

# Regression Discontinuity Designs with a Continuous Treatment

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## Abstract

Many empirical applications of regression discontinuity (RD) designs involve a continuous treatment. This paper establishes identification and bias-corrected robust inference for such RD designs. Causal identification is achieved by utilizing any changes in the distribution of the continuous treatment at the RD threshold (including the usual mean change as a special case). Applying the proposed approach, we estimate the impacts of capital holdings on bank failure in the pre-Great Depression era. Our RD design takes advantage of the minimum capital requirements which change discontinuously with town size. We find that increased capital has no impacts on banks' long-run failure rates.

**JEL codes:** C21, C26, E58

**Keywords:** Distributional change, Treatment Quantile, Rank invariance, Rank similarity, Capital regulation

## 1 Introduction

Are banks less likely to fail when they hold more capital? To provide a credible estimate of the causal effect of capital holdings on bank failure, one needs some quasi-experimental variation in bank capital. As seen in Figure 1 (left), one potential source of variation is the relationship between minimum capital requirements and town size in the early 20th century of the United States – as town size crosses certain thresholds,

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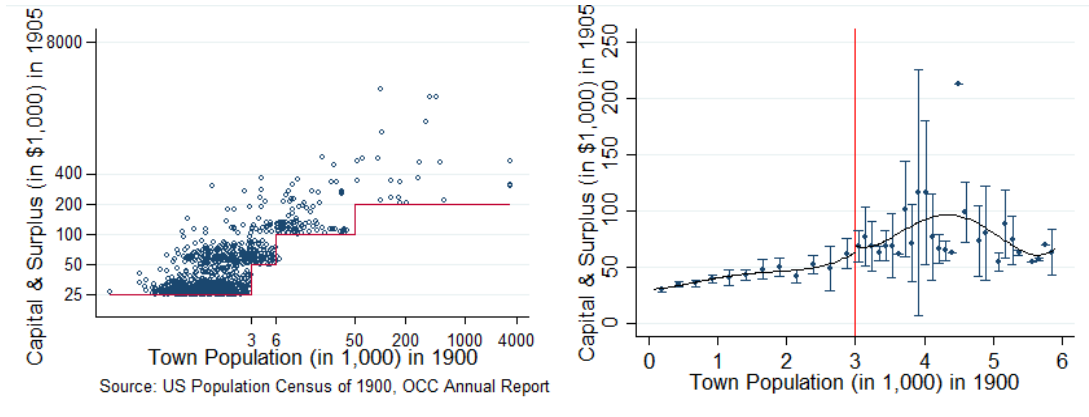


Figure 1: Scatter plot (left) and RD mean plot around the first threshold (right) of bank capital against town population

minimum capital requirements (marked by the solid line) jump up and the bottom of the capital distribution shifts up correspondingly. Given this relationship, one may be tempted to apply the standard RD design to estimate the impacts of capital holdings, with town size as the running variable, capital holdings as the treatment variable, and bank failure as the outcome.

There are two issues with this approach. First, the standard RD design assumes a binary treatment, while the treatment variable here, capital holdings, is continuous. Hahn, Todd, and van der Klaauw (2001) show that under proper conditions, the RD local Wald ratio with a binary treatment identifies an average treatment effect for compliers at the RD threshold. Even when the same RD local Wald ratio is valid for a continuous treatment, the interpretation would be more complicated - e.g., there is an infinite number of potential outcomes, and compliers are not immediately defined. Second and more importantly, the discontinuous relationship between minimum capital holdings and town size generates only a weak “first-stage” discontinuity in the relationship between mean capital holdings and town size. Figure 1 (right) plots the mean capital against town size along with the 95% confidence intervals. No significant changes are found in the mean capital at the first policy threshold, where most of the banks are present. Applying the standard RD design would be difficult.

Related to the above, average capital might not be what is relevant for policies after all - minimum capital requirements target banks at the bottom of the capital distribution. Similarly, other public policies or welfare programs frequently target some

parts (e.g., top or bottom) or features of the treatment distribution. Examples include minimum wage, maximum welfare benefits, government transfers that are capped at certain levels, or pollution ceiling set by the environmental protection agency. Focusing on mean treatment may miss the true sources of identification, and thereby fail to answer policy relevant questions.

Our empirical example is not alone. Many empirical applications of RD designs involve continuous or at least multivalued treatments (see, for recent examples, Pop-Eleches and Urquiola, 2013, Isen, Rossin-Slater, and Walker, 2017, Corbi, Papaioannou, and Surico, 2018, Agarwal, Chomsisengphet, Mahoney, Stroebel, 2018, and Dell and Querubin, 2018). Empirical researchers typically apply the standard RD estimand for a binary treatment in these cases. Causal identification relies solely on the mean shift of the treatment.

The obvious question is then how one might proceed when confronting RD designs with a continuous treatment. In this paper we answer that question. We establish causal identification and robust inference for RD designs with a continuous treatment. We show that identification can be achieved by utilizing any changes in the distribution of the treatment variable at the RD threshold. These include not only the usual mean change, but also changes at other quantiles (e.g., lower quantiles, as in the case of bank capital regulation). By focusing on where the true changes are in the treatment distribution, we provide what are likely to be the most policy relevant treatment effects.

We first identify quantile specific local average treatment effects (Q-LATEs). These Q-LATEs provide information on treatment effect heterogeneity at different treatment intensity. We further identify a local weighted average treatment effect averaging over the treatment distribution (WQ-LATE). Importantly, the WQ-LATE estimand incorporates the standard RD local Wald ratio as a special case. It works (and is the same) when the standard RD estimand works, and can still work when the standard RD estimand does not. In addition, we provide bias-corrected robust inference for Q-LATE and WQ-LATE, as well as their asymptotic mean squared error (AMSE) optimal bandwidths.

In the final part of the paper, we quantify the impacts of capital holdings on bank failure, particularly among those banks targeted by the capital regulation. We show that while capital requirements induce small banks to hold more capital, these banks adjust their assets to lead to only a "scale-up" effect. On average a 1% increase in

capital leads to almost a 1% increase in assets among those banks at lower quantiles of the capital distribution. Their leverages are not significantly lowered and their long run (up to 24 years) rates of suspension stay unchanged.

Our paper complements the existing studies of the standard RD design with a binary treatment. See, Imbens and Lemieux (2008) and Lee and Lemieux (2010) for reviews of the RD literature and references therein. A continuous treatment has been considered in the literature of regression kink (RK) designs. See, e.g., Card et al., (2015), Cattaneo et al. (2016), and Chiang and Sasaki (2019). In RK designs, identification relies on treatment assignment being a kinked function of the running variable.<sup>1</sup>

Our paper further complements several important strands of literature on causal model identification, which typically focus on binary treatments. This includes the LATE literature (see, e.g., Imbens and Angrist, 1994, Angrist, Imbens, and Rubin 1996), the local quantile treatment effect (LQTE) literature (see, e.g., Abadie, Angrist, and Imbens, 2002, Abadie, 2003), and the marginal treatment effect (MTE) literature (see, e.g., Heckman and Vytlacil 2005, 2007). Important work discussing causal identification with a continuous treatment includes Angrist, Graddy, and Imbens (2000) among others.

More broadly, our paper is related to the non-separable IV literature with continuous endogenous covariates. Identification in this literature typically requires a scalar unobservable (rank invariance) in either the first-stage or the outcome equation or both (see, e.g., discussion in D’haultfoeuille and Février, 2015, and Torgovitsky, 2015). In contrast, we allow for rank similarity (instead of just rank invariance) in the first-stage and unrestricted multidimensional unobservables in the outcome equation.

The rest of the paper proceeds as follows. Section 2 defines the causal parameters of interest, and provides our main identification results. Section 3 provides a robust estimand that incorporates the standard RD estimand as a special case. Section 4 proposes convenient tests for our identifying assumptions. Section 5 describes estimation. Section 6 provides bias-corrected robust inference and the AMSE optimal bandwidths. Section 7 presents the empirical analysis. Short concluding remarks are provided in Section 8. All proofs, inference based on undersmoothing, estimation details of the bi-

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<sup>1</sup>Remark 3 of Card et al. (2015) briefly discusses a ‘sharp’ RD design with a continuous treatment, where the treatment is a deterministic function of the running variable. In this case, the treatment takes on two fixed values right above and right below the RD threshold which are the same for everyone. The standard RD estimand easily applies.

ases, variances, and AMSE optimal bandwidths, as well as additional empirical results are gathered in the Appendix.

## 2 Identification

In this section, we discuss nonparametric identification of the RD design with a continuous treatment, following the control variable approach by Imbens and Newey (2009). Various discussions on the control variable approach to simultaneous equations models include Blundell and Powell (2003), Newey, Powell, and Vella (1999) and Pinkse (2000), Ma and Koenker (2006) and Jun (2009).

Let  $Y \in \mathcal{Y} \subset \mathbb{R}$  be the outcome of interest, which can be continuous or discrete, and  $T \in \mathcal{T} \subset \mathbb{R}$  be the treatment. Let  $R \in \mathcal{R} \subset \mathbb{R}$  be the continuous running variable that partly determines the treatment. Assume  $Y = G(T, R, \varepsilon)$ , where  $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{E} \subset \mathbb{R}^{d_\varepsilon}$  is allowed to be of arbitrary dimension. Further assume that  $T$  has a reduced-form equation  $T = q(R, U)$  with an unobserved disturbance  $U$ .

Define  $Z \equiv \mathbf{1}(R \geq r_0)$  for some known threshold value  $r_0$ , where  $\mathbf{1}(\cdot)$  is an indicator function equal to 1 if the expression in the parentheses is true and 0 otherwise. Given that  $Z$  is binary and is a deterministic function of  $R$ , without loss of generality, one can write  $T = q_1(R, U_1)Z + q_0(R, U_0)(1 - Z)$ . For notational convenience, define  $T_z \equiv q_z(R, U_z)$ ,  $z = 0, 1$ , so  $T_z$  is the potential treatment when  $Z$  is set at a hypothetical value  $z$ . One can then write  $T = T_1Z + T_0(1 - Z)$ .

Let  $F_{\cdot|\cdot}(\cdot, \cdot)$  and  $f_{\cdot|\cdot}(\cdot, \cdot)$  be the conditional cumulative distribution function (CDF) and probability density function (PDF), respectively, and  $f(\cdot)$  be the unconditional PDF. The following discussion focuses on  $R \in \mathcal{R}$ , where  $\mathcal{R}$  is an arbitrarily small compact interval around  $r_0$ .

**Assumption 1** (Quantile representation). *For  $z = 0, 1$  and any  $r \in \mathcal{R}$ , the conditional distribution of  $T_z$  given  $R = r$  is continuous with a strictly increasing CDF  $F_{T_z|R}(T_z, r)$ , and  $q_z(r, u)$  is strictly monotonic in  $u$ .*

Assumption 1 imposes monotonicity on unobserved heterogeneity in the first stage. Given Assumption 1, one can without loss of generality normalize  $U_z$  to be  $F_{T_z|R}(T_z, R)$ .  $U_z \sim Unif(0, 1)$  is then the conditional rank of  $T_z$  given  $R$ , and  $q_z(r, u)$  is the conditional  $u$  quantile of  $T_z$  given  $R = r$ .

**Assumption 2** (Smoothness).  $q_z(\cdot, u)$ ,  $z = 0, 1$ , is a continuous function for all  $u \in (0, 1)$ .  $G(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$  is a continuous function.  $f_{\varepsilon|U_z, R}(e, u, r)$  for all  $e \in \mathcal{E}$  and  $u \in (0, 1)$  is continuous in  $r \in \mathcal{R}$ .  $f_R(r)$  is continuous and strictly positive at  $r = r_0$ .

**Assumption 3** (Local treatment rank invariance or similarity). 1.  $U_0 = U_1$  conditional on  $R = r_0$ , or more generally 2.  $U_0|(\varepsilon, R = r_0) \sim U_1|(\varepsilon, R = r_0)$ .

Assumption 2 assumes that the running variable has only smooth effects on potential treatments and that the running variable, treatment, and unobservables all impose smooth impacts on the outcome. It further assumes that at a given rank of the potential treatment, the distribution of the unobservables in the outcome model is smooth near the RD threshold. The last condition, the running variable is continuous with a positive density at the RD threshold, is a standard assumption that is typically required for RD designs (see, e.g., Hahn, Todd, and van der Klaauw, 2001, and Frandsen, Frölich, and Melly, 2012). One may impose a slightly weaker condition that  $f_R(r)$  is right and left continuous at  $r = r_0$  and  $f_R(r_0) > 0$ . Assumption 2 in practice requires the ‘no manipulation’ condition that units cannot sort to be just above or below the RD threshold (McCrary, 2008).

Assumption 3 imposes local treatment rank restrictions. That is, treatment rank invariance or similarity is required to hold only at the RD cutoff. Assumption 3.1 requires units to stay at the same rank of the potential treatment distribution right above or below the RD threshold.

Assumption 3.2 assumes rank similarity, a weaker condition than Assumption 3.1. Without conditioning on  $\varepsilon$ ,  $U_0$  and  $U_1$  given  $R = r_0$  both follow a uniform distribution over the unit interval, i.e.,  $U_0|(R = r_0) \sim U_1|(R = r_0)$  by construction. Local rank similarity here permits random ‘slippages’ from the common rank level in the treatment distribution just above or just below the RD cutoff. Rank similarity has been proposed to identify quantile treatment effects (QTEs) in IV models (Chernozhukov and Hansen, 2005, 2006). Unlike Chernozhukov and Hansen (2005, 2006), we impose the similarity assumption on the ranks of potential treatments, instead of ranks of potential outcomes. In our empirical analysis, Assumption 3 requires that if a bank tends to hold more capital when operating in a town with a population just below 3,000, then it would also tend to hold more capital when operating in a town with a population at or right above 3,000.

These local treatment rank restrictions (along with Assumptions 1 and 2) have readily testable implications. See Dong and Shen (2018) and Frandsen and Lefgren (2018) for discussion on the testable implications of rank invariance or rank similarity in treatment models. In Section 4 we discuss a convenient test for these assumptions in our setting.

The following lemma shows that conditioning on  $U \equiv U_1 Z + U_0(1 - Z)$ , any changes in the outcome at the RD threshold are causally related to changes in the treatment.

**Lemma 1.** *Let Assumptions 1-3 hold.*

1.  $T \perp \varepsilon | (U, R)$ .
2. For any integrable function of  $Y$ ,  $\Gamma(Y)$ , and any  $u \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[\Gamma(Y) | U = u, R = r] - \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} \mathbb{E}[\Gamma(Y) | U = u, R = r] \\ &= \int (\Gamma(G(q_1(r_0, u), r_0, e)) - \Gamma(G(q_0(r_0, u), r_0, e))) dF_{\varepsilon|U,R}(e, u, r_0). \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 1.1 states that  $U$  is a control variable conditional on  $R$ . The defining feature of any ‘control variable’ is that conditional on this variable, treatment is exogenous to the outcome of interest. Note that here the ‘IV’  $Z \equiv \mathbf{1}(R \geq r_0)$  is binary and is a deterministic function of a possibly endogenous covariate  $R$ . Given  $U = u$  and  $R = r \in \mathcal{R}$ ,  $T$  is deterministic, i.e.,  $T = q_1(r, u)$  for  $r \geq r_0$ , and  $T = q_0(r, u)$  for  $r < r_0$ . Further given  $U = u$  and when  $R$  approaches to  $r_0$  in the limit,  $T$  can potentially take on two values  $q_0(r, u)$  and  $q_1(r, u)$ . Causal identification with this control variable  $U$  is therefore local to the RD cutoff, which is a generic feature of the RD design. Lemma 1.1 can follow analogously from Theorem 1 of Imbens and Newey (2009). Note, however, that Imbens and Newey (2009) focus on a continuous IV, which when equipped with a large support assumption that essentially requires the IV varies a lot after possibly conditioning on exogenous covariates, yields more general identification results.

Lemma 1.2 states that conditional on  $U = u$ , the mean difference in  $\Gamma(Y)$  above and below the cutoff represents the impacts of an exogenous change in treatment from  $q_0(r_0, u)$  to  $q_1(r_0, u)$ . Lemma 1.2 gives the average effect of the ‘IV’  $Z$  on the outcome  $\Gamma(Y)$  for individuals at the  $u$  quantile of the treatment distribution.

Based on Lemma 1, we define our parameters of interest and discuss identification. Let  $\mathcal{U} \equiv \{u \in (0, 1): |q_1(r_0, u) - q_0(r_0, u)| > 0\}$ . For any  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ , define the treatment quantile specific LATE (Q-LATE) as

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(u) &\equiv \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{G(T_1, r_0, \varepsilon) - G(T_0, r_0, \varepsilon)}{T_1 - T_0} \middle| U = u, R = r_0 \right] \\ &= \int \frac{G(q_1(r_0, u), r_0, e) - G(q_0(r_0, u), r_0, e)}{q_1(r_0, u) - q_0(r_0, u)} dF_{\varepsilon|U, R}(e, u, r_0) \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{E}[Y|U_1 = u, R = r_0] - \mathbb{E}[Y|U_0 = u, R = r_0]}{q_1(r_0, u) - q_0(r_0, u)}, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where  $\frac{G(T_1, r_0, \varepsilon) - G(T_0, r_0, \varepsilon)}{T_1 - T_0}$  is the (standardized) individual causal effect, so Q-LATE captures an average causal effect for individuals at the  $u$  quantile of the treatment at the RD threshold. For example, if  $Y$  is given by a linear correlated random coefficients model  $Y_i = a_i + b_i T_i$ , Q-LATE  $\tau(u) = \mathbb{E}[b_i | T = q(r_0, u), R = r_0]$ , i.e., it captures the average partial effect given  $T = q(r_0, u)$  and  $R = r_0$ . Q-LATE  $\tau(u)$  can be further written as the ratio of the reduced-form effect of  $Z$  on  $Y$  to that of  $Z$  on  $T$  at the  $u$  quantile of the treatment  $T$ .

Q-LATEs are interesting since treatment effects may change with treatment intensity. One can estimate and test such treatment effect heterogeneity by estimating Q-LATEs.

Further define a weighted average of Q-LATEs, or WQ-LATE, as

$$\pi(w) \equiv \int_{\mathcal{U}} \tau(u) w(u) du,$$

where  $w(u)$  is a properly defined weighting function such that  $w(u) \geq 0$  and  $\int_{\mathcal{U}} w(u) du = 1$ .

When the function  $G(T, r, \varepsilon)$  is continuously differentiable in its first argument, both parameters can be expressed as weighted average derivatives of  $Y = G(T, r, \varepsilon)$  with respect to  $T$ . In particular, following Lemma 5 of Angrist, Graddy, and Imbens (2000),

$$\tau(u) = \int_{q_0(r_0, u)}^{q_1(r_0, u)} \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} G(t, r_0, \varepsilon) \middle| U = u, R = r_0 \right] x(u) dt,$$



for  $\kappa(u) \equiv (q_1(r_0, u) - q_0(r_0, u))^{-1}$  under standard regularity conditions so that one can interchange the order of integration and differentiation. Q-LATE  $\tau(u)$  is a weighted average derivative averaging over the change in  $T$  at a given quantile  $u$  at  $r_0$ . It follows that WQ-LATE  $\pi(w)$  is also a weighted average derivative, averaging over both changes in  $T$  at a given quantile  $u$  and over  $\mathcal{U}$  at the RD threshold.

To identify Q-LATE and WQ-LATE, we impose the following first-stage assumption.

**Assumption 4** (First-stage).  $q_1(r_0, u) \neq q_0(r_0, u)$  for at least some  $u \in (0, 1)$ .

Assumption 4 requires that the distribution functions  $F_{T_1|R}(t, r_0)$  and  $F_{T_0|R}(t, r_0)$  are not the same. This is in contrast to the standard RD first-stage assumption requiring a mean change, i.e.,  $\mathbb{E}[T_1|R = r_0] \neq \mathbb{E}[T_0|R = r_0]$ . Feir et al. (2016) discuss correct inference when  $\mathbb{E}[T|Z = 1] - \mathbb{E}[T|Z = 0]$  is close to zero. We instead seek alternative ways to identify and estimate causal treatment effects. Intuitively, if treatment changes concentrate in a few quantiles, instead of looking at the average change, focusing on where the true changes are in the treatment distribution may strengthen identification.

For notational convenience, let  $T = q(R, U) \equiv q_0(R, U_0)(1 - Z) + q_1(R, U_1)Z$ . Given smoothness of  $q_z(r, U_z)$  by Assumption 2,  $q(r, U)$  is right and left continuous in  $r$  at  $r = r_0$  for all  $u \in (0, 1)$ . Then define  $q^+(u) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} q(r, u)$  and  $q^-(u) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} q(r, u)$ . Let  $m(t, r) \equiv \mathbb{E}[Y|T = t, R = r]$ , and similarly define  $m^+(u) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} m(q^+(u), r)$  and  $m^-(u) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} m(q^-(u), r)$ .  $q^\pm(u)$  and  $m^\pm(u)$  can be consistently estimated from the data. The following theorem provides identification of Q-LATE and WQ-LATE.

**Theorem 1** (Identification). *Under Assumptions 1–4, for any  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ , Q-LATE  $\tau(u)$  is identified and is given by*

$$\tau(u) = \frac{m^+(u) - m^-(u)}{q^+(u) - q^-(u)}. \quad (2)$$

*Further, WQ-LATE  $\pi(w) \equiv \int_{\mathcal{U}} \tau(u) w(u) du$  is identified for any known or estimable weighting function  $w(u)$  such that  $w(u) \geq 0$  and  $\int_{\mathcal{U}} w(u) du = 1$ .*

To aggregate Q-LATE, one simple weighting function is equal weighting, i.e.,  $w(u) = 1/\int_{\mathcal{U}} 1 du$ . One may choose other properly defined weighting functions.

$w(u)$  is required to be non-negative; otherwise,  $\pi(w)$  can be a weighted difference of the average treatment effects among those who change treatment levels at the RD threshold. The next section shows that the standard RD estimand can be expressed as a WQ-LATE, using a particular weighting function. In the special case when treatment effect is locally constant, the weighting function does not matter. With any valid weighting function, one can identify the same homogenous treatment effect. Replacing  $Y$  by any integrable function  $\Gamma(Y)$  in the above, one can readily identify Q-LATE and WQ-LATE on  $\Gamma(Y)$ .

In addition to Q-LATE and WQ-LATE, one may identify other parameters. Conditional on  $U = u$ , there are two potential treatment values at  $r = r_0$ , in particular,  $t_0 \equiv q_0(r_0, u)$  and  $t_1 \equiv q_1(r_0, u)$ . One can then identify potential outcome distributions at each  $u \in (0, 1)$  at the two treatment values. Assume that  $Y$  is continuous. Let the potential outcome corresponding to the treatment value  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  be  $Y_t \equiv G(t, R, \varepsilon)$ . Under Assumptions 1-3,  $F_{Y_{t_1}|U,R}(y, u, r_0) = \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{1}(Y \leq y) | T = q^+(u), R = r]$  for any  $u \in (0, 1)$ .  $F_{Y_{t_0}|U,R}(y, u, r_0)$  can be analogously identified. Further the LQTE at each  $u \in \mathcal{U}$  is given by  $Q_{Y_{t_1}|U,R}(v, u, r_0) - Q_{Y_{t_0}|U,R}(v, u, r_0)$  for any  $v \in (0, 1)$  and  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ , where  $Q_{Y_{t_z}|U,R}(v, u, r_0) \equiv F_{Y_{t_z}|U,R}^{-1}(v, u, r_0)$ .

In practice, rank similarity may be more plausible when conditioning on relevant covariates (see, e.g., Chernozhokov and Hansen, 2005). One may relax the rank restrictions to assume that they hold after conditioning on additional covariates other than the running variable. Let Assumptions 1, 2, and 3 hold conditioning on covariates. Our identification results then hold conditional on covariates. To obtain the unconditional (on covariates) Q-LATEs, one may average over the covariates distribution at a given treatment quantile.

### 3 Robust estimand

In this section, we discuss the standard RD estimand and show that it can be expressed as a WQ-LATE, using a particular weighting function. We then seek to provide a robust estimand that incorporates the standard RD estimand as a special case. That is, it works and is equivalent to the standard RD estimand when the standard RD estimand works and continues to work under our assumptions when the standard RD estimand does not work.

### 3.1 Standard RD estimand

Consider the standard RD estimand in the form of the local Wald ratio, and rewrite it as follows

$$\begin{aligned}\pi^{RD} &\equiv \frac{\lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[Y|R=r] - \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} \mathbb{E}[Y|R=r]}{\lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[T|R=r] - \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} \mathbb{E}[T|R=r]} \\ &= \frac{\int_0^1 (\mathbb{E}[Y|U_1=u, R=r_0] - \mathbb{E}[Y|U_0=u, R=r_0]) du}{\int_0^1 (q_1(r_0, u) - q_0(r_0, u)) du} \quad (3)\end{aligned}$$

$$= \int_{\mathcal{U}} \tau(u) \frac{\Delta q(u)}{\int_{\mathcal{U}} \Delta q(u) du} du, \quad (4)$$

where  $\Delta q(u) \equiv q_1(r_0, u) - q_0(r_0, u)$ , (3) follows from the smoothness conditions in Assumption 2, and (4) follows from Assumption 3 and the definition of Q-LATE  $\tau(u)$ . Equation (4) shows that under our assumptions, the standard RD estimand identifies a weighted average of Q-LATEs, using weights  $w^{RD}(u) \equiv \Delta q(u) / \int_{\mathcal{U}} \Delta q(u) du$ .

