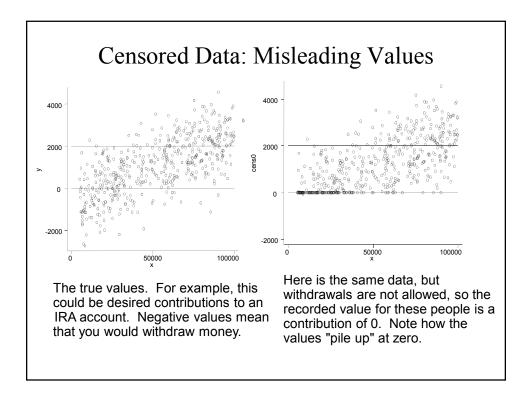
Limited Dependent Variables

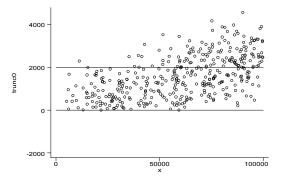
Categorical and Limited
Dependent Variables
Paul A. Jargowsky

Limited Dependent Variables

- Some continuous variables are affected by limits
 - Values pile up at the limit (censoring)
 - Highest SAT score is 800
 - IRA contributions limits
 - Missing values based on limits (truncation)
 - Minimum wage (people who would earn below the minimum are unemployed)
 - People who want to contribute less than \$0 to IRA (in other words take some out)
- These conditions can cause bias in the coefficients, often severe. The bias is towards 0 (no effect).



Truncation: Values are Missing (Selected on Value of the DV)



Here we have truncation at zero. People who can't afford to make an IRA contribution of at least \$1 are simply not in the dataset. Similarly, people who can't get a job of at least minimum wage are unemployed, and have no observed wage.

The Data (tobit.dta)

Censored means that the data contains "lies," that is a value is recorded but it is not the "true" or desired value. Usually this is because the data are top-coded or bottom-coded or some limit prevents the value from going higher or lower.

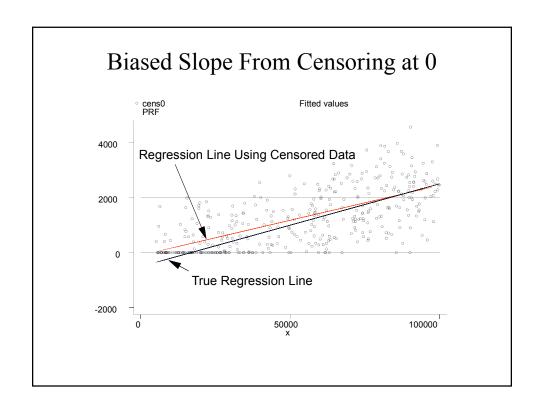
Truncated means that the data above or below a limit are missing altogether. In this case we have some information (the x values), but in many cases the truncated individuals are not even in the data set at all.

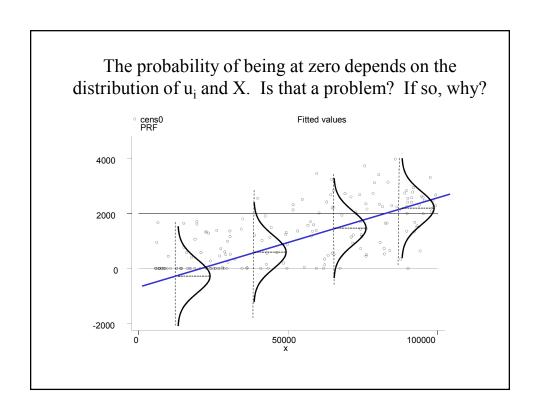
PRF:
$$Y_i = -500 + 0.03X_i + u_i$$
 $u_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$ $\sigma = 1000$

