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BOOTSTRAPPING INAR MODELS

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ABSTRACT. Integer-valued autoregressive (INAR) time series form a very useful class of processes suitable to model time series of counts. In the common formulation of Du and Li (1991, JTSA), INAR models of order p share the autocorrelation structure with classical autoregressive time series. This fact allows to estimate the INAR coefficients, e.g., by Yule-Walker estimators. However, contrary to the AR case, consistent estimation of the model coefficients turns out to be not sufficient to compute proper 'INAR residuals' to formulate a valid model-based bootstrap scheme. In this paper, we propose a general INAR-type bootstrap procedure. Based on mild regularity conditions and suitable meta assumptions, we prove bootstrap consistency of our procedure for statistics belonging to the class of functions of generalized means. In particular, we discuss parametric and semi-parametric implementations of the INAR bootstrap scheme. The latter approach is based on a semi-parametric estimator suggested by Drost, van den Akker and Werker (2009, JRSSB) to estimate jointly the INAR coefficients and the distribution of the innovations. In an extensive simulation study, we provide numerical evidence of our theoretical findings and illustrate the superiority of the proposed INAR bootstrap over some obvious competitors. We illustrate our method by an application to a real data set about iceberg orders for the Lufthansa stock.

1. Introduction and Motivation

In recent years, the interest in time series of counts has increased steadily. Among the models proposed for dependent count data, integer-valued autoregressive (INAR) time series processes enjoy great popularity and have been used extensively in the statistical literature. As introduced by McKenzie (1985) and Al-Osh and Alzaid (1987), (strictly) stationary INAR processes of first-order (INAR(1)) $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ are defined to follow the recursion

$$X_t \;=\; \alpha \circ X_{t-1} + \epsilon_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z}, \tag{1}$$

where $\alpha \in (0,1)$ and $(\epsilon_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ is an independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) process with $\epsilon_t \sim G$, where G is a distribution with range $\mathbb{N}_0$ such that $\mu_\epsilon = E(\epsilon_t) < \infty$. As coined by Steutel and van Harn (1979), the operator "$\circ$" in (1) is called *binomial thinning operator*. For a random variable X_{t-1} having range $\mathbb{N}_0$, it is defined by

$$\alpha \circ X_{t-1} \;=\; \sum_{j=1}^{X_{t-1}} Z_j^{(t)}, \tag{2}$$

where $(Z_j^{(t)}, j \in \mathbb{N}, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ are i.i.d. binary (Bernoulli-distributed) random variables independent of $(\epsilon_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ with $P(Z_j^{(t)} = 1) = \alpha$. That is, $Z_j^{(t)} \sim \mathrm{Bin}(1, \alpha)$ and, conditionally on X_{t-1}, we have $\alpha \circ X_{t-1} \sim \mathrm{Bin}(X_{t-1}, \alpha)$, where $\mathrm{Bin}(n, \pi)$ denotes the binomial distribution with parameters n and π. The binomial thinning operation in (2) allows to interpret (1) as a branching process with immigration: with X_{t-1} costumers waiting for service at time $t-1$, each of them is served with probability $1-\alpha$ during the period $(t-1, t]$ such that $\alpha \circ X_{t-1}$ customers remain in the queue ('survivors') and ϵ_t new customers arrive ('immigrants').

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In the literature, the definition of INAR models of first order in (1) has been extended to general lag order $p \in \mathbb{N}$ essentially in two ways. Alzaid and Al-Osh (1990) proposed INAR(p) processes that maintain the nice interpretation of customers waiting for service of the INAR(1) model in (1). However, the formulation of INAR(p) processes proposed by Du and Li (1991) has been preferred and followed by most researchers; see, e.g., Latour (1998), Silva and Silva (2006) or Drost et al. (2009). In their formulation, which we will use throughout this paper, INAR(p) processes $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ are defined to follow the recursion

$$X_t \;=\; \alpha_1 \circ X_{t-1} + \alpha_2 \circ X_{t-2} + \cdots + \alpha_p \circ X_{t-p} + \epsilon_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z}, \tag{3}$$

where $(\epsilon_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ as before and $\boldsymbol{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p)' \in (0,1)^p$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i < 1$ and

$$\alpha_i \circ X_{t-i} = \sum_{j=1}^{X_{t-i}} Z_j^{(t,i)}, \tag{4}$$

where $(Z_j^{(t,i)}, j \in \mathbb{N}, t \in \mathbb{Z})$, $i = 1, \ldots, p$, are mutually independent i.i.d. binary random variables with $Z_j^{(t,i)} \sim \text{Bin}(1, \alpha_i)$ that are independent of $(\epsilon_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$.

The main reason why INAR(p) processes as proposed by Du and Li (1991) are usually preferred in the literature is as follows. If $\sigma_\epsilon^2 = Var(\epsilon_t) < \infty$ holds, their autocorrelation structure turns out to be exactly the same as that of an autoregressive process of order p (AR(p)) with corresponding coefficients, that is,

$$X_t \;=\; \nu + \alpha_1 \cdot X_{t-1} + \cdots + \alpha_p \cdot X_{t-p} + e_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z}, \tag{5}$$

where $\nu \in \mathbb{R}$ is an intercept term and $(e_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ is a white noise process with $e_t \sim (0, \sigma_e^2)$. Note that we distinguish INAR innovations ϵ_t and AR errors e_t throughout the paper. In contrast, the autocorrelation structure of INAR(p) processes in the set-up of Alzaid and Al-Osh (1990) corresponds to that of an autoregressive moving-average ARMA($p, p-1$) process; see also Latour (1998).

As they share the same autocorrelation function $\rho(h) = Corr(X_{t+h}, X_t)$, $h \in \mathbb{Z}$, the INAR(p) model in (3) can be considered as a (non-negative) integer-valued counterpart to the continuous-valued AR(p) model in (5). In particular, this similarity allows to estimate the INAR coefficients $\alpha_1, \ldots \alpha_p$ and the intercept ν by well-known techniques from classical time series analysis as, e.g., Yule-Walker (YW), Least-Squares (LS) or Maximum-Likelihood (ML) estimators; see, e.g., Du and Li (1991); Silva and Silva (2006); Bu et al. (2008). However, both models differ in one crucial point. Contrary to AR models, which belong to the class of linear time series processes, INAR models are *non-linear*. This non-linearity is caused by the (random) thinning operations "$\circ$" in (3) in comparison to the simple (deterministic) multiplications "$\cdot$" in (5).

In particular, with data $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ at hand, this additional random source introduced by the thinning operation in INAR models does not allow to identify the innovations ϵ_t even in the case when the model coefficients $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p$ are known. This is in contrast to AR models, where the error terms e_t, $t = p+1, \ldots, n$, can be easily re-constructed using (5). Moreover, if $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p$ are not known, it is still possible to consistently estimate the AR error terms e_t by residuals $\widehat{e}_t$ as $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p$ and ν can be consistently estimated by some $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$ and $\widehat{\nu}$ (with $\sqrt{n}$-rate). More precisely, we have

$$\widehat{e}_t \;=\; X_t - \widehat{\nu} - \widehat{\alpha}_1 X_{t-1} - \cdots - \widehat{\alpha}_p X_{t-p} \quad \xrightarrow{P} \quad X_t - \nu - \alpha_1 X_{t-1} - \cdots - \alpha_p X_{t-p} \;=\; e_t, \tag{6}$$

where $\xrightarrow{P}$ denotes convergence in probability. The latter observation allows to make meaningful inference about the distribution of the errors e_t as well. In particular, it allows the valid application of residual-based bootstrap schemes as the residuals carry automatically the true distribution of the error terms[1]. If the data generating process (DGP) is an AR model as in (5), a corresponding AR bootstrap is proved to consistently estimate the distributions of statistics $T_n = T_n(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ belonging to large classes of statistics under mild conditions; compare Kreiß (1988, 1992, 1997); Bühlmann (1995, 1997); Kreiß et al. (2011) and the overview in Kreiß and Paparoditis (2011). The AR bootstrap is very popular in practice as it is very easy to implement and it usually outperforms asymptotic approximations in finite samples. Furthermore, as the residuals are used directly, it is not necessary to estimate explicitly the distribution of the innovations or its features as, e.g., its variance. We refer to Section 3 for details.

In view of the convenience and popularity of the AR bootstrap, it would be desirable to adapt it to the INAR case. For this purpose, first of all, it would be necessary to construct an appropriate set of residuals from INAR time series data. In Section 2, we will address this seemingly straightforward task in more detail. It turns out that, in comparison to the AR case, it is not possible to get proper residuals from observed INAR data that are "close to" the true innovations $\epsilon_2, \ldots, \epsilon_n$ and carry the true innovation distribution to an (asymptotically) sufficient extent.

Alternatively, as INAR and AR models share the autocorrelation structure, it might be advisable to just ignore the discreteness of count data and to apply straight ahead an AR bootstrap to capture the dependence in INAR data. The generality of such an approach to lead to asymptotically valid bootstrap approximations will be discussed in detail in Section 3. It turns out that consistent application is restricted to certain special cases, and the standard AR bootstrap is not appropriate for general statistics when applied to INAR time series data.

On the other hand, as stationary INAR(p) models are always assured to be geometrically strong mixing and they are just a parsimonious form of a Markov processes with countable state space $\mathbb{N}_0$, two (groups of) non-parametric bootstrap procedures can be applied to INAR time series data. These are block bootstraps and Markovian bootstraps. Whereas block bootstrap are generally applicable, but require the selection of a tuning parameter (block length) and tend to perform inferior in small samples, Markovian bootstraps suffer from a huge number of parameters (transition probabilities), especially for INAR processes with their infinite range and a possibly large Markov order. For prediction in INAR models, block bootstrap techniques have been used, e.g., by Jung and Tremayne (2006) to estimate the standard errors. Potential issues of (block) bootstrapping discrete-valued time series are discussed in Jentsch and Leucht (2016).

In general, if a certain structure is available for a DGP (e.g., in form of a parametric model), it will be advisable to make use of such structural assumptions to construct a tailor-made bootstrap procedure. Usually, this leads to bootstraps that will be superior to other competitive bootstrap methods that are more widely applicable. The main contribution of this paper is to propose a general INAR-type bootstrap procedure in Section 4, where we prove consistency under suitable meta assumptions and discuss parametric and semi-parametric implementations. The latter will be semi-parametric in the sense that it mimics the parametric structure of the binomial thinning operations in an INAR recursion without assuming any parametric family of distributions for the innovation process $(\epsilon_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$. In Section 5, we show the results of an extensive simulation study that compares several bootstrap approaches including, e.g., block and Markovian bootstraps to construct confidence intervals. We find that our semi-parametric

[1]In the sense that the empirical distribution of the $\widehat{e}_1, \ldots, \widehat{e}_n$ converges to the marginal distribution of $(e_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$

INAR bootstrap is robust and tends to perform superior to relevant competitors. In a real-data application, we analyze iceberg orders from Lufthansa stock to illustrate our method. Section 6 concludes, and all proofs are deferred to Appendix A.

2. Constructing INAR Residuals: some (naive) ideas

In view of the popularity of the AR bootstrap, it would be desirable to adapt it to the INAR case. For this purpose, it would be necessary (among others) to construct an appropriate type of residuals from INAR time series data. In the sequel, we shall briefly discuss three such approaches, which appear more or less obvious at a first glance. However, it turns out that all these approaches suffer from severe handicaps, so a straightforward adaption of a model-based AR bootstrap to the set-up of INAR processes is not possible.

2.1. **Exploiting Discreteness.**

The randomness of the thinning operation in INAR models does generally not allow to estimate consistently the innovations ϵ_t. However, it is possible to exploit the discreteness of INAR models to observe directly some of them even without any deviation. For instance, for INAR(1) models from (1), we have

$$X_t = \alpha \circ X_{t-1} + \epsilon_t \ = \epsilon_t \quad \text{if} \quad X_{t-1} = 0. \tag{7}$$

That means, whenever $X_{t-1} = 0$, we observe the true innovation without any deviation as $X_t = \epsilon_t$ one step ahead. As the range of ϵ_t is $\mathbb{N}_0$, the same holds for X_t leading to $p_0 = P(X_{t-1} = 0) > 0$ iff $P(\epsilon_t = 0) > 0$. That is, we can expect about $(n-1)p_0$ zeros in a sample $X_1, \ldots, X_{n-1}$, and this increases to ∞ as $n \to \infty$. This means, although it is not possible to estimate the innovations ϵ_t consistently, it is still possible to observe asymptotically infinitely many of these innovations, which of course carry the true distribution. Hence, this approach allows for asymptotically meaningful inference on the innovation distribution. In the context of random coefficient AR models, a similar approach has been employed by Fink and Kreiß (2013) for bootstrapping of random coefficient AR models. However, in finite samples, this approach suffers from severe drawbacks:

(i) If p_0 is small, only few innovations are observed in an INAR sample $X_1, \ldots, X_n$. Consequently, the effective sample size for the sequence of innovations is very small, leading to inferior finite sample performance.

(ii) In principle, the idea of (7) can be extended to INAR(p) models of general order p. In this case, to be able to observe the innovations ϵ_t directly, one even needs $X_{t-1} = \cdots = X_{t-p} = 0$. But the latter event is by far rarer than $X_{t-1} = 0$.

(iii) In general, this approach suffers from a considerable loss in efficiency as only few information from a data sample $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ is eventually used.

2.2. **AR Fitting and Rounding.**

Motivated by the fact that INAR(p) and AR(p) models share the same autocorrelation function, Cardinal et al. (1999); Kim and Park (2006, 2008) proposed to fit an AR(p) model (5) to the INAR sample $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ to get quantities $\widehat{e}_t + \widehat{\nu} = X_t - \widehat{\alpha}_1 X_{t-1} - \cdots - \widehat{\alpha}_p X_{t-p}$; see also Park and Kim (2012) for the notion of expected residuals. A sequence of residuals having range $\mathbb{N}_0$ is constructed by

$$\breve{\epsilon}_t := \begin{cases} [\widehat{e}_t + \widehat{\nu}], & \widehat{e}_t + \widehat{\nu} > 0 \\ 0, & \widehat{e}_t + \widehat{\nu} \leq 0 \end{cases},$$

where $[x]$ denotes a rounding operator to ensure that $\breve{\epsilon}_t$ is integer-valued. In their papers, Cardinal et al. (1999); Kim and Park (2006) used this sequence of residuals for model-based

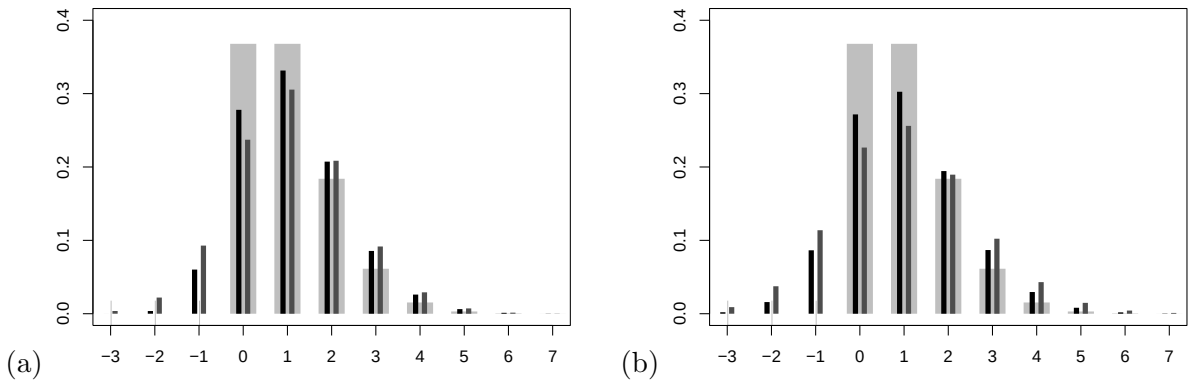

FIGURE 1. PMF of $\epsilon_t \sim \text{Poi}(1.0)$ (light gray) against PMF of rounded residuals $[X_t - \alpha X_{t-1}]$ in (a), and thinning-based residuals $X_t - \alpha \widetilde{\circ} X_{t-1}$ in (b); here $\alpha = 0.4$ (black) or $\alpha = 0.8$ (dark gray).

bootstrapping, whereas Kim and Park (2008) adapt this approach for bootstrapping signed INAR(p) models that have range $\mathbb{Z}$. But as illustrated in Figure 1 (a), this method for constructing residuals will generally not work sufficiently precise. For the example presented in Figure 1 (a), it was assumed that $\epsilon_t \sim \text{Poi}(1.0)$, and the corresponding true probability mass function (PMF) of the innovations is plotted as thick light bars. Now assume an INAR(1) model with either $\alpha = 0.4$ or $\alpha = 0.8$, then the distributions of $[X_t - \alpha X_{t-1}]$ (plotted with thin bars in black or dark gray, respectively) strongly deviate from the one of ϵ_t. Moreover, it can be easily seen that no simple transformation as, e.g., shifting the distribution or setting negative values to zero does cure the problem.

2.3. **Additional Thinning.**

Another naive approach that tries to mimic the randomness of the thinning operation in the construction of residuals is as follows. Fit an INAR(p) model (3) to the sample $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ to get estimated coefficients $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$. Then, define a sequence of residuals by

$$\widetilde{\epsilon}_t \;:=\; X_t - \widehat{\alpha}_1 \widetilde{\circ} X_{t-1} - \cdots - \widehat{\alpha}_p \widetilde{\circ} X_{t-p}, \quad t = p+1, \ldots, n, \tag{8}$$

where " $\widetilde{\circ}$ " denotes mutually independent binomial thinning operations executed independently of everything else. But again, this approach is not applicable, because, among others, the residuals $\widetilde{\epsilon}_{1+p}, \ldots, \widetilde{\epsilon}_n$ become negative with positive (asymptotically non-vanishing) probability. Setting the negative values to zero does not cure this problem, also see the example plotted in Figure 1 (b), which plots the PMF of $X_t - \alpha \widetilde{\circ} X_{t-1}$ for $\alpha = 0.4$ (black) or $\alpha = 0.8$ (dark gray). This immediately leads to the conclusion that the INAR residuals in (8) do not mimic properly the true marginal distribution of the innovations, such that these residuals are not appropriate for statistical inference on the innovation distribution. Additionally, residuals from (8) are random and hence not reproducible.

3. Ignoring Discreteness: Residual-based AR Bootstrap

In the case where the DGP is assumed to be a stationary AR(p) process following a recursion (5), it is usually advisable to use a model-based bootstrap to resample observations $X_1, \ldots, X_n$. A corresponding residual-based AR bootstrap is well-suited for statistical inference and can be used to consistently estimate the distribution of statistics $T_n = T_n(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ belonging to a large class of statistics. For example, it allows to construct confidence intervals in numerous situations that are of great interest in the statistical literature.

