Supplement to:

Local Generalised Method of Moments: An application to point process-based rainfall models

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S1 Introduction

This supplement provides the asymptotic derivations for the paper ‘Local Generalised Method of Moments: An application to point process-based rainfall models’. We demonstrate the consistency of the local mean GMM estimator of the parameter vector of the point process-based rainfall model, and derive the asymptotic variance and bias. For ease of reference, we start by briefly restating the notation.

We assume we have a time-series of, say 5-minute, rainfall totals over a period of $n$ months, with $Y_t$ defined as the vector of all the rainfall data in month $t$. $T(Y_1) \ldots T(Y_n)$ represent vectors of summary statistics for each of the $n$ months of the data. The parameter vector, denoted $\theta$, is assumed to be a function of a single covariate, $X$. The vector of expected values of the statistics at the covariate value $x$ under the model is denoted $\tau(\theta(x))$. $K()$ is a kernel function, with $K_h(X_t - x) = h^{-1}K\{(X_t - x)/h\}$, where $h$ is the bandwidth.

S2 Asymptotic derivations: consistency, variance and bias

Throughout the derivations, we assume that the regularity conditions required for standard GMM hold (see, for example, Jesus and Chandler (2011)), except that now we condition on the covariate, $X$. Conditions on $\tau$ are that it is twice differentiable with respect to $\theta$, the parameter vector, and that the derivatives are bounded, for all $\theta$ such that $\theta(x) \in \Theta(x)$, a compact subset of $\mathbb{R}^q$. It is also required that $\partial \tau / \partial \theta$ be of full rank.

In addition, various smoothness conditions are required in order to allow local averaging. Here we assume that the following functions are sufficiently smooth in a neighbourhood of $x_0$ to permit differentiation as required, and that the functions and derivatives are finite at $x_0$: the parameter vector function, $\theta(x)$, the design density, $f(x)$, the conditional variance $\text{Var}[T(Y)|X = x]$, and the composite function $\tau(\theta(x))$. The last of these requires similar smoothness for $\tau$ in $\theta$. We assume also that $f(x_0) > 0$.

The kernel function is assumed to be a continuous, symmetric density function with $\int z^2 K(z) \, dz = k_2 \neq 0$ and $\int z^{2r} K(z) \, dz < \infty$, $r = 1, 2$. The kernel function does not need to be compactly supported, but should decay fast enough to eliminate the impact of a remote data point (Fan and Gijbels, 1996). Additional assumptions in order to simplify the asymptotic derivations are that $X$ is scalar, and that the evaluation point, $x_0$, does not lie near the boundary of the design region.
We assume that there exists a unique, true value of the parameter vector, \( \theta_0(x) \in \Theta(x) \), such that \( \text{E}[T(Y)|X = x] = \tau(\theta_0(x)) \) and define:

\[
G_n(\theta(x)) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} K_h(X_t - x) [T(Y_t) - \tau(\theta(x))],
\]

where \( t \) is the observation month, and the pairs \((X_t, Y_t)\) are assumed to be independent and identically distributed as \((X, Y)\). The bandwidth is assumed to be a function of the sample size, \( n \), although for notational simplicity we write \( h \) rather than \( h_n \). Then the local GMM estimator at \( x = x_0 \) is given by:

\[
\hat{\theta}(x_0) = \text{argmin}_{\theta(x_0)} G_n(\theta(x_0))^T W_n(x_0) G_n(\theta(x_0)),
\]

where \( W_n(x_0) \) is a \( k \times k \) positive-definite weighting matrix, with \( W_n(x_0) \rightarrow^p W(x_0) \). For convenience, the sum of weights divisor of Equation (3) in the main paper is replaced by \( n \) here, which does not affect the solution. At \( \theta(x_0) = \hat{\theta}(x_0) \) the derivative of the minimand in Equation (S2) is equal to zero. In this form, the equation is an example of an estimating equation, and is given by:

\[
0 = \left[ \frac{\partial G_n(\hat{\theta}(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W_n(x_0) G_n(\hat{\theta}(x_0)) \tag{S3}
\]

where the notation \( \partial G_n(\hat{\theta}(x_0))/\partial \theta \) and \( \partial \tau(\hat{\theta}(x_0))/\partial \theta \) is used to represent \( \partial G_n/\partial \theta\big|_{\theta=\hat{\theta}(x_0)} \) and \( \partial \tau/\partial \theta\big|_{\theta=\hat{\theta}(x_0)} \) respectively (i.e. the Jacobian matrices of \( G_n \) and \( \tau \), evaluated at \( \theta = \hat{\theta}(x_0) \)).

