

This file describes the programs and procedure for replicating the results presented in "Bicameralism and Government Formation," Diermeier, Eraslan and Merlo.

Files needed:

belgiumform.do
summary_statistics.do
estimate.c
init.c
auxil.c
libpset.c
logLikeE.c
logLikeF.c
paramE.c
paramF.c
paramNS.c
ste.c
like.h
paramE.h
paramF.h
pset.h
struct.h
vars.h

Libraries needed:

IMSL
JGLIB (The code and installation instructions available at <http://www2.cirano.qc.ca/~bacc/bacc98/index.html>. The code is Also included in the zip file.)

Input file needed:

inMax (see below for the format)
(All other input files are obtained by using intermediate outputs as explained below. They are included in the subdirectory INPUT-FILES.)

Data file

belgiumform.dta
sweden.dta
denmark.dta
july01final_econ.txt

The zip file also contains the output files in the folder OUTPUT-FILES.

0-SUMMARY STATISTICS/DATA

The Stata program summary_statistics.do generates Tables 1, 8 and the data columns in Tables 3-6, and the actual columns in Tables 7 and 9.

I--MAXIMIZE THE LIKELIHOOD

A. STATA program for estimating parameters ALPHA0 and ALPHA1

1. Run the Stata program `belgiumform.do`. This generates the output file `belgiumform.out`. The estimates of ALPHA0 and ALPHA1 reported in Table 2 (and used as input to `fit` and `fitst` programs below) are obtained by this program. The program also generates variance-covariance matrix for these parameters. The inverse of this matrix is used as an input to `fitst` program as described below.

The estimates of other parameters, and all other tables in the paper are generated by C programs described below.

2. Edit the file `struct.h` to specify the location of the datafile in the line `#define DATAFILE path` where `path` is the Linux path to the data file `july01final_econ.txt`

3. Generate the executable for maximum likelihood estimation: make the file `"lke"` executable (by typing `chmod 755 lke`) and type `lke`. This creates the executable file `est`.

4. Run the estimation program by typing `est < inMax > o &`

The file `inMax` is of the form:

```
s t
n
p1
p2
...
pn
outfile
```

`s`: scale

`t`: tolerance

(see IMSL documentation

<http://gams.nist.gov/serve.cgi/ModuleComponent/4459/Documentation/ITL/dumpol> for scale and tolerance)

`n`: number of parameters

`p1 ... pn` : starting parameter vector

`outfile`: output file

The program writes the maximum likelihood estimates to the output file. The maximum likelihood estimates reported in Table 2 are generated by this program. (For computational reasons, all the programs work with a transformation of RHO and DELTA1. The Excel file `QJPS-TABLES-FINAL-VERSIONS.xls` has the inverse transformation of the estimates and standard errors of RHO and DELTA1.)

It also generates a file named "inFit" to be edited for use as an input to standard error and goodness-of-fit programs.

II--COMPUTE THE STANDARD ERRORS

5. Generate the executable for computing standard errors: make the file "lks" executable (by typing `chmod 755 lks`) and type `lks`. This creates the executable file `ste`.

6. Edit the file `inFit` to add the line
`12 0`
and save it as "`inSte`" (see below for the format of `inSte`).

7. Run the standard error program by typing
`ste < inSte > oSte &`

The file `inSte` is of the form:

```
n1 t
n
p1
...
pn
```

`n1`: number of parameters for which the variance covariance matrix is needed
`n1` \leq `n`
`t`: indicates whether BETA and RHO are transformed or not
(if `t=1` then BETA is in (0,1) and `RHO`>0, otherwise, they are real numbers)
`n`: number of parameters
`p1 ... pn` : starting parameter vector

The program computes the standard errors at the maximum likelihood estimates and writes into the standard output (`oSte` in the above example).

The standard errors reported in Table 2 are generated by this program.

8. Edit the file `inSte` to change the line
`12 0`
to
`12 1`
and save it.

9. Run the standard error program again by typing
`ste < inSte > o &`

This generates a file called "`varcov`" that contains the inverse of the variance covariance matrix of (a subset of) the parameters.

III--GOODNESS-OF-FIT

10. Edit the file inFit to change 14 (number of parameters estimated in step 2) to 16 (total number of parameters), and insert the estimated parameters for ALPHA0 and ALPHA1 before other parameters. (The estimates are 9.767915 and 2.21743

and they are produced by Stata).

Insert the line 1 1 in the first line (see description of the format below).

11. Generate the executable for goodness-of-fit program: make the file "lkf" executable (by typing `chmod 755 lkf`) and type `lkf`. This creates the executable file `fit`.

12. Run the fit program by typing `fit < inFit > outFit &`

The file inFit is of the form:

```
cNum Senate
n
p1
p2
...
pn
```

cNum: country number (1 for Belgium, 2 for Denmark)

Senate: 1 for dual-responsibility, and 0 for single responsibility

n: number of parameters

p1 ... pn : starting parameter vector

The program writes histogram for the goodness-of-fit test (computed in Excel) to the standard output (oFit in the above example).

Tables 3-6 are generated by the computations in Excel using these histograms.

IV--POLICY EXPERIMENT FOR BELGIUM

13. Copy the file inFit inFitStB

14. Edit the file inFitStB (see format below) to insert

i) 1 1000 0

ii) delete the last two lines

iii) insert

```
0.076859826      0.138526991 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
```

```
0.138526991      3.276223689 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
```

(This is the variance covariance matrix from Stata appended with zeros to account for zero covariance between ALPHA0, ALPHA1 and the rest of the parameters).

to the end

iv) insert the file varcov to the end

The file inFitStB is of the form:

```
  cNum nIter Senate
  n
  p1
  p2
  ...
  pn
varcov-11 varcov-12 ... varcov-1n
..
..
varcov-n1 varcov-n2 ... varcov-nn
```

where

cNum: country number (1 for Belgium and 2 for Denmark)

Senate: 1 for dual-responsibility, and 0 for single responsibility

nIter: number of iterations

n: number of parameters (other than DELTA0 and DELTA1)

p1 ... pn : starting parameter vector

varcov-ij is the ij-th entry in the inverse of the variance-covariance matrix

15. Generate the executable program "fitst": make the file "lkcst" executable (by typing `chmod 755 lkcst`) and type `lkcst`.

16. Run the program `fitst` by typing
`fitst < inFitStB > outExperiment &`

The program computes mean and standard errors for the endogenous variables for the counterfactual experiment of removing senate in Belgium.

The means and standard errors in Table 7 are obtained from the file `outExperiment`.

V--OUT OF SAMPLE PREDICTION FOR DENMARK

17. Edit the file `inFitStB` to change the first line to
`2 1000 0`
and save it as `inFitStD`

18. Run the program `fitst` by typing

```
fitstD < inFitStD > outDenmark &
```

(The input file inFitStD is of the same form as the input file inFitSt described above.)

The program computes mean and standard errors for the endogenous variables for the out of sample predictions for Denmark.

Table 9 is generated by this program.