

Optimal rates of convergence in the Weibull model based on kernel-type estimators

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Abstract

Let F be a distribution function in the maximal domain of attraction of the Gumbel distribution and such that $-\log(1 - F(x)) = x^{1/\theta} L(x)$ for a positive real number θ , called the Weibull tail index, and a slowly varying function L . It is well known that the estimators of θ have a very slow rate of convergence. We establish here a sharp optimality result in the minimax sense, that is when L is treated as an infinite dimensional nuisance parameter belonging to some functional class. We also establish the rate optimal asymptotic property of a data-driven choice of the sample fraction that is used for estimation.

Keywords: Weibull tail index; Rates of convergence; Kernel-type estimators; Optimal sample fraction; Sequential procedure.

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1 Introduction

Let F be a probability distribution function on $[0, \infty)$ such that $1 - F(x) = \exp(-H(x))$ for $x \geq 0$ and H^\leftarrow is regularly varying at infinity with positive index θ , i.e.

$$H^\leftarrow(t) = t^\theta \ell(t)$$

where f^\leftarrow denotes the left-continuous inverse of a nondecreasing function f , and the function ℓ is slowly varying at infinity, i.e. for all $x > 0$, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \ell(xt)/\ell(t) = 1$. The quantile function $Q = F^\leftarrow$ can then be expressed as $Q(t) = H^\leftarrow(-\log(1-t))$. Such probability distributions F are usually called Weibull type distributions and the parameter θ is called the Weibull tail index or coefficient. These distributions belong to the maximum domain of attraction of the Gumbel distribution. Note that $\theta = 1/2$ for the positive part of the Gaussian distribution and $\theta = 1$ for the $\Gamma(a, \lambda)$ distribution. The estimation of the parameter θ has been considered by [Beirlant et al. \[1996\]](#), [Embrechts et al. \[1997\]](#) and [Girard \[2004\]](#) among other references. Their estimators are based on linear combinations of log-spacings between upper order statistics. They have been proved to be consistent with a logarithmic rate of convergence, under semiparametric assumptions, i.e. when the slowly varying function ℓ is considered as an infinite dimensional nuisance parameter. Nevertheless, this logarithmic rate of convergence has never been proved to be optimal in the minimax sense.

To obtain the minimax rate of convergence of an estimator of θ in a semiparametric setting is the first goal of this note. A lower bound is obtained in Section 2 and an upper bound for a kernel estimator is derived in Section 3. As often when the rate of convergence is logarithmic, the two bounds are matching. This was observed by [Drees \[1998\]](#) in the context of estimation of the tail index of a regularly varying distribution. In Section 4, we discuss the choice of the number of upper order statistics used to compute the estimator. Several approaches have been considered, based on the asymptotic mean squared error. Pitfalls of these methods have recently been highlighted by [Asimit et al. \[2010\]](#). We suggest a different approach, elaborating on an idea of [Drees and Kaufmann \[1998\]](#), which was itself inspired by the so-called Lepsky method which is familiar in nonparametric estimation. This method is shown to have optimal asymptotic properties. Unfortunately but unsurprisingly, this data-driven estimator has a very poor finite sample behaviour. Improving practical aspects of this method is the subject of future research.

2 Lower bound

Let b be a nonincreasing function defined on $[1, \infty)$ such that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} b(x) = 0$. Let $\mathcal{L}(b)$ be the class of locally bounded slowly varying functions ℓ on $[0, \infty)$ that can be expressed as

$$\ell(x) = \exp \int_1^x \frac{\eta(s)}{s} ds, \quad (1)$$

with $|\eta(s)| \leq b(s)$ for $s \geq 1$, and such that $x \mapsto x^\theta \ell(x)$ is nondecreasing on $[0, \infty)$ for any $\theta > 0$.

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Theorem 2.1. Let $\theta_2 > \theta_1 > 0$ be positive real numbers and let b be a decreasing function defined on $[1, \infty]$ such that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} b(x) = 0$. Then $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{\hat{\theta}_n} \sup_{\theta \in (\theta_1, \theta_2)} \sup_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}(b)} b^{-1}(\log(n)) \mathbb{E}_{\theta, \ell}^{(n)}[|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta|] \geq 1$, where $\mathbb{E}_{\theta, \ell}^{(n)}$ denotes expectation with respect to the law of an n -sample from a distribution with quantile function $Q(t) = (-\log(1-t))^\theta \ell(-\log(1-t))$, and the infimum is taken over all sequences of estimators of θ .

Example 1. If $b(x) = x^\rho$ with $\rho < 0$, then the lower bound for the rate of convergence of estimators of θ is $\log^{-\rho}(n)$.

Example 2. If $b(x) = \log^{-1}(x)$, then the lower bound is $\log \log(n)$.

Example 3. Consider a distribution function with tail $\bar{F}(x) = c_1 x^\delta e^{-c_2 x^\beta}$ with $c_i > 0$, $\beta > 0$ and $\delta \neq 0$. Then the quantile function can be expressed as $Q(t) = z^{1/\beta} \ell(z)$ with $z = -c_2^{-1} \log\{(1-t)/c_1\}$ and $\ell(z) \sim 1 - \beta^{-2} c_2^{-1} \delta z^{-1} \log(z)$ as $z \rightarrow \infty$. Thus ℓ is in the class $\mathcal{L}(b)$ with $b(z) = C z^{-1} \log(z)$ for large enough C and $z \geq e$. The uniform rate of convergence over this class is $C^{-1} \log(n) / \log \log(n)$. See Kluppelberg and Villaseñor [1993] and Asimit et al. [2010].

3 Kernel estimates of the Weibull tail index

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a sequence of independent and identically distributed random variables with cumulative distribution function F . We denote by $X_{1,n}, \dots, X_{n,n}$ their associated order statistics. Following Csörgő et al. [1985], the empirical quantile process, Q_n is then defined by $Q_n(t) = X_{k,n}$ if $\frac{k-1}{n} < t \leq \frac{k}{n}$ for $1 \leq k \leq n$. Let K denote a bounded nonnegative nonincreasing kernel with compact support in $[0, \infty)$ and such that $vK'(v)$ is bounded. Without loss of generality, we can assume that K has compact support in $[0, 1]$. Let also $\lambda = \lambda_n > 0$ be a tuning parameter such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_n = 0$. The kernel estimate of the Weibull tail index θ is defined by

$$\hat{\theta}_n = \frac{\int_0^1 \log Q_n(1-v\lambda) d\{vK(v)\}}{\int_0^1 \frac{K(v)}{(-\log(v\lambda))} dv}. \quad (2)$$

If K is moreover right continuous, the numerator is $\sum_{j=1}^{\lfloor n\lambda \rfloor} (j/n\lambda) K(j/n\lambda) \log(X_{n-j+1,n}/X_{n-j,n})$ where we set $X_{0,n} = 1$.

