# A bivariate framework to jointly model count and continuous responses

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Summary: Multivariate data are present in many studies in the natural sciences, including entomology (study of insects). Generally, the interest is in more than one response variable and in how factors and covariates affect

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them, simultaneously. However, when the interest is in one count variable and one continuous variable, we need to use different approaches to model these variables jointly. In this work, motivated by a data set from entomology, in which a continuous and a count response were observed simultaneously, a mean-dispersion bivariate model was developed. The proposed model is based on the bivariate normal distribution, and adds a new parameter to the variance-covariance matrix to better accommodate the main characteristics of count data, such as overdispersion or underdispersion. This modelling framework showed good results and also allowed for greater flexibility in the case of heterogeneity of variances, and allows for the correlation between the two responses to vary according to an experimental treatment.

KEY WORDS: Count data; Entomology; Joint modelling; Multivariate data; Poisson model.

### 1. Introduction

In many observational or experimental studies, multiple response variables are of interest, and they may be correlated. In statistical modelling techniques, multiple response variables can be analyzed in isolation using univariate methods, where the dependences between them are not considered in the modelling. However, the correlation between the response variables can provide valuable insight, and their incorporation in the modelling framework can lead to more reliable tests and improved inference, especially when this correction is of high magnitude. Multivariate regression techniques facilitate the inclusion of correlated responses and are useful for exploring data patterns that may exist in more than one dimension (Raykov and Marcoulides, 2008; Everitt and Hothorn, 2011).

For the majority of univariate analysis, inferences are based on the normal distribution, and many multivariate techniques are extensions of univariate analysis, i.e., the majority of multivariate procedures have the multivariate normal distribution as their underpinning. For example, in bivariate analysis, the relationship between two continuous variables with unbounded symmetric distribution could be described by a joint probability distribution using the bivariate normal density (Jobson, 2012). However, other distributions according to characteristics of the response variables can also be considered. The analysis of nonnormal univariate or multivariate data involves, mostly, the generalized linear models (GLM) formulated by Nelder and Wedderburn (1972), that represent an elegant and encompassing mathematical framework to model response variables whose distribution belongs to the exponential family (such as normal, binomial, Poisson, gamma and inverse Gaussian). A feature of the exponential family of distributions is the mean-variance relationship, i.e., the fact that the variance is a function of the mean.

Johnson (1997) presented a range of discrete multivariate models that can jointly analyze count and binary data. Nevertheless, when it comes to joint modelling of one discrete and

one continuous variable, suitable techniques and current software implementations are still emerging (Bonat and Jørgensen, 2016). Bonat et. al. (2018) proposed a flexible framework to model response variables of different nature jointly (e.g., unbounded and bounded continuous variables and discrete variables). They created the multivariate covariance generalized linear modelling framework (McGLM), implemented as the mcglm package for R software (R CORE TEAM, 2020). In their approach, marginal models are fitted through quasi-likelihood functions based on first and second-moment assumptions (Bonat et al., 2017; Bonat, 2018). The framework includes flexibility in the specification of the covariance structure and provides reliable tests for fixed effects. However, one drawback of this framework is that it does not provide an associated probability distribution. Another possibility for modelling discrete and continuous multivariate response variables jointly are copula models (Nikoloulopoulos and Karlis, 2009; Krupskii and Joe, 2013). The copula model allows us to incorporate the correlation between the variables and also allows flexibility when choosing the correlation structure. However, the use of different copulas generates completely different results. In this paper, we present another option for modelling count and continuous data jointly using an approximation based on the central limit theorem and a one-parameter extension of the variance-covariance structure.

When analyzing count data, the Poisson model is a natural first choice, however, the Poisson distribution can be approximated asymptotically by the normal distribution (Mood, 1973). A multivariate extension based on the normal distribution is advantageous is the sense that this distribution presents known and closed formulas. A drawback for the Poisson model is the assumption of equality of mean and variance, which is not met very often in practice. This extra overdispersion in count data may be caused by a deficiency of relevant covariates or heterogeneity of samples, or repeated measures, and it is necessary to model this extra-variability to obtain reliable inference about the parameters (Hinde

and Demétrio, 1998; Ver Hoef and Boveng, 2007). These causes of variation can also impact continuous data. However, the normal distribution, often used to fit to this data, assumes homoscedastic variance, which could not reflect the real characteristics of the data. Aitkin (1987) proposed the joint modelling of mean and dispersion in the normal regression analysis using a Fisher scoring algorithm for the simultaneous maximum likelihood estimation. This proposal brought a powerful approach to deal with the heterogeneity of variance, which was modeled rather than being transformed away. McCullagh and Nelder (1989) presented the joint modelling of mean and dispersion in the generalized linear models, using the extended quasi-likelihood function (Nelder and Pregibon, 1987).

In this paper, we present a joint modelling of bivariate data, which also could be extended to multivariate data of more than two responses, to accommodate two counts, or two continuous response variables, or a combination of one count and one continuous variable using the bivariate normal approximation. To obtain a versatile framework to deal with count data, we included an extra parameter in the variance-covariance matrix to capture different characteristics present in this type of data, making it very useful also for continuous data. The normal bivariate model proposed allows us to model jointly mean and dispersion dealing with over- and underdispersion, and heteroscedastic variance. Furthermore, it is possible to fit the model allowing the correlation structure to depend on experimental conditions, for example, the correlation between two responses may change according to the levels of an experimental treatment. To exemplify the method developed, a case study applied to the area of entomology is presented.

This paper is organized as follows. Section 2 presents the case-study that is a motivation for this paper. Section 3 presents the bivariate framework to jointly model count and continuous responses. Section 4 presents estimation and inference for the novel regression model based on the likelihood paradigm. The case study analysis and results are presented in Section 5.

The properties of the maximum likelihood and profile likelihood estimators are assessed in Section 6 through simulation studies. Finally, we present discussion in Section 7.

### 2. Case study

The data comes from an experiment examining *Podisus nigrispinus* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) a predatory stinkbug, found in agricultural and forest systems in several countries of Central and South America, when fed two different prey (*Anticarsia gemmatalis* and *Diatraea saccharalis*, two agricultural pests). This stinkbug has an important role as a control agent biological for different cultures, for example, in the forest area, the predator can be useful in the biological control of defoliating caterpillars in *Eucalyptus* plantations.

