

Lissages polygonaux de la fonction de répartition empirique

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Introduction

Consider X_1, \dots, X_n i.i.d. and real-valued r.v. with distribution function F and density f . The most classical and natural estimator of F is the edf:

$$F_n(t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}_{]-\infty, t]}(X_i)$$

↪ unbiased, strongly uniformly consistent, but ... discontinuous

Alternative estimators (Servien, 09):

- Kernel distribution estimator :
 $K_n(t) = \frac{1}{nh_n} \int_{-\infty}^t \sum_{i=1}^n k\left(\frac{x-X_i}{h_n}\right) dx$ with k a classical density kernel
- Other estimators : local smoothing (Lejeune and Sarda, 92), level-crossing (Huang and Brill, 04), splines (Berlinet, 81), ...
- All integrated density estimators ...

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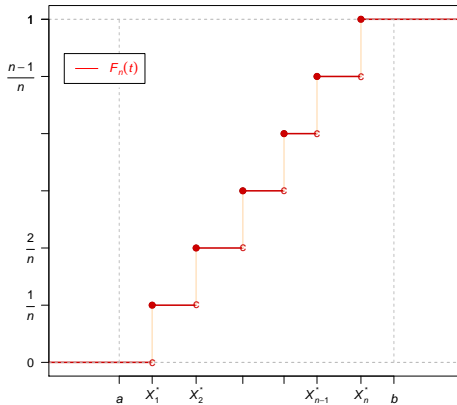
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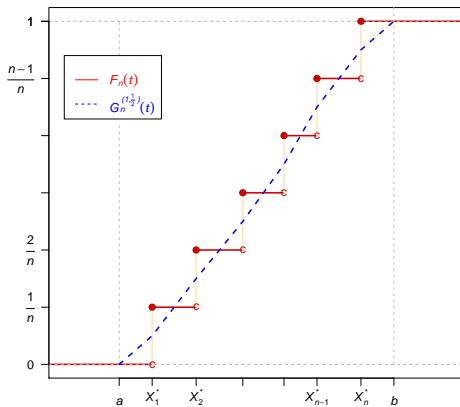
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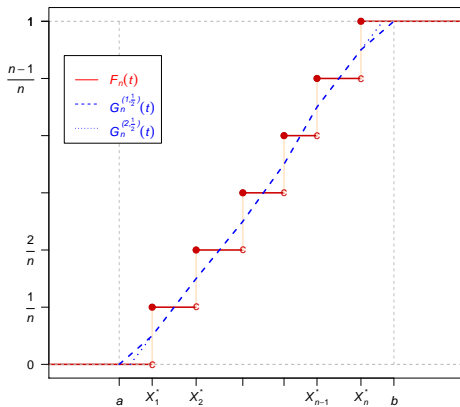
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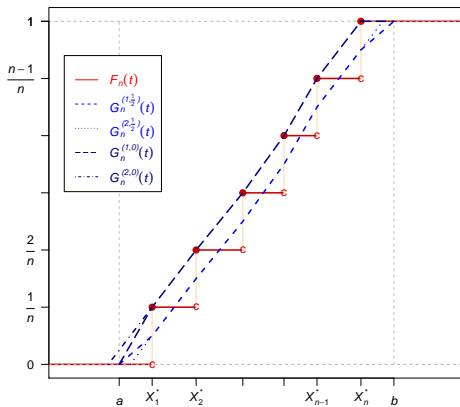
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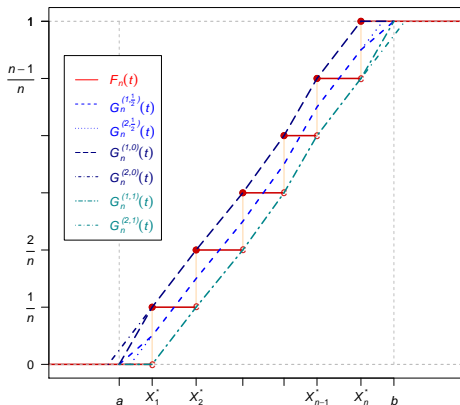


Polygonal estimators



Polygonal estimators

Families $G_n^{(j,p)}$: $j = 1$ known support $[a, b]$, $j = 2$ unknown support and p a known parameter in $[0, 1]$.



