

# Identification of dynamic panel logit models with fixed effects

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## Introduction

- Dynamic panel logit models with fixed effects:

$$Y_{it} = 1\{\alpha_i + \beta Y_{it-1} + \gamma' X_{it} \geq \epsilon_{it}\}, \quad t = 1, 2, \dots, T$$

where  $\epsilon_{it}$  are iid Logit error and  $\alpha_i$  is a scalar random variable with unknown distribution  $Q(\cdot | \mathbf{x}, y_0)$ .

- This is a workhorse model in industrial organization in Economics, often used to analyze consumer purchase decisions, firm entry/exit decisions, or binary longitudinal data in general.
- Data:  $y_{it}$  and  $x_{it}$  for  $t = 0, \dots, T$ .
- Parameter of interest:  $\theta = \{\beta, \gamma\}$ , distribution  $Q$  or some functionals of  $Q$ .
- We may also introduce more lags (e.g. AR(2) model)

$$Y_{it} = 1\{\alpha_i + \beta_1 Y_{it-1} + \beta_2 Y_{it-2} + \gamma' X_{it} \geq \epsilon_{it}\}$$

# Introduction

Key challenges:

- Incidental parameter problem due to the presence of  $\alpha_i$ : if we include individual dummies,  $\beta$  will be inconsistently estimated.
- Functional of  $Q$ :  $Q$  is not point identified due to binary nature of  $Y_{it}$ .

## Introduction

- **Chamberlain (1985)**: (without  $x$ ) Point identification of  $\beta$  and use conditional MLE with sufficient statistics  $S(\mathbf{y}_i) = \{y_{i0}, \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} y_{it}, y_{iT}\}$ ,

$$P(\mathbf{y}_i | y_{i0}, \beta) = \underbrace{P(\mathbf{y}_i | S(\mathbf{y}_i), \beta)}_{\text{free from } \alpha_i} \int P(S(\mathbf{y}_i) | \beta, \alpha_i) dQ(\alpha_i | y_{i0})$$

- **Honoré and Kyriazidou (2000)**: extends sufficient statistics idea to allow covariates under some assumptions on  $x$  [i.e.,  $x_2 = x_3$  for  $T = 3$ ]
- Sufficient Statistics method fails to identify  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  for AR(2) model.
- If the panel length is very short (i.e.  $T = 2$ ), sufficient statistics also fails to identify  $\beta$ .

# Introduction

- In this paper, we conduct an identification analysis for both parameters and  $Q$ .
- We show that the identification problem has a connection to the *truncated moment problem* in mathematics [dates back to Chebyshev 1874].
- **Truncated moment problem**: Given the first  $K$  raw moments of a random variable  $X$ , to characterize the set of probability measure that  $X$  can have: existence and uniqueness.

## Introduction

Using this connection, we show two types of results:

- Identified set for structural parameters  $\theta$  is characterized by a set of moment equality and inequality conditions.
- The number of moment equality conditions may be substantially more than those found by sufficient statistics approach.
  - e.g. moment equality conditions available for AR(2) model, more moment conditions available for AR(1) model with  $x$ .
- The inequality conditions can sharpen the identified set for  $\theta$  when they are not point identified by moment equality conditions alone (i.e. AR(1) model with time trend)
- Identified set of the latent distribution  $Q$  is characterized by a finite vector of *generalized moments*, and the number of moments grows linearly in  $T$ .
- Provide sufficient conditions on point identification of functionals of  $Q$ .

We then provide estimation and inference method with these new identification results.

# Roadmap

- A simple example with  $T = 2$ .
- Identification of  $\theta$  and  $Q$  for AR(1) model with general  $T$ .
- Identification of a class of functionals of  $Q$ .
- Examples: time trend
- Empirical Illustration

## Identification Analysis

- Let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be the set containing all choice histories  $\mathbf{y}^1, \dots, \mathbf{y}^J$  with  $J = 2^T$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_j &= \mathbb{P}((Y_1 \dots Y_T) = \mathbf{y}^j | Y_0 = y_0, \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}, \alpha) \\ &= \mathcal{L}_j(\alpha, \theta, \mathbf{x}, y_0) = \prod_{t=1}^T \frac{\exp(\alpha + \beta y_{t-1} + \gamma \mathbf{x}_t)^{y_t}}{1 + \exp(\alpha + \beta y_{t-1} + \gamma \mathbf{x}_t)} \end{aligned}$$

