

PLSC 504 – Fall 2024

Regression Models for Nominal- Level Responses

September 11, 2024

Nominal Outcomes

Motivation: Discrete *Outcomes*

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = P_{ij}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^J P_{ij} = 1$$

$$P_{ij} = \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)$$

Rescale:

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) \equiv P_{ij} = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}$$

Ensures

- $\Pr(Y_i = j) \in (0, 1)$
- $\sum_{j=1}^J \Pr(Y_i = j) = 1.0$

Constrain $\beta_1 = \mathbf{0}$; then:

$$\Pr(Y_i = 1) = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{j=2}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta'_j)}$$

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta'_j)}{1 + \sum_{j=2}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta'_j)}$$

where $\beta'_j = \beta_j - \beta_1$.

Alternative Motivation: Discrete *Choice*

$$U_{ij} = \mu_i + \epsilon_{ij}$$

$$\mu_i = \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(Y_i = j) &= \Pr(U_{ij} > U_{i\ell} \forall \ell \neq j \in J) \\ &= \Pr(\mu_i + \epsilon_{ij} > \mu_i + \epsilon_{i\ell} \forall \ell \neq j \in J) \\ &= \Pr(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j + \epsilon_{ij} > \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_\ell + \epsilon_{i\ell} \forall \ell \neq j \in J) \\ &= \Pr(\epsilon_{ij} - \epsilon_{i\ell} > \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_\ell - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j \forall \ell \neq j \in J) \end{aligned}$$

$\epsilon \sim ???$

- *Type I Extreme Value*
- Density: $f(\epsilon) = \exp[-\epsilon - \exp(-\epsilon)]$
- CDF: $\int f(\epsilon) \equiv F(\epsilon) = \exp[-\exp(-\epsilon)]$
- \rightarrow Multinomial Logit

Define:

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{ij} &= 1 \text{ if } Y_i = j, \\ &= 0 \text{ otherwise.}\end{aligned}$$

Then:

$$\begin{aligned}L_i &= \prod_{j=1}^J [\Pr(Y_i = j)]^{\delta_{ij}} \\ &= \prod_{j=1}^J \left[\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)} \right]^{\delta_{ij}}\end{aligned}$$

So:

$$L = \prod_{i=1}^N \prod_{j=1}^J \left[\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)} \right]^{\delta_{ij}}$$

and (of course):

$$\ln L = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^J \delta_{ij} \ln \left[\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)} \right]$$

It is exactly the same as the multinomial logit model. Period.

CL with choice-varying predictors $\mathbf{Z}_{ij}\gamma$ is:

$$\Pr(Y_{ij} = j) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{Z}_{ij}\gamma)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{Z}_{ij}\gamma)}$$

Combinations: $\mathbf{X}_i\beta$ and $\mathbf{Z}_{ij}\gamma$:

- “Fixed effects” for each possible outcome / choice
- Observation-specific \mathbf{X} s
- Interactions...

MNL and CL: Practical Things

The PLSC 503 [slides](#) and [code](#) include some additional detail, plus a running example (the three-candidate 1992 U.S. presidential election), with discussions of:

- Model estimation (including choosing the baseline/reference outcome),
- Model interpretation and discussion (odds ratios, predicted probabilities, etc.),
- Model fit, and
- Diagnostics.

I've included most of the code for those examples in [today's code](#) as well.

Independence of Irrelevant Alternatives (“IIA”)

“An individual’s choice does not depend on the availability or characteristics of unavailable alternatives.”

