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# A Kernel Test of Goodness of Fit

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#### Motivating example: testing output of approximate MCMC

Approximate MCMC: tradeoff between bias and computation (e.g. Austerity in MCMC Land [2])



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#### How to check if MCMC samples match target distribution?

### Maximum mean discrepancy: metric between p and q

$$MMD(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}, F) = \sup_{\|f\|_{F} < 1} [\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{q}}f - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{p}}f]$$



- F is an Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space.
- $f^*$  is the function that attains the supremum.

Can we compute MMD when q are MCMC samples, p is model?

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**Problem:** don't have  $\mathbb{E}_p f$  in closed form

## Main idea (by Stein)

To get rid of  $\mathbb{E}_p f$  in

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#### Integration by parts

Define the Stein operator

$$T_{\mathbf{p}}f = f' + \log'\mathbf{p} \cdot f$$

Then

$$\mathbb{E}_{p}T_{p}f=0$$

Stein operator

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$$MSD(p,q,F) = \sup_{\|g\|_{\mathcal{F}} < 1} \mathbb{E}_q T_p g - \mathbb{E}_p T_p g$$

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Maximum Stein Discrepancy has simple closed-form expression

Closed-form expression for MSD: given  $Z, Z' \sim q$ , then

$$MSD(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}, G) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{q}}h_{\mathbf{p}}(Z, Z')$$

where

$$\begin{split} h_p(x,y) &:= \partial_x \log p(x) \partial_x \log p(y) k(x,y) \\ &+ \partial_y \log p(y) \partial_x k(x,y) \\ &+ \partial_x \log p(x) \partial_y k(x,y) \\ &+ \partial_x \partial_y k(x,y). \end{split}$$

and k is RKHS kernel for F

Only depends on kernel and  $\partial_x \log p(x)$ . Do not need to normalize p, or sample from it.

#### Theorem

If the kernel k is C<sub>0</sub>-universal,  $\mathbb{E}_q h_q(Z, Z) < \infty$  and  $\mathbb{E}_q \left(\log' \frac{p(Z)}{q(Z)}\right)^2 < \infty$  then

$$MSD(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}, G) = 0$$
 if and only if  $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{q}$ .

Kernel is  $C_0$ -universal if  $f \to \int_X f(x)k(x, \cdot)d\mu(x)$  if is injective for all probability measures  $\mu$  and all  $f \in L^p(X, \mu)$ , where  $p \in [1, \infty]$ .

The assumption  $\mathbb{E}_q \left( \log' \frac{p(Z)}{q(Z)} \right)^2 < \infty$  states that difference between scores  $\log' p$  and  $\log' q$  is square integrable.

### Empirical estimate of MSD: V-statistic

Empirical estimate of  $\mathbb{E}_q h_p(Z, Z')$  is a *V*-statistic:

$$V_n(h_p) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n h_p(Z_i, Z_j),$$

 $\{Z_1, \ldots Z_t \ldots Z_n\}$  time series with marginal distrib. q

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What are "typical" values of  $\mathbb{E}_q h_p(Z, Z')$  when p = q?



To estimate quantiles of  $V_n(h_p)$  under the null (when p = q), we use **wild bootstrap** 

$$B_n(h_p) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n W_i W_j h_p(X_i, X_j).$$

where  $W_i$  are correlated zero mean RVs.

$$Cov(W_i, W_j) = (1 - 2p_n)^{-|i-j|}$$



w

 $p_n$  is the probability of the change and should be set to o(n).

### Wild bootstrapping; small correlation

$$X_t = 0.1X_{t-1} + \sqrt{1 - 0.1^2}\epsilon_t, \quad \epsilon_t \sim N(0, 1)$$



### Wild bootstrapping, medium correlation

$$X_t = 0.4X_{t-1} + \sqrt{1 - 0.4^2}\epsilon_t, \quad \epsilon_t \sim N(0, 1)$$



### Wild bootstrapping; huge correlation

$$X_t = 0.7X_{t-1} + \sqrt{1 - 0.7^2}\epsilon_t, \quad \epsilon_t \sim N(0, 1)$$



Approximate MCMC: tradeoff between bias and computation (e.g. *Austerity in MCMC Land* [2])



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#### **Experiment 2: Statistical model criticism**



We test the hypothesis that a Gaussian process model, learned from training data  $\star$ , is a good fit for the test data [3].

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## **Questions?**



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### Stein's trick in the RKHS

Consider the class

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Given  $g \in G$ , then (integration by parts)

$$\mathbb{E}_{p}g(X) = \mathbb{E}_{p}\left[f'(X) + \log'p(X)f(X)\right]$$
$$= \int f(x)'p(x) + f(x)p'(x)dx$$
$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (f(x)p(x))'dx$$
$$= f(x)p(x)\Big|_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty}$$
$$= 0$$

See [1, 4].