

Analysis on Censored Quantile Residual Life Model via Spline Smoothing (Web Appendix)

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Appendix

Define

$$\begin{aligned}
M(\alpha, G) &= \left(\frac{\partial E [s_i^T \{t_1, \alpha \mathbf{b}(t_1), G\}]}{\partial \alpha}, \dots, \frac{\partial E [s_i^T \{t_J, \alpha \mathbf{b}(t_J), G\}]}{\partial \alpha} \right), \\
\mathcal{A}(\alpha, G) &= M(\alpha, G) M^T(\alpha, G), \\
\mu_i(t_j, \alpha, G) &= s_i \{t_j, \alpha \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\} - \mathbf{q}_2(\alpha, t_j) \int_{-\infty}^{t_j} h^{-1}(s) \{dI(Y_i \leq s, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq s) d\Lambda_G(s)\} \\
&\quad + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G^{-1}(s) \int_{-\infty}^s h^{-1}(v) \{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v) d\Lambda_G(v)\} d\mathbf{q}_{1j}(\alpha, s), \\
\mathbf{q}_{1j}(\alpha, s) &= E \left(\frac{\partial m \{X_i, \alpha \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}}{\partial \alpha \mathbf{b}(t_j)} I [t_j + m \{X_i, \alpha \mathbf{b}(t_j)\} \leq \min(s, Y_i)] \right), \\
\mathbf{q}_2(\alpha, t_j) &= (1 - \tau) G(t_j)^{-1} E \left[I(Y_i \geq t_j) \frac{\partial m \{X_i, \alpha \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}}{\partial \alpha \mathbf{b}(t_j)} \right], \\
\mu_i(\alpha, G) &= \{\mu_i^T(t_1, \alpha, G), \dots, \mu_i^T(t_J, \alpha, G)\}^T,
\end{aligned}$$

where $h(s) = E(Y_1 \geq s)$, Λ_G is the cumulative hazard function of the censoring process.

Proof of Theorem 1: Without loss of generality, we assume in this proof that $p = 1$. The results hold for any finite p . Let $\mathbf{t} = (t_1, t_2, \dots, t_J)$ be a set of times used to construct the estimating equations, then the estimating equations can be written as

$$S_n(\alpha \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), \hat{G}) = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i(\alpha \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), \hat{G}) = 0.$$

We first consider the situation where G is known. Let

$$u_i(\alpha, \alpha_0) = f_i(\alpha \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) - f_i(\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) - E f_i(\alpha \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G).$$

To show the consistency defined in (4), we first establish the following uniform consistency,

$$\sup_{\|\alpha - \alpha_0\| < B(k_n/n)^{1/2}} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T u_i(\alpha, \alpha_0) \right\| = o(n^{1/2} k_n^{1/2}), \quad (\text{A.1})$$

for any $B > 0$, and any $\|\eta\| = 1$. Based on Lemmas 2.1 and 3.3 of He and Shao (2000), the sufficient conditions for (A.1) are

$$(C1) \max_i \sup_{\|\alpha - \alpha_0\| < B(k_n/n)^{1/2}} \|u_i(\alpha, \alpha_0)\|^2 = O(k_n^2/n)$$

$$(C2) \text{ There exist } 0 < c \leq 2, 0 < s \leq 2 \text{ such that } \max_{i \leq n} E \sup_{\|\alpha_1 - \alpha_2\| < d} \|f_i(\alpha_1 \mathbf{b}(t), G) - f_i(\alpha_2 \mathbf{b}(t), G) - E f_i(\alpha_1 \mathbf{b}(t), G) + E f_i(\alpha_2 \mathbf{b}(t), G)\| \leq n^c d^s, \text{ for all } 0 < d \leq 1.$$