- Denote the probability vector  $\mathcal{P}_x = (\mathcal{P}_1, \dots, \mathcal{P}_J)$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  the vector that stacks  $\mathcal{L}_j$ .
- Let  $A = \exp(\alpha)$  with distribution  $Q(A|y_0, \mathbf{x})$  supported on  $\mathcal{A} = [0, \infty)$ .
- Define the set of probability measures with support  $\mathcal{A}$ :

$$\mathcal{Q}(\theta, y_0, \mathbf{x}) = \left\{ Q : \mathcal{P}_x = \int_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{L}(A, \theta, \mathbf{x}, y_0) dQ \right\}$$

Definition (Identified Set): The identified set of  $\theta$  is

$$\Theta^* = \{ \theta : \mathcal{Q}(\theta, y_0, \mathbf{x}) \neq \emptyset, \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X} \}$$



Simplest example:  $T = 2$  without  $x$ 

- Consider  $T = 2$ , no covariates and fix  $y_0 = 0$ .
- We have  $2^T = 4$  distinct elements in  $\mathcal{Y}$  and

$$\mathcal{L}(A, \beta) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{P}((0, 0)|A, \beta) \\ \mathbb{P}((1, 0)|A, \beta) \\ \mathbb{P}((0, 1)|A, \beta) \\ \mathbb{P}((1, 1)|A, \beta) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{(1+A)^2} \\ \frac{A}{1+A} \frac{1}{1+AB} \\ \frac{A}{(1+A)^2} \\ \frac{A}{1+A} \frac{AB}{1+AB} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{g(A, \beta)} \begin{pmatrix} (1 + AB) \\ A(1 + A) \\ A(1 + AB) \\ A^2 B(1 + A) \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $B = \exp(\beta)$  and  $g(A, \beta) = (1 + AB)(1 + A)^2$ .

- The right hand side consists polynomials of  $A$  up to degree  $2T - 1 = 3$ .

Simplest example:  $T = 2$  without  $x$ 

In particular, for any  $(\beta, Q)$

$$\int_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{L}(A, \beta) dQ(A) = \int_{\mathcal{A}} G(\beta) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ A \\ A^2 \\ A^3 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{g(A, \beta)} dQ(A) = G(\beta) \int_{\mathcal{A}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ A \\ A^2 \\ A^3 \end{pmatrix} d\bar{Q}(A | \beta)$$

with

$$G(\beta) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & B & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & B & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & B & B \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $d\bar{Q}(A | \beta) = \frac{1}{g(A, \beta)} dQ(A)$ .

- $Q$  is a probability measure on  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $1/g(A, \beta) \in (0, 1]$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ ,
- $\bar{Q}$  is a non-negative Borel measure on  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Simplest example:  $T = 2$  without  $x$ 

- Identifying condition:  $\beta \in \Theta^* \Leftrightarrow \exists Q : \mathcal{P} = G(\beta) \int_{\mathcal{A}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ A \\ A^2 \\ A^3 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{g(A, \beta)} dQ(A)$ .
- Given  $G(\beta)$  full rank,  $\beta \in \Theta^* \Leftrightarrow \exists \bar{Q}$ :

$$\mathbf{r}(\beta) := G(\beta)^{-1} \mathcal{P} = \int_{\mathcal{A}} (1 \quad A \quad A^2 \quad A^3)' d\bar{Q}(A | \beta)$$

- $\beta \in \Theta^* \Leftrightarrow$  the observed vector  $\mathbf{r}(\beta)$  is a truncated moment sequence of some non-negative measure.

Definition (Moment Space): The moment space of any non-negative Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathcal{A}$  is:

$$\mathcal{M}_K = \left\{ \mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^{K+1} : \text{there exists } \mu \text{ such that } r_k = \int_{\mathcal{A}} A^k d\mu(A), \text{ for all } k = 0, 1, \dots, K \right\}$$

In this simple  $T = 2$  example:  $\Theta^* = \{\beta : \mathbf{r}(\beta) \in \mathcal{M}_3\}$ .

