

# Assignment 2: Production Function Estimation

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## Simulate data

Consider the following production and investment process for  $j = 1, \dots, 1000$  firms across  $t = 1, \dots, 10$  periods.

The log production function is of the form:

$$y_{jt} = \beta_0 + \beta_l l_{jt} + \beta_k k_{jt} + \omega_{jt} + \eta_{jt},$$

where  $\omega_{jt}$  is an anticipated shock and  $\eta_{jt}$  is an ex post shock.

The anticipated shocks evolve as:

$$\omega_{jt} = \alpha \omega_{j,t-1} + \nu_{jt},$$

where  $\nu_{jt}$  is an i.i.d. normal random variable with mean 0 and standard deviation  $\sigma_\nu$ . The ex post shock is an i.i.d. normal random variable with mean 0 and standard deviation  $\sigma_\eta$ .

The product price is the same across firms and normalized at 1. The price is normalized at 1. The wage  $w_t$  is an i.i.d. exponential of normal random variable with mean 0 and standard deviation  $\sigma_w$ .

Finally, the capital accumulates according to:

$$K_{j,t+1} = (1 - \delta)K_{jt} + I_{jt}.$$

We set the parameters as follows:

parameter	variable	value
$\beta_0$	beta_0	1
$\beta_l$	beta_l	0.2
$\beta_k$	beta_k	0.7
$\alpha$	alpha	0.7
$\sigma_\eta$	sigma_eta	0.2
$\sigma_\nu$	sigma_nu	0.1
$\sigma_w$	sigma_w	0.1
$\delta$	delta	0.05

1. Define the parameter variables as above.

```
# size
J <- 1000
T <- 10

# production function
beta_0 <- 1
beta_l <- 0.2
beta_k <- 0.7
sigma_eta <- 0.2

# anticipated shocks
```

```

sigma_nu <- 0.1
alpha <- 0.7

# wage
sigma_w <- 0.1

# capital
delta <- 0.05

```

2. Write a function that returns the log output given  $l_{jt}$ ,  $k_{jt}$ ,  $\omega_{jt}$ , and  $\eta_{jt}$  under the given parameter values according to the production function and name it `log_production`.

```

log_production <-
function(l, k, omega, eta, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k) {
  y <- beta_0 + beta_l * l + beta_k * k + omega + eta
  return(y)
}

```

Suppose that the labor is determined after  $\omega_{jt}$  is observed, but before  $\eta_{jt}$  is observed, given the log capital level  $k_{jt}$ .

3. Derive the optimal log labor as a function of  $\omega_{jt}$ ,  $\eta_{jt}$ ,  $k_{jt}$ , and  $w_t$ . Write a function to return the optimal log labor given the variables and parameters and name it `log_labor_choice`.

```

log_labor_choice <-
function(k, wage, omega, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k) {
  L <-
    ((1/wage) *
     exp(beta_0 + omega) *
     beta_l *
     exp(k)^beta_k)^(1/(1 - beta_l))
  l <- log(L)
  return(L)
}

```

As discussed in the class, if there is no additional variation in labor, the coefficient on the labor  $\beta_l$  is not identified. Thus, if we generate labor choice from the previous function,  $\beta_l$  will not be identified from the simulated data. To see this, we write a modified version of the previous function in which  $\omega_{jt}$  is replaced with  $\omega_{jt} + \iota_{jt}$ , where  $\iota_{jt}$  is an optimization error that follows an i.i.d. normal distribution with mean 0 and standard deviation 0.05. That is, the manager of the firm perceives as if the shock is  $\omega_{jt} + \iota_{jt}$ , even though the true shock is  $\omega_{jt}$ .

4. Modify the previous function by including  $\iota_{jt}$  as an additional input and name it `log_labor_choice_error`.

```

log_labor_choice_error <-
function(k, wage, omega, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k, iota) {
  L <-
    ((1/wage) *
     exp(beta_0 + omega + iota) *
     beta_l *
     exp(k)^beta_k)^(1/(1 - beta_l))
  l <- log(L)
  return(L)
}

```

Consider an investment process such that:

$$I_{jt} = (\delta + \gamma w_{jt}) K_{jt},$$

where  $I_{jt}$  and  $K_{jt}$  are investment and capital in level. Set  $\gamma = 0.1$ , i.e., the investment is strictly increasing in  $\omega_{jt}$ . The investment function should be derived by solving the dynamic problem of a firm. But here, we just specify it in a reduced-form.

5. Define variable  $\gamma$  and assign it the value. Write a function that returns the investment given  $K_{jt}$ ,  $\omega_{jt}$ , and parameter values, according to the previous equation, and name it `investment_choice`.

```
gamma <- 0.1
investment_choice <-
  function(k, omega, gamma, delta) {
    I <- (delta + gamma * omega) * exp(k)
    return(I)
  }
```

Now simulate the data first using the labor choice without optimization error and second using the labor choice with optimization error. To do so, we specify the initial values for the state variables  $k_{j0}$  and  $\omega_{j0}$ .

