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# LOCALLY $D$ -OPTIMAL DESIGNS FOR HIERARCHICAL RESPONSE EXPERIMENTS

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**Supplementary Material**

## S1 Proofs

To proof Theorem 1, we begin with two technical lemmas. Let  $\boldsymbol{\gamma} \in \mathbb{R}^p$  denote the parameter vector, i.e.,  $\boldsymbol{\gamma} = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_p)^T = (\boldsymbol{\beta}^T, \boldsymbol{\theta}_1^T, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{J-1}^T)^T$ . The first lemma gives the Fisher information matrix for Model (2.2) under an exact design. The second lemma calculates  $\partial\pi(\boldsymbol{x})/\partial\boldsymbol{\gamma}^T$ , which is an essential part of Theorem 1.

For an exact design

$$\xi_{\text{exact}} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{x}_1 & \cdots & \boldsymbol{x}_m \\ n_1 & \cdots & n_m \end{pmatrix},$$

the corresponding Fisher information matrix is derived in the following lemma.

**Lemma S1.** *Suppose Assumptions 1 and 2 hold, the Fisher information*

matrix for Model (2.2) under the exact design  $\xi_{\text{exact}}$  can be written as

$$M(\xi_{\text{exact}}) = \sum_{i=1}^m n_i M_i,$$

where  $M_i = (m_{i_{st}})_{1 \leq s, t \leq p}$  is a  $p \times p$  matrix with

$$m_{i_{st}} = \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{1}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_t}.$$

*Proof of Lemma S1.* For the experimental setting  $\mathbf{x}_i$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , the responses  $(Y_{i1}, \dots, Y_{iJ})^T \sim \text{Multinomial}(n_i; \pi_{i1}, \dots, \pi_{iJ})$ . We know that  $E(Y_{ij}) = n_i \pi_{ij}$ ,  $E(Y_{ij}^2) = n_i(n_i - 1)\pi_{ij}^2 + n_i \pi_{ij}$ , and  $E(Y_{is}Y_{it}) = n_i(n_i - 1)\pi_{is}\pi_{it}$  when  $s \neq t$ .

The log-likelihood function (up to a constant) is

$$l(\gamma) = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^J Y_{ij} \log \pi_{ij}.$$

Then the score function is

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \gamma_s} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{Y_{ij}}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s}.$$

Note that  $\pi_{i1} + \dots + \pi_{iJ} = 1$ , it follows that

$$E \left( \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{Y_{ij}}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \right) = \sum_{j=1}^J n_i \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} = n_i \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma_s} \left( \sum_{j=1}^J \pi_{ij} \right) = 0,$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . The Hessian matrix can be achieved through the following calculation.

$$E \frac{\partial l}{\partial \gamma_s} \frac{\partial l}{\partial \gamma_t} = E \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{Y_{ij}}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{Y_{ij}}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_t} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{i=1}^m E \left( \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{Y_{ij}}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{Y_{ij}}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_t} \right) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m E \left( \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{Y_{ij}^2}{\pi_{ij}^2} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_t} + 2 \sum_{1 \leq j < k \leq m} \frac{Y_{ij}}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \frac{Y_{ik}}{\pi_{ik}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ik}}{\partial \gamma_t} \right) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{n_i(n_i - 1)\pi_{ij}^2 + n_i\pi_{ij}}{\pi_{ij}^2} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_t} \\
&\quad + 2 \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{1 \leq j < k \leq m} \frac{n_i(n_i - 1)\pi_{ij}\pi_{ik}}{\pi_{ij}\pi_{ik}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \frac{\partial \pi_{ik}}{\partial \gamma_t} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m n_i \left( (n_i - 1) \left( \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_t} \right) + \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{1}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_t} \right) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m \left( n_i \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{1}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_t} \right).
\end{aligned}$$

By the definition of Fisher information matrix, we have

$$M(\xi_{\text{exact}}) = E \left( \frac{\partial l}{\partial \boldsymbol{\gamma}} \right) \left( \frac{\partial l}{\partial \boldsymbol{\gamma}} \right)^T = \sum_{i=1}^m n_i M_i,$$

where  $M_i = (m_{i_{st}})_{1 \leq s, t \leq p}$  is a  $p \times p$  matrix with

$$m_{i_{st}} = \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{1}{\pi_{ij}} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_s} \frac{\partial \pi_{ij}}{\partial \gamma_t}.$$

□

**Remark S1.** From Lemma S1, the Fisher information matrix for Model

(2.2) under an approximate design

$$\xi = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_m \\ \omega_1 & \cdots & \omega_m \end{pmatrix},$$

can be written as

$$M(\xi) = \sum_{i=1}^m \omega_i M_i.$$

Recall  $\delta_{\mathbf{x}}$  denote the single point design, then  $M(\delta_{\mathbf{x}_i}) = M_i$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ .

