

# Online Appendix to “Dispersed Behavior and Perceptions in Assortative Societies”

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## D Omitted Proofs

### D.1 Proofs for Appendix A

#### D.1.1 Proof of Lemma A.1

For the first point, note that for any  $f \in L^1$ ,

$$\|T_C f\| = \int_0^1 |T_C f(x)| dx \leq \int_0^1 \int_0^1 c(x', x) |f(x')| dx' dx = \int_0^1 |f(x')| dx' = \|f\| < \infty.$$

Thus,  $T_C : L^1 \rightarrow L^1$ . Moreover, since  $T_C$  is clearly linear, the above ensures that it is also continuous.

For the second point, consider  $f \in \mathcal{I}$ . Since  $C$  is assortative,  $T_C f(x) \geq T_C f(x')$  for all  $x \geq x'$ , so that  $T_C f$  is weakly increasing. To show that  $T_C f$  is absolutely continuous, note that for each  $x, x' \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} T_C f(x) &= \int_0^1 c(y, x) f(y) dy = \int_0^1 \left( \int_{x'}^x c_2(y, z) dz + c(y, x') \right) f(y) dy \\ &= \int_{x'}^x \int_0^1 c_2(y, z) f(y) dy dz + T_C f(x'), \end{aligned}$$

where  $c_2$  denotes the partial derivative of  $c$  with respect to the second argument, which exists almost everywhere by the absolute continuity assumption on  $c$ . Thus  $T_C f$  is absolutely continuous with  $(T_C f)'(z) = \int_0^1 c_2(y, z) f(y) dy$  for each  $z$ .

Finally, for the third point, fix any  $f \in L^1$  and  $\gamma \in (-1, 1)$ . Then for any  $\tau > \tau'$ ,

$$\left\| \sum_{t=0}^{\tau} \gamma^t (T_C)^t f - \sum_{t=0}^{\tau'} \gamma^t (T_C)^t f \right\| \leq \sum_{t=\tau'+1}^{\tau} |\gamma|^t \|(T_C)^t f\| \leq \sum_{t=\tau'+1}^{\tau} |\gamma|^t \|f\| \leq \frac{|\gamma|^{\tau'+1}}{1-\gamma} \|f\|,$$

which vanishes as  $\tau' \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus, the sequence is Cauchy. Since the space  $L^1$  is complete, this yields the desired result.  $\square$

#### D.1.2 Proof of Lemma A.3

**$\succsim_m$ -order:** It is clear from the definition that  $\succsim_m$  is reflexive and transitive; moreover, by Lemma A.2,  $\succsim_m$  is linear. To check that  $\succsim_m$  is continuous, take sequences  $f_n \rightarrow f, g_n \rightarrow g$  in

$\mathcal{I}$  such that  $f_n \succsim_m g_n$  for each  $n$ . For any  $y \in (0, 1)$ , we have

$$\left| \int_y^1 f(x)dx - \int_y^1 f_n(x)dx \right| \leq \int_y^1 |f(x) - f_n(x)|dx \leq \|f - f_n\| \rightarrow 0$$

and likewise  $\left| \int_y^1 g(x)dx - \int_y^1 g_n(x)dx \right| \rightarrow 0$ . Since  $\int_y^1 f_n(x)dx \geq \int_y^1 g_n(x)dx$  and  $\int_0^1 f_n(x)dx = \int_0^1 g_n(x)dx$  for each  $n$ , this implies  $\int_y^1 f(x)dx \geq \int_y^1 g(x)dx$  and  $\int_0^1 f(x)dx = \int_0^1 g(x)dx$ . Thus,  $f \succsim_m g$  by Lemma A.2.

To verify that  $\succsim_m$  is isotone, take any  $f, g \in \mathcal{I}$  such that  $f \succsim_m g$  and set  $h := f - g$ . Note that  $\int_0^1 h(x)dx = \int_0^1 T_C h(x)dx = 0$ . It suffices to show that  $\int_y^1 T_C h(x)dx \geq 0$  for all  $y \in (0, 1)$ .

To see this, note that  $\int_y^1 T_C h(x)dx$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \int_y^1 \int_0^1 h(z)c(z|x)dzdx &= \int_0^1 \int_y^1 c(z|x)dxh(z)dz = \int_0^1 (1 - C(y|z))h(z)dz \\ &= - \int_0^1 \frac{\partial(1 - C(y|z))}{\partial z} \int_0^z h(z')dz'dz + \left[ (1 - C(y|z)) \int_0^z h(z')dz' \right]_0^1 \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{\partial C(y|z)}{\partial z} \int_0^z h(z')dz'dz \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where the second equality uses  $\int_y^1 c(z|x)dx = \int_y^1 c(x|z)dx = 1 - C(y|z)$ , the third holds by integration by parts (using absolute continuity of  $c$ ), the fourth uses  $\int_0^1 h(z)dz = 0$ , and the final inequality uses  $\int_0^z h(z')dz' \leq 0$  (by  $f \succsim_m g$ ) and assortativity of  $C$ .

