

Dyadic Regression

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Dyadic regression analyses are abundant in social science research (see below).

In economics they date (at least) to Tinbergen's (1962) pioneering analysis of trade flows.

While frequently used by empirical researchers, dyadic regression analysis lacks inferential foundations.

Widely varying approaches to hypothesis testing used in practice.

Tinbergen (1962, SWE, Table VI-1)

FACTORS DETERMINING THE SIZE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE FLOWS
Results of Calculations A (18 countries)

$$\log E_{ij} = \alpha_1 \log Y_i + \alpha_2 \log Y_j + \alpha_3 \log D_{ij} + \alpha_4 \log N + \alpha_5 \log P_C + \alpha_6 \log P_B + \alpha'_0$$

Calculation No.	ESTIMATED VALUE OF THE COEFFICIENTS							Correlation Coefficient
	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_4	α_5	α_6	α'_0	
A-1	0.7338 (0.0438)	0.6238 (0.0438)	-0.5981 (0.0405)	—	—	—	-0.3783	0.8248
A-2	0.7907 (0.0497)	0.6766 (0.0496)	-0.6252 (0.0460)	—	—	—	-0.4013	0.8084
A-3	0.7357 (0.0421)	0.6183 (0.0422)	-0.5570 (0.0473)	0.0191 (0.0082)	0.0496 (0.0111)	0.0406 (0.0272)	-0.4451	0.8437

- E_{ij} Exports from country i to country j
 Y_i GNP of exporting country
 Y_j GNP of importing country
 D_{ij} Distance between countries i and j
 N Dummy variable for neighbor countries
 P_C Dummy variable for Commonwealth preference
 P_B Dummy variable for Benelux preference

In A-2 the trade amount is measured in the importing country.
Figures in brackets are standard deviations.

Year: 1958, $N = 18$, $N(N-1) = 306$ (estimation by OLS)

Tinbergen (1962, SWE, Table VI-4)

RESULTS OF CALCULATIONS B (14 COUNTRIES)

$$\log E_{ij} = \alpha_1 \log Y_i + \alpha_2 \log Y_j + \alpha_3 \log D_{ij} + \alpha_4 \log N + \alpha_7 \log P + \alpha'_0$$

Calculation No.	ESTIMATED VALUE OF THE COEFFICIENTS						Correlation Coefficient
	α_1	α_2	α_3	α_4	α_7	α'_0	
B-1	1.0240 (0.0270)	0.9395 (0.0269)	-0.8919 (0.0455)	—	—	-0.6627 (0.6802)	0.8094
B-2	1.0250 (0.0269)	0.9403 (0.0269)	-0.8225 (0.0517)	0.2581 (0.0920)	—	-0.7188 (0.6789)	0.8104
B-3	1.1832 (0.0323)	1.0752 (0.0323)	-0.9325 (0.0584)	0.2217 (0.1037)	—	-1.0296 (0.7645)	0.7987
B-4	0.9965 (0.0267)	0.9116 (0.0267)	-0.7803 (0.0511)	0.2434 (0.0903)	0.4703 (0.0588)	-0.7798 (0.6668)	0.8180
B-5	1.1567 (0.0319)	1.0486 (0.0319)	-0.9165 (0.0574)	0.2367 (0.1018)	0.8926 (0.1100)	-1.0641 (0.7505)	0.8070

E_{ij} Exports from country i to country j

Y_i GNP of exporting country

Y_j GNP of importing country } Nominal in B-1, B-2 and B-4; real in B-3 and B-5.

D_{ij} Distance between countries i and j

N Dummy variable for neighboring countries

P Dummy variable for preference

Because of difference in treatment of preferential relations, the coefficients are not comparable between B-4 and B-5.

Figures in brackets are standard deviations.

