# Nonparametric testing by convex optimization

Anatoli Juditsky\*

joint research with Alexander Goldenshluger<sup>‡</sup> and Arkadi Nemirovski<sup>†</sup> \*University J. Fourier, <sup>‡</sup>University of Haifa, <sup>†</sup>ISyE, Georgia Tech, Atlanta

Gargantua, November 26, 2013

# Motivation: event detection in sensor networks

[Tartakovsky, Veeravalli, 2004, 2008]



Array of 20 sensors on the uniform grid along the left and bottom edges of  $[0,1]^2.$  "+" represent the points of the uniform 20  $\times$  20–grid  $\Gamma$ ,

" are sensor positions, interposed with contour plot of the response of the 6th sensor

Suppose that *m* sensors are deployed on the domain  $G \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ . Given a grid  $\Gamma = (\gamma_i)_{i=1,...,n} \subset G$ .

An event at a node  $\gamma_i \in \Gamma$  produces the signal  $s = re[i] : \Gamma \to \mathbb{R}^n$  of known signature e[i] with unknown real factor r.

The signal is contaminated by a nuisance (a background signal)  $v \in V$ , where V is a known convex and compact set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Observation  $\omega = [\omega_1; ...; \omega_m]$  of the array of *m* sensors is a linear transformation of the signal, contaminated with random noise:

$$\omega \sim P_{\mu}$$

– a random vector in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  with the distribution parameterized by  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , where

$$\mu = A(s + v),$$

and  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is a known matrix of sensor responses.

Objective: testing the (null) hypothesis  $H_0$  that no event happened against the alternative  $H_1$  that exactly one event took place.

We require that

- $Ae[i] \neq 0$  for all i
- under H<sub>1</sub>, when an event occurs at a node γ<sub>i</sub> ∈ Γ, we have s = re[i] with |r| ≥ ρ<sub>i</sub> with some given ρ<sub>i</sub> > 0.

Problem  $(\mathcal{D}_{\rho})$ : Given  $\rho = [\rho_1; ...; \rho_n] > 0$ , decide between

- hypothesis  $H_0$ : s = 0 against
- alternative  $H_1(\rho)$ : s = re[i] for some  $i \in \{1, ..., n\}$  and r with  $|r| \ge \rho_i$ .

The risk of the test is the maximal probability to reject  $H_0$  when the hypothesis is true or to accept  $H_0$  when  $H_1(\rho)$  is true.

*Our goal is, given an*  $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$ *, construct a test with risk*  $\leq \epsilon$  *for as wide as possible (i.e., with as small*  $\rho$  *as possible) alternative*  $H_1(\rho)$ *.* 

# A particular case: signal detection in convolution

[Yin, 1988, Wang, 1995, Muller 1999, Gustavson, 2000, Antoniadis, Gijbels, 2002, Goldenshluger et al., 2008,...]

We consider the model with observation

$$\omega = A(s+v) + \sigma\xi$$

where  $s, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\xi \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_m)$  with known  $\sigma > 0$ .

Let  $\mu = [\mu_1; ..., \mu_m]$  be the vector of m consecutive outputs of a discrete time linear dynamical system with a given impulse response  $\{g_k\}, k = 1, ..., T$ , i.e.  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the convolution image of *n*-dimensional "signal" *s* (that is, n = m + T - 1).

A is the Toeplitz  $m \times n$  matrix of the described linear mapping  $x \mapsto \mu$ .



Convolution kernel, m = 100, n = 159

We want to detect the presence of the signal s = re[i], where e[i], i = 1, ..., n, are some given vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

# Situation, formally

Given are

- "Observation space"  $\Omega, P$ 
  - $\Omega$ : Polish (complete separable metric) space
  - **P**:  $\sigma$ -finite  $\sigma$ -additive Borel measure on  $\Omega$
- Family  $\mathcal{P} = \{P_{\mu}(d\omega) = p_{\mu}(\omega)P(d\omega) : \mu \in \mathcal{M}\}$  of probability distributions on  $\Omega$ 
  - $\mu$ : distribution's parameter running through "parameter space"  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$
  - $p_{\mu}$ : density of distribution  $P_{\mu}$  w.r.t. the reference measure P
- "Parameter spaces" two nonempty convex compact subsets  $M_0 \subset \mathcal{M}$  and  $M_1 \subset \mathcal{M}$ .

