

FUNCTIONAL CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREMS FOR SINGLE-STAGE SAMPLING DESIGNS

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For a joint model-based and design-based inference, we establish functional central limit theorems for the Horvitz–Thompson empirical process and the Hájek empirical process centered by their finite population mean as well as by their super-population mean in a survey sampling framework. The results apply to single-stage unequal probability sampling designs and essentially only require conditions on higher order correlations. We apply our main results to a Hadamard differentiable statistical functional and illustrate its limit behavior by means of a computer simulation.

1. Introduction. Functional central limit theorems are well established in statistics. Much of the theory has been developed for empirical processes of independent summands. In combination with the functional delta-method, they have become a very powerful tool for investigating the limit behavior of Hadamard or Fréchet differentiable statistical functionals (e.g., see [46] or [45] for a rigorous treatment with several applications).

In survey sampling, results on functional central limit theorems are far from complete. At the same time, there is a need for such results. For instance, in [22] the limit distribution of several statistical functionals is investigated, under the assumption that such a limit theorem exists for a design-based empirical process, whereas in [1] the existence of a functional central limit theorem is assumed, to perform model-based inference on several Gini indices. Weak convergence of processes in combination with the delta method are treated in [8, 9, 21], but these results are tailor made for specific statistical functionals, and do not apply to the empirical processes that are typically considered in survey sampling.

Recently, functional central limit theorems for empirical processes in survey sampling have appeared in the literature. Most of them are concerned with empirical processes indexed by a class of functions; see [16, 42] and [7]. Weak convergence under finite population two-phase stratified sampling, is established in [16] and [42] for an empirical process indexed by a class of functions, which is comparable to our Horvitz–Thompson empirical process in Theorem 3.2. Although their functional CLT allows general function classes, it only covers sampling designs with equal inclusion probabilities within strata that assume exchangeability

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of the inclusion indicators, such as simple random sampling and Bernoulli sampling. Their approach uses results on the exchangeable weighted bootstrap for empirical processes from [38], as incorporated in [46]. This approach, in particular the application of Theorem 3.6.13 in [46], seems difficult to extend to more complex sampling designs that go beyond exchangeable inclusion indicators. In [7], a functional CLT is established, for a variance corrected Horvitz–Thompson empirical process under Poisson sampling. In this case, one deals with a summation of independent terms, which allows the use of Theorem 2.11.1 from [46]. From their result, a functional CLT under rejective sampling can then be established for the design-based Horvitz–Thompson process. This is due to the close connection between Poisson sampling and rejective sampling. For this reason, the approach used in [7] seems difficult to extend to other sampling designs.

Empirical processes indexed by a real valued parameter are considered in [19, 48] and [20]. A functional CLT for the Hájek empirical c.d.f. centered around the super-population mean is formulated in [48], and a similar result is implicitly conjectured for the Horvitz–Thompson empirical process. Unfortunately, the paper seems to miss a number of assumptions and the argument establishing Billingsley’s tightness condition seems incomplete. As a consequence, Assumption 5 in [48] differs somewhat from our conditions (C2)–(C4). The remaining assumptions in [48] are comparable to the ones needed for our Theorem 4.3. Conti (2014) and [20] consider high entropy designs, that is, sampling designs that are close in Hellinger distance to the rejective sampling design. Functional CLTs are obtained for the Horvitz–Thompson (see [19]) and Hájek (see [20]) empirical c.d.f.’s both centered around the finite population mean.

The main purpose of the present paper is to establish functional central limit theorems for the Horvitz–Thompson and the Hájek empirical distribution function that apply to general single-stage unequal probability sampling designs. In the context of weighted likelihood, the Horvitz–Thompson empirical process is a particular case of the inverse probability weighted empirical process which is not necessarily the most efficient; see [40]. Its efficiency can be improved by using estimated weights; see [42]. In the present paper, we do not follow this path of the literature. We rather focus on the Horvitz–Thompson and the Hájek empirical processes that are related to the Horvitz–Thompson and Hájek distribution function estimators as defined, for example, in [24]. For design-based inference about finite population parameters, these empirical distribution functions will be centered around their population mean. On the other hand, in many situations involving survey data, one is interested in the corresponding model parameters (e.g., see [33] and [12]). Recently, Rubin-Bleuer and Schiopu Kratina [41] defined a mathematical framework for joint model-based and design-based inference through a probability product-space and introduced a general and unified methodology for studying the asymptotic properties of model parameter estimators. To incorporate both types of inferences, we consider the Horvitz–Thompson empirical process and the Hájek empirical process under the super-population model

described in [41], both centered around their finite population mean as well as around their super-population mean. Our main results are functional central limit theorems for both empirical processes indexed by a real valued parameter and apply to generic sampling schemes. These results are established only requiring the usual standard assumptions that one encounters in asymptotic theory in survey sampling. Our approach was inspired by an unpublished manuscript from Philippe Février and Nicolas Ragache, which was the outcome of an internship at the French Institut National de la Statistique et des Études Économiques (INSEE) in 2001.

The article is organized as follows. Notation and assumptions are discussed in Section 2. In particular, we briefly discuss the joint model-based and design-based inference setting defined in [41]. In Sections 3 and 4, we list the assumptions and state our main results. Our assumptions essentially concern the inclusion probabilities of the sampling design up to the fourth order and a central limit theorem (CLT) for the Horvitz–Thompson estimator of a population total for i.i.d. bounded random variables. Our results allow random inclusion probabilities and are stated in terms of the design-based expected sample size, but we also formulate more detailed results in case these quantities are deterministic. In Section 5, we discuss one specific example: high entropy sampling designs. It turns out that in this case the conditions used for general single-stage unequal probability sampling designs can be simplified. Another example is that of fixed size sampling designs with deterministic inclusion probabilities, which is dealt with in Supplement C in [14].

As an application of our results, in combination with the functional delta-method, we obtain the limit distribution of the poverty rate in Section 6. This example is further investigated in Section 7 by means of a simulation. Finally, in Section 8 we discuss our results in relation to more complex designs. All proofs are deferred to Section 9 and some tedious technicalities can be found in [14].

2. Notation and assumptions. We adopt the super-population setup as described in [41]. Consider a sequence of finite populations (\mathcal{U}^N) , of sizes $N = 1, 2, \dots$. With each population, we associate a set of indices $U_N = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$. Furthermore, for each index $i \in U_N$, we have a tuple $(y_i, z_i) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+^q$. We denote $\mathbf{y}^N = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N) \in \mathbb{R}^N$ and $\mathbf{z}^N \in \mathbb{R}_+^{q \times N}$ similarly. The vector \mathbf{y}^N contains the values of the variable of interest and \mathbf{z}^N contains information for the sampling design. We assume that the values in each finite population are realizations of random variables $(Y_i, Z_i) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+^q$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$, on a common probability space $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, \mathbb{P}_m)$. Similarly, we denote $\mathbf{Y}^N = (Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_N) \in \mathbb{R}^N$ and $\mathbf{Z}^N \in \mathbb{R}_+^{q \times N}$. To incorporate the sampling design, a product space is defined as follows. For all $N = 1, 2, \dots$, let $\mathcal{S}_N = \{s : s \subset U_N\}$ be the collection of subsets of U_N and let $\mathfrak{A}_N = \sigma(\mathcal{S}_N)$ be the σ -algebra generated by \mathcal{S}_N . A sampling design associated to some sampling scheme is a function $P : \mathfrak{A}_N \times \mathbb{R}_+^{q \times N} \mapsto [0, 1]$, such that:

- (i) for all $s \in \mathcal{S}_N$, $\mathbf{z}^N \mapsto P(s, \mathbf{z}^N)$ is a Borel-measurable function on $\mathbb{R}_+^{q \times N}$,
- (ii) for all $\mathbf{z}^N \in \mathbb{R}_+^{q \times N}$, $A \mapsto P(A, \mathbf{z}^N)$ is a probability measure on \mathfrak{A}_N .

Note that for each $\omega \in \Omega$, we can define a probability measure $A \mapsto \mathbb{P}_d(A, \omega) = \sum_{s \in A} P(s, \mathbf{Z}^N(\omega))$ on the design space $(\mathcal{S}_N, \mathfrak{A}_N)$. Corresponding expectations will be denoted by $\mathbb{E}_d(\cdot, \omega)$. Next, we define a product probability space that includes the super-population and the design space, under the premise that sample selection and the model characteristic are independent given the design variables. Let $(\mathcal{S}_N \times \Omega, \mathfrak{A}_N \times \mathfrak{F})$ be the product space with probability measure $\mathbb{P}_{d,m}$ defined on simple rectangles $\{s\} \times E \in \mathfrak{A}_N \times \mathfrak{F}$ by

$$\mathbb{P}_{d,m}(\{s\} \times E) = \int_E P(s, \mathbf{Z}^N(\omega)) \, d\mathbb{P}_m(\omega) = \int_E \mathbb{P}_d(\{s\}, \omega) \, d\mathbb{P}_m(\omega).$$

When taking expectations or computing probabilities, we will emphasize whether this is with respect either to the measure $\mathbb{P}_{d,m}$ associated with the product space $(\mathcal{S}_N \times \Omega, \mathfrak{A}_N \times \mathfrak{F})$, or the measure \mathbb{P}_d associated with the design space $(\mathcal{S}_N, \mathfrak{A}_N)$, or the measure \mathbb{P}_m associated with the super-population space (Ω, \mathfrak{F}) .

If n_s denotes the size of sample s , then this may depend on the specific sampling design including the values of the design variables $Z_1(\omega), \dots, Z_N(\omega)$. Similarly, the inclusion probabilities may depend on the values of the design variables, $\pi_i(\omega) = \mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i, \omega) = \sum_{s \ni i} P(s, \mathbf{Z}^N(\omega))$, where ξ_i is the indicator $\mathbb{1}_{\{s \ni i\}}$. Instead of n_s , we will consider $n = \mathbb{E}_d[n_s(\omega)] = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i, \omega) = \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i(\omega)$. This means that the inclusion probabilities and the design-based expected sample size may be random variables on $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, \mathbb{P}_m)$. For instance, [7] considers $\pi_i = \pi(Z_i)$, where the pairs (Y_i, Z_i) are assumed to be i.i.d. random vectors on Ω , and [20] considers $\pi_i = nh(Z_i) / \sum_{j=1}^N h(Z_j)$, for some positive function h .