Given this importance, experiments aimed at assessing the dynamics of prey consumption by *P. nigrispinus* have been developed. In these studies, the response variables are the weight and the fertility of the female predator. The weight is one way to measure the development of an insect over its life cycle, and the fertility measures how well the insect can establish in an ecosystem. This information is essential for the choice of biological control strategies in pest management programs (Parra, 2002).

The experiment was carried out at the Laboratory of Forest Ecology and Entomology, Department of Entomology and Acarology, ESALQ - USP, Piracicaba, Brazil. The insects were placed in individualized incubator chambers, where they were fed and monitored daily. The two diets or treatments consisted of offering three caterpillars of either A. gemmatalis or D. saccharalis daily. The experiment started with 50 female stinkbug insects for each diet, however, as there was a high mortality rate, the final measurements were made only with 9 stinkbug replicates of the A. gemmatalis treatment and 18 of the D. saccharalis treatment. After 18 days of receiving the diet, the weight of females was measured. Next, the females were allocated with a male that also received the same diet. The formed couples were kept until the death of the females. All eggs laid by the females were placed in Petri

dishes and counted. The correlation between the two outcomes (female weight and number of eggs) was examined by a scatterplot (Figure 1). This indicates that stinkbugs being fed the A. gemmatalis caterpillar diet performed more poorly overall than those fed the D. saccharalis caterpillar diet. A strong correlation between female weight and number of eggs was suggested for the D. saccharalis diet; this indicates that a modelling approach that allows the strength of the correlation between bivariate responses to change depending on an experimental treatment would be suitable here.

[Figure 1 about here.]

### 3. Joint Modelling of a Count and a Continuous Response

Bivariate models may be applied to analyze bivariate data jointly. However, when the outcomes have different distributions, the useful bivariate normal may not capture all information present in these data. In this paper, we propose a joint modelling approach, based on the multivariate normal distribution, that is suitable for jointly analyzing count and continuous bivariate data.

The marginal distribution structure is the same for either a count or a continuous variable. Both assume a normal distribution, with mean  $\mu_i$ ; i=1,2 and standard deviation depending on the mean and a dispersion parameter ( $\phi_i \mu_i$ ; i=1,2). It is also possible to capture the heterogeneity of variances, overdispersion, or underdispersion through the modelling of the  $\phi$  parameters. We model the mean  $\mu$  through a monotonic and differentiable link function  $g(\mu) = \eta$ , such that the linear predictor is  $\eta = X\beta$ .

Let  $\mathbf{Y_1}$  and  $\mathbf{Y_2}$  be vectors of count or continuous random variables. We then assume that marginally  $\mathbf{Y_1} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu_1}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma_1})$  and  $\mathbf{Y_2} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu_2}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma_2})$ , with the joint distribution of  $\mathbf{Y_1}$  and  $\mathbf{Y_2}$  taken to be multivariate normal, i.e.,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Y_1} \\ \mathbf{Y_2} \end{bmatrix} \sim N \begin{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu_1} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu_2} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma_1} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma_{12}} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma_{12}} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma_2} \end{bmatrix} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{1}$$

where  $\Sigma_1$  denotes the covariance matrix for the first response;  $\Sigma_2$  denotes the covariance matrix for the second response and  $\Sigma_{12}$  denotes the covariance matrix between the two responses, where  $\Sigma_{12}$  depends on a correlation parameter  $\rho$ ,  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$ .

We write  $\Sigma_i = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi}\boldsymbol{\phi})\operatorname{diag}(g^{-1}(\mathbf{X}_{\beta}\boldsymbol{\beta})) = \mathbf{D}_{\phi}\mathbf{D}_{\mu}$ , where the function  $\operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{x})$  is defined as a square matrix with the elements of the vector  $\mathbf{x}$  in its main diagonal;  $\mathbf{X}_{\phi}$  and  $\mathbf{X}_{\beta}$  are the design matrices for dispersion and regression parameters respectively; and  $\boldsymbol{\phi}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  unknown parameter vectors. We may write for  $\mu_{ij}$  and  $\phi_{ij}$ 

$$\Sigma_{i} = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{i1}\mu_{i1} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \phi_{i2}\mu_{i2} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \phi_{in}\mu_{in} \end{pmatrix},$$

where i represents the response number (i = 1,2); j is the observation (j = 1,...,n) and the variance-covariance matrix ( $\Sigma_i$ ) will involve the mean and dispersion parameters.

### 4. Estimation and Inference

# 4.1 Univariate modelling

Taking one of the response outcomes  $\mathbf{Y}_i$ , from here we will omit the index i to improve readability. We assume that asymptotically  $\mathbf{Y} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \mathbf{D}_{\phi} \mathbf{D}_{\mu})$ , and write the log-likelihood as

$$\log \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} | \mathbf{y}) = l(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} | \mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2} \{ \ln |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}| + (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \} + \text{const.}$$
 (2)

The estimating equations can be obtained using the chain rule. Differentiating (2) w.r.t.  $\Sigma$  yields

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \Sigma} = -\frac{1}{2} (\Sigma^{-1})^T + \frac{1}{2} (\Sigma^{-1})^T (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' (\Sigma^{-1})^T.$$
(3)

Now further diffferentiating eq. (3) w.r.t.  $\mathbf{D}_{\phi}$  and w.r.t.  $\boldsymbol{\phi}$  yields (see Appendix A for calculations):

$$-\frac{1}{2}\operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi}\boldsymbol{\phi})^{-1} \circ \mathbb{I} + \frac{1}{2}\operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi}\boldsymbol{\phi})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_{\mu}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})'\operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi}\boldsymbol{\phi})^{-1} \circ \mathbb{I}. \tag{4}$$

Finally, solving eq. (4) w.r.t.  $\phi$  yields (see Appendix A for calculations):

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = (\mathbf{X}_{\phi}' \mathbf{X}_{\phi})^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{\phi}' \{ (\mathbf{D}_{\mu}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \circ \mathbb{I}) \mathbb{J} \},$$
 (5)

where  $\mathbb{I}$  is an  $n \times n$  identity matrix and  $\mathbb{J}$  is an  $n \times 1$  vector of 1s, and  $\circ$  the Hadamard product. In this case, for positive values, the dispersion parameter  $(\phi)$  is always greater than zero. If  $\phi < 1$  there is underpersion and  $\phi > 1$  overdispersion.

