

Web Material for “Addressing Extreme Propensity Scores in Estimating Counterfactual Survival Functions via the Overlap Weights”

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Web Appendix A: Definition of target estimands $\Delta_w(t)$

We mathematically define the causal estimand of interest, $\Delta_w(t)$. Define the counterfactual conditional survival function as $S^{(a)}(t|\mathbf{X}) = P(T^{(a)} > t|\mathbf{X})$ for $a = 1, 0$. Denote the density function of the covariates \mathbf{X} by $f(\mathbf{X})$ and then the density function for the target population can be represented as $f(\mathbf{X})h(\mathbf{X})/K$, where $h(\mathbf{X})$ is a pre-specified tilting function and K is a normalization term to make the density integrate to 1. Under the balancing weights framework, each weighting scheme w (w can be IPTW, OW, trimming, etc) corresponds to a specific tilting function $h(\mathbf{X})$, and then corresponds to a specific target population. In this article, we focus on a class of weighted average causal effect defined on survival outcomes:

$$\Delta_w(t) = \frac{E[h(\mathbf{X})S^{(1)}(t|\mathbf{X})]}{E[h(\mathbf{X})]} - \frac{E[h(\mathbf{X})S^{(0)}(t|\mathbf{X})]}{E[h(\mathbf{X})]} = S_w^{(1)}(t) - S_w^{(0)}(t),$$

where $0 \leq t \leq t_{max}$, t_{max} is the maximum follow-up time, and the above expectations are taken over \mathbf{X} . Below we introduce several commonly used weighting schemes and their corresponding titling functions and target populations. If the tilting function $h(\mathbf{X}) = 1$ for all units, then $\Delta_w = \Delta_{IPTW} = E[S^{(1)}(t|\mathbf{X}) - S^{(0)}(t|\mathbf{X})]$, which measures the difference in the counterfactual survival probabilities over time on a target population of the entire study samples. If $h(\mathbf{X}) = I(\alpha < e(\mathbf{X}) < 1 - \alpha)$, then the resulting $\Delta_w(t)$ target a population after symmetric trimming. The tilting function and target population after asymmetric trimming can be analogously defined. Under a overlap weighting scheme, the tilting function is $h(\mathbf{X}) = e(\mathbf{X})(1 - e(\mathbf{X}))$ and the resulting estimand $\Delta_w(t) = \Delta_{OW}(t)$ is the treatment effect for the overlap population, that is the population who have substantial probability to be assigned to either treatment groups.

Consider an observational comparative effective study with n units and survival outcomes. Given a titling function $h(\mathbf{X})$ (and equivalently target population), the balancing weights are given as $w_i = h(\mathbf{X}_i)/e(\mathbf{X}_i)$ for the treated units and $w_i = h(\mathbf{X}_i)/(1 - e(\mathbf{X}_i))$ for the controlled units, where $e(\mathbf{X}_i)$ is the propensity score for unit i .

Web Appendix B: Consistency of $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\text{I}}(t)$ and $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\text{II}}(t)$

As is shown in manuscript, we maintain the following four standard assumptions in causal survival analysis:

- (A1) consistency and no-interference, which ensures $T = T^{(a)}$ and $C = C^{(a)}$ for $A = a$;
- (A2) conditional exchangeability, i.e., $\{T^{(a)}, C^{(a)}\} \perp A | \mathbf{X}$, which assumes away unmeasured confounders;
- (A3) covariate-dependent censoring, i.e., $C^{(a)} \perp T^{(a)} | \{\mathbf{X}, A = a\}$ for $a = 0, 1$, which assume censoring time is independent of failure time given observed covariates in each group;
- (A4) positivity, such that the conditional probability of treatment assignment is bounded away from 0 and 1, and the conditional survival probability of censoring is larger than 0.

In what follows, we show the validity of $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\text{I}}(t)$ and $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\text{II}}(t)$, separately.

Part (a): Consistency of $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\text{I}}(t)$

Recall that

$$\hat{\Delta}_w^{\text{I}}(t) = \hat{S}_w^{(1),\text{I}}(t) - \hat{S}_w^{(0),\text{I}}(t) = \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t) / K_c^{(1)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i}\right) - \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i) \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t) / K_c^{(0)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i)}\right),$$

where $w_i = h(\mathbf{X}_i)/e(\mathbf{X}_i)$ for the treated units and $w_i = h(\mathbf{X}_i)/(1 - e(\mathbf{X}_i))$ for the controlled units. We first verify that

$\hat{S}_w^{(1),\text{I}}(t) = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t) / K_c^{(1)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \left(1 - \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t) / K_c^{(1)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i)\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i}$ is a consistent estimator for $S_w^{(1)}(t)$. Specifically, based on the law of large numbers, we can show that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \left(1 - \frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{K_c^{(1)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}\right) &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X}) A \left(K_c^{(1)}(U, \mathbf{X}) - \mathbb{I}(U \leq t, T \leq C)\right)}{e(\mathbf{X}) K_c^{(1)}(U, \mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \\ &= E \left[E \left(\frac{h(\mathbf{X}) A \left(K_c^{(1)}(U, \mathbf{X}) - \mathbb{I}(U \leq t, T \leq C)\right)}{e(\mathbf{X}) K_c^{(1)}(U, \mathbf{X})} \middle| \mathbf{X} \right) \right] + o_p(1) \\ &\quad (\text{because } T = T^{(1)}, C = C^{(1)} \text{ if } A = 1) \\ &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X}) E[AP(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X}) - A \mathbb{I}(T^{(1)} \leq t, C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X})]}{e(\mathbf{X}) P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \\ &\quad (\text{because } \{T^{(1)}, C^{(1)}\} \perp A | \mathbf{X}) \\ &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X}) E[A | \mathbf{X}] (P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X}) - E[\mathbb{I}(T^{(1)} \leq t) \times \mathbb{I}(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X})])}{e(\mathbf{X}) P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \\ &\quad (\text{because } T^{(1)} \perp C^{(1)} | \mathbf{X}, A = 1) \\ &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X}) E[A | \mathbf{X}] (P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X}) - E[\mathbb{I}(T^{(1)} \leq t) | \mathbf{X}] E[\mathbb{I}(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X})])}{e(\mathbf{X}) P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \\ &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X}) E[A | \mathbf{X}] (P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X}) - P(T^{(1)} \leq t | \mathbf{X}) P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X}))}{e(\mathbf{X}) P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \\ &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X}) e(\mathbf{X}) S^{(1)}(t | \mathbf{X}) P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X})}{e(\mathbf{X}) P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \\ &= E [h(\mathbf{X}) S^{(1)}(t | \mathbf{X})] + o_p(1), \quad (\text{because } 0 < e(\mathbf{X}) < 1 \quad \& \quad P(C^{(1)} \geq T^{(1)} | \mathbf{X}) > 0) \end{aligned}$$

where $o_p(1)$ represents a vanishing term that converges to zero in probability when $n \rightarrow \infty$. The denominator of $\hat{S}_w^{(1),I}(t)$ can be represented as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X})A}{e(\mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) = E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X})E[A|\mathbf{X}]}{e(\mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) = E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X})e(\mathbf{X})}{e(\mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \\ &= E[h(\mathbf{X})] + o_p(1). \quad (\text{because } 0 < e(\mathbf{X}) < 1) \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\hat{S}_w^{(1),I}(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \left(1 - \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t) / K_c^{(1)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i) \right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i} = \frac{E[h(\mathbf{X})S^{(1)}(t|\mathbf{X})]}{E[h(\mathbf{X})]} + o_p(1) = S_w^{(1)}(t) + o_p(1).$$

Using the exact same strategy, we can show that

$$\hat{S}_w^{(0),I}(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i) \left(1 - \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t) / K_c^{(0)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i) \right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i)} = \frac{E[h(\mathbf{X})S^{(0)}(t|\mathbf{X})]}{E[h(\mathbf{X})]} + o_p(1) = S_w^{(0)}(t) + o_p(1).$$

To summarize,

$$\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t) = \hat{S}_w^{(1),I}(t) - \hat{S}_w^{(0),I}(t) = S_w^{(1)}(t) - S_w^{(0)}(t) + o_p(1) = \Delta_w(t) + o_p(1);$$

that is, $\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t)$ is a consistent estimator for $\Delta_w(t)$.

Part (b): Consistency of $\hat{\Delta}_w^{II}(t)$

Recall that

$$\hat{\Delta}_w^{II}(t) = \hat{S}_w^{(1),II}(t) - \hat{S}_w^{(0),II}(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{K_c^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i (1 - A_i) \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{K_c^{(0)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i)}.$$

First, we can verify that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{K_c^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)} &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X})A \mathbb{I}(U > t)}{e(\mathbf{X})K_c^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \\ &= E \left[E \left(\frac{h(\mathbf{X})A \mathbb{I}(T > t, C \geq t)}{e(\mathbf{X})P(C^{(1)} \geq t|\mathbf{X})} \middle| \mathbf{X} \right) \right] + o_p(1) \\ &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X})E[A \mathbb{I}(T^{(1)} > t, C^{(1)} \geq t)|\mathbf{X}]}{e(\mathbf{X})P(C^{(1)} \geq t|\mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \quad (\text{because } T = T^{(1)}, C = C^{(1)} \text{ if } A = 1) \\ &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X})E[A|\mathbf{X}]E[\mathbb{I}(T^{(1)} > t) \times \mathbb{I}(C^{(1)} \geq t)|\mathbf{X}]}{e(\mathbf{X})P(C^{(1)} \geq t|\mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \quad (\text{because } \{T^{(1)}, C^{(1)}\} \perp A|\mathbf{X}) \\ &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X})E[A|\mathbf{X}]E[\mathbb{I}(T^{(1)} > t)|\mathbf{X}]E[\mathbb{I}(C^{(1)} \geq t)|\mathbf{X}]}{e(\mathbf{X})P(C^{(1)} \geq t|\mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \quad (\text{because } T^{(1)} \perp C^{(1)}|\mathbf{X}, A = 1) \\ &= E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X})e(\mathbf{X})S^{(1)}(t|\mathbf{X})P(C^{(1)} \geq t|\mathbf{X})}{e(\mathbf{X})P(C^{(1)} \geq t|\mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) \\ &= E[h(\mathbf{X})S^{(1)}(t|\mathbf{X})] + o_p(1), \quad (\text{because } 0 < e(\mathbf{X}) < 1 \quad \& \quad P(C^{(1)} \geq t|\mathbf{X}) > 0) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i = E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X})A}{e(\mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) = E \left[\frac{h(\mathbf{X})E[A|\mathbf{X}]}{e(\mathbf{X})} \right] + o_p(1) = E[h(\mathbf{X})] + o_p(1).$$

It follows that

$$\hat{S}_w^{(1),II}(t) = \frac{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{K_c^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}}{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i} = \frac{E[h(\mathbf{X})S^{(1)}(t|\mathbf{X})]}{E[h(\mathbf{X})]} + o_p(1) = S_w^{(1)}(t) + o_p(1).$$

Similarly, we can show that

$$\hat{S}_w^{(0),II}(t) = \frac{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i (1-A_i) \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{K_c^{(0)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}}{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1-A_i)} = S_w^{(0)}(t) + o_p(1).$$

In summary, we have $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\Pi}(t) = \hat{S}_w^{(1),II}(t) - \hat{S}_w^{(0),II}(t) = S_w^{(1)}(t) - S_w^{(0)}(t) + o_p(1) = \Delta_w(t) + o_p(1)$; that is, $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\Pi}(t)$ is a consistent estimator for $\Delta_w(t)$.

Web Appendix C: Optimality of the overlap weighting in asymptotic efficiency

In this appendix, we provide two results that under certain homoscedasticity conditions, OW still achieves the smallest asymptotic pointwise variance for estimating $\Delta_w(t)$ among the class of balancing weights, for both types of PS weighting estimators, $\hat{\Delta}_h^I(t)$ and $\hat{\Delta}_h^{II}(t)$.

Result 1. (Optimal estimator I) Denote $\delta^{(a)} = \mathbb{I}(T^{(a)} \leq C^{(a)})$ as the censoring indicator that would have been observed under treatment and control assignment if $a = 1$ and 0, respectively. If the variance of the “pseudo-outcome” $\frac{\delta_i^{(a)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(a)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(a)}(T_i^{(a)}, \mathbf{X}_i)}$ is homoskedastic across both treatment groups, i.e.,

$$\text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(1)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(1)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(1)}(T_i^{(1)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i \right) = \text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(0)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(0)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(0)}(T_i^{(0)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i \right) = v,$$

for some constant $v > 0$, then the OW with $\hat{\Delta}_{OW}^I(t)$ gives the smallest asymptotic variance for the Type I weighted estimator $\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t)$ among all $h(\mathbf{X}_i)$.

