

# Appendix to the paper “Determining the Number of Factors from Empirical Distribution of Eigenvalues”

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December 31, 2008

## Abstract

This technical appendix contains a proof of Lemma 3 of the paper.

To prove Lemma 3, we will need the following Lemmas A1-A4.

Lemma A1. Let  $F$  be the cdf of a non-negative random variable with a finite upper boundary of support  $u(F)$  and a finite positive expectation  $E_F$ . Let  $m(z)$  be the Stieltjes transform of  $F$ . Then, for any  $z \in \mathbb{C}^+$  such that  $|z| > u(F)$  we have:  $|zm(z) + 1| \leq \frac{u(F)}{|z| - u(F)}$ ; and for any  $z \in \mathbb{C}^+$  such that  $z = x + iy$ , where  $|x| > u(F) + 3y$  we have:  $|zm(z) + 1| \geq \frac{E_F}{4(|z| + u(F))}$ .

Proof: For  $|z| > u(F)$ , we have:  $|zm(z) + 1| = \left| \int \left( \frac{z}{\lambda - z} + 1 \right) dF(\lambda) \right| = \left| \int \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - z} dF(\lambda) \right| \leq \int \left| \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - z} \right| dF(\lambda) \leq \int \frac{\lambda}{|z| - \lambda} dF(\lambda) \leq \frac{u(F)}{|z| - u(F)}$ , which proves one of the lemma's inequalities.

Further, write:

$$zm(z) + 1 = \int \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - z} dF(\lambda) = \int \frac{\lambda(\lambda - x)}{|\lambda - z|^2} dF(\lambda) + i \int \frac{\lambda y}{|\lambda - z|^2} dF(\lambda). \quad (1)$$

Since for any real  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $|a + ib|^2 = a^2 + b^2 \geq \frac{1}{2}(a + b)^2$ , we have:  $|zm(z) + 1| \geq$

$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left| \int \frac{\lambda(\lambda-x+y)}{|\lambda-z|^2} dF(\lambda) \right|$ . If  $x < 0$ , then, since for any real and positive  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $\frac{a+b}{a^2+b^2} \geq (a^2 + b^2)^{-1/2}$ , we have  $\frac{\lambda(\lambda-x+y)}{|\lambda-z|^2} \geq \frac{\lambda}{|\lambda-z|}$ , and therefore:  $|zm(z) + 1| \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int \frac{\lambda}{|\lambda-z|} dF(\lambda) \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int \frac{\lambda}{|z|+\lambda} dF(\lambda) \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int \frac{\lambda}{|z|+u(F)} dF(\lambda) = \frac{E_F}{\sqrt{2}(|z|+u(F))}$ . If  $x > 0$ , then by assumption of the lemma,  $x > u(F) + 3y$ , which implies that  $\frac{1}{2}(x - \lambda - y) > y$  and hence,  $x - \lambda > y + \frac{1}{2}(x - \lambda + y) \geq y + \frac{1}{2}|\lambda - z|$  so that  $x - \lambda + y \geq |\lambda - z|$ . Therefore:  $|zm(z) + 1| \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int \frac{\lambda(x-\lambda-y)}{|\lambda-z|^2} dF(\lambda) \geq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \int \frac{\lambda}{|\lambda-z|} dF(\lambda) \geq \frac{E_F}{2\sqrt{2}(|z|+u(F))}$ .  $\square$

Lemma A2. Suppose that  $u(z), v(z) \in C^+$  are analytic functions satisfying Zhang's system:

$$\begin{cases} zm(z) + 1 = u(z) m_A(u(z)) + 1 \\ zm(z) + 1 = c^{-1} [v(z) m_B(v(z)) + 1] \\ zm(z) + 1 = -c^{-1} \frac{z}{u(z)v(z)} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Let  $U = \{z = x + iy : x > \underline{x} \text{ and } 0 < y < \bar{y}\}$ . Then, for any  $\underline{x} > u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ , there exists  $\bar{y} > 0$  such that for any  $z$  from  $U$ :  $\operatorname{Re} u(z) > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  and  $\operatorname{Re} v(z) > u(\mathcal{F}^B)$ .