In what follows, we show that Conditions (C1) and (C2) are satisfied under Assumptions **A1**, **A2** and **A4**. To show condition (C1), we note that under Assumption **A2**, the quantile function $m(x, \beta)$ and its first derivative with respect to β , denoted as $\dot{m}(x, \beta)$, satisfy the Lipschitz conditions. That is, there exist constants K_1 and K_2 , such that

$$\begin{aligned} \max_i \sup_t |m(x_i, \beta_1(t), G) - m(x_i, \beta_2(t), G)| &< K_1 |\beta_1(t) - \beta_2(t)|. \\ \max_i \sup_t |\dot{m}(x_i, \beta_1(t), G) - \dot{m}(x_i, \beta_2(t), G)| &< K_2 |\beta_1(t) - \beta_2(t)|. \end{aligned}$$

We first bound $\|u_i(\alpha, \alpha_0)\|^2$ by

$$\|u_i(\alpha, \alpha_0)\|^2 \leq \|(f_i(\alpha \mathbf{b}(t), G) - f_i(\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t), G))\|^2 + \|E f_i(\alpha \mathbf{b}(t), G)\|^2.$$

Let $M_1 = \max_i \sup_{\beta(t) \in \Omega} \left| \frac{\partial m(x_i, \beta(t))}{\partial \beta(t)} \right|$, then, for any two coefficient functions, $\beta_1(t)$ and $\beta_2(t)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{\partial m(x_i, \beta_1(t))}{\partial \beta_1(t)} \frac{I[Y_i \geq t + m(x_i, \beta_1(t))]}{G[t + m(x_i, \beta_1(t))]} - \frac{\partial m(x_i, \beta_2(t))}{\partial \beta_2(t)} \frac{I[Y_i \geq t + m(x_i, \beta_2(t))]}{G[t + m(x_i, \beta_2(t))]} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{\partial m(x_i, \beta_1(t))}{\partial \beta_1(t)} \left\{ \frac{I[Y_i \geq t + m(x_i, \beta_1(t))]}{G[t + m(x_i, \beta_1(t))]} - \frac{I[Y_i \geq t + m(x_i, \beta_2(t))]}{G[t + m(x_i, \beta_2(t))]} \right\} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \left\{ \frac{\partial m(x_i, \beta_1(t))}{\partial \beta_1(t)} - \frac{\partial m(x_i, \beta_2(t))}{\partial \beta_2(t)} \right\} \frac{I[Y_i \geq t + m(x_i, \beta_2(t))]}{G[t + m(x_i, \beta_2(t))]} \right| \\ &\leq M_1 \left\{ \frac{I[|Y_i - t - m(x_i, \beta_2(t))| < |m(x_i, \beta_1(t)) - m(x_i, \beta_2(t))|]}{G(T)} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + |G^{-1}(t + m(x_i, \beta_1(t))) - G^{-1}(t + m(x_i, \beta_2(t)))| \right\} \\ & \quad + K_2 \|\beta_1(t) - \beta_2(t)\| G^{-1}(T) \\ &\leq M_1 \left\{ \frac{I[|T_i - t - m(x_i, \beta_2(t))| < |m(x_i, \beta_1(t)) - m(x_i, \beta_2(t))|]}{G(T)} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{I[|C_i - t - m(x_i, \beta_2(t))| < |m(x_i, \beta_1(t)) - m(x_i, \beta_2(t))|]}{G(T)} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + |G^{-1}(t + m(x_i, \beta_1(t))) - G^{-1}(t + m(x_i, \beta_2(t)))| \right\} \\ & \quad + K_2 \|\beta_1(t) - \beta_2(t)\| G^{-1}(T) \\ &= O_p(\|\beta_1(t) - \beta_2(t)\|) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.2})$$

In the above derivation, we used the Lipschitz conditions to obtain the two inequality, and used condition (A4) to bound the probability of the indicator function being 1. Similarly, we can show that

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial m(x_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_1(t))}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_1(t)} - \frac{\partial m(x_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_2(t))}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_2(t)} \right\} \frac{I[Y_i \geq t]}{G[t]} = O_p(\|\boldsymbol{\beta}_1(t) - \boldsymbol{\beta}_2(t)\|) \quad (\text{A.3})$$

