#### MODELS FOR FRACTIONAL RESPONSES

# Econometric Analysis of Cross Section and Panel Data, 2e MIT Press Jeffrey M. Wooldridge

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

- Suppose y is a fractional response, that is,  $0 \le y \le 1$ .
- Allow the possibility that y is a corner solution at zero, one, or both. It could also be an essentially continuous variable strictly between zero and one in the population.
- y can be a proportion computed from the fraction of events occurring in a given number of trials. [For example, it could be the fraction of workers participating in a 401(k) pension plan.] But it could also be fundamentally continuous, such as the proportion of county land zoned for agriculture.

- For now, no problem of missing data, so we avoid the phrase "censored at zero" or "censored at one."
- If a variable is initially measured as a percentage, divide it by 100 to turn it into a proportion.
- Makes sense to start with linear models; at a minimum, estimated partial effects can be compared with those from more complicated nonlinear models.
- Remember a general rule: issues such as endogenous explanatory variables and unobserved heterogeneity are more easily handled with linear models. To allow nonlinear functional forms, we will impose extra assumptions.

#### 2. POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO FRACTIONAL RESPONSES

- In the case where y has corners at zero and one, a two-limit Tobit model is logically consistent. But it uses a full set of distributional assumptions [which, of course, has the benefit of allowing us to estimate any feature of  $D(y|\mathbf{x})$ ]. Plus, it is logically inconsistent if we have only one corner.
- Can use other logically consistent distributions. If  $y_i$  is a continuous on (0, 1), a conditional Beta distribution makes sense.
- The Beta distribution is not in the LEF, so, like the Tobit approach, MLE using the Beta distribution is inconsistent for the parameters in a correctly specified conditional mean.

- We focus mainly on models for estimating the conditional mean.
   Later, discuss two-part models.
- Linear model has essentially same drawbacks as for binary response:

$$E(y|\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta} = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \ldots + \beta_K x_K$$

can hold over all potential values of  $\mathbf{x}$  only in rare circumstances (such as mutually exclusive and exhaustive dummy variables).

- As with other limited dependent variables, we should view the linear model as the best linear approximation to  $E(y|\mathbf{x})$  (which we can potentially improve by using quadratics, interactions, and other functional forms such as logarithms).
- As always, the OLS estimators are consistent for the linear projection parameters, which approximate (we hope) average partial effects.

• A common approach when 0 < y < 1 is to use the so-called **log-odds transformation** of y,  $\log[y/(1-y)]$ , in a linear regression. Define  $w = \log[y/(1-y)]$  and assume

$$E(w|\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta}.$$

• The log-odds approach is simple and, because w can range over all real values, the linear conditional mean is attractive.

- Drawbacks to the log-odds approach: First, it cannot be applied to corner solution responses unless we make some arbitrary adjustments. Because  $\log[y/(1-y)] \to -\infty$  as  $y \to 0$  and  $\log[y/(1-y)] \to \infty$  as  $y \to 1$ , our estimates might be sensitive to the adjustments at the endpoints.
- Second, even if y is strictly in the unit interval,  $\beta$  is difficult to interpret: without further assumptions, it is not possible to estimate  $E(y|\mathbf{x})$  from a model for  $E\{\log[y/(1-y)]|\mathbf{x}\}$ .

• One possibility is to assume the log-odds transformation yields a linear model with an additive error *independent* of **x**:

$$\log[y/(1-y)] = \mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta} + e, \ D(e|\mathbf{x}) = D(e),$$

where we take E(e) = 0 (and assume that  $x_1 = 1$ ). Then, we can write

$$y = \exp(\mathbf{x}\mathbf{\beta} + e)/[1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}\mathbf{\beta} + e)].$$

• If e and  $\mathbf{x}$  are independent,

$$E(y|\mathbf{x}) = \int \exp(\mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta} + e)/[1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta} + e)]dF(e),$$

where  $F(\cdot)$  is the distribution function of e.

• Duan's (JASA, 1983) "smearing estimate" can be used without specifying D(e):

$$\hat{E}(y|\mathbf{x}) = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \exp(\mathbf{x}\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + \hat{e}_i) / [1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + \hat{e}_i)],$$

where  $\hat{\beta}$  is the OLS estimator from  $w_i$  on  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\hat{e}_i = w_i - \mathbf{x}_i \hat{\beta}$  are the OLS residuals.

- Estimated partial effects are obtained by taking derivatives with respect to the  $x_i$ , or discrete differences.
- A similar analysis applies if we replace the log-odds transformation with  $\Phi^{-1}(y)$ , where  $\Phi^{-1}(\cdot)$  is the inverse function of the standard normal cdf, in which case we average  $\Phi(\mathbf{x}\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} + \hat{e}_i)$  across i to estimate  $E(y|\mathbf{x})$ .
- Can use the delta method for standard errors, or the bootstrap.
- Question: If we are mainly interested in  $E(y|\mathbf{x})$ , why not just model it directly?

#### 3. FRACTIONAL LOGIT AND PROBIT

• Let y be a response in [0, 1], possibly including the endpoints. We can model its mean as

$$E(y|\mathbf{x}) = \exp(\mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta})/[1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta})],$$

or as a probit function,

$$E(y|\mathbf{x}) = \Phi(\mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta}).$$

• In each case the fitted values will be in (0,1) and each allows y to take on any values in [0,1], including the endpoints zero and one.

- Partial effects are obtained just as in standard logit and probit, but these are on the mean and not the response probability.
- The above functional forms do not, of course, exhaust the possibilities. For example,

$$E(y|\mathbf{x}) = \exp[-\exp(\mathbf{x}\mathbf{\beta})]$$

allows a different shape. (The function  $G(z) = \exp(-\exp(z))$  is the cumulative distribution function of an asymmetric random variable.)

- Generally, let the mean function be  $G(\mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta})$ . We could estimate  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  by nonlinear least squares. NLS is consistent and inference is straightforward, provided we use the fully robust sandwich variance matrix estimator that does not restrict  $Var(y|\mathbf{x})$ .
- As in estimating models of conditional means for unbounded, nonnegative responses, NLS is unlikely to be efficient for fractional responses because common distributions for a fractional response imply heteroskedasticity.
- Could use a two-step weighted NLS if we model  $Var(y|\mathbf{x})$ .

• A simpler, one-step strategy is to use a QMLE approach. We know the Bernoulli log likelihood is in the linear exponential family.

Therefore, the QMLE that solves

$$\max_{\mathbf{b}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \{ (1 - y_i) \log[1 - G(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{b})] + y_i \log[G(\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{b})] \}$$

is consistent for  $\beta$  whenever the conditional mean is correctly specified.

• Notice that the quasi-LLF is well defined for any  $y_i$  in [0, 1] and functions  $0 < G(\cdot) < 1$ . Plus, it is a standard estimation problem because it is identical to estimating binary response models.

- Call the QMLE fractional logit regression or fractional probit regression.
- These are just as robust as the NLS estimators.
- Fully robust inference is straightforward for QMLE. When the mean is correctly specified, estimate the asymptotic variance of  $\hat{\beta}$  as

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\hat{g}_{i}^{2} \mathbf{x}_{i}' \mathbf{x}_{i}}{\hat{G}_{i}(1 - \hat{G}_{i})}\right)^{-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\hat{u}_{i}^{2} \hat{g}_{i}^{2} \mathbf{x}_{i}' \mathbf{x}_{i}}{[\hat{G}_{i}(1 - \hat{G}_{i})]^{2}}\right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\hat{g}_{i}^{2} \mathbf{x}_{i}' \mathbf{x}_{i}}{\hat{G}_{i}(1 - \hat{G}_{i})}\right)^{-1}$$

where

$$\hat{u}_i = y_i - G(\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}).$$

- If we allow the mean to be misspecified, we replace the outer part of the sandwich with the estimated Hessian, not expected Hessian conditional on  $\mathbf{x}_i$ .
- The Bernoulli GLM variance assumption is

$$Var(y|\mathbf{x}) = \sigma^2 E(y|\mathbf{x})[1 - E(y|\mathbf{x})].$$

• When this assumption holds it is often with  $\sigma^2$  < 1; in this case inference based on the usual binary response statistics will be too conservative – often, much too conservative.

- As we discussed in the general case, the Bernoulli QMLE has an attractive efficiency property. If it turns out that the GLM variance assumption holds, then the QMLE is efficient in the class of all estimators that use only  $E(y|\mathbf{x}) = G(\mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta})$  for consistency. In particular, the QMLE is more efficient than NLS.
- Of course, if, say, a Beta distribution were correct, and we use the correct MLE, this would be more efficient than the QMLE. But the MLE uses more assumptions for consistency.