Proof: The idea of the proof is as follows. First, using Lemma A1 we prove that for any  $\underline{x} > u(F)$  and  $\bar{y} > 0$ , there exists  $z_1 \in U$  such that  $\operatorname{Re} u(z_1) > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  and  $\operatorname{Re} v(z_1) > u(\mathcal{F}^B)$ . Then, we assume that Lemma A2 does not hold so that for some  $\underline{x} > u(F)$  and any  $\bar{y} > 0$  there exists  $z_2 \in U$  such that  $\operatorname{Re} u(z_2) \leq u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  or/and  $\operatorname{Re} v(z_2) \leq u(\mathcal{F}^B)$ . Connecting  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  by a continuous path  $z(t) \in U$ , we establish the existence of  $z_3 \in U$  such that  $\operatorname{Re} u(z_3) = u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  or/and  $\operatorname{Re} v(z_3) = u(\mathcal{F}^B)$ . Then, we show that for small enough  $\bar{y}$ ,  $\operatorname{Im}(z_3 m(z_3) + 1)$  must be smaller than  $\operatorname{Im}(u(z_3) m_A(u(z_3)) + 1)$  or than  $c^{-1} \operatorname{Im}(v(z_3) m_B(v(z_3)) + 1)$ , which contradicts the assumption that  $u(z), v(z)$  satisfy Zhang's system.

First, we prove the existence of  $z_1$ . The last equation of Zhang's system and the first inequality of Lemma A1 imply that  $\left| \frac{z}{uv} \right| \rightarrow 0$  as  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence, as  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\max\{|u|, |v|\} \rightarrow \infty$ . Suppose without loss of generality that  $|u| \rightarrow \infty$ . Let us show that also  $|v| \rightarrow \infty$ . Indeed, from the first equation of Zhang's system  $|zm(z) + 1| =$

$|um_A(u) + 1|$ . Therefore, for  $z \in U$  with large enough  $|z|$ :

$$\frac{E_{\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}}}{4(|z| + u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}))} \leq |zm(z) + 1| = |um_A(u) + 1| \leq \frac{u(\mathcal{F}^A)}{|u| - u(\mathcal{F}^A)}. \quad (3)$$

where the latter inequality is obtained from Lemma A1 applied to  $um_A(u) + 1$ . This implies that  $\liminf_{|z| \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{z}{u} \right| > 0$ , for  $z \in U$ . However, since  $\left| \frac{z}{uv} \right| = c|zm(z) + 1| \leq \frac{cu(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})}{(|z| - u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}))} \rightarrow 0$ , we must have  $|v| \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence, as  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$  so that  $z$  remains in  $U$ , both  $|u| \rightarrow \infty$  and  $|v| \rightarrow \infty$ . Let us prove that  $\operatorname{Re} u \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\operatorname{Re} v \rightarrow \infty$ .

First, notice that for  $z \in U$ :

$$\operatorname{Im}(zm(z) + 1) < \bar{y} \int \frac{\lambda}{|\lambda - z|^2} d\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}(\lambda) \leq \frac{\bar{y}E_{\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}}}{(x - u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}))^2}. \quad (4)$$

Further,  $\operatorname{Im}\left(-\frac{z}{uv}\right) = \frac{x \operatorname{Im}(uv) - y \operatorname{Re}(uv)}{|uv|^2}$ . Therefore, since Zhang's third equation is  $zm(z) + 1 = -c^{-1} \frac{z}{uv}$ , we have:  $\frac{x \operatorname{Im}(uv) - y \operatorname{Re}(uv)}{|uv|^2} \leq c \frac{\bar{y}E_{\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}}}{(x - u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}))^2}$ . Hence, for  $z \in U$ , where  $\bar{y} \leq \frac{x - u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})}{3}$ , we have:

$$\frac{\operatorname{Im}(uv)}{|uv|} \leq \frac{|uv|}{x} \frac{c\bar{y}E_{\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}}}{(x - u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}))^2} + \frac{y \operatorname{Re}(uv)}{x|uv|} \leq \frac{\bar{y}}{u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})} \left( \left| \frac{cuv}{z^2} \right| \frac{E_{\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}}(x^2 + \bar{y}^2)}{(x - u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}))^2} + 1 \right).$$

Now, the third equation of (2) and the second inequality of Lemma A1 imply that  $\left| \frac{cuv}{z^2} \right| = \left| \frac{1}{z(zm(z) + 1)} \right| \leq \frac{4(|z| + u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}))}{|z|E_{\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}}} \leq \frac{8}{E_{\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}}}$ . Therefore,  $\frac{\operatorname{Im}(uv)}{|uv|} \leq \frac{\bar{y}}{u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})} \left( \frac{x^2 + \bar{y}^2}{8(x - u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}))^2} + 1 \right)$ .

