

STATISTICAL INFERENCE FOR TREATMENT ASSIGNMENT POLICIES

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, I study the statistical inference problem for treatment assignment policies. In typical applications, individuals with different characteristics are expected to differ in their responses to treatment. Hence, treatment assignment policies that allocate treatment based on individuals' observed characteristics can have a significant influence on outcomes and welfare. A growing literature proposes various approaches to estimating the welfare-maximizing treatment assignment policy. This paper complements this work on estimation by developing a method of inference for treatment assignment policies that can be used to assessing the precision of estimated optimal policies. In particular, for the welfare criterion used by Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018), my method constructs (i) a confidence set for the optimal policy and (ii) a confidence interval for the maximized welfare. By implementing a doubly robust form of the average outcome estimator, I allow for the possibility that nuisance parameters, such as the propensity score, could be estimated by high-dimensional machine learning methods. A simulation study indicates that the proposed methods work well with modest sample size. I apply the method to experimental data from the National Job Training Partnership Act study.

1. INTRODUCTION

Individuals with different characteristics often differ in their responses to treatment. Hence, treatment assignment policies that allocate treatment based on individuals' observed characteristics can have a significant influence on outcomes and welfare. This motivates methods that estimate treatment assignment policies that achieve high overall welfare. Inspired by Manski (2004), there are a large number of existing studies on developing treatment assignment rules in econometrics (Dehejia, 2005; Stoye, 2009, 2012; Hirano and Porter, 2009;

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Chamberlain, 2011; Bhattacharya and Dupas, 2012; Tetenov, 2012; Kasy, 2014, 2016; Kitagawa and Tetenov, 2017, 2018; Mbakop and Tabord-Meehan, 2016; Athey and Wager, 2017; Manski and Tetenov, 2018). Measuring the performance of an existing assignment policy or quantifying the welfare impact of the optimal assignment policy can also provide useful information for a policymaker. In this paper, I contribute to the literature by proposing statistical inference methods for the treatment assignment policy to answer these questions.

The first method I propose is a confidence set for the optimal assignment policy. The confidence set contains the optimal assignment policy that maximizes the average outcome among all feasible policies with a prespecified level. The set is constructed from test inversion, where for each feasible assignment policy, I implement a test for whether the assignment policy achieves the highest average outcome. The proposed confidence set is then defined as the collection of policies that are not rejected by the test. This method can also be used to test if any given assignment policy such as the current assignment policy or the policy that the policymaker proposes based on his/her knowledge can be rationalized as the average outcome maximizing policy. The second method is a confidence interval for the average outcome under the feasible optimal policy. This confidence interval quantifies what the researcher can learn from the data concerning the impact of the optimal policy on the average outcome.

These inference methods build on two new results detailed in section 3. The first result considers welfare or the average outcome estimator. I treat the average outcome estimator as a process on the possibly infinite-dimensional treatment assignment policy space and derive the asymptotic properties of this process. My results extend the asymptotic normality result for the average treatment effect estimator to the average outcome function estimator by showing that the estimator weakly converges to a Gaussian process uniformly over data distributions. By using a doubly robust form of the average outcome estimator, I am able to show the uniform convergence while allowing for the possibility of high-dimensional, machine learning estimation of the nuisance parameters. This uniform convergence result is critical to allow test inversion to yield uniformly valid confidence sets for the optimal treatment assignment policy or the corresponding welfare measure. The estimator also accommodates both unknown propensity score and known propensity score cases. I then propose a bootstrap estimator that consistently approximates the limiting process. The uniform weak convergence result does not immediately follow from the standard uniform Donsker theorem for empirical processes (Theorem 2.8.3 in van der Vaart and Wellner, 1996) as the class of index functions depends on the data distribution. Alternatively, I construct a pseudometric on the assignment policy space, which does not depend on the data distribution. I then show the

estimator satisfies all the sufficient conditions to apply a version of Donsker theorem as a process indexed by the assignment policy space.

Second, I propose asymptotically valid tests to construct confidence sets based on the average outcome estimator and the bootstrap. As the parameter of interest involves a maximum of the average outcome, asymptotic inference is non-standard due to the potential non-differentiability (Hirano and Porter, 2012). To establish asymptotically valid inference results, I apply the inference method for possibly non-differentiable functionals recently studied in Fang and Santos (2016) and Hong and Li (2018). Their results can be used to show the test is consistent and nonconservative under fixed data distributions. The new finding in section 3 shows that this test achieves uniform size control over a class of data distributions. This uniformity property is critical to the validity of the corresponding confidence sets. To establish the uniform size control result, I extend the result in Hong and Li (2018) to an infinite-dimensional parameter case. This is a necessary extension because the average outcome estimator is indexed by the possibly infinite-dimensional policy space.

1.1. RELATED LITERATURE

There is a growing literature on treatment assignment rules in econometrics including Manski (2004), Dehejia (2005), Stoye (2009, 2012), Hirano and Porter (2009), Chamberlain (2011), Bhattacharya and Dupas (2012), Tetenov (2012), Kasy (2014, 2016), Kitagawa and Tetenov (2017, 2018), Mbakop and Tabord-Meehan (2016), Athey and Wager (2017) and Manski and Tetenov (2018). For discrete covariates, Manski (2004) formalizes the treatment choice problem as an application of statistical decision theory and proposes a Conditional Empirical Success (CES) rule that maximizes a sample analog of the welfare function. Stoye (2009) extends Manski (2004) by showing the exact minmax decision rule. Hirano and Porter (2009) propose a regression-based assignment rule and show its asymptotic optimality by utilizing the limit normal experiment.

When there is a restriction on feasible assignment policies, Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018) propose Empirical Welfare Maximization (EWM) that generalizes CES. They first estimate the average outcome function (empirical welfare) from the data and then select a maximizer from a restricted class of policies as a treatment assignment rule. They show the optimality of EWM in the sense that the method achieves the minmax regret rate bound. Mbakop and Tabord-Meehan (2016) extend EWM and propose the Penalized Welfare Maximization rule. While Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018) focus on the rule that maximizes the inverse propensity score weighted estimate of the average outcome function, Dudík et al. (2011) and Athey and Wager (2017) propose a rule that maximizes the doubly robust estimate. In Athey and Wager (2017), they show that the rule based on the semiparametrically efficient average

outcome estimator leads to a tighter regret upper bound. Other rules based on empirical welfare function maximization are proposed by Zhao et al. (2012) and Zhou et al. (2017). In this paper, I follow the setting in Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018) and Athey and Wager (2017) and consider maximizing an average outcome measure of welfare over a restricted class of feasible policies.

Statistical inference on treatment assignment policies has gained less attention than the estimation problem, but there are some notable exceptions. Armstrong and Shen (2014) consider an inference problem for the set of individuals who should be treated under the optimal assignment policy. By applying a multiple hypothesis testing method, they propose a random set of individual characteristics for which the data exhibit strong evidence of a positive conditional average treatment effect. Bhattacharya and Dupas (2012) and Luedtke and van der Laan (2016) study inference for the maximum average outcome. Their result however, does not apply to my setting as I consider the exogenously restricted class of feasible policies. Andrews et al. (2018) also consider inference on the average outcome. In their paper, they consider a general conditional inference problem for the estimated parameter that is selected from the data as a maximizer of some criterion. They then apply the method to the EWM problem. Their method provides valid inference on the average outcome that would realize if the policy selected from EWM were implemented. While Andrews et al. (2018) provide inference for an *estimated* optimal rule, my approach provides inference for the optimal rule itself. Also, Andrews et al. (2018) provide a conditional inference method that conditions on having obtained the estimated optimal rule. My approach, in contrast, does not condition on having estimated the optimal rule and hence is analogous to a traditional estimator and standard error/confidence interval. In addition, my method can be used to determine if the current assignment policy or other proposed policy can be rationalized as the average outcome maximizing policy or not.

The paper is organized as follows. In section 2, I provide the basic setup, assumptions, and an overview of the method. Section 3, presents the formal asymptotic results. Section 4, presents some simulation results. In section 5, I apply the inference method to experimental data from the National Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) study. All proofs are contained in Appendix.

2. PRELIMINARIES

2.1. THE SETUP

For each unit i , a researcher observes the treatment status $D_i \in \{0, 1\}$, ($D_i = 1$ if treated and $D_i = 0$ otherwise), the observed outcome is $Y_i = D_i Y_i(1) + (1 - D_i) Y_i(0) \in \mathbb{R}$ where

$Y_i(d) \in \mathbb{R}$ is a potential outcome that would have realized if i 's treatment status were $d = 0, 1$, and the observed characteristics are $X_i \in \mathbb{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^{d_x}$. Let $e(x) = P(D = 1|X = x)$ be the propensity score and $m_d(x) = E[Y(d)|X = x]$ be the conditional mean. The treatment assignment policy is a mapping from the observed characteristics to $\{0, 1\}$ that determines which treatment the individual with characteristics X_i receives. Since I focus on a deterministic treatment assignment, any assignment policy can be written as $1\{X \in G\}$ for some $G \subset \mathbb{X}$.¹ When the treatment assignment policy G is applied, the average outcome can be written as

$$W(G) = E_P[Y(1)1\{X \in G\} + Y(0)1\{X \notin G\}]. \quad (1)$$

where $E_P[\cdot]$ is an expectation with respect to the probability measure P . For a class of candidate policies \mathcal{G} , I define the optimal assignment policy $G^* \in \mathcal{G}$ and the maximum average outcome $W_{\mathcal{G}}^*$ as

$$W(G^*) = W_{\mathcal{G}}^*, \quad W_{\mathcal{G}}^* = \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G).$$

If \mathcal{G} contains all subsets of \mathbb{X} , then the optimal policy has a closed form characterization

$$G_{FB}^* = \{x \in \mathbb{X} \mid E_P[Y(1) - Y(0)|X = x] \geq 0\}.$$

However, feasible assignment policies are often exogenously restricted in practice, and G_{FB}^* may not be implementable due to such restrictions. Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018) emphasize the importance of allowing restrictions and give three practical reasons why practitioners may want to place restrictions. First, some characteristics of individuals may not be appropriate as decision variables even if they are observed, and potentially affect the outcome. Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018) argue that characteristics such as gender and race may be inappropriate to use in determining who receives treatment in certain public policies. They also mention that assignment policies using non-verifiable or manipulable characteristics may not be desirable. Second, budget or capacity constraints limit the total fraction of the population who can receive treatment. Third, simple assignment policies are often desirable for the policymaker over complex possibly uninterpretable assignment policies. As discussed in Athey and Wager (2017), the simplicity of the assignment policy is especially important when they need to be audited or discussed by subject matter specialists, or when they need to be distributed in a non-electronic format.

In this paper, I follow the framework studied in Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018) and consider inference for the optimal assignment policy under the restricted class of assignment policies

¹Randomized assignment rules also fit into the framework. In that case, the assignment policy G is a function $G(x) \in [0, 1]$ that determines the assignment probability.

based on a size n random sample $\mathbf{Z} = \{Y_i, D_i, X_i\}_{i=1}^n$. Specifically, I construct an asymptotically valid confidence set $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^* \subset \mathcal{G}$ for the optimal policy G^* and a confidence interval for the maximum average outcome $W_{\mathcal{G}}^*$ under the restricted class of assignment policies. The confidence set $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$ is obtained as the collection of $G \in \mathcal{G}$ for which the test of

$$H_G : W(G) = W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \tag{2}$$

is not rejected at level α . Thus, $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$ can be interpreted as a collection of assignment policies that the data does not provide strong evidence to distinguish from the optimal policy.

2.2. BASIC ASSUMPTIONS

On the data generating process, I assume the following

Assumption D. *Assumptions on DGP*

- (i) $\{Y_i, D_i, X_i\}_{i=1}^n$ is an i.i.d. sample from $(Y, D, X) \sim P$.
- (ii) Unconfoundedness: $(Y(1), Y(0))$ is independent from D conditional on X .
- (iii) Strong overlap: There exists $\kappa \in (0, 1/2)$ such that the propensity score satisfies $e(x) \in [\kappa, 1 - \kappa]$ for all $x \in \mathbb{X}$.
- (iv) There exist $q > 2$ and $C_y < \infty$ such that $E_P[|Y(d)|^q | X = x] < C_y$ for all $x \in \mathbb{X}$ and $d = 0, 1$.
- (v) There exist $C_x < \infty$ and $C_f < \infty$ such that X has a bounded support with $\max_{k=1, \dots, d_x} |x_k| < C_x < \infty$ for all $x \in \mathbb{X}$ and has a bounded density $f_X < C_f < \infty$ with respect to a product σ -finite measure $\mu_X = \times_{k=1}^{d_x} \mu_{X_k}$ on \mathbb{R}^{d_x} such that $\mu_{X_k}((-C_x, C_x)) < \infty$ for each $k = 1, \dots, d_x$.

Assumptions (ii) and (iii) are the key identification assumptions commonly used in the causal inference problem. Assumption (ii) asserts that the treatment status and potential outcomes are independent once the observed covariates X are controlled and (iii) asserts that conditional probabilities $P(D = 1|X)$ and $P(D = 0|X)$ are both bounded away from 0. In experimental studies, Assumption (ii) automatically holds due to the random assignment and (iii) holds by design. Assumptions can also be valid in observational studies but could be restrictive and not testable in general. Imbens and Rubin (2015) have a detailed discussion on these assumptions. Assumptions (iv) and (v) are technical assumptions sufficient to establish the uniform asymptotic convergence results. Similar assumptions are frequently used in the average treatment effect estimation framework.

In order to derive formal asymptotic properties, I impose the following regularity conditions on \mathcal{G} . Many practical restrictions can be accommodated under this assumption.

Assumption G. *Assumptions on feasible assignment policies*

- (i) \mathcal{G} is a VC class set.²
- (ii) $\{1\{x \in G\}\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$ is pointwise measurable.³

Both assumptions are commonly used in statistical learning and empirical process theory. When X has only a finite number of support points, any \mathcal{G} satisfies the assumptions. The VC class assumption requires that \mathcal{G} is smaller than all measurable sets when X has continuous support. Assumption (ii) is imposed to avoid metastability issues. This requires the collection of functions are well approximated by countably many elements. The following examples give classes of assignment policies that satisfy Assumption G.

Example 1. *Threshold rule.*

Threshold assignment policies assign treatment for individuals whose characteristics are below or above some threshold. Suppose $\mathbb{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^{d_x}$. The class of threshold assignment rule is defined as follows:

$$\mathcal{G} = \{G \mid G = \{x \in \mathbb{X} \mid s_k x_k \leq \bar{x}_k \text{ for } k \in \{1, \dots, d_x\}\}, \bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_x}, s \in \{-1, 1\}^{d_x}\}.$$

Threshold assignment policies are simple to implement and often used in practice.

Example 2. *Generalized linear eligibility score* (Kitagawa and Tetenov, 2018).

Assignment policies based on eligibility scores are also commonly used in practice. The eligibility score is a function that maps participant's observed characteristics to a number. The treatment assignment is determined based on whether participants' eligibility score exceeds some threshold or not. Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018) propose the following generalized linear eligibility score. Suppose $\mathbb{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^{d_x}$. For $i = 1, \dots, m$, let $f : \mathbb{R}^{d_x} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ be a known function. The class of generalized linear eligibility score assignment policies is defined as follows:

$$\mathcal{G} = \{G \mid G = \{x \in \mathbb{X} \mid f(x)' \beta \leq 0\}, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^k\}.$$

Example 3. *Fixed depth tree.*

Using decision tree based models in causal inference and treatment assignment has recently been studied by several authors including Athey and Imbens (2016), Kallus (2016), and Wager and Athey (2018). Consider a fixed depth decision tree based assignment policy. Suppose $\mathbb{X} = \prod_{i=1}^{d_x} [0, 1]$ after normalization. Fixed depth tree based assignment rules follow two steps. First partitioning \mathbb{X} into a finite number of rectangles by applying threshold

²For any finite subset A of \mathcal{X} , let $N(A) = |\{A \cap G \mid G \in \mathcal{G}\}|$ be the number of different subsets of A picked out by \mathcal{G} . Define $M(l) = \max\{N(A) \mid A \subset \mathcal{X}, |A| = l\}$. A collection of sets \mathcal{G} is VC class if $M(l) < 2^l$ for some $l < \infty$. $V(\mathcal{G}) = \min\{l \mid M(l) < 2^l\}$ is called the VC index. Obviously, the more refined \mathcal{G} is, the higher the VC index. In that sense, the VC index measures the complexity of \mathcal{G} .