Example 4. For $\lambda = k/n$ and $K(v) = \mathbf{1}_{0 \leq v < 1}$ we find that $\hat{\theta}_n = \hat{\theta}_n^{(1)}$ which has been introduced by Gardes and Girard [2006].

Theorem 3.1. If λ is chosen such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b(-\log \lambda)}{b(\log n)} = 1, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b(\log n) \sqrt{n\lambda} = \infty, \quad (3)$$

then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_{\theta, \ell}^{(n)}(|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta| \leq b(\log n)) = 1, \quad (4)$$

uniformly with respect to $\ell \in \mathcal{L}(b)$.

Remark 1. It is possible to choose λ as in (3). See [Drees, 1998, Proposition 2.1]. Note that Condition (3) implies that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n\lambda = \infty$.

Gathering Theorems 2.1 and 3.1 yields the following exact rate of convergence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{\hat{\theta}_n} \sup_{\theta \in (\theta_1, \theta_2)} \sup_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}(b)} \mathbb{P}_{\theta, \ell}^{(n)}(|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta| \leq b(\log n)) = 1. \quad (5)$$

Remark 2. The bound (5) is a minimax bound. This means that it is a uniform bound over a certain class of distributions. The function b describes the a priori information on the class of distribution from which the observed data is assumed to be sampled.

Example 5. If $b(x) = x^\rho$ with $\rho < 0$, then the assumptions are satisfied for $\lambda(n) = k(n)/n$ where $k(n) = \log(n)^q$ with $q + 2\rho > 0$.

Example 6. If $b(x) = \log^{-1}(x)$, then the result holds for $\lambda(n) = k(n)/n$ where $k(n) = \log(n)^{\alpha\beta}$ with $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ if $\beta \in (0, 1)$ and $\alpha > 0$ if $\beta = 0$.

4 Data driven choice of the threshold

Recently, Asimit et al. [2010] discussed methods to select the sample fraction k_n that may be employed in estimating the Weibull tail index. In particular, they noticed that there is no value k_n minimizing the asymptotic mean squared error. This is confirmed by our results. Indeed, Theorem 3.1 shows that if k_n is suitably chosen, the variance of the kernel estimator, denoted by $\hat{\theta}_{n, k_n}$, turns out to be asymptotically negligible with respect to its squared bias, and Theorem 2.1 shows that this choice is optimal in the sharp asymptotic minimax sense over certain functional classes. This kind of situation is well known in minimax nonparametric or semiparametric estimation. See e.g. Butucea and Tsybakov [2007]. Adapting the idea of Drees and Kaufmann [1998], which was itself inspired by the so-called Lepsky method, we propose here a different choice of the sample fraction.

In this section, for simplicity of exposition, we consider the rectangular kernel $K = \mathbf{1}_{[0,1]}$ and restrict the tuning parameter to the discrete grid $\lambda = k/n$. The resulting estimator of θ is $\hat{\theta}_{n,k} = \left(k^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^k j \{ \log X_{n-j+1,n} - \log X_{n-j,n} \} \right) / \left(\frac{n}{k} \int_0^{k/n} (-\log v)^{-1} dv \right)$.

Let r_n be an increasing sequence. Define $\hat{k}_n(r_n)$ by

$$\hat{k}_n(r_n) = \min\{k = 1, \dots, n-1 \mid \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} \sqrt{i} |\hat{\theta}_{n,k} - \hat{\theta}_{n,i}| > r_n\}. \quad (6)$$

Theorem 4.1. *Let $\eta \in \mathcal{L}(b)$ be regularly varying at infinity with negative index. If $\sqrt{\log \log(n)} = o(r_n)$ and $\log(r_n) = o(\log n)$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|\hat{\theta}_{n, \hat{k}_n(r_n)} - \theta| \leq b(\log n)) = 1$.*

This result means that $\hat{\theta}_{n, \hat{k}_n(r_n)}$ is asymptotically optimal over the class $\mathcal{L}(b)$ restricted to regularly varying functions. If we further restrict the class $\mathcal{L}(b)$ to nonincreasing functions, we obtain an asymptotic confidence interval.

Corollary 4.2. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 4.1, if η is nonincreasing, then $(e r_n \log(n) / \{2\eta(\log n)\})^{-2} \hat{k}_n(r_n) \rightarrow_P 1$, hence $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\left(|\hat{\theta}_{n, \hat{k}_n(r_n)} - \theta| \leq e r_n \log n / \left(2\sqrt{\hat{k}_n(r_n)}\right)\right) = 1$.*

Numerical illustration The theoretical result state that the data-driven estimator $\hat{\theta}_{n, \hat{k}_n}$ has nice asymptotic properties for any choice of the sequence r_n which satisfies very weak constraints. Unfortunately, this is not the case in practice. We have run simulations for large to very large sample sizes, which reveal an extremely poor performance of this data-driven choice.

We have generated N replications of a n -sample from the distribution function F corresponding to the function $\eta(x) = x^{-1/2-3/2u}$ through (1), for $u \in [0, 1]$, so that η is in the class $\mathcal{L}(b)$ for $b(x) = x^{-1/2}$. The value of the parameter u is uniformly distributed in $[0, 1]$ and changes for each replication. We have computed the N sequences $\{\hat{\theta}_{n,k} \mid k = 1, \dots, n-1\}$, which are plotted in black in Figures 1 and 2. The sample fraction $\hat{k}_n(r_n)$ is computed for each of these N sequences, according to the algorithm (6). The N values are represented by vertical green lines. The true value of the parameter θ is given by the horizontal blue line.

