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# FULL-SEMIPARAMETRIC-LIKELIHOOD-BASED INFERENCE FOR NON-IGNORABLE MISSING DATA

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*Abstract:*

During the past few decades, missing-data problems have been studied extensively, with a focus on the ignorable missing case, where the missing probability depends only on observable quantities. By contrast, research into non-ignorable missing data problems is quite limited. The main difficulty in solving such problems is that the missing probability and the regression likelihood function are tangled together in the likelihood presentation, and the model parameters may not be identifiable even under strong parametric model assumptions. In this paper we discuss a semiparametric model for data with non-ignorable missing responses and propose a maximum full semiparametric likelihood estimation method, which is an efficient combination of the parametric conditional likelihood and the marginal nonparametric biased sampling likelihood. We further show that the proposed estimators for the underlying parameters and the response mean are semiparametrically efficient. Extensive simulations and a real data analysis

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demonstrate the advantage of the proposed method over competing methods.

*Key words and phrases:* Density ratio model; Empirical likelihood; Non-ignorable missing data.

## 1. Introduction

Missing data is ubiquitous in many areas, such as survey sampling, epidemiology, economics, sociology, and political science. Missing-data problems have been studied extensively during the last few decades. Most research focuses on missing data that are ignorable or missing at random in the sense that the missing probability or propensity score is a function only of the observed data (Little and Rubin, 2002; Rubin, 1987).

Non-ignorable missing or missing-not-at-random data occur if the propensity score depends on the missing data, even conditionally on the observed data. Let  $D$  be the missing indicator of the variable of interest  $Y$  associated with some covariate variables  $\mathbf{X}$ , and  $D = 1$  if  $Y$  is observed and  $D = 0$  otherwise. Non-ignorable missing implies that the propensity score  $\text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{x}, y) = \text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}, Y = y)$  depends on  $y$  and possibly on  $\mathbf{x}$ . Inference for non-ignorable missing data is more challenging than that for ignorable missing data for at least two reasons. First, the equality  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1) = \text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 0)$ , which holds for ignorable missing data,

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does not hold for non-ignorable missing data. This implies that simply ignoring the missing data can lead to substantial selection bias (Groves et al., 2004). Second, unlike the ignorable missing case, the propensity score and the regression likelihood function are tangled together in non-ignorable missing-data problems, and hence cannot be estimated separately.

These challenges require new modelling strategies for non-ignorable missing data. The most popular strategy is to make assumptions about  $\text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{x}, y)$  and  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x})$ , based on the selection model factorization  $\text{pr}(y, D|\mathbf{x}) = \text{pr}(D|\mathbf{x}, y)\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x})$  of Little and Rubin (2002). Parametric models (Greenless et al., 1982; Baker and Laird, 1988; Liu and Zhou, 2010) are at risk of model mis-specification (Little, 1985), while completely non-parametric models suffer from the identifiability issue (Robins and Ritov, 1997). Attention has been paid to the case where one of these probabilities is parametric or semiparametric and the other is left unspecified. See Tang et al. (2003); Qin et al. (2002); Chang and Kott (2008); Kott and Chang (2010) and Kim and Yu (2011). An alternative approach is to make parametric model assumptions on the observed  $Y$  given  $\mathbf{X}$  (Lee and Marsh, 2000; Riddles et al., 2016). An obvious advantage of this model over a completely parametric model for  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x})$  is that it is checkable with available data.

There have been many estimation approaches for identifiable model parameters developed in recent years, including pseudo-likelihood approaches (Tang et al., 2003; Zhao and Shao, 2015), empirical likelihood method (Zhao et al., 2013; Tang et al., 2014), and the generalized method of moments with an instrument variable (Wang et al., 2014; Shao and Wang, 2016; Shao, 2018). See Tang and Ju (2018) for a review of the most recent advances in dealing with nonignorable missing data. Under a parametric model for the observed  $Y$  given  $\mathbf{X}$ , Riddles et al. (2016); Morikawa et al. (2017) and Morikawa and Kim (2016) proposed estimating equation methods based on Louis (1982)'s mean score equation. However these approaches are either not efficient, or suffer from the curse of dimensionality and requires a bandwidth selection. To avoid this dilemma, Ai et al. (2018) proposed a new estimation method based on the generalized method of moments with a diverging number of estimating equations. As the number of estimating equation increases, their estimator attains the semiparametric efficiency lower bound of Morikawa and Kim (2016). However, the constrained generalized method of moments may have numerical convergence problems, especially when some of the estimating equations are highly correlated.

In this paper, we consider parametric models for both  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  and  $\text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{x}, y)$ . In particular, we assume that  $\text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{x}, y)$  follows a

logistic regression model,

$$\text{pr}(D = 0|\mathbf{x}, y) = \frac{\exp(\alpha^* + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + y\gamma)}{1 + \exp(\alpha^* + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + y\gamma)}, \quad (1.1)$$

which is commonly used in practice. Under these assumptions, we find that the two distribution pairs  $\{\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1), \text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 0)\}$  and  $\{\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1), \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0)\}$  satisfy two density ratio models (Anderson, 1979, DRMs), see Equations (2.4) and (2.5), which share some key unknown parameters. We give an easy-to-check condition to verify the identifiability of the model parameters. This condition is satisfied by many existing identification conditions such as the existence of an instrument or ancillary variable (Wang et al., 2014; Miao et al., 2016). For parameter estimation, the completely observed covariate data can be used to estimate the key unknown parameters, which can be further used to estimate  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 0)$ , since  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  can be estimated directly using the conditional maximum likelihood method. These, together with the empirical distribution of  $D$ , lead to estimation of the conditional density  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x})$ ; consequently the characteristics of  $Y$  can be consistently estimated.

Given the completely observed covariate data and the fact that  $\{\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1), \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0)\}$  follows a DRM, we use Owen (1988, 2001)'s empirical likelihood (EL) to estimate the underlying parameters. The DRM-based EL has been demonstrated to be very flexible and efficient, and it has attracted

much attention in recent decades; see Qin and Zhang (1997), Chen and Liu (2013), Cai et al. (2007), and the references therein.

We show that the maximum EL estimators of the underlying parameters are asymptotically normal, and the EL ratio for all the parameters follows an asymptotically central chisquare distribution. This makes it much more convenient to conduct hypothesis testing or construct confidence intervals for these parameters. We propose a maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) for the marginal mean of the response variable, and we establish its asymptotic normality. We further show that the proposed MLEs for all parameters attain the corresponding semiparametric efficiency lower bounds under parametric assumptions for the propensity score and the conditional density of  $Y$  given  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $D = 1$ . Compared with the existing methods, the proposed maximum semiparametric full likelihood approach has at least the following advantages:

1. It is able to identify the underlying parameters whether an instrument variable exists or not if the conditions in Proposition 1 are satisfied. The methods of Shao and Wang (2016), Riddles et al. (2016), Morikawa et al. (2017), Morikawa and Kim (2016) and Ai et al. (2018) all require an instrument variable. Further, it is able to produce consistent estimators for all the model parameters, if they are identifiable.

