

Lecture 6: Linear Regression and Extensions

Instructor: Fei Tan

 @econdojo  @BusinessSchool101  Saint Louis University

Course: Introduction to Bayesian Statistics

Date: January 31, 2026

Extending Linear Regressions (LR)

General setup

$$\begin{aligned} y_i^* &= x_i' \beta + u_i, & u_i | x_i &\sim_{i.i.d.} t_\nu(0, \sigma^2) \\ \mathbb{E}[y_i | x_i] &= G(x_i' \beta), & i &= 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

- Choice of link function $G(\cdot)$

- standard LR

$$G(x_i' \beta) = x_i' \beta \quad \Rightarrow \quad y_i = y_i^*$$

- tobit censored LR ($\nu = \infty$; $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ p.d.f. ϕ , c.d.f. Φ)

$$G(x_i' \beta) = x_i' \beta + \frac{\phi(-x_i' \beta / \sigma)}{1 - \Phi(-x_i' \beta / \sigma)} \sigma \quad \Rightarrow \quad y_i = \max\{y_i^*, 0\}$$

- binary probit LR ($\nu = \infty$; $\sigma^2 = 1$)

$$G(x_i' \beta) = \Phi(x_i' \beta) \quad \Rightarrow \quad y_i = 1\{y_i^* > 0\}$$

The Road Ahead

1. Continuous Dependent Variables
2. Limited Dependent Variables

LR with Gaussian Errors

- Conditionally conjugate prior

$$\beta \sim \mathcal{N}(\beta_0, B_0), \quad \sigma^2 \sim \mathcal{IG}\text{-}2(\alpha_0/2, \delta_0/2)$$

- Gibbs algorithm

- step 1: choose $\beta = \beta^{(0)}, \sigma^2 = \sigma^{2(0)}$, set $g = 0$

- step 2: sample recursively

$$\beta^{(g)} \sim \mathcal{N}(\beta_1^{(g+1)}, B_1^{(g+1)}), \quad \sigma^{2(g+1)} \sim \mathcal{IG}\text{-}2(\alpha_1/2, \delta_1^{(g+1)}/2)$$

$$\text{where } B_1^{(g+1)} = (\sigma^{-2(g)} X'X + B_0^{-1})^{-1}$$

$$\beta_1^{(g+1)} = B_1^{(g+1)} (\sigma^{-2(g)} X'y + B_0^{-1} \beta_0)$$

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_0 + n$$

$$\delta_1^{(g+1)} = \delta_0 + (y - X\beta^{(g+1)})'(y - X\beta^{(g+1)})$$

- step 3: set $g = g + 1$ and go to step 2

LR with Student- t Errors

- Conditional likelihood [see also Geweke (1993)]

$$f(y_i|\beta, \sigma^2, \lambda_i) = \mathcal{N}(x_i'\beta, \lambda_i^{-1}\sigma^2), \quad \lambda_i \sim \mathcal{G}(\nu/2, \nu/2) \text{ (latent)}$$

- Gibbs sampler for $\pi(\beta, \sigma^2, \lambda|y)$

$$\beta|y, \lambda, \sigma^2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\beta_1, B_1)$$

$$\sigma^2|y, \beta, \lambda \sim \mathcal{IG}\text{-}2(\alpha_1/2, \delta_1/2)$$

$$\lambda_i|y, \beta, \sigma^2 \sim \mathcal{G}(\nu_1/2, \nu_{2i}/2), \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

