Abstract  The extreme value dependence of regularly varying stationary time series can be described by the spectral tail process. Drees et al. (2015) proposed estimators of the marginal distributions of this process based on exceedances over high deterministic thresholds and analyzed their asymptotic behavior. In practice, however, versions of the estimators are applied which use exceedances over random thresholds like intermediate order statistics. We prove that these modified estimators have the same limit distributions. This finding is corroborated in a simulation study, but the version using order statistics performs a bit better for finite samples.

Keywords  Heavy tails · Regular variation · Spectral tail process · Stationary time series · Tail process · Threshold selection

Mathematics Subject Classification (2010)  62G32 · 62M10 · 62G05

1 Introduction

By now the statistical analysis of the univariate tail behavior of stationary time series is well established. However, in many situations understanding dependence between extreme observations is as important as the marginal extreme value behavior. For example, large losses to a financial investments pose a more serious risk if they tend to occur in clusters. Likewise, several consecutive days of high precipitation may result in a larger flooding than a single day of heavy rainfall even if the latter is more extreme.

Despite its practical importance, inference on the dependence structure between extreme observations is much less developed than marginal analysis. In the framework of regularly varying stationary time series, Basrak and Segers (2009) introduced (spectral) tail processes as a neat way to describe the dependence structure in extreme regions.

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Throughout the paper, we suppose that \((X_t)_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}\) is a stationary real-valued time series such that all finite dimensional marginal distributions are regularly varying. This is equivalent to the assumption that, for each \(s, t \in \mathbb{Z}\), \(s \leq t\), there exists a non-degenerate measure \(\mu_{s,t}\) on \((\mathbb{R}^{t-s+1}, \mathcal{B}^{t-s+1})\) such that
\[
\lim_{u \to \infty} \frac{P(u^{-1}(X_s, \ldots, X_t) \in A)}{P(|X_0| > u)} = \mu_{s,t}(A)
\]
for all \(\mu_{s,t}\)-continuity sets \(A\) that are bounded away from 0. Basrak and Segers (2009) proved that a stationary time series is regularly varying if and only if there exists a degenerate measure \(\mu\) on \((\mathbb{R}^{\infty}, \mathcal{B}^{\infty})\) such that all finite dimensional marginal distributions are regularly varying.

In contrast to \((X_t)_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}\), the tail processes are not stationary. However, they exhibit a peculiar structure which can be described by the so-called time change formula. From (1.2), one may conclude
\[
P\{Y_i > u\} = \begin{cases} 1 - E \left( \left| \frac{Y_{i-1}}{|Y_{i-1}|} \right|^{\alpha} \mathbb{1}\{Y_0/|Y_{i-1}| \leq x\} \right) & \text{if } x \geq 0, \\ E \left( \left| \frac{Y_{i-1}}{|Y_{i-1}|} \right|^{\alpha} \mathbb{1}\{Y_0/|Y_{i-1}| > x\} \right) & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}
\]
for all \(\mu\)-continuity sets \(A\) that are bounded away from 0. Basrak and Segers (2009) have shown that in certain situations more efficient estimators can be constructed by using the time change formula. From (1.2), one may conclude
\[
P\{\Theta_t \leq x\} = \begin{cases} 1 - E \left( |\Theta_{t-1}|^{\alpha} \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_0/|\Theta_{t-1}| > x\} \right) & \text{if } x \geq 0, \\ E \left( |\Theta_{t-1}|^{\alpha} \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_0/|\Theta_{t-1}| \leq x\} \right) & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}
\]
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\begin{align}
&= \begin{cases}
1 - \lim_{n \to \infty} E \left[ \frac{|X_{t} - X_0|}{X_0} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_0/|X_{t} - X_0| > x\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{|X_0| > u\}} \right] & \text{if } x \geq 0, \\
\lim_{n \to \infty} E \left[ \frac{|X_{t} - X_0|}{X_0} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_0/|X_{t} - X_0| \leq x\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{|X_0| > u\}} \right] & \text{if } x < 0,
\end{cases}
\end{align}

(Davis et al., 2018, Lemma 2.1). Again, by interpreting the limit as an approximation and replacing the conditional expectations by empirical analogs, we obtain the backward estimator

\begin{equation}
F_{n, u_n}(x) := \begin{cases}
1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} |X_{t_{i+1}} - X_i| \hat{\alpha}_{n, u_n} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_i/|X_{t_{i+1}} - X_i| > x, |X_i| > u_n\}}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{1}_{\{|X_i| > u_n\}}} & \text{if } x \geq 0, \\
\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} |X_{t_{i+1}} - X_i| \hat{\alpha}_{n, u_n} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_i/|X_{t_{i+1}} - X_i| \leq x, |X_i| > u_n\}}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{1}_{\{|X_i| > u_n\}}} & \text{if } x < 0.
\end{cases}
\end{equation}

Here \( \hat{\alpha}_{n, u_n} \) is a suitable estimator of the index of regular variation based on the exceedances over the threshold \( u_n \), e.g., the Hill-type estimator

\begin{equation}
\hat{\alpha}_{n, u_n} := \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_i > u_n\}}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \log(X_i/\hat{u}_n) \mathbb{1}_{\{X_i > \hat{u}_n\}}}.
\end{equation}

Typically the backward estimator is more accurate than the forward estimator if \(|x|\) is not too small. In particular, Dreés et al. (2015) have shown that its asymptotic variance is always smaller for \(|x| \geq 1\) if the tail process is Markovian and the threshold \( u_n \) is chosen as a quantile \( F^{-1}(1 - \tau_n) \) of the marginal cdf with \( \tau_n \downarrow 0 \) at a suitable rate. (Here and in the following \( F \) denotes the marginal cdf and \( F^{-1} \) its generalized inverse.) Dreés et al. (2015) and Davis et al. (2018) also compared the performance of both estimators for finite sample sizes in a simulation study. However, while the asymptotic results have been proved when the estimators are based on exceedances over a deterministic threshold \( u_n = F^{-1}(1 - \tau_n) \), in the simulation study empirical quantities, that is, order statistics, have been used. This leaves a certain gap between the mathematical analysis on the one hand and the procedure commonly applied in practice on the other hand.

It is the main aim of the present paper to close this gap. While it is plausible that there is a close relationship between the performance of both versions of the aforementioned estimators (using a deterministic respectively a random threshold), it is a priori not clear whether they have the same limit distribution. In a somewhat comparable situation, Dreés et al. (2004) examined the asymptotic behavior of the maximum likelihood estimators of a scale parameter and the extreme value index in a generalized Pareto model fitted to the exceedances over a large order statistic, which had been previously studied by Smith (1987) for exceedances over a high deterministic threshold. There it turned out that using order statistics instead of true quantities as thresholds does not influence the asymptotic behavior of the estimator of the extreme value index, but the limit distribution of the scale estimator is different in both approaches.

In the present setting, we show in Section 2 that the limit behavior of neither the forward nor the backward estimator is altered by using random instead of deterministic thresholds. In Section 3 we demonstrate in a small simulation study that
while indeed the distribution of versions of the estimators using quantiles resp. order statistics behave similarly, the version based on exceedances over order statistics often perform slightly better for finite sample sizes. All proofs are deferred to Appendix C. While the general approach using empirical process theory is the same as used by Drees et al. (2015), the proof of asymptotic equicontinuity of certain empirical processes is much more challenging in the present setting.

2 Asymptotic results

Under suitable conditions, the joint asymptotic normality of the processes of forward and backward estimators (1.3) and (1.5) has been shown by Drees et al. (2015) and Davis et al. (2018). However, in practice usually some data dependent threshold \( \hat{u}_n \) is used instead of the deterministic sequence \( u_n \). Here we prove that these processes converge to the same limits if the random threshold is a consistent estimator of the deterministic sequence in the sense that

\[
S_n := \frac{\hat{u}_n}{u_n} \to 1 \quad \text{in probability.} \quad (2.1)
\]

The most prominent examples are order statistics \( \hat{u}_n = X_{n-k_n,n} \) where \( u_n \) and \( k_n \) are related via \( k_n = \lfloor n \bar{P}(u_n) \rfloor \) (with \( \bar{P} \) denoting the survival function of \( X_1 \)) and \( u_n = \bar{F}^{-1}(1 - k_n/n) \).

For ease of presentation, in this section we assume that non-negative random variables \( X_{1-\bar{t}}, \ldots, X_{n+\bar{t}} \) have been observed (i.e., \( n + 2\bar{t} \) is the actual sample size), but our results easily carry over to real-valued observations. Here \( \bar{t} > 0 \) denotes the maximal lag we are interested in. We define versions of the forward and backward estimators of the cdf \( F_{\Theta} \) for \( |t| \leq \bar{t} \) based on the exceedances over \( \hat{u}_n \) as follows:

\[
F_{\Theta}^f(x) := \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}\{X_{i-1}/|X_i| \leq x, |X_i| > \hat{u}_n\} / \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}\{|X_i| > \hat{u}_n\}, \quad (2.2)
\]

\[
F_{\Theta}^b(x) := 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}\{X_{i-1}/|X_i| \leq \hat{u}_n, \mathbb{I}\{X_i/|X_{i-1}| \leq x, |X_i| > \hat{u}_n\} / \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}\{|X_i| > \hat{u}_n\} \quad (2.3)
\]

where \( \hat{u}_n \) is as defined in (1.6) with \( \hat{u}_n \) instead of \( u_n \).

For the asymptotic analysis, we follow the approach used by Davis et al. (2018). The forward and backward estimators can be represented using so-called generalized tail array sums. The asymptotic behavior of these processes has been studied by Drees and Rootzén (2010) for \( \beta \)-mixing time series. To be more concrete, for some \( \varepsilon > 0 \), let

\[
X_{n,i} = u_n^{-1}(X_{i-\bar{t}}, \ldots, X_{i+\bar{t}}) \mathbb{I}\{X_i > (1 - \varepsilon)u_n\}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n. \quad (2.4)
\]

Then all estimators under consideration can be expressed in terms of sums of the type \( \sum_{i=1}^{n} \psi(X_{n,i}) \) for functions \( \psi : [0, \infty)^{2\bar{t}+1} \to [0, \infty) \) of the following types:

\[
\phi_{0,s}(z) := \log^+ \left( \frac{z_0}{s} \right) = \log \left( \frac{z_0}{s} \right) \mathbb{I}\{z_0 > s\}, \quad (2.5)
\]
\[
\phi_{1,s}(z) := 1_{\{z_0 > s\}}, \quad (2.6)
\]
\[
\phi_{2,x,s}(z) := 1_{\{\sum_{t=0}^{x} z_t > x, z_0 > s\}}, \quad (2.7)
\]
\[
\phi_{3,y,s}(z) := \left(\frac{z_{-1}}{z_0}\right)^\alpha 1_{\left\{\frac{z_0}{z_{-1}} > y, z_{-1} > 0, z_0 > s\right\}}, \quad (2.8)
\]

with \( z = (z_{-\ell}, \ldots, z_t) \in [0, \infty)^{2r+1}\) and \( \log^+ x := (\log x) 1\{x > 1\} \). For example, \( \hat{F}_{n,\tilde{u},s}(x) = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi_{2,x,s}(X_{ni})}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi_{2,x,s}(X_{ni})} \), provided \( S_n > 1 - \varepsilon \), which, according to \( (2.1) \), holds with probability tending to 1.

