

Statistics 583, Final Exam Solutions

Wellner; 6/6/2007

- (40 points) **Define** the following terms.
 - A *continuous functional* $T(F)$ with respect to a metric d on distribution functions.
 - A *Gateaux - differentiable functional* $T(F)$.
 - The *influence function* corresponding to a Gateaux differentiable functional $T(F)$.
 - The kernel estimator of a density function f on \mathbb{R} .

Solution: See Class notes, chapters 6, 7, 8, 14.

- (30 points). Give a complete *statement* of **two** of the following results or theorems:
 - An example of a functional $T(F)$ for which the jack-knife *does not* “work.”
 - A limit theorem for the bootstrap of the sample mean \bar{X}_n .
 - The Politis-Romano without replacement bootstrap limit theorem.
 - Any theorem about asymptotic normality of an estimator via differentiability of the corresponding statistical functional.

Solution: See Class notes, chapters 6, 7, 8, 14.

- (40 points). (a) Suppose that Z_1, \dots, Z_k are i.i.d. with distribution function F_0 . Let $V_k \equiv \min_{1 \leq j \leq k} Z_j$, and suppose that K is a random integer with truncated Poisson distribution

$$P(K = k) = \frac{e^{-\theta} \theta^k}{1 - e^{-\theta} k!}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, \quad \theta > 0.$$

Show that V_K has survival function given by

$$P(V_K > v) = \frac{\exp(-\theta F_0(v)) - \exp(-\theta)}{1 - \exp(-\theta)},$$

and hence

$$P(V_K \leq v) = \frac{1 - e^{-\theta F_0(v)}}{1 - e^{-\theta}} \equiv \psi_\theta(F_0(v)).$$

(Note that this is valid distribution function for $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$, not just $\theta > 0$.)

- Now suppose that X_1, \dots, X_m are i.i.d. F and Y_1, \dots, Y_n are i.i.d. with

distribution function $G = \psi_\theta(F)$. Find the locally most powerful rank test of $\theta = 0$ (i.e. $F = G$) versus $\theta > 0$.

(c) How would you implement the test you found in (b) to achieve a type one error $\alpha = .01$?

Solution: (a) First note that

$$\begin{aligned} P(V_k > v) &= P(\min_{1 \leq j \leq k} Z_j > v) = P(Z_1 > v, \dots, Z_k > v) = P(Z_1 > v)^k \\ &= (1 - F_0(v))^k. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} P(V_K > v) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P(V_k > v, K = k) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P(V_k > v)P(K = k) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 - F_0(v))^k \frac{e^{-\theta}}{1 - e^{-\theta}} \frac{\theta^k}{k!} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\theta}}{1 - e^{-\theta}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - F_0(v))^k \theta^k}{k!} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\theta}}{1 - e^{-\theta}} (e^{\theta(1 - F_0(v))} - 1) \\ &= \frac{\exp(-\theta F_0(v)) - e^{-\theta}}{1 - e^{-\theta}} \\ &= 1 - \frac{1 - \exp(-\theta F_0(v))}{1 - \exp(-\theta)}, \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$P(V_K \leq v) = \frac{1 - \exp(-\theta F_0(v))}{1 - \exp(-\theta)}.$$

(b) If X_1, \dots, X_m are i.i.d. F and Y_1, \dots, Y_n are i.i.d. $G = \psi_\theta(F)$, then by Hoeffding's formula

$$P_\theta(Q = q) = \frac{1}{\binom{N}{n}} E \prod_{j=1}^n \psi'_\theta(U_{(q_j)})$$

where the expectation is with respect to the distribution of the Uniform order

statistics $0 < U_{(1)} < \dots < U_{(N)} < 1$ and where

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_\theta(u) &= \frac{1 - \exp(-\theta u)}{1 - \exp(-\theta)}, & \text{so} \\ \psi'_\theta(u) &= \frac{\theta \exp(-\theta u)}{1 - \exp(-\theta)}, & \text{and, moreover} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \psi'_\theta(u) &= \frac{e^{-\theta u}}{1 - \exp(-\theta)} - \frac{u\theta e^{-\theta}}{1 - \exp(-\theta)} - \frac{\theta \exp(-\theta u) \exp(-\theta)}{(1 - \exp(-\theta))^2} \\ &\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} - u & \text{as } \theta \rightarrow 0.\end{aligned}$$

To find the locally most powerful rank test of $\theta > 0$ versus $\theta = 0$, we want to find a test function ϕ which maximizes the slope at $\theta = 0$ of the power $\beta_\phi(\theta) = E_\theta \phi(Q)$. But since this power is given by

$$\beta_\phi(\theta) = \sum \phi(\underline{q}) P_\theta(Q = \underline{q}),$$

it suffices to find those q 's for which

$$\left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} P_\theta(Q = q) \right|_{\theta=0} \quad \text{is large.}$$

