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Wavelet-based density estimation in a heteroscedastic convolution model

Christophe Chesneau

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Abstract We consider a heteroscedastic convolution density model under the “ordinary smooth case”. We introduce a new adaptive wavelet estimator based on thresholding of estimated wavelet coefficients. Its asymptotic properties are explored via the minimax approach under the mean integrated squared error over Besov balls. We prove that our estimator attains near optimal rates of convergence (lower bounds are determined).

Keywords Density deconvolution · Heteroscedasticity · Rates of convergence · Wavelet bases · Hard thresholding · Lower bounds.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification 62G07, 62G20.

1 Motivations

The heteroscedastic deconvolution problem can be formulated as follows. Suppose we have n random variables Y_1, \dots, Y_n where, for any $v \in \{1, \dots, n\}$,

$$Y_v = X_v + \epsilon_v, \quad (1)$$

X_1, \dots, X_n are *i.i.d.* random variables and $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n$ are independent random variables, also independent of X_1, \dots, X_n . The density of X_1 is unknown and denoted f . For any $v \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, the density of ϵ_v is known, denoted g_v and satisfies the “ordinary smooth case” (defined in Section 2). We want to estimate f when only Y_1, \dots, Y_n are observed. Such a deconvolution problem arises often in engineering, biology, chemistry and economy.

In the homoscedastic case i.e. $g_1 = \dots = g_n$, (1) becomes the standard convolution density model. Various estimation techniques can be found in e.g. Carroll and Hall (1988), Devroye (1989), Fan (1991), Pensky and Vidakovic

(1999), Zhang and Karunamuni (2000), Fan and Koo (2002), Butucea and Matias (2005), Hall and Qiu (2005), Comte et al. (2006), Delaigle and Gijbels (2006), Lacour (2006), Hall and Meister (2007) and Lounici and Nickl (2011). In the heteroscedastic case, (1) has been recently investigated in Delaigle and Meister (2008), Staudenmayer et al. (2008), Meister et al. (2010) and Wang et al. (2010) via kernel and Splines methods.

In this study, we focus our attention on wavelet methods. They are attractive for nonparametric function estimation because of their ability in estimating local features such as discontinuities and aberrations. From a theoretical point of view, they can achieve near optimal convergence rates over a wide range of function classes (typically, the Besov balls) and enjoy better mean integrated squared error (MISE) properties than kernel methods. See e.g. Antoniadis (1997) and Härdle et al. (1998). The estimation of f from (1) in the homoscedastic case via wavelet-based techniques can be found in Pensky and Vidakovic (1999), Fan and Koo (2002) and Lounici and Nickl (2011).

The construction of our adaptive estimator uses a similar Fourier-wavelet methodology to the one of Pensky and Vidakovic (1999) or Fan and Koo (2002). The idea is to select the large wavelet coefficients estimators by using a term-by-term thresholding rule (hard thresholding is considered). Our estimator has the originality to treat the heteroscedasticity of (1) and operate a new “observations thresholding”. Its performances are evaluated via the minimax approach under the mean integrated squared error over the Besov balls (to be defined in Section 3). We determine upper and lower bounds of the minimax risk of our estimator and prove that it is near optimal.

The paper is organized as follows. Assumptions on (1) are introduced in Section 2. Section 3 briefly describes the wavelet basis and the Besov balls. Our hard thresholding estimator is presented in Section 4. The results are set in Section 5. Technical proofs are given in Section 6.

2 Assumptions

Without loss of generality, we assume that the support of f is included in $[-\Omega, \Omega]$ and that there exists a constant $C_* > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} f(x) \leq C_* < \infty. \quad (2)$$

We define the Fourier transform of an integrable function h by

$$\mathcal{F}(h)(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(y)e^{-ixy}dy, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The notation $\overline{\cdot}$ will be used for the complex conjugate.

We consider the “heteroscedastic” ordinary smooth case on g_1, \dots, g_n : there exist three constants, $C_g > 0$, $c_g > 0$ and $\delta > 1$, and n positive real numbers $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$ such that, for any $v \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ and any $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$|\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)| \geq \frac{c_g}{(1 + \sigma_v^2 x^2)^{\delta/2}} \quad (3)$$

and, for any $\ell \in \{0, 1, 2\}$, the ℓ -th derivative of the Fourier transform of g_v satisfies

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sigma_v^2 |x|^{\delta+2\ell} |(\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x))^{(\ell)}| \leq C_g, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_v^2 |x|^{\delta+\ell} |(\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x))^{(\ell)}| \leq C_g. \quad (4)$$

In the homoscedastic case, (3) becomes the standard ordinary smooth assumption. See e.g. Pensky and Vidakovic (1999), Fan and Koo (2002) and Lounici and Nickl (2011).

