

INTRODUCTION TO DEMAND ESTIMATION w/ pyb1p

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INTRODUCTION

AN ONGOING PROJECT...

What do we have so far?

- Available on PyPI

```
pip install pyblp
```

- Extensive documentation: <https://pyblp.readthedocs.io/en/stable/>
- Long list of features
- 6k downloads: who are these people?

OUTLINE OF WORKSHOP

1. Review of Theory of Demand Estimation/BLP.
2. Logit and Nested Logit with pyblp.
3. Nevo (2000) and BLP (1995) with pyblp.
BREAK?
4. What do we do with demand estimates? (Post-Estimation).
5. Under the Hood
6. Best Practices → some new econometric properties?

Each consumer i chooses a product j to maximize utility u_{ij} :

$$y_i = \arg \max_j u_{ij}$$

Begin with the basic logit model where ε I.I.D Type I EV (Gumbel):

$$u_{ij} = \beta \mathbf{x}_j - \alpha p_j + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

Goal is to use data on observed choices (y_{ij}, \mathbf{x}_j) to estimate (α, β) .

Logit is convenient for two closed forms:

1. Expectation of the maximum

$$E_{\varepsilon}[\max_j u_{ij}] = \log \left(\sum_j \exp[\beta x_j - \alpha p_j] \right)$$

2. Choice Probability

$$s_j = \frac{\exp[\beta x_j - \alpha p_j]}{1 + \sum_k \exp[\beta x_k - \alpha p_k]}$$

MULTINOMIAL LOGIT: ESTIMATION WITH INDIVIDUAL DATA

Estimation is straightforward via Maximum Likelihood (MLE):

$$\begin{aligned} L(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}, \theta) &= \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{n_i!}{\underbrace{\prod_{j=1}^J y_{ij}!}_{C(\mathbf{y})}} \prod_{j=1}^J s_{ij}(x_{ij}, \theta)^{y_{ij}} \\ ll(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}, \theta) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log(C(\mathbf{y})) + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^J y_{ij} \log(s_{ij}(x_{ij}, \theta)) \\ l(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}, \theta) &\approx \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^J y_{ij} \log(s_{ij}(x_{ij}, \theta)) \end{aligned}$$

- We can ignore the combinatorial term (with the factorials) since it does not affect the location of the maximum (it is additive and doesn't depend on θ).

MULTINOMIAL LOGIT: ESTIMATION WITH AGGREGATE DATA

Estimation is just like before

- Suppose that all consumers had the same $x_{ij} = x_j$ (Choices depended only on products not on income, education, etc.)
- We can construct $y_j^* = \sum_{i=1}^N y_{ij}$.

$$l(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}, \theta) \approx \sum_{j=1}^J y_j^* \log(s_j(\mathbf{x}, \theta))$$

- When each consumer i faces the same choice environment, we can aggregate data into **sufficient statistics**.

HETEROGENEITY AND ENDOGENEITY: SEPA- RATELY

- Suppose that the number of individuals $N \rightarrow \infty$.
- Suppose we observe **aggregate sales** $q_j = N\mathbf{s}_j$ where q_j is **finite**.
- Imagine I observe \mathbf{s}_j without any measurement error
 - Usual variance $\text{Var}(q_j) = Ns_j(1 - s_j)$ and $\text{Var}(\frac{q_j}{N}) = \frac{1}{N}s_j(1 - s_j)$

AGGREGATION: CONTINUED

- Take log of choice probability

$$s_j = \frac{\exp[\beta x_j - \alpha p_j]}{1 + \sum_k \exp[\beta x_k - \alpha p_k]} \quad s_0 = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_k \exp[\beta x_k - \alpha p_k]}$$
$$\log s_j = \beta x_j - \alpha p_j - \underbrace{\log \left(1 + \sum_k \exp[\beta x_k - \alpha p_k] \right)}_{-\log s_0}$$

- And we get the linear estimating equation

$$\underbrace{\log s_j - \log s_0}_{\text{data!}} = \beta x_j - \alpha p_j + \xi_j$$

- This is why logit/multinomial logit often referred to as **generalized linear model** (GLM).
- Also if you needed to **instrument** you already know how!

