# Supplement to "Minimizing sensitivity to model misspecification"

(Quantitative Economics, Vol. 13, No. 3, July 2022, 907-954)

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In Sections S1 and S2, we provide details about the proofs in the paper. In Section S3, we describe our computational approach. In Section S4, we outline how to extend our approach to models defined by moment restrictions. Lastly, we report additional simulation and estimation results in Section S5.

## S1. Complements to main results of Section 2

## S1.1 Proof of intermediate lemmas for Theorem 1

The proofs of the Lemmas A2, A3, and A4 are provided in this subsection. Before those proofs it is useful to first establish one additional lemma.

LEMMA S1. Let Assumption A1 hold. Let  $q_{\epsilon}(y)$  and  $h_{\epsilon}(y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)$  be sequences of functions with  $\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} |q(Y)|^{\zeta} = O(1)$ , for some  $\zeta > 1$ , and  $\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} |h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)|^2 = O(1)$ . Then we have:

(i) 
$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} |\delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0}| = O(\epsilon^{1/2}),$$

(ii) 
$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} |\mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} q_{\epsilon}(Y) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} q_{\epsilon}(Y)| = O(\epsilon^{1/2}),$$

(iii) 
$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} |\mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) - \langle \pi_0 - \pi(\gamma_*), \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) \nabla_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}(Y) \rangle| = o(\epsilon^{1/2}).$$

PROOF OF LEMMA S1. # Part (i): By a mean-value expansion around  $\pi(\gamma_*)$ , we find

$$|\delta_{\beta_0,\pi_0} - \delta_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}| = \left|\left\langle \pi_0 - \pi(\gamma_*), \nabla_\pi \delta_{\beta_0,\widetilde{\pi}} \right\rangle\right| \leq \left\|\pi_0 - \pi(\gamma_*)\right\|_{\operatorname{ind},\gamma_*} \|\nabla_\pi \delta_{\beta_0,\widetilde{\pi}}\|_{\gamma_*},$$

where  $\widetilde{\pi}$  is between  $\pi(\gamma_*)$  and  $\pi_0$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{split} \sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} |\delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0} - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}| &\leq \sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \left\| \pi_0 - \pi(\gamma_*) \right\|_{\text{ind}, \gamma_*} \sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \left\| \nabla_{\pi} \delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \right\|_{\gamma_*} \\ &= O\left(\epsilon^{1/2}\right) O(1) = O\left(\epsilon^{1/2}\right). \end{split}$$

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# Part (ii): Without loss of generality, we assume that  $\zeta \leq 2$ . Let  $\xi := \zeta/(\zeta - 1) \geq 2$ . We then have

$$\int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left| f_{\beta_0, \pi_0}^{1/\xi}(y) - f_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}^{1/\xi}(y) \right|^{\xi} dy \le \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left[ f_{\beta_0, \pi_0}^{1/2}(y) - f_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}^{1/2}(y) \right]^2 dy,$$

where we used that  $|a-b| \le |a^c-b^c|^{1/c}$ , for any  $a,b \ge 0$  and  $c \ge 1$ , and plugged in  $a = f_{\beta_0,\pi_0}^{1/\xi}(y)$ ,  $b = f_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}^{1/\xi}(y)$ , and  $c = \xi/2$ . Thus, the first part of Assumption A1(iii) also implies

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \left\{ \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left| f_{\beta_0, \pi_0}^{1/\xi}(y) - f_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}^{1/\xi}(y) \right|^{\xi} dy \right\}^{\frac{1}{\xi}} = O(\epsilon^{1/2}). \tag{S1}$$

Next, we find

$$\begin{split} \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} & \left| \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} q_{\epsilon}(Y) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} q_{\epsilon}(Y) \right| \\ &= \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \left| \int_{\mathcal{Y}} q_{\epsilon}(Y) \frac{f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}(y)}{f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}^{1/\xi}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/\xi}(y)} \left[ f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}^{1/\xi}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/\xi}(y) \right] dy \right| \\ &\leq \left\{ \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left| q_{\epsilon}(Y) \right|^{\frac{\epsilon}{\xi - 1}} \left| \frac{f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}(y)}{f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}^{1/\xi}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/\xi}(y)} \right|^{\frac{\epsilon}{\xi - 1}} dy \right\}^{\frac{\epsilon - 1}{\xi}} \\ &\times \left\{ \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left| f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}^{1/\xi}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/\xi}(y) \right|^{\xi} dy \right\}^{\frac{1}{\xi}} \right. \\ &\leq \xi \left\{ \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left| f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}^{1/\xi}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/\xi}(y) \right|^{\xi} dy \right\}^{\frac{1}{\xi}} \\ &\times \left\{ \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left| f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}^{1/\xi}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/\xi}(y) \right|^{\xi} dy \right\}^{\frac{1}{\xi}} \\ &\leq \xi \left\{ 2 \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left| q_{\epsilon}(Y) \right|^{\xi} \right\}^{\frac{\epsilon - 1}{\xi}} \left\{ \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left| f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}^{1/\xi}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/\xi}(y) \right|^{\xi} dy \right\}^{\frac{1}{\xi}} \\ &= o(1), \end{split}$$

where the first inequality is an application of Hölder's inequality, the second inequality uses that  $|\frac{f_{\beta_0,\pi_0}(y)-f_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}(y)}{f_{\beta_0,\pi_0}^{1/\xi}(y)-f_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}^{1/\xi}(y)}|^{\xi/(\xi-1)} \leq \xi^{\xi/(\xi-1)}[f_{\beta_0,\pi_0}(y)+f_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}(y)]$ , S1 the last line uses that  $\kappa=\xi/(\xi-1)$ , and the final conclusion follows from our assumptions and (S1).

S1 For  $a,b\geq 0$ , there exists  $c\in [a,b]$  such that by the mean value theorem we have  $(a^{\xi}-b^{\xi})/(a-b)=\xi c^{\xi-1}\leq \xi \max(a^{\xi-1},b^{\xi-1})$  and, therefore,  $[(a^{\xi}-b^{\xi})/(a-b)]^{\xi/(\xi-1)}\leq \xi^{\xi/(\xi-1)}\max(a^{\xi},b^{\xi})\leq \xi^{\xi/(\xi-1)}(a^{\xi}+b^{\xi})$ , which we apply here with  $a=f_{\beta_0,\pi_0}^{1/\xi}(y)$  and  $b=f_{\beta_0,\pi_0,\eta_0}^{1/\xi}(y)$ .

# Part (iii): We have

$$\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}}h_{\epsilon}(Y,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*}) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}h_{\epsilon}(Y,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*}) \\ - \langle \pi_{0} - \pi(\gamma_{*}), \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}h_{\epsilon}(Y,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*})\nabla_{\pi}\log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(Y) \rangle \\ = \int_{\mathcal{Y}}h_{\epsilon}(y,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*})[f_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}}(y) - f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(y) \\ - \langle \pi_{0} - \pi(\gamma_{*}), \nabla_{\pi}\log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(y) \rangle f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(y)]dy \\ = \int_{\mathcal{Y}}h_{\epsilon}(y,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*})[f_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}}^{1/2}(y) + f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/2}(y)] \\ \times \left[f_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}}^{1/2}(y) - f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/2}(y) - \frac{1}{2}\langle \pi_{0} - \pi(\gamma_{*}), \nabla_{\pi}\log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(y) \rangle f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/2}(y)\right]dy \\ = :a_{\beta_{0},\gamma_{*},\pi_{0}}^{(1)} \\ + \frac{1}{2}\underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{Y}}h_{\epsilon}(y,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*})f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/2}(y)\langle \pi_{0} - \pi(\gamma_{*}), \nabla_{\pi}\log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(y) \rangle [f_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}}^{1/2}(y) - f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/2}(y)]dy \\ = :a_{\beta_{0},\gamma_{*},\pi_{0}}^{(2)} \\ = :a_{\beta_{0},\gamma_{*},\pi_{0}}^{(2)}$$

Applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and our assumptions, we find that

$$\begin{split} &\sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \left| a_{\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}, \pi_{0}}^{(1)} \right|^{2} \\ &\leq 4 \left\{ \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} h_{\epsilon}^{2}(Y, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) \right\} \\ &\quad \times \left\{ \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left[ f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}^{1/2}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/2}(y) - \left\langle \pi_{0} - \pi(\gamma_{*}), \nabla_{\pi} f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/2}(y) \right\rangle \right]^{2} dy \right\} \\ &= O(\epsilon^{1/2}), \end{split}$$

and

$$\begin{split} \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \left| a_{\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}, \pi_{0}}^{(2)} \right|^{2} &\leq \left\{ \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} h_{\epsilon}^{2}(Y, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) \right\} \\ &\qquad \times \left\{ \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \left\| \pi_{0} - \pi(\gamma_{*}) \right\|_{\operatorname{ind}, \gamma_{*}}^{2} \right. \\ &\qquad \times \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left\| \nabla_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}(y) \right\|_{\gamma_{*}}^{2} \left[ f_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}}^{1/2}(y) - f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{1/2}(y) \right]^{2} dy \right\} \\ &= o(\epsilon). \end{split}$$

Combining this gives the statement in the lemma.