• If the GLM variance assumption holds, the asymptotic variance matrix estimator simplies to

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 \left( \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{[g(\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})]^2 \mathbf{x}_i' \mathbf{x}_i}{G(\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})[1 - G(\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})]} \right)^{-1}$$

with

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = (N - K)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (\hat{u}_i^2 / \hat{v}_i),$$

$$\hat{v}_i = G(\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}) [1 - G(\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})].$$

- One case where Bernoulli GLM assumption holds. Suppose  $y_i = s_i/n_i$ , where  $s_i$  is the number of "successes" in  $n_i$  Bernoulli draws. Suppose that  $s_i$  given  $(n_i, \mathbf{x}_i)$  follows a  $Binomial[n_i, G(\mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})]$  distribution.
- Then  $E(y_i|n_i,\mathbf{x}_i) = G(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})$  and

 $Var(y_i|n_i,\mathbf{x}_i) = n_i^{-1}G(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})[1-G(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})].$  If  $n_i$  is independent of  $\mathbf{x}_i$ ,

$$Var(y_i|\mathbf{x}_i) = Var[E(y_i|n_i,\mathbf{x}_i)|\mathbf{x}_i] + E[Var(y_i|n_i,\mathbf{x}_i)|\mathbf{x}_i]$$

$$= 0 + E(n_i^{-1}|\mathbf{x}_i)G(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})[1 - G(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})]$$

$$\equiv \sigma^2 G(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})[1 - G(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})],$$

where  $\sigma^2 \equiv E(n_i^{-1}) \le 1$  (with strict inequality unless  $n_i = 1$  with probability one).

- In practice, it is unlikely that  $n_i$  and  $\mathbf{x}_i$  are independent, so fully robust inference should be used.
- Further, within-group correlation that is, if we write  $s_i = \sum_{r=1}^{n_i} w_{ir}$  for binary responses  $w_{ir}$ , the  $\{w_{ir} : r = 1, ..., n_i\}$  are correlated conditional on  $(n_i, \mathbf{x}_i)$  generally invalidates the GLM variance assumption, as in the Binomial case.

- If we are given data on proportions but do not know  $n_i$ , it makes sense to use a fractional logit or probit analysis. If we observe the  $n_i$ , we might use binomial regression instead (which is fully robust provided  $E(s_i|n_i,\mathbf{x}_i)=n_iG(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})$ ).
- If we maintain  $E(s_i|n_i,\mathbf{x}_i)=n_iG(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta})$  and  $y_i=s_i/n_i$ ,

$$E(y_i|n_i,\mathbf{x}_i) = E(s_i|n_i,\mathbf{x}_i)/n_i = G(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta}) = E(y_i|\mathbf{x}_i)$$

This means that binomial regression using the counts  $s_i$  and fractional regression using  $y_i$  should yield similar estimates of  $\beta$ .

• If the binomial distributional assumption is true, MLE using  $(s_i, n_i)$  is asymptotically more efficient than fractional regression. But the variance in binomial regression often has overdispersion. The fractional regression can actually be more efficient. (And, it is often more resilient to outliers.)

• Can compare the APEs to OLS estimates of a linear model. For a continuous variable  $x_i$ ,

$$\widehat{APE}_j = \left[ N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N g(\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}) \right] \hat{\beta}_j$$

• If  $x_j$  is binary,

$$\widehat{APE}_j = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N [G(\mathbf{x}_{ij}^{(1)} \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}) - G(\mathbf{x}_{ij}^{(0)} \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})]$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_{ij}^{(1)}$  has  $x_{ij} = 1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_{ij}^{(0)}$  has  $x_{ij} = 0$ .

• Whether (say)  $x_K$  is discrete or continuous, we can obtain an estimate of  $APE_K$  when  $x_K$  changes from, say,  $a_K^{(0)}$  to  $a_K^{(1)}$ , without using a calculus approximation, as in the previous equation but where

$$\mathbf{x}_{iK}^{(0)} = \hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_2 x_{i2} + \ldots + \hat{\beta}_{K-1} x_{i,K-1} + \hat{\beta}_K a_K^{(0)}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{iK}^{(1)} = \hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_2 x_{i2} + \ldots + \hat{\beta}_{K-1} x_{i,K-1} + \hat{\beta}_K a_K^{(1)}$$

• If, say,  $x_K$  is the key variable, and it is continuous, might plot the response as a function of  $x_K$ , inserting mean values (say) of the other variables or averaging them out:

$$G(\hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_2 \bar{x}_2 + ... + \hat{\beta}_{K-1} \bar{x}_{K-1} + \hat{\beta}_K x_K)$$

or

$$\widehat{ASF}_K(x_K) = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N G(\hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_{K-1} x_{i,K-1} + \hat{\beta}_K x_K)$$

- Can compare these response functions with linear model.
- Can put the usual functional forms in the index; makes partial effects more difficult to compute.

• Simple functional form test: After estimation of  $\hat{\beta}$ , add powers of  $\mathbf{x}_i\hat{\beta}$ , such as  $(\mathbf{x}_i\hat{\beta})^2$ ,  $(\mathbf{x}_i\hat{\beta})^3$ , use fractional QMLE on the expanded "model"

$$G(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\beta} + \alpha_1(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\hat{\beta}})^2 + \alpha_2(\mathbf{x}_i\boldsymbol{\hat{\beta}})^3),$$

and use a robust Wald test of joint significance for  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\alpha_2$ . (This test, an extension of RESET for linear models, can be applied to any index context, including count regression with an exponential mean.)

• This is an example of a variable addition test, which is essentially a score test but slightly easier to implement.

• For goodness-of-fit of the mean, can compute an R-squared as

$$R^{2} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_{i} - \hat{y}_{i})^{2}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_{i} - \bar{y})^{2}}$$

where  $\hat{y}_i = G(\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})$ .

- Another possibility is the squared correlation between  $y_i$  and  $\hat{y}_i$ .
- Unlike OLS estimation of a linear model, these are not algebraically the same.

#### • GLM in Stata:

```
glm y x1 ... xK, fam(bin) link(logit) robust
glm y x1 ... xK, fam(bin) link(probit) sca(x2)
glm y x1 ... xK, fam(bin) link(loglog) robust
```

- Best to make inference fully robust, but the GLM variance assumption often gives similar standard errors.
- The usual MLE standard errors are too conservative, often very conservative.
- The "loglog" link implements the model  $E(y|\mathbf{x}) = \exp[-\exp(\mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta})]$ .

- After any of the commands, fitted values are easy to get: predict yhat
- To get the estimated indices,  $\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$ , and powers of them:

```
predict xbhat, xb
gen xbhatsq = xbhat^2
gen xbhatcu = xbhat^3
```

## **EXAMPLE**: Participation rates in 401(k) pension plans.

. use 401k

. des

Contains data from \swbook1\_4e\statafiles\401k.dta

obs: 1,534

vars: 8 9 Jun 1998 08:20

size: 46,020 (99.9% of memory free)

storage display value
variable name type format label variable label

prate float %7.0g participation rate, percent
float %7.0g 401k plan match rate
totpart float %7.0g total 401k participants
totelg float %7.0g total eligible for 401k plan
age byte %7.0g age of 401k plan
totemp float %7.0g total number of firm employees
sole byte %7.0g = 1 if 401k is firm's sole plan
log of totemp

Sorted by:

#### . sum

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
prate	1534	87.36291	16.71654	3	100
mrate	1534	.7315124	.7795393	.01	4.91
totpart	1534	1354.231	4629.265	50	58811
totelg	1534	1628.535	5370.719	51	70429
age	1534	13.18123	9.171114	4	51
totemp		3568.495	11217.94	58	144387
sole		.4876141	.5000096	0	1
ltotemp		6.686034	1.453375	4.060443	11.88025

- . count if mrate > 1
  292
- . count if mrate > 2
   101
- . replace prate = prate/100
  (1534 real changes made)

. reg prate mrate age ltotemp sole, robust

Linear regression	Number of obs $=$	1534
	F(4, 1529) =	73.36
	Prob > F =	0.0000
	R-squared =	0.1474
	Root MSE =	.15456

Robust Std. Err. t P>|t| prate Coef. [95% Conf. Interval] .0485354 .0043289 11.21 0.000 .0400443 .0570266 mrate .0031704 .0004032 7.86 0.000 .0023795 .0039613 age -.0240487 .0031777 0.000 -.0302818 -.0178156 ltotemp -7.57 sole .0217378 .0086932 2.50 0.013 .004686 .0387896 .9465254 .0218303 43.36 0.000 .9037049 .9893458 \_cons

<sup>. \*</sup> The nonrobust standard errors are similar, actually slightly larger.

