## Research Article

# Least Squares Estimation for $\alpha$-Fractional Bridge with Discrete Observations 

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We consider a fractional bridge defined as $d X_{t}=-\alpha\left(X_{t} /(T-t)\right) d t+d B_{t}^{H}, 0 \leq t<T$, where $B^{H}$ is a fractional Brownian motion of Hurst parameter $H>1 / 2$ and parameter $\alpha>0$ is unknown. We are interested in the problem of estimating the unknown parameter $\alpha>0$. Assume that the process is observed at discrete time $t_{i}=i \Delta_{n}, i=0, \ldots, n$, and $T_{n}=n \Delta_{n}$ denotes the length of the "observation window." We construct a least squares estimator $\widehat{\alpha}_{n}$ of $\alpha$ which is consistent; namely, $\widehat{\alpha}_{n}$ converges to $\alpha$ in probability as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

## 1. Introduction

Self-similar stochastic processes with long range dependence are of practical interest in various applications, including econometrics, internet traffic, and hydrology. These are processes $X=\left\{X_{t}: t \geq 0\right\}$ whose dependence on the time parameter $t$ is self-similar, in the sense that there exists a (selfsimilarity) parameter $H \in(0,1)$ such that, for any constant $c \geq 0,\left\{X_{c t}: t \geq 0\right\}$ and $\left\{c^{H} X_{t}: t \geq 0\right\}$ have the same distribution. These processes are often endowed with other distinctive properties.

The fractional Brownian motion ( fBm ) is the usual candidate to model phenomena in which the self-similarity property can be observed from the empirical data. The fBm is a suitable generalization of the standard Brownian motion, which exhibits long-range dependence and self-similarity and has stationary increments. Some surveys and complete literatures could be found in Biagini et al. [1], Hu [2], Mishura [3], and Nualart [4].

Recently, Es-Sebaiy and Nourdin [5] study the asymptotic properties of a least squares estimator for the parameter $\alpha$ of a fractional bridge defined as

$$
\begin{equation*}
X_{0}=0, \quad d X_{t}=-\alpha \frac{X_{t}}{T-t} d t+d B_{t}^{H}, \quad 0 \leq t<T, \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $B^{H}$ is a fBm with Hurst parameter $H>1 / 2$ and the process $X$ was observed continuously. In particular,
when $H=1 / 2$, Barczy and Pap [6, 7] study the various problems related to the $\alpha$-Wiener bridge. The parametric estimation problems for fractional diffusion processes based on continuous-time observations have been studied, for example, in Tudor and Viens [8], Hu and Nualart [9], and Belfadli et al. [10].

In applications usually the process cannot be observed continuously. Only discrete-time observations are available. There exists a rich literature on the parameter estimation problem for diffusion processes driven by fBm based on discrete observations (see, e.g., Hu and Song [11], Es-Sebaiy [12]).

Motivated by all these results, in this paper, we will consider the $\alpha$ fractional bridge (1). Assume that the process $X$ is observed equidistantly in time with the step size $t_{i}=$ $i \Delta_{n}, i=0, \ldots, n$, and $T_{n}=n \Delta_{n}$ denotes the length of the "observation window." We also assume that $T_{n}+\Delta_{n}=T$ and $\Delta_{n} \rightarrow 0$ when $n \rightarrow \infty$. Our goal is to study the asymptotic behavior of the least squares estimator (LSE for short) $\widehat{\alpha}_{n}$ of $\alpha$ based on the sampling data $X_{t_{i}}, i=0, \ldots, n$. Our technics used in this work are inspired from Es-Sebaiy [12].

The least squares estimator $\widehat{\alpha}_{n}$ aims to minimize

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha \longmapsto \sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i}-1}^{t_{i}}\left|\dot{X}_{t}+\alpha \frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}\right|^{2} d t . \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

This is a quadratic function of $\alpha$. The minimum is achieved when

$$
\begin{equation*}
\widehat{\alpha}_{n}=-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(X_{t_{i-1}} /\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)\right) \delta^{H} X_{t}}{\Delta_{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(X_{t_{i-1}}^{2} /\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{2}\right)} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

By (1), we can get the following result

$$
\begin{equation*}
\widehat{\alpha}_{n}-\alpha=-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} M_{i}}{\Delta_{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(X_{t_{i-1}}^{2} /\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{2}\right)} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $M_{i}=\alpha\left(X_{t_{i-1}} /\left(T-t_{i-1}\right) \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(\left(X_{t_{i-1}} /\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)\right)-\left(X_{s} /(T-\right.\right.\right.$ $s))) d s+\int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(X_{t_{i-1}} /\left(T-t_{i-1}\right) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}, i=1, \ldots, n\right.$.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 some known results that we will use are recalled. The consistency of estimator is proved in Section 3.

