

# A Generalized Focused Information Criterion for GMM Model and Moment Selection

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# Generalized Focused Information Criterion (GFIC)

## Purpose

Simultaneous Model and Moment Selection for GMM Estimation

## Main Idea

Choose model and moment conditions to yield minimum MSE estimator of user-specified target parameter **even if mis-specified**.

## Some Related Work

- ▶ GMM Model and Moment Selection (Andrews & Lu, 2001)
- ▶ Focused Moment Selection Criterion (DiTraglia, 2013)
- ▶ Focused Information Criterion (Claeskens & Hjort, 2003)

# Key Features of GFIC

## Select “Wrong” Specification on Purpose

- ▶ Choose specification to minimize MSE of associated estimator.
- ▶ Accept some bias in exchange for reduction in variance.

## Focused Selection

- ▶ Select based on MSE of user-specified target parameter  $\mu$
- ▶ Different Research Goal  $\Rightarrow$  Different Criterion

## Local Mis-specification

- ▶ Asymptotic MSE to approximate finite sample MSE
- ▶ Local asymptotics  $\Rightarrow$  bias-variance tradeoff in the limit

# GFIC Model & Moment Selection Framework

## Parameters

- ▶ Always estimate “protected” parameters  $\theta$
- ▶ Consider setting “nuisance” parameters  $\gamma$  equal to constant  $\gamma_0$

## Moment Conditions

- ▶ Block  $g$  is correctly specified (provided we estimate  $\gamma$ )
- ▶ Block  $h$  is possibly mis-specified (even if we estimate  $\gamma$ )

## Scalar Target Parameter

- ▶  $\mu = \phi(\theta, \gamma)$

## Model and Moment Selection

Which elements of  $\gamma$  to estimate, which MCs to use for minimum AMSE estimator of  $\mu$ ?

# GFIC Asymptotics: Local Mis-specification

## Triangular Array DGP (Only a Device!)

$$E \begin{bmatrix} g(Z_{ni}, \gamma_0 + \delta/\sqrt{n}, \theta_0) \\ h(Z_{ni}, \gamma_0 + \delta/\sqrt{n}, \theta_0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \tau/\sqrt{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

### $\delta$ Controls Model Mis-specification

- ▶ Restriction  $\gamma = \gamma_0$  is *false* for finite  $n$  unless  $\delta = 0$
- ▶ Model mis-specification disappears in the limit

### $\tau$ Controls Moment Mis-specification

- ▶ MCs in  $h$  are invalid for finite  $n$  unless  $\tau = 0$
- ▶ Moment mis-specification disappears in the limit

# Notation for Model and Moment Selection

## Model Selection

- ▶ Full set of parameter  $\beta = (\theta, \gamma)$
- ▶ Which elements of  $\gamma$  to estimate?
- ▶ Model Selection Vector  $b$  corresponds to  $\gamma$

## Moment Selection

- ▶ Full set of moment conditions  $f = (g, h)$
- ▶ Which MCs to use in estimation?
- ▶ Moment Selection Vector  $c$  corresponds to  $f$

## Putting Them Together

- ▶ A particular specification  $(b, c)$
- ▶ Set of all specifications considered  $\mathcal{BC}$

# Overview of GFIC Derivation

## Step 1 – Limit Distribution of GMM Estimator $\hat{\beta}(b, c)$

- ▶ Asymptotically Normal
- ▶ Biased unless  $\gamma$  estimated and no MCs from  $h$  used
- ▶ Smaller variance if  $\gamma$  set to  $\gamma_0$ , MCs from  $h$  used

## Step 2 – Associated Target Parameter Estimator $\hat{\mu}(b, c)$

- ▶ Asymptotically Normal, inherits bias-variance tradeoff
- ▶ AMSE ( $\hat{\mu}(b, c)$ ) depends on  $B = \begin{bmatrix} \tau\tau' & \tau\delta' \\ \delta\tau' & \delta\delta' \end{bmatrix}$

## Step 3 – GFIC is an Estimator of AMSE ( $\hat{\mu}(b, c)$ )

- ▶ Substitute asymptotically unbiased estimator  $\hat{B}$  of  $B$  and consistent estimators of everything else.

