

# Minimax adaptive estimation of nonparametric hidden Markov models

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# Outline

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Spectral method

Penalized least squares

Final estimation

## Introduction

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State of the art

Assumptions

Projection on an approximation space

## Spectral method

## Penalized least squares

## Final estimation

# Model

- ▶  $(X_i)$  Markov chain on  $\{1, \dots, K\}$ : non-observed transition  $\mathbf{Q}$  (matrix  $K \times K$ )
  - $K$  known
  - $\mathbf{Q}$  unknown

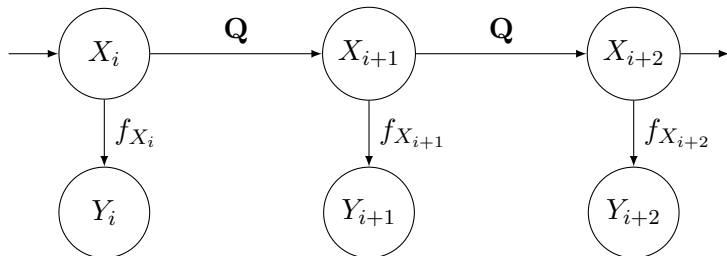
- ▶  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ : observations
  - ▶  $Y_i$  are independent given  $(X_i)_{i \geq 1}$
  - ▶ the distribution of  $Y_i$  only depends on  $X_i$

Conditional distribution of  $Y_i | X_i = k$ :

$$\mathbf{f}_k(y) dy = \mathbb{P}(Y_i \in dy | X_i = k)$$

$\mathbf{f}$  unknown

# Hidden Markov Model



Observations :  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$

Known parameter :  $K$

To estimate : transition matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$ , initial distribution  $\pi$ ,  
emission functions  $\mathbf{f}_1, \dots, \mathbf{f}_K$

## State of the art

Until very recently, theoretical results only in the *parametric* setting

Nonparametric: Gassiat, Rousseau (2015) Dumont, Lecorff (2016)

Identifiability:

Allman, Matias, Rhodes (2009)

Hsu, Kakade, Zhang (2012)

Gassiat, Cleynen, Robin (2015)

Alexandrovich, Holzmam (2014)

# Assumptions

$(H_1)$   $\mathbf{Q}$  has full rank

$(H_2)$   $(X_i)$  irreducible aperiodic

$(H_3)$  stationary Markov chain

$(H_4)$   $\mathbf{f}_1, \dots, \mathbf{f}_K$  linearly independent

# Identifiability

Distribution of  $(Y_1, Y_2, Y_3)$ :

$$g^{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{f}}(y) := \sum_{k_1, k_2, k_3=1}^K \pi(k_1) \mathbf{Q}(k_1, k_2) \mathbf{Q}(k_2, k_3) \mathbf{f}_{k_1}(y_1) \mathbf{f}_{k_2}(y_2) \mathbf{f}_{k_3}(y_3)$$

## Lemma

*Under  $(H_1)$ – $(H_4)$ , there is identifiability, up to label switching, from three consecutive observations:*

$$g^{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{f}+h} = g^{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{f}} \Leftrightarrow \exists \tau \text{ permutation such that } h_j = \mathbf{f}_j - \mathbf{f}_{\tau(j)}$$



## Projection on an approximation space

Approximation of the  $\mathbf{f}_k$  : for  $(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m)$  orthonormal basis

$$\mathbf{f}_{k,m} = \sum_{i=1}^m \langle \mathbf{f}_k, \varphi_i \rangle \varphi_i$$