The estimator is severely biased and the confidence interval suggested in Corollary 4.1 is very large and nearly useless. Its half-length $l_n = (e r_n \log n) / (2\sqrt{\hat{k}_n(r_n)})$ is given by Corollary 4.2. An improvement of this method is needed, but we think that it is better to look for genuinely semiparametric methods rather than to artificially restrict the model. For instance [Asimit et al. \[2010\]](#) suggest to use the model of Example 3, but this is a parametric model, which incurs a risk of misspecification.

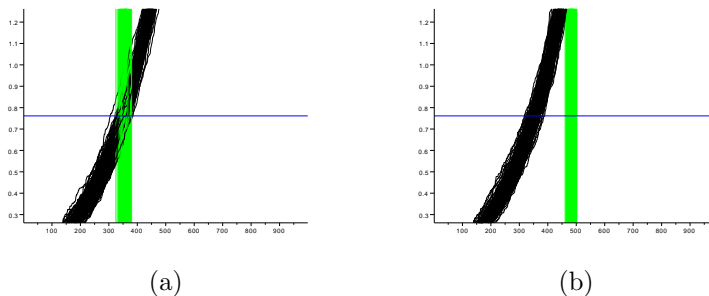


Figure 1: Sample properties of $\hat{k}_n(r_n)$ for $\theta = 0.761461$, $n = 1000$, $b(\log n) \sim 0.38$. (a) $r_n = \log n$ and half-length $l_n \sim 3.5$. (b) $r_n = (\log n)^{3/2}$ and half-length $l_n \sim 8.75$.

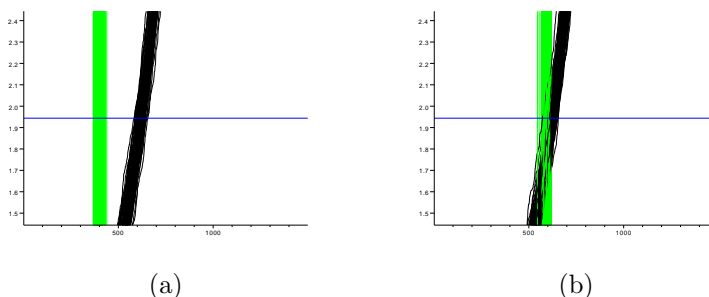


Figure 2: Sample properties of $\hat{k}_n(r_n)$ for $\theta = 1.9439654$, $n = 1500$, and $b(\log n) \sim 0.37$. (a) $r_n = \log n$ and half-length $l_n \sim 3.63$. (b) $r_n = (\log n)^{3/2}$ and half-length $l_n \sim 8.03$.

5 Proofs

The proof of Theorem 2.1 follows a very standard path to obtain minimax risk bounds. It also makes use of some computations in Beirlant et al. [2006]. The proof of Theorem 3.1 is very much inspired from similar results for the Hill estimator in Csörgő et al. [1985]. The proof of Theorem 4.1 is an adaptation of the proof of Drees and Kaufmann [1998, Corollary 1]. We include all details for the sake of self-containedness.

We preface the proofs by recalling some results on the uniform empirical process. We deduce from these results two lemmas that will be useful. Let U_n denote the uniform quantile process, i.e. $Q_n(t) = Q(U_n(t))$ for any $t \in [0, 1]$.

Lemma 5.1 (Csörgő et al. [1986]). *There exists a sequence of Brownian bridges B_n such that for any $\nu \in [0, 1/2)$,*

$$\sup_{1/n \leq u \leq 1} u^{\nu-1/2} |\sqrt{n}\{1-u-U_n(1-u)\} - B_n(u)| = O_P(n^{-\nu}). \quad (7)$$

Lemma 5.2 (Csörgő et al. [1985], Lemma 13). *For $D > 1$, define $A_n(D) = \{u \in [1/n, 1] : u/D \leq 1 - U_n(1-u) \leq Du\}$. Then $\lim_{D \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n(D)) = 1$.*

Lemma 5.3 (Mason [1983], Lemma 14). *For any $\nu \in [0, 1/2)$, $\sup_{1/n \leq u \leq 1} n^\nu u^{\nu-1} |1-u-U_n(1-u)| = O_P(1)$.*

Lemma 5.4 (Csörgő and Horváth [1993], Theorem 4.2.1). $\sup_{1/n \leq u \leq 1} n^{1/2} u^{-1/2} |1-u-U_n(1-u)| = O_P(\sqrt{\log \log(n)})$.

Denote $\Delta_n(u) = \log(-\log\{1-U_n(1-u)\}) - \log(-\log u)$. Combining Lemmas 5.2 and 5.4 we obtain

Lemma 5.5. *We have $\sup_{1/n \leq u \leq 1} \sqrt{u} \log u \Delta_n(u) = O_P(\sqrt{n^{-1} \log \log n})$.*

Proof. By a Taylor expansion, we have $\Delta_n(u) = \{1-u-U_n(1-u)\}/\{\alpha_n(u) \log(\alpha_n(u))\}$ with $\alpha_n(u)$ such that

$$u \wedge \{1-U_n(1-u)\} \leq \alpha_n(u) \leq u \vee \{1-U_n(1-u)\}.$$

Applying Lemmas 5.2 and 5.4, we get for any $\epsilon > 0$, that there exists a constant $D > 1$ large enough such that

$$\begin{aligned} D^{-1}u &\leq \alpha_n(u) \leq Du, \\ |1-u-U_n(1-u)| &\leq D\sqrt{(\log \log n)/n}\sqrt{u}, \\ |u \log(u)/(\alpha_n(u) \log \alpha_n(u))| &\leq D, \end{aligned}$$

for all $u \in (1/n, 1)$ with probability exceeding $1 - \epsilon$. Thus, we obtain for large enough D that $\max_{1/n \leq u \leq 1} |\sqrt{u} \log(u) \Delta_n(u)| \leq D^2 \sqrt{(\log \log n)/n}$ with probability exceeding $1 - \epsilon$. \square

Lemma 5.6.

