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## Gravity Models

$\{X_i, U_i\}_{i=1}^N$  is an iid random sequence

$X_i$  : latitude, longitude, GDP, Democracy, WTO etc.

$U_i$  :  $U_i = (A_i, B_i)$   $A_i$  propensity to export

$\hookleftarrow$  latent or unobserved  $B_i$  propensity to import  
by econometrician

For each  $N(N-1)$  ordered dyads we obs.

$$Y_{ij} = \tilde{h}(\underbrace{X_i, X_j}_{\text{obs.}}, \underbrace{U_i, U_j}_{\text{unobs.}}, V_{ij})$$

$\nwarrow$  exports from  $i$  to  $j$

$V_{ij} \sim \text{iid and independent of every thing else.}$

## Gravity Model

$R_{ij}$  is a vector of functions of  $X_i, X_j$

$$Y_{ij} = \exp(R_{ij}' \theta) \underbrace{A_i B_j}_{\substack{\nwarrow \\ \text{how to deal there?}}} V_{ij}$$

Head + Mayer (2014)  
Handbook chapter...

Assume:

$$E[Y_{ij} | X_i, X_j] = \exp(R_{ij}' \theta_0) \cdot E[A_i B_j V_{ij} | X_i, X_j]$$

$$\Rightarrow E[A_i B_j V_{ij} | X_i, X_j] =$$

$$E[A_i | X_i, X_j] \cdot E[B_j | X_i, X_j] \cdot E[V_{ij} | X_i, X_j]$$

$$= E[A_i | X_i] \cdot E[B_j | X_j] \cdot 1$$

$$\stackrel{?}{=} E[A_i] = 1 \quad \stackrel{?}{=} E[B_j] = 1$$

(A)

for now assume: (A) s.t.

$$E[Y_{ij} | X_i, X_j] = \exp(R_{ij}' \theta_0)$$

→ focus on inference issues raised by dyadic data

→ more on identification tomorrow

Example: Santos Silva + Tenreyro (2006, RESTAT)  
"Log of Gravity"  
Classic Paper in Economics according to  
Google Scholar.

Recipe:  $E[Y_{ij} | X_i, X_j] = \exp(R_{ij}' \theta_0)$  (\*)

cf., Tinbergen (1962)

$$E[\log Y_{ij} | X_i, X_j] = R_{ij}' \theta_0$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad l_{ij}(\theta) = Y_{ij} R_{ij}' \theta - \exp(R_{ij}' \theta)$$

↳ log-likelihood of a poisson R.V. w/ mean  $\exp(R_{ij}' \theta)$

$\textcircled{2}$  choose  $\hat{\theta}$  to maximize the pseudo-composite log-likelihood

$$L_N(\theta) = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i} l_{ij}(\theta)$$

in practice in stata: poisson  $Y$   $R$ ,  $r$

## Agenda

- 1.) consistency not so hard to show

- ## 2.) open questions

- a) asymptotic normality?

- b) limiting variance ?

} how do we  
calculate  
standard errors

Observations:

$$l_N(\theta) = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i} l_{ij}(\theta)$$

dependence across any pair of  
summands sharing at least one index

Mean value Theorem:

$$\sqrt{N}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = \underbrace{[-H_N(\bar{\theta})]}_{\text{inverse Hessian}} + \underbrace{\sqrt{N} S_N(\theta_0)}_{\text{"Score"}}$$

$$S_N(\theta) = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i} S_{ij}(\theta) \quad S_{ij}(\theta) = \frac{\partial \ell_{ij}(\theta)}{\partial \theta}$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \text{LLN} \xrightarrow{P} \Gamma_0^{-1}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \text{CLT} \xrightarrow{D} ? \quad \frac{1}{N} \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i}^N S_{ij}(\theta_0)$$

$$\sqrt{N}(\hat{\theta} - \theta) = \Gamma_0^{-1} \underbrace{\sqrt{N} S_N(\theta_0)}_{*} + o_p(1)$$

$\textcircled{1}$  is NOT the sum of  $N$  independent random variables, so we cannot directly apply a CLT.

$\textcircled{2}$  it IS the sum of  $N(N-1)$  R.V. w/ dependence across them (e.g.  $S_{ij}(\theta_0)$  covaries w/  $S_{ik}(\theta_0)$ ).  $\rightarrow$  existing practice ignores this.

## Theory of U-Statistics

- Hoeffding (1948)
- van der Vaart (1998)

## Kendall's Tau

$$K_N = \binom{N}{2}^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j < i} \text{sgn}\{(X_i - X_j)(Y_i - Y_j)\}$$

$$\binom{N}{2} = \frac{1}{2} N(N-1)$$

non-parametric, scale free,  
measure of correlation

$$\text{sgn} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if pos} \\ 0 & \text{if zero} \\ -1 & \text{if neg} \end{cases}$$

Classic example of a U-statistic.

$$U_N = \binom{N}{m}^{-1} \sum_{i \in C_{m,N}} h(X_{i_1}, \dots, X_{i_m})$$

$\{X_i\}_{i=1}^N$  is a random sample

$C_{m,N}$  denotes the set of all combinations of indices of size  $m$  drawn from  $\{1, 2, \dots, N\}$

$m$  is the order of the statistic

## Big Picture

$U_N$  constructed from random sample...

... but dependence across summands ...