where $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_i)$ and

$$B_1 = (\sigma^{-2}X'\Lambda X + B_0^{-1})^{-1}$$

$$\beta_1 = B_1(\sigma^{-2}X'\Lambda y + B_0^{-1}\beta_0)$$

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_0 + n$$

$$\delta_1 = \delta_0 + (y - X\beta)'\Lambda(y - X\beta)$$

$$\nu_1 = \nu + 1$$

$$\nu_{2i} = \nu + \sigma^{-2}(y_i - x_i'\beta)^2$$

Python Code

```
def full_run(y, x, n, b0, B0, a0, d0, n0):
    for i in range(1, n):
        # Sample beta
        B1 = inv(x.T @ diag(s['lam'][i - 1, :]) @ x / s['sig2'][i - 1] + inv(B0))
        b1 = B1 @ (x.T @ diag(s['lam'][i - 1, :]) @ y / s['sig2'][i - 1] + inv(B0) @ b0)
        s['beta'][i, :] = multivariate_normal.rvs(size=1, mean=b1, cov=B1)
        # Sample sigma^2
        e = y - x @ s['beta'][i, :]
        d1 = d0 + e.T @ diag(s['lam'][i - 1, :]) @ e
        s['sig2'][i] = invgamma.rvs((a0 + len(y)) / 2, size=1, scale=d1 / 2)
        # Sample lambda
        for j in range(len(y)):
            n2 = n0 + e[j]**2 / s['sig2'][i]
            s['lam'][i, j] = gamma.rvs((nu0 + 1) / 2, size=1, scale=2 / n2)
    return s
```

Marginal Likelihood

Chib method

$$m(y) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n t_{\nu}(x'_i \beta^*, \sigma^{2*}) \pi(\beta^*) \pi(\sigma^{2*})}{\pi(\beta^*, \sigma^{2*} | y)}, \quad \forall \theta^* = (\beta^*, \sigma^{2*}) \in \Theta$$

- Compute $\pi(\beta^*, \sigma^{2*} | y)$ (not involving λ) at high-density point θ^* from Gibbs output

$$\pi(\beta^*, \sigma^{2*} | y) = \pi(\beta^* | y) \pi(\sigma^{2*} | \beta^*, y)$$

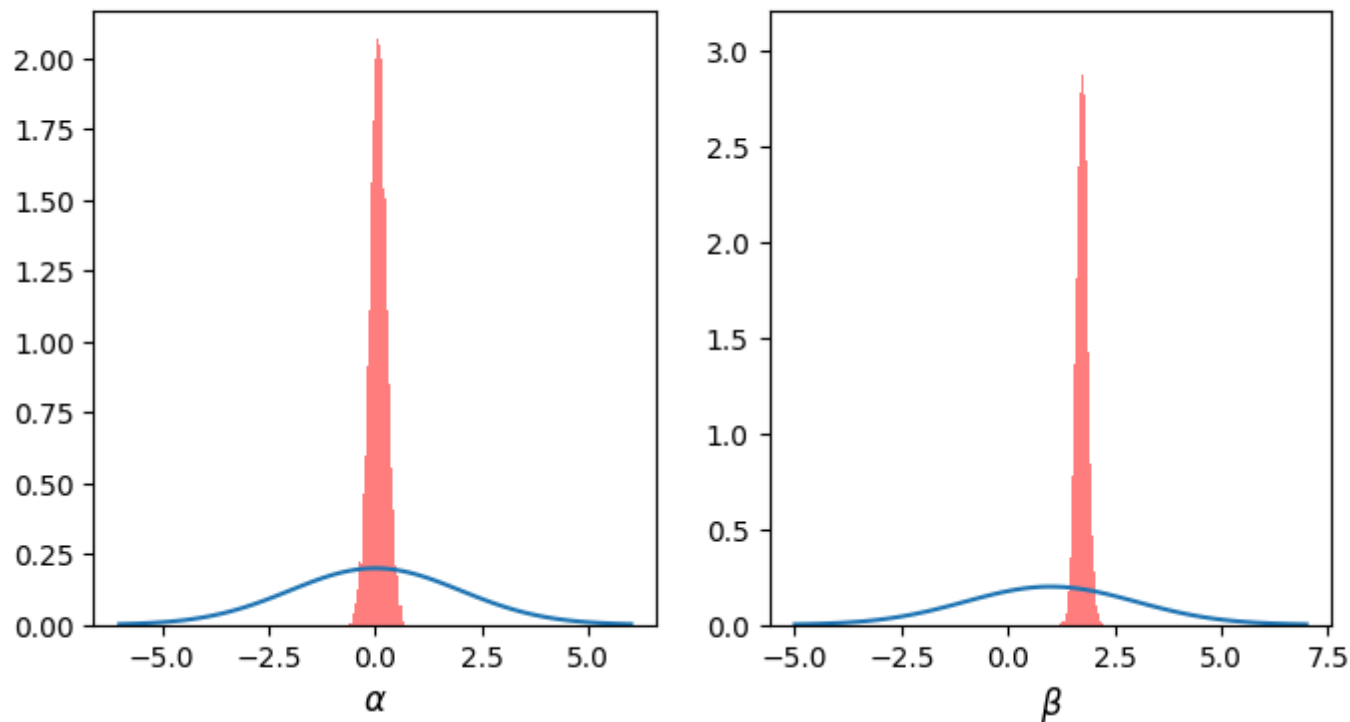
- full run: $\hat{\pi}(\beta^* | y) = \frac{1}{G} \sum_{g=1}^G \pi(\beta^* | \sigma^{2(g)}, \lambda^{(g)}, y)$, where $(\theta^{(g)}, \lambda^{(g)}) \sim \pi(\theta, \lambda | y)$
- reduced run: $\hat{\pi}(\sigma^{2*} | \beta^*, y) = \frac{1}{G} \sum_{g=1}^G \pi(\sigma^{2*} | \beta^*, \lambda^{(g)}, y)$, where $(\sigma^{2(g)}, \lambda^{(g)}) \sim \pi(\sigma^2, \lambda | \beta^*, y)$

