



Network and panel quantile effects via distribution regression[☆]

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 12 September 2019

Received in revised form 8 June 2020

Accepted 3 August 2020

Available online 19 October 2020

Keywords:

Quantile effects

Counterfactual distributions

Fixed effects

Incidental parameter problem

Long panels

ABSTRACT

This paper provides a method to construct simultaneous confidence bands for quantile functions and quantile effects in nonlinear network and panel models with unobserved two-way effects, strictly exogenous covariates, and possibly discrete outcome variables. The method is based upon projection of simultaneous confidence bands for distribution functions constructed from fixed effects distribution regression estimators. These fixed effects estimators are debiased to deal with the incidental parameter problem. Under asymptotic sequences where both dimensions of the data set grow at the same rate, the confidence bands for the quantile functions and effects have correct joint coverage in large samples. An empirical application to gravity models of trade illustrates the applicability of the methods to network data.

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1. Introduction

Standard regression analyzes average effects of covariates on outcome variables. In many applications it is equally important to consider distributional effects. For example, a policy maker might be interested in the effect of an education reform not only on the mean but also the entire distribution of test scores or wages. Availability of panel data is very useful to identify *ceteris paribus* average and distributional effects because it allows the researcher to control for multiple sources of unobserved heterogeneity that might cause endogeneity or omitted variable problems. The idea is to use variation of the covariates over time for each individual or over individuals for each time period to account for unobserved individual and time effects. In this paper we develop inference methods for distributional effects in nonlinear models with two-way unobserved effects. They apply not only to traditional panel data models where the unobserved effects correspond to individual and time fixed effects, but also to models for other types of data where the unobserved effects reflect some grouping structure such as unobserved sender and receiver effects in network data models. The unobserved effects will be treated as fixed effects, i.e. parameters to be estimated, leaving their relation to observed covariates unrestricted.

[☆] Initial Discussion: 7/8/2015. We thank the editor Xiaohong Chen, two anonymous referees, Manuel Arellano, Joao Santos Silva and seminar participants at Bonn, Boston College, Bristol, Cemfi, Chicago, 2017 EEA-ESEM Conference, Humboldt, Northwestern, Princeton, Surrey, UC-Davis, UC-Irvine, USC, UConn New Frontiers in Econometrics Conference, York, UvA-Econometrics Panel Data Workshop, and Berkeley/CeMMAP Conference on Networks for comments. Gianluca Russo and Siyi Luo provided capable research assistance. Financial support from the National Science Foundation, Economic and Social Research Council through the ESRC Centre for Microdata Methods and Practice grant RES-589-28-0001, and European Research Council grants ERC-2014-CoG-646917-ROMIA and ERC-2018-CoG-819086-PANEDA is gratefully acknowledged.

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We develop inference methods for quantile functions and effects. The quantile function corresponds to the marginal distribution of the outcome in a counterfactual scenario where the treatment covariate of interest is set exogenously at a desired level and the rest of the covariates and unobserved effects are held fixed, extending the construction of Chernozhukov et al. (2013b) for the cross section case. The quantile effect is the difference of quantile functions at two different treatment levels. Our methods apply to continuous and discrete treatments by appropriate choice of the treatment levels, and have causal interpretation under standard unconfoundedness assumptions for panel data. The inference is based upon the generic method of Chernozhukov et al. (2020) that projects joint confidence bands for distributions into joint confidence bands for quantile functions and effects. This method has the appealing feature that applies without modification to any type of outcome, let it be continuous, discrete or mixed.

The key input for the inference method is a joint confidence band for the counterfactual distributions at the treatment levels of interest. We construct this band from fixed effects distribution regression (FE-DR) estimators of the conditional distribution of the outcome given the observed covariates and unobserved effects. In doing so, we extend the distribution regression approach to model conditional distributions with unobserved effects. This version of the DR model is semiparametric because not only the DR coefficients can vary with the level of the outcome as in the cross section case, but also the distribution of the unobserved effects is left unspecified. We show that the FE-DR estimator can be obtained as a sequence of binary response fixed effects estimators where the binary response is an indicator of the outcome passing some threshold. To deal with the incidental parameter problem associated with the estimation of the unobserved effects (Neyman and Scott, 1948), we extend the analytical bias corrections of Fernández-Val and Weidner (2016) for single binary response estimators to multiple (possibly a continuum) of binary response estimators. In particular, the main technical contribution is to establish functional central limit theorems for the fixed effects estimators of the DR coefficients and associated counterfactual distributions, and show the validity of the bias corrections under asymptotic sequences where the two dimensions of the data set pass to infinity at the same rate. As in the single binary response model, the bias corrections remove the asymptotic bias of the fixed effects estimators without increasing their asymptotic variances.

We implement the inference method using multiplier bootstrap (Giné and Zinn, 1984). This version of bootstrap constructs draws of an estimator as weighted averages of its influence function, where the weights are independent from the data. Compared to empirical bootstrap, multiplier bootstrap has the computational advantage that it does not involve any parameter reestimation. This advantage is particularly convenient in our setting because the parameter estimation requires multiple nonlinear optimizations that can be highly dimensional due to the fixed effects. Multiplier bootstrap is also convenient to account for data dependencies. In network data, for example, it might be important to account for reciprocity or pairwise clustering. Reciprocity arises because observational units corresponding to the same pair of agents but reversing their roles as sender and receiver might be dependent even after conditioning on the unobserved effects. By setting the weights of these observational units equal, we account for this dependence in the multiplier bootstrap. In addition to the previous practical reasons, there are some theoretical reasons for choosing multiplier bootstrap. Thus, Chernozhukov et al. (2016) established bootstrap functional central limit theorems for multiplier bootstrap in high dimensional settings that cover the network and panel models that we consider.

The methods developed in this paper apply to models that include unobserved effects to capture grouping or clustering structures in the data such as models for panel and network data. These effects allow us to control for unobserved group heterogeneity that might be related to the covariates causing endogeneity or omitted variable bias. They also serve to parsimoniously account for dependencies in the data. We illustrate the wide applicability with an empirical example to gravity models of trade. In this case the outcome is the volume of trade between two countries and each observational unit corresponds to a country pair indexed by exporter country (sender) and importer country (receiver). We estimate the distributional effects of gravity variables such as the geographical distance controlling for exporter and importer country effects that pick up unobserved heterogeneity possibly correlated with the gravity variables. We uncover significant heterogeneity in the effects of distance and other gravity variables across the distribution, which is missed by traditional mean methods. We also find that the Poisson model, which is commonly used in the trade literature to deal with zero trade in many country pairs, does not provide a good approximation to the distribution of the volume of trade due to heavy tails.

Literature review. Unlike mean effects, there are different ways to define distributional and quantile effects. For example, we can distinguish conditional effects versus unconditional or marginalized effects, or quantile effects versus quantiles of the effects. Here we give a brief review of the recent literature on distributional and quantile effects in panel data models emphasizing the following aspects: (1) type of effect considered; (2) type of unobserved effects in the model; and (3) asymptotic approximation. For the unobserved effects, we distinguish models with one-way effects versus two-way effects. For the asymptotic approximation we distinguish short panels with large N and fixed T versus long panels with large N and large T , where N and T denote the dimensions of the panel. We focus mainly on fixed effects approaches where the unobserved effects are treated as parameters to be estimated, but also mention some correlated random effects approaches that impose restrictions on the distribution of the unobserved effects. This paper deals with inference on marginalized quantile effects in large panels with two-way effects, which has not been previously considered in the literature. Indeed, to the best of our knowledge, it is the first paper to provide inference methods for quantile treatment effects from panel and network models with two-way fixed effects.

Koenker (2004) introduced fixed effects quantile regression estimators of conditional quantile effects in large panel models with one-way individual effects using shrinkage to control the variability in the estimation of the unobserved

effects. Lamarche (2010) discussed the optimal choice of a tuning parameter in Koenker's method. In the same framework, Kato et al. (2012), Galvao et al. (2013), Kato and Galvao (2016) and Arellano and Weidner (2016) considered fixed effects quantile regression estimators without shrinkage and developed bias corrections. All these papers require that T pass to infinity faster than N , making it difficult to extend the theory to models with two-way individual and time effects. Graham et al. (2009) found a special case where the fixed effects quantile regression estimator does not suffer of incidental parameter problem. Machado and Santos Silva (2019) have recently proposed a method to estimate conditional quantile effects in a location-scale model via moments.

In short panels, Rosen (2012) showed that a linear quantile restriction is not sufficient to point identify conditional effects in a panel linear quantile regression model with unobserved individual effects. Chernozhukov et al. (2013a) and Chernozhukov et al. (2015) discussed identification and estimation of marginalized quantile effects in nonseparable panel models with unobserved individual effects and location and scale time effects under a time homogeneity assumption. They showed that the effects are point identified only for some subpopulations and characterized these subpopulations. Graham et al. (2018) considered quantiles of effects in linear quantile regression models with two-way effects. Finally, Abrevaya and Dahl (2008) and Arellano and Bonhomme (2016) developed estimators for conditional quantile effects in linear quantile regression model with unobserved individual effects using correlated random effects approaches. None of the previous quantile regression based methods apply to discrete outcomes.

Finally, we review previous applications of panel data methods to network data. These include Candelaria (2016), Charbonneau (2017), Cruz-Gonzalez et al. (2017), Dzemski (2019), Fernandez-Val and Weidner (2016), Wayne Yuan Gao (2020), Graham (2016, 2017), Jochmans (2018), Toth (2017), and Yan et al. (2019), who developed methods for models of network formation with unobserved sender and receiver effects for directed and undirected networks.¹ None of these papers consider estimation of quantile effects as the outcome variable is binary, whether or not a link is formed between two agents.

Plan of the paper. Section 2 introduces the distribution regression model with unobserved effects for network and panel data, and describes the quantities of interest including model parameters, distributions, quantiles and quantile effects. Section 3 discusses fixed effects estimation, bias corrections to deal with the incidental parameter problem, and uniform inference methods. Section 4 provides asymptotic theory for the fixed effects estimators, bias corrections, and multiplier bootstrap. Sections 5 and 6 report results of the empirical application to the gravity models of trade and a Monte Carlo simulation calibrated to the application, respectively. The proofs of the main results are given in the Appendix, and additional technical results are provided in the Supplementary Appendix.

Notation. For any two real numbers a and b , $a \vee b = \max\{a, b\}$ and $a \wedge b = \min\{a, b\}$. For a real number a , $\lfloor a \rfloor$ denotes the integer part of a . For a set \mathcal{A} , $|\mathcal{A}|$ denotes the cardinality or number of elements of \mathcal{A} .

2. Model and parameters of interest

2.1. Distribution regression model with unobserved effects

We observe the data set $\{(y_{ij}, x_{ij}) : (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}\}$, where y_{ij} is a scalar outcome variable with region of interest \mathcal{Y} , and x_{ij} is a vector of covariates with support $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d_x}$.² The variable y_{ij} can be discrete, continuous or mixed. The subscripts i and j index individuals and time periods in traditional panels, but they might index other dimensions in more general data structures. In our empirical application, for example, we use a panel where y_{ij} is the volume of trade between country i and country j , and x_{ij} includes gravity variables such as the distance between country i and country j . Both i and j index countries as exporters and importers respectively. The set \mathcal{D} contains the indexes of the pairs (i, j) that are observed. It is a subset of the set of all possible pairs $\mathcal{D}_0 := \{(i, j) : i = 1, \dots, I; j = 1, \dots, J\}$, where I and J are the dimensions of the panel. We introduce \mathcal{D} to allow for certain forms of missing data that are common in panel and network applications, see Assumption 1(v) in Section 4. For example, in the trade application $I = J$ and $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_0 \setminus \{(i, i) : i = 1, \dots, I\}$ because we do not observe trade of a country with itself. We denote the total number of observed units by n , i.e. $n = |\mathcal{D}|$.

Let v_i and w_j denote vectors of unspecified dimension that contain unobserved random variables or effects that might be related to the covariates x_{ij} . In traditional panels, v_i are individual effects that capture unobserved individual heterogeneity and w_j are time effects that account for aggregate shocks. More generally, these variables serve to capture some forms of endogeneity and group dependencies in a parsimonious fashion. We specify the conditional distribution of y_{ij} given (x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) using the *distribution regression (DR) model with unobserved effects*

$$F_{y_{ij}}(y | x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) = \Lambda_y(P(x_{ij})'\beta(y) + \alpha(v_i, y) + \gamma(w_j, y)), \quad y \in \mathcal{Y}, \quad (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}, \quad (1)$$

where Λ_y is a known link function such as the normal or logistic distribution, which may vary with y , $x \mapsto P(x)$ is a dictionary of transformations of x such as polynomials, b-splines and tensor products, $\beta(y)$ is an unknown parameter vector, which can vary with y , and $(v, y) \mapsto \alpha(v, y)$ and $(w, y) \mapsto \gamma(w, y)$ are unspecified measurable functions. This DR model is a semiparametric model for the conditional distribution because $y \mapsto \theta(y) :=$

¹ We refer to de Paula (2020) for an excellent up to date review on this topic.

² If y_{ij} has unbounded support, then the region \mathcal{Y} is usually a subset of the support to avoid tail estimation.

$(\beta(y), \alpha(v_1, y), \dots, \alpha(v_l, y), \gamma(w_1, y), \dots, \gamma(w_j, y))$ is a function-valued parameter and the dimension of $\theta(y)$ varies with l and j , although we do not make this dependence explicit. We shall treat the dimension of $P(x)$ as fixed and set Λ_y equal to the logistic distribution for all y in the asymptotic analysis.

When y_{ij} is continuous, the model (1) has the following representation as an implicit nonseparable model by the probability integral transform

$$\Lambda_{y_{ij}}(P(x_{ij})'\beta(y_{ij}) + \alpha(v_i, y_{ij}) + \gamma(w_j, y_{ij})) = u_{ij}, \quad u_{ij} \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j \sim U(0, 1),$$

where the error u_{ij} represents the unobserved ranking of the observation y_{ij} in the conditional distribution. The parameters of the model are related to derivatives of the conditional quantiles. Let $Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)$ be the u -quantile of y_{ij} conditional on (x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) defined as the left-inverse of $y \mapsto F_{y_{ij}}(y \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)$ at u , namely

$$Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) = \inf\{y \in \mathcal{Y} : F_{y_{ij}}(y \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) \geq u\} \wedge \sup\{y \in \mathcal{Y}\},$$

and $x_{ij} = (x_{ij}^1, \dots, x_{ij}^{d_x})$.³ Then, it can be shown that if $y \mapsto F_{y_{ij}}(y \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)$ is strictly increasing in the support of y_{ij} , $\partial \Lambda_y(z)/\partial z > 0$ for all y in the support of y_{ij} and $x_{ij} \mapsto Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)$ is differentiable,⁴

$$\left. \frac{\partial_{x_{ij}^k} P(x_{ij})'\beta(y)}{y=Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)} \right|_{y=Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)} \propto -\partial_{x_{ij}^k} Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j), \quad k = 1, \dots, d_x, \quad \partial_{x_{ij}^k} := \partial/\partial x_{ij}^k.$$

If $P(x_{ij}) = x_{ij}$, then $\partial_{x_{ij}^k} P(x_{ij})'\beta(y) = \beta_k(y)$ such that

$$\left. \frac{\beta_\ell(y)}{\beta_k(y)} \right|_{y=Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)} = \frac{\partial_{x_{ij}^\ell} Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)}{\partial_{x_{ij}^k} Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)}, \quad \ell, k = 1, \dots, d_x,$$

provided that $\partial_{x_{ij}^k} Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) \neq 0$. The DR coefficients therefore are proportional to (minus) derivatives of the conditional quantile function, and ratios of DR coefficients correspond to ratios of derivatives.

Remark 1 (Parametric Models). There are many parametric models that are special cases of the DR model. Thus, Chernozhukov et al. (2013b) and Chernozhukov et al. (2020) showed that the standard linear model, Cox proportional hazard model and Poisson regression model are encompassed by the DR model in the cross section case. These inclusions carry over to the panel versions of these models with two-way unobserved effects. ■

2.2. Estimands

In addition to the model parameter $\beta(y)$, we are interested in measuring the effect on the outcome of changing one of the covariates holding the rest of the covariates and the unobserved effects fixed. Let $x = (t, z)'$, where t is the covariate of interest or treatment and z are the rest of the covariates that usually play the role of controls. One effect of interest is the quantile (left-inverse) function (QF)

$$Q_k(\tau) = F_k^{\leftarrow}(\tau) := \inf\{y \in \mathcal{Y} : F_k(y) \geq \tau\} \wedge \sup\{y \in \mathcal{Y}\}, \quad \tau \in (0, 1),$$

where

$$F_k(y) = n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_y(P(t_{ij}^k, z_{ij}')'\beta(y) + \alpha(v_i, y) + \gamma(w_j, y)),$$

t_{ij}^k is a level of the treatment that may depend on t_{ij} , and $k \in \{0, 1\}$. We provide examples below. Note that in the construction of the counterfactual distribution F_k , we marginalize (x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) using the empirical distribution. The resulting effects are *finite population* effects. We shall focus on these effects because conditioning on the covariates and unobserved effects is natural in the trade application.⁵ We construct the quantile effect function (QEF) by taking differences of the QF at two treatment levels

$$\Delta(\tau) = Q_1(\tau) - Q_0(\tau), \quad \tau \in (0, 1).$$

³ We use the convention $\inf\{\emptyset\} = +\infty$.

⁴ Indeed, $\Lambda_y(P(x_{ij})'\beta(y) + \alpha(v_i, y) + \gamma(w_j, y)) = u$ at $y = Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)$. Differencing this expression with respect to x_{ij}^k yields

$$\left. \frac{\partial_{x_{ij}^k} P(x_{ij})'\beta(y)}{y=Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)} \right|_{y=Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)} = - \frac{\partial \Lambda_y(P(x_{ij})'\beta(y) + \alpha(v_i, y) + \gamma(w_j, y)) / \partial y}{\lambda_y(P(x_{ij})'\beta(y) + \alpha(v_i, y) + \gamma(w_j, y))} \bigg|_{y=Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)} \partial_{x_{ij}^k} Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j),$$

where $\lambda_y(z) = \partial \Lambda_y(z)/\partial z$. Note that the first term of the right hand side does not depend on k and is positive because $y \mapsto F_{y_{ij}}(y \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) = \Lambda_y(P(x_{ij})'\beta(y) + \alpha(v_i, y) + \gamma(w_j, y))$ is strictly increasing at $y = Q_{y_{ij}}(u \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)$.