Combining (A.2) and (A.3), we have

$$\max_i \|s_i(\boldsymbol{\beta}_1(t), G) - s_i(\boldsymbol{\beta}_2(t), G)\| = O_p(\|\boldsymbol{\beta}_1(t) - \boldsymbol{\beta}_2(t)\|) \quad (\text{A.4})$$

Following the similar arguments, we could show that

$$\max_i \left\| \frac{\partial E s_i(\boldsymbol{\beta}_1(t), G)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_1(t)} - \frac{\partial E s_i(\boldsymbol{\beta}_2(t), G)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_2(t)} \right\| = O(\|\boldsymbol{\beta}_1(t) - \boldsymbol{\beta}_2(t)\|) \quad (\text{A.5})$$

The above equations (A.4) and (A.5) further imply that

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_i \sup_{\|\boldsymbol{\alpha} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0\| < B(k_n/n)^{1/2}} \|(f_i(\boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t), G) - f_i(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_0 \mathbf{b}(t), G))\|^2 \\ & \leq \max_i \sup_{\|\boldsymbol{\alpha} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0\| < B(k_n/n)^{1/2}} \left\| \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial E s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t_j), G)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t_j)} \{s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t_j), G) - s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G)\} \mathbf{b}(t_j) \right\|^2 \\ & \quad + \max_i \sup_{\|\boldsymbol{\alpha} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0\| < B(k_n/n)^{1/2}} \left\| \sum_{j=1}^J \left\{ \frac{\partial E s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t_j), G)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t_j)} - \frac{\partial E s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t_j)} \right\} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G) \mathbf{b}(t_j) \right\|^2 \\ & = O_p(k_n^2/n). \end{aligned}$$

The last equality holds due to the fact that $\|\mathbf{b}(t)\|^2 = O(1)$ for all t by construction, and $J = O(k_n)$.

We denote

$$f_i(\boldsymbol{\beta}_0(t), G) = \sum_{j=1}^J \left(\frac{\partial E[s_i\{t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_0(t), G\}]}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_0(t)} \right) s_i\{t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_0(t), G\} \mathbf{b}(t_j)$$

as the estimating function evaluated at true coefficient $\boldsymbol{\beta}_0(t)$. Then, for any t , $E f_i(\boldsymbol{\beta}_0(t), G) = 0$.

We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_i \sup_{\|\boldsymbol{\alpha} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0\| < B(k_n/n)^{1/2}} \|E f_i(\boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t), G)\|^2 \\ & = \max_i \sup_{\|\boldsymbol{\alpha} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0\| < B(k_n/n)^{1/2}} \|E f_i(\boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t), G) - E f_i(\boldsymbol{\beta}_0(t), G)\|^2 = O(k_n^2/n) + O(k_n^{-2r+1}) \end{aligned}$$

Combining the equations above, condition (C1) is satisfied provided that $k_n^{-2r+1} = O(k_n^2/n)$.

Following the similar arguments for (A.4) and (A.5), with some derivations, we can show that,

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_i \sup_{\|\boldsymbol{\alpha}_1 - \boldsymbol{\alpha}_2\| \leq d} \|E s_i(t, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_1 \mathbf{b}(t), G) - E s_i(t, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_2 \mathbf{b}(t), G)\| \\ & \leq \max_i E \sup_{\|\boldsymbol{\alpha}_1 - \boldsymbol{\alpha}_2\| \leq d} \|s_i(t, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_1 \mathbf{b}(t), G) - s_i(t, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_2 \mathbf{b}(t), G)\| \\ & \leq C d \|\mathbf{b}(t)\|, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.6})$$

where $\mathcal{C} = M_1 K_1 \{\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \partial G^{-1}(t) / \partial t + G^{-1}(T) \sup_y f_{Y_i}(y)\} + (2 - \tau) G^{-1}(T) K_2$. Combining (A.6) with the facts that $J = O(k_n)$, and $s_i(\cdot)$ and its first derivative are bounded away from infinity, Condition (C2) is satisfied. The uniform expansion (A.1) is hence proved.