PROOF OF LEMMA A2. Applying part (ii) of Lemma S1 with  $q_{\epsilon}(y) = h_{\epsilon}(y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)$  and using the unbiasedness constraint (2) we find that  $\mathbb{E}_{\beta_0,\pi_0}h_{\epsilon}(Y,\beta_0,\gamma_*)=o(1)$ , uniformly in  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ . Part (i) of Lemma S1 guarantees that  $|\delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0} - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}| = o(1)$ , uniformly in  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ . We therefore have

$$\begin{split} &\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}}\big[h_{\epsilon}(Y,\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*})+\delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi(\gamma_{*})}-\delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}}\big]^{2} \\ &=\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}}\big[h_{\epsilon}(Y,\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*})\big]^{2} \\ &\quad -2(\delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}}-\delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi(\gamma_{*})})\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}}h_{\epsilon}(Y,\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*})+(\delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}}-\delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi(\gamma_{*})})^{2} \\ &=\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}}\big[h_{\epsilon}(Y,\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*})\big]^{2}+o(1), \end{split}$$

uniformly in  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ . Applying part (ii) of Lemma S1 with  $q_{\epsilon}(y) = [h_{\epsilon}(y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)]^2$ , we find that  $\mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0}[h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)]^2 = \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}[h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)]^2 + o(1) = \mathrm{Var}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}(h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)) + o(1)$ , uniformly in  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ , where in the last step we have also used that  $h_{\epsilon}(y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)$  satisfies the unbiasedness constraint (2). Therefore,

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \left[ h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) + \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \right]^2$$

$$= \operatorname{Var}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} \left( h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) \right) + o(1). \tag{S2}$$

Using the unbiasedness constraint again, as well as Lemma S1(iii) and Assumptions A1(ii) and A1(iv) we find

$$\sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \left| \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) + \delta_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} - \delta_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \right| \\
= \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \left| \left\langle \pi_{0} - \pi(\gamma_{*}), \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) \nabla_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}(Y) - \nabla_{\pi} \delta_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} \right\rangle \right| \\
+ o(\epsilon^{1/2}) \\
= \epsilon^{1/2} \left\| \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) \nabla_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}(Y) - \nabla_{\pi} \delta_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} \right\|_{\gamma_{*}} + o(\epsilon^{1/2}) \\
= b_{\epsilon}(h_{\epsilon}, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) + o(\epsilon^{1/2}), \tag{S3}$$

where in the last step we used the definition of the worst-case bias in (8) of the main text. We furthermore have

$$\begin{split} &\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \Big[ \widehat{\delta}(h_{\epsilon},\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*}) - \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \Big]^{2} \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \Bigg( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} h(Y_{i},\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*}) + \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi(\gamma_{*})} - \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \Bigg)^{2} \\ &= \Big[ \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} h(Y,\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*}) + \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi(\gamma_{*})} - \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \Big]^{2} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{n} \mathrm{Var}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \Big[ h(Y,\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*}) + \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi(\gamma_{*})} - \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \Big] \\ &= \frac{n-1}{n} \Big[ \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} h(Y,\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*}) - \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} + \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi(\gamma_{*})} \Big]^{2} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \Big[ h(Y,\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*}) + \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi(\gamma_{*})} - \delta_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \Big]^{2}. \end{split}$$

Taking the supremum of this last result over  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ , and then applying (S2) and (S3) gives

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \left[ \widehat{\delta}(h_{\epsilon}, \beta_0, \gamma_*) - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \right]^2$$

$$= b_{\epsilon}(h_{\epsilon}, \beta_0, \gamma_*)^2 + \frac{\operatorname{Var}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} \left( h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) \right)}{n} + o(\epsilon),$$

which is the statement of the lemma.

PROOF OF LEMMA A3. Let  $\eta = (\beta', \gamma')'$ ,  $\widehat{\eta} := (\widehat{\beta}', \widehat{\gamma}')'$ , and  $\eta_* := (\beta'_0, \gamma'_*)'$ . By a Taylor expansion in  $\eta$  around  $\eta_*$ , we find that

$$\widehat{\delta}_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}} = \delta_{\widehat{\beta}, \pi(\widehat{\gamma})} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y_{i}, \widehat{\beta}, \widehat{\gamma})$$

$$= \delta_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y_{i}, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*})$$

$$\underbrace{(\widehat{\eta} - \eta_{*})' \left[\nabla_{\eta} \delta_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} + \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*})\right]}_{=r^{(1)}}$$

$$+ \underbrace{(\widehat{\eta} - \eta_{*})' \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[\nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y_{i}, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y_{i}, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*})\right]}_{=r^{(2)}}$$

$$+ \underbrace{(\widehat{\eta} - \eta_{*})' \left[\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*})\right]}_{=r^{(3)}}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{(\widehat{\eta} - \eta_{*})' \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \nabla_{\eta \eta'}^{2} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y_{i}, \widetilde{\beta}, \widetilde{\gamma})\right] (\widehat{\eta} - \eta_{*})}_{=r^{(4)}}, \tag{S4}$$

where  $\widetilde{\eta} = (\widetilde{\beta}', \widetilde{\gamma}')'$  is a value between  $\widehat{\eta}$  and  $\eta_*$ . Our constraints (2) and (4) guarantee that  $\nabla_{\eta}\delta_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)} + \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}\nabla_{\eta}h^{\mathrm{MMSE}}_{\epsilon}(Y,\beta_0,\gamma_*) = 0$ ; that is, we have  $r^{(1)} = 0$ . Using Assumption A2 and the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we furthermore find

$$\begin{split} & \left( \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \big| r^{(2)} \big| \right)^{2} \\ & \leq \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \| \widehat{\eta} - \eta_{*} \|^{2} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[ \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y_{i},\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*}) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y_{i},\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*}) \right] \right\|^{2} \\ & \leq \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \| \widehat{\eta} - \eta_{*} \|^{2} \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\,\pi_{0}} \| \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y,\,\beta_{0},\,\gamma_{*}) \|^{2} = O\left(\frac{1}{n^{2}}\right), \end{split}$$

uniformly in  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ , where in the second step we have used the independence of  $Y_i$  across i. Similarly, we have

$$\begin{split} \left( \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \big| r^{(3)} \big| \right)^2 &\leq \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \| \widehat{\eta} - \eta_* \|^2 \\ &\qquad \times \left\| \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) \right\|^2 \\ &= O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) O(\epsilon) = O\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right), \end{split}$$

uniformly in  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ , where we have used that

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \|\mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \, \pi_0} \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, \, \beta_0, \, \gamma_*) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \, \pi(\gamma_*)} \nabla_{\eta} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, \, \beta_0, \, \gamma_*)\| = O(\epsilon^{1/2}),$$

which follows from Assumptions A1(iii) and A2(ii) by using the proof strategy of part (ii) of Lemma S1. Finally, applying Hölder's inequality we have

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left| r^{(4)} \right| &\leq \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left[ \| \widehat{\eta} - \eta_{*} \|^{2} \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \nabla_{\eta \eta'}^{2} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y_{i}, \widetilde{\beta}, \widetilde{\gamma}) \right\| \right] \\ &\leq \left\{ \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \| \widehat{\eta} - \eta_{*} \|^{\chi} \right\}^{\frac{2}{\chi}} \left\{ \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \nabla_{\eta \eta'}^{2} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y_{i}, \widetilde{\beta}, \widetilde{\gamma}) \right\|^{\frac{\chi}{\chi - 2}} \right\}^{\frac{\chi - 2}{\chi}} \\ &= O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right), \end{split}$$

uniformly in  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ , where we have used Assumption A2(iii). We have thus shown that

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \, \pi_0} \left| r^{(1)} + r^{(2)} + r^{(3)} + \frac{1}{2} r^{(4)} \right| = O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right),$$

which together with (S4) gives the statement of the lemma.

The proof of the next lemma uses the following theorem of Petrov (1975), which generalizes the Berry–Esseen theorem to sample averages of random variables without a third moment.

THEOREM S1 (Theorem 5 on p. 112 in Petrov (1975)). Let  $X_1, \ldots, X_n$  be independent random variables, such that  $\mathbb{E}X_j = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E}(X_j^2g(|X_j|)) < \infty$  for  $j = 1, \ldots, n$ , and for some function  $g:[0,\infty) \to [0,\infty)$  such that both g(x) and x/g(x) are nondecreasing for x>0. We write

$$\sigma_j^2 = \mathbb{E}X_j^2, \qquad B_n = \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j^2, \qquad F_n(x) = \Pr\bigg(B_n^{-1/2} \sum_{j=1}^n X_j < x\bigg).$$

Then there exists an absolute constant A > 0 such that

$$\sup_{x} \left| F_n(x) - \Phi(x) \right| \leq \frac{A}{B_n g(\sqrt{B_n})} \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left( X_j^2 g(X_j) \right).$$

PROOF OF LEMMA A4. # Preliminaries: We first establish some preliminary results on the sample averages of

$$\widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*, \pi_0) := h_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} h_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*).$$

According to our assumptions, the  $h_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*, \pi_0)$  are independent random variables with zero mean and finite absolute moments of order  $\kappa > 2$ , under  $P_0 = P(\beta_0, \pi_0)$ . By applying the result in Dharmadhikari and Jogdeo (1969), we thus find that S2

$$\mathbb{E}_{\beta_0,\pi_0}\left|\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_i,\beta_0,\gamma_*,\pi_0)\right|^{\kappa} \leq C_{\kappa}\mathbb{E}_{\beta_0,\pi_0}\left|\widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_i,\beta_0,\gamma_*,\pi_0)\right|^{\kappa},$$

where the constant  $C_{\kappa} > 0$  only depends on  $\kappa$ . Through a combination of the Minkowski and Hölder's inequalities, we find that our assumption  $\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} | h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \eta_0) |$  $|\gamma_*|^{\kappa} = O(1)$  also guarantees  $\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} |\widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)|^{\kappa} = O(1)$ . We therefore obtain that

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \left( \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*, \pi_0) \right|^{\kappa} \right)^{\frac{1}{\kappa}} = O(1).$$
 (S5)

Next, we apply Theorem 5 of Chapter V in Petrov (1975), which is restated above as Theorem S1, with  $X_i$  equal to  $\widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*, \pi_0)$  and  $g(x) = x^{\min\{1, \kappa - 2\}}$  to find that

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} \left| P_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*, \pi_0)}{\sqrt{n} \sigma(\beta_0, \gamma_*, \pi_0)} \le x \right) - \Phi(x) \right| = o(1),$$

where  $\sigma^2(\beta_0, \gamma_*, \pi_0) = \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}^2(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*, \pi_0)$ . This, in particular, implies that

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} P_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \left( \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*, \pi_0) \right| > \log(n) \right) = o(1).$$
 (S6)

By an application of Hölder's inequality we find that (S5) and (S6) also imply

$$\sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_{i}, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) \right)^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_{i}, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) \right| > \log n \right) \right]$$

$$= o(1). \tag{S7}$$

 $<sup>^{</sup>m S2}$ This result is an extension of the Bahr–Esseen inequality to moments larger than two. See also inequality number 16 on page 60 of Petrov (1975).

Finally, we notice that

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \left| \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0} + \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) \right| = O(\epsilon^{1/2}), \tag{S8}$$

which follows by applying part (i) and (ii) of Lemma S1 with  $q_{\epsilon}(y) = h_{\epsilon}(y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)$  and noting that  $\mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} h_{\epsilon}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) = 0$  by the unbiasedness constraint (2).