⁵ The distinction between finite and infinite population effects does not affect estimation, but affects inference (Abadie et al., 2020). The estimators of infinite population effects need to account for the additional sampling variation coming from the estimation of the distribution of (x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) .

We can also obtain the average effect using the relationship between averages and distributions. Thus, the average effect is

$$\Delta = \mu_1 - \mu_0,$$

where μ_k is the counterfactual average obtained from F_k as

$$\mu_k = \int [1(y \geq 0) - F_k(y)] dy, \quad k \in \{0, 1\}. \quad (2)$$

The integral in (2) is over the real line, but the formula nevertheless is applicable to the case where the support of dF_k is discrete or mixed.

The choice of the levels t_{ij}^0 and t_{ij}^1 is usually based on the scale of the treatment:

- If the treatment is binary, $\Delta(\tau)$ is the τ -quantile treatment effect with $t_{ij}^0 = 0$ and $t_{ij}^1 = 1$.
- If the treatment is continuous, $\Delta(\tau)$ is the τ -quantile effect of a unitary or one standard deviation increase in the treatment with $t_{ij}^0 = t_{ij}$ and $t_{ij}^1 = t_{ij} + d$, where d is 1 or the standard deviation of t_{ij} .
- If the treatment is the logarithm of a continuous treatment, $\Delta(\tau)$ is the τ -quantile effect of doubling the treatment (100% increase) with $t_{ij}^0 = t_{ij}$ and $t_{ij}^1 = t_{ij} + \log 2$.

For example, in the trade application we use the levels $t_{ij}^0 = 0$ and $t_{ij}^1 = 1$ for binary covariates such as the indicators for common legal system and free trade area, and $t_{ij}^0 = t_{ij}$ and $t_{ij}^1 = t_{ij} + \log 2$ for the logarithm of distance.

All the previous estimands have causal interpretation under the standard unconfoundedness or conditional independence assumption for panel data where the conditioning set includes not only the observed controls but also the unobserved effects.

3. Fixed effects estimation and uniform inference

To simplify the notation in this section we write $P(x_{ij}) = x_{ij}$ without loss of generality, and define $\alpha_i(y) := \alpha(v_i, y)$ and $\gamma_j(y) := \gamma(w_j, y)$.

3.1. Fixed effects distribution regression estimator

The parameters of the DR model can be estimated from multiple binary regressions with two-way effects. To see this, note that the conditional distribution in (1) can be expressed as

$$\Lambda_y(x'_{ij}\beta(y) + \alpha_i(y) + \gamma_j(y)) = \mathbb{E}[1\{y_{ij} \leq y\} \mid x_{ij}, v_i, w_j].$$

Accordingly, we can construct a collection of binary variables,

$$1\{y_{ij} \leq y\}, \quad (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}, \quad y \in \mathcal{Y},$$

and estimate the parameters for each y by conditional maximum likelihood with fixed effects. Thus, $\hat{\theta}(y) := (\hat{\beta}(y), \hat{\alpha}_1(y), \dots, \hat{\alpha}_I(y), \hat{\gamma}_1(y), \dots, \hat{\gamma}_J(y))$, the *fixed effects distribution regression estimator* of $\theta(y) := (\beta(y), \alpha_1(y), \dots, \alpha_I(y), \gamma_1(y), \dots, \gamma_J(y))$, is obtained as

$$\hat{\theta}(y) \in \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{d_x + I + J}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left(1\{y_{ij} \leq y\} \log \Lambda_y(x'_{ij}\beta + \alpha_i + \gamma_j) + 1\{y_{ij} > y\} \log [1 - \Lambda_y(x'_{ij}\beta + \alpha_i + \gamma_j)] \right), \quad (3)$$

for $y \in \mathcal{Y}$. When the link function is the normal or logistic distribution, the previous program is concave and smooth in parameters and therefore has good computational properties. See [Fernández-Val and Weidner \(2016\)](#), [Cruz-Gonzalez et al. \(2017\)](#) and [Stammann \(2017\)](#) for a discussion on computation of logit and probit regressions with two-way effects and available software.

The quantile functions and effects are estimated via plug-in rule, i.e.,

$$\hat{Q}_k(\tau) = \hat{F}_k^{\leftarrow}(\tau) \wedge \sup\{y \in \mathcal{Y}\}, \quad \tau \in (0, 1), \quad k \in \{0, 1\},$$

where

$$\hat{F}_k(y) = n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_y((t_{ij}^k, z'_{ij})' \hat{\beta}(y) + \hat{\alpha}_i(y) + \hat{\gamma}_j(y)), \quad y \in \mathcal{Y},$$

and

$$\hat{\Delta}(\tau) = \hat{Q}_1(\tau) - \hat{Q}_0(\tau) \quad \tau \in (0, 1).$$

Remark 2 (Computation). When \mathcal{Y} is not finite, we replace \mathcal{Y} by a finite subset $\bar{\mathcal{Y}}$. Theoretically, this approximation works provided that the Hausdorff distance between $\bar{\mathcal{Y}}$ and \mathcal{Y} goes to zero at a rate faster than $1/\sqrt{n}$. In practice, if \mathcal{Y} is an interval $[\underline{y}, \bar{y}]$, $\bar{\mathcal{Y}}$ can be a fine mesh of $\sqrt{n} \log \log n$ equidistant points covering \mathcal{Y} , i.e., $\bar{\mathcal{Y}} = \{\underline{y}, \underline{y} + d, \underline{y} + 2d, \dots, \bar{y}\}$ for $d = (\bar{y} - \underline{y})/(\sqrt{n} \log \log n)$. Alternatively, if \mathcal{Y} is the support of y_{ij} , $\bar{\mathcal{Y}}$ can be a grid of $\sqrt{n} \log \log n$ sample quantiles with equidistant indexes.

3.2. Incidental parameter problem and bias corrections

Fixed effects estimators can be severely biased in nonlinear models because of the incidental parameter problem (Neyman and Scott, 1948). These models include the binary regressions that we estimate to obtain the DR coefficients and estimands. We deal with the incidental parameter problem using the analytical bias corrections of Fernández-Val and Weidner (2016) for parameters and average partial effects (APE) in binary regressions with two-way effects. We note here that the distributions $F_0(y)$ and $F_1(y)$ can be seen as APE, i.e., they are averages of functions of the data, unobserved effects and parameters.

The bias corrections are based on expansions of the bias of the fixed effects estimators as $I, J \rightarrow \infty$. For example, Theorem 1 shows that

$$\mathbb{E}[\hat{F}_k(y) - F_k(y)] = \frac{I}{n} B_k^{(F)}(y) + \frac{J}{n} D_k^{(F)}(y) + R_k^{(F)}(y), \quad (4)$$

where $nR_k^{(F)}(y) = o(I \vee J)$.⁶ In Section 4 we establish that this expansion holds uniformly in $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ and $k \in \{0, 1\}$, i.e.,

$$\sup_{k \in \{0, 1\}, y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|nR_k^{(F)}(y)\| = o(I \vee J).$$

This result generalizes the analysis of Fernández-Val and Weidner (2016) from a single binary regression to multiple (possibly a continuum) of binary regressions. This generalization is required to implement our inference methods for quantile functions and effects.

The expansion (4) is the basis for the bias corrections. Let $\hat{B}_k^{(F)}(y)$ and $\hat{D}_k^{(F)}(y)$ be estimators of $B_k^{(F)}(y)$ and $D_k^{(F)}(y)$, which are uniformly consistent in $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ and $k \in \{0, 1\}$. Bias corrected fixed effects estimators of F_k and Q_k are formed as

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{Q}_k(\tau) &= \tilde{F}_k^{\leftarrow}(\tau) \wedge \sup\{y \in \mathcal{Y}\}, \\ \tilde{F}_k(y) &= \hat{F}_k(y) - \frac{I}{n} \hat{B}_k(y) - \frac{J}{n} \hat{D}_k(y), \quad y \in \mathcal{Y}. \end{aligned}$$

We also use the corrected estimators \tilde{F}_k as the basis for inference and to form a bias corrected estimator of the average effect.

Remark 3 (Shape Restrictions). If the bias corrected estimator $y \mapsto \tilde{F}_k(y)$ is non-monotone on \mathcal{Y} , we can rearrange it into a monotone function by simply sorting its values in nondecreasing order. Chernozhukov et al. (2009) showed that the rearrangement improves the finite sample properties of the estimator. Similarly, if the $\tilde{F}_k(y)$ takes values outside of $[0, 1]$, winsorizing its range to this interval improves the finite sample properties of the estimator (Chen et al., 2018). ■

3.3. Uniform inference

One inference goal is to construct confidence bands that cover the QF $\tau \mapsto Q_k(\tau)$ and the QEF $\tau \mapsto \Delta(\tau)$ simultaneously over a set of quantiles $\mathcal{T} \subseteq [\varepsilon, 1 - \varepsilon]$, for some $0 < \varepsilon < 1/2$, and treatment levels $k \in \mathcal{K} \subseteq \{0, 1\}$. The set \mathcal{T} is chosen such that $Q_k(\tau) \in [\inf\{y \in \mathcal{Y}\}, \sup\{y \in \mathcal{Y}\}]$, for all $\tau \in \mathcal{T}$ and $k \in \mathcal{K}$.

We use the generic method of Chernozhukov et al. (2020) to construct confidence bands for quantile functions and effects from confidence bands for the corresponding distributions. Let \mathbb{D} denote the space of weakly increasing functions, mapping \mathcal{Y} to $[0, 1]$. Assume we have a confidence band $I_k = [L_k, U_k]$ for F_k , with lower and upper endpoint functions $y \mapsto L_k(y)$ and $y \mapsto U_k(y)$ such that $L_k, U_k \in \mathbb{D}$ and $L_k(y) \leq U_k(y)$ for all $y \in \mathcal{Y}$.⁷ We say that I_k covers F_k if $F_k \in I_k$ pointwise, namely $L_k(y) \leq F_k(y) \leq U_k(y)$ for all $y \in \mathcal{Y}$. If U_k and L_k are some data-dependent bands, we say that I_k is a confidence band for F_k of level p , if I_k covers F_k with probability at least p . Similarly, we say that the set of bands $\{I_k : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$ is a joint confidence band for the set of functions $\{F_k : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$ of level p , if I_k covers F_k with probability at least p simultaneously over $k \in \mathcal{K}$. The index set \mathcal{K} can be a singleton to cover individual confidence bands or $\mathcal{K} = \{0, 1\}$ to cover joint confidence bands. In Section 4 we provide a multiplier bootstrap algorithm for computing joint confidence bands based on the joint asymptotic distribution of the bias corrected estimators $\{F_k : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$.

The following result provides a method to construct joint confidence bands for $\{Q_k = F_k^{\leftarrow} : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$, from joint confidence bands for $\{F_k : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$.

⁶ Fernández-Val and Weidner (2016) considered the case where $n = IJ$, i.e., there is no missing data, so that $I/n = 1/J$ and $J/n = 1/I$.

⁷ If $[L'_k, U'_k]$ is a confidence band for F_k that does not obey the constraint $L'_k, U'_k \in \mathbb{D}$, we can transform $[L'_k, U'_k]$ into a new band $[L_k, U_k]$ such that $L_k, U_k \in \mathbb{D}$ using the rearrangement method of Chernozhukov et al. (2009).

Lemma 1 (Chernozhukov et al. (2016, Thm. 2(1))). Consider a set of distribution functions $\{F_k : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$ and endpoint functions $\{L_k : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$ and $\{U_k : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$ with components in the class \mathbb{D} . If $\{F_k : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$ is jointly covered by $\{I_k : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$ with probability p , then $\{Q_k = F_k^\leftarrow : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$ is jointly covered by $\{I_k^\leftarrow : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$ with probability p , where

$$I_k^\leftarrow(\tau) := [U_k^\leftarrow(\tau), L_k^\leftarrow(\tau)], \quad \tau \in \mathcal{T}, \quad k \in \mathcal{K}.$$

This lemma establishes that we can construct confidence bands for quantile functions by inverting the endpoint functions of confidence bands for distribution functions. The geometric intuition is that the inversion amounts to rotate and flip the bands, and these operations preserve coverage.

We next construct simultaneous confidence bands for the quantile effect function $\tau \mapsto \Delta(\tau)$ defined by

$$\Delta(\tau) = Q_1(\tau) - Q_0(\tau) = F_1^\leftarrow(\tau) - F_0^\leftarrow(\tau), \quad \tau \in \mathcal{T}.$$

The basic idea is to take appropriate differences of the bands for the quantile functions Q_1 and Q_0 as the confidence band for the quantile effect. Specifically, suppose we have the set of confidence bands $\{I_k^\leftarrow = [U_k^\leftarrow, L_k^\leftarrow] : k = 0, 1\}$ for the set of functions $\{F_k^\leftarrow : k = 0, 1\}$ of level p . Chernozhukov et al. (2020) showed that a confidence band for the difference $Q_1 - Q_0$ of size p can be constructed as $[U_1^\leftarrow - L_0^\leftarrow, L_1^\leftarrow - U_0^\leftarrow]$, i.e., $I_1^\leftarrow \ominus I_0^\leftarrow$ where \ominus is the pointwise Minkowski difference.

Lemma 2 (Chernozhukov et al. (2016, Thm. 2(2))). Consider a set of distribution functions $\{F_k : k = 0, 1\}$ and endpoint functions $\{L_k : k = 0, 1\}$ and $\{U_k : k = 0, 1\}$, with components in the class \mathbb{D} . If the set of distribution functions $\{F_k : k = 0, 1\}$ is jointly covered by the set of bands $\{I_k : k = 0, 1\}$ with probability p , then the quantile effect function $\Delta = F_1^\leftarrow - F_0^\leftarrow$ is covered by I_Δ^\leftarrow with probability at least p , where I_Δ^\leftarrow is defined by:

$$I_\Delta^\leftarrow(\tau) := [U_1^\leftarrow(\tau), L_1^\leftarrow(\tau)] \ominus [U_0^\leftarrow(\tau), L_0^\leftarrow(\tau)] = [U_1^\leftarrow(\tau) - L_0^\leftarrow(\tau), L_1^\leftarrow(\tau) - U_0^\leftarrow(\tau)], \quad \tau \in \mathcal{T}.$$

4. Asymptotic theory

This section derives the asymptotic properties of the fixed effect estimators of $y \mapsto \beta(y)$ and $\{F_k : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$, as both dimensions I and J grow to infinity. We focus on the case where the link function is the logistic distribution at all levels, $\Lambda_y = \Lambda$, where $\Lambda(\xi) = (1 + \exp(-\xi))^{-1}$. We choose the logistic distribution for analytical convenience. In this case the Hessian of the log-likelihood function does not depend on y_{ij} , leading to several simplifications in the asymptotic expansions. In particular, there are various terms that drop out from the second order expansions that we use to characterize the structure of the incidental parameter bias of the estimators $\hat{\beta}(y)$ and $\hat{F}(y)$. For the case of single binary regressions, Fernández-Val and Weidner (2016) showed that the properties of fixed effects estimators are similar for the logistic distribution and other smooth log-concave distributions such as the normal distribution. Accordingly, we expect that our results can be extended to other link functions, but at the cost of more complicated proofs and derivations to account for additional terms.

We make the following assumptions:

Assumption 1 (Sampling and Model Conditions).

- (i) Sampling: The outcome variable y_{ij} is independently distributed over i and j conditional on all the observed and unobserved covariates $\mathcal{C}_B := \{(x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) : (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}\}$.
- (ii) Model: For all $y \in \mathcal{Y}$,

$$F_{y_{ij}}(y | \mathcal{C}_B) = F_{y_{ij}}(y | x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) = \Lambda(x'_{ij}\beta(y) + \alpha(v_i, y) + \gamma(w_j, y)),$$

where $y \mapsto \beta(y)$, $y \mapsto \alpha(\cdot, y)$ and $y \mapsto \gamma(\cdot, y)$ are measurable functions.

- (iii) Compactness: the support \mathcal{X} of x_{ij} is compact, and $\alpha(v_i, y)$ and $\gamma(w_j, y)$ are bounded uniformly over i, j, I, J and $y \in \mathcal{Y}$.
- (iv) Compactness and smoothness: Either \mathcal{Y} is a discrete finite set, or $\mathcal{Y} \subset \mathbb{R}$ is a bounded interval. In the latter case, we assume that the conditional density function $f_{y_{ij}}(y | x_{ij}, v_i, w_j)$ exists, is uniformly bounded above and away from zero, and is uniformly continuous in y on the interior of \mathcal{Y} , uniformly over the support of (x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) .
- (v) Missing data: There is only a fixed number of missing observations for every i and j , that is, $\max_i(J - |\{(i', j') \in \mathcal{D} : i' = i\}|) \leq c_2$ and $\max_j(I - |\{(i', j') \in \mathcal{D} : j' = j\}|) \leq c_2$ for some constant $c_2 < \infty$ that is independent of the sample size.
- (vi) Non-collinearity: The regressors x_{ij} are non-collinear after projecting out the two-way fixed effects, that is, there exists a constant $c_3 > 0$, independent of the sample size, such that

$$\min_{\{\delta \in \mathbb{R}^{d_X} : \|\delta\| = 1\}} \min_{(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{I+J}} \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}} (x'_{ij}\delta - a_i - b_j)^2 \right] \geq c_3.$$

- (vii) Asymptotics: We consider asymptotic sequences where $I_n, J_n \rightarrow \infty$ with $I_n/J_n \rightarrow c$ for some positive and finite c , as the total sample size $n \rightarrow \infty$. We drop the indexing by n from I_n and J_n , i.e. we shall write I and J .

