

**DETECT COMPLETE DEPENDENCE VIA
TRACE CORRELATION IN THE PRESENCE OF
MATRIX-VALUED RANDOM OBJECTS**

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Supplementary Material

This supplementary material includes the proofs for the propositions and theorems of the main paper. Section S1 presents the proofs of Propositions 1 and 2. Section S2 provides the proofs of Theorems 1 and 2. Additionally, Section S3 contains some technical lemmas. All notations used in this supplementary material are consistent with those used in the main text.

S1 Proofs of Propositions 1 and 2

Proof of Proposition 1: Denote the “metric” induced by $\omega_1(x)$ and $\omega_2(\mathbf{B})$

as

$$d_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2) = \int_x \int_{\mathbf{B}} \left\{ I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_1 \rangle \leq x) - I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_2 \rangle \leq x) \right\}^2 \omega_1(x) \omega_2(\mathbf{B})(d\mathbf{B})(dx).$$

Denote $\text{supp}(\omega)$ as the support of ω , then $\text{supp}(\omega_2) = \mathbb{R}^{p \times q}$. From the form of $d_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2)$, symmetry, non-negativity and triangle inequality hold trivially. In addition, if $\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{X}_2$, $d_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2) = 0$ is also obvious. For the converse, if $d_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2) = 0$, there exists some set $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{p \times q}$ with $\omega_2(\mathcal{A}^c) = 0$, s.t. for any $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{A}$, $\int_x \{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_1 \rangle \leq x) - I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_2 \rangle \leq x)\}^2 \omega_1(x)(dx) = 0$. Assume $\mathbf{X}_1 \neq \mathbf{X}_2$, the set $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times q} : \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_1 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_2 \rangle\}$ can only have measure of 0. Then for any $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{B}$, where $\omega_2\{(\mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{B})^c\} = 0$, $\int_x \{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_1 \rangle \leq x) - I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_2 \rangle \leq x)\}^2 \omega_1(x)(dx) = 0$. However, for arbitrary $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{B}$, we can always find a set of x with positive measure falling between $\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_1 \rangle$ and $\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_2 \rangle$, thus $\int_x \{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_1 \rangle \leq x) - I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_2 \rangle \leq x)\}^2 \omega_1(x)(dx) > 0$, which implies a contradiction. Therefore, $(\mathbb{R}^{p \times q}, d_{\text{weight}})$ is a metric space.

Observe that

$$\int_x \int_{\mathbf{B}} \text{var} \{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle \leq x)\} \omega_1(x) \omega_2(\mathbf{B})(d\mathbf{B})(dx) = E\{d_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2)\},$$

and

$$\int_x \int_{\mathbf{B}} E[\text{var} \{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle \leq x) \mid Y\}] \omega_1(x) \omega_2(\mathbf{B})(d\mathbf{B})(dx) = E\{\tilde{d}_{\text{weight}}(Y)\},$$

provided $E\{d_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2) \mid \mathbf{X}_1\} < \infty$ for some $\mathbf{X}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times q}$, from triangle inequality of $d_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2)$ and Fubini's lemma. Therefore, (2.1) can be

represented as

$$T_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X} | Y) = 1 - E\{\tilde{d}_{\text{weight}}(Y)\}/E\{d_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2)\}.$$

Next, we show its properties: $T_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X} | Y) \in [0, 1]$ is obvious by noting that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}\{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle \leq x)\} &= \text{var}[E\{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle \leq x) | Y\}] \\ &\quad + E[\text{var}\{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle \leq x) | Y\}] \\ &\geq \text{var}[E\{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle \leq x) | Y\}] \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Independence $\Rightarrow T_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X} | Y) = 0$ and complete dependence $\Rightarrow T_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X} | Y) = 1$ follow directly from the form of $T_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X} | Y)$. The converse of the latter can be derived from non-negativity and identity of indiscernibles of $d_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2)$. For the former, we know that

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X} | Y) = 0 &\Leftrightarrow \int_x \int_{\mathbf{B}} \text{var}[E\{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle \leq x) | Y\}] \\ &\quad \omega_1(x)\omega_2(\mathbf{B})(d\mathbf{B})(dx) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Denote

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1(\mathbf{B}) &= \int_x \text{var}[E\{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle \leq x) | Y\}] \omega_1(x)(dx), \\ Q_2(x, \mathbf{B}) &= \text{var}[E\{I(\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle \leq x) | Y\}]. \end{aligned}$$

Then there exists $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{p \times q}$ with $\omega_2(\mathcal{D}^c) = 0$, $Q_1(\mathbf{B}) = 0$ for any $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{D}$. Given $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{D}$, there exists $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ with $\omega_1(\mathcal{T}^c) = 0$, $Q_2(x, \mathbf{B}) = 0$

for any $x \in \mathcal{T}$. Since $\omega_1(\mathcal{T}^c) = 0$, \mathcal{T} is a dense subset of \mathbb{R} and has itself a countable dense subset, denoted as \mathcal{Q} . Thus the countability of \mathcal{Q} implies there exists a common set $\mathcal{Y} \subseteq \text{supp}(F_Y)$ with $F_Y(\mathcal{Y}^c) = 0$ s.t. $F_{\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle | Y=y}(x) = F_{\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle}(x)$ for any $x \in \mathcal{Q}$ and any $y \in \mathcal{Y}$. According to Resnick (2019, Lemma 8.1.1) that a probability is determined on a dense set (since \mathcal{Q} is dense in \mathbb{R}), we conclude that $\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle$ and Y are independent for any $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{D}$. Using the continuity of characteristic function, we can deduce that $\langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X} \rangle$ and Y are independent for any $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times q}$, thus \mathbf{X} and Y are independent.