## 2. Preliminaries

Recall that $\mathrm{fBm} B^{H}$ with index $H \in(0,1)$ is a mean zero Gaussian process $B^{H}=\left\{B_{t}^{H}, t \geq 0\right\}$ with $B_{0}^{H}=0$ and the covariance

$$
\begin{equation*}
R^{H}(t, s):=E\left(B_{t} B_{s}\right)=\frac{1}{2}\left(t^{2 H}+s^{2 H}-|t-s|^{2 H}\right) \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $s, t \geq 0$. For $H=1 / 2, B^{H}$ coincides with the standard Brownian motion $B . B^{H}$ is neither a semimartingale nor a Markov process unless $H=1 / 2$, so many of the powerful techniques from stochastic analysis are not available when dealing with $B^{H}$. It is possible to construct a stochastic calculus of variations with respect to the Gaussian process $B^{H}$, which will be related to the Malliavin calculus. Some surveys and complete literatures could be found in Alòs et al. [13], Nualart [4] and the reference. We recall here the basic definitions and results of this calculus. The crucial ingredient is the canonical Hilbert space $\mathscr{H}$ (it is also said to be reproducing kernel Hilbert space) associated with the fBm which is defined as the closure of the linear space $\mathscr{E}$ generated by the indicator functions $\left\{1_{[0, t]}, t \in[0, T]\right\}$ with respect to the scalar product

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\langle 1_{[0, t]}, 1_{[0, s]}\right\rangle_{\mathscr{H}}=R_{H}(t, s)=\frac{1}{2}\left(t^{2 H}+s^{2 H}-|t-s|^{2 H}\right) . \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

The mapping $1_{[0, s]} \rightarrow B_{s}^{H}$ can be extended to a linear isometry between $\mathscr{H}$ and the Gaussian space associated with $B^{H}$. We will denote the isometry by $\varphi \rightarrow B^{H}(\varphi)$. For $1 / 2<$ $H<1$ we denote by $\mathcal{S}$ the set of smooth functionals of the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
F=f\left(B^{H}\left(\varphi_{1}\right), \ldots, B^{H}\left(\varphi_{n}\right)\right) \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $f \in C_{b}^{\infty}\left(\mathbb{R}^{n}\right)$ and $\varphi_{i} \in \mathscr{H}$. The Malliavin derivative of a functional $F$ as above is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
D^{H} F=\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_{i}}\left(B^{H}\left(\varphi_{1}\right), \ldots, B^{H}\left(\varphi_{n}\right)\right) \varphi_{i} \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

and this operator can be extended to the closure $\mathbb{D}^{m, 2}(m \geq 1)$ of $\mathcal{S}$ with respect to the norm

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|F\|_{m, 2}^{2} \equiv E|F|^{2}+E\left\|D^{H} F\right\|_{\mathscr{C}}^{2}+\cdots+E\left\|D^{H, m} F\right\|_{\mathscr{C}^{\widehat{\widehat{s}} m}}^{2}, \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathscr{H}^{\widehat{\otimes} m}$ denotes the $m$ fold symmetric tensor product and the $m$ th derivative $D^{H, m}$ is defined by iteration. The divergence integral $\delta^{H}$ is the adjoint operator of $D^{H}$. Concretely, a random variable $u \in L^{2}(\Omega, \mathscr{H})$ belongs to the domain of the divergence operator $\delta^{H}$ (in symbol $\operatorname{Dom}\left(\delta^{H}\right)$ ) if

$$
\begin{equation*}
E\left|\left\langle D^{H} F, u\right\rangle_{\mathscr{H}}\right| \leq c\|F\|_{L^{2}} \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

for every $F \in \mathcal{S}$. In this case $\delta^{H}(u)$ is given by the duality relationship

$$
\begin{equation*}
E\left(F \delta^{H}(u)\right)=E\left\langle D^{H} F, u\right\rangle_{\mathscr{H}} \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

for any $F \in \mathbb{D}^{1,2}$, and we have the following integration by parts:

$$
\begin{equation*}
F \delta^{H}(u)=\delta^{H}(F u)+\left\langle D^{H} F, u\right\rangle_{\mathscr{H}} \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

for any $u \in \operatorname{Dom}\left(\delta^{H}\right), F \in \mathbb{D}^{1,2}$ such that $F u \in L^{2}(\Omega, \mathscr{H})$. It follows that

$$
\begin{equation*}
E\left[\delta^{H}(u)^{2}\right]=E\|u\|_{\mathscr{H}}^{2}+E\left\langle D^{H} u,\left(D^{H} u\right)^{*}\right\rangle_{\mathscr{H} \otimes \mathscr{H}} \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\left(D^{H} u\right)^{*}$ is the adjoint of $D^{H} u$ in the Hilbert space $\mathscr{H} \otimes$ $\mathscr{H}$, and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|u\|_{\mathscr{H}}^{2}=\iint_{0}^{T} u_{s} u_{r} \phi_{H}(s, r) d s d r \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\phi_{H}(s, r)=\frac{\partial^{2} R_{H}}{\partial s \partial r}(s, r)=H(2 H-1)|s-r|^{2 H-2} \geq 0 \tag{15}
\end{equation*}
$$