Proof. First recall that

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\Delta}_w^I(t) &= \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t) / K_c^{(1)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i} \right) - \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i) \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t) / K_c^{(0)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i)} \right) \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \delta_i \mathbb{I}(T_i \leq t) / K_c^{(1)}(T_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i} \right) - \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i) \delta_i \mathbb{I}(T_i \leq t) / K_c^{(0)}(T_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i)} \right) \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \delta_i^{(1)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(1)} \leq t) / K_c^{(1)}(T_i^{(1)}, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i} \right) - \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i) \delta_i^{(0)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(0)} \leq t) / K_c^{(0)}(T_i^{(0)}, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i)} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where the second equality holds because $U_i = T_i$ if $\delta_i = \mathbb{I}(T_i < C_i) = 1$ and the third equality holds because of the consistency assumption that $T_i = T_i^{(a)}$ and $C_i = C_i^{(a)}$ if $A_i = a$. Conditional on the sample $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \{\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n\}$, $\tilde{\mathbf{A}} = \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$, only $\frac{\delta_i^{(1)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(1)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(1)}(T_i^{(1)}, \mathbf{X}_i)}$ and $\frac{\delta_i^{(0)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(0)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(0)}(T_i^{(0)}, \mathbf{X}_i)}$ are random in (1), so the variance of $\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t)$ is

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Var} \left(\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t) \middle| \tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \right) \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i^2 A_i \text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(1)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(1)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(1)}(T_i^{(1)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i, A_i \right)}{\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \right\}^2} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i^2 (1 - A_i) \text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(0)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(0)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(0)}(T_i^{(0)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i, A_i \right)}{\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i) \right\}^2} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i)^2 A_i}{e(\mathbf{X}_i)^2} \text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(1)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(1)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(1)}(T_i^{(1)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i, A_i \right)}{\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i) A_i / e(\mathbf{X}_i) \right\}^2} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i)^2 (1 - A_i)}{(1 - e(\mathbf{X}_i))^2} \text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(0)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(0)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(0)}(T_i^{(0)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i, A_i \right)}{\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i) (1 - A_i) / (1 - e(\mathbf{X}_i)) \right\}^2} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i)^2 A_i}{e(\mathbf{X}_i)^2} \text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(1)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(1)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(1)}(T_i^{(1)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i \right)}{\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i) A_i / e(\mathbf{X}_i) \right\}^2} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i)^2 (1 - A_i)}{(1 - e(\mathbf{X}_i))^2} \text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(0)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(0)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(0)}(T_i^{(0)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i \right)}{\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i) (1 - A_i) / (1 - e(\mathbf{X}_i)) \right\}^2} \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality holds in the above equation because $\text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(a)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(a)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(a)}(T_i^{(a)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i, A_i \right) = \text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(a)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(a)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(a)}(T_i^{(a)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i \right)$ by noticing the assumption $\{T_i^{(a)}, C_i^{(a)}\} \perp A_i \middle| \mathbf{X}_i$. Hereafter, we denote $\text{Var} \left(\frac{\delta_i^{(a)} \mathbb{I}(T_i^{(a)} \leq t)}{K_c^{(a)}(T_i^{(a)}, \mathbf{X}_i)} \middle| \mathbf{X}_i \right)$ as $v_a(\mathbf{X}_i)$ for $a = 0, 1$,

which leads to

$$\text{Var} \left(\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t) | \tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \right) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i)^2 A_i}{e(\mathbf{X}_i)^2} v_1(\mathbf{X}_i)}{\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i) A_i}{e(\mathbf{X}_i)} \right\}^2} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i)^2 (1-A_i)}{(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))^2} v_0(\mathbf{X}_i)}{\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i) (1-A_i)}{(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))} \right\}^2}$$

Averaging the above over the distribution of A (using $E[A_i/e(\mathbf{X}_i)] = E[(1-A_i)/(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))] = 1$), and then over the distribution of \mathbf{X} , and again applying Slutsky's theorem, we have that

$$n \times \text{Var} \left(\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t) | \tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \right) \rightarrow \frac{\int \left(\frac{v_1(\mathbf{X})}{e(\mathbf{X})} + \frac{v_0(\mathbf{X})}{1-e(\mathbf{X})} \right) h(\mathbf{X})^2 f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X})}{\left(\int h(\mathbf{X}) f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X}) \right)^2},$$

where $f(\mathbf{X})$ is the population density function of \mathbf{X} . If the pseudo-outcome is homoskedastic, i.e., $v_1(\mathbf{X}) = v_0(\mathbf{X}) = v$, then the above formula simplifies to

$$\begin{aligned} n \times \text{Var} \left(\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t) | \tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \right) &\rightarrow \frac{v \int \left(\frac{1}{e(\mathbf{X})} + \frac{1}{1-e(\mathbf{X})} \right) h(\mathbf{X})^2 f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X})}{\left(\int h(\mathbf{X}) f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X}) \right)^2} \\ &= v/C_w \int \frac{h(\mathbf{X})^2 f(\mathbf{X})}{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))} \mu(d\mathbf{X}), \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where $C_w = \left(\int h(\mathbf{X}) f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X}) \right)^2$. Then, by applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} C_w &= \left(\int \frac{h(\mathbf{X})}{\sqrt{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))}} \sqrt{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))} f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X}) \right)^2 \\ &\leq \int \frac{h(\mathbf{X})^2}{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))} f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X}) \times \int e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X})) f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X}). \end{aligned}$$

The above equality is achieved when $\frac{h(\mathbf{X})}{\sqrt{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))}} \propto \sqrt{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))}$, or equivalently $h(\mathbf{X}) \propto e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))$. Finally, result 1 follows by directly applying the above to the right-hand side of (2). \square

Result 2. (Optimal Type II estimator) Define $U^{(a)} = \min(T^{(a)}, C^{(a)})$ as the right-censored survival outcome that would have been observed under treatment and control assignment if $a = 1$ and 0 , respectively. If the variance of the “pseudo-outcome” $\frac{\mathbb{I}(U_i^{(a)} > t)}{K_c^{(a)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}$ is homoskedastic across both treatment groups, i.e.,

$$\text{Var} \left(\frac{\mathbb{I}(U_i^{(1)} > t)}{K_c^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)} | \mathbf{X}_i \right) = \text{Var} \left(\frac{\mathbb{I}(U_i^{(0)} > t)}{K_c^{(0)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)} | \mathbf{X}_i \right) = c,$$

for some constant $c > 0$, then the OW with $\hat{\Delta}_{OW}^I(t)$ gives the smallest asymptotic variance for the Type II weighted estimator $\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t)$ among all $h(\mathbf{X}_i)$.

Proof. This proof is analogous to the proof for result 1. First notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\Delta}_w^I(t) &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t) / K_c^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1-A_i) \mathbb{I}(U_i > t) / K_c^{(0)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1-A_i)} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i) A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{e(\mathbf{X}_i) K_c^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i) A_i / e(\mathbf{X}_i)} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i) (1-A_i) \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i)) K_c^{(0)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i) (1-A_i) / (1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i) A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i^{(1)} > t)}{e(\mathbf{X}_i) K_c^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i) A_i / e(\mathbf{X}_i)} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i) (1-A_i) \mathbb{I}(U_i^{(0)} > t)}{(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i)) K_c^{(0)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i) (1-A_i) / (1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))}, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where the last equality holds by noticing $\mathbb{I}(U_i > t) = \mathbb{I}(U_i^{(a)} > t)$ under $A_i = a$. Conditional on the sample $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \{\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n\}$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{A}} = \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$, only $\mathbb{I}(U_i^{(1)} > t)$ and $\mathbb{I}(U_i^{(0)} > t)$ are random in (3), so the variance of $\hat{\Delta}_w^\Pi(t)$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}\left(\hat{\Delta}_w^\Pi(t) | \tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{\mathbf{A}}\right) &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h^2(\mathbf{X}_i)A_i}{e^2(\mathbf{X}_i)} \text{Var}\left(\frac{\mathbb{I}(U_i^{(1)} > t)}{K_c^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)} | \mathbf{X}_i, A_i\right)}{\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i)A_i/e(\mathbf{X}_i)\right\}^2} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h^2(\mathbf{X}_i)(1-A_i)}{(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))^2} \text{Var}\left(\frac{\mathbb{I}(U_i^{(0)} > t)}{K_c^{(0)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)} | \mathbf{X}_i, A_i\right)}{\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i)(1-A_i)/(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))\right\}^2} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h^2(\mathbf{X}_i)A_i}{e^2(\mathbf{X}_i)} \text{Var}\left(\frac{\mathbb{I}(U_i^{(1)} > t)}{K_c^{(1)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)} | \mathbf{X}_i\right)}{\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i)A_i/e(\mathbf{X}_i)\right\}^2} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h^2(\mathbf{X}_i)(1-A_i)}{(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))^2} \text{Var}\left(\frac{\mathbb{I}(U_i^{(0)} > t)}{K_c^{(0)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)} | \mathbf{X}_i\right)}{\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i)(1-A_i)/(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))\right\}^2} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h^2(\mathbf{X}_i)A_i}{e^2(\mathbf{X}_i)} c_1(\mathbf{X}_i)}{\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i)A_i/e(\mathbf{X}_i)\right\}^2} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h^2(\mathbf{X}_i)(1-A_i)}{(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))^2} c_0(\mathbf{X}_i)}{\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i)(1-A_i)/(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))\right\}^2}, \end{aligned}$$

where $c_a(\mathbf{X}_i) = \text{Var}\left(\frac{\mathbb{I}(U_i^{(a)} > t)}{K_c^{(a)}(t, \mathbf{X}_i)} | \mathbf{X}_i\right)$. Averaging the above first over the distribution of A (using $E[A_i/e(\mathbf{X}_i)] = E[(1-A_i)/(1-e(\mathbf{X}_i))]$), then over the distribution of \mathbf{X} , and again applying Slutsky's theorem, we have that

$$n \times \text{Var}\left(\hat{\Delta}_w^\Pi(t) | \tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{\mathbf{A}}\right) \rightarrow \frac{\int \left(\frac{c_1(\mathbf{X})}{e(\mathbf{X})} + \frac{c_0(\mathbf{X})}{1-e(\mathbf{X})}\right) h(\mathbf{X})^2 f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X})}{\left(\int h(\mathbf{X}) f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X})\right)^2},$$

where $f(\mathbf{X})$ is the population density function of \mathbf{X} . If the pseudo-outcome is homoskedastic, i.e., $c_1(\mathbf{X}) = c_0(\mathbf{X}) = c$, then the above formula simplifies to

$$\begin{aligned} n \times \text{Var}\left(\hat{\Delta}_w^\Pi(t) | \tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{\mathbf{A}}\right) &\rightarrow \frac{c \int \left(\frac{1}{e(\mathbf{X})} + \frac{1}{1-e(\mathbf{X})}\right) h(\mathbf{X})^2 f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X})}{\left(\int h(\mathbf{X}) f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X})\right)^2} \\ &= c/C_w \int \frac{h(\mathbf{X})^2 f(\mathbf{X})}{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))} \mu(d\mathbf{X}), \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

where $C_w = \left(\int h(\mathbf{X}) f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X})\right)^2$. Then, by applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} C_w &= \left(\int \frac{h(\mathbf{X})}{\sqrt{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))}} \sqrt{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))} f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X})\right)^2 \\ &\leq \int \frac{h(\mathbf{X})^2}{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))} f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X}) \times \int e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X})) f(\mathbf{X}) \mu(d\mathbf{X}). \end{aligned}$$

The above equality is achieved when $\frac{h(\mathbf{X})}{\sqrt{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))}} \propto \sqrt{e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))}$, or equivalently $h(\mathbf{X}) \propto e(\mathbf{X})(1-e(\mathbf{X}))$. Finally, result 1 follows by directly applying the above to the right-hand side of (4). \square

Web Appendix D: Variance estimation for $\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t)$

We will derive the variance estimator for $\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t)$ based on the empirical sandwich method, when the PS and censoring process are estimated by a logistic regression and Weibull regression, respectively. The derivation consists of three components. In part (a) and (b), we will derive the estimating equation for the PS and censoring process model, respectively. Then, in part (c), we will finally propose the variance estimator for $\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t)$.

Part (a) Propensity score

We use a logistic model $e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta) = P(A_i = 1 | \mathbf{X}_i) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\mathbf{X}_i^T \beta)}$ to describe the propensity score. The estimating equation for β is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{0} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta)}{\partial \beta} (e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta)(1 - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta)))^{-1} [A_i - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta)] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i [A_i - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta)]. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we expand the above score equation around the true parameter β leading to

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{0} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i (A_i - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta)) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \frac{\partial \{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i (A_i - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta))\}}{\partial \beta} (\hat{\beta} - \beta) + o_p(1) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i (A_i - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta)) + \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i \mathbf{X}_i^T e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta) (1 - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta)) \right\} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta} - \beta) + o_p(1) \\ \Rightarrow \sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta} - \beta) &= \mathbf{E}_{\beta\beta}^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{X}_i (A_i - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta)) + o_p(1), \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{E}_{\beta\beta} = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta) (1 - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta)) \mathbf{X}_i \mathbf{X}_i^T$.

Part (b) Censoring process

We consider the following parametric Weibull regression for the censoring time C :

$$K_c^{(a)}(t | \mathbf{X}_i) = P(C_i \geq t | \mathbf{X}_i, A_i = a) = \exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_a} t^{\gamma_a} \right),$$

where γ_a is a treatment-specific scale parameter and $\boldsymbol{\theta}_a$ is treatment-specific coefficients associated with covariates \mathbf{X} . The hazard function is $h_i^{(a)}(t | \mathbf{X}_i, A_i = a) = e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_a} \gamma_a t^{\gamma_a - 1}$. The unknown parameters, γ_a and $\boldsymbol{\theta}_a$, for $a = 1, 0$, are estimated through all subjects from the treatment and control group, respectively. Then the log-likelihood for the Weibull regression based on the observed outcome $(U = \min\{T, C\}, \delta = \mathbb{I}(T \leq C))$ is

$$\begin{aligned} l(\boldsymbol{\theta}_a, \gamma_a) &= \log \left(\prod_{i \in \text{Group } a} h_i(U_i | \mathbf{X}_i, A_i = a)^{1 - \delta_i} S(U_i | \mathbf{X}_i, A_i = a) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}(A_i = a) \left\{ (1 - \delta_i) (\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_a + \log \gamma_a + (\gamma_a - 1) \log U_i) - e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_a} U_i^{\gamma_a} \right\}, \\ &\propto \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}(A_i = a) \left\{ (1 - \delta_i) (\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_a + \log \gamma_a + \gamma_a \log U_i) - e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_a} U_i^{\gamma_a} \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the estimating equations for θ_a and γ_a , respectively, are

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{0} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}(A_i = a) \left\{ \mathbf{X}_i \left((1 - \delta_i) - U_i^{\gamma_a} e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_a} \right) \right\} \\ 0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}(A_i = a) \left\{ (1 - \delta_i) \left(\frac{1}{\gamma_a} + \log U_i \right) - U_i^{\gamma_a} \log U_i e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_a} \right\} \end{cases}.$$

Now, we expand the estimating equation for θ_a around the true parameter θ_a leading to

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_a - \theta_a) = \mathbf{E}_{\theta_a \theta_a}^{(a)-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}(A_i = a) \left\{ \mathbf{X}_i \left((1 - \delta_i) - U_i^{\gamma_a} e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_a} \right) \right\} + o_p(1),$$

where $\mathbf{E}_{\theta_a \theta_a}^{(a)} = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}(A_i = a) \left\{ U_i^{\gamma_a} e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_a} \mathbf{X}_i \mathbf{X}_i^T \right\}$. Similarly, we have the following property for $\hat{\gamma}_a$ by expanding the estimating equation for γ_a :

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_a - \gamma_a) = E_{\gamma_a \gamma_a}^{(a)-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}(A_i = a) \left\{ (1 - \delta_i) \left(\frac{1}{\gamma_a} + \log U_i \right) - U_i^{\gamma_a} \log U_i e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_a} \right\} + o_p(1),$$

where $E_{\gamma_a \gamma_a}^{(a)} = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}(A_i = a) \left\{ \frac{1 - \delta_i}{\gamma_a^2} + U_i^{\gamma_a} (\log U_i)^2 e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_a} \right\}$.