# <u>Main result of the Lemma A4:</u> Having established those preliminary results, we now derive the statement of the lemma. Define

$$\begin{split} k_n &:= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n h_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*) + \sqrt{n} [\delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0}] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*) + \sqrt{n} [\delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0} + \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} h_{\epsilon}(Y_i, \beta_0, \gamma_*)]. \end{split}$$

The decomposition of  $\widehat{\delta}_{\epsilon}$  in (A2) can then be rewritten as

$$\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\delta}_{\epsilon} - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0}) = k_n + R_n.$$

We have

$$n\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} \left[ (\widehat{\delta}_{\epsilon} - \delta_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}})^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( |\widehat{\delta}_{\epsilon} - \delta_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}}| \leq m_{n} \right) \right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} \left[ (k_{n} + R_{n})^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n} + R_{n}| \leq n^{1/2} m_{n} \right) \right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} k_{n}^{2} - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} \left[ k_{n}^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n} + R_{n}| > n^{1/2} m_{n} \right) \right]$$

$$= \text{term I}$$

$$+ \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} \left[ (R_{n}^{2} + 2k_{n}R_{n}) \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n} + R_{n}| \leq n^{1/2} m_{n} \right) \right].$$

Thus, Lemma A4 is proved if we can show that term I is o(1), and that term II is larger or equal to minus o(1), both uniformly over  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ . For term I, we use Hölder's inequality to obtain that

$$\sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left[ k_{n}^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n} + R_{n}| > n^{1/2} m_{n} \right) \right]$$

$$\leq \left\{ \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \left( \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} |k_{n}|^{\kappa} \right)^{\frac{2}{\kappa}} \right\} \left\{ \sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \left[ \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n} + R_{n}| > n^{1/2} m_{n} \right) \right]^{\frac{\kappa - 2}{\kappa}} \right\}$$

$$\leq \left\{ \underbrace{\sup_{\pi_{0} \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_{*})} \left( \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}(Y_{i}, \beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) \right|^{\kappa} \right)^{\frac{2}{\kappa}}}_{=O(1)} \right\}$$

$$= O(1)$$

$$\times \left\{ \left[ \underbrace{\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \mathbb{1}\left(|k_n| > \frac{1}{2}n^{1/2}m_n\right)}_{=o(1)} + \underbrace{\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \mathbb{1}\left(|R_n| > \frac{1}{2}n^{1/2}m_n\right)}_{=o(1)} \right]^{\frac{\kappa-2}{\kappa}} \right\}$$

$$= o(1),$$

where we also used the definition of  $k_n$  together with the triangle inequality, and we employed (S5), (S6), and (S8) and Assumption (ii) of the lemma, together with our assumption that  $n^{1/2}m_n \gg \log(n)$  as  $n \to \infty$ .

Next, for term II we use that  $R_n^2 + 2k_nR_n$  is positive whenever  $|R_n| > 2|k_n|$  to obtain that

$$\begin{split} &\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} \left[ \left( R_{n}^{2} + 2k_{n}R_{n} \right) \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n} + R_{n}| \leq n^{1/2}m_{n} \right) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} \left[ \left( R_{n}^{2} + 2k_{n}R_{n} \right) \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n} + R_{n}| \leq n^{1/2}m_{n} \right) \mathbb{1} \left( |R_{n}| \leq 2|k_{n}| \right) \right] \\ &+ \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} \left[ \left( R_{n}^{2} + 2k_{n}R_{n} \right) \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n} + R_{n}| \leq n^{1/2}m_{n} \right) \mathbb{1} \left( |R_{n}| > 2|k_{n}| \right) \right]}_{\geq 0} \\ &\geq \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} \left[ \left( R_{n}^{2} + 2k_{n}R_{n} \right) \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n} + R_{n}| \leq n^{1/2}m_{n} \right) \mathbb{1} \left( |R_{n}| \leq 2|k_{n}| \right) \right] \\ &\geq -2 \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} \left[ |k_{n}| |R_{n}| \mathbb{1} \left( |R_{n}| \leq 2|k_{n}| \right) \right] \\ &\geq -2 \left\{ \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} k_{n}^{2} \right\}^{1/2} \left\{ \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi_{0}} \left[ R_{n}^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( |R_{n}| \leq 2|k_{n}| \right) \right] \right\}^{1/2} \end{split}$$

where in the last step we also used the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality. Our preliminary results (S5) and (S8) imply that  $\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} k_n^2 = O(1)$ . Furthermore, we have

$$\begin{split} &\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left[ R_{n}^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( |R_{n}| \leq 2|k_{n}| \right) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left[ R_{n}^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( |R_{n}| \leq 2|k_{n}| \right) \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n}| \leq \log n \right) \right] \\ &+ \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left[ R_{n}^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( |R_{n}| \leq 2|k_{n}| \right) \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n}| > \log n \right) \right] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left[ R_{n}^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( |R_{n}| \leq 2\log n \right) \right] + 4 \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0}, \pi_{0}} \left[ k_{n}^{2} \mathbb{1} \left( |k_{n}| > \log n \right) \right] \\ &= o(1), \end{split}$$

uniformly over  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ , where we used (S7) and Assumption (v) of the lemma. We thus conclude that term II indeed satisfies

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \left\{ -\mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \, \pi_0} \left[ \left( R_n^2 + 2k_n R_n \right) \mathbb{1} \left( |k_n + R_n| \le n^{1/2} m_n \right) \right] \right\} \le o(1).$$

Combining the above gives the statement of the lemma.

# S1.2 Lemma A1

Notation For the proof of Lemma A1 (which assumes the locally quadratic case of Section 3), it is convenient to introduce some further notation. We assume that there exists a map  $\Omega_{\gamma_*} : \overline{\mathcal{T}} \to \mathcal{T}$  such that, for all  $v \in \overline{\mathcal{T}}$ ,

$$\|v\|_{\mathrm{ind},\gamma_*}^2 = \langle v, \Omega_{\gamma_*} v \rangle.$$

We assume that  $\Omega_{\gamma_*}$  is invertible, and write  $\Omega_{\gamma_*}^{-1}: \mathcal{T} \to \overline{\mathcal{T}}$  for its inverse. The map  $\Omega_{\gamma_*}^{-1}$  is exactly the "transposition" map introduced less formally in the main text; that is, for  $u \in \mathcal{T}$  we have  $u^\top = \Omega_{\gamma_*}^{-1} u \in \overline{\mathcal{T}}$ . Thus, our norm on the cotangent space from the main text  $\|u\|_{\gamma_*}^2 = u^\top u$  can now be written as

$$||u||_{\gamma_*}^2 = \langle \Omega_{\gamma_*}^{-1} u, u \rangle.$$

The norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\gamma_*}$  is dual to  $\|\cdot\|_{\text{ind},\gamma_*}$ ; that is, we have

$$||u||_{\gamma_*} = \sup_{v \in \overline{\mathcal{T}} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\langle v, u \rangle}{||v||_{\mathrm{ind}, \gamma_*}}.$$

Notice also that  $\|\cdot\|_{\text{ind},\gamma_*}$ ,  $\|\cdot\|_{\gamma_*}$ ,  $\Omega_{\gamma_*}$ , and  $\Omega_{\gamma_*}^{-1}$  could all be defined for general  $\pi \in \Pi$ , but since we use them only at the reference value  $\pi(\gamma_*)$  we index them simply by  $\gamma_*$ .

The vector norms  $\|\cdot\|_{ind,\gamma_*}$ ,  $\|\cdot\|_{\gamma_*}$  and  $\|\cdot\|$  on  $\overline{\mathcal{T}}$ ,  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^{\dim\beta+\dim\gamma}$  induce natural norms on any maps between  $\overline{\mathcal{T}}$ ,  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^{\dim\beta+\dim\gamma}$ . With a slight abuse of notation, we denote all those norms simply by  $\|\cdot\|_{\gamma_*}$ . In particular, for  $\Omega_{\gamma_*}^{-1}:\mathcal{T}\to\overline{\mathcal{T}}$  we have

$$\|\Omega_{\gamma_{*}}^{-1}\|_{\gamma_{*}} := \sup_{u \in \mathcal{T} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|\Omega_{\gamma_{*}}^{-1} u\|_{\text{ind}, \gamma_{*}}}{\|u\|_{\gamma_{*}}} = \sup_{u \in \mathcal{T} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\left\langle \Omega_{\gamma_{*}}^{-1} u, , u \right\rangle^{1/2}}{\|u\|_{\gamma_{*}}} = 1, \tag{S9}$$

and for  $H_{\pi,\beta\gamma}:\mathbb{R}^{\dim\beta+\dim\gamma}\to\mathcal{T}$  defined in Section 3.1 we have

$$\|H_{\pi,\beta\gamma}\|_{\gamma_*} \coloneqq \sup_{w \in \mathbb{R}^{\dim\beta+\dim\gamma}\backslash\{0\}} \frac{\|H_{\pi,\beta\gamma}w\|_{\gamma_*}}{\|w\|} = \sup_{v \in \overline{\mathcal{T}}\backslash\{0\}} \sup_{w \in \mathbb{R}^{\dim\beta+\dim\gamma}\backslash\{0\}} \frac{\langle v,H_{\pi,\beta\gamma}w\rangle}{\|v\|_{\mathrm{ind},\gamma_*}\|w\|}.$$

Using Assumption A1(v) and the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality, we find that

$$\|H_{\pi,\beta\gamma}\|_{\gamma_{*}} = \|\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})} \{ [\nabla_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(Y)] [\nabla_{\beta\gamma} \log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(Y)]' \} \|_{\gamma_{*}}$$

$$\leq [\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})} \|\nabla_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(Y)\|_{\gamma_{*}}^{2} ]^{1/2} [\mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})} \|\nabla_{\beta\gamma} \log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(Y)\|^{2} ]^{1/2}$$

$$= O(1).$$
(S10)

PROOF OF LEMMA A1. Equation (20) in Lemma 1 in the main text provides an explicit solution for  $h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)$ , which in the notation of this Appendix can be written as

$$\begin{split} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(y,\beta_0,\gamma_*) &= [\nabla_{\beta\gamma}\delta_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}]' H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1} \big[ \nabla_{\beta\gamma} \log f_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}(y) \big] \\ &+ \big\langle \big[ \widetilde{H}_{\pi}\Omega_{\gamma_*} + (\epsilon n)^{-1}\Omega_{\gamma_*} \big]^{-1} \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi}\delta_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}, \, \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}(y) \big\rangle, \end{split}$$

where  $\widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}(y) = \nabla_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}(y) - H_{\pi, \beta\gamma} H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1} \nabla_{\beta\gamma} \log f_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}(y)$  and  $\widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi}\delta_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)} = \nabla_{\pi}\delta_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)} - H_{\pi,\beta\gamma}H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1}\nabla_{\beta\gamma}\delta_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}$ . We thus have

$$\begin{split} \left| h_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}(y,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*}) \right| &\leq \| \nabla_{\beta\gamma} \delta_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})} \| \left\| H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1} \right\| \left\| \left[ \nabla_{\beta\gamma} \log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(y) \right] \right\| \\ &+ (\epsilon n) \left\| \Omega_{\gamma_{*}}^{-1} \right\|_{\gamma_{*}} \| \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \delta_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})} \|_{\gamma_{*}} \| \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(y) \right\|_{\gamma_{*}}, \end{split}$$