Let

$$D(t) = \frac{\partial \left\{ \frac{E s_i(t, \beta_0(t), G)}{\partial \beta_0(t)} E s_i(t, \beta_0(t), G) \right\}}{\partial \beta_0(t)},$$

we further note that

$$D_0 = \inf_t D(t) > 0.$$

This is because by Assumption **A₃**, $\beta_0(t)$ is the unique solution to $E(S_n(\beta(t))) = 0$ for all t , hence the objective function is convex. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} & E f_i(\alpha \mathbf{b}(t), G) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{E s_i(t_j, \alpha \mathbf{b}(t_j), G)}{\partial \alpha \mathbf{b}(t_j)} E s_i(t, \alpha \mathbf{b}(t), G) \mathbf{b}(t_j) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^J \left\{ \frac{\partial \left\{ \frac{E s_i(t_j, \beta_0(t_j), G)}{\partial \beta_0(t_j)} E s_i(t_j, \beta_0(t_j), G) \right\}}{\partial \beta_0(t_j)} (\alpha \mathbf{b}(t_j) - \beta_0(t)) + O(\|\alpha \mathbf{b}(t_j) - \beta_0(t)\|^2) \right\} \mathbf{b}(t_j). \end{aligned}$$

Let $\alpha = \alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2} \eta^T$, $\|\eta\| = 1$, and $k_n^{-2r+1} = o(k_n^2/n)$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & E f_i((\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2} \eta^T) \mathbf{b}(t), G) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^J \left\{ \frac{\partial \left\{ \frac{E s_i(t_j, \beta_0(t_j), G)}{\partial \beta_0(t_j)} E s_i(t_j, \beta_0(t_j), G) \right\}}{\partial \beta_0(t_j)} B(k_n/n)^{1/2} \eta^T \mathbf{b}(t_j) + o((k_n/n)^{1/2}) \right\} \mathbf{b}(t_j), \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\eta^T E f_i((\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2} \eta^T) \mathbf{b}(t), G) \geq \sum_{j=1}^J D_0 B(k_n/n)^{1/2} (\eta^T \mathbf{b}(t_j))^2 + k_n o((k_n/n)^{1/2}). \quad (\text{A.7})$$

The uniform expansion (A.1), together with (A.7), imply that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T f_i(\{\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2} \eta^T\} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T f_i(\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) + \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T E f_i(\{\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2} \eta^T\} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) + o(n^{1/2} k_n^{1/2}) \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T f_i(\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) + n \sum_{j=1}^J D_0 B(k_n/n)^{1/2} (\eta^T \mathbf{b}(t_j))^2 + n k_n o((k_n/n)^{1/2}) + o(n^{1/2} k_n^{1/2}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T f_i(\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) + D_0 B n^{1/2} k_n^{1/2} \sum_{j=1}^J (\eta^T \mathbf{b}(t_j))^2 + o(n^{1/2} k_n^{3/2}). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.8})$$

We now show that the dominant term in (A.8) is the second term. We only need to compare the first two terms. Let $M_2 = \max_i \sup_t \partial E S_i(t, \beta(t), G) / \partial \beta(t)$. Under Assumption **A5**, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n E \|f_i(\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G)\|^2 &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n E \sum_{j=1}^J \left\| \frac{\partial E s_i(t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G)}{\partial \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j)} s_i(t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G) \mathbf{b}(t_j) \right\|^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^J \left\{ \frac{\partial E s_i(t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G)}{\partial \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j)} \right\}^2 E s_i^2(t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G) \|\mathbf{b}(t_j)\|^2 \\ &= O(nk_n^3). \end{aligned}$$

The inequality above implies that $\|\sum_{i=1}^n f_i(\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G)\| = O_p(n^{1/2}k_n^{3/2})$, which is much smaller than the second term in (A.8). The second term in (A.8) is positive, therefore, the probability for the left side of (A.8) larger than 0 tends to 1, i.e.

