

# Some nonparametric tests for copulas

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Grenoble, November 2013

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 Some nonparametric tests
- 3 What about goodness-of-fit tests?
- 4 Ok but what about change-point detection?
- 5 The sequential empirical copula process
- 6 A dependent multiplier bootstrap for  $\mathbb{C}_n$

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# Introduction I

- The copula-based modeling of multivariate distributions is finding extensive applications in many fields such as **hydrology** (Salvadori, Michele, Kottegod, and Rosso, 2007), **finance and insurance** (McNeil, Frey, and Embrechts, 2005) or **actuarial sciences** (Frees and Valdez, 1998).
- Let  $\mathbf{X}$  be a  $d$ -dimensional random vector with continuous marginal cumulative distribution functions (c.d.f.s)  $F_1, \dots, F_d$ . From the work of Sklar (1959), the c.d.f.  $F$  of  $\mathbf{X}$  can be written in a unique way as

$$F(\mathbf{x}) = C\{F_1(x_1), \dots, F_d(x_d)\}, \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

where the function  $C : [0, 1]^d \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a **copula**.

## Copula

A  $d$ -dimensional copula is a c.d.f. on  $[0, 1]^d$  with standard uniform marginal c.d.f.s.

## Introduction II

- Assume that  $C$  and  $F_1, \dots, F_d$  are unknown and let  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  be drawn from a strictly stationary sequence of continuous  $d$ -dimensional random vectors with c.d.f.  $F$ .
- For any  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $j \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ , denote by  $R_{ij}^{1:n}$  the rank of  $X_{ij}$  among  $X_{1j}, \dots, X_{nj}$  and let  $\hat{U}_{ij}^{1:n} = R_{ij}^{1:n}/n$ .
- The random vectors  $\hat{\mathbf{U}}_i^{1:n} = (\hat{U}_{i1}^{1:n}, \dots, \hat{U}_{id}^{1:n})$ ,  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , are often referred to as **pseudo-observations** from the copula  $C$ , and a natural nonparametric estimator of  $C$  is the **empirical copula** of  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$ , i.e.,

$$C_{1:n}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{1}(\hat{\mathbf{U}}_i^{1:n} \leq \mathbf{u}), \quad \mathbf{u} \in [0, 1]^d.$$

- The empirical copula plays a key role in most nonparametric inference procedures on  $C$ . The asymptotics of these procedures typically follow from the asymptotics of the **empirical copula process**.

## Introduction III

- One of the key issues is: given data  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$ , **which parametric copula family should be used?**
- There are many families of copulas: **Archimedean**, **elliptical**, **extreme-value**, etc (see e.g. Joe, 1997; Nelsen, 2006).
- Any family, if exchangeable, can be made **asymmetrical** using Khoudraji's device (Khoudraji, 1995; Genest, Ghoudi, and Rivest, 1998; Liebscher, 2008).
- To guide the choice of a parametric copula family, nonparametric tests based on the **empirical copula** can be used.
- Most of the tests to be mentioned are implemented in the copula R package but the computation of their approximate  $p$ -value is valid only when  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  are i.i.d. random vectors.
- The extension to **strongly mixing observations** is possible as we shall see.

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## Some nonparametric tests I

- A first natural step would be to test for **independence**: Is the unknown copula  $C$  significantly different from the **independence copula**  $\Pi(\mathbf{u}) = \prod_{j=1}^d u_j$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in [0, 1]^d$ ?
- Such a test can be based on the empirical process

$$\sqrt{n}\{C_{1:n}(\mathbf{u}) - \prod_{j=1}^d u_j\}$$

and a natural test statistic is

$$n \int_{[0,1]^d} \{C_{1:n}(\mathbf{u}) - \prod_{j=1}^d u_j\}^2 d\mathbf{u}.$$

- More details can be found for instance in Genest and Rémillard (2004); K and Holmes (2009); Quesy (2010).
- A second step would for instance be to test for **exchangeability**.



