



FACULTY OF ECONOMICS  
AND MANAGEMENT

# Simulated Multivariate Random Effects Probit Models for Unbalanced Panels

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# Overview

## Introduction

## Random Effects Model

## Illustration

- Simulated Multivariate Random Effects Probit Model for Unbalanced Panels
- Robustness check I
- Robustness check II

## Extending to Autocorrelated Errors

# Introduction

Dynamic models:

- Past outcome ( $y_{it-1}$ )  $\Rightarrow$  current outcome ( $y_{it}$ )
  - Stigmatization of unemployment (Arulampalam et al., 2000)
  - Stepping-stone effect of low-paid employment (Stewart, 2007)

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- Time-invariant error term (Heckman 1981a)

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  - Stigmatization of unemployment (Arulampalam et al., 2000)
  - Stepping-stone effect of low-paid employment (Stewart, 2007)
- Time-invariant error term (Heckman 1981a)
- *Initial condition problem* (Heckman 1981b)

# Introduction

Several Stata commands exist:

- **redprob** or **redpace** (Stewart 2006a,b)
- Based on (adaptive) Gaussian-Hermite quadratures or on Maximum Simulated Likelihood (*MSL*)
- Restricted to balanced panels

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2. Estimator can easily be adjusted, e.g. to allow for autocorrelated errors
3. High accuracy
4. Lower computational time

## Random Effects Model

The latent variable  $y_{it}^*$  is specified for  $t \geq 2, \dots, T$  by:

$$y_{it}^* = \gamma y_{it-1}^* + x_{it}'\beta + \alpha_i + u_{it}. \quad (1)$$

The observed binary outcome variable is defined as:

$$y_{it} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_{it}^* > 0, \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

The composite error term is  $\nu_{it} = \alpha_i + u_{it}$  with  $u_{it} \sim N(0, 1)$  and  $\alpha_i \sim N(0, \sigma_\alpha^2)$ . The composite error term takes the following equi-correlation structure over time (with  $t \neq s$ ):

$$\text{corr}(\nu_{it}, \nu_{is}) = \sigma_\alpha^2. \quad (3)$$

## Random Effects Model

Following the approach of Heckman (1981b) for the initial condition problem:

$$y_{i1}^* = z_{i1}'\pi + \epsilon_i, \quad (4)$$

Correlation of the error term:

$$\epsilon_i = \theta\alpha_i + u_{i1}. \quad (5)$$

The correlation of the composite error term between the initial period and the subsequent ones is:

$$\text{corr}(\epsilon_i, \nu_{it}) = \theta\sigma_\alpha^2, \quad (6)$$

## Random Effects Model

The variance-covariance matrix takes following form:

$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} \theta^2 \sigma_\alpha^2 + 1 & & & & \\ \theta \sigma_\alpha^2 & \sigma_\alpha^2 + 1 & & & \\ \theta \sigma_\alpha^2 & \sigma_\alpha^2 & \sigma_\alpha^2 + 1 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \\ \theta \sigma_\alpha^2 & \sigma_\alpha^2 & \sigma_\alpha^2 & \dots & \sigma_\alpha^2 + 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (7)$$

## Random Effects Model

The likelihood-contribution of each individual is:

$$\Phi_{iT} = (k_{i1}z'_{i1}\pi, k_{i2}x'_{i2}\beta, \dots, k_{iT}x'_{iT}\beta, k_{i1}k_{i2}\Omega_{2,1}, k_{i1}k_{i3}\Omega_{3,1}, \dots, k_{iT-1}k_{iT}\Omega_{T,T-1}). \quad (8)$$

There are  $T$  sign variables  $k_{it}$ , with:

$$k_{it} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_{it} = 1, \\ -1 & \text{else.} \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

## Random Effects Model

The log likelihood to be maximized is the sum of the individual log likelihood contributions:

$$\ln L = \ln \sum_{i=1}^N \Phi_{iT}(\mu; \Omega), \quad (10)$$

Note:  $\mu = (k_{i1}z'_{i1}\pi, \dots, k_{iT}x'_{iT}\beta)$ ,  $\Omega = (k_{i1}k_{i2}\Omega_{2,1}, \dots, k_{iT-1}k_{iT}\Omega_{T,T-1})$ .



