

Lemma 6.1 (Bochner lemma)

If $H \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is such that $\int H = 1$ and

$$\|x\|^d |H(x)| \xrightarrow{\|x\| \rightarrow \infty} 0,$$

if $g \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, then for $H_\varepsilon(\cdot) := \varepsilon^{-d} H(\cdot/\varepsilon)$, one has $g * H_\varepsilon \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} g$ at every continuity point of g .

PROOF:

The condition $H \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ensures that $g * H_\varepsilon$ is defined everywhere and we set $\Delta(x) = (g * H_\varepsilon)(x) - g(x)$. Since $\int H = \int H_\varepsilon = 1$, one may write $\Delta(x) = \int [g(x-y) - g(x)] H_\varepsilon(y) dy$. First note that if g is a bounded function (not necessarily in $L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$!), the Bochner lemma easily follows from the dominated convergence theorem. In the general case, if g is continuous at x , then given $\eta > 0$, we choose $\delta (= \delta_x) > 0$ such that for $\|y\| < \delta$, one has $|g(x-y) - g(x)| < \eta$. Next,

$$\begin{aligned} |\Delta(x)| &\leq \eta \int_{\|y\| < \delta} |H_\varepsilon(y)| dy + \int_{\|y\| \geq \delta} |g(x-y) - g(x)| |H_\varepsilon(y)| dy \\ &\leq \eta \|H\|_1 + \int_{\|y\| \geq \delta} |g(x-y)| |H_\varepsilon(y)| dy + |g(x)| \int_{\|y\| \geq \delta} |H_\varepsilon(y)| dy. \end{aligned}$$

Now since $H \in L^1$ and $\delta/\varepsilon \rightarrow \infty$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we have

$$\int_{\|y\| \geq \delta} |H_\varepsilon(y)| dy = \int_{\|t\| > \delta/\varepsilon} |H(t)| dt \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} 0.$$

Moreover $g \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and $\|t\|^d |H(t)| \rightarrow 0$ as $\|t\| \rightarrow \infty$ yield:

$$\int_{\|y\| \geq \delta} |g(x-y)| |H_\varepsilon(y)| dy \leq \delta^{-d} \sup_{\|t\| > \frac{\delta}{\varepsilon}} \|t\|^d |H(t)| \int_{\|y\| > \delta} |g(x-y)| dy \rightarrow 0,$$

as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ concluding the proof. ■

Coming back to density estimation, we begin with a necessary and sufficient condition for the L^2 -consistency of the estimator (6.2).

Theorem 6.1

The following assertions are equivalent:

- (i) $h_n \rightarrow 0, nh_n^d \rightarrow \infty$.
- (ii) $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d$, for every density f continuous at x , $E(f_n(x) - f(x))^2 \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$.

PROOF: (Outline)

- (1) (i) \Rightarrow (ii)

One may always write: $E(f_n(x) - f(x))^2 = \text{Var } f_n(x) + (E f_n(x) - f(x))^2$. Now the Bochner lemma and $h_n \rightarrow 0$ imply that $E f_n(x) \rightarrow f(x)$ and $nh_n^d \text{Var } f_n(x) \rightarrow f(x) \|K\|_2^2$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ at every continuity point of f . This relation, together with $nh_n^d \rightarrow \infty$, yields $\text{Var } f_n(x) \rightarrow 0$.