

MR3857826 62G05 62G08

Kroll, Martin (D-MNHM-NDM)

Non-parametric Poisson regression from independent and weakly dependent observations by model selection. (English summary)

J. Statist. Plann. Inference **199** (2019), 249–270.

This article studies the problem of estimating a nonparametric Poisson regression model in which an integer-valued response Y is the realization of a Poisson random variable with an unknown parameter $\lambda(X)$ depending on a covariate X . The n observations of the covariate X are assumed to be strictly stationary and either independent or weakly dependent. For the latter, β -mixing (or absolute regularity) is imposed.

Special attention is paid to the adaptive estimation in which the estimators of λ are fully data-driven and thus free of structural assumptions on λ , and orthogonal projection estimation is examined throughout. Let \mathcal{M}_n be a finite collection of models. For a given model $m \in \mathcal{M}_n$, let λ_m be the orthogonal projection of λ , and denote the estimator for λ_m by $\hat{\lambda}_m$. Because each $\hat{\lambda}_m$ depends on the model m , the optimal model \hat{m} is chosen from the set $\{\hat{\lambda}_m\}_{m \in \mathcal{M}_n}$ via the penalized contrast criterion

$$\hat{m} = \arg \min_{m \in \mathcal{M}_n} \left\{ \gamma_n(\hat{\lambda}_m) + \widehat{\text{pen}}(m) \right\},$$

where γ_n is the contrast function and $\widehat{\text{pen}}$ can be obtained by replacing the unobservable upper bound of λ in the penalty term pen with its plug-in estimate.

It is demonstrated that for each of the cases of independent and weakly dependent observations, the optimal adaptive projection estimator $\hat{\lambda}_{\hat{m}}$ satisfies the oracle inequality

$$E \left\| \hat{\lambda}_{\hat{m}} - \lambda \right\|^2 \lesssim \min_{m \in \mathcal{M}_n} \max \left\{ \|\lambda - \lambda_m\|^2, \text{pen}(m) \right\} + \frac{1}{n},$$

where the expression ' $a_n \lesssim b_n$ ' means that $a_n \leq Cb_n$ holds for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ with some constant C independent of n , and $\|\lambda - \lambda_m\|^2$ corresponds to the squared bias term due to the orthogonal projection λ_m . Concentration inequalities for Poisson point processes play a key role in the proof for each case. Notice that the order of magnitude in pen is the variance convergence rate multiplied by an additional logarithmic factor. It follows that $\hat{\lambda}_{\hat{m}}$ attains the minimax optimal rate up to the logarithmic factor regardless of whether independent or weakly dependent observations are used. *Masayuki Hirukawa*