Let  $\partial\boldsymbol{\pi}(\mathbf{x})/\partial\boldsymbol{\gamma}^T$  denote a  $J \times p$  matrix, whose  $(j, k)$ th entry is  $\partial\pi_j(\mathbf{x})/\partial\gamma_k$ , where  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$  is a design point. We have the following lemma.

**Lemma S2.** *For Model (2.2),*

$$\frac{\partial\boldsymbol{\pi}(\mathbf{x})}{\partial\boldsymbol{\gamma}^T} = G(\mathbf{x})H(\mathbf{x}), \quad (\text{S1.1})$$

where  $G(\mathbf{x})$  is defined in Section A.1 and  $H(\mathbf{x})$  is defined in Section 2.2.

*Proof of Lemma S2.* To be convenience, let  $e_j(\mathbf{x}) = g^{-1}(\mathbf{h}_0^T(\mathbf{x})\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{h}_j^T(\mathbf{x})\boldsymbol{\theta}_j)$ , for  $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$ . We first show the following equation

$$\frac{\partial\pi_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial\beta_s} = h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^j g_{jk}(\mathbf{x}), \quad (\text{S1.2})$$

holds, for  $s = 1, \dots, p_0$  and  $j = 1, \dots, J$ . For each  $s$ , we prove Equation (S1.2) holds, for  $j = 1, \dots, J - 1$ , by induction.

(i) When  $j = 1$ , it follows that

$$\frac{\partial\pi_1(\mathbf{x})}{\partial\beta_s} = h_{0s}(\mathbf{x})g_{11}(\mathbf{x}),$$

by the fact  $\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) = e_1(\mathbf{x})$ , which implies Equation (S1.2) holds for  $j = 1$ .

(ii) Suppose Equation (S1.2) holds for  $2, \dots, j-1$  ( $j < J$ ), by

$$\pi_j(\mathbf{x}) = e_j(\mathbf{x}) \left( 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \pi_k(\mathbf{x}) \right),$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \pi_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \beta_s} &= \frac{\partial e_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \beta_s} \left( 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \pi_k(\mathbf{x}) \right) - e_j(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \frac{\partial \pi_k(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \beta_s} \\ &= h_{0s}(\mathbf{x})(g^{-1})'(\mathbf{h}_0^T(\mathbf{x})\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{h}_j^T(\mathbf{x})\boldsymbol{\theta}_j) \left( 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \pi_k(\mathbf{x}) \right) \\ &\quad - e_j(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \left( h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{l=1}^k g_{kl}(\mathbf{x}) \right) \\ &= h_{0s}(\mathbf{x})g_{jj}(\mathbf{x}) + h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \left( -e_j(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{l=1}^k g_{kl}(\mathbf{x}) \right) \\ &= h_{0s}(\mathbf{x})g_{jj}(\mathbf{x}) + h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \left( -e_j(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{l=1}^{j-1} g_{kl}(\mathbf{x}) \right) \\ &= h_{0s}(\mathbf{x})g_{jj}(\mathbf{x}) + h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{l=1}^{j-1} \left( -e_j(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} g_{kl}(\mathbf{x}) \right) \\ &= h_{0s}(\mathbf{x})g_{jj}(\mathbf{x}) + h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{l=1}^{j-1} g_{jl}(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{l=1}^j g_{jl}(\mathbf{x}), \end{aligned}$$

which implies Equation (S1.2) holds for  $j$ .

As for the case  $j = J$ , utilizing the fact  $\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + \pi_J(\mathbf{x}) = 1$  and

the facts that have been proved in (i) and (ii), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \pi_J(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \beta_s} &= - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \frac{\partial \pi_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \beta_s} \\
 &= - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \left( h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^j g_{jk}(\mathbf{x}) \right) \\
 &= h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \left( - \sum_{k=1}^{J-1} g_{jk}(\mathbf{x}) \right) \\
 &= h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{J-1} \left( - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} g_{jk}(\mathbf{x}) \right) \\
 &= h_{0s}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{J-1} g_{Jk}(\mathbf{x}),
 \end{aligned}$$

then Equation (S1.2) holds for  $j = J$ . Therefore, Equation (S1.2) holds, for  $s = 1, \dots, p_0$  and  $j = 1, \dots, J$ .