**$\succsim_d$ -order:** It is clear from the definition that  $\succsim_d$  is reflexive, transitive, and linear. To check that it is continuous, take sequences  $f_n \rightarrow f$  and  $g_n \rightarrow g$  in  $\mathcal{I}$  such that  $f_n \succsim_d g_n$  for each  $n$ . By standard results (e.g., Theorem 13.6 in Aliprantis and Border (2006)), we can find subsequences  $(f_{n_k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}, (g_{n_k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that  $f_{n_k}(x) \rightarrow f(x)$  and  $g_{n_k}(x) \rightarrow g(x)$  for almost all  $x \in (0, 1)$ . This implies  $f(x) - f(x') \geq g(x) - g(x')$  for almost all  $x \geq x'$ , which ensures  $f \succsim_d g$  since  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous.

To show that  $\succsim_d$  is isotone, first consider any bounded  $f, g \in \mathcal{I}$  such that  $f \succsim_d g$ . Since  $f$  and  $g$  are absolutely continuous, there exist integrable functions  $f', g' : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(x) = f(0) + \int_0^x f'(y)dy$  and  $g(x) = g(0) + \int_0^x g'(y)dy$  for all  $x \in (0, 1)$ . Then, for any  $x \geq x'$  and  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ , integration by parts yields

$$\begin{aligned} T_C f(x) - T_C f(x') &= \int_0^1 f(y)(c(y|x) - c(y|x'))dy \\ &= - \int_0^1 f'(y)(C(y|x) - C(y|x'))dy + [f(y)(C(y|x) - C(y|x'))]_0^1 \\ &= - \int_0^1 f'(y)(C(y|x) - C(y|x'))dy \geq - \int_0^1 g'(y)(C(y|x) - C(y|x'))dy \\ &= - \int_0^1 g'(y)(C(y|x) - C(y|x'))dy + [g(y)(C(y|x) - C(y|x'))]_0^1 \\ &= \int_0^1 g(y)(c(y|x) - c(y|x'))dy = T_C g(x) - T_C g(x'). \end{aligned}$$

Here, the inequality holds because the fact that  $f \succsim_d g$  and  $f, g \in \mathcal{I}$  implies  $f'(y) \geq g'(y) \geq 0$  for almost all  $y \in (0, 1)$ .

Next, consider arbitrary  $f, g \in \mathcal{I}$  such that  $f \succsim_d g$ . By defining bounded functions

$$f_n(x) = \begin{cases} f(\frac{1}{n}) & \text{if } x \in (0, \frac{1}{n}) \\ f(x) & \text{if } x \in [\frac{1}{n}, \frac{n-1}{n}] \\ f(\frac{n-1}{n}) & \text{if } x \in (\frac{n-1}{n}, 1) \end{cases} \quad g_n(x) = \begin{cases} g(\frac{1}{n}) & \text{if } x \in (0, \frac{1}{n}) \\ g(x) & \text{if } x \in [\frac{1}{n}, \frac{n-1}{n}] \\ g(\frac{n-1}{n}) & \text{if } x \in (\frac{n-1}{n}, 1) \end{cases} \quad (21)$$

for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we obtain  $f_n \succsim_d g_n$  for each  $n$  and  $f_n \rightarrow f, g_n \rightarrow g$ . For any  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ , since  $T_C$  is a continuous operator, this implies  $T_C f_n \rightarrow T_C f$  and  $T_C g_n \rightarrow T_C g$ . Thus,  $T_C f \succsim_d T_C g$  by continuity of  $\succsim_d$ , as we already know that  $T_C f_n \succsim_d T_C g_n$  from the previous part of the proof.  $\square$

### D.1.3 Proof of Lemma A.4

The base case  $t = 0$  holds because of the following result by Ryff (1963): Call a linear operator  $T : L^1 \rightarrow L^1$  an  $\mathfrak{S}$ -operator if  $f \succsim_m T f$  for all  $F \in \mathcal{I}$ . The representation theorem in Ryff (1963) implies that  $T$  is an  $\mathfrak{S}$ -operator if there exists some measurable function  $K : [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $T f(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^1 K(x, y) f(y) dy$  for all  $f \in L^1$  and almost every  $x$  and the following conditions are met: (1)  $K(0, y) = 0$  for all  $0 \leq y \leq 1$ ; (2)  $\text{essup}_y V(K(\cdot, y)) < \infty$ , where  $V(\cdot)$  denotes the total variation and  $\text{essup}$  the essential supremum; (3)  $\int_0^1 K(x, y) f(y) dy$  is absolutely continuous in  $x$  for all  $f \in L^1$ ; (4)  $x = \int_0^1 K(x, y) dy$ ; (5)  $x_1 < x_2 \implies K(x_1, \cdot) \leq K(x_2, \cdot)$ ; and (6)  $K(1, y) = 1$  for all  $y \in [0, 1]$ .