Example: for any $v \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, let us set

$$\epsilon_v = \sum_{u=1}^p \epsilon_{u,v},$$

where $p \in \mathbb{N}^*$, $(\epsilon_{u,v})_{u \in \{1, \dots, p\}}$ are *i.i.d.* random variables having the Laplace density $\mathcal{Laplace}(0, \sigma_v)$: $h_v(x) = (1/2\sigma_v)e^{-|x|/\sigma_v}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x) = (\mathcal{F}(h_v)(x))^p = \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_v^2 x^2)^p}.$$

Thus (3) is satisfied with $\delta = 2p$. Moreover, if there exists a constant $c_* > 0$ such that $\inf_{v \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \sigma_v^2 \geq c_*$, then (4) is satisfied too.

In the sequel, we set

$$w_n = \sum_{v=1}^n \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_v^2)^\delta}$$

and, for technical reasons, we suppose that $w_n \geq e$.

3 Wavelets and Besov balls

Let $N \in \mathbb{N}^*$, and ϕ and ψ be the Daubechies wavelets dbN (in particular, ϕ and ψ are compactly supported). We chose N such that $\phi \in \mathcal{C}^v$ and $\psi \in \mathcal{C}^v$ for $v > 6 + \delta$ where δ refers to (3). Set

$$\phi_{j,k}(x) = 2^{j/2} \phi(2^j x - k), \quad \psi_{j,k}(x) = 2^{j/2} \psi(2^j x - k).$$

Then there exists an integer τ and a set of consecutive integers Λ_j with a length proportional to 2^j such that, for any integer $\ell \geq \tau$, the collection $\mathcal{B} = \{\phi_{\ell,k}(\cdot), k \in \Lambda_\ell; \psi_{j,k}(\cdot); j \in \mathbb{N} - \{0, \dots, \ell-1\}, k \in \Lambda_j\}$ is an orthonormal basis of $\mathbb{L}^2([-\Omega, \Omega]) = \{h : [-\Omega, \Omega] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}; \int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} h^2(x) dx < \infty\}$. We refer to Cohen et al. (1993) and Mallat (2009).

For any integer $\ell \geq \tau$, any $h \in \mathbb{L}^2([-\Omega, \Omega])$ can be expanded on \mathcal{B} as

$$h(x) = \sum_{k \in \Lambda_\ell} \alpha_{\ell,k} \phi_{\ell,k}(x) + \sum_{j=\ell}^{\infty} \sum_{k \in \Lambda_j} \beta_{j,k} \psi_{j,k}(x),$$

where $\alpha_{j,k}$ and $\beta_{j,k}$ are the wavelet coefficients of h defined by

$$\alpha_{j,k} = \int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} h(x)\phi_{j,k}(x)dx, \quad \beta_{j,k} = \int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} h(x)\psi_{j,k}(x)dx. \quad (5)$$

Let $M > 0$, $s > 0$, $p \geq 1$ and $r \geq 1$. A function h belongs to $B_{p,r}^s(M)$ if and only if there exists a constant $M^* > 0$ (depending on M) such that the associated wavelet coefficients (5) satisfy

$$2^{\tau(1/2-1/p)} \left(\sum_{k \in A_\tau} |\alpha_{\tau,k}|^p \right)^{1/p} + \left(\sum_{j=\tau}^{\infty} \left(2^{j(s+1/2-1/p)} \left(\sum_{k \in A_j} |\beta_{j,k}|^p \right)^{1/p} \right)^r \right)^{1/r} \leq M^*.$$

In this expression, s is a smoothness parameter and p and r are norm parameters. Besov balls contain the Hölder and Sobolev balls. See e.g. Meyer (1992) and Mallat (2009).