Part (c) variance estimation for $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\mathbf{I}}(t)$

Recall the weighted estimator $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\mathbf{I}}(t)$:

$$\hat{\Delta}_w^{\mathbf{I}}(t) = \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{w}_i A_i \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t) / \hat{K}_c^{(1)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{w}_i A_i} \right) - \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{w}_i (1 - A_i) \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t) / \hat{K}_c^{(0)}(U_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{w}_i (1 - A_i)} \right) = \hat{S}_w^{(1),I}(t) - \hat{S}_w^{(0),I}(t),$$

where $\hat{w}_i = \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i)}{\hat{e}(\mathbf{X}_i)}$ for treated units and $\hat{w}_i = \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i)}{1 - \hat{e}(\mathbf{X}_i)}$ for control units. Noting that $\hat{K}_c^{(1)}(U_i | \mathbf{X}_i) = \exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \hat{\theta}_1} U_i^{\hat{\gamma}_1} \right)$, $\hat{S}_w^{(1),I}(t)$ can be viewed as the solution of the following estimating equation

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{w}_i A_i \left[\frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \hat{\theta}_1} U_i^{\hat{\gamma}_1} \right)} - (1 - \hat{S}_w^{(1),I}(t)) \right]$$

We can expand it around $S_w^{(1)}(t) = \frac{\mathbb{E}[h(\mathbf{X}) S^{(1)}(t) \mathbf{X}]}{\mathbb{E}[h(\mathbf{X})]}$, the true propensity score, and the true censoring function to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n}(\hat{S}_w^{(1),I}(t) - S_w^{(1)}(t)) &= \frac{E_h^{-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i A_i \left[\frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} U_i^{\gamma_1} \right)} - (1 - S_w^{(1)}(t)) \right] + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\theta_1}^{(1)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_1 - \theta_1) \\ &\quad + E_h^{-1} H_{\gamma_1}^{(1)} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_1 - \gamma_1) + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\beta}^{(1)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta} - \beta) + o_p(1), \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} E_h &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i), \\ \mathbf{H}_{\theta_1}^{(1)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i A_i \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} U_i^{\gamma_1} \right)} U_i^{\gamma_1} \exp(\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1) \mathbf{X}_i, \\ H_{\gamma_1}^{(1)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i A_i \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} U_i^{\gamma_1} \right)} U_i^{\gamma_1} \log U_i \exp(\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1), \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{H}_\beta^{(1)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n A_i \left[\frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_1} U_i^{\hat{\gamma}_1} \right)} - (1 - \hat{S}_w^{(1),I}(t)) \right] \frac{\partial w_i}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}}.$$

Similarly, we can view $\hat{S}_w^{(0),I}(t)$ as the solution of the following estimating equation

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{w}_i (1 - A_i) \left[\frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_0} U_i^{\hat{\gamma}_0} \right)} - (1 - \hat{S}_w^{(0),I}(t)) \right],$$

and then expand it around $S_w^{(0)}(t) = \frac{\mathbb{E}[h(\mathbf{X}) S_w^{(0)}(t) | \mathbf{X}]}{\mathbb{E}[h(\mathbf{X})]}$, the true propensity score, and the true censoring function to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n}(\hat{S}_w^{(0),I}(t) - S_w^{(0)}(t)) &= \frac{E_h^{-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i (1 - A_i) \left[\frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_0} U_i^{\gamma_0} \right)} - (1 - S_w^{(0)}(t)) \right] + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\theta_0}^{(0)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_0 - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \\ &\quad + E_h^{-1} H_{\gamma_0}^{(0)} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_0 - \gamma_0) + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_\beta^{(0)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} - \boldsymbol{\beta}) + o_p(1), \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}_{\theta_0}^{(0)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i (1 - A_i) \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_0} U_i^{\gamma_0} \right)} U_i^{\gamma_0} \exp(\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \mathbf{X}_i \\ H_{\gamma_0}^{(0)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i (1 - A_i) \delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_0} U_i^{\gamma_0} \right)} U_i^{\gamma_0} \log U_i \exp(\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \\ \mathbf{H}_\beta^{(0)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (1 - A_i) \left[\frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_0} U_i^{\gamma_0} \right)} - (1 - S_w^{(0)}(t)) \right] \frac{\partial w_i}{\partial \boldsymbol{\beta}} \end{aligned}$$

Then, we combine (5) and (6) to obtain the following influence function of $\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t)$:

$$\begin{aligned} &\sqrt{n}(\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t) - \Delta_w(t)) \\ &= \frac{E_h^{-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ w_i A_i \left[\frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_1} U_i^{\gamma_1} \right)} - (1 - \hat{S}_w^{(1),I}(t)) \right] - w_i (1 - A_i) \left[\frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_0} U_i^{\gamma_0} \right)} - (1 - \hat{S}_w^{(0),I}(t)) \right] \right\} \\ &\quad + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\theta_1}^{(1)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_1 - \boldsymbol{\theta}_1) - E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\theta_0}^{(0)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_0 - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0) \\ &\quad + E_h^{-1} H_{\gamma_1}^{(1)} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_1 - \gamma_1) - E_h^{-1} H_{\gamma_0}^{(0)} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_0 - \gamma_0) \\ &\quad + E_h^{-1} \left\{ \mathbf{H}_\beta^{(1)} - \mathbf{H}_\beta^{(0)} \right\}^T \sqrt{n}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} - \boldsymbol{\beta}) + o_p(1) \\ &= \frac{E_h^{-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \underbrace{w_i A_i \left[\frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_1} U_i^{\gamma_1} \right)} - (1 - \hat{S}_w^{(1),I}(t)) \right] - w_i (1 - A_i) \left[\frac{\delta_i \mathbb{I}(U_i \leq t)}{\exp \left(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_0} U_i^{\gamma_0} \right)} - (1 - \hat{S}_w^{(0),I}(t)) \right]}_{\text{denoted by } I_{\Delta,i}} \right\} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\mathbf{H}_{\theta_1}^{(1)T} E_{\theta_1 \theta_1}^{(1)-1} \left\{ A_i \mathbf{X}_i \left((1 - \delta_i) - U_i^{\gamma_1} e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_1} \right) \right\} - \mathbf{H}_{\theta_0}^{(0)T} E_{\theta_0 \theta_0}^{(0)-1} \left\{ (1 - A_i) \mathbf{X}_i \left((1 - \delta_i) - U_i^{\gamma_0} e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_0} \right) \right\}}_{\text{denoted by } I_{\theta,i}} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{H_{\gamma_1}^{(1)} E_{\gamma_1 \gamma_1}^{(1)-1} A_i \left\{ (1 - \delta_i) \left(\frac{1}{\gamma_1} + \log U_i \right) - U_i^{\gamma_1} \log U_i e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_1} \right\} - H_{\gamma_0}^{(0)} E_{\gamma_0 \gamma_0}^{(0)-1} (1 - A_i) \left\{ (1 - \delta_i) \left(\frac{1}{\gamma_0} + \log U_i \right) - U_i^{\gamma_0} \log U_i e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_0} \right\}}_{\text{denoted by } I_{\gamma,i}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \underbrace{(\mathbf{H}_\beta^{(1)} - \mathbf{H}_\beta^{(0)})^T \mathbf{E}_{\beta\beta}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i (A_i - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \boldsymbol{\beta}))}_{\text{denoted by } I_{\beta,i}} \Big\} + o_p(1) \\
& = \frac{E_h^{-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n (I_{\Delta,i} + I_{\boldsymbol{\theta},i} + I_{\boldsymbol{\gamma},i} + I_{\beta,i}) + o_p(1)
\end{aligned}$$

The empirical sandwich method uses the sample variance of the influence function

$$\frac{1}{n^2 E_h^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{I}_i^2 = \frac{1}{n^2 E_h^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{I}_{\Delta,i} + \hat{I}_{\boldsymbol{\theta},i} + \hat{I}_{\boldsymbol{\gamma},i} + \hat{I}_{\beta,i})^2$$

to estimate $\text{Var}(\hat{\Delta}_w^{\text{I}}(t))$, where $E_h = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i)$, and $\hat{I}_{\Delta,i}$, $\hat{I}_{\boldsymbol{\theta},i}$, $\hat{I}_{\boldsymbol{\gamma},i}$, and $\hat{I}_{\beta,i}$ are $I_{\Delta,i}$, $I_{\boldsymbol{\theta},i}$, $I_{\boldsymbol{\gamma},i}$, and $I_{\beta,i}$ evaluated at $\boldsymbol{\beta} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$, $\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 = \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_1$, $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0 = \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_0$, $\boldsymbol{\gamma}_1 = \hat{\boldsymbol{\gamma}}_1$, and $\boldsymbol{\gamma}_0 = \hat{\boldsymbol{\gamma}}_0$, respectively.

Web Appendix E: Variance estimation for $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\Pi}(t)$

Recall the weighted estimator $\hat{\Delta}_w^{\Pi}(t)$:

$$\hat{\Delta}_w^{\Pi}(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\hat{w}_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\hat{K}_c^{(1)}(u|\mathbf{X}_i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{w}_i A_i} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\hat{w}_i (1-A_i) \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\hat{K}_c^{(0)}(u|\mathbf{X}_i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^N w_i (1-A_i)} = \hat{S}_w^{(1),II}(t) - \hat{S}_w^{(0),II}(t),$$

where $\hat{w}_i = \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i)}{\hat{e}(\mathbf{X}_i)}$ for treated units and $\hat{w}_i = \frac{h(\mathbf{X}_i)}{1-\hat{e}(\mathbf{X}_i)}$ for control units. Next we derive the asymptotic variance. Specifically, $\hat{S}_w^{II(1)}(t)$ can be viewed as the solution of the following estimating equation

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\hat{w}_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \hat{\theta}_1} t^{\hat{\gamma}_1})} - w_i A_i \hat{S}_w^{(1),II}(t)$$

We can expand it around $S_w^{(1)}(t) = \frac{\mathbb{E}[h(\mathbf{X})S_w^{(1)}(t)]}{\mathbb{E}[h(\mathbf{X})]}$, the true propensity score, and the true censoring function to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n}(\hat{S}_w^{(1),II}(t) - S_w^{(1)}(t)) &= \frac{E_h^{-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{w_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} t^{\gamma_1})} - w_i A_i S_w^{(1)}(t) \right\} + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\theta_1}^{(1)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_1 - \theta_1) \\ &\quad + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\gamma_1}^{(1)} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_1 - \gamma_1) + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\beta}^{(1)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta} - \beta) + o_p(1), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} E_h &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i), \\ \mathbf{H}_{\theta_1}^{(1)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} t^{\gamma_1})} t^{\gamma_1} \exp(\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1) \mathbf{X}_i, \\ \mathbf{H}_{\gamma_1}^{(1)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} t^{\gamma_1})} t^{\gamma_1} \log t \exp(\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1), \\ \mathbf{H}_{\beta}^{(1)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} t^{\gamma_1})} \frac{\partial w_i}{\partial \beta} - \tau_1 A_i \frac{\partial w_i}{\partial \beta}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the estimating equation for $\hat{S}_w^{(0)}(t)$ is

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\hat{w}_i (1-A_i) \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \hat{\theta}_0} t^{\hat{\gamma}_0})} - w_i (1-A_i) \hat{S}_w^{(0),II}(t).$$

Then we can expand it around $S_w^{(0)}(t) = \frac{\mathbb{E}[h(\mathbf{X})S_w^{(0)}(t)]}{\mathbb{E}[h(\mathbf{X})]}$, the true propensity score, and the true censoring function to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n}(\hat{S}_w^{(0),II}(t) - S_w^{(0)}(t)) &= \frac{E_h^{-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{w_i (1-A_i) \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_0} t^{\gamma_0})} - w_i (1-A_i) S_w^{(0)}(t) \right\} + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\theta_0}^{(1)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_0 - \theta_0) \\ &\quad + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\gamma_0}^{(1)} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_0 - \gamma_0) + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\beta}^{(0)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta} - \beta) + o_p(1), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}_{\theta_0}^{(0)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i(1 - A_i)\mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_0} t^{\gamma_0})} t^{\gamma_0} \exp(\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_0) \mathbf{X}_i, \\ H_{\gamma_0}^{(0)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i(1 - A_i)\mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_0} t^{\gamma_0})} t^{\gamma_0} \log u \exp(\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_0), \\ \mathbf{H}_{\beta}^{(0)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(1 - A_i)\mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_0} t^{\gamma_0})} \frac{\partial w_i}{\partial \beta} - \tau_0(1 - A_i) \frac{\partial w_i}{\partial \beta}. \end{aligned}$$

