

# Significance testing in nonparametric regression

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
  - Context
  - State of the art
- 2 Test statistic
  - The statistic
  - Power Against Local Alternatives
- 3 Monte-carlo study

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# Hypothesis tested

- $Y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,
- $W \in \mathbb{R}^p$  with density  $f$ ,
- $X \in \mathbb{R}^q$  and the density of  $(W, X)$  is  $f_2$ ,
- We want to test

$$H_0 : E[Y | W, X] = E[Y | W] \quad a.s.$$

versus  $H_1 : \Pr \{E[Y | W, X] \neq E[Y | W]\} > 0$ .

- Let  $r(w) = E[Y | W = w]$  and  $u = Y - r(W)$ , then

$$H_0 : E[u | W, X] = 0 \quad a.s.$$

# Fan et Li (1996), Lavergne et Vuong (2000)

- Estimate  $E [u E [u | W, X] f^2 (W) f_2 (W, X)]$  by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bullet I_n^{FL} &= \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i} \widehat{u}_i \widehat{f}_i \widehat{u}_j \widehat{f}_j K_{nij} \\
 &= \frac{1}{n(n-1)^3} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{\substack{j \neq i \\ k \neq i \\ l \neq j}} (Y_i - Y_k) (Y_j - Y_l) L_{nik} L_{njl} K_{nij}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\bullet I_n^{LV} = \frac{1}{n^{(4)}} \sum_a (Y_i - Y_k) (Y_j - Y_l) L_{nik} L_{njl} K_{nij}$$

$$\bullet L_{nik} = \frac{1}{g^p} L \left( \frac{W_i - W_k}{g} \right); \quad K_{nij} = \frac{1}{h^{p+q}} K \left( \frac{W_i - W_j}{h}, \frac{X_i - X_j}{h} \right).$$

## Delgado et Gonzalez Manteiga (2001)

- Estimate

$$T(w, x) = E [u f (W) \mathbf{1}_{w,x} (W, X)]$$

where

$$\mathbf{1}_{w,x} (W, X) = \mathbf{1} \{W \geq w, X \geq x\}$$

by

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(w, x) &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \widehat{u}_i f_i \mathbf{1}_{w,x} (W_i, X_i) \\ &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (Y_i - Y_j) L_{nij} \mathbf{1}_{w,x} (W_i, X_i) \end{aligned}$$

- Then use

$$I_n^{DGM} = \sum_{k=1}^n T_n^2 (W_k).$$

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## Fundamental lemma (1/2)

## Lemma

Let  $(W_1, X_1, Y_1)$  and  $(W_2, X_2, Y_2)$  be two independent draws of  $(W, X, Y)$  and

$$I(h) := \mathbb{E} [u_1 u_2 \omega(W_1) \omega(W_2) h^{-p} K((W_1 - W_2)/h) \psi(X_1 - X_2)]$$

where  $h \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $K$  and  $\psi$  are functions such that  $\omega, \mathcal{F}[K], \mathcal{F}[\psi] > 0$ , then  $\forall h \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[Y | W, X] = \mathbb{E}[Y | W] \quad p.s. \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad I(h) = 0.$$

## Fundamental lemma (2/2)

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} I(h) &= \mathbb{E} \left[ u_1 u_2 \omega(W_1) \omega(W_2) \int_{\mathbb{R}^p} e^{-it'(W_1 - W_2)} \mathcal{F}[K](th) dt \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \int_{\mathbb{R}^q} e^{-iu'(X_1 - X_2)} \mathcal{F}[\psi](u) du \right] \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^q} \int_{\mathbb{R}^p} \left| \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{E}[u | W, X] \omega(W) e^{-i\{t'W + u'X\}} \right] \right|^2 \\ &\quad \times \mathcal{F}[K](th) \mathcal{F}[\phi](u) dt du. \end{aligned}$$



# The test statistic

- We take  $\omega(W) = f(W)$  and we estimate  $I(h)$  by

$$I_n = \frac{1}{n^{(4)}} \sum_a (Y_i - Y_k)(Y_j - Y_l) L_{nik} L_{njl} K_{nij} \psi_{ij}$$

