

STRONG CONVERGENCE OF A UNIFORM KERNEL ESTIMATOR FOR INTENSITY OF A PERIODIC POISSON PROCESS WITH UNKNOWN PERIOD

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ABSTRACT. Strong convergence of a uniform kernel estimator for intensity of a periodic Poisson process with unknown period is presented and proved. The result presented here is a special case of the one in [3]. The aim of this paper is to present an alternative and a relatively simpler proof of strong convergence compared to the one in [3]. This is a joint work with R. Helmers and R. Zitikis.

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1. INTRODUCTION AND MAIN RESULT

In this paper, strong convergence of a uniform kernel estimator for intensity of a periodic Poisson process with unknown period is presented and proved. For more general results which using general kernel function can be found in [3] and chapter 3 of [4].

Let X be a Poisson process on $[0, \infty)$ with (unknown) locally integrable intensity function λ . We assume that λ is a periodic function with unknown period τ . We do not assume any parametric form of λ , except that it is periodic. That is, for each point $s \in [0, \infty)$ and all $k \in \mathbf{Z}$, with \mathbf{Z} denotes the set of integers, we have

$$\lambda(s + k\tau) = \lambda(s). \quad (1.1)$$

Suppose that, for some $\omega \in \Omega$, a single realization $X(\omega)$ of the Poisson process X defined on a probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbf{P})$ with intensity function λ is observed, though only within a bounded interval $[0, n]$. Our goal is: (a) To present a uniform kernel estimator for λ at a given point $s \in [0, n]$ using only a single realization $X(\omega)$ of the Poisson process X observed in interval $[0, n]$. (The requirement $s \in [0, n]$ can

be dropped if we know the period τ .) (b) To determine an alternative set of conditions for having strong convergence of this estimator compared to the one in [3]. (c) To present an alternative and a relatively simpler proof of strong convergence of the estimator compared to the one in [3].

Note that, since λ is a periodic function with period τ , the problem of estimating λ at a given point $s \in [0, n]$ can be reduced into a problem of estimating λ at a given point $s \in [0, \tau)$. Hence, for the rest of this paper, we assume that $s \in [0, \tau)$.

We will assume throughout that s is a Lebesgue point of λ , that is we have

$$\lim_{h \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{2h} \int_{-h}^h |\lambda(s+x) - \lambda(s)| dx = 0$$

(e.g. [7], p.107-108). This assumption is a mild one since the set of all Lebesgue points of λ is dense in \mathbf{R} , whenever λ is assumed to be locally integrable.

Let $\hat{\tau}_n$ be any consistent estimator of the period τ , that is,

$$\hat{\tau}_n \xrightarrow{p} \tau,$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. For example, one may use the estimators constructed in [2] or perhaps the estimator investigated by [6] or [1]. Let also h_n be a sequence of positive real numbers converging to 0, that is,

$$h_n \downarrow 0 \tag{1.2}$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. With these notations, we may define an estimator of $\lambda(s)$ as

$$\hat{\lambda}_n(s) := \frac{\hat{\tau}_n}{n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2h_n} X([s + k\hat{\tau}_n - h_n, s + k\hat{\tau}_n + h_n] \cap [0, n]). \tag{1.3}$$

The idea behind the construction of the estimator $\hat{\lambda}_n(s)$ given in (1.3) can be found e.g. in [5].

The main result of this paper is the following theorem.

Theorem 1.1. *Let the intensity function λ be periodic and locally integrable. Furthermore, let the bandwidth h_n be such that (1.2) holds true, and*

$$\frac{1}{nh_n} = \mathcal{O}(n^{-\alpha}) \tag{1.4}$$

and

$$n|\hat{\tau}_n - \tau|/h_n = \mathcal{O}(n^{-\beta}) \tag{1.5}$$

with probability 1, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, for an arbitrarily small $\alpha > 0$ and $\beta > 0$, then

$$\hat{\lambda}_n(s) \xrightarrow{a.s.} \lambda(s) \quad (1.6)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, provided s is a Lebesgue point of λ . In other words, $\hat{\lambda}_n(s)$ converges strongly to $\lambda(s)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

2. PROOFS OF THEOREM 1.1

Throughout this paper, for any random variables Y_n and Y on a probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbf{P})$, we write $Y_n \xrightarrow{c} Y$ to denote that Y_n converges completely to Y , as $n \rightarrow \infty$. We say that Y_n converges completely to Y if

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{P}(|Y_n - Y| > \epsilon) < \infty,$$

for every $\epsilon > 0$.

