A Note on the Pooling of Individual PANIC Unit Root Tests

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Abstract

One of the most cited studies in recent years within the field of nonstationary panel data analysis is that of Bai and Ng (2004), in which the authors propose PANIC, a new framework for analyzing the nonstationarity of panels with idiosyncratic and common components. This paper shows that their results are not sharp enough to ensure PANIC as an asymptotically valid framework for constricting pooled panel unit root tests.

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1 Introduction

Consider the observed variable $X_{it}$, where $t = 1, ..., T$ and $i = 1, ..., N$ indexes the time series and cross-sectional units, respectively. The starting point of PANIC is to decompose $X_{it}$ into two components, one that is common across $i$ and one that is idiosyncratic. In this note, we

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consider the simple setup with an intercept only, in which case $X_{it}$ may be written as

$$X_{it} = c_i + \lambda_j'F_t + e_{it} = c_i + \sum_{j=1}^r \lambda_{ji}F_{jt} + e_{it},$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)$$

where the common factor $F_{jt}$ and loading $\lambda_{ji}$ represent the common component of $X_{it}$, while $e_{it}$ represents the idiosyncratic component. These are assumed to be generated as

$$F_{jt} = \phi_j F_{jt-1} + u_{jt} \quad \text{and} \quad e_{it} = \rho_i e_{it-1} + \epsilon_{it},$$  \hspace{1cm} (2)$$

where we assume for simplicity that $u_{jt}$ and $\epsilon_{it}$ are uncorrelated across $t$. In this setup, the idiosyncratic component $e_{it}$ has a unit root if $\rho_i = 1$ and it is stationary if $\rho_i < 1$. Similarly, if some of the $\phi_j$ parameters are equal to one, then $X_{it}$ has as many common stochastic trends as the number of unit roots in $F_t$.

The objective of PANIC is to determine the number of common stochastic trends and test if $\rho_i = 1$ when $F_t$ and $e_{it}$ are estimated using the method of principal components. The problem is that if $e_{it}$ is nonstationary, then this method cannot be applied to $X_{it}$ because it will render the resulting estimate of $\lambda_i$ inconsistent. Bai and Ng (2004) therefore suggest applying the principal components method to $x_{it}$, the first difference of $X_{it}$, rather than to $X_{it}$ itself. To appreciate the point of this, note that $x_{it}$ can be written as

$$x_{it} = \lambda_i'f_t + z_{it},$$  \hspace{1cm} (3)$$

where $f_t$ and $z_{it}$ are the first differences of $F_t$ and $e_{it}$, respectively. In contrast to (1), all the components of this equation are stationary, which means that consistent estimates $\hat{\lambda}_i$, $\hat{f}_t$ and $\hat{z}_{it} = x_{it} - \hat{\lambda}_i'\hat{f}_t$ of $\lambda_i$, $f_t$ and $z_{it}$ can be obtained. Estimates $\hat{F}_t$ and $\hat{e}_{it}$ of $F_t$ and $e_{it}$ can then be obtained by simply recumulating $\hat{f}_t$ and $\hat{z}_{it}$.

The idea behind PANIC is to test whether $\rho_i = 1$ by subjecting $\hat{e}_{it}$ to any conventional unit root test, such as the classical Dickey and Fuller (1979) test, which can be written as

$$DF_{\hat{e}}(i) = \frac{\hat{U}_i}{\sqrt{\hat{V}_i}},$$

where $\hat{U}_i$ and $\hat{V}_i$ are the usual sample moments of $\hat{e}_{it}$. The justification for testing in this particular way is that $DF_{\hat{e}}(i)$ is asymptotically equivalent to $DF_{\hat{e}}(i)$, the unit root test based on $e_{it}$. Similarly, knowing $\hat{F}_t$ is as good as knowing $F_t$, in the sense that $DF_{\hat{F}}(i)$ is asymptotically equivalent to $DF_{\hat{F}}(i)$. This is very convenient as it implies that it is possible to disentangle the sources of potential nonstationarity in $X_{it}$ by separately testing for unit roots in $e_{it}$ and $F_t$. 

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Another interesting advantage of PANIC is that $DF_c^e(i)$ can be used to construct pooled tests for a unit root in $e_{it}$. The conventional way to construct such tests involves first demeaning the data, and then subjecting each of the demeaned series to a unit root test.\footnote{See Breitung and Pesaran (2005) for a recent survey of the existing panel unit root literature.} If $X_{it}$ is independent across $i$, the normalized average of these tests converges to a normal variate under the null hypothesis of a unit root. Unfortunately, such tests are generally inappropriate as $X_{it}$ will usually exhibit at least some form of dependence across $i$. By contrast, pooled tests based on $e_{it}$ are more widely applicable, since they are valid under the more plausible assumption that $X_{it}$ admits to a common factor structure.

Yet another advantage, even in comparison to other studies that also permit for common factors, is that in PANIC the factors need not be stationary. This makes tests based on $e_{it}$ very general indeed, and is probably one of the main reasons why PANIC has become so popular in both applied and theoretical work, see Breitung and Pesaran (2005).

