

# Measurement Error without the Proxy Exclusion Restriction

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## Abstract

This paper studies the identification of the coefficients in a linear equation when data on the outcome, covariates, and an error-laden proxy for a latent variable are available. We maintain that the measurement error in the proxy is classical and relax the assumption that the proxy is excluded from the outcome equation. This enables the proxy to directly affect the outcome and allows for differential measurement error. Without the proxy exclusion restriction, we first show that the effects of the latent variable, the proxy, and the covariates are not identified. We then derive the sharp identification regions for these effects under any configuration of three auxiliary assumptions. The first weakens the assumption of no measurement error by imposing an upper bound on the noise to signal ratio. The second imposes an upper bound on the outcome equation coefficient of determination that would obtain had there been no measurement error. The third weakens the proxy exclusion restriction by specifying whether the latent variable and its proxy affect the outcome in the same or the opposite direction, if at all. Using the College Scorecard aggregate data, we illustrate our framework by studying the financial returns to college selectivity and characteristics and student characteristics when the average SAT score at an institution may directly affect earnings and serves as a proxy for the average ability of the student cohort.

**JEL codes:** C21, I23.

**Keywords:** *college selectivity, college characteristics, endogeneity, exclusion restriction, differential measurement error, partial identification, proxy, sensitivity analysis.*

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# 1 Introduction

In many studies, the researchers do not observe a key explanatory variable  $U$  and employ a useful proxy  $W$  in its place. For example, when estimating wage or earnings equations, a test score is often used as a proxy for the unobserved individual “ability” (see e.g. Neal and Johnson, 1996). When the equation for the outcome  $Y$  is linear and the proxy  $W$  suffers from classical measurement error, a regression of  $Y$  on  $W$  and the correctly measured covariates  $X$  does not point identify the effects of  $U$  or  $X$  on  $Y$ , except in special cases. In particular, the regression estimand for the effect of  $U$  suffers from “attenuation bias.” Nevertheless, a quintessential result establishes sharp bounds for the coefficients on  $U$  and  $X$  (e.g. Gini, 1921; Frisch, 1934; Klepper and Leamer, 1984; Bollinger, 2003). These bounds can be informative in several empirical contexts. For example, Bollinger (2003) reports bounds on the black-white wage gap when a test score serves as an error-laden proxy for ability.

These standard bounds are valid under the assumption that, unlike  $U$ , the proxy  $W$  is excluded from the equation for  $Y$ . This is similar to the standard assumption that an instrumental variable is excluded from the outcome equation. As illustrated below, sometimes the proxy for the latent variable may directly affect the outcome. What can be learned about the effects of  $U$ ,  $W$ , and  $X$  on  $Y$  if the available proxy  $W$  for the latent explanatory variable  $U$  also affects the outcome  $Y$ ? To address this question, the paper characterizes the sharp bounds on these effects under assumptions that allow  $W$  to be included in the outcome equation. This is akin to studying the consequences of weakening the exclusion restriction imposed on an instrumental variable (e.g. Conley, Hansen, and Rossi, 2012).

Without the proxy exclusion restriction, the measurement error is “differential” since the proxy may help predict the outcome even after conditioning on the latent variable. Several key identification results in the literature maintain that the measurement error is “non-differential” (see e.g. Chesher (1991) and Chen, Hong, and Nekipelov (2011, assumption 2.1)). This assumption posits that the distributions of  $Y|(W, U, X)$  and  $Y|(U, X)$  (or e.g. their means) coincide. We relax this assumption in the context of a linear specification that allows  $W$  to directly enter the  $Y$  equation. In this sense, the paper puts forward partial identification results that enable inference in a leading setting for differential measurement error that “occurs when  $W$  is not merely a mismeasured version of  $[U]$ , but is a separate

variable acting as a type of proxy for  $[U]$ ” (Carroll, Ruppert, Stefanski, and Crainiceanu, 2006, p. 36), as occurs in the examples below.

In particular, we characterize the joint sharp identification region for the direct and total (direct and mediated via  $W$ ) effect of  $U$  on  $Y$ , the direct effects of  $W$  and  $X$  on  $Y$ , and the (net-of- $X$ ) “signal to total variance ratio” (the ratio of the (net-of- $X$ ) variances of  $U$  and  $W$ ). We then show that none of these parameters are separately identified since projecting the joint identification region onto the supports of each of its components yields the full support. This demonstrates the crucial role that the proxy exclusion restriction plays in ensuring the validity of the standard bounds discussed above. To proceed, we derive the joint and projected sharp identification regions under any configuration of three auxiliary assumptions. The first weakens the benchmark assumption of “no measurement error” by imposing an upper bound on the (net-of- $X$ ) “noise to signal” ratio (the ratio of the (net-of- $X$ ) variances of the measurement error and  $U$ ). The second imposes an upper bound on the outcome equation coefficient of determination that would obtain had  $W$  measured  $U$  without error. The third weakens the proxy exclusion restriction by specifying whether the latent variable  $U$  and its proxy  $W$  affect the outcome in the same or the opposite direction, if at all. We do not require particular auxiliary assumptions; rather, we establish the mapping from each configuration of these assumptions to the sharp identification regions. By varying the two upper bounds and the sign restriction in these three auxiliary assumptions, a researcher can conduct a sensitivity analysis of how the measurement error in the proxy, the fit of the model, and the proxy exclusion restriction affect the sharp identification regions.

After discussing estimation and inference, we illustrate our results by studying the financial returns to the college and student characteristics. Specifically, we analyze the recently released College Scorecard (CS) data which reports information on postsecondary institutions in the US. CS is aggregated at the institution level and includes information on the institution, students, affordability, admission and academic attributes, and earnings outcomes. While CS has some limitations that are partly due to data aggregation, it is “the first nationally comprehensive data on students’ post-enrollment earnings, measured for a consistently defined set of students at nearly all post-secondary institutions in the United States” (Council of Economic Advisors, 2015). We use a parsimonious specification for a student’s earnings as a function of his or her individual characteristics, the college’s char-

acteristics, including its selectivity measured by the average SAT (equivalent) score of the student’s cohort, and the student’s unobserved scholastic “ability.” We allow a student’s ability to freely depend on his or her observed characteristics as well as the characteristics of the college he or she attended. We then study the consequences of deviating from the “selection on observables” assumption by allowing a student’s SAT (equivalent) score to serve as an error-laden proxy for his or her ability, with classical measurement error. Because CS reports only aggregate data, we average the earnings equation across students in each college. The average SAT score now serves as an error-laden proxy for the average latent ability and is included in the average earnings equation, thereby violating the proxy exclusion restriction. We apply the paper’s framework and obtain informative bounds on the earnings equation coefficients and study their sensitivity to the three auxiliary assumptions on the extent of the measurement error in the average SAT score, the fit of the model, and the signs of the returns to the student’s ability and the selectivity of the college he or she attended.

More broadly, the paper’s results are useful in any setting where one suspects that the proxy for the latent variable may directly affect the outcome. For example, consumers may not fully observe the quality of a product (e.g. financial asset or movie) and their demand may be influenced by a product rating (e.g. asset rating or movie score (e.g. Rotten Tomatoes)) that the econometrician uses as a proxy for quality. Also, a medical test result that serves as a proxy for the unobserved health status of a patient may directly affect the patient’s behavior (e.g. a worker may work shorter hours if he or she is incorrectly prescribed rest). Another example occurs in studies of state-level corruption in the US, when convictions of public officials for past corruption serves as a proxy for current corruption and can affect e.g. growth or environmental policy by entailing a change in the bureaucracy. Last, aggregate variables (e.g. income in a neighborhood) that serve as proxies for socioeconomic individual variables (e.g. individual income) can directly affect the outcome (e.g. individual health) if there are “contextual effects” (see e.g. Geronimus, Bound, and Neidert (1996) and Bound, Brown, and Mathiowetz (2001, footnote 8)).

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 specifies the assumptions and notation. Section 3 characterizes the sharp identification regions when none, some, or all of the auxiliary assumptions are imposed. Section 4 provides a numerical example. Section 5 discusses estimation and inference. Section 6 contains the empirical application. Section 7 concludes.

The Supplement gathers the mathematical proofs and additional results.

## 2 Data Generation and Assumptions

We consider the following data generating structural system.

**Assumption A<sub>1</sub>** *Data Generation:* (i) Let  $(X', W, Y)'$  be a random vector with a finite variance. (ii) Let a structural system, with constant slope coefficients, generate the random vector  $X$  and variables  $\eta$ ,  $\varepsilon$ ,  $U$ ,  $W$ , and  $Y$  such that

$$Y = X'\beta + W\phi + U\delta + \eta \quad \text{and} \quad W = U + \varepsilon. \quad (1)$$

The researcher observes realizations of  $(X', W, Y)'$  but not of  $(\eta, \varepsilon, U)$ .

We maintain two standard assumptions on the unobservables  $\eta$  and  $\varepsilon$ . A<sub>2</sub> assumes that the “disturbance”  $\eta$  is uncorrelated with  $(X', U)'$ .

**Assumption A<sub>2</sub>** *Uncorrelated Disturbance:*  $Cov[\eta, (X', U)'] = 0$ .

Further, A<sub>1</sub> decomposes the proxy  $W$  into the “signal” component  $U$  and the “noise” or error  $\varepsilon$  and A<sub>3</sub> assumes that the measurement error  $\varepsilon$  is uncorrelated with  $(X', U, \eta)$ .

**Assumption A<sub>3</sub>** *Uncorrelated measurement error:*  $Cov[\varepsilon, (X', U, \eta)'] = 0$ .

We are interested in identifying  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta$ . The slope coefficients  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\beta$  are the ceteris paribus causal effects of the proxy  $W$ , the latent variable  $U$ , and the covariates  $X$  on the outcome  $Y$  respectively. The sum  $\phi + \delta$  is the total (direct and mediated via  $W$ ) effect of  $U$  on  $Y$ . One identification challenge is due to  $U$  being unobserved and correlated with  $W$  and possibly  $X$ . Moreover, we only require the uncorrelation assumptions A<sub>2</sub> and A<sub>3</sub> and do not impose stronger (e.g. mean) independence assumptions. In particular, A<sub>2</sub> suffices for a linear regression of  $Y$  on  $(X, U)$  to point identify  $\phi + \delta$  and  $\beta$  had  $U$  been observed without error (i.e.  $\varepsilon = 0$ ) and A<sub>3</sub> relaxes the assumption that  $\varepsilon = 0$ .

A<sub>1</sub> allows, but does not require, the proxy  $W$  to directly affect  $Y$ . When  $\phi = 0$ , A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>3</sub> are the classical error-in-variables assumptions (see e.g. Wooldridge, 2002, p. 80). We relax these benchmark assumptions by studying the consequences of deviating from the exclusion restriction  $\phi = 0$  on the identification of  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta$ . Relaxing  $\phi = 0$  leads

to a second identification challenge. In particular, it is widely assumed in the literature that the measurement error is “nondifferential” so that  $E(Y|X, W, U) = E(Y|X, U)$  (see e.g. Bollinger, 1996; Mahajan, 2006; Lewbel, 2007; Hu, 2008; Wooldridge (2002, p. 79) refers to this as the “redundancy condition”). Incorrectly assuming that the measurement error is nondifferential may result in misleading inference on  $\delta$  and  $\beta$ . Bound, Brown, and Mathiowetz (2001, p. 3717) discuss several examples that “highlight the potential importance of differential measurement error.” Here, we have

$$E(Y|X, W, U) - E(Y|X, U) = [\varepsilon - E(\varepsilon|X, U)]\phi + E(\eta|X, W, U) - E(\eta|X, U)$$

so that, even when  $E(\eta|X, W, U) = E(\eta|X, U)$  and  $E(\varepsilon|X, U) = 0$ ,  $E(Y|X, W, U)$  differs from  $E(Y|X, U)$  by  $\varepsilon\phi$  and the measurement error is differential.

Last, we briefly comment on some related papers that modify A<sub>2</sub>-A<sub>3</sub>. Under  $\phi = 0$ , Erickson (1993) weakens A<sub>3</sub> by imposing bounds on  $Corr(\varepsilon, \eta)$ , Hyslop and Imbens (2001) replace A<sub>3</sub> with the assumption that  $W$  is an optimal prediction of  $U$  so that  $\varepsilon$  is uncorrelated with  $W$  and correlated with  $U$ , and DiTraglia and Garcia-Jimeno (2016) weaken A<sub>2</sub> to allow  $Cov(U, \eta)$  to be nonzero. In contrast, Lewbel (1997) and Erickson and Whited (2002) maintain  $\phi = 0$  and strengthen A<sub>2</sub>-A<sub>3</sub> by imposing restrictions on the higher order moments of  $\eta, \varepsilon, U$ , and  $X$  that can point identify  $(\beta', \delta)'$ . Last, recall that  $Cov(\varepsilon, U) = 0$  in A<sub>3</sub> generally rules out that  $U$  and  $W$  are binary variables. Imai and Yamamoto (2010) study bounding the average effect of a binary misclassified treatment on a binary outcome under alternative assumptions on the differential measurement error.

## 2.1 Notation and Linear Projection

To shorten the notation, for generic random vectors  $A$  and  $B$ , we write:

$$\sigma_A^2 \equiv Var(A) \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_{A,B} \equiv Cov(A, B).$$

Further, we use a concise notation for the linear regression estimand and residual

$$b_{A,B} \equiv \sigma_B^{-2} \sigma_{B,A} \quad \text{and} \quad \epsilon'_{A,B} \equiv [A - E(A)]' - [B - E(B)]' b_{A,B}$$

so that by construction  $E(\epsilon_{A,B}) = 0$  and  $Cov(B, \epsilon_{A,B}) = 0$ . For example,  $b_{Y,X}$  is the vector of slope coefficients associated with  $X$  in a linear regression of  $Y$  on  $(1, X)'$ . Last, for a

scalar  $A$ , we let  $R_{A,B}^2 \equiv \sigma_A^{-2}(\sigma_{A,B}\sigma_B^{-2}\sigma_{B,A})$  denote the population coefficient of determination (R-squared) from a regression of  $A$  on  $B$  (if  $\sigma_A^2 = 0$  set  $R_{A,B}^2 \equiv 0$ ).

Under  $A_1$ - $A_3$ ,  $Cov[(\eta, \varepsilon)', X] = 0$ . Thus, provided  $\sigma_X^2$  is nonsingular, by substituting for  $U = W - \varepsilon$  in the  $Y$  equation we obtain

$$b_{Y.X} = \beta + b_{W.X}(\phi + \delta). \quad (2)$$

Using the shorthand notation  $\tilde{A} \equiv \epsilon_{A.X}$  for the residuals from a regression of  $A$  on  $(1, X)'$ , we employ the convenient system of projected linear equations:

$$\tilde{Y} = \tilde{W}\phi + \tilde{U}\delta + \tilde{\eta} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{W} = \tilde{U} + \tilde{\varepsilon}, \quad (3)$$

in order to study the identification of  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\phi + \delta$ . The identification region for  $\beta$  then obtains from the identification region for  $\phi + \delta$  using equation (2).

## 2.2 Auxiliary Assumptions

We also study the identification gain that results from imposing any configuration of three auxiliary assumptions  $A_4$ - $A_6$ . The first weakens the standard “no measurement error” assumption  $\sigma_\varepsilon^2 = 0$  by imposing an upper bound  $\kappa$  on the net-of- $X$  noise to signal ratio  $\frac{\sigma_\varepsilon^2}{\sigma_U^2}$ .

**Assumption  $A_4$**  *Bounded Net-of- $X$  Noise to Signal Ratio:*  $\sigma_\varepsilon^2 \leq \kappa\sigma_U^2$  where  $0 \leq \kappa$ .

For example, setting  $\kappa = 0$  yields the no measurement error assumption  $\sigma_\varepsilon^2 = 0$  and setting  $\kappa = 1$  assumes that the variance of the measurement error is at most as large as the variance of  $\tilde{U}$ ,  $\sigma_\varepsilon^2 \leq \sigma_U^2$ . By  $A_1$ - $A_3$ , we have  $\sigma_W^2 = \sigma_U^2 + \sigma_\varepsilon^2$ . It follows that  $A_4$  sets a lower bound  $\frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  on  $\rho$ , the net-of- $X$  “signal to total variance ratio”:

$$\frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq \rho \equiv \frac{\sigma_U^2}{\sigma_W^2} = \frac{\sigma_U^2}{\sigma_U^2 + \sigma_\varepsilon^2}.$$

Since  $\rho \equiv \frac{\sigma_U^2}{\sigma_W^2} = \frac{R_{W,U}^2 - R_{W,X}^2}{1 - R_{W,X}^2}$  (e.g. Dale and Krueger (2002, p. 1514) and DiTraglia and Garcia-Jimeno (2016, eq. (20))),  $A_4$  imposes a lower bound  $\kappa'$  on the “reliability ratio,”  $\kappa' \equiv \frac{1+\kappa R_{W,X}^2}{1+\kappa} \leq R_{W,U}^2$  where  $R_{W,X}^2 \leq \kappa'$ . A researcher can resort to any of these equivalent interpretations of  $A_4$ .

Let  $\tilde{R}_*^2 \equiv 1 - \frac{\sigma_\eta^2}{\sigma_Y^2}$  be the coefficient of determination that would obtain in equations (3) had  $W$  measured  $U$  without error. By  $A_1$ - $A_3$  and Lemma 1 in the Supplement,  $R_{Y,\tilde{W}}^2 \leq \tilde{R}_*^2$ . The second assumption imposes a bound  $\tau$  on how large can  $\tilde{R}_*^2$  be.

**Assumption A<sub>5</sub>** *Bounded Net-of-X Coefficient of Determination:*  $\tilde{R}_*^2 \leq \tau$  where  $0 < \tau$  and  $R_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \leq \tau \leq 1$ .

Since  $R_{A,(X',B)'}^2 = \frac{\sigma_A^2}{\sigma_A^2} (R_{A,\tilde{B}}^2 - 1) + 1$ , A<sub>5</sub> imposes an upper bound  $\tau' \equiv \frac{\sigma_Y^2}{\sigma_Y^2} (\tau - 1) + 1$  on  $R_*^2 \equiv 1 - \frac{\sigma_\eta^2}{\sigma_Y^2}$  which would obtain in equations (1) had  $W$  measured  $U$  without error.

Klepper and Leamer (1984), Bekker, Kapteyn, and Wansbeek (1987), and Klepper (1988) use restrictions similar to A<sub>4</sub> and A<sub>5</sub> when  $\phi = 0$ . We vary  $\kappa$  and  $\tau$  in A<sub>4</sub> and A<sub>5</sub> to conduct a sensitivity analysis that weakens the no measurement error assumption  $\kappa = 0$  (or  $\tau = R_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2$  in A<sub>5</sub>) or/and controls the fit of the model ( $\tilde{R}_*^2 \leq \tau$ ). Conversely, we study for what value of  $\kappa$  or  $\tau$  does the identification region admit a plausible value or range for e.g.  $\delta$  or  $\beta$ . To keep the exposition concise, we impose A<sub>4</sub> and A<sub>5</sub> throughout the analysis and treat the results when A<sub>4</sub> or A<sub>5</sub> is not binding as a special case in which  $\kappa \rightarrow +\infty$  or  $\tau = 1$ .

The last auxiliary assumption weakens the proxy exclusion restriction  $\phi = 0$  (A<sub>6</sub><sup>0</sup>) by specifying whether  $\phi$  and  $\delta$  have the same or the opposite (weak) sign.

**Assumption A<sub>6</sub>** *Coefficient Sign Restriction:*  $\phi\delta \geq 0$  (A<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup>),  $\phi\delta \leq 0$  (A<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>), or  $\phi = 0$  (A<sub>6</sub><sup>0</sup>).

Under A<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> (A<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>),  $U$  and  $W$  affect  $Y$  in the same (opposite) direction. For instance, A<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> assumes that the average SAT score  $W$  (the college selectivity) and the average student ability  $U$  affect the mean earnings  $Y$  in the same direction. Similarly, a rating  $W$  of a financial asset (movie) and the asset's (movie's) quality may affect the demand for the asset (movie) in the same direction. On the other hand, A<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> assumes that a diabetic patient with a high blood sugar level ( $U$ ) may feel fatigued and exercise ( $Y$ ) less ( $\delta \leq 0$ ) but that receiving a high blood sugar test result ( $W$ ) may affect the patient's exercising positively ( $\phi \geq 0$ ). We note that A<sub>4</sub> and A<sub>6</sub> resemble the assumptions of a maximum misclassification rate and a monotone treatment response used in e.g. Kreider, Pepper, Gundersen, and Jolliffe (2012) and Gundersen, Kreider, and Pepper (2012) to bound the average effect of a binary treatment.

### 3 Identification

We characterize the sharp identification regions for  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\phi + \delta$ , and thus  $\beta = b_{Y,X} - b_{W,X}(\phi + \delta)$ , under the sequentially stronger assumptions A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>5</sub>, A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> or A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>, and A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>6</sub><sup>0</sup>. From the proof of Theorem 3.1 below, we can express the moments in  $Var[(\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W})']$



under A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>3</sub> by

$$\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2 = \sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2 + \sigma_{\varepsilon}^2, \quad \sigma_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}} = (\phi + \delta)\sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2 + \phi\sigma_{\varepsilon}^2, \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2 = (\phi + \delta)^2\sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2 + \phi^2\sigma_{\varepsilon}^2 + \sigma_{\eta}^2.$$

Dividing  $\sigma_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}$  by  $\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2 \neq 0$ , gives that  $b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}$  is a weighted average of  $\phi$  and  $\phi + \delta$ :

$$b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} = \phi(1 - \rho) + (\phi + \delta)\rho \quad \text{where} \quad \rho \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2 + \sigma_{\varepsilon}^2}. \quad (4)$$

Clearly,  $0 \leq \rho \leq 1$ . If there is no measurement error ( $\sigma_{\varepsilon}^2 = 0$ ) then  $\rho = 1$  and  $b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} = \phi + \delta$  whereas if  $\tilde{U}$  is degenerate ( $\sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2 = 0$  and  $U$  and  $X$  are perfectly collinear) then  $\rho = 0$  and  $b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} = \phi$ . Similarly, normalizing  $\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2$  by  $\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2$ , we have that

$$\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \phi^2(1 - \rho) + (\phi + \delta)^2\rho + \frac{\sigma_{\eta}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}, \quad (5)$$

where, by definition, we have the inequality

$$0 \leq \xi^2 \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\eta}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}. \quad (6)$$

As we demonstrate, the nonlinear system of moment (in)equalities (2) and (4-6) exhausts the information on  $(\rho, \phi, \delta, \phi + \delta, \beta)$  implied by A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>3</sub>. A<sub>4</sub> adds the constraints  $\frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq \rho \leq 1$ , A<sub>5</sub> tightens the lower bound in (6) to  $(1 - \tau)\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} \leq \xi^2$ , and A<sub>6</sub> specifies whether  $0 \leq \phi\delta$ ,  $\phi\delta \leq 0$ , or  $\phi = 0$ .

When  $U$  and  $X$  are not perfectly collinear ( $\rho \neq 0$ ), Theorem 3.1 employs equations (2, 4, 5) to express  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\xi^2$  as functions  $D$ ,  $G$ ,  $B$ , and  $C^2$  of  $(\rho, \phi)$ . This mapping enables characterizing the sharp identification region for  $(\rho, \phi, \delta, \phi + \delta, \beta)$  in terms of restrictions on  $(\rho, \phi)$  only. It facilitates studying the consequences of deviating from the benchmark no measurement error assumption ( $\rho = 1$ ) or the proxy exclusion restriction ( $\phi = 0$ ).

**Theorem 3.1** *Assume A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>3</sub> and let  $\text{Var}[(X', U)']$  be nonsingular so that  $0 < \rho \leq 1$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \delta &= D(\rho, \phi) \equiv \frac{1}{\rho}(b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - \phi) \\ \phi + \delta &= G(\rho, \phi) \equiv \frac{1}{\rho}[b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - \phi(1 - \rho)] \\ \beta &= B(\rho, \phi) \equiv b_{Y, X} - b_{W, X} \frac{1}{\rho}[b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - \phi(1 - \rho)], \text{ and} \\ \xi^2 &= C^2(\rho, \phi) \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{(1 - \rho)}{\rho}(\phi - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}})^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 3.1 shows that if  $\rho = 1$  then  $\phi + \delta$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\xi^2$  are point identified. Further, if  $R_{\bar{W}, \bar{Y}}^2 = 1$  then  $\frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} = b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2$  and it follows from  $0 \leq \xi^2$  that either  $\rho = 1$  or  $\delta = 0$  and, therefore, that  $\phi + \delta = b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$  and  $\beta = b_{Y, X} - b_{W, X} b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$ . Last, if  $b_{W, X} = 0$  then  $b_{Y, X} = \beta$ .