To ensure  $w^{RD}(u) \geq 0$  over  $\mathcal{U}$ , it is necessary that  $\Delta q(u) \geq 0$  or  $\Delta q(u) \leq 0$  for all  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ . Otherwise, when  $\Delta q(u)$  can switch signs over  $\mathcal{U}$ ,  $\pi^{RD}$  would be undefined if the denominator  $\int_{\mathcal{U}} \Delta q(u) du = 0$ , and  $\pi^{RD}$  would be a weighted difference of the average treatment effects for units with positive treatment changes and those with negative treatment changes if  $\int_{\mathcal{U}} \Delta q(u) du \neq 0$ .

**Assumption 3b** (Monotonicity).  $\Pr(T_1 \geq T_0 | R = r_0) = 1$  or  $\Pr(T_1 \leq T_0 | R = r_0) = 1$ .

Assumption 3b requires that treatment  $T$  is weakly increasing or weakly decreasing almost surely in  $Z$ . Under Assumption 3b,  $\Delta q(u) \geq 0$  or  $\Delta q(u) \leq 0$  for all  $u \in (0, 1)$ .

Unlike Assumption 3, which imposes rank restrictions, Assumption 3b imposes a sign restriction on the treatment changes at the RD threshold. Angrist, Graddy, and Imbens (2000, Assumption 4) have made a similar assumption in identifying a general simultaneous equations system with binary IVs.

When Assumption 3 local treatment rank invariance or similarity does not hold, Q-LATE involved in equation (4) does not have a causal interpretation. However, the RD estimand can still identify a causal parameter under Assumption 3b monotonicity. We formally state this result in the following Lemma 2.

**Lemma 2.** *Let Assumptions 1, 2, 3b, and 4 hold. Then  $\pi^{RD}$  identifies a weighted average effect of  $T$  on  $Y$  at  $R = r_0$ .*

The exact form of the weighted average effect is provided in the proof of Lemma 2 in the Appendix. We show that under Assumptions 1, 2, 3b, and 4, the standard RD estimand with a continuous treatment identifies a weighted average of individual treatment effects among those individuals who change their treatment intensity at the RD threshold.<sup>2</sup> When further  $G(T, R, \varepsilon)$  is continuously differentiable in  $T$ , the identified effect can be expressed as a weighted average derivative of  $Y$  w.r.t.  $T$ .

### 3.2 Robust WQ-LATE estimand

The discussion so far suggests that the standard RD estimand in general requires monotonicity in order to be causal. This is regardless whether the rank assumption holds or not. Monotonicity and the rank assumption impose different restrictions on the first-stage heterogeneity. Monotonicity imposes a sign restriction on  $T_1 - T_0$  at  $R = r_0$ , while the rank assumption imposes a rank restriction on the joint distribution of  $T_1$  and  $T_0$  at  $R = r_0$ . Neither assumption implies the other. It is then useful to have an estimand that is valid under either assumption.<sup>3</sup>

Theorem 2 below provides a robust WQ-LATE estimand that is valid under either monotonicity or the rank assumption.

**Theorem 2 (Robust Estimand).** *Let Assumptions 1, 2 and 4 hold. Then under either Assumption 3 or 3b,*

$$\pi^* = \int_{\mathcal{U}} \frac{m^+(u) - m^-(u)}{q^+(u) - q^-(u)} \frac{|q^+(u) - q^-(u)|}{\int_{\mathcal{U}} |q^+(u) - q^-(u)| du} du \quad (5)$$

*identifies a weighted average effect of  $T$  on  $Y$  at  $R = r_0$ .*

When monotonicity holds,  $\pi^* = \pi^{RD}$ ; otherwise, when monotonicity does not hold, but our rank assumption holds,  $\pi^* = \pi(w^*) \equiv \int_{\mathcal{U}} \tau(u) w^*(u) du$  for  $w^*(u) \equiv$

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<sup>2</sup>See, Card et al. (2015, Section A.2) for a simpler expression for the ‘sharp’ RD design with a continuous treatment, where the first-stage treatment change is a known constant.

<sup>3</sup>The common empirical practice of focusing on some sub-population for which researchers believe the treatment is more affected still requires either monotonicity or rank similarity to hold for such sub-population.

$\frac{|\Delta q(u)|}{\int_{\mathcal{U}} |\Delta q(u)| du}$ , i.e.,  $\pi^*$  identifies a W-QLATE. Either way,  $\pi^*$  identifies a weighted average of individual treatment effects,  $\frac{G(q_1(r_0, u_1), r_0, \varepsilon) - G(q_0(r_0, u_0), r_0, \varepsilon))}{q_1(r_0, u_1) - q_0(r_0, u_0)}$ , among those individuals who change their treatment intensity at the RD threshold. The two alternative assumptions specify different ways in which individual treatment can change when crossing the RD threshold. In particular, under monotonicity,  $u_0$  and  $u_1$  are such that  $q_1(u_1) - q_0(u_0) > 0$  (or  $q_1(u_1) - q_0(u_0) < 0$ ), while under the rank restriction,  $u_0 = u_1 = u$ . Our robust estimand  $\pi^*$  then provides a robust way to aggregate the individual treatment effects.

## 4 Specification Testing

We impose Assumptions 1 - 4 for identification. The quantile and first-stage conditions are assumptions imposed either on estimable functions or on observables. They can be directly verified from the data. In this section, we briefly discuss the testable implications of the local smoothness and rank restrictions and propose convenient joint tests.

Complementary to our proposed tests, conventional RD tests can be used to provide suggestive evidence on comparability of observations right above and below the RD cutoff. In particular, one can test smoothness of the conditional means of covariates or the density of the running variable. See, e.g., McCrary (2008), Otsu, Xu, and Matsushita (2013), Bugni and Canay (2018), Canay and Kamat (2018), and Cattaneo, Jansson, and Ma (2019).

Recall  $Y = G(T, R, \varepsilon)$ , where  $\varepsilon$  contains any other (observable and unobservable) covariates of  $Y$  other than  $R$ . Let  $X \in \mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}$  be some observable component of  $\varepsilon$ . Under either local treatment rank invariance or similarity,  $U_0 | (\varepsilon, R = r_0) \sim U_1 | (\varepsilon, R = r_0)$ . By the smoothness Assumption 2 and Bayes' theorem,  $\varepsilon | (U_0 = u, R = r_0) \sim \varepsilon | (U_1 = u, R = r_0)$ , for any  $u \in (0, 1)$ . Therefore,  $F_{X|U_1, R}(x, u, r_0) = F_{X|U_0, R}(x, u, r_0)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $u \in (0, 1)$ . Further by Assumption 2,  $F_{\varepsilon|U_z, R}(e, u, r)$  and hence  $F_{X|U_z, R}(x, u, r)$ ,  $z = 0, 1$ , are continuous at  $r = r_0$ . It follows that the right and left limits of  $F_{X|U, R}(x, u, r) = Z F_{X|U_1, R}(x, u, r) + (1 - Z) F_{X|U_0, R}(x, u, r)$  exist at  $r = r_0$ . Therefore, to test the implications of the local smoothness and rank restric-

tions, one can test the following null hypothesis

$$H_0: \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{1}(X \leq x) | U = u, R = r] - \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{1}(X \leq x) | U = u, R = r] = 0, \quad (6)$$

$$\forall x \in \mathcal{X}, u \in \mathcal{U}.$$

The left-hand side of equation (6) corresponds to the numerator of equation (2) with  $Y$  being replaced by  $\mathbf{1}(X \leq x)$ . Testing for our identifying assumptions then amounts to testing that the Q-LATEs or WQ-LATEs on the covariate distribution are zero. Such tests are essentially falsification tests to show that treatment has no false significant impacts on covariates at any treatment quantiles.

## 5 Estimation

The proposed estimands for Q-LATE and WQ-LATE involve conditional means and quantiles at a boundary point. Following the standard practice of the RD literature, we estimate Q-LATE and WQ-LATE by local linear mean and quantile regressions.

For simplicity, we use the same kernel function  $K(\cdot)$  for all estimation. Let the bandwidths for  $T$  and  $R$  be  $h_T \equiv h\sigma_T$  and  $h_R \equiv h\sigma_R$ , where  $\sigma_T$  and  $\sigma_R$  are the standard deviations of  $T$  and  $R$ , respectively. The standardized bandwidth sequence  $h$  goes to zero as the sample size  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Denote as  $\hat{\theta}$  the estimate of any parameter  $\theta$ . Given a sample of  $n$  *i.i.d.* observations  $\{(Y_i, T_i, R_i)\}_{i=1}^n$  from  $(Y, T, R)$ , we estimate Q-LATE  $\tau(u)$  and WQ-LATE  $\pi^*$  by the following procedure.

Step 1: Partition the unit interval  $(0, 1)$  into a grid of equally spaced quantiles  $\mathbf{U}^{(l)} \equiv \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_l\}$ . For  $u \in \mathbf{U}^{(l)}$ , estimate  $q^+(u)$  by  $\hat{q}^+(u) \equiv \hat{a}_0$  from the local linear quantile regression

$$(\hat{a}_0, \hat{a}_1) = \arg \min_{a_0, a_1} \sum_{\{i: R_i \geq r_0\}} K\left(\frac{R_i - r_0}{h_R}\right) \rho_u(T_i - a_0 - a_1(R_i - r_0)),$$

where  $\rho_u(\alpha) = \alpha(u - \mathbf{1}(\alpha < 0))$  is the standard check function. Estimate  $q^-(u)$  similarly using observations below  $r_0$ .

Step 2: Let  $\tilde{\mathcal{U}} \equiv \{u \in \mathbf{U}^{(l)} : |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| > \epsilon_n\}$ , where  $\Delta \hat{q}(u) \equiv \hat{q}^+(u) - \hat{q}^-(u)$  and

$\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  is a positive sequence satisfying  $\epsilon_n^{-1} \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)| = o_p(1)$  and  $\epsilon_n^2 (\sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)|)^{-1} = o_p(1)$ . For all  $u \in \tilde{\mathcal{U}}$ , estimate  $m^+(u)$  by  $\hat{m}^+(u) \equiv \hat{b}_0$  from the local linear regression

$$\begin{aligned} (\hat{b}_0, \hat{b}_1, \hat{b}_2) &= \arg \min_{b_0, b_1, b_2} \sum_{\{i: R_i \geq r_0\}} K \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{h_R} \right) K \left( \frac{T_i - \hat{q}^+(u)}{h_T} \right) \\ &\quad \times (Y_i - b_0 - b_1 (R_i - r_0) - b_2 (T_i - \hat{q}^+(u)))^2. \end{aligned}$$

Estimate  $m^-(u)$  similarly by replacing  $\hat{q}^+(u)$  with  $\hat{q}^-(u)$  and using observations below  $r_0$ .

Step 3: Estimate  $\tau(u)$  by the plug-in estimator  $\hat{\tau}(u) = \frac{\hat{m}^+(u) - \hat{m}^-(u)}{\hat{q}^+(u) - \hat{q}^-(u)}$  for  $u \in \tilde{\mathcal{U}}$ .

Step 4: Estimate  $\pi^*$  by  $\hat{\pi}^* = \sum_{u \in \tilde{\mathcal{U}}} \hat{\tau}(u) \frac{|\Delta \hat{q}(u)|}{\sum_{u \in \tilde{\mathcal{U}}} |\Delta \hat{q}(u)|}$ .

Our identification theory requires trimming out treatment quantiles where there are no changes at the RD threshold, i.e.,  $\Delta q(u) = 0$ , whereas in practice we do not know the true  $\Delta q(u)$ . To avoid any pre-testing problem, we trim out all quantiles having  $|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| \leq \epsilon_n$  for some chosen  $\epsilon_n$ . Lemma 6 in Appendix B shows that when  $\epsilon_n$  satisfies the listed conditions, this trimming procedure is asymptotically equivalent to trimming out those treatment quantiles where  $\Delta q(u) = 0$  and preserves the asymptotic properties of our estimator.

In practice, one can choose  $\epsilon_n \equiv \max_{u \in \mathcal{U}^{(l)}} se(\Delta \tilde{q}(u)) \times 1.96$ , where  $\Delta \tilde{q}(u)$  is a preliminary Step 1 estimator of the treatment quantile change, using the bandwidth  $\tilde{h}\sigma_R$  such that  $\tilde{h}/h \rightarrow 0$  and  $n\tilde{h}^2/h \rightarrow \infty$ . We discuss the choice of  $h$  next in Section 6. By this procedure, insignificant estimates (at the 5% significance level) of  $\Delta \hat{q}(u)$  along with some significant but small estimates will be trimmed out and the asymptotic behavior of our estimator is not affected.

Consider specifically the bandwidth sequences  $h = cn^{-a}$  and  $\tilde{h} = cn^{-b}$  for some constants  $0 < a, b < 1$  and  $c > 0$ . The required conditions for  $\epsilon_n$  are satisfied when choosing  $b$  such that  $a < b < (a + 1)/2$ . The associated standard errors satisfy  $se(\Delta \tilde{q}(u)) = O_p((n\tilde{h})^{-1/2}) > se(\Delta \hat{q}(u)) = O_p((nh)^{-1/2})$ . If one wishes to focus on quantiles such that  $|\Delta q(u)| > c$  for some small  $c > 0$ , then one can define the trimming parameter to be  $c_n = c + \epsilon_n$ .

The above describes estimation of Q-LATEs or WQ-LATE. To estimate LQTEs conditional on  $U = u$  described in Section 2.1, one may simply replace the local linear

mean regressions in Step 2 by local linear quantile regressions. Other steps remain the same.

## 6 Inference

The proposed estimators have several distinct features which make analyzing their asymptotic properties challenging. First, the local polynomial estimator in Step 2 involves a continuous treatment variable  $T$ , in addition to the running variable  $R$ . Evaluating  $T$  over its interior support and evaluating  $R$  at the boundary point  $r_0$  complicates the analysis. Second, we need to account for the sampling variation of  $\hat{q}^\pm(u)$  from Step 1, which appear in both the numerator and denominator of  $\hat{\tau}(u)$ , as well as in the weighting function  $\hat{w}^*(u)$  for  $\hat{\pi}^*$ . Third, our estimation involves a trimming procedure that is based on the estimated  $\Delta\hat{q}(u)$ . We overcome these complications by extending the results of Kong, Linton, and Xia (2010) and Qu and Yoon (2015). Qu and Yoon (2015) provide uniform convergence results for local linear quantile regressions, while Kong, Linton, and Xia (2010) establish uniform convergence results for local polynomial estimators.

To establish our inference procedure, we first derive the asymptotic distributions of the estimators  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  and  $\hat{\pi}^*$ . We show that, similar to the standard RD local polynomial estimator, the large sample distributional approximations involve leading biases, which depend on changes in the curvatures of the conditional quantile and mean functions in Step 1 and Step 2 estimation. There are two common approaches to remove these leading biases, undersmoothing and bias correction. The undersmoothing approach uses a bandwidth sequence that goes to zero fast enough with the sample size, so that the bias is asymptotically negligible relative to the standard error. Nevertheless it is known that this undersmoothing approach prevents a lot of bandwidth choices used in practice. To allow for more general bandwidth conditions, this section focuses on the bias correction approach. Undersmoothing results are presented in the Appendix B.2.

Calonico, Cattaneo, and Titiunik (2014) propose robust bias corrected inference in the context of the standard RD design. Calonico, Cattaneo, and Farrell (2018a, 2019) further formally establish higher-order improvements of such an approach. Following Calonico, Cattaneo, and Titiunik (2014), we develop robust inference for our bias-corrected estimators. The robust inference takes into account the added variability due



to bias correction in deriving large sample distributions. We also present the asymptotically mean squared error (AMSE) optimal bandwidths for both the Q-LATE and WQ-LATE estimators by minimizing the AMSE. Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012) propose the AMSE optimal bandwidth for the standard RD estimator. The robust confidence intervals for the bias-corrected estimators deliver valid inference when the AMSE optimal bandwidths are used.

We impose the following assumptions for asymptotics.

- Assumption 5** (Asymptotics). *1. For any  $t \in \mathcal{T}_z$ ,  $z = 0, 1$ ,  $r \in \mathcal{R}$ , and  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $f_{T_z R}(t, r)$  is bounded and bounded away from zero, and has bounded first order derivatives with respect to  $(t, r)$ ;  $\partial^j q_z(r, u)/\partial r^j$  is finite and Lipschitz continuous over  $(r, u)$  for  $j = 1, 2, 3$ ;  $q_z(r_0, u)$  and  $\partial q_z(r_0, u)/\partial u$  are finite and Lipschitz continuous in  $u$ .*
- 2. For any  $t \in \mathcal{T}_z$ ,  $z = 0, 1$ , and  $r \in \mathcal{R}$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[G(T_z, R, \varepsilon)|T_z = t, R = r]$  has bounded fourth order derivatives; the conditional variance  $\mathbb{V}[G(T_z, R, \varepsilon)|T_z = t, R = r]$  is continuous and bounded away from zero; the conditional density  $f_{T_z R|Y}(t, r, y)$  is bounded for any  $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ .  $\mathbb{E}[|Y - \mathbb{E}[Y|T_z, R]|^3] < \infty$  for  $z = 0, 1$ .*
- 3. The kernel function  $K$  is bounded, positive, compactly supported, symmetric, having finite first-order derivative, and satisfying  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} v^2 K(v) dv > 0$ .*

Assumption 5.1 imposes sufficient smoothness conditions to derive the asymptotic linear representations of  $\hat{q}^\pm(u)$ . In particular, the bounded joint density implies a compact support where the stochastic expansions of  $\hat{q}^\pm(u)$  hold uniformly over  $u$ . Together with the smoothness conditions on  $q_z(r, u)$ , the remainder terms in the stochastic expansions are controlled to be small. Assumption 5.2 imposes additional conditions to derive the asymptotic linear representation of  $\hat{\mathbb{E}}[Y|T, R]$  and asymptotic normality of our estimators. Assumption 5.3 lists the standard regularity conditions for the kernel function.

We present the preliminary asymptotic distributions of the main estimators  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  and  $\hat{\pi}^*$  in Appendix B, followed by the inference theory for the undersmoothing approach. The next section presents the inference theory for the bias-corrected approach.

## 6.1 Bias-corrected robust inference

Denote the leading bias for  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  as  $h^2\mathbf{B}_\tau(u)$  and the bias for  $\hat{\pi}^*$  as  $h^2\mathbf{B}_\pi$ . The exact forms of  $\mathbf{B}_\tau(u)$  and  $\mathbf{B}_\pi$  are presented, respectively, in equation (B.1) of Lemma 4 and equation (B.3) of Lemma 5 in Appendix B. We propose the following bias-corrected estimator for  $\tau(u)$

$$\hat{\tau}^{bc}(u) \equiv \hat{\tau}(u) - h^2\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau(u),$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau(u)$  is a consistent estimator for  $\mathbf{B}_\tau(u)$ . We similarly propose the following bias-corrected estimator for  $\pi^*$

$$\hat{\pi}^{bc} \equiv \hat{\pi}^* - h^2\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\pi,$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\pi$  is a consistent estimator of  $\mathbf{B}_\pi$ . Denote as  $b$  the bandwidth used in the bias estimation.

Bias correction reduces biases, but also introduces variability. When the added variability of estimating the bias is not accounted for, the empirical coverage of the resulting confidence interval can be well below their nominal target, which implies that conventional confidence intervals may substantially over-reject the null hypothesis of no treatment effect. Following the robust inference approach of Calonico, Cattaneo, and Titiunik (2014), we present the asymptotic distributions of the bias-corrected estimators  $\hat{\tau}^{bc}(u)$  and  $\hat{\pi}^{bc}$  by taking into account the sampling variation induced by bias correction.

**Theorem 3** (Asymptotic distribution of  $\hat{\tau}^{bc}(u)$ ). *Let Assumptions 1-5 hold. If  $h = h_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $b = b_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $h/b \rightarrow \rho \in [0, \infty]$ ,  $n \min\{h^6, b^6\} \max\{h^2, b^2\} \rightarrow 0$ ,  $n \min\{h^2, b^6h^{-4}\} \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $nh^3 \max\{1, h^6/b^6\} \rightarrow \infty$ , then for any  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ ,*

$$\frac{\hat{\tau}^{bc}(u) - \tau(u)}{\sqrt{V_{\tau,n}^{bc}(u)}} \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, 1), \text{ where } V_{\tau,n}^{bc}(u) \equiv \frac{V_\tau(u)}{nh^2} + \frac{V_{\mathbf{B}_\tau}(u)}{nb^6h^{-4}} + \frac{\mathbf{C}_\tau(u; \rho)}{nhb}.$$

The exact forms of  $V_\tau(u)$ ,  $V_{\mathbf{B}_\tau}(u)$  and  $\mathbf{C}_\tau(u; \rho)$  are given in equations (B.2), (B.14), and (B.15), respectively, in Appendix B.

The variance  $V_{\tau,n}^{bc}(u)$  consists of three terms:  $V_\tau(u)$  comes from the variance of  $\hat{\tau}(u)$ ,  $V_{\mathbf{B}_\tau}(u)$  comes from the variance of  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau$ , and  $\mathbf{C}_\tau(u; \rho)$  comes from the covariance

between  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_{\tau}$ . Theorem 3 incorporates three limiting cases depending on  $\rho$ , the limiting value of  $h/b$ . When  $h/b \rightarrow 0$ , the actual estimator  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  is first-order while the bias estimator  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_{\tau}(u)$  is of smaller order. In particular,  $V_{\mathbf{B}_{\tau}}(u)/(nb^6h^{-4}) + \mathbf{C}_{\tau}(u; \rho)/(nhb) = o_p(V_{\tau}(u)/(nh^2))$ , so the variance reduces to  $V_{\tau,n}^{bc}(u) = V_{\tau}(u)/(nh^2)$ . When  $h/b \rightarrow \rho \in (0, \infty)$ , both  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_{\tau}(u)$  contribute to the asymptotic variance. When  $h/b \rightarrow \infty$ , the bias estimator  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_{\tau}(u)$  is first-order and the actual estimator  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  is of smaller order. Thus  $V_{\tau,n}^{bc}(u) = V_{\mathbf{B}_{\tau}}(u)/(nb^6h^{-4})$ .

Note that the additional terms due to bias correction  $V_{\mathbf{B}_{\tau}}(u)$  and  $\mathbf{C}_{\tau}(u; \rho)$  depend on  $V_{\tau}(u)$  and some constants determined by the kernel function (see the proof of Theorem 3 in Appendix B for details). As a result,  $V_{\tau,n}^{bc}(u)$  only depends on  $V_{\tau}(u)$  and some constants, which implies that estimating the robust variance is not computationally more demanding than estimating the conventional variance  $V_{\tau}(u)$  without bias correction. For example, for the Uniform kernel and  $\rho = 1$ ,  $V_{\tau,n}^{bc}(u) = 13.89V_{\tau}(u)/(nh^2)$ .

**Theorem 4** (Asymptotic distribution of  $\hat{\pi}^{bc}$ ). *Let Assumptions 1-5 hold. If  $h = h_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $b = b_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $h/b \rightarrow \rho \in [0, \infty]$ ,  $n \min\{h^5, b^5\} \max\{h^2, b^2\} \rightarrow 0$ ,  $n \min\{h, b^5h^{-4}\} \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $nh^4 \max\{1, h^5b^{-5}\} \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $l \rightarrow \infty$ , then*

$$\frac{\hat{\pi}^{bc} - \pi^*}{\sqrt{V_{\pi,n}^{bc}}} \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, 1), \text{ where } V_{\pi,n}^{bc} \equiv \frac{V_{\pi}}{nh} + \frac{V_{\mathbf{B}_{\pi}}}{nb^5h^{-4}} + \frac{\mathbf{C}_{\pi}}{nb^2h^{-1}}.$$

The exact forms of  $V_{\pi}$ ,  $V_{\mathbf{B}_{\pi}}$ , and  $\mathbf{C}_{\pi}$  are given in equations (B.4), (B.18), and (B.19), respectively, in Appendix B.

$V_{\pi,n}^{bc}$  consists of three terms:  $V_{\pi}$  comes from the variance of  $\hat{\pi}^*$ ,  $V_{\mathbf{B}_{\pi}}$  comes from the variance of  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_{\pi}$ , and  $\mathbf{C}_{\pi}$  comes from the covariance between  $\hat{\pi}^*$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_{\pi}$ . Similar to Theorem 3, Theorem 4 also incorporates three limiting cases depending on  $\rho$ . When  $h/b \rightarrow \rho = 0$ , the actual estimator  $\hat{\pi}^*$  is first-order while the bias estimator  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_{\pi}$  is of smaller order. Then  $V_{\pi,n}^{bc} \equiv V_{\pi}/(nh)$ . When  $h/b \rightarrow \rho \in (0, \infty)$ , both  $\hat{\pi}^*$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_{\pi}$  contribute to the asymptotic variance. When  $h/b \rightarrow \infty$ , the bias estimator  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_{\pi}$  is first-order and the actual estimator  $\hat{\pi}^*$  is of smaller order. Then  $V_{\pi,n}^{bc} \equiv V_{\mathbf{B}_{\pi}}/(nb\rho^{-4})$ .

