consistency, it only remains to show that $P\left\{\hat{\zeta}_{j}(s)=0\right\} \to 1$ if $j>p_{0}$.

The proof is by contradiction. Without loss of generality we consider only the case j = p.

Assume $\hat{\zeta}_p(s) \neq 0$. Then $Q\{\zeta(s)\}$ is differentiable w.r.t. $\zeta_p(s)$ and is minimized where

$$0 = \mathbf{Z}_{p}^{T}(s)\mathbf{W}(s)\left\{\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{Z}_{-p}(s)\hat{\zeta}_{-p}(s) - \mathbf{Z}_{p}(s)\hat{\zeta}_{p}(s)\right\} - \phi_{p}(s)\frac{\hat{\zeta}_{p}(s)}{\|\hat{\zeta}_{p}(s)\|}$$

$$= \mathbf{Z}_{p}^{T}(s)\mathbf{W}(s)\left[\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{Z}(s)\zeta(s) - \frac{h^{2}\kappa_{2}}{2\kappa_{0}}\left\{\nabla_{uu}^{2}\zeta(s) + \nabla_{vv}^{2}\zeta(s)\right\}\right]$$

$$+ \mathbf{Z}_{p}^{T}(s)\mathbf{W}(s)\mathbf{Z}_{-p}(s)\left[\zeta_{-p}(s) + \frac{h^{2}\kappa_{2}}{2\kappa_{0}}\left\{\nabla_{uu}^{2}\zeta_{-p}(s) + \nabla_{vv}^{2}\zeta_{-p}(s)\right\} - \hat{\zeta}_{-p}(s)\right]$$

$$+ \mathbf{Z}_{p}^{T}(s)\mathbf{W}(s)\mathbf{Z}_{p}(s)\left[\zeta_{p}(s) + \frac{h^{2}\kappa_{2}}{2\kappa_{0}}\left\{\nabla_{uu}^{2}\zeta_{p}(s) + \nabla_{vv}^{2}\zeta_{p}(s)\right\} - \hat{\zeta}_{p}(s)\right]$$

$$- \phi_{p}(s)\frac{\hat{\zeta}_{p}(s)}{\|\hat{\zeta}_{p}(s)\|}$$

$$(10)$$

So

$$\frac{h}{\sqrt{n}}\phi_{p}(s)\frac{\hat{\zeta}_{p}(s)}{\|\hat{\zeta}_{p}(s)\|} = Z_{p}^{T}(s)\boldsymbol{W}(s)\frac{h}{\sqrt{n}}\left[\boldsymbol{Y}-\boldsymbol{Z}(s)\boldsymbol{\zeta}(s) - \frac{h^{2}\kappa_{2}}{2\kappa_{0}}\left\{\nabla_{uu}^{2}\boldsymbol{\zeta}(s) + \nabla_{vv}^{2}\boldsymbol{\zeta}(s)\right\}\right] \\
+ \left\{n^{-1}\boldsymbol{Z}_{p}^{T}(s)\boldsymbol{W}(s)\boldsymbol{Z}_{-p}(s)\right\}h\sqrt{n}\left[\boldsymbol{\zeta}_{-p}(s) + \frac{h^{2}\kappa_{2}}{2\kappa_{0}}\left\{\nabla_{uu}^{2}\boldsymbol{\zeta}_{-p}(s) + \nabla_{vv}^{2}\boldsymbol{\zeta}_{-p}(s)\right\} - \hat{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}_{-p}(s)\right] \\
+ \left\{n^{-1}\boldsymbol{Z}_{p}^{T}(s)\boldsymbol{W}(s)\boldsymbol{Z}_{p}(s)\right\}h\sqrt{n}\left[\boldsymbol{\zeta}_{p}(s) + \frac{h^{2}\kappa_{2}}{2\kappa_{0}}\left\{\nabla_{uu}^{2}\boldsymbol{\zeta}_{p}(s) + \nabla_{vv}^{2}\boldsymbol{\zeta}_{p}(s)\right\} - \hat{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}_{p}(s)\right] \right] \tag{11}$$

From Lemma 2 of Sun et al. (2014), $\{n^{-1}\boldsymbol{Z}_p^T(\boldsymbol{s})\boldsymbol{W}(\boldsymbol{s})\boldsymbol{Z}_{-p}(\boldsymbol{s})\} = O_p(1)$ and $\{n^{-1}\boldsymbol{Z}_p^T(\boldsymbol{s})\boldsymbol{W}(\boldsymbol{s})\boldsymbol{Z}_p(\boldsymbol{s})\} = O_p(1)$.