# Estimating $\delta, \tau$ – Overview

## Why is this difficult?

- ▶ Local mis-specification  $\Rightarrow$  no consistent estimators of  $\delta, \tau$
- ▶ Can construct asymptotically unbiased estimators
- ▶ Actually need to estimate  $B = \begin{bmatrix} \tau\tau' & \tau\delta' \\ \delta\tau' & \delta\delta' \end{bmatrix}$

## How and when can we proceed?

- ▶  $\hat{\beta}_v = (\hat{\theta}_v, \hat{\gamma}_v)$  estimates *all* parameters using *g only*
- ▶ Plug  $\hat{\beta}_v$  into sample analogue of *h* to estimate  $\tau/\sqrt{n}$
- ▶ Use  $(\hat{\gamma}_v - \gamma_0)$  to estimate  $\delta/\sqrt{n}$
- ▶ Bias correction to get asymptotically unbiased estimator of  $B$



# Estimating $\delta, \tau$ – Details

## Limit Distribution of Bias Parameter Estimators

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\delta} \\ \hat{\tau} \end{bmatrix} = \sqrt{n} \begin{bmatrix} (\hat{\gamma}_v - \gamma_0) \\ h_n(\hat{\beta}_v) \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow_d \begin{bmatrix} \delta \\ \tau \end{bmatrix} + \Psi N(0, \Omega)$$

- Both  $\Psi$  and  $\Omega$  can be estimated consistently!

## Asymptotically Unbiased Estimator of $B$

$$\begin{aligned} B &= \begin{bmatrix} \tau\tau' & \tau\delta' \\ \delta\tau' & \delta\delta' \end{bmatrix} \\ \hat{B} &= \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\tau}\hat{\tau}' & \hat{\tau}\hat{\delta}' \\ \hat{\delta}\hat{\tau}' & \hat{\delta}\hat{\delta}' \end{bmatrix} - \hat{\Psi}\hat{\Omega}\hat{\Psi}' \end{aligned}$$

# Using the GFIC Framework

## Model and Moment Selection

- ▶ Calculate  $\widehat{\text{AMSE}}(\hat{\mu}(b, c))$  for each  $(b, c) \in \mathcal{BC}$
- ▶ Choose the specification with the lowest AMSE estimate.

## Model and Moment Averaging

- ▶ Use AMSE estimates to construct data-dependent weights:

$$\hat{\mu} = \sum_{(b,c) \in \mathcal{BC}} \hat{w}(b, c) \hat{\mu}(b, c)$$

- ▶ Alternatively, derive (or estimate) AMSE-optimal weights

## Inference

- ▶ Correct CIs for post-selection and averaging estimators.

# Simple Dynamic Panel Example – Large $N$ , Small $T$

## True Data Generating Process

$$y_{it} = \gamma y_{it-1} + \theta x_{it} + \eta_i + v_{it}$$

- ▶ Dynamics unless  $\gamma = 0$  (assume stationary)
- ▶ Correlated individual effects  $\eta_i \Rightarrow$  estimate in differences
- ▶ Regressor  $x_{it}$  predetermined but *not* strictly exogenous

## Goal – Estimate $\theta$ with minimum MSE

- ▶ Model Selection Decision: set  $\gamma = 0$ ?
- ▶ Moment Selection Decision: treat  $x_{it}$  as strictly exogenous?

# Anderson & Hsiao—esque 2SLS Estimators (1982)

LW Moment Conditions:

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} y_{i,t-2} \\ x_{i,t-1} \end{pmatrix} (\Delta y_{it} - \gamma \Delta y_{i,t-1} - \theta \Delta x_{it}) \right] = 0, \text{ for } t = 3, \dots, T$$

LS Adds the Moment Conditions:

$$\mathbb{E} [x_{it} (\Delta y_{it} - \gamma \Delta y_{i,t-1} - \theta \Delta x_{it})] = 0, \text{ for } t = 3, \dots, T$$

Only the LW conditions are correct

# Anderson & Hsiao—esque 2SLS Estimators (1982)

W Moment Conditions:

$$\mathbb{E}[x_{i,t-1}(\Delta y_{it} - \theta \Delta x_{it})] = 0, \text{ for } t = 2, \dots, T$$

S Adds the Moment Conditions:

$$\mathbb{E}[x_{it}(\Delta y_{it} - \theta \Delta x_{it})] = 0, \text{ for } t = 2, \dots, T$$

None of these moment conditions are correct

# Why Use an Incorrect Specification?

$$\Delta y_{it} = \gamma \Delta y_{it-1} + \theta \Delta x_{it} + \Delta v_{it}$$