This paper points out a weakness in PANIC that seems to have been largely overlooked in the literature. In particular, it is shown that the theoretical results provided by Bai and Ng (2004) are not enough to ensure that PANIC can be used for constructing asymptotically valid panel tests based on averaging. This is because the order of the error incurred when replacing $DF_c^e(i)$ with $DF_c^e(i)$ is not sufficiently sharp to ensure that it vanishes as $N$ increases.

This paper provides additional results showing that PANIC can in fact be used for pooling purposes.

2 Main results

This section reports our main results using as an example the $DF_c^e(i)$ statistic, which was also considered by Bai and Ng (2004). However, the results apply to all panel tests that are based on pooling across individual test statistics or their $p$-values. The data generating process is taken directly from Bai and Ng (2004), and consists of (1) and (2) plus their assumptions A through E. For simplicity, in this paper we also assume that $u_{it}$ and $\epsilon_{it}$ are serially uncorrelated, and that $\epsilon_{it}$ is normally distributed.\footnote{The first assumption is by no means restrictive, in the sense that violations can be easily accommodated by using any serial correlation corrected test, such as the augmented Dickey and Fuller (1979) test. Although we speculate that the second assumption can be relaxed as well, some of the proofs given in this paper would not go through, and normality is therefore maintained.}
The appendix shows that if $\rho_i = 1$ holds for unit $i$, then

$$DF_c^e(i) = DF_c^e(i) + R_i = DF_c^e(i) + O_p\left(\frac{1}{C_{NT}}\right) \Rightarrow B_i \text{ as } N, T \to \infty,$$

(4)

where $R_i$ is a remainder term, $C_{NT} = \min\{\sqrt{T}, \sqrt{N}\}$ and $B_i$ is the usual Dickey and Fuller (1979) test distribution. The by far most common way of pooling statistics of this sort is to take the cross-sectional average, $DF_c^e(N)$ say. Bai and Ng (2004) argues that since $DF_c^e(i)$ is asymptotically equivalent to $DF_c^e(i)$ and $B_i$ is independent across $i$, it must be true that

$$\sqrt{N}(DF_c^e(N) - E(B)) \Rightarrow N(0, \text{var}(B))$$

and this should hold irrespectively of the relative expansion rate of $N$ and $T$, as long as they both go to infinity. However, this is not correct, as seen by noting that as $N, T \to \infty$

$$\sqrt{N}(DF_c^e(N) - E(B)) = \sqrt{N}(DF_c^e(N) - E(B)) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} R_i,$$

$$\Rightarrow N(0, \text{var}(B)) + O_p\left(\frac{\sqrt{N}}{C_{NT}}\right).$$

(5)

Thus, even if we assume that $\frac{N}{T} \to 0$ as $N, T \to \infty$, the order of the remainder is still $O_p(1)$. In other words, although still valid on an individual unit level as seen in (4), based on the results provided by Bai and Ng (2004), PANIC does not seem to be a valid approach for pooling tests. The following theorem shows that this suspicion is uncalled for, and that the $O_p(1)$ remainder actually is $o_p(1)$.

**Theorem 1.** Under the assumptions given above and the null hypothesis that $\rho_i = 1$ for all $i$, as $N, T \to \infty$ with $\frac{N}{T} \to 0$

(a) $DF_c^e(N) \to_p E(B)$

(b) $\sqrt{N}(DF_c^e(N) - E(B)) \Rightarrow N(0, \text{var}(B))$

A detailed account of the remainder in (5) is provided in the appendix. However, it is instructive to note that

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} R_i = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{NT}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{e_{iT}A_{iT}}{\sqrt{V_i}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{NT^2}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{a_{it}^2 U_i}{\sqrt{V_i}} + \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it-1}A_{it-1} + O_p\left(\frac{\sqrt{N}}{R_{NT}}\right),$$

where $R_{NT} = \min\{\sqrt{T}, N\}$, $A_{it}$ is the cumulative sum of $a_{it} = \hat{\lambda}_t f_t - \lambda_t f_t$, and $U_i$ and $V_i$ are $\hat{U}_i$ and $\hat{V}_i$ based on $e_{it}$, respectively. It is further possible to show that if $N, T \to \infty$ with
$\frac{N}{T} \to 0$, then this expression has the following limit

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} R_i \to_p \phi \left( \lim_{N,T \to \infty} \sqrt{N} E(R) \right),$$

where $\sqrt{N} E(R)$ tends to zero as $N, T \to \infty$. Our simulation results suggest that $\phi$ plays a big role in determining the small-sample performance of the pooled test. To see why, note that $\phi$ can be written as

$$\phi = \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\sigma^2_{\epsilon_i}} \sqrt{\lambda_i \left( \Sigma^{-1} \Gamma \Sigma^{-1} \right)} \lambda_i,$$

where $\Gamma$ and $\Sigma$ are such that $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sigma^2_{\epsilon_i} \lambda_i \to \Gamma$ and $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \lambda_i \lambda_i' \to \Sigma$ as $N \to \infty$, respectively. Thus, since $\phi$ is essentially an average of $N$ unit specific variance ratios, it is generally positive, which means that $\sqrt{N} (DF^e_{c}(N) - E(B))$ is expected to be negative in small samples, as $\sqrt{N} E(R)$ will tend to be negative. Being left-tailed, this is suggestive of an oversized test. We also see that $\sigma^2_{\epsilon_i}$ and $\lambda_i$ can be scaled by a constant without leaving any effect on $\phi$. As an extreme example, note that if $\sigma^2_{\epsilon_i}$ is equal across $i$, then $\Gamma$ simplifies to $\sigma^2 \Sigma$ in which case we get

$$\phi = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\sigma_{\epsilon}} \sqrt{\lambda_i \left( \Sigma^{-1} \Gamma \Sigma^{-1} \right)} \lambda_i = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sqrt{\lambda_i \left( \Sigma^{-1} \right)} \lambda_i.$$ 