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- Using Halton draws, which are generated with `mdraws`
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Hence, the logarithm of the simulated likelihood is:

$$\ln SL = \ln \frac{1}{R} \sum_{r=1}^R \sum_{i=1}^N \Phi_{iT}^r(\mu; \Omega). \quad (11)$$

# Illustration

Creating an artificial data set:

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- Time-invariant error term ( $\alpha$ ), explanatory ( $x_1, x_2, x_3$ ) and instrumental variables (Instrument), idiosyncratic shock ( $u_i$ ) and a variable called Random
- Time-invariant error term has a normalization of  $\sim N(0, 2)$ , all other variables are standard normal distributed, i.e.  $\sim N(0, 1)$

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Creating an artificial data set:

- 1000 individuals, 5 time periods
- Time-invariant error term ( $\alpha$ ), explanatory ( $x_1, x_2, x_3$ ) and instrumental variables ( $\text{Instrument}$ ), idiosyncratic shock ( $u_i$ ) and a variable called `Random`
- Time-invariant error term has a normalization of  $\sim N(0, 2)$ , all other variables are standard normal distributed, i.e.  $\sim N(0, 1)$
- The variable `Random` is a temporary identifier which helps to construct an unbalanced panel

## Illustration

```
set obs 1000  
gen id=_n  
expand 5  
bys id: gen tper=_n
```

## Illustration

```
set obs 1000
gen id=_n
expand 5
bys id: gen tper=_n

matrix m = (0,0,0,0,0,0,0)
matrix sd = (sqrt(2),1,1,1,1,1,1)
drawnorm alpha Instrument x1 x2 x3 u_i Random,
n(5000) means(m) sds(sd) seed(987654321)
replace Random=normal(Random)
```

## Illustration

```
sort id tper
by id:  replace alpha=alpha[1]
by id:  replace Random=Random[1]
drop if tper==5 & Random>.85
drop if tper>=4 & Random<.10
bys id (tper):  gen nwave=_N
```

## Illustration

The latent variable  $y^*$  is constructed in the following manner:

$$y_{i1}^* = 0.7 + 0.35x_1 + 0.66x_2 + 0.25x_3 + 1.5x_{\text{Instrument}} + \theta\alpha_i + u_{i1},$$

where  $x_{\text{Instrument}}$  is an instrumental variable which will only have an effect on the outcome of the initial period and not on the subsequent ones. For the initial period it is assumed that  $\theta$  takes on the value 1. For the subsequent periods  $t = 2, \dots, 5$  the following relationship is defined:

$$y_{it}^* = 0.3 + 0.46y_{t-1} + 0.25x_1 + 0.75x_2 + 0.55x_3 + \alpha_i + u_{it}.$$

The observable variable  $y_{it}$  becomes 1 if  $y_{it}^* > 0$  and 0 else. Furthermore, the variable  $y_{\text{lag}}$  is generated which takes the value of the outcome variable of the previous period.

## Illustration

```
sort id (tper)
local theta=1
by id: gen ystar=.35*x1 + .66*x2 + .25*x3 +
1.5*Instrument + .7 + 'theta'*alpha + u_i if _n==1
by id: gen y=cond(ystar>0,1,0) if _n==1
```



## Illustration

```
sort id (tper)
local theta=1
by id: gen ystar=.35*x1 + .66*x2 + .25*x3 +
1.5*Instrument + .7 + 'theta'*alpha + u_i if _n==1
by id: gen y=cond(ystar>0,1,0) if _n==1
```

```
sort id (tper)
forvalues i=2/5{
by id: replace ystar =.25*x1 + .75*x2 + .55*x3 +
.46*y[_n-1] + .35 + alpha + u_i if _n=='i'
by id: replace y=cond(ystar>0,1,0) if _n=='i'
}
sort id (tper)
by id: gen ylag=cond(_n>1,y[_n-1],.)
```