4 Hard thresholding estimator

The first step to estimate f consists in expanding f on \mathcal{B} and estimating its unknown wavelet coefficients. For any integer $j \geq \tau$ and any $k \in A_j$,

– we estimate $\alpha_{j,k} = \int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} f(x)\phi_{j,k}(x)dx$ by

$$\hat{\alpha}_{j,k} = \frac{1}{2\pi w_n} \sum_{v=1}^n \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_v^2)^\delta} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\phi_{j,k})(x)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)} e^{-ixY_v} dx,$$

– we estimate $\beta_{j,k} = \int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} f(x)\psi_{j,k}(x)dx$ by

$$\hat{\beta}_{j,k} = \frac{1}{w_n} \sum_{v=1}^n G_{v,j,k} \mathbb{I}_{\{|G_{v,j,k}| \leq \theta 2^{\delta j} \sqrt{\frac{w_n}{\ln w_n}}\}}, \quad (6)$$

where

$$G_{v,j,k} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_v^2)^\delta} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\psi_{j,k})(x)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)} e^{-ixY_v} dx,$$

for any random event \mathcal{A} , $\mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{A}}$ is the indicator function on \mathcal{A} and $\theta = \sqrt{(C_*/2\pi c_*^2) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + x^2)^\delta |\mathcal{F}(\psi)(x)|^2 dx}$.

We define the hard thresholding estimator \widehat{f} by

$$\widehat{f}(x) = \sum_{k \in \Lambda_\tau} \widehat{\alpha}_{\tau,k} \phi_{\tau,k}(x) + \sum_{j=\tau}^{j_1} \sum_{k \in \Lambda_j} \widehat{\beta}_{j,k} \mathbb{I}_{\{|\widehat{\beta}_{j,k}| \geq \kappa \theta 2^{\delta j} \sqrt{\frac{\ln w_n}{w_n}}\}} \psi_{j,k}(x), \quad (7)$$

where $\kappa \geq 8/3 + 2 + 2\sqrt{16/9 + 4}$ and j_1 is the integer satisfying

$$\frac{1}{2} w_n^{1/(2\delta+1)} < 2^{j_1} \leq w_n^{1/(2\delta+1)}.$$

The feature of the hard thresholding estimator is to only estimate the “large” unknown wavelet coefficients of f which are those containing the main characteristics of f . See e.g. Mallat (2009).

Our estimator (7) can be viewed as an extension of the one in Fan and Koo (2002) to the heteroscedastic case.

The presence of the “observations thresholding” in (6) allows us to treat this case under no restrictive assumptions on $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$.

5 Results

Theorem 1 Consider (1) under (2) and (3). Let \widehat{f} be (7) and $r \geq 1$, $\{p \geq 2$ and $s > 0\}$ or $\{p \in [1, 2)$ and $s > (2\delta + 1)/p\}$. Then, for a large enough n , there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{f \in B_{p,r}^s(M)} \mathbb{E} \left(\int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} \left(\widehat{f}(x) - f(x) \right)^2 dx \right) \leq C \left(\frac{\ln w_n}{w_n} \right)^{2s/(2s+2\delta+1)}.$$

The proof of Theorem 1 is based on (Chesneau 2011, Theorem 2) and several probability results related to $\widehat{\alpha}_{j,k}$ and $\widehat{\beta}_{j,k}$.

Naturally, in the homoscedastic case, we have $w_n = Cn$ and we obtain the same rate of convergence to the one attained by the hard thresholding estimator in (Fan and Koo 2002, Theorem 2) i.e. $(\ln n/n)^{2s/(2s+2\delta+1)}$.

To discuss the minimax optimality of \widehat{f} , the minimax lower bounds must be explored. This is done in Theorem 2 below.

Theorem 2 Consider (1) under (2), (3) and (4). Assume that there exists a constant $c_* > 0$ such that $\inf_{v \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \sigma_v^2 \geq c_*$. Then there exists a constant $c > 0$ such that, for any $s > 0$, $p \geq 1$, $r \geq 1$ and n large enough,

$$\inf_{\widetilde{f}} \sup_{f \in B_{p,r}^s(M)} \mathbb{E} \left(\int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} \left(\widetilde{f}(x) - f(x) \right)^2 dx \right) \geq c (w_n^*)^{-2s/(2s+2\delta+1)},$$

where $w_n^* = \sum_{v=1}^n 1/\sigma_v^{2\delta}$ and the infimum is taken over all possible estimators \widetilde{f} of f .

The proof of Theorem 2 is based on (Tsybakov 2004, Theorem 2.5) and several auxiliary results.

Note that, $w_n = \sum_{v=1}^n 1/(1 + \sigma_v^2)^\delta \neq \sum_{v=1}^n 1/\sigma_v^{2\delta} = w_n^*$. However, if there exists a constant $c_* > 0$ such that $\inf_{v \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \sigma_v^2 \geq c_*$, then we have $(\ln w_n/w_n)^{2s/(2s+2\delta+1)} \leq C(\ln w_n/w_n^*)^{2s/(2s+2\delta+1)}$. Therefore, due to Theorems 1 and 2, \hat{f} is optimal in the minimax sense up to the logarithmic term $(\ln w_n)^{2s/(2s+2\delta+1)}$.

