# Lecture 18: Solving and Estimating Games of Incomplete Information

Dynamic Programming Theory, Computation and Empirical Applications

Bertel Schjerning, University of Copenhagen

April 5th, 2017

NPL

Simple static entry game Solving for equilibria Structural Estimation NFXP MPEC 2-Step Methods NPL

#### Road Map for Lectures on Games

# Lecture 18: Structural Estimation of Static Games Incomplete Information

- Methods: NFXP, MPEC, CCP and NPL
- Example: Simple static entry model

# **Lecture 19**: Structural Estimation of Dynamic Games Incomplete Information

- Structural Estimation of Dynamic Games using NPL
- Application: Entry/exit in oligopoly markets using Chilean data from several retail industries.

(Aguirregabiria and Mira (2007))

#### **April 19th: MANDATORY WORKSHOP:**

- Student Presentations: Project description (10 minutes per group)
- Workshop programme: Will be uploaded ASAP, once project descriptions are handed in and groups are formed.
- We meet 10-12 and 13-15.

# Road Map for Lectures on Games

#### Lecture 20: Solving dynamic games with multiple equilibria

- Method: Recursive Lexicographic Search (RLS)
- Example: Dynamic model of Bertrand duopoly competition and cost reducing investments

# **Lecture 21**: Structural Estimation of Dynamic Games with Multiple Equilibria

- Methods: NFXP, MPEC, CCP estimator and Nested Pseudo Likelihood
- Example: Dynamic model of Bertrand duopoly competition and cost reducing investments

# Estimating Discrete-Choice Games of Incomplete Information

#### **Estimating Discrete-Choice Games of Incomplete Information**

- Aguirregabiria and Mira (2007): NPL (Recursive 2-Step)
- Bajari, Benkard and Levin (2007): 2-Step Minimum Distance Estimator
- Pakes, Ostrovsky and Berry (2007): Various 2-Step (PML, MoM, min  $\chi^2$ )
- Pesendorfer and Schmidt-Dengler (2008): 2-Step Least Squares
- Pesendorfer and Schmidt-Dengler (2010): comments on AM (2007)
- Kasahara and Shimotsu (2012): Modified NPL
- Su (2013), Egesdal, Lai and Su (2015): Constrained Optimization

#### Example: Static Game Entry of Incomplete Information

- Two firms: a and b
- Actions: each firm has two possible actions:

$$d_a = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if firm } a \text{ choose to enter the market} \\ 0, & \text{if firm } a \text{ choose not to enter the market} \end{cases}$$
 (1)

$$d_b = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if firm } b \text{ choose to enter the market} \\ 0, & \text{if firm } b \text{ choose not to enter the market} \end{cases}$$
 (2)

#### Example: Static Entry Game of Incomplete Information

Utility: Ex-post payoff to firms

$$u_a(d_a, d_b, x_a, \epsilon_a) = \begin{cases} [\alpha + d_b * (\beta - \alpha)]x_a + \epsilon_{a1}, & \text{if } d_a = 1\\ 0 + \epsilon_{a0}, & \text{if } d_a = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$u_b(d_a, d_b, x_a, \epsilon_b) = \begin{cases} [\alpha + d_a * (\beta - \alpha)]x_b + \epsilon_{b1}, & \text{if } d_b = 1\\ 0 + \epsilon_{b0}, & \text{if } d_b = 0 \end{cases}$$

- $(\alpha, \beta)$ : structural parameters to be estimated
- $(x_a, x_b)$ : firms' observed types; **common knowledge**
- $\epsilon_a = (\epsilon_{a0}, \epsilon_{a1}), \epsilon_b = (\epsilon_{b0}, \epsilon_{b1})$ : firms' unobserved types, **private information**
- $(\epsilon_a, \epsilon_b)$  are observed only by each firm, but not by their opponent firm nor by the econometrician

