

Statistics 583, Problem Set 3 Solutions

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1. (See also van der Vaart (1998), page 303, problem 3.) For distribution functions F on R^+ and $t_0 > 0$, consider the functional $T(F) = \Lambda(t_0) \equiv \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{1-F_-} dF$, the *cumulative hazard function* corresponding to F at t_0 .
 - (a) Find the influence function of $T(F)$.
 - (b) What does this mean about asymptotic normality of the natural estimator $T(\mathbb{F}_n)$ of $T(F)$?
 - (c) Can you prove asymptotic normality of $T(\mathbb{F}_n)$ directly?

Solution: (a) To find the influence function of $T(F)$, let $F_t = (1-t)F + t\delta_x$. The distribution function corresponding to $G \equiv \delta_x$ is $1_{(-\infty, y]}(x)$, $y \in R$, so the left limit is $G_-(y) = 1_{[x < y]}$, and the corresponding "at risk" function $1 - G_-(y) = 1_{[x \geq y]} = 1_{[y, \infty)}(x)$. We need to compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{T(F_t) - T(F)}{t} &= \frac{d}{dt} T(F_t)|_{t=0} \equiv IC(x; T, F) \equiv \psi_F(x) \\
 &= \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{1 - (F_t)_-} dF_t \right\} |_{t=0} \\
 &= \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{1 - F_-} d(\delta_x - F) + \int_0^{t_0} \frac{(\delta_x - F_-)}{(1 - F_-)^2} dF \\
 &= \frac{1_{[0, t_0]}(x)}{1 - F_-(x)} - \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{1 - F_-} dF + \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{1 - F_-} dF - \int_0^{t_0} \frac{(1 - \delta_{x-})}{(1 - F_-)^2} dF \\
 &= \frac{1_{[0, t_0]}(x)}{1 - F_-(x)} - \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1_{[x \geq y]}}{(1 - F_-(y))^2} dF(y) \\
 &= \frac{1_{[0, t_0]}(x)}{1 - F_-(x)} - \int_0^x \frac{1_{[0, t_0]}(y)}{1 - F_-(y)} d\Lambda(y) \\
 &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{1 - F_-(x)} - \int_0^x \frac{1}{(1 - F_-)^2} dF & \text{if } x \leq t_0 \\ - \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{(1 - F_-)^2} dF & \text{if } x > t_0. \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

The next to last formula for the influence function of $\Lambda(t_0)$ is natural from a martingale perspective. When F is continuous $F_- = F$, and the influence function computed above reduces to:

$$\begin{aligned}
 IC(x; T, F) &= 1_{[x \leq t_0]} - \frac{F(t_0)}{1 - F(t_0)} 1_{[x > t_0]} \\
 &= \frac{1_{[x \leq t_0]} - F(t_0)}{1 - F(t_0)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that $E_F\psi_F(X) = 0$ and (in the case of a continuous d.f. F)

$$E_F\psi_F^2(X) = \frac{F(t_0)}{1 - F(t_0)}.$$

(b) Gateaux differentiability as established in (a) gives useful information about the form of the linear term, but does not yield a proof of asymptotic normality.

To prove asymptotic normality we can proceed in several ways:

(i) Establish some stronger form of differentiability such as Fréchet differentiability or Hadamard differentiability with respect to some metric d_* compatible with the empirical distribution function (or empirical measure).

(ii) Recognize some special structure associated with the functional under consideration.

(iii) Proceed directly by showing that the remainder term

$$\begin{aligned} R_n &\equiv \sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) - \dot{T}(F; \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n - F)) \\ &= \sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) - \int \psi_F(x) d\{\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n - F)(x)\} \end{aligned}$$

satisfies $R_n = o_p(1)$. We will take route (iii) in (c) below. For (i) in the current case, see van der Vaart (1998), *Asymptotic Statistics*, example 20.15, page 301 (and his Lemma 20.10, page 298). With regard to (ii) in the present case, note that for $X_{(n)} < t_0$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) &= \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(t-)} d\left(\mathbb{F}_n(t) - \int_0^t (1 - \mathbb{F}_n(s-)) d\Lambda(s)\right) \\ &= \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(t-)} d\mathbb{M}_n(t) \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbb{M}_n(t) \equiv \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(t) - \int_0^t (1 - \mathbb{F}_n(s-)) d\Lambda(s))$ is a mean-zero martingale, and hence the integral in the last display is also a martingale (in t_0). Then asymptotic normality (even as a process in t_0) follows from martingale CLTs; see e.g. Shorack & W (1986), chapters 6 and 7 and especially (7.1.4) page 295 and Theorem 7.5.2 page 312.