. list x y cens0 cens2000 censboth trunc0 trunc2k ira, noobs nod

×	У	cens0	cens2000	censboth	trunc0	trunc2k	ira
43186.99	-298.3602	0	-298.3602	0		-298.3602	
56510.91	1562.408	1562.408	1562.408	1562.408	1562.408	1562.408	1562.408
86320.5	2235.013	2235.013	2000	2000	2235.013		2000
53107.77	1359.011	1359.011	1359.011	1359.011	1359.011	1359.011	1359.011
57319.36	1698.989	1698.989	1698.989	1698.989	1698.989	1698.989	1698.989
16162.89	-1248.756	0	-1248.756	0		-1248.756	
81442.45	2244.707	2244.707	2000	2000	2244.707		2000
34482.09	-1011.442	0	-1011.442	0		-1011.442	
29066.62	510.9071	510.9071	510.9071	510.9071	510.9071	510.9071	510.9071
83317.7	3132.799	3132.799	2000	2000	3132.799		2000
27959.77	-319.5778	0	-319.5778	0		-319.5778	
49503.07	-715.4042	0	-715.4042	0		-715.4042	
89647.03	1998.137	1998.137	1998.137	1998.137	1998.137	1998.137	1998.137
5897.91	949.1215	949.1215	949.1215	949.1215	949.1215	949.1215	949.1215

OLS Regression on Censored Data The unbiased estimate! reg y x SS df Number of obs =Source | F(1, 498) = 430.70 = 0.0000 408705226 1 408705226 Prob > F Mode1 Residual | 948931.901 R-squared 0.4638 472568086 498 Adj R-squared = 0.4627 Total | 881273312 499 1766078.78 Root MSE 974.13 [95% Conf. Interval] coef. Std. Err. P>|t| уΙ 20.753 .0319565 .0015398 0.000 .0289312 .0349819 хI -607.3557 92.22465 -6.586 0.000 -788.5531 -426.1584 reg cens0 x OLS on the censored data is biased!! df Number of obs =Source | SS MS 500 F(1, 498) =399.45 Model | 257524250 257524250 Prob > F 0.0000 Residual | 321062454 498 644703.723 R-squared 0.4451 Adj R-squared = 0.4440 Root MSE Total | 578586704 499 1159492.39 = 802.93cens0 | Coef. Std. Err. t P>|t| [95% Conf. Interval] .0253667 .0012692 19.986 0.000 .022873 .0278603 χl -90.35696 76.0168 -1.1890.235 -239.7101 58.99619 _cons |



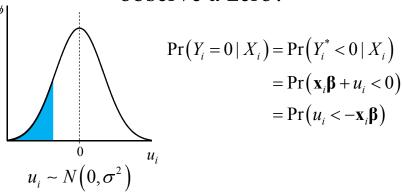


Need a Probability Statement to Use Maximum Likelihood

$$Y_{i}^{*} = \mathbf{x}_{i} \mathbf{\beta} + u_{i} \qquad u_{i} \sim N(0, \sigma^{2}) \qquad Y_{i} = \begin{cases} Y_{i}^{*} & \text{if } Y_{i}^{*} \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } Y_{i}^{*} < 0 \end{cases}$$

We are going to need a two-piece likelihood function!

Given X, what is the probability we observe a zero?



So this is the probability of censoring given X, as a function of the betas and sigma. Can we convert this problem to a standard normal?

Getting to the Standard Normal

$$\operatorname{var}(cX) = c^2 \operatorname{var}(X)$$

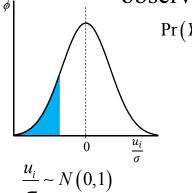
$$\operatorname{var}\left(\frac{u_i}{\sigma}\right) = \operatorname{var}\left(\frac{1}{\sigma}u_i\right) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\operatorname{var}\left(u_i\right) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2} = 1$$

So if $u_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$, then $\frac{u_i}{\sigma} \sim N(0, 1)$, which is standard normal.

$$\Pr(Y_i = 0 \mid X_i) = \Pr(u_i < -\mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})$$

$$= \Pr\left(\frac{u_i}{\sigma} < \frac{-\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma}\right) = \Phi\left(\frac{-\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma}\right)$$

Given X, what is the probability we observe a zero?