Extra information about the parameter  $\gamma$  in (1.1) is not needed.

2. It applies to data of any dimension and is free of bandwidth selection.

The methods of Kim and Yu (2011), Shao and Wang (2016), Morikawa and Kim (2016), and Morikawa et al. (2017) all suffer from the curse of dimensionality and bandwidth selection, and may not work well for multivariate covariates. Ai et al. (2018)'s method has an increasing calculation burden as the number of estimating equation increases.

3. Existing methods handling non-ignorable missing-data problems under semiparametric setups are mainly based on estimating equations and may not be the most efficient in general. Since full likelihood approaches are generally the most efficient, it can be expected that the proposed maximum semiparametric full likelihood approach would outperform the existing methods. Even though Morikawa and Kim (2016) calculated the semiparametric efficiency lower bound with the specification of propensity score only, their lower bound is not achievable unless the conditional density of  $Y$  given  $(\mathbf{X}, D = 1)$  is fully specified. In this paper we show that with the knowledge of  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$ , Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s method is no longer optimal anymore. Our new lower bound is lower than theirs.



4. Our method is also applicable to retrospectively collected data. For example, when the number of nonresponse individuals (with  $D = 0$ ) is large, we can randomly select some covariate  $\mathbf{x}$  from them to save cost. Based on this data together with the fully observed data, our method still provides valid inference about the underlying population. However, the existing methods may produce biased estimators because they are designed for prospective data.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we introduce the proposed model, show its equivalence to two DRMs, and provide sufficient conditions for the identifiability of the model parameters. Section 3 presents the proposed semiparametric DRM-based EL method and the resulting MLEs for the underlying parameters and the mean of the response variable. Their asymptotic normalities and semiparametric efficiencies are also established. Section 4 reports extensive simulation results. A real-life set of data is analyzed for illustration in Section 5. All technical details are given in the supplementary material.

## 2. Model and its identifiability

### 2.1 Model set-up

Suppose  $\{(y_i, \mathbf{x}_i, d_i), i = 1, \dots, n\}$  are  $n$  independent and identically distributed copies of  $(Y, \mathbf{X}, D)$ , where the covariates  $\mathbf{x}_i$  are always observed, and  $y_i$  is observed if and only if  $d_i = 1$ . We assume that the missing probability satisfies the logistic regression model in (1.1), i.e.,

$$\text{pr}(D = 0|\mathbf{x}, y) = \frac{\exp(\alpha^* + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + y\gamma)}{1 + \exp(\alpha^* + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + y\gamma)}.$$

The parameter  $\gamma$  is called the tilting parameter (Kim and Yu, 2011). It quantifies the extent to which the model departs from ignorable missing, and  $\gamma = 0$  corresponds to the ignorable missing-data case. We are interested in estimating the underlying parameters  $(\alpha^*, \beta, \gamma)$  and the marginal mean  $\mu$  of  $Y$ .

Based on the observed data, the full likelihood is

$$\prod_{i=1}^n \left[ \{\text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)\text{pr}(y_i, \mathbf{x}_i)\}^{d_i} \left\{ \int \text{pr}(D = 0|\mathbf{x}_i, y)\text{pr}(y, \mathbf{x}_i)dy \right\}^{1-d_i} \right]. \quad (2.1)$$

Unlike the case of ignorable missing, here  $\text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{x}, y)$  and  $\text{pr}(y, \mathbf{x})$  can not be separated and hence can not be separately estimated. To make inference based on the full likelihood, one may postulate parametric assumptions on  $\text{pr}(D = 1|y, \mathbf{x})$  and  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x})$ , which are sensitive to model

mis-specification (Little, 1985; Kenward and Molenberghs, 1988).

We crack this nut by an alternative method. The logistic regression model (1.1) is equivalent to the two-sample DRM (Qin and Zhang, 1997)

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}, y|D = 0) = \exp(\alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + y\gamma)\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}, y|D = 1), \quad (2.2)$$

where  $\alpha = \alpha^* + \log\{\eta/(1 - \eta)\}$  and  $\eta = \text{pr}(D = 1)$  is the probability of being observed. Clearly,  $\eta$  can be consistently estimated by data and is therefore identifiable. Then the identifiability of  $\alpha^*$  is equivalent to that of  $\alpha$ .

Integrating out  $y$ , we have

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0) = \exp(\alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta)\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1) \int \exp(y\gamma)\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)dy.$$

Therefore, the conditional densities of  $Y = y$  given  $(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}, D = 0)$  and given  $(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  satisfy

$$\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 0) = \frac{\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}, y|D = 0)}{\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0)} = \frac{\exp(y\gamma)\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)}{\int \exp(y\gamma)\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)dy}. \quad (2.3)$$

Although  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  is directly estimable based on the observed  $(y_i, \mathbf{x}_i)$ 's with  $d_i = 1$ , it is impossible to estimate  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 0)$  since  $\gamma$  is unknown in general. As a consequence, the conditional approach is not viable, as demonstrated by Kim and Yu (2011), who rely on external data to identify  $\gamma$ . In practical applications, however, external data are often unavailable, which makes the estimation of  $\gamma$  impossible.

Fortunately, the marginal information on the  $(\mathbf{x}_i, d_i)$ 's can help to identify  $\gamma$ , which solves the thorny identifiability problem in non-ignorable missing-data problems. Since  $(y_i, \mathbf{x}_i)$ 's with  $d_i = 1$  are available, without loss of generality, we can postulate a parametric model  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  for  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  with an identifiable parameter  $\xi$ . The parameter  $\xi$  can be consistently estimated from the directly observed data. This parametric model together with Equation (2.3) implies two DRMs:

$$\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 0) = \exp\{\gamma y - c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi)\}f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi), \quad (2.4)$$

$$\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0) = \exp\{\alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi)\}\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1), \quad (2.5)$$

where

$$c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi) = \ln \left\{ \int \exp(y\gamma) f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi) dy \right\}. \quad (2.6)$$

Equations (2.4)–(2.6) are the foundation of our inference method. We note that the second DRM involves all the underlying parameters in the model and is dependent only on  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0)$  and  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$ . Since the  $(\mathbf{x}_i, d_i)$ 's with  $d_i = 0$  or 1 are not subject to missingness, the parameters can be consistently estimated by their maximum DRM-based EL estimators (Qin and Zhang, 1997) provided they are identifiable.