HETEROGENEITY: MIXED LOGIT

We relax the IIA property by **mixing** over various logits:

$$\begin{aligned}u_{ij} &= x_j\beta + \mu_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ij} \\s_{ij} &= \int \frac{\exp[x_j\beta + \mu_{ij}]}{1 + \sum_k \exp[x_k\beta + \mu_{ik}]} f(\mu_i|\theta)\end{aligned}$$

- Each individual draws a vector μ_i of μ_{ij} (separately from ε).
- Conditional on μ_i each person follows an IIA logit model.
- However we integrate (or mix) over many such individuals giving us a **mixed logit** or **heirarchical model** (if you are a statistician)
- In practice these are not that different from linear **random effects models** you have learned about previously.
- It helps to think about fixing μ_i first and then integrating out over ε_i

MIXED LOGIT: INTERPRETATIONS

An alternative is to allow for individuals to have random variation in β_i :

$$U_{ij} = \beta_i x_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

Which is the **random coefficients** formulation.

As an alternative, we could have specified an **error components structure** on ε_i .

$$U_{ij} = \beta x_{ij} + \underbrace{\nu_i z_{ij}}_{\tilde{\varepsilon}_{ij}} + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

- The key is that ν_i is unobserved and mean zero. But that x_{ij}, z_{ij} are observed per usual and ε_{ij} is IID Type I EV.
- This allows for a heteroskedastic structure on ε_i , but only one which we can project down onto the space of z .

HETEROGENEITY AND ENDOGENEITY: TOGETHER

- Now we want to have both **price endogeneity** and **flexible substitution** in the same model.
- We are ultimately going with the random coefficients logit model, but we will start with the logit and nested logit.

$$s_{jt} = \int \frac{\exp[x_{jt}\beta_i]}{1 + \sum_k \exp[x_{kt}\beta_i]} f(\beta_i|\theta)$$

- We know prices are set with demand in mind and this can create an endogeneity problem.
- How do we deal with it?
- We would like to instrument in this world but what is the error term exactly?
- An obvious choice might be $\eta_{jt} = (s_{jt}(\theta) - \tilde{s}_{jt})$
- Can we find things that are orthogonal to the error between observed and predicted market shares?
- Do we have the usual IV conditions (exogeneity, relevance, monotonicity, etc.)

BASIC IDEA FROM PRICE ENDOGENEITY

- We need to add an unobservable quality term ξ_{jt} to our model

$$\begin{aligned}u_{ijt} &= x_{jt}\beta_i + \xi_{jt} + \varepsilon_{ij} \\s_{jt} &= \int \frac{\exp[x_{jt}\beta_i + \xi_{jt}]}{1 + \sum_k \exp[x_{kt}\beta_i + \xi_{kt}]} f(\beta_i|\theta)\end{aligned}$$

- The idea is that ξ_{jt} is observed to the firm when prices are set, but not to us the econometricians.
- We call ξ_{jt} a vertical component, because all consumers agree on its value.
- This allows for products j to be better than some other product in a way that is not fully explained by differences in x_j and x_k .
- Basically there is something about a BMW that makes it better than a Peugeot in a way that is not fully captured by its mileage, weight, horsepower, etc. that leads to it having higher sales and/or higher prices.

INVERSION: IIA LOGIT

- Think about the plain IIA logit for a minute:

$$\begin{aligned}u_{ijt} &= x_{jt}\beta + \xi_{jt} + \varepsilon_{ij} \\s_{jt} &= \frac{\exp[x_{jt}\beta + \xi_{jt}]}{1 + \sum_k \exp[x_{kt}\beta + \xi_{kt}]}\end{aligned}$$

- Take logs

$$\begin{aligned}\ln s_{0t} &= -\log\left(1 + \sum_k \exp[x_{kt}\beta + \xi_{kt}]\right) \\ \ln s_{jt} &= [x_{jt}\beta + \xi_{jt}] - \log\left(1 + \sum_k \exp[x_{kt}\beta + \xi_{kt}]\right) \\ \ln s_{jt} - \ln s_{0t} &= x_{jt}\beta - \alpha p_{jt} + \xi_{jt}\end{aligned}$$

INVERSION: IIA LOGIT

$$\underbrace{\ln S_{jt} - \ln S_{ot}}_{\text{data!}} = \underbrace{x_{jt}\beta - \alpha p_{jt} + \xi_{jt}}_{\delta_{jt}}$$

- The LHS is data! The RHS is now a linear IV problem!
- α the price coefficient is the endogenous parameter.
- We know how to solve this. We need instruments that shift p_{jt} but are orthogonal to ξ_{jt} .
- Economic theory tells us how: cost shifters, markup shifters.
- Markups in IIA logit are pretty boring since they only depend on your shares and α .
- If number of products varies across markets, that works. Otherwise you want cost shifters in cross section or time series.