Year: 1959, $N = 42$, $N(N-1) = 1,722$ (estimation by OLS)

Rose (2004, AER)

TABLE 1—BENCHMARK RESULTS

	Default	No industrial countries	Post 1970	With country effects
Both in GATT/WTO	−0.04 (0.05)	−0.21 (0.07)	−0.08 (0.07)	0.15 (0.05)
One in GATT/WTO	−0.06 (0.05)	−0.20 (0.06)	−0.09 (0.07)	0.05 (0.04)
GSP	0.86 (0.03)	0.04 (0.10)	0.84 (0.03)	0.70 (0.03)
Log distance	−1.12 (0.02)	−1.23 (0.03)	−1.22 (0.02)	−1.31 (0.02)
Log product real GDP	0.92 (0.01)	0.96 (0.02)	0.95 (0.01)	0.16 (0.05)
Log product real GDP p/c	0.32 (0.01)	0.20 (0.02)	0.32 (0.02)	0.54 (0.05)
Regional FTA	1.20 (0.11)	1.50 (0.15)	1.10 (0.12)	0.94 (0.13)
Currency union	1.12 (0.12)	1.00 (0.15)	1.23 (0.15)	1.19 (0.12)
Common language	0.31 (0.04)	0.10 (0.06)	0.35 (0.04)	0.27 (0.04)
Land border	0.53 (0.11)	0.72 (0.12)	0.69 (0.12)	0.28 (0.11)
Number landlocked	−0.27 (0.03)	−0.28 (0.05)	−0.31 (0.03)	−1.54 (0.32)
Number islands	0.04 (0.04)	−0.14 (0.06)	0.03 (0.04)	−0.87 (0.19)
Log product land area	−0.10 (0.01)	−0.17 (0.01)	−0.10 (0.01)	0.38 (0.03)
Common colonizer	0.58 (0.07)	0.73 (0.07)	0.52 (0.07)	0.60 (0.06)
Currently colonized	1.08 (0.23)	—	1.12 (0.41)	0.72 (0.26)
Ever colony	1.16 (0.12)	−0.42 (0.57)	1.28 (0.12)	1.27 (0.11)
Common country	−0.02 (1.08)	—	−0.32 (1.04)	0.31 (0.58)
Observations	234,597	114,615	183,328	234,597
R^2	0.65	0.47	0.65	0.70
RMSE	1.98	2.36	2.10	1.82

Notes: Regressand: log real trade. OLS with year effects (intercepts not reported). Robust standard errors (clustering by country-pairs) are in parentheses.

Apicella, Marlowe, Fowler & Christakis (2011, Nature)

RESEARCH SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Supplementary Table S16: GEE Regression of Social Ties on Public Good Donations

	<u>Dependent Variable:</u> <u>Ego Wants to Camp</u> <u>with Alter</u>			<u>Dependent Variable:</u> <u>Ego Gives Gift</u> <u>to Alter</u>		
	Coef.	S.E.	p	Coef.	S.E.	p
<i>Ego Public Good Donation</i>	0.003	0.031	0.930	-0.022	0.044	0.627
<i>Alter Public Good Donation</i>	-0.026	0.044	0.550	-0.100	0.047	0.035
<i>Ego-Alter Similarity in Public Good Donation</i>	0.250	0.051	0.000	0.174	0.044	0.000
<i>Residual</i>		5879			2096	
<i>Null Residual</i>		5923			2113	
<i>N</i>		18054			2310	

GEE logit regression of presence of social tie from ego to alter on ego and alter attributes, clustering standard errors on each ego.

Fafchamps and Gubert (2007, AERPP)

TABLE 1—LINKS AND INCOME CORRELATION

	Coefficient estimate	Dyadic t-value
<i>Income correlation</i>		
Correlation of <i>i</i> and <i>j</i> 's incomes ^a	1.083	1.44
<i>Geographic proximity</i>		
Same sitio = 1 ^b	2.647	8.84
Difference in distance to road if same sitio	−0.121	−3.90
<i>Difference in:</i>		
Dummy = 1 if primary occupation of head is farming	0.028	0.23
Number of working members × number of activities	0.003	0.06
Age of household head	−0.010	−2.52
Health index 1–4 (1 = good health, 4 = disabled)	0.027	0.46
Years of education of household head	−0.010	−0.59
Total wealth ^a	−0.113	−2.37
<i>Village dummies</i>	Included but not shown	
Intercept	−5.995	−15.41
Number of observations	10,264	

Notes: The dependent variable = 1 if *i* cites *j* as the source of mutual insurance, 0 otherwise. Estimator is logit. All *t*-values based on standard errors corrected for dyadic correlation of errors.