 $\text{ where we used that } \|[\widetilde{H}_{\pi}\Omega_{\gamma_*} + (\epsilon n)^{-1}\Omega_{\gamma_*}]^{-1}\|_{\gamma_*} \leq (\epsilon n) \|\Omega_{\gamma_*}^{-1}\|_{\gamma_*}, \text{ because both } \widetilde{H}_{\pi}\Omega_{\gamma_*} \text{ and } \|\Omega_{\gamma_*}\|_{\gamma_*}$  $\Omega_{\gamma_*}$  are positive semidefinite. We furthermore have

$$\|\widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi}\delta_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}\|_{\gamma_{*}} \leq \|\nabla_{\pi}\log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(y)\|_{\gamma_{*}} + \|H_{\pi,\beta\gamma}\|_{\gamma_{*}} \|H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1}\| \|\nabla_{\beta\gamma}\log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(y)\|_{\gamma_{*}} \\ \|\widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi}\log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(y)\|_{\gamma_{*}} \leq \|\nabla_{\pi}\delta_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}\|_{\gamma_{*}} + \|H_{\pi,\beta\gamma}\|_{\gamma_{*}} \|H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1}\| \|\nabla_{\beta\gamma}\delta_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}\|.$$

Combining those inequalities with our Assumption A1(ii) and (v) as well as the results (S9) and (S10) above, we find that

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0} \left[ h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*) \right]^{2+\nu} = O(1).$$

#### S1.3 Lemma 1

Before deriving the equivalent characterizations of  $h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(y,\beta_0,\gamma_*)$  given in the lemma we note that the optimization problem (10) that defines  $h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)$  has a unique solution (up to possible deviations on a measure zero set of y's, which are irrelevant for our purposes). This uniqueness follows, because under the unbiasedness constraint (2), we have  $\operatorname{Var}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}(h(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)) = \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}h^2(Y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)$ , which is quadratic and strictly convex in  $h(y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)$ , while all other components of the objective function and constraints in (10) are linear in  $h(y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)$ .

Equation (18) Using simplified notation here, our goal is to find the function h(y) = $h(y, \beta_0, \gamma_*)$  that minimizes

$$\mathbb{E}h^{2}(Y) + (\epsilon n) \{ \nabla_{\pi} \delta - \mathbb{E}[h(Y)s_{\pi}(Y)] \}^{\top} \{ \nabla_{\pi} \delta - \mathbb{E}[h(Y)s_{\pi}(Y)] \},$$

subject to the constraints  $\mathbb{E}h(Y) = 0$  and  $\mathbb{E}h(Y)s_{\beta\gamma}(Y) = \nabla_{\beta\gamma}\delta$ .

Using the latter constraint and the definition of  $\widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi}$ , we can equivalently rewrite the objective function as

$$\mathbb{E}h^{2}(Y) + (\epsilon n) \left\{ \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \delta - \mathbb{E} \left[ h(Y) \widetilde{s}_{\pi}(Y) \right] \right\}^{\top} \left\{ \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \delta - \mathbb{E} \left[ h(Y) \widetilde{s}_{\pi}(Y) \right] \right\}$$
$$+ 2 \left\{ \nabla_{\beta \gamma} \delta - \mathbb{E} \left[ h(Y) s_{\beta \gamma}(Y) \right] \right\}' H_{\beta \gamma}^{-1} \nabla_{\beta \gamma} \delta.$$

The unconstrained minimizer of this rewritten quadratic objective function satisfies the first-order condition

$$h_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}(y) = s_{\beta\gamma}(y)'H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1}\nabla_{\beta\gamma}\delta + (\epsilon n)\widetilde{s}_{\pi}(y)^{\top} \big\{ \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi}\delta - \mathbb{E}\big[h_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}(Y)\widetilde{s}_{\pi}(Y)\big] \big\},\,$$

and because  $\mathbb{E} s_{\beta\gamma}(Y) = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E} \widetilde{s}_{\pi}(Y) = 0$ , and  $\mathbb{E} [s_{\beta\gamma}(Y)s_{\beta\gamma}(Y)'] = H_{\beta\gamma}$ , we find that this unconstrained minimizer already satisfies both constraints  $\mathbb{E}h(Y) = 0$  and  $\mathbb{E}h(Y)s_{\beta\gamma}(Y) = 0$  $\nabla_{\beta\gamma}\delta$ , and is therefore also the constrained minimizer that we wanted to derive.

Equation (19) Note that, by (18), we have  $h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(y) = s_{\beta\gamma}(y)'H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1}\nabla_{\beta\gamma}\delta + \widetilde{s}_{\pi}(y)^{\top}u$ , for some  $u \in \mathcal{T}$ , and one can easily verify that this implies that  $\widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi}\delta - \mathbb{E}[h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y)\widetilde{s}_{\pi}(Y)]$  is equal to the same expression with  $\widetilde{s}_{\pi}$  replaced by  $s_{\pi}$ .

Equation (20) We have already shown that equation (18) is the FOC of the minimization problem (10). We now want to show that the solution for  $h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(y)$  given in equation (20) satisfies the FOC (18), which implies that it solves (10). Equation (18) can be rewritten as

$$h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(y) = s_{\beta\gamma}(y)' H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1} \nabla_{\beta\gamma} \delta + (\epsilon n) \widetilde{s}_{\pi}(y)^{\top} u,$$
  

$$u := \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \delta - \mathbb{E} [h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y) \widetilde{s}_{\pi}(Y)].$$
(S11)

Plugging the expression for  $h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(y)$  given by equation (20) into this definition of u and using that  $\mathbb{E}[\widetilde{s}_{\pi}(Y)\widetilde{s}_{\pi}(Y)^{\top}] = \widetilde{H}_{\pi}$ , and  $\mathbb{E}[\widetilde{s}_{\pi}(Y)s_{\beta\gamma}(Y)'] = 0$ , we find that (20) implies that

$$u = \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \delta - \widetilde{H}_{\pi} \left[ \widetilde{H}_{\pi} + (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I} \right]^{-1} \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \delta$$

$$= \left\{ \mathbb{I} - \widetilde{H}_{\pi} \left[ \widetilde{H}_{\pi} + (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I} \right]^{-1} \right\} \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \delta$$

$$= \left\{ \left[ \widetilde{H}_{\pi} + (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I} \right] \left[ \widetilde{H}_{\pi} + (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I} \right]^{-1} - \widetilde{H}_{\pi} \left[ \widetilde{H}_{\pi} + (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I} \right]^{-1} \right\} \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \delta$$

$$= (\epsilon n)^{-1} \left[ \widetilde{H}_{\pi} + (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I} \right]^{-1} \widetilde{\nabla}_{\pi} \delta.$$

This expression for u makes the first equation in (S11) equivalent to (20). Therefore, we have shown that  $h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(y)$  as given by (20) indeed solves (18) and, therefore, also our optimization problem in (10).

## S1.4 Lemma 2

Our goal is to choose the function  $h(\cdot, \cdot, \beta, \gamma, f_X)$  such that the worst-case mean squared error

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi_0, f_X} \left[ (\widehat{\delta}_h - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0, f_X})^2 \right]$$

is minimized for small values of  $\epsilon$ , subject to unbiasedness under the reference model, and also subject to local robustness constraints to account for the fact that  $\beta_0$ ,  $\gamma_*$ , and  $f_X$  are estimated from the sample.

Unbiasedness is

$$\mathbb{E}_{f_X} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} h(Y, X, \beta_0, \gamma_*, f_X) = 0, \tag{S12}$$

while local robustness is

$$\mathbb{E}_{f_X} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} h(Y, X, \beta_0, \gamma_*, f_X) \nabla_{\beta \gamma} \log f_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}(Y|X)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \nabla_{\beta \gamma} \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}(X),$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} [h(Y, X, \beta_0, \gamma_*, f_X) | X = x] = \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}(x) - \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}(X).$$
(S13)

The minimum-MSE influence function satisfies

$$\begin{split} h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(\cdot,\cdot,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*},f_{X}) &= \underset{h(\cdot,\cdot,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*},f_{X})}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \epsilon \left\| \mathbb{E}_{f_{X}} \nabla_{\pi} \delta_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(X) \right. \right. \\ &\left. - \mathbb{E}_{f_{X}} \mathbb{E}_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})} h(Y,X,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*},f_{X}) \nabla_{\pi} \log f_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}(Y|X) \right\|_{\gamma_{*}}^{2} \\ &\left. + \frac{\mathbb{E}_{f_{X}} \operatorname{Var}_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})} \left( h(Y,X,\beta_{0},\gamma_{*},f_{X})|X \right)}{n} \right\} \quad \text{subject to (S12) and (S13)}. \end{split}$$

In the locally quadratic case, following similar derivations as for equation (18) in Lemma 1, we obtain (21).

This is a direct implication of (20).

This is a direct implication of (19).