Python Code

```
def marg_lik(y, x, s1, s2, beta, sig2, b0, B0, a0, d0, n0):
    # s1, s2 samples from full & reduced runs
    for i in range(n):
        B1 = inv(x.T @ diag(s1['lam'][i, :]) @ x / s1['sig2'][i] + inv(B0))
        b1 = B1 @ (x.T @ diag(s1['lam'][i, :]) @ y / s1['sig2'][i] + inv(B0) @ b0)
        pd1[i] = multivariate_normal.pdf(beta, mean=b1, cov=B1)
        e = y - x @ beta
        d1 = d0 + e.T @ diag(s2['lam'][i, :]) @ e
        pd2[i] = invgamma.pdf(sig2, a1 / 2, scale=d1 / 2)
    ll = sum(t.logpdf(e, n0, scale=sqrt(sig2)))
    lp = multivariate_normal.logpdf(beta, mean=b0, cov=B0) + invgamma.logpdf(sig2, a0 / 2, scale=d0 / 2)
    return ll + lp - log(mean(pd1)) - log(mean(pd2))
```


Application: Stock Return Risk

Prior vs. Posterior



- $R_{\text{TSLA}} = \alpha + \beta R_{\text{SPY}} + u, 02/25/2022 - 02/25/2023$
- $\alpha \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 2^2), \beta \sim \mathcal{N}(1, 2^2), \sigma^2 \sim \mathcal{IG}\text{-}2(\frac{5}{2}, \frac{5}{2})$
- $\ln m(y) = -661.0163$ for $\nu = 5$