#### Example: Static Entry Game of Incomplete Information

- Assume the error terms  $(\epsilon_a, \epsilon_b)$  have a standardized type III extreme value distribution
- A Bayesian Nash equilibrium  $(p_a, p_b)$  satisfies

$$\rho_{a} = \frac{\exp[\rho_{b}\beta x_{a} + (1 - \rho_{b})\alpha x_{a}]}{1 + \exp[\rho_{b}\beta x_{a} + (1 - \rho_{b})\alpha x_{a}]}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-\alpha x_{a} + \rho_{b}x_{a}(\alpha - \beta)]}$$

$$\equiv \Psi_{a}(\rho_{b}, x_{a}; \alpha, \beta)$$

$$\rho_{b} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-\alpha x_{b} + \rho_{a}x_{b}(\alpha - \beta)]}$$

$$\equiv \Psi_{b}(\rho_{a}, x_{b}; \alpha, \beta)$$

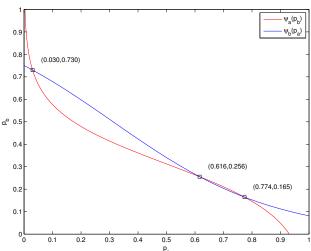
#### Static Game Example: Parameters

We consider a very contestable game throughout

- Monopoly profits:  $\alpha * x_j = 5 * x_j$
- Duopoly profits:  $\beta * x_j = -11 * x_j$
- Firm types:  $(x_a, x_b) = (0.52, 0.22)$

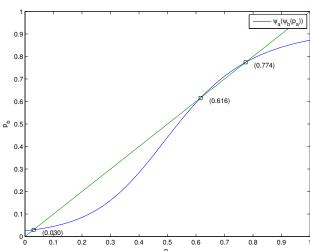
## Static Game Example: Three Bayesian Nash Equilibria

Figure: Equilibria at intersections of best response functions



# Static Game Example: Solving for Equilibria

Figure: Fixed points on second order best response function



Simple static entry game Solving for equilibria Structural Estimation NFXP MPEC 2-Step Methods NPL

#### Static Game Example: Solving for Equilibria

**Solution method:** Combination of succesive approximations and bisection algorithm

#### Succesive approximations (SA)

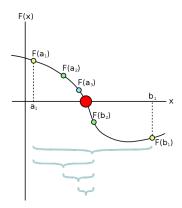
- Converge to nearest stable equilibrium.
- Start SA at  $p_a = 0$  and  $p_a = 1$ .
- Unique equilibrium (K=1): SA will converge to it from anywhere.
- Three equilibria (K=3): Two will be stable, and one will be unstable.
- More equilibria (K>3): Not in this model.

#### Bisection method

- Use this to find the unstable equilibrium (if K=3).
- The bisection method that repeatedly bisects an interval and then selects a subinterval in which the fixed point (or root) must lie.
- The two stable equilibria, defines the initial interval to search over.
- The bisection method is a very simple and robust method, but it is also relatively slow.

#### Static Game Example: Solving for Equilibria

Figure: Bisection method



A few steps of the bisection method applied over the starting range [a1;b1]. The bigger red dot is the root of the function.

#### Static Game Example: Data Generation and Identification

- Data Generating Process (DGP): the data are generated by a single equilibrium
- The two players use the same equilibrium to play 1000 times
- Data:  $X = \{(d_a^i, d_b^i)_{i=1}^{1000}, (x_a, x_b) = (0.52, 0.22)\}$
- Given data X, we want to recover structural parameters  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$

#### Static Game Example: Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Maximize the likelihood function

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta}} & \log \quad \mathcal{L}(p_{a}(\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta});X) \\ &= \quad \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( d_{a}^{i} * \log(p_{a}(\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta})) + (1 - d_{a}^{i} *) \log(1 - p_{a}(\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta})) \right) \\ &+ \quad \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( d_{b}^{i} * \log(p_{b}(\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta})) + (1 - d_{b}^{i} *) \log(1 - p_{b}(\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta})) \right) \end{aligned}$$

•  $p_a(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $p_a(\alpha, \beta)$  are the solutions of the Bayesian-Nash Equilibrium equations

$$p_{a} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-\alpha x_{a} + p_{b} x_{a}(\alpha - \beta)]} \equiv \Psi_{a}(p_{b}, x_{a}; \alpha, \beta)$$

$$p_{b} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-\alpha x_{b} + p_{a} x_{b}(\alpha - \beta)]} \equiv \Psi_{b}(p_{a}, x_{b}; \alpha, \beta)$$