Lemma 2 implies, analogously to (19), that

$$h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(y,x) = \delta(x) - \mathbb{E}_{f_X}\delta(X) + s_{\beta\gamma}(y|x)' \big[ \mathbb{E}_{f_X} H_{\beta\gamma}(X) \big]^{-1} \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \nabla_{\beta\gamma}\delta(X) + (\epsilon n) \widetilde{s}_{\pi}(y|x)^{\top} \big\{ \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \nabla_{\pi}\delta(X) - \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \mathbb{E} \big[ h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y,X) s_{\pi}(Y|X) \big] \big\}.$$
 (S14)

Since A and X are independent,  $\mathbb{E}_{f_X} \nabla_{\pi} \delta(X)$  can be represented by the function

$$a\mapsto \mathbb{E}_{f_X}\big[\Delta(a,X)\big]-\mathbb{E}_{f_X}\delta(X).$$

Likewise,  $\mathbb{E}_{f_X}\mathbb{E}[h_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}(Y,X)s_{\pi}(Y|X)]$  can be represented by the function

$$a \mapsto \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \mathbb{E} [h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, X) | A = a, X] = \overline{h}_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(a).$$

Moreover, we have for any cotangent element u (a function of a),

$$\widetilde{s}_{\pi}(y|x)^{\top}u = \mathbb{E}[u(A)|Y = y, X = x] - \mathbb{E}[u(A)]$$
$$-s_{\beta\gamma}(y|x)'[\mathbb{E}_{f_{X}}H_{\beta\gamma}(X)]^{-1}\mathbb{E}_{f_{X}}\mathbb{E}[s_{\beta\gamma}(Y|X)u(A)]. \tag{S15}$$

Corollary 3 then follows from evaluating (S15) at

$$u(a) := \mathbb{E}_{f_X} [\Delta(a, X)] - \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \delta(X) - \overline{h}_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(a).$$

# S1.8 Corollary 4

Let us start again from (S14). In the correlated case,  $\mathbb{E}_{f_X} \nabla_{\pi} \delta(X)$  can be represented by the function

$$(a, x) \mapsto \Delta(a, x) f_X(x) - \delta(x) f_X(x).$$

Likewise,  $\mathbb{E}_{f_X}\mathbb{E}[h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y,X)s_{\pi}(Y|X)]$  can be represented by the function

$$(a, x) \mapsto \mathbb{E} \big[ h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, X) | A = a, X = x \big] f_X(x) - \mathbb{E} \big[ h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, X) | X = x \big] f_X(x)$$
$$= \overline{h}_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(a, x) f_X(x) - \mathbb{E} \big[ h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, X) | X = x \big] f_X(x).$$

Now, by (S13) we have

$$\mathbb{E}[h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y,X)|X=x] = \delta(x) - \mathbb{E}_{f_X}\delta(X). \tag{S16}$$

Hence,  $\mathbb{E}_{f_X} \nabla_{\pi} \delta(X) - \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \mathbb{E}[h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y, X) s_{\pi}(Y|X)]$  can be represented by the function

$$(a, x) \mapsto \Delta(a, x) f_X(x) - \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \delta(X) f_X(x) - \overline{h}_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(a, x) f_X(x).$$

In the present case, cotangent elements are functions of a and x. The corresponding squared dual norm is  $^{\rm S3}$ 

$$\|u\|_{\gamma_*}^2 = \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\frac{u(A,X) - \mathbb{E}\left[u(A,X)|X\right]}{f_X(X)}\right)^2\right].$$

In addition we have, for any cotangent element u (a function of a and x),

$$\widetilde{s}_{\pi}(y|x)^{\top}u = \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{u(A,X)}{f_{X}(X)}|Y=y,X=x\right] - \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{u(A,X)}{f_{X}(X)}|X=x\right] - s_{\beta\gamma}(y|x)'\left[\mathbb{E}_{f_{X}}H_{\beta\gamma}(X)\right]^{-1}\mathbb{E}_{f_{X}}\mathbb{E}\left[s_{\beta\gamma}(Y|X)\frac{u(A,X)}{f_{X}(X)}\right].$$
(S17)

Corollary 4 then follows from evaluating (S17) at

$$u(a, x) := \Delta(a, x) f_X(x) - \mathbb{E}_{f_X} \delta(X) f_X(x) - \overline{h}_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(a, x) f_X(x),$$

and noting that, by (S16),  $\mathbb{E}[u(A, X)|X = x] = 0$ .

# S2. Complements to Section 3

## S2.1 Dual of the Kullback-Leibler divergence

Let A be a random variable with domain A, reference distribution  $f_*(a)$  and "true" distribution  $f_0(a)$ . We use notation  $f_*(a)$  and  $f_0(a)$  as if those were densities, but point

S3This can be shown as in Section S2.1, with the difference that here twice the KL divergence reads, using the notation of that subsection,  $d(f_0, f_*) = -2\mathbb{E}_{f_X}\mathbb{E}_0\log\frac{f_*(A|X)}{f_0(A|X)}$ . Alternatively, Corollary 4 can be derived by defining  $\pi_0$  as the joint distribution of (A, X), and imposing the constraint that  $\int_A \pi_0(a, x) \, da = f_X(x)$ .

masses are also allowed. Twice the Kullback-Leibler (KL) divergence reads

$$d(f_0, f_*) = -2\mathbb{E}_0 \log \frac{f_*(A)}{f_0(A)},$$

where  $\mathbb{E}_0$  is the expectation under  $f_0$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the set of all distributions, in particular,  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  implies  $\int_{A} f(a) da = 1$ . Let  $g : \mathcal{A} \to \mathbb{R}$  be a real valued function. For given  $f_* \in \mathcal{F}$ and  $\epsilon > 0$ , we define

$$||q||_{*,\epsilon} := \max_{\{f_0 \in \mathcal{F} : d(f_0, f_*) \le \epsilon\}} \frac{\mathbb{E}_0 q(A) - \mathbb{E}_* q(A)}{\sqrt{\epsilon}},$$

where  $\mathbb{E}_*$  is the expectation under  $f_*$ .

We have the following result.

LEMMA S2. For  $q: A \to \mathbb{R}$  and  $f_* \in \mathcal{F}$  we assume that the moment-generating function  $m_*(t) = \mathbb{E}_* \exp(tq(A))$  exists for  $t \in (\delta_-, \delta_+)$  and some  $\delta_- < 0$  and  $\delta_+ > 0.84$  For  $\epsilon \in (0, \delta^2_+)$ , we then have

$$||q||_{*,\epsilon} = \sqrt{\operatorname{Var}_*(q(A))} + O(\epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}).$$

PROOF. Let the cumulant-generating function of the random variable q(A) under the reference measure  $f_*$  be  $k_*(t) = \log m_*(t)$ . We assume existence of  $m_*(t)$  and  $k_*(t)$  for  $t \in (\delta_-, \delta_+)$ . This also implies that all derivatives of  $m_*(t)$  and  $k_*(t)$  exist in this interval. We denote the pth derivative of  $m_*(t)$  by  $m_*^{(p)}(t)$ , and analogously for  $k_*(t)$ .

In the following, we denote the maximizing  $f_0$  in the definition of  $||q||_{*,\epsilon}$  simply by  $f_0$ . Applying standard optimization method (Karush-Kuhn-Tucker), we find the wellknown exponential tilting result

$$f_0(a) = cf_*(a) \exp(tq(a)),$$

where the constants  $c, t \in (0, \infty)$  are determined by the constraints  $\int_A f_0(a) da = 1$  and  $d(f_0, f_*) = \epsilon$ . Using the constraint  $\int_A f_0(a) da = 1$ , we can solve for c to obtain

$$f_0(a) = \frac{f_*(a) \exp(tq(a))}{\mathbb{E}_* \exp(tq(A))} = \frac{f_*(a) \exp(tq(a))}{m_*(t)}.$$

Using this, we find that

$$\begin{split} d(t) &:= d(f_0, f_*) \\ &= 2\mathbb{E}_* \frac{f_0(A)}{f_*(A)} \log \frac{f_0(A)}{f_*(A)} \\ &= \frac{2t}{m_*(t)} \mathbb{E}_* \exp(tq(A)) q(A) - \frac{2\log m_*(t)}{m_*(t)} \mathbb{E}_* \exp(tq(A)) \end{split}$$

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mathrm{S4}}$ Existence of  $m_*(t)$  in an open interval around zero is equivalent to having an exponential decay of the tails of the distribution of the random variable Q = q(A). If q(a) is bounded, then  $m_*(t)$  exists for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$= \frac{2tm_*^{(1)}(t)}{m_*(t)} - 2\log m_*(t)$$
$$= 2[tk_*^{(1)}(t) - k_*(t)].$$

We have d(0) = 0,  $d^{(1)}(0) = 0$ ,  $d^{(2)}(0) = 2k_*^{(2)}(0) = 2\text{Var}_*(q(A))$ ,  $d^{(3)}(t) = 4k_*^{(3)}(t) + 2tk_*^{(4)}(t)$ . A mean-value expansion thus gives

$$d(t) = \operatorname{Var}_*(q(A))t^2 + \frac{t^3}{6} \left[ 4k_*^{(3)}(\tilde{t}) + 2\tilde{t}k_*^{(4)}(\tilde{t}) \right],$$

where  $0 \le \tilde{t} \le t \le \delta_+$ . The value t that satisfies the constraint  $d(t) = \epsilon$  therefore satisfies

$$t = \frac{\epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{\operatorname{Var}_*(q(A))}} + O(\epsilon).$$

Next, using that  $||q||_{*,\epsilon} = \epsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbb{E}_*[(\frac{f_0(A)}{f_*(A)} - 1)q(A)]$  we find

$$||q||_{*,\epsilon} = \epsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}} [k_*^{(1)}(t) - k_*^{(1)}(0)].$$

Again using that  $k_*^{(2)}(0) = \text{Var}_*(q(A))$  and applying a mean value expansion, we obtain

$$\begin{split} \|q\|_{*,\epsilon} &= \epsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}} \bigg[ t k_*^{(2)}(t) + \frac{1}{2} t^2 k_*^{(3)}(\bar{t}) \bigg] \\ &= \epsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}} \bigg[ t \text{Var}_* \big( q(A) \big) + \frac{1}{2} t^2 k_*^{(3)}(\bar{t}) \bigg] \\ &= \sqrt{\text{Var}_* \big( q(A) \big)} + O \big( \epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} \big), \end{split}$$

where  $\bar{t} \in [0, t]$ .

Here, we use simplified notation as in Section 3. Let us start by deriving (25). In this case,  $\beta_0$  and  $\gamma_*$  are known, and Corollary 2 gives

$$h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}} = (\epsilon n) \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} [\Delta - \delta - \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{A}} h^{\text{MMSE}}],$$

so

$$h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}} = \left[ (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{Y}} + \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} \circ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{A}} \right]^{-1} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} [\Delta - \delta].$$

(25) then follows from the operator identity:

$$\left[ (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{Y}} + \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} \circ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{A}} \right]^{-1} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} \left[ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{A}} \circ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} + (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{A}} \right]^{-1}.$$

Let us now derive (26). In this case  $\gamma_*$  is known. Since  $\Delta(A) = c'\beta_0 = \delta$ , Corollary 2 implies

$$h_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}(y) = s_{\beta\gamma}(y)' H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1} c - (\epsilon n) \big\{ \mathbb{E} \big[ \overline{h}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}(A) \big| Y = y \big] - s_{\beta\gamma}(y)' H_{\beta\gamma}^{-1} \mathbb{E} \big[ s_{\beta\gamma}(Y) \overline{h}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}(A) \big] \big\}.$$

Hence, we have, for some vector b,

$$h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}} = s_{\beta\gamma}(y)'b - (\epsilon n)\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} \circ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{A}}h^{\text{MMSE}}.$$

Using the Woodbury identity,

$$\left[\mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{Y}} + (\epsilon n)\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} \circ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{A}}\right]^{-1} = \underbrace{\mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{Y}} - \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} \left[\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{A}} \circ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}} + (\epsilon n)^{-1}\mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{A}}\right]^{-1}\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}|\mathcal{A}}}_{=\mathbb{W}^{\epsilon}},$$

we thus obtain

$$h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}} = \mathbb{W}^{\epsilon} s_{\beta \gamma}(y)' b.$$

Lastly, since by (4)  $\mathbb{E}[h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(Y)s_{\beta\gamma}(Y)] = c$ , we obtain (26) whenever the denominator is nonsingular.

