

# Consistent Model Specification Testing

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## Abstract

This paper proposes a consistent model specification test that can be applied to a wide class of models and estimators, including all variants of quasi-maximum likelihood and generalized method of moments. Our framework is independent of the form of the model and generalizes Bierens' (1982, 1990) approach. It has particular applications in new cases such as heteroskedastic errors, discrete data models, but the chief appeal of our approach is that it provides a "one size fits all" test. We specify a test based on a linear combination of individual components of the indicator vector that can be computed routinely, does not need to be tailored to the particular model, and is expected to have power against a wide class of alternatives. Although primarily envisaged as a test of functional form, this type of moment test can also be extended to testing for omitted variables.

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# 1 Introduction

Specification testing of econometric models frequently faces the difficulty that the investigator does not know what type of specification error to look for. Tests of functional form need to have power against a bewildering variety of possible alternatives. To compute tests of the Lagrange multiplier and Durbin-Hausman-Wu types one needs to specify, and in the latter case to estimate, a dummy alternative hypothesis and there are always some alternatives against which a test will lack even consistency.

A general class of tests, of which most specification tests can be constructed as special cases, are the conditional moment tests of Newey (1985) and Tauchen (1985). Conditional moment tests of functional form are constructed based on the property that, for correctly specified models, the conditional mean of certain functions of data are almost surely equal to zero. Typically, in applications the quantity in question is the product of model residuals, or normalized squared residuals, with a test indicator function (weighting function) depending on conditioning variables. Even though they are not typically constructed with a specific alternative in mind, these tests are generally not ‘consistent’, in the sense of rejecting the null hypothesis in a large enough sample against any deviation from the null model. Their power against specific alternatives depends on the choice of the weighting functions.

However, Bierens (1982,1990) has suggested consistent model specification tests. By the use of an exponential weighting function these statistics in effect test an infinite set of moment conditions, in the context of linear or nonlinear least squares estimation. In the time series case, generalizations have been proposed by Bierens (1984, 1987), de Jong (1996) and Bierens and Ploberger (1997) with the latter generalizing a version of the integrated conditional moment test of Bierens (1982)<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, Koul and Stute (1999), Whang (2000, 2001), Escanciano (2006) and Delgado, Dominguez and Lavergne (2006), among others, propose consistent tests in an i.i.d. context by using an indicator function instead of the exponential weighting function of Bierens, while Dominguez and Lobato (2003) extend it to time series framework. The former tests are generalizations of both the Kolmogorov-Smirnov and Cramér-von-Mises statistics, whereas the latter authors consider only the Cramér-von Mises type test. Escanciano (2007) provides a unified theory for both continuous and discontinuous weighting functions using residual marked empirical processes in order to detect misspecifications in time series regression models. In semiparametric dynamic models, Chen and Fan (1999) extend the Bierens (1990) approach to testing conditional moment restrictions using the weighted integrated squared metric.

Another approach for constructing consistent tests of functional form is by comparing the fitted parametric regression function with a nonparametric model. Some examples of such tests for i.i.d. data have been proposed by Zheng (1996), Eubank and Spiegelman (1990), Härdle and Mammen (1993), Hong and White (1996), Fan and Li (1996a), *inter alia*, whereas for time series developments include Fan and Li (1996b). Although these tests are consistent against all alternatives to the null hypothesis, they have nontrivial power only under the local alternatives that approach the null at a rate slower than  $T^{-1/2}$  which decreases as well due to the curse of dimensionality, where  $T$  is the sample size. Further, such tests depend on a smoothing parameter whose choice is not trivial and this will influence the results.

This paper proposes a consistent model specification test that can be applied to a wide class of models and estimators. The idea that we develop in this paper is to generalize Bierens’

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<sup>1</sup>Bierens (1982) constructs a consistent test as  $\int_{\Xi} \hat{T}_B(\xi) d\xi$  but could not establish the type of the limiting distribution, but only its first moment. He derives upper bounds of the critical values based on the Chebyshev’s inequality for first moments. Bierens and Ploberger (1997) obtain the limiting distribution of the integrated conditional moment test and since the critical values depend on the data generating process, they derive case-independent upper bounds of the critical values.

approach to a much wider class of models and estimators. The Bierens test is specifically designed for possible nonlinear models estimated by nonlinear least squares. However, this test could also be constructed in the conditional moment test framework, and QMLE applied to obtain a consistent estimator of  $\beta_0$ . Nevertheless, the consistent tests of Bierens (1982, 1990) and Bierens and Ploberger (1997) are not designed against misspecification in second moments, and are suitable only for models for which a properly defined residual is available. There are important cases, such as discrete choice models, where there is no unique generalization of a test based on residuals. However, specification tests for such models are often constructed based on a suitable defined score, and it is from this approach that we take our cue in this paper.

Our framework extends to cover all variants of maximum likelihood and quasi-maximum likelihood estimation and also the generalized method of moments. Parameter estimation is done in these cases by solving the equations obtained by equating to zero a set of functions of data and parameters, which we refer to generically as the scores. In a sample of size  $T$  these functions consist of sums of  $T$  terms, the ‘score contributions’, that sum to zero by construction at the estimated point. The rationale for the choice of the estimator, in each case, is that under the hypotheses of the model the score contributions evaluated at the ‘true’ parameter values have individual means of zero, conditional on a designated set of conditioning variables, with probability 1.<sup>2</sup> Here, ‘true’ may mean that economic theory assigns a specific interpretation to the parameter values, or simply that these are the values that solve the respective equations when our maintained hypotheses hold. In the latter case it may be strictly more correct to speak of an ‘adequate’ model specification than a correct one, and under this interpretation we may sometimes prefer to call these the ‘pseudo-true’ values. The minimal requirement, trivial with i.i.d. data, is that the same set of values characterize each observation in the sample.

In either case, our object is consistent estimation of the parameters satisfying the condition. Our maintained hypotheses typically include a list of included variables and a functional form and, most importantly, the designation of the variables that can be validly treated as fixed in forming conditional expectations, which we henceforth refer to as ‘exogenous’. This exogeneity property is related to, though not identical with, the weak exogeneity condition defined by Engle, Hendry and Richard (1983). Note that it depends on the interpretation of the model and is not a condition subject to verification in the data.

Under correct specification, so defined, it follows that functions of the exogenous variables should be uncorrelated with the score contributions. Since score contributions are often functions of residuals we can view our tests as similar to conventional moment tests, but their chief appeal is, in our view, to embody the "one size fits all" principle. There are very few models and estimators in common use to which our test cannot be directly applied. It tests for mis-specification in all parts of the model, both conditional mean and variance components and more general features of the distribution and, as we show, by examining the elements of the score vector individually it can be used to pinpoint the nature of the mis-specifications detected. Although primarily envisaged as a test of functional form, the test can be extended to testing for omitted variables by defining the weighting functions appropriately. The present work focuses on the case of independently distributed observations. A companion paper will consider the extension to tests of dynamic specification.

The paper is organized as follows, Section 2 develops a consistent specification test based on the score approach. In Section 3, the formulation of the test is considered in detail for various applications, for continuously distributed data models estimated by quasi-maximum likelihood, generalized method of moments estimation, and binary and count data models. In Section 4 we present detailed Monte Carlo evidence on these cases. Section 5 concludes the paper, and proofs,

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<sup>2</sup>This statement may need qualifying in the GMM case, as we explain in Section 5 below.

together with some supporting lemmas, are collected in the Appendix.

## 2 A consistent test based on the score contributions

Consider independently sampled variables  $(y'_t, z'_t)'$ , where  $y_t$  ( $G \times 1$ ) is a vector of dependent variables and  $z_t$  ( $K \times 1$ ) is a vector of exogenous variables. Defining for  $k \leq K$  a subvector  $x_t$  ( $k \times 1$ ) of  $z_t$ , where  $x_t = z_t$  is possible, our parametric model can be taken as defined by a  $p$ -vector of functions  $d_t(\theta) = d(y_t, x_t, \theta)$  for  $\theta \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^p$ , such that there exists a vector of parameters of interest  $\theta_0 \in \text{int}(\Theta)$  satisfying

$$E[d_t(\theta_0) | z_t] = 0 \text{ w.p.1} \quad (2.1)$$

In many cases we have  $d_t = \partial l_t / \partial \theta$  where  $l_t(\theta)$  is a log-likelihood contribution, or similar, satisfying the condition that  $E[l_t(\theta) | z_t]$  is maximized at  $\theta_0$  with probability 1, subject to regularity conditions ensuring that (2.1) holds. Given a sample of data indexed by  $t = 1, \dots, T$ , we accordingly expect to estimate  $\theta_0$  consistently by

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} L_T(\theta)$$

where  $L_T(\theta) = \sum_{t=1}^T l_t(\theta)$  represents the appropriate sample criterion function. Accordingly the estimate  $\hat{\theta}$  is constructed as a solution to

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\hat{\theta}) = 0. \quad (2.2)$$

We shall refer to the components  $d_t$  generically as the score contributions, although note that  $\theta_0$  could be defined directly by an orthogonality condition in which case estimation would be done by the method of moments. We shall subsequently (see Section 3.2) consider models where  $d_t$  depends on the full sample and hence is an array, and (2.1) is valid asymptotically but not necessarily for finite  $T$ .

In this context, exogeneity of  $z_t$  is defined by the condition that  $\theta_0$  satisfies (2.1), and in this sense it is a condition defined by the interpretation of the model. Correct specification does not entail that the conditioning variables are used to construct the criterion, and when  $k < K$ , condition (2.1) embodies the assumption of correct exclusion from the model of some valid conditioning variables.  $z_t$  may include any exogenous variable that may legitimately contribute to the explanation of  $y_t$ , and this set could in principle be very large, although our procedure puts limits on it in practice. This allows us to consider problems of omitted variables although the case  $x_t = z_t$  applies where the specification issue relates solely to functional form.

The null hypothesis can be stated in the form

$$H_0 : P(E[d_t(\theta_0) | z_t] = 0) = 1 \text{ for } t = 1, \dots, T \quad (2.3)$$

with alternative hypothesis

$$H_1 : P(E[d_t(\theta) | z_t] = 0) < 1, \text{ for all } \theta \in \Theta \text{ and at least one } t. \quad (2.4)$$

We define a ‘consistent test’, here, in terms of rejection when (2.4) holds. However, we cannot rule out the possibility that, even in cases that might technically be regarded as misspecifications, (2.3) remains true. To take a leading example, in the continuously distributed data case the null hypothesis may be satisfied even if the true distribution is not the one assumed for constructing the criterion function. In such cases we call  $L_T$  the quasi-log likelihood function. It is, arguably, a desirable feature of the test that deviations from the true distribution of the data are not

detected as long as the estimators are consistent and asymptotically normal. A parallel case exists in the class of count data models to be discussed in Section 3.4. We find cases where the null hypothesis in (2.3) is true in spite of misspecification of the distribution as a whole, such that the Poisson distribution defines a quasi-maximum likelihood estimator; see Gourieroux, Montfort and Trognon (1984).