Thus we calculate

$$\begin{aligned}\left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} P_\theta(Q = q) \right|_{\theta=0} &= \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \frac{1}{\binom{N}{n}} E \prod_{j=1}^n \psi'_\theta(U_{(q_j)}) \right|_{\theta=0} \\ &= \frac{1}{\binom{N}{n}} E \sum_{j=1}^n \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \psi'_\theta(U_{(q_j)}) \right|_{\theta=0} \\ &= \frac{1}{\binom{N}{n}} E \sum_{j=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{2} - U_{(q_j)} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\binom{N}{n}} \sum_{j=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{q_j}{n+1} \right).\end{aligned}$$

Thus the most powerful rank test of $\theta = 0$ versus $\theta > 0$ rejects for small values of $\sum_{j=1}^n Q_j$. Note that this makes good sense since for $\theta > 0$, the alternatives $G(x) = \psi_\theta(F(x))$ are stochastically smaller than F .

(c) To implement this test we could use the WWNH finite-sampling central limit theorem: Under the null hypothesis $\bar{Y}_n \equiv n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n Q_j$ has the same distribution as the sample mean of a sample of size n drawn without replacement from the

finite population $\{1, \dots, N\}$, and this population has

$$\bar{z}_N = (N + 1)/2,$$

$$\sigma_z^2 = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N z_i^2 - \bar{z}_N^2 = (N + 1)(2N + 1)/6 - (N + 1)^2/4 = \frac{(N + 1)(N - 1)}{12}$$

so that

$$\text{Var}(\bar{Y}_n) = \frac{\sigma_z^2}{n} \left(1 - \frac{n - 1}{N - 1}\right) = \frac{(N + 1)(N - 1)}{12n} \frac{N - n}{N - 1}.$$

Thus the WWNH finite -sampling CLT says that

$$\frac{\bar{Y}_n - (N + 1)/2}{\sqrt{\frac{(N+1)(N-1)}{12n} \frac{N-n}{N-1}}} \rightarrow_d N(0, 1),$$

and hence a reasonable way to implement the test found in (b) for moderately large m, n is to reject $\theta > 0$ if

$$\sum_{j=1}^n Q_j < n(N + 1)/2 - z_{.01} \sqrt{n} \sqrt{\frac{(N + 1)(N - 1)}{12} \frac{N - n}{N - 1}}.$$

Note that $P(Z > z_{.01}) = .01$ so $z_{.01} = \dots$ is positive!

4. (40 points). Let X_1, \dots, X_n be i.i.d. with unknown density function f . Consider the kernel estimator

$$\hat{f}_n(x) = \int \frac{1}{h_n} K\left(\frac{x - y}{h_n}\right) d\mathbb{F}_n(y)$$

of an unknown density f at a point x with the “box-car” or uniform kernel $K(x) = 2^{-1}1_{[-1,1]}(x)$. Assume that f' exists at x and is continuous in a neighborhood of x .

(a) Compute $E\hat{f}_n(x)$ at x explicitly in terms of F and h after taking advantage of the given kernel K .

(b) Use the result of (a) and Taylor expansion to give an expression for $\text{bias}_n(x) = E\hat{f}_n(x) - f(x)$ in terms of $f'(x)$ assuming that $h_n \rightarrow 0$.

(c) Give a formula for $\text{Var}(\hat{f}_n(x))$ in terms of K , F , and h_n , and then use it to give an asymptotic expression for the variance assuming that $h_n \rightarrow 0$ and $nh_n \rightarrow \infty$.

(d) What is the optimal choice of $h_n = Cn^{-r}$ in this case?

(e) For the optimal choice of r in (d), sketch how you would prove that

$$\sqrt{nh_n}(\hat{f}_n(x) - f(x)) \rightarrow_d N(b(x), \sigma^2(x))$$

and identify the functions $b(x)$ and $\sigma^2(x)$ that will appear here, including their dependence on C .

(f) For the limit distribution identified in (e), find the optimal choice of C (as a function of $f(x)$ and $f'(x)$ and other constants). Explain briefly why this optimal C makes some intuitive sense (as a function of x).

Solution: I had this problem goofed up, as you will see below. I will first try to solve the problem in the form stated, and then will solve a modified version of the problem which has as its solution something more along the lines I had intended. (My apologies on this one!)