Davis et al. (2018) established joint asymptotic normality of the suitably standardized generalized tail array sums for fixed \( s = 1 \). The additional index \( s \in [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon] \) for some small \( \varepsilon > 0 \) is needed in the present setting to accommodate the randomness of the threshold \( \hat{s}_n \). It can easily be incorporated in most parts of the asymptotic analysis of the generalized tail array sums. However, verifying the entropy condition needed to prove process convergence becomes a challenging task, while it is trivial for the one parameter families of linearly ordered functions considered by Davis et al. (2018).

To tackle this problem, we must strengthen condition (C) of Davis et al. (2018) and adapt some of the other conditions as follows. Let

\[
v_n := P\{X_0 > u_n\}
\]

and

\[
\beta_{n,k} := \sup_{1 \leq j \leq k - 1} \sup_{B \in \mathcal{B}_{n,j,k}} E \left[ \sup_{B \in \mathcal{B}_{n,j,k+1}} \left| P(B | \mathcal{B}_{n,j,k}) - P(B) \right| \right],
\]

with \( \mathcal{B}_{n,j,k} \) denoting the \( \sigma \)-field generated by \( \{X_{ni}\}_{i \leq j} \). We assume that there exist sequences \( l_n, r_n \to \infty \) and some \( x_0 \geq 0 \) such that the following conditions hold:

(A) The cdf of \( \Theta \), \( F^{(\Theta)} \), is continuous on \( [x_0, \infty) \), for \( |t| \in \{1, \ldots, \ell\} \).

(B) As \( n \to \infty \), we have \( l_n \to \infty \), \( l_n = o(r_n) \), \( r_n = o((nv_n)^{1/2}) \), \( r_nv_n \to 0 \), and \( \beta_{n,l_n}n/r_n \to 0 \).

Without condition (A(\( x_0 \))) one cannot expect uniform convergence of the estimators. Condition (B) imposes restrictions on the rate at which \( v_n \) tends to 0 and thus on the rate at which \( u_n \) tends to \( \infty \). Often, the \( \beta \)-mixing coefficients decay geometrically, i.e., \( \beta_{n,k} = O(\eta^{k}) \) for some \( \eta \in (0, 1) \). Then one may choose \( l_n = O(\log n) \), and Condition (B) is fulfilled for a suitably chosen \( r_n \) if \( (\log n)^2/n = o(v_n) \) and \( v_n = o(1/(\log n)) \).

(C) For all \( 0 \leq j \leq k \leq r_n \), there exist

\[
s_n(k) \geq E \left[ \max \left\{ \log \left( \frac{X_0}{(1 - \varepsilon)u_n} \right), 1 \{X_0 > (1 - \varepsilon)u_n\} \right\} \right] \times \max \left\{ \log \left( \frac{X_k}{(1 - \varepsilon)u_n} \right), 1 \{X_k > (1 - \varepsilon)u_n\} \right\} \left| X_0 > (1 - \varepsilon)u_n \right| \quad (2.9)
\]
\[
\tilde{s}_n(j,k) \geq P\{X_j > (1 - \varepsilon)u_n, X_k > (1 - \varepsilon)u_n | X_0 > (1 - \varepsilon)u_n\} \quad (2.10)
\]
such that $s_n(k) = \lim_{n \to \infty} s_n(k)$ and $\tilde{s}_n(j, k) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \tilde{s}_n(j, k)$ exist, and
\[ \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{k=1}^r s_n(k) < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{j \leq k \leq \tilde{r}} \tilde{s}_n(j, k) = \sum_{j \leq k < \infty} \tilde{s}_n(j, k) < \infty \] hold.

Moreover, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that
\[
\sum_{k=1}^r \left( \log \left( \frac{X_0}{(1-\varepsilon)u_n} \right) \log \left( \frac{X_k}{(1-\varepsilon)u_n} \right) \right)^{1+\delta} \left| \log \Theta_t \right| \mathbb{1}_{\left\{ \Theta_t > y_t \right\}} \right \} = O(1), \quad n \to \infty.
\] (2.11)

Drees et al. (2015) and Davis et al. (2018) discuss techniques to verify conditions similar to (2.9) and (2.11) for specific time series models. We prove in Appendix B that the more restrictive condition (C) is fulfilled by solutions to stochastic recurrence equations under mild assumptions.

These conditions suffice to prove convergence of the processes of generalized tail array sums centered by their respective means. To replace these means by their limits some $y$ tends to 0 follow from our basic assumptions. Here, we require that this convergence is sufficiently fast which usually implies an upper bound on the rate at which $m_n$ tends to 0 (or, equivalently, that the threshold $u_n$ tends to $\infty$ sufficiently fast).

**Theorem 2.1** Let $(X_t)_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}$ be a stationary, regularly varying time series. If the conditions (2.1), (A(x0)), (B), (C) and (2.12)–(2.14) are fulfilled for some $x_0 \geq 0$ and some $y_0 \in [x_0, \infty) \cap (0, \infty)$, then
\[
(m_n)^{1/2} \left( \frac{\hat{F}_n^{(f)}(x_t) - F_x(0)}{\hat{F}_n^{(b)}(y_t) - F_y(x_0)} \right)_{y_t \in [y_0, \infty)} \rightarrow \left( \frac{Z(\phi^*_1)}{Z(\phi_1)} \right)_{y_t \in [y_0, \infty)}
\] (2.15)

with \[ Z_a(y_t) = \alpha^2 Z(\phi_0, 1) - \alpha Z(\phi_1, 1) \mathbb{E} \left[ (\log \Theta_t) \mathbb{1} \{ \Theta_t > y_t \} \right], \]
where $Z$ is the centered Gaussian process, indexed by functions defined in (2.5)–(2.8), whose covariance function is given in (C.1), and $F^{(b)} := 1 - F^{(b)}$ denotes the survival function of $\Theta$.

A detailed representation of the relevant covariances is given in the Supplement.

The limit process is exactly the same as for the forward and backward estimator based on the exceedances over the deterministic threshold $u_n$, derived by Davis et al. (2018). So, retrospectively, it is justified that Davis et al. (2018) used order statistics $X_{n-k,n}$ as thresholds $\hat{u}_n$ instead of $u_n = F^{(b)}(1 - k_n/n)$, since the following lemma shows that, under the conditions used in Theorem 2.1, order statistics indeed fulfill (2.1).

**Lemma 2.2** Let $(k_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be an intermediate sequence, that is $k_n \to \infty$ and $k_n/n \to 0$. If condition (B) holds and there are $s_n(k) \geq P(X_0 > (1 - \varepsilon)u_n | X_0 > (1 - \varepsilon)u_n)$ such that $s_n(k) = \lim_{n \to \infty} s_n(k)$ exists, and $\lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} s_n(k) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} s_n(k) < \infty$, then $X_{n-k,n}/F^{(b)}(1 - k_n/n) \to 1$ in probability.

Note that the existence of the constants $s_n(k)$ follows from assumption (2.9) in condition (C). The consistency of intermediate order statistics is also an immediate consequence of Theorem 2.1 of Drees (2003), which has been proved under somewhat different conditions.

### 3 Simulations

In this section, we compare the finite-sample behavior of the estimators of the survival function of the tail spectral process at lag $t$ based on the exceedances over deterministic thresholds and over the corresponding order statistics, respectively. Specifically, we examine the forward estimator (SFE) $1 - \hat{F}^{(f)}_{n,u}(x)$ defined in (1.3) and the backward estimator (SBE) $1 - \hat{F}^{(b)}_{n,u}(x)$ of $P\{\Theta_t > x\}$ given in (1.5). Here $u$ is either a theoretical quantile $F^{(b)}(1 - k/n)$ or the corresponding order statistic $X_{n-k,n}$. We focus on the differences between the estimators for the different types of thresholds. A detailed comparison of the finite-sample performance of the forward and the backward estimator with random threshold is given in Davis et al. (2018). To keep the presentation short, we report detailed results only for lag $t = 1$ and $x \in \{1/2, 1\}$. Further results are given in the supplementary material.

We consider two classes of time series models: GARCH(1,1) time series and Markovian time series. Recall that the GARCH(1,1) model is given by

$$X_t = \sigma_t \varepsilon_t \quad \text{with} \quad \sigma_t^2 = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_{t-1}^2 + \beta_1 \sigma_{t-1}^2,$$

$t \in \mathbb{Z}$, where $\alpha_0 \in (0, \infty)$, $\alpha_1, \beta_1 \in [0, \infty)$, and $\varepsilon_t, t \in \mathbb{Z}$, are iid innovations. Under suitable conditions, the GARCH(1,1) time series are regularly varying (Basrak et al., 2002, Theorem 3.1) and $\beta$-mixing (Andersen, 2009, Theorem 8). The innovations are chosen either standard normal (leading to the so-called nGARCH model) or standardized $t$-distributed with 4 degrees of freedom (denoted by tGARCH). Moreover,
we use the parameters $\alpha_0 = 0.1$, $\alpha_1 = 0.14$ and $\beta_1 = 0.84$. This choice results in a tail index $\alpha$ of about 4.02 in the nGARCH case and 2.6 for the tGARCH model.

The distribution of the forward spectral tail process $(\Theta_t)_{t \in \mathbb{N}}$ is given in Proposition 6.2 of Ehlert et al. (2015). In particular the marginals can be represented as follows:

$$L(\Theta_t) = L\left(\frac{\tilde{\varepsilon}_t}{|\tilde{\varepsilon}_0|} \prod_{i=1}^t (\alpha_i \tilde{\varepsilon}_{t-i}^2 + \beta_i)^{1/2}\right)$$

(3.1)

for all $t \in \mathbb{N}$, where $\tilde{\varepsilon}_t$, $t \in \mathbb{N}_0$, are independent and, except for $\tilde{\varepsilon}_0$, distributed as $\epsilon_1$.

The random variable $\tilde{\varepsilon}_0$ has density $h(x) = g(x)|x|^\rho E[|\varepsilon_0|]$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$, with $g$ denoting the density of $\epsilon_1$ and $\alpha$ the index of regular variation of $(X_t)_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}$.

The distribution of a stationary Markovian time series is determined by its one-dimensional marginal distribution and the copula of two consecutive observations $(X_0, X_1)$. Such a time series is regularly varying if the one-dimensional marginal distribution has a density and is regularly varying with balanced tails, and the copula satisfies certain regularity conditions locally at the corners of its domain $[0,1]^2$. The forward spectral process $(\Theta_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is then a geometric random walk which is determined by the copula of $(X_0, X_1)$, the tail index $\alpha$ of the marginal distribution and the relative weight of the left and right tails. See (Drees et al., 2015, Proposition 5.1) for details.