Let $B_h(x)$ denotes the interval $[x - h, x + h]$. To establish Theorem 1.1, first we prove

$$\frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2h_n} X(B_{h_n}(s + k\hat{\tau}_n) \cap [0, n]) \xrightarrow{a.s.} \lambda(s), \quad (2.1)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, where $N_n = \#\{k : s + k\tau \in [0, n]\}$. To prove (2.1), by Borel-Cantelli, it suffices to check, for each $\epsilon > 0$, that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{P} \left(\left| \frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2h_n} X(B_{h_n}(s + k\hat{\tau}_n) \cap [0, n]) - \lambda(s) \right| > \epsilon \right) < \infty, \quad (2.2)$$

i.e. the difference between the quantity on the l.h.s. of (2.1) and $\lambda(s)$ converges completely to zero, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. By Lemma 2.1, Lemma 2.2, and Lemma 2.3, we obtain (2.2), which implies (2.1).

Then, to prove (1.6), it remains to check that $\hat{\lambda}_n(s)$ can be replaced by the quantity on the l.h.s. of (2.1), i.e. we must show that the difference between $\hat{\lambda}_n(s)$ and the quantity on the l.h.s. of (2.1) converges almost surely to zero, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. To show this, first we write this difference as

$$\left(\frac{\hat{\tau}_n N_n}{n} - 1 \right) \frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2h_n} X(B_{h_n}(s + k\hat{\tau}_n) \cap [0, n]), \quad (2.3)$$

that is, the quantity on the l.h.s. of (2.1) multiplied by $(\hat{\tau}_n N_n n^{-1} - 1)$. Since $\lambda(s)$ is finite, by (2.1), we have that the quantity on the l.h.s.

of (2.1) is $\mathcal{O}(1)$, with probability 1, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Hence, it remains to check that

$$\left| \frac{\hat{\tau}_n N_n}{n} - 1 \right| = o(1), \quad (2.4)$$

with probability 1, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. By the triangle inequality, the quantity on the l.h.s. of (2.4) does not exceed

$$\left| \frac{\hat{\tau}_n N_n}{n} - \frac{\hat{\tau}_n}{\tau} \right| + \left| \frac{\hat{\tau}_n}{\tau} - 1 \right| \leq \frac{\hat{\tau}_n}{n} \left| N_n - \frac{n}{\tau} \right| + \frac{1}{\tau} |\hat{\tau}_n - \tau|. \quad (2.5)$$

Note that $|n/\tau - N_n| \leq 1$, and $\hat{\tau}_n = \mathcal{O}(1)$, with probability 1, as $n \rightarrow \infty$ (by (1.5)). Hence, the first term on the r.h.s. of (2.5) is $\mathcal{O}(n^{-1})$, with probability 1, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. By (1.5), we have that its second term is $o(1)$, with probability 1, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Therefore we have (2.4). This completes the proof of Theorem 1.1.

In the following lemma we shall show that we may replace the random centre $s + k\hat{\tau}_n$ of the interval $B_{h_n}(s + k\hat{\tau}_n)$ in (2.1) by its deterministic limit $s + k\tau$.

Lemma 2.1. *Suppose λ is periodic (with period τ) and locally integrable. If, in addition, (1.2) and (1.5) are satisfied, then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2h_n} |\{X(B_{h_n}(s + k\hat{\tau}_n) \cap [0, n]) - X(B_{h_n}(s + k\tau) \cap [0, n])\}| \\ & \xrightarrow{c} 0, \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, provided s is a Lebesgue point of λ .