Thus, if $\epsilon_{it}$ is homoskedastic across $i$ then there is no dependence upon $\sigma^2_{\epsilon}$. Heteroskedasticity is therefore an important factor in determining the extent of any small-sample bias that comes from replacing $DF^e_{c}(i)$ with $DF^e_{c^*}(i)$.

### 3 Simulations

A small-scale simulation was conducted to assess the impact of our asymptotic results in small samples. For that purpose, since our focus lies in examining the null distribution of the test, the data are generated according to (1) and (2) with $\rho_i = 1$ for all $i$. For simplicity, we further assume that $\phi_{j} = 0$ for all $j$, that $r = 2$, that $\lambda_i \sim N(0,1)$ and that $c_i = 1$ for all $i$. The errors $u_{jt}$ and $\epsilon_{it}$ are both assumed to be mean zero and normally distributed with variance one and $\sigma^2_{\epsilon_i} \sim U(0,b)$, respectively. The parameter $b$ determines the degree of the heteroskedasticity of the idiosyncratic component, and is key in the simulations. All

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computations have been performed in GAUSS using 10,000 replications. The results reported in Table 1 may be summarized as follows.\(^3\)

Firstly, looking at the rightmost column, we see that the simulated remainder is a significant contributor to the variation of \(DF_{\hat{e}}(N)\) with a variance share close to 50% in most cases. We also see that this share slowly disappears as \(N\) and \(T\) grows, which corroborates the asymptotic results.

Secondly, it interesting to see how the centering of the simulated remainder is affected by \(N\) and \(T\) on the one hand, and by \(b\) on the other hand. With \(b\) fixed, we see that while the effect of increasing \(T\) seem to be small, a larger \(N\) pushes the distribution of the remainder, and hence also that of \(DF_{\hat{e}}(N)\), to the right, thus making positive outcomes more likely. Hence, since the critical region is in the left tail of the normal distribution, this will make the test more conservative. By contrast, if we fix \(N\) and \(T\), and instead let \(b\) increase, we see that the remainder tends to the left, causing \(DF_{\hat{e}}(N)\) to become oversized. When there is no heteroskedasticity, there is no bias effect.

Finally, note that while the performance of the pooled tests seems to be greatly affected by the parametrization of the data generating process, as expected, the performance of \(DF_{\hat{e}}(i)\) is essentially unaffected.

4 Concluding remarks

In this paper we point out a flaw in the theoretical results provided by Bai and Ng (2004) for their PANIC unit root methodology. The problem lies in the order of the error incurred when replacing the idiosyncratic component \(e_{i,t}\) by its estimated counterpart \(\hat{e}_{i,t}\), which is not sharp enough to ensure that PANIC can be used for pooling across \(i\). The current paper provides more exact results establishing that PANIC can in fact be used for pooling purposes.

\(^3\)To better isolate the effect of pooling, we have assumed that the true number of factors is known. Also, as in the previous sections, we do not provide any results for the case with serial correlation. Interested readers are referred to the paper of Kapetanios (2007) for some results when the data are serially correlated.
Appendix: Mathematical proofs

In this appendix, we prove Theorem 1. In so doing, we will make use of the fact that the common factor can only be identified up to a scale matrix $H$, say. Thus, what we will consider here is the rotation $HF_t$ of $F_t$. As usual, $||A||$ will denote the Euclidean norm $\sqrt{tr(A'A)}$ of the matrix $A$.

Lemma A.1. As $N, T \to \infty$

(a) $\hat{V}_i = V_i - \sigma^2_{ei} \left( \frac{2}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it-1} A_{it-1} \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{RT} \right)$,

(b) $\hat{U}_i = U_i - \frac{1}{T} e_{it} A_{it} + O_p \left( \frac{1}{NT} \right)$.

Proof of Lemma A.1.

We begin with (a). By definition

$$\hat{V}_i = \hat{\sigma}^2_{ei} \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \hat{e}^2_{it-1}.$$ 

Consider $\hat{\sigma}^2_{ei}$. Under the null hypothesis that $\rho_i = 1$ for all $i$

$$\hat{\sigma}^2_{ei} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \hat{e}^2_{it} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta \hat{e}_{it} - (\hat{\rho}_i - 1) \hat{e}_{it-1})^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta \hat{e}_{it})^2 - 2(\hat{\rho}_i - 1) \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \hat{e}_{it-1} \Delta \hat{e}_{it} \right) + T(\hat{\rho}_i - 1)^2 \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \hat{e}^2_{it-1} \right). \tag{A1}$$