We first consider the Horvitz–Thompson (HT) empirical processes, obtained from the HT empirical c.d.f.:

$$(2.1) \quad \mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}}(t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}}}{\pi_i}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

We will consider the HT empirical process $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$, obtained by centering around the empirical c.d.f. \mathbb{F}_N of Y_1, \dots, Y_N , as well as the HT empirical process $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$, obtained by centering around the c.d.f. F of the Y_i 's. A functional central limit theorem for both processes will be formulated in Section 3. In addition, we will consider the Hájek empirical c.d.f.:

$$(2.2) \quad \mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}}(t) = \frac{1}{\hat{N}} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}}}{\pi_i}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R},$$

where $\hat{N} = \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i / \pi_i$ is the HT estimator for the population total N . Functional central limit theorems for $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ and $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - F)$ will be provided in

Section 4. The advantage of our results is that they allow general single-stage unequal probability sampling schemes and that we primarily require bounds on the rate at which higher order correlations tend to zero ω -almost surely, under the design measure \mathbb{P}_d .

3. FCLT’s for the Horvitz–Thompson empirical processes. A functional central limit theorem for $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ and $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$ is obtained by proving weak convergence of all finite dimensional distributions and tightness. In order to establish the latter for general single-stage unequal probability sampling schemes, we impose a number of conditions that involve the sets:

$$(3.1) \quad D_{v,N} = \{(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_v) \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}^v : i_1, i_2, \dots, i_v \text{ all different}\},$$

for the integers $1 \leq v \leq 4$. We assume the following conditions:

(C1) there exist constants K_1, K_2 , such that for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$,

$$0 < K_1 \leq \frac{N\pi_i}{n} \leq K_2 < \infty, \quad \omega\text{-a.s.}$$

The upper bound in (C1), which expresses the fact that the π_i may not be too large, is related to convergence of n/N . The reason is that $N\pi_i/n \leq N/n$, so that an upper bound on $N\pi_i/n$ is immediate if one requires $n/N \rightarrow \lambda > 0$. This last condition is imposed by many authors, for example, see [7, 15, 19, 20] among others. The upper bound in our condition (C1) enables us to allow $n/N \rightarrow 0$. The lower bound in (C1) expresses the fact that π_i may not be too small. Sometimes this is taken care of by imposing $\pi_i \geq \pi^* > 0$; see, for instance, [7, 15]. It can be seen that conditions A3–A4 in [20] imply the lower bound in (C1). Details can be found in Supplement B in [14].

There exists a constant $K_3 > 0$, such that for all $N = 1, 2, \dots$:

$$(C2) \quad \max_{(i,j) \in D_{2,N}} |\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)| < K_3 n/N^2,$$

$$(C3) \quad \max_{(i,j,k) \in D_{3,N}} |\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k)| < K_3 n^2/N^3,$$

$$(C4) \quad \max_{(i,j,k,l) \in D_{4,N}} |\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k)(\xi_l - \pi_l)| < K_3 n^2/N^4,$$

ω -almost surely. These conditions on higher order correlations are commonly used in the literature on survey sampling in order to derive asymptotic properties of estimators (e.g., see [15], and [17]). Breidt and Opsomer [15] proved that they hold for simple random sampling without replacement and stratified simple random sampling without replacement, whereas [13] proved that they hold also for rejective sampling. Lemma 2 from [13] allows us to reformulate the above conditions on higher order correlations into conditions on higher order inclusion probabilities.

Conditions (C2)–(C4) are primarily used to establish tightness of the random processes involved. These conditions have been formulated as such, because they are compactly expressed in terms of higher order correlations. Nevertheless, as one of the referees pointed out, bounds on maximum correlations may be somewhat

restrictive, and bounds on the average correlation are perhaps more desirable. For fixed size sampling designs with inclusion probabilities not depending on ω , this can be accomplished by adapting the tightness proof; see Supplement C in [14]. Conditions (C2)–(C4) can be simplified enormously when we consider the class of high entropy sampling designs; see [2, 3, 19, 20]. In this case, conditions on the rate at which $\sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i(1 - \pi_i)$ tends to infinity compared to N and n are sufficient for (C2)–(C4); see Section 5.

To establish the convergence of finite dimensional distributions, for sequences of bounded i.i.d. random variables V_1, V_2, \dots on $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, \mathbb{P}_m)$, we will need a CLT for the HT estimator $N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i V_i / \pi_i$ in the design space, conditionally on the V_i 's. To this end, let S_N^2 be the (design-based) variance of the HT estimator of the population mean, that is,

$$(3.2) \quad S_N^2 = \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} V_i V_j.$$

We assume that:

(HT1) Let V_1, V_2, \dots be a sequence of bounded i.i.d. random variables, not identical to zero, and such there exists an $M > 0$, such that $|V_i| \leq M$ ω -almost surely, for all $i = 1, 2, \dots$. Suppose that for N sufficiently large, $S_N > 0$ and

$$\frac{1}{S_N} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i V_i}{\pi_i} - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N V_i \right) \rightarrow N(0, 1), \quad \omega\text{-a.s.},$$

in distribution under \mathbb{P}_d .

Note that (HT1) holds for simple random sampling without replacement if $n(N - n)/N$ tends to infinity when N tends to infinity (see [44]), as well as for Poisson sampling under some conditions on the first-order inclusion probabilities (e.g., see [28]). For rejective sampling, [31] gives a somewhat technical condition that is sufficient and necessary for (HT1). Other references are [39, 47], among others. In [3], the CLT is extended to high entropy sampling designs. For this class of sampling designs, simple conditions can be formulated that are sufficient for (HT1); see Proposition 5.1 in Section 5.

We also need that nS_N^2 converges for the particular case where the V_i 's are random vectors consisting of indicators $\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_j \leq t\}}$.

(HT2) For $k \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ and $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k \in \mathbb{R}$, define $\mathbf{Y}_{ik}^t = (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t_1\}}, \dots, \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t_k\}})$. There exists a deterministic matrix Σ_k^{HT} , such that

$$(3.3) \quad \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} \mathbf{Y}_{ik} \mathbf{Y}_{jk}^t = \Sigma_k^{\text{HT}}, \quad \omega\text{-a.s.}$$

This kind of assumption is quite standard in the literature on survey sampling and is usually imposed for general random vectors (see, e.g., [23], p. 379, [27], condition 3 on page 457 or [34], condition C4 on page 1014). It suffices to require (3.3) for $\mathbf{Y}_{ik}^t = (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t_1\}}, \dots, \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t_k\}})$. Moreover, if (C1)–(C2) hold, then the sequence in (3.3) is bounded, so that by dominated convergence it follows that

$$(3.4) \quad \Sigma_k^{\text{HT}} = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbb{E}_m \left[n \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} \mathbf{Y}_{ik} \mathbf{Y}_{jk}^t \right].$$

This might help to get a more tractable expression for Σ_k^{HT} .

We are now able to formulate our first main result. Let $D(\mathbb{R})$ be the space of càdlàg functions on \mathbb{R} equipped with the Skorohod topology.

THEOREM 3.1. *Let Y_1, \dots, Y_N be i.i.d. random variables with c.d.f. F and empirical c.d.f. \mathbb{F}_N and let \mathbb{F}_N^{HT} be defined in (2.1). Suppose that conditions (C1)–(C4) and (HT1)–(HT2) hold. Then $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ converges weakly in $D(\mathbb{R})$ to a mean zero Gaussian process \mathbb{G}^{HT} with covariance function:*

$$\mathbb{E}_m \mathbb{G}^{\text{HT}}(s) \mathbb{G}^{\text{HT}}(t) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbb{E}_m \left[n \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq s\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_j \leq t\}} \right]$$

for $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Note that Theorem 3.1 allows a random (design-based) expected sample size n and random inclusion probabilities. The expression of the covariance function of the limiting Gaussian process is somewhat unsatisfactory. When n and the inclusion probabilities are deterministic, we can obtain a functional CLT with a more precise expression for $\mathbb{E}_m \mathbb{G}^{\text{HT}}(s) \mathbb{G}^{\text{HT}}(t)$ under slightly weaker conditions. This is formulated in the proposition below. Note that with imposing conditions (i)–(ii) in Proposition 3.1 instead of (3.3), convergence of nS_N^2 is not necessarily guaranteed. However, this is established in Lemma B.1 in [14] under (C1) and (C2). Finally, we like to emphasize that if we would have imposed (HT2) for *any* sequence $\mathbf{Y}_1, \mathbf{Y}_2, \dots$ of bounded random vectors, then (HT2) would have implied conditions (i)–(ii) in the deterministic setup of Proposition 3.1.

PROPOSITION 3.1. *Consider the setting of Theorem 3.1, where n and π_i, π_{ij} , for $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$, are deterministic. Suppose that (C1)–(C4) and (HT1) hold, but instead of (HT2) assume that there exist constants $\mu_{\pi 1}, \mu_{\pi 2} \in \mathbb{R}$ such that:*

- (i) $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{1}{\pi_i} - 1 \right) = \mu_{\pi 1}$,
- (ii) $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{N^2} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} = \mu_{\pi 2}$.

Then $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ converges weakly in $D(\mathbb{R})$ to a mean zero Gaussian process \mathbb{G}^{HT} with covariance function $\mu_{\pi 1} F(s \wedge t) + \mu_{\pi 2} F(s)F(t)$, for $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Conditions (i)–(ii) ensure that nS_N^2 converges to a finite limit (see Lemma B.1 in [14]), from which the limiting covariance structure in Proposition 3.1 can be derived. Condition (i) also appears in [19]. Conditions similar to (ii) appear in [6, 32] and [26]. When $n/N \rightarrow \lambda \in [0, 1]$, then conditions (i)–(ii) hold with $\mu_{\pi_1} = 1 - \lambda$ and $\mu_{\pi_2} = \lambda - 1$ for simple random sampling without replacement. For Poisson sampling, (ii) holds trivially because the trials are independent. For rejective sampling, (i)–(ii) together with $n/N \rightarrow \lambda \in [0, 1]$, can be deduced from the associated Poisson sampling design. Indeed, suppose that (i) holds for Poisson sampling with first-order inclusion probabilities p_1, \dots, p_N , such that $\sum_{i=1}^N p_i = n$. Then, from Theorem 1 in [13] it follows that if $d = \sum_{i=1}^N p_i(1 - p_i)$ tends to infinity, assumption (i) holds for rejective sampling. Furthermore, if $n/N \rightarrow \lambda \in [0, 1]$ and N/d has a finite limit, then also (ii) holds for rejective sampling.