$$\log\{-\log(1-U_{n,n})\} - \log \log n = O_P(1/\log n), \quad (8)$$

$$\int_0^{1/n} \Delta_n(u) du = O_P(1/\{n \log n\}). \quad (9)$$

Proof. To prove (8), we apply the convergence in distribution of $T_n := -\log(1-U_{n,n}) - \log(n)$ to the Gumbel law combined with a Taylor expansion: $\log\{-\log(1-U_{n,n})\} - \log \log n = T_n/\log n + o(T_n/\log n)$. To prove (9), we write

$$\int_0^{1/n} \Delta_n(u) du = \frac{1}{n} (\log\{-\log(1-U_{n,n})\} - \log \log n) + \int_0^{1/n} \log \log n - \log(-\log u) du.$$

The result follows from (8) and $\int_0^{1/n} \log \log n - \log(-\log u) du = O(1/(n \log n))$. \square

5.1 Proof of Theorem 2.1

Denote $s_n = \log(n)$ and $\delta_n = b(\log(n))$. For $\epsilon \in \{-1, 1\}$, define the function $\ell_n^\epsilon \in \mathcal{L}(b)$ by

$$l_n^\epsilon(x) = \exp \left\{ \epsilon \delta_n \int_1^{s_n \wedge x} \frac{ds}{s} \right\} = (s_n \wedge x)^{\epsilon \delta_n}.$$

These functions belong to $\mathcal{L}(b)$ since b is nonincreasing, thus, defining $\eta_n^\epsilon = \epsilon \delta_n \mathbf{1}_{[1, s_n]}$ yields (1) with $|\eta_n^\epsilon| \leq b$. Fix $\theta_0 > 0$ and define $\theta_n^\epsilon = \theta_0 + \epsilon \delta_n$, $h_n^\epsilon(z) = z^{\theta_n^\epsilon} l_n^{-\epsilon}(z)$. Let F_n^ϵ be the probability distribution function such that $(F_n^\epsilon)^{\leftarrow}(t) = h_n^\epsilon(-\log(1-t))$.

Then $-\log[1-F_n^\epsilon(x)] = \{x\ell_n^\epsilon(x)\}^{1/\theta_n^\epsilon}$ with $\ell_n^\epsilon(x) = (x \wedge t_n)^{\epsilon\delta_n/\theta_0}$ and $t_n = s_n^{\theta_0}$. Define finally $g_n^\epsilon(x) = \{x\ell_n^\epsilon(x)\}^{1/\theta_n^\epsilon}$, $g_0(x) = x^{1/\theta_0}$ and $F_0(x) = 1 - e^{-g_0(x)}$. Then, $s_n = g_0(t_n)$ and $\bar{F}^\epsilon(t_n) = e^{-s_n}$ and

$$g_n^\epsilon(x) = \begin{cases} g_0(x) & \text{if } x \leq t_n, \\ x^{1/\theta_n^\epsilon} s_n^{\epsilon\delta_n/\theta_n^\epsilon} & \text{if } x > t_n. \end{cases}$$

Let \mathbb{P}_+^n and \mathbb{P}_-^n be the law of a n sample of i.i.d. random variables with distribution F_n^+ and F_n^- , respectively, and denote \mathbb{E}_+^n and \mathbb{E}_-^n the corresponding expectations. For $\zeta \in (0, 1)$, denote $A = \{d\mathbb{P}_+^n/d\mathbb{P}_-^n \geq \zeta\}$. For any θ and $\ell \in \mathcal{L}(b)$, for any $\hat{\theta}_n$,

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\theta, \ell}^n [|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta|] &\geq \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_+^n [|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_n^+|] + \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_-^n [|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_n^-|] = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_-^n \left[|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_n^-| + \frac{d\mathbb{P}_+^n}{d\mathbb{P}_-^n} |\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_n^+| \right] \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_-^n \left[\left\{ |\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_n^-| + \frac{d\mathbb{P}_+^n}{d\mathbb{P}_-^n} |\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_n^+| \right\} \mathbf{1}_A \right] \geq \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_-^n \left[\left\{ |\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_n^-| + \zeta |\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_n^+| \right\} \mathbf{1}_A \right] \\ &\geq \frac{\zeta}{2} \mathbb{E}_-^n \left[\left\{ |\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_n^-| + |\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_n^+| \right\} \mathbf{1}_A \right] \geq \frac{\zeta |\theta_n^+ - \theta_n^-|}{2} \mathbb{P}_-^n(A) = \zeta \delta_n \mathbb{P}_-^n(A). \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

In order to bound the last term, let $K(\mathbb{P}_-^n, \mathbb{P}_+^n) = \mathbb{E}_-^n [\log(d\mathbb{P}_-^n/d\mathbb{P}_+^n)]$ denote the Kullback-Leiber distance. By Pinsker's inequality, [Tsybakov, 2004, Lemme 2.5], we get

$$\mathbb{P}_-^n(A) = 1 - \mathbb{P}_-^n \left(\frac{d\mathbb{P}_+^n}{d\mathbb{P}_-^n} \leq \zeta \right) = 1 - \mathbb{P}_-^n \left(\log \left(\frac{d\mathbb{P}_+^n}{d\mathbb{P}_-^n} \right) \geq \log(1/\zeta) \right) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{\log(1/\zeta)} \mathbb{E}_-^n \left[\log \left(\frac{d\mathbb{P}_+^n}{d\mathbb{P}_-^n} \right)_+ \right] \geq 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} \log(1/\zeta)} \sqrt{K(\mathbb{P}_-^n, \mathbb{P}_+^n)}.$$

Since we consider an i.i.d. sample, $K(\mathbb{P}_-^n, \mathbb{P}_+^n) = nK(F_n^-, F_n^+)$ and there only remains to prove that $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} nK(F_n^-, F_n^+) = 0$. For $x > t_n$, the log-likelihood between F_n^+ and F_n^- (see Beirlant et al. [2006, Equation (6.4)]) is given by

$$\log \frac{dF_n^+}{dF_n^-} = \log(\theta_n^-/\theta_n^+) + (\theta_n^-/\theta_n^+ - 1) \log(g_n^-/s_n) + g_n^- \left(1 - (g_n^-/s_n)^{\theta_n^-/\theta_n^+ - 1} \right).$$