## Wrong Model

- ▶  $\gamma$  small  $\implies$  ignore dynamics
- ▶ Adds small bias
- ▶ Large efficiency gain from from additional time period
- ▶ Further efficiency gain from one fewer parameter

## Invalid MCs

- ▶  $E[x_{it} v_{it-1}]$  small  $\implies$  add  $x_{it}$  as instrument for period  $t$
- ▶ Adds small bias
- ▶ Large efficiency gain since  $x_{it}$  is a strong instrument for  $\Delta x_{it}$

# Simulation Setup

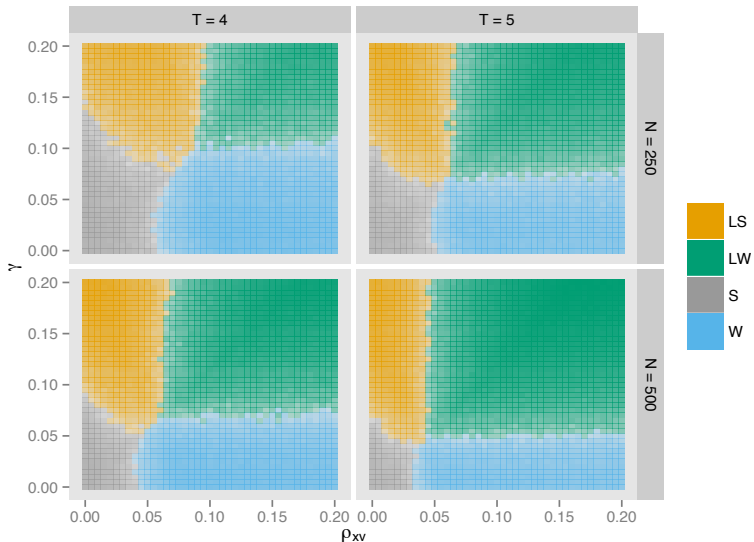
Similar to Andrews & Lu (2001)

- ▶  $y_{i0} = 0$
- ▶  $y_{it} = \gamma y_{it-1} + 0.5x_{it} + \eta_i + v_{it} \quad (t = 1, \dots, T)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ \eta_i \\ v_i \end{bmatrix} \sim \text{iid } N \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0_T \\ 0 \\ 0_T \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} I_T & 0.2I_T & \sigma_{xv}\Gamma \\ 0.2I_T' & 1 & 0_T' \\ \sigma_{xv}\Gamma' & 0_T & I_T \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

- ▶  $E[x_{it}v_{it-1}] = \sigma_{xv}$  but  $E[x_{it}v_{is}] = 0, s \neq t-1$

Vary  $\gamma$  and  $\sigma_{xv}$  over a grid



**Figure:** Minimum RMSE Specification at each combination of parameter values. Shading gives RMSE relative to second best specification.



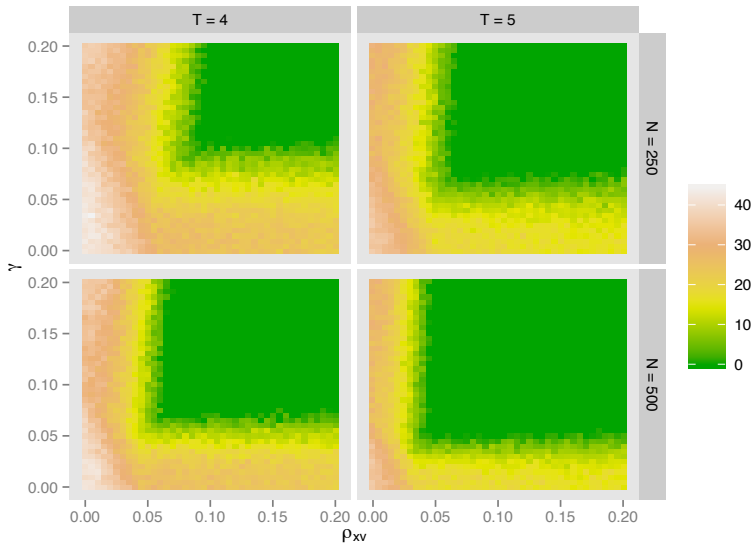


Figure: % RMSE Advantage of Best Specification (vs. LW)