Given our results, one can estimate the robust variances by the plug-in estimators. Details for estimating the biases and variances are provided in Appendix C.

## 6.2 AMSE optimal bandwidth

Choosing a bandwidth is known to be a delicate task in nonparametric estimation. Following Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012), we derive the bandwidths that minimize the AMSE in Theorem 5 and Theorem 6 below. Further details for estimating these AMSE optimal bandwidths are provided in Appendix C.

**Theorem 5** (AMSE optimal bandwidth for  $\hat{\tau}(u)$ ). *Let Assumptions 1-5 hold. If  $h = h_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $nh^2 \rightarrow \infty$ , then the mean squared error of  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  is  $\mathbb{E} \left[ (\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u))^2 \right] = h^4 \mathbf{B}_\tau(u)^2 + (nh^2)^{-1} \mathbf{V}_\tau(u) + o \left( h^4 + (nh^2)^{-1} \right)$ ; further if  $\mathbf{B}_\tau(u) \neq 0$ , the bandwidth that minimizes the AMSE is  $h_\tau^* = (\mathbf{V}_\tau(u) / (2\mathbf{B}_\tau^2(u)))^{1/6} n^{-1/6}$ .*

The AMSE optimal bandwidth for  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  is of the form  $C_\tau n^{-1/6}$  for some constant  $C_\tau > 0$ , which satisfies the bandwidth conditions specified in Theorem 3. Therefore, one can apply the above AMSE optimal bandwidth and then conduct the bias-corrected robust inference provided in Theorem 3.

**Theorem 6** (AMSE optimal bandwidth for  $\hat{\pi}^*$ ). *Let Assumptions 1-5 hold. If  $h = h_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $nh \rightarrow \infty$ , then the mean squared error of  $\hat{\pi}^*$  is  $\mathbb{E} \left[ (\hat{\pi}^* - \pi^*)^2 \right] = h^4 \mathbf{B}_\pi^2 + (nh)^{-1} \mathbf{V}_\pi + o \left( h^4 + (nh)^{-1} \right)$ ; further if  $\mathbf{B}_\pi \neq 0$ , the bandwidth that minimizes the AMSE is  $h_\pi^* = (\mathbf{V}_\pi / (4\mathbf{B}_\pi^2))^{1/5} n^{-1/5}$ .*

The AMSE optimal bandwidth for  $\hat{\pi}^*$  is of the form  $C_\pi n^{-1/5}$  for some constant  $C_\pi > 0$ , which satisfies the bandwidth conditions in Theorem 4. These AMSE optimal bandwidths trade off squared biases with variances, so when the biases are small, the AMSE optimal bandwidths can be large.

## 7 Empirical analysis

The United States banking system in the early 20th century was characterized as a fragile system consisting of thousands of unit banks. Minimum capital requirements were set in place to prevent bank failures; however, bank runs and banking panics were prevalent in the pre-Great Depression era. Are banks less likely to fail when they hold more capital? It is an important question both in this historical context and in light

of the current debate on the macroprudential vs microprudential approach to financial regulation. The traditional microprudential regulation seeks to enhance the safety and soundness of individual financial institutions, whereas the macroprudential regulation focuses on the welfare of the financial system as a whole. The macroprudential approach promotes higher capital requirements, especially in economic upturns (Hanson, Kashyap, and Stein, 2011). This is because troubled banks may shrink assets instead of raising new capital to restore their damaged capital ratios (the percentage of a bank's capital to its risk-weighted assets), and when many institutions shrink assets simultaneously, the economy is likely to be damaged.

It is challenging to evaluate the causal impacts of capital holdings on bank failure, as higher capital requirements can be responses to bank runs or banking panics instead of the other way around. The regulation regime in the early 20th century United States provides a unique opportunity for one to nonparametrically identify the true causal impacts of capital holdings on bank responses and outcomes. As shown previously, the minimum capital requirements were assigned based on the population size of the town a bank operated in. The requirements changed abruptly at various population thresholds.

Figure 2 presents a close-up of banks operating in towns with a population around 3,000, the first regulatory threshold. Over 80% of the towns in our sample have a population near the 3,000 threshold. These towns represent rural farming regions where low population density required widely dispersed unit banking offices. Arguably these small banks are the right target of the capital regulation. We therefore focus on the first regulatory threshold and explore the exogenous changes in the capital distribution at this threshold for identification. As is clear from Figure 2, the bottom of the capital distribution shifts up at the 3,000 population threshold.

We estimate the impacts of capital requirements on bank capital (i.e., the first stage impact of  $Z$  on  $T$ ), and further the causal relationships between the induced higher bank capital and three outcomes of interest (i.e., the impacts of  $T$  on  $Y$ ), total assets, leverage, and the suspension probability in the long run. We quantify the possible heterogeneous effects (or lack of those) of increased capital at various capital levels.

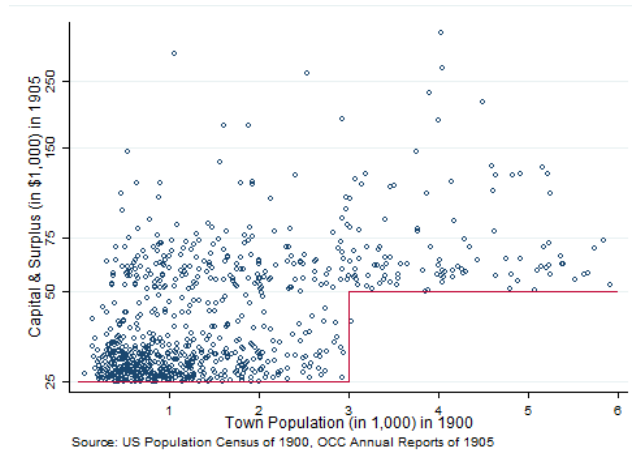


Figure 2: Minimum capital requirements around the town population 3,000 in 1905

## 7.1 Data description

We gather first-hand data from three sources: the annual reports of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Rand McNally’s Bankers Directory, and the United States population census. The OCC’s annual report includes the balance sheet information for all nationally chartered banks. On the asset side, this information includes loans, discounts, investments in securities and bonds, holdings of real estate, cash on hand, deposits in other banks, and overdrafts. On the liability side, this information includes capital, surplus and undivided profits, circulation, and deposits. We collect detailed balance sheet data on individual national banks in 1905, and their suspension outcome in the following 24 years (up to 1929). The minimum capital requirements changed in 1900. Before 1900, the first regulatory threshold did not exist. National banks were required to have a minimum capital of \$50,000 regardless of whether they operated in a town above or below the 3,000 population threshold. National banks established before 1900 might be subject to either the old or new regulatory regime, depending on when they were rechartered. We do not have the recharter information, so we focus on national banks that were established after 1900 for clean identification.<sup>4</sup>

In our analysis, bank assets are defined as the sum of a bank’s total amount of

<sup>4</sup>This is unlike Gou (2016), who analyzed a larger sample of banks established both before and after 1990.

assets, and capital is the sum of a bank’s capital and surplus. We further define (accounting) leverage as the ratio of a bank’s total assets to capital, or the amount of assets a bank holds for each dollar of capital they own. This leverage is a measure of the amount of risk a bank engages in. Higher leverage is associated with lower survival rates during financial crises (Berger and Bouwman, 2013). However, banks generally have an incentive to increase their leverage so they can accumulate higher rates of returns on their capital. We use logged values for all three variables since they have rather skewed distributions.

Table 1 Sample summary statistics

	Z=0		Z=1		Difference	(SE)
	N	Mean (SD)	N	Mean (SD)		
Log(capital)	717	10.5 (0.40)	105	11.2 (0.39)	0.66	(0.04)***
Log(assets)	717	11.7 (0.53)	105	12.5 (0.54)	0.77	(0.06)***
Log(leverage)	717	1.19 (0.34)	105	1.30 (0.34)	0.11	(0.04)***
Suspension	717	0.10 (0.30)	105	0.06 (0.23)	-0.04	(0.03)
Bank age	717	2.45 (1.07)	105	2.78 (1.03)	0.33	(0.11)**
Black population (%)	674	0.07 (0.16)	101	0.08 (0.15)	0.01	(0.02)
Farmland (%)	674	0.77 (0.25)	101	0.71 (0.27)	-0.06	(0.03)**
Log(manufacturing output)	672	3.73 (1.11)	101	4.39 (0.96)	0.66	(0.12)***

Note: The sample consists of all national banks established between 1900 and 1905 and located in towns with a town population less than 6,000; \*\*\*Significant at the 1% level, \*\*Significant at the 5% level

The OCC’s annual report also indicates the town, county, and state in which each bank was located. We match this information with the United States Population Census to determine town populations. Since all banks in our sample were established between 1900 and 1905, their capital requirements in 1905 were determined by their town population in 1900, as reported by the 1900 census. Our sample consists of 822 banks in 45 towns, among which 717 had a population below 3,000 and 105 had a population at or above 3,000 (but below 6,000). In addition, we gather information on county characteristics that measure their business and agricultural conditions, including the percentage of black population, the percentage of farmland, and manufacturing output per capita per square miles.

Brief sample summary statistics are provided in Table 1. Banks operating in towns with more than 3,000 people have more capital on average; they also hold more assets, and have higher measured leverages. However, these simple correlations may not reflect the true causal relationships. As we can see, towns with more than 3,000 people

are associated with older banks, a lower percentage of farm land in their counties, and higher manufacturing output per capita. These results highlight the importance to seek for local identification. Causal relationships would be confounded if comparing banks far away from the threshold.

## 7.2 Estimation results

Table 2 reports the estimated changes in log capital from 0.10 to 0.90 quantiles and the estimated mean change. Figure 3 visualizes the estimated quantile curves of log capital right above or below the policy threshold (left) and the estimated quantile changes (right) along with their 95% point-wise confidence bands. Consistent with the visual evidence in Figure 2, results in Table 2 suggest that significant changes only occur at roughly the bottom 30 percentiles of the distribution of log capital. The estimated changes are also larger at lower quantiles. No significant change is found in the average level of log capital. At the same time, there appear to be some quantile crossings at the higher end of the quantile curves in Figure 3. With no mean change in log capital at the policy threshold, the standard RD design does not directly apply.

Table 2 Changes in log(capital) at the population threshold 3,000

Quantile			Quantile		
0.10	0.645	(0.101)***	0.55	0.123	(0.388)
0.15	0.588	(0.128)***	0.60	0.104	(0.400)
0.20	0.553	(0.133)***	0.65	0.104	(0.295)
0.25	0.538	(0.182)***	0.70	0.037	(0.370)
0.30	0.542	(0.227)**	0.75	-0.031	(0.397)
0.35	0.398	(0.359)	0.80	0.097	(0.513)
0.40	0.381	(0.353)	0.85	0.078	(0.524)
0.45	0.277	(0.377)	0.90	0.150	(0.580)
0.50	0.122	(0.392)			
Average	0.141	(0.171)			

Note: The top panel presents estimated changes at different quantiles using  $h_R = 1, 155$ , the AMSE optimal bandwidth for  $R$  by Theorem 6, while the bottom row reports the estimated mean change by the default CCT rdrobust; Standard errors are in parentheses; \*\*\* Significant at the 1% level; \*\* Significant at the 5% level.

One may be concerned that the data are censored at the minimum capital, implying mass points at \$25,000 and \$50,000 around the 3,000 population threshold. Assumption 1 would then be invalid. Our data do not suggest a censored distribution for bank



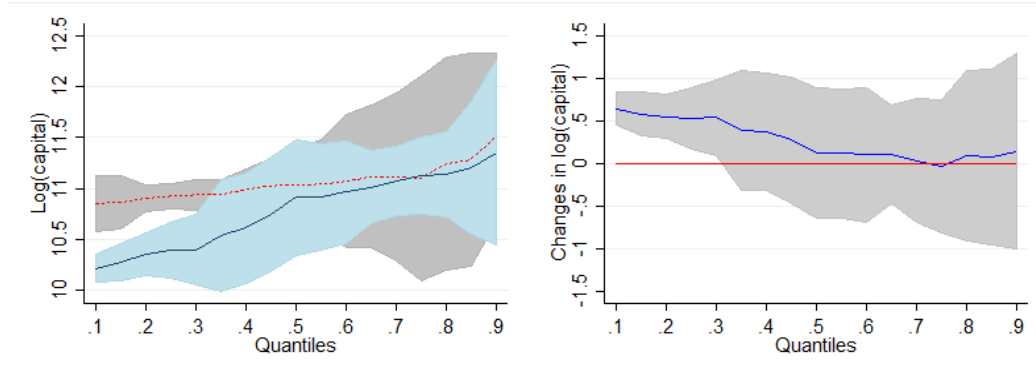


Figure 3: Quantile curves of bank capital above and below the population threshold 3,000 (left) and quantile changes (right).

Table 3 Effects of log(capital) on bank outcomes

Q-LATE	Quantile	Log(assets)		Log(leverage)		Suspension	
	0.10	0.987	(0.289)***	-0.013	(0.273)	-0.019	(0.122)
	0.12	1.003	(0.275)***	0.003	(0.265)	-0.034	(0.117)
	0.14	1.017	(0.269)***	0.017	(0.258)	-0.036	(0.117)
	0.16	0.991	(0.298)***	-0.009	(0.245)	-0.038	(0.124)
	0.18	0.942	(0.351)***	-0.058	(0.267)	-0.091	(0.140)
	0.20	0.946	(0.349)***	-0.054	(0.297)	-0.092	(0.139)
	0.22	0.948	(0.350)***	-0.052	(0.295)	-0.093	(0.139)
	0.24	0.950	(0.341)***	-0.050	(0.296)	-0.108	(0.131)
	0.26	0.916	(0.323)***	-0.084	(0.283)	-0.112	(0.130)
WQ-LATE		0.968	(0.384)***	-0.032	(0.349)	-0.073	(0.136)

Note: The top panel presents the bias-corrected estimates of Q-LATEs at equally spaced quantiles; The last row presents the bias-corrected estimates of WQ-LATEs;  $h_R = 1,155$  and  $h_T = 0.435$  for all estimation, which are the AMSE optimal bandwidths for the WQ-LATE estimator; The AMSE optimal bandwidth for the Q-LATE estimator  $h_R$  ranges from 1,167.97 to 1,570.61; The bandwidths used to estimate the biases are the main bandwidths divided by 0.517, i.e.,  $h/b = 0.517$ ; The trimming thresholds are determined by using a preliminary bandwidth for  $R$  equal to  $3/4h_R = 866.25$ ; Standard errors are in the parentheses; \*\*\*Significant at the 1% level, \*\*Significant at the 5% level.

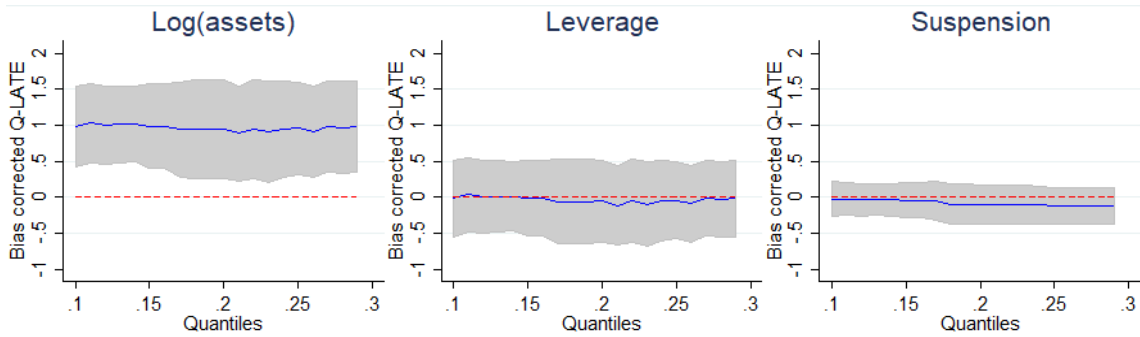


Figure 4: Estimated Q-LATEs at different quantiles

capital. Less than 1% of the banks below and less than 2% of the banks above hold the minimum capital in our local estimation sample around the 3,000 threshold.

For brevity, Table 3 presents the estimated Q-LATEs at selected quantiles. Figure 4 illustrates the estimated Q-LATEs at a finer grid of quantiles along with the 95% confidence intervals. Alternative results based on undersmoothing and results with bootstrapped standard errors (with or without being clustered at the town level) are presented in Appendix D. Note that our analytical standard errors do not take into possible clustering at the town level. We find that clustering has little impacts by our bootstrapped results.

The estimated Q-LATEs for log assets range from 0.916 to almost 1.017 at various low quantiles of log capital. All estimates are significant at the 1% level. That is, a 1% increase in bank capital leads to an increase of 0.916% - 1.017% in total assets for banks at the bottom of the capital distribution. The corresponding weighted average is estimated to be 0.968, which is also significant at the 1% level. On average, a 1% increase in bank capital leads to a 0.968% increase in a bank's total assets among all the banks that are affected by the minimum capital requirements. As a result, the estimated decreases in log leverage are all small and insignificant, so the increased minimum capital requirements do not significantly lower leverage among those affected small banks. Not surprisingly, the estimated impacts of bank capital on their long-run suspension probability are small and insignificant.

Figure 5 plots the estimated WQ-LATEs (along with 95% confidence intervals) against different bandwidth choices. The point estimates of WQ-LATEs are robust to a wide range of bandwidths, even though as expected, the confidence intervals get

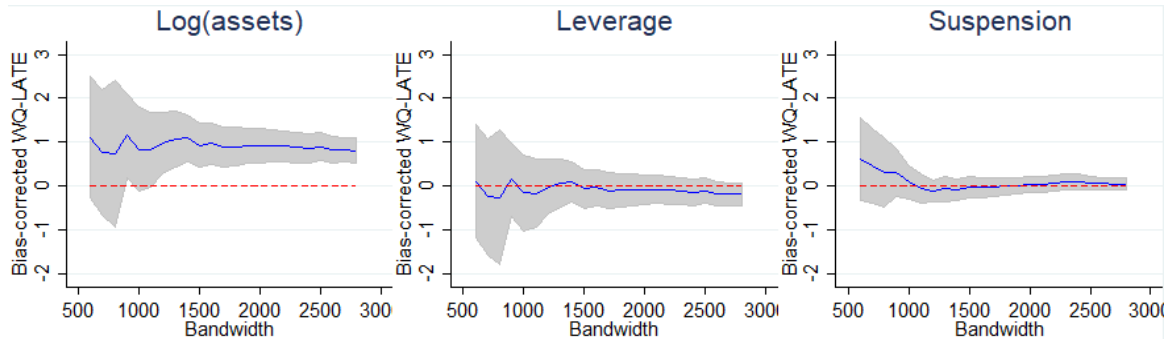


Figure 5: Estimated WQ-LATEs by different bandwidths

wider as the bandwidth gets smaller.

### 7.3 Validity checks

We have estimated the impacts of increased bank capital among banks with low levels of capital. Validity of these estimates requires our local smoothness and rank restrictions to hold. In the following, we evaluate validity of these assumptions.

We first perform the usual standard RD tests to provide suggestive evidence for the smoothness conditions. These smoothness conditions are imposed to ensure that banks as well as their associated business and agricultural conditions above and below the policy threshold are comparable. Given the differential capital requirements, one may be concerned that banks took advantage of the lower capital requirements and hence were more likely to operate in towns with populations just under 3,000.

Following the standard practice, we test smoothness of the density of town population near the policy threshold. We also test smoothness of the conditional means of pre-determined covariates. These covariates include bank age and county characteristics, particularly percentage of black population, percentage of farmland and log manufacturing output per capita per square miles.

Figures 6 and 7 provide visual evidence of smoothness. The left graph in Figure 6 presents the histogram of the town population, while the right graph presents the log frequency of the town population within each bin of 200 population. Superimposed on the right graph is the estimated log density along with the 95% confidence interval. Formal test results are reported in Table 4. No significant discontinuities are found in the conditional means of these covariates or in the density of town population. These

Table 4 Tests for smoothness of covariates and density

I: Covariate					
Bank age	0.251	(0.384)	Farmland (%)	-0.013	(0.119)
Black Population (%)	-0.09	(0.099)	Log(manufacturing output)	0.425	(0.439)
II: Density of town population					
	-0.564	(0.573)			

Note: Panel I presents the estimated discontinuities in the conditional means of covariate; Robust standard errors are in parentheses; Panel II presents the t statistic of the estimated density discontinuity of town population along with the p-value using the Stata command rddensity;  $h_R = 1, 155$  for all estimation.

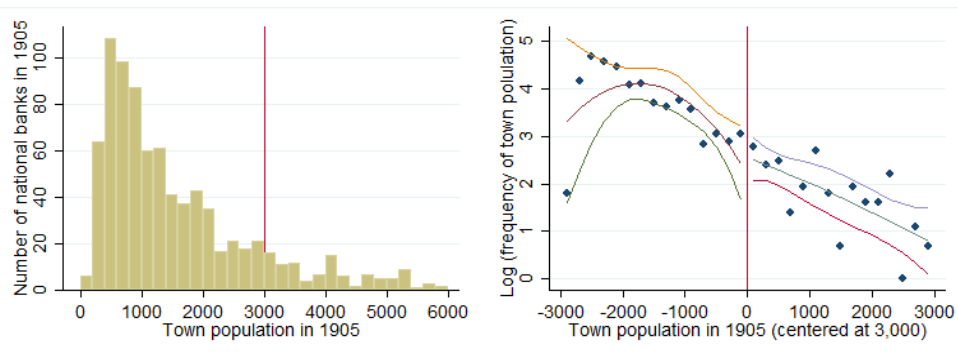


Figure 6: Histogram and the empirical density of town population

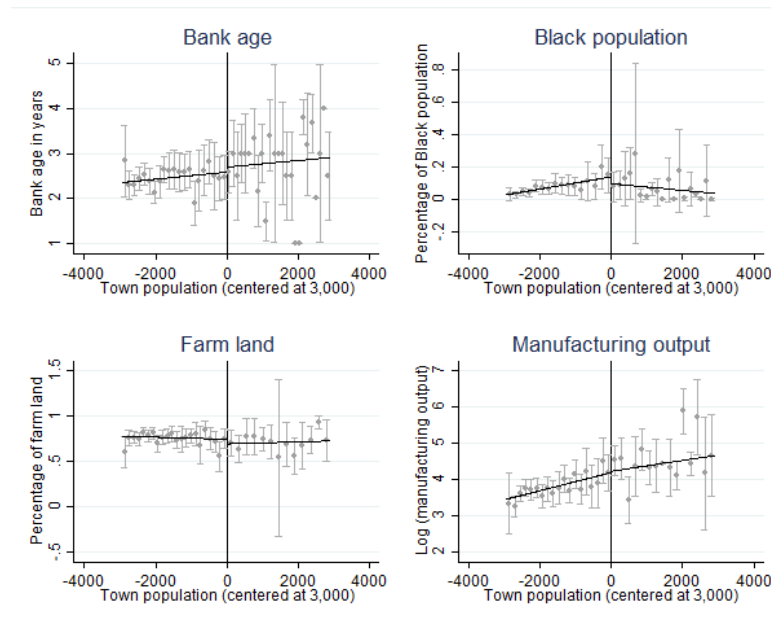


Figure 7: Conditional means of covariates conditional on town population

results suggest that smoothness conditions are plausible in our empirical setting.

Table 5 Tests for local rank invariance or rank similarity

	First moment		Second moment	
Bank age	1.028	(0.774)	4.470	(4.041)
Black Population (%)	-0.019	(0.138)	-0.018	(0.086)
Farmland (%)	0.058	(0.195)	0.151	(0.260)
Log(manufacturing output)	0.100	(0.772)	0.235	(6.855)

Note: Bias-corrected estimates of WQ-LATEs are reported; All estimation uses the optimal bandwidths for the WQ-LATE estimator  $h_R = 1, 155$  and  $h_T = 0.435$  for  $R$  and  $T$ ; The bandwidths used to estimate the biases are the main bandwidths divided by 0.517; The trimming thresholds are determined by using a preliminary bandwidth  $3/4h_R = 866.25$ . Standard errors are in the parentheses.

We next perform our proposed joint tests. For simplicity, instead of testing the entire distribution of covariates, we test the low order (raw) moments of covariates. That is, we replace the outcome variable by each of the first and second moments of the four covariates (i.e., bank age, percentage of black population, percentage of farmland, and log manufacturing output per capita) and re-estimate Q-LATEs and WQ-LATEs. We use the same bandwidth and specification as those used to produce the main estimates in Table 3. Results of these falsification tests are presented in Table 5. Figures 8 and 9 further visualize the results. None of these estimates are significant. Overall we cannot reject validity of the local smoothness and rank restrictions.

## 7.4 Policy implications

Our empirical analysis shows that while higher capital requirements induce banks at the bottom of the capital distribution to hold more capital, these banks adjust their assets proportionately. That is, banks simply scale up without a ratio regulation. Their leverages and long-run risk of failure remain almost unchanged. This analysis sheds light on the U.S. banking crisis in the early twentieth century, when bank runs and bank panics occurred often – 29 banking panics occurred from 1865 to 1933.