## Some nonparametric tests II

- In the bivariate case, such a test can be based on the empirical process

$$\sqrt{n}\{C_{1:n}(u_1, u_2) - C_{1:n}(u_2, u_1)\}.$$

- More details can be found in Genest, Nešlehová, and Quessy (2012).
- One could also test for **extreme-value dependence** (Ben Ghorbal, Genest, and Nešlehová, 2009; K and Yan, 2010; K, Segers, and Yan, 2011a).
- One avenue consists of testing if  $C$  is **max-stable**, i.e., if

$$C(\mathbf{u}) = \{C(u_1^{1/r}, \dots, u_d^{1/r})\}^r, \quad \forall \mathbf{u} \in [0, 1]^d, \quad \forall r > 0.$$

- Several empirical processes could be used. One of these is

$$\mathbb{E}_{r,n}(\mathbf{u}) = \sqrt{n} \left[ \{C_{1:n}(\mathbf{u}^{1/r})\}^r - C_{1:n}(\mathbf{u}) \right], \quad \mathbf{u} \in [0, 1]^d.$$

- More details can be found in K, Segers, and Yan (2011a).

## Some nonparametric tests III

- More powerful tests can be obtained by focusing on the underlying Pickands dependence function.
- Fix  $d = 2$ . Bivariate extreme-value copulas are characterized by a convex function  $A : [0, 1] \rightarrow [1/2, 1]$  satisfying  $\max(t, 1 - t) \leq A(t) \leq 1$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ , and can be represented as

$$C(u_1, u_2) = \exp \left[ \log(u_1 u_2) A \left\{ \frac{\log(u_2)}{\log(u_1 u_2)} \right\} \right],$$
$$(u_1, u_2) \in (0, 1]^2 \setminus \{(1, 1)\}.$$

The function  $A$  is commonly referred to as the **Pickands dependence function** (Pickands, 1981).

## Some nonparametric tests IV

- Given an estimator  $A_n$  of  $A$  (see Gudendorf and Segers, 2012, for nice multivariate estimators), tests for extreme-value dependence can then naturally be based on the process

$$\sqrt{n} \left( C_{1:n}(u_1, u_2) - \exp \left[ \log(u_1 u_2) A_n \left\{ \frac{\log(u_2)}{\log(u_1 u_2)} \right\} \right] \right).$$

- More details can be found in K and Yan (2010) and in the PhD thesis of Gordon Gudendorf who extended the approach to arbitrary dimensions.
- Nonparametric tests of Archimedeanity for bivariate copulas can be found in Bücher et al. (2012).
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# A class of goodness-of-fit test I

- Let  $\mathcal{C} = \{C_\theta : \theta \in \mathcal{O}\}$  be a chosen parametric copula family, where  $\mathcal{O}$  is an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^p$  for some integer  $p > 0$ .
- We wish to test

$$H_0 : C \in \mathcal{C} \quad \text{against} \quad H_1 : C \notin \mathcal{C}.$$

- A relatively large number of testing procedures have been proposed in the literature. See Berg (2009); Genest, Rémillard, and Beaudoin (2009) for reviews and Monte Carlo studies.
- These authors advocate the use of “**blanket tests**” (no strategic choice of smoothing parameter, weight function, kernel, window, etc).
- One approach that appears to perform well consists of comparing  $C_{1:n}$  with an estimation  $C_{\theta_n}$  of  $C$  obtained assuming that  $H_0 : C \in \mathcal{C}_0$  holds.

## A class of goodness-of-fit test II

- The quantity  $\theta_n$  is an estimator of  $\theta$  computed from the pseudo-observations  $\hat{\mathbf{U}}_1^{1:n}, \dots, \hat{\mathbf{U}}_n^{1:n}$ .
- This amounts to using the empirical process

$$\sqrt{n}\{C_{1:n}(\mathbf{u}) - C_{\theta_n}(\mathbf{u})\}, \quad u, v \in [0, 1].$$

- See for instance Genest, Rémillard, and Beaudoin (2009) or K, Yan, and Holmes (2011b) for more details.