To summarize, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{n}(\hat{\Delta}_w^{\Pi}(t) - \Delta_w(t)) \\ &= \frac{E_h^{-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{w_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} t^{\gamma_1})} - \frac{w_i(1 - A_i)\mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_0} t^{\gamma_0})} - w_i A_i S_w^{(1)}(t) + w_i(1 - A_i) S_w^{(0)}(t) \right\} \\ & \quad + E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\theta_1}^{(1)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_1 - \theta_1) - E_h^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{\theta_0}^{(0)T} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_0 - \theta_0) \\ & \quad + E_h^{-1} H_{\gamma_1}^{(1)} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_1 - \gamma_1) - E_h^{-1} H_{\gamma_0}^{(0)} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_0 - \gamma_0) \\ & \quad + E_h^{-1} \left\{ \mathbf{H}_{\beta}^{(1)} - \mathbf{H}_{\beta}^{(0)} \right\}^T \sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta} - \beta) + o_p(1) \\ &= \frac{E_h^{-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \underbrace{\frac{w_i A_i \mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} t^{\gamma_1})} - \frac{w_i(1 - A_i)\mathbb{I}(U_i > t)}{\exp(-e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_0} t^{\gamma_0})} - w_i A_i \hat{S}_w^{(1)}(t) + w_i(1 - A_i) \hat{S}_w^{(0)}(t)}_{\text{denoted by } I_{\Delta,i}^{\Pi}} \right. \\ & \quad + \underbrace{\mathbf{H}_{\theta_1}^{(1)T} \mathbf{E}_{\theta_1 \theta_1}^{(1)-1} \left\{ A_i \mathbf{X}_i \left((1 - \delta_i) - U_i^{\gamma_1} e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} \right) \right\} - \mathbf{H}_{\theta_0}^{(0)T} \mathbf{E}_{\theta_0 \theta_0}^{(0)-1} \left\{ (1 - A_i) \mathbf{X}_i \left((1 - \delta_i) - U_i^{\gamma_0} e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_0} \right) \right\}}_{\text{denoted by } I_{\theta,i}^{\Pi}} \\ & \quad + \underbrace{H_{\gamma_1}^{(1)} E_{\gamma_1 \gamma_1}^{(1)-1} A_i \left\{ (1 - \delta_i) \left(\frac{1}{\gamma_1} + \log U_i \right) - U_i^{\gamma_1} \log U_i e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_1} \right\} - H_{\gamma_0}^{(0)} E_{\gamma_0 \gamma_0}^{(0)-1} (1 - A_i) \left\{ (1 - \delta_i) \left(\frac{1}{\gamma_0} + \log U_i \right) - U_i^{\gamma_0} \log U_i e^{\mathbf{X}_i^T \theta_0} \right\}}_{\text{denoted by } I_{\gamma,i}^{\Pi}} \\ & \quad \left. + \underbrace{(\mathbf{H}_{\beta}^{(1)} - \mathbf{H}_{\beta}^{(0)})^T \mathbf{E}_{\beta \beta}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i (A_i - e(\mathbf{X}_i; \beta))}_{\text{denoted by } I_{\beta,i}^{\Pi}} \right\} + o_p(1) \\ &= \frac{E_h^{-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n (I_{\Delta,i}^{\Pi} + I_{\theta,i}^{\Pi} + I_{\gamma,i}^{\Pi} + I_{\beta,i}^{\Pi}) + o_p(1). \end{aligned}$$

The empirical sandwich method uses the sample variance of the influence function

$$\frac{1}{n^2 E_h^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{I}_i^{\Pi^2} = \frac{1}{n E_h^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{I}_{\Delta,i}^{\Pi} + \hat{I}_{\theta,i}^{\Pi} + \hat{I}_{\gamma,i}^{\Pi} + \hat{I}_{\beta,i}^{\Pi})^2$$

to estimate $\text{Var}(\hat{\Delta}_w^{\Pi}(t))$, where $E_h = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h(\mathbf{X}_i)$, and $\hat{I}_{\Delta,i}^{\Pi}$, $\hat{I}_{\theta,i}^{\Pi}$, $\hat{I}_{\gamma,i}^{\Pi}$, and $\hat{I}_{\beta,i}^{\Pi}$ are $I_{\Delta,i}^{\Pi}$, $I_{\theta,i}^{\Pi}$, $I_{\gamma,i}^{\Pi}$, and $I_{\beta,i}^{\Pi}$ evaluated at $\beta = \hat{\beta}$, $\theta_1 = \hat{\theta}_1$, $\theta_0 = \hat{\theta}_0$, $\gamma_1 = \hat{\gamma}_1$, and $\gamma_0 = \hat{\gamma}_0$, respectively.

Web Appendix 6: R tutorial

1. Aim

In this Appendix, we provide a step-by-step guide for implementation of the proposed propensity score weighting approaches to estimate treatment effects on survival functions. We shall demonstrate our proposed methodologies by using a simulated data set, available at https://github.com/chaochengstat/OW_Survival. The example is written in R software.

2. data set

The data set `surv.csv` available at https://github.com/chaochengstat/OW_Survival will be used to demonstrate the proposed methods, which is a one-row-per-patient data set with time-fixed covariates. The treatment variable `z` is binary, which takes values from one of 1 and 0 representing, respectively, treated and control in this example. The outcome `Time` is patient's survival time in months, which is defined as the difference between date of death and the study admission date and then divided it by 30. However, the outcome is subject to right censoring such that we only observed date of first occurrence of last follow-up and death. The censoring indicator is `Event`, which takes 1 or 0 to denote the patient is alive or death on the previously given date. There are also 6 pre-treatment covariates `x1-x6`. Now we load the data set and identify those variables.

```
# 1. Load Data
data=read.csv("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/chaochengstat/OW_Survival/main/surv.csv")[,-1]
# 2. Identity column names of the treatment, survival outcome, and censoring indicator
Treatment = "z"
SurvTime = "Time"
Status = "Event"
#3. Identity column names of the pre-treatment covariates
Covariates=c("x1","x2","x3","x4","x5","x6")
# summary of those variables
summary(data[,c(Treatment,SurvTime,Status,Covariates)])
```

```
##           z           Time           Event           x1
## Min.      :0.0000   Min.      : 0.010   Min.      :0.000   Min.      : -3.35000
## 1st Qu.:0.0000   1st Qu.:  1.240   1st Qu.:0.000   1st Qu.: -0.70000
## Median :0.0000   Median :  3.130   Median :1.000   Median : -0.01500
## Mean     :0.4955   Mean     :  4.987   Mean     :0.732   Mean     : -0.04249
## 3rd Qu.:1.0000   3rd Qu.:  6.532   3rd Qu.:1.000   3rd Qu.:  0.63000
## Max.     :1.0000   Max.     :114.080   Max.     :1.000   Max.     :  3.11000
##           x2           x3           x4           x5
## Min.      : -4.470000   Min.      : -3.88000   Min.      :0.0000   Min.      :0.000
## 1st Qu.: -0.670000   1st Qu.: -0.68000   1st Qu.:0.0000   1st Qu.:0.000
## Median : -0.020000   Median : -0.04000   Median :0.0000   Median :0.000
## Mean     :  0.000075   Mean     : -0.03687   Mean     :0.4885   Mean     :0.494
## 3rd Qu.:  0.680000   3rd Qu.:  0.60000   3rd Qu.:1.0000   3rd Qu.:1.000
## Max.     :  3.470000   Max.     :  3.89000   Max.     :1.0000   Max.     :1.000
##           x6
## Min.      :0.0000
## 1st Qu.:0.0000
## Median :1.0000
## Mean     :0.5035
## 3rd Qu.:1.0000
## Max.     :1.0000
```

3. Propensity Score Modeling

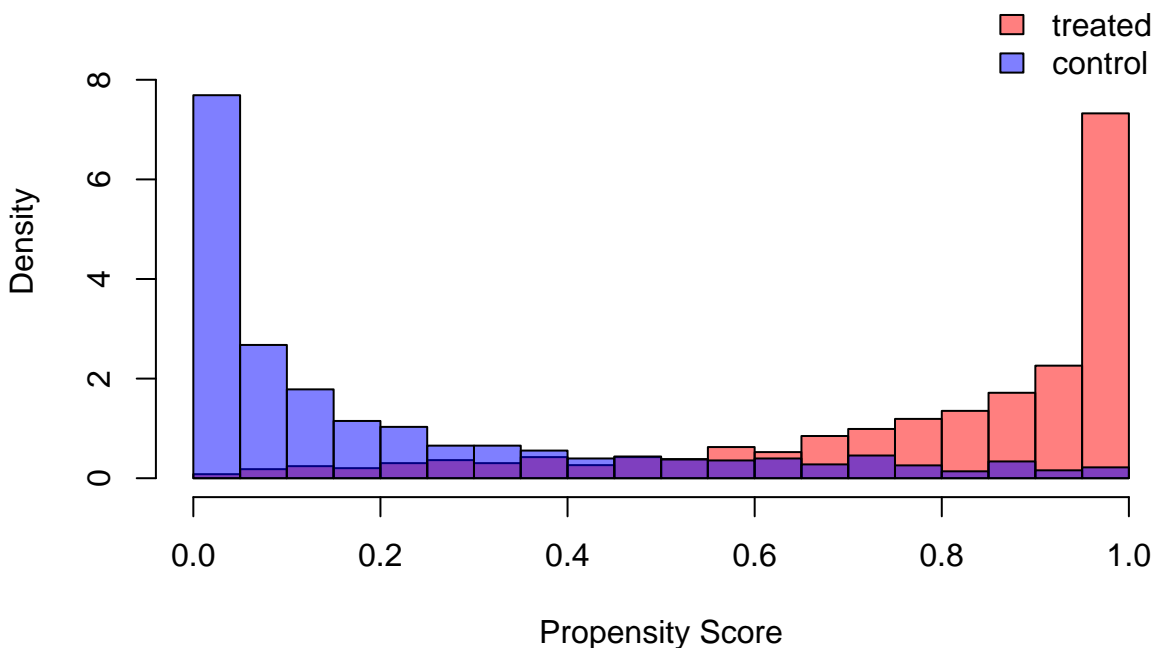
The logistic regressions will be used to estimate the propensity score. We will consider including all of the six pre-treatment covariates (`x1-x6`) into analysis:

```
# 2. Construct the logistic regression formula
PS.formula=as.formula(paste(Treatment,"~",paste(Covariates,collapse="+"),sep=""))
# the PS.formula is shown as below:
# z ~ x1 + x2 + x3 + x4 + x5 + x6
# 3. run the logistic regression
PS.model=glm(PS.formula,data=data,family=binomial(link="logit"))
# 4. obtain the propensity score
PS = 1/(1+exp(-c(PS.model$linear.predictors)))
```

The distributions of the estimated propensity scores in the treated and untreated group are visualized in Web Figure 5:

```
hist(PS[data[,Treatment]==1], breaks=20,col=rgb(1,0,0,0.5),xlim=c(0,1),
     ylim=c(0,9.5),main="Overlap Histogram",freq=F,xlab="Propensity Score")
hist(PS[data[,Treatment]==0], breaks=20,col=rgb(0,0,1,0.5), add=T,freq=F)
legend("topright", c("treated", "control"), bty = "n",
     fill=c(rgb(1,0,0,0.5),rgb(0,0,1,0.5)))
```

Overlap Histogram



Web Figure 5: Overlap histogram.

4. Censoring Score Modeling

In this example, we will use the Weibull regression model to describe the censoring process. See *PS Weighting* section in the manuscript to learn more details about the parametric Weibull regression. We will treat all of the six pre-treatment covariates as independent variables in our Weibull regression.

Considering that the treatment may have interaction effects with the pre-treatment covariates on the censoring time, we suggest modeling the censoring process for the treated group and untreated group separately. If we choose to implement a single regression model on all the observations, we may need to include full interaction terms between the treatment A and covariates \mathbf{X} to accommodate all related interaction effects, which may be tedious. The same task can be achieved by fitting separate models in the treatment and control groups. See the code below

```
# 1. library survival package
library("survival")
# 2. Construct the Weibull model formula
```



```

Censor.formula=as.formula(paste("Surv(",SurvTime,"I(1-",Status,")"), "~",
                             paste(Covariates,collapse="+"),sep=""))
# Censor.formula is shown below
# Surv(Time, I(1 - Event)) ~ x1 + x2 + x3 + x4 + x5 + x6
# 3. Weibull Model for the treated group
data.trt=subset(data,data[,Treatment]==1)
Censor.trt.model = survreg(Censor.formula,data=data.trt,dist='weibull',score=T)
# 4. Weibull Model for the control group
data.con=subset(data,data[,Treatment]==0)
Censor.con.model = survreg(Censor.formula,data=data.con,dist='weibull',score=T)

```

5. Overlap Weighting

In what follows, we calculate the treatment effect on 6-month survival probability with overlap weighting, i.e., $\Delta_{OW}(6)$. Treatment effect with other balancing weights (IPTW and symmetric and asymmetric trimming) can be similarly obtained and the code will be briefly introduced in next part. We proposed two estimators for $\Delta_{OW}(t)$, i.e., Estimator I ($\hat{\Delta}_{OW}^I(t)$) given by equation (2) and Estimator II ($\hat{\Delta}_{OW}^{II}(t)$) given by equation (3). The difference between Estimators I and II lies in constructing the censoring weights. Estimator I applies the inverse probability of censoring weights (IPCW) only among the non-censored observations throughout study follow-up, whereas Estimator II applies the IPCW among all observations regardless of their censoring status. In Estimator I, the censoring probability for each unit, $K_c^{(a)}(U_i, \mathbf{X})$ is estimated based on the observed survival time U_i , regardless of the estimation of causal effect at time t . In Estimator II, however, the censoring probability for each unit, $K_c^{(a)}(t, \mathbf{X})$ is estimated based on the target time t , which depends on the time for which the causal effect is of interest.