Examples : Fourier basis, Piecewise polynomials, Wavelets

### Aim

To estimate matrices  $\mathbf{Q} = (\mathbb{P}(X_2 = j | X_1 = k))_{kj}$   
 and  $\mathbf{F} = (\langle \mathbf{f}_k, \varphi_i \rangle)_{ik} = (\mathbb{E}[\varphi_i(Y_1) | X_1 = k])_{ik}$

choice of  $m$  ?  $\rightarrow m$  fixed for now

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Matrix expressions

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Result

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Final estimation

# Matrix expressions

$$P_1(a) := \mathbb{E}[\varphi_a(Y_1)] \quad 1 \leq a \leq m$$

$$P_{12}(a, b) := \mathbb{E}[\varphi_a(Y_1)\varphi_b(Y_2)] \quad 1 \leq a, b \leq m$$

## Lemma

- $$P_1 = \begin{matrix} & \mathbf{F} & \boldsymbol{\pi} \\ \downarrow & \swarrow & \searrow \\ Y_1 & Y_1|X_1 & X_1 \end{matrix}$$
- $$P_{12} = \begin{matrix} & \mathbf{F} & \text{Diag}(\boldsymbol{\pi}) & \mathbf{Q} & \mathbf{F}^T \\ \downarrow & \swarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & \searrow \\ (Y_1, Y_2) & Y_1|X_1 & X_1 & X_2|X_1 & Y_2|X_2 \end{matrix}$$

Csq : Knowing  $\mathbf{F}, P_1, P_{12}$  allows to recover  $\boldsymbol{\pi}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$

## A crucial Lemma

$$P_{123}(a, b, c) := \mathbb{E}[\varphi_a(Y_1)\varphi_b(Y_2)\varphi_c(Y_3)]$$

$$P_{12}(a, b) := \mathbb{E}[\varphi_a(Y_1)\varphi_b(Y_2)]$$

easily estimable

$$P_{13}(a, c) := \mathbb{E}[\varphi_a(Y_1)\varphi_c(Y_3)]$$

### Lemma

Let  $U$  be the  $m \times K$  matrix of right singular vectors of  $P_{13}$ . Then  $U^T P_{13} U$  is invertible and if

$$B(j) := (U^T P_{13} U)^{-1} U^T P_{123}(\cdot, j, \cdot) U$$

then there exists  $R$  not depending on  $j$  such that

$$B(j) = R \text{Diag}(\mathbf{F}(j, \cdot)) R^{-1}$$

## Consequence

$$B(j) = (U^T P_{13} U)^{-1} U^T P_{123}(\cdot, j, \cdot) U = R \text{Diag}(\mathbf{F}(j, \cdot)) R^{-1}$$

⇒ Diagonalizing  $B(j), j = 1 \dots, m$  allows to recover  $\mathbf{F}$

*Remark:* Instead of diagonalizing  $B$ , random mixtures of the  $B(j)$  in order to separate the eigenvalues:

$$C(k) = \sum_{j=1}^m (U\Theta)(j, k) B(j)$$

with  $\Theta$  random unitary matrix

## Algorithm (inspired from Anandkumar, Hsu, Kakade (2012))

- ▶ Estimate  $P_1, P_{12}, P_{13}, P_{123}$  by their empirical equivalent e.g.  
 $\hat{P}_{13}(a, c) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} \varphi_a(Y_i) \varphi_c(Y_{i+2})$
- ▶  $\hat{U}$  matrix  $m \times K$  of right singular vectors of  $\hat{P}_{13}$  corresponding to the  $K$  largest singular values
- ▶  $\hat{B}(j) := (\hat{U}^T \hat{P}_{13} \hat{U})^{-1} \hat{U}^T \hat{P}_{123}(\cdot, j, \cdot) \hat{U}$
- ▶ Diagonalize  $\hat{B}$ : eigenvalues provide  $\hat{\mathbf{F}}(j, k)$
- ▶  $\tilde{\pi} = (\hat{U}^T \hat{\mathbf{F}})^{-1} \hat{U}^T \hat{P}_1$  and  
 $\tilde{\mathbf{Q}} = (\hat{U}^T \hat{\mathbf{F}} \text{Diag}(\tilde{\pi}))^{-1} \hat{U}^T \hat{P}_{12} \hat{U} (\hat{\mathbf{F}}^T \hat{U})^{-1}$
- ▶  $\hat{\mathbf{Q}}$  projection of  $\tilde{\mathbf{Q}}$  on the space of transition matrices, and  $\hat{\pi}$  its stationary distribution