. glm prate mrate age ltotemp sole, fam(bin) link(logit) robust note: prate has non-integer values

Generalized li					obs		1534 1529
Optimization	• IVIL						
				-	parameter		1
Deviance	= 314.52	28326		(1/df)	Deviance	_	.2057085
Pearson	= 367.983	39977		(1/df)	Pearson	=	.2406697
Variance funct	zion: V(u) = ı	ı*(1-u/1)		[Binomi	lall		
Link function				[Logit]	_		
				7.7.0			5500556
_				AIC			.5589556
Log pseudolike	elihood = -423	3.7189416		BIC		=	-10901.66
		Robust					
prate	Coef.	Std. Err.	Z	P>   z	[95% Con	f.	<pre>Interval]</pre>

prate	   Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	Z	P> z	[95% Conf.	Interval]
mrate	.9167158	.134119	6.84	0.000	.6538474	1.179584
age	.0322364	.0049561	6.50	0.000	.0225226	.0419502
ltotemp	2080024	.0258256	-8.05	0.000	2586195	1573852
sole	.1676861	.0846774	1.98	0.048	.0017215	.3336507
_cons	2.370495	.1921688	12.34	0.000	1.993851	2.747139

variable		Std. Err.	Z	P> z	[95% Conf.	Interval]
mrate	.0969144	.0140539	6.90	0.000	.0693694	.1244595
age	.0034081	.0005304	6.43	0.000	.0023686	.0044477
ltotemp	0219898	.0027723	-7.93	0.000	0274233	0165562
sole	.0176176	.0083374	2.11	0.035	.0012766	.0339586

<sup>. \*</sup> The APE for mrate is about double the linear model estimate.

```
. predict prateh_l
(option mu assumed; predicted mean prate)
. corr prate prateh_l
(obs=1534)
```

. di .4263^2 .18173169

- . \* The nonrobust standard errors are too large:
- . glm prate mrate age ltotemp sole, fam(bin) link(logit) note: prate has non-integer values

Generalized line	ear models	No. of obs	=	1534
Optimization	: ML	Residual df	=	1529
		Scale parameter	=	1
Deviance	= 314.528326	(1/df) Deviance	=	.2057085
Pearson	= 367.9839977	(1/df) Pearson	=	.2406697
		AIC	=	.5589556
Log likelihood	= -423.7189416	BIC	=	-10901.66

prate	   Coef.	OIM Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf.	Interval]
mrate	.9167158	.2059862	4.45	0.000	.5129902	1.320441
age	.0322364	.010257	3.14	0.002	.012133	.0523398
ltotemp	2080024	.0551219	-3.77	0.000	3160393	0999654
sole	.1676861	.1716409	0.98	0.329	1687239	.5040961
_cons	2.370495	.4263752	5.56	0.000	1.534815	3.206175

```
. gen mratesq = mrate^2
```

. reg prate mrate mratesq age agesq ltotemp ltotempsq sole, robust

Linear regression

Number of obs = 1534F( 7, 1526) = 56.14Prob > F = 0.0000R-squared = 0.1883Root MSE = .15095

.\_\_\_\_\_

prate	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
mrate   mratesq   age   agesq   ltotemp   ltotempsq   sole   cons	.1375510255695 .0076809000129113806 .0061188 .0119101 1.2029	.0124891 .0029956 .0015391 .0000371 .0218575 .0014904 .0087466	11.01 -8.54 4.99 -3.48 -5.21 4.11 1.36 15.25	0.000 0.000 0.000 0.001 0.000 0.000 0.173 0.000	.11305340314454 .004661900020171566799 .00319530052465 1.048143	.16204870196936 .01069990000563070932 .0090423 .0290667 1.357657

<sup>.</sup> gen agesq =  $age^2$ 

<sup>.</sup> gen ltotempsq = ltotemp^2

- . \* Now compute the APE for mrate:
- . gen mrate\_me\_lin = \_b[mrate] + 2\*\_b[mratesq]\*mrate
- . sum mrate\_me\_lin

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
mrate_me_lin	 1534	.1001422	.0398649	1135418	.1370397

- . \* Obtain RESET using the square and cube:
- . predict xbh\_sq\_lin
  (option xb assumed; fitted values)
- . gen xbh\_sq\_linsq = xbh\_sq\_lin^2
- . gen xbh\_sq\_lincu = xbh\_sq\_lin^3

prate	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
mrate mratesq	5.612875 -1.042382	2.25341 .4188927	2.49 -2.49	0.013	1.192761 -1.864049	10.03299
age agesq	.3121919  0052452	.125702 .0021126	2.48 -2.48	0.013 0.013	.0656248 0093891	.5587591 0011012
ltotemp ltotempsq	-4.634524 .2492836	1.8645 .1002737	-2.49 2.49	0.013 0.013	-8.291782 .0525946	9772653 .4459725
sole xbh_sq_linsq	.4824868	.1956819	2.47 -2.28	0.014	.0986524 -76.04795	.8663211 -5.691631
xbh_sq_lincu _cons	13.81167 36.28292	6.515698 14.74269	2.12 2.46	0.034 0.014	1.030992 7.364812	26.59236 65.20104

- . test xbh\_sq\_linsq xbh\_sq\_lincu
- (1)  $xbh_sq_linsq = 0$
- (2) xbh\_sq\_lincu = 0

$$F(2, 1524) = 21.68$$
  
 $Prob > F = 0.0000$ 

. \* A strong statistical rejection of the linear model even with quadratics.

. glm prate mrate mratesq age agesq ltotemp ltotempsq sole, fam(bin)

link(logit) robust

note: prate has non-integer values

Generalized l	inear mod	dels	No. of obs	=	1534
Optimization :			Residual df	=	1526
			Scale paramete	r =	1
Deviance	= 30	)1.5717563	(1/df) Devianc	e =	.1976224
Pearson	= 31	18.2190643	(1/df) Pearson	. =	.2085315
			AIC	=	.5544207
Log pseudolik	elihood =	= -417.2406567	BTC	=	-10892.61

prate	   Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf.	Interval]
mrate mratesq age agesq ltotemp ltotempsq sole	1.614381 2753789 .0764414 0012815 -1.199122 .0650906 .1015973	.1675732 .0435835 .0158978 .000386 .2209129 .0145924 .0837603	9.63 -6.32 4.81 -3.32 -5.43 4.46 1.21	0.000 0.000 0.000 0.001 0.000 0.000 0.225	1.285943 360801 .0452823 002038 -1.632103 .03649 0625698	1.9428181899567 .10760060005257661407 .0936912 .2657644
_cons	5.535748	.833326	6.64	0.000	3.902459	7.169037

- . predict prateh\_12
- . corr prate prateh\_12
  (obs=1534)

- . di .4602^2
- .21178404
- . \* Fits better than linear model with quadratics (R-squared = .188).
- . di 1.614/(2\*.275)
- 2.9345455
- . count if mrate > 2.93 52
- . \* So only 52 out of 1,534 observations are to the right of the turning
- . \* point.

- . \* Using margeff with the quadratics doesn't make much sense.
- . \* Compute APE "by hand."
- . predict xbh\_12, xb
- . gen scale =  $\exp(xbh_12)/(1 + \exp(xbh_12))^2$
- . sum scale

Variable	0bs	Mean	Std. Dev	. Min	Max
scale	1534	.104565	.0540043	.0071288	.2364579

- . gen mrate\_me = (\_b[mrate] + 2\*\_b[mratesq]\*mrate)\*scale
- . sum mrate\_me

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
mrate_me	1534	.1414986	.0902254	0718435	.3778262

. \* About 40% higher than the linear model estimated APE, .100.

- . predict xbh\_sq\_log, xb
- . gen xbh\_sq\_logsq = xbh\_sq\_log^2
- . gen xbh\_sq\_logcu = xbh\_sq\_log^3

prate	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf.	Interval]
mrate mratesq age agesq ltotemp ltotempsq sole xbh_sq_logsq	4.065386 697588 .1928297 0032323 -3.050577 .1659176 .2623277 8103757	1.356546 .2330727 .0648958 .0011257 1.057474 .0585484 .1261936 .4117121	3.00 -2.99 2.97 -2.87 -2.88 2.83 2.08 -1.97	0.003 0.003 0.003 0.004 0.004 0.005 0.038 0.049	1.406605 -1.154402 .0656361 0054387 -5.123189 .0511647 .0149928 -1.617317	6.7241672407738 .320023200102599779661 .2806704 .50966260034348
xbh_sq_logsq _cons	13.20982	.0625514	2.07	0.038	.0068545	.2520515

. test xbh\_sq\_logsq xbh\_sq\_logcu

```
( 1) [prate]xbh_sq_logsq = 0
```

( 2) [prate]xbh\_sq\_logcu = 0

$$chi2(2) = 4.51$$
  
Prob >  $chi2 = 0.1048$ 

- . \* So we do not reject the fractional logit at the 10% significance level.
- . \* Can plot the mean function as a function of mrate, with other
- . \* variables fixed at specific values.

