

Keeping up with peers in India: A new social interactions model of perceived needs*

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Abstract

We propose a new nonlinear model of social interactions. The model allows point identification of peer effects as a function of group means, even with group level fixed effects. The model is robust to measurement problems resulting from only observing a small number of members of each group, and therefore can be estimated using standard survey datasets. We apply our method to a national consumer expenditure survey dataset from India. We find that each additional rupee spent by one's peer group increases one's own perceived needs by roughly 0.5 rupees. This implies that if I and my peers each increase spending by 1 rupee, that has the same effect on my utility as if I alone increased spending by only 0.5 rupees. Our estimates have important policy implications, e.g., we show potentially considerable welfare gains from replacing government transfers of private goods with the provision of public goods.

Keywords: Consumption; Peer Effects; Social Interactions; Keeping Up With the Jones; Consumer Demand; India.

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1 Introduction

Identification of models with peer effects typically rely on either exogenous variation in group composition (Duflo, Dupas and Kremer, 2011; Carrell, Fullerton and West, 2009) or

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size (Lee, 2007), or detailed network data (Bramoullé, Djebbari and Fortin, 2009; de Giorgi, Frederiksen, and Pistaferri, 2016). In this paper, we introduce a model with peer effects in group means that allows for random or fixed effects at the group level, and does not require any of these features typically used to gain identification. As a result, our model can be estimated using standard cross section data sets that lack detailed network information. For example, our empirical application uses repeated cross section household consumer expenditure survey data (of the type collected by many countries for the construction of consumer price indices). A common feature of such surveys is that only a tiny fraction of the total population is sampled, so we observe only a modest number of members of each group. We obtain point identification by exploiting nonlinearities in the model, and demonstrate consistency even when the number of observations per group is fixed and small.

Consumer demand estimation is a natural application of our model. Engel curves have long been known to be nonlinear (Deaton and Muellbauer, 1980), and there is evidence for peer effects in consumption (Boneva, 2013). In our keeping-up-with-the-Joneses type model, one’s perceived required expenditures, or “needs,” depend on, among other things, the average expenditures of one’s peer group. The higher are these perceived needs, the more one needs to spend to attain the same level of utility. Consistent with other empirical evidence (e.g., Luttmer, 2005), we find that consumers lose utility from feeling poorer when their peers get richer. However, because our demand model is derived from a utility function using the standard tools of consumer choice, we can quantify the magnitude of peer effects in money-metric utility terms, permitting associated welfare calculations and policy analyses.

We implement the model with standard national consumer expenditure survey data from India, and find that each additional rupee spent by peers increases perceived needs by roughly 0.5 rupees. These results have many implications for policy. For example, they may provide a structural explanation for the Easterlin (1974) paradox of low correlation between growth in aggregate incomes and growth in reported well-being. If perceived needs ratchet up along with incomes, aggregate income gains do less to improve utility than idiosyncratic income gains.

These results also imply that income or consumption taxes that apply to all members of a group are roughly half as expensive in terms of social welfare than one would calculate in the absence of peer effects. Similarly, half of the potential utility gains from transfer programs can be lost due to peer effects that increase perceived needs. We apply these results in a rough calculation to suggest that replacing the National Food Security Act in India (a program that subsidizes expenditures on cereals such as rice) with more generous provision of public goods like education or cleaner air and water, could increase money metric welfare by billions of rupees a year at no additional cost.

Our analysis proceeds as follows. In the next subsections we give an overview of our model, and review the literature on peer effects and needs, and show how our model incorporates peer effects and needs into demand functions. In Section 2 we prove identification of simplified generic version of our peer effects model, and we provide associated estimators. In Section 3 we apply the generic model to expenditure data from the Indian National Sample Survey (NSS) data, estimating the dependence of household-level expenditures on luxuries on household total expenditures and peer-group average expenditures on luxuries. These results show peer effects are present, but do not relate them to utility. We also analyze the effects of own and peer expenditures on answers to a life satisfaction question (which we interpret as a crude proxy for utility) from a separate data set. Taken together, these preliminary analyses indicate that increased luxury expenditures by one’s peers increases one’s own luxury spending, and increased total expenditures of of one’s peers decreases one’s own level of reported utility.

Both economic theory and these non-structural empirical results then motivate our construction of a structural model in which needs depend on the spending of one’s peers. This model is described in Section 4. Exploiting revealed preference theory, in Section 5 we derive quantity demand functions associated with this utility model. These demand functions have a similar structure to our generic model, though both the dependent variables and the group-average variables become quantity vectors instead of scalars, the scalar peer effect parameter is replaced by a matrix of own and cross equation peer effects, and what appear as constant parameters above are replaced with nonlinear functions of prices and observable demand shifters. Given this analogous structure to our generic model, we prove identification of these demand functions using the same techniques as before, and we provide an associated estimator.

In Section 6 we implement this structural demand model and provide associated welfare analyses, now using multiple annual NSS annual cross-sections of household-level expenditure data. Section 7 discusses policy implications of our estimates, and Section 8 concludes. Throughout, we relegate formal derivations and proofs to the appendix.

1.1 Generic Model Overview

Before considering utility structure and needs, here we introduce a simplified or generic version of our model. To fix ideas, consider a typical peer effects model relating an outcome y_i for person i in group g with a covariate x_i which we can write as

$$y_i = \bar{y}_g a + x_i b + u_i, \tag{1}$$

where u_i is an error term uncorrelated with the covariate, the pair (a, b) are parameters to estimate, and \bar{y}_g is the population mean value of y_j over all people j in person i 's peer group g (see, e.g., Manski 1993, 2000 and Brock and Durlauf 2001). In contrast, the type of model we consider has the form

$$y_i = (\hat{y}_g a + x_i b)^2 d + (\hat{y}_g a + x_i b) + v_g + u_i + \varepsilon_{gi}, \quad (2)$$

where \hat{y}_g is an estimate of \bar{y}_g , the term v_g is a group level fixed or random effect, and ε_{gi} is an additional error that arises due to estimation error from the econometrician needing to replace \bar{y}_g in the true model with an estimate \hat{y}_g .

Equation (2) differs from equation (1) in three important ways. First, the model contains a group-level error v_g . We show identification of the model even if v_g is a group level fixed effect. In contrast, typical models like equation (1) cannot be identified in the presence of fixed effects, unless one has specialized data including observable network structures like “intransitive triads.” See, e.g., Bramoullé, Djebbari, and Fortin (2009), Jochmans and Weidner (2016), and de Giorgi, Frederiksen, and Pistaferri (2016).

Second, our model is nonlinear. In our empirical application, this nonlinearity is an unavoidable consequence of utility maximization. However, it is precisely this nonlinear structure that enables identification in the presence of fixed effects. In particular, the coefficient a can be identified from the $x_i \hat{y}_g$ interaction in the quadratic term of equation (2), which is not eliminated when we first difference to remove v_g . With random effects, this nonlinearity is still helpful but not required for our identification.

Third, because we only have survey data with a modest number of observations for each group, we do not assume we can observe the true \bar{y}_g even asymptotically. We therefore replace \bar{y}_g with its estimate \hat{y}_g , and this introduces the additional error term ε_{gi} that is correlated with $\bar{y}_g a + x_i b$ and its square. Part of the novelty of our methodology comes from overcoming these correlations to construct valid moment conditions used for GMM estimation of the model. Our model is potentially applicable to many contexts with nonlinear peer effects, and may be of particular use when the researcher only observes a relatively small number of members of each peer group (for example, with typical government survey data).

1.2 Literature and Overview of Peer Effects in Consumption and Needs

There is a long literature that connects utility and well-being to peer income or consumption levels (see, e.g., Frank 1999, 2012). The Easterlin (1974) paradox asserts an empirical connection between well-being and national average incomes. Though the strength of this

connection is debated (Stevenson and Wolfers 2008), the correlation between utility and national-level consumption, *ceteris paribus*, is negative. Ravina (2007) and Clark and Senik (2010) regress self-reported utility on own budgets and national average budgets, and other correlated aggregate measures like inequality, and find that the negative correlation still stands. Similar results hold for much smaller reference groups; Luttmer (2005) finds that an increase of the average income in one’s neighbors reduces self-reported well being.

The possible mechanisms for this are varied. Veblen (1899) effects make consumers value consumption of visible status goods. Reference-dependent utility functions hinge preferences on own-endowments (Kahneman and Tversky 1979). More recent work on these models has led to reference-dependence that is “other-regarding,” where utilities depend on reference points that are driven by other agents’ decisions or endowments. Models of “keeping up with the Joneses” have one’s own consumption feel smaller when one’s peers consume more. Surveys of this literature include Kahneman (1992) and Clark, Frijters, and Shields (2008).¹ In our paper, we model the consumption of our peers as affecting what we perceive as our consumption “needs”.

A more recent literature connects consumption choices to peer consumption levels, although these analyses are essentially nonstructural. For example, Chao and Schor (1998) regress individual cosmetics spending on group-average cosmetics spending and find positive responses, linking their findings to Veblen effects. Boneva (2013) regresses household quantity demand vectors on household budgets (total expenditures) and on the average budgets of reference groups, using the randomized Progresa rollout to instrument for group averages. De Giorgi, Frederiksen and Pistaferri (2016) show that consumption choices depend on peer consumption levels, using neighbors-of-neighbors as instruments. All these papers suggest that the magnitudes of peer effects in consumption choices are large.

Taken together, these results suggest that a structural model of peer effects in consumption choices should start with a utility function that depends both on own-consumption and on peer consumption. That is, direct utility depends on \mathbf{q}_i and $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$, where g denotes the peer group of consumer i , \mathbf{q}_i is the vector of quantities of goods consumed by consumer i , and $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ is the mean consumption vector of all consumer’s in group g . This in turn implies indirect utility functions of the form

$$u_i = \tilde{V}(\mathbf{p}, x_i, \mathbf{z}_i, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g),$$

where u_i is utility, or well-being of consumer i , \mathbf{p} is the vector of prices of goods, \mathbf{z}_i is a

¹A smaller peer effects literature focuses on intertemporal models of aggregate behaviour, intended to address macroeconomic puzzles. See, e.g., Gali (1994) or Maurer and Meier (2008). At the other extreme, some papers in psychology and marketing focus on how the valuation of particular individual goods or brands depend on one’s peers. See, e.g., Rabin (1998) and Kalyanaram and Winer (1998).

vector of characteristics that affect tastes, and $x_i = \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{q}_i$ is consumer i 's budget, or total expenditures.

In our model, peer consumption $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ affects needs. In the context of utility and cost functions, “needs” are fixed costs, representing the minimum quantity vector one requires to start getting utility. The idea that preferences have fixed costs that need to be met before expenditures start increasing utility goes back to Samuelson (1947). Samuelson defined the quantity vector \mathbf{f}_i as the “necessary set” of goods. The cost of buying these necessary goods, i.e. needs, is $\mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i$. Samuelson then defined $x_i - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i$ as “supernumerary income,” one’s remaining income after subtracting off the cost of these needs. Utility is then obtained by spending supernumerary income.

The classic Stone (1954) and Geary (1949) linear expenditure system incorporates this construction. More generally, Gorman (1976) showed that these kind of fixed costs (which he calls “overheads”) can be introduced into any utility function and will generally vary across consumers. This structure for dealing with heterogeneity in needs is typically used to account for demographic characteristics z .

In Gorman’s model, utility depends on x_i only through the term $x_i - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i$, where $\mathbf{f}_i = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}_i)$ is a function of demographic characteristics. Blackorby and Donaldson (1994) show that models of this type have a desirable property for social welfare calculations, which they call Absolute Equivalence Scale Exactness (AESE).² In particular, changes in the cross-population sum of income - needs (also known as equivalent income), $\sum_i x_i - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i$, are a dollar measure of changes in social welfare. Increases in societal income are thus straightforward to measure in welfare terms. We will allow needs \mathbf{f}_i to depend on a $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$, so a technology change that raises everyone’s after tax income x_i by 10% would be offset by the associated change in $\mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i$, reflecting the social cost of keeping up with the Joneses.

Our model begins with Blackorby and Donaldson, but then adds peer effects by including $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ in the needs vector \mathbf{f}_i , so

$$u_i = V(\mathbf{p}, x_i - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{f}_i = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}_i, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g) \quad (3)$$

For simplicity we take the function \mathbf{f} to be linear, so

$$\mathbf{f}_i = \mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i \quad (4)$$

²Blackorby and Donaldson (1994) start from a more general model where utility has the form $u_i = h[V(\mathbf{p}, x_i - H(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{z}_i)), \mathbf{z}_i]$ for some functions h and H . In the Gorman model context where $H(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{z}_i) = \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i$, their results imply that if h is independent of z_i , then $x - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i$ will be a money metric for utility, and all transformations h that are independent of z_i result in money metrics that are not additive in $\mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i$. They also derive results on identification associated with this model, showing when social welfare functions can be constructed based on differences between budgets and needs.

for some matrices of parameters \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{C} .

If u_i were observable, then one could directly estimate equation (3). Luttmer (2005) estimates a model where self reported well-being (on a 1 to 7 scale) is a function of $x_i - \delta \mathbf{p}'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$. If we interpret this discrete self reported well-being as a crude measure of utility u_i , then Luttmer's model corresponds to a special case of our model in which the matrix \mathbf{A} equals the scalar δ times the identity matrix. In a preliminary data analysis, we perform an analogous exercise using the World Value Survey from India, which contains a similarly crude subjectively reported measure of well-being. Both Luttmer's estimates and our own preliminary analysis find that u_i is increasing in x_i and decreasing in $\mathbf{p}'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$, consistent with our interpretation of peer effects as increasing perceived needs, making one's utility go down as peer expenditures go up.

Our main structural analysis does not assume utility is observable. We instead derive quantity demand equations from (3) that express consumption demands as a function of observables only, allowing us to back out the parameters \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{C} . Specifically, applying Roy's (1947) identity to equation (3) yields demand functions of the form

$$\mathbf{q}_i = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{p}, x_i - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i) + \mathbf{f}_i \quad (5)$$

where the functional form of the vector valued function \mathbf{g} depends only on the functional form of V . We will identify and estimate demand functions given by equations (5) and (4), with the addition of error terms that also include random or fixed effects.

The link between the demand model in Equation 5 and the simpler peer effects model described earlier can be seen by replacing the simple linear term $x_i + \bar{y}_g a$ from before with $x_i - \mathbf{p}'(\mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i)$ and taking \mathbf{g} to be quadratic in this term. As in the simpler peer effects model, we will need to replace $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ with an estimate $\hat{\mathbf{q}}_g$, and deal with the same identification and estimation issues discussed earlier.

Equation (3), and the demand functions (5) derived from it, imply that higher levels of peer expenditures first-order increase own expenditure \mathbf{q}_i , but decrease utility u_i . Although not incorporated into this model, it is possible that these negative externalities of peer effects could be offset by an increase in utility due to network effects. For example, the value of a cell phone can be increasing in the number of your peers who also own one, generating a positive relationship between own and group ownership. However, we think that network effects are unlikely to explain our results, for two reasons. First, our consumption categories are large and mostly contain items not associated with peer effects. For example, the luxuries in our model consist of items like types of food, hygiene products, and personal transportation. Second, both Luttmer's estimates and our own World Value Survey estimates

mentioned above provide direct evidence of increased peer expenditures decreasing rather than increasing utility. Finally, it should be noted that network effects could also produce negative as well as positive additional externalities, such as congestion effects from increased traffic on public roads.

The class of demand specifications given by equations (5) has a shape invariance in quantities property described by Pendakur (2005). This property has the testable implication that, for any price vector p , the quantity demand curve associated with any good j has the same shape across consumers, differing only by horizontal and vertical translations in x and q , respectively. This property is analogous to the more well known shape invariance in budget shares popularized by Pendakur (1999), Blundell, Chen and Kristensen (2007) and Lewbel (2010). A long literature in empirically modeling consumer demand shows that demands are nonlinear and well-approximated by polynomials (see, e.g., Deaton and Muellbauer 1980, Banks, Blundell and Lewbel 1998, and Blundell, Chen and Kristensen 2007), mirroring our identification conditions and modeling assumption.

1.3 Relevant Literature on Identification of Peer Effects

Our model, where each individual's outcome depends on the mean of the outcomes of one's peer group, is a form of social interactions model. It can also be interpreted as a spatial model, where all individuals within a group are equidistant from each other. A well known obstacle to identification of this kind of model is the reflection problem, originally described by Manski (1993, 2000), and expanded on by Brock and Durlauf (2001), and Blume, Brock, Durlauf, and Ioannides (2010). Our model has a specific behaviorally derived structure that overcomes the reflection problem.

In some peer effects models, network information is available that can help identification. For example, Bramoullé, Djebbari, and Fortin (2009) show identification of peer effects in social networks exploiting so-called "intransitive triads," essentially using data from friends of friends as instruments. Davezies et. al, (2006) and Lee (2007) use variation in group sizes to aid identification. In our context, making use of standard consumption survey data, we do not have any information on who friends of friends are. We similarly cannot exploit variation in group size for identification, because we only see a small number of members of each group, and because we do not know actual group sizes.³

The interactions of peer group members may be modeled as a game. Suppose there is private information that cannot be observed by econometricians. We assume that group

³Furthermore, identification from variation in group sizes generally has power only for relatively small groups like classrooms. In our context, with groups potentially containing thousands of individuals, it is unlikely that this approach would work even if we had outside knowledge of true group sizes.

members have utility functions that depend on peers only through the true mean of the peer group's outcomes. If group members also all observe each other's private information and make decisions simultaneously (corresponding to a complete information game), then each individual's actual behavior will only depend on others through the group mean. Complete games are generally plausible only when the size of each group is small, and are typically estimated assuming the econometrician's data includes all members of each observed group. An example is Lee (2007). However, in our case the true group sizes may be large, but we only observe a small number of members of each group. An alternative model of group behaviour is a Bayes equilibrium derived from a game of incomplete information, in which each individual has private information and makes decisions based on rational expectations regarding others. This type of incomplete game of group interactions can result in the reflection problem again, where endogenous effects, exogenous effects, and the correlated effects cannot in general be separately identified. In either type of game there is also the potential problem of no equilibrium or multiple equilibria existing, resulting in the problems of incompleteness or incoherence and the associated difficulties they introduce for identification as discussed by Tamer (2003).

We do not take a stand on whether the true game in our case is one of complete or incomplete information. We assume only that players are basing their behavior on the true group means. This is most easily rationalized by assuming that consumers either have complete information, or can observe a sufficiently large number of members in each group that their errors in calculating group means are negligible. A more difficult problem would be allowing for the possibility that group members may, like the econometrician, only observe group means with error. We do not attempt to tackle this issue. Doing so would require modeling how individuals estimate group means, how they incorporate uncertainty regarding group means into their purchasing decisions, and showing how all of that could be identified in the presence of the many other obstacles to identification that we face. These obstacles include the reflection problem, only observing a small number of members of each group, group level fixed effects, nonlinearities resulting from utility maximization, and a multiple equation system where each equation depends on the vector of peer means from all of the other equations.

Identification depends on what we assume is observable from data. Standard models of within group interactions with large groups assume that there are no interactions between groups, and that both the number of groups G and the number of observed members n_g within each group goes to infinity. However, for reasonable definitions of peer groups, standard consumer expenditure surveys only sample a relatively small number of individuals within each group. For example, even in our relatively large Indian data set, n_g is less than two

dozen for most groups. So while it is reasonable to assume that G goes to infinity ($G > 1000$ in our data), we take a new approach to identifying and estimating peer effects by assuming that n_g is small and fixed. This means that observed within group sample averages are mismeasured estimates of true within group means, and that these measurement errors do not disappear asymptotically as the sample size grows with G . Moreover, these measurement errors are by construction correlated with individual specific covariates and error terms.

Measurement error more broadly has long been recognized as potentially important in social interactions models. See, e.g., Moffitt (2001) and Angrist (2014), though their work focuses on standard issues of mismeasurement in regressors, recognizing that, unlike in ordinary models, outcomes are also regressors and hence measurement error in outcomes matters. This is quite different from our situation, which recognizes that only observing a limited number of individuals in each group results in measurement errors in group means. This can also be interpreted as a missing data problem where what is missing is the outcomes of most group members. Others have looked at different missing data problems in peer models. For example Sojourner (2009) considers peer effects in Project STAR classrooms, where the missing data consists of pre-intervention information on student achievement. In his model, the difficulties of missing data are addressed in part by assuming a linear model where students are randomly assigned to their peer groups, defined as classrooms.

As is standard in models with measurement errors, we will need to obtain valid instruments that are correlated with true group means. However, even with instruments, the obvious two stage least squares or GMM estimator that assumes model errors are uncorrelated with instruments (after replacing true group means with their sample analogs) will not be consistent in our context. This is because such instruments cannot overcome the reflection problem, and because our model is nonlinear, containing interaction terms between the measurement errors and the true regressors. An analogous problem arises in the polynomial model with measurement errors considered by Hausman, Newey, Ichimura, and Powell (1991). We show that overcoming these issues requires some novel transformations that ultimately lead to a valid GMM estimator.

Finally, even given complete identification of model parameters, the Blackorby and Donaldson (1994) result discussed earlier still applies, namely, that only relative needs across consumers are identifiable, not the absolute level of needs. However, this will suffice for all of our welfare analyses.

2 Generic Model Identification

Before introducing our general model of peer effects in consumer demand, in this section we consider a simple generic model where individual outcomes depend on group means. We use this model to illustrate the obstacles to identification in our general context, show how we overcome these obstacles, and show how we construct a corresponding estimator. This generic model should be useful to other researchers in general applications where peer effects are nonlinear, where fixed effects or random effects are present, and where only a small number of individuals are observed in each group.

Here we summarize the main structure of our generic social interactions model, and the associated logic of its identification and estimation. In the Appendix we provide detailed assumptions regarding the model and a formal proof of its identification. Let i index individuals. Each individual i is in a peer group $g \in \{1, \dots, G\}$. The number of peer groups G is large, so we assume $G \rightarrow \infty$. In our data we will only observe a small number n_g of the individuals in each peer group g , so asymptotics assuming $n_g \rightarrow \infty$ would be a poor approximation. We therefore assume n_g is fixed and so does not grow with the sample size.

Let y_i be an outcome which is affected by an observed scalar regressor x_i (we later generalize the model to allow y and x to be vectors of outcomes and of regressors). Denote the group mean outcome $\bar{y}_g = E(y_i | i \in g)$, and similarly define \bar{x}_g . The general form of our model is

$$y_i = h(\theta | \bar{y}_g, x_i) + v_g + u_i, \quad (6)$$

where v_g for $g \in \{1, \dots, G\}$ are group level random or fixed effects, u_i are mean zero errors, independent of $x_{i'}$ for all individuals i' , and θ is a vector of parameters to be identified and estimated. The dependence of h on \bar{y}_g are the peer effects we want to identify. Note that \bar{x}_g does not appear explicitly in this model, but, we have allowed for a fixed effect v_g , which could be an unknown function of both \bar{x}_g and of any other group level covariates. Although excluding \bar{x}_g would solve the reflection problem in a model without v_g , the problem is not avoided by excluding \bar{x}_g in our model.

Suppose h were linear, i.e., suppose $h(\theta | \bar{y}_g, x_i)$ equalled $\bar{y}_g a + x_i b$. A constant term is omitted here because it would trivially be included in v_g . Then the peer effect, given by the parameter a , could not be identified because we could not separate \bar{y}_g from v_g . To overcome this linear model nonidentification (and because there is substantial empirical evidence of nonlinearity in our empirical application), we propose the nonlinear model

$$h(\theta | \hat{y}_g, x_i) = (\bar{y}_g a + x_i b)^2 d + (\bar{y}_g c + x_i b), \quad (7)$$

where $\theta = (a, b, c, d)$.⁴

Now \bar{y}_g cannot actually be observed (even asymptotically, because we have assumed n_g is fixed), so we will need to replace it with some estimator. Let \hat{y}_g be an estimator of \bar{y}_g . This introduces an additional error term ε_{gi} defined by $\varepsilon_{gi} = h(\theta | \bar{y}_g, x_i) - h(\theta | \hat{y}_g, x_i)$, and the model becomes

$$y_i = (\hat{y}_g a + x_i b)^2 d + (\hat{y}_g c + x_i b) + v_g + u_i + \varepsilon_{gi},$$

where

$$\varepsilon_{gi} = (\bar{y}_g - \hat{y}_g) a + (\bar{y}_g^2 - \hat{y}_g^2) a^2 d + 2abd (\bar{y}_g - \hat{y}_g) x_i.$$

Inspection of this equation shows a number of obstacles to identifying and estimating θ . First, v_g will in general be correlated with \bar{y}_g and hence with \hat{y}_g (this was the main cause of nonidentification in the linear model). Second, since n_g does not go to infinity, if \hat{y}_g contains y_i , then \hat{y}_g will correlate with u_i . Third, again because n_g is fixed, ε_{gi} doesn't vanish asymptotically, and is by construction correlated with some functions of \hat{y}_g and x_i . Equivalently, we can think of $(\bar{y}_g - \hat{y}_g)$ and $(\bar{y}_g^2 - \hat{y}_g^2)$ as measurement errors in \bar{y}_g and \bar{y}_g^2 , leading to the standard measurement error problem that mismeasured regressors are correlated with errors in the model.