Note that $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$ can really deteriorate the performance of \hat{f} . A simple example is, for any $v \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, $\sigma_v^2 = v$ and $\delta = 1$: for n large enough, $w_n = C \ln n$ and $w_n^* = C \ln n$ and the optimal rate of convergence becomes $(\ln n)^{-2s/(2s+3)}$.

6 Proofs

Proof of Theorem 1. We will apply the following general result. It is a reformulation of (Chesneau 2011, Theorem 2).

Theorem 3 (Chesneau (2011)) *Let $\Omega > 0$. We want to estimate an unknown function f with support in $[-\Omega, \Omega]$ from n independent random variables (or vectors) U_1, \dots, U_n . We consider the wavelet basis \mathcal{B} and the notations of Section 3. Suppose that there exist n functions h_1, \dots, h_n such that, for any $\gamma \in \{\phi, \psi\}$,*

(A1) *any integer $j \geq \tau$ and any $k \in \Lambda_j$,*

$$\mathbb{E} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{v=1}^n h_v(\gamma_{j,k}, U_v) \right) = \int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} f(x) \gamma_{j,k}(x) dx.$$

(A2) *there exist a sequence of real numbers $(\mu_v)_{v \in \mathbb{N}^*}$ satisfying $\lim_{v \rightarrow \infty} \mu_v = \infty$ and two constants, $\theta_\gamma > 0$ and $\delta > 0$, such that, for any integer $j \geq \tau$ and any $k \in \Lambda_j$,*

$$\frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{v=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left((h_v(\gamma_{j,k}, U_v))^2 \right) \leq \theta_\gamma^2 2^{2\delta j} \frac{1}{\mu_n}.$$

We define the hard thresholding estimator \hat{f} by

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{2^\tau-1} \hat{\alpha}_{\tau,k} \phi_{\tau,k}(x) + \sum_{j=\tau}^{j_1} \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \hat{\beta}_{j,k} \mathbb{I}_{\{|\hat{\beta}_{j,k}| \geq \kappa \lambda_{j,n}\}} \psi_{j,k}(x),$$

where

$$\hat{\alpha}_{j,k} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{v=1}^n h_v(\phi_{j,k}, U_v), \quad \hat{\beta}_{j,k} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{v=1}^n h_v(\psi_{j,k}, U_v) \mathbb{I}_{\{|h_v(\psi_{j,k}, U_v)| \leq \eta_{j,n}\}},$$

for any random event \mathcal{A} , $\mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{A}}$ is the indicator function on \mathcal{A} ,

$$\eta_{j,n} = \theta_\psi 2^{\delta j} \sqrt{\frac{\mu_n}{\ln \mu_n}}, \quad \lambda_{j,n} = \theta_\psi 2^{\delta j} \sqrt{\frac{\ln \mu_n}{\mu_n}},$$

$\kappa = 8/3 + 2 + 2\sqrt{16/9 + 4}$ and j_1 is the integer satisfying

$$(1/2)\mu_n^{1/(2\delta+1)} < 2^{j_1} \leq \mu_n^{1/(2\delta+1)}.$$

Let $r \geq 1$, $\{p \geq 2$ and $s > 0\}$ or $\{p \in [1, 2)$ and $s > (2\delta + 1)/p\}$. Then there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{f \in B_{p,r}^s(M)} \mathbb{E} \left(\int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} (\hat{f}(x) - f(x))^2 dx \right) \leq C \left(\frac{\ln \mu_n}{\mu_n} \right)^{2s/(2s+2\delta+1)}.$$

Let us now investigate the assumptions (A1) and (A2) of Theorem 3 with, for any $v \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, $U_v = Y_v$,

$$h_v(\gamma_{j,k}, y) = \frac{n}{w_n} \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_v^2)^\delta 2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)} e^{-ixy} dx$$

and $\mu_n = w_n$.