Remark 4 (*Assumption 1*). Part (i) holds if (y_{ij}, x_{ij}) is i.i.d. over i and j , v_i is i.i.d. over i , and w_j is i.i.d. over j ; but it is more general as it does not restrict the distribution of (x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) nor its dependence across i and j . We show how to relax this assumption allowing for a form of weak conditional dependence in Section 4.4. Part (ii) holds if the observed covariates are strictly exogenous conditional on the unobserved effects and the conditional distribution is correctly specified for all $y \in \mathcal{Y}$. We expect that our theory carries over to predetermined or weakly exogenous covariates that are relevant in panel data models, following the analysis of Fernández-Val and Weidner (2016). We focus on the strict exogeneity assumption because it is applicable to both panel and network data, and leave the extension to weak exogeneity to future research. Part (iii) imposes that the covariates x_{ij} and unobserved effects $\alpha(v_i, y)$ and $\gamma_j(w_j, y)$ are all uniformly bounded. For fixed values y it is possible to obtain asymptotic results of our estimators without the compact support assumption, see e.g. Yan et al. (2019), but deriving empirical process results that hold uniformly over y is much more involved without this assumption. The compact support assumption guarantees that the conditional probabilities of the events $\{y_{ij} \leq y\}$ are bounded away from zero and one, that is, the network of binarized outcomes $1\{y_{ij} \leq y\}$ is assumed to be dense. In the network econometrics literature, Charbonneau (2017), Graham (2017) and Jochmans (2018) provide methods that are also applicable to sparse networks. Part (iv) can be slightly weakened to Lipschitz continuity with uniformly bounded Lipschitz constant, instead of differentiability. It covers discrete, continuous, and mixed outcomes with mass points at the boundary of the support such as censored variables. For the mixed outcomes, the data generating process for the mass points can be arbitrarily different from the rest of the support because the density $y \mapsto f_{y_{ij}}(y | \cdot)$ only needs to be continuous on the interior of \mathcal{Y} . Part (v) of the assumption allows for a finite (and asymptotically bounded) number of missing observations for each unit i , and each unit j . For example, in the trade network example only the observations with $i = j$ are missing, implying that there is one missing observation for every i and for every j , i.e. $c_2 = 1$. If the panel is balanced, part (vi) can be stated as

$$\frac{1}{IJ} \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J \tilde{x}_{ij} \tilde{x}_{ij}' \geq c_3 \mathbb{I}_{d_x},$$

where $\tilde{x}_{ij} = x_{ij} - x_{i\cdot} - x_{\cdot j} + x_{\cdot\cdot}$, $x_{i\cdot} = J^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^J x_{ij}$, $x_{\cdot j} = I^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^I x_{ij}$, and $x_{\cdot\cdot} = (IJ)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J x_{ij}$. This is the typical condition in linear panel models requiring that all the covariates display variation in both dimensions. The asymptotic sequences considered in part (vii) exactly balance the order of the bias and standard deviation of the fixed effect estimator yielding a non-degenerate asymptotic distribution. ■

4.1. Asymptotic distribution of the uncorrected estimator

We introduce first some further notation. Denote the q th derivatives of the cdf Λ by $\Lambda^{(q)}$, and define $\Lambda_{ij}^{(q)}(y) = \Lambda^{(q)}(x'_{ij}\beta(y) + \alpha_i(y) + \gamma_j(y))$ and $\Lambda_{ij,k}^{(q)}(y) = \Lambda^{(q)}(\mathbb{x}'_{ij,k}\beta(y) + \alpha_i(y) + \gamma_j(y))$ with $\mathbb{x}_{ij,k} := (t_{ij}^k, z'_{ij})'$ and $q = 1, 2, \dots$. For $\ell \in \{1, \dots, d_x\}$ define the following projections of the ℓ 'th covariate x_{ij}^ℓ ,

$$(\alpha_x^\ell(y), \gamma_x^\ell(y)) \in \arg \min_{(a,c) \in \mathbb{R}^{I+J}} \left[\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y) (x_{ij}^\ell - a_i - c_j)^2 \right], \quad (5)$$

and let $\alpha_{x,i}^\ell(y)$ and $\gamma_{x,j}^\ell(y)$ be the d_x -vectors with components $\alpha_{x,i}^\ell(y)$ and $\gamma_{x,j}^\ell(y)$, where $\alpha_{x,i}^\ell(y)$ is the i th component of $\alpha_x^\ell(y)$ and $\gamma_{x,j}^\ell(y)$ is the j th component of $\gamma_x^\ell(y)$. Also define $\tilde{x}_{ij}(y) = x_{ij} - \alpha_{x,i}(y) - \gamma_{x,j}(y)$ and $\tilde{\mathbb{x}}_{ij,k}(y) = \mathbb{x}_{ij,k} - \alpha_{x,i}(y) - \gamma_{x,j}(y)$. Notice that $\tilde{\mathbb{x}}_{ij,k}(y)$ is defined using projections of x_{ij} instead of $\mathbb{x}_{ij,k}$. Also, while the locations of $\alpha_{x,i}(y)$ and $\gamma_{x,j}(y)$ are not identified, $\tilde{x}_{ij}(y)$ and $\tilde{\mathbb{x}}_{ij,k}(y)$ are uniquely defined. Analogous to the projection of x_{ij}^ℓ above, we define $\Psi_{ij,k}(y) = \alpha_i^\Psi(y) + \gamma_j^\Psi(y)$, where

$$(\alpha^\Psi(y), \gamma^\Psi(y)) \in \arg \min_{(a,c) \in \mathbb{R}^{I+J}} \left[\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y) \left(\frac{\Lambda_{ij,k}^{(1)}(y)}{\Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y)} - a_i - c_j \right)^2 \right]. \quad (6)$$

For example, if $\mathbb{x}_{ij,k} = x_{ij}$, then $\Psi_{ij,k}(y) = 1$. Furthermore, we define⁸

$$W(y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y) \tilde{x}_{ij}(y) \tilde{x}_{ij}(y)', \quad \partial_\beta F_k(y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{ij,k}^{(1)}(y) \tilde{\mathbb{x}}_{ij,k}(y)',$$

and

$$B^{(\beta)}(y) = -\frac{1}{2} W^{-1}(y) \left[\frac{1}{I} \sum_{i=1}^I \frac{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}_i} \Lambda_{ij}^{(2)}(y) \tilde{x}_{ij}(y)}{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}_i} \Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y)} \right],$$

⁸ The FOC of problem (5) implies that $\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y) \tilde{x}_{ij}(y)' = 0$, and we can therefore equivalently write $\partial_\beta F_k(y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{ij,k}^{(1)}(y) [\tilde{\mathbb{x}}_{ij,k}(y) - \tilde{x}_{ij}(y)]' = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{ij,k}^{(1)}(y) [\mathbb{x}_{ij,k}(y) - x_{ij}(y)]'$.

$$D^{(\beta)}(y) = -\frac{1}{2}W^{-1}(y) \left[\frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}_j} \Lambda_{ij}^{(2)}(y) \tilde{x}_{ij}(y)}{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}_j} \Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y)} \right],$$

$$B_k^{(\Lambda)}(y) = \frac{1}{2I} \sum_{i=1}^I \frac{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}_i} [\Lambda_{ij,k}^{(2)}(y) - \Lambda_{ij}^{(2)}(y) \Psi_{ij,k}(y)]}{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}_i} \Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y)},$$

$$D_k^{(\Lambda)}(y) = \frac{1}{2J} \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}_j} [\Lambda_{ij,k}^{(2)}(y) - \Lambda_{ij}^{(2)}(y) \Psi_{ij,k}(y)]}{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}_j} \Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y)},$$

where $\mathcal{D}_i := \{(i', j') \in \mathcal{D} : i' = i\}$ and $\mathcal{D}_j := \{(i', j') \in \mathcal{D} : j' = j\}$ are the subsets of observational units that contain the index i and j , respectively. In the previous expressions, $\partial_\beta F_k(y)$ is a $1 \times d_x$ vector for each $k \in \mathcal{K}$ that we stack in the $|\mathcal{K}| \times d_x$ matrix $\partial_\beta F(y) = [\partial_\beta F_k(y) : k \in \mathcal{K}]$. Similarly, $F_k(y)$, $B_k^{(\Lambda)}(y)$, $D_k^{(\Lambda)}(y)$ and $\Psi_{ij,k}(y)$ are scalars for each $k \in \mathcal{K}$, that we stack in the $|\mathcal{K}| \times 1$ vectors $F(y) = [F_k(y) : k \in \mathcal{K}]$, $B^{(\Lambda)}(y) = [B_k^{(\Lambda)}(y) : k \in \mathcal{K}]$, $D^{(\Lambda)}(y) = [D_k^{(\Lambda)}(y) : k \in \mathcal{K}]$, $\Psi_{ij}(y) = [\Psi_{ij,k}(y) : k \in \mathcal{K}]$.

Let $\ell^\infty(\mathcal{Y})$ be the space of real-valued bounded functions on \mathcal{Y} equipped with the sup-norm $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{Y}}$, and \rightsquigarrow denote weak convergence (in distribution). We establish a functional central limit theorem for the fixed effects estimators of $y \mapsto \beta(y)$ and $y \mapsto F(y)$ in \mathcal{Y} . All stochastic statements are conditional on $\{(x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) : (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}\}$.

Theorem 1 (FCLT for Fixed Effects DR Estimators). *Let [Assumption 1](#) hold. For all $y_1, y_2 \in \mathcal{Y}$ with $y_1 \geq y_2$ we assume the existence of*

$$\bar{V}(y_1, y_2) = \text{plim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{ij}(y_1) [1 - \Lambda_{ij}(y_2)] \tilde{x}_{ij}(y_1) \tilde{x}_{ij}(y_2)',$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{Q}}(y_1, y_2) = \text{plim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{ij}(y_1) [1 - \Lambda_{ij}(y_2)] \mathcal{E}_{ij}(y_1) \mathcal{E}_{ij}(y_2)',$$

where $\mathcal{E}_{ij}(y) = \Psi_{ij}(y) + \partial_\beta F(y) W^{-1}(y) \tilde{x}_{ij}(y)$. Let $\bar{V}(y_2, y_1) := \bar{V}(y_1, y_2)'$, $\bar{\mathcal{Q}}(y_2, y_1) := \bar{\mathcal{Q}}(y_1, y_2)'$, and $\bar{W}(y_1) := \bar{V}(y_1, y_1)$. Then, in the metric space $\ell^\infty(\mathcal{Y})^{d_x}$,

$$\sqrt{n} \left[\hat{\beta}(y) - \beta(y) - \frac{I}{n} B^{(\beta)}(y) - \frac{J}{n} D^{(\beta)}(y) \right] \rightsquigarrow Z^{(\beta)}(y),$$

and, in the metric space $\ell^\infty(\mathcal{Y})^{|\mathcal{K}|}$,

$$\sqrt{n} \left\{ \hat{F}(y) - F(y) - \underbrace{\frac{I}{n} [B^{(\Lambda)}(y) + (\partial_\beta F(y)) B^{(\beta)}(y)]}_{B^{(F)}(y)} - \underbrace{\frac{J}{n} [D^{(\Lambda)}(y) + (\partial_\beta F(y)) D^{(\beta)}(y)]}_{D^{(F)}(y)} \right\} \rightsquigarrow Z^{(F)}(y),$$

as stochastic processes indexed by $y \in \mathcal{Y}$, where $y \mapsto Z^{(\beta)}(y)$ and $y \mapsto Z^{(F)}(y)$ are tight zero-mean Gaussian processes with covariance functions $(y_1, y_2) \mapsto \bar{W}^{-1}(y_1) \bar{V}(y_1, y_2) \bar{W}^{-1}(y_2)$ and $(y_1, y_2) \mapsto \bar{\mathcal{Q}}(y_1, y_2)$, respectively.

[Assumption 1](#)(vi) guarantees the invertibility of $W(y)$ and $\bar{W}(y)$. Notice that $\bar{W}(y)$ is equal to the limit of $W(y)$ because $\Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y) = \Lambda_{ij}(y) [1 - \Lambda_{ij}(y)]$ by the properties of the logistic distribution. This information equality follows by the correct specification condition in [Assumption 1](#)(ii). By [Assumption 1](#)(v), we could have used \sqrt{IJ} instead of \sqrt{n} , $1/J$ instead of I/n , and $1/I$ instead of J/n . However, if the panel is not balanced, then we expect the expressions in the theorem to provide a more accurate finite-sample approximation, because the standard deviation of the estimates will generally be of order $1/\sqrt{n}$ for unbalanced panels, and the leading order incidental parameter biases are generally proportional to the number of incidental parameters (I and J here) divided by the total sample size n , see e.g. [Fernández-Val and Weidner \(2018\)](#).

Remark 5 (Comparison with Binary Response Models). [Fernández-Val and Weidner \(2016\)](#) derived central limit theorems (CLTs) for the fixed effects estimators of coefficients and APEs in panel regressions with two-way effects. Pointwise, for given $y \in \mathcal{Y}$, [Theorem 1](#) yields these CLTs. Moreover, it covers multiple binary regressions by establishing the limiting distribution of $\hat{\beta}(y)$ and $\hat{F}(y)$ treated as stochastic processes indexed by $y \in \mathcal{Y}$. This generalization is key for our inference results and does not follow from well-known empirical process results. We need to deal with a double asymptotic approximation where both I and J grow to infinity, and to bound all the remainder terms in the second order expansions used by [Fernández-Val and Weidner \(2016\)](#) uniformly over $y \in \mathcal{Y}$. We refer to the appendix and supplementary material for more details. ■

Remark 6 (Case $\mathbb{x}_{ij,k} = x_{ij}$). When $\mathbb{x}_{ij,k} = x_{ij}$, that is, when the counterfactual values are equal to the observed values, then the asymptotic bias of \hat{F}_k vanishes, because $B_k^{(A)}(y) = D_k^{(A)}(y) = 0$, and $\partial_\beta F_k(y) = 0$ (see footnote 8). In fact, in that case \hat{F}_k is equal to the empirical distribution function, namely

$$\hat{F}_k(y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda(x'_{ij} \hat{\beta}(y) + \hat{\alpha}_i(y) + \hat{\gamma}_j(y)) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} 1\{y_{ij} \leq y\},$$

by the first order conditions of the fixed effects logit DR estimator with respect to the fixed effect parameters. This property provides another appealing feature to choose the logistic distribution. ■

4.2. Bias corrections

Theorem 1 shows that the fixed effects DR estimator has asymptotic bias of the same order as the asymptotic standard deviation under the approximation that we consider. The finite-sample implications are that this estimator can have substantial bias and that confidence regions constructed around it can have severe undercoverage. We deal with these problems by removing the first order bias of the estimator.

We estimate the bias components using the plug-in rule. Define $\hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(q)}(y) = \Lambda^{(q)}(x'_{ij} \hat{\beta}(y) + \hat{\alpha}_i(y) + \hat{\gamma}_j(y))$ and $\hat{\Lambda}_{ij,k}^{(q)}(y) = \Lambda^{(q)}(\mathbb{x}'_{ij,k} \hat{\beta}(y) + \hat{\alpha}_i(y) + \hat{\gamma}_j(y))$. Replacing $\Lambda_{ij}^{(1)}(y)$ and $\Lambda_{ij,k}^{(1)}(y)$ by $\hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(1)}(y)$ and $\hat{\Lambda}_{ij,k}^{(1)}(y)$ in the definitions of $\alpha_x^\ell(y)$, $\gamma_x^\ell(y)$, $\alpha^\psi(y)$, and $\gamma^\psi(y)$ yields the corresponding estimators. We plug-in these estimators to obtain $\hat{x}_{ij}(y) = x_{ij} - \hat{\alpha}_{x,i}(y) - \hat{\gamma}_{x,j}(y)$, $\hat{\mathbb{x}}_{ij,k}(y) = \mathbb{x}_{ij,k} - \hat{\alpha}_{x,i}(y) - \hat{\gamma}_{x,j}(y)$, and $\hat{\psi}_{ij,k}(y) = \hat{\alpha}_i^\psi(y) + \hat{\gamma}_j^\psi(y)$. Then we construct

$$\hat{W}(y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(1)}(y) \hat{x}_{ij}(y) \hat{x}'_{ij}(y), \quad \partial_\beta \hat{F}_k(y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \hat{\Lambda}_{ij,k}^{(1)}(y) \hat{\mathbb{x}}_{ij,k}(y),$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{B}^{(\beta)}(y) &= -\frac{1}{2} \hat{W}^{-1}(y) \left[\frac{1}{I} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}_i} \frac{\hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(2)}(y) \hat{x}_{ij}(y)}{\hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(1)}(y)} \right], \\ \hat{D}^{(\beta)}(y) &= -\frac{1}{2} \hat{W}^{-1}(y) \left[\frac{1}{J} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}_j} \frac{\hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(2)}(y) \hat{x}_{ij}(y)}{\hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(1)}(y)} \right], \\ \hat{B}_k^{(A)}(y) &= \frac{1}{2I} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}_i} \frac{\hat{\Lambda}_{ij,k}^{(2)}(y) - \hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(2)}(y) \hat{\psi}_{ij,k}(y)}{\hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(1)}(y)}, \\ \hat{D}_k^{(A)}(y) &= \frac{1}{2J} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}_j} \frac{\hat{\Lambda}_{ij,k}^{(2)}(y) - \hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(2)}(y) \hat{\psi}_{ij,k}(y)}{\hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(1)}(y)}. \end{aligned}$$

We also define the $|\mathcal{K}| \times d_x$ matrix $\partial_\beta \hat{F}(y) = [(\partial_\beta \hat{F}_k(y)) : k \in \mathcal{K}]$, and the $|\mathcal{K}| \times 1$ vectors $\hat{B}^{(F)}(y) = [\hat{B}_k^{(F)}(y) : k \in \mathcal{K}]$, $\hat{D}^{(F)}(y) = [\hat{D}_k^{(F)}(y) : k \in \mathcal{K}]$, $\hat{\psi}_{ij}(y) = [\hat{\psi}_{ij,k}(y) : k \in \mathcal{K}]$. Finally, we also construct the estimator of the asymptotic variance of $\hat{F}(y)$

$$\hat{\Omega}(y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \hat{\Lambda}_{ij}^{(1)}(y) \hat{\Xi}(y) \hat{\Xi}(y)',$$

where $\hat{\Xi}(y) = \hat{\psi}_{ij}(y) + (\partial_\beta \hat{F}(y)) \hat{W}^{-1}(y) \hat{x}_{ij}(y)$.