# Performance of the spectral method

## Theorem

Under (H1)–(H4), up to label switching,

$$\mathbb{E}\|\mathbf{Q} - \hat{\mathbf{Q}}\|^2 \leq C \frac{m^3 \log(n)}{n}$$

$$\mathbb{E}\|\mathbf{f}_k - \hat{\mathbf{f}}_k\|_2^2 \leq \|\mathbf{f}_k - \mathbf{f}_{k,m}\|_2^2 + C \frac{m^3 \log(n)}{n} \leq C' m^{-2\alpha} + C \frac{m^3 \log(n)}{n}$$

where  $\alpha$  regularity of functions  $\mathbf{f}_k$

- ▶ for  $\mathbf{Q}$ : quasi-parametric rate of convergence
- ▶ for  $\mathbf{f}_k$ : rate of convergence  $(n/\log(n))^{-\alpha/(2\alpha+3)}$   
→ non optimal

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Joint law and conditional law

Estimation of the joint distribution

Results

Final estimation



## Joint law and conditional law

Distribution of  $(Y_1, Y_2, Y_3)$ :

$$g^{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{f}}(y) = \sum_{k_1, k_2, k_3=1}^K \pi(k_1) \mathbf{Q}(k_1, k_2) \mathbf{Q}(k_2, k_3) \mathbf{f}_{k_1}(y_1) \mathbf{f}_{k_2}(y_2) \mathbf{f}_{k_3}(y_3)$$

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$(H_5)$   $P(\mathbf{Q}, \langle \mathbf{f}_k, \mathbf{f}_l \rangle) \neq 0$   $P$  polynomial

→ generically satisfied

→ always satisfied if  $K = 2$

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Theorem (De Castro, Gassiat, L. 2016)

Under  $(H1)$ – $(H5)$ , there exists  $C > 0$  such that

$$\|g^{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{f}} - g^{\mathbf{Q}, \hat{\mathbf{f}}}\|_2 \geq C \sum_{k=1}^K \|\mathbf{f}_k - \hat{\mathbf{f}}_k\|_2$$

## Detail of ( $H5$ )

$G(\mathbf{f})_{i,j} := \langle \mathbf{f}_i, \mathbf{f}_j \rangle$ ,  $A := \text{Diag}(\boldsymbol{\pi})$ . If  $U$  matrix s.t.  $U\mathbf{1}_K = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D} := & \sum_{i,j=1}^K \left\{ (\mathbf{Q}^T A U G(\mathbf{f}) U^T A \mathbf{Q})_{i,j} (G(\mathbf{f}))_{i,j} (\mathbf{Q} G(\mathbf{f}) \mathbf{Q}^T)_{i,j} \right. \\ & + (\mathbf{Q}^T A G(\mathbf{f}) A \mathbf{Q})_{i,j} (U G(\mathbf{f}) U^T)_{i,j} (\mathbf{Q} G(\mathbf{f}) \mathbf{Q}^T)_{i,j} \\ & \left. + (\mathbf{Q}^T A G(\mathbf{f}) A \mathbf{Q})_{i,j} (G(\mathbf{f}))_{i,j} (\mathbf{Q} U G(\mathbf{f}) U^T \mathbf{Q}^T)_{i,j} \right\} \\ & + 2 \sum_{i,j} \left\{ (\mathbf{Q}^T A U G(\mathbf{f}) A \mathbf{Q})_{i,j} (U G(\mathbf{f}))_{j,i} (\mathbf{Q} G(\mathbf{f}) \mathbf{Q}^T)_{i,j} \right. \\ & + (\mathbf{Q}^T A U G(\mathbf{f}) A \mathbf{Q})_{i,j} (\mathbf{Q} U G(\mathbf{f}) \mathbf{Q}^T)_{j,i} (G(\mathbf{f}))_{i,j} \\ & \left. + (U G(\mathbf{f}))_{i,j} (\mathbf{Q} U G(\mathbf{f}) \mathbf{Q}^T)_{j,i} (\mathbf{Q}^T A G(\mathbf{f}) A \mathbf{Q})_{i,j} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

