

## S1 Appendix: Joint likelihood for causal models in the reactive mode

For causal models describing reverse causality between M and Y, that is, the reactive models  $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\theta_a, \theta_b = *, \theta_c)$ , the roles of M and Y are switched relative to the other models, so that the conditional joint likelihood  $p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{m}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$  in these case is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{m}|\mathbf{y}, \theta_a, \theta_b = *, \mu_{\mathbf{m}}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\mathbf{m}}, \boldsymbol{\beta}_a, \beta_b, \sigma_{\mathbf{m}} &\sim N(\mu_{\mathbf{m}}\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{Z}_{\mathbf{m}}\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\mathbf{m}} + \theta_a\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}_a + \mathbf{y}\beta_b, \sigma_{\mathbf{m}}^2\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{m}}^{-1}), \\ \mathbf{y}|\theta_b = *, \theta_c, \mu_{\mathbf{y}}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\mathbf{y}}, \boldsymbol{\beta}_c, \sigma_{\mathbf{y}} &\sim N(\mu_{\mathbf{y}}\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{Z}_{\mathbf{y}}\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\mathbf{y}} + \theta_c\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}_c, \sigma_{\mathbf{y}}^2\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{y}}^{-1}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\beta_b$  is now the scalar effect of  $\mathbf{y}$  on  $\mathbf{m}$ . Prior distributions for all variables are unchanged (except for  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ ). When  $\theta_b = *$ , the marginal joint likelihood function is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{m}|\mathbf{y}, \theta_a, \theta_b = * &\sim t_{\kappa_{\mathbf{m}}}(\mathbf{0}, \lambda_{\mathbf{m}}[\mathbf{W}^{-1} + \boldsymbol{\chi}_{\mathbf{m}}\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{m}}\boldsymbol{\chi}_{\mathbf{m}}^T]) \\ \mathbf{y}|\theta_b = *, \theta_c &\sim t_{\kappa_{\mathbf{y}}}(\mathbf{0}, \lambda_{\mathbf{y}}[\mathbf{W}^{-1} + \boldsymbol{\chi}_{\mathbf{y}}\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{y}}\boldsymbol{\chi}_{\mathbf{y}}^T]) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\chi}_{\mathbf{m}} &= [\mathbf{1} \quad \mathbf{Z}_{\mathbf{m}} \quad \theta_a\mathbf{X} \quad \mathbf{y}] & \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{m}} &= \begin{bmatrix} \tau_{\mu}^2 & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \tau_{\mathbf{Z}}^2\mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \phi_a^2\mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \phi_b^2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \boldsymbol{\chi}_{\mathbf{y}} &= [\mathbf{1} \quad \mathbf{Z}_{\mathbf{y}} \quad \theta_c\mathbf{X}] & \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{y}} &= \begin{bmatrix} \tau_{\mu}^2 & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \tau_{\mathbf{Z}}^2\mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \phi_c^2\mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Hyperparameters for  $\boldsymbol{\kappa}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \tau_{\mu}, \tau_{\mathbf{Z}}$ , and  $\phi^2$  are unchanged.