Since $\log(dF_n^+/dF_n^-) = 0$ for $x \leq t_n$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} K(F_n^-, F_n^+) &= \int_{t_n}^{\infty} \log(dF_n^-/dF_n^+) dF_n^- \\ &= -\log(\theta_n^-/\theta_n^+) \bar{F}_n^-(t_n) - (\theta_n^-/\theta_n^+ - 1) \int_{t_n}^{\infty} \log(g_n^-/s_n) dF_n^- - \int_{t_n}^{\infty} g_n^- \left(1 - (g_n^-/s_n)^{\theta_n^-/\theta_n^+ - 1} \right) dF_n^- \\ &= -I - (\theta_n^-/\theta_n^+ - 1) \times II - III. \end{aligned}$$

We make the change of variable $u = g_n^-(x)$ in the above integrals separately.

$$\begin{aligned} I &= -e^{-s_n} (2\delta_n/\theta_0 + O(\delta_n^2)), \\ II &= \int_{s_n}^{\infty} \log(u/s_n) e^{-u} du = e^{-s_n} \int_0^{\infty} \log(1+v/s_n) e^{-v} dv \sim s_n^{-1} e^{-s_n}, \\ III &= \int_{s_n}^{\infty} u \left\{ 1 - (u/s_n)^{\theta_n^-/\theta_n^+ - 1} \right\} e^{-u} du = e^{-s_n} \int_0^{\infty} (v+s_n) \left\{ 1 - (1+v/s_n)^{\theta_n^-/\theta_n^+ - 1} \right\} e^{-v} dv \sim \{2\delta_n/\theta_0 + O(\delta_n^2)\} e^{-s_n}. \end{aligned}$$

Summing the three terms yields $K(F_n^-, F_n^+) = O\left(\frac{\delta_n}{s_n} \vee \delta_n^2\right) e^{-s_n}$. Since $s_n = \log(n)$, it holds that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} nK(F_n^-, F_n^+) = 0$. Thus $\liminf_n \mathbb{P}_-^n(A) = 1$. Plugging this limit into (10) yields

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\theta \in (\theta_1, \theta_2)} \sup_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}(b)} b^{-1}(\log(n)) \mathbb{E}_{\theta, \ell} [|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta|] \geq \zeta \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_-^n(A) = \zeta.$$

Since this is true for all $\zeta \in (0, 1)$, the result is proved.

5.2 Proof of Theorem 3.1

Let us define $L(t) = \log(-\log(t))$. Then $\log Q(t) = \theta L(1-t) + \log \ell(-\log(1-t))$ and

$$\hat{\theta}_{n, \lambda} = \theta + \theta \xi_{n, \lambda} + \beta_{n, \lambda} + \tilde{\beta}_{n, \lambda}, \quad (11)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned}
g(\lambda) &= \int_0^1 L(v\lambda) d\{vK(v)\} = \int_0^1 \frac{K(v)}{-\log(v\lambda)} dv \sim \frac{\int_0^1 K(t) dt}{\log(1/\lambda)}, \\
\xi_{n,\lambda} &= \frac{1}{g(\lambda)} \int_0^1 \{L(1 - U_n(1 - v\lambda)) - L(v\lambda)\} d\{vK(v)\}, \\
\beta_{n,\lambda} &= \frac{1}{g(\lambda)} \int_0^1 \int_1^{-\log(\lambda v)} \frac{\eta(s)}{s} ds d\{vK(v)\} = \frac{1}{g(\lambda)} \int_0^1 \frac{\eta(-\log(v\lambda))}{-\log(v\lambda)} K(v) dv, \\
\tilde{\beta}_{n,\lambda} &= \frac{1}{g(\lambda)} \int_0^1 \int_{-\log(\lambda v)}^{-\log\{1 - U_n(1 - v\lambda)\}} \frac{\eta(s)}{s} ds d\{vK(v)\}.
\end{aligned}$$

The term $\beta_{n,\lambda}$ is a deterministic bias. Since b is decreasing, a bound for $\beta_{n,\lambda}$ is given by $|\beta_{n,\lambda}| \leq b(-\log(\lambda))$, uniformly with respect to $\ell \in \mathcal{L}(b)$. We will prove in Subsection 5.2.1 that $\sqrt{n\lambda}\xi_{n,\lambda}$ converges weakly to a centered Gaussian distribution and in Subsection 5.2.2 that $\tilde{\beta}_{n,\lambda} = o_P(b(\log n))$. These results, together with the decomposition (11) and Assumption (3), yield (4).

5.2.1 The stochastic term $\xi_{n,\lambda}$

Let $\{B_n\}$ be a sequence of Brownian bridges such that Eq. (7) in Lemma 5.1 holds. Informally, we can write

$$L(1 - U_n(1 - \lambda v)) - L(\lambda v) \approx L'(\lambda v)\{1 - \lambda v - U_n(1 - \lambda v)\} \approx \frac{B_n(\lambda v)}{\sqrt{n\lambda v \log(\lambda v)}}.$$

Thus, we hope that we can prove that $\int_0^1 \{L(1 - U_n(1 - \lambda v)) - L(\lambda v)\} d\{vK(v)\}$ has the same asymptotic distribution as

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n\lambda}} \int_0^1 \frac{B_n(\lambda v)}{v \log(\lambda v)} d\{vK(v)\} \sim_d \frac{1}{\sqrt{n\lambda \log(1/\lambda)}} \mathbf{N}\left(0, 2 \int_0^1 K(t) d\{tK(t)\}\right).$$

We will prove that this approximation is valid by splitting the integral into two parts. Recall that we have defined $\Delta_n(u) = L(1 - U_n(1 - u)) - L(u)$.