Proof: First note that the difference within curly brackets on the l.h.s. of (2.6) does not exceed

$$X(B_{h_n}(s + k\hat{\tau}_n) \Delta B_{h_n}(s + k\tau) \cap [0, n]). \quad (2.7)$$

Now we notice that

$$B_{h_n - |k(\hat{\tau}_n - \tau)|}(s + k\tau) \subseteq B_{h_n}(s + k\hat{\tau}_n) \subseteq B_{h_n + |k(\hat{\tau}_n - \tau)|}(s + k\tau). \quad (2.8)$$

By (2.7) and (2.8) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |\{X(B_{h_n}(s + k\hat{\tau}_n) \cap [0, n]) - X(B_{h_n}(s + k\tau) \cap [0, n])\}| \\ & \leq 2X(B_{h_n + |k(\hat{\tau}_n - \tau)|}(s + k\tau) \setminus B_{h_n - |k(\hat{\tau}_n - \tau)|}(s + k\tau) \cap [0, n]). \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

Hence, to prove (2.6), it suffices to show that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{h_n} X(B_{h_n+|k(\hat{\tau}_n-\tau)|}(s+k\tau) \setminus B_{h_n-|k(\hat{\tau}_n-\tau)|}(s+k\tau) \cap [0, n]) \\ & \xrightarrow{c} 0, \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. To prove (2.10) we argue as follows. Let Λ_n denotes the l.h.s. of (2.10), and let also $\epsilon > 0$ be any fixed real number. Then to verify (2.10) it suffices to check, for each $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{P}(|\Lambda_n| > \epsilon) < \infty. \quad (2.11)$$

By the assumption (1.5), there exists large fixed positive integer n_0 and positive constant C such that $n|\hat{\tau}_n - \tau| \leq Cn^{-\beta}h_n$ with probability 1, for all $n \geq n_0$. Then, for all $n \geq n_0$, we have with probability 1 that $\mathbf{P}(|\Lambda_n| > \epsilon) \leq \mathbf{P}(|\bar{\Lambda}_n| > \epsilon)$, where $\bar{\Lambda}_n$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\Lambda}_n &= \frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2h_n} \\ & X(B_{h_n(1+Cn^{-\beta})}(s+k\tau) \setminus B_{h_n(1-Cn^{-\beta})}(s+k\tau) \cap [0, n]). \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

(Note that $\bar{\bar{\Lambda}}_n$ is precisely equal to $\bar{\Lambda}_n$ in (2.10), provided we replace, for our present purposes, δ by $Cn^{-\beta}$). Since to show convergency of an infinite series it suffices to check convergency of its tail, to prove (2.11), it suffices to check, for each $\epsilon > 0$, that

$$\sum_{n=n_0}^{\infty} \mathbf{P}(|\bar{\Lambda}_n| > \epsilon) < \infty. \quad (2.13)$$

By Markov inequality for the M -th moment, we then obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(|\bar{\Lambda}_n| > \epsilon) &\leq \frac{E(\bar{\Lambda}_n)^M}{\epsilon^M} = \left(\frac{1}{2\epsilon N_n h_n} \right)^M \\ & \mathbf{E} \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} X(B_{h_n(1+Cn^{-\beta})}(s+k\tau) \setminus B_{h_n(1-Cn^{-\beta})}(s+k\tau) \cap W_n) \right)^M. \end{aligned} \quad (2.14)$$

Now consider the expectation on the r.h.s. of (2.14). By writing the M -th power of a sum as a M -multiple sum, we can interchange summations and expectation. Note that for large n , by (1.2), the random variables

$$X(B_{h_n(1+Cn^{-\beta})}(s+k\tau) \setminus B_{h_n(1-Cn^{-\beta})}(s+k\tau)) \text{ and}$$

$$X(B_{h_n(1+Cn^{-\beta})}(s+j\tau) \setminus B_{h_n(1-Cn^{-\beta})}(s+j\tau))$$

for $k \neq j$, are independent. Now, we distinguish M different cases in the M -multiple sum, namely, case (1) if all indexes are the same, up to case (M) if all indexes are different. Then we split up the M -multiple sum into M different terms, where each term corresponds to each of the M cases. Because for each $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ and for any fixed M , by (1.2), it is easy to check that

$$\mathbf{E} \left(X(B_{h_n(1+Cn^{-\beta})}(s+k\tau) \setminus B_{h_n(1-Cn^{-\beta})}(s+k\tau)) \right)^M = O(1), \quad (2.15)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, uniformly in k , we find that for large n , the biggest term among those M terms, is the term corresponds to the case where all indexes are different. Hence we conclude that the expectation on the r.h.s. of (2.14) does not exceed