WAS THAT MAGIC?

- No. It was just a nonlinear change of variables from $\eta_{jt} \rightarrow \xi_{jt}$.
- Our moment condition is just that $E[\xi_{jt}|x_{jt}, z_{jt}] = 0$.
- We moved from the space of shares and MLE for the logit to the space of utilities and an IV model.
- We are losing some efficiency – but now we are able to estimate under weaker conditions.

- We do need a technical condition. This only works if the market size $N \rightarrow \infty$.
- That is our data/shares we must believe we are observing without any sampling error.
- This is not necessary for the multinomial MLE where shares have some natural sampling variation.
- In our IV/GMM approach we cannot have this sampling error. (Why?).

INVERSION: NESTED LOGIT (BERRY 1994 / CARDELL 1991)

This takes a bit more algebra but not much

$$\underbrace{\ln s_{jt} - \ln s_{ot}}_{data!} = x_{jt}\beta - \alpha p_{jt} - \underbrace{\sigma \log(s_{j|gt})}_{data!} + \xi_{jt}$$

- Same as logit plus an extra term $\log(s_{j|g})$ the **within group share**.
- We now have a second endogenous parameter.
- If you don't see it – realize we are regressing Y on a function of Y . This should always make you nervous.
- If you forget to instrument for σ you will get $\sigma \rightarrow 1$ because of **attenuation bias**.
- A good instrument for σ is the number of products within the nest. Why?

INVERSION: BLP

We can't solve for δ_{jt} directly this time. We often exploit a trick when β_i, ν_i is normally distributed:

$$s_{jt} = \int \frac{\exp[\delta_{jt} + \mathbf{x}_{jt} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \cdot \nu_i]}{1 + \sum_k \exp[\delta_{kt} + \mathbf{x}_{kt} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \cdot \nu_i]} f(\nu_i | \theta)$$

- This is a $J \times J$ system of equations for each t .
- It is diagonally dominant.
- There is a unique vector ξ_t that solves it for each market t .
- If you can work out $\frac{\partial s_{jt}}{\partial \delta_{kt}}$ (easy) you can solve this using Newton's Method.

CONTRACTION: BLP

BLP actually propose an easy solution to find δ_t . Fix θ and solve for δ . Think about doing this one market at a time:

$$\delta^{(k)}(\theta) = \delta^{(k-1)}(\theta) + \log(\tilde{s}_j) - \log(s_j(\delta_t^{(k-1)}, \theta))$$

- They prove (not easy) that this is a **contraction mapping**.
- If you keep iterating this equation enough $|\delta^{(k)}(\theta) - \delta^{(k-1)}(\theta)| < \epsilon_{tol}$ you can recover the δ 's so that the observed shares and the predicted shares are identical.
- Practical tip: ϵ_{tol} needs to be as small as possible. ($\approx 10^{-13}$).
- Practical tip: Contraction isn't as easy as it looks: $\log(s_j(\delta_t^{(k-1)}, \theta))$ requires computing the numerical integral each time (either via quadrature or monte carlo).

From the outside, in:

- Outer loop: search over nonlinear parameters θ to minimize GMM objective:

$$\widehat{\theta}_{BLP} = \arg \max_{\theta} (Z' \hat{\xi}(\theta)) W (Z' \hat{\xi}(\theta))'$$

- Inner Loop:

- ▶ Fix θ .
- ▶ Solve for δ so that $s_{jt}(\delta, \theta) = \tilde{s}_{jt}$.
 - Computing $s_{jt}(\delta, \theta)$ requires numerical integration (quadrature or monte carlo).
- ▶ We can do IV-GMM to recover $\hat{\alpha}(\theta), \hat{\beta}(\theta), \hat{\xi}(\theta)$.

$$\delta_{jt} = x_{jt}\beta - \alpha p_{jt} + \xi_{jt}$$

- ▶ Use $\hat{\xi}(\theta)$ to construct moment conditions.
- When we have found $\hat{\theta}_{BLP}$ we can use this to update $W \rightarrow W(\hat{\theta}_{BLP})$ and do 2-stage GMM.