³A collection of measurable functions \mathcal{F} is pointwise measurable if there is a countable subcollection $\mathcal{F}' \subset \mathcal{F}$ such that for each $f \in \mathcal{F}$ there exists a sequence of $f'_m \in \mathcal{F}'$ such that $f'_m(x) \rightarrow f$ for all x .

criteria repeatedly and then determining which rectangles receive treatment. Let L be a non-negative integer. Define a tree partition of depth L as follows. For $L = 0$, a tree partition of depth 0 is a partition $\{\mathbb{X}, \emptyset\}$. For $L > 0$, a partition \mathcal{R}_L is a tree partition of depth L iff there exists a depth $L - 1$ partition \mathcal{R}_{L-1} such that for all nonempty $R \in \mathcal{R}_{L-1}$, there exist $j \in \{1, \dots, d_x\}$ and $t \in [0, 1]$ such that both

$$R_l = \{x \in R \mid x_j \leq t\}, \quad R_r = \{x \in R \mid x_j > t\}$$

belong to \mathcal{R}_L . By definition, the depth L tree partition splits \mathbb{X} into a collection of at most 2^L rectangles. Then, a class of depth L tree assignment policies assigns treatment on some subset of partitions:

$$\mathcal{G} = \left\{ G \mid G = \bigcup_{R \in \mathcal{S}} R, \mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{R}_L, \mathcal{R}_L \text{ is a depth } L \text{ tree partition.} \right\}.$$

The policy may be interpreted as a generalized version of the threshold rule.

Example 4. *Intersection or union rule* (Kitagawa and Tetenov, 2018).

For k classes of assignment policies $\mathcal{G}_1, \dots, \mathcal{G}_k$, the intersection rule

$$\mathcal{G} = \left\{ G \mid G = \bigcap_{j=1}^k G_j, G_j \in \mathcal{G}_j \right\}$$

and the union rule

$$\mathcal{G} = \left\{ G \mid G = \bigcup_{j=1}^k G_j, G_j \in \mathcal{G}_j \right\}$$

both satisfy Assumption G if each \mathcal{G}_i satisfies Assumption G.

It is also worth mentioning that any subset of VC class sets is itself also a VC class. Thus, for a given VC class set \mathcal{G} , incorporating capacity or budget constraints that restrict the total fraction of the target population would not violate the Assumption G (i). For example, suppose that the total proportion of the target population that could receive treatment is limited by $k \in (0, 1)$. Then, the constrained class $\mathcal{G}_k = \{G \in \mathcal{G} \mid \int 1\{X \in G\} P_X \leq k\}$ satisfies the VC class assumption if \mathcal{G} satisfies the VC class assumption.

In the following, I assume \mathcal{G} is fixed and does not depend on n . However, I allow for the case where P depends on n and d_x increases as n increases. When d_x increases with the sample size, Assumption G ensures that the treatment assignment policy cannot depend on a full set of covariates X . Instead, \mathcal{G} can be a class of policies depending only on a fixed number of covariates, so that \mathcal{G} satisfies Assumption G as a subset of \mathbb{R}^J for some $J < d_x$. This assumption reflects the situation where the researcher observes a large set of covariates,

but only a few of them can be used in determining the treatment assignment due to the restriction imposed by the practitioner.

2.3. OVERVIEW OF THE METHOD

Under Assumption D, the average outcome can be written as

$$W(G) = E_P \left[\left\{ \frac{D\{Y - m_1(X)\}}{e(X)} + m_1(X) \right\} 1\{X \in G\} + \left\{ \frac{(1 - D)\{Y - m_0(X)\}}{1 - e(X)} + m_0(X) \right\} 1\{X \notin G\} \right]. \quad (3)$$

Hahn (1998) derives (3) as a expression for the efficient influence function for the average treatment effect. In observational studies, both m_d and e are unknown. Thus, I replace these nuisance parameters with estimators \hat{m}_d and \hat{e} to define a feasible sample analog of (3).

$$\hat{W}(G) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{D_i\{Y_i - \hat{m}_1(X_i)\}}{\hat{e}(X_i)} + \hat{m}_1(X_i) \right\} 1\{X_i \in G\} + \left\{ \frac{(1 - D_i)\{Y_i - \hat{m}_0(X_i)\}}{1 - \hat{e}(X_i)} + \hat{m}_0(X_i) \right\} 1\{X_i \notin G\}. \quad (4)$$

This estimator is called the doubly robust estimator in the average treatment effect estimation problem. The name doubly robust comes from the fact that it is robust to misspecification of either the propensity score model or the conditional mean model. Since the pioneering works of Robins and Rotnitzky (1995) and Robins et al. (1995), the estimator has been extensively studied in the literature. Recent studies include Cattaneo (2010) and Rothe and Firpo (2018) for the low dimensional X problems, and Farrell (2015) and Belloni et al. (2017) for the high dimensional X problems. My results accommodate both high and low dimensional X cases. In particular, in section 3.1, I state the conditions on \hat{m}_d and \hat{e} under which the estimator \hat{W} weakly converges to a Gaussian process Z_P as a function of G uniformly over a class of data distributions.

To approximate the limiting Gaussian process, I employ the score based bootstrap:

$$\hat{Z}_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{s}_G(Y_i, D_i, X_i) B_i \quad (5)$$

$$\hat{s}_G(Y_i, D_i, X_i) = \left\{ \frac{D_i\{Y_i - \hat{m}_1(X_i)\}}{\hat{e}(X_i)} + \hat{m}_1(X_i) \right\} 1\{X_i \in G\} + \left\{ \frac{(1 - D_i)\{Y_i - \hat{m}_0(X_i)\}}{1 - \hat{e}(X_i)} + \hat{m}_0(X_i) \right\} 1\{X_i \notin G\} - \hat{W}(G). \quad (6)$$

where $\{B_i\}_{i=1}^n$ is an i.i.d. sequence of bootstrap weights independent from the data. The bootstrap approximates the limiting process Z_P by perturbing the asymptotically linear part

(the score) of the estimator that converges to the limiting process. Since the true score is unknown, I simply use the estimated analogue in (6). A method based on the same idea was proposed in Kline and Santos (2012) and Belloni et al. (2017). In section 3.2, I show the score bootstrap consistently approximates the limiting process uniformly over possible data distributions.

Based on the estimator \hat{W} , I now have a natural way to perform a test of my hypothesis (2). In particular to test if a given policy G is optimal, form the following test statistic

$$T_G = \sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G') - \hat{W}(G) \quad (7)$$

and check whether T_G exceeds a critical value. It remains to show how a valid critical value for the test can be obtained. Due to the non-differentiability of the supremum operator in the test statistic T_G , a standard delta method approach applied limiting process above would not suffice. In order to approximate the distribution of $T_G - \{W_{\mathcal{G}}^* - W(G)\}$ in large samples, I use a numerical delta method proposed by Dümbgen (1993) and Hong and Li (2018):

$$\frac{\sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} \{\hat{W}(G') + \epsilon_n \hat{Z}_n(G')\} - \sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G') - \epsilon_n \hat{Z}_n(G)}{\epsilon_n} \quad (8)$$

where ϵ_n is a tuning parameter that converges to zero slower than $n^{-1/2}$. Based on the critical value taken from (8), I construct the confidence set $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$ as a collection of $G \in \mathcal{G}$ such that T_G does not exceed the critical value. The confidence interval for $W_{\mathcal{G}}^*$ is constructed by a similar argument. I use the numerical delta method

$$\frac{\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \{\hat{W}(G) + \epsilon_n \hat{Z}_n(G)\} - \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G)}{\epsilon_n} \quad (9)$$

to approximate the large sample distribution for

$$\sqrt{n} \left\{ \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \right\}$$

and construct the confidence interval. In section 3.3, I present asymptotic validity of these inference methods.

2.4. ADDITIONAL NOTATION

I introduce additional notation that is recurrent in section 3. For a set \mathcal{A} , I denote the space of bounded functions on \mathcal{A} by

$$l^\infty(\mathcal{A}) = \left\{ f : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \sup_{a \in \mathcal{A}} |f(a)| < \infty \right\}$$

and the supnorm by $\|f\|_\infty = \sup_{a \in \mathcal{A}} |f(a)|$. For a pseudometric space (\mathcal{A}, d) , I define $N(\mathcal{A}, d, \epsilon)$ be the smallest number of ϵ -balls needed to cover \mathcal{F} . Also, define

$$BL_1(\mathcal{A}) = \{g : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \|g\|_\infty \leq 1, \forall a, a' \in \mathcal{A}, |g(a) - g(a')| \leq d(a, a')\}$$

That is, $BL_1(\mathcal{A})$ is the set of all Lipschitz functions on \mathcal{A} whose absolute bound and Lipschitz constant are both bounded by 1. Finally, for a measurable function f and a probability measure Q , I denote the $L^q(Q)$ norm by $\|f\|_{Q,q} = \{\int |f|^q dQ\}^{1/q}$.

In the following, expectations and probabilities should be interpreted as outer expectations and outer probabilities whenever non-measurability arises, though I obviate the distinction for notational simplicity.

3. RESULTS

3.1. THE ESTIMATOR

In this section, I obtain formal results on the asymptotic properties of the empirical process \hat{W} indexed by G while accounting for their dependence on the infinite-dimensional nuisance functions \hat{m}_d and \hat{e} . To establish the weak convergence result, errors from the nuisance function estimators need to be asymptotically negligible. The following conditions are suffice to establish the desired asymptotic negligibility. Let $\delta_m, \delta_e, \Delta_n, v_m, v_e$ and a be sequences such that $\delta_m \searrow 0, \delta_e \searrow 0, \Delta_n \searrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $a \geq \max\{n, e\}$.

Assumption N. *Assumptions on nuisance function estimators*

- (ia) There exists $C_m < \infty$ such that $\hat{m}_d \in \mathcal{M}_{d,n}$ satisfies $\|\hat{m}_d - m_d\|_{P,2} < \delta_m$ and $\|m_d^* - m_d\|_\infty < C_m$ with probability at least $1 - \Delta_n$ for $d = 0, 1$.
- (ib) For $d = 0, 1$, the class of functions

$$\mathcal{M}_{d,n}^* = \{m_d^* \in \mathcal{M}_{d,n} \mid \|m_d^* - m_d\|_\infty < C_m, \|m_d^* - m_d\|_{P,2} < \delta_m\}$$

is pointwise measurable and satisfies the metric entropy bound

$$\sup_Q \ln N(\mathcal{M}_{d,n}^*, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \epsilon) \leq v_m \ln(a/\epsilon)$$

with the supremum taken over all finitely discrete probability measures. Moreover,

$$\max\{\delta_m^2, \ln(n)n^{-1/2}\}v_m \ln(a) \rightarrow 0.$$

- (iia) $\hat{e} \in \mathcal{E}_n$ satisfies $\|\hat{e} - e\|_{P,2} < \delta_e$ and $\|\hat{e} - e\|_\infty < \kappa/2$ with probability at least $1 - \Delta_n$.
- (iib) The class of functions

$$\mathcal{E}_n^* = \{e^* \in \mathcal{E}_n \mid \|e^* - e\|_\infty < \kappa/2, \|e^* - e\|_{P,2} < \delta_e\}$$

is pointwise measurable and satisfies the metric entropy bound

$$\sup_Q \ln N(\mathcal{E}_n^*, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \epsilon) \leq v_e \ln(a/\epsilon)$$

with the supremum taken over all finitely discrete probability measures. Moreover,

$$\max\{\delta_e^2, \ln(n)n^{-1/2+1/q}\}v_e \ln(a) \rightarrow 0$$

where $q > 2$ is a constant in Assumption D.

(iii) $\delta_m \delta_e = o(n^{-1/2})$.

Assumptions (ia) and (iia) require the nuisance function estimators converge in the $L^2(P)$ metric and are uniformly bounded. The convergence rate condition (iii) is weaker than the commonly used assumption in semiparametric estimation that requires first stage components converge faster than $n^{-1/4}$. This weaker requirement is due to the doubly robust property of the estimator \hat{W} as defined in (3). A similar observation was shown in Farrell (2015) and Rothe and Firpo (2018). Assumptions (ib) and (iib) are assumptions on the metric entropy. For a series regression estimator with fixed d_x , the conditions hold for v_m and v_e proportional to the number of series and $a = \max\{n, e\}$. For the approximately sparse model with Lasso estimator, Assumptions (ib) and (iib) hold for v_m and v_e proportional to the maximum number of nonzero coefficients and a proportional to d_x . In both cases, the assumption requires the complexity of the estimator does not grow too fast. For high dimensional X with approximately sparse modeling, Farrell (2015) proposes sufficient conditions for the group Lasso estimator and Belloni et al. (2017) proposes sufficient conditions for the Lasso and the post-Lasso estimators.

Now, I am ready to state the formal weak convergence result for \hat{W} .

Theorem 1. Let \mathcal{G} be a class of assignment policies satisfying Assumption G. Then, for any sequence of data generating processes P_n and \hat{m}_d, \hat{e} satisfying assumption D and N, $\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}$ weakly converges to Z_{P_n} in the sense that

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_{P_n}[h(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\})] - E[h(Z_{P_n})]| = o(1)$$

where Z_P is the mean zero tight Gaussian process on $l^\infty(\mathcal{G})$ with the covariance function

$$\begin{aligned} k_P(G, G') &= E_P[s_G(Y, D, X)s_{G'}(Y, D, X)] \\ s_G(Y, D, X) &= \left\{ \frac{\{Y - m_1(X)\}D}{e(X)} + m_1(X) \right\} 1\{X \in G\} \\ &\quad + \left\{ \frac{\{Y - m_0(X)\}(1 - D)}{1 - e(X)} + m_0(X) \right\} 1\{X \notin G\} - W(G). \end{aligned}$$

Remarks. 1. Theorem 1 extends the asymptotic normality result for average treatment effect estimator to the average outcome estimator uniformly over underlying data distributions. The proof consists of two parts. First, I show the estimator is asymptotically linear. This part utilizes assumption N and a deviation inequality for the empirical process to show the residual part converges to zero in probability uniformly over \mathcal{G} and P . Then, I show that the linear part of the estimator weakly converges to a Gaussian process along with any sequence of P_n . Since m_d and e depends on P the linear part of the estimator also depends on P , which violates the assumption for the standard uniform Donsker theorem (Theorem 2.8.3 in van der Vaart and Wellner, 1996). Instead, I apply a version of Donsker theorem that allows the classes of functions changing with n . The key argument here is to construct a pseudometric on \mathcal{G} that is independent from the choice of P that satisfies all the sufficient conditions for the version of Donsker theorem.

2. In the average treatment effect estimation problem, several semiparametric estimators including the inverse propensity score weighted estimator (Hirano et al., 2003) and series regression imputation estimator (Hahn, 1998) have been shown to achieve the semiparametric efficiency bound. However, it is not clear if the same conclusion holds for the average outcome function estimation problem as I utilize the doubly robustness property to show asymptotic linearity of \hat{W} .

3. The limiting distribution in Theorem 1 coincides with the semiparametric efficiency bound derived by Hahn (1998). It immediately implies that $f(\hat{W})$ is semiparametrically efficient for any linear functional or more generally, Hadamard differentiable functional f . This however, does not imply efficiency for $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G)$ since the supremum is not Hadamard differentiable in general. Song (2014) and Fang (2014) propose some efficiency results for non-Hadamard differentiable parameters.

4. Assumptions (ib) and (iib) are imposed to avoid overfitting for the estimators \hat{m}_d and \hat{e} . It is possible to drop these assumptions by utilizing K -fold cross-fitting techniques studied in Chernozhukov et al. (2017). K -fold cross fitting works as follows: First, split the sample into K evenly-sized folds. Second, for each $k = 1, \dots, K$ compute the estimator $\hat{W}^k(G)$ using other $K - 1$ data folds to estimate nuisance functions, and third take the average of K estimators \hat{W}^k to obtain the final estimator.

5. When the true propensity score is known, \hat{e} can be replaced with the true propensity score, which trivially satisfies Assumptions (iia) and (iib) with $\delta_e = 0$ and $v_e = 1$. Since $\delta_e = 0$, arbitrarily slow δ_m satisfies Assumption N (iii). Thus, when the true propensity score is known, \hat{W} achieves semiparametric efficiency bound as long as \hat{m}_d consistently estimates m_d and satisfies (ib). This is another benefit from the doubly robust property.

3.2. THE BOOTSTRAP

Since Z_P is not pivotal, an appropriate estimator for Z_P is necessary to perform inference. I employ the score based bootstrap defined in (5) and show that the resulting bootstrap process consistently estimates Z_P . In section 3.3, I use this bootstrap property along with the estimation results of section 3.1 to obtain a fully valid method of inference for treatment assignment policies. I assume the bootstrap weights satisfy the following.

