

# Product moments of nested bootstrap distributions

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathbf{X}^{[0]} = (\mathbf{x}_1^{[0]}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n^{[0]})$  be a  $p$  variate random sample of size  $n$  drawn from an unknown population  $\mathbf{F}^{[0]}$ . It is assumed that  $\mathbf{F}^{[0]}$  has the finite moments of requisite order. Let  $T(\mathbf{X}^{[0]})$  be a statistic to be used as an estimate of a population parameter  $\theta$ , providing that (a)  $T$  is smooth enough to be expanded in a Taylor series of requisite degree; (b)  $T(\mathbf{X}^{[0]})$  is a function of the sample moments.

Bootstrapping is known as a versatile non-parametric method for estimating the sampling distribution  $G^{[0]}$  of  $T(\mathbf{X}^{[0]})$  from which the bias of  $T(\mathbf{X}^{[0]})$ , the confidence intervals for  $\theta$  and other values appearing in statistical analysis are computed. The bootstrap estimate  $G^{[1]}$  of  $G^{[0]}$  is the sampling distribution of  $T(\mathbf{X}^{[1]})$  where each sample  $\mathbf{X}^{[1]}$  is drawn from the empirical distribution  $\mathbf{F}^{[1]}$  composed proportionally to  $\mathbf{X}^{[0]}$ .

Discussions on properties of  $G^{[1]}$  have been made by many workers, including Singh (1981) and Hall (1986), where it should be noted that those are based on the condition that the sample  $\mathbf{X}^{[0]}$  is given. In other words, observations in  $\mathbf{X}^{[1]}$  are not truly independent but conditionally independent each other.

In order to evaluate the influence of such kind of dependence, Ono and Niki (2001) have proposed a symbolic algorithm for obtaining the sampling moments of the moments of  $G^{[1]}$ . Let  $\Lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots)$  denote a partition of a vector

$$\mu \in \mathbf{Z}_0^p = \{j \mid j \in \mathbf{Z}, j \geq 0\}^p,$$

such that  $\mu = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots$ .  $A_\Lambda(\mathbf{X}^{[i]})$  and  $P_\Lambda(\mathbf{X}^{[i]})$  are vector version of the augmented symmetric polynomial and the power sum, respectively, associated with  $\Lambda$ . The main part of the algorithm can be summarized as

$$E^{[1]} A_\Lambda(\mathbf{X}^{[1]}) = \int A_\Lambda(\mathbf{X}^{[1]}) d\mathbf{F}^{[1]} = P_\Lambda(\mathbf{X}^{[0]}). \quad (1)$$

It is shown, in this article, that the algorithm due to Ono and Niki (2001) is applicable also to multi-level bootstrapping, with straightforward extension and modification, for making higher order discussion.

## 2. Algorithm

The second level (or doubly) bootstrapping makes  $G^{[2]}$ , the bootstrap estimate of  $G^{[1]}$ , in the same manner from the empirical distribution  $\mathbf{F}^{[2]}$  defined for each  $\mathbf{X}^{[1]}$ . Approximation to  $G^{[0]}$  by using  $G^{[1]}$  is approximated with the relation between two known distributions  $G^{[1]}$  and  $G^{[2]}$ . For obtaining higher level bootstrap distribution  $G^{[i]}$ , we apply (??) to the  $i$ th level bootstrapping version;

$$\mathbf{E}^{[i]} A_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{X}^{[i]}) = \int A_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{X}^{[i]}) d\mathbf{F}^{[i]} = P_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{X}^{[i-1]}). \quad (2)$$

By using (??) and a symbolic algorithm **PtoA** designed by Nakagawa and Niki (1991) for changing bases from  $P_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{X}^{[i]})$  to  $A_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{X}^{[i]})$ , we can write moments of  $G^{[i]}$  in terms of population moments. The sketch of the algorithm is as follows: **(a)** Let  $w \leftarrow P_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{X}^{[i]})$  and transform it into  $A_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{X}^{[i]})$  by applying **PtoA**. **(b)** Take expectation for each terms in  $w$ , by using (??), to give  $\bar{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{E}^{[i]} w$  as a linear combination of  $P_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{X}^{[i-1]})$ . **(c)**  $i \leftarrow i - 1$ ; if  $i = 0$  then return to  $\bar{w}$  as output else go back to **(a)**.

## 3. Simple Example

Assume  $\mathbf{F}^{[0]}$  has finite eighth moments and let  $\mathbf{V}^{[0]} = T(\mathbf{X}^{[0]})$  be the sample variance. The expectations of the second level bootstrap moments are given as follows:

$$\mathbf{E}^{[0]} \mathbf{E}^{[1]} \mathbf{E}^{[2]} \left( \sqrt{n}(\mathbf{V}^{[2]} - \mathbf{V}^{[1]}) \right) = -\frac{\kappa_2}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{2\kappa_2}{n\sqrt{n}} - \frac{\kappa_2}{n^2\sqrt{n}} + O(n^{-\frac{7}{2}})$$

and

$$\mathbf{E}^{[0]} \mathbf{E}^{[1]} \mathbf{E}^{[2]} \left( n(\mathbf{V}^{[2]} - \mathbf{V}^{[1]})^2 \right) = 2\kappa_2^2 + \kappa_4 + \frac{1}{n} \left( -13\kappa_2^2 - 12\kappa_4 \right) + \frac{1}{n^2} \left( 62\kappa_2^2 + 72\kappa_4 \right) + O(n^{-4}),$$

where  $\kappa_i$  ( $i = 2, 4$ ) is the  $i$ th population cumulant.

## REFERENCES

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## RESUME

Nous concentrons sur des calculs symboliques pour obtenir des moments des “*nested bootstrap moments*.”