It is not as straightforward to obtain the maximum likelihood estimator for  $\beta$ , because  $\mu$  is also a function of  $\Sigma$  in the likelihood. Therefore we firstly approximate the estimate of the regression coefficients using the known estimator for the regression parameters in the linear models and then update  $\hat{\beta}$  using  $\hat{\mu}$  estimated in the preceding stage. The maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) of  $\beta$ , conditional on  $\mu$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\rho$ , with  $\Sigma(\mu, \phi, \rho)$  is given by (Laird and Ware, 1982; Molenberghs and Verbeke, 2000)

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\rho}) = (\mathbf{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{Y}.$$

Because we are including different link functions, not limited to identity, we included a matrix of weights  $\mathbf{W}$  in the estimation of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ , following the estimation procedure of the GLM framework. The estimation for the vector  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  is given considering

$$\eta = g(\mu), \quad \mathbf{W} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{V}(\mu)[g'(\mu)]^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{z} = \eta + \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{y} - \mu),$$
(6)

where **W** is a diagonal matrix of weights,  $\mathbf{V}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \mathbf{D}_{\phi} \mathbf{D}_{\mu}$  and  $\mathbf{G} = \text{diag}\{g'(\mu_1), \dots, g'(\mu_n)\}$  (Nelder and Wedderburn, 1972; McCullagh and Nelder, 1989).

Using  $\eta^{(1)} = g(\mathbf{y})$  for the first iteration, then

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}^{(1)} = (\mathbf{X}^{\mathbf{T}}\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}^{\mathbf{T}}\boldsymbol{\eta}^{(1)} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}^{(n)} = (\mathbf{X}^{\mathbf{T}}\mathbf{W}^{(n-1)}\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}^{\mathbf{T}}\mathbf{W}^{(n-1)}\mathbf{z}^{(n-1)}.$$
 (7)

This algorithm yields the same results as numerically maximising the likelihood function using, e.g. the BFGS algorithm, however it is much faster in terms of computational burden. The good behavior of these estimators can also be verified in the simulations studies in Section 6.

### 4.2 Bivariate modelling

To model both outcomes jointly it is necessary to estimate the matrix  $\Sigma_{12}$  (eq. 1). Martinez and Benedito (2013) introduced a method to construct the multivariate covariance matrix using Kronecker products. Bonat and Jørgersen (2016) applied the same method to develop the technique called Multivariate Covariance Generalized Linear Models. Let  $\mathbf{Y}_{nR\times 1} = \{\mathbf{Y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_R\}$ , where the response variables are stacked, with n = number of observations and R = number of outcomes;  $\Sigma_i$  the  $n \times n$  covariance matrix within the outcome i for  $i = 1, \dots, R$ . Let  $\Sigma_b$  be the  $R \times R$  correlation matrix between outcomes, with the diagonal elements equal to 1 and off-diagonal elements equal to  $\rho$ . Then

$$E(\mathbf{Y}) = \{g^{-1}(\mathbf{X}_1\boldsymbol{\beta}_1), \dots, g^{-1}(\mathbf{X}_R\boldsymbol{\beta}_R)\}\$$

$$Var(\mathbf{Y}) = \mathbf{\Sigma} = Bdiag(\tilde{\mathbf{\Sigma}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{\Sigma}}_R)(\mathbf{\Sigma}_b \otimes \mathbf{I})Bdiag(\tilde{\mathbf{\Sigma}}_1^T, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{\Sigma}}_R^T)$$
(8)

where the matrix  $\tilde{\Sigma}_i$  denotes the lower triangular matrix of the Cholesky decomposition of  $\Sigma_i$ . The operator Bdiag denotes a block diagonal matrix and  $\mathbf{I}$  denotes an  $n \times n$  identity matrix.

Here we propose an extension to allow more than one correlation coefficient, for example, we could have one for each treatment in our case study data (Section 2). This requires increasing the flexibility of the  $(\Sigma_b \otimes \mathbf{I})$  matrix to include more than one correlation coefficient. Let  $\mathbf{X}_{\rho}$ 

denote a  $N \times t$  design matrix, with t the to number of treatment levels, and  $\rho$  a vector for the correlation coefficients with  $t \times 1$  dimension, then w.r.t

$$\Sigma_{\rho} = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\rho}\boldsymbol{\rho}),$$

and replacing  $(\Sigma_b \otimes \mathbf{I})$  in the eq. (8), we have

$$\operatorname{Var}(\mathbf{Y}) = \mathbf{\Sigma} = \operatorname{Bdiag}(\tilde{\mathbf{\Sigma}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{\Sigma}}_2) \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\rho} \\ \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\rho} & \mathbf{I} \end{array} \right] \operatorname{Bdiag}(\tilde{\mathbf{\Sigma}}_1^T, \tilde{\mathbf{\Sigma}}_2^T).$$

Hence, the proposed model is considering R=2 outcomes. Then, for  $\mathbf{Y}=[\mathbf{Y_1},\mathbf{Y_2}],$  the full log likelihood is

$$l(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\rho})|\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2} \{ \ln |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}| + (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \} + \text{const.}$$
(9)

Here the covariance matrix is more flexible, allowing the modelling of data sets with different correlation profiles. A likelihood ratio test can be used to test if correlations coefficients differ, for example by levels of a treatment in an experiment.