While earlier regulations focus on the dollar amount of capital, modern regulations focus on capital ratios. Our results support such a regime shift. Interestingly, existing studies suggest that under a ratio regulation, troubled banks in a financial crisis tend to shrink assets rather than raise new capital to restore their damaged capital ratios, even when the latter is more desirable from a social perspective. Based on this and what we

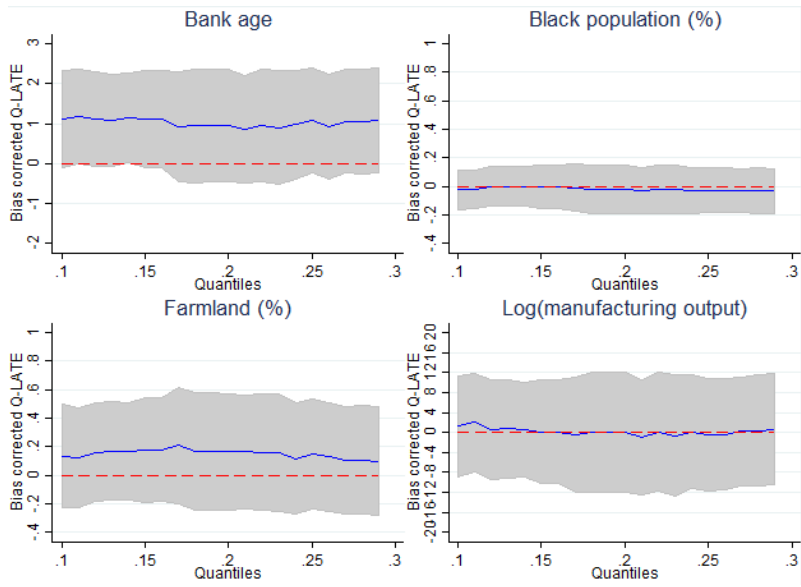


Figure 8: Estimated Q-LATEs on covariates (first moments)

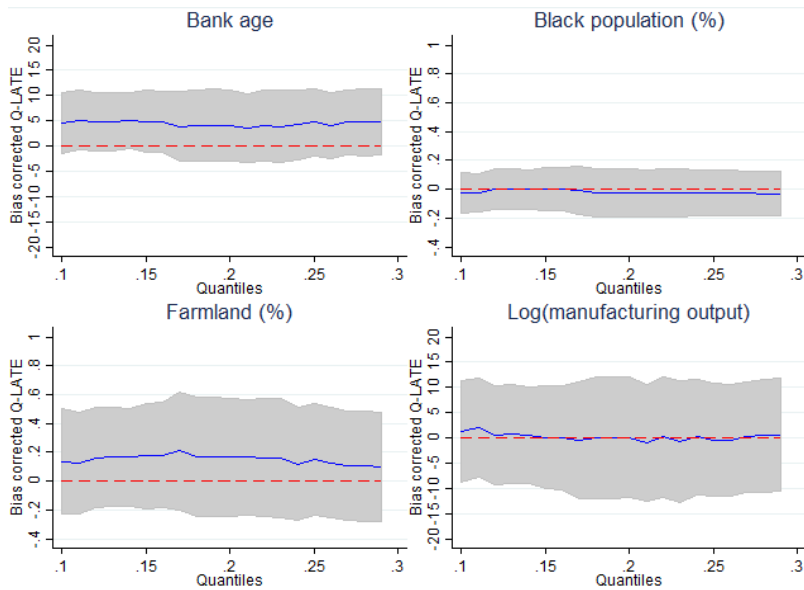


Figure 9: Estimated Q-LATEs on covariates (second moments)

have learned from our empirical exercise, a better practice seems to be supplementing the capital ratio regulation with higher capital requirements. This is precisely what the macroprudential approach promotes. For example, in discussing the macroprudential approach, Hanson, Kashyap, and Stein (2011) note "...it may be especially helpful in thinking about the phase-in of higher capital requirements under Basel III."

## 8 Conclusion

An empirically important class of RD designs involve continuous treatments. This paper provides nonparametric identification and robust inference for such RD designs. We utilize for identification any treatment distributional changes (including the usual mean change as a special case) at the RD threshold.

Our model applies to a large class of policies that target parts or features of the treatment distribution, such as changing the mean, changing the variance or shifting one or both tails of the distribution. Treatment changes are general responses to relevant policies. By focusing on where the true changes are in the treatment distribution, we provide what are likely to be the most policy relevant treatment effects.

We identify both quantile specific treatment effects (Q-LATEs) and a weighted average treatment effect (WQ-LATE) at the RD threshold. Our approach complements the standard RD design and the related weak identification approach, since we can identify treatment effect heterogeneity at different treatment intensities. Compared with the standard RD local Wald ratio, the proposed WQ-LATE estimator has the advantage of being robust to possible failure of the monotonicity assumption. It incorporates the standard RD local Wald ratio as a special case; it is valid under either the local treatment rank restriction or the monotonicity assumption.

We also provide bias-corrected robust inference along with the AMSE optimal bandwidths for the identified treatment effects. In the context of RDD, Calonico, Cattaneo, and Farrell (2018b) develop a new bandwidth selector that is used to construct robust bias corrected confidence intervals with minimal coverage error. An interesting future research is to develop such coverage-error optimal bandwidths for our Q-LATE and WQ-LATE, which are complementary to the AMSE optimal bandwidths used to construct optimal point estimators.

In our empirical scenario, the minimum capital regulation shifts up the bottom of

the capital distribution, but leads to no mean changes. Estimating the causal impacts of capital holdings would be difficult by just applying the standard RD design. However, taking advantage of lower quantile changes in the capital distribution allow for precisely estimating the causal impacts of increased bank capital.

We show that while the higher capital requirements induce small banks to hold more capital, these banks adjust their assets proportionately to lead to only a "scale-up" effect. A 1% increase in capital leads to a close to 1% increase in assets among all banks at the lower quantiles of the capital distribution. As a result, the long-run (up to 24 years, from 1905 to 1929) risk of suspension for those banks stays the same. These results help us better understand the frequent bank runs and banking panics prior to the Great Depression. These results are also useful in considering the macroprudential approach to financial regulation, which promotes higher capital requirements under the ratio regulation regime.

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**For Online Publication: Supplemental Appendix for “Regression Discontinuity Designs with a Continuous Treatment”**

Yingying Dong, Ying-Ying Lee, Michael Gou

This Appendix is organized as follows. Section A provides proofs for the lemmas, theorem, and corollary presented in Section 2 Identification. Sections B.1 and B.2 provide some preliminary lemmas along with their proofs to facilitate deriving the asymptotic properties for the proposed estimators. Sections B.3 and B.4 then present proofs for the theorems presented in Section 6 Inference. Section C describes how to estimate the biases, variances, and AMSE optimal bandwidths presented in Sections 6.2 and 6.3. Section D provides additional results for the empirical analysis.

## A Proofs for Section 2 Identification

**Proof of Lemma 1.1** Given  $U = u$  and  $R = r$ ,  $T = q_1(r, u) \mathbf{1}(r \geq r_0) + q_0(r, u) \mathbf{1}(r < r_0)$  is constant for any  $R = r \in \mathcal{R} \setminus r_0$ ; therefore  $T \perp \varepsilon | (U, R)$  holds for  $R \in \mathcal{R} \setminus r_0$ .

In the following we show that conditional on  $U$  and  $R$ , any potential change in  $T$  when  $R \rightarrow r_0$  in the limit is independent of  $\varepsilon$ .

$U_0 | (\varepsilon, R = r_0) \sim U_1 | (\varepsilon, R = r_0)$  by Assumption 3 local treatment rank invariance or similarity. Further by the smoothness Assumption 2 and Bayes’ Theorem,  $\varepsilon | (U_0 = u, R = r_0) \sim \varepsilon | (U_1 = u, R = r_0)$  for any  $u \in (0, 1)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\varepsilon|U_1,R}(e, u, r_0) &= f_{\varepsilon|U_0,R}(e, u, r_0) \stackrel{(1)}{\iff} \\ \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} f_{\varepsilon|U_1,R}(e, u, r) &= \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} f_{\varepsilon|U_0,R}(e, u, r) \stackrel{(2)}{\iff} \\ \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} f_{\varepsilon|T,U,R}(e, q_1(r, u), u, r) &= \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} f_{\varepsilon|U,R,T}(e, q_0(r, u), u, r) \stackrel{(3)}{\iff} \\ f_{\varepsilon|T,U,R}(e, q_1(r_0, u), u, r_0) &= f_{\varepsilon|T,U,R}(e, q_0(r_0, u), u, r_0), \end{aligned}$$

where equivalence (1) follows from smoothness of  $f_{\varepsilon|U_z,R}(e, u, r)$  in Assumption 2, (2) follows from the definition  $U \equiv U_1 \mathbf{1}(R \geq r_0) + U_0 \mathbf{1}(R < r_0)$  and the fact that conditional on  $U = u$  and  $R = r$ ,  $T$  is deterministic, and (3) follows again from smoothness of  $q_z(r, u)$  and  $f_{\varepsilon|U_z,R}(e, u, r)$ ,  $z = 0, 1$ , and hence the right and left limits of  $f_{\varepsilon|U,R}(e, u, r) = Z f_{\varepsilon|U_1,R}(e, u, r) + (1 - Z) f_{\varepsilon|U_0,R}(e, u, r)$  at  $r = r_0$  exist. That is,  $f_{\varepsilon|T,U,R}(e, t_1, u, r_0) = f_{\varepsilon|T,U,R}(e, t_0, u, r_0) = f_{\varepsilon|U,R}(e, u, r_0)$  for  $t_z \equiv q_z(r_0, u)$ ,  $z = 0, 1$ . Notice that given  $U = u$  and  $R = r_0$ ,  $T$  can only take on two potential values,  $t_1$  and  $t_0$ , and hence the claim.

**Proof of Lemma 1.2** For simplicity, the following assumes that  $\Gamma$  is an identity mapping, i.e.,  $\Gamma(Y) = Y$ . The derivation can be readily extended to any integrable functional  $\Gamma$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
& \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[Y|U = u, R = r] - \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} \mathbb{E}[Y|U = u, R = r] \\
&= \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[Y|T = q_1(r, u), U_1 = u, R = r] - \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} \mathbb{E}[Y|T = q_0(r, u), U_0 = u, R = r] \\
&= \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[G(q_1(r, u), r, \varepsilon) | U_1 = u, R = r] - \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} \mathbb{E}[G(q_0(r, u), r, \varepsilon) | U_0 = u, R = r] \\
&= \mathbb{E}[G(q_1(r_0, u), r_0, \varepsilon) | U_1 = u, R = r_0] - \mathbb{E}[G(q_0(r_0, u), r_0, \varepsilon) | U_0 = u, R = r_0] \\
&= \int (G(q_1(r_0, u), r_0, \varepsilon) - G(q_0(r_0, u), r_0, \varepsilon)) dF_{\varepsilon|U,R}(e, u, r_0),
\end{aligned}$$

where the first equality follows from Assumption 1; the second equality follows from the fact  $Y = G(T, R, \varepsilon)$ ; the third equality follows from the smoothness conditions in Assumption 2, and the last equality follows from the fact that Assumption 3 implies  $F_{\varepsilon|U_1,R}(e, u, r_0) = F_{\varepsilon|U_0,R}(e, u, r_0) = F_{\varepsilon|U,R}(e, u, r_0)$ .

**Proof of Theorem 1** By definition,  $T = q(r, u) = q_0(r, u)(1 - Z) + q_1(r, u)Z$ . Further by smoothness of  $q_z(r, u)$ ,  $z = 0, 1$  in Assumption 2, the right and left limits of  $q(r, u)$   $r = r_0$  exist, i.e.,  $q_1(r_0, u) = \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} q(r, u)$  and  $q_0(r_0, u) = \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^-} q(r, u)$ . Equation (2) holds following Lemma 1.  $\pi(w) \equiv \int_{\mathcal{U}} \tau(u) w(u) du$  is identified since  $\tau(u)$  is identified, the weighting function  $w(u)$  is assumed to be known or estimable, and the set  $\mathcal{U} \equiv \{u \in (0, 1): |q_1(r_0, u) - q_0(r_0, u)| > 0\}$  is identified since  $q_z(r, u)$ ,  $z = 0, 1$  is identified.

**Proof of Lemma 2** For notational convenience, the following derivation uses  $q_z(U_z)$  to denote  $q_z(r_0, U_z)$ ,  $z = 0, 1$ . Assumption 3b monotonicity states  $\Pr(q_1(U_1) \geq q_0(U_0)) = 1$  or  $\Pr(q_1(U_1) \leq q_0(U_0)) = 1$ . Without loss of generality, we assume the former is true. Given the smoothness

conditons in Assumption 2, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \pi^{RD} \\
&= \frac{\mathbb{E} [G(q_1(U_1), r_0, \varepsilon) | R = r_0] - \mathbb{E} [G(q_0(U_0), r_0, \varepsilon) | R = r_0]}{\mathbb{E} [q_1(U_1) | R = r_0] - \mathbb{E} [q_0(U_0) | R = r_0]} \\
&= \frac{\mathbb{E} [G(q_1(U_1), r_0, \varepsilon) - G(q_0(U_0), r_0, \varepsilon) | R = r_0]}{\mathbb{E} [q_1(U_1) - q_0(U_0) | R = r_0]} \\
&= \frac{\iint \int (G(q_1(u_1), r_0, \varepsilon) - G(q_0(u_0), r_0, \varepsilon)) F_{\varepsilon | U_0, U_1, R=r_0}(de, u_0, u_1) F_{U_0, U_1 | R=r_0}(du_0, du_1)}{\iint (q_1(u_1) - q_0(u_0)) F_{U_0, U_1 | R=r_0}(du_0, du_1)} \\
&= \iint \int \frac{G(q_1(u_1), r_0, \varepsilon) - G(q_0(u_0), r_0, \varepsilon)}{q_1(u_1) - q_0(u_0)} \tilde{w}^{RD}(u_0, u_1) F_{\varepsilon | U_0, U_1, R=r_0}(de, u_0, u_1) \\
&\quad \times F_{U_0, U_1 | R=r_0}(du_0, du_1),
\end{aligned}$$

where the outer integration in the last equality is over  $\mathcal{I}^2 \equiv \{(u_0, u_1) \in (0, 1) \times (0, 1) : q_1(u_1) - q_0(u_0) > 0\}$  and  $\tilde{w}^{RD}(u_0, u_1) \equiv \frac{q_1(u_1) - q_0(u_0)}{\iint_{\mathcal{I}^2} (q_1(u_1) - q_0(u_0)) F_{U_0, U_1 | R=r_0}(du_0, du_1)}$ .

When monotonicity holds,  $\tilde{w}^{RD}(u_0, u_1) > 0$  and  $\iint_{\mathcal{I}^2} \tilde{w}^{RD}(u_0, u_1) F_{U_0, U_1 | R=r_0}(du_0, du_1) = 1$ . That is, under Assumptions 2, 3b, and 4,  $\pi^{RD}$  identifies a weighted average of individual causal effects  $\frac{G(q_1(u_1), r_0, \varepsilon) - G(q_0(u_0), r_0, \varepsilon)}{q_1(u_1) - q_0(u_0)}$  among those having  $q_1(u_1) - q_0(u_0) > 0$  for any  $(u_0, u_1) \in \mathcal{I}^2$ .

Further, when the function  $G(T, R, \varepsilon)$  is continuously differentiable in its first argument, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \pi^{RD} \\
&= \frac{\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_{q_0(U_0)}^{q_1(U_1)} \frac{\partial G(t, r_0, \varepsilon)}{\partial t} dt \middle| R = r_0 \right]}{\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_{q_0(U_0)}^{q_1(U_1)} 1 dt \middle| R = r_0 \right]} \\
&= \frac{\mathbb{E} \left[ \int \frac{\partial G(t, r_0, \varepsilon)}{\partial t} \mathbf{1}(q_0(U_0) \leq t \leq q_1(U_1)) dt \middle| R = r_0 \right]}{\mathbb{E} \left[ \int \mathbf{1}(q_0(U_0) \leq t \leq q_1(U_1)) dt \middle| R = r_0 \right]} \\
&= \frac{\int \iint \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\partial G(t, r_0, \varepsilon)}{\partial t} \middle| R = r_0, q_0(u_0) \leq t \leq q_1(u_1) \right] \Pr(q_0(u_0) \leq t \leq q_1(u_1) | R = r_0) du_0 du_1 dt}{\int_{\mathcal{T}} \iint \Pr(q_0(u_0) \leq t \leq q_1(u_1) | R = r_0) du_0 du_1 dt} \\
&= \int \iint \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\partial G(t, r_0, \varepsilon)}{\partial t} \middle| R = r_0, q_0(u_0) \leq t \leq q_1(u_1) \right] \bar{w}^{RD}(u_0, u_1) du_0 du_1 dt,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\bar{w}^{RD}(u_0, u_1) \equiv \frac{\Pr(q_0(u_0) \leq t \leq q_1(u_1) | R=r_0)}{\int \iint \Pr(q_0(u_0) \leq t \leq q_1(u_1) | R=r_0) du_0 du_1 dt}$ , the second to the last equality

follows from the law of iterated expectations and interchanging the order of integration under standard regularity conditions.

**Proof of Theorem 2** When Assumption 3 local treatment rank restriction holds, under Assumptions 1, 2 and 4,  $\pi^* \equiv \int_{\mathcal{U}} \frac{m^+(u)-m^-(u)}{q^+(u)-q^-(u)} \frac{|q^+(u)-q^-(u)|}{\int_{\mathcal{U}} |q^+(u)-q^-(u)| du} du$  identifies  $\pi(w^*)$ , which is a special case of the WQ-LATE in Theorem 1 using a weighting function  $w^*(u) \equiv \frac{|\Delta q(u)|}{\int_0^1 |\Delta q(u)| du}$ . Note that  $w^*(u) > 0$  by construction, so  $\pi(w^*)$  is a weighted average effect by Theorem 1 and the discussion in the main text.

Alternatively, when Assumption 3b monotonicity holds, under Assumptions 1, 2 and 4,  $\pi^* = \pi^{RD}$ .  $\pi^{RD}$  identifies a weighted average effect by Lemma 2.

## B Proofs for Section 6 Inference

This section proceeds as follows. We first introduce notation. Section B.1 presents preliminary lemmas to facilitate establishing asymptotics. Section B.2 presents asymptotic theorems under undersmoothing. These lemmas and theorems can also be of independent interest. Section B.3 collects the proofs of the lemmas in Section B.1. Section B.4 provides the proofs of Theorem 7, Theorem 3, and Theorem 5 in Section 6, which pertain to  $\hat{\tau}(u)$ . Section B.5 presents the proofs of Theorem 8, Theorem 4, and Theorem 6 in Section 6, which pertain to  $\hat{\pi}^*$ .

**Notation** Let  $f_{T|R}^{\pm}(u) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^{\pm}} f_{T|R}(q^{\pm}(u), r)$ ,  $\sigma^{2\pm}(u) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^{\pm}} \mathbb{V}[Y|T = q^{\pm}(u), R = r]$ ,  $q_r''^{\pm}(u) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^{\pm}} \partial^2 q(r, u)/\partial r^2$ ,  $m_t'^{\pm}(u) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^{\pm}} \partial \mathbb{E}[Y|T = t, R = r]/\partial t|_{t=q^{\pm}(u)}$ ,  $m_t''^{\pm}(u) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^{\pm}} \partial^2 \mathbb{E}[Y|T = t, R = r]/\partial t^2|_{t=q^{\pm}(u)}$ , and  $m_r''^{\pm}(u) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^{\pm}} \partial^2 \mathbb{E}[Y|T = q^{\pm}(u), R = r]/\partial r^2$ .

The following constants are defined by the kernel function.  $\kappa_j \equiv \int_0^{\infty} v^j K(v) dv$ ,  $\lambda_j \equiv \int_0^{\infty} v^j K^2(v) dv$ ,  $C_V \equiv 4(\kappa_2^2 \lambda_0 - 2\kappa_1 \kappa_2 \lambda_1 + \kappa_1^2 \lambda_2)(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)^{-2}$ ,  $C_B \equiv (\kappa_2^2 - \kappa_1 \kappa_3)(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)^{-1}$ , and  $C_C \equiv \int_0^{\infty} K(v/\rho) K(v) dv (\rho \kappa_2 \int_0^{\infty} K(v/\rho) K(v) dv - \kappa_1 \int_0^{\infty} v K(v/\rho) K(v) dv)$ .<sup>5</sup>

Let  $e_j$  be the  $6 \times 1$   $j$ th unit column vector, i.e., it has 1 as the  $j$ th entry and 0's as

<sup>5</sup>For the Uniform kernel,  $\lambda_0 = 1/4$ ,  $C_V = 4$ ,  $C_B = -1/12$ ,  $C_C = \rho^3/384$  if  $\rho \leq 1$ , and  $C_C = 0.03125(\rho/3 - 0.25)$  if  $\rho > 1$ . For the Epanechnikov kernel,  $\lambda_0 = 0.3$ ,  $C_V = 0.243$ ,  $C_B = 0.07414$ ,  $C_C = 0$  if  $\rho = 0$ , and  $C_C = \lambda_0(\kappa_2 \lambda_0 - \kappa_1 \lambda_1)$  if  $\rho = 1$ .



all other entries. Further define the  $6 \times 6$  symmetric matrices

$$S_2 \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & \kappa_1 & 0 & \kappa_2 & 0 & \kappa_2 \\ & \kappa_2 & 0 & \kappa_3 & 0 & 2\kappa_2\kappa_1 \\ & & \kappa_2 & 0 & 2\kappa_2\kappa_1 & 0 \\ & & & \kappa_4 & 0 & 2\kappa_2^2 \\ & & & & 2\kappa_2^2 & 0 \\ & & & & & \kappa_4 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \Lambda_2 \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_0 & \lambda_1 & 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & 0 \\ & \lambda_2 & 0 & \lambda_3 & 0 & 0 \\ & & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & \lambda_4 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & & 0 & 0 \\ & & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $\mathbb{B}[\hat{\beta}] \equiv \mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}] - \beta$  denote the bias for a generic estimator  $\hat{\beta}$  of the parameter  $\beta$  and  $\mathbb{C}[X, Y]$  denote the covariance of any two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ . Let  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$  be the sup-norm, i.e.,  $\|f\|_\infty = \sup_{x \in \mathcal{X}} |f(x)|$ .

## B.1 Preliminary asymptotic results

In the following, Lemma 3 presents the asymptotic linear representations for  $\Delta \hat{q}(u)$  and  $\Delta \hat{m}(u)$ . Lemma 4(I) and Lemma 5(I) present the asymptotic linear representations for  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  and  $\hat{\pi}^*$ , respectively. Lemma 4(D) and Lemma 5(D) present the asymptotic distributions of  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  and  $\hat{\pi}^*$ , respectively.

**Lemma 3.** *Let Assumptions 1-5 hold. Then uniformly in  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ ,*

$$(Q) \quad \Delta \hat{q}(u) - \Delta q(u) - h^2(\mathbf{B}_1^+(u) - \mathbf{B}_1^-(u)) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i \Phi_{1i}^+(u) - (1 - Z_i) \Phi_{1i}^-(u) + O_p(h^3) + o_p((nh)^{-1/2}), \text{ where } \mathbf{B}_1^\pm(u) \equiv C_{\mathbf{B}q_r''^\pm(u)} \sigma_R^2,$$

$$\Phi_{1i}^+(u) \equiv (u - \mathbf{1}(T_i \leq q_1(R_i, u))) \frac{2(\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R_i - r_0)/(h\sigma_R))}{f_{TR}^+(u)(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} \frac{1}{h\sigma_R} K\left(\frac{R_i - r_0}{h\sigma_R}\right)$$

and  $\Phi_{1i}^-(u)$  is defined analogously by replacing  $q_1(R_i, u)$  with  $q_0(R_i, u)$ .

$$(M) \quad \Delta \hat{m}(u) - \Delta m(u) - h^2(\mathbf{B}_2(u) + \mathbf{B}_1^+(u)m_t'^+(u) - \mathbf{B}_1^-(u)m_t'^-(u)) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i (\phi_{2i}^+(u) + \Phi_{1i}^+(u)m_t'^+(u)) - (1 - Z_i)(\phi_{2i}^-(u) + \Phi_{1i}^-(u)m_t'^-(u)) + \text{Rem}, \text{ where } \mathbf{B}_2(u) \equiv C_{\mathbf{B}(m_r''^+(u) - m_r''^-(u))} \sigma_R^2 + \kappa_2(m_t''^+(u) - m_t''^-(u)) \sigma_T^2,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{2i}^\pm(u) &\equiv (Y_i - (m^\pm(u) + m_r'^\pm(u)(R_i - r_0) + m_t'^\pm(u)(T_i - q^\pm(u)))) \\ &\times \frac{2(\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R_i - r_0)/(h\sigma_R))}{f_{TR}^\pm(u)(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} \frac{1}{h\sigma_T} K\left(\frac{T_i - q^\pm(u)}{h\sigma_T}\right) \frac{1}{h\sigma_R} K\left(\frac{R_i - r_0}{h\sigma_R}\right) \end{aligned}$$

and the remainder term  $\text{Rem} = O_p\left((\log n / (nh^2))^{3/4} + n^{-1}h^{-5/2} + h^3\right)$ .

