MATCHING MODELS WITH GENERAL TRANSFERS

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES: LECTURE 2

- ► Matching with unobserved heterogeneities
- ► Microfoundations of regularized optimal transport
- ► Estimation of matching models

- ► [CS] Choo and Siow (2006). "Who Marries Whom and Why," *Journal of Political Economy*.
- ► [GS] Galichon and Salanié (2012-2018). "Cupid's Invisible Hand: Social Surplus and Identification in Matching Models," Preprint.
- ► Decker, Lieb, McCann, and Stephens (2012). "Unique Equilibria and Substitution Effects in a Stochastic Model of the Marriage Market," *Journal of Economic Theory*.
- ▶ [DG] Dupuy and Galichon (2014). "Personality traits and the marriage market," *Journal of Political Economy*.
- ► [COQ2] Chiappori, Oreffice and Quintana-Domeque (2016). "Bidimensional Matching with Heterogeneous Preferences in the Marriage Market," Preprint.
- ► [CSW] Chiappori, Salanié, and Weiss (2017). "Partner Choice and the Marital College Premium," AER.
- ► [L] Low (2016). "Pricing the Biological Clock: Reproductive Capital on the US Marriage Market," Preprint.

Section 1

INTRODUCTION: THE ECONOMICS OF MARRIAGE

MOTIVATION

- ► In the footsteps of Becker, empirical studies on the marriage market had long been focused on one-dimensional models.
- However, it is desirable to move beyond one-dimensional models. There are often many observed characteristics, and it is not always the case that the sorting can be captured by a single-dimensional model. One-dimensional models typically predict positive assortative matching, a theoretical prediction stemming from assumptions of supermodularity of the surplus function, which does not necessarly hold in the data. Fortunately, optimal transport provide tools to study multidimensional models.
- ▶ Yet any model of matching based on optimal transport will not be exploitable because it will generate far too strong predictions, namely that some matchings will never hold. This is rather counterfactual: in the data, one observes virtually any combination of type.
- ▶ Hence, need to regularize the matching model, and we shall do so by introducing unobserved heterogeneity. The model so obtained will be exploitable for estimation and identification purposes. The first such model (with transfers) is the model by Choo and Siow (2006). We shall see a generalization of this model by G and Salanié (2012).

Section 2

FINITE POPULATION MODEL

- ▶ The reference for this lecture is [CS] and [GS]. Consider a heterosexual marriage matching market. The set of types (observable characteristics) is \mathcal{X} for men, and \mathcal{Y} for women. There are n_x men of type x, and m_y women of type y.
- Assume that if a man $i \in \mathcal{I}$ of type x_i and a woman $j \in \mathcal{J}$ of type y_j match, they get respective utilities

$$\alpha_{x_i y_j} + w_{ij} + \varepsilon_{i y_j}$$

$$\gamma_{x_i y_j} - w_{ij} + \eta_{x_i j}$$

where w_{ij} is the transfer from i to j. If they remain single i and j get respectively ε_{i0} and η_{0j} .

► The random utility vectors (ε_y) and (η_x) are drawn from probability distributions \mathbf{P}_x and \mathbf{Q}_y , respectively. In the sequel we shall work with a finite number of agents of each type, and then we'll investigate the limit of these results.

OPTIMAL MATCHING

▶ The matching surplus between i and j is therefore

$$\tilde{\Phi}_{ij} = \Phi_{x_i y_j} + \varepsilon_{i y_j} + \eta_{x_i j}$$

where $\Phi_{xy} = \alpha_{xy} + \gamma_{xy}$. The value of optimal matching is thus, under its dual form,