Consider the first term on the right-hand side of this equation. From the text, we have that the defactored and first differentiated residuals can be written as

$$\Delta \hat{e}_{it} = x_{it} - \lambda'_i \widehat{f}_t = \Delta e_{it} - (\hat{\lambda}'_i \hat{f}_t - \lambda'_i f_t) = \Delta e_{it} - a_{it}. \tag{A2}$$

If we let $d_i = \lambda'_i - (H^{-1})' \lambda_i$ and $v_t = \hat{f}_t - Hf_t$, then $a_{it}$ can be rewritten as

$$a_{it} = \lambda'_i H^{-1} (\hat{f}_t - Hf_t) + (\lambda'_i - (H^{-1})' \lambda_i)' \hat{f}_t = \lambda'_i H^{-1} v_t + d'_i \hat{f}_t. \tag{A3}$$
This implies
\[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta \hat{e}_{it})^2 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta e_{it} - a_{it})^2 \]
\[ = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta e_{it})^2 + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} a_{it}^2 - \frac{2}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \Delta e_{it} a_{it} \]
\[ = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta e_{it})^2 + I - II, \text{ say.} \]  

(A4)

By using the same arguments as in Lemma B.1 of Bai and Ng (2004), part $I$ is $O_p(1/C_{NT}^2)$. Part $II$ can be written as
\[ II = 2 \lambda_i \chi H^{-1} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \Delta e_{it} v_t + 2 d_i \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \Delta e_{it} \hat{f}_t \]
\[ = 2 d_i \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \Delta e_{it} \hat{f}_t + O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}^2} \right) \]
\[ = 2 d_i \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \Delta e_{it} (\hat{f}_t - H f_t) + 2 d_i \chi H \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \Delta e_{it} f_t + O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}^2} \right), \]

where the second equality follows by Lemma B.1 of Bai (2003). By applying $\|AB\| \leq \|A\|\|B\|$ and the triangle inequality to the remaining part, we get
\[ |II| \leq 2 \|d_i\| \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \|\Delta e_{it} (\hat{f}_t - H f_t)\| \right) + 2 \|d_i\| \|H\| \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \|\Delta e_{it} f_t\| \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}^2} \right), \]

which, by applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality to the first term on the right-hand side, reduces to
\[ |II| \leq 2 \|d_i\| \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta e_{it})^2 \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \|\hat{f}_t - H f_t\|^2 \right)^{1/2} \]
\[ + 2 \|d_i\| \|H\| \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \|\Delta e_{it} f_t\| \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}^2} \right) \]
\[ = O_p \left( \frac{1}{R_{NT}} \right) O_p(1) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}} \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{R_{NT}} \right) O_p \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}^2} \right), \]

where $\|H\| = O_p(1)$ by construction and $\|d_i\| = O_p(1/R_{NT})$ by Lemma 1 (c) of Bai and Ng (2004). Also, from Lemma A.1 of Bai (2003), we have
\[ \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \|\hat{f}_t - H f_t\|^2 = O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}^2} \right). \]  

(A5)

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This implies that \( II \) is \( O_p(1/C^2_{NT}) \), which in turn implies

\[
\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta \hat{e}_{it})^2 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta e_{it})^2 + O_p \left( \frac{1}{C^2_{NT}} \right). \tag{A6}
\]

Consider next the third term on the right-hand side of (A1), which, since \( \hat{e}_{i1} = 0 \) by definition, may be written as

\[
\frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \hat{e}_{it}^2 = \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (e_{it} - e_{i1} - A_{it})^2
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it}^2 + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it}^2 + \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} A_{it}^2 - 2 \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it} A_{it}
\]

\[
- 2e_{i1} \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it} - \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} A_{it} \right)
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it}^2 + I + II - III - IV, \quad \text{say.} \tag{A7}
\]

Part I is obviously \( O_p(1/T) \). The next step is to show that \( II \) is \( O_p(1/C^2_{NT}) \). We begin by using (A3), which implies that \( A_{it} = \chi_i H^{-1} V_t + d'_i \hat{F}_t \) where \( V_t \) is the cumulative sum of \( v_t \). Thus, by subsequently applying the triangle inequality and then \( (a + b)^2 \leq 2(a^2 + b^2) \), we get

\[
|II| = \frac{1}{T^2} \left\| \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\chi_i H^{-1} V_t + d'_i \hat{F}_t)^2 \right\|
\]

\[
\leq 2 \| \chi_i H^{-1} \|^2 \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \| V_t \|^2 \right) + 2 \| d_i \|^2 \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \| \hat{F}_t \|^2 \right)
\]

\[
= O_p \left( \frac{1}{C^2_{NT}} \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{R^2_{NT}} \right) O_p(1),
\]

where we have used equation (A.3) of Bai and Ng (2004), which says that

\[
\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} V_t = O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}} \right) \quad \text{(A8)}
\]

and therefore

\[
\frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \| V_t \|^2 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \left( \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} V_t \right\| \right)^2 = O_p \left( \frac{1}{C^2_{NT}} \right). \tag{A9}
\]