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\Pr(Y_i = k)}{\Pr(Y_i = \ell)} &= \frac{\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}}{\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_\ell)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_j)}} \\ &= \frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_k)}{\exp(\mathbf{X}_i \beta_\ell)} \\ &= \exp[\mathbf{X}_i (\beta_k - \beta_\ell)]\end{aligned}$$

Alternatively:

$$\frac{\Pr(Y_i = k | S_J)}{\Pr(Y_i = \ell | S_J)} = \frac{\Pr(Y_i = k | S_M)}{\Pr(Y_i = \ell | S_M)} \quad \forall k, \ell, J, M$$

- Initially: $\Pr(\text{Car}) = \Pr(\text{Red Bus}) = 0.5$, $\frac{\Pr(\text{Car})}{\Pr(\text{Red Bus})} = 1$.
- Enter the Blue Bus...
 - Intuitively: $\Pr(\text{Car}) = 0.5$, $\Pr(\text{Red Bus}) = 0.25$,
 $\Pr(\text{Blue Bus}) = 0.25$
 - IIA requires that $\frac{\Pr(\text{Car})}{\Pr(\text{Red Bus})} = 1$.
 - So, that could be
 $\Pr(\text{Car}) = \Pr(\text{Red Bus}) = \Pr(\text{Blue Bus}) = 0.33$, or
 - $\Pr(\text{Car}) = \Pr(\text{Red Bus}) = 0.4$ and $\Pr(\text{Blue Bus}) = 0.2...$

Random utility model:

$$\begin{aligned}U_{ij} &= \mu_{ij} + \epsilon_{ij} \\ &= \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j + \epsilon_{ij}\end{aligned}$$

... means that:

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(Y_i = j) &= \Pr(U_{ij} > U_{i\ell}) \forall \ell \neq j \in J \\ &= \Pr(\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j + \epsilon_{ij} > \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_\ell + \epsilon_{i\ell}) \forall \ell \neq j \in J \\ &= \Pr(\epsilon_{ij} - \epsilon_{i\ell} > \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_\ell - \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j) \forall \ell \neq j \in J\end{aligned}$$

IIA Tests: Hausman/McFadden and Small/Hsiao

$$HM = (\hat{\beta}_r - \hat{\beta}_u)' [\hat{\mathbf{V}}_r - \hat{\mathbf{V}}_u]^{-1} (\hat{\beta}_r - \hat{\beta}_u)$$

$$\widehat{HM} \sim \chi^2_{(J-2)k}$$

$$SH = -2 \left[L_r(\hat{\beta}_u^{AB}) - L_r(\hat{\beta}_r^B) \right]$$

$$\widehat{SH} \sim \chi^2_{k_r}$$

IIA Freedom: Multinomial Probit

$\epsilon_{ij} \sim MVN(0, \Sigma)$, where:

$$\Sigma_{J \times J} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \dots & \sigma_{1J} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_{J1} & \dots & \sigma_J^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Define $\eta_{ij\ell} = \epsilon_{ij} - \epsilon_{i\ell}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(Y_i = j) &= \Pr(\eta_{ij\ell} > \mathbf{X}_i \beta_\ell - \mathbf{X}_i \beta_j) \forall \ell \neq j \in J \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\mathbf{X}_i \beta_1 - \mathbf{X}_i \beta_j} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\mathbf{X}_i \beta_\ell - \mathbf{X}_i \beta_j} \phi_J(\eta_{ij1}, \eta_{ij2}, \dots, \eta_{ij\ell}) d\eta_{ij1}, \eta_{ij2}, \dots, \eta_{ij\ell} \end{aligned}$$

- Identification: (Potentially) Fragile
- Estimation:
 - Always hard
 - Via “GHK” algorithm, or
 - Gaussian quadrature, or
 - Simulation (MCMC) (preferred)
- Software:
 - `mlogit` with `probit = TRUE` ([Geweke-Hajivassiliou-Keane algorithm](#))
 - MNP package (Bayesian/MCMC)
 - `endogMNP` package (Bayesian with endogenous switching)
 - Others?

$$\begin{aligned} f(\epsilon_{ij}) &= \lambda(\epsilon_{ij}) \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta_j} \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_j}\right) \exp\left[-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_j}\right)\right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F(\epsilon_{ij}) &= \Lambda(\epsilon_{ij}) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^z f(\epsilon_{ij}) d\epsilon_{ij} \\ &= \exp\left[-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_j}\right)\right] \end{aligned}$$