6. Draw  $k_{j0}$  from i.i.d. normal distribution with mean 1 and standard deviation 0.5. Draw  $\omega_{j0}$  from its stationary distribution (check the stationary distribution of AR(1) process). Draw a wage.

```
# optimization error
sigma_iota <- 0.05

# parameters for the initial state distribution
mean_k_initial <- 1
sigma_k_initial <- 0.5
sigma_v_initial <- sigma_nu / sqrt(1 - alpha^2)

# set seed
set.seed(1)

# draw initial state values
wage <- exp(rnorm(1, sigma_w))
df <- expand_grid(j = 1:J, t = 1) %>%
  tibble::as_tibble() %>%
  dplyr::mutate(
    k = rnorm(J, mean_k_initial, sigma_k_initial),
    omega = rnorm(J, 0, sigma_v_initial),
    wage = wage
  )
df
```

```
## # A tibble: 1,000 x 5
##       j         t         k      omega  wage
##   <int> <dbl> <dbl>    <dbl> <dbl>
## 1     1     1     1 1.09  0.156  0.591
## 2     2     2     1 0.582 -0.122  0.591
## 3     3     3     1 1.80  0.0295 0.591
## 4     4     4     1 1.16  0.00972 0.591
## 5     5     5     1 0.590 -0.233  0.591
## 6     6     6     1 1.24  0.114  0.591
## 7     7     7     1 1.37 -0.268  0.591
## 8     8     8     1 1.29 -0.175  0.591
## 9     9     9     1 0.847  0.140  0.591
## 10    10    10     1 1.76 -0.0757 0.591
## # ... with 990 more rows
```

7. Compute the labor and investment choice of period 1. For labor choice, compute both types of labor choices.

```
# compute labor and investment
df <- df %>%
  dplyr::mutate(iota = rnorm(J, 0, sigma_iota)) %>%
  dplyr::rowwise() %>%
  dplyr::mutate(
    l = log_labor_choice(k, wage, omega, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k),
    l_error = log_labor_choice_error(k, wage, omega, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k, iota),
    I = investment_choice(k, omega, gamma, delta)
  ) %>%
  dplyr::ungroup()
df
```

```
## # A tibble: 1,000 x 9
##       j     t     k   omega wage   iota   l l_error   I
##   <int> <dbl> <dbl>   <dbl> <dbl>   <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1     1     1 1.09  0.156  0.591 -0.0961 2.85  2.52 0.195
## 2     2     1 0.582 -0.122  0.591  0.0810 1.29  1.43 0.0677
## 3     3     1 1.80  0.0295  0.591  0.0260 4.51  4.66 0.320
## 4     4     1 1.16  0.00972 0.591 -0.00279 2.53  2.52 0.163
## 5     5     1 0.590 -0.233  0.591  0.0348 1.13  1.18 0.0482
## 6     6     1 1.24  0.114  0.591  0.00268 3.08  3.10 0.213
## 7     7     1 1.37 -0.268  0.591 -0.0655 2.14  1.97 0.0913
## 8     8     1 1.29 -0.175  0.591 -0.106  2.24  1.96 0.118
## 9     9     1 0.847  0.140  0.591 -0.0104 2.25  2.22 0.149
## 10    10     1 1.76 -0.0757 0.591 -0.0156 3.81  3.74 0.246
## # ... with 990 more rows
```

8. Draw ex post shock and compute the output according to the production function for both labor without optimization error and with optimization error.

```
# compute output
df <- df %>%
  dplyr::mutate(eta = rnorm(J, 0, sigma_eta)) %>%
  dplyr::rowwise() %>%
  dplyr::mutate(
    y = log_production(l, k, omega, eta, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k),
    y_error = log_production(l_error, k, omega, eta, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k)
  ) %>%
  dplyr::ungroup()
df
```

```
## # A tibble: 1,000 x 12
##       j     t     k   omega wage   iota   l l_error   I     eta
##   <int> <dbl> <dbl>   <dbl> <dbl>   <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1     1     1 1.09  0.156  0.591 -0.0961 2.85  2.52 0.195  0.0773
## 2     2     1 0.582 -0.122  0.591  0.0810 1.29  1.43 0.0677  0.259
## 3     3     1 1.80  0.0295  0.591  0.0260 4.51  4.66 0.320 -0.161
## 4     4     1 1.16  0.00972 0.591 -0.00279 2.53  2.52 0.163 -0.321
## 5     5     1 0.590 -0.233  0.591  0.0348 1.13  1.18 0.0482  0.187
## 6     6     1 1.24  0.114  0.591  0.00268 3.08  3.10 0.213  0.361
## 7     7     1 1.37 -0.268  0.591 -0.0655 2.14  1.97 0.0913 -0.0113
## 8     8     1 1.29 -0.175  0.591 -0.106  2.24  1.96 0.118  0.377
## 9     9     1 0.847  0.140  0.591 -0.0104 2.25  2.22 0.149  0.316
```

```
## 10      10      1 1.76 -0.0757 0.591 -0.0156 3.81 3.74 0.246 0.100
## # ... with 990 more rows, and 2 more variables: y <dbl>, y_error <dbl>
```