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{u_i, v_j} & \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} u_i + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}} v_j \\ s.t. & u_i + v_j \ge \Phi_{x_i y_j} + \varepsilon_{i y_j} + \eta_{x_i j} \\ & u_i \ge \varepsilon_{i0} \\ & v_j \ge \eta_{i0} \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Written like this, the lp has $|\mathcal{I}| + |\mathcal{J}|$ variables and $|\mathcal{I}| \times |\mathcal{J}| + |\mathcal{I}| + |\mathcal{J}|$ constraints. Assuming that there are K individuals per type for each type, this is $K(|\mathcal{X}| + |\mathcal{Y}|)$ variables and $K^2(|\mathcal{X}| \times |\mathcal{Y}|) + K(|\mathcal{X}| + |\mathcal{Y}|)$ constraints.
- ► The number of constraints is **quadratic** with respect to *K*. Fortunately, economic reasoning will help us reduce this complexity.

LEMMA

Consider the set \mathcal{I}_{xy} of men of type x matched to women of type y at equilibrium. If \mathcal{I}_{xy} is nonempty, then $u_i - \varepsilon_{iy}$ is a constant across \mathcal{I}_{xy} .

PROOF.

For $i \in \mathcal{I}$ such that $x_i = x$,

$$u_{i} = \max_{j \in \mathcal{J}} \left\{ \tilde{\Phi}_{ij} - v_{j}, \varepsilon_{i0} \right\}$$
$$= \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \left\{ U_{xy} + \varepsilon_{iy}, \varepsilon_{i0} \right\}$$

where $U_{xy} = \max_{j:y_j=y} \left\{ \Phi_{xy} + \eta_{x_ij} - v_j \right\}$, thus $u_i \geq U_{xy} + \varepsilon_{iy}$ with equality on \mathcal{I}_{xy} . With similar notations, $v_j \geq V_{xy} + \eta_{xj}$ with equality on \mathcal{J}_{xy} . As a result, if \mathcal{I}_{xy} is nonempty, then $U_{xy} + V_{xy} = \Phi_{xy}$ and $\forall i \in \mathcal{I}_{xy}$, $u_i = U_{xy} + \varepsilon_{iy}$.

A SIMPLIFICATION

- ▶ In the sequel, we shall see that *adding* an auxiliary variable to the previous Ip will lead to *decreasing* the computational complexity of the problem.
- ▶ Observe that the first set of constraints is reexpressed by saying that, for every $x \in \mathcal{X}$, $y \in \mathcal{Y}$,

$$\min_{i:x_i=x} \left\{ u_i - \varepsilon_{iy} \right\} + \min_{j:y_j=y} \left\{ v_j - \eta_{xj} \right\} \ge \Phi_{xy}.$$

▶ Hence, letting $U_{xy} = \min_{i:x_i=x} \{u_i - \varepsilon_{iy}\}$ and $V_{xy} = \min_{j:y_j=y} \{v_j - \eta_{xj}\}$, a solution of the previous lp should satisfy

$$u_i = \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \left\{ U_{xy} + \varepsilon_{iy}, \varepsilon_{i0} \right\} \text{ and } v_j = \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \left\{ V_{xy} + \varepsilon_{xj}, \varepsilon_{0j} \right\}.$$

A SIMPLIFICATION (CTD)

► The problem rewrites as

$$\min_{u_{i},v_{j},U_{xy},V_{xy}} \sum_{i\in\mathcal{I}} u_{i} + \sum_{j\in\mathcal{J}} v_{j}$$

$$s.t. \ U_{xy} + V_{xy} \ge \Phi_{xy} \ [\mu_{xy} \ge 0]$$

$$u_{i} \ge U_{x_{i}y} + \varepsilon_{iy_{j}} \ [\mu_{iy}]$$

$$v_{j} \ge V_{xy_{j}} + \eta_{x_{i}j} \ [\mu_{xi}]$$

$$u_{i} \ge \varepsilon_{i0} \ [\mu_{i0}]$$

$$v_{j} \ge \eta_{j0} \ [\mu_{0x}]$$

$$(1)$$

- ▶ This problem has $K(|\mathcal{X}| + |\mathcal{Y}|) + |\mathcal{X}| \times |\mathcal{Y}|$ variables and $(|\mathcal{X}| \times |\mathcal{Y}|) + K(2|\mathcal{X}| \times |\mathcal{Y}| + |\mathcal{X}| + |\mathcal{Y}|)$ constraints.
- \blacktriangleright The number of constraint is now **linear** with respect to K.