## Moment Space

Moment space has unique geometric structure:

- $\mathcal{M}_K$  is a closed convex cone in  $\mathbb{R}^{K+1}$ .
- The moment space  $\mathcal{M}_K$  does not take up the entire  $\mathbb{R}^{K+1}$  since moments have dependency:
  - Cauchy-Schwartz inequality:  $\mathbb{E}[A^2] \geq \mathbb{E}[A]^2$
  - More generally Hölder's inequality has to hold.
- This implies:  $\mathbf{r}(\beta) \in \mathcal{M}_3$  provides nontrivial constraints on  $\beta$ .
- Using the result of Karlin and Studden (1966), the restrictions boils down to nonnegativity of two matrices (Hankel matrices):

$$\begin{pmatrix} r_0(\beta) & r_1(\beta) \\ r_1(\beta) & r_2(\beta) \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} r_1(\beta) & r_2(\beta) \\ r_2(\beta) & r_3(\beta) \end{pmatrix}$$

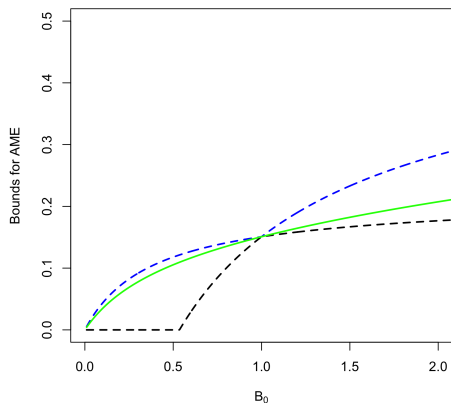
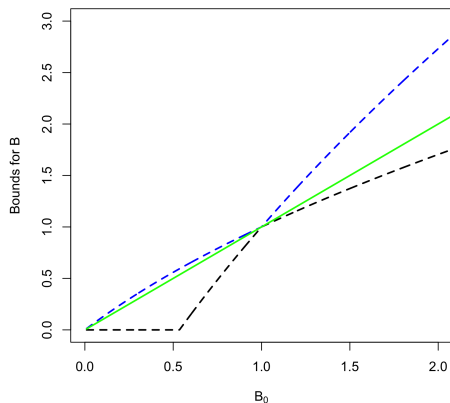
Simplest example:  $T = 2$  without  $x$ 

- Non-negativity of square matrices  $\Leftrightarrow$  non-negativity of all principal minors: this gives us *moment inequalities* for  $\beta$ .
- $\beta \in \Theta^* \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{r}(\beta) \geq 0$ ,  $r_0(\beta)r_2(\beta) - r_1(\beta)^2 \geq 0$  and  $r_1(\beta)r_3(\beta) - r_2(\beta)^2 \geq 0$ .
- For  $T = 2$  and no  $x$ :  $\mathcal{P} := (p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3) = \mathbb{P}(Y = \mathbf{y} | Y_0 = 0)$ :

$$\mathbf{r}(\beta) := \begin{pmatrix} r_0(\beta) \\ r_1(\beta) \\ r_2(\beta) \\ r_3(\beta) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} p_0 - \frac{B^2}{B-1}p_1 + \frac{B}{B-1}p_2 \\ \frac{Bp_1 - p_2}{B-1} \\ \frac{p_2 - p_1}{B-1} \\ \frac{p_1 - p_2}{B-1} + \frac{p_3}{B} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Illustration: $T = 2$ , no $x$ , $y_0 = 0$

- DGP:  $\alpha_i \sim \frac{1}{2}\delta_{-2} + \frac{1}{2}\delta_1$ , we vary  $\exp(\beta_0)$  from 0.01 to 2.
- Left: identified set for  $\exp(\beta)$



What does the analysis say about identification of distribution  $Q$  and its functionals?

## Identified set for $Q$

- Recall

$$\mathbf{r}(\beta) = G(\beta)^{-1} \mathcal{P} = \int_{\mathcal{A}} (1 \quad A \quad A^2 \quad A^3)' \frac{1}{g(A, \beta)} dQ$$

- The identified set of the distribution  $Q$  is characterized by the *generalized moments*:

$$\mathcal{Q}(\beta, y_0) = \left\{ Q : \mathbf{r}(\beta) = \int_{\mathcal{A}} (1 \quad A \quad A^2 \quad A^3)' \frac{1}{g(A, \beta)} dQ \right\}$$

for each  $\beta \in \Theta^*$ .