Definition (known support $[a, b]$)

$$G_n^{(1,p)}(t) = \frac{(1-p)(t-a)}{n(X_1^* - a)} \mathbb{I}_{[a, X_1^*]}(t) + \left(1 - \frac{p(b-t)}{n(b-X_n^*)}\right) \mathbb{I}_{[X_n^*, b]}(t) \\ + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{t + (k-p)X_{k+1}^* - (k+1-p)X_k^*}{n(X_{k+1}^* - X_k^*)} \mathbb{I}_{[X_k^*, X_{k+1}^*]}(t)$$

Definition (unknown support)

$$G_n^{(2,p)}(t) = G_n^{(1,p)}(t) \mathbb{I}_{[X_1^*, X_n^*]}(t) \\ + \max\left(0, \frac{t - (2-p)X_1^* + (1-p)X_2^*}{n(X_2^* - X_1^*)}\right) \mathbb{I}_{]-\infty, X_1^*]}(t) \\ + \min\left(1, \frac{t + (n-1-p)X_n^* - (n-p)X_{n-1}^*}{n(X_n^* - X_{n-1}^*)}\right) \mathbb{I}_{[X_n^*, +\infty]}(t)$$

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 \end{aligned}$$

First properties

- $G_n^{(j,p)}$ are continuous cdf and their piecewise derivatives are densities.
- $G_n^{(j,p)}(X_k^*) = \frac{k-p}{n}$ and $G_n^{(j,p)}(X_{k+1}^*) - G_n^{(j,p)}(X_k^*) = \frac{1}{n}$.
- $G_n^{(j,p)}(t) = F_n(t)$ for $t = X_k^* + p(X_{k+1}^* - X_k^*)$.
- $G_n^{(1,p)}(a) = F_n(a) = 0$ and $G_n^{(1,p)}(b) = F_n(b) = 1$.
- $G_n^{(2,p)}(t) \equiv 0$ for $t \leq (2-p)X_1^* - (1-p)X_2^* \leq X_1^*$ and $G_n^{(2,p)}(t) \equiv 1$ for $t \geq (1+p)X_n^* - pX_{n-1}^* \geq X_n^*$ but $\left[(2-p)X_1^* - (1-p)X_2^*, (1+p)X_n^* - pX_{n-1}^* \right] \not\subset [a, b]$.

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Only one reference (?) about polygonal estimators (Read, 72).

$$G_n^{(1,0)}(t) = \frac{t}{nX_1^*} \mathbb{I}_{[0, X_1^*]}(t) + \mathbb{I}_{[X_n^*, 1]}(t) + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{t + kX_{k+1}^* - (k+1)X_k^*}{n(X_{k+1}^* - X_k^*)} \mathbb{I}_{[X_k^*, X_{k+1}^*]}(t)$$

It is shown that, for n sufficiently large, the expected squared error of $G_n^{(1,0)}$ is no larger than F_n . Also, a variant of $G_n^{(1,0)}$ dominates $\frac{nF_n+1}{n+2}$ in terms of integrated risk but the result is not proven. 😞

In all the following and, without loss of generality, $[a, b] \equiv [0, 1]$

Lemma

For the families of estimators $G_n^{(1,p)}$, we get

$$G_n^{(1,p)}(t) - F_n(t) = \frac{(1-p)t}{nX_1^*} \mathbb{I}_{[0, X_1^*]}(t) - \frac{p(1-t)}{n(1-X_n^*)} \mathbb{I}_{[X_n^*, 1]}(t) \\ + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{t - pX_{k+1}^* - (1-p)X_k^*}{n(X_{k+1}^* - X_k^*)} \mathbb{I}_{[X_k^*, X_{k+1}^*]}(t);$$

Lemma

For the families of estimators $G_n^{(2,p)}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_n^{(2,p)}(t) - F_n(t) &= \frac{t + (1 - p)X_2^* - (2 - p)X_1^*}{n(X_2^* - X_1^*)} \mathbb{I}_{[(2-p)X_1^* - (1-p)X_2^*, X_1^*]}(t) \\
 &+ \frac{t - (1 + p)X_n^* + pX_{n-1}^*}{n(X_n^* - X_{n-1}^*)} \mathbb{I}_{[X_n^*, (1+p)X_n^* - pX_{n-1}^*]}(t) \\
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$$\rightsquigarrow \left\| F_n - G_n^{(j,p)} \right\|_{\infty} = \max \left(\frac{p}{n}, \frac{1-p}{n} \right), \quad 0 \leq p \leq 1, \quad j = 1, 2.$$