## 2.2 Model identifiability

Miao et al. (2016) pointed out that even under full parametric models for  $\text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{x}, y)$  and  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x})$ , the underlying model parameters may not be identifiable. This phenomenon also arises under Model (2.5), where even  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$  is completely known, the model parameters in (2.5) may not be identifiable. We present a simple-to-check sufficient condition for the identifiability of the underlying parameters in (2.5). We have assumed that  $\xi$  is identifiable. Hence, we focus here on the identifiability of the parameters  $\alpha, \beta$ , and  $\gamma$ . Given the data  $\{(\mathbf{x}_i, d_i), i = 1, \dots, n\}$ , the conditional density functions  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0)$  and  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$  are clearly identifiable and can be consistently estimated by, for example, the kernel method. The log ratio  $\log\{\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0)/\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)\}$  is also identifiable. Since

$$\log\{\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0)/\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)\} = \alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi),$$

the model identification is equivalent to the identification of the parameters  $\alpha, \beta$ , and  $\gamma$  in  $\alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi)$ .

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $S$  be the common support of  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0)$  and  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$ , and  $\Omega = \{h(\mathbf{x}) : S \mapsto \mathbb{R} \mid \exists(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \text{ such that } h(\mathbf{x}) = \alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi) \forall \mathbf{x} \in S\}$ . If for any  $h(\mathbf{x}) \in \Omega$ , there exists a unique  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  such that  $h(\mathbf{x}) = \alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi)$ , then  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  is identifiable.*

Next we apply the above proposition to some special cases. We need the concept of an instrument variable, which can be helpful to identify  $\gamma$ . Suppose  $\mathbf{x}$  can be written as  $\mathbf{x} = (z, u^\top)^\top$ . If

$$\text{pr}(D = 0|z, u, y) = \text{pr}(D = 0|u, y) = \frac{\exp(\alpha^* + u^\top\beta + y\gamma)}{1 + \exp(\alpha^* + u^\top\beta + y\gamma)}$$

and  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}) = \text{pr}(y|z, u)$  depends on  $z$  and possibly on  $u$ , then  $z$  is an instrument variable. That is, an instrument variable is defined to be a covariate that does not affect the missingness but may affect the conditional distribution of the response variable.

With the above preparation and Proposition 1, we find that  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  is identifiable in the following two cases.

**Corollary 1.** *Suppose the logistic regression model in (1.1) holds and that the density function of  $Y$  given  $(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  is  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$ . (a) If there exists an instrument variable  $z$  in  $\mathbf{x}$ , then  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  is identifiable. (b) Assume that the set  $S$  in Proposition 1 contains an open set, and  $c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi)$  can be expressed as  $c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi) = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i(\gamma)g_i(\mathbf{x}) + a_{k+1}(\gamma) + \mathbf{x}^\top a_{k+2}(\gamma)$  for some positive integer  $k$ , and continuous functions  $a_i(\gamma)$  ( $i = 1, \dots, k+2$ ) and  $g_i(\mathbf{x})$  ( $i = 1, \dots, k$ ), where  $1, \mathbf{x}, g_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, g_k(\mathbf{x})$  are linearly independent, and  $a_j(\gamma)$  ( $j = 1, \dots, k$ ) are not equal to the zero functions. If  $(a_1(\gamma_1), \dots, a_k(\gamma_1)) \neq (a_1(\gamma_2), \dots, a_k(\gamma_2))$  for any  $\gamma_1 \neq \gamma_2$ , then  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  is identifiable.*

As an application of the above results, we consider the normal model in which  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  is the density function of  $N(\mu(\mathbf{x}, \xi), \sigma^2(\mathbf{x}, \xi))$ . Direct calculations give  $c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi) = \gamma\mu(\mathbf{x}, \xi) + 0.5\gamma^2\sigma^2(\mathbf{x}, \xi)$ . Further, assume  $\mu(\mathbf{x}, \xi) = \mathbf{x}^\top b_1(\xi) + b_2(\xi)\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}$  and  $\sigma^2(\mathbf{x}, \xi) = \exp\{b_3(\xi) + \mathbf{x}^\top b_4(\xi)\}$  for nonzero functions  $b_i(\xi)$ . We have the following observations:

(I) If  $b_2(\xi) \neq 0$ , then according to Corollary 1,  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  is identifiable.

(II) If  $b_2(\xi) = 0$  and  $b_4(\xi) = 0$ , then

$$\alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi) = \alpha + 0.5\gamma^2 \exp\{b_3(\xi)\} + \mathbf{x}^\top \{\beta + \gamma b_1(\xi)\},$$

which together with Lemma 1 implies that  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  is not identifiable.

(III) If  $b_2(\xi) = 0$  and  $b_4(\xi) \neq 0$ , then

$$\alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi) = \alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \{\beta + \gamma b_1(\xi)\} + 0.5\gamma^2 \exp\{b_3(\xi) + \mathbf{x}^\top b_4(\xi)\}.$$

If further  $\gamma = 0$ , then Proposition 1 implies that  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  is identifiable. Otherwise,  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  is not identifiable.

### 3. Semiparametric empirical likelihood inference

#### 3.1 Empirical likelihood

Suppose there are  $n_1$  completely observed data and  $n_2$  partially observed data. Without loss of generality, we assume that  $d_i = 1$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n_1$  and

$d_i = 0, i = n_1 + 1, \dots, n$ . The full likelihood in (2.1) can be written as

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n_1} \{\text{pr}(y_i|\mathbf{x}_i, D = 1)\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_i|D = 1)\text{pr}(D = 1)\} \cdot \prod_{i=n_1+1}^n \{\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_i|D = 0)\text{pr}(D = 0)\}.$$

Let  $\theta = (\alpha, \beta^\top, \gamma, \xi^\top)^\top$  and  $t(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = \alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi)$ . Since  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1) = f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  by assumption, it follows from  $\eta = \text{pr}(D = 1)$  and Equation (2.5) that the full log-likelihood is  $\tilde{\ell} = \ell_1(\eta) + \tilde{\ell}_2$ , where

$$\ell_1(\eta) = n_1 \log(\eta) + (n - n_1) \log(1 - \eta)$$

is the marginal likelihood based on the  $d_i$ 's, and

$$\tilde{\ell}_2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \log\{f(y_i|\mathbf{x}_i, \xi)\} + \sum_{i=n_1+1}^n t(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta) + \sum_{i=1}^n \log\{\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_i|D = 1)\}$$

is a conditional likelihood given the  $d_i$ 's.