Jørgensen and Knudsen (2004) suggested a method to jointly estimate all parameters of the  $\Sigma$  matrix using the Newton scoring algorithm, based on quasi-likelihood and the Pearson estimating functions, applying second-moment assumptions. As an alternative approach, here, the matrices  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$  are estimated first separately, using the maximum likelihood method, presented in section (4.1). These estimates are then used as initial values to obtain the estimates  $\hat{\rho}$  by profiling the log-likelihood function w.r.t.  $\rho$  and maximizing (9) numerically. At each step, the estimates for  $\mu$  and  $\phi$  are updated, using the estimation algorithm described in Section 4.1. Since the derivatives of l w.r.t.  $\rho$  cannot be obtained in closed form, the L-BFGS-B algorithm (Zhu et al., 1997) was implemented in the mle2() function for R software (R CORE TEAM, 2020). Standard errors for the regression parameters are obtained based on the observed information matrix  $\mathbf{I}(\theta)$ , where  $\mathbf{I}(\theta) = -\mathbf{H}(\theta)$  (hessian matrix) is calculated by numerical approximation of  $l(\theta)$ , using the hessian() function of

the package numDeriv (Gilbert et al., 2006). Since  $\hat{\phi}$  depends on  $\hat{\beta}$ , the standard errors for the dispersion parameters were obtained using a two-stage algorithm. First, considering  $\hat{\rho}$ , we obtained the standard errors for  $\hat{\beta}$ . In the next stage considering  $\hat{\rho}$  and  $\hat{\beta}$  we obtained the standard errors for  $\hat{\phi}$ .

We applied these methods to the case study data described in Section 2. Diagnostic analyses and goodness-of-fit assessment for the models fitted to the case study data set were carried out by producing bivariate residual plots with simulation polygons (Moral et al., 2020). Likelihood ratio tests were used to compare treatments and to assess the significance of the parameters.

### 5. Case study analysis

We fitted the bivariate model to the data set described in Section 2, including the effects of diet (treatment) in the linear predictors for the mean, dispersion and correlation. Table 1 shows the estimated parameters and standard errors. The females fed with D. saccharalis emerged with greater weight ( $\beta_{22}$ ) and had greater fertility, producing more eggs ( $\beta_{12}$ ). The estimates for  $\phi_{11}$  and  $\phi_{12}$  indicate overdispersion for the number of eggs, however since their standard errors are large we tested for their equality. The estimates for  $\phi_{21}$  and  $\phi_{22}$  are also similar to each other.

### [Table 1 about here.]

The bivariate residual plot with simulated polygons with 99 simulations showed 3 out of 27 points out of their respective polygons, which indicates a reasonably good fit (Figure 2).

#### [Figure 2 about here.]

The selection of the model was performed using likelihood ratio tests. We verify the treatment effect on the mean and the dispersion by each outcome and jointly (Table 2 and 3). The effect of treatment on the correlation was also tested and presented no significance, but

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here due to the differences in correlations observed per treatment (Figure 1), the biological assumption, and the small sample size, we chose to maintain a different correlation effect per treatment. The test gave evidence for equal dispersion coefficients, but different regression coefficients for each diet. The regression parameters showed a difference between treatments for both outcomes, hence, the diet D. saccharalis contributed to a better development of the predator.

[Table 2 about here.]

[Table 3 about here.]

#### 6. Simulation studies

Simulation studies were performed to assess the properties of the maximum likelihood estimators and the flexibility of the bivariate framework. The scenarios proposed here compare the performance of the proposed model with different sample size; under, over and equidispersion for the count outcome; heterogeneity of variances for the continuous outcome and negative, positive, low and high correlation between outcomes.

We conducted the simulation study based on the experimental structure described in the case study (Section 2). Four simulation scenarios were designed considering one treatment factor with two levels and the numbers of experimental units equal to half of the sample size. The count outcome was generated from a normal distribution with a logarithmic link function, fixing the regression coefficients at the values  $\beta_{11} = 2$  and  $\beta_{12} = 3$  (the first index represents the response variable and the second index the treatment level). The dispersion parameters were fixed at the values  $\phi_{11} = 0.5$  and  $\phi_{12} = 2$ . For the second continuous outcome, we considered  $\beta_{21} = 10$ ,  $\beta_{22} = 300$ ,  $\phi_{21} = 1$ ,  $\phi_{22} = 10$  and an identity link function. We produced simulations based on four different values for a single correlation parameter ( $\rho = -0.8, 0.2, 0.5$  and 0.8). These scenarios present negative, weak, moderate,

and strong positive correlation. To check the consistency of the estimators, four sample sizes were considered: 50, 100, 300, and 600. We generated 1000 data sets for each simulation scenario. The simulation process is summarised as follows

(1) Define 
$$\beta_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
;  $\beta_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 300 \end{bmatrix}$ ;  $\phi_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ;  $\phi_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$ ;

- (2) Set up  $\mathbf{X}_{\beta_1}$  and  $\mathbf{X}_{\beta_2}$  as  $n \times 2$  design matrices;
- (3) Set up  $\mathbf{X}_{\phi_1}$  and  $\mathbf{X}_{\phi_2}$  as  $n \times 2$  dispersion design matrices;

(4) Calculate 
$$\mu_1 = g^{-1}(\mathbf{X}_{\beta_1}\boldsymbol{\beta_1}) = \exp(\mathbf{X}_{\beta_1}\boldsymbol{\beta_1})$$
 and  $\mu_2 = g^{-1}(\mathbf{X}_{\beta_2}\boldsymbol{\beta_2}) = \mathbf{X}_{\beta_2}\boldsymbol{\beta_2}$ ;

- (5) Obtain  $\Sigma_1 = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi_1} \boldsymbol{\phi_1}) \operatorname{diag}(\boldsymbol{\mu_1})$  and  $\Sigma_2 = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi_2} \boldsymbol{\phi_2}) \operatorname{diag}(\boldsymbol{\mu_2});$
- (6) Set up  $\mathbf{X}_{\rho}$  as a  $n \times 1$  unit matrix;
- (7) Obtain  $\Sigma_{\rho} = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\rho}\rho)$ , where  $\rho$  is a scalar (-0.8, 0.2, 0.5 or 0.8);

(8) Calculate 
$$\Sigma = \text{Bdiag}(\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \Sigma_{\rho} \\ \Sigma_{\rho} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \text{Bdiag}(\Sigma_1^T, \Sigma_2^T);$$

(9) Simulate from 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Y_1} \\ \mathbf{Y_2} \end{bmatrix} \sim N \begin{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu_1} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu_2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \end{pmatrix}$$
;

(10) Fit the proposed model to the simulated data sets.

This process was followed for each simulation scenario. Further, we also simulated a scenario with two correlations parameters, one for each treatment. The study considered 1000 simulations, sample sizes equal to 50, 100 and 300, and four scenarios combining correlation coefficients as follows:  $\rho_1 = 0.2$  and  $\rho_2 = 0.5$ ;  $\rho_1 = 0.2$  and  $\rho_2 = 0.8$ ;  $\rho_1 = -0.8$  and  $\rho_2 = 0.2$ ;  $\rho_1 = -0.2$  and  $\rho_2 = 0.5$ .