We simulated Markovian time series with Student’s $t$-distribution $F_{t,\nu}$ with $\nu = 4$ degrees of freedom as marginal and either a copula of a bivariate $t$-distribution

$$C_{\nu,\rho}(u,v) = \int_{-\infty}^{F_{t,\nu}(u)} \int_{-\infty}^{F_{t,\nu}(v)} \frac{1}{2\pi(1-\rho^2)^{1/2}} \left(1 + \frac{x^2 - 2\rho xy + y^2}{\nu(1-\rho^2)}\right)^{-(\nu+2)/2} dx dy,$$

with $\nu = 4$ degrees of freedom and $\rho \in \{0.25, 0.5, 0.75\}$, or a Gumbel-Hougaard copula

$$C^\text{gum}_\vartheta(u,v) = \exp\left(-[(\log(u))^\vartheta + (-\log(v))^\vartheta]^{1/\vartheta}\right)$$

with $\vartheta \in \{1, 2, 1.5, 2.0\}$. For brevity’s sake, we report detailed results only for the former model with $\rho = 0.25$, referred to as tCopula model in what follows. Its index of regular variation is $\alpha = 4$; the distribution of $\Theta_t$ is given in (Drees et al., 2015, Example A.1).

To investigate the performance of the forward and backward estimator, we generate 1000 GARCH(1,1) time series of length $n = 2000$ for each of the models. The forward and backward estimators are based on theoretical quantiles (TQ) of $|X_0|$ at level $\beta \in \{0.9, 0.95\}$ resp. on the corresponding order statistics (OS). Since no closed form of the marginal distribution is available for the GARCH models, we calculate the quantile of $|X_0|$ via Monte Carlo simulations. More precisely, it is approximated by the average of the $[m\beta]$-th order statistics of $|X_1|, \ldots, |X_m|$ of a time series of length $m = 10^6$, obtained in 100 Monte Carlo simulations. The empirical standard deviation of these 100 realisations divided by $\sqrt{100}$ gives an estimate of the standard deviation of this approximation of the true quantile (see Table 1).
The true probabilities \( P\{\Theta_1 > x\} \) (reported in Table 2) were calculated numerically. In addition, in Table 3 we give the so-called pre-asymptotic quantities

\[
p_\beta(x) := P\left(\frac{X_1}{|X_0|} > x \mid |X_0| > F_\beta^{-1}(\beta)\right)
\]

and

\[
e_\beta(x) := E\left[\frac{X_{n-1}}{|X_0|^{1/\beta}} \mathbb{1}\{X_0/|X_{n-1}| > x\} \mid |X_0| > F_\beta^{-1}(\beta)\right]
\]

with

\[
a_\beta := E\left[\log\left(\frac{|X_0|}{F_\beta^{-1}(\beta)}\right) \mid |X_0| > F_\beta^{-1}(\beta)\right]
\]

for \( x \in \{1/2, 1\} \) and \( \beta \in \{0.9, 0.95\} \). Note that the Hill-type estimator based on exceedances over a true quantile is an empirical counterpart to \( a_\beta \), and the forward and the backward estimators can be considered empirical counterparts to \( p_\beta(x) \) and \( e_\beta(x) \), respectively. One might thus expect that the estimates are concentrated around the corresponding pre-asymptotic values rather than the limit probability \( P\{\Theta_1 > x\} \). These values can be calculated numerically for the Markovian copula models, whereas for the GARCH(1,1) model we again resorted to Monte Carlo simulations with the same design as used for the approximation of the true quantiles (but with times series of length \( m = 10^7 \)).

Each of the following figures, which visualize our main findings, comprise four plots. The two upper plots correspond to the forward estimator, the lower plots show results for the backward estimator. On the left hand side the results for the estimators based on exceedances over the theoretical resp. empirical 90% quantile are displayed, while the plots on the right hand side correspond to the 95% level.

Figure 1 shows Q-Q plots of the estimators of \( P\{\Theta_1 > 1\} \approx 0.0549 \) based on theoretical quantiles vs the one based on order statistics in the nGARCH model. Overall, the Q-Q plots are close to the main diagonal, which confirms our asymptotic results. However, for small values the points usually lie below the main diagonal. This means that the estimators based on exceedances over theoretical quantiles tend to underestimate the true value more severely. A closer inspection of the simulation results reveals that this effect mainly occurs when few absolute observations exceed the quantile, which leads to an unreliable estimate of the TQ-version (whereas the number of exceedances is fixed in the OS-version). Indeed, in particular for \( \beta = 0.95 \), in some simulations the TQ-versions of the estimators are very close to 0.

Note that the discrete nature of the \( x \)-coordinates of the points in the upper plots is due to the fact that the forward estimator based on the exceedances over \( X_{n-k,n} \) can assume only values in \( \{i/k \mid 0 \leq i \leq k\} \). This is also obvious from the corresponding empirical cdfs shown in Figure 2. The solid black vertical line indicates the probability \( P\{\Theta_1 > 1\} \), whereas the dash-dotted black line shows the pre-asymptotic values \( p_\beta(1) \) (for the forward estimator) resp. \( e_\beta(1) \) (for the backward estimator). As expected, the cdfs are approximately centered at the corresponding pre-asymptotic values.
These graphs again show that the estimators which are based on theoretical quantiles tend to underestimate the true value more often. However, due to the difference between the pre-asymptotic value and their limit, all estimators usually overestimate
Fig. 3 Q-Q plots of the forward (top) and backward (bottom) estimator of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1/2\}$ using OS as threshold compared with TQ as threshold in the tGARCH model; left: 90% level; right: 95% level. The dashed red line is the main diagonal.

Fig. 4 Q-Q plots of the forward (top) and backward (bottom) estimator of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1/2\}$ in the tCopula model with $\rho = 0.25$ using OS as threshold compared with TQ as threshold; left: 90% level; right: 95% level. The dashed red line is the main diagonal.

the asymptotic value. Furthermore, as already reported in Davis et al. (2018), the backward estimator of $P\{\Theta_t > 1\}$ performs better than the forward estimator.

Figure 3 displays Q-Q plots for the estimators of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1/2\}$. By and large, the same effects occur as in Figure 1. In addition, in some cases the TQ-version
of the backward estimator strongly overestimates the true value; in one simulation with \( \beta = 0.95 \), it even gives an estimate larger than 1. This is again mainly due to simulations when relatively few observations exceed the quantile in absolute value. Indeed, for \( x = 1/2 \), the forward estimator is preferable in the nGARCH model.

The results for the tGARCH model and for lags \( t \in \{3, 5\} \) are qualitatively the same. For this reason, they are not reported here.

Next we investigate the estimators of \( P(\Theta_1 > 1/2) \approx 0.1831 \) in the Markovian tCopula model with \( \rho = 0.25 \). The Q-Q plots of the TQ-versions vs the OS-versions (Figure 4) are even closer to the main diagonal than in the GARCH(1,1) models, with only minor fluctuations around the main diagonal for large values of the backward estimator. The results for estimators of \( P(\Theta_1 > 1/2) \) in the other Markovian copula models and for larger lags look similar.

So far we have compared the distributions of the two versions of forward resp. backward estimators, which according to Theorem 2.1 have the same asymptotic behavior. Except for some differences in the tails, the distributions were close together also for finite sample sizes. Therefore, it suggests itself to examine whether there is a closer relationship between both version, in that for each simulation both versions give similar estimates, or that the difference between both versions is typically of smaller order than the variability of each of the estimators.

In Figure 5 we plot the estimates of \( P(\Theta_1 > 1/2) \) based on exceedances over TQ vs the estimates based on exceedances over OS in the usual format for the tCopula model with \( \rho = 0.25 \). Although the relationship between the realizations of both
versions is obviously weaker than the relation between the order statistics (shown in Figure 4), the estimator based on a fixed number of largest order statistics seems quite an accurate predictor for the estimator based on exceedances over a theoretical quantile. Indeed, the variance of the difference of both versions is merely between 6.5% (for the forward estimator to the 90% level) and 11.4% (for the backward estimator to the 95% level) of the variance of the TQ-version.

Appendix A: Tables

| model  | 0.9    | 0.95   |
|--------|--------|--------|
| nGARCH | 3.3931 (1.6 × 10^{-4}) | 4.3695 (2.7 × 10^{-4}) |
| tGARCH | 2.6349 (1.5 × 10^{-4}) | 3.7005 (2.7 × 10^{-4}) |
| Copula | 2.1318  | 2.7764 |

Table 1 Approximate theoretical quantiles $F_{|X|}^{α}(x)$, for $α = 90\%$ or 95\% (with estimated standard deviations in parentheses). In the copula model $F_{|X|}^{α}(x)$ is completely determined by the marginal $t_4$ distribution.

| model  | $P(Θ_1 > 1)$ | $P(Θ_1 > 1/2)$ |
|--------|--------------|-----------------|
| nGARCH | 0.0549       | 0.2022          |
| tGARCH | 0.0450       | 0.1415          |

Table 2 Probabilities $P(Θ_1 > 1)$ and $P(Θ_1 > 1/2)$ in each model.

| model  | $α$   | 0.9    | 0.95   | 0.9    | 0.95   |
|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| $p_α(1)$ | SPE with OS | 0.0763 (3 × 10^{-4}) | 0.0683 (5 × 10^{-5}) | 0.0663 (3 × 10^{-5}) | 0.0575 (4 × 10^{-5}) |
|         | SPE with TQ | 0.0763 (4 × 10^{-5}) | 0.0683 (5 × 10^{-5}) | 0.0663 (3 × 10^{-5}) | 0.0575 (4 × 10^{-5}) |
| $c_α(1)$ | SPE with OS | 0.0740 (3 × 10^{-4}) | 0.0669 (5 × 10^{-5}) | 0.0504 (3 × 10^{-5}) | 0.0610 (4 × 10^{-5}) |
|         | SPE with TQ | 0.0740 (4 × 10^{-5}) | 0.0669 (5 × 10^{-5}) | 0.0504 (3 × 10^{-5}) | 0.0610 (4 × 10^{-5}) |
| $p_α(1/2)$ | SPE with OS | 0.1228 (4 × 10^{-4}) | 0.1219 (6 × 10^{-5}) | 0.1820 (4 × 10^{-5}) | 0.1688 (6 × 10^{-5}) |
|         | SPE with TQ | 0.1228 (4 × 10^{-5}) | 0.1219 (6 × 10^{-5}) | 0.1820 (5 × 10^{-5}) | 0.1688 (6 × 10^{-5}) |
| $c_α(1/2)$ | SPE with OS | 0.2300 (8 × 10^{-4}) | 0.2188 (10^{-4}) | 0.1842 (5 × 10^{-5}) | 0.1681 (9 × 10^{-5}) |
|         | SPE with TQ | 0.2300 (8 × 10^{-5}) | 0.2188 (10^{-4}) | 0.1842 (6 × 10^{-5}) | 0.1681 (9 × 10^{-5}) |

Table 3 Estimated $p_α(x)$ and $c_α(x)$ for $x ∈ \{1, 1/2\}$ (with estimated standard deviations in parentheses).
Appendix B: Stochastic Recurrence Equations

Example B.1 Consider the stochastic recurrence equation

\[ X_t = C_t X_{t-1} + D_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z}, \]  

(B.1)

where \((C_t, D_t), t \in \mathbb{Z}\), is a sequence of iid \([0, \infty)^2\)-valued random variables. It is well known that there exists a unique strictly stationary causal solution, provided \(E[\log C_1] < 0\) and \(E[\log^+ D_1] < \infty\) (Basrak et al., 2002, Cor. 2.2). In addition, assume that the distribution of \(C_1\) is not concentrated on a lattice and that there exists \(\alpha > 0\) such that \(E[C_1^\alpha] = 1\), \(E[C_1^{\alpha \log^+ C_1}] < \infty\) and \(E[\log^+ D_1] < \infty\). Then the time series is regularly varying with index \(\alpha\) (Basrak et al., 2002, Rem. 2.5, Cor. 2.6).