Also, Lemma B.2 (i) of Bai and Ng (2004) implies that \( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \| \hat{F}_t \|^2 = O_p(1) \).
Part III can be rewritten as

\[
III = 2\lambda_i' H^{-1} \sum_{t=2}^T e_{it} V_t + 2d_i' \sum_{t=2}^T e_{it} \hat{F}_t
\]

\[
= 2\lambda_i' H^{-1} \sum_{t=2}^T e_{it} V_t + 2d_i' \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T e_{it} (\hat{F}_t - HF_t) \right) + 2d_i H \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T e_{it} F_t \right)
\]

\[
= O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}} \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{R_{NT}} \right) O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}} \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{R_{NT}} \right) O_p(1),
\]

where the order of the first term on the right-hand side follows from first using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and then (A9), as seen by writing

\[
\frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T e_{it} V_t \leq \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T e_{it}^2 \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^T ||V_t||^2 \right)^{1/2} = O_p(1) O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}} \right).
\]

The order of the second term follows by the same argument, after rewriting \(\hat{F}_t - HF_t = -HF_t + V_t\). The third term is obvious. It follows that III is \(O_p(1/C_{NT})\).

Finally, consider part IV. The first term within the parenthesis is \(O_p(1/\sqrt{T})\) and can be considered as \(O_p(1/R_{NT})\). For the second term, we have

\[
\frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T A_{it} = \lambda_i' H^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T V_t \right) + d_i' H \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T F_t \right) + d_i' \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T (\hat{F}_t - HF_t) \right)
\]

\[
= O_p \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{TC_{NT}}} \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{R_{NT}} \right) O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}} \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{R_{NT}} \right) O_p \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{TC_{NT}}} \right),
\]

where we make use of (A8) to obtain the individual orders. Thus, by collecting all the terms, we can show that (A7) reduces to

\[
\frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T \bar{e}_{it}^2 = \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T \bar{e}_{it}^2 - 2 \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^T e_{it} A_{it} + O_p \left( \frac{1}{R_{NT}} \right).
\]

(A10)

By using (A6), (A10), part (b) and the fact that \(T(\hat{\rho}_i - 1) = O_p(1)\), (A1) reduces to

\[
\hat{\sigma}_{\bar{e}_i}^2 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^T (\Delta e_{it})^2 + O_p \left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}^2} \right) \rightarrow_p \sigma_{\bar{e}_i}^2.
\]

(A11)

This result, together with (A10), implies part (a).

Next, consider (b). Again, by definition

\[
\hat{U}_i = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^T \hat{e}_{it-1} \Delta \hat{e}_{it}.
\]
Note that \( \hat{e}_{it}^2 = (\hat{e}_{it-1} + \Delta \hat{e}_{it})^2 = \hat{e}_{it-1}^2 + (\Delta \hat{e}_{it})^2 + 2 \hat{e}_{it-1} \Delta \hat{e}_{it} \), from which it follows that

\[
\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \hat{e}_{it-1} \Delta \hat{e}_{it} = \frac{1}{2T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\hat{e}_{it}^2 - \hat{e}_{it-1}^2 - (\Delta \hat{e}_{it})^2) = \frac{1}{2T} \hat{e}_{it}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \hat{e}_{i1}^2 - \frac{1}{2T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta \hat{e}_{it})^2
\]

(A12)

and by applying the same trick to \( e_{it}^2 \), we have

\[
\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it-1} e_{it} = \frac{1}{2T} e_{iT}^2 - \frac{1}{2} e_{i1}^2 - \frac{1}{2T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} (\Delta e_{it})^2.
\]

(A13)

Now, the terms in the middle of the right-hand side of (A12) and (A13) are clearly \( O_p(1/T) \) as \( \hat{e}_{i1} = 0 \) while \( e_{i1} = O_p(1) \) by assumption. Also, by using (A6) the difference between the third terms is

\[
\frac{1}{T} \left( \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it} - e_{i1} - A_{iT} \right) \leq O_p(1)
\]

and

\[
\frac{1}{T} \left( \sum_{t=2}^{T} A_{iT} d_i \right) \leq O_p(1)
\]

By using \((a+b)^2 \leq 2(a^2 + b^2)\), the triangle inequality, \( ||AB|| \leq ||A|| ||B|| \) and then (A5), part II can be written as

\[
|II| = \frac{1}{T} (\lambda_i \hat{H}^{-1} V_T + d_i \hat{F}_T)^2 \leq 2 ||\lambda_i \hat{H}^{-1}||^2 \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} ||v_{it}||^2 \right) + 2 ||d_i||^2 \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} ||\hat{f}_{it}||^2 \right) = O_p\left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}^2} \right) + O_p\left( \frac{1}{R_{NT}^2} \right) O_p(1).
\]

Hence, II is \( O_p(1/C_{NT}^2) \).