Lemma 5.7. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 3.1,*

$$\sqrt{n\lambda \log(1/\lambda)} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \Delta_n(\lambda v) d\{vK(v)\} \rightarrow_d \mathbf{N}\left(0, 2 \int_0^1 K(t) d\{tK(t)\}\right), \quad (12)$$

$$\sqrt{n\lambda \log(1/\lambda)} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 |\Delta_n(\lambda v)| |d\{vK(v)\}| = O_P(1). \quad (13)$$

Proof of Lemma 5.7. Define

$$\delta_{n,\lambda} = \sqrt{n\lambda \log(1/\lambda)} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \left\{ \Delta_n(\lambda v) - \frac{B_n(\lambda v)}{\sqrt{n\lambda v \log(\lambda v)}} \right\} d\{vK(v)\},$$

and

$$\zeta_{n,\lambda} = \frac{\log(1/\lambda)}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \frac{B_n(\lambda v)}{v \log(\lambda v)} d\{vK(v)\}.$$

Then $\sqrt{n\lambda \log(1/\lambda)} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \Delta_n(\lambda v) d\{vK(v)\} = \delta_{n,\lambda} + \zeta_{n,\lambda}$. We will prove that $\delta_{n,\lambda} = o_P(1)$ and $\zeta_{n,\lambda}$ converges weakly to the desired limit. Denote $\tilde{B}_n(u) = \sqrt{n}\{1 - u - U_n(1 - u)\}$. The function L is differentiable with $L'(u) = 1/(u \log u)$, hence

$$\Delta_n(\lambda v) = L(1 - U_n(1 - \lambda v)) - L(\lambda v) = L'(\alpha_n(\lambda v)) \frac{\tilde{B}_n(\lambda v)}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{\tilde{B}_n(\lambda v)}{\sqrt{n\alpha_n(\lambda v) \log(\alpha_n(\lambda v))}}$$

with $\alpha_n(u) = u + \vartheta n^{-1/2} \tilde{B}_n(u)$, for some $\vartheta \in (0, 1)$ and

$$(\lambda v) \wedge \{1 - U_n(1 - \lambda v)\} \leq \alpha_n(\lambda v) \leq (\lambda v) \vee \{1 - U_n(1 - \lambda v)\}. \quad (14)$$

Define $R_{n,\lambda} = \sqrt{n\lambda \log(1/\lambda)} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \left\{ \Delta_n(\lambda v) - \frac{\tilde{B}_n(\lambda v)}{\sqrt{n\lambda v \log(\lambda v)}} \right\} d\{vK(v)\}$. Applying Lemmas 5.2 and 5.3, for any $\epsilon > 0$ and $\nu \in (1/4, 1/2)$, we can find $D > 1$ and $A > 0$ such that, with probability exceeding $1 - \epsilon$,

$$D^{-1}u \leq \alpha_n(u) \leq Du, \quad |\tilde{B}_n(u)| \leq An^{-\nu} u^{1-\nu}. \quad (15)$$

Since the function $u \rightarrow -u \log u$ is increasing near zero, we obtain, with probability greater than $1 - \epsilon$,

$$|R_{n,\lambda}| \leq AD\sqrt{\lambda} \log(1/\lambda) n^{1/2-\nu} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \frac{(\lambda v)^{1-\nu} |\lambda v \log(\lambda v) - \alpha_n(\lambda v) \log(\alpha_n(\lambda v))|}{\lambda^2 v^2 |\log(\lambda v) \log(\lambda v/D)|} |d\{vK(v)\}|. \quad (16)$$

Note now that the function $u \rightarrow -u \log u$ is concave and increasing near zero with derivative $\log(1/u) - 1$, so (14) and (15) imply that, with probability greater than $1 - \epsilon$,

$$\begin{aligned} |\lambda v \log(\lambda v) - \alpha_n(v) \log(\alpha_n(v))| &\leq |\lambda v \log(\lambda v) - (1 - U_n(1 - \lambda v)) \log(1 - U_n(1 - \lambda v))| \\ &\leq |\log(\lambda v \wedge \{1 - U_n(1 - \lambda v)\})| |1 - \lambda v - U_n(1 - \lambda v)| \\ &\leq An^{-\nu} (\lambda v)^{1-\nu} |\log(\lambda v \wedge \{1 - U_n(1 - \lambda v)\})| \\ &\leq An^{-\nu} (\lambda v)^{1-\nu} |\log(\lambda v/D)|. \end{aligned}$$

Plugging this bound into (16) yields, for $\nu \in (0, 1/2)$, $|R_{n,\lambda}| \leq A^2 D(n\lambda)^{1/2-2\nu} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 v^{-2\nu} |d\{vK(v)\}| \leq C(n\lambda)^{1/2-2\nu}$, for some constant C , with probability greater than $1 - \epsilon$. Thus $R_{n,\lambda} = o_P(1)$. Denote now

$$S_{n,\lambda} = \sqrt{n\lambda} \log(1/\lambda) \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \frac{\tilde{B}_n(\lambda v) - B_n(\lambda v)}{\sqrt{n\lambda v \log(\lambda v)}} d\{vK(v)\}.$$

Applying Lemma 5.1, for any $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$, there exists A such that, with probability exceeding $1 - \epsilon$,

$$|S_{n,\lambda}| \leq A(n\lambda)^{-\nu} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 v^{-1/2-\nu} d\{vK(v)\}.$$

Since the integral is convergent, we get that $S_{n,\lambda} = O_P((n\lambda)^{-\nu}) = o_P(1)$. Altogether, we obtain that $\delta_{n,\lambda} = o_P(1)$.

We must now prove that $\zeta_{n,\lambda}$ converges weakly to the desired limit. Since $\{\zeta_{n,\lambda}\}$ is a sequence of centered Gaussian random variables, we only need to prove that its variance converges. We compute

$$\text{var}(\zeta_{n,\lambda}) = 2 \frac{\log^2(1/\lambda)}{\lambda} \int_{1/\lambda n}^1 \frac{d\{tK(t)\}}{t \log(\lambda t)} \int_{1/\lambda n}^t \frac{\lambda s(1 - \lambda t)}{s \log(\lambda s)} d\{sK(s)\} \sim 2 \int_{1/\lambda n}^1 \frac{d\{tK(t)\}}{t} \int_{1/\lambda n}^t d\{sK(s)\} \sim 2 \int_0^1 K(t) d\{tK(t)\}.$$

This proves (12). To prove (13), it only remains to prove that

$$\frac{\log(1/\lambda)}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \frac{|B_n(\lambda v)|}{v \log(\lambda v)} d\{vK(v)\} = O_P(1). \quad (17)$$

Since $\mathbb{E}[|B_n(\lambda v)|] = \sqrt{2/\pi} \sqrt{\lambda v}$, we have

$$\frac{\log(1/\lambda)}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \mathbb{E} \left[\int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \frac{|B_n(\lambda v)|}{v \log(\lambda v)} d\{vK(v)\} \right] = \frac{\sqrt{2} \log(1/\lambda)}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \frac{d\{vK(v)\}}{v^{1/2} |\log(\lambda v)|} \leq \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^1 v^{-1/2} d\{vK(v)\}.$$