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#### Static Game Example: MLE via NFXP

- Outer Loop
  - Choose  $(\alpha, \beta)$  to maximize the likelihood function

$$\log \mathcal{L}(p_a(\alpha, \beta), p_b(\alpha, \beta); X)$$

- Inner loop:
  - For a given  $(\alpha, \beta)$ , solve the BNE equations for **ALL** equilibria:  $(p_a^k(\alpha, \beta), p_b^k(\alpha, \beta)), k = 1, ..., K$
  - Choose the equilibrium that gives the highest likelihood value:

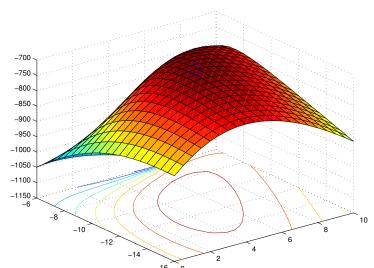
$$k^* = \arg\max_{k=1,...,K} \log \mathcal{L}(p_a^k(\alpha, \beta), p_b^k(\alpha, \beta); X)$$

such that

$$(p_a(\alpha, \beta), p_b(\alpha, \beta)) = (p_a^{k*}(\alpha, \beta), p_b^{k*}(\alpha, \beta))$$

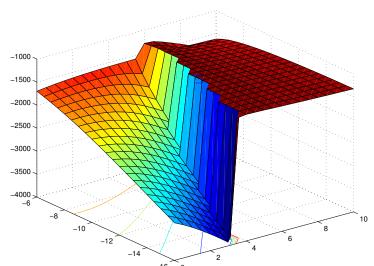
# NFXP's Likelihood as a Function of $(\alpha, \beta)$ - Eq 1

Figure: Data generated from equilibrium 1



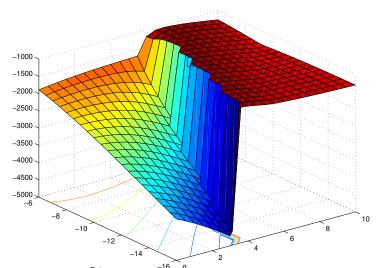
# NFXP's Likelihood as a Function of $(\alpha, \beta)$ - Eq 2

Figure: Data generated from equilibrium 2

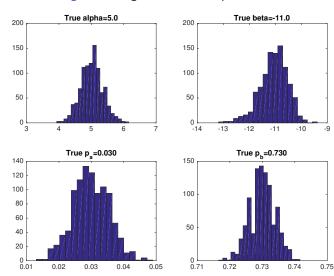


# NFXP's Likelihood as a Function of $(\alpha, \beta)$ - Eq 3

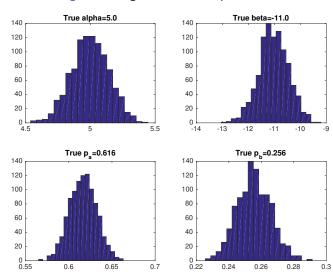
Figure: Data generated from equilibrium 3



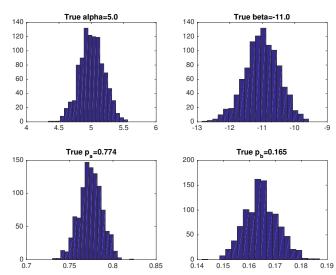
#### Monte Carlo Results: NFXP with Eq1



# Monte Carlo Results: NFXP with Eq2



# Monte Carlo Results: NFXP with Eq3



# Constrained Optimization Formulation for Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Maximize the likelihood function

$$\max_{\alpha,\beta,p_{a},p_{b}} \log \mathcal{L}(p_{a}; X)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N} (d_{a}^{i} * \log(p_{a}) + (1 - d_{a}^{i} *) \log(1 - p_{a}))$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{N} (d_{b}^{i} * \log(p_{b}) + (1 - d_{b}^{i} *) \log(1 - p_{b}))$$

