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# Adaptive nonparametric estimation of a component density in a two-class mixture model

Gaëlle Chagny\*, Antoine Channarond†, Van Hà Hoang‡, Angelina Roche§

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## Abstract

A two-class mixture model, where the density of one of the components is known, is considered. We address the issue of the nonparametric adaptive estimation of the unknown probability density of the second component. We propose a randomly weighted kernel estimator with a fully data-driven bandwidth selection method, in the spirit of the Goldenshluger and Lepski method. An oracle-type inequality for the pointwise quadratic risk is derived as well as convergence rates over Hölder smoothness classes. The theoretical results are illustrated by numerical simulations.

## 1 Introduction

The following mixture model with two components:

$$g(x) = \theta + (1 - \theta)f(x), \quad \forall x \in [0, 1], \quad (1)$$

where the mixing proportion  $\theta \in (0, 1)$  and the probability density function  $f$  on  $[0, 1]$  are unknown, is considered in this article. It is assumed that  $n$  independent and identically distributed (*i.i.d.* in the sequel) random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  drawn from density  $g$  are observed. The main goal is to construct an adaptive estimator of the nonparametric component  $f$  and to provide non-asymptotic upper bounds of the pointwise risk : the resulting estimator should automatically adapt to the unknown smoothness of the target function. The challenge arises from the fact that there is no direct observation coming from  $f$ . As an intermediate step, the estimation of the parametric component  $\theta$  is addressed as well.

Model (1) appears in some statistical settings: robust estimation and multiple testing among others. The one chosen in the present article, as described above, comes from the multiple testing framework, where a large number  $n$  of independent hypotheses tests are performed simultaneously.  $p$ -values  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  generated by these tests can be modeled by (1). Indeed these are uniformly distributed on  $[0, 1]$  under null hypotheses while their distribution under alternative hypotheses, corresponding to  $f$ , is unknown. The unknown parameter  $\theta$  is the asymptotic proportion of true null hypotheses. It can be needed to estimate  $f$ , especially to evaluate and control different types of expected errors of the testing procedure, which is a major issue in this context. See for instance Genovese and Wassermann [15], Storey [28], Langaas *et al.* [20], Robin *et al.* [26], Strimmer [29], Nguyen and Matias [23], and more fundamentally, Benjamini *et al.* [1] and Efron *et al.* [14].

In the setting of robust estimation, different from the multiple testing one, model (1) can be thought of as a contamination model, where the unknown distribution of interest  $f$  is contaminated by the uniform distribution on  $[0, 1]$ , with the proportion  $\theta$ . This is a very specific case of the Huber contamination model [18]. The statistical task considered consists in robustly estimating  $f$  from contaminated observations  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ . But unlike our setting, the contamination distribution is not necessarily known while the contamination proportion  $\theta$  is assumed to be known, and the theoretical investigations aim at providing minimax rates as functions of both  $n$  and  $\theta$ . See for instance the preprint of Liu and Gao [22], which addresses pointwise estimation in this framework.

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Back to the setting of multiple testing, the estimation of  $f$  in model (1) has been addressed in several works. Langaas *et al.* [20] proposed a Grenander density estimator for  $f$ , based on a nonparametric maximum likelihood approach, under the assumption that  $f$  belongs to the set of decreasing densities on  $[0, 1]$ . Following a similar approach, Strimmer [29] also proposed a modified Grenander strategy to estimate  $f$ . However, the two aforementioned papers do not investigate theoretical features of the proposed estimators. Robin *et al.* [26] and Nguyen and Matias [23] proposed a randomly weighted kernel estimator of  $f$ , where the weights are estimators of the posterior probabilities of the mixture model, that is, the probabilities of each individual  $i$  being in the nonparametric component given the observation  $X_i$ . [26] proposes an EM-like algorithm, and proves the convergence to a unique solution of the iterative procedure, but they do not provide any asymptotic property of the estimator. Note that their model  $g(x) = \theta\phi(x) + (1 - \theta)f(x)$ , where  $\phi$  is a known density, is slightly more general, but our procedure is also suitable for this model under some assumptions on  $\phi$ . Besides, [23] achieves a nonparametric rate of convergence  $n^{-2\beta/(2\beta+1)}$  for their estimator, where  $\beta$  is the smoothness of the unknown density  $f$ . However, their estimation procedure is not adaptive since the choice of their optimal bandwidth still depends on  $\beta$ .

In the present work, a complete inference strategy for both  $f$  and  $\theta$  is proposed. For the nonparametric component  $f$ , a new randomly weighted kernel estimator is provided with a data-driven bandwidth selection rule. Theoretical results on the whole estimation procedure, especially adaptivity of the selection rule to unknown smoothness of  $f$ , are proved under a given identifiability class of the model, which is an original contribution in this framework. Major results derived in this paper are the oracle-type inequality in Theorem 1, and the rates of convergence over Hölder classes, which are adapted to the control of pointwise risk of kernel estimators, in Corollary 1.

Unlike the usual approach in mixture models, the weights of the proposed estimator are not estimates of the posterior probabilities. The proposed alternative principle is simple and consists in using weights based on a density change, from the target distribution  $f$ , which is not directly reachable, to the distribution of observed variables  $g$ . A function  $w$  is thus derived such that  $f(x) = w(\theta, g(x))g(x)$ , for all  $\theta, x \in [0, 1]$ . This type of link between one of the conditional distribution given hidden variables,  $f$ , to the distribution of observed variables  $g$ , is quite remarkable in the framework of mixture models. It is a key idea of our approach, since it implies a crucial equation for controlling the bias term of the risk, see Subsection 2.1 for more details. This is necessary to investigate adaptivity using the Goldenshluger and Lepski (GL) approach [17], which is known in other various contexts, see for instance, Comte *et al.* [10], Comte and Lacour [11], Doumic *et al.* [13], Reynaud-Bouret *et al.* [25] who apply GL method in kernel density estimation, and Bertin *et al.* [3], Chagny [6], Chichignoud *et al.* [7] or Comte and Rebafka [12].

Thus oracle weights are defined by  $w(\theta, g(X_i))$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , but  $g$  and  $\theta$  are unknown. These oracle weights are estimated by plug-in, using preliminary estimators of  $g$  and  $\theta$ , based on an additional sample  $X_{n+1}, \dots, X_{2n}$ . Some assumptions on these estimators are needed to prove the results on the estimator of  $f$ ; this paper also provides estimators of  $g$  and  $\theta$  which satisfy these assumptions. Note that procedures of [23] and [26] actually require preliminary estimates of  $g$  and  $\theta$  as well, but they do not deal with additional uncertainty caused by the multiple use of the same observations in the estimates of  $\theta$ ,  $g$  and  $f$ .

Identifiability issues are reviewed in Section 1.1 in Nguyen and Matias [24]. In the present work,  $f$  is assumed to be vanishing at a neighbourhood of 1 to ensure identifiability. Under this assumption,  $\theta$  can be recovered as the infimum of  $g$ . Moreover, as shown above by the equation linking  $f$  to  $g$  and  $\theta$ ,  $f$  is actually uniquely determined by giving  $g$  and  $\theta$ , even though the latter is not the infimum of  $g$ . Note that the theoretical results on the estimator of the nonparametric component  $f$  do not depend on the chosen identifiability class, and can be transposed to other cases. For that reason, the discussion on identifiability is postponed to Section 4.2, after results on the estimator of  $f$ .

The paper is organized as follows. Our randomly weighted estimator of  $f$  is constructed in Section 2.1. Assumptions on  $f$  and on preliminary estimators of  $g$  and  $\theta$  required for proving the theoretical results are in this section too. In Section 2, a bias-variance decomposition for the pointwise risk of the estimator of  $f$  is given as well as the convergence rate of the kernel estimator with a fixed bandwidth. In Section 3, an oracle inequality is given, which justifies our adaptive estimation procedure. Construction of the preliminary estimators of  $g$  and  $\theta$  are to be found in Section 4. Numerical results illustrate the theoretical results in Section 5. Proofs of theorems, propositions and technical lemmas are postponed to Section 6.

## 2 Collection of kernel estimators for the target density

In this section, a family of kernel estimators for the density function  $f$  based on a sample  $(X_i)_{i=1,\dots,n}$  of i.i.d. variables with distribution  $g$  is defined. It is assumed that preliminary estimators of both the mixing proportion  $\theta$  and the mixture density  $g$  are available, and respectively denoted by  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  and  $\hat{g}$ . They are defined from an additional sample  $(X_i)_{i=n+1,\dots,2n}$  of independent variables also drawn from  $g$  but independent of the first sample  $(X_i)_{i=1,\dots,n}$ . Definitions, results and results on these preliminary estimates are the subject of Section 4.

### 2.1 Construction of the estimators

To define estimators for  $f$ , the challenge is that observations  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are not drawn from  $f$  but from the mixture density  $g$ . Hence the density  $f$  cannot be estimated directly by a classical kernel density estimator. Thus we will build weighted kernel estimates. This idea has been used in other contexts, see for example [12]. The starting point is the following lemma whose proof is straightforward.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $X$  be a random variable from the mixture density  $g$  defined by (1) and  $Y$  be an (unobservable) random variable from the component density  $f$ . Then for any measurable bounded function  $\varphi$ :*

$$\mathbb{E}[\varphi(Y)] = \mathbb{E}[w(\theta, g(X))\varphi(X)], \quad (2)$$

where

$$w(\theta, g(x)) := \frac{1}{1-\theta} \left(1 - \frac{\theta}{g(x)}\right), \quad x \in [0, 1].$$

This result will be used as follows. Let  $K : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a kernel function, that is an integrable function such that  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} K(x)dx = 1$  and  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} K^2(x)dx < +\infty$ . For any  $h > 0$ , let  $K_h(\cdot) = K(\cdot/h)/h$ . Then the choice  $\varphi(\cdot) = K_h(x - \cdot)$  in Lemma 1 gives:

$$\mathbb{E}[K_h(x - Y)] = \mathbb{E}[w(\theta, g(X))K_h(x - X)],$$

This leads to define the following randomly weighted kernel estimator of  $f$ :

$$\hat{f}_h(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i))K_h(x - X_i), \quad x \in [0, 1], \quad (3)$$

where:

$$w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i)) = \frac{1}{1-\tilde{\theta}_n} \left(1 - \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n}{\hat{g}(X_i)}\right), \quad i = 1, \dots, n. \quad (4)$$

Therefore,  $\hat{f}_h$  is a randomly weighted kernel estimator of  $f$ . Note that the total sum of the weights may not equal 1, in comparison with the estimators proposed in Nguyen and Matias [23] and Robin *et al.* [26]. The main advantage of such weights, is that, if we replace  $\hat{g}$  and  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  by their theoretical unknown counterparts  $g$  and  $\theta$  in (3), we obtain,  $\mathbb{E}[\hat{f}_h(x)] = K_h \star f(x)$ , where  $\star$  stands for the convolution product. This relation, classical in nonparametric kernel estimation, is crucial to study the bias term in the risk of the estimator, and hence to reach adaptivity.

