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A NOTE ABOUT THE STRONG CONVERGENCE OF THE
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CENTER FOR MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS Z FANG SEP 84

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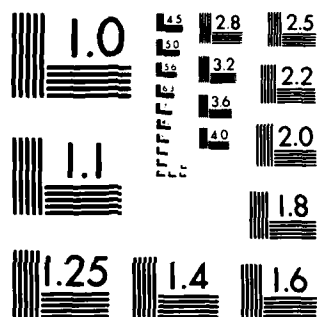
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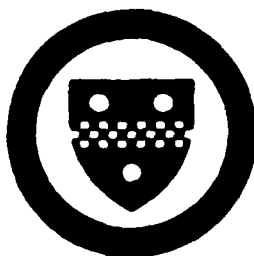
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**China University of Science and Technology
and
Center for Multivariate Analysis
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by

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ABSTRACT

Consider the regression model $Y_i^* = g(x_i^*) + e_i^*$ $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. X_i^* 's are unordered design variables, g unknown function defined on $[0,1]$. $\{e_i^*\}$ i.i.d r.v with mean 0 and finite moment of order $p > 1$. The asymptotic behavior of estimator g_n are studied.

Key Words: Nonparametric regression, Kernel estimation, large sample property.

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MATTHEW J. KOPPEL

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We consider the regression model

$$Y_i^* = g(x_i^*) + e_i^* \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad (1)$$

where $x_i^* \in [0,1]$ are unordered design variables. e_i^* are iid random variables with zero mean. $g(x)$ is an unknown function defined on the interval $[0,1]$. The problem is to estimate $g(x)$ through observable variables Y_i^* .

Denote ordered design variables by $x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_n$, and define $Y_i = Y_j^*$ and $e_i = e_j^*$ if $x_i = x_j^*$ and $\delta_n = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n+1} (x_i - x_{i-1})$ where $X_0 \equiv 0$, $X_{n+1} \equiv 1$. An estimator proposed by Lin and Cheng [1] is given by

$$g_n(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz \quad (2)$$

where $\{a_n\}$ is a sequence of positive constants converging to 0, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, $k(z)$ is a kernel density satisfying:

- (i) $k(z) \geq 0$;
- (ii) $k(z) = 0$ for $z \notin [-L, L]$ for some positive constant L ;
- (iii) $\int_{-L}^L k(z) dz = 1$.

In fact, it is obtained by the natural estimator

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} Y_1 & x \leq x_1 \\ Y_{i+1} & x_i < x \leq x_{i+1} \\ Y_n & x > x_n \end{cases} \quad i = 1, \dots, n-1 \quad (3)$$

after smoothing with weight function $a_n^{-1} k[(x-z)/a_n]$. Lin and Cheng [1] discussed the strong convergence of g_n and the rates of uniform convergence under a condition

$E|e^*|^p < \infty$, $p \geq 2$ among other conditions. In this note we relax the restrictions on the moments of e_i^* and improve the results of [1] and [2]. The results are given in the following theorem:

Theorem Assume that $k(z)$ is bounded, $E|e^*|^p < \infty$ for $p > 1$, $\delta_n = O(n^{-1})$, $a_n = n^{-d}$, for $0 < d < 1 - \frac{1}{p}$. If $g(x)$ is continuous in $[0,1]$, then for all $x \in (0,1)$

$$g_n(x) \rightarrow g(x) \quad \text{a.s.} \quad (4)$$

Proof: Denote $e_i = e_i I(|e_i| \leq i^{1/p})$.

$\tilde{g}_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{e}_i \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz$, where $I(\cdot)$ is an indicator function. Then

$$\begin{aligned} g_n(x) - g(x) &= g_n(x) - \tilde{g}_n(x) + \tilde{g}_n(x) - E\tilde{g}_n(x) + E\tilde{g}_n(x) - Eg_n(x) + Eg_n(x) - g(x) \\ &\triangleq I_1 + I_2 + I_3 + I_4. \end{aligned}$$

In the following we prove $I_i \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0$, $i = 1, 2$ and $I_j \rightarrow 0$, $j = 3, 4$ separately. First, when n is large enough

$$\begin{aligned} I_4 &= Eg_n - g = \sum_{i=1}^n g(x_i) \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz - g(x) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} [g(x_i) - g(z)] a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} [g(z) - g(x)] a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