Means:

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{\ell \neq j} \Lambda \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_i \beta_j - \mathbf{x}_i \beta_{\ell} + \epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_{\ell}} \right) \frac{1}{\theta_j} \lambda \left(\frac{\epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_j} \right) d \epsilon_{ij}$$

With $w = \frac{\epsilon_{ij}}{\theta_j}$:

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{\ell \neq j} \Lambda \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_i \beta_j - \mathbf{x}_i \beta_{\ell} + \theta_j w}{\theta_{\ell}} \right) \lambda(w) d w$$

MNL \subset HEV: When $\theta_j = 1 \ \forall \ j \rightarrow$

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{\ell \neq j} \Lambda(\mathbf{x}_i \beta_j - \mathbf{x}_i \beta_{\ell} + \epsilon_{ij}) \lambda(\epsilon_{ij}) d \epsilon_{ij}$$

IIA Freedom: “Mixed Logit”

$$U_{ij} = \mathbf{X}_{ij}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \epsilon_{ij},$$

$$\epsilon_{ij} = \eta_i + \xi_{ij}$$

$$\Pr(Y_i = j|\eta) \equiv \Pr(Y_{ij} = 1|\eta) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_{ij}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \eta_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_{ij}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \eta_i)}$$

What to do with the η s?

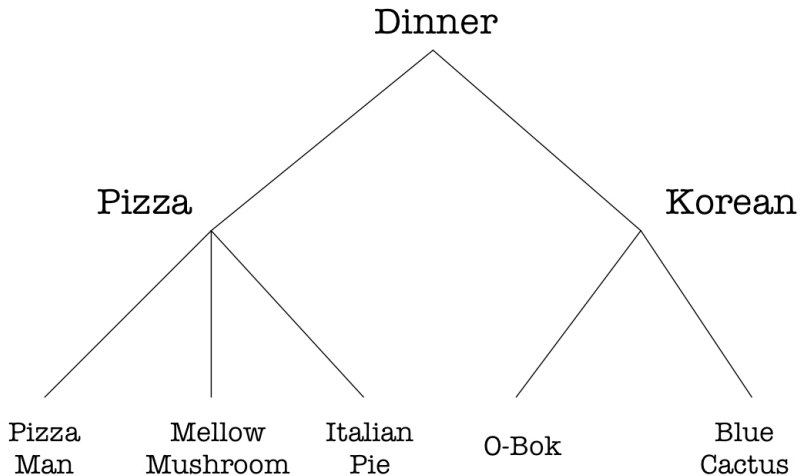
Assume:

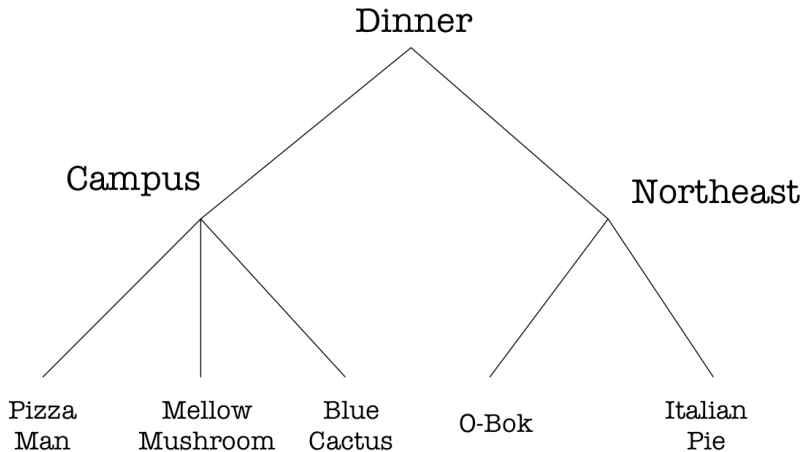
$$\eta_i \sim g(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Omega})$$

Yields:

$$\Pr(Y_i = j) = \int \left[\frac{\exp(\mathbf{X}_{ij}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \eta_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(\mathbf{X}_{ij}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \eta_i)} \right] g(\eta|\mathbf{\Omega}) d\eta$$

- “Nested” choices
- A priori information about “subsets”
- IIA holds *within* (but not *across*) subsets...





