

# **Web-based Supplementary Materials for 'Power and Sample Size Calculations for Longitudinal Studies Comparing Rates of Change with a Time-Varying Exposure' by X. Basagaña and D. Spiegelman**

## **Web Appendix A Equivalence of conditional likelihood and a model on differences**

Verbeke et al.[1] proved this equivalence for the mixed effects model, where  $\Sigma_i = \mathbf{Z}_i \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Z}'_i + \sigma_w^2 \mathbf{I}$ . This model has the special feature that conditional on the random effects, the observations are independent. The DEX model does not follow this structure. The proof given here is for a general response covariance matrix,  $\Sigma_i$ , and thus extends their results. Suppose that we have subject-specific intercepts  $a_i$ , which can be fixed or random, and assume that  $\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{Y}_i) = a_i \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{X}_i \gamma$ , where  $\mathbf{1}$  is a vector of ones,  $\mathbf{X}_i$  a matrix of covariates and  $\gamma$  a vector of regression parameters. Assuming normality of  $\mathbf{Y}_i$  and  $Var(\mathbf{Y}_i) = \Sigma_i$ , the probability density function has

the expression

$$f(\mathbf{Y}_i|a_i, \mathbf{X}_i) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{r+1}{2}} |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{Y}_i - a_i \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} (\mathbf{Y}_i - a_i \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma})\right) =$$

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{r+1}{2}} |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[ (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma}) - 2 (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} a_i \mathbf{1} + a_i^2 \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1} \right]\right).$$

By the factorization theorem, a sufficient statistic for  $a_i$  is  $s_i = \mathbf{Y}_i' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{Y}_i$ . The sufficient statistic  $s_i$  is distributed as a univariate normal with expected value  $\mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} a_i \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma}$  and variance  $\mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1}$ . Then, the density of  $\mathbf{Y}_i$  conditioning on the sufficient statistic  $s_i$  is

$$f(\mathbf{Y}_i|s_i, \mathbf{X}_i) = \frac{f(\mathbf{Y}_i|a_i, \mathbf{X}_i)}{f(s_i|a_i, \mathbf{X}_i)} = \frac{\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{r+1}{2}} |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i|^{1/2}}}{\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{1}{2}} |\mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1}|^{1/2}}}$$

$$\frac{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[ (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma}) - 2 (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} a_i \mathbf{1} + a_i^2 \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1} \right]\right)}{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2(\mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1})} (\mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} a_i \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma})^2\right)} =$$

$$\frac{|\mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1}|^{1/2}}{(2\pi)^{\frac{r}{2}} |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma})' \left[ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1} \left( \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \right] (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\gamma})\right).$$

Using property B.3.5 of Seber[2],

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1} \left( \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} \mathbf{1} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1} = \boldsymbol{\Delta}' (\boldsymbol{\Delta} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i \boldsymbol{\Delta}')^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Delta},$$

we can write then the conditional likelihood as

$$L(\gamma|s_1, \dots, s_N, \mathbf{X}) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{|\mathbf{1}'\Sigma_i^{-1}\mathbf{1}|^{1/2}}{(2\pi)^{\frac{r}{2}}|\Sigma_i|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i\gamma)' \Delta' (\Delta\Sigma_i\Delta')^{-1} \Delta (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i\gamma)\right)$$

and the log-likelihood  $\log L(\gamma|s_1, \dots, s_N, \mathbf{X})$  will then be proportional to

$$\frac{N}{2} \log |\mathbf{1}'\Sigma_i^{-1}\mathbf{1}| - \frac{N}{2} \log |\Sigma_i| - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i\gamma)' \Delta' (\Delta\Sigma_i\Delta')^{-1} \Delta (\mathbf{Y}_i - \mathbf{X}_i\gamma) \right).$$

The maximum likelihood estimator of  $\gamma$  is

$$\hat{\gamma} = \left( \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \mathbf{X}_i' \Delta' (\Delta\Sigma_i\Delta')^{-1} \Delta \mathbf{X}_i \right) \right)^{-} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \mathbf{X}_i' \Delta' (\Delta\Sigma_i\Delta')^{-1} \Delta \mathbf{Y}_i \right) \right)$$

and

$$Var(\hat{\gamma}) = \left( \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \mathbf{X}_i' \Delta' (\Delta\Sigma_i\Delta')^{-1} \Delta \mathbf{X}_i \right) \right)^{-} = \left( \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{X}_i' \mathbf{M}_i \mathbf{X}_i) \right)^{-},$$

where the notation  $\mathbf{A}^{-}$  indicates the generalized inverse of  $\mathbf{A}$ . Note that  $\Delta\mathbf{X}_i$  will contain columns of zeros for those variables that are time-invariant, and first order differences for the time-varying variables. It is readily seen that, when  $\Sigma_i$  is known,  $\hat{\gamma}$  and  $Var(\hat{\gamma})$  from the conditional approach are equivalent to the solution to the regression of  $\Delta\mathbf{Y}_i$  on  $\Delta\mathbf{X}_i$  by GLS using the covariance matrix  $\Delta\Sigma_i\Delta'$ .