On (A1). Since X_v and ϵ_v are independent, we have

$$\mathbb{E}(e^{-ixY_v}) = \mathbb{E}(e^{-ixX_v}) \mathbb{E}(e^{-ix\epsilon_v}) = \mathcal{F}(f)(x) \mathcal{F}(g_v)(x).$$

This combined with the Fubini theorem and the Parseval-Plancherel theorem yield, for any integer $j \geq \tau$ and any $k \in A_j$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{v=1}^n h_v(\gamma_{j,k}, Y_v) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{w_n} \sum_{v=1}^n \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_v^2)^\delta} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)} \mathbb{E}(e^{-ixY_v}) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{w_n} \sum_{v=1}^n \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_v^2)^\delta} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)} \mathcal{F}(f)(x) \mathcal{F}(g_v)(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)} \mathcal{F}(f)(x) dx \left(\frac{1}{w_n} \sum_{v=1}^n \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_v^2)^\delta} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)} \mathcal{F}(f)(x) dx = \int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} f(x) \gamma_{j,k}(x) dx. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

On (A2). We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{v=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left((h_v(\gamma_{j,k}, Y_v))^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{w_n^2} \sum_{v=1}^n \frac{1}{(1 + \sigma_v^2)^{2\delta} (2\pi)^2} \mathbb{E} \left(\left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)} e^{-ixY_v} dx \right|^2 \right). \quad (9) \end{aligned}$$

Since X_v and ϵ_v are independent, the density of Y_v is $q_v(x) = (f \star g_v)(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)g_v(x-t)dt$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left(\left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)} e^{-ixY_v} dx \right|^2 \right) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)} e^{-ixy} dx \right|^2 q_v(y) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \mathcal{F} \left(\frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(\cdot)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(\cdot)} \right) (y) \right|^2 q_v(y) dy. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Since, by (2), $\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} f(x) \leq C_*$ and g_v is a density, we have

$$\sup_{v \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} q_v(x) \leq C_* \sup_{v \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g_v(t) dt = C_*.$$

The Parseval-Plancherel theorem and (3) imply that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \mathcal{F} \left(\frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(\cdot)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(\cdot)} \right) (y) \right|^2 q_v(y) dy &\leq C_* \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \mathcal{F} \left(\frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(\cdot)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(\cdot)} \right) (y) \right|^2 dy \\ &= 2\pi C_* \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)} \right|^2 dx \leq 2\pi \frac{C_*}{c_g^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + x^2 \sigma_v^2)^\delta |\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)|^2 dx. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

By a change of variables, we obtain $|\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)| = 2^{-j/2} |\mathcal{F}(\gamma)(x/2^j)|$. Using again a change of variables and the inequality $1 + \sigma_v^2 x^2 \leq (1 + \sigma_v^2)(1 + x^2)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + x^2 \sigma_v^2)^\delta |\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)|^2 dx &= 2^{-j} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + x^2 \sigma_v^2)^\delta |\mathcal{F}(\gamma)(x/2^j)|^2 dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + 2^{2j} x^2 \sigma_v^2)^\delta |\mathcal{F}(\gamma)(x)|^2 dx \leq 2^{2\delta j} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + \sigma_v^2 x^2)^\delta |\mathcal{F}(\gamma)(x)|^2 dx \\ &\leq 2^{2\delta j} (1 + \sigma_v^2)^\delta \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + x^2)^\delta |\mathcal{F}(\gamma)(x)|^2 dx. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

It follows from (10), (11) and (12) that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left(\left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\overline{\mathcal{F}(\gamma_{j,k})(x)}}{\mathcal{F}(g_v)(x)} e^{-ixY_v} dx \right|^2 \right) \\ & \leq \left(2\pi(C_*/c_g^2) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1+x^2)^\delta |\mathcal{F}(\gamma)(x)|^2 dx \right) 2^{2\delta j} (1+\sigma_v^2)^\delta. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Putting (9) and (13) together, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{v=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left((h_v(\gamma_{j,k}, Y_v))^2 \right) & \leq \theta_\gamma^2 2^{2\delta j} \frac{1}{w_n^2} \sum_{v=1}^n \frac{1}{(1+\sigma_v^2)^{2\delta}} (1+\sigma_v^2)^\delta \\ & = \theta_\gamma^2 2^{2\delta j} \frac{1}{w_n^2} w_n = \theta_\gamma^2 2^{2\delta j} \frac{1}{w_n}, \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

where $\theta_\gamma = \sqrt{(C_*/2\pi c_g^2) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1+x^2)^\delta |\mathcal{F}(\gamma)(x)|^2 dx}$.