$$Prob(\inf_{\|\eta\|=1} \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T f_i(\{\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2}\eta\} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) > 0) \rightarrow 1.$$

Following Gsorgo and Horvath (1983), for all $\epsilon > 0$, the Kaplan-Meier estimates is uniformly consistent with $\sup_t |\hat{G}(t) - G(t)| = o(n^{-1/2+\epsilon})$, *a.s.* Under assumption **A6**, using G^* to denote a quantity between G and \hat{G} , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T f_i(\{\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2}\eta\} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), \hat{G}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T f_i(\{\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2}\eta\} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) + \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T \frac{\partial f_i(\{\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2}\eta\} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G^*)}{\partial G} (\hat{G} - G) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T f_i(\{\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2}\eta\} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) + o_p(nk_n n^{-1/2+\epsilon}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T f_i(\{\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2}\eta\} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G) + o_p(n^{1/2}k_n n^\epsilon). \end{aligned}$$

For sufficiently small ϵ , the dominant term of the above expression is the first term. Hence we have

$$Prob(\inf_{\|\eta\|=1} \sum_{i=1}^n \eta^T f_i(\{\alpha_0 + B(k_n/n)^{1/2}\eta\} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), \hat{G}) > 0) \rightarrow 1. \quad (\text{A.9})$$

Since $\hat{\alpha}$ is the minimizer of (3), (A.9) further implies that there exists a local minimizer $\hat{\alpha}$, such that

$$\|\hat{\alpha} - \alpha_0\|^2 = O(k_n/n).$$

□

Proof of Theorem 2: The uniform consistency established in Theorem 1 and the uniform consistency of \widehat{G} allow us to expand the estimating equation at α_0, G .

$$\begin{aligned}
& 0 \\
&= n^{-1/2} S_n\{\widehat{\alpha}\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), \widehat{G}(\mathbf{t})\} \\
&= n^{-1/2} \frac{\partial E S_n\{\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), \widehat{G}(\mathbf{t})\}}{\partial \alpha_0} (\widehat{\alpha} - \alpha_0) + o_p(k_n) \\
&\quad + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^J \left(\frac{\partial E [s_i^T\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}]}{\partial \alpha} + o_p(n^{-1/2+\epsilon}) \right) s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\} \\
&\quad + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^J \left(\frac{\partial E [s_i^T\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), \widehat{G}\}]}{\partial \alpha} + o_p(n^{-1/2+\epsilon}) \right) \\
&\quad \times [s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), \widehat{G}\} - s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}] \\
&\quad + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^J \left(\frac{\partial E [s_i^T\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), \widehat{G}\}]}{\partial \alpha} - \frac{\partial E [s_i^T\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}]}{\partial \alpha} + o_p(n^{-1/2+\epsilon}) \right) \\
&\quad \times s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\} \\
&= n^{-1/2} \frac{\partial E S_n\{\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), \widehat{G}(\mathbf{t})\}}{\partial \alpha} (\widehat{\alpha} - \alpha_0) + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial E [s_i^T\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}]}{\partial \alpha} s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\} \\
&\quad + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial E [s_i^T\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), \widehat{G}\}]}{\partial \alpha} [s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), \widehat{G}\} - s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}] + o_p(k_n) \\
&= n^{-1/2} \frac{\partial E S_n\{\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G(\mathbf{t})\}}{\partial \alpha} (\widehat{\alpha} - \alpha_0) + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial E [s_i^T\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}]}{\partial \alpha} s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\} \\
&\quad + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial E [s_i^T\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}]}{\partial \alpha} [s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), \widehat{G}\} - s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}] + o_p(k_n). \tag{A.10}
\end{aligned}$$