## Web Appendix B Relationship between correlation coefficient and intra-class correlation when the exposure prevalence is not constant over time

If the prevalence of exposure is not constant over time but the exposure process follows CS, we have  $\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] = \left( \rho_x \sqrt{p_{ej}(1-p_{ej})} \sqrt{p_{ej'}(1-p_{ej'})} + p_{ej} p_{ej'} \right)$ , where  $\rho_x$  is the common correlation between exposures at different time points. From Web Appendix C, we have  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] = \bar{p}_e r(r+1) [\bar{p}_e(1-\rho_e) + \rho_e]$ . Therefore, we have that

$$\rho_x \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \sqrt{p_{ej}(1-p_{ej})} \sqrt{p_{ej'}(1-p_{ej'})} + \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} p_{ej} p_{ej'} = \bar{p}_e r(r+1) [\bar{p}_e(1-\rho_e) + \rho_e].$$

Solving for  $\rho_x$ , we have

$$\rho_x = \frac{\bar{p}_e r(r+1) [\bar{p}_e(1-\rho_e) + \rho_e] - \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} p_{ej} p_{ej'}}{\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \sqrt{p_{ej}(1-p_{ej})} \sqrt{p_{ej'}(1-p_{ej'})}}.$$

Note that if  $p_{ej} = p_e \forall j$  then  $\rho_x = \rho_e$ . Equivalently one can deduce

$$\rho_e = \frac{\rho_x \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \sqrt{p_{ej}(1-p_{ej})} \sqrt{p_{ej'}(1-p_{ej'})} + \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} p_{ej} p_{ej'} - \bar{p}_e^2 r(r+1)}{\bar{p}_e r(r+1) (1 - \bar{p}_e)}.$$

## Web Appendix C Upper bound for $\rho_e$

Let  $E_{i\cdot} = \sum_{j=0}^r E_{ij}$  be the total number of exposed periods for subject  $i$ . Then, the intraclass correlation of exposure can be written as

$$\rho_e = \frac{\mathbb{E}(E_{i\cdot}^2) - (r+1)\bar{p}_e(1+\bar{p}_er)}{r(r+1)\bar{p}_e(1-\bar{p}_e)}$$

[3]. By the properties of the expectation we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] &= \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{E}[E_{ij} E_{ij'} | E_{i\cdot}]) = \mathbb{E}(P(E_{ij} = 1 \cap E_{ij'} = 1 | E_{i\cdot})) \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{E_{i\cdot}(E_{i\cdot} - 1)}{(r+1)r}\right) = \frac{1}{r(r+1)} [\mathbb{E}(E_{i\cdot}^2) - \mathbb{E}(E_{i\cdot})], \end{aligned}$$

and  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] = \mathbb{E}(E_{i\cdot}^2) - \mathbb{E}(E_{i\cdot}) = \mathbb{E}(E_{i\cdot}^2) - (r+1)\bar{p}_e$ . Therefore, the intraclass correlation of exposure can be rewritten as

$$\rho_e = \frac{1}{1-\bar{p}_e} \left[ \frac{\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}]}{\bar{p}_e r (r+1)} - \bar{p}_e \right].$$

For binary variables, we have the constraint  $\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] \leq \min(p_{ej}, p_{ej'}) \forall j, j'$ . Then, it is easily shown that

$$\rho_e \leq \frac{1}{1-\bar{p}_e} \left[ \frac{\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \min(p_{ej}, p_{ej'})}{\bar{p}_e r (r+1)} - \bar{p}_e \right].$$

Now,

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \min(p_{ej}, p_{ej'}) = 2(rp_{e(0)} + (r-1)p_{e(1)} + \cdots + p_{e(r-1)}) = 2 \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} (r-j)p_{e(j)},$$

where  $p_{e(j)}$  is the  $j$ th order statistic. Then,

$$\rho_e \leq \frac{1}{1 - \bar{p}_e} \left[ \frac{2 \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} (r-j)p_{e(j)}}{\bar{p}_e r (r+1)} - \bar{p}_e \right].$$

## Web Appendix D Derivation of $\tilde{\sigma}^2$

The derivations in Web Appendix D are valid only when  $\Sigma_i = \Sigma$ , and therefore they are not valid if the covariance of the response is RS and  $V(t_0) > 0$ , in which case a distribution for the time variable would need to be assumed. When the covariance is RS and  $V(t_0) = 0$  the derivations in this appendix apply.

### Web Appendix D.1 Derivation of $\tilde{\sigma}^2$ for model (3)

Model  $\mathbb{E}(Y_{i,j+1}|\mathbf{X}_i) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_t t_{ij} + \gamma_{e*} E_{ij}^*$  includes three covariates. As defined in the paper,  $E_{i,-1}^*$  is the cumulative exposure before entering the study for subject  $i$ , so that the cumulative exposure at time  $j$  is  $E_{ij}^* = E_{i,-1}^* + \sum_{k=0}^j E_{ik}$ .

The  $[g, h]$  term of the matrix  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}'_i \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i]$  can be written as

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( v^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[x_{ijg} x_{ij'h}] \right).$$

Then, the  $[1,1]$  component of  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}'_i \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i]$  is  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'}$ . The  $[2,1]$  and  $[1,2]$  components are

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( \mathbb{E}[t_j] v^{jj'} \right) = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( \mathbb{E}[t_0 + sj] v^{jj'} \right) = \mathbb{E}(t_0) \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'} + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j v^{jj'}.$$

The [3,1] and [1,3] components are

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( \mathbb{E} [E_j^*] v^{jj'} \right) = \mathbb{E} [E_{-1}^*] \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( v^{jj'} \right) + \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( v^{jj'} \sum_{k=0}^j p_{ek} \right).$$

The [2,2] component is

$$\mathbb{E} (t_0^2) \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'} + 2s \mathbb{E} (t_0) \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j v^{jj'} + s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' v^{jj'}.$$

The [2,3] and [3,2] components are

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( \mathbb{E} [E_j^* t_{j'}] v^{jj'} \right) &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( E_{-1}^* + \sum_{k=0}^j E_k \right) (t_0 + s j') \right] v^{jj'} \right) = \\ \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( E_{-1}^* + \sum_{k=0}^j E_k \right) (t_0 + s j') \right] v^{jj'} \right) &= \mathbb{E} (E_{-1}^* t_0) \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'} + \\ s \mathbb{E} (E_{-1}^*) \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' v^{jj'} + \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \sum_{k=0}^j \mathbb{E} (E_k t_0) v^{jj'} &+ s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \sum_{k=0}^j p_{ek} j' v^{jj'}. \end{aligned}$$

