Min Xu\* (mx76@stat.rutgers.edu), 501 Hill Center, 110 Frelinghuysen Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854, and Richard J Samworth. High-dimensional nonparametric density estimation via symmetry and shape constraints.

We tackle the problem of high-dimensional nonparametric density estimation by taking the class of log-concave densities on  $\mathbb{R}^p$  and incorporating within it symmetry assumptions, which facilitate scalable estimation algorithms and can mitigate the curse of dimensionality. Our main symmetry assumption is that the super-level sets of the density are K-homothetic (i.e. scalar multiples of a convex body  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^p$ ). When K is known, we prove that the K-homothetic log-concave maximum likelihood estimator based on n independent observations from such a density has a worst-case risk bound with respect to, e.g., squared Hellinger loss, of  $O(n^{-4/5})$ , independent of p. Moreover, we show that the estimator is adaptive in the sense that if the data generating density admits a special form, then a nearly parametric rate may be attained. We also provide worst-case and adaptive risk bounds in cases where K is only known up to a positive definite transformation, and where it is completely unknown and must be estimated nonparametrically. Our estimation algorithms are fast even when n and p are on the order of hundreds of thousands, and we illustrate the strong finite-sample performance of our methods on simulated data. (Received August 07, 2019)