Drees et al. (2015) have shown that condition (B) holds for suitably chosen (logarithmically increasing) \(r_n\), provided \((\log n)^2 / n = o(v_n)\) and \(v_n = o(1 / \log n)\), and that a milder version of condition (C) is satisfied. Here, we will show that our strengthened condition (C) is fulfilled, too, if we assume in addition that \(r_n^1 + \delta v_n = O(1)\).

Let \(\Pi_{i,j} := \prod_{l=i}^{j} C_l\) and \(V_{i,j} := \sum_{l=i}^{j-1} \Pi_{l+1,j} D_l\). Iterating (B.1) yields \(X_k = \prod_{j=1}^{k} X_j + V_{j+1,k}\). Define \(u_{n,\varepsilon} = (1 - \varepsilon) u_n\) and \(v_{n,\varepsilon} := P\{X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon}\}\).

Consider \(g : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}\) with \(0 \leq g(x) \leq ax^\xi + b\) for some \(a, b > 0\), \(\tau \in (0, \alpha)\) and all \(x \in \mathbb{R}\). Using the Potter bounds, one can show that the random variables \(g(X_0 / u) I\{X_0 > u\}/P\{X_0 > u\}, u > u_0\), are uniform integrable. Hence, for sufficiently large \(u\),

\[ E[g(X_0 / u) I\{X_0 > u\}] \leq 2E[g(Y_0)]P\{X_0 > u\}. \]  

(B.2)

Under the above conditions, one has \(\rho := E[C_1^\xi] < 1\) for any \(\xi \in (0, \alpha)\). Thus, by the generalized Markov inequality and the independence of the random variables \(C_l\),

\[ P\{\Pi_{j+1,k} > u_{n,\varepsilon}/(2t)\} \leq \rho^{k-1}/(2t/u_{n,\varepsilon})^{\xi}. \]  

(B.3)

Inequality (B.2) and the regular variation of \(X_0\) imply

\[ E[(X_0 / u_{n,\varepsilon})^{\xi} I\{X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon}/2\}] \leq 2^{1+\alpha} v_{n,\varepsilon} E[Y_0^{\xi}], \]  

(B.4)

\[ P\{V_{1,k} > u_{n,\varepsilon}/2\} \leq P\{X_k > u_{n,\varepsilon}/2\} \leq 2^{1+\alpha} v_{n,\varepsilon} \]  

(B.5)

for all \(k \in \mathbb{N}\) and sufficiently large \(n\). Moreover, it was shown in (Drees et al., 2015, Example A.3) that there exists a constant \(c > 0\) such that

\[ P\{\min\{X_0, X_k\} > u\} \leq cP\{X_0 > u\}(P\{X_0 > u\} + \rho^\xi), \]  

(B.6)

\[ P\{\Pi_{1,k} X_0 > u/2, X_0 > u\} \leq 2^{\xi+1} \rho^\xi E[Y_0^{\xi}]P\{X_0 > u\} \]  

(B.7)

for all \(k \in \mathbb{N}\) and all \(u\) sufficiently large.

By independence of \((V_{j+1,k}, \Pi_{j+1,k})\) and \((X_0, X_j)\), one has
\[ P\{\min\{X_0,X_j,X_k\} > u_{n,\varepsilon}\} \leq P\{\min\{X_0,X_j\} > u_{n,\varepsilon}, V_{j+1,k} > u_{n,\varepsilon}/2\} \]
\[ + P\{\min\{X_0, X_j\} > u_{n,\varepsilon}, \Pi_{j+1,k} X_j > u_{n,\varepsilon}/2\} \]
\[ = P\{\min\{X_0, X_j\} > u_{n,\varepsilon}\} P\{V_{j+1,k} > u_{n,\varepsilon}/2\} \]
\[ + \int_{(u_{n,\varepsilon},\infty)} \cdots \]
\[ \cdots = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq k < \infty} \tilde{s}_{\infty}(j,k) < \infty, \] because \( r_n v_{n,\varepsilon} \to 0 \). Thus, condition (2.10) is fulfilled.

where in the last step we have used (B.3), (B.5) and (B.6). Using (B.4), (B.7), \( V_{1,j} \leq X_j \) and the independence of \( X_0 \) and \( V_{1,j} \), we can bound the last expected value as follows:

\[ E[(X_j/u_{n,\varepsilon})^i \{\min\{X_0,X_j\} > u_{n,\varepsilon}\}] \]
\[ \leq 2^i E\left[ (\Pi_{1,j} X_0/u_{n,\varepsilon})^i \{ X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon}\} + (V_{1,j}/u_{n,\varepsilon})^i \{ X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon}, V_{1,j} > u_{n,\varepsilon}/2\} \right] \]
\[ \leq 2^i \left[ \rho^i E[(X_0/u_{n,\varepsilon})^i \{ X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon}/2\}] + v_{n,\varepsilon} E[(X_j/u_{n,\varepsilon})^i \{ X_j > u_{n,\varepsilon}/2\}] \right] \]
\[ \leq 2^i \left[ (\rho^i + v_{n,\varepsilon}) 2^{i+\alpha} v_{n,\varepsilon} E[y_0^2] + 2\rho^i v_{n,\varepsilon} E[y_0^2] \right]. \]

To sum up, we have shown that

\[ P\{\min\{X_0, X_j, X_k\} > u_{n,\varepsilon}\} \]
\[ \leq c 2^{1+\alpha} v_{n,\varepsilon}^2 (v_{n,\varepsilon} + \rho^i) + \rho^{k-i} 2^{2i+1} E[y_0^2] v_{n,\varepsilon} (2^{\alpha+1} + 2^{\alpha} v_{n,\varepsilon}). \]

This yields

\[ P\{\min\{X_j, X_k\} : X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon}\} \leq C(v_{n,\varepsilon}^2 + v_{n,\varepsilon} (\rho^i + \rho^{k-i})) =: \tilde{s}_n(j,k) \]

for a suitable constant \( C > 0 \). Now, note that \( \tilde{s}_n(j,k) \to C \rho^k =: \tilde{s}_\infty(j,k) \) for all \( j \leq k \), and

\[ \sum_{1 \leq j \leq k \leq r_n} \tilde{s}_n(j,k) = C\left( r_n(r_n + 1)/2 \right) v_{n,\varepsilon} + v_{n,\varepsilon} \sum_{j=1}^{r_n} (r_n - j + 1) \rho^j \]
\[ + v_{n,\varepsilon} \sum_{l=0}^{r_n-1} \rho^l (r_n - l) + \sum_{k=1}^{r_n} k \rho^k \]
\[ \to C \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \rho^k = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq k \leq \infty} \tilde{s}_\infty(j,k) < \infty, \]

because \( r_n v_{n,\varepsilon} \to 0 \). Thus, condition (2.10) is fulfilled.
Next, we verify condition (2.9). Because of \( \log^+(a + b) \leq \log^+(2a) + \log^+(2b) \) for all \( a, b \geq 0 \), one has
\[
E \left[ \log^+(X_0/u_{n,ε}) \max \left\{ \log^+(X_k/u_{n,ε}), 1 \{ X_k > u_{n,ε} \} \right\} \right] \\
\leq E \left[ \log^+(X_0/u_{n,ε}) \max \left\{ \log^+(\Pi_{1,k}X_0/(u_{n,ε}/2)), 1 \{ \Pi_{1,k}X_0 > u_{n,ε}/2 \} \right\} \right] \\
+ E \left[ \log^+(X_0/u_{n,ε}) \max \left\{ \log^+(V_{1,k}/(u_{n,ε}/2)), 1 \{ V_{1,k} > u_{n,ε}/2 \} \right\} \right]. \tag{B.8}
\]
Using the independence of \( (V_{1,k}, \Pi_{1,k}) \) and \( X_0, V_{1,k} \leq X_k \), (B.2) and (B.5), the second term can be bounded as follows:
\[
E \left[ \log^+(X_0/u_{n,ε}) \max \left\{ \log^+(V_{1,k}/(u_{n,ε}/2)), 1 \{ V_{1,k} > u_{n,ε}/2 \} \right\} \right] \\
\leq E \left[ \log^+(X_0/u_{n,ε}) \right] \cdot (E[\log^+(X_k/(u_{n,ε}/2))] + P(X_k > u_{n,ε}/2)) \\
\leq 2^{\alpha+3}E[\log Y_0](E[\log Y_0] + 1)\varepsilon^2_{n,ε}.
\]
Since \( \log^+ a = \log^+(a^p)/b \leq a^p I(a > 1)/b \) for all \( a, b > 0 \), we have for \( 0 < \beta < \alpha - \xi \) and sufficiently large \( n \)
\[
E \left[ \log^+(X_0/u_{n,ε}) \log^+(\Pi_{1,k}X_0/(u_{n,ε}/2)) \right] \\
\leq \frac{1}{\beta \xi} E \left[(X_0/u_{n,ε})^{\beta}(\Pi_{1,k}X_0/(u_{n,ε}/2))^{\xi} I(X_0 > u_{n,ε}) \right] \\
= \frac{1}{\beta \xi} E \left[(X_0/u_{n,ε})^{\beta+\xi} I(X_0 > u_{n,ε}) \right] E \left[ (2\Pi_{1,k})^{\xi} \right] \\
\leq \frac{2^{\xi+1}}{\beta \xi} E[Y_0^{\beta+\xi}]\rho^k_{\varepsilon_{n,ε}} \tag{B.9}
\]
where we have used the independence of \( X_0 \) and \( \Pi_{1,k} \), (B.3) and (B.2). Moreover, by the same reasoning,
\[
E \left[ \log^+(X_0/u_{n,ε}) I(\Pi_{1,k}X_0 > u_{n,ε}/2) \right] \\
= \int_0^\infty \log^+(x/u_{n,ε}) P(\Pi_{1,k} > u_{n,ε}/(2x)) F(dx) \\
\leq \frac{2^{\xi}}{\beta} \int_0^\infty (x/u_{n,ε})^{\beta}(x/u_{n,ε})^{\xi} F(dx) \\
\leq \frac{2^{\xi}}{\beta} \rho^k E \left[ (X_0/u_{n,ε})^{\beta+\xi} I(X_0 > u_{n,ε}) \right] \\
\leq \frac{2^{\xi+1}}{\beta} E[Y_0^{\beta+\xi}]\rho^k_{\varepsilon_{n,ε}}.
\]
Hence, the first summand of the right hand side of (B.8) is bounded by \( (1 + \xi^{-1})\beta^{-1} 2^{\xi+1} E[Y_0^{\beta+\xi}]\rho^k_{\varepsilon_{n,ε}} \). In summary, we have shown that
Similarly one can show

\[
E \left[ \mathbb{I} \{ X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon} \} \max \left\{ \log^+ (X_k / u_{n,\varepsilon}), \mathbb{I} \{ X_k > u_{n,\varepsilon} \} \right\} \right]
\leq (1 + \varepsilon^{-1})^2 \left( \sum_{k=1}^{r_0} s_n(k) + \sqrt{\frac{r}{n}} \right) - \sqrt{\frac{r}{n}} \leq C \rho^k + v_{n,\varepsilon}^2
\]  

(B.11)

for sufficiently large \( n \).