We leave the conditional density  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$  completely unspecified, and use the celebrated EL method of Owen (1988, 1990) to handle it. Let  $p_i = \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_i|D = 1) = dF(\mathbf{x}_i|D = 1)$ , where  $F(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$  is the cumulative distribution function corresponding to the density  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$ . Following the principle of EL,  $\tilde{\ell}_2$  becomes an empirical log-likelihood

$$\tilde{\ell}_2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \log\{f(y_i|\mathbf{x}_i, \xi)\} + \sum_{i=n_1+1}^n t(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta) + \sum_{i=1}^n \log(p_i),$$

where the  $p_i$ 's are subject to the constraints

$$p_i \geq 0, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n p_i [\exp\{t(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta)\} - 1] = 0.$$



### 3.2 Estimation of the underlying parameters 16

Maximizing  $\tilde{\ell}_2$  with respect to the  $p_i$ 's, we arrive at

$$p_i = \frac{1}{n} \frac{1}{1 + \lambda[\exp\{t(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta)\} - 1]}, \quad (3.1)$$

where  $\lambda$  is the solution to

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\exp\{t(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta)\} - 1}{1 + \lambda[\exp\{t(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta)\} - 1]} = 0. \quad (3.2)$$

Substituting these  $p_i$ 's into  $\tilde{\ell}_2$  leads to the profile log-likelihood of  $\theta$ ,

$$\ell_2(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \log\{f(y_i|\mathbf{x}_i, \xi)\} + \sum_{i=n_1+1}^n t(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta) - \sum_{i=1}^n \log\{1 + \lambda[\exp\{t(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta)\} - 1]\}.$$

The profile log-likelihood of  $(\eta, \theta)$  is then defined as

$$\ell(\eta, \theta) = \ell_1(\eta) + \ell_2(\theta). \quad (3.3)$$

### 3.2 Estimation of the underlying parameters

With the profile log-likelihood of  $(\eta, \theta)$  in (3.3), the MLE of  $(\eta, \theta)$  is

$$(\hat{\eta}, \hat{\theta}) = \arg \max_{\eta, \theta} \ell(\eta, \theta).$$

Equivalently,  $\hat{\eta}$  maximizes  $\ell_1(\eta)$ , which gives  $\hat{\eta} = n_1/n$ , and  $\hat{\theta} = (\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}^\top, \hat{\gamma}, \hat{\xi}^\top)^\top = \arg \max_{\theta} \ell_2(\theta)$ . The likelihood ratio function of  $\theta$  is defined as

$$R(\theta) = 2\{\max_{\eta, \theta} \ell(\eta, \theta) - \max_{\eta} \ell(\eta, \theta)\} = 2\{\ell_2(\hat{\theta}) - \ell_2(\theta)\}.$$

Next we study the large-sample properties of the MLE and the likelihood ratio. Denote the truth of  $(\eta, \theta)$  by  $(\theta_0, \eta_0)$  with  $\theta_0 = (\alpha_0, \beta_0^\top, \gamma_0, \xi_0^\top)^\top$

### 3.2 Estimation of the underlying parameters 17

and  $\eta_0 \in (0, 1)$ . Define

$$\pi(\mathbf{x}; \theta, \eta) = \frac{(1 - \eta) \exp\{t(\mathbf{x}, \theta)\}}{\eta + (1 - \eta) \exp\{t(\mathbf{x}, \theta)\}}$$

and we write  $\pi(\mathbf{x}) = \pi(\mathbf{x}; \theta_0, \eta_0)$  for abbreviation. Let  $d_\theta$  denote the dimension of  $\theta$  and  $\mathbf{e}_1$  be a  $d_\theta \times 1$  vector with the first component being 1 and the remaining components 0. Finally, define

$$V = \mathbb{E}[\{1 - \pi(\mathbf{X})\}\pi(\mathbf{X})\{\nabla_\theta t(\mathbf{X}, \theta)\}^{\otimes 2}] + \mathbb{E}[DI_e\{\nabla_\xi f(Y|\mathbf{X}, \xi)\}^{\otimes 2}I_e^\top], \quad (3.4)$$

where  $\nabla_\theta$  is the differentiation operator with respect to  $\theta$ ,  $I_e^\top = (0_{d_\xi \times (2+d_\beta)}, I_{d_\xi \times d_\xi})$ , and  $B^{\otimes 2} = BB^\top$  for any matrix or vector  $B$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Assume Conditions A1–A4 in the supplementary material.*

*Suppose that the logistic regression model in (1.1) holds with  $(\alpha_0, \beta_0, \gamma_0)$  in place of  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ , and that the density function of  $Y$  given  $(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  is  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi_0)$ . Further, assume that  $\theta$  is identifiable. Then as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , (1)  $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \rightarrow N(0, V^{-1} - \{\eta_0(1 - \eta_0)\}^{-1}\mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_1^\top)$  in distribution with  $V$  defined in (3.4); (2)  $R(\theta_0) \rightarrow \chi_{d_\theta}^2$  in distribution.*

Theorem 1 implies that the MLEs of all the parameters are asymptotically normal. The likelihood ratio for the parameters follows a central chisquare limiting distribution, which makes the resulting hypothesis testing or interval estimation about  $\theta$  very convenient. Although the proposed

### 3.2 Estimation of the underlying parameters 18

approach is developed based on prospective data, we emphasize that it can also apply to retrospectively collected data. This is because the subsequent inferences are mainly based on  $\ell_2$  or equivalently

$$\tilde{\ell}_2 = \log \left[ \prod_{i=1}^{n_1} \{\text{pr}(y_i, \mathbf{x}_i | D = 1)\} \prod_{i=n_1+1}^n \{\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}_i | D = 0)\} \right],$$

which is actually a retrospective log-likelihood. If  $\eta = \text{pr}(D = 1)$  or  $\hat{\eta}$  is available, based on retrospectively collected data, the proposed approach can still make valid inference.

Given the MLE of all the underlying parameters, we are able to construct the MLE of the population mean  $\mu$  of the response  $Y$ . Under our model,  $\mu$  depends not only on the underlying parameters  $\theta$  but also on  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$  or the corresponding cumulative distribution function  $F(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$ . With the MLEs  $\hat{\theta}$  and  $\hat{\eta} = n_1/n$ , we show in the supplementary material that  $\hat{\lambda} = n_2/n$ , where  $\hat{\lambda}$  satisfies (3.2) with  $\hat{\theta}$  in the place of  $\theta$ . With (3.1), the MLE of  $p_i$  is

$$\hat{p}_i = \frac{1}{n} \frac{1}{1 + (n_2/n)[\exp\{t(\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\theta})\} - 1]} = \frac{1}{n} \frac{1}{\hat{\eta} + (1 - \hat{\eta}) \exp\{t(\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\theta})\}}.$$

Accordingly the MLE of  $F(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$  is  $\hat{F}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \hat{p}_i I(\mathbf{x}_i \leq \mathbf{x})$ , where for two vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_1 \leq \mathbf{x}_2$  implies that the inequality holds elementwise.