as long as $J = O(k_n) = o(n^{1/2-\epsilon})$. We can expand the following term

$$\begin{aligned}
& n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n [s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), \widehat{G}\} - s_i\{t_j, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}] \\
&= n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial m\{X_i, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}}{\partial \{\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}} I[Y_i \geq t_j + m\{X_i, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}] \\
&\quad \times n^{1/2} \left(\frac{1}{\widehat{G}[t_j + m\{X_i, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}]} - \frac{1}{G[t_j + m\{X_i, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}]} \right) \\
&\quad - (1 - \tau) n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial m\{X_i, \alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}}{\partial \{\alpha_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}} I(Y_i \geq t_j) n^{1/2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\widehat{G}(t_j)} - \frac{1}{G(t_j)} \right\}. \tag{A.11}
\end{aligned}$$

We first check the first term in (A.11). Following Fleming and Harrington (1991, Corollary 3.2.1),

We can use a martingale integral representation to obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& -n^{1/2}\{\widehat{G}(s) - G(s)\}/G(s) \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^s \frac{n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\}}{n^{-1}\sum_{i=1}^n I(Y_i \geq v)} \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^s h^{-1}(v)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\} + o_p(1),
\end{aligned}$$

where $\Lambda_G(\cdot)$ is the cumulative hazard function for the censoring process. Thus, we can write the first term in (A.11) as

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(s)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^s h^{-1}(v)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\}d\mathbf{q}_{1j}(\alpha_0, s) + o_p(1).$$

Let

$$\mathbf{q}_{2j}(\alpha, s) = E \left[\frac{\partial m \{X_i, \boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t_j)} I \{t_j \leq \min(s, Y_i)\} \right] = E \left[\frac{\partial m \{X_i, \boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\alpha} \mathbf{b}(t_j)} I(t_j \leq Y_i) \right] I(t_j \leq s),$$

similar derivation can show that the second term in (A.11) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
& -(1 - \tau) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(s)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^s h^{-1}(v)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\}d\mathbf{q}_{2j}(\alpha_0, s) \\
& + o_p(1) \\
&= -(1 - \tau)E \left[\frac{\partial m \{X_i, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\alpha}} I(t_j \leq Y_i) \right] G(t_j)^{-1} \\
& \times \int_{-\infty}^{t_j} h^{-1}(v)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\} + o_p(1) \\
&= -\mathbf{q}_2(\alpha_0, t_j) \int_{-\infty}^{t_j} h^{-1}(v)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\} + o_p(1).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, continue from (A.10), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= n^{-1/2} \frac{\partial E S_n \{\boldsymbol{\alpha}_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G(\mathbf{t})\}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\alpha}} (\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0) + \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial E [s_i^T \{t_j, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}]}{\partial \boldsymbol{\alpha}} n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \\
& \left[s_i \{t_j, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\} + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(s)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^s h^{-1}(v)\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\}d\mathbf{q}_{1j}(\alpha_0, s) \right. \\
& \left. - \mathbf{q}_2(\alpha_0, t_j) \int_{-\infty}^{t_j} h^{-1}(v)\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\} \right] + r_n \\
&= n^{-1/2} \frac{\partial E S_n \{\boldsymbol{\alpha}_0 \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{t}), G(\mathbf{t})\}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\alpha}} (\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0) + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial E [s_i^T \{t_j, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0 \mathbf{b}(t_j), G\}]}{\partial \boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mu_i(t_j, \alpha_0, G) + r_n \\
&= \mathcal{A}(\alpha_0, G)n^{1/2}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}_0) + M(\alpha_0, G)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\mu_i(\alpha_0, G) + r_n,
\end{aligned}$$

where $\|r_n\| = o_p(k_n)$. Thus, we have

$$n^{1/2}\eta^\top(\hat{\alpha} - \alpha_0) = -\eta^\top \mathcal{A}(\alpha_0, G)^{-1} M(\alpha_0, G) n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i(\alpha_0, G) + o_p(1)$$

for any $\eta \in R^{k_n}$, $\|\eta\| = 1$, where $o_p(1)$ is a scalar that goes to zero in probability when $n \rightarrow \infty$. The results thus follow. \square