Weak convergence of the process $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$, where we center with F instead of \mathbb{F}_N , requires a CLT in the super-population space for

$$(3.5) \quad \sqrt{n} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i V_i}{\pi_i} - \mu_V \right) \quad \text{where } \mu_V = \mathbb{E}_m(V_i),$$

for sequences of bounded i.i.d. random variables V_1, V_2, \dots on $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, \mathbb{P}_m)$. Our approach to establish asymptotic normality of (3.5) is then to decompose as follows:

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} & \sqrt{n} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i V_i}{\pi_i} - \mu_V \right) \\ &= \sqrt{n} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i V_i}{\pi_i} - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N V_i \right) + \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{N}} \times \sqrt{N} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N V_i - \mu_V \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since the V_i 's are i.i.d. and bounded, for the second term on the right-hand side, by the traditional CLT we immediately obtain

$$(3.7) \quad \sqrt{N} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N V_i - \mu_V \right) \rightarrow N(0, \sigma_V^2),$$

in distribution under \mathbb{P}_m , where σ_V^2 denotes the variance of the V_i 's, whereas the first term on the right-hand side can be handled with (HT1). Breslow and Wellner (2007) and [42] use a decomposition similar to the one in (3.6). Their approach assumes exchangeable ξ_i 's and equal inclusion probabilities n/N , which allows the use of results on exchangeable weighted bootstrap to handle the first term on the right-hand side of (3.6). Instead, we only require conditions (C2)–(C4) on higher order correlations for the ξ_i 's and allow the π_i 's to vary within certain bounds as described in (C1). To combine the two separate limits in (3.7) and (HT1), we will need

(HT3) $n/N \rightarrow \lambda \in [0, 1]$, ω -a.s.

One often assumes $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ (e.g., see [7, 15, 19, 20], among others). We like to emphasize that convergence of n/N was not needed so far in our setup, because condition (C1) is used to control terms $1/\pi_i$. To determine the precise limit for (3.6) we do need (HT3), but we allow $\lambda = 0$ or $\lambda = 1$.

Next, we will use Theorem 5.1(iii) from [41]. The finite dimensional projections of the processes involved turn out to be related to a particular HT estimator. In order to have the corresponding design-based variance converging to a strictly positive constant, we need the following condition:

(HT4) For all $k \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$ and $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k \in \mathbb{R}$, the matrix Σ_k^{HT} in (3.3) is positive definite.

We are now able to formulate our second main result.

THEOREM 3.2. *Let Y_1, \dots, Y_N be i.i.d. random variables with c.d.f. F and let \mathbb{F}_N^{HT} be defined in (2.1). Suppose that conditions (C1)–(C4) and (HT1)–(HT4) hold. Then $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$ converges weakly in $D(\mathbb{R})$ to a mean zero Gaussian process \mathbb{G}_F^{HT} with covariance function $\mathbb{E}_{d,m} \mathbb{G}_F^{\text{HT}}(s) \mathbb{G}_F^{\text{HT}}(t)$ given by*

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbb{E}_m \left[n \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq s\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_j \leq t\}} \right] + \lambda \{F(s \wedge t) - F(s)F(t)\},$$

for $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Note that Theorem 3.2 allows random n and inclusion probabilities. As before, when the sample size n and inclusion probabilities are deterministic we can obtain a functional CLT under a simpler condition than (HT4) and with a more detailed description of the covariance function of the limiting process.

PROPOSITION 3.2. *Consider the setting of Theorem 3.2, where n and π_i, π_{ij} , for $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$, are deterministic. Suppose that (C1)–(C4), (HT1) and (HT3) hold, but instead of (HT2) and (HT4) assume that there exist constants $\mu_{\pi_1} > 0, \mu_{\pi_2} \in \mathbb{R}$ such that (i) and (ii) of Proposition 3.1 hold. Then $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$ converges weakly in $D(\mathbb{R})$ to a mean zero Gaussian process \mathbb{G}^{HT} with covariance function $(\mu_{\pi_1} + \lambda)F(s \wedge t) + (\mu_{\pi_2} - \lambda)F(s)F(t)$, for $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$.*

Since $1/\pi_i \geq 1$, we will always have $\mu_{\pi_1} \geq 0$ in condition (i) in Proposition 3.2. This means that $\mu_{\pi_1} > 0$ in (i) is not very restrictive. For simple random sampling without replacement, condition (i) requires λ to be strictly smaller than one.

REMARK 3.1 (High entropy designs). Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 include high entropy sampling designs with random inclusion probabilities, which are considered

for instance in [7] and [20], whereas Propositions 3.1 and 3.2 include high entropy designs with deterministic inclusion probabilities, for instance considered in [19]. For such designs, the conditions can be simplified considerably, in particular (C2)–(C4), see Corollary 5.1(i)–(ii) and Corollary 5.2(i)–(ii) in Section 5.

4. FCLT’s for the Hájek empirical processes. To determine the behavior of the process $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$, it is useful to relate it to the process

$$(4.1) \quad \mathbb{G}_N^\pi(t) = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i}{\pi_i} (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}} - F(t)).$$

We can then write

$$(4.2) \quad \sqrt{n}\{\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}}(t) - \mathbb{F}_N(t)\} = \mathbb{Y}_N(t) + \left(\frac{N}{\widehat{N}} - 1\right)\mathbb{G}_N^\pi(t),$$

where

$$(4.3) \quad \mathbb{Y}_N(t) = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{\xi_i}{\pi_i} - 1\right) (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}} - F(t)).$$

As intermediate results, we will first show that the process \mathbb{G}_N^π converges weakly to a mean zero Gaussian process and that $\widehat{N}/N \rightarrow 1$ in probability. As a consequence, the limiting behavior of $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ will be the same as that of \mathbb{Y}_N , which is an easier process to handle. Instead of (HT2) and (HT4) we now need

(HJ2) For $k \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ and $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k \in \mathbb{R}$, define $\widetilde{\mathbf{Y}}_{ik}^t = (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t_1\}} - F(t_1), \dots, \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t_k\}} - F(t_k))$. There exists a deterministic matrix Σ_k^{HJ} , such that

$$(4.4) \quad \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} \widetilde{\mathbf{Y}}_{ik} \widetilde{\mathbf{Y}}_{jk}^t = \Sigma_k^{\text{HJ}}, \quad \omega\text{-a.s.}$$

and

(HJ4) For all $k \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$ and $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k \in \mathbb{R}$, the matrix Σ_k^{HJ} in (4.4) is positive definite.

As in the case of (3.4), if (C1)–(C2) hold, then (HJ2) implies

$$(4.5) \quad \Sigma_k^{\text{HJ}} = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbb{E}_m \left[n \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} \widetilde{\mathbf{Y}}_{ik} \widetilde{\mathbf{Y}}_{jk}^t \right].$$

THEOREM 4.1. *Let \mathbb{G}_N^π be defined in (4.1) and let $\widehat{N} = \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i / \pi_i$. Suppose $n \rightarrow \infty$, ω -a.s., and that there exists $\sigma_\pi^2 \geq 0$, such that*

$$(4.6) \quad \frac{n}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} \rightarrow \sigma_\pi^2, \quad \omega\text{-a.s.}$$

If in addition:

- (i) (HT1) hold, then $\widehat{N}/N \rightarrow 1$ in $\mathbb{P}_{d,m}$ probability.
- (ii) (C1)–(C4), (HT1), (HT3), (HJ2) and (HJ4) hold, then \mathbb{G}_N^π converges weakly in $D(\mathbb{R})$ to a mean zero Gaussian process \mathbb{G}^π with covariance function $\mathbb{E}_{d,m} \mathbb{G}^\pi(s) \mathbb{G}^\pi(t)$ given by

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbb{E}_m \left[n \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq s\}} - F(s)) (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}} - F(t)) \right] + \lambda(F(s \wedge t) - F(s)F(t)), \quad s, t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Note that in view of condition (HT3), the condition $n \rightarrow \infty$ is immediate, if $\lambda > 0$. We proceed by establishing weak convergence of $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$.

THEOREM 4.2. *Let Y_1, \dots, Y_N be i.i.d. random variables with c.d.f. F and empirical c.d.f. \mathbb{F}_N and let \mathbb{F}_N^{HJ} be defined in (2.2). Suppose $n \rightarrow \infty$, ω -a.s., and that (C1)–(C4), (HT1), (HT3), and (HJ2) hold, as well as condition (4.6). Then $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ converges weakly in $D(\mathbb{R})$ to a mean zero Gaussian process \mathbb{G}^{HJ} with covariance function $\mathbb{E}_{d,m} \mathbb{G}^{\text{HJ}}(s) \mathbb{G}^{\text{HJ}}(t)$ given by*

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbb{E}_m \left[n \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq s\}} - F(s)) (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}} - F(t)) \right],$$

for $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Note that we do not need condition (HJ4) in Theorem 4.2. This condition is only needed in Theorem 4.1 to establish the limit distribution of the finite dimensional projections of the process \mathbb{G}_N^π . For Theorem 4.2, we only need that \mathbb{G}_N^π is tight.

As before, below we obtain a functional CLT for $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ in the case that n and the inclusion probabilities are deterministic. Similar to the remark we made after Theorem 3.1, note that if we would have imposed (HJ2) for any sequence of bounded random vectors, then this would imply conditions (i)–(ii) of Proposition 3.1, which can then be left out in Theorem 4.1.

PROPOSITION 4.1. *Consider the setting of Theorem 4.2, where n and π_i, π_{ij} , for $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$, are deterministic. Suppose $n \rightarrow \infty$ and that (C1)–(C4), (HT1) and (HT3) hold, as well as conditions (i)–(ii) from Proposition 3.1. Then $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ converges weakly in $D(\mathbb{R})$ to a mean zero Gaussian process \mathbb{G}^{HT} with covariance function $\mu_{\pi_1}(F(s \wedge t) - F(s)F(t))$, for $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$.*

Finally, we consider $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - F)$. Again, we relate this process to (4.1) and write

$$(4.7) \quad \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}}(t) - F(t)) = \frac{N}{\widehat{N}} \mathbb{G}_N^\pi(t).$$

Since $\widehat{N}/N \rightarrow 1$ in probability, this implies that $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - F)$ has the same limiting behavior as \mathbb{G}_N^π .

THEOREM 4.3. *Let Y_1, \dots, Y_N be i.i.d. random variables with c.d.f. F and let \mathbb{F}_N^{HJ} be defined in (2.2). Suppose $n \rightarrow \infty$, ω -a.s., and that (C1)–(C4), (HT1), (HT3), (HJ2) and (HJ4) hold, as well as condition (4.6). Then $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - F)$ converges weakly in $D(\mathbb{R})$ to a mean zero Gaussian process \mathbb{G}_F^{HJ} with covariance function $\mathbb{E}_{d,m} \mathbb{G}^\pi(s) \mathbb{G}^\pi(t)$ given by*

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbb{E}_m \left[n \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq s\}} - F(s)) (\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_j \leq t\}} - F(t)) \right] + \lambda(F(s \wedge t) - F(s)F(t)), \quad s, t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

With Theorem 4.3 we recover Theorem 1 in [48]. Our assumptions are comparable to those in [48], although this paper seems to miss a condition on the convergence of the variance, such as our condition (HJ2).