### 3.1 Identification Regions under A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>5</sub>

Corollary 3.2 uses (in)equalities (2) and (4-6) and the mappings in Theorem 3.1 to characterize the sharp identification region for  $(\rho, \phi, \delta, \phi + \delta, \beta)$  under A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>5</sub>.

**Corollary 3.2** *Under the conditions of Theorem 3.1, A<sub>4</sub>, and A<sub>5</sub>,  $(\rho, \phi, \delta, \phi + \delta, \beta)$  is partially identified in the sharp set*

$$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau} \equiv \left\{ (r, f, D(r, f), G(r, f), B(r, f)) : \frac{1}{1 + \kappa} \leq r \leq 1 \text{ and } (1 - \tau) \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} \leq C^2(r, f) \right\}.$$

Further,  $\phi$  and  $\delta$  are not identified,  $\mathcal{F}_{\kappa, \tau} = \mathcal{D}_{\kappa, \tau} = \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\rho$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta$  are partially identified in the sharp sets

$$\mathcal{R}_{\kappa, \tau} = \left[ \frac{1}{1 + \kappa}, 1 \right] \text{ and}$$

$$\mathcal{G}_{\kappa, \tau} = \{ b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} + \lambda [\kappa (\tau \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} : -1 \leq \lambda \leq 1 \} \text{ with } \mathcal{B}_{\kappa, \tau} = \{ b_{Y, X} - b_{W, X} g : g \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa, \tau} \}.$$

The proof of Corollary 3.2 shows that the joint identification region  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$  is sharp since for every  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$  there exists  $(U^*, \eta^*, \varepsilon^*)$ , with  $\frac{\sigma_{U^*}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} = r$  and  $\frac{\sigma_{\eta^*}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} = C^2(r, f)$ , that satisfy A<sub>2</sub>-A<sub>5</sub> and that could have generated  $Y$  and  $W$  according to A<sub>1</sub>. Corollary 3.2 also derives the identification regions for  $\rho$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta$  separately. Each of these projected regions is sharp - for example, for every  $d \in \mathcal{D}_{\kappa, \tau}$  there exists  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$ .

When  $\kappa \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $R_{\bar{W}, \bar{Y}}^2 \neq \tau$  (i.e.  $\tau \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} \neq b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2$ ), projecting  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$  onto the support  $(0, 1]$  of  $\rho$  or the support  $\mathbb{R}$  of  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta_l$  for  $l = 1, \dots, k$  yields the full support. (Here, we drop the superfluous  $\kappa, \tau$  subscripts,  $\mathcal{S} \equiv \mathcal{S}_{\infty, \tau}$ .) Without the proxy exclusion restriction  $\phi = 0$ , none of these parameters is identified under A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>3</sub> and A<sub>5</sub>. When  $\kappa < \infty$ , Corollary 3.2 yields two-sided sharp bounds for  $\rho$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta$  whereas  $\phi$  and  $\delta$  remain unidentified. Last, we note that the paper's bounds enable characterizing the bias of several key estimands. For example, using the regression representation  $b_{Y, (W, X)'} = (b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}, b'_{Y, X} - b'_{W, X} b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}})'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa, \tau}$  reveals that the magnitude of the bias of the coefficient on  $X$  in  $b_{Y, (W, X)'}$  is at most  $|b_{W, X}| [\kappa (\tau \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

### 3.2 Identification Regions under $A_1$ - $A_6$

Next, we impose  $A_6$ . We begin by examining  $A_6^+$ ,  $\phi\delta \geq 0$ . For this, we let  $E(r, f) \equiv fD(r, f) = \frac{1}{r}f(b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}} - f)$ . Also, we define the maximum  $L$  and the indicator  $T$

$$L \equiv \max\left\{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\bar{W}.\bar{Y}}^2, \frac{1}{1+\kappa}\right\} \quad \text{and} \quad T \equiv \mathbf{1}\{R_{\bar{W}.\bar{Y}}^2 \in \{(1-\lambda)\frac{\tau}{1+\kappa} + \lambda\frac{\tau\kappa}{1+\kappa} : 0 < \lambda < 1\}\}.$$

**Corollary 3.3** *Under the conditions of Theorem 3.1,  $A_4$ ,  $A_5$ , and  $A_6^+$ ,  $(\rho, \phi, \delta, \phi + \delta, \beta)$  is partially identified in the sharp set*

$$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}^+ \equiv \left\{ (r, f, D(r, f), G(r, f), B(r, f)) : \frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq r \leq 1, \quad (1-\tau)\frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} \leq C^2(r, f), \text{ and } 0 \leq E(r, f) \right\}.$$

Further,  $\rho$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta$  are partially identified in the sharp sets

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_{\kappa, \tau}^+ &= \left[\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, 1\right], \\ \mathcal{F}_{\kappa, \tau}^+ &= \{\lambda b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}} : 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\}, \\ \mathcal{D}_{\kappa, \tau}^+ &= \begin{cases} \{\lambda(1+\kappa)b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}}[\frac{1}{\kappa}(\frac{1}{L}-1)]^{\frac{1}{2}} : 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\} & \text{if } T = 1 \text{ and } \kappa > 0 \\ \{\lambda b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}}\frac{1}{L} : 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\} & \text{if } T = 0 \text{ or } \kappa = 0 \end{cases}, \\ \mathcal{G}_{\kappa, \tau}^+ &= \{b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}}\{1 + \lambda[\kappa(\frac{1}{L}-1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}\} : 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\} \quad \text{with } \mathcal{B}_{\kappa, \tau}^+ = \{b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X}g : g \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa, \tau}^+\}. \end{aligned}$$

When  $\kappa \rightarrow +\infty$ , we obtain the two-sided sharp bounds  $\mathcal{F}^+ = \mathcal{F}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$  and, except when  $R_{\bar{W}.\bar{Y}}^2 = \tau$  (and thus  $L = 1$ ), the one-sided sharp bounds  $\mathcal{D}^+ = \{\lambda b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}} : 0 \leq \lambda\}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^+ = \{b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}}\lambda : 1 \leq \lambda\}$ , and  $\mathcal{B}^+ = \{b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X}b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}}\lambda : 1 \leq \lambda\}$ . Note that  $\mathcal{F}^+$  and  $\mathcal{D}^+$  identify the common sign of  $\phi$  and  $\delta$ . Imposing  $A_1$ - $A_6^+$  with  $\kappa < \infty$  yields bounded identification regions for  $\rho$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta$  that can be tighter than those obtained when  $\kappa \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $\tau = 1$ , or without  $A_6^+$ .

Corollary 3.4 examines the identifying power of  $A_6^-$ ,  $\phi\delta \leq 0$ .

**Corollary 3.4** *Under the conditions of Theorem 3.1,  $A_4$ ,  $A_5$ , and  $A_6^-$ ,  $(\rho, \phi, \delta, \phi + \delta, \beta)$  is partially identified in the sharp set*

$$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}^- \equiv \left\{ (r, f, D(r, f), G(r, f), B(r, f)) : \frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq r \leq 1, \quad (1-\tau)\frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} \leq C^2(r, f), \text{ and } E(r, f) \leq 0 \right\}.$$

Further,  $\rho$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta$  are partially identified in the sharp sets

$$\mathcal{R}_{\kappa, \tau}^- = \left[\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, 1\right], \quad \mathcal{F}_{\kappa, \tau}^- = \mathcal{D}_{\kappa, \tau}^- = \begin{cases} \{\lambda b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}} : \lambda \notin (0, 1)\} & \text{if } b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}} \neq 0 \\ \mathbb{R} & \text{if } b_{\bar{Y}.\bar{W}} = 0 \end{cases},$$

and if  $L = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  then  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}$  with  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}$  whereas if  $L = \frac{1}{\tau}R_{\bar{W},\bar{Y}}^2$  then

$$\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \{b_{\bar{Y},\bar{W}}\{\lambda\frac{1}{L} + (1-\lambda)[1 - (\kappa(\frac{1}{L}-1))^{\frac{1}{2}}]\} : 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\} \text{ with } \mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \{b_{Y,X} - b_{W,X}g : g \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^-\}.$$

When  $\kappa \rightarrow +\infty$ , we obtain the same sharp identification regions for  $\phi$  and  $\delta$  as when  $\kappa < \infty$ ,  $\mathcal{F}^- = \mathcal{D}^- = \mathcal{F}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$ . This is a disconnected region which rules out that  $\phi$  or  $\delta$  is in the open interval with end points 0 and  $b_{\bar{Y},\bar{W}}$ . Further, except when  $R_{\bar{W},\bar{Y}}^2 = 0$  or  $R_{\bar{W},\bar{Y}}^2 = \tau$ , we obtain the one-sided sharp bounds  $\mathcal{G}_{\tau}^- = \{b_{\bar{Y},\bar{W}}\frac{\tau}{R_{\bar{W},\bar{Y}}^2}\lambda : \lambda \leq 1\}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\tau}^- = \{b_{Y,X} - b_{W,X}b_{\bar{Y},\bar{W}}\frac{\tau}{R_{\bar{W},\bar{Y}}^2}\lambda : \lambda \leq 1\}$ . When  $\kappa < \infty$ , the sharp identification regions  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  are tighter than  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}$  only if  $\frac{\tau}{1+\kappa} < R_{\bar{W},\bar{Y}}^2$ . Last, unlike in Corollary 3.3, assigning specific signs to  $\phi$  and  $\delta$  may tighten the bounds in Corollary 3.4 - we do not pursue this here for brevity.

Last, Corollary 3.5 imposes  $A_1-A_6^0$  so that the proxy exclusion restriction  $\phi = 0$  holds. The resulting bounds are nested in the bounds obtained under  $A_1-A_6^+$  and  $A_1-A_6^-$ .

**Corollary 3.5** *Under the conditions of Theorem 3.1,  $A_4$ ,  $A_5$ , and  $A_6^0$ ,  $(\rho, \delta, \beta)$  is partially identified in the sharp set*

$$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^0 \equiv \left\{ (r, D(r, 0), B(r, 0)) : \frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq r \leq 1 \text{ and } (1-\tau)\frac{\sigma_Y^2}{\sigma_W^2} \leq C^2(r, 0) \right\}.$$

Further,  $\rho$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\beta$  are partially identified in the sharp sets

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_{\kappa,\tau}^0 &= \{\lambda L + (1-\lambda) : 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\} \\ \mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^0 &= \{b_{\bar{Y},\bar{W}}[\lambda + (1-\lambda)\frac{1}{L}] : 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\} \text{ with } \mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^0 = \{b_{Y,X} - b_{W,X}d : d \in \mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^0\}. \end{aligned}$$

When  $\kappa \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $\tau = 1$ , and  $R_{\bar{W},\bar{Y}}^2 \neq 0$ , the bounds in Corollary 3.5 reduce to the standard sharp bounds  $\mathcal{R}^0$ ,  $\mathcal{D}^0$ , and  $\mathcal{B}^0$  with  $L = R_{\bar{W},\bar{Y}}^2$  (see e.g. Gini, 1921; Frisch, 1934, Klepper and Leamer, 1984; Bollinger, 2003). (If  $R_{\bar{W},\bar{Y}}^2 = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{R}^0 = (0, 1]$  and  $\mathcal{D}^0 = \{b_{\bar{Y},\bar{W}}\lambda : 0 \leq \lambda\} = \{0\}$ .) Setting  $\kappa < \infty$  or  $\tau < 1$  can yield tighter bounds.

To conclude, we briefly comment on the case when a researcher assumes that several variables serve as proxies for  $U$ . When suitable, one can apply this paper's framework using each proxy separately by including the other proxies in  $X$ . Examining the analytical expressions for the identification regions then reveals whether a bound obtained using an included proxy has a narrower width than that obtained using another included or excluded

proxy. For instance, consider two proxies  $W_h$ ,  $h = 1, 2$  that satisfy  $A_1$ - $A_5$  and either  $A_6^+$  ( $\delta\phi_h \geq 0$ ) or  $A_6^0$  ( $\phi_h = 0$ ), with the same sufficiently small  $\kappa$  and large  $\tau$  such that  $L = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  and  $T = 1$  for either proxy. For  $h, h' = 1, 2$ ,  $h \neq h'$ , let  $b_h$  denote the coefficient on  $W_h$  in a regression of  $Y$  on  $(X', W_h, W_{h'})'$ . In this case, when letting  $W_h$  serve as the proxy and  $W_{h'}$  as a covariate, the smaller  $|b_h|$  is the narrower the widths of the bounds on  $\delta$  and, under  $A_6^+$ ,  $\phi_h$  and  $\phi_h + \delta$  are. Similarly, the smaller the  $l^{th}$  component of  $|b_h b_{W_{h'} \cdot (X', W_h, W_{h'})'}|$  is the narrower the width of the bounds on the  $l^{th}$  component of  $(\beta', \phi_{h'})'$  is. Moreover, tighter bounds obtain by taking the intersection of the bounds that use each of the multiple proxies separately. We leave studying the sharp identification regions in the presence of multiple included and/or excluded proxies to other work.

## 4 Numerical Example

It is instructive to consider an example that illustrates the shape of the identification regions in Section 3. Specifically, let  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $W$  be generated, according to  $A_1$ , by

$$Y = X'\beta + W\phi + U\delta + \eta, \quad X' = U\varphi + \eta'_X, \quad \text{and} \quad W = U + \varepsilon,$$

where  $X' = (X_1, X_2)'$ . Further, let  $U, \eta, \varepsilon$ , and  $\eta_X$  be jointly independent and normally distributed with mean zero so that  $A_2$  and  $A_3$  hold. It follows that  $(X', Y, W)'$  is normally distributed and we can analytically express the identification regions for  $\rho, \phi, \delta, \phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta$  in Section 3 using the elements of  $Var[(U, \eta, \varepsilon, \eta'_X)']$ . To illustrate these identification regions, we set  $\beta = (1, 0.7)'$ ,  $\phi = 0.5$ ,  $\delta = 0.9$ , and  $\varphi = (0.35, 0.14)$ . Since  $0 < \phi\delta$ ,  $A_6^+$  holds. Also, we set  $\sigma_U^2 = 3$ ,  $\sigma_\eta^2 = 0.4$ ,  $\sigma_\varepsilon^2 = \sigma_{\eta_{X_1}}^2 = \sigma_{\eta_{X_2}}^2 = 1$ , and  $\sigma_{\eta_{X_1}, \eta_{X_2}} = 0.2$ . We obtain  $\rho = 0.685$  and  $R_{W, \tilde{Y}}^2 = 0.805$  and set  $(\kappa, \tau)$  such that  $\frac{\sigma_\varepsilon^2}{\sigma_U^2} = 0.461 \leq \kappa$  and  $\tilde{R}_*^2 = 0.918 \leq \tau$ .

Using a grid search, we approximate the joint identification regions  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}^-$ , and  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}^0$  obtained under this parametrization. Figure 1 illustrates these regions by plotting their projections onto the  $(\phi, \rho)$ ,  $(\phi, \delta)$ , and  $(\beta_1, \beta_2)$  spaces. Each graph in Figure 1 superimposes the 4 projected identification regions that correspond to  $(\kappa, \tau) = (+\infty, 1)$ ,  $(2, 1)$ ,  $(2, 0.95)$ , and  $(0.5, 0.92)$ . The darker intersections correspond to smaller  $\kappa$  or  $\tau$  values (or both) and are nested within the lighter regions. Sometimes the identification regions displayed in Figure 1 are unbounded. For example,  $\mathcal{B}$  is an unbounded line whereas the projection of  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$  on the  $(\rho, \phi)$  space is a bounded set when  $\kappa < \infty$ . Figure 1 illustrates how the vector of population

coefficients (which we mark using a plus sign) is an element of the joint sharp identification regions  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}$  and  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ . On the other hand, neither  $\phi\delta \leq 0$  nor  $\phi = 0$  holds and  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  and  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^0$  do not contain  $(\rho, \phi, \delta, \phi + \delta, \beta)$ . Last, Figure 1 illustrates how  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  is disconnected,  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^0 \subseteq \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+ \cap \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$ , and  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+ \cup \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}$ .

Using the analytical expressions in Section 3, Table 1 reports the bounds for  $\rho$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ ,  $\beta_1$ , and  $\beta_2$  that correspond to the regions in Figure 1. It reports the sharp bounds obtained under A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>5</sub> (column 1), A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> (column 2), and the incorrect assumptions A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> (column 3) and A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>6</sub><sup>0</sup> (column 4). Column 5 reports the regression estimand  $b_{Y.(W,X)'}$  that identifies  $(\phi + \delta, \beta)$  if  $\rho = 1$  or  $\delta = 0$ . As Table 1 shows, the projections for  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  and  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^0$  do not contain  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta$ . In contrast,  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  improves over  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}$  and both regions contain the true parameter values and become tighter as  $\kappa$  or/and  $\tau$  decrease(s).

## 5 Estimation and Inference

We conduct inference on each of the partially identified parameters  $\rho$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta_l$ ,  $l = 1, \dots, k$ , in Corollaries 3.2 to 3.5 (see e.g. Shi and Shum (2015) or Kline and Tamer (2016) for inference procedures on the joint identification regions). Each of these identification regions is of the form  $\theta \in \mathcal{H} = \{H(P; \lambda) : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  where  $H(\cdot; \lambda)$  is a function of the estimands

$$P \equiv (b'_{Y.(W,X)'}, b'_{W.(Y,X)'}, b'_{Y.X}, b'_{W.X}, \frac{\sigma_{\hat{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\hat{W}}^2})'$$

and  $\lambda$  is a nuisance parameter that is partially identified in a known set  $\Lambda$ . (We use  $b_{W.(Y,X)'}$  to form  $R_{\hat{W},\hat{Y}}^2 = b_{\hat{Y}.\hat{W}} b_{\hat{W}.\hat{Y}}$  and can dispense with it from  $P$  and use  $R_{\hat{W},\hat{Y}}^2 = b_{\hat{Y}.\hat{W}}^2 (\frac{\sigma_{\hat{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\hat{W}}^2})^{-1}$  instead.) For example,

$$\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^+ = \{B_{\kappa,\tau}^+(P; \lambda) : \lambda \in \Lambda\} \equiv \{b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X} b_{\hat{Y}.\hat{W}} \{1 + \lambda[\kappa(\frac{1}{L} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}\} : \lambda \in [0, 1]\}.$$

We estimate an identification region  $\mathcal{H}$  consistently using  $\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \{H(\hat{P}; \lambda) : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  where  $\hat{P}$  denotes the plug-in estimator for  $P$ :

$$\hat{P} \equiv (\hat{b}'_{Y.(W,X)'}, \hat{b}'_{W.(Y,X)'}, \hat{b}'_{Y.X}, \hat{b}'_{W.X}, \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{Y.X,i}^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{W.X,i}^2})'$$

Specifically, given observations  $\{A_i, B_i\}_{i=1}^n$  corresponding to random column vectors  $A$  and  $B$ , let  $\bar{A} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n A_i$  and denote the linear regression estimator and sample residual by:

$$\hat{b}_{A.B} \equiv [\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (B_i - \bar{B})(B_i - \bar{B})']^{-1} [\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (B_i - \bar{B})(A_i - \bar{A})'] \text{ and } \hat{\epsilon}'_{A.B,i} \equiv (A_i - \bar{A})' - (B_i - \bar{B})' \hat{b}_{A.B}.$$

Standard arguments show that the estimator  $\hat{P}$  for  $P$  is  $\sqrt{n}$  consistent and asymptotically normally distributed. For this, let  $\mu_A^2 = E(AA')$  and define the  $7+4k$  square diagonal matrix

$$Q \equiv \text{diag}\{\mu_{(1,W,X')}^2, \mu_{(1,Y,X')}^2, \mu_{(1,X')}^2, \mu_{(1,X')}^2, \sigma_W^2\}.$$

**Theorem 5.1** *Assume  $A_1(i)$  and that  $Q$  is nonsingular. Suppose further that:*

(i)  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (1, Y_i, W_i, X_i)'(1, Y_i, W_i, X_i) \xrightarrow{p} \mu_{(1,Y,W,X')}^2$  and

$$(ii) \quad n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \begin{bmatrix} (1, W_i, X_i)' \epsilon_{Y.(W,X'),i} \\ (1, Y_i, X_i)' \epsilon_{W.(Y,X'),i} \\ (1, X_i)' \epsilon_{Y.X,i} \\ (1, X_i)' \epsilon_{W.X,i} \\ \epsilon_{Y.X,i}^2 - \sigma_Y^2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Xi) \quad \text{where } \Xi \equiv \text{Var} \begin{bmatrix} (1, W, X)' \epsilon_{Y.(W,X)'} \\ (1, Y, X)' \epsilon_{W.(Y,X)'} \\ (1, X)' \epsilon_{Y.X} \\ (1, X)' \epsilon_{W.X} \\ \epsilon_{Y.X}^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then  $\sqrt{n}(\hat{P} - P) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Gamma)$  where  $\Gamma$  obtains by removing the 1, 3 + k, 5 + 2k, and 6 + 3k intercept rows and columns from  $\Gamma^* \equiv Q^{-1}\Xi Q^{-1}$ .

See e.g. White (2001) for primitive conditions for the law of large numbers and central limit theorem in Theorem 5.1. We estimate  $\Gamma$  using the relevant submatrix of the heteroskedasticity-robust plug-in estimator  $\hat{\Gamma}^* \equiv \hat{Q}^{-1}\hat{\Xi}\hat{Q}'^{-1}$  (see e.g. White, 1980). For example, we estimate  $\text{Var}(X\epsilon_{Y.X})$  using  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \hat{\epsilon}_{Y.X,i} \hat{\epsilon}_{Y.X,i} X_i'$ .

In Section 3, the function  $H(P; \lambda)$  for an identification region  $\mathcal{H}$  sometimes depends on the value of  $R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2$  via  $L$  and  $T$ . If  $R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2$  is known then one can construct a  $1 - \alpha$  (e.g. 95%) confidence interval  $C_{1-\alpha}(\lambda)$  for  $H(P; \lambda)$  for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  using the delta method. A confidence region  $CR_{1-\alpha}^\theta$  for a partially identified parameter  $\theta \in \mathcal{H}$  then obtains by applying Proposition 2 of Chernozhukov, Rigobon, and Stoker (2010) and forming the union:

$$CR_{1-\alpha}^\theta = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} C_{1-\alpha}(\lambda).$$

In applications,  $R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2$  must be estimated and  $CR_{1-\alpha}^\theta$  needs to be adjusted to account for this estimation. Let  $r_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}} \sigma_{\tilde{W}}}$  denote the partial correlation between  $Y$  and  $W$  given  $X$  and rewrite  $\mathcal{H}$  in the form  $\mathcal{H} = \{\ddot{H}(P; \pi) : \pi \in \Pi\}$  where  $\pi = (\lambda, \ddot{r}) \in \Lambda \times \{r_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}\}$  determines  $R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2$ , with  $\ddot{H}(\cdot; \pi)$  continuously differentiable in  $P$ . For example, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_{\kappa, \tau}^+ &= \{\ddot{B}_{\kappa, \tau}^+(P; \pi) : \pi \in \Pi\} \\ &\equiv \{b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X} b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} \{1 + \lambda \{ \kappa \left[ \frac{\tau}{\ddot{r}^2} \mathbf{1}\left\{ \frac{\tau}{1+\kappa} < \ddot{r}^2 \right\} + (1+\kappa) \mathbf{1}\left\{ \ddot{r}^2 \leq \frac{\tau}{1+\kappa} \right\} - 1 \right] \}^{\frac{1}{2}} \} \\ &\quad : (\lambda, \ddot{r}) \in [0, 1] \times \{r_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}\}. \end{aligned}$$

By the delta method, the plug-in estimator  $\ddot{H}(\hat{P}; \pi)$  for an element  $\ddot{H}(P; \pi)$  of  $\mathcal{H}$  obeys

$$\sqrt{n}(\ddot{H}(\hat{P}; \pi) - \ddot{H}(P; \pi)) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \nabla_P \ddot{H}(P; \pi) \Gamma \nabla_P \ddot{H}(P; \pi)').$$

This permits constructing a  $1 - \alpha_1$  confidence interval  $C_{1-\alpha_1}(\pi)$  for  $\ddot{H}(P; \pi)$  with  $\pi \in \Pi$ . To obtain a  $1 - \alpha_1 - \alpha_2$  (e.g. 95%) confidence region  $CR_{1-\alpha_1-\alpha_2}^\theta$  for  $\theta \in \mathcal{H}$ , we construct a confidence interval  $CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$  for  $r_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}$  and apply Proposition 3 of Chernozhukov, Rigobon, and Stoker (2010) to form the union:

$$CR_{1-\alpha_1-\alpha_2}^\theta = \bigcup_{\pi \in \Lambda \times CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}} C_{1-\alpha_1}(\pi).$$

To construct  $CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$ , we use the ‘‘Fisher z’’ variance stabilizing transformation (see e.g. van der Vaart, 2000, p. 30-31). For brevity, we describe how we construct  $CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$  and report the expressions for the gradients  $\nabla_P \ddot{H}(P; \pi)$  for Corollaries 3.2 to 3.5 in Section B of the Supplement. In the empirical analysis in Section 6, we set  $\alpha_1 = 0.04$  and  $\alpha_2 = 0.01$ .