The [3,3] component is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [E_{-1}^{*2}] \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( v^{jj'} \right) + \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \sum_{k'=0}^{j'} \mathbb{E} (E_{-1}^* E_{k'}) v^{jj'} + \\ \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \sum_{k=0}^j \mathbb{E} (E_{-1}^* E_k) v^{jj'} + \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \sum_{k=0}^j \sum_{k'=0}^{j'} \mathbb{E} (E_k E_{k'}) v^{jj'}. \end{aligned}$$

Then,  $\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i]$  needs to be inverted, and the [3,3] component of the inverse is  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$ .

### Web Appendix D.1.1 Derivation of $\tilde{\sigma}^2$ for model (3) when $E_{i,-1}^* = 0 \forall i$ and $V(t_0) = 0$

If  $E_{i,-1}^* = 0 \forall i$  then  $\mathbb{E} [E_{-1}^*] = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E} [E_{-1}^{*2}] = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E} (E_{-1}^* E_{k'}) = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E} (E_{-1}^* E_k) = 0$  and  $\mathbb{E} (E_{-1}^* t_0) = 0$ . If, in addition,  $t_{i0} = 0 \forall i$ , then  $\mathbb{E} (t_0) = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E} (t_0^2) = 0$

and  $\mathbb{E}(E_k t_0) = 0$ . Using this and the results in Web Appendix D.1, we obtain the following symmetric matrix,

$$\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i] = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'} & & & \\ s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j v^{jj'} & s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' v^{jj'} & & \\ \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( v^{jj'} \sum_{k=0}^j p_{ek} \right) & s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \sum_{k=0}^j p_{ek} j' v^{jj'} & \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \sum_{k=0}^j \sum_{k'=0}^{j'} \mathbb{E}(E_k E_{k'}) v^{jj'} & \end{pmatrix},$$

and all its elements are determined by just knowing  $v^{jj'}$ ,  $p_{ej'}$  and  $\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}]$  for all  $j, j'$ . Then, to derive  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  one needs to invert this matrix and take the [3,3] component.

## Web Appendix D.2 Derivation of $\tilde{\sigma}^2$ for model (4)

Model  $\mathbb{E}(Y_{i,j+1} - Y_{i,j} | \mathbf{X}_i) = \gamma_t^W + \gamma_{e^*}^W E_{ij}$  includes two covariates. The vector of differences  $Y_{i,j+1} - Y_{i,j}$ ,  $\Delta \mathbf{Y}_i$ , has covariance matrix  $\Delta \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \Delta'$ . Let  $w_{jj'}$  be  $[j, j']$  element of  $(\Delta \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \Delta')^{-1}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, r$ ;  $j' = 1, \dots, r$ . Then,

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\Gamma = \left( \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbf{X}'_i (\Delta \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \Delta')^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i \right] \right)^{-1}.$$

The [1,1] component of the matrix  $\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i (\Delta \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \Delta')^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i]$  is  $\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r w^{jj'}$ ; The [2,1] and [1,2] components are  $\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r p_{ej} w^{jj'}$ ; and the [2,2] component is  $\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'})$ . All the elements of  $\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i (\Delta \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \Delta')^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i]$  are determined by just knowing  $w^{jj'}$ ,  $p_{ej'}$  and  $\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}]$  for all  $j, j'$ . The [2,2] compo-



ment of the inverse of  $\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i (\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i]$  is

$$\tilde{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r w^{jj'}}{\left( \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r w^{jj'} \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'}) \right) - \left( \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r p_{ej} w^{jj'} \right)^2}.$$

**Web Appendix D.2.1 Proof that  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  is minimized at the upper bound of  $\rho_e$  if  $w^{jj'} \geq 0 \forall j \neq j'$  for model (4). Proof that this condition hold for CS and DEX but not for RS**

For model (4) we have from Web Appendix D.2 that

$$\tilde{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r w^{jj'}}{\left( \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r w^{jj'} \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'}) \right) - \left( \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r p_{ej} w^{jj'} \right)^2},$$

where  $w^{jj'}$  is the  $[j, j']$  element of  $(\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1}$ . When  $p_{ej} \forall j$  are fixed, only  $\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'})$  is affected by changes in the exposure distribution,

so  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  will be affected by changes on  $\rho_e$  only through  $\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'})$ .

Since  $(\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1}$  is positive definite then  $\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r w^{jj'} > 0$  and an increase in

$\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'})$  decreases  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$ , so in order to minimize  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  we need

to maximize  $\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'})$ . In addition, since  $\mathbb{E} [E_j E_j] = p_{ej}$

and  $p_{ej} \forall j$  are fixed, only  $\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'}$  need to be maximized. If

$w^{jj'} \geq 0 \forall j \neq j'$ , then  $\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'}$  will be maximized when all

terms  $\mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] \forall j \neq j'$  take their upper bound,  $\min(p_{ej}, p_{ej'})$ . It can be

derived that

$$\rho_e = \frac{1}{(1 - \bar{p}_e)} \left[ \frac{\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbb{E}(E_j E_{j'})}{\bar{p}_e r (r - 1)} - \bar{p}_e \right]$$

(Web Appendix C). Therefore, when all terms  $\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] \forall j \neq j'$  are equal to their upper bound, so does  $\rho_e$ . So,  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  will be minimum when  $\rho_e$  takes its maximum (i.e.  $\rho_e = 1$ , the time-invariant exposure case, if the prevalence is constant over time), and equivalently, it can be derived that  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  takes its maximum when  $\rho_e$  takes its minimum.