#### 4. ENDOGENOUS EXPLANATORY VARIABLES

- The fractional probit model can easily handle certain kinds of continuous endogenous explanatory variables.
- As before, model endogeneity as an omitted variable:

$$E(y_1|\mathbf{z},y_2,c_1) = E(y_1|\mathbf{z}_1,y_2,c_1) = \Phi(\mathbf{z}_1\boldsymbol{\delta}_1 + \gamma_1y_2 + c_1)$$
$$y_2 = \mathbf{z}\boldsymbol{\pi}_2 + v_2 = \mathbf{z}_1\boldsymbol{\pi}_{21} + \mathbf{z}_2\boldsymbol{\pi}_{22} + v_2,$$

where  $c_1$  is an omitted factor thought to be correlated with  $y_2$  but independent of the exogenous variables **z**.

- Ideally, could assume the linear equation for  $y_2$  represents a linear projection. But we need to assume more.
- Sufficient is

$$c_1 = \rho_1 v_2 + e_1, e_1 | \mathbf{z}, v_2 \sim Normal(0, \sigma_{e_1}^2),$$

where a sufficient, though not necessary, condition is that  $(c_1, v_2)$  is bivariate normal and independent of **z**.

• Then

$$E(y_1|\mathbf{z},y_2) = E(y_1|\mathbf{z},y_2,v_2) = \Phi(\mathbf{z}_1\delta_{e1} + \gamma_{e1}y_2 + \rho_{e1}v_2),$$

where the "e" subscript denotes multiplication by the scale factor  $1/(1 + \sigma_{e_1}^2)^{1/2}$ .

- Fortunately, the scaled coefficients index the average partial effects.
- Two-step method: (1) Obtain the OLS residuals  $\hat{v}_{i2}$  from the regression  $y_{i2}$  on  $\mathbf{z}_i$ . Next, use fractional probit of  $y_{i1}$  on  $\mathbf{z}_{i1}, y_{i2}, \hat{v}_{i2}$  to estimate the scaled coefficients.

- Simple test of the null hypothesis that  $y_2$  is exogenous is the fully robust t statistic on  $\hat{v}_{i2}$ ; the first-step estimation can be ignored under the null.
- If  $\rho_1 \neq 0$ , then the robust sandwich variance matrix estimator of the scaled coefficients is not valid because it does not account for the first step estimation. Can adjust for the two-step M-estimation results or use the bootstrap.

• The average structural function is consistently estimated as

$$\widehat{ASF}(\mathbf{z}_1, y_2) = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \Phi(\mathbf{z}_1 \hat{\delta}_{e1} + \hat{\gamma}_{e1} y_2 + \hat{\rho}_{e1} \hat{v}_{i2}),$$

and this can be used to obtain APEs with respect to  $y_2$  or  $\mathbf{z}_1$ .

• Bootstrapping the standard errors and test statistics is a sensible way to proceed with inference.

• Basic model can be extended in many ways. For example, can replace  $y_2 = \mathbf{z}\pi_2 + v_2$  with

$$h(y_2) = \mathbf{z}\mathbf{\pi}_2 + v_2$$

where  $h(\cdot)$  is strictly monotonic. (This is for the case where we want  $y_2$  in the structural model yet it is unlikely to have a linear reduced form with additive, independent error.)

• If  $y_2 > 0$  then  $h_2(y_2) = \log(y_2)$  is natural; if  $0 < y_2 < 1$ , might use the log-odds transformation,  $h_2(y_2) = \log[y_2/(1-y_2)]$ .

- Unfortunately, if  $y_2$  has a mass point such as a binary response, or corner response, or count variable a transformation yielding an additive, independent error probably does not exist.
- Allowing flexible functional forms for  $y_2$  is easy. For example, if the structural model contains  $y_2^2$  and interactions, say  $y_2\mathbf{z}_1$ , the estimating equation could look like

$$E(y_1|\mathbf{z},y_2,v_2) = \Phi(\mathbf{z}_1\boldsymbol{\delta}_{e1} + \gamma_{e1}y_2 + \psi_{e1}y_2^2 + y_2\mathbf{z}_1\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{e1} + \rho_{e1}v_2),$$
 so that a single control function,  $v_2$ , corrects the endogeneity of  $v_2$ .

• After the two-step QMLE, the ASF is estimated as

$$\widehat{ASF}(\mathbf{z}_1, y_2) = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \Phi(\mathbf{z}_1 \hat{\delta}_{e1} + \hat{\gamma}_{e1} y_2 + \hat{\psi}_{e1} y_2^2 + y_2 \mathbf{z}_1 \hat{\alpha}_{e1} + \hat{\rho}_{e1} \hat{v}_{i2}),$$

and now derivatives or changes with respect to  $(\mathbf{z}_1, y_2)$  can be obtained.

• Further, we might allow  $D(c_1|v_2)$  to be more flexible, such as

$$c_1 = \rho_{11}v_2 + \rho_{12}v_2^2 + \rho_{13}v_2^3 + e_1, e_1|\mathbf{z}, v_2 \sim Normal(0, \sigma_{e_1}^2).$$

• Notice that  $c_1$  cannot have an unconditional normal distribution, particular if  $v_2$  is normal. This bothers some people.

• In the second stage, we would add a cubic in  $\hat{v}_2$  to the fractional probit. In the model just above,

$$\widehat{ASF}(\mathbf{z}_{1}, y_{2}) = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \Phi(\mathbf{z}_{1} \hat{\delta}_{e1} + \hat{\gamma}_{e1} y_{2} + \hat{\psi}_{e1} y_{2}^{2} + y_{2} \mathbf{z}_{1} \hat{\alpha}_{e1} + \hat{\rho}_{e11} \hat{v}_{i2} + \hat{\rho}_{e12} \hat{v}_{i2}^{2} + \hat{\rho}_{e13} \hat{v}_{i2}^{3}),$$

that is, we again just average out the control function. The bootstrap would be very convenient for standard errors.

• Recent work by Blundell and Powell (2004, *Review of Economic Studies*) goes even further. Just allow  $E(y_1|\mathbf{z}_1,y_2,v_2)$  to be a flexible function of its arguments, say

$$E(y_1|\mathbf{z}_1,y_2,v_2) = g_1(\mathbf{z}_1,y_2,v_2)$$

• To obtain the control function, assume

$$y_2 = g_2(\mathbf{z}) + v_2$$
,  $v_2$  independent of  $\mathbf{z}$ ,

where  $g_2(\cdot)$  is only assumed to be a smooth function. Estimate  $g_2(\cdot)$  nonparametrically, obtain  $\hat{v}_{i2} = y_{i2} - \hat{g}_2(\mathbf{z}_i)$ . Then use nonparametric regression of  $y_{i1}$  on  $\mathbf{z}_{i1}, y_{i2}, \hat{v}_{i2}$ 

• The ASF is consistently estimated as

$$\widehat{ASF}(\mathbf{z}_1, y_2) = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \hat{g}_1(\mathbf{z}_1, y_2, \hat{v}_{i2}).$$

• Can approximate this approach by using flexible parametric models.

- We can accomodate multiple continuous endogenous variables. Let  $\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{k}_1(\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{y}_2)$  for a vector of functions  $\mathbf{k}_1(\cdot, \cdot)$ , and allow a set of reduced forms for strictly monotonic functions  $h_{2g}(y_{2g}), g = 1, \dots, G_1$ , where  $G_1$  is the dimension of  $\mathbf{y}_2$ .
- See Wooldridge (2005, "Unobserved Heterogeneity and Estimation of Average Partial Effects," *Rothenberg Festschrift*)

• Recent (unpublished) work: If  $y_2$  is binary and follows a probit model, can have  $y_1$  fractional with a probit conditional mean and apply "bivariate probit" to  $(y_1, y_2)$ , even though  $y_1$  is not binary. (Not currently allowed in Stata.)

### 5. TWO-PART MODELS

- If have corners at y = 0 or y = 1 (or, occasionally at both values), might want to use a two-part (hurdle) model.
- For concreteness, assume P(y = 0) > 0 but y is continuous in (0, 1), so there is no pile-up at one.
- In addition to modeling  $P(y = 0|\mathbf{x})$ , could model  $D(y|\mathbf{x}, y > 0)$ . But more robust to model  $E(y|\mathbf{x}, y > 0)$  using fractional response.

