

# glober package

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## Introduction

The package `glober` provides two tools to estimate the function  $f$  in the following nonparametric regression model:

$$Y_i = f(x_i) + \varepsilon_i, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n, \quad (1)$$

where the  $\varepsilon_i$  are i.i.d centered random variables of variance  $\sigma^2$ , the  $x_i$  are observation points which belong to a compact set  $S$  of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d = 1$  or  $2$  and  $n$  is the total number of observations. This estimation is performed using the GLOBER approach described in [1]. This method consists in estimating  $f$  by approximating it with a linear combination of B-splines, where their knots are selected adaptively using the Generalized Lasso proposed by [2], since they can be seen as changes in the derivatives of the function to estimate. We refer the reader to [1] for further details.

## Estimation of $f$ in the one-dimensional case ( $d = 1$ )

In the following, we apply our method to a function of one input variable  $f_1$ . This function is defined as a linear combination of quadratic B-splines with the set of knots  $\mathbf{t} = (0.1, 0.27, 0.745)$  and  $\sigma = 0.1$  in (1).

## Description of the dataset

We load the dataset of observations with  $n = 70$  provided within the package ( $x_1, \dots, x_{70}$ ):

```
## --- Loading the values of the input variable --- ##  
data('x_1D')
```

and ( $Y_1, \dots, Y_{70}$ ):

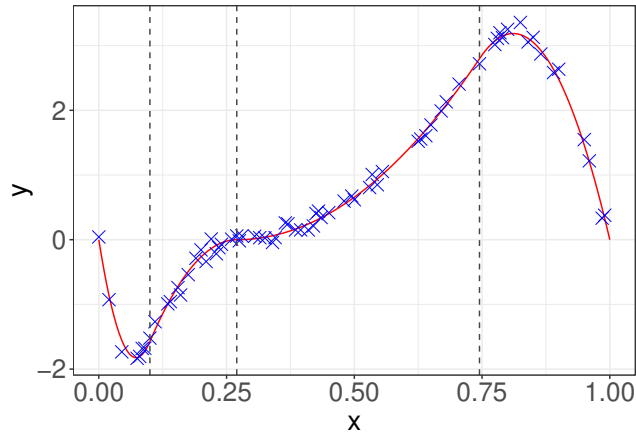
```
## --- Loading the corresponding noisy values of the response variable --- ##  
data('y_1D')
```

We load the dataset containing the values of the input variable  $\{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$  for which an estimation of  $f_1$  is sought. They correspond to the observation points as well as additional points where  $f_1$  has not been observed. Here,  $N = 201$ . In order to have a better idea of the underlying function  $f_1$ , we load the corresponding evaluations of  $f_1$  at these input values.

```
## --- Loading the values of the input variable for which an estimation  
## of  $f_1$  is required --- ##  
data('xpred_1D')  
## --- Loading the corresponding evaluations to plot the function --- ##  
data('f_1D')
```

We can visualize it for 201 input values by using the `ggplot2` package:

```
## -- Building dataframes to plot -- ##  
data_1D = data.frame(x = xpred_1D, f = f_1D)  
obs_1D = data.frame(x = x_1D, y = y_1D)  
real.knots = c(0.1, 0.27, 0.745)
```



The vertical dashed lines represent the real knots  $\mathbf{t}$  implied in the definition of  $f_1$ , the red curve describes the true underlying function  $f_1$  to estimate and the blue crosses are the observation points.

### Application of `glober.1d` to estimate $f_1$

The `glober.1d` function of the `glober` package is applied by using the following arguments: the input values  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  (`x`), the corresponding  $(Y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  (`y`),  $N$  input values  $\{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$  for which  $f_1$  has to be estimated (`xpred`) and the order of the B-spline basis used to estimate  $f_1$  (`ord`).

```
res = glober.1d(x = x_1D, y = y_1D, xpred = xpred_1D, ord = 3, parallel = FALSE)
```

Additional arguments can also be used in this function:

- `parallel`: Logical, if set to TRUE then a parallelized version of the code is used. The default value is FALSE.
- `nb.Cores`: Numerical, it represents the number of cores used for parallelization, if `parallel` is set to TRUE.