- $\mathbf{r}(\beta)$  is the dimension reduction from the data information  $\mathcal{P}$  to the information on  $Q$ .



## General $T$

With the results from the simple example, we now generalize:

- The simple example reveals a **polynomial structure** of the dynamic panel logit model with fixed effects, which generalizes to any finite  $T$  with or without  $x$ .

## General Results for AR(1) model

- For general  $T$ , for each given  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $y_0$ , we can construct  $g(A, \theta, \mathbf{x}, y_0)$  as a polynomial of  $A$  of degree  $2T - 1$  such that:

$$\mathcal{L}(A, \theta, \mathbf{x}, y_0) = G(\theta, \mathbf{x}) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ A \\ \vdots \\ A^{2T-1} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{g(A, \theta, \mathbf{x}, y_0)}$$

where  $G(\theta, \mathbf{x})$  is of dimension  $2^T \times 2T$ .

- When  $T > 2$ , we obtain moment equalities in addition to moment inequalities. [Because  $G$  is of dimension  $2^T \times 2T$ ].
  - The number of moment equalities available is determined by the dimension of the **left null space** of  $G(\theta)$ .
  - The form of the moment equalities can be constructed analytically with the basis of the left null space of  $G(\theta)$ .
- Define the set (**left null space of  $G(\theta, \mathbf{x})$** ):

$$\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{x}}(\theta) = \{\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{x}}(\theta) \in \mathbb{R}^{2^T} : \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{x}}(\theta)' G(\theta, \mathbf{x}) = 0\}$$

- Moment equality conditions:  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{x}}(\theta)_j 1\{Y = y^j, X = \mathbf{x}\}] = 0, \forall j$ .

General  $T$ 

Theorem 2: If  $G(\theta, \mathbf{x})$  is full rank, then  $\theta \in \Theta^*$  if and only if the following conditions hold:

- (a) For all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ , we have  $\mathbf{v}_x(\theta)' \mathcal{P}_x = 0$  for all  $\mathbf{v}_x(\theta) \in \mathbf{M}_x(\theta)$ .
- (b) For all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ , we have  $\mathbf{r}(\theta, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{M}_{2T-1}$ , where  $\mathbf{r}(\theta, \mathbf{x}) = H(\theta, \mathbf{x}) \mathcal{P}_x$  and  $H(\theta, \mathbf{x})$  is a matrix of dimension  $2T \times 2T$  such that  $H(\theta, \mathbf{x}) G(\theta, \mathbf{x}) = I_{2T}$ .

- Condition (a) provides moment equalities and condition (b) provides moment inequalities.
- The number of non-redundant moment equalities available:  
 $2^T - \text{rank}(G) = 2^T - 2T$ .

► Details on Inequalities

## Identification of $Q$

For general  $T$ ,

$$\mathcal{Q}(\theta, y_0, \mathbf{x}) = \left\{ Q : \mathbf{r}(\theta, \mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathcal{A}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & A & \dots & A^{2T-1} \end{pmatrix}' \frac{1}{g(A, \theta, \mathbf{x}, y_0)} dQ \right\}$$

**Theorem 4:** For each  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$  and each value of  $\theta \in \Theta^*$ , the sharp identified set  $\mathcal{Q}(\theta, y_0, \mathbf{x})$  of the latent distribution are those  $Q$  that has its generalized moments,  $\mathbb{E}_Q[A^j/g(A, \theta, \mathbf{x}, y_0)] = r_j(\theta, \mathbf{x})$  for  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 2T - 1$ .

- $Q$  is in general not point identified from the  $2T - 1$  generalized moments.
- But some functional of  $Q$  may be point identified.
- If  $\theta$  is **point identified** (i.e.  $\Theta^* = \{\theta_0\}$ ), then the generalized moments  $\mathbf{r}(\theta_0, \mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathcal{A}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & A & \dots & A^{2T-1} \end{pmatrix}' \frac{1}{g(A, \theta_0, \mathbf{x}, y_0)} dQ_0(A | y_0, \mathbf{x})$  is also **point identified**.