## Illustration

```
matrix p=(2,3,5,7,11)
```

```
mdraws, neq(5) draws(100) prefix(z) primes(p)
```

```
burn(15)
```

*Created 100 Halton draws per equation for 5  
dimensions. Number of initial draws dropped per  
dimension = 15 . Primes used: 2 3 5 7 11*

## Illustration

```
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```
mdraws, neq(5) draws(100) prefix(z) primes(p)
```

```
burn(15)
```

*Created 100 Halton draws per equation for 5  
dimensions. Number of initial draws dropped per  
dimension = 15 . Primes used: 2 3 5 7 11*

```
global dr = r(n_draws)
```

```
global T_max=5
```

```
global T_min=3
```

# Stata Syntax

```
cap prog drop mpheckman.d0
program define mpheckman.d0
  args todo b lnf
  tempname sigma theta
  tempvar beta pi lnsigma lntheta T fi fi6 fi5 fi4 fi3 FF
  mlevel 'beta' = 'b', eq(1)
  mlevel 'pi' = 'b', eq(2)
  mlevel 'lnsigma' = 'b', eq(3) scalar
  mlevel 'lntheta' = 'b', eq(4) scalar
```

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  mlevel 'beta' = 'b', eq(1)
  mlevel 'pi' = 'b', eq(2)
  mlevel 'lnsigma' = 'b', eq(3) scalar
  mlevel 'lntheta' = 'b', eq(4) scalar

  scalar 'sigma'=(exp('lnsigma'))^2
  scalar 'theta'=exp('lntheta')
```

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cap prog drop mpheckman.d0
program define mpheckman.d0
  args todo b lnf
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  tempvar beta pi lnsigma lntheta T fi fi6 fi5 fi4 fi3 FF
  mlevel 'beta' = 'b', eq(1)
  mlevel 'pi' = 'b', eq(2)
  mlevel 'lnsigma' = 'b', eq(3) scalar
  mlevel 'lntheta' = 'b', eq(4) scalar

  scalar 'sigma'=(exp('lnsigma'))^2
  scalar 'theta'=exp('lntheta')

  qui:{
  by idcode: gen double 'T' = (_n == _N)
  sort idcode (year)
  tempvar k1 zb1
  by idcode: gen double 'k1' = (2*$ML_y1[1]) - 1
  by idcode: gen double 'zb1' = 'pi'[1]
  forvalues r = 2/$T_max {
  tempvar k'r' xb'r'
  by idcode: gen double 'k'r' = (2*$ML_y1['r']) - 1
  by idcode: gen double 'xb'r' = 'beta'['r']
  }
}
```

# Stata Syntax

```
forvalues s=$T_min/$T_max{  
  tempname V's' C's'  
}  
mat 'V$T_max'=I($T_max)*('sigma'+1)  
mat 'V$T_max'[1,1]='theta'^2*'sigma'+1
```

# Stata Syntax

```
forvalues s=$T_min/$T_max{
  tempname V's' C's'
}
mat 'V$T_max'=I($T_max)*('sigma'+1)
mat 'V$T_max'[1,1]='(theta'^2)*'sigma'+1

  forvalues row=2/$T_max{
mat 'V$T_max'['row',1] = ('theta'*'sigma')
mat 'V$T_max'[1,'row'] = 'V$T_max'['row',1]
local s = 'row'-1
forvalues col=2/'s'{
mat 'V$T_max'['row','col'] = 'sigma'
mat 'V$T_max'['col','row'] = 'V$T_max'['row','col']
}
}
```