Lemma 7 in the Appendix shows that the estimators of the asymptotic bias are consistent, uniformly in $y \in \mathcal{Y}$. Bias corrected estimators of $\beta(y)$ and $F(y)$ can then be formed as

$$\tilde{\beta}(y) = \hat{\beta}(y) - \frac{I}{n} \hat{B}^{(\beta)}(y) - \frac{J}{n} \hat{D}^{(\beta)}(y), \quad (7)$$

and

$$\tilde{F}(y) = \hat{F}(y) - \underbrace{\frac{I}{n} [\hat{B}^{(A)}(y) + (\partial_\beta \hat{F}(y)) \hat{B}^{(\beta)}(y)]}_{\hat{B}^{(F)}(y)} - \underbrace{\frac{J}{n} [\hat{D}^{(A)}(y) + (\partial_\beta \hat{F}(y)) \hat{D}^{(\beta)}(y)]}_{\hat{D}^{(F)}(y)}.$$

Alternatively, we could define the bias corrected version of $\hat{F}(y)$ as

$$\tilde{F}_k^*(y) = \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda(\mathbb{x}'_{ij,k} \tilde{\beta}(y) + \tilde{\alpha}_i(y) + \tilde{\gamma}_j(y)) \right] - \frac{I}{n} \hat{B}_k^{(A)}(y) - \frac{J}{n} \hat{D}_k^{(A)}(y),$$

where $\tilde{\xi}(y) := (\tilde{\alpha}_1(y), \dots, \tilde{\alpha}_I(y), \tilde{\gamma}_1(y), \dots, \tilde{\gamma}_J(y))$ is a solution to

$$\max_{\xi \in \mathbb{R}^{I+J}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} (1\{y_{ij} \leq y\} \log \Lambda(x'_{ij}\tilde{\beta}(y) + \alpha_i + \gamma_j) + 1\{y_{ij} > y\} \log[1 - \Lambda(x'_{ij}\tilde{\beta}(y) + \alpha_i + \gamma_j)]).$$

It can be shown that $\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \sqrt{n} |\tilde{F}_k^*(y) - \tilde{F}_k(y)| = o_p(1)$, that is, the difference between those alternative bias corrected estimators is asymptotically negligible. There is no obvious reason to prefer one over the other, and we present result for \tilde{F}_k in the following, which equivalently hold for \tilde{F}_k^* .⁹

Remark 7 (Alternative Approaches). The conditional approach of Charbonneau (2017) and Jochmans (2018) for the logit model with two-way effects could be also adopted to estimate the coefficient $\beta(y)$. However, this approach does not produce estimators of $F(y)$ as it is based on differencing-out the unobserved effects. The bias correction method proposed is analytical in that it requires explicit characterization and estimation of the bias. A natural alternative is a correction based on Jackknife or bootstrap following the analysis of Cruz-Gonzalez et al. (2017), Dhaene and Jochmans (2015), Fernandez-Val and Weidner (2016), Hahn and Newey (2004), and Kim and Sun (2016) for nonlinear panel models. We do not consider any of these corrections because they require repeated parameter estimation that can be computationally expensive in this case. ■

The following main result establishes the functional central limit theorem for the bias corrected estimators and uniform consistency of the estimators of the variance function.

Theorem 2 (FCLT for Bias Corrected Fixed Effects DR Estimators). Let Assumption 1 hold. Then, in the metric space $\ell^\infty(\mathcal{Y})^{d_x}$,

$$\sqrt{n} [\tilde{\beta}(y) - \beta(y)] \rightsquigarrow Z^{(\beta)}(y),$$

and, in the metric space $\ell^\infty(\mathcal{Y})^{|\mathcal{K}|}$,

$$\sqrt{n} [\tilde{F}(y) - F(y)] \rightsquigarrow Z^{(F)}(y),$$

as stochastic processes indexed by $y \in \mathcal{Y}$, where $Z^{(\beta)}(y)$ and $Z^{(F)}(y)$ are the same Gaussian processes that appear in Theorem 1. Moreover,

$$\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|\hat{W}(y)^{-1} - \overline{W}(y)^{-1}\| = o_p(1) \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|\hat{\Omega}(y) - \overline{\Omega}(y)\| = o_p(1).$$

4.3. Uniform confidence bands and bootstrap

We show how to construct pointwise and uniform confidence bands for $y \mapsto \beta(y)$ and $y \mapsto F(y)$ on \mathcal{Y} using Theorem 2. The uniform bands for F can be used as inputs in Lemmas 1 and 2 to construct uniform bands for the QFs $\tau \mapsto Q_k(\tau) = F_k^-(\tau)$, $k \in \mathcal{K}$, and the QEF $\tau \mapsto \Delta(\tau)$ on \mathcal{T} .

Let $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \{1, \dots, d_x\}$ be the set of indexes for the coefficients of interest. For given $y \in \mathcal{Y}$, $\ell \in \mathcal{B}$, $k \in \mathcal{K}$, and $p \in (0, 1)$, a pointwise p -confidence interval for $\beta_\ell(y)$, the ℓ 'th component of $\beta(y)$, is

$$[\tilde{\beta}_\ell(y) \pm \Phi^{-1}(1 - p/2) \hat{\sigma}_{\beta_\ell}(y)], \quad (8)$$

and a pointwise p -confidence intervals for $F_k(y)$ is

$$[\tilde{F}_k(y) \pm \Phi^{-1}(1 - p/2) \hat{\sigma}_{F_k}(y)],$$

where Φ denotes the cdf of the standard normal distribution, $\hat{\sigma}_{\beta_\ell}(y)$ is the standard error of $\tilde{\beta}_\ell(y)$ given in (13), and $\hat{\sigma}_{F_k}(y)$ is the standard error of $\tilde{F}_k(y)$ given in (14). These intervals have coverage p in large samples by Theorem 2.

We construct joint uniform bands for the coefficients and distributions using Kolmogorov–Smirnov type critical values, instead of quantiles from the normal distribution. A uniform p -confidence band joint for the vector of functions $\{\beta_\ell(y) : \ell \in \mathcal{B}, y \in \mathcal{Y}\}$ is

$$I_\beta = \{[\tilde{\beta}_\ell(y) \pm t_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{Y}}^{(\beta)}(p) \hat{\sigma}_{\beta_\ell}(y)] : \ell \in \mathcal{B}, y \in \mathcal{Y}\}, \quad (9)$$

where $t_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{Y}}^{(\beta)}(p)$ is the p -quantile of the maximal t -statistic

$$t_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{Y}}^{(\beta)} = \sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}, \ell \in \mathcal{B}} \frac{|Z_\ell^{(\beta)}(y)|}{\sigma_\ell^{(\beta)}(y)}, \quad (10)$$

where $\sigma_\ell^{(\beta)}(y) = [\overline{W}(y)^{-1}]_{\ell, \ell}^{1/2}$, the square root of the (ℓ, ℓ) element of the matrix $\overline{W}(y)^{-1}$. Similarly, a uniform p -confidence band joint for the set of distribution functions $\{F_k(y) : k \in \mathcal{K}, y \in \mathcal{Y}\}$ is

$$I_F = \{[\tilde{F}_k(y) \pm t_{\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{Y}}^{(F)}(p) \hat{\sigma}_{F_k}(y)] : k \in \mathcal{K}, y \in \mathcal{Y}\}, \quad (11)$$

⁹ We use the estimator \tilde{F}_k^* in the numerical examples for computational convenience as the bias correction involves estimating less terms.

where $t_{\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{Y}}^{(F)}(p)$ is the p -quantile of the maximal t -statistic

$$t_{\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{Y}}^{(F)} = \sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}, k \in \mathcal{K}} \frac{|Z_k^{(F)}(y)|}{\sigma_k^{(F)}(y)}, \quad (12)$$

where $\sigma_k^{(F)}(y) = [\bar{\Omega}(y)]_{k,k}^{1/2}$, the square root of the (k, k) element of the matrix $\bar{\Omega}(y, y)$. The previous confidence bands also have coverage p in large samples by [Theorem 2](#).

The maximal t -statistics used to construct the bands I_β and I_F are not pivotal, but their distributions can be approximated by simulation after replacing the variance functions of the limit processes by uniformly consistent estimators. In practice, however, we find it more convenient to use resampling methods. We consider a multiplier bootstrap scheme that resamples the efficient scores or influence functions of the fixed effects estimators $\hat{\beta}(y)$ and $\hat{F}(y)$. This scheme is computationally convenient because it does not need to solve the high dimensional nonlinear fixed effects conditional maximum likelihood program [\(3\)](#) or making any bias correction in each bootstrap replication. In these constructions we rely on the uncorrected fixed effects estimators instead of the bias corrected estimators, because they have the same influence functions and the uncorrected estimators are consistent under the asymptotic approximation that we consider.

To describe the standard errors and multiplier bootstrap we need to introduce some notation for the influence functions of $\hat{\theta}(y)$ and $\hat{F}(y)$. Let $\theta = (\beta, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_I, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_J)$ be a generic value for the parameter $\theta(y)$, the influence function of $\hat{\theta}(y)$ is the $(d_x + I + J)$ -vector $\psi_{ij}^y(\theta(y))$, where

$$\psi_{ij}^y(\theta) = H(\theta)^\dagger [\mathbf{1}\{y_{ij} \leq y\} - \Lambda(x'_{ij}\beta + \alpha_i + \gamma_j)] w_{ij}, \quad w_{ij} = (x_{ij}, e_{i,I}, e_{j,J}), \quad y \in \mathcal{Y},$$

$e_{i,I}$ is a unit vector of dimension I with a one in the position i , $e_{j,J}$ is defined analogously, $H(\theta)^\dagger$ is the Moore–Penrose pseudo-inverse of $H(\theta)$, and

$$H(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda^{(1)}(x'_{ij}\beta + \alpha_i + \gamma_j) w_{ij} w'_{ij}, \quad \Lambda^{(1)}(z) = \Lambda(z) \Lambda(-z),$$

is minus the Hessian of the log-likelihood with respect to θ , which does not depend on y in the case of the logistic distribution.¹⁰ The influence function of $\hat{F}_k(y)$ is $\varphi_{ij,k}^y(\theta(y))$, where

$$\varphi_{ij,k}^y(\theta) = J_k(\theta)' \psi_{ij}^y(\theta),$$

and

$$J_k(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda^{(1)}(x'_{ij,k}\beta + \alpha_i + \gamma_j) \mathbb{w}_{ij,k}, \quad \mathbb{w}_{ij,k} = (x_{ij,k}, e_{i,I}, e_{j,J}).$$

The standard error of $\tilde{\beta}_\ell(y)$ is constructed as

$$\hat{\sigma}_{\beta_\ell}(y) = n^{-1} \left[\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \psi_{ij}^y(\hat{\theta}(y)) \psi_{ij}^y(\hat{\theta}(y))' \right]_{\ell, \ell}^{1/2}, \quad (13)$$

the square root of the (ℓ, ℓ) element of the sandwich matrix $n^{-2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \psi_{ij}^y(\hat{\theta}(y)) \psi_{ij}^y(\hat{\theta}(y))'$. Similarly, the standard error of $\tilde{F}_k(y)$ is constructed as

$$\hat{\sigma}_{F_k}(y) = n^{-1} \left[\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \varphi_{ij,k}^y(\hat{\theta}(y))^2 \right]^{1/2}. \quad (14)$$

The following algorithm describes a multiplier bootstrap scheme to obtain the critical values for a set of parameters indexed by $\ell \in \mathcal{B} \subseteq \{1, \dots, d_x\}$ and a set of distributions indexed by $k \in \mathcal{K} \subseteq \{0, 1\}$. This scheme is based on perturbing the first order conditions of the fixed effects estimators with random multipliers independent from the data.

Algorithm 1 (Multiplier Bootstrap). (1) Let $\bar{\mathcal{Y}}$ be some grid that satisfies the conditions of [Remark 2](#). (2) Draw the bootstrap multipliers $\{\omega_{ij}^m : (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}\}$ independently from the data as $\omega_{ij}^m = \tilde{\omega}_{ij}^m - \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \tilde{\omega}_{ij}^m / n$, $\tilde{\omega}_{ij}^m \sim \text{i.i.d. } \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. Here we have normalized the multipliers to have zero mean as a finite-sample adjustment. (3) For each $y \in \bar{\mathcal{Y}}$, obtain the bootstrap draws of $\hat{\theta}(y)$ as $\hat{\theta}^m(y) = \hat{\theta}(y) + n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \omega_{ij}^m \psi_{ij}^y(\hat{\theta}(y))$, and of $\hat{F}_k(y)$ as $\hat{F}_k^m(y) = \hat{F}_k(y) + n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \omega_{ij}^m \varphi_{ij,k}^y(\hat{\theta}(y))$, $k \in \mathcal{K}$. (4) Construct the bootstrap draw of the maximal t -statistic for the parameters, $t_{\mathcal{B}, \bar{\mathcal{Y}}}^{(\beta), m} = \max_{y \in \bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \ell \in \mathcal{B}} |\hat{\beta}_\ell^m(y) - \hat{\beta}_\ell(y)| / \hat{\sigma}_{\beta_\ell}(y)$, where $\hat{\sigma}_{\beta_\ell}(y)$ is defined in [\(13\)](#), and $\psi_{ij,\ell}^y(\theta)$ is the component of $\psi_{ij}^y(\theta)$ corresponding to β_ℓ . Similarly, construct the bootstrap draw of the maximal t -statistic for the distributions, $t_{\mathcal{K}, \bar{\mathcal{Y}}}^{(F), m} = \max_{y \in \bar{\mathcal{Y}}, k \in \mathcal{K}} |\hat{F}_k^m(y) - \hat{F}_k(y)| / \hat{\sigma}_{F_k}(y)$, where $\hat{\sigma}_{F_k}(y)$

¹⁰ We use the Moore–Penrose pseudo-inverse because $H(\theta)$ is singular if we do not impose a normalization on the location of $\alpha_i(y)$ and $\gamma_j(y)$.

is defined in (14). (5) Repeat steps (1)–(3) M times and index the bootstrap draws by $m \in \{1, \dots, M\}$. In the numerical examples we set $M = 500$. (6) Obtain the bootstrap estimators of the critical values as

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{t}_{B,Y}^{(\beta)}(p) &= p - \text{quantile of } \{t_{B,Y}^{(\beta),m} : 1 \leq m \leq M\}, \\ \hat{t}_{K,Y}^{(F)}(p) &= p - \text{quantile of } \{t_{K,Y}^{(F),m} : 1 \leq m \leq M\}.\end{aligned}$$

The next result shows that the multiplier bootstrap provides consistent estimators of the critical values of the inferential statistics. The proof follows from Theorem 2.2 of Chernozhukov et al. (2016).

Theorem 3 (Consistency of Multiplier Bootstrap Inference). *Let Assumption 1 hold. Then, conditional on the data $\{(y_{ij}, x_{ij}) : (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}\}$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $M \rightarrow \infty$*

$$\hat{t}_{B,Y}^{(\beta)}(p) \rightarrow_P t_{B,Y}^{(\beta)}(p) \text{ and } \hat{t}_{K,Y}^{(F)}(p) \rightarrow_P t_{K,Y}^{(F)}(p),$$

where $t_{B,Y}^{(\beta)}(p)$ and $t_{K,Y}^{(F)}(p)$ are defined in (10) and (12), respectively.

Theorem 3 together with Theorem 1 guarantees the asymptotic validity of the confidence bands I_β and I_F defined in (9) and (11) with the critical values $t_{B,Y}^{(\beta)}(p)$ and $t_{K,Y}^{(F)}(p)$ replaced by the bootstrap estimators $\hat{t}_{B,Y}^{(\beta)}(p)$ and $\hat{t}_{K,Y}^{(F)}(p)$.

4.4. Pairwise clustering dependence or reciprocity

The conditional independence of Assumption 1(i) can be relaxed to allow for some forms of conditional weak dependence. A form of dependence that is relevant for network data is *pairwise clustering* or *reciprocity* where the observational units with symmetric indexes (i, j) and (j, i) might be dependent due to unobservable factors not accounted by unobserved effects.¹¹ In the trade application, for example, these factors may include distributional channels or multinational firms operating in both countries. Formally, pairwise clustering means that (y_{ij}, y_{ji}) is independently distributed across $(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}$ with $i \leq j$, conditional on all the observed and unobserved covariates $\mathcal{C}_B := \{(x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) : (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}\}$.

The presence of reciprocity does not change the bias of the fixed effects estimators, but affects the standard errors and the implementation of the multiplier bootstrap. The standard error of $\hat{\beta}_\ell(y)$ becomes

$$\hat{\sigma}_{\beta_\ell}(y) = n^{-1} \left[\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left\{ \psi_{ij}^y(\hat{\theta}(y)) + \psi_{ji}^y(\hat{\theta}(y)) \right\} \psi_{ij}^y(\hat{\theta}(y))' \right]_{\ell, \ell}^{1/2}. \quad (15)$$

Similarly, the standard error of $\tilde{F}_k(y)$ needs to be adjusted to

$$\hat{\sigma}_{F_k}(y) = n^{-1} \left[\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left\{ \varphi_{ij,k}^y(\hat{\theta}(y)) + \varphi_{ji,k}^y(\hat{\theta}(y)) \right\} \varphi_{ij,k}^y(\hat{\theta}(y)) \right]^{1/2}. \quad (16)$$

In the previous expressions we assume that if $(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}$ then $(j, i) \in \mathcal{D}$ to simplify the notation. The modified multiplier bootstrap algorithm becomes:

Algorithm 2 (Multiplier Bootstrap with Pairwise Clustering). (1) Let $\bar{\mathcal{Y}}$ be some grid that satisfies the conditions of Remark 2. (2) Draw the bootstrap multipliers $\{\omega_{ij}^m : (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}\}$ independently from the data as $\omega_{ij}^m = \tilde{\omega}_{ij}^m - \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \tilde{\omega}_{ij}^m / n$, $\tilde{\omega}_{ij}^m \sim \text{i.i.d. } \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ if $i \leq j$, and $\tilde{\omega}_{ij}^m = \tilde{\omega}_{ji}^m$ if $i > j$. (3) For each $y \in \bar{\mathcal{Y}}$, obtain the bootstrap draws of $\hat{\theta}(y)$ as $\hat{\theta}^m(y) = \hat{\theta}(y) + n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \omega_{ij}^m \psi_{ij}^y(\hat{\theta}(y))$, and of $\hat{F}_k(y)$ as $\hat{F}_k^m(y) = \hat{F}_k(y) + n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \omega_{ij}^m \varphi_{ij,k}^y(\hat{\theta}(y))$, $k \in \mathcal{K}$. (4) Construct the bootstrap draw of the maximal t-statistic for the parameters, $t_{B,\bar{\mathcal{Y}}}^{(\beta),m} = \max_{y \in \bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \ell \in \mathcal{B}} |\hat{\beta}_\ell^m(y) - \hat{\beta}_\ell(y)| / \hat{\sigma}_{\beta_\ell}(y)$, where $\hat{\sigma}_{\beta_\ell}(y)$ is defined in (15), and $\psi_{ij,\ell}^y(\theta)$ is the component of $\psi_{ij}^y(\theta)$ corresponding to β_ℓ . Similarly, construct the bootstrap draw of the maximal t-statistic for the distributions, $t_{K,\bar{\mathcal{Y}}}^{(F),m} = \max_{y \in \bar{\mathcal{Y}}, k \in \mathcal{K}} |\hat{F}_k^m(y) - \hat{F}_k(y)| / \hat{\sigma}_{F_k}(y)$, where $\hat{\sigma}_{F_k}(y)$ is defined in (16). (5) Repeat steps (1)–(3) M times and index the bootstrap draws by $m \in \{1, \dots, M\}$. In the numerical examples we set $M = 500$. (6) Obtain the bootstrap estimators of the critical values as

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{t}_{B,Y}^{(\beta)}(p) &= p - \text{quantile of } \{t_{B,Y}^{(\beta),m} : 1 \leq m \leq M\}, \\ \hat{t}_{K,Y}^{(F)}(p) &= p - \text{quantile of } \{t_{K,Y}^{(F),m} : 1 \leq m \leq M\}.\end{aligned}$$

The clustered multiplier bootstrap preserves the dependence in the symmetric pairs (i, j) and (j, i) by assigning the same multiplier to each of these pairs.