The complete code used for the simulations and model fitting can be found in the supplementary materials.

#### 6.1 Simulation results

To visualize estimation bias for each simulation scenario Figure 3 was constructed. It presents the average bias, defined as the average estimate of 1000 simulations minus the true value and their respective confidence interval calculated as the average bias plus and minus 1.96 times the standard error.

# [Figure 3 about here.]

The results of the simulation studies showed that for all correlation levels, the average bias and the standard errors tend to 0 as the sample size increases, meaning that all parameters have unbiased and consistent estimators. For small samples, the dispersion parameters are underestimated. This is also observed for the regression parameters when the correlation is very high ( $\rho = 0.8$ ). For the correlation parameters, the bias is low even for small samples, but it is smaller when the sample size increases. The average standard error is lower for strong correlations, positive or negative ( $\rho = -0.8$  and  $\rho = 0.8$ ); this is clear for the correlation coefficient, but it is also possible to observe a slightly smaller average standard error for the dispersion coefficients. Figure 4 shows the empirical coverage rate of the asymptotic confidence intervals. The results showed that for the regression parameters the empirical coverage rates are close to the nominal level of 95% for all sample sizes and all simulation scenarios. For the dispersion and correlation parameters, the empirical coverage rates are lower than the nominal level, however, for  $\rho = 0.2$  and  $\rho = 0.5$ , they become closer to the nominal level for large samples. The worst scenario is with a small sample and strong correlation, in this case, even for large samples the coverage rate is still lower than the nominal level. An alternative here is to consider other methods to construct the confidence intervals such as the bootstrap approach.

#### [Figure 4 about here.]

To verify the coverage rate considering bootstrap confidence intervals, a parametric boot-

strap simulation was performed, considering 1000 bootstrap samples and 100 simulations, respecting the same previous scenarios with a sample size equal to 50 and correlation coefficients equal to -0.8 and 0.8. These simulations showed some asymmetry and bias, mainly for the dispersion and correlation coefficients, therefore bias-corrected percentile confidence intervals (BCP) were considered. Efron (1982) presented this method, in which the correction relies upon transforming the distribution to one that satisfies the symmetry condition (Diciccio and Romano, 1988; Buckland, 1984). Using this method, the empirical coverage rates increased, becoming very close to the 95% nominal coverage (Table 4).

# [Table 4 about here.]

Table 5 shows the results of the simulation study considering two correlations coefficients, in this example, one for each treatment. The observed average bias was low, and the larger the sample size, the lower the average bias and associated standard errors. We observed that for stronger correlations, the standard error was lower, implying empirical confidence intervals with smaller coverage than the nominal rate. Further, it is clear that the scenarios that presented better coverage, mainly for larger samples, were scenarios 1 and 4.

#### [Table 5 about here.]

### 7. Discussion

In this work, we proposed a bivariate framework to jointly model count and continuous responses. Our approach represents an attractive and flexible framework for studying two variables jointly and is widely applicable. This alternative considered a normal approach, modelling the variance-covariance matrix so that the characteristics of the data, such as over- or underdispersion for count data, and heterogeneity of variances for continuous data can be modeled. As this considered the multivariate normal approximation performed better with larger samples. The advantage of this methodology is that it is possible to incorporate

correlation, jointly modeling the variable responses and assuming an associated probability distribution. One drawback of our approach is that issues may arise for small sample sizes, including biased dispersion estimates and a true coverage rate of the confidence intervals for the parameters smaller than the nominal rate. So it is necessary to carefully analyze very small samples, doing descriptive analyzes before fitting the model, and check if the obtained results have a practical interpretation.

We observed in the simulation studies that even for large samples, when  $\rho = -0.8$  and  $\rho = 0.8$ , the coverage rate of the correlation parameters is close to 90% instead of 95%. This is possibly because the true correlation value is close to the boundary of the parametric space. When  $\rho \approx 1$ , the range limits are automatically limited by 1 or - 1, then the variation of the parameter space is smaller. This became more evident by observing Figure 3, which showed that the standard errors for the correlation coefficients are lower for higher correlations. This is not reflected in the regression coefficients, due to the fact that  $\hat{\beta}$  varies very little for different values of  $\phi$  and  $\rho$ . However, the coverage rate for the dispersion parameters also depends on the correlation parameter level, and the higher the correlation, the lower the coverage rate. These cited problems are expected when it comes to estimates at the limit of the parametric space, especially with small samples. Despite these limitations, we concluded that the model generally behaves as expected, with unbiased, consistent, and accurate estimates.

Several extensions to the proposed bivariate model are possible (and currently in progress). These extensions include modeling correlation between observations taken on the same experimental unit, e.g., longitudinal data or repeated measurements. In this case, the variance-covariance matrix needs to be extended, allowing to incorporate the dependent measures taken on the same subject. This extension will be carried out by adding in the current  $\Sigma = \mathbf{D}_{\phi}\mathbf{D}_{\mu}$  the term  $\mathbf{Z}\mathbf{G}\mathbf{Z}'$ , where  $\mathbf{Z}$  is the matrix of known covariates indicating the

correlated observations or how the response evolves overtime for the ith subject and G a general covariance matrix. However, it is also necessary to include a link function for the dispersion parameter, so that it does not have a negative maximum likelihood estimate.