	$N = 250$		$N = 500$	
	$T = 4$	$T = 5$	$T = 4$	$T = 5$
LW	19	10	13	7
LS	30	44	54	79
W	24	34	46	64
S	31	50	64	94
<b>GFIC</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>
J-test 10%	32	45	55	74
J-test 5%	31	47	57	79
GMM-BIC	32	48	62	87
GMM-HQ	32	46	57	77
GMM-AIC	31	39	47	57

**Table:** Average RMSE minus Pointwise Optimal (% points)

	$N = 250$		$N = 500$	
	$T = 4$	$T = 5$	$T = 4$	$T = 5$
<b>LW</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
LS	42	81	94	154
W	49	88	105	158
S	48	92	107	171
<b>GFIC</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>
J-test 10%	43	78	91	140
J-test 5%	45	83	98	153
GMM-BIC	48	89	106	168
GMM-HQ	46	85	102	154
GMM-AIC	39	68	81	118

**Table:** Worst-case RMSE minus Minimax Optimal (% points)

# Generalized Focused Information Criterion

## Purpose

Simultaneous Model and Moment Selection for GMM Estimation

## Key Features

- ▶ Local mis-specification framework
- ▶ Estimator of AMSE of user-specified target parameter
- ▶ Focused Selection
- ▶ Select “wrong” specification on purpose
- ▶ Works well in simulations

## Points I Didn't Emphasize Today

- ▶ Provides framework for model and moment averaging
- ▶ Correct confidence intervals

# Extensions and Future Work

- ▶ More on inference/averaging
- ▶ AMSE-optimal averaging of OLS and IV estimators
- ▶ Risk functions besides MSE
- ▶ Covariate Choice in Treatment Assignment Problems (with Debopam Battacharya)

# Supplementary Material

## Competing Procedure: Downward J-test

1. Use S unless J-test rejects.
2. If S rejected, use W unless J-test rejects.
3. If W rejected, use LS unless J-test rejects.
4. Only use LW if all others rejected.

# Competing Procedures: Andrews & Lu (2001)

## J-test Statistic Minus Penalty Term

$$\text{BIC-Type} \quad J - (|c| - |b|) \log n$$

$$\text{AIC-Type} \quad J - 2(|c| - |b|)$$

$$\text{HQ-Type} \quad J - 2.01(|c| - |b|) \log \log n$$

where  $|b|$  is the number of parameters estimated, and  $|c|$  the number of moment conditions used. We select the specification with the lowest value of the criterion.



Average RMSE	$N = 250$		$N = 500$	
	$T = 4$	$T = 5$	$T = 4$	$T = 5$
LW	0.073	0.057	0.051	0.040
LS	0.079	0.074	0.070	0.066
W	0.075	0.069	0.066	0.061
S	0.080	0.077	0.074	0.072
GFIC	0.071	0.058	0.052	0.041
Downward J-test (10%)	0.080	0.074	0.070	0.065
Downward J-test (5%)	0.080	0.075	0.071	0.067
GMM-BIC	0.080	0.076	0.073	0.069
GMM-HQ	0.080	0.075	0.071	0.066
GMM-AIC	0.080	0.071	0.066	0.058

Worst-Case RMSE	$N = 250$		$N = 500$	
	$T = 4$	$T = 5$	$T = 4$	$T = 5$
LW	0.084	0.064	0.059	0.045
LS	0.120	0.116	0.115	0.113
W	0.125	0.120	0.122	0.115
S	0.125	0.123	0.122	0.121
GFIC	0.087	0.069	0.063	0.049
Downward J-test (10%)	0.120	0.114	0.113	0.107
Downward J-test (5%)	0.122	0.117	0.117	0.113
GMM-BIC	0.125	0.121	0.122	0.119
GMM-HQ	0.123	0.118	0.120	0.113
GMM-AIC	0.117	0.107	0.107	0.097

# Notation

## Sample Analogue of Moment Conditions

$$f_n(\beta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(Z_{ni}, \gamma, \theta) = \begin{bmatrix} g_n(\beta) \\ h_n(\beta) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n g(Z_{ni}, \gamma, \theta) \\ n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n h(Z_{ni}, \gamma, \theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

## PSD Weighting Matrix

$$\widetilde{W} = \begin{bmatrix} \widetilde{W}_{gg} & \widetilde{W}_{gh} \\ \widetilde{W}_{hg} & \widetilde{W}_{hh} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Estimators

Each model/moment selection pair  $(b, c) \in \mathcal{BC}$  defines a GMM estimator

$$\hat{\beta}(b, c) = \arg \min_{\beta^{(b)} \in \mathbf{B}^{(b)}} \left[ \Xi_c f_n \left( \beta^{(b)}, \gamma_0^{(-b)} \right) \right]' \left[ \Xi_c \widetilde{W} \Xi_c' \right] \left[ \Xi_c f_n \left( \beta^{(b)}, \gamma_0^{(-b)} \right) \right]$$

Under local mis-specification, *each* of these yields a consistent estimator of  $\theta$ . Estimators based on an incorrect specification, however, show a bias in their limiting distributions.

