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ESTIMATION OF THE EXTREME VALUE INDEX IN A CENSORSHIP FRAMEWORK: ASYMPTOTIC AND FINITE SAMPLE BEHAVIOUR

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Abstract

We revisit the estimation of the extreme value index for randomly censored data from a heavy tailed distribution. We introduce a new class of estimators which encompasses earlier proposals given in Worms and Worms (2014) and Beirlant et al. (2018), which were shown to have good bias properties compared with the pseudo maximum likelihood estimator proposed in Beirlant et al. (2007) and Einmahl et al. (2008). However the asymptotic normality of the type of estimators first proposed in Worms and Worms (2014) was still lacking. We derive an asymptotic representation and the asymptotic normality of the larger class of estimators and consider their finite sample behaviour. Special attention is paid to the case of heavy censoring, i.e. where the amount of censoring in the tail is at least 50%. We obtain the asymptotic normality with a classical \sqrt{k} rate where k denotes the number of top data used in the estimation, depending on the degree of censoring.

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1. Introduction

Starting from Beirlant et al. (2007), the estimation of the extreme value index in a censorship framework is of growing interest. Suppose we observe a sample of n independent couples $(Z_i, \delta_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ where

$$Z_i = \min(X_i, C_i) \quad \text{and} \quad \delta_i = \mathbb{I}_{X_i \leq C_i}.$$

The i.i.d. samples $(X_i)_{i \leq n}$ and $(C_i)_{i \leq n}$, of respective continuous distribution functions F and G , are samples from the variable of interest X and of the censoring variable C , measured on n individual items (insurance claims, hospitalized patients, ...). The variables X and C are supposed to be independent and, for convenience only, we will suppose in this work that they are non-negative. We will denote by $Z_{1,n} \leq \dots \leq Z_{i,n} \leq \dots \leq Z_{n,n}$ the order statistics associated to the observed sample, and by $(\delta_{1,n}, \dots, \delta_{n,n})$ the corresponding indicators of non-censorship.

Einmahl et al. (2008) presented a general method for adapting estimators of the extreme value index in this censorship framework. Worms and Worms (2014) proposed a more survival analysis-oriented approach restricted to the heavy tail case, while Diop et al. (2014) extended the framework to data with covariate information. Beirlant et al. (2016) and Beirlant et al. (2018) proposed bias-reduced versions of two existing estimators. See also Brahimy et al. (2015), Brahimy et al. (2016) and Brahimy et al. (2018) for other papers on the subject.

In this paper, we propose a new class of estimators that encompasses one of the estimators proposed in Worms and Worms (2014) and propose a novel approach to prove the asymptotic normality of these estimators which was unknown up to now for the case $\beta = 0$. We consider here that the distributions F and G are heavy-tailed, with positive and respective extreme value indices (EVI) γ_1 and γ_2 , i.e.

$$\bar{F}(x) = 1 - F(x) = x^{-1/\gamma_1} l_F(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{G}(y) = 1 - G(y) = y^{-1/\gamma_2} l_G(y),$$

where l_F and l_G are slowly varying at infinity. Our target is the EVI γ_1 , which we try to recover from our randomly censored observations.

Denoting the distribution function of Z with H , by independence of X and C we readily obtain $\bar{H}(z) = 1 - H(z) = z^{-1/\gamma} l_H(z)$, where $l_H = l_F l_G$ and the EVI γ of Z is related to those of X and C via the important relation $1/\gamma = 1/\gamma_1 + 1/\gamma_2$. Further in this paper, we will denote by p the crucial quantity $p = \gamma/\gamma_1 = \gamma_2/(\gamma_1 + \gamma_2) \in]0, 1[$, which has to be interpreted as the asymptotic proportion of non-censored observations in the tail.

We assume in this work that the slowly varying functions l_F and l_G satisfy the second order condition first proposed by Hall and Welsh (1985). This yields the so called "Hall-type" model, i.e. as $x, y \rightarrow +\infty$,

$$\bar{F}(x) = C_1 x^{-1/\gamma_1} (1 + D_1 x^{-\beta_1} (1 + o(1))) \quad (1)$$

$$\bar{G}(y) = C_2 y^{-1/\gamma_2} (1 + D_2 y^{-\beta_2} (1 + o(1))) \quad (2)$$

where $\beta_1, \beta_2, C_1, C_2$ are positive constants and D_1, D_2 are real constants. Then, setting

$$C = C_1 C_2, \quad \beta_* = \min(\beta_1, \beta_2), \quad \text{and} \quad D_* = \begin{cases} D_1 & \text{if } \beta_1 < \beta_2, \\ D_2 & \text{if } \beta_2 < \beta_1, \\ D_1 + D_2 & \text{if } \beta_1 = \beta_2, \end{cases}$$

we have, as $z \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\bar{H}(z) = C z^{-1/\gamma} (1 + D_* z^{-\beta_*} (1 + o(1))). \quad (3)$$

Correspondingly, with $H^-(u) = \inf\{z : H(z) \geq u\}$ ($0 < u < 1$) the quantile function corresponding to H , we consider $U_H(x) = H^-(1 - 1/x)$, the right-tail function of H , for which as $x \rightarrow \infty$,

$$U_H(x) = C^\gamma x^\gamma (1 + \gamma D_* C^{-\beta_* \gamma} x^{-\beta_* \gamma} (1 + o(1))). \quad (4)$$

Let us now explain how we build our new family of estimators of γ_1 . For some real number β , consider the Box-Cox transform $k_{-\beta}(u) = \int_1^u t^{-\beta-1} dt$ for $u > 1$, with the case $\beta = 0$ leading to $k_0(u) = \log(u)$. Based on the relation

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[k_{-\beta}(X/t) | X > t] = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^\infty \frac{\bar{F}(ut)}{\bar{F}(t)} dk_{-\beta}(u) = \frac{\gamma_1}{1 + \beta \gamma_1}, \quad (5)$$

and estimating \bar{F} by the Kaplan-Meier estimator \bar{F}_n^{KM} defined for $t < Z_{n,n}$ by

$$\bar{F}_n^{KM}(t) = \prod_{Z_{i,n} \leq t} \left(\frac{n-i}{n-i+1} \right)^{\delta_{i,n}}, \quad (6)$$

we introduce the following class of statistics

$$\hat{T}_k(\beta) := \sum_{j=2}^k \frac{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-j+1,n})}{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-k,n})} \left(k_{-\beta} \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right) - k_{-\beta} \left(\frac{Z_{n-j,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right) \right) \quad (7)$$

where $k = k_n$ denotes an integer sequence satisfying $k_n \rightarrow \infty$ and $k_n = o(n)$. With $\beta = 0$ we thus obtain the estimator

$$\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)} := \hat{T}_k(0) = \sum_{j=2}^k \frac{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-j+1,n})}{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-k,n})} \log \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-j,n}} \right) \quad (8)$$

of γ_1 which was considered in Worms and Worms (2014) and Beirlant et al. (2018). In fact $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$ turns out to be very close to the estimator $\sum_{j=1}^k \frac{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-j+1,n}^-)}{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-k,n})} \log \frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-j,n}}$ defined in equation (12) of Worms and Worms (2014) based on ideas issued from the so-called Leurgans approach in survival regression analysis. The difference concerns a different way to circumvent the use of \bar{F}_n^{KM} at $Z_{n,n}$: whether using left-limits or deleting $\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n,n})$ as in $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$.

Note that the statistics $\hat{T}_k(\beta)$ were used in Beirlant et al. (2018) to obtain a bias-reduced version of the estimator $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$:

$$\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)} = \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)} - \frac{(1 + \beta_1 \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)})^2 (1 + 2\beta_1 \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)})}{(\beta_1 \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)})^2} \left(\hat{T}_k(\beta_1) - \frac{\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}}{1 + \beta_1 \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}} \right), \quad (9)$$

where β_1 denotes the second order parameter of F in assumption (1).

Now, it is clear from (5) that we can construct the following estimator of γ_1 when the tuning parameter β is supposed to be larger than $-1/\gamma_1$:

$$\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta) = \frac{\hat{T}_k(\beta)}{1 - \beta \hat{T}_k(\beta)}. \quad (10)$$

We will compare these estimators with the pseudo maximum likelihood estimator which was first proposed in the random censoring context by Beirlant et al. (2007) and Einmahl et al. (2008):

$$\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(H)} = \frac{1}{\hat{p}_n} \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \log \frac{Z_{n-i+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \quad \text{where} \quad \hat{p}_n = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \delta_{n-i+1,n}. \quad (11)$$

In Beirlant et al. (2018) a small sample simulation study was performed using all those available estimators and it was found that $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$ overall shows quite good bias and MSE performance. However, since no results on the asymptotic normality of this estimator were available yet, these authors proposed the use of a bootstrap algorithm to construct confidence intervals. In this paper we prove the asymptotic normality of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ in the case $p + \beta\gamma > \frac{1}{2}$. Hence this paper provides the first complete proof of the asymptotic normality for $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$ in case $p > \frac{1}{2}$, issued from an explicit asymptotic development stated in Theorem 1 of the next section. In the deterministic threshold case, this central limit result (for $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$) had already been obtained in Worms and Worms (2018), where a more general competing risks setting was considered, and using a different approach from the present proof.

The restriction $p > \frac{1}{2}$ is rather restrictive for instance in insurance problems such as those discussed in Beirlant et al. (2018) where heavy censoring appears. The introduction of the class of estimators $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ helps to circumvent this problem when considering $\beta > 0$.

Finally, in the next section, we will see that our results also lead to the statement of the asymptotic normality of the bias-reduced estimator $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}$, which was not known so far.

Our paper is organized as follows: in Section 2, we state and discuss the asymptotic normality result

for $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ and $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}$. Section 3 is devoted to the proof. Technical aspects of the proof are postponed to the Appendix. In Section 4 we discuss the finite sample behavior of the different estimators $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ with $\beta > -1/\gamma_1$, and of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}$.

2. Results

Our first and main result states the asymptotic behavior of the statistics $\hat{T}_k(\beta)$ defined in (7). This result entails the asymptotic normality of the estimator $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$ of γ_1 by considering the particular case $\beta = 0$. The main condition is that the heaviness of the tail of the censoring variable C should be sufficiently high with respect to the one of the variable X . More precisely, introducing the notation $p_\beta = p + \gamma\beta = p(1 + \gamma_1\beta)$, the condition is be that p_β must be larger than $1/2$ (i.e. $\gamma_2 > \gamma_1/(1 + 2\gamma_1\beta)$).

Theorem 1. *Let conditions (1) and (2) hold. We assume further that $p_\beta > \frac{1}{2}$, and*

$$\sqrt{k} (k/n)^{\gamma\beta*} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \lambda, \quad (12)$$

and, if $\lambda = 0$, that $n = O(k_n^B)$ for some large enough $B > 0$. We then have, as $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\sqrt{k} \left(\hat{T}_k(\beta) - \frac{\gamma_1}{1 + \gamma_1\beta} \right) = G_n + \lambda m_\beta + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \quad \text{where} \quad G_n \stackrel{d}{=} \frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} (p(E_i - 1) - (\mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p} - p))$$

with (E_i) and (U_i) denoting independent iid samples with, respectively, standard exponential and standard uniform distributions, and

$$m_\beta = \begin{cases} -\gamma^2 \beta_1 D_1 C^{-\gamma\beta_1} p_\beta^{-1} (p_\beta + \gamma\beta_1)^{-1} & \text{if } \beta_1 \leq \beta_2, \\ 0 & \text{if } \beta_1 > \beta_2. \end{cases}$$

Therefore, as $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\sqrt{k} \left(\hat{T}_k(\beta) - \frac{\gamma_1}{1 + \gamma_1\beta} \right) \xrightarrow{d} N(\lambda m_\beta, \sigma_\beta^2) \quad \text{where} \quad \sigma_\beta^2 = \frac{\gamma^2}{p_\beta^2} \frac{p}{2p_\beta - 1} = \gamma_1^2 \frac{p}{2p - 1} \frac{p^2}{p_\beta^2} \frac{2p - 1}{2p_\beta - 1}.$$

Since G_n is a sum of independent random variables, it is then easy, using Lyapunov's CLT and the delta-method, to derive the following asymptotic normality result for the family of estimators $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ of γ_1 defined by (10).

Corollary 1. *Under the conditions of Theorem 1, as $n \rightarrow \infty$,*

$$\sqrt{k}(\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta) - \gamma_1) \xrightarrow{d} N(\lambda m_{\gamma_1,\beta}, \sigma_{\gamma_1,\beta}^2)$$

where

$$\sigma_{\gamma_1,\beta}^2 = \frac{\gamma^2}{p_\beta^2} \frac{p}{2p_\beta - 1} (1 + \beta\gamma_1)^4 = \gamma_1^2 \frac{p}{2p - 1} (1 + \beta\gamma_1)^2 \frac{2p - 1}{2p_\beta - 1}$$

and

$$m_{\gamma_1,\beta} = \begin{cases} -\gamma^2 \beta_1 D_1 C^{-\gamma\beta_1} p_\beta^{-1} (p_\beta + \gamma\beta_1)^{-1} (1 + \beta\gamma_1)^2 & \text{if } \beta_1 \leq \beta_2, \\ 0 & \text{if } \beta_1 > \beta_2. \end{cases}$$

Remark 1. Since $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)} = \hat{T}_k(0) = \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(0)$, taking $\beta = 0$ in Theorem 1 or in Corollary 1 entails the asymptotic normality for $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$ when $p > 1/2$, i.e. when $\gamma_2 > \gamma_1$. When $\beta > 0$, the asymptotic normality for $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ holds under the weaker assumption $p_\beta > 1/2$, i.e. $\gamma_2 > \gamma_1/(1 + 2\gamma_1\beta)$, and therefore allowing for stronger censoring in the tail. On the other hand the restriction becomes worse for negative β .

When $\beta_1 \leq \beta_2$ the absolute value of the asymptotic bias of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ is increasing in β . For a bias comparison for the case $\beta_1 > \beta_2$ one needs third order assumptions. On the other hand the asymptotic variance of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ is decreasing in β as long as $p_\beta < 1$ and is increasing as $p_\beta > 1$. It is difficult to say anything in general about the comparison of the asymptotic mean-squared error of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ with respect to $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$. It is of course, when $\beta > 0$ and p gets close to the value $1/2$, in favor of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$, at least from a theoretical point of view.

Remark 2. From Einmahl et al. (2008) it follows that the asymptotic variance of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(H)}$ is given by $\frac{1}{k} \frac{\gamma_1^2}{p}$, which, for all $1/2 < p < 1$ is lower than the asymptotic variance $\frac{1}{k} \frac{p\gamma_1^2}{2p-1}$ of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$.