9. Repeat this procedure for  $t = 1, \dots, 10$  by updating the capital and anticipated shocks.

```
df_T <- df
for (t in 2:T) {
  # change time index
  df$t <- t

  # draw wage
  wage <- exp(rnorm(1, sigma_w))
  df$wage <- wage

  # update capital
  df <- df %>%
    dplyr::mutate(
      k = log((1 - delta) * exp(k) + I)
    )

  # update omega
  df <- df %>%
    dplyr::mutate(
      nu = rnorm(J, 0, sigma_nu),
      omega = alpha * omega + nu
    )

  # compute labor and investment
  df <- df %>%
    dplyr::mutate(iota = rnorm(J, 0, sigma_iota)) %>%
    dplyr::rowwise() %>%
    dplyr::mutate(
      l = log_labor_choice(k, wage, omega, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k),
      l_error = log_labor_choice_error(k, wage, omega, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k, iota),
      I = investment_choice(k, omega, gamma, delta)
    ) %>%
    dplyr::ungroup()

  # compute output
  df <- df %>%
    dplyr::mutate(eta = rnorm(J, 0, sigma_eta)) %>%
    dplyr::rowwise() %>%
    dplyr::mutate(
      y = log_production(l, k, omega, eta, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k),
      y_error = log_production(l_error, k, omega, eta, beta_0, beta_l, beta_k)
    ) %>%
    dplyr::ungroup()

  # append
  df_T <- dplyr::bind_rows(df_T, df)
}
df_T
```

```
## # A tibble: 10,000 x 13
##       j      t      k      omega wage      iota      l l_error      I      eta
##   <int> <dbl> <dbl>   <dbl> <dbl>   <dbl> <dbl>   <dbl>   <dbl>   <dbl>
```

```
## 1      1      1 1.09   0.156   0.591 -0.0961   2.85    2.52 0.195   0.0773
## 2      2      1 0.582 -0.122   0.591  0.0810   1.29    1.43 0.0677   0.259
## 3      3      1 1.80    0.0295  0.591  0.0260   4.51    4.66 0.320  -0.161
## 4      4      1 1.16    0.00972 0.591 -0.00279  2.53    2.52 0.163  -0.321
## 5      5      1 0.590 -0.233   0.591  0.0348   1.13    1.18 0.0482   0.187
## 6      6      1 1.24    0.114   0.591  0.00268  3.08    3.10 0.213   0.361
## 7      7      1 1.37   -0.268   0.591 -0.0655   2.14    1.97 0.0913  -0.0113
## 8      8      1 1.29   -0.175   0.591 -0.106    2.24    1.96 0.118   0.377
## 9      9      1 0.847   0.140   0.591 -0.0104   2.25    2.22 0.149   0.316
## 10     10     1 1.76   -0.0757  0.591 -0.0156   3.81    3.74 0.246   0.100
## # ... with 9,990 more rows, and 3 more variables: y <dbl>, y_error <dbl>,
## #      nu <dbl>
```

10. Check the simulated data by making summary table.

```
df_T_summary <-
  foreach (i = 1:dim(df_T)[2], .combine = "rbind") %do% {
    df_T_i <- as.data.frame(df_T[, i])
    row_i <- data.frame(
      N = length(df_T_i),
      Mean = mean(df_T_i, na.rm = TRUE),
      Sd = sd(df_T_i, na.rm = TRUE),
      Min = min(df_T_i, na.rm = TRUE),
      Max = max(df_T_i, na.rm = TRUE))
    rownames(row_i) <- colnames(df_T)[i]
    return(row_i)
  }
kable(df_T_summary)
```

	N	Mean	Sd	Min	Max
j	10000	500.5000000	288.6894251	1.0000000	1000.0000000
t	10000	5.5000000	2.8724249	1.0000000	10.0000000
k	10000	0.9940171	0.5199006	-0.6486048	3.0230352
omega	10000	-0.0008504	0.1389409	-0.4944505	0.5096422
wage	10000	1.2999738	1.0034241	0.2412463	2.9228370
iota	10000	-0.0000634	0.0502874	-0.1841453	0.1715419
l	10000	2.5571681	3.0000325	0.0566083	46.2630759
l_error	10000	2.5641428	3.0262212	0.0571485	51.1413043
I	10000	0.1552468	0.1028476	0.0010667	1.4612200
eta	10000	0.0012772	0.1999334	-0.7650371	0.7455922
y	10000	2.2076724	0.8688350	0.1989304	12.5394398
y_error	10000	2.2090673	0.8727397	0.1968913	13.5150855
nu	10000	-0.0002718	0.0998171	-0.4302781	0.3650776