It follows from Theorem 3, (8) and (14) that the hard thresholding estimator (7) satisfies, for any $r \geq 1$, $\{p \geq 2$ and $s > 0\}$ or $\{p \in [1, 2)$ and $s > (2\delta+1)/p\}$,

$$\sup_{f \in B_{p,r}^s(M)} \mathbb{E} \left(\int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} (\hat{f}(x) - f(x))^2 dx \right) \leq C \left(\frac{\ln w_n}{w_n} \right)^{2s/(2s+2\delta+1)}.$$

The proof of Theorem 1 is complete. \square

Proof of Theorem 2. We will apply the following general result. It is (Tsybakov 2004, Theorem 2.5).

Theorem 4 (Tsybakov (2004)) *Let (\mathcal{F}, d) be a metric space, $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{A}, (\mathbb{P}_\theta)_{\theta \in \mathcal{F}})$ be a probability space, $m \in \mathbb{N} - \{0, 1\}$, $\Theta \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ be a set containing $m+1$ elements $\theta_0, \dots, \theta_m$ and, for any $j \in \{0, \dots, m\}$, $\mathbb{P}_j = \mathbb{P}_{\theta_j}$. We make the following assumptions:*

(H1) *For any $(j, k) \in \{0, \dots, m\}^2$ with $j \neq k$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that*

$$d(\theta_j, \theta_k) \geq 2\delta.$$

(H2) *Let K be the Kullback divergence defined by*

$$K(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}) = \begin{cases} \int \ln \left(\frac{d\mathbb{P}}{d\mathbb{Q}} \right) d\mathbb{P} & \text{if } \mathbb{P} \ll \mathbb{Q}, \\ \infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

There exists $\alpha \in (0, 1/8)$ such that

$$\mathcal{K}_m = \inf_{v \in \{0, \dots, m\}} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{\substack{k \in \{0, \dots, m\} \\ k \neq v}} K(\mathbb{P}_k, \mathbb{P}_v) \leq \alpha \log m.$$

Then there exists a constant $c > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{\hat{\theta}} \sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathbb{P}_{\theta}(d(\hat{\theta}, \theta) \geq \delta) \geq c.$$

Consider the Besov balls $B_{p,r}^s(M)$. Let j_0 be an integer suitably chosen below. For any $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_k)_{k \in \Lambda_{j_0}} \in \{0, 1\}^{\text{Card}(\Lambda_{j_0})}$, set

$$h_{\varepsilon}(x) = \rho(x) + M_* 2^{-j_0(s+1/2)} \sum_{k=0}^{2^{j_0}-1} \varepsilon_k \psi_{j_0,k}(x),$$

where $M_* > 0$ is a constant,

$$\rho(x) = \frac{C_0}{(1+x^2)^{r_0}},$$

with $r_0 \in (1/2, 1)$ and $C_0 > 0$ is such that ρ is a density. Then h_{ε} is a density and, with a suitable M_* , $h_{\varepsilon} \in B_{p,r}^s(M)$ (see (Fan and Koo 2002, Lemma 4)).

The Varshamov-Gilbert theorem (see (Tsybakov 2004, Lemma 2.7)) asserts that there exist a set $E_{j_0} = \{\varepsilon^{(0)}, \dots, \varepsilon^{(T_{j_0})}\}$ and two constants, $c \in]0, 1[$ and $\alpha \in]0, 1[$, such that, for any $u \in \{0, \dots, T_{j_0}\}$, $\varepsilon^{(u)} = (\varepsilon_k^{(u)})_{k \in \Lambda_{j_0}} \in \{0, 1\}^{\text{Card}(\Lambda_{j_0})}$ and any $(u, v) \in \{0, \dots, T_{j_0}\}^2$ with $u < v$, the following hold:

$$\sum_{k \in \Lambda_{j_0}} |\varepsilon_k^{(u)} - \varepsilon_k^{(v)}| \geq c 2^{j_0}, \quad T_{j_0} \geq e^{\alpha 2^{j_0}}. \quad (15)$$

Let us now consider the set $\Theta = \{h_{\varepsilon^{(u)}}(x); u \in \{0, \dots, T_{j_0}\}\}$ and the \mathbb{L}^2 -distance $d(h, k) = \left(\int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} (h(x) - k(x))^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$ for $(h, k) \in (\mathbb{L}^2([-\Omega, \Omega]))^2$. Note that, due to the Markov inequality, for any real number $\delta > 0$, we have

$$\inf_{\tilde{f}} \sup_{f \in B_{p,r}^s(M)} \mathbb{E} \left(\int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} (\tilde{f}(x) - f(x))^2 dx \right) \geq p \delta^2, \quad (16)$$

where

$$p = \inf_{\tilde{f}} \sup_{u \in \{0, \dots, T_{j_0}\}} \mathbb{P}_{h_{\varepsilon^{(u)}}} \left(d(\tilde{f}, h_{\varepsilon^{(u)}}) \geq \delta \right)$$

and $\mathbb{P}_f = \times_{v=1}^n \mathbb{P}_f^v$ where \mathbb{P}_f^v is the probability measure related to (1).