On the other hand, in case $\beta_1 \leq \beta_2$ it follows from Beirlant et al. (2016) that the absolute value of the asymptotic bias of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(H)}$ equals $(k/n)^{\gamma_{\beta*}} |m_{\gamma_1,0}| \frac{1+\gamma_1\beta_1}{1+\gamma\beta_1}$, which is larger than $(k/n)^{\gamma_{\beta*}} |m_{\gamma_1,0}|$ stated in the above theorem.

Remark 3. The asymptotic distribution of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$ in case $p \leq \frac{1}{2}$, and in general of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ in case $p_\beta \leq \frac{1}{2}$, is not known. The authors conjecture that asymptotic normality still holds, however with a slower rate than $k^{-1/2}$, presumably k^{-p} when $p < 1/2$, but the method of proof outlined below could not be carried through in that case.

Combining the asymptotic developments of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$ and $\hat{T}_k(\beta)$ for $\beta = \beta_1$, which are both weighted sums of the same i.i.d. random variables $p(E_i - 1) - (\mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p} - p)$, and relying on the two-dimensional Lyapunov's CLT and the delta-method, it is now possible to deduce the following asymptotic normality result for the bias-reduced version of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$ introduced in Beirlant et al. (2018). The proof is omitted for brevity.

Corollary 2. Under the conditions of Theorem 1 and assuming that $p > 1/2$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we have

$$\sqrt{k}(\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)} - \gamma_1) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \sigma_{(BR)}^2)$$

where, with $\delta = p_{\beta_1} - p = \gamma\beta_1$,

$$\sigma_{(BR)}^2 := \gamma_1^2 \frac{p}{2p-1} \frac{(p+\delta)^2((p+\delta)^2 + (1-p)^2 + \delta + \delta^2)}{\delta^2(2p-1+\delta)(2p-1+2\delta)}.$$

Remark 4. While the asymptotic bias of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}$ is always 0, its asymptotic variance is in general larger than those of the competing estimators.

3. Proof of Theorem 1

Let us introduce the following important notations with $1 \leq i, j \leq k$:

$$\xi_j = j \log \frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-j,n}} \quad \text{and} \quad u_{i,k} = \frac{i}{k+1}, \quad (13)$$

as well as the ratios

$$\widehat{RF}_j = \frac{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-j+1,n})}{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-k,n})} \quad \text{and} \quad RF_j = \frac{\bar{F}(Z_{n-j+1,n})}{\bar{F}(Z_{n-k,n})}. \quad (14)$$

If we also define $\xi_{j,k,\beta} = \xi_j$ if $\beta = 0$ and otherwise

$$\xi_{j,k,\beta} = j \left(k_{-\beta} \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right) - k_{-\beta} \left(\frac{Z_{n-j,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right) \right) = \frac{j}{\beta} \left(\left(\frac{Z_{n-j,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta} - \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta} \right)$$

then, from (7), we have

$$\hat{T}_k(\beta) := \sum_{j=2}^k \frac{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-j+1,n})}{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-k,n})} \frac{\xi_{j,k,\beta}}{j}$$

where, using a Taylor expansion (of order 2),

$$\xi_{j,k,\beta} = \frac{j}{\beta} \left(\exp^{-\beta \log \left(\frac{Z_{n-j,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)} - \exp^{-\beta \log \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)} \right) = \xi_j \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta} + \beta \frac{\xi_j^2}{2j} \left(\frac{\tilde{Z}_{j,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta}, \quad (15)$$

for some variables $\tilde{Z}_{j,n}$ satisfying $Z_{n-j,n} \leq \tilde{Z}_{j,n} \leq Z_{n-j+1,n}$.

The overall objective is to appropriately use the relation between the variables ξ_j and standard exponential order statistics $E_j^{(n)}$ defined below, as well as between the ratios RF_j and $(Z_{n-j+1,n}/Z_{n-k,n})^{-\beta}$ and uniform order statistics $V_{j,k}$ (with mean $u_{j,k}$) also defined below, in order to prove Theorem 1. Indeed, let (Y_i) denote i.i.d. standard Pareto rv's defined by $Z_i = U_H(Y_i)$, and let

$$\tilde{Y}_{k-j+1,k} = Y_{n-j+1,n}/Y_{n-k,n}, \quad V_{j,k} = 1/\tilde{Y}_{k-j+1,k}, \quad \text{and} \quad E_j^{(n)} = j \log(Y_{n-j+1,n}/Y_{n-j,n}), \quad 1 \leq j \leq k. \quad (16)$$

It is then known that $(V_{1,k}, \dots, V_{j,k}, \dots, V_{k,k})$ follows the distribution of the vector of order statistics of a standard uniform random sample of size k , and that the variables $(E_1^{(n)}, \dots, E_k^{(n)})$ are jointly equal in distribution to a sample of size k of independent standard exponential rv's.

Beirlant et. al. (2002) showed that the rv's ξ_j and $E_j^{(n)}$ are related as follows:

$$\xi_j = \xi'_j + R_{n,j}, \text{ where we define } \xi'_j = (\gamma + u_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta*} b_{n,k}) E_j^{(n)}, \quad (17)$$

where $b_{n,k}$ is asymptotically equivalent to $-\gamma^2 \beta_* D_* C^{-\gamma\beta*} \left(\frac{k+1}{n+1}\right)^{\gamma\beta*}$, as $k, n \rightarrow \infty$ and $k/n \rightarrow 0$. Properties of the remainder term $R_{n,j}$ will be detailed in Subsection 3.1. Equation (17) thus implies that

$$\xi_{j,k,\beta} = \xi'_{j,k,\beta} + R_{n,j,\beta}, \quad (18)$$

where

$$\xi'_{j,k,\beta} = \xi'_j \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta} \quad (19)$$

$$R_{n,j,\beta} = R_{n,j} \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta} + \beta \frac{\xi_j^2}{2j} \left(\frac{\tilde{Z}_{j,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta}. \quad (20)$$

We can now start breaking down $\hat{T}_k(\beta) - \frac{\gamma_1}{1+\gamma_1\beta}$ into several terms by writing:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{T}_k(\beta) - \frac{\gamma_1}{1+\gamma_1\beta} &= \sum_{j=2}^k \widehat{RF}_j \frac{\xi_{j,k,\beta}}{j} - \frac{\gamma_1}{1+\gamma_1\beta} = \left(\sum_{j=2}^k \widehat{RF}_j \frac{\xi'_{j,k,\beta}}{j} - \frac{\gamma_1}{1+\gamma_1\beta} \right) + \sum_{j=2}^k \widehat{RF}_j \frac{R_{n,j,\beta}}{j} \\ &= \sum_{j=2}^k \left(\frac{\widehat{RF}_j}{RF_j} - 1 \right) RF_j \frac{\xi'_{j,k,\beta}}{j} \\ &\quad + \left(\sum_{j=2}^k RF_j \frac{\xi'_{j,k,\beta}}{j} - \frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} \right) \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} - \frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=2}^k \widehat{RF}_j \frac{R_{n,j,\beta}}{j} \\ &= T_{k,n}^{(1)} + T_{k,n}^{(2)} + R_n^{(0)} + R_n^{(1)}, \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} T_{k,n}^{(1)} &= \sum_{j=2}^k \left(\log \widehat{RF}_j - \log RF_j \right) RF_j \frac{\xi'_{j,k,\beta}}{j} + \sum_{j=2}^k \left\{ -\log \frac{\widehat{RF}_j}{RF_j} - \left(1 - \frac{\widehat{RF}_j}{RF_j} \right) \right\} RF_j \frac{\xi'_{j,k,\beta}}{j} \\ &= T_{k,n}^{(1,1)} + T_{k,n}^{(1,2)}. \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

The term $T_{k,n}^{(1,1)}$ is introduced in order to make logarithms of the Kaplan-Meier product appear, leading to manageable sums. Indeed, by definition of \bar{F}_n^{KM} we find that

$$\log \widehat{RF}_j = \sum_{i=j}^k \delta_{n-i+1,n} \log \left(\frac{i-1}{i} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \log RF_j = -\frac{1}{\gamma_1} \sum_{i=j}^k \frac{\xi_i}{i} + \left(\log RF_j + \frac{1}{\gamma_1} \log \frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right).$$

Consequently, defining the following important notations

$$RF_{j,\beta} = RF_j \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta} \quad i = 2, \dots, k, \quad (23)$$

and

$$S_{i,k,\beta} = \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i RF_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j}, \quad i = 2, \dots, k, \quad (24)$$

by inverting sums we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} T_{k,n}^{(1,1)} &= \sum_{i=2}^k \left[\frac{1}{\gamma_1} (\xi_i - \gamma) + (\delta_{n-i+1,n} i \log \left(\frac{i-1}{i} \right) + p) \right] S_{i,k,\beta} - \sum_{j=2}^k \left(\log RF_j + \frac{1}{\gamma_1} \log \frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right) RF_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j} \\ &= T_{k,n}^{(1,1,1)} - T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2)}. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

To summarize,

$$\hat{T}_k(\beta) - \frac{\gamma_1}{1 + \gamma_1 \beta} = T_{k,n}^{(1,1,1)} - T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2)} + T_{k,n}^{(1,2)} + T_{k,n}^{(2)} + R_n^{(0)} + R_n^{(1)}. \quad (26)$$

Introducing now the additional notations

$$c_i = 1 + i \log \frac{i-1}{i}, \quad A_{i,n} = p(E_i^{(n)} - 1) - (\delta_{n-i+1,n} - p), \quad \text{and} \quad B_{i,n} = \frac{1}{\gamma_1} b_{n,k} u_{i,k}^{\beta_* \gamma} E_i^{(n)},$$

and using (17), one readily obtains the following formula for the main term $T_{k,n}^{(1,1,1)}$:

$$T_{k,n}^{(1,1,1)} = \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta} + \sum_{i=2}^k B_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta} + \sum_{i=2}^k \delta_{n-i+1,n} c_i S_{i,k,\beta} + \frac{1}{\gamma_1} \sum_{i=2}^k R_{n,i} S_{i,k,\beta}. \quad (27)$$

In the sequel, we will show that the variables $S_{i,k,\beta}$ can be approximated appropriately by $\frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{k+1} u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1}$. Also, as it is explained in Einmahl et al. (2008), on one hand the parameter $p = \gamma/\gamma_1 = \frac{\gamma_2}{\gamma_1 + \gamma_2}$ is the limit of $p(z) = \mathbb{P}(\delta = 1 | Z = z)$ as $z \rightarrow \infty$, and on the other hand the original observations $(Z_i, \delta_i)_{i \leq n}$ have the same distribution as the variables $(Z'_i, \delta'_i)_{i \leq n}$, where $(Z'_i)_{i \leq n}$ is an independent copy of the sequence $(Z_i)_{i \leq n}$, $\delta'_i = \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p(Z'_i)}$ and $(U_i)_{i \leq n}$ denotes some given i.i.d. sequence of standard uniform random variables (shortened to rv's), which are independent of the sequence $(Z'_i)_{i \leq n}$. We thus carry on the proof by considering from now on that the observations δ_i and Z_i are related by the formula

$$\delta_i = \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p(Z_i)}.$$

Mimicking what is done in Einmahl et al. (2008), we will later (see proof of Lemma 8) approximate the rv's $\delta_{n-i+1,n}$ by i.i.d Bernoulli rv's $\mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p}$.

The main goal will thus be to prove that the term $\sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta}$ above is (up to a bias term) close to the main random term appearing in Theorem 1

$$\frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k \{p(E_i - 1) - (\mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p} - p)\} u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} \quad (28)$$

The other terms in (27) will be bias or remainder terms, noting that the coefficients c_i are close to 0.

The second term $T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2)}$ in (26) turns out to be adding to the bias since it only involves the slowly varying function l_F . The treatment of the third term $T_{k,n}^{(1,2)}$ above is very important since it strongly participates to the approximation of a ratio of the form $\bar{F}_n^{KM}(x)/\bar{F}_n^{KM}(y)$ by the ratio $\bar{F}(x)/\bar{F}(y)$, for very large values of x and y . Such approximation is delicate. Invoking results from survival analysis, we will show however that $T_{k,n}^{(1,2)}$ is a remainder term.

Next, $T_{k,n}^{(2)}$ is decomposed using the variables $(V_{j,k})$ introduced in (16):

$$T_{k,n}^{(2)} = \frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k \left(V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \right) u_{j,k}^{-1} + \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \frac{\xi'_j - \gamma}{j} + \sum_{j=2}^k \left(RF_{j,\beta} - V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \right) \frac{\xi'_j}{j}. \quad (29)$$

According to the definition of ξ'_j , we can see that the second term of this decomposition is close to $\frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k (E_j - 1) u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1}$. While this is part of the main term described in (28), we will find in Proposition 3 that this term is neutralized by another part of $T_{k,n}^{(2)}$, so that $T_{k,n}^{(2)}$ is just a bias term. Finally $R_n^{(0)}$ and $R_n^{(1)}$ will also turn out to be remainder terms.

The rest of the section is organised as follows. In subsection 3.1, we set additional notations and state

some preliminary approximation results needed in the sequel. In subsection 3.2 we state the asymptotic results for all terms in (26) and conclude the proof.

3.1. Additional notations and important preliminary results

- First, in the sequel we will regularly work under the following event, for some $\alpha > 1$ arbitrary close to 1,

$$\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha} = \left\{ \forall 1 \leq j \leq k, \alpha^{-1}u_{j,k} \leq V_{j,k} \leq \alpha u_{j,k} \right\}, \quad (30)$$

where $u_{j,k}$ and $V_{j,k}$ are defined in (13) and (16). According to Shorack and Wellner (1986) (chapter 8), for every $\alpha > 1$ we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}) = 1$. In the proof section, working "on the event $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$ " will thus mean stating bounds or results which are valid with an arbitrary large probability.

- Secondly, the remainder term $R_{n,j}$ defined in the second-order exponential representation of the log-spacings (17) satisfy, according to Theorem 2.1 in Beirlant et. al. (2002),

$$\left| \sum_{j=i}^k \frac{R_{n,j}}{j} \right| = o_{\mathbb{P}}(b_{n,k} \log_+(\frac{1}{u_{i,k}})). \quad (31)$$

- Thirdly, under assumptions (1) and (2), since $Z_i = U_H(Y_i)$, one can show using (1) and (4) that

$$RF_{j,\beta} = \frac{\bar{F}(Z_{n-j+1,n})}{\bar{F}(Z_{n-k,n})} \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta} = V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} (1 + C_{j,k,\beta}), \quad (32)$$

where $C_{j,k,\beta} = Y_{n-k,n}^{-\gamma\beta*} D_\beta C^{-\gamma\beta*} (\tilde{Y}_{k-j+1,k}^{-\gamma\beta*} - 1)(1 + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1))$ and $D_\beta = D - \gamma\beta D_*$ with $D = -\frac{\gamma}{\gamma_1} D_*$ if $\beta_2 < \beta_1$, $D = D_1 - \frac{\gamma}{\gamma_1} D_*$ if $\beta_1 \leq \beta_2$.