## Point Identification of Functionals $\int \psi(A, \theta, \mathbf{x}) dQ$

**Theorem (Point Identification of Functionals of  $Q$ )** If  $\theta$  is point identified and the product  $\psi(A, \theta_0, \mathbf{x})g(A, \theta_0, \mathbf{x}, y_0)$  is a polynomial of  $A$  with a degree that is no larger than  $2T - 1$  such that:

$$\psi(A, \theta_0, \mathbf{x})g(A, \theta_0, \mathbf{x}, y_0) = \sum_{j=0}^{2T-1} \eta_j(\theta_0, \mathbf{x})A^j,$$

for some vector  $\boldsymbol{\eta}(\theta_0, \mathbf{x}) = (\eta_0(\theta_0, \mathbf{x}), \eta_1(\theta_0, \mathbf{x}), \dots, \eta_{2T-1}(\theta_0, \mathbf{x}))$ , then  $\mathbb{E}_{Q_0(A|y_0, \mathbf{x})}[\psi(A, \theta_0, \mathbf{x})]$  is point identified and equal to  $\boldsymbol{\eta}(\theta_0, \mathbf{x})' \mathbf{r}(\theta_0, \mathbf{x})$ .

- The Theorem provides *sufficient conditions* on the function  $\psi$  under which  $\mathbb{E}_{Q_0}[\psi(A, \theta_0, \mathbf{x})]$  is point identified.
- **Examples:**
  - Average marginal effect of lagged choice when  $T \geq 3$ .
  - Posterior expectation of  $A$  when  $T \geq 3$ :  $\mathbb{E}_{Q_0}[A|\mathbf{y}]$  for  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}$ .
  - Counterfactual choice probability with no dynamics:  
i.e. AR(1) model without  $x$ , we can compare the counterfactual  $\mathbb{P}(Y = (1, 1, 1)|\beta = 0)$  with  $\mathbb{P}_0(1, 1, 1)$  in the data.

## Example: Average Marginal Effect

- For models without covariates,  $T = 3$ , and  $y_0 = 0$  (we know  $\beta$  is point identified)

$$AME = \int \frac{AB_0}{1 + AB_0} dQ_0(A) - \int \frac{A}{1 + A} dQ_0(A)$$

- Let  $\psi(A, \beta_0) = \frac{AB_0}{1 + AB_0} - \frac{A}{1 + A}$ , and  $g(A, \beta_0) = (1 + A)^3(1 + AB_0)^2$ .

$$\psi(A, \beta_0)g(A, \beta_0) = (B_0 - 1)A(1 + AB_0)(1 + A)^2 = \boldsymbol{\eta}(\beta_0)'(1, A, \dots, A^5)'$$

with  $\boldsymbol{\eta}(\beta_0) = (0, B_0 - 1, (2 + B_0)(B_0 - 1), (1 + 2B_0)(B_0 - 1), B_0(B_0 - 1), 0)'$ .

- Point identification of AME:

$$\begin{aligned} AME &= \int \psi(A, B_0) dQ_0(A) = \boldsymbol{\eta}(\beta_0)' H(\beta_0) \mathcal{P} \\ &= (B_0 - 1) \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (\mathbb{P}_0(1, 0, 0) + \mathbb{P}_0(0, 1, 0)) + \frac{1}{B_0 + 1} (\mathbb{P}_0(1, 0, 1) + \mathbb{P}_0(0, 1, 1)) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

## Example: Bounding AME for $T = 2$

- For models without  $x$ ,  $T = 2$ , and  $y_0 = 0$  (we know  $\beta$  is not point identified)

$$AME = \int \frac{AB_0}{1 + AB_0} dQ_0(A) - \int \frac{A}{1 + A} dQ_0(A)$$

with  $\psi(A, \beta) = \frac{AB}{1+AB} - \frac{A}{1+A}$  and  $g(A, \beta) = (1 + A)^2(1 + AB)$ .