## More Notation

$$F = \begin{bmatrix} \nabla_{\gamma'} g(Z, \gamma_0, \theta_0) & \nabla_{\theta'} g(Z, \gamma_0, \theta_0) \\ \nabla_{\gamma'} h(Z, \gamma_0, \theta_0) & \nabla_{\theta'} h(Z, \gamma_0, \theta_0) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$F = \begin{bmatrix} F_{\gamma} & F_{\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} G_{\gamma} & G_{\theta} \\ H_{\gamma} & H_{\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} G \\ H \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Omega = \text{Var} \begin{bmatrix} g(Z, \gamma_0, \theta_0) \\ h(Z, \gamma_0, \theta_0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Omega_{gg} & \Omega_{gh} \\ \Omega_{hg} & \Omega_{hh} \end{bmatrix}$$

N.B. These expressions involve the limiting random variable  $Z$  rather than  $Z_{ni}$  so expectations are taken with respect to a distribution for which all MCs have expectation zero at  $(\gamma_0, \theta_0)$ .

## Theorem (Asymptotic Distribution)

$$\sqrt{n} \left( \widehat{\beta}(b, c) - \beta_0^{(b)} \right) \rightarrow_d -K(b, c) \Xi_c \left( \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{N}_g \\ \mathcal{N}_h \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \tau \end{bmatrix} - F_\gamma \delta \right)$$

where  $\beta_0^{(b)'} = (\theta_0, \gamma_0^{(b)})$ ,

$$K(b, c) = [F(b, c)' W_c F(b, c)]^{-1} F(b, c)' W_c$$

and

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{N}_g \\ \mathcal{N}_h \end{bmatrix} \sim N \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Omega_{gg} & \Omega_{gh} \\ \Omega_{hg} & \Omega_{hh} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

## Corollary

$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\mu}(b, c) - \mu_n)$  converges in distribution to

$$-\nabla_{\beta}\varphi'_0\Xi'_bK(b, c)\Xi_c\left(\begin{bmatrix}\mathcal{N}_g \\ \mathcal{N}_h\end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix}0 \\ \tau\end{bmatrix} - F_{\gamma}\delta\right) - \nabla_{\gamma}\varphi'_0\delta$$

where  $\varphi_0 = \varphi(\gamma_0, \theta_0)$ ,  $\mu_n = \phi(\theta_0, \gamma_n)$ .

- ▶ AMSE ( $\hat{\mu}$ ) comes as immediate consequence of this result
- ▶ Usual estimators of  $K$ , etc. consistent under local mis-spec.
- ▶ The problem is  $\tau, \delta$

## How and When Can We Estimate $\tau$ and $\delta$ ?

No consistent estimators exist under local mis-spec. but we can construct asymptotically unbiased estimators provided:

1. There are enough moment conditions in  $g$  to identify the full parameter vector  $\rightarrow$  Valid Estimator  $\hat{\beta}_v = (\hat{\gamma}_v, \hat{\theta}_v)'$ .
2. It is possible to evaluate  $h_n$ , sample analogue of “suspect” MCs, at  $\hat{\beta}_v$ . (This is usually trivial.)



# Estimating $\delta$

## Corollary (Asymptotic Distribution of Valid Estimator)

$$\sqrt{n} \left( \hat{\beta}_v - \beta_0 \right) = \sqrt{n} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\gamma}_v - \gamma_0 \\ \hat{\theta}_v - \theta_0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow_d \begin{bmatrix} \delta \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - K_v \mathcal{N}_g$$

where  $K_v = [G' W_{gg} G]^{-1} G' W_{gg}$  and  $W_{gg} = \text{plim}_{N \rightarrow \infty} \widetilde{W}_{gg}$ .

This immediately provides asymptotically unbiased estimator of  $\delta$ , namely  $\hat{\delta} = \sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_v - \gamma_0)$  since  $\gamma_0$  is known and  $\mathcal{N}_g$  is mean-zero.