Part III is simply

\[
III = \frac{2}{T} e_{iT} (\lambda_i \hat{H}^{-1} V_T + d_i \hat{F}_T) = 2 \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} e_{iT} \right) \lambda_i \hat{H}^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} V_T \right) + 2 \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} e_{i1} \right) d_i \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \hat{F}_T \right) = O_p(1) O_p\left( \frac{1}{C_{NT}} \right) + O_p(1) O_p\left( \frac{1}{R_{NT}} \right) O_p(1),
\]

where the first term on the right-hand side is a direct consequence of (A8) while the second follows from Lemma B.2 (i) of Bai and Ng (2004). Thus, III is \( O_p(1/C_{NT}) \). Part IV is
dominated by $\frac{2}{T}e_{it}e_{iT}$, which is $O_p(1/\sqrt{T})$ or $O_p(1/R_{NT})$. Therefore, by adding the terms, (A14) simplifies to

$$\frac{1}{T}\hat{e}_{iT}^2 = \frac{1}{T}e_{iT}^2 - \frac{2}{T}e_{iT}A_{iT} + O_p\left(\frac{1}{R_{NT}}\right),$$

which in turn implies (b) and thus the proof of Lemma A.1 is complete. \hfill \blacksquare

**Proof of Theorem 1.**

Consider (a). By Lemma A.1 (a) and a first order Taylor expansion of the inverse square root, we get

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\hat{V}_i}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{V_i}} + \frac{1}{V_i^{3/2}}\mathcal{R}_{2i} + O_p\left(\frac{1}{R_{NT}}\right),$$

where

$$\mathcal{R}_{2i} = \sigma^2_{ei} \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it-1}A_{it-1}.$$

Let $\mathcal{R}_{1i} = \frac{1}{T}e_{iT}A_{iT}$. Application of Lemma A.1 (b) now gives

$$DF_e^c(i) = DF_e^c(i) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{V_i}}\mathcal{R}_{1i} + \frac{U_i}{V_i^{3/2}}\mathcal{R}_{2i} + O_p\left(\frac{1}{R_{NT}}\right) = DF_e^c(i) + \mathcal{R}_i,$$

where

$$\mathcal{R}_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{V_i}}\mathcal{R}_{1i} - \frac{U_i}{V_i^{3/2}}\mathcal{R}_{2i} + O_p\left(\frac{1}{R_{NT}}\right). \quad (A15)$$

Thus, since the first two terms on the right-hand side of (A15) are $O_p(1/C_{NT})$ by Lemma A.1, we have that

$$\overline{DF_e^c(N)} = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N} DF_e^c(i) = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N} (DF_e^c(i) + \mathcal{R}_i) = \overline{DF_e^c(N)} + \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathcal{R}_i$$

$$= \overline{DF_e^c(N)} + O_p\left(\frac{1}{C_{NT}}\right). \quad (A16)$$

Consider $\overline{DF_e^c(N)}$. Because $DF_e^c(i) \Rightarrow B_i$ as $T \to \infty$ and $B_i$ is independent across $i$, we obtain the following sequential limit as $T \to \infty$ and then $N \to \infty$

$$\overline{DF_e^c(N)} = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N} DF_e^c(i) \to_p E(B), \quad (A17)$$
where the index \( i \) in \( B_i \) is suppressed here because of the independence. Now, according to Corollary 1 of Phillips and Moon (1999), since the scaling of \( DF_e^c(i) \) is just unity, if we can show that \( |DF_e^c(i)| \) is uniformly integrable in \( T \), then (A17) is not only a sequential but also a joint limit as \( N, T \to \infty \). But since \( DF_e^c(i) \) converges to \( B_i \), we have from Theorem 5.4 of Billingsley (1968) that uniform integrability of \( |DF_e^c(i)| \) is equivalent to requiring that

\[
E(|DF_e^c(i)|) \to E(|B|),
\]

which holds trivially since \( DF_e^c(i) \) is a scalar so (A17) is indeed a joint limit as \( N, T \to \infty \), see Appendix C of Phillips and Moon (1999). This result, together with (A17), imply that

\[
\sqrt{N}(DF_e^c(N) - E(B)) = \sqrt{N}(DF_e^c(N) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{NT} \right)) \to_p E(B),
\]

which establishes (a).

Next, consider (b). We have

\[
\sqrt{N}(DF_e^c(N) - E(B)) = \sqrt{N} \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} DF_e^c(i) - E(B) \right)
\]

\[
= \sqrt{N} \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (DF_e^c(i) + R_i) - E(B) \right)
\]

\[
= \sqrt{N}(DF_e^c(N) - E(B)) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} R_i,
\]

where the last term on the right-hand side can be written as

\[
\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} R_i = - \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\sqrt{V_i}} R_{1i} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{U_i}{\sqrt{V_i}} \sum_{s=2}^{T} f_s \epsilon_s + O_p \left( \frac{\sqrt{N}}{R_{NT}} \right).
\]

Note that the reminder vanishes under the condition that \( \frac{N}{T} \to 0 \) as \( N, T \to \infty \).

Consider I. From the proof of Theorem 3 in Bai (2003), we get

\[
\sqrt{\frac{N}{T}} A_{it} = \lambda_i \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \lambda_j \lambda_j' \right)^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \lambda_j \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{s=2}^{t} \epsilon_{js}
\]

\[
+ \frac{\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{s=2}^{t} f_s \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{s=2}^{T} f_s f_s' \right)^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{s=2}^{T} f_s \epsilon_{is} + O_p \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{C^2_{NT}}} \right)
\]

\[
= \lambda_i \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \lambda_j \lambda_j' \right)^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \lambda_j \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \sum_{s=2}^{t} \epsilon_{js} + O_p \left( \frac{\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{T}} \right) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{C^2_{NT}}} \right).
\]
Similar to (A.30) in Phillips et al. (2001), it is possible to show that as $N \to \infty$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \lambda_j \sigma_{\epsilon j} W_{\epsilon j}(s) \Rightarrow \Gamma^{1/2} W_{\epsilon}(s),$$

where $W_{\epsilon j}(s)$ and $W_{\epsilon}(s)$ are independent standard Brownian motions. In view of this result, it is not difficult to see that as $N, T \to \infty$ with $\frac{N}{T} \to 0$

$$\frac{\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{T}} A_{it} \Rightarrow \sqrt{\lambda_i (\Sigma^{-1} \Gamma \Sigma^{-1})} \lambda_i W_{\epsilon}(s).$$