Since  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ , it is easy to see that  $T_C$  satisfies these conditions with  $K(x, y) := C(x | y)$  for all  $x, y$ , so that  $T_C$  is an  $\mathfrak{S}$ -operator. Thus,  $f \succsim_m T_C f$ , proving the base case. The inductive step then follows from isotonicity of  $\succsim_m$  (Lemma A.3).  $\square$

## D.2 Proofs for Appendix C

### D.2.1 Proof of Proposition C.1

Let  $\mu := \mathbb{E}_F[\theta]$ . Consider strategy profiles  $g_a^\alpha$  and  $g_c^\alpha$  of assortativity neglect and correct agents expressed as functions of quantiles. Write  $g^\alpha := \alpha g_a^\alpha + (1 - \alpha) g_c^\alpha$ . In an  $\alpha$ -ANE, we must have

$$g_a^\alpha(x) = F^{-1}(x) + (\beta + \gamma) T_C g^\alpha(x), \quad g_c^\alpha(x) = F^{-1}(x) + \gamma T_C g^\alpha(x) + \beta \int_0^1 g^\alpha(y) dy$$

for each  $x \in (0, 1)$ . Since  $g^\alpha = \alpha g_a^\alpha + (1 - \alpha) g_c^\alpha$ , it follows that

$$g^\alpha(x) = F^{-1}(x) + (\gamma + \alpha\beta) T_C g^\alpha(x) + (1 - \alpha)\beta \int_0^1 g^\alpha(y) dy$$

for each  $x$ , which implies  $\int_0^1 g^\alpha(y)dy = \frac{\mu}{1-\beta-\gamma}$  by integrating both sides over  $x$ . Moreover, iterating the above equation we obtain

$$g^\alpha(x) = \sum_{t \geq 0} (\gamma + \alpha\beta)^t (T_C)^t F^{-1}(x) + \frac{(1-\alpha)\beta\mu}{(1-\gamma-\alpha\beta)(1-\beta-\gamma)},$$

where the convergence of the RHS can be shown as in the proof of Lemma 1. Note that this uniquely determines  $g^\alpha$  for any  $\alpha$ . By the best-response conditions, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} g_a^\alpha(x) &= F^{-1}(x) + (\beta + \gamma)T_C g^\alpha(x) \\ &= F^{-1}(x) + (\beta + \gamma) \sum_{t \geq 1} (\gamma + \alpha\beta)^{t-1} (T_C)^t F^{-1}(x) + \frac{(\beta + \gamma)(1-\alpha)\beta\mu}{(1-\gamma-\alpha\beta)(1-\beta-\gamma)}, \\ g_c^\alpha(x) &= F^{-1}(x) + \gamma T_C g^\alpha(x) + \beta \int_0^1 g^\alpha(y)dy \\ &= F^{-1}(x) + \gamma \sum_{t \geq 1} (\gamma + \alpha\beta)^{t-1} (T_C)^t F^{-1}(x) + \frac{(1-\alpha(\beta + \gamma))\beta\mu}{(1-\gamma-\alpha\beta)(1-\beta-\gamma)} \end{aligned}$$

for each  $x$ , yielding (18)-(19). Then the claim  $g_a^\alpha \succsim_d g_c^\alpha$  and the comparative statics with respect to  $\alpha$  can be verified using linearity and continuity of  $\succsim_d$ .  $\square$

## D.2.2 Proof of Proposition C.2

Write  $P = (F, C)$ . Consider any PANE  $s$  with  $\int a d\hat{G}_\theta(a)$  absolutely continuous in  $\theta$ . Then  $s(\theta) = \theta + \beta \int a d\hat{G}_\theta(a) + \gamma \mathbb{E}_P[s(\theta')|\theta]$  for each  $\theta$ . Thus,  $s$  is the Nash equilibrium in environment  $(\tilde{F}, C, \tilde{\beta}, \gamma)$ , where  $\tilde{\beta} = 0$  and  $\tilde{F}^{-1}(x) = F^{-1}(x) + \beta \int a d\hat{G}_{F^{-1}(x)}(a)$  for each  $x$  (note that  $\tilde{F} \in \mathcal{F}$ , as  $\int a d\hat{G}_\theta(a)$  is increasing and absolutely continuous in  $\theta$ ). Since  $\tilde{F}$  is more dispersive than  $F$  (and the global complementarity parameter does not affect Nash action dispersion by Proposition 4), Proposition 3 implies that  $G^{s,P}$  is more dispersive than the Nash global action distribution in environment  $(P, \beta, \gamma)$ .  $\square$

