

Online Appendix

Date last updated: August 10, 2021

Table A1: Summary Statistics

Statistic	N	Mean	St. Dev.	Min	Max
Log(WPA Spending per Capita)	1,375	2.964	0.750	0.000	6.823
Log(AAA Spending per Capita)	1,375	2.909	1.124	0.000	6.749
Log(Relief Spending per Capita)	1,375	3.664	0.576	0.589	6.857
Log(CWA Spending per Capita)	1,375	1.690	0.421	0.000	3.174
Log(Public Assistance per Capita)	1,375	1.198	0.549	0.112	3.062
Prop. Slave, 1860	1,283	0.288	0.221	0.000	0.924
Cotton Suitability	1,363	659.038	249.231	0.000	1,101.900
Log(Total Population), 1860	1,306	8.490	1.574	0.000	12.070
Log(Free Population), 1860	1,306	2.621	2.010	0.000	9.300
Log(Improved Acres), 1860	1,306	9.951	2.397	0.000	12.611
Log(Urban Population), 1860	1,306	0.519	1.998	0.000	12.070
Log(Farm Value), 1860	1,306	13.255	2.942	0.000	16.534
Water Access	1,375	0.452	0.498	0	1
Appropriations Committee	1,375	0.286	0.452	0	1
Ways and Means Committee	1,375	0.194	0.396	0	1