• Let

$$P(y = 0|\mathbf{x}) = 1 - F(\mathbf{x}\alpha)$$
$$E(y|\mathbf{x}, y > 0) = G(\mathbf{x}\beta)$$

- Let w = 1[y > 0], so that  $P(w = 1|\mathbf{x}) = F(\mathbf{x}\alpha)$ .
- Now the "unconditional" expectation is

$$E(y|\mathbf{x}) = F(\mathbf{x}\mathbf{\alpha})G(\mathbf{x}\mathbf{\beta}),$$

which complicates partial effects.

- Estimation is straightforward. (1) Estimate  $\alpha$  by binary response (say, logit or probit) of  $w_i$  on  $\mathbf{x}_i$ . (2) Use QMLE (fractional logit or probit, or some other functional form) of  $y_i$  on  $\mathbf{x}_i$  using data for  $y_i > 0$  to estimate  $\beta$ .
- Can compute an R-squared for the overall mean (and the mean conditional on y > 0) to compare with one-part models. Can test the functional forms of the two parts, too, using RESET and other tests (such as for "heteroskedasticity").
- Open (?) question: How to combine two-part models and endogeneity?

#### **6. PANEL DATA METHODS**

- If no interest in explicitly including unobserved heterogeneity, can use pooled versions of methods discussed. Of course, should allow for arbitrary serial dependence in inference as well as variance misspecification in the LEF distribution.
- Might have dynamic completeness in the mean if lagged dependent variables have been included. (What is the best functional form for doing so?) As usual, if  $E(y_{it}|\mathbf{z}_{it},y_{i,t-1},\mathbf{z}_{i,t-1},\dots)$  has been properly specified, then serial correlation cannot be an issue.

• In Stata, we just use the "glm" command with a clustering option:

```
glm y x1 ... xK, fam(bin) link(logit)
cluster(id)
```

• With complete dynamics in the mean:

```
glm y x1 ... xK, fam(bin) link(logit) robust or replace the logit link with another.
```

# **Models and Partial Effects with Heterogeneity**

• Consider, for  $0 \le y_{it} \le 1$ ,

$$E(y_{it}|\mathbf{x}_{it},c_i) = \Phi(\mathbf{x}_{it}\boldsymbol{\beta}+c_i), t = 1,\ldots,T.$$

- As with an endogenous explanatory variable in a cross section setting, with unobserved heterogeneity the fractional probit approach has advantages over other functional forms.
- Elements of  $\beta$  give the directions of the partial effects. For example, if  $x_{tj}$  is continuous, then

$$\frac{\partial E(y_t|\mathbf{x}_t,c)}{\partial x_{ti}} = \beta_j \phi(\mathbf{x}_t \mathbf{\beta} + c).$$

For discrete changes, we compute

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}_t^{(1)}\boldsymbol{\beta} + c) - \Phi(\mathbf{x}_t^{(0)}\boldsymbol{\beta} + c)$$

for two different settings of the covariates,  $\mathbf{x}_t^{(1)}$  and  $\mathbf{x}_t^{(0)}$ .

- Partial effects depend on  $\mathbf{x}_t$  and c. What should we plug in for c?
- Instead, focus on the average partial effects (APEs):

$$E_{c_i}[\beta_j\phi(\mathbf{x}_t\boldsymbol{\beta}+c_i)] = \beta_j E_{c_i}[\phi(\mathbf{x}_t\boldsymbol{\beta}+c_i)],$$

which depends on  $\mathbf{x}_t$  (and  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ ) but not on c. (Or discrete differences.) As before, essentially the same as the "average structural function,"

$$ASF(\mathbf{x}_t) = E_{c_i}[\Phi(\mathbf{x}_t\boldsymbol{\beta} + c_i)].$$

- When are the APEs identified? More generally than the parameters, but more assumptions are needed.
- Strict exogeneity conditional on  $c_i$ : if  $\mathbf{x}_i = (\mathbf{x}_{i1}, \mathbf{x}_{i2}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{iT})$ ,

$$E(y_{it}|\mathbf{x}_i,c_i)=E(y_{it}|\mathbf{x}_{it},c_i),t=1,\ldots,T.$$

As always, rules out lagged dependent variables, feedback, and contemporaneous endogeneity.

• Need to restrict  $D(c_i|\mathbf{x}_i)$ . Enough would be, say,

$$D(c_i|\mathbf{x}_i) = D(c_i|\mathbf{\bar{x}}_i),$$

where  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_i$  is the time average.

- Altonji and Matzkin (2005, *Econometrica*) use general exchangeability. Could allow the distribution to depend on other features of  $\{\mathbf{x}_{it}: t=1,\ldots,T\}$ , such as time trends or average growth rates.
- We assume more:

$$c_i|(\mathbf{x}_{i1},\mathbf{x}_{i2},\ldots,\mathbf{x}_{iT}) \sim Normal(\psi + \mathbf{\bar{x}}_i\xi,\sigma_a^2).$$

Write  $c_i = \psi + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i \xi + a_i$  where  $a_i | \mathbf{x}_i \sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma_a^2)$ .

• Do not impose additional distributional assumptions on  $D(y_{it}|\mathbf{x}_i, c_i)$ . Leave the serial dependence in  $\{y_{it}\}$  across time unrestricted. •  $\beta$  is identified up to a positive scale factor, and the APEs are identified:

$$E(y_{it}|\mathbf{x}_i,a_i) = \Phi(\psi + \mathbf{x}_{it}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i\boldsymbol{\xi} + a_i)$$

and so

$$E(y_{it}|\mathbf{x}_i) = E[\Phi(\psi + \mathbf{x}_{it}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i\boldsymbol{\xi} + a_i)|\mathbf{x}_i]$$

$$= \Phi[(\psi + \mathbf{x}_{it}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i\boldsymbol{\xi})/(1 + \sigma_a^2)^{1/2}]$$

$$= \Phi(\psi_a + \mathbf{x}_{it}\boldsymbol{\beta}_a + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i\boldsymbol{\xi}_a),$$

where the "a" subscript denotes division by  $(1 + \sigma_a^2)^{1/2}$ .

- $\psi_a$ ,  $\beta_a$ , and  $\xi_a$  are identified if there is time variation in  $\mathbf{x}_{it}$ . Chamberlain device: replace  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_i$  with  $\mathbf{x}_i$ .
- Coneniently, the APEs can be obtained by differentiating or differencing

$$E_{\bar{x}_i}[\Phi(\psi_a + \mathbf{x}_t \boldsymbol{\beta}_a + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_i \boldsymbol{\xi}_a)]$$

with respect to the elements of  $x_t$ . The average structural function is consistently estimated by

$$\widehat{ASF}(\mathbf{x}_t) = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \Phi(\hat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_a + \mathbf{x}_t \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_a + \mathbf{\bar{x}}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\xi}}_a)$$

where  $\hat{\psi}_a$ ,  $\hat{\beta}_a$ ,  $\hat{\xi}_a$  are consistent estimators.

- As usual, APEs for continuous and discrete variables can be obtained from  $\widehat{ASF}(\mathbf{x}_t)$ .
- In practice, we would have time dummies, which we could just indicate with  $\hat{\psi}_{at}$ .
- We can always include time constant variables, say  $\mathbf{r}_i$ , along with  $\mathbf{\bar{x}}_i$ . It is then up to us to interpret the partial effects with respect to  $\mathbf{r}_i$ .

## **Estimation Methods Under Strict Exogeneity**

• Many consistent estimators of the scaled parameters. Define  $\mathbf{w}_{it} \equiv (1, \mathbf{x}_{it}, \mathbf{\bar{x}}_i)$  (or with time dummies and time constant variables) and  $\mathbf{\theta} \equiv (\psi_a, \mathbf{\beta}'_a, \mathbf{\xi}'_a)'$ . Then  $\mathbf{\theta}$  can be estimated using pooled nonlinear least squares (NLS), with regression function  $\Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\mathbf{\theta})$ .

- Pooled NLS estimator is consistent and  $\sqrt{N}$ -asymptotically normal (with fixed T), but is likely to be inefficient.
- First, it ignores the serial dependence in the  $y_{it}$ , which is likely to be substantial even after conditioning on  $\mathbf{x}_i$ . Second,  $Var(y_{it}|\mathbf{x}_i)$  is very unlikely to be homoskedastic. Could ignore serial correlation, model  $Var(y_{it}|\mathbf{x}_i)$ , and use weighted least squares.

- We already know that we can used pooled fractional probit (or logit, for that matter), with explanatory variables  $(1, \mathbf{x}_{it}, \overline{\mathbf{x}}_i)$  (and, likely, year dummies).
- The "working variance" assumption for pooled FP is

$$Var(y_{it}|\mathbf{x}_i) = \tau^2 \Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\mathbf{\theta})[1 - \Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\mathbf{\theta})],$$

where  $0 < \tau^2 \le 1$ .