### 2.2 Risk bounds of the estimator

Here, upper bounds are derived for the pointwise mean-squared error of the estimator  $\hat{f}_h$ , defined in (3), with a fixed bandwidth  $h > 0$ . Our objective is to study the pointwise risk for the estimation of the density  $f$  at a point  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$ . Throughout the paper, the kernel  $K$  is chosen compactly supported on an interval  $[-A, A]$  with  $A$  a positive real number, and such that  $\sup_{x \in [-A, A]} |K(x)| < \infty$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{V}_n(x_0)$  the neighbourhood of  $x_0$  used in the sequel and defined by

$$\mathcal{V}_n(x_0) = \left[ x_0 - \frac{2A}{\alpha_n}, x_0 + \frac{2A}{\alpha_n} \right],$$

where  $(\alpha_n)_n$  is a positive sequence of numbers larger than 1, only depending on  $n$  such that  $\alpha_n \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , chosen by the user. For any function  $u$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ , and any interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ , let  $\|u\|_{\infty, I} = \sup_{t \in I} |u(t)|$ .

We also denote by  $\gamma = \inf_{t \in \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} |g(t)|$ . Thanks to (1), we have  $g(t) \geq \theta > 0$  for any  $t \in [0, 1]$ , and thus,  $\gamma > 0$ .

In the sequel, we consider the following assumptions. Note that all assumptions are not simultaneously necessary for the results.

**(A1)** The density  $f$  is uniformly bounded on  $\mathcal{V}_n(x_0)$  for some  $n$ :  $\|f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} < \infty$ .

**(A2)** The preliminary estimator  $\hat{g}$  is bounded away from 0 on  $\mathcal{V}_n(x_0)$  a.s. :

$$\hat{\gamma} := \inf_{t \in \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} |\hat{g}(t)| > 0. \quad (5)$$

**(A3)** The preliminary estimate  $\hat{g}$  of  $g$  satisfies, for all  $\nu > 0$

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \sup_{t \in \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} \left| \frac{\hat{g}(t) - g(t)}{\hat{g}(t)} \right| > \nu \right) \leq C_{g, \nu} \exp \left\{ -(\log n)^{3/2} \right\}, \quad (6)$$

with  $C_{g, \nu}$  a constant only depending on  $g$  and  $\nu$ .

**(A4)** The preliminary estimator  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  is constructed such that  $\tilde{\theta}_n \in [\delta/2, 1 - \delta/2]$  a.s., for a fixed  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ .

**(A5)** For any bandwidth  $h > 0$ , we assume that a.s.

$$\alpha_n \leq \frac{1}{h} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{h} \leq \min \left\{ \frac{\hat{\gamma}n}{\log^3(n)}, \frac{1}{n} \right\}.$$

**(A6)**  $f$  belongs to the Hölder class of smoothness  $\beta$  and radius  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $[0, 1]$ , defined by

$$\Sigma(\beta, \mathcal{L}) = \left\{ \phi : \phi \text{ has } \ell = \lfloor \beta \rfloor \text{ derivatives and } \forall x, y \in [0, 1], |\phi^{(\ell)}(x) - \phi^{(\ell)}(y)| < \mathcal{L}|x - y|^{\beta - \ell} \right\},$$

where  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  denotes a smallest integer which is strictly smaller than the real number  $x$ .

**(A7)**  $K$  is a kernel of order  $\ell$  :  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} x^j K(x) dx = 0$  for  $1 \leq j \leq \ell$  and  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} |x|^\ell |K(x)| dx < \infty$ .

Since  $g = \theta + (1 - \theta)f$ , Assumption **(A1)** implies that  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} < \infty$ . This assumption is needed to control the variance term, among others, of the bias-variance decomposition of the risk. Let us notice that the density  $g$  is automatically bounded from below by a positive constant in our model (1). Assumption **(A2)** is required to bound the term  $1/\hat{g}(\cdot)$  that appears in the weight  $w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(\cdot))$ , see (4). Assumption **(A3)** means that the preliminary  $\hat{g}$  has to be rather accurate. Assumptions **(A2)** and **(A3)** are also introduced by Bertin *et al.* [3] for conditional density estimation purpose : see (3.2) and (3.3) p.946. The methodology used in our proofs is close to their work : the role played by  $g$  here corresponds to the role played by the marginal density of their paper. They have also shown that an estimator of  $g$  satisfying these properties can be built, see Theorem 4, p. 14 of [2] and some details at Section 4.1. We also build an estimator  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  that satisfies Assumption **(A4)** in Section 4.2. Assumption **(A5)** deals with the order of magnitude of the bandwidths and is also borrowed from [3] (see Assumption (CK) p.947). An example of bandwidth collection satisfying Assumption **(A5)** is given in the statement of Corollary 1. Assumptions **(A6)** and **(A7)** are classical for kernel density estimation, see [30] or [8]. The index  $\beta$  in Assumption **(A6)** is a measure of the smoothness of the target function. Such assumptions permit to control the bias term of the bias-variance decomposition of the risk, and thus to derive convergence rates. We will classically choose  $\ell = \lfloor \beta \rfloor$  for Assumption **(A7)** in Corollary 1 below.

We first state an upper bound for the pointwise risk of the estimator  $\hat{f}_h$ . The proof can be found in Section 6.1.

**Proposition 1.** *Assume that Assumptions (A1) to (A5) are satisfied. Then, for any  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$  and  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ , the estimator  $\hat{f}_h$  defined by (3) satisfies*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \right] \leq C_1^* \left\{ \|K_h \star f - f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 + \frac{1}{\delta^2 \gamma^2 n h} \right\} + \frac{C_2^*}{\delta^6} \mathbb{E} \left[ |\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta|^2 \right] + \frac{C_3^*}{\delta^2 \gamma^2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 \right] + \frac{C_4^*}{n^2}, \quad (7)$$

where  $C_\ell^*$ ,  $\ell = 1, \dots, 4$  are positive constants such that :  $C_1^*$  depends on  $\|K\|_2$  and  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $C_2^*$  depends on  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$  and  $\|K\|_1$ ,  $C_3^*$  depends on  $\|K\|_1$  and  $C_4^*$  depends on  $\|f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $g$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\gamma$ , and  $\|K\|_\infty$ .

Proposition 1 is a bias-variance decomposition of the risk. The first term in the right-hand-side (*r.h.s.* in the sequel) of (7) is a bias term which decreases when the bandwidth  $h$  vanishes whereas the second one corresponds to the variance term and increases when  $h$  vanishes.

There are two additional terms  $\mathbb{E}[\|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2]$  and  $\mathbb{E}[|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta|^2]$  in the *r.h.s.* of (7). They are unavoidable since the estimator  $\hat{f}_h$  depends on the plug-in estimators  $\hat{g}$  and  $\tilde{\theta}_n$ . However, as proved in Corollary 1, these two terms do not deteriorate the convergence rate provided that  $g$  and  $\theta$  are estimated accurately. We define in Section 4 such estimators of  $g$  and  $\theta$ . The term  $C_4^*/(\delta^2 n^2)$  is a remaining term and is also negligible.

### 3 Adaptive pointwise estimation

Let  $\mathcal{H}_n$  be a finite family of possible bandwidths  $h > 0$ , whose cardinality is bounded by the sample size  $n$ . The best estimator in the collection  $(\hat{f}_h)_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n}$  defined in (3) at the point  $x_0$  is the one that have the smallest risk, or similarly, the smallest bias-variance decomposition. But since  $f$  is unknown, in practice it is impossible to minimize over  $\mathcal{H}_n$  the *r.h.s.* of inequality (7) in order to select the best estimate. Thus, we propose a data-driven selection, with a rule in the spirit of Goldenshluger and Lepski (GL in the sequel) [17]. The idea is to mimic the bias-variance trade-off for the risk, with empirical counterparts for the unknown quantities. We first estimate the variance term of the trade-off by setting, for any  $h \in \mathcal{H}_n$

$$V(x_0, h) = \frac{\kappa \|K\|_1^2 \|K\|_2^2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}}{\hat{\gamma}^2 n h} \log(n), \quad (8)$$

with  $\kappa > 0$  a tuning parameter. The principle of the GL method is then to estimate the bias term  $\|K_h \star f - f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2$  of  $\hat{f}_h(x_0)$  for any  $h \in \mathcal{H}_n$  with

$$A(x_0, h) := \max_{h' \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left\{ (\hat{f}_{h, h'}(x_0) - \hat{f}_{h'}(x_0))^2 - V(x_0, h') \right\}_+, \quad (9)$$

where, for any  $h, h' \in \mathcal{H}_n$ ,

$$\hat{f}_{h, h'}(x_0) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i)) (K_h \star K_{h'})(x_0 - X_i) = (K_{h'} \star \hat{f}_h)(x_0).$$

Heuristically, since  $\hat{f}_h$  is an estimator of  $f$  then  $\hat{f}_{h, h'} = K_{h'} \star \hat{f}_h$  can be considered as an estimator of  $K_{h'} \star f$ . The proof of Theorem 1 below in Section 6.2 then justifies that  $A(x_0, h)$  is a good approximation for the bias term of the pointwise risk. Finally, our estimate at the point  $x_0$  is

$$\hat{f}(x_0) := \hat{f}_{\hat{h}(x_0)}(x_0), \quad (10)$$

where the bandwidth  $\hat{h}(x_0)$  minimizes the empirical bias-variance decomposition :

$$\hat{h}(x_0) := \operatorname{argmin}_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \{A(x_0, h) + V(x_0, h)\}.$$

The constants that appear in the estimated variance  $V(x_0, h)$  are known, except  $\kappa$ , which is a numerical constant calibrated by simulation (see practical tuning in Section 5), and except  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ , which is

replaced by an empirical counterpart in practice (see also Section 5). It is also possible to justify the substitution from a theoretical point of view, but it adds cumbersome technicalities. Moreover, the replacement does not change the result of Theorem 1 below. We thus refer to Section 3.3 p.1178 in [9] for example, for the details of a similar substitution. The risk of this estimator is controlled in the following result.

**Theorem 1.** *Assume that Assumptions (A1) to (A4) are fulfilled, and that all  $h \in \mathcal{H}_n$  satisfies (A5). Suppose in addition that the sample size  $n$  is larger than a constant that only depends on the kernel  $K$ . For any  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ , the estimator  $\hat{f}(x_0)$  defined in (10) satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ (\hat{f}(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \right] &\leq C_5^* \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left\{ \|K_h \star f - f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 + \frac{\log(n)}{\delta^2 \gamma^2 n h} \right\} \\ &\quad + \frac{C_6^*}{\delta^6} \sup_{\theta \in [\delta, 1-\delta]} \mathbb{E} \left[ |\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta|^2 \right] + \frac{C_7^*}{\delta^2 \gamma^2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 \right] + \frac{C_8^*}{n^2}, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where  $C_\ell^*$ ,  $\ell = 5, \dots, 8$  are positive constants such that :  $C_5^*$  depends on  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $\|K\|_1$  and  $\|K\|_2$ ,  $C_6^*$  depends on  $\|K\|_1$ ,  $C_7^*$  depends on  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$  and  $\|K\|_1$ , and  $C_8^*$  depends on  $\delta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\|f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $g$ ,  $\|K\|_2$  and  $\|K\|_\infty$ .