By inequality (B.10) and (B.11), there exists \( C > 0 \) such that

\[
E \left[ \max \left\{ \log^+ (X_k / u_{n,\varepsilon}), \mathbb{I} \{ X_k > u_{n,\varepsilon} \} \right\} \right]
\leq C \rho^k + v_{n,\varepsilon}^2
\]

for all \( k \in \mathbb{N} \) and \( n \) sufficiently large. Since \( s_n(k) \to C \rho^k =: s_\infty(k) \) and

\[
\sum_{k=1}^{r_n} s_n(k) = C r_n v_n + C \sum_{k=1}^{r_n} \rho^k \to C \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \rho^k < \infty,
\]

condition (2.9) is fulfilled.

It remains to prove (2.11). By the aforementioned bounds on \( \log^+ \), and \((a + b)^{1+\delta} < 2^{1+\delta} (a^{1+\delta} + b^{1+\delta})\) for \( a, b \geq 0 \) and \( \delta > 0 \)

\[
E \left[ \left( \log^+ (X_0 / u_{n,\varepsilon}) \log^+ (X_k / u_{n,\varepsilon}) \right)^{1+\delta} \right]
\leq \left( \frac{1 + \delta}{\rho} \right)^{1+\delta} E \left[ \left( \frac{X_0}{u_{n,\varepsilon}} \right)^{\beta/(1+\delta)} \mathbb{I} \{ X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon} \} \right]
\times \left( \log^+ (2 \Pi_{1,k} X_0 / u_{n,\varepsilon}) + \log^+ (2 \Pi_{1,k} u_{n,\varepsilon}) \right)^{1+\delta}
\leq \left( \frac{1 + \delta}{\rho} \right)^{1+\delta} E \left[ \left( \frac{X_0}{u_{n,\varepsilon}} \right)^{\beta} \mathbb{I} \{ X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon} \} \right]
\times \left( (2 \Pi_{1,k} X_0 / u_{n,\varepsilon})^{\frac{\xi}{1+\delta}} + (2 \Pi_{1,k} u_{n,\varepsilon})^{\frac{\xi}{1+\delta}} \mathbb{I} \{ \Pi_{1,k} > u_{n,\varepsilon} \} \right)^{1+\delta}
\leq \left( \frac{2 (1 + \delta)}{\rho^2} \right)^{1+\delta} E \left[ \left( \frac{X_0}{u_{n,\varepsilon}} \right)^{\beta} (2 \Pi_{1,k} X_0 / u_{n,\varepsilon})^{\xi} \mathbb{I} \{ X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon} \} \right]
+ E \left[ \left( \frac{X_0}{u_{n,\varepsilon}} \right)^{\beta} \mathbb{I} \{ X_0 > u_{n,\varepsilon} \} \right] E \left[ \left( \Pi_{1,k} / (u_{n,\varepsilon}/2) \right)^{\xi} \mathbb{I} \{ \Pi_{1,k} > u_{n,\varepsilon}/2 \} \right]
\leq \left( \frac{2 (1 + \delta)}{\rho^2} \right)^{1+\delta} \left( 2^{1+\delta} E[Y_0^{\beta+\xi}] \rho^k v_{n,\varepsilon} + 2^{\alpha+3} E[Y_0^{\beta} E[Y_0^{\xi} v_{n,\varepsilon}^2] \right)
\leq C (\rho^k v_{n,\varepsilon} + v_{n,\varepsilon}^2)
\]
for some $C' > 0$ and sufficiently large $n$, where we have used the independence of $X_0$ and $(\Pi_{1,k}, V_{1,k})$, (B.2) and $V_{1,k} \leq X_k$. Hence

$$
\sum_{k=1}^{r_n} \left[ \log^+ (X_0/u_{n,k}) \log^+ (X_k/u_{n,k}) \right]^{1+\delta} \asymp r_n^{1/(1+\delta)} \sum_{k=1}^{r_n} \left( P^k + \rho_{n,k} \right)^{1/(1+\delta)} \leq O(1),
$$

since by assumption $r_n^{1+\delta} v_n = O(1)$.

**Appendix C: Proofs**

**Lemma C.1** If condition (2.10) from (C) holds, then

$$
E \left( \sum_{i=1}^{r_n} \mathbb{I} \{ X_i > (1 - \varepsilon) u_n \} \right)^3 = O(r_n v_n).
$$

**Proof** Let $v_{n,k} = P \{ X > (1 - \varepsilon) u_n \}$. By regular variation and stationarity of $(X_i)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$

$$
E \left( \sum_{i=1}^{r_n} \mathbb{I} \{ X_i > (1 - \varepsilon) u_n \} \right)^3
\leq r_n v_{n,k} + 6 \sum_{k=1}^{r_n-1} \sum_{j=1}^{k} \left( 1 - \frac{k}{r_n} \right) P \{ \min \{ X_0, X_j, X_k \} > (1 - \varepsilon) u_n \}
\leq r_n v_{n,k} + 6 r_n v_{n,k} \sum_{1 \leq j \leq k \leq r_n-1} \delta_n(j,k)
= O(r_n v_n).
$$

Taking up the notation of Drees and Rootzén (2010), we consider the empirical process $\tilde{Z}_n$ defined by

$$
\tilde{Z}_n(\psi) := (nv_n)^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \psi(X_{n,i}) - E[\psi(X_{n,i})] \right),
$$

where $\psi$ is one of the functions $\phi_{0,x}, \phi_{1,x}, \phi_{2,x}, \phi_{3,x}$ or $\phi_{3,y}$ (defined in (2.5)–(2.8)). The asymptotic normality of the Hill estimator and our main Theorem 2.1 can be derived from the following result about the process convergence of $\tilde{Z}_n$.\[\Box\]
Proposition C.2 Let $(X_t)_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}$ be a stationary, regularly varying process with index $\alpha > 0$. Suppose that the conditions (A($x_0$)), (B) and (C) are fulfilled for some $x_0 \geq 0$. Then, for all $y_0 \in [x_0, \infty) \cap (0, \infty)$, the sequence of processes $(\tilde{Z}_n(\psi))_{\psi \in \Phi}$ with index set

$$\Phi := \{\phi_{0,s}, \phi_{1,t}, \phi_{2,\varepsilon,x}, \phi_{3,t,y} | s \in [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon], x \geq x_0, y \geq y_0, |t| \in \{1, \ldots, T\}\}$$

converges weakly in $l^\infty(\Phi)$ to a centered Gaussian process $Z$ with covariance function given by

$$\text{cov}(Z(\psi_1), Z(\psi_2)) = E[\psi_1(\tilde{Y}_0)\psi_2(\tilde{Y}_0)] + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (E[\psi_1(\tilde{Y}_0)\psi_2(\tilde{Y}_k)] + E[\psi_1(\tilde{Y}_k)\psi_2(\tilde{Y}_0)])$$

(C.1)

for $\psi_1, \psi_2 \in \Phi$, where $\tilde{Y}_k := (Y_{k-t}, \ldots, Y_{k+t}) \mathbb{I}\{Y_k > 1\}$.

Proof Weak convergence of the finite dimensional distributions of $(\tilde{Z}_n(\psi))_{\psi \in \Phi}$ can be established as in the proof of Proposition B.1 of Drees et al. (2015). Note that here the threshold $(1 - \varepsilon)u_n$ is used instead of $u_n$, while the components of $X_{n,t}$ are standardized with $u_n$. Moreover, we standardize the process using $\psi_n = P\{X_1 > u_n\}$ instead of $P\{X_1 > (1 - \varepsilon)u_n\} = (1 - \varepsilon)^{-\alpha}u_n(1 + o(1))$. Therefore, we obtain as limiting covariance function

$$\text{cov}(Z(\psi_1), Z(\psi_2)) = (1 - \varepsilon)^{-\alpha}E[\psi_1((1 - \varepsilon)\tilde{Y}_0)\psi_2((1 - \varepsilon)\tilde{Y}_0)]$$

$$+ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (E[\psi_1((1 - \varepsilon)\tilde{Y}_0)\psi_2((1 - \varepsilon)\tilde{Y}_k)] + E[\psi_1((1 - \varepsilon)\tilde{Y}_k)\psi_2((1 - \varepsilon)\tilde{Y}_0)])$$

Now recall that $Y_k = Y_0\Theta_k$ for a Pareto random variable $Y_0$ independent of the spectral process. Since $P\{(1 - \varepsilon)Y_0 > 1\} = (1 - \varepsilon)^{\alpha}$, $Y_0$ has the same distribution as $(1 - \varepsilon)Y_0$ conditionally on $\{(1 - \varepsilon)Y_0 > 1\}$, and $\psi_{r-i, \ldots, y_j}$ vanishes if $y_0 \leq 1$, one has

$$E[\psi_1((1 - \varepsilon)\tilde{Y}_0)\psi_2((1 - \varepsilon)\tilde{Y}_k)] = E[\psi_1((1 - \varepsilon)Y_0(\Theta'_k))\psi_2((1 - \varepsilon)Y_0(\Theta'_{k+1}))]$$

$$= (1 - \varepsilon)^{\alpha}E[\psi_1(Y_0(\Theta_k))\psi_2(Y_0(\Theta_{k+1}))]$$

$$= (1 - \varepsilon)^{\alpha}E[\psi_1(\tilde{Y}_0)\psi_2(\tilde{Y}_k)].$$

Now, the asserted representation (C.1) is obvious. The second representation can be similarly concluded from the equation

$$E\left[\sum_{r=1}^{n} \psi_1(X_{n,i}) \sum_{j=1}^{n} \psi_2(X_{n,j})\right] = E\left[\psi_1(X_{n,0}) \psi_2(X_{n,k})\right]\left(1 - \frac{|k|}{r_n}\right).$$

To prove asymptotic equicontinuity of the processes (and thus their weak convergence), we apply Theorem 2.10 of Drees and Rootzén (2010). To this end, we must
verify the conditions (D1), (D2'), (D3), (D5) and (D6) of this paper. Except for condition (D6), all assumptions of the theorem can be established by similar arguments as in the proof of Proposition B.1 of Drees et al. (2015).