## D.2.3 Details for Example C.1

Fix any  $\hat{\rho} \in [0, \rho]$ . We verify that, for the expressions in Example C.1,  $s^*$  is a PANE and  $(\hat{P}_\theta, \hat{s}_\theta)$  are associated coherent perceptions. Let  $x := \frac{1}{1-\gamma\rho-\beta\frac{\rho-\hat{\rho}}{1-\hat{\rho}}}$  and  $\hat{x} := \frac{1}{1-\gamma\hat{\rho}}$ , so that  $s^*(\theta) = x(\theta - \mu) + \frac{\mu}{1-\beta-\gamma}$  and  $\hat{s}_\theta(\theta') = \hat{x}(\theta' - \hat{\mu}_\theta) + \frac{\hat{\mu}_\theta}{1-\beta-\gamma}$  for all  $\theta, \theta'$ . Since  $P(\cdot|\theta)$  is distributed  $\mathcal{N}(\rho\theta + (1-\rho)\mu, (1-\rho^2)\sigma^2)$ ,  $\theta$ 's true local action distribution  $L_\theta^{s^*,P}$  is distributed  $\mathcal{N}(x\rho(\theta - \mu) + \frac{\mu}{1-\beta-\gamma}, x^2(1-\rho^2)\sigma^2)$ . Since  $\hat{P}_\theta(\cdot|\theta)$  is distributed  $\mathcal{N}(\hat{\rho}\theta + (1-\hat{\rho})\hat{\mu}_\theta, (1-\hat{\rho}^2)\hat{\sigma}^2)$ ,  $\theta$ 's perceived local action distribution  $L_\theta^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}$  is distributed  $\mathcal{N}(\hat{x}\hat{\rho}(\theta - \hat{\mu}_\theta) + \frac{\hat{\mu}_\theta}{1-\beta-\gamma}, \hat{x}^2(1-\hat{\rho}^2)\hat{\sigma}^2)$ . Thus, condition 1(a) of coherency can be verified by observing that, by construction, the mean and variance of  $L_\theta^{s^*,P}$  and  $L_\theta^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}$  are equal.

To verify condition 2, note that, by construction,  $\theta$ 's perceived strategy profile  $\hat{s}_\theta$  is the Nash equilibrium in society  $\hat{P}_\theta = (\hat{\mu}_\theta, \hat{\sigma}^2, \hat{\rho})$  (see Example 1).

Finally, we verify that  $s^*$  is a PANE with perceived global action distributions  $\hat{G}_\theta = \hat{G}^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}$ , as required by condition 1(b). Note first that, by construction,  $s^*(\theta) = \hat{s}_\theta(\theta)$  for all  $\theta$ . Thus,

conditions 1(a) and 2 imply that  $s^*(\theta) \in \text{BR}_\theta(\hat{G}^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}, L_\theta^{s^*, P})$ . It remains to check that  $\hat{G}^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}$  is FOSD-increasing in  $\theta$ . This holds because  $\hat{G}^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}$  is distributed  $\mathcal{N}(\frac{\hat{\mu}_\theta}{1-\beta-\gamma}, \hat{x}^2 \hat{\sigma}^2)$  and because  $\hat{\rho} \leq \rho$  ensures that  $\hat{\mu}_\theta$  is increasing in  $\theta$ .

## D.2.4 Proof of Proposition C.3

We only consider Nash equilibrium, as ANE at  $(P, \beta, \gamma)$  corresponds to Nash equilibrium at  $(P, 0, \beta + \gamma)$ . Let  $\mu := \mathbb{E}_F[\theta]$  and, for each  $x \in (0, 1)$ , define

$$h(x) := \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma^t (T_C)^t F^{-1}(x) + \frac{\beta \mu}{(1-\gamma)(1-\beta-\gamma)},$$

which is a well-defined function in  $L^1$  as  $|\gamma| < 1$ . Following the same argument as in the proof of Lemma 1, the strategy profile defined by  $s^{NE}(\theta) = h(F^{-1}(\theta))$  for each  $\theta$  is the unique Nash equilibrium and satisfies (6).