Finally, let us derive (27). In this case  $\beta_0$  and  $\gamma_*$  are known and  $\Delta(A)$  does not depend on X, and Corollary 3 gives

$$h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}} = (\epsilon n) \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y},\mathcal{X}} \big[ \mathbb{E}_{f_{\mathcal{X}}}(\Delta - \delta) - \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y},\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{A}} h^{\text{MMSE}} \big].$$

Hence, denoting  $\mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{V},\mathcal{X}}h(y,x) = h(y,x)$  the identity operator, we have

$$h_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}} = \left[ (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}} + \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}} \circ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}|\mathcal{A}} \right]^{-1} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}} \mathbb{E}_{f_X}(\Delta - \delta).$$

(27) then follows from

$$\left[ (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{Y},\mathcal{X}} + \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y},\mathcal{X}} \circ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y},\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{A}} \right]^{-1} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y},\mathcal{X}} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y},\mathcal{X}} \left[ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y},\mathcal{X}|\mathcal{A}} \circ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{A}|\mathcal{Y},\mathcal{X}} + (\epsilon n)^{-1} \mathbb{I}_{\mathcal{A}} \right]^{-1}.$$

#### S3. Computation in semiparametric mixture models

Here, we describe how we compute a numerical approximation to the minimum-MSE estimator in semiparametric mixture models

$$\widehat{\delta}_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}} = \mathbb{E}_{\widehat{\beta}, \pi(\widehat{\gamma})} \Delta_{\widehat{\beta}}(A) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} h_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}(Y_i, \widehat{\beta}, \widehat{\gamma}),$$

where  $h_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}$  is given by Corollary 2, and  $\widehat{eta},\,\widehat{\gamma}$  are preliminary estimates. As we pointed out in Section 3,  $h_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}$  is the solution to a (well-posed) Tikhonov-regularized linear inverse problem, and many numerical methods are available to solve such problems; see Engl et al. (2000) and Kress (2014) for classic references. The simulation-based approach that we have implemented and describe here is closely related to the strategy presented in Bonhomme (2012). We abstract from conditioning covariates. In the presence of correlated covariates  $X_i$ , we use the same technique to approximate  $h_{\epsilon}^{\overline{\text{MMSE}}}(\cdot|x)$  for each value of  $X_i = x$ . We use this approach in the numerical illustration based on the dynamic panel data model in Section 6, where the covariate is the initial condition. We denote  $\eta = (\beta', \gamma')'$ . S5

S5 Here, we present a general method based on simulations. In the cross-sectional probit model (30), explicit closed-form expressions are available, and we use those for computation in our first illustration.

Draw an i.i.d. sample  $(Y^{(1)},A^{(1)}),\ldots,(Y^{(S)},A^{(S)})$  of S draws from  $g_{\beta}\times\pi(\gamma)$ . Let G be  $S\times S$  with  $(\tau,s)$  element  $g_{\beta}(Y^{(\tau)}|A^{(s)})/\sum_{s'=1}^S g_{\beta}(Y^{(\tau)}|A^{(s')})$ ,  $G_Y$  be  $N\times S$  with (i,s) element  $g_{\beta}(Y_i|A^{(s)})/\sum_{s'=1}^S g_{\beta}(Y_i|A^{(s')})$ ,  $\Delta$  be  $S\times 1$  with sth element  $\Delta_{\beta}(A^{(s)})$ , I be the  $S\times S$  identity matrix, and  $\iota$  and  $\iota_Y$  be the  $S\times 1$  and  $N\times 1$  vectors of ones. In addition, let D be the  $S\times \dim \eta$  matrix with (s,k) element

$$d_{\eta_k}(Y^{(s)}) = \frac{\sum_{s'=1}^{S} (\nabla_{\eta_k} \log g_{\beta}(Y^{(s)}|A^{(s')}) + \nabla_{\eta_k} \log \pi(\gamma)(A^{(s')})) g_{\beta}(Y^{(s)}|A^{(s')})}{\sum_{s'=1}^{S} g_{\beta}(Y^{(s)}|A^{(s')})},$$

and let  $D_Y$  be  $N \times \dim \eta$  with (i, k) element  $d_{\eta_k}(Y_i)$ ,  $Q = I - DD^{\dagger}$ ,  $\widetilde{G}_Y = G_Y - D_Y D^{\dagger}G$ ,  $\widetilde{\iota}_Y = \iota_Y - D_Y D^{\dagger}\iota$ ,  $\widetilde{G} = QG$ ,  $\widetilde{\iota} = Q\iota$ , and  $\partial \Delta$  be the  $K \times 1$  vector with kth element  $\frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^{S} \nabla_{\eta_k} \Delta(A^{(s)}, \beta) + \Delta(A^{(s)}, \beta) \nabla_{\eta_k} \log \pi(\gamma) (A^{(s)})$ .

From Corollary 2, a fixed-S approximation to the minimum-MSE estimator is then

$$\widetilde{\delta}_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}} = \iota^{\dagger} \Delta + \iota_{Y}^{\dagger} \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}$$
,

where

$$\begin{split} \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}} &= D_{Y} \big( D' D / S \big)^{-1} \partial \Delta + (\epsilon n) \big[ \big( \widetilde{G}_{Y} - \widetilde{\iota}_{Y} \iota^{\dagger} \big) \Delta \\ &- \widetilde{G}_{Y} G' \big( \widetilde{G} G' + (\epsilon n)^{-1} I \big)^{-1} \big( (\epsilon n)^{-1} D \big( D' D / S \big)^{-1} \partial \Delta + \big( \widetilde{G} - \widetilde{\iota} \iota^{\dagger} \big) \Delta \big) \big], \end{split}$$

and  $(\beta, \gamma)$  are replaced by the preliminary  $(\widehat{\beta}, \widehat{\gamma})$  in all the quantities above, including when producing the simulated draws.  $\widetilde{\delta}^{\text{MMSE}}_{\epsilon}$  is consistent for  $\widehat{\delta}^{\text{MMSE}}_{\epsilon}$  as S tends to infinity for fixed n, under suitable regularity conditions (see Bonhomme (2012) for a closely related setup). Note that matrix inverses remain well-defined as S tends to infinity, due to the presence of the Tikhonov-penalization term  $(\epsilon n)^{-1}I$ .

Confidence intervals From Section 2.4, computing confidence intervals only requires, in addition to computing critical values under correct specification, to compute an estimate of the bias of the estimator  $b_{\epsilon}(h, \widehat{\beta}, \widehat{\gamma})$ . In semiparametric mixture models, we have for an asymptotically linear estimator based on h satisfying (2) and (4),

$$b_{\epsilon}(h,\beta_0,\gamma_*) = \epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} \left\{ \operatorname{Var}_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)} \left[ \Delta_{\beta_0}(A) - \mathbb{E}_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)} (h(Y)|A) \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

A numerical approximation to the bias of  $\widehat{\delta}_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}$  is then

$$\widetilde{b}_{\epsilon}(h_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}}, \beta_0, \gamma_*) = \epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\Delta - \iota^{\dagger} \Delta - G' \widetilde{h}_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}} \|.$$

*Values of*  $\epsilon$  In turn,  $\epsilon_k$  in (29) can be approximated as  $\mu(\alpha, p)^2/(n\lambda_k)$ , where  $\lambda_k$  is the kth largest eigenvalue of  $G'QG = \widetilde{G}'\widetilde{G}$  (removing the eigenvalue equal to one since it corresponds to a constant eigenfunction).

#### S4. Models defined by moment restrictions

In this section, we consider settings where a finite-dimensional parameter  $(\beta_0', \pi_0')'$  does not fully determine the distribution  $f_0$  of Y, but satisfies a finite-dimensional system of moment conditions

$$\mathbb{E}_{f_0}\Psi(Y,\beta_0,\pi_0) = 0, (S18)$$

which may be just-identified, overidentified or underidentified. We focus on asymptotically linear generalized method-of-moments (GMM) estimators of  $\delta_{\beta_0,\pi_0}$  that satisfy

$$\widehat{\delta} = \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} + a(\beta_0, \gamma_*)' \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Psi(Y_i, \beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)) + o_{P_0}(\epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} + n^{-\frac{1}{2}}), \tag{S19}$$

for a parameter vector  $a(\beta_0, \gamma_*)$ . We will characterize the form of  $a(\beta_0, \gamma_*)$  leading to minimum worst-case MSE in  $\Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$ .

We assume that the remainder in (S19) is uniformly bounded similarly as in (14). In this case, local robustness with respect to  $(\beta'_0, \gamma'_*)'$  takes the form

$$\nabla_{\beta\gamma}\delta_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)} + \mathbb{E}_{f_0}\nabla_{\beta\gamma}\Psi(Y,\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*))a(\beta_0,\gamma_*) = 0. \tag{S20}$$

It is natural to focus on asymptotically linear GMM estimators here, since  $f_0$  is unrestricted except for the moment condition (S18).