So, while nonlinearity overcomes the fundamental nonidentification of the linear model, it introduces a host of other obstacles to identification that we need to overcome. We employ two somewhat different methods for identifying the model, depending on whether each v_g is assumed to be a fixed effect or a random effect. For each case, we construct a set of moment conditions that suffice to identify θ , and can be used for estimated via GMM (Generalized Method of Moments, see Hansen 1982).

2.1 Generic Model Identification - Fixed Effects

We begin by looking at the difference between the outcomes of two people i and i' in group g .

$$y_i - y_{i'} = h(\theta | \bar{y}_g, x_i) - h(\theta | \bar{y}_g, x_{i'}) + u_i - u_{i'}$$

⁴As we discuss in the appendix, we could have started from the seemingly more general model $y_i = (\bar{y}_g a + x_i b + c)^2 d + (\bar{y}_g a + x_i b + c) + v_g + u_i$. However, this model turns out to be observationally equivalent to the simpler form given in equation 7.

This differencing removes the fixed effects v_g . This also differences out the quadratic term $\bar{y}_g^2 a^2$ inside h . Define the leave-two-out group mean estimator

$$\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'} = \frac{1}{n_g - 2} \sum_{l \in g, l \neq i, i'} y_l$$

This is just the sample average of y for everyone who is observed in group g except for the individuals i and i' . Let \widehat{y}_g from before be the estimator $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$. Then

$$y_i - y_{i'} = h(\theta \mid \widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}, x_i) - h(\theta \mid \widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}, x_{i'}) + u_i - u_{i'} + \varepsilon_{gi} - \varepsilon_{gi'}. \quad (8)$$

We can then show (see Theorem 1 in the Appendix) that, with these definitions,

$$E(u_i - u_{i'} + \varepsilon_{gi} - \varepsilon_{gi'} \mid x_i, x_{i'}) = 0, \quad (9)$$

which we can then use to construct moments for estimation of equation (8).

The intuition for this result can be seen by reexamining the obstacles to identification listed earlier. The correlation of v_g with \bar{y}_g and hence with $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ doesn't matter because v_g has been differenced out. $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ does not correlate with u_i or $u_{i'}$ because individuals i and i' are omitted from the construction of $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$. Finally, we can verify that $\varepsilon_{gi} - \varepsilon_{gi'}$ is linear in $x_i - x_{i'}$, with a conditionally mean zero coefficient.

Equation (8) contains functions of $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$, x_i , and $x_{i'}$ as regressors, and equation (9) shows that we can use functions of x_i and $x_{i'}$ as instruments (equivalently, x_i and $x_{i'}$ are exogenous regressors). An obvious candidate instrument for $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ would be some estimate \widehat{x}_g of \bar{x}_g , the reason being that y_i depends on x_i and therefore the average within group value of y should be correlated with the average within group value of x . The problem is that, although $E(\varepsilon_{gi} - \varepsilon_{gi'} \mid x_i, x_{i'}) = 0$, the error $\varepsilon_{gi} - \varepsilon_{gi'}$ will in general be correlated with x_l for all observed individuals l in the group other than the individuals i and i' . Note that this problem is due to the assumption that n_g is fixed. If it were the case that $n_g \rightarrow \infty$, then $\varepsilon_{gi} - \varepsilon_{gi'} \rightarrow 0$, and this problem would disappear.

To overcome this final obstacle to identification in the fixed effects model (finding an instrument for $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$), we require some other source of group level data. For example, in our application x_i is total consumption expenditures. A valid instrument for $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ would then be something that correlates with \bar{x}_g e.g., some measure of the average level of income, wealth or socioeconomic status of the group, perhaps obtained from a different data set.

An alternative source of group level instruments is what we actually use in our empirical application. Our data set, which is typical of consumption surveys, is repeated cross section

data, where different consumers are sampled in each time period. Now $\varepsilon_{gi} - \varepsilon_{gi'}$ is correlated with x_l for individuals l in group g that we observed and used in constructing $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$. But $\varepsilon_{gi} - \varepsilon_{gi'}$ will not in general be correlated with other individuals, and in particular will not be correlated with individuals that are observed in group g in other time periods (again, see the appendix for details). We can therefore construct an instrument that correlates with \bar{x}_g by taking the sample average of x_l for individuals l who are observed in group g in *other* time periods. These will be useful and valid instruments as long as group level total expenditures \bar{x}_g are autocorrelated over time.

Let \mathbf{r}_g denote a vector of valid group level instruments for $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$, constructed as above either from other datasets or from other time periods. Combining these with equations (8) and (9) then gives conditional moments

$$E [y_i - y_{i'} - h(\theta \mid \widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}, x_i) + h(\theta \mid \widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}, x_{i'}) \mid x_i, x_{i'}, \mathbf{r}_g] = 0.$$

Since it is easier to estimate models using unconditional moments, let $\mathbf{r}_{gii'}$ denote a vector of functions of $x_i, x_{i'}, \mathbf{r}_g$. Since h is quadratic, a natural choice of elements comprising $\mathbf{r}_{gii'}$ would be $x_i, x_{i'}, \mathbf{r}_g$, and squares and cross products of these variables. We then have the unconditional moments

$$E [(y_i - y_{i'} - h(\theta \mid \widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}, x_i) + h(\theta \mid \widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}, x_{i'})) \mathbf{r}_{gii'}] = 0. \quad (10)$$

Theorem 1 in the Appendix extends this model to a vector \mathbf{x}_i , and proves that the parameters θ are identified from these unconditional moments.

After plugging equation (7) for the function h into equation above, we obtain an expression that can immediately be used for estimation by GMM. For estimation, observations are defined as every pair of individuals i and i' in each group. By construction, the errors in this model are correlated across observations within each group. It is therefore necessary to estimate the model using clustered standard errors, where each group is a cluster (again, details are provided in the Appendix).

In addition to extending the above model to allow for a vector of covariates \mathbf{x}_i , in the Appendix we also show how the model extends to a J vector of outcomes \mathbf{y}_i , replacing the scalar a with a J by J matrix of own and cross equation peer effects. Our utility-derived demand model will also entail a vector of outcomes with a matrix of own and cross peer effects.

2.2 Generic Model - Random Effects

A drawback of the fixed effects model is that differencing across individuals, which was needed to remove the fixed effects, results in a substantial loss of information. So in this section we instead assume that v_g is independent of x_i (a random effects assumption) and provide additional moments that do not entail differencing. The moments obtained under fixed effects remain valid under the additional random effects assumptions. So the proof of identification under fixed effects (Theorem 1) also shows identification of the random effects model. The goal here is to show how moments that do not require differencing can be obtained by exploiting the random effects independence of v_g from x_i . One potential advantage of the random effects model over fixed effects is that it remains identified even if $d = 0$, that is, it allows for but does not require nonlinearity for identification.

For random effects it will be convenient to rewrite the quadratic model, equations (6) and (7), as

$$y_i = \bar{y}_g^2 a^2 d + (c + 2x_i abd) \bar{y}_g + (x_i b + x_i^2 b^2 d) + v_g + u_i. \quad (11)$$

As before, we will need to replace the unobserved \bar{y}_g with some estimate, and this replacement will add an additional epsilon term to the errors. However, in the fixed effects case, when we pairwise differenced this model, the quadratic term \bar{y}_g^2 also dropped out. Now, since we are not differencing, we must cope not just with estimation error in \bar{y}_g , but also in \bar{y}_g^2 (recall also that since n_g is fixed, this estimation error is equivalent to measurement error, which does not disappear asymptotically). To obtain valid moment conditions, we employ a variant of the trick we used before. Again let i' denote an individual other than i in group g , and $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}$. Suppose we replaced \bar{y}_g with $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ as before. The problem now is that the error $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}^2 - \bar{y}_g^2$ would in general be correlated with x_l for every individual l in the group, including i and i' .

To circumvent this problem, we replace the linear term \bar{y}_g with the estimate $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ as before, but we replace the squared term \bar{y}_g^2 with $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'} y_{i'}$. This latter replacement might seem problematic, since a single individual's $y_{i'}$ provides a very crude estimate of \bar{y}_g . However, we repeat this construction for every individual i' (other than i) in the group, and essentially average the resulting moments over all individuals i' in g . With this replacement, equation (11) becomes

$$y_i = \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} y_{i'} a^2 d + (c + 2x_i abd) \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} + (x_i b + x_i^2 b^2 d) + v_g + u_i + \tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'}$$

where

$$\tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'} = (\bar{y}_g^2 - \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} y_{i'}) a^2 d + (c + 2x_i abd) (\bar{y}_g - \hat{y}_{g,-ii'})$$

We can then show (see the Appendix for details), that $E(\tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'} | x_i, \mathbf{r}_g) = -da^2 \text{Var}(v_g)$. Our

constructions in estimating the group mean eliminates correlation of the error $\tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'}$ with x_i . But $\tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'}$ still does not have conditional mean zero, because both $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ and $y_{i'}$ contain v_g , so the mean of the product of $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ and $y_{i'}$ includes the variance of v_g .

It follows from the above that

$$E [y_i - \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} y_{i'} a^2 d - (c + 2x_i abd) \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} - (x_i b + x_i^2 b^2 d) - v_0 \mid x_i, \mathbf{r}_g] = 0 \quad (12)$$

where $v_0 = E(v_g) - da^2 Var(v_g)$ is a constant to be estimated along with the other parameters, and \mathbf{r}_g are the same group level instruments we defined earlier. Letting \mathbf{r}_{gi} be functions of x_i and \mathbf{r}_g (such as x_i, \mathbf{r}_g, x_i^2 , and $x_i \mathbf{r}_g$), we immediately obtain unconditional moments

$$E [(y_i - \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} y_{i'} a^2 d - (c + 2x_i abd) \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} - (x_i b + x_i^2 b^2 d) - v_0) \mathbf{r}_{gi}] = 0 \quad (13)$$

which we can estimate using GMM exactly as before. The moments from the fixed effects model, equation (10), remain valid under random effects, so both equations (10) and (13) could be combined in a single GMM estimator to increase asymptotic efficiency.

As with the fixed effects model, in the Appendix we extend the above model to allow for a vector of covariates \mathbf{x}_i , and to allow for a J vector of outcomes \mathbf{y}_i , replacing the scalar a with a J by J matrix of own and cross equation peer effects.

3 Nonstructural Analysis: Well-Being, Consumption and Luxuries

Do group level peer consumption externalities exist? Do they make people worse off? Before developing our full utility derived structural model, we present some non-structural empirical findings addressing these questions. The first analysis applies the generic model of the previous sections to our India data, and shows that peer effects are present in the consumption of luxuries. The second, using data from a separate India data set, is a simple regression of self reports of well-being on own and peer expenditures. Both yield results that support our theoretical utility derived model of peer effects.

3.1 National Sample Survey data

For our main analyses, we use household consumption data from rounds 59 to 62 of the National Sample Survey (NSS) of India (conducted in 2003 to 2006). Table 1 gives data on household consumption from round 61 of the NSS. We consider only households that are be-

tween the 1st and 99th percentiles of household expenditure in each state/year. We use only urban households whose state-identifier is not masked and with 12 or fewer members whose head is aged 20 or more. To increase the on-the-ground salience of our groups, we restrict to non-scheduled caste/scheduled tribe Hindus. We define groups as the cross of education of household head (in 3 levels: uneducated/illiterate; completed primary; completed secondary) and geographic district (575 districts across 33 states). We drop groups that have fewer than 10 households. Our resulting dataset has 56,516 distinct households in 2354 groups, giving an average group size of 24 households. Our estimator uses all household-pairs within each group, and we have a total of 2,055,776 such pairs. We provide summary statistics at the level of the household, and at the level of the household-pairs used for estimation.

The NSS collects item-level household spending for 76 items, and collects quantities for roughly half of these. We consider only the 48 nondurable consumption items, and compute total expenditure x_i as the sum of spending on these nondurable consumption items. We automate the classification of items into luxuries versus necessities by regressing the budget shares of each of these 48 nondurable items on the log of total expenditure, and classify those items with positive slopes as luxuries and the rest as necessities. Note that these are poor households, so unlike more developed countries, typical luxuries here are goods and services like sweets, ghee, processed foods, transportation, shampoo, and toothpaste.

Total expenditures, and its components of luxury and necessity spending, are expressed in units of average household expenditure in round 59, so the average total expenditure of 1.12 reported in Table 1 shows that household spending was 12% higher in our sample than in the first round of the data. Roughly one-quarter of household spending is classified as luxury spending (0.31/1.12). Prices are constructed from unit values at the item level by taking the median at the state-round level, then aggregated up to the level of luxuries and necessities with a Laspeyres index.

3.2 Generic Model Estimates

Our first empirical exercise is to estimate the fixed and random effects models of the previous sections. Here, y_i is expenditures on luxuries, \bar{y}_g is the true group-mean expenditure on luxuries, \hat{y}_g is the observed sample average, and x_i is total expenditures.

We provide estimates using random-effects unconditional moments (13) and fixed-effects unconditional moments (10). Define $\bar{x}_{g,-t}$ to be the group-average expenditure in other time periods. Fixed-effects instruments $\mathbf{r}_{gii'}$ are: $\bar{x}_{g,-t}, (x_i - x_{ii'}), (x_i - x_{ii'})\bar{x}_{g,-t}, (x_i^2 - x_{ii'}^2), (z_i - z_k), (z_i - z_k)\bar{x}_{g,-t}, z_g, z_g(x_i - x_{i'}), 1$. Random-effects instruments \mathbf{r}_{gi} are: $\bar{x}_{g,-t}, x_i, x_i\bar{x}_{g,-t}, x_i^2, z_i, 1$. These instruments are constructed to mirror the sources of identification in the FE and RE

cases, respectively. Resulting GMM estimates of the parameters are given in Table 2.

In the fixed, but not random effects specifications, peer luxury expenditure has a significant and substantial effect on own luxury expenditure. Higher levels of peer luxury expenditure work in the opposite direction of higher levels of own expenditure, effectively making the household behave (in a demand sense) as if it was poorer when peer expenditures rise. However, the magnitude of the peer effects varies dramatically across RE and FE specifications (although they do not vary much with different controls). Equality of peer effects is decisively rejected by Hausman tests. This is a natural consequence of the group-level unobservable taste for an expenditure category v_g being correlated with expenditure in that category. In our preferred FE estimate of column 8, a 100 rupee increase in peer luxury expenditures makes households behave as if they are over 50 rupees poorer (in terms of luxury demand), controlling for group level characteristics.

In both models, the estimated values of b and d are positive. As a result, the first and second derivatives of luxury consumption with respect to total expenditures x_i are positive, which is sensible for luxury goods.

While the results here are consistent with our theoretical model, this analysis has several shortcomings. First, it only shows how peer's spending affects one's own spending on luxuries, but it cannot tell us if these spillovers are bad in the sense of lowering one's utility when one's peers spend more (though the results do suggest this is the case, since they show that one acts as if one is poorer when one's peers spend more). Second, although we control for prices by including them as covariates, the model does not do so in a way that is consistent with utility maximization, because the model is not derived from utility theory. Third, the model does not allow for the possibility that group-average *non*-luxury spending affects luxury demands. This can most easily be seen by noting that b is typically smaller (albeit insignificantly) than a in the FE specifications, meaning that group expenditure has a larger effect on behavior than x_i . We will show later that this is inconsistent with a peer-spending equilibrium, and is a natural consequence of excluding group-average non-luxury spending from the right hand side. Fourth, it is not possible to derive welfare or utility implications of the resulting estimates.

In order to address the first of these issues, and to provide additional guidance for constructing a formal model of utility that solves all the other shortcomings, we now turn to a brief analysis of well-being data from a different survey. Dealing with the remaining issues will require our full structural model.

3.3 Subjective well-being and peer consumption

Our generic model estimates above are consistent with a model in which increased peer consumption decreases the utility one gets from consuming a given level of luxuries, as suggested by our theoretical model of needs. But they are also consistent with a demand model where peer spending increases the consumption utility in a given category, as when peer consumption increases the utility of one’s own cell phone use through network effects. This distinction is the difference between peer expenditures constituting positive versus negative externalities, and is of crucial importance for quantifying the welfare ramifications of peer effects in consumption.

To directly check the sign of these spillover effects on utility, we would like to estimate the correlation between utility and peer expenditures, conditioning on one’s own expenditure level. While we cannot directly observe utility, here we make use of a proxy, which is a reported ordinal measure of life satisfaction.

Table A1 summarizes 3236 observations from the 5th (2006) and 6th (2014) waves of the World Values Survey, two recent waves with most consistent income reporting. In each year the surveyor asks the question, “All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?” Answers are on a 5-point ordinal scale in the 5th wave, and a 10-point scale in the 6th, which we collapse to a 5-point scale.

Neither wave of the survey reports actual income or consumption expenditures. What this survey does report is position on a ten-point income distribution that corresponds to the deciles of the national income distribution. We use this response to impute individual total expenditure levels by taking the corresponding decile-specific expenditure mean from the NSS data. We also obtain group level total expenditures from the NSS data. For this analysis we define groups by religion (Hindu vs non-Hindu), education level (less than primary, primary, secondary or more) and state of residence (20 states and state groupings). These are much larger, more coarsely defined groups than we use for all of our other analyses. Much larger groups are needed here because the WVS sample size is much smaller than the NSS, and because we have no asymptotic theory to deal with small group sizes in this part of the analysis.

Our preferred measures of total expenditures are deflated using the CPI index for India. Average expenditure is 2200 rupees per month (which deflates to 1999 rupees), or about 50 US dollars. This is lower than the average for India at this time, which appears to be due to sample composition issues in the WVS. For example, only 1.6% of households in the WVS are in the top decile of income.

Table 3 presents estimates of well-being as a function of both own total expenditures and

group total expenditures, specified as

$$u_i = \beta_1 \widehat{x}_{igt} + \beta_2 \overline{\widehat{x}}_{gt} + Z_{igt} \alpha + \gamma_g + \phi_t + \varepsilon_{igt}, \quad (14)$$

where u_i is the z-normalized well-being indicator, \widehat{x}_{igt} is imputed individual expenditures, $\overline{\widehat{x}}_{gt}$ is imputed group expenditures, Z_{igt} is vector of individual level controls, γ_g is a group level fixed effect (recall that groups are defined within states, so this effectively includes a state fixed effect as well), and ϕ_t is a year fixed effect. Identification of β_2 comes from group-level changes in expenditure between rounds, and corresponds to the change in self-reported utility as group income is rising versus falling, holding own income constant. We also repeat this analysis using an ordered logit specification.

Results in the second column of Table 3 imply that a 100 rupees increase in individual expenditures \widehat{x}_{igt} increases satisfaction by 0.13 standard deviations, while a 100 rupees increase in group expenditure $\overline{\widehat{x}}_{gt}$ decreases satisfaction by 0.19 standard deviations. This is similar to Luttmer’s (2005) finding of “neighbours as negatives,” where increases in group income holding individual income constant reduces individual’s reported well-being.

The ratio of the peer-expenditure and own-expenditure effects, $-\beta_2/\beta_1 = 19/13 = 1.45$, says that one must increase one’s own expenditures by 145 rupees to compensate for the loss of utility that results from a 100 rupees increase in group expenditure levels. This point estimate is unreasonably large, as we show later that equilibrium requires that this ratio be less than 1. Reassuringly, we cannot reject the hypothesis that $\beta_2 + \beta_1 = 0$, so the ratio could be less than one. The corresponding ratio estimate in Luttmer (2005) is 0.76, and we can’t reject that value either.

Since well-being is reported on an ordinal scale, to check the robustness of these results, we estimate the same regression as an ordered logit (see columns 4 and 5 of Table 3). The results are qualitatively the same, suggesting that our results are not being determined by the normalizations implicit in z-scoring the satisfaction responses.

Taken together, these regressions suggest that utility is increasing in household expenditure, decreasing in group average expenditure, and that the magnitude of the latter effect is similar to that of the former but opposite in sign. This suggests validity of the model of perceived needs that we employ in our structural analysis later. Our next step is to construct a model of utility that is consistent with what we observe here, accommodates price and demographic heterogeneity, and enables analyses of the welfare implications of peer effects.

4 Utility, Welfare, and Demands With Needs Containing Peer Effects

Let i index consumers and let $\mathbf{q}_i = (q_{1i}, \dots, q_{Ji})$ be a J -vector of commodity quantities chosen by consumer or household i . Let \mathbf{p} be the corresponding J -vector of prices of each commodity, let x_i be the total budget for commodities of consumer i , and let \mathbf{z}_i be a K vector of observed characteristics of consumer i . Commodities here are aggregates of goods or services that are assumed to be purchased and consumed in continuous quantities. Each consumer i is assumed to choose \mathbf{q}_i to maximize a direct utility function, subject to the budget constraint that $\mathbf{p}'\mathbf{q}_i \leq x_i$. Let $i \in g$ denote that consumer i belongs to group g . Let $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g = E(\mathbf{q}_i \mid i \in g)$, so $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ is the mean level of quantities consumed by consumers in group g .

As derived in section 1.2, we assume preferences can be represented by an indirect utility function of the form

$$u_i = V(\mathbf{p}, x_i - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{f}_i = \mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i \quad (15)$$

for some J by J parameter matrix \mathbf{A} and some J by K parameter matrix \mathbf{C} . The larger the elements of \mathbf{A} are, the greater are the peer effects. If \mathbf{A} is a diagonal matrix, then the perceived needs for any commodity depend only on the group mean purchases of that commodity. We may more generally allow for nonzero off diagonal elements as well. So, e.g., my peer's expenditures on luxuries could affect not only my perceived needs for luxuries, but also my perceived needs for necessities.

In general, we expect elements of \mathbf{A} , particularly diagonal elements, to be nonnegative. However, they cannot be too large (and in particular diagonal elements cannot exceed one), since otherwise stable equilibria may not exist (analogous to the Assumption A2 inequality being violated in the generic model). See the Appendix for details.

For welfare calculations, we need to compare well being across consumers. Define the *equivalent-income* \tilde{X}_i as the income (budget) needed by consumer i to get the same level of utility as that of some reference consumer $i = 0$ having a budget x . As discussed earlier, equation (15) is in the class of models that satisfy Blackorby and Donaldson's (1994) Absolute Equivalence Scale Exactness (AESE) property. It follows from their results that \tilde{X}_i itself cannot be identified, but differences $\tilde{X}_i - \tilde{X}_{i'}$ for any two individuals i and i' are given by $\tilde{X}_i - \tilde{X}_{i'} = x_i - x_{i'} - \mathbf{p}'(\mathbf{f}_i - \mathbf{f}_{i'})$. Blackorby and Donaldson show that, for preferences satisfying AESE, equivalent incomes are money metric measures of utility, and therefore social welfare functions can be defined as functions of everyone's equivalent incomes \tilde{X}_i . A particularly convenient social welfare function, though one that is not inequality averse, is

the simple sum $\sum_i \tilde{X}_i$. Given estimates of \mathbf{f}_i , we can therefore calculate changes in this social welfare function (i.e., total money metric utility in the population) from changes in mean income in the population and corresponding changes in needs $\mathbf{p}' \sum_i \mathbf{f}_i$.

Having specified \mathbf{f}_i and hence the functions defining needs, now consider the indirect utility function V . A long empirical literature on commodity demands finds that observed demand functions are close to polynomial, and have a property known as rank equal to three. See, e.g. Lewbel (1991) and Banks, Blundell, and Lewbel (1997), and references therein. Gorman (1981) shows that any polynomial demand system will have a maximum rank of three, and Lewbel (1989) shows that the simplest tractable class of indirect utility functions that yields rank three polynomials in x is $V(\mathbf{p}, x) = (x - R(\mathbf{p}))^{1-\lambda} B(\mathbf{p}) / (1 - \lambda) - D(\mathbf{p})$ for some constant λ and some differentiable functions R , B and D .

The most commonly assumed rank three models are quadratic (see the above references, and Pollak and Wales 1980), which corresponds to $\lambda = 2$, implying $V(\mathbf{p}, x) = -(x - R(\mathbf{p}))^{-1} B(\mathbf{p}) - D(\mathbf{p})$. Combining this with AESE and our parameterization of the needs function \mathbf{f}_i gives the model

$$u_i = V(\mathbf{p}, x_i - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{f}_i) = -(x_i - R(\mathbf{p}) - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i)^{-1} B(\mathbf{p}) - D(\mathbf{p})$$

for the utility of consumer i in group g . Preserving homogeneity (i.e., the absence of money illusion, which is a necessary condition for rationality of preferences), requires $R(\mathbf{p})$ and $B(\mathbf{p})$ to be homogeneous of degree one in \mathbf{p} and $D(\mathbf{p})$ to be homogeneous of degree zero in \mathbf{p} .

