# **Carnegie<br>Mellon** University

Response Matrix Estimation in Unfolding Differential Cross **Sections** 

**J U N E 1 1 , 2 0 2 4**

Richard Zhu Mikael Kuusela Larry Wasserman Department of Statistics and Data Science Carnegie Mellon University

France-Berkeley PHYSTAT Conference on Unfolding

## Forward model for unfolding



 $g(y) = |$  $x \in T$  $k(y, x)f(x)dx$ ,  $k(y, x) = p(smeared\ observation\ y \mid true\ event\ x)$ 

## **Discretization**

Let  $\{T_j\}_{j=1}^n$  be a partition of the particle-level space  $T$  and  $\{S_i\}_{i=1}^m$  be a partition of the detector-level space S.

$$
f \to \lambda, g \to \mu
$$

$$
\lambda = \left[ \int_{T_1} f(x) dx, \dots, \int_{T_n} f(x) dx \right], \mu = \left[ \int_{S_1} g(y) dy, \dots, \int_{S_m} g(y) dy \right]
$$

 $\mu = K\lambda$  where the elements of the response matrix K are given by

$$
K_{ij} = \frac{\int_{y \in S_i} \int_{x \in T_j} k(y, x) f(x) dx dy}{\int_{y \in S_i} f(x) dx}
$$

 $= P$ (smeared observation in bin i | true event in bin j)

Goal: Inference on the true mean  $\lambda$ 

## Statistical uncertainty in the response matrix

- The response matrix  $K$  is usually not known analytically, but instead estimated with Monte Carlo simulation, which introduces **statistical uncertainty** on K.
- Traditionally, this has been estimated by binning the true and smeared events and counting the propagation of events between the bins, i.e.

 $\widehat{K}_{ij} =$ # Events originating from bin j that have been recorded by detector in bin i # Events originating from bin j

• The response matrix can be noisy, especially with a small MC sample size.



## Two-step Approach

• Recall that

$$
K_{ij} = \frac{\int_{y \in S_i} \int_{x \in T_j} k(y, x) f(x) dx dy}{\int_{x \in T_j} f(x) dx}
$$

• Consider the estimator

$$
\widehat{K}_{ij} = \frac{\int_{y \in S_i} \int_{x \in T_j} \widehat{k}(y, x) f(x) dx dy}{\int_{x \in T_j} f(x) dx}
$$

- 1. Estimate the response kernel  $k$  on the unbinned space.
- 2. Plug back into the above equation.
- Potentially provide smoother estimate for  $K_{ij}$ .

- $k(y, x) = p$  (smeared observation y | true event x).
- Given  $(X_1, Y_1)$ , …,  $(X_n, Y_n) \sim p_{X,Y}$  from Monte Carlo generator, where  $X_i$  denotes the particle-level data and  $Y_i$  denotes the detector-level observation, estimating  $k(y, x)$  is equivalent to conditional density estimation of  $p_{Y|X}(y|x)$ .
- Accurate estimate of the response kernel  $k$  should lead to accurate estimate of response matrix  $K$ .
- We will consider several nonparametric methods for conditional density estimation and make some comparisons.

1. Kernel method

$$
\hat{p}_{h_1, h_2}(y|x) = \operatorname{argmin}_a \sum_{i=1}^n (K_{h_2}(y - Y_i) - a)^2 K_{h_1}(x - X_i)
$$

$$
= \sum_{i=1}^n w_i(x) K_{h_2}(y - Y_i)
$$

where  $w_i(x) =$  $K_{h_1}(x-X_i)$  $\frac{R_{n_1}R_{n_2}R_{n_3}}{\sum_{j=1}^n K_{n_1}(x-X_j)}$  and  $K_h$  is some kernel function with bandwidth h > 0 (not the response kernel).

2. Local linear method

$$
(\hat{a}, \hat{b}) = argmin_{a,b} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (K_{h_2}(y - Y_i) - a - b(X_i - x))^2 K_{h_1}(x - X_i)
$$

$$
\hat{p}_{h_1, h_2}(y|x) = \hat{a}
$$

• Two global bandwidth parameters  $h_1$ ,  $h_2$  control the amount of smoothing along X and Y, respectively.

- Global bandwidth is not optimal in some cases, e.g. different amount of smearing applied to different regions for the response matrix.
- 3. Kernel method with local bandwidths

$$
\hat{p}_{h_1(x),h_2(x)}(y|x) = \sum_{i:||x-X_i|| < \delta(x)} w_i(x) K_{h_2(x)}(y-Y_i)
$$

where  $w_i(x) =$  $K_{h_1(x)}(x - X_i)$  $\frac{d_{n_{1}(x)}(x-x_{i})}{\sum_{j:||x-X_{j}||} K_{h_{1}(x)}(x-X_{j})}$  and  $\delta(x)$  is the window size at x.

• Local bandwidth parameters  $h_1(x)$ ,  $h_2(x)$  control the amount of smoothing along X and Y conditioning on each x.

4. Location-scale model

Suppose we assume the smeared observations are generated from the following model  $Y = \mu(X) + \sigma(X)\epsilon$ 

where  $\epsilon$  follows some distribution with mean 0 and variance 1.