### 3.3 Estimation of the response mean

To obtain the MLE of the response mean  $\mu$ , we write  $\mu$  in terms of the underlying parameters  $\eta, \theta$ , and  $F(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= \int_y \int_{\mathbf{x}} y \text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1) \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1) \text{pr}(D = 1) d\mathbf{x} dy \\ &\quad + \int_y \int_{\mathbf{x}} y \text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 0) \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 0) \text{pr}(D = 0) d\mathbf{x} dy \\ &= \int_y \int_{\mathbf{x}} y \text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1) \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1) \eta d\mathbf{x} dy \\ &\quad + \int_y \int_{\mathbf{x}} y \exp(\alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + \gamma y) \text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1) \text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1) (1 - \eta) d\mathbf{x} dy \\ &= \int_{\mathbf{x}} \left[ \int_y y \{ \eta + (1 - \eta) \exp(\alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + \gamma y) \} f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi) dy \right] dF(\mathbf{x}|D = 1), \end{aligned}$$

where in the last step we replace  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  and  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1) d\mathbf{x}$  by  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  and  $dF(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$ , respectively. Then the MLE of  $\mu$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu} &= \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{p}_i \left[ \int_y y \{ \hat{\eta} + (1 - \hat{\eta}) \exp(\hat{\alpha} + \mathbf{x}_i^\top \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma} y) \} f(y|\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\xi}) dy \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\int_y y \{ \hat{\eta} + (1 - \hat{\eta}) \exp(\hat{\alpha} + \mathbf{x}_i^\top \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma} y) \} f(y|\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\xi}) dy}{\hat{\eta} + (1 - \hat{\eta}) \exp\{t(\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\theta})\}}. \quad (3.5) \end{aligned}$$

We use the normal model as an illustrating example:  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  is chosen to be the density function of  $N(\mu(\mathbf{x}, \xi), \sigma^2(\mathbf{x}, \xi))$ . In this example, the proposed mean estimator in (3.5) becomes

$$\hat{\mu} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\hat{\eta} \hat{\mu}_i + (1 - \hat{\eta}) (\hat{\mu}_i + \hat{\gamma} \hat{\sigma}_i^2) \exp(\hat{\alpha} + \mathbf{x}_i^\top \hat{\beta} + \hat{\mu}_i \hat{\gamma} + 0.5 \hat{\gamma}^2 \hat{\sigma}_i^2)}{\hat{\eta} + (1 - \hat{\eta}) \exp(\hat{\alpha} + \mathbf{x}_i^\top \hat{\beta} + \hat{\mu}_i \hat{\gamma} + 0.5 \hat{\gamma}^2 \hat{\sigma}_i^2)}, \quad (3.6)$$

where  $\hat{\mu}_i = \mu(\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\xi})$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_i^2 = \sigma^2(\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\xi})$ .

### 3.3 Estimation of the response mean 20

The next theorem establishes the asymptotic normality of the proposed estimator  $\hat{\mu}$  in (3.5).

**Theorem 2.** *Under the conditions of Theorem 1, as  $n$  goes to infinity,  $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\mu} - \mu) \rightarrow N(0, \sigma^2)$  in distribution, where  $\sigma^2 = \mathbb{V}\text{ar}\{K(\mathbf{X}; \theta_0, \eta_0)\} + A^\top V^{-1}A$  with*

$$K(\mathbf{x}; \theta, \eta) = \frac{\int y \{\eta + (1 - \eta) \exp(\alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + \gamma y)\} f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi) dy}{\eta + (1 - \eta) \exp\{\alpha + \mathbf{x}^\top \beta + c(\mathbf{x}, \gamma, \xi)\}}$$

and  $A = \mathbb{E}\{\nabla_\theta K(\mathbf{X}; \theta_0, \eta_0)\}$ .

When Wald-type intervals are constructed for  $\mu$  based on Theorem 2, we need a consistent estimator of  $\sigma^2$ , which can be constructed based on consistent estimators of  $A$ ,  $\mathbb{V}\text{ar}\{K(\mathbf{X}; \theta_0, \eta_0)\}$ , and  $V$ . Reasonable estimators for these three quantities are  $\hat{A} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_\theta K(\mathbf{x}_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{\eta})$ ,

$$\widehat{\mathbb{V}\text{ar}}\{K(\mathbf{X}; \theta_0, \eta_0)\} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \{K(\mathbf{X}; \hat{\theta}, \hat{\eta})\}^2 - \left\{ n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n K(\mathbf{X}; \hat{\theta}, \hat{\eta}) \right\}^2,$$

and

$$\hat{V} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n [\{1 - \pi(\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\eta})\} \pi(\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\eta}) \{\nabla_\theta t(\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\theta})\}^{\otimes 2} + d_i I_e \{\nabla_\xi f(y_i|\mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\xi})\}^{\otimes 2} I_e^\top].$$

These estimators are consistent because  $(\hat{\theta}, \hat{\eta})$  is consistent and  $K$  is smooth in all its arguments. Consequently a consistent estimator of  $\sigma^2$  is

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \widehat{\mathbb{V}\text{ar}}\{K(\mathbf{X}; \theta_0, \eta_0)\} + \hat{A}^\top \hat{V}^{-1} \hat{A}. \quad (3.7)$$

### 3.4 Semiparametric efficiency

We make the same model assumptions as Riddles et al. (2016): the logistic model in (1.1) for the propensity score and a parametric model  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  for  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$ , and leave  $\text{pr}(\mathbf{x}|D = 1)$  completely unspecified. Therefore our model setup is semi-parametric. Next we show that the estimators  $(\hat{\theta}, \hat{\eta})$  and  $\hat{\mu}$ , which are built on the above semi-parametric model, are semiparametrically efficient.

**Theorem 3.** *Under the conditions of Theorem 1, the MLEs  $(\hat{\theta}, \hat{\eta})$  and  $\hat{\mu}$  are both semiparametrically efficient in sense that their asymptotic variances attain the corresponding semiparametric efficiency lower bounds.*

We make some comments on Theorem 3 and the results in Riddles et al. (2016), Morikawa and Kim (2016) and Ai et al. (2018). Note that Riddles et al. (2016)'s estimator was constructed under the same model assumptions as ours. Theorem 3 implies that the asymptotic variance of their mean estimator is no less than  $\sigma^2$ , the asymptotic variance of the MLE  $\hat{\mu}$  and also the semiparametric efficiency lower bound for estimating  $\mu$ .

When only the parametric propensity score assumption is made, Morikawa and Kim (2016) derived the semiparametric efficiency lower bound for the parameter of interest such as the response mean, and proposed two adap-

tive estimators whose asymptotic variances attain the lower bound. Ai et al. (2018) proposed an estimation method based on the generalized method of moments, and showed that as the number of moments increases appropriately their estimator also attains the lower bound of Morikawa and Kim (2016). According to Tsiatis (2006), the semiparametric efficiency lower bound is equal to the supremum of the asymptotic variances of the MLEs under all parametric submodels. Since the model assumptions in Morikawa and Kim (2016) is weaker than ours, the set of all parametric submodels considered in Morikawa and Kim (2016) contains all parametric submodels considered in this paper. Consequently, when the parameter of interest is the response mean, the semiparametric efficiency lower bound of Morikawa and Kim (2016) is no less than  $\sigma^2$ . Hence the asymptotic variances of Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s two adaptive estimators and Ai et al. (2018)'s estimator are no less than that of our estimator  $\hat{\mu}$ .