The idea of the residual-based AR bootstrap is to fit an AR(p) model (5) to the data $X_1, \dots, X_n$ to get estimated coefficients $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} = (\widehat{\alpha}_1, \dots, \widehat{\alpha}_p)'$ and $\widehat{\nu}$, and to use those to compute AR residuals

$$\widehat{e}_t \;:=\; X_t - \widehat{\nu} - \widehat{\alpha}_1 X_{t-1} - \cdots - \widehat{\alpha}_p X_{t-p}, \quad t = p+1, \dots, n. \tag{9}$$

These residuals $\widehat{e}_{p+1}, \dots, \widehat{e}_n$ approximate the true but unobserved errors $e_{p+1}, \dots, e_n$, and they are approximately i.i.d.; compare also (6). This heuristic allows the application of Efron's i.i.d.-bootstrap (Efron, 1979) on the set of residuals to get (asymptotically valid) bootstrap error terms $e_1^+, \dots, e_n^+$, and to define AR bootstrap observations $X_1^+, \dots, X_n^+$ according to the recursion

$$X_t^+ \;=\; \widehat{\nu} + \widehat{\alpha}_1 X_{t-1}^+ + \cdots + \widehat{\alpha}_p X_{t-p}^+ + e_t^+. \tag{10}$$

Despite the INAR's observations and innovations being non-negative and integer-valued, INAR models are still autoregressive-type DGPs, and they even share the autocorrelation structure with AR models. Hence, one may just ignore that the residuals $\widehat{e}_t$ obtained from fitting AR models to INAR data are neither integer-valued nor assured to be non-negative, and apply the AR bootstrap to INAR data just straight ahead. With data $X_1, \dots, X_n$ at hand, the AR bootstrap is as follows[2]:

Residual-based AR Bootstrap

Step 1. Compute the centered observations $Y_t = X_t - \overline{X}$, where $\overline{X} = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=1}^n X_t$.

Step 2. Fit an autoregressive process of order p, i.e., $Y_t = \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i Y_{t-i} + e_t$ to the centered data $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$. This leads to estimated AR coefficients $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \dots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$, which can be obtained, e.g., from Yule-Walker estimates.

Step 3. Compute the estimated residuals $\widehat{e}_t = Y_t - \sum_{i=1}^p \widehat{\alpha}_i Y_{t-i}$, $t = p+1, \dots, n$, and center them, i.e., compute $\widetilde{e}_t = \widehat{e}_t - \frac{1}{n-p}\sum_{t=p+1}^n \widehat{e}_t$.

Step 4. Generate bootstrap observations $Y_1^+, \dots, Y_n^+$ according to

$$Y_t^+ = \sum_{i=1}^p \widehat{\alpha}_i Y_{t-i}^+ + e_t^+,$$

where (e_t^+) are randomly and uniformly drawn from the centered residuals $\{\widetilde{e}_{p+1}, \dots, \widetilde{e}_n\}$. Defining $X_t^+ = Y_t^+ + \overline{X}$ leads to the AR bootstrap sample $X_1^+, \dots, X_n^+$.

In view of the analogy of INAR and AR models with respect to their autocorrelation structure, there is some chance for the AR bootstrap to lead to valid bootstrap approximations. Heuristically, an AR bootstrap is obviously capable to capture the complete correlation structure of INAR models, which might be sufficient for certain statistics as, e.g., the sample mean $\overline{X} = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=1}^n X_t$, which depends exclusively on autocovariances in the limit. More precisely, under rather mild mixing conditions (fulfilled by INAR processes with existing $2+\delta$ moments) on a stationary process $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ with $\mu_X = E(X_t)$ and $\gamma_X(h) = Cov(X_{t+h}, X_t)$, $h \in \mathbb{Z}$, the following central limit theorem (CLT) from Ibragimov (1962) holds

$$\sqrt{T}\left(\overline{X} - \mu_X\right) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, V), \tag{11}$$

where $\xrightarrow{d}$ denotes convergence in distribution and $V = \sum_{h=-\infty}^{\infty} \gamma_X(h)$.

In the following lemma, see Appendix A.1 for the proof, we show that an AR bootstrap applied to INAR data is generally sufficient to lead to valid bootstrap approximations for the statistic of the sample mean.

[2]Note that this approach is asymptotically equivalent to the approach, where intercept and AR parameters are estimated jointly, where no centering in Step 1 has to be applied.

Lemma 3.1 (AR Bootstrap Consistency for the Sample Mean)**.**
Suppose $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ *is a stationary INAR(p) model as in* (3) *such that* $E(\epsilon_t^4) < \infty$*. Then, we have* $n\,Var^+\big(\overline{Y}^+\big) \to V$ *and*

$$\sqrt{n}\,\overline{Y}^+ = \sqrt{n}\left(\overline{X}^+ - \overline{X}\right) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, V)$$

in probability, respectively, leading to

$$d_K\left(\mathcal{L}^+\big(\sqrt{n}\overline{Y}^+\big), \mathcal{L}\big(\sqrt{n}\left(\overline{X} - \mu_X\right)\big)\right) := \sup_{x\in\mathbb{R}}\left|P^+\left(\sqrt{n}\overline{Y}^+ \le x\right) - P\left(\sqrt{n}\left(\overline{X} - \mu_X\right) \le x\right)\right| = o_P(1),$$

where d_K *denotes the Kolmogorov-Smirnov distance and* $\mathcal{L}(X)$ *denotes the probability law of a random variable* X*. Here and throughout the paper,* $\mathcal{L}^+$*,* P^+*,* E^+*,* Var^+*, etc. denote bootstrap law, bootstrap probability measure, bootstrap mean, bootstrap variance, etc., respectively, induced by the AR bootstrap (conditional on the sample* $X_1, \ldots, X_n$*).*

The result of Lemma 3.1 shows that an AR bootstrap is capable to capture the proper limiting variance (and distribution) of $\sqrt{n}\,(\overline{X} - \mu_X)$, that is,

$$n\,Var\big(\overline{X}\big) \;\to\; \frac{\alpha\mu_\epsilon + \sigma_\epsilon^2}{(1-\alpha)^2} \quad \text{as } n \to \infty, \tag{12}$$

although the discrete nature of the underlying process is completely ignored. Such a result is closely related to those obtained in Theorem 3.1 in Kreiß et al. (2011). By introducing the concept of companion processes, the authors show that an AR (sieve) bootstrap that captures asymptotically the complete autocovariance structure of an underlying process, will always be consistent for the sample mean and other statistics that depend exclusively on the autocovariance structure of the process under very mild conditions. However, the situation becomes much different for statistics that depend also on other distributional features of the DGP beyond second-order structure. To illustrate this, we consider the sample variance $\widehat{\gamma}(0) = n^{-1}\sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \overline{X})^2$ in the following example. For an INAR(1) model with Poisson-distributed innovations, it shows that an AR bootstrap cannot be generally valid for statistical inference for INAR data.

Example 3.1 (AR Bootstrap Inconsistency for the Sample Variance)**.**
Suppose $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ *is a stationary Poisson INAR(1) process as in* (1) *with* $\epsilon_t \sim \mathrm{Poi}(\lambda)$*,* $\lambda > 0$ *and thinning parameter* $\alpha \in (0,1)$*. This leads to* $\mu_X = E(X_t) = \lambda/(1-\alpha)$*, and the true limiting variance of the sample variance* $\widehat{\gamma}(0)$ *is given by*

$$n\,Var\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)\big) \;\to\; 2\mu_X^2\,\frac{1+\alpha^2}{1-\alpha^2} \;+\; \mu_X\frac{1+\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \tag{13}$$

see Weiß and Schweer (2016). However, if an ordinary AR bootstrap (of order one) is applied to INAR(1) data, we get

$$n\,Var^+\big(\widehat{\gamma}^+(0)\big) \;\to\; 2\mu_X^2\frac{1+\alpha^2}{1-\alpha^2} + \mu_X\frac{1-4\alpha^2+6\alpha^3-3\alpha^4}{(1-\alpha^2)^2} \tag{14}$$

in probability, as shown in Appendix A.2. A comparison of (13) *and* (14) *shows that their respective second summands differ, leading to the conclusion that the AR bootstrap is not asymptotically valid. As an illustrative example, consider the case of* $\lambda = 1$ *and* $\alpha \in \{0.4, 0.8\}$*, leading to* $\mu_X = 1.\overline{6}$ *and* $\mu_X = 5$*, respectively. Then the asymptotic variances according to* (13) *and* (14) *are equal to about 11.56 vs. 9.25 (*$\alpha = 0.4$*) and 272.78 vs. 238.70 (*$\alpha = 0.8$*), respectively. Hence, the AR bootstrap systematically underestimates the variances in both cases. This difference does not only hold asymptotically, but also manifests itself for finite sample size. In Table 1, we summarize some results from the simulation study as described in Section 5.1. The columns "Simul. value" give the value of* $n\,Var\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)\big)$ *that was empirically computed from the respective*

	$(\lambda,\alpha)=(1,0.4)$						$(\lambda,\alpha)=(1,0.8)$					
	Simul.	Median of bootstrap estimates					Simul.	Median of bootstrap estimates				
n	value	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	MB	value	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	MB
100	10.51	9.92	10.58	6.12	7.17	9.04	232.35	167.40	183.45	73.81	116.78	121.83
250	10.97	10.99	10.93	8.23	8.33	11.70	245.88	224.70	222.36	121.26	168.73	174.14
500	11.26	11.23	11.31	9.61	8.68	12.97	280.65	255.53	250.01	167.15	202.75	211.16
1000	11.44	11.36	11.50	9.82	9.00	12.55	277.70	266.38	262.94	191.45	222.16	236.72
∞	11.56				9.25		272.78				238.70	

TABLE 1. Poisson INAR(1) model: Simulated values of $n\,Var\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)\big)$ against the median of the corresponding bootstrap estimates, see Example 3.1 for details.

simulation runs, while the remaining columns give the median value from bootstrap estimates for $n\,Var\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)\big)$. The columns "AR" refer to the AR bootstrap discussed here, and it becomes clear that the AR bootstrap estimates for $n\,Var\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)\big)$ are much below the simulated true value also for finite n. The columns "CBB" and "MB" refer to the natural non-parametric bootstrap competitors of the circular block bootstrap and the Markov bootstrap, respectively (see Section 5.1 for more details), while "spINAR" and "pINAR" refer to the INAR bootstraps being introduced below in Section 4. Without knowing the details of these methods at the moment, it is obvious that these methods produce estimates being much closer to the simulated values for $n\,Var\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)\big)$.

A similar discrepancy as in Example 3.1 is also observed for the sample autocorrelation function of a Poisson INAR(1) process. While $\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\rho}(1)-\rho(1))$ is known to have a limiting variance of $1-\alpha^2+\alpha(1-\alpha)/\mu_X$ for a Poisson INAR(1) process (Weiß and Schweer, 2016), $\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\rho}^{+}(1)-\widehat{\rho}(1))$ has a limiting variance of $1-\alpha^2$; compare, e.g., Brockwell and Davis (1991), Example 7.2.3. The additional term $\alpha(1-\alpha)/\mu_X$ may be large for small values of the observations' mean μ_X. The latter observation of AR bootstrap inconsistency for autocorrelations is in sharp contrast to linear time series, where an AR (sieve) bootstrap will be generally consistent for autocorrelations (due to Bartlett's formula) although it might not be consistent for autocovariances.

Besides the inconsistency of the AR bootstrap, e.g., for sample autocovariances and autocorrelations of INAR data, this bootstrap is particularly not suitable at all for statistics that rely on the discreteness of the data. For example, if one is interested in the zero-probability $p_0=P(X_t=0)$, one just counts the zeros in the sample $X_1,\ldots,X_n$ and estimates p_0 by its relative frequency. However, if an AR bootstrap is applied to INAR data, one gets bootstrap data $X_1^+,\ldots,X_n^+$ that is no longer discrete with range $\mathbb{N}_0$. Hence, it is not even possible to compute a meaningful relative frequency of zeros from $X_1^+,\ldots,X_n^+$; compare also the simulation results in Section 5.1.

As the application of an ordinary AR bootstrap to INAR data is in general not satisfactory due to the issues raised above, there is a great need for INAR-type bootstrap procedures that allow a consistent application to a broad class of statistics.

4. INAR Bootstraps

As observed in the previous section, an ordinary AR bootstrap cannot be valid for INAR models in general. It is obviously crucial to replicate the randomness of the thinning operation in the INAR recursion *and* to use appropriate bootstrap innovations. Hence, an INAR-type bootstrap is required rather than an AR-type bootstrap. However, in view of Section 2, it is at least not straightforward to construct INAR residuals that carry the true innovation distribution to a sufficient extent. Consequently, a general proposal of a model-based bootstrap that exploits the

autoregressive nature of INAR processes and can be valid for general statistics is not straightforward.

It is, however, not essential to use explicitly residuals from a fitted model, but to use suitable random variables whose marginal distribution shares asymptotically all relevant features with the true innovation distribution. Hence, it turns out to be sufficient to get enough information from an INAR sample to be able to construct sufficiently well-behaved bootstrap innovations. Depending on the statistic of interest and on the conditions imposed on the DGP, these can be obtained in different ways.

In the following, we present a general INAR-type bootstrap scheme in Section 4.1, that does not specify the method used to estimate $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p$ and at first allows any distribution $\widehat{G}$ with range $\mathbb{N}_0$ for the bootstrap innovations. An appropriate choice of the distribution $\widehat{G}$ will usually depend on the data sample, that is, $\widehat{G} = \widehat{G}(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$. We prove bootstrap consistency under a suitable set of meta-assumptions on estimators $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$ and on $\widehat{G}$ in Section 4.2. In Sections 4.3 and 4.4, we propose parametric and semi-parametric implementations of an INAR bootstrap procedure.

4.1. **The INAR Bootstrap Scheme.**

With data $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ at hand, a general INAR bootstrap scheme is defined as follows:

Step 1. Fit an INAR(p) process $X_t = \sum_{k=1}^{p} \alpha_k \circ X_{t-k} + \epsilon_t$ to the data to get estimates $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$ for the INAR coefficients.

Step 2. Specify a marginal distribution $\widehat{G}$ with range $\mathbb{N}_0$ for the bootstrap innovations.

Step 3. Generate bootstrap observations $X_1^*, \ldots, X_n^*$ according to

$$X_t^* = \sum_{k=1}^{p} \widehat{\alpha}_k \circ^* X_{t-k}^* + \epsilon_t^* \tag{15}$$

where " $\circ^*$ " denotes (mutually independent) bootstrap binomial thinning operations and (ϵ_t^*) are i.i.d. random variables following the distribution $\widehat{G}$.

4.2. **Bootstrap Consistency.**

In this section, we specify the class of functions of generalized means that we consider here. It is worth mentioning that the considered class is actually richer for discrete-valued data and allows a treatment of statistics that are not covered in the continuous setup. Then, we state suitable assumptions on the INAR process and meta-assumptions on the estimation scheme for $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$ and the marginal distribution $\widehat{G}$ used to generate bootstrap innovations. Together, these conditions allow to prove bootstrap consistency results.

A statistic $T_n = T_n(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ belongs to the class of functions of generalized means if for functions $\boldsymbol{g} : \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^d$ and $f : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$, T_n can be represented as

$$T_n = f\left(\frac{1}{n_m} \sum_{t=1}^{n_m} \boldsymbol{g}(X_t, \ldots, X_{t+m-1})\right), \tag{16}$$

where $m \in \mathbb{N}$ (fixed) and $n_m = n - m + 1$. In the following, the functions f and $\boldsymbol{g}$ are assumed to fulfill the following smoothness conditions:

Assumption 1. *The function f in (16) has continuous partial derivatives for all $\boldsymbol{y}$ in a neighborhood of $\boldsymbol{\xi} := E(\boldsymbol{g}(X_t, \ldots, X_{t+m-1}))$, and the differentials $\sum_{i=1}^{d} \partial f(\boldsymbol{x})/\partial x_i|_{\boldsymbol{x}=\boldsymbol{\xi}}$ do not vanish. The function $\boldsymbol{g}$ has partial derivatives of some order h ($h \geq 1$), which satisfy a Lipschitz condition, i.e., for all $i = 1, \ldots, d$ and for all $(h_1, \ldots, h_m) \in \mathbb{N}_0^m$ with $\sum_{u=1}^{m} h_u = h$, the derivative*

$$\frac{\partial^h g_i(x_1, \ldots, x_m)}{\partial^{h_1} x_1 \cdots \partial^{h_m} x_m}$$

is Lipschitz.

The above class of statistics is quite rich and contains as special cases, e.g., versions of sample autocovariances, sample autocorrelations, sample partial autocorrelations, Yule-Walker estimators, and the sample mean. In the context of bootstrap methods, this class of statistics has been considered by Künsch (1989), Bühlmann (1997), Kreiß et al. (2011), Jentsch and Politis (2013), Meyer and Kreiß (2015) in the context of continuous-valued univariate and multivariate time series and by Meyer et al. (2017) for random fields observed on the lattice $\mathbb{Z}^2$.

It is worth noting that Assumption 1 was originally designed for continuous-valued random variables. In particular, it does not allow for discontinuous functions $\boldsymbol{g}$ ruling out, e.g., indicator functions. When dealing with integer-valued INAR processes $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$, i.e., if $P(X_t \in \mathbb{N}_0) = 1$ holds, Assumption 1 can be easily weakened. Precisely, the smoothness condition imposed on the function $\boldsymbol{g}$ can be relaxed to read as follows: The function $\boldsymbol{g}$ is such that there exists a function $\widetilde{\boldsymbol{g}} : \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^d$ with $\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \widetilde{\boldsymbol{g}}(\boldsymbol{x})$ for all $\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{N}_0^m$, and $\widetilde{\boldsymbol{g}}$ fulfills the smoothness condition in Assumption 1. The latter condition covers, e.g., indicator functions (with $h = 1$) such that estimators based on relative frequencies can also be treated within our framework of Assumption 1. For example, the probability to observe a zero, i.e., $p_0 := P(X_t = 0)$, which is a feature of the marginal distribution of the INAR process $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$, can be estimated from a sample $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ by its relative frequency

$$\widehat{p}_0 := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^{n} \mathbb{1}(X_t = 0), \tag{17}$$

where $\mathbb{1}(A)$ denotes the indicator function that equals 1 if the condition A holds and 0 otherwise. Similarly, any unconditional, conditional, marginal or joint estimator of probabilities corresponding to the distribution of $X_1, \ldots, X_m$ based on relative frequencies will be covered. However, e.g. sample quantiles are not included in this generalized class of functions $\widetilde{\boldsymbol{g}}$; see also Jentsch and Leucht (2016).