¹¹ Cameron and Miller (2014) consider other patterns of dependence in linear models for dyadic data.

4.5. Average effect

A bias corrected estimator of the average effect can be formed as

$$\tilde{\Delta} = \tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_0, \quad (17)$$

where

$$\tilde{\mu}_k = \int [1(y \geq 0) - \mathbf{C}\tilde{F}_k(y)] dy, \quad k \in \{0, 1\}.$$

Here the integral is over the real line, and \mathbf{C} is an operator that extends $\tilde{F}_k(y)$ from \mathcal{Y} to \mathbb{R} as a step function, that is, it maps any $f : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to $\mathbf{C}f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, where $\mathbf{C}f(y) = 0$ for $y \leq \inf \mathcal{Y}$, $\mathbf{C}f(y) = 1$ for $y \geq \sup \mathcal{Y}$, and $\mathbf{C}f(y) = f(\sup\{y' \in \mathcal{Y} : y' \leq y\})$ otherwise. The following central limit theorem for the bias corrected estimator of the average effect is a corollary of [Theorem 1](#) together with the functional delta method.

Corollary 1 (CLT for Bias Corrected Fixed Effects Estimators of Average Effect). *Let [Assumption 1](#) hold and $\int_{\mathcal{Y}} dF_k(y) = 1$, $k \in \{0, 1\}$. Then,*

$$\sqrt{n}(\tilde{\Delta} - \Delta) \rightarrow_d - \int [\mathbf{C}Z_1^{(F)}(y) - \mathbf{C}Z_0^{(F)}(y)] dy =: Z^{(\Delta)}, \quad (18)$$

where $Z^{(F)}(y) = [Z_0^{(F)}(y), Z_1^{(F)}(y)]'$ is the same Gaussian process that appears in [Theorem 1](#) with $\mathcal{K} = \{0, 1\}$.

Remark 8 (Support of \mathcal{Y}). The condition that $\int_{\mathcal{Y}} dF_k(y) = 1$ guarantees that \mathcal{Y} is the support of the potential outcome corresponding to the distribution F_k , so that [\(2\)](#) yields the average potential outcome under F_k . Together with [Assumption 1](#), this condition is satisfied when Y is discrete with finite support \mathcal{Y} , or continuous or mixed with bounded support \mathcal{Y} and conditional density bounded away from zero in the interior of \mathcal{Y} . This support condition is not required for the estimation of the quantile effects.

We can construct confidence intervals for the average effect using [Corollary 1](#). Let

$$\hat{\sigma}_{\Delta} = n^{-1} \left[\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \hat{\varphi}_{ij}^2 \right]^{1/2}, \quad \hat{\varphi}_{ij} = - \int [\mathbf{C}\varphi_{ij,1}^{\mathcal{Y}}(\hat{\theta}(y)) - \mathbf{C}\varphi_{ij,0}^{\mathcal{Y}}(\hat{\theta}(y))] dy.$$

Then, $\hat{\sigma}_{\Delta}$ is an estimator of σ_{Δ} , the standard deviation of the limit process $Z^{(\Delta)}$ in [\(18\)](#), and

$$I_{\Delta} = [\tilde{\Delta} \pm \Phi^{-1}(1 - p/2)\hat{\sigma}_{\Delta}],$$

is an asymptotic p -confidence interval for Δ . The normal critical value $\Phi^{-1}(1 - p/2)$ can be replaced by a multiplier bootstrap critical value $\hat{t}^{(\Delta)}(p)$ obtained from [Algorithm 1](#) as

$$\hat{t}^{(\Delta)}(p) = p - \text{quantile of } \{t^{(\Delta),m} : 1 \leq m \leq M\}$$

where $t^{(\Delta),m} = |\hat{\Delta}^m - \hat{\Delta}|/\hat{\sigma}_{\Delta}$ and $\hat{\Delta}^m = \hat{\Delta} + n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \omega_{ij}^m \hat{\varphi}_{ij}$.

The standard errors and critical values of the average effects can be adjusted to account for pairwise clustering following the procedure described in [Section 4.4](#). Thus, the pairwise clustering robust standard error is

$$\hat{\sigma}_{\Delta} = n^{-1} \left[\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \{\hat{\varphi}_{ij} + \hat{\varphi}_{ji}\} \hat{\varphi}_{ij} \right]^{1/2}.$$

5. Quantile effects in gravity equations for international trade

We consider an empirical application to gravity equations for bilateral trade between countries. We use data from [Helpman et al. \(2008\)](#), extracted from the Feenstra's World Trade Flows, CIA's World Factbook and Andrew Rose's web site. These data contain information on bilateral trade flows and other trade-related variables for 157 countries in 1986.¹² The data set contains network data where both i and j index countries as senders (exporters) and receivers (importers), and therefore $I = J = 157$. The outcome y_{ij} is the volume of trade in thousands of constant 2000 US dollars from country i to country j , and the covariates $P(x_{ij}) = x_{ij}$ include determinants of bilateral trade flows such as the logarithm of the distance in kilometers between country i 's capital and country j 's capital and indicators for common colonial ties, currency union, regional free trade area (FTA), border, legal system, language, and religion. Following [Anderson and van Wincoop](#)

¹² The original data set includes 158 countries. We exclude Congo because it did not export to any other country in 1986.

Table 1
Descriptive statistics.
Source: Helpman, Melitz and Rubinstein (08).

	Mean	Std. Dev.
Trade	0.45	0.50
Trade volume	84,542	1,082,219
Log distance	4.18	0.78
Legal	0.37	0.48
Language	0.29	0.45
Religion	0.17	0.25
Border	0.02	0.13
Currency	0.01	0.09
FTA	0.01	0.08
Colony	0.01	0.10
Country pairs	24,492	

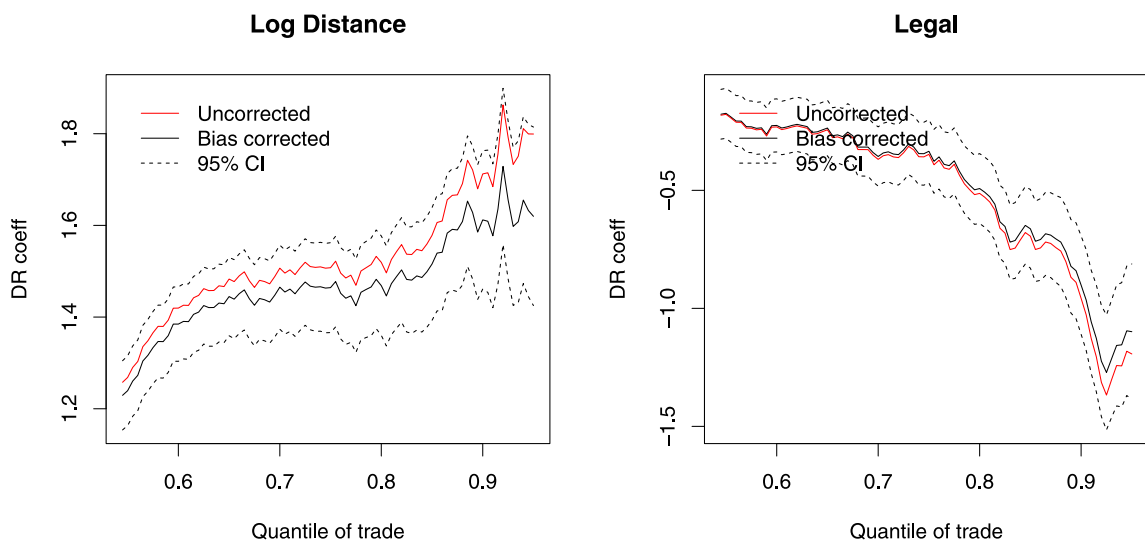


Fig. 1. Estimates and 95% pointwise confidence intervals for the DR-coefficients of log distance and common legal system.

(2003), we include unobserved importer and exporter country effects.¹³ These effects control for other country specific characteristics that may affect trade such as GDP, tariffs, population, institutions, infrastructures or natural resources. We allow for these characteristics to affect differently the imports and exports of each country, and be arbitrarily related with the observed covariates.

Table 1 reports descriptive statistics of the variables used in the analysis. There are $157 \times 156 = 24,492$ observations corresponding to different pairs of countries. The observations with $i = j$ are missing because we do not observe trade flows from a country to itself. The trade variable in the first row is an indicator for positive volume of trade. There are no trade flows for 55% of the country pairs. The volume of trade variable exhibits much larger standard deviation than its mean. Since this variable is bounded below at zero, this indicates the presence of a very heavy upper tail in the distribution. This feature also makes quantile methods specially well-suited for this application on robustness grounds.¹⁴

The previous literature estimated nonlinear parametric models such as Poisson, Negative Binomial, Tobit and Heckman-selection models to deal with the large number of zeros in the volume of trade (e.g., Eaton and Kortum, 2001; Santos Silva and Tenreyro, 2006; and Helpman et al., 2008).¹⁵ These models impose strong conditions on the process that generates the zeros and/or on the conditional heteroskedasticity of the volume of trade. The DR model deals with zeros and any other fixed censoring points in a very flexible and natural fashion as it specifies the conditional distribution separately at the mass point. In particular, the model coefficients at zero can be arbitrarily different from the model coefficients at other values of the volume of trade. Moreover, the DR model can also accommodate conditional heteroskedasticity.

Fig. 1 shows estimates and 95% pointwise confidence intervals for the DR coefficients of log distance and common legal system plotted against the quantile indexes of the volume of trade. We report uncorrected and bias corrected fixed

¹³ See Harrigan (1994) for an earlier empirical international trade application that includes unobserved country effects.

¹⁴ In results not reported, we find that estimates of average effects are very sensitive to the trimming of outliers at the top of the distribution.

¹⁵ See Head and Mayer (2014) for a recent survey on gravity equations in international trade.

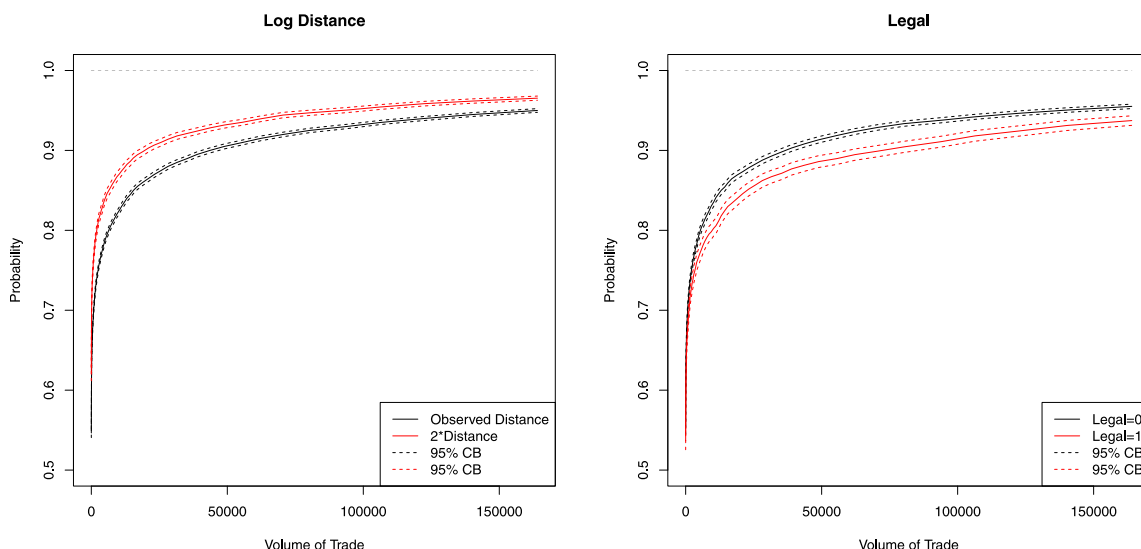


Fig. 2. Estimates and 95% uniform confidence bands for distribution functions of the volume of trade.

effects estimates obtained from (3) and (7), respectively. The confidence intervals are constructed using (8). The x-axis starts at .54, the maximum quantile index corresponding to zero volume of trade. The region of interest \mathcal{Y} corresponds to the interval between zero and the 0.95-quantile of the volume of trade. The difference between the uncorrected and bias corrected estimates is the same order of magnitude as the width of the confidence intervals for the coefficient of log distance. We find the largest estimated biases for both coefficients at highest quantiles of the volume of trade, where the indicators $1\{y_{ij} \leq y\}$ take on many ones. The signs of the DR coefficients indicate that increasing distance has a negative effect and having a common legal system has a positive effect on the volume of trade throughout the distribution. Recall that the sign of the effect in terms of volume of trade, y_{ij} , is the opposite to the sign of the DR coefficient.

Figs. 2 and 3 show estimates and 95% uniform confidence bands for distribution and quantile functions of the volume of trade at different values of the log of distance and the common legal system. The left panels plot the functions when distance takes the observed levels (dist) and two times the observed values (2*dist), i.e. when we counterfactually double all the distances between the countries. The right panels plot the functions when all the countries have the same legal system (legal = 1) and different systems (legal = 0). The confidence bands for the distribution are obtained by Algorithm 1 with 500 bootstrap replications and standard normal multipliers, and a grid of values $\hat{\mathcal{Y}}$ that includes the sample quantiles of the volume of trade with indexes $\{.54, .55, \dots, .95\}$. The bands are joint for the two functions displayed in each panel. The confidence bands for the quantile functions are obtained by inverting and rotating the bands for the corresponding distribution functions using Lemma 1.

Fig. 4 displays estimates and 95% uniform confidence bands for the quantile effects of the log of distance and the common legal system on the volume of trade, constructed using Lemma 2. For comparison, we also include estimates from a Poisson model. Here, we replace the DR estimators of the distributions by

$$\hat{F}_k(y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(ij) \in \mathcal{D}} \exp \lambda_{ij,k} \sum_{\tilde{y}=0}^{\lfloor y \rfloor} \frac{\lambda_{ij,k}^{\tilde{y}}}{\tilde{y}!}, \quad k \in \mathcal{K}, \quad (19)$$

where $\lfloor y \rfloor$ is the integer part of y , $\lambda_{ij,k} = \exp(x'_{ij,k} \hat{\beta} + \hat{\alpha}_i + \hat{\gamma}_j)$, and $\hat{\theta} = (\hat{\beta}, \hat{\alpha}_1, \dots, \hat{\alpha}_I, \hat{\gamma}_1, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_J)$ is the Poisson fixed effects conditional maximum likelihood estimator

$$\hat{\theta} \in \arg \max_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{d_X + I + J}} \sum_{(ij) \in \mathcal{D}} [y_{ij}(x'_{ij} \beta + \alpha_i + \gamma_j) - \exp(x'_{ij} \beta + \alpha_i + \gamma_j)].$$

We find that distance and common legal system have heterogeneously increasing effects along the distribution. For example, the negative effects of doubling the distance grows more than proportionally as we move up to the upper tail of the distribution of volume of trade. Putting all the countries under the same legal system has little effect in the extensive margin of trade, but has a strong positive effect at the upper tail of the distribution. The Poisson estimates lie outside the DR confidence bands reflecting heavy tails in the conditional distribution of the volume of trade that is missed by the Poisson model.¹⁶ Fig. 5 shows confidence bands of the quantile effects that account for pairwise clustering. The bands

¹⁶ This misspecification problem with the Poisson model is well-known in the international trade literature. The Poisson estimator is treated as a quasi-likelihood estimator and standard errors robust to misspecification are reported (Santos Silva and Tenreiro, 2006).