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# Appendix A: Estimation an Inference for Section 4

### Univariate modelling

Taking one of the response outcomes  $\mathbf{Y}_i$ , from here we will omit the index i to improve readability. Asymptotically  $\mathbf{Y} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \mathbf{D}_{\phi} \mathbf{D}_{\mu})$ , we can write the log-likelihood as

$$\log \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} | \mathbf{y}) = l(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} | \mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2} \{ \ln |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}| + (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \} + \text{const.}$$
(A.1)

Differentiating with respect to  $\Sigma$  is straightforward:

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \Sigma} = \frac{\partial l}{\partial \Sigma} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \ln |\Sigma| - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right\}$$
(A.2)

as 
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial A} \ln |A| = A^{-T}$$
 and  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{a^T X^{-1} b}}{\partial \mathbf{X}} = -\mathbf{X}^{-T} \mathbf{ab^T X^{-T}}$ . Then,

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \Sigma} = -\frac{1}{2} \Sigma^{-T} + \frac{1}{2} \Sigma^{-T} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \Sigma^{-T}$$
(A.3)

and

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}} \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}}{\partial \mathbf{D}_{\phi}} = \left[ -\tfrac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-T} + \tfrac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-T} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-T} \right] \circ \mathbf{D}_{\mu}$$

$$= \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{D}_{\phi} \mathbf{D}_{\mu})^{-T} + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{D}_{\phi} \mathbf{D}_{\mu})^{-T} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' (\mathbf{D}_{\phi} \mathbf{D}_{\mu})^{-T} \right] \circ \mathbf{D}_{\mu}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{D}_{\phi} \mathbf{D}_{\mu})^{-T} \circ \mathbf{D}_{\mu} + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{D}_{\phi} \mathbf{D}_{\mu})^{-T} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' (\mathbf{D}_{\phi} \mathbf{D}_{\mu})^{-T} \circ \mathbf{D}_{\mu}$$

$$= -\tfrac{1}{2} \mathbf{D}_{\phi}^{-\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{D}_{\mu}^{-\mathbf{T}} \circ \mathbf{D}_{\mu} + \tfrac{1}{2} \mathbf{D}_{\phi}^{-\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{D}_{\mu}^{-\mathbf{T}} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \mathbf{D}_{\phi}^{-\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{D}_{\mu}^{-\mathbf{T}} \circ \mathbf{D}_{\mu}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2}D_{\phi}^{-T} + \frac{1}{2}D_{\phi}^{-T}D_{\mu}^{-T}(y - \mu)(y - \mu)'D_{\phi}^{-T}.$$

If **A** is diagonal, then  $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}$  and

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}} \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}}{\partial \mathbf{D}_{\phi}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}_{\phi}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\phi}} = \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{D}_{\phi}^{-1} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{D}_{\phi}^{-1} \mathbf{D}_{\mu}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \mathbf{D}_{\phi}^{-1} \right] \circ \mathbb{I}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi} \boldsymbol{\phi})^{-1} \circ \mathbb{I} + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi} \boldsymbol{\phi})^{-1} \mathbf{D}_{\mu}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi} \boldsymbol{\phi})^{-1} \circ \mathbb{I}.$$
 (A.4)

Equalizing (A.4) to zero

$$-\frac{1}{2}\mathrm{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi}\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}})^{-1} \circ \mathbb{I} + \frac{1}{2}\mathrm{diag}(\boldsymbol{X}_{\phi}\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}})^{-1}\mathbf{D}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})'\mathrm{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi}\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}})^{-1} \circ \mathbb{I} = 0$$

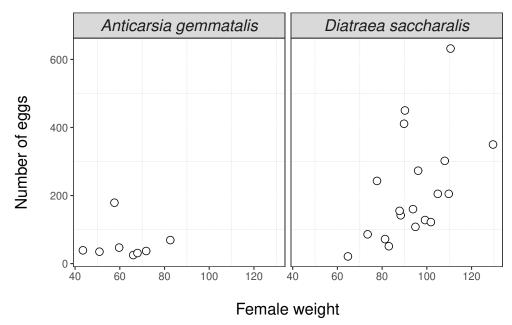
$$\therefore \operatorname{diag}(X_{\phi}\hat{\phi})^{-1} \circ \mathbb{I} = \operatorname{diag}(X_{\phi}\hat{\phi})^{-1}D_{\mu}^{-1}(y - \mu)(y - \mu)'\operatorname{diag}(X_{\phi}\hat{\phi})^{-1} \circ \mathbb{I}$$

$$\therefore \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{X}_{\phi}\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}) = \mathbf{D}_{\mu}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \circ \mathbb{I}.$$

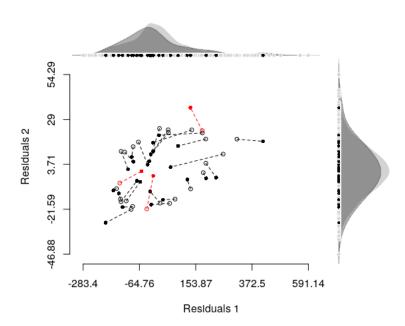
Multiplying by  $\mathbb{J}_{n\times 1}$  in both sides and factoring out  $\hat{\phi}$  yields

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = (\mathbf{X}_{\phi}' \mathbf{X}_{\phi})^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{\phi}' \{ (\mathbf{D}_{\mu}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' \circ \mathbb{I}) \mathbb{J} \}$$
(A.5)

where  $\mathbb{I}$  is an  $n \times n$  identity matrix and  $\mathbb{J}$  is an  $n \times n$  vector of 1s, and  $\circ$  the Hadamard product.