## 6 The Returns to College Selectivity and Characteristics

As discussed in Monks (2000, p. 283), together with a student’s individual characteristics, the attributes of the college that a student attends may influence his or her earnings through accumulating human capital and by signaling the student’s ability to employers. We illustrate this paper’s results by studying the returns to college selectivity and other characteristics as well as the student characteristics using the recent College Scorecard (CS) dataset. CS is nationally comprehensive and reports data, aggregated at the institution level, on a wide array of the attributes of postsecondary institutions in the US.

Following Black and Smith (2006, p. 703), we consider an education production function determined by ‘‘various college-level inputs [...] such as the average SAT score of the entering class, expenditures per student, and so on’’ and by ‘‘other factors affecting earnings and college quality choice.’’ Specifically, we let the earnings of student  $j$  at college  $i$  be given by

$$Y_{ij} = f(X_{ij}^{cl}, X_{ij}^{sl}, W_i, U_{ij}, \eta_{ij}) = X_{ij}^{cl} \beta^c + X_{ij}^{sl} \beta^s + W_i \phi + U_{ij} \delta + \eta_{ij}$$

where  $Y_{ij}$  denotes student  $j$ ’s earnings,  $W_i$  is the average SAT (equivalent) score of the student’s cohort at college  $i$ ,  $X_{ij} = (X_{ij}^{cl}, X_{ij}^{sl})'$  collects the other characteristics  $X_{ij}^c$  that may



depend on the college (e.g. the college’s control (public or private non-profit) or the student’s field of study) and the student’s demographic and socioeconomic characteristics  $X_{ij}^s$ ,  $U_{ij}$  is student  $j$ ’s unobserved scholastic “ability,” and  $\eta_{ij}$  is an equation disturbance such that  $Cov[\eta_{ij}, (X_{ij}^t, W_i, U_{ij})'] = 0$  for all  $i, j, j'$ . The empirical illustration treats the average SAT score  $W_i$  as an error-free measure of “college selectivity” (as in e.g. Dale and Krueger (2002, 2014) and Hoxby (2009)) which, along with the other college and student characteristics, can directly affect earnings. Black and Smith (2006, p. 704) demonstrate the identification difficulties that arise when imposing the “simplifying assumption of a ‘one-factor’ model, in which quality has a single dimension” measured by an error-laden “single college quality measure.” They then study approaches that use multiple college characteristics as excluded error-laden proxies for the latent college quality. Here, we do not impose a one-factor model for college quality. Instead, we estimate the coefficients  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\beta = (\beta^c, \beta^s)'$  of the education production function which admits the multiple college characteristics  $(X_{ij}^c, W_i)$  as inputs.

An important challenge in identifying  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\beta$  arises because students with higher unobserved ability  $U_{ij}$  may earn more and enroll in colleges with a particular selectivity and characteristics profile. In this case,  $Cov[U_{ij}, (X_{ij}^t, W_i)'] \neq 0$  and a regression of  $Y_{ij}$  on  $(X_{ij}^t, W_i)'$  does not identify  $(\beta', \phi)'$ . To proceed, the literature sometimes assumes that students with similar observed characteristics do not systematically select into colleges based on their unobserved ability (e.g. Monks (2000) and Black and Smith (2006). See Black and Smith (2004) for a nonparametric analysis). Because accounting for only the student’s demographic and socioeconomic characteristics  $X_{ij}^s$  is not very likely to ensure this condition, the literature conditions on  $(X_{ij}^s, W_{ij})'$ , where  $W_{ij}$  denotes a test score that measures the ability of student  $j$  at college  $i$ . In the context of the above linear production function, this “selection on observables” assumption is helpful because if the linear projection of  $U_{ij}$  on  $(X_{ij}^t, W_i, W_{ij})'$  depends only on  $(X_{ij}^s, W_{ij})'$  then a regression of  $Y_{ij}$  on  $(X_{ij}^t, W_i, W_{ij})'$  identifies  $(\beta^c, \phi)$ , albeit not  $\beta^s$  or  $\delta$ . To gain confidence in the resulting estimates, it is useful to study their sensitivity to this assumption. In particular, a key sufficient condition for selection on observables occurs when the test score  $W_{ij}$  is a perfect measure of ability  $U_{ij}$ . However, if the test score measures ability with error  $W_{ij} = U_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ij}$  then this condition is not guaranteed to hold (e.g. Bollinger, 2003). The empirical application studies the

consequences of deviating from the selection on observables assumption by allowing the SAT (equivalent) score  $W_{ij}$  to measure ability  $U_{ij}$  with classical measurement error  $\varepsilon_{ij}$ , such that  $Cov[\varepsilon_{ij}, (X'_{ij}, U_{ij}, \eta_{ij})'] = 0$  for all  $i, j, j'$ , and letting a student's unobserved ability  $U_{ij}$  freely depend on the college and student characteristics  $X_{ij}$ .

A second identification challenge arises because the CS data is aggregated at the institution level - the individual data is not observed. Let  $A_i \equiv \frac{1}{N_i} \sum_{j=1}^{N_i} A_{ij}$  denote the average of  $A_{ij}$  across  $N_i$  students in college  $i$ . Averaging the  $Y_{ij}$  and  $W_{ij}$  equations across  $N_i$  yields

$$Y_i = X'_i \beta + W_i \phi + U_i \delta + \eta_i \quad \text{and} \quad W_i = U_i + \varepsilon_i.$$

Here,  $A_1$ - $A_3$  hold,  $Cov[\eta_i, (X'_i, U_i)'] = 0$  and  $Cov[\varepsilon_i, (X'_i, U_i, \eta_i)'] = 0$ . However, because the average SAT score  $W_i$  may directly affect the average earnings,  $W_i$  violates the proxy exclusion restriction and the standard measurement error bounds are not valid. Instead, we use the aggregate equations to estimate the identification regions for  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$  (the total effect on average earnings of enrolling a cohort with a higher average ability), and  $\beta$  under  $A_1$ - $A_3$  and the auxiliary assumptions  $A_4$ - $A_6$ . Here,  $A_4$  restricts the extent of the measurement error in how the average SAT score  $W_i$  proxies the average ability  $U_i$ ,  $A_5$  places an upper bound on the fit of the aggregate equation that would obtain had  $W_i$  measured  $U_i$  without error, and  $A_6$  restricts the effects  $\phi$  and  $\delta$  of college selectivity and the student's ability on his or her earnings to have the same sign.

## 6.1 College Scorecard Data

CS reports comprehensive data on several dimensions of the higher education institutions in the US over the last few decades. The data are aggregated at the institution level and drawn from various sources including the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), and administrative earnings data from tax records maintained by the Department of Treasury.

CS has several advantageous features. The literature often analyzes survey data on students who attend a small or moderate number of institutions that tend to be prestigious. In contrast, CS covers a large number of post-secondary institutions in the US. In addition to student demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, CS reports data on several characteristics of the institution, including its setting, selectivity, affordability, fields of study,

expenditures per student, completion rate, and earnings outcomes. Moreover, CS contains data drawn from administrative records which may be less prone to reporting error.

While CS is detailed and nationally comprehensive, we summarize at the outset some of its limitations that are partly due to data aggregation. First, the data based on NSLDS and tax records cover only “Title IV” undergraduate students. This subpopulation of students who receive federal aid may differ from the general population. Yet, the Title IV subpopulation amounts to roughly “seventy percent of all graduating postsecondary students” and seems “reasonably similar to the overall population of a school in terms of student characteristics” (Council of Economic Advisors, 2015 (thereafter CEA), p. 26-27). Second, CS employs the IPEDS definition of an institution and, although “about two-thirds of institutions, collectively enrolling 83 percent of students, have only one main campus identifier” (CEA, p. 29), complex institutions may differ in how they aggregate and report data across multiple branches. Third, CS uses various student cohort definitions that “are imperfect and vary for different metrics” (CEA, p. 30). For example, the mean earnings variable is based on Title IV students who are non-enrolled and working e.g. 6 years after estimated college entry and is reported for a pooled cohort across two consecutive entry years (e.g. the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 entry cohorts). On the other hand, the average annual total cost of attendance is based on all full-time, first-time, degree-seeking Title IV undergraduate students who enrolled in an institution during the academic year (e.g. 2010-2011). The extent to which this inconsistency in cohort definitions can impact our estimates depends, in part, on how stable the aggregate data is in the short run and across the cohorts used.

While addressing these data limitations is desirable, we do not pursue this here and we keep the empirical illustration focused on demonstrating the consequences of allowing the SAT score to measure scholastic ability with error. For a detailed account of CS, we refer the reader to its documentation webpage (<https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/data/documentation/>) and to the CEA report.

## 6.2 Sample Selection

We focus on the recent cohort of students who enrolled in an academic institution in the fall of 2007 and were non-enrolled and working in 2013. As discussed above, CS reports yearly data files which contain institution-level aggregate data that need not correspond to

a uniform student cohort. To proceed, we draw from several CS files, the data that we deem most representative of the 2007 student cohort. Table S1 in the Supplement defines the variables that we employ in our analysis and specifies the CS variable(s) that we use in constructing each of our variables. Further, Table S1 specifies the level of aggregation used in reporting each CS variable and the CS data file from which it is drawn.

We restrict our sample to the main campus of bachelor’s degree granting institutions that are either public or private non-profit. Although of policy interest, we exclude for-profit institutions to focus on institutions that operate in a similar context and for which more data is available (for-profit institutions differ from other institutions in several dimensions including the admission requirements, funding, and online education. See e.g. Deming, Goldin, and Katz (2012)). This yields a sample of 1710 institutions. After dropping 27 institutions that were missing from at least one of the relevant CS data files, we exclude 378 institutions that are missing data on SATAvg, the average SAT (or ACT equivalent) score (some of these institutions are specialized in particular fields such as arts and design, music, religion, or medical and health sciences). Last, we exclude institutions with missing data on the other variables, leading to the final sample of 1165 institutions. Table 2 reports summary statistics for the aggregate variables in the sample. For example, the average of SATAvg is 1052.76 and the minimum and maximum average scores are 726 and 1491. The 5 most selective institutions in our sample are Harvard, Princeton, Yale, MIT, and Dartmouth. The standard deviation of SATAvg is 119.93, which corresponds roughly to the difference between Stanford and the University of Virginia. For brevity, we do not report results for the coefficients on the variables that fall below the dividing line in Table 2.

### 6.3 Main Specification

We let  $Y$  denote the average earnings 6 years after enrollment (we do not observe wage or hours worked).  $W$  denotes the average SAT equivalent score which serves as an “included” proxy for the average unobserved ability  $U$ .  $X = (X^c, X^s)'$  consists of several aggregate college and student characteristics that have been discussed in the literature.

In particular,  $X^c$  includes 8 region indicators and 11 locale indicators for the institution’s location, indicators for whether the institution is minority-serving, a women-only college (our sample does not contain men-only colleges), has a religious affiliation, awards a graduate

degree, has a private non-profit (as opposed to public) control, and the undergraduate student population size. Further,  $X^c$  includes the average cost of attendance, average net price, the shares of students with a federal student loan and with a Pell grant, the median student debt (we use the median debt to approximate the average debt which CS does not report), the instructional expenditures per student, and the completion rate within 150% of expected graduation time. An advantageous feature of CS is that it reports data on the fields of study which play an important role in understanding the labor market outcomes (see e.g. Altonji, Arcidiacono, and Maurel, 2016; Kirkeboen, Leuven, and Mogstad, 2016). Omitting the fields of study may lead to apparent effects that may partly reflect that students or institutions with particular characteristics may specialize in fields that yield high (or low) labor market returns. As such, we include in  $X^c$  the shares of degrees awarded in each field of study in our sample according to the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) (out of the total 38 CIP fields of study, our sample includes 37 fields listed in Table S2 in the Supplement. We exclude PCIP45 (Social Sciences) as the reference field).

The student characteristics  $X^s$  consist of the following averages of demographic and socioeconomic indicators or variables: the shares of each available race category (Black, Hispanic, Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, two or more races, race is unknown, and non-resident alien - we omit White as the reference group), the shares of students how are female, dependent, have at least one post-secondary educated parent, and the average family income.

The empirical analysis sometimes imposes  $A_4$  ( $\sigma_\varepsilon^2 \leq \kappa\sigma_U^2$  or  $R_{W.X}^2 \leq \kappa' \leq R_{W.U}^2$ ) and  $A_5$  ( $\tilde{R}_*^2 \leq \tau$  or  $R_{Y.(X',W)'}^2 \leq R_*^2 \leq \tau'$ ). Given the rich set of college and student characteristics in  $X$ , the estimates  $\hat{R}_{W.X}^2$  and  $\hat{R}_{Y.(X',W)'}^2$  are 0.891 and 0.814. To report bounds without requiring SAT to measure ability perfectly ( $\kappa = 0$ ), we choose conservative  $\kappa$  and  $\tau$  default values. We set  $\kappa = 11.09$  so that the  $\kappa'$  estimate is  $\hat{\kappa}' = 0.9 \geq 0.891$ . Similarly, we set  $\tau = 0.736$  so that  $\hat{\tau}' = 0.95 \geq 0.814$ . More generally, Section 6.5 conducts a sensitivity analysis that allows  $\kappa$  and  $\tau$  to range over  $[0, 30]$  and  $[\bar{R}_{\hat{Y}.\hat{W}}^2, 1]$  where  $\bar{R}_{\hat{Y}.\hat{W}}^2 = \max\{r^2 : r \in CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\hat{Y}.\hat{W}}\}$ .

## 6.4 Results

Table 3 reports bounds and point estimates under sequentially stronger assumptions. Column 3 reports the regression estimates  $\hat{b}_{Y.(W,X)'}$  along with 95% confidence intervals in

parentheses. This consistently estimates  $(\phi + \delta, \beta)'$  if either  $\kappa = 0$  (the average SAT score measures the average ability without error) or  $\delta = 0$  (a student's ability does not directly affect his or her earnings). Next, we examine the consequences of deviating from  $\kappa = 0$ . Recall that if  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\phi$  may be nonzero then none of the coefficients are identified. Further, imposing  $A_6^+$  ( $\phi\delta \geq 0$ ) only yields the half-lines  $\mathcal{F}^+$ ,  $\mathcal{D}^+$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^+$ , and  $\mathcal{B}_l^+$  with bounds that correspond to the regression estimand. (We focus on  $A_6^+$  as opposed  $A_6^-$  ( $\phi\delta \leq 0$ ) since we deem it plausible that the effects of college selectivity and ability on earnings are nonnegative). To improve on these bounds, columns 1 and 2 report the bounds under  $A_1$ - $A_5$  and  $A_1$ - $A_6^+$  respectively using the default setting  $(\kappa, \tau) = (11.09, 0.736)$ , i.e.  $(\hat{\kappa}', \hat{\tau}') = (0.9, 0.95)$ . We note that  $\hat{R}_{W, \hat{Y}}^2$  is small, 0.0164. Thus, the bounds under  $A_1$ - $A_6^+$  when  $\kappa = 11.09$  and  $\tau$  is either 0.736 or 1 coincide. Further, the standard bounds that set  $\phi = 0$ ,  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $\tau = 1$  are wide with especially wide confidence regions.

First, consider the returns to college selectivity and student ability. Under  $\delta = 0$ , the regression coefficient  $\hat{b}_{Y, (W, X)'}'$  in column 3 estimates that a 100 point increase in SATAvg (roughly the difference between Stanford and Boston College) increases a student's earnings 6 years after enrollment by \$1,339, with a 95% confidence region ( $CR_{0.95}$ ) (\$607, \$2,071). As shown in column 1,  $\phi$  and  $\delta$  are not identified under  $A_1$ - $A_5$  and the bounds for  $\phi + \delta$  are wide. However,  $A_1$ - $A_6^+$  yield considerably more informative bounds on  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\phi + \delta$  (and  $\beta$  below). In particular, the bounds in column 2 on the return to a 100 point increase in SATAvg or  $U$  are [\$0, \$1,339], with  $CR_{0.95}$  (\$0, \$2,071), and [\$0, \$16,190], with  $CR_{0.95}$  (\$0, \$25,464), respectively. Further, the bounds on  $\phi + \delta$  are [\$1,339, \$16,190] with  $CR_{0.95}$  (\$572, \$25,464) (this bounds the total (direct and mediated by an increase in SATAvg) effect on mean earnings due to a 100 points increase in the average ability of the student cohort).

Next, we comment on the returns to the college and student characteristics. For certain characteristics, the sign of the effect is not recovered under any of the considered assumptions. This includes the college's control, whether the institution offers a graduate degree, and the net price. An intermediate case occurs when the  $CR_{0.95}$  for an effect does not contain 0 under the assumption  $\kappa = 0$  but includes 0 under  $A_1$ - $A_5$  and  $A_1$ - $A_6^+$  when  $90\% \leq R_{U, W}^2$  and  $R_*^2 \leq 95\%$ . Among the college characteristics  $X^c$ , this includes the effects of the enrollment size, cost, student debt, certain fields of study, and whether a student completes his or her degree within 6 years. Among the student characteristics  $X^s$ , this includes the student's family

income. For example, the regression’s estimate for the premium to majoring in Engineering relative to the Social Sciences is \$12,224 with  $CR_{0.95}$  (\$2,598, \$21,850) whereas the bounds for this premium under  $A_1-A_6^+$  are [\$5,512, \$12,224] with  $CR_{0.95}$  (−\$9,853, \$22,310) (Table S3 in the Supplement reports the estimates for all the CIP fields of study). Last, for certain effects, the sign is not very sensitive to deviations from  $(\kappa, \tau) = (0, 1)$  but the magnitude may be. Among  $X^c$ , this includes whether a student has a federal student loan or a Pell grant and the instructional expenditures per student. For example, the effect of a \$1,000 increase in instructional expenditures on a student’s earnings is bounded under  $A_1-A_6^+$  by [\$166, \$290],  $CR_{0.95}$  (\$1, \$440), with the upper bound corresponding to the regression estimate. Among  $X^s$ , this includes the Black, Hispanic, and Asian race shares and the Female share. First, we note that conditioning on SATAvg in a basic regression of the mean earnings on the race and gender shares (relative to White and Male) renders the otherwise negative and significant coefficients on the Black, Hispanic, and Female shares smaller and insignificant and the significant and positive coefficient on the Asian share smaller (see e.g. Neal and Johnson, 1996). As Table 3 shows, further accounting for the college and student characteristics and allowing for measurement error in how SAT measures ability (see e.g. Bollinger, 2003) bounds the coefficients on the Black, Hispanic, and Asian shares in the positive range (Monks (2000) reports similar patterns). Moreover, the regression estimates for the Female coefficient is −\$12,700 with  $CR_{0.95}$  (−\$18,509, −\$6,891) and the bounds under  $A_1-A_6^+$  are slightly wider [−\$13,094, −\$12,700] with  $CR_{0.95}$  (−\$22,507, −\$3,681).

Last, accounting for the fields of study reduces the magnitude of the bounds on the returns to college selectivity and certain college and student characteristics. This is shown in Table S4 in the Supplement when replicating Table 3 without conditioning on the fields of study. For instance, under  $A_1-A_6^+$  and  $(\hat{\kappa}', \hat{\tau}') = (0.9, 0.95)$ , the return to attending an institution that offers a graduate degree is small and not significantly different from zero in Table 3 whereas, similar to Monks (2000), this return appears positive and larger [\$1,916, \$2,220] with  $CR_{0.95}$  (\$898, \$3,352) in Table S4. Similarly, under  $A_1-A_6^+$ , the coefficient on Female becomes larger in magnitude, [−\$19,697, −\$17,914] with  $CR_{0.95}$  (−\$26,163, −\$10,838), than is reported in Table 3 (see e.g. Turner and Bowen (1999), Zafar (2013), and Gemici and Wiswall (2014) who study the gender gap in major choices in the US.)

## 6.5 Sensitivity to $\kappa$ and $\tau$

Table 3 impose the default setting for  $(\kappa, \tau) = (11.09, 0.736)$  which sets  $(\hat{\kappa}', \hat{\tau}') = (0.9, 0.95)$ . More generally, we conduct a sensitivity analysis that examines how the estimates change as  $\kappa$  and  $\tau$  vary. Figure 2 illustrates this by plotting the bounds  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$ ,  $\hat{\mathcal{D}}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$ ,  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$  (using the darker shade) and the 95% confidence regions  $CR_{0.95}$  (using the lighter shade) for  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\beta$ . To ease the presentation for  $\beta$ , we focus on the coefficients associated with *C150\_4* (the completion within 150% of expected graduation time) and Female. The first panel in Figure 2 sets  $\tau = 1$  and lets  $\kappa$  range over  $[0, 30]$  (i.e.  $\hat{R}_{W.X}^2 = 0.891 \leq \kappa' \in [0.8945, 1]$ ). Since  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}^+$ ,  $\hat{\mathcal{D}}^+$ , and  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}^+$  do not depend on  $\tau$ , the second panel sets  $\kappa$  to the default value  $\kappa = 11.09$  and lets  $\tau$  range from  $[\bar{R}_{Y.W}^2, 1]$  (i.e.  $\hat{R}_{Y.(W,X)'}^2 = 0.814 \leq \tau' \in [0.8187, 1]$ ). Figure 2 illustrates how, unlike  $\phi$ , the bounds and confidence regions for  $\delta$  and  $\beta$  vary with  $(\kappa, \tau)$ . Further, it shows that the smallest integer  $\kappa$  (corresponding  $\hat{\kappa}'$  value) such that the  $CR_{0.95}$  for the coefficient on *C150\_4* or Female contains 0 is 2 (0.927) or 18 (0.897) respectively. When  $\kappa = 11.09$  and  $\tau \in [\bar{R}_{Y.W}^2, 1]$ , the  $CR_{0.95}$  for the coefficient on *C150\_4* (resp. Female) always (resp. never) contains 0. Thus, the bounds on the Female coefficient are wider and less sensitive to  $A_4$  than the bounds on *C150\_4* are.

## 6.6 Additional Analyses and Discussion

Section 6.6 reports additional analyses (in Tables S4-S8 of the Supplement) and extensions.

### 6.6.1 Earnings Outcomes

Section 6.4 considers the mean earnings of federally aided students who are non-enrolled and working 6 years after college entry. To include the unemployed in the analysis, we use the same specification and consider an alternative labor market outcome: the share of individuals, including those with 0 earnings, who are non-enrolled and earning more than \$25,000 per year, 6 years after college entry. This threshold “corresponds approximately to the median wage of workers ages 25 to 34 with only a high-school degree” (CEA, p. 25). The bounds on the coefficients on SATAvg and several college and student characteristics include zero or are small in magnitude. However, the effects of the fields of study and of having a loan or a Pell grant on the probability of earning more than \$25,000 per year are significant and of a similar direction than the mean earnings results (see Table S4).



Further, to gauge the consequences of excluding the enrolled students (e.g. those pursuing a graduate degree), we replicate the analysis using the cohort of students who enrolled in 2002 and contrast the results when the earnings outcomes are measured in 2008 compared to 2012 (6 or 10 years after enrollment). As described in Table S5, we construct the sample for the 2002 cohort as closely as possible to the 2007 cohort (CS reports a coarser race category definition for the 2002 cohort. Also, we use the earliest available data from academic years 2007-08 or 2008-09 for the average cost and net price and the loan and Pell grant shares). Tables S6 and S7 reports these results. The upper bound on the return to college selectivity is slightly larger over the longer horizon, [\$0, \$2,377] with  $CR_{0.95}$  (\$0, \$3,191), and the returns to the other college and student characteristics are generally comparable over these two time horizons. We note that the earnings outcomes of students 6 years after enrollment capture the short run labor market returns of timely completion of an undergraduate degree. Whereas the earnings outcomes 10 years after enrollment embody the returns that may be channeled via attending graduate school or accumulating work experience.