^a Instrumented variables—see text for details.

^b Small cluster of 15–20 households.

Weeks (2007, APSR)

TABLE 1. Directed-dyad Logit Analysis of Dispute Initiation, 1946–1999

	(1) Basic covariates	(2) All covariates	(3) Basic covariates, FE	(4) All covariates, FE
Machine	0.166 (1.11)	−0.459 (2.64)**	−0.049 (0.28)	−0.164 (0.91)
Junta	0.676 (3.66)**	0.515 (3.05)**	0.489 (2.83)**	0.449 (2.58)**
Boss	0.842 (6.12)**	0.649 (4.23)**	0.302 (2.01)*	0.321 (2.08)*
Strongman	1.073 (6.61)**	0.832 (6.29)**	0.266 (1.85)+	0.287 (1.94)+
Other Nondemocracies	0.195 (1.50)	0.147 (1.12)	−0.018 (0.14)	0.016 (0.12)
New/Unstable Regime		−0.312 (3.38)**		0.024 (0.31)
Military Capabilities, Side A	6.638 (6.77)**	5.234 (3.10)**	−3.230 (2.01)*	−3.735 (2.09)*
Military Capabilities, Side B	7.219 (7.33)**	6.340 (3.78)**	0.573 (0.38)	3.001 (1.78)+
Side A's Proportion of Dyadic Capabilities		0.517 (3.41)**		1.761 (3.38)**
Lower Trade Dependence in Dyad		−24.794 (1.93)+		−2.153 (0.22)
<i>Additional Controls</i>
Constant	−5.045 (35.50)**	−3.784 (8.93)**		
Observations	901540	766272	29051	27586

+ significant at 10%; *significant at 5%; **significant at 1%.

Robust z statistics in parentheses.

Notes: *Democracy* is the base category. In addition to the control variables reported in the table, all models include temporal controls (years since last conflict initiation and cubic splines of that variable) and dummy variables marking the combination of major/minor power status in the dyad. Column 2 also includes the following additional variables: Contiguity; Logged Distance between Capitals; Alliance Portfolio Similarity, and each state's Similarity of Alliance Portfolio with the United States. Column 4 does not include these variables as they do not vary substantially over time, making the fixed-effects analysis difficult to estimate. The Online Appendix reports the full tables (showing coefficients for all covariates).

How to Conduct Inference?

Dyads present an ironic situation in that dyadic data sets, with 100,000 cases (or often considerably more), may seem ideal for hypothesis testing. Yet, the structure of dyadic data complicates the assessment to statistical significance. **Because dyadic observations are not independent events, the usual tests of significance result in overconfidence**, even when the model itself appears to be correctly specified (Erikson, Pinto & Rader, 2014, p. 457).

How to Conduct Inference? (continued)

Dyadic observations are not independent. This is due to the presence of individual-specific factors common to all observations involving that individual. It is thus reasonable to assume that $\mathbb{E}[u_{ij}u_{ik}] \neq 0$ for all k and $\mathbb{E}[u_{ij}u_{kj}] \neq 0$ for all k . By the same reasoning, we also have $\mathbb{E}[u_{ij}u_{jk}] \neq 0$ and $\mathbb{E}[u_{ij}u_{ki}] \neq 0$. Provided that regressors are exogenous,...OLS...yields consistent coefficient estimates but standard errors are inconsistent, leading to incorrect inference (Fafchamps and Gubert, 2007, p. 330).