From Theorem 3 of Sun et al. (2014), we have that $h\sqrt{n}\left[\hat{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}_{-p}(\boldsymbol{s}) - \boldsymbol{\zeta}_{-p}(\boldsymbol{s}) - \frac{h^2\kappa_2}{2\kappa_0}\left\{\nabla^2_{uu}\zeta_{-p}(\boldsymbol{s}) + \nabla^2_{vv}\zeta_{-p}(\boldsymbol{s})\right\}\right] = 0$

$$O_p(1)$$
 and $h\sqrt{n}\left[\hat{\zeta}_p(s) - \zeta_p(s) - \frac{h^2\kappa_2}{2\kappa_0}\left\{\nabla^2_{uu}\zeta_p(s) + \nabla^2_{vv}\zeta_p(s)\right\}\right] = O_p(1).$

So the second and third terms of the sum in (11) are $O_p(1)$.

We showed in the proof of 3.1 that $h\sqrt{n}\mathbf{Z}_p^T(s)\mathbf{W}(s)\left[\mathbf{Y}-\mathbf{Z}(s)\boldsymbol{\zeta}(s)-\frac{h^2\kappa_2}{2\kappa_0}\left\{\nabla_{uu}^2\boldsymbol{\zeta}(s)+\nabla_{vv}^2\boldsymbol{\zeta}(s)\right\}\right]=O_p(1).$

The three terms of the sum to the right of the equals sign in (11) are $O_p(1)$, so for $\hat{\zeta}_p(s)$ to be a solution, we must have that $hn^{-1/2}\phi_p(s)\hat{\zeta}_p(s)/\|\hat{\zeta}_p(s)\| = O_p(1)$.

But since by assumption $\hat{\zeta}_p(s) \neq 0$, there must be some $k \in \{1, ..., 3\}$ such that $|\hat{\zeta}_{p_k}(s)| = \max\{|\hat{\zeta}_{p_{k'}}(s)| : 1 \leq k' \leq 3\}$. And for this k, we have that $|\hat{\zeta}_{p_k}(s)|/\|\hat{\zeta}_p(s)\| \geqslant 1/\sqrt{3} > 0$.

Now since $hn^{-1/2}b_n \to \infty$, we have that $hn^{-1/2}\phi_p(s)\hat{\zeta}_p(s)/\|\hat{\zeta}_p(s)\| \ge hb_n/\sqrt{3n} \to \infty$ and therefore the term to the left of the equals sign dominates the sum to the right of the equals sign in (11). So for large enough n, $\hat{\zeta}_p(s) \ne 0$ cannot maximize Q.

So
$$P\left\{\hat{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}_{(b)}(\boldsymbol{s})=0\right\} \to 1.$$

3.3. A note on rates

To prove the oracle properties of LAGR, we assumed that $h^{-1}n^{-1/2}a_n \xrightarrow{p} 0$ and $hn^{-1/2}b_n \xrightarrow{p} \infty$. Therefore, $h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\lambda_n(s) \to 0$ for $j \leq p_0$ and $hn^{-1/2}\lambda_n(s)\|\zeta_j(s)\|^{-\gamma} \to \infty$ for $j > p_0$.

We require that $\lambda_n(s)$ can satisfy both assumptions. Suppose $\lambda_n(s) = n^{\alpha}$, and recall that $h = O(n^{-1/6})$ and $\|\tilde{\zeta}_p(s)\| = O(h^{-1}n^{-1/2})$. Then $h^{-1}n^{-1/2}\lambda_n(s) = O(n^{-1/3+\alpha})$ and $hn^{-1/2}\lambda_n(s)\|\tilde{\zeta}_p(s)\|^{-\gamma} = O(n^{-2/3+\alpha+\gamma/3})$.

So $(2 - \gamma)/3 < \alpha < 1/3$, which can only be satisfied for $\gamma > 1$.

4. References

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