Now we turn to prove the following equation,

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{uv}} = h_{uv}(\mathbf{x}) g_{ju}(\mathbf{x}), \tag{S1.3}$$

for  $u = 1, \dots, J-1$ ,  $v = 1, \dots, p_u$ , and  $j = 1, \dots, J$ . Similarly, for each  $u, v$ , we prove Equation (S1.3) holds for  $j = 1, \dots, J-1$ , by induction.

(1) When  $j = 1$ , then  $\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) = e_1(\mathbf{x})$ , we have

$$\frac{\partial \pi_1(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{1r}} = h_{1r}(\mathbf{x}) g_{11}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \frac{\partial \pi_1(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{uv}} = 0 = h_{uv}(\mathbf{x}) g_{1u}(\mathbf{x}),$$

for  $r = 1, \dots, p_1$ ,  $u = 2, \dots, J-1$ , and  $v = 1, \dots, p_u$ , which implies

Equation (S1.3) holds for  $j = 1$ .

(2) Suppose Equation (S1.3) holds for  $2, \dots, j-1$  ( $j < J$ ). For  $u = 1, \dots, j-1$  and  $v = 1, \dots, p_u$ , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \pi_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{uv}} &= \frac{\partial e_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{uv}} \left( 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \pi_k(\mathbf{x}) \right) - e_j(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \frac{\partial \pi_k(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{uv}} \\
 &= -e_j(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \frac{\partial \pi_k(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{uv}} \\
 &= -e_j(\mathbf{x}) h_{uv}(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} g_{ku}(\mathbf{x}) \\
 &= h_{uv}(\mathbf{x}) g_{ju}(\mathbf{x}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that for  $v = 1, \dots, p_j$ , it holds that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \pi_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{jv}} &= \frac{\partial e_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{jv}} \left( 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \pi_k(\mathbf{x}) \right) - e_j(\mathbf{x}) \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \frac{\partial \pi_k(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{jv}} \\
 &= h_{jv}(\mathbf{x}) (g^{-1})'(\mathbf{h}_0^T(\mathbf{x})\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{h}_j^T(\mathbf{x})\boldsymbol{\theta}_j) \left( 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \pi_k(\mathbf{x}) \right) \\
 &= h_{jv}(\mathbf{x}) g_{jj}(\mathbf{x}).
 \end{aligned}$$

By the definition of  $\pi_j(\mathbf{x})$  and  $G(\mathbf{x})$ , the following equation holds

$$\frac{\partial \pi_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_{uv}} = 0 = h_{uv}(\mathbf{x}) g_{ju}(\mathbf{x}),$$

for  $u = j+1, \dots, J-1$  and  $v = 1, \dots, p_u$ .

Combining the aforementioned three equations, Equation (S1.3) holds for  $j$ .

When  $j = J$ , utilizing the fact  $\pi_1(\mathbf{x}) + \cdots + \pi_J(\mathbf{x}) = 1$  and the facts that have been proved in (a) and (b), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \pi_J(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \pi_{uv}} &= - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \frac{\partial \pi_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \pi_{uv}} \\
 &= - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} h_{uv}(\mathbf{x}) g_{ju}(\mathbf{x}) \\
 &= h_{uv}(\mathbf{x}) \left( - \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} g_{ju}(\mathbf{x}) \right) \\
 &= h_{uv}(\mathbf{x}) g_{Ju}(\mathbf{x}),
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies Equation (S1.3) holds for  $j = J$ . Thus Equation (S1.3) holds for  $u = 1, \dots, J-1$ ,  $v = 1, \dots, p_u$ , and  $j = 1, \dots, J$ . Based on Equations (S1.2) and (S1.3), Lemma S2 is proved.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Combing the results in Lemmas S1 and S2, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 M(\xi) &= \sum_{i=1}^m \omega_i M_i \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^m \omega_i \left( \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\pi}(\mathbf{x}_i)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\gamma}^T} \right)^T D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_i) \left( \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\pi}(\mathbf{x}_i)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\gamma}^T} \right) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^m \omega_i H^T(\mathbf{x}_i) G^T(\mathbf{x}_i) D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_i) G(\mathbf{x}_i) H(\mathbf{x}_i),
 \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 2.* Let  $\tilde{H} = (H^T(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, H^T(\mathbf{x}_m))$ , and

$$\tilde{W} = \text{diag}(\omega_1 G^T(\mathbf{x}_1) D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_1) G(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, \omega_m G^T(\mathbf{x}_m) D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_m) G(\mathbf{x}_m)).$$

