



ON THE REGRESSION ESTIMATION FROM $\tilde{\rho}$ -MIXING SAMPLES

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Abstract

We give the rate of the uniform convergence for the kernel estimate of the regression function over a sequence of compact sets which increases to \mathbb{R}^d when n grows to infinity and the observed process is $\tilde{\rho}$ -mixing. The used estimator for the regression function is the kernel estimator proposed by Nadaraya [10] and Watson [12].

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1. Introduction

Let $(X_t, Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a strictly stationary process, where (X_t, Y_t) take values in $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}$ and distributed as (X, Y) . Suppose that a segment of data $(X_t, Y_t)_{t=1}^n$ has been observed.

We are interested in the study of the convergence rate for a kernel estimate of the regression function, known as

$$r(x) = E(Y_t | X_t = x), \quad t \in \mathbb{N}.$$

A natural estimator for the function $r(\cdot)$ is given by

$$r_n(x) = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^n Y_t K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right)}{\sum_{t=1}^n K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right)}, \quad \forall x \in E,$$

where E stands for the subset $\{x \in \mathbb{R}, f(x) > 0\}$, f being the density of the process (X_t) and (h_n) is a positive sequence of real numbers such that $h_n \rightarrow 0$ and $nh_n^d \rightarrow \infty$, when $n \rightarrow \infty$.

K is a Parzen-Rosenblatt kernel type in the sense of a bounded function satisfying

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} K(x) dx = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{\|x\| \rightarrow \infty} \|x\| K(x) = 0.$$

Moreover, it is assumed to be strictly positive and with bounded variation.

2. Preliminaries and Assumptions

Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P})$ be a probability space.

Let $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{N})$ be a sequence of random variables. Then we define

$$\mathcal{F}_2 = \sigma(X_t, t \in S), \text{ where } S \text{ is a subset of } \mathbb{N}.$$

Therefore, given the σ -algebra \mathcal{B} and \mathcal{R} in \mathcal{F} , let

$$\rho(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{R}) = \sup\{\text{corr}(X, Y), X \in L_2(\mathcal{B}), Y \in L_2(\mathcal{R})\},$$

where

$$\text{corr}(X, Y) = \frac{E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)}{\sqrt{\text{var}(X)\text{var}(Y)}}.$$

Bradley [5] introduced the following coefficients of dependence:

$$\tilde{\rho}(k) = \sup\{\rho(\mathcal{F}_S, \mathcal{F}_T)\}, \quad k \geq 0,$$

where the supremum is taken over all finite subsets $S, T \subset \mathbb{N}$ such that $\text{dist}(S, T) \geq k$.

Obviously,

$$0 \leq \tilde{\rho}(k+1) \leq \tilde{\rho}(k) \leq 1, \quad k \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\rho}(0) = 1.$$

Definition 2.1. A random sequence of variables $(X_t, t \geq 1)$ is said to be a $\tilde{\rho}$ -mixing sequence if there exists a $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\tilde{\rho}(k) < 1$.

Without loss of generality, we may assume that $(X_t, t \geq 1)$ is such that $\tilde{\rho}(1) < 1$ (see Bryc and Smolenski [7]).

In the study of $\tilde{\rho}$ -mixing sequences, we refer to Bradley [5, 6] for the central limit theorem, Bryc and Smolenski [7] for moment inequalities and almost sure convergence, Peligrad and Gut [9], Shixin [11] for almost sure results, Arfi [2] for almost sure convergence of the mode function, and Arfi [3] for an estimation of the hazard function.

We make use of the following assumptions:

A1. The observed process $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{N})$ is stationary and $\tilde{\rho}$ -mixing.

A2.

$$\exists \Gamma < \infty, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad f(x) \leq \Gamma$$

and

$$\exists \gamma_n > 0; \quad \forall x \in C_n, \quad f(x) \geq \gamma_n,$$

where C_n is a sequence of compact sets such that $C_n = \{x : \|x\| \leq c_n\}$ with $c_n \rightarrow \infty$.