$$\Pr(Y_{i} = 0 \mid X_{i}) = \Pr(Y_{i}^{*} < 0 \mid X_{i})$$

$$= \Pr(\mathbf{x}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta} + u_{i} < 0)$$

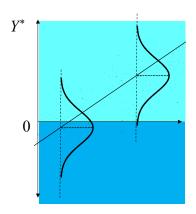
$$= \Pr(u_{i} < -\mathbf{x}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta})$$

$$= \Pr\left(\frac{u_{i}}{\sigma} < \frac{-\mathbf{x}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma}\right)$$

$$= \Phi\left(\frac{-\mathbf{x}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma}\right)$$

So this is the probability of censoring given X, as a function of the betas and sigma, making use of the machinery of the standard normal.

What about the continuous portion of the distribution of Y?



For
$$Y_i > 0$$
, $P_i = ???$

The probability of any *exact* value in a continuous distribution is zero, but some points are more likely than others. We need to use the density function, which gives the relative likelihood of any value.

Normal Density Functions

$$w_i \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) \rightarrow f(w) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{w_i - \mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$

$$z_i \sim N(0,1) \rightarrow f(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}z^2} \equiv \phi(z)$$

The disturbance term is a hybrid.

$$u_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2) \rightarrow f(u_i) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{u_i}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$

The Continuous Part

$$f(u_i) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{u_i}{\sigma}\right)^2} = \frac{1}{\sigma} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{u_i}{\sigma}\right)^2} \right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sigma} \phi \left(\frac{u_i}{\sigma}\right)$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sigma} \phi \left(\frac{Y_i - \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma}\right)$$

So, for
$$Y_i > 0$$
, $P_i = \frac{1}{\sigma} \phi \left(\frac{Y_i - \mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma} \right)$

Putting the Pieces Together

$$\mathbf{\mathcal{L}} = \prod_{i=1}^{n} [P_i]$$

$$= \prod_{Y_i=0} \left[\Phi\left(\frac{-\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma}\right) \right] \prod_{Y_i>0} \left[\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{Y_i - \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma}\right) \right]$$

Censored

Uncensored

$$\ln \mathbf{\mathcal{L}} = \sum_{Y_i=0} \ln \left[\Phi \left(\frac{-\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma} \right) \right] + \sum_{Y_i>0} \ln \left[\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi \left(\frac{Y_i - \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma} \right) \right]$$

Now apply maximum likelihood to estimate β and σ .

Tobit Analysis

. tobit cens0 x, 11(0)

Tobit estimates

Number of obs 500 LR chi2(1) 305.98 Prob > chi2 0.0000 Pseudo R2 0.0437

 $Log \ likelihood = -3348.696$

cens0 | Coef. Std. Err. [95% Conf. Interval] .0313236 .0016149 19.397 0.000 .0281508 .0344964 _cons | -553.965 100.5348 -5.510 0.000 -751.4887 -356.4412 (Ancillary parameter) _se | 946.287 34.75281

Obs. summary: 105 left-censored observations at cens0<=0

395 uncensored observations

Censoring, continued 100000 The maximum allowable Censoring from above and below. contribution is 2000. So for Note how data piles up at the people who desire to contribute limits. more, we observe 2000. Does OLS give biased results for top censoring?

Bias from Top Censoring

. reg cens2000 x

Source	ss	df	MS		Number of obs = 500 F(1, 498) = 391.21
Model Residual	258948923 329634450	1 498	258948923 661916.566		Prob > F = 0.0000 R-squared = 0.4400 Adi R-squared = 0.4388
Total	588583373	499	1179525.8		Root MSE = 813.58
cens2000	Coef.	Std. E	rr. t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
x _cons	.0254367 -449.9395	.0012 77.024		0.000 0.000	.02291 .0279635 -601.2733 -298.6057