and, for $\varphi:[0, T]^{2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we have
$\|\varphi\|_{\mathscr{H} \otimes \mathscr{H}}^{2}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
=\int_{[0, T]^{4}} \varphi(t, s) \varphi\left(t^{\prime}, s^{\prime}\right) \phi_{H}\left(t, t^{\prime}\right) \phi_{H}\left(s, s^{\prime}\right) d t d s d t^{\prime} d s^{\prime} \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

We denote by $|\mathscr{H}|$ the subspace of $\mathscr{H}$, which is defined as the set of measurable functions $f$ on $[0, T]$ with

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|f\|_{|\mathscr{H}|}^{2}:=\iint_{0}^{T}|f(s)||f(r)| \phi_{H}(s, r) d s d r<\infty \tag{17}
\end{equation*}
$$

Note that, if $\varphi, \psi \in|\mathscr{H}|$, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
E B^{H}(\varphi) B^{H}(\psi)=\iint_{0}^{T} \varphi(s) \psi(r) \phi_{H}(s, r) d s d r \tag{18}
\end{equation*}
$$

It follows actually from Pipiras and Taqqu [14] that the space $|\mathscr{H}| \subset \mathscr{H}$ is a Banach space for the norm $\|\cdot\|_{|\mathscr{H}|}$. Moreover,

$$
\begin{equation*}
L^{2}([0, T]) \subset L^{1 / H}([0, T]) \subset|\mathscr{H}| \subset \mathscr{H} . \tag{19}
\end{equation*}
$$

If $u \in \mathbb{D}^{1,2}(|\mathscr{H}|), u \in \operatorname{Dom}\left(\delta^{H}\right)$, then we have (Nualart [4])

$$
\begin{equation*}
E\left(\delta^{H}(u)\right)^{2} \leq C_{H}\left(E\|u\|_{|\mathscr{H}|}^{2}+E\left\|D^{H}(u)\right\|_{|\mathscr{H}| \otimes|\mathscr{H}|}^{2}\right) \tag{20}
\end{equation*}
$$

and if $\varphi:[0, T]^{2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, then

$$
\begin{align*}
& \|\varphi\|_{|\mathscr{P}| \otimes|\mathscr{H}|}^{2} \\
& =\int_{[0, T]^{4}}|\varphi(t, s)|\left|\varphi\left(t^{\prime}, s^{\prime}\right)\right| \phi_{H}\left(t, t^{\prime}\right) \phi_{H}\left(s, s^{\prime}\right) d t d s d t^{\prime} d s^{\prime} \tag{21}
\end{align*}
$$

As a consequence, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
E\left(\delta^{H}(u)\right)^{2} \leq C_{H}\left(E\|u\|_{L^{1 / H}([0, T])}^{2}+E\left\|D^{H}(u)\right\|_{L^{1 / H}\left([0, T]^{2}\right)}^{2}\right) . \tag{22}
\end{equation*}
$$

For every $n \geq 1$, let $\mathscr{H}_{n}$ be the $n$th Wiener chaos of $B^{H}$, that is, the closed linear subspace of $L^{2}(\Omega)$ generated by the random variables $\left\{H_{n}\left(B^{H}(h)\right), h \in \mathscr{H},\|h\|_{\mathscr{H}}=1\right\}$, where $H_{n}$ is the $n$th Hermite polynomial. The mapping $I_{n}\left(h^{\otimes n}\right)=n!H_{n}\left(B^{H}(h)\right)$ provides a linear isometry between the symmetric tensor product $\mathscr{H}^{\circ n}$ (equipped with the modified norm $\left.\|\cdot\|_{\mathscr{C} 0^{n}}=(1 / \sqrt{n!})\|\cdot\|_{\mathscr{H}^{\bullet n}}\right)$ and $\mathscr{H}_{n}$. For every $f, g \in \mathscr{H}^{\circ n}$ the following multiplication formula holds

$$
\begin{equation*}
E\left(I_{n}(f) I_{n}(g)\right)=n!\langle f, g\rangle_{\mathscr{H} e^{n}} \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