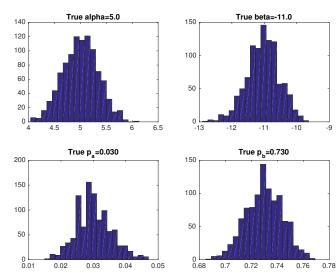
• Subject to  $p_a$  and  $p_a$  are the solutions of the Bayesian-Nash Equilibrium equations

$$p_{a} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-\alpha x_{a} + p_{b} x_{a}(\alpha - \beta)]}$$

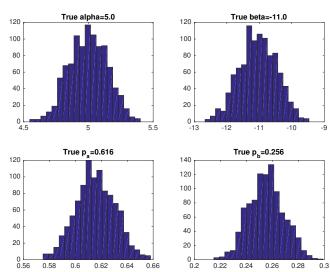
$$p_{b} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-\alpha x_{b} + p_{a} x_{b}(\alpha - \beta)]}$$

$$0 \leq p_{a}, p_{b} \leq 1$$

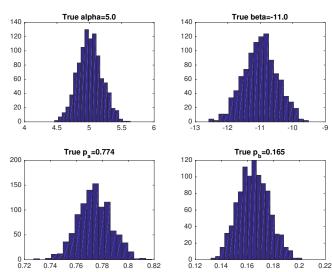
# Monte Carlo Results: MPEC with Eq1



# Monte Carlo Results: MPEC with Eq2



# Monte Carlo Results: MPEC with Eq3



MPEC

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#### Static Game Example: Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Maximize the likelihood function

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta}} & \log \quad \mathcal{L}(p_{a}(\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta});X) \\ &= \quad \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( d_{a}^{i} * \log(p_{a}(\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta})) + (1 - d_{a}^{i} *) \log(1 - p_{a}(\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta})) \right) \\ &+ \quad \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( d_{b}^{i} * \log(p_{b}(\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta})) + (1 - d_{b}^{i} *) \log(1 - p_{b}(\boldsymbol{\alpha},\boldsymbol{\beta})) \right) \end{aligned}$$

•  $p_a(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $p_a(\alpha, \beta)$  are the solutions of the Bayesian-Nash Equilibrium equations

$$p_{a} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-\alpha x_{a} + p_{b} x_{a}(\alpha - \beta)]} \equiv \Psi_{a}(p_{b}, x_{a}; \alpha, \beta)$$

$$p_{b} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-\alpha x_{b} + p_{a} x_{b}(\alpha - \beta)]} \equiv \Psi_{b}(p_{a}, x_{b}; \alpha, \beta)$$

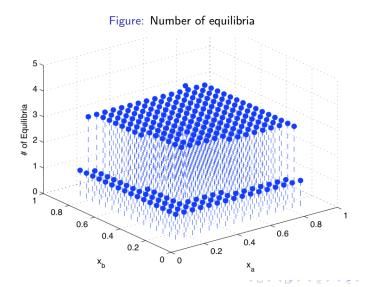
#### Discussion

- Q: Is the likelihood function smooth in  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  for NFXP? What about MPEC is objective function and constraints smooth in parameters,  $\theta = (\alpha, \beta, p_a, p_b)$ ?
- Q: Sensitivity to starting values?
- Q: Can we identify what equilibrium is played in the data, i.e. the equilibrium selection rule?
- Q: Can we use standard theorems for inference? Is true value in interior of parameter space? Is it differentiable? Is objective function continuous?
- Q: This problem is extremely simple.  $p_a$  and  $p_b$  are scalars. How would you solve for  $p_b$  and  $p_b$  when they are solutions to players Bellman equations?
- Can we be sure to find all equilibria by iterating on player's Bellman equations? Why/why not?

#### Estimation with Multiple Markets

- There 25 different markets, i.e., 25 pairs of observed types  $(x_a^m, x_b^m), m = 1, ..., 25$
- The grid on  $x_a$  has 5 points equally distributed between the interval [0.12, 0.87], and similarly for  $x_b$
- Use the same true parameter values:  $(\alpha_0, \beta_0)$
- For each market with  $(x_a^m, x_b^m)$ , solve BNE conditions for  $(p_a^m, p_b^m)$ .
- There are multiple equilibria in most of 25 markets
- For each market, we (randomly) choose an equilibrium to generate 1000 data points for that market
- The equilibrium used to generate data can be different in different markets - we flip a coin at each market.