**Lemma 4.** *Let Assumptions 1-5 hold.*

(I) Then uniformly in  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u) - h^2 \mathbf{B}_\tau(u) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n IF_{\tau i}(u) + \text{Rem}$ , where

$$\mathbf{B}_\tau(u) \equiv \left( \mathbf{B}_2(u) + \mathbf{B}_1^+(u) (m_t'^+(u) - \tau(u)) - \mathbf{B}_1^-(u) (m_t'^-(u) - \tau(u)) \right) \frac{1}{\Delta q(u)}, \quad (\text{B.1})$$

$\mathbf{B}_1^\pm(u)$  and  $\mathbf{B}_2(u)$  are given in Lemma 3, the influence function  $IF_{\tau i}(u) \equiv (Z_i(\phi_{2i}^+(u) + \Phi_{1i}^+(u)(m_t'^+(u) - \tau(u))) - (1 - Z_i)(\phi_{2i}^-(u) + \Phi_{1i}^-(u)(m_t'^-(u) - \tau(u)))) (\Delta q(u))^{-1}$ , and  $\Phi_{1i}^\pm(u)$ ,  $\phi_{2i}^\pm(u)$ , and  $\text{Rem}$  are given in Lemma 3.

(D) If  $h = h_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $nh^3 \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $nh^6 \rightarrow c \in [0, \infty)$ , then for  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $\sqrt{nh^2}(\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u) - h^2 \mathbf{B}_\tau(u)) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{V}_\tau(u))$ , where

$$\mathbf{V}_\tau(u) \equiv \frac{2\lambda_0 C_V}{\sigma_T \sigma_R (\Delta q(u))^2 f_R(r_0)} \left( \frac{\sigma^{2+}(u)}{f_{T|R}^+(u)} + \frac{\sigma^{2-}(u)}{f_{T|R}^-(u)} \right). \quad (\text{B.2})$$

**Lemma 5.** Let Assumptions 1-5 hold.

(I) Then  $\hat{\pi}^* - \pi^* - h^2 \mathbf{B}_\pi = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n IF_{\pi i} + \text{Rem}$ , where

$$\mathbf{B}_\pi \equiv \int_{\mathcal{U}} \mathbf{B}_\tau(u) w^*(u) du + \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\mathbf{B}_1^+(u) - \mathbf{B}_1^-(u)) (\tau(u) - \pi^*) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} du, \quad (\text{B.3})$$

the influence function  $IF_{\pi i} \equiv Z_i \Phi_{21i}^+ - (1 - Z_i) \Phi_{21i}^- + \int_{\mathcal{U}} (Z_i \Phi_{1i}^+(u) \Lambda^+(u) - (1 - Z_i) \Phi_{1i}^-(u) \Lambda^-(u)) du$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{21i}^\pm &\equiv (Y_i - m(T_i, r_0^\pm) - m_r'(T_i, r_0^\pm) (R_i - r_0)) \frac{w^*(F_{T|R}(T_i, r_0^\pm))}{\Delta q(F_{T|R}(T_i, r_0^\pm))} \\ &\times \frac{1}{h\sigma_R} K\left(\frac{R_i - r_0}{h\sigma_R}\right) \int \mathbf{1}(F_{T|R}(T_i + sh_T, r_0^\pm) \in \mathcal{U}) K(s) ds \\ &\times \frac{2(\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R_i - r_0)/(h\sigma_R))}{f_R(r_0)(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)}, \end{aligned}$$

$m_r'(T_i, r_0^\pm) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^\pm} \partial \mathbb{E}[Y|T = T_i, R = r] / \partial r$ ,  $\Lambda^\pm(u) \equiv (m_t'^\pm(u) - \pi^*) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)}$ , and  $\Phi_{1i}^\pm(u)$  and  $\text{Rem}$  are given in Lemma 3.

(D) If  $h = h_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $nh^4 \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $nh^5 \rightarrow c \in [0, \infty)$ , then  $\sqrt{nh}(\hat{\pi}^* - \pi^* - h^2 \mathbf{B}_\pi) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{V}_\pi)$ , where

$$\mathbf{V}_\pi \equiv \mathbf{V}_\pi^m + \mathbf{V}_\pi^q. \quad (\text{B.4})$$

$V_\pi^m$  is due to estimation of  $\Delta\hat{m}(u)$  in Step 2 and

$$V_\pi^m \equiv \frac{C_V \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\sigma^{2+}(u) + \sigma^{2-}(u)) du}{\sigma_R f_R(r_0) \left( \int_{\mathcal{U}} |\Delta q(u)| du \right)^2}. \quad (\text{B.5})$$

$V_\pi^q$  is due to estimation of  $\Delta\hat{q}(u)$  in Step 1 and

$$V_\pi^q \equiv \frac{C_V}{\sigma_R f_R(r_0)} \int_{\mathcal{U}} \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\min\{u, v\} - vu) \left( \frac{\Lambda^+(u)\Lambda^+(v)}{f_{T|R}^+(u)f_{T|R}^+(v)} + \frac{\Lambda^-(u)\Lambda^-(v)}{f_{T|R}^-(u)f_{T|R}^-(v)} \right) dv du. \quad (\text{B.6})$$

Define  $\chi(u) = \mathbf{1}(|\Delta q(u)| > 0)$ . Rewrite  $\pi^* = \int_0^1 \tau(u) w^*(u) \chi(u) du$ . In estimation, we replace  $\chi(u)$  by  $\hat{\chi}(u) = \mathbf{1}(|\Delta\hat{q}(u)| > \epsilon_n)$ . Lemma 6 below shows that using  $\hat{\chi}(u)$  is asymptotically equivalent to using  $\chi(u)$ .

**Lemma 6.** *Let the trimming parameter  $\epsilon_n$  satisfy  $\epsilon_n^{-1} \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left| |\Delta\hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)| \right| = o_p(1)$  and  $\epsilon_n^2 \left( \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left| |\Delta\hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)| \right| \right)^{-1} = o_p(1)$ . Then  $\int_0^1 \Delta\hat{q}(u) (\hat{\chi}(u) - \chi(u)) du = o_p \left( \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left| |\Delta\hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)| \right| \right)$ .*

Given the above Lemma 6, in the following proofs for  $\hat{\pi}$  and  $\hat{\pi}^{bc}$  we focus on estimators using the infeasible trimming function  $\chi(u)$ .

## B.2 Asymptotic distributions under undersmoothing

Theorem 7 below presents the asymptotic distribution of  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  under a bandwidth sequence  $h = h_n$  that goes to zero fast enough with the sample size  $n$  (i.e., satisfying  $nh^6 \rightarrow 0$  instead of  $nh^6 \rightarrow c \in (0, \infty)$ ), so that the bias is asymptotically negligible.

**Theorem 7** (Asymptotic distribution of  $\hat{\tau}(u)$ ). *Let Assumptions 1-5 hold. If  $h = h_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $nh^3 \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $nh^6 \rightarrow 0$ , then for  $u \in \mathcal{U}$*

$$\frac{\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u)}{\sqrt{V_{\tau,n}(u)}} \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, 1), \text{ where } V_{\tau,n}(u) \equiv \frac{V_\tau(u)}{nh^2}.$$

The exact form of  $V_\tau(u)$  is given by equation (B.2) of Lemma 4 in Appendix B.1.

The bandwidth conditions in Theorem 7 imply a bandwidth choice  $h = h_n = C_\tau n^{-a}$  for some constant  $a \in (1/6, 1/3)$  and  $C_\tau \in (0, \infty)$ . Theorem 7 implies  $\sqrt{nh^2} (\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u)) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, V_\tau(u))$ , where  $V_\tau(u)$  is the asymptotic variance of  $\sqrt{nh^2} \hat{\tau}(u)$ . The  $100(1 - \alpha)\%$  confidence interval for  $\tau(u)$  is then given by  $[\hat{\tau}(u) \pm$

$\Phi_{1-\alpha/2}^{-1} \sqrt{V_\tau(u)/(nh^2)}$ ], where  $\Phi_{1-\alpha/2}^{-1}$  is the  $(1-\alpha/2)$ -quantile of the standard normal distribution. One can estimate  $V_\tau(u)$  by the usual plug-in estimator, i.e., replacing the unknown parameters involved with their consistent estimates.

Theorem 8 below similarly presents the asymptotic distribution of  $\hat{\pi}^*$  using a bandwidth sequence that goes to zero fast enough with the sample size (i.e., satisfying  $nh^5 \rightarrow 0$  instead of  $nh^5 \rightarrow c \in (0, \infty)$ ), so that the bias is asymptotically negligible.

**Theorem 8** (Asymptotic distribution of  $\hat{\pi}^*$ ). *Let Assumptions 1-5 hold. If  $h = h_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $nh^4 \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $nh^5 \rightarrow 0$ , and the number of grid points  $l \rightarrow \infty$ , then*

$$\frac{\hat{\pi}^* - \pi^*}{\sqrt{V_{\pi,n}}} \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, 1), \text{ where } V_{\pi,n} \equiv \frac{V_\pi}{nh}.$$

The exact form of  $V_\pi$  is given by equation (B.4) of Lemma 5 in Appendix B.1.

The bandwidth conditions in Theorem 8 imply a bandwidth choice  $h = h_n = C_\pi n^{-a}$  for  $a \in (1/5, 1/4)$  and  $C_\pi \in (0, \infty)$ . Based on Theorem 8,  $\sqrt{nh}(\hat{\pi}^* - \pi^*) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, V_\pi)$ , where  $V_\pi$  is the asymptotic variance of  $\sqrt{nh}\hat{\pi}^*$ .

The asymptotic distributions of  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  and  $\hat{\pi}^*$  presented here are valid only when the bandwidths shrink to zero fast enough with the sample size, which prevents overly large bandwidth choices, as are typical in empirical practice.

### B.3 Proofs for Section B.1

The following proofs focus on  $\hat{q}^+(u)$  and  $\hat{m}^+(u)$  using observations above the RD threshold. Results for  $\hat{q}^-(u)$  and  $\hat{m}^-(u)$  can be analogously derived.

#### Proof of Lemma 3

**(Q) Proof for  $\Delta\hat{q}(u)$**  By Theorem 1.2 of Qu and Yoon (2015), we can show that the leading bias of  $\hat{q}^+(u)$  with a small enough  $h_R$  is given by

$$\mathbf{B}_1^+(u) \equiv q_r''^+(u) \frac{1}{2} (1, 0) N_{h_R}^+{}^{-1} \int_{\mathcal{D}_{h_R}^+} v^2 (1, v)^\top K(v) dv, \text{ where}$$

$$N_{h_R}^+ \equiv \int_{\mathcal{D}_{h_R}^+} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & v \\ v & v^2 \end{pmatrix} K(v) dv = N_1 \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & \kappa_1 \\ \kappa_1 & \kappa_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $\mathcal{D}_{h_R}^+ \equiv [0, (\bar{r} - r_0)/h_R] \cap \text{Supp}(K)$  if  $\mathcal{R} = (\underline{r}, \bar{r})$ . Note that  $(1, 0)N_1^{-1} = (2\kappa_2, -2\kappa_1, 0)/(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)$ , so  $\mathbf{B}_1^+(u) \equiv C_{\mathbf{B}} q_r''^+(u) \sigma_R^2$ . Similarly we can show  $\mathbf{B}_1^-(u) \equiv C_{\mathbf{B}} q_r''^-(u) \sigma_R^2$ .

By the Taylor expansion in Step 3 of the proof of Theorem 1 in Qu and Yoon (2015) and by their notation,  $e_i(u) = -h_R^2 \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{h_R} \right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 q(u, r)}{\partial r^2} - h_R^3 \frac{1}{3!} \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{h_R} \right)^3 \frac{\partial^3 q(u, r)}{\partial r^3} + o(h_R^3)$ . Following the same arguments as those in their proof and assuming that  $\partial^3 q(u, r)/\partial r^3$  is bounded, the second-order bias of  $\hat{q}^+(u)$  is  $O(h_R^3)$ .

**(M) Proof for  $\Delta \hat{m}(u)$**  Kong, Linton, and Xia (2010) provide a uniform Bahadur representation for the local polynomial regression that is uniform over the interior support of the regressors. In the following, we extend their results to the case when one of the regressors  $R$  is evaluated at the boundary point  $r_0$ .

Decompose  $\hat{m}^+(u) - m^+(u) = \hat{m}^+(u) - \tilde{m}^+(u) + \tilde{m}^+(u) - m^+(u)$ , where  $\tilde{m}^+(u) = \hat{\mathbb{E}}[Y|T = q^+(u), R = r_0]$  is the infeasible estimator using the true  $q^+(u)$ . By Corollary 1 of Kong, Linton, and Xia (2010), the following asymptotic linear representation holds:  $\tilde{m}^+(u) - m^+(u) - \mathbb{B}[\tilde{m}^+(u)] = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i \phi_{2i}^+(u) + O_p\left((\log n/(nh^2))^{3/4}\right)$  uniformly over  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ , where the bias

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{B}[\tilde{m}^+(u)] \\ &= h^2(1, 0, 0)S_1^{-1}Q_1 \left( \frac{\sigma_R^2}{2} m_r''^+(u), \sigma_{R\sigma_T} \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \frac{\partial^2 m(t, r)}{\partial r \partial t} \Big|_{t=q^+(u)}, \frac{\sigma_T^2}{2} m_t''^+(u) \right)^\top \\ &+ O(h^3), \\ S_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & \kappa_1 & 0 \\ \kappa_1 & \kappa_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \kappa_2 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } Q_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \kappa_2 & 0 & \kappa_2 \\ \kappa_3 & 0 & 2\kappa_2\kappa_1 \\ 0 & 2\kappa_2\kappa_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Note  $(1, 0, 0)S_1^{-1} = (2\kappa_2, -2\kappa_1, 0)/(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)$  and  $(1, 0, 0)S_1^{-1}Q_1 = 2(C_B, 0, \kappa_2)$ . Then  $\mathbb{B}[\tilde{m}^+(u)] - \mathbb{B}[\tilde{m}^-(u)] = h^2 \mathbf{B}_2(u) + o(h^2)$ , where  $\mathbf{B}_2(u) \equiv C_B \sigma_R^2 (m_r''^+(u) - m_r''^-(u)) + \kappa_2 \sigma_T^2 (m_t''^+(u) - m_t''^-(u))$ .

Applying Theorem 1 of Kong, Linton, and Xia (2010) and Lemma 3(Q), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left| \hat{m}^+(u) - \tilde{m}^+(u) - (\hat{q}^+(u) - q^+(u)) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbb{E}[Y|T = t, R = r_0] \Big|_{t=q^+(u)} \right| \\ &= O_p \left( \left( \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} |\hat{q}^+(u) - q^+(u)| \right)^2 + \sup_{t \in \mathcal{T}_0} \left( \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{\mathbb{E}}[Y|T = t, R = r_0] \right. \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbb{E}[Y|T = t, R = r_0] \right| \right) \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} |\hat{q}^+(u) - q^+(u)| \\ &= O_p \left( \log n/(nh) + h^4 + \left( \left( \log n/(nh^4) \right)^{1/2} + h \right) \left( (\log n/(nh))^{1/2} + h^2 \right) \right) \\ &= O_p \left( \log n/(nh^{5/2}) + h^3 \right), \end{aligned}$$

where the compact set  $\mathcal{T}_0 \subset \mathcal{T}$ . We then obtain  $\hat{m}^+(u) - m^+(u) - \mathbb{B}[\tilde{m}^+(u)] - h^2 \mathbf{B}_1^+(u) m_t'^+(u) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \Phi_{1i}^+(u) m_t'^+(u) Z_i + \phi_{2i}^+(u) Z_i + \text{Rem}$ .

**Proof of Lemma 4**

(I) From the proof of Lemma 3,  $\|\Delta \hat{q} - \Delta q\|_\infty = O_p((\log n / (nh))^{1/2} + h^2)$ ,  $\|\Delta \hat{m} - \Delta m\|_\infty = O_p((\log n / (nh^2))^{1/2} + h^2)$ , and uniformly over  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u) &= \frac{\Delta \hat{m}(u) - \Delta m(u)}{\Delta q(u)} - \frac{\tau(u)}{\Delta q(u)} (\Delta \hat{q}(u) - \Delta q(u)) \\ &\quad + O_p(\|\Delta \hat{m} - \Delta m\|_\infty \|\Delta \hat{q} - \Delta q\|_\infty). \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 3, we obtain the influence function  $IF_{\tau_i}(u)$  and the bias.

(D) Consider the asymptotic variance  $V_\tau(u)$ . Since  $\mathbb{E}[Z(u - \mathbf{1}(T \leq q_1(R, u))) | R] = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[Z_i \Phi_{1i}^+] = 0$ . Since  $\lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[Y - (m^+(u) + m_r'^+(u)(R - r_0) + m_t'^+(u)(T - q^+(u))) | T = q^+(u), R = r] = 0$ , we can show  $\mathbb{E}[Z_i \phi_{2i}^+] = O(h)$ . Then the sampling variation from  $\hat{m}(u)$  in Step 2 contributes

$$\begin{aligned} &h^2 \mathbb{V}[Z_i \phi_{2i}^+(u)] \\ &= h^2 \mathbb{E}\left[ Z \mathbb{E}\left[ (Y - (m^+(u) + m_r'^+(u)(R - r_0) + m_t'^+(u)(T - q^+(u))))^2 \middle| T, R \right] \right. \\ &\quad \times \left. \left( \frac{2(\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R - r_0)/h_R)}{f_{TR}^+(u)(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} \right)^2 \frac{1}{h_T^2} K^2 \left( \frac{T - q^+(u)}{h_T} \right) \frac{1}{h_R^2} K^2 \left( \frac{R - r_0}{h_R} \right) \right] + o(1) \\ &= \frac{2\lambda_0 C_V \sigma^{2+}(u)}{\sigma_T \sigma_R f_{TR}^+(u)} + o(1), \end{aligned}$$

where  $C_V = 4 \int_0^\infty (\kappa_2 - \kappa_1 v)^2 K^2(v) dv / (\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)^2 = 4(\kappa_2^2 \lambda_0 - 2\kappa_1 \kappa_2 \lambda_1 + \kappa_1^2 \lambda_2) (\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)^{-2}$ . The sampling variation from  $\Delta \hat{q}$  in Step 1 contributes

$$\begin{aligned} & h^2 \mathbb{V} [Z_i \Phi_{1i}^+(u)] \\ &= h^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ Z \mathbb{E} \left[ (u - \mathbf{1}(T \leq q_1(R, u)))^2 \middle| R \right] \left( \frac{2(\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R - r_0)/h)}{f_{TR}^+(u) (\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} \right)^2 \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times \frac{1}{h^2 \sigma_R^2} K^2 \left( \frac{R - r_0}{h \sigma_R} \right) \right] \\ &= h \frac{C_V u(1-u)}{\sigma_R} \frac{f_R^+(r_0)}{f_{TR}^+(u)} + o(h) = O(h). \end{aligned}$$

Thus the sampling variation from the first step estimator  $\Delta \hat{q}$  is of smaller order compared with the sampling variation from the second step estimator  $\hat{m}(u)$ . Therefore we obtain the asymptotic variance  $V_\tau(u)$ .

For asymptotic normality, we apply Lyapounov CLT with third absolute moment. The Lyapounov condition holds,  $(\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{V}[IF_{\tau i}(u)])^{-3/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|IF_{\tau i}(u)|^3] = O((nh^{-2})^{-3/2}) \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|IF_{\tau i}(u)|^3]^{1/2} = O((nh^2)^{-1/2}) = o(1)$ .

### Proof of Lemma 5

(I) The proof is for the estimator using the infeasible trimming, i.e., we use  $\tilde{w}^*(u) \equiv \frac{|\Delta \hat{q}(u)|}{\int_{\mathcal{U}} |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| du}$  for  $\mathcal{U} = \{u \in (0, 1) : |\Delta q(u)| > 0\}$ . Denote this infeasible estimator as  $\tilde{\pi} \equiv \int_{\mathcal{U}} \hat{\tau}(u) \tilde{w}^*(u) du$ . We show  $l \rightarrow \infty$  and  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\hat{\pi}^* - \tilde{\pi} = o_p((nh)^{-1/2})$  at the end of the proof.

Let  $w^*(u) \equiv \frac{|\Delta q(u)|}{\int_{\mathcal{U}} |\Delta q(u)| du} \equiv \frac{A(u)}{B}$  and  $\tilde{w}^*(u) \equiv \frac{|\Delta \hat{q}(u)|}{\int_{\mathcal{U}} |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| du} \equiv \frac{\hat{A}(u)}{\hat{B}}$ . A linear expansion  $\tilde{w}^*(u) - w^*(u) = \frac{\hat{A}(u) - A(u)}{B} - \frac{w^*(u)}{B} (\hat{B} - B) + O_p(\|\hat{A} - A\|_\infty \|\hat{B} - B\|) = O_p(\|\hat{q} - q\|_\infty) = O_p((\log n / (nh))^{1/2} + h^2)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\pi} - \pi^* &= \int_{\mathcal{U}} \hat{\tau}(u) \hat{w}^*(u) du - \int_{\mathcal{U}} \tau(u) w^*(u) du \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u)) w^*(u) du + \int_{\mathcal{U}} \tau(u) (\tilde{w}^*(u) - w^*(u)) du \quad (\text{B.7}) \\ & \quad + \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u)) (\tilde{w}^*(u) - w^*(u)) du, \end{aligned}$$

where the last term is  $O_p((\log n / (nh^2))^{1/2} + h^2)((\log n / (nh))^{1/2} + h^2)$  by Lemma 4.

First consider the estimation error in the estimated weighting function  $\tilde{w}^*(u)$  in

equation (B.7). Let  $\phi_{1i}(u) \equiv \phi_{1i}^+(u) - \phi_{1i}^-(u)$ , where  $\phi_{1i}^+(u) \equiv Z_i \Phi_{1i}^+(u) + h^2 \mathbf{B}_1^+(u)$  and  $\phi_{1i}^-(u) \equiv (1 - Z_i) \Phi_{1i}^-(u) + h^2 \mathbf{B}_1^-(u)$ , so  $\Delta \hat{q}(u) - \Delta q(u) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_{1i}(u) + O_p(h^3) + o_p((nh)^{-1/2})$ . The absolute value function is Hadamard directionally differentiable. By the delta method in Example 2.1 of Fang and Santos (2019),  $\hat{A}(u) - A(u) = |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)| = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_{1i}(u) (\mathbf{1}(\Delta q(u) > 0) - \mathbf{1}(\Delta q(u) < 0)) + O_p(h^3) + o_p((nh)^{-1/2}) = O_p((nh)^{-1/2} + h^2)$ , since  $\mathbf{1}(\Delta q(u) = 0) = 0$  for  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ . It follows that  $\hat{B} - B = \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\hat{A}(u) - A(u)) du + o(1) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{\mathcal{U}} \phi_{1i}(u) (\mathbf{1}(\Delta q(u) > 0) - \mathbf{1}(\Delta q(u) < 0)) du + o_p((nh)^{-1/2}) = O_p((nh)^{-1/2} + h^2)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathcal{U}} \tau(u) (\tilde{w}^*(u) - w^*(u)) du \\
&= \int_{\mathcal{U}} \frac{\tau(u)}{B} (\hat{A}(u) - A(u)) du - \frac{\pi^*}{B} (\hat{B} - B) \\
&\quad + O_p \left( \int_{\mathcal{U}} |\tau(u)| du \|\hat{A} - A\|_{\infty} |\hat{B} - B| \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{\mathcal{U}} \left( \frac{\tau(u)}{B} - \frac{\pi^*}{B} \right) \phi_{1i}(u) (\mathbf{1}(\Delta q(u) > 0) - \mathbf{1}(\Delta q(u) < 0)) du \\
&\quad + O_p \left( \log n / (nh) + h^4 \right) + o_p \left( (nh)^{-1/2} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\tau(u) - \pi^*) \phi_{1i}(u) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} du + O_p \left( \log n / (nh) + h^4 \right) + o_p \left( (nh)^{-1/2} \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{B.8}$$

since  $w^*(u)/\Delta q(u) = (\mathbf{1}(\Delta q(u) > 0) - \mathbf{1}(\Delta q(u) < 0))/B$ .