We test (2.3) by a conditional moment test on the covariance between these score contributions and a suitable measurable function of exogenous variables. With  $\hat{\theta}$  defined by (2.2), the test indicator is

$$s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\hat{\theta}) w_t(\xi) \quad (2.5)$$

$w_t(\xi) = w(z_t, \xi)$  is a nonlinear transformation of the exogenous variables where  $\xi \in \Xi$  with  $\Xi$  a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^K$ . Following Bierens (1990), we test an infinite set of moment conditions by the use of an exponential weighting function such as

$$w(z_t, \xi) = \prod_{i=1}^k \exp(\xi_i \varphi(\tilde{z}_{ti})) \quad (2.6)$$

where  $\varphi$  is a one-to-one mapping from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  chosen by Bierens (1990) as  $\varphi(\tilde{z}_{ti}) = \arctan \tilde{z}_{ti}$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , and

$$\tilde{z}_{ti} = \frac{z_{ti} - \bar{z}_i}{s_i}$$

where  $\bar{z}_i$  and  $s_i$  represent the sample mean and sample standard deviation of  $z_{ti}$ , respectively. (This standardization avoids the problem of the weight function being invariant due to scale factors.) The choice of the exponential in the weight function (2.6) is not crucial. As shown by Stinchcombe and White (1998) any function that admits an infinite series approximation on compact sets, with non-zero series coefficients, could in principle be employed to construct a consistent test.

The following assumptions constitute the maintained hypothesis, in which context we derive our tests. Throughout this paper,  $\|\cdot\|$  denotes the Euclidean norm of a vector or matrix.

### Assumptions

1. The observed data  $(y'_t, z'_t)'$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, T$ , form a sequence of independently distributed random variables.
2. The parameter space  $\Theta$  is a compact subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^p$ .
3.  $d_t(\theta) : \mathbb{R}^{G+k} \times \Theta \mapsto \mathbb{R}^p$  is a Borel measurable function for each  $\theta \in \Theta$  and continuously differentiable on  $\Theta$ .
4. For all  $t$  and some  $s > 0$ , the following are bounded uniformly in  $t$ ,

- (i)  $E \left[ \sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \|d_t(\theta)\|^{2(1+s)} \right]$ ,
- (ii)  $E \left[ \sup_{\theta \in \Theta, \xi \in \Xi} \|d_t(\theta) w_t(\xi)\|^{2(1+s)} \right]$ ,
- (iii)  $E \left[ \sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \left\| \frac{\partial d_t(\theta)}{\partial \theta'} \right\|^{1+s} \right]$ ,
- (iv)  $E \left[ \sup_{\theta \in \Theta, \xi \in \Xi} \left\| \frac{\partial d_t(\theta)}{\partial \theta'} w_t(\xi) \right\|^{1+s} \right]$ .

5. The matrix

$$M = - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T E \left[ \partial d_t(\theta) / \partial \theta' \right]_{\theta=\theta_0} \quad (2.7)$$

is finite and non-singular;

6. Under the null hypothesis,  $\sqrt{T}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, M^{-1}\Sigma M^{-1})$ , where  $M$  is defined in (2.7) and

$$\Sigma = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T E \left[ d_t(\theta) d_t(\theta)' \right]_{\theta=\theta_0} < \infty. \quad (2.8)$$

The following lemmas provide the basis for the consistent test.

**Lemma 2.1** *If  $P(E[d_t(\theta)|z_t] = 0) < 1$ , then the set*

$$B = \{ \xi \in \mathbb{R}^K : E[d_t(\theta) w_t(\xi)] = 0 \}$$

*has Lebesgue measure zero for any  $\theta \in \Theta$ .*

**Lemma 2.2** *Under Assumptions 1-6 and  $H_0$  in (2.3)*

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\hat{\theta}) w_t(\xi) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, V(\xi))$$

*pointwise in the set of  $\xi$ , where*

$$V(\xi) = R(\xi) - Q(\xi) M^{-1} P(\xi)' - P(\xi) M^{-1} Q(\xi)' + Q(\xi) M^{-1} \Sigma M^{-1} Q(\xi)' \quad (2.9)$$

*and*

$$Q(\xi) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T E \left[ -w_t(\xi) \frac{\partial d_t(\theta)}{\partial \theta'} \right]_{\theta=\theta_0} \quad (2.10)$$

$$P(\xi) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T E \left[ w_t(\xi) d_t(\theta) d_t(\theta)' \right]_{\theta=\theta_0} \quad (2.11)$$

$$R(\xi) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T E \left[ w_t(\xi)^2 d_t(\theta) d_t(\theta)' \right]_{\theta=\theta_0}. \quad (2.12)$$

The covariance matrix  $V(\xi)$  in (2.9) can be consistently estimated by

$$\hat{V}(\xi) = \hat{R}(\xi) - \hat{Q}(\xi) \hat{M}^{-1} \hat{P}(\xi)' - \hat{P}(\xi) \hat{M}^{-1} \hat{Q}(\xi)' + \hat{Q}(\xi) \hat{M}^{-1} \hat{\Sigma} \hat{M}^{-1} \hat{Q}(\xi)' \quad (2.13)$$

where hats denote evaluation at the consistent estimator  $\hat{\theta}$ .

**Assumption 7** The set  $B^* = \{ \xi \in \mathbb{R}^K : \text{rank}(V(\xi)) < p \}$  has Lebesgue measure zero.

Subject to Assumption 7, a joint consistent specification test can be constructed based on the test indicator  $s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi)$  defined in (2.5) that takes into account all the components of the score vector. This is as follows

$$S_B(\xi) = \frac{1}{T} \left( \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\hat{\theta}) w_t(\xi) \right)' \hat{V}(\xi)^{-1} \left( \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\hat{\theta}) w_t(\xi) \right). \quad (2.14)$$

Note that  $V(\xi)$  should have rank  $p$  under the same circumstances that  $\Sigma$  has rank  $p$  for all  $\xi$  except on a set of Lebesgue measure zero. Provided that  $x_t$  is a linearly independent set of variables, the case  $\xi = 0$  appears to be the unique counter-example under which we should obtain  $V(\xi) = 0$ .

The asymptotic distribution of the joint test statistic in (2.14) for each  $\xi$  is established in the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.1** *For every  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K / B_0 \cup B^*$ , where  $B_0$  is the set defined in Lemma 2.1 for the case  $\theta = \theta_0$ , and  $B^*$  is the set defined in Assumption 7, the joint test  $S_B(\xi)$  in (2.14) under  $H_0$  in (2.3) has a limiting chi-square distribution with  $p$  degrees of freedom, whereas under  $H_1$  in (2.4),  $S_B(\xi)/T \rightarrow q(\xi)$  a.s., where  $q(\xi) > 0$ .*

To examine the behaviour of the test under a sequence of local alternatives, consider the case  $\phi_0 = (\theta'_0, \delta_{0T})'$  where  $\delta_T = \delta/T^{-1/2}$  with  $\|\delta_0\| < \infty$ . Under  $H_0$  in (2.3), the fitted parameter vector is  $\hat{\phi} = (\hat{\theta}', 0)'$ . Then we have,

**Corollary 2.1** *Under the local alternative,  $S_B(\xi)$  in (2.14) has a limiting non-central chi-square distribution with non-centrality given by*

$$\lambda = \delta'_0 N(\xi)' V^{-1}(\xi) N(\xi) \delta_0$$

where

$$N(\xi) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T E \left[ -w_t(\xi) \frac{\partial d_t(\phi)}{\partial \delta'_T} \right]_{\phi=\phi_0}.$$

One way to implement this test would be to choose the vector  $\xi$  arbitrarily, but following the approach of Bierens (1990) we anticipate the greatest power would be obtained by considering the statistic

$$\hat{S}_B = \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} S_B(\xi). \quad (2.15)$$

Where  $z_t$  is a vector, the choice of  $\xi$  will determine the relative weights assigned to the conditioning variables, but notice that even in the case  $k = 1$ ,  $w_t$  depends nonlinearly on  $z_t$  in a manner depending on the scalar value of  $\xi$  in that case. With a view to optimizing power,  $\hat{S}_B$  may represent the best test even in the case  $K = 1$ .

The following theorem is used in establishing the limiting distribution of  $\hat{S}_B$ . Let  $C(\Xi)$  denote the metric space of real continuous functions endowed with the uniform metric

$$\sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \|z_1(\xi) - z_2(\xi)\|.$$

**Theorem 2.2** *Under  $H_0$  and Assumptions 1-7,  $\sqrt{T}s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi)$ , defined in (2.5), converges weakly to a mean-zero Gaussian element  $z(\xi)$  of  $C(\Xi)$  with covariance function*

$$E[z(\xi_1)z(\xi_2)'] = V(\xi_1, \xi_2)$$

where

$$V(\xi_1, \xi_2) = R(\xi_1, \xi_2) - Q(\xi_1)M^{-1}P(\xi_2)' - P(\xi_1)M^{-1}Q(\xi_2)' + Q(\xi_1)M^{-1}\Sigma M^{-1}Q(\xi_2)' \quad (2.16)$$

and  $R(\xi_1, \xi_2) = \lim \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T E[d_t(\theta)d_t(\theta)'w_t(\xi_1)w_t(\xi_2)]_{\theta=\theta_0}$ .

Note that  $R(\xi, \xi) = R(\xi)$  in (2.12). Under the hypothesis of a correctly specified likelihood function, we have the information matrix equality  $M = \Sigma$ . Therefore, we remark on the possibility that the test might be modified for this restricted version of the null hypothesis by imposing this equality in the variance formula. However, this is not an option we shall consider here.

Since  $\sup_{\xi \in \Xi} (\cdot)$  is a continuous functional of  $\sqrt{T}s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi)$ , it follows by the continuous mapping theorem that under  $H_0$

$$\hat{S}_B \xrightarrow{d} \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} z(\xi)' V(\xi)^{-1} z(\xi).$$

The limiting distribution of the joint test statistic  $\hat{S}_B$  depends on the data generation process and the specification under the null and thus critical values have to be tabulated for each DGP and estimation model which is unfeasible given the general framework of our test statistic. An approach that allows for the use of the asymptotic chi-square critical values is to apply the following result of Bierens (1990).