### 6.6.2 Specification and Aggregation

The literature sometimes imposes a log-linear specification (constant percentage effect) for the individual earnings equation. CS reports aggregate data on several variables (e.g.  $\frac{1}{N_i} \sum_{j=1}^{N_i} Y_{ij}$ ) but not on certain transformations of these variables (e.g.  $\frac{1}{N_i} \sum_{j=1}^{N_i} \log(Y_{ij})$ ). Substituting  $\log(\frac{1}{N_i} \sum_{j=1}^{N_i} Y_{ij})$  for  $\frac{1}{N_i} \sum_{j=1}^{N_i} \log(Y_{ij})$  introduces a specification error in the sense that the bounds obtained using the aggregate equation are no longer guaranteed to correspond to the coefficients from the individual earnings equation. In the specification above, the variables enter in levels (similar to e.g. Kirkeboen, Leuven, and Mogstad, 2016). In this case, the coefficients from the individual and aggregate equations coincide. Nevertheless, Table S8 replicates the analysis for the aggregate earnings equation using a log-linear specification and reports qualitatively similar results (with a comparable  $\hat{R}_{Y,(W,X')}^2$ , 0.851 versus 0.814), albeit these are less easily relatable to the individual earnings equation coefficients.

### 6.6.3 Connection to the Literature

The findings on the returns to college selectivity and characteristics are mixed. On the one hand, some studies document a positive return to certain college qualities. For example,

Brewer, Eide, and Ehrenberg (1999) find a significant selection-adjusted wage and earnings premia (e.g. 6 or 10 years after high school graduation) to attending an elite (based on Barron’s Profile of American Colleges) private college. Monks (2000, table 4) reports similar findings. For example, relative to competitive institutions (based on Barron’s index), the wage premium to attending highly or most competitive institutions is 13.1%. Using a matching estimator, Black and Smith (2004, Table 7) find that college quality (measured by an index based on faculty salaries, freshman retention rate, and the average SAT score) has a positive effect on wage. For example, a move from the first to the fourth quartile of college quality leads to a 13.9% increase in wage for men (7.8% for women), albeit this is somewhat imprecisely estimated. Further, when comparing the earnings of individuals around the admission cutoff point, Hoekstra (2009) finds that attending a flagship state university leads to 22% higher earnings for white men 10 to 15 years after high school graduation. On the other hand, other studies do not find strong evidence for a large return to college selectivity. For example, Dale and Krueger (2002) find that students who attend varyingly selective colleges (measured by the average SAT score) after being admitted to equally selective colleges earn comparably. Dale and Krueger (2002, 2014) report similar findings using a “self-revelation” model in which the student’s application record (e.g. the average SAT score at the colleges to which the student applied) reveals his or her ability. Further, Kirkeboen, Leuven, and Mogstad (2016) find that the effect of attending a more selective institution is small relative to the substantial effect that the field of study has on earnings.

The paper’s empirical application and each of the above papers uses a different sample, specification, covariates, and identifying assumptions. Moreover, they report the effects of various interventions (e.g. a change in the average SAT score or in a quality index) on various outcomes (e.g. wage or earnings). As such, a formal comparison of the estimates is not straightforward. Nevertheless, to get a rough approximation, we focus on the return to college selectivity and contrast some of these estimates to the paper’s upper bound \$2,377 for the 10 year return to 100 SATAvg points. For example, using the 2002 cohort, the difference in the average SATAvg across the lower and upper quartiles of institutions in our sample is  $1,212 - 922 = 290$ . Using the upper bound \$2,377, this difference increases earnings by at most \$6,893 which corresponds to 16.4% of the weighted (by college enrollment size) average earnings \$41,849 in the lower quartile of institutions. This upper bound admits some of the

related estimates discussed above. Also, Hoekstra (2009, Section VI and Table 3) describes that it is likely that the applicants who were nearly accepted to the flagship state university attended a public college in-state and that the average SAT differential between the flagship university (where the average SAT score is between 1,000 and 1,100) and 7 alternative in-state public universities ranges from 65 to 147 points. Using the paper’s upper bound \$2,377, a 147 points increase in SATAvg increases earnings by at most \$3,494 or 8.3% of the weighted average earnings \$41,901 among public institutions with an average SAT score between 853 and 953. This upper bound is smaller than the 22% local to the discontinuity estimate of the return to attending the flagship state university in Hoekstra (2009). Among other possibilities, this difference may be due to a nonlinearity in the return or to accounting for characteristics, such as the field of study or completing a degree, that may explain a part of the apparent return to college selectivity.

#### 6.6.4 Future Work

The empirical illustration assumes that SAT measures ability with classical measurement error,  $W_{ij} = U_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ij}$ . The literature documents a high correlation between SAT scores and other tests, such as the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery and the Raven’s Advanced Progressive Matrices (see e.g. Frey and Detterman (2004) who argue in favor of the “appropriateness of the SAT as a measure of [general intelligence]”). An interesting extension would relax  $W_{ij} = U_{ij}$  even further to allow  $\varepsilon_{ij}$  to be correlated with  $U_{ij}$  or  $X_{ij}$  or both. This would allow the error in how SAT proxies ability to statistically depend on the ability level or on covariates such as family income (for example, some studies document positive but small effects of coaching or repeating the test on SAT scores (DerSimonian and Laird, 1983; Vigdor and Clotfelter, 2003; Domingue and Briggs, 2009)).

Further, the analysis assumes that the average SAT equivalent score measures college selectivity without error. It would be of interest to consider the more general model

$$Y_i = X_i'\beta + S_i\phi + U_i\delta + \eta_i \quad \text{with} \quad W_i = U_i + \varepsilon_i \quad \text{and} \quad W_i = \alpha S_i + \varsigma_i,$$

where  $W_i$  measures both the unobserved college selectivity  $S_i$  and the average ability  $U_i$  with error. Here, we let  $\alpha = 1$  and  $\varsigma_i = 0$  so that  $W_i = S_i$  and focus on relaxing the selection on observables assumption by allowing the SAT score to measure ability with error. Section

C of the Supplement demonstrates how the extended model above introduces additional parameters to the system of (in)equalities encoded in  $Var[(\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W})']$  which may therefore alter the paper’s identification regions. We leave studying the sharp identification regions for the parameters in this extended model under restrictions analogous to A<sub>4</sub>-A<sub>6</sub> to future work.

### 6.6.5 Discussion

The empirical illustration contributes to the literature by analyzing the CS aggregate data. While CS is rich and comprehensive, the analysis may inherit some of its limitations that are partly due to data aggregation. Further, the analysis imposes several assumptions which may fail, including a linear specification with homogenous slope coefficients or that endogeneity arises due to one variable  $U$  (ability) that is observed with classical measurement error. As such, the empirical results should be interpreted carefully if one suspects that these assumptions do not hold. Nevertheless, the analysis allows ability to freely depend on the college and student characteristics and does not require exogenous instruments. As a result, the coefficients are not point identified. Instead, the analysis studies the consequences of deviating from the selection on observables assumption by allowing the SAT score to proxy ability with error. The resulting bounds are wider and more sensitive to the extent of the measurement error in  $W$  for some variables, such as completing a degree, than others, such as gender or instructional expenditures per student.

## 7 Conclusion

This paper studies identifying the coefficients in a linear equation when data on the outcome  $Y$ , covariates  $X$ , and an error-laden proxy  $W$  for a latent variable  $U$  are available. We maintain that the error in the proxy is classical and relax the proxy exclusion restriction which sets the coefficient on  $W$  in the outcome equation to zero. This accommodates a leading setting for differential measurement error that occurs when the latent variable  $U$  and its proxy  $W$  may directly affect the outcome. First, we show that, without the proxy exclusion restriction, the effects of  $U$ ,  $W$ , and  $X$  are not separately identified. This demonstrates the crucial role that the proxy exclusion restriction plays in ensuring the validity of the standard classical measurement error bounds. We then characterize the sharp identification regions

for these effects under any configuration of three auxiliary assumptions. The first imposes an upper bound on the noise to signal ratio. The second places an upper bound on the coefficient of determination that would obtain in the outcome equation had  $W$  measured  $U$  without error. The third specifies whether the latent variable and its proxy affect the outcome in the same or the opposite direction, if at all. These auxiliary assumptions enable a sensitivity analysis that examines the consequences of deviating from the no measurement error assumption, controlling the fit of the model, and weakening the proxy exclusion restriction. Using the recent College Scorecard aggregate data, we illustrate our framework by studying the financial returns to college selectivity and characteristics as well as student characteristics when the average SAT score at an institution may directly affect earnings and serves as a proxy for the average ability of the student cohort. Useful extensions for future work would accommodate a nonlinear specification or multiple latent variables and (included) proxies.

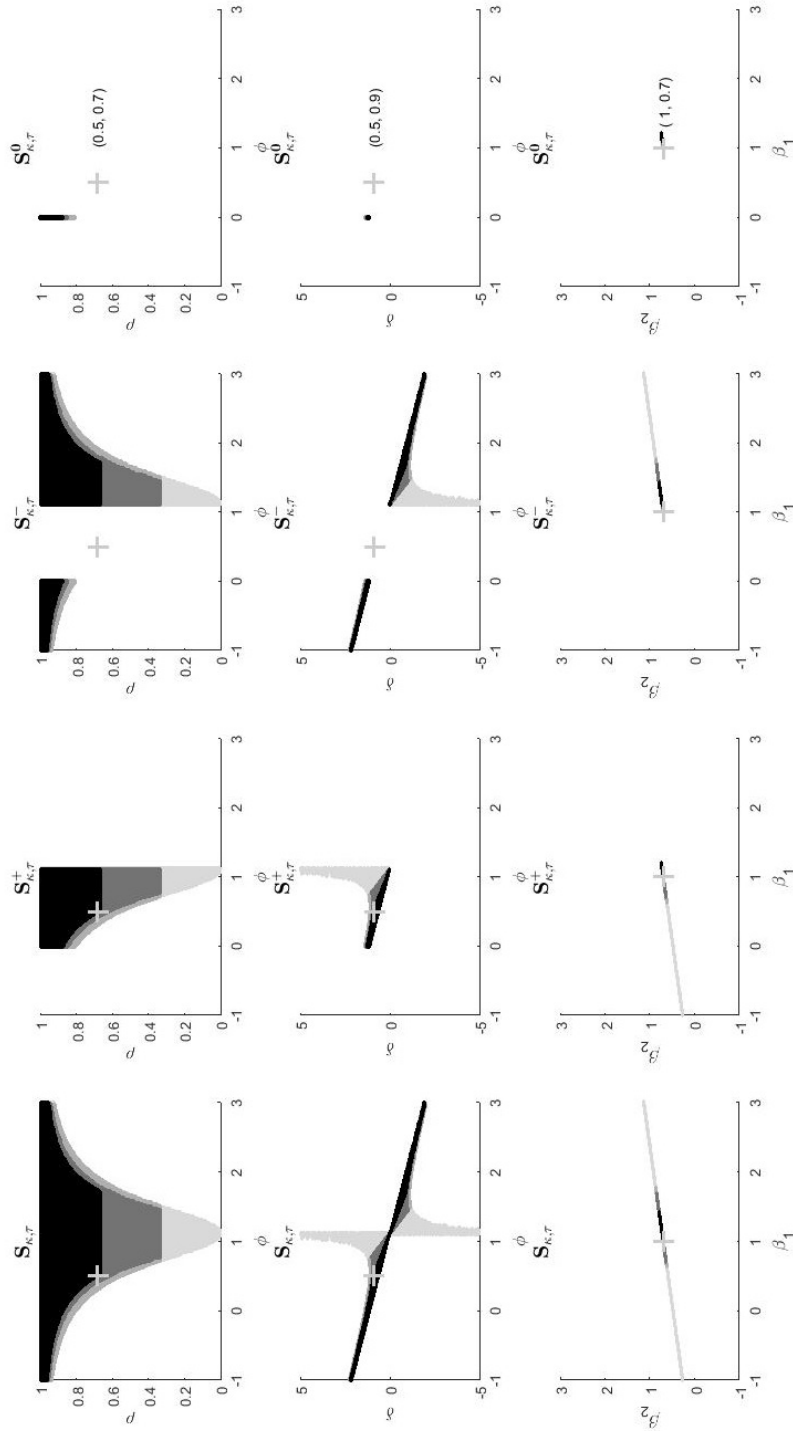


Figure 1: Identification regions for  $(\kappa, \tau) = (+\infty, 1)$  (light),  $(2, 1)$ ,  $(2, 0.95)$ , and  $(0.5, 0.92)$  (dark).

Table 1: Numerical Example ( $\rho = 0.685$ ,  $\phi = 0.5$ ,  $\delta = 0.9$ ,  $\beta_1 = 1$ ,  $\beta_2 = 0.7$ )

	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}$	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^0$	$b_{Y,(W,X)'}$
$\kappa \rightarrow \infty, \tau = 1$					
$\rho$	[0, 1]	[0, 1]	[0, 1]	[0.805, 1]	
$\phi$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	[0, 1.116]	$\mathbb{R} \setminus (0, 1.116)$	0	
$\delta$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	[0, $\infty$ ]	$\mathbb{R} \setminus (0, 1.116)$	[1.116, 1.386]	
$\phi + \delta$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	[1.116, $\infty$ ]	$[-\infty, 1.386]$	[1.116, 1.386]	1.116
$\beta_1$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	$[-\infty, 1.207]$	[1.010, $\infty$ ]	[1.010, 1.207]	1.207
$\beta_2$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	$[-\infty, 0.745]$	[0.702, $\infty$ ]	[0.702, 0.745]	0.745
$\kappa = 2, \tau = 1$					
$\rho$	[0.333, 1]	[0.333, 1]	[0.333, 1]	[0.805, 1]	
$\phi$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	[0, 1.116]	$\mathbb{R} \setminus (0, 1.116)$	0	
$\delta$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	[0, 1.386]	$\mathbb{R} \setminus (0, 1.116)$	[1.116, 1.386]	
$\phi + \delta$	[0.340, 1.892]	[1.116, 1.892]	[0.340, 1.386]	[1.116, 1.386]	
$\beta_1$	[0.642, 1.771]	[0.642, 1.207]	[1.010, 1.771]	[1.010, 1.207]	
$\beta_2$	[0.622, 0.868]	[0.622, 0.745]	[0.702, 0.868]	[0.702, 0.745]	
$\kappa = 2, \tau = 0.95$					
$\rho$	[0.333, 1]	[0.333, 1]	[0.333, 1]	[0.848, 1]	
$\phi$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	[0, 1.116]	$\mathbb{R} \setminus (0, 1.116)$	0	
$\delta$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	[0, 1.317]	$\mathbb{R} \setminus (0, 1.116)$	[1.116, 1.317]	
$\phi + \delta$	[0.447, 1.785]	[1.116, 1.785]	[0.447, 1.317]	[1.116, 1.317]	
$\beta_1$	[0.720, 1.693]	[0.720, 1.207]	[1.061, 1.693]	[1.061, 1.207]	
$\beta_2$	[0.639, 0.851]	[0.639, 0.745]	[0.713, 0.851]	[0.713, 0.745]	
$\kappa = 0.5, \tau = 0.92$					
$\rho$	[0.667, 1]	[0.667, 1]	[0.667, 1]	[0.875, 1]	
$\phi$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	[0, 1.116]	$\mathbb{R} \setminus (0, 1.116)$	0	
$\delta$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	[0, 1.275]	$\mathbb{R} \setminus (0, 1.116)$	[1.116, 1.275]	
$\phi + \delta$	[0.818, 1.414]	[1.116, 1.414]	[0.818, 1.275]	[1.116, 1.275]	
$\beta_1$	[0.990, 1.423]	[0.990, 1.207]	[1.091, 1.423]	[1.091, 1.207]	
$\beta_2$	[0.698, 0.792]	[0.698, 0.745]	[0.720, 0.792]	[0.720, 0.745]	

Population identification regions and regression estimands.  $\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{v}}^2}{\sigma_v^2} = 0.461$ ,  $\tilde{R}_*^2 = 0.918$ , and  $R_{W,\tilde{Y}}^2 = 0.805$ .

Table 2: Summary Statistics for the CS Sample of 1165 Institutions.

Variable	Name	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
Mean earnings among who work	MnEarnWnEP6	36985.24	9513.16	15700	102700
Share earning over \$25K/year	Gt25KP6	0.6528	0.1077	0.162	0.918
College Characteristics					
Average SAT score	SATAvg	1052.76	119.93	726	1491
Private control indicator	ControlInd	0.6206	0.4854	0	1
Grad degree-awarding indicator	HDeg	0.8635	0.3434	0	1
Undergraduate enrollment	UGDS	5955.3	7143.88	178	56232
Average cost of attendance	CostT4	30090.46	11886.28	9917	57590
Average net price	NPT4	17638.82	6529.17	1081	39560
Percent with Federal student loan	PctFLoan	0.6032	0.1618	0.0334	1
Percent with Pell grant	PctPell	0.3679	0.1452	0.0738	0.9351
Median student debt	GDebtMdn	19598.26	3732.304	4500	35500
Percent of degrees in 38 fields	PCIP_###				
Percent of Education degrees	PCIP13	0.0804	0.0789	0	0.6452
Percent of Engineering degrees	PCIP14	0.0316	0.0903	0	0.9088
Expenditure per student	InExpFTE	9416.8	7578.22	1938	107380
Completion rate	C150_4	0.5489	0.1697	0.049	0.9779
Student Characteristics					
Share of Blacks	UGDSBlack	0.1281	0.1858	0	0.9955
Share of Hispanics	UGDSHisp	0.0774	0.1097	0	1
Share of Asians	UGDSAsian	0.0397	0.0593	0	0.5054
Share of females	Female	0.5869	0.1076	0.0773	0.986
Average family income	FamInc	70495.26	21358.66	17501.84	143865.7
Additional College and Student Characteristics in $X$					
10 region indicators	Region_###				
New England indicator	Region_1	0.0833	0.2764	0	1
Southeast indicator	Region_5	0.2592	0.4384	0	1
12 locale indicators	Locale_###				
City indicator	Locale_11	0.206	0.4046	0	1
Rural remote indicator	Locale_43	0.0069	0.0826	0	1
Minority-serving indicator	SpecMis	0.1554	0.3624	0	1
Women-only college indicator	WomenOnly	0.012	0.109	0	1
Religious affiliation indicator	RelAffilInd	0.4094	0.4919	0	1
Share of Whites	UGDSWhite	0.6409	0.2222	0	0.9666
% Nat. Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	UGDSNHPI	0.0023	0.0083	0	0.1448
% two or more races	UGSD2mor	0.015	0.0178	0	0.2617
% American Indian/Alaska Nat.	UGDSAian	0.0077	0.0209	0	0.325
% whose race is unknown	UGDSUnkn	0.0598	0.0721	0	0.675
Share of dependents	Dependent	0.7504	0.1645	0.1238	0.9886
Share of nonresident aliens	UGDSnRA	0.0291	0.0342	0	0.3617
% with tertiary-educated parent	ParEdPctPS	0.6556	0.1025	0.4108	0.9381



Table 3: The Returns to College Selectivity and Characteristics

$\hat{\kappa}' = 0.9, \hat{\tau}' = 0.95$	$\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\kappa,\tau}$	$\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$	$\hat{b}_{Y(W,X)'}'$
$10^{-2} \times \text{SATAvg}$	$[-\infty, \infty]$ $(-\infty, \infty)$	$[0, 1.339]$ $(0, 2.071)$	-
$10^{-2} \times U$ (ability)	$[-\infty, \infty]$ $(-\infty, \infty)$	$[0, 16.190]$ $(0, 25.464)$	-
$10^{-2} \times (\text{SATAvg}, U)$	$[-28.155, 30.833]$ $(-31.208, 34.482)$	$[1.339, 16.190]$ $(0.572, 25.464)$	1.339 $(0.607, 2.071)$
ControlInd	$[-2.684, 0.178]$ $(-7.945, 5.439)$	$[-1.253, -0.533]$ $(-3.666, 2.601)$	-1.253 $(-2.739, 0.232)$
HDeg	$[-0.993, 0.566]$ $(-3.627, 3.279)$	$[-0.214, 0.179]$ $(-1.406, 1.763)$	-0.214 $(-0.943, 0.516)$
$10^{-3} \times \text{UGDS}$	$[-0.254, 0.145]$ $(-0.439, 0.322)$	$[-0.155, -0.055]$ $(-0.285, 0.002)$	-0.055 $(-0.108, -0.001)$
$10^{-3} \times \text{CostT4}$	$[-0.480, 0.735]$ $(-0.761, 1.027)$	$[-0.178, 0.127]$ $(-0.421, 0.238)$	0.127 $(0.022, 0.233)$
$10^{-3} \times \text{NPT4}$	$[-0.448, 0.330]$ $(-0.761, 0.629)$	$[-0.059, 0.136]$ $(-0.203, 0.355)$	-0.059 $(-0.196, 0.078)$
PctFLoan	$[-11.205, 18.775]$ $(-20.679, 28.552)$	$[3.785, 11.333]$ $(0.508, 18.474)$	3.785 $(0.657, 6.913)$
PctPell	$[-15.704, -6.005]$ $(-33.301, 10.346)$	$[-13.296, -10.855]$ $(-24.043, -2.549)$	-10.855 $(-16.127, -5.583)$
$10^{-3} \times \text{GDebtMdn}$	$[-0.639, 0.187]$ $(-0.995, 0.539)$	$[-0.226, -0.018]$ $(-0.357, 0.221)$	-0.226 $(-0.351, -0.101)$
PCIP23 (English)	$[-33.702, -19.630]$ $(-82.597, 24.598)$	$[-30.209, -26.666]$ $(-61.141, 0.723)$	-26.666 $(-43.311, -10.020)$
PCIP14 (Engineering)	$[-1.107, 25.554]$ $(-23.839, 48.679)$	$[5.512, 12.224]$ $(-9.853, 22.310)$	12.224 $(2.598, 21.850)$
$10^{-3} \times \text{InExpFTE}$	$[0.044, 0.535]$ $(-0.117, 0.782)$	$[0.166, 0.290]$ $(0.001, 0.440)$	0.290 $(0.147, 0.433)$
C150_4	$[-70.137, 89.279]$ $(-84.730, 104.313)$	$[-30.564, 9.571]$ $(-56.614, 13.618)$	9.571 $(5.709, 13.433)$
UGDSBlack	$[-23.676, 35.776]$ $(-33.377, 46.374)$	$[6.050, 21.018]$ $(2.817, 32.591)$	6.050 $(2.964, 9.136)$
UGDSHisp	$[-30.195, 47.237]$ $(-45.189, 64.714)$	$[8.521, 28.016]$ $(3.950, 43.561)$	8.521 $(4.158, 12.884)$
UGDSAsian	$[12.793, 52.229]$ $(-8.444, 77.330)$	$[22.582, 32.511]$ $(6.281, 45.563)$	32.511 $(20.054, 44.967)$
Female	$[-13.482, -11.918]$ $(-28.934, 5.022)$	$[-13.094, -12.700]$ $(-22.507, -3.681)$	-12.700 $(-18.509, -6.891)$
$10^{-3} \times \text{FamInc}$	$[0.044, 0.140]$ $(-0.074, 0.257)$	$[0.068, 0.092]$ $(-0.010, 0.146)$	0.092 $(0.044, 0.139)$

$Y$  is  $10^{-3} \times \text{MnEarnWnEp6}$ ,  $W$  is  $10^{-2} \times \text{SATAvg}$ , and  $U$  is scholastic ability scaled by  $10^{-2}$ . In addition,  $X^c$  contains 8 region indicators, 11 locale indicators, the shares of the remaining CIP fields of study, indicators for whether the institution has a special mission, is a women only college, or has a religious affiliation and  $X^s$  contains the shares of the remaining race categories, non-resident aliens, and dependent students. 95% confidence regions are reported in parentheses.