Proof of Theorem 3: In the scope of this proof, we define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{q}_{1j}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_j, s) &= E \left[\frac{\partial m(X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^\top} I \{t_j + m(X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) \leq \min(s, Y_i)\} \right], \\ \mathbf{q}_{2j}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_j, t_j) &= (1 - \tau) G(t_j)^{-1} E \left\{ I(Y_i \geq t_j) \frac{\partial m(X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^\top} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

The uniform consistency established in Theorem 1 certainly also applies to a single $\check{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_j$ by treating $\boldsymbol{\beta}_j$ as a special case of $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ where we take $k_n = 1$ basis function $b(t) \equiv 1$. The uniform consistency of \hat{G} further allows us to expand the estimating equation at $\boldsymbol{\beta}_j, G$.

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n s_i(t_j, \check{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_j, \hat{G}) \\ &= n^{1/2} \frac{\partial E s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, \hat{G})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^\top} (\check{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_j - \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, G) \\ &\quad + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, \hat{G}) - s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, G) \right\} + o_p(1) \\ &= n^{1/2} \frac{\partial E s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, G)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^\top} (\check{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_j - \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, G) \\ &\quad + n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, \hat{G}) - s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, G) \right\} + o_p(1). \end{aligned} \tag{A.12}$$

We can expand the following term

$$\begin{aligned} &n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, \hat{G}) - s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, G) \right\} \\ &= n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial m(X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^\top} I \{Y_i \geq t_j + m(X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)\} n^{1/2} \left[\frac{1}{\hat{G} \{t_j + m(X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)\}} - \frac{1}{G \{t_j + m(X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)\}} \right] \\ &\quad - (1 - \tau) n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial m(X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^\top} I(Y_i \geq t_j) n^{1/2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\hat{G}(t_j)} - \frac{1}{G(t_j)} \right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{A.13}$$

We first check the first term in (A.13). Following Fleming and Harrington (1991, Corollary 3.2.1),

We can use a martingale integral representation to obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -n^{1/2}\{\widehat{G}(s) - G(s)\}/G(s) \\
 = & \int_{-\infty}^s \frac{n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\}}{n^{-1}\sum_{i=1}^n I(Y_i \geq v)} \\
 = & \int_{-\infty}^s h^{-1}(v)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\} + o_p(1),
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\Lambda_G(\cdot)$ is the cumulative hazard function for the censoring process. Thus, we can write the first term in (A.13) as

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(s)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^s h^{-1}(v)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\}d\mathbf{q}_{1j}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_j, s) + o_p(1).$$

Let

$$\mathbf{q}_{2j}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_j, s) = E \left[\frac{\partial m(X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^T} I\{t_j \leq \min(s, Y_i)\} \right] = E \left[\frac{\partial m\{X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j\}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^T} I(t_j \leq Y_i) \right] I(t_j \leq s),$$

similar derivation can show that the second term in (A.13) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -(1 - \tau) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(s)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^s h^{-1}(v)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\}d\mathbf{q}_{2j}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_j, s) \\
 & + o_p(1) \\
 = & -(1 - \tau)E \left[\frac{\partial m(X_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^T} I(t_j \leq Y_i) \right] G(t_j)^{-1} \\
 & \times \int_{-\infty}^{t_j} h^{-1}(v)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\} + o_p(1) \\
 = & -\mathbf{q}_2(\boldsymbol{\beta}_j, t_j) \int_{-\infty}^{t_j} h^{-1}(v)n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\} + o_p(1).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, continue from (A.12), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 & = n^{1/2}\frac{\partial E s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, G)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^T}(\check{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_j - \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) + n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n \\
 & \left[s_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, G) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(s)^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^s h^{-1}(v)\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\}d\mathbf{q}_{1j}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_j, s) \right. \\
 & \left. - \mathbf{q}_2(\boldsymbol{\beta}_j, t_j) \int_{-\infty}^{t_j} h^{-1}(v)\{dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v)d\Lambda_G(v)\} \right] + o_p(1) \\
 = & \mathcal{M}_j n^{1/2}(\check{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_j - \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) + n^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^n \nu_i(t_j, \boldsymbol{\beta}_j, G) + o_p(1),
 \end{aligned}$$

where \mathcal{M}_j is the j th block diagonal of \mathcal{M} . Ensembling the above equation for $j = 1, \dots, J$, multiple $\eta^T \mathcal{C} \mathcal{M}$ from the left yields

