

ON AN EMPIRICAL BAYES TEST FOR
TRUNCATION PARAMETERS USING NA SAMPLES

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Abstract: An empirical Bayes test (EBT) is considered in the two-side truncation distribution family using NA samples. The kernel estimation of probability density is adopted to construct the EBT, and under some certain conditions the proposed EBT is asymptotic optimal. Finally, an example satisfying conditions of theorem is given.

AMS Subject Classification: 62C12

Key Words: NA samples, empirical Bayes test (EBT), Bayes risk, kernel function, asymptotic optimality

1. Introduction

Empirical Bayes (EB) approach was introduced by Robbins (1956), and up to now a lot of investigators have examined empirical Bayes estimation (EBE) or empirical Bayes test (EBT) in the case of i.i.d. samples, see [1], [2], [9], [8], [12], [3], [13], [17], [10]. However, in reliability, penetration theory and multivariable

Received: July 25, 2007

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analysis the random samples are not always but negatively associated (NA). Recently, Xu and Shi [18], [19], [20], [16], [15], explored the EBT or EBE for one-side truncation parameter in the case NA samples, and Wei [4] considered the EBT for exponential distribution family.

Consider the truncation parameter with p.d.f. of the following form

$$f(x|\theta) = u(x)A(\theta)I_{[\theta, m\theta]}(x), \quad (1)$$

where $m > 1$ is a constant, and $u(x)$ is positive, integrable and bounded with lower bound strictly greater than 0 on $[\theta, m\theta]$, $A(\theta) = [\int_{\theta}^{m\theta} u(x)dx]^{-1}$, $\theta \in (0, +\infty)$. The truncation parameter θ of our interest has a prior distribution $G(\theta)$ with p.d.f. $g(\theta)$ over $\theta \in (0, +\infty)$. Then the marginal density of X is

$$f(x) = \int_0^{\infty} f(x|\theta)dG(\theta) = u(x) \int_{x/m}^x A(\theta)g(\theta)d\theta \triangleq u(x)v(x),$$

and let $f(x)$ be bounded and havesth bounded derivative with $s \geq 1$ a given natural number.

This paper is to construct the EBT with asymptotic optimality in the two-side truncation distribution family under NA samples. Firstly, we introduce the definition of NA sequence by Joag-Dev and Proschan [7].

Definition 1.1. Random variables $X_1X_2 \cdots X_n (n \geq 2)$ are said to be NA if for every pair of disjoint subsets T_1 and T_2 of $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$, $\text{Cov}(f_1(X_i, i \in T_1), f_2(X_j, j \in T_2)) \leq 0$, where f_1 and f_2 are increasing or decreasing for every variable such that this covariance exists. Random variables sequence $\{X_i, i \in N\}$ are said to be NA if for every natural number $n \geq 2$, $X_1X_2 \cdots X_n$ are negatively associated.

The hypothesis to be tested is

$$H_0 : \theta \leq \theta_0 \leftrightarrow H_1 : \theta > \theta_0. \quad (2)$$

The loss function is taken to be

$$L_j(\theta, d_j) = (1 - j)a(\theta - \theta_0)I_{(\theta - \theta_0 > 0)} + ja(\theta_0 - \theta)I_{(\theta_0 - \theta \geq 0)}, \quad j = 0, 1, \quad (3)$$

where a is a positive constant, $D = \{d_0, d_1\}$ is the action space, d_i denotes the acceptance of H_i , $i = 0, 1$, I_A denotes indicative function.

The loss function is a weighted linear loss function, and this paper is to construct the EBT under NA samples. The paper is organized as follows. We construct an EBT for the truncation parameters using NA samples and

investigate the asymptotic optimality of the proposed EBT in Section 2. In Section 3 some lemmas are given to complete the proofs in Section 4. At last we give an example satisfying the conditions of the theorems.

