R Code

```
# main code file
setwd("C:/z_toshiba/course work/phd/econ 761/hw/hw4/")
rm(list=ls())
library(readxl)
library(tidyverse)
library(MASS)
library(expm)
library(Matrix)
library(dummies)
library(plyr)
library(FixedPoint)
source("blp.R")
source("blpmerger.R")
# import data
x <- read_excel("cereal_ps3.xls")
d <- read excel("demog ps3.xls")
x$t <- paste(x$city, x$quarter, sep="_")
d$t <- paste(d$city, d$quarter, sep="_")
x$brand <- paste(x$firm, x$brand, sep="_")
x$brand <- as.factor(x$brand)
x$t <- as.factor(x$t)
x$id <- as.factor(x$id)
x$firm <- as.factor(x$firm)
x \leftarrow merge(x, d, by="t")
x$constant <- rep(1, nrow(x))
n <- 20
theta_nlin=rep(0,20)
# OLS without brand FE (1-3)
blp(theta_nlin=theta_nlin, x=x, brandFE=F, iv=F, supply=F, n=n, A=1)
summary(mean_u) # regression results
theta_lin=coefficients(mean_u)[1:4]
c(mean(b), quantile(b, 0.5), sd(b)) # markup statistics
c(mean(mc), quantile(mc, 0.5), sd(mc)) # marginal cost statistics
# Post-Nabisco merger
PNmerger <- x
PNmerger$xi <- residuals(mean_u)
PNmerger$mc <- mc
PNmerger[which(PNmerger$firm==3), "firm"] <- 6
PNmerger$firm <- as.factor(as.character(PNmerger$firm))
mer <- blpmerger(theta nlin=theta nlin, theta lin=theta lin, x=PNmerger, va=va, n=n, brandFE=F)
c(mean(mer[[1]]), quantile(mer[[1]], 0.5), sd(mer[[1]]))
c(mean(mer[[2]]), quantile(mer[[2]], 0.5), sd(mer[[2]]))
#GM-Quaker merger
```

```
GOmerger <- x
GQmerger$xi <- residuals(mean_u)
GOmerger$mc <- mc
GQmerger[which(GQmerger$firm==2), "firm"] <- 4
GQmerger$firm <- as.factor(as.character(GQmerger$firm))
mer <- blomerger(theta nlin=theta nlin, theta lin=theta lin, x=GOmerger, va=va, n=n, brandFE=F)
c(mean(mer[[1]]), quantile(mer[[1]], 0.5), sd(mer[[1]]))
c(mean(mer[[2]]), quantile(mer[[2]], 0.5), sd(mer[[2]]))
# OLS with brand FE (1-3)
Z <- data.matrix(dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(x$brand)))
blp(theta nlin=theta nlin, x=x, brandFE=T, iv=F, supply=F, n=n, A=(t(Z)\%*\%Z))
coefs # regression results (coefficient estimates)
se # regression results (standard errors)
theta lin=coefs
c(mean(b), quantile(b, 0.5), sd(b)) # markup statistics
c(mean(mc), quantile(mc, 0.5), sd(mc)) # marginal cost statistics
nam <- names(coefficients(mean u)[2:length(coefficients(mean u))])
nam <- gsub("brand", "", nam)</pre>
resmd <- data.frame(nam, resmd)
colnames(resmd) <- c("brand", "resmd")</pre>
#Post-Nabisco merger
PNmerger <- x
PNmerger$xi <- residuals(mean_u)
PNmerger$mc <- mc
PNmerger[which(PNmerger$firm==3), "firm"] <- 6
PNmerger$firm <- as.factor(as.character(PNmerger$firm))
PNmerger <- join(PNmerger, resmd, by="brand")
mer <- blpmerger(theta_nlin=theta_nlin, theta_lin=theta_lin, x=PNmerger, va=va, n=n, brandFE=T)
c(mean(mer[[1]]), quantile(mer[[1]], 0.5), sd(mer[[1]]))
c(mean(mer[[2]]), quantile(mer[[2]], 0.5), sd(mer[[2]]))
#GM-Quaker merger
GQmerger <- x
GQmerger$xi <- residuals(mean_u)