Let $f, g:[0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be Hölder continuous functions of orders $\alpha \in(0,1)$ and $\beta \in(0,1)$ with $\alpha+\beta>1$. Young proved that the Riemann-Stieltjes integral (so-called Young integral) $\int_{0}^{T} f_{s} d g_{s}$ exists. Moreover, if $\alpha=\beta \in(1 / 2,1)$ and $F: \mathbb{R}^{2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a function of class $\mathscr{C}^{1}$, the integrals $\int_{0}^{\cdot}(\partial F / \partial f)\left(f_{u}, g_{u}\right) d f_{u}$ and $\int_{0}^{\cdot}(\partial F / \partial g)\left(f_{u}, g_{u}\right) d g_{u}$ exist in the Young sense and the following change of variables formula holds:

$$
\begin{align*}
F\left(f_{t}, g_{t}\right)= & F\left(f_{0}, g_{0}\right)+\int_{0}^{t} \frac{\partial F}{\partial f}\left(f_{u}, g_{u}\right) d f_{u}  \tag{24}\\
& +\int_{0}^{t} \frac{\partial F}{\partial g}\left(f_{u}, g_{u}\right) d g_{u}, \quad t \in[0, T] .
\end{align*}
$$

As a consequence, if $H \in(1 / 2,1)$ and $\left(u_{t}, t \in[0, T]\right)$ is a process with Hölder paths of order $\alpha<(1-H, 1)$, the integral $\int_{0}^{T} u_{s} d B_{s}^{H}$ is well defined as Young integral. Suppose that, for any $t \in[0, T], u_{t} \in \mathbb{D}^{1,2}(|\mathscr{H}|)$, and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\iint_{0}^{T}\left|D_{s} u_{t}\right||t-s|^{2 H-2} d s d t<\infty \quad \text { a.s. } \tag{25}
\end{equation*}
$$

Then, following from Alòs and Nualart [15], we have

$$
\begin{align*}
\int_{0}^{t} u_{s} d B_{s}^{H}= & \int_{0}^{t} u_{s} \delta^{H} B_{s}^{H}+H(2 H-1) \\
& \times \iint_{0}^{t} D_{s} u_{r}|r-s|^{2 H-2} d r d s \tag{26}
\end{align*}
$$

In particular, when $\varphi$ is a nonrandom Hölder continuous function of order $\alpha \in(1-H, 1)$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int_{0}^{t} \varphi_{s} d B_{s}^{H}=\int_{0}^{t} \varphi_{s} \delta^{H} B_{s}^{H}=B^{H}(\varphi) \tag{27}
\end{equation*}
$$

In addition, for all $\varphi, \psi \in|\mathscr{H}|$,

$$
\begin{align*}
& E\left(\int_{0}^{T} \varphi_{s} d B_{s}^{H} \int_{0}^{T} \psi_{s} d B_{s}^{H}\right) \\
& \quad=H(2 H-1) \iint_{0}^{T} \varphi_{u} \psi_{v}|u-v|^{2 H-2} d u d v \tag{28}
\end{align*}
$$

## 3. Asymptotic Behavior of the Least Squares Estimator

Throughout this paper we assume $H \in(1 / 2,1)$. We will study (1) driven by a fractional Brownian motion $B^{H}$ with Hurst parameter $H$ and $\alpha>0$ being the unknown parameter to be estimated for discretely observed $X$. It is readily checked that we have the following explicit expression for $X_{t}$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
X_{t}=(T-t)^{\alpha} \int_{0}^{t}(T-s)^{-\alpha} d B_{s}^{H}, \quad 0 \leq t<T \tag{29}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the integral can be understood as Young integral. In order to study the asymptotic behavior of the least squares estimator, let us introduce the following processes:

$$
\begin{equation*}
A_{t}:=\int_{0}^{t}(T-s)^{-\alpha} d B_{s}^{H}, \quad 0 \leq t<T . \tag{30}
\end{equation*}
$$

Hence, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
X_{t}=(T-t)^{\alpha} A_{t}, \quad 0 \leq t<T . \tag{31}
\end{equation*}
$$

For simplicity, we assume that the notation $a_{n} \unrhd b_{n}$ means that there exists positive constants $C=C_{H, \alpha}>0$ (depending only on $H, \alpha$ and its value may differ from line to line) so that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sup _{n \geq 1} \frac{\left|a_{n}\right|}{\left|b_{n}\right|}<C<\infty \tag{32}
\end{equation*}
$$

We firstly give the following lemmas.
Lemma 1. Let $\alpha>0,1 / 2<H<1$. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int_{0}^{T_{n}} \frac{X_{s}}{T-s} d B_{s}^{H}=\int_{0}^{T_{n}} \frac{X_{s}}{T-s} \delta^{H} B_{s}^{H}+\beta_{n} \tag{33}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{gather*}
\beta_{n}=H(2 H-1) \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \int_{0}^{r}(T-r)^{\alpha-1}(T-s)^{-\alpha}(r-s)^{2 H-2} d s d r \\
\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_{n}=H B(\alpha, 2 H-1) T^{2 H-1} \tag{34}
\end{gather*}
$$