Theorem 1 is an oracle-type inequality. It holds whatever the sample size, larger than a fixed constant. It shows that the optimal bias variance trade-off is automatically achieved: the selection rule permits to select in a data-driven way the best estimator in the collection of estimators  $(\hat{f}_h)_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n}$ , up to a multiplicative constant  $C_5^*$ . The last three remainder terms in the *r.h.s.* of (11) are the same as the ones in Proposition 1, and are unavoidable, as aforementioned. We have an additional logarithmic term in the second term of the *r.h.s.*, compared to the analogous term in (7). It is classical in adaptive pointwise estimation (see for example [12] or [4]). In our framework, it does not deteriorate the adaptive convergence rate, see Section 4.3 below. To compute this rate, we now have to define estimators for the mixing density  $g$  and proportion  $\theta$ , in such a way that the convergence rate which would be obtained by the minimisation of the first term in the *r.h.s.* of (11) can be preserved.

## 4 Estimation of the mixture density $g$ and the mixing proportion $\theta$

This section is devoted to the construction of the preliminary estimators  $\hat{g}$  and  $\tilde{\theta}_n$ , required to build (3). To define them, we assume that we observe an additional sample  $(X_i)_{i=n+1, \dots, 2n}$  distributed with density function  $g$ , but independent of the sample  $(X_i)_{i=1, \dots, n}$ . We explain how estimators  $\hat{g}$  and  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  can be defined to satisfy the assumptions described at the beginning of Section 2.2, and also how we compute them in practice. The reader should bear in mind that other constructions are possible, but our main objective is the adaptive estimation of the density  $f$ . Thus, further theoretical studies are beyond the scope of this paper.

### 4.1 Preliminary estimator for the mixture density $g$

As already noticed, the role played by  $g$  to estimate  $f$  in our framework finds an analogue in the work of Bertin *et al.* [3] : the authors propose a conditional density estimation method that involves a preliminary estimator of the marginal density of a couple of real random variables. The assumptions (A2) and (A3) are borrowed from their paper. From a theoretical point of view, we thus also draw inspiration from them to build  $\hat{g}$ .

Since we focus on kernel methods to recover  $f$ , we also use kernels for the estimation of  $g$ . Let  $L : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function such that  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} L(x) dx = 1$  and  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} L^2(x) dx < \infty$ . Let  $L_b(\cdot) = b^{-1} L(\cdot/b)$ , for any  $b > 0$ . The function  $L$  is a kernel, but can be chosen differently from the kernel  $K$  used to estimate the density  $f$ . The classical kernel density estimate for  $g$  is

$$\hat{g}_b(x_0) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=n+1}^{2n} L_b(x_0 - X_i), \quad (12)$$

Theorem 4 p.14 of [2] proves that it is possible to select an adaptive bandwidth  $b$  of  $\hat{g}_b$  in such a way that Assumptions **(A2)** and **(A3)** are fulfilled, and that the resulting estimate  $\hat{g}_b$  satisfies

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\|\hat{g}_b - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2\right] \leq C \left(\frac{\log n}{n}\right)^{\frac{2\beta}{2\beta+1}}, \quad (13)$$

if  $g \in \Sigma(\beta, \mathcal{L}')$ , where  $C, \mathcal{L}' > 0$  are some constants, and if the kernel  $L$  has an order  $\ell = \lfloor \beta \rfloor$ . The idea of the result of Theorem 4 in [2] is to select the bandwidth  $\hat{b}$  with a classical Lepski method, and to apply results from Giné and Nickl [16]. Notice that, in our model, Assumption **(A6)** permits to obtain directly the required smoothness assumption,  $g \in \Sigma(\beta, \mathcal{L}')$ . This guarantees that both the assumptions **(A2)** and **(A3)** on  $\hat{g}$  can be satisfied and that the additional term  $\mathbb{E}[\|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2]$  can be bounded as required in the statement of Corollary 1.

For the simulation study below now, we start from the kernel estimators  $(\hat{g}_b)_{b>0}$  defined in (12) and rather use a procedure in the spirit of the pointwise GL method to automatically select a bandwidth  $b$ . First, this choice permits to be coherent with the selection method chosen for the main estimators  $(\hat{f}_h)_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n}$ , see Section 3. Then, the construction also provides an accurate estimate of  $g$ , see for example [8]. Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a finite family of bandwidths. For any  $b, b' \in \mathcal{B}$ , we introduce the auxiliary functions  $\hat{g}_{b,b'}(x_0) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=n+1}^{2n} (L_b \star L_{b'})(x_0 - X_i)$ . Next, for any  $b \in \mathcal{B}$ , we set

$$A^g(b, x_0) = \max_{b' \in \mathcal{B}} \left\{ (\hat{g}_{b,b'}(x_0) - \hat{g}_{b'}(x_0))^2 - \Gamma_1(b') \right\}_+,$$

where  $\Gamma_1(b) = \varepsilon \|L\|_1^2 \|L\|_2^2 \|g\|_\infty \log(n)/(nb)$ , with  $\varepsilon > 0$  a constant to be tuned. Then, the final estimator of  $g$  is given by  $\hat{g}(x_0) := \hat{g}_{\hat{b}_g}(x_0)$ , with  $\hat{b}_g(x_0) := \operatorname{argmin}_{b \in \mathcal{B}} \{A^g(b, x_0) + \Gamma_1(b)\}$ . The tuning of the constant  $\varepsilon$  is presented in Section 5.

## 4.2 Estimation of the mixing proportion $\theta$

A huge variety of methods have been investigated for the estimation of the mixing proportion  $\theta$  of model (1) : see, for instance, [28], [20], [26], [5], [24] and references therein. A common and performant estimator is the one proposed by Storey [28]:  $\theta$  is estimated by  $\hat{\theta}_{\tau,n} = \#\{X_i > \tau; i = n+1, \dots, 2n\}/(n(1-\tau))$  with  $\tau$  a threshold to be chosen. The optimal value of  $\tau$  is calculated with a bootstrap algorithm. However, it seems difficult to obtain theoretical guarantees on  $\hat{\theta}_{\tau,n}$ .

For a detailed discussion about possible identifiability conditions of model (1), we refer to Celisse and Robin [5] or Nguyen and Matias [24]. In the sequel we focus on a particular case of model (1), which ensures the identifiability of the parameters  $(\theta, f)$  (see for example Assumption A in [5], or Section 1.1 in [24]). The density  $f$  is assumed to belong to the family

$$\mathcal{F}_\delta = \left\{ f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+, f \text{ is a density such that } f_{|[1-\delta, 1]} = 0 \right\}, \quad (14)$$

where  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ . Under this assumption, the main idea to recover  $\theta$  is that it is the lower bound of the density  $g$  in model (1) :  $\theta = \inf_{x \in [0, 1]} g(x) = g(1)$ . Celisse and Robin [5] or Nguyen and Matias [24] then define a histogram-based estimator  $\hat{g}$  for  $g$ , and estimate  $\theta$  with the lower bound of  $\hat{g}$ , or with  $\hat{g}(1)$ . The procedure we choose is still based on the same assumption, but, to be consistent with the other estimates, we use kernels to recover  $g$  instead of histograms.

Nevertheless, since it is well-known that kernel density estimation methods suffer from boundary effects, which cause inaccurate estimate of  $g(1)$ , we cannot directly use the kernel estimates of  $g$  defined in (12). To deal with this issue, we apply a simple reflection method (see for example Schuster [27]). From the random sample  $X_{n+1}, \dots, X_{2n}$  from density  $g$ , we introduce, for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,

$$Y_i = \begin{cases} X_{i+n} & \text{if } \varepsilon_i = 1, \\ 2 - X_{i+n} & \text{if } \varepsilon_i = -1, \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

where  $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n$  are  $n$  *i.i.d.* random variables drawn from Rademacher distribution with parameter 1/2, and independent of the  $X_i$ 's. The random variables  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  can be regarded as randomly symmetrized

version of the  $X_i$ 's, with support  $[0, 2]$  (see the first point of Lemma 2 below). Now, suppose that  $L$  is a symmetric kernel. For any  $b > 0$ , define

$$\hat{g}_b^{sym}(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n L_b(x - Y_k), \quad x \in [0, 2]. \quad (16)$$

Instead of evaluating  $\hat{g}_b^{sym}$  at the single point  $x = 1$ , we evaluate twice the average of all the values of the estimator  $\hat{g}_b^{sym}$  on the interval  $[1 - \delta, 1 + \delta]$ , relying on the fact that  $\theta = g(x)$ , for all  $x \in [1 - \delta, 1]$  (under the assumption  $f \in \mathcal{F}_\delta$ ), to increase the accuracy of the resulting estimate. Thus, we set

$$\hat{\theta}_{n,b} = \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{1-\delta}^{1+\delta} \hat{g}_b^{sym}(x) dx. \quad (17)$$

Finally, for the estimation of  $f$ , we use a truncated estimator  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  defined as

$$\tilde{\theta}_{n,b} := \max(\min(\hat{\theta}_{n,b}, 1 - \delta/2), \delta/2). \quad (18)$$

The definition of  $\tilde{\theta}_{n,b}$  permits to ensure that  $\tilde{\theta}_{n,b} \in [\delta/2, 1 - \delta/2]$ : this is Assumption (A4). This permits to avoid possible difficulties in the estimation of  $f$  when  $\hat{\theta}_{n,b}$  is close to zero, see (3). The following lemma establishes some properties of all these estimates. Its proof can be found in Section 6.3.

**Lemma 2.**

- The random variables  $Y_k$ ,  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , are i.i.d., with density

$$g^{sym} : x \mapsto \begin{cases} g(x)/2 & \text{if } x \in [0, 1] \\ g(2-x)/2 & \text{if } x \in [1, 2]. \end{cases}$$

- We have

$$|\hat{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta| \leq 2 \|\hat{g}_b^{sym} - g^{sym}\|_{\infty, [1-\delta, 1+\delta]}. \quad (19)$$

- Moreover,

$$\mathbb{P}(\tilde{\theta}_{n,b} \neq \hat{\theta}_{n,b}) \leq \frac{4}{\delta^2} \mathbb{E}[|\hat{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta|^2], \quad (20)$$

and there exists a constant  $C > 0$ , which only depends on  $\delta$ , such that

$$\mathbb{E}[|\tilde{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta|^2] \leq C \mathbb{E}[\|\hat{g}_b^{sym} - g^{sym}\|_{\infty, [1-\delta, 1+\delta]}^2]. \quad (21)$$

The first property of Lemma 2 permits to deal with  $\hat{g}_b^{sym}$  as with a classical kernel density estimate defined from an i.i.d sample. Thus we have  $\mathbb{E}[\hat{g}_b^{sym}(x)] = L_b \star g^{sym}(x)$ . This permits to obtain an upper-bound for the risk of  $\hat{g}_b^{sym}$  as an estimator of  $g^{sym}$ , and also to define an automatic bandwidth selection rule like for classical kernel density estimates (see paragraph just below). The second property (19) allows us to control the estimation risk of  $\hat{\theta}_{n,b}$ , while the third one, (20), justifies that the introduction of  $\tilde{\theta}_{n,b}$  is reasonable.