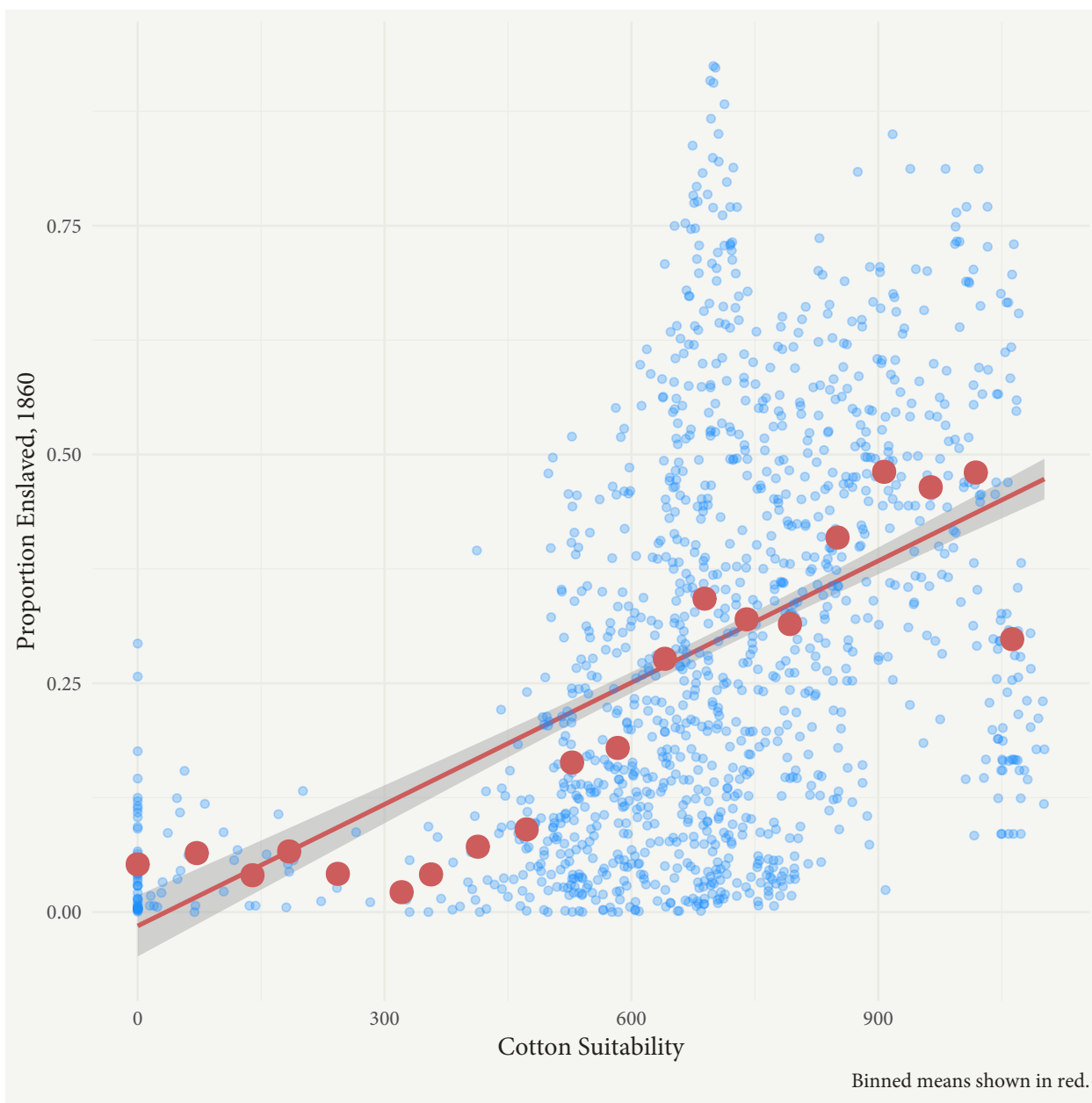


Figure A1: Bivariate First-Stage Relationship between Cotton Suitability and Historical Prevalence of Slavery

Table A2: Effect of Historical Prevalence of Slavery on Total WPA Spending

	Prop. Slave, 1860		Log(WPA Spending per Capita)		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Cotton Suitability	0.0003** (0.00003)				
Prop. Slave, 1860		-0.903** (0.196)		-1.801** (0.265)	
Prop. Slave, 1860 (Instrumented)			-1.518** (0.530)		-3.053** (0.783)
State Fixed Effects	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Geographic Controls	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1860 Controls				✓	✓
First Stage F-Stat			263.723		140.653
N	1,271	1,281	1,271	1,281	1,271

†p < .1; *p < .05; **p < .01

Table A3: Effect of Historical Prevalence of Slavery on New Deal Relief Spending

	WPA	CWA
	(1)	(2)
Prop. Slave, 1860 (Instrumented)	-2.877** (0.441)	-0.288 (0.238)
State Fixed Effects	✓	✓
Geographic Controls	✓	✓
1860 Controls	✓	✓
First Stage F-Stat	140.653	140.653
N	1,271	1,271

†p < .1; *p < .05; **p < .01

Table A4: Effect of Historical Prevalence of Slavery on AAA Spending

	Log(AAA Spending per Capita)			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Cotton Suitability	1.695** (0.146)		1.660** (0.167)	
Prop. Slave, 1860		4.709** (0.442)		6.203** (0.700)
State Fixed Effects	✓	✓	✓	✓
Geographic Controls	✓	✓	✓	✓
1860 Controls				✓
First Stage F-Stat			263.723	
N	1,281	1,271	1,281	1,271

†p < .1; *p < .05; **p < .01

Table A5: Effect of Committee Status on WPA Spending

	Log(WPA Spending per Capita)			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Prop. Slave, 1860	-1.120** (0.105)		-0.970** (0.122)	
Appropriations	0.096 (0.087)	0.205* (0.089)	0.070 (0.086)	0.192* (0.092)
Ways and Means	0.034 (0.075)	0.040 (0.068)	0.049 (0.072)	0.028 (0.070)
Prop. Slave, 1860 (Instrumented)		-2.418** (0.292)		-2.899** (0.443)
State Fixed Effects	✓	✓	✓	✓
Geographic Controls	✓	✓	✓	✓
1860 Controls			✓	✓
First Stage F-Stat		256.318		140.174
N	1,281	1,271	1,281	1,271

†p < .1; *p < .05; **p < .01

Table A6: Effect of Historical Prevalence of Slavery on WPA Spending accounting for Reconstruction