Example 4.1. *The class of functions of generalized means with the relaxation of Assumption 1 discussed above includes, for instance,*

(i) *the relative frequency $\widehat{p}_0$ in (17) to estimate the probability to observe a zero in an INAR sample $p_0 = P(X_t = 0)$;*
(ii) *the conditional probability that i is observed one time step after j, i.e., $p_{i|j} := P(X_{t+1} = i | X_t = j)$. Its canonical estimator is*

$$\widehat{p}_{i|j} := \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{n-1} \mathbb{1}\big((X_{t+1}, X_t) = (i, j)\big)}{\sum_{t=1}^{n-1} \mathbb{1}(X_t = j)}.$$

For the DGP of the INAR process, we make the following assumption:

Assumption 2. *Let $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ be a stationary INAR(p) process as in (3) with coefficients $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p$ such that $\alpha_i \in (0,1)$, $i = 1, \ldots, p$ and $\sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i < 1$. Further, the innovation process $(\epsilon_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ is i.i.d. with a distribution $G = \mathcal{L}(\epsilon_t)$ having range $\mathbb{N}_0$ such that $E_G(\epsilon_t^s) < \infty$ for some $s \in \mathbb{N}$ and $0 < G(0) < 1$ holds, where $G(k) = P(\epsilon_t = k)$, $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$.*

These conditions on the underlying INAR process have been used in Drost et al. (2009); see Section 4.4 for details. The condition $\alpha_i \in (0,1)$, $i = 1, \ldots, p$ with $\sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i < 1$ and $E_G(\epsilon_t^s) < \infty$ for $s \geq 1$ is sufficient for the INAR recursion to have a strictly stationary solution. The assumption $0 < G(0) < 1$ ensures the possibility of X becoming 0 and not being always equal to 0, which is reasonable for virtually all applications. For deriving asymptotic theory in the following, we have to match the number s of existing moments of the innovations in Assumption 2 (and in Assumption 3 below) to h in Assumption 1 determining the smoothness of $\boldsymbol{g}$.

The INAR bootstrap scheme in Section 4.1 does not specify the estimation method for the INAR coefficients or the bootstrap innovation distribution. Naturally, we have to impose certain additional meta-assumptions that lead eventually to valid bootstrap approximations. More precisely, we impose the following conditions on $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$ and $\widehat{G}$.

Assumption 3. *Additional requirements concerning the INAR bootstrap scheme in Section 4.1:*

(i) *The estimators $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} = (\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p)'$ for the INAR coefficients in Step 1 satisfy*
$$\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\alpha}_i - \alpha_i) = O_P(1), \quad i = 1, \ldots, p;$$

(ii) *the bootstrap innovation distributions $\widehat{G}$ introduced in Step 2 satisfies $d_1(\widehat{G}, G_{\mathrm{c}}) := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |\widehat{G}(k) - G_{\mathrm{c}}(k)| = o_P(1)$ as $n \to \infty$, for some distribution G_{c} having range $\mathbb{N}_0$ such that $E^*_{\widehat{G}}(\epsilon_t^{*l}) \xrightarrow{P} E^*_{G_{\mathrm{c}}}(\epsilon_t^{*l}) < \infty$ for $l \leq s$ with some $s \in \mathbb{N}$.*

Under Assumptions 1–3, in the limit as $n \to \infty$, the DGP of the bootstrap process $(X_t^*, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ from Section 4.1 will follow the INAR(p) recursion
$$\widetilde{X}_t \;=\; \alpha_1 \circ \widetilde{X}_{t-1} + \alpha_2 \circ \widetilde{X}_{t-2} + \cdots + \alpha_p \circ \widetilde{X}_{t-p} + \widetilde{\epsilon}_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z}, \tag{18}$$
where $\widetilde{\epsilon}_t \sim G_{\mathrm{c}}$. The latter process $(\widetilde{X}_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ is the companion process in the sense of Kreiß et al. (2011) that corresponds to the bootstrap scheme in Section 3.1.

Depending on T_n, the following meta assumption on the INAR bootstrap scheme/on the INAR companion process will allow for a consistent bootstrap approximation result in the subsequent Theorem 4.1.

Assumption 4. *Suppose that $\widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ holds, where*
$$\begin{aligned}
\boldsymbol{\Sigma} &= \sum_{h=-\infty}^{\infty} Cov\big(\boldsymbol{g}(X_h, \ldots, X_{h+m-1}), \boldsymbol{g}(X_0, \ldots, X_{m-1})\big), \\
\widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} &= \sum_{h=-\infty}^{\infty} Cov\big(\boldsymbol{g}(\widetilde{X}_h, \ldots, \widetilde{X}_{h+m-1}), \boldsymbol{g}(\widetilde{X}_0, \ldots, \widetilde{X}_{m-1})\big).
\end{aligned}$$

Under these assumptions, we are now able to prove bootstrap consistency in the following theorem, see Appendix A.3.

Theorem 4.1 (INAR Bootstrap Consistency)**.** *Suppose the statistic of interest $T_n = T_n(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ and the underlying INAR(p) process $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ fulfill Assumptions 1 and 2 for some $h \in \mathbb{N}$ and with $s = 2(h+2)$, respectively. Furthermore, if the estimators $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$ and the innovation distribution $\widehat{G}$ used to generate bootstrap data $X_1^*, \ldots, X_n^*$ satisfy Assumption 3 with $s = 2(h+2)$, and if Assumption 4 holds, then we have*

$$d_K\left(\mathcal{L}^*\left(\sqrt{n_m}\left(T_n^* - f(\boldsymbol{\xi}^*)\right)\right),\ \mathcal{L}\left(\sqrt{n_m}\left(T_n - f(\boldsymbol{\xi})\right)\right)\right) = o_P(1) \tag{19}$$

as $n \to \infty$, where $T_n^* = T_n(X_1^*, \ldots, X_n^*)$ and $\boldsymbol{\xi}^* = E^*\big(\boldsymbol{g}(X_t^*, \ldots, X_{t+m-1}^*)\big)$.

Note that Assumption 4 is tailor-made for the specific statistic of interest T_n and Assumption 3 does not require that $\widehat{G}$ mimics asymptotically all properties of the true innovation distribution G. Instead, bootstrap consistency is achieved if only all asymptotically relevant features are mimicked.

Example 4.2 (Sample Mean)**.** *If $T_n(X_1, \ldots, X_n) = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=1}^n X_t$ is the sample mean, it is sufficient for Assumption 3 to use any $\widehat{G}$ such that $E^*_{\widehat{G}}(\epsilon_t^*) \to E(\epsilon_t) = \mu_\epsilon$ and $Var^*_{\widehat{G}}(\epsilon_t^*) \to Var(\epsilon_t) = \sigma_\epsilon^2$ for the INAR bootstrap to be consistent. This is because, besides the INAR coefficients, only these first two moments appear in the limiting variance of $\overline{X}$; compare* (12)*. Hence, any distribution that satisfies this property is possible here (e.g., an appropriately chosen three-point distribution, see de Schepper and Heijnen (1995)), although the true innovation distribution might be different.*

To implement the INAR bootstrap procedure from Section 4.1, it is necessary to specify the estimation $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$ of the INAR coefficients in Step 1 as well as the choice of the distribution $\widehat{G}$ in Step 2. Of course, there are several possible choices. In the following, we address a fully parametric approach in Section 4.3, and a semi-parametric approach in Section 4.4.

4.3. **Parametric Implementation.**

In this section, we consider a fully parametric approach to specify the estimation $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$ of the INAR coefficients and the choice of the bootstrap innovation distribution $\widehat{G}$. In the context of AR models, the use of a parametric bootstrap for model diagnostics goes back to Tsay (1992). Similarly, parametric (Poisson) INAR bootstraps have been used (among others) in Cardinal et al. (1999) for forecasting INAR(p) processes, in Jung and Tremayne (2011) for checking model adequacy, in Pavlopoulos and Karlis (2008) for prediction and testing purposes, and in Meintanis and Karlis (2014) for goodness-of-fit testing, while Schweer (2016) used a parametric bootstrap for goodness-of-fit testing in the more general class of CLAR(1) models.

As AR and INAR models share the autocorrelation structure, suitable (parametric) estimators $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$ for the INAR coefficients in Step 1 of the bootstrap procedure in Section 4.1 are easily obtained, e.g., by Yule-Walker estimation. Hence, it remains to estimate the innovation distribution from the data to specify $\widehat{G} = \widehat{G}(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$. By imposing a parametric family of distributions depending on a (finite-dimensional) parameter vector $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^l$, say, this parametric structure can be used to estimate the true innovation distribution G from the INAR data. For a suitable parametric choice of $\widehat{G}$ in Step 2 of the bootstrap procedure, we make use of the following additional assumption on the innovation distribution G.

Assumption 5. *The marginal distribution $G = G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0}$ of the i.i.d. innovation process $(\epsilon_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ is a member of a parametric family $\{G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \,|\, \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta\}$ of distributions satisfying Assumption 2, where Θ is an open subset of $\mathbb{R}^l$ for some $l \in \mathbb{N}$.*
Suppose the map $\boldsymbol{\theta} \mapsto G_\theta$ is continuous on Θ, i.e., for all $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta$ and all $\varepsilon > 0$, there exist a $\delta > 0$ such that for all $\boldsymbol{\theta}' \in \Theta$ with $|\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}'| < \delta$ we have $d_1(G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}'}) < \varepsilon$. Further, suppose there exists a neighborhood $B_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0,\delta} = \{\boldsymbol{\theta} \;\big|\; |\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0| < \delta\} \subset \Theta$ of $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0$ such that $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^s G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(k) < \infty$ holds uniformly on $B_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0,\delta}$, and there exists an estimator $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ for $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0$ such that $\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0) = O_P(1)$.

Under the parametric Assumption 5 on the innovation distribution G, bootstrap innovations $\epsilon_1^*, \ldots, \epsilon_n^*$ can be easily generated from $G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}$ leading to the following bootstrap scheme and the subsequent direct corollary of Theorem 4.1.

Parametric INAR Bootstrap

Step 1. Fit an INAR(p) process $X_t = \sum_{i=1}^{p} \alpha_i \circ X_{t-i} + \epsilon_t$ with $\epsilon_t \sim G_\theta$ to the data to get (e.g., Yule-Walker) estimates $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} = (\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p)'$ and $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$.

Step 2. Generate bootstrap observations $X_1^*, \ldots, X_n^*$ according to

$$X_t^* = \sum_{i=1}^{p} \widehat{\alpha}_i \circ^* X_{t-i}^* + \epsilon_t^*,$$

where " $\circ^*$ " denotes (mutually independent) bootstrap binomial thinning operations, and where (ϵ_t^*) are i.i.d. random variables following distribution $G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}$, i.e., $\widehat{G} := G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}$ in Section 4.1.

Corollary 4.1 (Parametric INAR Bootstrap Consistency)**.** *Suppose the statistic of interest $T_n = T_n(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ and the underlying INAR(p) process $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ fulfill Assumption 1 for some $h \in \mathbb{N}$ and Assumption 2 with $s = 2(h+2)$, respectively. Furthermore, if the estimator $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}$ satisfies Assumption 3 (i), if the true innovation distribution G fulfills Assumption 5 with $s = 2(h+2)$, and if $\widehat{G} = G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}$ is used to generate the bootstrap data $X_1^*, \ldots, X_n^*$, then we have*

$$d_K\left(\mathcal{L}^*\Big(\sqrt{n_m}\big(T_n^* - f(\boldsymbol{\xi}^*)\big)\Big)\;,\; \mathcal{L}\Big(\sqrt{n_m}\big(T_n - f(\boldsymbol{\xi})\big)\Big)\right) \;=\; o_P(1) \tag{20}$$

as $n \to \infty$, where $T_n^* = T_n(X_1^*, \ldots, X_n^*)$ and $\boldsymbol{\xi}^* = E^*\big(\boldsymbol{g}(X_t^*, \ldots, X_{t+m-1}^*)\big)$.

The latter result (its proof is provided by Appendix A.4) shows that a parametric INAR bootstrap is asymptotically valid for functions of generalized means if the parametric assumptions imposed on the innovation process $(\epsilon_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ are indeed fulfilled and if a suitable estimator $G_{\widehat{\theta}}$ for the distribution of the innovations is available.

To investigate the potential of parametric INAR bootstraps to lead to valid approximations even if the innovation distribution is misspecified, we consider the important special case of a Poisson INAR(1) model in more detail. It is very popular in the literature to assume a Poisson distribution for the innovation process, that is, $\mathcal{L}(\epsilon_t) = \mathrm{Poi}(\lambda)$, $\lambda > 0$. This is mainly because the Poisson distribution carries over to the marginal distribution of X_t if the INAR process $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ is of order one. More precisely, this leads to the marginal distribution $\mathcal{L}(X_t) = \mathrm{Poi}(\lambda/(1-\alpha))$. Hence, in this Poisson case, the innovation distribution $G_\lambda = \mathcal{L}(\epsilon_t)$ can be easily estimated by $G_{\widehat{\lambda}} = \mathrm{Poi}(\widehat{\lambda})$, where $\widehat{\lambda} = \overline{X}(1-\widehat{\alpha})$. This leads to the following parametric bootstrap scheme:

Example 4.3 (Poisson INAR(1) Bootstrap)**.**

Step 1. *Fit an INAR(1) process* $X_t = \alpha \circ X_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$ *with* $\epsilon_t \sim \mathrm{Poi}(\lambda)$ *to get estimates* $\widehat{\alpha} = \widehat{\rho}(1)$ *and* $\widehat{\lambda} = \overline{X}(1 - \widehat{\alpha})$.

Step 2. *Generate bootstrap observations* $X_1^*, \ldots, X_n^*$ *according to*

$$X_t^* = \widehat{\alpha} \circ^* X_{t-1}^* + \epsilon_t^*,$$

where " $\circ^*$ " denotes (mutually independent) bootstrap binomial thinning operations and (ϵ_t^*) *are i.i.d. random variables following a Poisson distribution with parameter* $\widehat{\lambda}$*, i.e.,* $\widehat{G} := \mathrm{Poi}(\widehat{\lambda})$ *in Section 4.1.*

Clearly, as $\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\lambda} - \lambda) = O_P(1)$, such a bootstrap will be generally consistent for functions of generalized means whenever the underlying process is Poisson INAR(1). Otherwise, the bootstrap will usually fail. Hence, it is indeed restrictive to impose a parametric structure on the innovation distribution. However, as will be illustrated in the following example, it is indeed not always necessary to specify the parametric family of innovation distributions correctly to achieve bootstrap consistency.

Example 4.4 (Poisson INAR(1) Bootstrap: Sample mean)**.** *In analogy to Lemma 3.1, for an INAR bootstrap to be consistent for the sample mean, it is sufficient to mimic the first two moments of the innovation distribution; compare Example 4.2 and Equation* (12)*. Furthermore, Poisson distributions are equidispersed, that is, they have a variance equal to the mean. Hence, a Poisson INAR(1) bootstrap is consistent for the sample mean* $\overline{X}$ *if and only if the true innovation distribution of an underlying INAR(1) process is equidispersed.*

In many real-data applications, a Poisson distribution turns out to be not suitable as the data show overdispersion, i.e., $Var(X_t) > E(X_t)$, or the zero probability $p_0 = P(X_t = 0)$ is larger than for Poisson distributions, see Jazi et al. (2012); Schweer and Weiß (2014); Weiß et al. (2016). Hence, imposing a Poisson distribution will often be too restrictive. In Section 5, Monte Carlo simulations illustrate that this can lead, e.g., to considerable undercoverage of bootstrap confidence intervals. Hence, imposing parametric structure on the innovation process turns out to be a strong assumption that might not be appropriate in practice.

4.4. **Semi-Parametric Implementation.**

A parametric implementation of the INAR bootstrap will generally be valid exclusively for functions of generalized means if the parametric class of innovation distributions is correctly specified. To construct an INAR-type bootstrap procedure that does not rely on any parametric assumptions imposed on the innovations and is valid for general statistics, it is inevitable to estimate consistently the true innovation distribution to mimic essentially all its features. Hence, a (non-parametric) estimation procedure is required to define a semi-parametric INAR bootstrap scheme. The approach will be semi-parametric in the sense that we stick to the parametric binomial thinning operation, but allow for non-parametric estimation of the innovation distribution.

In a remarkable paper by Drost et al. (2009), for INAR(p) models in (3), the authors consider the semi-parametric joint estimation of the INAR coefficients $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p$ *and* the innovation distribution $G = \mathcal{L}(\epsilon_t)$. Their semi-parametric maximum likelihood estimator (SPMLE)

$$(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}_{\mathrm{sp}}, \widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}) := \big(\widehat{\alpha}_{\mathrm{sp},1}, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_{\mathrm{sp},p},\ \widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}(0), \widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}(1), \widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}(2), \ldots\big)$$

is defined to maximize the conditional log-likelihood function (which uses the fact that the conditional distribution of X_t given $X_{t-1}, \ldots, X_{t-p}$ becomes a convolution of the binomial distributions $\mathrm{Bin}(X_{t-1}, \alpha_1), \ldots, \mathrm{Bin}(X_{t-p}, \alpha_p)$ and of G), where the estimated probabilities $\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}(k)$ are equal to 0 for $k < \min\{X_t - \sum_{i=1}^{p} X_{t-i} \mid t = p+1, \ldots, n\}$ and for $k > \max\{X_t \mid t = 1, \ldots, n\}$, also see Appendix C.1 for some more details. For the SPMLE, Drost et al. (2009) prove efficiency under some mild regularity conditions that cover rather general innovation distributions with range $\mathbb{N}_0$. In particular, for the (infinite-dimensional) estimator $\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}} = (\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}(k), k \in \mathbb{N}_0)$ of the innovation distribution $G = (G(k), k \in \mathbb{N}_0)$, they prove ℓ_1-consistency and, moreover, weak convergence to a suitable Gaussian process. More precisely, in their Theorem 2, they prove

$$\sqrt{n}\big((\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}_{\mathrm{sp}}, \widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}) - (\boldsymbol{\alpha}, G)\big) \rightsquigarrow Z \tag{21}$$

under Assumption 2 plus a slightly stronger moment condition $E[\epsilon_t^{p+4}] < \infty$, where Z is a tight, Borel measurable, Gaussian process. The $(p+4)$th moment of G is needed to establish weak convergence of certain empirical processes. We refer to Drost et al. (2009) for details. Note that the sequence $\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}$ is always of bounded support for finite sample size n, that is, we have $\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}(k) = 0$ whenever $k > \max\{X_1, \ldots, X_n\}$. The weak convergence in (21) immediately implies

$$\sqrt{n}\big((\widehat{\alpha}_{\mathrm{sp},1}, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_{\mathrm{sp},p}) - (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p)\big) = O_P(1) \quad \text{and} \quad \sqrt{n}\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}(k) - G(k)| = O_P(1). \tag{22}$$

This is the key result to establish bootstrap consistency for a semi-parametric INAR bootstrap that makes use of the estimated distribution $\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}$ to generate bootstrap innovations. This leads to the following bootstrap scheme:

Semi-parametric INAR Bootstrap

Step 1. Fit semi-parametrically an INAR(p) process $X_t = \sum_{i=1}^{p} \alpha_i \circ X_{t-i} + \epsilon_t$ to get estimated INAR coefficients $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}_{\mathrm{sp}} = (\widehat{\alpha}_{\mathrm{sp},1}, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_{\mathrm{sp},p})'$ and the estimator $\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}} = (\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}(k), k \in \mathbb{N}_0)$ for G.