- Finally, using Rényi representation (see for example (4.3) in Beirlant et. al. (2004)) and a Taylor expansion, one obtains that for every $2 \leq j \leq k$,

$$V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} = -p_\beta u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \left(\sum_{i=j}^k \frac{E_i^{(n)} - 1}{i} \right) - p_\beta u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \left(\sum_{i=j}^k \frac{1}{i} - \log \left(\frac{k+1}{j} \right) \right) + \frac{p_\beta^2}{2} \tilde{V}_{j,k}^{p_\beta} (\log(V_{j,k}/u_{j,k}))^2, \quad (33)$$

where $\tilde{V}_{j,k}$ lies between $V_{j,k}$ and $u_{j,k}$. The combination of (32) and (33) thus means that the ratio $RF_{j,\beta}$ will be appropriately approximated by the deterministic weights $u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}$.

3.2. Asymptotics for the terms in (26) and conclusion of the proof

The first result stated concerns the term $T_{k,n}^{(1,1,1)}$, which contains the main term of the decomposition of $\hat{T}_k(\beta) - \frac{\gamma_1}{1+\gamma_1\beta}$ (see relations (27) and (28)).

Proposition 1. *Under the conditions of Theorem 1, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we have*

$$(a) \quad \sqrt{k} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta} = G_n + \lambda b_\beta + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1), \quad \text{where}$$

$$b_\beta = -\gamma \frac{p}{p_\beta} (1-p) (D\gamma)_* \beta_* C^{-\gamma\beta*} / (p_\beta + \gamma\beta_*) \quad \text{and} \quad (D\gamma)_* = \begin{cases} \gamma_1 D_1 & \text{if } \beta_1 < \beta_2 \\ -\gamma_2 D_2 & \text{if } \beta_2 < \beta_1 \\ \gamma_1 D_1 - \gamma_2 D_2 & \text{if } \beta_1 = \beta_2 \end{cases}$$

and G_n is equal in distribution to

$$\frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} (p(E_i - 1) - (\mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p} - p)),$$

where (E_i) and (δ_i) are independent iid samples with distributions standard exponential and standard uniform. The variable G_n is asymptotically centred gaussian distributed with variance $\sigma_\beta^2 = \frac{\gamma^2}{p_\beta^2} \frac{p}{2p_\beta - 1}$.

$$(b) \quad \sqrt{k} \sum_{i=2}^k B_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta} = \lambda b_* + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1), \quad \text{where } b_* = -\gamma^2 \frac{p}{p_\beta} D_* \beta_* C^{-\gamma\beta*} / (p_\beta + \gamma\beta_*).$$

$$(c) \quad \sum_{i=2}^k \delta_{n-i+1,n} c_i S_{i,k,\beta} = o_{\mathbb{P}}(k^{-1/2})$$

$$(d) \sum_{i=2}^k R_{n,i} S_{i,k,\beta} = o_{\mathbb{P}}(k^{-1/2})$$

The following proposition concerns the terms $R_n^{(0)}$, $R_n^{(1)}$, $T_{k,n}^{(1,2)}$ and $T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2)}$. The last two of these terms result from the replacement of the ratios of Kaplan-Meier estimates \widehat{RF}_j by the ratios of the true survival function values RF_j .

Proposition 2. *Under the conditions of Theorem 1, as $n \rightarrow \infty$,*

$$(a) R_n^{(0)} = o(k^{-1/2}), \quad (b) R_n^{(1)} = o_{\mathbb{P}}(k^{-1/2}), \quad (c) T_{k,n}^{(1,2)} = o_{\mathbb{P}}(k^{-1/2}),$$

$$(d) T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2)} = D_1(1 + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)) Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1} \sum_{j=2}^k \left(\left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta_1} - 1 \right) RF_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j} + \sum_{j=2}^k L_{n,j} RF_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j}, \text{ where}$$

$$0 \leq L_{n,j} \leq D_1^2 (Z_{n-j+1,n}^{-\beta_1} - Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1})^2 (1 + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)).$$

Moreover, $T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2)} = b_{KM} (k/n)^{\gamma\beta_*} + o_{\mathbb{P}}(k^{-1/2})$, where b_{KM} is equal to $-\frac{\gamma^2}{p_\beta} D_1 \beta_1 C^{-\gamma\beta_1} / (p_\beta + \gamma\beta_1)$ if $\beta_1 \leq \beta_2$ and to 0 if $\beta_1 > \beta_2$.

The last result concerns the behaviour of $T_{k,n}^{(2)}$: it turns out that it only generates a bias term.

Proposition 3. *We have*

$$T_{k,n}^{(2)} = -\frac{p_\beta \gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k (E_j^{(n)} - 1) \left(\frac{1}{j} \sum_{i=2}^j u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} - \frac{1}{p_\beta} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} \right) - \frac{p_\beta \gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k (E_j^{(n)} - 1) u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} \left(\sum_{i=j}^k \frac{E_i^{(n)} - 1}{i} \right)$$

$$+ \frac{b_{n,k}}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1+\gamma\beta_*} E_j^{(n)} + \frac{b_{n,k}}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k \frac{1}{u_{j,k}} (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}) u_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta_*} E_j^{(n)} + \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} C_{j,k,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j}$$

$$- \frac{p_\beta \gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} \left(\sum_{i=j}^k \frac{1}{i} - \log \frac{k+1}{j} \right) E_j^{(n)} + \frac{(p_\beta)^2 \gamma}{2(k+1)} \sum_{j=2}^k \frac{1}{u_{j,k}} \tilde{V}_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \left(\log \left(\frac{V_{j,k}}{u_{j,k}} \right) \right)^2 E_j^{(n)}. \quad (34)$$

Moreover, under the conditions of Theorem 1, when $n \rightarrow \infty$ we have

$$T_{k,n}^{(2)} = \tilde{b}_* (k/n)^{\gamma\beta_*} + o_{\mathbb{P}}(k^{-1/2}),$$

where $\tilde{b}_* = -\frac{\gamma^2 \beta_* C^{-\gamma\beta_*}}{p_\beta + \gamma\beta_*} (D_* + \frac{D_\beta}{p_\beta})$.

The proofs of all these results can be found in the Appendix. Now, since

$$\sqrt{k} \left(\hat{T}_k(\beta) - \frac{\gamma_1}{1 + \gamma_1 \beta} \right) = \sqrt{k} T_{k,n}^{(1,1,1)} + \sqrt{k} T_{k,n}^{(1,2)} - \sqrt{k} T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2)} + \sqrt{k} T_{k,n}^{(1,1,3)} + \sqrt{k} T_{k,n}^{(2)} + \sqrt{k} R_n^{(0)} + \sqrt{k} R_n^{(1)}$$

and assumption (12) holds, by combination of relation (27) and propositions 1, 2 and 3, we have proved that Theorem 1 holds, i.e. that

$$\sqrt{k} \left(\hat{T}_k(\beta) - \frac{\gamma_1}{1 + \gamma_1 \beta} \right) = G_n + \lambda m_\beta + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \xrightarrow{d} N(\lambda m_\beta, \sigma_\beta^2),$$

because it can be checked that $b_\beta + b_* - b_{KM} + \tilde{b}_*$ is actually equal to the value m_β described in the statement of Theorem 1.

4. Finite sample comparisons

In this section, we consider a comparison (using finite sample simulations) in terms of observed bias and mean squared error (MSE) of the estimators considered in this paper : $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(H)}$, $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)} = \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(0)$, $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ with $\beta \neq 0$, and $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}$. For $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$, we consider three different values of β (-1, 0.5 and 1.5). In the expression of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}$, the second order parameter β_1 of F should be estimated. Instead, we proceed as in Beirlant et al. (2018) (see equations (13) and (14) therein) by reparametrizing $\beta_1 \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}$ by $-\rho_1$ and we consider two different values of ρ_1 (-1.5 and -2) in the following formula

$$\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}(\rho_1) = \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)} - \frac{(1 - \rho_1)^2 (1 - 2\rho_1)}{\rho_1^2} \left(\hat{T}_k(-\rho_1 / \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}) - \frac{\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)}}{1 - \rho_1} \right).$$

For the study of the sensitivity of this definition of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}(\rho_1)$ with respect to the choice of ρ_1 , we refer to Beirlant et al. (2018).

We consider two classes of heavy-tailed distributions for the target and censoring variables X and C :

- Burr(θ, β, λ) with d.f. $1 - (\frac{\theta}{\theta + x^\beta})^\lambda$, which extreme value index is $\frac{1}{\lambda\beta}$.
- Fréchet(γ) with d.f. $\exp(-x^{-1/\gamma})$, which extreme value index is γ .

For each considered distribution, 2000 random samples of length $n = 500$ were generated ; median bias and MSE of the above-mentioned estimators are plotted against different values of k_n , the number of excesses used.

We considered two cases : a Burr distribution censored by another Burr distribution (Fig.1), a Fréchet distribution censored by another Fréchet distribution (Fig.2). In each case, we considered a situation with $p > 1/2$, which corresponds to weak censoring in the tail, and the reverse situation with $p < 1/2$, which corresponds to strong censoring. In the Burr case, we also considered situations with $\beta_1 < \beta_2$, and reverse situations with $\beta_1 > \beta_2$. Indeed, for Fréchet distributions, β_1 is always larger than β_2 in the case $p > 1/2$ and β_1 is always lower than β_2 in the case $p < 1/2$.

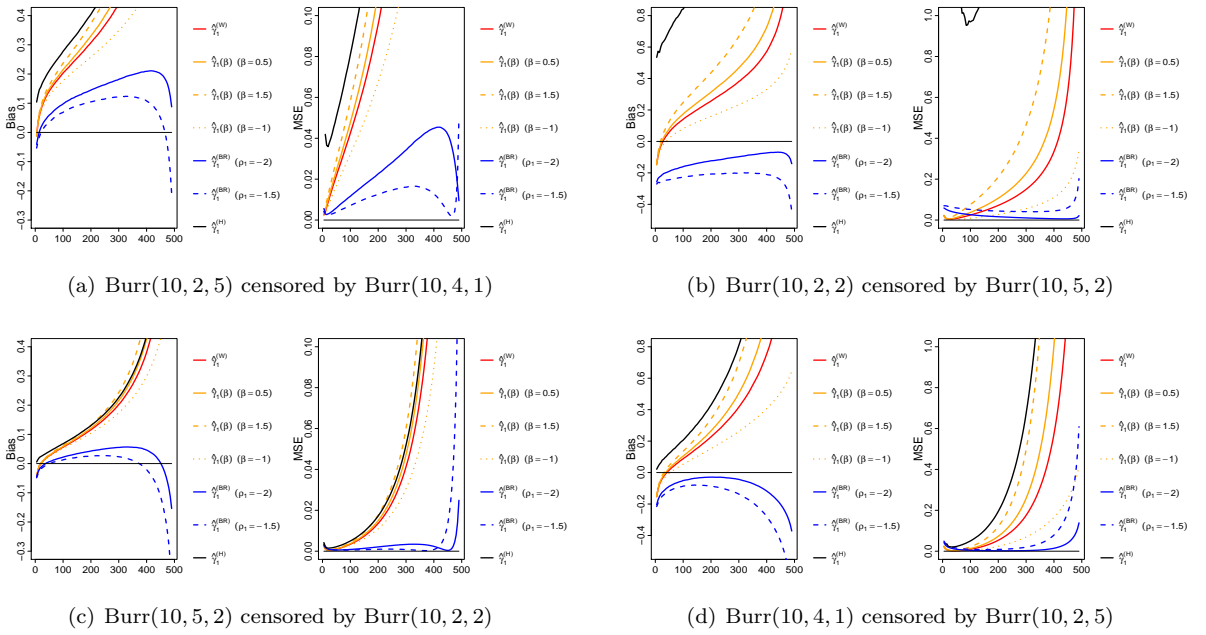


Figure 1: Comparison of bias and MSE for $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(H)}$, $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)} = \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(0)$, $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ and $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}(\rho_1)$ for a Burr distribution censored by another Burr distribution : (a) $\beta_1 = 2 < \beta_2 = 5$ and $p > 1/2$, (b) $\beta_1 = 2 < \beta_2 = 5$ and $p < 1/2$, (c) $\beta_1 = 5 > \beta_2 = 2$ and $p > 1/2$, (d) $\beta_1 = 5 > \beta_2 = 2$ and $p < 1/2$

This small simulation study shows that the MSE of $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ is globally decreasing with lower values of β , even when the condition $p_\beta > \frac{1}{2}$ for the above asymptotic normality result is not met, as in the case with $\beta = -1$ and $p < \frac{1}{2}$. This is probably due to the decreasing bias with decreasing β , the bias being the dominating component in the MSE.

On the other hand $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}$ overall reduces the MSE for most k , except in the heavy censoring Fréchet case. The non-optimal behavior for small values of k is a well-known characteristic of bias reduced estimators. In Beirlant et al. (2018) a penalized bias reduction technique was proposed to remedy this fact.

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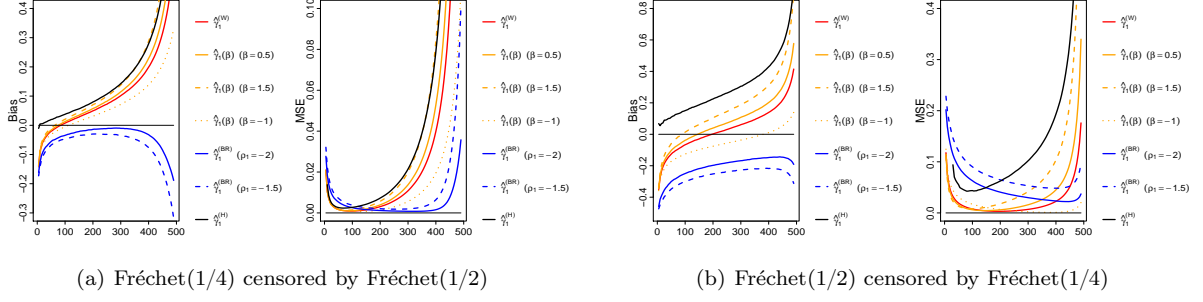


Figure 2: Comparison of bias and MSE for $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(H)}$, $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(W)} = \hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(0)$, $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}(\beta)$ and $\hat{\gamma}_{1,k}^{(BR)}(\rho_1)$ for a Fréchet distribution censored by another Fréchet distribution : (a) $\beta_1 = 4 > \beta_2 = 2$ and $p > 1/2$, (b) $\beta_1 = 2 < \beta_2 = 4$ and $p < 1/2$.