	Log(WPA Spending per Capita)	
	(1)	(2)
Prop. Slave, 1860	-0.966** (0.120)	
Log(Troops per Capita)	0.178 (0.138)	0.283* (0.133)
Prop. Slave, 1860 (Instrumented)		-2.887** (0.442)
State Fixed Effects	✓	✓
Geographic Controls	✓	✓
1860 Controls		
First Stage F-Stat		139.841
N	1,281	1,271

†p < .1; *p < .05; **p < .01

Table A7: Effect of Cotton Suitability on New Deal Spending outside the South

	WPA (South)			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Cotton Suitability	-0.001** (0.0001)	-0.001** (0.0001)	0.001** (0.0001)	0.001** (0.0001)
State Fixed Effects	✓	✓	✓	✓
Geographic Controls	✓	✓	✓	✓
1860 Controls		✓		✓
N	1,363	1,294	1,663	1,107

†p < .1; *p < .05; **p < .01

Table A8: 1860 Predictors of WPA Spending

	Log(WPA Spending per Capita): South
Prop. Slave, 1860	-0.958** (0.120)
Latitude	0.175* (0.072)
Longitude	-0.380* (0.187)
Water Area, 1860	0.028 (0.036)
Log (Population), 1860	-0.023 (0.039)
Log (Free Population), 1860	0.007 (0.015)
Log (Acres Improved), 1860	0.020 (0.054)
Log (Urban Population), 1860	0.046** (0.011)
Log (Farm Value), 1860	-0.044 (0.038)
Latitude*Longitude	0.004 (0.005)
lat:lon	-0.005* (0.002)
State Fixed Effects	✓
N	1,281

