

From last lecture: lack of asymptotic optimality

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

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

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

$$h = n^{-1/5} \varepsilon^{-1} \int K^2(u) du$$

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 exists in (depends on  $p$ ).

Paradox: For fixed  $n$ , the "hardest problem" in class  $H^2$  depends on value of  $n$ .

Key step:

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

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

Proof of (\*).

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

(h small)

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

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

It remains to bound approx. err. by  $\tilde{b}$ .

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

$$\leq \underbrace{\left( \int (b(x) + \tilde{b}(x))^2 dx \right)^{1/2}}_{\text{Bon } p \in H^2} \cdot \left( \int (b(x) - \tilde{b}(x))^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$$

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

(By Generalized Minkowski)

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

$$\leq \left( \int u^2 |K(u)| \left( \int_0^1 |p''(x+\tau u h) - p''(x)|^2 d\tau \right)^2 dx \right)^{1/2} du \Big)^2$$

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

So we have

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

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

$$\leq \underbrace{2 \|p''\|_{L^2}}_{\text{Bounded}} \cdot \left( \int_{|u| \geq 1/\sqrt{h}} u^2 |K(u)| du \right) \xrightarrow{\text{as } h \rightarrow 0} 0$$

$$+ \underbrace{\sup_{\substack{|u| < 1/\sqrt{h} \\ 0 < \tau < 1}} \|p''(\cdot + \tau u h) - p''\|_{L^2}}_{\text{Bounded}} \cdot \underbrace{\int u^2 |K(u)| du}_{\text{Bounded}}$$

Bounding the key term •

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

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \quad \exists g \in C_c$$

$$\|p'' - g\|_{L^2} \leq \varepsilon$$

$$\|p''(\cdot + \tau u h) - p''\|_{L^2}$$

$$\leq \underbrace{\|p''(\cdot + \tau u h) - g(\cdot + \tau u h)\|_{L^2}}_{\leq \varepsilon} + \underbrace{\|g(\cdot + \tau u h) - g\|_{L^2}}_{\rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \tau u h \rightarrow 0} + \underbrace{\|g - p''\|_{L^2}}_{\leq \varepsilon}$$

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.

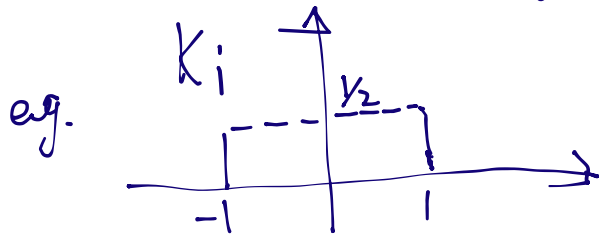
— Works well without need to find orthonormal basis.

Warmup: Nadaraya-Watson estimator.

(Data =  $(x_i, y_i)_{i=1}^n$ )

$x_i$  not necessarily  $y_i$   
 $x_i$  deterministic

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



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

Notations:  $\hat{f}_n$  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  $x$ .



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

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

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

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

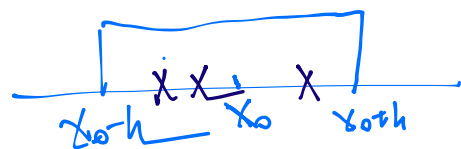
$$|f(x_0) - f(x_i)| \leq L \cdot |x_i - x_0|^\beta$$

Choice of  $K$ 's unimportant,  $K = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{1}_{x \in [-1, 1]}$

$$|b(x_0)| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{W_{n,i}(x_0)}_{\text{non zero only when } |x_i - x_0| \leq h} \cdot L \cdot |x_i - x_0|^\beta$$

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

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



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

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

$$\leq \left| \{j \in \{1, \dots, n\} : |x_j - x_0| \leq h\} \right|^{-1}$$

If Equispaced design, for  $h > n^{-1}$  Require weaker assumption than Equispace.

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

Only needs  $x_j$ 's "dense enough"

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

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

Dealing with  $\beta > 1$ ?

Idea: use linear estimator, w/ better weights.

Alternative perspective on NW:

$$\hat{f}_n(x) = \underset{\theta \in \mathbb{R}}{\text{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \theta)^2 \cdot K\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right)$$

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

How about higher-order expansion?

$x_i$  Near  $x$ ,

$$f(x_i) \approx f(x) + f'(x) \cdot (x_i - x) + \frac{f''(x)}{2!} (x_i - x)^2 + \dots + \frac{f^{(l)}(x)}{l!} (x_i - x)^l.$$

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

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

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

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

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

where  $B_{n,x} := \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=1}^n u\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right) u\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right)^T \cdot K\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right)$ .

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

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

Lemma. for any degree- $t$  polynomial  $Q$  When  $B_{n,x} \succ 0$

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

(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.

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

min value  $\geq 0$ .