(c) To prove asymptotic normality of $T(\mathbb{F}_n)$ (assuming that F satisfies $F(t_0) <$

1), write

$$\begin{aligned}
\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) &= \sqrt{n} \left\{ \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(s-)} d\mathbb{F}_n(s) - \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{1 - F(s-)} dF(s) \right\} \\
&= \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(s-)} d[\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(s) - F(s))] \\
&\quad + \int_0^{t_0} \sqrt{n} \left\{ \frac{1}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(s-)} - \frac{1}{1 - F(s-)} \right\} dF(s) \\
&= \frac{\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(t_0) - F(t_0))}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(t_0-)} - \int_0^{t_0} \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(s) - F(s))^2 \frac{1}{(1 - \mathbb{F}_n(s-))^2} d\mathbb{F}_n(s) \\
&\quad + \int_0^{t_0} \frac{\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(s) - F(s))}{(1 - \mathbb{F}_n(s-))(1 - F(s-))} dF(s) \\
&= \frac{\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(t_0) - F(t_0))}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(t_0-)} + o_p(1) \\
&\xrightarrow{d} \frac{\mathbb{U}(F(t_0))}{1 - F(t_0-)} \\
&\sim N\left(0, \frac{F(t_0)}{1 - F(t_0)}\right) \quad \text{if } F \text{ is continuous}
\end{aligned}$$

since the last two terms in the third equality can be rewritten as

$$\int_0^{t_0} \frac{\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(s) - F(s))}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(s-)} \left\{ \frac{d\mathbb{F}_n(s)}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(s-)} - \frac{dF(s)}{1 - F(s-)} \right\} = o_p(1)$$

by arguments similar to those we used to deal with the Mann-Whitney Wilcoxon statistic. Alternatively, martingale methods also work.

2. Let F be a distribution function on \mathbb{R}^2 with finite second moments, and let $\rho(F)$ be the correlation coefficient

$$\rho(F) = \frac{\text{Cov}_F(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}_F(X)\text{Var}_F(Y)}}.$$

Assume that $|\rho(F)| < 1$.

- (a) Give an example of a sequence of bivariate distributions $\{F_n\}$ satisfying $F_n \rightarrow_d F$, but $\rho(F_n) \rightarrow 1 \neq \rho(F)$.
(b) Find a collection \mathcal{F} of distribution functions on \mathbb{R}^2 so that ρ is weakly continuous on \mathcal{F} .

Solution: (a) Without loss of generality we may suppose that F is a bivariate distribution function with zero means, $E_F(X) = E_F(Y) = 0$. Let $F_n = (1 -$

$n^{-1}F + n^{-1}\delta_{(a_n, b_n)}$ with $(a_n, b_n) \in \mathbb{R}^2$. Note that F_n has marginal distribution functions $F_{n,X} = (1 - n^{-1})F_X + n^{-1}\delta_{a_n}$, $F_{n,Y} = (1 - n^{-1})F_Y + n^{-1}\delta_{b_n}$ respectively where F_X and F_Y are the marginal df's of F . Thus we compute

$$\begin{aligned}
Cov_{F_n}(X, Y) &= E_{F_n}(XY) - E_{F_n}(X)E_{F_n}Y \\
&= (1 - n^{-1})E(XY) + n^{-1}a_nb_n - ((1 - n^{-1})E_F X + n^{-1}a_n)((1 - n^{-1})E_F Y + n^{-1}b_n) \\
&= (1 - n^{-1})\{E_F(XY) - E_F X \cdot E_F Y\} \\
&\quad + (1 - n^{-1})E_F X \cdot E_F Y - (1 - n^{-1})^2 E_F X \cdot E_F Y \\
&\quad - (1 - n^{-1})E_F X \cdot n^{-1}b_n - (1 - n^{-1})E_F Y \cdot n^{-1}a_n - n^{-2}a_nb_n \\
&= (1 - n^{-1})Cov_F(X, Y) + n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})a_nb_n \\
&\quad - n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})\{E_F X \cdot b_n + E_F Y \cdot a_n\} + n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})E_F X \cdot E_F Y \\
&= (1 - n^{-1})Cov_F(X, Y) + n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})a_nb_n
\end{aligned}$$

since $E_F X = E_F Y = 0$. Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}
Var_{F_n}(X) &= E_{F_n}(X^2) - (E_{F_n}(X))^2 \\
&= (1 - n^{-1})E_F X^2 + n^{-1}a_n^2 - ((1 - n^{-1})E_F X + n^{-1}a_n)^2 \\
&= (1 - n^{-1})\{E_F(X^2) - (E_F X)^2\} + n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})(E_F X)^2 \\
&\quad + n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})a_n^2 - 2n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})E_F X \cdot a_n \\
&= (1 - n^{-1})Var_F(X) + n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})a_n^2 + n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})\{(E_F X)^2 - 2E_F X \cdot a_n\} \\
&= (1 - n^{-1})Var_F(X) + n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})a_n^2, \quad \text{and} \\
Var_{F_n}(Y) &= E_{F_n}(Y^2) - (E_{F_n}(Y))^2 = (1 - n^{-1})Var_F(Y) + n^{-1}(1 - n^{-1})b_n^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Choosing $a_n = b_n = n$ yields