Applying Roy's (1947) identity to this indirect utility function then yields the vector of demand functions

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{q}_i &= (x_i - R(\mathbf{p}) - \mathbf{p}'(\mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i))^2 \frac{\nabla D(\mathbf{p})}{B(\mathbf{p})} \\ &+ (x_i - R(\mathbf{p}) - \mathbf{p}'(\mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i)) \frac{\nabla B(\mathbf{p})}{B(\mathbf{p})} + \nabla R(\mathbf{p}) + \mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i. \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

To allow for unobserved heterogeneity in behavior, we append the error term $\mathbf{v}_g + \mathbf{u}_i$ to the above set of demand functions, where \mathbf{v}_g is a J -vector of group level fixed or random effects and \mathbf{u}_i is a J -vector of individual specific error terms that are assumed to have zero means conditional on all x_l , \mathbf{z}_l , and \mathbf{p} with $l \in g$. In the fixed effects model, the group level fixed effect \mathbf{v}_g is permitted to correlate with other regressors like \mathbf{p} and $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$. We also consider a random effects model, where much greater efficiency is gained by adding the restrictions that \mathbf{v}_g satisfies some independence assumptions.

These error terms and fixed effects can be interpreted either as departures from utility

maximization by individuals, or as unobserved preference heterogeneity. Assuming that the price weighted sum $\mathbf{p}'(\mathbf{v}_g + \mathbf{u}_i)$ is zero suffices to keep each individual on their budget constraint. Under this restriction, if desired one could replace $\mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i$ with $(\mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i + \mathbf{v}_g + \mathbf{u}_i)$ in the indirect utility function above, and treat error terms as unobserved preference heterogeneity parameters.

Convenient yet flexible specifications of the price functions are $R(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{p}^{1/2'}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{p}^{1/2}$ where \mathbf{R} is a symmetric matrix, $\ln B(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{b}'\ln \mathbf{p}$ with $\mathbf{b}'\mathbf{1} = 1$, and $D(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{d}'\ln \mathbf{p}$ with $\mathbf{d}'\mathbf{1} = 0$. Substituting these error terms and price functions into the above demand function yields, for each good j , the demand model

$$q_{ji} = Q_j(\mathbf{p}, x_i, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g, \mathbf{z}_i) + v_{jg} + u_{ji}$$

where

$$Q_j(\mathbf{p}, x_i, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g, \mathbf{z}_i) = X_i^2 e^{-\mathbf{b}'\ln \mathbf{p}} \frac{d_j}{p_j} + X_i \frac{b_j}{p_j} + R_{jj} + \sum_{k \neq j} R_{jk} \sqrt{p_k/p_j} + \mathbf{A}'_j \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \mathbf{C}'_j \mathbf{z}_i, \quad (17)$$

\mathbf{A}'_j is row j of \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{C}'_j is row j of \mathbf{C} , and where we define for convenience "deflated income" by

$$X_i = X(\mathbf{p}, x_i, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g, \mathbf{z}_i) = x_i - \mathbf{p}^{1/2'}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{p}^{1/2} - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g - \mathbf{p}'\mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i. \quad (18)$$

Deflated income X_i is convenient for simplifying notation, but does not have the welfare significance of equivalent income \tilde{X}_i . However, if prices are held fixed, then $\tilde{X}_i - \tilde{X}_{i'} = X_i - X_{i'}$, so we can use either one interchangeably for calculating changes in needs or in money metric utility.

In all of the above, different consumers can be observed in different time periods (no consumer is observed more than once). Prices vary by time, and also vary geographically. Assume that our data spans T different price regimes (time periods and/or geographic regions). Each individual i is observed in some particular price regime $t \in \{1, 2, \dots, T\}$, so we add a t subscript to every group level variable above.

The goal will be estimation of the set of parameters $\{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C}, \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{b}\}$. Our particular interest will be in identifying equivalent income $\tilde{X}(\mathbf{p}_t, x_i, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}, \mathbf{z}_i)$, which forms the basis of our welfare analyses as discussed in the previous section. The only parameters the function $\tilde{X}(\mathbf{p}_t, x_i, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}, \mathbf{z}_i)$ depends on are \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{C} . Interestingly, under random effects \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{C} could be identified even if the data contained no price variation.

In our empirical application, some of the characteristics \mathbf{z}_i are group level attributes, that is, they vary across groups but are the same for all individuals within a group. Where it is relevant to make this distinction, we write \mathbf{C} as $\mathbf{C} = \left(\tilde{\mathbf{C}} : \mathbf{D} \right)$ for submatrices $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}$ and \mathbf{D} ,

and replace $\mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i$ with $\mathbf{C}\mathbf{z}_i = \tilde{\mathbf{C}}\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i + \mathbf{D}\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g$, where $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i$ is the vector of characteristics that vary across individuals in a group and $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g$ are group level characteristics. Under fixed effects, \mathbf{A} and $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}$, but not \mathbf{D} , could be identified even if the data contained no price variation.

There is one more extension to the above model that we consider in our estimates, but do not include above to save on notation. We allow a few discrete characteristics (education dummies) to interact with $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$. This is equivalent to letting \mathbf{A} vary with these discrete characteristics. Identification of the model with this extension follows immediately from identification of the model with \mathbf{A} constant, since the the same assumptions used to identify the above model with fixed \mathbf{A} can just be applied separately for each value of these characteristics.

Our demand model is the system of equations given by plugging equation (18) into equation (17) for all goods j . In the Appendix we provide assumptions and associated proofs that all of the parameters of the model, \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{C} , \mathbf{R} , \mathbf{d} , and \mathbf{b} , are identified under either fixed effects or random effects. The methods of identification and proofs given there proceed in two steps. First, we consider the model without price variation, constructing the Engel curves that correspond to our demand system. Using techniques entirely analogous to the corresponding generic model (in which moments are constructed that can be used for estimation via GMM), we show identification of these Engel curves. We then show that, by identifying how the Engel curve parameters vary across price regimes, we can (with a small amount of relative price variation) recover all of the parameters of the full demand model. For estimation, it is not necessary to perform the estimation in these two steps. Instead, we just directly construct moments for GMM estimation of the full demand system. In the next sections we summarize this estimation procedure. Given our moments based identification strategy, consistency and the limiting distribution of the resulting estimator follow from standard GMM asymptotic theory with clustered standard errors. See the Appendix for details.

5 Implementing the Demand System

Here we show how the parameters in the system of demand equations (17) can be identified and estimated, by extending the same methods used for the generic fixed effects and random effects models. Formal assumptions, proofs, and details are deferred to the Appendix. Based on these results, we can estimate all of the parameters of our demand system assuming we have data from at least J different price regimes (time periods and/or regions), which we will index by t . As is standard in the estimation of continuous demand systems, we only need to estimate the model for goods $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$. The parameters for the last good J

are then obtained from the adding up identity that $q_{Ji} = \left(x_i - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} p_{jt}q_{ji} \right) / p_{Jt}$.

Most of our analyses will be based on $J = 2$, with the two goods being luxuries and necessities, and where \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{R} are both diagonal. With these simplifications we only need to estimate the demand equation for good 1 and equations (17) and (18) reduce to

$$Q_1(\mathbf{p}, x_i, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g, \mathbf{z}_i) = X_i^2 e^{-b_1 \ln p_{1t} - (1-b_1) \ln p_{2t}} d_1 / p_{1t} + X_i b_1 / p_{1t} \\ + R_{11} + A_{11} \bar{q}_{g1t} + \mathbf{C}'_1 \mathbf{z}_i,$$

with deflated income X_i is given by

$$X_i = X(\mathbf{p}_t, x, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}, \mathbf{z}_i) = x_i - R_{11} p_{1t} - R_{22} p_{2t} \\ - (A_{11} \bar{q}_{g1t} + A_{22} \bar{q}_{g2t} + \mathbf{C}'_1 \mathbf{z}_i) p_{1t} - \mathbf{C}'_2 \mathbf{z}_i p_{2t}. \quad (19)$$

As is common in empirical work in demand analysis, we reframe quantity demand equations into spending equations by multiplying by price. In the above model this gives us the expenditure equation

$$p_{1t} Q_1(\mathbf{p}, x_i, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g, \mathbf{z}_i) = X_i^2 e^{-b_1 \ln p_{1t} - (1-b_1) \ln p_{2t}} d_1 + X_i b_1 \\ + R_{11} p_{1t} + A_{11} p_{1t} \bar{q}_{g1t} + \mathbf{C}'_1 p_{1t} \mathbf{z}_i + p_{1t} v_{1gt} + p_{1t} u_{1i}. \quad (20)$$

5.1 Estimating the Demand System With Fixed Effects

As in the generic model, the main complication with estimation arises from the fact that the model is nonlinear, and the error from estimation of $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ can generally be correlated with other variables and with the model error terms. As in the generic model, to construct valid moments with fixed effects we difference across all pairs of individuals i and i' in each group g , and construct both appropriate instruments and an appropriate estimator for $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ that eliminates these unwanted correlations. The estimator for the unobservable true group mean $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ is, as in the generic model, the leave-two-out estimated average

$$\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt, -ii'} = \frac{1}{n_{gt} - 2} \sum_{l \in g, t, l \neq i, i'} \mathbf{q}_l.$$

Given any pair of individuals i and i' in group g in time and district t , the variable $\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt, -ii'}$ is simply the average of \mathbf{q}_l over all of the observed consumers l in g and t , except for the individuals i and i' . This definition assumes that n_{gt} , the number of individuals observed in our data in each group g in each time and district t , is three or more.

To implement the fixed-effects estimator, we substitute $\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'}$ in for $\overline{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ in the X_i and Q_j equations, and construct associated moment conditions. For each pair of consumers i and i' in each group g in each price regime t , the resulting moments we obtain for estimation are

$$0 = E\{\mathbf{r}_{gtii'} [p_{jt}q_{ji} - p_{jt}q_{ji'} - p_{jt}Q_j(\mathbf{p}_t, x_i, \widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'}, \mathbf{z}_i) + p_{jt}Q_j(\mathbf{p}_t, x_{i'}, \widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'}, \mathbf{z}_{i'})]\} \quad (21)$$

where the vector of instruments $\mathbf{r}_{gtii'}$ is defined below. Equation (21) for all observed pairs of consumers i and i' in each group g in each period t , and is implemented for goods $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$.

Let $\widehat{x}_{(t)g}$ denote the sample mean of x_i over observed individuals i in group g in all time periods *except* the time period of price regime t . Define $\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_{(t)g}$ analogously. Let \mathbf{r}_{gt} be the vector of elements $\widehat{x}_{(t)g}$, $\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_{(t)g}$, and \mathbf{p}_t . The instrument vector $\mathbf{r}_{gtii'}$ is then constructed from the exogenous variables $\widehat{x}_{(t)g}$, $\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_{(t)g}$, \mathbf{p}_t , x_i , $x_{i'}$, \mathbf{z}_i and $\mathbf{z}_{i'}$.

For estimation of these moments by GMM, let the unit of observation be each observed pair of consumers i and i' in each group and price regime gt . The total number of moments is the number of elements of $\mathbf{r}_{gtii'}$ times $J - 1$, because equation (21) applies to each good and each instrument. As with the generic model, one must use clustered standard errors, where each group is a cluster, to account for the correlations that, by construction, will exist among the i and i' pairs that comprise each observation within each group. Clustering over time as well as across individuals allows for possible serial correlation in the errors. See the Appendix for details regarding the construction and properties of this estimator.

5.2 Estimating the Demand Model With Random Effects

As in the generic model, a great deal of information is lost by differencing out the fixed effects. We now consider adding additional assumptions to the demand model, in particular that \mathbf{v}_{gt} is independent of x_i , \mathbf{p}_t , \mathbf{z}_i and $\overline{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$, which allows us to treat \mathbf{v}_{gt} as random effects. These assumptions provide stronger moments for GMM estimation that do not entail differencing.

In the fixed effects model, differencing removed \mathbf{v}_{gt} , but it also removed the matrix $\overline{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}\overline{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}'$ that appears inside the squared deflated income term X^2 . In the random effects estimator we do not difference, so $\overline{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}\overline{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}'$ does not drop out, and we must deal with estimation error in this quadratic term. Our solution takes the same form as in the random effects generic model. We use $\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'}$ to estimate $\overline{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ wherever it appears linearly, and for every i' in the same gt as i , we use $\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'}\mathbf{q}'_{i'}$ to estimate the product $\overline{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}\overline{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}'$.

Specifically, based on equation (18), define $\widehat{X}_{1tg,-ii'}$ and $\widehat{X}_{2tg,-ii'}$ (estimates of X and X^2 , respectively) by

$$\widehat{X}_{1tg,-ii'} = x_i - \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2'} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2} - \mathbf{p}_t' \mathbf{A} \widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'} - \mathbf{p}_t' \mathbf{C} \mathbf{z}_i. \quad (22)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{X}_{2tg,-ii'} &= \mathbf{p}'_t \mathbf{A} \widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'} \mathbf{q}'_{i'} \mathbf{A}' \mathbf{p}_t - 2 \left(x_i - \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2'} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2} - \mathbf{p}'_t \mathbf{C} \mathbf{z}_i \right) \mathbf{p}'_t \mathbf{A} \widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'} \\ &+ \left(x_i - \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2'} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2} - \mathbf{p}'_t \mathbf{C} \mathbf{z}_i \right)^2. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Equations (22) and (23) are nothing more than replacing $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ with $\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'}$ and replacing $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt} \bar{\mathbf{q}}'_{gt}$ with $\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'} \mathbf{q}'_{i'}$ in the expressions for X and X^2 .

Let \mathbf{r}_{gti} denote the vector of instruments consisting of the elements $\widehat{x}_{(t)g}$, $\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_{(t)g}$, \mathbf{p}_t , x_i , \mathbf{z}_i , along with squares and cross products of these elements. The instruments here include functions of x_i and \mathbf{z}_i but, unlike the fixed effects case, the instruments do not include functions of $x_{i'}$ and $\mathbf{z}_{i'}$ and so also do not contain functions of differences like $x_i - x_{i'}$ or $\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_{i'}$. The resulting moments used to estimate the random effects model are, for goods $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$,

$$0 = E \left[\mathbf{r}_{gti} \left(p_{jt} q_{ji} - \widehat{X}_{2tg,-ii'} e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t} d_j - \widehat{X}_{1tg,-ii'} b_j - p_{jt} R_{jj} - \sum_{k \neq j} R_{jk} \sqrt{p_{jt} p_{kt}} - \mathbf{A}'_j p_{jt} \widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'} - \mathbf{C}'_j p_{jt} \mathbf{z}_i - v_{jt0} \right) \right] \quad (24)$$

where v_{jt0} is an additional constant term for each good j and price regime t that results from taking an average of the random effects component of the error term. As in the generic random effects model, this nonzero v_{jt0} term is due to the error in estimating the product $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt} \bar{\mathbf{q}}'_{gt}$.

We show in the Appendix that, under suitable assumptions listed there, equation (24) holds after substituting in equations (22) and (23), and these suffice for identifying all of the model parameters \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{C} , \mathbf{R} , \mathbf{d} , and \mathbf{b} . As in the fixed effects estimator, the observations used for estimation consist of every pair of individuals i and i' within every group and price regime gt . Inference is standard GMM with clustered standard errors, where each group g is a cluster. If we add the additional assumption that the random effects \mathbf{v}_{gt} are uncorrelated across price regimes t , then we can take each g in each price regime t as a separate cluster.

There are two options for dealing with the v_{jt0} terms. One is to treat the set of constants v_{jt0} for $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$ and $t = 1, \dots, T$ as $(J - 1)T$ additional parameters to estimate. However, this option is unattractive in terms of loss of efficiency, given the number of parameters involved. Alternatively, in the Appendix we show that, given some additional mild assumptions,

$$v_{jt0} = -\mathbf{p}'_t \mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_v \mathbf{A}' \mathbf{p}_t \left(e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t} \right) d_j$$

where $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_v = \text{Var}(\mathbf{v}_{gt})$, which for this construction is assumed constant over time. Then, instead of estimating $(J - 1)T$ parameters in addition to the structural ones, we may sub-

stitute this expression for v_{jt0} into the above GMM moments, and thereby only estimate the matrix Σ_v , consisting of $J(J+1)/2$ parameters, in addition to the structural parameters.

Formal details, derivations, and limiting distribution theory of this estimator are provided in the Appendix.

6 Structural Demand System: Empirical Results

In this section, we estimate the structural demand model defined by plugging equation (18) into equation (17) for each good j , and adding error terms u and group level fixed or random effects v to each equation in each time period. We begin with a $J = 2$ goods model, which therefore only requires estimating the demand for good $j = 1$, defined by substituting equation (19) into equation (20). Demand for good $j = 2$ is then given by the adding up constraint defined earlier.

Like most modern continuous demand models (e.g., Banks, Blundell, and Lewbel, 1997; Lewbel and Pendakur, 2009), our theoretical model includes a quadratic function of prices given by the matrix \mathbf{R} , to allow for general cross price effects. However, in our data the geometric mean of prices turns out to be highly collinear with individual prices, leading to a severe multicollinearity problem when \mathbf{R} is not diagonal. We therefore restrict \mathbf{R} to be diagonal. Note that, because of the presence of additional price functions in our model, imposing the constraint that \mathbf{R} be diagonal is not restrictive when $J \leq 3$, in the sense that our model remains Diewert-flexible (see, e.g., Diewert 1974) in own and cross price effects even with this restriction.

Our fixed and random effects estimators are as described in the previous section. With $J = 2$, our two goods are luxuries and necessities, and so we are estimating just one equation for luxury demands, which is similar in spirit to the generic model estimates we reported earlier. However, even with $J = 2$ our structural model estimates differ from the generic model in three important ways. First, as described in section 4, our structural model provides a money metric utility based welfare measure of the peer effect spillovers through the needs component of the utility function. The matrix \mathbf{A} gives the magnitude of these spillovers. If these are positive, then an increase in group-average spending increases needs, and affects utility in the same way as a decrease in household expenditure. This is indeed what we find, and is also consistent with Luttmer (2005) and with our WVS data life satisfaction estimates reported earlier in section 3. Second, our structural model incorporates demographic and price variation in a way that is consistent with utility maximization. Third, we allow the demands for goods to depend separately on the group average spending of each good, e.g., luxury demands can depend on both group-average luxuries spending and group-average

necessities spending.

6.1 Structural Model Data

In our baseline empirical work, as in the generic model, we focus on non-urban Hindu non-Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) households. However, we also report additional results for samples of non-urban non-Hindu households and samples of SC/ST households. We have groups defined by education (3 categories: illiterate or barely literate; primary or some secondary; completed secondary or more) and by district (575 districts across 33 states), and 4 years of data, allowing each group to be observed up to four times. We require each group to have at least 10 observations in each of at least two time periods. Roughly 18 per cent of households are dropped with these restrictions.⁵ We are still left with relatively few observations per group. The average size of a group in each period is 24 households, and the median is even smaller. For our sample of non-urban Hindu non-SC/ST households, we have a total of 1111 distinct groups that are observed in at least 2 time periods each, for a total of 2354 period-groups. Each group is seen in either two, three or four time periods, but most groups are observed only twice.

Our observed prices vary by time and by state, so since t indexes price regimes, t ranges from 1 to $T = 4 * 33 = 132$. Each individual i is only observed once, in one price regime and belonging to one group.

Table 1 shows summary statistics for the seven household-level demographic characteristics that comprise our vector z_i . These are household size less 1 divided by 10; the age of the head of the household divided by 120; an indicator that there is a married couple in the household; the natural log of one plus the number of hectares of land owned by the household; an indicator that the household has a ration card for basic foods and fuels; and indicators that the highest level of education of the household head is primary or secondary level (they are both zero for uneducated or illiterate household heads).

Table 1 also gives summary statistics on state-level prices \mathbf{p} . We construct prices of our demand aggregates as follows. In a first stage, following Deaton (1998), we compute state-item-level local average unit-value prices for the subset of items for which we have quantity data, to equal the state-level sum of spending divided by the state-level sum of quantities. Then, in a second stage, we aggregate these state-item-level unit value prices into state-level luxury and necessity prices using a Stone price index, with weights given by

⁵We experimented with including very small groups, but this resulted in a substantial decrease in estimation precision. Very small groups have extremely noisy estimates of group-averages, and although our measurement error correction is consistent even when including these groups, its efficiency properties are adversely affected.

the overall sample average spending on each item. In a typical state and period, these prices are computed as averages of roughly 2000 observations, so we do not attempt to instrument for possible measurement errors in these constructed price regressors.

Table 1 also reports summary statistics for prices and quantities of visible and invisible subcomponents of luxuries and necessities. We use these later on, when we consider the question of whether social interaction effects differ for goods that are visible to other consumers in comparison to those that are not visible. We use the categorization of Roth (2014) to classify goods as visible versus invisible.

6.2 Baseline Structural Model Estimates

We estimate all models by GMM. For the 2-good system (luxuries and necessities), we employ the moment conditions (21) and (24) for the fixed- and random-effects models, respectively. These moments use pair-specific instruments, $\mathbf{r}_{gtii'}$, which differ between our fixed- and random effects models. For both fixed- and random-effects instruments, we create a group-level instrument $\check{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ equal to the OLS predicted value of $\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ conditional on $\hat{x}_{gt.}, \hat{x}_{gt.}^2, \sqrt{\hat{x}_{gt.}}, \hat{x}_{gt.}^2, \hat{\mathbf{z}}_{gt.}$.⁶ Additionally, let $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{it}$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{gt}$ be the individually-varying and group-level, respectively, subvectors of \mathbf{z}_i (as in Appendix 9.5). In our baseline model, $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{it}$ includes 5 household-level variables, and $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{gt}$ includes just the remaining 2 variables: dummy variables for primary- and secondary-school education levels. Letting \cdot denote element-wise multiplication, our instrument list for the fixed-effects model is:

$$\mathbf{r}_{gtii'} = (x_{it}^2 - x_{i't}^2), (x_{it} - x_{i't}) \cdot (1, \mathbf{p}_{gt} \cdot \check{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}, \mathbf{p}_{gt} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{gt}), \mathbf{p}_{gt} \cdot (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{it} - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i't}) \cdot (1, \mathbf{p}_{gt} \cdot \check{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}), x_{it} \mathbf{p}_{gt} \cdot (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{it} - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i't}).$$

Our instrument list for the random-effects model is:

$$\mathbf{r}_{gti} = (1, \mathbf{p}_{gt}, \mathbf{p}_{gt} \cdot \check{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}, \mathbf{p}_{gt} \cdot \mathbf{z}_{it}), x_{it} \cdot (1, \mathbf{p}_{gt}, x_{it}, \mathbf{p}_{gt} \cdot \check{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}, \mathbf{p}_{gt} \cdot \mathbf{z}_{it}), \mathbf{p}_{gt} \cdot \mathbf{p}_{gt}.$$

The last term provides instruments for v_{jt0} .

Our primary focus is estimation of peer effects given by elements of the matrix \mathbf{A} , but first we consider the general reasonableness of our coefficients in the context of demand system estimation. Complete estimates for our baseline models (corresponding to Tables 4 and 5) are given in Appendix Tables A2 and A3. Our estimated quantity demand for luxuries has positive curvature. All four baseline specifications have d_1 , the coefficient on the squared budget term, being statistically significantly positive and of large magnitude, as expected for

⁶This is similar to including these values as instruments for \mathbf{q}_{gt} , but reduces the dimensionality of the instrument vector. This dimensionality reduction is quite significant because $\check{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ is multiplied by the demographic controls to generate the final instrument vector.

luxuries. Regarding demographic covariates, it is reasonable to expect that needs would rise with household size. In all four baseline specifications we find that this is indeed the case, specifically, the parameters $C_{j,hhsz}$, are statistically significant and positive. Additionally, their magnitudes are reasonable: an additional household member increases the needs for luxuries by roughly 0.06 and the needs for necessities by roughly 0.15, where the units are normalized to equal 1 for the average income in 2009.

Table 4 gives estimates of the spillover parameter matrix \mathbf{A} using fixed effects (FE) moments for the 2-good system (luxuries and necessities). We consider 2 cases here: the left panel, labeled “A same,” gives estimates for the case where \mathbf{A} is equal to a scalar, a , times the identity matrix, so $\mathbf{A} = a\mathbf{I}_J$. The right panel of Table 6, labeled “A diagonal” gives estimates for the case where \mathbf{A} is a general diagonal matrix. Later we consider cross-effects, allowing \mathbf{A} to have non-zero off diagonal elements.

In the “A same” case, needs are given by $F_i(\mathbf{p}_t) = \mathbf{p}'_t \mathbf{A} \bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt} + \mathbf{p}'_t \mathbf{C} \mathbf{z}_i = a \mathbf{p}'_t \bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt} + \mathbf{p}'_t \mathbf{C} \mathbf{z}_i = a \bar{x}_{gt} + \mathbf{p}'_t \mathbf{C} \mathbf{z}_i$, so we can interpret the scalar a as $\partial F / \partial \bar{x}_{gt} = a$. The estimate of the scalar a in Table 6 is 0.50, meaning that a 100 rupee increase in group-average income \bar{x}_{gt} increases perceived needs (and therefore decreases equivalent income) by 50 rupees. The standard error of a is 0.11 so we can reject $a = 0$, which would correspond to no peer effects. We can also reject $a = 1$ which would correspond to peer effects so large that there are no increases in utility associated with aggregate consumption growth.

This scalar a , obtained using revealed preference theory on consumption data, has a roughly comparable interpretation to the estimate of spillover effects in the WVS life satisfaction model reported in section 3.3. The point estimate there was greater than one, but had wide confidence bands that include values close to our estimate of 0.50. This is also roughly comparable to Luttmer’s (2005) estimate of 0.76 using stated well-being data.