2. Empirical Bayes Test

Let $r(x) = P(\text{accept } H_0 | X = x)$ be a randomized decision rule. Then the Bayes risk of $r(x)$ can be written as,

$$R(r, G) = \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Delta} \{L(\theta, d_0)r(x) + [1 - r(x)]L(\theta, d_1)\}f(x|\theta)dG(\theta)dx$$

$$= \int_{\Omega} Q(x)r(x)dx + C_G,$$

where $\Omega = (0, +\infty), \Delta = [x/m, x]$,

$$C_G = \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Delta} L(\theta, d_1)f(x|\theta)dG(\theta)dx.$$

$$Q(x) = \int_{\Delta \cap (\theta_0, \infty)} (\theta - \theta_0)f(x|\theta)dG(\theta) - \int_{\Delta \cap (0, \theta_0)} (\theta_0 - \theta)f(x|\theta)dG(\theta)$$

$$= \int_{x/m}^x \theta f(x|\theta)dG(\theta) - \theta_0 f(x) = v_2(x) - \theta_0 f(x),$$

where $v_2(x) = \int_{\Delta} \theta A(\theta)g(\theta)d\theta$.

Therefore the Bayes decision rule is

$$r_G(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & Q(x) \leq 0, \\ 0, & Q(x) > 0. \end{cases}$$

It is easy to show that $r_G(x)$ is a Bayes test with respect to $G(\theta)$. Since $G(\theta)$ is unknown and $r_G(x)$ cannot be applied, we introduce the EB approach. Suppose $(X_1, \theta_1), \dots, (X_n, \theta_n), (X, \theta)$ are identically distributed samples, where X_1, \dots, X_n (past samples) and X (present samples) have the same density function $f(x|\theta)$; θ_i and θ have the same prior distribution $G(\theta) (i = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$. Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n (n \geq 2)$ be identically distributed NA sequence, $f(x)$ be density function and $f(x) \in C_{s,\alpha}, x \in R^1$, where $C_{s,\alpha}$ denotes a family of probability density function with s times derivatives and its absolute value not exceeding $\alpha, \alpha \in Z^+, Z^+$ is the set of the positive integers, $s > 1, s \in N$. It is assumed in

this paper that NA sequence has the property:

$$(C) \sum_{i,j=1}^{\infty} [-\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j)] < \infty.$$

Let $Q_n(x) = Q_n(x_1, \dots, x_n; x)$ be the estimator of $Q(x)$. We define the EBT of $r_G(x)$ by

$$r_n(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } Q_n(x) \leq 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Then the over all Bayes risk of $r_n(x)$ is

$$R_n \triangleq R_n(r_n(x), G) = E_n \int Q(x)r_n(x)dx + C_G, \quad (5)$$

where E_n stands for the expectation with respect to the joint distribution of (X_1, \dots, X_n) .

For any $G(\theta) \in F^1$, the EBT $r_n(x)$ is said to be asymptotically optimal (a.o) if $R_n \rightarrow R_G$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Moreover if for a $q > 0$, $R_n - R_G = O(n^{-q})$, then the EBT $r_n(x)$ is said to be asymptotically optimal with convergence rate of $O(n^{-q})$, where F^1 is the prior distribution family of θ , $R_G = R(r_G, G) = \inf_r R(r, G)$ is the Bayes risk of $r_G(x)$.

We can define the estimator of $f(x)$ by

$$f_n(x) = (nh)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right), \quad (6)$$

where $h = h_n(> 0)$, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h_n = 0$. $K(\cdot)$ is a kernel function, satisfying the following conditions:

- (1) $K(y) = 0$, if $y \notin (0, 1)$.
- (2) $|K(y)| \leq M$ for all y , M is a positive number.
- (3) $\int y^t K(y)dy = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{as } t = 0, \\ 0, & \text{as } t = 1, 2, \dots, s-1. \end{cases}$