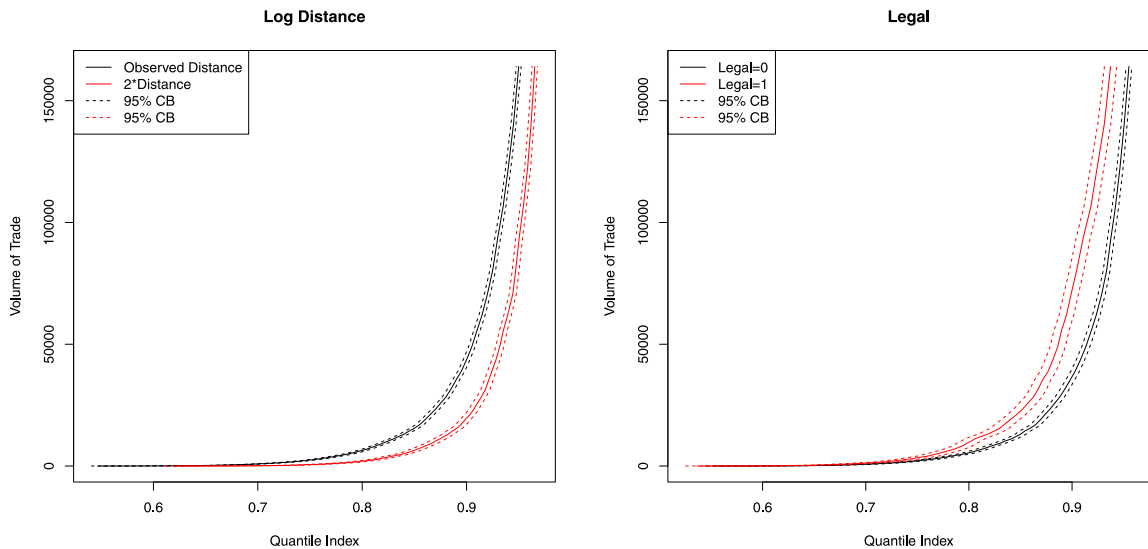


Fig. 3. Estimates and 95% uniform confidence bands for quantile functions of the volume of trade.

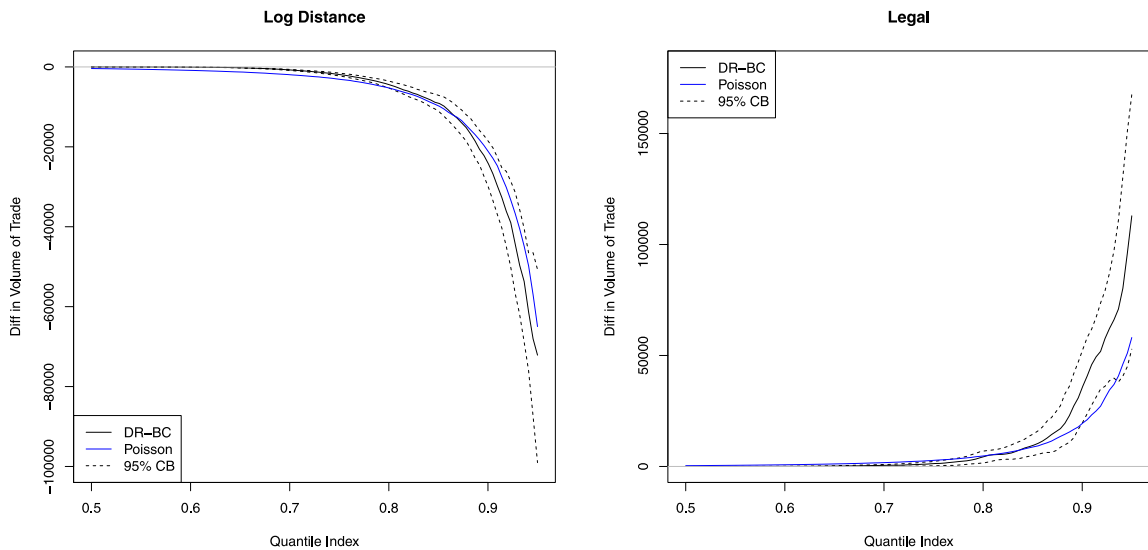


Fig. 4. Estimates and 95% uniform confidence bands for the quantile effects of log distance and common legal system on the volume of trade.

are constructed from confidence bands from the distributions using Algorithm 2 with 500 bootstrap draws and standard normal multipliers. Accounting for unobservables that affect symmetrically to the country pairs has very little effect on the width of the bands in this case.

6. Monte Carlo simulation

We conduct a Monte Carlo simulation calibrated to the empirical application of Section 5. The outcome is generated by the censored logistic process

$$y_{ij}^s = \max\{x'_{ij}\hat{\beta} + \hat{\alpha}_i + \hat{\gamma}_j + \hat{\sigma}\Lambda^{-1}(u_{ij}^s)/\sigma_L, 0\}, \quad (i, j) \in \mathcal{D},$$

where $\mathcal{D} = \{(i, j) : 1 \leq i, j \leq 157, i \neq j\}$, x_{ij} is the value of the covariates for the observational unit (i, j) in the trade data set, $\sigma_L = \pi/\sqrt{3}$, the standard deviation of the logistic distribution, and $(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\alpha}_1, \dots, \hat{\alpha}_I, \hat{\gamma}_1, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_J, \hat{\sigma})$ are Tobit fixed effect estimates of the parameters in the trade data set with lower censoring point at zero.¹⁷ We consider two designs:

¹⁷ We upper winsorize the volume of trade y_{ij} at the 95.5% quantile to reduce the effect of outliers in the Tobit estimation of the parameters.

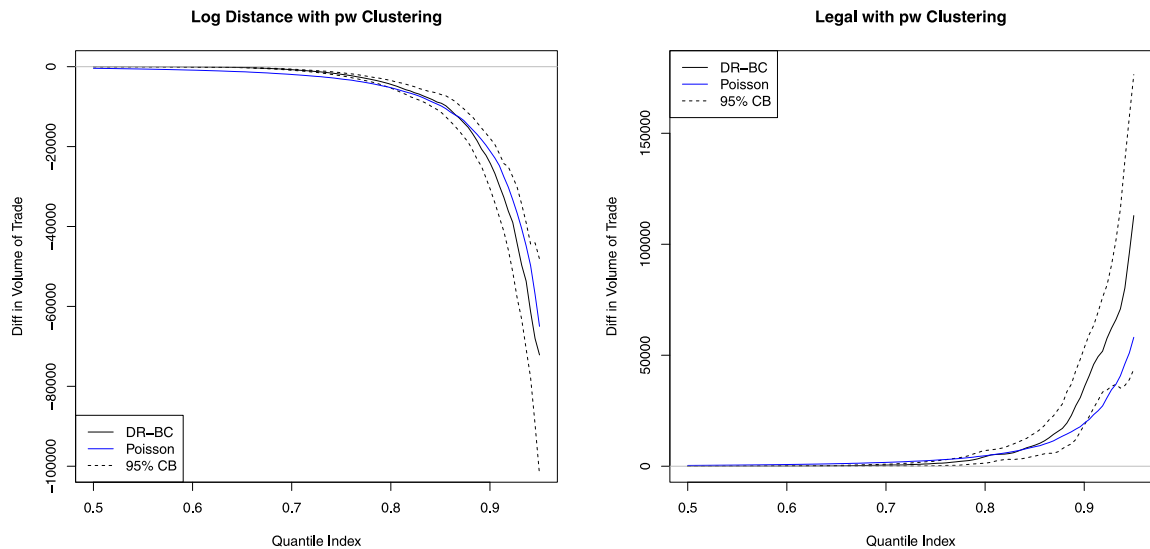


Fig. 5. Estimates and 95% uniform confidence bands for the quantile effects of log distance and common legal system on the volume of trade.

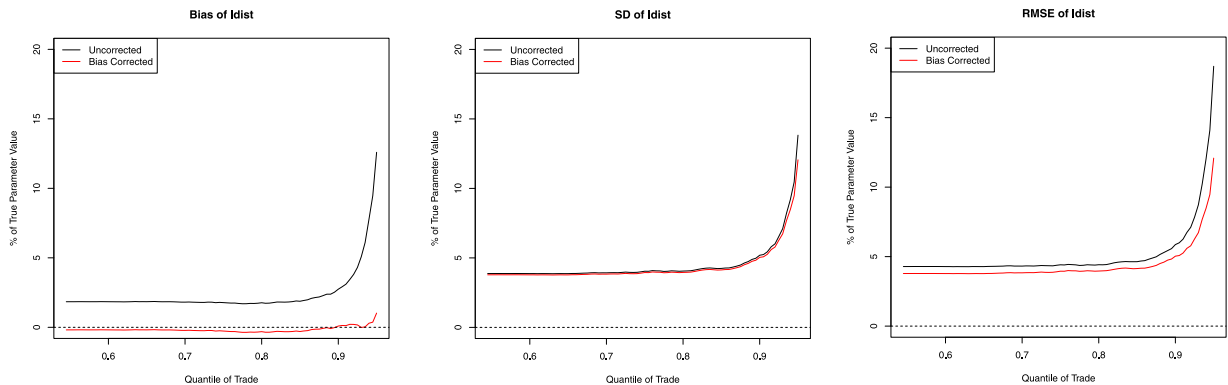


Fig. 6. Bias, standard deviation and root mean squared error for the estimators of the DR-coefficients of log-distance.

independent errors with $u_{ij}^s \sim \text{i.i.d } \mathcal{U}(0, 1)$, and pairwise dependent errors with $u_{ij}^s = \Phi(0.75e_{ij}^s + \sqrt{1 - 0.75^2}e_{ji}^s)$, where $e_{ij}^s \sim \text{i.i.d } \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ and Φ is the standard normal CDF.¹⁸ In both cases the conditional distribution function of y_{ij}^s is a special case of the DR model (1) with link function $\Lambda_y = \Lambda$, the logistic distribution, for all y ,

$$\beta(y) = \sigma_L(e_1 y - \hat{\beta})/\hat{\sigma}, \quad \alpha_i(y) = -\sigma_L \hat{\alpha}_i/\hat{\sigma}, \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma_j(y) = -\sigma_L \hat{\gamma}_j/\hat{\sigma},$$

where e_1 is a unit vector of dimension d_x with a one in the first component. As in the empirical application, the region of interest \mathcal{Y} is the interval between zero and the 0.95-quantile of the volume of trade in the data set. All the results are based on 500 simulated panels $\{(y_{ij}^s, x_{ij}) : (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}\}$.

Figs. 6 and 7 report the biases, standard deviations and root mean square errors (rmse) of the fixed effects estimators of the DR coefficients of log-distance and legal system as a function of the quantiles of y_{ij} in the design with independent errors.¹⁹ All the results are in percentage of the true value of the parameter. As predicted by the large sample theory, the fixed effects estimator displays a bias of the same order of magnitude as the standard deviation. As in Fig. 1, the bias is more severe for the coefficient of log distance. The bias correction removes most of the bias and does not increase the standard deviation, yielding a reduction in rmse of about 5% for the coefficient of log distance at the highest quantile indexes.

Fig. 8 reports the biases, standard deviations and rmse of the estimators of the counterfactual distributions at two levels of log-distance as a function of the quantiles of y_{ij} in the design with independent errors. The levels of distance in

¹⁸ The Spearman rank correlation between u_{ij}^s and u_{ji}^s in the design with pairwise-dependent errors is 0.73.

¹⁹ The design with pairwise dependent errors produces similar results, which are not reported for the sake of brevity.

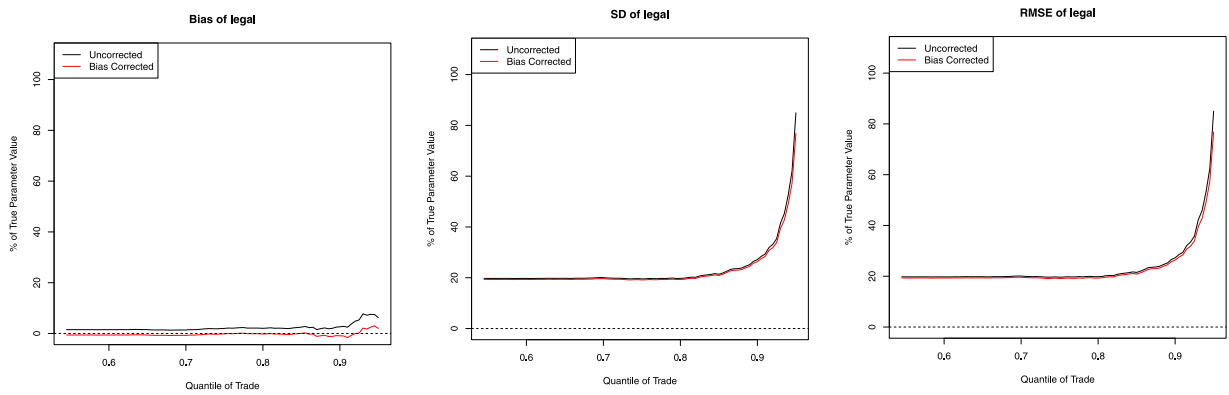


Fig. 7. Bias, standard deviation and root mean squared error for the estimators of the DR-coefficients of same legal system.

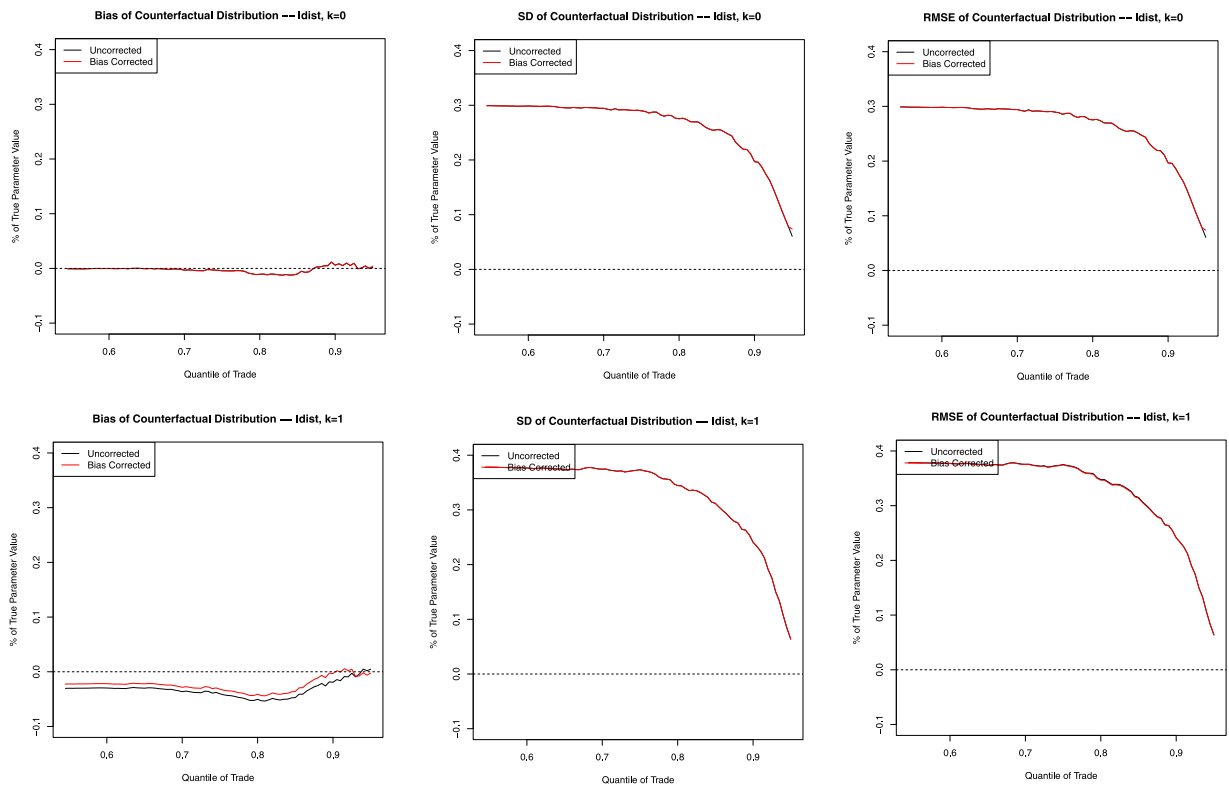


Fig. 8. Bias, standard deviation and root mean squared error for the estimators of the counterfactual distributions of log-distance.

these distributions are the same as in the empirical application, i.e. $k = 0$ and $k = 1$ correspond to the observed values and two times the observed values, respectively. All the results are in percentage of the true value of the functions. In this case we find that the uncorrected and bias corrected estimators display small biases relative to their standard deviations, and have similar standard deviations and rmse at both treatment levels. Indeed the standard deviations and rmse are difficult to distinguish in the figure as they are almost superposed. In results not reported, we find very similar patterns in the design with pairwise dependent errors and for the estimators of the counterfactual distributions at the same two levels of legal as in the empirical application.

Table 2 shows results on the finite sample properties of 95% confidence bands for the DR coefficients and counterfactual distributions in the design with independent errors. The confidence bands are constructed by multiplier bootstrap with 500 draws, standard normal weights, and a grid of values \hat{y} that includes the sample quantiles of the volume of trade with indexes $\{.54, .55, \dots, .95\}$ in the trade data set. For the coefficients, it reports the average length of the confidence bands integrated over threshold values, the average value of the estimated critical values, and the empirical coverages of

Table 2
95% Confidence bands – design with independent errors.

	Uncorrected				Bias corrected			
	β_{dist}	β_{legal}	F_{dist}	F_{legal}	β_{dist}	β_{legal}	F_{dist}	F_{legal}
Unclustered inference								
Average length	0.24	0.35	0.01	0.02	0.24	0.35	0.01	0.02
Average critical value	2.90	2.89	3.10	3.13	2.90	2.89	3.10	3.13
Coverage uniform band (%)	83	91	94	93	95	94	94	94
Coverage pointwise band (%)	35	58	35	29	60	64	35	29
Average SE/SD	0.97	1.01	0.99	1.01	1.00	1.04	0.99	1.01
Pairwise clustered inference								
Average length	0.23	0.35	0.01	0.02	0.23	0.35	0.01	0.02
Average critical value	2.89	2.89	3.09	3.12	2.89	2.89	3.09	3.12
Coverage uniform band (%)	82	92	93	93	94	93	93	93
Coverage pointwise band (%)	35	57	35	30	59	63	36	29
Average SE/SD	0.97	1.01	0.99	1.01	1.00	1.04	0.99	1.01

Notes: Nominal level of critical values is 95%. 500 simulations with 500 multiplier bootstrap draws.

Table 3
95% Confidence bands – design with pairwise dependent errors.