Noting that when $\omega_1(x)$ and $\omega_2(\mathbf{B})$ are standard normal densities,

$$\begin{aligned} d_{\text{weight}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2) &= \text{pr}(x - \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_1 \rangle \geq 0) + \text{pr}(x - \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_2 \rangle \geq 0) \\ &\quad - 2\text{pr}(x - \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_1 \rangle \geq 0, x - \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_2 \rangle \geq 0) \\ &= \pi^{-1} d_{\text{normal}}(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2), \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from Lemma 1 because $(x - \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_1 \rangle)$ and $(x - \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{X}_2 \rangle)$ are bivariate normal with mean zero and correlation

$$\rho = (1 + \langle \mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2 \rangle) (1 + \|\mathbf{X}_1\|^2)^{-1/2} (1 + \|\mathbf{X}_2\|^2)^{-1/2}.$$

□

Proof of Proposition 2: When $K(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2) = \langle \Psi(\mathbf{X}_1), \Psi(\mathbf{X}_2) \rangle$ but Ψ is infinite-dimensional, to formulate $\text{T}\{\Psi(\mathbf{X}) \mid Y\}$ more rigorously, we follow

van Zanten and van der Vaart (2008, Section 2.2) to introduce the notions of Gaussian random element W on the Banach space $(\mathcal{F}, \|\cdot\|)$ and the reproducing kernel Hilbert space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}})$ attached to W . In our case, $\mathcal{F} = C(\mathcal{X})$, which is the space of all continuous functions from a compact $\mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^{p \times q}$ to \mathbb{R} , equipped with the uniform norm $\|f\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\mathbf{X} \in \mathcal{X}} |f(\mathbf{X})|$. Since in this case for every kernel there exists a Gaussian process whose covariance function equals the kernel, we can equivalently define the trace correlation in the reproducing kernel Hilbert space as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{T}\{\Psi(\mathbf{X}) \mid Y\} &= E_{W,x}(\text{var}[E\{I(\langle W, \Psi(\mathbf{X}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \leq x) \mid Y\}]) \Big/ \\ &E_{W,x}[\text{var}\{I(\langle W, \Psi(\mathbf{X}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \leq x)\}], \end{aligned}$$

where W and x have respectively Gaussian distribution on $C(\mathcal{X})$ and standard Gaussian distribution on \mathbb{R} , and $K(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2)$ and $\Psi(\mathbf{X}) = K(\cdot, \mathbf{X})$ are respectively the reproducing kernel and canonical feature map of \mathcal{H} attached to W .

Therefore, the only nontrivial part of Proposition 2 is $\mathbb{T}\{\Psi(\mathbf{X}) \mid Y\} = 0$ implies independence: define

$$Q(f) = \int_x \text{var}(E[I\{f(\mathbf{X}) \leq x\} \mid Y]) \omega_1(x)(dx).$$

$\mathbb{T}\{\Psi(\mathbf{X}) \mid Y\} = 0$ implies $Q(g) = 0$ for any $g \in \mathcal{E}$, where $P\{C(\mathcal{X}) \setminus \mathcal{E}\} = 0$.

For any continuous function $f \in C(\mathcal{X})$, by the universality of K , $\overline{\mathcal{H}} = C(\mathcal{X})$,

where $\overline{\mathcal{H}}$ denotes the closure of \mathcal{H} in $C(\mathcal{X})$ w.r.t. $\|\cdot\|_\infty$. Therefore, either $f \in \mathcal{E}$, then $Q(f) = 0$, or $f \in C(\mathcal{X}) \setminus \mathcal{E}$. For the latter case, we claim that there exists a sequence of functions $\{f_n\} \in \mathcal{E}$ converging in $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ to f . Otherwise, there exists some $\delta > 0$, such that $\{h \in C(\mathcal{X}) : \|h - f\|_\infty < \delta\} \subset C(\mathcal{X}) \setminus \mathcal{E}$. However, the former set has positive probability according to van Zanten and van der Vaart (2008, Lemma 5.1), then $P\{C(\mathcal{X}) \setminus \mathcal{E}\} = 0$ will be contradicted. More to the point, $f_n \rightarrow f$ pointwisely, then $Q(f) = 0$ for $f \in C(\mathcal{X}) \setminus \mathcal{E}$ due to Fubini's lemma and dominated convergence theorem. Then \mathbf{X} and Y are independent according to Lemma 2. The equivalent form of $T\{\Psi(\mathbf{X}) \mid Y\}$ can be derived similar to $T(\mathbf{X} \mid Y)$, by applying Lemma 1 and the reproducing kernel formula (Da Prato and Zabczyk, 2014, Page 41):

$$\int_{\mathcal{F}} \langle h, x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \langle g, x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} P(dx) = \langle h, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}, \text{ for } h, g \in \mathcal{H}.$$

□

S2 Proofs of Theorems 1 and 2

Proof of Theorem 1:

(1) $\widehat{T}(\mathbf{X} \mid Y) \xrightarrow{p} T(\mathbf{X} \mid Y)$.

Recall that $T_2 = \sum_{h=1}^H \widetilde{d}(h) p_h$, and $\widehat{T}_2 = \sum_{h=1}^H \widehat{d}(h) \widehat{p}_h$ with $\widehat{p}_h = n_h/n$, and

the quantity of interest can be written as

$$T(\mathbf{X} | Y) - \widehat{T}(\mathbf{X} | Y) = \left\{ \left(\widehat{T}_2 - T_2 \right) T_1 - \left(\widehat{T}_1 - T_1 \right) T_2 \right\} / \left(\widehat{T}_1 \times T_1 \right).$$

We have $\widehat{T}_1 - T_1 = O_p(n^{-1/2})$ from standard U -statistic theory (Serfling, 2009, Theorem 5.5.1A). As for

$$\widehat{T}_2 - T_2 = \sum_{h=1}^H \{ \widehat{d}(h) - \widetilde{d}(h) \} \widehat{p}_h + \sum_{h=1}^H \widetilde{d}(h) (\widehat{p}_h - p_h) = H_1 + H_2,$$

we have

$$E(H_2) = 0, \quad \text{var}(H_2) = n^{-1} \text{var} \{ \widetilde{d}(Y) \} = O(n^{-1}),$$

and for some constant $C > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} E(H_1) &= E\{E(H_1 | \mathcal{F}_n)\} = 0, \quad \text{var}(H_1) = E\{\text{var}(H_1 | \mathcal{F}_n)\} \\ &\leq C \cdot E \left[\sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n_h}{n^2} \text{var} \{ d(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) I(Y_i = h) I(Y_j = h) | \mathcal{F}_n \} \right] = O(n^{-1}), \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$. Therefore, $\widehat{T}_2 - T_2 = O_p(n^{-1/2})$ by Chebyshev's inequality. We thus conclude that $\widehat{T}(\mathbf{X} | Y) \xrightarrow{p} T(\mathbf{X} | Y)$.