Assume that the following conditions hold (for all $x > 0$),

- (A1) $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} xv(m^j x) < \infty$,
- (A2) $m^j A(m^j x)g(m^j x) \rightarrow 0 \quad (j \rightarrow \infty)$,

$$(A3) \quad \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f^{(s)}(m^j x) < \infty, \quad \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f(m^j x) < \infty, \quad x \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f^{(s)}(m^j x) < \infty,$$

$$(A4) \quad \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x x f^{(s)}(m^j \theta) d\theta < \infty,$$

where $v(m^j x) = \int_{m^{j-1}x}^{m^j x} A(\theta)g(\theta)d\theta = f(m^j x)[u(m^j x)]^{-1}$.

Noting (A2) and

$$\frac{d}{dx}v(m^j x) = m^j A(m^j x)g(m^j x) - m^{j-1}A(m^{j-1}x)g(m^{j-1}x),$$

we get

$$A(x)g(x) = - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{dv(m^j x)}{dx}.$$

Therefore

$$v_2(x) = u(x) \int_{x/m}^x \theta A(\theta)g(\theta)d\theta = u(x) \int_{x/m}^x - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \theta \frac{dv(m^j \theta)}{d\theta} d\theta.$$

We need the following lemma to simplify $v_2(x)$.

Lemma 2.1. (see [5]) *Let $\{f_n\}$ be a sequence of measurable functions on (Ω, F_1, μ) , where (Ω, F_1, μ) is a measurable space, and μ is a σ -finite measure. If either $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_{\Omega} f_n^+ d\mu < \infty$ or $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_{\Omega} f_n^- d\mu < \infty$, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n$ is integral for μ (i.e. $\int_{\Omega} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n d\mu < \infty$), and $\int_{\Omega} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n d\mu = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_{\Omega} f_n d\mu$, where f_n^+ and f_n^- stand for the positive and negative parts of the f_n^+ respectively. Since*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x \theta \left[\frac{dv(m^j \theta)}{d\theta} \right] d\theta \\ &= -xv(x)/m + (1 - 1/m)x \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} v(m^j x) - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x v(m^j \theta) d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

From the condition (A1):

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x \left[\theta \frac{d}{d\theta} v(m^j \theta) + d\theta \right] = (1 - 1/m)x \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} v(m^j x) < \infty$$

By Lemma 2.1, we get $\int_{x/m}^x \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \theta dv(m^j \theta) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x \theta \frac{d}{d\theta} v(m^j \theta) d\theta$. Hence

$$v_2(x) = -u(x) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x \left[\theta \frac{dv(m^j \theta)}{d\theta} \right] d\theta \\ \underline{\underline{=}} u(x) [xv(x)/m - (1 - 1/m)xT(x) + \psi_2(x)],$$

where $T(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f(m^j x)[u(m^j x)]^{-1}$, $\psi_2(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x f(m^j \theta)[u(m^j \theta)]^{-1} d\theta$.

We define the estimation of $v_2(x)$ as $v_{2n}(x)$, namely,

$$v_{2n}(x) = (x/m)f_n(x) - u(x)(1 - 1/m)xT_n(x) + u(x)\psi_{2n}(x),$$

where $f_n(x)$ is defined by (6), and

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f_n(m^j x)[u(m^j x)]^{-1}, \\ \psi_{2n}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x f_n(m^j \theta)[u(m^j \theta)]^{-1} d\theta,$$

Therefore, the estimator of $Q(x)$ can be constructed as follows,

$$Q_n(x) = v_{2n}(x) - \theta_0 f_n(x).$$

For the EBT $r_n(x)$, we claim the following theorem.

Theorem. *Suppose the conditions (A1) \sim (A4) hold and $f(x)$ is s times differentiable, $\sup_x f(x) < \infty$, $\sup_x |f^{(s)}(x)| < \infty$. Then as $h_n = n^{-1/(2s+1)}$, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n = R_G$.*

3. Some Lemmas

In this section it is assumed that M is a positive constant in different cases even in the same expression.