We conclude this section by establishing a functional CLT for $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - F)$ in the case of deterministic n and inclusion probabilities.

PROPOSITION 4.2. *Consider the setting of Theorem 4.3, where n and π_i, π_{ij} , for $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$, are deterministic. Suppose $n \rightarrow \infty$ and that (C1)–(C4), (HT1) and (HT3) hold, as well as conditions (i)–(ii) from Proposition 3.2. Then $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - F)$ converges weakly in $D(\mathbb{R})$ to a mean zero Gaussian process \mathbb{G}^{HJ} with covariance function $(\mu_{\pi_1} + \lambda)(F(s \wedge t) - F(s)F(t))$, for $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$.*

REMARK 4.1 (High entropy designs). Remark 3.1 about simplifying the conditions for the Horvitz–Thompson empirical process in the case of high entropy designs, also holds for the Hájek empirical process. See Corollary 5.1(iii)–(iv) and Corollary 5.2(iii)–(iv) in Section 5.

5. High entropy designs. For the sake of brevity, let us suppress the possible dependence of a sampling design on \mathbf{Z}^N and write $P(\cdot) = P(\cdot, \mathbf{Z}^N)$. The entropy of a sampling design P is defined as

$$H(P) = - \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}_N} P(s) \text{Log}[P(s)],$$

where Log denotes the Napierian logarithm, and define $0 \text{Log}[0] = 0$. The entropy $H(P)$ represents the average amount of information contained in design P (e.g., see [3]). Given inclusion probabilities π_1, \dots, π_N , the rejective sampling design, denoted by R (see [30, 31]), is known to maximize the entropy among all fixed size

sampling designs subject to the constraint that the first order inclusion probabilities are equal to π_1, \dots, π_N . This sampling design is defined by

$$R(s) = \theta \prod_{i \in s} \alpha_i \quad \text{with } \alpha_i = \eta \frac{p_i}{1 - p_i},$$

where θ is such that $\sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}_N} R(s) = 1$, η is such that $\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i = 1$, and the $0 < p_i < 1$ are such that $\sum_{i=1}^N p_i = n$ and are chosen to produce the first order inclusion probabilities π_i . It is shown in [25] that for any given set of inclusion probabilities π_1, \dots, π_N , there always exists a unique set of p_i 's such that the first-order inclusion probabilities corresponding to R are exactly equal to the π_i 's.

An important class is formed by sampling designs P that are close to a rejective sampling design R . Berger [3] considers such a class where the divergence of P from R is measured by

$$(5.1) \quad D(P \parallel R) = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}_N} P(s) \text{Log} \left[\frac{P(s)}{R(s)} \right].$$

In this subsection, we will consider high entropy designs P , that is, sampling designs P for which there exists a rejective sampling design R such that

$$(A1) \quad D(P \parallel R) \rightarrow 0, \text{ as } N \rightarrow \infty.$$

A similar class is considered in [19, 20], where the Hellinger distance between P and R is used instead of (5.1). Sampling designs satisfying (A1) are investigated in [3]. Examples are Rao–Sampford sampling and successive sampling; see Theorems 6 and 7 in [3].

For high entropy designs P satisfying (A1), the conditions imposed in Sections 3 and 4 can be simplified considerably. Essentially, the results in these sections can be obtained by conditions on the rate at which

$$(5.2) \quad d_N = \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i (1 - \pi_i)$$

tends to infinity, compared to N and n . First of all, condition (HT1) can be established under mild conditions.

PROPOSITION 5.1. *Let P be a high entropy design satisfying (A1) with inclusion probabilities π_1, \dots, π_N . Let d_N and S_N^2 be defined by (5.2) and (3.2). Suppose that (C1) holds and that the following conditions hold ω -almost surely:*

- (B1) $n/d_N = O(1)$, as $N \rightarrow \infty$;
- (B2) $N/d_N^2 \rightarrow 0$, as $N \rightarrow \infty$;
- (B3) $n^2 S_N^2 \rightarrow \infty$, as $N \rightarrow \infty$.

Then (HT1) is satisfied.

Conditions (B1)–(B2) are immediate, if $d_N/N \rightarrow d > 0$ and $n/N \rightarrow \lambda > 0$. Moreover, nS_N^2 typically converges almost surely to some $\sigma^2 \geq 0$, so that (B3) is immediate as soon as $\sigma^2 > 0$ and (B1) holds.

The following corollary covers the results from Sections 3 and 4 for high entropy designs with inclusion probabilities that possibly depend on ω . Such designs are considered for instance in [7] and [20].

COROLLARY 5.1. *Let P be a high entropy design satisfying (A1) with inclusion probabilities π_1, \dots, π_N , and let d_N be defined by (5.2). Suppose that conditions (C1) and (HT1) hold. Furthermore, suppose that the following conditions hold ω -almost surely:*

- (A2) $d_N \rightarrow \infty$, as $N \rightarrow \infty$;
- (A3) $n/d_N = O(1)$, as $N \rightarrow \infty$;
- (A4) $N^2/(nd_N) = O(1)$, as $N \rightarrow \infty$.

Then:

- (i) if (HT2) is satisfied, then the conclusion of Theorem 3.1 holds;
- (ii) if (HT2)–(HT4) are satisfied, then the conclusion of Theorem 3.2 holds;
- (iii) if (HT3), (HJ2) are satisfied, and ω -almost surely,

(A5) $n(N - n)^2/(N^2d_N) \rightarrow \alpha$, as $N \rightarrow \infty$,

then the conclusion of Theorem 4.2 holds;

(iv) if (HT3), (HJ2), (HJ4) and (A5) are satisfied, then the conclusion of Theorem 4.3 holds.

As it turns out, for the particular setting of high entropy designs, conditions (A2)–(A4) together with (C1) are sufficient for (C2)–(C4), whereas (A5) implies condition (4.6). The conditions in Corollary 5.1 have been formulated as weakly as possible. They are implied by the usual conditions that one finds in the literature. For instance, when $N/d_N = O(1)$ (e.g., see [13]) and $n/N \rightarrow \lambda > 0$, then (A2)–(A4) are immediate. Part (iii) in Corollary 5.1 is similar to Proposition 1 in [20], where the Hellinger distance between P and R is used instead of (5.1). It can be seen that the conditions in [20] are sufficient for our conditions (B1)–(B2) in Proposition 5.1, (C1), (A1)–(A5), (HT3) and the existence of the almost sure limits in (HT2) and (HJ2).

Things become even easier when the high entropy design has inclusion probabilities that do not depend on ω .

COROLLARY 5.2. *Let P be a high entropy design satisfying (A1)–(A5) with deterministic inclusion probabilities π_1, \dots, π_N . Suppose that conditions (C1), (HT1) and $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} (n/N^2) \sum_{i=1}^N (\pi_i^{-1} - 1) = \mu_{\pi_1}$ hold. Then:*

- (i) the conclusion of Proposition 3.1 holds;

- (ii) if (HT3) is satisfied and $\mu_{\pi_1} > 0$, then the conclusion of Proposition 3.2 holds;
- (iii) if (HT3) is satisfied, then the conclusion of Proposition 4.1 holds;
- (iv) if (HT3) is satisfied and $\mu_{\pi_1} > 0$, then the conclusion of Proposition 4.2 holds.

As before, conditions (A2)–(A4) together with (C1) are sufficient for (C2)–(C4), whereas (A5) implies condition (ii) of Propositions 3.1 and 3.2. Part (i) in Corollary 5.2 is similar to Proposition 1 in [19], where the Hellinger distance between P and R is used instead of (5.1). It can be seen that the conditions in [19] are sufficient for (B1)–(B2) in Proposition 5.1, (A1)–(A5), (HT3) and (i).

6. Hadamard-differentiable functionals. Theorem 4.3 provides an elegant means to study the limit behavior of estimators that can be described as $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}})$, where ϕ is a Hadamard-differentiable functional. Given such a ϕ , the functional delta-method, for example, see Theorems 3.9.4 and 3.9.5 in [46] or Theorem 20.8 in [45], enables one to establish the limit distribution of $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}})$. Similarly, this holds for Theorems 3.1, 3.2 and 4.2, or Propositions 3.1, 3.2, 4.1 and 4.2 in the special case of deterministic n and inclusion probabilities.

We illustrate this by discussing the poverty rate. This indicator has recently been revisited by [29] and [36]. This example has also been discussed by [22], but under the assumption of weak convergence of $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ to some centered continuous Gaussian process. Note that this assumption is now covered by our Theorem 4.2 and Proposition 4.1. Let $\mathbb{D}_\phi \subset D(\mathbb{R})$ consist of $F \in D(\mathbb{R})$ that are nondecreasing. Then for $F \in \mathbb{D}_\phi$, the poverty rate is defined as

$$(6.1) \quad \phi(F) = F(\beta F^{-1}(\alpha))$$

for fixed $0 < \alpha, \beta < 1$, where $F^{-1}(\alpha) = \inf\{t : F(t) \geq \alpha\}$. Typical choices are $\alpha = 0.5$ and $\beta = 0.5$ (INSEE) or $\beta = 0.6$ (EUROSTAT). Its Hadamard derivative is given by

$$(6.2) \quad \phi'_F(h) = -\beta \frac{f(\beta F^{-1}(\alpha))}{f(F^{-1}(\alpha))} h(F^{-1}(\alpha)) + h(\beta F^{-1}(\alpha)).$$

See Supplement B in [14] for details. We then have the following corollaries for the Horvitz–Thompson estimator $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}})$ and the Hájek estimator $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}})$ for the poverty rate $\phi(F)$.