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## Ok but what about change-point detection?

- A broad class of nonparametric tests for change-point detection particularly sensitive to changes in the copula can be derived from the process

$$\mathbb{D}_n(s, \mathbf{u}) = \sqrt{n} \lambda_n(0, s) \lambda_n(s, 1) \{ C_{1:\lfloor ns \rfloor}(\mathbf{u}) - C_{\lfloor ns \rfloor + 1:n}(\mathbf{u}) \},$$
$$(s, \mathbf{u}) \in [0, 1]^{d+1},$$

where  $\lambda_n(s, t) = (\lfloor nt \rfloor - \lfloor ns \rfloor) / n$  and with the convention that  $C_{k:k-1}(\mathbf{u}) = 0$  for all  $\mathbf{u} \in [0, 1]^d$  and all  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

- The above definition is a mere transposition to the copula context of the “classical construction” adopted for instance in Csörgő and Horváth (1997, Section 2.6).



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# The sequential empirical copula process I

- Under the corresponding null hypotheses, all of the previously mentioned empirical processes can be rewritten in terms of the **two-sided sequential empirical copula process**. It is defined, for any  $(s, t) \in \Delta = \{(s, t) \in [0, 1]^2 : s \leq t\}$  and  $\mathbf{u} \in [0, 1]^d$ , by

$$\mathbb{C}_n(s, t, \mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=\lfloor ns \rfloor + 1}^{\lfloor nt \rfloor} \left\{ \mathbf{1}(\hat{\mathbf{U}}_i^{\lfloor ns \rfloor + 1 : \lfloor nt \rfloor} \leq \mathbf{u}) - C(\mathbf{u}) \right\}.$$

- The latter process can be rewritten in terms of the empirical copula  $C_{\lfloor ns \rfloor + 1 : \lfloor nt \rfloor}$  of the sample  $\mathbf{X}_{\lfloor ns \rfloor + 1}, \dots, \mathbf{X}_{\lfloor nt \rfloor}$  as

$$\mathbb{C}_n(s, t, \mathbf{u}) = \sqrt{n} \lambda_n(s, t) \{ C_{\lfloor ns \rfloor + 1 : \lfloor nt \rfloor}(\mathbf{u}) - C(\mathbf{u}) \},$$

where  $\lambda_n(s, t) = (\lfloor nt \rfloor - \lfloor ns \rfloor) / n$  and with the convention that  $C_{k:k-1}(\mathbf{u}) = 0$  for all  $\mathbf{u} \in [0, 1]^d$  and all  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

- The quantity  $\mathbb{C}_n(0, 1, \cdot, \cdot)$  is the “standard” empirical copula process.

## The sequential empirical copula process II

- For instance, under the null hypothesis of no change in the distribution, the process for detecting changes in the dependence structure can be simply rewritten as

$$\mathbb{D}_n(s, \mathbf{u}) = \lambda_n(s, 1)\mathbb{C}_n(0, s, \mathbf{u}) + \lambda_n(0, s)\mathbb{C}_n(s, 1, \mathbf{u}), \quad (s, \mathbf{u}) \in [0, 1]^{d+1}.$$

- Similarly, all of the previously mentioned processes can be rewritten in terms of  $\mathbb{C}_n$  under the corresponding null hypotheses.
- **It is therefore crucial to obtain the weak limit of  $\mathbb{C}_n$ .**
- Let  $\mathbf{U}_1, \dots, \mathbf{U}_n$  be the unobservable sample obtained from  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  by the probability integral transforms  $U_{ij} = F_j(X_{ij})$ . The corresponding sequential empirical process is then defined as

$$\tilde{\mathbb{B}}_n(s, \mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor ns \rfloor} \{\mathbf{1}(\mathbf{U}_i \leq \mathbf{u}) - C(\mathbf{u})\}, \quad (s, \mathbf{u}) \in [0, 1]^{d+1}.$$