**Lemma 2.3** *Under Assumptions 1-7, choose independently of the data  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $0 < \rho < 1$  and  $\xi_0 \in \Xi$ . Let  $\hat{\xi} = \arg \max_{\xi \in \Xi} S_B(\xi)$  and*

$$\tilde{\xi} = \begin{cases} \xi_0 & \text{if } \hat{S}_B - S_B(\xi_0) \leq \gamma T^\rho \\ \hat{\xi} & \text{if } \hat{S}_B - S_B(\xi_0) > \gamma T^\rho \end{cases} \quad (2.17)$$

*Then, under  $H_0$ ,  $\tilde{S}_B = S_B(\tilde{\xi})$  will have an asymptotic  $\chi^2$  distribution with  $p$  degrees of freedom, whereas under  $H_1$ ,  $\tilde{S}_B/T \rightarrow \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} q(\xi)$  a.s. as  $T \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $\sup_{\xi \in \Xi} q(\xi) > 0$ .*

The idea of basing the test on the pair of statistics  $S_B(\xi_0)$  and  $\sup_{\xi} S_B(\xi)$ , depending on the discrimination device in (2.17) offers the attraction of being able to use a standard table for implementing the test. An alternative way of obtaining approximate  $p$ -values is the bootstrap methodology of Hansen (1996), but this is very computationally intensive, requiring many bootstrap replications of the numerical optimization procedure. These costs would preclude the type of intensive Monte Carlo evaluations of the tests that we present in this paper, and also, more practically, lessen the appeal of the tests to practitioners seeking a routine model evaluation procedure. An alternative to the formulation in (2.15) is the integrated moment test of Bierens and Ploberger (1997), which involves constructing the integral of the function  $S_B(\xi)$  with respect to a suitable measure defined for  $\xi$ . This approach also deserves consideration but, again, the computational overhead of implementing such procedures by the bootstrap is considerable.

In addition to this test of joint restrictions, there are also various ways of examining the information contained in the indicator to yield consistent tests. In general, a principle we could adopt is to construct a one degree of freedom test based on a linear combination of individual components of the indicator vector  $s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi)$  in (2.5). This approach may prove to give power in particular directions. For fixed  $\xi \in \Xi$ , and a vector of weights  $\eta \in \mathbb{R}^p$ , a composite test statistic can be constructed as

$$S_{Bc}(\xi, \eta) = \frac{\left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^T \eta' d_t(\hat{\theta}) w_t(\xi) \right)^2}{\eta' \hat{V}(\xi) \eta}, \quad (2.18)$$

where  $\eta \in \mathcal{H} = \{\eta \in \mathbb{R}^p : \|\eta\| = 1\}$  without loss of generality, since any scale factor cancels in the ratio. Setting  $\eta$  to a column of  $I_p$  in (2.18) allows us to consider the score elements with respect to each parameter of the model, and so potentially to distinguish different sources of mis-specification, in the mean or variance components of a regression model, say. In this case the test statistic is constructed as

$$S_{Bi}(\xi) = \frac{\frac{1}{T} \left( \sum_{t=1}^T d_{t,i}(\hat{\theta}) w_t(\xi) \right)^2}{\hat{V}_{ii}(\xi)} \quad (2.19)$$



where  $d_{t,i}(\hat{\theta}) = \frac{\partial \ln f(y|x, \theta)}{\partial \theta_i} \Big|_{\theta=\hat{\theta}}$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, p$ , and  $\hat{V}_{ii}(\xi)$  is the  $i$ th diagonal element of  $\hat{V}(\xi)$  given in (2.13). The individual tests are defined for  $i = 1, \dots, p$  as

$$\hat{S}_{Bi} = \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} S_{Bi}(\xi). \quad (2.20)$$

The limiting null distribution of tests specified by (2.18) is given in the following Theorem.

**Theorem 2.3** *Under Assumptions 1-7, for every  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K/B_0 \cup B^*$ , where  $B_0$  is the set defined in Lemma (2.1) for the case  $\theta = \theta_0$  and  $B^*$  is the set defined in Assumption 7, and  $\eta \in \mathcal{H}$ , the composite test  $\hat{S}_{Bc}$  has a limiting chi-square distribution with one degree of freedom under  $H_0$  in (2.3).*

Almost any choice of  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  could yield power to detect particular misspecifications. However, a composite test can be constructed similarly to the method proposed in Bierens (1990) leading to the consistent one degree of freedom test statistic

$$\hat{S}_{Bc} = \sup_{\psi \in \Psi} S_{Bc}(\psi) \quad (2.21)$$

where  $\psi = (\xi', \eta)'$ ,  $\Psi = \Xi \times \mathcal{H}$  and  $S_{Bc}(\psi) = S_{Bc}(\xi, \eta)$  is defined in (2.18).

The following theorem, analogous to Theorem 2.2, is used to establish the limiting distribution of the test in (2.21). Let  $C(\Psi)$  denote the metric space of real continuous functions endowed with the uniform metric  $\sup_{\psi \in \Psi} |z_1(\psi) - z_2(\psi)|$ .

**Theorem 2.4** *Under  $H_0$  and Assumptions 1-7,  $\eta' \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi)$ , where  $s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi)$  is defined in (2.5) converges weakly to a mean-zero Gaussian element  $z(\psi)$  of  $C(\Psi)$  with covariance function*

$$E[z(\psi_1) z(\psi_2)] = \eta_1' V(\xi_1, \xi_2) \eta_2$$

where  $V(\xi_1, \xi_2)$  is defined in (2.16).

Since  $\sup_{\psi \in \Psi} (\cdot)$  is a continuous functional of  $\eta' \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi)$ ,

$$\hat{S}_{Bc} \xrightarrow{d} \sup_{\psi \in \Psi} \frac{z(\psi)^2}{\eta' V(\xi) \eta}$$

under  $H_0$ , by the continuous mapping theorem. Given that the limiting distributions of the portmanteau test statistic  $\hat{S}_{Bc}$  and individual tests  $\hat{S}_{Bi}$  are unknown for the general specification framework, an approximate limiting distribution can again be obtained by applying the approach of Bierens (1990).

**Theorem 2.5** *Under Assumptions 1-7, choose independently of the data  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $0 < \rho < 1$  and  $\psi_0 \in \Psi$ , where  $\psi = (\xi', \eta)'$ . Let  $\hat{\psi} = \arg \max_{\psi \in \Psi} S_{Bc}(\psi)$  and*

$$\tilde{\psi} = \begin{cases} \psi_0 & \text{if } \hat{S}_{Bc} - S_{Bc}(\psi_0) \leq \gamma T^\rho \\ \hat{\psi} & \text{if } \hat{S}_{Bc} - S_{Bc}(\psi_0) > \gamma T^\rho \end{cases} \quad (2.22)$$

Then, under  $H_0$ ,  $\tilde{S}_{Bc} = S_{Bc}(\tilde{\psi})$  will have an asymptotic  $\chi^2$  distribution with one degree of freedom, whereas under  $H_1$ ,  $\tilde{S}_{Bc}/T \rightarrow \sup_{\psi \in \Psi} q(\psi)$  a.s. as  $T \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $\sup_{\psi \in \Psi} q(\psi) > 0$ .

### 3 Applications

#### 3.1 QML in continuously distributed data

Consider the regression model with possible heteroskedasticity,

$$y_t = m(x_t, \theta) + h(x_t, \theta)^{1/2} \varepsilon_t, \quad \varepsilon_t \sim i.i.d.(0, 1). \quad (3.1)$$

The conditional Gaussian quasi-log likelihood function for the model in (3.1) is

$$L_T(\theta) = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T \left[ \ln(h_t) + \frac{(y_t - m_t)^2}{h_t} \right] \quad (3.2)$$

with the typical term in the score vector given by

$$d_t(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \left( 2 \frac{(y_t - m_t)}{h_t} \frac{\partial m_t}{\partial \theta} + \left( \frac{(y_t - m_t)^2}{h_t} - 1 \right) \frac{1}{h_t} \frac{\partial h_t}{\partial \theta} \right). \quad (3.3)$$

where  $m_t = m(x_t, \theta)$  and  $h_t = h(x_t, \theta)$ . There are many data generation processes, not necessarily Gaussian, for which the criterion function in (3.2) yields consistent and asymptotically normal estimates. This is therefore a case where we need to distinguish between strictly correct specification and our characterization of the null hypothesis. What matters is the existence of  $\theta_0$  satisfying the conditions of the null and containing economically interpretable parameters. Although the data are in fact Gaussian in the experiments, the tag "quasi-" is in conformity with the option, mentioned above, of not imposing the information matrix equality in the construction of the statistics. The regular Bierens (1990) test of a regression model corresponds asymptotically to the case of (2.20) relating to the intercept.

#### 3.2 GMM estimation

Consider a model defined by a scalar function  $g_t(\theta) = g(y_t, x_t, \theta)$  where the true values of the parameters are defined as solutions to

$$E(g_t(\theta_0) | z_t) = 0 \text{ a.s.} \quad (3.4)$$

In particular,  $y_t$  may denote a  $G$ -vector of non-exogenous variables, with  $G > 1$ . The GMM estimator for this model is

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\theta \in \Theta} g(\theta)' Z(Z'WZ)^{-1} Z'g(\theta)$$

where  $g(\theta) = (g_1(\theta), \dots, g_T(\theta))'$ ,  $Z = (z_1, \dots, z_T)'$ , and  $W$  is a  $T \times T$  weighting matrix which for optimality should be set to  $E[g(\theta_0)g(\theta_0)']$ . Here, the array elements

$$d_{Tt}(\theta) = D(\theta)' Z(Z'WZ)^{-1} z_t g_t(\theta) \quad (3.5)$$

where

$$D(\theta) = \frac{\partial g(\theta)}{\partial \theta'} \quad (T \times p)$$

are the analogues of the score contributions, with  $\sum_{t=1}^T d_{Tt}(\hat{\theta}) = 0$  by construction.

Whereas the null hypothesis is represented by (3.4), so that it might appear natural to base the test on the elements  $z_t g_t(\theta)$ , note that  $\sum_{t=1}^T z_t g_t(\hat{\theta}) \neq 0$  unless the model is just-identified. On the other hand, one can in general assert only that  $E(d_{Tt}(\theta_0) | z_t) \rightarrow 0$  a.s. as  $T \rightarrow \infty$ . Maintaining the testing common framework must be predicated on the assumption that the consequent size distortions in finite samples are of small order. However, it has the benefit that the asymptotic derivations of Section 2 go through unamended. A further advantage is to be able to associate a statistic with each parameter in the model, as before. Note that in the just-identified case the tests based on  $d_{Tt}(\hat{\theta})w_t$  and  $z_t g_t(\hat{\theta})w_t$  are asymptotically equivalent.

### 3.3 Binary data

Discrete choice models differ from those considered above in the sense that model specification is all-or-nothing issue. Either all aspects of the distribution are correctly specified or, in general, estimator consistency fails; there is no counterpart of ‘quasi-maximum likelihood’ for these cases. Hence, although the tests have the same structure as before there is a crucial difference in the interpretation. The conditional mean of the scores is directly connected with the form of the distribution and hence the latter is amenable to test.