As derived in Web Appendix D.2.2, the off-diagonal elements of  $(\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1}$  when  $\Sigma$  has a CS structure are equal to

$$w^{jj'} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2(1 - \rho)(r + 1)} [j(r + 1 - j')]$$

for  $j < j'$ , and therefore they are all positive. For DEX, we performed a grid search for values of  $r \leq 50$  and  $\rho$  and  $\theta$  in  $[0,1]$  and found that the off-diagonal elements of  $(\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1}$  were always greater or equal than zero. For RS, examples can be found where some off-diagonal elements of  $(\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1}$  are negative. For example, for  $r = 3$ ,  $\sigma_w^2 = 0.1$ ,  $\sigma_{b_0}^2 = 0.12$ ,  $\sigma_{b_1}^2 = 0.15$ ,  $\rho_{b_0 b_1} = -0.52$ ,

$$(\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 3.52 & -0.29 & -1.47 \\ -0.29 & 2.94 & -0.29 \\ -1.47 & -0.29 & 3.52 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Web Appendix D.2.2 Derivation of  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  for model (4) when both the response and the exposure follow CS and  $p_{ej} = p_e \forall j$**

If  $p_{ej} = p_e \forall j$  then the expression for  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  reduces to

$$\frac{1}{\left( \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'}) \right) - p_e^2 \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r w^{jj'}}$$

Under CS, the matrix  $\Delta \Sigma \Delta'$  is a  $r \times r$  tridiagonal matrix of the form

$$\sigma^2(1 - \rho) \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The  $[j, j']$  element of  $(\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1}$ , i.e.  $w^{jj'}$ , is of the form

$$\frac{1}{4\sigma^2(1 - \rho)(r + 1)} [(j + j' - |j' - j|) (2r + 2 - |j' - j| - j - j')]$$

for  $j, j' = 1, \dots, r$  [4], which can be rewritten as

$$\frac{1}{2\sigma^2(1 - \rho)(r + 1)} [(r + 1)j + (r + 1)j' - 2jj' - (r + 1)|j' - j|].$$

From this formula, we have that, if  $j = j'$  then

$$w^{jj} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2(1 - \rho)(r + 1)} [j(r + 1 - j)];$$

if  $j < j'$  then

$$w^{jj'} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2(1 - \rho)(r + 1)} [j(r + 1 - j')];$$

and if  $j > j'$  then

$$w^{jj'} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} [j'(r+1-j)].$$

Then we can derive

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r w^{jj'} = \\ & \sum_{j=1}^r \frac{1}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} [j(r+1-j)] + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{r-1} \sum_{j'=j+1}^r \frac{1}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} [j(r+1-j')] \\ & = \frac{1}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \left[ (r+1) \sum_{j=1}^r j - \sum_{j=1}^r j^2 + 2(r+1) \sum_{j=1}^{r-1} \sum_{j'=j+1}^r j - 2 \sum_{j=1}^{r-1} \sum_{j'=j+1}^r jj' \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^r j &= \frac{r(r+1)}{2} & \sum_{j=1}^r j^2 &= \frac{r(r+1)(2r+1)}{6} \\ \sum_{j=1}^{r-1} \sum_{j'=j+1}^r j &= \frac{r(r-1)(r+1)}{6} & \sum_{j=1}^{r-1} \sum_{j'=j+1}^r jj' &= \frac{r(r+1)(r-1)(2+3r)}{24}, \end{aligned}$$

we can deduce that

$$\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r w^{jj'} = \frac{r(r+1)(r+2)}{12(1-\rho)\sigma^2}.$$

Also, if we assume that the exposure process follows CS, the matrix  $\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}]$  has diagonal elements  $p_e$  and off-diagonal elements  $\rho_e p_e(1-p_e) + p_e^2$ . Therefore, the matrix with elements  $\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'}$  has diagonal elements equal to

$$p_e \frac{1}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} [j(r+1-j)]$$

and off-diagonal elements equal to

$$(\rho_e p_e (1 - p_e) + p_e^2) \frac{1}{\sigma^2 (1 - \rho)(r + 1)} [j(r + 1 - j')]$$

if  $j < j'$  and

$$(\rho_e p_e (1 - p_e) + p_e^2) \frac{1}{\sigma^2 (1 - \rho)(r + 1)} [j'(r + 1 - j)]$$

if  $j > j'$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r \left( \mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'} \right) = \\ & \sum_{j=1}^r p_e \frac{1}{\sigma^2 (1 - \rho)(r + 1)} [j(r + 1 - j)] + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{r-1} \sum_{j'=j+1}^r \frac{(\rho_e p_e (1 - p_e) + p_e^2)}{\sigma^2 (1 - \rho)(r + 1)} [j(r + 1 - j')]. \end{aligned}$$

Using the previous results we derived in this section, we can derive

$$\sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r \left( \mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'} \right) = \frac{p_e r (r + 2) (2 + p_e (r - 1) (1 - \rho_e) - \rho_e + r \rho_e)}{12 (1 - \rho) \sigma^2}.$$

Then,

$$\tilde{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{\left( \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r \left( \mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] w^{jj'} \right) \right) - p_e^2 \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{j'=1}^r w^{jj'}} = \frac{12 (1 - \rho) \sigma^2}{p_e (1 - p_e) r (r + 2) (2 + (r - 1) \rho_e)}.$$