(2) The Asymptotic Distributions.

Case (i) Assume \mathbf{X} is independent of Y .

When H is fixed. Let $d_U(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) = d(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_i) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_j) + T_1$,

then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \widehat{T}_1 - \widehat{T}_2 &= \{n(n-1)\}^{-1} \sum_{i \neq j}^n d(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) \\
 &\quad - \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n-1}{n_h-1} \{n(n-1)\}^{-1} \sum_{i \neq j}^n \\
 &\quad \quad \quad d(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) I(Y_i = h) I(Y_j = h) \\
 &= \{n(n-1)\}^{-1} \sum_{i \neq j}^n d_U(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) \\
 &\quad - \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n-1}{n_h-1} \{n(n-1)\}^{-1} \sum_{i \neq j}^n \\
 &\quad \quad \quad d_U(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) I(Y_i = h) I(Y_j = h),
 \end{aligned}$$

which we denote as $U_n^{(0)} - \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n-1}{n_h-1} U_n^{(h)}$. Thus it is sufficient to show that

$$n \left(U_n^{(0)} - \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n-1}{n_h-1} U_n^{(h)} \right) \xrightarrow{d} (H-1)T_1(Q-1),$$

where $Q = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \lambda_i Z_i^2$, $Z_i \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ and λ_i are positive constants with $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \lambda_i = 1$. The proof should be similar to that of Ke and Yin (2020, Theorem 7). Therefore, we skip these details.

When H is divergent. Define the projection of \widehat{T}_1 as \widetilde{T}_1 , such that $\widetilde{T}_1 - T_1 = (n/2)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i)$, where $\widetilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i) = d_1(\mathbf{X}_i) - T_1$. From Serfling

(2009, Theorem 5.3.2), $\widehat{T}_1 - \widetilde{T}_1 = O_p(n^{-1})$, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{T}_1 - T_1 &= \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i) + O_p(n^{-1}) \\ &= \sum_{h=1}^H \widehat{p}_h \{n_h(n_h - 1)\}^{-1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} \left\{ \widetilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_{(h,i)}) + \widetilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_{(h,j)}) \right\} + O_p(n^{-1}). \end{aligned}$$

To apply Lemma 3, we denote $(\widehat{T}_2 - T_2)T_1 - (\widetilde{T}_1 - T_1)T_2 = \sum_{h=1}^H G_h$, and let $s_n = n^{-1/2}$ with $c_n^{-1} = \sum_{h=1}^H n_h / \{n(n_h - 1)\}$, $m_n = H$, $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$, and $X_{n,h} = c_n^{1/2} G_h$. Assumption (C1) holds by definition. Assumption (C4) holds trivially since $E(X_{n,h} | \mathcal{F}_n) = (\widehat{p}_h - p_h) \widetilde{d}(h) T_1$, and we have $s_n^{-1} \sum_{h=1}^{m_n} E(X_{n,h} | \mathcal{F}_n) \equiv 0$ by independence. Next, denote $\widetilde{X}_{n,h} = X_{n,h} - E(X_{n,h} | \mathcal{F}_n)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{X}_{n,h} &= c_n^{1/2} \{n_h(n_h - 1)\}^{-1} T_1 \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} \widehat{p}_h \\ &\quad \left\{ d(\mathbf{X}_{(h,i)}, \mathbf{X}_{(h,j)}) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_{(h,i)}) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_{(h,j)}) + T_1 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Consider Assumption (C2), denote $\sigma^2 = \text{var}\{d(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_i) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_j)\}$.

We find that

$$E(\widetilde{X}_{n,h}^2 | \mathcal{F}_n) = 2c_n [n_h / \{n^2(n_h - 1)\}] \sigma^2 T_1^2,$$

then the left hand side of Assumption (C2) converges in probability to $2\sigma^2 T_1^2$. As for Assumption (C3), we note that by Serfling (2009, Lemma 5.2.2.B), there exists some constant $C > 0$, such that $E(\widetilde{X}_{n,h}^4 | \mathcal{F}_n) \leq$

$Cn^{-4}c_n^2$. Therefore, by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and Chebyshev's inequality,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & s_n^{-2} \sum_{h=1}^H E\{\tilde{X}_{n,h}^2 I(|\tilde{X}_{n,h}| > \epsilon s_n) \mid \mathcal{F}_n\} \\
 & \leq s_n^{-2} \sum_{h=1}^H \sqrt{E(\tilde{X}_{n,h}^4 \mid \mathcal{F}_n) \text{pr}(|\tilde{X}_{n,h}| > \epsilon s_n \mid \mathcal{F}_n)} \\
 & \leq \sqrt{2C\sigma^2 T_1^2 (nc_n)^{3/2}} \sum_{h=1}^H \sqrt{n_h / \{n(n_h - 1)\}} n^{-5/2} / \epsilon = O(H^{-1/2}) \rightarrow 0
 \end{aligned}$$

since H is divergent. By Lemma 3 and Slutsky's lemma, $(nc_n)^{1/2} \hat{T}(\mathbf{X} \mid Y) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, 2\sigma^2/T_1^2)$.