$$\begin{aligned} & M \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{E} X(B_{h_n(1+Cn^{-\beta})}(s+k\tau) \setminus B_{h_n(1-Cn^{-\beta})}(s+k\tau) \cap W_n) \right)^M \\ &= M \left(\int_{B_{(1+Cn^{-\beta})h_n}(0) \setminus B_{(1-Cn^{-\beta})h_n}(0)} \lambda(s+x) \right. \\ & \quad \left. \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{I}(s+k\tau+x \in W_n) dx \right)^M \\ &\leq M(N_n+1)^M \left(\int_{B_{(1+Cn^{-\beta})h_n}(0) \setminus B_{(1-Cn^{-\beta})h_n}(0)} \lambda(s+x) dx \right)^M. \end{aligned} \quad (2.16)$$

The integral on the r.h.s. of (2.16) does not exceed

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{B_{(1+Cn^{-\beta})h_n}(0) \setminus B_{(1-Cn^{-\beta})h_n}(0)} |\lambda(s+x) - \lambda(s)| dx \\ &+ |B_{(1+Cn^{-\beta})h_n}(0) \setminus B_{(1-Cn^{-\beta})h_n}(0)| \lambda(s). \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

Since s is a Lebesgue point of λ , we have that the quantity in the first term of (2.17) is of order $o(n^{-\beta}h_n)$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Since $\lambda(s)$ is finite and $|B_{(1+Cn^{-\beta})h_n}(0) \setminus B_{(1-Cn^{-\beta})h_n}(0)| = 4Cn^{-\beta}h_n$, we have that the quantity in the second term of (2.17) is of order $O(n^{-\beta}h_n)$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Hence, the r.h.s. of (2.16) is of order $O(n^{M(1-\beta)}h_n^M)$, which implies that the r.h.s. of (2.14) is of order $O(n^{-M\beta})$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. By choosing $M > \frac{1}{\beta}$, we see that (2.13) is proved. This completes the proof of Lemma 2.1.

To complete our proof of Theorem 1.1 we also need the following lemma.

Lemma 2.2. *Suppose λ is periodic (with period τ) and locally integrable. If, in addition, (1.2) and (1.4) are satisfied, then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2h_n} |X(B_{h_n}(s+k\tau) \cap [0, n]) - \mathbf{E}X(B_{h_n}(s+k\tau) \cap [0, n])| \\ & \xrightarrow{c} 0, \end{aligned} \quad (2.18)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, provided s is a Lebesgue point of λ .

Proof: First we write the l.h.s. of (2.18) as

$$\frac{1}{2N_nh_n} \left| \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{X}(B_{h_n}(s+k\tau) \cap W_n) \right|, \quad (2.19)$$

where we write \tilde{X} to denote $X - \mathbf{E}X$. By Markov inequality for the $2M$ -th moment, for each $\epsilon > 0$, we then obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{P} \left(\frac{1}{2N_nh_n} \left| \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{X}(B_{h_n}(s+k\tau) \cap W_n) \right| > \epsilon \right) \\ & \leq \left(\frac{1}{2\epsilon N_nh_n} \right)^{2M} \mathbf{E} \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{X}(B_{h_n}(s+k\tau) \cap W_n) \right)^{2M}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.20)$$

Now consider the expectation on the r.h.s. of (2.20). By writing the $2M$ -th power of a sum as a $2M$ -multiple sum, we can interchange summations and expectation. For large n , the r.v. $X(B_{h_n}(s+k\tau) \cap W_n)$ and $X(B_{h_n}(s+j\tau) \cap W_n)$, for $k \neq j$, are independent. Here we also distinguish $2M$ different cases in the $2M$ -multiple sum, namely, case (1) if all indexes are the same, up to case $(2M)$ if all indexes are different. Then we also split up the $2M$ -multiple sum into $2M$ different terms, where each term corresponds to each of the $2M$ cases. Because for any fixed M , it is easy to check that $\mathbf{E}\tilde{X}(B_{h_n}(s+k\tau) \cap W_n) = 0$ and $\mathbf{E} \left(\tilde{X}(B_{h_n}(s+k\tau) \cap W_n) \right)^{2M} = O(1)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, uniformly in k , we find for large n , the biggest term among those $2M$ terms, is the one corresponds to the case where there are M pairs of the same indexes. Hence we conclude that the expectation on the r.h.s. of (2.20) does not