In the bottom left of Table 4 we test, and reject, the hypothesis that the two elements on the diagonal of \mathbf{A} are equal to each other. However, when we estimated the model allowing the two elements to differ (see the right panel of Table 6), we obtain estimates that lie far outside the plausible range of $[0, 1]$. These estimates are also very imprecise, with standard errors that are roughly triple those in the left panel. The explanation for this imprecision and corresponding wildness of the estimates is that, in the FE model, all the parameters in \mathbf{A} are identified from the $(x_i - x_{i'}) \bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ interaction terms (recall here and below that, in the actual estimates, $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ is unobserved and is replaced by the estimate $\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'}$). In our data, the elements of our estimate of $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ are highly correlated with each other, with a correlation coefficient of 0.85, resulting in a large degree of multicollinearity. The result is that the estimated first element of \mathbf{A} is implausibly low, offset by the second element of \mathbf{A} that is implausibly high by a similar magnitude.

This problem of multicollinearity is considerably reduced in the random effects model, with its stronger assumptions. In particular the RE model contains an additive $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ term which is differenced out in the FE model. This is in addition to a now undifferenced $x_i \bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}$ interaction term, with both terms helping to identify \mathbf{A} in the RE model. On the bottom of Table 4, we report the results of a Hausman test comparing the FE and RE models. The additional restrictions of the RE model are not rejected in the “A same” specification, but are rejected in the more general “A diagonal” specification.

The estimates of \mathbf{A} in the RE model are reported in Table 5. The RE estimate of the scalar a in the “A same” model is 0.55, while for diagonal \mathbf{A} the estimate of the luxuries spillover coefficient (the first element on the diagonal of \mathbf{A}) is 0.46 and the necessities spillover coefficient is 0.57. The standard errors of these estimates are around 0.02, far lower than in the fixed effects model. While similar in magnitude, we reject the hypothesis that the two elements of \mathbf{A} in the RE model are equal.

The interpretation of these separate coefficients is that the j 'th element on the diagonal of \mathbf{A} equals $\partial F / \partial (p_{jt} \bar{q}_{jgt})$, which is the response of perceived needs to a 1 rupee increase in average group expenditures on good j , $p_{jt} \bar{q}_{jgt}$. To compare these estimates to the scalar a , suppose group average expenditures \bar{x}_{gt} increased by 100 rupees. Then group average luxury expenditures, $p_{jt} \bar{q}_{jgt}$ would increase by about 30 rupees (since, in Table 5, luxuries are about 30% of total spending), and so the luxuries spillover would be about 14 rupees (0.46 times 30). Similarly the necessities spillover is about 40 rupees (0.57 times 70), yielding total spillovers of 54 rupees, which is very close to the estimates one gets with a scalar a (50 rupees in the FE model or 55 rupees in the RE model).

6.3 Alternative Structural Model Estimates

In the rightmost panel of Table 5, we report RE estimates where the matrix \mathbf{A} is unrestricted, allowing for nonzero cross-effects, e.g., allowing peer group consumption of necessities to directly impact one's demand for luxuries. The estimates display a similar (though less extreme) wildness to that of the FE model with diagonal \mathbf{A} . The reason is similar, in that now we are trying to estimate four coefficients primarily from the four multicollinear terms $x_i \bar{q}_{1gt}$, $x_i \bar{q}_{2gt}$, \bar{q}_{1gt} , and \bar{q}_{2gt} . So although we formally prove identification of the model with a general \mathbf{A} , one would either require a larger data set or more relative variation in group quantities and within group total expenditures to obtain reliable estimates.

In Table 6, we turn to the question of whether consumption externalities vary depending on whether or not goods are visible or invisible to one's peers, according to the characterisation of Roth (2014). The idea is that peer effects may be larger for visible goods, both

because they are more conspicuous, and because of potential Veblen (1899) effects. Here, we would expect larger consumption externalities for visible goods than for invisible goods. We might additionally expect this to be particularly true for luxuries, as opposed to necessities. We now have a demand system with $J = 4$ goods.

The first columns of Table 6 give the fixed- and random-effects estimates of the scalar a in the “A same” model, where now four elements of the diagonal of \mathbf{A} are all constrained to be equal. The estimates of the scalar a are 0.71 and 0.65, respectively. These are rather higher than the 0.50 to 0.55 estimates we obtained with $J = 2$ goods, but are closer to Luttmner’s (2005) estimate of 0.76 using stated well-being data. The estimates of the scalar a with $J = 4$ goods have smaller standard errors than in the case with $J = 2$ goods, because now there are more equations being used to estimate the same parameter.

The last columns of Table 6 give the RE estimates of the “diagonal A” model. As before, we find that luxuries have somewhat smaller externalities than necessities. However, the estimated element of \mathbf{A} for visible luxuries is smaller than that for invisible luxuries, while the estimated value for visible necessities is larger than for invisible necessities. So the Veblen or conspicuous consumption story is supported for necessities, but not for luxuries.

In Table 7, we consider how consumption externalities vary across group-level characteristics. In the left-hand panel, we provide fixed effects estimates of the scalar a in the “A same,” $J = 2$ goods model on 3 subsamples of the nonurban population: Hindu non-SC/ST (non-Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe) households, SC/ST households, and non-Hindu SC/ST households. We find that these groups differ substantially not just in the estimates of the scalar a , but also in their b_j and d_j coefficients. For Hindu non-SC/ST households, the estimate of a is 0.50 (the same as in our baseline model) but for SC/ST households and for non-Hindu non-SC/ST households, the point estimates of a are close to zero, though with larger standard errors. This suggests that peer effects may vary by caste and religion.

This right hand panel of Table 7 reports differences in the scalar a across three education groups: illiterate/barely literate, primary or some secondary education, and complete secondary or more education. We initially ran this model on three different subsamples based on these education levels, but unlike the case with caste and religion, we found that the b_j and d_j coefficient estimates did not differ much across the groups. For efficiency we therefore pooled the data, just letting the scalar a be a linear index in the three education levels. Here we find very low and insignificant spillovers for the illiterate/barely literate. In contrast, the estimate of a is 0.56 for the middle education group, and lower (but not significantly different from 0.56) in the highest education group.

The results in Table 7 are striking in that they show that poorer demographics, SC/ST and illiterate/barely literate, have much smaller peer effects than others. In Table 8, we

further investigate this possibility by splitting the baseline (Hindu non-SC/ST) sample into households whose real income is below the district-round median real income and households whose real income is above the district-round median real income. The implicit assumption of this specification is that the poorer and richer halves of each education group within each district correspond to different peer groups. We present fixed-effects estimates for the model with a scalar a , and random-effects estimates for the model with scalar a and diagonal A , since these were the most precisely estimated models in our baseline specifications.

The fixed-effects estimates of a for poorer and richer households are 0.26 and 0.59, respectively. This difference is marginally statistically significant (z-stat of 1.86) but large in magnitude, implying peer effects that are almost twice as large among the rich groups as among the poor groups. We find a somewhat larger difference in the random-effects estimates of a , which are 0.32 and 0.78 for poor and rich households, respectively. The random-effects estimates pass a Hausman test against the fixed-effects alternative for both poor and rich households. Finally, turning to the random-effects estimates with diagonal A matrices, we see again find estimated spillovers that are much smaller for poor than for rich households. Interestingly, for poor households we find consumption externalities that are a bit larger on luxuries vs necessities, which is the opposite of what we found in other specifications, where necessities spillovers were a little larger.

6.4 Structural Model Estimates Summary

We draw the following lessons on peer effects from our structural revealed preference based model estimates.

First, we find that overall, peer effects are of similar magnitudes for luxuries and necessities, suggesting that the matrix \mathbf{A} can be reasonably approximated by a scalar a times the identity matrix (the "A same" specifications). This implies that the consumption externalities component of needs is close to equaling the scalar a times group-average total expenditures. In our data, multicollinearity prevents reliable estimation of completely general \mathbf{A} matrix models.

Second, fixed effects results in a considerable loss of efficiency relative to random effects, and in the "A same" model, the added restrictions implied by random effects over fixed effects are not rejected.

Third, our baseline estimates of the scalar a are at or a little above 0.5. However, alternative model specifications, and nonstructural estimates based on reported life satisfaction, suggest potentially higher spillovers of up to around 0.7. We also find evidence that particular subgroups, especially poorer subgroups, have lower spillovers.

7 Implications for Tax and Transfers Policy

Our peer effects finding that needs rise with group-average consumption (with a coefficient of 0.5 or more in most groups) has significant implications for policies regarding redistribution, transfer systems, public goods provision, and economic growth. Like consumption rat race models and “keeping up with the Jones” models, our model is one where consumption has negative externalities, in our case, increasing perceived needs and thereby reducing the utilities of peers. Boskin and Shoshenski (1978) consider optimal redistribution in models with general consumption externalities. They show that distortions due to negative externalities from consumption onto utility can generally be corrected by optimal taxation. In particular, their results imply that negative consumption externalities make the marginal cost of public funds lower than it would otherwise be, so the optimal amount of redistribution is greater than it would otherwise be.

The specific kind of consumption externality we estimate suggests advantages to using tax money for providing public goods vs transfers. To the extent that jealousy or envy are the underlying cause of the externalities we identify, public goods would not invoke those effects, because by definition all people consume the same quantity of public goods. This along with the Boskin and Shoshenski theorems suggests that public goods may be a partially free lunch. That is, the money metric costs in lost utility of an across the board tax increase are reduced by the peer effects channel, while the corresponding gains from spending that tax revenue on public goods would likely not be reduced by peer effects. In contrast, tax revenues that are spent on transfers do not have a similar free lunch, since the peer effects induced gain in utility from the tax may be offset by a corresponding loss of utility in the group of recipients of the transfers. However, there may still be some peer effects gains in the transfers case, if the transfers go from rich groups to poorer ones, since we found that the size of the peer effects spillovers may be smaller for poorer groups.

In India, a shift from subsidizing private goods consumption to subsidizing public goods consumption would be a very big change. For example, the National Food Security Act (NFSA), passed in 2013 and implemented beginning in 2015, will cost roughly 1.35% of GDP (if and) when fully implemented. This program aims to provide subsidized cereals to roughly 75 per cent of Indian households at roughly 1/3 of market price, and so, in our framework aims to increase the consumption of necessities. Our estimates imply that the resulting increased consumption would result in increased perceived needs, and so would not raise utility as much as an alternative policy action that did not induce these negative externalities. Such alternatives could be provision of public goods, i.e., policies that provide resources to the poor but are equally available to all households. Such public goods might

include clean water, public sanitation, better air quality, or better schools.

A back-of-the-envelope example would proceed as follows. The entitlement of rice under the NFSA is up to 5 kg (kilograms) per month per person at 3 rupees per kg. Suppose the market price of rice is 15 rupees per kg (as it was in 2016). Thus, the public cost of providing this rice subsidy is about 12 rupees per kg, or 60 rupees per month per person. We can bound each consumer's behavioral response to the subsidy by noting that necessities consumption could rise by as much as 60 rupees per month per person, or at the other extreme, the consumer could choose to keep their rice consumption unchanged and spend the 60 rupees per month on luxuries. The actual response would likely be somewhere in between (a portion of the gain could also be saved, but that just implies spending it on luxuries or necessities at some future date).

For simplicity in constructing bounds, suppose that in each group either everyone or nobody qualifies for (or takes up) the NFSA entitlement. At one extreme, suppose every consumer who gets the entitlement increases their necessities spending by 60 rupees per person per month. Then, taking our baseline random-effects estimate of the spillover from necessities of 0.57, we would have that the needs of every group member rises by 34 (0.57 times 60) rupees, resulting in an increase of only $60 - 34 = 26$ rupees per consumer per month in their money-metric utility. At the other extreme, if all consumers who get the entitlement use all of the extra resources provided to buy luxuries, then corresponding spillover estimate is 0.46, which by a comparable calculation results in a 28 rupees increase in needs and therefore a $60 - 28 = 32$ rupees gain in utility per consumer. Thus the government's expenditures of 60 rupees only increases money metric utility by 26 to 32 rupees (per person per month). This is in contrast to a full benefit of 60 rupees per person per month that might be obtained by provision of public goods⁷ The NFSA program targets roughly 1 billion people, yielding potential money-metric welfare gains (of switching from rice subsidies to a public goods program) of roughly 336 billion to 408 billion rupees per year.

Note that this calculation used our baseline estimate of 0.57 for the spillovers. Since it is poorer households that receive the NFSA ration cards, it may be that the more appropriate estimate of peer effects to use is 0.26 or 0.32, the estimates we obtained for just poorer households. In that case the benefits of switching to public goods we calculated above may be halved, but that still corresponds to money metric savings of billions of over 160 billion

⁷An important caveat is that the benefits of this alternative might be reduced to the extent that some households derive less utility from the public good than others, but may also be increased to the extent that people in groups that did not qualify for or take up the rice entitlement might benefit from the public good. The relative benefits might also be reduced or increased if peer expenditures have positive or negative externalities that we are not measuring. Examples could include positive network effects from increased cell phone ownership, or negative congestion effects from increased use of public roads.

rupees per year. Also, if the difference in peer effects between rich and poor is that large, then the NFSA program itself is much less expensive in money metric terms than it appears. This is because, as noted above, the money metric utility loss due to peer effects among the program’s recipients would be smaller than the corresponding gains among the richer groups who pay most of the taxes that fund the program.

8 Conclusions

We show identification and GMM estimation of peer effects in a generic quadratic model, using data where most members of each group might not be observed. The model allows for fixed or random effects, and allows the number of observed individuals in each peer group to be fixed asymptotically, so we obtain consistent estimates of the model even though peer group means cannot be consistently estimated. Unlike most peer effects models, our model can be estimated from standard cross section survey data where the vast majority of members of each peer group are not observed, and detailed network structure is not provided.

We next provide a utility derived consumer demand model, where one’s perceived needs for each commodity depend in part on the average consumption of one’s peers. We show how this model can be used for welfare analysis, and in particular to identify what fraction of income increases are spent on “keeping up with the Joneses” type peer effects. This demand model, in which peer expenditures affect perceived needs, has a structure analogous to our generic peer effects model, and so can be identified and estimated in the same way.

We apply the model to consumption data from India, and find large peer effects. Our estimates imply that an increase in group-average spending of 100 rupees would induce an increase in needs of 50 rupees or more in most peer groups. In this model, an increase in needs is, from the individual consumer’s point of view, equivalent to a decrease in total expenditures. These results could therefore at least partly explain the Easterlin (1974) paradox, in that income growth over time, which increases people’s consumption budgets, likely results in much less utility growth than standard demand model estimates (that ignore these peer effects) would suggest.

These results also suggest that income or consumption taxes have far lower negative effects on consumer welfare than are implied by standard models. This is because a tax that reduces my expenditures by a dollar will, if applied to everyone in my peer group, have the same effect on my utility as a tax of only 50 cents that ignores the peer effects. In short, the larger these peer effects are, the smaller are the welfare gains associated with tax cuts or mean income growth. This is particularly true to the extent that taxes are used to provide public goods (that are less likely to induce peer effects) rather than transfers.

9 References

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Appendix: Derivations

9.1 Generic Model Identification and Estimation

Let y_i denote an outcome and \mathbf{x}_i denote a K vector of regressors x_{ki} for an individual i . Let $i \in g$ denote that the individual i belongs to group g . For each group g , assume we observe $n_g = \sum_{i \in g} 1$ individuals, where n_g is a small fixed number which does *not* go to infinity. Let $\bar{y}_g = E(y_i | i \in g)$, $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'} = \sum_{l \in g, l \neq i, i'} y_l / (n_g - 2)$, and $\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} = \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} - \bar{y}_g$, so \bar{y}_g is the true group mean outcome and $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ is the observed leave-two-out group average outcome in our data, and $\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'}$ is the estimation error in the leave-two-out sample group average. Define $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g = E(\mathbf{x}_i | i \in g)$, $\overline{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}'_g} = E(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i | i \in g)$, and similarly define $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{g,-ii'}$, $\widehat{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}'_{g,-ii'}}$, $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'}$ and $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}g,-ii'}$ analogously to $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}$, and $\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'}$.

Consider the following single equation model (the multiple equation analog is discussed later). For each individual i in group g , let

$$y_i = (\bar{y}_g a + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b})^2 d + (\bar{y}_g a + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b}) + v_g + u_i \quad (25)$$

where v_g is a group level fixed effect and u_i is an idiosyncratic error. The goal here is identification and estimation of the effects of \bar{y}_g and x_i on y_i , which means identifying the coefficients a , \mathbf{b} , and d .

We could have written the seemingly more general model

$$y_i = (\bar{y}_g a + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b} + h)^2 d + (\bar{y}_g a + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b} + h) k + v_g + u_i$$

where h and k are additional constants to be estimated. However, it can be shown that by suitably redefining the fixed effect v_g and the constants a , \mathbf{b} , and d , that this equation is equivalent either to equation (25) or to $y_i = (\bar{y}_g a + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b})^2 + v_g + u_i$. Since this latter equation is strictly easier to identify and estimate, and is irrelevant for our empirical application, we will rule it out and therefore without loss of generality replace the more general model with equation (25).

Next observe that, regardless of what we assume about within group or between group sample sizes, if this model were linear (i.e., $d = 0$), then we would not be able to identify the effect of \bar{y}_g on y_i , i.e., we would not be able to identify the peer effect. This is because, if $d = 0$, then there is no way to separate \bar{y}_g from the group level fixed effect v_g . All values of a would be observationally equivalent, by suitable redefinitions of v_g . This is a manifestation of the reflection problem, which we overcome by a combination of nonlinearity and functional form restrictions.

We assume that the number of groups G goes to infinity, but we do NOT assume that n_g goes to infinity, so $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ is not a consistent estimator of \bar{y}_g . We instead treat $\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} = \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} - \bar{y}_g$ as measurement error in $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}$, which is not asymptotically negligible. This makes sense for data like ours where only a small number of individuals are observed within each peer group. This may also be a sensible assumption in many standard applications where true peer groups are small. For example, in a model where peer groups are classrooms, failure to observe a few children in a class of one or two dozen students may mean that the observed class average significantly mismeasures the true class average.

Formally, our first identification theorem makes assumptions A1 to A3 below.

Assumption A1: Each individual i in group g satisfies equation (25). \mathbf{x}_i is a K -dimensional vector of covariates. For each $k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$, for each group g with $i \in g$ and $i' \in g$, $\Pr(\mathbf{x}_{ik} = \mathbf{x}_{i'k}) > 0$. Unobserved v_g are group level fixed effects. Unobserved errors u_i are independent across groups g and have $E(u_i | \text{all } \mathbf{x}_{i'} \text{ having } i' \in g \text{ where } i \in g) = 0$. The number of observed groups $G \rightarrow \infty$. For each observed group g , we observe a sample of $n_g \geq 3$ observations of y_i, \mathbf{x}_i .

Assumption A1 essentially defines the model. Note that Assumption A1 does not require that $n_g \rightarrow \infty$. We can allow the observed sample size n_g in each group g to be fixed, or to change with the number of groups G . The true number of individuals comprising each group is unknown and could be finite.

Assumption A2: The coefficients a, \mathbf{b}, d are unknown constants satisfying $d \neq 0, \mathbf{b} \neq 0$, and $[1 - a(2\mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g d + 1)]^2 - 4a^2 d[d\mathbf{b}'\overline{\mathbf{xx}}'_g \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g + v_g] \geq 0$.

In Assumption A2, as discussed above $d \neq 0$ is needed to avoid the reflection problem. Having $\mathbf{b} \neq 0$ is necessary since otherwise we would have nothing exogenous in the model. Finally, note that the inequality in Assumption A2 takes the form of a simple lower or upper bound (depending on the sign of d) on each fixed effect v_g . This inequality must hold to ensure that an equilibrium exists for each group, thereby avoiding Tamer's (2003) potential incoherence problem. To see this, plug equation (25) for y_i into $\bar{y}_g = E(y_i | i \in g)$. This yields a quadratic in \bar{y}_g , which, if $a \neq 0$, has the solution

$$\bar{y}_g = \frac{1 - a(2\mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g d + 1) \pm \sqrt{[1 - a(2\mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g d + 1)]^2 - 4a^2 d[d\mathbf{b}'\overline{\mathbf{xx}}'_g \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g + v_g]}}{2a^2 d} \quad (26)$$

if the inequality in Assumption A2 is satisfied (while if a does equal zero, then the model will be trivially identified because in that case there aren't any peer effects). We do not take

a stand on which root of equation (26) is chosen by consumers, we just make the following assumption.

Assumption A3: Individuals within each group agree on an equilibrium selection rule.

For identification, we need to remove the fixed effect from equation (25), which we do by subtracting off another individual in the same group. For each $(i, i') \in g$, consider pairwise difference

$$\begin{aligned} y_i - y_{i'} &= 2ad\bar{y}_g \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) + d\mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}'_{i'}) \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) + u_i - u_{i'} \\ &= 2ad\hat{y}_{g,-ii'} \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) + d\mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}'_{i'}) \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) \\ &\quad + u_i - u_{i'} - 2ad\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}), \end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

where the second equality is obtained by replacing \bar{y}_g on the right hand side with $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'} - \varepsilon_{yg,-ii'}$. In addition to removing the fixed effects v_g , the pairwise difference also removed the linear term $a\bar{y}_g$, and the squared term $da^2\bar{y}_g^2$. The second equality in equation (27) shows that $y_i - y_{i'}$ is linear in observable functions of data, plus a composite error term $u_i - u_{i'} - 2ad\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})$ that contains both $\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'}$ and $u_i - u_{i'}$. By Assumption A1, $u_i - u_{i'}$ is conditionally mean independent of \mathbf{x}_i and $\mathbf{x}_{i'}$. It can also be shown (see the Appendix) that

$$\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} = 2ad\bar{y}_g \mathbf{b}' \varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} + \mathbf{b}' \varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} \mathbf{b} d + \mathbf{b}' \varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} + \hat{u}_{g,-ii'}.$$

where

$$\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} = \frac{1}{n_g - 2} \sum_{l \in g, l \neq i, i'} (\mathbf{x}_l - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g); \quad \varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} = \frac{1}{n_g - 2} \sum_{l \in g, l \neq i, i'} (\mathbf{x}_l \mathbf{x}'_l - \overline{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}'_g}).$$

Substituting this expression into equation (27) gives an expression for $y_i - y_{i'}$ that is linear in $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})$, $(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}'_{i'})$, $(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})$, and a composite error term.

In addition to the conditionally mean independent errors $u_i - u_{i'}$ and $\hat{u}_{g,-ii'}$, the components of this composite error term include $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'}$ and $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}g,-ii'}$, which are measurement errors in group level mean regressors. If we assumed that the number of individuals in each group went to infinity, then these epsilon errors would asymptotically shrink to zero, and the the resulting identification and estimation would be simple. In our case, these errors do not go to zero, but one might still consider estimation based on instrumental variables. This will be possible with further assumptions on the data.

In the next assumption we allow for the possibility of observing group level variables \mathbf{r}_g

that may serve as instruments for $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$. Such instruments may not be necessary, but if such instruments are available (as they will be in our later empirical application), they can help both in weakening sufficient conditions for identification and for later improving estimation efficiency.

Assumption A4: Let \mathbf{r}_g be a vector (possibly empty) of observed group level instruments that are independent of each u_i . Assume $E((\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g) | i \in g, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}'}_g, v_g, \mathbf{r}_g) = 0$, $E((\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \overline{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}'}_g) | i \in g, \mathbf{r}_g) = 0$, and that $\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g$ and $\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \overline{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}'}_g$ are independent across individuals i .

Assumption A4 corresponds to (but is a little stronger than) standard instrument validity assumptions. A sufficient condition for the equalities in Assumption A4 to hold is let $\varepsilon_{ix} = \mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g$ be independent across individuals, and assume that $E(\varepsilon_{ix} | \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}'}_g, v_g, \mathbf{r}_g \text{ for } i \in g) = 0$ and $E(\varepsilon_{ix} \varepsilon'_{ix} | \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \mathbf{r}_g \text{ for } i \in g) = E(\varepsilon_{ix} \varepsilon'_{ix} | i \in g)$. To see this, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \overline{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}'}_g | i \in g, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \mathbf{r}_g) &= E[(\varepsilon_{ix} + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g)(\varepsilon_{ix} + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g)' | i \in g, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \mathbf{r}_g] - \overline{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}'}_g \\ &= E(\varepsilon_{ix} \varepsilon'_{ix} | i \in g, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \mathbf{r}_g) + E(\mathbf{x}_i | i \in g) E(\mathbf{x}'_i | i \in g) - E(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i | i \in g) \\ &= E(\varepsilon_{ix} \varepsilon'_{ix} | i \in g, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \mathbf{r}_g) - E(\varepsilon_{ix} \varepsilon'_{ix} | i \in g) \end{aligned}$$

A simpler but stronger sufficient condition would just be that ε_{ix} are independent across individuals i and independent of group level variables $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}'}_g, v_g, \mathbf{r}_g$. Essentially, this corresponds to saying that any individual i in group g has a value of \mathbf{x}_i that is a randomly drawn deviation around their group mean level $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g$. The first two equalities in A4 are used to show that $E(\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} | \mathbf{r}_g) = 0$, and the independence of measurement errors across individuals is used to show $E(\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'}(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) | \mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'}) = (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) E(\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} | \mathbf{r}_g) = 0$, so that \mathbf{x}_i and $\mathbf{x}_{i'}$ are valid instruments. Given Assumptions A1 and A4, one can directly verify that

$$E[y_i - y_{i'} - (2ad\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'} \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) + d\mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}'_{i'}) \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})) | \mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'}] = 0. \quad (28)$$

Under Assumptions A1 to A4, $(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) E(\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'} | \mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'})$ is linearly independent of $(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})$ and $(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}'_{i'})$ with a positive probability. These conditional moments could therefore be used to identify the coefficients $2ad\mathbf{b}$, $b_1 d\mathbf{b}, \dots, b_K d\mathbf{b}$, and \mathbf{b} , which we could then immediately solve for the three unknowns a , \mathbf{b} , d . Note that we have $K + 2$ parameters which need to be estimated, and even if no \mathbf{r}_g are available, we have $2K$ instruments \mathbf{x}_i and $\mathbf{x}_{i'}$. The level of \mathbf{x}_i as well as the difference $\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}$ may be useful as an instrument (and nonlinear functions of \mathbf{x}_i can be useful), because (26) shows that \bar{y}_g and hence $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}$ is nonlinear in $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g$, and \mathbf{x}_i is correlated with $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g$ by $\mathbf{x}_i = \varepsilon_{ix} + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g$.