Case (ii) Assume \mathbf{X} is dependent but not completely dependent upon Y .

When H is fixed. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (\hat{T}_1 - T_1)T_2 - (\hat{T}_2 - T_2)T_1 \\
 & = T_2(n/2)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i) - T_1 \sum_{h=1}^H \left[p_h \frac{n-1}{n_h-1} \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \sum_{i \neq j}^n d(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) I(Y_i = h) I(Y_j = h) / p_h - \tilde{d}(h)p_h \right] \\
 & = T_2(n/2)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i) - T_1 \sum_{h=1}^H \left[p_h \frac{n-1}{n_h-1} \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \{d_2(\mathbf{X}_i, h) I(Y_i = h) - \tilde{d}(h)p_h\} + (p_h \frac{n-1}{n_h-1} - 1) \tilde{d}(h)p_h \right] + O_p(n^{-1}) \\
 & = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n [2T_2 \tilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i) - T_1 \{2d_2(\mathbf{X}_i, Y_i) - \tilde{d}(Y_i) - T_2\}] + o_p(n^{-1/2}),
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i) = d_1(\mathbf{X}_i) - T_1$, $d_2(\mathbf{X}_i, h) = E\{d(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) \mid \mathbf{X}_i, Y_i = Y_j =$

$h\}$, the second equality follows from Serfling (2009, Theorem 5.3.2), and the third equality follows from the delta method. Therefore, by Slutsky's lemma, $n^{1/2}\{\widehat{T}(\mathbf{X} | Y) - T(\mathbf{X} | Y)\} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, \tau_*^2/T_1^2)$, with $\tau_*^2 = \text{var}[2\{1 - T(\mathbf{X} | Y)\}d_1(\mathbf{X}) - 2d_2(\mathbf{X}, Y) + \tilde{d}(Y)]$.

When H is divergent. Recall that $\tau_1 = \text{var}[\tilde{d}(Y) - 2\{1 - T(\mathbf{X} | Y)\}d_1(\mathbf{X})]$, $\tau_2 = E\{V_2(Y)\} - 2\{1 - T(\mathbf{X} | Y)\}E\{V_1(Y)\}$ and $\tau^2 = \tau_1 + 4\tau_2$. Following the notations of Case (i) when H is divergent, we now let $X_{n,h} = G_h/\tau$ instead, then:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{h=1}^{m_n} E(X_{n,h} | \mathcal{F}_n) &= T_1 \sum_{h=1}^H (\widehat{p}_h - p_h) \tilde{d}(h) / \tau \\ &\quad - 2T_2 n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n E\{\tilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i) | Y_i\} / \tau \\ &= n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n [T_1\{\tilde{d}(Y_i) - T_2\} - 2T_2 E\{\tilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i) | Y_i\}] / \tau. \end{aligned}$$

Define $X_{n,i} = [T_1\{\tilde{d}(Y_i) - T_2\} - 2T_2 E\{\tilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i) | Y_i\}] / (\tau n^{1/2})$. According to Lindeberg-Feller CLT for triangular arrays (Resnick, 2019, Exercise 9.9.1), since $E(X_{n,i}) = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n E(X_{n,i}^2) &= \text{var}[T_1\tilde{d}(Y) - 2T_2 E\{d_1(\mathbf{X}) | Y\}] / \tau^2 \\ &\rightarrow \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} \text{var}[T_1\tilde{d}(Y) - 2T_2 E\{d_1(\mathbf{X}) | Y\}] / \tau^2, \end{aligned}$$

and by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and Chebyshev's inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n E\{X_{n,i}^2 I(|X_{n,i}| > \epsilon)\} &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n E^{1/2}(X_{n,i}^4) \text{pr}^{1/2}(|X_{n,i}| > \epsilon) \\ &\leq Cn / \{(\tau n^{1/2})^3 \epsilon\} \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

as $n, H \rightarrow \infty$, the left hand side of Assumption (C4) converges in distribution to a non-degenerate normal distribution:

$$s_n^{-1} \sum_{h=1}^{m_n} E(X_{n,h} | \mathcal{F}_n) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} \text{var}[T_1 \tilde{d}(Y) - 2T_2 E\{d_1(\mathbf{X}) | Y\}] / \tau^2\right).$$

For the left hand side of Assumption (C2),

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{h=1}^H E\left(\tilde{X}_{n,h}^2 | \mathcal{F}_n\right) &\cong n^{-1} \sum_{h=1}^H \left(T_1^2 \left[\{n(n_h - 1)/(2n_h)\}^{-1} V_0(h) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + 4 \frac{n_h(n_h - 2)}{n(n_h - 1)} V_2(h) \right] - 8T_1 T_2 \{(n_h/n) V_1(h)\} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 4T_2^2 n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} \text{var}\{d_1(\mathbf{X}_{(h,i)}) | Y_{(h,i)}\} \right) / \tau^2, \end{aligned}$$

where $V_0(h) = \text{var}(\varepsilon_{i,j,h} | Y_i = Y_j = h)$. We remark that for $H = o(n)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n_h}{n(n_h - 1)} V_2(h) &\leq 2 \sum_{h=1}^H n^{-1} V_2(h) \\ &= O(H/n) = o(1), \text{ and} \\ \sum_{h=1}^H \{(n_h/n) - p_h\} V_2(h) &= n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n [V_2(Y_i) - E\{V_2(Y)\}] \\ &= O_p(n^{-1/2}) = o_p(1), \end{aligned}$$

where the second argument follows from Chebyshev's inequality. Then

$$\sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n_h(n_h - 2)}{n(n_h - 1)} V_2(h) \stackrel{p}{\rightarrow} \sum_{h=1}^H V_2(h) p_h = E\{V_2(Y)\} \rightarrow \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} E\{V_2(Y)\}.$$