In order to bound p , let us now investigate the assumptions (H1) and (H2) of Theorem 4 with the set $\Theta = \{h_{\varepsilon^{(u)}}(x); u \in \{0, \dots, T_{j_0}\}\}$ previously defined (so $m = T_{j_0}$) and the \mathbb{L}^2 -distance.

On (H1). For any $(u, v) \in \{0, \dots, T_{j_0}\}^2$ with $u \neq v$, using the orthonormality of \mathcal{B} , the fact that, for any $k \in \Lambda_{j_0}$, $|\varepsilon_k^{(u)} - \varepsilon_k^{(v)}| \in \{0, 1\}$ and (15), we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(h_{\varepsilon^{(u)}}, h_{\varepsilon^{(v)}}) &= \left(\int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} (h_{\varepsilon^{(u)}}(x) - h_{\varepsilon^{(v)}}(x))^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \\ &= M_{\star} 2^{-j_0(s+1/2)} \left(\int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} \left(\sum_{k \in \Lambda_{j_0}} (\varepsilon_k^{(u)} - \varepsilon_k^{(v)}) \psi_{j_0, k}(x) \right)^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \\ &= M_{\star} 2^{-j_0(s+1/2)} \left(\sum_{k \in \Lambda_{j_0}} |\varepsilon_k^{(u)} - \varepsilon_k^{(v)}| \right)^{1/2} \geq c 2^{-j_0(s+1/2)} 2^{j_0/2} = c 2^{-j_0 s}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if we set $\delta = (c/2)2^{-j_0 s}$, we have

$$d(h_{\varepsilon^{(u)}}, h_{\varepsilon^{(v)}}) \geq 2\delta. \quad (17)$$

On (H2). Let us now bound $\mathcal{K}_{T_{j_0}}$. Let \star be the convolution product. Let χ^2 be the chi-square divergence defined by

$$\chi^2(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}) = \begin{cases} \int \left(\frac{d\mathbb{P}}{d\mathbb{Q}} - 1 \right)^2 d\mathbb{Q} & \text{if } \mathbb{P} \ll \mathbb{Q}, \\ \infty & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and set

$$\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\xi) = \left\{ h \in \mathbb{L}^2([-\Omega, \Omega]); h(x) = \rho(x) + \sum_{k \in \Lambda_{j_0}} \lambda_{j_0, k} \psi_{j_0, k}(x) : |\lambda_{j_0, k}| \leq \xi \right\}.$$

For any $f_2 \in \mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\xi)$ with $\xi \leq C_1 2^{-j_0(s+1/2)}$ where $C_1 > 0$ denotes a suitable constant, we have $\sup_{x \in [-\Omega, \Omega]} |f_2(x) - \rho(x)| \leq (1/2) \inf_{x \in [-\Omega, \Omega]} \rho(x)$ and, a fortiori,

$$(f_2 \star g_v)(x) \geq \frac{1}{2}(\rho \star g_v)(x). \quad (18)$$

By the Fatou lemma, observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \liminf_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} (1+x^2)^{r_0} (\rho \star g_v)(x) &\geq C_0 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \liminf_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(1+x^2)^{r_0}}{(1+(x-y)^2)^{r_0}} g_v(y) dy \\ &= C_0 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g_v(y) dy = C_0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for any $v \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ and any $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$(\rho \star g_v)(x) \geq C_0 (1+x^2)^{-r_0}. \quad (19)$$

Using (3), (4) and $\inf_{v \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \sigma_v^2 \geq c_*$, we can apply (Fan and Koo 2002, Lemma 1) with $2^{j_0} \sigma_v$ instead of 2^{j_0} . This yields the existence of a constant $C > 0$ such that, for any $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\left| \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}(\psi)(y) \mathcal{F}(g_v)(2^{j_0} y) e^{-ixy} dy \right| \leq C \frac{2^{-\delta j_0}}{\sigma_v^\delta (1 + |x|)^2}$$

and, for any sequence of real numbers $(u_{j_0, k})_{k \in \Lambda_{j_0}}$ such that $\sup_{k \in \Lambda_{j_0}} |u_{j_0, k}| \leq L$,

$$\left| \left(\sum_{k \in \Lambda_{j_0}} u_{j_0, k} \psi_{j_0, k} \star g_v \right) (x) \right| \leq C 2^{j_0/2} L \frac{2^{-\delta j_0}}{\sigma_v^\delta (1 + |x|)^2}. \quad (20)$$