Noting that  $\frac{\operatorname{Im} u}{|u|} \leq \frac{\operatorname{Im}(uv)}{|uv|}$ , we have:

$$\frac{\operatorname{Im} u}{|u|} \leq \frac{\bar{y}}{u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})} \left( \frac{(x^2 + \bar{y}^2)}{8(x - u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}))^2} + 1 \right) \quad (5)$$

for  $z \in U$ , where  $\bar{y} \leq \frac{x - u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})}{3}$ . The same inequality also holds for  $\frac{\operatorname{Im} v}{|v|}$ .

Inequality (5) and the fact that  $|u| \rightarrow \infty$  imply that  $|\operatorname{Re} u| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$  while  $z$  remains in  $U$ . Similarly,  $|\operatorname{Re} v| \rightarrow \infty$ . But  $\operatorname{Re} u$  and  $\operatorname{Re} v$  must be positive for  $z \in U$  when

$|z|$  is large enough. Indeed, (1) implies that  $\operatorname{Re}(zm(z) + 1) < 0$ . Hence, from the first equation of Zhang,  $\operatorname{Re}(um_A(u) + 1) < 0$ . But from (1) applied to  $um_A(u) + 1$  and the fact that  $|\operatorname{Re} u| \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\operatorname{Re}(um_A(u) + 1)$  must be of the same sign as  $-\operatorname{Re} u$  for  $|z|$  large enough. Hence,  $\operatorname{Re} u \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$  while  $z$  remains in  $U$ . Similarly,  $\operatorname{Re} v \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$  while  $z$  remains in  $U$ . This proves the existence of  $z_1 \in U$  with properties outlined above.

Assuming that Lemma A2 does not hold, the existence of  $z_3$  follows from the fact that  $u(z)$  and  $v(z)$  are analytic, and hence continuous, functions of  $z$ . Suppose without loss of generality that  $\operatorname{Re} u(z_3) = u(\mathcal{F}^A)$ . Let us finish the proof of the lemma by comparing  $\operatorname{Im}(z_3m(z_3) + 1)$  with  $\operatorname{Im}(u(z_3)m_A(u(z_3)) + 1)$  when  $\bar{y}$  is small. By assumption that  $\liminf_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{|\lambda - u(\mathcal{F}^A)| \leq \delta} \lambda d\mathcal{F}^A(\lambda) = k^A > 0$ , for  $u(z)$  such that  $\operatorname{Re} u = u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  and  $\operatorname{Im} u$  is small enough, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Im}(um_A(u) + 1) &= \int \frac{\lambda \operatorname{Im} u}{(\lambda - u(\mathcal{F}^A))^2 + (\operatorname{Im} u)^2} d\mathcal{F}^A(\lambda) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2 \operatorname{Im} u} \int_{|\lambda - u(\mathcal{F}^A)| \leq \operatorname{Im} u} \lambda d\mathcal{F}^A(\lambda) \geq \frac{k^A}{2} > 0. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

From (6) and (5), we can choose  $\bar{y}$  small enough so that  $\operatorname{Im}(u(z_3)m_A(u(z_3)) + 1) \geq \frac{k^A}{2}$ . On the other hand, from the first equation of Zhang,  $u(z_3)m_A(u(z_3)) + 1 = z_3m(z_3) + 1$  and hence  $\operatorname{Im}(z_3m(z_3) + 1) \geq \frac{k^A}{2}$ . But from (4) we know that for small enough  $\bar{y}$ ,  $\operatorname{Im}(z_3m(z_3) + 1)$  must be smaller than  $\frac{k^A}{2}$ . We have got a contradiction, which implies that the statement of Lemma A2 holds.  $\square$

Lemma A3. For any real  $x > u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ , there exist real limits  $u(x) \equiv \lim_{z \in \mathbb{C}^+, z \rightarrow x} u(z)$  and  $v(x) \equiv \lim_{z \in \mathbb{C}^+, z \rightarrow x} v(z)$ . Functions  $u(x)$  and  $v(x)$  satisfy the limit version of Zhang's

system:

$$\begin{cases} xm(x) + 1 = um_A(u) + 1 \\ xm(x) + 1 = c^{-1}(vm_B(v) + 1) \\ xm(x) + 1 = -c^{-1}\frac{x}{uv} \end{cases}, \quad (7)$$

are analytic and such that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} u(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} v(x) = \infty$ .