Following similar arguments, we can derive that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{h=1}^H (n_h/n) V_1(h) &\stackrel{p}{\approx} \sum_{h=1}^H V_1(h) p_h \\
 &= E\{V_1(Y)\} \rightarrow \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} E\{V_1(Y)\}, \\
 \sum_{h=1}^H n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{var}\{d_1(\mathbf{X}_i) \mid Y_i\} I(Y_i = h) &\stackrel{p}{\approx} \sum_{h=1}^H \text{var}\{d_1(\mathbf{X}) \mid Y = h\} p_h \\
 &= E[\text{var}\{d_1(\mathbf{X}) \mid Y\}] \\
 &\rightarrow \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} E[\text{var}\{d_1(\mathbf{X}) \mid Y\}].
 \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, we have

$$\sum_{h=1}^H \{n(n_h - 1)/(2n_h)\}^{-1} V_0(h) \leq 4 \sum_{h=1}^H V_0(h)/n = O(H/n) \rightarrow 0,$$

whenever $H = o(n)$. As for Assumption (C3), we note that by Serfling (2009, Lemma 5.2.2.A), given any $r \geq 2$, there exists some constant $C > 0$, such that $E(|\tilde{X}_{n,h}|^r \mid \mathcal{F}_n) \leq C n_h^{r/2} / (\tau^2 n)^r$. Therefore, by Markov's inequality,

$$\begin{aligned}
 &s_n^{-2} \sum_{h=1}^H E\{\tilde{X}_{n,h}^2 I(|\tilde{X}_{n,h}| > \epsilon s_n) \mid \mathcal{F}_n\} \\
 &\leq s_n^{-2} \sum_{h=1}^H E^{1/2}(\tilde{X}_{n,h}^4 \mid \mathcal{F}_n) \text{pr}^{1/2}(|\tilde{X}_{n,h}| > \epsilon s_n \mid \mathcal{F}_n) \\
 &\leq C' \sum_{h=1}^H (n_h/n)^{\lfloor r/4+1 \rfloor} / (\tau^{r+4} \epsilon^{r/2}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that there exists some sufficiently large r and constant $C > 0$, such

that

$$\begin{aligned} E\left\{\sum_{h=1}^H (n_h/n)^{\lfloor r/4+1 \rfloor}\right\} &\leq C\left(H/n + \sum_{h=1}^H p_h^{\lfloor r/4+1 \rfloor}\right) \\ &\leq C\left(H/n + \sum_{h=1}^H n^{-\lfloor r/4+1 \rfloor \alpha}\right) \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

by assumption. This implies

$$\sum_{h=1}^H (n_h/n)^{\lfloor r/4+1 \rfloor} / (\tau^{r+4} \epsilon^{r/2}) = o_p(1).$$

Therefore, by Slutsky's lemma and Lemma 3, $n^{1/2}\{\widehat{T}(\mathbf{X} | Y) - T(\mathbf{X} | Y)\}(T_1/\tau) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.

The relationship between τ^2 and τ_*^2 .

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_*^2 &= \text{var}[2\{1 - T(\mathbf{X} | Y)\}d_1(\mathbf{X}) - 2d_2(\mathbf{X}, Y) + \tilde{d}(Y)] \\ &= \text{var}[\tilde{d}(Y) - 2\{1 - T(\mathbf{X} | Y)\}d_1(\mathbf{X})] \\ &\quad + 8\{1 - T(\mathbf{X} | Y)\}\text{cov}\{d_1(\mathbf{X}), \tilde{d}(Y)\} \\ &\quad - 8\{1 - T(\mathbf{X} | Y)\}[E\{V_1(Y)\} + \text{cov}\{d_1(\mathbf{X}), \tilde{d}(Y)\}] \\ &\quad + 4[E\{V_2(Y)\} + \text{var}\{\tilde{d}(Y)\}] - 4\text{var}\{\tilde{d}(Y)\} = \tau^2. \end{aligned}$$

Case (iii) Assume \mathbf{X} is completely dependent upon Y .

When \mathbf{X} is completely dependent upon Y , there exists a matrix of functions

$\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times q}$ such that $\text{pr}\{\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{G}(Y)\} = 1$. Therefore, with probability 1,

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{T}_2 &= \sum_{h=1}^H \{n(n_h - 1)\}^{-1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} d(\mathbf{X}_{(h,i)}, \mathbf{X}_{(h,j)}) \\ &= \sum_{h=1}^H \{n(n_h - 1)\}^{-1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} d(\mathbf{G}(h), \mathbf{G}(h)) = 0,\end{aligned}$$

which implies $\text{pr}\{\widehat{T}(\mathbf{X} | Y) = 1\} = 1$.

(3) The Asymptotic Null Variance of $(nc_n/2)^{1/2}(\widehat{T}_1 - \widehat{T}_2)/\sigma$.

Recall that $d_U(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) = d(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_i) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_j) + T_1$, $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$,

and

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{T}_1 - \widehat{T}_2 &= \{n(n-1)\}^{-1} \sum_{i \neq j}^n d_U(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) \\ &\quad - \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n-1}{n_h-1} \{n(n-1)\}^{-1} \sum_{i \neq j}^n d_U(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) I(Y_i = h) I(Y_j = h) \\ &= U_n^{(0)} - \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n-1}{n_h-1} U_n^{(h)}.\end{aligned}$$

It's easy to check that

$$E(\widehat{T}_1 - \widehat{T}_2 | \mathcal{F}_n) = E(U_n^{(0)} | \mathcal{F}_n) - \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n-1}{n_h-1} E(U_n^{(h)} | \mathcal{F}_n) = 0.$$