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5. Appendix

5.1. Useful Lemmas

Some of the following ten Lemmas are used several times in the proof of Propositions 1, 2 and 3.

Lemma 1. *For any integer $i \geq 2$ and every $k \geq i$, we have*

$$c_i = 1 + i \log \frac{i-1}{i} \in \left[-\frac{1}{i}, 0 \right] \quad (35)$$

$$\sum_{j=i}^k \frac{1}{j} - \log \frac{k+1}{i} \in \left[0, \frac{1}{i} \right] \quad (36)$$

Moreover, for any given $a \in]0, 1[$, there exist some positive constants $C_1 < C_2$ such that, for all $2 \leq i \leq k$

$$d_{i,k} = \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{-a} - \frac{1}{1-a} u_{i,k}^{-a} \right) \in \left[-\frac{C_2}{u_{i,k}(k+1)^{1-a}}, -\frac{C_1}{u_{i,k}(k+1)^{1-a}} \right], \quad (37)$$

as well as, if $a < 0$,

$$d_{i,k} = \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{-a} - \frac{1}{1-a} u_{i,k}^{-a} \right) \in \left[-\frac{1}{u_{i,k}(k+1)}, \frac{-a}{u_{i,k}(k+1)} \right]. \quad (38)$$

Lemma 2. *For any $a < 1$, we have, as $n \rightarrow \infty$,*

$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=1}^k u_{j,k}^{-a} \rightarrow \frac{1}{1-a}, \quad (39)$$

and, under assumptions (1) and (2),

$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=1}^k u_{j,k}^{-a} \xi_j \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} \frac{\gamma}{1-a}, \quad (40)$$

(equation (40) also holds for ξ'_j instead of ξ_j) and, if X_j denotes either E_j , $E_j - 1$ or $|E_j - 1|$, where (E_j) are standard exponential iid random variables, then we have

$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=1}^k u_{j,k}^{-a} X_j \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} \frac{\mathbb{E}(X_1)}{1-a}, \text{ as } n \rightarrow +\infty. \quad (41)$$

Lemma 3. *For any $a > 1$, we have, as $n \rightarrow \infty$,*

$$\sum_{j=1}^k j^{-a} \rightarrow \zeta(a) \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow +\infty, \quad (42)$$

where ζ is the Riemann Zeta function. Moreover, for any $\delta > 0$, under (1) and (2),

$$\frac{1}{k^{a+\delta}} \sum_{j=1}^k u_{j,k}^{-a} \xi_j \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0, \text{ as } n \rightarrow +\infty, \quad (43)$$

(equation (43) also holds for ξ'_j instead of ξ_j) and, if (X_j) is a sequence of i.i.d. random variables such that $\mathbb{E}(|X_1|) < +\infty$, then

$$\frac{1}{k^{a+\delta}} \sum_{j=1}^k u_{j,k}^{-a} X_j \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0, \text{ as } n \rightarrow +\infty. \quad (44)$$

Lemma 4. *If $(V_{j,k})_{1 \leq j \leq k}$ are the order statistics of k standard uniform random variables then, for any $0 < \delta < 1$ and $a > 0$, we have, as $k \rightarrow \infty$,*

$$\sqrt{k} \max_{2 \leq j \leq k} \frac{|V_{j,k}^a - u_{j,k}^a|}{u_{j,k}^{a-1/2-\delta/2}} = O_{\mathbb{P}}(1). \quad (45)$$

Lemma 5. *If (E_j) are standard exponential iid random variables, then $\max_{2 \leq j \leq k} |E_j| = O_{\mathbb{P}}(\log k)$.*

Lemma 6. (See de Haan and Ferreira (2006) Proposition B.1.9)

Suppose $f \in RV_\alpha$. If $x > 0$ and $\delta_1, \delta_2 > 0$ are given, then there exists $t_0 = t_0(\delta_1, \delta_2)$ such that for any $t \geq t_0$ satisfying $tx \geq t_0$, we have

$$(1 - \delta_1)x^\alpha \min(x^{\delta_2}, x^{-\delta_2}) < \frac{f(tx)}{f(t)} < (1 + \delta_1)x^\alpha \max(x^{\delta_2}, x^{-\delta_2}).$$

If $x \geq 1$, then there exists $t_0 = t_0(\epsilon)$ such that for every $t \geq t_0$,

$$(1 - \epsilon)x^{\alpha-\epsilon} < \frac{f(tx)}{f(t)} < (1 + \epsilon)x^{\alpha+\epsilon}. \quad (46)$$

Lemma 7. If $(E_i)_{i \leq k}$ are standard exponential iid random variables, then if $p_\beta > 1/2$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=3}^k (E_i - 1) \left\{ \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} (E_j - 1) \right\} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0, \quad (47)$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=3}^k (E_i - 1) \left\{ \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,n}^{p_\beta+d-1} E_j \right\} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0 \quad (\text{for any } d \geq 0) \quad (48)$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=3}^k u_{i,k}^{\beta*\gamma} E_i \left\{ \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} (E_j - 1) \right\} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0. \quad (49)$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=4}^k (E_i - 1) \left\{ \frac{1}{i} \sum_{l=3}^{i-1} (E_l - 1) \left(\frac{1}{l} \sum_{j=2}^{l-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} E_j \right) \right\} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0 \quad (50)$$

Lemma 8. With $\delta_{n-i+1,n}$ and $E_j^{(n)}$ being respectively defined in the introduction and in equation (16), if $p_\beta > 1/2$ then, we have, under assumptions (1) and (2), as $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=2}^k (\delta_{n-i+1,n} - p) \left\{ \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} (E_j^{(n)} - 1) \right\} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0 \quad (51)$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=2}^k (\delta_{n-i+1,n} - p) \left\{ \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,n}^{p_\beta+d-1} E_j^{(n)} \right\} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0 \quad (\text{for any } d \geq 0). \quad (52)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=3}^{k-1} (\delta_{n-i+1,n} - p) \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} E_j^{(n)} \right) \left(\sum_{l=i+1}^k \frac{E_l^{(n)} - 1}{l} \right) = \\ & \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=4}^k (E_i^{(n)} - 1) \left\{ \frac{1}{i} \sum_{l=3}^{i-1} (\delta_{n-l+1,n} - p) \left(\frac{1}{l} \sum_{j=2}^{l-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} E_j^{(n)} \right) \right\} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0 \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=4}^k (\delta_{n-i+1,n} - p) \left\{ \frac{1}{i} \sum_{l=3}^{i-1} (E_l^{(n)} - 1) \left(\frac{1}{l} \sum_{j=2}^{l-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} E_j^{(n)} \right) \right\} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0 \quad (54)$$

Lemma 9. Let $p(z) = \mathbb{P}(\delta = 1 | Z = z)$. Under the Hall model (conditions (1) and (2)),

$$p \circ U_H(x) = p + p(1-p)(D\gamma)_* \beta_* C^{-\gamma\beta*} x^{-\gamma\beta*} (1 + o(1)). \quad (55)$$

Moreover, (55) and (12) imply that

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} (p \circ U_H(n/i) - p) \rightarrow \lambda \alpha_\beta, \quad (56)$$

where $\alpha_\beta = \frac{1}{p_\beta + \gamma\beta*} p(1-p)(D\gamma)_* \beta_* C^{-\gamma\beta*}$.

Lemma 10. Using the notations introduced earlier, we have, under assumptions (1) and (2) and if $p_\beta > 1/2$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\sqrt{k} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \left(\sum_{j=2}^i (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}) \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \right) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0.$$

We now prove one after the other the Propositions 1, 2 and 3, then we will deal with the proofs of the different Lemmas in subsections 5.5 to 5.9.

5.2. Proof of Proposition 1

5.2.1. Proof of part (a)

This subsection is devoted to the study of $\sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta}$, which we divide in three parts, using statement (32) :

$$I_{1,n} + I_{2,n} + I_{3,n} = \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j} \right) + \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}) \frac{\xi'_j}{j} \right) + \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} C_{j,k,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j} \right).$$

From $I_{1,n}$ will come the asymptotically gaussian part of $\sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta}$, plus a bias term, and the other two $I_{2,n}$ and $I_{3,n}$ will be remainder terms. We will first give details about $I_{1,n}$, and then come back to $I_{2,n}$ and $I_{3,n}$ later. In order to deal with $I_{1,n}$, we begin by using relation (17) to write ξ'_j as $\gamma + \gamma(E_j^{(n)} - 1) + u_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta} b_{n,k} E_j^{(n)}$,

which divides $I_{1,n}$ in three different terms $I_{1,n} = I_{1,n}^{(1)} + I_{1,n}^{(2)} + I_{1,n}^{(3)}$.

Our first task will be to deal with the main term of the theorem, $I_{1,n}^{(1)}$. Recalling that $A_{i,n} = p(E_i^{(n)} - 1) - (\delta_{n-i+1,n} - p)$, where $\delta_i = \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p(Z_i)}$ with (U_i) uniformly distributed and independent of (Z_i) and $U_{n-i+1,n}$ denotes the uniform variable associated to $\delta_{n-i+1,n}$, this first term is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} I_{1,n}^{(1)} &= \frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} \right) \\ &= \frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} \left(p(E_i^{(n)} - 1) - (\mathbb{I}_{U_{n-i+1,n} \leq p} - p) \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} (\mathbb{I}_{U_{n-i+1,n} \leq p(Z_{n-i+1,n})} - \mathbb{I}_{U_{n-i+1,n} \leq p}) + \frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} d_{i,k} \\ &= W_{k,n} + B_{k,n} + R_{k,n} \end{aligned}$$

where we define $d_{i,k} = \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} - \frac{1}{p_\beta} u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1}$. To sum up what we have found so far,

$$\sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta} = (W_{k,n} + B_{k,n} + R_{k,n}) + (I_{1,n}^{(2)} + I_{1,n}^{(3)}) + I_{2,n} + I_{3,n}.$$

Introducing a sequence (E_i) of independent standard exponential variables, independent of the sequence (Z_i) , we can write that

$$W_{k,n} \stackrel{d}{=} \frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} (p(E_i - 1) - (\mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p} - p)) \quad \text{and} \quad B_{k,n} \stackrel{d}{=} -\frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} (\mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p(Z_{n-i+1,n})} - \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p}),$$

We prove easily that $\text{Var}(\sqrt{k}W_{k,n})$ is equivalent to the variance σ_β^2 defined in the statement of Theorem 1, and that, using Lyapunov's CLT, we have $\sqrt{k}W_{k,n} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \sigma_\beta^2)$.

Let us now deal with the term $B_{k,n} \stackrel{d}{=} B_{k,n}^{(1)} + B_{k,n}^{(2)}$, where

$$\begin{aligned} B_{k,n}^{(1)} &= -\frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} (\mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p \circ U_H(Y_{n-i+1,n})} - \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p \circ U_H(n/i)}) \\ B_{k,n}^{(2)} &= -\frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} (\mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p \circ U_H(n/i)} - \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p}). \end{aligned}$$

Following the method used for the treatment of the terms $T_{1,k}$ and $T_{2,k}$ in Einmahl et al. (2008), and using the LLN result found for instance in Chow and Teicher (1997) page 356, we can prove that $\sqrt{k}B_{k,n}^{(1)} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0$ and that (using (56), wherein constant α_β is defined) $\sqrt{k}B_{k,n}^{(2)} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} -\frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} \lambda \alpha_\beta = \lambda b_\beta$.

Concerning now the last term $R_{k,n}$ of $I_{1,n}^{(1)}$, if $p_\beta < 1$, according to inequality (37) in Lemma 1, there

exists some constant $c > 0$ such that

$$\sqrt{k}|R_{k,n}| \leq \sqrt{k} \frac{c\gamma}{(k+1)^{p_\beta+1}} \sum_{i=2}^k |A_{i,n}| \frac{1}{u_{i,k}} \leq O(1)k^{-(p_\beta-1/2-\delta)} \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=2}^k |A_{i,n}| u_{i,k}^{\delta-1},$$

for a given $\delta > 0$. But $|A_{i,n}| \leq p|E_i^{(n)} - 1| + 1 \leq E_i^{(n)} + 2$, and therefore, taking δ small enough, $\sqrt{k}R_{k,n} = o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)$ according to properties (41) and (39) (in Lemma 2, with $a = 1 - \delta$) and to the assumption $p_\beta > 1/2$. When $p_\beta > 1$, the treatment is similar, using (38) instead of (37). We have thus finished to prove that $\sqrt{k}I_{1,n}^{(1)}$ converges in distribution to $N(\lambda b_\beta, \sigma_\beta^2)$. All the remaining terms in this subsection will now be proved to be negligible.

Let us now consider the second term $I_{1,n}^{(2)}$ of $I_{1,n}$. Separating $j < i$ and $j = i$, we have

$$I_{1,n}^{(2)} = \frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{i=3}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \left(\sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} (E_j^{(n)} - 1) \right) + \frac{\gamma}{(k+1)^2} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-2} (E_i^{(n)} - 1).$$

The first term is shown to be $o_{\mathbb{P}}(k_n^{-1/2})$ by separating $A_{i,n}$ in its $(E_i^{(n)} - 1)$ and $(\delta_{n-i+1,n} - p)$ parts and relying on properties (47) and (51) stated in Lemmas 7 and 8. The second one is easy to handle using (44) and $p_\beta > 1/2$; it is then omitted.

Similarly, the third term $I_{1,n}^{(3)}$ of $I_{1,n}$ is, again separating $j < i$ and $j = i$,

$$I_{1,n}^{(3)} = \frac{b_{n,k}}{k+1} \sum_{i=3}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \left(\sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta+\gamma\beta_*-1} E_j^{(n)} \right) + \frac{b_{n,k}}{(k+1)^2} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-2+\gamma\beta_*} E_i^{(n)}.$$

Since $\sqrt{k}b_{n,k}$ converges to a constant, the first term is $o_{\mathbb{P}}(k_n^{-1/2})$ by using properties (48) and (52) (with $d = \gamma\beta_*$) stated in Lemmas 7 and 8. Again, the second one is easy to handle using (44).

