

# ECON0108 2022-23 Part 1

## Slides for Lecture 2

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# Review

- We ask: what can be known of the *structure* of an economic process given knowledge of the probability distribution of observables it produces?
- Pertinent question: distinct structures can deliver the same distribution of observables: *observational equivalence* (OE)
- A model's restrictions can deliver a situation in which each structure delivers a distinct distribution of outcomes.
- A model and distribution of observables,  $F_{YZ}$ , identifies the value of a structural feature  $\theta$  if in all model-admissible OE structures that deliver  $F_{YZ}$  the value of the structural feature is constant.
- A model and a distribution  $F_{YZ}$  identify the value of a structural feature  $\theta$  if there exists a functional  $\mathcal{G}(\cdot)$  such that for all the structures  $S$  admitted by the model

$$\theta(S) = a \implies \mathcal{G}(F_{YZ}^S) = a.$$

# Example

- Let  $F_{YZ}$  be the distribution of  $Y$  and  $Z$  delivered by a structure. Consider the incomplete model

$$\tilde{Y}_1 = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \tilde{Y}_2 + \tilde{U} \qquad \text{Cov}[\tilde{U}\tilde{Z}] = 0 = \text{Cov}[\tilde{U}\tilde{Z}]$$

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- Express in terms of variables which are *deviations about expected values*, e.g.  $Y_1 = \tilde{Y}_1 - E[\tilde{Y}_1]$ .

$$Y_1 = \alpha_1 Y_2 + U \qquad E[UZ] = 0$$

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- Express in terms of variables which are *deviations about expected values*, e.g.  $Y_1 = \tilde{Y}_1 - E[\tilde{Y}_1]$ .

$$Y_1 = \alpha_1 Y_2 + U \quad E[UZ] = 0$$

- There is - Wright (1928)

$$E[Y_1 Z] = \alpha E[Y_2 Z]$$

and  $\alpha$  may be *overidentified* because for every element  $Z_\ell$  of  $Z$  such that  $E[Y_2 Z_\ell] \neq 0$

$$\alpha = \frac{E[Y_1 Z_\ell]}{E[Y_2 Z_\ell]} = \mathcal{G}_\ell(F_{YZ})$$

# Identification in a treatment effects model

- Let  $D \in \{0, 1\}$  indicate whether (1) an unemployed person enrolls in a training programme.
- Let  $U_0 \in \{0, 1\}$  if there is (1) return to work within 1 year if **not** on a training programme ( $D = 0$ ).
- Let  $U_1 \in \{0, 1\}$  if there is (1) return to work within 1 year if **on** a training programme ( $D = 1$ ).
- We observe  $(Y, D)$  where

$$Y = DU_1 + (1 - D)U_0$$

- The **structural feature** of interest is the average treatment effect (ATE)

$$\text{ATE} : E[U_1] - E[U_0]$$

# Identification in a treatment effects model

- Define  $\lambda = P[D = 1]$ .
- By the Law of Total Probability

$$E[U_1] = E[U_1|D = 1] \times \lambda + E[U_1|D = 0] \times (1 - \lambda)$$

$$E[U_0] = E[U_0|D = 1] \times \lambda + E[U_0|D = 0] \times (1 - \lambda)$$

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- Objects in red cannot be deduced from  $F_{YD}$  but they are bounded, lying in  $[0, 1]$  - Manski (1990).

$$E[U_1|D = 1] \times \lambda \leq E[U_1] \leq E[U_1|D = 1] \times \lambda + (1 - \lambda)$$



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$$E[U_1|D = 1] \times \lambda \leq E[U_1] \leq E[U_1|D = 1] \times \lambda + (1 - \lambda)$$

$$-\lambda - E[U_0|D = 0] \times (1 - \lambda) \leq -E[U_0] \leq -E[U_0|D = 0] \times (1 - \lambda)$$

# Identification in a treatment effects model

- There are bounds on the ATT.

$$\begin{aligned} E[U_1|D=1] \times \lambda - \lambda - E[U_0|D=0] \times (1-\lambda) \\ \leq \text{ATT} \leq \\ E[U_1|D=1] \times \lambda + (1-\lambda) - E[U_0|D=0] \times (1-\lambda) \end{aligned}$$

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- Bounds can be estimated. Confidence regions can be constructed separately for the upper and lower bounds, Manski et al (1992).
- A confidence region for the bounding set can be calculated, Horowitz and Manski (2000), Chernozhukov, Hong and Tamer (2003).
- A confidence region for the value of the ATT can be calculated, Imbens and Manski (2004).