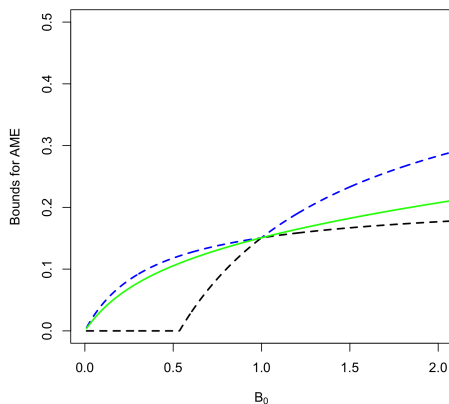
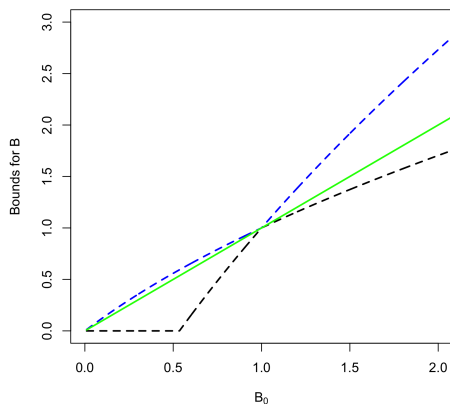
- It is easy to verify that  $\psi(A, \beta)g(A, \beta) = \boldsymbol{\eta}'(1 \quad A \quad A^2 \quad A^3)'$  with  $\boldsymbol{\eta}' = (0 \quad B - 1 \quad B - 1 \quad 0)'$ .
- Sharp bound of AME is:

$$\left[ \inf_{\beta \in \Theta^*} \boldsymbol{\eta}(\beta)' \mathbf{r}(\beta), \sup_{\beta \in \Theta^*} \boldsymbol{\eta}(\beta)' \mathbf{r}(\beta) \right]$$

- Since  $\boldsymbol{\eta}(\beta)' \mathbf{r}(\beta) = (B - 1)\mathbb{P}_0(1, 0)$ .
- As soon as we have the identified set  $\Theta^*$ , sharp bounds for AME is mapped directly from that.

## Illustration: $T = 2$ , no $x$ , $y_0 = 0$

- DGP:  $Q_0 = \frac{1}{2}\delta_{\exp(-2)} + \frac{1}{2}\delta_{\exp(1)}$ , we vary  $\exp(\beta_0)$  from 0.01 to 2.
- Left: identified set for  $\exp(\beta)$ ; Right: identified set for AME



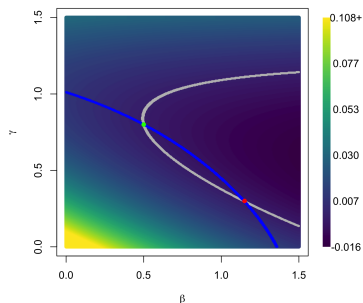


## Time trend model with $T = 3$

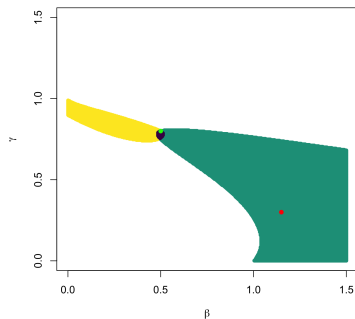
- $Y_{it} = 1\{\alpha_i + \beta Y_{it-1} + \gamma t \geq \epsilon_{it}\}$  and  $T = 3$ .
- There are two moment conditions for  $(\beta, \gamma)$ , which always give two solutions.
- Using the moment inequality, we demonstrate inequalities can be used to rule out the false solution.

Time trend model with  $T = 3$ 

- $\alpha \sim G = 0.5\delta_{-2} + 0.5\delta_1$ , and  $\beta_0 = 0.5$  and  $\gamma_0 = 0.8$ .
- The false root, roughly at  $\tilde{\theta} = (1.15, 0.3)$ .
- $r_1(\tilde{\theta}) \approx -0.24 < 0$ .