Proof. By (26), we have

$$
\begin{align*}
\int_{0}^{T_{n}} \frac{X_{s}}{T-s} d B_{s}^{H}= & \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \frac{X_{s}}{T-s} \delta^{H} B_{s}^{H}+H(2 H-1) \\
& \times \iint_{0}^{T_{n}} D_{s}^{H} \frac{X_{r}}{T-r}|s-r|^{2 H-2} d r d s \\
= & \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \frac{X_{s}}{T-s} \delta^{H} B_{s}^{H}+H(2 H-1) \\
& \times \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \int_{0}^{r}(T-r)^{\alpha-1}(T-s)^{-\alpha}(r-s)^{2 H-2} d s d r \\
= & \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \frac{X_{s}}{T-s} \delta^{H} B_{s}^{H}+\beta_{n} . \tag{35}
\end{align*}
$$

On the other hand,

$$
\begin{align*}
& \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_{n} \\
&= H(2 H-1) \\
& \times \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \int_{0}^{r}(T-r)^{\alpha-1}(T-s)^{-\alpha}(r-s)^{2 H-2} d s d r \\
&= H(2 H-1) \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{T-T_{n}}^{T} \int_{r}^{T} r^{\alpha-1} s^{-\alpha}(s-r)^{2 H-2} d s d r \\
&= H(2 H-1) \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \int_{r}^{T_{n}}\left(T-T_{n}+r\right)^{\alpha-1} \\
&= H(2 H-1) \int_{0}^{T} \int_{r}^{T} r^{\alpha-1} s^{-\alpha}(s-r)^{2 H-2} d s d r \\
&= H(2 H-1) \int_{0}^{T} s^{-\alpha} \int_{0}^{s} r^{\alpha-1}(s-r)^{2 H-2} d r d s \\
&= H B(\alpha, 2 H-1) T^{2 H-1} .
\end{align*}
$$

This completes the proof.

The following Lemma 2 comes from Lemma 3.2 of EsSebaiy and Nourdin [5].

Lemma 2. Letting $0<\alpha<H, 1 / 2<H<1$, one has

$$
\begin{align*}
& E\left(\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right)^{2} \\
& \leq \frac{H(2 H-1)}{H-\alpha} B(1-\alpha, 2 H-1)(T-t)^{2 \alpha-2} T^{2 H-2 \alpha} \\
& 0 \leq t<T \tag{37}
\end{align*}
$$

Lemma 3. Assume $1-H<\alpha<H, 1 / 2<H<1$, and let $F_{T_{n}}=\int_{0}^{T_{n}}\left(X_{t} /(T-t)\right) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}$. Then

$$
\begin{align*}
& \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} E\left(F_{T_{n}}^{2}\right) \\
& \quad=\frac{H^{2}(2 H-1)^{2} B(\alpha, 2 H-1) B(1-\alpha, 2 H-1)}{2(H+\alpha-1)(H-\alpha)} T^{4 H-2} . \tag{38}
\end{align*}
$$

Proof. By the isometry property of the double stochastic integral $I_{2}$, the variance of $F_{T_{n}}$ is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
E\left(F_{T_{n}}^{2}\right)=\frac{H^{2}(2 H-1)^{2}}{2} I_{T_{n}}, \tag{39}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{gather*}
I_{T_{n}}=\int_{\left[0, T_{n}\right]^{4}}\left(T-t_{1}\right)^{\alpha-1}\left(T-s_{1}\right)^{-\alpha}\left(T-t_{2}\right)^{\alpha-1}\left(T-s_{2}\right)^{-\alpha} \\
 \tag{40}\\
\times\left|s_{1}-s_{2}\right|^{2 H-2}\left|t_{1}-t_{2}\right|^{2 H-2} d s_{1} d s_{2} d t_{1} d t_{2} .
\end{gather*}
$$

Now, we study $I_{T_{n}}$, by setting

$$
\begin{align*}
& I_{1}=\int_{\left[0, T_{n}\right]^{2}}\left(T-s_{1}\right)^{-\alpha}\left(T-s_{2}\right)^{-\alpha}\left|s_{1}-s_{2}\right|^{2 H-2} d s_{1} d s_{2}  \tag{41}\\
& I_{2}=\int_{\left[0, T_{n}\right]^{2}}\left(T-t_{1}\right)^{\alpha-1}\left(T-t_{2}\right)^{\alpha-1}\left|t_{1}-t_{2}\right|^{2 H-2} d t_{1} d t_{2}
\end{align*}
$$

We have $I_{T_{n}}=I_{1} I_{2}$. By (17.40) of Es-Sebaiy and Nourdin [5], we have

$$
\begin{align*}
I_{1} & =\int_{\left[0, T_{n}\right]^{2}}\left(T-s_{1}\right)^{-\alpha}\left(T-s_{2}\right)^{-\alpha}\left|s_{1}-s_{2}\right|^{2 H-2} d s_{1} d s_{2} \\
& =\frac{B(1-\alpha, 2 H-1)}{H-\alpha} T_{n}^{2 H-2 \alpha}  \tag{42}\\
& \longrightarrow \frac{B(1-\alpha, 2 H-1)}{H-\alpha} T^{2 H-2 \alpha}, \quad n \longrightarrow \infty .
\end{align*}
$$

Similarly

$$
\begin{equation*}
I_{2} \longrightarrow \frac{B(\alpha, 2 H-1)}{H+\alpha-1} T^{2 H+2 \alpha-2} \tag{43}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus, the proof is finished.
The following theorem gives the consistency of the least squares estimator $\widehat{\alpha}_{n}$ of $\alpha$.