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \eta^T \mathcal{C} n^{1/2} \{(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(t_1)^T, \dots, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(t_J)^T) - (\boldsymbol{\beta}(t_1)^T, \dots, \boldsymbol{\beta}(t_J)^T)\}^T \\ &\quad + n^{-1/2} \eta^T \mathcal{C} \mathcal{M}^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (\nu_i(t_1, \boldsymbol{\beta}_1, G)^T, \dots, \nu_i(t_1, \boldsymbol{\beta}_1, G)^T)^T \\ &= \eta^T n^{1/2} (\tilde{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}) + n^{-1/2} \eta^T \mathcal{C} \mathcal{M}^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (\nu_i(t_1, \boldsymbol{\beta}_1, G)^T, \dots, \nu_i(t_1, \boldsymbol{\beta}_1, G)^T)^T, \end{aligned}$$

which directly yields the result. \square

Estimation of $\text{cov}\{\mu(\alpha_0, G)\}$

For any value t , we make the approximation

$$\begin{aligned} d\hat{\Lambda}_G(t) &= \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n I(Y_i \geq t) \right\}^{-1} d \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n I(Y_i \leq t, D_i = 0) \right\}, \\ \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{1j}(\alpha, t) &= n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial m \{X_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}}{\partial \alpha} I[t_j + m \{X_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\} \leq \min(t, Y_i)]. \end{aligned}$$

We then obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{-\infty}^t \hat{h}^{-1}(v) \left\{ dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v) d\hat{\Lambda}_G(v) \right\} \\ &= h^{-1}(Y_i) (1 - D_i) I(Y_i \leq t) - n^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^n \hat{h}^{-2}(Y_k) (1 - D_k) I\{Y_k \leq \min(t, Y_i)\}, \\ &d\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{1j}(\alpha, t) \\ &= n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial m \{X_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}}{\partial \alpha} I[t_j + m \{X_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\} \leq Y_i] dI[t_j + m \{X_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\} \leq t]. \end{aligned}$$

Combine the above two results, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{G}^{-1}(s) \int_{-\infty}^s \hat{h}^{-1}(v) \left\{ dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v) d\hat{\Lambda}_G(v) \right\} d\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{1j}(\alpha, s) \\ &= \hat{G}^{-1}[t_j + m \{X_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}] \left(h^{-1}(Y_i) (1 - D_i) I[Y_i \leq t_j + m \{X_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}] \right. \\ &\quad \left. - n^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^n \hat{h}^{-2}(Y_k) (1 - D_k) I(Y_k \leq \min[t_j + m \{X_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}, Y_i]) \right) \\ &\quad \left(n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial m \{X_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\}}{\partial \alpha} I[t_j + m \{X_i, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j)\} \leq Y_i] \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu}_i(t_j, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}, \hat{G}) &= s_i \{t_j, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \mathbf{b}(t_j), \hat{G}\} - \hat{\mathbf{q}}_2(\alpha, t_j) \int_{-\infty}^{t_j} \hat{h}^{-1}(s) \left\{ dI(Y_i \leq s, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq s) d\hat{\Lambda}_G(s) \right\} \\ &\quad + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{G}^{-1}(s) \int_{-\infty}^s \hat{h}^{-1}(v) \left\{ dI(Y_i \leq v, D_i = 0) - I(Y_i \geq v) d\hat{\Lambda}_G(v) \right\} d\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{1j}(\alpha, s), \end{aligned}$$

inserting the above results, we obtain (9). \square