Now we introduced the following lemmas to complete the proof of theorem.

Lemma 3.1. *Let R_n and R_G be defined above, then*

$$0 \leq R_n - R_G \leq a \int |Q(x)| P(|Q_n(x) - Q(x)| \geq |Q(x)|) dx.$$

Proof. See Lemma 1 in Johns and Van Ryzin [14]. □

Lemma 3.2. *Let X and Y be NA variables with finite covariance for differentiable functions g_1 and g_2 ,*

$$|\text{Cov}(g_1(X), g_2(X))| \leq \sup_X |g'_1(X)| \sup_Y |g'_Y(Y)| [-\text{Cov}(X, Y)].$$

As g_1 and g_2 are not differentiable on finite or countable set E_0^1 and E_0^2 , we have

$$|\text{Cov}(g_1(X), g_2(X))| \leq \sup_{X \in R^1 \setminus E_0^1} |g'_1(X)| \sup_{Y \in R^1 \setminus E_0^2} |g'_Y(Y)| [-\text{Cov}(X, Y)].$$

Proof. See Lemma 2.1 in [6]. □

Lemma 3.3. *Let $f_n(x)$ be defined by (1.3), $\sup_x |f(x)| < \infty$, $\sup_x |f^{(s)}(x)| < \infty$, then for every $0 < \delta < 1$,*

$$\begin{aligned} E_n |f_n(x) - f(x)| &\rightarrow 0 \quad (n \rightarrow \infty), \text{ as } nh^4 \rightarrow \infty. \\ |E_n f_n(x) - f(x)| &\leq Mn^{-s/(2s+1)} f^{(s)}(x). \\ E_n |f_n(x) - f(x)|^{2\delta} &\leq Mn^{-\frac{\delta s}{s+1}} [\{f(x)\}^\delta + \{|f^{(s)}(x)|\}^{2\delta}] \quad (2) \\ \text{when } h &= n^{-\frac{1}{2(s+1)}}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. (1) $E_n |f_n(x) - f(x)|^2 \leq (\text{Var}[f_n(x)]) + |E_n f_n(x) - f(x)|^2$. But

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}[f_n(x)] &= (nh)^{-2} \text{Var} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n k\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right) \right] \\ &= (nh)^{-2} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var} \left[k\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right) \right] + 2 \sum_{i < j} \text{Cov} \left(k\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right), k\left(\frac{X_j - x}{h}\right) \right) \right\} \\ &\leq (nh)^{-2} \left\{ nE \left[k\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right) \right]^2 + 2 \sum_{i < j} \text{Cov} \left(k\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right), k\left(\frac{X_j - x}{h}\right) \right) \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where $(nh)^{-2} nE \left[k\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right) \right]^2 = (nh)^{-1} \int_0^1 f(x + hu) k^2(u) du \leq M(nh)^{-1}$.

From Lemma 3.2 we get $(nh)^{-2} \sum_{i < j} \text{Cov} \left(k\left(\frac{X_i - x}{h}\right), k\left(\frac{X_j - x}{h}\right) \right) \leq M(nh^4)^{-1}$.

Then $\text{Var}[f_n(x)] \rightarrow 0$, $nh^4 \rightarrow \infty$.

Note that

$$|E_n f_n(x) - f(x)| = \frac{h^s}{s!} \int_0^1 f^{(s)}(x + hu\xi) k(u) u^s du$$

$$\leq Mh^s \text{ and } h_n \rightarrow 0 (n \rightarrow \infty),$$

then

$$|E_n f_n(x) - f(x)| \rightarrow 0, (n \rightarrow \infty).$$

Therefore $E_n |f_n(x) - f(x)| \rightarrow 0$ ($n \rightarrow \infty$) as $nh^4 \rightarrow \infty$.