exceed

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2M \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{E} \left(\tilde{X}(B_{h_n}(s+k\tau) \cap W_n) \right)^2 \right)^M \\
&= M 2^{M+1} h_n^M \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2h_n} \int_{B_{h_n}(0)} \lambda(s+x) \mathbf{I}(s+k\tau+x \in W_n) dx \right)^M \\
&\leq M 2^{M+1} h_n^M (N_n+1)^M \left(\frac{1}{2h_n} \int_{B_{h_n}(0)} \lambda(s+x) dx \right)^M \\
&= O(n^M h_n^M), \tag{2.21}
\end{aligned}$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Combining this result with the assumption (1.4), we then obtain that the r.h.s. of (2.20) is of order $O(n^{-M} h_n^{-M}) = O(n^{-M\alpha})$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. By choosing $M > \frac{1}{\alpha}$, we have that the probabilities on the l.h.s. of (2.20) are summable, which implies this lemma. This completes the proof of Lemma 2.2.

It remains to evaluate a non-random sum.

Lemma 2.3. *Suppose λ is periodic (with period τ) and locally integrable. If, in addition, (1.2) is satisfied, then*

$$\frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2h_n} \mathbf{E} X(B_{h_n}(s+k\tau) \cap [0, n]) = \lambda(s) + o(1), \tag{2.22}$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, provided s is a Lebesgue point of λ .

Proof: Using the fact that X is Poisson, the l.h.s. of (2.22) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2h_n} \int_{-h_n}^{h_n} \lambda(s+k\tau+x) \mathbf{I}(s+k\tau+x \in [0, n]) dx \\
&= \frac{1}{2N_n h_n} \int_{-h_n}^{h_n} \lambda(s+x) \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{I}(s+k\tau+x \in [0, n]) dx. \tag{2.23}
\end{aligned}$$

Now note that

$$(N_n - 1) \leq \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{I}(s+k\tau+x \in [0, n]) \leq (N_n + 1),$$

which implies $N_n^{-1} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{I}(s+k\tau+x \in [0, n])$ can be written as $(1 + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1}))$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, uniformly in x . Then, the quantity on the r.h.s. of (2.23) can be written as

$$\left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)\right) \frac{1}{2h_n} \int_{-h_n}^{h_n} \lambda(s+x) dx. \tag{2.24}$$

By (1.2) together with the assumption that s is a Lebesgue point of λ , we have that

$$(2h_n)^{-1} \int_{-h_n}^{h_n} \lambda(s+x)dx = \lambda(s) + o(1),$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Then we obtain this lemma. This completes the proof of Lemma 2.3.

Lemma 2.4. *Suppose that the assumption (1.5) is satisfied. Then, for each positive integer M , we have that*

$$\mathbf{E}(\hat{\tau}_n - \tau)^{2M} = O(n^{-2M(1+\beta)} h_n^{2M}), \quad (2.25)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof: By the assumption (1.5), there exists large positive constant C and positive integer n_0 such that

$$|\hat{\tau}_n - \tau| \leq Cn^{-(1+\beta)} h_n, \quad (2.26)$$

with probability 1, for all $n \geq n_0$. Then, the l.h.s. of (2.25) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^\infty x^{2M} d\mathbf{P}(|\hat{\tau}_n - \tau| \leq x) \\ &= - \int_0^{Cn^{-(1+\beta)} h_n} x^{2M} d\mathbf{P}(|\hat{\tau}_n - \tau| > x). \end{aligned} \quad (2.27)$$

By partial integration, the r.h.s. of (2.27) is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} & -x^{2M} \mathbf{P}(|\hat{\tau}_n - \tau| > x) \Big|_0^{Cn^{-(1+\beta)} h_n} \\ & + 2M \int_0^{Cn^{-(1+\beta)} h_n} \mathbf{P}(|\hat{\tau}_n - \tau| > x) x^{2M-1} dx. \end{aligned} \quad (2.28)$$

The first term of (2.28) is equals to zero, while its second term is at most equal to

$$\begin{aligned} 2M \int_0^{Cn^{-(1+\beta)} h_n} x^{2M-1} dx &= C^{2M} n^{-2M(1+\beta)} h_n^{2M} \\ &= O(n^{-2M(1+\beta)} h_n^{2M}), \end{aligned} \quad (2.29)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. This completes the proof of Lemma 2.4.

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