To show the “moreover” part, note that

$$h = \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma^{2t} T_C^{2t} (F^{-1} + \gamma T_C F^{-1}) + \frac{\beta \mu}{(1-\gamma)(1-\beta-\gamma)}.$$

Since  $\gamma > -1$ , the additional assumption on  $P$  implies that  $F^{-1} + \gamma T_C F^{-1}$  is strictly increasing. Therefore,  $h$ , and hence  $s^{NE}$ , is strictly increasing.  $\square$

## D.2.5 Proof of Proposition C.4

We first show that, analogously to the relationship between  $\succ_{MA}$  and  $\succ_m$  (Lemma B.1), the strongly more-assortative order  $\succ_{SMA}$  is the “dual order” of the dispersiveness order  $\succ_d$ :

**Lemma D.1.** *Fix any  $C_1, C_2 \in \mathcal{C}$ . Then  $C_1 \succ_{SMA} C_2$  if and only if  $T_{C_1} f \succ_d T_{C_2} f$  for all  $f \in \mathcal{I}$ .*

*Proof.* For the “only if” part, suppose that  $C_1 \succ_{SMA} C_2$ . First consider any bounded  $f \in \mathcal{I}$ . Then there exists an integrable function  $f' : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is nonnegative almost everywhere such that  $f(x) = f(0) + \int_0^x f'(y) dy$  for all  $x \in (0, 1)$ . Thus, for any  $x \geq x'$ , integration by parts yields

$$\begin{aligned} T_{C_1} f(x) - T_{C_1} f(x') &= \int_0^1 f(y) (c_1(y|x) - c_1(y|x')) dy \\ &= - \int_0^1 f'(y) (C_1(y|x) - C_1(y|x')) dy + [f(y) (C_1(y|x) - C_1(y|x'))]_0^1 \\ &= - \int_0^1 f'(y) (C_1(y|x) - C_1(y|x')) dy \geq - \int_0^1 f'(y) (C_2(y|x) - C_2(y|x')) dy \\ &= - \int_0^1 f'(y) (C_2(y|x) - C_2(y|x')) dy + [f(y) (C_2(y|x) - C_2(y|x'))]_0^1 \\ &= \int_0^1 f(y) (c_2(y|x) - c_2(y|x')) dy = T_{C_2} f(x) - T_{C_2} f(x'), \end{aligned}$$

where the inequality holds because  $f'(y) \geq 0$  for almost all  $y$ . Hence,  $T_{C_1}f \succsim_d T_{C_2}f$ .

Next take an arbitrary  $f \in \mathcal{I}$ . Define the sequence of bounded functions  $(f_n)$  as in (21), so that  $f_n \rightarrow f$ . By the previous observation, we have  $T_{C_1}f_n \succsim_d T_{C_2}f_n$  for each  $n$ . Since  $T_{C_1}f_n \rightarrow T_{C_1}f$  and  $T_{C_2}f_n \rightarrow T_{C_2}f$  by continuity of  $T_{C_1}$  and  $T_{C_2}$ , continuity of  $\succsim_d$  then yields  $T_{C_1}f \succsim_d T_{C_2}f$ .

For the ‘‘if’’ part, we prove the contrapositive. Suppose that  $C_1$  is not strongly more assortative than  $C_2$ . That is, there exist  $y$  and  $x > x'$  such that

$$C_2(y|x) - C_2(y|x') < C_1(y|x) - C_1(y|x') \leq 0.$$

Since  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  admit densities, the above inequality holds throughout some interval  $(y_1, y_2) \ni y$ . Define  $f \in \mathcal{I}$  by  $f(z) = \int_0^z f'(y')dy'$  for all  $z$ , where  $f'$  is an integrable function given by  $f'(y') = 1$  for  $y' \in (y_1, y_2)$  and  $f'(y') = 0$  for all  $y' \notin (y_1, y_2)$ . Using the same integration by parts argument as above, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} T_{C_1}f(x) - T_{C_1}f(x') &= - \int f'(y)(C_1(y|x) - C_1(y|x'))dy \\ &< - \int f'(y)(C_2(y|x) - C_2(y|x'))dy = T_{C_2}f(x) - T_{C_2}f(x'). \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $T_{C_1}f \succsim_d T_{C_2}f$  fails.  $\square$

**Proof of Proposition C.4.** Note that Nash and ANE strategies are monotone by the assumption on  $P_i$  (Proposition C.3). We prove each part only for Nash, as the ANE at  $(P, \beta, \gamma)$  is the Nash at  $(P, 0, \beta + \gamma)$ . For each  $f, g \in \mathcal{I}$ , write  $f \succsim_{dil} g$  iff  $f \succsim_m g + \alpha$  for some constant function  $\alpha$ . This order inherits linearity, isotonicity, and continuity from  $\succsim_m$ . Note that for  $F, G \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $F$  is a dilation of  $G$  iff  $F^{-1} \succsim_{dil} G^{-1}$ ; moreover, the  $\succsim_{dil}$  order is implied by the  $\succsim_d$  order.