GOmerger$mc <- mc
GQmerger[which(GQmerger$firm==2), "firm"] <- 4
GQmerger$firm <- as.factor(as.character(GQmerger$firm))
GQmerger <- join(GQmerger, resmd, by="brand")
mer <- blpmerger(theta nlin=theta nlin, theta lin=theta lin, x=GQmerger, va=va, n=n, brandFE=T)
c(mean(mer[[1]]), quantile(mer[[1]], 0.5), sd(mer[[1]]))
c(mean(mer[[2]]), quantile(mer[[2]], 0.5), sd(mer[[2]]))
# IV without brand FE (1-3)
vars < -seq(1, 20, 1)
vars <- paste("z", vars, sep="")</pre>
Z \leftarrow data.matrix(x[,vars])
blp(theta_nlin=theta_nlin, x=x, brandFE=F, iv=T, supply=F, n=n, A=(t(Z)%*%Z))
summary(mean_u) # regression results
theta lin=coefficients(mean u)
```

```
c(mean(b), quantile(b, 0.5), sd(b)) # markup statistics
c(mean(mc), quantile(mc, 0.5), sd(mc)) # marginal cost statistics
#Post-Nabisco merger
PNmerger <- x
PNmerger$xi <- residuals(mean u)
PNmerger$mc <- mc
PNmerger[which(PNmerger$firm==3), "firm"] <- 6
PNmerger$firm <- as.factor(as.character(PNmerger$firm))
mer <- blpmerger(theta_nlin=theta_nlin, theta_lin=theta_lin, x=PNmerger, va=va, n=n, brandFE=F)
c(mean(mer[[1]]), quantile(mer[[1]], 0.5), sd(mer[[1]]))
c(mean(mer[[2]]), quantile(mer[[2]], 0.5), sd(mer[[2]]))
#GM-Quaker merger
GQmerger <- x
GOmerger$xi <- residuals(mean u)
GOmerger$mc <- mc
GQmerger[which(GQmerger$firm==2), "firm"] <- 4
GQmerger$firm <- as.factor(as.character(GQmerger$firm))
mer <- blpmerger(theta_nlin=theta_nlin, theta_lin=theta_lin, x=GQmerger, va=va, n=n, brandFE=F)
c(mean(mer[[1]]), quantile(mer[[1]], 0.5), sd(mer[[1]]))
c(mean(mer[[2]]), quantile(mer[[2]], 0.5), sd(mer[[2]]))
# IV with brand FE (1-3)
vars < -seq(1, 20, 1)
vars <- paste("z", vars, sep="")</pre>
Z <- data.matrix(cbind(x[,vars], data.matrix(dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(x$brand)))))
blp(theta nlin=theta nlin, x=x, brandFE=T, iy=T, supply=F, n=n, A=(t(Z)\%*\%Z))
coefs # regression results (coefficient estimates)
se # regression results (standard errors)
theta lin=coefs
c(mean(b), quantile(b, 0.5), sd(b)) # markup statistics
c(mean(mc), quantile(mc, 0.5), sd(mc)) # marginal cost statistics
nam <- names(coefficients(mean u)[2:length(coefficients(mean u))])
nam <- gsub("brand", "", nam)
resmd <- data.frame(nam, resmd)</pre>
colnames(resmd) <- c("brand", "resmd")
#Post-Nabisco merger
PNmerger <- x
PNmerger$xi <- residuals(mean u)
PNmerger$mc <- mc
PNmerger[which(PNmerger$firm==3), "firm"] <- 6
PNmerger$firm <- as.factor(as.character(PNmerger$firm))
PNmerger <- join(PNmerger, resmd, by="brand")
mer <- blpmerger(theta nlin=theta nlin, theta lin=theta lin, x=PNmerger, va=va, n=n, brandFE=T)
c(mean(mer[[1]]), quantile(mer[[1]], 0.5), sd(mer[[1]]))
c(mean(mer[[2]]), quantile(mer[[2]], 0.5), sd(mer[[2]]))
#GM-Quaker merger
GOmerger <- x
GQmerger$xi <- residuals(mean_u)
GOmerger$mc <- mc
```

```
GQmerger[which(GQmerger$firm==2), "firm"] <- 4
GQmerger$firm <- as.factor(as.character(GQmerger$firm))