The resulting outputs are the following:

- `festimated`: the estimated values of  $f_1$ .
- `knotSelec`: the selected knots used in the definition of the B-splines of the GLOBER estimator.
- `rss`: Residual sum-of-squares (RSS) of the model defined as:  $\sum_{k=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{f}_1(x_i))^2$ , where  $\hat{f}_1$  is the estimator of  $f_1$ .
- `rsq`: R-squared of the model, calculated as  $1 - RSS/TSS$  where TSS is the total sum-of-squares of the model defined as  $\sum_{k=1}^n (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2$  with  $\bar{Y} = (\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i)/n$ .

Thus, we can print the estimated values corresponding to the input values  $\{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$ :

```
fhat = res$festimated
head(fhat)
```

```
## [1] -0.02579931 -0.26804301 -0.49284982 -0.70021972 -0.89015272 -1.06264882
```

The value of the Residual Sum-of-square:

```
res$rss
```

```
## [1] 40.91661
```

The value of the R-squared:

```
res$rsq
```

```
## [1] 0.9970843
```

We can get the set of the estimated knots  $\hat{\mathbf{t}}$ :

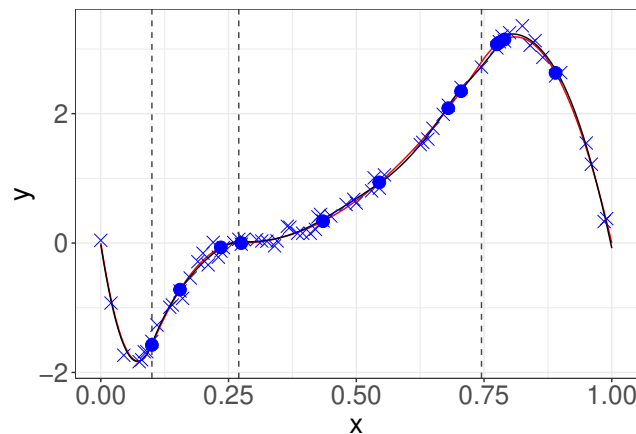
```
knots.set = res$Selected.knots
print(knots.set)
```

```
## [1] 0.100 0.155 0.235 0.275 0.435 0.545 0.680 0.705 0.775 0.780 0.790 0.890
```

Finally, we can display the estimation of  $f_1$  by using the ggplot2 package:

```
## Dataframe of selected knots ##
idknots = which(xpred_1D %in% knots.set)
yknots = f_1D[idknots]
data_knots = data.frame(x.knots = knots.set, y.knots = yknots)
## Dataframe of the estimation ##
data_res = data.frame(xpred = xpred_1D, fhat = fhat)

plot_1D = ggplot(data_1D, aes(xpred_1D, f_1D)) +
  geom_line(color = 'red') +
  geom_line(data = data_1D, aes(x = xpred_1D, y = fhat), color = "black") +
  geom_vline(xintercept = real.knots, linetype = 'dashed', color = 'grey27') +
  geom_point(aes(x, y), data = obs_1D, shape = 4, color = "blue", size = 4)+
  geom_point(aes(x.knots, y.knots), data = data_knots, shape = 19, color = "blue",
             size = 4)+
  xlab('x') +
  ylab('y') +
  theme_bw()+
  theme(axis.title.x = element_text(size = 20), axis.title.y = element_text(size = 20),
        axis.text.x = element_text(size = 19),
        axis.text.y = element_text(size = 19))
plot_1D
```



The vertical dashed lines represent the real knots  $\mathbf{t}$  implied in the definition of  $f_1$ , the red curve describes the true underlying function  $f_1$  to estimate, the black curve corresponds to the estimation with GLOBER, the blue crosses are the observation points and the blue bullets are the observation points chosen as estimated knots  $\hat{\mathbf{t}}$ .