It remains to prove that the following condition holds:

(D6) \[
\lim_{\delta \to 0} \lim_{n \to \infty} \sup_{\delta \in (0, \infty)} P^* \left\{ \int_0^\delta \sqrt{\log N(e_0, \Phi, d_0)} \, de_0 > \tau \right\} = 0 \quad \forall \tau > 0.
\]

Here \( P^* \) denotes the outer probability, and the (random) covering number \( N(e_0, \Phi, d_0) \) is the minimum number of balls with radius \( e_0 \) w.r.t.

\[
d_n(\psi_1, \psi_2) := \left( \frac{1}{n
v} \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\epsilon_n} \psi_1(T_{n,j,i}^*) - \psi_2(T_{n,j,i}^*) \right)^2 \right)^{1/2},
\]

needed to cover \( \Phi \). \( T_{n,j,i}^* = (T_{n,j,i}^*)_{1 \leq i \leq \epsilon_n} \) denote iid copies of \((X_{n,i})_{1 \leq i \leq \epsilon_n}\) (defined in (2.4)) and \( m_n := [n/\epsilon_n] \).

Note that this condition can be verified separately for the sets of functions \( \{ \phi_{1,s} | s \in [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon] \}, \{ \phi_{1,s} | s \in [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon] \}, \{ \phi_{2,s}^0 | x \in [0, \infty), \varepsilon \in [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon] \} \) and \( \Phi_s := \{ \phi_{s,x}^0 | y \in [0, \infty), s \in [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon] \} \). For the former two function classes, (D6) easily follows from the linear order of the functions in \( z \); see (Drees and Rootzén, 2010, Example 3.8) for details. It is much more challenging to verify (D6) for the remaining two families. For the sake of brevity, we give the details of the proof only for the class \( \Phi_s \).

We start with an analysis of the behavior of \( \sum_{i=1}^{\epsilon_n} \phi_{s,x}^0(T_{n,j,i}^*) \) if the block \( T_{n,j,i}^* \) contains at most \( r \in N \) nonvanishing values. To this end, define functions \( f_{3,y,s}^{(r)} : (0, \infty)^{(2r + 1)} \to \mathbb{R} \),

\[
f_{3,y,s}^{(r)} : (z_1, \ldots, z_{2r+1}) := \sum_{i=1}^{\epsilon_n} \phi_{3,y,s}^0 (z_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\epsilon_n} \left( \frac{z_i - t_i}{\lambda} \right)^{\alpha} \mathbb{I} \{ z_i \in V_{y,s}^{(r)} \},
\]

where \( z_i = (z_{i-1}, \ldots, z_i) \). The function \( \phi_{3,y,s}^0 \) does not vanish on the set \( V_{y,s}^{(r)} := \{ (x_i)_{i=1}^{2r+1} | x_0 > y, x_0 > 0, x_0 > \varepsilon \} \). We now show that the subgraphs \( M_{3,y,s}^{(r)} : (\lambda, z_1, \ldots, z_r) \in \mathbb{R} \times ((0, \infty)^{(2r + 1)} \mathbb{R} \times \{ \lambda < f_{3,y,s}^{(r)}(z_1, \ldots, z_r) \} \) of \( f_{3,y,s}^{(r)} \) form a VC class. To this end, consider an arbitrary set \( A = \{ (\lambda^{(i)}, x_1^{(i)}, \ldots, x_{2r+1}^{(i)}) | 1 \leq i \leq l \leq m \} \subset \mathbb{R} \times (0, \infty)^{(2r + 1)} \) of \( m \) points. For \( 1 \leq i \leq r \), \( 1 \leq l \leq m \), define lines \( \lambda^{(i)} \) and \( Y_{x_1^{(i)}, \ldots, x_{2r+1}^{(i)}} \) that divide the set \( [y_0, \infty] \times [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon] \) into at most \( (mr + 1)^2 \) rectangles. If \( (y, s) \in [y_0, \infty] \times [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon] \) belong to the same rectangle then the symmetric difference \( V_{y,s}^{(r)} \Delta V_{y,s}^{(r)} \) does not contain any of the points \( x_i^{(l)}, 1 \leq i \leq r \), \( 1 \leq l \leq m \). Hence, the equality \( f_{3,y,s}^{(r)}(x_1^{(l)}, \ldots, x_{2r+1}^{(l)}) = f_{3,y,s}^{(r)}(x_1^{(l)}, \ldots, x_{2r+1}^{(l)}) \) holds for all \( 1 \leq l \leq m \), and the intersections \( A \cap M_{3,y,s}^{(r)} \) and \( A \cap M_{3,y,s}^{(r)} \) are identical. Thus, \( (M_{3,y,s}^{(r)}(y)_{y \in [y_0, \infty] \times [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon] \) can pick at most \( (mr + 1)^2 \) different subset of \( A \). If \( m > 4 \log r \) and \( r \) is sufficiently large then
Estimators for Spectral Tail Processes

\[ m - 2 \log_2 m > 3 \log r > \log_2 (4r^2) \] which implies \( 2m > 4m^2 r^2 \geq (mr + 1)^2 \). Hence, the family of subgraphs \( (M^t_{y,v}) \in [y_0, \infty), s \in [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon] \) cannot shatter \( A \), which shows that the VC-index of \( \mathcal{F}_3^{(r)} := \{ f_{3,y,s}^{(r)} \mid y \in [y_0, \infty), s \in [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon] \} \) is less than \( 4 \log r \) if \( r \) is sufficiently large. By Theorem 2.6.7 of van der Vaart and Wellner (1996), we have

\[
N \left( \delta \left( \int G^2_r \, dQ \right)^{1/2}, \mathcal{F}_3^{(r)}, L_2(Q) \right) \leq K_1 r^{16 \delta - K_2 \log r} \]  

(C.2)

for all small \( \delta > 0 \), all probability measures \( Q \) on \(([0, \infty)^{(2n+1)^r},^r\), and suitable universal constants \( K_1, K_2 > 0 \) with \( G_r = f_{3,y_0,1-\varepsilon}^{(r)} \) denoting the envelope function of \( \mathcal{F}_3^{(r)} \).

Having proved a tight bound on the coverage number if the number of nonvanishing terms in a block \( T^*_n \) is bounded by some large value \( r \), we next show that the terms pertaining to the blocks with a larger number of nonvanishing terms do not contribute too much to \( d_0(\Phi_3^{(r)}, \Phi_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)}) \), if we let \( r \) tend to infinity in a suitable way.

Denote the number of independent blocks with at most \( r \) non-zero entries by \( N_{n,r} := \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} \mathbb{1} \{ H(T^*_n) \leq r \} \) with \( H(z) = \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} \mathbb{1} \{ z_j, 0 > 1 - \varepsilon \} \), \( z \in ([0, \infty)^{(2n+1)^r} \) . For these blocks, define vectors \( T^*_n \) of length \( r \) which contain all non-zero values of \( T^*_n \), augmented by \( r - H(T^*_n) \) zeros. Let

\[
Q_{n,r} := \frac{1}{N_{n,r}} \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} \mathbb{1} \{ H(T^*_n) \leq r \} \varepsilon_{r,n,j},
\]

with \( \varepsilon_r \) the Dirac measure with mass 1 in \( T \). We can bound the squared distance between \( \Phi_3^{(r)} \) and \( \Phi_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)} \) as follows:

\[
d_n^2(\Phi_3^{(r)}, \Phi_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)}) = \frac{1}{m_n} \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} \Phi_3^{(r)}(T^*_n) - \Phi_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)}(T^*_n) \right)^2 \
\leq \frac{N_{n,r}}{m_n} \left( \int \Phi_3^{(r)} - f_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)} \right)^2 dQ_{n,r} + \frac{1}{m_n} \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} G^2_{n}(T^*_n) \mathbb{1} \{ H(T^*_n) > r \}
\]

for all \( r \in \mathbb{N} \). In particular,

\[
d_n^2(\Phi_3^{(r)}, \Phi_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)}) \leq \frac{N_{n,R_{n,\varepsilon_0}}}{m_n} \int \left( f_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)} - f_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)} \right)^2 dQ_{n,R_{n,\varepsilon_0}} + \frac{\varepsilon_0^2}{2}
\]

with

\[
R_{n,\varepsilon_0} := \min \left\{ r \in \mathbb{N} \mid \frac{1}{m_n} \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} G^2_{n}(T^*_n) \mathbb{1} \{ H(T^*_n) > r \} < \frac{\varepsilon_0^2}{2} \right\}.
\]

If \( \int \left( f_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)} - f_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)} \right)^2 dQ_{n,R_{n,\varepsilon_0}} \leq m_n \varepsilon_0^2 / (2N_{n,R_{n,\varepsilon_0}}) =: \varepsilon_1^2 \), then \( d_n^2(\Phi_3^{(r)}, \Phi_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)}) \leq \varepsilon_1^2 \); that is, for vectors \((y, s), (\hat{y}, \hat{s})\) such that \( f_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)} \) and \( f_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)} \) belong to some \( \varepsilon_1 \)-ball w.r.t. \( L^2(Q_{n,R_{n,\varepsilon_0}}) \), the corresponding functions \( \Phi_3^{(r)} \) and \( \Phi_{3,\hat{y},\hat{s}}^{(r)} \) belong to the
same $\varepsilon_0$-ball w.r.t. $d_n$. This implies $N(\varepsilon_0, \Phi_3', d_n) \leq N(\varepsilon_1, \mathcal{R}_3(R_n, \varepsilon_0^{-3}, L_2(Q_n, \varepsilon_0)))$. Note that
\[
\int G_{R_n, \varepsilon_0}^2 dQ_{R_n, \varepsilon_0} \leq \frac{\gamma_0^{-2\alpha} R_n^2}{N_{R_n, \varepsilon_0}} \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} I\{H(T_{n,j}^+ > 0) \}.
\]
Using (C.2), we conclude that $\Phi_3'$ can be covered by
\[
N(\varepsilon_0, \Phi_3', d_n) \leq K_1 R_n^{16} \left( \frac{\varepsilon_1^2}{G_{R_n, \varepsilon_0}^2} \right)^{-K_2 \log R_n, \varepsilon_0 / 2} \leq K_1 R_n^{16} \left( \frac{\varepsilon_0 \gamma_0^{\alpha} \gamma_0^{-2\alpha} R_n^2}{2 R_n, \varepsilon_0} \right)^{-K_2 \log R_n, \varepsilon_0}
\]
balls with radius $\varepsilon_0$ w.r.t. $d_n$. Since by Chebyshev’s inequality
\[
P\left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} I\{H(T_{n,j}^+ > 0) \} > 2mv_n \right\} \leq \frac{m_n \gamma_0^{\alpha} \gamma_0^{-2\alpha} R_n^2}{(2mv_n)^2} \rightarrow 0,
\]
we conclude
\[
N(\varepsilon_0, \Phi_3', d_n) \leq K_1 R_n^{16} \left( \frac{\varepsilon_0 \gamma_0^{\alpha} \gamma_0^{-2\alpha} R_n^2}{2 R_n, \varepsilon_0} \right)^{-K_2 \log R_n, \varepsilon_0} \tag{C.3}
\]
with probability tending to 1.