Consequences

► Lagrange multipliers:

- ► The Lagrange multiplier μ_{xy} is interpreted as the number of matchings between types x and y.
- ► The Lagrange multiplier μ_{iy} $(y \in \mathcal{Y}_0)$ is interpreted as a 0-1 indicator that man i chooses a type y
- ► The Lagrange multiplier μ_{xj} ($x \in \mathcal{X}_0$) is interpreted as a 0-1 indicator that woman j chooses a type x

► Utilities:

- *i* solves a discrete choice problem $u_i = \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \{U_{xy} + \varepsilon_{iy}, \varepsilon_{i0}\}$
- ightharpoonup j solve a discrete choice problem $v_j = \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \left\{ V_{xy} + \eta_{xj}, \eta_{0j} \right\}$.
- ▶ U_{xy} and V_{xy} are related by $U_{xy} + V_{xy} \ge \Phi_{xy}$ with equality if $\mu_{xy} > 0$.

Section 3

LARGE POPULATION MODEL

ASSUMPTIONS

- ► [GS] look at the limit of previous markets when the number of market participants gets large, holding fixed the frequency of each types.
- ▶ In the large population limit n_x and m_y are now interpreted as the mass distribution of respective types x and y.
- ▶ We shall from now on assume that \mathbf{P}_{\times} and \mathbf{Q}_{y} , the distributions of random utility vectors (ε_{y}) and (η_{\times}) , have a density with full support. This will ensure that G, G^{*} , H and H^{*} are continuously differentiable.

LARGE POPULATION LIMIT

▶ Under these assumptions, Problem (1) becomes

$$\min_{U,V} G(U) + H(V)
s.t. U_{xy} + V_{xy} \ge \Phi_{xy} [\mu_{xy}]$$

where

$$G(U) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} n_{x} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{P}} \left[\max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \left\{ U_{xy} + \varepsilon_{iy}, \varepsilon_{i0} \right\} \right]$$
$$H(V) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} m_{y} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Q}} \left[\max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \left\{ V_{xy} + \eta_{xj}, \eta_{0j} \right\} \right]$$

▶ By first order conditions,

$$\frac{\partial G\left(U\right)}{\partial U_{xy}} = \mu_{xy} = \frac{\partial H\left(V\right)}{\partial V_{xy}}.$$

and $\mu_{xy} > 0$ for every $x \in \mathcal{X}$ and $y \in \mathcal{Y}$.

SOCIAL PLANNER'S PROBLEM

▶ The primal problem corresponding to (1) is

$$\max_{\mu_{xy} \ge 0} \sum_{\substack{x \in \mathcal{X} \\ y \in \mathcal{Y}}} \mu_{xy} \Phi_{xy} - \mathcal{E}\left(\mu\right)$$

where

$$\mathcal{E}\left(\mu\right) = G^*\left(\mu\right) + H^*\left(\mu\right)$$

- ▶ Recall $G^*(\mu) = \max \left\{ \sum_{xy} \mu_{xy} U_{xy} G(U) \right\}$ is the Legendre transform of G, and similarly for H^* .
- lacktriangle By first order conditions, we get the identification formula of Φ

$$\Phi_{xy} = \frac{\partial G^*(\mu)}{\partial \mu_{xy}} + \frac{\partial H^*(\mu)}{\partial \mu_{xy}}.$$

Section 4

CHOO AND SIOW'S LOGIT MODEL

CHOO AND SIOW'S TU-LOGIT MODEL

► In Choo and Siow's model [CS], the heterogeneities in tastes are Gubmel, this

$$\mathcal{E}\left(\mu\right) = 2\sum_{\substack{x \in \mathcal{X} \\ y \in \mathcal{Y}}} \mu_{xy} \log \mu_{xy} + \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mu_{x0} \log \mu_{x0} + \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \mu_{0y} \log \mu_{0y}.$$

Note that $\mathcal{E}(\mu) < \infty$ if and only if $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(n, m)$.