## Estimation of $f$ in the two-dimensional case ( $d = 2$ )

In the following, we apply our method to a function of two input variables  $f_2$ . This function is defined as a linear combination of tensor products of quadratic univariate B-splines with the sets of knots  $\mathbf{t}_1 = (0.24, 0.545)$  and  $\mathbf{t}_2 = (0.395, 0.645)$  and  $\sigma = 0.01$  in (1).

## Description of the dataset

We load the dataset of observations with  $n = 100$ , provided within the package  $(x_1, \dots, x_{100})$

```
## --- Loading the values of the input variables --- ##  
data('x_2D')  
head(x_2D)
```

```
##      Var1  Var2  
## [1,] 0.005 0.005  
## [2,] 0.005 0.385  
## [3,] 0.005 0.390  
## [4,] 0.005 0.395  
## [5,] 0.005 0.640  
## [6,] 0.005 0.645
```

and  $(Y_1, \dots, Y_{100})$ :

```
## --- Loading the corresponding noisy values of the response variable --- ##  
data('y_2D')
```

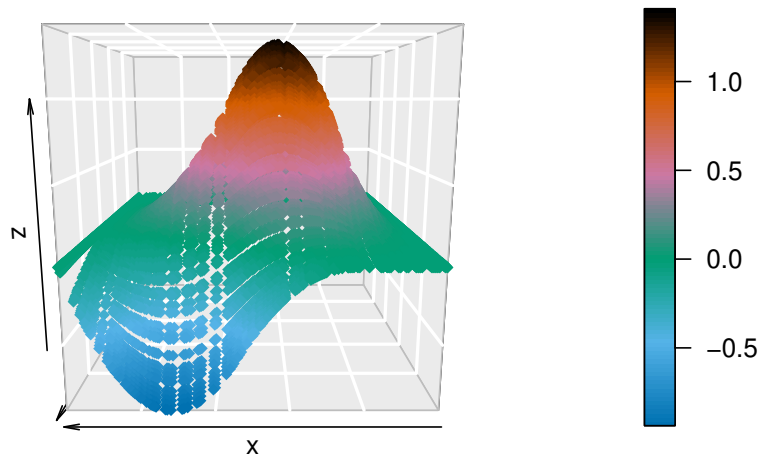
We load the dataset containing the values of the input variables  $\{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$  for which an estimation of  $f_2$  is sought. They correspond to the observation points as well as additional points where  $f_2$  has not been observed. Here,  $N = 10000$ . In order to have a better idea of the underlying function  $f_2$ , we load the corresponding evaluations of  $f_2$  at these input values.

```
## --- Loading the values of the input variables for which an estimation  
## of f_2 is required --- ##  
data('xpred_2D')  
head(xpred_2D)
```

```
##      Var1  Var2  
## [1,]    0 0.000  
## [2,]    0 0.005  
## [3,]    0 0.015  
## [4,]    0 0.035  
## [5,]    0 0.050  
## [6,]    0 0.080
```

```
## --- Loading the corresponding evaluations to plot the function --- ##  
data('f_2D')
```

We can visualize it for 10000 input values by using the `plot3D` package:



## Application of `glober.2d` to estimate $f_2$

The `glober.2d` function of the `glober` package is applied by using the following arguments: the input values  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  (`x`), the corresponding  $(Y_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  (`y`),  $N$  input values  $\{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$  for which  $f_2$  has to be estimated (`xpred`) and the order of the B-spline basis used to estimate  $f_2$  (`ord`).

```
res = glober.2d(x = x_2D, y = y_2D, xpred = xpred_2D, ord = 3, parallel = FALSE)
```

Additional arguments can also be used in this function:

- `parallel`: Logical, if TRUE then a parallelized version of the code is used. Default is FALSE.
- `nb.Cores`: Numerical, it corresponds to the number of cores used for parallelization, if `parallel` is set to TRUE.