Next consider the first term in (B.7). Let  $\mathfrak{m}^+(v) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[Y|T = v, R = r]$ ,  $\mathfrak{m}_r^+(v) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \partial \mathbb{E}[Y|T = v, R = r] / \partial r$ , and  $\mathfrak{m}_t^+(v) \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \partial \mathbb{E}[Y|T = t, R = r] / \partial t|_{T=v}$ . By change of variable  $v = q^+(u)$ ,  $dv = du \partial q^+(u) / \partial u = du f_R(r_0) / f_{TR}^+(u)$ . Then  $\phi_{2i}^+(u)$  defined in Lemma 3 becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi_{2i}^+(F_{T_1|R}(v, r_0)) &= (Y_i - (\mathfrak{m}^+(v) + \mathfrak{m}_r^+(v) (R_i - r_0) + \mathfrak{m}_t^+(v) (T_i - v))) \\
&\quad \times \frac{2(\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R_i - r_0)/h_R)}{f_{TR}^+(F_{T_1|R}(v, r_0)) (\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} \frac{1}{h_T} K \left( \frac{T_i - v}{h_T} \right) K_{h_R}(R_i - r_0).
\end{aligned}$$



Let  $\mathcal{U}^+ \equiv [\underline{u}, \bar{u}] \subseteq \mathcal{U}$  such that  $\Delta q(u) > 0$  for all  $u \in \mathcal{U}^+$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \phi_{2i}^+(u) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} du \\
&= \int_{q^+(u)}^{q^+(\bar{u})} (Y_i - (m^+(v) + m_r^+(v)(R_i - r_0) + m_t^+(v)(T_i - v))) \\
&\quad \times \frac{2(\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R_i - r_0)/h_R)}{f_{TR}^+(F_{T_1|R}(v, r_0))(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} K_{h_T}(T_i - v) K_{h_R}(R_i - r_0) \frac{f_{TR}^+(F_{T_1|R}(v, r_0))}{f_R(r_0)B} dv \\
&= \int_{\frac{q^+(u)-T_i}{h_T}}^{\frac{q^+(\bar{u})-T_i}{h_T}} (Y_i - (m^+(T_i + h_T s) + m_r^+(T_i + h_T s)(R_i - r_0) \\
&\quad - m_t^+(T_i + h_T s)(h_T s))) K(s) ds \frac{2(\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R_i - r_0)/h_R)}{f_R(r_0)B(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} K_{h_R}(R_i - r_0) \\
&= \Phi_{21i}^+ + O_p(h).
\end{aligned}$$

The last equality follows by letting  $U_{zi} \equiv F_{T_z|R}(T_{zi}, r_0) \sim Unif(0, 1)$  for  $z \in \{0, 1\}$ . Thus  $T_{1i} = q^+(U_{1i})$  and  $m^+(T_{1i}) = m^+(U_{1i})$ . The same argument applies to  $\mathcal{U}^-$ , where  $\Delta q(u) < 0$  for  $u \in \mathcal{U}^-$ . Then together with the influence function derived in Lemma 4, the first term in equation (B.7) is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u)) w^*(u) du \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Z_i \Phi_{21i}^+ - (1 - Z_i) \Phi_{21i}^-) \mathbf{1}(U_i \in \mathcal{U}) + \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\phi_{1i}^+ (m_t^+(u) - \tau(u)) \\
&\quad - \phi_{1i}^- (m_t^-(u) - \tau(u)) + h^2 \mathbf{B}_2(u)) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} du + Rem.
\end{aligned}$$

Together with (B.8), we obtain the asymptotic linear representation for  $\hat{\pi}^*$ .

**(D)** The asymptotic variance  $V_\pi$  is derived using the influence function in Lemma 5(I),

$$\begin{aligned}
V_\pi &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h \mathbb{V} \left[ (Z_i \Phi_{21i}^+ - (1 - Z_i) \Phi_{21i}^-) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \int_{\mathcal{U}} (Z_i \Phi_{1i}^+(u) \Lambda^+(u) - (1 - Z_i) \Phi_{1i}^-(u) \Lambda^-(u)) du \right].
\end{aligned}$$

$\lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \mathbb{E}[(Y - (m^+(U) + m_r^+(U)(R - r_0)))w^*(U)/\Delta q(U)|U = F_{T_1|R}(T_1, r_0), R = r] = 0$ , so we can show  $\mathbb{E}[Z_i \Phi_{21i}^+] = O(h)$  and  $\mathbb{E}[Z_i \Phi_{21i}^+ \times \int_{\mathcal{U}} Z_i \Phi_{1i}^+(u) \Lambda^+(u) du] =$

$O(h)$ . Then for  $V_\pi^q$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h \mathbb{V} \left[ \int_{\mathcal{U}} Z_i \Phi_{1i}^+(u) \Lambda^+(u) du \right] \\
&= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h \int_{r_0}^{\infty} \int_{\mathcal{U}} \int_{\mathcal{U}} \mathbb{E} [(u - \mathbf{1}(T \leq q^+(u))) (v - \mathbf{1}(T \leq q^+(v))) | R] \\
&\quad \times \frac{\Lambda^+(u)}{f_{TR}^+(u)} du \frac{\Lambda^+(v)}{f_{TR}^+(v)} dv \left( \frac{2(\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R - r_0)/h)}{(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} \frac{1}{h\sigma_R} K \left( \frac{R - r_0}{h\sigma_R} \right) \right)^2 f_R(R) dR.
\end{aligned}$$

In the following derivation for  $V_\pi^m$ , we sometimes suppress the notation  $+/-$  for simplicity. Let  $\mathcal{T} = \underline{t}, \bar{t}$ ,  $\mathcal{U}^+ = \underline{u}, \bar{u}$ ,  $\bar{q} \equiv q^+(\bar{u})$ ,  $\underline{q} \equiv q^+(\underline{u})$ , and  $\underline{Q} \equiv \bar{q} - \underline{q}$ . The second equality below is by change of variable  $s = (T - q(u))/h_T$ . The fourth equality below is by change of variable  $a = (q(u) - q(v))/h_T$ , so  $du = f_{T|R}^+(q(v) +$

$ah_T)h_T da.$

$$\begin{aligned}
& h\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \phi_{2i}^+(u) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} du\right)^2\right] \\
&= \frac{C_V}{f_R(r_0)\sigma_R B^2} \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \int_T \mathbb{E}[(Y - m^+(q(u)) - m_t^+(q(u))(T - q(u)))(Y - m^+(q(v)) \\
&\quad - m_t^+(q(v))(T - q(v))) | T, R = r_0^+] K_{h_T}(T - q(u)) K_{h_T}(T - q(v)) f_{T|R}(T, r_0^+) dT \\
&\quad \times \frac{1}{f_{T|R}^+(u) f_{T|R}^+(v)} dudv \\
&= \frac{C_V}{f_R(r_0)\sigma_R B^2} \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \int_{\frac{t-q(u)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{t}-q(u)}{h_T}} \mathbb{E}[(Y - m^+(q(u)) - m_t^+(q(u))sh_T)(Y - m^+(q(v)) \\
&\quad - m_t^+(q(v))(q(u) - q(v) + sh_T)) | T = q(u) + sh_T, R = r_0^+] K(s) \\
&\quad \times \frac{1}{h_T} K\left(\frac{q(u) - q(v)}{h_T} + s\right) f_{T|R}(q(u) + sh_T, r_0^+) ds \frac{dudv}{f_{T|R}^+(u) f_{T|R}^+(v)} \\
&= \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \int_{\frac{t-q(u)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{t}-q(u)}{h_T}} \mathbb{E}[(Y - m^+(q(u)))(Y - m^+(q(v)) \\
&\quad - m_t^+(q(v))(q(u) - q(v)) | T = q(u), R = r_0^+] K(s) \frac{1}{h_T} K\left(\frac{q(u) - q(v)}{h_T} + s\right) \\
&\quad \times f_{T|R}(q(u), r_0^+) ds \frac{dudv}{f_{T|R}^+(u) f_{T|R}^+(v)} \frac{C_V}{f_R(r_0)\sigma_R B^2} + O(h) \\
&= \frac{C_V}{f_R(r_0)\sigma_R B^2} \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \int_{\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}} \int_{\frac{t-q(v)}{h_T}-a}^{\frac{\bar{t}-q(v)}{h_T}-a} \mathbb{E}[(Y - m^+(q(v) + ah_T))(Y - m^+(q(v)) \\
&\quad - m_t^+(q(v))ah_T) | T = q(v) + ah_T, R = r_0^+] K(s) K(a + s) ds da dv + O(h) \\
&= \frac{C_V}{f_R(r_0)\sigma_R B^2} \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \int_{\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}} \int_{\frac{t-q(v)}{h_T}-a}^{\frac{\bar{t}-q(v)}{h_T}-a} K(s) K(a + s) ds da \sigma^{2+}(v) dv + O(h) \\
&= \frac{C_V}{f_R(r_0)\sigma_R B^2} \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \int_{\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}} \int_{\frac{t-q(v)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{t}-q(v)}{h_T}} K(s - a) K(s) ds da \sigma^{2+}(v) dv + O(h), \quad (\text{B.9})
\end{aligned}$$

where the crude bound  $O(h)$  comes from the integration over the sub-support  $\mathcal{U}^+$ . Let

$G(u) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^u K(s)ds$ . By integration by parts and change of variable,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}} \int_{\frac{t-q(v)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{t}-q(v)}{h_T}} K(s-a)K(s) ds da \\
&= \int_{\frac{t-q(v)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{t}-q(v)}{h_T}} \int_{\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T}-s}^{\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}-s} K(a)da K(s) ds \\
&= \int_{\frac{t-q(v)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{t}-q(v)}{h_T}} \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}-s\right) - G\left(\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T}-s\right) \right) K(s) ds \\
&= \int_{\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-t}{h_T}} G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}-s\right) K(s)ds - \int_{\frac{q-i}{h_T}}^{\frac{q-t}{h_T}} G\left(\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T}-s\right) K(s) ds \\
&\quad + G\left(\frac{\bar{t}-q(v)}{h_T}\right) \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{q-\bar{t}}{h_T}\right) \right) \\
&\quad - G\left(\frac{t-q(v)}{h_T}\right) \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-t}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{q-t}{h_T}\right) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Note in the first two terms in the above equation, the range of integration does not depend on  $v$ . So we can change the order of integrations in (B.9).

Let  $\sigma^{2+}(v) \equiv \mathbb{E}[(Y - m^+(T))^2 | T = q(v), R = r_0^+]$  and  $V(v) \equiv \int_0^v \sigma^{2+}(u)du$ . We compute

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \sigma^{2+}(v)G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}-s\right) dv \\
&= V(v)G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}-s\right) \Big|_{\underline{u}}^{\bar{u}} + \int_{\underline{u}}^{\bar{u}} V(v)K\left(\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}-s\right) \frac{q'(v)}{h_T} dv \\
&= V(\bar{u})G(-s) - V(\underline{u})G(Q/h_T - s) + \int_{-Q/h_T}^0 V(F_{T|R}(\bar{q} + ah_T, r_0^+))K(s+a)da \\
&= V(\bar{u})G(-s) - V(\underline{u})G(Q/h_T - s) + V(\bar{u})(G(s) - G(-Q/h_T + s)) + O(h) \\
&= (V(\bar{u}) - V(\underline{u}))G(Q/h_T - s) + O(h),
\end{aligned}$$

where the second equality is by change of variable  $a = (q(v) - \bar{q})/h_T$ . Similarly

$\int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \sigma^{2+}(v) G\left(\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T} - s\right) dv = (V(\bar{u}) - V(\underline{u}))G(-Q/h_T - s) + O(h)$ . And

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \sigma^{2+}(v) G\left(\frac{\bar{t} - q(v)}{h_T}\right) dv \\
&= V(v)G\left(\frac{\bar{t} - q(v)}{h_T}\right) \Big|_{\underline{u}}^{\bar{u}} + \int_{\underline{u}}^{\bar{u}} V(v)K\left(\frac{\bar{t} - q(v)}{h_T}\right) \frac{q'(v)}{h_T} dv \\
&= V(\bar{u})G\left(\frac{\bar{t} - \bar{q}}{h_T}\right) - V(\underline{u})G\left(\frac{\bar{t} - \underline{q}}{h_T}\right) + \int_{\frac{\underline{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}} V(F_{T|R}(\bar{t} + ah_T, r_0^+))K(a)da \\
&= V(\bar{u})G\left(\frac{\bar{t} - \bar{q}}{h_T}\right) - V(\underline{u})G\left(\frac{\bar{t} - \underline{q}}{h_T}\right) + V(1) \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q} - \bar{t}}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{\underline{q} - \bar{t}}{h_T}\right) \right) + O(h),
\end{aligned}$$

where the second equality is by change of variable  $a = (q(v) - \bar{t})/h_T$ . Similarly

$\int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \sigma^{2+}(v) G\left(\frac{t-q(v)}{h_T}\right) dv = V(\bar{u})G\left(\frac{t-\bar{q}}{h_T}\right) - V(\underline{u})G\left(\frac{t-\underline{q}}{h_T}\right) + O(h)$ , because  $V(F_{T|R}(t, r_0^+)) = V(0) = 0$ .

The main component in (B.9) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \int_{\frac{\underline{q}-q(v)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}} \int_{\frac{\underline{t}-q(v)}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{t}-q(v)}{h_T}} K(s-a)K(s) ds da \sigma^{2+}(v) dv \\
&= \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \left\{ \int_{\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T}} G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T} - s\right) K(s) ds - \int_{\frac{\underline{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T}} G\left(\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T} - s\right) K(s) ds \right. \\
&\quad + G\left(\frac{\bar{t}-q(v)}{h_T}\right) \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{q-\bar{t}}{h_T}\right) \right) \\
&\quad \left. - G\left(\frac{\underline{t}-q(v)}{h_T}\right) \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-\underline{t}}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{q-\underline{t}}{h_T}\right) \right) \right\} \sigma^{2+}(v) dv \\
&= \int_{\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-\underline{t}}{h_T}} \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-q(v)}{h_T} - s\right) \sigma^{2+}(v) dv K(s) ds \\
&\quad - \int_{\frac{\underline{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{q-\underline{t}}{h_T}} \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} G\left(\frac{q-q(v)}{h_T} - s\right) \sigma^{2+}(v) dv K(s) ds \\
&\quad + \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} G\left(\frac{\bar{t}-q(v)}{h_T}\right) \sigma^{2+}(v) dv \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{q-\bar{t}}{h_T}\right) \right) \\
&\quad - \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} G\left(\frac{\underline{t}-q(v)}{h_T}\right) \sigma^{2+}(v) dv \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-\underline{t}}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{q-\underline{t}}{h_T}\right) \right) \\
&= \int_{\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-\underline{t}}{h_T}} (\mathbb{V}(\bar{u}) - \mathbb{V}(\underline{u})) G\left(\frac{Q}{h_T} - s\right) K(s) ds - \int_{\frac{\underline{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{q-\underline{t}}{h_T}} (\mathbb{V}(\bar{u}) - \mathbb{V}(\underline{u})) G\left(-\frac{Q}{h_T} - s\right) K(s) ds \\
&\quad + \left\{ \mathbb{V}(\bar{u}) G\left(\frac{\bar{t}-\bar{q}}{h_T}\right) - \mathbb{V}(\underline{u}) G\left(\frac{\bar{t}-q}{h_T}\right) \right\} \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{q-\bar{t}}{h_T}\right) \right) \\
&\quad + \mathbb{V}(1) \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{q-\bar{t}}{h_T}\right) \right)^2 \\
&\quad - \left\{ \mathbb{V}(\bar{u}) G\left(\frac{\underline{t}-\bar{q}}{h_T}\right) - \mathbb{V}(\underline{u}) G\left(\frac{\underline{t}-q}{h_T}\right) \right\} \left( G\left(\frac{\bar{q}-\underline{t}}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{q-\underline{t}}{h_T}\right) \right) + o(h)
\end{aligned} \tag{B.10}$$

whose limit is  $\mathbb{V}(\bar{u}) - \mathbb{V}(\underline{u}) = \int_{\mathcal{U}^+} \sigma^{2+}(u) du$  as  $h_T \rightarrow 0$ . Then we obtain  $\mathbb{V}_\pi^m$  in (B.5).

Below we discuss that in finite samples the bandwidth  $h_T$  might not be small relative to  $\bar{q} - q$ ,  $\bar{t} - \bar{q}$ , and  $q - \underline{t}$ . We suggest an adjustment term to estimate  $\mathbb{V}_\pi^m$  in Section C. Let the support of the kernel  $K$  be  $[-\bar{k}, \bar{k}]$ . Let  $\underline{h} \equiv Q/(2\bar{k})$ . For

$h_T > \underline{h}$ ,  $s \in -\bar{k}, \bar{k} - Q/h_T$ , and  $\tilde{k} \in Q/h_T + s, \bar{k}$ ,  $|G(Q/h_T + s) - G(\bar{k})| \leq |K(\tilde{k})| |\bar{k} - Q/h_T - s| = O(Qh_T/h^2) = O(h_T/Q)$ . So when  $h_T > Q/(2\bar{k})$ , equation (B.10) becomes  $\int_{\underline{u}}^{\bar{u}} \sigma^2(u) du + O(h_T/Q)$ . In finite samples,  $O(h_T/Q)$  might not be ignorable. Thus in the first two terms in (B.10),

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-\underline{t}}{h_T}} G\left(\frac{Q}{h_T} - s\right) K(s) ds - \int_{\frac{q-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{q-\underline{t}}{h_T}} G\left(-\frac{Q}{h_T} - s\right) K(s) ds \\ &= G\left(\frac{\bar{t} - \bar{q}}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{\underline{t} - \bar{q}}{h_T}\right) - \int_{\frac{\bar{q}-\bar{t}}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}-\underline{t}}{h_T}} G\left(s - \frac{Q}{h_T}\right) K(s) ds - \int_{\frac{\underline{t}-q}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{t}-q}{h_T}} G\left(s - \frac{Q}{h_T}\right) K(s) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.11})$$

The last three terms in (B.10) are of smaller order  $o(h_T / \min\{\bar{t} - \bar{q}, q - \underline{t}\})$ .

To show asymptotic normality, we apply Lyapounov CLT with third absolute moment. By the bandwidth conditions, the Lyapounov condition  $(\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{V}[IF_{\pi i}])^{-3/2} \times \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|IF_{\pi i}|^3] = O((nh^{-1})^{-3/2}) \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|IF_{\pi i}|^3] = O((nh)^{-1/2}) = o(1)$  holds.

Finally, we argue that as the number of grid points  $l$  arbitrarily goes to infinity, we can work with  $\tilde{\pi}$  in the above proof by showing that  $\hat{\pi}^* - \tilde{\pi} = o_p((nh)^{-1/2})$ . Since  $\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{U}^{(l)} = (0, 1)$ ,  $\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{\mathcal{U}} = \hat{\mathcal{U}} \equiv \{u \in (0, 1) \mid |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| > \epsilon_n\}$  for any  $n$ . It follows that  $\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} l^{-1} \sum_{u_j \in \tilde{\mathcal{U}}} |\Delta \hat{q}(u_j)| = \int_{\hat{\mathcal{U}}} |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| du$  and  $\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \hat{\pi}^* = \int_{\hat{\mathcal{U}}} \hat{\tau}(u) \tilde{w}^*(u) du$  for any  $n$ .

Next we argue that using the estimated trimming  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}$  is asymptotically equivalent to using the unknown  $\mathcal{U}$ . By Lemma 6,  $\int_{\hat{\mathcal{U}}} |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| du - \int_{\mathcal{U}} |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| du = \int_0^1 |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| (\hat{\chi}(u) - \chi(u)) du = o_p((nh)^{-1/2})$ . The smoothness condition in Assumption 5.2 implies Lipschitz continuity  $\tau(u) w^*(u) \times \int_{\mathcal{U}} |\Delta q(u)| du = O(|\Delta q(u)|)$ . Thus  $|\int_{\hat{\mathcal{U}}} \hat{\tau}(u) \tilde{w}^*(u) du - \int_{\mathcal{U}} \hat{\tau}(u) \tilde{w}^*(u) du| = O_p(\int_0^1 |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| (\hat{\chi}(u) - \chi(u)) du) = o_p((nh)^{-1/2})$  by Lemma 6. Therefore as  $l \rightarrow \infty$  and  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\hat{\pi}^* - \tilde{\pi} = o_p((nh)^{-1/2})$ .

**Proof of Lemma 6** Rewrite

$$\begin{aligned} & \hat{\chi}(u) - \chi(u) \\ &= \mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| > \epsilon_n, |\Delta q(u)| \leq 0) - \mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| \leq \epsilon_n, |\Delta q(u)| > 0) \\ &= \mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| > \epsilon_n, |\Delta q(u)| \leq 0) - \mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| \leq \epsilon_n < 2\epsilon_n < |\Delta q(u)|) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.12})$$

$$- \mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| \leq \epsilon_n, 0 < |\Delta q(u)| \leq 2\epsilon_n). \quad (\text{B.13})$$

By the condition  $\epsilon_n^{-1} \sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left| |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)| \right| = o_p(1)$ , the first term in (B.12)  $\mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| > \epsilon_n, |\Delta q(u)| \leq 0) \leq \mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)| > \epsilon_n) = 0$  with probability

approaching one (w.p.a.1) for any  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ . Thus  $(\sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} ||\Delta \hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)||)^{-1} \times \int_0^1 |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| \mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| > \epsilon_n, |\Delta q(u)| \leq 0) du = 0$  w.p.a.1. It then implies that  $\int_0^1 |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| \mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| > \epsilon_n, |\Delta q(u)| \leq 0) du = o_p(\sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} ||\Delta \hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)||)$ . The same argument applies to the second term in (B.12) and implies that  $\int_0^1 |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| \mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| \leq \epsilon_n < 2\epsilon_n < |\Delta q(u)|) du = o_p(\sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} ||\Delta \hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)||)$ .

For the term in (B.13), note that  $\int_0^1 \mathbf{1}(0 < |\Delta q(u)| \leq 2\epsilon_n) du = F(2\epsilon_n)$  denotes the CDF of  $|\Delta q(U)|$  with  $U \sim Unif(0, 1)$ . By the smoothness Assumption 5.1, we can apply a Taylor series expansion  $F(2\epsilon_n) = F'(0)2\epsilon_n + o(\epsilon_n) = O(\epsilon_n)$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^1 |\Delta \hat{q}(u)| \mathbf{1}(|\Delta \hat{q}(u)| \leq \epsilon_n, 0 < |\Delta q(u)| \leq 2\epsilon_n) du \\ & \leq \epsilon_n \int_0^1 \mathbf{1}(0 < |\Delta q(u)| \leq 2\epsilon_n) du = O(\epsilon_n^2) = o\left(\sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} ||\Delta \hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)||\right) \end{aligned}$$

by the condition  $\epsilon_n^2 (\sup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} ||\Delta \hat{q}(u)| - |\Delta q(u)||)^{-1} = o_p(1)$ . The result is then implied.

## B.4 Proofs of Theorem 7, Theorem 3, and Theorem 5 for $\tau(u)$

**Proof of Theorem 7** Lemma 4 implies Theorem 7 by letting the bias be of smaller order, i.e.,  $\sqrt{nh^2}h^2\mathbf{B}_\tau(u) = o(1)$ .

**Proof of Theorem 3** The following derives the terms  $\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{B}_\tau}(u)$  and  $\mathbf{C}_\tau(u; \rho)$  in the asymptotic variance of  $\sqrt{nh^2}\hat{\tau}^{bc}(u)$ , which are due to bias-correction. They are defined as follows.

$$\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{B}_\tau}(u) \equiv \mathbf{V}_\tau(u) \frac{4\lambda_0}{C_V} (C_{\mathbf{B}e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top S_2^{-1} e_1 e_1^\top S_2^{-1} (C_{\mathbf{B}e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6) \text{ and} \quad (\text{B.14})$$

$$\mathbf{C}_\tau(u; \rho) \equiv -\mathbf{V}_\tau(u) \frac{8(C_{\mathbf{B}e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top S_2^{-1} e_1}{\lambda_0 C_V (\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} C_{\mathbf{C}}. \quad (\text{B.15})$$

For notational simplicity, we suppress the notation for  $u$  in the functions of  $u$ . Let  $\widehat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau - \mathbf{B}_\tau \equiv \widehat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau^+ - \mathbf{B}_\tau^+ - (\widehat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau^- - \mathbf{B}_\tau^-)$ . We linearize the estimator and focus on the part above the threshold:  $\widehat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau^+ - \mathbf{B}_\tau^+ = \{\widehat{\mathbf{B}}_2^+ - \mathbf{B}_2^+ - \mathbf{B}_1^+(\hat{\tau} - \tau) + (\widehat{\mathbf{B}}_1^+ - \mathbf{B}_1^+)(\hat{m}_\tau^{'+} - \tau)\} / \Delta q + \text{Rem}_\tau$ . Corollary 1 of Kong, Linton, and Xia (2010) for the local quadratic estimator implies the asymptotic linear representation for  $\widehat{\mathbf{B}}_2^+ - \mathbf{B}_2^+$  in (B.16) below and the convergence rates of the derivatives in  $\widehat{\mathbf{B}}_2^+$ :  $\|\hat{m}_\tau^{''+} - m_\tau^{''+}\|_\infty = O_p((\log n / (nb^6))^{1/2} + b)$ ,  $\|\hat{m}_\tau^{'+} - m_\tau^{'+}\|_\infty = O_p((\log n / (nb^6))^{1/2} + b)$ , and  $\|\hat{m}_\tau^+ - m_\tau^+\|_\infty = O_p((\log n / (nb^6))^{1/2} + b)$ .