In order for there to exist a unique value to which the estimator converges as the sample size increases, we require that \( G_n(\theta(x_0))^T W_n(x_0) G_n(\theta(x_0)) \) converges uniformly in probability to a non-random function which has a unique minimum at the true value \( \theta(x_0) = \theta_0(x_0) \).

Consider first the asymptotic behaviour of \( G_n(\theta(x_0)) \). We have:

\[
\text{E}[G_n(\theta(x_0))] = \text{E} \left\{ K_h(X - x_0) [T(Y) - \tau(\theta(x_0))] \right\} = \int \frac{1}{h} K \left( \frac{x - x_0}{h} \right) \text{E}[T(Y) - \tau(\theta(x_0))|X = x] f(x) \, dx. \tag{S4}
\]

Letting \( R_\theta(x) = \text{E}[T(Y) - \tau(\theta(x_0))|X = x] \) and making the substitution \( z = (x - x_0)/h \):

\[
\text{E}[G_n(\theta(x_0))] = \int K(z) R_\theta(x_0 + zh) f(x_0 + zh) dz
\]

\[
= R_\theta(x_0) f(x_0) + h^2 \int K(z) z^2 \, dz \left\{ \frac{1}{2} R''_\theta(x_0) f(x_0) + R'_\theta(x_0) f'(x_0) + \frac{1}{2} R_\theta(x_0) f''(x_0) \right\} + o(h^2), \tag{S5}
\]

where we have taken a Taylor series expansion of the product \( R_\theta(x_0 + zh) f(x_0 + zh) \) about \( x_0 \), and noted that \( \int K(z) \, dz = 1 \) and \( \int K(z) z \, dz = 0 \). The expectation converges converges to \( R_\theta(x_0) f(x_0) \) provided \( h \rightarrow 0 \).
Taking a similar approach for the variance of $G_n(\theta(x_0))$:

$$\text{Var}[G_n(\theta(x_0))] = \frac{1}{n} \text{Var} \{ K_h(X - x_0) [T(Y) - \tau(\theta(x_0))] \}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \text{E} \{ K_h^2(X - x_0) [T(Y) - \tau(\theta(x_0))] [T(Y) - \tau(\theta(x_0))]^T \}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \text{E} \{ K_h(X - x_0) [T(Y) - \tau(\theta(x_0))] \} \text{E} \{ K_h(X - x_0) [T(Y) - \tau(\theta(x_0))] \}^T$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \int \int K_h^2(x - x_0) [T(y) - \tau(\theta(x_0))] [T(y) - \tau(\theta(x_0))]^T f(y|x) f(x) \ dx \ dy + O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{nh} \int K^2(\tau) \left[ \text{Var}[T(Y)|X = x] + R_\theta(x)R_\theta(x)^T \right] f(x) \ dx + O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$$

$$= \frac{f(x_0)}{nh} \int K^2(\tau) \text{Var}[T(Y)|X = x_0 + R_\theta(x_0)R_\theta(x_0)^T] + O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right), \quad (S6)$$

where the last line follows using a zeroth order approximation of $\text{Var}[T(Y)|X = x_0 + z h] + R_\theta(x_0 + z h)R_\theta(x_0 + z h)^T$ $f(x_0 + z h)$ about $x_0$.

The variance converges to zero provided that $nh \to \infty$ as $n \to \infty$. Therefore, by the weak law of large numbers, $G_n(\theta(x_0))$ is a consistent estimator of $R_\theta(x_0) f(x_0)$ if $h \to 0$ and $nh \to \infty$.