Step 2. Generate bootstrap observations $X_1^*, \ldots, X_n^*$ according to

$$X_t^* = \widehat{\alpha}_{\mathrm{sp},1} \circ^* X_{t-1}^* + \cdots + \widehat{\alpha}_{\mathrm{sp},p} \circ^* X_{t-p}^* + \epsilon_t^*,$$

where " $\circ^*$ " denotes (mutually independent) bootstrap binomial thinning operations and (ϵ_t^*) are i.i.d. random variables following $\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}$.

Corollary 4.2 (Semi-Parametric INAR Bootstrap Consistency)**.** *Suppose the statistic of interest $T_n = T_n(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ and the underlying INAR(p) process $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ fulfill Assumption 1 for some $h \in \mathbb{N}$ and Assumption 2 with $s > max\{4(h+2), p+4\}$, respectively. Then, if $(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}_{\mathrm{sp}}, \widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}})$ is used to generate the bootstrap data $X_1^*, \ldots, X_n^*$, we have*

$$d_K\left(\mathcal{L}^*\Big(\sqrt{n_m}\big(T_n^* - f(\boldsymbol{\xi}^*)\big)\Big)\ ,\ \mathcal{L}\Big(\sqrt{n_m}\big(T_n - f(\boldsymbol{\xi})\big)\Big)\right) \ = \ o_P(1) \tag{23}$$

as $n \to \infty$, where $T_n^* = T_n(X_1^*, \ldots, X_n^*)$ and $\boldsymbol{\xi}^* = E^*\big(\boldsymbol{g}(X_t^*, \ldots, X_{t+m-1}^*)\big)$.

Note that in comparison to Corollary 4.1, the bootstrap consistency result in Corollary 4.2 holds without the parametric restriction of Assumption 5.

5. Simulation Study and Data Example

5.1. **Description of Simulation Study.**

We investigated the performance of the discussed bootstrap procedure in an extensive simulation study, where we analyzed the true coverage of 95 % confidence intervals for diverse statistics. To compute a bootstrap confidence interval for an estimator $\widehat{\theta}$, we first computed an appropriate centering $\mathrm{cent}\big(\widehat{\theta}^*\big)$ (see Appendix C.2 for details), and then the centered bootstrap estimates $\widehat{\theta}^*_{\mathrm{cent}} := \widehat{\theta}^* - \mathrm{cent}\big(\widehat{\theta}^*\big)$. Using the $(1-\alpha/2)$- and $\alpha/2$-quantiles from these centered bootstrap estimates, the bootstrap confidence interval is defined as

$$\Big[\widehat{\theta} - q_{1-\alpha/2}\big(\widehat{\theta}^*_{\mathrm{cent}}\big) \;;\; \widehat{\theta} - q_{\alpha/2}\big(\widehat{\theta}^*_{\mathrm{cent}}\big)\Big].$$

In our simulations, we considered the following estimators, which refer to important characteristics of a count process (Weiß et al., 2016):

- $\overline{X} := \frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=1}^{n} X_t$; estimator of the observations' mean μ_X;
- $\widehat{\gamma}(0) := \frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=1}^{n}(X_t - \overline{X})^2$; estimator of the observations' variance σ_X^2;
- $\widehat{I}_{\mathrm{disp}} := \widehat{\gamma}(0)/\overline{X}$; estimator of the observations' dispersion index σ_X^2/μ_X;
- $\widehat{\gamma}(1) := \frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=2}^{n}(X_t - \overline{X})(X_{t-1} - \overline{X})$; estimator of the first-order autocovariance $\gamma_X(1)$;
- $\widehat{\rho}(1) := \widehat{\gamma}(1)/\widehat{\gamma}(0)$; estimator of the first-order autocorrelation $\rho_X(1)$;
- $\overline{X}\,\big(1-\widehat{\rho}(1)\big)$; estimator for $\mu_X\,\big(1-\rho_X(1)\big)$, a quantity, which coincides with the innovations' mean μ_ϵ for autoregressive order $p=1$;
- $\widehat{p}_0 := \frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=1}^{n}\mathbb{1}(X_t = 0)$; estimator of the probability p_0 for observing a zero;
- $\widehat{I}_{\mathrm{z.i.}} := \ln(\widehat{p}_0)/\overline{X} + 1$; estimator of the zero inflation index;
- $\widehat{I}_{\mathrm{z.m.}} := \widehat{p}_0\exp(\overline{X}) - 1$; modified type of zero index that can also handle the case of observing no zeros.

To be able to evaluate the performance of the proposed semi-parametric INAR-Bootstrap (spINAR-Bootstrap), several types of benchmarks were considered: the parametric Poisson INAR-Bootstrap (pINAR-Bootstrap, i.e., which assumes an underlying INAR process having Poisson-distributed innovations), the Circular Block Bootstrap (CBB), the AR-Bootstrap (AR-Bootstrap), and the Markov Bootstrap (MB). For autoregressive order $p=1$, we also considered an asymptotic approximation as a further benchmark, i.e., we utilized the asymptotic distributions for the estimators assuming an underlying Poisson INAR(1) process (see Appendix C.3 for details). Note that the AR bootstrap, which assumes a continuous AR process, is certainly not able to deal with a zero frequency. As an approximation, we used the frequency of the event "$X_t < 0.5$" as the "zero frequency", also see Appendix C.2.

All bootstrap procedures were applied by once assuming autoregressive order $p=1$ (or Markov order $p=1$, respectively), and $p=2$ for the other time. When assuming $p=1$, we also considered the asymptotic approximation according to Appendix C.3, as mentioned before. For both cases, we worked with either Poisson innovations (as required by the parametric INAR bootstrap) or negative binomial (NB) innovations (this case constitutes a robustness check for the parametric INAR bootstrap). Furthermore, for $p=1$, we also used a Poisson INAR(2) model as the true data generating mechanism, thus constituting a robustness check for both INAR(1) bootstraps as well as for the AR(1) and Markov(1) bootstrap.

When generating Poisson innovations, we chose $\mu_\epsilon \in \{1, 2.5\}$. For NB$(n,\pi)$-innovations, we took $\mu_\epsilon \in \{1, 2.5\}$ and $\frac{\sigma_\epsilon^2}{\mu_\epsilon} \in \{1.5, 2.0\}$, and the parameters n, π were computed from the relations $\frac{\sigma_\epsilon^2}{\mu_\epsilon} = \frac{1}{\pi}$ and $\mu_\epsilon = n\,\frac{1-\pi}{\pi}$. When generating an INAR(1) process, the thinning parameter α (which

TABLE 2. INAR(1) process with $\mu_\epsilon = 1$, $\alpha = 0.8$; coverage for $\mu_X = 5$.

	Poi-INAR(1), i.e., $\frac{\sigma_\epsilon}{\mu_\epsilon} = 1$						NB-INAR(1) with $\frac{\sigma_\epsilon}{\mu_\epsilon} = 1.5$					
n	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	MB	asymp	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	MB	asymp
100	0.904	0.890	0.816	0.870	0.816	0.926	0.910	0.868	0.798	0.868	0.802	0.874
250	0.930	0.936	0.862	0.914	0.880	0.944	0.934	0.888	0.868	0.902	0.850	0.888
500	0.938	0.928	0.898	0.924	0.892	0.934	0.946	0.918	0.914	0.934	0.902	0.926
1000	0.948	0.950	0.920	0.946	0.916	0.954	0.940	0.908	0.918	0.948	0.926	0.914

TABLE 3. INAR(1) process with $\mu_\epsilon = 1$, $\alpha = 0.8$; coverage for $\sigma_X^2 = 5$ resp. $\sigma_X^2 \approx 6.389$.

	Poi-INAR(1), i.e., $\frac{\sigma_\epsilon}{\mu_\epsilon} = 1$						NB-INAR(1) with $\frac{\sigma_\epsilon}{\mu_\epsilon} = 1.5$					
n	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	MB	asymp	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	MB	asymp
100	0.804	0.858	0.708	0.762	0.716	0.906	0.812	0.726	0.650	0.726	0.626	0.798
250	0.874	0.914	0.794	0.842	0.760	0.938	0.880	0.798	0.780	0.838	0.758	0.812
500	0.898	0.918	0.848	0.870	0.818	0.932	0.922	0.818	0.840	0.884	0.800	0.834
1000	0.934	0.936	0.878	0.912	0.870	0.944	0.952	0.848	0.890	0.918	0.858	0.864

coincides with $\rho(1)$ in this case) was taken as either 0.4 or 0.8. To keep a generated INAR(2) process comparable, we fixed the values $\rho(1) \in \{0.4, 0.8\}$ and $\alpha_2 \in \{0.15, 0.3\}$, and we computed α_1 from the relation $\rho(1) = \frac{\alpha_1}{1-\alpha_2}$. The considered sample sizes are $n \in \{100, 250, 500, 1000\}$. For each parametrization, 500 sample paths were simulated, and for each sample path, every bootstrap loop ran through 500 replications. For cases where the stationary distribution was not directly available, a pre-run of length 100 was used to approximately reach the steady state.

All computations were done using MATLAB. Technical details concerning the semiparametric estimation procedure of Drost et al. (2009) (like starting values, numerical optimazation routine, etc.) are summarized in Appendix C.1. When applying the circular block bootstrap, the block length was selected using the MATLAB package `opt_block_length_REV_dec07.m` offered by Andrew Patton[3], which implements a corrected version of the automatic block-length selection procedure by Politis and White (2004); Politis et al. (2009). For the Markov bootstrap, we used the approach described in Section 3 of Basawa et al. (1990) to avoid a degenerate estimated transition matrix as it could be caused by unobserved pairs or triples of states.

5.2. **Discussion of Simulation Results.**

This section summarizes our main findings from the simulation study. Since it is not possible to print the complete tables, we shall illustrate our findings by only small excerpts, but the complete tables are provided as a Supplementary File at XXX.

Let us first compare both types of INAR bootstraps. If the underlying process is Poisson INAR(1), then, as expected, the parametric INAR(1) bootstrap (which also assumes such a Poisson model) is usually superior to the semi-parametric one (see Tables 2 and 3 for illustration). In fact, the asymptotic CIs do even better than the pINAR-bootstrap in this case. But if the true data generating mechanism is a non-Poisson INAR(1) process (like the NB-INAR(1) process in Tables 2 and 3), then both the pINAR-bootstrap as well as the asymptotic approach generally become worse than the spINAR-bootstrap, i.e., these methods are not particularly robust to violations of the assumed distribution. The coverages for pINAR and asymp degrade, since these methods are not able to reproduce the increased variance of the innovations. The bootstrap CIs according to CBB, AR and MB are robust w.r.t. the innovations' distribution, with CBB and MB converging only slowly to the nominal confidence level of 95 %. The AR bootstrap works fine if computing a CI for the marginal mean μ_X (see Table 2), but it is not able to produce a

[3] `http://public.econ.duke.edu/~ap172/`

TABLE 4. INAR(1) process with $\mu_\epsilon = 1$, $\alpha = 0.8$; coverage for $p_0 \approx 0.007$ resp. $p_0 \approx 0.012$.

	Poi-INAR(1), i.e., $\frac{\sigma_\epsilon}{\mu_\epsilon} = 1$						NB-INAR(1) with $\frac{\sigma_\epsilon}{\mu_\epsilon} = 1.5$					
n	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	MB	asymp	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	MB	asymp
100	0.524	0.604	0.324	0.750	0.324	0.970	0.596	0.484	0.432	0.718	0.432	0.872
250	0.708	0.762	0.666	0.912	0.670	0.956	0.750	0.578	0.584	0.896	0.586	0.828
500	0.806	0.842	0.676	0.990	0.676	0.962	0.880	0.692	0.778	0.982	0.772	0.820
1000	0.922	0.944	0.780	1.000	0.782	0.962	0.930	0.764	0.818	0.994	0.796	0.828

TABLE 5. INAR(2) process with $\mu_\epsilon = 1$, $\alpha_1 = 0.68$, $\alpha_2 = 0.15$; coverage for $\mu_X \approx 5.882$.

	falsely assuming $p = 1$						correctly assuming $p = 2$		
n	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	MB	asymp	spINAR	pINAR	AR
100	0.758	0.776	0.770	0.818	0.746	0.796	0.834	0.860	0.850
250	0.786	0.798	0.842	0.848	0.810	0.808	0.884	0.896	0.884
500	0.810	0.822	0.888	0.886	0.836	0.822	0.936	0.940	0.940
1000	0.830	0.850	0.926	0.914	0.892	0.860	0.956	0.954	0.950

TABLE 6. INAR(2) process with $\mu_\epsilon = 1$, $\alpha_1 = 0.68$, $\alpha_2 = 0.15$; coverage for $\sigma_X^2 \approx 8.610$.

	falsely assuming $p = 1$						correctly assuming $p = 2$		
n	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	MB	asymp	spINAR	pINAR	AR
100	0.612	0.598	0.634	0.666	0.564	0.658	0.720	0.754	0.682
250	0.680	0.670	0.774	0.782	0.712	0.696	0.822	0.844	0.798
500	0.658	0.640	0.806	0.774	0.706	0.662	0.872	0.894	0.816
1000	0.696	0.678	0.850	0.818	0.792	0.690	0.922	0.920	0.854

reliable CI, e.g., for the marginal variance σ_X^2 (see Table 3). The latter is not surprising in view of our earlier discussion in Section 3 (in particular, Lemma 3.1 and Example 3.1).

It is also plausible that the (continuous) AR bootstrap does not produce reliable confidence intervals for the zero probability (or the related zero indices): for $\widehat{I}_{\text{z.i.}}$, the coverages sometimes even decrease with increasing sample size, while in other cases, the coverages tend towards 1 instead of the nominal level 0.95 (see Table 4 for illustration). At this point, it has to be mentioned that CIs for zero statistics are sometimes not applicable (highlighted accordingly in the complete tables); for a Poisson INAR(1) process with $\mu_\epsilon = 2.5, \alpha = 0.8$, for instance, the true probability for observing a zero equals $\exp\big(-\mu_\epsilon/(1-\alpha)\big) \approx 3.73 \cdot 10^{-6}$, i.e., one will hardly ever observe a zero at all.

The MB bootstrap makes use of the INAR's Markov property and is therefore a reasonable candidate at the first glance. However, it severely suffers from the problem that some states (or combinations thereof) are not observed in a given time series of finite length. Our simulations show that this problem becomes increasingly severe with decreasing sample size n on the one hand, and with increasing mean μ_ϵ and dispersion ratio $\frac{\sigma_\epsilon}{\mu_\epsilon}$ on the other hand (then it becomes more and more probable to not observe all values between 0 and $m := \max\{X_1, \ldots, X_n\}$). In particular, while the Markov(1) bootstrap (with order $p = 1$, i.e., with $(m+1)m$ parameters) works reasonably well at least in the Poisson case ($\frac{\sigma_\epsilon}{\mu_\epsilon} = 1$) with the small mean $\mu_\epsilon = 1$, the Markov(2) bootstrap (with $(m+1)^2 m$ parameters) showed extremely bad coverages; for this reason, we do not consider the MB bootstrap anymore in the sequel.

TABLE 7. NB-INAR(2) process with $\mu_\epsilon = 1$, $\alpha_1 = 0.68$, $\alpha_2 = 0.15$, $\frac{\sigma_\epsilon}{\mu_\epsilon} = 1.5$.

	Coverage for $\mu_X \approx 5.882$,				Coverage for $\sigma_X^2 \approx 10.031$,			
n	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR	spINAR	pINAR	CBB	AR
100	0.810	0.816	0.754	0.828	0.702	0.658	0.628	0.664
250	0.896	0.872	0.834	0.892	0.842	0.792	0.784	0.798
500	0.920	0.896	0.872	0.924	0.904	0.844	0.828	0.844
1000	0.944	0.920	0.896	0.922	0.910	0.864	0.872	0.874

Among the remaining schemes, the CBB bootstrap often produces the worst coverages, which is reasonable since it is the only fully non-parametric procedure. The semi-parametric spINAR-bootstrap, in contrast, which only assumes an INAR(p) structure but is non-parametric in the innovations' distribution, usually produces much better coverage rates. There is only one important exception: If the true data generating process is (Poisson) INAR(2), but the spINAR-, pINAR- and AR-bootstraps (also the asymptotic CIs and the MB bootstrap) assume an autoregressive order $p = 1$, then the CBB bootstrap (where we do not need to specify p at all, but a block length) shows the best coverages, while the before-mentioned approaches are not robust against such a misspecified model order. This is illustrated by the results shown in Tables 5 (mean μ_X) and 6 (variance σ_X^2), where the autoregressive parameters α_1, α_2 are chosen such that still $\rho(1) = 0.8$, as in the previous tables.

To continue with the INAR(2) case, let us also have a look at Table 7, where again coverages for mean and variance are shown, but now for an NB-INAR(2) process (with correctly specified $p = 2$). Comparing with the right parts in Tables 5 and 6, we see again that the coverages for pINAR degrade, in analogy to the above discussion (Tables 2 and 3) for autoregressive order $p = 1$, while spINAR is robust with respect to the marginal distribution.

5.3. **Real Data Application.**

Jung and Tremayne (2011) analyzed a time series (length $n = 1632$) of counts of so-called iceberg orders concerning the Lufthansa stock traded in the XETRA system of Deutsche Börse. The time series gives the number of iceberg orders (for the buy side) per 10 minutes for 32 trading days, and the obtained counts range between 0 and 7. An analysis of the (partial) autocorrelation function (Jung and Tremayne, 2011, Fig. 3) shows that a second-order autoregressive model seems to be appropriate for describing these data (with $\widehat{\rho}(1) \approx 0.507$ and $\widehat{\rho}(2) \approx 0.397$). Sample mean and variance of these data are given by about 0.778 and 0.819, respectively, i.e., the observations are nearly equidispersed. The zero frequency equals about 0.463, which is rather close to the corresponding Poisson value $\exp(-\overline{x}) \approx 0.460$. Further descriptive statistics are provided by Appendix C.4. There, also the obtained estimates are shown, when semi-parametrically fitting an INAR(1) or INAR(2) model. Any bootstrap procedure was done with 10,000 replications. The obtained 95 % confidence intervals are summarized in Appendix C.4.