### Web Appendix D.3 Derivation of $\tilde{\sigma}^2$ for model (5)

Model  $\mathbb{E}(Y_{i,j+1} | \mathbf{X}_i) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_t t_{ij} + \gamma_e E_{ij} + \gamma_{te} (E_{ij} \times t_{ij})$  includes four covariates. The [1,1] component of  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}'_i \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i]$  is  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'}$ . The [2,1] and [1,2] components are

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( \mathbb{E} [t_j] v^{jj'} \right) = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( \mathbb{E} [t_0 + s j] v^{jj'} \right) = \mathbb{E} (t_0) \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'} + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j v^{jj'}.$$

The [3,1] and [1,3] components are  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j] v^{jj'}) = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r p_{ej} v^{jj'}$ . The [4,1] and [1,4] components are

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j t_j] v^{jj'}) &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j (t_0 + sj)] v^{jj'}) = \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j t_0] v^{jj'}) + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j p_{ej} v^{jj'}. \end{aligned}$$

The [2,2] component is

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [t_j t_{j'}] v^{jj'}) &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [(t_0 + sj) (t_0 + sj')] v^{jj'}) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} (t_0^2) + s(j + j') \mathbb{E} (t_0) + s^2 j j') v^{jj'}) \\ &= \mathbb{E} (t_0^2) \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'} + 2s \mathbb{E} (t_0) \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j v^{jj'} + s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' v^{jj'}. \end{aligned}$$

The [2,3] and [3,2] components are

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j t_{j'}] v^{jj'}) &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j (t_0 + sj')] v^{jj'}) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_j t_0] v^{jj'}) + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j' p_{ej} v^{jj'}). \end{aligned}$$

The [2,4] and [4,2] components are

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [t_j E_{j'} t_{j'}] v^{jj'}) &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_{j'} (t_0 + s(j + j') t_0 + s^2 j j')] v^{jj'}) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E} [E_{j'} t_0^2] v^{jj'}) + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j \mathbb{E} [E_{j'} t_0] v^{jj'}) + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j' \mathbb{E} [E_{j'} t_0] v^{jj'}) + \\ &\quad s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j j' p_{ej'} v^{jj'}). \end{aligned}$$

The [3,3] component is  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] v^{jj'})$ . The [3,4] and [4,3] components are

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} t_{j'}] v^{jj'}) &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} (t_0 + s j')] v^{jj'}) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} t_0] v^{jj'}) + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j' \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] v^{jj'}). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, the [4,4] component is

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j t_j E_{j'} t_{j'}] v^{jj'}) &= \\ \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} (t_0^2 + s(j+j')t_0 + s^2 j j')] v^{jj'}) &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} t_0^2] v^{jj'}) + \\ + 2s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} t_0] v^{jj'}) &+ s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j j' \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] v^{jj'}). \end{aligned}$$

Now, let us call  $a = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'}$ ,  $b = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j v^{jj'}$ ,  $c = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' v^{jj'}$ ,  
 $d = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (p_{ej} v_{jj'})$ ,  $e = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] v^{jj'})$ ,  $f = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' p_{ej} v^{jj'}$ ,  
 $g = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j t_0] v^{jj'})$ ,  $h = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j p_{ej} v^{jj'}$ ,  
 $k = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j j' p_{ej'} v^{jj'})$ ,  
 $l = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_{j'} t_0^2] v^{jj'})$ ,  $m = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j \mathbb{E}[E_{j'} t_0] v^{jj'})$ ,  
 $n = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j' \mathbb{E}[E_{j'} t_0] v^{jj'})$ ,  $o = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} t_0] v^{jj'})$ ,  
 $p = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j' \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] v^{jj'})$ ,  $q = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} t_0^2] v^{jj'})$ ,  
 $u = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j j' \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] v^{jj'})$ ,  $v = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} t_0] v^{jj'})$ . Without loss of generality, the time variable can be centered at the mean initial





**Web Appendix D.3.2 Derivation of  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  for model (5) when  $V(t_0) = 0$ ,  $p_{ej} = p_e \forall j$  and both the response and the exposure process follow CS**

In addition to the reduction in terms derived in Web Appendix D.3.1 due to the fact that  $V(t_0) = 0$ , when  $p_{ej} = p_e \forall j$  we have  $d = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (p_{ej} v^{jj'}) =$

$$p_e \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'} = p_e a;$$

$$f = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' p_{ej} v^{jj'} = p_e \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' v^{jj'} = p_e b;$$

$$h = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j p_{e,j} v^{jj'} = p_e \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j v^{jj'} = p_e b;$$

$$\text{and } k = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r (j j' p_{ej'} v^{jj'}) = p_e \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' v^{jj'} = p_e c. \text{ Therefore,}$$

$$\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i] = \begin{pmatrix} a & sb & p_e a & s p_e b \\ sb & s^2 c & s p_e b & s^2 p_e c \\ p_e a & s p_e b & e & sp \\ s p_e b & s^2 p_e c & sp & s^2 u \end{pmatrix},$$

and the [4,4] component of the inverse is

$$\frac{ap_e^2 - e}{s^2 (p^2 - 2b p p_e^2 + (b^2 - ac) p_e^4 + e (c p_e^2 - u) + ap_e^2 u)}.$$

In addition if  $\Sigma$  has CS structure, then  $\Sigma^{-1}$  has diagonal elements equal to

$$\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \frac{1 + \rho(r-2) - \rho^2(r-1)}{(1-\rho)^2(1+r\rho)}$$

and off-diagonal elements equal to

$$\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \frac{-\rho}{(1-\rho)(1+r\rho)}.$$

Importantly, the sum of every row or column is the same and equal to

$$\sum_{j=0}^r v^{jj'} = \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2 (1+r\rho)},$$

and the sum of all elements of the inverse matrix is

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'} = \frac{r+1}{\sigma^2(1+r\rho)}.$$

