Description of the S-programs for calculating the MLE of k-monotone density

by Fadoua Balabdaoui and Jon A. Wellner

December 7, 2004

- Armijo: in order to ensure monotonicity of the algorithm, this function looks for a $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ such that $\bar{f} + \lambda (f_q \bar{f})$ has a larger likelihood than that of \bar{f} , where \bar{f} is the estimator obtained "outside the quadratic approximation", whereas f_q , as the notation suggests, is the minimizer of the quadratic approximation of the loglikelihood function.
- minusloglik: returns -loglikelihood at a vertex $\theta > X_{(n)}$:

$$k \log(\theta) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\theta - X_i)^{k-1}.$$

The latter is minimized at $\theta^{(0)}$ which is taken as an initial candidate for a support point.

• EvaluateMatf: given a set of vertices $\underline{\theta} = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m)$, the function returns the $n \times m$ matrix $(g_{\theta_j}(X_i))_{i,j}, 1 \le i \le n, 1 \le j \le m$ where

$$g_{\theta}(x) = \frac{k(\theta - x)_+^{k-1}}{\theta^k}.$$

• LoglikFunc: calculates $-(1/n) \times$ loglikelihood + the penalty term at a current iterate f:

$$-\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{\infty}n\log(f(X_i)) + \int_0^{\infty}f(t)dt.$$

- *IndexFuncMLE*: finds the index of the support point to be eliminated from the vector of all support points of the current iterate (reduction step).
- *CalculateOptMLE*: solves a linear system (see Balabadoui and Wellner 2004, Part2) in order to find the minimizer of -loglikelihood over the cone generated by the vertices of the current iterate.
- *DirecDerMLE*: calculates the directional derivative of the quadratic approximation of -loglikelihood at some point θ .
- *FindMinimMLE*: finds the minimum of the directional derivative over a chosen fine grid. The minimizer will be added to the current set of support points.

- SuppReducAlgoMLE: this is the main function that calls all the other sub-programs, and it calculates after a finite number of iterations an approximation of the MLE of a k-monotone density based on n independent observations. The function takes the following arguments:
 - 1. The integer $k \geq 2$: the smoothness parameter.
 - 2. X: the vector of observations.
 - 3. *prec*: a parameter that controls how much fine the user wants to choose the grid over which the minimization problem is solved.
 - 4. eps: the tolerance chosen by the user (should be very small). If the next iteration results in a directional derivative that is bigger or equal than -eps, then the algorithm stops.

The algorithm returns two vectors called S and C: S is the vector of support points and C is the corresponding vector of weights. The user might use any other software to plot the MLE in the direct and inverse problems.