Existing suggestions

1. Permutation approaches: quadratic assignment procedure (QAP) of Hubert (1985, PM), Krackhardt (1988, SN)
2. Integrated likelihood/MCMC: p_2 model of van Duijn, Snijders and Zijlstra (2004, SN), Zijlstra, van Duijn and Snijders (2009, BJMSP), Krivitsky, Handcock, Raftery and Hoff (2009, SN)

Existing suggestions (continued)

3. Pairwise/composite likelihood: Bellio and Varin (2005, SM)
4. Dyadic cluster-robust s.e.: Fafchamps and Gubert (2007, JDE), Cameron and Miller (2014, WP), Aronow, Samii and Assenova (2015, PA), Tabord-Meehan (2018, JBES)

Dyadic Regression: Notation & Setup

Let $Y_{ij} = Y_{ji}$ be an *undirected* outcome of interest associated with dyad $\{i, j\}$ (directed case poses few additional challenges).

- will focus on binary case with $Y_{ij} = D_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}$

Let X_i be a vector of agent-level covariates.

Let U_i be unobserved agent-level heterogeneity.

Dyadic Regression: Notation & Setup (continued)

The dyadic regression function (symmetric in its two arguments) is

$$g(x, x') = \mathbb{E} [Y_{ij} | X_i = x, X_j = x']$$

Here i and j denote two independent random draws from the population of interest.

Dyadic Regression: Nonparametric DGP

We will assume that

$$D_{ij} \mid X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j \sim \text{Bernoulli} \left(h \left(X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j \right) \right)$$

for some function $h(\cdot)$, symmetric in its first and second, as well as its third and fourth, arguments.

May be possible to motivate this DGP via exchangeability arguments (e.g., Aldous-Hoover Theorem).

Iterated expectations gives

$$g(x, x') = \int \int h(x, x', u, v) f_{U|X}(u|x) f_{U|X}(v|x') \, du \, dv.$$

Dyadic Regression: Nonparametric DGP (continued)

Elements of $\mathbf{D} = [D_{ij}]$ are conditionally independent given \mathbf{X} *and* the latent \mathbf{U} , but may be dependent conditional on \mathbf{X} alone.

Captures types of dependence structures typically assumed in empirical work (e.g., Frank and Strauss, 1986, JASA; Fafchamps and Gubert, 2007, JDE).

Will defer question of whether $g(x, x')$ has a structural interpretation until later.

Dyadic Regression: Parametric estimation

A prototypical specification for a binary outcome is

$$\text{logit} \left[g \left(X_i, X_j; \theta_0 \right) \right] = \alpha + \left[t \left(X_i \right) + t \left(X_j \right) \right]' \beta + \omega \left(X_i, X_j \right)' \gamma$$

for $\theta = (\alpha, \beta', \gamma')'$ with

1. $t(X)$ a vector of linear independent and known functions of X ;
2. $\omega \left(X_i, X_j \right) = \omega \left(X_j, X_i \right)$ dyadic-specific regressors.

Dyadic Regression: Parametric estimation (continued)

Estimate θ_0 by maximizing the Bernoulli pseudo-likelihood function

$$L_N(\theta) = \binom{N}{2}^{-1} \sum_{i < j} l(Z_{ij}; \theta)$$

with $Z_{ij} = (X'_i, X'_j, D_{ij})'$ and $l(Z_{ij}; \theta)$ equal to the logit kernel (cf., Cox and Reid, 2005, BM).

This can be done using standard software (see examples above).

Dyadic Regression: Parametric estimation (continued)

Under some basic conditions

$$\sqrt{N} (\hat{\theta}_{\text{DR}} - \theta_0) = \underbrace{\left[-H_N(\bar{\theta}) \right]^+}_{\text{Inverse Hessian}} \times \sqrt{N} S_N(\theta_0)$$

where

$$S_N(\theta) = \binom{N}{2}^{-1} \sum_{i < j} s(Z_{ij}; \theta)$$

$$\text{for } s(Z_{ij}; \theta) = \frac{\partial l(Z_{ij}; \theta)}{\partial \theta} \text{ and } H_N(\theta) = \binom{N}{2}^{-1} \sum_{i < j} \frac{\partial^2 l(Z_{ij}; \theta)}{\partial \theta \partial \theta'}.$$

Dyadic Regression: Parametric estimation (continued)

$S_N(\theta)$ is not the sum of independent components.