# Linear simultaneous equations models

- Equilibrium market model:  $Y_1$  is quantity traded at price  $Y_2$ .  $M$  (here 2) outcomes,  $K$  exogenous variables

$$\text{demand} : Y_1 = \alpha_1 Y_2 + Z' \beta_1 + U_1$$

$$\text{supply} : Y_2 = \alpha_2 Y_1 + Z' \beta_2 + U_2$$

- Notation:

$$Y' \equiv [ Y_1 \quad Y_2 ] \quad U' \equiv [ U_1 \quad U_2 ]$$

- Define

$$\Gamma_{M \times M} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad I_M - \Gamma_{M \times M} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\alpha_2 \\ -\alpha_1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad B_{K \times M} \equiv [ \beta_1 \quad \beta_2 ]$$

- There is

$$Y'(I_M - \Gamma) = Z'B + U'$$

# Linear simultaneous equations models

- There is

$$Y'(I_M - \Gamma) = Z'B + U'$$

and so

$$Y' = Z'\Pi + V \quad \Pi \equiv B(I_M - \Gamma)^{-1} \quad V = U'(I_M - \Gamma)^{-1}$$

- Normalizing  $E[U] = 0$  a zero uncorrelatedness restriction:  
 $E[ZU'] = 0 \implies E[ZV'] = 0$  implies

$$E[ZV'] = E[ZZ']\Pi$$

and the model identifies  $\Pi$  when  $\text{rank } E[ZZ'] = K$ .

$$\Pi = E[ZZ']^{-1}E[ZV'] = \mathcal{G}(F_{YZ})$$

- Elements of  $\Gamma$  and  $B$  are identified by this model if there are restrictions such that their values can be uniquely deduced from  $\Pi$ .

# Linear simultaneous equations models

- When can the unknown elements of  $\Gamma$  and  $B$  be deduced from  $\Pi = B(I_M - \Gamma)^{-1}$ ?

- There is

$$\Pi(I_M - \Gamma) = B$$

equivalently using,  $\text{vec}(DEF) = (F' \otimes D)\text{vec}(E)$

$$(I_M \otimes \Pi)\text{vec}(I_M - \Gamma) - \text{vec}(B) = 0$$

- With  $N_R$  linear restrictions and known constant matrices  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  and vector  $r$ :

$$R_1 \text{vec}(I_M - \Gamma) + R_2 \text{vec}(B) = r$$

there is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_M \otimes \Pi & -I_{MK} \\ R_1 & R_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{vec}(I_M - \Gamma) \\ \text{vec}(B) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ r \end{bmatrix}$$



# Linear simultaneous equations models

- There is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_M \otimes \Pi & -I_{MK} \\ R_1 & R_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{vec}(I_M - \Gamma) \\ \text{vec}(B) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ r \end{bmatrix}$$

which can be solved for  $\text{vec}(I_M - \Gamma)$  and  $\text{vec}(B)$  under the:

- Rank** condition

$$\text{rank} \begin{bmatrix} I_M \otimes \Pi & -I_{MK} \\ R_1 & R_2 \end{bmatrix} = M^2 + MK \quad \begin{bmatrix} MK \times M^2 & MK \times MK \\ N_R \times M^2 & N_R \times MK \end{bmatrix}$$

which can hold only under the:

- Order** condition:

$$\begin{aligned} MK + N_R &\geq M^2 + MK \\ \Rightarrow N_R &\geq M^2 \quad \Rightarrow N_R - M \geq M(M - 1) \end{aligned}$$

so e.g. in each equation  $M - 1$  exclusion restrictions,

# Conditional moment restrictions

- The linear model for scalar  $Y$  and  $k \times 1$  vector  $X$  with a conditional mean independence restriction is.

$$Y = X'\beta + U \quad E[U|X = x] = 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{R}_X$$

which implies

$$E[Y|X = x] = x'\beta$$

- Suppose there are  $n$  values of  $x$  in  $\mathcal{R}_X$ . Define arrays:

$$\underset{(n \times k)}{X_n} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \\ \vdots \\ x_n' \end{bmatrix} \quad \underset{(n \times 1)}{\bar{Y}_n} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} E[Y|X = x_1] \\ E[Y|X = x_2] \\ \vdots \\ E[Y|X = x_n] \end{bmatrix} = X_n \beta$$

that is:

$$\bar{Y}_n = X_n \beta \quad \implies \quad X_n' \bar{Y}_n = X_n' X_n \beta$$

- So, an identifying correspondence for  $\beta$  is:

$$\beta = [X_n' X_n]^{-1} [X_n' \bar{Y}_n]$$

# Conditional moment restrictions: GLS

- The linear model for scalar  $Y$  and  $k \times 1$  vector  $X$

$$Y = X'\beta + U \quad E[U|X = x] = 0 \quad x \in \mathcal{R}_X$$

which implies

$$E[Y|X = x] = x'\beta$$

- There is:

$$\bar{Y}_n = X_n\beta$$

which implies for any  $k \times n$  matrix  $H(X_n)$ :

$$\begin{matrix} H(X_n) & \bar{Y}_n & = & H(X_n) X_n & \beta \\ k \times n & n \times 1 & & k \times n & n \times k & k \times 1 \end{matrix}$$