Now that we have finished with $I_{1,n}$, we turn to the term $I_{2,n}$. The decomposition of ξ'_j in (17) and the fact that $\sqrt{k}b_{n,k}$ converges imply that

$$\sqrt{k}I_{2,n} = \gamma\sqrt{k} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \left(\sum_{j=2}^i (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}) \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \right) + O(1) \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \left(\sum_{j=2}^i (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}) u_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta_*} \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \right).$$

The first term of the right-hand side is very tedious and delicate to deal with, so we delayed its treatment by stating in Lemma 10 that it tends to 0 in probability when $p_\beta > 1/2$; the proof of this statement is detailed in subsection 5.8. Let us then turn to the second term, and prove that it tends to 0, and so will $\sqrt{k}I_{2,n}$ as well. Applying (45) with $a = p_\beta$, we have, for $\delta > 0$ sufficiently small such that $\epsilon = (p_\beta - \delta + \gamma\beta_*)/2$ is positive,

$$\left| \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \left(\sum_{j=2}^i (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}) u_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta_*} \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \right) \right| \leq O_{\mathbb{P}}(1)k^{-\epsilon} \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=2}^k |A_{i,n}| u_i^{\delta/2-1} \right) \left(\frac{1}{k^{3/2-\epsilon}} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{-3/2+p_\beta+\gamma\beta_*-\delta} E_j^{(n)} \right),$$

and we conclude using properties (39) and (41) with $a = 1 - \delta/2$ as well as property (44) with $a = 3/2 - 2\epsilon$.

It remains to consider the last term $I_{3,n}$ of $\sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta}$, and to prove that it is $o_{\mathbb{P}}(k_n^{-1/2})$. According to the definition of $C_{j,k,\beta}$ in relation (32) and using the fact that $\sqrt{k}Y_{n-k,n}^{-\gamma\beta_*} = \sqrt{k}(k/n)^{\gamma\beta_*} (Y_{n-k,n}/(n/k))^{-\gamma\beta_*}$ converges (thanks to assumption (12)), we have

$$\sqrt{k}I_{3,n} = O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} (V_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta_*} - 1) \frac{\xi'_j}{j} \right) = O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \left(I_{3,n}^{(1)} - I_{3,n}^{(2)} + I_{3,n}^{(3)} - I_{3,n}^{(4)} \right),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} I_{3,n}^{(1)} &= \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta+\gamma\beta_*-1} \xi'_j \right) \\ I_{3,n}^{(2)} &= \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} \xi'_j \right) \\ I_{3,n}^{(3)} &= \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta+\gamma\beta_*} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta+\gamma\beta_*}) u_{j,k}^{-1} \xi'_j \right) \\ I_{3,n}^{(4)} &= \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}) u_{j,k}^{-1} \xi'_j \right). \end{aligned}$$

Relying on property (45) (stated in Lemma 4, and applied to $a = p_\beta + \gamma\beta_*$) and on the fact that $|A_{i,n}| \leq E_i^{(n)} + 2$, we deduce that, for some given $\delta > 0$,

$$|I_{3,n}^{(3)}| \leq O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=2}^k (E_i^{(n)} + 2) u_{i,k}^{-1+\delta/2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{k^{3/2}} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{-3/2+p_\beta-\delta} \xi_j' \right).$$

Hence, properties (39), (41) and (43) imply that $I_{3,n}^{(3)}$ tends to 0. Completely similarly, we have $I_{3,n}^{(4)} = o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)$. Let us prove that $I_{3,n}^{(2)}$ also tends to 0 ($I_{3,n}^{(1)}$ is handled similarly). Separating the cases $j < i$ and $j = i$ and using the definition of ξ_j' in relation (17) yield

$$I_{3,n}^{(2)} = \frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{i=3}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} E_j^{(n)} + \frac{b_{n,k}}{k+1} \sum_{i=3}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta+\gamma\beta_*-1} E_j^{(n)} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-2} \xi_i'.$$

The convergence to 0 of the first (resp. the second) term is due to properties (48) and (52) with $d = 0$ (resp. $d = \gamma\beta_*$) in Lemmas 7 and 8. For the third term, we use $|A_{i,n}| \leq E_i^{(n)} + 2$ with Lemma 5 to write, for some given $\delta > 0$,

$$\left| \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-2} \xi_i' \right| \leq O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \frac{(\log k)^2}{k^\delta} \left(\frac{1}{k^{2-\delta}} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-2} \right).$$

The right-hand side tends to 0 according to (42), for $0 < \delta < p_\beta$. This concludes the proof for the term $\sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta}$.

5.2.2. Proof of part (b)

Recall that $B_{i,n} = \frac{1}{\gamma_1} b_{n,k} u_{i,k}^{\beta_* \gamma} E_i^{(n)}$. Since $Z_i = U_H(Y_i)$, using Potter-Bounds (6) for $(\bar{F} \circ U_H) U_H^{-\beta} \in RV_{-p_\beta}$ and working on the event $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$ defined in (30), which satisfies $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}) = 1$, we have, for $\epsilon > 0$ (remind that the sign of $b_{n,k}$ is not known),

$$b_{n,k}^{-1} \sum_{i=2}^k B_{i,n} S_{i,k} \leq (1 + \epsilon) \frac{\alpha^{p_\beta-\epsilon}}{\gamma_1} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{\beta_* \gamma} E_i^{(n)} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1-\epsilon} \xi_j' \right).$$

We are going to prove below that this upper bound, when multiplied by $\sqrt{k} b_{n,k}$, tends to a quantity arbitrary close to $b_* \lambda$ (for ϵ small and α close to 1). A very similar job can be done for the lower bound issued from the application of lower Potter-bounds for $(\bar{F} \circ U_H) U_H^{-\beta}$ and from the lower bound in the definition of $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$, and hence we will have proved that $\sqrt{k} \sum_{i=2}^k B_{i,n} S_{i,k,\beta}$ tends to $b_* \lambda$, as announced. Using (17) to split ξ_j' into three parts $\gamma + \gamma(E_j^{(n)} - 1) + u_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta_*} b_{n,k} E_j^{(n)}$, we obtain a decomposition of $\sqrt{k} b_{n,k}$ times the upper bound above into three terms $T_{B,n}^{(1)} + T_{B,n}^{(2)} + T_{B,n}^{(3)}$.

Let us prove that the limit of the first term $T_{B,n}^{(1)} = \sqrt{k} b_{n,k} (1+\epsilon) \alpha^{p_\beta-\epsilon} \frac{p}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{\beta_* \gamma} E_i^{(n)} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1-\epsilon} \right)$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, is arbitrarily close to $b_* \lambda$ (taking ϵ sufficiently small and α sufficiently close to 1). Indeed, if $p_\beta \leq 1$, inequality (37) (applied with $a = 1 - p_\beta + \epsilon$) implies that, for some positive constants C_1 and C_2 ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{p}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{\gamma\beta_*} E_i^{(n)} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1-\epsilon} \right) &\leq \frac{p}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{\gamma\beta_*+p_\beta-1-\epsilon} E_i^{(n)} - C_1 \frac{p}{(k+1)^{p_\beta-\epsilon+1}} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{\gamma\beta_*-1} E_i^{(n)} \\ &\geq \frac{p}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{\gamma\beta_*+p_\beta-1-\epsilon} E_i^{(n)} - C_2 \frac{p}{(k+1)^{p_\beta-\epsilon+1}} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{\gamma\beta_*-1} E_i^{(n)}. \end{aligned}$$

Using (41) with $a = 1 - p_\beta - \gamma\beta_* + \epsilon$ for the first term and $a = 1 - \gamma\beta_*$ for the second one, as well as the fact that $b_{n,k}$ is equivalent to $-\gamma^2 \beta_* D_* C^{-\gamma\beta_*} \left(\frac{k+1}{n+1} \right)^{\gamma\beta_*}$, we obtain via assumption (12) the desired limit $b_* \lambda$, by making ϵ tend to 0 and α tend to 1, since $-\gamma^2 \beta_* D_* C^{-\gamma\beta_*} \frac{p}{p_\beta} \frac{1}{p_\beta + \gamma\beta_*} = b_*$. In the case $p_\beta > 1$, the treatment is similar, using (38) instead of (37) above.

Secondly, in order to prove that $T_{B,n}^{(2)} = \sqrt{k} b_{n,k} (1+\epsilon) \alpha^{p_\beta-\epsilon} \frac{p}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{\beta_* \gamma} E_i^{(n)} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1-\epsilon} (E_j^{(n)} - 1) \right)$ tends to 0, we separate the terms $j = i$ (easy to handle and omitted) and $j < i$: in the latter case, we use property (49) in Lemma 7 (with $p_\beta - 1 - \epsilon$ instead of $p_\beta - 1$) and the fact that $\sqrt{k} b_{n,k}$ converges.

Finally, let us prove that $T_{B,n}^{(3)} = \sqrt{k} b_{n,k}^2 (1+\epsilon) \alpha^{p_\beta-\epsilon} \frac{p}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{\beta_* \gamma} E_i^{(n)} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta+\beta_* \gamma-1-\epsilon} E_i^{(n)} \right)$ tends

to 0. Using the fact that $\sqrt{k}b_{n,k}^2$ tends to 0, we bound this term from above by :

$$o_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \left(\frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{\beta_* \gamma - 1} E_i^{(n)} \right) \left(\frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_{\beta} + \beta_* \gamma - 1 - \epsilon} E_i^{(n)} \right).$$

We conclude the treatment of this term by using (41).

5.2.3. Proof of parts (c) and (d)

By the definition of $S_{i,k,\beta}$ in (24), and the inequality (35) in Lemma 1, use of Potter-bounds for $(\bar{F} \circ U_H)U_H^{-\beta} \in RV_{-p_{\beta}}$ yields that, for $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\left| \sum_{i=2}^k \delta_{n-i+1,n} c_i S_{i,k} \right| \leq (1 + \epsilon) \sum_{i=2}^k \frac{1}{i^2} \sum_{j=2}^i V_{j,k}^{p_{\beta} - \epsilon} \frac{\xi'_j}{j}.$$

Now, working on the event $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$, which satisfies $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}) = 1$, we have, for $\epsilon > 0$ and $\delta > 0$,

$$\left| \sum_{i=2}^k \delta_{n-i+1,n} c_i S_{i,k,\beta} \right| \leq \alpha^{p_{\beta} - \epsilon} (1 + \epsilon) \sum_{i=2}^k \frac{1}{i^2} u_{i,k}^{p_{\beta} - \epsilon} \sum_{j=2}^i \frac{\xi'_j}{j} \leq cst \left(\frac{1}{k^{2-\delta}} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_{\beta} - 2 - \epsilon} \right) \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{\delta-1} \xi'_j \right).$$

Using (42) and (40), we see that this expression is lower than $O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \times k^{-p_{\beta} + \epsilon + \delta}$, so that part (c) is proved as soon as $p_{\beta} > 1/2$, since δ and ϵ can be chosen arbitrarily small.

Finally, the definition of $S_{i,k,\beta}$ in (24) on one hand, and the relation (31) satisfied by the remainder term $R_{n,i}$ on the other hand, imply that (by inverting sums)

$$\left| \sum_{i=2}^k R_{n,i} S_{i,k,\beta} \right| \leq o_{\mathbb{P}}(b_{n,k}) \sum_{j=2}^k R F_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j} \log_+(1/u_{j,k}).$$

As usual, Potter-bounds for $(\bar{F} \circ U_H)U_H^{-\beta} \in RV_{-p_{\beta}}$ yield that, for $\epsilon > 0$, on the event $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$, we have

$$\left| \sum_{i=2}^k R_{n,i} S_{i,k} \right| \leq o_{\mathbb{P}}(b_{n,k}) \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_{\beta} - 1 - \epsilon} \xi'_j \log_+(1/u_{j,k}).$$

Now property (40) and the fact that $\sqrt{k}b_{n,k}$ converges conclude the proof.

5.3. Proof of Proposition 2

5.3.1. Proof of parts (a) and (b)

Concerning the remainder term $R_n^{(0)}$, since $\frac{1}{p_{\beta}} = \int_0^1 u^{p_{\beta}-1} du = \sum_{j=2}^k \int_{u_{j,k}}^{u_{j+1,k}} u^{p_{\beta}-1} du + u_{2,k}^{p_{\beta}}/p_{\beta}$, we obtain

$$R_n^{(0)} = \frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_{\beta}-1} - \frac{\gamma}{p_{\beta}} = \gamma \sum_{j=2}^k \int_{u_{j,k}}^{u_{j+1,k}} (u_{j,k}^{p_{\beta}-1} - u^{p_{\beta}-1}) du - \frac{\gamma 2^{p_{\beta}}}{p_{\beta}(k+1)^{p_{\beta}}}.$$

Using the mean value theorem leads to

$$\sqrt{k}|R_n^{(0)}| \leq \gamma(1 - p_{\beta})\sqrt{k} \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_{\beta}-2} + O(k^{1/2-p_{\beta}}).$$

and we conclude using property (42) and the condition $p_{\beta} > 1/2$.

Recall that $R_n^{(1)} = \sum_{j=2}^k \widehat{R F}_j \frac{R_{n,j,\beta}}{j}$, where $R_{n,j,\beta}$ is defined in (20). We write $\widehat{R F}_j = \sum_{i=2}^j (\widehat{R F}_i - \widehat{R F}_{i-1})$, where we note $\widehat{R F}_1 = 0$. Hence, inverting sums, we obtain

$$R_n^{(1)} = \sum_{i=2}^k (\widehat{R F}_i - \widehat{R F}_{i-1}) \sum_{j=i}^k \frac{R_{n,j}}{j} \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta} + \frac{\beta}{2} \sum_{i=2}^k \widehat{R F}_i \frac{\xi_i^2}{j^2} \left(\frac{\tilde{Z}_{j,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta},$$

where $Z_{n-j,n} \leq \tilde{Z}_{j,n} \leq Z_{n-j+1,n}$.

The definition of \bar{F}_n^{KM} implies that $\widehat{R F}_i - \widehat{R F}_{i-1} = \widehat{R F}_i \frac{\delta_{n-i+2,n}}{i-1}$, for $i > 2$. Thus, using (31) and $\sup_{j \geq 2} \widehat{R F}_j / R F_j = O_{\mathbb{P}}(1)$ (see the proof of part (c) below for details), we have, if we suppose $\beta \geq 0$

(the case $\beta < 0$ is very similar and thus omitted),

$$|R_n^{(1)}| \leq O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) o_{\mathbb{P}}(b_{n,k}) \sum_{i=2}^k \frac{RF_i}{i-1} \log_+ \left(\frac{1}{u_{i,k}} \right) + O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \sum_{j=2}^k RF_j \frac{\xi_j^2}{j^2} \left(\frac{Z_{n-j,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta}.$$

Now, using the fact that $Z_i = U_H(Y_i)$, Potter bounds (6) applied to $\bar{F} \circ U_H \in RV_{-p}$ and $U_H^{-\beta} = RV_{-\gamma\beta}$ enable us to write that for any given $\epsilon > 0$,

$$|R_n^{(1)}| \leq o_{\mathbb{P}}(b_{n,k}) \sum_{i=2}^k \frac{V_{i,k}^{p-\epsilon}}{i-1} \log_+ \left(\frac{1}{u_{i,k}} \right) + O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p-\epsilon} \frac{\xi_j^2}{j^2} (V_{j+1,k})^{\gamma\beta-\epsilon}.$$

Working on the event $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$ which satisfies $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}) = 1$, for every $\alpha > 1$, and using the fact that $\sqrt{k}b_{n,k}$ converges, imply that

$$\sqrt{k}|R_n^{(1)}| \leq o_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p-\epsilon-1} \log_+ \left(\frac{1}{u_{i,k}} \right) + \frac{1}{k^{3/2}} \sum_{i=2}^k u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-2\epsilon-2} \xi_j^2.$$

We conclude by (39) and (43) with $p_\beta > 1/2$.