### 3.5 Model checking

Based on the completely observed data  $\{(y_i, \mathbf{x}_i, d_i = 1), i = 1, \dots, n_1\}$ , we can directly examine the correctness of the model assumption  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1) = f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  by residual analysis. For example, the goal of checking the normal model assumed in the real data analysis in Section 5 can be

achieved by commonly-used normality tests such as the Shapiro-Wilk test based on the residuals. We can perform model diagnostics by using Cox and Snell (1968)'s general residuals for other types of continuous responses and Yang (2019)'s surrogate empirical residual distribution function for discrete responses.

Another question about the proposed model is the reliability of the parametric model assumption on the propensity score  $\text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{x}, y)$ . Since we do not observe  $y_i$ 's for  $\{(\mathbf{x}_i, d_i = 0), i = n_1 + 1, \dots, n\}$ , we do not have direct data to check this. However, the question can be answered indirectly by testing the goodness-of-fit of the DRM (2.5). The latter problem has been studied by many researchers and can be solved by the tests of Qin and Zhang (1997), Cheng and Chu (2004), Bondell (2007), and others.

## 4. Simulation

### 4.1 Set-up

We carry out simulations to investigate the finite-sample performance of the proposed estimator for the population mean of the response. We compare the proposed mean estimator  $\hat{\mu}$  with four others: (1) Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s adaptive estimator with correctly specified parametric form for  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$ ,  $\tilde{\mu}_t$ , (2) Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s adaptive estima-



tor without specifying a parametric form for  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$ ,  $\tilde{\mu}_{np}$ , (3) the sample mean of the observed response,  $\bar{y}_r$ , and (4) the sample mean of all the responses when there are no missing data,  $\bar{y}$ . When  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  is correctly specified, Morikawa and Kim (2016) showed that  $\tilde{\mu}_t$  is more efficient than Riddles et al. (2016)'s estimator, and further Ai et al. (2018)'s estimator has the same asymptotic variance as  $\tilde{\mu}_t$ . Hence Riddles et al. (2016)'s and Ai et al. (2018)'s methods are not included in the comparison. We have also compared the proposed estimator of the unknown parameters in the missing probability model (1.1) with Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s two adaptive estimators. The results are summarized in Section S7 of the supplementary material.

We generate data from the following four examples.

**Example 1.** Let  $\mathbf{x} = (z, u)^\top$ , where  $u$  is a Bernoulli random variable with success probability 0.5,  $z$  follows the uniform distribution on  $(-1, 1)$ , and  $u$  and  $z$  are independent. We choose  $\text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{x}, y) = 1/\{1 + \exp(-1.7 - 0.4u + 0.5y)\}$  and set  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1) = f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  to the density function of  $N(\mu(\mathbf{x}), \sigma^2)$ , where  $\mu(\mathbf{x}) = \exp(0.5 - u + 1.5z)$  and  $\sigma^2 = 1$  or 4.

**Example 2.** Let  $\mathbf{x} = (z, u)^\top$ , where  $u \sim N(1, 1)$ ,  $z \sim N(0, 1)$  and  $u$  and  $z$  are independent. We choose  $\text{pr}(D = 1|\mathbf{x}, y) = 1/\{1 + \exp(-1.7 - 0.4u + 0.5y)\}$  and set  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1) = f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  to the density function of

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$N(\mu(\mathbf{x}), \sigma^2)$ , where  $\mu(\mathbf{x}) = 2.5 - u + 1.5z$  and  $\sigma^2 = 1$  or 4.

**Example 3.** The covariate  $x$  follows  $N(0, 1)$ . We choose  $\text{pr}(D = 1|x, y) = 1/\{1 + \exp(-2.7 - 0.4x + 0.5y)\}$  and set  $\text{pr}(y|x, D = 1) = f(y|x, \xi)$  to the density function of  $N(\mu(x), \sigma^2 e^{0.5x})$ , where  $\mu(x) = 2 - x + x^2$  and  $\sigma^2 = 1$  or  $e^{0.7}$ .

**Example 4.** The setup is the same as Example 2 except that  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  is set to the density function of a normal mixture  $0.95N(\mu(\mathbf{x}), 1) + 0.05N(\mu(\mathbf{x}), \sigma^2)$ , where  $\mu(\mathbf{x}) = 2.5 - u + 1.5z$  and  $\sigma^2 = 3$  or 6.

Example 1 is Scenario 2 of Morikawa and Kim (2016) except that we consider  $\sigma^2 = 1$  and 4, while Morikawa and Kim (2016) only considered  $\sigma^2 = 1$ . Example 2 represents the case where the mean function is a linear function of  $\mathbf{x}$ . Both Examples 1 and 2 have an instrument variable so the model parameters are identifiable. Example 3 represents the case that there is no instrument variable, but the model parameters are still identifiable. In Examples 1–3, the model for  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  is correctly specified when implementing the proposed method. In Example 4, we choose  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  to be the density function of  $N(\mu(\mathbf{x}), \sigma^2)$  when implementing the proposed method, although the true density function for  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  is a normal mixture. In this situation,  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  is a misspecified model for  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D =$

1). The true values of  $\mu$  and the missing probability  $1 - \eta$  for the four examples are tabulated in Table 1.

Table 1: True values of  $\mu$  and the missing probability  $1 - \eta$  in Examples 1–4.

Example	$\sigma^2$	$\mu$	$1 - \eta$	Example	$\sigma^2$	$\mu$	$1 - \eta$
1	1	1.748	0.294	1	4	2.326	0.362
2	1	1.638	0.275	2	4	2.177	0.339
3	1	3.127	0.277	3	$e^{0.7}$	3.289	0.299
4	3	1.657	0.277	4	6	1.704	0.282

## 4.2 Point estimation

In this section, we evaluate the performance of the five mean estimators in terms of the relative bias (RB) and mean square error (MSE). We set  $n = 500$  and  $2000$  for all the four examples, and use  $2000$  for the number of repetitions in all our simulations. The simulation results are summarized in Table 2.