Assumption B. *Bootstrap weight assumptions*

- (i): $\{B_i\}_{i=1}^n$ is an i.i.d. sequence of random variables independent from the data \mathbf{Z} .
- (ii): $E[B_i] = 0$ and $E[B_i^2] = 1$.
- (iii): B_i is Sub-Gaussian. (i.e. for any $t > 0$, $P(|B_i| > t) < C \exp(-vt^2)$ holds for some C and v .)

Many standard bootstrap weight choices including standard normal, Rademacher weights, and the skew correcting weights (Mammen, 1993) satisfy the assumption. Assumptions (i) and (ii) are standard assumptions for the multiplier bootstrap for empirical processes (Theorem 2.9.6 in van der Vaart and Wellner, 1996). Combined with assumptions in Theorem 1, Assumption (iii) ensures the error that comes from the score estimation is asymptotically negligible. The following theorem shows uniform consistency of the bootstrap method defined in (5).

Theorem 2. Let \mathcal{G} be a class of assignment policies satisfying Assumption G. Then, for any sequence of data generating processes P_n and \hat{m}_d, \hat{e} satisfying Assumption D and N, \hat{Z}_n is consistent in probability. That means,

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_{P_n}[h(\hat{Z}_n)] - E[h(Z_{P_n})]| = o(1)$$

and for any $\epsilon > 0$,

$$P_n\left(\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(\hat{Z}_n)] - E[h(Z_{P_n})]| > \epsilon\right) \rightarrow 0$$

hold, where $E_B[\cdot]$ is an expectation taken over bootstrap weights.

The theorem states that the bootstrap consistently approximates the limiting Gaussian process in probability. Theorem 2 ensures that the critical values obtained from the proposed bootstrap methods can be used to provide valid inference, as shown in the next section.

3.3. INFERENCE ON POLICIES

3.3.1. CONFIDENCE SET FOR THE OPTIMAL POLICY. Based on the estimator \hat{W} and the bootstrap process \hat{Z}_n , I construct the confidence set for the optimal assignment policy by

inverting the tests for

$$H_G : W(G) = W_G^*$$

based on the test statistic

$$T_G = \sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G') - \hat{W}(G).$$

Under a fixed data generating process, the generalized delta method for directionally differentiable functionals (Shapiro, 1990; Dümbgen, 1993) implies the following weak convergence

$$\sqrt{n} [T_G - \{W_G^* - W(G)\}] \overset{w}{\rightsquigarrow} \psi'_G(Z_P), \quad (10)$$

$$\psi'_G(Z_P) = \max_{G' \in \arg \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G)} Z_P(G') - Z_P(G),$$

hold.⁴ The limiting distribution is in general, nonlinear in Z_P except for the special case where the $\arg \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G)$ is a singleton.⁵ In Fang and Santos (2016), they show that a naive implementation of the bootstrap approximation is inconsistent when the limiting distribution is nonlinear in Z_P . A numerical delta method (Dümbgen, 1993; Hong and Li, 2018) was proposed to overcome this inconsistency. For (10), numerical delta method is

$$\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n) = \frac{\sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} \{\hat{W}(G') + \epsilon_n \hat{Z}_n(G')\} - \sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G') - \epsilon_n \hat{Z}_n(G)}{\epsilon_n}$$

where ϵ_n is a tuning parameter satisfying $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$ and $\epsilon_n \sqrt{n} \rightarrow \infty$. Hong and Li (2018) show $\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n)$ consistently approximates $\psi'_G(Z_P)$ in probability. Given a level $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, let $\hat{c}_{1-\alpha, G}$ be the $1 - \alpha$ quantile of $\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n)$. Consistency implies

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(T_{G^*} \leq \hat{c}_{G^*, 1-\alpha}) = 1 - \alpha$$

for $G^* \in \arg \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G)$ if $\psi'_{G^*}(Z_P)$ has a continuous CDF at $c_{G^*, 1-\alpha}$. Similarly,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(T_G \leq \hat{c}_{G, 1-\alpha}) = 0$$

holds for $G \notin \arg \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G)$. Thus, the test is valid and consistent under fixed P .

To show uniform validity over the class of possible data distributions, an additional argument is required. The limiting distribution is not continuous with respect to the data distribution as $\arg \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G)$ is discontinuous. Due to this discontinuity, (10) does not extend to uniform weak convergence even though the estimator \hat{W} uniformly weakly

⁴Precisely speaking, I take $\arg \max$ over the completion of \mathcal{G} with respect to d_g defined in the appendix. It is shown that the completion of \mathcal{G} is compact and both W and Z_P are continuous on \mathcal{G} . Thus ψ'_G is well defined.

⁵ When $\arg \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G)$ is a singleton, the optimal policy is unique. In that case, the above convergence result implies $\sqrt{n} T_{G^*} \rightarrow 0$ for the optimal policy G^* . That means, the difference between the maximum estimated average outcome and estimated average outcome under the optimal policy converges faster than $n^{1/2}$ rate.

converges to the limiting process. However, by utilizing the convexity of supremum, it is possible to show the uniform validity for the one-sided test with a slight modification. Let $Z_n = \sqrt{n} \left\{ \hat{W}(G) - W(G) \right\}$. By convexity of the supremum,

$$\sqrt{n} [T_G - \{W_G^* - W(G)\}] \leq \frac{\sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} \{W(G') + \epsilon_n Z_n(G')\} - W_G^* - \epsilon_n Z_n(G)}{\epsilon_n}, \quad (11)$$

holds. Therefore, the $1 - \alpha$ quantile of (11) works as an infeasible critical value. By Theorems 1 and 2, the distribution of (11) is well approximated by the distribution of $\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n)$ as n increases. Thus, the quantile of $\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n)$ may be used as a uniformly valid critical value. To obtain the uniform validity, I use a critical value slightly larger than the $1 - \alpha$ quantile. Specifically, for an arbitrarily small number $\delta > 0$, I define $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$ as

$$\hat{\mathcal{G}}^* = \{G \in \mathcal{G} \mid T_G \leq \hat{c}_{1-\alpha+\delta, G} + \delta\}.$$

The adjustment term δ is imposed to ensure the critical value is asymptotically larger than the $1 - \alpha$ quantile of (11) even when it does not have the limiting distribution along some sequence of data generating processes. A similar adjustment has proposed in Andrews and Shi (2013). In practice, one can take any small number such as 0.1^5 . The formal result for the asymptotic validity of the method is presented as follows.

Theorem 3. Suppose the conditions of Theorems 1 and 2 hold. For any sequence of data generating processes P_n and $G_n^* \in \arg \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G)$,

$$P_n(G_n^* \in \hat{\mathcal{G}}^*) \geq 1 - \alpha - o(1)$$

holds. Moreover, for $G_n \in \mathcal{G}$ such that $\sqrt{n}\{W_G^* - W(G_n)\} \rightarrow \infty$,

$$P_n(G_n \in \hat{\mathcal{G}}^*) = o(1)$$

holds.

The first part of the result states that the confidence set $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$ is uniformly valid. The second part of the result shows the “local power” of the confidence set $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$. For a sequence of alternatives $G_n \in \mathcal{G}$, such that $W(G_n)$ is outside a $n^{-1/2}$ neighborhood of W_G^* , the probability that G_n is contained in $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$ is converging to zero. Under the fixed P , it implies $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$ is consistent in the sense that the probability of $G \in \hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$ for any fixed $G \in \mathcal{G}$ with $W(G) < W_G^*$ converges to zero.

The theorem extends the uniform validity result in Hong and Li (2018) to the infinite-dimensional parameter case. Technically, Hong and Li (2018) use Theorem 2.11 of Bhattacharya and Rao (1976) to obtain the key convergence condition for distribution functions appeared in Romano and Shaikh (2012). This does not apply to an infinite-dimensional

parameter. Alternatively, I impose an adjustment term δ to show the uniform validity result without the convergence condition.

3.3.2. CONFIDENCE INTERVAL FOR THE MAXIMUM AVERAGE OUTCOME. Confidence intervals for the maximum average outcome are constructed from a similar argument as in section 3.3.1. By applying the generalized delta method to the supremum,

$$\sqrt{n} \left\{ \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \right\} \overset{w}{\rightsquigarrow} \psi'(Z_P), \quad (12)$$

$$\psi'(Z_P) = \max_{G \in \arg \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G)} Z_P(G)$$

holds. The limiting distribution $\psi'(Z_P)$ is consistently approximated by the numerical delta method

$$\hat{\psi}'(\hat{Z}_n) = \frac{\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \{\hat{W}(G) + \epsilon_n \hat{Z}_n\} - \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G)}{\epsilon_n}$$

when the tuning parameter $\epsilon_n \searrow 0$ satisfies $\epsilon_n \sqrt{n} \rightarrow \infty$. Thus, for a given level $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, the lower one-sided confidence interval $[\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - \hat{c}_{1-\alpha}/\sqrt{n}, +\infty)$ has correct coverage:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \left(W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \in \left[\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - \frac{\hat{c}_{1-\alpha}}{\sqrt{n}}, +\infty \right) \right) = 1 - \alpha,$$

if $\psi'(Z_P)$ has a continuous CDF at the $1 - \alpha$ quantile, where $\hat{c}_{1-\alpha}$ is the $1 - \alpha$ quantile of $\hat{\psi}'(\hat{Z}_n)$. To obtain an equal-tailed two-sided confidence interval, note that

$$\sqrt{n} \left| \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \right| \overset{w}{\rightsquigarrow} |\psi'(Z_P)|, \quad (13)$$

by the Continuous mapping theorem. Let $\bar{c}_{1-\alpha}$ be the $1 - \alpha$ quantile of $|\hat{\psi}'(\hat{Z}_n)|$. Then, two-sided confidence interval $[\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - \bar{c}_{1-\alpha}/\sqrt{n}, \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) + \bar{c}_{1-\alpha}/\sqrt{n}]$ has correct coverage under fixed P :

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \left(W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \in \left[\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - \frac{\bar{c}_{1-\alpha}}{\sqrt{n}}, \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) + \frac{\bar{c}_{1-\alpha}}{\sqrt{n}} \right] \right) = 1 - \alpha.$$

if $|\psi'(Z_P)|$ has a continuous CDF at the $1 - \alpha$ quantile. Alternatively, the $1 - \alpha$ quantiles of $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{Z}_n$ and $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |\hat{Z}_n|$ may also be used to construct lower one-sided and two-sided confidence intervals respectively. Since

$$\sqrt{n} \left\{ \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \right\} \leq \sqrt{n} \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \{\hat{W}(G) - W(G)\} \overset{w}{\rightsquigarrow} \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} Z_P$$

$$\sqrt{n} \left| \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \right| \leq \sqrt{n} \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |\hat{W}(G) - W(G)| \overset{w}{\rightsquigarrow} \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |Z_P|$$

these confidence intervals are also asymptotically valid. The method based on these quantiles was originally proposed by Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018). However, these confidence intervals are asymptotically conservative in general. Indeed, since $\hat{\psi}'(\hat{Z}_n) \leq \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{Z}_n(G)$ by convexity, $\hat{c}_{1-\alpha}$ is always smaller or equal to the $1 - \alpha$ quantile of $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{Z}_n(G)$.

The uniform validity result in section 3.3.1 relies on the convexity and one-sided nature of the test. Thus the same argument applies to the lower one-sided confidence interval. As before, take any small number $\delta > 0$ and define the lower one-sided confidence interval as $[-(\hat{c}_{1-\alpha+\delta} + \delta)/\sqrt{n}, +\infty)$. Then, this is a uniformly valid lower one-sided confidence interval. On the other hand, this argument does not apply to the two-sided confidence interval. This is because the composite function $\left| \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \right|$ is not convex in \hat{W} . The following proposition summarizes the results.

Proposition 4. Suppose the conditions of Theorems 1 and 2 hold. For any sequence of data generating processes P_n ,

$$P_n \left(W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \in \left[\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - \frac{\hat{c}_{1-\alpha+\delta} + \delta}{\sqrt{n}}, +\infty \right) \right) \geq 1 - \alpha - o(1)$$

holds. Under fixed P ,

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \left(W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \in \left[\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - \frac{\bar{c}_{1-\alpha}}{\sqrt{n}}, \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) + \frac{\bar{c}_{1-\alpha}}{\sqrt{n}} \right] \right) = 1 - \alpha$$

holds if $|\psi'(Z_P)|$ has a continuous CDF at the $1 - \alpha$ quantile.

Proposition 4 formalizes the asymptotic validity of the proposed one-sided and two-sided confidence intervals for the maximum average outcome.

4. MONTE CARLO SIMULATION

In this section, I evaluate the finite sample performance of the inference methods by Monte Carlo simulation.

I consider the following DGP for $\{Y_i, D_i, X_i\}_{i=1}^N$,

$$Y_i(1) = S \left\{ 1 - X_{i,1} - X_{i,2} + f_j \left(\frac{X_{i,1} + X_{i,2}}{2} \right) + \epsilon_i \right\},$$

$$Y_i(0) = S \left\{ f_j \left(\frac{X_{i,1} + X_{i,2}}{2} \right) + \epsilon_i \right\},$$

$$D_i = \mathbb{I} \{ e(X_i) \geq \nu_i \}, \quad \nu_i \sim U[0, 1],$$

$$e(X_i) = 0.2 + 0.6 \frac{X_{i,1} + X_{i,2}}{2},$$

$$X_i \sim U[0, 1]^2, \quad \epsilon_i \sim N(0, 1),$$

where (ϵ_i, ν_i, X_i) are mutually independent. For the function $f_j(\cdot)$, I consider six different curves taken from Frölich (2004) presented in Table 2 in Appendix C. For the class of assignment policies, I consider the threshold assignment policies

$$\mathcal{G} = \{G \mid G = \{x \in [0, 1]^2 \mid x_k \leq \bar{x}_k \text{ for } k \in \{1, 2\}\}, \bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2 \in [0, 1]\}.$$

In all simulation designs, the optimal policy is unique

$$G^* = \{x \in [0, 1]^2 \mid x_1 \leq 2/3, x_2 \leq 2/3\}.$$

The scaling factor S is set to make the largest regret $\bar{R} = \inf_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G) - W_{\mathcal{G}}^*$ equal to -1 .

For all cases, I use second order polynomial series regression to estimate \hat{m}_d and a logit estimator with a second order polynomial base to estimate \hat{e} . Except for f_1 , \hat{m}_d is not correctly specified, and \hat{e} is not correctly specified in all cases. I use standard normal for the bootstrap weight and multiple tuning parameters $\epsilon_n = n^{-1/6}$, $n^{-1/5}$ and $n^{-1/4}$ for the numerical delta method.

For each simulation design, I report coverage rates of the 90% two-sided confidence interval for $W_{\mathcal{G}}^*$ and the 90% confidence set for the optimal policy G^* . For the confidence interval, I also report average lengths. The confidence set $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$ does not have a length. Alternatively, I report average maximum regret $\inf_{G \in \hat{\mathcal{G}}^*} W(G) - W_{\mathcal{G}}^*$. The maximum regret is small when $\hat{\mathcal{G}}^*$ is concentrated around the optimal policy. The sample size is set as $n = 500$ and 2000 . Simulation results based on 4000 replications are presented in Appendix C.

The findings are summarized as follows. First, coverage rates of the confidence intervals for $W_{\mathcal{G}}^*$ are reasonably close to the nominal level. When $n = 500$ and $\epsilon_n = n^{-1/4}$ however, confidence intervals exhibit slight under coverage. For example, for curve 1, the coverage rate is 0.843. Since the optimal policy is unique in all settings, $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G)$ is Hadamard differentiable. Thus, even the naive bootstrap confidence interval (confidence interval based on $\epsilon_n = n^{-1/2}$) asymptotically achieves the correct coverage rate in theory. However, the simulation result suggests too small ϵ_n is not desirable in a finite sample. Second, coverage rates of the confidence set for G^* tend to be larger than the nominal level when $\epsilon_n = n^{-1/6}$ or $n^{-1/5}$. When $n^{-1/4}$, they are close to the nominal level. Theoretically, the test statistic for the optimal policy T_{G^*} converges to zero faster than $n^{1/2}$ rate because the optimal policy is unique. Over-coverage arises due to this fast convergence rate. The simulation results show that the confidence set is not too conservative even when the optimal policy is unique. Finally, coverage rates under different curves are all similar within the same sample size and the same tuning parameter. This suggests that the method is immune to the error that comes from the first stage nuisance parameter estimator \hat{m}_d . Overall, the simulation result

Assignment policy	Outcome variable			
	30 months total earning Without cost		30 months total earning -\$744 per treatment	
	Share of Treatment	Outcome gain	Share of Treatment	Outcome gain
Treat everyone 95%CI	1	\$1,094 (\$456, \$1,732)	1	\$320 (-\$318, \$958)
Optimal Threshold Assignment 95%CI	0.96	\$1,224 (\$571, \$1,877)	0.96	\$481 (-\$178, \$1,140)
Optimal Threshold Assignment with cap constraint 95%CI	0.65	\$812 (\$321, \$1,323)	0.60	\$334 (-\$170, \$836)

Table 1. Estimated Gains

is encouraging: proposed inference methods control the size in modest sample sizes and are not too sensitive to the tuning parameter choice.