5.3.2. Proof of part (c)

Let us now deal with the term $T_{k,n}^{(1,2)}$, which is defined in relation (22) and is a delicate part of the proof, and the only one which will require survival analysis arguments. We start by applying the bounds $0 \leq -\log(1-x) - x \leq x^2/(1-x)$ ($\forall x < 1$) to $x = 1 - \widehat{RF}_j/RF_j$ for every $j \geq 2$ (which ensures that $\widehat{RF}_j > 0$ and so $x < 1$), yielding

$$0 \leq T_{k,n}^{(1,2)} \leq \sum_{j=2}^k \frac{RF_j}{\widehat{RF}_j} \left(1 - \frac{\widehat{RF}_j}{RF_j} \right)^2 RF_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j}.$$

We then rely on the so-called Daniels bounds proved in Gill (1980) (page 39) and Zhou (1991) (Theorem 2.2), which state that both $\bar{F}_n^{KM}(t)/\bar{F}(t)$ and its inverse are bounded in probability uniformly for $t < Z_{n,n}$. Since the index j is at least equal to 2, this implies that $\sup_{j \geq 2} RF_j/\widehat{RF}_j = O_{\mathbb{P}}(1)$. Then (as in the previous subsection 5.3.1) using the fact that $Z_i = U_H(Y_i)$, Potter bounds applied to $(\bar{F} \circ U_H)U_H^{-\beta} \in RV_{-p_\beta}$ enable us to write that for any given $\epsilon > 0$,

$$0 \leq T_{k,n}^{(1,2)} \leq O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \sum_{j=2}^k \left(\frac{\widehat{RF}_j}{RF_j} - 1 \right)^2 u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1-\epsilon} (V_{j,k}/u_{j,k})^{p_\beta-\epsilon} \xi'_j.$$

Now, Theorem 2.1 in Gill (1983) applied to the function $h(t) = (\bar{H}(t))^{(1+\epsilon)/2}$ guarantees that

$$\sup_{t < Z_{n,n}} \sqrt{n} h(t) \left| \frac{\bar{F}_n^{KM}(t) - \bar{F}(t)}{\bar{F}(t)} \right| = O_{\mathbb{P}}(1), \quad (57)$$

a property which will be applied to $t = Z_{n-j+1,n}$ for every $2 \leq j \leq k$ below. Now writing $\widehat{RF}_j/RF_j - 1 = (\bar{F}(Z_{n-k,n})/\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{n-k,n}))(W_{n-j+1} - W_{n-k})$ where $W_i = (\bar{F}_n^{KM}(Z_{i,n}) - \bar{F}(Z_{i,n}))/\bar{F}(Z_{i,n})$, the combination of the crucial statement (57) with the fact that h^{-2} is nondecreasing, leads to the following bound, working on the set $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$,

$$0 \leq T_{k,n}^{(1,2)} \leq O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \frac{1}{n} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k (\bar{H}(Z_{n-j+1,n}))^{-1-\epsilon} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1-\epsilon} \xi'_j.$$

Applying then Potter-bounds (6) to the function $(\bar{H}^{-1-\epsilon}) \circ U_H \in RV_{1+\epsilon}$ then implies that, on the set $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$, we have, for any $\delta > 0$,

$$0 \leq \sqrt{k} T_{k,n}^{(1,2)} \leq O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) (\bar{H}(Z_{n-k,n}))^{-1-\epsilon} \left(\frac{k}{n} \right) k^{-\delta} \cdot \left[\frac{1}{k^{3/2-\delta}} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-2-3\epsilon} \xi_j \right].$$

First, due to (43) in Lemma 3, the expression in brackets in the right-hand side of the previous relation is $o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)$ when $p_\beta > 1/2$, as soon as δ and ϵ are sufficiently small so that $p_\beta > 1/2 + \delta + 3\epsilon$. Therefore, since $\bar{H}(Z_{n-k,n})/(k/n) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 1$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, all that is left to prove is that $(n/k)^\epsilon k^{-\delta} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. This is true when assumption (12) holds with $\lambda \neq 0$, since the latter quantity is equivalent to $\lambda^{-2\delta} (n/k)^{\epsilon-2\gamma\beta\delta}$, which indeed

converges to 0 for ϵ sufficiently small. When assumption (12) holds with $\lambda = 0$, then we use the additional assumption that $n = O(k^b)$ for some $b > 1$, which immediately yields $(n/k)^\epsilon k^{-\delta} \rightarrow 0$ for ϵ small enough. Part (b) of Proposition 2 is thus proved.

5.3.3. Proof of part (d)

Recall that $T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2)} = \sum_{j=2}^k \left(\log RF_j + \frac{1}{\gamma_1} \log \frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right) RF_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j}$. Assumption (1) implies that

$$\frac{\bar{F}(zt)}{\bar{F}(t)} = z^{-1/\gamma_1} (1 + D_1 t^{-\beta_1} (z^{-\beta_1} - 1)(1 + o_t(1))).$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \log RF_j + \frac{1}{\gamma_1} \log \frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} &= \log \left(1 + D_1 (Z_{n-j+1,n}^{-\beta_1} - Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1})(1 + o_k(1)) \right) \\ &= D_1 (Z_{n-j+1,n}^{-\beta_1} - Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1})(1 + o_k(1)) + L_{n,j}, \end{aligned}$$

where $0 \leq L_{n,j} \leq D_1^2 (Z_{n-j+1,n}^{-\beta_1} - Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1})^2 (1 + o_k(1))$. Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2)} &= D_1 (1 + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)) Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1} \sum_{j=2}^k \left(\left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta_1} - 1 \right) RF_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j} + \sum_{j=2}^k L_{n,j} RF_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j} \\ &= T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,1)} + T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, in order to prove that $\sqrt{k} T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,1)}$ tends to λb_{KM} , which is defined in the statement of Proposition 2, we deal with the following non-negative quantity, which is equivalent in probability to $T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,1)} / (-D_1)$

$$\tilde{T}_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,1)} = Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1} \sum_{j=2}^k \left(1 - \left(\frac{Z_{n-j+1,n}}{Z_{n-k,n}} \right)^{-\beta_1} \right) RF_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j}.$$

Using lower and upper Potter-bounds for $U_H^{-\beta_1} \in RV_{-\gamma\beta_1}$ and $(\bar{F} \circ U_H) U_H^{-\beta} \in RV_{-p_\beta}$ yields, for $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} &\sqrt{k} Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1} \left\{ \frac{1-\epsilon}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1+\epsilon} \xi'_j - \frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta_1+p_\beta-1-2\epsilon} \xi'_j \right\} \\ &\leq \sqrt{k} \tilde{T}_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,1)} \leq \sqrt{k} Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1} \left\{ \frac{1+\epsilon}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1-\epsilon} \xi'_j - \frac{(1-\epsilon)^2}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta_1+p_\beta-1+2\epsilon} \xi'_j \right\} \end{aligned}$$

But $Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1} = C^{-\gamma\beta_1} (1 + o(1)) \left(\frac{k}{n} \right)^{\gamma\beta_1}$ (the constant C appears in formula (4)), so $\sqrt{k} Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1}$ tends to 0 when $\beta_1 > \beta_2$ (due to (12)) and, when $\beta_1 \leq \beta_2$, $\sqrt{k} Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1}$ is equivalent to $\lambda C^{-\gamma\beta_*} = \lambda C^{-\gamma\beta_1}$. Moreover, using (30) with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}) = 1$ and property (40), we prove that $\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1+\gamma\beta_1 \pm 2\epsilon} \xi'_j$ tends to $\frac{\gamma}{p_\beta + \gamma\beta_1 \pm 2\epsilon}$ and $\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1 \pm \epsilon} \xi'_j$ tends to $\frac{\gamma}{p_\beta \pm \epsilon}$. After some simplifications, we prove that $\sqrt{k} \tilde{T}_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,1)}$ tends to b_{KM} , in Probability, by making $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$.

Finally, concerning $T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,2)} = \sum_{j=2}^k L_{n,j} RF_{j,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j}$, where $0 \leq L_{n,j} \leq D_1^2 (Z_{n-j+1,n}^{-\beta_1} - Z_{n-k,n}^{-\beta_1})^2 (1 + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1))$, we use Potter-bounds as previously to find that, for any given $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\sqrt{k} |T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,2)}| \leq O(1) \sqrt{k} Z_{n-k,n}^{-2\beta_1} \sum_{j=2}^k \left((1+\epsilon) V_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta_1-\epsilon} - 1 \right)^2 V_{j,k}^{p_\beta-\epsilon} \frac{\xi'_j}{j}$$

and we proceed as for $T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,1)}$ to prove that $\sqrt{k} T_{k,n}^{(1,1,2,2)}$ tends to 0, in Probability.

5.4. Proof of Proposition 3

Let us first establish formula (34). Recall that (see (29))

$$T_{k,n}^{(2)} = \frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{i=2}^k \left(V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \right) u_{j,k}^{-1} + \sum_{i=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \frac{\xi'_j - \gamma}{j} + \sum_{i=2}^k \left(RF_{j,\beta} - V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \right) \frac{\xi'_j}{j}.$$

The definition of ξ'_j as well as decompositions (17) and (32) yield

$$\begin{aligned} T_{k,n}^{(2)} = & \frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k \frac{1}{u_{j,k}} (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}) E_j^{(n)} + \frac{\gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} (E_j^{(n)} - 1) \\ & + \frac{b_{n,k}}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1+\gamma\beta*} E_j^{(n)} + \frac{b_{n,k}}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k \frac{1}{u_{j,k}} (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}) u_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta*} E_j^{(n)} + \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} C_{j,k,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j}. \end{aligned}$$

The last three terms of the right-hand side are left unchanged. By applying decomposition (33) to the first term, we obtain the desired decomposition (34). In particular, we can see that the second term of the right-hand side above vanishes.

Now, in order to prove the asymptotic result for $T_{k,n}^{(2)}$, we rely of course on the development (34) in 7 different terms. These terms will be treated separately, one at a time.

(a) Concerning the first term, when $p_\beta < 1$, relation (37) implies that

$$\left| \frac{p_\beta \gamma}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k (E_j^{(n)} - 1) \left(\frac{1}{j} \sum_{i=2}^j u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} - \frac{1}{p_\beta} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} \right) \right| \leq O(k^{-p_\beta}) \frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=2}^k |E_j^{(n)} - 1| u_{j,k}^{-1} \leq O(k^{\delta-p_\beta}) \frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=2}^k |E_j^{(n)} - 1| u_{j,k}^{\delta-1}.$$

Property (41) yields that this quantity is $o_{\mathbb{P}}(k^{-1/2})$ when $p_\beta > 1/2$ for δ small enough. When $p_\beta > 1$, we use (38) instead of (37) above.

(b) Concerning the second term $\frac{\gamma p_\beta}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k (E_j^{(n)} - 1) u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} \left(\sum_{i=j}^k \frac{E_i^{(n)} - 1}{i} \right)$, separating $i = j$ from $i \geq j+1$ in the sum yields that it is equal to

$$\frac{\gamma p_\beta}{(k+1)^2} \sum_{j=2}^k (E_j^{(n)} - 1)^2 u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-2} + \frac{\gamma p_\beta}{k+1} \sum_{i=3}^k (E_i^{(n)} - 1) \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} (E_j^{(n)} - 1) \right).$$

Properties (44) and (47) prove that this quantity is $o_{\mathbb{P}}(k^{-1/2})$ when $p_\beta > 1/2$.

(c) The third term in formula (34) is a bias term. Indeed, the expression of $b_{n,k}$ and property (41) show that

$$\sqrt{k} b_{n,k} \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1+\gamma\beta*} E_j^{(n)} = - \frac{\gamma^2 b_* D_* C^{-\gamma\beta*}}{p_\beta + \gamma b_*} (1 + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)) \sqrt{k} \left(\frac{k}{n} \right)^{\gamma\beta*},$$

which yields a part of the bias term appearing in the statement of Proposition 3.

(d) The fourth term is $R_{k,n} = \frac{b_{n,k}}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k (V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}) u_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta*-1} E_j^{(n)}$. Since $\sqrt{k} b_{n,k} = O(1)$, we have,

$$|R_{k,n}| \leq O(1) \sqrt{k} \max_{2 \leq j \leq k} \frac{|V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}|}{u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1/2-\delta/2}} \frac{1}{k^2} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta+\gamma\beta*-3/2-\delta/2} E_j^{(n)},$$

and properties (45) and (44) imply that $\sqrt{k} R_{k,n} = o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)$.