COROLLARY 6.1. *Let ϕ be defined by (6.1) and suppose that the conditions of Proposition 3.2 hold. Then, if F is differentiable at $F^{-1}(\alpha)$, the random variable $\sqrt{n}(\phi(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}}) - \phi(F))$ converges in distribution to a mean zero normal random*

variable with variance

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_{\text{HT},\alpha,\beta}^2 &= \beta^2 \frac{f(\beta F^{-1}(\alpha))^2}{f(F^{-1}(\alpha))^2} (\gamma_{\pi 1} \alpha + \gamma_{\pi 2} \alpha^2) \\
 &+ \gamma_{\pi 1} \phi(F) + \gamma_{\pi 2} \phi(F)^2 - 2\beta \frac{f(\beta F^{-1}(\alpha))}{f(F^{-1}(\alpha))} \phi(F) (\gamma_{\pi 1} + \gamma_{\pi 2} \alpha),
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{6.3}$$

where $\gamma_{\pi 1} = \mu_{\pi 1} + \lambda$ and $\gamma_{\pi 2} = \mu_{\pi 2} - \lambda$. If in addition $n/N \rightarrow 0$, then $\sqrt{n}(\phi(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}}) - \phi(\mathbb{F}_N))$ converges in distribution to a mean zero normal random variable with variance $\sigma_{\text{HT},\alpha,\beta}^2$.

COROLLARY 6.2. *Let ϕ be defined by (6.1) and suppose that the conditions of Proposition 4.2 hold. Then, if F is differentiable at $F^{-1}(\alpha)$, the random variable $\sqrt{n}(\phi(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}}) - \phi(F))$ converges in distribution to a mean zero normal random variable with variance*

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_{\text{HJ},\alpha,\beta}^2 &= \beta^2 \frac{f(\beta F^{-1}(\alpha))^2}{f(F^{-1}(\alpha))^2} \gamma_{\pi 1} \alpha (1 - \alpha) \\
 &+ \gamma_{\pi 1} \phi(F) (1 - \phi(F)) - 2\beta \frac{f(\beta F^{-1}(\alpha))}{f(F^{-1}(\alpha))} \phi(F) \gamma_{\pi 1} (1 - \alpha),
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{6.4}$$

where $\gamma_{\pi 1} = \mu_{\pi 1} + \lambda$. If in addition $n/N \rightarrow 0$, then $\sqrt{n}(\phi(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}}) - \phi(\mathbb{F}_N))$ converges in distribution to a mean zero normal random variable with variance $\sigma_{\text{HJ},\alpha,\beta}^2$.

7. Simulation study. The objective of this simulation study is to investigate the performance of the Horvitz–Thompson (HT) and the Hájek (HJ) estimators for the poverty rate, as defined in (6.1), at the finite population level and at the super-population level. The asymptotic results from Corollaries 6.1 and 6.2 are used to obtain variance estimators whose performance is also assessed in this small study.

Six simulation schemes are implemented with different population sizes and (design-based) expected sample sizes, namely $N = 10,000$ and 1000 and $n = 500, 100$ and 50 . The samples are drawn according to three different sampling designs. The first one is simple random sampling without replacement (SI) with size n . The second design is Bernoulli sampling (BE) with parameter n/N . The third one is Poisson sampling (PO) with first-order inclusion probabilities equal to $0.4n/N$ for the first half of the population and equal to $1.6n/N$ for the other half of the population, where the population is randomly ordered. The first-order inclusion probabilities are deterministic for the three designs and the sample size n_s is fixed for the SI design, while it is random with respect to the design for the BE and PO designs. Moreover, the SI and BE designs are equal probability designs, while PO is an unequal probability design. The results are obtained by replicating $N_R = 1000$ populations. For each population, $n_R = 1000$ samples are drawn according

to the different designs. The variable of interest Y is generated for each population according to an exponential distribution with rate parameter equal to one. For this distribution and given α and β , the poverty rate has an explicit expression $\phi(F) = 1 - \exp(\beta \ln(1 - \alpha))$. In what follows, $\alpha = 0.5$ and $\beta = 0.6$ and $\phi(F) \simeq 0.34$. These are the same values for α and β as considered in [22].

The Horvitz–Thompson estimator and Hájek estimator for $\phi(F)$ or $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$ are denoted by $\hat{\phi}_{HT}$ and $\hat{\phi}_{HJ}$, respectively. They are obtained by plugging in the empirical c.d.f.'s \mathbb{F}_N^{HT} and \mathbb{F}_N^{HJ} , respectively, for F in expression (6.1). The empirical quantiles are calculated by using the function `wtd.quantile` from the R package `Hmisc` for the Hájek estimator and by adapting the function for the Horvitz–Thompson estimator. For the SI sampling design, the two estimators are the same. The performance of the estimators for the parameters $\phi(F)$ and $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$ is evaluated using some Monte Carlo relative bias (RB). This is reported in Table 1. When estimating the super-population parameter $\phi(F)$, if $\hat{\phi}_{ij}$ denotes the estimate (either $\hat{\phi}_{HT}$ or $\hat{\phi}_{HJ}$) for the i th generated population and the j th drawn sample, the Monte Carlo relative bias of $\hat{\phi}$ in percentages has the following expression:

$$RB_F(\hat{\phi}) = \frac{100}{N_R n_R} \sum_{i=1}^{N_R} \sum_{j=1}^{n_R} \frac{\hat{\phi}_{ij} - \phi(F)}{\phi(F)}.$$

When estimating the finite population parameter $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$, the parameter depends on the generated population N_i , for each $i = 1, \dots, N_R$, and will be denoted by $\phi(\mathbb{F}_{N_i})$. The Monte Carlo relative bias of $\hat{\phi}$ is then computed by replacing F by \mathbb{F}_{N_i} in the above expression. Concerning the relative biases reported in Table 1, the

TABLE 1
RB (in %) of the HT and the HJ estimators for the finite population $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$ and the super-population $\phi(F)$ poverty rate parameter

			N = 10,000			N = 1000		
			n = 500	n = 100	n = 50	n = 500	n = 100	n = 50
SI	HT–HJ	$\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$	−0.17	−0.89	−1.82	−0.05	−0.84	−1.62
		$\phi(F)$	−0.20	−0.91	−1.86	−0.18	−0.72	−1.85
BE	HT	$\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$	−0.12	−0.66	−1.29	0.01	−0.65	−1.12
		$\phi(F)$	−0.15	−0.68	−1.34	−0.12	−0.54	−1.36
	HJ	$\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$	−0.17	−0.92	−1.87	−0.04	−0.88	−1.68
		$\phi(F)$	−0.20	−0.93	−1.92	−0.17	−0.76	−1.91
PO	HT	$\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$	−0.05	−1.05	−2.06	−0.06	−0.30	−0.37
		$\phi(F)$	−0.08	−1.07	−2.11	−0.19	−0.19	−0.63
	HJ	$\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$	−0.20	−1.27	−2.95	−0.04	−1.08	−1.99
		$\phi(F)$	−0.23	−1.28	−3.00	−0.17	−0.97	−2.23

TABLE 2

RB (in %) for the variance estimator of the HT and the HJ estimators for the poverty rate parameter

		<i>N</i> = 10,000			<i>N</i> = 1000		
		<i>n</i> = 500	<i>n</i> = 100	<i>n</i> = 50	<i>n</i> = 500	<i>n</i> = 100	<i>n</i> = 50
SI	HT-HJ	-2.21	-3.08	-2.97	-2.25	-3.26	-3.00
BE	HT	-4.15	-5.11	-4.21	-3.31	-5.11	-4.19
	HJ	-2.22	-3.06	-3.03	-2.26	-3.24	-3.03
PO	HT	-4.43	-4.96	-3.45	-3.74	-5.72	-4.59
	HJ	-2.36	-3.43	-3.36	-2.44	-3.75	-4.13

values are small and never exceed 3%. As expected, these values increase when *n* decreases. When the centering is relative to $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$, the relative bias is in general somewhat smaller than when centering with $\phi(F)$. This behavior is most prominent when *N* = 1000 and *n* = 500, which suggests that the estimates are typically closer to the population poverty rate $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$ than to the model parameter $\phi(F)$. The Hájek estimator has a larger relative bias than the Horvitz–Thompson estimator in all situations but in particular for the Poisson sampling design when the size of the population is 1000. Note that all values in Table 1 are negative, which illustrates the fact that the estimators typically underestimate the population and model poverty rates.

In Table 2, the estimators of the variance of $\hat{\phi}_{HT}$ and $\hat{\phi}_{HJ}$ are obtained by plugging in the empirical c.d.f.’s \mathbb{F}_N^{HT} and \mathbb{F}_N^{HJ} , respectively, for *F* in the expressions (6.3) and (6.4). To estimate *f* in the variance of $\hat{\phi}_{HJ}$, we follow [5], who propose a Hájek-type kernel estimator with a Gaussian kernel function. For the variance of $\hat{\phi}_{HT}$, we use a corresponding Horvitz–Thompson estimator by replacing \hat{N} by *N*. Based on [43], pages 45–47, we choose $b = 0.79Rn_s^{-1/5}$, where *R* denotes the interquartile range. This differs from [5], who propose a similar bandwidth of the order $N^{-1/5}$. However, this severely underestimates the optimal bandwidth, leading to large variances of the kernel estimator. Usual bias variance trade-off computations show that the optimal bandwidth is of the order $n_s^{-1/5}$.

For the SI sampling design, (6.3) and (6.4) are identical and can be calculated in an explicit way using the fact that $\mu_{\pi_1} + \lambda = 1$ and $\mu_{\pi_2} - \lambda = -1$. For the BE design, $\mu_{\pi_1} + \lambda = 1$, whereas for Poisson sampling, the value $(n/N^2) \sum_{i=1}^N 1/\pi_i$ is taken for $\mu_{\pi_1} + \lambda$. For these designs, $\mu_{\pi_2} - \lambda = -\lambda$, where we take *n*/*N* as the value of λ .