Since we do not know the true model behind the iceberg counts, interpretations have to be done with caution. Generally, the length of the CIs increases if the bootstrap procedures "spINAR", "pINAR" and "AR" were run based on a 2nd-order model instead of a 1st-order one, which is plausible in view of the need for estimating the additional parameter α_2. For a similar reason, it is plausible that the "spINAR" intervals are usually larger than the "pINAR" intervals. For $p = 1$, the "pINAR" intervals are nearly identical to the asymptotic ones, which is reasonable since both approaches assume an underlying Poisson INAR(1) model. The intervals obtained by "spINAR" with $p = 2$ are often close to those obtained by "CBB". The "AR" intervals are sometimes similar to the other intervals, e.g., for the mean $\overline{x}$, but show strong deviations in other cases. For example, the AR-CIs with $p = 2$ for $\widehat{\gamma}(0), \widehat{\gamma}(1)$ are much more narrow than the

corresponding spINAR- and pINAR-CIs. Some common conclusions, which are implied by any of the respective CI approaches, are non-significant deviations of $\widehat{I}_{\text{disp}}$ from 1, and of $\widehat{I}_{\text{z.i.}}, \widehat{I}_{\text{z.m.}}$ from 0, i.e., neither a significant degree of over-/underdispersion nor of zero inflation/deflation is established for the observations.

6. Conclusion

Although the INAR(p) models share the autocorrelation structure with the AR(p) models, the traditional AR bootstrap is generally not consistent if applied to an INAR process. Therefore, we proposed a general INAR bootstrap scheme, which we proved to be consistent (under mild conditions) for a class of functions of generalized means. In particular, this bootstrap consistency applies to the considered parametric INAR bootstrap as well as to the novel semi-parametric INAR bootstrap. The simulation study concerning bootstrap confidence intervals showed that this semi-parametric INAR bootstrap is very promising for applications, as it showed a good performance for the different model parametrizations and innovations' distributions considered for our analyses. Therefore, future research should investigate further applications of the novel semi-parametric INAR bootstrap, e.g., for the bias correction of estimators, or for diagnostic tests of the INAR model structure.

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Appendix A. Proofs

A.1. **Proof of Lemma 3.1.**
Similar to the proof of Theorem 3.1 in Kreiß et al. (2011), we get that

$$\sqrt{n}\,\overline{Y}^{+} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0,\widetilde{V}), \quad \text{in prob.},$$

where $\widetilde{V} = \sum_{h=-\infty}^{\infty} \gamma_{\widetilde{V}}(h)$ with $\gamma_{\widetilde{Y}}(h) = Cov(\widetilde{Y}_{t+h}, \widetilde{Y}_t)$. Here, $(\widetilde{Y}_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ denotes the *companion process* of $(Y_t^+, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ in the sense of Kreiß et al. (2011). That is,

$$\widetilde{Y}_t = \alpha_1 \widetilde{Y}_{t-1} + \cdots + \alpha_p \widetilde{Y}_{t-p} + \widetilde{u}_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z}, \tag{24}$$

where $(\widetilde{u}_t)$ consists of i.i.d. random variables whose *marginal* distribution is identical to that of u_t with

$$\begin{aligned} u_t &:= X_t - \nu - \alpha_1 X_{t-1} - \cdots - \alpha_p X_{t-p} \\ &= X_t - \mu_X - \alpha_1(X_{t-1} - \mu_X) - \cdots - \alpha_p(X_{t-p} - \mu_X). \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

Now, observe that the INAR(p) process $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ in (3) and its companion process $(\widetilde{Y}_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ in (24) share the same autocorrelation function, that is $\rho_X(h) = \rho_{\widetilde{Y}}(h)$, $h \in \mathbb{Z}$. Hence, it remains to show that $\gamma_X(0) = \gamma_{\widetilde{Y}}(0)$ holds to complete the proof. From the Yule-Walker equations and causality of the companion process in (24) assured by $\alpha_i \in (0,1)$ with $\sum_{i=1}^{p} \alpha_i < 1$, we get

$$\gamma_{\widetilde{Y}}(0) = \alpha_1 \gamma_{\widetilde{Y}}(1) + \cdots + \alpha_p \gamma_{\widetilde{Y}}(p) + \sigma_{\widetilde{u}}^2, \tag{26}$$

where $\sigma_{\widetilde{u}}^2 = Var(\widetilde{u}_t)$. Finally, exploiting $\mathcal{L}(\widetilde{u}_t) = \mathcal{L}(u_t)$, $E(u_t) = 0$, $Var(u_t) \in (0,\infty)$ and (25), we get

$$\sigma_{\widetilde{u}}^2 = Var(u_t) = \gamma_X(0) - \alpha_1 \gamma_X(1) - \cdots - \alpha_p \gamma_X(p)$$

leading together with (26) to $\gamma_{\widetilde{Y}}(0) = \gamma_X(0)$. □.

A.2. **Proof of Example 3.1 (Sketch).** For a (centered) linear process, where $X_t = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} \psi_j\, e_{t-j}$ with $(e_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ being i.i.d. with $E(e_t^4) < \infty$ and $\sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} |\psi_j| < \infty$, it is well known that

$$n\,Var\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)\big) \;\to\; 2\sum_{h=-\infty}^{\infty} \gamma^2(h) \;+\; \left(\frac{E(e_t^4)}{\big(E(e_t^2)\big)^2} - 3\right) \gamma(0)^2, \tag{27}$$

see Proposition 7.3.1 in Brockwell and Davis (1991), for instance. For a causal AR(1) process, we have $\psi_j = \alpha^j$ for $j \geq 0$ and 0 otherwise, and it follows that $\gamma(h) = \alpha^h\,\gamma(0)$ with

$$\gamma(0) \;=\; E(e_t^2) \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \psi_j^2 \;=\; \frac{E(e_t^2)}{1-\alpha^2}.$$

So (27) becomes

$$n\,Var\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)\big) \;\to\; 2\gamma^2(0)\,\frac{1+\alpha^2}{1-\alpha^2} \;+\; \frac{E(e_t^4) - 3\big(E(e_t^2)\big)^2}{(1-\alpha^2)^2}. \tag{28}$$

Now we adapt (28) to the AR(1) bootstrap, as it is applied to the DGP Poisson INAR(1). With analogous arguments as in the proof of Theorem 3.1 in Kreiß et al. (2011) as well as Lemma 5.3 in Bühlmann (1995, 1997), we have $Var^+(e_t^+) = E^+\left((e_t^+)^2\right) \xrightarrow{P} E(e_t^2)$ and $E^+\left((e_t^+)^4\right) \xrightarrow{P} E(e_t^4)$, where $e_t = (X_t - \mu_X) - \alpha\,(X_{t-1} - \mu_X)$. So we can further evaluate $E(e_t^2)$ to obtain

$$E^+\left((e_t^+)^2\right) \;\to\; (1+\alpha^2)\,\gamma_X(0) - 2\alpha\,\gamma_X(1) \;=\; (1-\alpha^2)\,\gamma_X(0),$$

using that $\gamma_X(1) = \alpha\,\gamma_X(0)$. To compute $E^+\left((e_t^+)^4\right)$, let us introduce the notation

$$\bar{\mu}(s_1,\ldots,s_{r-1}) \;:=\; E\big((X_t - \mu_X)(X_{t+s_1} - \mu_X)\cdots(X_{t+s_{r-1}} - \mu_X)\big)$$

for the joint central moments. Then we obtain

$$E^+\left((e_t^+)^4\right) \;\to\; (1+\alpha^4)\,\bar\mu(0,0,0) - 4\alpha\,\bar\mu(1,1,1) + 6\alpha^2\,\bar\mu(0,1,1) - 4\alpha^3\,\bar\mu(0,0,1).$$

According to Proposition 1 in Weiß (2012), the Poisson INAR(1) process satisfies

$$\bar\mu(k,l,m) \;=\; \mu_X\cdot\alpha^m + \mu_X^2\cdot\alpha^{m-l+k} + 2\mu_X^2\cdot\alpha^{m+l-k} \quad \text{for } 0\le k\le l\le m,$$

while $\gamma(0)=\mu_X$. So after some computations, we obtain the limit

$$E^+\left((e_t^+)^4\right) - 3\big(E^+\left((e_t^+)^2\right)\big)^2 \;\to\; (1-4\alpha^2+6\alpha^3-3\alpha^4)\,\mu_X.$$

Altogether, using (28), it follows that

$$n\,Var^+\big(\widetilde\gamma^+(0)\big) \;\to\; 2\mu_X^2\frac{1+\alpha^2}{1-\alpha^2} + \mu_X\frac{1-4\alpha^2+6\alpha^3-3\alpha^4}{(1-\alpha^2)^2},$$

so the proof of (14) is complete. □

A.3. **Proof of Theorem 4.1.**
The basic structure of the proof resembles the proof of Theorem 3.3 in Bühlmann (1997). For more details, we refer to his technical report (Bühlmann, 1995) and to the proof of Theorem 4.2 in Meyer et al. (2017), where a corresponding result is proved for random fields. The main arguments are the same here, but we have to address the non-linear and discrete-valued structure of INAR processes caused by the randomness of the binomial thinning operations in the model equations (3). In particular, this randomness inherent to the recursive autoregressive structure of INAR processes requires different arguments. We will sketch the main steps of the proof in the following.

First, let $\boldsymbol{Y}_t = (X_t,\ldots,X_{t+m-1})'$ and $\boldsymbol{Y}_t^* = (X_t^*,\ldots,X_{t+m-1}^*)'$ denote sub-sequences of the original INAR process $(X_t, t\in\mathbb{Z})$ and the corresponding bootstrap process $(X_t^*, t\in\mathbb{Z})$. The general strategy to show bootstrap consistency for the statistic T_n is to neglect the function f and to prove that

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n_m}}\sum_{t=1}^{n_m}\big(\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{Y}_t) - E\big(\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{Y}_t)\big)\big) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0,\boldsymbol{\Sigma}), \tag{29}$$

as well as

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n_m}}\sum_{t=1}^{n_m}\big(\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{Y}_t^*) - E^*\big(\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{Y}_t^*)\big)\big) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0,\boldsymbol{\Sigma}) \tag{30}$$

in probability, where

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} := \sum_{h=-\infty}^{\infty} Cov\big(\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{Y}_h),\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{Y}_0)\big).$$

Under the smoothness conditions in Assumption 1, it is straightforward to treat the function f by using the Delta method such that it suffices to show (29) and (30). As the proof of (29) follows by the same (and simpler) arguments, we shall execute only the proof of (30) in the following.

From Lemma B.2, we know that the INAR bootstrap process has a corresponding INMA(∞) representation

$$X_t^* = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\boldsymbol{u}'([\widehat{\mathbf{A}}\circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}^*.$$

We truncate the INMA(∞) representation of X_t^* and consider $X_t^{*(q)}$, $q \in \mathbb{N}_0$, in the following, where

$$X_t^{*(q)} = \sum_{k=0}^{q} \boldsymbol{u}'([\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t}) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}^*,$$

see also the proof of Lemma B.2. The random vectors $\boldsymbol{Y}_t^{(q)}$ and $\boldsymbol{Y}_t^{(q)*}$ are defined in an analogous way as $\boldsymbol{Y}_t$ and $\boldsymbol{Y}_t^*$ above.

Since $\boldsymbol{g}$ is differentiable with hth derivative fulfilling a Lipschitz condition by Assumption 1, a Taylor series expansion of order h and Minkowski's inequality allows to show that

$$E^*\left(|g_u(\boldsymbol{Y}_t^{(q)*})|^{2+2/(h+1)}\right) = O_P(1) \quad \text{for all } 1 \leq u \leq d \tag{31}$$

holds, where we have to use that $E^*(\epsilon_t^{*2(h+2)}) = O_P(1)$ from Assumption 3(ii) implies that $E^*(X_t^{*2(h+2)}) = O_P(1)$ by Lemma B.2. For details, we refer to Meyer et al. (2015, proofs of equation (7.5) and Lemma 7.2) and Bühlmann (1995, p.22).

To continue with the proof, note that the random variable $X_t^{*(q)}$ is composed of $\{\epsilon_t^*, \ldots, \epsilon_{t-q}^*\}$ and $\{\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ_t^*, \ldots, \widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ_{t-q+1}^*\}$. As $\{\epsilon_t^*, t \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ and $\{\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ_t^*, t \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ are i.i.d. random variables and operations, respectively, we have that $\{X_t^{*(q)}\}$ is a q-dependent process. Using a truncation argument for the function $\boldsymbol{g}$ as in Bühlmann (1995, p.21), this allows us to show

$$Cov^*\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n_m}} \sum_{t=1}^{n_m} g_u(\boldsymbol{Y}_t^{*(q)}), \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_m}} \sum_{t=1}^{n_m} g_v(\boldsymbol{Y}_t^{*(q)})\right) = \left(\widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}^{(q)}\right)_{uv} + o_P(1) \quad \text{for all } 1 \leq u, v \leq d,$$

where, for $\underline{\widetilde{\mathbf{Y}}}_t^{(q)} = (\widetilde{X}_t^{(q)}, \ldots, \widetilde{X}_{t+m-1}^{(q)})'$,

$$\widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}^{(q)} := \sum_{h=-(q+m-1)}^{q+m-1} Cov\left(\boldsymbol{g}(\underline{\widetilde{\mathbf{Y}}}_h^{(q)}), \boldsymbol{g}(\underline{\widetilde{\mathbf{Y}}}_0^{(q)})\right).$$

Here, $(\widetilde{X}_t^{(q)}, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ is the truncated INMA(q) process corresponding to the INMA(∞) representation of the companion INAR process $(\widetilde{X}_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$. This INMA($\infty$) representation is assured to exist again by Lemma B.2. Now, the Cramér-Wold device is applied to show the convergence of

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n_m}} \sum_{t=1}^{n_m} \left(\boldsymbol{c}'\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{Y}_t^{*(q)}) - E^*(\boldsymbol{c}'\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{Y}_t^{*(q)}))\right)$$

for $\boldsymbol{c} = (c_1, \ldots, c_d)' \in \mathbb{R}^d$, and we define $\ell(\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{c}'\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sum_{u=1}^{d} c_u g_u(\boldsymbol{x})$ for $\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$. The q-dependence of the bootstrap INAR process $(X_t^{*(q)})$ allows to use a big-block-small-block argument together with Lindeberg's CLT for triangular arrays. Here, it remains to show the Lindeberg condition, which can be proved using the same arguments as in Bühlmann (1995, top of page 22). Here, to make use of the bound from Yokoyama (1980) for sums of strictly stationary processes, note that the process $(X_t^{*(q)})$ satisfies this property for each fixed $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and that, analogous to (31),

$$E^*\left(|\ell(\boldsymbol{Y}_t^{(q)*})|^{2+2/(h+1)}\right) = O_P(1)$$

holds, which altogether proves asymptotic normality and we get

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n_m}} \sum_{t=1}^{n_m} \left(\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{Y}_t^{*(q)}) - E^*(\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{Y}_t^{*(q)}))\right) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, \widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}^{(q)}) \tag{32}$$

in probability. Using again the smoothness properties of $\boldsymbol{g}$, a Taylor series expansion and Minkowski's inequality, one can show, as $q \to \infty$, that

$$\left| \sum_{h=-(q+m-1)}^{q+m-1} Cov\left(\boldsymbol{g}(\widetilde{\underline{\mathbf{Y}}}_h^{(q)}), \boldsymbol{g}(\widetilde{\underline{\mathbf{Y}}}_0^{(q)})\right) - \sum_{h=-(q+m-1)}^{q+m-1} Cov\left(\boldsymbol{g}(\widetilde{\underline{\mathbf{Y}}}_h), \boldsymbol{g}(\widetilde{\underline{\mathbf{Y}}}_0)\right) \right| = o(1)$$

and

$$\left| \sum_{|h|>q+m-1} Cov\left(\boldsymbol{g}(\widetilde{\underline{\mathbf{Y}}}_h), \boldsymbol{g}(\widetilde{\underline{\mathbf{Y}}}_0)\right) \right| = o(1),$$

leading to

$$\lim_{q\to\infty} \widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}^{(q)} = \widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma},$$

where we used Assumption 4 to get the last identity. Now, to conclude the proof of (30), it remains to show that truncating the INMA(∞) process X_t^* to get $X_t^{*(q)}$ is negligible. By exploiting the q-dependence of $(X_t^{*(q)})$, this can be done similarly to Bühlmann (1995, pages 23/24) using again a suitable Taylor series expansion of $\ell(\cdot)$; see also Meyer et al. (2017, proof of Theorem 4.2). □

A.4. **Proof of Corollary 4.1.**
To make use of Theorem 4.1, the goal in the following is to show that the parametric Assumption 5 together with the parametric INAR bootstrap implementation implies Assumptions 3 and 4.

First of all, Yule-Walker estimates $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \dots \widehat{\alpha}_p$ in Step 1 of the parametric INAR bootstrap scheme are known to satisfy Assumption 3(i). To show part (ii), we get easily

$$d_1(\widehat{G}, G) = d_1(G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}, G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0}) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(k) - G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0}(k)| = o_P(1) \tag{33}$$

from the $\sqrt{n}$-consistency $\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0) = O_P(1)$ and the continuity of $\boldsymbol{\theta} \mapsto G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$. Similarly, we prove next that the convergence in probability of $E^*_{G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}}(\epsilon_t^{*s}) \to E^*_{G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0}}(\epsilon_t^{*s}) = E_G(\epsilon_t^s) < \infty$ for $s = 2(h+2)$ holds with h specified by Assumption 1. This shows in particular, that Assumption 3(ii) holds with $G_{\mathrm{c}} = G$. Let $\epsilon, \eta > 0$. Then, for all $M \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& P\left(|E^*_{G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}}(\varepsilon_t^{*s}) - E^*_{G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0}}(\varepsilon_t^{*s})| \geq \varepsilon\right) \\
\leq\ & P\left(\sum_{k=0}^{M} k^s |G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(k) - G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0}(k)| \geq \varepsilon/3\right) + P\left(\sum_{k=M+1}^{\infty} k^s |G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(k)| \geq \varepsilon/3\right) \\
& + P\left(\sum_{k=M+1}^{\infty} k^s |G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0}(k)| \geq \varepsilon/3\right) \\
\leq\ & P\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(k) - G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0}(k)| \geq \varepsilon/(3M^s)\right) + P\left(\sum_{k=M+1}^{\infty} k^s |G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(k)| \geq \varepsilon/3, |\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0| < \delta\right) \\
& + P\left(|\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0| \geq \delta\right) + P\left(\sum_{k=M+1}^{\infty} k^s |G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0}(k)| \geq \varepsilon/3\right) \\
=\ & I + II + III + IV.
\end{aligned}$$

By Assumption 5, term II can be bounded by

$$P\left(\sup_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\in B_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0,\delta}}\sum_{k=M+1}^{\infty}k^s|G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(k)|\geq\varepsilon/3,|\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}-\boldsymbol{\theta}_0|<\delta\right)\leq P\left(\sup_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\in B_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0,\delta}}\sum_{k=M+1}^{\infty}k^s|G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(k)|\geq\varepsilon/3\right)$$

Now, we can choose M large enough such that the latter term as well as term IV equal zero. Further, from the smoothness condition in Assumption 5 and the $\sqrt{n}$-consistency of $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$, we can choose $n_0=n_0(M,\varepsilon,\eta,\delta)$ large enough such that $I\leq\eta/2$ and $III\leq\eta/2$. Altogether this leads to

$$P\left(|E^*_{G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}}(\varepsilon_t^{*s})-E^*_{G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_0}}(\varepsilon_t^{*s})|\geq\varepsilon\right)\leq\eta.$$

It remains to show that Assumption 4 holds. Following the truncation argument in Bühlmann (1995, p.21), this is easily obtained from Lemma B.3. □

A.5. **Proof of Corollary 4.2.**
We make use of Theorem 4.1 and show that the semi-parametric INAR bootstrap implementation based on the estimation approach of Drost et al. (2009) implies Assumptions 3 and 4.