According to Theorem 1, the Fisher information matrix can be written as  $M(\xi) = \tilde{H} \tilde{W} \tilde{H}^T$ . Since  $\pi_j(\mathbf{x}_i) > 0$ , for  $j = 1, \dots, J$ ,  $G(\mathbf{x}_i)$  has full column rank (see Appendix A.1), and  $\omega_i > 0$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ ,  $\tilde{W}$  is positive definite. Therefore,  $M(\xi)$  is positive definite if and only if  $\tilde{H}$  has full row rank. □

*Proof of Corollary 1.* After some elementary column transformations for the matrix  $(H^T(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, H^T(\mathbf{x}_m))$ , we obtain a new matrix

$$H_{new} = \begin{pmatrix} H_0 & H_0 & H_0 & \cdots & H_0 \\ H_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & H_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & H_{J-1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

In order to keep  $H_{new}$  full row rank,  $H_0, \dots, H_{J-1}$  are full row rank, thus  $m \geq p_j$ , for  $j = 0, \dots, J - 1$ .

Suppose  $\cap_{j=0}^{J-1} C(H_j^T) \neq \{\mathbf{0}\}$ , without loss of generality, we assume that the first row of  $H_0$  lies in  $\cap_{j=1}^{J-1} C(H_j^T)$ . Therefore, the first row of  $H_0$  can be represented by the linear combination of the rows of  $H_1, \dots, H_{J-1}$ ,

respectively. Thus, the first row in  $H_{new}$  can be represented by the last  $p - 1$  rows, which contradicts the fact that  $H_{new}$  is full row rank.

Recall  $r = \dim(\cap_{j=1}^{J-1} C(H_j^T))$ , utilizing the fact that  $\cap_{j=0}^{J-1} C(H_j^T) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ , the rank of the matrix  $(H_0^T, \dots, H_{j-1}^T)$  is at least  $p_0 + r$ . Thus  $m \geq p_0 + r$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 3.* As mentioned in Remark S1,  $M_i = M(\delta_{\mathbf{x}_i})$ . The information matrix under the design  $\xi$  is

$$M(\xi) = \sum_{i=1}^m \omega_i M(\delta_{\mathbf{x}_i}).$$

Using the same argument in Theorem 2 of Yang et al. (2017), it can be shown that  $|M(\xi)|$  is a polynomial function of  $(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_m)$ .

Now we will show that the coefficients calculated in Equation (3.1) are zero in conditions (1) or (2).

(1) For the first scenario, recall  $M(\delta_{\mathbf{x}_i}) = H^T(\mathbf{x}_i)G^T(\mathbf{x}_i)D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)G(\mathbf{x}_i)H(\mathbf{x}_i)$ .

The rank of  $M(\delta_{\mathbf{x}_i})$  is less than or equal to the rank of  $G(\mathbf{x}_i)$ , i.e.,  $J - 1$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . Since  $\max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \alpha_i \geq J$ , without loss of generality, we assume  $\alpha_1 \geq J$ . Then for any  $\tau \in \Delta_{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m}$ , there are at least  $J$  rows of  $M_\tau$  which are the same with the corresponding rows of  $M(\delta_{\mathbf{x}_1})$ , then  $|M_\tau| = 0$ , which implies  $c_{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m} = 0$  according to Equation (3.1).

(2) For the second scenario, let  $\bar{H} = (H^T(\mathbf{x}_1)G^T(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, H^T(\mathbf{x}_m)G^T(\mathbf{x}_m))$ , and  $\bar{W} = \text{diag}(\omega_1 D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, \omega_m D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_m))$ , then  $M(\xi) = \bar{H}\bar{W}\bar{H}^T$ .

By Cauchy-Binet formula (Horn and Johnson, 2012), it follows

$$c_{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m} = \sum_{(v_1, \dots, v_p) \in \Lambda(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m)} |\bar{H}[i_1, \dots, i_p]|^2 \prod_{k: \alpha_k > 0} \prod_{l: (k-1)J < v_l \leq kJ} \pi_{k, v_l - (k-1)J}^{-1},$$