$$\begin{aligned}
Cov_{F_n}(X, Y) &= n + o(n) = n(1 + o(1)), \\
Var_{F_n}(X) &= n + o(n) = n(1 + o(1)), \\
Var_{F_n}(Y) &= n + o(n) = n(1 + o(1)).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus we find that

$$\rho(F_n) = \frac{Cov_{F_n}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{Var_{F_n}(X)Var_{F_n}(Y)}} = \frac{n(1 + o(1))}{n(1 + o(1))} \rightarrow 1$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Thus ρ is weakly discontinuous at every F .

(b) Consider the following collection of distributions on R^2 : for some $r > 2$ and $M < \infty$

$$\mathcal{F}_{r,M} \equiv \{F : E_F |X|^r \leq M, E_F |Y|^r \leq M\}.$$

Then ρ is weakly-continuous on $\mathcal{F}_{r,M}$ at any F with $Var_F(X) > 0$ and $Var_F(Y) > 0$. Here is a proof: let $\{F_n\} \subset \mathcal{F}_{r,M}$ satisfy $F_n \rightarrow_d F$. Then with $(X_n, Y_n) \sim F_n$

and $(X, Y) \sim F$ we have $(X_n, Y_n) \rightarrow_d (X, Y)$, and by a Skorokhod construction there exist $(X_n^*, Y_n^*) =_d (X_n, Y_n)$ and $(X^*, Y^*) =_d (X, Y)$ defined on a common probability space and satisfying $(X_n^*, Y_n^*) \rightarrow_{a.s.} (X^*, Y^*)$. But because $\{F_n \subset \mathcal{F}_{r,M}, X_n^2, Y_n^2, \text{ and } |X_n Y_n|\}$ are all uniformly integrable: since $r > 2$,

$$EX_n^2 1_{[X_n^2 \geq \lambda]} \leq \frac{1}{\lambda^{r-2}} E|X_n|^r \leq \frac{M}{\lambda^{r-2}}$$

so

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} EX_n^2 1_{[X_n^2 \geq \lambda]} \leq \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M}{\lambda^{r-2}} = 0$$

and similarly for $\{Y_n^2\}$, so the uniform integrability of $|X_n Y_n|$ follows by Cauchy-Schwarz. The same holds true for the (X_n^*, Y_n^*) pairs since the uniform integrability only depends on the (marginal) distributions. Thus by Vitali's theorem it follows that

$$EX_n^s = EX_n^{*s} \rightarrow EX^{*s} = EX^s$$

and

$$EY_n^s = EY_n^{*s} \rightarrow EY^{*s} = EY^s$$

for $s = 1, 2$, while Vitali also yields

$$EX_n Y_n = EX_n^* Y_n^* \rightarrow EX^* Y^* = EXY.$$

Therefore

$$Var_{F_n}(X_n) \rightarrow Var_F(X), Var_{F_n}(Y_n) \rightarrow Var_F(Y), \quad (1)$$

and

$$Cov_{F_n}(X_n, Y_n) \rightarrow Cov_F(X, Y). \quad (2)$$

Since we have assumed that $Var_F(X) > 0$ and $Var_F(Y) > 0$, (1) and (2) yield

$$\rho(F_n) = \frac{Cov_{F_n}(X_n, Y_n)}{\sqrt{Var_{F_n}(X_n) \cdot Var_{F_n}(Y_n)}} \rightarrow \frac{Cov_F(X, Y)}{\sqrt{Var_F(X) \cdot Var_F(Y)}} = \rho(F);$$

i.e. ρ is continuous on $\mathcal{F}_{r,M}$ at any F with positive variances.