To derive the worst-case bias of  $\widehat{\delta}$  note that, by (S18), for any  $\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)$  we have

$$\mathbb{E}_{f_0}\Psi\big(Y,\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)\big) = -\big[\mathbb{E}_{f_0}\nabla_{\pi}\Psi\big(Y,\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)\big)\big]'\big(\pi_0 - \pi(\gamma_*)\big) + o\big(\epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}\big),$$

so, under appropriate regularity conditions,

$$\sup_{\pi_0 \in \Gamma_{\epsilon}(\gamma_*)} |\mathbb{E}_{f_0} \widehat{\delta} - \delta_{\beta_0, \pi_0}| = \epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla_{\pi} \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} + \mathbb{E}_{f_0} \nabla_{\pi} \Psi(Y, \beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)) a(\beta_0, \gamma_*) \|_{\gamma_*} + o(\epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} + n^{-\frac{1}{2}}).$$

The worst-case MSE of

$$\widehat{\delta}_{a,\beta_0,\gamma_*} := \delta_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)} + a(\beta_0,\gamma_*)' \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Psi(Y_i,\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*))$$

is thus

$$\epsilon \|\nabla_{\pi}\delta_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})} + \mathbb{E}_{f_{0}}\nabla_{\pi}\Psi(Y,\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*}))a(\beta_{0},\gamma_{*})\|_{\gamma_{*}}^{2} \\
+ a(\beta_{0},\gamma_{*})'\frac{\mathbb{E}_{f_{0}}\Psi(Y,\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*}))\Psi(Y,\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*}))'}{n}a(\beta_{0},\gamma_{*}) + o(\epsilon + n^{-1}).$$

To obtain an explicit expression for the minimum-MSE estimator, let us focus on the case where  $\pi_0$  is finite-dimensional and  $\|\cdot\|_{\gamma_*} = \|\cdot\|_{\Omega^{-1}}$ . Let us define

$$V_{\beta_0,\,\pi(\gamma_*)} = \mathbb{E}_{f_0} \Psi \big( Y,\,\beta_0,\,\pi(\gamma_*) \big) \Psi \big( Y,\,\beta_0,\,\pi(\gamma_*) \big)', \qquad K_{\beta_0,\,\pi(\gamma_*)} = \mathbb{E}_{f_0} \nabla_{\pi} \Psi \big( Y,\,\beta_0,\,\pi(\gamma_*) \big),$$

and

$$K_{\beta_0,\gamma_*} = \mathbb{E}_{f_0} \nabla_{\beta\gamma} \Psi(Y,\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)).$$

For all  $\beta_0$ ,  $\gamma_*$  we aim to minimize

$$\epsilon \| \nabla_{\pi} \delta_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} + K_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} a(\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) \|_{\Omega^{-1}}^{2} + a(\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*})' \frac{V_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}}{n} a(\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}),$$
subject to  $\nabla_{\beta_{\gamma}} \delta_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})} + K_{\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}} a(\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) = 0.$ 

A solution is given by S6

$$a_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}) = -B_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*}), \epsilon}^{\dagger} K_{\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}}^{\prime} \left( K_{\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}} B_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*}), \epsilon}^{\dagger} K_{\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}}^{\prime} \right)^{-1} \nabla_{\beta \gamma} \delta_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}$$

$$-B_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*}), \epsilon}^{\dagger} \left( I - K_{\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}}^{\prime} \left( K_{\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}} B_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*}), \epsilon}^{\dagger} K_{\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}}^{\prime} \right)^{-1} K_{\beta_{0}, \gamma_{*}} B_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*}), \epsilon}^{\dagger} \right)$$

$$\times K_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}^{\prime} \Omega^{-1} \nabla_{\pi} \delta_{\beta_{0}, \pi(\gamma_{*})}, \tag{S21}$$

where  $B_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*),\epsilon}=K'_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}\Omega^{-1}K_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}+(\epsilon n)^{-1}V_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}$ , and  $B^{\dagger}_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*),\epsilon}$  is its Moore–Penrose generalized inverse. Note that, in the likelihood case and taking  $\Psi(y,\beta,\pi)=\nabla_{\pi}\log f_{\beta,\pi}(y)$ , the function  $h(y,\beta_0,\gamma_*)=a^{\mathrm{MMSE}}_{\epsilon}(\beta_0,\gamma_*)'\Psi(y,\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*))$  simplifies to (20).

As a special case, when  $\epsilon = 0$  we have

$$a_0^{\text{MMSE}}(\beta_0, \gamma_*) = -V_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}^{\dagger} K_{\beta_0, \gamma_*}' \left( K_{\beta_0, \gamma_*} V_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}^{\dagger} K_{\beta_0, \gamma_*}' \right)^{-1} \nabla_{\beta \gamma} \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}.$$

In this case, given preliminary estimators  $\widehat{\beta}$  and  $\widehat{\gamma}$ , the minimum-MSE estimator

$$\widehat{\delta}_{\epsilon}^{\mathrm{MMSE}} = \delta_{\widehat{\beta}, \pi(\widehat{\gamma})} + a_0^{\mathrm{MMSE}}(\widehat{\beta}, \widehat{\gamma})' \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Psi(Y_i, \widehat{\beta}, \pi(\widehat{\gamma}))$$

is the one-step approximation to the optimal GMM estimator based on the reference model. To obtain a feasible estimator, one simply replaces the expectations in  $V_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}$  and  $K_{\beta_0, \gamma_*}$  by sample analogs.

As a second special case, consider  $\epsilon$  tending to infinity. Focusing on the known- $(\beta_0, \gamma_*)$  case for simplicity,  $a_{\epsilon}^{\text{MMSE}}(\beta_0, \gamma_*)$  tends to  $-K_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}^{\text{ginv}} \nabla_{\pi} \delta_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)}$ , where

$$\begin{split} & K_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{\mathrm{ginv}} \\ & \coloneqq \left(V_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{\dagger}\right)^{1/2} \left[ \left(V_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{\dagger}\right)^{1/2} K_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{\prime} \Omega^{-1} K_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})} \left(V_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{\dagger}\right)^{1/2} \right]^{\dagger} \\ & \times \left(V_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{\dagger}\right)^{1/2} K_{\beta_{0},\pi(\gamma_{*})}^{\prime} \Omega^{-1} \end{split}$$

S<sup>6</sup>Here, we assume that  $K_{\beta_0,\gamma_*}V^{\dagger}_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}K'_{\beta_0,\gamma_*}$  is nonsingular, requiring that  $\beta_0,\gamma_*$  be identified from the moment conditions. Existence follows from the fact that, by the generalized information identity,  $V_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}a=0$  implies that  $K_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}a=0$ . Moreover, although  $a^{\mathrm{MMSE}}_{\epsilon}(\beta_0,\gamma_*)$  may not be unique,  $a^{\mathrm{MMSE}}_{\epsilon}(\beta_0,\gamma_*)'\Psi(Y,\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*))$  is unique almost surely.

is a generalized inverse of  $K_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}$ , and the choice of  $\Omega$  corresponds to choosing one specific such generalized inverse. In this case, the minimum-MSE estimator is the onestep approximation to a particular GMM estimator based on the "large" model.

Lastly, given a parameter vector a, confidence intervals can be constructed as explained in Section 2.4, taking

$$b_{\epsilon}(a,\widehat{\beta},\widehat{\gamma}) = \epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} \left\| \nabla_{\pi} \delta_{\widehat{\beta},\pi(\widehat{\gamma})} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \nabla_{\pi} \Psi(Y_{i},\widehat{\beta},\pi(\widehat{\gamma})) a(\widehat{\beta},\widehat{\gamma}) \right\|_{\Omega^{-1}}.$$

EXAMPLE. Consider again the OLS/IV example of Section 3.3, but now drop the Gaussian assumptions on the distributions. For known C, the set of moment conditions corresponds to the moment functions

$$\Psi(y, x, z, \beta, \pi) = \begin{pmatrix} x(y - x'\beta - \pi'(x - Cz)) \\ z(y - x'\beta) \end{pmatrix}.$$

In this case, letting W = (X', Z')' we have

$$K_{eta_0,\,\gamma_*} = -\mathbb{E}_{f_0}ig(XW'ig), \qquad K_{eta_0,\,\pi(\gamma_*)} = -\mathbb{E}_{f_0}igg(egin{array}{cc} XX' & XZ' \ (X-CZ)X' & 0 \end{array}igg),$$

and

$$V_{\beta_0, \pi(\gamma_*)} = \mathbb{E}_{f_0}((Y - X'\beta_0)^2 W W').$$

Given a preliminary estimator  $\widetilde{\beta}$ ,  $V_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}$  can be estimated as  $\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i-X_i'\widetilde{\beta})^2 W_i W_i'$ , whereas  $K_{\beta_0,\gamma_*}$  and  $K_{\beta_0,\pi(\gamma_*)}$  can be estimated as sample means. The estimator based on (S21) then interpolates nonlinearly between the OLS and IV estimators, similarly as in the likelihood case.

### S5. Numerical illustrations

# S5.1 Interpretation of $\epsilon$ in the cross-sectional binary choice model

Here, we use the binary choice model of Section 6.1 to provide additional intuition about the interpretation of  $\epsilon$  based on statistical testing.

Let  $\mathcal{U}_k$  denote the span of the first k nonconstant eigenfunctions of the operator  $\widetilde{H}_{\pi}$ . By construction, any density  $\pi_0 \notin \Gamma_{\epsilon_k}(\gamma_*)$  such that  $(\pi_0 - \pi(\gamma_*))/\pi(\gamma_*) \in \mathcal{U}_k$  can be "detected" easily, in the sense that the local power of a 5%-likelihood ratio test exceeds 80%. St In the upper panel of Figure S1, we plot the eigenfunctions in  $\mathcal{U}_k$ . Plotting those allows one to visualize the directions along which setting  $\epsilon$  to either of the  $\epsilon_k$ 's provides power guarantees outside the neighborhood. We see that the eigenfunctions do not vary outside the [-1, 1] interval, where the support of  $X'\beta_0$  lies. Within the [-1, 1] interval, the eigenfunctions oscillate and belong to orthogonal bases of functions.

 $<sup>^{</sup>S7}U_k$  consists of cotangent elements that have zero mean under the reference model. Any such  $u \in \mathcal{T}$  can be mapped to a direction  $v = u \cdot \pi(\gamma_*) \in \overline{\mathcal{T}}$  in the tangent space.

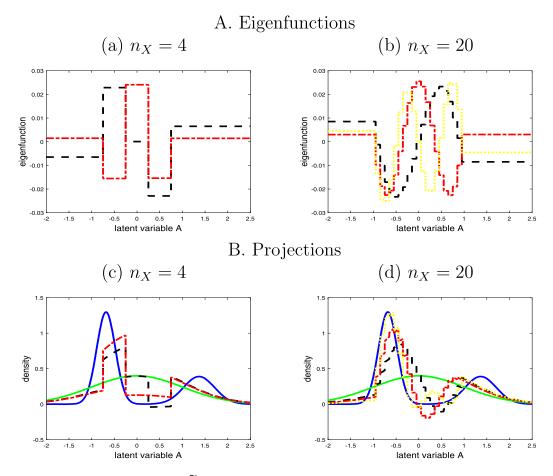


Figure S1. Eigenfunctions of  $\widetilde{H}_{\pi}$  in the cross-sectional binary choice model. *Notes*: In the top panel, we report the first 2 (resp., first 3) nonconstant eigenfunctions of  $\widetilde{H}_{\pi}$ . The first eigenfunction is shown in dashed, the second one in dashed-dotted, and the third one in dotted. In the bottom panel, we plot the true and reference densities in solid, as well as the successive approximations using the first, the first two, or the first three eigenfunctions.