The following code demonstrates how to obtain overlap weighting estimator I ($\hat{\Delta}_{OW}^I(6)$):

```

# 1. Define a function to calculate the predicted censoring score
### Input: i. WeiModel: A Weibull model object;
###        ii. data set
###        ii. TimeVec: A vector of time (say, t).
### Output: Probability of  $P(C_i > t_i | X_i)$  for  $i=1, \dots, n$ .
CensorScoreFun=function(WeiModel,Dataset,TimeVec) {
  # extract estimated regression parameters
  theta.est = -WeiModel$coefficients/WeiModel$scale
  gamma.est = 1/WeiModel$scale
  # calculate censoring score
  X=model.matrix(Censor.formula,data=Dataset)
  CensorScore= exp(-exp(c(X %*% theta.est)) * TimeVec^gamma.est)
  return(CensorScore)
}
# 2. Calculate the censoring scores
# censoring scores in the treated group
Kc.trt=CensorScoreFun(WeiModel=Censor.trt.model,Dataset=data.trt,TimeVec=data.trt[,SurvTime])
# censoring scores in the untreated group
Kc.con=CensorScoreFun(WeiModel=Censor.con.model,Dataset=data.con,TimeVec=data.con[,SurvTime])
# 3. Calculate the counterfactual survival probability in the treated group
w.trt = 1-PS[which(data[,Treatment]==1)] # balancing weight in the treated group
S1=1-sum(w.trt*data.trt[,Status]*(data.trt[,SurvTime]<=6)/Kc.trt)/sum(w.trt)
# 4. Calculate the counterfactual survival probability in the untreated group
w.con = PS[which(data[,Treatment]==0)] # balancing weight in the untreated group
S0=1-sum(w.con*data.con[,Status]*(data.con[,SurvTime]<=6)/Kc.con)/sum(w.con)
# 5. Finally, obtain the treatment effect
Delta.OW=S1-S0
cat(paste("The estimated treatment effect is",round(Delta.OW,4)))

```

The estimated treatment effect is 0.1796

The following code demonstrates how to obtain overlap weighting estimator II ($\hat{\Delta}_{OW}^{II}(6)$):

```

# 1. Calculate the censoring scores
# censoring scores in the treated group
Kc.trt=CensorScoreFun(WeiModel=Censor.trt.model,Dataset=data.trt,
                      TimeVec=rep(6,length(Censor.trt.model$y)))
# censoring scores in the untreated group
Kc.con=CensorScoreFun(WeiModel=Censor.con.model,Dataset=data.con,
                      TimeVec=rep(6,length(Censor.con.model$y)))
# 2. Calculate the counterfactual survival probability in the treated group
w.trt = 1-PS[which(data[,Treatment]==1)] # balancing weight in the treated group
S1=sum(w.trt*as.numeric(data.trt[,SurvTime]>6)/Kc.trt)/sum(w.trt)
# 3. Calculate the counterfactual survival probability in the untreated group
w.con = PS[which(data[,Treatment]==0)] # balancing weight in the untreated group
S0=sum(w.con*as.numeric(data.con[,SurvTime]>6)/Kc.con)/sum(w.con)
# 4. Finally, obtain the treatment effect
Delta.OW=S1-S0
cat(paste("The estimated treatment effect is",round(Delta.OW,4)))

## The estimated treatment effect is 0.1612

```

6. Other Balancing Weights and Confidence Interval Construction

Analogous to the previous part, we can estimate the treatment effect based on the IPTW, symmetric weight or asymmetric weight. The R code for implementation of all the balancing weights are summarized in a unified function `SurvEffectWeibull`, available at https://github.com/chaochengstat/OW_Survival. Usage of this function is demonstrated as follows

```
SurvEffectWeibull(Data,t,Treatment,SurvTime,Status,PS.formula,Censor.formula,Type,
                  Method,alpha,q)
```

Arguments are

- `Data`: a data frame
- `t`: a time point for evaluation of the treatment effect (i.e., t in $\Delta_w(t)$).
- `Treatment`: treatment variable.
- `SurvTime`: observed survival time.
- `Status`: censoring indicator.
- `PS.formula`: regression formula for the propensity score; see the *Propensity Score Modeling* part for more details.
- `Censor.formula`: regression formula for the Cox model for describing censoring process; see the *Censoring Score Modeling* part for more details.
- `Type`: 1 for estimator I (i.e., $\hat{\Delta}_w^I(t)$) and 2 for estimator II (i.e., $\hat{\Delta}_w^{II}(t)$)
- `Method`: balancing weights; IPTW for IPTW, OW for overlap weighting, Symmetric for symmetric weighting, and Asymmetric for asymmetric weighting.
- `alpha`: the trimming threshold for symmetric weighting, i.e., α .
- `q`: the trimming threshold for asymmetric weighting, i.e., q .

Output of this function include the point estimate, and the standard error and 95% normality-based confidence interval given by the robust sandwich variance approach.

We now calculate Types I and II estimators with IPTW to illustrate usage of this function:

```

# 1. Load SurvEffectWithCox function
source("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/chaochengstat/OW_Survival/main/functions_Weibull_v3.R")
# 2. define PS and Cox model formulas
PS.formula=as.formula(paste(Treatment,"~",paste(Covariates,collapse="+"),sep=""))
Censor.formula=as.formula(paste("Surv(",SurvTime,",I(1-",Status,")", "~",
                                paste(Covariates,collapse="+"),sep=""))
# 3. Type I IPTW estimator
Delta.IPTW1=SurvEffectWeibull(Data=data,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                              Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
                              Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=1,Method="IPTW")

```

4. Type II IPTW estimator

```
Delta.IPTW2=SurvEffectWeibull(Data=data,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                             Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
                             Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=2,Method="IPTW")
cat("Type I estimator: \n");round(Delta.IPTW1,3);cat("Type II estimator: \n");round(Delta.IPTW2,3)
```

Type I estimator:

```
## Estimate      SE CI.lower CI.upper
##    0.252      0.121    0.015    0.490
```

Type II estimator:

```
## Estimate      SE CI.lower CI.upper
##    0.151      0.072    0.011    0.292
```

Next, we calculate Types I and II estimators by symmetric trimming with trimming threshold $\alpha = 0.1$:

1. Type I symmetric trimming estimator

```
Delta.SW1=SurvEffectWeibull(Data=data,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                             Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
                             Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=1,Method="Symmetric",alpha=0.1)
```

2. Type II symmetric trimming estimator

```
Delta.SW2=SurvEffectWeibull(Data=data,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                             Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
                             Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=2,Method="Symmetric",alpha=0.1)
cat("Type I estimator: \n");round(Delta.SW1,3);cat("Type II estimator: \n");round(Delta.SW2,3)
```

Type I estimator:

```
## Estimate      SE CI.lower CI.upper
##    0.144      0.041    0.062    0.225
```

Type II estimator:

```
## Estimate      SE CI.lower CI.upper
##    0.154      0.040    0.076    0.232
```

Then, we calculate Types I and II estimators by asymmetric trimming with trimming threshold $q = 0.01$:

1. Type I asymmetric trimming estimator

```
Delta.AW1=SurvEffectWeibull(Data=data,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                             Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
                             Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=1,Method="Asymmetric",q=0.01)
```

2. Type II asymmetric trimming estimator

```
Delta.AW2=SurvEffectWeibull(Data=data,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                             Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
                             Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=2,Method="Asymmetric",q=0.01)
cat("Type I estimator: \n");round(Delta.AW1,3);cat("Type II estimator: \n");round(Delta.AW2,3)
```

Type I estimator:

```
## Estimate      SE CI.lower CI.upper
##    0.189      0.043    0.105    0.273
```

Type II estimator:

```
## Estimate      SE CI.lower CI.upper
##    0.167      0.037    0.094    0.240
```

Finally, we repeat part 6 to calculate the Types I and II estimators with overlap weighting.

1. Type I asymmetric trimming estimator

```
Delta.OW1=SurvEffectWeibull(Data=data,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                             Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
```

```

Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=1,Method="OW")
# 2. Type II asymmetric trimming estimator
Delta.OW2=SurvEffectWeibull(Data=data,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                             Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
                             Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=2,Method="OW")
cat("Type I estimator: \n");round(Delta.OW1,3);cat("Type II estimator: \n");round(Delta.OW2,3)

## Type I estimator:

## Estimate      SE CI.lower CI.upper
##    0.180     0.036    0.108    0.251

## Type II estimator:

## Estimate      SE CI.lower CI.upper
##    0.161     0.037    0.090    0.233

```

7. Treatment Effect Curves

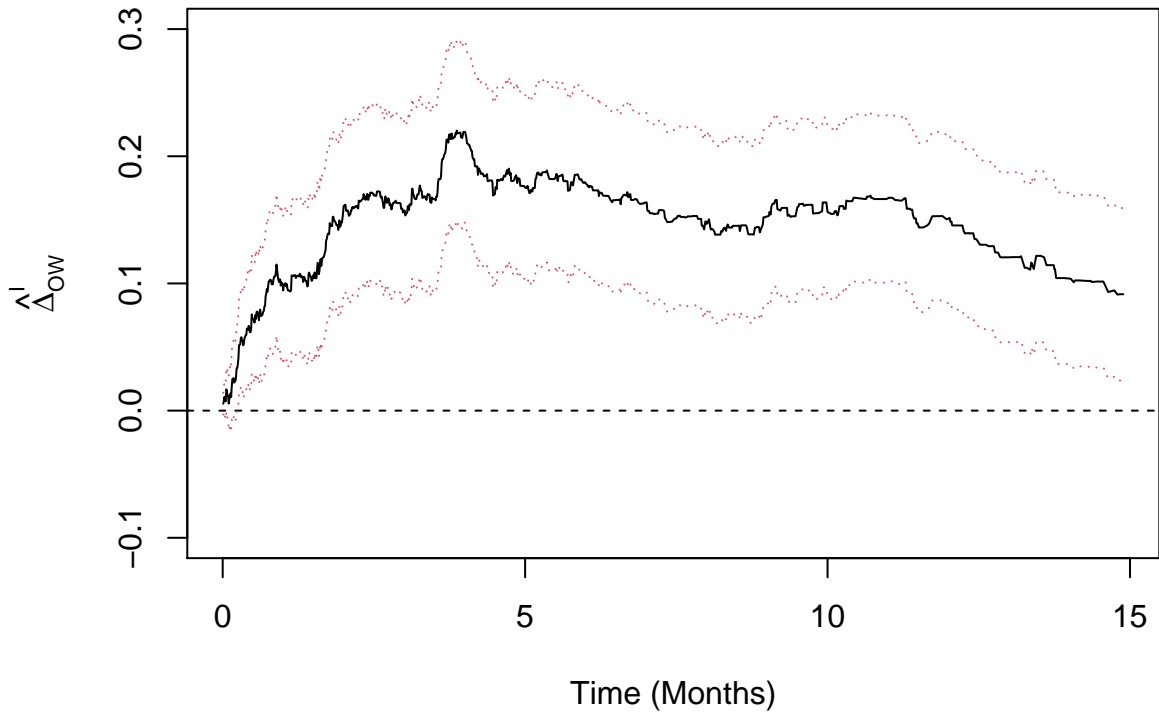
We can intuitively demonstrate the treatment effect versus time by drawing a curve of $\hat{\Delta}_w(t)$ -by- t with accompanying 95% pointwise confidence intervals. Noticing that the weighted estimator only changes at observed survival times, we can select t as the unique observed survival time in the data set. In what follows, we use Type I OW as an example to explore the pointwise treatment effect trend by time (Web Figure 6).

```

# 1. unique observed survival time and <= 15 months
UTime=sort(unique(data$Time[data$Time<=15]))
# 2. A warped function to calculate Type II OW estimator on UTime
TypeIOW=function(time=UTime) {
  n=length(time)
  out=matrix(NA,ncol=4,nrow=n);out[,1]=time
  for (i in 1:n) {
    out[i,2:4] = SurvEffectWeibull(Data=data,t=time[i],Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                                    Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
                                    Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=1,Method="OW")[c(1,3,4)]
  }
  colnames(out)=c("Time","Estimate","CI.lower","CI.upper")
  out
}
# 3. Obtain Delta_OW(t) for t=UTime
res=TypeIOW(time=UTime)
# head of `res`
#      Time Estimate CI.lower CI.upper
# [1,] 0.01      0.00      0.00      0.00
# [2,] 0.02      0.00      0.00      0.01
# [3,] 0.03      0.01      0.00      0.03
# [4,] 0.04      0.01      0.00      0.03
# [5,] 0.05      0.01     -0.01      0.03
# [6,] 0.06      0.01      0.00      0.03
# 4. Plot
{
  par(mar = c(4.1, 5.1, 4.1, 2.1))
  plot(res[, "Time"],res[, "Estimate"],type="l",xlab="Time (Months)",
        ylab=expression(hat(Delta)[OW]^I),ylim=c(-0.1,0.3))
  abline(h=0,col=1,lty=2)
  lines(res[, "Time"],res[, "CI.lower"],col=2,lty=3)
  lines(res[, "Time"],res[, "CI.upper"],col=2,lty=3)
}

```

Beside the treatment effect curve shown in Web Figure 6, we may be also interested in investigating the counterfactual survival functions (i.e., $S_w^{(1)}(t)$ and $S_w^{(0)}(t)$). Below, we will illustrate how to draw the estimated counterfactual survival



Web Figure 6: Pointwise treatment effect trend given by OW by estimator I.