Theorem 4. Let $1 / 2<\alpha<H<1$. If $\Delta_{n} \rightarrow 0, T_{n}=n \Delta_{n} \rightarrow$ $T$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, and $T_{n}+\Delta_{n}=T$, then, one has

$$
\begin{equation*}
\widehat{\alpha}_{n} \xrightarrow{P} \alpha, \quad n \longrightarrow \infty \tag{44}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\xrightarrow{P}$ means convergence in probability.

Proof. By (4), we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\widehat{\alpha}_{n}-\alpha=-\frac{(\alpha / n) \sum_{i=1}^{n} M_{i}}{\left(\alpha \Delta_{n} / n\right) \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(X_{t_{i-1}}^{2} /\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{2}\right)} \tag{45}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
& \text { Letting } 0<\varepsilon<1 \text {, we obtain } \\
& \begin{array}{l}
P\left(\left|\widehat{\alpha}_{n}-\alpha\right|>\varepsilon\right) \\
\quad=P\left(\left|\frac{(\alpha / n) \sum_{i=1}^{n} M_{i}}{\left(\alpha \Delta_{n} / n\right) \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(X_{t_{i-1}}^{2} /\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{2}\right)}\right|>\varepsilon\right) \\
\quad \leq P\left(\left|\frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} M_{i}\right|>\varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)\right) \\
\quad+P\left(\left|\frac{\alpha \Delta_{n}}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{X_{t_{i-1}}^{2}}{\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{2}}-1\right|>\varepsilon\right) \\
\quad:=B_{1}(n)+B_{2}(n) .
\end{array}
\end{align*}
$$

First, we considering the term $B_{1}(n)$, we have

$$
\begin{align*}
& B_{1}(n) \\
&= P\left(\left|\frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} M_{i}\right|>\varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)\right) \\
& \leq P\left(\left|\frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left[M_{i}-\int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}} \frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}} \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right]\right|>\frac{1}{3} \varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)\right) \\
&+P\left(\left|\frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}-\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right|>\frac{1}{3} \varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)\right) \\
&+P\left(\left|\frac{\alpha}{n} \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \frac{X_{t}}{T-t} \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right|>\frac{1}{3} \varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)\right) \\
&:= B_{1,1}(n)+B_{1,2}(n)+B_{1,3}(n) . \tag{47}
\end{align*}
$$

For the term $B_{1,1}(n)$, using Lemma 2, we obtain

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{i=1}^{n} E\left|\left[M_{i}-\int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}} \frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}} \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right]\right| \\
& \leq \alpha \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(E\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}\right)^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} \\
& \quad \times \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(E\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}-\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right)^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} d t
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
& \unrhd \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{\alpha-1} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(E\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}-\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right)^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} d t \\
& \leq \Delta_{n}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(E\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}-\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right)^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} d t \\
& \leq \Delta_{n}^{\alpha-1}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(E\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}\right)^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} d t\right. \\
& \left.+\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(E\left(\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right)^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} d t\right] \\
& \leq \Delta_{n}^{\alpha-1}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(E\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}\right)^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} d t\right. \\
& \left.+\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(E\left(\frac{X_{t_{i}}}{T-t_{i}}\right)^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} d t\right] \\
& \unrhd n \Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha-1} \text {. } \tag{48}
\end{align*}
$$

So, we get

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} E\left|\left[M_{i}-\int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}} \frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}} \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right]\right| \unrhd \Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha-1} . \tag{49}
\end{equation*}
$$

Hence,

$$
\begin{equation*}
B_{1,1}(n) \unrhd \frac{\Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha-1}}{\varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)} . \tag{50}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the term $B_{1,2}(n)$, it follows the fact that, for $0 \leq t<\mathrm{T}$,

$$
\begin{gather*}
\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}-\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}=-\left[\left((T-t)^{\alpha-1}-\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{\alpha-1}\right) A_{t_{i-1}}\right. \\
\left.+(T-t)^{\alpha-1}\left(A_{t}-A_{t_{i-1}}\right)\right] \tag{51}
\end{gather*}
$$

We have

$$
\begin{align*}
& E\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}-\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right| \\
& \quad \leq E\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left((T-t)^{\alpha-1}-\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{\alpha-1}\right) A_{t_{i-1}} \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right| \\
& \quad+E\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}(T-t)^{\alpha-1}\left(A_{t}-A_{t_{i-1}}\right) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right| \tag{52}
\end{align*}
$$