Moreover, $\text{var}(U_n^{(0)} | \mathcal{F}_n) = 2\sigma^2/\{n(n-1)\}$, for $h_1 \neq h_2$, $\text{cov}(U_n^{(h_1)}, U_n^{(h_2)} | \mathcal{F}_n) = 0$, and for $h = 1, \dots, H$,

$$\text{cov}(U_n^{(0)}, U_n^{(h)} | \mathcal{F}_n) = \frac{2n_h(n_h-1)\sigma^2}{\{n(n-1)\}^2}, \quad \text{var}(U_n^{(h)} | \mathcal{F}_n) = \frac{2n_h(n_h-1)\sigma^2}{\{n(n-1)\}^2}.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{var}\left(\widehat{T}_1 - \widehat{T}_2 \mid \mathcal{F}_n\right) &= \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{(n-1)^2}{(n_h-1)^2} \frac{2n_h(n_h-1)\sigma^2}{\{n(n-1)\}^2} - \frac{2\sigma^2}{n(n-1)} \\ &= 2n^{-1}\{c_n^{-1} - (n-1)^{-1}\}\sigma^2,\end{aligned}$$

that is,

$$\text{var}\left\{(nc_n)^{1/2}(\widehat{T}_1 - \widehat{T}_2) \mid \mathcal{F}_n\right\} = 2\{1 - c_n/(n-1)\}\sigma^2.$$

By dominated convergence theorem, we have $\text{var}\{(nc_n)^{1/2}(\widehat{T}_1 - \widehat{T}_2)\} \rightarrow 2\sigma^2$

if H is divergent, and $\text{var}\{(nc_n)^{1/2}(\widehat{T}_1 - \widehat{T}_2)\} \rightarrow 2(1 - H^{-1})\sigma^2$, $c_n \rightarrow n/H$

if H is fixed. \square

Proof of Theorem 2: Following the same paradigm as the proof of Theorem 1, we now decompose $\widehat{T}_2 - T_2$ into three parts:

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{T}_2 - T_2 &= \sum_{h=1}^H \{n(n_h-1)\}^{-1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} \{d(\mathbf{X}_{(h,i)}, \mathbf{X}_{(h,j)}) - m(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,j)})\} \\ &+ \sum_{h=1}^H \{n(n_h-1)\}^{-1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} [\{m(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,i)}) + m(Y_{(h,j)}, Y_{(h,j)})\}/2 - T_2] \\ &+ \sum_{h=1}^H \{n(n_h-1)\}^{-1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} [m(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,j)}) \\ &\quad - \{m(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,i)}) + m(Y_{(h,j)}, Y_{(h,j)})\}/2] \\ &= D_1 + D_2 + D_3.\end{aligned}$$

We have $D_2 = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \{m(Y_i, Y_i) - T_2\} = O_p(n^{-1/2})$ from classical CLT,

and $D_1 = O_p(n^{-1/2})$ from Chebyshev's inequality. If \mathbf{X} is independent of

Y , $D_3 = 0$, and if \mathbf{X} is dependent upon Y , $D_3 = o_p(n^{-1/2})$ from Lemma 5 under Condition (A1) and (A3). In addition, $\widehat{T}_1 - T_1 = O_p(n^{-1/2})$ from standard U -statistic theory (Serfling, 2009, Theorem 5.5.1A). Therefore, we conclude that $\widehat{T}(\mathbf{X} | Y) - T(\mathbf{X} | Y) = O_p(n^{-1/2})$.

Next we show the asymptotic normality:

Case (i) Assume \mathbf{X} is independent of Y . Similarly, we consider the projection \widetilde{T}_1 of U -statistic T_1 , where $\widetilde{T}_1 - T_1 = (n/2)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i)$, and we have

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{T}_1 - T_1 &= (n/2)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_i) + O_p(n^{-1}) \\ &= \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n_h}{n} \frac{1}{n_h(n_h - 1)} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} \left\{ \widetilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_{(h,i)}) + \widetilde{d}_1(\mathbf{X}_{(h,j)}) \right\} + O_p(n^{-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Denote $T_1(D_1 + D_2) - T_2(\widetilde{T}_1 - T_1) = \sum_{h=1}^H G_h$, we will again apply Lemma 3 with $s_n = (nc_n)^{-1/2}$, $m_n = H$, $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$, and $X_{n,h} = G_h$: Assumption (C1) holds by definition. Assumption (C4) can be checked because $\sum_{h=1}^{m_n} E(X_{n,h} | \mathcal{F}_n) \equiv 0$ by independence. Next, denote $\widetilde{X}_{n,h} = X_{n,h} - E(X_{n,h} | \mathcal{F}_n)$. Now consider Assumption (C2): we have

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{X}_{n,h} &= \{n(n_h - 1)\}^{-1} T_1 \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} \\ &\quad \left\{ d(\mathbf{X}_{(h,i)}, \mathbf{X}_{(h,j)}) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_{(h,i)}) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_{(h,j)}) + T_1 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Denote $\sigma^2 = \text{var}\{d(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_i) - d_1(\mathbf{X}_j)\}$, then the left hand side of

Assumption (C2) is $2\sigma^2T_1^2$. We note again that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & s_n^{-2} \sum_{h=1}^H E\{\tilde{X}_{n,h}^2 I(|\tilde{X}_{n,h}| > \epsilon s_n) \mid \mathcal{F}_n\} \\
 \leq & s_n^{-2} \sum_{h=1}^H \sqrt{E(\tilde{X}_{n,h}^4 \mid \mathcal{F}_n) \text{pr}(|\tilde{X}_{n,h}| > \epsilon s_n \mid \mathcal{F}_n)} \\
 \leq & \sqrt{2C\sigma^2T_1^2(nc_n)^{3/2}} \sum_{h=1}^H \sqrt{n_h/\{n(n_h-1)\}} n^{-5/2}/\epsilon = O(H^{-1/2}) \rightarrow 0,
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies Assumption (C3). Since $T(\mathbf{X} \mid Y) = 0$, from Lemma 3 and Slutsky's lemma, $(nc_n)^{1/2}\hat{T}(\mathbf{X} \mid Y) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, 2\sigma^2/T_1^2)$.