Example: 2002 Swedish Election ($N = 6610$)

```
> summary(Sweden)
```

partychoice	female	union	leftright
Conservatives :1469	Min. :0.0000	Min. :1.000	Min. :1.000
Liberals :1212	1st Qu.:0.0000	1st Qu.:1.000	1st Qu.:2.000
Social Democrats:2975	Median :0.0000	Median :3.000	Median :3.000
Left Party : 954	Mean :0.4882	Mean :2.709	Mean :2.868
	3rd Qu.:1.0000	3rd Qu.:4.000	3rd Qu.:4.000
	Max. :1.0000	Max. :4.000	Max. :5.000

age
Min. :17.00
1st Qu.:29.00
Median :42.00
Mean :42.93
3rd Qu.:55.00
Max. :90.00

Swedish Election: MNL

```
> library(mlogit)
> Sweden.Long<-mlogit.data(Sweden,choice="partychoice",shape="wide")
> Sweden.MNL<-mlogit(partychoice~1|female+union+leftright+age,data=Sweden.Long)
> summary(Sweden.MNL)
```

Frequencies of alternatives:

Conservatives	Left Party	Liberals	Social Democrats
0.22224	0.14433	0.18336	0.45008

Coefficients :

	Estimate	Std. Error	t-value	Pr(> t)
altLeft Party	13.3907039	0.3788540	35.3453	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLiberals	4.4121638	0.2928137	15.0682	< 2.2e-16 ***
altSocial Democrats	11.3821332	0.3289066	34.6060	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLeft Party:female	0.7211951	0.1218437	5.9190	3.239e-09 ***
altLiberals:female	0.5585172	0.0848597	6.5817	4.652e-11 ***
altSocial Democrats:female	0.3881456	0.0945266	4.1062	4.022e-05 ***
altLeft Party:union	-0.4334637	0.0513499	-8.4414	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLiberals:union	-0.0563136	0.0388720	-1.4487	0.1474228
altSocial Democrats:union	-0.4145682	0.0408153	-10.1572	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLeft Party:leftright	-4.0917135	0.0930610	-43.9681	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLiberals:leftright	-1.1274488	0.0593125	-19.0086	< 2.2e-16 ***
altSocial Democrats:leftright	-2.7555009	0.0719411	-38.3022	< 2.2e-16 ***
altLeft Party:age	-0.0277444	0.0038808	-7.1491	8.737e-13 ***
altLiberals:age	-0.0064185	0.0025768	-2.4909	0.0127410 *
altSocial Democrats:age	-0.0105052	0.0029196	-3.5982	0.0003204 ***

Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1

Log-Likelihood: -5627.5

McFadden R²: 0.33693

Likelihood ratio test : chisq = 5719 (p.value=< 2.22e-16)

Hausman-McFadden IIA Test

```
> # Restricted model (omitting Social Democrats)
> Sweden.MNL.Restr<-mlogit(partychoice~1|female+union+leftright+age,
+ Sweden.Long,alt.subset=c("Conservatives","Liberals","Left Party"))
>
> hmftest(Sweden.MNL,Sweden.MNL.Restr)
```

Hausman-McFadden test

```
data: Sweden.Long
chisq = 19.1137, df = 10, p-value = 0.03884
alternative hypothesis: IIA is rejected
```

Swedish Election: HEV

```
> Sweden.Het<-mlogit(partychoice~1|female+union+leftright+
+ age,data=Sweden.Long,heterosc=TRUE)
> summary(Sweden.Het)
```

Coefficients :