**Second part:** Let  $\beta := \beta_1 = \beta_2$ ,  $\gamma := \gamma_1 = \gamma_2$ ,  $C := C_1 = C_2$ . The proof of Proposition 3 carries over to the case  $\gamma \geq 0$ , so we focus on the case  $\gamma < 0$ . Since  $\beta$  only shifts the action mean without affecting the dilation order, we also assume  $\beta = 0$  without loss.

For each  $i = 1, 2$ , define an operator  $\Gamma_i : \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{I}$  by  $\Gamma_i f = F_i^{-1} + \gamma T_C F_i^{-1} + \gamma^2 T_C^2 f$  for each  $f \in \mathcal{I}$ . Note that  $\Gamma_i(\cdot)$  is increasing, as  $(1 + \gamma T_C)F_i^{-1}$  is increasing by the assumption on  $P_i$ . We make two preliminary observations:

1. For  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $\Gamma_i f \succsim_{dil} \Gamma_i g$  whenever  $f \succsim_{dil} g$ .

This follows from isotonicity of  $\succsim_{dil}$ .

2.  $\Gamma_1 f \succsim_{dil} \Gamma_2 f$  for each  $f \in \mathcal{I}$ .

To see this, note that  $F_1^{-1} \succsim_d F_2^{-1}$  implies  $F_1^{-1} - F_2^{-1} \in \mathcal{I}$ . Thus,

$$F_1^{-1} - F_2^{-1} \succsim_m T_C(F_1^{-1} - F_2^{-1}) \succsim_{dil} -\gamma T_C(F_1^{-1} - F_2^{-1}),$$

where the first comparison uses Lemma A.4 and the second uses  $-1 < \gamma \leq 0$ . Therefore,  $F_1^{-1} + \gamma T_C F_1^{-1} \succsim_{dil} F_2^{-1} + \gamma T_C F_2^{-1}$ , and thus  $\Gamma_1 f \succsim_{dil} \Gamma_2 f$  for each  $f \in \mathcal{I}$ .

Now, fix any  $f \in \mathcal{I}$ . Let

$$g_i := \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma^t T_C^t F_i = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \Gamma_i^t(f).$$

This is the inverse cdf of  $G_i^{NE}$ , as  $s_i^{NE}$  is increasing. By induction, we show that  $\Gamma_1^t f \succ_{dil} \Gamma_2^t f$  for all  $t$ . The base case  $t = 1$  holds by the second observation above. Moreover, if  $\Gamma_1^{t-1} f \succ_{dil} \Gamma_2^{t-1} f$ , then

$$\Gamma_1^t f \succ_{dil} \Gamma_2 \Gamma_1^{t-1} f \succ_{dil} \Gamma_2^t f$$

holds by observations 1-2. Given this,  $g_1 \succ_{dil} g_2$  follows by continuity of  $\succ_{dil}$ .

**First part:** Let  $F := F_1 = F_2$ ,  $\beta := \beta_1 = \beta_2$ ,  $\gamma := \gamma_1 = \gamma_2$ . The proof of Proposition 2 carries over to the case  $\gamma \leq 0$ , so we focus on the case  $\gamma < 0$ . Since  $\beta$  only shifts the action mean without affecting the dilation order, we also assume  $\beta = 0$  without loss. Let  $g_i := \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma^t T_{C_i}^t F^{-1}$ ; this is the inverse cdf of  $G_i^{NE}$  since  $s_i^{NE}$  is monotone.

For each  $i = 1, 2$  and any  $f \in L^1$ , the linearity of the operators  $T_{C_i}^t$  implies

$$(\mathbf{1} - \gamma_i T_{C_i}) \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma_i^t T_{C_i}^t f = \sum_{t \geq 0} (\gamma_i^t T_{C_i}^t) (\mathbf{1} - \gamma_i T_{C_i}) f = f, \quad (22)$$

where  $\mathbf{1}$  denotes the identity operator. Observe that

$$g_2 = \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma^t T_{C_2}^t F^{-1} = \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma^t T_{C_2}^t (\mathbf{1} - \gamma T_{C_1}) g_1,$$

where the second equality uses (22) with  $i = 1$  and  $f = F^{-1}$ . Likewise,

$$g_1 = \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma^t T_{C_2}^t (\mathbf{1} - \gamma T_{C_2}) g_1,$$