Case (ii) Assume \mathbf{X} is dependent but not completely dependent upon Y . We then apply Lemma 3 with $s_n = n^{-1/2}$, $m_n = H$, $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$, and $X_{n,h} = G_h$ instead: Assumption (C4) can be similarly checked with

$$\begin{aligned}
 s_n^{-1} \sum_{h=1}^{m_n} E(X_{n,h} \mid \mathcal{F}_n) & \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, T_1^2 \text{var}[m(Y, Y) \\
 & - 2\{1 - T(\mathbf{X} \mid Y)\}E\{d_1(\mathbf{X}) \mid Y\}]).
 \end{aligned}$$

The left hand side of Assumption (C2) under Condition (A2)-(A3) and

Lemma 5 is

$$\begin{aligned}
& n \sum_{h=1}^H \{n(n_h - 1)\}^{-2} \left[T_1^2 \left\{ 2 \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} V_0(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,j)}) \right. \right. \\
& + 4 \sum_{[i,j,k]}^{n_h} V_4(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,j)}, Y_{(h,k)}) \left. \left. \right\} - 8T_1 T_2 (n_h - 1) \sum_{[i,j]}^{n_h} V_3(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,j)}) \right. \\
& \left. + 4T_2^2 (n_h - 1)^2 \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} \text{var}\{d_1(\mathbf{X}_{(h,i)}) \mid Y_{(h,i)}\} \right] \\
& \xrightarrow{p} 4T_1^2 E\{V_4(Y, Y, Y)\} - 8T_1 T_2 E\{V_3(Y, Y)\} + 4T_2^2 E[\text{var}\{d_1(\mathbf{X}) \mid Y\}],
\end{aligned}$$

since $H = o(n)$ implies for some $C > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{h=1}^H n^{-1} (n_h - 1)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} V_4(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,i)}) \\
& \leq C \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{n_h}{n(n_h - 1)} = O(H/n) = o(1), \text{ and} \\
& \sum_{h=1}^H \{n(n_h - 1)^2\}^{-1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} V_0(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,j)}) = O_p(H/n) = o_p(1),
\end{aligned}$$

where $V_0(Y_i, Y_j) = \text{var}(\varepsilon_{i,j} \mid Y_i, Y_j)$. Denote $\tau_3 = \text{var}\left[m(Y, Y) - 2\{1 - \mathbb{T}(\mathbf{X} \mid Y)\}d_1(\mathbf{X})\right]$, $\tau_4 = E\{V_4(Y, Y, Y)\} - 2\{1 - \mathbb{T}(\mathbf{X} \mid Y)\}E\{V_3(Y, Y)\}$ and $\tau_s^2 = \tau_3^2 + 4\tau_4^2$. Assumption (C3) holds since under Condition (A3),

$$\begin{aligned}
& s_n^{-2} \sum_{h=1}^H E\{\tilde{X}_{n,h}^2 I(|\tilde{X}_{n,h}| > \epsilon s_n) \mid \mathcal{F}_n\} \\
& \leq s_n^{-2} \sum_{h=1}^H E^{1/2}(\tilde{X}_{n,h}^4 \mid \mathcal{F}_n) \text{pr}^{1/2}(|\tilde{X}_{n,h}| > \epsilon s_n \mid \mathcal{F}_n) \\
& \leq C \sum_{h=1}^H (n_h/n)^{\lfloor r/4+1 \rfloor} / \epsilon^{r/2} \leq C' \sum_{h=1}^H n^{-\lfloor r/4+1 \rfloor (1-\alpha)} / \epsilon^{r/2} \rightarrow 0,
\end{aligned}$$

for some sufficiently large r . Therefore, we will eventually have by Slutsky's lemma and Lemma 3 that $n^{1/2}\{\widehat{T}(\mathbf{X} | Y) - T(\mathbf{X} | Y)\} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, \tau_s^2/T_1^2)$.

Case (iii) Assume \mathbf{X} is completely dependent upon Y . Now $T_2 = 0$, $D_1 = 0$, $D_2 = 0$ and $D_3 = o_p(\max_h n_h/n^{1-\gamma})$ under Condition (A3). Therefore, $\widehat{T}_2 - T_2 = o_p(\max_h n_h/n^{1-\gamma})$, and $\widehat{T}(\mathbf{X} | Y) - 1 = o_p(\max_h n_h/n^{1-\gamma})$.

□

S3 Technical Lemmas

Lemma 1. (*Gupta, 1963, Page 793*) *Let $(Z_1, Z_2)^T$ be bivariate normally distribution with mean zero, and correlation ρ , then*

$$pr(Z_1 \geq 0, Z_2 \geq 0) = 4^{-1} + (2\pi)^{-1} \arcsin(\rho).$$

Lemma 2. *Let (\mathbf{X}, Y) be random variables on $\mathcal{X} \times \mathbb{R}$, then they are independent if and only if*

$$\int_x \text{var}(E[I\{f(\mathbf{X}) \leq x\} | Y]) \omega_1(x)(dx) = 0$$

for any bounded, continuous function $f(\cdot)$.

Proof of Lemma 2: The “only if” part is obvious. For the converse, we have $f(\mathbf{X})$ and Y are independent for any bounded, continuous function $f(\cdot)$ following similar arguments in the proof of Proposition 1. Thus

$E\{f(\mathbf{X})g(Y)\} = E\{f(\mathbf{X})\}E\{g(Y)\}$ for each pair (f, g) of bounded, continuous functions, to which we apply Jacod and Protter (2012, Theorem 10.1) to conclude \mathbf{X} and Y are independent. \square

Lemma 3. (*Hsing and Carroll, 1992, Theorem A.4*) Let $\{s_n\}$ be a sequence of positive constants, $\{X_{n,k}\}$ a triangular array of random variables for $k = 1, \dots, m_n$ and $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, and \mathcal{F}_n a sequence of σ -fields. Define $\tilde{X}_{n,k} = X_{n,k} - E(X_{n,k} | \mathcal{F}_n)$. Finally, assume that

(C1) $X_{n,1}, \dots, X_{n,m_n}$ are conditionally independent given \mathcal{F}_n .