A3. $\exists b \geq 2, \exists M < \infty$ such that $E(|Y|^b) < M$.

A4. $\exists V < \infty, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d, E[(Y - r(x))^2 | X = x] \leq V$.

A5. The density f is twice differentiable and its second derivatives are bounded on \mathbb{R}^d .

A6. The kernel K is Lipschitz of ratio L_k , that is $|K(x) - K(y)| \leq L_k \|x - y\|^k$.

3. Main Result

Theorem 3.1. *Assuming that the assumptions A1 through A6 hold, the function r is Lipschitz, bounded on \mathbb{R}^d and that the bandwidth sequence (h_n) satisfies with y_n :*

$$nh_n^d y_n^{-1} n^{-\delta} = \infty(\text{Log}n), \quad n^\delta \gamma_n^{-1} \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } n^\delta \gamma_n^{-1} h_n^{-d} y_n^{-b/2} \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,$$

where y_n is an unbounded and nondecreasing sequence chosen so that

$$1 \leq y_n \leq n/2.$$

If the kernel K is even with $\int z^2 K(z) dz < \infty$ for $z = (z_1, \dots, z_d)$ and if there exists a constant D such that $\gamma_n^{-1} y_n n^\delta h_n^d < D$, then

$$n^\delta \sup_{\|x\| \leq c_n} |r_n(x) - r(x)| = O(1) \text{ a.s. } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

4. Preliminary Results

For practical reasons, we make the following decomposition:

$$r_n(x) - r(x) = \frac{1}{f(x)} \{ [g_n(x) - r(x)f(x)] - r_n(x)[f_n(x) - f(x)] \},$$

where

$$g_n(x) = \frac{1}{nh_n^d} \sum_{t=1}^n Y_t K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right)$$

and

$$f_n(x) = \frac{1}{nh_n^d} \sum_{t=1}^n K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right).$$

This leads to

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{x \in C_n} |r_n(x) - r(x)| \\ &= \frac{1}{f(x)} \left\{ \sup_{x \in C_n} |g_n(x) - r(x)f(x)| + \sup_{x \in C_n} |r_n(x)| |f_n(x) - f(x)| \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then if

$$\sup_{x \in C_n} |r_n(x)| \leq y_n \text{ a.s.},$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{x \in C_n} |r_n(x) - r(x)| \\ &= \gamma_n^{-1} \left\{ \sup_{x \in C_n} |g_n(x) - r(x)f(x)| + y_n \sup_{x \in C_n} |f_n(x) - f(x)| \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 4.1. *Under the hypotheses of Theorem 3.1,*

$$\gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta \sup_{x \in C_n} |g_n(x) - Eg_n(x)| \rightarrow 0 \text{ a.s. } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Proof. Because of the possible large values for Y_t , we use a truncation technique which consists in decomposing g_n in g_n^+ and g_n^- , where

$$g_n^+(x) = \frac{1}{nh_n^d} \sum_{t=1}^n Y_t \mathbb{I}_{[|Y_t| > y_n]} K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right)$$

and $g_n^-(x) = g_n(x) - g_n^+(x)$, with an unbounded sequence y_n defined as in Theorem 3.1.

We start by showing that

$$\gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta \sup_{\|x\| \leq c_n} |g_n^-(x) - E g_n^-(x)| \rightarrow 0 \text{ a.s. } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

To this end, we write

$$g_n^-(x) - E g_n^-(x) = \sum_{t=1}^n \varphi_t$$

with

$$\varphi_t = \frac{1}{nh_n^d} \left\{ Y_t \mathbb{I}_{[|Y_t| \leq y_n]} K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right) - E \left[Y_t \mathbb{I}_{[|Y_t| \leq y_n]} K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right) \right] \right\}.$$

Therefore, $E(\varphi_t) = 0$;