# Estimating $\tau$

Lemma (Asymptotically Unbiased Estimator of  $\tau$ )

$$\hat{\tau} = \sqrt{n}h_n \left( \hat{\beta}_v \right) \rightarrow_d \tau - HK_v \mathcal{N}_g + \mathcal{N}_h$$

where  $K_v = [G'W_{gg}G]^{-1} G'W_{gg}$ .

This results gives asymptotically unbiased estimator of  $\tau$  since  $\mathcal{N}_g$  and  $\mathcal{N}_h$  mean zero.

## But AMSE Requires *Squared Bias*

Rewriting the Expression from Above:

$$\text{BIAS}(\hat{\mu}(b, c))^2 = \nabla_{\beta} \varphi'_0 M(b, c) \begin{bmatrix} \tau\tau' & \tau\delta' \\ \delta\tau' & \delta\delta' \end{bmatrix} M(b, c)' \nabla_{\beta} \varphi_0$$

where

$$M(b, c) = \Xi'_b K(b, c) \Xi_c \begin{bmatrix} -G_{\gamma} & 0 \\ -H_{\gamma} & I \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} I_r & 0_{r \times q} \\ 0_{p \times r} & 0_{s \times q} \end{bmatrix}$$

### Problem

Although  $(\hat{\delta}, \hat{\tau})$  are asymptotically unbiased estimators of  $(\delta, \tau)$ ,  $\hat{\delta}\hat{\delta}'$  is not an asymptotically unbiased estimator of  $\delta\delta'$  and  $(\hat{\tau}\hat{\tau}', \hat{\tau}\hat{\delta}')$  are not asymptotically unbiased estimators of  $(\tau\tau', \tau\delta')$ .

## Joint Distribution of $(\hat{\delta}, \hat{\tau})$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\delta} \\ \hat{\tau} \end{bmatrix} = \sqrt{n} \begin{bmatrix} (\hat{\gamma}_v - \gamma_0) \\ h_n(\hat{\beta}_v) \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow_d \begin{bmatrix} \delta \\ \tau \end{bmatrix} + \Psi \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{N}_g \\ \mathcal{N}_h \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$\Psi = \begin{bmatrix} -K_v^\gamma & \mathbf{0} \\ -HK_v & I \end{bmatrix}$$

Each of the quantities in the matrix pre-multiplying  $(\mathcal{N}_g', \mathcal{N}_h')'$  is consistently estimable under local mis-specification, as is the variance matrix of  $(\mathcal{N}_g', \mathcal{N}_h')'$ .

## Bias Correction

Provided that  $\hat{\Psi}$  and  $\hat{\Omega}$  are consistent estimators of  $\Psi$  and  $\Omega$ ,

$$\hat{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\tau}\hat{\tau}' & \hat{\tau}\hat{\delta}' \\ \hat{\delta}\hat{\tau}' & \hat{\delta}\hat{\delta}' \end{bmatrix} - \hat{\Psi}\hat{\Omega}\hat{\Psi}'$$

is an asymptotically unbiased estimator of the squared bias matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tau\tau' & \tau\delta' \\ \delta\tau' & \delta\delta' \end{bmatrix}.$$

## GFIC: Asymptotically Unbiased Estimator of AMSE

$$\text{GFIC}(b, c) = \widehat{\text{AVAR}}(b, c) + \widehat{\text{ABIAS}}^2(b, c)$$

$$\widehat{\text{AVAR}}(b, c) = \nabla_{\beta} \hat{\varphi}_0' \Xi_b' \hat{K}(b, c) \hat{\Omega}_c \hat{K}(b, c)' \Xi_b \nabla_{\beta} \hat{\varphi}_0'$$

$$\widehat{\text{ABIAS}}^2(b, c) = \nabla_{\beta} \hat{\varphi}_0' \hat{M}(b, c) \hat{B} \hat{M}(b, c) \nabla_{\beta} \hat{\varphi}_0'$$

$$\hat{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\tau} \hat{\tau}' & \hat{\tau} \hat{\delta}' \\ \hat{\delta} \hat{\tau}' & \hat{\delta} \hat{\delta}' \end{bmatrix} - \hat{\psi} \hat{\Omega} \hat{\psi}'$$

We choose the specification  $(b^*, c^*)$  that minimizes the value of the GFIC over the candidate set  $\mathcal{BC}$ .