(C2) $s_n^{-2} \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} E(\tilde{X}_{n,k}^2 | \mathcal{F}_n) \xrightarrow{p} \sigma^2$.

(C3) for every $c > 0$, $s_n^{-2} \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} E\left\{\tilde{X}_{n,k}^2 I\left(|\tilde{X}_{n,k}| > cs_n\right) | \mathcal{F}_n\right\} \xrightarrow{p} 0$.

(C4) $s_n^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} E(X_{n,k} | \mathcal{F}_n)$ converges in distribution to some distribution G .

Then the limiting distribution of $s_n^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^{m_n} X_{n,k}$ is the convolution of G and $N(0, \sigma^2)$.

Lemma 4. (*Hsing and Carroll, 1992, Lemma A.1*) Suppose that Z_1, \dots, Z_n are an i.i.d. sample and r is a positive constant. Let $Z_{(i)}$ be the i th order statistic. Then

$$n^{-r} (|Z_{(n)}| + |Z_{(1)}|) = o_p(1),$$

if and only if $x^{1/r}P\{|Z| > x\} \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$.

Lemma 5. Under Condition (A1)-(A3), let $c_1 = \max_h n_h$,

$$\begin{aligned} n^{-\gamma} \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{1}{n_h - 1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} \{m(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,j)}) - m(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,i)})\} &= o_p(c_1), \\ n^{-\xi} \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{1}{n_h - 1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} \{V_4(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,j)}) - V_4(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,i)})\} &= o_p(c_1), \\ n^{-\xi} \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{1}{(n_h - 1)^2} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \neq k \leq n_h} \{V_3(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,j)}, Y_{(h,k)}) - V_3(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,i)})\} &= o_p(c_1). \end{aligned}$$

This lemma is analogous to Hsing and Carroll (1992, LEMMA A.3).

Proof of Lemma 5: In what follows, we only prove the first argument because the others can be proved in a similar way. Let

$$D_h = \frac{1}{n_h - 1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} |m(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,j)}) - m(Y_{(h,i)}, Y_{(h,i)})|.$$

Step 1. If Y is boundedly supported, under the assumptions,

$$\begin{aligned} n^{-\gamma} \sum_{h=1}^H D_h &\leq n^{-\gamma} \sum_{h=1}^H \frac{1}{n_h - 1} \sum_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n_h} |M(Y_{(h,i)}) - M(Y_{(h,j)})| \\ &\leq n^{-\gamma} \sum_{h=1}^H n_h \sum_{i=1}^{n_h-1} |M(Y_{(h,i+1)}) - M(Y_{(h,i)})| \\ &\leq c_1 n^{-\gamma} \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |M(Y_{(j+1)}) - M(Y_{(j)})| = o(c_1), \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from the definition of total variation (c.f.

Zhu and Ng, 1995, Page 729). If the support of Y is unbounded, it suffices

to show that

$$c_1^{-1}n^{-\gamma} \sum_{h=[H\delta]}^{[H(1-\delta)]} D_h \xrightarrow{p} 0, \quad (\text{S3.1})$$

and, for $t > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} & \left[\text{pr} \left\{ c_1^{-1}n^{-\gamma} \sum_{h=1}^{[H\delta]} D_h > t \right\} \right. \\ & \left. + \text{pr} \left\{ c_1^{-1}n^{-\gamma} \sum_{h=[H(1-\delta)]}^H D_h > t \right\} \right] = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S3.2})$$

Step 2. We now show (S3.1). Fix $\delta \in (0, 1/2)$. Let F_Y denote the distribution function of Y and F_Y^{-1} the left-continuous inverse of F_Y . Define $A_n = I \{Y_{([n\delta])} > F_Y^{-1}(\beta)\}$ and $B_n = I \{Y_{([n(1-\delta)])} < F_Y^{-1}(1 - \beta)\}$ for $0 < \beta < \delta$. Given any such β , we have $A_n \xrightarrow{p} 1$ and $B_n \xrightarrow{p} 1$. Thus (S3.1) follows from

$$c_1^{-1}n^{-\gamma} \sum_{[H\delta]}^{[H(1-\delta)]} D_h A_n B_n \longrightarrow 0,$$

which, in turn, follows from a similar procedure to **Step 1** by noting that under the event $\{A_n = 1, B_n = 1\}$, the Y 's in the summation are boundedly supported.

Step 3. Then we show (S3.2). Choose $\delta > 0$ small enough so that $C_n \xrightarrow{p} 1$, where $C_n = I \{Y_{([n\delta])} < -B_0\}$. Under the non-expansive condition, we have

that

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_1^{-1} n^{-\gamma} \sum_{h=1}^{[H\delta]} D_h C_n &\leq n^{-\gamma} \sum_{j=1}^{[n\delta]-1} |M(Y_{(j+1)}) - M(Y_{(j)})| C_n \\
 &\leq n^{-\gamma} |M(Y_{([n\delta])}) - M(Y_{(1)})| \\
 &\leq n^{-\gamma} \{ |M(Y)_{([n\delta])}| + |M(Y)_{(1)}| \} = o_p(1).
 \end{aligned}$$

where the two equalities follow from Lemma 4 and that, under the event $\{C_n = 1\}$, $M(Y)$ is non-decreasing, respectively. Together with $C_n \xrightarrow{p} 1$, we have

$$c_1^{-1} n^{-\gamma} \sum_{h=1}^{[H\delta]} D_h \xrightarrow{p} 0,$$

and the other tail can be handled similarly. Thus $n^{-\gamma} \sum_{h=1}^H D_h = o_p(c_1)$. \square

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