(2) Considering Lemma 3.1 in [11], condition (C) and C_r inequality, one arrives at

$$E_n |f_n(x) - f(x)|^{2\delta} \leq M\{(\text{Var}[f_n(x)])^\delta + |E_n f_n(x) - f(x)|^{2\delta}\}.$$

Then

$$E_n |f_n(x) - f(x)|^{2\delta} \leq Mn^{-\frac{\delta s}{s+1}} ash = n^{-\frac{1}{2(s+1)}}.$$

The lemma is proved. \square

Lemma 2.4. *Let (A1)~(A4) and the conditions of Lemma 3.2 hold and $h_n = n^{-1/(2s+1)}$. Then for any $0 < \delta \leq 1$,*

$$|E_n v_{2n}(x) - v_2(x)| \leq Mn^{-s/(2s+1)}.$$

Proof. Note that (A1-A4) and Lemma 3.2-3.3, one has

$$\begin{aligned} |E_n v_{2n}(x) - v_2(x)| &\leq M|E_n x f_n(x) - x f(x)| \\ &\quad + M|E_n x T_n(x) - x T(x)| + M|E_n \psi_{2n}(x) - \psi_2(x)| \\ &\leq M\{|E_n x f_n(x) - x f(x)| + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{|E_n x f_n(m^j x) - x f(m^j x)|}{u(m^j x)} \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x \frac{|E_n f_n(m^j \theta) - f(m^j \theta)|}{u(m^j \theta)} d\theta\} \\ &\leq M\{x f^{(s)}(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} x f^{(s)}(m^j x) + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x f^{(s)}(m^j \theta) d\theta\} n^{-s/(2s+1)} \\ &\leq Mn^{-s/(2s+1)}. \end{aligned}$$

The proof is completed. \square

4. Proof of Theorem

By Lemma 3.1 and Markov inequality, we get

$$0 \leq R_n - R_G \leq \int |Q(x)|P\{|Q_n(x) - Q(x)| \geq |Q(x)|\} dx \triangleq \int B_n(x)dx.$$

$$\begin{aligned} B_n(x) &= |Q(x)|P\{|Q_n(x) - Q(x)| \geq |Q(x)|\} \\ &\leq |Q(x)|E_n|Q_n(x) - Q(x)|/|Q(x)| \\ &\leq M\{E_n|f_n(x) - f(x)| + E_n|v_{2n}(x) - v_2(x)|\}. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemmas 3.3-3.4, we get $E_n|Q_n(x) - Q(x)| \leq Mn^{-s/(2s+1)}$.

Therefore $0 \leq B_n(x) \leq Mn^{-s/(2s+1)}$. Using the Dominated Convergence Theorem, we arrive at

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int B_n(x)dx = \int \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} B_n(x)dx = 0.$$

So that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n - R_G = 0$. End of the proof.

Remark. From Theorem, one can find that the proposed EB test is asymptotical optimal, and its convergence rate will be obtained in our future work.

5. An Example

Let $f(x|\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta}I_{[\theta, 2\theta]}(x)$, $g(\theta) = \theta e^{-\theta}I_{(0, \infty)}(\theta)$. Then $u(x) = 1$, $A(\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta}$, $\theta \in (0, +\infty)$. So

$f(x) = v(x) = e^{-x/2} - e^{-x}$, straightforward calculating can yield:

$$(A1) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} x[e^{-2^{j-1}x} - e^{-2^jx}] < \infty,$$

$$(A2) m^j A(m^j x)g(m^j x) \rightarrow 0 \quad (j \rightarrow \infty),$$

$$(A3) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f^{(s)}(m^j x) < \infty, \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f(m^j x) < \infty, x \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f^{(s)}(m^j x) < \infty,$$

$$(A4) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{x/m}^x x f^{(s)}(m^j \theta) d\theta < \infty,$$

we can check that (A1)~(A4) and all conditions of Theorem.

Acknowledgements

This work was partly supported by NPU Youth Foundation.

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