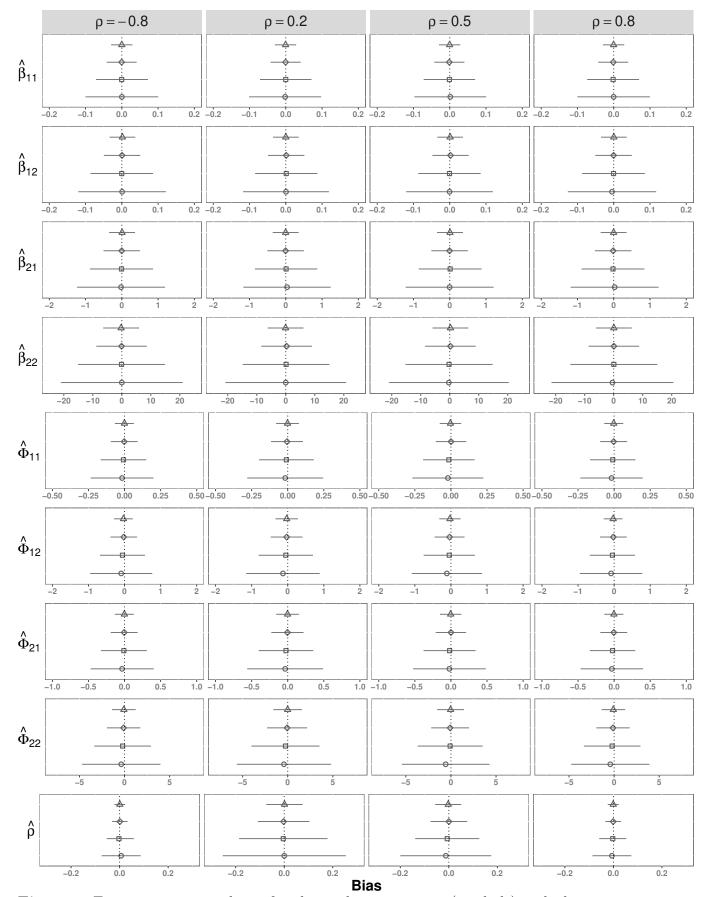


**Figure 1**: Scatterplot of *Podisus nigrispinus* female weight after 18 days and total number of eggs laid throughout the insect's life cycle by treatment (a diet consisting of *Anticarsia gemmatalis* or *Diatraea saccharalis*).

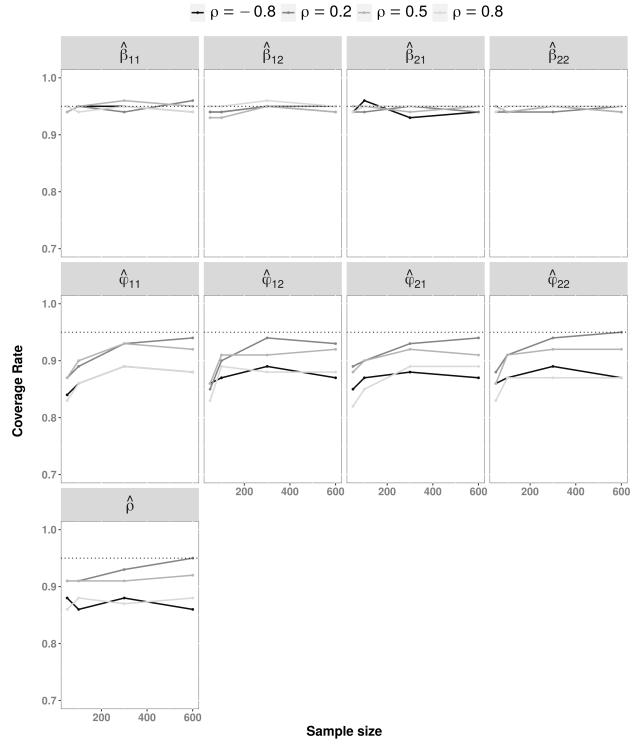


**Figure 2**: Bivariate plot with simulation polygons assuming a bivariate normal distribution for bivariate samples of size 99 simulated, with estimated marginal densities for residuals 1 and residuals 2. The an lighter shade corresponds to the estimated density of all simulated diagnostics, and the darker one corresponds to the estimated density of the observed diagnostics. The points outside their simulated polygons are displayed in red.





**Figure 3**: Estimation average bias of each simulation scenario (symbols) with their respective confidence interval of 95% obtained by the average standard error considering 1000 simulations.



**Figure 4**: Coverage rate based on normal approximation confidence intervals with a nominal rate of 95% for different sample sizes (50, 100, 300, and 600) and correlation coefficients (-0.8, 0.2, 0.5 and 0.8).

Table 1: Parameter estimates (EST.) and standard errors (SE) for the normal bivariate model.  $\beta_{11}$  and  $\beta_{12}$  represent the mean number of eggs produced by stinkbugs on for diets Anticarsia and Diatraea respectively;  $\beta_{21}$  and  $\beta_{22}$  represent the mean weight for stinkbugs on diets Anticarsia and Diatraea respectively.  $\phi_{11}$  and  $\phi_{12}$  represent the dispersion of the number of eggs for diets Anticarsia and Diatraea respectively;  $\phi_{21}$  and  $\phi_{22}$  represent the dispersion of weight for diets Anticarsia and Diatraea respectively.  $\rho_1$  represents the correlation between number of eggs and weight for Anticarsia diet and the parameter  $\rho_2$  represents the correlation between number of eggs and weight for Diatraea.

SE 0.2907
0.2907
0.2001
0.1609
4.0684
3.3824
9.5049
2.1814
1.0588
0.6983
0.3528
0.1487

Table 2: Model fit measurements and comparisons between the complete and reduced models to test the treatment effect on the mean and on the dispersion for each outcome.

Model	np	l	2(diff  l)	$P(>\chi^2)$
Full model	10	-221.0125		
$\bar{\beta}_{11} = \bar{\beta}_{12}$	9	-227.4322	12.8394	0.0003
$\beta_{21}=\beta_{22}$	9	-236.2779	16.4631	0.0000
$\phi_{10} = \phi_{11}$	9	-222.2381	2.4511	0.2936
$\phi_{20} = \phi_{21}$	9	-221.0235	0.02209	0.9890

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$ np, number of parameters; l, log-likelihood; diff l, difference in log-likelihoods.

Table 3: Model fit measurements and comparisons between the complete and reduced models to test the treatment effect on the mean and on the dispersion for both outcomes jointly.

Model	np	l	2(diff l)	$P(>\chi^2)$
Full model	10	-221.0125		
$\beta_{11} = \overline{\beta}_{12}$ and $\beta_{21} = \overline{\beta}_{22}$	8	-232.1660	$22.\overline{3070}$	0.0000
$\phi_{10} = \phi_{11} \text{ and } \phi_{20} = \phi_{21}$	8	-222.2347	2.4445	0.2946

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$ np, number of parameters; l, log-likelihood; diff l, difference in log-likelihoods.

Table 4: Coverage rate based on bias-corrected percentile confidence intervals with 1000 bootstrap samples and 100 simulations, n = 50 and a nominal rate of 95%.

	Coverage rate					
Parameter	$\rho = 0.8$	$\rho = -0.8$				
$\beta_{11}$	0.95	0.96				
$eta_{12}$	0.95	0.93				
$eta_{21}$	0.98	0.96				
$eta_{22}$	0.98	0.92				
$\phi_{11}$	0.94	0.95				
$\phi_{12}$	0.92	0.88				
$\phi_{21}$	0.93	0.95				
$\phi_{22}$	0.91	0.89				
ho	0.95	0.96				

Table 5: Estimator mean bias, MSE and coverage rate for the proposed model under 4 scenarios, which varied true parameter value. Results are based on 1000 simulations.