5. EMPIRICAL APPLICATION

In this section, I revisit the application in Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018) and apply the inference methods to experimental data from the National Job Training Partnership Act Study. The study was commissioned by the U.S. Department of Labor in 1986 to assess the benefit and cost of employment and training programs. Applicants were randomly assigned to either a treatment group, which was allowed access to services provided by JTPA for a period of 18 months or to a control group, which was not provided any service. The probability of being assigned to treatment (propensity score) is $2/3$ and is independent from the applicants' characteristics. The study collected the background information of applicants as well as earnings in the 30-month period following the assignment. A detailed description of the program is in Bloom et al. (1997). The sample consists of nearly 10,000 observations from the sample of adults with 22 years of age or older.

Following Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018), I use two outcome variables. The first outcome is the sum of individual earnings in the 30-month period after the random assignment. The second outcome takes the total of 30-month and subtracts the difference of the average cost of services between treatment and control per treatment assignment. From Bloom et al. (1997), this average cost is estimated to be \$744, which captures a government loss from the treatment assignment.

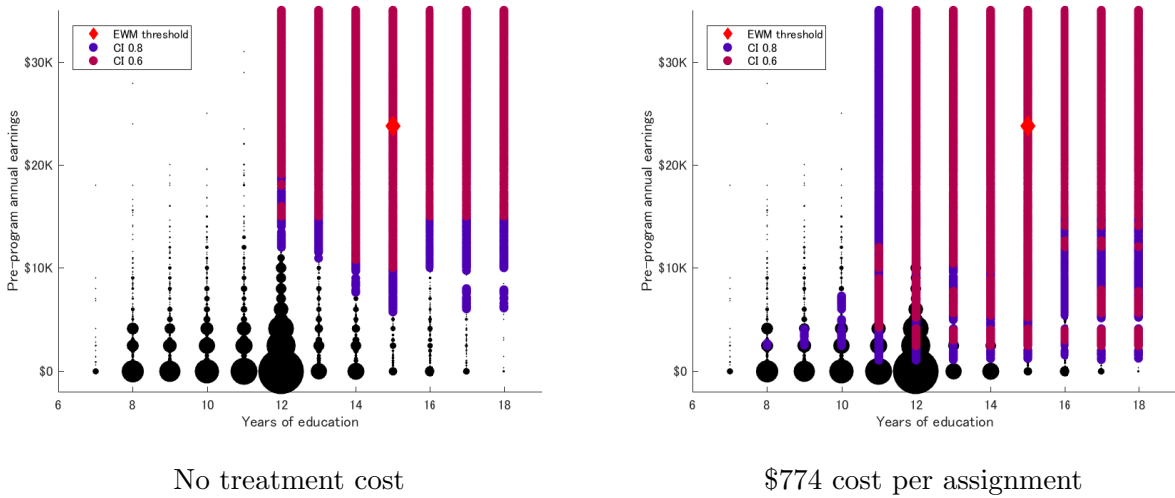


Figure 1. Confidence sets for the optimal policy with confidence levels 0.8 and 0.6 from the threshold class of assignment policies conditioning on years of education and pre-program earnings

For conditioning covariates on which I define the treatment allocations, I use two pre-treatment variables used in Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018): the individual’s years of education and their earnings in the year prior to the assignment. I consider two classes of assignment policies. First, I consider the threshold class rule without capacity constraints:

$$\mathcal{G} = \{G \mid G = \{x \mid \text{education} \leq s_1, \text{income} \leq s_2\}, s_1, s_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

and second I employ the threshold class rule with 67% capacity constraint:

$$\mathcal{G} = \left\{ G \mid G = \{x \mid \text{education} \leq s_1, \text{income} \leq s_2\}, s_1, s_2 \in \mathbb{R}, \int_G d\mathbb{F}_n \leq 2/3 \right\}$$

where \mathbb{F}_n is an empirical CDF. Under the threshold rule, an individual who has education and pre-program earnings less than some specific thresholds receives treatment. The capacity constraint is set at 67% to ensure that the total number of individuals who receive treatment does not exceed the number of individuals assigned to treatment in the sample. While my approach applies to more general classes of rules, threshold rules with two variable inputs have the advantage of easy graphical representations as it is completely characterized by the threshold point. Thus the confidence set of assignment policies can be straightforwardly visualized as a collection of threshold points on figures. Table 1 reports the estimated average outcome gain $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - \hat{W}(\emptyset)$ relative to the benchmark of assigning no one to treatment.

Figure 1 illustrates the confidence sets for the optimal threshold policy without capacity constraint. The left panel shows the result with no treatment cost and the right panel

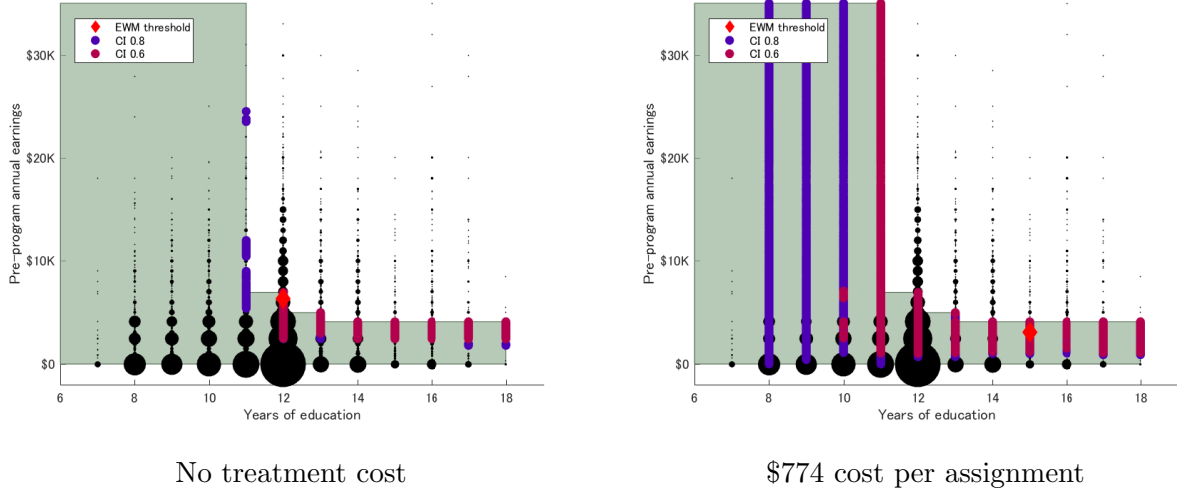


Figure 2. Confidence sets for the optimal policy with confidence levels 0.8 and 0.6 from the threshold class of assignment policies conditioning on years of education and pre-program earnings with 67% capacity constraint

shows the result with \$744 cost per assignment. On the figure, the size of the black dots represents the number of individuals with different covariate values. The red diamond dot is the EWM threshold point that maximizes estimated average outcome proposed in Kitagawa and Tetenov (2018). The collection of blue dots represents the confidence set for the optimal threshold point with confidence level 0.8 and red dots represents the confidence set with level 0.6. In both cases, EWM thresholds are identical (Year of education ≤ 15 , pre-program earnings $\leq \$23,776$) but confidence sets are largely different. When the treatment cost is not taken into account, all the threshold assignment policies that set the education threshold below 12 are rejected to be optimal. For the income threshold, all the threshold assignment policies with income thresholds below \$5,700 are rejected with confidence level 0.8 and below \$10,014 are rejected with confidence level 0.6.⁶ The result suggests that the data exhibits strong evidence for the lower bound of optimal threshold points if the treatment were costless. The confidence set expands when the treatment cost is imposed. In that case, most of the rules with education threshold below 11 are rejected to be optimal with confidence level 0.8 and below 12 are rejected with confidence level 0.6. The confidence set contains most of the rules that set the education threshold above 12 and the income threshold strictly above \$0 for both confidence levels. Figure 2 illustrates the confidence sets for the optimal threshold policy with capacity constraint. The shaded area indicates all the feasible threshold points that assigns individuals to treatment group less than 67% capacity constraint. The left panel

⁶With confidence level 0.9, the result for the education threshold does not change. The lower bound for the income threshold decreases to \$3,083

shows the result with no treatment cost and the right panel shows the result with \$744 cost per assignment. When the treatment cost is not considered, level 0.8 confidence set rejects all the threshold assignment policy that sets education threshold below 12 were rejected to be optimal. When treatment costs are considered, the level 0.8 confidence set contains all the feasible thresholds points with education threshold above 8 and income threshold strictly above \$0 while the level 0.6 confidence set rejects most of the policies with education threshold below 10.

The analysis shows the importance of complementing estimated treatment assignment policies with confidence set information. The EWM policies alone does not reveal how precisely the optimal policy is approximated by the data. In this application with a sample size close to 10,000, we find a large confidence set for the optimal policy when the treatment cost is taken into account. We also see in Figure 2 the potential importance that restrictions like capacity constraints can play in the conclusion. The EWM approach easily accommodates such economic restrictions, and the confidence sets I propose in this paper also adjust automatically when such restrictions are imposed.

6. CONCLUSION

In this paper, I propose statistical inference methods for treatment assignment policies. To develop these methods, I characterize the formal asymptotic properties of the doubly robust estimator for the average outcome as a function of assignment policies. I then propose asymptotically valid confidence sets for the optimal policy and confidence intervals for the optimal average outcome. My method is applicable for both the known propensity score case and the unknown propensity score case. Simulation results suggest the method works well in finite samples. I also apply my method to experimental data from the JTPA program and to demonstrate the usefulness of forming confidence sets for the optimal assignment policy in a class of threshold assignment policies.

APPENDIX A. NOTATION AND DEFINITIONS

The following list includes notation that will be used in the appendix.

$a \lesssim b$	$a \leq Cb$ for some constant C universal in the proof.
$N(\mathcal{F}, d, \epsilon)$	For a pseudometric space (\mathcal{F}, d) , $N(\mathcal{F}, d, \epsilon)$ is the minimum number of ϵ -balls needed to cover \mathcal{F} .
\mathbb{G}_n	Centered empirical process $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{P}_n - P)$.
$\ \mathbb{G}_n\ _{\mathcal{F}}$	For a collection of measurable functions \mathcal{F} , $\ \mathbb{G}_n\ _{\mathcal{F}} = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \mathbb{G}_n(f) $.
$\ f\ _{Q,q}$	For a measurable function f , and a measure Q , $\ f\ _{Q,q} = \{\int f ^q dQ\}^{1/q}$.
$l^\infty(\mathcal{A})$	The space of bounded functions on \mathcal{A} .
$C^\infty(\mathcal{A})$	The space of bounded continuous functions on \mathcal{A} .
$BL_b(\mathcal{A})$	The set of functions on \mathcal{A} with $\sup_{a \in \mathcal{A}} f(a) \leq b$ and $ f(a) - f(a') \leq bd(a, a')$.

Before showing the main result, I define a pseudometric d_g on \mathcal{G} and show some properties of (d_g, \mathcal{G}) that will be used in the proof of main theorems.

Definition (Pseudometric on \mathcal{G}). Suppose assumption D holds. Let $\mu_X = \times_{k=1}^{d_x} \mu_{X_k}$ defined in assumption D (v). Let \mathcal{G} be a collection of feasible assignment policies satisfying assumption G. Suppose \mathcal{G} depends on a subset of characteristics $\tilde{X} = (\tilde{X}_1, \dots, \tilde{X}_J)$ with $J \leq d_x$. Define pseudometric $d_g(\cdot, \cdot)$ on \mathcal{G} as

$$\int |1\{\tilde{X} \in G\} - 1\{\tilde{X} \in G'\}| d\mu_{\tilde{X}},$$

where $\mu_{\tilde{X}} = \times_{k=1}^J \mu_{\tilde{X}_k}$.

Following lemma presents properties of d_g that will be used in the proof of Theorems.

Lemma A.1. Suppose assumption D and G holds. Then the following properties hold.

- (i) $\sup_{G, G' \in \mathcal{G}} d_g(G, G') < \infty$
- (ii) (\mathcal{G}, d_g) is totally bounded. Moreover, the covering number satisfies

$$N(\mathcal{G}, d_g, \epsilon) < C(e/\epsilon)^v$$

for some constants C and v .

- (iii) There a constant C such that $P(G \Delta G') \leq C d_g(G, G')$ for any $G, G' \in \mathcal{G}$ holds uniformly over P satisfying assumption D.
- (iv) $W(G)$ is continuous with respect to d_g .

Proof of (i). By assumption N, $\max_{k=1,\dots,d_x} |X_k| < C_X$ and $\prod_{k=1}^J \mu_{\tilde{X}_k}((-C_X, C_X)) < \infty$. Thus,

$$\sup_{G, G' \in \mathcal{G}} d_G(G, G') \leq \prod_{k=1}^J \mu_{\tilde{X}_k}((-C_X, C_X)) < \infty.$$

Proof of (ii). By assumption G, \mathcal{G} is a VC class. Thus, for any probability measure Q on \mathbb{R}^J ,

$$N(\{1\{\tilde{X} \in G\}\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}, \|\cdot\|_{Q,1}, \epsilon) \lesssim (1/\epsilon)^v < \infty$$

holds for some fixed constant v . Since $\mu_{\tilde{X}}$ is bounded on $\times^J(-C_X, C_X) \subset \mathbb{R}^J$,

$$\tilde{Q} = \frac{1\{X \in (-C_X, C_X)^J\}}{\prod_{k=1}^J \mu_{\tilde{X}_k}((-C_X, C_X))} \mu_{\tilde{X}}$$

is a probability measure on \mathbb{R}^J , where \times^J is a cartesian product. Since $G \subset \times^J(-C_X, C_X)$ for any $G \in \mathcal{G}$,

$$\begin{aligned} N\left(\{1\{\tilde{X} \in G\}\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}, \|\cdot\|_{\mu_{\tilde{X}},1}, \prod_{k=1}^J \mu_{\tilde{X}_k}((-C_X, C_X))\epsilon\right) &= N(\{1\{\tilde{X} \in G\}\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}, \|\cdot\|_{\tilde{Q},1}, \epsilon) \\ &\lesssim (1/\epsilon)^v. \end{aligned}$$

By definition $d_g(G, G') = \|1\{X \in G\} - 1\{X \in G'\}\|_{\mu_{\tilde{X}},1}$. Thus,

$$N(\mathcal{G}, d_g, \epsilon) \lesssim (1/\epsilon)^v < \infty.$$

Proof of (iii). By assumption D (v), \tilde{X} has a density $f_{\tilde{X}} < C_f$ with respect to $\mu_{\tilde{X}} = \times_{k=1}^J \mu_{\tilde{X}_k}$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} P(G \Delta G') &= \int |1\{X \in G\} - 1\{X \in G'\}| dP_X \\ &= \int |1\{\tilde{X} \in G\} - 1\{\tilde{X} \in G'\}| dP_{\tilde{X}} \\ &= \int |1\{X \in G\} - 1\{X \in G'\}| f_{\tilde{X}} d\mu_{\tilde{X}} \\ &\leq C_f d_g(G, G'). \end{aligned}$$

Proof of (iv). Since m_d is bounded by assumption D,

$$\begin{aligned} |W(G) - W(G')| &= |E_P[m_1(X) - m_0(X)1\{X \in G\} - 1\{X \notin G'\}]|, \\ &\leq E_P[|m_1(X) - m_0(X)| |1\{X \in G\} - 1\{X \notin G'\}|], \\ &\lesssim d_g(G, G'). \end{aligned}$$

APPENDIX B. PROOF OF MAIN RESULTS

Proof of Theorem 1

Let P_n be a sequence of data generating processes satisfying the assumptions in Theorem 1. Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W}(G) - W(G)\} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n s_G(Y_i, D_i, X_i) \\
&+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\{Y_i - \hat{m}_1(X_i)\}D_i}{\hat{e}(X_i)} - \frac{\{Y_i - m_1(X_i)\}D_i}{e(X_i)} + \hat{m}_1(X_i) - m_1(X_i) \right) 1\{X \in G\} \\
&+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\{Y_i - \hat{m}_0(X_i)\}(1 - D_i)}{1 - \hat{e}(X_i)} - \frac{\{Y_i - m_0(X_i)\}(1 - D_i)}{1 - e(X_i)} + \hat{m}_0(X_i) - m_0(X_i) \right) 1\{X \notin G\} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n s_G(Y_i, D_i, X_i) + R + R^c.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the result follows if