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forvalues s=$T_min/$T_max{
  tempname V's' C's'
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mat 'V$T_max'=I($T_max)*('sigma'+1)
mat 'V$T_max'[1,1]=('theta'^2)*'sigma'+1

  forvalues row=2/$T_max{
mat 'V$T_max'['row',1] = ('theta'*'sigma')
mat 'V$T_max'[1,'row'] = 'V$T_max'['row',1]
local s = 'row'-1
forvalues col=2/'s'{
mat 'V$T_max'['row','col'] = 'sigma'
mat 'V$T_max'['col','row'] = 'V$T_max'['row','col']
}
}

  forvalues r = $T_min/$T_max{
mat 'V'r'' = 'V$T_max'[1..'r',1..'r']
mat 'C'r'' = cholesky('V'r'')
}
}
```

# Stata Syntax

```
egen double 'fi5' = mvnp('zb1' 'xb2' 'xb3' 'xb4' 'xb5') if nwave==5, /*  
*/ chol('C5') dr($dr) prefix(z) signs('k1' 'k2' 'k3' 'k4' 'k5') adoonly  
egen double 'fi4' = mvnp('zb1' 'xb2' 'xb3' 'xb4') if nwave==4, /*  
*/ chol('C4') dr($dr) prefix(z) signs('k1' 'k2' 'k3' 'k4') adoonly  
egen double 'fi3' = mvnp('zb1' 'xb2' 'xb3') if nwave==3, /*  
*/ chol('C3') dr($dr) prefix(z) signs('k1' 'k2' 'k3') adoonly
```

# Stata Syntax

```
egen double 'fi5' = mvnp('zb1' 'xb2' 'xb3' 'xb4' 'xb5') if nwave==5, /*  
*/ chol('C5') dr($dr) prefix(z) signs('k1' 'k2' 'k3' 'k4' 'k5') adoonly  
egen double 'fi4' = mvnp('zb1' 'xb2' 'xb3' 'xb4') if nwave==4, /*  
*/ chol('C4') dr($dr) prefix(z) signs('k1' 'k2' 'k3' 'k4') adoonly  
egen double 'fi3' = mvnp('zb1' 'xb2' 'xb3') if nwave==3, /*  
*/ chol('C3') dr($dr) prefix(z) signs('k1' 'k2' 'k3') adoonly  
  
gen double 'fi'=cond(nwave==5,'fi5',cond(nwave==4,'fi4','fi3'))  
gen double 'FF' = cond(!'T',0,ln('fi'))  
}  
mlsum 'lnf' = 'FF' if 'T'  
if ('todo'==0 | 'lnf'>=.) exit  
  
end
```

## Initial values

```
qui:  probit y ylag x1 x2 x3 if tper > 1  
matrix b0=e(b)  
qui:  probit y x1 x2 x3 Instrument if tper==1  
matrix b1=e(b)  
matrix b12 = (-.5,-.5)  
matrix b0 = (b0 , b1 , b12)
```

## Stata output

```
ml model d0 mpheckman_d0 (y: y = ylag x1 x2 x3) (Init_Period: y = x1  
x2 x3 Instrument) /lnsigma /lntheta, title(Multivariate RE Probit, $dr  
Halton draws) missing
```

```
ml init b0, copy
```

```
ml max  
(output omitted)
```

# Stata output

Multivariate RE Probit, 100 Halton draws

Number of obs = 4689

Log likelihood = -2099.9876

Wald chi2(4) = 460.84

Prob > chi2 = 0.0000

	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P>  z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
y						
ylag	.4598806	.0813738	5.65	0.000	.300391	.6193703
x1	.3074512	.0357443	8.60	0.000	.2373936	.3775087
x2	.7470318	.0427175	17.49	0.000	.663307	.8307565
x3	.5663907	.0390205	14.52	0.000	.489912	.6428694
_cons	.3250167	.0821635	3.96	0.000	.1639792	.4860542
Init_Period						
x1	.3800084	.0733688	5.18	0.000	.2362083	.5238086
x2	.7001715	.0858233	8.16	0.000	.5319609	.868382
x3	.3487215	.0737431	4.73	0.000	.2041876	.4932553
Instrument	1.518743	.1419662	10.70	0.000	1.240495	1.796992
_cons	.705813	.0944883	7.47	0.000	.5206193	.8910066
Insigma						
_cons	.3597355	.0681636	5.28	0.000	.2261373	.4933338
Intheta						
_cons	-.0438069	.1375578	-0.32	0.750	-.3134153	.2258016

# Stata output

Transforming of `lnsigma` and `lntheta` to derive  $\sigma_\alpha^2$  and  $\theta$ :