The above derivations outline how we obtain identification, while the formal proof is given in Theorem 1 below (details are provided in the Appendix). To simplify estimation, we construct unconditional rather than conditional moments for identification and later estimation. Let $\mathbf{r}_{gii'}$ denote a vector of any chosen functions of \mathbf{r}_g , \mathbf{x}_i , and $\mathbf{x}_{i'}$, which we will take as an instrument vector. It then follows immediately from equation (28) that

$$E \left[\left(y_i - y_{i'} - (1 + 2ad\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}) \sum_{k=1}^K b_k (x_{ki} - x_{ki'}) - d \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_k b_{k'} (x_{ki} x_{k'i} - x_{ki'} x_{k'i'}) \right) \mathbf{r}_{gii'} \right] = 0. \quad (29)$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} L_{1gii'} &= (y_i - y_{i'}), & L_{2kgii'} &= (x_{ki} - x_{ki'}), \\ L_{3kgii'} &= \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} (x_{ki} - x_{ki'}), & L_{4kk'gii'} &= x_{ki} x_{k'i} - x_{ki'} x_{k'i'} \end{aligned}$$

Equation (29) is linear in these L variables and so could be estimated by GMM. This linearity also means they can be aggregated up to the group level as follows. Define

$$\Gamma_g = \{(i, i') \mid i \text{ and } i' \text{ are observed, } i \in g, i' \in g, i \neq i'\}$$

So Γ_g is the set of all observed pairs of individuals i and i' in the group g . For $\ell \in \{1, 2k, 3k, 4kk' \mid k, k' = 1, \dots, K\}$, define vectors

$$\mathbf{Y}_{\ell g} = \frac{\sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} L_{\ell gii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'}}{\sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} 1}$$

Then averaging equation (29) over all $(i, i') \in \Gamma_g$ gives the unconditional group level moment vector

$$E \left(\mathbf{Y}_{1g} - \sum_{k=1}^K b_k \mathbf{Y}_{2kg} - 2ad \sum_{k=1}^K b_k \mathbf{Y}_{3kg} - d \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_k b_{k'} \mathbf{Y}_{4kk'g} \right) = 0. \quad (30)$$

Suppose the instrumental vector $\mathbf{r}_{gii'}$ is q dimensional. Denote the $q \times (K^2 + 2K)$ matrix $\mathbf{Y}_g = (\mathbf{Y}_{21g}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_{2Kg}, \mathbf{Y}_{31g}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_{3Kg}, \mathbf{Y}_{411g}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_{4KKg})$. The following assumption ensures that we can identify the coefficients in this equation.

Assumption A5: $E(\mathbf{Y}'_g)E(\mathbf{Y}_g)$ is nonsingular.

Theorem 1. Given Assumptions A1, A2, A3, A4, and A5, the coefficients a , \mathbf{b} , d are identified.

As noted earlier, Assumptions A1 to A4 should generally suffice for identification. As-

sumption A5 is used to obtain more convenient identification based on unconditional moments. Assumption A5 is itself stronger than necessary, since it would suffice to identify arbitrary coefficients of the \mathbf{Y} variables, ignoring all of the restrictions among them that are given by equation (30).

Given the identification in Theorem 1, based on equation (30) we can immediately construct a corresponding group level GMM estimator

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\widehat{a}, \widehat{b}_1, \dots, \widehat{b}_K, \widehat{d} \right) = \arg \min & \left[\frac{1}{G} \sum_{g=1}^G \left(\mathbf{Y}_{1g} - \sum_{k=1}^K b_k \mathbf{Y}_{2kg} - 2ad \sum_{k=1}^K b_k \mathbf{Y}_{3kg} - d \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_k b_{k'} \mathbf{Y}_{4kk'g} \right) \right]' \\ & \cdot \widehat{\Omega} \left[\frac{1}{G} \sum_{g=1}^G \left(\mathbf{Y}_{1g} - \sum_{k=1}^K b_k \mathbf{Y}_{2kg} - 2ad \sum_{k=1}^K b_k \mathbf{Y}_{3kg} - d \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_k b_{k'} \mathbf{Y}_{4kk'g} \right) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

for some positive definite moment weighting matrix $\widehat{\Omega}$. In equation (31), each group g corresponds to a single observation, the number of observations within each group is assumed to be fixed, and recall we have assumed the number of groups G goes to infinity. Since this equation has removed the v_g terms, there is no remaining correlation across the group level errors, and therefore standard cross section GMM inference will apply. Also, with the number of observed individuals within each group held fixed, there is no loss in rates of convergence by aggregating up to the group level in this way.

One could alternatively apply GMM to equation (29), where the unit of observation would then be each pair (i, i') in each group. However, when doing inference one would then need to use clustered standard errors, treating each group g as a cluster, to account for the correlation that would, by construction, exist among the observations within each group. In this case,

$$\left(\widehat{a}, \widehat{b}_1, \dots, \widehat{b}_K, \widehat{d} \right) = \arg \min \left(\frac{\sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} \mathbf{m}_{gii'}}{\sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} 1} \right)' \widehat{\Omega} \left(\frac{\sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} \mathbf{m}_{gii'}}{\sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} 1} \right), \quad (32)$$

where

$$\mathbf{m}_{gii'} = L_{1gii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} - \sum_{k=1}^K b_k L_{2kgii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} - 2ad \sum_{k=1}^K b_k L_{3kgii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} - d \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_k b_{k'} L_{4kk'gii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'}.$$

The remaining issue is how to select the vector of instruments $\mathbf{r}_{gii'}$, the elements of which are functions of $\mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'}$ chosen by the econometrician. Based on equation (29), $\mathbf{r}_{gii'}$ should include the differences $x_{ki} - x_{ki'}$ and $x_{ki}x_{k'i} - x_{ki'}x_{k'i'}$ for all k, k' from 1 to K , and should include terms that will correlate with $\widehat{y}_{g,-ii'}(x_{ki} - x_{ki'})$. Using equation (26) as a guide for

what determines \bar{y}_g and hence what should correlate with $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}$, suggests that $\mathbf{r}_{gii'}$ could include, e.g., $x_{ki}(x_{ki} - x_{ki'})$ or $x_{ki}^{1/2}(x_{ki} - x_{ki'})$.

We might also have available additional instruments \mathbf{r}_g that come from other data sets. A strong set of instruments for $\hat{y}_{g,-ii'}(x_{ki} - x_{ki'})$ could be $(x_{ki} - x_{ki'})\mathbf{r}_g$, where \mathbf{r}_g is a vector of one or more group level variables that are correlated with \bar{y}_g , but still satisfy Assumption A4. One such possible \mathbf{r}_g is a vector of group means of functions of \mathbf{x} that are constructed using individuals that are observed in the same group as individual i , but in a different time period of our survey. For example, we might let \mathbf{r}_g include $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{gt} = \sum_{s \neq t} \sum_{i \in gs} \mathbf{x}_i / \sum_{s \neq t} \sum_{i \in gs} 1$ where s indicates the period and t is the current period. In our empirical application, since the data take the form of repeated cross sections rather than panels, different individuals are observed in each time period. So $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{gt}$ is just an estimate of the group mean of $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g$, but based on data from time periods other than one used for estimation. This produces the necessary uncorrelatedness (instrument validity) conditions in Assumption A4. The relevance of these instruments (the nonsingularity condition in Assumption A5) will hold as long as group level moments of functions of \mathbf{x} in one time period are correlated with the same group level moments in other periods.

In our later empirical application, what corresponds to the vector \mathbf{x}_i here includes the total expenditures, age, and other characteristics of a consumer i , so Assumptions A4 and A5 will hold if the distribution of income and other characteristics within groups are sufficiently similar across time periods, while the specific individuals within each group who are sampled change over time. The nonlinearity of \bar{y}_g in equation (26) shows that additional nonlinear functions of $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{gt}$, could also be valid and potentially useful additional instruments.

9.2 Proof of Theorem 1

We first show that we may without loss of generality assume $c = 0$ and $k = 1$ the single equation generic model. Suppose that

$$y_i = (\bar{y}_g a + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b} + c)^2 d + (\bar{y}_g a + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b} + c) k + v_g + u_i$$

One can readily check that this model can be rewritten as

$$y_i = (\bar{y}_g a + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b})^2 d + (2cd + k) (\bar{y}_g a + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b}) + c^2 d + ck + v_g + u_i.$$

If $2cd + k \neq 0$ then this equation is identical to equation (25), replacing the fixed effect v_g with the fixed effect $\tilde{v}_g = c^2 d + ck + v_g$, and replacing the constants a , \mathbf{b} , d , with constants \tilde{a} , $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}$, \tilde{d} defined by $\tilde{a} = (2cd + k) a$, $\tilde{\mathbf{b}} = (2cd + k) \mathbf{b}$, and $\tilde{d} = d / (2cd + k)^2$. If $2cd + k = 0$,

then by letting $\tilde{v}_g = c^2d + ck + v_g$ this equation becomes $y_i = (\bar{y}_g a + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b})^2 d + \tilde{v}_g + u_i$, which is the case we have already ruled out.

We next derive the equilibrium of \bar{y}_g . Expanding equation (25), we have

$$y_i = \bar{y}_g^2 da^2 + a(2d\mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b} + 1)\bar{y}_g + \mathbf{b}'\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b}d + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b} + v_g + u_i \quad (33)$$

Taking the within group expected value of this expression gives

$$\bar{y}_g = \bar{y}_g^2 da^2 + a(2d\mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g + 1)\bar{y}_g + d\mathbf{b}'\overline{\mathbf{xx}'_g} \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g + v_g. \quad (34)$$

so the equilibrium value of \bar{y}_g must satisfy this equation for the model to be coherent. If $a = 0$, then we get $\bar{y}_g = d\mathbf{b}'\overline{\mathbf{xx}'_g} \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g + v_g$ which exists and is unique. If $a \neq 0$, meaning that peer effects are present, then equation (34) is a quadratic with roots

$$\bar{y}_g = \frac{1 - a(2\mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g d + 1) \pm \sqrt{[1 - a(2\mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g d + 1)]^2 - 4a^2 d[d\mathbf{b}'\overline{\mathbf{xx}'_g} \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g + v_g]}}{2a^2 d}.$$

The equilibrium of \bar{y}_g therefore exists under Assumption A2 and is unique under Assumption A3. Note that regardless of whether $a = 0$ or not, \bar{y}_g is always a function of $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g$, $\overline{\mathbf{xx}'_g}$, and v_g .

We now derive an expression for the measurement error $\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'}$. From equation (33), we have the group average

$$\hat{y}_{g,-ii'} = \bar{y}_g^2 da^2 + a(2d\mathbf{b}'\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{g,-ii'} + 1)\bar{y}_g + \mathbf{b}'\overline{\mathbf{xx}'_{g,-ii'}} \mathbf{b}d + \mathbf{b}'\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{g,-ii'} + v_g + \hat{u}_{g,-ii'}.$$

Subtracting equation (34) then gives the measurement error

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} &= \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} - \bar{y}_g = \frac{1}{n_g - 2} \sum_{l \neq i, i', l \in g} [2ad\bar{y}_g \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_l - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g) + \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_l \mathbf{x}'_l - \overline{\mathbf{xx}'_g}) \mathbf{b}d + \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_l - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g) + u_l] \\ &= 2ad\bar{y}_g \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} + \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{xx}g,-ii'} \mathbf{b}d + \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} + \hat{u}_{g,-ii'}. \end{aligned}$$

Given the above results, we can now proceed with identification of the parameters. Substituting the above into the $y_i - y_{i'}$ gives

$$y_i - y_{i'} = 2ad\hat{y}_{g,-ii'} \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) + d\mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}'_{i'}) \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) + U_{ii'},$$

where

$$U_{ii'} = u_i - u_{i'} - 2ad(2ad\bar{y}_g \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} + \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{xx}g,-ii'} \mathbf{b}d + \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} + \hat{u}_{g,-ii'}) \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}).$$

Under Assumption A4, for each $i \in g$, $E((\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g) | \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}'_g, v_g, \mathbf{r}_g) = 0$, and with its independence across individuals, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & E(\bar{y}_g \varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g, -ii'} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})' | \mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'}) \\ &= E(\bar{y}_g E(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g, -ii'} | \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}'_g, v_g, \mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'}) (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})') \\ &= E(\bar{y}_g E(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g, -ii'} | \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}'_g, v_g, \mathbf{r}_g, \varepsilon_{i\mathbf{x}g}, \varepsilon_{i'\mathbf{x}g}) (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})') = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Together with $E(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g, -ii'} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) | \mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'}) = 0$, $E(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g, -ii'} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) | \mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'}) = 0$, and $E(\hat{u}_{g, -ii'} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})) = 0$, we have $E(U_{ii'} | \mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'}) = 0$ and hence,

$$E[y_i - y_{i'} - (2ad\hat{y}_{g, -ii'} \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) + d\mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}'_{i'})) \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'}) | \mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'}] = 0$$

For $\ell \in \{1, 2k, 3k, 4kk' | k, k' = 1, \dots, K\}$, define vectors $\mathbf{Y}_{\ell g}$ as Section 4 and we have the group level moment condition

$$E\left(\mathbf{Y}_{1g} - \sum_{k=1}^K b_k \mathbf{Y}_{2kg} - 2ad \sum_{k=1}^K b_k \mathbf{Y}_{3kg} - d \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_k b_{k'} \mathbf{Y}_{4kk'g}\right) = 0. \quad (35)$$

Then, using the nonsingularity in Assumption A5, we have a , \mathbf{b} , d identified from

$$(\mathbf{b}', 2adb', db_1 \mathbf{b}', \dots, db_K \mathbf{b}')' = [E(\mathbf{Y}'_g)E(\mathbf{Y}_g)]^{-1} \cdot E(\mathbf{Y}'_g)E(\mathbf{Y}_{1g}),$$

where $\mathbf{Y}_g = (\mathbf{Y}_{21g}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_{2Kg}, \mathbf{Y}_{31g}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_{3Kg}, \mathbf{Y}_{411g}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_{4KKg})$.

9.3 Multiple Equation Generic Model With Fixed Effects

Our actual demand application has a vector of J outcomes and a corresponding system of J equations. Extending the generic model to a multiple equation system introduces potential cross equation peer effects, resulting in more parameters to identify and estimate. Let $\mathbf{y}_i = (y_{1i}, \dots, y_{Ji})$ be a J -dimensional outcome vector, where y_{ji} denotes the j 'th outcome for individual i . Then we extend the single equation generic model to the multi equation that for each good j ,

$$y_{ji} = (\bar{\mathbf{y}}'_g \mathbf{a}_j + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b}_j)^2 d_j + (\bar{\mathbf{y}}'_g \mathbf{a}_j + \mathbf{x}'_i \mathbf{b}_j) + v_{jg} + u_{ji}, \quad (36)$$

where $\bar{\mathbf{y}}_g = E(\mathbf{y}_i | i \in g)$ and $\mathbf{a}_j = (a_{1j}, \dots, a_{Jj})'$ is the associated J -dimensional vector of peer effects for j th outcome (which in our application is the j th good). We now show that analogous derivations to the single equation model gives conditional moments

$$E((y_{ji} - y_{j'i'} - 2d_j \hat{\mathbf{y}}'_{g, -ii'} \mathbf{a}_j (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})' \mathbf{b}_j - d_j \mathbf{b}'_j (\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}'_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}'_{i'}) \mathbf{b}_j - (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})' \mathbf{b}_j) | \mathbf{r}_g, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}'_i) = 0.$$

Construction of unconditional moments for GMM estimation then follows exactly as before. The only difference is that now each outcome equation contains a vector of coefficients \mathbf{a}_j instead of a single a . To maximize efficiency, the moments used for estimating each outcome equation can be combined into a single large GMM that estimates all of the parameters for all of the outcomes at the same time.

From

$$y_{ji} = d_j(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j)^2 + 2\bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j d_j \mathbf{x}_i' \mathbf{b}_j + \mathbf{b}_j' \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i' \mathbf{b}_j d_j + \bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j + \mathbf{x}_i' \mathbf{b}_j + v_{jg} + u_{ji},$$

we have the equilibrium

$$\bar{y}_{jg} = d_j(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j)^2 + 2d_j \bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g' \mathbf{b}_j + \mathbf{b}_j' \bar{\mathbf{x}} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g' \mathbf{b}_j d_j + \bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g' \mathbf{b}_j + v_{jg}$$

and the leave-two-out group average

$$\hat{y}_{jg,-ii'} = d_j(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j)^2 + 2d_j \bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{g,-ii'}' \mathbf{b}_j + \mathbf{b}_j' \hat{\mathbf{x}} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{g,-i}' \mathbf{b}_j d_j + \bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j + \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{g,-ii'}' \mathbf{b}_j + v_{jg} + \hat{u}_{jg,-ii'}.$$

Therefore, the measurement error is

$$\varepsilon_{y_{jg,-ii'}} = \hat{y}_{jg,-ii'} - \bar{y}_{jg} = 2d_j \bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j \varepsilon'_{x_{g,-ii'}} \mathbf{b}_j + \mathbf{b}_j' \varepsilon_{xx_{g,-ii'}} \mathbf{b}_j d_j + \varepsilon'_{x_{g,-ii'}} \mathbf{b}_j + \hat{u}_{jg,-ii'}.$$

Using the same analysis as before,

$$\begin{aligned} y_{ji} - y_{ji'} &= 2d_j \bar{\mathbf{y}}_g' \mathbf{a}_j (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})' \mathbf{b}_j + d_j \mathbf{b}_j' (\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i' - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}_{i}') \mathbf{b}_j + (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})' \mathbf{b}_j + u_{ji} - u_{ji'} \\ &= 2d_j \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{g,-ii'}' \mathbf{a}_j (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})' \mathbf{b}_j + d_j \mathbf{b}_j' (\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i' - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}_{i}') \mathbf{b}_j + (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})' \mathbf{b}_j + u_{ji} - u_{ji'} \\ &\quad - 2d_j \varepsilon'_{y_{g,-ii'}} \mathbf{a}_j (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})' \mathbf{b}_j. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for $j = 1, \dots, J$, we have the moment condition

$$E \left((y_{ji} - y_{ji'} - (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})' \mathbf{b}_j - 2d_j \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{g,-ii'}' \mathbf{a}_j (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_{i'})' \mathbf{b}_j - d_j \mathbf{b}_j' (\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i' - \mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}_{i}') \mathbf{b}_j) | \mathbf{r}_{gii'} \right) = 0.$$

Denote

$$\begin{aligned} L_{1jgii'} &= (y_{ji} - y_{ji'}), & L_{2kgii'} &= (x_{ki} - x_{ki'}), \\ L_{3jkgii'} &= \hat{y}_{jg,-ii'}' (x_{ki} - x_{ki'}), & L_{4kk'gii'} &= x_{ki} x_{k'i} - x_{ki'} x_{k'i'}. \end{aligned}$$

For $\ell \in \{1j, 2k, 3jk, 4kk' \mid j = 1, \dots, J; k, k' = 1, \dots, K\}$, define vectors

$$\mathbf{Y}_{\ell g} = \frac{\sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} L_{\ell g i i'} \mathbf{r}_{g i i'}}{\sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} 1}$$

and the identification comes from the group level unconditional moment equation

$$E \left(\mathbf{Y}_{1jg} - \sum_{k=1}^K b_{jk} \mathbf{Y}_{2kg} - 2d_j \sum_{j'=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^K a_{jj'} b_{jk} \mathbf{Y}_{3j'kg} - d_j \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_{jk} b_{jk'} \mathbf{Y}_{4kk'g} \right) = 0,$$

where b_{jk} is the k th element of \mathbf{b}_j and $a_{jj'}$ is the j' th element of \mathbf{a}_j .

Let $\mathbf{Y}_g = (\mathbf{Y}_{21g}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_{2Kg}, \mathbf{Y}_{311g}, \mathbf{Y}_{312g}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_{3JKg}, \mathbf{Y}_{411g}, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_{4KKg})$. If $E(\mathbf{Y}_g)' E(\mathbf{Y}_g)$ is nonsingular, for each $j = 1, \dots, J$, we can identify

$$(\mathbf{b}'_j, 2a_{j1}d_j \mathbf{b}'_j, \dots, 2a_{jJ}d_j \mathbf{b}'_j, d_j b_{j1} \mathbf{b}'_j, \dots, d_j b_{jK} \mathbf{b}'_j)' = [E(\mathbf{Y}_g)' E(\mathbf{Y}_g)]^{-1} \cdot E(\mathbf{Y}_g)' E(\mathbf{Y}_{1jg}).$$

From this, \mathbf{b}_j , d_j , and \mathbf{a}_j can be identified for each $j = 1, \dots, J$.

For a single large GMM that estimates all of the parameters for all of the outcomes at the same time, we construct the group level GMM estimation based on

$$\left(\widehat{\mathbf{a}}'_1, \dots, \widehat{\mathbf{a}}'_J, \widehat{\mathbf{b}}'_1, \dots, \widehat{\mathbf{b}}'_J, \widehat{d}_1, \dots, \widehat{d}_J \right)' = \arg \min \left(\frac{1}{G} \sum_{g=1}^G \mathbf{m}_g \right)' \widehat{\Omega} \left(\frac{1}{G} \sum_{g=1}^G \mathbf{m}_g \right),$$

where $\widehat{\Omega}$ is some positive definite moment weighting matrix and

$$\mathbf{m}_g = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{Y}_{11g} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{Y}_{1Jg} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{k=1}^K b_{1k} \mathbf{Y}_{2kg} \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{k=1}^K b_{Jk} \mathbf{Y}_{2kg} \end{pmatrix} - 2 \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \sum_{j'=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^K a_{1j'} b_{1k} \mathbf{Y}_{3j'kg} \\ \vdots \\ d_J \sum_{j'=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^K a_{Jj'} b_{Jk} \mathbf{Y}_{3j'kg} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_{1k} b_{1k'} \mathbf{Y}_{4kk'g} \\ \vdots \\ d_J \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_{Jk} b_{Jk'} \mathbf{Y}_{4kk'g} \end{pmatrix}$$

is a qJ -dimensional vector.

Alternatively, we can construct the individual level GMM estimation using the group clustered standard errors

$$\left(\widehat{\mathbf{a}}'_1, \dots, \widehat{\mathbf{a}}'_J, \widehat{\mathbf{b}}'_1, \dots, \widehat{\mathbf{b}}'_J, \widehat{d}_1, \dots, \widehat{d}_J \right)' = \arg \min \left(\frac{\sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} \mathbf{m}_{g i i'}}{\sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} 1} \right)' \widehat{\Omega} \left(\frac{\sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} \mathbf{m}_{g i i'}}{\sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} 1} \right),$$

where

$$\mathbf{m}_{gii'} = \begin{pmatrix} L_{11gii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} \\ \vdots \\ L_{1Jgii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{k=1}^K b_{1k} L_{2kgii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{k=1}^K b_{Jk} L_{2kgii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} \end{pmatrix} - 2 \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \sum_{j'=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^K a_{1j'} b_{1k} L_{3j'gii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} \\ \vdots \\ d_J \sum_{j'=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^K a_{Jj'} b_{Jk} L_{3j'gii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} \end{pmatrix} \\ - \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_{1k} b_{1k'} L_{4kk'gii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} \\ \vdots \\ d_J \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K b_{Jk} b_{Jk'} L_{4kk'gii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'} \end{pmatrix}.$$

9.4 Multiple Equation Generic Model With Random Effects

Here we provide the derivation of equation (12), thereby showing validity of the moments used for random effects estimation. As with fixed effects, we here extend the model to allow a vector of covariates \mathbf{x}_i . We begin by rewriting the generic model with vector \mathbf{x}_i , equation (25).

$$y_i = \bar{y}_g^2 a^2 d + a(1 + 2\mathbf{b}'\mathbf{x}_i d) \bar{y}_g + \mathbf{b}'\mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{b}'\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i' \mathbf{b} d + v_g + u_i, \quad (37)$$

We now add the assumption that v_g is independent of \mathbf{x} and u , making it a random effect. Taking the expectation of this expression given being in group g gives

$$\bar{y}_g = \bar{y}_g^2 da^2 + a(2d\mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g + 1)\bar{y}_g + d\mathbf{b}'\overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g' \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g + \mu, \quad (38)$$

where $\mu = E(v_g)$. Hence, the group mean \bar{y}_g is an implicit function of $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g$ and $\overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g'$.