It is interesting to note that the hypothesis $\{F_n\} \subset \mathcal{F}_{r,M}$ cannot be weakened to $\{F_n\} \subset \mathcal{F}_{2,M}$ (and hence it can also not be weakened to the still larger class $\mathcal{F}_{2,\infty}$). Here is a counterexample. Let F be a d.f. on R^2 with $EX = 0 = EY$ and $EX^2 = 1 = EY^2$, and $\rho(F) < 1$ where $(X, Y) \sim F$. Let $M > 1$ be a big number, and consider the class

$$\mathcal{F}_{2,M} = \{F \text{ on } R^2 : E_F X^2 \leq M, E_F Y^2 \leq M\}.$$

Let $a_n, b_n > 0$; we will specify them in terms of M shortly. Consider the sequence of d.f.'s $\{F_n\} \subset \mathcal{F}_{2,M}$ defined by

$$F_n(x, y) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)F(x, y) + \frac{1}{2n}\delta_{(a_n, b_n)} + \frac{1}{2n}\delta_{(-a_n, -b_n)}.$$

Then for any bounded and continuous function $\psi : R^2 \rightarrow R$,

$$\begin{aligned} \int \psi dF_n &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \int \psi dF + \frac{1}{2n}\psi(a_n, b_n) + \frac{1}{2n}\psi(-a_n, -b_n) \\ &\rightarrow \int \psi dF, \end{aligned}$$

so $F_n \rightarrow_d F$. Furthermore, with $(X_n, Y_n) \sim F_n$,

$$EX_n = (1 - 1/n)EX = 0, EY_n = 0,$$

$$EX_n^2 = (1 - 1/n)EX^2 + \frac{a_n^2}{n} = (1 - 1/n)M + \frac{a_n^2}{n} = M$$

if $a_n^2 = n\{M - (1 - 1/n)\}$. Similarly,

$$EY_n^2 = (1 - 1/n)EY^2 + \frac{b_n^2}{n} = M$$

if $b_n^2 = n\{M - (1 - 1/n)\}$. With these choices of a_n and b_n ,

$$Cov(X_n, Y_n) = (1 - 1/n)Cov(X, Y) + \frac{a_n b_n}{n},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(F_n) &= \frac{Cov(X_n, Y_n)}{\sqrt{Var(X_n)Var(Y_n)}} \\ &= \frac{(1 - 1/n)Cov(X, Y) + M - (1 - 1/n)M}{\sqrt{M^2}} \\ &\rightarrow \frac{\rho(F) + M - 1}{M} \neq \rho(F). \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\rho(F)$ is not continuous on $\mathcal{F}_{2,M}$.

3. Exercise 3.8.1, Wasserman, page 39. [Hint: the formula given by Wasserman, page 29, is not correct.] Under what additional hypotheses can we establish $\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) \rightarrow N(0, E_F \psi_F^2(X))$? (Here my ψ_F equals Wasserman's L_F .)

Solution: (a) To find the influence function of $T(F) = \int (x - \mu)^3 dF(x) / \sigma(F)^3$, let $F_t \equiv (1 - t)F + tG$. Then we need to compute $(d/dt)T(F_t)|_{t=0}$. But, by using the calculations in examples 7.4.2 and 7.4.3,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt}T(F_t)|_{t=0} &= \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\int (x - \mu(F_t))^3 dF_t(x)}{[\sigma^2(F_t)]^{3/2}} \Big|_{t=0} \\
&= \frac{\int (x - \mu(F_t))^3 d(G - F)(x)}{[\sigma^2(F_t)]^{3/2}} \Big|_{t=0} \\
&\quad - \frac{3}{2} \frac{\int (x - \mu(F_t))^3 dF_t(x)}{[\sigma^2(F_t)]^{5/2}} \frac{d}{dt} \sigma^2(F_t) \Big|_{t=0} \\
&\quad - 3 \frac{\int (x - \mu(F_t))^2 dF_t(x)}{\sigma(F_t)^3} \frac{d}{dt} \mu(F_t) \Big|_{t=0} \\
&= \int \left(\frac{x - \mu(F)}{\sigma(F)} \right)^3 d(G - F)(x) \\
&\quad - \frac{3}{2} T(F) \frac{1}{\sigma^2(F)} \left\{ \int (x - \mu(F))^2 dG(x) - \sigma^2(F) \right\} \\
&\quad - 3 \int \left(\frac{x - \mu(F)}{\sigma(F)} \right) dG(x) \\
&= \int \left(\frac{x - \mu(F)}{\sigma(F)} \right)^3 dG(x) - T(F) \\
&\quad - \frac{3}{2} T(F) \int \left\{ \left(\frac{x - \mu(F)}{\sigma(F)} \right)^2 - 1 \right\} dG(x) \\
&\quad - 3 \int \left(\frac{x - \mu(F)}{\sigma(F)} \right) dG(x).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence by taking $G = \delta_x$ we find the influence function of $T(F)$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{T}(F; \delta_x - F) &= \left(\frac{x - \mu(F)}{\sigma(F)} \right)^3 - T(F) - \frac{3}{2} T(F) \left\{ \left(\frac{x - \mu(F)}{\sigma(F)} \right)^2 - 1 \right\} \\
&\quad - 3 \left(\frac{x - \mu(F)}{\sigma(F)} \right) \\
&\equiv \psi_F(x). \tag{3}
\end{aligned}$$

Note that this derivation does not seem to agree with the result stated on page 29 of Wasserman: the third term here does not appear in Wasserman's claimed influence function.