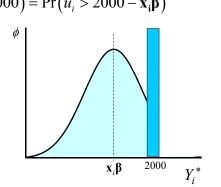
Likelihood for Top Censoring

$$\Pr(Y_i = 2000 \mid X_i) = \Pr(\mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta} + u_i > 2000) = \Pr(u_i > 2000 - \mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta})$$

$$= \Pr(\frac{u_i}{\sigma} > \frac{2000 - \mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma})$$

$$= 1 - \Pr(\frac{u_i}{\sigma} < \frac{2000 - \mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma})$$

$$= 1 - \Phi(\frac{2000 - \mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma})$$



The Fix using Tobit

. tobit cens2000 x, u1(2000) Tobit regression Number of obs = LR chi2(1) = 301.28 Prob > chi2 = 0.0000 Log likelihood = -3145.3849Pseudo R2 0.0457 Coef. Std. Err. t P>|t| [95% Conf. Interval] x | .0332636 .0017547 18.96 0.000 .0298162 .0367111 _cons | -645.1107 97.89438 -6.59 0.000 -837.4467 -452.7748 /sigma | 1006.317 38.64256 930.3951 1082.239 0 left-censored observations Obs. summary: 366 uncensored observations 134 right-censored observations at cens2000>=2000

OLS Regression on Doubly Censored Data

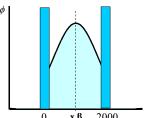
. reg censboth \mathbf{x} Number of obs =Source | SS F(1, 498) = 403.79 Prob > F = 0.0000Model | 142157758 1 142157758 Residual | 175324537 498 352057.303 Prob > F = 0.0000 R-squared = 0.4478 Adj R-squared = 0.4467 Total | 317482295 499 636237.064 Root MSE = 593.34censboth | Coef. Std. Err. t P>|t| [95% Conf. Interval] .0188469 .0009379 20.09 0.000 67.05927 56.1741 1.19 0.233 .0170041 .0206896 хI _cons | -43.30818 177.4267

Regression slope is biased toward zero. Intercept is also biased. Standard error of the estimate (sigma) biased toward zero.

Double Censoring

Censoring above at 2000 & below at 0.

$$Y_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } Y_i^* \le 0 \\ Y_i^* & \text{if } 0 < Y_i^* < 2000 \\ 2000 & \text{if } Y_i^* \ge 2000 \end{cases}$$



How many pieces in the likelihood function?

"Fixing" Upper and Lower Censoring with Tobit

. tobit censboth x, 11(0) u1(2000)

Tobit estimates

Number of obs = 500 LR chi2(1) = 294.89 Prob > chi2 = 0.0000

0.0591

Pseudo R2

Log likelihood = -2345.4808

censboth | Coef. Std. Err. t P>|t| [95% Conf. Interval]

x | .0328139 .0019722 16.638 0.000 .0289391 .0366888

_cons | -614.9721 112.6902 -5.457 0.000 -836.3778 -393.5664

_se | 985.9899 48.16598 (Ancillary parameter)

Obs. summary: 105 left-censored observations at censboth<=0

261 uncensored observations

134 right-censored observations at censboth>=2000

Interpreting the results

What is the desired contribution for a person with \$50,000 in income?

$$\hat{Y}_{i}^{*} = -615 + 0.0328X_{i} \quad \hat{\sigma} = 986$$
For $X_{i} = 50,000$: $\hat{Y}_{i}^{*} = ?$

$$\hat{Y}_{i}^{*} = \mathbf{x}_{i}\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$$

$$= -615 + 0.0328(50,000)$$

$$= \$1,025$$

But this is not the only possible outcome! Given the disturbance term, any given individual my desire to contribute more or less than the predicted amount.

Probability of a Censored Outcome

$$\widehat{\Pr}(Y_i = 0 \mid X_i = 50000) = ?$$

$$\Phi\left(\frac{-\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\mathbf{\beta}}}{\hat{\sigma}}\right) = \Phi\left(\frac{-1025}{986}\right)$$

$$= \Phi(-1.04)$$

$$= 0.15$$

$$\widehat{\Pr}(Y_i = 2000 \mid X_i = 50000) = ?$$

$$1 - \Phi\left(\frac{2000 - \mathbf{x}_i \hat{\mathbf{\beta}}}{\hat{\sigma}}\right) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{2000 - 1025}{986}\right)$$

$$= 1 - \Phi(0.99)$$

$$= 0.16$$

Marginal Effect of X

Effect on desired contribution:

$$Y_i^* = \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta} + u_i$$
 $\frac{\partial Y_i^*}{\partial X_k} = ?$ β_k ...just like OLS!