Putting (18), (19) and (20) in (Fan and Koo 2002, Proof of Lemma 4), for any functions f_1 and f_2 in $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\xi)$ with $\xi \leq C_1 2^{-j_0(s+1/2)}$, we have, for any $v \in \{1, \dots, n\}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \chi^2(\mathbb{P}_{f_1}^v, \mathbb{P}_{f_2}^v) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{((f_1 \star g_v)(x) - (f_2 \star g_v)(x))^2}{(f_2 \star g_v)(x)} dx \\ &\leq 2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(((f_1 - f_2) \star g_v)(x))^2}{(\rho \star g_v)(x)} dx \\ &\leq C 2^{j_0} \xi^2 2^{-2\delta j_0} \frac{1}{\sigma_v^{2\delta}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(1+x^2)^{r_0}}{(1+|x|)^4} dx \\ &\leq C 2^{j_0} \xi^2 2^{-2\delta j_0} \frac{1}{\sigma_v^{2\delta}} \leq C 2^{-2j_0(s+1/2+\delta)} 2^{j_0} \frac{1}{\sigma_v^{2\delta}}. \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Using the elementary inequality: $K(P, Q) \leq \chi^2(P, Q)$, and (21), we have, for any $(u, v) \in \{0, \dots, T_{j_0}\}^2$ with $u \neq v$,

$$\begin{aligned} K(\mathbb{P}_{h_{\varepsilon(u)}}^v, \mathbb{P}_{h_{\varepsilon(v)}}^v) &= \sum_{v=1}^n K(\mathbb{P}_{h_{\varepsilon(u)}}^v, \mathbb{P}_{h_{\varepsilon(v)}}^v) \leq \sum_{v=1}^n \chi^2(\mathbb{P}_{h_{\varepsilon(u)}}^v, \mathbb{P}_{h_{\varepsilon(v)}}^v) \\ &\leq C 2^{-2j_0(s+1/2+\delta)} 2^{j_0} \sum_{v=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_v^{2\delta}} \\ &= C w_n^* 2^{-2j_0(s+1/2+\delta)} 2^{j_0}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}_{T_{j_0}} &= \inf_{v \in \{0, \dots, T_{j_0}\}} \frac{1}{T_{j_0}} \sum_{\substack{u \in \{0, \dots, T_{j_0}\} \\ u \neq v}} K(\mathbb{P}_{h_{\varepsilon(u)}}^v, \mathbb{P}_{h_{\varepsilon(v)}}^v) \\ &\leq C w_n^* 2^{-2j_0(s+1/2+\delta)} 2^{j_0}. \end{aligned}$$

Choosing j_0 such that

$$2^{-j_0(s+1/2+\delta)} = c_0 \frac{1}{(w_n^*)^{1/2}} \quad (\text{i.e. } 2^{j_0} = (w_n^*)^{1/(2s+2\delta+1)}), \quad (22)$$

where c_0 denotes a suitable constant, (15) implies the existence of $\alpha_* \in (0, 1/8)$ satisfying

$$\mathcal{K}_{T_{j_0}} \leq Cc_0^2 2^{j_0} \leq \alpha_* \log T_{j_0}. \quad (23)$$

It follows from Theorem 4, (17), (22) and (23) that

$$p = \inf_{\tilde{f}} \sup_{u \in \{0, \dots, T_{j_0}\}} \mathbb{P}_{h_{\varepsilon(u)}} \left(d(\tilde{f}, h_{\varepsilon(u)}) \geq \delta \right) \geq c > 0$$

and, by (16),

$$\begin{aligned} \inf_{\tilde{f}} \sup_{f \in B_{p,r}^s(M)} \mathbb{E} \left(\int_{-\Omega}^{\Omega} \left(\tilde{f}(x) - f(x) \right)^2 dx \right) &\geq p\delta^2 \geq c2^{-2j_0s} \\ &= c(w_n^*)^{-2s/(2s+2\delta+1)}. \end{aligned}$$

The proof of Theorem 2 is complete. □

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