- Now that you have done change of variables to get:

$$\delta_{jt} = \mathbf{x}_{jt}\beta - \alpha p_{jt} + \xi_{jt}$$

- We can do IV-GMM to recover $\hat{\alpha}(\theta), \hat{\beta}(\theta), \hat{\xi}(\theta)$.
- Outer Loop update guess θ , solve for δ and repeat.

$$\widehat{\theta}_{BLP} = \arg \max_{\theta} (\mathbf{Z}'\hat{\xi}(\theta))\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{Z}'\hat{\xi}(\theta))'$$

- When we have found $\widehat{\theta}_{BLP}$ we can use this to update $\mathbf{W} \rightarrow \mathbf{W}(\widehat{\theta}_{BLP})$ and do 2-stage GMM.

- BLP give us both a statistical **estimator** and an **algorithm** to obtain estimates.
- Plenty of other algorithms exist
 - We could solve for δ using the contraction mapping, using `fsolve` / Newton's Method / Guess and Check (not a good idea!).
 - We could try and consider a non-nested estimator for the BLP problem instead of solving for $\delta(\theta), \xi(\theta)$ we could let $\delta, \xi, \alpha, \beta$ be free parameters.
- We could think about different statistical estimators such as K -step GMM, Continuously Updating GMM, etc.

BLP: NFP ADVANTAGES/DISADVANTAGES

■ Advantages

- ▶ Concentrate out all of the linear in utility parameters (ξ, δ, β) so that we only search over Σ . When $\dim(\Sigma) = K$ is small (few dimensions of unobserved heterogeneity) this is a big advantage. For $K \leq 3$ this is my preferred approach.
- ▶ When T (number of markets/periods) is large then you can exploit solving in parallel for δ market by market.

■ Disadvantages

- ▶ Small numerical errors in contraction can be amplified in the outer loop, \rightarrow tolerance needs to be very tight.
- ▶ Errors in numerical integration can also be amplified in the outer loop \rightarrow must use a large number of draws/nodes.
- ▶ Hardest part is working out the Jacobian via IFT.

$$D\delta_{.t} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \delta_{1t}}{\partial \theta_{21}} & \dots & \frac{\partial \delta_{1t}}{\partial \theta_{2L}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \delta_{Jt}}{\partial \theta_{21}} & \dots & \frac{\partial \delta_{Jt}}{\partial \theta_{2L}} \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial s_{1t}}{\partial \delta_{1t}} & \dots & \frac{\partial s_{1t}}{\partial \delta_{Jt}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial s_{Jt}}{\partial \delta_{1t}} & \dots & \frac{\partial s_{Jt}}{\partial \delta_{Jt}} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial s_{1t}}{\partial \theta_{21}} & \dots & \frac{\partial s_{1t}}{\partial \theta_{2L}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial s_{Jt}}{\partial \theta_{21}} & \dots & \frac{\partial s_{Jt}}{\partial \theta_{2L}} \end{pmatrix},$$

BLP EXTENSIONS: DEMOGRAPHICS

- It is helpful to allow for interactions with consumer demographics (such as income).

$$\alpha_{it} = \bar{\alpha} + \sigma_p \nu_i + \pi_p y_{it}$$

- A few ways to do this:
 - ▶ You could just use cross sectional variation in s_{jt} and \bar{y}_t (mean or median income).
 - ▶ Better: Draw y_{it} from a geographic specific income distribution. Draw ν_i from a general distribution of unobserved heterogeneity.
- Ex: Nevo (2000) Cereal demand sampled individual level D_i from geographic specific CPS data
- Joint distribution of income, income-squared, age, child at home.

$$\beta_i = \bar{\beta} + \Pi D_i + \sigma \nu_i$$

- with enough observations on the same product it is possible to include fixed effects

$$\delta_{jt}(\Sigma) = x_{jt}\beta - \alpha p_{jt} + \underbrace{\xi_{jt}}_{\xi_j + \xi_t + \Delta\xi_{jt}}$$

- What does ξ_j mean in this context?
- What would ξ_t mean in this context?
- $\Delta\xi_{jt}$ is now the structural error term, this changes our identification strategy a little.