	Estimate	Std. Error	z-value	Pr(> z)
Left Party:(intercept)	7.84569	0.42849	18.31	< 2e-16 ***
Liberals:(intercept)	3.09199	0.30607	10.10	< 2e-16 ***
Social Democrats:(intercept)	6.74242	0.32038	21.04	< 2e-16 ***
Left Party:female	0.29096	0.08057	3.61	0.0003 ***
Liberals:female	0.34113	0.06510	5.24	1.6e-07 ***
Social Democrats:female	0.15572	0.05718	2.72	0.0065 **
Left Party:union	-0.22645	0.03704	-6.11	9.7e-10 ***
Liberals:union	-0.03498	0.02685	-1.30	0.1926
Social Democrats:union	-0.23786	0.03319	-7.17	7.8e-13 ***
Left Party:leftright	-2.43814	0.17450	-13.97	< 2e-16 ***
Liberals:leftright	-0.77255	0.04629	-16.69	< 2e-16 ***
Social Democrats:leftright	-1.60927	0.09462	-17.01	< 2e-16 ***
Left Party:age	-0.01612	0.00338	-4.77	1.9e-06 ***
Liberals:age	-0.00200	0.00176	-1.14	0.2543
Social Democrats:age	-0.00267	0.00175	-1.53	0.1258
sp.Left Party	0.90017	0.14304	6.29	3.1e-10 ***
sp.Liberals	0.59981	0.09925	6.04	1.5e-09 ***
sp.Social Democrats	0.69163	0.10197	6.78	1.2e-11 ***

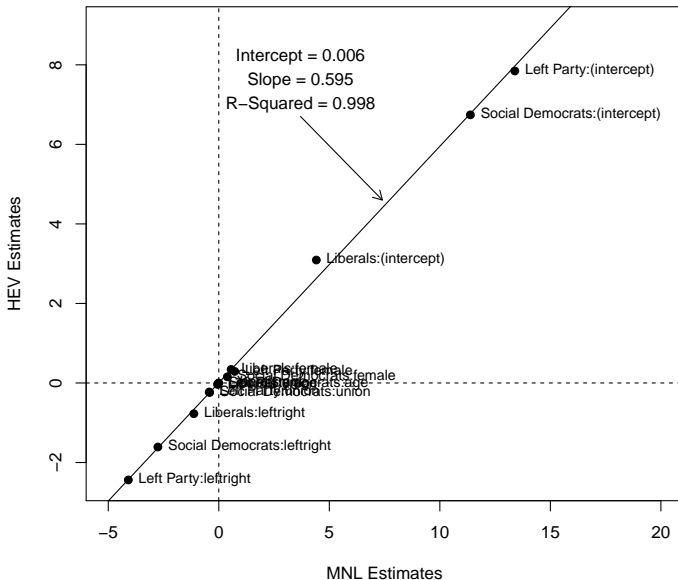
Signif. codes: 0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1

Log-Likelihood: -5840

McFadden R²: 0.312

Likelihood ratio test : chisq = 5300 (p.value = <2e-16)

$\hat{\beta}$ s: MNL vs. HEV



Tests:

```

> MNL.HEV.Wald <- waldtest(Sweden.Het, heterosc = FALSE) # Wald test
> MNL.HEV.Wald

Wald test

data: homoscedasticity
chisq = 20, df = 3, p-value = 0.0004

> MNL.HEV.LR <- lrtest(Sweden.Het)          # LR test
> MNL.HEV.LR
Likelihood ratio test

Model 1: partychoice ~ 1 | female + union + leftright + age
Model 2: partychoice ~ 1 | female + union + leftright + age
      #Df LogLik Df Chisq Pr(>Chisq)
1   18  -5836
2   15  -5627 -3   416    <2e-16 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 *** 0.001 ** 0.01 * 0.05 . 0.1 1

> MNL.HEV.Score <- scoretest(Sweden.MNL, heterosc = TRUE) # score test
> MNL.HEV.Score

score test

data: heterosc = TRUE
chisq = 20, df = 3, p-value = 0.00002
alternative hypothesis: heteroscedastic model