by the second equality in (22) with  $i = 2$  and  $f = g_1$ . This shows that  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  correspond to the inverse cdfs of the Nash action distributions in two modified environments that share a common interaction structure  $C_2$  and complementarity parameters  $(0, \gamma)$  and have type distributions  $\tilde{F}_1$  and  $\tilde{F}_2$  with inverse cdfs  $\tilde{F}_1^{-1} := (\mathbf{1} - \gamma T_{C_2}) g_1$  and  $\tilde{F}_2^{-1} := (\mathbf{1} - \gamma T_{C_1}) g_1$ , respectively. Since  $g_1 \in \mathcal{I}$ ,  $\gamma < 0$ , and  $C_1 \succ_{SMA} C_2$ , Lemma D.1 implies  $\tilde{F}_2^{-1} \succ_d \tilde{F}_1^{-1}$ .

Given this, the arguments in part 2 above imply that  $g_2 \succ_{dil} g_1$ , provided we can show that  $(\mathbf{1} + \gamma T_{C_2}) \tilde{F}_i^{-1}$  is increasing for  $i = 1, 2$  (which ensures that the corresponding operators  $\Gamma_i(\cdot)$  in the two modified societies are increasing). For  $i = 2$ , note that  $(\mathbf{1} + \gamma T_{C_2}) \tilde{F}_2^{-1} := (\mathbf{1} + \gamma T_{C_2})(\mathbf{1} - \gamma T_{C_1}) g_1 = (\mathbf{1} + \gamma T_{C_2}) F^{-1}$  by (22), which is increasing by the assumption on  $P_2$  and since  $\gamma > -1$ . For  $i = 1$ , note that (i)  $(\mathbf{1} - \gamma^2 T_{C_1}^2) g_1 = (\mathbf{1} + \gamma T_{C_1}) F^{-1}$  is increasing (by the assumption on  $P_1$  and since  $\gamma > -1$ ), and (ii)  $\gamma^2 T_{C_1}^2 g_1 \succ_d \gamma^2 T_{C_2}^2 g_1$  since  $C_1 \succ_{SMA} C_2$  (Lemma D.1). Combining (i) and (ii) yields that  $(\mathbf{1} + \gamma T_{C_2}) \tilde{F}_1^{-1} := (\mathbf{1} - \gamma^2 T_{C_2}^2) g_1$  is increasing, as required.

**Third part:** Let  $F := F_1 = F_2$ ,  $C := C_1 = C_2$ . The proof of Proposition 4 carries over to the case  $\gamma_i \geq 0$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Thus, by the transitivity of the dilation order, we can focus on the case  $\gamma_i \leq 0$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Since  $\beta$  only shifts the action mean without affecting the dilation order, we also assume  $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$  without loss. Let  $g_i := \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma_i^t T_C^t F^{-1}$ ; this is the inverse cdf of  $G_i^{NE}$  since  $s_i^{NE}$  is monotone. Observe that

$$g_1 = \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma_1^t T_C^t F^{-1} = \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma_1^t T_C^t (\mathbf{1} - \gamma_2 T_C) g_2,$$

where the second equality uses (22) with  $i = 1$  and  $f = F^{-1}$ . Likewise,

$$g_2 = \sum_{t \geq 0} \gamma_1^t T_C^t (\mathbf{1} - \gamma_1 T_C) g_2,$$

by the second equality in (22) with  $i = 1$  and  $f = g_2$ . This shows that  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  can be seen as inverse cdfs of Nash action distributions in two modified environments that share a common interaction structure  $C$  and complementarity parameters  $(0, \gamma_1)$  and have type distributions  $\tilde{F}_1$  and  $\tilde{F}_2$  with inverse cdfs  $\tilde{F}_1^{-1} := (\mathbf{1} - \gamma_2 T_C) g_2$  and  $\tilde{F}_2^{-1} := (\mathbf{1} - \gamma_1 T_C) g_2$ , respectively. Since  $0 \geq \gamma_1 \geq \gamma_2$ , we have  $\tilde{F}_1^{-1} \succeq_d \tilde{F}_2^{-1}$ .