†p < .1; *p < .05; **p < .01

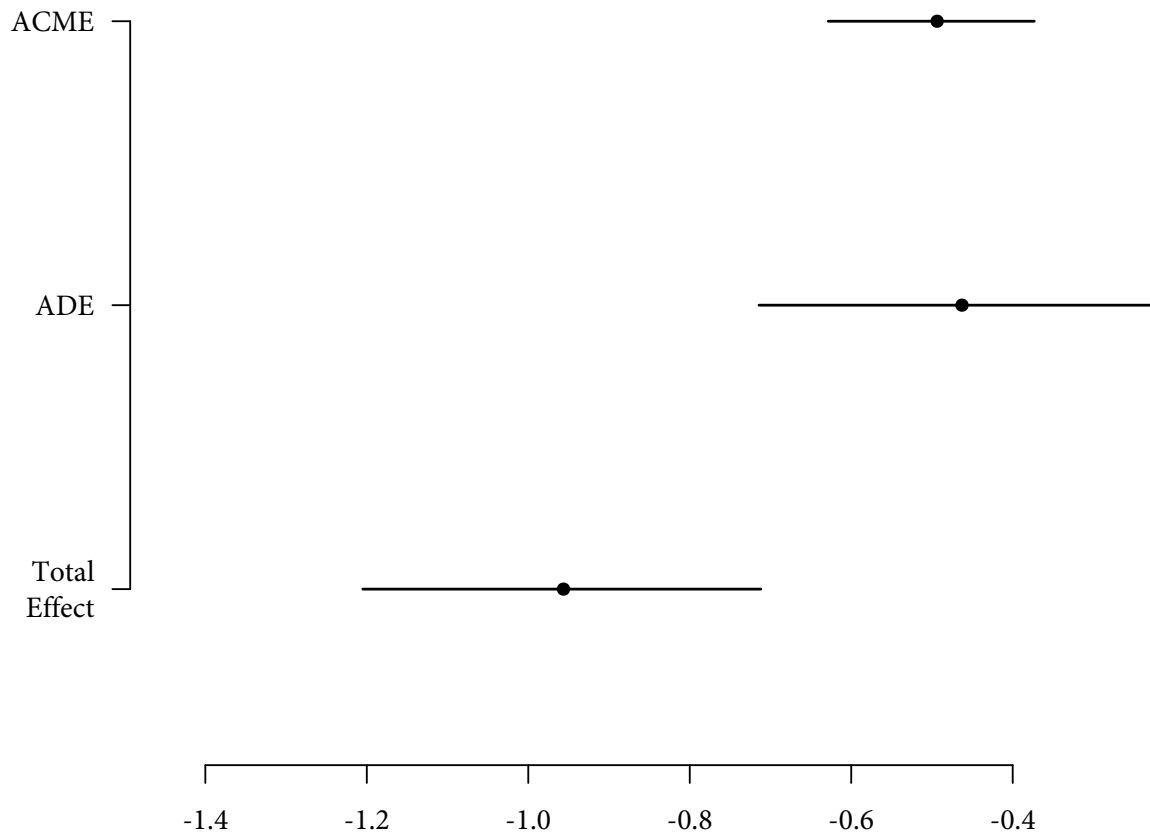


Figure A2: Mediation Results on Tenancy

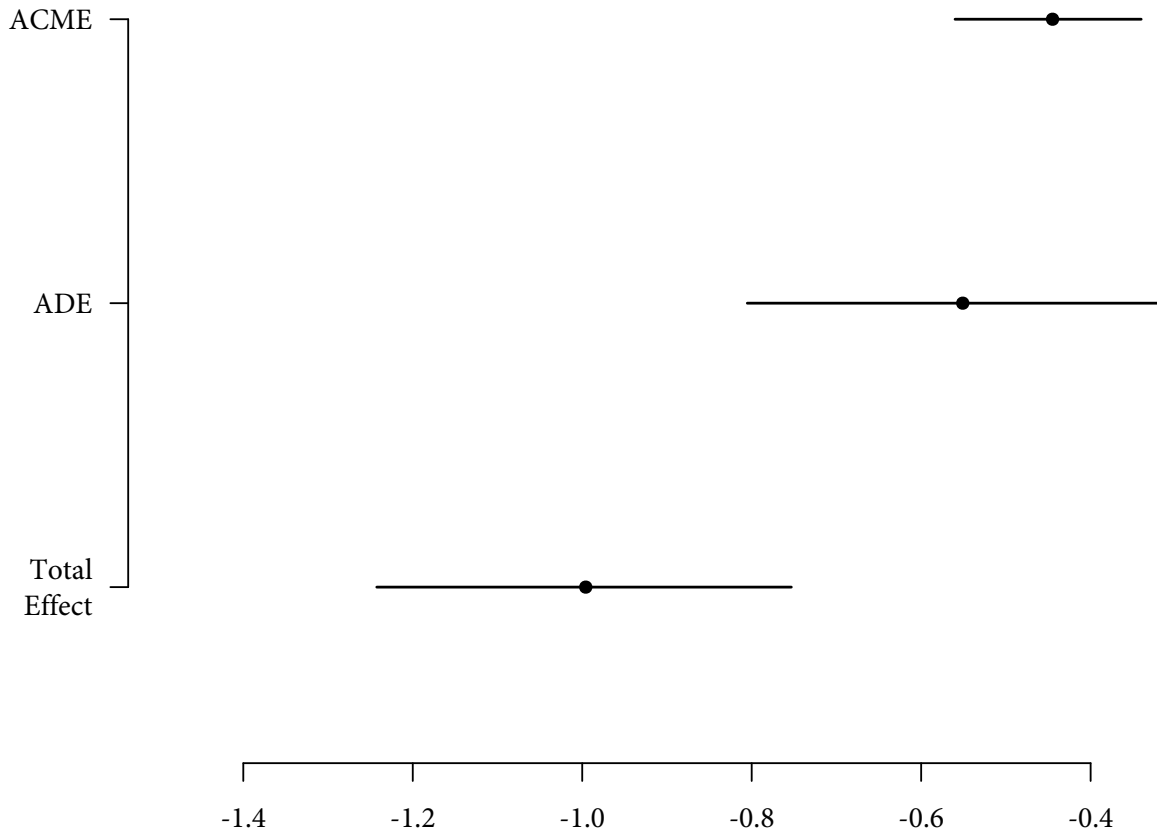