(a) Since

$$\widehat{f}_n(x) = \int \frac{1}{h_n} K\left(\frac{x-y}{h_n}\right) d\mathbb{F}_n(y),$$

we compute

$$\begin{aligned} E(\widehat{f}_n(x)) &= \int \frac{1}{h} K\left(\frac{x-y}{h}\right) dF(y) \\ &= \int K(z) f(x-hz) dz = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 f(x-hz) dz = -\frac{1}{2h} F(x-hz) \Big|_{-1}^1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2h} (F(x+h) - F(x-h)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2h} \left(F(x) + f(x)h + \frac{1}{2} f'(x^*) h^2 - (F(x) - f(x)h + \frac{1}{2} f'(x^{**}) h^2) \right) \\ &\quad \text{for some } x^* \in [x, x+h], \quad x^{**} \in [x-h, x] \\ &= f(x) + \frac{h}{4} (f'(x^*) - f'(x^{**})). \end{aligned}$$

(b) It follows from the expectation computed in (a) that the bias of $\widehat{f}_n(x)$ is given by

$$\text{bias}(\widehat{f}_n(x)) = \frac{h}{4} (f'(x^*) - f'(x^{**})) = \frac{h}{4} o(1)$$

since $f'(x^*) \rightarrow f'(x)$ and $f'(x^{**}) \rightarrow f'(x)$. (I made a sign error here in my initial calculations, and had thought I was getting $(h/2)f'(x) + o(h)$ for the bias.)

(c) Now for the variance:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var}(\widehat{f}_n(x)) &= \text{Var}\left(\frac{1}{nh}\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x-X_i}{h}\right)\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{nh^2}\text{Var}\left(K\left(\frac{x-X_i}{h}\right)\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{nh^2}\left\{\int K^2\left(\frac{x-y}{h}\right)dF(y) - \left(\int K\left(\frac{x-y}{h}\right)dF(y)\right)^2\right\} \\
&= \frac{1}{nh}\int K^2(z)f(x-hz)dz - \left(\frac{1}{n}(f(x) + o(1)h)^2\right) \\
&= \frac{f(x)}{nh}\int K^2(z)dz(1 + o(1)) + O(n^{-1}).
\end{aligned}$$

(d) Thus the bias term is of order $ho(1) = o(h)$, so the squared bias is of order $o(h^2)$, while the variance term is of order $O((nh_n)^{-1})$. If $h = h_n = Cn^{-1/3}$, then the squared bias is of order $o(n^{-2/3})$ while the variance is of order $O(n^{-2/3})$.

(e) We can write

$$\begin{aligned}
\sqrt{nh_n}(\widehat{f}_n(x) - f(x)) &= \sqrt{nh_n}(\widehat{f}_n(x) - E\widehat{f}_n(x)) + \sqrt{nh_n}(E\widehat{f}_n(x) - f(x)) \\
&= \text{stochastic term} + \text{bias term},
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
&\text{Var}\left(\sqrt{nh_n}(\widehat{f}_n(x) - E\widehat{f}_n(x))\right) \\
&= f(x)\int K^2(z)dz + o(1) \equiv \sigma^2(x) + o(1)
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

by the variance calculation in (c), and

$$\sqrt{nh_n}(E\widehat{f}_n(x) - f(x)) = \sqrt{n}h_n^{3/2}o(1) = C^{3/2}o(1) \rightarrow 0$$

if $h_n = Cn^{-1/3}$. Moreover, we can easily show (for example by use of the Lindeberg-Feller CLT), that

$$\sqrt{nh_n}(\widehat{f}_n(x) - E\widehat{f}_n(x)) \rightarrow_d N(0, \sigma^2(x))$$

where $\sigma^2(x)$ is as given in (1). Thus it follows that if $h_n = Cn^{-1/3}$, then

$$\sqrt{nh_n}(\widehat{f}_n(x) - f(x)) \rightarrow_d N(0, \sigma^2(x)),$$

or, equivalently,

$$n^{1/3}(\widehat{f}_n(x) - f(x)) \rightarrow_d N(0, \sigma^2(x)/C).$$

(f) For the current choice of the kernel $b(x) = 0$ and there is no trade-off in the choice of C . Apparently we improve the estimator \widehat{f}_n by choosing C to be very large. However, the following analysis for a different kernel does give a non-trivial tradeoff at this point and clarifies the situation to some degree.

Modified problem and solution: Suppose that the kernel is taken to be $K(x) = 1_{[-1,0]}(x)$.