Tobit Censored LR

Model

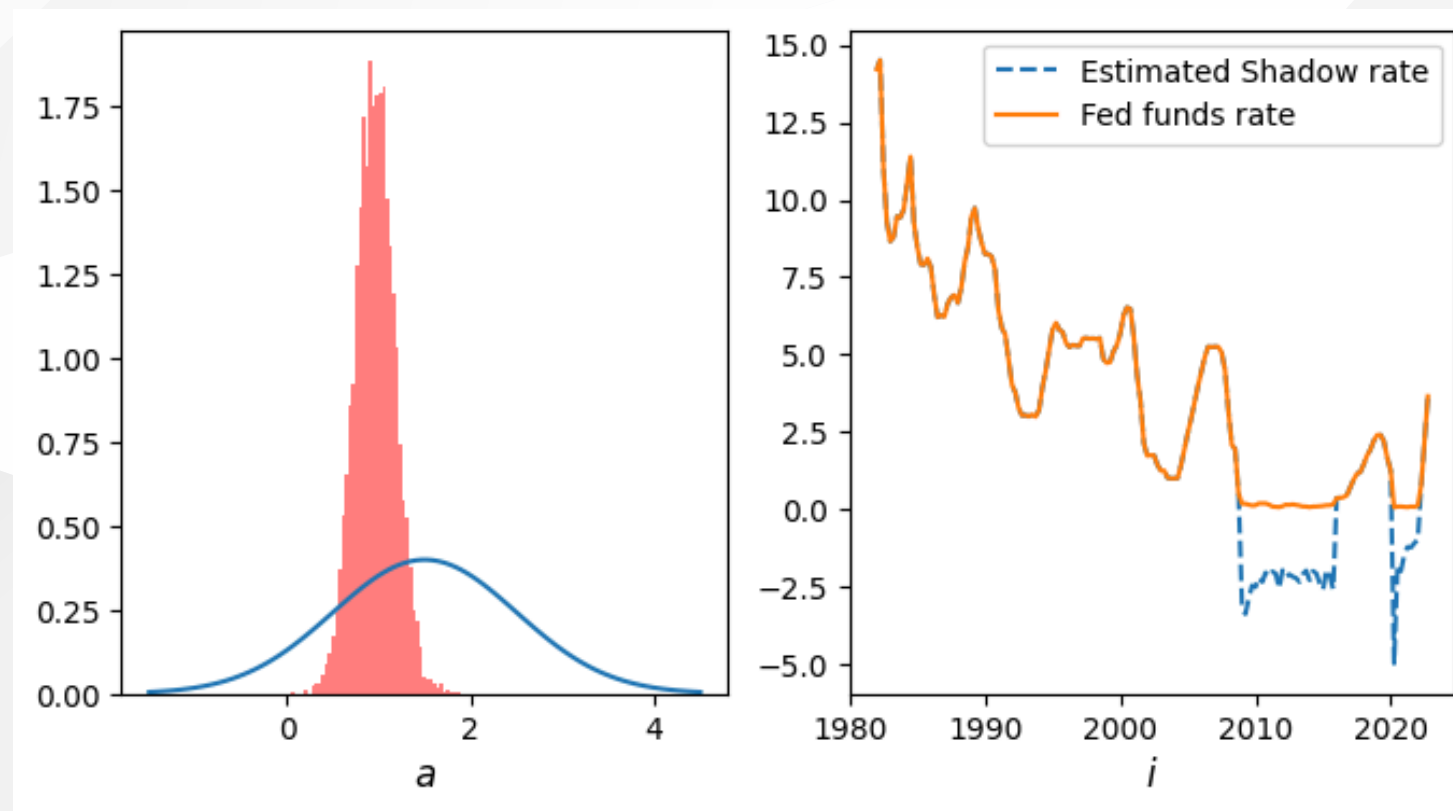
$$\begin{aligned} y_i^* &= x_i' \beta + u_i, & u_i | x_i &\sim_{i.i.d.} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2) \\ y_i &= \max\{y_i^*, 0\}, & i &= 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

- Chib (1992) introduces latent variables z for censored observations and Gibbs sampler for $\pi(\beta, \sigma^2, z | y)$
 - conditionally conjugate prior for (β, σ^2) as before
 - sample $\beta | y_z, \sigma^2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\beta_1, B_1)$, where y_z replaces $y_i = 0$ by $z_i < 0$
 - sample $\sigma^2 | y_z, \beta \sim \mathcal{IG}\text{-}2(\alpha_1/2, \delta_1/2)$
 - sample $z_i | y, \beta, \sigma^2 \sim \mathcal{TN}_{(-\infty, 0)}(x_i' \beta, \sigma^2)$ (truncated normal)
 - exercise: Student- t version
- Data augmentation technique [Tanner & Wong (1987)]