In order to compute the relative bias of the variance estimates, the asymptotic variance is taken as reference. This asymptotic variance $AV(\hat{\phi})$ of the estimator $\hat{\phi}$ (either $\hat{\phi}_{HT}$ or $\hat{\phi}_{HJ}$) is computed from (6.3) and (6.4). The expressions $f(\beta F^{-1}(\alpha))$ and $f(F^{-1}(\alpha))$ are explicit in the case of an exponential distribution. Furthermore, for $\mu_{\pi_1} + \lambda$ and $\mu_{\pi_2} - \lambda$ we use the same expressions as mentioned above. The

TABLE 3

Coverage probabilities (in %) for 95% confidence intervals of the HT and the HJ estimators for the finite population $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$ and the super-population $\phi(F)$ poverty rate parameter

			$N = 10,000$			$N = 1000$		
			$n = 500$	$n = 100$	$n = 50$	$n = 500$	$n = 100$	$n = 50$
SI	HT-HJ	$\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$	95.2	94.4	93.5	98.8	95.1	94.6
		$\phi(F)$	94.6	93.2	92.2	94.7	93.2	92.0
BE	HT	$\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$	94.9	94.3	94.6	98.4	94.8	94.6
		$\phi(F)$	94.4	93.7	94.9	94.6	93.6	94.7
	HJ	$\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$	95.1	94.3	93.9	98.7	94.9	94.2
		$\phi(F)$	94.7	94.2	93.9	94.7	94.2	93.9
PO	HT	$\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$	94.5	94.2	94.3	96.8	94.0	93.6
		$\phi(F)$	94.5	94.0	94.3	94.6	93.6	93.5
	HJ	$\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$	94.8	93.9	93.6	97.2	94.2	93.3
		$\phi(F)$	94.6	93.9	93.6	94.6	93.9	93.2

Monte Carlo relative bias of the variance estimator $\widehat{AV}(\widehat{\phi})$ in percentages, is defined by

$$RB(\widehat{AV}(\widehat{\phi})) = \frac{100}{N_R n_R} \sum_{i=1}^{N_R} \sum_{j=1}^{n_R} \frac{\widehat{AV}(\widehat{\phi}_{ij}) - AV(\widehat{\phi})}{AV(\widehat{\phi})},$$

where $\widehat{AV}(\widehat{\phi}_{ij})$ denotes the variance estimate for the i th generated population and the j th drawn sample.

Table 3 gives the Monte Carlo coverage probabilities for a nominal coverage probability of 95% for the two parameters $\phi(\mathbb{F}_N)$ and $\phi(F)$, the Horvitz–Thompson and the Hájek estimators and the different simulation schemes. In general, the coverage probabilities are somewhat smaller than 95%, which is due to the underestimation of the asymptotic variance, as can be seen from Table 2. The case $N = 1000$ and $n = 500$ for $\widehat{\phi}_{HJ}$ forms an exception, which is probably due to the fact that in this case $\lambda = n/N$ is far from zero, so that the limit distribution of $\sqrt{n}(\phi(\mathbb{F}_N^{HT}) - \phi(\mathbb{F}_N))$ and $\sqrt{n}(\phi(\mathbb{F}_N^{HJ}) - \phi(\mathbb{F}_N))$ has a larger variance than the ones reported in Corollaries 6.1 and 6.2. When looking at Table 2, the relative biases are smaller than 5% when n is 500. The biases are larger for the Horvitz–Thompson estimator than for the Hájek estimator. Again all relative biases are negative, which illustrates the fact that the asymptotic variance is typically underestimated.

8. Discussion. In the Appendix of [35], the author remarks, “To our knowledge there does not exist a general theory on conditions required for the tightness

and weak convergence of Horvitz–Thompson processes.” One purpose of this paper has been to obtain these type of results in such a way that they are potentially applicable to a large class of single-stage unequal probability sampling designs. Conditions (C2)–(C4) play a crucial role in this, as they establish the tightness of the processes involved. The main motivation for the way they are formulated is to incorporate single-stage sampling designs which allow the sample size and/or the inclusion probabilities to depend on ω , which will be the case if they depend on the auxiliary variables Z_i . These conditions trivially hold for simple sampling designs, but also for rejective sampling, which enables us to obtain weak convergence of the Hájek and Horvitz–Thompson processes under high entropy designs. Further extensions to more complex designs are beyond the scope of the present investigation, but we believe that results similar to those described in Sections 3, 4 and 5, would continue to hold under reasonable assumptions.

For instance, multistage sampling designs deserve attention. The recent paper [18] gives some asymptotic results in the case of simple random sampling without replacement at the first stage and with arbitrary designs at further stages. Escobar and Berger (2013) give also some consistency results for a particular two-stage fixed sample size design. The clusters are drawn using sampling without replacement with a probability proportional to the size design and the secondary units are drawn using a simple random sampling without replacement within each sampled cluster. This leads to a self-weighted design. Similar designs would be worth considering in order to generalize our functional limit theorems to multistage sampling.

Stratified sampling is also of importance. Asymptotics in the case of stratified simple random sampling without replacement is studied in [10], when the number of strata is bounded and in [34] when the number of strata tends to infinity. More recently, consistency results are obtained in [4] for large entropy designs when the number of strata is bounded. It would be of particular interest to generalize our functional asymptotic results to such stratified designs.

Our results rely on the assumption that the sample selection process and the super-population model characteristic are independent given the design variables. It means that the sampling is noninformative ([37]). Our results do not directly generalize to informative sampling and further research is needed for such sampling designs. Also functional CLTs for processes corresponding to other estimators, such as regression and calibration estimators ([23]) deserve attention.

9. Proofs. We will use Theorem 13.5 from [11], which requires convergence of finite dimensional distributions and a tightness condition (see (13.14) in [11]). To obtain weak convergence of the finite dimensional distributions, we use condition (HT1) in combination with the Crámer–Wold device; see Lemmas 9.2, 9.4 and 9.6. Details of their proofs can be found in Supplement A in [14].

We will now establish the tightness condition, as stated in the following lemma.

LEMMA 9.1. *Let Y_1, \dots, Y_N be i.i.d. random variables with c.d.f. F and empirical c.d.f. \mathbb{F}_N and let \mathbb{F}_N^{HT} be defined according to (2.1). Let $\mathbb{X}_N = \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ and suppose that (C1)–(C4) hold. Then there exists a constant $K > 0$ independent of N , such that for any t_1, t_2 and $-\infty < t_1 \leq t \leq t_2 < \infty$,*

$$\mathbb{E}_{d,m}[(\mathbb{X}_N(t) - \mathbb{X}_N(t_1))^2(\mathbb{X}_N(t_2) - \mathbb{X}_N(t))^2] \leq K(F(t_2) - F(t_1))^2.$$

PROOF. First, note that

$$\mathbb{X}_N(t) = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{\xi_i}{\pi_i} - 1 \right) \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}}.$$

For the sake of brevity, for $-\infty < t_1 \leq t \leq t_2 < \infty$, and $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$, we define $p_1 = F(t) - F(t_1)$, $p_2 = F(t_2) - F(t)$, $A_i = \mathbb{1}_{\{t_1 < Y_i \leq t\}}$, and $B_i = \mathbb{1}_{\{t < Y_i \leq t_2\}}$. Furthermore, let $\alpha_i = (\xi_i - \pi_i)A_i/\pi_i$ and $\beta_i = (\xi_i - \pi_i)B_i/\pi_i$. Then, according to the fact that $p_1 p_2 \leq (F(t_2) - F(t_1))^2$, due to the monotonicity of F , it suffices to show

$$(9.1) \quad \frac{1}{N^4} \mathbb{E}_{d,m} \left[n^2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i \right)^2 \left(\sum_{j=1}^N \beta_j \right)^2 \right] \leq K p_1 p_2.$$

The expectation on the left-hand side can be decomposed as follows:

$$(9.2) \quad \begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{d,m} [n^2 \alpha_i^2 \beta_k^2] + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i} \sum_{k=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{d,m} [n^2 \alpha_i \alpha_j \beta_k^2] \\ & + \sum_{k=1}^N \sum_{l \neq k} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{d,m} [n^2 \alpha_i^2 \beta_k \beta_l] + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i} \sum_{k=1}^N \sum_{l \neq k} \mathbb{E}_{d,m} [n^2 \alpha_i \alpha_j \beta_k \beta_l]. \end{aligned}$$

Note that by symmetry, sums two and three in (9.2) can be handled similarly, so that essentially we have to deal with three summations. We consider them one by one.

First, note that, since $\mathbb{1}_{\{t_1 < Y_i \leq t\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{t < Y_i \leq t_2\}} = 0$, we will only have nonzero expectations when $\{i, j\}$ and $\{k, l\}$ are disjoint. With (C1), we find

$$(9.3) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{N^4} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{d,m} [n^2 \alpha_i^2 \beta_k^2] \\ & = \frac{1}{N^4} \sum_{(i,k) \in D_{2,N}} \mathbb{E}_{d,m} [n^2 \alpha_i^2 \beta_k^2] \\ & = \frac{1}{N^4} \sum_{(i,k) \in D_{2,N}} \mathbb{E}_m \left[n^2 \frac{A_i B_k}{\pi_i^2 \pi_k^2} \mathbb{E}_d (\xi_i - \pi_i)^2 (\xi_k - \pi_k)^2 \right] \\ & \leq \frac{1}{K_1^4} \sum_{(i,k) \in D_{2,N}} \mathbb{E}_m \left[\frac{A_i B_k}{n^2} \mathbb{E}_d (\xi_i - \pi_i)^2 (\xi_k - \pi_k)^2 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Straightforward computation shows that $\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)^2(\xi_k - \pi_k)^2$ equals

$$(\pi_{ik} - \pi_i\pi_k)(1 - 2\pi_i)(1 - 2\pi_k) + \pi_i\pi_k(1 - \pi_i)(1 - \pi_k).$$

Hence, with (C1)–(C2) we find that

$$\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)^2(\xi_k - \pi_k)^2 \leq |\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_k - \pi_k)| + K_2^2 \frac{n^2}{N^2} = O\left(\frac{n^2}{N^2}\right),$$

ω -almost surely. It follows that

$$\frac{1}{N^4} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{d,m}[n^2 \alpha_i^2 \beta_k^2] \leq O\left(\frac{1}{N^2}\right) \sum_{(i,k) \in D_{2,N}} \mathbb{E}_m[A_i B_k].$$

Since $D_{2,N}$ has $N(N - 1)$ elements and $\mathbb{E}_m[A_i B_j] = p_1 p_2$ for $(i, j) \in D_{2,N}$, it follows that

$$(9.4) \quad \frac{1}{N^4} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{d,m}[n^2 \alpha_i^2 \beta_j^2] \leq K p_1 p_2.$$

Consider the second (and third) summation in (9.2). Similar to (9.3), we can then write

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{N^4} \left| \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i}^N \sum_{k=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{d,m}[n^2 \alpha_i \alpha_j \beta_k^2] \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{N^4} \left| \sum_{(i,j,k) \in D_{3,N}} \mathbb{E}_{d,m}[n^2 \alpha_i \alpha_j \beta_k^2] \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{N^4} \sum_{(i,j,k) \in D_{3,N}} \left| \mathbb{E}_{d,m} \left[n^2 \frac{A_i A_j B_k}{\pi_i \pi_j \pi_k^2} (\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k)^2 \right] \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{N^4} \sum_{(i,j,k) \in D_{3,N}} \mathbb{E}_m \left[n^2 \frac{A_i A_j B_k}{\pi_i \pi_j \pi_k^2} |\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k)^2| \right] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{K_1} \sum_{(i,j,k) \in D_{3,N}} \mathbb{E}_m \left[\frac{A_i A_j B_k}{n^2} |\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k)^2| \right]. \end{aligned}$$