where  $1 \leq v_1 < \dots < v_p \leq mJ$ ,  $\Lambda(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m)$  only depends on  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$ , and  $\bar{H}[i_1, \dots, i_p]$  is the submatrix consisting of the  $i_1$ th,  $\dots$ ,  $i_p$ th rows of  $\bar{H}$ . Without loss of generality, we assume  $\alpha_1 \geq \dots \geq \alpha_k > 0 = \alpha_{k+1} = \dots = \alpha_m$ , where  $k + 1 \leq \max\{p_0 + r, p_1, \dots, p_{J-1}\}$ . Suppose  $c_{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m} \neq 0$  for some  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m)$ . Therefore, there exist  $(v_1, \dots, v_p)$  such that  $\bar{H}[v_1, \dots, v_p]$  has full rank  $p$ , and  $1 \leq v_1 < \dots < v_p \leq kJ$ . Then  $\bar{\bar{H}} = \bar{H}[1, \dots, kJ]$  is full row rank. Let  $\bar{\bar{W}} = k^{-1} \text{diag}(D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_k))$ .  $\bar{\bar{H}}\bar{\bar{W}}\bar{\bar{H}}^T$  is positive definite. On the other hand, we can regard  $\bar{\bar{H}}\bar{\bar{W}}\bar{\bar{H}}^T$  as the Fisher information matrix under uniform weighted design on the  $k$  support points, thus  $k \geq \max\{p_0 + r, p_1, \dots, p_{J-1}\}$ , which is a contradiction.

□

*Proof of Theorem 4.* Note that maximizing  $|M(\xi)|$  is equivalent to maximize  $\log |M(\xi)|$ . Recall  $\delta_{\mathbf{x}}$  denote the single point design. The Frechet derivate of  $\log |M(\xi)|$  at  $\xi^*$  in the direction of  $\delta_{\mathbf{x}} - \xi^*$  is

$$\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\alpha} (\log |M((1 - \alpha)\xi^* + \alpha\delta_{\mathbf{x}})| - \log |M(\xi^*)|)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\alpha} (\log |M(\xi^*) + \alpha(M(\delta_{\mathbf{x}}) - M(\xi^*))| - \log |M(\xi^*)|) \\
 &= \text{tr} (M^{-1}(\xi^*)(M(\delta_{\mathbf{x}}) - M(\xi^*))) \\
 &= \text{tr} (M^{-1}(\xi^*)M(\delta_{\mathbf{x}})) - p \\
 &= \text{tr} (M^{-1}(\xi^*)H^T(\mathbf{x})G^T(\mathbf{x})D^{-1}(\mathbf{x})G(\mathbf{x})H(\mathbf{x})) - p.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then the theorem is proved following Pukelsheim (2006). □

*Proof of Theorem 5.* Note that the set of all Fisher information matrices is a convex hull. Since the design region is compact, the corresponding set is a convex and compact subset of the linear space of symmetric matrices. By Carathéodory's Theorem (Danninger-Uchida, 2009), there exists a design  $\xi^*$  which contains only a finite number of design points that maximizes  $\log |M(\xi)|$ .

Since  $\log |M(\xi_t)|$  is a bounded and increasing function of  $t$ ,  $\log |M(\xi_t)|$  converges when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . We shall show that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \log |M(\xi_t)| = \log |M(\xi^*)|. \quad (\text{S1.4})$$

If Equation (S1.4) does not hold, there exists  $\zeta > 0$ , by the monotonicity of  $\log |M(\xi_t)|$ , such that

$$\log |M(\xi^*)| - \log |M(\xi_t)| > \zeta. \quad (\text{S1.5})$$

Utilizing the concavity of  $\log |M(\xi)|$ , we have

$$(1 - \alpha) \log |M(\xi_t)| + \alpha \log |M(\xi^*)| \leq \log |(1 - \alpha)M(\xi_t) + \alpha M(\xi^*)|, \quad (\text{S1.6})$$

for any  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ . Equation (S1.6) implies that

$$\frac{\log |(1 - \alpha)M(\xi_t) + \alpha M(\xi^*)| - \log |M(\xi_t)|}{\alpha} \geq \log |M(\xi^*)| - \log |M(\xi_t)|.$$

Let  $\alpha \rightarrow 0^+$  and utilize Equation (S1.5),

$$\text{tr}(M^{-1}(\xi_t)(M(\xi^*) - M(\xi_t))) > \zeta. \quad (\text{S1.7})$$

Recall  $\mathbf{x}_t^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \phi(\mathbf{x}, \xi_t)$ , then  $\phi(\mathbf{x}_t^*, \xi_t) \geq \phi(\mathbf{x}, \xi_t)$  for any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ . Thus, we have

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}_t^*, \xi_t) \geq \int_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \phi(\mathbf{x}, \xi_t) \xi^*(d\mathbf{x}) = \text{tr}(M^{-1}(\xi_t)(M(\xi^*) - M(\xi_t))).$$

Combing with Equation (S1.7), it follows that

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}_t^*, \xi_t) > \zeta. \quad (\text{S1.8})$$