...also not a U-Statistic (D_{ij} is a dyad-level random variable), but it is “U-Statistic like”.

A Hoeffding (1948) variance decomposition gives

$$\mathbb{V} \left(\sqrt{N} S_N(\theta_0) \right) = 4\Sigma_1 + \frac{2}{N-1} (\Sigma_2 - 2\Sigma_1)$$

where $\Sigma_p = \mathbb{E} \left[s(Z_{i_1 i_2}; \theta_0) s(Z_{j_1 j_2}; \theta_0)' \right]$ when the dyads $\{i_1, i_2\}$ and $\{j_1, j_2\}$ share $p = 0, 1, 2$ agents in common.

Dyadic Regression: Variance estimation

Fafchamps and Gubert (2007, JDE) propose a now widely-used dyadic-clustered covariance estimator (cf., Cameron and Miller, 2014, WP; Aronow et al., 2017, PA).

It turns out their estimator is equivalent to a natural analog estimate of $4\Sigma_1 + \frac{2}{N-1}(\Sigma_2 - 2\Sigma_1)$.

Showing this involves tedious counting arguments.

Dyadic Regression: Variance estimation (continued)

The standard “econometrician’s estimate” focuses on the leading term only:

$$\tilde{\Sigma}_1 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{s}_i(\theta) \hat{s}_i(\theta)'$$

with $\hat{s}_i(\theta) = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{j \neq i} s(Z_{ij}; \theta)$.

This “Jackknife” estimate is biased (e.g., Efron and Stein, 1979, AS).

It turns out that the Fafchamps and Gubert (2007, JDE) estimate is “bias-corrected” (albeit computationally inefficient).

When network is sparse these differences appear to be important.

Dyadic Regression: Asymptotic Normality

Let $r(X_i, X_j) = \left(1, t(X_i)' + t(X_j)', \omega(X_i, X_j)'\right)'$ and consider the decomposition:

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{N}S_N(\theta_0) &= \sqrt{N}\binom{N}{2}^{-1} \sum_{i < j} \left\{ D_{ij} - g(X_i, X_j; \theta_0) \right\} r(X_i, X_j) \\ &= \sqrt{N}\binom{N}{2}^{-1} \sum_{i < j} \left\{ h(X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j) - g(X_i, X_j; \theta_0) \right\} r(X_i, X_j) \\ &\quad + \sqrt{N}\binom{N}{2}^{-1} \sum_{i < j} \left\{ D_{ij} - h(X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j) \right\} r(X_i, X_j) \\ &= \sqrt{N}V_N + \sqrt{N}W_N\end{aligned}$$

Dyadic Regression: Asymptotic Normality

V_N is a textbook U-statistic with

$$\sqrt{N}V_N \xrightarrow{D} \mathcal{N}(0, 4\Sigma_1)$$

...while $\mathbb{C}(V_N, W_N) = 0$ with $\mathbb{V}(\sqrt{N}W_N) = O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right)$

...so we can argue $\sqrt{N}S_N(\theta_0) \xrightarrow{D} \mathcal{N}(0, 4\Sigma_1)$

In practice it appears to be better to use the approximation

$$\sqrt{N}S_N(\theta_0) \stackrel{approx}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(0, 4\Sigma_1 + \frac{2}{N-1}(\Sigma_2 - 2\Sigma_1)\right)$$

Dyadic Regression

Applying some basic ideas/tools on exchangeable random graphs, network moments etc...

...puts dyadic regression on a much sounder inferential basis.

Potential to make a large empirical literature much more coherent.

It turns out that (one) emerging practice in economics has a coherent foundation.