Using inequality (22) and $E A_{t}=0, D_{s}^{H} A_{t}=(T-s)^{-\alpha} 1_{[0, t]}(s)$, we have

$$
\begin{align*}
& E\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left((T-t)^{\alpha-1}-\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{\alpha-1}\right) A_{t_{i-1}} \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right| \\
& =E\left|\int_{0}^{T_{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left((T-t)^{\alpha-1}-\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{\alpha-1}\right) A_{t_{i-1}} 1_{\left(t_{i-1}, t_{i}\right]}(t) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right| \\
& \leq\left(E \mid \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left((T-t)^{\alpha-1}-\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{\alpha-1}\right)\right. \\
& \left.\times\left. A_{t_{i-1}} 1_{\left(t_{i-1}, t_{i}\right]}(t) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right|^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} \\
& \leq C_{H}\left(\iint_{0}^{T_{n}} \mid \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left((T-t)^{\alpha-1}-\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{\alpha-1}\right)\right. \\
& \left.\times\left. D_{s}^{H} A_{t_{i-1}} 1_{\left(t_{i-1}, t_{i}\right]}(t)\right|^{1 / H} d s d t\right)^{H} \\
& =C_{H}\left(\iint_{0}^{T_{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left|\left((T-t)^{\alpha-1}-\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{\alpha-1}\right)(T-s)^{-\alpha}\right|^{1 / H}\right. \\
& \left.\times 1_{\left(t_{i-1}, t_{i}\right]}(t) 1_{\left[0, t_{i-1}\right)}(s) d s d t\right)^{H} \\
& =C_{H}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left((T-t)^{\alpha-1}-\left(T-t_{i-1}\right)^{\alpha-1}\right)^{1 / H} d t\right. \\
& \left.\times \int_{0}^{t_{i-1}}(T-s)^{-\alpha / H} d s\right)^{H} \\
& \leq C_{H} T^{H-\alpha}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}} \Delta_{n}^{(\alpha-1) / H} d t\right)^{H} \leq C_{H} T^{H-\alpha} n \Delta_{n}^{H+\alpha-1} \text {. } \tag{53}
\end{align*}
$$

On the other hand,

$$
\begin{gathered}
E\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}(T-t)^{\alpha-1}\left(A_{t}-\mathrm{A}_{t_{i-1}}\right) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right| \\
=E\left|\int_{0}^{T_{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n}(T-t)^{\alpha-1}\left(A_{t}-A_{t_{i-1}}\right) 1_{\left(t_{i-1}, t_{i}\right]}(t) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right| \\
\leq C_{H}\left(\iint_{0}^{T_{n}} \mid \sum_{i=1}^{n}(T-t)^{\alpha-1} D_{s}^{H}\left(A_{t}-A_{t_{i-1}}\right)\right. \\
\left.\times\left. 1_{\left(t_{i-1}, t_{i}\right]}(t)\right|^{1 / H} d s d t\right)^{H}
\end{gathered}
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
& \begin{array}{l}
\leq C_{H}\left(\iint_{0}^{T_{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left|(T-t)^{\alpha-1} D_{s}^{H}\left(A_{t}-A_{t_{i-1}}\right)\right|^{1 / H}\right. \\
\left.\times 1_{\left(t_{i-1}, t_{i}\right]}(t) d s d t\right)^{H} \\
=C_{H}\left(\iint_{0}^{T_{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left((T-t)^{\alpha-1}(T-s)^{-\alpha}\right)^{H} 1_{\left[t_{i-1}, t\right]}(s)\right. \\
\left.\times 1_{\left(t_{i-1}, t_{i}\right]}(t) d s d t\right)^{H} \\
=C_{H}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}(T-t)^{(\alpha-1) / H} d t \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t}(T-s)^{-\alpha / H} d s\right)^{H} \\
\leq C_{H}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}(T-t)^{(\alpha-1) / H} d t \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t}\left(T-t_{n}\right)^{-\alpha / H} d s\right)^{H} \\
\leq C_{H}\left(n \Delta_{n}^{(2 H-1) / H}\right)^{H} \leq C_{H} n \Delta_{n}^{2 H-1} .
\end{array}
\end{align*}
$$