Proof: Let  $G = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^+ : u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B}) < \underline{x} \leq \operatorname{Re} z \leq \bar{x} < \infty, 0 < \operatorname{Im} z < \bar{y} < \infty\}$ . Then  $\sup_{z \in G} \max(|u(z)|, |v(z)|) < \infty$ . Had this been not true, there would have existed a sequence  $\{z_n\} \in G$  such that  $|u(z_n)| \rightarrow \infty$  or  $|v(z_n)| \rightarrow \infty$ . Without loss of generality, let  $|u(z_n)| \rightarrow \infty$ . Lemma A1 then would imply that  $|u(z_n)m_A(u(z_n)) + 1| \rightarrow 0$ , and hence, from Zhang's first equation,  $|z_n m(z_n) + 1| \rightarrow 0$ . But, as follows from (1),  $|\operatorname{Re}(z_n m(z_n) + 1)| \geq \frac{E_F(\underline{x} - u(F))}{\bar{x}^2 + \bar{y}^2} > 0$ , which gives a contradiction.

Since  $\sup_{z \in G} \max(|u(z)|, |v(z)|) < \infty$ , inequality (5) and a similar inequality for  $\frac{\operatorname{Im} v}{|v|}$  imply that for any sequence  $\{z_n\} \in G$  such that  $z_n \rightarrow x \in R$  the concentration points of  $\{u(z_n)\}$  and  $\{v(z_n)\}$  must be real. Suppose that there exist subsequences of  $z_n$ ,  $\{z_i\}$  and  $\{z_j\}$ , such that  $u(z_i) \rightarrow u_1 \in R$  and  $u(z_j) \rightarrow u_2 \in R$  and  $u_1 \neq u_2$ . By Lemma A2,  $u_1 \geq u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  and  $u_2 \geq u(\mathcal{F}^A)$ . If  $u_1 = u(\mathcal{F}^A)$ , then using inequalities similar to (6), we find that  $\operatorname{Im}(u(z_i)m_A(u(z_i)) + 1) \geq \frac{k^A}{2}$  for large enough  $i$ , which cannot be the case because  $\operatorname{Im}(u(z_i)m_A(u(z_i)) + 1) = \operatorname{Im}(z_i m(z_i) + 1) \rightarrow 0$  as  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence,  $u_1 > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$ . Similarly,  $u_2 > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$ .

Since  $m(x)$  exists and is continuous for  $x > u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ , we have:

$\lim_{z_n \rightarrow x} (z_n m(z_n) + 1) = xm(x) + 1$ . Since  $m_A(u)$  exists and is continuous for  $u > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$ , we have:  $\lim_{z_i \rightarrow x} (u(z_i)m_A(u(z_i)) + 1) = u_1 m_A(u_1) + 1$  and  $\lim_{z_j \rightarrow x} (u(z_j)m_A(u(z_j)) + 1) = u_2 m_A(u_2) + 1$ . The first equation of Zhang's system implies that we must have:

$$xm(x) + 1 = u_1 m_A(u_1) + 1 = u_2 m_A(u_2) + 1.$$

But this is not possible with  $u_1 \neq u_2$  such that  $u_1 > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  and  $u_2 > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  because function  $um_A(u) + 1$  is strictly increasing for  $u > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$ . Hence, there exists only one concentration point of  $\{u(z_n)\}$ , that is there exists a real limit  $u(x) \equiv \lim_{z \in \mathbb{C}^+, z \rightarrow x} u(z)$ . Similarly, there exists a real limit  $v(x) \equiv \lim_{z \in \mathbb{C}^+, z \rightarrow x} v(z)$ .

That  $u(x)$  and  $v(x)$  satisfy the limit version of Zhang's system follows from the existence and continuity of  $m_A(u)$  for  $|u| > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  and from the existence and continuity of  $m_B(v)$  for  $|v| > u(\mathcal{F}^B)$ . The analyticity of  $u(x)$  follows from the analyticity of  $F(x, u) \equiv xm(x) + 1 - (um_A(u) + 1)$  for  $x > u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$  and  $u > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  and from the implicit function theorem. Similarly, the analyticity of  $v(x)$  follows from the analyticity of  $F_1(x, v) \equiv xm(x) + 1 - c^{-1}(vm_B(v) + 1)$  for  $x > u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$  and  $v > u(\mathcal{F}^B)$  and from the implicit function theorem. Finally, (7) implies that as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $um_A(u) + 1 \rightarrow 0$  and  $vm_B(v) + 1 \rightarrow 0$ , which can be the case only when  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} u(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} v(x) = \infty$ .  $\square$

