

1 We would like to thank the reviewers for their useful, detailed feedback! We will update the paper with the suggested  
2 minor revisions regarding typos and presentation improvements, and respond to individual reviewers comments below.

3 Reviewer #1:

- 4 1. “Originality”: we are aware of no paper looking at policy evaluation in the setting we consider where we only  
5 have proxies for the confounders, but the latent model is identifiable. We cite the relevant papers on effect  
6 estimation from proxies and on policy evaluation in unidentifiable settings.
- 7 2. “Quality”: In order to actually evaluate proxy methods out-of-sample, data *has to be simulated*. The supplement  
8 already includes results from a range of link functions (“more complex function of  $Y$ ”). Changing the  
9 dimensions of  $X, Z$  gave similar comparative performance (see R4 pt2 for more detail). We can also add  
10 the Twins dataset from Louizos et al. [26] to the supplement but it is also simulated (simulated treatment  
11 assignment  $T$  and proxies  $X$ ).
- 12 3. “Significance”:
  - 13 (a) Regarding the assumption of an identified latent confounder model: we reference the rich literature  
14 on the conditions and methods for identifying such a model, and we focus on the downstream task of  
15 policy evaluation, where there is a lack of previous literature. Therefore our research should be seen as  
16 complementary to this existing work.
  - 17 (b) It is true that, in finite samples, an estimated latent model will have errors, but our algorithm uses this  
18 model only to approximate the  $Q$  matrix and this error can be made to vanish as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . In particular,  
19 Thm 3 (convergence) trivially holds also if we use any  $\hat{\phi} \rightarrow \phi$  in  $L_1$  in probability by Slutsky’s Theorem  
20 (we will update the theorem and proof accordingly).
  - 21 (c) All of the assumptions in Section 3.3 are assumptions about the choice of function class  $\mathcal{F}$ , not about the  
22 data distribution, and we show they are specified by particular choices (RKHS), so they absolutely do not  
23 limit the practical applicability of our method as none of those assumptions has to be tested/verified. One  
24 substantial assumption is specification ( $\mu \in \mathcal{F}$ ), which is common and necessary for consistency. We can  
25 make the method nonparametric and use a universal kernel (e.g., RBF) to avoid this; a trivial corollary  
26 to Thm 3 using universal approximators (such as RBF RKHS) would give slower but specification-free  
27  $o_p(1)$  convergence (because we can get an error bound of  $\epsilon + O_p(1/\sqrt{n})$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$  using Thm 3 and  
28 universal  $L_\infty$  approximation of  $\mu$ , where the  $O_p$  term’s constant can depend on  $\epsilon$ ).

29 Reviewer #3:

- 30 1. “Cons”: Our convergence theory in Sec 3 is general and easily extends easily to neural nets with weight decay,  
31 as they immediately satisfy all of the assumptions (we will update to make this more explicit). Regarding a  
32 concrete implementation of such a NN-based algorithm, that would be very involved (optimizing a GAN-like  
33 adversarial neural net objective, which is known to be challenging), and is far beyond the scope of our paper,  
34 but we think it would be a promising direction for future work.
- 35 2. “Improvements”: See R1 pt2, R4 pt2. In order to actually evaluate proxy methods out-of-sample, data *has to*  
36 *be simulated*. We can add results from the Twins dataset from Louizos et al. [26] to the supplement with the  
37 other extra results but note that it is also simulated.

38 Reviewer #4:

- 39 1. Thanks for catching. This is any positive definite diagonal covariance matrix. We will update paper to define  
40 this.
- 41 2. Our pilot experiments with different dimensions of  $X$  and  $Z$  indicated similar comparative performance.  
42 We chose the dimensions for our experiments for reasons of convenience (as this setup gave us low sample  
43 complexity and allowed running many replications of interesting experiments on fewer data points). We will  
44 provide some additional numbers in the supplement. The code (on GitHub) allows anyone to try and tinker  
45 with higher dimensions. (Note there is already a plethora of additional results in supplemental Sec C.)
- 46 3. We like your suggestion on exploring the effect of the strength of relationship between  $Z$  and  $X$ , and are going  
47 to run an additional experiment (to place in supplement) to explore this effect. Concretely, we can measure  
48 strength of relationship by the fraction of  $X$  variance explained by  $Z$ , so we can just vary  $\sigma_X$  on line 245 and  
49 run the same experiment over an array of different relationship strengths.
- 50 4. You are correct. In our theory the only part of Assumption 1 that we actually use is that for every  $t$ ,  $Y(t)$  is  
51 conditionally independent of  $(X, T)$ , given  $Z$ , so there is nothing prohibiting an arrow from  $X$  to  $T$  in the  
52 DAG in Figure 1. We will update Assumption 1 and Figure 1 accordingly. (Note that all our math stays exactly  
53 the same. All that will change is adding  $X \rightarrow T$  in Figure 1 and rephrasing Assumption 1.)