First of all, note that Theorem 2 in Drost et al. (2009) holds under the assumptions of this corollary. Then, we get immediately from (22) that the coefficient estimates $\widehat{\alpha}_1,\dots\widehat{\alpha}_p$ in Step 1 of the semi-parametric INAR bootstrap scheme satisfy Assumption 3(i). To show part (ii), we get also immediately from (22) that

$$d_1(\widehat{G},G)=d_1(\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}},G)=\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}|\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}(k)-G(k)|=o_P(1)\tag{34}$$

holds. Similarly, we can prove next convergence in probability $E^*_{\widehat{G}}(\epsilon_t^{*s})\to E^*_G(\epsilon_t^{*s})=E_G(\epsilon_t^s)<\infty$ for $s\leq 2(h+2)$ with h specified by Assumption 1. This shows in particular, that Assumption 3(ii) holds with $G_{\mathrm{c}}=G$. From $\widehat{G}(k)=0$ for $k>M_n:=\max\{X_1,\dots,X_n\}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
|E^*_{\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}}(\epsilon_t^{*s})-E(\epsilon_t^s)| &= |\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}k^s\widehat{G}(k)-\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}k^sG(k)|=|\sum_{k=0}^{M_n}k^s\widehat{G}(k)-\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}k^sG(k)|\\
&\leq \sum_{k=0}^{M_n}k^s|\widehat{G}(k)-G(k)|+\sum_{k=M_n+1}^{\infty}k^sG(k)\\
&\leq M_n^s\left(\sum_{k=0}^{M_n}|\widehat{G}(k)-G(k)|\right)+\sum_{k=M_n+1}^{\infty}k^sG(k)\\
&=: A_1+A_2.
\end{aligned}$$

If the support of $\{\epsilon_t\}$ is bounded, then $A_2=0$ after one observation X_t attains a value greater or equal to the largest possible innovation, which happens with probability tending to one. If the support is unbounded, $M_n\to\infty$ such that $A_2=o(1)$ as by Assumption 2, we have $E_G(\epsilon_t^s)<\infty$, i.e., $(k^sG(k))_k$ is summable. Concerning the first summand, we make use of (22). This leads to

$$A_1=\frac{M_n^s}{\sqrt{n}}\left(\sqrt{n}\sum_{k=0}^{M_n}|\widehat{G}(k)-G(k)|\right)\leq\frac{M_n^s}{\sqrt{n}}\left(\sqrt{n}\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}|\widehat{G}(k)-G(k)|\right)=O_P\left(\frac{M_n^s}{\sqrt{n}}\right).$$

Further, for all $x, k \geq 0$, we get from the Markov inequality

$$\begin{aligned} P(M_n^s/\sqrt{n} > x) &= P(M_n > x^{1/s} n^{1/(2s)}) = P(\cup_{i=1}^n \{X_i > x^{1/s} n^{1/(2s)}\}) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n P(X_i > x^{1/s} n^{1/(2s)}) = nP(X_1 > x^{1/s} n^{1/(2s)}) \\ &\leq n \frac{E(X_1^k)}{x^{k/s} n^{k/(2s)}} = \frac{E(X_1^k)}{x^{k/s}} n^{1-k/(2s)}, \end{aligned}$$

and the last right-hand side converges to zero if $k > 2s$ as well as $E(X_1^k) < \infty$. As we can choose $k > 4(h+2)$, this implies that $M_n^s/\sqrt{n} = o_P(1)$ holds for $s \leq 2(h+2)$, which concludes that Assumption 3(ii) is fulfilled. Finally, it remains to show that Assumption 4 holds. Following the truncation argument in Bühlmann (1995, p.21), this is easily obtained from Lemma B.3. □

Appendix B. Auxiliary results

Lemma B.1 (Basic properties of the INAR(p) process)**.**
Under Assumption 2 with $s = 1$, the INAR(p) recursion (3) *has a strictly stationary solution $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ with $E(X_t) = \mu_\epsilon/(1 - \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i) < \infty$. Precisely, by introducing the notation $\boldsymbol{X}_t := (X_t, \ldots, X_{t-p+1})'$, $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t = (\epsilon_t, 0, \ldots, 0)'$, $\boldsymbol{u} := (1, 0, \ldots, 0)'$ and*

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \cdots & \cdots & \alpha_p \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and entry-wise binomial thinning $\circ_t$, the INAR(p) recursion (3) *can be represented as a p-dimensional INAR(1) recursion*

$$\boldsymbol{X}_t = \mathbf{A} \circ_t \boldsymbol{X}_{t-1} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z} \tag{35}$$

such that $X_t = \boldsymbol{u}' \boldsymbol{X}_t$ holds. The INAR(p) process can be represented as an INMA(∞) process, that is,

$$X_t = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \boldsymbol{u}'([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^t) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z}, \tag{36}$$

where we set $[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=s}^t := \mathbf{A} \circ_t \mathbf{A} \circ_{t-1} \cdots \mathbf{A} \circ_s$ for $s \leq t$ and $[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t+1}^t := 1$ for the empty index set. The convergence of (36) *is in L_1-sense and almost surely. If Assumption 2 holds for some $h \in \mathbb{N}$, i.e., $E(\epsilon_t^h) < \infty$, it holds $E(X_t^h) < \infty$ and the convergence of* (36) *holds in L_h-sense.*

Proof. By using the model equation (35) recursively q-times, we get

$$\boldsymbol{X}_t = \sum_{k=0}^{q} ([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^t) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k} + [\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^t \boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1} = \boldsymbol{X}_t^{(q)} + [\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^t \boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}, \tag{37}$$

where $\boldsymbol{X}_t^{(q)} = \sum_{k=0}^q ([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^t) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}$ and $X_t^{(q)} = \boldsymbol{u}' \boldsymbol{X}_t^{(q)}$. As $[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^t \boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}$ is always a vector with non-negative entries, it suffices to show that

$$E(|X_t - X_t^{(q)}|) \leq E(|\boldsymbol{X}_t - \boldsymbol{X}_t^{(q)}|_1) = E(|[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^t \boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}|_1) = \mathbf{1}_p' E([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^t \boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}) \to 0 \tag{38}$$

as $q \to \infty$ to prove the L_1-convergence of (36), where $\mathbf{1}_p = (1, \ldots, 1)'$ denotes the p-dimensional vector of ones and $|\cdot|_1$ denotes the 1-norm. By conditioning, we get with standard arguments

$$\begin{aligned}
& E\left([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\right) \\
= \;& E\left(E\left(\mathbf{A}\circ_t [\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1} \;\middle|\; [\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\right)\right) \\
= \;& \sum_{\boldsymbol{k}\in\mathbb{N}_0^p} E\left(\mathbf{A}\circ_t [\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1} \;\middle|\; [\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1} = \boldsymbol{k}\right) P\left([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1} = \boldsymbol{k}\right) \\
= \;& \sum_{\boldsymbol{k}\in\mathbb{N}_0^p} E\left(\mathbf{A}\circ_t \boldsymbol{k} \;\middle|\; [\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1} = \boldsymbol{k}\right) P\left([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1} = \boldsymbol{k}\right) \\
= \;& \sum_{\boldsymbol{k}\in\mathbb{N}_0^p} E\left(\mathbf{A}\circ_t \boldsymbol{k}\right) P\left([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1} = \boldsymbol{k}\right) \qquad (39) \\
= \;& \sum_{\boldsymbol{k}\in\mathbb{N}_0^p} \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{k} P\left([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1} = \boldsymbol{k}\right) \\
= \;& \mathbf{A}E\left([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

By successive application of the above, we get $E\left([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\right) = \mathbf{A}^{q+1}\mu_X\mathbf{1}_p$. As $\alpha_i \in (0,1)$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i < 1$, all eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A}$ have modulus less than one; see, e.g., Latour (1998), Lemma 2.2. Hence, we get $\mu_X\mathbf{1}_p'\mathbf{A}^{q+1}\mathbf{1}_p \to 0$ as $q \to \infty$ such that (38) holds. By similar arguments as used above, we get also

$$E(X_t) = \boldsymbol{u}'\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\mathbf{A}^k E(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}) = \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I}_{p\times p} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\boldsymbol{u}\mu_\epsilon = \frac{\mu_\epsilon}{1-\sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i}.$$

To show almost sure convergence, let $N \subset \Omega$ be the set of $\omega \in \Omega$, where convergence of

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\boldsymbol{u}'([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t}(\omega))\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}(\omega)$$

does not hold true and suppose $P(N) > 0$. As

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{n}\boldsymbol{u}'([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t}(\omega))\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}(\omega), n \in \mathbb{N}\right)$$

is a monotonely increasing sequence, we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\boldsymbol{u}'([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t}(\omega))\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}(\omega) = \infty$$

for all $\omega \in N$. Further, on the one hand, we get by the monotone convergence theorem

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{n\to\infty} E\left(\sum_{k=0}^{n}\boldsymbol{u}'([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}\right) &= E\left(\lim_{n\to\infty}\sum_{k=0}^{n}\boldsymbol{u}'([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}\right) \\
&= E\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\boldsymbol{u}'([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, we have

$$E\left(\sum_{k=0}^{n}\boldsymbol{u}'([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}\right) = \sum_{k=0}^{n}\boldsymbol{u}'\mathbf{A}^k E(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}) \le \boldsymbol{u}'\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\mathbf{A}^k E(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}) < \infty,$$

but this is a contradiction, because

$$E\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\boldsymbol{u}'([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}\right)\geq E\left(\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\boldsymbol{u}'([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}\right)\mathbb{1}(N)\right)=\infty P(N)=\infty.$$

This proves $P(N)=0$ and consequently almost sure convergence of (36). In particular, (36) is strictly stationary and solves the INAR(p) recursion (3). By plugging-in, this can be seen from

$$\begin{aligned}
X_t-\sum_{i=1}^{p}\alpha_i\circ_t X_{t-i} &= \boldsymbol{u}'\left(\boldsymbol{X}_t-\mathbf{A}\circ_t\boldsymbol{X}_{t-1}\right)\\
&= \boldsymbol{u}'\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}-\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}\mathbf{A}\circ_t([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k}^{t-1})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-1-k}\right)\\
&= \boldsymbol{u}'\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}-\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t})\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}\right) \qquad (40)\\
&= \boldsymbol{u}'\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t\\
&= \epsilon_t.
\end{aligned}$$

Now, let $E(\epsilon_t^h)<\infty$ for some $h\in\mathbb{N}$. To show finiteness of $E(X_t^h)$, we make use of the norm notation $\|X_t\|_h=(E(X_t^h))^{1/h}$. By taking the norm on both sides of (3) and using Minkowski's inequality, we get

$$\|X_t\|_h\leq\sum_{i=1}^{p}\|\alpha_i\circ_{t,i}X_{t-i}\|_h+\|\epsilon_t\|_h. \qquad (41)$$

Note that (41) does always hold as all involved summands are non-negative. Now, we shall compute $\|\alpha_i\circ_{t,i}X_{t-i}\|_h$. We get by standard arguments

$$\|\alpha_i\circ_{t,i}X_{t-i}\|_h^h=E((\alpha_i\circ_{t,i}X_{t-i})^h)=\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}E\left((\alpha_i\circ_{t,i}k)^h\right)P(X_{t-i}=k)$$

and as $\alpha_i\circ_{t,i}k\sim\mathrm{Bin}(k,\alpha_i)$, we can make use of equations (3.6) (note the typo there, where $p^r/(n-r)!$ has to be replaced by $p^j/(n-j)!$) and (1.55) in Johnson and Kotz (2005) to rewrite the last expectation above. We get

$$E\left((\alpha_i\circ_{t,i}k)^h\right)=\sum_{j=0}^{h}S(h,j)\frac{k!}{(k-j)!}\alpha_i^j=\sum_{j=0}^{h}S(h,j)\sum_{l=0}^{j}s(j,l)k^l\alpha_i^j, \qquad (42)$$

where $S(h,j)$ and $s(j,l)$ denote the Stirling numbers of second and first kind, respectively. The right-hand side of (42) can be decomposed to get

$$\sum_{j=0}^{h-1}S(h,j)\sum_{l=0}^{j}s(j,l)k^l\alpha_i^j+\sum_{l=0}^{h-1}s(h,l)k^l\alpha_i^h+k^h\alpha_i^h,$$

where $S(h,h)=s(h,h)=1$ has been used. Using strict stationarity, this leads to

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\alpha_i\circ_{t,i}X_{t-i}\|_h^h &= \sum_{j=0}^{h-1}S(h,j)\sum_{l=0}^{j}s(j,l)\|X_t\|_l^l\alpha_i^j+\sum_{l=0}^{h-1}s(h,l)\|X_t\|_l^l\alpha_i^h+\alpha_i^h\|X_t\|_h^h\\
&\leq \sum_{j=0}^{h-1}|S(h,j)|\sum_{l=0}^{j}|s(j,l)|\|X_t\|_l^l\alpha_i^j+\sum_{l=0}^{h-1}|s(h,l)|\|X_t\|_l^l\alpha_i^h+\alpha_i^h\|X_t\|_h^h.
\end{aligned}$$

By using the above to bound the right-hand side of (41), isolating $\|X_t\|_h^h$ on one side of the inequality and using $(a+b)^{1/h} \leq a^{1/h} + b^{1/h}$ for $a, b \geq 0$ and $h \geq 1$, we get

$$\|X_t\|_h \leq \frac{1}{1-\sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i} \left(\sum_{i=1}^p \left(\sum_{j=0}^{h-1} |S(h,j)| \sum_{l=0}^{j} |s(j,l)| \|X_t\|_l^l \alpha_i^j + \sum_{l=0}^{h-1} |s(h,l)| \|X_t\|_l^l \alpha_i^h \right)^{1/h} + \|\epsilon_t\|_h \right).$$

As the last right-hand side above is composed of a finite weighted sum of $\|\epsilon_t\|_h$ and $\|X_t\|_j^j$, $j = 0, \ldots, h-1$ only, we get $E(X_t^h) < \infty$ from $E(\epsilon_t^h) < \infty$ and using an induction-type argument.

Finally, to show the L_h-convergence, we use a similar argument. For notational convenience, we prove this assertion only for $p = 2$, but the arguments transfer directly to $p > 2$ as well. First, for all vectors $\boldsymbol{v} = (v_1, v_2)' \in \mathbb{R}^2$, we have

$$\|\boldsymbol{v}'(\boldsymbol{X}_t - \boldsymbol{X}_t^{(q)})\|_h^h = \|\boldsymbol{v}'[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^t \boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_h^h = \sum_{\boldsymbol{k}\in\mathbb{N}_0^p} E\left((\boldsymbol{v}'\mathbf{A} \circ_t \boldsymbol{k})^h\right) P\left([\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1} \boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1} = \boldsymbol{k}\right). \quad (43)$$

For the expectation on the last right-hand side, due to independence of the thinning operations, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} E\left((\boldsymbol{v}'\mathbf{A} \circ_t \boldsymbol{k})^h\right) &= E\left((v_1(\alpha_1 \circ_{t,1} k_1 + \alpha_2 \circ_{t,2} k_2) + v_2 k_1)^h\right) \\ &= \sum_{r=0}^h \binom{h}{r} \sum_{u=0}^r \binom{r}{u} v_1^r (v_2 k_1)^{h-r} E\left((\alpha_1 \circ_{t,1} k_1)^u\right) E\left((\alpha_2 \circ_{t,2} k_2)^{r-u}\right) \end{aligned}$$

and by using the same trick as above, i.e., the representation of moments of binomial distributions with the help of Stirling numbers, the last right-hand side can be expressed as

$$\sum_{r=0}^h \binom{h}{r} \sum_{u=0}^r \binom{r}{u} v_1^r (v_2 k_1)^{h-r} \left(\sum_{a=0}^u S(u,a) \sum_{b=0}^a s(a,b) k_1^b \alpha_1^a \right) \left(\sum_{c=0}^{r-u} S(r-u,c) \sum_{d=0}^c s(c,d) k_2^d \alpha_2^c \right).$$

By extracting only the summand with $a = b = u$ and $c = d = r - u$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{r=0}^h \binom{h}{r} \sum_{u=0}^r \binom{r}{u} v_1^r (v_2)^{h-r} \left(\sum_{\substack{a=0}}^{u} \sum_{b=0}^{a} \sum_{c=0}^{r-u} \sum_{\substack{d=0 \\ (a,b,c,d)\neq(u,u,r-u,r-u)}}^{c} S(u,a)s(a,b)S(r-u,c)s(c,d) k_2^d k_1^{b+h-r} \alpha_1^a \alpha_2^c \right) \\ + & \sum_{r=0}^h \binom{h}{r} \sum_{u=0}^r \binom{r}{u} v_1^r (v_2 k_1)^{h-r} (k_1\alpha_1)^u (k_2\alpha_2)^{r-u} \\ = & \sum_{r=0}^h \binom{h}{r} \sum_{u=0}^r \binom{r}{u} v_1^r (v_2)^{h-r} \left(\sum_{\substack{a=0}}^{u} \sum_{b=0}^{a} \sum_{c=0}^{r-u} \sum_{\substack{d=0 \\ (a,b,c,d)\neq(u,u,r-u,r-u)}}^{c} S(u,a)s(a,b)S(r-u,c)s(c,d) k_2^d k_1^{b+h-r} \alpha_1^a \alpha_2^c \right) \\ + & (\boldsymbol{v}'\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{k})^h \end{aligned}$$