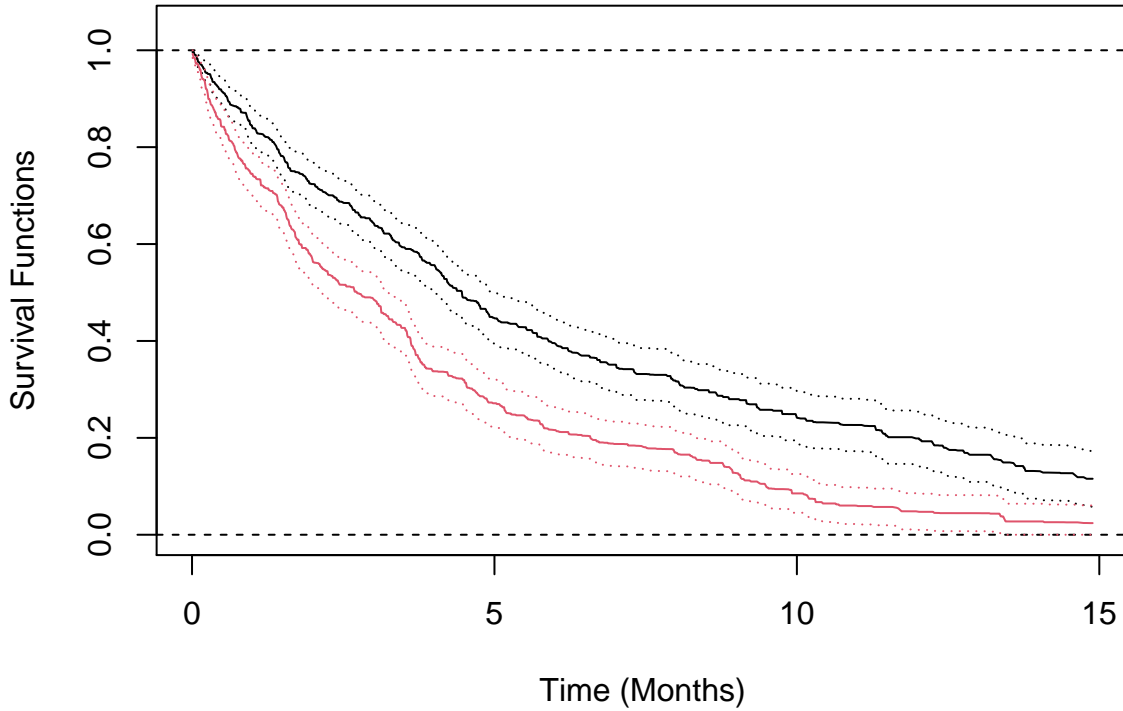
functions under the overlap population with estimator I (i.e., $\hat{S}_{OW}^{(1),I}(t)$ and $\hat{S}_{OW}^{(0),I}(t)$). See Web Figure 7 for the estimated counterfactual survival probabilities given by OW by estimator I. One can explore other weighting schemes.

```
# 1. identify unique observed survival time and <= 15 months
UTime=sort(unique(data$Time[data$Time<=15]))
# 2 load the R function `SurvFun`. This function is to calculate the counterfactual
# survival function under IPTW1, IPTW2, OW1, or OW2.
source("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/chaochengstat/OW_Survival/main/SurvivalFun.R")
## below is example of how to use the `SurvFun` to calculate  $S_h(6)$  based on OW2
## SurvFun(Data=data,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
## Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=2,Method="OW")
## S1          SE.S1      CI.lower.S1 CI.upper.S1  S0          SE.S0      CI.lower.S0 CI.upper.S0
## 0.39239711 0.02808057 0.33735918 0.44743504 0.23117906 0.02290205 0.18629104 0.27606707
# 3. A warped function to calculate Type II OW Survival Function on UTime
TypeIOW.S=function(time=UTime) {
  n=length(time)
  out=matrix(NA,ncol=7,nrow=n);out[,1]=time
  for (i in 1:n) {
    out[i,2:7] = SurvFun(Data=data,t=time[i],Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                        Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
                        Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=1,Method="OW")[c(1,3,4,5,7,8)]
  }
  colnames(out)=c("Time","S1","CI.lower.S1","CI.upper.S1","S0","CI.lower.S0","CI.upper.S0")
  out[out[, "CI.upper.S1"]>1,"CI.upper.S1"]=1
  out[out[, "CI.upper.S0"]>1,"CI.upper.S0"]=1
  out[out[, "CI.lower.S1"]<0,"CI.lower.S1"]=0
  out[out[, "CI.lower.S0"]<0,"CI.lower.S0"]=0
  out[out[, "S1"]>1,"S1"]=1;out[out[, "S1"]<0,"S1"]=0
  out[out[, "S0"]>1,"S0"]=1;out[out[, "S0"]<0,"S0"]=0
  out
}
# 3. Obtain  $S_{OW}^{(0)}(t)$  and  $S_{OW}^{(1)}(t)$  for  $t=UTime$ 
```

```

res=TypeIOW.S(time=UTime)
# head of `res`
#      Time  S1 CI.lower.S1 CI.upper.S1  S0 CI.lower.S0 CI.upper.S0
# [1,] 0.01 1.00      1.00      1 1.00      1.00      1.00
# [2,] 0.02 1.00      1.00      1 0.99      0.99      1.00
# [3,] 0.03 1.00      0.99      1 0.99      0.97      1.00
# [4,] 0.04 1.00      0.99      1 0.98      0.97      1.00
# [5,] 0.05 0.99      0.99      1 0.98      0.97      1.00
# [6,] 0.06 0.99      0.98      1 0.98      0.96      0.99
# 4. Plot
{
par(mar = c(4.1, 5.1, 4.1, 2.1))
plot(res[, "Time"], res[, "S1"], type="l", xlab="Time (Months)",
      ylab="Survival Functions", ylim=c(0.0, 1.05))
abline(h=0, col=1, lty=2)
abline(h=1, col=1, lty=2)
lines(res[, "Time"], res[, "CI.lower.S1"], col=1, lty=3)
lines(res[, "Time"], res[, "CI.upper.S1"], col=1, lty=3)
lines(res[, "Time"], res[, "S0"], col=2)
lines(res[, "Time"], res[, "CI.lower.S0"], col=2, lty=3)
lines(res[, "Time"], res[, "CI.upper.S0"], col=2, lty=3)
}

```



Web Figure 7: Estimated counterfactual survival probabilities given by OW by estimator I.

In Web Figure 7, the black lines are $\hat{S}_{OW}^{(1),I}$ with its 95% confidence interval and the red lines are $\hat{S}_{OW}^{(0),I}$ with its 95% confidence interval.

8. Using Cox Model to Describe The Censoring Process

Previously, we use parametric Weibull regression model to describe the censoring process. Alternatively, we can use semi- or non-parametric survival models to describe the censoring process, such as Cox proportional hazard model and additive risk model. Here, we will demonstrate how to use Cox model to estimate the censoring scores. Specifically,

according to the Cox model, we have that

$$P(C^{(a)} \geq t | \mathbf{X}) = \exp \left\{ \Lambda_a(t) e^{\theta_a^T \mathbf{X}} \right\},$$

where $C^{(a)}$ is the censoring time with treatment $A = a$ ($a = 1, 0$ for treated and untreated groups, respectively), Λ_a is the treatment-specific baseline cumulative hazard, and θ_a is treatment-specific coefficients corresponding to pre-treatment covariates \mathbf{X} . The partial likelihood approach will be used to estimate coefficients θ_a and the baseline cumulative hazard $\Lambda_a(t)$ will be calculated through the Breslow approach. Because all the parameters are treatment-specific, we will implement two Cox models using the treated and untreated group samples, separately. See the code below.

```
# 1. Construct the Cox model formula
Censor.formula=as.formula(paste("Surv(",SurvTime,"I(1-",Status,")","~",
                                paste(Covariates,collapse="+"),sep=""))

# Censor.formula is shown below
# Surv(Time, I(1 - Event)) ~ x1 + x2 + x3 + x4 + x5 + x6
# 2. Cox Model for the treated group
data.trt=subset(data,data[,Treatment]==1)
Censor.trt.model = coxph(Censor.formula,data=data.trt)
# 3. Cox Model for the untreated group
data.con=subset(data,data[,Treatment]==0)
Censor.con.model = coxph(Censor.formula,data=data.con)
```

Next, we show example codes to calculate $\hat{\Delta}_{OW}^I(6)$ when using Cox model to calculate the censoring scores:

```
# 1. Define a function to calculate the predicted censoring score
### Input: i. CoxModel: A cox model object; ii. TimeVec: A vector of time (say, t).
### Output: Probability of  $P(C_i > t_i | X_i)$  for  $i=1, \dots, n$ .
CensorScoreWithCox=function(CoxModel,TimeVec) {
  LinearPredictor=CoxModel$linear.predictors
  BaselineHazardForm=basehaz(CoxModel,centered=T) # baseline hazard form
  BaselineHazard=apply(TimeVec, function(x) { # obtain the baseline hazard for Time Vec
    BaselineHazardForm[which.min(abs(BaselineHazardForm$time-x))[1],"hazard"]
  })
  CensorScore= exp(-BaselineHazard*exp(LinearPredictor)) # obtain censoring probability
  return(CensorScore)
}

# 2. Calculate the censoring scores
# censoring scores in the treated group
Kc.trt=CensorScoreWithCox(CoxModel=Censor.trt.model,TimeVec=data.trt[,SurvTime])
# censoring scores in the untreated group
Kc.con=CensorScoreWithCox(CoxModel=Censor.con.model,TimeVec=data.con[,SurvTime])
# 3. Calculate the counterfactual survival probability in the treated group
w.trt = 1-PS[which(data[,Treatment]==1)] # balancing weight in the treated group
S1=1-sum(w.trt*data.trt[,Status]*(data.trt[,SurvTime]<=6)/Kc.trt)/sum(w.trt)
# 4. Calculate the counterfactual survival probability in the untreated group
w.con = PS[which(data[,Treatment]==0)] # balancing weight in the untreated group
S0=1-sum(w.con*data.con[,Status]*(data.con[,SurvTime]<=6)/Kc.con)/sum(w.con)
# 5. Finally, obtain the treatment effect
Delta.OW=S1-S0
cat(paste("The estimated treatment effect is",round(Delta.OW,3)))
```

```
## The estimated treatment effect is 0.178
```

Here, we also provide an unified R function `SurvEffectWithCox` to calculate the treatment effects based on the four weighting schemes introduced in manuscript. R code for this function is available at https://github.com/chaochengstat/OW_Survival. Usage of this function is analogous to the function `SurvEffectWeibull` in Part 6 *Other Balancing Weights and Confidence Interval Construction*. Specifically, we can implement this function by

```
SurvEffectWithCox(Data,t,Treatment,SurvTime,Status,PS.formula,Censor.formula,Type,
                  Method,alpha,q)
```


where arguments are same with those in `SurvEffectWeibull`. The output of `SurvEffectWithCox` is the point estimate corresponding to the weighted estimators specified by `Type=` and `Method=`. If we want to calculate Type II estimate with overlap weight, we can specify `Type=2` and `Method="OW"` as below

```
# 1. Load SurvEffectWithCox function
source("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/chaochengstat/OW_Survival/main/functions_Cox_v2.R")
# 2. define PS and Cox model formulas
PS.formula=as.formula(paste(Treatment,"~",paste(Covariates,collapse="+"),sep=""))
Censor.formula=as.formula(paste("Surv(",SurvTime,"I(1-",Status,")", "~",
                                paste(Covariates,collapse="+"),sep=""))

# 3. Type II OW estimator
Delta.OW=SurvEffectWithCox(Data=data,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",
                           Status="Event",PS.formula=PS.formula,
                           Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=2,Method="OW")
cat(paste("Type II OW estimator: ",round(Delta.OW,3)))
```

```
## Type II OW estimator: 0.171
```

One can try other weighting schemes with `SurvEffectWithCox` by setting `Method="IPTW"`, `"Symmetric"`, or `"Asymmetric"`.

Because estimation of the baseline cumulative hazard function ($\Lambda_a(t)$) is fully non-parametric, it is not straightforward to derive the asymptotic distribution of estimated censoring scores. As a result, derivation of the asymptotic distribution of the weighted estimator is cumbersome when we choose to use Cox model. As an alternative, we can always use nonparametric bootstrap to construct the 95% confidence interval. Specifically, we first resample the original data set for B times with replacement. Next, for each bootstrap data set, we calculate $\hat{\Delta}_{w,b}(t)$ for $b = 1, \dots, B$. Then, the lower and upper bounds of the 95% confidence interval can be obtained by setting 2.5% and 97.5% percentiles of the empirical distribution of $\{\hat{\Delta}_{w,b}(t)\}_{b=1}^B$, respectively. Below we present example codes to calculate the 95% confidence interval.

The `boot` package will be utilized for bootstrapping. To simple the bootstrapping process, we first define several wrapper functions that summarizes all eight approaches (four balancing weights (IPTW, OW, symmetric trimming with $\alpha = 0.1$, and asymmetric trimming with $q = 0.01$) multiply two types of estimator (Type I and Type II):

```
# 1. load boot package
library("boot")
# 2. Define a wrapper function that summarizes all kinds of estimators
AllSurvEffect=function(Data=rhc,t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",Status="Event",
                       PS.formula,Censor.formula,alpha,q) {
  Delta1=SurvEffectWithCox(Data=Data,t=t,Treatment=Treatment,SurvTime=SurvTime,Status=Status,
                           PS.formula=PS.formula,Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=1,Method="IPTW")
  Delta2=SurvEffectWithCox(Data=Data,t=t,Treatment=Treatment,SurvTime=SurvTime,Status=Status,
                           PS.formula=PS.formula,Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=1,Method="OW")
  Delta3=SurvEffectWithCox(Data=Data,t=t,Treatment=Treatment,SurvTime=SurvTime,Status=Status,
                           PS.formula=PS.formula,Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=1,
                           Method="Symmetric",alpha=alpha)
  Delta4=SurvEffectWithCox(Data=Data,t=t,Treatment=Treatment,SurvTime=SurvTime,Status=Status,
                           PS.formula=PS.formula,Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=1,
                           Method="Asymmetric",q=q)
  Delta5=SurvEffectWithCox(Data=Data,t=t,Treatment=Treatment,SurvTime=SurvTime,Status=Status,
                           PS.formula=PS.formula,Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=2,Method="IPTW")
  Delta6=SurvEffectWithCox(Data=Data,t=t,Treatment=Treatment,SurvTime=SurvTime,Status=Status,
                           PS.formula=PS.formula,Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=2,Method="OW")
  Delta7=SurvEffectWithCox(Data=Data,t=t,Treatment=Treatment,SurvTime=SurvTime,Status=Status,
                           PS.formula=PS.formula,Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=2,
                           Method="Symmetric",alpha=alpha)
  Delta8=SurvEffectWithCox(Data=Data,t=t,Treatment=Treatment,SurvTime=SurvTime,Status=Status,
                           PS.formula=PS.formula,Censor.formula=Censor.formula,Type=2,
                           Method="Asymmetric",q=q)
  output=c(Delta1,Delta2,Delta3,Delta4,Delta5,Delta6,Delta7,Delta8)
  names(output)=paste(rep(c("IPTW","OW","Symmetric","Asymmetric"),2),rep(c(1,2),each=4),sep="")
```



```

    output
  }
# 3. Define a function for each bootstrap step
ConstructBootFun=function(d,i) {
  out=AllSurvEffect(Data=d[i,],t=6,Treatment="z",SurvTime="Time",Status="Event",
                    PS.formula=PS.formula,Censor.formula=Censor.formula,alpha=0.1,q=0.01)
  out
}
# 4. Define a function to summarize bootstrapping
# where R is number of bootstrap replicates
GetBootCI=function(R=200) {
  myboot=boot(data, ConstructBootFun, R = R, stype = "i")
  out <- as.data.frame(matrix(NA,ncol=3,nrow=8))
  out[,1]=myboot$t0
  rownames(out)=names(myboot$t0)
  for (j in (1:8)) {
    out[j,2:3]=boot.ci(myboot,type="perc",index=j)$percent[4:5]
  }
  colnames(out) <- c("Estimate","CI.lower","CI.upper")
  out
}

```

Now, we run the bootstrap.

```

set.seed(2021)
BootSummary=GetBootCI(R=200)
BootSummary

```

```

##           Estimate  CI.lower  CI.upper
## IPTW1      0.2512545 0.05471410 0.4154905
## OW1        0.1781066 0.11909360 0.2506666
## Symmetric1 0.1433734 0.06876705 0.2383259
## Asymmetric1 0.1863488 0.08746242 0.3436558
## IPTW2      0.1597199 0.03290690 0.2455347
## OW2        0.1711008 0.10536792 0.2446221
## Symmetric2 0.1575849 0.07906868 0.2510091
## Asymmetric2 0.1602268 0.08802597 0.2814505

```

The first four rows displays the point, standard error, and 95% confidence interval estimators of Type I estimators. The second four rows presents the estimators of Type II estimators.