- ▶ We call this model the *TU-logit* model. Tomorrow, we shall see how to generalize this to *ITU-logit* models, including *NTU-logit*.
- ▶ By first order conditions above, Choo-Siow's TU-logit model implies the following matching function:

$$\mu_{xy} = \mathit{M}_{xy}\left(\mu_{x0}, \mu_{0y}\right) := \sqrt{\mu_{x0}} \sqrt{\mu_{0y}} \exp\left(\frac{\Phi_{xy}}{2}\right).$$

IDENTIFICATION IN THE TU-LOGIT MODEL

▶ As a result, $\partial \mathcal{E}\left(\mu\right)/\partial \mu_{xy}=2\log \mu_{xy}-\log \mu_{x0}-\log \mu_{0y}$, which implies that Φ_{xy} is estimated by *Choo and Siow's identification formula*

$$\hat{\Phi}_{xy} = \log \frac{\hat{\mu}_{xy}^2}{\hat{\mu}_{x0}\hat{\mu}_{0y}}.$$

Consistent with our previous remarks, only the joint surplus $\Phi_{xy} = \alpha_{xy} + \gamma_{xy}$ is identified. However, if the transfers \hat{w}_{xy} are observed too (e.g. wages in labour market), then $U_{xy} = \alpha_{xy} + w_{xy}$ and $V_{xy} = \gamma_{xy} - w_{xy}$, so that α and γ are separately identified by

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \hat{\alpha}_{xy} = \log \frac{\hat{\mu}_{xy}}{\hat{\mu}_{x0}} - \hat{w}_{xy} \\ \hat{\gamma}_{xy} = \log \frac{\hat{\mu}_{xy}}{\hat{\mu}_{0y}} + \hat{w}_{xy} \end{array} \right.$$

SOLVING EQUILIBRIUM IN THE TU-LOGIT MODEL

▶ Write down the equilibrium equations in the TU-logit model:

$$\begin{cases} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \sqrt{\mu_{x0}} \sqrt{\mu_{0y}} \exp\left(\frac{\Phi_{xy}}{2}\right) + \mu_{x0} = n_x \\ \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \sqrt{\mu_{x0}} \sqrt{\mu_{0y}} \exp\left(\frac{\Phi_{xy}}{2}\right) + \mu_{0y} = m_y \end{cases}$$

▶ Setting $a_x = \sqrt{\mu_{x0}}$, $b_y = \sqrt{\mu_{0y}}$, and $K_{xy} = \exp(\Phi_{xy}/2)$, this rewrites as

$$\begin{cases} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} K_{xy} a_x b_y + a_x^2 = n_x \\ \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} K_{xy} a_x b_y + b_y^2 = m_y \end{cases}$$

SOLVING EQUILIBRIUM IN THE TU-LOGIT MODEL (CTD)

▶ Hence, the IPFP consists in iteratively solving quadratic equations, i.e.

$$\begin{cases} a_x^{2t+1} = \sqrt{n_x + \left(\sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} b_y^{2t} K_{xy}/2\right)^2} - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} b_y^{2t} K_{xy}/2 \\ b_y^{2t+2} = \sqrt{m_y + \left(\sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} a_x^{2t+1} K_{xy}/2\right)^2} - \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} a_x^{2t+1} K_{xy}/2 \end{cases}$$

► This is implemented by:

► Cf [GS]. The dual problem is given by

$$\min_{u,v} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \sum_{x} n_{x} u_{x} + \sum_{y} m_{y} v_{y} \\ + 2 \sum_{xy} \sqrt{n_{x} m_{y}} \exp\left(\frac{\Phi_{xy} - u_{x} - v_{y}}{2}\right) \\ + \sum_{x} n_{x} \exp\left(-u_{x}\right) + \sum_{y} m_{y} \exp\left(-v_{y}\right) \end{array} \right\}$$

- ▶ Remarks:
 - This problem is an unconstrained convex optimization problem, so this formulation will be quite useful.
 - ▶ If (u, v) is solution, $u_x = -\log \mu_{0|x} = -\log (\mu_{x0}/n_x)$ and $v_y = -\log (\mu_{0|y})$.
 - Note that the IPFP algorithm just seen interprets as (blockwise) coordinate descent in the dual problem.

LIMIT WITHOUT HETEROGENEITY

- Now assume that the scaling factor (=standard deviation) of the Gumbel is σ . Instead of ε_y and η_x , these heterogeneities are $\sigma\varepsilon_y$ and $\sigma\eta_x$. As a result, the entropy is now $\sigma\mathcal{E}\left(\mu\right)$ instead of $\mathcal{E}\left(\mu\right)$.
- ► The expression of the social welfare is now

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{\mu} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{n},\mathbf{m})} \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X} \\ \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}}} \mu_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{y}} \Phi_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{y}} - \sigma \mathcal{E}\left(\boldsymbol{\mu}\right)$$

which tends to the usual optimal assignment problem when $\sigma \to 0$ (no heterogeneity). Tends to random matching solution when $\sigma \to +\infty$.

PARAMETRIC ESTIMATION OF THE TU-LOGIT MODEL

• Assume Φ_{xy} is parameterized as

$$\Phi_{xy}^{\lambda} = \sum_{k} \lambda_k \phi_{xy}^k$$

so that the welfare function can be written

$$W(\lambda) = \max_{\mu \in \mathcal{M}(n,m)} \left\{ \sum_{\substack{x \in \mathcal{X} \\ y \in \mathcal{Y}}} \mu_{xy} \Phi_{xy}^{\lambda} - \sigma \mathcal{E}(\mu) \right\}$$

$$= \min_{u,v} \left\{ \sum_{x} n_{x} u_{x} + \sum_{y} m_{y} v_{y} + 2 \sum_{xy} \sqrt{n_{x} m_{y}} \exp\left(\frac{\Phi_{xy}^{\lambda} - u_{x} - v_{y}}{2}\right) + \sum_{x} n_{x} \exp\left(-u_{x}\right) + \sum_{y} m_{y} \exp\left(-v_{y}\right) \right\}$$

► As a result.

$$\frac{\partial W}{\partial \lambda_k} = \sum_{\substack{x \in \mathcal{X} \\ x \in \mathcal{X}}} \mu_{xy}^{\lambda} \phi_{xy}^k$$

where u^{λ} is the optimal μ given λ .

ESTIMATION (CTD)

- ► We will pick the parameter λ such that $\sum_{xy} \mu_{xy}^{\lambda} \phi_{xy}^{k} = \sum_{xy} \hat{\mu}_{xy} \phi_{xy}^{k}$ for each k.
- ► For this, do

$$\min_{\lambda} \left\{ W\left(\lambda\right) - \sum_{xy} \hat{\mu}_{xy} \Phi_{xy}^{\lambda} \right\}$$

which reexpresses using the dual expression as

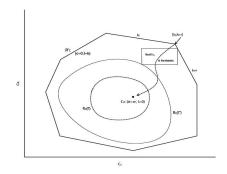
$$\min_{u,v,\lambda} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} n_{\mathbf{x}} u_{\mathbf{x}} + \sum_{\mathbf{y}} m_{\mathbf{y}} v_{\mathbf{y}} + 2 \sum_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{y}} \sqrt{n_{\mathbf{x}} m_{\mathbf{y}}} \exp\left(\frac{\Phi_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{y}}^{\lambda} - u_{\mathbf{x}} - v_{\mathbf{y}}}{2}\right) \\ + \sum_{\mathbf{x}} n_{\mathbf{x}} \exp\left(-u_{\mathbf{x}}\right) + \sum_{\mathbf{y}} m_{\mathbf{y}} \exp\left(-v_{\mathbf{y}}\right) - \sum_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{y}} \hat{\mu}_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{y}} \Phi_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{y}}^{\lambda} \end{array} \right\}.$$