Define measurement errors $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}l} = \mathbf{x}_l - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g$, $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{xx}l} = \mathbf{x}_l \mathbf{x}_l' - \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g'$, and $\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} = \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} - \bar{y}_g$.

For any $i' \in g$, the measurement error $\varepsilon_{yi'} = y_{i'} - \bar{y}_g$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_{yi'} &= 2ad\bar{y}_g \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_{i'} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g) + d\mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_{i'} \mathbf{x}_{i'}' - \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g') \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{x}_{i'} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g) + u_{i'} + v_g \\ &= 2ad\bar{y}_g \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}i'} + d\mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{xx}i'} \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}i'} + u_{i'} + v_g - \mu. \end{aligned}$$

and so the measurement error $\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} = \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} - \bar{y}_g$ is

$$\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} = \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} - \bar{y}_g = 2ad\bar{y}_g \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} + \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{xx}g,-ii'} \mathbf{b} d + \mathbf{b}'\varepsilon_{\mathbf{x}g,-ii'} + \hat{u}_{g,-ii'} + v_g - \mu.$$

Next define $\tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'}$ by

$$\tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'} = (\bar{y}_g^2 - \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} y_{i'}) a^2 d + a (1 + 2\mathbf{b}'\mathbf{x}_i d) (\bar{y}_g - \hat{y}_{g,-ii'}),$$

so

$$y_i = \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} y_{i'} a^2 d + a (1 + 2\mathbf{b}'\mathbf{x}_i d) \hat{y}_{g,-ii'} + \mathbf{b}'\mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{b}'\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i' \mathbf{b} d + v_g + u_i + \tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'}. \quad (39)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'} &= (\bar{y}_g^2 - (\bar{y}_g + \varepsilon_{yg,-ii'}) (\bar{y}_g + \varepsilon_{y,i'})) a^2 d - a (1 + 2\mathbf{b}'\mathbf{x}_i d) \varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} \\ &= -(\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} + \varepsilon_{y,i'}) \bar{y}_g a^2 d - \varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} \varepsilon_{y,i'} a^2 d - a (1 + 2\mathbf{b}'\mathbf{x}_i d) \varepsilon_{yg,-ii'}. \end{aligned}$$

Make the following assumptions.

Assumption C1: For any individual l , v_g is independent of $(\mathbf{x}_l, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g')$, the error term u_l , and measurement errors ε_{xl} and ε_{xxl} .

Assumption C2: For each individual l in group g , conditional on $(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g')$ the measurement errors ε_{xl} and ε_{xxl} are independent across individuals and have zero means.

Assumption C3: For each group g , v_g is independent across groups with $E(v_g | \mathbf{x}, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g') = \mu$ and we have the conditional homoskedasticity that $Var(v_g | \mathbf{x}, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g') = \sigma^2$.

Let $v_0 = \mu - da^2\sigma^2$. It follows from these assumptions that, for any $l \neq i$, $E(\bar{y}_g \varepsilon_{yl} | \mathbf{x}_i, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g') = 0$ and $E(\varepsilon_{yl} \mathbf{x}_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g') = 0$. Hence, $E(\tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'} | x_i, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g') = -da^2 E(\varepsilon_{yg,-ii'} \varepsilon_{y,i'} | \mathbf{x}_i, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g') = -da^2 Var(v_g)$ and

$$E(v_g + u_i + \tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'} | \bar{\mathbf{x}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{xx}}_g', \mathbf{x}_i) = \mu - da^2\sigma^2 = v_0. \quad (40)$$

By construction $v_g + u_i + \tilde{\varepsilon}_{gii'}$ is also independent of \mathbf{r}_g . Given this, equation (12) then follows from equations (39) (40).

9.5 Identification of the Demand System With Fixed Effects

Here we outline how the parameters of the demand system are identified. This is followed by the formal proof of identification, based on the corresponding moments we construct for estimation. As with the generic model, equation (17) entails the complications associated with nonlinearity, and the issues that the fixed effects \mathbf{v}_g correlate with regressors, and that $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ is not observed. As before, let n_g denote the number of consumers we observe in group g . Assume $n_g \geq 3$. The actual number of consumers in each group may be large, but we

assume only a small, fixed number of them are observed. Our asymptotics assume that the number of observed groups goes to infinity as the sample size grows, but for each group g , the number of observed consumers n_g is fixed. We may estimate $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ by a sample average of \mathbf{q}_i across observed consumers in group i , but the error in any such average is like measurement error, that does not shrink as our sample size grows.

We show identification of the parameters of the demand system (17) in two steps. The first step identifies some of the model parameters by closely following the identification strategy of our simpler generic model, holding prices fixed. The second step then identifies the remaining parameters based on varying prices. We summarize these steps here, then provide formal assumptions and proof of the identification in the next section.

For the first step, consider data just from a single time period and region, so there is no price variation and \mathbf{p} can be treated as a vector of constants. Let $\alpha = \mathbf{A}'\mathbf{p}$, $\beta = \mathbf{p}^{1/2}'\mathbf{R}\mathbf{p}^{1/2}$, $\tilde{\gamma} = \tilde{\mathbf{C}}'\mathbf{p}$, $\kappa = \mathbf{D}'\mathbf{p}$, $\delta = \mathbf{b}/\mathbf{p}$, $r_j = r_{jj} + 2\sum_{k>j} r_{jk}p_j^{-1/2}p_k^{1/2}$, and $\mathbf{m} = (e^{-\mathbf{b}'\ln\mathbf{p}})\mathbf{d}/\mathbf{p}$ with constraints of $\mathbf{b}'\mathbf{1} = 1$ and $\mathbf{d}'\mathbf{1} = 0$. Then equation (17) reduces to the system of Engel curves

$$\mathbf{q}_i = (x_i - \beta - \alpha'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g)^2 \mathbf{m} + (x_i - \beta - \alpha'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) \delta + \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \tilde{\mathbf{C}}\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i + \mathbf{D}\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \mathbf{v}_g + \mathbf{u}_i, \quad (41)$$

This has a very similar structure to the generic multiple equation system of equations (36), and we proceed similarly.

Define $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_g = (\alpha'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \beta + \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g)^2 \mathbf{m} - (\alpha'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \beta + \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) \delta + \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \mathbf{D}\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \mathbf{v}_g$. Then equation (41) can be rewritten more simply as

$$\mathbf{q}_i = (x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)^2 \mathbf{m} - 2(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) (\alpha'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \beta + \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) \mathbf{m} + (x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) \delta + \tilde{\mathbf{C}}\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i + \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_g + \mathbf{u}_i, \quad (42)$$

Here the fixed effect \mathbf{v}_g has been replaced by a new fixed effect $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_g$. As in the generic fixed effects model, we begin by taking the difference $q_{ji} - q_{ji'}$ for each good $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ and each pair of individuals i and i' in group g . This pairwise differencing of equation (42) gives, for each good j ,

$$\begin{aligned} q_{ji} - q_{ji'} &= \left((x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)^2 - (x_{i'} - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})^2 \right) m_j + \tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_j (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}) \\ &\quad + [\delta_j - 2m_j (\alpha'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \beta + \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g)] [(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) - (x_{i'} - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})] + (u_{ji} - u_{ji'}) \end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_j$ equals the j 'th row of $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}$. Then, again as in the generic model, we replace the unobservable true group mean $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ with the leave-two-out estimate $\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} = \frac{1}{n_g-2} \sum_{l \in g, l \neq i, i'} \mathbf{q}_l$,

which then introduces an additional error term into the above equation due to the difference between $\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'}$ and $\overline{\mathbf{q}}_g$.

Define group level instruments \mathbf{r}_g as in the generic model. In particular, \mathbf{r}_g can include $\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_g$, group averages of x_i and of \mathbf{z}_i , using data from individuals i that are sampled in other time periods than the one currently being used for Engel curve identification. Define a vector of instruments $\mathbf{r}_{gii'}$ that contains the elements \mathbf{r}_g , $x_i, \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i, x_{i'}, \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}$, and squares and cross products of these elements. We then, analogous to the generic model, obtain unconditional moments

$$0 = E\{[(q_{ji} - q_{ji'}) - ((x_i - \widetilde{\gamma}'\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)^2 - (x_{i'} - \widetilde{\gamma}'\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})^2) m_j - \widetilde{\mathbf{c}}_j'(\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}) - (\delta_j - 2m_j(\alpha'\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} + \beta + \kappa'\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_g))((x_i - \widetilde{\gamma}'\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) - (x_{i'} - \widetilde{\gamma}'\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}))]\mathbf{r}_{gii'}\}. \quad (43)$$

Combining common terms, we have

$$0 = E\{[(q_{ji} - q_{ji'}) - (x_i^2 - x_{i'}^2)m_j + 2(x_i\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - x_{i'}\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})'\widetilde{\gamma}m_j - \widetilde{\gamma}'(\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i' - \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}')\widetilde{\gamma}m_j - (\widetilde{\mathbf{c}}_j' - (\delta_j - 2m_j\beta)\widetilde{\gamma}')(\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}) - (\delta_j - 2m_j\beta)(x_i - x_{i'}) + 2m_j(\alpha'\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} + \kappa'\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_g)(x_i - x_{i'}) - 2(\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})'\widetilde{\gamma}m_j(\alpha'\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} + \kappa'\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_g)]\mathbf{r}_{gii'}\}. \quad (44)$$

From the above equation, for each $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$, m_j can be identified from the variation in $(x_i^2 - x_{i'}^2)$, $\widetilde{\gamma}m_j$ can be identified from the variation in $x_i(\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})$, $\delta_j - 2m_j\beta$ and $\widetilde{\mathbf{c}}_j' - (\delta_j - 2m_j\beta)\widetilde{\gamma}'$ can be identified from the variation in $x_i - x_{i'}$ and $\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}$; $m_j\alpha$ and $m_j\kappa$ are identified from the variation in $\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'}(x_i - x_{i'})$ and $\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_g(x_i - x_{i'})$. To summarize, $\widetilde{\gamma}$, α , κ , m_j , $\delta_j - 2m_j\beta$, and $\widetilde{\mathbf{c}}_j'$ are identified for each $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$, given sufficient variation in the covariates and instruments. Let $\eta = \delta - 2\mathbf{m}\beta$. As $\sum_{j=1}^J m_j p_j = (e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}}) \sum_{j=1}^J d_j = 0$ and $\sum_{j=1}^J \eta_j p_j = \sum_{j=1}^J b_j = 1$, \mathbf{m} and η are identified. Also $\widetilde{\mathbf{c}}_J$ can be identified from $\widetilde{\mathbf{c}}_J = (\widetilde{\gamma} - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \widetilde{\mathbf{c}}_j p_j) / p_J$ and hence $\widetilde{\mathbf{C}}$, $\widetilde{\gamma}$, α , κ , \mathbf{m} , and $\eta = \delta - 2\mathbf{m}\beta$ are identified. We now employ price variation to identify the remaining parameters.

Assume we observe data from T different price regimes. Let \mathbf{P} be the matrix consisting of columns \mathbf{p}_t for $t = 1, \dots, T$. The above Engel curve identification can be applied separately in each price regime t , so the Engel curve parameters that are functions of \mathbf{p}_t are now given t subscripts.

Denote the parameters to be identified in \mathbf{R} as $(r_{11}, \dots, r_{JJ}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{J-1,J})$ and \mathbf{b} as (b_1, \dots, b_{J-1}) . This is a total of $[J - 1 + J(J + 1)/2]$ parameters. Given T price regimes, we have $(J - 1)T$ equations for these parameters: $\delta_{jt} = b_j/p_{jt}$, $m_{jt} = (e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t}) d_j/p_{jt}$ and $\beta_t = \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2'} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2}$ for each j and T , since m_{jt} and $\delta_{jt} - 2m_{jt}\beta_t$ are already identified. So for large enough T , that is, $T \geq 1 + \frac{J(J+1)}{2(J-1)}$, we get more equations than unknowns, allowing \mathbf{R} and \mathbf{b} to be identified given a suitable rank condition. Once \mathbf{b} is identified, d_j is then

identified from $d_j = p_j m_j e^{\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}}$ for $j = 1, \dots, J-1$ and $d_J = -\sum_{j=1}^{J-1} d_j$. In our data, prices vary by time and region, yielding T much higher than necessary.

We now formalize the above steps, starting from the Engel curve model without price variation. This Engel curve model is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{q}_i &= x_i^2 \mathbf{m} + (\tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i' \tilde{\gamma}) \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)^2 - 2\mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta) (x_i - \tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) \\ &\quad - 2\mathbf{m} \tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i x_i + (x_i - \beta - \alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g - \tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) \delta + \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{A} \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \tilde{\mathbf{C}} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i + \mathbf{D} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \mathbf{v}_g + \mathbf{u}_i, \end{aligned}$$

from which we can construct

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g &= \bar{x}_g^2 \mathbf{m} + (\tilde{\gamma}' \bar{\mathbf{z}} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g' \tilde{\gamma}) \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)^2 - 2\mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta) (\bar{x}_g - \tilde{\gamma}' \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g) \\ &\quad - 2\mathbf{m} \tilde{\gamma}' \bar{x}_g \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g + (\bar{x}_g - \beta - \alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g - \tilde{\gamma}' \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g - \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) \delta + \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{A} \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \tilde{\mathbf{C}} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g + \mathbf{D} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \mathbf{v}_g; \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} &= \hat{x}_{g,-ii'}^2 \mathbf{m} + (\tilde{\gamma}' \hat{\mathbf{z}} \hat{\mathbf{z}}_{g,-ii'}' \tilde{\gamma}) \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)^2 - 2\mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta) (\hat{x}_{g,-ii'} - \tilde{\gamma}' \hat{\mathbf{z}}_{g,-ii'}) \\ &\quad - 2\mathbf{m} \tilde{\gamma}' \hat{x}_{g,-ii'} \hat{\mathbf{z}}_{g,-ii'} + (\hat{x}_{g,-ii'} - \beta - \alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g - \tilde{\gamma}' \hat{\mathbf{z}}_{g,-ii'} - \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) \delta + \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{A} \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \tilde{\mathbf{C}} \hat{\mathbf{z}}_{g,-ii'} + \mathbf{v}_g + \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{g,-ii'}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_{qg,-ii'} &= \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} - \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g = \varepsilon_{x^2g,-ii'} \mathbf{m} + \tilde{\gamma}' \varepsilon_{zzg,-ii'} \tilde{\gamma} \mathbf{m} - 2\mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta) (\varepsilon_{xg,-ii'} - \tilde{\gamma}' \varepsilon_{zg,-ii'}) \\ &\quad - 2\mathbf{m} \tilde{\gamma}' \varepsilon_{zxg,-ii'} + \delta \varepsilon_{xg,-ii'} + (\tilde{\mathbf{C}} - \delta \tilde{\gamma}') \varepsilon_{zg,-ii'} + \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{g,-ii'}. \end{aligned}$$

Pairwise differencing gives

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{q}_i - \mathbf{q}_{i'} &= (x_i^2 - x_{i'}^2) \mathbf{m} + [\tilde{\gamma}' (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i' - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}') \tilde{\gamma}] \mathbf{m} - 2\mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta) [(x_i - x_{i'}) - \tilde{\gamma}' (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})] \\ &\quad - 2\mathbf{m} \tilde{\gamma}' (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i x_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'} x_{i'}) + \delta (x_i - x_{i'}) + (\tilde{\mathbf{C}} - \delta \tilde{\gamma}') (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}) + \mathbf{u}_i - \mathbf{u}_{i'} \\ &= (x_i^2 - x_{i'}^2) \mathbf{m} + [\tilde{\gamma}' (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i' - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}') \tilde{\gamma}] \mathbf{m} - 2\mathbf{m} (\alpha' \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta) [(x_i - x_{i'}) - \tilde{\gamma}' (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})] \\ &\quad - 2\mathbf{m} \tilde{\gamma}' (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i x_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'} x_{i'}) + \delta (x_i - x_{i'}) + (\tilde{\mathbf{C}} - \delta \tilde{\gamma}') (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}) + \mathbf{U}_{ii'}, \end{aligned}$$

where the composite error is

$$\mathbf{U}_{ii'} = \mathbf{u}_i - \mathbf{u}_{i'} + 2\mathbf{m} \alpha' \varepsilon_{qg,-ii'} [(x_i - x_{i'}) - \tilde{\gamma}' (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})].$$

Make the following assumptions.

Assumption B1: Each individual i in group g satisfies equation (41). Unobserved errors \mathbf{u}_i 's are independent across groups and have zero mean conditional on all (x_l, \mathbf{z}_l) for $l \in g$, and \mathbf{v}_g are unobserved group level fixed effects. The number of observed groups $G \rightarrow \infty$.

For each observed group g , a sample of n_g observations of $\mathbf{q}_i, x_i, \mathbf{z}_i$ is observed. Each sample size n_g is fixed and does not go to infinity. The true number of individuals comprising each group is unknown.

Assumption B2: The coefficients $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{C} = (\tilde{\mathbf{C}}, \mathbf{D}), \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{d}$ are unknown constants satisfying $\mathbf{b}'\mathbf{1} = 1, \mathbf{d}'\mathbf{1} = 0, \mathbf{d} \neq 0$. There exist values of $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ that satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g = & \bar{x}_g^2 \mathbf{m} + (\tilde{\gamma}' \overline{\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z}'}_g \tilde{\gamma}) \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)^2 - 2\mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta) (\bar{x}_g - \tilde{\gamma}' \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g) \\ & - 2\mathbf{m} \tilde{\gamma}' \bar{x} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g + (\bar{x}_g - \beta - \alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g - \tilde{\gamma}' \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g - \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) \delta + \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{A} \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \tilde{\mathbf{C}} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g + \mathbf{D} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \mathbf{v}_g. \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

Assumption B1 just defines the model. Assumption B2 ensures that an equilibrium exists for each group, thereby avoiding Tamer's (2003) potential incoherence problem. To see this, observe that if $A \neq 0$ then $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ has the solution

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{q}_g = & \frac{1}{2m (Ap)^2} \{ (2mAp(\bar{x}_g - \tilde{\gamma}' \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g - \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g - \beta) + 1 - A + pA\delta) \pm [(2mAp(\bar{x}_g - \tilde{\gamma}' \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g - \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g - \beta) \\ & + 1 - A + pA\delta)^2 - 4m (Ap)^2 (m\bar{x}_g^2 + m\tilde{\gamma}' \overline{\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z}'}_g \tilde{\gamma} + m(\kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)^2 - 2m(\kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)(\bar{x}_g - \tilde{\gamma}' \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g) \\ & - 2m\tilde{\gamma}' \bar{x} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g + (\bar{x}_g - \beta - \tilde{\gamma}' \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g - \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) \delta + r + \tilde{\mathbf{C}} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g + \mathbf{D} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + v_g)]^{1/2} \}, \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

while if A does equal zero, then the model will be trivially identified because in that case there aren't any peer effects. From equation (46), we can see $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ is an implicit function of $\bar{x}_g^2, \bar{x}_g, \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g, \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z}'}_g, \bar{x} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g$, and \mathbf{v}_g . In the case of multiple equilibria, we do not take a stand on which root of equation (45) is chosen by consumers, we just make the following assumption.

Assumption B3: Individuals within each group agree on an equilibrium selection rule.

Assumption B4: Within each group g , the vector $(x_i, \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)$ is a random sample drawn from a distribution that has mean $(\bar{x}_g, \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g) = E((x_i, \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) \mid i \in g)$ and variance $\Sigma_{x\mathbf{z}g} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{xg}^2 & \sigma_{x\mathbf{z}g} \\ \sigma'_{x\mathbf{z}g} & \Sigma_{\mathbf{z}g} \end{pmatrix}$ where $\sigma_{xg}^2 = Var(x_i \mid i \in g)$, $\sigma_{x\mathbf{z}g} = Cov(x_i, \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \mid i \in g)$ and $\Sigma_{\mathbf{z}g} = Var(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \mid i \in g)$. Denote $\varepsilon_{ix} = x_i - \bar{x}_g$ and $\varepsilon_{iz} = \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g$. Assume $E((\varepsilon_{ix}, \varepsilon_{iz}) \mid \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g, \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g, \bar{x} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g, \overline{\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z}'}_g, \bar{x}_g, \bar{x}_g^2, \mathbf{v}_g, \mathbf{r}_g) = 0$ and is independent across individual i 's.

To satisfy Assumption B4, we can think of group level variables like $\bar{x}_g, \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g$ and \mathbf{v}_g as first being drawn from some distribution, and then separately drawing the individual level variables $(\varepsilon_{ix}, \varepsilon_{iz})$ from some distribution that is unrelated to the group level distribution, to then determine the individual level observables $x_i = \bar{x}_g + \varepsilon_{ix}$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i = \bar{\mathbf{z}}_g + \varepsilon_{iz}$. It then follows from Assumption B4 that $E(\varepsilon_{xg, -ii'} \mid x_i, \mathbf{z}_i, x_{i'}, \mathbf{z}_{i'}, \mathbf{r}_g) = 0$ and $E(\varepsilon_{zg, -ii'} \mid x_i, \mathbf{z}_i, x_{i'}, \mathbf{z}_{i'}, \mathbf{r}_g) =$

0. With similar arguments in the generic model, Assumption B4 suffices to ensure that

$$E(\varepsilon_{qg,-ii'}[(x_i - x_{i'}), (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})'] | x_i, x_{i'}, \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_{i'}, \mathbf{r}_g) = E(\varepsilon_{qg,-ii'} | \mathbf{r}_g) \cdot [(x_i - x_{i'}), (\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_{i'})'] = 0.$$

Then we have the moment condition

$$\begin{aligned} E\{[\mathbf{q}_i - \mathbf{q}_{i'} + 2\mathbf{m}(\alpha' \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) [(x_i - x_{i'}) - \tilde{\gamma}'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})] - (x_i^2 - x_{i'}^2)\mathbf{m} - \tilde{\gamma}'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i' - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}') \tilde{\gamma} \mathbf{m} \\ + 2\mathbf{m} \tilde{\gamma}'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i x_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'} x_{i'}) - \eta(x_i - x_{i'}) + (\eta \tilde{\gamma}' - \tilde{\mathbf{C}})(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})] | x_i, x_{i'}, \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_{i'}, \mathbf{r}_g\} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

for the Engel curves, where $\eta = \delta - 2\mathbf{m}\beta$, and so

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[\left(\mathbf{q}_i - \mathbf{q}_{i'} + 2e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t} \frac{\mathbf{d}}{\mathbf{p}_t} (\mathbf{p}_t' \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'} + \mathbf{p}_t' \mathbf{D} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) [(x_i - x_{i'}) - \mathbf{p}_t' \tilde{\mathbf{C}}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})] - e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t} \frac{\mathbf{d}}{\mathbf{p}_t} \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. [(x_i^2 - x_{i'}^2) + \mathbf{p}_t' \tilde{\mathbf{C}}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i' - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}') \tilde{\mathbf{C}}' \mathbf{p}_t - 2\mathbf{p}_t' \tilde{\mathbf{C}}(\mathbf{z}_i x_i - \mathbf{z}_{i'} x_{i'})] - \left(\frac{\mathbf{b}}{\mathbf{p}_t} - 2e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t} \frac{\mathbf{d}}{\mathbf{p}_t} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2'} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2} \right) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \cdot (x_i - x_{i'}) + \left[\left(\frac{\mathbf{b}}{\mathbf{p}_t} - 2e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t} \frac{\mathbf{d}}{\mathbf{p}_t} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2'} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{C}}' \mathbf{p}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{C}} \right] (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}) \right] | x_i, x_{i'}, \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_{i'}, \mathbf{r}_g \right] = 0. \quad (48) \end{aligned}$$

for the full demand system.