Exponential inequalities

Proposition

If F is continuous and increasing over $[0,1]$, we obtain

(a) For $j = 1, 2$ and $\varepsilon > \frac{1}{2n(1-a_0)}$ with $0 < a_0 < 1$,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|G_n^{(j, \frac{1}{2})} - F\right\|_{\infty} \geq \varepsilon\right) \leq 2 \exp(-2a_0^2 n \varepsilon^2), \quad n \geq 1.$$

(b) More generally,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|G_n^{(j, p)} - F\right\|_{\infty} \geq \varepsilon\right) \leq 2 \exp(-2a_0^2 n \varepsilon^2), \quad 0 < a_0 < 1,$$

for $\varepsilon > \frac{\max(p, 1-p)}{n(1-a_0)}$, $n \geq 1$.

Proof. The result is derived from

$$\left\| G_n^{(j,p)} - F \right\|_{\infty} \leq \frac{\max(p, 1-p)}{n} + \|F_n - F\|_{\infty}$$

and the exponential inequality ([Massart, 90](#))

$$\mathbb{P}(\|F_n - F\|_{\infty} \geq \varepsilon) \leq 2 \exp(-2n\varepsilon^2)$$

with the choice $\varepsilon > \frac{\max(p, 1-p)}{n(1-a_0)}$, $n \geq 1$, $0 < a_0 < 1$.

Proposition

Under same conditions as before, we get

(a) for $p = \frac{1}{2}$, $j = 1, 2$:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|G_n^{(j, \frac{1}{2})} - F\right\|_{\infty} \geq \varepsilon\right) \leq 2 \exp(-2n\varepsilon^2), \quad 0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{4n}, \quad n \geq 1;$$

(b) and more generally,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|G_n^{(j, p)} - F\right\|_{\infty} \geq \varepsilon\right) \leq 2 \exp(-2n\varepsilon^2),$$

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Proof. The result is derived again from the choice of ε and

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|G_n^{(j, p)} - F\right\|_{\infty} \geq \varepsilon\right) \leq 2 \exp\left(-2n\left(\varepsilon - \max\left(\frac{p}{n}, \frac{1-p}{n}\right)\right)^2\right).$$

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Study of the MISE

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The MISE is calculated from } & \mathbb{E} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (G_n^{(j,p)}(t) - F(t))^2 dt \\ &= \mathbb{E} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (F_n(t) - F(t))^2 dt + \mathbb{E} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (G_n^{(j,p)}(t) - F_n(t))^2 dt \\ &+ 2 \mathbb{E} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (G_n^{(j,p)}(t) - F_n(t))(F_n(t) - F(t)) dt, \quad j = 1, 2, \quad p \in [0, 1]. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) For } m \in \mathbb{N}^*, \int_0^1 (G_n^{(1,p)}(t) - F_n(t))^m dt \\ = \frac{((1-p)^m - (-1)^m p^m)(pX_1^* + (1-p)X_n^*) + (-1)^m p^m}{(m+1)n^m}. \end{aligned}$$

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\rightsquigarrow for m even and $p = \frac{1}{2}$, the result is $\frac{(2n)^{-m}}{m+1}$!



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(a) For $m \in \mathbb{N}^*$, $\int_0^1 (G_n^{(1,p)}(t) - F_n(t))^m dt$

$$= \frac{((1-p)^m - (-1)^m p^m)(pX_1^* + (1-p)X_n^*) + (-1)^m p^m}{(m+1)n^m}.$$

(b) A similar but more complicated expression is obtained for $j = 2$ involving X_2^* and X_{n-1}^* too.

Assumption (A1)

- (i) F admits the density f supposed to be compactly supported on $[0,1]$
- (ii) f is continuous on $[0,1]$ and $\inf_{x \in [0,1]} f(x) \geq c_0$ for some positive constant c_0 ;
- (iii) f is a Lipschitz function: there exists a positive constant c_1 such that for all $(x, y) \in]0, 1[^2$, $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq c_1 |x - y|$.