$|\varphi_t| \leq \frac{2K_1 y_n}{nh_n^d} = d_n$, where K_1 is an upper bound of K , which permits to

write

$$\begin{aligned} E|\varphi_t| &\leq \frac{2\Gamma}{n} E \left| \frac{Y_t}{h_n^d} \mathbb{I}_{[|Y_t| \leq y_n]} K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{2\Gamma}{n} \int \frac{E(|Y_t| | X_t = u)}{h_n^d} K\left(\frac{x - u}{h_n}\right) du. \end{aligned}$$

By Schwartz inequality and the assumption A4, we have

$$E|\varphi_t| \leq \frac{2\Gamma}{n} \int \frac{(r^2(u) + V)^{1/2}}{h_n^d} K\left(\frac{x-u}{h_n}\right) du \leq \tau_1 n^{-1},$$

where τ_1 is a positive constant.

Now, similar arguments provide

$$E(\varphi_t^2) \leq \frac{2\Gamma}{n^2} \int \frac{(r^2(u) + V)}{h_n^{2d}} K\left(\frac{x-u}{h_n}\right) du \leq \nu n^{-2} h_n^{-d},$$

where ν is a positive constant.

Next, we write

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(\gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta |g_n^-(x) - Eg_n^-(x)| > \varepsilon) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P\left(\gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta \left| \sum_{t=1}^n \varphi_t \right| > \varepsilon\right)$$

and for $\alpha > 1$ and $1 \leq t \leq n$,

$$W_{nt} = \varphi_t \mathbb{I}_{(|\varphi_t| \leq n^\alpha)}, \quad Z_{nt} = \varphi_t \mathbb{I}_{(|\varphi_t| > n^\alpha)}.$$

Then

$$\left| \sum_{t=1}^n \varphi_t \right| \leq \left| \sum_{t=1}^n (W_{nt} - EW_{nt}) \right| + \left| \sum_{t=1}^n Z_{nt} \right| + \left| \sum_{t=1}^n EW_{nt} \right|. \quad (1)$$

We need only to show the following:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P\left(\gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta \left| \sum_{t=1}^n (W_{nt} - EW_{nt}) \right| > \varepsilon n^\alpha / 3\right) < \infty, \quad (2)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P\left(\gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta \left| \sum_{t=1}^n Z_{nt} \right| > \varepsilon n^\alpha / 3\right) < \infty, \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{\gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta \left| \sum_{t=1}^n EW_{nt} \right|}{n^\alpha} \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty. \quad (4)$$

We start by showing (2).

The Markov inequality and Chebyshev's inequality lead to

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P \left(\gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta \left| \sum_{t=1}^n (W_{nt} - EW_{nt}) \right| > \varepsilon n^\alpha / 3 \right) \\ & \leq c_1 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{t=1}^n \gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta E |W_{nt}|^2 / n^{2\alpha} \\ & \leq c_2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta h_n^{-d} n^{-1-2\alpha} < \infty \end{aligned}$$

if we choose

$$\gamma_n = n^{-a} \text{ for } a > 0 \text{ and } h_n = n^{-\tau} \text{ for } (a + \alpha + \delta)/d < \tau < 1/2.$$

The Borel-Cantelli lemma allows to conclude for (2).

Now, we show (3).

Note that

$$\left(\left| \sum_{t=1}^n Z_{nt} \right| > \varepsilon n^\alpha / 3 \right) \subset \bigcup_{t=1}^n (|\varphi_t| > n^\alpha)$$

and hence

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P \left(\gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta \left| \sum_{t=1}^n Z_{nt} \right| > \varepsilon n^\alpha / 3 \right) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n P(\gamma_n^{-1} n^\delta |\varphi_t| > n^\alpha)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \gamma_n^{-1} n^{\delta} E |\varphi_t|^2 / n^{2\alpha} \\ &\leq c_3 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-1-2\alpha} \gamma_n^{-1} n^{\delta} h_n^{-d} < \infty, \end{aligned}$$

with the following:

$$\gamma_n = n^{-a} \text{ for } a > 0, \quad h_n = n^{-\tau} \text{ for } (a + \alpha + \delta)/d < \tau < 1/2,$$

and c_3 being a positive constant.