# # of Equilibria with Different $(x_a^m, x_b^m)$



#### NFXP - Estimation with Multiple Markets

#### Inner loop:

$$\max_{\alpha,\beta} \log \mathcal{L}(p_a^m(\alpha,\beta), p_b^m(\alpha,\beta); X)$$

Outer loop: For a given values of  $(\alpha, \beta)$  solve BNE equations for ALL equilibria, k = 1, ..., K at each market, m = 1, ..., M: That is,  $p_a^{m,k}(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $p_a^{m,k}(\alpha, \beta)$  are the solutions to

$$p_a^m = \Psi_a(p_b^m, x_a^m; \alpha, \beta)$$

$$p_b^m = \Psi_b(p_a^m, x_b^m; \alpha, \beta)$$

$$m = 1, ..., M$$

where we again choose the equilibrium, that gives the highest likelihood value at each market m

$$k^* = \arg\max_{k=1}^{max} \log \mathcal{L}(p_a^{m,k}(\alpha, \beta), p_b^{m,k}(\alpha, \beta); X)$$

such that

$$(p_a^m(\alpha,\beta),p_b^m(\alpha,\beta))=(p_a^{m,k*}(\alpha,\beta),p_b^{m,k*}(\alpha,\beta))$$

#### Estimation with Multiple Markets - MPEC

#### Constrained optimization formulation

$$\max_{\alpha,\beta,p_a^m,p_b^m} \qquad \log \mathcal{L}(p_a^m,p_b^m;X)$$

subject to

- MPEC does not explicitly solve the BNE equations to find ALL equilibria at each market for every trial value of parameters.
- But the number of parameters is much larger.
- Both MPEC and NFXP are based on Full Information Maximum Likelihood (FIML) estimators.

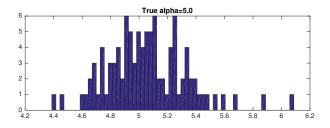
MPEC

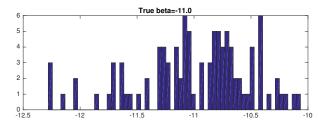
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### NFXP: Monte Carlo - Multiple Markets (M=25, T=50)

Starting values  $\alpha_0 = \alpha$ ,  $\beta_0 = \beta$ 

Random equilibrium selection in different markets

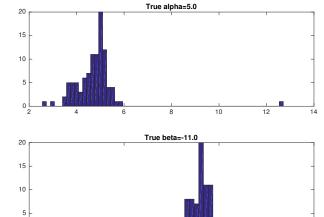




## MPEC: Monte Carlo - Multiple Markets (M=25, T=50)

Starting values  $\alpha_0 = \alpha$ ,  $\beta_0 = \beta$ 

Random equilibrium selection in different markets

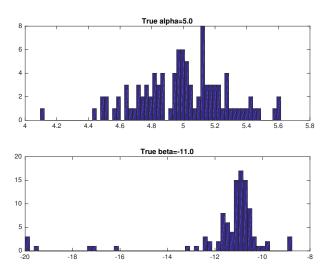


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# MPEC: Monte Carlo - Multiple Markets (M=2, T=625)

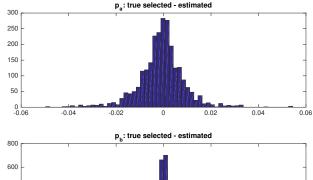
Figure: Random equilibrium selection in different markets

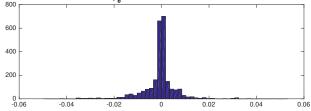


#### NFXP: Monte Carlo - Multiple Markets (M=25, T=50)

Starting values  $\alpha_0 = \alpha$ ,  $\beta_0 = \beta$ 

Random equilibrium selection in different markets

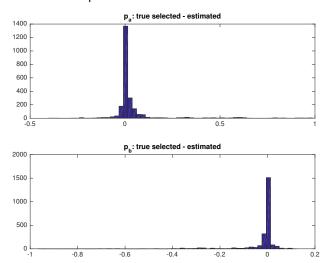




## MPEC: Monte Carlo - Multiple Markets (M=25, T=50)

Starting values  $\alpha_0 = \alpha$ ,  $\beta_0 = \beta$ 

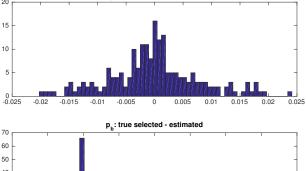
Random equilibrium selection in different markets