(a) Now the expectation of $\widehat{f}_n(x)$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
E(\widehat{f}_n(x)) &= \int \frac{1}{h} K\left(\frac{x-y}{h_n}\right) dF(y) \\
&= \int K(z) f(x-hz) dz = \int_{-1}^0 f(x-hz) dz = -\frac{1}{h} F(x-hz) \Big|_{-1}^0 \\
&= \frac{1}{h} (F(x+h) - F(x)) \\
&= \frac{1}{h} \left(f(x)h + \frac{1}{2} f'(x^*)h^2 \right) \\
&\quad \text{for some } x^* \in [x-h, x], \\
&= f(x) + \frac{h}{2} f'(x^*).
\end{aligned}$$

(b) It follows from the expectation computed in (a) that the bias of $\widehat{f}_n(x)$ is given by

$$\text{bias}(\widehat{f}_n(x)) = \frac{h}{2} f'(x^*) = \frac{h}{2} f'(x) + o(h)$$

since $f'(x^*) \rightarrow f'(x)$.

(c) The variance calculation is unchanged in this case.

(d) Now the variance is of the order $(1/nh)$ while the squared bias is of the order h^2 , and these are both exactly of the order $n^{-2/3}$ if $h = h_n = Cn^{-1/3}$. Thus $r = 1/3$ gives the optimal rate.

(e) Now for $h_n = Cn^{-1/3}$ we have

$$\sqrt{nh_n}(\widehat{f}_n(x) - f(x)) \rightarrow_d N(b(x), \sigma^2(x))$$

where $b(x) \equiv C^{3/2} f'(x)/2$. Equivalently,

$$n^{1/3}(\widehat{f}_n(x) - f(x)) \rightarrow_d N(Cf'(x)/2, \sigma^2(x)/C),$$

and hence the asymptotic mean squared error is

$$C^2 \frac{(f'(x))^2}{4} + \frac{\sigma^2(x)}{C}.$$

This is minimized as a function of C by

$$C_{opt} = \left(\frac{\sigma^2(x)}{2(f'(x)/2)^2} \right)^{1/3} = \left(\frac{2f(x) \int K^2(z) dz}{(f'(x))^2} \right)^{1/3}.$$

Note that this is very sensible: if $(f'(x))^2$ is small, then the bandwidth can be large (more smoothing), while if $(f'(x))^2$ is big, then the bandwidth (at x) should be narrower so that we do less smoothing at x .

5. (48 points) Consider the functional $T(F) = \int \int |x-y| dF(x) dF(y)$ as a measure of spread or dispersion of the distribution function F . (This functional is sometimes called “Gini’s mean difference”.)
- (a) If X_1, \dots, X_n are i.i.d. random variables with distribution function F , what is the “principle of substitution” estimator of $T(F)$?
- (b) Is the estimator you found in (a) an unbiased estimator of $T(F)$? (Calculate the bias explicitly.)
- (c) Use the jackknife to suggest an estimator of $T(F)$ with less bias. Can you find an unbiased estimator of $T(F)$?
- (d) Calculate the Gateaux derivative of $T(F)$, and use this to find a formula for the asymptotic variance of $\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F))$.
- (e) Describe how you would use the bootstrap to estimate $nVar(T(\mathbb{F}_n))$ and

$$H_n(x, F) \equiv P_F(\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) \leq x),$$

distinguishing clearly in your description between the “ideal bootstrap” and the Monte-carlo implementation thereof.

Solution: (a) The principle of substitution estimator is just

$$T(\mathbb{F}_n) = \int \int |x - y| d\mathbb{F}_n(x) d\mathbb{F}_n(y) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n |X_i - X_j|.$$

(b) The principle of substitution estimator is biased: because the diagonal terms (for which $j = i$) in the sum are zero we have

$$\begin{aligned} E_F T(\mathbb{F}_n) &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n E_F |X_i - X_j| \\ &= \frac{n(n-1)}{n^2} E_F |X_1 - X_2| = \frac{n-1}{n} T(F). \end{aligned}$$

Thus the bias of $T_n \equiv T(\mathbb{F}_n)$ is

$$\text{bias}_n(F) = E_F(T_n) - T(F) = \left(\frac{n-1}{n} - 1 \right) T(F) = -\frac{1}{n} T(F).$$

(c) Here we compute

$$T_{n,i} \equiv T(\mathbb{F}_{n-1,i}) = \frac{1}{(n-1)^2} \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \sum_{j'=1, j' \neq i}^n |X_j - X_{j'}|.$$