# Post Selection Inference / Model Averaging

Consider an estimator of the form

$$\hat{\mu} = \sum_{(b,c) \in \mathcal{BC}} \hat{\omega}(b,c) \hat{\mu}(b,c)$$

where  $\hat{\omega}(b,c)$  is a set of data-dependent weights

# Requirements for the Weights

Let  $\hat{\omega}(b, c)$  be a function of the data  $Z_{n1}, \dots, Z_{nn}$  and  $(b, c)$  satisfying

- (a)  $\sum_{(b,c) \in \mathcal{BC}} \hat{\omega}(b, c) = 1$
- (b)  $\hat{\omega}(b, c) \rightarrow_d \psi(\mathcal{N}, \delta, \tau | b, c)$  jointly for all  $(b, c) \in \mathcal{BC}$  where  $\psi$  is a function of the normal random vector  $\mathcal{N}$ , the bias parameters  $\delta$  and  $\tau$ , and consistently estimable quantities only.

Covers GFIC, J-test, Andrews & Lu (2001), etc.



# Limit Distribution of Averaging Estimator

Since the weights sum to one:

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\mu} - \mu_n) = \sum_{(b,c) \in \mathcal{BC}} \hat{\omega}(b,c) \sqrt{n}(\hat{\mu}(b,c) - \mu_n)$$

and  $\hat{\omega}(b,c), \hat{\mu}(b,c)$  converge *jointly* for all  $(b,c) \in \mathcal{BC}$

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\mu} - \mu_n) \rightarrow_d \Lambda(\tau, \delta)$$

where

$$\Lambda(\tau, \delta) = -\nabla_{\beta} \varphi'_0 \sum_{(b,c) \in \mathcal{BC}} \psi(\mathcal{N}, \delta, \tau | b, c) \left\{ \Xi'_b K(b, c) \Xi_c \mathcal{N} + M(b, c) \begin{bmatrix} \delta \\ \tau \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Non-normal limit distribution that depends on  $(\delta, \tau)$

## Suppose $(\delta, \tau)$ Known

- (i) For each  $j = 1, 2, \dots, J$ , generate  $\mathcal{N}_j \sim N(0, \hat{\Omega})$
- (ii) For each for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, J$  set

$$\Lambda_j(\tau, \delta) = -\nabla_{\beta} \hat{\varphi}'_0 \sum_{(b,c) \in \mathcal{BC}} \hat{\psi}(\mathcal{N}_j, \delta, \tau | b, c) \left\{ \Xi'_b \hat{K}(b, c) \Xi_c \mathcal{N}_j + \hat{M}(b, c) \begin{bmatrix} \delta \\ \tau \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

- (iii) Using  $\{\Lambda_j(\delta, \tau)\}_{j=1}^J$ , calculate  $\hat{a}(\delta, \tau)$ ,  $\hat{b}(\delta, \tau)$  such that

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ \hat{a}(\delta, \tau) \leq \Lambda(\delta, \tau) \leq \hat{b}(\delta, \tau) \right\} = 1 - \alpha$$

## Accounting for Estimated $(\delta, \tau)$

Let  $R(\alpha_1)$  be a  $(1 - \alpha_1) \times 100\%$  confidence region for  $(\delta, \tau)$ .

1. For each  $(\delta, \tau) \in R(\alpha_1)$  construct a confidence interval

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ \hat{a}(\delta, \tau) \leq \Lambda(\delta, \tau) \leq \hat{b}(\delta, \tau) \right\} = 1 - \alpha_2$$

using the simulation procedure from the previous slide.

2. Define

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{a}_{min}(\hat{\delta}, \hat{\tau}) &= \min_{(\delta, \tau) \in R(\alpha_1)} \hat{a}(\delta, \tau) \\ \hat{b}_{max}(\hat{\delta}, \hat{\tau}) &= \max_{(\delta, \tau) \in R(\alpha_1)} \hat{b}(\delta, \tau) \end{aligned}$$

3. The following CI has asymptotic coverage of *at least*  $1 - (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$

$$CI_{sim} = \left[ \hat{\mu} - \frac{\hat{b}_{max}(\hat{\delta}, \hat{\tau})}{\sqrt{n}}, \quad \hat{\mu} - \frac{\hat{a}_{min}(\hat{\delta}, \hat{\tau})}{\sqrt{n}} \right]$$