(e) The fifth term $B_{k,n} = \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} C_{j,k,\beta} \frac{\xi'_j}{j} = (1 + o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)) Y_{n-k,n}^{-\gamma\beta*} D_\beta C^{-\gamma\beta*} \tilde{B}_{k,n}$ will provide the second bias term, where we have noted $\tilde{B}_{k,n} = \sum_{j=2}^k V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} (V_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta*} - 1) \frac{\xi'_j}{j}$, which is equal to the sum of 2 terms

$$\tilde{B}_{k,n}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} (u_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta*} - 1) \xi'_j \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{B}_{k,n}^{(2)} = \sum_{j=2}^k \left(V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} (V_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta*} - 1) - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} (u_{j,k}^{\gamma\beta*} - 1) \right) \frac{\xi'_j}{j}.$$

Property (40) shows that $\tilde{B}_{k,n}^{(1)}$ converges to $\frac{\gamma}{p_\beta + \gamma\beta*} - \frac{\gamma}{p_\beta} = \frac{-\gamma^2\beta*}{p_\beta(p_\beta + \gamma\beta*)}$. On the other hand, we obviously have

$$|\tilde{B}_{k,n}^{(2)}| \leq \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k |V_{j,k}^{p_\beta+\gamma\beta*} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta+\gamma\beta*}| u_{j,k}^{-1} \xi'_j + \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k |V_{j,k}^{p_\beta} - u_{j,k}^{p_\beta}| u_{j,k}^{-1} \xi'_j.$$

If we show that $\frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k |V_{j,k}^a - u_{j,k}^a| u_{j,k}^{-1} \xi_j'$ tends to 0 for $a = p_\beta$ and $a = p_\beta + \gamma\beta_*$, then, since $Y_{n-k,n}^{-\gamma\beta_*}$ is equivalent to $\left(\frac{k}{n}\right)^{\gamma\beta_*}$, according to (12) we will have proved that $B_{k,n} = -\frac{\gamma^2 D_{\beta\beta_*} C^{-\gamma\beta_*}}{p_\beta(p_\beta + \gamma\beta_*)} \left(\frac{k}{n}\right)^{\gamma\beta_*} + o_{\mathbb{P}}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}\right)$. To do so, we write

$$\frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k |V_{j,k}^a - u_{j,k}^a| u_{j,k}^{-1} \xi_j' \leq O(1) \sqrt{k} \max_{2 \leq j \leq k} \frac{|V_{j,k}^a - u_{j,k}^a|}{u_{j,k}^{a-1/2-\delta/2}} \frac{1}{k^{3/2}} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{a-3/2-\delta/2} \xi_j'.$$

Since $a = p_\beta$ or $p_\beta + \gamma\beta_*$ are both $> 1/2$, properties (43) and (45) conclude the proof for the fifth term.

(f) The absolute value of the sixth term is shown, thanks to inequality (36), to be lower than

$$p_\beta \gamma \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-2} |E_j^{(n)}|.$$

Use of (44) with $a = 2 - p_\beta$ and assumption $p_\beta > 1/2$ yields that this term is $o_{\mathbb{P}}(k^{-1/2})$.

(g) Finally, we deal with the seventh and last term $R_{k,n} = \frac{(p_\beta)^2 \gamma}{2(k+1)} \sum_{j=2}^k \frac{1}{u_{j,k}} \tilde{V}_{j,k}^{p_\beta} (\log(V_{j,k}/u_{j,k}))^2 E_j^{(n)}$, where $\tilde{V}_{j,k}$ lies between $V_{j,k}$ and $u_{j,k}$. On the event $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$, we have

$$|R_{k,n}| \leq cst \max_{2 \leq j \leq k} \frac{|E_j^{(n)}|}{\log k} \frac{\log k}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k \frac{1}{u_{j,k}} \tilde{V}_{j,k}^{p_\beta} (\log(V_{j,k}/u_{j,k}))^2 \leq O_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \frac{\log k}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-3} (V_{j,k} - u_{j,k})^2,$$

where the mean value theorem and Lemma 5 were used for the second bound. Therefore, for $\delta > 0$,

$$|R_{k,n}| \leq o_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \left(\sqrt{k} \max_{2 \leq j \leq k} \frac{|V_{j,k} - u_{j,k}|}{u_{j,k}^{1/2-\delta/2}} \right)^2 \frac{k^\delta}{(k+1)^2} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-2-\delta}.$$

and properties (42) and (45) (with $a = 1$) yield $\sqrt{k} R_{k,n} = o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)$.

5.5. Proof of Lemma 1

Lemma 1 contains a number of different statements, the third and fourth ones being the most relevant in the context of this paper.

Relation (35) is a simple consequence of the inequality $-x^2 \leq \log(1-x) + x \leq 0$ ($\forall x \in [0, 1/2]$) applied to $x = 1/i$. Then, since $U(j) := \sum_{i=j}^k 1/i = \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=j}^k 1/u_{i,k}$, relation (36) comes from the fact that $\log((k+1)/j) = \sum_{i=j}^k \int_{u_{i,k}}^{u_{i+1,k}} x^{-1} dx$ is included in the interval

$$\left[\frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=j}^k 1/u_{i+1,k}, \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=j}^k 1/u_{i,k} \right] = \left[U(j) - 1/j + \frac{1}{k+1}, U(j) \right] \subset [U(j) - 1/j, U(j)].$$

The spirit of the proof of relation (37) is similar : for a given $0 < a < 1$, setting $\Delta_{i,k} = u_{i,k} d_{i,k}$ and noting that $u_{i,k}^{1-a}/(1-a) = \int_0^{u_{i,k}} u^{-a} du$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{i,k} &= \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{-a} - \frac{1}{1-a} u_{i,k}^{1-a} = \sum_{j=2}^i \int_{u_{j-1,k}}^{u_{j,k}} (u_{j,k}^{-a} - u^{-a}) du - u_{1,k}^{1-a}/(1-a) \\ &= \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{1-a} \int_{1-1/j}^1 (1-t^{-a}) dt - \frac{1}{(1-a)(k+1)^{1-a}} \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-a)(k+1)^{1-a}} \left[\sum_{j=2}^i j^{1-a} \left(\left(1 - \frac{1}{j}\right)^{1-a} - \left(1 - \frac{1-a}{j}\right) \right) - 1 \right] \end{aligned}$$

Applying, for each j , the Taylor formula of order 2 to the function $x \rightarrow (1-x)^{1-a} - (1-(1-a)x)$ between 0 and $1/j$ (which is lower than $1/2$) leads to the following bounds

$$-1 - a(1-a)2^a \sum_{j=2}^i j^{-1-a} \leq (1-a)(k+1)^{1-a} \Delta_{i,k} \leq -1 - \frac{a(1-a)}{2} \sum_{j=2}^i j^{-1-a}$$

and therefore we have shown that, when $0 < a < 1$, statement (37) holds for instance with the constants $C_1 = 1/(1-a)$ and $C_2 = [1 + a(1-a)2^a(\zeta(1+a) - 1)]/(1-a)$. This means in particular that the values $d_{i,k}$ are always negative, which is a fact often used in the proofs of this paper.

The proof of (38) when $a < 0$ is performed similarly : we come up to

$$d_{i,k} = -\frac{1}{u_{i,k}(1-a)(k+1)^{1-a}} - \frac{a}{2(k+1)^{-a}} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i j^{-1-a} (1-c_j)^{-1-a}$$

where c_j are values between 0 and $1/j$ for each $2 \leq j \leq i$ (thus lower than $1/2$). The second term in the right-hand side of the formula above being positive, and since $(k+1)^{1-a} > k+1$, we have proved the lower bound for $d_{i,k}$. For the upper bound, we bound the right-hand side above by zero plus the positive value $(-a/(k+1)) \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{-1-a}$. Distinguishing the cases $a < -1$, $a = -1$ and $-1 < a < 0$ then leads easily to the desired upper bound.

5.6. Proof of Lemma 7

We first deal with (47). Letting W_{j-1} denote $\frac{1}{j} \sum_{i=2}^{j-1} u_{i,k}^{p_\beta-1} (E_i - 1)$, we remark that $E_j - 1$ and W_{j-1} are independent and centered, and it is easy to check that the products $(E_j - 1)W_{j-1}$ ($j = 3 \dots k$) are then centered and uncorrelated. Therefore, it suffices to prove that $\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=3}^k \mathbb{E}(W_{j-1}^2)$ (which is equal to the variance of the left-hand side of (47)) converges to 0. By construction, $\mathbb{E}(W_{j-1}^2) = \frac{1}{j^2} \sum_{i=2}^{j-1} u_{i,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)}$. If $p_\beta \leq 1$, by using the inequality (37) with $a = 2(1-p_\beta) \in [0, 1[$, we have $\frac{1}{j} \sum_{i=2}^{j-1} u_{i,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)} \leq \frac{1}{2p_\beta-1} u_{j-1,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)}$. If $p_\beta > 1$, we have simply (via $u_{i,k} \leq u_{j-1,k}$) $\frac{1}{j} \sum_{i=2}^{j-1} u_{i,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)} \leq u_{j-1,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)}$. We can thus deduce that $\mathbb{E}(W_{j-1}^2) \leq \frac{cst}{j} u_{j-1,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)} \leq \frac{cst}{k} u_{j-1,k}^{2p_\beta-3}$. Finally, we obtain that our quantity of interest $\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=3}^k \mathbb{E}(W_{j-1}^2)$ is lower than a constant times $\frac{1}{k^2} \sum_{j=3}^k u_{j-1,k}^{2p_\beta-3}$, which converges to 0 because $p_\beta > 1/2$.

Concerning (48), defining now W_{j-1} as $\frac{1}{j} \sum_{i=2}^{j-1} u_{i,k}^{p_\beta+d-1} E_i$, the difference with the previous case is that W_{j-1} is not centred. However the products $(E_j - 1)W_{j-1}$ are still uncorrelated, and it again suffices to prove the convergence to 0 of the variance of the left-hand side of (48), which is now equal to $\frac{1}{k^2} \sum_{j=3}^k \mathbb{E}(W_{j-1}^2)$. By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have here

$$\mathbb{E}(W_{j-1}^2) \leq \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\frac{1}{j} \sum_{i=2}^{j-1} u_{i,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)} \right) \left(\frac{1}{j} \sum_{i=2}^{j-1} E_i^2 \right) \right] \leq \frac{2}{j} \sum_{i=2}^{j-1} u_{i,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)} \leq cst u_{j-1,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)}$$

where the last inequality was shown in the treatment of (47) above. Therefore, we deduce that $\frac{1}{k^2} \sum_{j=3}^k \mathbb{E}(W_{j-1}^2)$ is lower than a constant times $\frac{1}{k^2} \sum_{j=2}^{k-1} u_{j,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)}$, which is $O(k^{-1})$ since $p_\beta > 1/2$.

Concerning (49), we invert the two sums and then, we have to deal with

$$\frac{1}{k^2} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} (E_j - 1) \left\{ \sum_{i=j+1}^k u_{i,k}^{\gamma\beta*-1} E_i \right\}.$$

Defining now W_{j+1} as $\sum_{i=j+1}^k u_{i,k}^{\gamma\beta*-1} E_i$ which is independent of $E_j - 1$, it is easy to check that $(E_j - 1)W_{j+1}$ ($j = 2 \dots k$) are then centred and uncorrelated. Therefore, it suffices to prove the convergence to 0 of the variance of the left-hand side of (49), which is equal to $\frac{1}{k^4} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)} \mathbb{E}(W_{j+1}^2)$. By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have

$$\mathbb{E}(W_{j+1}^2) \leq 2(k-j) \sum_{i=j+1}^k u_{i,k}^{2(\gamma\beta*-1)} \leq k \sum_{i=j+1}^k u_{i,k}^{2(\gamma\beta*-1)}.$$

Inverting the two sums we deduce that $\frac{1}{k^4} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)} \mathbb{E}(W_{j+1}^2)$ is lower than $\frac{1}{k^3} \sum_{i=3}^k u_{i,k}^{2\gamma\beta*-2} \left(\sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)} \right)$, which is lower than $\frac{cst}{k^3} \sum_{i=3}^k u_{i,k}^{2\gamma\beta*-2} i u_{i,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)} \leq \frac{cst}{k^4} \sum_{i=3}^k u_{i,k}^{-4+\epsilon}$ ($\epsilon > 0$), which converges to 0.

Concerning finally (50), the method developed above works similarly. By noting $W'_{l,n} = l^{-1} \sum_{j=2}^{l-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} E_j$ and $W_{i,n} = i^{-1} \sum_{l=3}^{i-1} (E_l - 1)W'_{l,n}$, the variables $W'_{l,n}$ are not centred but their variance can be shown to be lower than a constant times $u_{l,k}^{2(p_\beta-1)}$. Since $W'_{l,n}$ and $E_l - 1$ are independent, the variables $(E_l - 1)W'_{l,n}$ are centred and uncorrelated, and thus $W_{i,n}$ has a variance lower than a constant times $k^{-1} u_{i,k}^{-1-2(1-p_\beta)}$,

and is independent of $(E_i - 1)$, so the variance of the left-hand side of (50) is lower than a constant times $k^{-2} \sum_{i=4}^k u_{i,k}^{-1-2(1-p_\beta)}$, where $1 + 2(1 - p_\beta) < 2$ when $p_\beta > 1/2$. The proof is then over via relation (42).

5.7. Proof of Lemma 8

First, let us recall that $\delta_i = \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p(Z_i)}$ with (U_i) uniformly distributed and independent of the Z_i 's. Then, let us settle the following notations. First, the difference $\delta_{n-i+1,n} - p$ will be systematically cut in three terms

$$\delta_{n-i+1,n} - p \stackrel{d}{=} \Delta_i^{(1)} + \Delta_i^{(2)} + \Delta_i^{(3)} \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{cases} \Delta_i^{(1)} &= \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p} - p, \\ \Delta_i^{(2)} &= \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p \circ U_H(n/i)} - \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p}, \\ \Delta_i^{(3)} &= \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p \circ U_H(Y_{n-i+1,n})} - \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p \circ U_H(n/i)}. \end{cases}$$

The first of these terms will be the less negligible one, but the easiest to deal with. The second one will still be simple to handle, but leads to non-centered factors. The third one, $\Delta_i^{(3)}$, will be the "smallest", but the most difficult to deal with, since it is correlated with the observations (Z_i) (and therefore with the variables $E_j^{(n)}$). In the sequel, cst will design an absolute positive constant which varies from line to line.

We start by proving (51). Setting $W_{in} = \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} (E_j^{(n)} - 1)$ and $A_n^{(m)} = k^{-1/2} \sum_{i=3}^k \Delta_i^{(m)} W_{in}$, we intend to prove that $\mathbb{V}(A_n^{(1)})$ and $\mathbb{V}(A_n^{(2)})$ go to 0 as $n \rightarrow \infty$, and that $A_n^{(3)}$ converges to 0 in probability. Concerning first $A_n^{(1)}$, we note that the variables $\Delta_i^{(1)}$ are i.i.d. centered and independent of the variables $(E_j^{(n)})$ and thus of the centered W_{in} : therefore, the product $\Delta_i^{(1)} W_{in}$ is centered and uncorrelated with $\Delta_{i'}^{(1)} W_{i'n}$ for any $i \neq i'$, and consequently

$$\mathbb{V}(A_n^{(1)}) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=3}^k \mathbb{V}(\Delta_i^{(1)} W_{in}) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=3}^k p(1-p) \mathbb{V}(W_{in}) \leq \frac{cst}{k^2} \sum_{i=3}^k u_{i,k}^{-1-2(1-p_\beta)} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

because $1 + 2(1 - p_\beta) < 2$ when $p_\beta > 1/2$. Above we have bounded $\mathbb{V}(W_{in})$ with similar tools as those used in the proof of Lemma 7, by a constant times $\frac{1}{k+1} u_{i,k}^{-1-2(1-p_\beta)}$.