So, we get

$$
\begin{equation*}
E\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}-\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right| \unrhd n \Delta_{n}^{H+\alpha-1} . \tag{55}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\alpha}{n} E\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}-\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right| \unrhd \Delta_{n}^{H+\alpha-1} \tag{56}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Hence

$$
\begin{equation*}
B_{1,2}(n) \unrhd \frac{\Delta_{n}^{H+\alpha-1}}{\varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)} . \tag{57}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the term $B_{1,3}(n)$, by setting $F_{T_{n}}=\int_{0}^{T_{n}}\left(X_{t} /(T-t)\right) \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}$ and by using Lemma 3, we get

$$
\begin{align*}
B_{1,3}(n) & =P\left(\left|\frac{\alpha}{n} \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \frac{X_{t}}{T-t} \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}\right|>\frac{1}{3} \varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)\right)  \tag{58}\\
& \leq\left[\frac{3 \alpha}{\varepsilon(1-\varepsilon) n}\right]^{2} E\left(F_{T_{n}}^{2}\right) \unrhd \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{2}(1-\varepsilon)^{2} n^{2}}
\end{align*}
$$

As a consequence,

$$
\begin{equation*}
B_{1}(n) \unrhd \frac{\Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha-1}}{\varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)}+\frac{\Delta_{n}^{H+\alpha-1}}{\varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)}+\frac{1}{\varepsilon^{2}(1-\varepsilon)^{2} n^{2}} . \tag{59}
\end{equation*}
$$

Second, we estimate the term $B_{2}(n)$ :

$$
\begin{align*}
& B_{2}(n) \\
& =P\left(\left|\frac{\alpha \Delta_{n}}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}\right)^{2}-1\right|>\varepsilon\right) \\
& \leq P\left(\left|\frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left[\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}\right)^{2}-\left(\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right)^{2}\right] d t\right|>\varepsilon / 2\right) \\
& \quad+P\left(\left|\frac{\alpha}{n} \int_{0}^{T_{n}}\left(\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right)^{2} d t-1\right|>\varepsilon / 2\right) \\
& :=B_{2,1}(n)+B_{2,2}(n) . \tag{60}
\end{align*}
$$

We firstly consider $B_{2,1}(n)$, since

$$
\begin{align*}
& E \left\lvert\, \frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\right. \left.\int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left[\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}\right)^{2}-\left(\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right)^{2}\right] \right\rvert\, d t \\
& \leq \frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}} E\left|\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}\right)^{2}-\left(\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right)^{2}\right| d t \\
& \leq \frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(E\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}\right)^{2}+E\left(\frac{X_{t}}{T-\mathrm{t}}\right)^{2}\right) d t  \tag{61}\\
& \leq \frac{\alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i}}\left(E\left(\frac{X_{t_{i-1}}}{T-t_{i-1}}\right)^{2}+E\left(\frac{X_{t_{i}}}{T-t_{i}}\right)^{2}\right) d t \\
& \quad \leq \frac{2 \alpha}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha-1} \unrhd \Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha-1} .
\end{align*}
$$

By Markov inequality, we obtain

$$
\begin{equation*}
B_{2,1}(n) \unrhd \frac{\Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha-1}}{\varepsilon} \tag{62}
\end{equation*}
$$

Now, we estimate the term $B_{2,2}(n)$. Applying the change of variable formula (24), we get

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{\alpha}{n} \int_{0}^{T_{n}}\left(\frac{X_{t}}{T-t}\right)^{2} d t-1= & \frac{1}{n(\alpha-(1 / 2))} \\
& \times\left(\frac{X_{T_{n}}}{2 \Delta_{n}}-\int_{0}^{T_{n}} \frac{X_{t}}{T-t} \delta^{H} B_{t}^{H}-\beta_{n}\right) . \tag{63}
\end{align*}
$$

Hence,

$$
\begin{aligned}
B_{2,2}(n) \leq & P\left(\left|\frac{X_{T_{n}}}{T_{n}(2 \alpha-1)}\right|>\frac{\varepsilon}{6}\right) \\
& +P\left(\left|\frac{1}{n(\alpha-(1 / 2))} \int_{0}^{T_{n}} \frac{X_{t}}{T-t} \delta B_{t}^{H}\right|>\frac{\varepsilon}{6}\right) \\
& +P\left(\left|\frac{\beta_{n}}{n(\alpha-(1 / 2))}\right|>\frac{\varepsilon}{6}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

By Markov inequality and Lemma 2, we obtain

$$
\begin{equation*}
B_{2,2}(n) \unrhd \frac{\Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha}}{\varepsilon^{2} T_{n}^{2}}+\frac{1}{\varepsilon n^{2}}+\frac{1}{\varepsilon n} \tag{65}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore

$$
\begin{equation*}
B_{2}(n) \unrhd \frac{\Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha-1}}{\varepsilon}+\frac{\Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha}}{\varepsilon^{2} T_{n}^{2}}+\frac{1}{\varepsilon n^{2}}+\frac{1}{\varepsilon n} \leq \frac{\Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha-1}}{\varepsilon}+\frac{\Delta_{n}^{2 \alpha}}{\varepsilon^{2} T_{n}^{2}}+\frac{1}{\varepsilon n} . \tag{66}
\end{equation*}
$$

Combining (59) and (66), this completes the proof.

## Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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