Lemma

If the conditions A1-(i)(ii) hold then, for all integers $r \geq 0$ and $m \geq 1$, not depending on n , we get

$$(a) \quad E \left(\inf_{i=1, \dots, n+r} X_i \right)^m = \frac{a_m}{n^m} + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{1}{n^{m+1}} \right), \quad a_m > 0;$$

$$(b) \quad E \left(1 - \sup_{i=1, \dots, n+r} X_i \right)^m = \frac{b_m}{n^m} + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{1}{n^{m+1}} \right), \quad b_m > 0.$$

$$(c) \quad E (X_2^* - X_1^*) = \frac{d_1}{n} + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{1}{n^2} \right), \quad d_1 > 0, \text{ and}$$

$$E (X_2^* - X_1^*)^m = \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{1}{n^m} \right),$$

$$(d) \quad E (X_n^* - X_{n-1}^*) = \frac{e_1}{n} + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{1}{n^2} \right), \quad e_1 > 0, \text{ and}$$

$$E (X_n^* - X_{n-1}^*)^m = \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{1}{n^m} \right).$$

Proposition

Under the conditions A1-(i)(ii), we have for all $p \in [0, 1]$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(a) } E \int_0^1 (G_n^{(1,p)}(t) - F_n(t))^2 dt &= \frac{(1 - 2p)(pE(X_1^*) - (1 - p)E(1 - X_n^*)) + 1 - 3p + 3p^2}{3n^2} \\
 &= \frac{1 - 3p + 3p^2}{3n^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n^3}\right);
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(b) } E \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (G_n^{(2,p)}(t) - F_n(t))^2 dt &= \frac{p^3 E(X_n^* - X_{n-1}^*) + ((1 - p)^3 + p^3)}{3n^2} \\
 &+ \frac{(1 - p)^3 E(X_2^* - X_1^*) + E(X_n^* - X_1^*)((1 - p)^3 + p^3)}{3n^2} \\
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 &= \frac{p^3\mathbb{E}(X_n^* - X_{n-1}^*) + ((1 - p)^3 + p^3)}{3n^2} \\
 &+ \frac{(1 - p)^3\mathbb{E}(X_2^* - X_1^*) + \mathbb{E}(X_n^* - X_1^*)((1 - p)^3 + p^3)}{3n^2} \\
 &= \frac{1 - 3p + 3p^2}{3n^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n^3}\right).
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, the most difficult task is the double product. We get

Proposition

Under Assumption A1, we get for $j = 1, 2$ and $p \in [0, 1]$:

$$2 \mathbb{E} \int_0^1 (G_n^{(j,p)}(t) - F_n(t))(F_n(t) - F(t)) dt = -\frac{1}{3n^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n^3}\right).$$

Sketch of Proof 1/3, $j = 1$.

$I_1^{(1,p)} = 2 \mathbb{E} \int_0^1 (G_n^{(1,p)}(t) - F_n(t))F_n(t) dt$ is quite easy to derive as F_n is piecewise constant. We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I_1^{(1,p)} &= -\mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{(2p-1)k(X_{k+1}^* - X_k^*)}{n^2} \right) - \frac{p(1 - \mathbb{E}(X_n^*))}{n} \\ &= \frac{(1-2p)(1 - \mathbb{E}(X_1))}{n} - \frac{(1-p)b_1}{n^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n^3}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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 I_2^{(1,p)} = & \mathbb{E} \left(\frac{-2(1-p)(X_1^*)^2 (f(0) + X_1^* R_{1,0})}{3n} \right. \\
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with $|R_{1,k}| \leq c_1 \theta_k < c_1$, $k = 0, \dots, n$, $0 < \theta_k < 1$.