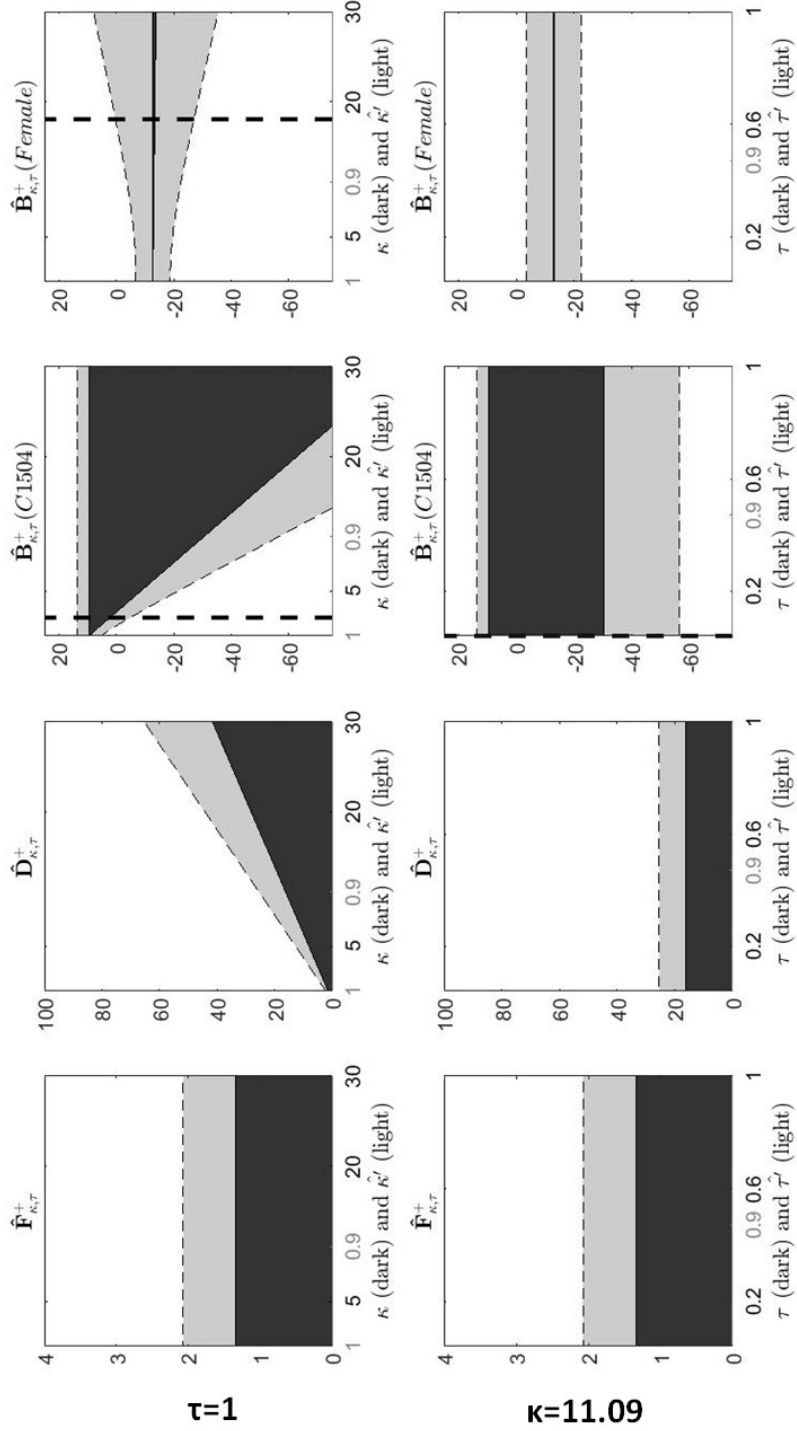


Figure 2: Bounds and 95% confidence regions when  $\tau = 1$  and  $\kappa \in [0, 30]$  (first panel) and  $\kappa = 11.09$  and  $\tau \in [\bar{R}_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2, 1]$  (second panel). The vertical thick dashed line indicates the smallest  $\kappa$  or  $\tau$  value such that the confidence region contains zero.

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Supplementary Material for “Measurement Error without the Proxy Exclusion  
Restriction”

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## A Mathematical Proofs

**Proof of Theorem 3.1:** Since  $Cov[(\eta, \varepsilon)', X] = 0$  and  $Var(X)$  is nonsingular, we obtain

$$b_{W.X} = b_{U.X} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta = b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X}(\phi + \delta).$$

By A<sub>2</sub> and A<sub>3</sub>,  $\sigma_{\tilde{U}, \tilde{\varepsilon}} = \sigma_{\tilde{U}, \tilde{\eta}} = \sigma_{\tilde{\varepsilon}, \tilde{\eta}} = 0$ . Using  $\tilde{\varepsilon} = \varepsilon - E(\varepsilon)$ ,  $\tilde{\eta} = \eta - E(\eta)$ , and  $\tilde{Y} = \tilde{U}(\phi + \delta) + \tilde{\varepsilon}\phi + \tilde{\eta}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2 &= \sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2 + \sigma_{\tilde{\varepsilon}}^2, \\ \sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2 &= (\phi + \delta)^2 \sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2 + \phi^2 \sigma_{\tilde{\varepsilon}}^2 + \sigma_{\tilde{\eta}}^2, \quad \text{and} \\ \sigma_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}} &= (\phi + \delta) \sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2 + \phi \sigma_{\tilde{\varepsilon}}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $Var[(X', U)']$  is nonsingular, we have that  $\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2 \neq 0$  and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} &= \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \phi(1 - \rho) + (\phi + \delta)\rho = \phi + \delta\rho, \quad \text{and} \\ \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} &= \phi^2(1 - \rho) + (\phi + \delta)^2\rho + \xi^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\rho \neq 0$ , we obtain  $\delta = D(\rho, \phi) \equiv \frac{1}{\rho}(b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - \phi)$ ,

$$\phi + \delta = G(\rho, \phi) = \frac{1}{\rho}[b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - \phi(1 - \rho)],$$

$$\beta = B(\rho, \phi) \equiv b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X}G(\rho, \phi) = b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X}\frac{1}{\rho}[b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - \phi(1 - \rho)],$$

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and

$$\begin{aligned}
\xi^2 &= C^2(\rho, \phi) \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \phi^2(1 - \rho) - (\phi + D(\rho, \phi))^2 \rho \\
&= \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \phi^2(1 - \rho) - \frac{1}{\rho}(b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - \phi(1 - \rho))^2 \\
&= \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{(1 - \rho)}{\rho}(\phi - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}})^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 1** *Under the conditions of Theorem 3.1,  $R_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 \leq \tilde{R}_*^2$ .*

**Proof of Lemma 1:** If  $\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2 = 0$  set  $R_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 = \tilde{R}_*^2 = 0$ . If  $0 < \sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
R_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 &= \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} [\phi(1 - \rho) + (\phi + \delta)\rho]^2 \text{ and} \\
\tilde{R}_*^2 &= 1 - \frac{\sigma_{\eta}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} (\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2 - \sigma_{\eta}^2) = \frac{1}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} [(\phi + \delta)^2 \sigma_U^2 + \phi^2 \sigma_{\varepsilon}^2].
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\tilde{R}_*^2 - R_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} \{(\phi + \delta)^2 \rho + \phi^2(1 - \rho) - [\phi(1 - \rho) + (\phi + \delta)\rho]^2\} = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} \rho(1 - \rho)\delta^2 \geq 0.$$

**Proof of Corollary 3.2:**  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$  obtains from A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>5</sub> and the moments  $Var[(\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W})']$ , given by (in)equalities (4-6), using the expressions in Theorem 3.1. To show that  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$  is sharp, let  $d = D(r, f)$ ,  $g = G(r, f)$ , and  $b = B(r, f)$ . We show that for each  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$  there exist random variables  $(U^*, \eta^*, \varepsilon^*)$ , with  $\frac{\sigma_{U^*}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = r$  and  $\frac{\sigma_{\eta^*}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = C^2(r, f)$ , that satisfy A<sub>2</sub>-A<sub>5</sub> such that  $Y = X'b + Wf + U^*d + \eta^*$  and  $W = U^* + \varepsilon^*$ . For this, let  $V$  be any random variable such that  $\tilde{V} \equiv \varepsilon_{V, X}$  is nondegenerate and satisfies

$$\sigma_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}} = \sqrt{r}\sigma_{\tilde{V}}\sigma_{\tilde{W}} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{V}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}}\sigma_{\tilde{W}}\sigma_{\tilde{V}}[b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - f(1 - r)].$$

Note that these covariance matrix restrictions are coherent. Specifically,

$$Var(\tilde{V}, \tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}) = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2 & \sqrt{r}\sigma_{\tilde{V}}\sigma_{\tilde{W}} & \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}\sigma_{\tilde{V}}}{\sqrt{r}}[b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - f(1 - r)] \\ \sqrt{r}\sigma_{\tilde{V}}\sigma_{\tilde{W}} & \sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2 & \sigma_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} \\ \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}\sigma_{\tilde{V}}}{\sqrt{r}}[b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - f(1 - r)] & \sigma_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} & \sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

is positive semi-definite, since basic calculations together with  $r \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq C^2(r, f)$  yield that all its principle minors are nonnegative. Specifically,  $\sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2$ ,  $\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2$ ,  $\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2$ , and  $\det(\sigma_{(\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y})'}^2)$  are clearly nonnegative. Further,

$$\begin{aligned}\det(\sigma_{(\tilde{V}, \tilde{W})'}^2) &= (1-r)\sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2 \geq 0 \\ \det(\sigma_{(\tilde{V}, \tilde{Y})'}^2) &= \sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2\left[\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{1}{r}[b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - f(1-r)]^2\right] = \sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2[C^2(r, f) + f^2(1-r)] \geq 0, \text{ and} \\ \det(\sigma_{(\tilde{V}, \tilde{W}, \tilde{Y})'}^2) &= (1-r)\sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^4\left[\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{1-r}{r}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - f)^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2\right] = (1-r)\sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^4C^2(r, f) \geq 0.\end{aligned}$$

For instance, to construct  $V$ , set  $\sigma_{\tilde{V}}$  to some value (e.g.  $\sigma_{\tilde{V}} = 1$ ) and let  $\vartheta$  be any random variable that is uncorrelated with  $(X', W, Y)'$  (e.g. a residual from a regression on  $(X', W, Y)$ ). When  $R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2 \neq 1$ , one can use the above restrictions on  $\sigma_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}}$  and  $\sigma_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{V}}$  to construct  $b_{\tilde{V}.(\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y})'}$  and the scalar

$$\varkappa = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma_{\vartheta}^2} [\sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2 - b'_{\tilde{V}.(\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y})'} \sigma_{(\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y})'}^2 b_{\tilde{V}.(\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y})'}] \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

( $\varkappa$  is set such that the variance of the generated  $\tilde{V}$  is  $\sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2$ ) in order to generate  $\tilde{V}$  by

$$\tilde{V} = (\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y})b_{\tilde{V}.(\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y})'} + \varkappa\vartheta.$$

If  $R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2 = 1$ , one can generate  $\tilde{V}$  by omitting the redundant  $\tilde{Y}$  from the above regression construction. Last,  $V = X'b_{V.X} + \tilde{V} + E[V - X'b_{V.X}]$  obtains by setting  $b_{V.X}$  and  $E(V)$  to some values (e.g.  $\mathbf{0}_{k \times 1}$  and 0).

Then it suffices to construct  $U^*$ ,  $\varepsilon^*$ , and  $\eta^*$  as follows

$$W \equiv (X', V)b_{W.(X', V)'} + \{\epsilon_{W.(X', V)'} + E[W - (X', V)b_{W.(X', V)'}]\} \equiv U^* + \varepsilon^*,$$

and, if  $r \neq 1$ ,

$$Y \equiv (X', V, \varepsilon^*)b_{Y.(X', V, \varepsilon^*)'} + \{\epsilon_{Y.(X', V, \varepsilon^*)'} + E[Y - (X', V, \varepsilon^*)b_{Y.(X', V, \varepsilon^*)'}]\} \equiv (X', V, \varepsilon^*)b_{Y.(X', V, \varepsilon^*)'} + \eta^*$$

whereas if  $r = 1$  then  $Corr(\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}) = 1$  and  $\epsilon_{W.(X', V)'} = \epsilon_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}} = 0$ , and

$$\begin{aligned}Y &= (X', V)b_{Y.(X', V)'} + \{\epsilon_{Y.(X', V)'} + E[Y - (X', V)b_{Y.(X', V)'}]\} \\ &= (X', V)b_{Y.(X', V)'} + E[W - (X', V)b_{W.(X', V)'}]f \\ &\quad + \{\epsilon_{Y.(X', V)'} + E[Y - (X', V)b_{Y.(X', V)'}] - E[W - (X', V)b_{W.(X', V)'}]f\} \\ &\equiv (X', V)b_{Y.(X', V)'} + \varepsilon^*f + \eta^*.\end{aligned}$$



In particular,  $(X, U^*, \varepsilon^*, \eta^*)$  satisfy A<sub>2</sub>-A<sub>3</sub> since by construction  $Cov[\eta^*, (X', U^*)'] = 0$  and  $Cov[\varepsilon^*, (\eta^*, X', U^*)'] = 0$ . To verify that A<sub>1</sub> holds, note that if  $r \neq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
Y &= Vb_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{V}} + X'(b_{Y.X} - b_{V.X}b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{V}}) + \varepsilon^*b_{Y, \varepsilon^*} + \{\varepsilon_{Y.(X', V, \varepsilon^*)'} + E[Y - (X', V, \varepsilon^*)b_{Y.(X', V, \varepsilon^*)}]\} \\
&= Vb_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}}(f + d) + X'(b_{W.X} - b_{V.X}b_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}})(f + d) + X'(b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X}(f + d)) + \varepsilon^*b_{Y, \varepsilon^*} + \eta^* \\
&= (X', V)b_{W.(X', V)}(f + d) + X'b + \varepsilon^*f + \eta^* \\
&\equiv U^*d + (U^* + \varepsilon^*)f + X'b + \eta^* \equiv U^*d + Wf + X'b + \eta^*.
\end{aligned}$$

where the first equality uses  $Cov[\varepsilon^*, (X', V)'] = 0$  and partitioned regression, the second equality makes use of

$$\begin{aligned}
b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{V}} &= \sigma_{\tilde{W}}^{-2} \sigma_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{V}} = \sigma_{\tilde{W}}^{-2} \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}} \sigma_{\tilde{V}}}{\sqrt{r}} [b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - f(1 - r)] = \sigma_{\tilde{W}}^{-2} \frac{1}{r} \sigma_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}} [b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - f(1 - r)] \\
&= b_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}} \frac{1}{r} [b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - f(1 - r)] = b_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}}(f + d)
\end{aligned}$$

and the third equality uses partitioned regression,  $b = b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X}(f + d)$ , and

$$\begin{aligned}
b_{Y, \varepsilon^*} &= b_{\tilde{Y}, \varepsilon_{W.(X', V)'}} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{\varepsilon_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}}}^2} Cov(\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W} - \tilde{V}b_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}}) = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{V}} \sigma_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}}}{\sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2}}{Var(\tilde{W} - \tilde{V}b_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}})} \\
&= \frac{1}{(1 - r)\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} \left[ \sigma_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} \sigma_{\tilde{W}} \sigma_{\tilde{V}} [b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - f(1 - r)] \sqrt{r} \sigma_{\tilde{V}} \sigma_{\tilde{W}}}{\sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2} \right] = f.
\end{aligned}$$

If  $r = 1$ , then  $\varepsilon^* = E[W - (X', V)b_{W.(X', V)}]$  and a similar calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned}
Y &= Vb_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{V}} + X'(b_{Y.X} - b_{V.X}b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{V}}) + \{\varepsilon_{Y.(X', V)' } + E[Y - (X', V)b_{Y.(X', V)}]\} \\
&= (X', V)b_{W.(X', V)}(f + d) + X'b + \varepsilon^*f + \{\varepsilon_{Y.(X', V)' } + E[Y - (X', V)b_{Y.(X', V)}] - \varepsilon^*f\} \\
&\equiv U^*d + (U^* + \varepsilon^*)f + X'b + \eta^* \equiv U^*d + Wf + X'b + \eta^*.
\end{aligned}$$

Last, to verify that A<sub>4</sub> holds,  $\sigma_{\varepsilon^*}^2 \leq \kappa \sigma_{\tilde{U}^*}^2$ , it suffices to use  $\frac{1}{1 + \kappa} \leq r$  and

$$\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{U}^*}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \frac{Var(\tilde{V}b_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}})}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{V}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{V}}^2 \sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = r.$$

Also, to verify that A<sub>5</sub> holds, it suffices to show that

$$\begin{aligned}
C(r, f) &= \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - f^2(1-r) - \frac{1}{r}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - f(1-f))^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} [Var(\tilde{U}^*(d+f)) + Var(\tilde{\varepsilon}^*f) + \sigma_{\eta^*}^2] - f^2(1-r) - \frac{1}{r}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - f(1-f))^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} [Var(\tilde{V}b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{V}}) + Var(\epsilon_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{V}}f) + \sigma_{\eta^*}^2] - f^2(1-r) - \frac{1}{r}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - f(1-f))^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} \left[ \frac{1}{r} \sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2 [b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - f(1-r)]^2 + (1-r) \sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2 f^2 + \sigma_{\eta^*}^2 \right] - f^2(1-r) - \frac{1}{r}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - f(1-f))^2 \\
&= \frac{\sigma_{\eta^*}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}.
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that, when  $\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2 \neq 0$  (recall that if  $\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2 = 0$  then we set  $\tilde{R}_*^2 = 0$ ),

$$1 - \frac{\sigma_{\eta^*}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} \left( \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - C(r, f) \right) \leq \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} \left[ \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} (1-\tau) \right] = \tau.$$

Next, we derive the projected identification regions.  $\mathcal{R}_{\kappa, \tau}$  obtains by A<sub>4</sub>. Further,

$$g = G(r, f) \equiv f + D(r, f) = \frac{1}{r} [b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - f(1-r)].$$

For all  $(1, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$ , we have that  $g = b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}$ . Further, for all  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$  with  $r \neq 1$ , and corresponding  $G(r, f)$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &\leq C^2(r, f) - (1-\tau) \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = C^2(r, \frac{1}{(1-r)}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rg)) - (1-\tau) \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} \\
&= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{(1-r)}{r} (f - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}})^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 \\
&= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{r}{(1-r)} (g - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}})^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\frac{1}{\kappa} \leq \frac{r}{1-r}$  by A<sub>4</sub>, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{\kappa} (g - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}})^2 \leq \frac{r}{(1-r)} (g - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}})^2 \leq \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2,$$

and therefore  $g \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa, \tau} = \{b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} + \lambda[\kappa(\tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} : -1 \leq \lambda \leq 1\}$ . The expression for  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa, \tau}$  follows from  $B(r, f) = b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X}g$ .

To show that the projected regions are sharp, we show that for every point in a projected region, there exists a corresponding point  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}$ . For this, we make use of

$$\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 - (1-\tau) \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 \geq R_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 = 0.$$

It follows that  $\mathcal{R}_{\kappa,\tau}$  is sharp since for each  $r \in \mathcal{R}_{\kappa,\tau}$ , setting  $f = b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}$  gives that  $C^2(r, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}) = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2$ . Further,  $\mathcal{F}_{\kappa,\tau}$  is not identified since for each  $f \in \mathbb{R}$ , setting  $r = 1$  gives  $C^2(1, f) = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2$ . Similarly,  $\mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}$  is not identified since for each  $d \in \mathbb{R}$ , setting  $r = 1$  and  $f = b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd$  gives  $D(r, f) = d$  and  $C^2(1, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd) = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2$ . Last, we show that  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}$ , and thus  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}$ , is sharp. For  $\kappa = 0$ , setting  $r = 1$  gives  $G(1, f) = b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}$  and  $C^2(r, f) = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2$ . Otherwise, for  $\kappa \neq 0$  and each  $g \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}$  corresponding to  $\lambda_g \in [-1, 1]$ , setting  $r = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  and  $f = \frac{1}{(1-r)}(b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rg)$  gives  $G(r, f) = g$  and

$$\begin{aligned} C^2\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, \frac{1}{(1-r)}(b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rg)\right) - (1-\tau)\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} &= \tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{r}{(1-r)}(g - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}})^2 - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \\ &= \tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{1}{\kappa}\lambda_g^2\kappa\left(\tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2\right) - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \\ &= (1 - \lambda_g^2)\left(\tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2\right) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof of Corollary 3.3:**  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  obtains from A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> and the moments  $Var[(\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W})]$ , given by (in)equalities (4-6), using the expressions in Theorem 3.1. Since  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+ \subseteq \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}$ , the sharpness proof in Corollary 3.2 implies that  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  is sharp.

Next, we derive the projected identification regions. By A<sub>4</sub>,  $\rho \in \mathcal{R}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ . By A<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup>,  $0 \leq E(r, f) \equiv \frac{1}{r}f(b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - f)$  for all  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  and thus  $\phi \in \mathcal{F}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ .  $\mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  and  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  (and therefore  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ ) obtain by studying the behavior of  $D(r, f)$  and  $G(r, f)$  subject to the constraints defining  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ . For brevity, for  $\mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ , we give a proof by contradiction. Let  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  and suppose that  $d = D(r, f) \notin \mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ . Then  $f = b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd$  and we have that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq C^2(r, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd) - (1-\tau)\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{(1-r)}{r}(f - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}})^2 - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \\ &= \tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - (1-r)rd^2 - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2, \text{ and} \\ 0 &\leq E(r, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd) = \frac{1}{r}f(b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - f) = (b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd)d. \end{aligned}$$

Given A<sub>4</sub>, it follows that

$$r(1-r) \leq \frac{1}{d^2}\left(\tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2\right) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq r \leq b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}\frac{1}{d}.$$

If  $b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}\frac{1}{d} \leq 0$  then  $r \leq b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}\frac{1}{d} \leq 0$ , a contradiction. Let  $db_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} > 0$  with  $d \notin \mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ . When  $T = 1$  and  $\kappa > 0$ , we obtain

$$r(1-r) < \frac{(\tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2)}{(1+\kappa)^2 b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \frac{1}{\kappa}(\frac{1}{L} - 1)} = \frac{1}{1+\kappa} \left(1 - \frac{1}{1+\kappa}\right) \frac{\tau\frac{1}{R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1}{(\frac{1}{L} - 1)}, \text{ and}$$

$$\frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq r < \frac{1}{(1+\kappa)[\frac{1}{\kappa}(\frac{1}{L} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

and when  $T = 0$  or  $\kappa = 0$ , we obtain

$$r(1-r) < \frac{(\tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2)}{b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \frac{1}{L^2}} = L^2 \left(\tau\frac{1}{R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1\right), \text{ and}$$

$$\frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq r < b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} \frac{1}{b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}\frac{1}{L}} = L.$$

When  $L = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  this leads to the contradiction  $\frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq r < \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$ . Further, when  $L = \frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2$ , this leads to the contradictory inequalities  $\frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq r < \frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2$  and  $r(1-r) < \min\{\frac{1}{1+\kappa}(1 - \frac{1}{1+\kappa}), \frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2(1 - \frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2)\}$  where we make use of the fact that  $T = 1$  and  $\kappa > 0$  (or equivalently  $\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2$  is on the open interval with end points  $\frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  and  $\frac{k}{1+\kappa}$ ) if and only if

$$\frac{1}{(1+\kappa)[\frac{1}{\kappa}(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}} < \frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2.$$

Last,  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  obtains from  $B(r, f) = b_{Y,X} - b_{W,X}g$  and the bounds  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  for  $g = G(r, f) \equiv \frac{1}{r}[b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - f(1-r)]$ . Let  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ . If  $r = 1$  then  $g = b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}$  whereas if  $0 < r < 1$  then  $f = \frac{1}{(1-r)}(b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rg)$  and

$$0 \leq E(r, \frac{1}{(1-r)}(b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rg)) = \frac{1}{r}f(b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - f) = \frac{1}{(1-r)^2}(b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rg)(g - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}).$$

Given A<sub>4</sub>, it follows that

$$|b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}| \leq |g| \leq \frac{1}{r}|b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}| \leq (1+\kappa)|b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}| \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq gb_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}.$$

Thus, if  $b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} = 0$  then  $\phi + \delta = 0$  and  $\beta = b_{Y,X}$ . Also, from Corollary 3.2, we have that  $\phi + \delta \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}$ . And, when  $b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} \neq 0$ ,  $1 + [\kappa(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq 1 + \kappa$  if and only if  $\frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq \frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2$ . It follows that  $\phi + \delta \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^+ \equiv \{b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}(1 + \lambda[\kappa(\frac{1}{L} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) : 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\}$ .