Consider an underlying latent equation with the form

$$y_t^* = m(x_t, \theta) + h(x_t, \theta)^{1/2} \varepsilon_t$$

where  $\varepsilon_t$  has cumulative distribution function  $F(z)$  not depending on  $\theta$ , and the observed data are generated as

$$y_t = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y_t^* \leq 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } y_t^* > 0. \end{cases} \quad (3.6)$$

Then,  $\Pr(y_t = 1|x_t) = F(m^*(x_t, \theta))$  where

$$m^*(x_t, \theta) = \frac{m(x_t, \theta)}{h(x_t, \theta)^{1/2}}. \quad (3.7)$$

The log-likelihood function is

$$L_T(\theta) = \sum_{t=1}^T y_t \log [F(m^*(x_t, \theta))] + (1 - y_t) \log [1 - F(m^*(x_t, \theta))].$$

and the score contributions take the form

$$d_t(\theta) = (y_t - F(m^*(x_t, \theta))) q(x_t, \theta) \frac{\partial m^*(x_t, \theta)}{\partial \theta} \quad (3.8)$$

where, letting  $f(z) = \partial F(z) / \partial z$ ,

$$q(x_t, \theta) = \frac{f(m^*(x_t, \theta))}{F(m^*(x_t, \theta)) [1 - F(m^*(x_t, \theta))]}.$$

In the probit model  $F(z)$  is of course the standard Gaussian c.d.f., while in the logit model  $F(z) = 1/(1 + e^{-z})$ .

While the Bierens (1990) test was not designed for discrete choice models, a consistent test statistic of the same type can be constructed by replacing the usual regression residuals by the generalized residuals

$$\hat{\varepsilon}_t^* = \left( y_t - F(m^*(x_t, \hat{\theta})) \right) q(x_t, \hat{\theta}).$$

This test differs from the test based on (2.5) by the replacement of  $\partial m^*(x_t, \theta) / \partial \theta$  by unity in the terms in the sum in (3.8).

### 3.4 Count data

Consider the Poisson model of count data  $y_t$ , where

$$P(y_t|x_t) = \frac{\exp(-\phi_t) \phi_t^{y_t}}{y_t!}, \text{ for } y_t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Letting  $\ln \phi_t = m^*(x_t, \theta)$  where  $m^*$  is defined by (3.7), the log-likelihood function is

$$L_T(\theta) = \sum_{t=1}^T [-\phi_t + y_t m^*(x_t, \theta) - \ln(y_t!)]$$

and the score contributions are

$$d_t(\theta) = (y_t - \phi_t) \frac{\partial m^*(x_t, \theta)}{\partial \theta}.$$

As pointed out by Hausman, Hall and Griliches (1984) and Cameron and Trivedi (1986, 1998), this specification features the property  $\phi_t = E[y_t|x_t] = \text{Var}[y_t|x_t]$ , a potentially unrealistic feature of the model. Cameron and Trivedi (1986) consider two forms of negative binomial model that arise from a natural generalization of cross-section heterogeneity. In the Negative Binomial 1 the variance of  $y_t$  has the specification  $\text{Var}[y_t|x_t] = \phi_t(1 + \alpha)$ , and in the Negative Binomial 2 form,  $\text{Var}[y_t|x_t] = \phi_t + \alpha\phi_t^2$ . With the parameterization  $\alpha_t = \phi_t/\alpha$  for the Negative Binomial 1 and  $\alpha_t = 1/\alpha$  for the Negative Binomial 2,

$$L_T(\varphi) = \sum_{t=1}^T \left[ \ln \Gamma(y_t + \alpha_t) - \ln \Gamma(1 + y_t) - \ln \Gamma(\alpha_t) + \alpha_t \ln \left( \frac{\alpha_t}{\alpha_t + \phi_t} \right) + y_t \ln \left( \frac{\phi_t}{\alpha_t + \phi_t} \right) \right]$$

where  $\varphi = (\theta', \alpha)'$  and the score vector is

$$d_t(\varphi) = (y_t - \phi_t) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\alpha_t}{\alpha_t + \phi_t} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \left[ \frac{\partial m^*(x_t, \theta)}{\partial \theta} \right] + \left[ (\ln \Gamma)'(y_t + \alpha_t) - (\ln \Gamma)'(\alpha_t) + \ln \left( \frac{\alpha_t}{\alpha_t + \phi_t} \right) - \frac{y_t - \phi_t}{\alpha_t + \phi_t} \right] \frac{\partial \alpha_t}{\partial \varphi}$$

where  $(\ln \Gamma)'$  is the derivative of the log-gamma function. As noted previously, the score-based test cannot detect the use of an incorrect Poisson likelihood function in these cases. However, note that Cameron and Trivedi (1990) suggest a score test for equality of mean and variance, a procedure that could be regarded as complementary to our own.

## 4 Experimental evidence

This section reports Monte Carlo experiments with a variety of contrasting cases of the models of Section 3, shown in Tables 1 and 2. In Table 1, the null hypothesis is represented in each case by  $\delta = 0$ . Note that Models M7 and M8 feature conditional heteroskedasticity under the null hypothesis. Parameters  $\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2$  and  $\sigma^2$ , and also  $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  in models M4, M7 and M8, are all set equal to 1. Models M5 and M6 incorporate a threshold effect under the alternative, with parameter values dependent on the sign of a third explanatory variable, and here we set  $\alpha_0 = -2, \alpha_1 = -3$  and  $\alpha_2 = -1$ . The variables  $x_{1t}, x_{2t}, x_{3t}$  and  $\varepsilon_t$  are all generated independently as  $N(0, 1)$  in each Monte Carlo replication. While M1-M6 are linear regressions when  $\delta = 0$ , and could have been estimated by least squares, all estimations are nonetheless performed by Gaussian ML, so that the variance parameter is estimated and contributes to a score element. Models M7 and M8 are nonlinear under the null hypothesis and contain extra parameters; in these cases the variance intercept  $\alpha_0$  is entered in the column headed  $\hat{S}_{B, \sigma^2}$  in the obvious way.

The experiments use sample sizes of 100 and 500, and each design is carried out with 10,000 replications. The following tests were computed: (i) the regular Bierens type residual test, computed from appropriately defined residuals; (ii) the joint score test in (2.15), having  $p$  degrees

	$m(x_t, \theta)$	$h(x_t, \theta)$
M1:	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1t} + \delta x_{1t}^2$	$\sigma^2$
M2:	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1t}$	$\exp(\delta x_{1t})^{1/2}$
M3:	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1t} + \beta_2 x_{2t} + \delta x_{1t} x_{2t}$	$\sigma^2$
M4:	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1t} + \beta_2 x_{2t}$	$\exp(\delta (\alpha_1 x_{1t} + \alpha_2 x_{2t}))^{1/2}$
M5:	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1t} + \delta (\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x_{1t}) 1(x_{3t} < 0)$	$\sigma^2$
M6:	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1t} + \beta_2 x_{2t} + \delta (\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x_{1t} + \alpha_2 x_{2t}) 1(x_{3t} < 0)$	$\sigma^2$
M7:	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1t} + \delta x_{1t}^2$	$(\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x_{1t}^2)^{1/2}$
M8:	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1t} + \beta_2 x_{2t} + \delta x_{1t} x_{2t}$	$(\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x_{1t}^2 + \alpha_2 x_{2t}^2)^{1/2}$

Table 1: Models of Mean and Variance

of freedom; (iii) the tests on individual score elements defined in (2.20) and (iv) the composite test defined in (2.21). Although these tests can be applied very straightforwardly to system estimation, we confine attention here to the single equation case ( $G = 1$ ). It is not clear that the large computational overhead from larger models would be justified by additional insights.

The sup-tests involved optimizing the statistic over compact hypercubes  $\Xi = [-1, 1]^k$ , or  $\Psi = [-1, 1]^{k+p}$ , where this choice of scale appears appropriate since the test variables are standardized with unit variance. We employed a simple random search algorithm that does not require differentiability or any smoothness properties of the criterion function. Given a factor  $a$ , a collection of  $N = aD$  uniformly distributed parameter points are drawn from the current search region, initially chosen as  $\Xi$  or  $\Psi$ . The function values are ranked, the smallest  $N/2$  values discarded and the search region is then shrunk to the smallest hypercube containing the remaining points. The factor  $a$  is chosen flexibly, depending on the diameter of the current search region, within the bounds  $2.5 < a \leq 10$ . The step is repeated until the diameter of the search region does not exceed  $10^{-4}$  to provide a workable trade-off between evaluation speed and required accuracy.

Critical choices in the construction of the tests are the sensitivity parameters  $\gamma$  and  $\rho$  defined in Lemmas 2.3 and 2.5. As a preliminary, we conducted a detailed comparison of alternative choices using one of our models as the test case. This is Model 3 as defined in Table 1. These experiments were conducted using the identical random numbers to generate the data, to ensure a precise comparison between cases. A selection of these results (corresponding to the best  $\gamma$  found for each of four values of  $\rho$ ) are presented in Table 3. The choice is not clear-cut, and ideally we should experiment with a larger range of models and sample sizes to form a clear idea of the trade-offs involved. However, on the basis of the comparisons we have tentatively used values of  $\gamma = 2$  and  $\rho = 0.5$  throughout the main body of experiments that follow.

The results are shown in Tables 4 to 8, with column headings as follows.  $\hat{B}$  denotes the appropriate variant of Bierens' original test. The original Bierens test has been proposed in the context of (non-)linear least squares, but a straightforward application is to the M-test performed on the covariance of the model residuals and the weight function, as employed in this paper.  $\hat{S}_B$  denotes the joint test on the scores, having  $p$  degrees of freedom, whereas  $\hat{S}_{Bc}$  is the composite test (sup-test) having 1 degree of freedom. The other columns relate to the 1-degree of freedom tests based on the individual elements of the score. Rejection frequencies when the null hypothesis is true are shown in boldface, and in these cases the test critical values are taken from the relevant chi-squared table. Rejection frequencies when the null hypothesis is false, in normal face, are

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<i>Equation 1</i>	
M13-M16:	$y_{1t} = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x_{1t} + \alpha_2 x_{2t} + \alpha_3 x_{3t} + \varepsilon_{1t}$
<i>Equation 2</i>	
M13:	$y_{2t} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y_{1t} + \frac{1}{2}(\varepsilon_{1t} + \varepsilon_{2t})$
M14:	$y_{2t} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y_{1t}^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\varepsilon_{1t} + \varepsilon_{2t})$
M15:	$y_{2t} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y_{1t} + \delta x_{1t}^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\varepsilon_{1t} + \varepsilon_{2t})$
M16:	$\ln y_{2t} = \frac{1}{4}(\beta_0 + \beta_1 y_{1t} + \frac{1}{2}(\varepsilon_{1t} + \varepsilon_{2t}))$

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Table 2: Simultaneous Equations Models

calculated using critical values from the empirical distributions obtained from the simulations of the null, and hence these are estimates of the true powers. Refer to Tables 1 and 2 to identify the particular models of mean and variance represented in each row of the tables.