Python Code

```
def tobit(y, x, n, b0, B0, a0, d0, c):
    ind = where(y < c)[0]
    for i in range(1, n):
        y[ind] = s['z'][i - 1, :]
        B1 = inv(x.T @ x / s['sig2'][i - 1] + inv(B0))
        b1 = B1 @ (x.T @ y / s['sig2'][i - 1] + inv(B0) @ b0)
        s['beta'][i, :] = multivariate_normal.rvs(size=1, mean=b1, cov=B1)
        m = x @ s['beta'][i, :]
        d1 = d0 + (y - m).T @ (y - m)
        s['sig2'][i] = invgamma.rvs((a0 + len(y)) / 2, size=1, scale=d1 / 2)
        for j in range(len(y)):
            s['z'][i, j] = truncnorm.rvs(-1e3, (c - m[ind[j]]) / sqrt(s['sig2'][i]), loc=m[ind[j]], scale=sqrt(s['sig2'][i]), size=1)
    return s
```

Application: Taylor Rule with ZLB



- $i = i^* + a(\pi - \pi^*) + b(y - y^*) + u, 1982:Q1 - 2022:Q4$
- $i^* \sim \mathcal{N}(4, 1), a \sim \mathcal{N}(1.5, 1), b \sim \mathcal{N}(0.5, 1), \sigma^2 \sim \mathcal{IG-2}(\frac{5}{2}, \frac{5}{2})$
- Effective lower bound = 0.25%

Binary Probit LR

Model

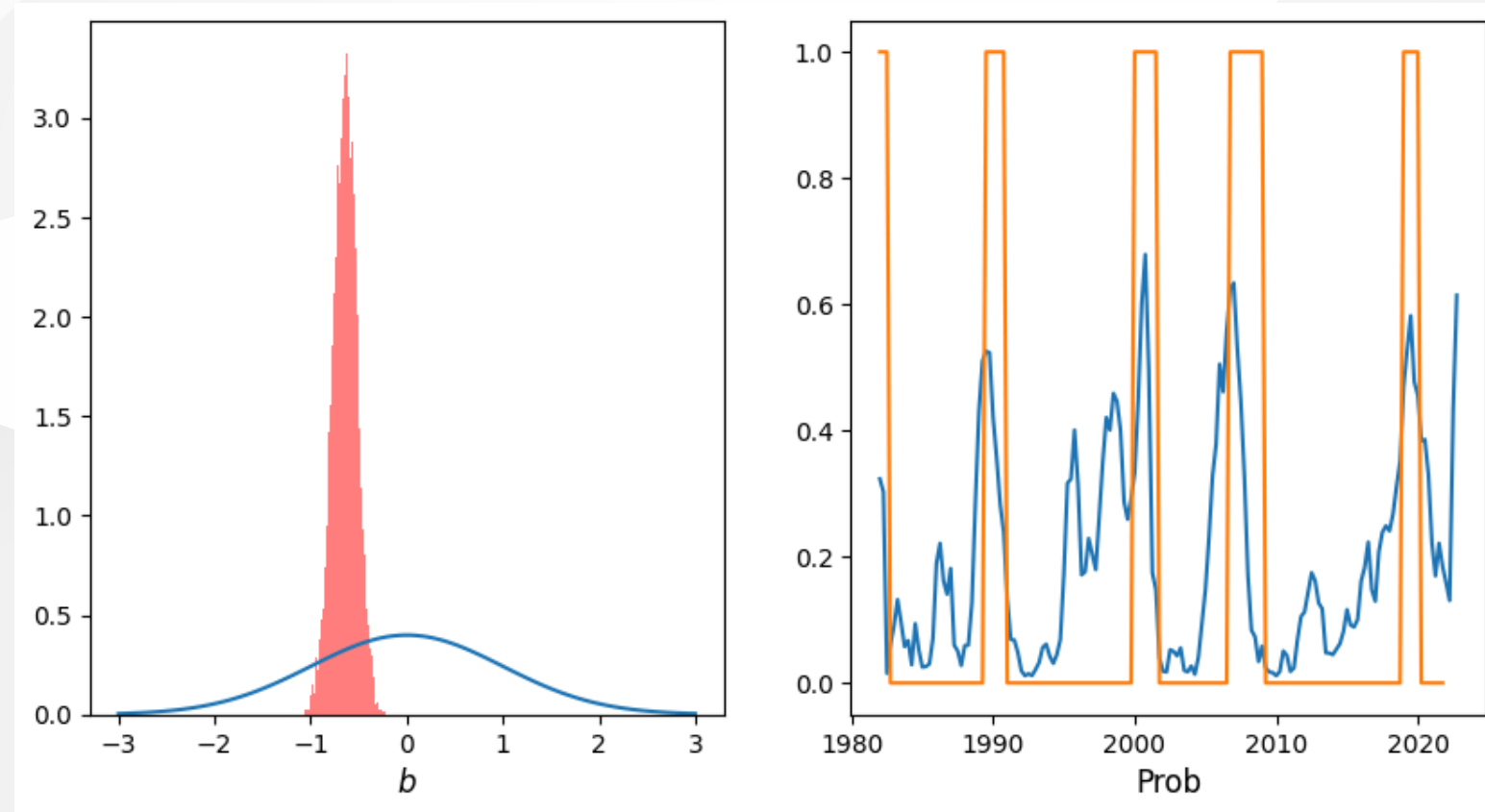
$$\begin{aligned} y_i^* &= x_i' \beta + u_i, & u_i | x_i &\sim_{i.i.d.} \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \\ y_i &= 1\{y_i^* > 0\}, & i &= 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