We define the instrument vector $\mathbf{r}_{gii'}$ to be linear and quadratic functions of \mathbf{r}_g , $(x_i, \mathbf{z}_i)'$, and $(x_{i'}, \mathbf{z}_{i'})'$. Denote

$$\begin{aligned} L_{1jgii'} &= (q_{ji} - q_{j'i'}), \quad L_{2jgii'} = \hat{q}_{jg,-ii'}(x_i - x_{i'}), \quad L_{3jkgii'} = \hat{q}_{jgt,-ii'}(\tilde{z}_{ki} - \tilde{z}_{ki'}), \\ L_{4k_2gii'} &= \tilde{z}_{k_2g}(x_i - x_{i'}), \quad L_{5kk_2gii'} = \tilde{z}_{k_2g}(\tilde{z}_{ki} - \tilde{z}_{ki'}), \quad L_{6gii'} = x_i^2 - x_{i'}^2, \\ L_{7kk'gii'} &= \tilde{z}_{ki} \tilde{z}_{k'i} - \tilde{z}_{ki'} \tilde{z}_{k'i'}, \quad L_{8kgii'} = \tilde{z}_{ki} x_i - \tilde{z}_{ki'} x_{i'}, \quad L_{9gii'} = x_i - x_{i'}, \quad L_{10kgii'} = \tilde{z}_{ki} - \tilde{z}_{ki'}, \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

For $\ell \in \{1j, 2j, 3jk, 4k_2, 5kk_2, 6, 7kk', 8k, 9, 10k \mid j = 1, \dots, J; k, k' = 1, \dots, K, k_2 = 1, \dots, K_2\}$, define vectors

$$\mathbf{Q}_{\ell g} = \frac{\sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} L_{\ell gii'} \mathbf{r}_{gii'}}{\sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_g} 1}.$$

Then for each good j , the identification is based on

$$\begin{aligned} E \left(\mathbf{Q}_{1jg} + 2m_j \sum_{j'=1}^J \alpha_{j'} \mathbf{Q}_{2j'g} - 2m_j \sum_{j'=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_{j'} \tilde{\gamma}_k \mathbf{Q}_{3j'kg} + 2m_j \sum_{k_2=1}^{K_2} \kappa_{k_2} \mathbf{Q}_{4k_2g} - 2m_j \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k_2=1}^{K_2} \tilde{\gamma}_k \kappa_{k_2} \mathbf{Q}_{5kk_2g} \right. \\ \left. - m_j \mathbf{Q}_{6g} - m_j \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K \tilde{\gamma}_k \tilde{\gamma}_{k'} \mathbf{Q}_{7gkk'} + 2m_j \sum_{k=1}^K \tilde{\gamma}_k \mathbf{Q}_{8kg} - \eta_j \mathbf{Q}_{9g} + \sum_{k=1}^K (\eta_j \tilde{\gamma}_k - \tilde{c}_{jk}) \mathbf{Q}_{10kg} \right) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{\gamma}_k$ is the k th element of $\tilde{\gamma} = \tilde{\mathbf{C}}' \mathbf{p}$, κ_{k_2} is the k_2 th element of $\kappa = \mathbf{D}' \mathbf{p}$, and \tilde{c}_{jk} is the

(j, k) th element of $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}$.

Assumption B5: $E(\mathbf{Q}'_g) E(\mathbf{Q}_g)$ is nonsingular, where

$$\mathbf{Q}_g = (\mathbf{Q}_{21g}, \dots, \mathbf{Q}_{2Jg}, \mathbf{Q}_{311g}, \dots, \mathbf{Q}_{3JKg}, \mathbf{Q}_{41g}, \dots, \mathbf{Q}_{4K_2g}, \mathbf{Q}_{511g}, \dots, \mathbf{Q}_{5KK_2g}, \\ \mathbf{Q}_{6g}, \mathbf{Q}_{711g}, \dots, \mathbf{Q}_{7KKg}, \mathbf{Q}_{81g}, \dots, \mathbf{Q}_{8Kg}, \mathbf{Q}_{9g}, \mathbf{Q}_{101g}, \dots, \mathbf{Q}_{10Kg}).$$

Under Assumption B5, we can identify

$$(-2m_j\alpha', 2m_j\alpha_1\tilde{\gamma}', \dots, 2m_j\alpha_J\tilde{\gamma}', -2m_j\kappa', 2m_j\kappa_1\tilde{\gamma}', \dots, 2m_j\kappa_{K_2}\tilde{\gamma}', m_j, m_j\tilde{\gamma}_1\tilde{\gamma}', \dots, m_j\tilde{\gamma}_K\tilde{\gamma}', \\ -2m_j\tilde{\gamma}', \eta_j, \mathbf{c}'_j - \eta_j\tilde{\gamma}')' = [E(\mathbf{Q}'_g) E(\mathbf{Q}_g)]^{-1} E(\mathbf{Q}'_g) E(\mathbf{Q}_{1jg})$$

for each $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$. From this, α , κ , $\tilde{\gamma}$, $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}$, \mathbf{m} , and $\eta = \delta - 2\mathbf{m}\beta$ are identified. To identify the full demand system, let \mathbf{p}_t denote the vector of prices in a single price regime t . Let

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{p}'_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{p}'_T \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } \mathbf{\Lambda} = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_1 \\ \Lambda_2 \\ \vdots \\ \Lambda_T \end{pmatrix}$$

with the $(J - 1) \times [J - 1 + J(J + 1)/2]$ matrix

$$\Lambda_t = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{p_{1t}} & 0 & \dots & 0 & -2m_{1t}\mathbf{p}'_t & -4m_{1t}p_{1t}^{1/2}p_{2t}^{1/2} & \dots & -4m_{1t}p_{J-1,t}^{1/2}p_{Jt}^{1/2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{p_{2t}} & \dots & 0 & -2m_{2t}\mathbf{p}'_t & -4m_{2t}p_{1t}^{1/2}p_{2t}^{1/2} & \dots & -4m_{2t}p_{J-1,t}^{1/2}p_{Jt}^{1/2} \\ & & \ddots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \frac{1}{p_{J-1,t}} & -2m_{J-1,t}\mathbf{p}'_t & -4m_{J-1,t}p_{1t}^{1/2}p_{2t}^{1/2} & \dots & -4m_{J-1,t}p_{J-1,t}^{1/2}p_{Jt}^{1/2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then we have

$$\mathbf{PA} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha'_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha'_T \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{PD} = \begin{pmatrix} \kappa'_1 \\ \vdots \\ \kappa'_T \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } \mathbf{\Lambda}(b_1, \dots, b_{J-1}, r_{11}, \dots, r_{JJ}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{J-1,J})' = \begin{pmatrix} \eta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \eta_T \end{pmatrix},$$

where $\eta_t = (\eta_{1t}, \dots, \eta_{J-1,t})'$. Hence, we need the $T \times J$ matrix \mathbf{P} has full column rank to further identify parameters in \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{D} ; need the $(J - 1)T \times [J - 1 + J(J + 1)/2]$ matrix $\mathbf{\Lambda}$ has full column rank to identify \mathbf{b} and \mathbf{R} . Once \mathbf{b} is identified, we can identify \mathbf{d} . Using the groups that are observed facing this set of prices, from above we can identify all parameters in \mathbf{A} , $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}$, \mathbf{D} , \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{d} , and \mathbf{R} .

Assumption B6: Data are observed in T price regimes $\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_T$ such that the $T \times J$

matrix $\mathbf{P} = (\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_T)'$ and the $(J-1)T \times [J-1 + J(J+1)/2]$ matrix Λ both have full column rank.

Given Assumption B6, \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{D} are identified by

$$\mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{P}'\mathbf{P})^{-1}\mathbf{P}' \begin{pmatrix} \alpha'_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha'_T \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{D} = (\mathbf{P}'\mathbf{P})^{-1}\mathbf{P}' \begin{pmatrix} \kappa'_1 \\ \vdots \\ \kappa'_T \end{pmatrix};$$

\mathbf{R} and \mathbf{b} are identified by

$$(b_1, \dots, b_{J-1}, r_{11}, \dots, r_{JJ}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{J-1,J})' = (\Lambda'\Lambda)^{-1}\Lambda' \begin{pmatrix} \eta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \eta_T \end{pmatrix};$$

\mathbf{d} is identified by $d_j = p_{jt}m_{jt}e^{\mathbf{b}'\ln \mathbf{p}_t}$ for $j = 1, \dots, J$ and $d_J = -\sum_{j=1}^{J-1} d_j$.

To illustrate, in the two goods system, i.e., $J = 2$, this means that we can identify \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{D} if the $T \times 2$ matrix

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} p_{11}, p_{21} \\ \vdots \\ p_{1T}, p_{2T} \end{pmatrix}$$

has rank 2 and the $T \times 4$ matrix

$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{p_{11}}, & -2e^{-\mathbf{b}'\ln \mathbf{p}_1} \frac{d_1}{p_{11}} p_{11}, & -2e^{-\mathbf{b}'\ln \mathbf{p}_1} \frac{d_1}{p_{11}} p_{21}, & -4e^{-\mathbf{b}'\ln \mathbf{p}_1} \frac{d_1}{p_{11}} p_{11}^{1/2} p_{21}^{1/2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{p_{1T}}, & -2e^{-\mathbf{b}'\ln \mathbf{p}_T} \frac{d_1}{p_{1T}} p_{1T}, & -2e^{-\mathbf{b}'\ln \mathbf{p}_T} \frac{d_1}{p_{1T}} p_{2T}, & -4e^{-\mathbf{b}'\ln \mathbf{p}_T} \frac{d_1}{p_{1T}} p_{1T}^{1/2} p_{2T}^{1/2} \end{pmatrix}$$

has rank 4.

The above derivation proves the following theorem:

Theorem 2. Given Assumptions B1-B5, the parameters $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}$, α , $\tilde{\gamma}$, κ , \mathbf{m} , and $\eta = \delta - 2\mathbf{m}\beta$ in the Engel curve system (41) are identified. If Assumption B6 also holds, all the parameters \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{R} , \mathbf{d} , $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}$ and \mathbf{D} in the full demand system (17) are identified.

9.6 Estimation of the Demand System with Fixed Effects

For the full demand system, the GMM estimation builds on the above, treating each value of gt as a different group, so the total number of relevant groups is $N = \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{t=1}^T 1$ where

the sum is over all values gt can take on. Define

$$\Gamma_{gt} = \{(i, i') \mid i \text{ and } i' \text{ are observed, } i \in gt, i' \in gt, i \neq i'\}$$

So Γ_{ngt} is the set of all observed pairs of individuals i and i' in the group g at period t . Let the instrument vector $\mathbf{r}_{gtii'}$ be linear and quadratic functions of \mathbf{r}_{gt} , $(x_i, \mathbf{z}_i)'$, and $(x_{i'}, \mathbf{z}_{i'})'$. The GMM estimator, using group level clustered standard errors, is then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\widehat{\mathbf{A}}'_1, \dots, \widehat{\mathbf{A}}'_J, \widehat{b}_1, \dots, \widehat{b}_{J-1}, \widehat{d}_1, \dots, \widehat{d}_{J-1}, \widetilde{\mathbf{c}}'_1, \dots, \widetilde{\mathbf{c}}'_J, \widehat{\mathbf{D}}'_1, \dots, \widehat{\mathbf{D}}'_J, r_{11}, \dots, r_{JJ}, r_{12}, \dots, r_{J-1J} \right)' \\ & = \arg \min \left(\frac{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_{gt}} \mathbf{m}_{gtii'}}{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_{gt}} 1} \right)' \widehat{\Omega} \left(\frac{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_{gt}} \mathbf{m}_{gtii'}}{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{(i,i') \in \Gamma_{gt}} 1} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where the expression of $\mathbf{m}_{gtii'} = (\mathbf{m}'_{1gtii'}, \dots, \mathbf{m}'_{J-1gtii'})$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{m}_{jgtii'} & = [(q_{ji} - q_{ji'}) - \left((x_i - \widetilde{\gamma}'_t \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)^2 - (x_{i'} - \widetilde{\gamma}'_t \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})^2 \right)] m_{jt} - \widetilde{\mathbf{c}}'_j (\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'}) \\ & \quad - (\delta_{jt} - 2m_{jt}(\alpha'_t \widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} + \beta_t + \kappa'_t \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{gt})) ((x_i - \widetilde{\gamma}'_t \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) - (x_{i'} - \widetilde{\gamma}'_t \widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})) \mathbf{r}_{gtii'} \end{aligned}$$

with

$$m_{jt} = e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t} \frac{d_j}{p_{jt}}, \quad \alpha_t = \mathbf{A}' \mathbf{p}_t, \quad \widetilde{\gamma}_t = \widetilde{\mathbf{C}}' \mathbf{p}_t, \quad \kappa_t = \mathbf{D}' \mathbf{p}_t, \quad \beta_t = \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2'} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2}, \quad \delta_{jt} = \frac{b_j}{p_{jt}}.$$

9.7 Construction of Instruments For Fixed Effects Demand System Estimation

For estimation, we need to establish that the set of instruments \mathbf{r}_{gt} provided earlier are valid. For any matrix of random variables \mathbf{w} , we have $\widehat{\mathbf{w}}_{gt}$ defined by

$$\widehat{\mathbf{w}}_{gt} = \frac{\sum_{s \neq t} \sum_{i \in gs} \mathbf{w}_i}{\sum_{s \neq t} \sum_{i \in gs} 1}$$

From Assumption B4, we can write $\widehat{\mathbf{w}}_{gt} = \overline{\mathbf{w}}_{gt} + \varepsilon_{wgt}$, where ε_{wgt} is a summation of measurement errors from other periods. Assume now that $\varepsilon_{wgt} \perp (\varepsilon_{wgt}, \overline{\mathbf{w}}_{gt})$.

As discussed after assumption B4, we can think of (x_i, \mathbf{z}_i) as being determined by having $(\varepsilon_{ix}, \varepsilon_{iz})$ drawn independently from group level variables. As long as these draws are independent across individuals, and different individuals are observed in each time period, then we will have $\varepsilon_{wgt} \perp (\varepsilon_{wgt}, \overline{\mathbf{w}}_{gt})$ for \mathbf{w} being suitable functions of (x_i, \mathbf{z}_i) . Alternatively, if we interpret the ε 's as being measurement errors in group level variables, then the assumption is

that these measurement errors are independent over time. In contrast to the ε 's, we assume that true group level variables like \bar{x}_{gt} and $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_{gt}$ are correlated over time, e.g., the true mean group income in one time period is not independent of the true mean group income in other time periods.

Given $\varepsilon_{wgt} \perp (\varepsilon_{wgt}, \bar{\mathbf{w}}_{gt})$, we have

$$0 = E(\varepsilon_{qgt,-ii'}[(x_i - x_{i'}) - \gamma'_{gt}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})] \mid \widehat{\mathbf{w}}_{gt}, x_{it}, x_{i't}, \mathbf{z}_{it}, \mathbf{z}_{i't}),$$

because

$$E(\bar{\mathbf{q}}_{gt}[(x_i - x_{i'}) - \gamma'_{gt}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i'})](\widehat{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt,-ii'} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt}) \mid \bar{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt}, \overline{\mathbf{x}^* \mathbf{x}'^*}_{gt}, \mathbf{v}_{gt}, \bar{\mathbf{w}}_{gt}, \varepsilon_{wgt}, \mathbf{x}^*_{it}, \mathbf{x}^*_{i't}) = 0,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} E([\mathbf{x}^*_i - \mathbf{x}^*_{i'}](\widehat{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt,-ii'} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt})' \mid \bar{\mathbf{w}}_{gt}, \varepsilon_{wgt}, \mathbf{x}^*_{it}, \mathbf{x}^*_{i't}) &= 0; \\ E([\mathbf{x}^*_i - \mathbf{x}^*_{i'}](\widehat{\mathbf{x}^* \mathbf{x}'^*}_{gt,-ii'} - \overline{\mathbf{x}^* \mathbf{x}'^*}_{gt})' \mid \bar{\mathbf{w}}_{gt}, \varepsilon_{wgt}, \mathbf{x}^*_{it}, \mathbf{x}^*_{i't}) &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{x}^* = (x, \mathbf{z})'$. It follows that $(\widehat{\mathbf{x}^* \mathbf{x}'^*}_{gt}, \widehat{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt}, \widehat{\mathbf{x}'^*}_{gt}, \widehat{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt})$ is a valid instrument for $\widehat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii'}$.

The full set of proposed instruments is therefore $\mathbf{r}_{gtii'} = \mathbf{r}_g \otimes (\mathbf{x}^*_i - \mathbf{x}^*_{i'}, \mathbf{x}^*_i \mathbf{x}'^*_{i'} - \mathbf{x}^*_{i'} \mathbf{x}'^*_{i'})$, where

$$\mathbf{r}_g = \left(\widehat{\mathbf{x}^* \mathbf{x}'^*}_{gt}, \widehat{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt}, \widehat{\mathbf{x}'^*}_{gt}, \widehat{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt}, \mathbf{x}^*_i + \mathbf{x}^*_{i'}, x_i^2 + x_{i'}^2, x_i^{1/2} + x_{i'}^{1/2} \right),$$

for the Engel curve system, and $\mathbf{r}_{gtii'} = \mathbf{r}_{gt} \otimes (\mathbf{x}^*_i - \mathbf{x}^*_{i'}, \mathbf{x}^*_i \mathbf{x}'^*_{i'} - \mathbf{x}^*_{i'} \mathbf{x}'^*_{i'})$, where

$$\mathbf{r}_{gt} = \mathbf{p}'_t \otimes \left(\widehat{\mathbf{x}^* \mathbf{x}'^*}_{gt}, \widehat{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt}, \widehat{\mathbf{x}'^*}_{gt}, \widehat{\mathbf{x}}^*_{gt}, \mathbf{x}^*_i + \mathbf{x}^*_{i'}, x_i^2 + x_{i'}^2, x_i^{1/2} + x_{i'}^{1/2} \right).$$

for the full demand system.

9.8 Identification and Estimation of the Demand System with Random Effects

The Engel curve model with random effects is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{q}_i &= x_i^2 \mathbf{m} + (\tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i' \tilde{\gamma}) \mathbf{m} - 2\mathbf{m} \tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i x_i + \mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)^2 - 2\mathbf{m} (\alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta) (x_i - \tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) \\ &+ (x_i - \beta - \alpha' \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g - \tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) \delta + \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{A} \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \tilde{\mathbf{C}} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i + \mathbf{D} \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \mathbf{v}_g + \mathbf{u}_i, \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon_{qi'} &= \mathbf{q}_{i'} - \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g = \varepsilon_{x^2i'}\mathbf{m} + \gamma'\varepsilon_{zzi'}\gamma\mathbf{m} - 2\mathbf{m}\gamma'\varepsilon_{zzi'} - 2\mathbf{m}(\alpha'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)(\varepsilon_{xi'} - \tilde{\gamma}'\varepsilon_{zi'}) \\ &\quad + \delta\varepsilon_{xi'} + (\mathbf{C} - \delta\tilde{\gamma}')\varepsilon_{zi'} + \mathbf{v}_g - \mu + \mathbf{u}_{i'}; \\ \varepsilon_{qg,-ii'} &= \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} - \bar{\mathbf{q}}_g = \varepsilon_{x^2g,-ii'}\mathbf{m} + \gamma'\varepsilon_{zzg,-ii'}\gamma\mathbf{m} - 2\mathbf{m}\gamma'\varepsilon_{zzg,-ii'} - 2\mathbf{m}(\alpha'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g + \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta) \\ &\quad \cdot (\varepsilon_{xg,-ii'} - \gamma'\varepsilon_{zg,-ii'}) + \delta\varepsilon_{xg,-ii'} + (\mathbf{C} - \delta\tilde{\gamma}')\varepsilon_{zg,-ii'} + \mathbf{v}_g - \mu + \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{g,-ii'}.\end{aligned}$$

By rewriting q_{ji} as

$$\begin{aligned}q_{ji} &= m_j(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)^2 + m_j(\alpha'\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g)^2 + m_j(\kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)^2 - [(2m_j(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g - \beta) + \delta_j)\alpha' - \mathbf{A}'_j]\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g \\ &\quad - 2m_j(\kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) + \delta_j(x_i - \beta - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) + r_j + \mathbf{c}'_j\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i + \mathbf{D}'_j\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + v_{jg} + u_{ji} \\ &= m_j(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)^2 + m_j\alpha'\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'}\alpha'\mathbf{q}_{i'} + m_j(\kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)^2 - [(2m_j(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g - \beta) + \delta_j)\alpha' - \mathbf{A}'_j] \\ &\quad \cdot \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} - 2m_j(\kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) + \delta_j(x_i - \beta - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) + r_j + \mathbf{c}'_j\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i + \mathbf{D}'_j\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + v_{jg} + u_{ji} + \tilde{\varepsilon}_{jgii'},\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\varepsilon}_{jgii'} &= m_j\alpha'(\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g\bar{\mathbf{q}}'_g - \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'}\mathbf{q}'_{i'})\alpha - [(2m_j(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g - \beta) + \delta_j)\alpha' - \mathbf{A}'_j](\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g - \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'}) \\ &= -m_j\alpha'[(\varepsilon_{qg,-ii'} + \varepsilon_{qi'})\bar{\mathbf{q}}'_g + \varepsilon_{qg,-ii'}\varepsilon'_{qi'}]\alpha - [\mathbf{A}'_j - (2m_j(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g - \beta) + \delta_j)\alpha']\varepsilon_{qg,-ii'}.\end{aligned}$$

and letting $U_{jii'} = v_{jg} + u_{ji} + \tilde{\varepsilon}_{jgii'}$, we have the conditional expectation

$$E(U_{jii'}|\mathbf{z}_i, x_i, \mathbf{r}_g) = E(v_{jg}|\mathbf{z}_i, x_i, \mathbf{r}_g) - m_j\alpha'E(\varepsilon_{qg,-ii'}\varepsilon'_{qi'}|\mathbf{z}_i, x_i, \mathbf{r}_g)\alpha = \mu_j - m_j\alpha'\Sigma_v\alpha,$$

where $\mu_j = E(v_{jg}|\mathbf{z}_i, x_i, \mathbf{r}_g) = E(v_{jg})$ and $\Sigma_v = Var(\mathbf{v}_g|\mathbf{z}_i, x_i, \mathbf{r}_g) = Var(\mathbf{v}_g)$. From this, we can construct the conditional moment condition

$$\begin{aligned}E[q_{ji} - m_j\alpha'\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'}\alpha'\mathbf{q}_{i'} - m_j(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)^2 - m_j(\kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)^2 + [(2m_j(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g - \beta) + \delta_j)\alpha' \\ - \mathbf{A}'_j]\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} + 2m_j(\kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) - \delta_j(x_i - \beta - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) - r_j - \tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_j\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \mathbf{D}'_j\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g|x_i, \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{r}_g] = v_{j0},\end{aligned}$$

where $v_{j0} = \mu_j - m_j\alpha'\Sigma_v\alpha$ is a constant.

Let the instrument vector \mathbf{r}_{gi} be any functional form of \mathbf{r}_g and $(x_i, \mathbf{z}'_i)'$. Then for any $i, i' \in g$ with $i \neq i'$, the following unconditional moment condition holds

$$\begin{aligned}E[(q_{ji} - m_j\alpha'\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'}\alpha'\mathbf{q}_{i'} - m_j(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)^2 - m_j(\kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)^2 + [(2m_j(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g - \beta) + \delta_j)\alpha' \\ - \mathbf{A}'_j]\hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g,-ii'} + 2m_j(\kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g + \beta)(x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) - \delta_j(x_i - \beta - \tilde{\gamma}'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g) - r_j - \tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_j\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \mathbf{D}'_j\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g - v_{j0})\mathbf{r}_{gi}] = 0.\end{aligned}$$

We can sum over all $i' \neq i$ in the group g . Using the property of $\frac{1}{n_g-1} \sum_{i' \in g, i' \neq i} \hat{q}_{jg,-ii'} = \hat{q}_{jg,-i}$,

then for any $i \in g$,

$$\begin{aligned}
& E\{\mathbf{r}_{gi}[q_{ji} - m_j \alpha' \frac{1}{n_g - 1} \sum_{i' \in g, i' \neq i} \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g, -ii'} \mathbf{q}'_{i'} \alpha - m_j x_i^2 - m_j \tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i' \tilde{\gamma} - m_j \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g' \kappa + 2m_j \tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i x_i + 2m_j \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g x_i \\
& + 2m_j x_i \alpha' \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{g, -i} - 2m_j \tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \hat{\mathbf{q}}'_{g, -i} \alpha - 2m_j \kappa' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g \hat{\mathbf{q}}'_{g, -i} \alpha - 2m_j \tilde{\gamma}' \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g' \kappa + \hat{\mathbf{q}}'_{g, -i} [(\delta_j - 2m_j \beta) \alpha - \mathbf{A}_j] \\
& + (2m_j \beta - \delta_j) x_i + \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i' [(\delta_j - 2m_j \beta) \tilde{\gamma} - \mathbf{c}_j] + \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g' [(\delta_j - 2m_j \beta) \kappa - \mathbf{D}_j] - m_j \beta^2 + \delta_j \beta - r_j - v_{j0}\} = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Denote

$$\begin{aligned}
L_{1jgi} &= q_{ji}, \quad L_{2jj'gi} = \frac{1}{n_g - 1} \sum_{i' \in g, i' \neq i} \hat{q}_{jg, -ii'} q_{j'i'}, \quad L_{3gi} = x_i^2, \quad L_{4kk'gi} = \tilde{z}_{ki} \tilde{z}_{k'i}, \quad L_{5k_2k_2'gi} = \tilde{z}_{k_2g} \tilde{z}_{k_2'g}, \\
L_{6kgi} &= \tilde{z}_{ki} x_i, \quad L_{7k_2gi} = \tilde{z}_{k_2g} x_i, \quad L_{8jgi} = \hat{q}_{jg, -i} x_i, \quad L_{9jkgi} = \hat{q}_{jg, -i} \tilde{z}_{ki}, \quad L_{10jk_2gi} = \hat{q}_{jg, -i} \tilde{z}_{k_2g}, \\
L_{11kk_2gi} &= \tilde{z}_{ki} \tilde{z}_{k_2g}, \quad L_{12jgi} = \hat{q}_{jg, -i}, \quad L_{13gi} = x_i, \quad L_{14kgi} = \tilde{z}_{ki}, \quad L_{15k_2gi} = \tilde{z}_{k_2g}, \quad L_{16gi} = 1.
\end{aligned}$$

For $\ell \in \{1j, 2jj', 3, 4kk', 5k_2k_2', 6k, 7k_2, 8j, 9jk, 10jk_2, 11kk_2, 12j, 13, 14k, 15k_2, 16 \mid j, j' = 1, \dots, J; k, k' = 1, \dots, K; k_2, k_2' = 1, \dots, K_2\}$, define group level vectors

$$\mathbf{H}_{\ell g} = \frac{1}{n_g - 1} \sum_{i \in g} L_{\ell gi} \mathbf{r}_{gi}.$$

Then for each good j , the identification is based on

$$\begin{aligned}
& E \left(\mathbf{H}_{1jg} - m_j \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{j'=1}^J \alpha_{j'} \alpha_j \mathbf{H}_{2jj'g} - m_j \mathbf{H}_{3g} - m_j \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K \tilde{\gamma}_k \tilde{\gamma}_{k'} \mathbf{H}_{4kk'g} - m_j \sum_{k_2=1}^{K_2} \sum_{k_2'=1}^{K_2} \kappa_{k_2} \kappa_{k_2'} \mathbf{H}_{5k_2k_2'g} \right. \\
& + 2m_j \sum_{k=1}^K \tilde{\gamma}_k \mathbf{H}_{6kg} + 2m_j \sum_{k_2=1}^{K_2} \kappa_{k_2} \mathbf{H}_{7k_2g} + 2m_j \sum_{j'=1}^J \alpha_{j'} \mathbf{H}_{8j'g} - 2m_j \sum_{j'=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^K a_{j'} \tilde{\gamma}_k \mathbf{H}_{9j'kg} \\
& - 2m_j \sum_{j'=1}^J \sum_{k_2=1}^{K_2} a_{j'} \kappa_{k_2} \mathbf{H}_{10j'k_2g} - 2m_j \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k_2=1}^{K_2} \tilde{\gamma}_k \kappa_{k_2} \mathbf{H}_{11kk_2g} + \sum_{j'=1}^J [(\delta_j - 2m_j \beta) \alpha_{j'} - A_{jj'}] \mathbf{H}_{12j'g} \\
& \left. + (2m_j \beta - \delta_j) \mathbf{H}_{13g} + \sum_{k=1}^K [(\delta_j - 2m_j \beta) \tilde{\gamma}_k - c_{jk}] \mathbf{H}_{14kg} + \sum_{k_2=1}^{K_2} [(\delta_j - 2m_j \beta) \kappa_{k_2} - D_{jk_2}] \mathbf{H}_{15k_2g} - \xi_j \mathbf{H}_{16g} \right) = 0,
\end{aligned}$$

where $\xi_j = m_j \beta^2 - \delta_j \beta + r_j + v_{j0}$.