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} \left| E_{P_n} \left[h \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n s_G(Y_i, D_i, X_i) \right) \right] - E[h(Z_{P_n})] \right| \rightarrow 0, \quad (14)$$

$$\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R| = o_{P_n}(1), \quad \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R^c| = o_{P_n}(1). \quad (15)$$

I first show (15). Since the proof for $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R| = o_{P_n}(1)$ and $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R^c| = o_{P_n}(1)$ are identical, I only present the proof for $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R| = o_{P_n}(1)$. Note that R is decomposed as

$$R = R_1 + R_2 + R_3$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
R_1 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_i}{e(X_i)} \right\} \{\hat{m}_1(x_i) - m_1(X_i)\} 1\{X_i \in G\}, \\
R_2 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n D_i \{Y_i - m_1(X_i)\} \left\{ \frac{1}{\hat{e}(X_i)} - \frac{1}{e(X_i)} \right\} 1\{X_i \in G\}, \\
R_3 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n D_i \{\hat{m}_1(X_i) - m_1(X_i)\} \left\{ \frac{1}{\hat{e}(X_i)} - \frac{1}{e(X_i)} \right\} 1\{X_i \in G\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Let $\mathcal{F}_{1,n}$, $\mathcal{F}_{2,n}$ and $\mathcal{F}_{3,n}$ be collections of functions

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}_{1,n} &= \left\{ \left\{ 1 - \frac{d}{e(x)} \right\} \{m_1^*(x) - m_1(x)\} 1\{x \in G\} \mid m_1^* \in \mathcal{M}_{1,n}^*, G \in \mathcal{G} \right\} \\ \mathcal{F}_{2,n} &= \left\{ \{y - m_1(x)\} d \left\{ \frac{1}{e^*(x)} - \frac{1}{e(X)} \right\} 1\{x \in G\} \mid e^* \in \mathcal{E}_n^*, G \in \mathcal{G} \right\} \\ \mathcal{F}_{3,n} &= \left\{ \{m_1^*(x) - m_1(x)\} d \left\{ \frac{1}{e^*(x)} - \frac{1}{e(X)} \right\} 1\{x \in G\} \mid m_1^* \in \mathcal{M}_{1,n}^*, e^* \in \mathcal{E}_n^*, G \in \mathcal{G} \right\}.\end{aligned}$$

By assumption N, $\hat{m}_1 \in \mathcal{M}_{1,n}^*$ with probability at least $1 - \Delta_n$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} R_1 &\leq \sup_{(m_1^*, G) \in \mathcal{M}_{1,n}^* \times \mathcal{G}} \left| \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_i}{e(X_i)} \right\} \{m_1^*(X_i) - m_1(X_i)\} 1\{X_i \in G\} \right| \\ &= \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{1,n}} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n f \right|\end{aligned}$$

also holds with probability at least $1 - \Delta_n$. By law of iterated expectation,

$$\begin{aligned}E_{P_n}[f] &= E_{P_n} \left[\left\{ 1 - \frac{D}{e(X)} \right\} \{m_1^*(X) - m_1(X)\} 1\{X \in G\} \right] \\ &= E_{P_n} \left[\left\{ 1 - \frac{E[D|X]}{e(X)} \right\} \{m_1^*(X) - m_1(X)\} 1\{X \in G\} \right] \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

holds for any $f \in \mathcal{F}_{1,n}$. Thus,

$$\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{1,n}} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n f \right| = \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{1,n}}.$$

By lemma B.3, $\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{1,n}} \leq o(1)$ holds with probability at least $1 - \ln(n)^{-1}$. Thus $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} R_1 \leq o(1)$ holds with probability at least $1 - \Delta_n - \ln(n)^{-1}$.

By Assumption N, $\hat{e} \in \mathcal{E}_n^*$ with probability at least $1 - \Delta_n$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R_2| &\leq \sup_{(e^*, W) \in \mathcal{E}_n^* \times \mathcal{G}} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \{Y_i - m_1(X_i)\} D_i \left\{ \frac{1}{e^*(X_i)} - \frac{1}{e(X_i)} \right\} 1\{X_i \in G\} \right| \\ &= \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{2,n}} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n f \right|\end{aligned}$$

holds with probability at least $1 - \Delta_n$. By law of iterated expectation,

$$\begin{aligned} E_{P_n}[f] &= E \left[\{Y - m_1(X)\} D \left\{ \frac{1}{e^*(X)} - \frac{1}{e(X)} \right\} 1\{X \in G\} \right] \\ &= E_{P_n} \left[\{E[Y|X, D = 1] - m_1(X)\} D \left\{ \frac{1}{e^*(X)} - \frac{1}{e(X)} \right\} 1\{X \in G\} \right] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

holds for any $f \in \mathcal{F}_{2,n}$. Thus,

$$\left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n f \right\|_{\mathcal{F}_{2,n}} = \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{2,n}}.$$

By lemma B.3, $\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{2,n}, \mathcal{G}} \leq o(1)$ holds with probability at least $1 - \ln(n)^{-1}$. Thus, $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R_2| \leq o(1)$ holds with probability at least $1 - \Delta_n - \ln(n)^{-1}$.

By Assumption N, $\hat{e} \in \mathcal{E}_n^*$ and $\hat{m}_1 \in \mathcal{M}_n^*$ with probability at least $1 - 2\Delta_n$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R_3| &\leq \sup_{(m_1^*, e^*, W) \in \mathcal{M}_n^* \times \mathcal{P}_n^* \times \mathcal{G}} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n D_i \{m_1^*(X_i) - m_1(X_i)\} \left\{ \frac{1}{e^*(X_i)} - \frac{1}{e(X_i)} \right\} 1\{X_i \in G\} \right| \\ &= \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n f \right\|_{\mathcal{F}_{3,n}} \end{aligned}$$

holds with probability at least $1 - 2\Delta_n$. By assumption N, $e^*(x), e(X) \in (\eta/2, 1 - \eta/2)$.

Thus, for any $f \in \mathcal{F}_{3,n}$,

$$\begin{aligned} |E_{P_n}[f]| &= \left| E_{P_n} \left[D \{m_1^*(X) - m_1(X_i)\} \left\{ \frac{1}{e^*(X_i)} - \frac{1}{e(X_i)} \right\} 1\{X_i \in G\} \right] \right| \\ &\leq E_{P_n} \left[\frac{D_i}{e^*(X_i)e(X_i)} |\{m_1^*(X_i) - m_1(X_i)\}| |\{e^*(X_i) - e(X_i)\}| 1\{X_i \in G\} \right] \\ &\lesssim E_{P_n} [|\{m_1^*(X_i) - m_1(X_i)\}| |\{e^*(X_i) - e(X_i)\}|] \\ &\leq E_{P_n} [\{m_1^*(X_i) - m_1(X_i)\}^2]^{1/2} E[\{e^*(X_i) - e(X_i)\}^2]^{1/2} \\ &\leq \delta_m \delta_e \\ &\leq o(n^{-1/2}) \end{aligned}$$

holds by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{3,n}} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n f \right| &\leq \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{3,n}} + \sqrt{n} \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{3,n}} |E[f]|, \\ &= \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{3,n}} + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

By lemma B.3, $\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{3,n}} \leq o(1)$ holds with probability at least $1 - \ln(n)^{-1}$. Thus, $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R_3| \leq o(1)$ holds with probability at least $1 - 2\Delta_n - \ln(n)^{-1}$.

By combining three inequalities, I obtain

$$\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R| = \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R_1 + R_2 + R_3| \leq o(1)$$

with probability approaching one. Thus (15) hold.

I now show (14). Note that

$$\begin{aligned} s_G(y, d, x) &= f_G(y, d, x) - E_P[f_G(y, d, x)]. \\ f_G(y, d, x) &= \left\{ \frac{\{y - m_1(x)\}d}{e(x)} - \frac{\{y - m_0(x)\}(1-d)}{1-e(x)} + m_1(x) - m_0(x) \right\} 1\{x \in G\} \\ &\quad + \left\{ \frac{\{y - m_0(x)\}(1-d)}{1-e(X)} + m_0(x) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

By assumption D, $e(x) \in (\eta, 1 - \eta)$ and $E_P[|Y(d)|^q | X = x] < C_y$ for $d = 0, 1$. Thus, $|m_d(x)| < C_y^{1/q}$ and $E_P[|Y(d)|^2 | X = x] < C_y^{2/q}$ holds. This implies

$$H(X) = E_P \left[\left\{ \frac{\{Y - m_1(X)\}D}{e(X)} - \frac{\{Y - m_0(X)\}(1-D)}{1-e(X)} + m_1(X) - m_0(X) \right\}^2 \middle| X \right]$$

is bounded uniformly over P . Thus, by lemma A.1 (iii), I obtain

$$\begin{aligned} E_P[\{f_G - f_{G'}\}^2] &= E_P[H(X)|1\{X \in G\} - 1\{X \in G'\}|^2], \\ &\lesssim d_g(G, G'). \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

Take a sequence of data generating processes P_n . Note that the class of functions $\{f_G\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$ depends on n as m_d and e depend on P_n . In the following I adapt the argument in Belloni et al. (2017) to our setup and apply Theorem 2.11.22 in van der Vaart and Wellner (1996) to show the weak convergence.

By (16),

$$E[\{Z_P(G) - Z_P(G')\}^2] = E_P[s_G - s_{G'}] \lesssim d_g(G, G').$$

Thus, together with lemma A.1 (ii), Theorem 2.3.7 in Giné and Nickl (2015) implies there is a separable version of Z_{P_n} with almost surely uniformly continuous path with respect to d_g for each n . Moreover, Z_{P_n} satisfies

$$\sup_n E \left[\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |Z_{P_n}(G)| \right] < \infty, \quad \lim_{\delta \searrow 0} \sup_n E \left[\sup_{d_g(G, G') < \delta} |Z_{P_n}(G) - Z_{P_n}(G')| \right] = 0.$$

By (16), a sequence of covariance function $k_{P_n}(\cdot, \cdot)$ is equicontinuous as a function defined on the product space $\mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G}$. Moreover, it is bounded in uniform metric. Since \mathcal{G} is totally

bounded in d_g , Arzelà-Ascoli Theorem implies that the sequence can be divided into subsequences such that $k_{P_{n_a}}(\cdot, \cdot)$ converges to some $k(\cdot, \cdot)$ in uniform metric. Let Z be a Gaussian process on \mathcal{G} with a covariance function $k(\cdot, \cdot)$. Then, the sequence of Gaussian processes $Z_{P_{n_a}}$ weakly converges to the tight Gaussian process Z . This implies

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E[h(Z_{P_{n_a}})] - E[h(Z)]| \rightarrow 0.$$

By lemma A.1 (ii), (\mathcal{G}, d_g) is totally bounded. Since $\{1\{x \in G\}\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$ is pointwise measurable by assumption G, $\{f_G\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$ is also pointwise measurable. By assumption D, $\{f_G\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$ has a measurable envelope F such that $E_P[|F|^q]$ is bounded uniformly over P . Thus,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n F_i^2 - E_{P_n}[F^2] = o_{P_n}(1)$$

where $F_i = F(Y_i, D_i, X_i)$. By applying corollary B.1 (ii) to $\{1\{x \in G\}\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$, I obtain

$$\sup_Q \ln N(\{f_G\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|F\|_{Q,2\epsilon}) \lesssim v \ln(e/\epsilon)$$

where the supremum is taken over all finitely discrete probability measures. Thus, for any $c > 0$ and $\delta_n \searrow 0$, $\{f_G\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$ satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{d_g(G, G') < \delta_n} E_{P_n}[\{f_G - f_{G'}\}^2] &= o(1), & E_{P_n}[F^2 1\{|F| > c\sqrt{n}\}] &= o(1), \\ \left\{ \int_0^{\delta_n} \sup_Q \sqrt{\ln N(\{f_G\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|F\|_{Q,2\epsilon})} d\epsilon \right\} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n F_i^2 \right\}^{1/2} &= o_{P_n}(1). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, as independent stochastic processes indexed by a totally bounded pseudometric space (\mathcal{G}, d_g) , $\{f_G(Y_i, X_i, D_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ satisfies conditions in Theorem 2.11.1 of van der Vaart and Wellner (1996). By applying the Theorem, I obtain asymptotic equicontinuity

$$\lim_{\delta \searrow 0} \limsup_n P_n \left(\sup_{d_g(G, G') < \delta} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n s_G(Y_i, D_i, X_i) \right| > \epsilon \right) = 0$$

and weak convergence along the subsequence

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} \left| E_{P_{n_a}} \left[h \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n s_G(Y_i, D_i, X_i) \right) \right] - E[h(Z)] \right| \rightarrow 0.$$

By combining the weak convergence for $Z_{P_{n_a}}$,

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} \left| E_{P'_n} \left[h \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n s_G(Y_i, D_i, X_i) \right) \right] - E[h(Z_{P_{n_a}})] \right| \rightarrow 0.$$

holds. Since the same argument applies to each subsequence, I obtain the desired result

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} \left| E_{P_n} \left[h \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n s_G(Y_i, D_i, X_i) \right) \right] - E[h(Z_{P_n})] \right| \rightarrow 0.$$

Proof of Theorem 2

Take a sequence of data generating processes P_n satisfying the assumptions in Theorem 2.

Let

$$Z_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n s_G B_i.$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(\hat{Z}_n)] - E[h(Z_{P_n})]| &\leq \sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(\hat{Z}_n)] - E_B[h(Z_n)]| \\ &+ \sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(Z_n)] - E[h(Z_{P_n})]|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, it is sufficient to show

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(Z_n)] - E[h(Z_{P_n})]| = o_{P_n}(1), \quad (17)$$

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(\hat{Z}_n)] - E_B[h(Z_n)]| = o_{P_n}(1). \quad (18)$$

Since

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(\hat{Z}_n)] - E_B[h(Z_n)]| \leq E_B[\min\{2, \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |\hat{Z}_n - Z_n|\}],$$

Markov inequality implies

$$P_n \left(\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(\hat{Z}_n)] - E_B[h(Z_n)]| > \epsilon \right) \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon} E_{P_n} [\min\{2, \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |\hat{Z}_n - Z_n|\}]$$

for any $\epsilon > 0$. If $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |\hat{Z}_n - Z_n| = o_{P_n}(1)$, then for any $\delta > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} E_{P_n} [\min\{2, \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |\hat{Z}_n - Z_n|\}] &< \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2P_n(\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |\hat{Z}_n - Z_n| > \delta) + \delta \\ &= \delta. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |\hat{Z}_n - Z_n| = o_{P_n}(1)$ is sufficient for (18).

Note that $\hat{Z}_n - Z_n$ is decomposed as

$$\hat{Z}_n - Z_n = R^* + R^{*c} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \{\hat{W}(G) - W(G)\} B_i,$$

where

$$R^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\{Y_i - \hat{m}_1(X_i)\}D_i}{\hat{e}(X_i)} - \frac{\{Y_i - m_1(X_i)\}D_i}{e(X_i)} + \hat{m}_1(X_i) - m_1(X_i) \right) 1\{X_i \in G\}B_i,$$

$$R^{*c} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\{Y_i - \hat{m}_0(X_i)\}(1-D_i)}{1-\hat{e}(X_i)} - \frac{\{Y_i - m_0(X_i)\}(1-D_i)}{1-e(X_i)} + \hat{m}_0(X_i) - m_0(X_i) \right) 1\{X_i \notin G\}B_i.$$

Since $\sup_{W \in \mathcal{G}} |\hat{W}(W) - W(W)| = o_{P_n}(1)$ and $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n B_i = O_{P_n}(1)$,

$$\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \{\hat{W}(G) - W(G)\}B_i \right| = o_{P_n}(1).$$

Thus (18) follows if

$$\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R^*| = o_{P_n}(1), \quad \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R^{*c}| = o_{P_n}(1).$$

I now show $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R^*| = o_{P_n}(1)$. I omit the proof for $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R^{*c}| = o_{P_n}(1)$ since it follows from the identical argument.