$m_t'^+ \|_\infty = O_p((\log n/(nb^4))^{1/2} + b^2)$ . Lemma 3 in Qu and Yoon (2018) suggests  $\|\hat{q}_r''^+ - q_r''^+\|_\infty = O_p((\log n/(nb^5))^{1/2} + b)$ . Thus it can be shown that the term associated with  $\hat{q}_r''^+$  in  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_1^+$  and the remainder terms  $Rem_\tau$  are of smaller order.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau^+ - \mathbf{B}_\tau^+ \\
&= \frac{1}{\Delta q} \left\{ b^{-2} (C_{\mathbf{B}} e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \beta_{n2}^{*+} + \mathbb{B} [\hat{\mathbf{B}}_2^+] \right\} + O_p \left( \frac{1}{b^2} \left( \frac{\log n}{nb^2} \right)^{3/4} \right) \quad (\text{B.16}) \\
&\quad - \frac{\mathbf{B}_1^+}{\Delta q} (\hat{\tau} - \tau) + \frac{C_{\mathbf{B}} \sigma_R^2}{\Delta q} (\hat{q}_r''^+ - q_r''^+) (m_t'^+ - \tau) + Rem_\tau \\
&= O_p \left( \left( \log n/(nb^6) \right)^{1/2} + b + \left( \log n/(nh^2) \right)^{1/2} + h^2 \right),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbb{B} [\hat{\mathbf{B}}_2^+] = O(b)$  and

$$\beta_{n2}^{*+}(u) \equiv \frac{W_2 S_2^{-1} B_n^{-1}}{nf_{TR}^+(u)} \sum_{i=1}^n K_b(\underline{X}_i - \underline{x}) \left( Y_i - \mu(\underline{X}_i - \underline{x})^\top W_2^{-1} \beta_2(\underline{x}) \right) \mu(\underline{X}_i - \underline{x}) Z_i,$$

where  $K_b(\underline{X}_i - \underline{x}) \equiv (b^2 \sigma_R \sigma_T)^{-1} K \left( \frac{T_i - q^+(u)}{b \sigma_T} \right) K \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{b \sigma_R} \right)$ ,  $W_2 \equiv \text{diag}\{1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 2\}$ ,

$B_n = \text{diag}\{1, b, b, b^2, b^2, b^2\}$ ,  $\underline{X}_i \equiv (T_i/\sigma_T, R_i/\sigma_R)^\top$ ,  $\underline{x} \equiv (q^+(u)/\sigma_T, r_0/\sigma_R)^\top$ ,

$\mu(\underline{X}) \equiv \left( 1, R/\sigma_R, T/\sigma_T, R^2/\sigma_R^2, RT/(\sigma_R \sigma_T), T^2/\sigma_T^2 \right)^\top$ , and

$\beta_2(\underline{x}) \equiv \left( m^+, m_r'^+ \sigma_R, m_t'^+ \sigma_T, m_r''^+ \sigma_R^2, \lim_{r \rightarrow r_0^+} \frac{\partial^2 m(t,r)}{\partial r \partial t} \Big|_{t=q^+(u)} \sigma_R \sigma_T, m_t''^+ \sigma_T^2 \right)^\top \cdot \beta_{n2}^{*-}$

is defined as  $\beta_{n2}^{*+}$  by replacing  $Z_i$  with  $1 - Z_i$  and  $+$  with  $-$ .

Together with Lemma 4, the asymptotic linear representation for  $\hat{\tau}^{bc}$  is

$$\begin{aligned}
& \hat{\tau}^{bc} - \tau \\
&= \hat{\tau} - \tau - h^2 \left( \hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau - \mathbf{B}_\tau \right) - h^2 \mathbf{B}_\tau \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n IF_{\tau^{bc}i} - h^2 \left( \frac{\mathbb{B}[\hat{\mathbf{B}}_2^+ - \hat{\mathbf{B}}_2^-]}{\Delta q} - \frac{\mathbf{B}_1^+ - \mathbf{B}_1^-}{\Delta q} (\hat{\tau} - \tau) \right) \\
&\quad + \left( \hat{q}_r^{''+} - q_r^{''+} \right) \frac{C_B \sigma_R^2}{\Delta q} (m_i^{'+} - \tau) - \left( \hat{q}_r^{''-} - q_r^{''-} \right) \frac{C_B \sigma_R^2}{\Delta q} (m_i'^{-} - \tau) \\
&\quad + O_p \left( \frac{h^2}{b^2} \left( \frac{\log n}{nb^2} \right)^{3/4} \right) + Rem \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n IF_{\tau^{bc}i} + O_p \left( h^2 b + h^3 + \frac{h^2 \sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{nb^5}} + \frac{h}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{\log n}{\sqrt{n^2 h^5}} + (1 + \rho^2) \left( \frac{\log n}{nb^2} \right)^{3/4} \right),
\end{aligned}$$

where the influence function

$$\begin{aligned}
IF_{\tau^{bc}i} \equiv & \frac{1}{\Delta q} \left\{ Z_i \left( \phi_{2i}^+ + \Phi_{1i}^+ (m_i^{'+} - \tau) \right) - \frac{h^2}{b^2} (C_B e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \beta_{n2}^{*+} \right. \\
& \left. - (1 - Z_i) \left( \phi_{2i}^- + \Phi_{1i}^- (m_i'^{-} - \tau) \right) + \frac{h^2}{b^2} (C_B e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \beta_{n2}^{*-} \right\}. \quad (\text{B.17})
\end{aligned}$$

Next we derive the asymptotic variance  $\mathbb{V}[\beta_{n2}^{*+}]$  to be

$$\frac{W_2 S_2^{-1} B_n^{-1}}{n f_{TR}^{+2}} \mathbb{V} \left[ K_b(\underline{X} - \underline{x}) \left( Y_i - \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x})^\top W_2^{-1} \beta_2(\underline{x}) \right) \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x}) Z_i \right] B_n^{-1} S_2^{-1} W_2,$$

where the second moment term

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{V} \left[ K_b(\underline{X} - \underline{x}) \left( Y - \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x})^\top W_2^{-1} \beta_2(\underline{x}) \right) \mu(\underline{X}_i - \underline{x}) Z_i \right] \\
&= \int_{\mathcal{T}} \int_{r_0}^{\infty} K_b^2(\underline{X} - \underline{x}) \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( Y - \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x})^\top W_2^{-1} \beta_2(\underline{x}) \right)^2 \middle| R, T \right] \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x}) \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x})^\top \\
&\quad \times f_{TR}(T, R) dT dR \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} K^2(v) K^2(s) \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( Y - \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x})^\top W_2^{-1} \beta_2(\underline{x}) \right)^2 \middle| T = q^+ + bs, R = r_0 + bv \right] \\
&\quad \times \mu((bs, bv)^\top) \mu((bs, bv)^\top)^\top f_{TR}(q^+ + bs, r_0 + bv) dv ds \frac{1}{b^2 \sigma_T \sigma_R} \\
&= \frac{2\lambda_0^2}{b^2 \sigma_T \sigma_R} \mathbb{V}[Y | T = q^+, R = r_0] f_{TR}(q^+, r_0) e_1 e_1^\top + O(b^{-1}).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\mathbb{V}[\beta_{n2}^{*+}] = \frac{2\lambda_0^2 \sigma^{2+}}{nb^2 \sigma_T \sigma_R f_{TR}^+} W_2 S_2^{-1} e_1 e_1^\top S_2^{-1} W_2 + O((nb)^{-1}).$$

Thus the variance of  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau$  contributes to the asymptotic variance of  $\hat{\tau}^{bc}$  by a term of order  $\rho^4 (nb^2)^{-1} = (nh^2 \rho^{-6})^{-1}$ . Since  $(C_{B}e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top W_2 = 2(C_{B}e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top$ , we obtain  $\mathbb{V}_{\mathbf{B}_\tau}(u)$  defined in (B.14) by showing that the sample above the threshold contributes

$$\frac{\sigma^{2+}}{f_{TR}^+ \sigma_T \sigma_R (\Delta q)^2} 8\lambda_0^2 (C_{B}e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top S_2^{-1} e_1 e_1^\top S_2^{-1} (C_{B}e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6).$$

For the covariance term,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{C}[Z_i \phi_{2i}^+, \beta_{n2}^{*+}] \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \frac{2W_2 S_2^{-1} B_n^{-1}}{f_{TR}^{+2} (\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} \mathbb{E} \left[ K_h(T - q^+, R - r_0) K_b(T - q^+, R - r_0) \right. \\
&\quad \times \left( Y - (m^+ + m_r^+(R - r_0) + m_t^+(T - q^+)) \right) \left( Y - \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x})^\top W_2^{-1} \beta_2(\underline{x}) \right) \\
&\quad \left. \times (\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R - r_0)/h) \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x}) Z \right],
\end{aligned}$$

where the expectation term is

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_T \int_{r_0}^{\infty} K_h(T - q^+, R - r_0) K_b(T - q^+, R - r_0) (\kappa_2 - \kappa_1(R - r_0)/h) \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x}) \\
& \times \mathbb{E} \left[ (Y - (m^+ + m_r'^+(R - r_0) + m_t'^+(T - q^+))) \right. \\
& \times \left. (Y - \mu(\underline{X} - \underline{x})^\top W_2^{-1} \beta_2(\underline{x})) \middle| T, R \right] f_{TR}(T, R) dRdT \\
& = \frac{2\sigma^{2+}}{h^2 \sigma_T \sigma_R} \left( \kappa_2 \left( \int_0^{\infty} K(v/\rho) K(v) dv \right)^2 \right. \\
& \quad \left. - \frac{\kappa_1}{\rho} \int_0^{\infty} v K(v/\rho) K(v) dv \int_0^{\infty} K(v/\rho) K(v) dv \right) e_1 f_{TR}^+ + O(bh^{-2}).
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $B_n^{-1} e_1 = e_1$ , the covariance

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{C} \left[ Z_i \phi_{2i}^+, -\frac{h^2}{b^2} (C_B e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \beta_{n2}^{*+} \right] \frac{1}{(\Delta q)^2} \\
& = - (C_B e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \frac{1}{(\Delta q)^2} \rho^2 \mathbb{C} [Z_i \phi_{2i}^+, \beta_{n2}^{*+}] \\
& = - \frac{1}{nb^2 \sigma_T \sigma_R f_{TR}^+} \frac{\sigma^{2+} 8 (C_B e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top S_2^{-1} e_1}{(\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2) (\Delta q)^2} \left\{ \kappa_2 \left( \int_0^{\infty} K(v/\rho) K(v) dv \right)^2 \right. \\
& \quad \left. - \frac{\kappa_1}{\rho} \int_0^{\infty} v K(v/\rho) K(v) dv \int_0^{\infty} K(v/\rho) K(v) dv \right\} + O((nb)^{-1}).
\end{aligned}$$

A similar derivation yields

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{C} \left[ Z_i \Phi_{1i}^+ (m_t'^+ - \tau), -\frac{h^2}{b^2} (C_B e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \beta_{n2}^{*+} \right] \frac{1}{(\Delta q)^2} \\
& = - (C_B e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \frac{(m_t'^+ - \tau)}{(\Delta q)^2} \rho^2 \mathbb{C} [Z_i \Phi_{1i}^+, \beta_{n2}^{*+}] = o((nb^2)^{-1}).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus the covariance between the  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau$  and  $\hat{\tau}$  contributes to the asymptotic variance of  $\hat{\tau}^{bc}$  by a term of order  $(nb^2 \rho)^{-1} = (nh^2 \rho^{-1})^{-1}$ . We obtain  $\mathbf{C}_\tau(u; \rho)$  defined in (B.15)

by showing that the sample above the threshold contributes

$$-\frac{\sigma^{2+} 16 (C_{\mathbf{B}}e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top S_2^{-1} e_1}{f_{TR}^+ \sigma_T \sigma_R (\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2) (\Delta q)^2} \int_0^\infty K(v/\rho) K(v) dv \\ \times \left( \rho \kappa_2 \int_0^\infty K(v/\rho) K(v) dv - \kappa_1 \int_0^\infty v K(v/\rho) K(v) dv \right).$$

Therefore  $\mathbb{V}_\tau^{bc} = O((nh^2)^{-1} + h^4(nb^6)^{-1})$  and  $\mathbb{B}[\hat{\tau}^{bc}] = -h^2 \mathbb{B}[\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau] + O(h^3) = O(h^3 + h^2b)$  is of smaller order by the conditions  $n \min\{h^6, b^6\} \max\{h^2, b^2\} \rightarrow 0$ . We have the asymptotic linear representation in (B.17),  $\hat{\tau}^{bc} - \tau = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n IF_{\tau^{bc}i} + o_p((nh^2)^{-1/2} + h^2(nb^6)^{-1/2})$ .

For asymptotic normality, we apply Lyapounov CLT with third absolute moment. When  $h/b \rightarrow \rho \in (0, \infty)$ , (B.17) implies  $\sqrt{nh^2}(\hat{\tau}^{bc} - \tau - \mathbb{B}[\hat{\tau}^{bc}]) = \sqrt{nh^2}n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n IF_{\tau^{bc}i} + o_p(1)$ . The Lyapounov condition holds,

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{V}[IF_{\tau^{bc}i}] \right)^{-3/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|IF_{\tau^{bc}i}|^3] = O((nh^{-2})^{-3/2}) \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|IF_{\tau^{bc}i}|^3] = O(n^{-1/2}h^3(h^{-4} + \rho^6b^{-4})) = O((nh^2)^{-1/2}) = o(1). \text{ Then } \sqrt{nh^2}(\hat{\tau}^{bc}(u; h, b) - \tau(u)) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbb{V}_\tau^{bc}(u)).$$

When  $h/b \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\sqrt{nb^6h^{-4}}(\hat{\tau}^{bc} - \tau - \mathbb{B}[\hat{\tau}^{bc}]) = \sqrt{nb^6h^{-4}}n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n IF_{\tau^{bc}i} + o_p(1)$ . The Lyapounov condition holds,  $\left( \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{V}[IF_{\tau^{bc}i}] \right)^{-3/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|IF_{\tau^{bc}i}|^3] = O((nb^{-6}h^4)^{-3/2}) \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|IF_{\tau^{bc}i}|^3] = O(n^{-1/2}b^9h^{-6}\rho^6b^{-4}) = O((nb^2)^{-1/2}) = o(1)$ . Then  $\sqrt{nb^6h^{-4}}(\hat{\tau}^{bc}(u; h, b) - \tau(u)) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbb{V}_{\mathbf{B}_\tau}(u))$ .

**Proof of Theorem 5** Theorem 5 follows by minimizing the AMSE implied by Lemma 4. The asymptotic distribution becomes  $n^{1/3}(\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u)) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(c_u^2 \mathbf{B}_\tau(u), c_u^{-2} \mathbb{V}_\tau(u))$ , where  $c_u \equiv (\mathbb{V}_\tau(u)/(2\mathbf{B}_\tau^2(u)))^{1/6}$ .

## B.5 Proofs of Theorem 8, Theorem 4, and Theorem 6 for $\pi^*$

**Proof of Theorem 8** Lemma 5 implies Theorem 8 by letting the bias be of smaller order, i.e.,  $\sqrt{nh}h^2\mathbf{B}_\pi = o(1)$ .

**Proof of Theorem 4** The following derives the terms  $\mathbb{V}_{\mathbf{B}_\pi}$  and  $\mathbf{C}_\pi$  in the asymptotic variance of  $\sqrt{nh}\hat{\pi}^{bc}$ , which are due to bias correction. They are defined as follows.

$$\mathbb{V}_{\mathbf{B}_\pi} \equiv \mathbb{V}_\pi^m C_V^{-1} 4 (C_{\mathbf{B}}e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top S_2^{-1} \Lambda_2 S_2^{-1} (C_{\mathbf{B}}e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6) \text{ and} \quad (\text{B.18})$$

$$\mathbf{C}_\pi \equiv -\mathbb{V}_\pi^m \frac{8 (C_{\mathbf{B}}e_4 + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top S_2^{-1}}{C_V (\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} \int_0^\infty K(v) K(v/\rho) \mathbf{v}_2 (\kappa_2 - \kappa_1 v/\rho) dv, \quad (\text{B.19})$$

where  $\mathbf{v}_2 \equiv (1, v, 0, v^2, 0, 0)^\top$ . For  $\rho = 1$ , the integration in  $\mathbf{C}_\pi$  becomes  $(\kappa_2\lambda_0 - \kappa_1\lambda_1, \kappa_2\lambda_1 - \kappa_1\lambda_2, 0, \kappa_2\lambda_2 - \kappa_1\lambda_3, 0, 0)^\top$ .

Similar to the proof of Lemma 5, the proof below is for the estimator using the infeasible trimming function  $\chi(u)$ , denoted by  $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}_\pi \equiv \int_{\mathcal{U}} \hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau(u) \tilde{w}^*(u) du + \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\hat{\mathbf{B}}_1^+(u) - \hat{\mathbf{B}}_1^-(u)) (\hat{\tau}(u) - \hat{\pi}) \tilde{w}^*(u) / \Delta \hat{q}(u) du$ . Following the same arguments as in Lemma 6, we have  $\tilde{\pi}^{bc} - \hat{\pi}^{bc} = o_p((nh)^{-1/2})$ .

First derive the asymptotic linear representation

$$\hat{\pi}^{bc} - \pi^* = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n IF_{\pi^{bc}i} + o_p\left((nh)^{-1/2} + \rho^2(nb)^{-1/2}\right),$$

where the influence function

$$\begin{aligned} IF_{\pi^{bc}i} \equiv & Z_i \left\{ \int_{\mathcal{U}} \Phi_{1i}^+(u) \Lambda^+(u) du - \rho^2 (C_{\mathbf{B}e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \Phi_{22i}^+(b) \mathbf{1}(T_i \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{U}1}) \right. \\ & \left. + \Phi_{21i}^+(h) \mathbf{1}(T_i \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{U}1}) \right\} - (1 - Z_i) \left\{ \Phi_{21i}^-(h) \mathbf{1}(T_i \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{U}0}) \right. \\ & \left. + \int_{\mathcal{U}} \Phi_{1i}^-(u) \Lambda^-(u) du - \rho^2 (C_{\mathbf{B}e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \Phi_{22i}^-(b) \mathbf{1}(T_i \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{U}0}) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.20})$$

with  $\Phi_{21i}^\pm(h)$  defined in Lemma 5 and

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{22i}^\pm(b) \equiv & \left( Y_i - \left( m^\pm(\mathbf{U}_i) + m_r'^\pm(\mathbf{U}_i) (R_i - r_0) + \frac{1}{2} m_r''^\pm(\mathbf{U}_i) (R_i - r_0)^2 \right) \right) \frac{w^*(\mathbf{U}_i)}{\Delta q(\mathbf{U}_i)} \\ & \times \frac{W_2 S_2^{-1}}{f_R(r_0)} \left( 1, \frac{R_i - r_0}{b}, 0, \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{b} \right)^2, 0, 0 \right)^\top \frac{1}{b \sigma_R} K \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{b \sigma_R} \right). \end{aligned}$$

To derive  $\Phi_{22i}^\pm(b)$ , linearize the bias estimator  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\pi - \mathbf{B}_\pi$  to be

$$\int_{\mathcal{U}} (\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau(u) - \mathbf{B}_\tau(u)) w^*(u) du + \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\mathbf{B}_1^+(u) - \mathbf{B}_1^-(u)) (\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u)) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} du + Rem_\pi.$$

The leading term in  $Rem_\pi$  is  $O_p(\|\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau - \mathbf{B}_\tau\|_\infty \|\Delta \hat{q} - \Delta q\|_\infty) = O_p(\left(\left(\log n / (nb^6)\right)^{1/2} + b + (\log n / (nh))^{1/2} + h^2\right) \left(\left(\log n / (nh)\right)^{1/2} + h^2\right))$ . And the terms associated with the cross products of  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_1^+ - \mathbf{B}_1^+$ ,  $\Delta \hat{q} - \Delta q$ ,  $\hat{\tau} - \tau$ , and  $\hat{\pi}^* - \pi^*$  in  $Rem_\pi$  are of smaller

order. Together with Lemma 4 and Lemma 5,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \hat{\pi}^{bc} - \pi^* \\
&= \hat{\pi}^* - \pi^* - h^2 \mathbf{B}_\pi - h^2 (\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\pi - \mathbf{B}_\pi) \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n IF_{\pi i} - h^2 \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau(u) - \mathbf{B}_\tau(u)) w^*(u) du \\
&\quad - h^2 \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{\mathcal{U}} IF_{\tau i}(u) (\mathbf{B}_1^+(u) - \mathbf{B}_1^-(u)) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} du \\
&\quad - h^4 \int_{\mathcal{U}} \mathbf{B}_\tau(u) (\mathbf{B}_1^+(u) - \mathbf{B}_1^-(u)) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} du + Rem + O_p \left( h^5 + h^2 (Rem + Rem_\pi) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

By the same argument in the proof of Lemma 5, the third term associated with  $IF_{\tau i}(u)$  is  $O_p(h^2((nh)^{-1/2} + h^2))$ , which is of smaller order. We focus on the second term  $\int_{\mathcal{U}} (\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\tau(u) - \mathbf{B}_\tau(u)) w(u) du$  using the expansion in (B.16). One can show that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathcal{U}} \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} \left\{ b^{-2} (C_{\mathbf{B}e4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \beta_{n2}^{*+}(u) + \mathbb{B}[\hat{\mathbf{B}}_2^+] - \mathbf{B}_1^+(u) (\hat{\tau}(u) - \tau(u)) \right\} du \\
& \tag{B.21} \\
&= O_p \left( (nb^5)^{-1/2} + b + (nh)^{-1/2} + h^2 \right).
\end{aligned}$$

To see why, the second term associated with  $\mathbb{B}[\hat{\mathbf{B}}_2^+]$  is  $O(b)$  and the third term associated with  $\hat{\tau} - \tau$  is  $O_p((nh)^{-1/2} + h^2)$  by the proof of Lemma 5 with the additional weight  $\mathbf{B}_1^+(U_i)/\Delta q(U_i)$ . For the first term in (B.21), we use the same arguments as those in deriving (B.7) in the proof of Lemma 5. By change of variable  $v = q^+(u)$

and  $s = (v - T_i)/b_T$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathcal{U}} \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} \beta_{n2}^{*+}(u) du \\
&= \frac{W_2 S_2^{-1} B_n^{-1}}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{\mathcal{U}} \frac{w^*(u)}{f_{TR}^+(u) \Delta q(u)} K_b(\underline{X}_i - \underline{x}) \left( Y_i - \mu(\underline{X}_i - \underline{x})^\top W_2^{-1} \beta_2(\underline{x}) \right) \\
&\quad \times \mu(\underline{X}_i - \underline{x}) du Z_i \\
&= \frac{W_2 S_2^{-1} B_n^{-1}}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{w^*(F_{T_1|R}(T_i + b_T s, r_0))}{\Delta q(F_{T_1|R}(T_i + b_T s, r_0))} \frac{K(s)}{f_R(r_0)} \mathbf{1}(F_{T_1|R}(T_i + b_T s, r_0) \in \mathcal{U}) \\
&\quad \times \left( Y_i - \mu((R_i - r_0, b_T s)^\top)^\top W_2^{-1} \beta_2(\underline{x}) \right) \mu((R_i - r_0, b_T s)^\top) ds Z_i K_b(R_i - r_0) \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i \Phi_{22i}^+(b) \mathbf{1}(U_i \in \mathcal{U}) (1 + O_p(b^2)).
\end{aligned}$$

For the asymptotic variance contributed by  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_\pi, \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{B}_\pi}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E} \left[ \Phi_{22i}^{+2}(b) \mathbf{1}(U_i \in \mathcal{U}) Z_i \right] \\
&= W_2 S_2^{-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( Y - \left( m^+(U) + m_r^{'+}(U) (R - r_0) + \frac{1}{2} m_r''^+(U) (R - r_0)^2 \right) \right)^2 \right. \\
&\quad \times \left( 1, \frac{R - r_0}{b}, 0, \left( \frac{R - r_0}{b} \right)^2, 0, 0 \right)^\top \left( 1, \frac{R - r_0}{b}, 0, \left( \frac{R - r_0}{b} \right)^2, 0, 0 \right) \\
&\quad \times \left. \left( \frac{w^*(U)}{\Delta q(U)} \right)^2 K_b^2(R - r_0) \mathbf{1}(U \in \mathcal{U}) Z \right] \frac{S_2^{-1} W_2}{f_R^2(r_0)} \\
&= W_2 S_2^{-1} \int_0^\infty \int_T \mathbf{1}(F_{T_1|R}(T|r_0) \in \mathcal{U}) \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{v} K^2(v) \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( Y - \left( m^+(U) + m_r^{'+}(U)(bv) \right. \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. \left. + \frac{1}{2} m_r''^+(U)(bv)^2 \right) \right)^2 \middle| U = F_{T_1|R}(T|r_0), R = r_0 + bv \right] f_{TR}(T, r_0 + bv) dT dv \\
&\quad \times \frac{S_2^{-1} W_2}{b \sigma_R B^2 f_R^2(r_0)} \\
&= \frac{\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{V}[Y|U, R] \mathbf{1}(U \in \mathcal{U}) | R = r_0^+]}{b \sigma_R B^2 f_R(r_0)} W_2 S_2^{-1} \Lambda_2 S_2^{-1} W_2 + o(b^{-1}) = O(b^{-1}).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus the first term in (B.21) is  $O_p((nb^5)^{-1/2})$ . Then  $\rho^2 (C_{\mathbf{B}e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \Phi_{22i}^+(b)$  contributes to the asymptotic variance of  $\hat{\pi}^{bc}$  by a term of order  $\rho^4 (nb)^{-1} = (nh\rho^{-5})^{-1}$ . We obtain  $\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{B}_\pi}$  defined in (B.18) by showing that the sample above the cutoff con-



tributes

$$\frac{4 \int_{\mathcal{U}} \sigma^{2+}(u) du}{\sigma_R B^2 f_R(r_0)} (C_{B e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top S_2^{-1} \Lambda_2 S_2^{-1} (C_{B e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6).$$

The asymptotic covariance is  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} -2h\rho^2 (C_{B e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \mathbb{C}[Z_i \Phi_{21i}^+(h) \mathbf{1}(U_i \in \mathcal{U}), Z_i \Phi_{22i}^+(b) \mathbf{1}(U_i \in \mathcal{U})] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} -2h\rho^2 (C_{B e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \mathbb{E}[Z_i \Phi_{21i}^+(h) \Phi_{22i}^+(b) \mathbf{1}(U_i \in \mathcal{U})]$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}[Z_i \Phi_{21i}^+(h) \Phi_{22i}^+(b) \mathbf{1}(U_i \in \mathcal{U})] \\ &= \frac{2W_2 S_2^{-1}}{B^2 f_R^2(r_0) (\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} \mathbb{E} \left[ Z K_h(R - r_0) K_b(R - r_0) \left( Y - m^\pm(U) - m_r'^\pm(U) (R - r_0) \right) \right. \\ & \quad \times \left( Y - m^\pm(U) - m_r'^\pm(U) (R - r_0) - \frac{m_r''^\pm(U)}{2} (R - r_0)^2 \right) \\ & \quad \times \left. \left( 1, \frac{R - r_0}{b}, 0, \left( \frac{R - r_0}{b} \right)^2, 0, 0 \right)^\top \left( \kappa_2 - \kappa_1 \frac{R - r_0}{h} \right) \mathbf{1}(U \in \mathcal{U}) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

By change of variable  $v = (R - r_0)/b$ , the above expectation term is

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\sigma_R \rho b} \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathcal{T}} K(v) K(v/\rho) \mathbb{V}[Y|U = F_{T_1|R}(T, r_0), R = r_0 + vb] \mathbf{v}_2 (\kappa_2 - \kappa_1 v/\rho) \\ & \quad \times \mathbf{1}(F_{T_1|R}(T, r_0) \in \mathcal{U}) f_{TR}(T, r_0 + vb) dT dv = O((\rho b)^{-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus the covariance between  $\rho^2 (C_{B e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top \Phi_{22i}^+(b)$  and  $\Phi_{21i}^+(h)$  contributes to the asymptotic variance of  $\hat{\pi}^{bc}$  by a term of order  $\rho^2 (n\rho b)^{-1} = (nh\rho^{-2})^{-1}$ . We obtain  $\mathbf{C}_\pi$  defined in (B.19) by showing that the sample above the cutoff contributes

$$-\frac{8 \int_{\mathcal{U}} \sigma^{2+}(u) du}{\sigma_R B^2 f_R(r_0) (\kappa_2 - 2\kappa_1^2)} (C_{B e_4} + \kappa_2 e_6)^\top S_2^{-1} \int_0^\infty K(v) K(v/\rho) \mathbf{v}_2 (\kappa_2 - \kappa_1 v/\rho) dv.$$

Therefore  $\mathbb{V}[\hat{\pi}^{bc}] = O((nh)^{-1} + (nb^5 h^{-4})^{-1})$  and  $\mathbb{B}[\hat{\pi}^{bc}] = O(h^2(h + b))$  that is smaller-order by the bandwidth conditions  $n \min\{h^5, b^5\} \max\{h^2, b^2\} \rightarrow 0$ . To show asymptotic normality, we apply Lyapounov CLT with third absolute moment. When  $h/b \rightarrow \rho \in (0, \infty)$ , (B.20) implies  $\sqrt{nh}(\hat{\pi}^{bc} - \pi^* - \mathbb{B}[\hat{\pi}^{bc}]) = \sqrt{nh} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n I F_{\pi^{bc_i}} + o_p(1)$ . The Lyapounov condition  $(\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{V}[I F_{\pi^{bc_i}}])^{-3/2} \times \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|I F_{\pi^{bc_i}}|^3] = O((nh^{-1})^{-3/2}) \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|I F_{\pi^{bc_i}}|^3] = O(n^{-1/2} h^{3/2} h^{-2}) = O((nh)^{-1/2}) = o(1)$  holds. Then  $\sqrt{nh}(\hat{\pi}^{bc}(h, b) - \pi^*) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{V}_\pi^{bc})$ .