GEOMETRIC INTERPRETATION: THE COVARIOGRAM

- ► The set of vectors C^{λ} where $C_{k}^{\lambda} = \sum_{xy} \mu_{xy}^{\lambda} \phi_{xy}^{k}$ is a convex and compact set called *covariogram*. Its boundaries correspond to solutions of the Monge-Kantorovich problem without regularization; the point 0 corresponds to the independent coupling $(\|\Phi\|/\sigma \to 0)$.
- Note that increasing λ^k will increase the weight of ϕ^k in the optimization problem, and thus will increase the corresponding moment C_{ν}^{λ} .
- ▶ We look for λ such that the predicted covariances C_k^{λ} equates the observed covariances $\hat{C}_k = \sum_{xy} \hat{\mu}_{xy} \phi_{xy}^k$, which is computed from our sample by

$$\hat{C}_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_{x_i y_i}^k.$$

FIGURE



Section 5

NUMERICAL EXPERIMENTS

A TOY MATCHING MODEL FOR BENCHMARK

- ▶ In 'benchmark.R', we compare a number of different methods to perform equilibrium computation in a TU-logit model.
- ► Take a toy example where *x*=age of man, and *y*=age of woman. There are 25 categories of age in the studied population, between 16 and 40, and the surplus is

$$\Phi\left(x,y\right) = -\left|x-y\right|$$

and the heterogeneities are iid Gumbel.

▶ n_x and m_y are taken from Choo and Siow's ACS data stored in the subdirectory '/ChooSiowData'.

NUMERICAL BENCHMARK

- ► In this course, we have discussed a number of techniques to compute equilibrium:
 - ► Gradient descent
 - ► Newton descent
 - ► Jacobi iteration (IPFP)
 - ► Linear programming (after discretization of heterogeneity)
- ▶ We will now design them, implement them and benchmark them.

EQUILIBRIUM AS AN OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM

► Recall dual version

$$\min_{(U_{xy})} \left\{ G(U) + H(\Phi - U) \right\} \tag{2}$$

where

$$G(U) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} n_x \log \left(1 + \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \exp(U_{xy}) \right)$$

$$H(V) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} m_y \log \left(1 + \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \exp(V_{xy}) \right)$$

▶ This is a convex optimization problem in dimension $|\mathcal{X}| \times |\mathcal{Y}|$.

GRADIENT DESCENT: GENERALITIES

► To solve the optimization problem

$$\min W(U)$$

where U is convex, gradient descent consists in

$$U_{t+1} = U_t - \epsilon_t \nabla W(U_t)$$

for $\epsilon_t > 0$ small enough.

▶ Intuition: with enough smoothness

$$W\left(U_{t+1}\right) = W\left(U_{t}\right) + \left\langle \nabla W\left(U_{t}\right), U_{t+1} - U_{t}\right\rangle + O\left(\left\|U_{t+1} - U_{t}\right\|^{2}\right)$$

$$= W\left(U_{t}\right) - \epsilon_{t} \left\|\nabla W\left(U_{t}\right)\right\|^{2} + O\left(\epsilon_{t}^{2}\right).$$

► More on this soon (Keith).

GRADIENT DESCENT: TU-LOGIT MODEL

▶ If $W(U) = G(U) + H(\Phi - U)$, then

$$\nabla W(U) = \nabla G(U) - \nabla H(\Phi - U)$$

which interprets as the *market imbalance* (supply minus demand for *xy* matches).