Next, we show that the projected regions are sharp.  $\mathcal{R}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  is sharp because for each  $r \in \mathcal{R}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ , setting  $f = b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}$  gives  $C^2(r, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}) = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2$  and  $E(r, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}) = 0$ .  $\mathcal{F}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  is sharp

because for each  $f \in \mathcal{F}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$ , setting  $r = 1$  gives  $C^2(1, f) = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2$  and  $0 \leq E(1, f)$ . To show that  $\mathcal{D}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$  is sharp, for each  $d \in \mathcal{D}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$ , corresponding to  $\lambda_d \in [0, 1]$ , set  $f = b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - rd$  so that  $d = D(r, f)$  and choose  $r$  as follows. If  $T = 1$  and  $0 < \kappa$  then  $0 < R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2$  and we set  $r = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  so that

$$\begin{aligned} C^2\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - rd\right) - (1-\tau)\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} &= \tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - (1-r)rd^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 \\ &= \tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{\kappa}{(1+\kappa)^2}\lambda_d^2(1+\kappa)^2b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2\frac{1}{\kappa}\left(\frac{1}{L} - 1\right) - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 \\ &\geq \tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \lambda_d^2b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2\left(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2} - 1\right) - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 \\ &= (1 - \lambda_d^2)\left(\tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2\right) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Further, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} E\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - rd\right) &= (b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - rd)d \\ &= \lambda_d(1+\kappa)b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2\left[\frac{1}{\kappa}\left(\frac{1}{L} - 1\right)\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} - \lambda_d^2\frac{1+\kappa}{\kappa}b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2\left(\frac{1}{L} - 1\right). \end{aligned}$$

If  $L = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  then

$$E\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - rd\right) = \lambda_d(1+\kappa)b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 - \lambda_d^2(1+\kappa)b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 = \lambda_d(1-\lambda_d)(1+\kappa)b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 \geq 0.$$

If  $L = \frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2$  then  $\frac{1}{\kappa}\left(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2} - 1\right) \leq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} E\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - rd\right) &= \lambda_db_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2(1+\kappa)\left[\frac{1}{\kappa}\left(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2} - 1\right)\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} - \lambda_d^2\frac{1+\kappa}{\kappa}b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2\left(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2} - 1\right) \\ &\geq \lambda_db_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2(1+\kappa)\frac{1}{\kappa}\left(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2} - 1\right) - \lambda_d^2\frac{1+\kappa}{\kappa}b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2\left(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2} - 1\right) \\ &= \lambda_d(1-\lambda_d)\frac{1+\kappa}{\kappa}b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2\left(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2} - 1\right) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Otherwise, if  $T = 0$  or  $\kappa = 0$  then set  $r = L$  so that

$$C^2(L, b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} - rd) - (1-\tau)\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - (1-r)rd^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 = \tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{1-L}{L}\lambda_d^2b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}^2.$$

If  $L = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  and  $0 < R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2$  then  $\kappa \leq \frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1$  and

$$\begin{aligned} C^2(L, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd) - (1 - \tau) \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} &= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \kappa \lambda_d^2 b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \\ &\geq \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \left( \frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1 \right) \lambda_d^2 b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \\ &= (1 - \lambda_d^2) \left( \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \right) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

If  $L = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  and  $R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2 = 0$  then  $C^2(L, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd) - (1 - \tau) \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} \geq 0$ .

If  $L = \frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} C^2(L, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd) - (1 - \tau) \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} &= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{1 - \frac{1}{\tau} R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2}{\frac{1}{\tau} R_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}^2} \lambda_d^2 b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \\ &= (1 - \lambda_d^2) \left( \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \right) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Further, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E(L, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd) &= (b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rd)d = (b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - L\lambda_d b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} \frac{1}{L}) \lambda_d b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} \frac{1}{L} \\ &= (1 - \lambda_d) \lambda_d b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \frac{1}{L} \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Last, since  $B(r, f) = b_{Y,X} - b_{W,X}g$ , it suffices to show that  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ , and thus  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$ , is sharp. If  $\kappa = 0$  then setting  $r = 1$  and  $f = b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}$ , so that  $g = G(r, f) = b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}$ , gives  $C^2(1, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}) = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2$  and  $E(1, b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}) = 0$ . Otherwise, for  $\kappa \neq 0$  and each  $g \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$  corresponding to  $\lambda_g \in [0, 1]$ , setting  $r = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  and  $f = \frac{1}{(1-r)}(b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rg)$ , so that  $G(r, f) = g$ , yields

$$\begin{aligned} C^2\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, \frac{1}{(1-r)}(b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} - rg)\right) - (1 - \tau) \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} &= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{r}{(1-r)}(g - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}})^2 - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \\ &= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{1}{\kappa} (b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} \{1 + \lambda_g [\kappa (\frac{1}{L} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}\} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}})^2 - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \\ &= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \lambda_g^2 \left( \frac{1}{L} - 1 \right) - b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}}^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality is shown above. Since  $\kappa \geq \frac{1}{L} - 1$ , we also have

$$\begin{aligned}
& E\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, \frac{1}{(1-r)}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rg)\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{(1-r)^2}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rg)(g - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}) \\
&= \frac{(1+\kappa)^2}{\kappa^2}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - \frac{1}{1+\kappa}b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}\{1 + \lambda_g[\kappa(\frac{1}{L} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}\})(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}\lambda_g[\kappa(\frac{1}{L} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) \\
&= \frac{1+\kappa}{\kappa^2}b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2(\kappa - \lambda_g[\kappa(\frac{1}{L} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}})(\lambda_g[\kappa(\frac{1}{L} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) \\
&= \lambda_g\frac{1+\kappa}{\kappa}b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2\{[\kappa(\frac{1}{L} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}} - \lambda_g(\frac{1}{L} - 1)\} \\
&\geq \lambda_g\frac{1+\kappa}{\kappa}b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2\{[(\frac{1}{L} - 1)^2]^{\frac{1}{2}} - \lambda_g(\frac{1}{L} - 1)\} = \lambda_g(1 - \lambda_g)\frac{1+\kappa}{\kappa}b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2(\frac{1}{L} - 1) \geq 0.
\end{aligned}$$

**Proof of Corollary 3.4:**  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  obtains from  $A_1-A_6^-$  and the moments  $Var[(\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W})']$  given by (in)equalities (4-6), using the expressions in Theorem 3.1. Since  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^- \subseteq \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}$ , the sharpness proof in Corollary 3.2 applies to  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$ .

Next, we derive the projected identification regions. By  $A_4$ ,  $\rho \in \mathcal{R}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$ . If  $b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} = 0$  then  $\mathcal{F}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \mathbb{R}$ . If  $b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} \neq 0$ , since  $E(r, f) = \frac{1}{r}f(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - f) \leq 0$  for all  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$ , we have that  $f \in \mathcal{F}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$ . Similarly, if  $b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} \neq 0$  let  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  and suppose that  $d = D(r, f) \notin \mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  (i.e.  $d \in \{\lambda b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} : 0 < \lambda < 1\}$ ) then  $E(r, b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rd) = (b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rd)d \leq 0$  implies that  $1 < \frac{b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}}{d} \leq r$ , a contradiction. Last, we derive  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  and thus  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  since  $\beta = b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X}(\phi + \delta)$ . If  $\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2 \leq \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  or  $\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2 = 1$  then  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}$ , the bounds obtained from Corollary 3.2. To derive  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  when  $\frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq \frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2 < 1$ , let  $(r, f, d, g, b) \in \mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$  and suppose that  $g = G(r, f) \notin \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$ . Then, from Corollary 3.2, we have that

$$g \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau} \setminus \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^- = \{\lambda b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} \frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} + (1 - \lambda)b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}(1 + [\kappa(\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) : 0 \leq \lambda < 1\}.$$

Note that  $g$  and  $b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}$  have the same sign. Further, since  $\frac{1}{1+\kappa} \leq \frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2 < 1$ , we obtain that

$$|b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}| < |b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}| \frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} < |g| \leq |b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}|(1 + [\kappa(\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}).$$

If  $r = 1$  then  $g = b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa,\tau}^-$ . Thus,  $r \neq 1$  and we have

$$E(r, \frac{1}{1-r}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rg)) = \frac{1}{(1-r)^2}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rg)(g - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}) \leq 0.$$

Further,  $E(r, f) = 0$  if and only if either  $d = 0$ , and thus  $g = b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$ , or  $f = 0$ , and thus  $g = d \in \mathcal{D}_{\kappa, \tau}^0$  (defined in Corollary 3.5), contradicting  $g \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa, \tau} \setminus \mathcal{G}_{\kappa, \tau}^-$ . Therefore, we must have  $E(r, \frac{1}{1-r}(b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} - rg)) < 0$ , so that either  $|g| < |b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| < \frac{1}{r}|b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}|$  (which is ruled out by  $|b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| < |g|$  above) or  $|b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| < \frac{1}{r}|b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| < |g|$ . In particular, we obtain that  $\left| \frac{b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}}{g} \right| < r$ . Since

$$0 \leq C^2(r, \frac{1}{1-r}(b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} - rg)) - (1-\tau) \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} = \tau \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} - \frac{r}{1-r}(g - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}})^2 - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2,$$

using  $\left| \frac{b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}}{g} \right| < r$  and  $0 < |g| - |b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| \leq |g - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}|$  we obtain

$$|b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| |g - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| \leq \frac{|b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}|}{|g| - |b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}|} (g - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}})^2 < \frac{r}{1-r} (g - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}})^2 \leq \tau \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2 = \left( \frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau} R_{\bar{W}, \bar{Y}}^2} - 1 \right) b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2.$$

It follows that

$$|g - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| < |b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| \left| \frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau} R_{\bar{W}, \bar{Y}}^2} - 1 \right|.$$

But since  $g$  and  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$  have the same sign this contradicts  $|b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| < |b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}| \frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau} R_{\bar{W}, \bar{Y}}^2} < |g|$ .

$\mathcal{R}_{\kappa, \tau}^-$  is sharp since for each  $r \in \mathcal{R}_{\kappa, \tau}^-$  setting  $f = b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$  gives  $C^2(r, b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}) = \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2$  and  $E(r, b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}) = 0$ .  $\mathcal{F}_{\kappa, \tau}^-$  is sharp since for each  $f \in \{\lambda b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} : \lambda \notin (0, 1)\}$  and corresponding  $\lambda_f \notin (0, 1)$  when  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \neq 0$  (or  $f \in \mathbb{R}$  when  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} = 0$ ) setting  $r = 1$  gives  $C^2(1, f) = \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2$  and  $E(1, f) = (1 - \lambda_f) \lambda_f b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2 \leq 0$  (or  $E(1, f) = -f^2 \leq 0$  when  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} = 0$ ). Similarly,  $\mathcal{D}_{\kappa, \tau}^-$  is sharp since for each  $d \in \{\lambda b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} : \lambda \notin (0, 1)\}$  and corresponding  $\lambda_d \notin (0, 1)$  when  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \neq 0$  (or  $d \in \mathbb{R}$  when  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} = 0$ ) setting  $r = 1$  and  $f = b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} - rd$  gives  $D(r, f) = d$ ,  $C^2(1, b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} - rd) = \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2$ , and  $E(1, b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} - rd) = (1 - \lambda_d) \lambda_d b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2 \leq 0$  (or  $E(1, b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} - rd) = -d^2 \leq 0$  when  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} = 0$ ).

Since  $B(r, f) = b_{Y, X} - b_{W, X} G(r, f)$ , we show that  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa, \tau}^-$ , and thus  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa, \tau}^-$ , is sharp. If  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} = 0$  or  $\kappa = 0$  then setting  $r = 1$  and  $f = b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$ , so that  $g = G(r, f) = b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$ , gives  $C^2(1, b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}) = \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2$ , and  $E(1, b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}) = 0$ . Otherwise, for  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \neq 0$ ,  $\kappa \neq 0$ , and each  $g \in \mathcal{G}_{\kappa, \tau}^-$  corresponding to  $\lambda_g$ , let  $f(1-r) = (b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} - rg)$  so that  $G(r, f) = g$ . Partition  $\mathcal{G}_{\kappa, \tau}^-$  and choose either  $r$  or  $f$  as follows. For each  $g \in \{b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}(1 - \lambda[\kappa(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau} R_{\bar{W}, \bar{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) : 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\}$ , set  $r = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  so that

$$\begin{aligned} C^2\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, \frac{1}{1-r}(b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} - rg)\right) - (1-\tau) \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} &= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} - \frac{r}{(1-r)}(g - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}})^2 - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2 \\ &= (1 - \lambda_g^2) \left( \tau \frac{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\bar{W}}^2} - b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}^2 \right) \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$



and

$$\begin{aligned}
E\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, \frac{1}{1-r}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rg)\right) &= \frac{1}{(1-r)^2}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rg)(g - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}) \\
&= \frac{(1+\kappa)}{\kappa^2} \left\{ (1+\kappa)b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - [b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - \lambda_g b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} [\kappa(\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}] \right\} \\
&\quad \times [-\lambda_g b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} [\kappa(\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}] \\
&= \frac{(1+\kappa)}{\kappa} [-\lambda_g b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 [\kappa(\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}} - \lambda_g^2 b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 (\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)] \leq 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Further, for each  $g \in \{\lambda \frac{1}{L} b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} + (1-\lambda) b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} : 0 < \lambda \leq 1\}$  set  $f = 0$  so that

$$\begin{aligned}
C^2\left(\frac{1}{g} b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}, 0\right) - (1-\tau) \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} &= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{(1-r)}{r} (f - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}})^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 \\
&= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{g}{b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}} b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 \\
&= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - (\lambda_g \frac{1}{L} b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} + (1-\lambda_g) b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}) b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} \\
&\geq \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - (\lambda_g \frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} + (1-\lambda_g) b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}) b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} \\
&= (1-\lambda_g) (\tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2) \geq 0
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$E\left(\frac{1}{g} b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}, 0\right) = \frac{g}{b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}} f(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - f) = 0.$$

Last, if  $\frac{1}{\tau} R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2 \leq \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  then for each  $g \in \{\lambda(1+\kappa) b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} + (1-\lambda) b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} (1 + [\kappa(\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) : 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\}$  set  $r = \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  so that

$$\begin{aligned}
C^2\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, \frac{1}{1-r}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rg)\right) - (1-\tau) \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} &= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{r}{(1-r)} (g - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}})^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 \\
&= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{1}{\kappa} [\lambda_g (1+\kappa) b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} + (1-\lambda_g) b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} (1 + [\kappa(\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}]^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 \\
&= \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 [\lambda_g \kappa^{\frac{1}{2}} + (1-\lambda_g) (\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}}]^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 \\
&\geq \tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 [\lambda_g (\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}} + (1-\lambda_g) (\frac{1}{\tau R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}}]^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 = 0
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
E\left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa}, \frac{1}{1-r}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rg)\right) &= \frac{1}{(1-r)^2}(b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - rg)(g - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}) \\
&= \frac{(1+\kappa)}{\kappa^2} \left[ (1+\kappa)b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - \lambda_g(1+\kappa)b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} - (1-\lambda_g)b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}(1 + [\kappa(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) \right] \\
&\quad \times [\lambda_g(1+\kappa)b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} + (1-\lambda_g)b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}(1 + [\kappa(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}] \\
&= \frac{(1+\kappa)}{\kappa^2} (1-\lambda_g)b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 (\kappa - [\kappa(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) (\lambda_g\kappa + (1-\lambda_g)[\kappa(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) \leq 0
\end{aligned}$$

since  $\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2 \leq \frac{1}{1+\kappa}$  implies that  $\kappa - [\kappa(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2} - 1)]^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq 0$ .

**Proof of Corollary 3.5:** Setting  $\phi = 0$  in  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}$  from Corollary 3.2, we obtain

$$0 \leq C^2(\rho, 0) - (1-\tau)\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{(1-\rho)}{\rho}b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2 - (1-\tau)\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \tau\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - \frac{1}{\rho}b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2.$$

Since  $0 < \rho \leq 1$  and  $0 < \tau$ , it follows that when  $0 < \sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2$  we have

$$\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2 = \frac{b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}{\tau\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2} \leq \rho$$

By  $A_4$ ,  $\max\{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2, \frac{1}{1+\kappa}\} \leq \rho \leq 1$ . Setting  $f = 0$  in the proof of Corollary 3.2 proves that  $\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^0$ , and thus  $\mathcal{R}_{\kappa,\tau}^0$ , are sharp. The bounds  $\mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^0$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^0$  obtain by setting  $\phi = 0$  in the expressions for  $\delta = D(\rho, 0) = \frac{1}{\rho}b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}$  and  $\beta = B(\rho, 0) = b_{Y.X} - b_{W.X}\frac{1}{\rho}b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}$  from Theorem 3.1. Since  $\mathcal{R}_{\kappa,\tau}^0$  is sharp, it follows from the mappings  $D(\rho, 0)$  and  $B(\rho, 0)$  that  $\mathcal{D}_{\kappa,\tau}^0$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\kappa,\tau}^0$  are sharp.

**Proof of Theorem 5.1** Recall that, for random column vectors  $A$  and  $B$ , we have

$$A' = [E(A)' - E(B)'b_{A.B}] + B'b_{A.B} + \epsilon'_{A.B} \equiv (1, B')b_{A.B}^* + \epsilon'_{A.B}.$$

Given observations  $\{A_i, B_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , denote the linear regression intercept ( $\hat{b}_{A.B}^0$ ) and slope ( $\hat{b}_{A.B}$ ) estimators and the sample residual ( $\hat{\epsilon}_{A.B,i}$ ) by:

$$\tilde{b}_{A.B} = (\hat{b}_{A.B}^0, \hat{b}'_{A.B})' \equiv \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (1, B'_i)'(1, B'_i)\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (1, B'_i)' A'_i\right) \text{ and } \tilde{\epsilon}'_{A.B,i} \equiv A'_i - (1, B'_i)\tilde{b}_{A.B}.$$

Further, collect into  $P^*$  and  $\tilde{P}$  the following estimands and estimators

$$P^* \equiv (b_{Y.(W,X')}^{*'}, b_{W.(Y,X')}^{*'}, b_{Y.X}^{*'}, b_{W.X}^{*'}, \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2})' \text{ and } \tilde{P} \equiv (\tilde{b}'_{Y.(W,X')}, \tilde{b}'_{W.(Y,X')}, \tilde{b}'_{Y.X}, \tilde{b}'_{W.X}, \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{Y.X,i}^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{W.X,i}^2})'.$$

Last, let  $\hat{\mu}_A^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n A_i A_i'$ ,

$$\hat{Q} \equiv \text{diag}\{\hat{\mu}_{(1,W,X')'}^2, \hat{\mu}_{(1,Y,X')'}^2, \hat{\mu}_{(1,X')'}^2, \hat{\mu}_{(1,X')'}^2, \hat{\mu}_{\epsilon_{W.X}}^2\},$$

and

$$M = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [(1, W_i, X_i') \epsilon_{Y.(W,X')',i}, (1, Y_i, X_i') \epsilon_{W.(Y,X')',i}, (1, X_i')' \epsilon_{Y.X,i}, (1, X_i')' \epsilon_{W.X,i}, \epsilon_{Y.X,i}^2 - \sigma_Y^2]'$$

Since  $\text{Var}(Y, W, X')$  is finite, we have that  $Q$  is finite and nonsingular. For a symmetric matrix  $C$  and a vector  $D$ , let  $C_1$  denote the submatrix that removes the last row and column of  $C$  and let  $D_1$  be the subvector that removes the last row of  $D$ . Then

$$\sqrt{n}(\tilde{P}_1 - P_1^*) = \hat{Q}_1^{-1} \sqrt{n} M_1 = (\hat{Q}_1^{-1} - Q_1^{-1}) \sqrt{n} M_1 + Q_1^{-1} \sqrt{n} M_1.$$

Specifically, (i) gives  $\hat{Q}_1^{-1} - Q_1^{-1} = o_p(1)$  and (ii) gives  $\sqrt{n} M_1 \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Xi_1)$  so that  $\sqrt{n}(\tilde{P}_1 - P_1^*) = Q_1^{-1} \sqrt{n} M_1 + o_p(1) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Gamma_1^*)$ . Further, it follows from  $\sqrt{n}(\tilde{b}_{Y.X} - b_{Y.X}^*) = O_p(1)$ ,  $\hat{\mu}_{(1,X')'}^2 \xrightarrow{p} \mu_{(1,X')'}^2$ , and  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_{Y.X,i} (1, X_i')' = E[\epsilon_{Y.X}(1, X')'] + o_p(1) = o_p(1)$  that

$$\begin{aligned} n^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{Y.X,i}^2 &= n^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{i=1}^n (\epsilon_{Y.X,i} - (1, X_i')' (\tilde{b}_{Y.X} - b_{Y.X}^*))^2 \\ &= n^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_{Y.X,i}^2 + (\tilde{b}_{Y.X} - b_{Y.X}^*)' \hat{\mu}_{(1,X')'}^2 \sqrt{n} (\tilde{b}_{Y.X} - b_{Y.X}^*) \\ &\quad - 2 \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_{Y.X,i} (1, X_i')' \right] \sqrt{n} (\tilde{b}_{Y.X} - b_{Y.X}^*) \\ &= n^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_{Y.X,i}^2 + o_p(1). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, by (i), we have that

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{Y.X,i}^2 = E(\epsilon_{Y.X}^2) + o_p(1) = \sigma_Y^2 + o_p(1) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{W.X,i}^2 = \sigma_W^2 + o_p(1).$$

Thus, since  $n^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_{Y.X,i}^2$  is  $O_p(1)$  by (ii), we have

$$\sqrt{n} \frac{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{Y.X,i}^2}{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{W.X,i}^2} = (\sigma_W^2)^{-1} n^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_{Y.X,i}^2 + o_p(1).$$

Together with  $\sqrt{n}(\tilde{P}_1 - P_1^*) = Q_1^{-1} \sqrt{n} M_1 + o_p(1)$ , we obtain by (i) and (ii) that

$$\sqrt{n}(\tilde{P} - P^*) = Q^{-1} \sqrt{n} M + o_p(1) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Gamma^*)$$

and thus that the subvector  $\sqrt{n}(\hat{P} - P) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Gamma)$ .

## B Supplementary Material on Inference

Let  $\theta \in \mathcal{H} = \{H(P; \lambda) : \lambda \in \Lambda\} = \{\ddot{H}(P; \pi) : \pi \in \Pi\}$  where  $\pi = (\lambda, \ddot{r}) \in \Lambda \times \{r_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}\}$  and  $\ddot{H}(\cdot; \pi)$  is a known continuously differentiable function on  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^{4k+3}$  for each  $\pi \in \Pi$ , where

$$\begin{matrix} P \\ (4k+3) \times 1 \end{matrix} \equiv (b'_{Y.(W, X')}, b'_{W.(Y, X')}, b'_{Y.X}, b'_{W.X}, \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2})' \in \text{int}(\mathcal{P})$$

As discussed in Section 5,  $\ddot{H}$  depends on  $\ddot{r}$  through  $L \equiv \max\{\frac{1}{\tau}R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2, \frac{1}{1+\kappa}\}$  and  $T$ , i.e. whether  $R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2$  is on the open interval with end points  $\frac{\tau}{1+\kappa}$  and  $\frac{\tau\kappa}{1+\kappa}$ . Define the function

$$L(\ddot{r}) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{1+\kappa} & \text{if } \ddot{r}^2 \in [0, \frac{\tau}{1+\kappa}] \\ \frac{1}{\tau\ddot{r}^2} & \text{if } \ddot{r}^2 \notin [0, \frac{\tau}{1+\kappa}] \end{cases}$$

and the binary indicator

$$T(\ddot{r}) = 1 \text{ if and only if } \begin{cases} 1 < \kappa \text{ and } \ddot{r}^2 \in (\frac{\tau}{1+\kappa}, \frac{\tau\kappa}{1+\kappa}) \\ \text{or} \\ \kappa < 1 \text{ and } \ddot{r}^2 \in (\frac{\tau\kappa}{1+\kappa}, \frac{\tau}{1+\kappa}) \end{cases}.$$

Since  $\sqrt{n}(\hat{P} - P) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Gamma)$ , the delta method gives

$$\sqrt{n}(\ddot{H}(\hat{P}; \pi) - \ddot{H}(P; \pi)) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \nabla_P \ddot{H}(P; \pi) \Gamma \nabla_P \ddot{H}(P; \pi)'),$$

where  $\nabla_P \ddot{H}(P; \pi)$  denotes the gradient of  $\ddot{H}(P; \pi)$  with respect to  $P$  for each  $\pi \in \Pi$ . This enables constructing a  $1 - \alpha_1$  confidence region  $C_{1-\alpha_1}(\pi)$  for  $\theta$  and a given  $\pi \in \Pi$ . To obtain a  $1 - \alpha_1 - \alpha_2$  (e.g. 95%) confidence region  $CR_{1-\alpha_1-\alpha_2}^\theta$  for  $\theta \in \mathcal{H}$ , we construct a confidence interval  $CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$  for  $r_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}$  and form the union:

$$CR_{1-\alpha_1-\alpha_2}^\theta = \bigcup_{\pi \in \Lambda \times CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}} C_{1-\alpha_1}(\pi).$$

In what follows, we describe how we construct  $CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$ . Further, we derive the expression for  $\nabla_P \ddot{H}(P; \pi)$  for the functions, e.g.  $\ddot{R}(P; \pi)$ ,  $\ddot{F}(P; \pi)$ ,  $\ddot{D}(P; \pi)$ , and  $\ddot{G}(P; \pi)$ , corresponding to  $\rho$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$  in each of the corollaries in Section 3. In each of the corollaries, the expression for e.g.  $\nabla_P \ddot{B}(P; \pi)$  corresponding to  $\beta$  follows from

$$\nabla_P \ddot{B}(P; \pi) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I & -\ddot{G}(P; \pi) I & 0 \\ k \times 2(k+1) & k \times k & k \times k & k \times 1 \end{bmatrix} - b_{W.X} \nabla_P \ddot{G}(P; \pi).$$

## B.1 Confidence Regions for $r_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}$

We construct  $CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$  using the ‘‘Fisher z’’ variance stabilizing transformation (see e.g. van der Vaart, 2000, p. 30-31). Specifically, let

$$\hat{r}_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} \equiv \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{Y.X,i} \hat{\epsilon}_{W.X,i}}{(\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{Y.X,i}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} (\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_{W.X,i}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \quad \text{and} \quad Z(\ddot{r}) \equiv \frac{1}{2} \log\left(\frac{1+\ddot{r}}{1-\ddot{r}}\right).$$

We have that

$$n^{\frac{1}{2}}(Z(\hat{r}_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}) - Z(r_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}})) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1)$$

and we obtain a  $1 - \alpha_2$  confidence interval for  $Z(r_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}})$  (where  $z_{\frac{\alpha_2}{2}}$  is the  $N(0, 1)$  critical value):

$$[Z_l, Z_u] = [Z(\hat{r}_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}) - z_{\frac{\alpha_2}{2}} n^{-\frac{1}{2}}, Z(\hat{r}_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}) + z_{\frac{\alpha_2}{2}} n^{-\frac{1}{2}}]$$

$CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$  obtains by applying the inverse transformation  $\ddot{r} = \frac{e^{2z}-1}{e^{2z}+1}$  to the end points of  $[Z_l, Z_u]$ :

$$CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}} = \left[ \frac{e^{2Z_l} - 1}{e^{2Z_l} + 1}, \frac{e^{2Z_u} - 1}{e^{2Z_u} + 1} \right].$$

## B.2 Corollary 3.2

We have that  $\nabla_P \ddot{R}_{\kappa,\tau}(P; \pi) = \nabla_P \ddot{F}_{\kappa,\tau}(P; \pi) = \nabla_P \ddot{D}_{\kappa,\tau}(P; \pi) = \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+3) \end{matrix}$  and

$$\nabla_P \ddot{G}_{\kappa,\tau}(P; \pi) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \lambda \kappa^{\frac{1}{2}} b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} (\tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, & \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+1) \end{matrix}, & \lambda \kappa^{\frac{1}{2}} \tau \frac{1}{2} (\tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ 1 \times (4k+3) & 1 \times 1 & 1 \times 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where we make use of

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}} (b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} + \lambda [\kappa (\tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) &= 1 - \lambda 2 \kappa b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} \frac{1}{2} [\kappa (\tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}}, \text{ and} \\ \nabla_{\frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}} (b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}} + \lambda [\kappa (\tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}) &= \lambda \kappa \tau \frac{1}{2} [\kappa (\tau \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} - b_{\tilde{Y}.\tilde{W}}^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that if  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$  and  $R_{\tilde{W}.\tilde{Y}}^2 \neq \tau$  then  $\mathcal{R} = (0, 1]$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{D} = \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{B}_l = \mathbb{R}$  for  $l = 1, \dots, k$ .