Since $W_n(x_0) \to W(x_0)$, then, by Slutsky’s theorem, $G_n(\theta(x_0))^T W_n(x_0) G_n(\theta(x_0))$ tends to a non-random function of $\theta$, given by:

$$f^2(x_0) R_\theta(x_0)^T W(x_0) R_\theta(x_0). \quad (S7)$$

We have shown pointwise convergence and assumed compactness of $\Theta$. Stochastic equicontinuity is then a sufficient condition for the convergence to be uniform (Newey, 1991). Now $\frac{\partial G_n(\theta(x_0))}{\partial \theta}$ is $O_p(1)$ and converges to $-\frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} f(x_0)$, since $\frac{\partial \tau(\theta(x_0))}{\partial \theta}$ is a finite matrix of constants and $n^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^{n} K_h(X_i - x_0)$ is just the standard density estimator of $f(x_0)$.

Then, by the Mean Value Theorem for vector valued functions of several variables (see, for example, Apelian and Surace (2009)):

$$G_n(\hat{\theta}(x_0)) - G_n(\theta(x_0)) = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \frac{\partial G_n(\theta_1(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial G_n(\theta_k(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \end{array} \right] [\hat{\theta}(x_0) - \theta(x_0)]$$

$$= D_G(\hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2, \ldots, \hat{\theta}_k) [\hat{\theta}(x_0) - \theta(x_0)], \quad (S8)$$

say, where $\frac{\partial G_n(\theta_i(x_0))}{\partial \theta}$ represents the $i$th row of the matrix $\frac{\partial G_n}{\partial \theta}$ evaluated at the point $\hat{\theta}_i$, which lies on the segment $(\theta, \hat{\theta})$ (which is assumed to be entirely contained within $\Theta$). So:

$$||G_n(\hat{\theta}(x_0)) - G_n(\theta(x_0))|| = \left| D_G(\hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2, \ldots, \hat{\theta}_k)[\hat{\theta}(x_0) - \theta(x_0)] \right|$$

$$\leq ||D_G(\hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2, \ldots, \hat{\theta}_k)|| |\hat{\theta}(x_0) - \theta(x_0)|$$

$$\leq M |\hat{\theta}(x_0) - \theta(x_0)|, \quad (S9)$$
where \( M = \max_{\theta_1, \ldots, \theta_k} \| D_G(\theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots, \theta_k) \| \) is \( O_p(1) \), as demonstrated earlier, and \( \| A \| = \sqrt{\sum_{i,j} |a_{ij}|^2} \) (i.e. \( \| \cdot \| \) represents the Euclidean matrix norm). This Lipschitz condition is sufficient for stochastic equicontinuity (Newey, 1991), and therefore implies uniform convergence, as required.

The limiting function (S7) (which only takes values greater than or equal to zero) has a unique minimum at the true value \( \theta = \theta_0 \), since \( R_{\theta_0}(x_0) = 0 \), and \( R_{\theta}(x_0) \neq 0 \) for \( \theta \neq \theta_0 \) (by the initial moment condition). These conditions mean that as \( n \to \infty \) (with the additional proviso that \( h \to 0 \) and \( nh \to \infty \)), our estimating equation defines a unique estimator \( \hat{\theta} \) that is consistent for \( \theta \).

### S2.1 Asymptotic Variance

Now we consider the asymptotic variance of the estimator. We apply the mean value theorem again, now for the line segment \((\hat{\theta}, \theta_0)\), so we have:

\[
G_n(\hat{\theta}(x_0)) = G_n(\theta_0(x_0)) + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial G_n(\hat{\theta}(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial G_n(\hat{\theta}(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \end{bmatrix} [\hat{\theta}(x_0) - \theta_0(x_0)] \tag{S10}
\]

where the points \( \hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2, \ldots, \hat{\theta}_k \) lie on the line segment \((\hat{\theta}, \theta_0)\). Substituting this into Equation (S3) gives:

\[
0 = \left[ \frac{\partial G_n(\hat{\theta}(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W_n(x_0) \left[ G_n(\theta_0(x_0)) + D_G(\hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2, \ldots, \hat{\theta}_k) [\hat{\theta}(x_0) - \theta_0(x_0)] \right]. \tag{S11}
\]