# Assumptions

We assume that

- $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  is a convex set which coincides with its relative interior;
- distributions P<sub>μ</sub> ∈ P possess densities p<sub>μ</sub>(ω) w.r.t. the measure P on the space Ω. We assume that p<sub>μ</sub>(ω) is continuous in μ ∈ M and is positive for all ω ∈ Ω;
- We are given a finite-dimensional linear space *F* of continuous functions on Ω containing constants such that ln(p<sub>μ</sub>(·)/p<sub>ν</sub>(·)) ∈ *F* whenever μ, ν ∈ *M*;

# Assumptions

We assume that

- $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  is a convex set which coincides with its relative interior;
- distributions P<sub>μ</sub> ∈ P possess densities p<sub>μ</sub>(ω) w.r.t. the measure P on the space Ω. We assume that p<sub>μ</sub>(ω) is continuous in μ ∈ M and is positive for all ω ∈ Ω;
- We are given a finite-dimensional linear space *F* of continuous functions on Ω containing constants such that ln(p<sub>μ</sub>(·)/p<sub>ν</sub>(·)) ∈ *F* whenever μ, ν ∈ *M*;
- For every φ ∈ F, the function F<sub>φ</sub>(μ) = ln (∫<sub>Ω</sub> exp{φ(ω)}p<sub>μ</sub>(ω)P(dω)) is well defined and concave in μ ∈ M.

We call the just described situation a good observation scheme.

# ... and goal

Given observation scheme [observation space  $(\Omega, P)$  and family of distributions  $\{p_{\mu}(\cdot)\}_{\mu \in \mathcal{M}}$ , "parameter spaces"  $M_0$ ,  $M_1$ , and random observation

$$\omega \sim p_{\mu}(\cdot),$$

coming from some unknown  $\mu$ , known to belong either to  $M_0$  (hypothesis  $H_0$ ) or to  $M_1$  (hypothesis  $H_1$ ), decide between  $H_0$  and  $H_1$ .

Risk of the test: given a test (we interpret value 0 as accepting  $H_0$  and 1 as accepting  $H_1$ ), we consider the quantities

$$\epsilon_{0} = \sup_{\mu \in M_{0}} \operatorname{Prob}_{\omega \sim P_{\mu}} \{ \text{test rejects } H_{0} \},\$$
  
$$\epsilon_{1} = \sup_{\mu \in M_{1}} \operatorname{Prob}_{\omega \sim P_{\mu}} \{ \text{test rejects } H_{1} \},\$$

We say that risk of the test is  $\leq \epsilon$ , if both error probabilities are  $\leq \epsilon$ .

# Example: Gaussian case

Given an noisy observation

$$\omega = \mu + \xi, \ \xi \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I),$$

make conclusions about  $\mu$ .

The observation scheme is

•  $(\Omega, P)$ :  $\mathbb{R}^m$  with Lebesque measure

• 
$$p_{\mu}(\omega) = \mathcal{N}(\mu, I), \ \mu \in \mathcal{M} := \mathbb{R}^{m}$$

• 
$$\mathcal{F} = \{\phi(\omega) = a^T \omega + b: a \in \mathbb{R}^m, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$$
, and

$$\ln\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^m} e^{a^T \omega + b} p_{\mu}(\omega) d\omega\right) = b + a^T \mu + \frac{a^T a}{2},$$

is concave in  $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ 

#### Gaussian observation scheme is good!

# Example: Poisson case

Given m realizations of independent Poisson random variables

 $\omega_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu_i)$ 

with parameters  $\mu_i$ , make conclusions about  $\mu$ .

The observation scheme is

• 
$$(\Omega, P)$$
:  $\mathbb{Z}_{+}^{m}$  with counting measure  
•  $p_{\mu}(\omega) = \frac{\mu^{\omega}}{\omega!} e^{-\sum_{i} \mu_{i}}, \ \mu \in \mathcal{M} = \operatorname{int} \mathbb{R}_{+}^{m}$   
•  $\mathcal{F} = \{\phi(\omega) = a^{T}\omega + b : \ a \in \mathbb{R}^{m}, b \in \mathbb{R}\}, \text{ and}$   
 $\ln\left(\sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{Z}_{+}^{m}} e^{a^{T}\omega + b} p_{\mu}(\omega)\right) = b + \sum_{i=1}^{m} [e^{a_{i}} - 1]\mu_{i},$ 

is concave in  $\mu$ 

Poisson observation scheme is good!

## Example: discrete case

Given realization of random variable  $\omega$  taking values 1, ..., *m* with probabilities  $\mu_i$ 

 $\mu_i := \operatorname{Prob}\{\omega = i\},\$ 

make conclusions about  $\mu$ .