Outputs:

- `festimated`: the estimated values of  $f_2$ .
- `knotSelect`: the selected knots used in the definition of the B-splines of the GLOBER estimator.
- `rss`: Residual sum-of-squares (RSS) of the model defined as:  $\sum_{k=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{f}_2(x_i))^2$ , where  $\hat{f}_2$  is the estimator of  $f_2$ .
- `rsq`: R-squared of the model, calculated as  $1 - RSS/TSS$  where TSS is the total sum-of-squares of the model defined as  $\sum_{k=1}^n (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2$ .

Thus, we can print the estimated values corresponding to the input values  $\{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$ :

```
fhat_2D = res$festimated
head(fhat_2D)
```

```
## [1] -0.001507484 -0.001594391 -0.001764006 -0.002086438 -0.002313565
## [6] -0.002730025
```

The value of the Residual Sum-of-square:

```
res$rss
```

```
## [1] 1.910738
```

The value of the R-squared:

```
res$rsq
```

```
## [1] 0.9988952
```

We can get the set of estimated knots for each dimension  $\hat{\mathbf{t}}_1$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{t}}_2$ :

```
knots.set = res$Selected.knots
print('For the first dimension:')
```

```
## [1] "For the first dimension:"
```

```
print(knots.set[[1]])
```

```
## [1] 0.255 0.540
```

```
print('For the second dimension:')
```

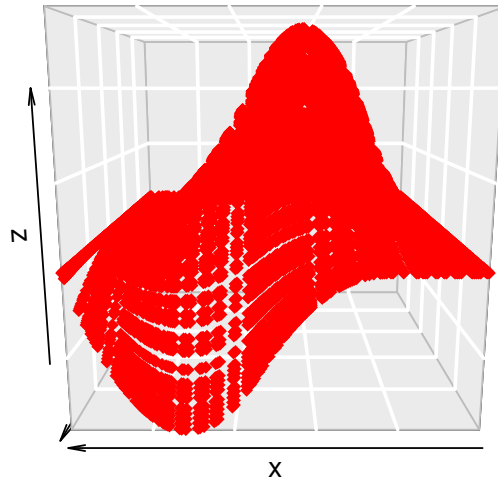
```
## [1] "For the second dimension:"
```

```
print(knots.set[[2]])
```

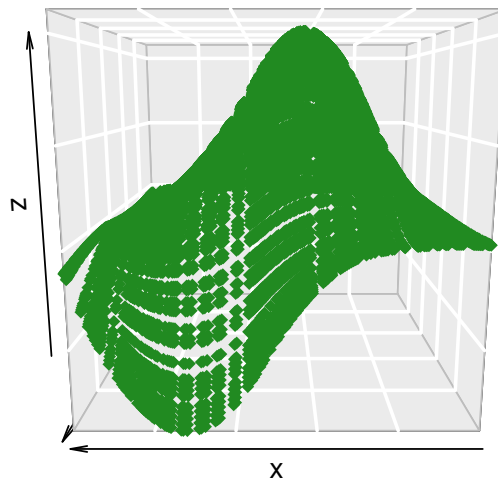
```
## [1] 0.650 0.655
```

As for  $f_1$ , we can visualize the corresponding estimation of  $f_2$ :

```
scatter3D(xpred_2D[,1], xpred_2D[,2], f_2D, bty = "g", pch = 18, col = 'red',  
          theta = 180, phi = 10)
```



```
scatter3D(xpred_2D[,1], xpred_2D[,2], fhat_2D, bty = "g", pch = 18, col = 'forestgreen',  
          theta = 180, phi = 10)
```



The red surface describes the true underlying function  $f_2$  to estimate and the green surface corresponds to the estimation with GLOBER.

## References

[1] Savino, M. E. and Lévy-Leduc, C. A novel approach for estimating functions in the multivariate setting based on an adaptive knot selection for B-splines with an application to a chemical system used in geoscience (2023), arXiv:2306.00686.

[2] Tibshirani, R. J. and J. Taylor (2011). The solution path of the generalized lasso. The Annals of Statistics 39(3), 1335 – 1371.