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From the binomial theorem and the joint density of (X_k^*, X_{k+1}^*) :

$$f_{(X_k^*, X_{k+1}^*)}(x, y) = \frac{n! F^{k-1}(x) f(x) f(y) (1-F(y))^{n-k-1}}{(k-1)!(n-k-1)!} \text{ with } y > x, \text{ we get}$$

Proposition

If h is measurable and integrable on $[0, 1]^2$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \mathbb{E} (h(X_k^*, X_{k+1}^*)) \\ &= n(n-1) \int_0^1 \int_0^y h(x, y) f(x) f(y) (1-F(y) + F(x))^{n-2} dx dy. \end{aligned}$$

and after some calculations (...), one arrives at

$$I_2^{(1,p)} = -\frac{(1-2p)(1-\mathbb{E}(X_1))}{n} + \frac{b_1(1-p)}{n^2} - \frac{1}{3n^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n^3}\right).$$

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Theorem

Under Assumption 1, we get for $j = 1, 2$ and all $p \in [0, 1]$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (G_n^{(j,p)}(t) - F(t))^2 dt \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \int_0^1 F(t)(1 - F(t)) dt - \frac{p(1-p)}{n^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n^3}\right). \end{aligned}$$

- $G_n^{(1,p)}$ and $G_n^{(2,p)}$ are asymptotically equivalent.
- For all $p \in]0, 1[$, the families $G_n^{(j,p)}$, $j = 1, 2$ are more efficient than F_n .
- Choices $p = 0$ or $p = 1$ are more problematic since the term $\frac{p(1-p)}{n^2}$ vanishes in these cases.
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The nonparametric kernel distribution estimator is defined as follows

$$K_n(t) = \frac{1}{nh_n} \sum_{i=1}^n L\left(\frac{t - X_i}{h_n}\right), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

where h_n is the bandwidth and $L(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t k(x) dx$. Here k is the usual kernel used in density estimation, chosen as a known continuous density on \mathbb{R} , symmetric about 0.

Theoretical properties of this estimator are well known: see [Swanepoel and Van Graan, 05](#) or [Servien, 09](#) for a rich literature review.

- Weighted MISE: $E \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (K_n(t) - F(t))^2 f(t) dt$ established by [Swanepoel, 88](#) with optimal choice of k .
- Unweighted MISE derived in [Jones, 90](#) when F has two continuous derivatives f and f' :

$$\begin{aligned}
 & E \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (K_n(t) - F(t))^2 dt \\
 &= \frac{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(t)(1 - F(t)) dt}{n} - \frac{2h_n}{n} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} tk(t)L(t) dt \\
 &\quad + \frac{h_n^4}{4} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} t^2 k(t) dt \right)^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (f'(t))^2 dt + o(h_n^4) + o\left(\frac{h_n}{n}\right).
 \end{aligned}$$

For f only Lipschitz and compactly supported on $[0,1]$, we obtain

$$\mathbb{E} \int_0^1 (K_n(t) - F(t))^2 dt =$$

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- Similar expression as for $G_n^{(j,p)}$ with presence of the MISE of F_n
- Bandwidth to calibrate: h_n of order $n^{-\frac{1}{3}}$ gives a $\mathcal{O}(n^{-4/3})$ while the improvement is only $\mathcal{O}(n^{-2})$ for $G_n^{(j,p)}$, $p \in]0, 1[$.
- Practical choice of h_n ?
 - Sarda, 93: leave-one-out cross-validation method
 - Bowman, Hall, Prvan 98: modified cross-validation method
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Multi-stage procedure of Polansky and Baker, 00:

- h_n minimizing the MISE given by

$$h_{\text{opt}} = \left(\frac{2 \int t k(t) L(t) dt}{n (\int t^2 k(t) dt)^2 \int (f'(t))^2 dt} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

- Nonparametric kernel estimation of $\int (f'(t))^2 dt$ involves a bandwidth h_{1n} with $h_{1,\text{opt}}$ depending on $\int (f^{(2)}(t))^2 dt$
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- Set of 15 Gaussian mixtures defined in Marron and Wand, 92 + 1 additional from Janssen, Marron, Veraverbeke, and Sarle, 95
 - of easy implementation,
 - describing a broad class of potential problems (skewness, multimodality, and heavy kurtosis)
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- $G_n^{(j, 0)}$ and $G_n^{(j, 1)}$, $j = 1, 2$ have irregular behaviour: better or worse than F_n depending on n and the simulated distribution. Nevertheless, their estimated MISE are always greater than $G_n^{(j, \frac{1}{2})}$
- $G_n^{(1, \frac{1}{2})}$ outperforms both K_n and F_n for 6/16 tested distributions (from only $n = 50$ for 2 of them)