The observation scheme is

•  $(\Omega, P)$ :  $\{1, ..., m\}$  with counting measure

• 
$$p_{\mu}(\omega) = \mu_{\omega}, \ \mu \in \mathcal{M} = \left\{ \mu \in \mathbb{R}^m : \begin{array}{l} \mu > 0, \\ \sum_{\omega=1}^m \mu_{\omega} = 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

• 
$$\mathcal{F} = \mathbb{R}(\Omega) = \mathbb{R}^m$$
, and

$$\ln\left(\sum_{\omega\in\Omega} e^{\phi(\omega)} p_{\mu}(\omega)\right) = \ln\left(\sum_{\omega=1}^{m} e^{\phi(\omega)} \mu_{\omega}\right),$$

is concave in  $\mu$ .

#### Discrete observation scheme is good!

## Simple test

Simple (Cramer's) test: a simple test is specified by a detector  $\phi(\cdot) \in \mathcal{F}$ ; it accepts  $H_0$ , the observation being  $\omega$ , if  $\phi(\omega) \geq 0$ , and accepts  $H_1$  otherwise.

We can easily bound the risk of a simple test  $\phi$ : for  $\mu \in M_0$  we have

$$\operatorname{Prob}_{\omega \sim P_{\mu}}(\phi(\omega) < 0) \leq E_{\omega \sim P_{\mu}}(e^{-\phi(\omega)}) = \int_{\Omega} e^{-\phi(\omega)} p_{\mu}(\omega) P(d\omega),$$

and for  $\nu \in M_1$ ,

$$\operatorname{Prob}_{\omega \sim P_{\nu}}(\phi(\omega) \geq 0) \leq E_{\omega \sim P_{\nu}}(e^{\phi(\omega)}) = \int_{\Omega} e^{\phi(\omega)} p_{\nu}(\omega) P(d\omega).$$

We associate with  $\phi(\cdot) \in \mathcal{F}$ , and  $[\mu; \nu] \in M_0 \times M_1$  the aggregate

$$\Phi(\phi, [\mu; \nu]) = \ln\left(\int_{\Omega} e^{-\phi(\omega)} p_{\mu}(\omega) P(d\omega)\right) + \ln\left(\int_{\Omega} e^{\phi(\omega)} p_{\nu}(\omega) P(d\omega)\right)$$

Key observation: in a good observation scheme  $\Phi(\phi, [\mu; \nu])$  is continuous on its domain, convex in  $\phi(\cdot) \in \mathcal{F}$  and concave in  $[\mu; \nu] \in M_0 \times M_1$ .

# Main result

Theorem 1

(i)  $\Phi(\phi, [\mu; \nu])$  possesses a saddle point (min in  $\phi$ , max in  $[\mu; \nu]$ )  $(\phi_*(\cdot), [x_*; y_*])$  on  $\mathcal{F} \times (M_0 \times M_1)$  with the saddle value

$$\min_{\phi\in\mathcal{F}}\max_{[\mu;\nu]\in\mathcal{M}_0\times\mathcal{M}_1}\Phi(\phi,[\mu;\nu]):=2\ln(\varepsilon_*).$$

The risk of the simple test associated with the detector  $\phi_*$  on the composite hypotheses  $H_{M_0}$ ,  $H_{M_1}$  is  $\leq \varepsilon_*$ .

# Main result

Theorem 1

(i)  $\Phi(\phi, [\mu; \nu])$  possesses a saddle point (min in  $\phi$ , max in  $[\mu; \nu]$ )  $(\phi_*(\cdot), [x_*; y_*])$  on  $\mathcal{F} \times (M_0 \times M_1)$  with the saddle value

$$\min_{\phi \in \mathcal{F}} \max_{[\mu;\nu] \in \mathcal{M}_0 \times \mathcal{M}_1} \Phi(\phi, [\mu; \nu]) := 2 \ln(\varepsilon_*).$$

The risk of the simple test associated with the detector  $\phi_*$  on the composite hypotheses  $H_{M_0}$ ,  $H_{M_1}$  is  $\leq \varepsilon_*$ .

(ii) The detector φ<sub>\*</sub> is readily given by the [μ; ν]-component [μ<sub>\*</sub>; ν<sub>\*</sub>] of the associated saddle point of Φ, specifically,

$$\phi_*(\cdot) = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left[ p_{\mu_*}(\cdot) / p_{\nu_*}(\cdot) \right].$$

# Main result

Theorem 1

(i)  $\Phi(\phi, [\mu; \nu])$  possesses a saddle point (min in  $\phi$ , max in  $[\mu; \nu]$ )  $(\phi_*(\cdot), [x_*; y_*])$  on  $\mathcal{F} \times (M_0 \times M_1)$  with the saddle value

$$\min_{\phi \in \mathcal{F}} \max_{[\mu;\nu] \in \mathcal{M}_0 \times \mathcal{M}_1} \Phi(\phi, [\mu; \nu]) := 2 \ln(\varepsilon_*).$$

The risk of the simple test associated with the detector  $\phi_*$  on the composite hypotheses  $H_{M_0}$ ,  $H_{M_1}$  is  $\leq \varepsilon_*$ .