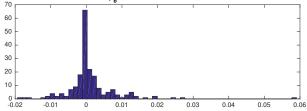


# MPEC: Monte Carlo - Multiple Markets (M=2, T=625)

Figure: Random equilibrium selection in different markets

p<sub>a</sub>: true selected - estimated





Simple static entry game Solving for equilibria Structural Estimation NFXP MPEC 2-Step Methods NPL

## MPEC and NFXP: multiple markets

#### NFXP:

- 2 parameters in optimization problem
- we can estimate the equilibrium played in the data,  $p_a^{m,k*}$  and  $p_b^{m,k*}$  (but in models with observationally equivalent equilibria it may not be possible to obtain joint identification of structural parameters and equilibrium probabilities )
- Needs to find ALL equilibria at each market (very hard in more complex problems)
- Good full solution methods required

#### MPEC:

- 2 + 2M parameters in optimization problem
- Does not always converge towards the equilibrium played in the data, although NFXP indicates that  $p_a^{m,k*}$  and  $p_b^{m,k*}$  are actually identifiable
- Local minima with many markets.
- Disclaimer: Quick and dirty implementation of MPEC.
   Use AMPL/Knitro

MPEC

NPL

## 2-Step Methods

Recall the constrained optimization formulation for FIML is

$$\max_{\alpha,\beta,p_a^m,p_b^m} \qquad \log \mathcal{L}(p_a^m,p_b^m;X)$$

subject to

• Denote the solution as  $(\alpha^*, \beta^*, p_a^*, p_b^*)$ 

Solving for equilibria

• Suppose we know  $(p_a^*, p_b^*)$ , how do we recover  $(\alpha^*, \beta^*)$ ?

# 2-Step Methods: Recovering $(\alpha^*, \beta^*)$

• Idea 1: Solve the BNE equations for  $(\alpha^*, \beta^*)$ 

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
\rho_a^* & = & \Psi_a(\rho_b^*, x_a; \alpha, \beta) \\
\rho_b^* & = & \Psi_b(\rho_a^*, x_b; \alpha, \beta)
\end{array}$$

• Idea 2: Choose  $(\alpha, \beta)$  to

$$\max_{\alpha,\beta} \log \mathcal{L}(\Psi_a(p_b^*, x_a; \alpha, \beta), \Psi_b(p_a^*, x_b; \alpha, \beta); X)$$

# 2-Step Methods: Recovering $(\alpha^*, \beta^*)$

- Idea 1:
  - Step 1: Estimate  $\hat{p}=(\hat{p}_a,\hat{p}_b)$  from the data
  - Step 2: Solve

$$\hat{p}_a = \Psi_a(\hat{p}_a, x_a; \alpha, \beta)$$
 $\hat{p}_b = \Psi_b(\hat{p}_b, x_b; \alpha, \beta)$ 

- Idea 2
  - Step 1: Estimate  $\hat{p}=(\hat{p}_a,\hat{p}_b)$  from the data
  - Step 2: Choose  $(\alpha, \beta)$  to

$$\max_{\alpha,\beta} \log \mathcal{L}(\Psi_a(\hat{p}_b, x_a; \alpha, \beta), \Psi_b(\hat{p}_a, x_b; \alpha, \beta); X)$$

## 2-Step Methods: Potential Issues to be Addressed

- How do we estimate  $\hat{p} = (\hat{p}_a, \hat{p}_b)$ ?
- Different methods give different  $\hat{p}$
- One method is the frequency estimator:

$$\hat{p}_{a} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i}^{N} I_{\{d_{a}^{i}=1\}}$$

$$\hat{p}_{b} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i}^{N} I_{\{d_{b}^{i}=1\}}$$