Then, it can be deduced that

$$a = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r v^{jj'} = \frac{r+1}{\sigma^2(1+r\rho)}, \quad b = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j v^{jj'} = \frac{r(r+1)}{2\sigma^2(1+r\rho)}$$

$$c = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' v^{jj'} = \frac{r(r+1)(2+r(4+(r-1)\rho))}{12\sigma^2(1-\rho)(1+r\rho)}.$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( v^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] \right) = \\ & \frac{(r-1)\rho + 1}{\sigma^2[1 + \rho(r-1) - \rho^2 r]} \sum_{j=0}^r \mathbb{E}(E_j^2) - \frac{\rho}{\sigma^2(1 + \rho(r-1) - \rho^2 r)} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbb{E}(E_j E_{j'}) \end{aligned}$$

and since  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbb{E}(E_j E_{j'}) = p_e r(r+1)[p_e(1-\rho_e) + \rho_e]$  (Web Appendix C)

we have

$$e = \frac{p_e(r+1)[1 + \rho(r-1 - p_e r(1-\rho_e) - \rho_e r)]}{(1-\rho)\sigma^2(1+r\rho)}.$$

If, in addition, we assume that the exposure process also follows CS, then

$$\begin{aligned} p &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( j' \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] v^{jj'} \right) = \\ & \sum_{j'=0}^r \left\{ j' \left( \frac{p_e}{\sigma^2[1 + \rho(r-1) - \rho^2 r]} \frac{(r-1)\rho + 1}{\sigma^2[1 + \rho(r-1) - \rho^2 r]} + \frac{\rho(\rho_e p_e(1-p_e) + p_e^2)}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(1+r\rho)} \right) + \right. \\ & \left. \frac{-\rho r(r+1)(\rho_e p_e(1-p_e) + p_e^2)}{2\sigma^2(1-\rho)(1+r\rho)} \right\} = \frac{r(r+1)p_e}{2\sigma^2(1-\rho)(1+r\rho)} [1 - \rho(1 - (1-p_e)r(1-\rho_e))]; \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
u &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r \left( j j' \mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}] v^{jj'} \right) = \\
&\sum_{j'=0}^r \left\{ j'^2 \left( \frac{p_e}{\sigma^2} \frac{(r-1)\rho + 1}{[1 + \rho(r-1) - \rho^2 r]} + \frac{\rho(\rho_e p_e(1-p_e) + p_e^2)}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(1+r\rho)} \right) + \right. \\
&\quad \left. j' \frac{-\rho r(r+1)(\rho_e p_e(1-p_e) + p_e^2)}{2\sigma^2(1-\rho)(1+r\rho)} \right\} = \frac{r(r+1)}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(1+r\rho)} \\
&\left\{ \frac{p_e(1 + (p_e + r - 1)\rho + (1 - p_e)\rho\rho_e)(2r + 1)}{6} - \frac{\rho r(r+1)(\rho_e p_e(1-p_e) + p_e^2)}{4} \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

As derived above, the [4,4] component of the inverse of  $\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i]$  is

$$\frac{ap_e^2 - e}{s^2(p^2 - 2bpp_e^2 + (b^2 - ac)p_e^4 + e(cp_e^2 - u) + ap_e^2u)},$$

which, using the simplifications derived in this section, reduces to

$$\frac{12\sigma^2(1-\rho)(1+r\rho)}{p_e(1-p_e)s^2r(r+1)(r+2)[1+r\rho - \rho(1-\rho_e)]}.$$

#### Web Appendix D.4 Derivation of $\tilde{\sigma}^2$ for model (6)

The variance of the coefficients under model (6) can be obtained as  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_B = (\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i \mathbf{M} \mathbf{X}_i])^{-1}$ , where  $\mathbf{M} = \boldsymbol{\Delta}' (\boldsymbol{\Delta} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \boldsymbol{\Delta}')^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Delta}$  (Web Appendix A). Since  $\boldsymbol{\Delta} \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{0}$ , the sum of a column or a row of  $\mathbf{M}$  is zero, and the first row and column of  $\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i \mathbf{M} \mathbf{X}_i]$  will be zero. The [2,2] component of  $\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i \mathbf{M} \mathbf{X}_i]$

is  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}]$ . The [2,3] and [3,2] components are

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j t_{j'}] &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j(t_0 + sj')] \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j t_0] + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r p_{ej} j' m^{jj'} \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^r \mathbb{E}[E_j t_0] \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r p_{ej} j' m^{jj'} = s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r p_{ej} j' m^{jj'} \end{aligned}$$

since  $\sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} = 0$ . The [3,3] component is

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[t_j t_{j'}] &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[(t_0 + sj)(t_0 + sj')] = \mathbb{E}[t_0^2] \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} + \\ &2s \mathbb{E}[t_0] \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j m^{jj'} + s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' m^{jj'} = s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' m^{jj'}, \end{aligned}$$

since  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} = 0$  and  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j m^{jj'} = 0$ . The [2,4] component is

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} t_{j'}] &= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}(t_0 + sj')] = \\ &\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'} t_0] + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}]. \end{aligned}$$

The [3,4] component is

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [t_j E_{j'} t_{j'}] = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [(t_0 + sj)(t_0 + sj') E_{j'}] \\
&= \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [t_0^2 E_{j'}] + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} j \mathbb{E} [t_0 E_{j'}] + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [t_0 E_{j'}] \\
&+ s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r jj' m^{jj'} p_{ej'} = \sum_{j=0}^r \mathbb{E} [t_0^2 E_j] \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} + s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} j \mathbb{E} [t_0 E_{j'}] \\
&\quad + s \sum_{j=0}^r j \mathbb{E} [t_0 E_j] \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} + s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r jj' m^{jj'} p_{ej'} \\
&= s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [t_0 E_{j'}] + s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r jj' m^{jj'} p_{ej'}
\end{aligned}$$

since  $\sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} = 0$ . The [4,4] component is

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [E_j t_j E_{j'} t_{j'}] = \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [(t_0 + sj)(t_0 + sj') E_j E_{j'}] = \\
& \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'} t_0^2] + 2s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [t_0 E_j E_{j'}] + s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r jj' m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}].
\end{aligned}$$

Then, one needs to compute the generalized inverse of  $\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{X}'_i \mathbf{M} \mathbf{X}_i]$ , and the [4,4] component is  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$ .