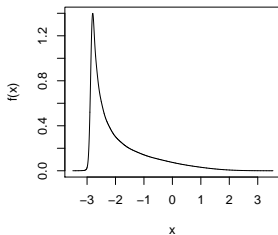
Results

- For all tested distributions and all n in $\{20, 50, 100\}$, $G_n^{(1, \frac{1}{2})}$ and $G_n^{(2, \frac{1}{2})}$ outperform F_n
- $G_n^{(1, \frac{1}{2})}$ with $a = -3$ and $b = 3$ always slightly better than $G_n^{(2, \frac{1}{2})}$
- $G_n^{(j, 0)}$ and $G_n^{(j, 1)}$, $j = 1, 2$ have irregular behaviour: better or worse than F_n depending on n and the simulated distribution. Nevertheless, their estimated MISE are always greater than $G_n^{(j, \frac{1}{2})}$
- $G_n^{(1, \frac{1}{2})}$ outperforms both K_n and F_n for 6/16 tested distributions (from only $n = 50$ for 2 of them)

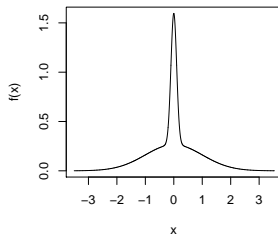
Number	Name	Distribution function: $\sum_{\ell=0}^k \omega_{\ell} \mathcal{N}(\mu_{\ell}, \sigma_{\ell}^2)$
3	Strongly skewed	$\sum_{\ell=0}^7 \frac{1}{8} \mathcal{N}(3((\frac{2}{3})^{\ell} - 1), (\frac{2}{3})^{2\ell})$
4	Kurtotic unimodal	$\frac{2}{3} \mathcal{N}(0, 1) + \frac{1}{3} \mathcal{N}(0, (\frac{1}{10})^2)$
5	Outlier	$\frac{1}{10} \mathcal{N}(0, 1) + \frac{9}{10} \mathcal{N}(0, (\frac{1}{10})^2)$
14	Smooth comb	$\sum_{\ell=0}^5 \frac{2^{5-\ell}}{63} \mathcal{N}(\frac{65-96(1/2)^{\ell}}{21}, \frac{(32/63)^2}{2^{2\ell}})$
15	Discrete comb	$\sum_{\ell=0}^2 \frac{2}{7} \mathcal{N}(\frac{12\ell-15}{7}, (\frac{2}{7})^2) + \sum_{\ell=8}^{10} \frac{1}{21} \mathcal{N}(\frac{2\ell}{7}, (\frac{1}{21})^2)$
16	Distant bimodal	$\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{N}(-\frac{5}{2}, (\frac{1}{6})^2) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{N}(\frac{5}{2}, (\frac{1}{6})^2)$

Table: Selected distribution functions used in the simulation study:
#1-#15 are from MW 92, #16 from JMVS95

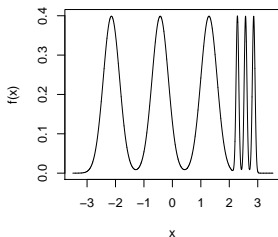
MW 3 (strongly skewed)



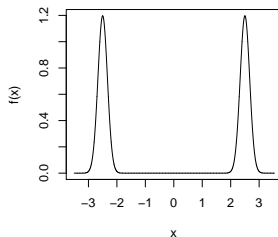
MW 4 (kurtotic unimodal)



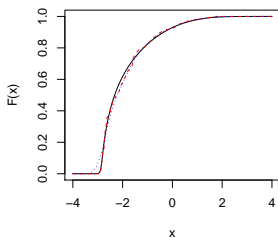
MW 15 (discrete comb)



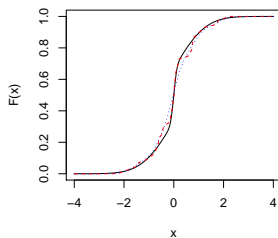
MW 16 (distant bimodal)



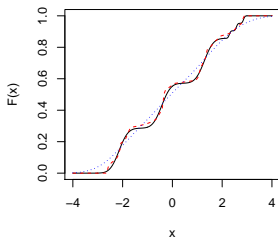
MW 3



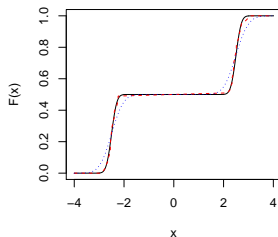
MW 4












MW 15



MW 16



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