GOmerger <- join(GOmerger, resmd, by="brand")
mer <- blpmerger(theta nlin=theta nlin, theta lin=theta lin, x=GQmerger, va=va, n=n, brandFE=T)
c(mean(mer[[1]]), quantile(mer[[1]], 0.5), sd(mer[[1]]))
c(mean(mer[[2]]), quantile(mer[[2]], 0.5), sd(mer[[2]]))
# Full model (5-7)
theta_nlin < c(0, 2, 0, 0, 0.3, 2.2, 0.01, 0.2, 5, 13, -0.2, 1.3, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0.2, 0, 0.3, -0.8)
vars < -seq(1, 20, 1)
vars <- paste("z", vars, sep="")</pre>
Z <- data.matrix(cbind(x[,vars], dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(x$brand))))
params <- optim(par=theta nlin, fn=blp, x=x, n=n, brand=T, iv=T, supply=F, A=(t(Z)%*%Z),
         method="Nelder-Mead", control=list(reltol=0.1, trace=T))
theta nlin <- params$par
theta_nlin
blp(theta nlin=theta nlin, x=x, n=n, brand=T, iv=T, supply=F, A=(t(Z)\%*\%Z))
coefs
se
c(mean(b), quantile(b, 0.5), sd(b))
c(mean(mc), quantile(mc, 0.5), sd(mc))
nam <- names(coefficients(mean_u)[2:length(coefficients(mean_u))])
nam <- gsub("brand", "", nam)
resmd <- data.frame(nam, resmd)
colnames(resmd) <- c("brand", "resmd")
#Post-Nabisco merger
PNmerger <- x
PNmerger$xi <- residuals(mean_u)
PNmerger$mc <- mc
PNmerger[which(PNmerger$firm==3), "firm"] <- 6
PNmerger$firm <- as.factor(as.character(PNmerger$firm))
PNmerger <- join(PNmerger, resmd, by="brand")
mer <- blpmerger(theta nlin=theta nlin, theta lin=theta lin, x=PNmerger, va=va, n=n, brandFE=T)
c(mean(mer[[1]]), quantile(mer[[1]], 0.5), sd(mer[[1]]))
c(mean(mer[[2]], na.rm=T), quantile(mer[[2]], 0.5, na.rm=T), sd(mer[[2]], na.rm=T))
#GM-Quaker merger
GQmerger <- x
GQmerger$xi <- residuals(mean u)
GQmerger$mc <- mc
GQmerger[which(GQmerger$firm==2), "firm"] <- 4
GOmerger$firm <- as.factor(as.character(GOmerger$firm))
GQmerger <- join(GQmerger, resmd, by="brand")
mer <- blpmerger(theta_nlin=theta_nlin, theta_lin=theta_lin, x=GQmerger, va=va, n=n, brandFE=T)
c(mean(mer[[1]]), quantile(mer[[1]], 0.5), sd(mer[[1]]))
c(mean(mer[[2]], na.rm=T), quantile(mer[[2]], 0.5, na.rm=T), sd(mer[[2]], na.rm=T))
```

```
blp <- function(theta_nlin, x, brandFE=F, iv=T, supply=T, n, A=NULL){
 # arrange the non linear coefficients
 sig <- diag(theta nlin[1:4])
 pi <- cbind(theta_nlin[5:8], theta_nlin[9:12], theta_nlin[13:16], theta_nlin[17:20])
 # place demographic variables in shorter arrays
 di1 < -seq(1, 20, 1)
 di1 <- paste("v", di1, sep="")
 di2 < -seq(21, 40, 1)
 dj2 <- paste("v", dj2, sep="")
 dj3 < -seq(41, 60, 1)
 dj3 <- paste("v", dj3, sep="")
 di4 < -seq(61, 80, 1)
 dj4 <- paste("v", dj4, sep="")
 xt <- split(x, as.factor(x$t))
 # fixed point algorithm to compute mean utilities
 deltas <- NULL
 va <- NULL
 sij a <- NULL
 for(i in 1:length(xt)){
  xtt <- xt[[i]]
  xi <- data.matrix(xtt[,c("constant", "price", "sugar", "mushy")])
  d \leftarrow data.matrix(xtt[,c(di1, di2, di3, di4)])
  sjo <- c(xtt$share, 1-sum(xtt$share))