#### Web Appendix D.4.1 Derivation of $\tilde{\sigma}^2$ for model (6) when $V(t_0) = 0$

When  $V(t_0) = 0$  and we assume, without loss of generality, that  $t_0 = 0$ , some of the terms derived in Web Appendix D.4.1 have a simpler expression. In particular, the [2,4] component reduces to  $s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' m^{jj'} \mathbb{E} [E_j E_{j'}]$ ,

the [3,4] component reduces to  $s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r jj' m^{jj'} p_{ej'}$  and the [4,4] component reduces to  $s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r jj' m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}]$ . Then,  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  only depend on the exposure through  $p_{ej} \forall j$  and  $\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] \forall j, j'$ .

**Web Appendix D.4.2 Derivation of  $\tilde{\sigma}^2$  for model (6) when  $V(t_0) = 0$ ,  $p_{ej} = p_e \forall j$  and both the response and the exposure process follow CS**

When the response covariance is CS, we derived in Web Appendix D.2.2 that the  $[j, j']$  element of  $(\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1}$ , is

$$\frac{1}{2\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} [(r+1)j + (r+1)j' - 2jj' - (r+1)|j' - j|].$$

If we pre-multiply by  $\Delta'$ , the  $[j, j']$  element of  $\Delta' (\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1}$  is

$$\frac{1}{2\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \sum_{k=1}^r (I\{k=j\} - I\{k=j+1\}) ((r+1)k + (r+1)j' - 2kj' - (r+1)|j' - k|),$$

where  $I\{k=j\}$  is an indicator function that is one if  $k=j$  and zero otherwise. The last expression can be simplified to

$$\frac{1}{2\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} ((r+1)[|j' - j - 1| - |j' - j| - 1] + 2j'),$$

for  $j = 0, \dots, r; j' = 1, \dots, r$ . Now, post-multiplying the result by  $\Delta$  we can derive the  $[j, j']$  element of  $\Delta' (\Delta \Sigma \Delta')^{-1} \Delta$ , which is

$$\frac{1}{2\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \sum_{k=1}^r ((r+1)[|k - j - 1| - |k - j| - 1] + 2k) (I\{k=j'\} - I\{k=j'+1\})$$

for  $j = 0, \dots, r; j' = 0, \dots, r$ . The last expression simplifies to

$$\frac{1}{2\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} ((r+1)[|j'-j-1| + |j'-j+1| - 2|j'-j|] - 2).$$

Note that this expression is  $\frac{r}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)}$  for  $j' = j$  and  $\frac{-1}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)}$  for  $j' \neq j$ .

Therefore, the matrix  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{\Delta}' (\mathbf{\Delta} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Delta}')^{-1} \mathbf{\Delta}$  has diagonal elements

$$\frac{r}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)}$$

and off-diagonal elements

$$\frac{-1}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)}.$$

It is then easily proven that the sum of any row or column of  $\mathbf{M}$  is zero.

When both the response and the exposure have CS covariance, the components of  $\mathbf{\Sigma}_B$  derived in Web Appendix D.4 and Web Appendix D.4.1 simplify. The [2,2] component becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] &= \sum_{j=0}^r m^{jj} p_{ej} + \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] \\ &= \frac{r}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \sum_{j=0}^r p_{ej} - \frac{1}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}]. \end{aligned}$$

Now,  $\sum_{j=0}^r p_{ej} = (r+1)\bar{p}_e$ ,  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] = \bar{p}_e r (r+1) [\bar{p}_e(1-\rho_e) + \rho_e]$  (Web Appendix C). Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] &= \frac{r(r+1)\bar{p}_e}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} - \frac{\bar{p}_e r (r+1) [\bar{p}_e(1-\rho_e) + \rho_e]}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \\ &= \frac{\bar{p}_e(1-\bar{p}_e)r(1-\rho_e)}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since the prevalence is constant over time, the [2,3] component is

$$s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r p_{ej} j' m^{jj'} = s p_e \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' m^{jj'} = 0,$$

because  $\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' m^{jj'} = 0$ . The [3,3] component becomes

$$\begin{aligned} s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' m^{jj'} &= \frac{s^2}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \sum_{j=0}^r j \left( rj - \left( \frac{r(r+1)}{2} - j \right) \right) \\ &= \frac{s^2}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \left[ (r+1) \sum_{j=0}^r j^2 - \frac{r(r+1)}{2} \sum_{j=0}^r j \right] \\ &= \frac{s^2}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \left[ \frac{r(r+1)^2(2r+1)}{6} - \frac{r^2(r+1)^2}{4} \right] = \frac{s^2 r(r+1)(r+2)}{12\sigma^2(1-\rho)}. \end{aligned}$$