- Albert and Chib (1993) introduce latent variables $z = y^*$ and Gibbs sampler for $\pi(\beta, z|y)$
 - $\beta \sim \mathcal{N}(\beta_0, B_0)$ as before; $\sigma^2 = 1$ for identification
 - sample $\beta|z \sim \mathcal{N}(\beta_1, B_1)$ (B_1 not updated)
 - sample $z_i|y, \beta \sim \mathcal{TN}_{(-\infty, 0]}(x_i' \beta, 1)$ if $y_i = 0$ or $\mathcal{TN}_{(0, \infty)}(x_i' \beta, 1)$ if $y_i = 1$
 - exercise: Student- t version
- Binary logit LR: $u_i | x_i \sim_{i.i.d.} \mathcal{L}(0, 1)$ (logistic distribution)

Python Code

```
def probit(y, x, n, b0, B0):
    for i in range(1, n):
        b1 = B1 @ (x.T @ s['z'][i - 1, :] + inv(B0) @ b0)
        s['beta'][i, :] = multivariate_normal.rvs(size=1, mean=b1, cov=B1)
        m = x @ s['beta'][i, :]
        for j in range(len(y)):
            if y[j] == 0:
                s['z'][i, j] = truncnorm.rvs(-1e3, -m[j], loc=m[j], scale=1, size=1)
            else:
                s['z'][i, j] = truncnorm.rvs(-m[j], 1e3, loc=m[j], scale=1, size=1)
    return s
```

Application: Forecasting Recession



- $\mathbb{P}(\text{NBER}_{t+1,t+4} = 1) = \Phi(a + b \times \text{Spread}_t), 1982:\text{Q1} - 2022:\text{Q4}$
- $a \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1), b \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

Readings

- Albert & Chib (1993), "Bayesian Analysis of Binary and Polychotomous Response Data," *Journal of the American Statistical Association*
- Chib (1992), "Bayes Inference in the Tobit Censored Regression Model," *Journal of Econometrics*
- Geweke (1993), "Bayesian Treatment of the Independent Student- t Linear Model," *Journal of Applied Econometrics*
- Tanner & Wong (1987), "The Calculation of Posterior Distributions by Data Augmentation (with Discussion)," *Journal of the American Statistical Association*