• Still need to cluster to obtain standard errors robust to serial correlation, even if the variance function is correct.

• In Stata, with year dummies explicit:

```
glm y x1 ... xK x1bar ... xKbar d2 ... dT,
fam(bin) link(probit) cluster(id)
margeff
```

- The "margeff" command gives APEs and appropriate standard errors.
- Can add time-constant variables to the list of explanatory variables.

- Random effects approaches that is, that attempt to obtain a joint distribution  $D(y_{i1},...,y_{iT}|\mathbf{x}_i)$  by modeling and then integrating out unobserved heterogeneity would require additional distributional assumptions while being computationally demanding. A nice middle ground is the GEE approach. We already have the working variance assumption for fractional probit.
- We need to specify a "working" correlation matrix, too. Define the errors as

$$u_{it} \equiv y_{it} - E(y_{it}|\mathbf{x}_i) = y_{it} - \Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \Phi(\psi_a + \mathbf{x}_{it}\boldsymbol{\beta}_a + \mathbf{\bar{x}}_i\boldsymbol{\xi}_a), t = 1, \dots, T.$$

• Define standardized errors as

$$e_{it} \equiv u_{it}/\sqrt{\Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\mathbf{\theta})[1-\Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\mathbf{\theta})]};$$

under,  $Var(e_{it}|\mathbf{x}_i) = \tau^2$ . Exchangeability is that the pairwise correlations between pairs of standardized errors is contant, say  $\rho$ .

• To estimate a common correlation parameter, let  $\check{\theta}$  be a preliminary estimator of  $\theta$  – probably the pooled Bernoulli QMLE.

• Define residuals  $\check{u}_{it} \equiv y_{it} - \Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\check{\boldsymbol{\theta}})$  and the standardized (Pearson) residuals  $\check{e}_{it} \equiv \check{u}_{it} / \sqrt{\Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\check{\boldsymbol{\theta}})[1 - \Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\check{\boldsymbol{\theta}})]}$ . Then,

$$\hat{\rho} = [NT(T-1)]^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \sum_{s \neq t} \check{e}_{it} \check{e}_{is}.$$

• Given the estimated  $T \times T$  working correlation matrix,  $\mathbf{R}(\hat{\rho})$ , which has unity down its diagonal and  $\tilde{\rho}$  everywhere else, we can construct the estimated "working" variance matrix:

$$\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{x}_i, \check{\mathbf{\theta}})^{1/2} \mathbf{R}(\hat{\rho}) \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{x}_i, \check{\mathbf{\theta}})^{1/2},$$

where  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{x}_i, \check{\mathbf{\theta}})$  is the  $T \times T$  diagonal matrix with  $\Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\check{\mathbf{\theta}})[1 - \Phi(\mathbf{w}_{it}\check{\mathbf{\theta}})]$  down its diagonal.

- Now apply multivariate WNLS, which is asymptotically the same as GEE. Naturally, use a fully robust variance matrix estimator.
- Can allow an "unstructured" correlation matrix, too, but the correlations never depend on  $\mathbf{x}_i$ .

```
xtgee y x1 ... xK x1bar ... xKbar, fam(bin)
link(probit) corr(exch) robust
xtgee y x1 ... xK x1bar ... xKbar, fam(bin)
link(probit) corr(uns) robust
```

• Can apply the "margeff" command in Stata to get APEs averaged across the cross section and time. For continuous explanatory variables, the common scale factor is

$$(NT)^{-1}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\sum_{t=1}^{T}\phi(\hat{\psi}_a+\mathbf{x}_{it}\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_a+\mathbf{\bar{x}}_i\hat{\boldsymbol{\xi}}_a).$$

- Can compare APEs with linear model estimated by fixed effects.
- As with previous models, can add  $\mathbf{x}_{i,t+1}$  (or a subset of variables) as a test of strict exogeneity. Estimation can be pooled QMLE or GEE.

# **Models with Endogenous Explanatory Variables**

• Represent endogeneity as an omitted, time-varying variable, in addition to unobserved heterogeneity:

$$E(y_{it1}|\mathbf{z}_i, y_{it2}, c_{i1}, v_{it1}) = E(y_{it1}|\mathbf{z}_{it1}, y_{it2}, c_{i1}, v_{it1})$$

$$= \Phi(\mathbf{z}_{it1}\boldsymbol{\delta}_1 + \alpha_1 y_{it2} + c_{i1} + v_{it1}),$$

where  $c_{i1}$  is the time-constant unobserved effect and  $v_{it1}$  is a time-varying omitted factor that can be correlated with  $y_{it2}$ .

• Elements of  $\mathbf{z}_{it}$  are assumed strictly exogenous, and we have at least one exclusion restriction:  $\mathbf{z}_{it} = (\mathbf{z}_{it1}, \mathbf{z}_{it2})$ .

• Use a Chamberlain-Mundlak approach, but only relating the heterogeneity to all strictly exogenous variables:

$$c_{i1} = \psi_1 + \mathbf{\bar{z}}_i \boldsymbol{\xi}_1 + a_{i1}, D(a_{i1}|\mathbf{z}_i) = D(a_{i1}).$$

• Even before we specify  $D(a_{i1})$ , this is restrictive because it assumes, in particular,  $E(c_i|\mathbf{z}_i)$  is linear in  $\mathbf{\bar{z}}_i$  and that  $Var(c_i|\mathbf{z}_i)$  is constant. More recent work has shown how we can get by with less, such as  $D(c_{i1}|\mathbf{z}_i) = D(c_{i1}|\mathbf{\bar{z}}_i)$ .

• Need to obtain an estimating equation. First, note that

$$E(y_{it1}|\mathbf{z}_{i},y_{it2},a_{i1},v_{it1}) = \Phi(\mathbf{z}_{it1}\boldsymbol{\delta}_{1} + \alpha_{1}y_{it2} + \psi_{1} + \mathbf{\bar{z}}_{i}\boldsymbol{\xi}_{1} + a_{i1} + v_{it1})$$

$$\equiv \Phi(\mathbf{z}_{it1}\boldsymbol{\delta}_{1} + \alpha_{1}y_{it2} + \psi_{1} + \mathbf{\bar{z}}_{i}\boldsymbol{\xi}_{1} + r_{it1}).$$

• Assume a linear reduced form for  $y_{it2}$ :

$$y_{it2} = \psi_2 + \mathbf{z}_{it}\delta_2 + \mathbf{\bar{z}}_i\boldsymbol{\xi}_2 + v_{it2}, t = 1, \dots, T$$
$$D(v_{it2}|\mathbf{z}_i) = D(v_{it2})$$

(and we might allow for time-varying coefficients).

• Rather than assume  $(a_{i1}, v_{it2})$  is independent of  $\mathbf{z}_i$ , we can get by with a weaker assumption, but we imposed normality:

$$r_{it1}|(\mathbf{z}_i, v_{it2}) \sim Normal(\eta_1 v_{it2}, \kappa_1^2), t = 1, \dots, T.$$

[Easy to allow  $\eta_1$  to change over time.]

• Either way, the assumptions effectively rule out discreteness in  $y_{it2}$ .

## • Write

$$r_{it1} = \eta_1 v_{it2} + e_{it1}$$

where  $e_{it1}$  is independent of  $(\mathbf{z}_i, v_{it2})$  (and, therefore, of  $y_{it2}$ ) and normally distributed. Again, using a standard mixing property of the normal distribution,

$$E(y_{it1}|\mathbf{z}_i, y_{it2}, v_{it2}) = \Phi(\mathbf{z}_{it1}\boldsymbol{\delta}_{\kappa 1} + \alpha_{\kappa 1}y_{it2} + \psi_{\kappa 1} + \mathbf{\bar{z}}_i\boldsymbol{\xi}_{\kappa 1} + \eta_{\kappa 1}v_{it2})$$
where the " $\kappa$ " denotes division by  $(1 + \kappa_1^2)^{1/2}$ .

• Identification comes off of the exclusion of the time-varying exogenous variables  $\mathbf{z}_{it2}$ .