(b) Here is a direct calculation to see the result in (a) another way. Write

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma(\mathbb{F}_n)^3} \sqrt{n} \left\{ \int (x - \mu(\mathbb{F}_n))^3 d\mathbb{F}_n(x) - \int (x - \mu(F))^3 dF(x) \right\} \\
&\quad + \int (x - \mu(F))^3 dF(x) \sqrt{n} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma(\mathbb{F}_n)^3} - \frac{1}{\sigma(F)^3} \right\} \\
&\equiv A_n + B_n.
\end{aligned}$$

To understand A_n , write

$$\begin{aligned}
(x - \mu(\mathbb{F}_n))^3 &= (x - \mu(F) - (\mu(\mathbb{F}_n) - \mu(F)))^3 \equiv (a - b)^3 \\
&= a^3 - 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3 \\
&= (x - \mu(F))^3 - 3(x - \mu(F))^2(\mu(\mathbb{F}_n) - \mu(F)) \\
&\quad + 3(x - \mu(F))(\mu(\mathbb{F}_n) - \mu(F))^2 + (\mu(\mathbb{F}_n) - \mu(F))^3.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus we see that

$$\begin{aligned}
A_n &= \frac{1}{\sigma(F)^3} \left\{ \sqrt{n} \int (x - \mu(F))^3 d(\mathbb{F}_n(x) - F(x)) \right. \\
&\quad - 3 \int (x - \mu(F))^2 d\mathbb{F}_n(x) \sqrt{n}(\mu(\mathbb{F}_n) - \mu(F)) \\
&\quad \left. + 3 \int (x - \mu(F)) d\mathbb{F}_n(x) \sqrt{n}(\mu(\mathbb{F}_n) - \mu(F))^2 + \sqrt{n}(\mu(\mathbb{F}_n) - \mu(F))^3 \right\} + o_p(1) \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma(F)^3} \left\{ \sqrt{n} \int (x - \mu(F))^3 d(\mathbb{F}_n(x) - F(x)) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 3\sigma^2(F) \sqrt{n} \int (x - \mu(F)) d(\mathbb{F}_n(x) - F(x)) \right\} \\
&\quad + o_p(1).
\end{aligned}$$

For B_n we can write, with $m_3(F) \equiv \int (x - \mu(F))^3 dF(x)$

$$\begin{aligned}
B_n &= m_3(F) \sqrt{n} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma(\mathbb{F}_n)^3} - \frac{1}{\sigma(F)^3} \right\} \\
&= -\frac{m_3(F)}{\sigma(F)^3 \sigma(\mathbb{F}_n)^3} \sqrt{n} \{ \sigma(\mathbb{F}_n)^3 - \sigma(F)^3 \} \\
&= -\frac{m_3(F)}{\sigma^2(F)^3} \sqrt{n} \{ \sigma^2(\mathbb{F}_n)^{3/2} - \sigma^2(F)^{3/2} \} + o_p(1) \\
&= -\frac{m_3(F)}{\sigma^2(F)^3} \frac{3}{2} \sigma(F) \sqrt{n} (\sigma^2(\mathbb{F}_n) - \sigma^2(F)) + o_p(1) \\
&= -\frac{m_3(F)}{\sigma^3(F)} \frac{3}{2\sigma^2(F)} \sqrt{n} \int \{ (x - \mu(F))^2 - \sigma^2(F) \} d\mathbb{F}_n(x).
\end{aligned}$$

Putting the A_n and B_n pieces together we see that we have complete agreement with the result of the influence function calculation:

$$\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) = \sqrt{n} \int \psi_F(x) d\mathbb{F}_n(x) + o_p(1)$$

where $\psi_F(x)$ is as given in (3). It is clear (from the Central Limit Theorem) that this is asymptotically normal if $E_F X^6 < \infty$.

When I use the influence function derived here to obtain an estimator of the Standard Error of the skewness estimator for the nerve data treated in Wasserman's example 3.10, page 29, I get $\hat{se} = .163$ rather than Wasserman's estimate of .18, a slight reduction. The resulting confidence interval for the population skewness is $1.76 \pm 2(.163) = (1.434, 2.086)$.

4. (a) Exercise 2.7.9, Wasserman, page 24.
 (b) What additional hypotheses are needed to show that $\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F))$ is asymptotically normal for this particular functional $T(F)$?
Reminder: This exercise gives the same result as we derived last Fall in Stat 581.