We find that $\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k)^2$ equals

$$(1 - 2\pi_k)\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k) + \pi_k(1 - \pi_k)\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j).$$

With (C1)–(C3), this means $|\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k)^2| = O(n^2/N^3)$, ω -almost surely. It follows that

$$\frac{1}{N^4} \left| \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i}^N \sum_{k=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{d,m}[n^2 \alpha_i \alpha_j \beta_k^2] \right| = O\left(\frac{1}{N^3}\right) \sum_{(i,j,k) \in D_{3,N}} \mathbb{E}_m[A_i A_j B_k].$$

Since $D_{3,N}$ has $N(N - 1)(N - 2)$ elements and $\mathbb{E}_{d,m}[A_i A_j B_k] = p_1^2 p_2$, for $(i, j, k) \in D_{3,N}$, we find

$$(9.5) \quad \frac{1}{N^4} \left| \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i} \sum_{k=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{d,m}[n^2 \alpha_i \alpha_j \beta_k^2] \right| \leq K p_1 p_2.$$

The computations for the third summation in (9.2) are completely similar. Finally, consider the last summation in (9.2). As before, this summation can be bounded by

$$\frac{1}{K_1^4} \sum_{(i,j,k,l) \in D_{4,N}} \mathbb{E}_m \left[\frac{A_i A_j B_k B_l}{n^2} \left| \mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k)(\xi_l - \pi_l) \right| \right].$$

Since $D_{4,N}$ has $N(N - 1)(N - 2)(N - 3)$ elements and $\mathbb{E}_m[A_i A_j B_k B_l] = p_1^2 p_2^2$, for $(i, j, k, l) \in D_{4,N}$, with (C4) we conclude that

$$(9.6) \quad \frac{1}{N^4} \left| \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i} \sum_{k=1}^N \sum_{l \neq k} \mathbb{E}_{d,m}[n^2 \alpha_i \alpha_j \beta_k \beta_l] \right| \leq K p_1 p_2.$$

Together with (9.4), (9.5) and decomposition (9.2), this proves (9.1). \square

LEMMA 9.2. *Let $\mathbb{X}_N = \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ and suppose that (C1)–(C2), (HT1)–(HT2) hold. For any $k \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$, and $t_1, \dots, t_k \in \mathbb{R}$, $(\mathbb{X}_N(t_1), \dots, \mathbb{X}_N(t_k))$ converges in distribution under $\mathbb{P}_{d,m}$ to a k -variate mean zero normal random vector with covariance matrix Σ_k^{HT} given in (3.4).*

PROOF. The proof can be found in Supplement A in [14]. \square

PROOF OF THEOREM 3.1. We first consider $\mathbb{X}_N = \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ for the case that the Y_i 's follow a uniform distribution on $[0, 1]$. We apply Theorem 13.5 from [11]. Lemma 9.2 provides the limiting distribution of the finite dimensional projections $(\mathbb{X}_N(t_1), \dots, \mathbb{X}_N(t_k))$, which is the same as that of the vector $(\mathbb{G}^{\text{HT}}(t_1), \dots, \mathbb{G}^{\text{HT}}(t_k))$, where \mathbb{G}^{HT} is a mean zero Gaussian process with covariance function

$$\mathbb{E}_m \mathbb{G}^{\text{HT}}(s) \mathbb{G}^{\text{HT}}(t) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbb{E}_m \left[n \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i \pi_j}{\pi_i \pi_j} \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq s\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_j \leq t\}} \right],$$

for all $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$. Tightness condition (13.14) in [11] is provided by Lemma 9.1. Since \mathbb{G}^{HT} is continuous at 1, the theorem now follows from Theorem 13.5 in [11] for the case that the Y_i 's are uniformly distributed on $[0, 1]$.

To extend this to a functional CLT with i.i.d. random variables Y_1, Y_2, \dots with a general c.d.f. F , we can follow the argument in the proof of Theorem 14.3 from [11]. First, define the generalized inverse of F :

$$\varphi(s) = \inf\{t : s \leq F(t)\},$$

that satisfies $s \leq F(t)$ if and only if $\varphi(s) \leq t$. This means that if U_1, U_2, \dots are i.i.d. uniformly distributed on $[0, 1]$, $\varphi(U_i)$ has the same distribution as Y_i , so that $\mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}} \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbb{1}_{\{\varphi(U_i) \leq t\}} = \mathbb{1}_{\{U_i \leq F(t)\}}$. It follows that

$$\mathbb{X}_N(t) = \sqrt{n} \left\{ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}}}{\pi_i} - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}} \right\} \stackrel{d}{=} Z_N(F(t)), \quad t \in \mathbb{R},$$

where

$$(9.7) \quad Z_N(t) = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{\xi_i}{\pi_i} - 1 \right) \mathbb{1}_{\{U_i \leq t\}}, \quad t \in [0, 1].$$

Hence, the general HT empirical process \mathbb{X}_N is the image of the HT uniform empirical process Z_N under the mapping $\psi : D[0, 1] \mapsto D(\mathbb{R})$ given by $[\psi x](t) = x(F(t))$. Note that, if $x_N \rightarrow x$ in $D[0, 1]$ in the Skorohod topology and x has continuous sample paths, then the convergence is uniform. But then also ψx_N converges to ψx uniformly in $D(\mathbb{R})$. This implies that ψx_N converges to ψx in the Skorohod topology. We have established that $Z_N \Rightarrow Z$ weakly in $D[0, 1]$ in the Skorohod topology, where Z has continuous sample paths. Therefore, according to the continuous mapping theorem, for example, Theorem 2.7 in [11], it follows that $\psi(Z_N) \Rightarrow \psi(Z)$ weakly. This proves the theorem for Y_i 's with a general c.d.f. F . \square

The proof of Proposition 3.1 is similar to that of Theorem 3.1 and can be found in Supplement A in [14].

To establish tightness for the process $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$ we use the following decomposition:

$$(9.8) \quad \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F) = \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - \mathbb{F}_N) + \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{N}} \cdot \sqrt{N}(\mathbb{F}_N - F).$$

The first process on the right-hand side converges weakly to Gaussian process, according to Theorem 3.1. The process $\sqrt{N}(\mathbb{F}_N - F)$ also converges weakly to a Gaussian process, due to the classical Donsker theorem. In particular both processes on the right-hand side are tight in $D(\mathbb{R})$ with the Skorohod metric. In general, the sum of two tight processes in $D(\mathbb{R})$ is not necessarily tight. However, this will be the case if both processes converge weakly to continuous processes (see Lemma B.2 in [14]).

LEMMA 9.3. *Let V_1, V_2, \dots be a sequence of bounded i.i.d. random variables on $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, \mathbb{P}_m)$ with mean μ_V and variance σ_V^2 , and let S_N^2 be defined by (3.2). Suppose (HT1) and (HT3) hold and $nS_N^2 \rightarrow \sigma_{\text{HT}}^2 > 0$ in \mathbb{P}_m -probability. Then*

$$(9.9) \quad \sqrt{n} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i V_i}{\pi_i} - \mu_V \right),$$

converges in distribution under $\mathbb{P}_{d,m}$ to a mean zero normal random variable with variance $\sigma_{\text{HT}}^2 + \lambda\sigma_V^2$.

PROOF. The proof can be found in Supplement A in [14]. \square

LEMMA 9.4. Let $\mathbb{X}_N^F = \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$ and suppose that (C1)–(C2), (HT1)–(HT4) hold. Then for any $k \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$, and $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k \in \mathbb{R}$, the sequence $(\mathbb{X}_N^F(t_1), \dots, \mathbb{X}_N^F(t_k))$ converges in distribution under $\mathbb{P}_{d,m}$ to a k -variate mean zero normal random vector with covariance matrix $\Sigma_{\text{HT}}^F = \Sigma_k^{\text{HT}} + \lambda\Sigma_F$, where Σ_k^{HT} is given in (3.4) and Σ_F is the $k \times k$ matrix with (q, r) -entry $F(t_q \wedge t_r) - F(t_q)F(t_r)$, for $q, r = 1, 2, \dots, k$.

PROOF. The proof can be found in Supplement A in [14]. \square

PROOF OF THEOREM 3.2. The proof is completely similar to that of Theorem 3.1. We first consider the process $\mathbb{X}_N^F = \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$ for the case that the Y_i 's follow a uniform distribution with $F(t) = t$. Decompose \mathbb{X}_N^F as in (9.8). By Theorem 3.1, the first process on the right-hand side of (9.8) converges weakly to a process in $C[0, 1]$. Due to the classical Donsker theorem and (HT3), the second process on the right-hand side of (9.8) also converges weakly to a process in $C[0, 1]$. Tightness of \mathbb{X}_N^F then follows from Lemma B.2 in [14]. Convergence of the finite dimensional distributions is provided by Lemma 9.4. The theorem now follows from Theorem 13.5 in [11] for the case that the Y_i 's are uniformly distributed on $[0, 1]$. Next, this is extended to Y_i 's with a general c.d.f. F in the same way as in the proof of Theorem 3.1. \square

To establish convergence in distribution of the finite dimensional distributions of $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$ under the conditions of Proposition 3.2, as in the proof of Lemma 9.4, we will use the Cramér–Wold device. To ensure that nS_N^2 still has a strictly positive limit without imposing (HT4), we will need the following lemma. Its proof can be found in Supplement A in [14].

LEMMA 9.5. Let F be the c.d.f. of the i.i.d. Y_1, \dots, Y_N . For any k -tuple $(t_1, \dots, t_k) \in \mathbb{R}^k$, suppose that the values $F(t_1), \dots, F(t_k)$ are all distinct and such that $0 < F(t_i) < 1$. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, such that $a \geq b$. If $a > 0$, then the $k \times k$ matrix \mathbf{M} with (i, j) th element $M_{ij} = aF(t_i \wedge t_j) - bF(t_i)F(t_j)$ is positive definite.

LEMMA 9.6. Let $\mathbb{X}_N^F = \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$ and suppose that n and π_i, π_{ij} , for $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$, are deterministic. Suppose that (C1)–(C2), (HT1) and (HT3) hold, as well as conditions (i)–(ii) of Proposition 3.2. Then, for any $k \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$, and $t_1, \dots, t_k \in \mathbb{R}$, $(\mathbb{X}_N^F(t_1), \dots, \mathbb{X}_N^F(t_k))$ converges in distribution under $\mathbb{P}_{d,m}$ to a k -variate mean zero normal random vector with covariance matrix Σ_{HT}^F , with (q, r) -entry $(\mu_{\pi_1} + \lambda)F(t_q \wedge t_r) + (\mu_{\pi_2} - \lambda)F(t_q)F(t_r)$, for $q, r = 1, 2, \dots, k$.