Let  $\xi_{t+1}(\alpha) = (1 - \alpha)\xi_t + \alpha\delta_{\mathbf{x}_t^*}$ , where  $0 \leq \alpha \leq \frac{1}{2}, t \in \mathbb{N}^*$ . Since  $\log |M(\xi)|$  is an increasing function and by the definition of  $\xi_{t+1}$ , it can be shown that

$$\log \left| \frac{1}{2} M(\xi_t) \right| \leq \log |M(\xi_{t+1}(\alpha))| \leq \log |M(\xi_{t+1})|, \quad (\text{S1.9})$$

for any  $0 \leq \alpha \leq \frac{1}{2}$ . By the definition of  $\xi^*$ , we have

$$\log \left| \frac{1}{2} M(\xi_1) \right| \leq \log |M(\xi_{t+1}(\alpha))| \leq \log |M(\xi^*)|. \quad (\text{S1.10})$$

Equation (S1.10) implies that  $\log |M(\xi_{t+1}(\alpha))|$  is uniformly bounded for  $0 \leq \alpha \leq \frac{1}{2}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{N}^*$ . By Theorem 3,  $|M(\xi_{t+1}(\alpha))|$  is a polynomial of  $\alpha$ , which implies that  $\log |M(\xi_{t+1}(\alpha))|$  is infinitely differentiable with respect to  $\alpha$ . Recall that both  $M(\xi_t)$  and  $M(\xi_{t+1}(\alpha))$  lie in a same convex and compact subset of the linear space of symmetric matrices for all  $t$  and  $\alpha \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ . Combining Equation (S1.10) with the aforementioned facts, there exists  $0 < K < \infty$ , such that,

$$\inf \left\{ \frac{d^2 \log |M(\xi_{t+1}(\alpha))|}{d\alpha^2} : \alpha \in \left[0, \frac{1}{2}\right], t \in \mathbb{N}^* \right\} = -K. \quad (\text{S1.11})$$

Using Taylor expansion of  $\log |M(\xi_{t+1}(\alpha))|$  with respect to  $\alpha$  and applying Equations (S1.8), (S1.11), we can show that,

$$\begin{aligned} \log |M(\xi_{t+1}(\alpha))| &= \log |M(\xi_t)| + \phi(\mathbf{x}_t^*, \xi_t) \alpha + \frac{1}{2} \alpha^2 \left. \frac{d^2 \log |M(\xi_{t+1}(\alpha))|}{d\alpha^2} \right|_{\alpha=\alpha'} \\ &\geq \log |M(\xi_t)| + \zeta \alpha - \frac{1}{2} K \alpha^2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\alpha' \in (0, \alpha)$ . Combining Equation (S1.9), the following equation holds for any  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1/2$ ,

$$\log |M(\xi_{t+1})| - \log |M(\xi_t)| \geq \zeta \alpha - \frac{1}{2} K \alpha^2.$$

Now we consider the following two situations.

- If  $K > 2\zeta$ , let  $\alpha = \frac{\zeta}{K}$ , then

$$\log |M(\xi_{t+1})| - \log |M(\xi_t)| \geq \frac{\zeta^2}{2K}.$$

- If  $K \leq 2\zeta$ , let  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ , then

$$\log |M(\xi_{t+1})| - \log |M(\xi_t)| \geq \frac{1}{2}\zeta - \frac{1}{8}K \geq \frac{1}{4}\zeta.$$

Note that  $\zeta$  and  $K$  are finite. The two cases imply  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \log |M(\xi_t)| = \infty$ , which leads a contradiction. Thus, the sequence of designs  $\{\xi_t\}$  converge to an optimal design that maximizes  $|M(\xi)|$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 6.* In this case,  $H(\mathbf{x}) = \text{diag}\{\mathbf{h}_1^T(\mathbf{x}), \dots, \mathbf{h}_{J-1}^T(\mathbf{x})\}$  is a  $(J-1) \times p_1(J-1)$  matrix.  $\tilde{H} = (H^T(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, H^T(\mathbf{x}_{p_1}))$  is a  $p_1(J-1) \times p_1(J-1)$  matrix. For any design

$$\xi = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_{p_1} \\ \omega_1 & \cdots & \omega_{p_1} \end{pmatrix},$$

let  $\tilde{W} = \text{diag}(\omega_1 G^T(\mathbf{x}_1)D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_1)G(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, \omega_{p_1} G^T(\mathbf{x}_{p_1})D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_{p_1})G(\mathbf{x}_{p_1}))$ .