  va <- rbind(va,t(rnorm(n)))
  v \leftarrow matrix(rep(t(t(rnorm(n))), ncol(xi)), ncol=n, byrow = TRUE)
  del <- matrix(1, nrow=nrow(xi), ncol=1)
  sij <- matrix(0, ncol=n, nrow=nrow(xi)+1)
  mu <- matrix(0, ncol=n, nrow=nrow(xi))
  for(j in 1:nrow(d)){
    dj <- rbind(d[j,dj1], d[j,dj2], d[j,dj3], d[j,dj4])
    muj < xi\% *\% sig\% *\% v + xi\% *\% pi\% *\% dj
    mu \leftarrow mu + (muj/(nrow(d)))
    u < -del\%*mep(1, n) + muj
    \exp_u <- \exp(rbind(u, rep(0, ncol(u))))
    sijt <- sweep(exp_u, 2, colSums(exp_u),`/`)
    sij <- sij + sijt
  si <- rowMeans(sij)
  delp \leftarrow log(sjo) - log(sj) + c(del,1)
  dels <- rbind(c(c(del,1)), c(delp))
  tol <- dist(dels)
  tol <- as.numeric(tol)
  repeat{
   del <- delp
    u < t(t(del[1:(length(del)-1)]))\%*\%rep(1, n) + mu
    \exp_u <- \exp(\operatorname{rbind}(u, \operatorname{rep}(0, \operatorname{ncol}(u))))
    sij <- sweep(exp_u, 2, colSums(exp_u),`/`)
    sj <- rowMeans(sij)
    delp < - log(sjo) - log(sj) + del
    dels <- rbind(c(del), c(delp))
```

```
tol <- dist(dels)
   tol <- as.numeric(tol)
   if (tol<1e-14) break
  deltas <- rbind(deltas, t(t(delp[1:(length(delp)-1)])))</pre>
  u <- t(t(delp[1:(length(delp)-1)]))%*%rep(1, n) + mu
  \exp_u <- \exp(rbind(u, rep(0, ncol(u))))
  sij_a[[i]] <- sweep(exp_u, 2, colSums(exp_u), ^)
 va <<- va
 # mean utility regression
 if(iv==T)
  vars < -seq(1, 20, 1)
  vars <- paste("z", vars, sep="")
  vars <- as.name(paste(vars, collapse="+"))
  form <- paste("price", vars, sep="~")
  p_h <- predict(lm(as.formula(form), data=x))</pre>
  if(brandFE==T) { # iv with brand FE
   vars <- c("-1", "p_h", "brand")
  } else { # iv without brand FE
   vars <- c("p h", "sugar", "mushy")
  vars <- as.name(paste(vars, collapse="+"))</pre>
  form <- paste("deltas", vars, sep="~")
 } else {
  if(brandFE==T) { # ols with brand FE
   vars <- c("-1", "price", "brand")
  } else { # ols without brand FE
   vars <- c("price", "sugar", "mushy")</pre>
  vars <- as.name(paste(vars, collapse="+"))</pre>
  form <- paste("deltas", vars, sep="~")
 mean u <<- lm(as.formula(form), data=x)
 nam <- names(coefficients(mean u))
 nam <- which(nam=="price"|nam=="p h")
 #minimum distance estimates for brand dummy FE
 if(brandFE==T){
  ymd <- coefficients(mean_u)[2:length(coefficients(mean_u))]</pre>
  hvcov <- vcov(mean_u)[2:length(coefficients(mean_u)),2:length(coefficients(mean_u))]
  ymd <- matrix(c(as.numeric(na.omit(ymd))),nrow=nrow(hvcov), ncol=1)</pre>
  xmd <- xt[[1]]
  xmd <- data.matrix(xmd[,c("constant", "sugar", "mushy")])</pre>
  hdmd <-
solve(t(xmd)%*%solve(hvcov)%*%xmd)%*%t(xmd)%*%solve(hvcov)%*%matrix(c(ymd),nrow=nrow(hvcov), ncol=1)
  resmd <<- ymd-xmd%*%hdmd
  semd <- sqrt(diag(solve(t(xmd)%*%solve(hvcov)%*%xmd)))
  coefs <<- c(hdmd[1], coefficients(mean u)[nam], hdmd[2:3])
  se << c(semd[1], sqrt(vcov(mean u)[nam,nam]), semd[2:3])