Under the null hypothesis of a linear model, Table 4 shows that the empirical size of the Bierens test is close to the nominal size of 5%, with the exception of the case when the errors are heteroskedastic and  $T = 100$  in which case Bierens test is undersized. The joint test  $\hat{S}_B$  is generally the worst-sized of our score tests but the composite test does better. The individual tests corresponding to the variance component are slightly oversized for  $T = 100$  observations, but they are correctly sized (to within experimental error) when  $T = 500$ , although slight over-rejections still occur when the errors are heteroskedastic.

Under the alternative nonlinear model with homoskedastic error terms (models M1 and M3), all test statistics have good comparable size-adjusted power even for  $T = 100$ . When heteroskedasticity is neglected but the conditional mean is correctly specified, the Bierens test has no power, being a test of functional form of the mean equation. However, the composite score-based test attains a simulated size-adjusted power of 94% for  $T = 100$ . Moreover, the tests on individual parameters are able to disentangle different sources of misspecification. For example, the statistic corresponding to the variance in regression models is an excellent indicator of heteroskedasticity. Our score-based tests also have very good power in detecting threshold effects, while Bierens test appears insensitive to this misspecification in the mean. When the errors are heteroskedastic under the null hypothesis, such as in the models M7 and M8, Bierens test is not able to detect neglected non-linearity in the mean equation when the number of regressors is two even for a sample size of 500 observations, whereas the score-based tests we propose have good empirical power in these cases.

Simultaneous equations models are specified in Table 2 with M13 being the null model, and others cases of the alternative. The parameters in the equation for  $y_{1t}$  and  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  in the equations for  $y_{2t}$  are all set equal to 1. Experiments with tests based on the GMM score elements (3.5) where in all cases  $W = I_T$ , are reported in Table 5. The column headed ‘Sarg’ shows the performance of the so-called J-test of overidentification (see Sargan 1964, Hansen 1982) based on the distribution of  $z_t g_t(\hat{\theta})$ . Under the null hypothesis corresponding to model M13, the tests have empirical size close to the nominal size, although the J-test is slightly over-sized even for 500 observations. Note that the J-test is found to have no power to detect neglected non-linearity and misspecification of the functional form, whereas both the Bierens-type test and score-based tests have good empirical power, with the latter dominating the former.

Results for probit and logit models are reported in Tables 6 and 7 respectively. Note that  $m^* = m$  for each of the null hypotheses tested, although the data were generated using nonlinear latent models M2 and M4. Models M9 and M10 in Table 6 are new cases, defined by use of a non-Gaussian distribution featuring skewness to generate the binary responses. We used a centred

chi-squared with four degrees of freedom to generate the series in these cases, with the mean functions given by models M1 and M3, respectively with  $\delta = 0$ . The Bierens type test based on the generalized residuals and our score-based tests have good size properties both for the probit and logit models, with the exception of the joint test which is again slightly oversized for both 100 and 500 observations. The tests perform well in detecting neglected nonlinearity, heteroskedasticity and misspecification of the distribution function, with the composite test having overall the best empirical power among the other statistics.

Finally, tests on the Poisson model incorporating M1-M4 are shown in Table 8 and for the Negative Binomial 1 case in Table 9, where the additional parameter  $\alpha$  is set equal to 2. These tables also report the Bierens test where the residual in this case is computed as  $\hat{\varepsilon}_t = y_t - \hat{\phi}_t$ . The results in Table 8 suggest that the tests are correctly sized and have good power in detecting nonlinearity and heteroskedasticity. In Table 9, the tests are slightly oversized for  $T = 100$ , with the joint test being the worst-sized of all. However, the tests perform well in detecting nonlinearity and heteroskedasticity for  $T = 500$  observations.

## 5 Concluding Remarks

Our reported simulation results show that at least for the given alternatives our tests typically have ample power to detect misspecification. However, the point we wish to emphasize is that these tests are not tailored to the particular model, as is common practice, but apply a single rule to the full range of estimators, and are accordingly very easy to implement routinely.

The other feature that the tables highlight is that the joint chi-square test (having  $p$  degrees of freedom) is in general the worst-sized of our alternatives and the so-called composite test (depending on  $\eta$ ) improves on the joint test in this regard, as well as having at least equivalent power. The tests on individual parameters are quoted chiefly to see how much information they give on the sources of misspecification. In particular, note that the statistic corresponding to the variance in regression models is an excellent indicator of heteroskedasticity. The so-called regular Bierens test, based on the covariance of residuals with weight functions, should in many cases give a similar result to the individual score based test for the intercept parameter. It is quoted in the tables as a basis for comparison. There are a number of cases where this test has no power in our experiments, for example, regression models with heteroskedasticity in both null and alternative, threshold models and little power in negative binomial models in the context of Poisson model estimation.

In this paper we focus on independently sampled observations. In generalizing our results to time series models, we first note that the likelihood contributions will need to be replaced by conditional contributions where the conditioning variables include lags, similarly to the work of de Jong (1996). However, there is a further condition for correct dynamic specification, that the score contributions, and hence also the terms in our test statistics when suitable defined, should form martingale difference sequences. This could lead to a generalization of the Nyblom-Hansen class of dynamic specification tests (Nyblom 1989, Hansen 1992) for example. However, these important extensions must be left for future research.

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## A Appendix

**Proof of Lemma 2.1.** The proof follows trivially from Lemma 1 of Bierens (1990). ■

**Lemma A.1** *Under Assumptions 1-4*

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \left\| \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\theta) d_t(\theta)' - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E \left[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\theta) d_t(\theta)' \right] \right\| = o_p(1) \quad (\text{A-1})$$

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta, \xi \in \Xi} \left\| \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T w_t(\xi) d_t(\theta) - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E \left[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T w_t(\xi) d_t(\theta) \right] \right\| = o_p(1) \quad (\text{A-2})$$

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta, \xi \in \Xi} \left\| \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T w_t(\xi) d_t(\theta) d_t(\theta)' - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E \left[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T w_t(\xi) d_t(\theta) d_t(\theta)' \right] \right\| = o_p(1) \quad (\text{A-3})$$

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta, \xi \in \Xi} \left\| \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T w_t(\xi)^2 d_t(\theta) d_t(\theta)' - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E \left[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T w_t(\xi)^2 d_t(\theta) d_t(\theta)' \right] \right\| = o_p(1) \quad (\text{A-4})$$

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \left\| \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\partial d_t(\theta)}{\partial \theta'} - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E \left[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\partial d_t(\theta)}{\partial \theta'} \right] \right\| = o_p(1) \quad (\text{A-5})$$

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta, \xi \in \Xi} \left\| \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( w_t(\xi) \frac{\partial d_t(\theta)}{\partial \theta'} \right) - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E \left[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( w_t(\xi) \frac{\partial d_t(\theta)}{\partial \theta'} \right) \right] \right\| = o_p(1) \quad (\text{A-6})$$

**Proof of Lemma A.1.** Under Assumptions 1-4, the uniform convergence results follow by applying a uniform law of large numbers (ULLN) for independent, not identically distributed (i.n.i.d.) random variables (e.g. White (1980), Lemma 2.3). For a generic function  $q_t(\theta, \xi)$  in order to show that

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta, \xi \in \Xi} \left\| \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T q_t(\theta, \xi) - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E \left[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T q_t(\theta, \xi) \right] \right\| = o_p(1),$$

it is sufficient to establish that  $E \sup_{\theta \in \Theta, \xi \in \Xi} \left\| \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T q_t(\theta, \xi) \right\|^{1+s} < \infty$  uniformly in  $t$  for some  $s > 0$ . For example, (A-1) follows by the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality and Assumption 4(i). The other parts of the Lemma follow similarly from Assumption 4(i)-(iv). ■

**Proof of Lemma 2.2.** A mean value expansion of  $\sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\hat{\theta}) w_t(\xi)$  about the true parameter  $\theta_0$  yields

$$\sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) = \sqrt{T} s_T(\theta_0, \xi) - \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( -\frac{\partial d_t(\bar{\theta}_{i,\xi})}{\partial \theta'} w_t(\xi) \right) \sqrt{T}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0)$$

where  $\bar{\theta}_{i,\xi}$  is a mean value, in general different for each component of the score vector, such that  $\|\bar{\theta}_{i,\xi} - \theta_0\| \leq \|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\| = O_p(T^{-1/2})$  by Assumption 6. Under Assumptions 1-6 and employing Lemma A.1, the mean value expansion above becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) &= \sqrt{T} s_T(\theta_0, \xi) - Q(\xi) \sqrt{T}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) + o_p(1) \\ &= \sqrt{T} s_T(\theta_0, \xi) - Q(\xi) M^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\theta_0) + o_p(1) \\ &= \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) + o_p(1) \end{aligned}$$

where  $M$  and  $Q(\xi)$  are defined in (2.7) and (2.10), respectively, and let

$$z_T(\theta_0, \xi) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\theta_0) w_t(\xi) - Q(\xi) M^{-1} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\theta_0). \quad (\text{A-7})$$

For fixed  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K$ , the Liapounov CLT for i.n.i.d. random variables (see Theorem 23.11, Davidson, 1994) and Assumption 4(i)-(ii) ensure

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\theta_0) w_t(\xi) \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\theta_0) \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{d} N \left( \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} R(\xi) & P(\xi) \\ P(\xi)' & \Sigma \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

where  $P(\xi)$ ,  $R(\xi)$  and  $\Sigma$  are defined in (2.11), (2.12) and (2.8), respectively.

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\hat{\theta}) w_t(\xi) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, V(\xi))$$

where

$$V(\xi) = R(\xi) - Q(\xi) M^{-1} P(\xi)' - P(\xi) M^{-1} Q(\xi)' + Q(\xi) M^{-1} \Sigma M^{-1} Q(\xi)'. \quad (\text{A-8})$$

■

**Lemma A.2** *Under  $H_0$  and Assumptions 1-6,*

$$\hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) = o_p(1) \quad (\text{A-9})$$

*uniformly over  $\xi \in \Xi$ , where  $z_T(\theta_0, \xi)$  is defined in (A-7).*

**Proof of Lemma A.2.** We have that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) \right\| \\ & \leq \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \right\| \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) \right\| \\ & + \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) \right\| \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| V(\xi)^{-1/2} \right\| \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-10})$$

By Lemmas 2.2 and A.1, and Slutsky's Theorem

$$\sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \right\| = o_p(1).$$

Moreover, by Lemma 2.2

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) &= \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) + o_p(1) \\ &= O_p(1) \end{aligned}$$

uniformly over  $\xi$ . Therefore,

$$\sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \right\| \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) \right\| = o_p(1).$$

Now

$$\sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) \right\| = o_p(1)$$

by Lemma 2.2 and since  $\sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| V(\xi)^{-1/2} \right\| = O_p(1)$ , the second term in the expression (A-10) is  $o_p(1)$ . This proves the result. ■

**Lemma A.3** Under Assumptions 1-7 and  $H_1$ , there exists for each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K$  some function  $\pi_\xi : \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  such that

$$\hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \pi_\xi = o_p(1)$$

where  $V(\xi)^{-1/2} \pi_\xi \neq 0$  for all  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K$  except possibly in a set of Lebesgue measure zero.