	Uncorrected				Bias corrected			
	β_{dist}	β_{legal}	F_{dist}	F_{legal}	β_{dist}	β_{legal}	F_{dist}	F_{legal}
Unclustered inference								
Average length	0.24	0.35	0.01	0.02	0.24	0.35	0.01	0.02
Average critical value	2.90	2.89	3.10	3.13	2.90	2.89	3.10	3.13
Coverage uniform band (%)	64	73	73	68	80	78	74	68
Coverage pointwise band (%)	21	27	11	8	32	36	12	8
Average SE/SD	0.77	0.76	0.77	0.77	0.79	0.78	0.77	0.77
Pairwise clustered inference								
Average length	0.30	0.44	0.02	0.02	0.30	0.44	0.02	0.02
Average critical value	2.82	2.82	3.02	3.05	2.82	2.82	3.02	3.05
Coverage uniform band (%)	86	92	93	92	96	93	93	92
Coverage pointwise band (%)	47	59	44	37	67	66	43	37
Average SE/SD	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99	1.03	1.01	1.00	0.99

Notes: Nominal level of critical values is 95%. 500 simulations with 500 multiplier bootstrap draws.

the confidence bands. For the distributions, it reports the same measures averaged also over the two treatment levels and where the coverage of the bands is joint for the two counterfactual distributions.²⁰ For comparison, it also reports the coverage of pointwise confidence bands using the normal distribution, i.e. with critical value equal to 1.96. The last row computes the ratio of the standard error averaged across simulations to the simulation standard deviation, integrated over threshold values for the coefficients and over thresholds and treatment levels for the distributions. We consider standard errors and confidence bands with and without accounting for pairwise clustering. All the results are computed for confidence bands centered at the uncorrected fixed effects estimates and at the bias corrected estimates. For the coefficients, we find that the bands centered at the uncorrected estimates undercover the true coefficients, whereas the bands centered at the bias corrected estimates have coverages close to the nominal level. The joint coverage of the bands for the distributions is close to the nominal level regardless of whether they are centered at the uncorrected or bias corrected estimates. We attribute this similarity in coverage to the small biases in the uncorrected estimates of the distributions found in Fig. 8. As expected, pointwise bands severely undercover the entire functions. The standard errors based on the asymptotic distribution provide a good approximation to the sampling variability of both the uncorrected and bias corrected estimators. Accounting for pairwise clustering in this design where it is not necessary has very little effect on the quality of the inference.

Table 3 reports the same results as Table 2 for the design with pairwise dependent errors. The bands that do not account for pairwise clustering undercover the functions because the standard errors underestimate the standard deviations of the estimators. Compared to the design with independent errors, the critical values are similar but the bands that account for clustering are wider due to the increase in the standard errors. To sum up, inference methods robust to pairwise clustering perform well in both designs, whereas inference methods that do not account for clustering undercover in the presence of pairwise dependence. The bias corrections are effective in reducing bias and bringing the coverage probabilities of the bands close to their nominal level for the coefficients, whereas they have little effect for the distributions.

²⁰ The joint coverage of the bands for the quantile functions and quantile effect is determined by the joint coverage of the bands of the distribution functions in our construction. We refer to Chernozhukov et al. (2020) for a numerical analysis on the marginal coverage of the bands for the quantile effects.

7. Conclusion

We have constructed confidence bands for quantile functions and quantile effects in nonlinear network and panel models with two-way unobserved effects. Our construction relies on the generic method of Chernozhukov et al. (2020) to convert confidence bands for distributions into confidence bands for quantiles. The same method can be applied to more complicated models such as nonlinear models with interactive unobserved effects or factor structure, provided that confidence bands for distributions in these models are supplied. Such bands are not currently available, but could be obtained by extending the central limit theorem of Chen et al. (2020) to a functional central limit theorem. We leave such extension to future work.

Appendix A. Proofs of main text results

We present the proofs of Theorems 1 and 2, and relegate various technical details to the on-line supplementary appendix. Once Theorems 1 and 2 are shown, the proof of Theorem 3 for the multiplier bootstrap follows from Theorem 2.2 in Chernozhukov et al. (2016). The uniform confidence bands I_F for the cdfs in (11) obtained by the multiplier bootstrap can then be inverted and differenced to obtain uniform confidence bands for the quantile function and quantile effects, see Chernozhukov et al. (2020) and also Lemmas 1 and 2 above. This appendix thus contains the proofs of all the main results that are new to the current paper. The proofs for all of the lemmas below are given in the supplementary appendix. All stochastic statements in the following are conditional on $\{(x_{ij}, v_i, w_j) : (i, j) \in \mathcal{D}\}$.

As explained in Section 4, we consider the logistic cdf $\Lambda_y(\pi) = \Lambda(\pi) = (1 + \exp(-\pi))^{-1}$ for all our theorems. In the following we indicate the dependence on $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ as a subscript, for example, we write θ_y instead of $\theta(y)$ from now on. We use the column vector $w_{ij} = (x'_{ij}, e'_{i,I}, e'_{j,J})'$, as in Section 4.3, and can then write the single index $\pi_{y,ij} := x'_{ij}\beta_y + \alpha_{y,i} + \gamma_{y,j}$ simply as $\pi_{y,ij} = w'_{ij}\theta_y$. The corresponding estimator is $\hat{\pi}_{y,ij} = w'_{ij}\hat{\theta}_y$. We also define minus the log-likelihood function as $\ell_{y,ij}(\pi) := -1\{y_{ij} \leq y\} \log \Lambda(\pi) - 1\{y_{ij} > y\} \log[1 - \Lambda(\pi)]$. Let π_y be a n -vector containing $\pi_{y,ij}$, $(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}$. For a given $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ we can then rewrite the estimation problem in (3) as

$$\hat{\pi}_y = \arg \min_{\pi_y \in \mathbb{R}^n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \ell_{y,ij}(\pi_{y,ij}), \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \exists \theta \in \mathbb{R}^{d_x + I + J} : \pi_{y,ij} = w'_{ij}\theta_y. \quad (\text{A.1})$$

In the following we denote the true parameter values by θ^0 , and correspondingly we write $\pi_{y,ij}^0 = w'_{ij}\theta_y^0$, in order to distinguish the true value from generic values like the argument $\pi_{y,ij}$ in the last display. For the k 'th derivative of $\ell_{y,ij}(\pi_{y,ij})$ with respect to $\pi_{y,ij}$ we write $\partial_{\pi^k} \ell_{y,ij}(\pi_{y,ij})$, and we drop the argument when the derivative is evaluated at $\pi_{y,ij}^0$, that is, $\partial_{\pi^k} \ell_{y,ij} = \partial_{\pi^k} \ell_{y,ij}(\pi_{y,ij}^0)$. The normalized score for observations i, j then is read as

$$s_{y,ij} := [\partial_{\pi^2} \ell_{y,ij}]^{-1/2} \partial_{\pi} \ell_{y,ij} = \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{-1/2} \partial_{\pi} \ell_{y,ij},$$

where $\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} = \Lambda^{(1)}(\pi_{y,ij}^0) = \partial_{\pi} \Lambda(\pi_{y,ij}^0)$, as defined in Section 4.1. Note that $\mathbb{E}s_{y,ij} = 0$ and $\mathbb{E}s_{y,ij}^2 = 1$.

Let s_y be the n -vector obtained by stacking the elements $s_{y,ij}$ across all observations $(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}$. Similarly, let $\Lambda_y^{(1)}$ be the $n \times n$ diagonal matrix with diagonal elements given by $\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}$, $(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}$. Finally, let w be the $n \times (d_x + I + J)$ matrix with rows given by w'_{ij} , $(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}$. We define the $n \times n$ symmetric idempotent matrix

$$Q_y := \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} w \left(w' \Lambda_y^{(1)} w \right)^{\dagger} w' \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2},$$

where \dagger is the Moore–Penrose pseudoinverse. For the elements of this matrix we write $Q_{y,ij,i'j'}$. We have $(Q_y s_y)_{ij} = \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{y,ij,i'j'} s_{y,i'j'}$. The constraint $\exists \theta : \pi_{y,ij} = w'_{ij}\theta_y$ in (A.1) can then equivalently be written as²¹

$$Q_y \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} \pi_y = \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} \pi_y. \quad (\text{A.2})$$

The matrix Q_y projects onto the column span of $\left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} w$. This projector acts in the space of weighted index vectors $\left[\left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} \pi_{y,ij} : (i, j) \in \mathcal{D} \right]$, and the weighting of each $\pi_{y,ij}$ by $\left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{1/2}$ is natural, because $\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}$ is simply the expected Hessian for observations (i, j) .

²¹ In matrix notation the constraint can be written as $\pi_y = w \theta_y$, and we thus have $Q_y \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} \pi_y = Q_y \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} w \theta_y = \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} w \theta_y = \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} \pi_y$, where we also used that $Q_y \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} w = \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} w$, which follows from the definition of Q_y .

A.1. Technical lemmas

We require some results for the proofs of the main theorems below. The following lemma provides an asymptotic expansion of $\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij} - \pi_{y,ij}^0$.

Lemma 3 (Score Expansion of Fixed Effect Estimates). *Under [Assumption 1](#), for $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ and $(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}$, we have*

$$\left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \left(\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij} - \pi_{y,ij}^0\right) = -\left(Q_y s_y\right)_{ij} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(i', j') \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{y,ij,i'j'} \frac{\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(2)}}{\left(\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)}\right)^{3/2}} \left[\left(Q_y s_y\right)_{i'j'}\right]^2 + r_{y,ij},$$

and the remainder $r_{y,ij}$ satisfies $\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} |r_{y,ij}| = o_p(n^{-1/2})$.

The expansion in the preceding lemma is a second-order stochastic expansion, because it does not only describe the terms linear in the score s_y , but also the terms quadratic in s_y . We need to keep track of those quadratic terms, because they yield the leading order incidental parameter biases that appear in [Theorem 1](#). The remainder $r_{y,ij}$ contains higher-order terms in s_y (cubic, quartic, etc.), which turn out not to matter for the result in [Theorem 1](#). Note also that $\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(2)} = \partial_{\pi^3} \ell_{y,ij}$. Thus, the term quadric in the score is proportional to the third derivative of the objective function.

We now want to decompose the projector Q_y into the parts stemming from x_{ij} , $e_{i,l}$ and $e_{j,J}$, respectively. We have already introduced the d_x -vector $\tilde{x}_{y,ij} = \tilde{x}_{ij}(y)$ in [Section 4.1](#). Let \tilde{x}_y be the $n \times d_x$ matrix with rows given by $\tilde{x}_{y,ij}$, $(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}$. The $d_x \times d_x$ matrix $W_y = W(y) = n^{-1} \tilde{x}_y' \Lambda_y^{(1)} \tilde{x}_y$ was also introduced in [Section 4.1](#). Invertibility of W_y is guaranteed by [Assumption 1](#)(vi), and uniform boundedness of $\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}$ and $\left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}\right)^{-1}$, as formalized by the following lemma.

Lemma 4 (Invertibility of W_y). *Let [Assumption 1](#) hold. Then $\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|W_y^{-1}\| = O_p(1)$.*

Next, define $w_{ij}^{(2)} = e_{i,l}$ and $w_{ij}^{(3)} = e_{j,J}$, and let $w^{(2)}$ and $w^{(3)}$ be the corresponding $n \times I$ and $n \times J$ matrices with rows given by $w_{ij}^{(2)'} and $w_{ij}^{(3)'}$, respectively. Let$

$$Q_y^{(1)} := n^{-1} \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \tilde{x}_y W_y^{-1} \tilde{x}_y' \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2},$$

$$Q_y^{(FE)} := \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \left[w^{(2)}, w^{(3)}\right] \left[\left[w^{(2)}, w^{(3)}\right]' \Lambda_y^{(1)} \left[w^{(2)}, w^{(3)}\right]\right]^\dagger \left[w^{(2)}, w^{(3)}\right]' \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2}.$$

$\tilde{x}_{y,ij}$ is defined as the part of $x_{y,ij}$ that is orthogonal to the fixed effects under a metric given by $\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}$. We have $Q_y^{(FE)} \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \tilde{x}_y = 0$, which implies that

$$Q_y = Q_y^{(1)} + Q_y^{(FE)} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

and also $Q_y^{(1)} Q_y^{(FE)} = Q_y^{(FE)} Q_y^{(1)} = 0$. Also, because $Q_y^{(1)} \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \tilde{x}_y = \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \tilde{x}_y$ and also $Q_y^{(FE)} \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \tilde{x}_y = 0$, we obtain

$$Q_y \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \tilde{x}_y = \left(Q_y^{(1)} + Q_y^{(FE)}\right) \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \tilde{x}_y = \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \tilde{x}_y. \quad (\text{A.4})$$

We have thus decomposed Q_y into the component stemming from the regressors and a component stemming from the fixed effects. For the elements of $Q_y^{(1)}$,

$$Q_{y,ij,i'j'}^{(1)} = n^{-1} \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} \tilde{x}_{y,ij} W_y^{-1} \tilde{x}_{y,i'j'}. \quad (\text{A.5})$$

Next, define the projection matrices

$$Q_y^{(2)} := \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} w^{(2)} \left(w^{(2)'} \Lambda_y^{(1)} w^{(2)}\right)^{-1} w^{(2)'} \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2},$$

$$Q_y^{(3)} := \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2} w^{(3)} \left(w^{(3)'} \Lambda_y^{(1)} w^{(3)}\right)^{-1} w^{(3)'} \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)}\right)^{1/2}.$$

Notice that $w^{(2)'} \Lambda_y^{(1)} w^{(2)}$ and $w^{(3)'} \Lambda_y^{(1)} w^{(3)}$ are simply diagonal $I \times I$ and $J \times J$ matrices with diagonal entries $\sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}_i} \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}$ and $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}_j} \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}$, respectively, and therefore

$$Q_{y,ij,i'j'}^{(2)} = 1(i=i') \frac{\left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)}\right)^{1/2}}{\sum_{j'' \in \mathcal{D}_i} \Lambda_{y,ij''}^{(1)}}, \quad Q_{y,ij,i'j'}^{(3)} = 1(j=j') \frac{\left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)}\right)^{1/2}}{\sum_{i'' \in \mathcal{D}_j} \Lambda_{y,i''j}^{(1)}}. \quad (\text{A.6})$$

It is not exactly true that $Q_y^{(FE)}$ equals $Q_y^{(2)} + Q_y^{(3)}$, but [Lemma 5](#) shows that this is approximately true in a well-defined sense.

Lemma 5 (Properties of Q_y). Under [Assumption 1](#),

(i) $Q_y = Q_y^{(1)} + Q_y^{(\text{FE})}$ and $Q_y^{(\text{FE})} = Q_y^{(2)} + Q_y^{(3)} + Q_y^{(\text{rem})}$, where

$$\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \max_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} |Q_{y,ij,i'j'}^{(\text{rem})}| = O_P(n^{-1}).$$

(ii) $\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} |Q_{y,ij,i'j'}| = O_P(1)$, and

$$\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} |Q_{y,ij,i'j'}^{(\text{FE})}| = O_P(1).$$

(iii) $\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \max_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} |Q_{y,ij,i'j'}| = O_P(n^{-1/2})$.

Remark 9 (Bias of $\hat{\pi}_{y,ij}$). According to part (i) of this lemma the remainder term $Q_y^{(\text{rem})} = Q_y^{(\text{FE})} - Q_y^{(2)} - Q_y^{(3)}$ has elements uniformly bounded of order n^{-1} , and it can easily be seen from [\(A.5\)](#) that the same is true for $Q_y^{(1)}$, because the elements of \tilde{x}_y are also uniformly bounded under our assumptions. By contrast, $Q_y^{(2)}$ and $Q_y^{(3)}$ have elements of order J^{-1} and I^{-1} , respectively, that is, of order $n^{-1/2}$. Using this and the fact that $s_{y,ij}$ has variance one and is independent across observations (i, j) we find

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[(Q_y s_y)_{ij} \right]^2 &= \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} [Q_{y,ij,i'j'}]^2 = Q_{y,ij,ij} = Q_{y,ij,ij}^{(2)} + Q_{y,ij,ij}^{(3)} + O_P(n^{-1}) \\ &= \frac{A_{y,ij}^{(1)}}{\sum_{j' \in \mathcal{D}_i} A_{y,ij'}^{(1)}} + \frac{A_{y,ij}^{(1)}}{\sum_{i' \in \mathcal{D}_j} A_{y,i'j}^{(1)}} + O_P(n^{-1}), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.7})$$

where we use that Q_y is idempotent in the second step, and [\(A.6\)](#) in the third step. Combining this with [Lemma 3](#) one finds that the leading order bias term in $\hat{\pi}_{y,ij} - \pi_{y,ij}^0$ is given by

$$-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{y,ij,i'j'} \frac{A_{y,i'j'}^{(2)}}{A_{y,i'j'}^{(1)}} \left[\frac{1}{\sum_{j' \in \mathcal{D}_i} A_{y,ij'}^{(1)}} + \frac{1}{\sum_{i' \in \mathcal{D}_j} A_{y,i'j}^{(1)}} \right],$$

which then translates into corresponding bias terms for all other estimators as well.

For the following lemma, let $Z_y^{(\beta)} = Z^{(\beta)}(y)$, $Z_y^{(F)} = Z^{(F)}(y)$, $B_y^{(\beta)} = B^{(\beta)}(y)$, $D_y^{(\beta)} = D^{(\beta)}(y)$, $B_{y,k}^{(\Lambda)} = B_k^{(\Lambda)}(y)$ and $D_{y,k}^{(\Lambda)} = D_k^{(\Lambda)}(y)$ be as defined in and before [Theorem 1](#) in the main text.

Lemma 6 (Properties of Score Averages). Under [Assumption 1](#),

(i) $\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} |(Q_y s_y)_{ij}| = o_P(n^{-1/6})$.

(ii) $-W_y^{-1} n^{-1/2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \tilde{x}_{y,ij} \partial_{\pi} \ell_{y,ij} \rightsquigarrow Z_y^{(\beta)}$, in $\ell^\infty(\mathcal{Y})^{d_x}$.

(iii) $-\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} [\Psi_{y,ij} + (\partial_{\beta} F_y) W_y^{-1} \tilde{x}_{y,ij}] \partial_{\pi} \ell_{y,ij} \rightsquigarrow Z_y^{(F)}$, in $\ell^\infty(\mathcal{Y})^{|\mathcal{K}|}$.

(iv) $-\frac{1}{2} W_y^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \tilde{x}_{y,ij} \left(A_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{-1} A_{y,ij}^{(2)} \left[(Q_y s_y)_{ij} \right]^2 - \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} B_y^{(\beta)} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} D_y^{(\beta)} \right) \rightarrow_P 0$, uniformly in $y \in \mathcal{Y}$.