Lastly, we show that (4) holds.

We can write

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_n^{-1} n^{\delta} n^{-\alpha} \left| \sum_{t=1}^n EW_{nt} \right| &\leq \gamma_n^{-1} n^{\delta} n^{-\alpha} \sum_{t=1}^n |EW_{nt}| \\ &\leq \gamma_n^{-1} n^{\delta} n^{-\alpha} \sum_{t=1}^n E |\varphi_t| \mathbb{I}_{(|\varphi_t| > n^{\alpha})} \\ &= n^{a+\delta+1-\alpha} E |\varphi_t| \mathbb{I}_{(|\varphi_t| > n^{\alpha})} \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

with the choice $\gamma_n = n^{-a}$ and $\alpha > 2 + a + \delta$.

Next, we cover C_n by μ_n^d spheres in the shape of

$$\{x : \|x - x_{nj}\| \leq c_n \mu_n^{-1}\} \text{ with } 1 \leq j \leq \mu_n^d$$

and we can make the following decomposition:

$$\begin{aligned} &|g_n^-(x) - Eg_n^-(x)| \\ &\leq |g_n^-(x) - g_n^-(x_{jn})| + |g_n^-(x_{jn}) - Eg_n^-(x_{jn})| + |Eg_n^-(x_{jn}) - Eg_n^-(x)|. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$n^\delta |g_n^-(x) - g_n^-(x_{jn})| \leq \frac{n^\delta}{nh_n^d} y_n \sum_{t=1}^n \left| K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right) - K\left(\frac{x_{jn} - X_t}{h_n}\right) \right|.$$

Since the kernel K is Lipschitz, we have

$$\begin{aligned} n^\delta |g_n^-(x) - g_n^-(x_{jn})| &\leq L_K y_n n^\delta \frac{1}{h_n^{d+k}} \|x - x_{jn}\|^k \\ &\leq L_K y_n n^\delta h_n^{-d-k} c_n^k \mu_n^{-k} = 1/\text{Log}n. \end{aligned}$$

If we choose

$$\mu_n = L_K^{1/k} y_n^{1/k} h_n^{-\left(\frac{d}{k}+1\right)} c_n n^{\delta/k} (\text{Log}n)^{1/k} \rightarrow \infty,$$

we obtain

$$\sup_{x \in C_n} |g_n^-(x) - E g_n^-(x)| \leq \sup_{1 \leq j \leq \mu_n^d} |g_n^-(x_{jn}) - E g_n^-(x_{jn})| + \left(\frac{2}{\text{Log}n}\right)$$

so that for all $n \geq n_1(\varepsilon)$, $\forall \varepsilon_n > 0$, we have

$$P\left(\sup_{x \in C_n} \left| \sum_{t=1}^n \varphi_t \right| > 2\varepsilon_n\right) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\mu_n} P(|g_n^-(x_{jn}) - E g_n^-(x_{jn})| > \varepsilon_n).$$

Now using similar decomposition as in (1) μ_n times; the use of $(\mu_n^d n^\delta n^\alpha)$ instead of n^α permits to conclude that

$$n^\delta \gamma_n^{-1} \sup_{\|x\| \leq c_n} |g_n^-(x) - E g_n^-(x)| \rightarrow 0, \text{ a.s. } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

It remains to show that

$$n^\delta \gamma_n^{-1} \sup_{\|x\| \leq c_n} |g_n^+(x) - E g_n^+(x)| \rightarrow 0, \text{ a.s. } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