- if  $(\hat{p}_a, \hat{p}_b) \neq (p_a^*, p_b^*)$  then  $(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}) \neq (\alpha^*, \beta^*)$
- For a given  $(\hat{p}_a, \hat{p}_b)$ , there might not be a solution to the BNE equations

$$\hat{\rho}_a = \Psi_a(\hat{\rho}_a, x_a; \alpha, \beta)$$
 $\hat{\rho}_b = \Psi_b(\hat{\rho}_b, x_b; \alpha, \beta)$ 

## 2-Step Methods: Pseudo Maximum Likelihood

### In 2-step methods

- Step 1: Estimate  $\hat{p} = (\hat{p}_a, \hat{p}_b)$  from the data
- Step 2: Solve

$$\max_{\alpha,\beta,p_a,p_b} \log \mathcal{L}(p_a,p_b;X)$$

subject to

$$p_{a} = \Psi_{a}(\hat{p}_{a}, x_{a}; \alpha, \beta)$$

$$p_{b} = \Psi_{b}(\hat{p}_{b}, x_{b}; \alpha, \beta)$$

$$0 \leq p_{a}^{m}, p_{b}^{m} \leq 1, m = 1, ..., M$$

Or equivalently

- Step 1: Estimate  $\hat{p} = (\hat{p}_a, \hat{p}_b)$  from the data
- Step 2: Solve

$$\max_{\alpha,\beta} \log \mathcal{L}(\Psi_a(\hat{p}_b, x_a; \alpha, \beta), \Psi_b(\hat{p}_a, x_b; \alpha, \beta); X)$$

MPEC

NPL

## Least Square Estimators

Pesendofer and Schmidt-Dengler (2008)

- Step 1: Estimate  $\hat{p} = (\hat{p}_a, \hat{p}_b)$  from the data
- Step 2: Solve

$$\min_{\substack{\alpha,\beta\\\alpha,\beta}} \left\{ (\hat{p}_{a} - \Psi_{a}(\hat{p}_{b}, \mathsf{x}_{a}; \frac{\alpha,\beta}{\alpha,\beta}))^{2} + (\hat{p}_{b} - \Psi_{b}(\hat{p}_{a}, \mathsf{x}_{b}; \frac{\alpha,\beta}{\alpha,\beta}); X))^{2} \right\}$$

For dynamic games, Markov perfect equilibrium conditions are characterized by

$$p = \Psi(p, \theta)$$

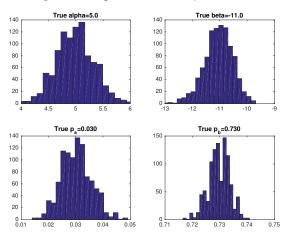
- Step 1: Estimate  $\hat{p}$  from the data
- Step 2: Solve

$$\min_{\alpha,\beta} [\hat{p} - \Psi(\hat{p}; \theta)]' W[\hat{p} - \Psi(\hat{p}; \theta)]'$$

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# Static Game Example: 2-Step PML

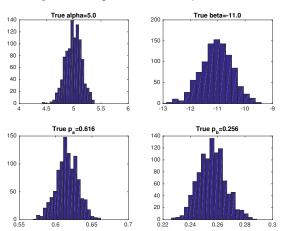
#### Figure: Data generated from equilibrium 1



- Pakes, Ostrovsky, and Berry (2007): PML 2-step estimator and can lead to large bias in finite samples.
- In this example, however, it seems to work pretty QK. Why?

# Static Game Example: 2-Step PML

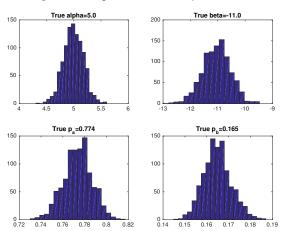
### Figure: Data generated from equilibrium 2



- Pakes, Ostrovsky, and Berry (2007): PML 2-step estimator and can lead to large bias in finite samples.
- In this example, however, it seems to work pretty QK. Why?