Note that

$$R^* = R_1^* + R_2^* + R_3^*,$$

where

$$R_1^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_i}{e(X_i)} \right\} \{\hat{m}_1(x_i) - m_1(X_i)\} 1\{X_i \in G\}B_i,$$

$$R_2^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \{Y_i - m_1(X_i)\}D_i \left\{ \frac{1}{\hat{e}(X_i)} - \frac{1}{e(X_i)} \right\} 1\{X_i \in G\}B_i,$$

$$R_3^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n D_i \{\hat{m}(X_i) - m_1(X_i)\} \left\{ \frac{1}{\hat{e}(X_i)} - \frac{1}{e(X_i)} \right\} 1\{X_i \in G\}B_i.$$

Given a bootstrap weight B , for $j = 1, 2, 3$, define collections of functions $\mathcal{F}_{j,n}^B$ as

$$\mathcal{F}_{j,n}^B = \{fB \mid f \in \mathcal{F}_{j,n}\}$$

where $\mathcal{F}_{j,n}$ is the collection of functions defined in the proof of Theorem 1. By assumption N, for $j = 1, 2, 3$

$$\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R_j^*| \leq \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{j,n}^B} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n f \right|,$$

holds with probability approaching 1. Since B is independent from the data and $E_B[B] = 0$,

$$\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{j,n}^B} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n f \right| = \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{j,n}^B},$$

also holds for $j = 1, 2, 3$. By lemma B.3, $\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{j,n}^B} \leq o(1)$ with probability approaching 1. Thus, I obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R^*| &= \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R_1^* + R_2^* + R_3^*| \\ &\leq o(1) \end{aligned}$$

with probability approaching one. This implies $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |R| = o_{P_n}(1)$.

Now, I show (17). By applying the argument in the proof of Theorem 1 that shows (14) to $s_G B_i$, I obtain unconditional weak convergence

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_{P_n}[h(Z_n)] - E[h(Z_{P_n})]| &\rightarrow 0, \\ \lim_{\delta \searrow 0} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_n \left(\sup_{d_g(G, G') < \delta} |Z_n(G) - Z_n(G')| > \epsilon \right) &= 0, \\ \lim_{\delta \searrow 0} \sup_n E \left[\sup_{d_g(G, G') < \delta} |Z_{P_n}(G) - Z_{P_n}(G')| \right] &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since \mathcal{G} is totally bounded in d_g , finite δ -net exists for any $\delta > 0$. For each $G \in \mathcal{G}$, let $\Pi_\delta G$ be a closet element in a finite δ -net. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(Z_n)] - E[h(Z_{P_n})]| &\leq \sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(Z_n)] - E_B[h(Z_n \circ \Pi_\delta)]| \\ &\quad + \sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(Z_n \circ \Pi_\delta)] - E[h(Z_{P_n} \circ \Pi_\delta)]| \\ &\quad + \sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E[h(Z_{P_n})] - E[h(Z_{P_n} \circ \Pi_\delta)]| \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(Z_n)] - E_B[h(Z_n \circ \Pi_\delta)]| \leq E_B \left[\min \left\{ 2, \sup_{d_g(G, G') < \delta} |Z_n(G) - Z_n(G')| \right\} \right],$$

Markov inequality implies,

$$P_n \left(\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(Z_n)] - E_B[h(Z_n \circ \Pi_\delta)]| > \epsilon \right) \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon} E_{P_n} \left[\min \left\{ 2, \sup_{d_g(G, G') < \delta} |Z_n(G) - Z_n(G')| \right\} \right].$$

For any $\epsilon' > 0$ the right hand side term is bounded by

$$2P_n \left(\sup_{d_g(G, G') < \delta} |Z_n(G) - Z_n(G')| > \epsilon' \right) + \epsilon'.$$

Thus, taking $n \rightarrow \infty$ followed by $\delta \searrow 0$ and $\epsilon' \searrow 0$ shows

$$\lim_{\delta \searrow 0} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_n \left(\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(Z_n)] - E_B[h(Z_n \circ \Pi_\delta)]| > \epsilon \right) = 0.$$

Let $\{G_1, \dots, G_p\}$ be a δ -net for \mathcal{G} . Let $\bar{s}_G = (s_{G_1}, \dots, s_{G_p})'$, $\bar{Z}_n = (Z_n(G_1), \dots, Z_n(G_p))'$ and $\bar{Z}_{P_n} = (Z_{P_n}(G_1), \dots, Z_{P_n}(G_p))'$. By definition $\bar{Z}_{P_n} \sim N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G])$. Thus,

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(Z_n \circ \Pi_\delta)] - E[h(Z_{P_n} \circ \Pi_\delta)]| \leq \sup_{h \in BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)} |E_B[h(\bar{Z}_n)] - E[h(N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G]))]|$$

holds. Since $BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)$ is separable in uniform metric on any compact set of \mathbb{R}^p , there is a countable subset $BL'_1(\mathbb{R}^p) \subset BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)$ such that for any $h \in BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)$, there exists a sequence $h_m \in BL'_1(\mathbb{R}^p)$, $h_m(x) \rightarrow h(x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^p$. By bounded convergence theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} |E_B[h(\bar{Z}_n)] - E[h(N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G]))]| &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} |E_B[h_m(\bar{Z}_n)] - E[h_m(N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G]))]| \\ &\leq \sup_{h \in BL'_1(\mathbb{R}^p)} |E_B[h(\bar{Z}_n)] - E[h(N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G]))]|. \end{aligned}$$

Since h is arbitrary, this implies

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)} |E_B[h(\bar{Z}_n)] - E[h(N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G]))]| = \sup_{h \in BL'_1(\mathbb{R}^p)} |E_B[h(\bar{Z}_n)] - E[h(N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G]))]|.$$

Thus, $\sup_{h \in BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)} |E_B[h(\bar{Z}_n)] - E[h(N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G]))]|$ is measurable. For $q > 2$, $E_P[|s_{G_j}|^q]$ is bounded uniformly P for all $j = 1, \dots, p$. Thus,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{s}_{i,G} \bar{s}'_{i,G} - E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G] = o_{P_n}(1).$$

Moreover, since $E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G]$ is uniformly bounded over n , I am able to split the sequence into subsequences n_a such that

$$E_{P_{n_a}}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G] \rightarrow V$$

holds for some V . Thus,

$$\frac{1}{n_a} \sum_{i=1}^{n_a} \bar{s}_{i,G} \bar{s}'_{i,G} - V = o_{P_{n_a}}(1).$$

I will show

$$P_{n_a} \left(\sup_{h \in BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)} |E_B[h(\bar{Z}_{n_a})] - E[h(N(0, E_{P_{n_a}}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}'_G]))]| > \epsilon \right) \rightarrow 0.$$

Applying the same argument for each subsequence shows the result for the entire sequence. For notational convenience, I write n as one of such subsequence. By Theorem 20.4 of Billingsley (1995), there exists countably many independent random variables $\{\{\bar{s}_{i,n,G}^*\}_{i=1}^n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ defined on the probability space $\{(0, 1), \mathcal{B}_{(0,1)}, \lambda\}$ such that $\bar{s}_{i,n,G}^*$ and $\bar{s}_{i,G}$ under P_n have the same distribution for all i and n . Similarly, there exists countably many independent random variables $\{B_i^*\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ on the probability space $\{(0, 1), \mathcal{B}_{(0,1)}, \lambda\}$ such that $B_i^* \sim B_i$ for each i . Thus, on the product probability space $\{(0, 1)^2, \mathcal{B}_{(0,1)}^2, \lambda \times \lambda\}$, I can define mutually independent random variables $\{\{\bar{s}_{i,n,G}^*\}_{i=1}^n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $\{B_i^*\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that $(\bar{s}_{i,n,G}^*, B_i^*)$ and $(\bar{s}_{i,G}, B_i)$ under P_n have the same joint distribution for all i and n . Since

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{s}_{i,G} \bar{s}_{i,G}' - V = o_{P_n}(1),$$

$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{s}_{i,n,G}^* \bar{s}_{i,n,G}^{*'}$ converges to V in probability. Thus, for any subsequence n_k of n , there is a further subsequence $n_{k(l)}$ such that $\frac{1}{n_{k(l)}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{k(l)}} \bar{s}_{i,n_{k(l),G}^*} \bar{s}_{i,n_{k(l),G}^{*}'}$ converges to V almost surely.

Let

$$\bar{Z}_{n_{k(l)}}^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_{k(l)}}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{k(l)}} \bar{s}_{i,n_{k(l),G}^*} B_{i,n_{k(l)}}^*.$$

By Lindberg central limit theorem, conditionally on $\{\{\bar{s}_{i,n_{k(l),G}^*}\}_{i=1}^{n_{k(l)}}\}_{l \in \mathbb{N}}$

$$\bar{Z}_{n_{k(l)}}^* \overset{w}{\rightsquigarrow} N(0, V)$$

holds for almost sure realization of $\{\{\bar{s}_{i,n_{k(l),G}^*}\}_{i=1}^{n_{k(l)}}\}_{l \in \mathbb{N}}$. Thus,

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)} |E_{B^*}[h(\bar{Z}_{n_{k(l)}}^*)] - E[h(N(0, V))]| \rightarrow 0$$

for almost sure realization of $\{\{\bar{s}_{i,n_{k(l),G}^*}\}_{i=1}^{n_{k(l)}}\}_{l \in \mathbb{N}}$. The almost sure convergence along $n_{k(l)}$ implies

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)} |E_{B^*}[h(\bar{Z}_n^*)] - E[h(N(0, V))]| \rightarrow 0$$

in probability. Since $E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}_G'] \rightarrow V$, $N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}_G'])$ weakly converges to $N(0, V)$ in \mathbb{R}^p .

Thus, I obtain

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)} |E_{B^*}[h(\bar{Z}_n^*)] - E[h(N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}_G']))]| \rightarrow 0$$

in probability. Since $(\bar{Z}_n^*, B^*) \sim (\bar{Z}_n, B)$, the desired result

$$P_n \left(\sup_{h \in BL_1(\mathbb{R}^p)} |E_B[h(\bar{Z}_n)] - E[h(N(0, E_{P_n}[\bar{s}_G \bar{s}_G']))]| > \epsilon \right) \rightarrow 0$$

follows.

Finally, since

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E[h(Z_P)] - E[h(Z_P \circ \Pi_\delta)]| &\leq E \left[\sup_{d_g(G, G') < \delta} |Z_P(G) - Z_P(G')| \right] \\ &\rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as $\delta \searrow 0$ uniformly over P , I can conclude

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(Z_n)] - E[h(Z_{P_n})]| = o_{P_n}(1).$$

Proof of Theorem 3

I first show the result under fixed P . Let $\psi : l^\infty(\mathcal{G}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the functional

$$\psi(W) = \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G).$$

ψ is Hadamard directionally differentiable tangentially to $C^\infty(\mathcal{G})$ in the following sense. Take any $h_n \in l^\infty(\mathcal{G})$ such that $h_n \rightarrow h \in C^\infty(\mathcal{G})$. Then, for $\delta_n \searrow 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\psi(W + \delta_n h_n) - \psi(W)}{\delta_n} &= \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}^*} h(G) \\ \mathcal{G}^* &= \arg \max_{G \in \bar{\mathcal{G}}} W(G) \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

where $\bar{\mathcal{G}}$ is a completion of \mathcal{G} with respect to d_g . Since \mathcal{G} is totally bounded in d_g and $W(G)$ is continuous, \mathcal{G}^* is nonempty. To show (19), note that

$$\left| \frac{\psi(W + \delta_n h_n) - \psi(W + \delta_n h)}{\delta_n} \right| \leq \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |h_n(G) - h(G)| \rightarrow 0.$$

Thus, it is sufficient to show

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\psi(W + \delta_n h) - \psi(W)}{\delta_n} = \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}^*} h(G)$$

For $\delta > 0$, define

$$\mathcal{G}_\delta^* = \{G \in \mathcal{G} \mid W(G) + \delta > W_{\mathcal{G}}^*\},$$

which is nonempty. Since h is bounded, $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |\delta_n h(G)| < C\delta_n$. Thus,

$$\frac{\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \{W(G) + \delta_n h(G)\} - W_{\mathcal{G}}^*}{\delta_n} = \frac{\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}_{2C\delta_n}^*} \{W(G) + \delta_n h(G)\} - W_{\mathcal{G}}^*}{\delta_n}.$$

The right hand side term satisfies

$$\max_{G \in \mathcal{G}^*} h(G) \leq \frac{\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}_{2C\delta_n}^*} \{W(G) + \delta_n h_n(G)\} - W_{\mathcal{G}}^*}{\delta_n} \leq \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}_{2C\delta_n}^*} h(G).$$

Suppose there is $\epsilon > 0$ such that $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}_{2C\delta_n}^*} h(G) - \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}^*} h(G) > \epsilon$ holds for any n . Let $G_n \in \mathcal{G}_{2C\delta_n}^*$ be such that

$$h(G_n) - \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}_{2C\delta_n}^*} h(G) \rightarrow 0.$$

Since \mathcal{G} is totally bounded, G_n has a subsequence G_{n_a} that converges to some $G_0 \in \bar{\mathcal{G}}$. By lemma A.1, $W(G)$ is continuous. Thus, $W(G_{n_a}) \rightarrow W(G_0)$. Since $|W_{\mathcal{G}}^* - W(G_{n_a})| < 2C\delta_{n_a}$, this implies $W(G_0) = W_{\mathcal{G}}^*$ and thus $G_0 \in \mathcal{G}^*$. Since $h(G)$ is continuous, $h(G_n) - \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}^*} h(G) > \epsilon/2$ for large enough n . Thus, $h(G_0) > \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}^*} h(G)$, which is a contradiction.

For each $G \in \mathcal{G}$, define the functional $\psi_G : l^\infty(\mathcal{G}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as

$$\psi_G(W) = \sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} W(G') - W(G).$$

(19) implies ψ_G is also Hadamard directional differentiable:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow 0} \frac{\psi_G(W + \delta_n h_n) - \psi_G(W)}{\delta_n} = \psi'_G(h),$$

$$\psi'_G(h) = \max_{G' \in \mathcal{G}^*} h(G') - h(G)$$

for any $h_n \in l^\infty(\mathcal{G})$ and $\delta_n \searrow 0$ such that $h_n \rightarrow h \in C^\infty(\mathcal{G})$. Thus, extended delta method for directionally differentiable functional (Theorem 2.1 of Fang and Santos, 2015) implies

$$\sqrt{n}\{\psi_G(\hat{W}) - \psi_G(W)\} \overset{w}{\rightsquigarrow} \psi'_G(Z_P).$$

Under the assumptions of Theorems 1 and 2, \hat{W} and \hat{Z}_n satisfies the conditions in Theorem 3.1 of Hong and Li (2018). Thus, $\hat{\psi}'_G(Z_n)$ weakly converges to $\psi'_G(Z_P)$ in probability conditional on the data. This shows the results under fixed P .