Average Partial Effects

Do trade agreements increase trade (e.g., Tinbergen, 1962; Rose, 2004, AER)?

1. draw agent i at random and exogenously assign her covariate value $X_i = x$
2. draw a second independent agent j at random and assign her covariate value $X_j = x'$.

The (ex ante) expected outcome associated with these assignments is

$$m^{\text{ASF}}(x, x') = \int h(x, x', u, v) f_U(u) f_U(v) du dv$$

Average Partial Effects: Identification

A simple identification result under “selection on observations” type assumptions follows if there is a proxy W_i for U_i such that:

1. [*redundancy*] $\mathbb{E} \left[D_{ij} \middle| X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j, W_i, W_j \right] = h \left(X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j \right);$
2. [*conditional independence*] $U_i \perp X_i \mid W_i = w, \quad w \in \mathbb{W};$
3. [*support*] a support condition holds.

Dyadic proxy variable regression

Define the dyadic proxy variable regression (PVR) function as

$$q(x, x', w, w') = \mathbb{E} [D_{ij} | X_i = x, X_j = x', W_i = w, W_j = w']$$

Under the first two conditions (*and random sampling*)

$$\begin{aligned} q(X_i, X_j, W_i, W_j) &= \mathbb{E} [\mathbb{E} [D_{ij} | X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j, W_i, W_j] | X_i, X_j, W_i, W_j] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [h(X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j) | X_i, X_j, W_i, W_j] \\ &= \int h(X_i, X_j, u, v) f_{U|W}(u | W_i) f_{U|W}(v | W_j) du dv \end{aligned}$$

Double marginal integration

Putting things together we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}_{W_i} \left[\mathbb{E}_{W_j} \left[q(x, x', W_i, W_j) \right] \right] &= \int \left[\int h(x, x', u, v) \right. \\ &\quad \times f_{U|W}(u|w) f_{U|W}(v|w') \, du dv \Big] \\ &\quad \times f_W(w) f_W(w') \, dw dw' \\ &= \int h(x, x', u, v) f_U(u) f_U(v) \, du dv \\ &= m^{\text{ASF}}(x, x').\end{aligned}$$

A formal support condition is

$$\mathbb{S}(x, x') \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{w, w' : f_{W|X}(w|x) f_{W|X}(w'|x') > 0\} = \mathbb{W} \times \mathbb{W}.$$

Connection to Program Evaluation

When X_i is discretely-valued we can express the support conditioning in a form similar to the overlap condition from program evaluation:

$$p_x(w) p_{x'}(w') \geq \kappa > 0 \text{ for all } (w, w') \in \mathbb{W} \times \mathbb{W}$$

where $p_x(w) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \Pr(X_i = x | W_i = w)$.

APE Wrap-up

Estimation of, and inference on, the ASF are straightforward when the proxy variable regression function is “flexible parametric”.

Provides a framework for thinking about causal effects in dyadic settings (both experimental and observational).

When $X \in \{0, 1\}$ there are interesting connections to the program evaluation literature.

Semiparametric efficiency bound...

A Correlated Random Effects Specification

Dyadic logit is 'reduced form' by construction.

Source of dependence across (i, j) and (i, k) is left unspecified.

Can we write down a likelihood and work backwards?

cf., p_2 model of van Duijn, Snijders and Zijlstra (2004, SN).

cf., 'fixed effects' models studied in Graham (2017, EM).

A Correlated Random Effects Specification (continued)

Links form according to

$$D_{ij} = \mathbf{1} \left(\left[t(X_i) + t(X_j) \right]' \beta_0 + \omega(X_i, X_j)' \gamma_0 + A_i + A_j - U_{ij} \leq 0 \right)$$

with

$$U_{ij} \mid X_i, X_j, W_i, W_j, A_i, A_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$

and independently distributed across dyads.

A Correlated Random Effects Specification (continued)

Posit the correlated random effects specification

$$A_i | X_i, W_i \sim N \left(\frac{\alpha_0}{2} + k(W_i)' \delta_0, \sigma_A^2 \right)$$

with $k(W_i)$ a vector of known functions of the proxy variables.