To obtain a fully data-driven estimate  $\tilde{\theta}_{n,b}$ , it remains to define a bandwidth selection rule for the (classical) kernel estimator  $\hat{g}_b^{sym}$ . In view of (19), we introduce a data-driven procedure under sup-norm loss, inspired from Lepski [21]. For any  $x \in [0, 2]$  and any bandwidth  $b, b'$  in a collection  $\mathcal{B}'$ , we set  $\hat{g}_{b,b'}^{sym}(x) = (L_b \star \hat{g}_{b'}^{sym})(x)$ , and  $\Gamma_2(b) = \lambda \|L\|_\infty \log(n)/(nb)$ , with  $\lambda$  a tuning parameter. As for the other bandwidth selection device, we now define

$$\Delta(b) = \max_{b' \in \mathcal{B}'} \left\{ \sup_{x \in [1-\delta, 1+\delta]} (\hat{g}_{b,b'}^{sym}(x) - \hat{g}_{b'}^{sym}(x))^2 - \Gamma_2(b') \right\},$$

Finally, we choose  $\tilde{b} = \operatorname{argmin}_{b \in \mathcal{B}'} \{\Delta(b) + \Gamma_2(b)\}$ , which leads to  $\hat{g}^{sym} := \hat{g}_{\tilde{b}}^{sym}$  and  $\tilde{\theta}_n := \tilde{\theta}_{n,\tilde{b}}$ . The results of [21] prove that  $\mathbb{E}[\|\hat{g}_{\tilde{b}}^{sym} - g^{sym}\|_{\infty, [1-\delta, 1+\delta]}^2] \leq C(\log n/n)^{2\beta/(2\beta+1)}$ , if  $g \in \Sigma(\beta, \mathcal{L}')$ , where  $C, \mathcal{L}' > 0$  are some constants, and if the kernel  $L$  has an order  $\ell = \lfloor \beta \rfloor$ . Combined with Lemma 2, this ensures that  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  satisfies

$$\mathbb{E}[|\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta|^2] \leq C \left( \frac{\log n}{n} \right)^{\frac{2\beta}{2\beta+1}}. \quad (22)$$

Numerical simulations in Section 5 justify that our estimator has a good performance from the practical point of view, in comparison with those proposed in [24] and [28].

### 4.3 Convergence rate of the component density estimator

We have now everything we need to compute the convergence rate of our estimator  $\hat{f}(x_0)$  at the point  $x_0$ , with selected bandwidth, and defined with the preliminary estimates  $\hat{g}$  and  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  introduced above (sections 4.2 and 4.1 respectively). Starting from the results of Theorem 1, we obtain the following rate of decrease for the pointwise risk of our estimate, over Hölder smoothness classes.

**Corollary 1.** *Assume that (A1), (A6) and (A7) are satisfied, for  $\beta > 0$  and  $\mathcal{L} > 0$ , and for an index  $\ell > 0$  such that  $\ell \geq \lceil \beta \rceil$ . We choose e.g.  $\alpha_n = \log(n)$  and the bandwidth collection*

$$\mathcal{H}_n := \left\{ \frac{1}{k}, k \in \{1, \dots, \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor\} \cap [\alpha_n, \hat{\gamma}n / \log^3(n)] \right\}.$$

*Then, if  $\hat{f}$  is defined with the preliminary estimates  $\hat{g}$  and  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  introduced in sections 4.2 and 4.1 respectively, it satisfies*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ (\hat{f}(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \right] \leq C_9^* \left( \frac{\log n}{n} \right)^{\frac{2\beta}{2\beta+1}}, \quad (23)$$

where  $C_9^*$  is a constant depending on  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $\|K\|_1$ ,  $\|K\|_2$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\|f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ .

The estimator  $\hat{f}$ , with data-driven bandwidth, now achieves the convergence rate  $(\log n/n)^{2\beta/(2\beta+1)}$  over the class  $\Sigma(\beta, \mathcal{L})$  as soon as  $\beta \leq \ell$ . The risk decreases at the optimal minimax rate of convergence (up to a logarithmic term) : the upper bound of Corollary 1 matches with the lower-bound for the minimax risk established by Ibragimov and Hasminskii [19]. Our procedure automatically adapts to the unknown smoothness of the function to estimate : the bandwidth  $\hat{h}(x_0)$  is computed in a fully data-driven way, without using the knowledge of the regularity index  $\beta$ , contrary to the estimator  $\hat{f}_n^{rwk}$  of Nguyen and Matias [23] (corollary 3.4).

**Remark 1.** *In the present work, we focus on Model (1). However, the estimation procedure we develop can easily be extended to the model*

$$g(x) = \theta\phi(x) + (1 - \theta)f(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad (24)$$

where the function  $\phi$  is a known density, but not necessarily equal to the uniform one. In this case, a family of kernel estimates can be defined like in (3) replacing the weights  $w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(\cdot))$  by

$$w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(\cdot), \phi(x_0)) = \frac{1}{1 - \tilde{\theta}_n} \left( 1 - \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n \phi(x_0)}{\hat{g}(\cdot)} \right).$$

*If the density function  $\phi$  is uniformly bounded on  $\mathbb{R}$ , it is then possible to obtain analogous results (bias-variance trade-off for the pointwise risk, adaptive bandwidth selection rule leading to oracle-type inequality and optimal convergence rate) as we established for model (1).*

## 5 Numerical study

### 5.1 Simulated data

We briefly illustrate the performance of the estimation method over simulated data, according to the following framework. We simulate observations with density  $g$  defined by model (1) for sample size  $n \in \{500, 1000, 2000\}$ . Three different cases of  $(\theta, f)$  are considered:

- $f_1(x) = 4(1 - x)^3 \mathbb{1}_{[0,1]}(x)$ ,  $\theta_1 = 0.65$ .
- $f_2(x) = \frac{s}{1 - \delta} \left( 1 - \frac{x}{1 - \delta} \right)^{s-1} \mathbb{1}_{[0,1-\delta]}(x)$  with  $(\delta, s) = (0.3, 1.4)$ ,  $\theta_2 = 0.45$ .
- $f_3(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} (1 - e^{-\lambda b})^{-1} \mathbb{1}_{[0,b]}(x)$  the density of truncated exponential distribution on  $[0, b]$  with  $(\lambda, b) = (10, 0.9)$ ,  $\theta_3 = 0.35$ .

The density  $f_1$  is borrowed from [23] while the shape of  $f_2$  is used both by [5] and [24]. Figure 1 represents those three cases with respect to each design density and associated proportion  $\theta$ .

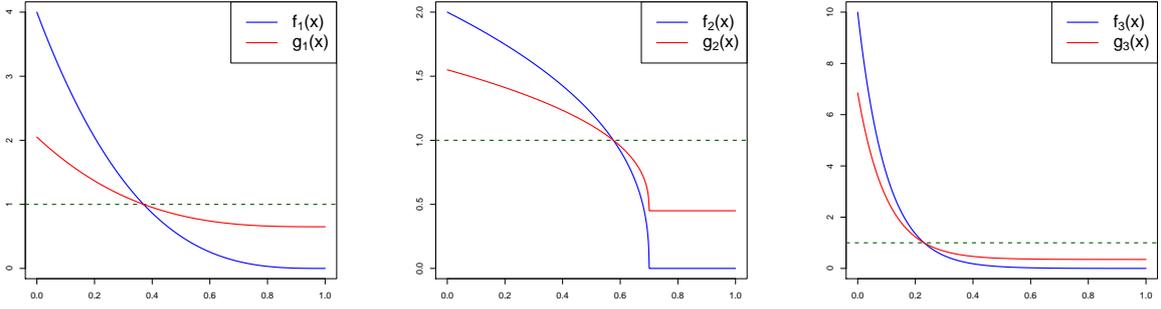


Figure 1: Representation of  $f_j$  and the corresponding  $g_j$  in model (1) for  $(\theta_1 = 0.65, f_1)$  (left),  $(\theta_2 = 0.45, f_2)$  (middle) and  $(\theta_3 = 0.35, f_3)$  (right).

## 5.2 Implementation of the method

To compute our estimates, we choose  $K(x) = L(x) = (1 - |x|)\mathbb{1}_{\{|x| \leq 1\}}$  the triangular kernel. In the variance term (8) of the GL method used to select the bandwidth of the kernel estimator of  $f$ , we replace  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$  by the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of  $\{\max_{t \in \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} \hat{g}_h(t), h \in \mathcal{H}_n\}$ . Similarly, in the variance term  $\Gamma_1$  used to select the bandwidth of the kernel estimate of  $g$ , we use the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of  $\{\max_{t \in [0,1]} \hat{g}_h(t), h \in \mathcal{H}_n\}$  instead of  $\|g\|_{\infty}$ . The collection of bandwidths  $\mathcal{H}_n, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}'$  are equal to  $\{1/k, k = 1, \dots, \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor\}$ .

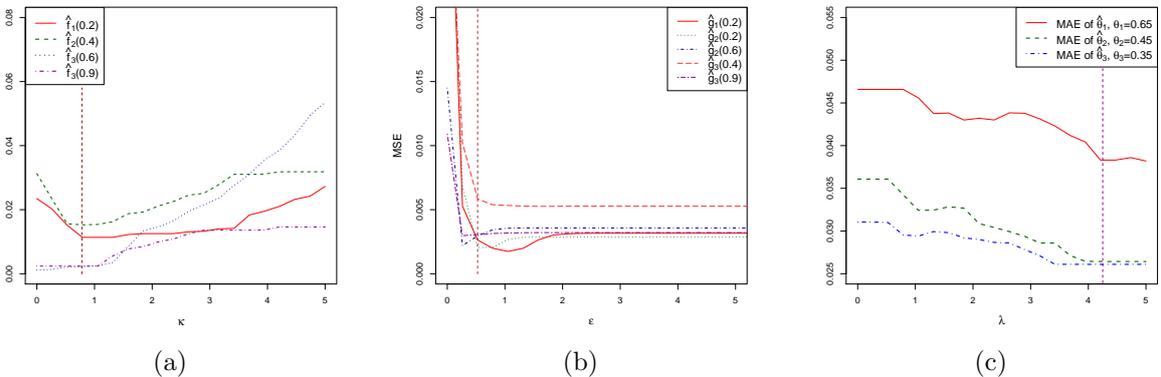


Figure 2: values of the mean-squared error for (a)  $\hat{f}(x_0)$  with respect to  $\kappa$ , (b)  $\hat{g}(x_0)$  with respect to  $\varepsilon$ . (c) : Values of the mean-absolute error for  $\hat{\theta}_n$  with respect to  $\lambda$ . The sample size is  $n = 2000$  for all computations. The vertical line corresponds to the chosen value of  $\kappa$  (figure (a)),  $\varepsilon$  (figure (b)) and  $\lambda$  (figure (c)).