EXTENSIONS: MICRO DATA (PETRIN 2002), (MICROBLP 2004)

Suppose we had additional data on behavior of individuals (in addition to aggregate market).

■ Examples:

- ▶ For some customers have answer to “Which car would you have purchased if the car you bought was not available?”
- ▶ Demographic data on purchasers of a single brand.
- ▶ Full individual demographic and choice data.

EXTENSIONS: MICRO DATA (PETRIN 2002), (MICROBLP 2004)

- Previously we had moment conditions from orthogonality of structural error (ξ) and (X, Z) in order to form our GMM objective.

$$E[\xi_{jt}|x_{jt}, z_{jt}] = 0 \rightarrow E[\xi'[ZX]] = 0$$

- We can incorporate additional information using “micro-moments” or additional moment conditions to match the micro data.
 - ▶ $Pr(i \text{ buys } j | y_i \in [0, \$20K]) = c_1$
 - ▶ $Cov(d_i, s_{ijt}) = c_2$
 - ▶ Construct an additional error term ζ_1, ζ_2 and interact that with instruments to form additional moment conditions.
 - ▶ Econometrics get tricky when we have a different number of observations for $E[\zeta'[XZ]] = 0$ and $E[\xi'[XZ]] = 0$.

ADDING SUPPLY

- Economic theory gives us some additional powerful restrictions.
- We may want to impose $MR = MC$.
- Alternatively, we can ask – what is a good instrument for demand? **something from another equation** (ie: supply).

BERTRAND NASH PRICING

Consider the problem of firm f which sets prices p_j for products in the set \mathcal{J}_f :

$$\begin{aligned}\arg \max_{p \in \mathcal{J}_f} \pi_f(\mathbf{p}) &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}_f} (p_j - c_j) \cdot q_j(\mathbf{p}) \\ \rightarrow 0 &= q_j(\mathbf{p}) + \sum_{k \in \mathcal{J}_f} (p_k - c_k) \frac{\partial q_k}{\partial p_j}(\mathbf{p})\end{aligned}$$

We can re-write the FOC in matrix form:

$$q(\mathbf{p}) = \Omega(\mathbf{p}) \cdot (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{mc})$$

BERTRAND NASH PRICING (CONT)

It is helpful to define two $J_t \times J_t$ matrices. The first is an *ownership matrix*:

$$O_{(j,k)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } (j,k) \in \mathcal{J}_f \\ 0 & \text{for } (j,k) \notin \mathcal{J}_f \end{cases}$$

And the second is the matrix of demand derivatives $\tilde{\Omega}(\mathbf{p})$ with entries $\tilde{\Omega}_{(j,k)}(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{\partial q_j}{\partial p_k}(\mathbf{p})$. We are mainly interested in the Hadamard (element-wise) product of the two matrices $\Omega = O \odot \tilde{\Omega}$.

$$\Omega_{(j,k)}(\mathbf{p}, \theta) = \begin{cases} -\frac{\partial q_j}{\partial p_k}(\mathbf{p}, \theta) & \text{for } (j,k) \in \mathcal{J}_f \\ 0 & \text{for } (j,k) \notin \mathcal{J}_f \end{cases}$$

RECOVERING MARGINAL COSTS

Recover implied markups/ marginal costs, and assume a functional form for $mc_{jt}(x_{jt}, w_{jt})$.

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{mc}(\theta) &= \mathbf{p} - \Omega(\mathbf{p}, \theta)^{-1} \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{p}, \theta) \\ f(mc_{jt}) &= x_{jt}\gamma_1 + w_{jt}\gamma_2 + \omega_{jt}\end{aligned}$$

Which we can solve for ω_{jt} :

$$\omega_{jt} = f(\mathbf{p} - \Omega(\mathbf{p}, \theta)^{-1} \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{p}, \theta)) - x_{jt}\gamma_1 - w_{jt}\gamma_2$$

- $f(\cdot)$ is usually $\log(\cdot)$ or identity.
- I can use this to form additional moments: $E[\omega'_{jt} Z^s_{jt}] = 0$.
- I can just stack these up with the demand moments $E[\xi'_{jt} Z^d_{jt}] = 0$.
- Now I have $\dim(Z^d) + \dim(Z^s)$ moments altogether.
- This step is optional but can aid in identification (if you believe it).