It is worth mentioning that we encountered some numerical problems in the implementation of Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s adaptive estimator  $\tilde{\mu}_t$ , in Example 1 with  $n = 500, 2000$  and  $\sigma^2 = 4$ , Example 2 with  $n = 500$  and  $\sigma^2 = 4$ , Example 3 with  $n = 500$  and  $\sigma^2 = e^{0.7}$ , and Example 4 with  $n = 500, 2000$  and  $\sigma^2 = 6$ . Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s algorithm either

4.2 Point estimation27

does not converge or produces too big (greater than 5) or too small (less than 0) mean estimates. Throughout the simulation study, the performance of  $\tilde{\mu}_t$  are evaluated based only on the estimates between 0 and 5.

Table 2: Relative bias (RB;  $\times 100$ ) and mean square error (MSE;  $\times 100$ ) of five estimates of  $\mu$ .

$n$		$\hat{\mu}$	$\tilde{\mu}_t$	$\tilde{\mu}_{np}$	$\bar{y}_r$	$\bar{y}$	$\hat{\mu}$	$\tilde{\mu}_t$	$\tilde{\mu}_{np}$	$\bar{y}_r$	$\bar{y}$
		Example 1: $\sigma^2 = 1$					Example 1: $\sigma^2 = 4$				
500	RB	-0.12	-0.39	-1.31	-32.61	-0.19	0.35	-1.18	-8.45	-51.71	-0.19
500	MSE	0.93	0.98	1.04	33.10	0.81	4.00	7.17	7.18	146.23	1.78
2000	RB	0.10	0.04	-0.33	-32.54	0.03	0.18	-0.11	-4.21	-51.57	0.01
2000	MSE	0.22	0.24	0.24	32.49	0.19	0.98	1.24	1.91	144.24	0.44
		Example 2: $\sigma^2 = 1$					Example 2: $\sigma^2 = 4$				
500	RB	-0.15	-0.28	-4.49	-35.83	0.01	0.18	-0.68	-18.62	-56.27	0.05
500	MSE	1.09	1.12	1.62	35.49	0.93	3.97	5.68	19.45	152.19	1.90
2000	RB	0.14	0.13	-2.85	-35.69	0.11	0.15	0.09	-15.01	-56.05	0.09
2000	MSE	0.26	0.27	0.48	34.43	0.23	0.97	1.40	11.43	149.48	0.47
		Example 3: $\sigma^2 = 1$					Example 3: $\sigma^2 = e^{0.7}$				
500	RB	0.01	-0.24	-2.29	-18.70	0.06	0.02	-0.71	-3.08	-23.00	0.06
500	MSE	1.01	1.82	1.48	34.79	0.90	1.59	3.99	2.52	58.19	1.21
2000	RB	0.05	-0.02	-1.20	-18.70	-0.04	0.05	-0.11	-1.67	-23.06	0.00
2000	MSE	0.25	0.38	0.39	34.35	0.23	0.41	0.80	0.69	57.76	0.29
		Example 4: $\sigma^2 = 3$					Example 4: $\sigma^2 = 6$				
500	RB	-0.39	-0.29	-5.08	-36.78	-0.07	-1.48	-0.39	-6.97	-38.68	0.22
500	MSE	1.10	1.18	1.78	38.19	0.94	1.25	1.77	2.56	44.52	1.02
2000	RB	-0.14	0.01	-3.52	-36.67	0.09	-1.50	0.02	-5.56	-38.84	0.14
2000	MSE	0.27	0.30	0.61	37.16	0.23	0.36	0.53	1.19	44.05	0.26

We first look at the results for Example 1. When  $\sigma^2 = 1$ , the relative biases of the proposed estimator and Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s two adaptive estimators are all small. The proposed estimator has slightly smaller mean square errors than Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s two adaptive estimators, whose mean square errors are quite close to each other. When  $\sigma^2$  is increased to 4, the relative biases of  $\tilde{\mu}_{np}$  become much bigger. The proposed estimator has much smaller mean square errors than Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s two adaptive estimators. The comparison between  $\hat{\mu}$  and  $\tilde{\mu}_t$  in Example 2 is similar to that for Example 1. For Example 2, compared with  $\tilde{\mu}_t$ ,  $\tilde{\mu}_{np}$  has much bigger relative biases and mean square errors especially for larger  $\sigma^2$ . Next, we examine the results for Example 3, in which there is no instrumental variable. The proposed estimator has small relative biases in all situations. Its mean square errors are significantly smaller than Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s two adaptive estimators. For Example 4, although the model for  $\text{pr}(y|\mathbf{x}, D = 1)$  is misspecified, the relative biases of  $\hat{\mu}$  is still small, which shows that the proposed method is quite robust to model misspecification. The comparison between  $\hat{\mu}$  and Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s two adaptive estimators in Example 4 is similar to that in Example 2. Finally, as expected,  $\bar{y}_r$  has large relative biases and the largest mean square errors in all examples, while the ideal estimator  $\bar{y}$  has small

relative biases and the smallest mean square errors in all situations. When  $\sigma^2$  is small, the proposed estimator has almost the same performance as the ideal estimator  $\bar{y}$ , indicating that it is nearly optimal and can be hardly improved.

### 4.3 Interval estimation

This section is devoted to comparing the coverage of Wald confidence intervals based on  $\hat{\mu}$ ,  $\tilde{\mu}_t$ , and  $\bar{y}_r$ . The nonparametric bootstrap method with 200 bootstrap samples is used to estimate the asymptotic variance for each of the three mean estimators. Although the variance estimator in (3.7) can be used in the Wald-type confidence intervals based on  $\hat{\mu}$ , its complicated form makes it more difficult to calculate than bootstrap variance estimate. The bootstrap method is quite computationally intensive for  $\tilde{\mu}_{np}$ . For example, in Example 1, it takes around 9 minutes and 2 hours respectively to calculate the bootstrap variances for  $\tilde{\mu}_{np}$  for a single replication when  $n = 500$  and  $n = 2000$ . Hence we do not include it for comparison. Again the number of repetitions is 2000 in all cases. The simulation results are summarized in Table 3.

In most cases, both Wald confidence intervals based on  $\hat{\mu}$  and  $\tilde{\mu}_t$  have very close and accurate coverage probabilities. The exceptions are Example

1 and Example 3 with the smaller sample size  $n = 500$ , and Example 4. For Example 1, both intervals have slight under coverage, while for Example 3, the Wald confidence interval based on  $\tilde{\mu}_t$  has much over-coverage, in particular when  $\sigma^2$  is large. When the sample size  $n$  is increased to 2000, both intervals have perfect coverage accuracy. For Example 4, the Wald confidence interval based on  $\tilde{\mu}_t$  has under-coverage, especially when  $n = 2000$ . The Wald confidence interval based on  $\hat{\mu}$  has the similar problem when  $\sigma^2 = 6$  and  $n = 2000$ . This is probably the cost of model misspecification. It is worth noting that for the Wald confidence interval based on  $\tilde{\mu}_t$ , the results with  $\tilde{\mu}_t$  outside  $[0, 5]$  or not convergent were not taken into consideration. In all cases, the Wald confidence interval based on  $\bar{y}_r$  has unacceptable coverage accuracy, which is most probably caused by the severe bias of  $\bar{y}_r$ . Overall the Wald confidence interval based on the proposed estimator  $\hat{\mu}$  is the most accurate and desirable among the three interval estimators under comparison.