► Here, with logit heterogeneities,

$$\frac{\partial W\left(U\right)}{\partial U_{xy}} = \frac{n_{x} \exp\left(U_{xy}\right)}{1 + \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \exp\left(U_{xy}\right)} - \frac{m_{y} \exp\left(\Phi_{xy} - U_{xy}\right)}{1 + \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \exp\left(\Phi_{xy} - U_{xy}\right)}.$$

► See implementation in 'benchmark.R'.

NEWTON DESCENT

► Newton descent consists in doing

$$U_{t+1} = U_t - \epsilon_t \left(D^2 W \left(U_t \right) \right)^{-1} \nabla W \left(U_t \right)$$

for $\epsilon_t > 0$ small enough.

▶ Intuition: when $\epsilon_t \to 0$, (U_t) tends to the solution of ODE

$$\frac{dU_{t}}{dt} = -\epsilon_{t} \left(D^{2}W\left(U_{t}\right) \right)^{-1} \nabla W\left(U_{t}\right)$$

that is

$$\frac{d}{dt}\nabla W\left(U_{t}\right) = -\epsilon_{t}\nabla W\left(U_{t}\right)$$

which has solution

$$\nabla W\left(U_{t}\right) = \nabla W\left(U_{0}\right) \exp\left(-\int_{0}^{t} \epsilon_{s} ds\right),$$

hence $\|\nabla W(U_t)\| \to 0$ as $t \to +\infty$.

▶ When $W(U) = G(U) + H(\Phi - U)$, then

$$D^{2}W(U) = D^{2}G(U) + D^{2}H(\Phi - U)$$

which is called the *market curvature* in the hedonic equilibrium literature.

► Here, with logit heterogeneities,

$$\frac{\partial^{2}G(U)}{\partial U_{xy}\partial U_{xy}} = \mu_{xy} - \frac{\mu_{xy}^{2}}{n_{x}}$$

$$\frac{\partial^{2}G(U)}{\partial U_{xy}\partial U_{xy'}} = -\frac{\mu_{xy}\mu_{xy'}}{n_{x}} \text{ for } y \neq y'$$

where $\mu_{xy} = \partial G(U) / \partial U_{xy}$; while $\partial^2 G(U) / \partial U_{xy} \partial U_{x'y'} = 0$ for $x \neq x'$.

▶ Similar formulas hold for D^2H .

NODAL METHODS

► In Choo-Siow's TU-logit model, one has

$$\mu_{xy} = \sqrt{\mu_{x0}\mu_{0y}} \exp\left(\frac{\Phi_{xy}}{2}\right)$$

which allowed us to reformulate equilibrium as a problem over variables μ_{x0} and μ_{0y} .

▶ Set $a_x = -\log \mu_{x0}$ and $b_y = -\log \mu_{0y}$. Then one can view the problem as a *nodal problem*

$$\min \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} n_x a_x + \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} m_y b_y + E(a, b)$$
 (3)

where
$$E(a, b) = 2\sum_{xy} e^{\frac{\Phi_{xy} - a_x - b_y}{2}} + \sum_{x} e^{-a_x} + \sum_{y} e^{-b_y}$$
.

- ▶ The problem has become an optimization problem in dimension $|\mathcal{X}| + |\mathcal{Y}|$.
 - ▶ Huge dimensionality reduction: from $|\mathcal{X}| \times |\mathcal{Y}|$ to $|\mathcal{X}| + |\mathcal{Y}|$, BUT
 - Nodal methods apply only in the logit case, while the previous methods (edge methods) work for any heterogeneity.