(ii) The detector φ<sub>\*</sub> is readily given by the [μ; ν]-component [μ<sub>\*</sub>; ν<sub>\*</sub>] of the associated saddle point of Φ, specifically,

$$\phi_*(\cdot) = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left[ p_{\mu_*}(\cdot) / p_{\nu_*}(\cdot) \right].$$

(iii) Let  $\epsilon \ge 0$  be such that there exists a (whatever) test for deciding between two simple hypotheses

$$(A): \omega \sim p(\cdot) := p_{\mu_*}(\cdot), \quad (B): \omega \sim q(\cdot) := p_{\nu_*}(\cdot)$$

with the sum of error probabilities  $\leq 2\epsilon$ . Then  $\varepsilon_* \leq 2\sqrt{\epsilon}$ .

## Example: Gaussian case

#### [Chencov, 70's, Burnashev 1979, 1982, Ingster, Suslina, 2002,...]

Here  $(\Omega, P)$  is  $\mathbb{R}^m$  with the Lebesque measure,  $\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $p_{\mu}(\cdot)$  is the density of the Gaussian distribution  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, I)$ , and  $\mathcal{F}$  is the space of all affine functions on  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^m$ .

Assuming that the nonempty convex compact sets  $M_0$ ,  $M_1$  do not intersect, we get

$$[\mu_*; \nu_*] \in \operatorname{Argmin}_{\mu \in M_0, \nu \in M_1} \|\mu - \nu\|_2.$$

and

$$\phi_*(\omega) = \xi^T \omega - lpha, \text{ where } \xi = \frac{1}{2}[\mu_* - \nu_*], \ \ lpha = \frac{1}{2}\xi^T[\mu_* + \nu_*]$$

The error probabilities of the associated simple test do not exceed

$$1 - F_{\mathcal{N}} \left( \| \mu_* - \nu_* \|_2 / 2 \right),$$

where  $F_{\mathcal{N}}(\cdot)$  is the standard normal c.d.f..



#### Example: discrete case

[Birge 1982, 1983]

Let  $(\Omega, P)$  be a finite set of cardinality m with counting measure P,  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  is the relative interior of the standard simplex in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ :

$$\mathcal{M} = \{\mu = \{\mu_\omega: \omega \in \Omega\}: \ \mu > 0, \sum_\omega \mu_\omega = 1\}$$

with  $p_{\mu}(\omega) = \mu_{\omega}$ , and  $\mathcal{F} = \mathbb{R}(\Omega)$  is the space of all real-valued functions on  $\Omega$ .

Assuming that the sets  $M_0$ ,  $M_1$  do not intersect, we get

$$[\mu_*;\nu_*] \in \operatorname{Argmax}_{\mu \in M_0, \nu \in M_1} \sum_{\omega} \sqrt{\mu_{\omega} \nu_{\omega}},$$

and

$$\phi_*(\omega) = \ln \sqrt{rac{[\mu_*]_\omega}{[
u_*]_\omega}}, \hspace{0.1in} arepsilon_* = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \sqrt{[\mu_*]_\omega [
u_*]_\omega}.$$

## Example: Poisson case

Here  $\Omega = \mathbb{Z}_{+}^{m}$  is the grid of nonnegative integer vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^{m}$ , P is the counting measure on  $\Omega$ ,  $\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R}_{++}^{m} := \{\mu \in \mathbb{R}^{m} : \mu > 0\}$ , and

$$m{p}_{\mu}(\omega) = \prod_{i=1}^{m} \left[ rac{\mu_{i}^{\omega_{i}}}{\omega_{i}!} e^{-\mu_{i}} 
ight]$$

is the distribution of the random vector with *independent* Poisson entries  $\omega_1, ..., \omega_m$ .  $\mathcal{F}$  is comprised of the restrictions onto  $\mathbb{Z}_+^m$  of affine functions.