Next, I show the uniform validity result. Take a sequence of data generating processes P_n . For each $G \in \mathcal{G}$ and ϵ , define the functional $\psi'_{G,\epsilon} : l^\infty(\mathcal{G}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\psi'_{G,\epsilon}(Z) = \frac{\psi_G(W + \epsilon Z) - \psi_G(W)}{\epsilon}.$$

This is a Lipschitz functional as

$$|\psi'_{G,\epsilon}(Z) - \psi'_{G,\epsilon}(Z')| \leq 2 \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |Z(G) - Z'(G)|.$$

Take any $\delta > 0$. For each $c \in \mathbb{R}$, define functions $l_{c,\delta} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $r_{c,\delta} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as

$$l_{c,\delta}(x) = \min \left\{ \frac{c + \delta - x}{\delta}, 1 \right\} 1\{x \leq c + \delta\}, \quad r_{c,\delta}(x) = \min \left\{ \frac{x - c}{\delta}, 1 \right\} 1\{x > c\}.$$

For any c , both $l_{c,\delta}$ and $r_{c,\delta}$ are bounded Lipschitz function with the same Lipschitz constant $1/\delta$. Thus, composite functionals $l_{c,\delta} \circ \psi'_{G,\epsilon}$ and $r_{c,\delta} \circ \psi'_{G,\epsilon}$ are bounded Lipschitz functionals

with the same Lipschitz constants $2/\delta$ for all G , c and ϵ . By definition,

$$1\{x \leq c\} \leq l_{c,\delta}(x) \leq 1\{x \leq c + \delta\}, \quad 1\{x > c + \delta\} \leq l_{c,\delta}(x) \leq 1\{x > c\}.$$

Thus, Theorem 1 implies

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{c \in \mathbb{R}, G \in \mathcal{G}} \left\{ P(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n}) \leq c) - P_n(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq c + \delta) \right\} \\ & \leq \sup_{c \in \mathbb{R}, G \in \mathcal{G}} |E[l_{c,\delta} \circ \psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n})] - E_{P_n}[l_{c,\delta} \circ \psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\})]| \\ & = o(1). \end{aligned}$$

where ϵ_n is the tuning parameter in the definition of $\hat{\psi}'_G$. Thus,

$$P(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n}) \leq c) \leq P_n(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq c + \delta) + o(1) \quad (20)$$

holds for all G and c . Since $\epsilon_n \sqrt{n} \rightarrow \infty$,

$$|\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n) - \psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\hat{Z}_n)| \leq 2 \frac{\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} |\hat{W}(G) - W(G)|}{\epsilon_n} = o_{P_n}(1),$$

which implies

$$\sup_{h \in BL_1(l^\infty(\mathcal{G}))} |E_B[h(\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n))] - E_B[h(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\hat{Z}_n))]| = o_{P_n}(1).$$

Combined with Theorem 2, I obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{c \in \mathbb{R}, G \in \mathcal{G}} P(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n}) > c + \delta) - P_B(\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n) > c) & \leq \sup_{c \in \mathbb{R}, G \in \mathcal{G}} |E[r_{c,\delta} \circ \psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n})] - E_B[r_{c,\delta} \circ \hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n)]|, \\ & = o_{P_n}(1). \end{aligned}$$

Take any $\delta' > 0$. Let $c_{G,1-\alpha}$ be the $1 - \alpha$ quantile of $\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n})$ and $\hat{c}_{G,1-\alpha+\delta'}$ be the $1 - \alpha + \delta'$ quantile of $\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n)$ conditional on the data.⁷ When $\hat{c}_{G,1-\alpha+\delta'} + \delta < c_{G,1-\alpha}$ for some $G \in \mathcal{G}$,

$$\begin{aligned} & P(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n}) > \hat{c}_{1-\alpha+\delta'} + \delta) - P_B(\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n) > \hat{c}_{1-\alpha+\delta'}) \\ & \geq P(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n}) \geq c_{G,1-\alpha}) - \alpha + \delta' \geq \delta' \end{aligned}$$

holds where P_B is a probability with respect to B . This implies

$$\begin{aligned} P_n(\hat{c}_{G,1-\alpha+\delta'} + \delta < c_{G,1-\alpha}, \exists G \in \mathcal{G}) & \leq P_n\left(\sup_{c \in \mathbb{N}, G \in \mathcal{G}} |E_B[r_{c,\delta} \circ \hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n)] - E[r_{c,\delta} \circ \psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n})]|\right) \geq \delta' \\ & = o(1). \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

⁷Conditional on the data, $\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n)$ is measurable with respect to B as it is a continuous function of B . Thus, conditional quantiles of $\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n)$ is well defined.

Thus

$$P_n(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq c_{G,1-\alpha} + \delta) \leq P_n(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq \hat{c}_{G,1-\alpha+\delta'} + 2\delta) + o(1). \quad (22)$$

Since ψ_G is convex and $(\epsilon_n\sqrt{n})^{-1} < 1$,

$$\psi_G(W + Z/\sqrt{n}) - \psi_G(W) \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon_n\sqrt{n}}\{\psi_G(W + \epsilon_n Z) - \psi_G(W)\},$$

holds for any Z . This implies

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n}\{T_G - \{W_G^* - W(G)\}\} &= \psi'_{G,1/\sqrt{n}}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}), \\ &\leq \psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}), \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$P_n(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq \hat{c}_{G,1-\alpha+\delta'} + 2\delta) \leq P_n(\sqrt{n}\{T_G - \{W_G^* - W(G)\}\} \leq \hat{c}_{G,1-\alpha+\delta'} + 2\delta) \quad (23)$$

holds for all G . By combining inequalities (20), (22), and (23), I obtain

$$\begin{aligned} P_n(\sqrt{n}\{T_G - \{W_G^* - W(G)\}\} \leq \hat{c}_{G,1-\alpha+\delta'} + 2\delta) &- (1 - \alpha) \\ &\geq P_n(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq \hat{c}_{G,1-\alpha+\delta'} + 2\delta) - (1 - \alpha) \\ &\geq P_n(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq c_{G,1-\alpha} + \delta) - P(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n}) \leq c_{G,1-\alpha}) - o(1) \\ &\geq -o(1) \end{aligned}$$

uniformly over $G \in \mathcal{G}$. Since δ and δ' are taken arbitrary, the first part of the result follows.

I now show the second part of the result. Define $f_{G,G'} : l^\infty(\mathcal{G}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be

$$f_{G,G'}(Z) = Z(G) - Z(G').$$

This is a Lipschitz functional. Thus, by Theorem 1,

$$\begin{aligned} &\sup_{c \in \mathbb{R}, G, G' \in \mathcal{G}} \{P_n(f_{G,G'}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq c) - P(f_{G,G'}(Z_{P_n}) \leq c + \delta)\} \\ &\leq \sup_{c \in \mathbb{R}, G, G' \in \mathcal{G}} |E_{P_n}[l_{c,\delta} \circ f_{G,G'}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\})] - E[l_{c,\delta} \circ f_{G,G'}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\})]| \\ &= o(1). \end{aligned}$$

By reversing the roles of $\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n})$ and $\hat{\psi}'_G(\hat{Z}_n)$ in (21), I can show

$$P_n(c_{G,1-\alpha+2\delta'} + \delta < \hat{c}_{G,1-\alpha+\delta'}, \exists G \in \mathcal{G}) \leq o(1).$$

By definition, $\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n}) \leq \sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} \{Z_{P_n}(G') - Z_{P_n}(G)\}$. Since

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}, G, G' \in \mathcal{G}} E[\{Z_{P_n}(G') - Z_{P_n}(G)\}^2] < \infty, \quad \sup_n E[\sup_{G, G' \in \mathcal{G}} |Z_{P_n}(G') - Z_{P_n}(G)|] < \infty,$$

Borell's inequality (Proposition A.2.1 in van der Vaart and Wellner, 1996) implies $c_{G,1-\alpha+2\delta}$ is bounded from above uniformly over G and n . Take $G_n \in \mathcal{G}$ and $G_n^* \in \mathcal{G}$ such that $R_n = \sqrt{n}\{W_{\mathcal{G}}^* - W(G_n)\} \rightarrow \infty$ and $W(G_n^*) = W_{\mathcal{G}}^*$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n}\{T_{G_n} - \{W_{\mathcal{G}}^* - W(G_n)\}\} &= \sqrt{n}\{\{\sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G') - W_{\mathcal{G}}^*\} - \{\hat{W}(G) - W(G)\}\} \\ &\geq f_{G_n^*, G_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} &P_n(\sqrt{n}T_{G_n} \leq \hat{c}_{G_n,1-\alpha+\delta'} + \delta) \\ &= P_n(\sqrt{n}\{T_{G_n} - \{\sup_{G' \in \mathcal{G}} W(G') - W(G)\}\} \leq \hat{c}_{G_n,1-\alpha+\delta'} + \delta - R_n) \\ &\leq P_n(f_{G_n^*, G_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq \hat{c}_{G_n,1-\alpha+\delta'} + \delta - R_n) \\ &\leq P_n(f_{G_n^*, G_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq c_{G_n,1-\alpha+2\delta'} + 2\delta - R_n) + o(1) \\ &\leq P(Z_{P_n}(G_n^*) - Z_{P_n}(G_n) \leq c_{G_n,1-\alpha+2\delta'} + 3\delta - R_n) + o(1) \\ &= o(1). \end{aligned}$$

The conclusion follows.

Proof of proposition 4

Proof of proposition 4 is similar to the proof of Theorem 3.

Equation (19) in proof of Theorem 3 shows ψ is Hadamard directional differentiable. Thus, under fixed P , by Theorem 2.1 of Fang and Santos (2016), weak convergence

$$\sqrt{n} \left\{ \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - W_{\mathcal{G}}^* \right\} = \sqrt{n} \{ \psi(\hat{W}) - \psi(W) \} \overset{w}{\rightsquigarrow} \sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}^*} Z_P(G)$$

holds. Thus, by Theorem 3.1 of Hong and Li (2018), $\hat{\psi}'(\hat{Z}_n)$ weakly converges to $\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}^*} Z_P(G)$. Since absolute value is a Lipschitz continuous function, Proposition 10.7 of Kosorok (2007) implies $|\hat{\psi}'(\hat{Z}_n)|$ weakly converges to $|\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}^*} Z_P(G)|$. This shows the result for fixed P case.

Take a sequence of data generating processes P_n . Define the functional $\psi'_\epsilon : l^\infty(\mathcal{G}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\psi'_\epsilon(Z) = \frac{\psi(W + \epsilon Z) - \psi(W)}{\epsilon}.$$

Let $c_{1-\alpha}$ and $\hat{c}_{1-\alpha}$ be the $1 - \alpha$ quantiles of $\psi'_{\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n})$ and $\hat{\psi}'(\hat{Z}_n)$ respectively. Take any $\delta > 0$ and $\delta' > 0$. Replacing $\psi'_{G,\epsilon}$ by ψ'_ϵ and applying the same argument in the proof of Theorem

3 shows

$$\begin{aligned}
P(\psi'_{\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n}) \leq c_{1-\alpha}) &\leq P_n(\psi'_{\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq c_{1-\alpha} + \delta) + o(1), \\
P_n(\psi'_{\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq c_{1-\alpha} + \delta) &\leq P_n(\psi'_{\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq \hat{c}_{1-\alpha+\delta'} + 2\delta) + o(1), \\
P_n(\psi'_{G,\epsilon_n}(\sqrt{n}\{\hat{W} - W\}) \leq \hat{c}_{1-\alpha+\delta'} + 2\delta) &\leq P_n(\sqrt{n}\{\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \hat{W}(G) - W_G^*\} \leq \hat{c}_{1-\alpha+\delta'} + 2\delta).
\end{aligned}$$

By definition of quantile,

$$1 - \alpha \leq P(\psi'_{\epsilon_n}(Z_{P_n}) \leq c_{1-\alpha})$$

Thus, by combining above inequalities, I obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
P_n(\sqrt{n}\{\sup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} W(G) - W_G^*\} \leq \hat{c}_{1-\alpha+\delta'} + 2\delta) &\leq \hat{c}_{1-\alpha+\delta'} + 2\delta - (1 - \alpha) \\
&\geq -o(1).
\end{aligned}$$

Since δ and δ' are taken arbitrary, this implies the result.

Proof of Lemmas

Lemma B.1. Let $\mathcal{F}_1, \dots, \mathcal{F}_k$ be classes of real valued functions with respective envelope functions F_1, \dots, F_k . Let $\phi : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a map that is Lipschitz in the sense that there exists nonnegative functions L_1, \dots, L_k such that

$$|\phi \circ f(x) - \phi \circ g(x)|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^k L_i(x)^2 |f_i(x) - g_i(x)|^2$$

holds for all $f, g \in \mathcal{F}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{F}_k$ and all x . Then, a class of real valued functions

$$\phi \circ (\mathcal{F}_1, \dots, \mathcal{F}_k) = \{\phi \circ f \mid f \in \mathcal{F}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{F}_k\}$$

has an envelope function $H = |\phi \circ f_0| + \sum_{i=1}^k L_i(F_i + |f_{0,i}|)$ where $f_0 = (f_{0,1}, \dots, f_{0,k})$ is any functions satisfying

$$|\phi \circ f(x) - \phi \circ f_0(x)|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^k L_i(x)^2 |f_i(x) - f_{0,i}(x)|^2$$

for all $f \in \mathcal{F}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{F}_k$ and all x . Moreover, $\phi \circ (\mathcal{F}_1, \dots, \mathcal{F}_k)$ satisfies

$$\sup_Q N(\phi \circ (\mathcal{F}_1, \dots, \mathcal{F}_k), \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|H\|_{Q,2}\epsilon) \leq \prod_{i=1}^k \sup_{Q_i} N(\mathcal{F}_i, \|\cdot\|_{Q_i,2}, \|F_i\|_{Q_i,2}\epsilon)$$

where the supremum is taken over all finitely discrete probability measures.

Proof. For any $f \in \mathcal{F}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathcal{F}_k$,

$$\begin{aligned} |\phi \circ f| &\leq |\phi \circ f_0| + |\phi \circ f_0 - \phi \circ f|, \\ &\leq |\phi \circ f_0| + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^k L_i^2 |f_{0,i} - f_i|^2}, \\ &\leq |\phi \circ f_0| + \sum_{i=1}^k L_i (F_i + |f_{0,i}|). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, H is an envelope for $\phi \circ (\mathcal{F}_1, \dots, \mathcal{F}_k)$. Fix $\epsilon > 0$ and a finitely discrete probability measures Q . For each $i = 1, \dots, k$ define probability measure $Q_i^* = \frac{F_i^2}{\|F_i\|_{Q,2}^2} Q$. Take $f, g \in \mathcal{F}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathcal{F}_k$ such that $\|f_i - g_i\|_{Q_i^*,2} \leq \|F_i\|_{Q_i,2} \epsilon$ for each $i = 1, \dots, k$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |\phi \circ f - \phi \circ g|_{Q,2} &\leq \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^k \|L_i f_i - g_i\|_{Q,2}^2}, \\ &\leq \epsilon \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^k \|L_i\|_Q^2 \|F_i\|_{Q_i^*,2}^2}, \\ &= \epsilon \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^k \|L_i F_i\|_{Q,2}^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{i=1}^k \|L_i F_i\|_{Q,2}^2 \leq \|H\|_{Q,2}^2$, the above inequality implies

$$N(\phi \circ (\mathcal{F}_1, \dots, \mathcal{F}_k), \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|H\|_{Q,2} \epsilon) \leq \prod_{i=1}^k N(\mathcal{F}_i, \|\cdot\|_{Q_i^*,2}, \|F_i\|_{Q_i^*,2} \epsilon).$$

Taking supremum over Q on both sides shows the result. \square

I will use the following Corollary to the above lemma.

Corollary B.1. Let \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 be classes of real valued functions with envelope functions F_1 and F_2 respectively.

(i) The class of functions

$$\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2 = \{fg \mid f \in \mathcal{F}_1, g \in \mathcal{F}_2\}$$

has an envelope function $H = 2\sqrt{2}FG$ and satisfies

$$\sup_Q N(\mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}_2, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|H\|_{Q,2} \epsilon) \leq \sup_Q N(\mathcal{F}_1, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|F_1\|_{Q,2} \epsilon) \sup_Q N(\mathcal{F}_2, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|F_2\|_{Q,2} \epsilon)$$

where Q is taken over all finitely discrete probability measures.

(ii) For any measurable functions g and h , the class of function

$$\mathcal{F}_1 g + h = \{fg + h \mid f \in \mathcal{F}\}$$

has an envelope $H = F_1|g| + |h|$ and satisfies

$$\sup_Q N(\mathcal{F}_1 g + h, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|H\|_{Q,2}\epsilon) \leq \sup_Q N(\mathcal{F}_1, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|F_1\|_{Q,2}\epsilon)$$

where Q is taken over all finitely discrete probability measures.

(iii) If $\inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}_1} \inf_x |f(x)| > c$ for some constant $c > 0$. Then the class of functions

$$\mathcal{F}_1^{-1} = \{f^{-1} \mid f \in \mathcal{F}_1\}$$

has an envelope function $H = F_1/c^2 + 2/c$ and satisfies

$$\sup_Q N(\mathcal{F}_1^{-1}, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|H\|_{Q,2}\epsilon) \leq \sup_Q N(\mathcal{F}_1, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|F_1\|_{Q,2}\epsilon)$$

where Q is taken over all finitely discrete probability measures.

Proof of (i). Let $\phi \circ f = f_1 + f_2$ for $(f_1, f_2) \in \mathcal{F}_1 \times \mathcal{F}_2$. Then I can apply lemma B.1 with $L_1 = L_2 = 1$ and $f_0 = 0$.

Proof of (ii). Let $\phi \circ f = f_1 f_2$ for $(f_1, f_2) \in \mathcal{F}_1 \times \mathcal{F}_2$. Since

$$\begin{aligned} |\phi \circ f(x) - \phi \circ g(x)|^2 &\leq \{F_2|f_1(x) - g_1(x)| + F_1|f_2(x) - g_2(x)|\}^2 \\ &\leq 2\{F_2\}^2|f_1(x) - g_1(x)|^2 + 2\{F_1\}^2|f_2(x) - g_2(x)|^2 \end{aligned}$$

holds for any f, g in $\mathcal{F}_1 \times \mathcal{F}_2$, I can apply lemma B.1 with $L_1 = \sqrt{2}F_2$, $L_2 = \sqrt{2}F_1$ and $f_0 = 0$.

Proof of (iii). Let $k = 1$ and $\phi \circ f = fg + h$ for $f \in \mathcal{F}_1$. Then, the result follows from lemma B.1 with $L_1 = |g|$ and $f_0 = 0$.