Web Table 1. Percent bias of the estimators in the presence of increasingly strong tails in the propensity score distribution (censoring rate = 50%).

Estimator		$\widehat{\Delta}'_w(t)$				$\widehat{\Delta}''_w(t)$			
		t_1	t_2	t_3	t_4	t_1	t_2	t_3	t_4
Overlap Weighting									
	$(\psi = 1)$	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.6	0.0	0.1
	$(\psi = 3)$	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.2	-0.2	-0.5	-0.4	0.1
	$(\psi = 5)$	-0.6	-0.1	0.0	0.5	-1.2	-0.8	-0.6	0.3
IPTW									
No Trimming	$(\psi = 1)$	0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.1	0.1
	$(\psi = 3)$	-0.1	-0.6	-0.5	0.2	-0.2	-0.9	-0.7	0.0
	$(\psi = 5)$	-7.0	-3.9	-2.8	-1.0	-7.4	-5.2	-4.0	-1.3
Symmetric Trimming									
$\alpha = 0.05$	$(\psi = 1)$	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.1	0.1
	$(\psi = 3)$	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	-0.2	-0.5	-0.4	0.1
	$(\psi = 5)$	-1.2	-0.5	-0.5	0.3	-1.6	-0.8	-0.6	0.5
$\alpha = 0.1$	$(\psi = 1)$	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.6	-0.1	0.1
	$(\psi = 3)$	-0.2	0.0	-0.3	0.1	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	0.2
	$(\psi = 5)$	-0.7	-0.2	-0.1	0.3	-0.9	-0.5	-0.2	0.5
$\alpha = 0.15$	$(\psi = 1)$	-0.2	-0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.7	0.0	0.1
	$(\psi = 3)$	-0.1	-0.2	-0.5	-0.1	-0.3	-0.6	-0.4	0.2
	$(\psi = 5)$	-0.5	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1	0.6
Asymmetric Trimming									
$q = 0$	$(\psi = 1)$	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.2	-0.3	-0.7	0.0	0.3
	$(\psi = 3)$	1.7	1.5	1.8	2.6	1.4	1.1	1.6	2.3
	$(\psi = 5)$	-0.4	2.9	4.0	5.2	-0.8	1.5	2.9	5.1
$q = 0.01$	$(\psi = 1)$	-4.2	-2.0	0.2	1.9	-4.2	-2.5	0.1	1.9
	$(\psi = 3)$	-7.5	-3.6	0.3	4.6	-7.8	-4.1	0.1	4.6
	$(\psi = 5)$	-5.8	-2.6	0.2	3.6	-6.2	-2.7	-0.1	3.6
$q = 0.05$	$(\psi = 1)$	-9.5	-5.0	-0.1	4.4	-9.5	-5.4	-0.1	4.5
	$(\psi = 3)$	-6.5	-3.2	0.2	4.2	-6.5	-3.6	0.2	4.5
	$(\psi = 5)$	-2.8	-1.3	0.4	2.6	-3.2	-1.9	0.3	3.3

Web Table 2. Relative efficiency of the estimators relative to the Original Approach IPTW estimator in the presence of increasingly strong tails in the propensity score distribution (censoring rate = 50%).

Estimator		$\hat{\Delta}_w^l(t)$				$\hat{\Delta}_w^u(t)$			
		t_1	t_2	t_3	t_4	t_1	t_2	t_3	t_4
Overlap Weighting									
	$(\psi = 1)$	1.09	1.03	1.01	1.00	0.87	0.85	0.78	0.73
	$(\psi = 3)$	4.49	3.45	2.85	2.64	3.37	2.67	2.17	1.97
	$(\psi = 5)$	13.82	10.06	8.4	7.64	9.92	7.25	6.29	5.76
IPTW									
No Trimming									
	$(\psi = 1)$	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.81	0.84	0.80	0.74
	$(\psi = 3)$	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.85	0.92	1.00	1.07
	$(\psi = 5)$	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.90	0.86	0.83	1.34
Symmetric Trimming									
$\alpha = 0.05$	$(\psi = 1)$	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.81	0.84	0.80	0.74
	$(\psi = 3)$	3.03	2.50	2.24	2.09	2.34	2.04	1.80	1.63
	$(\psi = 5)$	9.37	6.94	6.01	5.49	7.21	5.43	4.81	4.57
$\alpha = 0.1$	$(\psi = 1)$	1.01	1.00	0.99	0.99	0.81	0.83	0.79	0.74
	$(\psi = 3)$	3.70	2.81	2.35	2.21	2.88	2.30	1.86	1.68
	$(\psi = 5)$	10.67	7.74	6.70	6.20	8.18	5.87	5.26	4.69
$\alpha = 0.15$	$(\psi = 1)$	1.03	0.99	0.98	1.00	0.82	0.83	0.78	0.73
	$(\psi = 3)$	3.60	2.70	2.22	2.11	2.75	2.17	1.71	1.56
	$(\psi = 5)$	10.53	7.40	6.34	5.98	8.21	5.98	4.89	4.41
Asymmetric Trimming									
$q = 0$	$(\psi = 1)$	1.00	0.99	0.99	1.00	0.81	0.83	0.79	0.74
	$(\psi = 3)$	1.06	0.99	0.95	0.95	0.88	0.91	0.94	1.00
	$(\psi = 5)$	0.94	0.92	0.89	0.89	0.83	0.77	0.74	1.13
$q = 0.01$	$(\psi = 1)$	1.03	0.95	0.93	0.94	0.83	0.79	0.73	0.68
	$(\psi = 3)$	3.29	2.57	2.18	2.08	2.62	2.10	1.75	1.59
	$(\psi = 5)$	9.82	7.00	6.03	5.78	7.57	5.41	4.88	4.5
$q = 0.05$	$(\psi = 1)$	0.96	0.85	0.80	0.78	0.78	0.69	0.64	0.58
	$(\psi = 3)$	3.22	2.40	1.93	1.82	2.51	1.93	1.51	1.36
	$(\psi = 5)$	8.13	5.91	4.72	4.57	6.46	4.69	3.56	3.36

Web Table 3. Coverage rate of the 95% confidence intervals for the estimators in the presence of increasingly strong tails in the propensity score distribution (censoring rate = 50%).

Estimator		$\widehat{\Delta}_w^I(t)$				$\widehat{\Delta}_w^{II}(t)$			
		t_1	t_2	t_3	t_4	t_1	t_2	t_3	t_4
Overlap Weighting									
	$(\psi = 1)$	94.8	95.7	94.9	95.7	96.2	96.7	97.0	96.9
	$(\psi = 3)$	95.6	95.3	95.4	96.1	96.3	95.6	96.3	96.7
	$(\psi = 5)$	95.4	95.2	95.3	95.6	95.5	96.0	95.7	96.0
IPTW									
No Trimming	$(\psi = 1)$	95.2	95.6	96.0	96.2	95.9	97.1	97.1	97.2
	$(\psi = 3)$	94.3	95.2	95.5	95.1	95.0	94.4	95.2	96.1
	$(\psi = 5)$	89.1	92.7	94.1	94.7	92.0	92.4	93.0	93.0
Symmetric Trimming									
$\alpha = 0.05$	$(\psi = 1)$	95.2	95.6	96.0	96.2	96.0	97.0	97.1	97.2
	$(\psi = 3)$	94.9	94.7	95.9	95.7	95.1	95.1	96.4	96.1
	$(\psi = 5)$	94.5	95.0	95.3	95.1	95.3	95.7	96.3	96.5
$\alpha = 0.1$	$(\psi = 1)$	95.1	95.6	95.7	96.3	95.9	96.9	97.0	97.0
	$(\psi = 3)$	95.6	94.8	95.3	95.7	95.5	96.1	96.4	96.7
	$(\psi = 5)$	95.2	95.1	95.3	96.0	96.4	96.2	97.0	96.9
$\alpha = 0.15$	$(\psi = 1)$	94.9	96.0	95.3	96.4	96.1	96.6	96.9	97.0
	$(\psi = 3)$	95.1	94.4	94.8	95.7	95.7	96.1	96.5	97.2
	$(\psi = 5)$	95.9	95.0	95.6	96.6	96.8	96.8	97.1	97.5
Asymmetric Trimming									
$q = 0$	$(\psi = 1)$	95.1	95.8	95.9	96.4	96.0	96.9	97.4	97.2
	$(\psi = 3)$	95.3	95.1	95.4	94.4	95.5	94.1	94.7	94.9
	$(\psi = 5)$	94.6	96.4	94.7	93.7	95.5	94.2	92.9	93.9
$q = 0.01$	$(\psi = 1)$	94.3	94.8	95.1	95.1	95.8	96.4	96.9	96.6
	$(\psi = 3)$	92.9	94.0	94.2	92.9	94.3	95.3	96.0	95.0
	$(\psi = 5)$	93.8	94.7	94.7	94.5	95.4	95.8	96.2	96.3
$q = 0.05$	$(\psi = 1)$	91.2	92.9	95.3	93.1	93.9	94.6	97.3	95.9
	$(\psi = 3)$	94.4	94.7	95.3	94.1	95.7	96.1	96.4	96.4
	$(\psi = 5)$	95.1	95.5	95.4	95.5	96.5	96.4	96.1	97.0

Web Table 4. Unweighted patient baseline characteristics stratified by treatment groups and absolute standardized mean differences (ASDs) for each characteristic. Mean (standard deviation) and proportion (standard deviation) are presented for continuous and binary characteristics, respectively.

	Myomectomy (n=213)	Hysterectomy (n=506)	ASD
Age in years	38.5 (5.2)	44.6 (4.6)	1.26
Race (reference white)			
Black (%)	33.3 (47.3)	30.0 (45.9)	0.07
Others (%)	20.2 (40.2)	13.8 (34.6)	0.17
Had prior procedures (%)	9.9 (29.9)	13.8 (34.6)	0.12
Had at least 2 children (%)	13.6 (34.4)	47.6 (50.0)	0.79
With anxiety/depression (%)	26.3 (44.1)	23.5 (42.5)	0.06
With Bleeding symptoms (%)	77.0 (42.2)	85.8 (35.0)	0.22
Baseline UFSQOL component			
activity	53.1 (28.2)	46.3 (26.1)	0.24
concern	49.9 (34.3)	38.0 (28.3)	0.38
self-conscious	51.6 (31.6)	44.4 (30.0)	0.23
control	50.8 (26.2)	50.9 (26.2)	0.00
energy	51.7 (26.7)	47.5 (26.3)	0.15
sexual function	54.0 (33.8)	45.4 (32.2)	0.26
symptom severity	49.6 (23.2)	60.6 (22.5)	0.48
Baseline visual analogue scale (%)	74.1 (17.7)	70.7 (19.3)	0.18
Ethnicity/Hispanic (%)	9.4 (29.2)	7.3 (26.1)	0.08
With private insurance (%)	89.7 (30.5)	90.1 (29.9)	0.01
Time since diagnosis with fibroid symptoms	4.8 (5.7)	6.8 (7.3)	0.30

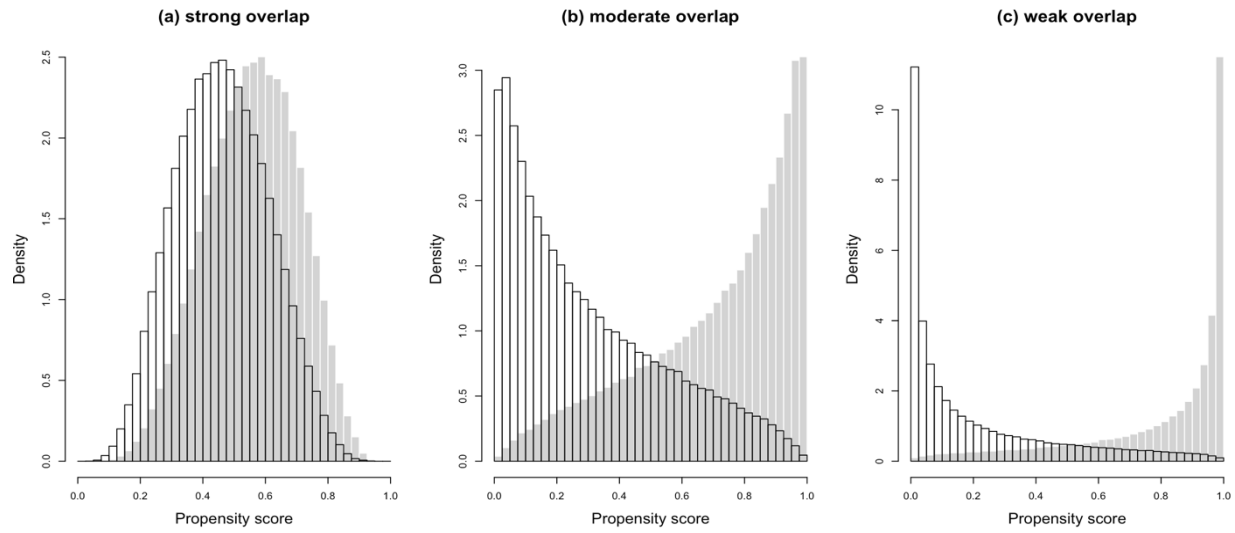
Web Table 5. Baseline patient characteristics among the propensity score weighted populations and absolute standardized mean differences (ASDs) for each characteristic. Mean (standard deviation) and proportion (standard deviation) are presented for continuous and binary characteristics, respectively.