Assumption C: $E(\mathbf{H}'_g) E(\mathbf{H}_g)$ is nonsingular, where

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{H}_g &= (\mathbf{H}_{211g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{2JJg}, \mathbf{H}_{3g}, \mathbf{H}_{411g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{4KKg}, \mathbf{H}_{511g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{5K_2K_2g}, \mathbf{H}_{61g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{6Kg}, \\
& \mathbf{H}_{71g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{7K_2g}, \mathbf{H}_{81g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{8Jg}, \mathbf{H}_{911g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{9JKg}, \mathbf{H}_{1011g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{10JK_2g}, \mathbf{H}_{1111g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{11KK_2g}, \\
& \mathbf{H}_{121g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{12Jg}, \mathbf{H}_{13g}, \mathbf{H}_{141g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{14Kg}, \mathbf{H}_{151g}, \dots, \mathbf{H}_{15K_2g}, \mathbf{H}_{16g}).
\end{aligned}$$

Under Assumptions B1-B4 and Assumption C, we can identify

$$(m_j \alpha_1 \alpha', \dots, m_j \alpha_J \alpha', m_j, m_j \tilde{\gamma}_1 \tilde{\gamma}', \dots, m_j \tilde{\gamma}_K \tilde{\gamma}', m_j \kappa_1 \kappa', \dots, m_j \kappa_{K_2} \kappa', -2m_j \tilde{\gamma}', -2m_j \kappa', -2m_j \alpha', 2m_j \tilde{\gamma}_1 \alpha', \dots, 2m_j \tilde{\gamma}_K \alpha', 2m_j \kappa_1 \alpha', \dots, 2m_j \kappa_{K_2} \alpha', 2m_j \kappa_1 \tilde{\gamma}', \dots, 2m_j \kappa_{K_2} \tilde{\gamma}', \mathbf{A}'_j - (\delta_j - 2m_j \beta) \alpha', \delta_j - 2m_j \beta, \mathbf{c}_j - (\delta_j - 2m_j \beta) \tilde{\gamma}, \mathbf{D}_j - (\delta_j - 2m_j \beta) \kappa, m_j \beta^2 - \delta_j \beta + r_j + v_{j0})' = [E(\mathbf{H}'_g) E(\mathbf{H}_g)]^{-1} E(\mathbf{H}'_g) E(\mathbf{H}_{1jg}).$$

for each $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$. From this, $\tilde{\gamma}$, κ , α , \mathbf{m} , $\eta = \delta - 2\mathbf{m}\beta$, \mathbf{A}_j , $\tilde{\mathbf{c}}_j$, \mathbf{D}_j , and $m_j \beta^2 - \delta_j \beta + r_j + v_{j0}$ for $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$ are all identified. Then, $\mathbf{A}_J = (\alpha - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \mathbf{A}_j p_j) / p_J$, $\tilde{\mathbf{c}}_J = (\tilde{\gamma} - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \tilde{\mathbf{c}}_j p_j) / p_J$, and $\mathbf{D}_J = (\kappa - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \mathbf{D}_j p_j) / p_J$ are identified. Here without price variation, we can identify \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{D} . This is different from the fixed effects model because the key term for identifying \mathbf{A} is $\mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$, which is differenced out in fixed effects model, and only $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}$ can be identified from the cross product of $\bar{\mathbf{q}}_g$ and $(x_i, \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)$. Furthermore, to identify the structural parameters \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{d} , and \mathbf{R} , we need the rank condition in Assumption B6(2).

With our data spanning multiple time regimes t , we estimate the full demand system model simultaneously over all values of t , instead of as Engel curves separately in each t as above. To do so, in the above moments we replace the Engel curve coefficients α , β , $\tilde{\gamma}$, κ , δ , r_j , and \mathbf{m} with their corresponding full demand system expressions, i.e., $\alpha = \mathbf{A}'\mathbf{p}$, $\beta = \mathbf{p}^{1/2}'\mathbf{R}\mathbf{p}^{1/2}$, etc, and add t subscripts wherever relevant. The resulting GMM estimator based on these moments (and estimated using group level clustered standard errors), is then

$$\begin{aligned} & (\hat{\mathbf{A}}'_1, \dots, \hat{\mathbf{A}}'_J, \hat{b}_1, \dots, \hat{b}_{J-1}, \hat{d}_1, \dots, \hat{d}_{J-1}, \hat{\tilde{\mathbf{c}}}'_1, \dots, \hat{\tilde{\mathbf{c}}}'_J, \hat{\mathbf{D}}'_1, \dots, \hat{\mathbf{D}}'_J, \hat{R}_{11}, \dots, \hat{R}_{JJ}, \hat{R}_{12}, \dots, \hat{R}_{J-1J}, \\ & \hat{\mu}, \hat{\Sigma}_{v,11}, \dots, \hat{\Sigma}_{v,JJ}, \hat{\Sigma}_{v,12}, \dots, \hat{\Sigma}_{v,J-1,J})' \\ & = \arg \min \left(\frac{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{i \in \Gamma_{gt}} \mathbf{m}_{gti}}{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{i \in \Gamma_{gt}} 1} \right)' \hat{\Omega} \left(\frac{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{i \in \Gamma_{gt}} \mathbf{m}_{gti}}{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{i \in \Gamma_{gt}} 1} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where the expression of $\mathbf{m}_{gti} = (\mathbf{m}'_{1gti}, \dots, \mathbf{m}'_{J-1gti})$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{m}_{gti} & = \{q_{ji} - m_{jt} \alpha'_t \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii} \alpha'_t \mathbf{q}'_i - m_{jt} (x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'_t \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)^2 - m_{jt} (\kappa'_t \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{gt} + \beta_t)^2 \\ & + [(2m_{jt} (x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'_t \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'_t \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{gt} - \beta_t) + \delta_{jt}) \alpha'_t - \mathbf{A}'_j] \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{gt,-ii} + 2m_{jt} (\kappa'_t \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{gt} + \beta_t) (x_i - \tilde{\gamma}'_t \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) \\ & - \delta_{jt} (x_i - \beta_t - \tilde{\gamma}'_t \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \kappa'_t \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{gt}) - r_{jt} - \tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_j \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i - \mathbf{D}'_j \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_g - v_{jt0}\} \mathbf{r}_{gti} \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned}
m_{jt} &= e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t} \frac{d_j}{p_{jt}}, \quad \alpha_t = \mathbf{A}' \mathbf{p}_t, \quad \tilde{\gamma}_t = \tilde{\mathbf{C}}' \mathbf{p}_t, \quad \kappa_t = \mathbf{D}' \mathbf{p}_t, \quad \beta_t = \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2'} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2}, \\
\eta_{jt} &= \frac{b_j}{p_{jt}} - 2m_{jt} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2'} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_t^{1/2}, \quad \delta_{jt} = \frac{b_j}{p_{jt}}, \quad r_{jt} = R_{jj} + 2 \sum_{k>j} R_{jk} \sqrt{p_{kt}/p_{jt}}, \\
v_{jt0} &= \mu_{jt} - e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t} \frac{d_j}{p_{jt}} \sum_{j_1=1}^J \sum_{j_2=1}^J \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{j'=1}^J A_{j_1 j} p_{j_1 t} A_{j_2 j'} p_{j_2 t} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vt, jj'}.
\end{aligned}$$

Note that v_{jt0} are constants for each value of j and t , that must be estimated along with the other parameters. In our data T is large (since prices vary both by time and district). To reduce the number of required parameters and thereby increase efficiency, assume that $\mu = E(\mathbf{v}_{gt})$ and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_v = Var(\mathbf{v}_{gt})$ do not vary by t . Then we can replace v_{jt0} with

$$v_{jt0} = \mu_j - e^{-\mathbf{b}' \ln \mathbf{p}_t} \frac{d_j}{p_{jt}} \sum_{j_1=1}^J \sum_{j_2=1}^J \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{j'=1}^J A_{j_1 j} p_{j_1 t} A_{j_2 j'} p_{j_2 t} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{v, jj'}$$

Moreover, since \mathbf{v}_{gt} represents deviations from the utility derive demand functions, it may be reasonable to assume that $\mu = 0$. With these substitutions we only need to estimate the parameters $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_v$ instead of all the separate v_{jt0} constants.

I. Main Tables

Table 1: Summary statistics for NSS consumption data

	Observations (N=56,516)				Pairs (N=2,055,776)			
	Mean	SD	Min	Max	Mean	SD	Min	Max
x_i	1.12	0.66	0.10	8.75	1.08	0.64	0.10	8.75
q_i luxuries	0.31	0.37	0.00	7.96	0.30	0.36	0.00	7.96
q_i necessities	0.83	0.40	0.03	4.32	0.79	0.38	0.03	4.32
$\hat{q}_{g,-ii'}$ luxuries					0.26	0.15	0.02	1.78
$\hat{q}_{g,-ii'}$ neccessities					0.74	0.17	0.26	1.83
p luxuries	0.98	0.08	0.81	1.29	0.99	0.08	0.81	1.29
p neccessities	0.99	0.07	0.86	1.34	1.00	0.07	0.86	1.34
Educ med	0.48	0.50	0.00	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	1.00
Educ high	0.06	0.24	0.00	1.00	0.03	0.17	0.00	1.00
(hhsz-1)/10	0.40	0.22	0.00	1.10	0.39	0.22	0.00	1.10
headage/120	0.40	0.11	0.17	0.94	0.40	0.11	0.17	0.94
married	0.87	0.34	0.00	1.00	0.87	0.34	0.00	1.00
ln(land+1)	0.60	0.58	0.00	2.30	0.53	0.55	0.00	2.30
ration card	0.23	0.42	0.00	1.00	0.26	0.44	0.00	1.00
q_i vis luxuries	0.13	0.23	0.00	7.54	0.13	0.23	0.00	7.54
q_i invis luxuries	0.18	0.22	0.00	5.07	0.17	0.21	0.00	5.07
q_i vis necessities	0.13	0.09	0.00	2.37	0.12	0.08	0.00	2.37
q_i invis necessities	0.70	0.34	0.01	3.98	0.67	0.32	0.01	3.98
$\hat{q}_{g,-ii'}$ vis luxuries					0.11	0.08	0.00	1.12
$\hat{q}_{g,-ii'}$ inv luxuries					0.16	0.08	0.01	1.35
$\hat{q}_{g,-ii'}$ vis necessities					0.11	0.04	0.02	0.49
$\hat{q}_{g,-ii'}$ inv necessities					0.63	0.14	0.22	1.53
p vis luxuries	0.95	0.11	0.64	1.33	0.95	0.11	0.64	1.33
p invis luxuries	0.98	0.08	0.82	1.28	1.00	0.08	0.82	1.28
p vis necessities	0.98	0.14	0.70	1.50	1.01	0.15	0.70	1.50
p invis necessities	0.99	0.06	0.86	1.34	1.00	0.06	0.86	1.34

Summary statistics for estimation sample. Includes all 2354 group-rounds with 10 or more obs of Hindu non-SC/ST households. Groups defined as the cross of education (less than primary, primary, secondary or more) and district.

Table 2: Luxury spending as a function of group spending, generic model estimates

	RE				Peer group FE			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
a (peer mean expenditure)	0.002 (0.038)	-0.068 (0.117)	-0.107 (0.114)	-0.112 (0.107)	-0.053 (0.047)	-0.324*** (0.124)	-0.657*** (0.157)	-0.586*** (0.132)
b (own expenditure)	0.187*** (0.013)	0.439*** (0.011)	0.436*** (0.011)	0.428*** (0.011)	0.205*** (0.013)	0.445*** (0.011)	0.446*** (0.011)	0.379*** (0.025)
d (curvature)	2.263*** (0.420)	0.289*** (0.032)	0.295*** (0.034)	0.308*** (0.036)	1.847*** (0.314)	0.289*** (0.029)	0.302*** (0.030)	0.413*** (0.071)
$-a/b$	-0.010 (0.203)	0.156 (0.266)	0.245 (0.259)	0.261 (0.247)	0.258 (0.225)	0.727 (0.267)	1.474 (0.328)	1.546 (0.342)
P($a = -b$)	0.000	0.001	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.299	0.157	0.110
Hausman for a					4.400	3.644	12.470	13.885
P-value					0.036	0.056	0.000	0.000
Individual controls	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Group controls	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Price controls	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Number of groups	2,354	2,354	2,354	2,354	2,354	2,354	2,354	2,354
Number of pairs	2,055,776	2,055,776	2,055,776	2,055,776	2,055,776	2,055,776	2,055,776	2,055,776

Model estimated is $y_i = d(\hat{y}_g a + x_i b + X\beta)^2 + (\hat{y}_g a + x_i c + X\beta)$. Dependent variable is household luxury spending. Individual controls include household size, age, marital status and amount of land owned. Group controls include religion indicators and education indicators. Price controls are laspeyres indices for luxury and nonluxury spending. Standard errors in parentheses and clustered at the group level. * $p < 0.10$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Table 3: Satisfaction on household and peer income

	OLS (SDs)			Ordered logit		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Imputed expenditure	0.068*** (0.013)			0.179*** (0.031)		
Group expenditure	-0.100** (0.049)			-0.203* (0.115)		
Imputed expenditure, CPI deflated		0.131*** (0.025)	0.141* (0.079)		0.335*** (0.058)	0.359* (0.198)
Group expenditure, deflated		-0.190* (0.107)	-0.182 (0.114)		-0.424* (0.256)	-0.407 (0.285)
Own X group expenditure			-0.003 (0.018)			-0.006 (0.044)
Year FEs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ratio	1.47 (0.764)	1.45 (0.850)	1.29 (1.249)	1.13 (0.684)	1.27 (0.803)	1.13 (1.202)
P(Own + group = 0)	0.528	0.588	0.799	0.848	0.734	0.908
Dependent mean	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.07	3.07	3.07
Dependent SD	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.22	1.22	1.22
Observations	3236	3236	3236	3236	3236	3236

Dependent variable as noted in column header, in SD. Subjective well being data from World Values Survey, imputations from NSS. Peer groups defined as intersection of education (below primary, primary or partial secondary, secondary+) and religion (Hindu and non-Hindu). All columns include controls for household size, age, sex, marital status and education. Standard errors in parentheses and clustered at the group level. * $p < 0.10$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$.

Table 4: Structural demand model, fixed effects estimates

	A Same	A Diagonal
<i>A</i> (own luxuries)	0.50 (0.11)	-2.63 (0.40)
<i>A</i> (own necessities)	0.50 (0.11)	2.99 (0.28)
χ^2 A same		80
P-val		[0.00]
Hausman test	-0.31	-7.8
P-val	[0.76]	[0.00]
		8.8
		[0.00]

Selected estimates for structural demand model.
Table displays effect of group consumption on needs.

Table 5: Structural demand model, random effects effects estimates

	A Same	A Diagonal	A Full
<i>A</i> (own luxuries)	0.55 (0.02)	0.46 (0.02)	0.20 (0.09)
<i>A</i> (own necessities)	0.55 (0.02)	0.57 (0.02)	1.09 (0.10)
<i>A</i> (cross luxuries)			0.42 (0.08)
<i>A</i> (cross necessities)			-0.33 (0.11)
χ^2 A same	43		
P-val	[0.00]		

Selected estimates for structural demand model. Table displays effect of group consumption on needs.

Table 6: Structural demand model, four consumption categories

	Fixed effects	Random effects	
	<i>A</i> same	<i>A</i> same	<i>A</i> diagonal
<i>A</i> (visible luxuries)	0.71 (0.05)	0.65 (0.01)	0.54 (0.01)
<i>A</i> (invisible luxuries)	0.71 (0.05)	0.65 (0.01)	0.62 (0.01)
<i>A</i> (visible necessities)	0.71 (0.05)	0.65 (0.01)	0.761 (0.01)
<i>A</i> (invisible necessities)	0.71 (0.05)	0.65 (0.01)	0.66 (0.01)
Hausman test RE	1.26 [0.21]		
χ^2 <i>A</i> same			658 [0.00]

Selected estimates for structural demand model. Table displays effect of group consumption on needs.

Table 7: Structural demand model, fixed effects estimates

	Religion Education	
A (Hindu, non-SC/ST)	0.50	
	(0.11)	
A (SC/ST)	0.13	
	(0.18)	
A (non-Hindu)	-0.06	
	(0.23)	
A (less than primary)		0.08
		(0.15)
A (primary)		0.56
		(0.12)
A (secondary)		0.37
		(0.22)

Selected estimates for structural demand model. Religion models are estimated separately by demographic subgroup. Table displays effect of group consumption on needs.

Table 8: Structural demand model, by above/below median expenditure

	Fixed effects	Random effects	
	<i>A</i> same	<i>A</i> same	<i>A</i> diagonal
<i>Panel A: Below median expenditure</i>			
<i>A</i> (luxuries)	0.26 (0.05)	0.32 (0.01)	0.42 (0.01)
<i>A</i> (necessities)	0.26 (0.05)	0.32 (0.01)	0.37 (0.02)
<i>Panel B: Above median expenditure</i>			
<i>A</i> (luxuries)	0.59 (0.17)	0.78 (0.03)	0.65 (0.04)
<i>A</i> (necessities)	0.59 (0.17)	0.78 (0.03)	0.86 (0.04)

Selected estimates for structural demand model. Religion models are estimated separately by demographic subgroup. Table displays effect of group consumption on needs.

II. Appendix

Table A1: Subjective well-being summary statistics

	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Life satisfaction	3.07	1.22	1.00	5.00
Imputed expenditure, CPI deflated	2.20	1.44	0.70	9.51
Group expenditure, CPI deflated	3.86	1.30	1.70	10.60
Household size	4.06	1.85	1.00	10.00
Age	40.81	14.53	18.00	93.00
Married (=1)	0.84	0.37	0.00	1.00
Non-Hindu (=1)	0.24	0.42	0.00	1.00
Primary education (=1)	0.10	0.29	0.00	1.00
Secondary education (=1)	0.14	0.35	0.00	1.00
Observations	3236			

Life satisfaction variable from World Values Survey. Participants asked "All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?", and asked to point to a position on a ladder. Coded as 1-5 in 2006, and 1-10 in 2014. We collapsed to a 1-5 scale in 2014. Income measured in thousands of Rs/month. Excluded categories are less than primary education, and Hindu religion.

Table A2: Structural demand model, full estimates for fixed effects model

		Same A		Diagonal A		
		est	<i>std err</i>	est	<i>std err</i>	
A	luxuries	0.502	<i>0.110</i>	-2.628	<i>0.395</i>	
	necessities	0.502	<i>0.110</i>	2.992	<i>0.276</i>	
R	luxuries	8.228	<i>4.228</i>	6.936	<i>2.387</i>	
	necessities	-1.899	<i>2.462</i>	-17.609	<i>3.418</i>	
C luxuries	(hhsz-1)/10	0.607	<i>0.049</i>	0.317	<i>0.030</i>	
	headage/120	0.013	<i>0.085</i>	0.054	<i>0.044</i>	
	married	0.070	<i>0.030</i>	0.010	<i>0.016</i>	
	ln(land+1)	0.021	<i>0.016</i>	-0.010	<i>0.012</i>	
	ration card	0.047	<i>0.027</i>	-0.020	<i>0.013</i>	
	Educ med	-0.604	<i>0.792</i>	0.655	<i>0.857</i>	
	Educ high	-1.754	<i>1.062</i>	0.165	<i>1.592</i>	
	C necessities	(hhsz-1)/10	1.476	<i>0.053</i>	1.138	<i>0.037</i>
		headage/120	0.102	<i>0.095</i>	0.129	<i>0.051</i>
married		0.093	<i>0.031</i>	0.030	<i>0.018</i>	
ln(land+1)		0.088	<i>0.017</i>	0.051	<i>0.013</i>	
ration card		0.030	<i>0.031</i>	-0.050	<i>0.015</i>	
Educ med		0.323	<i>0.773</i>	-0.858	<i>0.868</i>	
Educ high		1.211	<i>1.041</i>	-0.350	<i>1.607</i>	
b	luxuries	1.466	<i>0.233</i>	-0.870	<i>0.154</i>	
d	luxuries	0.073	<i>0.004</i>	0.070	<i>0.004</i>	

Table A3: Structural demand model, full estimates for random effects model

		Same A		Diagonal A	
		est	<i>std err</i>	est	<i>std err</i>
A	luxuries	0.547	<i>0.015</i>	0.461	<i>0.019</i>
	necessities	0.547	<i>0.015</i>	0.572	<i>0.016</i>
R	luxuries	-0.101	<i>0.180</i>	-0.766	<i>0.409</i>
	necessities	-3.674	<i>0.348</i>	-0.197	<i>1.517</i>
C luxuries	(hhsz-1)/10	0.596	<i>0.058</i>	0.598	<i>0.059</i>
	headage/120	-0.058	<i>0.080</i>	-0.074	<i>0.080</i>
	married	0.005	<i>0.030</i>	0.008	<i>0.028</i>
	ln(land+1)	0.055	<i>0.016</i>	0.056	<i>0.016</i>
	ration card	-0.054	<i>0.021</i>	-0.053	<i>0.020</i>
	Educ med	-0.112	<i>0.027</i>	-0.100	<i>0.026</i>
	Educ high	-0.205	<i>0.042</i>	-0.208	<i>0.046</i>
	C necessities (hhsz-1)/10	1.505	<i>0.070</i>	1.480	<i>0.068</i>
C necessities	headage/120	0.034	<i>0.095</i>	0.024	<i>0.091</i>
	married	0.026	<i>0.035</i>	0.031	<i>0.031</i>
	ln(land+1)	0.114	<i>0.019</i>	0.113	<i>0.019</i>
	ration card	-0.095	<i>0.025</i>	-0.092	<i>0.023</i>
	Educ med	-0.127	<i>0.033</i>	-0.119	<i>0.031</i>
	Educ high	-0.210	<i>0.043</i>	-0.231	<i>0.044</i>
	b luxuries	-0.176	<i>0.036</i>	0.352	<i>0.325</i>
d luxuries	0.091	<i>0.004</i>	0.085	<i>0.005</i>	
v	luxuries	1.022	<i>0.554</i>	-2.898	<i>0.845</i>
	necessities	4.119	<i>1.406</i>	-2.165	<i>3.656</i>