This proves (17), which concludes the proof of Lemma 5.7. \square

Lemma 5.8. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 3.1, $\sqrt{n\lambda} \log(1/\lambda) \int_0^{1/(\lambda n)} \Delta_n(\lambda v) d\{vK(v)\} = o_P(1)$.*

Proof of Lemma 5.8. Note that if $v\lambda < 1/n$, then $U_n(1 - v\lambda) = U_{n,n}$. Thus,

$$\sqrt{n\lambda} \log(1/\lambda) \int_0^{1/(\lambda n)} \{L(1 - U_{n,n}) - L(v\lambda)\} d\{vK(v)\} = \frac{\sqrt{n\lambda} \log(1/\lambda) \{L(1 - U_{n,n}) - L(1/n)\}}{\lambda n} K(1/\{\lambda n\}) \quad (18)$$

$$+ \sqrt{n\lambda} \log(1/\lambda) \int_0^{1/\{\lambda n\}} \{L(1/n) - L(v\lambda)\} d\{vK(v)\}. \quad (19)$$

Since $-\log(1 - U_{n,n}) + \log(1/n)$ converges weakly to the standard Gumbel law, we get that $L(1 - U_{n,n}) - L(1/n) = O_P(1/\log n)$, thus the term in (18) is $O_P((n\lambda)^{-1/2} \log(1/\lambda)/\log n)$. Applying integration by parts, we see that the term in (19) is $-\sqrt{n\lambda} \log(1/\lambda) \int_0^{1/(\lambda n)} \frac{K(v)}{(-\log(v\lambda))} dv = O((n\lambda)^{-1/2} \log(1/\lambda)/\log n) = O((n\lambda)^{-1/2})$. \square

In conclusion, we have proved that $\sqrt{n\lambda} \xi_{n,\lambda} \rightarrow_d \mathbf{N}(0, 2(\int_0^1 K(t) dt)^{-2} \int_0^1 K(t) d\{tK(t)\})$.

5.2.2 The term $\tilde{\beta}_{n,\lambda}$

Write $\tilde{\beta}_{n,\lambda} = \phi_{n,\lambda} + \psi_{n,\lambda}$ with

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_{n,\lambda} &= \frac{1}{g(\lambda)} \int_0^{1/(\lambda n)} \int_{-\log(v\lambda)}^{-\log\{1-U_n(1-v\lambda)\}} \frac{\eta(s)}{s} \text{d}s \text{d}\{vK(v)\}, \\ \psi_{n,\lambda} &= \frac{1}{g(\lambda)} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \int_{-\log(v\lambda)}^{-\log\{1-U_n(1-v\lambda)\}} \frac{\eta(s)}{s} \text{d}s \text{d}\{vK(v)\}.\end{aligned}$$

Note that if $v\lambda < 1/n$, then $U_n(1-v\lambda) = U_{n,n}$. Thus, integrating by parts, we obtain

$$\phi_{n,\lambda} = \frac{K(1/\lambda n)}{\lambda n g(\lambda)} \int_{\log n}^{-\log(1-U_{n,n})} \frac{\eta(s)}{s} \text{d}s + \frac{1}{g(\lambda)} \int_0^{1/(\lambda n)} \frac{\eta(-\log(v\lambda))}{-\log(v\lambda)} K(v) \text{d}v. \quad (20)$$

The last term in the right hand side of (20) can be bounded by $g^{-1}(\lambda)b(\log n) \int_0^{1/(\lambda n)} (-\log(v\lambda))^{-1} K(v) \text{d}v = O((n\lambda)^{-1}b(\log n))$. The first term in the right hand side of (20) can be bounded by

$$\frac{b(\log(n) \wedge \{-\log(1-U_{n,n})\})}{n\lambda g(\lambda)} \left| \log \frac{-\log(1-U_{n,n})}{\log n} \right|.$$

The weak convergence of $-\log(1-U_{n,n}) - \log n$ to the standard Gumbel law implies that $-\log(1-U_{n,n}) = O_P(\log n)$ and $\log\{-\log(1-U_{n,n})/\log n\} = O_P(1/\log n)$. Altogether, we obtain that $\phi_{n,\lambda} = O_P((n\lambda)^{-1}b(\log n))$.

Consider now $\psi_{n,\lambda}$. For $1/(\lambda n) \leq v \leq 1$, it holds that

$$-\log(1-U_n(1-v\lambda)) \geq -\log(1-U_n(1-\lambda)) \rightarrow_P +\infty,$$

since $\lambda \rightarrow 0$. It also holds that $-\log(v\lambda) \geq -\log \lambda \rightarrow +\infty$. Thus, defining $b_n = b(\{-\log \lambda\} \wedge \{-\log(1-U_n(1-\lambda))\})$ we get $b_n \rightarrow_P 0$. This and the bound (13) in Lemma 5.7 yield

$$|\psi_{n,\lambda}| \leq \frac{b_n}{g(\lambda)} \int_{1/(\lambda n)}^1 \left| \log \frac{\log(1-U_n(1-\lambda v))}{\log(\lambda v)} \right| \text{d}\{vK(v)\} = o_P(1/\sqrt{n\lambda}).$$

Thus, under Assumption (3), we conclude that $\tilde{\beta}_{n,\lambda} = O_P((n\lambda)^{-1/2}b(\log n)) + o_P((n\lambda)^{-1/2}) = o_P(b(\log n))$.

5.3 Proof of Theorem 4.1

Define $\beta_{n,k}$ and k_n^* by $\beta_{n,k} = \frac{n}{kg(k/n)} \int_0^{k/n} \frac{\eta(-\log v)}{-\log(v)} \text{d}v$ and $k_n^*(r_n) = \min\{k = 1, \dots, n-1 \mid \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} \sqrt{i} |\beta_{n,k} - \beta_{n,i}| > r_n\}$. If the function η is regularly varying at infinity with index $\nu < 0$, it can be proved as in [Drees and Kaufmann, 1998, p. 156] that

$$k_n^*(r_n) \sim \{(e/2) r_n \log(n)/\eta(\log n)\}^2. \quad (21)$$

This implies that $k_n^*(r_n)$ is an intermediate sequence and satisfies condition (3), thus, by Theorem 3.1, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|\hat{\theta}_{n,k_n^*(r_n)} - \theta| \leq b(\log n)) = 1$. Thus, the proof will be concluded by showing that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\hat{k}_n(r_n) = k_n^*(r_n)) = 1$. Corollary 4.2 will follow by noting that if η is nondecreasing, we can replace b by η .