We shall settle the values of the constants  $\kappa$ ,  $\varepsilon$  and  $\lambda$  involved in the penalty terms  $V(x_0, h), \Gamma_1(h)$  and  $\Gamma_2(b)$  respectively, to compute the selected bandwidths. Since the calibrations of these tuning parameters are carried out in the same fashion, we only describe the calibration for  $\kappa$ . Denote by  $\hat{f}_\kappa$  the estimator of  $f$  depending on the constant  $\kappa$  to be calibrated. We approximate the mean-squared error for the estimator  $\hat{f}_\kappa$ , defined by  $\text{MSE}(\hat{f}_\kappa(x_0)) = \mathbb{E}[(\hat{f}_\kappa(x_0) - f(x_0))^2]$ , over 100 Monte-Carlo runs, for different possible values  $\{\kappa_1, \dots, \kappa_K\}$  of  $\kappa$ , for the three densities  $f_1, f_2, f_3$  calculated at several test points  $x_0$ . We choose a value for  $\kappa$  that leads to small risks in all investigated cases. Figure 2(a) shows that  $\kappa = 0.78$  is an acceptable choice even if other values can be also convenient. Similarly, we set  $\varepsilon = 0.52$  and  $\lambda = 4.25$  (see Figure 2(b) and 2(c) for the calibrations of  $\varepsilon$  and  $\lambda$ ).

## 5.3 Simulation results

### 5.3.1 Estimation of the mixing proportion $\theta$

We compare our estimator  $\hat{\theta}_n$  with the histogram-based estimator  $\hat{\theta}_n^{\text{Ng-M}}$  proposed in [24] and the estimator  $\hat{\theta}_n^S$  introduced in [28]. Boxplots in Figure 3 represent the absolute errors of  $\hat{\theta}_n$ ,  $\hat{\theta}_n^{\text{Ng-M}}$  and  $\hat{\theta}_n^S$ , labeled respectively by "Sym-Ker", "Histogram" and "Bootstrap". The estimators  $\hat{\theta}_n$  and  $\hat{\theta}_n^{\text{Ng-M}}$  have comparable performances, and outperform  $\hat{\theta}_n^S$ .

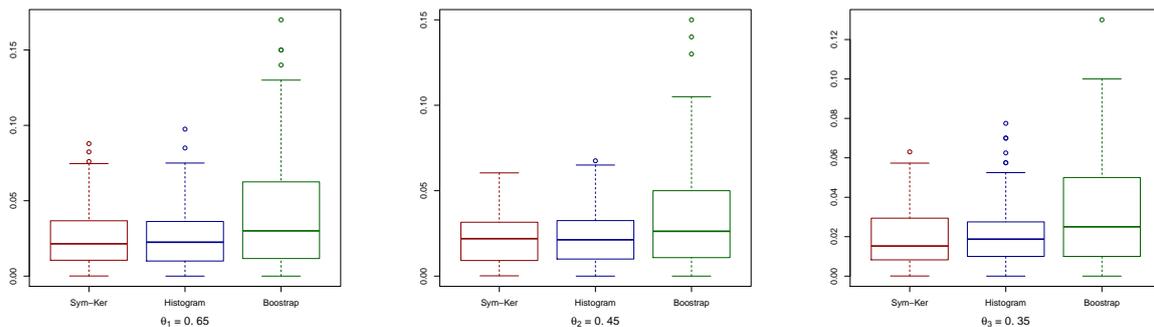


Figure 3: errors for the estimation of  $\theta$  in the three simulated settings (with sample size  $n = 2000$ ).

### 5.3.2 Estimation of the target density $f$

We present in Tables 1, 2 and 3 the mean-squared error (MSE) for the estimation of  $f$  according to the three different models and the different sample sizes introduced in Section 5.1. The MSEs' are approximated over 100 Monte-Carlo replications. We shall choose the estimation points (to compute the pointwise risk): we propose  $x_0 \in \{0.1, 0.4, 0.6, 0.9\}$ . The choices of  $x_0 = 0.4$  and  $x_0 = 0.6$  are standard. The choices of  $x_0 = 0.1$  and  $x_0 = 0.9$  allows to test the performance of  $\hat{f}$  close to the boundaries of the domain of definition of  $f$  and  $g$ . We compare our estimator  $\hat{f}$  with the randomly weighted estimator proposed in Nguyen and Matias [23]. In the sequel, the label "AWKE" (Adaptive Weighted Kernel Estimator) refers to our estimator  $\hat{f}$ , whose bandwidth is selected by the Goldenshluger-Lepski method and "Ng-M" refers to the one proposed by [23]. Resulting boxplots are displayed in Figure 4 for  $n = 2000$ .

Sample size	Estimator	$x_0 = 0.1$	$x_0 = 0.4$	$x_0 = 0.6$	$x_0 = 0.9$
$n = 500$	AWKE	0.1683	0.0119	0.0256	0.0059
	Ng-M	0.2869	0.0450	0.1046	0.0433
$n = 1000$	AWKE	0.0632	0.0087	0.0118	0.0063
	Ng-M	0.1643	0.0469	0.0651	0.0279
$n = 2000$	AWKE	0.0314	0.0118	0.0098	0.0038
	Ng-M	0.0982	0.0246	0.0326	0.0164

Table 1: mean-squared error of the reconstruction of  $f_1$ , for our estimator  $\hat{f}$  (AWKE), and for the estimator of Nguyen and Matias [23] (Ng-M).

Tables 1, 2, 3 and boxplots show that our estimator outperforms the one of [23]. Notice that the errors are relatively large at the point  $x_0 = 0.1$ , for both estimators, which was expected (boundary effect).

Sample size	Estimator	$x_0 = 0.1$	$x_0 = 0.4$	$x_0 = 0.6$	$x_0 = 0.9$
$n = 500$	AWKE	0.0430	0.0126	0.0311	0.0002
	Ng-M	0.0560	0.0540	0.0306	0.0138
$n = 1000$	AWKE	0.0183	0.0061	0.0240	0.0005
	Ng-M	0.0277	0.0209	0.0123	0.0069
$n = 2000$	AWKE	0.0061	0.0034	0.0076	0.0002
	Ng-M	0.0164	0.0159	0.0113	0.0038

Table 2: mean-squared error of the reconstruction of  $f_2$ , for our estimator  $\hat{f}$  (AWKE), and for the estimator of Nguyen and Matias [23] (Ng-M).

Sample size	Estimator	$x_0 = 0.1$	$x_0 = 0.4$	$x_0 = 0.6$	$x_0 = 0.9$
$n = 500$	AWKE	0.0737	0.0090	0.0039	0.0016
	Ng-M	0.1308	0.0247	0.0207	0.0096
$n = 1000$	AWKE	0.0296	0.0051	0.0026	0.0009
	Ng-M	0.0566	0.0106	0.0096	0.0060
$n = 2000$	AWKE	0.0224	0.0022	0.0012	0.0007
	Ng-M	0.0342	0.0059	0.0062	0.0021

Table 3: mean-squared error of the reconstruction of  $f_3$ , for our estimator  $\hat{f}$  (AWKE), and for the estimator of Nguyen and Matias [23] (Ng-M).

## 6 Proofs

In the sequel, the notations  $\tilde{\mathbb{P}}$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}$  and  $\tilde{\text{Var}}$  respectively denote the probability, the expectation and the variance associated with  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ , conditionally on the additional random sample  $X_{n+1}, \dots, X_{2n}$ .

### 6.1 Proof of Proposition 1

Let  $\rho > 1$ , introduce the event

$$\Omega_\rho = \left\{ \rho^{-1}\gamma \leq \hat{\gamma} \leq \rho\gamma \right\}.$$

such that

$$\hat{f}_h(x_0) - f(x_0) = (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - f(x_0))\mathbb{1}_{\Omega_\rho} + (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - f(x_0))\mathbb{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c}. \quad (25)$$

We first evaluate the term  $(\hat{f}_h(x_0) - f(x_0))\mathbb{1}_{\Omega_\rho}$ . Suppose now that we are on  $\Omega_\rho$ , then for any  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$ , we have

$$(\hat{f}_h(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \leq 3 \left( (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - K_h \star \check{f}(x_0))^2 + (K_h \star \check{f}(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0))^2 + (\check{f}(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \right), \quad (26)$$

where we define

$$\check{f}(x) = w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(x))g(x) = \frac{1}{1 - \tilde{\theta}_n} \left( 1 - \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n}{\hat{g}(x)} \right) g(x).$$

Note that by definition of  $\check{f}$ , we have  $K_h \star \check{f}(x_0) = \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_h(x_0)]$ . Hence,

$$(\hat{f}_h(x_0) - K_h \star \check{f}(x_0))^2 = (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_h(x_0)])^2.$$

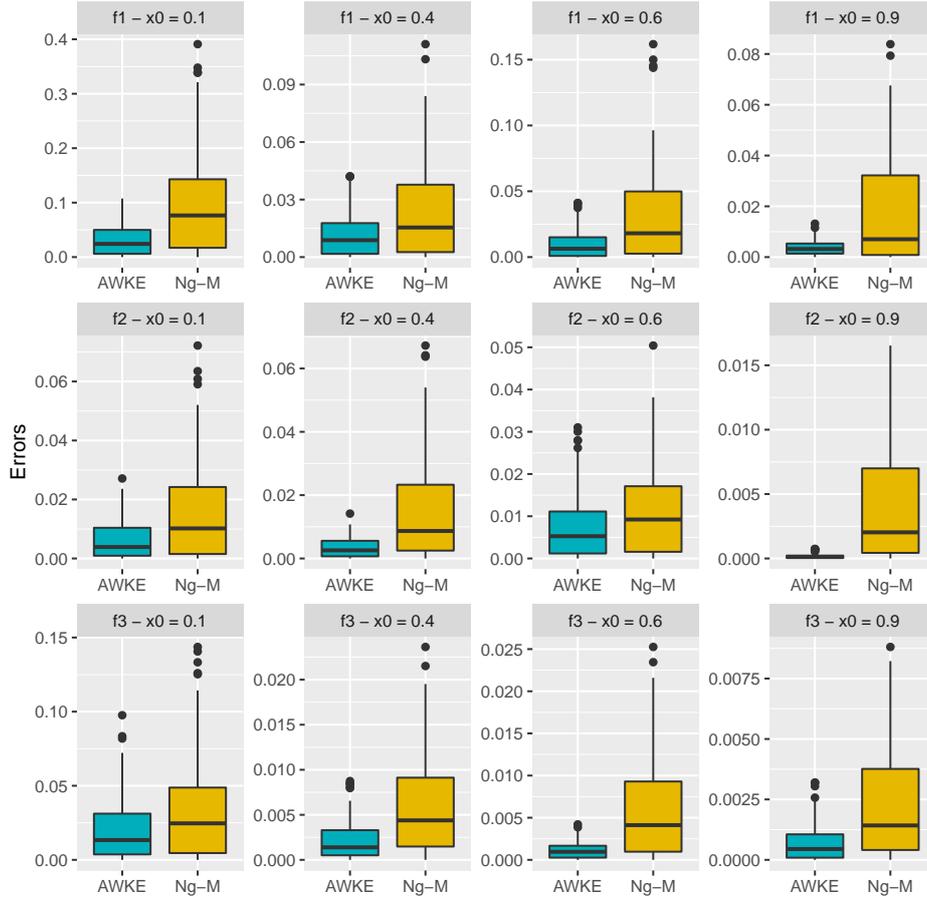


Figure 4: errors for the estimation of  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$  and  $f_3$  for  $x_0 \in \{0.1, 0.4, 0.6, 0.9\}$  and sample size  $n = 2000$ .