	IPTW			OW		
	Myomectomy (n=213)	Hysterectomy (n=506)	ASD	Myomectomy (n=213)	Hysterectomy (n=506)	ASD
Age in years	44.9 (6.7)	43.1 (5.3)	0.31	41.2 (5.2)	41.2 (4.6)	0.00
Race (reference white)						
Black (%)	24.4 (43.7)	32.3 (46.8)	0.17	33.3 (47.3)	33.3 (47.2)	0.00
Others (%)	16.5 (37.7)	14.9 (35.6)	0.04	17.6 (38.2)	17.6 (38.2)	0.00
Had prior procedures (%)	11.8 (32.8)	12.9 (33.5)	0.03	11.7 (32.3)	11.7 (32.3)	0.00
Had at least 2 children (%)	44.1 (50.5)	38.7 (48.8)	0.11	24.3 (43.0)	24.3 (43.0)	0.00
With anxiety/depression (%)	19.4 (40.2)	23.9 (42.7)	0.11	25.6 (43.8)	25.6 (43.7)	0.00
With Bleeding symptoms (%)	88.0 (33.1)	83.5 (37.1)	0.13	82.5 (38.1)	82.5 (38.1)	0.00
Baseline UFSQOL component						
activity	47.5 (24.5)	47.7 (26.6)	0.01	47.9 (27.0)	47.9 (26.5)	0.00
concern	35.3 (29.8)	40.0 (29.3)	0.16	42.1 (33.0)	42.1 (30.0)	0.00
self-conscious	49.2 (30.8)	46.5 (31)	0.09	47.6 (31.4)	47.6 (31.0)	0.00
control	50.9 (24.2)	51.1 (26.8)	0.01	50.1 (25.2)	50.1 (26.6)	0.00
energy	50.4 (22.2)	49.0 (27.6)	0.05	49.2 (25.1)	49.2 (27.6)	0.00
sexual function	53.0 (29.5)	47.7 (32.5)	0.17	49.9 (32.1)	49.9 (33.0)	0.00
symptom severity	58.9 (21.0)	57.0 (23.7)	0.08	54.2 (22.8)	54.2 (23.0)	0.00
Baseline visual analogue scale (%)	70.4 (19.9)	71.4 (19.0)	0.06	71.6 (19.2)	71.6 (18.6)	0.00
Ethnicity/Hispanic (%)	4.6 (21.2)	7.3 (26.0)	0.11	8.1 (27.3)	8.1 (27.3)	0.00
With private insurance (%)	93.4 (25.2)	90.0 (30.0)	0.12	88.7 (31.8)	88.7 (31.7)	0.00
Time since diagnosis with fibroid symptoms	6.8 (7.8)	6.4 (7.0)	0.07	5.5 (6.4)	5.5 (6.0)	0.00

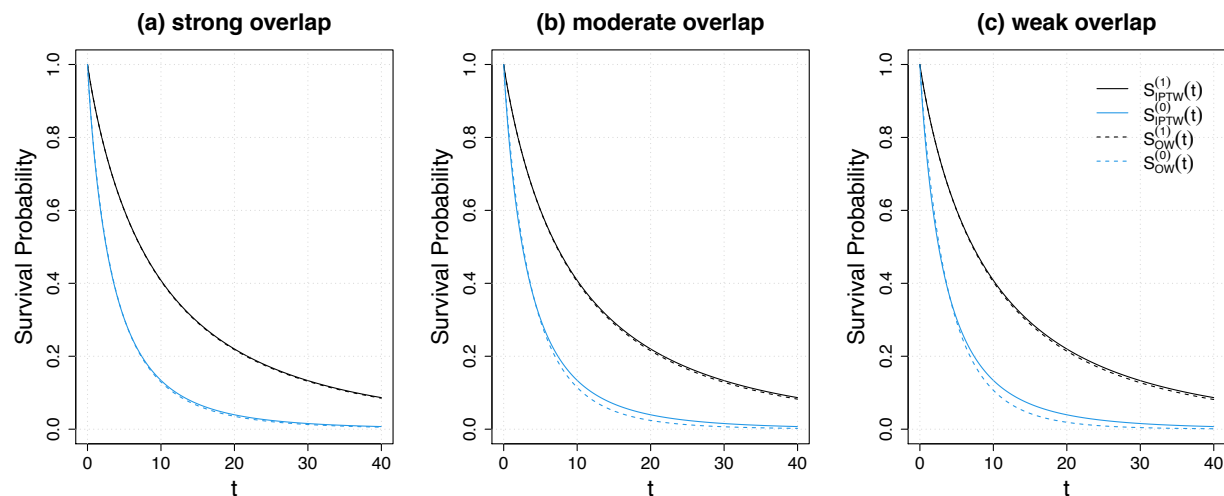
Web Table 6. Estimated differences (and 95% confidence intervals) in counterfactual probability in returning to work between minimally invasive myomectomy and minimally invasive hysterectomy in the first seven weeks^a.

Week	IPTW (estimator II)		OW (estimator II)	
	Estimated Difference	Confidence Interval	Estimated Difference	Confidence Interval
1	0.142	(-0.113,0.398)	0.071	(0.013,0.129)
2	0.271	(0.053,0.488)	0.209	(0.126,0.293)
3	0.344	(0.172,0.517)	0.254	(0.160,0.348)
4	0.332	(0.158,0.506)	0.286	(0.190,0.383)
5	0.278	(0.160,0.395)	0.196	(0.099,0.294)
6	0.242	(0.142,0.342)	0.191	(0.104,0.279)
7	0.174	(0.045,0.303)	0.150	(0.050,0.250)

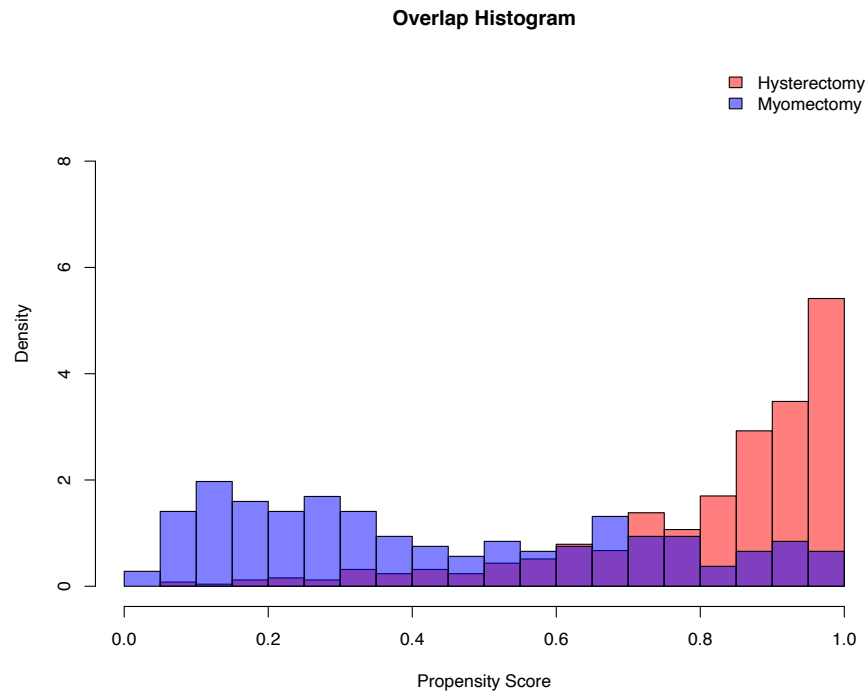
^aThe results are given by estimator II. Positive values indicate myomectomy leads to shorter time in returning to work.



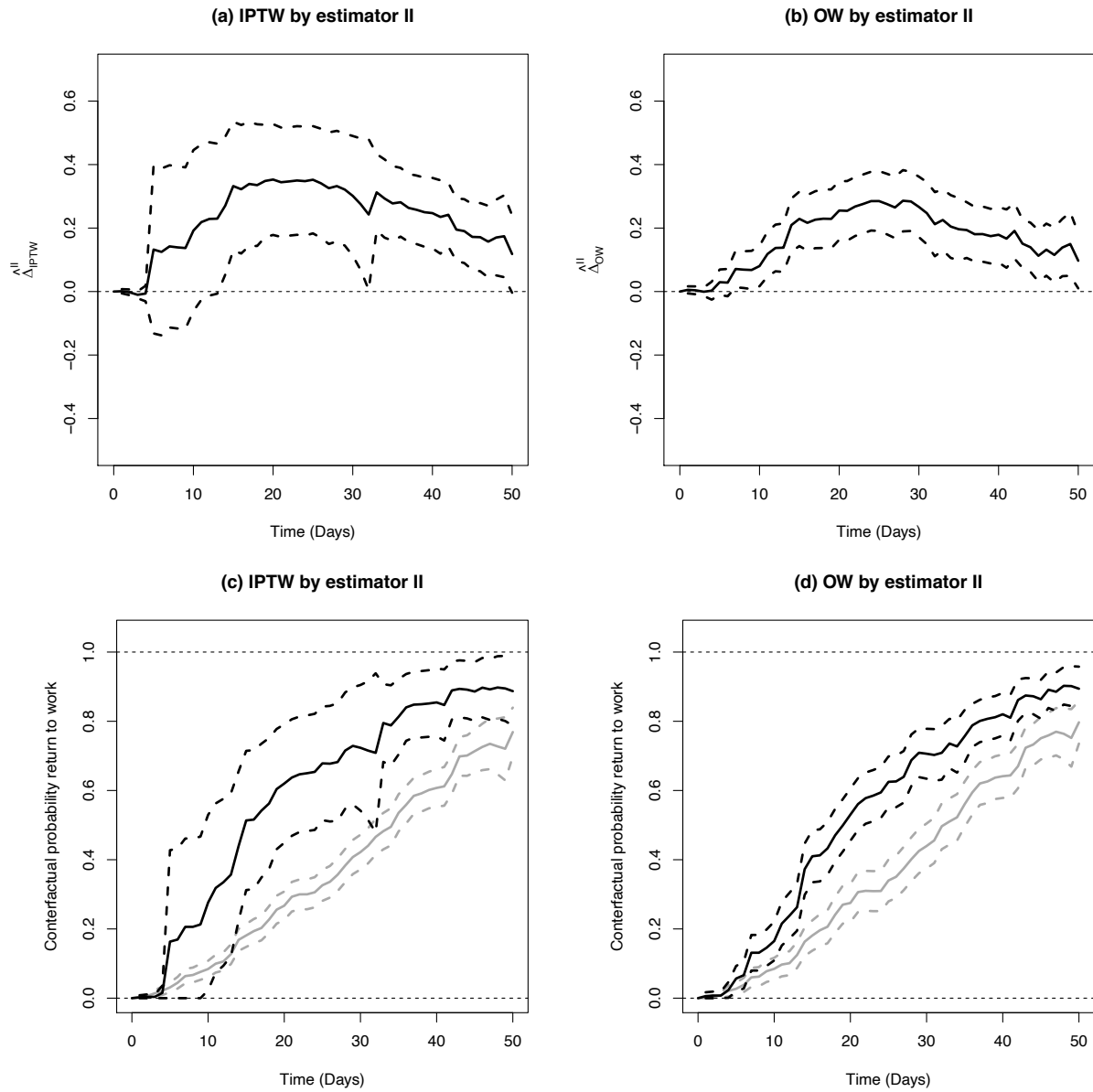
Web Figure 1. Distributions of true propensity scores with three levels of covariate overlap, where the shaded bars denote the treated group and the unshaded bars represent the untreated group.



Web Figure 2. Counterfactual survival curves under treatment assignment (black lines) and control assignment (blue lines), associated with 3 levels of covariates overlap (Panels (a) to (c)). Solid lines: survival curves under the entire population (denoted by $S_{IPTW}^{(1)}(t)$ and $S_{IPTW}^{(0)}(t)$). Dotted lines: survival curves under the overlap population (denoted by $S_{OW}^{(1)}(t)$ and $S_{OW}^{(0)}(t)$).



Web Figure 3. Distributions of estimated propensity scores in the application study on data from the COMPARE-UF Fibroid Registry, where the red bars denote the Hysterectomy group and the blue bars represent the Myomectomy group.



Web Figure 4. Panels (a) and (b): Estimated differences in counterfactual probability in returning to work between minimally invasive myomectomy and minimally invasive hysterectomy in the first 50 days, by IPTW (Panel a) and OW (Panel b). Panels (c) and (d): Estimated counterfactual probabilities in returning to work between minimally invasive myomectomy (black lines) and minimally invasive hysterectomy (gray lines) in the first 50 days, by IPTW (Panel c) and OW (Panel d). All the results are calculated based on estimator II. We plot the curves up to 50 days since there is no event in the minimally invasive myomectomy group after day 49. The 95% confidence intervals were obtained with the proposed closed-form variance estimators.