It remains to show that $R_{n, \varepsilon_0}$ does not increase too fast as $\varepsilon_0$ tends to 0. To this end, we decompose the unit interval into intervals $\langle 2^{-(l+1)}, 2^{-l} \rangle$, $l \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Check that by Markov’s inequality and Lemma C.1
\[
P\left\{ \frac{1}{mv_n} \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} G_{r_n, \varepsilon_0}^2 (T_{n,j}^+) I\{H(T_{n,j}^+ > 0) \} > M \varepsilon_0^{-3} \right\} \geq \frac{\varepsilon_0^2}{2} \text{ for some } 0 < \varepsilon_0 \leq 1
\]
\[
\leq \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} P\left\{ \frac{1}{mv_n} \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} G_{r_n, \varepsilon_0}^2 (T_{n,j}^+) I\{H(T_{n,j}^+ > 0) \} > 2^{2(l+1)} \right\}
\]
\[
\leq \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} 2^{2l+3} E \left[ \frac{\gamma_0^{-2\alpha} \gamma_0^{-2\alpha} R_n^2}{mv_n} \sum_{j=1}^{m_n} H(T_{n,j}) I\{H(T_{n,j}^+ > 0) \} > 2^{2(l+1)} \right]
\]
\[
\leq \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} 2^{2l+3} m_n \gamma_0^{-2\alpha} E \left[ H^3(T_{n,1}^+) \right] \frac{M^{2l}}{M^{2l}}
\]
\[
\leq \frac{K_3 \varepsilon_0}{M} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} 2^{-l} < \eta
\]
for some constant $K_3$ depending on $\gamma_0$, and $M > 2K_3 / \eta$. Hence $R_{n, \varepsilon_0} \leq M \varepsilon_0^{-3}$ with probability greater than $1 - \eta$, so that by (C.3)
\[
\int_0^{\delta} (\log N(\varepsilon_0, \Phi_3, d_n))^{1/2} d\varepsilon_0 \leq \int_0^{\delta} (K_4 + K_5 |\log \varepsilon_0| + K_6 \log^2 \varepsilon_0)^{1/2} d\varepsilon_0
\]
for suitable constants $K_4, K_5, K_6 > 0$. Now condition (D6) is obvious.

**Lemma C.3** If the conditions (2.1), $A(x_0)$, (B), (C) and (2.14) hold, then
\[ (n v_n)^{1/2} (\hat{\alpha}_{n,s} - \alpha) \sim \alpha Z(\phi_{1,s}) - \alpha^2 Z(\phi_{1,1}) \]
where $Z$ is the same centered Gaussian process as in Proposition C.2.

**Proof** For $s \in [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon]$, define
\[ \alpha_{n,s} := \frac{1}{E[\log(X_0/(s u_n)) | X_0 > s u_n]} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\alpha}_{n,s} := \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi_{1,s}(X_n, i)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi_{1,s}(X_n, i)} \]
and processes $V_n(s) := (n v_n)^{1/2} (\hat{\alpha}_{n,s} - \alpha_{n,s})$ and $V(s) := s^\alpha (\alpha Z(\phi_{1,s}) - \alpha^2 Z(\phi_{1,1}))$.

Note that, by (2.1), $S_n \to 1$ in probability, and so $\hat{\alpha}_{n,d_n} = \bar{\alpha}_{n,S_n}$ with probability tending to 1. In view of (2.14), $(n v_n)^{1/2} (\hat{\alpha}_{n,d_n} - \alpha) = V_n(S_n) + o_p(1)$.

By similar arguments as in proof of Lemma 4.4 of Drees et al. (2015), one can conclude from Proposition C.2 that $V_n \sim V$ weakly w.r.t. the supremum norm and that $V$ has continuous sample paths almost surely. Using Slutsky’s lemma, we obtain $(V_n, S_n) \sim (V, 1)$, and by Skorohod’s theorem, there are versions for which the convergence holds almost surely. It follows that
\[ |V_n(S_n) - V(1)| \leq \sup_{s \in [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon]} |V_n(s) - V(s)| + |V(S_n) - V(1)| \to 0 \]
almost surely, from which the assertion is obvious.

**Proof of Theorem 2.1** The assertion follows from arguments along the line of reasoning used in the proof of Theorem 4.5 in Drees et al. (2015) with similar modifications as employed in the proof of Lemma C.3.

**Proof of Lemma 2.2** Fix an arbitrary $\delta \in (0, \varepsilon)$ and choose some $a_6^+ \in (0, 1 - (1 + \delta)^{-\alpha} - 1)$ and $a_6^- \in (0, (1 - \delta)^{-\alpha} - 1)$. Then, by regular variation of $F^+$, we have
\[ (1 + \delta)F^+(1 - k_n/n) > F^+(1 - (1 - a_6^-)k_n/n), \]
\[ (1 - \delta)F^+(1 - k_n/n) < F^-(1 - (1 + a_6^+)k_n/n) \]
for sufficiently large $n$, and hence $\bar{F}((1 + \delta)F^+(1 - k_n/n)) < (1 - a_6^-)k_n/n$ and $\bar{F}((1 - \delta)F^-(1 - k_n/n)) > (1 + a_6^+)k_n/n$. Let $u_n = F^+(1 - k_n/n)$ so that $v_n = (1 + o(1))k_n/n$ by the regular variation of $\bar{F}$ (Bingham et al., 1987, Th. 1.5.12). The proof of Prop. C.2 shows that $\bar{Z}_n(\phi_{1,s})$ converge weakly to a normal distribution, because $\phi_{1,s}$ is almost surely continuous w.r.t. $\mathcal{L}(\bar{F}_0)$. Thus,
\[ P \left\{ \frac{X_n - k_n}{n} > 1 + \delta \right\} \]
\[ = P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{n} 1 \left\{ X_i > (1 + \delta) \frac{F^{-}(1 - k_n/n)}{1 - k_n/n} \right\} > k_n \right\} \]
\[ = P \left\{ \tilde{Z}_n(\phi_{1,1+\delta}) > (nv_n)^{-1/2} \left( k_n - nP \{ X_0 > (1 + \delta) \frac{F^{-}(1 - k_n/n)}{1 - k_n/n} \} \right) \right\} \]
\[ \leq P \left\{ \tilde{Z}_n(\phi_{1,1+\delta}) > \frac{a^{+} n^{1/2}}{2} \right\} \rightarrow 0. \]

Analogously, one obtains
\[ P \left\{ \frac{X_n - k_n}{n} > 1 - \delta \right\} \geq P \left\{ \tilde{Z}_n(\phi_{1,1-\delta}) > -a^{-} n^{1/2} \right\} \rightarrow 1. \]

Now let \( \delta \) tend to 0 to conclude the assertion. \( \Box \)

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Peak-over-Threshold Estimators of Spectral Tail Processes: Random vs Deterministic Thresholds

Supplement: covariances and further simulation results

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In this supplement, we present the explicit covariance function of the limit process in Theorem 2.1 and give further results from the simulation study in Section 3.

Covariances

Using formula (C.1) of Proposition C.2, we will calculate the covariances of the limit process in Theorem 2.1 of the manuscript. Recall that the limit process is composed of

\[
Z_n(x) := Z(\phi_{x,1}^1) - F^{(\Theta)}(x) Z(\phi_{1,1}),
\]

\[
Z_n(x) := Z(\phi_{x,1}^1) - \tilde{F}^{(\Theta)}(x) Z(\phi_{1,1}) + Z_\alpha
\]

with

\[
Z_\alpha(y) = (\alpha^2 Z(\phi_{0,1}) - \alpha Z(\phi_{1,1})) E[\log(\Theta_i) \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_i > y\}].
\]

Let \(x, x^* \in [x_0, \infty)\), \(y, y^* \in [y_0, \infty)\), and \(t, t^* \in \{-T, \ldots, T\} \setminus \{0\}\). Then, we have

\[
\text{var}(Z(\phi_{1,1})) = 1 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^\infty P\{Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\},
\]

\[
\text{cov}(Z(\phi_{1,1}), Z(\phi_{0,1})) = E[\log Y_0] + \sum_{k=1}^\infty (E[\log Y_0] \mathbb{1}\{Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\} + E[\log^+ Y_0 \Theta_k]),
\]

\[
\text{cov}(Z(\phi_{1,1}), Z(\phi_{1,1})) = F^{(\Theta)}(x) + \sum_{k=1}^\infty \left( P(\Theta_i > x, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1) + P\left(\frac{\Theta_{k+t}}{\Theta_k} > x, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\right) \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_i < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\} \right),
\]

\[
\text{cov}(Z(\phi_{1,1}), Z(\phi_{1,1})) = E[\Theta_{\alpha^2} \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_i < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\}] + E\left[\left(\frac{\Theta_{k+t}}{\Theta_k}\right)^\alpha \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_{k+t} < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\}\right],
\]

\[
\text{var}(Z(\phi_{0,1})) = E[\log^2 Y_0] + 2 \sum_{k=1}^\infty E[\log Y_0] \log^+ (Y_0 \Theta_k),
\]

\[
\text{cov}(Z(\phi_{0,1}), Z(\phi_{1,1})) = E[\log Y_0] \tilde{F}^{(\Theta)}(x)
\]

\[
+ \sum_{k=1}^\infty \left( E[\log^+ (Y_0 \Theta_k) \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_i > x, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\}] + E\left[\left(\frac{\Theta_{k+t}}{\Theta_k}\right) \log(Y_0) \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_{k+t} < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\}\right]\right),
\]

\[
\text{cov}(Z(\phi_{0,1}), Z(\phi_{1,1})) = E[\Theta_{\alpha^2} \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_i < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\}] E[\log Y_0] + \sum_{k=1}^\infty \left( E[\Theta_{\alpha^2} \log^+ (Y_0 \Theta_k) \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_i < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\}] + E\left[\left(\frac{\Theta_{k+t}}{\Theta_k}\right)^\alpha \log(Y_0) \mathbb{1}\{\Theta_{k+t} < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\}\right]\right),
\]

\[
\text{cov}(Z(\phi_{1,1}), Z(\phi_{1,1})) = P\{\Theta_i > x, \Theta_{i'} > x^*\}
\]

\[
+ \sum_{k=1}^\infty \left( P\left(\frac{\Theta_{k+t}}{\Theta_k} > x, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\right) + P\left(\frac{\Theta_{k+t}}{\Theta_k} > x, \Theta_{i'} > x^*, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\right)\right),
\]
cov(Z(φ_{t,x}^{2}),Z(φ_{t,y}^{3}))) = E[Θ^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{t,r} < (y)^{-1},Θ_{t} > x\}]
+ \sum_{k=1}^{∞} \left( E\left[Θ^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{t,r} < (y)^{-1},Θ_{t} > x,Θ_{k+t} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\}\right]
+ E\left[\left(\frac{Θ_{k+t}}{Θ_{k}}\right)^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{k+t} < (y)^{-1},Θ_{t} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\}\right]\right).

cov(Z(φ_{3,y}^{5}),Z(φ_{3,y}^{5})) = E[Θ^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{t} < (y)^{-1}\}]
+ \sum_{k=1}^{∞} \left( E\left[Θ^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{t} < (y)^{-1},Θ_{t} > x,Θ_{k+t} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\}\right]
+ E\left[\left(\frac{Θ_{k+t}}{Θ_{k}}\right)^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{k+t} < (y)^{-1},Θ_{t} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\}\right]\right).