- $L_{nik} = \frac{1}{g^p} L\left(\frac{W_i - W_k}{g}\right),$
- $K_{nij} = \frac{1}{h^p} K\left(\frac{W_i - W_j}{h}\right),$
- $\psi_{ij} = \psi(X_i - X_j).$

## Consistency theorem

- Power against  $H_{1n} : E[Y | W, X] = E[Y | W] + \delta_n d(W, X)$  when  $\delta_n \rightarrow 0$

### Theorem

*Under some regularity conditions and if*

- $f(\cdot)$  and  $r(\cdot)f(\cdot)$  are of regularity  $s \geq 2$  ;
- $ng^p \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $nh^p \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $h/g \rightarrow 0$  and  $nh^{p/2}g^{2s} \rightarrow 0$  ;

*then*

- $nh^{p/2}I_n \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(C\mu, \omega^2)$  if  $\delta_n^2 nh^{p/2} \rightarrow C$
- $nh^{p/2}I_n \rightarrow \infty$  if  $\delta_n^2 nh^{p/2} \rightarrow \infty$ .

## Proof insights

- $$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( nh^{p/2} I_n - \frac{h^{p/2}}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n u_i u_j f_i f_j K_{nij} \psi_{ij} \right)^2 \right] = O(n^{-1} g^{-p})$$

$$+ O(n^{-1} h^{-p})$$

$$+ O(h^p/g^p) + \dots$$

- $$\frac{h^{p/2}}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n u_i u_j f_i f_j K_{nij} \psi_{ij}$$
 is a U-statistic with

- $$\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{h^{p/2}}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n u_i u_j f_i f_j K_{nij} \psi_{ij} \right] \simeq nh^{p/2} \delta_n^2 \mu$$

- $$\text{Var} \left[ \frac{h^{p/2}}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n u_i u_j f_i f_j K_{nij} \psi_{ij} \right] \rightarrow \omega^2$$

## Variance Estimation

- $\omega^2 = 2\mathbb{E} [\sigma^2(W, X_1) \sigma^2(W, X_2) f^4(W) \psi(X_1 - X_2)] \times \int K^2(u) du,$
- $\widehat{\omega}_{FL}^2 = \frac{2h^p}{n^{(2)}} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i} \widehat{u}_i \widehat{f}_i^2 \widehat{u}_j \widehat{f}_j^2 K_{nij}^2 \psi_{nij}^2,$
- $\widehat{\omega}_{LV}^2 = \frac{2h^p}{n^{(6)}} \sum_a (Y_i - Y_k)(Y_i - Y_{k'}) (Y_i - Y_k)(Y_i - Y_{k'})$   
 $\times L_{nik} L_{nik'} L_{njl} L_{njl'} K_{nij}^2 \psi_{nij}^2.$

## Comparison with other methods

|                               | Lavergne et Vuong     | Delgado et Gonzalez Manteiga | Our statistic     |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Rate of convergence           | $\sqrt{nh^{(p+q)/2}}$ | $\sqrt{n}$                   | $\sqrt{nh^{p/2}}$ |
| Known asymptotic distribution | Yes                   | No                           | Yes               |