Then the determinant of  $M(\xi)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} |M(\xi)| &= |\tilde{H}\tilde{W}\tilde{H}^T| \\ &= |\tilde{H}|^2 \cdot |\tilde{W}| \\ &= |\tilde{H}|^2 \left( \prod_{i=1}^{p_1} |G^T(\mathbf{x}_i)D^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)G(\mathbf{x}_i)| \right) \left( \prod_{i=1}^{p_1} \omega_i \right)^{J-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Maximizing the above expression with respect to the weights  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{p_1}$  under the condition  $\sum_{i=1}^{p_1} \omega_i = 1$  gives  $\omega_i = 1/p_1$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, p_1$ , which proves this theorem.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 7.* For Model (4.1),

$$H(x_i) = \begin{pmatrix} x_i & 1 & 0 \\ x_i & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, G(x_i) = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{g}_{i1} & 0 \\ -\frac{\pi_{i2}}{\pi_{i2} + \pi_{i3}} \bar{g}_{i1} & (\pi_{i2} + \pi_{i3}) \bar{g}_{i2} \\ -\frac{\pi_{i3}}{\pi_{i2} + \pi_{i3}} \bar{g}_{i1} & -(\pi_{i2} + \pi_{i3}) \bar{g}_{i2} \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\bar{g}_{ij} = (g^{-1})'(\theta_j + \beta x_i)$ , for  $i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2$ . Directly calculations yield that,

$$H^T(x_i)G^T(x_i)D^{-1}(x_i)G(x_i)H(x_i) = \begin{pmatrix} (s_i + t_i)x_i^2 & s_i x_i & t_i x_i \\ s_i x_i & s_i & 0 \\ t_i x_i & 0 & t_i \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $s_i = \bar{g}_{i1}^2 \pi_{i1}^{-1} (\pi_{i2} + \pi_{i3})^{-1}$ , and  $t_i = (\pi_{i2} + \pi_{i3})^3 \bar{g}_{i2}^2 (\pi_{i2} \pi_{i3})^{-1}$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ .

The determinant of the Fisher information matrix can be derived as follows,

$$|M(\xi)| = \omega_1 \omega_2 (c_1 \omega_1 + c_2 \omega_2),$$

where  $c_1 = (x_1 - x_2)^2 s_1 t_1 (s_2 + t_2)$ ,  $c_2 = (x_1 - x_2)^2 s_2 t_2 (s_1 + t_1)$ . Using the facts in Corollary 2 of Yang et al. (2017), the theorem is proved.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 8.* For Model (4.2), the matrices  $H(x_i)$  and  $G(x_i)$  have

the following formula,

$$H(x_i) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_i & x_i^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & x_i \end{pmatrix}, G(x_i) = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{g}_{i1} & 0 \\ -\frac{\pi_{i2}}{\pi_{i2}+\pi_{i3}}\bar{g}_{i1} & (\pi_{i2} + \pi_{i3})\bar{g}_{i2} \\ -\frac{\pi_{i3}}{\pi_{i2}+\pi_{i3}}\bar{g}_{i1} & -(\pi_{i2} + \pi_{i3})\bar{g}_{i2} \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\bar{g}_{i1} = (g^{-1})'(\theta_{11} + \theta_{12}x_i + \theta_{13}x_i^2)$ ,  $\bar{g}_{i2} = (g^{-1})'(\theta_{21} + \theta_{22}x_i)$ , for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ .

Directly calculations yield that,

$$H^T(x_i)G^T(x_i)D^{-1}(x_i)G(x_i)H(x_i) = \begin{pmatrix} s_i & s_i x_i & s_i x_i^2 & 0 & 0 \\ s_i x_i & s_i x_i^2 & s_i x_i^3 & 0 & 0 \\ s_i x_i^2 & s_i x_i^3 & s_i x_i^4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & t_i & t_i x_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & t_i x_i & t_i x_i^2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $s_i = \bar{g}_{i1}^2 \pi_{i1}^{-1} (\pi_{i2} + \pi_{i3})^{-1}$ , and  $t_i = (\pi_{i2} + \pi_{i3})^3 \bar{g}_{i2}^2 (\pi_{i2} \pi_{i3})^{-1}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . The determinant of the Fisher information matrix can be derived as follows,

$$|M(\xi)| = C \omega_1 \omega_2 \omega_3 (c_1 \omega_1 \omega_2 + c_2 \omega_1 \omega_3 + c_3 \omega_1 \omega_2),$$

where  $C = s_1 s_2 s_3 (x_1 - x_2)^2 (x_1 - x_3)^2 (x_2 - x_3)^2$ ,  $c_1 = t_1 t_2 (x_1 - x_2)^2$ ,  $c_2 = t_1 t_3 (x_1 - x_3)^2$ ,  $c_3 = t_2 t_3 (x_2 - x_3)^2$ . This theorem follows by Lemma S.4 in Section S.13 and its proof in Section S.15 of Bu et al. (2020).  $\square$