Lemma A4. For  $x > u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ , the following system

$$\begin{cases} v = x \left( c \int \frac{\lambda u}{u-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right)^{-1} \\ u = x \left( \int \frac{\lambda v}{v-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_B(\lambda) \right)^{-1} \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

has exactly two solutions  $(u_1, v_1)$  and  $(u_2, v_2)$  such that  $u_i > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  and  $v_i > u(\mathcal{F}^B)$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . For  $x = u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$  and for  $x < u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ , the system has only one such solution and no such solutions, respectively

Proof: For any  $x > u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ , one solution to (8) satisfying  $u(x) > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  and  $v(x) > u(\mathcal{F}^B)$  is given by  $u(x)$  and  $v(x)$  defined in Lemma A3. That such  $u(x)$  and  $v(x)$  indeed provide a solution to (8) follows from the fact that (8) can be obtained from (7) by substituting the third equation into the first two. Let us now show that for  $x > u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ , there exists another solution to (8).

First, note that  $x \left( c \int \frac{\lambda u}{u-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right)^{-1}$  as a function of  $u > u(\mathcal{F}^A)$  is concave, tends to zero as  $u \downarrow u(\mathcal{F}_A)$  and to  $x(cE_A)^{-1}$  as  $u \rightarrow \infty$ . The concavity follows from the expression

$\frac{d^2}{du^2}x \left( c \int \frac{\lambda u}{u-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right)^{-1} = 2xc^{-1} \left( \int \frac{\lambda u}{u-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right)^{-3} \cdot \left( \left( \int \frac{\lambda^2}{(u-\lambda)^2} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right)^2 - \left( \int \frac{\lambda^2}{(u-\lambda)^3} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right) \left( E_A + \int \frac{\lambda^2}{u-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right) \right)$  and the Cauchy inequality  $\int \frac{\lambda}{(u-\lambda)^{3/2}} \frac{\lambda}{(u-\lambda)^{1/2}} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \leq \left( \int \frac{\lambda^2}{(u-\lambda)^3} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right)^{1/2} \left( \int \frac{\lambda^2}{u-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right)^{1/2}$ . The tendency to zero follows from the fact that  $c \int \frac{\lambda u}{u-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $u \downarrow u(\mathcal{F}_A)$ , which is easy to show using the monotone convergence theorem and assumption  $\liminf_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{|\lambda-u(\mathcal{F}_A)| \leq \delta} \lambda d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) = k^A > 0$ . Finally, the convergence to  $x(cE_A)^{-1}$  as  $u \rightarrow \infty$  is obvious. Similarly,  $x \left( \int \frac{\lambda v}{v-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_B(\lambda) \right)^{-1}$  as a function of  $v > u(\mathcal{F}^B)$  is concave, tends to zero as  $v \downarrow u(\mathcal{F}_B)$  and to  $x(cE_B)^{-1}$  as  $v \rightarrow \infty$ .

The above properties of  $x \left( c \int \frac{\lambda u}{u-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right)^{-1}$  and  $x \left( \int \frac{\lambda v}{v-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_B(\lambda) \right)^{-1}$  imply that the curves in the  $\{u > u(\mathcal{F}_A), v > v(\mathcal{F}_B)\}$  subset of the  $(u, v)$ -plane defined by (8) are either intersecting at two points, touching at a single point, or having no common points. Since there exists a solution to (8) for any  $x > u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$  and since  $x \left( c \int \frac{\lambda u}{u-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_A(\lambda) \right)^{-1}$  and  $x \left( \int \frac{\lambda v}{v-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}_B(\lambda) \right)^{-1}$  are monotone increasing in  $x$ , the curves must intersect at two points for any  $x > u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ . Let us show that the curves are touching at a single point when  $x = u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ .

Suppose the curves intersect at two points  $(u_1, v_1)$  and  $(u_2, v_2)$  when  $x = u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ . Let  $u_2 > u_1$  and  $v_2 > v_1$ . Define  $f_1(x, u, v) = x + cuv(um_A(u) + 1)$  and  $f_2(x, u, v) = x + uv(vm_B(v) + 1)$ . Note that system (8) is equivalent to  $f_i(x, u, v) = 0$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . It is straightforward to check that the assumption of the proper intersection of the curves (not just a tangency at one point) is equivalent to  $\det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial v} \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$  at any of the two intersection points. Then the implicit function theorem (see Krantz (1992), Theorem 1.4.11) implies that there exist holomorphic functions  $u(z), v(z)$  defined in an open neighborhood of  $z = u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ , which satisfy  $f_i(z, u, v) = 0$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . To each of the two intersection points, there will correspond its own set of holomorphic functions  $u(z), v(z)$ . We will consider the functions  $u(z)$  and  $v(z)$  corresponding to  $(u_2, v_2)$ . For such a choice, it is straightforward to check that  $\frac{d}{d(\operatorname{Re} z)} \operatorname{Re} u(z) > 0$  and  $\frac{d}{d(\operatorname{Re} z)} \operatorname{Re} v(z) > 0$

at  $z = u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ .

