

Appendix

The proof of Theorem proceeds by a series of lemmas.

Lemma 1 *If the random indicator A_i that is conditional on $X_i = x_i$ is Bernoulli($1 - \pi_0(x_i)$), then $E(\Psi(z_i; x_i)|X_i = x_i) = \pi_0(x_i)$.*

Proof 1 *We have*

$$E(A_i|Z_i = z_i, X_i = x_i) = P(A_i = 1|Z_i = z_i, X_i = x_i) = 1 - \Psi(z_i; x_i).$$

By taking the expectation with respect to the density of Z_i that is conditional on $X_i = x_i$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} E(E(A_i|Z_i = z_i, X_i = x_i)|X_i = x_i) &= E(1 - \Psi(z_i; x_i)|X_i = x_i), \\ E(A_i|X_i = x_i) &= 1 - E(\Psi(z_i; x_i)|X_i = x_i), \end{aligned}$$

and the result follows.

Lemma 2 *For $x_i \in \mathcal{R}_1(x_0, \Delta_0)$, the bootstrap estimator $\hat{\mu}(\Delta_0, B)$ is a weakly consistent estimator of π_{01} . That is,*

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} P(|\hat{\mu}(\Delta_0, B) - \pi_{01}| > \epsilon | X_i = x_i) = 0 \text{ for any } \epsilon > 0.$$

Proof 2 *By Markov's inequality, it holds for any $\epsilon > 0$ that*

$$\begin{aligned} P(|\hat{\mu}(\Delta_0, B) - \pi_{01}| > \epsilon | X_i = x_i) &\leq \frac{E[|\hat{\mu}(\Delta_0, B) - \pi_{01}| | X_i = x_i]}{\epsilon} \\ &\leq \frac{E[|\hat{\mu}(\Delta_0, B) - \mu_{\Delta_0}(x_i)| | X_i = x_i]}{\epsilon} \\ &\quad + \frac{E[|\mu_{\Delta_0}(x_i) - \pi_{01}| | X_i = x_i]}{\epsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

$\hat{\mu}(\Delta_0, B)$ *is an unbiased estimator of $\mu_{\Delta_0}(x_i)$, and has zero variance as B becomes large. That is,*

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} E[(\hat{\mu}(\Delta_0, B) - \mu_{\Delta_0}(x_i))^2 | X_i = x_i] = \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sigma_{\Delta_0}^2(x_i)}{B} = 0. \quad (1)$$

Hence,

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} E[|\hat{\mu}(\Delta_0, B) - \mu_{\Delta_0}(x_i)| | X_i = x_i] \leq \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} E[(\hat{\mu}(\Delta_0, B) - \mu_{\Delta_0}(x_i))^2 | X_i = x_i]^{\frac{1}{2}} = 0.$$

On the other hand, when $x_i \in \mathcal{R}_1(x_0, \Delta_0)$ the expected dimension of the reference class $\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta_0}$ as N becomes large is $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} d_i^{\Delta_0} = \infty$. By applying the consistency assumption of $\hat{\Psi}_i$ on the reference class $\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta_0}$, we have that

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} P(|\hat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta_0}) - \Psi(z_i; x_i)| > \epsilon | X_i = x_i) = 0.$$

Because $|\hat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta_0}) - \Psi(z_i; x_i)| \leq 1$, the dominated convergence Theorem implies that

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} E[\hat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta_0}) - \Psi(z_i; x_i) | X_i = x_i] = 0.$$

For $x_i \in \mathcal{R}_1(x_0, \Delta_0)$, $E(\Psi(z_i; x_i)|X_i = x_i) = \pi_{01}$ and

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{E[|\mu_{\Delta_0}(x_i) - \pi_{01}| | X_i = x_i]}{\epsilon} = 0.$$

Lemma 3 If $x_i \in \mathcal{R}_1(x_0, \Delta_0)$, then the bootstrap estimator $\widehat{\mathcal{B}}(\Delta, \Delta_0, B)$ is a weakly consistent estimator of the prediction bias $\mathcal{B}_\Delta(x_i)$. That is,

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} P(|\widehat{\mathcal{B}}(\Delta, \Delta_0, B) - \mathcal{B}_\Delta(x_i)| > \epsilon | X_i = x_i) = 0 \text{ for any } \epsilon > 0.$$