Solution: (a) I will take a slightly different tack than Wasserman: write

$$T(F) = \frac{E_F(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)}{\sqrt{Var_F(X)Var_F(Y)}} \equiv \rho(F) = g(T_1(F), T_2(F), T_3(F))$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} g(u, v, w) &\equiv \frac{u}{\sqrt{vw}}, \\ T_1(F) &= E_F(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y), \\ T_2(F) &= Var_{F_X}(X), \\ T_3(F) &= Var_{F_Y}(Y). \end{aligned}$$

From example 4.3 we know that

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{T}_2(F; G - F) &= \int \psi_{2,F}(x) dG_X(x), & \psi_{2,F}(x) &= (x - \mu_X)^2 - \sigma_X^2, \\ \dot{T}_3(F; G - F) &= \int \psi_{3,F}(y) dG_Y(y), & \psi_{3,F}(y) &= (y - \mu_Y)^2 - \sigma_Y^2. \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt}T_1(F_t)\Big|_{t=0} &= \frac{d}{dt} \int xy dF_t(x, y)\Big|_{t=0} - \frac{d}{dt} \mu_X(F_t)\mu_Y(F_t)\Big|_{t=0} \\
&= \iint xy d(G - F)(x, y) - \mu_Y \int (x - \mu_X) dG_X(x) - \mu_X \int (y - \mu_Y) dG_Y(y) \\
&= \iint \psi_{1,F}(x, y) dG(x, y)
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\psi_{1,F}(x, y) = (x - \mu_X)(y - \mu_Y) - E_F(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y).$$

Since $\nabla g(u, v, w) = (1, -u/(2v), -u/(2w))/\sqrt{vw}$, it follows by the chain rule that

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{T}(F; G - F) &= \iint \frac{\psi_{1,F}(x, y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} dG(x, y) \\
&\quad - \frac{T(F)}{2} \int \frac{\psi_{2,F}(x)}{\sigma_X^2} dG_X(x) - \frac{T(F)}{2} \int \frac{\psi_{3,F}(x)}{\sigma_Y^2} dG_Y(y) \\
&= \iint \psi_F(x, y) dG(x, y)
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\psi_F(x, y) &= \frac{(x - \mu_X)(y - \mu_Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} - T(F) - \frac{T(F)}{2} \left\{ \frac{(x - \mu_X)^2}{\sigma_X^2} - 1 + \frac{(y - \mu_Y)^2}{\sigma_Y^2} - 1 \right\} \\
&\equiv \tilde{x}\tilde{y} - \rho(F) - \frac{\rho(F)}{2} \{ \tilde{x}^2 - 1 + \tilde{y}^2 - 1 \}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus I get a “centered” version of Wasserman’s formula (page 21, line 2).

(b) To show that $\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) \rightarrow_d N(0, E_F \psi_F^2(X, Y))$, it is clear from the influence calculation in (a) that we will need to assume that $E(X^4) < \infty$ and $E(Y^4) < \infty$.

Here is a neater organization of the the calculation due to Silas Bergen:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt}T(F_t)_{t=0} &= \frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{(x - \mu_{X,t})(y - \mu_{Y,t})}{\sqrt{\text{Var}_{F,t}(X)\text{Var}_{F,t}(Y)}} d((1-t)F + tG) \\
&= \int \frac{(x - \mu_X)(y - \mu_Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} d(G - F) - \left(\int \frac{y - \mu_Y}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} dF(x, y) \right) \dot{\mu}_X(F, G - F) \\
&\quad - \left(\int \frac{x - \mu_X}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} dF(x, y) \right) \dot{\mu}_Y(F, G - F) \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left(\int \frac{(x - \mu_X)(y - \mu_Y)}{\sigma_X^3 \sigma_Y} dF(x, y) \right) \dot{\sigma}_X^2(F, G - F) \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left(\int \frac{(x - \mu_X)(y - \mu_Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y^3} dF(x, y) \right) \dot{\sigma}_Y^2(F, G - F) \\
&= \int \left\{ \frac{(x - \mu_X)(y - \mu_Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y} - T(F) \right\} dG(x, y) \\
&\quad - 0 - 0 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_X^2} T(F) \int \{(x - \mu_X)^2 - \sigma_X^2\} dG(x, y) \\
&\quad - - \frac{1}{2\sigma_Y^2} T(F) \int \{(y - \mu_Y)^2 - \sigma_Y^2\} dG(x, y)
\end{aligned}$$

since $\int (y - \mu_Y) dF(x, y) = 0 = \int (x - \mu_X) dF(x, y)$ and using

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{\sigma}_Y^2(F; G - F) &= \int \{(y - \mu_Y)^2 - \sigma_Y^2\} dG(x, y), \\
\dot{\sigma}_X^2(F; G - F) &= \int \{(x - \mu_X)^2 - \sigma_X^2\} dG(x, y),
\end{aligned}$$

as we calculated in class.