- Two step procedure:
- (1) Estimate the reduced form for  $y_{it2}$  (pooled or for each t separately). Obtain the residuals,  $\hat{v}_{it2}$ .
- (2) Use the probit QMLE to estimate  $\delta_{\kappa 1}$ ,  $\alpha_{\kappa 1}$ ,  $\psi_{\kappa 1}$ ,  $\xi_{\kappa 1}$  and  $\eta_{\kappa 1}$ . (GEE would require strict exogeneity of  $\{v_{it2}\}$ !)
- How do we interpret the scaled estimates? They give directions of effects. Conveniently, they also index the APEs. For given  $\mathbf{z}_1$  and  $y_2$ , average out  $\mathbf{\bar{z}}_i$  and  $\hat{v}_{it2}$  (for each t):

$$\hat{\alpha}_{\kappa 1} \cdot \left[ N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \phi(\mathbf{z}_{t1} \hat{\boldsymbol{\delta}}_{\kappa 1} + \hat{\alpha}_{\kappa 1} y_{t2} + \hat{\psi}_{\kappa 1} + \bar{\mathbf{z}}_{i} \hat{\boldsymbol{\xi}}_{\kappa 1} + \hat{\eta}_{\kappa 1} \hat{v}_{it2}) \right].$$

- Applying "margeff" in the second stage consistently estimates the APEs averaged across *t*, but the standard errors do not account for the two-step estimation. Use panel bootstrap for standard errors to allow for serial dependence and the two-step estimation.
- Of course, we can also compute discrete changes for any of the elements of  $(\mathbf{z}_{t1}, y_{t2})$ .

## **EXAMPLE**: Effects of Spending on Test Pass Rates

- Reform occurs between 1993/94 and 1994/95 school year; its passage was a surprise to almost everyone.
- Since 1994/95, each district receives a foundation allowance, based on revenues in 1993/94.
- Intially, all districts were brought up to a minimum allowance \$4,200 in the first year. The goal was to eventually give each district a basic allowance (\$5,000 in the first year).
- Districts divided into three groups in 1994/95 for purposes of initial foundation allowance. Subsequent grants determined by statewide School Aid Fund.

- Catch-up formula for districts receiving below the basic. Initially, more than half of the districts received less than the basic allowance. By 1998/99, it was down to about 36%. In 1999/00, all districts began receiving the basic allowance, which was then \$5,700. Two-thirds of all districts now receive the basic allowance.
- From 1991/92 to 2003/04, in the 10th percentile, expenditures rose from \$4,616 (2004 dollars) to \$7,125, a 54 percent increase. In the 50th percentile, it was a 48 percent increase. In the 90th percentile, per pupil expenditures rose from \$7,132 in 1992/93 to \$9,529, a 34 percent increase.

- Response variable: *math*4, the fraction of fourth graders passing the MEAP math test at a school.
- Spending variable is log(avgrexppp), where the average is over the current and previous three years.
- The linear model is

$$math4_{it} = \theta_t + \beta_1 \log(avgrexp_{it}) + \beta_2 lunch_{it} + \beta_3 \log(enroll_{it}) + c_{i1} + u_{it1}$$

Estimating this model by fixed effects is identical to adding the time averages of the three explanatory variables and using pooled OLS.

• The "fractional probit" model:

$$E(math4_{it}|\mathbf{x}_{i1},\mathbf{x}_{i2},\ldots,\mathbf{x}_{iT}) = \Phi(\theta_{at} + \mathbf{x}_{it}\boldsymbol{\beta}_a + \mathbf{\bar{x}}_i\boldsymbol{\xi}_a).$$

• Allowing spending to be endogenous. Controlling for 1993/94 spending, foundation grant should be exogenous. Exploit nonsmoothness in the grant as a function of initial spending.

$$math4_{it} = \theta_t + \beta_1 \log(avgrexp_{it}) + \beta_2 lunch_{it} + \beta_3 \log(enroll_{it})$$
$$+ \beta_{4t} \log(rexppp_{i,1994}) + \xi_1 \overline{lunch_i} + \xi_2 \overline{\log(enroll_i)} + v_{it1}$$

• And, fractional probit version of this.

#### . use meap92\_01

. xtset distid year

panel variable: distid (strongly balanced)
time variable: year, 1992 to 2001

delta: 1 unit

#### . des math4 avgrexp lunch enroll found

variable name	_	display format	value label	variable label
math4	double	%9.0g		fraction satisfactory, 4th grade math
avgrexp	float	%9.0g		<pre>(rexppp + rexppp_1 + rexppp_2 +   rexppp_3)/4</pre>
lunch	float	%9.0g		fraction eligible for free lunch
enroll	float	_		district enrollment
found	int	%9.0g		foundation grant, \$: 1995-2001

#### . sum math4 rexppp lunch

Variable	0bs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
math4	5010	.6149834	.1912023	.059	1
rexppp	5010	6331.99	1168.198	3553.361	15191.49
lunch	5010	.2802852	.1571325	.0087	.9126999

#### . xtreg math4 lavgrexp lunch lenroll y96-y01, fe cluster(distid)

Fixed-effects (within) regression Group variable: distid	Number of obs Number of groups	= =	3507 501
R-sq: within $= 0.4713$	Obs per group: mi	n =	7
between = 0.0219	av	rg =	7.0
overall = 0.2049	ma	ıx =	7
	F(9,500)	=	171.93
$corr(u_i, Xb) = -0.1787$	Prob > F	=	0.0000

(Std. Err. adjusted for 501 clusters in distid)

math4	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lavgrexp	.3770929	.0705668	5.34	0.000	.2384489	.5157369
lunch	0419467	.0731611	-0.57	0.567	1856877	.1017944
lenroll	.0020568	.0488107	0.04	0.966	0938426	.0979561
y96	0155968	.0063937	-2.44	0.015	0281587	003035
y97	0589732	.0095232	-6.19	0.000	0776837	0402628
y98	.0781686	.0112949	6.92	0.000	.0559772	.1003599
y99	.0642748	.0123103	5.22	0.000	.0400884	.0884612
y00	.0895688	.0133223	6.72	0.000	.0633942	.1157434
y01	.0630091	.014717	4.28	0.000	.0340943	.0919239
cong	-2 640402	8161357	-3 24	0 001	-4 24388	-1 036924

sigma_u	.1130256	
sigma_e	.08314135	
rho	.64888558	(fraction of variance due to u_i)

### . des alavgrexp alunch alenroll

variable name	_	display format	value label	variable label
alavgrexp alunch		%9.0g		time average lavgrexp, 1995-2001 time average lunch, 1995-2001
alenroll	float	%9.0g		time average lenroll, 1995-2001

#### 

Linear regression Number of obs = 3507

F( 12, 500) = 161.09 Prob > F = 0.0000 R-squared = 0.4218 Root MSE = .11542

(Std. Err. adjusted for 501 clusters in distid)

-----

math4	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lavgrexp alavgrexp lunch alunch lenroll alenroll y96 y97 y98 y99 y00 y01	.377092 286541 0419466 3770088 .0020566 0031646 0155968 0589731 .0781687 .064275 .089569 .0630093	.0705971 .0731797 .0731925 .0766141 .0488317 .0491534 .0063965 .0095273 .0112998 .0123156 .013328 .0147233	5.34 -3.92 -0.57 -4.92 0.04 -0.06 -2.44 -6.19 6.92 5.22 6.72 4.28	0.000 0.000 0.567 0.000 0.966 0.949 0.015 0.000 0.000 0.000	.2383884 4303185 1857494 5275341 093884 0997373 0281641 0776916 .0559678 .0400782 .0633831 .0340821	.51579561427635 .10185622264835 .0979972 .093408200302950402546 .1003696 .0884717 .1157548 .0919365
_cons	0006233	.2450239	-0.00	0.998	4820268	.4807801

- . \* Now use fractional probit.
- . glm math4 lavgrexp alavgrexp lunch alunch lenroll alenroll y96-y01,

fa(bin) link(probit) cluster(distid)

note: math4 has non-integer values

Generalized linear	models	No. of obs	=	3507
Optimization :	ML	Residual df	=	3494
		Scale parameter	=	1
Deviance =	237.643665	(1/df) Deviance	=	.0680148
Pearson =	225.1094075	(1/df) Pearson	=	.0644274

(Std. Err. adjusted for 501 clusters in distid)

.....

math4	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	Z	P>   z	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lavgrexp alavgrexp lunch alunch lenroll alenroll y96 y97 y98 y99 y00 y01	.8810302 5814474 2189714 9966635 .0887804 0893612 0362309 1467327 .2520084 .2152507 .3049632 .2257321	.2068026 .2229411 .2071544 .2155739 .1382077 .1387674 .0178481 .0273205 .0337706 .0367226 .0399409 .0439608	4.26 -2.61 -1.06 -4.62 0.64 -0.64 -2.03 -5.37 7.46 5.86 7.64 5.13	0.000 0.009 0.290 0.000 0.521 0.520 0.042 0.000 0.000 0.000	.4757045 -1.018404 6249865 -1.419181 1821017 3613404 0712125 20028 .1858192 .1432757 .2266805 .1395705	1.286356 1444909 .1870437 5741465 .3596626 .1826181 0012493 0931855 .3181975 .2872257 .3832459 .3118938
_cons	-1.855832	.7556621	-2.46	0.014	-3.336902	3747616

\_\_\_\_\_\_

<sup>. \*</sup> These standard errors are very close to bootstrapped standard errors.