(a) moment equality



(b) moment inequality

## Estimation

- We need an estimation and inference framework that allows for both moment equality and inequalities.
- We can use minimum distance framework to combine moment equality and inequalities: (Bajari, Benkard, Levin (2007), Shi and Shum (2015))

$$Q(\theta, \mathcal{P}) = h^e(\theta, \mathcal{P})' W h^e(\theta, \mathcal{P}) + \sum_{j=1}^K \left( \min\{h^{ie}(\theta, \mathcal{P}), 0\} \right)^2$$

- If  $\Theta^*$  is singleton:  $Q(\theta_0, \mathcal{P}_0) = 0 = \min_{\theta \in \Theta} Q(\theta, \mathcal{P}_0)$ , and  $Q(\theta, \mathcal{P}_0) > 0$  for  $\theta \neq \theta_0$ : CAN estimator under suitable conditions:

$$\hat{\theta}_n = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta \in \Theta} Q_n(\theta, \hat{\mathcal{P}}_n)$$

with  $Q_n(\theta, \hat{\mathcal{P}}_n) = h^e(\theta, \hat{\mathcal{P}}_n)' \hat{W}_n h^e(\theta, \hat{\mathcal{P}}_n) + \sum_{j=1}^K \left( \min\{h^{ie}(\theta, \hat{\mathcal{P}}_n), 0\} \right)^2$  and  $\hat{\mathcal{P}}_n$  a CAN estimator of  $\mathcal{P}_0$ .

- If  $\Theta^*$  is a set: consistent estimation via Manski and Tamer (2002):

$$\hat{\Theta}_n = \left\{ \theta : Q_n(\theta, \hat{\mathcal{P}}_n) \leq \min_{\theta \in \Theta} Q_n(\theta, \hat{\mathcal{P}}_n) + \kappa_n \right\}$$

with  $\kappa_n > 0$  and  $\kappa_n \rightarrow 0$ .

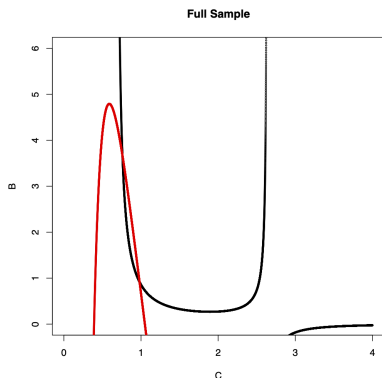
## Empirical Application

- We revisit **Fitzmaurice and Laird (1993)** on modeling children's respiratory conditions with data over a short period of time.
- Data: Observe wheezing conditions (binary) of 537 children from Steubenville, Ohio between the ages of 7 and 10.
- Model: time trend model with  $T = 3$

$$y_{it} = 1\{\alpha_i + \beta y_{it-1} + \gamma t \geq \epsilon_{it}\}, \quad t = 1, 2, 3$$

- Focus on children with  $y_0 = 0$  (85% of the sample).
- Time trend is crucial to distinguish age effect and persistence.
- Fixed effects are crucial to distinguish unobserved heterogeneity from true dynamics.

# Empirical Application



- Using only moment equality conditions, we have two solutions:  $(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\gamma}) = (1.301, -0.276)$  and  $(\tilde{\beta}, \tilde{\gamma}) = (-0.088, -0.019)$ , indistinguishable for the GMM criteria with a diagonal weighting matrix.
- For the second root:  $r_1(\tilde{\beta}, \tilde{\gamma}) = -4.82 < 0$ .

## Empirical Application

	<i>Logit Full</i>	<i>Logit Full</i>	<i>Logit</i>	<i>Logit</i>	<i>Logit FE ML</i>	<i>Logit FE ML</i>
	All Sample (n = 450)					
lagged y	1.301** (0.671)	0.693 (0.707)	2.08*** (0.258)	1.772*** (0.238)	-2.918*** (0.690)	-2.736*** (0.503)
time trend	-0.276 (0.321)	-	1.05*** (0.162)	-	1.666*** (0.260)	-

- *Logit Full*: our proposed method combining equality and inequalities.
- *Logit*: models without fixed effects.
- *Logit FE ML*: models with fixed effects estimated through full MLE (incidental parameter problem).

## Discussions (Finite sample issues)

When parameters are point identified by moment equalities, can inequalities improve finite sample efficiency?

- When inequalities are binding, they will act like moment equalities, hence incorporating them should improve efficiency.
- We need a way to detect binding inequalities.
- It may also be that incorporating all inequalities is not suited in practice, since some of them will be very noisy in finite sample.