Hence the pseudo-values are

$$\begin{aligned} T_{n,i}^* &= nT_n - (n-1)T_{n,i} = \left\{ \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n-1} \right\} \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \sum_{j'=1, j' \neq i}^n |X_j - X_{j'}| + \frac{2}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n |X_i - X_j| \\ &= -\frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \sum_{j'=1, j' \neq i}^n |X_j - X_{j'}| + \frac{2}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n |X_i - X_j|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{T_n^*} &\equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n T_{n,i}^* \\ &= 2T_n - \frac{1}{n^2(n-1)} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \sum_{j'=1, j' \neq i}^n |X_j - X_{j'}| \\ &= 2T_n - \frac{1}{n^2(n-1)} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{j'=1}^n |X_j - X_{j'}| 1_{[i \neq j]} 1_{[i \neq j']} \\ &= 2T_n - \frac{1}{n^2(n-1)} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{j'=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n |X_j - X_{j'}| 1_{[i \neq j]} 1_{[i \neq j']} \\ &= 2T_n - \frac{n-2}{n^2(n-1)} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{j'=1}^n |X_j - X_{j'}| \\ &= 2T_n - \frac{n-2}{n-1} T_n = \frac{n}{n-1} T_n \\ &= \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{j'=1}^n |X_j - X_{j'}|. \end{aligned}$$

This estimator of $T(F)$ is unbiased: $E_F(\overline{T_n^*}) = T(F)$. In fact $\overline{T_n^*}$ is the usual U -statistic form corresponding to the V -statistic $T(\mathbb{F}_n)$.

(d) To calculate the Gateaux derivative, we write $F_\epsilon = (1-\epsilon)F + \epsilon G$ and then

compute

$$\begin{aligned}
T(F_\epsilon) &= \int \int |x - y| dF_\epsilon(x) dF_\epsilon(y) \\
&= \int \int |x - y| dF(x) dF(y) + \epsilon \int \int |x - y| d(G - F)(x) dF(y) \\
&\quad + \epsilon \int \int |x - y| dF(x) d(G - F)(y) \\
&\quad + \epsilon^2 \int \int |x - y| d(G - F)(x) d(G - F)(y).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence we find that the Gateaux derivative $\dot{T}(F; G - F)$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{T}(F; G - F) &= \left. \frac{d}{d\epsilon} T(F_\epsilon) \right|_{\epsilon=0} \\
&= \int \int |x - y| d(G - F)(x) dF(y) + \int \int |x - y| dF(x) d(G - F)(y) \\
&= 2 \int \int |x - y| d(G - F)(x) dF(y).
\end{aligned}$$

Taking $G = \delta_x$ yields the influence function for T :

$$\begin{aligned}
IC(x; T, F) &= \psi_F(x) \\
&= 2 \left(\int |x - y| dF(y) - \int \int |x - y| dF(x) dF(y) \right) \\
&= 2 \left(\int |x - y| dF(y) - T(F) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

This leads to the conclusion that the asymptotic variance of $\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F))$ will be

$$\begin{aligned}
E_F \psi_F^2(X_1) &= 4 \int \left(\int |x - y| dF(y) - T(F) \right)^2 dF(x) \\
&= 4 \left\{ \int \int |x - y| dF(y) \int |x - y'| dF(y') dF(x) - T^2(F) \right\} \\
&= 4 \left\{ \int \int \int |x - y| |x - y'| dF(x) dF(y) dF(y') - T^2(F) \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

(e) The ideal bootstrap estimator of $nVar_F(T(\mathbb{F}_n))$ is $nVar_{\mathbb{F}_n^*}(T(\mathbb{F}_n^*))$ where \mathbb{F}_n^* is the empirical distribution function of X_1^*, \dots, X_n^* i.i.d. with distribution function \mathbb{F}_n . Similarly, the ideal bootstrap estimator of

$$H_n(x, F) \equiv P_F(\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) \leq x),$$

is simply

$$H_n(x, \mathbb{F}_n) \equiv P_{\mathbb{F}_n}(\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n^*) - T(\mathbb{F}_n)) \leq x).$$

To implement Monte-Carlo approximations of these, we would draw B bootstrap samples of size n from \mathbb{F}_n ,

$$X_{j,1}^*, \dots, X_{j,n}^*, \quad j = 1, \dots, B,$$

form the corresponding empirical d.f. $\mathbb{F}_{j,n}^*$ for each $j = 1, \dots, B$, and calculate the resulting $T_{n,j}^* \equiv T(\mathbb{F}_{j,n}^*)$. Then

$$n \widehat{Var}_{\mathbb{F}_n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n^*)) = n \frac{1}{B} \sum_{j=1}^B (T_{n,j}^* - \bar{T}_n^*)^2$$

while

$$\widehat{H}_n(x, \mathbb{F}_n) = \frac{1}{B} \sum_{j=1}^B 1_{[\sqrt{n}(T_{n,j}^* - T_n) \leq x]}.$$