Figure A3: Mediation Results on Sharecropping

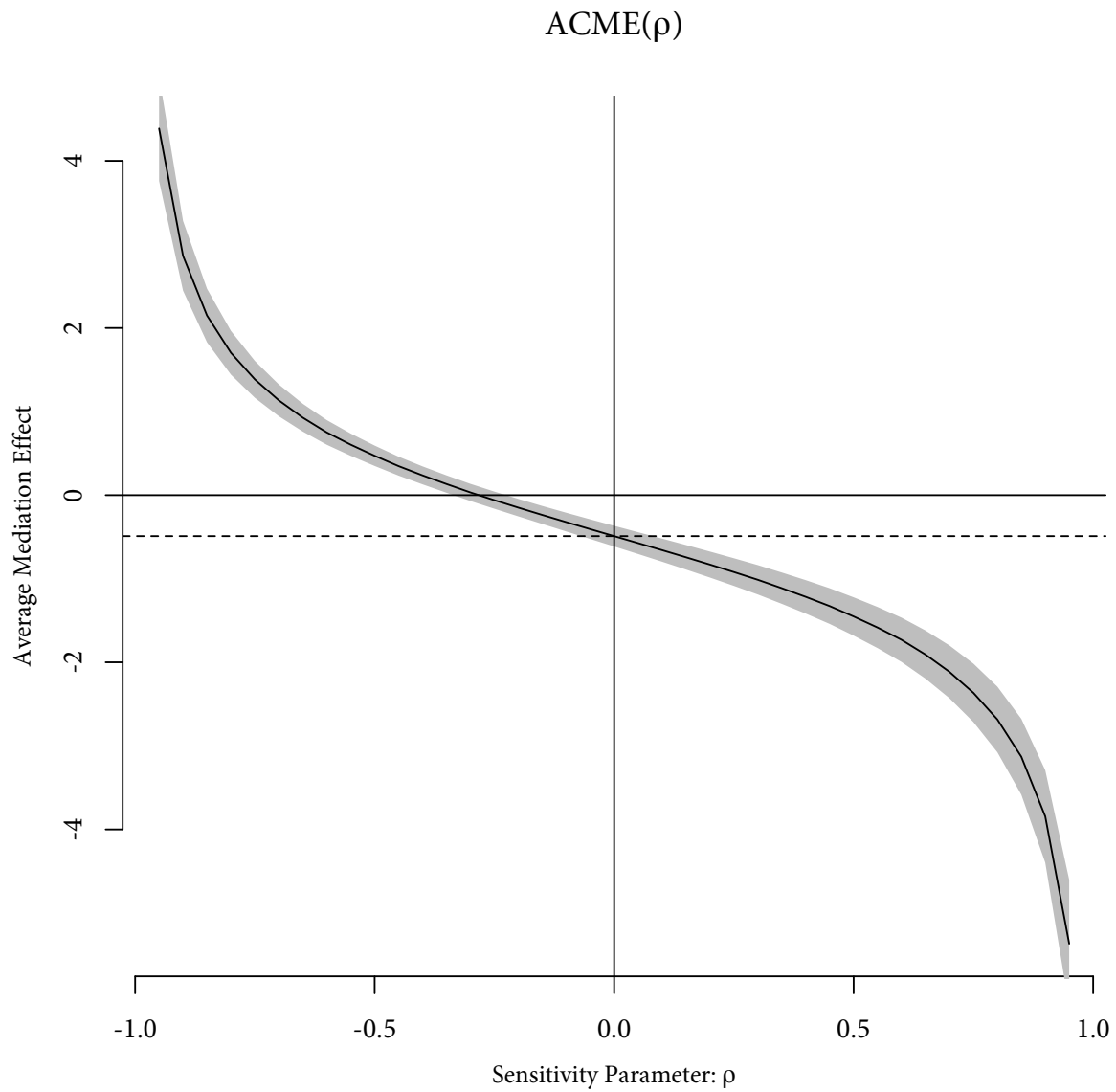


Figure A4: Sensitivity to Sequential Ignorability Assumption for Mediation Results on Tenancy