... can't directly apply a CLT to  $U_N$

Idea: approximate  $U_N$  w/  $\hat{U}_N$  where

$\hat{U}_N$  is a sum of iid R.V. to which

we can apply a CLT.

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \sqrt{N} \hat{U}_N \xrightarrow{D} N(0, \Lambda) \quad \text{CLT}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad N \cdot \mathbb{E}[(U_N - \hat{U}_N)^2] \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{convergence in mean square}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{N} U_N \xrightarrow{D} N(0, \Lambda)$$

## Hajek Projection

$$U_N = \binom{N}{2}^{-1} \sum_{i < j} h(X_i, X_j)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[U_N] = \theta_0$$

Hajek Projection is (approx.  $U_N$  w/  $\sum_{i=1}^N g_i(X_i)$ )

$$\hat{U}_N - \theta_0 = \frac{2}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \{ \bar{h}_i(X_i) - \theta_0 \}$$

$$\text{w/ } \bar{h}_i(x) = E[h(x, X_j)]$$

$$\Omega_1 = \mathbb{E}[(\bar{h}_i(X_i) - \theta_0)(\bar{h}_i(X_i) - \theta_0)]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[(h(X_i, X_j) - \theta_0)(h(X_i, X_k) - \theta_0)]$$

CLT

$$\sqrt{N}(\hat{U}_N - \theta_0) \xrightarrow{D} N(0, 4\Omega_1)$$

We can show that  $N \mathbb{E}[(\hat{U}_N - U_N)^2] \rightarrow 0$   
as  $N \rightarrow \infty$



$$\sqrt{N} (u_N - \theta_0) \xrightarrow{D} N(0, 4\Omega_1)$$

Variance estimation

$$\hat{h}_1(x_i) = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{j \neq i} h(x_i, x_j)$$

$$\hat{\Omega}_1 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{h}_1(x_i) - \hat{\theta})(\hat{h}_1(x_i) - \hat{\theta})'$$

$$\hat{\theta} = u_N$$


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Application to Poynot Regression. Recall:

$$S_N(\theta_0) = \frac{1}{N} \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq i} S_{ij}(\theta_0)$$

$$= \binom{N}{2}^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j < i} \left\{ \frac{S_{ij}(\theta_0) + S_{ji}(\theta_0)}{2} \right\}$$

$\bar{S}_{ij}(\theta_0)$  now symmetric in its index

in the Poisson case  $S_{ij}(\theta_0)$  is

$$S_{ij}(\theta_0) = (Y_{ij} - \exp(R_{ij}'\theta_0)) R_{ij}$$

$R_{ij} = r(X_i, X_j)$ , but  $Y_{ij}$  varies at the dyad

level  $\Rightarrow S_N(\theta_0)$  is NOT a U-statistic

Recall:  $Y_{ij} = \tilde{h}(X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j, V_{ij})$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[Y_{ij} | X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j] = h(X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j)$$

$$S_{ij}(\theta_0) = (h(X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j) - \exp(R_{ij}'\theta_0)) R_{ij} \quad ①$$

$$+ \underbrace{(Y_{ij} - h(X_i, X_j, U_i, U_j))}_{\varepsilon_{ij}} R_{ij} \quad ②$$

① depends on  $X_i, U_i$  and  $X_j, U_j$  alone ... now dyadic-specific R.V.

② not  $\mathbb{E}[\varepsilon_{ij} \varepsilon_{ik}] = 0$  (hooray!)

## High Level Summary

$$S_N(\theta_0) = \binom{N}{2}^{-1} \sum_{i < j} \bar{s}_{ij}(\theta_0)$$

$$= \underbrace{V_N(\theta_0)}_{\text{U-Statistic}} + \underbrace{T_N(\theta_0)}_{\text{sum of } \binom{N}{2} \text{ conditionally independent R.V.}}$$

$$\text{Cov}(T_N, V_N) = 0$$

Skipping steps, but don't worry!

$$T_N S_N(\theta_0) \xrightarrow{D} N(0, 4\Omega_1)$$

$$\Omega_1 = \mathbb{E}[\bar{s}_{ij}(\theta_0) \bar{s}_{ik}(\theta_0)']$$

$$V(S_N(\theta_0)) = O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right) + O\left(\frac{1}{N^2}\right)$$

## Recipe

- ① pseudo composite poisson MLE of  $Y_{ij}$  onto  $R_{ij}$  to get  $\hat{\theta}$  (as in Santos Silva + Tenreiro paper).
- ②  $\hat{\Gamma}$  w/  $H_N(\hat{\theta})$  (numerical Hessian)  
(most poisson regression programs w/ provide this)
- ③  $\hat{\bar{S}}_{1i}(\hat{\theta}) = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{j \neq i} \bar{S}_{ij}(\hat{\theta})$   
 $\bar{S}_{ij}(\hat{\theta}) = (Y_{ij} - \exp(R_{ij}'\hat{\theta}))R_{ij} + (Y_{ji} - \exp(R_{ji}'\hat{\theta}))R_{ji}$   
compute  $\hat{\Omega}_1 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\bar{S}}_{1i} \hat{\bar{S}}_{1i}'$
- ④ Bare inference on  
$$\hat{\theta} \sim N(\theta_0, \frac{\hat{\Gamma}^{-1} \hat{\Omega}_1 \hat{\Gamma}^{-1}}{N})$$