# The sequential empirical copula process III

## Condition (1)

The unobservable sample  $\mathbf{U}_1, \dots, \mathbf{U}_n$  is drawn from a strictly stationary sequence  $(\mathbf{U}_i)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  such that  $\tilde{\mathbb{B}}_n$  converges weakly in  $\ell^\infty([0, 1]^{d+1})$  to a tight centered Gaussian process  $\mathbb{B}_C$  concentrated on

$$\{\alpha^* \in \mathcal{C}([0, 1]^{d+1}) : \alpha^*(s, \mathbf{u}) = 0 \text{ if one of the components of } (s, \mathbf{u}) \text{ is } 0, \text{ and} \\ \alpha^*(s, 1, \dots, 1) = 0 \text{ for all } s \in (0, 1]\}.$$

## Condition (2)

For any  $j \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ , the partial derivatives  $\dot{C}_j = \partial C / \partial u_j$  exist and are continuous on  $V_j = \{\mathbf{u} \in [0, 1]^d : u_j \in (0, 1)\}$ .

# The sequential empirical copula process IV

## Theorem (Bücher and K (2013))

Assume that the unobservable sample  $\mathbf{U}_1, \dots, \mathbf{U}_n$  satisfies Condition 1 and that  $C$  satisfies Condition 2. Then,

$\sup_{(s,t,\mathbf{u}) \in \Delta \times [0,1]^d} \left| \mathbb{C}_n(s, t, \mathbf{u}) - \tilde{\mathbb{C}}_n(s, t, \mathbf{u}) \right| \xrightarrow{\text{Pr}} 0$ , where

$$\tilde{\mathbb{C}}_n(s, t, \mathbf{u}) = \{\tilde{\mathbb{B}}_n(t, \mathbf{u}) - \tilde{\mathbb{B}}_n(s, \mathbf{u})\} - \sum_{j=1}^d \dot{C}_j(\mathbf{u}) \{\tilde{\mathbb{B}}_n(t, \mathbf{u}^{(j)}) - \tilde{\mathbb{B}}_n(s, \mathbf{u}^{(j)})\}.$$

Consequently,  $\mathbb{C}_n \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{C}_C$  in  $\ell^\infty(\Delta \times [0,1]^d)$ , where, for  $(s, t, \mathbf{u}) \in \Delta \times [0,1]^d$ ,

$$\mathbb{C}_C(s, t, \mathbf{u}) = \{\mathbb{B}_C(t, \mathbf{u}) - \mathbb{B}_C(s, \mathbf{u})\} - \sum_{j=1}^d \dot{C}_j(\mathbf{u}) \{\mathbb{B}_C(t, \mathbf{u}^{(j)}) - \mathbb{B}_C(s, \mathbf{u}^{(j)})\},$$

where  $\mathbb{B}_C$  is the weak limit of  $\tilde{\mathbb{B}}_n$ .

# The sequential empirical copula process V

- The following corollary is an immediate consequence of the strong approximation result of Dhompongsa (1984), which states that, if  $\mathbf{U}_1, \dots, \mathbf{U}_n$  is drawn from a strictly stationary sequence  $(\mathbf{U}_i)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  whose strong mixing coefficients satisfy  $\alpha_r = O(r^{-a})$ ,  $a > 2 + d$ , then  $\tilde{\mathbb{B}}_n \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{B}_C$  in  $\ell^\infty([0, 1]^{d+1})$ , that is,  $\mathbf{U}_1, \dots, \mathbf{U}_n$  satisfies Condition 1.