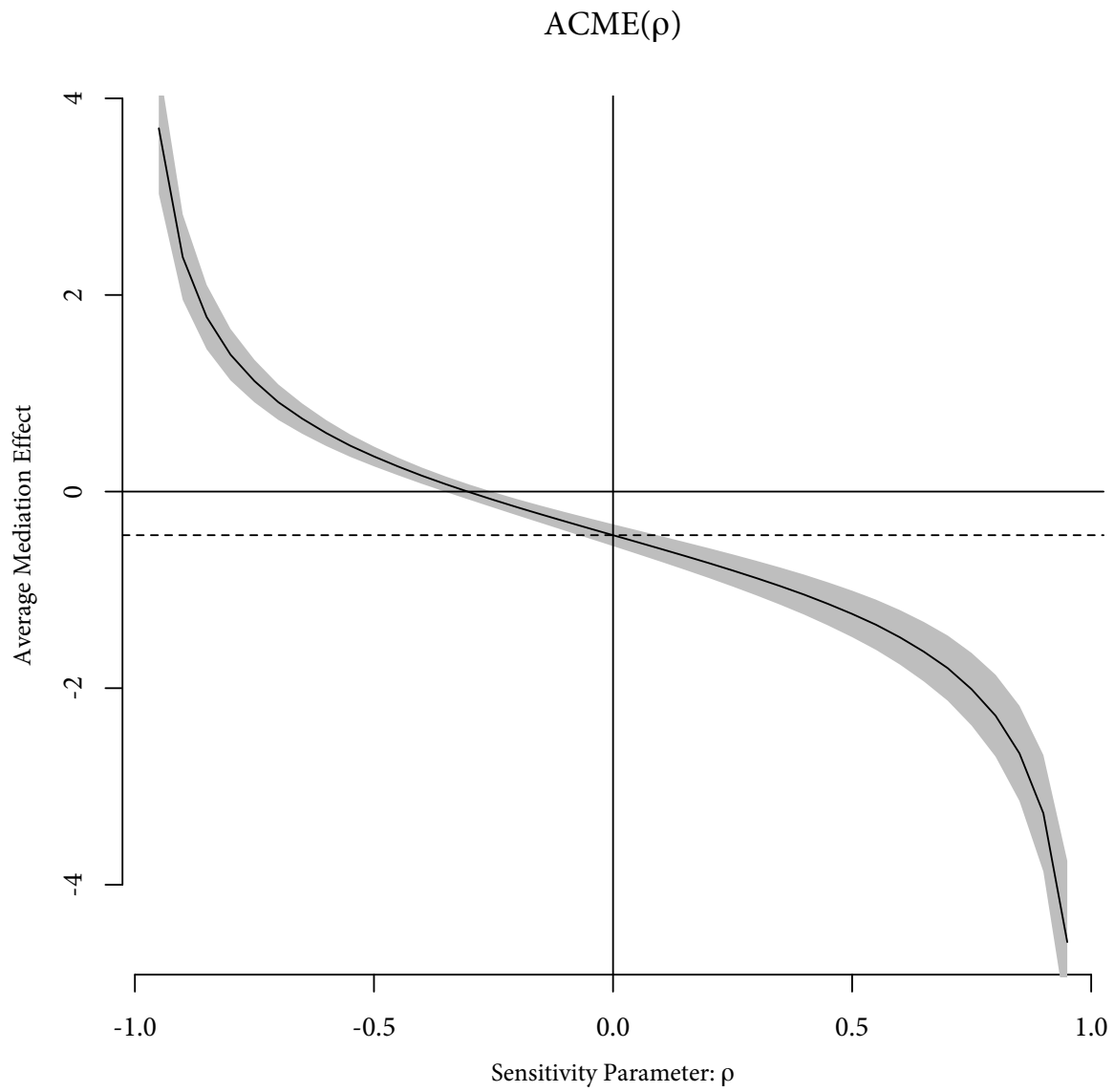


Figure A5: Sensitivity to Sequential Ignorability Assumption for Mediation Results on Sharecropping