**Proof of Lemma A.3.** We can write for each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K$

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \pi_\xi \right\| &\leq \left\| \hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \right\| \|\pi_\xi\| \\ &+ \left\| s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - \pi_\xi \right\| \left\| \hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} \right\|. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-11})$$

For the second right-hand side term,  $\hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} = O_p(1)$  and Lemma A.1(A-2) establishes that

$$\text{plim}_{T \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \left\| s_T(\theta, \xi) - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E[s_T(\theta, \xi)] \right\| = 0.$$

Therefore, set  $\pi_\xi = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E[s_T(\theta_1, \xi)]$ , where  $\theta_1 = \text{plim } \hat{\theta}$  under  $H_1$ . Moreover, in the first term  $\hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} - V(\xi)^{-1/2} = o_p(1)$  by Lemma A.1 and Slutsky's Theorem and since  $\|\pi_\xi\| = O(1)$  by Assumption 4(ii), the first term on the right-hand side of (A-11) is  $o_p(1)$ . Therefore, it has been established that

$$\left\| \hat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \pi_\xi \right\| = o_p(1)$$

Now by Assumption 7 and Lemma 2.1,  $V(\xi)^{-1/2} \pi_\xi \neq 0$  for every  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K/B$ . ■

**Proof of Theorem 2.1.** The result under  $H_0$  follows from Lemmas 2.2 and A.2. Under  $H_1$ , it follows from Lemma A.3 that  $\text{plim}_{T \rightarrow \infty} S_B/T = \pi'_{\xi_0} V(\xi)^{-1} \pi_{\xi_0} = \rho(\xi)$ , where  $\pi_{\xi,0} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E[s_T(\theta_0, \xi)] = 0$  only on a set  $B_0$  of Lebesgue measure zero defined in Lemma 2.1. Therefore,  $P[\rho(\xi) > 0] = 1$  for each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K/B_0$ .

**Proof of Corollary 2.1.** Similar to Lemma 2.2, a mean value expansion of  $\sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\phi}, \xi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\hat{\phi}) w_t(\xi)$  about the true parameter  $\phi_0$  yields

$$\sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\phi}, \xi) = \sqrt{T} s_T(\phi_0, \xi) - \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( -w_t(\xi) \frac{\partial d_t(\bar{\phi}_{i,\xi})}{\partial \theta'} \right) \sqrt{T}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \left( -w_t(\xi) \frac{\partial d_t(\bar{\phi}_{i,\xi})}{\partial \delta'_T} \right) \sqrt{T} \delta_{0T}$$

where  $\bar{\phi}_{i,\xi}$  is a mean value, in general different for each component of the score vector, such that  $\|\bar{\phi}_{i,\xi} - \phi_0\| \leq \|\hat{\phi} - \phi_0\| = O_p(T^{-1/2})$  by Assumption 6. Under Assumptions 1-6 and Lemma A.1 but now under the local alternative, the mean value expansion above becomes

$$\sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\phi}, \xi) = \sqrt{T} s_T(\phi_0, \xi) - Q(\xi) M^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\phi_0) + N(\xi) \delta_0 + o_p(1)$$

and now the result follows from Lemma 2.2. ■

**Lemma A.4** Under Assumptions 1-4 and  $H_0$ ,  $\sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi)$  defined in (A-7) is tight in  $\Xi$ .

**Proof of Lemma A.4.** Consider  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^p$  such that  $\lambda' \lambda = 1$ . Following Newey (1991, p1163), in order to show that  $\sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi)$  is tight in  $\Xi$ , it suffices to prove that

(i) For each  $\delta > 0$  and  $\xi_0 \in \Xi$  there exists an  $\varepsilon$  such that

$$P \left[ \left| \sqrt{T} \lambda' z_T(\theta_0, \xi_0) \right| > \varepsilon \right] \leq \delta$$

for all  $t \geq 1$ .

(ii) For each  $\delta > 0$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\alpha > 0$  such that

$$P \left[ \sup_{\|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left| \lambda' \left( \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_1) - \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_2) \right) \right| \geq \varepsilon \right] \leq \delta$$

for all  $T \geq T_0$ , where  $T < \infty$ . The condition (i) follows from Lemma 2.2 which establishes that  $\sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_0) = O_p(1)$ . To show condition (ii), since  $z_T(\theta_0, \xi) = s_T(\theta_0, \xi) - Q(\xi) M^{-1} d_T(\theta_0)$ , where  $d_T(\theta_0) = T^{-1} \sum_{t=1}^T d_t(\theta_0)$  by the continuity of  $Q(\xi)$ , then it is sufficient to show that for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^p$  such that  $\lambda' \lambda = 1$

$$E \left( \sup_{\|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left| \lambda' \left( \sqrt{T} s_T(\theta_0, \xi_1) - \sqrt{T} s_T(\theta_0, \xi_2) \right) \right| \right) < \infty.$$

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} & E \left( \sup_{\|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left| \lambda' \left( \sqrt{T} s_T(\theta_0, \xi_1) - \sqrt{T} s_T(\theta_0, \xi_2) \right) \right| \right) \\ & \leq E \left( \sup_{\|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left| 1/\sqrt{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \lambda' d_t(\theta_0) \right| \left| \exp(\xi_1' \Phi(x_t)) - \exp(\xi_2' \Phi(x_t)) \right| \right). \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(\xi_1' \Phi(x_t)) &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\xi_1' \Phi(x_t))^i}{i!} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i!} \sum_{m_1, \dots, m_K=0}^i \binom{i}{m_1, \dots, m_K} \xi_{1,1}^{m_1} \cdots \xi_{1,K}^{m_K} \Phi_1(x_t)^{m_1} \cdots \Phi_K(x_t)^{m_K} \end{aligned}$$

and thus

$$\begin{aligned} & E \left( \sup_{\|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left| 1/\sqrt{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \lambda' d_t(\theta_0) \right| \left| \exp(\xi_1' \Phi(x_t)) - \exp(\xi_2' \Phi(x_t)) \right| \right) \\ & \leq E \left( \sup_{\|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left| 1/\sqrt{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \lambda' d_t(\theta_0) \right| \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times \left| \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i!} \sum_{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_K=0}^i \binom{i}{m_1, \dots, m_K} \left( \xi_{1,1}^{m_1} \cdots \xi_{1,K}^{m_K} - \xi_{2,1}^{m_1} \cdots \xi_{2,K}^{m_K} \right) \Phi_1(x_t)^{m_1} \cdots \Phi_K(x_t)^{m_K} \right| \right). \end{aligned}$$

Now since  $\Xi = [-b, b]^K$  and given that  $\|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha$ , note that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \xi_{1,1}^{m_1} \cdots \xi_{1,K}^{m_K} - \xi_{2,1}^{m_1} \cdots \xi_{2,K}^{m_K} \right| &= \left| \sum_{j=1}^K \left( \xi_{1,j}^{m_j} - \xi_{2,j}^{m_j} \right) \prod_{p=1}^{j-1} \xi_{1,p}^{m_p} \prod_{p=j+1}^K \xi_{2,p}^{m_p} \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^K \left| \xi_{1,j}^{m_j} - \xi_{2,j}^{m_j} \right| \prod_{p=1}^{j-1} \left| \xi_{1,p}^{m_p} \right| \prod_{p=j+1}^K \left| \xi_{2,p}^{m_p} \right| \\ &\leq b^{K-1} \alpha^2 \\ &< \infty \end{aligned}$$

where, in the second and third members, we use the convention that  $\prod_{p=a}^b \xi_{i,p}^{m_p} = 1$  if  $a > b$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Finally, since

$$\sum_{m_1, \dots, m_K=0}^i \binom{i}{m_1, \dots, m_K} \Phi_1(x_t)^{m_1} \dots \Phi_K(x_t)^{m_K} = (\iota' \Phi(x_t))^i$$

where  $\iota = (1, \dots, 1)'$  is the summation vector, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & E \left( \sup_{\|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left| \lambda' \left( \sqrt{T} s_T(\theta_0, \xi_1) - \sqrt{T} s_T(\theta_0, \xi_2) \right) \right| \right) \\ & \leq b^{K-1} \alpha^2 E \left( \left| 1/\sqrt{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \lambda' d_t(\theta_0) \right| \left| \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\iota' \Phi(x_t))^i}{i!} \right| \right) \\ & = b^{K-1} \alpha^2 E \left( \left| 1/\sqrt{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \lambda' d_t(\theta_0) \right| \left| \exp(\iota' \Phi(x_t)) \right| \right) \\ & \leq b^{K-1} \alpha^2 \left[ E \left( T^{-1/2} \sum_{t=1}^T \lambda' d_t(\theta_0) \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} E \left[ (\exp(\iota' \Phi(x_t)))^2 \right]^{1/2} \\ & < \infty \end{aligned}$$

by Assumption 4(i). ■

**Proof of Theorem 2.2.** The result follows from Lemmas 2.2, A.2 and A.4. ■

**Proof of Lemma 2.3.** Under  $H_0$ , from Theorem 2.1,  $\widehat{S}_B - S_B(\xi_0) = O_p(1)$ , so for any  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $\rho \in (0, 1)$ ,  $P \left[ \widehat{S}_B(\xi) - S_B(\xi_0) > \gamma T^\rho \right] \rightarrow 0$  and  $\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} P \left[ \tilde{\xi} = \xi_0 \right] = 1$ . Thus, under  $H_0$ , the test is asymptotically based on  $S_B(\xi_0)$  with probability 1 and, since conditionally on  $\xi_0$ ,  $S_B(\xi_0) \xrightarrow{d} \chi_1^2$ , then  $\tilde{S}_B \xrightarrow{d} \chi_1^2$ . Under  $H_1$ , the asymptotic distribution follows from Theorem 2.1. ■

**Lemma A.5** Under  $H_1$  and Assumptions 1-7, there exists for each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K$  and  $\eta \in \mathcal{H}$  some function  $\pi_\xi : \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  such that

$$\widehat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} \eta' s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - V(\xi) \eta' \pi_\xi = o_p(1)$$

where  $V(\xi) \eta' \pi_\xi \neq 0$  for all  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K$  except possibly in a set of Lebesgue measure zero.