 # markup and marginal cost estimates
 elasticities <- NULL
 mc <- NULL
```

```
b <- NULL
 for(i in 1:length(xt)){
  xtt <- xt[[i]]
  d \leftarrow data.matrix(xtt[,c(dj1, dj2, dj3, dj4)])
  aij <- matrix(0, ncol=n, nrow=nrow(xtt))</pre>
  for(i in 1:nrow(d)){
   di <- rbind(d[i,di1], d[i,di2], d[i,di3], d[i,di4])
   a <- coefficients(mean\_u)[nam] + t(t(xtt\$price))\%*\%sig[2,2]\%*\%va[i,] + t(t(xtt\$price))\%*\%pi[2,]\%*\%dj
   aij <- aij+a
  aij <- aij/nrow(d)
  sijt <- sij_a[[i]]
  sijt <- sijt[1:(nrow(sijt)-1),]
  si <- rowMeans(sijt)
  ep <- rowMeans(aij*sijt*(1-sijt)) #own-price derivatives of demand
  ec <- ((-aij)*sijt)% *%t(sijt)/n #cross-price derivatives of demand
  diag(ec) <- ep
  elasticities[[i]] <- ec*(xtt$price/xtt$share)
  su <- summary(xtt$firm)</pre>
  frm <- NULL
  for(k in 1:length(su)) {
   frm[[k]] <- matrix(1, nrow=su[k], ncol=su[k])</pre>
  om <- (-1)*data.matrix(bdiag(frm))*ec # omega matrix
  b <- rbind(b, solve(om)% *% sj)
  mc <- rbind(mc, xtt$price-solve(om)%*%sj)
 b <<- b
 mc <<- mc
 # estimation of pricing equation
 if(supply==T) {
  if(brandFE==T) {
   w \ll 1m(mc \sim sugar + mushy + brand + t, data=x)
   w \ll 1 \text{ lm(mc} \sim \text{sugar} + \text{mushy} + t, \text{data} = x)
  g <- matrix(c(residuals(mean_u),residuals(w)), nrow=length(c(residuals(mean_u),residuals(w))), ncol=1)
  ge <<- g
  if(iv==T) {
   vars < -seq(1, 20, 1)
   vars <- paste("z", vars, sep="")</pre>
   if(brandFE==T) {
     Z <- data.matrix(rbind(cbind(x[,vars],
dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(x$brand))),cbind(x[,vars],dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(x$brand)))))
    } else {
     Z \leftarrow data.matrix(rbind(x[,vars],x[,vars]))
    }
  } else {
   Z <- data.matrix(rbind(dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(x$brand))),dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(x$brand))))
 } else {
  g <- residuals(mean_u)
  ge <<- residuals(mean_u)
  if(iv==T) {
   vars < -seq(1, 20, 1)
```

```
vars <- paste("z", vars, sep="")</pre>
   if(brandFE==T) {
    Z <- data.matrix(cbind(x[,vars], dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(x$brand))))
   } else {
    Z <- data.matrix(x[,vars])
  } else {
   if(brandFE==T) {
    Z <- data.matrix(dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(x$brand)))
  }
 # criterion function
 if(brandFE == T \mid iv == T)  {
  gmm <- ((t(g)%*%Z)%*%solve(A)%*%(t(Z)%*%g))/nrow(xt[[1]])
 if(brandFE == F \& iv == F) \{
  gmm < - (t(g)\% *\%(g))/nrow(xt[[1]])
 if(length(gmm)==0) {
 gmm <- 1e8
 return(gmm)
}
```

```
blpmerger <- function(theta_nlin, theta_lin, x, va, n, brandFE=F){
 source("equilibrium.R")
 brandFE <<- brandFE
 # arrange the non linear coefficients
 sig <<- diag(theta_nlin[1:4])
 hpi <<- cbind(theta_nlin[5:8], theta_nlin[9:12], theta_nlin[13:16], theta_nlin[17:20])
 di1 < -seq(1, 20, 1)