	,			r						
Scenario 1: Bias		MSE			Coverage					
Par.	True	n=50	n=100	n=300	n=50	n=100	n=300	n=50	n=100	n=300
$\beta_{11}$	2	0.000	-0.004	0.000	0.050	0.036	0.021	0.94	0.94	0.94
$\beta_{12}$	3	-0.002	-0.001	0.000	0.061	0.044	0.026	0.94	0.93	0.95
$\beta_{21}$	10	-0.012	-0.018	-0.017	0.611	0.441	0.257	0.93	0.94	0.95
$\beta_{22}$	300	0.154	-0.059	-0.024	10.584	7.669	4.446	0.93	0.95	0.96
$\phi_{11}$	0.5	-0.020	-0.013	-0.004	0.133	0.096	0.057	0.88	0.90	0.92
$\phi_{12}$	2	-0.093	-0.054	-0.021	0.501	0.362	0.213	0.87	0.90	0.91
$\phi_{21}$	1	-0.044	-0.015	-0.003	0.265	0.302 $0.194$	0.114	0.87	0.90	0.93
$\phi_{22}$	10	-0.469	-0.080	0.083	2.501	1.844	1.069	0.87	0.90	0.91
	0.2	-0.005	-0.004	-0.001	0.179	0.130	0.076	0.88	0.92	0.93
$\rho_1$	$0.2 \\ 0.5$	-0.003	-0.004	0.001	0.173	0.130 $0.094$	0.075	0.88	0.89	0.91
$\frac{\rho_2}{\tilde{a}}$		-0.013	-0.001	0.000	0.100	0.034	0.000	0.00		0.01
Scenari	io 2:		Bias			MSE			Coverage	
Par.	True	n=50	n=100	n=300	n=50	n=100	n=300	n=50	n=100	n=300
$\beta_{11}$	2	-0.002	-0.001	0.001	0.051	0.036	0.021	0.91	0.95	0.94
$\beta_{12}$	3	-0.002	0.001	0.001	0.062	0.044	0.026	0.92	0.94	0.94
$\beta_{21}$	10	0.021	0.006	-0.004	0.614	0.440	0.256	0.94	0.94	0.94
$eta_{22}$	300	-0.093	0.207	0.078	10.682	7.599	4.435	0.92	0.94	0.95
$\phi_{11}$	0.5	-0.015	-0.014	-0.005	0.134	0.096	0.057	0.89	0.89	0.93
$\phi_{12}$	2	-0.059	-0.048	-0.031	0.450	0.321	0.187	0.86	0.87	0.87
$\phi_{21}$	$\overline{1}$	-0.036	-0.021	-0.012	0.267	0.193	0.113	0.89	0.91	0.93
$\phi_{22}$	10	-0.283	-0.281	-0.130	2.252	1.597	0.939	0.86	0.86	0.88
$\rho_1$	0.2	-0.011	0.003	0.000	0.180	0.129	0.076	0.90	0.91	0.95
$\rho_1 \\ \rho_2$	0.8	-0.006	-0.002	-0.002	0.058	0.040	0.023	0.83	0.86	0.87
		0.000	0.002	0.002						
Scenari	io 3:		Bias			MSE			Coverage	
Par.	True	n=50	n=100	n=300	n=50	n=100	n=300	n=50	n=100	n=300
$\beta_{11}$	2	-0.001	0.000	0.000	0.051	0.036	0.021	0.94	0.93	0.93
$\beta_{12}$	3	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.061	0.044	0.026	0.92	0.94	0.95
$\beta_{21}$	10	-0.013	-0.025	-0.007	0.615	0.442	0.257	0.92	0.93	0.95
$\beta_{22}$	300	-0.013	-0.323	0.245	10.699	7.599	4.444	0.94	0.93	0.94
	0.5	-0.143	-0.014	-0.001	0.112	0.080	0.047	0.83	0.85	0.89
$\phi_{11}$	$\frac{0.3}{2}$	-0.109	-0.014	-0.001	0.524	0.384	0.225	0.86	0.91	0.93
$\phi_{12}$	1	-0.109	-0.030	-0.029	0.225	0.163	0.095	0.84	0.86	0.89
$\phi_{21}$	10	-0.030	-0.010	-0.002	2.701	1.918	1.130	0.84 $0.88$	0.80	0.89 $0.94$
$\phi_{22}$	-0.8	0.239	0.007	0.002	0.057	0.041	0.023	0.85	0.84	0.85
$ ho_1  ho_2$	0.2	0.003	-0.007	-0.002	0.178	0.130	0.026	0.88	0.93	0.94
		0.004	-0.003	-0.004					0.00	0.01
Scenari	io 4:		Bias			MSE			Coverage	
Par.	True	n=50	n=100	n=300	n=50	n=100	n=300	n=50	n=100	n=300
$\beta_{11}$	2	-0.003	0.001	-0.001	0.051	0.036	0.021	0.94	0.94	0.94
$\beta_{12}$	3	-0.001	0.002	0.001	0.061	0.044	0.025	0.94	0.94	0.95
$\beta_{21}$	10	-0.041	-0.013	-0.002	0.612	0.441	0.256	0.93	0.96	0.94
$\beta_{22}$	300	-0.137	-0.179	0.361	10.583	7.597	4.450	0.94	0.95	0.95
$\phi_{11}$	0.5	-0.017	-0.010	-0.004	0.134	0.097	0.057	0.88	0.91	0.92
$\phi_{12}$	2	-0.085	-0.062	-0.035	0.503	0.361	0.212	0.88	0.90	0.91
$\phi_{21}$	$\frac{1}{1}$	-0.035	-0.014	-0.009	0.267	0.194	0.113	0.88	0.92	0.91
$\phi_{22}$	10	-0.448	-0.264	-0.071	2.506	1.815	1.072	0.86	0.88	0.91
	-0.2	0.004	0.000	0.002	0.179	0.130	0.076	0.88	0.94	0.93
$ ho_1  ho_2$	0.5	-0.015	-0.008	-0.005	0.113	0.095	0.055	0.88	0.90	0.90
P 4	J.0	0.010	0.000			2.000				