SUPPLY SIDE AS INSTRUMENTS

- Instruments for demand depend on **exclusion restrictions**
- Where do instruments come from? Something omitted that appears in another equation.

$$p_{jt} = c_{jt}(w_{jt}, x_{jt}) + \frac{s_{jt}(\mathbf{p}_t)}{\left| \frac{\partial s_{jt}(\mathbf{p}_t)}{\partial p_{jt}} \right|} + \sum_{k \in \mathcal{J}_f} (p_k - c_k) \frac{\frac{\partial s_{kt}(\mathbf{p}_t)}{\partial p_{jt}}}{\left| \frac{\partial s_{jt}(\mathbf{p}_t)}{\partial p_{jt}} \right|}$$

1. Exogenous regressors x_{jt} .
2. Cost shifters: w_{jt} (hard to find in practice), Hausman instruments.
3. Markup shifters: $\frac{s_{jt}(\mathbf{p}_t)}{\frac{\partial s_{jt}(\mathbf{p}_t)}{\partial p_{jt}}}$
(function of $(p_j, x_j, \xi_j, p_{-j}, x_{-j}, \xi_{-j})$).

INSTRUMENTS AND IDENTIFICATION

- Recall the nested logit, where there are two separate endogeneity problems
 - ▶ **Price**: this is the familiar one!
 - ▶ **Nonlinear characteristics** σ this is the other one.
- We are doing nonlinear GMM: Start with $E[\xi_{jt}|x_{jt}, z_{jt}] = 0$ use $E[\xi'[ZX]] = 0$.
 - ▶ In practice this means that for valid instruments (x, z) any function $f(x, z)$ is also a valid instrument $E[\xi_{jt}f(x_{jt}, z_{jt})] = 0$.
 - ▶ We can use x, x^2, x^3, \dots or interactions $x \cdot z, x^2 \cdot z^2, \dots$
 - ▶ What is a reasonable choice of $f(\cdot)$?
 - ▶ Where does z come from?

- Once we have $\delta_{jt}(\theta)$ identification of linear parameters is pretty straightforward

$$\delta_{jt}(\theta) = \mathbf{x}_{jt}\beta - \alpha p_{jt} + \xi_j + \xi_t + \Delta\xi_{jt}$$

- This is either basic linear IV or panel linear IV.
- How are σ taste parameters identified?
 - ▶ Consider increasing the price of j and measuring substitution to other products k, k' etc.
 - ▶ If sales of k increase with p_j and $(x_j^{(1)}, x_k^{(1)})$ are similar then we increase the σ that corresponds to $x^{(1)}$.
 - ▶ Price is the most obvious to vary, but sometimes this works for other characteristics (like distance).
 - ▶ Alternative: vary the set of products available to consumers by adding or removing an option.

EXTENSIONS: SUPPLY MOMENTS

- We can also impose the Bertrand FOC as a set of additional moments.
- First parametrize marginal cost

$$\ln mc_{jt} = \gamma_1 x_{jt} + \gamma_2 w_{jt} + \omega_{jt}$$

- helpful to constrain MC to be positive always.
- Note that for any vector of prices p and demand parameters θ we can recover a unique vector of marginal costs (by solving the system of linear equations).
- Imposing the supply side only helps if we have information about the marginal costs / production function that we would like to impose
- Imposing these restrictions is helpful in constraining markups (so that implied MC are always positive, etc.).
- Misspecified functional forms for costs can cause problems!

- Common choices are average characteristics of other products in the same market $h(x_{-j,t})$. **BLP instruments**
 - ▶ Same firm $z_{1jt} = \bar{x}_{-j_f,t} = \frac{1}{|F_j|} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{F}_j} x_{kt} - \frac{1}{|F_j|} x_{jt}$.
 - ▶ Other firms $z_{2jt} = \bar{x}_{\cdot,t} - \bar{x}_{-j_f,t} - \frac{1}{J} x_{jt}$.
 - ▶ Plus regressors $(1, x_{jt})$.
 - ▶ Plus higher order interactions
- Technically linearly independent for large (finite) J , but becoming highly correlated.
 - ▶ Can still exploit variation in number of products per market or number of products per firm.
- Correlated moments \rightarrow “many instruments”.
 - ▶ May be inclined to “fix” correlation in instrument matrix directly.

DEMO: LOGIT/NESTED LOGIT / NEVO/BLP