- If  $k \times k$  matrix  $H(X_n)X_n$  has rank  $k$  then

$$\beta = [H(X_n)X_n]^{-1}[H(X_n)\bar{Y}_n]$$

- For example let  $H(X_n) = X_n'\Omega_n^{-1}$  then

$$\beta = [X_n'\Omega_n^{-1}X_n]^{-1}[X_n'\Omega_n^{-1}\bar{Y}_n]$$

# Identification via extremum conditions

- For  $n \times n$  positive definite  $\Omega_n$  define

$$b_* \equiv \arg \min_b (\bar{Y}_n - X_n b)' \Omega_n^{-1} (\bar{Y}_n - X_n b)$$

- The solution is  $b_* = [X_n' \Omega_n^{-1} X_n]^{-1} [X_n' \Omega_n^{-1} \bar{Y}_n]$  and we just showed

$$\beta = [X_n' \Omega_n^{-1} X_n]^{-1} [X_n' \Omega_n^{-1} \bar{Y}_n]$$

- So there is the identifying correspondence:

$$\beta = \arg \min_b (\bar{Y}_n - X_n b)' \Omega_n^{-1} (\bar{Y}_n - X_n b)$$

# Maximum likelihood

- Discrete random variable  $Y$  with support  $\mathcal{R}_Y$  has probability mass function  $p(y, \theta)$  for some value  $\theta_0$  of  $\theta$ .

$$P[Y = y] = p(y, \theta)$$

where  $p(y, \theta) \neq 0$  is a twice differentiable function of  $\theta$ ,  $\mathcal{R}_Y$  does not vary with  $\theta$ .

- With independent realizations of  $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_N$  with

$$P[Y_i = y] = p(y, \theta)$$

the maximum likelihood estimator

$$\hat{\theta} \equiv \arg \max_{\theta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \log(p(Y_i, \theta))$$

is, under a concavity restriction, an analogue estimator built on the identifying correspondence

$$\arg \max_{\theta} E[\log p(Y, \theta)] = \theta_0 \text{ when } P[Y = y] = p(y, \theta_0)$$

# Maximum likelihood

- We now show why is there this identifying correspondence.

$$\arg \max_{\theta} E[\log p(Y, \theta)] = \theta_0 \text{ when } P[Y = y] = p(y, \theta_0)$$

- When  $P[Y = y] = p(y, \theta_0)$

$$E[\log p(Y, \theta)] = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{R}_Y} \log p(y, \theta) p(y, \theta_0)$$

so we must show  $\theta_0$  satisfies

$$\nabla_{\theta} E[\log p(Y, \theta)] = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{R}_Y} \nabla_{\theta} \log p(y, \theta)|_{\theta=\theta_0} p(y, \theta_0) = 0$$

- This is true because

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{R}_Y} \nabla_{\theta} \log p(y, \theta)|_{\theta=\theta_0} p(y, \theta_0) &= \sum_{y \in \mathcal{R}_Y} \frac{\nabla_{\theta} p(y, \theta)}{p(y, \theta)} \Big|_{\theta=\theta_0} p(y, \theta_0) \\ &= \sum_{y \in \mathcal{R}_Y} \nabla_{\theta} p(y, \theta)|_{\theta_0} \\ &= \nabla_{\theta} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{R}_Y} p(y, \theta)|_{\theta_0} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

# Maximum likelihood

- We have shown that, when  $P[Y = y] = p(y, \theta_0)$ ,  $\theta_0$  satisfies the first order condition

$$\nabla_{\theta} E[\log p(Y, \theta)] = 0$$

- If the Hessian  $\nabla_{\theta\theta'} E[\log p(Y, \theta)]$  is negative definite for all  $\theta$  there is the identifying correspondence

$$\theta_0 = \arg \max_{\theta} E[L(Y, \theta) | Y \sim p(y, \theta_0)]$$

- We have shown that the maximum likelihood estimator

$$\hat{\theta} \equiv \arg \max_{\theta} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^N \log(p(Y_i, \theta))$$

is an analogue estimator.