To see how well the true  $\pi_0$  can be approximated using the directions in  $\mathcal{U}_k$ , in the bottom panel of Figure S1, we report the projection of  $\pi_0$  onto  $\mathcal{U}_k$ . We see that, outside the [-1,1] interval, the projection is only governed by the reference normal density, reflecting the limited support of X. Within the interval, the approximation to the true bimodal density improves as k increases. At the same time, note that, consistently with our local approach, the approximating functions are not necessarily nonnegative. S8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>S8</sup>In addition, since we know  $\pi_0$  in this exercise, we can compute the local power of a 5%-likelihood ratio test in direction  $\pi_0 - \pi(\gamma_*)$ , for any value of  $\epsilon$ . We find a power of 0.51 at  $\epsilon_1$  and 0.71 at  $\epsilon_2$  when X has 4 points of support, and 0.67 at  $\epsilon_1$ , 0.92 at  $\epsilon_2$ , and 0.99 at  $\epsilon_3$  when X has 20 points of support.

## S5.2 Additional tables

TABLE S1. Monte Carlo simulation of the average effect in the cross-sectional binary choice model, *interpolation* ( $x_0 = (0.5, 1)'$ ).

Minimum-MSE, for $\epsilon$ =	0.0001	0.20	0.40	0.60	0.80	1.00	
	$A. n_X = 4$						
Worst-case bias	0.0021	0.0783	0.1104	0.1351	0.1560	0.1744	
Asymptotic standard error	0.0228	0.0288	0.0297	0.0300	0.0302	0.0303	
Monte Carlo bias	0.1026	0.0197	0.0134	0.0111	0.0099	0.0092	
Monte Carlo standard deviation	0.0253	0.0281	0.0288	0.0291	0.0292	0.0293	
Monte Carlo root MSE	0.1057	0.0343	0.0317	0.0311	0.0308	0.0307	
CI length	0.0936	0.2697	0.3372	0.3878	0.4302	0.4674	
CI coverage	0.0180	0.9990	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	
	B. $n_X = 20$						
Worst-case bias	0.0021	0.0480	0.0610	0.0714	0.0805	0.0887	
Asymptotic standard error	0.0227	0.0394	0.0453	0.0487	0.0509	0.0526	
Monte Carlo bias	0.0976	0.0080	0.0037	0.0026	0.0022	0.0020	
Monte Carlo standard deviation	0.0239	0.0386	0.0446	0.0480	0.0502	0.0519	
Monte Carlo root MSE	0.1005	0.0394	0.0447	0.0480	0.0502	0.0519	
CI length	0.0931	0.2503	0.2996	0.3337	0.3607	0.3835	
CI coverage	0.0190	0.9990	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	

*Note*: Performance of the minimum-MSE estimator in the cross-sectional binary choice model, for different values of  $\epsilon$ . n=500, results for 1000 simulations. The nominal level for confidence intervals (CI) is 95%.  $n_X$  denotes the number of points of support of the first component of X.

TABLE S2. Monte Carlo simulation of the average effect in the cross-sectional binary choice model, *extrapolation* ( $x_0 = (-0.5, 1)'$ ).

Minimum-MSE, for $\epsilon =$	0.0001	0.20	0.40	0.60	0.80	1.00		
William WoL, for e	0.0001	0.20	0.40	0.00	0.00	1.00		
	A. $n_X = 4$							
Worst-case bias	0.0029	0.1269	0.1794	0.2197	0.2537	0.2837		
Asymptotic standard error	0.0296	0.0312	0.0315	0.0316	0.0316	0.0317		
Monte Carlo bias	-0.0987	-0.0903	-0.0901	-0.0900	-0.0900	-0.0900		
Monte Carlo standard deviation	0.0283	0.0330	0.0334	0.0335	0.0336	0.0336		
Monte Carlo root MSE	0.1027	0.0961	0.0961	0.0961	0.0961	0.0961		
CI length	0.1219	0.3762	0.4822	0.5632	0.6314	0.6914		
CI coverage	0.2000	0.9370	0.9850	0.9960	0.9990	1.0000		
	B. $n_X = 20$							
Worst-case bias	0.0028	0.1172	0.1645	0.2008	0.2314	0.2584		
Asymptotic standard error	0.0313	0.0401	0.0443	0.0470	0.0489	0.0503		
Monte Carlo bias	-0.0902	-0.0961	-0.0988	-0.0999	-0.1005	-0.1009		
Monte Carlo standard deviation	0.0287	0.0373	0.0412	0.0437	0.0456	0.0471		
Monte Carlo root MSE	0.0947	0.1031	0.1070	0.1090	0.1104	0.1113		
CI length	0.1284	0.3915	0.5026	0.5857	0.6544	0.7141		
CI coverage	0.2530	0.9500	0.9910	0.9960	0.9970	0.9970		

Note: See the notes to Table S1.

TABLE S3. Monte Carlo simulation results for the autoregressive parameter in the dynamic binary choice panel data model.

Minimum-MSE, for $\epsilon =$	m	0.20	0.40	0.60	0.80	1.00		
	A. $T = 5$							
Worst-case bias	0.0001	0.0179	0.0227	0.0266	0.0299	0.0327		
Asymptotic standard error	0.0952	0.0975	0.0979	0.0981	0.0983	0.0985		
Monte Carlo bias	-0.1729	-0.0615	-0.0555	-0.0531	-0.0518	-0.0509		
Monte Carlo standard deviation	0.1252	0.1111	0.1129	0.1136	0.1141	0.1145		
Monte Carlo root MSE	0.2135	0.1270	0.1258	0.1255	0.1254	0.1253		
CI length	0.3734	0.4179	0.4292	0.4379	0.4452	0.4516		
CI coverage	0.5470	0.8890	0.9080	0.9160	0.9220	0.9280		
	B. $T = 10$							
Worst-case bias	0.0001	0.0090	0.0118	0.0140	0.0158	0.0175		
Asymptotic standard error	0.0607	0.0614	0.0615	0.0616	0.0616	0.0617		
Monte Carlo bias	-0.0780	-0.0137	-0.0120	-0.0114	-0.0110	-0.0107		
Monte Carlo standard deviation	0.0676	0.0731	0.0736	0.0738	0.0739	0.0740		
Monte Carlo root MSE	0.1032	0.0744	0.0745	0.0746	0.0747	0.0748		
CI length	0.2381	0.2587	0.2647	0.2694	0.2733	0.2768		
CI coverage	0.7130	0.9210	0.9330	0.9360	0.9360	0.9380		
			C. $T = 20$					
Worst-case bias	0.0001	0.0058	0.0078	0.0093	0.0106	0.0118		
Asymptotic standard error	0.0418	0.0421	0.0422	0.0422	0.0422	0.0422		
Monte Carlo bias	-0.0304	-0.0023	-0.0019	-0.0017	-0.0017	-0.0016		
Monte Carlo standard deviation	0.0442	0.0488	0.0490	0.0490	0.0491	0.0491		
Monte Carlo root MSE	0.0537	0.0488	0.0490	0.0491	0.0491	0.0491		
CI length	0.1638	0.1766	0.1808	0.1840	0.1867	0.1891		
CI coverage	0.8780	0.9110	0.9180	0.9230	0.9260	0.9300		

*Note*: Performance of the minimum-MSE estimator of  $\beta_0$  in the dynamic panel data binary choice model, for different values of  $\epsilon$ . n = 500, results for 1000 simulations. The nominal level for confidence intervals (CI) is 95%.

Table S4. Monte Carlo simulation results for the average state dependence parameter in the dynamic binary choice panel data model.

Minimum-MSE, for $\epsilon =$	0.00	0.20	0.40	0.60	0.80	1.00		
	A. $T = 5$							
Worst-case bias	0.0000	0.0099	0.0134	0.0162	0.0185	0.0205		
Asymptotic standard error	0.0259	0.0268	0.0270	0.0272	0.0273	0.0274		
Monte Carlo bias	-0.0538	-0.0218	-0.0202	-0.0196	-0.0193	-0.0191		
Monte Carlo standard deviation	0.0439	0.0324	0.0331	0.0334	0.0336	0.0337		
Monte Carlo root MSE	0.0694	0.0391	0.0387	0.0387	0.0387	0.0388		
CI length	0.1017	0.1250	0.1329	0.1389	0.1439	0.1483		
CI coverage	0.4450	0.8620	0.8850	0.9000	0.9190	0.9240		
	B. $T = 10$							
Worst-case bias	0.0000	0.0121	0.0169	0.0207	0.0238	0.0266		
Asymptotic standard error	0.0181	0.0184	0.0185	0.0186	0.0186	0.0187		
Monte Carlo bias	-0.0212	-0.0047	-0.0048	-0.0050	-0.0051	-0.0052		
Monte Carlo standard deviation	0.0257	0.0229	0.0230	0.0231	0.0231	0.0232		
Monte Carlo root MSE	0.0333	0.0233	0.0235	0.0236	0.0237	0.0238		
CI length	0.0710	0.0963	0.1063	0.1141	0.1206	0.1263		
CI coverage	0.6610	0.9630	0.9780	0.9830	0.9870	0.9880		
	C. $T = 20$							
Worst-case bias	0.0000	0.0163	0.0230	0.0281	0.0325	0.0363		
Asymptotic standard error	0.0134	0.0135	0.0136	0.0137	0.0137	0.0138		
Monte Carlo bias	-0.0097	-0.0028	-0.0028	-0.0028	-0.0028	-0.0028		
Monte Carlo standard deviation	0.0187	0.0153	0.0153	0.0154	0.0154	0.0155		
Monte Carlo root MSE	0.0210	0.0155	0.0156	0.0156	0.0157	0.0157		
CI length	0.0525	0.0857	0.0993	0.1098	0.1187	0.1265		
CI coverage	0.7840	0.9890	0.9930	0.9960	0.9970	0.9970		

Note: Performance of the minimum-MSE estimator of  $\delta_{\beta_0,\pi_0}$  in the dynamic panel data binary choice model, for different values of  $\epsilon$ . n=500, results for 1000 simulations. The nominal level for confidence intervals (CI) is 95%.

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Co-editor Andres Santos handled this manuscript.

Manuscript received 31 May, 2021; final version accepted 7 October, 2021; available online 1 November, 2021.