Effect on probability of being censored:

$$P_0 = \Pr(Y_i = 0 \mid X_k) = \Phi\left(\frac{-\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma}\right) \qquad \frac{\partial P_0}{\partial X_k} = \phi\left(\frac{-\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma}\right) \left(\frac{-\beta_k}{\sigma}\right)$$

$$P_{2000} = \Pr(Y_i = 2000 \mid X_k) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{2000 - \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma}\right)$$

$$\frac{\partial P_{2000}}{\partial X_k} = -\phi \left(\frac{2000 - \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma}\right) \left(\frac{-\beta_k}{\sigma}\right) = \phi \left(\frac{2000 - \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{\beta}}{\sigma}\right) \left(\frac{\beta_k}{\sigma}\right)$$

Beron: Two Limit Tobit

The amount people are willing to pay is cs_i . Assume people pay only between \$1 and the amount due, $csdue_i$. If they desire to pay less than zero, they are observed at \$0. If the would be willing to pay more, they still don't pay more than $csdue_i$.

$$cspaid_{i} = \begin{cases} csdue_{i} & \text{if } cs_{i}^{*} \geq csdue_{i} \\ cs_{i}^{*} & \text{if } 0 \geq cs_{i}^{*} > csdue_{i} \\ 0 & \text{if } cs_{i}^{*} \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Note the subscript "i" – *the upper limit varies* depending on the child support order in a particular case. Therefore:

$$\mathbf{\mathcal{L}} = \prod_{Y_i = 0} \left[\Phi\left(\frac{-\mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma}\right) \right] \prod_{\substack{0 < \\ cspaid_i \\ cspaid_i}} \left[\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{cspaid_i - \mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma}\right) \right] \prod_{\substack{cspaid_i = \\ csdue_i}} \left[1 - \Phi\left(\frac{csdue_i - \mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma}\right) \right]$$

Beron's Notation (page 656)

Beron defines
$$\frac{\mathbf{x}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma} = z$$
, so....
$$\boldsymbol{\mathcal{L}} = \prod_{\substack{Y_{i}=0}} \left[\Phi\left(-z\right) \right] \prod_{\substack{0 < cspaid_{i} \\ cspaid_{i} < csdue_{i}}} \left[\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi \left(\frac{cspaid_{i}}{\sigma} - z \right) \right] \prod_{\substack{cspaid_{i}=cspaid_{i} < csdue_{i}}} \left[1 - \Phi\left(\frac{csdue_{i}}{\sigma} - z \right) \right]$$

Can be estimate using "interval regression" -- intreg

intreg depvar1 depvar2 [indepvars] [if] [in] [weight] [, options]

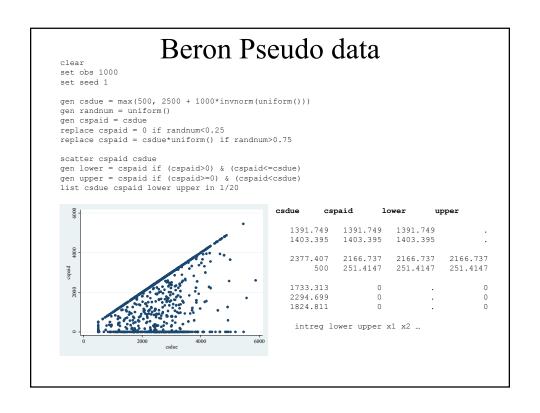
depvar1 and depvar2 should have the following form:

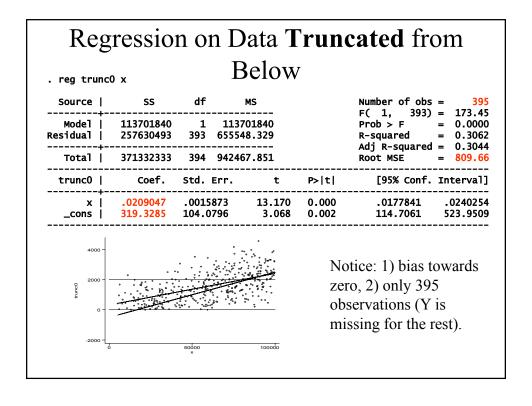
Type of data	d€	epvar1	depvar2
point data interval data left-censored data	a = [a,a] [a,b] (-inf,b]	a a	a b b
right-censored data	[a,inf)	a	

Intreg:

You need to create two dependent variables to specify they range which includes the true value: {Lower < DV < Upper}

```
gen lower = cspaid if (cspaid>0) & (cspaid<=csdue)
gen upper = cspaid if (cspaid>=0) & (cspaid<csdue)</pre>
```





Truncated Normal Density Function

Normal curve after truncating at z = -1and renormalizing

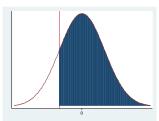
$$f(z|z>-1) = \frac{\phi(z)}{1-\Phi(-1)} = \frac{\phi(z)}{\Phi(1)} = \frac{\phi(z)}{0.8413}$$

Example: what is the probability of drawing a spade from a deck of cards? How about a deck of cards with all the hearts removed?

$$\Pr(spade) = \frac{1}{4} = 0.25$$

$$\Pr(spade \mid no \ hearts) = \frac{0.25}{0.75} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Truncation at 0 Likelihood Function



$$P_{i} = \frac{\frac{1}{\sigma}\phi\left(\frac{Y_{i} - \mathbf{x}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma}\right)}{1 - \Phi\left(\frac{-\mathbf{x}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma}\right)} = \frac{\frac{1}{\sigma}\phi\left(\frac{Y_{i} - \mathbf{x}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma}\right)}{\Phi\left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_{i}\boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma}\right)}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \left[P_{i} \right] = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \left[\frac{\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi \left(\frac{Y_{i} - \mathbf{x}_{i} \boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma} \right)}{\Phi \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_{i} \boldsymbol{\beta}}{\sigma} \right)} \right]$$
Only one piece. All the observed points are in the continuous part of the distribution.

Only one piece. All the

Estimating a "Truncit"

help for truncreg (manual: [R] truncreg)

noconstant offset(varname) marginal at(matname) robust cluster(varname) score(newvarlist) level(#) constraints(numlist) noskip nolog maximize_options]

. truncreg trunc0 x, 11(0)

Truncated regression
Limit: lower = 0
upper = +inf
Log likelihood = -3169.2288

Number of obs = 395 Wald chi2(1) = 126.25 Prob > chi2 = 0.0000

	trunc0	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf	. Interval]
eq1	x _cons	.029533 -422.5624	.0026284 199.0235	11.24 -2.12	0.000 0.034	.0243814 -812.6412	.0346845 -32.48358
sigma	_cons	939.7842	47.10231	19.95	0.000	847.4654	1032.103

OLS on Upper Truncation

. reg trunc2k x

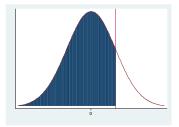
Source	ss	df	MS
Model Residual	105189846 259003007	1 364	105189846 711546.723
Total	364192853	365	997788.639

Number of obs = 366 F(1, 364) = 147.83 Prob > F = 0.0000 R-squared = 0.2888 Adj R-squared = 0.2869 Root MSE = 843.53

trunc2k	Coef.				-	Interval]
x	.0206337 -412.3078	.001697	12.16	0.000	.0172964 -581.7125	.0239709

The bias is even worse than with censoring.