## S2 Additional simulations results

**Example S1.** In this example, we demonstrate the optimal design searched out by our method. For comparison, we also report the results for the  $D$ -optimal design constructed in Bu et al. (2020) via grid-points. All the simulation settings are the same as Example 4 in the main text. For clear transparency, we drop out the points with zero weights in the following.

$$\begin{aligned}\xi_{BMY,4} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 66.7 & 133.3 \\ 0.206 & 0.394 & 0.400 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \xi_{BMY,6} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 80.0 & 120.0 & 160.0 \\ 0.202 & 0.100 & 0.336 & 0.362 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \xi_{BMY,10} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 111.1 & 155.6 \\ 0.203 & 0.398 & 0.399 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \xi_{BMY,20} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 105.3 & 147.4 \\ 0.203 & 0.398 & 0.399 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \xi_{BMY,50} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 102.0 & 106.1 & 146.9 & 151.0 \\ 0.203 & 0.278 & 0.120 & 0.184 & 0.215 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \xi^* &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 101.1 & 147.8 & 149.3 \\ 0.203 & 0.397 & 0.307 & 0.093 \end{pmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$

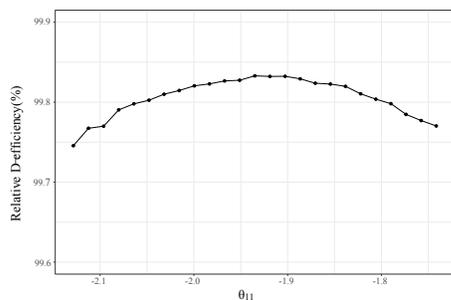
One can see that  $\xi_{BMY,4}$ ,  $\xi_{BMY,10}$ , and  $\xi_{BMY,20}$  have only three support

points, which are minimally supported. While  $\xi_{BMY,6}$  and  $\xi_{BMY,50}$  have 4 and 5 support points, respectively. Note that the optimal design  $\xi^*$  has less support points compared with the  $\xi_{BMY,50}$ , which is of practical significance due to the cost of changing settings.

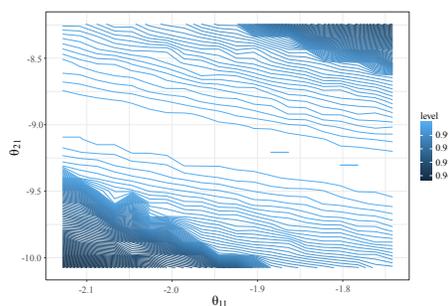
**Example S2.** Consider the situation where the pre-specified value of the parameter vector is moderately misspecified. Since all the cases have similar performance, we report the results of Model (2.5) as an example. Suppose the pre-specified value of the parameter vector for the locally optimal design fluctuates in a moderate range ( $\pm 10\%$  the magnitude of the true value).

For visualization propose, we report the results for the case that only one of the five parameters is misspecified (we choose  $\theta_{11}$  as an example). The results are presented in Figure S1(a). Figure S1(a) shows the relative  $D$ -efficiencies for the locally  $D$ -optimal designs under the misspecified parameter  $\theta_{11}$ . Clearly, these  $D$ -optimal designs under misspecified parameters have relative  $D$ -efficiencies greater than 99.97%. When there are two parameters misspecified (we choose  $\theta_{11}, \theta_{21}$  as an example), we plot a contour plot in Figure S1(b). From Figure S1(b), one can see that the relative  $D$ -efficiencies are also greater than 95.0%.

To give a comprehensive result, we also consider the case that all the five parameters are misspecified, via the grid-point method. The results



(a)  $\theta_{11}$  is misspecified



(b) both  $\theta_{11}$  and  $\theta_{21}$  are misspecified

Figure S1: Relative  $D$ -efficiencies when the parameters are misspecified.

are summarized in Table S1. The minimum efficiency is 63.6%, which is close to the efficiency of uniform design consider in Example 4. On the other hand, the 1st quartile is 94.3%, which indicates the  $D$ -optimal designs with moderately misspecified parameters are quite robust and still have satisfactory performances.

Table S1: Summary of relative  $D$ -efficiencies when all the five parameters are misspecified.

Min.	1st Quartile	Median	3rd Quartile	Max.
63.6%	94.3 %	97.6%	99.4%	100.0%

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