The expected values containing \(Y_{0}\) can also be expressed in terms of the spectral process only, using that \(Y_{0}\) is standard Pareto random variable independent of the spectral process \((Θ_{k})_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}\). For example, with Fubini’s theorem we obtain

\[
E[\log^{+}(Y_{0}Θ_{k})] = E\left[\alpha \int_{0}^{∞} \log^{+}(yΘ_{k})y^{-(α+1)}dy\right] = E\left[-y^{-α}(\log(yΘ_{k}) + α)^{\alpha\theta_{k}}\right]
= E\left[\min\{1,Θ_{k}\}\{\log^{+}Θ_{k} + α^{-1}\}\right] = E[\log^{+}Θ_{k}] + α^{-1}E[\min\{1,Θ_{k}\}].
\]

The covariance function of the limit process can be written as follows:

\[
\text{cov}(Z_{f_{w}}^{(t)}(x),Z_{f_{w}}^{(t)}(x')) = P(Θ_{t} > x,Θ_{t,r} > x') - F^{(Θ)}(x)F^{(Θ)}(x')
+ \sum_{k=1}^{∞} \left( P\left(\left(\frac{Θ_{k+t}}{Θ_{k}}\right)^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{k+t} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\}\right)
+ P\left(\frac{Θ_{k+t}}{Θ_{k}} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\right)\right)
- F^{(Θ)}(x) \sum_{k=1}^{∞} \left( P\left(Θ_{t} > x,Θ_{t} > x',Θ_{k+t} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\right)\right)
- F^{(Θ)}(x) \left[ E[Θ^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{t} < (y)^{-1}\}]
+ \sum_{k=1}^{∞} \left( E\left[Θ^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{t} < (y)^{-1},Θ_{t} > x,Θ_{k+t} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\}\right]
+ E\left[\left(\frac{Θ_{k+t}}{Θ_{k}}\right)^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{k+t} < (y)^{-1},Θ_{t} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\}\right]\right]\right.
- \alpha F^{(Θ)}(x) \left[ E[Θ^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{t} < (y)^{-1}\}] + E\left[\log^{+}(Θ_{0}Θ_{k})\right]\right]
+ E\left[\log(Θ_{t})\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{t} > y\}\right]
+ \sum_{k=1}^{∞} \left( E\left[Θ^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{t} < (y)^{-1},Θ_{t} > x,Θ_{k+t} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\}\right]
+ E\left[\left(\frac{Θ_{k+t}}{Θ_{k}}\right)^{α}\mathbb{1}\{Θ_{k+t} < (y)^{-1},Θ_{t} > x,Θ_{k} > 1\}\right]\right]\right).
\]

and
\[
\text{cov}(Z_{bw}(y), Z_{bw}^{(y^*)})
\]
\[
= E[\Theta^\alpha_{\text{bw}} \Theta_{\text{bw}}^{\alpha} 1\{\Theta_{\text{bw}} < y^{-1}, \Theta_{\text{bw}}^{\alpha} < (y^*)^{-1}\}]
\]
\[
+ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( E\left[\Theta^\alpha_{\text{bw}} \left( \frac{\Theta_{\text{bw}}^{\alpha} - \Theta_k}{\Theta_k} \right) \alpha \{\Theta_{\text{bw}} < y^{-1}, \Theta_{\text{bw}}^{\alpha} < (y^*)^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\} \right] + E\left[\left( \frac{\Theta_{\text{bw}}^{\alpha} - \Theta_k}{\Theta_k} \right) \alpha \{\Theta_{\text{bw}} < y^{-1}, \Theta_{\text{bw}}^{\alpha} < (y^*)^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\} \right] \right)
\]
\[
- \{\hat{F}(\Theta_{\text{bw}}^{(y^*)}) + aE[\log(\Theta_{\text{bw}}) 1\{\Theta_{\text{bw}} > y^*\}]\} \{E[\Theta^\alpha_{\text{bw}} 1\{\Theta_{\text{bw}} < y^{-1}\}] \}
\]
\[
+ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( E[\Theta^\alpha_{\text{bw}} 1\{\Theta_{\text{bw}} < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\}] + E\left[\left( \frac{\Theta_{\text{bw}}^{\alpha} - \Theta_k}{\Theta_k} \right) \alpha \{\Theta_{\text{bw}} < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\} \right] \right)
\]
\[
- \{\hat{F}(\Theta_{\text{bw}}^y) + aE[\log(\Theta_{\text{bw}}) 1\{\Theta_{\text{bw}} > y\}]\} \{E[\Theta^\alpha_{\text{bw}} 1\{\Theta_{\text{bw}} < y^{-1}\}] \}
\]
\[
+ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( E[\Theta^\alpha_{\text{bw}} 1\{\Theta_{\text{bw}} < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\}] + E\left[\left( \frac{\Theta_{\text{bw}}^{\alpha} - \Theta_k}{\Theta_k} \right) \alpha \{\Theta_{\text{bw}} < y^{-1}, Y_0 \Theta_k > 1\} \right] \right)
\]
Further simulation results

Here, we compare the distribution of our estimators of $P\{\Theta_t > x\}$ based on exceedances over quantiles $F^{-1}(1 - k/n)$ and over the corresponding order statistics $X_{n-k:n}$, respectively. In the nGARCH, tGARCH, gumCopula (with $\theta \in \{1.2, 1.5, 2\}$) and tCopula (with $\rho \in \{0.25, 0.5, 0.75\}$) models described in Section 3 of the manuscript, we consider lags $t \in \{1, 5\}$ and arguments $x \in \{1/2, 1\}$. The sample sizes, number of simulations and the lay-out of figures are the same as in the manuscript. In each figure, Q-Q plots of the forward estimator are shown in the top row, while the bottom row shows results for backward estimator. In the left column, the theoretical resp. empirical quantile to the 90% level is used as threshold, and the right plots correspond to the 95% level. The main diagonal is indicated by a dashed red line.

Figures 1 and 2 show the Q-Q plots for the estimators of $P\{\Theta_5 > 1\}$ resp. $P\{\Theta_5 > 1/2\}$, i.e. they are counterparts to Figures 1 and 3 of the manuscript for lag 5 instead of 1. Indeed, the corresponding plots look very similar. In particular, most points lie quite close to the main diagonal, but the version based on exceedances over order statistics performs a bit better in that extreme estimation errors occur more rarely.

Figure 3–6 show the Q-Q plots in the tGARCH model with $x \in \{1/2, 1\}$ and lags $t \in \{1, 5\}$. Overall, the plots are similar to the ones for the nGARCH model, but the strong overestimation by the backward estimator based on exceedances over the true quantile, which occurred in a few simulations in the nGARCH model, is not observed here.

Figures 7 and 8 compare both versions of the estimators of the probabilities $P\{\Theta_5 > 1/2\}$ and $P\{\Theta_5 > 1\}$, respectively, in the tCopula model with $\rho = 0.25$, while Figures 8–10 display Q-Q plots for the estimators of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1\}$ in the tCopula model with $\rho = 0.25$, $\rho = 0.5$ and $\rho = 0.75$, respectively, that is, in models with increasing serial dependence. The difference between the distributions of both versions is even smaller than in the GARCH models. In fact, in all settings, the distributions of both versions of the backward estimator are almost identical, whereas, roughly speaking, the forward estimator based on exceedances over order statistics is a discretized version of the TQ-version. Note that the discrete nature of the distribution of the OS-version of the forward estimator becomes the more pronounced the weaker the dependence is (and hence the smaller the probabilities to be estimated) since then there are fewer values the estimator can attain near the true probability.

Finally, we consider the gumCopula model. Figures 11–13 show the Q-Q plots for the estimators of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1\}$ for model parameter $\theta = 1.2, 1.5$ and 2, respectively: so again the serial dependence is increasing. Moreover, Figures 14 and 15 show the results for $\theta = 2$ and the probabilities $P\{\Theta_1 > 1/2\}$ resp. $P\{\Theta_5 > 1/2\}$. Overall, the results are similar as for the tCopula model. However, in some settings (in particular for lag 5 and a high threshold) the points lie below the diagonal in the right tail, i.e. here the TQ-version performs sometimes slightly better than the OS-version.

To sum up, for all constellations under consideration the distribution of both versions of the forward and the backward estimators, based either on exceedances over true quantiles or over order statistics, are similar. Often, the version using true quantiles tends to underestimate the true value more strongly than the version based on order statistics when both estimators yield too small values, whereas the findings are mixed if both versions overestimate the true values.
Fig. 1  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_5 > 1\}$ in the nGARCH model

Fig. 2  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_5 > 1/2\}$ in the nGARCH model
Fig. 3  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1\}$ in the tGARCH model

Fig. 4  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1/2\}$ in the tGARCH model
Fig. 5  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_5 > 1\}$ in the tGARCH model

Fig. 6  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_5 > 1/2\}$ in the tGARCH model
Fig. 7  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_5 > 1/2\}$ in the tCopula model with $\rho = 0.25$

Fig. 8  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_5 > 1\}$ in the tCopula model with $\rho = 0.25$
Fig. 9 Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_5 > 1\}$ in the tCopula model with $\rho = 0.5$

Fig. 10 Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_5 > 1\}$ in the tCopula model with $\rho = 0.75$
Fig. 11  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1\}$ in the gumCopula model with $\theta = 1.2$

Fig. 12  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1\}$ in the gumCopula model with $\theta = 1.5$
Fig. 13  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1\}$ in the gumCopula model with $\theta = 2$

Fig. 14  Comparison of estimators of $P\{\Theta_1 > 1/2\}$ in the gumCopula model with $\theta = 2$
Fig. 15 Comparison of estimators of $P\{ \Theta_5 > 1/2 \}$ in the gumCopula model with $\theta = 2$