Assuming, same as above, that the sets  $M_0$ ,  $M_1$  do not intersect, we get

$$\begin{bmatrix} [\mu_*; \nu_*] \in \operatorname{Argmin}_{\mu \in M_0, \nu \in M_1} \sum_{\ell=1}^m \left[ \sqrt{\mu_\ell} - \sqrt{\nu_\ell} \right]^2 \\ \operatorname{Opt} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\ell=1}^m \left[ \sqrt{[\mu_*]_\ell} - \sqrt{[\nu_*]_\ell} \right]^2 \end{bmatrix},$$

and

$$\phi_*(\omega) = \sum_{\ell=1}^m \ln\left(\sqrt{[\mu_*]_\ell/[\nu_*]_\ell}\right) \omega_\ell - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\ell=1}^m [\mu_* - \nu_*]_\ell$$

with  $\varepsilon_* = \exp\{-Opt\}$ .

# Illustration: PET



Ring of detector cells and line of response

The collected data is the list of total numbers of coincidences registered in every bin (pair of detector cells) over a given time T. The goal is to infer about the density x of the tracer. After suitable discretization, we arrive at Poisson case

$$\omega = \{\omega_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu_i)\}_{i=1}^m, \ \mu_i = \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} x_j$$

- *m* bins and *n* voxels (small cubes in which the field of view is split)
- x<sub>j</sub>: average tracer's density in voxel j
  - $A_{ij}$ :  $T \times \begin{bmatrix} \text{probability for line of response originating} \\ \text{in voxel } j \text{ to be registered in bin } i \end{bmatrix}$

We consider 2D PET with m = 64 detector cells and  $40 \times 40$  field of view:



Detector cells and field of view. 1296 bins, 1600 pixels

- *X* ∪ *Y*: the set of tracer's densities *x* ∈ ℝ<sup>40×40</sup> satisfying some regularity assumptions and at average not exceeding 1
- $M_1 = AY$ : X is the set of densities with the average over the  $3 \times 3$  red spot at least 1.1
- $M_0 = AX$ : Y is the set of densities with average over the red spot at most 1.
- The observation time is chosen to allow to decide on  $H_0$  vs.  $H_1$  with risk 0.01.

Results of 1024 simulations:

- Wrongly rejecting  $H_0$  in 0% of cases
- Wrongly rejecting  $H_1$  in 0.1% of cases



# Case of repeated observations

Assume we are given a good observation scheme (( $\Omega, P$ ), { $p_{\mu}(\cdot) : \mu \in M$ },  $\mathcal{F}$ ), along with same as above  $M_0, M_1$ .

We now observe a sample of K independent realizations

$$\omega_k \sim p_\mu(\cdot), \ k = 1, ..., K,$$

what corresponds to the observation scheme

observation space Ω<sup>(K)</sup> = {ω<sup>K</sup> = (ω<sub>1</sub>,..., ω<sub>K</sub>) : ω<sub>k</sub> ∈ Ω ∀k} equipped with the measure P<sup>(K)</sup> = P × ... × P,

• family 
$$\left\{ p_{\mu}^{(K)}(\omega^{K}) = \prod_{k=1}^{K} p_{\mu}(\omega_{k}), \mu \in \mathcal{M} \right\}$$
 of densities of observations w.r.t.  
 $P^{(K)}$ , and  $\mathcal{F}^{(K)} = \left\{ \phi^{(K)}(\omega^{K}) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \phi(\omega_{k}), \phi \in \mathcal{F} \right\}$ .

We want to decide between the hypotheses that the (K-element) observation  $\omega^{K}$  comes from a distribution  $p_{\mu}^{(K)}(\cdot)$  with  $\mu \in M_{0}$  (hypothesis  $H_{0}$ ) or with  $\mu \in M_{1}$  (hypothesis  $H_{1}$ ). Detectors  $\phi_*$ ,  $\phi_*^{(K)}$  and risk bounds  $\varepsilon_*$ ,  $\varepsilon_*^{(K)}$  given by Theorem 1, as applied to the original and the K-repeated observation schemes are linked by the relations

$$\phi_*^{(\kappa)}(\omega_1,...,\omega_K) = \sum\nolimits_{k=1}^K \phi_*(\omega_k), \quad \varepsilon_*^{(K)} = (\varepsilon_*)^K.$$

As a result, the "near-optimality claim" Theorem 1.iii can be reformulated as follows:

Corollary Assume that for some integer  $K^* \ge 1$  and some  $\epsilon \in (0, 1/4)$ , the hypotheses  $H_0$ ,  $H_1$  can be decided, by a whatever procedure utilising  $K^*$  observations, with error probabilities  $\le \epsilon$ . Then with

$$\mathcal{K}^+ = \operatorname{Ceil}\left(rac{2\ln(1/\epsilon)}{\ln(1/\epsilon) - 2\ln(2)}\mathcal{K}^*
ight)$$

observations, the simple test with the detector  $\phi_*^{(K^+)}$  decides between  $H_0$  and  $H_1$  with risk  $\leq \epsilon$ .