**Proof.** The proof follows straightforwardly from Lemma A.3 since for each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K$ ,  $\eta \in \mathcal{H}$

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \widehat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} \eta' s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \eta' \pi_\xi \right\| & \leq \left\| \widehat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \right\| \|\eta\| \|\pi_\xi\| \\ & \quad + \|\eta\| \left\| s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - \pi_\xi \right\| \left\| \widehat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} \right\| \end{aligned}$$

where  $\|\eta\| = 1$ . ■

**Proof of Theorem 2.3.** The proof under  $H_0$  follows easily from Lemmas 2.2 and A.2, since for each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^K$  and  $\eta \in \mathcal{H}$

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \widehat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} \eta' \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \eta' \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) \right\| & \leq \|\eta\| \left\| \widehat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) \right\| \\ & = \left\| \widehat{V}(\xi)^{-1/2} \sqrt{T} s_T(\hat{\theta}, \xi) - V(\xi)^{-1/2} \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) \right\| \end{aligned}$$

given that  $\|\eta\| = 1$ . ■

**Lemma A.6** Under Assumption 1-4 and  $H_0$ ,  $\eta' \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi)$  is tight in  $\Psi$ .

**Proof of Lemma A.6.** Similar to Lemma A.4, it suffices to prove that

(i) For each  $\delta > 0$  and  $\psi_0 \in \Psi$ , where  $\psi_0 = (\xi'_0, \eta'_0)'$  there exists an  $\varepsilon$  such that

$$P \left[ \left| \eta'_0 \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_0) \right| > \varepsilon \right] \leq \delta$$

for all  $t \geq 1$ .

(ii) For each  $\delta > 0$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\beta > 0$  such that

$$P \left[ \sup_{\|\eta_1 - \eta_2\| < \beta, \|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left| \eta'_1 \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_1) - \eta'_2 \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_2) \right| \geq \varepsilon \right] \leq \delta$$

for all  $T \geq T_0$ , where  $T < \infty$ . The condition (i) follows from Lemma 2.2 which establishes that  $\sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_0) = O_p(1)$  and thus  $\eta'_0 \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_0) = O_p(1)$  since  $\|\eta_0\| = 1$ . To show condition (ii), notice that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{\|\eta_1 - \eta_2\| < \beta, \|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left| \eta'_1 \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_1) - \eta'_2 \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_2) \right| \\ & \leq \sup_{\|\eta_1 - \eta_2\| < \beta} \|\eta_1 - \eta_2\| \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) \right\| \\ & \quad + \sup_{\|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left\| \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_1) - \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_2) \right\| \sup_{\eta \in \mathcal{H}} \|\eta\| \\ & \leq \beta \sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) \right\| + \sup_{\|\xi_1 - \xi_2\| < \alpha} \left\| \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_1) - \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi_2) \right\|. \end{aligned}$$

Now, since  $\sup_{\xi \in \Xi} \left\| \sqrt{T} z_T(\theta_0, \xi) \right\| = O_p(1)$  by Theorem 2.2 and  $\sup_{\eta \in \mathcal{H}} \|\eta\| = 1$ , the result follows by applying condition (ii) of Lemma A.4. ■

**Proof of Theorem 2.4.** The result follows from Lemmas 2.2 and A.2 and A.6. ■

**Proof of Theorem 2.5.** Under  $H_0$ , Theorem 2.3,  $\widehat{S}_{Bc} - S_{Bc}(\psi_0) = O_p(1)$ , so for any  $\gamma > 0$ , and  $\rho \in (0, 1)$ ,  $P \left[ \widehat{S}_{Bc}(\psi) - S_{Bc}(\psi_0) > \gamma T^\rho \right] \rightarrow 0$  and  $\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} P \left[ \tilde{\psi} = \psi_0 \right] = 1$ . Thus, under  $H_0$ , the test is asymptotically based on  $S_{Bc}(\psi_0)$  with probability 1 and since conditionally on  $\psi_0$ ,  $S_{Bc}(\psi_0) \xrightarrow{d} \chi_1^2$ , and  $\psi_0$  is independent of the data generating process, then  $\widetilde{S}_{Bc} \xrightarrow{d} \chi_1^2$ . Under  $H_1$ , from Lemma A.5,  $\text{plim}_{T \rightarrow \infty} \widehat{S}_{Bc}/T = \sup_{\xi, \eta \in \Psi} \pi'_{\xi_0} \eta (\eta' V(\xi) \eta)^{-1} \eta' \pi_{\xi_0} = \sup_{\xi, \eta \in \Psi} \rho(\xi, \eta)$ , where  $\eta \neq 0$  since  $\|\eta\| = 1$  and  $\sup_{\xi, \eta \in \Psi} \pi'_{\xi_0} \eta = \sup_{\xi, \eta \in \Psi} \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} E \left[ s_T(\theta_0, \xi)' \eta \right] = 0$  only on a set  $B_0$  of Lebesgue measure zero defined in Lemma 2.1. Therefore,  $P \left[ \sup_{\xi, \eta \in \Psi} \rho(\xi, \eta) > 0 \right] = 1$ . ■



$\gamma$	$\rho$	$\delta$	$\hat{B}$	$\hat{S}_B$	$\hat{S}_{Bc}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_0}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_1}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_2}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\sigma^2}$
$T = 100$									
8	0.2	0	4.94	9.83	7.62	5.65	6.09	4.47	7.48
		0.2	23.41	15.96	16.19	24.55	17.29	27.86	4.30
5	0.3	0	4.94	9.87	7.70	5.65	6.09	4.47	7.48
		0.2	23.42	15.92	16.24	24.57	17.29	27.87	4.30
2	0.5	0	4.94	9.85	7.68	5.65	6.09	4.47	7.48
		0.2	23.41	15.87	16.15	24.56	17.29	27.87	4.30
1	0.7	0	4.92	9.47	6.06	5.60	6.09	4.46	7.40
		0.2	23.40	16.17	17.45	24.60	17.11	17.95	4.40
$T = 500$									
8	0.2	0	5.21	6.60	5.26	5.36	5.27	4.77	5.89
		0.2	81.75	71.98	76.35	82.02	79.95	80.09	4.70
5	0.3	0	5.21	6.59	5.24	5.36	5.27	4.77	5.89
		0.2	81.73	71.75	75.26	81.96	79.81	79.88	4.70
2	0.5	0	5.21	6.59	5.20	5.36	5.27	4.77	5.89
		0.2	81.73	71.62	74.45	81.94	79.79	79.85	4.70
1	0.7	0	5.21	6.59	5.20	5.36	5.27	4.77	5.89
		0.2	81.73	71.61	74.35	81.94	79.79	79.85	4.70

Table 3: Rejection frequencies (%) for Model 3 with alternative statistic selection criteria.

Model	$\delta$	$\hat{B}$	$\hat{S}_B$	$\hat{S}_{Bc}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_0}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_1}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_2}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\sigma^2}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\alpha_1}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\alpha_2}$
$T = 100$										
M1,2,5	0	<b>5.40</b>	<b>9.14</b>	<b>7.03</b>	<b>6.23</b>	<b>5.70</b>	-	<b>7.63</b>	-	-
M1	0.4	86.51	95.37	89.70	92.44	99.48	-	8.53	-	-
	0.8	99.43	100	99.63	100	99.96	-	16.02	-	-
M2	0.4	4.27	42.02	41.07	4.23	5.36	-	57.85	-	-
	0.8	4.16	96.08	94.24	4.44	8.59	-	98.79	-	-
M5	0.4	4.16	37.68	38.92	4.22	6.54	-	47.01	-	-
	0.8	7.14	99.50	91.07	6.42	6.62	-	99.84	-	-
M3,4,6	0	<b>4.94</b>	<b>9.85</b>	<b>7.68</b>	<b>5.65</b>	<b>6.09</b>	<b>4.47</b>	<b>7.48</b>	-	-
M3	0.4	66.71	57.42	65.34	69.40	72.34	69.96	5.31	-	-
	0.8	95.89	99.22	99.54	99.26	99.60	99.59	13.28	-	-
M4	0.4	5.02	75.16	74.00	6.25	5.81	7.55	89.61	-	-
	0.8	5.54	99.28	99.40	9.79	9.33	13.32	99.95	-	-
M6	0.4	3.53	31.73	32.29	4.56	16.68	7.68	41.23	-	-
	0.8	11.34	83.49	80.87	12.18	6.28	12.38	90.81	-	-
M7	0	<b>2.50</b>	<b>12.32</b>	<b>10.34</b>	<b>7.40</b>	<b>6.75</b>	-	<b>7.90</b>	<b>8.63</b>	-
	0.4	65.70	42.99	44.55	55.00	65.77	-	4.74	4.21	-
	0.8	98.88	94.94	92.03	96.80	99.21	-	3.55	3.61	-
M8	0	<b>2.22</b>	<b>13.14</b>	<b>11.52</b>	<b>6.43</b>	<b>7.54</b>	<b>6.05</b>	<b>7.06</b>	<b>6.84</b>	<b>6.30</b>
	0.4	7.36	10.76	10.48	10.86	11.14	17.40	5.13	4.35	4.47
	0.8	8.17	39.59	41.72	52.50	45.22	46.41	4.51	4.03	4.51
$T = 500$										
M1,2,5	0	<b>4.76</b>	<b>6.14</b>	<b>5.60</b>	<b>4.92</b>	<b>4.94</b>	-	<b>5.49</b>	-	-
M1	0.4	100	100	99.77	100	100	-	36.07	-	-
	0.8	100	100	99.93	100	99.99	-	72.03	-	-
M2	0.4	5.32	99.69	97.73	5.12	5.53	-	99.93	-	-
	0.8	4.71	100	100	4.63	6.71	-	100	-	-
M5	0.4	10.40	99.25	85.56	10.26	6.09	-	99.91	-	-
	0.8	2.42	99.99	99.68	2.51	16.17	-	100	-	-
M3,4,6	0	<b>5.21</b>	<b>6.59</b>	<b>5.20</b>	<b>5.36</b>	<b>5.27</b>	<b>4.77</b>	<b>5.89</b>	-	-
M3	0.4	99.96	99.97	99.94	99.96	99.95	99.99	7.21	-	-
	0.8	100	100	99.97	100	100	100	19.59	-	-
M4	0.4	4.75	99.98	99.91	4.96	5.18	5.65	100	-	-
	0.8	4.58	100	100	5.60	6.76	7.27	100	-	-
M6	0.4	3.16	95.14	61.11	3.20	3.43	9.64	99.04	-	-
	0.8	1.50	100	99.84	1.60	6.28	10.74	100	-	-
M7	0	<b>4.24</b>	<b>7.86</b>	<b>6.99</b>	<b>5.49</b>	<b>5.43</b>	-	<b>6.01</b>	<b>6.06</b>	-
	0.4	99.96	99.83	97.26	99.84	99.97	-	4.47	5.19	-
	0.8	100	99.92	97.10	99.98	99.94	-	6.38	7.96	-
M8	0	<b>4.53</b>	<b>9.46</b>	<b>6.27</b>	<b>5.67</b>	<b>5.38</b>	<b>5.49</b>	<b>6.07</b>	<b>6.87</b>	<b>6.93</b>
	0.4	8.93	43.61	55.94	61.02	62.60	63.44	4.64	4.37	4.83
	0.8	29.29	98.96	99.49	99.49	99.81	99.59	4.15	3.67	3.93