Let r_n^- and r_n^+ be two sequences such that $r_n^- < r_n < r_n^+$, $\sqrt{\log \log n} = o(r_n^-)$, $\log(r_n^+) = o(\log n)$ and $\sqrt{\log \log n} = o(|r_n - r_n^\pm|)$. Then $k_n^*(r_n^-)$ and $k_n^*(r_n^+)$ are intermediate sequences by (21). Applying the definition of $\hat{k}_n(r_n)$ and $k_n^*(r_n^\pm)$ and Lemma 5.9, we obtain straightforwardly

$$\mathbb{P}(k_n^*(r_n^-) \leq \hat{k}_n(r_n)) = \mathbb{P}\left(\max_{1 \leq k \leq k_n^*(r_n^-)} \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} \sqrt{i} |\hat{\theta}_{n,i} - \hat{\theta}_{n,k}| \leq r_n\right) \geq \mathbb{P}\left(r_n^- + 2 \max_{1 \leq i \leq k_n^*(r_n^-)} \sqrt{i} |\hat{\theta}_{n,i} - \theta - \beta_{n,i}| \leq r_n\right) \rightarrow 1.$$

Conversely,

$$\mathbb{P}(k_n^*(r_n^+) \geq \hat{k}_n(r_n)) \geq \mathbb{P}\left(\max_{1 \leq i \leq k_n^*(r_n^+)} \sqrt{i} |\hat{\theta}_{n,i} - \hat{\theta}_{n,k_n^*(r_n^+)}| > r_n\right) \geq \mathbb{P}\left(r_n^+ - 2 \max_{1 \leq i \leq k_n^*(r_n^+)} \sqrt{i} |\hat{\theta}_{n,i} - \theta - \beta_{n,i}| > r_n\right) \rightarrow 1.$$

To conclude, it suffices to note that (21) implies that $k_n^*(r_n^+)/k_n^*(r_n^-) \rightarrow 1$.

Lemma 5.9. For any intermediate sequence k_n ,

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq k_n} \sqrt{i} |\hat{\theta}_{n,i} - \theta - \beta_{n,i}| = O_P\left(\sqrt{\log \log n}\right). \quad (22)$$

Proof. Applying the decomposition (11), we have $\hat{\theta}_{n,i} - \theta - \beta_{n,i} = \theta\xi_{n,i} + \tilde{\beta}_{n,i}$. We will prove (22) by proving separately that

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq k_n} \sqrt{i} |\xi_{n,i}| = O_P \left(\sqrt{\log \log n} \right), \quad (23)$$

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq k_n} \sqrt{i} |\tilde{\beta}_{n,i}| = O_P \left(\sqrt{\log \log n} \right). \quad (24)$$

We start by proving (23). Note that

$$\sqrt{i}\xi_{n,i} = \frac{n}{\sqrt{i}g(i/n)} \int_0^{1/n} \Delta_n(u) du + \frac{n}{\sqrt{i}g(i/n)} \int_{1/n}^{i/n} \Delta_n(u) du.$$

Applying Lemma 5.5, applying Lemma 5.6, we obtain

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n-1} \frac{n}{\sqrt{i}g(i/n)} \int_{1/n}^{i/n} |\Delta_n(u)| du = O_P \left(\sqrt{n \log \log n} \right) \times \max_{1 \leq i \leq n-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{i}g(i/n)} \int_{1/n}^{i/n} \frac{du}{\sqrt{u} \log u} = O_P \left(\sqrt{\log \log n} \right).$$

Next, since $U_n(1-u) = U_{n,n}$ for $u \in [0, 1/n]$, we have

$$\int_0^{1/n} \Delta_n(u) du = n^{-1}L(1 - U_{n,n}) - \int_0^{1/n} L(u) du = n^{-1}\{L(1 - U_{n,n}) - L(n)\} + O(1/\{n \log(n)\}) = O_P(1/\{n \log(n)\}).$$

Thus $\max_{1 \leq i \leq n-1} \frac{n}{\sqrt{i}g(i/n)} \int_0^{1/n} \Delta_n(u) du = O_P(1)$. This proves (23). Consider now (24). As before, we split the integral defining $\tilde{\beta}_{n,i}$ into two parts. Write $\tilde{\beta}_{n,i} = \phi_{n,i} + \psi_{n,i}$, with

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{n,i} &= \frac{n}{ig(i/n)} \int_0^{1/n} \int_{-\log(u)}^{-\log\{1-U_n(1-u)\}} \frac{\eta(s)}{s} ds du, \\ \psi_{n,i} &= \frac{n}{ig(i/n)} \int_{1/n}^{i/n} \int_{-\log(u)}^{-\log\{1-U_n(1-u)\}} \frac{\eta(s)}{s} ds du. \end{aligned}$$

Since $U_n(1-u) = U_{n,n}$ for $u \leq 1/n$, applying the bound (9) in Lemma 5.6 yields

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n-1} \sqrt{i} |\phi_{n,i}| \leq \max_{1 \leq i \leq n-1} \frac{n}{\sqrt{i}g(i/n)} b(\{\log n\} \wedge \{-\log(1 - U_{n,n})\}) O_P(1/(n \log n)) = O_P(b(\log n)) = o_P(1).$$

For any intermediate sequence k_n , we have that $-\log(1 - k_n) \rightarrow_P \infty$. Thus, noting that b is nonincreasing and applying Lemma 5.6, we have, $\max_{1 \leq i \leq k_n} |\psi_{n,i}| \leq b(\{\log n\} \wedge \{-\log(1 - k_n/n)\}) \max_{1 \leq i \leq k_n} \frac{n}{\sqrt{i}g(i/n)} \int_{1/n}^{i/n} |\Delta_n(u)| du = o_P(\sqrt{\log \log n})$. \square

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