## B.3 Corollary 3.3

We have that

$$\nabla_P \ddot{R}_{\kappa,\tau}^+(P; \pi) = \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+3) \end{matrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla_P \ddot{F}_{\kappa,\tau}^+(P; \pi) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda, & \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+2) \end{matrix} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Further,

$$\nabla_P \ddot{D}_{\kappa, \tau}^+(P; \pi) = \begin{cases} \lambda(1 + \kappa) \begin{bmatrix} 1, & 0 \\ 1 \times 1, & 1 \times 4k+2 \end{bmatrix} \left[ \frac{1}{\kappa} \left( \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})} - 1 \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} & \text{if } T(\ddot{r}) = 1 \text{ and } \kappa > 0 \\ \lambda \begin{bmatrix} 1, & 0 \\ 1 \times 1, & 1 \times 4k+2 \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})} & \text{if } T(\ddot{r}) = 0 \text{ or } \kappa = 0 \end{cases}$$

and

$$\nabla_P \ddot{G}_{\kappa, \tau}^+(P; \pi) = \begin{bmatrix} 1, & 0 \\ 1 \times 1, & 1 \times 4k+2 \end{bmatrix} \left\{ 1 + \lambda \left[ \kappa \left( \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})} - 1 \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\}.$$

Note that when  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$  and  $R_{\tilde{W}, \tilde{Y}}^2 \neq \tau$ , we have

$$\mathcal{D}^+ = \{\lambda b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} : 0 \leq \lambda\} \text{ and } \mathcal{G}^+ = \{b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} \lambda : 1 \leq \lambda\} \text{ with } \mathcal{B}^+ = \{b_{Y, X} - b_{W, X} b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} \lambda : 1 \leq \lambda\}.$$

In this case,

$$\nabla_P \ddot{D}^+(P; \pi) = \nabla_P \ddot{G}^+(P; \pi) \begin{bmatrix} \lambda, & 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+3), & 1 \times (4k+2) \end{bmatrix}.$$

As  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ , the confidence region bounds for  $\ddot{D}^+(P; \pi)$ ,  $\ddot{G}^+(P; \pi)$ , and  $\ddot{B}_l^+(P; \pi)$  for  $l = 1, \dots, k$  become dominated by the confidence region bounds for the term that involves  $\lambda$ . As such, the union over  $\lambda$  of the confidence regions for  $\delta$ ,  $\phi + \delta$ , and  $\beta_l$  for  $l = 1, \dots, k$  is either a half-line or the real line, depending on whether zero is an interior point of the confidence region for the leading term. In particular, if the interior of the  $1 - \alpha_1$  confidence region for  $b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}$  (respectively  $b_{W, X_l} b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}$ ) does not contain zero then the  $1 - \alpha$  confidence region for  $\delta$  and  $\phi + \delta$  (respectively  $\beta_l$ ) is a half-line. Otherwise, the  $1 - \alpha$  confidence region is the real line. (Note that  $\alpha_1$  may be set arbitrary close to  $\alpha$ .)

## B.4 Corollary 3.4

We have that  $\nabla_P \ddot{R}_{\kappa, \tau}^-(P; \pi) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+3) \end{bmatrix}$  and when  $b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}} \neq 0$

$$\nabla_P \ddot{F}_{\kappa, \tau}^-(P; \pi) = \nabla_P \ddot{D}_{\kappa, \tau}^-(P; \pi) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda, & 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+3), & 1 \times (4k+2) \end{bmatrix}.$$

In particular, if the  $1 - \alpha$  confidence regions for  $b_{\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W}}$  is  $[l, h]$  with  $l \times h \geq 0$  then the  $1 - \alpha$  confidence region for  $\phi$  or  $\delta$  is  $(-\infty, 0] \cup [l, +\infty)$  when  $0 \leq l < h$  or  $(-\infty, h] \cup [0, +\infty)$  when  $l < h \leq 0$ . Otherwise, it is the real line.

Further

$$\nabla_P \ddot{G}_{\kappa, \tau}^-(P; \pi) = \begin{cases} \nabla_P \ddot{G}_{\kappa, \tau}^-(P; \pi) & \text{if } L(\ddot{r}) = \frac{1}{1+\kappa} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1, & 0 \\ 1 \times 1, & 1 \times 4k+2 \end{bmatrix} \left( \lambda \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})} + (1 - \lambda) \left[ 1 - \left( \kappa \left( \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})} - 1 \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] \right) & \text{if } L(\ddot{r}) = \frac{1}{\tau} \ddot{r}^2 \end{cases}$$

When  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$  and  $R_{\bar{W}, \bar{Y}}^2 \neq \tau$ , if  $0 \in CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$  then the  $1 - \alpha$  confidence region for  $\phi + \delta$  or  $\beta_l$  is the real line. Otherwise, if  $0 \notin CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$  then  $L(\ddot{r}) = \frac{1}{\ddot{r}} \ddot{r}^2$  for all  $\ddot{r} \in CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$  and

$$\mathcal{G}^- = \{\ddot{G}^-(P; \pi) : \pi \in \Pi\} = \{b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})} \lambda : \lambda \leq 1\} \text{ and } \nabla_P \ddot{G}^-(P; \pi) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 1 \times 1 & 1 \times (4k+2) \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})}.$$

In particular, let  $C'_{1-\alpha_1}(\ddot{r})$  denote the  $1 - \alpha_1$  confidence region for  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})}$  or  $b_{W, X_l} b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})}$ . If  $\bigcup_{\ddot{r} \in CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}} C'_{1-\alpha_1}(\ddot{r})$  does not contain zero in its interior then the confidence region for  $\phi + \delta$  or  $\beta_l$  is a half-line. Otherwise, it is the real line.

## B.5 Corollary 3.5

We have that  $\nabla_P \ddot{R}_{\kappa, \tau}^0(P; \pi) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+3) \end{bmatrix}$  and

$$\nabla_P \ddot{G}_{\kappa, \tau}^0(P; \pi) = \nabla_P \ddot{D}_{\kappa, \tau}^0(P; \pi) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda + (1 - \lambda) \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})} & 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+3) & 1 \times (4k+2) \end{bmatrix}.$$

If  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$  and  $0 \notin CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$  then the confidence regions for  $\rho$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\beta_l$  are bounded. Further, recall that if  $R_{\bar{W}, \bar{Y}}^2 = 0$  then  $\mathcal{R}^0 = (0, 1]$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^0 = \mathcal{D}^0 = \{\lambda b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} : 0 \leq \lambda\} = \{0\}$ . Thus, if  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$  and  $0 \in CR_{1-\alpha_2}^{\ddot{r}}$  then the confidence region for  $\rho$  is  $(0, 1]$ . Further if the  $1 - \alpha_1$  confidence region for  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$  (respectively  $b_{W, X_l} b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$ ) does not contain 0 in its interior then we report the  $1 - \alpha$  confidence region for  $\delta$  (respectively  $\beta_l$ ) to be a half-line. Otherwise, the  $1 - \alpha$  confidence region for  $\delta$  (respectively  $\beta_l$ ) is the real line.

## B.6 Additional Comments

When  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$ , the confidence regions for  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$ ,  $b_{W, X_l} b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}$ ,  $b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})}$ , and  $b_{W, X_l} b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})}$  obtain via the delta method, using the gradients:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_P(b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}) &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+3) & 1 \times (4k+2) \end{bmatrix}, \\ \nabla_P(b_{W, X} b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}) &= b_{W, X} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ k \times (4k+3) & 1 \times (4k+2) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I & 0 \\ k \times (3k+2) & k \times k & k \times 1 \end{bmatrix} b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}}, \\ \nabla_P(b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})}) &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 \times (4k+3) & 1 \times (4k+2) \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})}, \text{ and} \\ \nabla_P(b_{W, X} b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})}) &= b_{W, X} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ k \times 1 & 1 \times (4k+2) \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I & 0 \\ k \times (3k+2) & k \times k & k \times 1 \end{bmatrix} b_{\bar{Y}, \bar{W}} \frac{1}{L(\ddot{r})}. \end{aligned}$$

## C A Single Proxy for Two Latent Variables

Section 6.6.4 discusses the model

$$Y = X'\beta + S\phi + U\delta + \eta \quad \text{with} \quad W = U + \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad W = \alpha S + \varsigma,$$

where the average SAT score  $W$  measures both the unobserved college selectivity  $S$  and the average ability  $U$  with error. To examine the identification of the parameters in this case, suppose that  $Cov[\eta, (X', S, U)'] = 0$ ,  $Cov[\varepsilon, (X', U, \eta)'] = 0$ , and  $Cov[\varsigma, (X', S, \eta)'] = 0$  analogously to A<sub>1</sub>-A<sub>3</sub>. In order for this model to accommodate  $S = W$ , we do not require  $Cov(\varepsilon, S) = 0$  since if  $S = W$  then  $Cov(\varepsilon, S) = \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \neq 0$ . Symmetrically, we do not require  $Cov(\varsigma, U) = 0$ . Then, after projecting on  $X$ , we obtain

$$\tilde{Y} = \tilde{S}\phi + \tilde{U}\delta + \tilde{\eta} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{W} = \tilde{U} + \tilde{\varepsilon} = \alpha\tilde{S} + \tilde{\varsigma}$$

Let  $\rho_u \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{U}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}$  and  $\rho_s \equiv \frac{\alpha^2\sigma_{\tilde{S}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}$  denote the net-of- $X$  signal to total variance ratios. Further, let  $\xi^2 \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{\eta}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}$  and  $\pi \equiv \frac{\alpha\sigma_{\tilde{S},\tilde{U}}}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2}$ . After some algebra and provided  $\alpha \neq 0$ , the (normalized by  $\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2$ ) moments  $\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2$  and  $\sigma_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}$  in  $Var[(\tilde{Y}, \tilde{W})']$  can be expressed by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{Y}}^2}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} &= \left(\frac{\phi}{\alpha} + \delta\right)^2 \rho_u + \left[\left(\frac{\phi}{\alpha}\right)^2 + 2\delta\frac{\phi}{\alpha}\right](1 - \rho_u) - \left(\frac{\phi}{\alpha}\right)^2(1 - \rho_s) - 2\delta\frac{\phi}{\alpha}(1 - \pi) + \xi^2 \\ b_{\tilde{Y},\tilde{W}} &\equiv \frac{\sigma_{\tilde{W},\tilde{Y}}}{\sigma_{\tilde{W}}^2} = \left(\frac{\phi}{\alpha} + \delta\right)\rho_u + \frac{\phi}{\alpha}(1 - \rho_u) - \frac{\phi}{\alpha}(1 - \rho_s). \end{aligned}$$

Note that these equations involve the ratio  $\frac{\phi}{\alpha}$  but not its separate components  $\phi$  or  $\alpha$ . This yields a nonlinear system of 2 equations with 6 unknowns  $(\rho_u, \rho_s, \pi, \frac{\phi}{\alpha}, \delta, \xi^2)$ . Further, these unknowns must obey that  $Var[(\tilde{U}, \alpha\tilde{S}, \tilde{\eta}, \tilde{\varepsilon}, \tilde{\varsigma})']$  is positive semi-definite. For instance, we must have  $0 \leq \rho_u, \rho_s \leq 1$ ,  $0 \leq \xi^2$ , and  $\pi^2 \leq \rho_u\rho_s$  by the Cauchy Schwarz inequality. Last, projecting

$$Y = X'\beta + S\phi + U\delta + \eta = X'\beta + W\left(\frac{\phi}{\alpha} + \delta\right) - \varsigma\frac{\phi}{\alpha} - \varepsilon\delta + \eta$$

onto  $X$  shows that  $\beta$  depends on  $(\frac{\phi}{\alpha} + \delta)$  via:

$$\beta = b_{Y,X} - b_{W,X}\left(\frac{\phi}{\alpha} + \delta\right).$$

The analysis in this paper sets  $\alpha = 1$  and  $\varsigma = 0$  so that  $W = S$ . This implies that  $\rho_s = 1$  and  $\pi = \rho_u$  and reduces the 6 unknowns to 4. As the paper shows, even in this special case,



none of these parameters are partially identified without the auxiliary restrictions A<sub>4</sub>-A<sub>6</sub>. Deriving analytical expressions for the sharp identification regions for  $\rho_u$ ,  $\rho_s$ ,  $\pi$ ,  $\frac{\phi}{\alpha}$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\xi^2$ , and  $\beta$  under restrictions analogous to A<sub>4</sub>-A<sub>6</sub> would be an interesting extension. To keep the scope of the paper manageable, we leave tackling this problem to future work.

Table S1: Definition of Variables for the 2007 cohort (Retrieved from CS Data Files in October 2016)

Variable Definition	CS Variable	CS Variable Definition	CS Datafile
Data using the pooled cohorts that enrolled in award years 2006-2007 and 2007-2008			
MnEarnWnEP6	mn_earn_wne_p6	Mean earnings (in 2015 USD) of students working and not enrolled 6 years after entry	2012-13
Gt25KP6	GT_25K_P6	Share of non-enrolled students earning over \$25,000/year (in 2015 USD) 6 years after entry	2012-13
Female	FEMALE	Share of female students	2007-08
Dependent	DEPENDENT	Share of dependent students	2007-08
FamInc	FAMINC	Average family income (in 2015 USD)	2007-08
ParEdPctPS	PAR_ED_PCT_PS	Percent of students whose parents' highest educational level is some form of postsecondary education	2007-08
Data based on the cohort that enrolled in fall 2007 or academic year 2007-2008			
SATAvg	SAT_AVG	Average SAT equivalent score of students admitted	2007-08
C150_4	C150_4	Completion rate within 150% of expected time to completion for full-time, first-time, degree/certificate-seeking students at 4 year institutions	2013-14
Data using the pooled cohorts that completed in award years 2009-2010 and 2010-2011			
GDebtMdn	GRAD_DEBT_MDN	Median debt for students who have completed	2010-11
Data based on Fall 2010, award or academic year 2010-11, or fiscal year 2011			
Main	MAIN	Indicator for main campus	2010-11
PredDeg	PREDDEG	Predominant degree awarded (not classified: 0, certificate: 1, associate: 2, bachelor's: 3, : entirely graduate: 4)	2011-12
ControlInd: Indicator that is 1 if CONTROL is 2	CONTROL	Control of Institution (1: public, 2: private nonprofit, 3: private for profit)	2010-11
HDeg: Indicator is 1 if HIGHDEG is 4	HIGHDEG	Highest degree awarded (non-degree: 0, certificate: 1, associate: 2, bachelor's: 3, graduate: 4)	2011-12
PctFLoan	PCTFLOAN	Percent of all federal undergraduate students receiving a federal student loan	2011-12
PctPell	PCTPELL	Percentage of undergraduates who receive a Pell Grant	2011-12
UGDS	UGDS	Enrollment of undergraduate certificate/degree-seeking students	2010-11

UGDSBlack, UGDSHisp, UGDSAsian, UGDSnRA, UGDSWhite, UGDSAIAN, UGDSNHPI, UGDS2More, UGDSUnkn PCIP## (38 variables)	UGDS_BLACK, UGDS_HISP, UGDS_ASIAN, UGDS_NRA, UGDS_WHITE, UGDS_AIAN, UGDS_NHPI, UGDS_2MOR, UGDS_UNKN PCIP##	Total share of enrollment of undergraduate degree-seeking students who are Black, Hispanic, Asian, Non-Resident Aliens, White, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 2 or more races, or whose race is unknown	2010-11
InExpFTE	INEXPFTE	Percentage of degrees awarded in one of 38 fields of study according to the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP)	2011-12
		Instructional expenditures per full-time equivalent student (includes graduate students)	2011-12
Data based on the cohort that enrolled in academic year 2010-11			
CostT4 =COSTT4_A +COSTT4_P	COSTT4_A/ COSTT4_P	Average cost of attendance for academic/program-year institutions	2011-12
NPT4 =NPT4_PUB +NPT4_PRIV	NPT4_PUB/ NPT4_PRIV	Average net price for Title IV institutions for public/private institutions	2011-12
Data based on academic year 2015-2016 or 2009-2010			
Region# (10 region indicators)	REGION	Region (0: U.S. Service Schools, 1: New England, 2: Mid East, 3: Great Lakes, 4: Plains, 5: Southeast, 6: Southwest, 7: Rocky Mountains, 8: Far West, 9: Outlying Areas)	2010-11
Locale## (12 locale indicators)	LOCALE	Locale of the institution (11-13: city large/midsize/small, 21-23: suburb large/midsize/small, 31-33: town fringe/distant/remote, 41-43: rural fringe/distant/remote)	2014-15
RelAffilInd (Indicator that is -1 if not reported, 0 if not applicable, and 1 otherwise)	RelAffil	Religious affiliation of the institution (65 values: either not reported, not applicable, or one of 63 listed religious affiliations)	2014-15
Data based on fiscal or calendar year 2016			
SpecMis: Indicator that is 1 if any of the source variables is 1	HBCU, PBI, ANNHI, TRIBAL, AANAPII, HSI, NANTI	Flags for institutions that are/serve historically Black, predominantly Black, Alaska/Hawaiian native, Tribal, Asian American/Native American/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, or Native American non-Tribal	2014-15
WomenOnly	WOMENONLY	Flag for women-only college	2014-15

Table S2: Field of Study According to the Classification of Instructional Programs

PCIPxx	CIP field of study
PCIP01	Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences
PCIP03	Natural Resources and Conservation
PCIP04	Architecture and Related Services
PCIP05	Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies
PCIP09	Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs
PCIP10	Communications Technologies/Technicians and Support Services
PCIP11	Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services
PCIP12	Personal and Culinary Services
PCIP13	Education
PCIP14	Engineering
PCIP15	Engineering Technologies and Engineering-Related Fields
PCIP16	Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics
PCIP19	Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences
PCIP22	Legal Professions and Studies
PCIP23	English Language and Literature/Letters
PCIP24	Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities
PCIP25	Library Science
PCIP26	Biological and Biomedical Sciences
PCIP27	Mathematics and Statistics
PCIP30	Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies
PCIP31	Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies
PCIP38	Philosophy and Religious Studies
PCIP39	Theology and Religious Vocations
PCIP40	Physical Sciences
PCIP41	Science Technologies/Technicians
PCIP42	Psychology
PCIP43	Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting and Related Protective Services
PCIP44	Public Administration and Social Service Professions
PCIP45	Social Sciences
PCIP46	Construction Trades
PCIP47	Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians
PCIP48	Precision Production
PCIP49	Transportation and Materials Moving
PCIP50	Visual and Performing Arts
PCIP51	Health Professions and Related Programs
PCIP52	Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services
PCIP54	History

Table S3: The Returns to the Fields of Study

	$\hat{b}_{Y.(W,X)Y}$	$CR_{0.95}$	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$	$CR_{0.95}^\theta$
PCIP01	2.875	(-8.792, 14.542)	[2.875, 24.818]	(-9.351, 49.524)
PCIP03	-30.434	(-46.528, -14.341)	[-30.434, -9.502]	(-47.298, 19.397)
PCIP04	-20.235	(-37.598, -2.872)	[-20.235, -11.657]	(-38.428, 11.517)
PCIP05	-71.727	(-116.585, -26.868)	[-110.999, -71.727]	(-188.339, -24.722)
PCIP09	-2.196	(-12.707, 8.315)	[-2.196, 11.779]	(-13.210, 35.242)
PCIP10	6.978	(-13.559, 27.516)	[6.978, 28.563]	(-14.542, 70.750)
PCIP11	-5.073	(-20.867, 10.720)	[-12.569, -5.073]	(-40.487, 15.348)
PCIP12	0.780	(-52.041, 53.600)	[0.780, 22.206]	(-54.568, 92.349)
PCIP13	-5.672	(-13.023, 1.680)	[-5.672, 5.001]	(-13.375, 21.456)
PCIP14	12.224	(2.598, 21.850)	[5.512, 12.224]	(-9.853, 22.310)
PCIP15	4.177	(-7.630, 15.985)	[4.177, 24.695]	(-8.195, 52.875)
PCIP16	-39.700	(-56.876, -22.524)	[-39.700, -1.289]	(-57.698, 47.222)
PCIP19	-0.106	(-10.769, 10.557)	[-0.106, 19.178]	(-11.279, 46.424)
PCIP22	-5.300	(-34.756, 24.156)	[-37.782, -5.300]	(-105.004, 29.440)
PCIP23	-26.666	(-43.311, -10.020)	[-30.209, -26.666]	(-61.141, 0.723)
PCIP24	-6.551	(-14.405, 1.303)	[-6.551, -1.764]	(-14.847, 11.318)
PCIP25	140.402	(-25.587, 306.391)	[140.402, 424.687]	(-33.529, 881.650)
PCIP26	-0.909	(-12.290, 10.472)	[-0.909, 0.702]	(-21.367, 22.771)
PCIP27	2.543	(-31.721, 36.808)	[-63.091, 2.543]	(-155.900, 38.447)
PCIP30	-1.168	(-10.756, 8.421)	[-1.168, 16.700]	(-11.215, 36.545)
PCIP31	-8.538	(-18.334, 1.257)	[-8.538, 17.057]	(-18.803, 42.240)
PCIP38	-15.823	(-27.121, -4.525)	[-15.823, -6.308]	(-28.428, 15.812)
PCIP39	-7.210	(-14.665, 0.245)	[-7.210, 4.191]	(-15.022, 18.787)
PCIP40	0.541	(-38.212, 39.294)	[-49.545, 0.541]	(-120.251, 41.148)
PCIP41	-17.975	(-114.316, 78.367)	[-17.975, 17.725]	(-208.598, 244.048)
PCIP42	-13.582	(-23.497, -3.666)	[-13.582, -2.884]	(-23.972, 15.436)
PCIP43	-2.793	(-10.492, 4.906)	[-2.793, 16.096]	(-10.860, 35.451)
PCIP44	4.329	(-6.161, 14.820)	[4.329, 44.676]	(-6.663, 76.948)
PCIP46	-12.531	(-89.505, 64.443)	[-12.531, -11.932]	(-145.726, 121.863)
PCIP47	-78.160	(-179.875, 23.555)	[-112.510, -78.160]	(-248.603, 28.422)
PCIP48	15.975	(-99.446, 131.397)	[-8.126, 15.975]	(-132.970, 136.919)
PCIP49	35.183	(11.897, 58.468)	[35.183, 68.974]	(10.783, 105.366)
PCIP50	-15.608	(-23.013, -8.203)	[-15.608, -3.205]	(-23.367, 11.506)
PCIP51	15.153	(6.234, 24.072)	[15.153, 29.372]	(5.807, 46.222)
PCIP52	4.433	(-3.239, 12.106)	[4.433, 17.145]	(-3.607, 31.915)
PCIP54	2.823	(-17.639, 23.286)	[2.823, 11.202]	(-25.663, 48.067)

Bounds and Regression Estimates for the coefficients on the CIP fields of study under the specification in Table 3. We exclude PCIP45 (Social Sciences) as the reference field.