The [2,4] component is  $s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}]$ . Under CS of exposure,  $\mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}]$  is  $p_e$  for  $j = j'$  and  $(\rho_e p_e(1-p_e) + p_e^2)$  for  $j \neq j'$ . So,

$$\sum_{j'=0}^r j' m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] = \frac{p_e}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \left[ -(\rho_e(1-p_e) + p_e) \left( \frac{r(r+1)}{2} - j \right) + rj \right]$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} s \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j' m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] &= \\ \frac{s p_e}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \left[ -(\rho_e(1-p_e) + p_e) \left[ \frac{r(r+1)^2}{2} - \frac{r(r+1)}{2} \right] + \frac{r^2(r+1)}{2} \right] \\ &= \frac{s p_e r^2}{2\sigma^2(1-\rho)} (1 - \rho_e(1-p_e) - p_e). \end{aligned}$$

The [3,4] component becomes

$$s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' m^{jj'} p_{ej'} = s^2 p_e \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' m^{jj'},$$



and using the results derived for the [3,3] component, it becomes

$$\frac{s^2 p_e r (r+1)(r+2)}{12\sigma^2(1-\rho)}.$$

For the [4,4] component, using some results derived for the [2,4] component, we can deduce

$$\begin{aligned} s^2 \sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{j'=0}^r j j' m^{jj'} \mathbb{E}[E_j E_{j'}] &= \\ \frac{s^2 p_e}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \sum_{j=1}^r j \left[ -(\rho_e(1-p_e) + p_e) \left( \frac{r(r+1)}{2} - j \right) + rj \right] &= \\ \frac{s^2 p_e}{\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} \left[ -(\rho_e(1-p_e) + p_e) \left( \frac{r^2(r+1)^2}{4} - \frac{r(r+1)(2r+1)}{6} \right) + \frac{r^2(r+1)(2r+1)}{6} \right] &= \\ = \frac{s^2 p_e r (r+1)}{12\sigma^2(1-\rho)(r+1)} [(p_e(r-1)(2+3r)(-1+\rho_e) + 2\rho_e + r(2+r(4-3\rho_e) + \rho_e))]. \end{aligned}$$

Then, the [4,4] component of the generalized inverse of  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}'_i \mathbf{M} \mathbf{X}_i]$  is

$$\tilde{\sigma}^2 = \frac{12(1-\rho)\sigma^2}{p_e(1-p_e)s^2 r(r+2)(r+\rho_e)}.$$

## Web Appendix E Generation of arbitrary prevalence vectors and correlation matrices

Arbitrary prevalence vectors can easily be generated by drawing numbers from a *Uniform*[0, 1]. Arbitrary correlations matrices for binary data are more difficult to generate because they involve a lot of constraints [5]. Thus, we proceeded by first generating valid arbitrary covariance

matrices for a multivariate normal distribution, and then deriving the covariance matrix that results from dichotomizing each of the normal variables so that a given prevalence at each time point is obtained. To generate arbitrary correlations matrices, random numbers were drawn from a *Uniform*[-1, 1] for each pair of time points. If the resulting correlation matrix was not positive definite, it was transformed to the nearest positive definite one [6]. The process of obtaining the prevalence vector and the covariance matrix of the dichotomized variables is described by Leisch et al.[5]. To ensure that the space of possible values of  $(\bar{p}_e, \rho_e)$  was evenly covered, prevalence vectors with a narrow range of prevalences and correlation matrices with positive and high correlations were given more weight.

## **Web Appendix F Demonstration of program use**

More information can be found in a detailed user's manual at <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/faculty/spiegelman/optitxs.html>.

Here, we showed how to compute the required sample size for a study with 31 participants and 14 post-baseline measures to detect a 5 L/min decrease in PEF associated with the use of air-freshener sprays with 90% power, assuming DEX covariance structure of the response. We assume the rates of change vary by exposure and a cumulative exposure effect, and we want to estimate the within-subject effect of exposure, so we assume the model  $\mathbb{E}(Y_{ij} - Y_{i,j-1} | \mathbf{X}_i) = \gamma_t^W + \gamma_{e*}^W E_{ij}$ . This example is based on a study on respiratory function and cleaning tasks/products [7].

```

> long.N()

* By just pressing <Enter> after each question, the default value,
  shown between square brackets, will be entered.

* Press <Esc> to quit

Enter the number of post-baseline measures (r) [1]: 14

Enter the desired power (0<Pi<1) [0.8]: .9

Enter the time between repeated measures (s) [1]: 1

Is the exposure time-invariant (1) or time-varying (2) [1]? 2

Do you assume that the exposure prevalence is constant over
  time (1), that it changes linearly with time (2), or you want
  to enter the prevalence at each time point(3) [1]? 2

Enter the exposure prevalence at time 0 (0<pe0<1) [0.5]: .35

Enter the exposure prevalence at time 14 (0<pe14<1) [0.5]: .45

Enter the intraclass correlation of exposure
  (-0.071<rho.e<0.808) [0.5]: .13

Constant mean difference (1) or Linearly divergent difference (2)
  [1]: 2

Which model are you basing your calculations on:
(1) Cumulative exposure effect model. No separation of between-
  and within-subject effects
(2) Cumulative exposure effect model. Within-subject contrast only
(3) Acute exposure effect model. No separation of between- and
  within-subject effects
(4) Acute exposure effect model. Within-subject contrast only
Model [1]: 2

Will you specify the alternative hypothesis on the absolute (beta
  coefficient) scale (1) or the relative (percent) scale (2) [1]? 1

Enter the interaction coefficient (gamma3) [0.1]: 5

Which covariance matrix are you assuming: compound symmetry (1),

```

damped exponential (2) or random slopes (3) [1]? 2

Enter the residual variance of the response given the assumed  
model covariates (sigma2) [1]: 4570

Enter the correlation between two measures of the same subject  
separated by one time unit ( $0 < \rho < 1$ ) [0.8]: .88

Enter the damping coefficient (theta) [0.5]: .12

Sample size = 28

Do you want to continue using the program (y/n) [y]? n

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