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[ (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_h(x_0)])^2 \right] &= \tilde{\text{Var}} \left( \hat{f}_h(x_0) \right) = \tilde{\text{Var}} \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i)) K_h(x_0 - X_i) \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \tilde{\text{Var}} \left( w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_1)) K_h(x_0 - X_1) \right) \\
&\leq \frac{1}{n} \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[ \left( w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_1)) K_h(x_0 - X_1) \right)^2 \right].
\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , thanks to **(A4)** and **(A2)**, and since  $\hat{\gamma} \geq \rho^{-1}\gamma$  on  $\Omega_\rho$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\left| w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i)) K_h(x_0 - X_i) \right| &= \left| \frac{1}{1 - \tilde{\theta}_n} \left( 1 - \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n}{\hat{g}(X_i)} \right) K_h(x_0 - X_i) \right| \leq \frac{2}{\delta} \left( 1 + \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n}{|\hat{g}(X_i)|} \right) |K_h(x_0 - X_i)| \\
&\leq \frac{2}{\delta} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\hat{\gamma}} \right) |K_h(x_0 - X_i)| \tag{27}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \frac{2}{\delta} \left( 1 + \frac{\rho}{\gamma} \right) |K_h(x_0 - X_i)| = \frac{2(\rho + \gamma)}{\delta\gamma} |K_h(x_0 - X_i)|. \tag{28}$$

For (27), as we use compactly supported kernel to construct the estimator  $\hat{f}_h$ , condition  $\alpha_n \leq h^{-1}$  in **(A5)** ensures that  $\left| (\hat{g}(X_i))^{-1} K_h(x_0 - X_i) \right|$  is upper bounded by  $\hat{\gamma}^{-1} |K_h(x_0 - X_i)|$  even though we have no observation in the neighbourhood of  $x_0$ .

Thus we obtain, on  $\Omega_\rho$ ,

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[ \left( \hat{f}_h(x_0) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_h(x_0)] \right)^2 \right] \leq \frac{4(\rho + \gamma)^2}{\delta^2 \gamma^2 n} \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[ K_h^2(x_0 - X_1) \right] \leq \frac{4(\rho + \gamma)^2 \|K\|_2^2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}}{\delta^2 \gamma^2 n h}. \quad (29)$$

For the last two terms of (26), we apply the following proposition, which proof can be found in Section 6.5.1.

**Proposition 2.** *Assume (A1) and (A3). On the set  $\Omega_\rho$ , we have the following results for any  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$*

$$\left( \check{f}(x_0) - f(x_0) \right)^2 \leq C_1 \delta^{-2} \gamma^{-2} \|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 + C_2 \delta^{-6} |\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta|^2, \quad (30)$$

$$\left( K_h \star \check{f}(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \leq 6 \|K_h \star f - f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 + C_3 \delta^{-2} \gamma^{-2} \|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 + C_4 \delta^{-6} |\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta|^2, \quad (31)$$

where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  respectively depend on  $\rho$  and  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $C_3$  depends on  $\rho$  and  $\|K\|_1$  and  $C_4$  depends on  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$  and  $\|K\|_1$ .

Combining (29), (30) and (31), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \hat{f}_h(x_0) - f(x_0) \right)^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c} \right] &\leq 18 \|K_h \star f - f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 + 3(C_1 + C_3) \delta^{-2} \gamma^{-2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 \right] \\ &\quad + 3(C_2 + C_4) \delta^{-6} \mathbb{E} \left[ |\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta|^2 \right] + \frac{12(\rho + \gamma)^2 \|K\|_2^2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}}{\delta^2 \gamma^2 n h}. \end{aligned}$$

It remains to study the risk bound on  $\Omega_\rho^c$ . To do so, we successively apply the following lemmas whose proofs are postponed to Section 6.5.

**Lemma 3.** *Suppose that Assumption (A3) is satisfied. Then we have for  $\rho > 1$*

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \Omega_\rho^c \right) \leq C_{g, \rho} \exp \left\{ -(\log n)^{3/2} \right\},$$

with  $C_{g, \rho}$  a positive constant depending on  $g$  and  $\rho$ .

**Lemma 4.** *Assume (A1) to (A5). For any  $h \in \mathcal{H}_n$ , we have*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \hat{f}_h(x_0) - f(x_0) \right)^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c} \right] \leq \frac{C_4^*}{n^2},$$

with  $C_4^*$  a positive constant depending on  $\|f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $\|K\|_\infty$ ,  $g$ ,  $\delta$  and  $\rho$ .

This concludes the proof of Proposition 1.

## 6.2 Proof of Theorem 1

Suppose that we are on  $\Omega_\rho$ . Let  $\hat{f}$  be the adaptive estimator defined in (10), we have for any  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$\left( \hat{f}(x_0) - f(x_0) \right)^2 \leq 2 \left( \left( \hat{f}(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2 + \left( \check{f}(x_0) - f(x_0) \right)^2 \right)$$

The second term is controlled by (30) of Proposition 2. Hence it remains to handle with the first term. For any  $h \in \mathcal{H}_n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \hat{f}(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2 &\leq 3 \left( \left( \hat{f}_{\hat{h}(x_0)}(x_0) - \hat{f}_{\hat{h}(x_0), h}(x_0) \right)^2 + \left( \hat{f}_{\hat{h}(x_0), h}(x_0) - \hat{f}_h(x_0) \right)^2 + \left( \hat{f}_h(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \right) \\ &= 3 \left( \left( \hat{f}_{\hat{h}(x_0)}(x_0) - \hat{f}_{\hat{h}(x_0), h}(x_0) \right)^2 - V(x_0, \hat{h}(x_0)) + \left( \hat{f}_{\hat{h}(x_0), h}(x_0) - \hat{f}_h(x_0) \right)^2 - V(x_0, h) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + V(x_0, \hat{h}(x_0)) + V(x_0, h) + \left( \hat{f}_h(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \right) \\ &\leq 3 \left( A(x_0, \hat{h}(x_0)) + A(x_0, h) + V(x_0, \hat{h}(x_0)) + V(x_0, h) + \left( \hat{f}_h(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \right) \quad (32) \\ &\leq 6A(x_0, h) + 6V(x_0, h) + 3 \left( \hat{f}_h(x_0) - K_h \star \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2 + 3 \left( K_h \star \check{f}(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2. \quad (33) \end{aligned}$$

To obtain (32), we use the definition of  $A(x_0, h)$ ,  $h \in \mathcal{H}_n$ , see (9), and also that  $\hat{f}_{h,h'} = \hat{f}_{h',h}$ , for any  $h, h' \in \mathcal{H}_n$ . Then, (33) is a consequence of the definition of  $\hat{h}(x_0)$ , see (10). Next, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A(x_0, h) &= \max_{h' \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left\{ (\hat{f}_{h,h'}(x_0) - \hat{f}_{h'}(x_0))^2 - V(x_0, h') \right\}_+ \\ &\leq 3 \max_{h' \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left\{ (\hat{f}_{h,h'}(x_0) - K_{h'} \star (K_h \star \check{f})(x_0))^2 + (\hat{f}_{h'}(x_0) - K_{h'} \star \check{f}(x_0))^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (K_{h'} \star (K_h \star \check{f})(x_0) - K_{h'} \star \check{f}(x_0))^2 - \frac{V(x_0, h')}{3} \right\}_+ \\ &\leq 3(B(h) + D_1 + D_2), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} B(h) &= \max_{h' \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left( K_{h'} \star (K_h \star \check{f})(x_0) - K_{h'} \star \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2 \\ D_1 &= \max_{h' \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left\{ (\hat{f}_{h'}(x_0) - K_{h'} \star \check{f}(x_0))^2 - \frac{V(x_0, h')}{6} \right\}_+ \\ D_2 &= \max_{h' \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left\{ (\hat{f}_{h,h'}(x_0) - K_{h'} \star (K_h \star \check{f})(x_0))^2 - \frac{V(x_0, h')}{6} \right\}_+. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} B(h) &= \max_{h' \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left( K_{h'} \star (K_h \star \check{f})(x_0) - K_{h'} \star \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2 = \max_{h' \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left( K_{h'} \star (K_h \star \check{f} - \check{f})(x_0) \right)^2 \\ &\leq \|K\|_1^2 \sup_{t \in \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} |K_h \star \check{f}(t) - \check{f}(t)|^2, \end{aligned}$$

then we can rewrite (33) as

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \hat{f}(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0) \right)^2 &\leq 18D_1 + 18D_2 + 6V(x_0, h) + 3(\hat{f}_h(x_0) - K_h \star \check{f}(x_0))^2 \\ &\quad + (18\|K\|_1^2 + 3) \sup_{t \in \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} |K_h \star \check{f}(t) - \check{f}(t)|^2. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

The last two terms of (34) are controlled by (29) and (31) of Proposition 2. Hence it remains to deal with terms  $D_1$  and  $D_2$ .