Table 4: Rejection frequencies (%) for Gaussian models ( $\gamma=2$  and  $\rho=0.5$ )

	$\delta$	Sarg	$\hat{B}$	$\hat{S}_B$	$\hat{S}_{Bc}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_0}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_1}$
$T = 100$							
M13	0	<b>7.46</b>	<b>6.13</b>	<b>6.17</b>	<b>4.98</b>	<b>6.18</b>	<b>4.72</b>
M14	-	6.00	88.40	91.58	96.90	88.07	97.34
M15	0.4	11.01	5.80	13.37	20.96	5.74	18.81
	0.8	22.15	7.92	24.95	27.85	8.15	26.28
M16	-	2.55	37.14	45.47	62.62	36.53	65.37
$T = 500$							
M13	0	<b>7.05</b>	<b>5.79</b>	<b>5.89</b>	<b>4.93</b>	<b>5.88</b>	<b>4.80</b>
M14	-	2.86	100	100	100	100	100
M15	0.4	6.62	28.19	84.25	86.82	28.02	89.08
	0.8	30.89	47.48	99.53	99.91	47.07	99.67
M16	-	3.51	98.81	99.34	99.39	98.84	99.35

Table 5: Rejection frequencies (%) for GMM models ( $\gamma=2$  and  $\rho=0.5$ )

Model	$\delta$	$\hat{B}$	$\hat{S}_B$	$\hat{S}_{Bc}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_0}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_1}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_2}$
$T = 100$							
M1,2,9	0	<b>7.69</b>	<b>7.36</b>	<b>6.26</b>	<b>7.62</b>	<b>5.75</b>	-
M1	0.4	45.11	38.96	59.02	45.11	60.14	-
	0.8	98.53	96.92	99.07	98.53	99.28	-
M2	0.4	13.78	9.58	13.51	13.78	11.02	-
	0.8	29.92	25.75	36.93	29.93	30.78	-
M9	-	90.52	82.75	80.83	90.53	5.78	-
M3,4,10	0	<b>6.40</b>	<b>6.67</b>	<b>5.89</b>	<b>6.42</b>	<b>4.30</b>	<b>8.58</b>
M3	0.4	13.42	6.64	13.85	13.42	14.65	4.65
	0.8	32.89	19.45	41.18	32.90	38.82	18.85
M4	0.4	13.10	7.59	10.78	13.10	10.55	4.04
	0.8	28.29	22.87	39.38	28.29	34.19	18.09
M10	-	16.13	10.80	20.41	16.12	20.71	7.51
$T = 500$							
M1,2,9	0	<b>5.43</b>	<b>9.07</b>	<b>5.51</b>	<b>5.43</b>	<b>5.74</b>	-
M1	0.4	99.93	99.88	99.69	99.94	99.99	-
	0.8	100	99.99	99.97	99.98	99.98	-
M2	0.4	54.69	38.14	58.07	54.69	49.21	-
	0.8	89.11	92.63	97.25	89.12	95.38	-
M9	-	99.91	99.31	98.39	99.94	96.55	-
M3,4,10	0	<b>5.09</b>	<b>7.40</b>	<b>5.82</b>	<b>5.09</b>	<b>5.72</b>	<b>5.77</b>
M3	0.4	49.60	38.48	59.66	49.60	35.79	38.12
	0.8	98.17	90.18	98.30	98.17	88.22	89.19
M4	0.4	35.07	30.38	58.18	35.07	38.47	37.89
	0.8	74.81	88.68	98.52	74.81	91.22	92.29
M10	-	60.40	66.06	89.81	60.40	65.38	66.41

Table 6: Rejection frequencies (%) for Probit models ( $\gamma=2$  and  $\rho=0.5$ )

Model	$\delta$	$\hat{B}$	$\hat{S}_B$	$\hat{S}_{Bc}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_0}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_1}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_2}$
$T = 100$							
M1,2,9	0	<b>5.84</b>	<b>6.60</b>	<b>5.19</b>	<b>5.85</b>	<b>4.65</b>	-
M1	0.4	34.36	30.74	51.53	34.36	52.92	-
	0.8	86.20	79.75	91.44	86.22	90.68	-
M2	0.4	17.53	11.24	16.73	17.53	13.43	-
	0.8	28.13	18.50	24.66	28.13	19.02	-
M3,4,10	0	<b>5.02</b>	<b>5.96</b>	<b>4.95</b>	<b>5.02</b>	<b>5.18</b>	<b>5.28</b>
M3	0.4	9.86	6.34	15.65	9.87	11.85	10.28
	0.8	23.00	15.57	36.65	23.00	23.79	25.13
M4	0.4	10.70	4.49	8.71	10.69	6.76	5.36
	0.8	23.22	10.59	28.23	23.21	17.95	17.94
$T = 500$							
M1,2,9	0	<b>5.41</b>	<b>6.63</b>	<b>5.66</b>	<b>5.38</b>	<b>5.20</b>	-
M1	0.4	95.36	95.02	94.47	95.35	97.55	-
	0.8	99.99	99.99	99.41	99.98	99.97	-
M2	0.4	38.50	31.30	43.24	38.51	37.64	-
	0.8	88.33	88.51	93.58	88.32	90.88	-
M3,4,10	0	<b>5.12</b>	<b>6.11</b>	<b>5.49</b>	<b>5.12</b>	<b>4.83</b>	<b>5.65</b>
M3	0.4	36.59	31.78	47.34	36.59	34.52	33.26
	0.8	91.04	88.13	95.91	91.04	86.00	86.28
M4	0.4	41.26	36.10	64.40	41.26	49.70	45.16
	0.8	81.11	94.54	99.12	81.11	94.00	94.34

Table 7: Rejection frequencies (%) for Logit models ( $\gamma=2$  and  $\rho=0.5$ )

	$\delta$	$\hat{B}$	$\hat{S}_B$	$\hat{S}_{Bc}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_0}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_1}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_2}$
$T = 100$							
M1,2	0	<b>5.65</b>	<b>5.65</b>	<b>6.34</b>	<b>5.64</b>	<b>5.92</b>	-
M1	0.4	82.04	100	99.98	82.14	99.99	-
	0.8	99.75	100	95.81	99.79	94.94	-
M2	0.4	33.12	68.58	78.13	33.25	76.29	-
	0.8	88.87	99.08	99.15	88.92	99.32	-
M3,4	0	<b>5.79</b>	<b>5.42</b>	<b>5.53</b>	<b>5.79</b>	<b>5.49</b>	<b>5.86</b>
M3	0.4	90.57	87.72	99.13	90.78	91.24	83.58
	0.8	89.61	97.93	99.97	89.43	90.01	95.16
M4	0.4	62.13	95.97	96.90	62.25	85.51	86.63
	0.8	93.80	99.27	99.86	93.78	98.13	97.25
$T = 500$							
M1,2	0	<b>4.97</b>	<b>4.61</b>	<b>5.18</b>	<b>4.98</b>	<b>4.93</b>	-
M1	0.4	90.01	100	99.98	90.01	100	-
	0.8	89.42	100	98.35	89.42	96.65	-
M2	0.4	63.99	100	99.73	63.98	99.99	-
	0.8	100	99.98	99.79	100	100	-
M3,4	0	<b>4.85</b>	<b>4.64</b>	<b>5.10</b>	<b>4.85</b>	<b>5.12</b>	<b>4.94</b>
M3	0.4	95.54	100	99.99	95.69	100	100
	0.8	85.27	99.99	99.99	85.51	100	100
M4	0.4	92.73	100	100	92.77	100	100
	0.8	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 8: Rejection frequencies (%) for Poisson count models ( $\gamma=2$  and  $\rho=0.5$ )

	$\delta$	$\hat{B}$	$\hat{S}_B$	$\hat{S}_{Bc}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_0}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_1}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\beta_2}$	$\hat{S}_{B,\alpha}$
$T = 100$								
M1,2	0	<b>5.38</b>	<b>9.87</b>	<b>6.86</b>	<b>6.47</b>	<b>6.51</b>	-	<b>7.97</b>
M1	0.4	15.29	92.96	84.60	13.96	86.26	-	67.52
	0.8	15.61	97.9	96.04	41.63	96.05	-	3.05
M2	0.4	11.87	21.51	28.36	5.75	35.49	-	3.98
	0.8	27.92	42.70	54.40	10.07	63.69	-	3.32
M3,4	0	<b>6.79</b>	<b>9.36</b>	<b>6.91</b>	<b>6.30</b>	<b>6.80</b>	<b>5.46</b>	<b>8.36</b>
	0.4	40.64	48.94	62.04	24.08	48.10	50.52	20.17
	0.8	29.98	87.43	88.63	37.40	67.30	72.22	36.44
M4	0.4	26.18	51.15	60.50	9.01	49.01	53.18	3.46
	0.8	44.81	67.65	79.94	16.28	64.83	71.34	2.97
$T = 500$								
M1,2	0	<b>4.97</b>	<b>6.16</b>	<b>4.79</b>	<b>5.26</b>	<b>4.81</b>	-	<b>5.58</b>
M1	0.4	42.42	99.50	96.69	11.74	94.46	-	65.46
	0.8	32.09	97.14	92.98	98.91	99.77	-	7.04
M2	0.4	27.60	90.16	93.25	12.55	96.81	-	5.84
	0.8	67.88	99.86	99.96	45.56	99.98	-	4.28
M3,4	0	<b>5.70</b>	<b>6.10</b>	<b>5.17</b>	<b>5.17</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>5.32</b>	<b>5.85</b>
M3	0.4	92.97	99.85	97.47	62.11	95.13	94.48	95.38
	0.8	35.31	97.66	95.02	68.77	91.39	93.75	42.22
M4	0.4	68.91	99.61	99.88	38.41	99.46	99.48	5.0
	0.8	94.38	100	100	67.47	99.99	99.99	4.67

Table 9: Rejection frequencies (%) for Negative Binomial 1 models ( $\gamma=2$  and  $\rho=0.5$ )