```

.diparm lnsigma, function((exp(@))^2) deriv(2*(exp(@))*(exp(@)))
label("Sigma2") prob

.diparm lntheta, function(exp(@)) deriv(exp(@)) label("Theta") prob

```

Sigma^2	2.053347	.2799271	7.34	0.000	1.571884	2.682281
Theta	.9571388	.131662	7.27	0.000	.7309463	1.253327

# Robustness check I

Robustness check:

- Applying different sets of primes; picked randomly in the range between 2, ..., 97
- 10 estimations run

⇒ Results only differ slightly!



## Robustness check II

Robustness check:

- Results compared with those of the command `redpce`
- Identical data set created, but balanced this time
- Estimations are run on the basis of 20, 50 and 100 draws (Halton draws and pseudo-random numbers)
- Indicator for efficiency: log-likelihood and computational time

# Robustness check II

Results:

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## Robustness check II

Results:

1. When 100 draws applied all estimators derive similar coefficients and log-likelihood
2. Computational time lower in the multivariate random effects probit model (between  $\sim 28\%$  and  $\sim 38\%$ )
3. When 20 Halton draws are applied, multivariate random effects probit model is more accurate

## Extending to Autocorrelated Errors

Assumption by now is that the idiosyncratic shock is autocorrelated so that it follows a  $AR(1)$ -process:

$$u_{it} = \delta u_{it-1} + \epsilon_{it}.$$

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Assumption by now is that the idiosyncratic shock is autocorrelated so that it follows a  $AR(1)$ -process:

$$u_{it} = \delta u_{it-1} + \epsilon_{it}.$$

The generalized variance-covariance matrix takes on following form:

$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} \theta^2 \sigma_\alpha^2 + 1 & & & & & & \\ \theta \sigma_\alpha^2 + \delta & \theta^2 \sigma_\alpha^2 + 1 & & & & & \\ \theta \sigma_\alpha^2 + \delta^2 & \sigma_\alpha^2 + \delta & \theta^2 \sigma_\alpha^2 + 1 & & & & \\ \theta \sigma_\alpha^2 + \delta^3 & \sigma_\alpha^2 + \delta^2 & \sigma_\alpha^2 + \delta & \theta^2 \sigma_\alpha^2 + 1 & & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & & \\ \theta \sigma_\alpha^2 + \delta^{T-1} & \sigma_\alpha^2 + \delta^{T-2} & \sigma_\alpha^2 + \delta^{T-3} & \sigma_\alpha^2 + \delta^{T-4} & \dots & \theta^2 \sigma_\alpha^2 + 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Adjustments:



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## Extending to Autocorrelated Errors

Adjustments:

- Introducing the parameter  $\rho$ , which refers to the autocorrelated error term
- Parameter  $\rho$  will be integrated into the Stata syntax as the inverse hyperbolic tangent of  $\rho$
- The variance-covariance matrix must be adjusted according to the adjusted  $\Omega$

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### Findings:

- The findings go along with those of the `redpce` command, especially when 500 pseudo-random numbers are applied
- The log likelihood of the multivariate random effects probit model with autocorrelated errors only changes slightly when using 100 instead of 50 Halton quasi-random numbers

## Extending to Autocorrelated Errors

### Findings:

- The findings go along with those of the `redpce` command, especially when 500 pseudo-random numbers are applied
- The log likelihood of the multivariate random effects probit model with autocorrelated errors only changes slightly when using 100 instead of 50 Halton quasi-random numbers
- Accuracy can already be found for a low level of Halton draws and computational time can be saved when a multivariate random effects probit model is applied



**Thank you  
for your  
attention!!!**



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