For  $D_1$ , we recall that  $K_h \star \check{f}(x_0) = \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_h(x_0)]$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[D_1] &= \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[ \max_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left\{ (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - K_h \star \check{f}(x_0))^2 - \frac{V(x_0, h)}{6} \right\}_+ \right] \\ &\leq \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[ \left\{ (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_h(x_0)])^2 - \frac{V(x_0, h)}{6} \right\}_+ \right] \\ &\leq \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \int_0^{+\infty} \tilde{\mathbb{P}} \left( \left\{ (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_h(x_0)])^2 - \frac{V(x_0, h)}{6} \right\}_+ > u \right) du \\ &\leq \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \int_0^{+\infty} \tilde{\mathbb{P}} \left( |\hat{f}_h(x_0) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_h(x_0)]| > \sqrt{\frac{V(x_0, h)}{6} + u} \right) du. \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

Now let us introduce the sequence of *i.i.d.* random variables  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n$  where we set

$$Z_i = w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i))K_h(x_0 - X_i).$$

Then we have

$$\hat{f}_h(x_0) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_h(x_0)] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Z_i - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[Z_i]).$$

Moreover, we have by (27) and recall that we are on  $\Omega_\rho = \{\rho^{-1}\gamma \leq \hat{\gamma} \leq \rho\gamma\}$ ,

$$|Z_i| = |w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i))K_h(x_0 - X_i)| \leq \frac{2(\hat{\gamma} + 1) \|K\|_\infty}{h\delta\hat{\gamma}} \leq \frac{2(\rho\gamma + 1) \|K\|_\infty}{h\delta\hat{\gamma}} =: b,$$

and

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[Z_1^2] = \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[ w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i))^2 K_h^2(x_0 - X_i) \right] \leq \frac{4(\rho\gamma + 1)^2 \|K\|_2^2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}}{h\delta^2\hat{\gamma}^2} =: v.$$

Applying the Bernstein inequality (cf. Lemma 2 of Comte and Lacour [11]), we have for any  $u > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbb{P}} \left( |\hat{f}_h(x_0) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_h(x_0)]| > \sqrt{\frac{V(x_0, h)}{6} + u} \right) &= \tilde{\mathbb{P}} \left( \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Z_i - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[Z_i]) \right| > \sqrt{\frac{V(x_0, h)}{6} + u} \right) \\ &\leq 2 \max \left\{ \exp \left( -\frac{n}{4v} \left( \frac{V(x_0, h)}{6} + u \right) \right), \exp \left( -\frac{n}{4b} \sqrt{\frac{V(x_0, h)}{6} + u} \right) \right\} \\ &\leq 2 \max \left\{ \exp \left( -\frac{n}{24v} V(x_0, h) \right) \exp \left( -\frac{nu}{4v} \right), \exp \left( -\frac{n}{8b} \sqrt{\frac{V(x_0, h)}{6}} \right) \exp \left( -\frac{n\sqrt{u}}{8b} \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, by the definition of  $V(x_0, h)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n}{24v} V(x_0, h) &= \frac{nh\hat{\gamma}^2\delta^2}{96(\rho\gamma + 1)^2 \|K\|_2^2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}} \times \frac{\kappa \|K\|_1^2 \|K\|_2^2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} \log(n)}{\hat{\gamma}^2 nh} \\ &= \frac{\kappa\delta^2 \|K\|_1^2}{96(\rho\gamma + 1)^2} \log(n) \geq \frac{\kappa\delta^2}{96(\rho\gamma + 1)^2} \log(n). \end{aligned}$$

If we choose  $\kappa$  such that  $\frac{\kappa\delta^2}{96(\rho\gamma + 1)^2} \geq 2$ , we get

$$\frac{n}{24v} V(x_0, h) \geq 2 \log(n).$$

Moreover, using the assumption that  $\hat{\gamma}nh \geq \log^3(n)$  and that  $\hat{\gamma} \leq \rho\gamma$  on  $\Omega_\rho$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n}{8b} \sqrt{\frac{V(x_0, h)}{6}} &= \frac{nh\hat{\gamma}\delta}{16\sqrt{6}(\rho\gamma + 1) \|K\|_\infty} \times \frac{\|K\|_1 \|K\|_2 \sqrt{\kappa \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} \log(n)}}{\hat{\gamma}\sqrt{nh}} \\ &= \frac{\delta \|K\|_1 \|K\|_2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^{1/2}}{16\sqrt{6}(\rho\gamma + 1) \|K\|_\infty} \sqrt{\kappa nh \log(n)} \\ &\geq \frac{\delta \|K\|_1 \|K\|_2}{16\sqrt{6}(\rho\gamma + 1)\rho^{1/2}\gamma^{1/2} \|K\|_\infty} \sqrt{\kappa} \log^2(n) \geq 2 \log(n), \end{aligned}$$

if

$$\frac{\delta \|K\|_1 \|K\|_2}{16\sqrt{6}(\rho\gamma + 1)\rho^{1/2}\gamma^{1/2} \|K\|_\infty} \sqrt{\kappa} \log(n) \geq 2$$

which automatically holds for well-chosen value of  $\kappa$ , and  $n$  large enough. Then we have by using the

conditions  $\rho^{-1}\gamma \leq \hat{\gamma}$  and  $h \geq 1/n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[D_1] &\leq \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \int_0^{+\infty} 2n^{-2} \max \left\{ \exp\left(-\frac{nu}{4v}\right), \exp\left(-\frac{n\sqrt{u}}{8b}\right) \right\} du \\
&\leq 2n^{-2} \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \int_0^{+\infty} \max \left\{ \exp\left(-nh \frac{\delta^2 \hat{\gamma}^2}{16(\rho\gamma + 1)^2 \|K\|_2^2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}} u\right), \exp\left(-nh \frac{\delta \hat{\gamma}}{16(\rho\gamma + 1) \|K\|_{\infty}} \sqrt{u}\right) \right\} du \\
&\leq 2n^{-2} \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \int_0^{+\infty} \max \left\{ \exp\left(-nh \frac{\delta^2 \hat{\gamma}^2}{16(\rho\gamma + 1)^2 \rho^2 \|K\|_2^2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}} u\right), \exp\left(-nh \frac{\delta \hat{\gamma}}{16(\rho\gamma + 1) \rho \|K\|_{\infty}} \sqrt{u}\right) \right\} du \\
&\leq 2n^{-2} \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \int_0^{+\infty} \max \left\{ e^{-\pi_1 u}, e^{-\pi_2 \sqrt{u}} \right\} du \leq 2n^{-2} \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \max \left\{ \frac{1}{\pi_1}, \frac{2}{\pi_2^2} \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

with  $\pi_1 := \frac{\delta^2 \hat{\gamma}^2}{16(\rho\gamma + 1)^2 \rho^2 \|K\|_2^2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}}$  and  $\pi_2 := \frac{\delta \hat{\gamma}}{16(\rho\gamma + 1) \rho \|K\|_{\infty}}$ .

Since  $\text{card}(\mathcal{H}_n) \leq n$ , we finally obtain

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[D_1] \leq C_5 \delta^{-2} \gamma^{-2} n^{-1}, \quad (36)$$

where  $C_5$  is a positive constant depending on  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $\|K\|_{\infty}$ ,  $\|K\|_2$  and  $\rho$ .

Similarly, we introduce  $U_i = w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i)) K_{h'} \star K_h(x_0 - X_i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Then,

$$\hat{f}_{h, h'}(x_0) - K_{h'} \star (K_h \star \check{f})(x_0) = \hat{f}_{h, h'}(x_0) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{f}_{h, h'}(x_0)] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (U_i - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[U_i]),$$

and

$$|U_i| \leq \frac{4 \|K\|_1 \|K\|_{\infty}}{h' \delta \hat{\gamma}} =: \bar{b}, \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[U_i^2] \leq \frac{16 \|K\|_1^2 \|K\|_2^2 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}}{h' \delta^2 \hat{\gamma}^2} =: \bar{v}.$$

Following the same lines as for obtaining (36), we get by using Bernstein inequality

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[D_2] \leq C_6 \delta^{-2} \gamma^{-2} n^{-1}, \quad (37)$$

with  $C_6$  a positive constant depends on  $\|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $\|K\|_{\infty}$ ,  $\|K\|_1$ ,  $\|K\|_2$  and  $\rho$ .

Finally, combining (34), (36), (37) and successively applying Lemma 3 and Lemma 4 allow us to conclude the result stated in Theorem 1.

### 6.3 Proof of Lemma 2

First, we prove that  $g^{sym}$  is the density of  $Y_i$ . To this aim, let  $\varphi$  be a measurable bounded function defined on  $\mathbb{R}$ . We compute

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[\varphi(Y_i)] &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_i) | \varepsilon_i] \mathbf{1}_{\{\varepsilon_i=1\}}] + \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\varphi(2 - X_i) | \varepsilon_i] \mathbf{1}_{\{\varepsilon_i=-1\}}], \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbb{E}[\varphi(X_i)] + \mathbb{E}[\varphi(2 - X_i)]), \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \left( \int_0^1 \varphi(x) g(x) dx + \int_0^1 \varphi(2 - x) g(x) dx \right), \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \left( \int_0^1 \varphi(x) g(x) dx + \int_1^2 \varphi(x) g(2 - x) dx \right), \\
&= \int_0^2 \varphi(x) g^{sym}(x) dx.
\end{aligned}$$

Since the equality holds for any test function  $\varphi$ , we obtain the first assumption of the lemma.

We prove now (19). Under the identifiability condition, we have  $\theta = g(x)$  for all  $x \in [1 - \delta, 1]$ , and thus  $\theta = 2g^{sym}(x)$  for  $x \in [1 - \delta, 1 + \delta]$ . Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\hat{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta| &= \left| \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{1-\delta}^{1+\delta} \hat{g}_b^{sym}(x) dx - \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{1-\delta}^{1+\delta} g^{sym}(x) dx \right| = \left| \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{1-\delta}^{1+\delta} \hat{g}_b^{sym}(x) - g^{sym}(x) dx \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{1-\delta}^{1+\delta} |\hat{g}_b^{sym}(x) - g^{sym}(x)| dx \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{1-\delta}^{1+\delta} \|\hat{g}_b^{sym} - g^{sym}\|_{\infty, [1-\delta, 1+\delta]} dx = 2 \|\hat{g}_b^{sym} - g^{sym}\|_{\infty, [1-\delta, 1+\delta]}, \end{aligned}$$

which proves (19). Then, thanks to the Markov Inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{\theta}_{n,b} \neq \hat{\theta}_{n,b}) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\hat{\theta}_{n,b} \notin \left[\frac{\delta}{2}, 1 - \frac{\delta}{2}\right]\right) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}\left(|\hat{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta| > \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \leq \frac{4}{\delta^2} \mathbb{E}\left[|\hat{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta|^2\right], \end{aligned}$$

which is (20). Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}\left[|\tilde{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta|^2\right] &= \mathbb{E}\left[|\tilde{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta|^2 \left(\mathbf{1}_{\{\hat{\theta}_{n,b} = \tilde{\theta}_{n,b}\}} + \mathbf{1}_{\{\hat{\theta}_{n,b} \neq \tilde{\theta}_{n,b}\}}\right)\right] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}\left[|\hat{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta|^2 \mathbf{1}_{\{\hat{\theta}_{n,b} \in [\delta/2, 1-\delta/2]\}}\right] + \left(|\tilde{\theta}_{n,b}| + |\theta|\right)^2 \mathbb{P}(\hat{\theta}_{n,b} \neq \tilde{\theta}_{n,b}) \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}\left[|\hat{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta|^2 \mathbf{1}_{\{\hat{\theta}_{n,b} \in [\delta/2, 1-\delta/2]\}}\right] + 4\mathbb{P}(\hat{\theta}_{n,b} \neq \tilde{\theta}_{n,b}) \\ &\leq (1 + 4 \times \frac{4}{\delta^2}) \mathbb{E}\left[|\hat{\theta}_{n,b} - \theta|^2\right], \\ &\leq (1 + 4 \times \frac{4}{\delta^2}) \times 2\mathbb{E}\left[\|\hat{g}_b^{sym} - g^{sym}\|_{\infty, [1-\delta, 1+\delta]}^2\right]. \end{aligned}$$

thanks to (20) and then (19). This concludes the proof of Lemma 2.