Since \( \hat{\theta} \) is consistent and converges to \( \theta_0 \), then so do \( \hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2, \ldots, \hat{\theta}_k \), as they lie on the segment \((\hat{\theta}, \theta_0)\). We have also shown that \( \frac{\partial G_n(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \) converges in probability to the non-random function \( -\frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} f(x_0) \), and we have \( W_n(x_0) \to^p W(x_0) \) (by appropriate selection) and so this may be restated as:

\[
-f(x_0) \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0) \left[ G_n(\theta_0(x_0)) - f(x_0) \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right] [\hat{\theta}(x_0) - \theta_0(x_0)] \right] = o_p(1). \tag{S12}
\]

Since \( \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \) is of full rank, and \( W(x_0) \) is positive-definite, then \( \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0) \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right] \) is invertible, and we have:

\[
\hat{\theta}(x_0) - \theta_0(x_0) \approx \frac{1}{f(x_0)} \left\{ \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0) \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right\}^{-1} \times \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0) G_n(\theta_0(x_0)). \tag{S13}
\]

From Equation (S6) above, noting that \( R_{\theta_0}(x_0) = 0 \) by the moment condition:

\[
\text{Var}[G_n(\theta_0(x_0))] \approx \frac{f(x_0)}{nh} \text{Var}[T(Y)|X = x_0] \int K^2(z)dz.
\]
So, returning to Equation (S13), the asymptotic expression for the variance of the estimator is given by:

\[
\text{Var}[\hat{\theta}(x_0)] \approx \frac{1}{n h f(x_0)} \int K^2(z) \, dz 
\times \left\{ \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0) \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right\}^{-1} \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0) \times \text{Var}[T(Y)|X = x_0] W(x_0) \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \left\{ \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0) \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right\}^{-1}.
\]

(S14)

S2.2 Asymptotic bias

Next we consider the bias, taking the expectation of both sides of Equation (S13) to get:

\[
\text{Bias}[\hat{\theta}(x_0)] \approx \frac{1}{f(x_0)} \left\{ \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0) \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right\}^{-1} \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0) \text{E}[G_n(\theta_0(x_0))].
\]

(S15)

From Equation (S5), now putting \( R_{\theta_0}(x_0) = 0 \):

\[
\text{E}[G_n(\theta_0(x_0))] \approx h^2 \int K(z) z^2 \, dz \left\{ \frac{1}{2} R''_{\theta_0}(x_0) f(x_0) + R'_{\theta_0}(x_0) f'(x_0) \right\}.
\]

(S16)

We have:

\[
R_{\theta_0}(x) = \text{E}[T(Y) - \tau(\theta_0(x_0))|X = x] = \tau(\theta_0(x)) - \tau(\theta_0(x_0)).
\]

(S17)

Also:

\[
R'_{\theta_0}(x) = \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x))}{\partial \theta} \theta'_0(x)
\]

(S18)

and

\[
R''_{\theta_0}(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x))}{\partial \theta} \right] \theta'_0(x) + \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x))}{\partial \theta} \theta''_0(x).
\]

(S19)

Substituting back:

\[
\text{E}[G_n(\theta_0(x_0))] \approx h^2 \int K(z) z^2 \, dz \times \left\{ \left[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right] f(x_0) + \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} f'(x_0) \right] \theta'_0(x_0)
\right. \\
+ \left. \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} f(x_0) \theta''_0(x_0) \right\}.
\]

(S20)
We leave the first term in this form for ease of notation, since the second differential of $\tau(\theta)$ with respect to $\theta$ would give a three-dimensional array and consequent notational complexity. So finally, the asymptotic expression for the bias is given by:

$$\text{Bias}[\hat{\theta}(x_0)] \approx h^2 \int K(z)z^2 \, dz \left\{ \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0) \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right\}^{-1} \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right]^T W(x_0)$$

$$\times \left\{ \left[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \right] + \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \frac{f'(x_0)}{f(x_0)} \right] \theta_0'(x_0) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial \tau(\theta_0(x_0))}{\partial \theta} \theta_0''(x_0) \right\}. \quad (S21)$$

References