By the uniform continuity of $g(x)$ in $[0,1]$ and the property of $k(z)$, the first term above is less than $\epsilon \int_0^1 \frac{1}{a_n} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz$, where ϵ is arbitrary positive constant. The second term in (6) is not greater than

$$\sup_{|z-x|<\delta} |g(z) - g(x)| + \frac{1}{\delta} \sup_{|t|>\frac{\delta}{a_n}} |tk(t)| \int_0^1 |g(z)| dz \\ + \sup_x |g(x)| \int_{|u|>\frac{\delta}{a_n}} k(u) du.$$

So it is easy to see when $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$I_4 \rightarrow 0 \quad (7)$$

by Holder and Chebyshev inequality.

$$|I_3| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n E\{|e_i| I(|e_i| > i^{1/p})\} \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz \\ \leq a_n^{-1} \delta_n \|k\| \sum_{i=1}^n [P(|e_i| > i^{1/p})]^{1-\frac{1}{p}} (E|e_i|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} \\ \leq a_n^{-1} \delta_n \|k\| \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^{1-\frac{1}{p}}} (E|e_i|^p)^{1-\frac{1}{p}} (E|e_i|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} \\ \leq c a_n^{-1} \delta_n \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^{1-\frac{1}{p}}} \leq c a_n^{-1} \delta_n n^{\frac{1}{p}} \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty \quad (8)$$

where $\|k\| = \sup_x |k(x)|$, c a constant. Notice that if $1 < b \leq 2$, we have

$e^z \leq 1 + z + |z|^b$ when $z \leq 1$, so if r.v $Z_i \leq 1$, $EZ_i = 0$ then $E(\exp\{Z_i\}) \leq \exp(E|Z_i|^b)$.

Now, take $b < p$, $d_n = \ell_n n^{\frac{1}{p}} \ell_n$, $Z_i = d_n(\tilde{e}_i - E\tilde{e}_i) \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz$. By the choice of d_n and the conditions on δ_n and a_n in the theorem we know that $Z_i \leq 1$ when n is large enough. Thus, we have

$$E\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \exp\{Z_i\}\right) = \prod_{i=1}^n E(\exp\{Z_i\}) \leq \prod_{i=1}^n \exp(E|Z_i|^b) \\ \leq \prod_{i=1}^n \exp\{d_n(d_n \|k\| \delta_n a_n^{-1})^{b-1} E|e_i|^b \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz\} \\ \leq \exp\{c d_n(d_n \delta_n a_n^{-1})^{b-1}\}$$

For given $\varepsilon > 0$, when n is large enough,

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(I_2 > \epsilon) &\leq e^{-d_n \epsilon} E(\exp\{d_n I_2\}) \\
 &= e^{-d_n \epsilon} E\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \exp\{Z_i\}\right) < e^{-\frac{1}{2} d_n \epsilon}.
 \end{aligned}$$

So, we have

$$\sum_n P(I_2 > \epsilon) < \sum_n e^{-\frac{1}{2} d_n \epsilon} < \infty$$

by Borel-Cantelli lemma

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} I_2 \leq 0 \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Similarly, it is true that

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} I_2 \geq 0 \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Therefore

$$I_2 \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{a.s.} \quad (9)$$

Since $E|e_i|^p < \infty$, we know that $\sum_n P(|e_i| > j^{\frac{1}{p}}) < \infty$. By Borel-Cantelli lemma we have $P(|e_i| > i^{\frac{1}{p}}, \text{ i.o.}) = 0$. Hence

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} e_i^2 I(|e_i| > i^{\frac{1}{p}}) < \infty \quad \text{a.s.} \quad (10)$$

Finally,

$$|I_1|^2 = \left| \sum_{i=1}^n (e_i - e_i) \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz \right|^2.$$

By Schwartz inequality,

$$|I_1|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz \right)^2 \sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 I(|e_i| > i^{\frac{1}{p}})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq a_n^{-1} \delta_n \|k\| \int_0^1 a_n^{-1} k\left(\frac{x-z}{a_n}\right) dz \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} e_i^2 I(|e_i| > i^{\frac{1}{p}}) \\
&\leq c a_n^{-1} \delta_n \sum_i e_i^2 I(|e_i| > i^{\frac{1}{p}}).
\end{aligned}$$

By (10) we have

$$|I_1|^2 \rightarrow 0 \text{ a.s.} \quad (11)$$

From (5), (7), (8), (9), and (11), the theorem follows.

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