Together with (43) and Hölder inequality with $p=(b+h-r+d)/(b+h-r)$ and $q=(b+h-r+d)/d$ such that $1/p+1/q=1$, this leads to

$$\begin{aligned}
&\|\boldsymbol{v}'[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_h^h \\
=\;& \sum_{r=0}^{h}\binom{h}{r}\sum_{u=0}^{r}\binom{r}{u}v_1^r(v_2)^{h-r}\sum_{\substack{a=0\\(a,b,c,d)\neq(u,u,r-u,r-u)}}^{u}\sum_{b=0}^{a}\sum_{c=0}^{r-u}\sum_{d=0}^{c}|S(r-u,c)||s(c,d)||S(u,a)||s(a,b)|\alpha_1^a\alpha_2^c \\
&\times E\left(((1,0)[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1})^{b+h-r}((0,1)[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1})^{d}\right)+E\left((\boldsymbol{v}'\mathbf{A}[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1})^h\right) \\
\leq\;& \sum_{r=0}^{h}\binom{h}{r}\sum_{u=0}^{r}\binom{r}{u}v_1^r(v_2)^{h-r}\sum_{\substack{a=0\\(a,b,c,d)\neq(u,u,r-u,r-u)}}^{u}\sum_{b=0}^{a}\sum_{c=0}^{r-u}\sum_{d=0}^{c}|S(r-u,c)||s(c,d)||S(u,a)||s(a,b)|\alpha_1^a\alpha_2^c \\
&\times\|(1,0)[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_{b+h-r+d}^{b+h-r}\|(0,1)[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_{b+h-r+d}^{d}+\|\boldsymbol{v}'\mathbf{A}[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_h^h.
\end{aligned}$$

As the latter inequality holds for arbitrary vector $\boldsymbol{v}\in\mathbb{R}^2$, we can use it successively to get

$$\begin{aligned}
&\|\boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_h^h \\
\leq\;& \sum_{r=0}^{h}\binom{h}{r}\sum_{u=0}^{r}\binom{r}{u}\sum_{\substack{a=0\\(a,b,c,d)\neq(u,u,r-u,r-u)}}^{u}\sum_{b=0}^{a}\sum_{c=0}^{r-u}\sum_{d=0}^{c}|S(r-u,c)||s(c,d)||S(u,a)||s(a,b)|\alpha_1^a\alpha_2^c \\
&\times\sum_{k=0}^{q}v_1(k)^r v_2(k)^{h-r}\|(1,0)[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-k-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_{b+h-r+d}^{b+h-r}\|(0,1)[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-k-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_{b+h-r+d}^{d} \\
&+\|\boldsymbol{u}'\mathbf{A}^{q+1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_h^h,
\end{aligned}$$

where $v_1(k)=\boldsymbol{u}'\mathbf{A}^k(1,0)'$ and $v_2(k)=\boldsymbol{u}'\mathbf{A}^k(0,1)'$. By using $(a+b)^{1/h}\leq a^{1/h}+b^{1/h}$ for $a,b\geq 0$ and $h\geq 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\|\boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_h \\
\leq\;& \sum_{r=0}^{h}\sum_{u=0}^{r}\left(\binom{h}{r}\binom{r}{u}\right)^{1/h}\sum_{\substack{a=0\\a\neq u,b\neq uc\neq r-u,d\neq r-u}}^{u}\sum_{b=0}^{a}\sum_{c=0}^{r-u}\sum_{d=0}^{c}(|S(r-u,c)||s(c,d)||S(u,a)||s(a,b)|)^{1/h}\alpha_1^{a/h}\alpha_2^{c/h} \\
&\times\sum_{k=0}^{q}v_1(k)^{r/h}v_2(k)^{(h-r)/h}\|(1,0)[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-k-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_{b+h-r+d}^{(b+h-r)/h}\|(0,1)[\mathbf{A}\circ]_{j=t-q}^{t-k-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_{b+h-r+d}^{d/h} \\
&+\|\boldsymbol{u}'\mathbf{A}^{q+1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_h.
\end{aligned}$$

By Minkowski's inequality and stationarity, $\|\boldsymbol{u}'\mathbf{A}^{q+1}\boldsymbol{X}_{t-q+1}\|_h$ can be bounded by

$$\mathbf{1}'\mathbf{A}^{q+1}\mathbf{1}\|X_t\|_h\to 0,$$

as $q\to\infty$, because all the moduli of all eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A}$ are less than one. Further, by the same reasoning, we get $v_1(k),v_2(k)\leq\mathbf{1}'\mathbf{A}^k\mathbf{1}$ such that $v_1(k)^{r/h}v_2(k)^{(h-r)/h}\leq\mathbf{1}'\mathbf{A}^k\mathbf{1}$ as well. Hence, $v_1(k)^{r/h}v_2(k)^{(h-r)/h}\sim\theta^k$ with $\theta\in(0,1)$ is geometrically decreasing as k becomes large. Furthermore, due to extracting the summand with $a=b=u$ and $c=d=r-u$ from the sums in the first term on the last right-hand side above, $1\leq b+h-r+d\leq h-1$ does always hold. Altogether, by using an induction-type argument, this first term above converges to zero as $q\to\infty$ as it contains only moments up to order $h-1$. This proves L_h-convergence. □

Lemma B.2 (Basic properties of the bootstrap INAR(p) process)**.**
Under Assumption 2 with $s = 1$ and Assumption 3 with $s = 1$, the INAR(p) bootstrap recursion (15) *has (with P-probability tending to one) a strictly stationary solution $(X_t^*, t \in \mathbb{Z})$ with $E^*(X_t^*) = \mu_{\epsilon^*}/(1 - \sum_{i=1}^p \widehat{\alpha}_i) = O_P(1)$. Precisely, the bootstrap INAR(p) process can be represented as an INMA(∞) process, that is,*

$$X_t^* = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \boldsymbol{u}'([\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^t)\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}^*, \quad t \in \mathbb{Z}, \tag{44}$$

where $X_t^* = \boldsymbol{u}'\boldsymbol{X}_t^*$ with $\boldsymbol{X}_t^*$, $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t^*$, $\widehat{\mathbf{A}}$ and $[\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=s}^t$ defined similarly as in Lemma B.1, but based on bootstrap quantities X_t^*, ϵ_t^*, estimators $\widehat{\alpha}_1, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_p$ and entry-wise bootstrap binomial thinning operations $\circ_t^*$. The convergence of (44) *is in L_1-sense and almost surely in P-probability, respectively. If Assumption 3 holds for some $h \in \mathbb{N}$, i.e., $E^*(\epsilon_t^{*h}) = O_P(1)$, it holds $E^*(X_t^{*h}) = O_P(1)$ and the convergence of* (44) *holds in L_h-sense in P-probability.*

Proof. Similar to the proof of Lemma B.1, we get

$$E^*(|X_t^* - X_t^{*(q)}|) \leq E^*(|\boldsymbol{X}_t^* - \boldsymbol{X}_t^{*(q)}|_1) = \mu_{X^*}\mathbf{1}_p'\widehat{\mathbf{A}}^{q+1}\mathbf{1}_p, \tag{45}$$

where $\mu_{X^*} = E^*(X_{t-q+1}^*) = O_P(1)$. As with P-probability tending to one, all eigenvalues of $\widehat{\mathbf{A}}$ have modulus less than one by Assumption 2 and Assumption 3(i), we get

$$\mu_{X^*}\mathbf{1}_p'\widehat{\mathbf{A}}^{q+1}\mathbf{1}_p = o_P(1),$$

which proves L_1-convergence in probability of (44). By similar arguments, we get

$$E^*(X_t^*) = \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I}_{p\times p} - \widehat{\mathbf{A}})^{-1}\boldsymbol{u}\mu_{\epsilon^*} = \frac{\mu_\epsilon^*}{1 - \sum_{i=1}^p \widehat{\alpha}_i}.$$

Further, from Assumption 3(i), we get that for all $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a sequence $(\delta_n, n \in \mathbb{N})$ with $\delta_n \searrow 0$ such that $P_n(|\widehat{\mathbf{A}}_n - \mathbf{A}| < \delta_n) > 1 - \varepsilon$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. By denoting $\Omega_{\varepsilon,n} = \{\omega : |\widehat{\mathbf{A}}_n - \mathbf{A}| < \delta_n\}$, we get by the same arguments used in the proof of Lemma B.1 and from Assumption 3(i) that for all sequences $(\omega_n, n \in \mathbb{N})$ with $\omega_n \in \Omega_{\varepsilon,n}$,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \boldsymbol{u}'([\widehat{\mathbf{A}}_n(\omega_n) \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^t)\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}^*$$

converges almost surely with respect to P^*. This proves almost sure convergence in probability of (44). To show that (44) solves the INAR(p) bootstrap recursion (15) is completely analogous to the calculations in (40). □

Lemma B.3 (INAR Boostrap: weak convergence)**.** *Suppose that either the assumptions of Corollary 4.1 or of Corollary 4.2 are satisfied. Then, we have $X_t^* \xrightarrow{d} X_t$ in probability as $n \to \infty$, i.e., it holds $F^*(x) := P^*(X_t^* \leq x) \xrightarrow{P} F(x) := P(X_t \leq x)$ as $n \to \infty$ for all continuity points x of $F(\cdot)$. Furthermore, for all $t_1, \ldots, t_d \in \mathbb{Z}$, we have*

$$(X_{t_1}^*, \ldots, X_{t_d}^*)' \xrightarrow{d} (X_{t_1}, \ldots, X_{t_d})'$$

in probability.

Proof. Let x be a continuity point of $F(x) = P(X_t \leq x)$. Then, we have to show that for all $\varepsilon, \delta > 0$ there is an $n_0 = n_0(\delta, \varepsilon)$ such that

$$P\left(|P^*(X_t^* \leq x) - P(X_t \leq x)| \geq \varepsilon\right) < \delta \quad \text{for all sample sizes } n > n_0.$$

Let $\varepsilon, \delta > 0$. From Lemma B.2, we get that the bootstrap INAR(p) process has an INMA(∞) representation, which we can decompose for any $q \in \mathbb{N}_0$ such that

$$X_t^* = \sum_{k=0}^{q} \boldsymbol{u}'([\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t}) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}^* + \sum_{k=q+1}^{\infty} \boldsymbol{u}\prime([\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t}) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}^* = X_t^{*(q)} + (X_t^* - X_t^{*(q)}). \quad (46)$$

Then, as $X_t^* \geq X_t^{*(q)}$, we can write

$$P^*(X_t^* \leq x) \;=\; P^*(X_t^{*(q)} \leq x) - P^*(x - (X_t^* - X_t^{*(q)}) < X_t^{*(q)} \leq x)$$

with $P^*(x - (X_t^* - X_t^{*(q)}) < X_t^{*(q)} \leq x) \leq P^*((X_t^* - X_t^{*(q)}) \geq 1) \leq E^*(X_t^* - X_t^{*(q)})$. Further, similar to (39), we get

$$\begin{aligned} E^*(\boldsymbol{X}_t^* - \boldsymbol{X}_t^{*(q)}) &= E^*(([\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-q}^{t}) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-q-1}^*) + E^*(\sum_{k=q+2}^{\infty} ([\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t}) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}^*) \\ &= E^*(([\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-q}^{t}) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-q-1}^*) + \widehat{\mathbf{A}} E^*(\sum_{k=q+1}^{\infty} ([\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t}) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k}^*) \\ &= E^*(([\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-q}^{t}) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-q-1}^*) + \widehat{\mathbf{A}} E^*(\boldsymbol{X}_t^* - \boldsymbol{X}_t^{*(q)}) \end{aligned}$$

leading to

$$\begin{aligned} E^*(X_t^* - X_t^{*(q)}) &= \boldsymbol{u}' E^*(\boldsymbol{X}_t^* - \boldsymbol{X}_t^{*(q)}) = \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I} - \widehat{\mathbf{A}})^{-1} E^*(([\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-q}^{t}) \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-q-1}^*) \\ &= \mu_\epsilon^* \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I} - \widehat{\mathbf{A}})^{-1} \widehat{\mathbf{A}}^{q+1} \boldsymbol{u} \end{aligned}$$

Analogously, we have

$$P(X_t \leq x) \;=\; P(X_t^{(q)} \leq x) - P(x - (X_t - X_t^{(q)}) < X_t^{(q)} \leq x)$$

with $P(x - (X_t - X_t^{(q)}) < X_t^{(q)} \leq x) \leq E(X_t - X_t^{(q)})$ and $E(X_t - X_t^{(q)}) = \mu_\epsilon \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{q+1} \boldsymbol{u}$. Altogether, this leads to

$$\begin{aligned} & P\left(|P^*(X_t^* \leq x) - P(X_t \leq x)| \geq \varepsilon\right) \\ \leq\; & P\left(\left|P^*(X_t^{*(q)} \leq x) - P(X_t^{(q)} \leq x)\right| \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}\right) + P\left(|\mu_\epsilon^* \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I} - \widehat{\mathbf{A}})^{-1} \widehat{\mathbf{A}}^{q+1} \boldsymbol{u}| \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}\right) \\ & + P\left(|\mu_\epsilon \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{q+1} \boldsymbol{u}| \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}\right) \\ =:\; & \mathrm{I} + \mathrm{II} + \mathrm{III}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, note that $\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{A}$ and $\mu_\epsilon^* \to \mu_\epsilon < \infty$ hold in the parametric setup of Corollary 4.1 and in the semi-parametric setup of Corollary 4.2. On the one hand, as all eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A}$ have modulus less than one, we can choose $\kappa > 0$ sufficiently small such that all $(p \times p)$ matrices $\mathbf{B}$ with $\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}\| \leq \kappa$ have all eigenvalues less than and uniformly away from one. In particular, this assures existence of $(\mathbf{I} - \widehat{\mathbf{A}})^{-1}$ in the above with probability tending to one. On the other hand, we can choose $M < \infty$ such that $P(\mu_\epsilon^* > M) < \delta$. Considering term II first, for sufficiently large $n = n(\kappa, M)$ and sufficiently large $q = q(\varepsilon, \delta, \kappa, M)$, this leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{II} &\leq P\left(|\mu_\epsilon^* \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I} - \widehat{\mathbf{A}})^{-1} \widehat{\mathbf{A}}^{q+1} \boldsymbol{u}| \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, \|\widehat{\mathbf{A}} - \mathbf{A}\| \leq \kappa, \mu_\epsilon^* \leq M\right) + P\left(\|\widehat{\mathbf{A}} - \mathbf{A}\| > \kappa\right) + P\left(\mu_\epsilon^* > M\right) \\ &< P\left(|\mu_\epsilon^* \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I} - \widehat{\mathbf{A}})^{-1} \widehat{\mathbf{A}}^{q+1} \boldsymbol{u}| \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, \|\widehat{\mathbf{A}} - \mathbf{A}\| \leq \kappa, \mu_\epsilon^* \leq M\right) + 2\delta \\ &< 3\delta. \end{aligned}$$

As $\mu_\epsilon \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{q+1} \boldsymbol{u}$ is deterministic, we can find also q large enough such that $|\mu_\epsilon \boldsymbol{u}'(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{q+1} \boldsymbol{u}| < \varepsilon/3$ holds leading to $\mathrm{III} = 0$. Hence, it remains to treat I. As $X_t^{*(q)}$ and $X_t^{(q)}$ are

both finite sums of independent summands (see, e.g., (46)), by Cramér-Wold device, it remains to show that for all fixed $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ that

$$\boldsymbol{u}'[\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1}^* \xrightarrow{d} \boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A} \circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1}$$

in probability, to complete the proof. That is, we have to show that for all continuity points of $P(\boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A} \circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1} \leq \cdot)$, we have

$$P^*(\boldsymbol{u}'[\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1}^* \leq x) \xrightarrow{P} P(\boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A} \circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1} \leq x).$$

Note here that the continuity points of $P(X_t \leq \cdot)$ and $P(\boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A} \circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1} \leq \cdot)$, $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ simply coincide as all corresponding random variables have range $\mathbb{N}_0$. Conditioning on ϵ_{t-k+1}^* (recall that $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1}^* = (\epsilon_{t-k+1}^*, 0, \ldots, 0)'$) and independence of thinning operations and innovations leads to

$$P^*(\boldsymbol{u}'[\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1}^* \leq x) = \sum_{s \in \mathbb{N}_0} P^*(\boldsymbol{u}'[\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} (s\boldsymbol{u}) \leq x) P^*(\epsilon_{t-k+1}^* = s)$$

with an analogous representation also for $P(\boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A} \circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1} \leq x)$. Now, using both representations, for any $K \in \mathbb{N}_0$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& |P^*(\boldsymbol{u}'[\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1}^* \leq x) - P(\boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A} \circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t-k+1} \leq x)| \\
\leq & \sum_{s \in \mathbb{N}_0} P^*(\boldsymbol{u}'[\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} (s\boldsymbol{u}) \leq x) |P^*(\epsilon_{t-k+1}^* = s) - P(\epsilon_{t-k+1} = s)| \\
& + \sum_{\substack{s \in \mathbb{N}_0 \\ s \leq K}} |P^*(\boldsymbol{u}'[\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} (s\boldsymbol{u}) \leq x) - P(\boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A} \circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} (s\boldsymbol{u}) \leq x)| P(\epsilon_{t-k+1} = s) \\
& + \sum_{\substack{s \in \mathbb{N}_0 \\ s > K}} |P^*(\boldsymbol{u}'[\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} (s\boldsymbol{u}) \leq x) - P(\boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A} \circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} (s\boldsymbol{u}) \leq x)| P(\epsilon_{t-k+1} = s).
\end{aligned}$$

Now, for fixed $\delta > 0$, the aim is to show that we can choose $K = K(\delta)$ and $n = n(K, \delta)$ large enough such that the last right-hand side above is smaller than δ. The first term above can be bounded by $\sum_{s \in \mathbb{N}_0} |P^*(\epsilon_{t-k+1}^* = s) - P(\epsilon_{t-k+1} = s)|$, which equals $\sum_{s \in \mathbb{N}_0} |G_{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(s) - G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(s)| = o_P(1)$ in the parametric setup and $\sum_{s \in \mathbb{N}_0} |\widehat{G}_{\mathrm{sp}}(s) - G(s)| = o_P(1)$ in the semi-parametric setup. The third term can be bounded by $\sum_{s \in \mathbb{N}_0, s > K} P(\epsilon_{t-k+1} = s)$ which becomes arbitrary small for K chosen sufficiently large in the parametric and semi-parametric setup. For all fixed $K \in \mathbb{N}_0$, the second term above is a finite sum and it remains to show that

$$P^*(\boldsymbol{u}'[\widehat{\mathbf{A}} \circ^*]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} (s\boldsymbol{u}) \leq x) \xrightarrow{P} P(\boldsymbol{u}'[\mathbf{A} \circ]_{j=t-k+1}^{t} (s\boldsymbol{u}) \leq x)$$

for all fixed $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $s \in \mathbb{N}_0$. The latter can be shown by successively conditioning and decomposing using similar arguments as above.