## 6.4 Proof of Corollary 1

Since Assumptions (A6) and (A7) are fulfilled. According to Proposition 1.2 of Tsybakov [30], we get for all  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$

$$|K_h \star f(x_0) - f(x_0)| \leq C_7 \mathcal{L} h^\beta,$$

where  $C$  a constant depending on  $K$  and  $\mathcal{L}$ . We obtain

$$\min_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left\{ \|K_h \star f - f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 + \frac{\log(n)}{\delta^2 \gamma^2 n h} \right\} \leq \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \left\{ C_7 \mathcal{L} h^\beta + \frac{\log(n)}{\delta^2 \gamma^2 n h} \right\}. \quad (38)$$

Taking

$$h^* = \frac{1}{k^*} \text{ with } k^* = \left\lfloor \left( \frac{n}{\log(n)} \right)^{1/(2\beta+1)} \right\rfloor,$$

there exists  $n(\beta, \gamma, \rho)$  such that, for all  $n \geq n(\beta, \gamma, \rho)$ ,

$$\frac{\gamma}{\rho} \frac{n}{\log^3(n)} \geq \left\lfloor \left( \frac{n}{\log(n)} \right)^{1/(2\beta+1)} \right\rfloor \geq \log(n) = \alpha_n.$$

Implying that for all  $n \geq n(\beta, \gamma, \rho)$ ,

$$\Omega_\rho \subseteq \{\hat{\gamma} \geq \gamma/\rho\} \subseteq \{h^* \in \mathcal{H}_n\}.$$

Finally, since we also have (13) and (22), gathering (11) and (38). Since Assumption (A5) is verified by construction of  $\mathcal{H}_n$ , using again Lemma 4, we obtain, for all  $n$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ (\hat{f}(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \right] \leq C_8 \left( \frac{\log n}{n} \right)^{\frac{2\beta}{2\beta+1}},$$

where  $C_8$  is a constant depending on  $K$ ,  $\|f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $g$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\rho$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\beta$ .

## 6.5 Proofs of technical intermediate results

### 6.5.1 Proof of Proposition 2

Let us introduce the function

$$\tilde{f}(x) := w(\tilde{\theta}_n, g(x))g(x) = \frac{1}{1 - \tilde{\theta}_n} \left( 1 - \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n}{g(x)} \right) g(x). \quad (39)$$

Then we have for  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$

$$(\check{f}(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \leq 2 \left( (\check{f}(x_0) - \tilde{f}(x_0))^2 + (\tilde{f}(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \right).$$

For the first term, on  $\Omega_\rho = \{\rho^{-1}\gamma \leq \hat{\gamma} \leq \rho\gamma\}$  we have, by using (A4),

$$\begin{aligned} (\check{f}(x_0) - \tilde{f}(x_0))^2 &= \left( w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(x_0))g(x_0) - w(\tilde{\theta}_n, g(x_0))g(x_0) \right)^2 \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{1 - \tilde{\theta}_n} \left( 1 - \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n}{\hat{g}(x_0)} \right) - \frac{1}{1 - \tilde{\theta}_n} \left( 1 - \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n}{g(x_0)} \right) \right)^2 |g(x_0)|^2 \\ &= \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n^2}{(1 - \tilde{\theta}_n)^2} \left( \frac{1}{\hat{g}(x_0)} - \frac{1}{g(x_0)} \right)^2 |g(x_0)|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{4}{\delta^2} \left( \frac{\hat{g}(x_0) - g(x_0)}{\hat{g}(x_0)g(x_0)} \right)^2 |g(x_0)|^2 \\ &\leq 4\rho^2 \delta^{-2} \gamma^{-2} \|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

Moreover, thanks to (A1),

$$\begin{aligned} (\tilde{f}(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 &= \left( w(\tilde{\theta}_n, g(x_0))g(x_0) - w(\theta, g(x_0))g(x_0) \right)^2 \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{1 - \tilde{\theta}_n} \left( 1 - \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n}{g(x_0)} \right) g(x_0) - \frac{1}{1 - \theta} \left( 1 - \frac{\theta}{g(x_0)} \right) g(x_0) \right)^2 \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{1 - \tilde{\theta}_n} - \frac{1}{1 - \theta} + \left( \frac{\theta}{1 - \theta} - \frac{\tilde{\theta}_n}{1 - \tilde{\theta}_n} \right) \frac{1}{g(x_0)} \right)^2 |g(x_0)|^2 \\ &= \frac{|g(x_0)|^2}{(1 - \theta)^2 (1 - \tilde{\theta}_n)^2} \left( \tilde{\theta}_n - \theta + \frac{\theta - \tilde{\theta}_n}{g(x_0)} \right)^2 \\ &\leq \frac{4 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2}{\delta^4} \left( \tilde{\theta}_n - \theta + \frac{\theta - \tilde{\theta}_n}{g(x_0)} \right)^2 \\ &\leq 16 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 \delta^{-6} |\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta|^2. \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

Thus we obtain by gathering (40) and (41),

$$(\check{f}(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \leq 8\rho^2 \delta^{-2} \gamma^{-2} \|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 + 32 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 \delta^{-6} |\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta|^2.$$

Next, the term  $(K_h \star \check{f}(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0))^2$  can be treated by studying the following decomposition

$$\begin{aligned} (K_h \star \check{f}(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0))^2 &\leq 3 \left( (K_h \star \check{f}(x_0) - K_h \star \tilde{f}(x_0))^2 + (K_h \star \tilde{f}(x_0) - K_h \star f(x_0))^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (K_h \star f(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0))^2 \right) \\ &=: 3(A_1 + A_2 + A_3). \end{aligned}$$

For term  $A_1$ , we have by using (40)

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= (K_h \star (\check{f} - \tilde{f})(x_0))^2 = \left( \int K_h(x_0 - u)(\check{f}(u) - \tilde{f}(u))du \right)^2 \\ &\leq \left( \int |K_h(x_0 - u)| |\check{f}(u) - \tilde{f}(u)| du \right)^2 \\ &\leq 4\rho^2 \delta^{-2} \gamma^{-2} \|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 \left( \int |K_h(x_0 - u)| du \right)^2 \\ &\leq 4\rho^2 \delta^{-2} \gamma^{-2} \|K\|_1^2 \|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2. \end{aligned}$$

By using (41) and following the same lines as for  $A_1$ , we obtain

$$A_2 = (K_h \star (\tilde{f} - f)(x_0))^2 \leq 16 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 \delta^{-6} \|K\|_1^2 |\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta|^2.$$

For  $A_3$ , using the upper bound obtained as above for  $(\check{f}(x_0) - f(x_0))^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_3 &\leq 2(K_h \star f(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 + 2(f(x_0) - \check{f}(x_0))^2 \\ &\leq 2\|K_h \star f - f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 + 16\rho^2 \delta^{-2} \gamma^{-2} \|\hat{g} - g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 + 64 \|g\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 \delta^{-6} |\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, combining all the terms  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$  and  $A_3$ , we obtain (31). This ends the proof of Proposition 2.

### 6.5.2 Proof of Lemma 3

Lemma 3 is a consequence of (6). Indeed, if condition (A3) is satisfied, we have for all  $t \in \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)$ ,  $|\hat{g}(t) - g(t)| \leq \nu |\hat{g}(t)|$  with probability  $1 - C_{g,\nu} \exp(-(\log n)^{3/2})$ .

This implies,

$$(1 + \nu)^{-1} |g(t)| \leq |\hat{g}(t)| \leq (1 - \nu)^{-1} |g(t)|.$$

Since  $\gamma = \inf_{t \in \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} |g(t)|$  and  $\hat{\gamma} = \inf_{t \in \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)} |\hat{g}(t)|$ , by using (6) and taking  $\nu = \rho - 1$ ,  $\nu = 1 - \rho^{-1}$ , we obtain with probability  $1 - C_{g,\nu} \exp(-(\log n)^{3/2})$ ,  $(1 + \nu)^{-1} \gamma \leq \hat{\gamma} \leq (1 - \nu)^{-1} \gamma$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 3.

### 6.5.3 Proof of Lemma 4

We have for any  $x_0 \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c} \right] \leq 2\mathbb{E}[|\hat{f}_h(x_0)|^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c}] + 2\|f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 \mathbb{P}(\Omega_\rho^c).$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[|\hat{f}_h(x_0)|^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c}] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left| \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=1}^n w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i)) K \left( \frac{x_0 - X_i}{h} \right) \right|^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c} \right] \\
&\leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| w(\tilde{\theta}_n, \hat{g}(X_i)) K \left( \frac{x_0 - X_i}{h} \right) \right| \right)^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c} \right] \\
&\leq \frac{4}{\delta^2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| K \left( \frac{x_0 - X_i}{h} \right) \right| \right)^2 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\hat{\gamma}} \right)^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c} \right] \quad (\text{using (27)}) \\
&\leq \frac{4}{\delta^2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| K \left( \frac{x_0 - X_i}{h} \right) \right| \right)^2 \right] \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\hat{\gamma}} \right)^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c} \right] \quad (\text{by independence}) \\
&\leq \frac{4 \|K\|_\infty^2}{\delta^2 h^2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\hat{\gamma}} \right)^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c} \right] \\
&\leq \frac{4 \|K\|_\infty^2}{\delta^2} n^2 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{(\log n)^3} \right)^2 \mathbb{P}(\Omega_\rho^c) \quad (\text{using Assumption (A5)}).
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, we apply Lemma 3 to establish the following bound

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E} \left[ (\hat{f}_h(x_0) - f(x_0))^2 \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_\rho^c} \right] &\leq C_{g,\rho} \left( \frac{8 \|K\|_\infty^2}{\delta^2} \frac{n^2}{(\log n)^6} + 2 \|f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}^2 \right) \exp \left\{ -(\log n)^{3/2} \right\} \\
&\leq \frac{C}{n^2},
\end{aligned}$$

where  $C$  depends on  $\delta$ ,  $\|f\|_{\infty, \mathcal{V}_n(x_0)}$ ,  $\|K\|_\infty$ ,  $g$  and  $\rho$ , which ends the proof of Lemma 4.

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