Assume that we are given

- convex compact sets  $M_{\ell}$  in  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $1 \leq \ell \leq L$ ;
- a good observation scheme (( $\Omega, P$ ), { $p_{\mu}(\cdot), \mu \in \mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^{m}$ },  $\mathcal{F}$ ).

Given an observation  $\omega \in \Omega$ , our goal is to decide between the hypotheses  $H_{\ell}$ ,  $1 \leq \ell \leq L$ , stating that the observation  $\omega \sim p_{\mu}(\cdot)$  corresponds to  $\mu \in M_{\ell}$ .

# Pairwise testing

Consider all (unordered) pairs  $\{\ell, \ell'\}$  with  $\ell \neq \ell'$  and  $1 \leq \ell, \ell' \leq L$ , and associate with such a pair a simple test given by detector  $\phi_*^{\ell,\ell'}(\cdot)$ , along with the upper bound  $\varepsilon_*[\ell,\ell']$  on the risk of this test yielded by Theorem 1, as applied to  $M_0 = M_\ell$ ,  $M_1 = M_{\ell'}$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a collection of pairs  $\{\ell, \ell'\}$ .

Testing procedure: given an observation  $\omega$ , we "look" one by one at all pairs  $\{\ell, \ell'\} \in C$ and apply to our observation  $\omega$  the simple test, given by the detector  $\phi_*^{\ell,\ell'}(\cdot)$ , to decide between the hypotheses  $H_{\ell}$ ,  $H_{\ell'}$ .

The outcome of the inference process is the list of these rejected hypotheses.

The (un)reliability of such an inference can be naturally upper-bounded by the quantity

$$\epsilon[\mathcal{C}] := \max_{\ell \leq L} \sum_{\ell': \{\ell, \ell'\} \in \mathcal{C}} \varepsilon_*[\ell, \ell'].$$

# Application to multisensor detection

The setting: We are given an observation  $\omega \sim P_{\mu}$  parameterized by the vector parameter  $\mu = A(\underbrace{s + v}_{\times})$ , where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is a known matrix.

Useful signal  $s = re[i] \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is known up to its "position"  $i \in \{1, ..., n\}$  and the scalar factor r, and v is the nuisance known to belong to a given set  $\mathcal{V} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , which we assume to be convex and compact.

**Objective:** solve the testing problem  $(\mathcal{D}_{\rho})$ , i.e., decide between  $H_0$ : s = 0 and

 $H_1(\rho = [\rho_1; \dots \rho_n]) = \{s = re[i] \text{ for some } i \text{ and } r \text{ such that } |r| \ge \rho_i\}.$ 

Given a test  $\phi(\cdot)$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ , we call a collection  $\rho = [\rho_1; ...; \rho_n]$  of positive reals the  $\epsilon$ -rate profile of the test  $\phi$  if

- whenever s = 0 and  $v \in V$ , the probability for the test to reject  $H_0$  is  $\leq \epsilon$ ;
- whenever the signal s underlying our observation is re[i] for some i and r with  $\rho_i \leq |r|$ , and the nuisance  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ , the test rejects  $H_0$  with probability  $\geq 1 \epsilon$ .

Our goal is to design a test with the "best possible"  $\epsilon$ -rate profile:

Definition. Let  $\kappa \ge 1$ . A test  $\phi$  with risk  $\epsilon$  in the problem  $(\mathcal{D}_{\rho})$  is said to be  $\kappa$ -rate optimal, if there is no test with the risk  $\epsilon$  in the problem  $(\mathcal{D}_{\rho})$  with  $\rho < \kappa^{-1}\rho$ .

Let the distribution  $P_{\mu}$  of  $\omega$  be normal with the mean  $\mu$ , i.e.  $\omega \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2 I)$  with known variance  $\sigma^2 > 0$ . For the sake of simplicity, assume also that the (convex and compact) nuisance set  $\mathcal{V}$  is symmetric w.r.t. the origin.