Furthermore, using identities  $f_i(z, u(z), v(z)) = 0$  for  $i = 1, 2$  it is straightforward to check that in a small enough neighborhood of  $z = u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\text{Im } z > 0$  implies that  $\text{Im } u(z)$  and  $\text{Im } v(z)$  are of the same sign and are not equal to zero. Cauchy-Riemann equations for holomorphic functions imply that  $\frac{d}{d(\text{Im } z)} \text{Im } u(z) = \frac{d}{d(\text{Re } z)} \text{Re } u(z) > 0$  and  $\frac{d}{d(\text{Im } z)} \text{Im } v(z) = \frac{d}{d(\text{Re } z)} \text{Re } v(z) > 0$  at  $z = u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ . Hence,  $\text{Im } u(z)$  and  $\text{Im } v(z)$  are positive when  $\text{Im } z$  is positive and  $z$  lies in a small enough complex neighborhood of  $u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ . Let us define  $m(z) = -\frac{c^{-1}}{u(z)v(z)} - \frac{1}{z}$ . Clearly, for  $z$  in the small complex neighborhood of  $u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ ,  $\text{Im } m(z) > 0$ .

Zhang shows that for any  $z \in \mathbb{C}^+$ , there is only one solution to (2) such that  $m, u$  and  $v$  belong to  $\mathbb{C}^+$ . Hence,  $u(z), v(z)$ , and  $m(z)$  defined above constitute the solution to Zhang's system (2) for  $z$  in a small neighborhood of  $u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$  and such that  $\text{Im } z > 0$ . Finally, for any real  $x$  which belongs to the neighborhood of  $u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ , we have:  $\lim_{z \rightarrow x} \text{Im } m(z) = \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \text{Im} \left( -\frac{c^{-1}}{u(z)v(z)} - \frac{1}{z} \right) = 0$ . Thus, using the Frobenius-Perron inversion formula, we get  $\int_{u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})-\delta}^{u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})} dF(\lambda) = 0$  for small positive  $\delta$ , which is impossible by definition of  $u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ . Hence, the curves are touching at a single point when  $x = u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ . This implies that they do not intersect when  $x < u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$ .  $\square$

Now we are ready to prove Lemma 3.

Proof of Lemma 3: Recall that by assumption,  $\mathcal{F}^{AA'}$  almost surely weakly converges to  $\mathcal{F}_A$  and  $u(\mathcal{F}^{AA'}) \rightarrow u(\mathcal{F}_A)$ . Similarly,  $\mathcal{F}^{BB'}$  almost surely weakly converges to  $\mathcal{F}_B$  and  $u(\mathcal{F}^{BB'}) \rightarrow u(\mathcal{F}_B)$ . These facts imply that if the curves in the  $\{u > u(\mathcal{F}_A), v > v(\mathcal{F}_B)\}$  subset of the  $(u, v)$ -plane defined by (8) intersect at zero, or at two points, then the curves in the  $\{u > u(\mathcal{F}^{AA'}), v > v(\mathcal{F}^{BB'})\}$  subset of the  $(u, v)$ -plane defined by

$$\begin{cases} v = x \left( c_n \int \frac{\lambda u}{u-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}^{AA'}(\lambda) \right)^{-1} \\ u = x \left( \int \frac{\lambda v}{v-\lambda} d\mathcal{F}^{BB'}(\lambda) \right)^{-1} \end{cases}$$
 also intersect at zero, or at two points for large enough  $n$ . Therefore, by Lemma A4,  $u(\mathcal{F}^{c_n, A_n, B_n})$  converges to  $u(\mathcal{F}^{c,A,B})$  and Lemma 3 follows



from Lemma 2.  $\square$

## References

- [1] Krantz, S. G. (1992) Function theory of several complex variables. Second Edition. AMS Chelsea Publishing. Providence, Rhode Island.