5. **Optional bonus problem 1:** Consider the collection \mathcal{F}_0 of distribution functions F on R^+ with $0 < E_F X < \infty$ and $E_F X^2 < \infty$. Let $T(F) \equiv \sigma(F)/\mu(F)$ for $F \in \mathcal{F}_0$ where $\sigma^2(F) = \text{Var}_F(X)$ and $\mu(F) = E_F(X)$. This is the *coefficient of variation of F* . Find the influence function of $T(F)$.

Solution: Let $F_t \equiv (1-t)F + t\delta_x$. From our previous calculations we know that

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt}\sigma^2(F_t)|_{t=0} &= \psi_{2,F}(x) = (x - \mu_F)^2 - \sigma_F^2, \quad \text{and} \\
\frac{d}{dt}\mu(F_t)|_{t=0} &= \psi_{1,F}(x) = x - \mu_F.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, by the chain rule,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt}T(F_t)|_{t=0} &= \frac{d}{dt} \frac{[\sigma^2(F_t)]^{1/2}}{\mu(F_t)} \Big|_{t=0} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \frac{[\sigma^2(F_t)]^{1/2}}{\mu(F_t)} \frac{d}{dt} \sigma^2(F_t) \Big|_{t=0} - \frac{[\sigma^2(F_t)]^{1/2}}{\mu(F_t)^2} \frac{d}{dt} \mu(F_t) \Big|_{t=0} \\
&= \frac{1}{2\sigma_F \mu_F} \psi_{2,F}(x) - \frac{\sigma_F}{\mu_F^2} \psi_{1,F}(x) \\
&= \frac{\sigma_F}{2\mu_F} \frac{1}{\sigma_F^2} \psi_{2,F}(x) - \frac{\sigma_F^2}{\mu_F^2} \frac{1}{\sigma_F} \psi_{1,F}(x) \\
&= T(F) \left\{ \frac{1}{2\sigma_F^2} \psi_{2,F}(x) - T(F) \frac{1}{\sigma_F} \psi_{1,F}(x) \right\} \\
&\equiv T(F) \eta_F(x)
\end{aligned}$$

where $\psi_{1,F}$ and $\psi_{2,F}$ are as given above. Thus we expect to have, if $E_F X^4 < \infty$,

$$\sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) \rightarrow_d N(0, T^2(F) E_F \eta_F^2(X))$$

where η_F involves the standardized variable $(X - \mu_F)/\sigma_F$.

6. **Optional bonus problem 2:** Suppose that \mathcal{F}_+ is the class of distribution functions F on \mathbb{R}^+ with mean $\mu_F = E_F X < \infty$, and consider the functional $T(F)$ defined for a fixed $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^+$ by

$$T(F) \equiv e_F(x_0) \equiv E_F(X - x_0 | X > x_0) = \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F(t)) dt}{1 - F(x_0)}.$$

This functional is the *mean residual life* functional.

- (a) For what collection of df's F_0 is T weakly continuous at F_0 ? For what collection of df's F_0 is T continuous at F_0 with respect to the Kolmogorov metric?
(b) Find the influence function of $T(F)$.
(c) Can you prove asymptotic normality of $T(\mathbb{F}_n)$ directly?

Solution: (a) Let $\mathcal{F}_{r,M}$ denote the collection of all distribution functions F on \mathbb{R} such that $E_F |X|^r \leq M$ for some fixed $M < \infty$ and some $r > 1$. Then I claim that $T(F)$ is weakly continuous on $\mathcal{F}_{r,M}$ at any F with $F(x_0) < 1$ and $x_0 \in C_F$. To see this, suppose that $\{F_n\} \subset \mathcal{F}_{r,M}$ satisfies $F_n \rightarrow_d F$ where $F(x_0) < 1$ and $x_0 \in C_F$. Then clearly $1 - F_n(x_0) \rightarrow 1 - F(x_0) > 0$. Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F_n(x)) dx &= \int_{x_0}^{\infty} \int_{(x,\infty)} dF_n(y) dx = \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} 1_{(x < y)} 1_{(x_0, \infty)}(x) dx dF_n(y) \\
&= \int_0^{\infty} (y - x_0) 1_{[y > x_0]} dF_n(y) = E\{(X_n - x_0) 1_{[X_n > x_0]}\}
\end{aligned}$$

where $X_n \sim F_n$ and $X_n \rightarrow_d X \sim F$. Now $\{X_n\}$ is uniformly integrable since $\limsup_n E|X_n|^r \leq M < \infty$ with $r > 1$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F_n(x))dx &= E\{(X_n - x_0)1_{[X_n > x_0]}\} \\ &\rightarrow E\{(X - x_0)1_{[X > x_0]}\} = \int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F(x))dx \end{aligned}$$

by Vitali's theorem. Thus

$$T(F_n) = \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F_n(x))dx}{1 - F_n(x_0)} \rightarrow \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F(x))dx}{1 - F(x_0)} = T(F).$$

Thus the claimed weak continuity of T on $\mathcal{F}_{r,M}$ at F with $x_0 \in C_F$ and $F(x_0) < 1$ holds.

