Hansel: An Econometrics Plug-In for Deducer

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This presentation discusses the development of a **Deducer** plug-in, referred here to as **Hansel**, that can deal with techniques typically found in undergraduate courses in econometrics, along with some more advanced econometric techniques (the final package name should be something like **DeducerHansel**). Currently the **Deducer** package (FellowsI [1]) provides an exceptional interface that deals with a number of areas including generalized linear models. Thus it can already deal with ordinary least squares, weighted least squares, probit models and logit models. However it is not currently well-suited for dealing with time-series data, panel data, or censored data, or for dealing with instrumental variables. That is where **Hansel** helps. The following areas are among those covered by **Hansel**: two-stage least squares; tobit models; smoothing, filtering, and forecasting; unit root testing; vector autoregressive models; cointegration testing; and various panel data and spatial data techniques. **Hansel** can deal with the time series classes ts, zoo, and xts in addition to data frames. **Hansel** is similar in ease to the commercial software *EViews* and another open-source econometric software package called *gretl*, which is written in C. **Hansel** is not only useful for students in econometrics courses, but also provides an opportunity for those unacquainted with *R* to quickly get down to the business of using it for estimation. This can provide a gateway for deeper use of *R*.

References

[1] FellowsI (2012). Deducer: A Data Analysis GUI for R. *Journal of Statistical Software 49*(*8*), 1-15.