 dj1 <<- paste("v", dj1, sep="")
 dj2 < -seq(21, 40, 1)
 dj2 <<- paste("v", dj2, sep="")
 di3 < -seq(41, 60, 1)
 dj3 <<- paste("v", dj3, sep="")
 di4 < -seq(61, 80, 1)
 dj4 <<- paste("v", dj4, sep="")
 xt <- split(x, as.factor(x$t))
 # equilibrium after merger
 p_a <- NULL
 si_a <- NULL
 for(i in 1:length(xt)){
  xtt <- xt[[i]]
  k \ll -i
  xtt <<- xtt[order(xtt$firm, xtt$id),]</pre>
  mer <- FixedPoint(Inputs=xtt$price, Function=equilibrium)</pre>
  p a <- rbind(p a, t(t(mer$FixedPoint)))
  xtt$price <- t(t(mer$FixedPoint))</pre>
  xi <- data.matrix(xtt[,c("constant", "price", "sugar", "mushy")])
  d \leftarrow data.matrix(xtt[,c(dj1, dj2, dj3, dj4)])
  # predicted market shares
  if(brandFE==F){
   del <- xi% *%theta lin + xtt$xi
  } else {
   hbr <- xi[,c(1,3,4)]\%*\%theta_lin[c(1,3,4)] + xtt$resmd
   del <- data.matrix(cbind(xi[,2], dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(xtt$brand))))%*%c(theta_lin[2], hbr) + xtt$xi
  sij <- matrix(0, ncol=n, nrow=nrow(xi)+1)
  for(j in 1:nrow(d)){
   dj <- rbind(d[j,dj1], d[j,dj2], d[j,dj3], d[j,dj4])
   muj < xi\% *\% sig\% *\% matrix(rep(va[i,], ncol(xi)), ncol=n, byrow = TRUE) + xi\% *\% hpi\% *\% dj
   u < -del\%*mep(1, n) + muj
   \exp_u <- \exp(rbind(u, rep(0, ncol(u))))
   sijt <- sweep(exp_u, 2, colSums(exp_u),`/`)/nrow(d)</pre>
   sij <- sij + sijt
  si <- rowMeans(sij)
  sj_a \leftarrow rbind(sj_a, sj[1:(length(sj)-1)])
 return(list(p_a, sj_a))
```

}

```
equilibrium <- function(p){
 xtt$price <- p
 xi <- data.matrix(xtt[,c("constant", "price", "sugar", "mushy")])
 d \leftarrow data.matrix(xtt[,c(dj1, dj2, dj3, dj4)])
 # predicted market shares
 if(brandFE==F){
  del <- xi% *%theta_lin + xtt$xi
 } else {
  hbr <- xi[,c(1,3,4)]\%*\%theta_lin[c(1,3,4)] + xtt$resmd
  del <- data.matrix(cbind(xi[,2], dummy.data.frame(as.data.frame(xtt$brand))))%*%c(theta_lin[2], hbr) + xtt$xi
 sij <- matrix(0, ncol=n, nrow=nrow(xi)+1)</pre>
 for(j in 1:nrow(d)){
  dj <- rbind(d[j,dj1], d[j,dj2], d[j,dj3], d[j,dj4])
  muj < xi\% *\% sig\% *\% matrix(rep(va[k,], ncol(xi)), ncol=n, byrow = TRUE) + xi\% *\% hpi\% *\% dj
  u < -del\%*mep(1, n) + muj
  \exp_u <- \exp(rbind(u, rep(0, ncol(u))))
  sijt <- sweep(exp_u, 2, colSums(exp_u),`/`)/nrow(d)</pre>
  sij <- sij + sijt
 sj <- rowMeans(sij)
 # predicted markups
 aij <- matrix(0, ncol=n, nrow=nrow(xtt))
 for(j in 1:nrow(d)) {
  dj <- rbind(d[j,dj1], d[j,dj2], d[j,dj3], d[j,dj4])
  aij < -aij + theta_lin[2] + t(t(xtt\$price))\%*\%sig[2,2]\%*\%va[k,] + t(t(xtt\$price))\%*\%hpi[2,]%*%dj
 aij <- aij/nrow(d)
 sijt <- sij[1:(nrow(sij)-1),]
 ep <- rowMeans(aij*sijt*(1-sijt))
 ec <- (-aij*sijt)%*%t(sijt)/n
 diag(ec) <- ep
 su <- summary(xtt$firm)</pre>
 frm <- NULL
 for(k in 1:length(su)) {
  frm[[k]] <- matrix(1, nrow=su[k], ncol=su[k])
 om <- (-1)*(data.matrix(bdiag(frm)))*ec
 bt <- solve(om)\% *\% sj[1:(length(sj)-1)]
 hp <- xtt$mc+bt
 return(hp)
```