# Complete models

- First study some **complete models**.
  - Complete models admit only structures which deliver a **unique** value of outcomes given values of observed and unobserved exogenous variables.
- Examples -
  - single equation models with a single endogenous variable,
  - simultaneous equations models delivering unique solutions for endogenous variables,
  - models of strategic interaction with a unique solution.
- We will consider,
  - recursive, “triangular” equation systems - popular in microeconometrics - control function methods.
  - closely related models incorporating conditional independence restrictions, and treatment effect models,



# Triangular models

- Consider **complete** simultaneous equations models for **endogenous** outcomes  $X$  and  $Y$  with **triangular** structure

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= h(X, U) \\ X &= g(Z, V) \end{aligned}$$

“triangular” because endogenous  $Y$  does not appear in the equation for endogenous  $X$ .

# Triangular models

- Consider **complete** simultaneous equations models for **endogenous** outcomes  $X$  and  $Y$  with **triangular** structure

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“triangular” because endogenous  $Y$  does not appear in the equation for endogenous  $X$ .

- In a linear simultaneous equations model with this recursive structure

$$\begin{aligned}Y &= \alpha + \beta X + U \\ X &= \gamma + \delta Z + V\end{aligned}$$

the matrix of coefficients on the endogenous variables is **triangular**.

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y & X \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\beta & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & Z \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \gamma \\ 0 & \delta \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} U & V \end{bmatrix}$$

# Triangular models

- We will study models for **endogenous** outcomes  $X$  and  $Y$  with structural equations as follows:

- parametric Gaussian model,

$$Y = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X + U$$

- nonparametric, non-Gaussian additive latent variate model,

$$Y = h(X) + U$$

- nonparametric, nonadditive latent variate model,

$$Y = h(X, U)$$

with  $h$  monotone in scalar  $U$

# Triangular Gaussian model

- $Y$  and  $X$  are generated by a triangular Gaussian model:

$$Y = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X + U$$

$$X = g(Z) + V$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} U \\ V \end{bmatrix} \sim N\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{uu} & \sigma_{uv} \\ \sigma_{uv} & \sigma_{vv} \end{bmatrix}\right) \quad \begin{bmatrix} U \\ V \end{bmatrix} \perp\!\!\!\perp Z$$

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- Conditional distribution of  $U$  given  $V$  and  $Z$

$$U|V=v, Z=z \sim N\left(\frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}}v, \sigma_{uu} - \frac{\sigma_{uv}^2}{\sigma_{vv}}\right)$$

# Triangular Gaussian model

- $Y$  and  $X$  are generated by a triangular Gaussian model:

$$Y = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X + U$$

$$X = g(Z) + V$$

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- Conditional distribution of  $U$  given  $V$  and  $Z$

$$U|V = v, Z = z \sim N \left( \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} v, \sigma_{uu} - \frac{\sigma_{uv}^2}{\sigma_{vv}} \right)$$

- The expected value of  $Y$  given  $V$  and  $Z$ .

$$E[Y|V = v, Z = z] = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 (g(z) + v) + \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} v$$

Given  $Z = z$ , there is  $V = v$  if and only if  $X = x \equiv g(z) + v$ , so:

$$E[Y|X = x, Z = z] = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x + \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} (x - g(z))$$

# Triangular Gaussian model

- Structures admitted by this model have:

$$E[Y|X = x, Z = z] = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x + \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} (x - g(z)) \quad E[X|Z = z] = g(z)$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y|X = x, Z = z] &= \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x + \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} (x - E[X|Z = z]) \\ &= \alpha_0 + \left( \alpha_1 + \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} \right) x - \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} E[X|Z = z] \end{aligned}$$

# Triangular Gaussian model

- Structures admitted by this model have:

$$E[Y|X = x, Z = z] = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x + \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} (x - g(z)) \quad E[X|Z = z] = g(z)$$

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- Consider two values  $z'$  and  $z''$  and define

$$x' = E[X|Z = z'] \quad x'' = E[X|Z = z'']$$

and note that

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y|X = x', Z = z'] &= \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x' \\ E[Y|X = x'', Z = z''] &= \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x'' \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{E[Y|X = x'', Z = z''] - E[Y|X = x', Z = z']}{E[X|Z = z''] - E[X|Z = z']}$$



# Triangular Gaussian model: analogue estimation

- Structures admitted by this model have:

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y|X = x, Z = z] &= \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x + \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} (x - E[X|Z = z]) \\ &= \alpha_0 + \left( \alpha_1 + \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} \right) x - \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} E[X|Z = z] \end{aligned}$$

- Analogue estimation involves estimating  $E[X|Z = z]$  then:
- Estimating e.g. by OLS the coefficients in

$$Y_i = \alpha_0 + \left( \alpha_1 + \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} \right) X_i - \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} E[\widehat{X|Z = Z_i}] + \varepsilon_i, \quad i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$

or

$$Y_i = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_i + \frac{\sigma_{uv}}{\sigma_{vv}} \left( X_i - E[\widehat{X|Z = Z_i}] \right) + \varepsilon_i, \quad i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$