(v) $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left(A_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{-1} \left(A_{y,ij,k}^{(2)} - A_{y,ij}^{(2)} \Psi_{y,ij,k} \right) \left[(Q_y s_y)_{ij} \right]^2 - \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} B_{y,k}^{(\Lambda)} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} D_{y,k}^{(\Lambda)} \right) \rightarrow_P 0$, uniformly in $y \in \mathcal{Y}$.

Regarding part (i) of this lemma, notice that pointwise we have $(Q_y s_y)_{ij} = O_P(n^{-1/4})$, because [\(A.7\)](#) implies that $\mathbb{E} \left[(Q_y s_y)_{ij} \right]^2 = O_P(n^{-1/2})$. However, after taking the supremum over y, i, j the term is growing faster than $n^{-1/4}$. The rate $o_P(n^{-1/6})$ in part (i) of the lemma is crude, but sufficient for our purposes.

Lemma 7 (Uniform Consistency of Estimators of Bias and Variance Components). Let [Assumption 1](#) hold. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|\hat{W}(y) - \overline{W}(y)\| &= o_P(1), & \sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|\partial_{\beta} \hat{F}(y) - \partial_{\beta} F(y)\| &= o_P(1), \\ \sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|\hat{B}^{(\beta)}(y) - B^{(\beta)}(y)\| &= o_P(1), & \sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|\hat{D}^{(\beta)}(y) - D^{(\beta)}(y)\| &= o_P(1), \\ \sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|\hat{B}^{(\Lambda)}(y) - B^{(\Lambda)}(y)\| &= o_P(1), & \sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|\hat{D}^{(\Lambda)}(y) - D^{(\Lambda)}(y)\| &= o_P(1), \\ \sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|\hat{\Omega}(y) - \overline{\Omega}(y)\| &= o_P(1), \end{aligned}$$

where $\|\cdot\|$ denotes the Frobenius matrix norm, i.e. $\|A\| = \text{trace}(AA')^{1/2}$ for a matrix A .

As already mentioned above, the proof of the technical lemmas that we have stated here is provided in the Supplementary Appendix.

A.2. Proof of main text theorems

Proof of Theorem 1. # Part 1: FCLT for $\widehat{\beta}_y = \widehat{\beta}(y)$.

The definition of \widetilde{x}_y implies that $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}_j} \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} = 0$ and $\sum_{j \in \mathcal{D}_i} \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} = 0$, and $n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} x'_{ij} = n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} \widetilde{x}'_{ij} = W_y$. Using this and

$$\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij} - \pi_{y,ij}^0 := x'_{ij} (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0) + (\widehat{\alpha}_{y,i} - \alpha_{y,i}^0) + (\widehat{\gamma}_{y,j} - \gamma_{y,j}^0)$$

we obtain

$$n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} (\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij} - \pi_{y,ij}^0) = n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} x'_{ij} (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0) = W_y (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0),$$

and therefore

$$\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0 = W_y^{-1} n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} (\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij} - \pi_{y,ij}^0).$$

By combining this with Lemma 3 we obtain

$$\sqrt{n} (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0) = T_y^{(1,\beta)} + T_y^{(2,\beta)} + r_y^{(\beta)}, \quad (\text{A.8})$$

where

$$T_y^{(1,\beta)} := -n^{-1/2} W_y^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} (Q_y s_y)_{ij},$$

$$T_y^{(2,\beta)} := -\frac{1}{2} n^{-1/2} W_y^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{y,ij,i'j'} \frac{\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(2)}}{\left(\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)} \right)^{3/2}} \left[(Q_y s_y)_{i'j'} \right]^2,$$

and $r_y^{(\beta)} := W_y^{-1} n^{-1/2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} r_{y,ij}$ satisfies

$$\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} |r_y^{(\beta)}| \leq \underbrace{\left(\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} W_y^{-1} n^{-1/2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} |\widetilde{x}_{y,ij}| \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} \right)}_{=O_p(n^{1/2})} \underbrace{\left(\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} |r_{y,ij}| \right)}_{=O_p(n^{-1/2})} = o_p(1),$$

where we also use that $\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}$ and $\widetilde{x}_{y,ij}$ are uniformly bounded under our assumptions. For the term linear in the score we find

$$T_y^{(1,\beta)} = -n^{-1/2} W_y^{-1} \widetilde{x}_y \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} Q_y s_y = -n^{-1/2} W_y^{-1} \widetilde{x}_y \left(\Lambda_y^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} s_y$$

$$= -W_y^{-1} n^{-1/2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} \partial_\pi \ell_{y,ij} \rightsquigarrow Z_y^{(\beta)},$$

where in the second step we used (A.4), and the final step follows from part (ii) of Lemma 6.

Employing again (A.4) we find

$$T_y^{(2,\beta)} := -\frac{1}{2} W_y^{-1} n^{-1/2} \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} \underbrace{\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} Q_{y,ij,i'j'}}_{= \left(\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)} \right)^{1/2} \widetilde{x}_{y,i'j'}} \frac{\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(2)}}{\left(\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)} \right)^{3/2}} \left[(Q_y s_y)_{i'j'} \right]^2$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} W_y^{-1} n^{-1/2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \widetilde{x}_{y,ij} \frac{\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(2)}}{\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}} \left[(Q_y s_y)_{ij} \right]^2,$$

and according to part (iv) of Lemma 6 we thus have

$$T_y^{(2,\beta)} - \left(\frac{I}{n^{1/2}} B_y^{(\beta)} + \frac{J}{n^{1/2}} D_y^{(\beta)} \right) \rightarrow_p 0,$$

uniformly in $y \in \mathcal{Y}$. Combining the above gives the result for $\sqrt{n} (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0)$ in the theorem.

Part 2: FCLT for $\widehat{F}_{y,k} = \widehat{F}_k(y)$.

Let $\pi_{y,ij,k}^0 := \pi_{y,ij}^0 + (\mathbb{x}_{ij,k} - \mathbb{x}_{ij})' \beta_y^0$ and $\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k} := \widehat{\pi}_{y,ij} + (\mathbb{x}_{ij,k} - \mathbb{x}_{ij})' \widehat{\beta}_y$. Because $\mathbb{x}_{ij,k} - \mathbb{x}_{ij} = \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_{y,ij,k} - \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_{y,ij}$ we have

$$\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k} - \pi_{y,ij,k}^0 = \widehat{\pi}_{y,ij} - \pi_{y,ij}^0 + (\widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_{y,ij,k} - \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_{y,ij})' (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0). \quad (\text{A.9})$$

Using (A.2) and $Q_y^{(1)} (\Lambda_y^{(1)})^{1/2} \pi_y = (\Lambda_y^{(1)})^{1/2} \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_y \beta_y$ for any $\pi_y = w \theta_y$,

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\pi}_y - \pi_y^0 &= (\Lambda_y^{(1)})^{-1/2} \underbrace{(Q_y^{(1)} + Q_y^{(\text{FE})})}_{=Q_y} (\Lambda_y^{(1)})^{1/2} (\widehat{\pi}_y - \pi_y^0) \\ &= (\Lambda_y^{(1)})^{-1/2} Q_y^{(\text{FE})} (\Lambda_y^{(1)})^{1/2} (\widehat{\pi}_y - \pi_y^0) + \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_y (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0). \end{aligned}$$

Combining the above gives

$$\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k} - \pi_{y,ij,k}^0 = \left[(\Lambda_y^{(1)})^{-1/2} Q_y^{(\text{FE})} (\Lambda_y^{(1)})^{1/2} (\widehat{\pi}_y - \pi_y^0) \right]_{ij} + \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_{y,ij,k}' (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0).$$

Using Lemma 3 and the properties of Q_y , $Q_y^{(1)}$ and $Q_y^{(\text{FE})}$, we thus find

$$\begin{aligned} (\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)})^{1/2} (\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k} - \pi_{y,ij,k}^0) &= - (Q_y^{(\text{FE})} s_y)_{ij} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{y,ij,i'j'}^{(\text{FE})} \frac{\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(2)}}{(\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)})^{3/2}} \left[(Q_y s_y)_{i'j'} \right]^2 \\ &\quad + (Q_y^{(\text{FE})} r_y)_{ij} + (\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)})^{1/2} \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_{y,ij,k}' (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.10})$$

Next, by expanding $\Lambda(\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k})$ in $\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k}$ around $\pi_{y,ij,k}^0$ we find

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{F}_{y,k} - F_{y,k} &= n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} [\Lambda(\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k}) - \Lambda(\pi_{y,ij,k}^0)] \\ &= n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left[\Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(1)} (\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k} - \pi_{y,ij,k}^0) + \frac{1}{2} \Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(2)} (\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k} - \pi_{y,ij,k}^0)^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{6} \Lambda^{(3)}(\widetilde{\pi}_{y,ij,k}) (\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k} - \pi_{y,ij,k}^0)^3 \right], \end{aligned}$$

where $\widetilde{\pi}_{y,ij,k}$ is some value between $\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k}$ and $\pi_{y,ij,k}^0$, and we use the notation $\Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(\ell)} = \Lambda^{(\ell)}(\pi_{y,ij,k}^0)$, which corresponds to $\Lambda_{ij,k}^{(\ell)}(y)$ in the main text. By appropriately inserting (A.9) and (A.10) into this expansion, also using (A.8), and sorting by terms linear in s_y , quadratic in s_y , and remainder, we find

$$\sqrt{n} (\widehat{F}_{y,k} - F_{y,k}) = T_{y,k}^{(1,F)} + T_{y,k}^{(2,F)} + r_{y,k}^{(F)}, \quad (\text{A.11})$$

where the terms linear in s_y read

$$T_{y,k}^{(1,F)} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(1)} \left[\frac{(Q_y^{(\text{FE})} s_y)_{ij}}{(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)})^{1/2}} + \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_{y,ij,k}' W_y^{-1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_{y,i'j'} \partial_{\pi} \ell_{y,i'j'} \right],$$

with $\partial_{\pi} \ell_{y,i'j'} = (\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)})^{1/2} s_{y,i'j'}$.

The projection $\Psi_{y,ij,k} = \Psi_{ij,k}(y)$, defined just before (6) in the main text, can be written in terms of the matrix $Q_y^{(\text{FE})}$ as

$$\Psi_{y,ij,k} = (\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)})^{-1/2} \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{y,ij,i'j'}^{(\text{FE})} \frac{\Lambda_{y,i'j',k}^{(1)}}{(\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)})^{1/2}}, \quad (\text{A.12})$$

which implies that $\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Psi_{y,ij,k} \partial_{\pi} \ell_{y,ij} = \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(1)} (\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)})^{-1/2} (Q_y^{(\text{FE})} s_y)_{ij}$. Using $\partial_{\beta} F_{y,k} = \partial_{\beta} F_k(y) = n^{-1} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{ij,k}^{(1)}(y) \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_{y,ij,k}'$ we obtain

$$T_{y,k}^{(1,F)} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} (\Psi_{y,ij,k} + \partial_{\beta} F_{y,k} W_y^{-1} \widetilde{\mathbb{x}}_{y,ij}) \partial_{\pi} \ell_{y,ij}. \quad (\text{A.13})$$

According to part (iii) of Lemma 6 the vector $T_y^{(1,F)} = [T_{y,k}^{(1,F)} : k \in \mathcal{K}]$ therefore satisfies $T_y^{(1,F)} \rightsquigarrow Z_y^{(F)}$ asymptotically.

The terms quadratic in s_y read

$$T_{y,k}^{(2,F)} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{-1/2} \sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{y,ij,i'j'}^{(FE)} \frac{\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(2)}}{\left(\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)} \right)^{3/2}} \left[(Q_y s_y)_{i'j'} \right]^2 \\ + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \frac{\Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(2)}}{\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}} \left[(Q_y s_y)_{ij} \right]^2 + (\partial_\beta F_{y,k}) T_y^{(2,\beta)},$$

where for the term quadratic in $\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij,k} - \pi_{y,ij,k}^0$ in the expansion of $\widehat{F}_{y,k} - F_{y,k}$ we do not insert (A.10) but rather insert (A.9), and we ignore the terms involving $\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0$ here – they give contributions quadratic in the score s_y , but only of smaller order, and we therefore rather include those in the remainder term $r_{y,k}^{(F)}$ below. Using again (A.12) we find

$$T_{y,k}^{(2,F)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \frac{\Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(2)} - \Lambda_{y,ij}^{(2)} \Psi_{y,ij,k}}{\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}} \left[(Q_y s_y)_{ij} \right]^2 + (\partial_\beta F_{y,k}) T_y^{(2,\beta)}.$$

Using part (v) of Lemma 6, and our previous result for $T_y^{(2,\beta)}$, we thus obtain

$$T_{y,k}^{(2,F)} - \frac{I}{n^{1/2}} \left[B_{y,k}^{(\Lambda)} + (\partial_\beta F_{y,k}) B_y^{(\beta)} \right] - \frac{J}{n^{1/2}} \left[D_{y,k}^{(\Lambda)} + (\partial_\beta F_{y,k}) D_y^{(\beta)} \right] \rightarrow_p 0, \quad (\text{A.14})$$

uniformly in $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ and $k \in \mathcal{K}$.

The remainder term of the expansion is read as

$$r_{y,k}^{(F)} = n^{-1/2} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left\{ \Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(1)} \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{-1/2} (Q^{(FE)} r_y)_{ij} + n^{-1/2} \Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(1)} \widetilde{\mathbb{X}}_{y,ij,k}' r_y^{(\beta)} \right. \\ + \frac{1}{8} \Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(2)} \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{-1} \left[\sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{y,ij,i'j'} \left(\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)} \right)^{-3/2} \Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(2)} (Q_y s_y)_{i'j'}^2 \right]^2 \\ + \frac{1}{2} \Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(2)} \left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{-1} (r_{y,ij})^2 + \frac{1}{2} \Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(2)} [(\mathbb{X}_{ij,k} - x_{ij})' (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0)]^2 \\ \left. + \frac{1}{6} \Lambda^{(3)}(\widetilde{\pi}_{y,ij,k}) [\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij} - \pi_{y,ij}^0 + (\mathbb{X}_{ij,k} - x_{ij})' (\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0)]^3 \right\}.$$

Our assumptions guarantee that $\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(\ell)}$ and $\Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(\ell)}$, $\ell \in \{1, 2, 3\}$, and $\left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{-1}$ are all uniformly bounded. Lemma 3 guarantees that $r_{y,ij} = o_p(n^{-1/2})$, uniformly over y, i, j , and using Lemma 5(ii) this also implies that $(Q^{(FE)} r_y)_{ij} = o_p(n^{-1/2})$, uniformly over y, i, j . Above we have shown $r_y^{(\beta)} = o_p(1)$, uniformly over y . Lemma 5(ii) and Lemma 6(i) imply that

$$\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left[\sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{y,ij,i'j'} \left(\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)} \right)^{-3/2} \Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(2)} (Q_y s_y)_{i'j'}^2 \right]^2 = o_p(n^{-1+1/3}) = o_p(n^{-1/2}).$$

Our asymptotic result for $\widehat{\beta}_y$ from part 1 of this proof guarantees that $\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \|\widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0\|^2 = o_p(n^{-1/2})$. Lemma 3 together with Lemma 5(ii) and Lemma 6(i) guarantees that $\widehat{\pi}_{y,ij} - \pi_{y,ij}^0 = o_p(n^{-1/6})$, uniformly over y, i, j . We thus find, uniformly over $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ and $k \in \mathcal{K}$,

$$\left| r_{y,k}^{(F)} \right| \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \underbrace{\left[\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left| \frac{\Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(1)}}{\left(\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)} \right)^{1/2}} \right| \right]}_{=O_p(n)} \underbrace{\left[\max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left| (Q^{(FE)} r_y)_{ij} \right| \right]}_{=o_p(n^{-1/2})} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left\| \Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(1)} \widetilde{\mathbb{X}}_{y,ij,k} \right\| \right)}_{=O_p(1)} \underbrace{\left\| r_y^{(\beta)} \right\|}_{=o_p(1)} \\ + \frac{1}{8\sqrt{n}} \underbrace{\left(\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left| \frac{\Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(2)}}{\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}} \right| \right)}_{=O_p(n)} \underbrace{\left\{ \max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left[\sum_{(i',j') \in \mathcal{D}} Q_{y,ij,i'j'} \left(\Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(1)} \right)^{-3/2} \Lambda_{y,i'j'}^{(2)} (Q_y s_y)_{i'j'}^2 \right]^2 \right\}}_{=o_p(n^{-1/2})} \\ + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}} \underbrace{\left(\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left| \frac{\Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(2)}}{\Lambda_{y,ij}^{(1)}} \right| \right)}_{=O_p(n)} \underbrace{\left[\max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} (r_{y,ij})^2 \right]}_{=o_p(n^{-1})} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}} \underbrace{\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \left| \Lambda_{y,ij,k}^{(2)} \right| \left\| \mathbb{X}_{ij,k} - x_{ij} \right\|^2}_{=O_p(n)} \underbrace{\left\| \widehat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0 \right\|^2}_{=o_p(n^{-1/2})}$$

$$+ \frac{4}{3\sqrt{n}} \underbrace{\left(\sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} |\Lambda^{(3)}(\tilde{\pi}_{y,ij,k})| \right)}_{=O_P(n)} \left\{ \underbrace{\max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} |\hat{\pi}_{y,ij} - \pi_{y,ij}^0|}_{=o_P(n^{-1/2})}^3 + \underbrace{\max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{D}} \|\mathbf{x}_{ij,k} - \mathbf{x}_{ij}\|}_{=O_P(1)}^3 \underbrace{\|\hat{\beta}_y - \beta_y^0\|}_{=o_P(n^{-1/2})}^3 \right\},$$

and therefore

$$\sup_{y \in \mathcal{Y}, k \in \mathcal{K}} |r_{y,k}^{(F)}| = o_P(1). \quad (\text{A.15})$$

Combining (A.11), (A.13), (A.14) and (A.15) gives the statement for $\hat{F}(y) - F(y)$ in the theorem. ■

Proof of Theorem 2. The theorem follows from Theorem 1 by applying Lemma 7, which provides the uniform consistency of the estimators of the components of the asymptotic bias and variance functions. ■

Appendix B. Supplementary data

Supplementary material related to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeconom.2020.08.009>.

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