Given this, the arguments in part 2 above imply that  $g_1 \succeq_{dil} g_2$ , provided we can show that  $(\mathbf{1} + \gamma_1 T_C) \tilde{F}_i^{-1}$  is increasing for  $i = 1, 2$  (which ensures that the corresponding operators  $\Gamma_i(\cdot)$  in the two modified societies are increasing). For  $i = 1$ , note that  $(\mathbf{1} + \gamma_1 T_C) \tilde{F}_2^{-1} := (\mathbf{1} + \gamma_1 T_C)(\mathbf{1} - \gamma_2 T_C) g_2 = (\mathbf{1} + \gamma_1 T_C) F^{-1}$ , which is increasing by the assumption on  $P_i$  and  $\gamma_1 > -1$ . For  $i = 2$ , note that (i)  $(\mathbf{1} - \gamma_2^2 T_C^2) g_2 = (\mathbf{1} + \gamma_2 T_C) F^{-1}$  is increasing (by the assumption on  $P_i$  and since  $\gamma_2 > -1$ ), and (ii)  $\gamma_2^2 T_C^2 g_2 \succeq_d \gamma_1^2 T_C^2 g_2$  as  $0 \geq \gamma_1 \geq \gamma_2$ . Combining (i) and (ii) yields that  $(\mathbf{1} + \gamma_1 T_C) \tilde{F}_1^{-1} := (\mathbf{1} - \gamma_1^2 T_C^2) g_2$  is increasing, as required.  $\square$

### D.2.6 Proof of Proposition C.5

Fix any ANE  $s^{AN} =: s$  and  $\theta$ . For each  $\theta'$ , set  $\hat{s}_\theta(\theta') := \text{BR}_{\theta'}(L_\theta^{s,P}, L_\theta^{s,P})$  and  $\hat{F}_\theta(\theta') := L_\theta^{s,P}(\hat{s}_\theta(\theta'))$ , and let  $\hat{P}_\theta := \hat{F}_\theta \times \hat{F}_\theta$ . To verify observational consistency, note that  $L_\theta^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}(a) = \hat{F}_\theta(\hat{s}_\theta^{-1}(a)) = L_\theta^{s,P}(a)$  for each  $a$ , where the first equality uses  $\hat{P}_\theta = \hat{F}_\theta \times \hat{F}_\theta$  and the inverse  $\hat{s}_\theta^{-1}$  is well-defined and increasing by the surjectivity and monotonicity assumption on best-responses. To verify the perceived best-response condition, note that, for each  $\theta'$ ,

$$\hat{s}_\theta(\theta') = \text{BR}_{\theta'}(L_\theta^{s,P}, L_\theta^{s,P}) = \text{BR}_{\theta'}(L_\theta^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}, L_\theta^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}) = \text{BR}_{\theta'}(G^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}, L_\theta^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}),$$

where the second equality uses observational consistency and the third uses non-assortativity of  $\hat{P}_\theta$ . Thus,  $(\hat{P}_\theta, \hat{s}_\theta)$  is a coherent assortativity neglect perception for type  $\theta$ .

To show uniqueness, consider any coherent assortativity neglect perception  $(\hat{P}_\theta = \hat{F}_\theta \times \hat{F}_\theta, \hat{s}_\theta)$  for  $\theta$ . Then, for each  $\theta'$ , the perceived best-response condition, non-assortativity of  $\hat{P}_\theta$ , and observational consistency imply  $\hat{s}_\theta(\theta') = \text{BR}_{\theta'}(G^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}, L_\theta^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}) = \text{BR}_{\theta'}(L_\theta^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}, L_\theta^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}) = \text{BR}_{\theta'}(L_\theta^{s,P}, L_\theta^{s,P})$ . Moreover,  $\hat{P}_\theta = \hat{F}_\theta \times \hat{F}_\theta$  and observational consistency imply  $\hat{F}_\theta(\hat{s}_\theta^{-1}(a)) = L_\theta^{\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{P}_\theta}(a) = L_\theta^{s,P}(a)$  for each  $a$ , which yields  $\hat{F}_\theta(\theta') = L_\theta^{s,P}(\hat{s}_\theta(\theta'))$  for each  $\theta'$ . Thus,  $(\hat{P}_\theta, \hat{s}_\theta)$  coincides with the perceptions in the first paragraph.  $\square$

### D.2.7 Proof of Proposition C.6

Consider any monotone ANE  $s^{AN}$  and any Nash equilibrium  $s^{NE}$ . For any types  $\theta > \theta'$ , the fact that  $\psi$  and  $\phi$  are monotone yields

$$s^{AN}(\theta) - s^{AN}(\theta') = \phi(\theta) - \phi(\theta') + \psi(L_\theta^{s^{AN}, P}) - \psi(L_{\theta'}^{s^{AN}, P}) \geq \phi(\theta) - \phi(\theta') = s^{NE}(\theta) - s^{NE}(\theta') > 0,$$

where the first inequality holds because  $L_\theta^{s^{AN}, P}$  FOSD-dominates  $L_{\theta'}^{s^{AN}, P}$  (by monotonicity of  $s^{AN}$  and assortativity of  $P$ ). Thus,  $G^{s^{AN}, P}$  is more dispersive than  $G^{s^{NE}, P}$ .  $\square$