defines a semidefinite positive quadratic form  $\mathcal{D}$  in the coefficients  $U_{i,j}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, K$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, K - 1$ .

$P(\mathbf{Q}, G(\mathbf{f})) :=$  the numerator of the determinant of  $\mathcal{D}$

# Contrast minimization

We are looking for a function  $t$  minimizing

$$\begin{aligned}\|t - g^{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{f}}\|^2 &= \|t\|^2 - 2\langle t, g^{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{f}} \rangle + \|g^{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{f}}\|^2 \\ &= \|t\|^2 - 2\mathbb{E}[t(Y_i, Y_{i+1}, Y_{i+2})] + \cancel{\|g^{\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{f}}\|^2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\implies \hat{g}_m = \underset{t \in S}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} (\|t\|^2 - 2t(Y_i, Y_{i+1}, Y_{i+2}))$$

## Approximation space

We are looking for an estimator among functional space

$$S_{m, \mathbf{Q}} = \left\{ t : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad t(y) = \sum_{k_1, k_2, k_3=1}^K \pi(k_1) \mathbf{Q}(k_1, k_2) \mathbf{Q}(k_2, k_3) \sum_{j_1, j_2, j_3=1}^m a_{j_1 k_1} a_{j_2 k_2} a_{j_3 k_3} \varphi_{j_1}(y_1) \varphi_{j_2}(y_2) \varphi_{j_3}(y_3) \right\}$$

i.e.  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}_k \in \text{Vect}\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m\}$

$mK$  coefficients ( $a_{jk}$ ) to estimate

## Model selection

Collection of estimators:

$$\hat{g}_m = \operatorname{argmin}_{t \in S_{m, \hat{Q}}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} (\|t\|^2 - 2t(Y_i, Y_{i+1}, Y_{i+2}))$$

Choice of  $m$ : Birgé-Massart model selection

$$\hat{m} = \operatorname{argmin}_{1 \leq m \leq n} \{-\|\hat{g}_m\|^2 + \operatorname{pen}(m)\}$$

Finally  $\hat{g} = \hat{g}_{\hat{m}}$

then  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}_k$  such that  $\hat{g} = g^{\hat{Q}, \hat{\mathbf{f}}}$

# Oracle inequality and rate of convergence

Theorem (De Castro, Gassiat, L. 2016)

If  $\text{pen}(m) = \rho \frac{m \log n}{n}$  then, up to label switching,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbb{E} \|\mathbf{f}_k - \hat{\mathbf{f}}_k\|_2^2 &\leq C \min_m \left\{ \|\mathbf{f}_k - \mathbf{f}_{k,m}\|_2^2 + \frac{m \log n}{n} \right\} + \frac{\log n}{n} \\ &\leq C' \left( \frac{n}{\log n} \right)^{-2\alpha/(2\alpha+1)} \end{aligned}$$

Quasi-optimal rate of convergence

Proof requires concentration inequality for dependent variables, and control of the complexity of  $S_{m,Q}$  with bracket entropy