Let $\phi_i^2 = \lambda_i (\Sigma^{-1} \Gamma \Sigma^{-1}) \lambda_i / \sigma_{\epsilon i}^2$. Since $\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} e_{it} \Rightarrow \sigma_{\epsilon i} W_{\epsilon i}(s)$ as $T \to \infty$, we get

$$\sqrt{N} R_{1i} = \sqrt{N} \left( \frac{1}{T} e_{it} A_{it} \right) = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} e_{it} \right) \left( \frac{\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{T}} A_{it} \right) \Rightarrow \sigma_{\epsilon i}^2 \phi_i W_{\epsilon i}(1) W_{\epsilon i}(1).$$

Moreover, since $V_{i} \Rightarrow \sigma_{\epsilon i}^2 \int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)^2 ds$ as $T \to \infty$, passing $N, T \to \infty$ with $\frac{N}{T} \to 0$

$$\sqrt{N} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{V_{i}}} R_{1i} \right) \Rightarrow \phi_i \frac{W_{\epsilon i}(1) W_{\epsilon i}(1)}{\int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)^2 ds}$$

from which it follows that

$$I = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\sqrt{V_{i}}} R_{1i} \Rightarrow W_{\epsilon i}(1) \left\{ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \phi_i \frac{W_{\epsilon i}(1)}{\int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)^2 ds} \right\}.$$

Thus, by assuming that $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \phi_i \to \phi$ as $N \to \infty$, and then applying the same arguments as in equation (A.10) of Phillips et al. (2001), we get

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \phi_i \frac{W_{\epsilon i}(1)}{\int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)^2 ds} \to_p \phi E \left\{ \frac{W_{\epsilon i}(1)}{\sqrt{\int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)^2 ds}} \right\}$$

$$= \phi E [W_{\epsilon i}(1)] E \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)^2 ds}} \right\},$$

(A20)

where the index $i$ is again suppressed because of the independence, and where the equality follows from the fact that $W_{\epsilon i}(1)$ is uncorrelated with $\int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)^2 ds$. Note that $E [W_{\epsilon i}(1)]$ is zero, which means that the whole expression is zero. It follows that

$$I = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\sqrt{V_{i}}} R_{1i} = o_p(1).$$

(A21)

Next, consider $II$. By the same arguments used above, as $N, T \to \infty$ with $\frac{N}{T} \to 0$

$$\sqrt{N} \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} e_{it-1} A_{it-1} \right) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} e_{it-1} \right) \left( \frac{\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{T}} A_{it-1} \right) \Rightarrow \sigma_{\epsilon i}^2 \phi_i \int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(u) W_{\epsilon i}(u) du.$$
Therefore, because \( U_i \Rightarrow \sigma^2 \int_0^1 W_{\epsilon t}(s)dW_{\epsilon t}(s) \) as \( T \to \infty \), it is possible to show that

\[
\sqrt{N} \left( \frac{U_i}{V_i^{3/2}} R_{2i} \right) = \sqrt{N} \frac{U_i}{V_i^{3/2}} \left( \sigma^2 \int_{t=2}^T e_{it-1} A_{it-1} \right) \Rightarrow \phi_i X_i \left( \int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(u) W_{\epsilon i}(u) du \right),
\]

where

\[
X_i = \frac{\int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)dW_{\epsilon i}(s)}{\left( \int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)^2 ds \right)^{3/2}}. 
\]

This implies that

\[
II = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{U_i}{V_i^{3/2}} R_{2i} \Rightarrow \int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(r) \left\{ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \phi_i X_i W_{\epsilon i}(u) \right\} du
\]

\[-p \int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(u) \phi E[XW_{\epsilon i}(u)] du. \quad (A22)\]

To find \( E[XW_{\epsilon i}(r)] \), we first derive the joint moment generating function of the triplet

\[
(U, V, S) = \left( \int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)dW_{\epsilon i}(s), \int_0^1 W_{\epsilon i}(s)^2 ds, W_{\epsilon i}(u) \right)
\]

and then apply an extended version of Lemma 2.3 in Gonzalo and Pitarakis (1998). Towards this end, note that \((U_T, V_T, S_T) \Rightarrow (U, V, S)\) as \( T \to \infty \) where

\[
(U_T, V_T, S_T) = \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T x_{t-1} \Delta x_t, \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{t=1}^T x_{t-1}^2, \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} x_T \right),
\]

where \( x_t \) is a cumulated sum of independent standard normals. Now, if we let \( x \) denote the \( T \) dimensional vector of stacked observations on \( x_t \) and \( q = \frac{x}{\sqrt{T}} h \), where \( h \) is a vector with the value one in the position equal to the integer part of \( uT \) and zero otherwise, then the moment generating function of \((U_T, V_T, S_T)\) is given by

\[
\varphi_T(u, v, s) = E[\exp(u U_T + v V_T + s S_T)]
\]

\[
= \int (2\pi)^{-T/2} \exp \left( u U_T + v V_T + s S_T - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^T (\Delta x_t)^2 \right) dx
\]

\[
= \int (2\pi)^{-T/2} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} x'Px + q'x \right) dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(P)}} \exp \left( \frac{1}{2} q'P^{-1}q \right),
\]