• Then  $p(y|x)$  can be written as

$$
p(y|x) = \frac{1}{\sigma(x)} p_{\epsilon} \left( \frac{y - \mu(x)}{\sigma(x)} \right)
$$

and an estimator can be obtained by

$$
\hat{p}(y|x) = \frac{1}{\hat{\sigma}(x)} \hat{p}_{\epsilon}\left(\frac{y - \hat{\mu}(x)}{\hat{\sigma}(x)}\right).
$$

- $\hat\mu$ ,  $\hat\sigma^2$  can be estimates by some regression method (e.g. splines) and  $\hat p_\epsilon$  by density estimation (e.g. KDE).
- Directly model the variance function  $\sigma^2(x)$  and hence avoid the problem of finding local bandwidths as in the case of local kernel method.  $\overline{9}$

## Simulation study

• We mimic unfolding the inclusive jet transverse momentum spectrum by simulating the data using the particle -level function

$$
f(p_{\perp}) = LN_0 \left(\frac{p_{\perp}}{GeV}\right)^{-\alpha} \left(1 - \frac{2}{\sqrt{s}} p_{\perp}\right)^{\beta} e^{-\gamma/p_{\perp}}
$$

• The parameters are given by

 $L = 5.1fb^{-1}$ ,  $N_0 = 10^{17} \frac{fb}{GeV}$ ,  $\alpha = 5$ ,  $\beta = 10$ ,  $\gamma =$ 10 GeV,  $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$ .

• The number of bins = 40.





## Simulation study

• The response kernel is modeled as an additive Gaussian noise

 $k(p'_{\perp}, p_{\perp}) = N(p'_{\perp} - p_{\perp} | 0, \sigma(p_{\perp}))$ 2

 with heteroscedastic variance satisfying  $\left(\frac{\sigma(p_\perp)}{p_\perp}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{\mathcal{C}_1}{\sqrt{p_\perp}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\mathcal{C}_2}{p_\perp}\right)^2 + \mathcal{C}_3^2.$ 

• The parameters are  $C_1 = 1 GeV^{1/2}$ ,  $C_2 =$  $1 GeV, C_3 = 0.05.$ 

#### true response matrix



### Comparison of the response matrix estimators

- The sample size (number of paired Monte Carlo events) for estimating the response matrix  $K$  is 100000.
- The performance of the estimators is compared using bin -wise mean absolute error (MAE)

$$
\frac{1}{M} \sum_{l=1}^{M} \left| \widehat{K}_{ij}^{(l)} - K_{ij} \right| \text{ for all } i \in [m], j \in [n]
$$

with  $M=1000$  Monte Carlo simulations.





MAE For Response Matrix Estimation (K=40x40, n=100000)



 $0.15$ <br>0.10<br>0.05<br>0.00

probabilit

 $0.20$  $0.15$ <br>0.10<br>0.05<br>0.00

local linear cde

## Effect of the estimated response matrix on the unfolded spectrum

- Does a better estimated response matrix lead to a better unfolded point estimator?
- Least-squares estimator with Tikhonov regularization.
- D'Agostini iteration (EM algorithm, Iterative Bayesian unfolding, Lucy-Richardson deconvolution).

## Tikhonov regularization

- With some  $\delta \geq 0$ , the least squares solution with Tikhonov regularization is  $\widehat{\lambda} = \left( \widehat{K}^\top \widehat{K} + \delta I \right)^{-1} \widehat{K}^\top \mathbf{y}.$
- Better estimated response matrix generally leads to better unfolded solution.
- When there is no regularization ( $\delta = 0$ ), the solution with the true response matrix (without noise) performs worse compared to estimated response matrices.
- The estimated response matrices implicitly perform regularization ( an ill -conditioned matrix with some additive random noise becomes well -conditioned with high probability<sup>1</sup>).

<sup>1</sup> T. Tao, V. Vu, The condition number of a randomly perturbed matrix, in: Symposium on the Theory of Computing, 2007.



### D'Agostini iteration

• After  $r + 1$  iterations, the solution is given by

$$
\hat{\lambda}_j^{(r+1)} = \frac{\hat{\lambda}_j^{(r)}}{\sum_{i=1}^m \hat{K}_{ij}} \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\hat{K}_{ij} y_i}{\sum_{l=1}^n \hat{K}_{il}} \hat{\lambda}_l^{(r)}
$$

$$
\hat{\pmb{\lambda}}^{(r+1)} = \left[\hat{\lambda}^{(r+1)}_1, \ldots, \hat{\lambda}^{(r+1)}_n\right]
$$

- Again, better estimated response matrix generally leads to better unfolded solution.
- Most estimated response matrices lead to similar MSE when the number of iterations is small.



# Summary

- Estimated response matrix from a Monte Carlo simulation has statistical uncertainty.
- Traditional binning (histogram) method can be noisy in regions that have small sample sizes.
- Two-step approach can remedy this issue by first estimating response kernel using conditional density estimation on the unbinned space, and then constructing a plug-in estimator of response matrix based on the estimated response kernel.
- The estimated response matrix is a more well-conditioned matrix compared to the true response matrix without any noise, which implicitly regularizes the solution.
- Uncertainty quantification for the unfolded solution in the presence of uncertainty in the response matrix is not immediately clear.

#### Backup • Tikhonov regularization with different regularization strengths



- global kernel
- $\rightarrow$  local kernel
- local linear

 $\Box$  Truth

- binning (histogram)

#### Backup • MSE for Tikhonov regularization with different regularization strengths



$$
\delta = 1e - 9
$$











 $\Box$  Truth