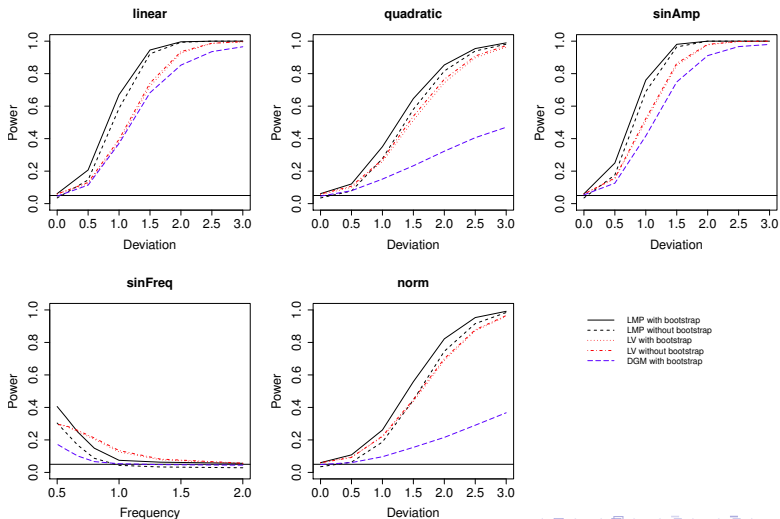
## A word on bootstrap

- Use wild bootstrap :
  - $Y_i^* = \hat{r}_i + \varepsilon_i^*$ ;
  - $\varepsilon_i^* = \hat{\varepsilon}_i \eta_i$  ;
  - $\mathbb{E}[\eta_i] = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[\eta_i^2] = 1$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[\eta_i^3] = 1$  (two points distribution like Haerdle et Mammen, 1993).
- Shown to be consistent for Fan et Li's statistic by Gu et al. (2007).
- To be shown for Lavergne et Vuong's statistic and ours ...
- Non natural assumption of  $f$  bounded away from 0 :
  - implies bounded support for  $W$  and strictly positive density on the support ;
  - satisfied by no standard distributions but the uniform.

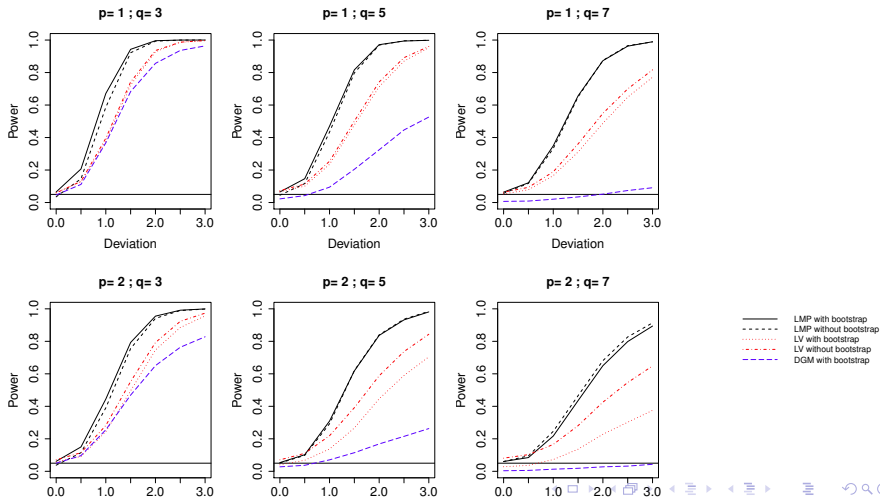
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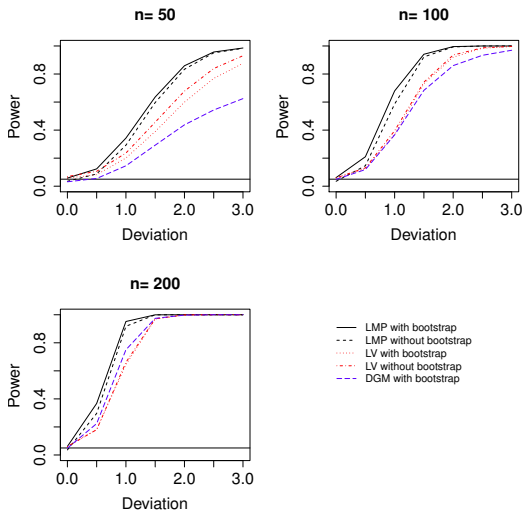
# Various Alternatives



# Various Dimensions



## Various sizes



## To be continued

- Prove the consistency of the bootstrap,
- Same approach for generalized linear modeling,
- Same approach for single-index modeling,
- Adaptive bandwidth.

## Bibliography : significance testing



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