For the purpose, we write

$$n^\delta \gamma_n^{-1} \sup_{\|x\| \leq c_n} |g_n^+(x) - Eg_n^+(x)| \leq E_n + F_n,$$

where

$$E_n = \frac{n^\delta \gamma_n^{-1}}{nh_n^d} \sup_{\|x\| \leq c_n} \left| \sum_{t=1}^n Y_t \mathbb{I}_{(|Y_t| > y_n)} K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right) \right|$$

and we have

$$(E_n \neq 0) \subset \{\exists t_0 \in [1, 2, 3, \dots, n] \text{ such that } |Y_{t_0}| > y_n\}$$

and we can write

$$(E_n \neq 0) \subset \bigcup_{t=1}^n \{|Y_t| > y_n\},$$

$$P(E_n \neq 0) \leq \sum_{t=1}^n P(|Y_t| > y_n) = nP(|Y_1| > y_n),$$

$$\sum_n P(E_n \neq 0) \leq \sum_n P(|Y_1| > y_n) \leq \sum_n ny_n^{-b} E|Y|^b,$$

$$\sum_n P(E_n \neq 0) \leq c_4 \sum_n ny_n^{-b} < \infty,$$

where c_4 is a positive constant.

Then $E_n \rightarrow 0$, *a.s.*, $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $\sup_{1 \leq t \leq n} |Y_t| \leq y_n$ *a.s.*

The kernel K being strictly positive, we conclude that $|r_n(x)| \leq y_n$ *a.s.*

Moreover,

$$F_n = \frac{n^\delta}{\gamma_n nh_n^d} \sup_{\|x\| \leq c_n} \left| \sum_{t=1}^n E \left[Y_t \mathbb{I}_{(|Y_t| > y_n)} K\left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n}\right) \right] \right|,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
F_n &\leq \frac{n^\delta}{\gamma_n h_n^d} K_1 E[\mathbb{I}_{|Y| > y_n}], \\
F_n &\leq \frac{n^\delta}{\gamma_n h_n^d} K_1 (E(Y^2))^{1/2} (P[|Y| > y_n])^{1/2} \\
&\leq c_5 n^\delta \gamma_n^{-1} h_n^{-d} y_n^{-b/2} \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty,
\end{aligned}$$

where c_5 is a positive constant.

Lemma 4.2. *Under assumptions of Theorem 3.1,*

$$n^\delta \gamma_n^{-1} \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} |Eg_n(x) - r(x)f(x)| \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Proof.

$$Eg_n(x) - r(x)f(x) = \frac{1}{nh_n^d} E \left\{ \sum_{t=1}^n Y_t K \left(\frac{x - X_t}{h_n} \right) \right\} - r(x)f(x),$$

$$Eg_n(x) - r(x)f(x) = \frac{1}{h_n^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} r(u) K \left(\frac{x - u}{h_n} \right) f(u) du - r(x)f(x).$$

Writing $z = (x - u)/h_n$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
Eg_n(x) - r(x)f(x) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} [r(x - zh_n) - r(x)] K(z) f(x - zh_n) dz \\
&\quad + r(x) \int K(z) [f(x - zh_n) - f(x)] dz.
\end{aligned}$$

Assuming that the function $r(\cdot)$ is Lipschitz of ratio 1 and order 1, we have

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} [r(x - zh_n) - r(x)] K(z) f(x - zh_n) dz \right| \leq h_n \Gamma \int |Z| K(z) dz.$$

Now a Taylor expansion, the Bochner lemma and the fact that the function r is bounded permit to conclude that

$$n^\delta \gamma_n^{-1} \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} |Eg_n(x) - r(x)f(x)| \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Lemma 4.3. *Under assumptions of Theorem 3.1,*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{y_n n^\delta}{\gamma_n} \sup_{\|x\| \leq c_n} |f_n(x) - Ef_n(x)| = 0 \text{ a.s.}$$

Proof. This is a particular case of Lemma 4.1 when $Y_t = 1$ and $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_0 \gamma_n n^\delta y_n^{-1}$ for a certain $\varepsilon_0 > 0$.

Lemma 4.4. *Under assumptions of Theorem 3.1,*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{y_n n^\delta}{\gamma_n} \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} |Ef_n(x) - f(x)| = 0.$$

Proof. We write

$$Ef_n(x) - f(x) = \frac{1}{h_n^d} \int [f(u) - f(x)] K\left(\frac{u-x}{h_n}\right) du.$$

A Taylor expansion, the hypotheses of Theorem 3.1 and the Bochner lemma permit to conclude.

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