Finally, the joint convergence can be shown by the Cramér-Wold device and by following the lines of the proof above. □

Appendix C. Further Details about Simulations and Data Example

C.1. **Semiparametric Estimation Procedure.** Given a time series $x_1, \ldots, x_n$, the estimation procedure of Drost et al. (2009) computes a distribution with support in $\{0, \ldots, \max\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}\}$ for the innovations, and values for the autoregressive parameters $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p$. As initial values for the α_i, Drost et al. (2009) suggest to use the corresponding Yule-Walker estimates

$\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_{p;\mathrm{YW}}$ as obtained from the sample autocorrelation function. As the initial distribution, Drost et al. (2009) recommend the use of the uniform distribution on $\{0, \ldots, \max\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}\}$, which, however, will usually deviate heavily from the true distribution of the ϵ. We experimented with two other non-parametric initializations:

- Poisson approximation: use the Poisson distribution with mean $\overline{x}\,(1 - \widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}} - \ldots - \widehat{\alpha}_{p;\mathrm{YW}})$, truncate it to $\{0, \ldots, \max\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}\}$.
- ϵ-identification: Given the values of x_t; $x_{t-1}, \ldots, x_{t-p}$ for $p+1 \leq t \leq n$, consider the probability $f_t(i) := P(X_t = x_t \mid X_{t-1} = x_{t-1}, \ldots, X_{t-p} = x_{t-p},\ \epsilon_t = i)$ as a function of i (by using $\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_{p;\mathrm{YW}}$ instead of the true autoregressive parameters), and define $\hat{\epsilon}_t := \arg\max_i f_t(i)$. Use the frequency distribution of $\hat{\epsilon}_{p+1}, \ldots, \hat{\epsilon}_n$.

We compared both initialization approaches via simulations and realized nearly no difference in the ML estimates resulting from the approach by Drost et al. (2009). Therefore, we finally used the second one for initialization. For autoregressive order $p = 1$, we immediately obtain that

$$P(X_t = k \mid X_{t-1} = l_1,\ \epsilon_t = i) \;=\; \binom{l_1}{k-i} \alpha^{k-i} (1-\alpha)^{l-k+i} \tag{47}$$

for $\max\{0, k - l_1\} \leq i \leq k$, and 0 otherwise. Similarly, for $p = 2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &P(X_t = k \mid X_{t-1} = l_1, X_{t-2} = l_2,\ \epsilon_t = i) \\ &\quad = \sum_{r=\max\{0,k-i-l_2\}}^{\min\{l_1,k-i\}} \binom{l_1}{r} \alpha_1^r (1-\alpha_1)^{l_1-r} \cdot \binom{l_2}{k-i-r} \alpha_2^{k-i-r} (1-\alpha_2)^{l_2-k+i+r} \end{aligned} \tag{48}$$

for $\max\{0, k - l_1 - l_2\} \leq i \leq k$, and 0 otherwise. Note that both distributions (47) and (48) might become one-point distributions (i.e., support of size 1), which implies that ϵ_t is identified exactly. This happens, for instance, if $l_1 = \ldots = l_p = 0$, i.e., if the last p observations were equal 0, also see Section 2.1.

For numerical computation of the estimates, we used MATLAB's `fmincon` function (constrained nonlinear optimization, algorithm `active-set`), where the constraints were chosen such that all parameter restrictions of a stationary INAR(p) model are satisfied (the boxes for each estimate were bounded by 10^{-6} and $1 - 10^{-6}$). Remember that the coefficients $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_p > 0$ of an INAR(p) model have to satisfy the condition $\sum_{j=1}^{p} \alpha_j < 1$ to be strictly stationary.

C.2. **Centering Schemes.** In the sequel, we state briefly the different centering schemes for the semi-parametric INAR-Bootstrap (spINAR-Bootstrap), the parametric (Poisson) INAR-Bootstrap (pINAR-Bootstrap), the Circular Block Bootstrap (CBB), the AR-Bootstrap (AR-Bootstrap), and the Markov Bootstrap (MB). We provide expressions for centering $\overline{X}^*$, $\widehat{\gamma}^*(0)$, $\widehat{\gamma}^*(1)$ and $\widehat{p}_0^*$; any of the remaining estimators is a function in $\overline{X}, \widehat{\gamma}(0), \widehat{\gamma}(1), \widehat{p}_0$, so we applied the corresponding function to cent$\big(\overline{X}^*\big), \ldots$ to obtain an appropriate centering scheme.

spINAR. The semiparametric estimation approach leads to the estimated (thinning) INAR coefficients $\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{sp}}, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_{p;\,\mathrm{sp}}$ and innovations' probabilities $\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(k)$ for $k = 0, \ldots, \max\{X_1, \ldots, X_n\}$. Using the latter, we compute $\widehat{\mu}_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}} := \sum_{k=0}^{\max\{X_1,\ldots,X_n\}} k \cdot \widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(k)$ and $\widehat{\sigma}^2_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}} := \sum_{k=0}^{\max\{X_1,\ldots,X_n\}} k^2 \cdot \widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(k) - \widehat{\mu}^2_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}}$. The probability generating function equals $\widehat{\mathrm{pgf}}_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}}(z) := \sum_{k=0}^{\max\{X_1,\ldots,X_n\}} z^k \cdot \widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(k)$. Centering of $\ldots$

- $\overline{X}^*$: $\widehat{\mu}_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}} / (1 - \widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{sp}} - \ldots - \widehat{\alpha}_{p;\,\mathrm{sp}})$.

- $\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*$: $\operatorname{cent}\big(\overline{X}^*\big) \cdot \dfrac{\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{sp}} + \frac{\widehat{\sigma}^2_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}}}{\widehat{\mu}_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}}}}{1+\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{sp}}}$ for $p=1$, and for $p=2$:

$$\operatorname{cent}\big(\overline{X}^*\big) \cdot \frac{1-\widehat{\alpha}^2_{1;\mathrm{sp}} - \widehat{\alpha}^2_{2;\mathrm{sp}} + \big(\frac{\widehat{\sigma}^2_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}}}{\widehat{\mu}_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}}} - 1\big)\,(1-\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{sp}} - \widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{sp}})}{1-\widehat{\alpha}^2_{1;\mathrm{sp}} - \widehat{\alpha}^2_{2;\mathrm{sp}} - 2\,\widehat{\alpha}^2_{1;\mathrm{sp}}\,\frac{\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{sp}}}{1-\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{sp}}}}.$$

- $\widehat{\gamma}(1)^*$: $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*\big) \cdot (1-\frac{1}{n})\,\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{sp}}$ for $p=1$, and $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*\big) \cdot (1-\frac{1}{n})\,\frac{\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{sp}}}{1-\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{sp}}}$ for $p=2$.
- $\widehat{p}^*_0$: For $p=1$, we utilize a result in Jazi et al. (2012) to compute $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{p}^*_0\big) := \prod_{j=0}^{M} \widehat{\mathrm{pgf}}_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}}(1-\widehat{\alpha}^j_{1;\mathrm{sp}}) =: a(M)$, where M is the smallest value such that $\big|a(M)-a(M-1)\big| \le 10^{-6}$.

  For $p=2$, we ran an additional bootstrap loop and chose $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{p}^*_0\big)$ as the mean zero frequency.

Note that (for simplicity) the centering for the sample variance and sample autocovariance is based on computations for $\widetilde{\gamma}^*(0) = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=1}^{n}(X^*_t - E^*(X^*_t))^2$ and $\widetilde{\gamma}^*(1) = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=1}^{n}(X^*_{t+1} - E^*(X^*_{t+1}))(X^*_t - E^*(X^*_t))$ instead of $\widehat{\gamma}^*(0)$ and $\widehat{\gamma}^*(1)$, respectively.

pINAR. The centerings for the pINAR bootstrap make use of Yule-Walker estimators $\overline{X}$ for the marginal mean μ_X and $\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}, \ldots, \widehat{\alpha}_{p;\mathrm{YW}}$ (computed from the sample autocorrelation function according to the Yule-Walker equations of the INAR(p) model). Centering of ...

- $\overline{X}^*$: $\overline{X}$.
- $\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*$: Because of the Poisson assumption concerning the innovations (equidispersion!), we choose again $\overline{X}$ for $p=1$, and for $p=2$:

$$\operatorname{cent}\big(\overline{X}^*\big) \cdot \frac{1-\widehat{\alpha}^2_{1;\mathrm{YW}} - \widehat{\alpha}^2_{2;\mathrm{YW}}}{1-\widehat{\alpha}^2_{1;\mathrm{YW}} - \widehat{\alpha}^2_{2;\mathrm{YW}} - 2\,\widehat{\alpha}^2_{1;\mathrm{YW}}\,\frac{\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{YW}}}{1-\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{YW}}}}.$$

- $\widehat{\gamma}(1)^*$: $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*\big) \cdot (1-\frac{1}{n})\,\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}$ for $p=1$, and $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*\big) \cdot (1-\frac{1}{n})\,\frac{\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}}{1-\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{YW}}}$ for $p=2$.
- $\widehat{p}^*_0$: Because of the Poisson assumption, we choose $\exp(-\overline{X})$ for $p=1$, while we ran an additional bootstrap loop for $p=2$.

CBB. Centering of ...

- $\overline{X}^*$: $\overline{X}$.
- $\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*$: $\widehat{\gamma}(0)$.
- $\widehat{\gamma}(1)^*$: $\big(1-\frac{\lceil n/b\rceil}{n}\big)\,\frac{1}{n}\sum_{t=1}^{n}(X_{t+1}-\overline{X})(X_t-\overline{X})$, where we set $X_{n+1}=X_1$, and where b is the block length.
- $\widehat{p}^*_0$: $\widehat{p}_0$.

AR. Let $\widetilde{\epsilon}_t$ denote the centered AR residuals, see Section 3, and let $\widehat{\sigma}^2_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{AR}} := \frac{1}{n-p}\sum_{t=p+1}^{n}\widetilde{\epsilon}^2_t$. Since for a continuous AR model, the probability of observing a zero equals 0, we treated the frequency of the event "$X_t < 0.5$" as the "zero frequency". Centering of ...

- $\overline{X}^*$: $\overline{X}$.
- $\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*$: $\dfrac{\widehat{\sigma}^2_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{AR}}}{1-\widehat{\alpha}^2_{1;\mathrm{YW}}}$ for $p=1$, and $\dfrac{\widehat{\sigma}^2_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{AR}}}{1-\widehat{\alpha}^2_{1;\mathrm{YW}} - \widehat{\alpha}^2_{2;\mathrm{YW}} - 2\,\widehat{\alpha}^2_{1;\mathrm{YW}}\,\frac{\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{YW}}}{1-\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{YW}}}}$ for $p=2$.
- $\widehat{\gamma}(1)^*$: $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*\big) \cdot (1-\frac{1}{n})\,\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}$ for $p=1$, and $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*\big) \cdot (1-\frac{1}{n})\,\frac{\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}}{1-\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{YW}}}$ for $p=2$.
- $\widehat{p}^*_0$: We ran an additional bootstrap loop and chose $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{p}^*_0\big)$ as the mean "zero frequency".

MB. Centering of ...

- $\overline{X}^*$: $\overline{X}$.
- $\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*$: $\widehat{\gamma}(0)$.
- $\widehat{\gamma}(1)^*$: $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*\big)\cdot(1-\frac{1}{n})\,\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}$ for $p=1$, and $\operatorname{cent}\big(\widehat{\gamma}(0)^*\big)\cdot(1-\frac{1}{n})\,\frac{\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}}{1-\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{YW}}}$ for $p=2$.
- $\widehat{p}_0^*$: $\widehat{p}_0$.

C.3. **Asymptotic Approximations for $p=1$.** If the considered estimators are applied to a Poisson INAR(1) process, these estimators are asymptotically unbiased and normally distributed, with the asymptotic variances (inflated by n) given by

- $\overline{X}$: $\mu_X\,\frac{1+\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ (Weiß and Schweer, 2016);
- $\widehat{\gamma}(0)$: $2\,\mu_X^2\,\frac{1+\alpha^2}{1-\alpha^2}+\mu_X\,\frac{1+\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ (Weiß and Schweer, 2016);
- $\widehat{I}_{\mathrm{disp}}$: $2\,\frac{1+\alpha^2}{1-\alpha^2}$ (Schweer and Weiß, 2014);
- $\widehat{\gamma}(1)$: $\mu_X^2\,\frac{1+4\alpha^2-\alpha^4}{1-\alpha^2}+\mu_X\,\frac{\alpha(1+\alpha)}{1-\alpha}$ (Weiß and Schweer, 2016);
- $\widehat{\rho}(1)$: $1-\alpha^2+\frac{\alpha(1-\alpha)}{\mu_X}$ (Weiß and Schweer, 2016);
- $\overline{X}\,\big(1-\widehat{\rho}(1)\big)$: $\mu_\epsilon+\frac{1+\alpha}{1-\alpha}\,\mu_\epsilon^2$ (Weiß and Schweer, 2016);
- $\widehat{p}_0$: $e^{-\mu_X}(1-e^{-\mu_X})\;+\;2e^{-2\mu_X}\,\sum_{j=1}^{\infty}\frac{\mu_X^j}{j!}\,\frac{\alpha^j}{1-\alpha^j}$ (Weiß et al., 2016);
- $\widehat{I}_{\mathrm{z.i.}}$: $\frac{e^{\mu}_X-1}{\mu_X^2}\;-\;\frac{1}{\mu_X}\,\frac{1+\alpha}{1-\alpha}\;+\;\frac{2}{\mu_X^2}\,\sum_{j=1}^{\infty}\frac{\mu_X^j}{j!}\,\frac{\alpha^j}{1-\alpha^j}$ (Weiß et al., 2016);
- $\widehat{I}_{\mathrm{z.m.}}$: $e^{\mu_X}-1\;-\;\mu_X\,\frac{1+\alpha}{1-\alpha}\;+\;2\,\sum_{j=1}^{\infty}\frac{\mu_X^j}{j!}\,\frac{\alpha^j}{1-\alpha^j}$ (Weiß et al., 2016).

C.4. **Additional Results for Data Example.** The time series of iceberg counts from Section 5.3 is of length $n=1632$ and consists of values between 0 and 7. The sample estimates for the considered statistics are

$$\overline{x}\approx 0.778 \qquad \widehat{\gamma}(0)\approx 0.819 \qquad \widehat{I}_{\mathrm{disp}}\approx 1.053 \qquad \widehat{\gamma}(1)\approx 0.415 \qquad \widehat{\rho}(1)\approx 0.507$$
$$\overline{x}\,\big(1-\widehat{\rho}(1)\big)\approx 0.383 \qquad \widehat{p}_0\approx 0.463 \qquad \widehat{I}_{\mathrm{z.i.}}\approx 8.655\cdot 10^{-3} \qquad \widehat{I}_{\mathrm{z.m.}}\approx 6.752\cdot 10^{-3}.$$

If using the semi-parametric approach of Drost et al. (2009) to fit an INAR(1) or INAR(2) model, with the initialization approach described in Appendix C.1, one obtains

p	$\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{sp}}$	$\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{sp}}$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(0)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(1)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(2)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(3)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(4)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(5)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(6)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{sp}}(7)$	$\widehat{\mu}_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}}$	$\widehat{\sigma}^2_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{sp}}$
1	0.528		0.698	0.250	0.043	0.005	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.368	0.405
2	0.474	0.162	0.760	0.205	0.029	0.003	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.283	0.313

These estimates were used for the respective semi-parametric INAR(p) bootstrap.

The parametric INAR(p) bootstrap (Poisson innovations), and also the AR(p) bootstrap, used the following YW estimates: $\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}\approx 0.507$, $\widehat{\mu}_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{YW}}\approx 0.383$ for $p=1$, and $\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{YW}}\approx 0.412$, $\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{YW}}\approx 0.188$, $\widehat{\mu}_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{YW}}\approx 0.311$ for $p=2$. As a result, the parametrically-fitted Poisson INAR models have slightly different properties than the semi-parametric ones as tabulated before:

p	$\widehat{\alpha}_{1;\mathrm{p}}$	$\widehat{\alpha}_{2;\mathrm{p}}$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{p}}(0)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{p}}(1)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{p}}(2)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{p}}(3)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{p}}(4)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{p}}(5)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{p}}(6)$	$\widehat{g}_{\mathrm{p}}(7)$	$\widehat{\mu}_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{p}}$	$\widehat{\sigma}^2_{\epsilon;\,\mathrm{p}}$
1	0.507		0.682	0.261	0.050	0.006	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.383	0.383
2	0.412	0.188	0.733	0.228	0.035	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.311	0.311

The circular block bootstrap used block length 33.

Any bootstrap procedure was done with 10,000 replications. The following 95 % confidence intervals were obtained:

	p	spINAR		pINAR		CBB		AR		asymp	
$\overline{x}$	1	0.699	0.855	0.703	0.849	0.678	0.877	0.700	0.851	0.703	0.852
	2	0.670	0.878	0.683	0.871			0.682	0.868		
$\widehat{\gamma}(0)$	1	0.687	0.939	0.716	0.916	0.657	0.968	0.709	0.921	0.717	0.921
	2	0.625	0.990	0.661	0.961			0.706	0.922		
$\widehat{I}_{\text{disp}}$	1	0.933	1.162	0.962	1.139	0.913	1.186	0.915	1.179	0.964	1.142
	2	0.906	1.185	0.930	1.166			0.899	1.194		
$\widehat{\gamma}(1)$	1	0.314	0.505	0.333	0.491	0.291	0.524	0.337	0.489	0.334	0.496
	2	0.257	0.551	0.286	0.527			0.329	0.496		
$\widehat{\rho}(1)$	1	0.459	0.559	0.459	0.560	0.438	0.585	0.467	0.551	0.457	0.557
	2	0.451	0.571	0.448	0.577			0.460	0.560		
$\overline{x}\left(1-\widehat{\rho}(1)\right)$	1	0.335	0.426	0.337	0.424	0.308	0.450	0.331	0.430	0.339	0.428
	2	0.329	0.432	0.325	0.433			0.318	0.439		
$\widehat{p}_0$	1	0.423	0.502	0.425	0.501	0.410	0.514	0.426	0.499	0.424	0.501
	2	0.416	0.510	0.419	0.506			0.418	0.508		
$\widehat{I}_{\text{z.i.}}$	1	−0.043	0.063	−0.040	0.059	−0.054	0.076	−0.043	0.060	−0.041	0.058
	2	−0.044	0.067	−0.042	0.064			−0.049	0.069		
$\widehat{I}_{\text{z.m.}}$	1	−0.035	0.049	−0.032	0.045	−0.044	0.059	−0.029	0.042	−0.032	0.045
	2	−0.043	0.055	−0.038	0.050			−0.034	0.048		

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