PROOF. The proof can be found in Supplement A in [14]. \square

The proof of Proposition 3.2 is similar to that of Theorem 3.2 and can be found in Supplement A in [14].

PROOF OF THEOREM 4.1. For part (i), note that with S_N^2 defined in (3.2) with $V_i = 1$, from (HT1) together with condition (4.6), it follows that

$$\sqrt{n}S_N \times \frac{1}{S_N} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i}{\pi_i} - 1 \right) \rightarrow N(0, \sigma_\pi^2), \quad \omega\text{-a.s.},$$

in distribution under \mathbb{P}_d . This implies

$$(9.10) \quad \sqrt{n} \left(\frac{\widehat{N}}{N} - 1 \right) = \sqrt{n} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i}{\pi_i} - 1 \right) \rightarrow N(0, \sigma_\pi^2),$$

in distribution under $\mathbb{P}_{d,m}$. In particular, since $n \rightarrow \infty$, this proves part (i).

The proof of part(ii) is along the same lines as the proof of Theorems 3.1 and 3.2. First, consider the case, where the Y_i 's are uniform, with $F(t) = t$ on $[0, 1]$. Then, with \mathbb{F}_N^{HT} defined in (2.1) and $\mathbb{X}_N^F = \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - F)$, we can write $\mathbb{G}_N^\pi(t) = \mathbb{X}_N^F(t) - (\mathbb{X}_N^F(t) - \mathbb{G}_N^\pi(t))$. According to Theorem 3.2, the process \mathbb{X}_N^F converges weakly to a continuous process. As a consequence of (9.10), the process

$$\mathbb{X}_N^F(t) - \mathbb{G}_N^\pi(t) = t \sqrt{n} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i}{\pi_i} - 1 \right),$$

also converges weakly to a continuous process. Hence, similar to the argument in the proof of Theorem 3.2, we conclude that the process \mathbb{G}_N^π is tight. Next, we establish weak convergence of the finite dimensional projections. Details can be found in Supplement A in [14]. \square

PROOF OF THEOREM 4.2. We use (4.2). From the proof of Theorem 4.1, we know that \mathbb{G}_N^π is tight. Together with Theorem 4.1(i), it then follows that the limit behavior of $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HJ}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$ is the same as that of the process \mathbb{Y}_N defined in (4.3). This process can be written as

$$\mathbb{Y}_N(t) = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{\xi_i}{\pi_i} - 1 \right) \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}} - F(t) \frac{\sqrt{n}}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{\xi_i}{\pi_i} - 1 \right).$$

As in the proofs of Theorems 3.1, 3.2 and 4.1, we first consider the case of uniform Y_i 's. The first process on the right-hand side is $\sqrt{n}(\mathbb{F}_N^{\text{HT}} - \mathbb{F}_N)$, which converges weakly to a continuous process, according to Theorem 3.1, whereas the second process also converges to a continuous process due to (9.10). As in the proof of Theorem 3.2, one can then argue that \mathbb{Y}_N , being the difference of these processes,

is tight. Next, we prove weak convergence of the finite dimensional projections. Details can be found in Supplement A in [14]. \square

The proofs of Propositions 4.1 and 4.2 are similar to those of Theorems 4.2 and 4.1, respectively, and can be found in Supplement A in [14].

PROOF OF COROLLARY 5.1. Similar to the approach followed in [3], we first prove the results for a rejective sampling R and then extend them to high entropy designs.

First, note that $\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j) = \pi_{ij} - \pi_i\pi_j$. According to Theorem 1 in [13], which is an extension of Theorem 5.2 in [31], together with (C1) and (A2), for sampling design R ,

$$(9.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \pi_{ij} - \pi_i\pi_j &= \pi_i\pi_j \left\{ -\frac{1}{d_N}(1 - \pi_i)(1 - \pi_j) + O(d_N^{-2}) \right\} \\ &= O(n^2/(N^2d_N)), \end{aligned}$$

ω -almost surely. Therefore, together with (A3), condition (C2) follows, ω -almost surely. For condition (C3), according to Lemma 2 in [13], the third order correlation $\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k)$ splits into terms of the form $(\pi_{ij} - \pi_i\pi_j)\pi_k$ and the term $\pi_{ijk} - \pi_i\pi_j\pi_k$. Similar to (9.11), together with Theorem 1 in [13], the latter term can be shown to be of the order $O(n^3/(N^3d_N))$, whereas the other terms are of the same order according to (C1)–(C2) and (A2). Again, together with (A3), condition (C3) follows, ω -almost surely. According to Proposition 1 in [13],

$$|\mathbb{E}_d(\xi_i - \pi_i)(\xi_j - \pi_j)(\xi_k - \pi_k)(\xi_l - \pi_l)| = O(d_N^{-2}) \quad \text{a.s.-}\mathbb{P}_m.$$

Hence, together with (A4), condition (C4) follows, ω -almost surely. Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 are now immediate, when either (HT2) holds or (HT2)–(HT4), respectively, which establishes parts (i) and (ii) for the rejective sampling design R . For parts (iii) and (iv), it can be seen that under design R ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n}{N^2} \sum_{i \neq j} \sum \frac{\pi_{ij} - \pi_i\pi_j}{\pi_i\pi_j} &= -\frac{n}{N^2} \sum_{i \neq j} \sum \frac{(1 - \pi_i)(1 - \pi_j)}{d_N} + O(n/d_N^2) \\ &= -\frac{n}{N^2d_N}(N - n)^2 + O(1/d_N) + O(n/d_N^2) \\ &\rightarrow \alpha, \end{aligned}$$

with (A2)–(A3) and (A5). Hence, Theorems 4.2 and 4.3 are now immediate with $\mu_{\pi 2} = -\alpha$, when either (HT3) and (HJ2) hold or (HT3), (HJ2), and (HJ4), respectively, which establishes parts (iii) and (iv) for rejective sampling design R .

To extend these results to high entropy designs, we use the same approach as in [7]. They use the bounded Lipschitz metric for random elements X and Y on a metric space \mathbb{D} :

$$d_{BL}(X, Y) = \sup_{f \in BL_1} |\mathbb{E}f(Y) - \mathbb{E}f(X)|,$$

where BL_1 is the class of Lipschitz functions with Lipschitz norm bounded by one. See [46], page 73, who define the metric d_{BL} on the space of separable Borel measures. Weak convergence is metrizable by this metric, that is,

$$X_\alpha \rightsquigarrow X \iff \sup_{f \in BL_1} |\mathbb{E}^* f(X_\alpha) - \mathbb{E} f(X)| \rightarrow 0.$$

Now, consider part (i) and let P be a high entropy design. Let R be some rejective sampling design such that $D(P \parallel R) \rightarrow 0$. Given the inclusion probabilities $\pi_1(P), \dots, \pi_N(P)$, there exists a rejective sampling design \tilde{R} such that $\pi_i(\tilde{R}) = \pi_i(P)$. Note that $D(P \parallel \tilde{R}) \leq D(P \parallel R) \rightarrow 0$, according to Lemma 3 in [3].

Consider the Horvitz–Thompson process for the design P :

$$\mathbb{G}_P^{\pi(P)}(t) = \sqrt{n} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i(P) \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}}}{\pi_i(P)} - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}} \right),$$

and compare this with the same process for design \tilde{R} ,

$$\mathbb{G}_{\tilde{R}}^{\pi(P)}(t) = \sqrt{n} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\xi_i(\tilde{R}) \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}}}{\pi_i(P)} - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{1}_{\{Y_i \leq t\}} \right).$$

Then, because $\mathbb{E}_d[\xi_i(P)] = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}_N} P(s) \delta_i(s)$, where $\delta_i(s) = 1$ when $i \in s$ and zero otherwise, it follows that for $\mathbb{E}_d f(\mathbb{G}_P^{\pi(P)})$, the argument inside f is independent of the design P . Hence, for any $f \in BL_1$, one finds

$$|\mathbb{E}_d f(\mathbb{G}_P^{\pi(P)}) - \mathbb{E}_d f(\mathbb{G}_{\tilde{R}}^{\pi(P)})| \leq \sum_{s \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U}_N)} |P(s) - \tilde{R}(s)| \leq \sqrt{2D(P \parallel \tilde{R})},$$

using Lemma 2 in [3]. As $|\mathbb{E}_{d,m} f(Y) - \mathbb{E}_{d,m} f(X)| \leq \mathbb{E}_m |\mathbb{E}_d f(Y) - \mathbb{E}_d f(X)|$, it follows that $d_{BL_1}(\mathbb{G}_P^{\pi(P)}, \mathbb{G}_{\tilde{R}}^{\pi(P)}) \rightarrow 0$. Because part (i) has already been established for rejective sampling design \tilde{R} , we obtain that $\mathbb{G}_{\tilde{R}}^{\pi(P)} \rightarrow \mathbb{G}$ weakly. Hence, $d_{BL_1}(\mathbb{G}_{\tilde{R}}^{\pi(P)}, \mathbb{G}) \rightarrow 0$ and, therefore,

$$d_{BL_1}(\mathbb{G}_P^{\pi(P)}, \mathbb{G}) \leq d_{BL_1}(\mathbb{G}_P^{\pi(P)}, \mathbb{G}_{\tilde{R}}^{\pi(P)}) + d_{BL_1}(\mathbb{G}_{\tilde{R}}^{\pi(P)}, \mathbb{G}) \rightarrow 0$$

which means that $\mathbb{G}_P^{\pi(P)} \rightarrow \mathbb{G}$ weakly. This establishes part (i) for high entropy design P . Parts (ii)–(iv) are obtained in the same way. \square

The proofs for Corollaries 6.1 and 6.2 are fairly straightforward and can be found in Supplement A in [14].

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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Supplement to “Functional central limit theorems for single-stage samplings designs.” (DOI: [10.1214/16-AOS1507SUPP](https://doi.org/10.1214/16-AOS1507SUPP); .pdf). *Appendix A: Proofs for results in the main text.* This supplement contains detailed proofs of lemmas, propositions and corollaries for results in the main text that are not present in Section 9. *Appendix B: Additional technicalities.* This supplement contains detailed proofs of some remarks and additional lemmas. *Appendix C: Fixed size sampling designs with deterministic inclusion probabilities.* This supplement contains results for fixed size sampling designs with deterministic inclusion probabilities, obtained under alternative conditions for (C2)–(C4).

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