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

$$\left( \text{Obj function at } \theta^* \right) = 0.$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n W_{n,i}(x_0) \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{l-1} \frac{f^{(k)}(x_0) (x_i - x_0)^k}{k!} + \frac{f^{(l)}(x_0 + \tau_i (x_i - x_0))}{l!} (x_i - x_0)^l \right]$$

(By Lemma)

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

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

$$|b(x_0)| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n |W_{n,i}(x_0)| \cdot \frac{L}{l!} \cdot |\tau_i(x_i - x_0)|^{\beta-l} \cdot (x_i - x_0)^l \quad (\tau_i \in [0,1])$$

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

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

Holding true under

•  $K$  supported on  $[-1,1]$

•  $B_{n,x} > 0$ .

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

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

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

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

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

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

Assume that  $B_{n,x} \succeq \lambda_0 I$  for some  $\lambda_0 > 0$  independent of  $(n, h)$

See Tsybakov, w/ equipped design  
 $B_{n,x} \rightarrow$  something positive definite as  $n \rightarrow \infty$   
 $h \rightarrow 0$   
 $nh \rightarrow \infty$ .  
 (When  $n$  large enough,  $B_{n,x} \approx \lambda_0 I$ )

eg. 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  $\mathbb{R}^{(p+1) \times (p+1)}$ .

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

$$(2). \sum_{|z|=1}^n |W_{n,i}(x)| \leq \frac{2K_{max}}{nh\lambda_0} |\{z = |x_i - x| \leq h\}| \leq \frac{4K_{max} a_0}{\lambda_0}$$

Assumption. for any interval  $A$   
 $\frac{1}{n} |\{z = x_i \in A\}| \leq a_0 \cdot \max\left(|A|, \frac{1}{n}\right)$

To conclude.

- $B_{n,x} \approx \lambda_0 I_{(p+1)}$

- $K$  supported on  $[-h, h]$ ,  $|K| \leq K_{\max}$
- $\frac{1}{n} |\{i: x_i \in A\}| \leq a_0 \cdot \max(|A|, \frac{1}{n})$

When we have

$$|b(x_0)| \leq \frac{4 K_{\max} a_0}{\lambda_0} \cdot L \cdot h^\beta$$

$$\sigma^2(x_0) \leq \frac{8 K_{\max} a_0}{\lambda_0^2} \cdot \frac{1}{nh}$$

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

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).

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

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

Facts;

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

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

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

Application to nonpara regression.

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

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

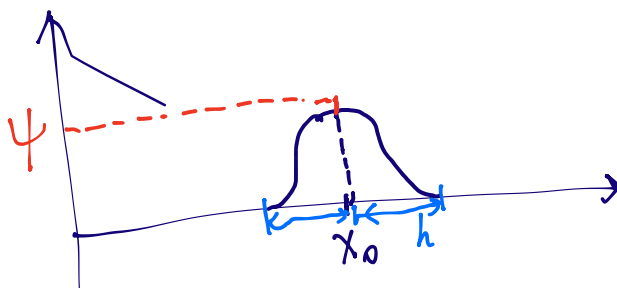
$f^* \in \mathcal{F} = \Sigma(\beta, L)$

$T(f) = f(x_0)$

Idea of construction

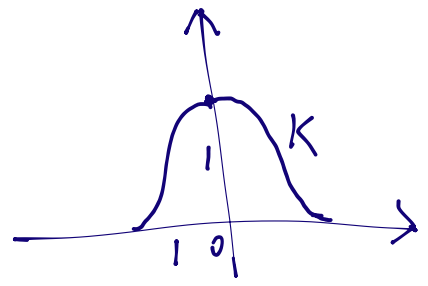
•  $f_0$  and  $f_1$  differs only near  $x_0$

• 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  $[-1, 1]$ .

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

Under construction.

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

$$\begin{aligned} \cdot 2 \text{dTV}^2(P_i^{(n)}, P_0^{(n)}) &\leq D_{KL}(P_i^{(n)} \| P_0^{(n)}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n D_{KL}(P_{z,i} \| P_{0,i}) \end{aligned}$$

( $P_{z,i}$  denotes the distribution of  $Y_{z,i}$  under  $f_z$  for  $z \in \{0, 1\}$ ).

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (f_1(x_i) - f_0(x_i))^2$$

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

(under same assumption as LP)

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

$$\inf_{\hat{T}} \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}(f_0, \hat{T})} \mathbb{E} \left[ |\hat{T} - T(f)|^2 \right] \geq \frac{1}{8} \psi^2 \cdot \left\{ 1 - \frac{\psi}{2} \sqrt{a_0 n h} \right\}$$

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

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

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

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

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

$$\leq C_c \cdot \frac{|x-y|}{h} \cdot \frac{\psi}{h^t} \leq C_c \cdot \frac{|x-y|^{\beta-t} \cdot \frac{1}{h}^{1-(\beta-t)}}{h} \cdot \frac{\psi}{h^t}$$

$\approx$  sth.  $|x-y|^{\beta-t}$

$$\text{sth} \Rightarrow 2 C_c \cdot \frac{\psi}{h^\beta} \leq L$$

- $\psi \leq \frac{L}{2C_c} \cdot h^\beta$
  - $\psi \cdot \sqrt{a_0 n h} \leq 1$
- } → maximize  $\psi$ .

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

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

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