Proof of (iv). Let $k = 1$ and $\phi \circ f = f^{-1}$ for $f \in \mathcal{F}_1$. Since

$$|f(x)^{-1} - g(x)^{-1}|^2 \leq \frac{1}{c^2}|f(x) - g(x)|^2$$

for any f, g in \mathcal{F}_1 and any x , the result follows from lemma B.1 with $L_1 = |c^{-2}|$ and $f_0 = c$.

The following maximal inequality and deviation inequality is due to Theorem 5.1 and Corollary 5.1 in Chernozhukov et al. (2014).

Lemma B.2. Let \mathcal{F} be a class of pointwise measurable functions with a measurable envelope F satisfying $E[F^q] < \infty$ for $q \geq 2$. Let $M = \max_{i=1, \dots, n} F(X_i)$ and $\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} E[f^2] \leq \sigma^2 \leq \|F\|_{P,2}^2$. Then, for any $\alpha > 0$ and any $t \geq 1$, the centered empirical process satisfies deviation

inequality

$$\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}} \leq (1 + \alpha)E[\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}}] + K(q) \left[(\sqrt{t}\sigma + \frac{\sqrt{t}\|M\|_{P,q}}{n^{1/2}}) + \frac{t\|M\|_{P,2}}{\alpha n^{1/2}} \right]$$

with probability at least $1 - t^{-q/2}$ where $K(q)$ is a constant depends only on q . If

$$\sup_Q N(\mathcal{F}, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|F\|_{Q,2}\epsilon) \leq (a/\epsilon)^v$$

for some $a \geq e$ and $v \geq 1$, it also satisfies the maximal inequality

$$E[\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}}] \lesssim \sqrt{\sigma^2 v \ln\left(\frac{a\|F\|_{P,2}}{\sigma}\right)} + \frac{\|M\|_{P,2}}{n^{1/2}} v \ln\left(\frac{a\|F\|_{P,2}}{\sigma}\right).$$

Combining these two inequalities and taking $t = \ln(n)$ and $a \geq \max\{n, e\}$ shows

$$\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}} \leq K(q) \left\{ \sqrt{\sigma^2 v \ln\left(\frac{a\|F\|_{P,2}}{\sigma}\right)} + \frac{\|M\|_{P,q}}{n^{1/2}} v \ln\left(\frac{a\|F\|_{P,2}}{\sigma}\right) \right\}$$

with probability at least $1 - \ln(n)^{-1}$ where $K(q)$ is a constant depends only on q .

Lemma B.3. Use the notations in the proofs of Theorem 1 and 2. Suppose assumptions G, D, N and B hold. Then, for $j = 1, 2, 3$

$$\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{j,n}} \leq o(1), \quad \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{j,n}^B} \leq o(1)$$

holds with probability at least $1 - \ln n^{-1}$.

Proof. By assumption G, \mathcal{G} is a VC class of sets. Thus, by Theorem 2.6.4 in van der Vaart and Wellner (1996),

$$\sup_Q \ln N(\{1\{X \in G\}\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, C_1\epsilon) \lesssim v \ln(e/\epsilon)$$

for some fixed constant v where the supremum is taken over all finitely discrete probability measures. Since v is fixed, I may assume $v \leq \min\{v_m, v_e\}$.

In the following, I will apply lemma B.2 to $\mathcal{F}_{j,n}$. First, I show the metric entropy bound conditions. By assumption D, $e(X) \in (\eta, 1 - \eta)$. Moreover, $E[|Y|^q]$ and m_d are bounded uniformly over P . By assumption N, $e^*(x) \in \mathcal{E}_n^*$ satisfies $e^*(x) \in (\eta/2, 1 - \eta/2)$ and $m_d^* \in \mathcal{M}_{d,n}^*$ is bounded. Thus, applying corollary B.1 (i) and (ii) to $\mathcal{M}_{1,n}^*$ and $\{1\{X \in G\}\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$ shows

$$\sup_Q \ln N(\mathcal{F}_{1,n}, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, C_1\epsilon) \lesssim v_m \ln(a/\epsilon) + v \ln(e/\epsilon) < 2v_m \ln(a/\epsilon)$$

with some constant envelope C_1 . Applying corollary B.1 (ii) and (iii) to \mathcal{E}_n^* and $\{1\{X \in G\}\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$ shows

$$\sup_Q \ln N(\mathcal{F}_{2,n}, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|F_2\|_{Q,2}\epsilon) \lesssim v_e \ln(a/\epsilon) + v \ln(e/\epsilon) < 2v_e \ln(a/\epsilon).$$

with a measurable envelope F_2 such that $E_P[|F|^q]$ is bounded uniformly over P . Similarly, applying corollary B.1 (i), (ii) and (iii) to $\mathcal{M}_{1,n}^*$, \mathcal{E}_n^* and $\{1\{X \in G\}\}_{G \in \mathcal{G}}$ shows

$$\sup_Q \ln N(\mathcal{F}_{3,n}, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, C_3\epsilon) \lesssim v_m \ln(a/\epsilon) + v_e \ln(a/\epsilon) + v \ln(e/\epsilon) < 3 \max\{v_m, v_e\} \ln(a/\epsilon).$$

Second, I derive the bounds for $\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{j,n}} E_P[f^2]$. For $f \in \mathcal{F}_{1,n}$,

$$\begin{aligned} E_P[f^2] &= E_P \left[\left\{ 1 - \frac{D}{e(X)} \right\}^2 \{m_1^*(X) - m_1(X)\}^2 1\{X \in G\}^2 \right] \\ &\lesssim E_P[\{m_1^*(X_i) - m_1(X_i)\}^2] \\ &\leq \delta_m^2 \end{aligned}$$

holds. For $f \in \mathcal{F}_{2,n}$,

$$\begin{aligned} E_P[f^2] &= E_P \left[\left\{ \{Y - m_1(X)\} D \left\{ \frac{1}{e^*(X)} - \frac{1}{e(X)} \right\} 1\{X \in G\} \right\}^2 \right] \\ &\leq E_P \left[E_P \left[\left\{ \frac{\{Y - m_1(X)\} D}{e^*(X)e(X)} \right\}^2 \middle| X \right] \{e^*(X) - e(X)\}^2 \right] \\ &\lesssim \delta_e^2 \end{aligned}$$

holds since $E_P[Y(d)^2|X] < \infty$ uniformly over P and $\{e(X)e^*(x)\}^{-1} \geq \eta^2/4$. For $f \in \mathcal{F}_{3,n}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{3,n}} E_P[f^2] &= E_P \left[\left\{ D\{m_1^*(X) - m_1(X)\} \frac{\{e^*(X) - e(X)\}}{e^*(X)e(X)} \right\}^2 1\{X \in G\}^2 \right] \\ &\lesssim E_P[\{m_1^*(X_i) - m_1(X_i)\}^2 \{e^*(X_i) - e(X_i)\}^2] \\ &\leq \max\{C_m^2, \eta^2/4\} \min\{\delta_m, \delta_e\} \end{aligned}$$

holds since $|m_1^*(x) - m_1(x)| < C_m$ and $|e(X) - e^*(x)| < \eta/2$. Thus, I obtain

$$\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{1,n}} E_P[f^2] \lesssim \delta_m^2, \quad \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{2,n}} E_P[f^2] \lesssim \delta_e^2, \quad \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{3,n}} E_P[f^2] \lesssim \min\{\delta_e, \delta_m\}^2$$

uniformly over P . Finally, note that

$$E_P[\{\max_{i=1,\dots,n} |F_{2,i}|\}^2] \leq E_P[\{\max_{i=1,\dots,n} |F_{2,i}|^q\}^{2/q}] \leq n^{2/q} E_P[|F_2|^q]$$

where $F_{2,i} = F_2(Y_i, D_i, X_i)$. Thus, by lemma B.2, deviation inequalities

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{1,n}} &\lesssim \sqrt{\delta_m^2 v_m \ln\left(\frac{a}{\delta_m}\right)} + \frac{v_m}{n^{1/2}} \ln\left(\frac{a}{\delta_m}\right), \\ \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{2,n}} &\lesssim \sqrt{\delta_m^2 v_e \ln\left(\frac{a}{\delta_e}\right)} + \frac{v_e}{n^{(q-2)/2q}} \ln\left(\frac{a}{\delta_e}\right), \\ \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{3,n}} &\lesssim \sqrt{\delta_m^2 \bar{v} \ln\left(\frac{a}{\bar{\delta}}\right)} + \frac{\bar{v}}{n^{1/2}} \ln\left(\frac{a}{\bar{\delta}}\right),\end{aligned}$$

hold with probability at least $1 - \ln(n)^{-1}$. By assumption N, this implies $\|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{1,n}} \leq o(1)$ with probability at least $1 - \ln(n)^{-1}$.

By applying corollary B.1 (ii) to $\mathcal{F}_{j,n}$ and B , I obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\sup_Q \ln N(\mathcal{F}_{1,n}^B, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, C_1 \|B\|_{Q,2} \epsilon) &\lesssim v_m \ln(a/\epsilon), \\ \sup_Q \ln N(\mathcal{F}_{2,n}^B, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, \|F_2|B\|_{Q,2} \epsilon) &\lesssim v_e \ln(a/\epsilon), \\ \sup_Q \ln N(\mathcal{F}_{3,n}^B, \|\cdot\|_{Q,2}, C_3 \|B\|_{Q,2} \epsilon) &\lesssim \max\{v_m, v_e\} \ln(a/\epsilon).\end{aligned}$$

Since B is independent from the data and $E_B[B^2] = 1$,

$$\sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{j,n}^B} E_P[\{fB\}^2] = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{j,n}} E_P[f^2]$$

for $j = 1, 2, 3$. Moreover, since B is Sub-Gaussian, $E_B[\exp(aB^2)]$ is bounded for some $a > 0$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}\exp(aE_B[\{\max_{i=1,\dots,n} |B_i|\}^2]) &= \exp(aE_B[\max_{i=1,\dots,n} B_i^2]) \\ &\leq E_B \exp(a \max_{i=1,\dots,n} B_i^2) \\ &\leq nE_B[\exp(aB^2)].\end{aligned}$$

Taking $\ln(\cdot)$ on both sides shows $E_B[\{\max_{i=1,\dots,n} |B_i|\}^2] \lesssim \ln(n)$. This implies

$$\begin{aligned}E_P[\{\max_{i=1,\dots,n} C_1 |B_i|\}^2] &\lesssim C_1^2 \ln(n) \\ E_P[\{\max_{i=1,\dots,n} F_{2,i} |B_i|\}^2] &\lesssim n^{2/q} E_P[|F_2|^q] \ln(n) \\ E_P[\{\max_{i=1,\dots,n} C_3 |B_i|\}^2] &\lesssim C_3^2 \ln(n),\end{aligned}$$

where $F_{2,i} = F_2(Y_i, D_i, X_i)$. By applying lemma B.2, deviation inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{1,n}^B} &\lesssim \sqrt{\delta_m^2 v_m \ln\left(\frac{a}{\delta_m}\right)} + \frac{\ln(n)v_m}{n^{1/2}} \ln\left(\frac{a}{\delta_m}\right), \\ \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{2,n}^B} &\lesssim \sqrt{\delta_m^2 v_e \ln\left(\frac{a}{\delta_e}\right)} + \frac{\ln(n)v_e}{n^{(q-2)/2q}} \ln\left(\frac{a}{\delta_e}\right), \\ \|\mathbb{G}_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_{3,n}^B} &\lesssim \sqrt{\delta_m^2 \bar{v} \ln\left(\frac{a}{\underline{\delta}}\right)} + \frac{\ln(n)\bar{v}}{n^{1/2}} \ln\left(\frac{a}{\underline{\delta}}\right), \end{aligned}$$

hold with probability at least $1 - \ln(n)^{-1}$. The result follows from assumption N. □

APPENDIX C. SIMULATION RESULTS

Curves	$f_j(z)$
$j = 1$	$0.15 + 0.7z$
$j = 2$	$0.1 + z/2 + \exp(-200(z - 0.7)^2)/2$
$j = 3$	$0.8 - 2(z - 0.9)^2 - 5(z - 0.7)^3 - 10(z - 0.6)^{10}$
$j = 4$	$0.2 + \sqrt{1 - z} - 0.6(0.9 - z)^2$
$j = 5$	$0.2 + \sqrt{1 - z} - 0.6(0.9 - z)^2 - 0.1z \cos(30z)$
$j = 6$	$0.4 + 0.25 \sin(8z - 5) + 0.4 \exp(-16(4z - 2.5)^2)$

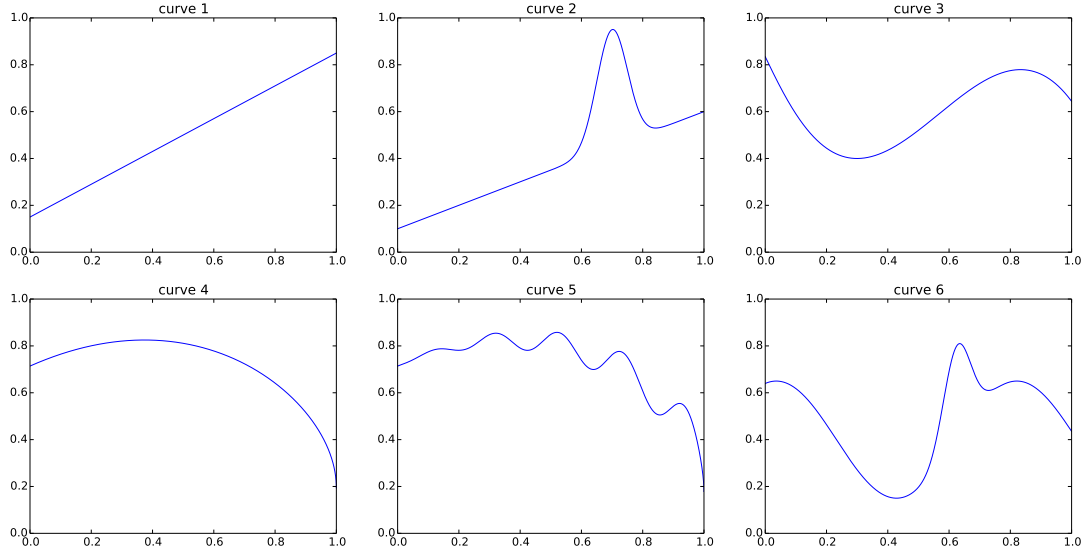


Table 2. Simulation designs for $f_j(\cdot)$

Sample Size	Tuning Parameter	Curve	CI for $W_{\mathcal{G}}^*$		CS for G^*	
			90% CI Coverage	Average CI length	90% CS Coverage	Average Maximum Regret
$n = 500$	$\epsilon_n = n^{-1/6}$	1	0.882	1.780	0.944	-0.767
		2	0.884	1.797	0.937	-0.770
		3	0.883	1.784	0.947	-0.777
		4	0.880	1.777	0.943	-0.767
		5	0.870	1.783	0.945	-0.772
		6	0.898	1.811	0.951	-0.776
$n = 500$	$\epsilon_n = n^{-1/5}$	1	0.865	1.732	0.924	-0.742
		2	0.874	1.749	0.923	-0.745
		3	0.871	1.737	0.927	-0.753
		4	0.882	1.729	0.919	-0.743
		5	0.860	1.734	0.931	-0.746
		6	0.882	1.762	0.929	-0.751
$n = 500$	$\epsilon_n = n^{-1/4}$	1	0.843	1.645	0.859	-0.686
		2	0.847	1.660	0.854	-0.688
		3	0.846	1.648	0.858	-0.698
		4	0.851	1.640	0.839	-0.688
		5	0.836	1.646	0.858	-0.692
		6	0.848	1.673	0.860	-0.697
$n = 2000$	$\epsilon_n = n^{-1/6}$	1	0.911	0.897	0.966	-0.458
		2	0.915	0.906	0.965	-0.461
		3	0.923	0.902	0.962	-0.458
		4	0.912	0.899	0.970	-0.458
		5	0.913	0.903	0.968	-0.464
		6	0.926	0.918	0.971	-0.463
$n = 2000$	$\epsilon_n = n^{-1/5}$	1	0.908	0.873	0.948	-0.438
		2	0.903	0.880	0.946	-0.442
		3	0.916	0.875	0.958	-0.438
		4	0.896	0.874	0.956	-0.437
		5	0.903	0.876	0.953	-0.446
		6	0.917	0.892	0.949	-0.443
$n = 2000$	$\epsilon_n = n^{-1/4}$	1	0.880	0.823	0.876	-0.394
		2	0.881	0.829	0.880	-0.398
		3	0.892	0.825	0.895	-0.393
		4	0.872	0.824	0.886	-0.395
		5	0.876	0.826	0.883	-0.399
		6	0.899	0.840	0.887	-0.397

Table 3. Simulation results

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