- The null hypothesis is  $H_0: \mu \in A\mathcal{V} = \{\mu = Av, v \in \mathcal{V}\}.$
- The alternative H<sub>1</sub>(ρ) can be represented as the union, over i = 1, ..., n, of 2n hypotheses

 $\begin{array}{ll} H^{\pm,i}(\rho_i): & \mu \in \pm AX_i(\rho_i) = \{\mu = Ax, x \in \pm AX_i(\rho_i)\}, \\ \text{where} & X_i(\rho_i) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n: \ x = re[i] + v, \ v \in \mathcal{V}, \ \rho_i \leq r\}. \end{array}$ 



Let  $1 \le i \le n$  be fixed, and suppose we want to distinguish  $H_0$  from  $H_i^{+i}(\rho)$ . The separation with risk  $\epsilon$  is impossible unless

 $\operatorname{dist}(A\mathcal{V}, AX_i(\rho)) \geq q_{\mathcal{N}}(\epsilon/2),$ 

meaning that

$$\rho \geq \rho_{*,i}^{\mathsf{G}}(\epsilon) = \max_{\rho,r,u,v} \left\{ r : \| \mathsf{A}u - \mathsf{A}(\mathsf{re}[i] + v) \|_2 \leq 2\sigma \, q_{\mathcal{N}}(\epsilon/2), \quad u, v \in \mathcal{V} \right\}.$$

where  $q_{\mathcal{N}}(s)$  is the 1 - s-quantile of  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .

To ensure the "total risk" of separation of  $H_0$  and  $\bigcup_i H^{\pm,i}(\rho_i)$  to be  $\leq \epsilon$ , one can take

$$\rho_i \geq \rho_i^{\mathcal{G}}(\epsilon) = \max_{\rho, r, u, v} \left\{ r : \| Au - A(re[i] + v) \|_2 \leq 2\sigma \, q_{\mathcal{N}}(\epsilon/(4n)), \ u, v \in \mathcal{V} \right\}.$$

Let  $1 \le i \le n$  be fixed, and suppose we want to distinguish  $H_0$  from  $H_i^{+i}(\rho)$ . The separation with risk  $\epsilon$  is impossible unless

$$\operatorname{dist}(A\mathcal{V}, AX_i(\rho)) \geq q_{\mathcal{N}}(\epsilon/2),$$

meaning that

$$\rho \geq \rho_{*,i}^{\mathsf{G}}(\epsilon) = \max_{\rho,r,u,v} \left\{ r : \|Au - A(re[i] + v)\|_2 \leq 2\sigma \, q_{\mathcal{N}}(\epsilon/2), \quad u, v \in \mathcal{V} \right\}.$$

where  $q_{\mathcal{N}}(s)$  is the 1 - s-quantile of  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .

We can be a bit smarter: when deciding between  $H_0$  and each of  $H^{\pm,i}(\rho_i)$  we can "skew" the test so that

- probability of wrongly rejecting  $H_0$  is  $\epsilon/4n$
- probability of wrongly rejecting  $H^{\pm,i}(\rho_i)$  is  $\epsilon/2$ .

In this case, the risk  $\epsilon$  is attained if

$$\rho_i \geq \rho_i^G(\epsilon) = \max_{\rho,r,u,v} \left\{ r : \|Au - A(re[i] + v)\|_2 \leq \sigma \left[ q_N\left(\frac{\epsilon}{4n}\right) + q_N\left(\frac{\epsilon}{2}\right) \right], \ u, v \in \mathcal{V} \right\}.$$

So, for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  we set

$$\rho_i^{\mathsf{G}}(\epsilon) = \max_{\rho, r, u, v} \left\{ r : \|Au - A(re[i] + v)\|_2 \le 2\sigma \left[ q_{\mathcal{N}} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{4n} \right) + q_{\mathcal{N}} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{2} \right) \right], \ u, v \in \mathcal{V} \right\}.$$

$$(G_{\epsilon}^i)$$

Let

$$\phi_{i,\pm}(\omega) = \pm [Au^{i} - A(r^{i}e[i] + v^{i})]^{T}\omega - \alpha_{i},$$

with

$$\alpha_i = [Au^i - A(r^i e[i] + v^i)]^T \frac{[q_{\mathcal{N}}(\epsilon/4n)A(r^i e[i] + v^i) + q_{\mathcal{N}}(\epsilon/2)Au^i]}{q_{\mathcal{N}}(\epsilon/4n) + q_{\mathcal{N}}(\epsilon/2)},$$

where  $u^i, v^i, r^i$  are the u, v, r-components of an optimal solution to  $(G_{\epsilon}^i)$  (of course,  $r^i = \rho_i^G$ ).

Finally, set

$$\rho^{G}[\epsilon] = [\rho_{1}^{G}(\epsilon); ...; \rho_{n}^{G}(\epsilon)],$$
  
$$\hat{\phi}_{G}(\omega) = \min_{1 \le i \le n} \phi_{i,\pm}(\omega).$$

Consider the test (we refer to it as to  $\widehat{\phi}_{G}$ ) which

- accepts H<sub>0</sub> when φ<sub>G</sub>(ω) ≥ 0 (i.e., with observation ω, all simple tests with detectors φ<sub>i,±</sub>, 1 ≤ i ≤ n, when deciding on H<sub>0</sub> vs. H<sup>±,i</sup>, accept H<sub>0</sub>),
- otherwise accepts  $H_1(\rho)$ .