Concerning now $A_n^{(2)}$, we note that the variables $\Delta_i^{(2)}$ are not centered but are still independent, and independent of the W_{in} . Since W_{in} is centered, the products $\Delta_i^{(2)} W_{in}$ are still centered but are now correlated, since, for $i' < i$,

$$\text{Cov}(\Delta_i^{(2)} W_{in}, \Delta_{i'}^{(2)} W_{i'n}) = \mathbb{E}(\Delta_i^{(2)}) \mathbb{E}(\Delta_{i'}^{(2)}) \mathbb{E}(W_{in} W_{i'n}) \neq 0.$$

Using relation (55) of Lemma 9, both the variance and the absolute value of the expectation of $\Delta_i^{(2)}$ turn out to be lower than $cst (i/n)^{\gamma_\beta}$, which, due to assumption (12), is itself lower than $cst k^{-1/2}$. On the other hand, we have, for $i' < i$,

$$\text{Cov}(W_{in}, W_{i'n}) = \mathbb{E}(W_{i'n} W_{in}) = \frac{i'}{i} \mathbb{E}(W_{i'n}^2) + \mathbb{E} \left(W_{i'n} \cdot \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=i'}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1} (E_j^{(n)} - 1) \right) = \frac{i'}{i} \mathbb{E}(W_{i'n}^2)$$

Therefore, we may write that (using the bound $\mathbb{E}(\Delta_i^{(2)}) \leq cst k^{-1/2}$ in the second term below, but simply bounding $|\Delta_i^{(2)}|$ by 1 in the first term)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{V}(A_n^{(2)}) &= \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=3}^k \mathbb{E} \left((\Delta_i^{(2)})^2 W_{in}^2 \right) + \frac{2}{k} \sum_{i=4}^k \sum_{i'=3}^{i-1} \mathbb{E}(\Delta_i^{(2)}) \mathbb{E}(\Delta_{i'}^{(2)}) \text{Cov}(W_{in}, W_{i'n}) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=3}^k \mathbb{E}(W_{in}^2) + \frac{cst}{k^2} \sum_{i=4}^k \sum_{i'=3}^{i-1} \mathbb{E}(W_{i'n}^2) \leq \frac{cst}{k^2} \sum_{i=3}^k u_{i,k}^{-1-2(1-p_\beta)} \end{aligned}$$

and this converges to 0 when $p_\beta > 1/2$, as desired.

In order to finish the proof of (51), we have to justify that the last part, $A_n^{(3)}$, converges to 0 in probability. Our proof is based on the important fact that, for any value $\tilde{p} \in]1/2, p_\beta]$,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=3}^k |\Delta_i^{(3)}| u_{i,k}^{\tilde{p}-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=3}^k |\mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p \circ U_H(Y_{n-i+1,n})} - \mathbb{I}_{U_i \leq p \circ U_H(n/i)}| u_{i,k}^{\tilde{p}-1} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0. \quad (58)$$

This result is very close to the one stating that $\sqrt{k}B_{k,n}^{(1)} = o_{\mathbb{P}}(1)$ in subsection 5.2.1, it is proved completely similarly, therefore details are omitted. Therefore, in view of relation (58), convergence in probability to 0 of $A_n^{(3)}$ will follow from the following statement : for every $A > 0$,

$$\mathbb{P} \left(\max_{3 \leq i \leq k} |W_{in}/u_{i,k}^{\tilde{p}-1}| > A \right) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0. \quad (59)$$

Considering the sum of independent variables $S_i = \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} j^{p_{\beta}-1} (E_j - 1)$ (where E_j denote iid standard exponential variables), we have $W_{in}/u_{i,k}^{\tilde{p}-1} \stackrel{d}{=} k^{\tilde{p}-p_{\beta}} S_i / i^{\tilde{p}}$, and therefore, application of the Hájek-Rényi maximal inequality (see for instance Section 7.4 of Chow and Teicher (1997)) leads to

$$\mathbb{P} \left(\max_{3 \leq i \leq k} |W_{in}/u_{i,k}^{\tilde{p}-1}| > A \right) \leq (Ak^{p_{\beta}-\tilde{p}})^{-2} \sum_{i=2}^k \frac{\mathbb{E}((i^{p_{\beta}-1}(E_i - 1))^2)}{i^{2\tilde{p}}} = \frac{1}{A^2} k^{-2(p_{\beta}-\tilde{p})} \sum_{i=2}^k i^{-2+2(p_{\beta}-\tilde{p})}$$

which goes to 0 as $n \rightarrow \infty$, since $0 < p_{\beta} - \tilde{p} < 1/2$, and this proves (59). This ends the justification of relation (51).

Concerning now relation (52), we again divide $\delta_{n-i+1,n} - p$ in three parts as above, and the $\Delta_i^{(3)}$ part is proved by combining relation (58) with Lemma 5; the other two parts are easy to deal with.

Concerning relation (54), we proceed similarly as for (51), defining now

$$W_{in} = \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=3}^{i-1} (E_j^{(n)} - 1) \left(\frac{1}{j} \sum_{l=2}^{j-1} u_{j,k}^{p_{\beta}-1} E_l^{(n)} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad A_n^{(m)} = k^{-1/2} \sum_{i=4}^k \Delta_i^{(m)} W_{in} \quad \text{for } m = 1, 2, 3.$$

These variables W_{in} are still centered, and their variance and covariances can be bounded in exactly the same way as were those of $\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} (E_j^{(n)} - 1) u_{j,k}^{p_{\beta}-1}$: therefore, convergence to 0 of the variances of the corresponding terms $A_n^{(1)}$ and $A_n^{(2)}$ is proved as above. And since W_{in} also possesses an appropriate martingale structure to which the Hájek-Rényi maximal inequality can be applied, convergence in probability to 0 of $A_n^{(3)}$ holds, and so does (54).

Concerning finally relation (53), we write its left-hand side as the sum of the following three expressions, noting $W'_{ln} = \frac{1}{l} \sum_{j=2}^{l-1} u_{j,k}^{p_{\beta}-1} E_j^{(n)}$,

$$A_n^{(1)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=4}^k (E_i^{(n)} - 1) \left\{ \frac{1}{i} \sum_{l=3}^{i-1} \Delta_l^{(1)} W'_{ln} \right\}, \quad A_n^{(2)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=4}^k (E_i^{(n)} - 1) \left\{ \frac{1}{i} \sum_{l=3}^{i-1} \Delta_l^{(2)} W'_{ln} \right\}$$

and

$$A_n^{(3)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=3}^{k-1} \Delta_i^{(3)} \left(\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_{\beta}-1} E_j^{(n)} \right) \left(\sum_{l=i+1}^k \frac{E_l^{(n)} - 1}{l} \right).$$

As sums of centered and uncorrelated terms, the quantities $A_n^{(1)}$ and $A_n^{(2)}$ can be handled similarly as previously (with a bit more efforts for $A_n^{(2)}$), and their variances shown to go to zero. Concerning now $A_n^{(3)}$, setting $\tilde{S}_i = \sum_{l=i+1}^k (E_l^{(n)} - 1)/l$ and $W_{in} = \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_{\beta}-1} (E_j^{(n)} - 1)$, we have, for $\tilde{p} \in]1/2, p_{\beta}[$,

$$|A_n^{(3)}| \leq \max_{3 \leq i \leq k-1} u_{i,k}^{1-\tilde{p}} |W_{in} \tilde{S}_i| \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=3}^{k-1} |\Delta_i^{(3)}| u_{i,k}^{\tilde{p}-1} + \max_{3 \leq i \leq k-1} |\tilde{S}_i| \cdot \frac{cst}{\sqrt{k}} \sum_{i=3}^{k-1} |\Delta_i^{(3)}| u_{i,k}^{p_{\beta}-1}$$

In view of statements (58) and (59), we thus have to prove that $\max_{i \leq k} |\tilde{S}_i|$ is bounded in probability. But since $\max_{i \leq k} |\tilde{S}_i| \leq |S_k| + \max_{i \leq k} |S_i|$ where $S_i = \sum_{l=1}^i (E_l^{(n)} - 1)/l$, and $\mathbb{V}(S_k) = \sum_{l=1}^k 1/l^2 \leq \pi^2/6$, the Markov inequality and the usual maximal inequality of Kolmogorov yield the desired result, for any $A > 0$, $\mathbb{P}[\max_{3 \leq i \leq k-1} |\tilde{S}_i| > A] \leq 8\mathbb{V}(S_k)/A^2 \leq cst/A^2$, which is as small as desired.

5.8. Proof of Lemma 10

Formula (33) yields

$$\sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \left(\sum_{j=2}^i (V_{j,k}^{p_{\beta}} - u_{j,k}^{p_{\beta}}) \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \right) = R_{1,n} + R_{2,n} + R_{3,n},$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} R_{1,n} &= -p_\beta \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \left(\sum_{l=j}^k \frac{(E_l^{(n)} - 1)}{l} \right) \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \\ R_{2,n} &= -p_\beta \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \left(\sum_{l=j}^k \frac{1}{l} - \log \frac{k+1}{j} \right) \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \\ R_{3,n} &= \frac{p_\beta^2}{2} \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i \tilde{V}_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \left(\log \frac{V_{j,k}}{u_{j,k}} \right)^2 \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{V}_{j,k}$ lies between $V_{j,k}$ and $u_{j,k}$. The main term is $R_{1,n}$, but we consider $R_{2,n}$ and $R_{3,n}$ first. Inequality (36) in Lemma 1 implies that, for $\delta > 0$,

$$\sqrt{k}|R_{2,n}| \leq O(1) \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=2}^k |A_{i,n}| u_{i,k}^{\delta-1} \right) \left(\frac{1}{k^{3/2}} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-2-\delta} E_j^{(n)} \right).$$

Hence $\sqrt{k}R_{2,n}$ tends to 0 thanks to (41) and (44), with $p_\beta > 1/2$. Now, concerning $R_{3,n}$, we proceed as in the proof of Proposition 3 part (g). Using the mean value theorem, Lemma 5 and then applying property (45) (with $a = 1$), then, working on the event $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$ defined in (30), we have, for $\delta > 0$,

$$\sqrt{k}|R_{3,n}| \leq o_{\mathbb{P}}(1) \left(\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=2}^k |A_{i,n}| u_{i,k}^{\delta-1} \right) \left(\frac{k^\delta}{k^{3/2}} \sum_{j=2}^k u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-2-2\delta} \right),$$

and we conclude using (41) and (42). We thus have to deal with the first term $R_{1,n}$, and we start by separating the cases $l = j$ and $l > j$ to obtain

$$R_{1,n} = -p_\beta \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \frac{(E_j^{(n)} - 1)}{j} \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} - p_\beta \sum_{i=2}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^i u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \left(\sum_{l=j+1}^k \frac{(E_l^{(n)} - 1)}{l} \right) \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j}.$$

We prove easily that the first term of the right-hand side is $o_{\mathbb{P}}(1/\sqrt{k})$, using (41) and (44). For the second term, we separate the cases $j = i$ and $j < i$ and obtain

$$\sum_{i=2}^{k-1} A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} u_{i,k}^{p_\beta} \left(\sum_{l=i+1}^k \frac{(E_l^{(n)} - 1)}{l} \right) \frac{E_i^{(n)}}{i} + \sum_{i=3}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \left(\sum_{l=j+1}^k \frac{(E_l^{(n)} - 1)}{l} \right).$$

We prove easily, using (41) and (44), that the first term of the right-hand side is $o_{\mathbb{P}}(1/\sqrt{k})$. The second term is split in two by separating the cases $j+1 \leq l \leq i$ and $i+1 \leq l \leq k$. We obtain the following two terms

$$\begin{aligned} R'_{1,n} &= \sum_{i=3}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \left(\sum_{l=j+1}^i \frac{E_l^{(n)} - 1}{l} \right) \\ R'_{2,n} &= \sum_{i=3}^{k-1} A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \left(\sum_{l=i+1}^k \frac{E_l^{(n)} - 1}{l} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Inverting the sum in i and the sum in l , we see that $\sqrt{k}R'_{2,n}$ tends to 0 thanks to properties (50) and (53) in Lemmas 7 and 8. Now, inverting the sum in l and the sum in j yields

$$R'_{1,n} = \sum_{i=3}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{l=3}^i \frac{E_l^{(n)} - 1}{l} \left(\sum_{j=2}^{l-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \right).$$

Separating finally the cases $l = i$ and $l < i$, we obtain the following two terms :

$$\begin{aligned} R''_{1,n} &= \sum_{i=3}^k A_{i,n} \frac{E_i^{(n)} - 1}{i^2} \left(\sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \right), \\ R''_{2,n} &= \sum_{i=4}^k A_{i,n} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{l=3}^{i-1} \frac{E_l^{(n)} - 1}{l} \left(\sum_{j=2}^{l-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta} \frac{E_j^{(n)}}{j} \right). \end{aligned}$$

$\sqrt{k}R''_{2,n}$ tends to 0 thanks to properties (50) and (54) in Lemmas 7 and 8. We now conclude the proof of this lemma by proving that $\sqrt{k}R''_{1,n}$ tends to 0. Since $|A_{i,n}| \leq E_i^{(n)} + 2$,

$$\mathbb{E}(|R''_{1,n}|) \leq O(1) \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=3}^k \frac{1}{i^2} \sum_{j=2}^{i-1} u_{j,k}^{p_\beta-1},$$

and the right-hand side tends to 0 using (37) (or (38)) and (42).

5.9. Elements of proof for the other lemmas

Concerning Lemmas 2 and 3, relation (39) is just the convergence of a Riemann sum, (42) is just one definition of the Zeta function, statements (40) and (43) have been proved in Lemma 2 of Worms and Worms (2014) respectively for $0 < a < 1$ and $a > 1$ (for (40), the treatment of the case $a \leq 0$ is similar). Property (41) is a simple application of the triangular law of large numbers, whereas property (44) is deduced easily from (39). Details are omitted.

Lemma 5 is a simple consequence of the fact that the exponential distribution admit a finite exponential moment. Proof of Lemma 9 is omitted (see Beirlant et al. (2016) for (55)).

Lemma 4 is based on the fact that the uniform empirical quantile process based on a uniform sample of size k satisfies $\sqrt{k} \sup_{1/(k+1) \leq t \leq k/(k+1)} |(\Gamma_k^{-1}(t) - t)/t^{1/2-\delta/2}| = O_{\mathbb{P}}(1)$ (see, for example, Shorack and Wellner (1986) sections 10.3 and 11.5). Since $\Gamma_k^{-1}(t) = V_{j,k}$, for $\frac{j-1}{k} \leq t \leq \frac{j}{k}$, this yields relation (45) for $a = 1$. From the mean value theorem and working on the event $\mathcal{E}_{n,\alpha}$ defined in (30), relation (45) for a general $a > 0$ follows easily.