NODAL METHODS (CTD)

- ▶ We will solve for the equilibrium (μ_{x0}, μ_{0v}) using:
 - Gradient descent on problem (3)
 - ► Newton descent on problem (3)
 - ► IPFP

GRADIENT DESCENT, NODAL VERSION

If
$$F(a,b) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} n_x a_x + \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} m_y b_y + E(a,b)$$
, then
$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial a_x} = n_x - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} e^{\frac{\Phi_{xy} - a_x - b_y}{2}} - e^{-a_x}$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial b_y} = m_y - \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} e^{\frac{\Phi_{xy} - a_x - b_y}{2}} - e^{-b_y}$$

which interprets as another market imbalance measure.

In gradient descent, a_x and b_y adjust proportionally to market imbalance.

NEWTON DESCENT, NODAL VERSION

If
$$F(a,b) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} n_x a_x + \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} m_y b_y + E(a,b)$$
, then
$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial a_x \partial a_{x'}} = 1_{\{x = x'\}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} e^{\frac{\Phi_{xy} - a_x - b_y}{2}} + e^{-a_x} \right\}$$
$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial b_y \partial b_{y'}} = 1_{\{y = y'\}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} e^{\frac{\Phi_{xy} - a_x - b_y}{2}} + e^{-b_y} \right\}$$
$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial a_x \partial b_y} = \frac{1}{2} e^{\frac{\Phi_{xy} - a_x - b_y}{2}}$$

► Recall that setting $a_x = \sqrt{\mu_{x0}}$ and $b_y = \sqrt{\mu_{0y}}$ one can employ the following iterative scheme

$$\begin{cases} a_x^{2t+1} = \sqrt{n_x + \left(\sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} b_y^{2t} K_{xy}/2\right)^2} - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} b_y^{2t} K_{xy}/2 \\ b_y^{2t+2} = \sqrt{m_y + \left(\sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} a_x^{2t+1} K_{xy}/2\right)^2} - \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} a_x^{2t+1} K_{xy}/2 \end{cases}$$

▶ The algorithm converges for any starting point a^0 .

LINEAR PROGRAMMING

 \blacktriangleright Recall that the matching surplus between i and j is therefore

$$\tilde{\Phi}_{ij} = \Phi_{\mathsf{x}_i \mathsf{y}_j} + \varepsilon_{i \mathsf{y}_j} + \eta_{\mathsf{x}_i j}$$

where $\Phi_{xy} = \alpha_{xy} + \gamma_{xy}$. The value of optimal matching is thus, under its dual form,

$$\min_{u_i, v_j} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} u_i + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}} v_j$$

$$s.t. \ u_i + v_j \ge \Phi_{x_i y_j} + \varepsilon_{i y_j} + \eta_{x_i j}$$

$$u_i \ge \varepsilon_{i0}$$

$$v_j \ge \eta_{j0}$$

- ▶ Here, ε_{iv_i} and η_{x_ii} are i.i.d. draws from standard Gumbel distributions.
- ► This way of doing things is not competitive, but interesting to keep in mind.

BENCHMARK

- ▶ In 'benchmark.R', e compute equilibrium in the toy model, for five of the algorithms we described:
 - ► Edge gradient descent
 - ► Edge Newton descent
 - ► Nodal gradient descent
 - ► Nodal Newton descent
 - ► IPFP
 - ► Linear programming
- ► The algorithms are implemented in R. Gradient descent is done via the package nloptr; Newton descent via nleqslv; linear programming via Gurobi. Benchmark is done via the microbenchmark package.

BENCHMARK: RESULTS

Algorithm	Time taken (microsec.)	Nb of iterations
edge-gradient	38,457	71
edge-newton	1,184,230	28
nodal-gradient	5,837	39
nodal-newton	5,194	52
ipfp	837	41

BENCHMARK: COMMENTS

- ► The IPFP is a clear winner. In spite of the fact that R is not good with loops, it beats the next most efficient procedure by a factor 5.
- edge-newton is penalized by large matrix inversions. However, it converges in a remarkably low number of iterations. Could be sped up if matrix inversion is done efficiently.