```


Swedish Election: MNP

```
> library(MNP)
> Sweden.MNP<-mnp(partychoice~female+union+leftright+age, data=Sweden)
> summary(Sweden.MNP)
```

Coefficients:

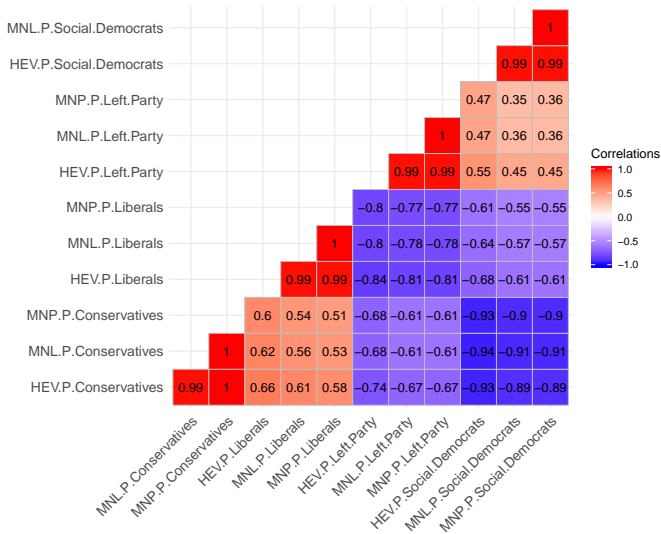
	mean	std.dev.	2.5%	97.5%
(Intercept):Liberals	3.964677	0.879442	0.983572	4.669
(Intercept):Social Democrats	7.993453	1.495732	3.986961	9.812
(Intercept):Left Party	10.342468	2.082971	4.845935	12.714
female:Liberals	0.293136	0.046373	0.204654	0.382
female:Social Democrats	0.290311	0.079166	0.124746	0.447
female:Left Party	0.613163	0.163673	0.289974	0.944
union:Liberals	-0.083366	0.036782	-0.140052	0.024
union:Social Democrats	-0.275696	0.059260	-0.369943	-0.145
union:Left Party	-0.346922	0.087131	-0.489992	-0.148
leftright:Liberals	-0.913247	0.168331	-1.045781	-0.350
leftright:Social Democrats	-1.920076	0.362403	-2.371245	-0.977
leftright:Left Party	-3.409277	0.750701	-4.308455	-1.576
age:Liberals	-0.003350	0.001490	-0.006264	-0.000409
age:Social Democrats	-0.007171	0.002630	-0.012327	-0.002
age:Left Party	-0.025595	0.007323	-0.039641	-0.011

Covariances:

	mean	std.dev.	2.5%	97.5%
Liberals:Liberals	1.0000	0.0000	1.0000	1.000
Liberals:Social Democrats	1.4083	0.3925	0.2116	1.830
Liberals:Left Party	2.4450	1.0779	0.6731	3.988
Social Democrats:Social Democrats	2.6696	0.9215	0.5630	3.898
Social Democrats:Left Party	4.4852	2.1846	0.3521	7.524
Left Party:Left Party	9.4811	5.0787	1.1682	17.095

Base category: Conservatives
Number of alternatives: 4
Number of observations: 6610
Number of estimated parameters: 20
Number of stored MCMC draws: 5000

How I Stopped Worrying and Learned To Love MNL...



Model	Stata	SAS	R
Multinomial Logit	mlogit	proc catmod	vglm, mlogit, multinom*
Conditional Logit	clogit	proc mdc	clogit, mlogit
Multinomial Probit	mprobit / asmprobit	proc mdc	mnp*, mlogit
Heteroscedastic Extreme Value	No(?)	proc mdc	mlogit
Mixed Logit	mixlogit	proc mdc	mlogit
Nested Logit	nlogit	proc mdc	mlogit

* See also bayesm.

Things To Read

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