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**Final estimation**

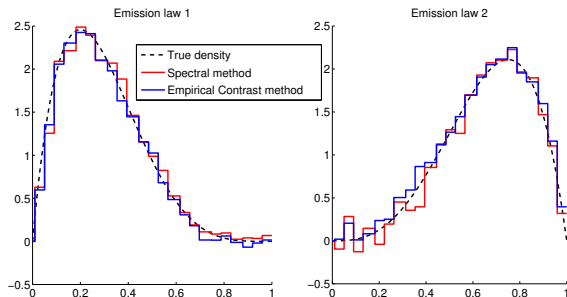
Combination of both methods

Simulations

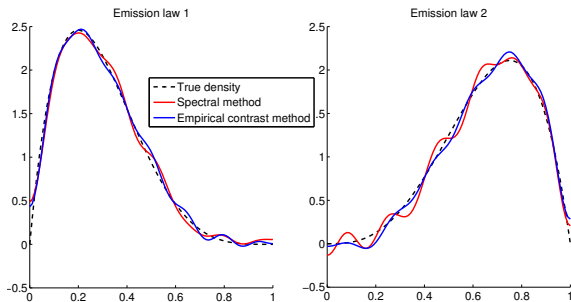
Prospects

# Implementation

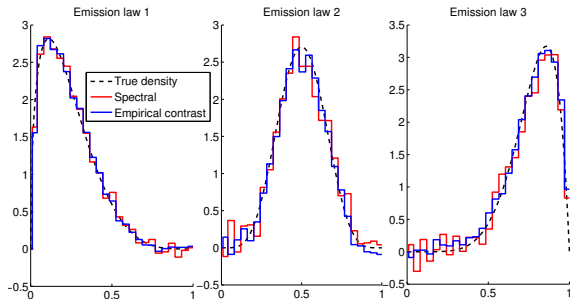
1. With spectral method, we obtain estimators  $\hat{\mathbf{Q}}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}_k$
2. Use  $\hat{\mathbf{Q}}$  to define  $S_{m, \hat{\mathbf{Q}}}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}_k$  as initial point of the constraint minimization  
(calibration of the penalty with slope heuristic of Birgé-Massart)

Simulations for  $K = 2$ 

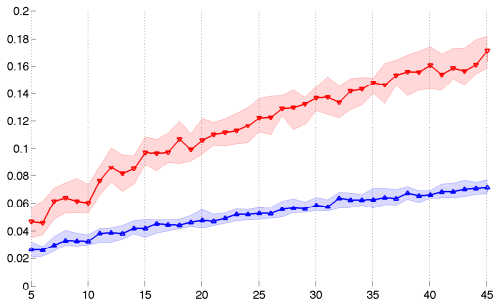
Reconstruction of densities  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  (Beta distributions) with **spectral** and **least squares** methods ( $n = 50000$ , histogram basis)

Simulations for  $K = 2$ 

Reconstruction of densities  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  (Beta distributions) with  
**spectral** and **least squares** methods  
( $n = 50000$ , trigonometric basis)

Simulations for  $K = 3$ 

Reconstruction of densities  $f_1, f_2, f_3$  (Beta distributions) with **spectral** and **least squares** methods ( $n = 50000$ , histogram basis)

Simulations for  $K = 2$ 

Integrated variance  $\mathbb{E}\|\hat{f}_k - f_{k,m}\|^2$  of **spectral** and **least squares** estimators, as a function of  $m$  ( $n = 50000$ , histogram basis)

## Future works

- ▶ Estimation of the filtering and marginal smoothing distributions  
De Castro, Gassiat, Lecorff (2016)

same model, distribution of  $X_i|Y_{1:i}$  and  $X_i|Y_{1:n}$  using  $\hat{\mathbf{Q}}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$

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- ▶ Estimation of  $K$ : Lehericy (2016)

$$(\hat{K}, \hat{M}) = \underset{K \leq \log n, m \leq n}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{-\|\hat{g}_{K,m}\|^2 + \operatorname{pen}(K, m)\}$$

with  $\operatorname{pen}(K, m) = (mK + K^2 - 1) \log(n)/n$



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- ▶  $Y_i = f(X_i) + \varepsilon_i$  with  $X_i$  non-observed Markov chain  
Dumont Lecorff (2016)

Rates of convergence to find...