## Corollary

Assume that  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  is drawn from a strictly stationary sequence  $(\mathbf{X}_i)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  whose strong mixing coefficients satisfy  $\alpha_r = O(r^{-a})$ ,  $a > 2 + d$ . Then, provided  $C$  satisfies Condition 2,

$$\sup_{(s,t,\mathbf{u}) \in \Delta \times [0,1]^d} \left| C_n(s, t, \mathbf{u}) - \tilde{C}_n(s, t, \mathbf{u}) \right| \xrightarrow{\text{Pr}} 0.$$

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# A dependent multiplier bootstrap for $\mathbb{C}_n$ I

- The weak limit of  $\mathbb{C}_n$  is unwieldy. We need a resampling scheme to carry out the previously mentioned tests.
- Starting from the seminal work of Bühlmann (1993, Section 3.3), Bücher and K (2013) have studied a dependent multiplier bootstrap for  $\mathbb{C}_n$  which extends the multiplier bootstrap of Rémillard and Scaillet (2009) to the sequential and strongly mixing setting.
- The key idea in Bühlmann (1993) is to replace i.i.d. multipliers by suitably serially dependent multipliers that will capture the serial dependence in the data.
- We say that a sequence of random variables  $(\xi_{i,n})_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a **dependent multiplier sequence** if:
  - (M1) The sequence  $(\xi_{i,n})_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is strictly stationary with  $E(\xi_{0,n}) = 0$ ,  $E(\xi_{0,n}^2) = 1$  and  $E(|\xi_{0,n}|^\nu) < \infty$  for all  $\nu \geq 1$ , and is independent of the available sample  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$ .



## A dependent multiplier bootstrap for $\mathbb{C}_n$ II

- (M2) There exists a sequence  $\ell_n \rightarrow \infty$  of strictly positive constants such that  $\ell_n = o(n)$  and the sequence  $(\xi_{i,n})_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is  $\ell_n$ -dependent, i.e.,  $\xi_{i,n}$  is independent of  $\xi_{i+h,n}$  for all  $h > \ell_n$  and  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (M3) There exists a function  $\varphi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , symmetric around 0, continuous at 0, satisfying  $\varphi(0) = 1$  and  $\varphi(x) = 0$  for all  $|x| > 1$  such that  $E(\xi_{0,n} \xi_{h,n}) = \varphi(h/\ell_n)$  for all  $h \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- Let  $M$  be a large integer and let  $(\xi_{i,n}^{(1)})_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}, \dots, (\xi_{i,n}^{(M)})_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be  $M$  independent copies of the same **dependent multiplier sequence**.
  - For any  $m \in \{1, \dots, M\}$  and any  $(s, \mathbf{u}) \in [0, 1]^{d+1}$ , let

$$\hat{\mathbb{B}}_n^{(m)}(s, \mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor ns \rfloor} \xi_{i,n}^{(m)} \{ \mathbf{1}(\hat{\mathbf{U}}_i^{1:n} \leq \mathbf{u}) - C_{1:n}(\mathbf{u}) \}.$$

- To define “almost” independent copies of  $\mathbb{C}_n$  for large  $n$  in the spirit of Rémillard and Scaillet (2009), we additionally need to estimate the partial derivatives  $\dot{C}_j$ .

## A dependent multiplier bootstrap for $\mathbb{C}_n$ III

- As we continue, we consider estimators  $\dot{C}_{j,n}$  of  $\dot{C}_j$  satisfying the following condition put forward in Segers (2012):

### Condition (3)

For any  $j \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ , there exists a constant  $K > 0$  such that  $|\dot{C}_{j,n}(\mathbf{u})| \leq K$  for all  $n \geq 1$  and  $\mathbf{u} \in [0, 1]^d$ , and, for any  $\delta \in (0, 1/2)$ ,

$$\sup_{\substack{\mathbf{u} \in [0, 1]^d \\ u_j \in [\delta, 1-\delta]}} |\dot{C}_{j,n}(\mathbf{u}) - \dot{C}_j(\mathbf{u})| \xrightarrow{\text{Pr}} 0.$$