A Correlated Random Effects Specification (continued)

Averaging over A_i and A_j gives a dyadic proxy variable regression function of

$$q(X_i, X_j, W_i, W_j; \pi_0) = \Phi(R'_{ij}\pi_0) \quad (1)$$

for

$$\pi_0 = (1 + 2\sigma_A^2)^{-1/2} (\alpha_0, \beta'_0, \gamma'_0, \delta'_0)'$$

and

$$R_{ij} = \left(1, [t(X_i) + t(X_j)]', \omega(X_i, X_j)', [k(W_i) + k(W_j)]'\right)'$$

A Correlated Random Effects Estimation

1. Use $q(X_i, X_j, W_i, W_j; \pi_0) = \Phi(R'_{ij}\pi_0)$ and proceed as in logit case above
 - (a) computationally straightforward
 - (b) does not recover estimate of $\rho_0 = \sigma_A^2 (1 + 2\sigma_A^2)^{-1}$
2. Maximize integrated likelihood (high dimensional integral, MCMC, efficient?)
3. Use composite likelihood ideas (“Triad Probit”, how inefficient?)

Triad Probit

Let $\eta_0 = (\alpha_0, \beta'_0, \gamma'_0, \delta'_0)'$ and $S_{ij} = 2D_{ij} - 1$. Consider the log-likelihood associated with the *pair* (D_{ij}, D_{ik}) :

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \Pr(D_{ij}, D_{ik} | \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{W}; \theta_0) &= \ln \Phi \left(S_{ij} \frac{R'_{ij} \eta_0}{\sqrt{1 + 2\sigma_A^2}}, S_{ik} \frac{R'_{ik} \eta_0}{\sqrt{1 + 2\sigma_A^2}}; S_{ij} S_{ik} \rho_0 \right) \\ &= l_{ijk}^* \end{aligned}$$

for $\theta_0 = (\eta'_0, \rho_0)'$ and $Z_{ij} = (D_{ij}, R'_{ij})'$.

Note $(1 + 2\sigma_A^2)^{-1} = 1 - 2\rho_0$.

Pairwise likelihood depends non-trivially on the distribution of the random effects $\{A_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$.

Triad Probit (continued)

Pairwise likelihood is not invariant to permutations of i, j and k .

Define the permutation invariant kernel

$$l_{ijk}(\theta) = \frac{1}{3} [l_{ijk}^* + l_{jik}^* + l_{kij}^*]$$

and associated criterion function

$$L_N(\theta) = \binom{N}{3}^{-1} \sum_{i < j < k} l_{ijk}(\theta).$$

Similar to a third-order U-process maximizer (e.g., Honore and Powell, 1994, JE).

Also like a composite likelihood (cf., Bellio and Varin, 2005, SM).

Nyakatoke Example

	Dyadic Logit	Triad Probit
Lutheran	0.0674 (0.1042)	0.0404 (0.0445)
Muslim	0.0647 (0.1759)	0.0271 (0.0656)
Same religion	0.3836 (0.1274)	0.1940 (0.0461)
Other blood	1.5701 (0.2321)	0.8785 (0.1027)
Cousin, etc.	2.1031 (0.3090)	1.2227 (0.1889)
Child, etc.	3.4068 (0.2145)	2.0966 (0.1214)
ρ_0	-	0.0651 (0.0207)

Nyakatoke Example

cf., de Weerdt (2004, IAP)

Standard errors include higher-order variance terms.

$$(1 - 2\hat{\rho})^{1/2} = 0.9327 \text{ and } \pi/\sqrt{3} = 1.8138$$

Triad probit coefficients $\times 1.8138 \times 0.9327 \approx$ dyadic logit coefficients.

Dyadic regression wrap-up

For “fixed effect” estimation see Graham (2017, EM), Jochmans (2017, JBES) and Dzemski (2014, WP).

Other settings with group production.

Several theoretical questions are open.