Upper Truncation at 2000 Likelihood Function



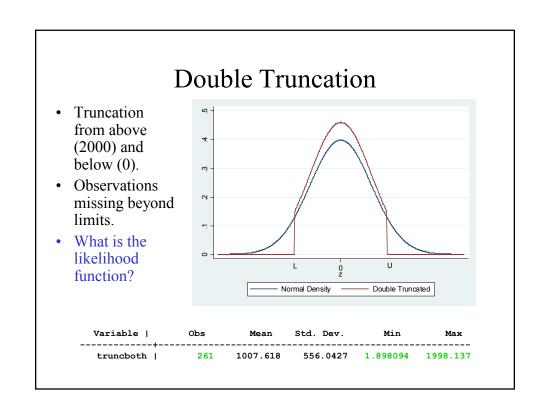
Fix using truncreg

. truncreg trunc2k x, u1(2000)
(note: 0 obs. truncated)

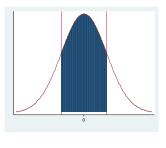
Truncated regression

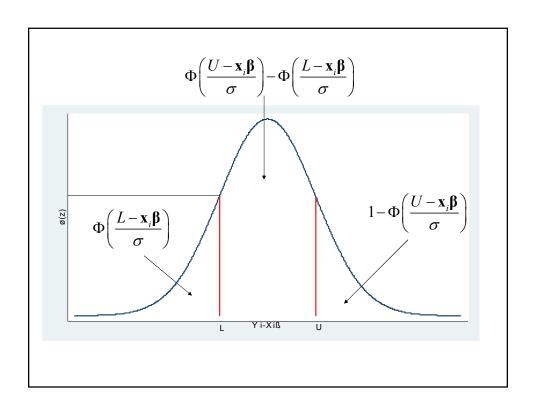
Limit: lower = -inf upper = 2000 Log likelihood = -2939.6585 Number of obs = 366 Wald chi2(1) = 98.32 Prob > chi2 = 0.0000

trunc2k		Std. Err.			-	Interval]
x _cons	.0330026 -607.5885	.0033283	9.92	0.000 0.000	.0264793 -845.9091	.0395258 -369.2678
•	1027.542	58.65219	17.52	0.000	912.5859	1142.498



Likelihood for Double Truncation





		R	esults			
. reg truncbot						
Source	SS	d† 	MS 		Number of obs = $F(1, 259) = 3$	
Model	9067352	1	9067352		Prob > F = 0	.000
Residual					R-squared = 0	
Total	80387704.6				Adj R-squared = 0 Root MSE = 5	
truncboth	Coef.	Std. Er	r. t	P> t	[95% Conf. Inte	rva]
x	.0075317	.001312	?5 5.74	0.000	.0049471 .010	0116
aana l	620 047					
_cons	620.947	74.8043	34 8.30	0.000	473.6449 768	. 249
. truncreg tru Limit: lower	uncboth x, 11(= (= 2000	(0) u1(2()		0.000	473.6449 768 Number of obs = wald chi2(1) = Prob > chi2 = 0	26 5.3
. truncreg tru Limit: lower upper Log likelihood	incboth x, 110 = (0) = 2000 d = -1967.4219	(0) u1(20)))	000)		Number of obs = Wald chi2(1) =	26 5.3 .021
. truncreg tru Limit: lower upper Log likelihooc truncboth	record x, 110 record = 2000 decord = -1967.4219 Coef.	(0) u1(20))) Std. Er .011753	000) z 34 2.30	P> z 0.021	Number of obs = Wald chi2(1) = Prob > chi2 = 0 [95% Conf. Inter-	26 5.3 .021 rval
. truncreg tru Limit: lower upper Log likelihooc truncboth	record x, 110 record = 2000 decord = -1967.4219 Coef.	(0) u1(20))) Std. Er .011753	000) z 34 2.30	P> z 0.021	Number of obs = wald chi2(1) = Prob > chi2 = 0	26 5.3 .021 rval

IRA Data

What is the likelihood for the IRA data analysis (truncated at 0, censored at 2000)? Write it down...