#### Proposition [Gaussian]

- (i) Whenever  $\rho \ge \rho^{\mathsf{G}}[\epsilon]$  the risk of the test  $\widehat{\phi}_{\mathsf{G}}$  in the Gaussian case of problem  $(\mathcal{D}_{\rho})$ is  $\le \epsilon$ .
- (ii) When  $\rho = \rho^{G}[\epsilon]$ , the test is  $\kappa_{n}$ -rate optimal with

$$\kappa_n = \kappa_n(\epsilon) := rac{q_\mathcal{N}(rac{\epsilon}{4n}) + q_\mathcal{N}(rac{\epsilon}{2})}{2q_\mathcal{N}(rac{\epsilon}{2})}$$

Note that  $\kappa_n(\epsilon) \to 1$  as  $\epsilon \to +0$ .

# Illustration: jump detection in convolution

We consider here the "convolution model" with observation

$$\omega = A(s+v) + \xi,$$

where  $s, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\xi \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_m)$ , and A is the matrix of discrete convolution. We are to decide between the hypotheses

•  $H_0$ :  $\mu \in AV$  and

•  $H_1(\rho) = \bigcup_{1 \le i \le n} H^{\pm,i}(\rho_i)$ , with the hypotheses  $H^{\pm,i}(\rho_i)$  as above.

$$\mathcal{V}_L = \{ u \in \mathbb{R}^n : , |u_i - 2u_{i-1} - u_{i-2}| \le L, \ i = 3, ..., n \},$$

where L is experiment's parameter (L = 0.1 in the experiment below).



33 / 41





corresponding observation and detector,  $\epsilon=0.1$ 

# Jump detection in convolution model: numerical lower bound

Question: can the  $\log n$ -factor can be removed?

Answer (partial, theoretical): [Goldenshluger et al, 2008] in certain (inverse) models the logn-factor cannot be removed

Answer (numerical): we can lower bound the performance of any test by the performance of the Bayesian test on the problem of testing of

- $H_0: \mu = 0$ , and
- $H_1(\rho)$  which is the union, over i = 1, ..., n, of 2n hypotheses

 $H^{\pm,i}(\rho_i): \ \mu = \pm A x^i := \pm A(\rho_i e[i] + v^i - u^i) \ [= \pm A(\rho_i e[i] + 2v^i)], \ v, u \in \mathcal{V}.$ 





# Numerical lower bound in the periodic case

Sum  $\varepsilon$  of error probabilities in testing  $H_0$  versus  $H_1(\rho)$  as a function of  $\rho(=\rho_i)$ , n = 100.



- --  $-\log_{10}(union upper bound)$
- $-\log_{10}(\varepsilon)$  of the Bayesian test over uniform prior on  $\nu^k$ , k = 1, ..., n (1e6 sim)
- $-\cdot$   $-\log_{10}(\text{baseline error})$

# Numerical lower bound in the periodic case

Sum  $\varepsilon$  of error probabilities in testing  $H_0$  versus  $H_1(\rho)$  as a function of  $\rho(=\rho_i)$ , n = 1000.



- --  $-\log_{10}(union upper bound)$
- $-\log_{10}(\varepsilon)$  of the Bayesian test over uniform prior on  $\nu^k$ , k=1,...,n (1e6 sim)
- $-\cdot$   $-\log_{10}(\text{baseline error})$

#### Numerical example: event detection in sensor networks

Same as above, the available observation is

$$\omega = A(s+v) + \xi,$$

where  $s, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\xi \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_m)$ , A is the  $m \times n$  matrix of sensor responses. We are to decide between the hypotheses

- $H_0: \mu \in A\mathcal{V}$  (observation is a result of a pure nuisance) and
- H<sub>1</sub>(ρ) = ∪<sub>1≤i≤n</sub>H<sup>±,i</sup>(ρ<sub>i</sub>), with the hypothesis H<sup>±,i</sup>(ρ<sub>i</sub>) saying that an event at the node *i* produced a signal s = re[i], |r| ≥ ρ<sub>i</sub>.

Setup: The signal signatures e[i],  $1 \le i \le n$  are the standard basic orths in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and the nuisance set  $\mathcal{V}$  is defined as

$$\mathcal{V}_L = \{ u \in \mathbb{R}^n : , |\mathcal{L}v| \leq L \},$$

where  $\mathcal{L}$  is the discrete Laplace operator.

In the reported experiment m = 20,  $n = 20^2$ , L = 0.1.

