

## Simulation Appendix

Some mathematical details for setting values for parameters  $a$  and  $c$  in the simulations:

1. Consider the simplified case:

$$y(s) = f(x_1, \dots, x_4) + \delta(s) = ag(x_1, x_2) + h(x_3, x_4) + \delta(s)$$

where  $var(g) = \sigma_g^2$  and  $var(h) = \sigma_h^2$  are computed empirically. Find  $a$  for a given fixed value of  $var(ag)/var(f) = \lambda$  (i.e., the proportion of variance in  $f$  explained by the nonlinear component is fixed).

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= \frac{a^2 \sigma_g^2}{a^2 \sigma_g^2 + \sigma_h^2} \implies \lambda a^2 \sigma_g^2 + \lambda \sigma_h^2 = a^2 \sigma_g^2 \\ \implies \lambda \sigma_h^2 &= a^2 \sigma_g^2 - \lambda a^2 \sigma_g^2 = a^2 (1 - \lambda) \sigma_g^2 \\ \implies a &= \sqrt{\frac{\lambda \sigma_h^2}{(1 - \lambda) \sigma_g^2}} \end{aligned}$$

2. Now consider the more general case:

$$\begin{aligned} y(s) &= cf(x_1, \dots, x_4) + \delta(s) \\ &= c[ag(x_1, x_2) + h(x_3, x_4)] + \delta(s) \end{aligned}$$

where  $var(f) = \sigma_f^2$  and  $var(\delta) = \sigma_d^2$  are computed empirically. Find  $c$  for a given fixed value of  $R^2 = \rho$  (i.e, the proportion of variance in  $y$  explained by the covariates is fixed).

$$\begin{aligned} R^2 = \rho &= \frac{var(cf)}{var(y)} = \frac{c^2 \sigma_f^2}{c^2 \sigma_f^2 + \sigma_d^2} \\ \implies \rho(c^2 \sigma_f^2 + \sigma_d^2) &= c^2 \sigma_f^2 \\ \implies \rho \sigma_d^2 &= c^2 \sigma_f^2 - \rho c^2 \sigma_f^2 = c^2 (1 - \rho) \sigma_f^2 \\ \implies c &= \sqrt{\frac{\rho \sigma_d^2}{(1 - \rho) \sigma_f^2}} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\sigma_f^2 = a^2 \sigma_g^2 + \sigma_h^2$  we can also express  $c$  as

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{\rho \sigma_d^2}{(1 - \rho)(a^2 \sigma_g^2 + \sigma_h^2)}}$$

Note the  $R^2$  and  $\lambda$  values vary in R since the above derivation assume independence between model components (which is true in the expectation for the population).