GEE population-averaged model		Number of obs	=	3507
Group variable:	distid	Number of groups	=	501
Link:	probit	Obs per group: mi	.n =	7
Family:	binomial	av	7g =	7.0
Correlation:	exchangeable	ma	ax =	7
		Wald chi2(12)	=	1815.43
Scale parameter:	1	Prob > chi2	=	0.0000

(Std. Err. adjusted for clustering on distid)

math4	Coef.	Semi-robust Std. Err.	Z	P>   z	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lavgrexp alavgrexp lunch alunch lenroll alenroll y96 y97 y98 y99 y00 y01	.884564 5835138 2372942 9754696 .0875629 0820307 0364771 1471389 .2515377 .2148552 .3046286 .2256619	.2060662 .2236705 .2091221 .2170624 .1387427 .1393712 .0178529 .0273264 .0337018 .0366599 .0399143 .0438877	4.29 -2.61 -1.13 -4.49 0.63 -0.59 -2.04 -5.38 7.46 5.86 7.63 5.14	0.000 0.009 0.256 0.000 0.528 0.556 0.041 0.000 0.000 0.000	.4806817 -1.0219 6471659 -1.400904 1843677 3551933 0714681 2006976 .1854833 .143003 .2263981 .1396437	1.2884461451277 .17257755500351 .3594935 .19113180014860935801 .317592 .2867073 .3828591 .3116801
_cons	-1.914975	.7528262	-2.54	0.011	-3.390487	4394628

. margeff
Average partial effects after xtgee
 y = Pr(math4)

variable	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P>   z	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lavgrexp alavgrexp lunch alunch lenroll alenroll y96 y97 y98 y99 y00	.2979576 1965515 0799305 3285784 .0294948 0276313 012373 0509306 .0808226 .0695541 .0968972	.0692519 .0752801 .0704803 .0728656 .0467283 .0469381 .0061106 .0097618 .010009 .0111192	4.30 -2.61 -1.13 -4.51 0.63 -0.59 -2.02 -5.22 8.08 6.26 8.43	0.000 0.009 0.257 0.000 0.528 0.556 0.043 0.000 0.000 0.000	.1622263 3440978 2180693 4713924 0620909 1196283 0243497 0700633 .0612054 .0477609 .0743568	.4336889 0490052 .0582082 1857644 .1210805 .0643656 0003964 0317979 .1004399 .0913472 .1194376
y01	.0729416	.0132624	5.50	0.000	.0469478	.0989353

- . \* Now allow spending to be endogenous. Use foundation allowance, and
- . \* interactions, as IVs.
- . \* First, linear model:
- . ivreg math4 lunch alunch lenroll alenroll y96-y01 lexppp94 le94y96-le94y01 (lavgrexp = lfound lfndy96-lfndy01), cluster(distid)

Instrumental variables (2SLS) regression

Number of obs = 3507 F(18, 500) = 107.05 Prob > F = 0.0000 R-squared = 0.4134 Root MSE = .11635

(Std. Err. adjusted for 501 clusters in distid)

Robust Std. Err. t P>|t| [95% Conf. Interval] Coef. math4 .2205466 .1212123 lavgrexp .5545247 0.012 .987837 2.51 -.0621991 .0742948 -0.84 -.2081675 .0837693 lunch 0.403 -.4207815 .0758344 -5.55 0.000 -.5697749 alunch -.2717882 .1831484 0.67 lenroll 0.506 -.0904253 .0463616 .0696215 alenroll -.049052 .070249 -0.700.485 -.1870716 .0889676 -1.085453.2736479 -3.97 0.000 -1.623095 -.5478119 у96 -1.049922 .376541 -2.79 0.005 у97 -1.78972 -.3101244-.4548311 .4958826 -0.92 0.359 .5194394 у98 -1.429102.7218439 0.460 y99 -.4360973 .5893671 -0.74 -1.594038-.3559283 .6509999 -0.55 0.585 -1.634961 .923104 у00 -.704579 .7317831 .7310773 0.336 y01 -0.96 -2.140941 .2189488 -.0041482 lexppp94 -.4343213 -1.980.048 -.8644944 le94y96 .1253255 .0318181 3.94 0.000 .0628119 .1878392 .0312865 .1984534 .1688636 le94y97 .11487 .0425422 2.70 0.007 .0599439 le94y98 .0554377 0.280 -.0489757 1.08 le94y99 .0557854 .0661784 0.84 0.400 -.0742367 .1858075 .048899 le94y00 .0727172 0.67 0.502 -.0939699 .1917678

le94y01	.0865874	.0816732	1.06	0.290	0738776	.2470524
_cons	334823	.2593105	-1.29	0.197	8442955	.1746496
Instrumented: Instruments:	lexppp94 le9	4y96 le94y9	7 le94y98	le94y99	8 y99 y00 y01 le94y00 le94y fndy00 lfndy03	•

<sup>.</sup>  $\star$  Estimate is substantially larger than when spending is treated as exogenous.

- . \* Get reduced form residuals for fractional probit:
- . reg lavgrexp lfound lfndy96-lfndy01 lunch alunch lenroll alenroll y96-y01 lexppp94 le94y96-le94y01, cluster(distid)

Linear regression

Number of obs = 3507 F(24, 500) = 1174.57 Prob > F = 0.0000 R-squared = 0.9327 Root MSE = .03987

(Std. Err. adjusted for 501 clusters in distid)

Robust Coef. Std. Err. t P>|t| [95% Conf. Interval] lavgrexp .2447063 .0417034 5.87 .0254713 0.21 0.000 .1627709 .3266417 0.832 -.044649 .0554391 lfound lfndy96 .0053951 -.0848789 .0729687 -.0957972 .1048685 -.0049497 .1891074 .0401705 lfndy97 -0.15 -.0059551 0.882 lfndy98 .0045356 .0510673 0.09 0.929 1.86 lfndy99 .0920788 .0493854 0.063 2.78 .0401074 .2327894 .127188 .3456198 .1364484 lfndy00 0.006 .0490355 .0555885 4.25 0.000 lfndy01 .1632959 .0996687 1.64 0.102 -.0325251 .359117 \_cons

<sup>.</sup> predict v2hat, resid
(1503 missing values generated)

. glm math4 lavgrexp v2hat lunch alunch lenroll alenroll y96-y01 lexppp94 le94y96-le94y01, fa(bin) link(probit) cluster(distid) note: math4 has non-integer values

Generalized linear	models	No. of obs	=	3507
Optimization	: ML	Residual df	=	3487
		Scale parameter	=	1
Deviance =	= 236.0659249	(1/df) Deviance	=	.0676989
Pearson =	= 223.3709371	(1/df) Pearson	=	.0640582

Variance function: V(u) = u\*(1-u/1) [Binomial] Link function : g(u) = invnorm(u) [Probit]

(Std. Err. adjusted for 501 clusters in distid)

math4	   Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	z	P>   z	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lavgrexp v2hat lunch alunch lenroll alenroll	1.731039 -1.378126 2980214 -1.114775 .2856761 2909903	.6541194 .720843 .2125498 .2188037 .197511 .1988745	2.65 -1.91 -1.40 -5.09 1.45 -1.46	0.008 0.056 0.161 0.000 0.148 0.143	.4489886 -2.790952 7146114 -1.543623 1014383 6807771	3.013089 .0347007 .1185686 685928 .6727905 .0987966
 _cons	-2.455592	.7329693	-3.35	0.001	-3.892185	-1.018998

. margeff
Average partial effects after glm
 y = Pr(math4)

variable	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P>   z	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lavgrexp   v2hat   lunch   alunch   lenroll   alenroll	.5830163 4641533 1003741 3754579 .0962161 0980059	.2203345 .242971 .0716361 .0734083 .0665257	2.65 -1.91 -1.40 -5.11 1.45 -1.46	0.008 0.056 0.161 0.000 0.148 0.143	.151168694036782407782519335503417192292817	1.014864 .0120611 .04003 2315803 .2266041 .0332698

<sup>. \*</sup> These standard errors do not account for the first-stage estimation. Should

<sup>. \*</sup> use the panel bootstrap accounting for both stages.

<sup>. \*</sup> Only marginal evidence that spending is endogenous, but the negative sign

<sup>. \*</sup> fits the story that districts increase spending when performance is

<sup>. \* (</sup>expected to be) worse, based on unobservables (to us).