## 5. An application

We apply the proposed method to analyze the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) data from AIDS Clinical Trials Group Protocol 175 (ACT-G175) (Hammer et al., 1996; Zhang and Wang, 2020), in which  $n = 2139$

Table 3: Simulated coverage probabilities (%) of bootstrap Wald-type confidence intervals based on  $\hat{\mu}$ ,  $\tilde{\mu}_t$ , and  $\bar{y}_r$  in Examples 1–4.

Example	$\sigma^2$	$n$	$\hat{\mu}$	$\tilde{\mu}_t$	$\bar{y}_r$	Example	$\sigma^2$	$n$	$\hat{\mu}$	$\tilde{\mu}_t$	$\bar{y}_r$
1	1	500	93.6	94.4	0	1	4	500	95.1	95.7	1.0
1	1	2000	95.3	95.1	0	1	4	2000	94.7	94.2	0
2	1	500	94.5	94.7	0.1	2	4	500	95.2	95.3	0
2	1	2000	95.1	95.2	0	2	4	2000	95.4	95.2	0
3	1	500	94.9	96.0	0	3	$e^{0.7}$	500	95.7	97.5	0
3	1	2000	95.0	94.7	0	3	$e^{0.7}$	2000	94.8	95.5	0
4	3	500	95.7	94.4	0	4	6	500	94.8	93.6	0
4	3	2000	95.1	93.9	0	4	6	2000	92.7	92.1	0

HIV-infected patients were enrolled. The patients were randomly divided into four arms according to the regimen of treatment they received: (I) zidovudine monotherapy, (II) zidovudine + didanosine, (III) zidovudine + zalcitabine, and (IV) didanosine monotherapy. The data records many measurements from each patient, including his/her age (in years), weight (in kilograms), CD4 cell count at baseline (cd40), CD4 cell count at  $20 \pm 5$  weeks (cd420), CD4 cell count at  $96 \pm 5$  weeks (cd496), CD8 cell count at baseline (cd80), CD8 cell count at  $20 \pm 5$  weeks (cd820), and arm number (arms). The data is available from the R package `speff2trial`. The effectiveness of a HIV treatment can be assessed by monitoring the CD4 cell counts of HIV positive patients: an increase in such counts is an indication of im-



provement on the patients' health. An interesting problem is how much the mean of the CD4 cell counts was in each arm after the patients were treated for about 96 weeks. We take cd496 as a response variable  $Y$ , and take age, weight, cd40, cd420, cd80, and cd820 as covariates  $X_1, \dots, X_6$ . Due to the end of trial or loss to follow-up, 62.74% of the patients' responses were missing.

As patients with lower CD4 counts are more likely to drop out from the scheduled study visits (Yuan and Yin, 2010), we believe that the missingness of  $Y$  is likely dependent on  $Y$  itself. That is,  $Y$  is non-ignorable missing (Zhang and Wang, 2020). We use the proposed estimator  $\hat{\mu}$  and Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s estimator  $\tilde{\mu}_t$  to estimate the mean of CD4 cell counts of the patients in Arm I; the estimations for other arms are similar and omitted.

We take  $\mathbf{X} = (X_3, X_4, X_6)$ , and choose  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  to be the normal density with mean  $\mu(\mathbf{x}, \xi) = \xi_1 + \xi_2 x_3 + \xi_3 x_4 + \xi_4 x_6 + \xi_5 x_4^2$  and a constant variance  $\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \xi) = \xi_6$ . This model is chosen by all subset selection method coupled with Bayesian information criterion among the six covariates and their quadratic terms. As  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  is a normal model, checking its correctness can be achieved by testing the normality of the residuals. Three commonly-used normality tests, Shapiro-Wilk test, Kolmogorov-Smirnov

test and Anderson-Darling test, give p-values 0.1422, 0.8547, and 0.2646, respectively, all supporting the postulated normal model for  $f(y|\mathbf{x}, \xi)$  at the 5% significance level.

We consider two models for the missing probability model

$$\text{Model I : } \text{pr}(D = 0|\mathbf{x}, y) = \frac{\exp(\alpha^* + x_3\beta_1 + x_4\beta_2 + x_6\beta_3 + y\gamma)}{1 + \exp(\alpha^* + x_3\beta_1 + x_4\beta_2 + x_6\beta_3 + y\gamma)},$$

$$\text{Model II : } \text{pr}(D = 0|\mathbf{x}, y) = \frac{\exp(\alpha^* + x_4\beta_1 + x_6\beta_2 + y\gamma)}{1 + \exp(\alpha^* + x_4\beta_1 + x_6\beta_2 + y\gamma)}.$$

In Model I, there is no instrumental variable, and in Model II,  $X_3$  is the instrumental variable. According to Corollary 1, all model parameters are identifiable.

Since  $Y$  is subject to missingness, directly checking the validation of the proposed missing probability model is infeasible. Instead we achieve this purpose indirectly by checking the validation of DRM (2.5). Zhang and Qin (1997)'s Kolmogorov-Smirnov test produces test statistics 3.03 and 3.01 for the goodness of fit of Models I and II, respectively. Based on 1000 bootstrap samples, their p-values are found to be 0.335 and 0.397, respectively, which support partially the assumed logistic models for the missing mechanism.

We report the point and Wald interval estimates (at the 95% confidence level) for the mean of CD4 cell counts of the patients in Arm I in Table 4. The results of the naive estimator  $\bar{y}_r$  are also included. The asymptotic

standard deviation of each estimator was estimated based on 1000 bootstrap samples. We observe that the proposed estimate  $\hat{\mu}$  and Morikawa and Kim (2016)'s estimate  $\tilde{\mu}_t$  are quite close. However, the proposed interval estimates have much smaller lengths. The naive estimator  $\bar{y}_r$  seems to have a upward bias as we have justified the non-ignorable missing mechanism.

Table 4: Point estimates and interval estimates of the mean of CD496 cell counts ( $Y$ ) of the patients in Arm I for the ACTG175 data.

	Model I		Model II	
	Point Estimate	Interval Estimate	Point Estimate	Interval Estimate
$\bar{y}_r$	287.62	[269.91, 305.32]	287.62	[269.91, 305.32]
$\hat{\mu}$	258.14	[198.26, 318.02]	256.25	[220.39, 292.11]
$\tilde{\mu}_t$	258.53	[168.55, 348.50]	255.34	[198.82, 311.85]

## Supplementary Material

The online supplementary material contains necessary regularity conditions, proofs of Corollary 1 and Theorems 1-3, and additional simulation results.

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