Proof 3 By Markov's inequality, we have for any $\epsilon > 0$ that

$$\begin{aligned} P(|\widehat{\mathcal{B}}(\Delta, \Delta_0, B) - \mathcal{B}_\Delta(x_i)| > \epsilon | X_i = x_i) &\leq \frac{E[|\widehat{\mathcal{B}}(\Delta, \Delta_0, B) - \mathcal{B}_\Delta(x_i)| | X_i = x_i]}{\epsilon} \\ &\leq \frac{E[|\widehat{\mu}(\Delta, B) - \mu_\Delta(x_i)| | X_i = x_i]}{\epsilon} \\ &\quad + \frac{E[|\widehat{\mu}(\Delta_0, B) - \pi_{01}| | X_i = x_i]}{\epsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

Because $\widehat{\mu}(\Delta, B)$ is an unbiased estimator of $\mu_\Delta(x_i)$ whose variance is asymptotically zero, the result follows from Lemma 2 and the fact that

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} E[|\widehat{\mu}(\Delta, B) - \mu_\Delta(x_i)| | X_i = x_i] \leq \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} E[(\widehat{\mu}(\Delta, B) - \mu_\Delta(x_i))^2 | X_i = x_i]^{\frac{1}{2}} = 0.$$

Lemma 4 For $x_i \in \mathcal{R}_1(x_0, \Delta_0)$, the bootstrap estimator $\widehat{\Delta}_{0i}^*$ is a weakly consistent estimator of Δ_{0i}^* . That is,

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} P(|\widehat{\Delta}_{0i}^* - \Delta_{0i}^*| > \epsilon | X_i = x_i) = 0 \text{ for any } \epsilon > 0.$$

Proof 4 The bootstrap sample variance is a weakly consistent estimator of the variance of $\widehat{\Psi}_i(z_i^\Delta)$ and it follows from Lemma 3, that

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} P(|\widehat{err}(\Delta, \Delta_0, B) - err(\widehat{\Psi}(z_i^\Delta) | X_i = x_i)| > \epsilon | X_i = x_i) = 0.$$

Therefore, the result follows from the continuous mapping Theorem and the fact that

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} P(|\arg \inf_{\Delta \geq \Delta_0} \widehat{err}(\Delta, \Delta_0, B) - \arg \inf_{\Delta \geq \Delta_0} err(\widehat{\Psi}(z_i^\Delta) | X_i = x_i)| > \epsilon | X_i = x_i) = 0.$$

Proof of Theorem:

Proof 5 We know that

$$MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\widehat{\Delta}_{0i}^*})|\mathcal{R}_1(x_0, \Delta_0)) = \int_{\mathcal{R}_1(x_0, \Delta_0)} MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\widehat{\Delta}_{0i}^*})|X_i = x_i) dP_{x_i},$$

$$MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|\mathcal{R}_1(x_0, \Delta_0)) = \int_{\mathcal{R}_1(x_0, \Delta_0)} MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|X_i = x_i) dP_{x_i}.$$

It suffices to show that

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} \left[MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\widehat{\Delta}_{0i}^*})|X_i = x_i) - MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|X_i = x_i) \right] \leq 0.$$

$$\begin{aligned} MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\widehat{\Delta}_{0i}^*})|X_i = x_i) - MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|X_i = x_i) &= err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\widehat{\Delta}_{0i}^*})|X_i = x_i) \\ &\quad - err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta_{0i}^*})|X_i = x_i) \\ &\quad + err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta_{0i}^*})|X_i = x_i) \\ &\quad - err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|X_i = x_i). \end{aligned}$$

From Lemma 4, the weak consistency of $\widehat{\Delta}_{0i}^*$ implies that

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\widehat{\Delta}_{0i}^*})|X_i = x_i) - err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta_{0i}^*})|X_i = x_i) = 0.$$

On the other hand, because Δ_{0i}^* is optimal tuning parameter, it follows that

$$err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta_{0i}^*})|X_i = x_i) - err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|X_i = x_i) \leq err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta})|X_i = x_i) - err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|X_i = x_i)$$

for any $\Delta \in [\Delta_0, \infty)$, which indicates that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} \left[MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\widehat{\Delta}_{0i}^*})|X_i = x_i) - MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|X_i = x_i) \right] \\ \leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} \left[err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta})|X_i = x_i) - err(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|X_i = x_i) \right] \\ = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} \left[MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta})|X_i = x_i) - MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|X_i = x_i) \right] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The facts that both $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z})|X_i = x_i) = 0$ and

$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} MSE(\widehat{\Psi}_i(\mathbf{z}_i^{\Delta})|X_i = x_i) = 0$ follow from the consistency and the dominated convergence Theorem.