

# Update Slides

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# Recap

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- Motivated by effects of drug-switching after TNFi drugs in RA patients, interested in Causal PheWAS type analysis of secondary outcomes
- Previously discussed/presented Hawkes estimation, elided formal problem statements and causal assumptions

## Goals Today

- Articulate our problem more concretely in the LMTP/DTR and Off-Policy Evaluation formulations
  - Focus on novelties/nuances of  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$

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# Summary

- Using the LMTP framework with extensions for simultaneous inference from Kennedy (2024)
  - **Pros:** Nicely characterized univariate problem
  - **Weaknesses:** Final inference still likely underutilizing shared information within  $\mathbf{Y}$
- In OPE, remains unclear to me how to use multivariate reward space  $R \in \mathbb{R}^d$

# Outline

1 Problem Statement

2 LMTP Formulation

3 Kennedy (2024) Causal Inference in Multiple Outcomes

# Motivation

## Problem

- Persons with RA most often receive TNFi drugs as a first course of treatment
- Observe switching other drug classes based on non-response and/or adverse event or clinical history
- The goal is to understand:
  - For which patients will switching be effective? (ATE/CATE problem)
  - **How to optimize timing of switching? (DTR/OTR problem)**

## Considerations:

- Certain events (e.g. cardiac arrest) prohibit certain treatment paths
  - Possible positivity violation (pending identifiability assumptions)

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## Set-Up and Observables

- For times  $t = 1, \dots, \tau$ , observe  $Z = (L_1, A_1, \dots, L_\tau, A_\tau, Y) \sim \mathbb{P}$ 
  - Covariates  $L_t$ , Binary treatment  $A_t$ ; Outcome  $Y_t \in \mathbb{R}^d$
  - Write history  $h_t = (A_1, L_1, \dots, L_t)$
- Implicitly, assume that observed treatments/actions  $A_{1:\tau}$  follow some current behavior/policy
- Propose a policy,  $\mathbf{d} : (a_t, h_t) \mapsto A_{t+1}^d$  with which we generate the counterfactual paths
- Estimand:  $\mathbb{E}(Y(\bar{A}^{\mathbf{d}}))$

## Example Switching Policy

$$\mathbf{d}(a_t, [h_{1t}, h_{2t}], \varepsilon_t) = \begin{cases} TNFi & \text{if } h_{1t} = 0 \ \& \ h_{2t} = 0 \\ CDA & h_{1t} = 0 \ \& \ h_{2t} = 1 \ \& \ \varepsilon_t < 0.5 \\ IL - 6R & h_{1t} = 1 \ \& \ h_{2t} = 1 \ \& \ \varepsilon_t < 0.5 \end{cases}$$

$$(A_t, H_t)_{t \in T} \perp \varepsilon_t \sim U(0, 1)$$

- Requires us to formulate  $\mathbf{d}$  policy shared across observations
- If  $(a_t, h_t) \in \text{supp}(A_t, H_t)$  then  $\mathbf{d}(a_t, h_t) \in \text{supp}(A_t, H_t)$ 
  - i.e. the positivity assumption is flexible to our proposed policy

# Extensions to Multiple Outcomes

- Diaz 2021 derive the EIF, propose estimation for univariate  $Y$  (well-characterized)
- Using results from Kennedy (2024), can construct outcome specific IF's, perform controlled hypothesis testing
  - Requires extensions of Kennedy Lemma's for IF's of the form in Diaz

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# Kennedy (2024) Problem

- Observe  $(X, A, Y)_i$ ,  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Goal is to estimate  $\tau_k = \mathbb{E}(Y_k(1) - Y_k(0))$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, d$
- Construct outcome-specific IF's,  $\varphi_k$
- Control FWER of testing via a Gaussian multiplier bootstrap procedure (tailored towards semiparametric inference problem)

**Strength:** Natural extension for problems whose individual IF-based estimation properties are well characterized

**Weakness:** Using little/no covariance/shared information among outcomes  $Y_{1:k}$

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- Next Steps:
  - Continue review of OPE methods/literature
  - Review/implement simple LMTP analysis

# Appendix

## Lemma 11 (Gaussian approximation for nested hypotheses). (Kennedy 2024)

For  $\tau_j = \tau_j^{\text{TTE}}$  and  $\vartheta = \vartheta^{\text{STE}}$ . For all  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{A}^* \subseteq [p]$ , define  $M_s = \max_{j \in \mathcal{S}} \left| \sqrt{n} (\hat{\nu}_j - \tau_j) / \hat{\sigma}_j \right|$ ,  $\hat{\phi}_i = (\hat{\phi}_{ij})_{j \in \delta'}$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{E}}_s = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\phi}_i \hat{\phi}_i^\top$ , and  $\hat{\mathbf{D}}_s = \text{diag} \left( \hat{\sigma}_j \right)_{j \in \delta}$ . Consider null hypotheses  $H_0^s$  indexed by  $\mathcal{S}$  that  $\forall j \in \mathcal{S}, \tau_j = \tau_j^*$ . As  $m, n, p \rightarrow \infty$ , it holds that

$$\sup_{H_0^s: \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{A}^*} \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |\mathbb{P}(M_s > x) - \mathbb{P}(\|\mathbf{g}_s\|_\infty > x \mid \{\mathbb{Z}_i\}_{i=1}^n)| \xrightarrow{p} 0,$$

where  $\mathbf{g}_s \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \mathbf{0}, \hat{\mathbf{D}}_s^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_s \hat{\mathbf{D}}_s^{-1} \right)$ . The conclusion also holds for  $\tau_j = \tau_j^{\text{QTE}}$  and  $\vartheta = \vartheta^{\text{QTE}}$  under conditions in Proposition 10 and Assumption 4.