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where \( P = P_0 + \frac{u}{T}G \) with

\[
P_0 = \begin{bmatrix}
2 \left(1 - \frac{v}{T}\right) & -1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
-1 & 2 \left(1 - \frac{v}{T}\right) & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
0 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\
\vdots & \ddots & 2 \left(1 - \frac{v}{T}\right) & -1 & 0 \\
0 & \cdots & 0 & -1 & 1
\end{bmatrix},
\]

\[
G = \begin{bmatrix}
2 & -1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
-1 & 2 & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
0 & \ddots & \ddots & 0 & 0 \\
\vdots & \ddots & 2 & -1 & 0 \\
0 & \cdots & 0 & -1 & 0
\end{bmatrix}.
\]

Now, consider the identity

\[
\frac{1}{V_T^{3/2}} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(3/2)} \left( \int_0^{\infty} \sqrt{v} \exp(-vV_T) dv \right).
\]

This can be used to obtain

\[
E\left( \frac{U_T S_T}{V_T^{3/2}} \right) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(3/2)} \int_0^{\infty} \sqrt{v} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u \partial s} E[\exp(uU_T - vV_T + sS_T)] \right) dv
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{\Gamma(3/2)} \int_0^{\infty} \sqrt{v} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u \partial s} \varphi_T(u, -v, s) \right) dv,
\]  

(A23)

where the derivatives are taken at \( u = s = 0 \). To find the required derivative of \( \varphi_T(u, -v, s) \), we follow Larsson (1997) and use the following Taylor expansion

\[
\varphi_T(u, -v, s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(P)}} \left( 1 - \frac{u}{2T} tr \left( P_0^{-1} G \right) + O \left( \frac{1}{T^2} \right) \right) \left( 1 + O \left( \frac{1}{T} \right) \right)
\]

from which we deduce that \( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u \partial s} \varphi_T(u, -v, s) \), and hence also (A23), is zero. Thus, letting \( T \to \infty \)

\[
E\left( \frac{U_T S_T}{V_T^{3/2}} \right) \to E\left( \frac{US}{V^{3/2}} \right) = E[XW_\epsilon(u)] = 0
\]

and hence we have shown that

\[
II = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{U_i}{V_i^{3/2}} \mathcal{R}_{2i} = o_p(1).
\]  

(A24)

By using (A21) and (A24), it is clear that (A19) reduces to

\[
\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathcal{R}_i = - I + II + O_p \left( \frac{\sqrt{N}}{R_{NT}} \right) = o_p(1),
\]

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which in turn can be inserted into (A17) to obtain

\[ \sqrt{N}(DF^c_e(N) - E(B)) = \sqrt{N}(DF^c_e(N) - E(B)) + o_p(1). \]  

(A25)

Consider the first term on the right-hand side. It holds that

\[ \sqrt{N}(DF^c_e(N) - E(B)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (DF^c_e(i) - E(B)), \]

which suggests that in order to show \( \sqrt{N}(DF^c_e(N) - E(B)) \Rightarrow N(0, \var(B)) \) as \( N, T \to \infty \), it is enough to verify that \( (DF^c_e(i) - E(B)) \) satisfy conditions (i) to (iv) in Theorem 3 of Phillips and Moon (1999). Conditions (i), (ii) are (iv) are obviously satisfied in view of the fact that the scaling of \( DF^c_e(i) \) is again unity. Thus, for this theorem to apply we only need to verify (iii), which requires that \( |DF^c_e(i) - E(B)|^2 \) is uniformly integrable in \( T \). Towards this end, note that by the continuous mapping theorem, \( |DF^c_e(i) - E(B)|^2 \Rightarrow |B_i - E(B)|^2 \) as \( T \to \infty \), which together with

\[ E \left( |DF^c_e(i) - E(B)|^2 \right) = E \left( (DF^c_e(i) - E(B))^2 \right) \to E \left( (B_i - E(B))^2 \right) \]

shows that \( |DF^c_e(i) - E(B)|^2 \) is uniformly integrable in \( T \). Thus, taking the limit as \( N, T \to \infty \) with \( \frac{N}{T} \to 0 \), (A25) becomes

\[ \sqrt{N}(DF^c_e(N) - E(B)) = \sqrt{N}(DF^c_e(N) - E(B)) + o_p(1) \Rightarrow N(0, \var(B)). \]

This completes the proof of (b).
Table 1: Simulation results.

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Notes: The value $b$ refers to the heteroskedasticity of $\epsilon_i$ with the value zero representing the homoskedastic unit variance case. The leftmost three columns report the size at the 5% level, while the next column report the mean of of the simulated remainder. The rightmost column report the percentage of the total variance in $DF_{\hat{e}}(N)$ that is due to variance in the remainder.
References