Concerning continuity with respect to $d_F(F, G) \equiv \|F - G\|_{\infty}$, we also need to restrict to some subclass $\mathcal{F} \subset \mathcal{F}_{r,M}$. Again, we need $F(x_0) < 1$, but now $x_0 \in C_F$ is not essential. Note that if $d_K(F_n, F) = \|F_n - F\|_{\infty} \rightarrow 0$, then $d_L(F_n, F) \rightarrow 0$, and hence $F_n \rightarrow_d F$. Thus it follows from the previous argument that $T(F)$ is continuous at F with respect to $d_K = \|\cdot\|_{\infty}$ on $\mathcal{F}_{r,M}$ for any $r > 1$ if $F(x_0) < 1$.

(b) To calculate the influence function of $T(F) = e_F(x_0)$, let F be a distribution function with $F(x_0) < 1$, and let $F_t = (1 - t)F + tG$ for $0 \leq t \leq 1$. We need to compute

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} T(F_t) \Big|_{t=0} &= \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} \{(1 - G)(x) - (1 - F)(x)\}dx}{1 - F(x_0)} + \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F(x))dx}{(1 - F(x_0))^2} (G - F)(x_0) \\ &= \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - G(x))dx}{1 - F(x_0)} - e_F(x_0) + \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F(x))dx}{(1 - F(x_0))^2} (1 - F(x_0)) \\ &\quad - \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F(x))dx}{(1 - F(x_0))^2} (1 - G(x_0)) \\ &= \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - G(y))dy}{1 - F(x_0)} - e_F(x_0) \cdot \frac{1 - G(x_0)}{1 - F(x_0)}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking $G = \delta_x = 1_{[x, \infty)}$, so that $1 - G(y) = 1_{[0, x)}(y)$ and $1 - G(x_0) = 1_{[0, x)}(x_0) = 1_{[x > x_0]}$, yields

$$\begin{aligned} IC(x; T, F) &= \frac{\int_{x_0}^x dy \cdot 1_{[x > x_0]}}{1 - F(x_0)} - \frac{e_F(x_0)1_{[x > x_0]}}{1 - F(x_0)} \\ &= \frac{(x - x_0)1_{[x > x_0]}}{1 - F(x_0)} - \frac{e_F(x_0)1_{[x > x_0]}}{1 - F(x_0)}. \end{aligned}$$

(c) Proceeding directly we find that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sqrt{n}(T(\mathbb{F}_n) - T(F)) \\
&= \sqrt{n} \left\{ \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - \mathbb{F}_n(x)) dx}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(x_0)} - \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F(x)) dx}{1 - F(x_0)} \right\} \\
&= -\frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(x) - F(x)) dx}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(x_0)} + \sqrt{n} \left\{ \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F(x)) dx}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(x_0)} - \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F(x)) dx}{1 - F(x_0)} \right\} \\
&= -\frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(x) - F(x)) dx}{1 - F(x_0)} \cdot \frac{1 - F(x_0)}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(x_0)} \\
&\quad + \frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} (1 - F(x)) dx}{1 - F(x_0)} \sqrt{n} \left\{ \frac{(1 - F(x_0)) - (1 - \mathbb{F}_n(x_0))}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(x_0)} \right\} \\
&= -\frac{\int_{x_0}^{\infty} \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(x) - F(x)) dx}{1 - F(x_0)} \cdot \frac{1 - F(x_0)}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(x_0)} \\
&\quad + e_F(x_0) \frac{\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(x_0) - F(x_0))}{1 - F(x_0)} \cdot \frac{1 - F(x_0)}{1 - \mathbb{F}_n(x_0)} \\
&= \int_0^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{(x - x_0)1_{[x > x_0]}}{1 - F(x_0)} - e_F(x_0)1_{[x > x_0]} \right\} d\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_n(x) - F(x)) + o_p(1) \\
&\rightarrow_d N(0, E_F \psi_F^2(X))
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$E_F \psi_F^2(X) = \frac{\text{Var}(X - x_0 | X > x_0)}{1 - F(x_0)}.$$

This convergence has been extended to hold uniformly in x_0 by Yang (1978), *Ann. Statist.* **6**, 112-116; Hall and Wellner (1979), and Csörgő, Csörgő, and Horváth (1986, 2009); see also Shorack and W (1986), *E P*, page 778.