Table S4: Results under Alternative Definitions of  $X$  or  $Y$ 

Outcome variable	$10^{-3} \times \text{MnEarnWnEP6}$		$10^2 \times \text{Gt25KP6}$	
$\hat{\kappa}' = 0.9, \hat{\tau}' = 0.95$	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$	$\hat{b}_{Y(W, X)'}'$	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$	$\hat{b}_{Y(W, X)'}'$
$10^{-2} \times \text{SATAvg}$	[0, 1.136] (0, 2.013)	-	[0, 0.333] (-0.367, 1.033)	-
$10^{-2} \times \text{U (ability)}$	[0, 4.678] (0, 8.463)	-	[0, 4.028] (-4.839, 12.895)	-
$10^{-2} \times (\text{SATAvg}, \text{U})$	[1.136, 4.678] (0.217, 8.463)	1.136 (0.259, 2.013)	[0.333, 4.028] (-4.839, 12.895)	0.333 (-0.367, 1.033)
ControlInd	[0.235, 0.978] (-2.103, 3.593)	0.235 (-1.996, 2.467)	[-1.742, -1.563] (-3.412, 0.251)	-1.742 (-3.336, -0.148)
HDeg	[1.916, 2.220] (0.898, 3.352)	1.916 (0.945, 2.887)	[-0.129, -0.031] (-1.169, 1.088)	-0.129 (-1.121, 0.864)
$10^{-3} \times \text{UGDS}$	[-0.056, -0.050] (-0.139, 0.031)	-0.050 (-0.127, 0.027)	[0.026, 0.051] (-0.055, 0.107)	0.051 (0.002, 0.100)
$10^{-3} \times \text{CostT4}$	[-0.092, 0.016] (-0.269, 0.160)	0.016 (-0.121, 0.154)	[0.002, 0.078] (-0.198, 0.202)	0.078 (-0.009, 0.165)
$10^{-3} \times \text{NPT4}$	[-0.068, 0.013] (-0.240, 0.197)	-0.068 (-0.232, 0.097)	[-0.070, -0.021] (-0.183, 0.140)	-0.070 (-0.178, 0.039)
PctFLoan	[9.766, 11.455] (4.938, 16.672)	9.766 (5.158, 14.373)	[10.209, 12.086] (5.831, 18.342)	10.209 (6.282, 14.135)
PctPell	[-26.155, -25.634] (-33.357, -18.035)	-26.155 (-33.028, -19.282)	[-25.139, -24.532] (-32.580, -17.698)	-24.532 (-30.993, -18.070)
$10^{-3} \times \text{GDebtMdn}$	[-0.127, -0.063] (-0.284, 0.102)	-0.127 (-0.277, 0.023)	[-0.195, -0.143] (-0.339, 0.048)	-0.195 (-0.332, -0.057)
PCIP23	-	-	[-29.248, -28.367] (-47.732, -10.765)	-28.367 (-44.234, -12.499)
PCIP14	-	-	[13.085, 14.755] (4.306, 22.355)	14.755 (7.502, 22.008)
$10^{-3} \times \text{InExpFTE}$	[0.272, 0.312] (0.106, 0.480)	0.312 (0.152, 0.472)	[-0.001, 0.030] (-0.099, 0.097)	0.030 (-0.031, 0.091)
C150_4	[-0.620, 10.379] (-14.378, 16.599)	10.379 (4.443, 16.315)	[2.056, 12.042] (-22.233, 26.346)	12.042 (7.926, 16.158)
UGDSBlack	[10.953, 13.740] (7.558, 18.689)	10.953 (7.713, 14.193)	[-2.878, 0.846] (-8.783, 10.475)	-2.878 (-6.283, 0.528)
UGDSHisp	[10.194, 14.225] (5.303, 20.942)	10.194 (5.526, 14.862)	[5.644, 10.494] (-4.190, 25.178)	5.644 (-0.769, 12.056)
UGDSAsian	[38.715, 43.204] (20.455, 60.962)	43.204 (26.257, 60.151)	[21.077, 23.547] (10.648, 31.628)	23.547 (15.836, 31.259)
Female	[-19.697, -17.914] (-26.163, -10.838)	-19.697 (-25.868, -13.526)	[1.039, 1.137] (-4.423, 6.502)	1.137 (-3.810, 6.085)
$10^{-3} \times \text{FamInc}$	[0.124, 0.125] (0.064, 0.185)	0.124 (0.067, 0.180)	[0.181, 0.187] (0.127, 0.235)	0.187 (0.141, 0.233)

These results alter the specification in Table 3 as follows. The first two columns exclude the fields of study from  $X$ . The last two columns set  $Y$  to  $10^2 \times \text{Gt25KP6}$ .

Table S5: Definition of Variables for the 2002 cohort (Retrieved from CS Data Files in October 2016)

Variable Definition	CS Variable	CS Variable Definition	CS Datafile
Data using the pooled cohorts that enrolled in award years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003			
MnEarnWnEP6	mn_earn_wne_p6	Mean earnings (in 2014 USD) of students working and not enrolled 6 years after entry	2007-08
Gt25KP6	GT_25K_P6	Share of non-enrolled students earning over \$25,000/year (in 2014 USD) 6 years after entry	2007-08
MnEarnWnEP10	mn_earn_wne_p10	Mean earnings (in 2015 USD) of students working and not enrolled 10 years after entry	2012-13
Gt25KP10	GT_25K_P10	Share of non-enrolled students earning over \$25,000/year (in 2015 USD) 10 years after entry	2012-13
Female	FEMALE	Share of female students	2002-03
Dependent	DEPENDENT	Share of dependent students	2002-03
FamInc	FAMINC	Average family income (in 2015 USD)	2002-03
ParEdPctPS	PAR_ED_PCT_PS	Percent of students whose parents' highest educational level is some form of postsecondary education	2002-03
Data based on the cohort that enrolled in fall 2002 or academic year 2002-2003			
SATAvg	SAT_AVG	Average SAT equivalent score of students admitted	2002-03
C150.4	C150.4	Completion rate within 150% of expected time to completion for full-time, first-time, degree/certificate-seeking students at 4 year institutions	2008-09
Data using the pooled cohorts that completed in award years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006			
GDebtMdn	GRAD_DEBT_MDN	Median debt for students who have completed	2005-06
Data based on Fall 2005, award or academic year 2005-06, or fiscal year 2006			
Main	MAIN	Indicator for main campus	2005-06
PredDeg	PREDDEG	Predominant degree awarded (not classified: 0, certificate: 1, associate: 2, bachelor's: 3, : entirely graduate: 4)	2006-07
ControlInd: Indicator that is 1 if CONTROL is 2	CONTROL	Control of Institution (1: public, 2: private nonprofit, 3: private for profit)	2005-06
HDeg: Indicator is 1 if HIGHDEG is 4	HIGHDEG	Highest degree awarded (non-degree: 0, certificate: 1, associate: 2, bachelor's: 3, graduate: 4)	2006-07
UGDS	UGDS	Enrollment of undergraduate certificate/degree-seeking students	2005-06

UGDSnRA, UGDSUnkn, UGDSWhite, UGDSBlack, UGDSApi, UGDSAIAN, UGDSHisp PCIP## (38 vari- ables)	UGDS_NRA UGDS_UNKN UGDS_WHITENH UGDS_BLACKNH UGDS_API UGDS_AIANOLD UGDS_HISPOLD PCIP##	Total share of enrollment of under- graduate students who are 2 or more races, whose race is unknown, White non-Hispanic, Black non-Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaska Native, or Hispanic  Percentage of degrees awarded in one of 38 fields of study according to the Classification of Instructional Pro- grams (CIP)	2005-06       2006-07
InExpFTE	INEXPFTE	Instructional expenditures per full-time equivalent student (includes graduate students)	2006-07
Data based on the cohort that enrolled in academic year 2007-2008 or 08-09 (earliest available data)			
CostT4 =COSTT4_A +COSTT4_P NPT4 =NPT4_PUB +NPT4_PRIV PctFLoan	COSTT4_A/ COSTT4_P NPT4_PUB/ NPT4_PRIV PCTFLOAN	Average cost of attendance for academic/program-year institutions Average net price for Title IV institu- tions for public/private institutions Percent of all federal undergraduate students receiving a federal student loan	2009-10  2009-10  2009-10
PctPell	PCTPELL	Percentage of undergraduates who re- ceive a Pell Grant	2008-09
Data based on academic year 2015-2016 or 2005-2006			
Region# (10 region indicators)	REGION	Region (0: U.S. Service Schools, 1: New England, 2: Mid East, 3: Great Lakes, 4: Plains, 5: Southeast, 6: Southwest, 7: Rocky Mountains, 8: Far West, 9: Outlying Areas)	2005-06
Locale## (12 locale indicators)	LOCALE	Locale of the institution (11-13: city large/midsize/small, 21-23: suburb large/midsize/small, 31-33: town fringe/distant/remote, 41-43: rural fringe/distant/remote)	2014-15
RelAffilInd (Indicator that is -1 if not re- ported, 0 if not ap- plicable, and 1 other- wise)	RelAffil	Religious affiliation of the institution (65 values: either not reported, not ap- plicable, or one of 63 listed religious af- filiations)	2014-15
Data based on fiscal or calender year 2016			



SpecMis:	Indicator that is 1 if any of the source variables is 1	HBCU, ANNHI, AANAPII, NANTI	PBI, TRIBAL, HSI,	Flags for institutions that are/serve historically Black, Black, Alaska/Hawaiian native, Tribal, Asian American/Native American/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, or Native American non-Tribal	2014-15
WomenOnly		WOMENONLY		Flag for women-only college	2014-15

Table S6: Mean Earnings Results Using the 2002 Cohort

Outcome variable	$10^{-3} \times \text{MnEarnWnEP6}$		$10^{-3} \times \text{MnEarnWnEP10}$	
$\hat{\kappa}' = 0.9, \hat{\tau}' = 0.95$	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$	$\hat{b}_{Y(W, X)'}'$	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa, \tau}^+$	$\hat{b}_{Y(W, X)'}'$
$10^{-2} \times \text{SATAvg}$	[0, 1.591] (0, 2.256)	-	[0, 2.377] (0, 3.191)	-
$10^{-2} \times \text{U (ability)}$	[0, 7.399] (0, 10.644)	-	[0, 11.058] (0, 15.024)	-
$10^{-2} \times (\text{SATAvg}, \text{U})$	[1.591, 7.399] (0.893, 10.644)	1.591 (0.925, 2.256)	[2.377, 11.058] (1.524, 15.024)	2.377 (1.563, 3.191)
ControlInd	[-2.182, -1.047] (-3.846, 1.057)	-2.182 (-3.770, -0.594)	[-3.149, -1.454] (-5.297, 1.347)	-3.149 (-5.199, -1.100)
HDeg	[0.589, 0.649] (-0.354, 1.652)	0.589 (-0.217, 1.395)	[0.475, 0.565] (-0.710, 1.839)	0.475 (-0.476, 1.425)
$10^{-3} \times \text{UGDS}$	[-0.011, 0.016] (-0.090, 0.084)	0.016 (-0.049, 0.081)	[0.008, 0.048] (-0.095, 0.129)	0.048 (-0.030, 0.125)
$10^{-3} \times \text{CostT4}$	[0.056, 0.178] (-0.067, 0.301)	0.178 (0.060, 0.295)	[0.124, 0.306] (-0.028, 0.452)	0.306 (0.166, 0.446)
$10^{-3} \times \text{NPT4}$	[-0.108, -0.050] (-0.272, 0.105)	-0.108 (-0.264, 0.048)	[-0.221, -0.134] (-0.399, 0.038)	-0.221 (-0.391, -0.051)
PctFLoan	[-1.928, -0.056] (-4.629, 3.805)	-1.928 (-4.506, 0.649)	[-5.832, -3.034] (-9.036, 2.153)	-5.832 (-8.889, -2.774)
PctPell	[-1.811, -0.914] (-6.587, 3.055)	-0.914 (-4.702, 2.874)	[0.472, 1.812] (-5.012, 5.981)	1.812 (-2.166, 5.790)
$10^{-3} \times \text{GDebtMdn}$	[-0.038, 0.090] (-0.230, 0.316)	-0.038 (-0.222, 0.145)	[-0.158, 0.034] (-0.386, 0.327)	-0.158 (-0.376, 0.060)
PCIP23	[-31.221, -21.025] (-51.974, -4.494)	-21.025 (-36.801, -5.249)	[-48.918, -33.680] (-74.344, -14.356)	-33.680 (-52.122, -15.239)
PCIP14	[5.055, 14.398] (-7.455, 24.288)	14.398 (4.960, 23.836)	[-5.935, 8.027] (-20.911, 19.848)	8.027 (-3.254, 19.308)
$10^{-3} \times \text{InExpFTE}$	[0.143, 0.225] (0.007, 0.360)	0.225 (0.096, 0.354)	[0.180, 0.302] (0.011, 0.473)	0.302 (0.139, 0.465)
C150_4	[-4.381, 8.343] (-11.953, 12.565)	8.343 (4.313, 12.372)	[-9.597, 9.418] (-18.597, 14.164)	9.418 (4.888, 13.948)
UGDSBlack	[5.933, 11.844] (2.972, 17.090)	5.933 (3.107, 8.758)	[5.847, 14.681] (2.292, 21.398)	5.847 (2.454, 9.239)
UGDSHisp	[14.380, 17.508] (8.950, 24.540)	14.380 (9.198, 19.562)	[12.369, 17.043] (6.579, 25.914)	12.369 (6.844, 17.895)
UGDSAsian	[28.088, 34.594] (11.554, 51.133)	34.594 (18.810, 50.378)	[30.870, 40.593] (14.479, 57.161)	40.593 (24.782, 56.405)
Female	[-11.456, -10.705] (-18.642, -4.247)	-10.705 (-16.868, -4.542)	[-19.673, -18.551] (-27.822, -11.524)	-18.551 (-25.022, -12.080)
$10^{-3} \times \text{FamInc}$	[0.129, 0.164] (0.069, 0.213)	0.164 (0.117, 0.210)	[0.149, 0.201] (0.074, 0.260)	0.201 (0.145, 0.258)

These results apply the specification in Table 3 to the 2002 cohort. MnEarnWnEP10 is defined analogously to MnEarnWnEP6 but measured 10 (instead of 6) years after college entry.

Table S7: Results for the Probability of Earnings at Least \$25,000 per Year Using the 2002 Cohort

Outcome variable	$10^2 \times \text{Gt25KP6}$		$10^2 \times \text{Gt25KP10}$	
$\hat{\kappa}' = 0.9, \hat{\tau}' = 0.95$	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$	$\hat{b}_{Y(W,X)'}'$	$\mathcal{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$	$\hat{b}_{Y(W,X)'}'$
$10^{-2} \times \text{SATAvg}$	[0, 0.572] (-0.118, 1.262)	-	[0, 0.536] (-0.030, 1.101)	-
$10^{-2} \times \text{U (ability)}$	[0, 2.662] (-0.700, 6.024)	-	[0, 2.492] (-0.264, 5.248)	-
$10^{-2} \times (\text{SATAvg}, \text{U})$	[0.572, 2.662] (-0.700, 6.024)	0.572 (-0.118, 1.262)	[0.536, 2.492] (-0.264, 5.248)	0.536 (-0.030, 1.101)
ControllInd	[-1.244, -0.836] (-3.131, 1.257)	-1.244 (-3.045, 0.557)	[-0.905, -0.523] (-2.526, 1.288)	-0.905 (-2.452, 0.643)
HDeg	[0.408, 0.430] (-0.690, 1.546)	0.408 (-0.640, 1.456)	[0.476, 0.496] (-0.395, 1.387)	0.476 (-0.352, 1.304)
$10^{-3} \times \text{UGDS}$	[0.069, 0.079] (0.008, 0.138)	0.079 (0.022, 0.136)	[0.051, 0.060] (-0.001, 0.111)	0.060 (0.011, 0.109)
$10^{-3} \times \text{CostT4}$	[-0.016, 0.028] (-0.142, 0.129)	0.028 (-0.070, 0.125)	[-0.032, 0.009] (-0.140, 0.098)	0.009 (-0.075, 0.094)
$10^{-3} \times \text{NPT4}$	[-0.067, -0.046] (-0.160, 0.052)	-0.067 (-0.156, 0.023)	[-0.060, -0.040] (-0.137, 0.043)	-0.060 (-0.133, 0.014)
PctFLoan	[2.564, 3.238] (-0.801, 6.956)	2.564 (-0.647, 5.776)	[1.907, 2.538] (-0.640, 5.462)	1.907 (-0.524, 4.338)
PctPell	[-9.358, -9.035] (-13.803, -4.672)	-9.035 (-13.199, -4.871)	[-7.181, -6.879] (-10.702, -3.421)	-6.879 (-10.178, -3.579)
$10^{-3} \times \text{GDebtMdn}$	[-0.001, 0.045] (-0.178, 0.240)	-0.001 (-0.170, 0.168)	[-0.060, -0.017] (-0.216, 0.152)	-0.060 (-0.209, 0.088)
PCIP23	[-24.649, -20.980] (-42.419, -4.150)	-20.980 (-37.042, -4.918)	[-23.605, -20.171] (-38.363, -6.782)	-20.171 (-32.948, -7.394)
PCIP14	[10.622, 13.983] (1.334, 21.541)	13.983 (6.771, 21.196)	[2.528, 5.674] (-5.191, 11.889)	5.674 (-0.257, 11.606)
$10^{-3} \times \text{InExpFTE}$	[-0.079, -0.050] (-0.158, 0.009)	-0.050 (-0.106, 0.007)	[-0.050, -0.023] (-0.117, 0.027)	-0.023 (-0.070, 0.024)
C150_4	[3.887, 8.465] (-5.016, 12.960)	8.465 (4.174, 12.755)	[4.101, 8.386] (-2.999, 12.098)	8.386 (4.845, 11.928)
UGDSBlack	[-1.189, 0.938] (-4.296, 5.309)	-1.189 (-4.154, 1.776)	[-3.462, -1.471] (-6.184, 2.265)	-3.462 (-6.060, -0.864)
UGDSHisp	[10.915, 12.040] (2.372, 20.837)	10.915 (2.762, 19.067)	[6.246, 7.300] (-1.558, 15.445)	6.246 (-1.202, 13.694)
UGDSAsian	[16.971, 19.312] (7.804, 28.073)	19.312 (10.951, 27.673)	[12.835, 15.026] (5.511, 21.756)	15.026 (8.604, 21.448)
Female	[-0.136, 0.134] (-5.700, 5.537)	0.134 (-5.022, 5.290)	[-5.346, -5.093] (-10.058, -0.515)	-5.093 (-9.462, -0.724)
$10^{-3} \times \text{FamInc}$	[0.254, 0.267] (0.204, 0.312)	0.267 (0.224, 0.310)	[0.209, 0.221] (0.167, 0.258)	0.221 (0.185, 0.256)

These results apply the specification in Table 3 to the 2002 cohort. Gt25KP10 is defined analogously to Gt25KP6 but measured 10 (instead of 6) years after college entry.

Table S8: Results using a Log-Linear Specification

$\hat{\kappa}' = 0.9, \hat{\tau}' = 0.95$	$\hat{S}_{\kappa,\tau}$	$\hat{S}_{\kappa,\tau}^+$	$\hat{b}_{Y(W,X)'}$
$10^{-4} \times \text{SATAvg}$	$[-\infty, \infty]$ $(-\infty, \infty)$	$[0, 2.750]$ $(0, 4.183)$	-
$10^{-4} \times \text{U (ability)}$	$[-\infty, \infty]$ $(-\infty, \infty)$	$[0, 28.441]$ $(0, 43.973)$	-
$10^{-4} \times (\text{SATAvg}, \text{U})$	$[-51.320, 56.820]$ $(-54.885, 60.408)$	$[2.750, 28.441]$ $(1.248, 43.973)$	2.750 $(1.317, 4.183)$
$10^{-2} \times \text{ControlInd}$	$[-5.623, 5.162]$ $(-16.006, 15.377)$	$[-2.793, -0.231]$ $(-9.300, 3.723)$	-0.231 $(-4.004, 3.543)$
$10^{-2} \times \text{HDeg}$	$[-1.721, 2.250]$ $(-6.803, 7.514)$	$[0.264, 1.208]$ $(-1.963, 4.378)$	0.264 $(-1.507, 2.036)$
$\log(\text{UGDS})$	$[-0.036, 0.042]$ $(-0.066, 0.074)$	$[-0.016, 0.003]$ $(-0.038, 0.015)$	0.003 $(-0.009, 0.014)$
$\log(\text{CostT4})$	$[-0.172, 0.248]$ $(-0.327, 0.398)$	$[-0.062, 0.038]$ $(-0.166, 0.095)$	0.038 $(-0.016, 0.093)$
$\log(\text{NPT4})$	$[-0.080, 0.066]$ $(-0.185, 0.160)$	$[-0.007, 0.028]$ $(-0.044, 0.083)$	-0.007 $(-0.042, 0.029)$
$\text{PctFLoan}$	$[-0.243, 0.370]$ $(-0.441, 0.564)$	$[0.064, 0.209]$ $(-0.019, 0.353)$	0.064 $(-0.015, 0.143)$
$\text{PctPell}$	$[-0.395, -0.149]$ $(-0.736, 0.177)$	$[-0.330, -0.272]$ $(-0.540, -0.121)$	-0.272 $(-0.397, -0.147)$
$\log(\text{GDebtMdn})$	$[-0.255, -0.003]$ $(-0.368, 0.110)$	$[-0.129, -0.069]$ $(-0.181, 0.010)$	-0.129 $(-0.178, -0.080)$
$\text{PCIP23 (English)}$	$[-0.674, -0.666]$ $(-1.602, 0.254)$	$[-0.672, -0.670]$ $(-1.248, -0.095)$	-0.670 $(-1.009, -0.330)$
$\text{PCIP14 (Engineering)}$	$[0.140, 0.483]$ $(-0.281, 0.910)$	$[0.230, 0.312]$ $(-0.033, 0.494)$	0.312 $(0.139, 0.485)$
$\log(\text{InExpFTE})$	$[-0.026, 0.177]$ $(-0.091, 0.245)$	$[0.027, 0.075]$ $(-0.019, 0.099)$	0.075 $(0.053, 0.098)$
$\text{C150}_4$	$[-1.248, 1.618]$ $(-1.468, 1.843)$	$[-0.496, 0.185]$ $(-0.925, 0.272)$	0.185 $(0.103, 0.268)$
$\text{UGDSBlack}$	$[-0.418, 0.698]$ $(-0.600, 0.880)$	$[0.140, 0.406]$ $(0.074, 0.594)$	0.140 $(0.077, 0.204)$
$\text{UGDSHisp}$	$[-0.501, 0.926]$ $(-0.775, 1.258)$	$[0.212, 0.551]$ $(0.100, 0.842)$	0.212 $(0.105, 0.320)$
$\text{UGDSAsian}$	$[0.330, 1.035]$ $(-0.043, 1.498)$	$[0.515, 0.682]$ $(0.230, 0.919)$	0.682 $(0.457, 0.908)$
$\text{Female}$	$[-0.234, -0.217]$ $(-0.526, 0.092)$	$[-0.230, -0.226]$ $(-0.399, -0.061)$	-0.226 $(-0.329, -0.123)$
$\log(\text{FamInc})$	$[0.211, 0.334]$ $(0.047, 0.490)$	$[0.243, 0.273]$ $(0.137, 0.350)$	0.273 $(0.207, 0.338)$

These results replicate Table 3 but use a log-linear specification for the aggregate earnings equation.