When  $h/b \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\sqrt{nb^5 h^{-4}}(\hat{\pi}^{bc} - \pi^* - \mathbb{B}[\hat{\pi}^{bc}]) = \sqrt{nb^5 h^{-4}} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n I F_{\pi^{bc_i}} + o_p(1)$ . The Lyapounov condition holds,  $(\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{V}[I F_{\pi^{bc_i}}])^{-3/2} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|I F_{\pi^{bc_i}}|^3] =$

$O((nb^{-5}h^4)^{-3/2}) \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|IF_{\pi^{bc_i}}|^3] = O(n^{-1/2}b^{15/2}h^{-6}\rho^6b^{-2}) = O((nb)^{-1/2}) = o(1)$ . Then  $\sqrt{nb^5h^{-4}}(\hat{\pi}^{bc}(h, b) - \pi^*) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, V_{B_\pi})$ .

**Proof of Theorem 6** Theorem 6 follows by minimizing the AMSE implied by Lemma 5. The asymptotic distribution becomes  $n^{2/5}(\hat{\pi}^* - \pi^*) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(c_\pi^2 B_\pi, c_\pi^{-1} V_\pi)$ , where  $c_\pi \equiv (V_\pi / (4B_\pi^2))^{1/5}$ .

## C Estimation of the biases, variances, and AMSE optimal bandwidths

This section describes how to estimate the biases  $B_\tau(u)$  and  $B_\pi$  for  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  and  $\hat{\pi}^*$ , respectively, and the asymptotic variances  $V_\tau(u)$  and  $V_\pi$  for  $\hat{\tau}(u)$  and  $\hat{\pi}^*$ , respectively. We also describe how to estimate their associated AMSE optimal bandwidths  $h_\tau^*(u)$  and  $h_\pi^*$ . We focus on estimating the unknown parameters defined above the RD cutoff. Corresponding parameters defined below the cutoff are estimated analogously.

### C.1 Biases estimation

Consider the bias of  $\hat{\tau}(u)$ .  $B_\tau(u) \equiv \left( B_2(u) + B_1^+(u)(m_t^{'+}(u) - \tau(u)) - B_1^-(u)(m_t'^-(u) - \tau(u)) \right) \frac{1}{\Delta q(u)}$ , where  $B_1^\pm(u) \equiv C_B q_r''^\pm(u) \sigma_R^2$  and  $B_2(u) \equiv C_B (m_r''^+(u) - m_r''^-(u)) \sigma_R^2 + \kappa_2 (m_t''^+(u) - m_t''^-(u)) \sigma_T^2$ .

$C_B$  is a constant depending on the kernel function. For the Uniform kernel,  $C_B = -1/12$ .  $\Delta q(u)$  in the denominator of  $\tau(u)$  is estimated in Step 1 of the estimation procedure described in the main text.

The remaining unknowns are  $m_t^{'+}(u)$ ,  $q_r''^+(u)$ ,  $m_r''^+(u)$ , and  $m_t''^+(u)$ . They can be estimated by local quadratic quantile and mean regressions. In particular,  $q_r''^+(u)$  is estimated by  $2\hat{\alpha}_2$  from the local quadratic quantile regression with a chosen bandwidth  $b$ ,

$$(\hat{\alpha}_0, \hat{\alpha}_1, \hat{\alpha}_2) \\ = \arg \min_{\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2} \sum_{\{i: R_i \geq r_0\}} K \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{b \sigma_R} \right) \rho_u \left( T_i - \alpha_0 - \alpha_1 (R_i - r_0) - \alpha_2 (R_i - r_0)^2 \right).$$

Further,  $m_t^{'+}(u)$ ,  $m_t''^+(u)$  and  $m_r''^+(u)$  can be estimated by  $\hat{\beta}_{0,1}$ ,  $2\hat{\beta}_{0,2}$  and  $2\hat{\beta}_{2,2}$ ,

respectively from the local quadratic regression

$$\begin{aligned} (\widehat{\beta}_{k,j,k,j=0,1,2}) &= \arg \min_{\beta_{k,j,k,j=0,1,2}} \sum_{\{i: R_i \geq r_0\}} K \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{b\sigma_R} \right) K \left( \frac{T_i - \hat{q}^+(u)}{b\sigma_T} \right) \\ &\quad \times \left( Y_i - \sum_{j=0}^2 \sum_{k=0}^j \beta_{k,j} (R_i - r_0)^k (T_i - \hat{q}^+(u))^{j-k} \right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Plugging in  $C_B$  and the estimates of  $m_t^{\pm}(u)$ ,  $q_r^{\pm}(u)$ ,  $m_r^{\pm}(u)$ , and  $m_t^{\prime\pm}(u)$ , one obtains  $\widehat{B}_\tau(u)$ .

Consider next the bias of  $\hat{\pi}^*$ ,  $B_\pi \equiv \int_{\mathcal{U}} B_\tau(u) w^*(u) du + \int_{\mathcal{U}} (B_1^+(u) - B_1^-(u)) (\tau(u) - \pi^*) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)} du$ .  $B_\tau(u)$  and  $B_1^\pm(u)$  are estimated in the above.  $\Delta q(u)$  is estimated in Step 1 estimation described in the main text. The weighting function  $w^*(u)$  is estimated in Step 4. Plugging in these estimates, one obtains  $\widehat{B}_\pi$ .

## C.2 Variances estimation

For the standard error of  $\widehat{\tau}(u)$ , Theorem 7 gives  $V_\tau(u) \equiv \frac{2\lambda_0 C_V}{(\Delta q(u))^2 f_R(r_0) \sigma_R \sigma_T} \left( \frac{\sigma^{2+}(u)}{f_{T|R}^+(u)} + \frac{\sigma^{2-}(u)}{f_{T|R}^-(u)} \right)$ . For the Uniform kernel,  $C_V = 4$  and  $\lambda_0 = 1/4$ .  $\Delta q(u)$  is estimated by Step 1 estimation described in the main text. The remaining unknowns are  $\sigma_R$ ,  $\sigma_T$ ,  $f_R(r_0)$ ,  $f_{T|R}^\pm(u)$ , and  $\sigma^{2\pm}(u)$ .

$\sigma_R$  and  $\sigma_T$  are estimated directly by the sample standard deviations of  $R$  and  $T$ , respectively. The densities  $f_R(r_0)$  and  $f_{T|R}^\pm(u)$  can be estimated by the standard Nadaraya-Watson estimator. In particular,  $\hat{f}_R(r_0) = (ng\sigma_R)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n K \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{g\sigma_R} \right)$  and  $\hat{f}_{T|R}^\pm(u) = \sum_{i=1}^n K \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{g\sigma_R} \right) K \left( \frac{T_i - q^\pm(u)}{g\sigma_T} \right) Z_i / \sum_{i=1}^n K \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{g\sigma_R} \right) Z_i$ , where the Silverman-rule-of-thumb bandwidth for the Uniform kernel  $g = 0.7344n^{-1/6}$  for  $\hat{f}_{T|R}^\pm(u)$  and  $g = 1.843n^{-1/5}$  for  $\hat{f}_R(r_0)$ .

$\sigma^{2+}(u)$  can be estimated by  $\widehat{\theta}_0$  from the local linear regression

$$\begin{aligned} (\widehat{\theta}_0, \widehat{\theta}_1, \widehat{\theta}_2) &= \arg \min_{\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2} \sum_{\{i: R_i \geq r_0\}} K \left( \frac{T_i - \hat{q}^+(u)}{b\sigma_T} \right) K \left( \frac{R_i - r_0}{b\sigma_R} \right) \\ &\quad \times \left( Y_i - \hat{m}^+(u) - \theta_0 - \theta_1 (R_i - r_0) - \theta_2 (T_i - \hat{q}^+(u)) \right)^2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\hat{m}^+(u)$  is estimated in Step 2 estimation described in the main text.

Plugging in all the estimates and the constants  $C_V$  and  $\lambda_0$ , one obtains  $\widehat{V}_\tau(u)$ .

Consider next the standard error of the bias-corrected estimator  $\widehat{\tau}^{bc}(u)$ . By Theo-

rem 3,  $V_{\tau,n}^{bc}(u) \equiv \frac{V_{\tau}(u)}{nh^2} + \frac{V_{B_{\tau}}(u) + \rho^{-5}C_{\tau}(u;\rho)}{nh^2\rho^{-6}}$ . Estimation of  $V_{\tau}(u)$  is discussed above. For the Uniform kernel,  $V_{B_{\tau}}(u) = 9.765625V_{\tau}(u)$  by equation (B.14), and  $C_{\tau}(u; \rho) = 3.125\rho^3V_{\tau}(u)$  when  $\rho \leq 1$ , and  $C_{\tau}(u; \rho) = 37.5(\rho/3 - 1/4)V_{\tau}(u)$  when  $\rho > 1$  by equation (B.15). Plugging in  $\widehat{V}_{\tau}(u)$  for a chosen  $\rho$ , one obtains  $\widehat{V}_{\tau,n}^{bc}(u)$ .

Consider the standard error of  $\widehat{\pi}^*$ . By Theorem 8,  $V_{\pi} \equiv V_{\pi}^m + V_{\pi}^q$ , where  $V_{\pi}^m \equiv \frac{C_V \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\sigma^{2+}(u) + \sigma^{2-}(u)) du}{\sigma_R f_R(r_0) (\int_{\mathcal{U}} |\Delta q(u)| du)^2}$  and  $V_{\pi}^q \equiv \frac{C_V}{\sigma_R f_R(r_0)} \int_{\mathcal{U}} \int_{\mathcal{U}} (\min\{u, v\} - vu) \left( \frac{\Lambda^+(u)\Lambda^+(v)}{f_{T|R}^+(u)f_{T|R}^+(v)} + \frac{\Lambda^-(u)\Lambda^-(v)}{f_{T|R}^-(u)f_{T|R}^-(v)} \right) dv du$  with  $\Lambda^{\pm}(u) \equiv (m_t^{\pm}(u) - \pi^*) \frac{w^*(u)}{\Delta q(u)}$ . Estimation of  $\Delta q(u)$ ,  $f_R(r_0)$ ,  $f_{T|R}^{\pm}(u)$ , and  $\sigma^{2\pm}(u)$  is described at the beginning of this section.  $w^*(u)$  is estimated in Step 4 estimation in the main text.

The only unknown involved in  $V_{\pi}^q$  is  $m_t^{\pm}(u)$ , which appears in  $\Lambda^{\pm}(u)$  and can be estimated as described in Section C.1. We estimate  $\Lambda^{\pm}(u)$  by plugging in the estimates of  $\Delta q(u)$ ,  $m_t^{\pm}(u)$ , and  $w^*(u)$ .

To estimate  $V_{\pi}^m$ , we include a finite-sample adjustment term in (B.11). Suppose  $\mathcal{U} = \cup_{j=1}^J \mathcal{U}_j$  is a union of  $J$  disjoint intervals, where  $\Delta q(u) \neq 0$  for  $u \in \mathcal{U}_j \equiv [\underline{u}_j, \bar{u}_j]$ . Let  $\bar{q}_j^+ \equiv q^+(\bar{u}_j)$ ,  $\underline{q}_j^+ \equiv q^+(\underline{u}_j)$ ,  $Q_j^+ \equiv \bar{q}_j^+ - \underline{q}_j^+$ , and the support of  $T_1$  be  $\mathcal{T}^+ \equiv [\underline{t}^+, \bar{t}^+]$ . Then  $\widehat{V}_{\pi}^m$  is the estimate of

$$\sum_{j=1}^J \left( A_j^+ \int_{\mathcal{U}_j} \sigma^{2+}(u) du + A_j^- \int_{\mathcal{U}_j} \sigma^{2-}(u) du \right) \frac{C_V}{\sigma_R f_R(r_0) (\int_{\mathcal{U}} |\Delta q(u)| du)^2}, \quad (\text{C.1})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A_j^+ &\equiv G\left(\frac{\bar{t}^+ - \bar{q}_j^+}{h_T}\right) - G\left(\frac{\underline{t}^+ - \bar{q}_j^+}{h_T}\right) \\ &\quad - \int_{\frac{\bar{q}_j^+ - \underline{t}^+}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{q}_j^+ - \bar{t}^+}{h_T}} G\left(s - \frac{Q_j^+}{h_T}\right) K(s) ds - \int_{\frac{\underline{t}^+ - \underline{q}_j^+}{h_T}}^{\frac{\bar{t}^+ - \underline{q}_j^+}{h_T}} G\left(s - \frac{Q_j^+}{h_T}\right) K(s) ds, \end{aligned}$$

$G(u) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^u K(s) ds$ , and  $A_j^-$  is defined analogously by changing  $+$  to  $-$ . Note that when  $h_T$  small relative to  $Q_j^{\pm}$ , the last two terms in  $A_j^{\pm}$  are zero. As  $h_T \rightarrow 0$ ,  $A_j^{\pm}$  becomes 1 and equation (C.1) becomes  $V_{\pi}^m$ . The adjustment term is especially relevant when policies target top or bottom of the treatment distribution and hence  $\bar{t}^+ - \bar{q}_j^+$  or  $\underline{t}^+ - \underline{q}_j^+$  could be small relative to  $h_T$ .

Further plugging in the estimates of  $\Delta q(u)$ ,  $f_R(r_0)$ ,  $f_{T|R}^{\pm}(u)$ ,  $\Lambda^{\pm}(u)$ ,  $\sigma^{2\pm}(u)$ , and the constant  $C_V$ , and replacing integration by summation, we obtain  $\widehat{V}_{\pi} = \widehat{V}_{\pi}^m + \widehat{V}_{\pi}^q$ .

Consider lastly the standard error of the bias-corrected estimator  $\widehat{\pi}^{bc}$ . By Theorem

4,  $V_{\pi,n}^{bc} \equiv \frac{V_{\pi}}{nh} + \frac{V_{B_{\pi}} + \rho^{-3}C_{\pi}}{nh\rho^{-5}}$ . Estimation of  $V_{\pi}$  is provided above. For the Uniform kernel,  $V_{B_{\pi}} = 1.641V_{\pi}^m$  by equation (B.18) and  $C_{\pi} = (3.125\rho - 2.5\rho^3)V_{\pi}^m$  when  $\rho \leq 1$ , and  $C_{\pi} = (2.5 - 1.875/\rho)V_{\pi}^m$  when  $\rho > 1$  by equation (B.19). Estimation of  $V_{\pi}^m$  is discussed above. Plugging in the estimates of  $V_{\pi}$  and  $V_{\pi}^m$  and the constant  $C_{\pi}$ , one obtain  $\widehat{V}_{\pi,n}^{bc}$ .

### C.3 Optimal bandwidths estimation

Given consistent estimates of  $B_{\tau}(u)$ ,  $V_{\tau}(u)$ ,  $B_{\pi}$ , and  $V_{\pi}$  in the previous section, by the plug-in rule, one can estimate the AMSE optimal bandwidths by  $\widehat{h}_{\tau}^*(u) = \left(\widehat{V}_{\tau}(u) / \left(2\widehat{B}_{\tau}^2(u)\right)\right)^{1/6} n^{-1/6}$  and  $\widehat{h}_{\pi}^* = \left(\widehat{V}_{\pi} / \left(4\widehat{B}_{\pi}^2\right)\right)^{1/5} n^{-1/5}$ . For our empirical analysis,  $b = cn^{-1/8}$  for a range of constant  $c$  where the estimates are stable.

## D Supplementary empirical analysis

Table D.1 presents estimates using a bandwidth that satisfies the undersmoothing conditions in Theorems 7 and 8. These estimates remain similar to those bias-corrected estimates reported in the main text. Note that the bias-corrected estimates use larger bandwidths and hence there is no loss of precision compared with estimates by undersmoothing.

As a convenient alternative to computing the analytic standard errors, one may use the standard nonparametric bootstrap based on drawing  $n$  observations with replacement to obtain standard errors and confidence intervals. The bootstrap is valid for the bias corrected Q-LATE estimator by the standard delta method. Formally justifying bootstrap validity of the bias corrected WQ-LATE estimator requires additional technicality that is out of the scope of the current paper. Nevertheless, in Tables D.2 we present estimates with bootstrapped standard errors. The bootstrapped standard errors are similar to the analytic standard errors reported in the main text. In Tables D.3 we further present estimates with bootstrapped standard errors clustered at the town level. Clustering does not change the standard errors much, and our main conclusions remain the same.

## References

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Table D.1 Impacts of log(capital) on bank outcomes (undersmoothing)

Q-LATE	Quantile	Log(assets)		Log(leverage)		Suspension	
	0.10	1.168	(0.289)***	0.168	(0.277)	0.261	(0.117)
	0.12	1.186	(0.255)***	0.186	(0.235)	0.225	(0.108)
	0.14	1.082	(0.346)***	0.082	(0.297)	0.242	(0.134)
	0.16	1.088	(0.364)***	0.088	(0.307)	0.255	(0.144)
	0.18	1.082	(0.365)***	0.082	(0.308)	0.258	(0.145)
	0.20	0.994	(0.373)***	-0.006	(0.314)	0.280	(0.153)
	0.22	1.022	(0.358)***	0.022	(0.303)	0.264	(0.144)
WQLATE		1.086	(0.444)**	0.086	(0.385)	0.255	(0.241)

Note: The first panel presents estimated Q-LATEs at equally spaced quantiles; The last row presents the estimated WQ-LATEs;  $h_R = 924$  and  $h_T = 0.348$  for all estimation, which are 4/5 of the AMSE optimal bandwidth for WQ-LATE and satisfy the undersmoothing conditions for the Q-LATE or WQ-LATE estimator in Theorems 7 and 8; The trimming thresholds are determined by using a preliminary bandwidth for  $R$  equal to  $3/4h_R = 693$ ; Standard errors are in the parentheses; \*\*\*Significant at the 1% level, \*\*Significant at the 5% level.

Table D.2 Impacts of log (capital) on bank outcomes with bootstrapped standard errors

Q-LATE	Quantile	Log(assets)		Log(leverage)		Suspension	
	0.10	0.987	(0.375)***	-0.013	(0.375)	-0.019	(0.197)
	0.12	1.003	(0.325)***	0.003	(0.325)	-0.034	(0.176)
	0.14	1.017	(0.332)***	0.017	(0.332)	-0.036	(0.181)
	0.16	0.991	(0.328)***	-0.009	(0.328)	-0.038	(0.181)
	0.18	0.942	(0.325)***	-0.058	(0.325)	-0.091	(0.186)
	0.20	0.946	(0.317)***	-0.054	(0.317)	-0.092	(0.189)
	0.22	0.948	(0.325)***	-0.052	(0.325)	-0.093	(0.194)
	0.24	0.950	(0.328)***	-0.050	(0.328)	-0.108	(0.197)
	0.26	0.916	(0.361)***	-0.084	(0.361)	-0.112	(0.230)
WQ-LATE		0.968	(0.308)***	-0.032	(0.308)	-0.073	(0.178)

Note: The first panel presents the bias-corrected estimates of Q-LATEs at equally spaced quantiles; The last row presents the bias-corrected estimates of WQ-LATEs; The last row presents the bias-corrected estimates of WQ-LATEs;  $h_R = 1, 155$  and  $h_T = 0.435$  for all estimation, which are the AMSE optimal bandwidths for the WQ-LATE estimator; The AMSE optimal bandwidth for the Q-LATE estimator  $h_R$  ranges from 1, 167.97 to 1, 570.61; The bandwidths used to estimate the biases are the main bandwidths divided by 0.517, i.e.,  $h/b = 0.517$ ; The trimming thresholds are determined by using a preliminary bandwidth for  $R$  equal to  $3/4h_R = 866.25$ ; Bootstrapped standard errors are clustered at the town level and are in the parentheses; \*\*\*Significant at the 1% level, \*\*Significant at the 5% level.

Table D.3 Impacts of log (capital) on bank outcomes with clustered bootstrapped standard errors

Q-LATE	Quantile	Log(assets)		Log(leverage)		Suspension	
	0.10	0.987	(0.360)***	-0.013	(0.360)	-0.019	(0.197)
	0.12	1.003	(0.332)***	0.003	(0.332)	-0.034	(0.199)
	0.14	1.017	(0.342)***	0.017	(0.342)	-0.036	(0.199)
	0.16	0.991	(0.302)***	-0.009	(0.302)	-0.038	(0.198)
	0.18	0.942	(0.315)***	-0.058	(0.315)	-0.091	(0.203)
	0.20	0.946	(0.311)***	-0.054	(0.311)	-0.092	(0.206)
	0.22	0.948	(0.308)***	-0.052	(0.308)	-0.093	(0.207)
	0.24	0.950	(0.313)***	-0.050	(0.313)	-0.108	(0.210)
	0.26	0.916	(0.333)***	-0.084	(0.333)	-0.112	(0.212)
WQ-LATE		0.968	(0.281)***	-0.032	(0.291)	-0.073	(0.198)

Note: The first panel presents the bias-corrected estimates of Q-LATEs at equally spaced quantiles; The last row presents the bias-corrected estimates of WQ-LATEs; The last row presents the bias-corrected estimates of WQ-LATEs;  $h_R = 1, 155$  and  $h_T = 0.435$  for all estimation, which are the AMSE optimal bandwidths for the WQ-LATE estimator; The AMSE optimal bandwidth for the Q-LATE estimator  $h_R$  ranges from 1, 167.97 to 1, 570.61; The bandwidths used to estimate the biases are the main bandwidths divided by 0.517, i.e.,  $h/b = 0.517$ ; The trimming thresholds are determined by using a preliminary bandwidth for  $R$  equal to  $3/4h_R = 866.25$ ; Bootstrapped standard errors are in the parentheses; \*\*\*Significant at the 1% level, \*\*Significant at the 5% level.

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