# Static Game Example: 2-Step PML

Figure: Data generated from equilibrium 3



- Pakes, Ostrovsky, and Berry (2007): PML 2-step estimator and can lead to large bias in finite samples.
- In this example, however, it seems to work pretty QK. Why?

# Nested Pseudo Likelihood (NPL): Aguirregabiria and Mira (2007)

NPL iterates on the 2-step methods

- Step 1: Estimate  $\hat{p}^0 = (\hat{p}_a^0, \hat{p}_b^0)$  from the data, set k = 0
- Step 2:

#### **REPEAT**

Solve

$$\alpha^{k+1}, \beta^{k+1} = \arg\max_{\alpha, \beta} \qquad \log \mathcal{L}(\Psi_a(\hat{p}_b^k, x_a; \alpha, \beta), \Psi_b(\hat{p}_a^k, x_b; \alpha, \beta); X)$$

② One best-reply iteration on  $\hat{p}^k$ 

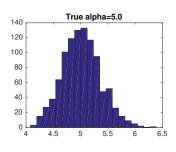
$$\hat{\rho}_{a}^{k+1} = \Psi_{a}(\hat{\rho}_{a}^{k}, x_{a}; \alpha^{k+1}, \beta^{k+1}) 
\hat{\rho}_{a}^{k+1} = \Psi_{b}(\hat{\rho}_{b}^{k}, x_{b}; \alpha^{k+1}, \beta^{k+1})$$

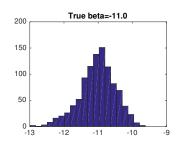
Let k:=k+1;

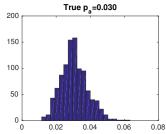
**UNTIL** convergence in  $(\alpha^k, \beta^k)$  and  $(\hat{p}_a^k, \hat{p}_b^k)$ 

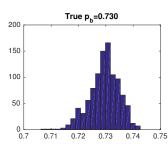
## Monte Carlo Results: NPL with Eq 1

Figure: Equilibrium 1 -  $\hat{p}_i = 1/N \sum_i I(d_i = 1)$ 









## Monte Carlo Results: NPL with Eq 2

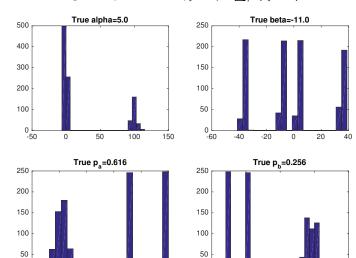
0.2

0.4

0.6

8.0

Figure: Equilibrium 2 -  $\hat{p_i} = 1/N \sum_i I(d_i = 1)$ 



0.2

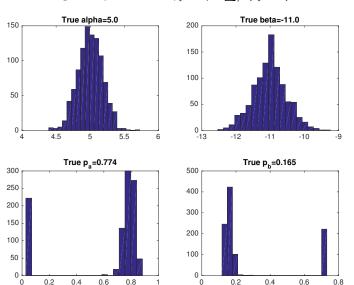
0.4

0.6

0.8

# Monte Carlo Results: NPL with Eq 3

Figure: Equilibrium 3 -  $\hat{p_i} = 1/N \sum_i I(d_i = 1)$ 



## Conclusions

 NFXP/MPEC implementations of MLE is statistically efficient, but computational daunting.

- Two step estimators computationally fast, but inefficient and biased in small samples.
- NPL (Aguirregabiria and Mira 2007) should bridge this gab, but does not seem to be an appropriate method for estimating games with multiple equilibria.
- Estimation of dynamic games is an interesting but challenging computational optimization problem
  - $\bullet$  Multiple equilibria leads makes likehood function discontinuous  $\to$  non-standard inference and computational complexity
  - Multiple equilibria leads to indeterminacy problem and identification issues.
- All these problems are amplified by orders of magnitude when we move to Dynamic models

### **NFXT**

## Estimation of dynamic games of incomplete information

- Estimation dynamic game with NPL: Agurregabiria and Mira (2012)
- Estimation of dynamic discrete choice games of incomplete information using MPEC - Egesdal, Lai and Su (2015)
- All solution algorithms necessary for NFXP: Development of all solution algorithms for solving games with Multiple Equilibria (Iskhakov et al. 2016)