## A dependent multiplier bootstrap for $\mathbb{C}_n$ IV

- We can now define empirical processes that can be fully computed and that, under appropriate conditions, can be regarded as “almost” independent copies of  $\mathbb{C}_n$  for large  $n$ . For any  $m \in \{1, \dots, M\}$  and  $(s, t, \mathbf{u}) \in \Delta \times [0, 1]^d$ , let

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbb{C}}_n^{(m)}(s, t, \mathbf{u}) &= \{\hat{\mathbb{B}}_n^{(m)}(t, \mathbf{u}) - \hat{\mathbb{B}}_n^{(m)}(s, \mathbf{u})\} \\ &\quad - \sum_{j=1}^d \dot{C}_{j,n}(\mathbf{u}) \{\hat{\mathbb{B}}_n^{(m)}(t, \mathbf{u}^{(j)}) - \hat{\mathbb{B}}_n^{(m)}(s, \mathbf{u}^{(j)})\}. \end{aligned}$$

# A dependent multiplier bootstrap for $\mathbb{C}_n \vee$

## Proposition (Unconditional dependent multiplier bootstrap for $\mathbb{C}_n$ )

Assume that  $\ell_n = O(n^{1/2-\varepsilon})$  for some  $0 < \varepsilon < 1/2$  and that  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  is drawn from a strictly stationary sequence  $(\mathbf{X}_i)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  whose strong mixing coefficients satisfy  $\alpha_r = O(r^{-a})$ ,  $a > 3 + 3d/2$ . Then, under Conditions 2 and 3,

$$\left( \mathbb{C}_n, \hat{\mathbb{C}}_n^{(1)}, \dots, \hat{\mathbb{C}}_n^{(M)} \right) \rightsquigarrow \left( \mathbb{C}_C, \mathbb{C}_C^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbb{C}_C^{(M)} \right)$$

in  $\{\ell^\infty(\Delta \times [0, 1]^d)\}^{M+1}$ , where  $\mathbb{C}_C$  is the weak limit of the two-sided sequential empirical copula process  $\mathbb{C}_n$  and  $\mathbb{C}_C^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbb{C}_C^{(M)}$  are independent copies of  $\mathbb{C}_C$ .

- A simple possible choice is to estimate the partial derivatives  $\dot{\mathbb{C}}_j$  by finite-differences as proposed by Rémillard and Scaillet (2009).

## A dependent multiplier bootstrap for $\mathbb{C}_n$ VI

- **Back to change-point detection** : To be able to compute approximate  $p$ -values for statistics derived from  $\mathbb{D}_n$ , it is then natural to define the processes

$$\hat{\mathbb{D}}_n^{(m)}(s, \mathbf{u}) = \lambda_n(s, 1)\hat{\mathbb{C}}_n^{(m)}(0, s, \mathbf{u}) + \lambda_n(0, s)\hat{\mathbb{C}}_n^{(m)}(s, 1, \mathbf{u}),$$

$m \in \{1, \dots, M\}$ , which could be thought of as “almost” independent copies of  $\mathbb{D}_n$  under the null hypothesis of no change in the distribution.

- Under the null and the conditions of the previous Proposition, we immediately obtain from the continuous mapping theorem that  $\mathbb{D}_n, \hat{\mathbb{D}}_n^{(1)}, \dots, \hat{\mathbb{D}}_n^{(M)}$  weakly converge jointly to independent copies of the same limit.
- The latter result is the key step for establishing that “multiplier” tests based on  $\mathbb{D}_n$  hold their level asymptotically.

## A dependent multiplier bootstrap for $\mathbb{C}_n$ VII

- Note that the bandwidth parameter  $\ell_n$  defined in Assumption (M2) plays a role similar to that of the **block length in the block bootstrap** of Künsch (1989).
- Its value has therefore a crucial influence on the finite-sample performance of the dependent multiplier bootstrap.
- To make testing procedures automatic, we have extended the approach of Politis and White (2004) to the empirical process setting and suggest an estimator of  $\ell_n$ .

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