

Measuring Substitution Patterns in Differentiated Product Industries

Amit Gandhi
UW-Madison & Microsoft

Jean-François Houde
Wharton School & NBER

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Motivation

- **The Beauty of BLP:** Flexible estimation of substitution patterns with *many* products, aggregate data, and unobserved attributes.
- Achieving this flexibility can be difficult in practice...
 - ▶ **Precision:** Often rely on external restrictions (e.g. supply, survey, etc.)
 - ▶ **Numerical:** Multiple solutions and/or poor convergence properties

What explains the difficulties in practice?

- Is the variation in data simply too weak?
- Or is it weakness of the instruments (IVs)?
 - ▶ i.e., Are we using the variation in the data in the optimal way?
- **Our paper** argue that many *empiricists'* problems could be caused by **weak IVs**
- Show how to construct **strong IVs** using a new approximation to the optimal instruments of the model.
 - ▶ Building on insights from BLP (1995) [Especially Sections 5.1-5.2!]

Key Takeaways

- **Differentiation IV:** Capture the relative position of each product in the characteristic space
 - ▶ Approximate optimal IV without requiring initial estimates
 - ▶ Simple to construct and test
- Powerful in practice:
 - ▶ 10+ improvement in precision
 - ▶ Fast convergence + Numerically stable
 - ▶ Flexible substitution: Multiple dimensions + Correlated heterogeneity
- Related work:
 - ▶ **Weak IV in BLP:** BLP (1999), Conlon (2013), Reynaert & Verboven (2013), Metaxoglou and Knittel (2014)
 - ▶ **Differentiation IV:** *Nested-Logit* (e.g. Berry (1994), Verboven (1996), Bresnahan et al. (1997)), and *Spatial Differentiation* (e.g. Davis (2006), Thomadsen (2005), Manuszak (2012), Houde (2012))

A Motivating Example

- Linear random-coefficient model with **exogenous** characteristics:

$$\sigma_j \left(\boldsymbol{\delta}_t, \mathbf{x}_t^{(2)}; \sigma_x \right) = \int \frac{\exp \left(\delta_{jt} + \sigma_x v_i x_{jt}^{(2)} \right)}{1 + \sum_{j'=1}^{n_t} \exp \left(\delta_{j't} + \sigma_x v_i x_{j't}^{(2)} \right)} \phi(v_i) dv_i$$

where $\delta_{jt} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{jt}^{(1)} + \beta_2 x_{jt}^{(2)} + \xi_{jt}$.

- Invert demand system to obtain model residual:

$$\xi_{jt}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \sigma_j^{-1} \left(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{x}_t^{(2)}; \sigma_x \right) - \beta_0 - \beta_1 x_{jt}^{(1)} - \beta_2 x_{jt}^{(2)}$$

- Berry-Haile:** There exists a simultaneity problem associated with σ_x due to **endogenous shares**, even without prices.

Identification and Estimation

- Conditional moment restriction

$$E [\xi_{jt}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) | \mathbf{x}_t] = 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad \boldsymbol{\theta} = \boldsymbol{\theta}^0 \quad (\text{i.e. true}).$$

- Non-linear IV estimation:

$$E [\xi_{jt}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^0) \times A_j(\mathbf{x}_t)] = 0.$$

For any $A_j(\cdot)$ with

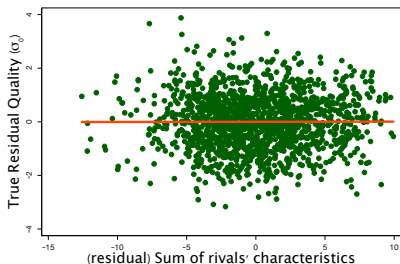
$$\dim(A_j(\mathbf{x}_t)) \geq \dim(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

- Does the choice of instruments $A_j(\mathbf{x}_t)$ matter?

Identification in a Picture

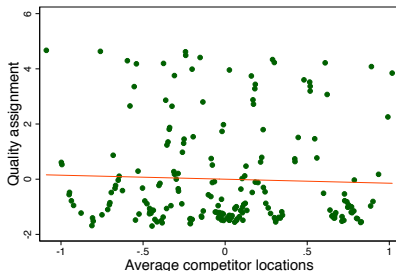
Market IV: Sum of rivals' characteristics

(A) Residual quality at $\sigma_x = \sigma_x^0$



Note: Regression $R^2=0$.

(B) Residual quality at $\sigma_x = 0$



Note: Regression $R^2=.00152$.

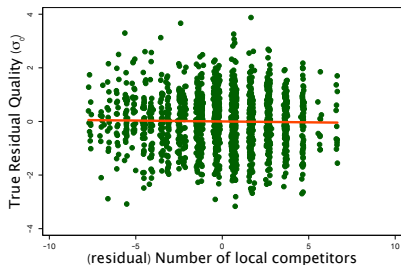
- **Moment restriction:** Independence of ξ_{jt} and the *sum of rivals characteristics cannot* distinguish (A) from (B)
- **Weak identification:** The moment restrictions are “almost” satisfied at $\sigma_x \neq \sigma_x^0$ (Stock and Wright, 2000).

▶ Data-set: 15 products \times 100 markets.

Identification in a Picture

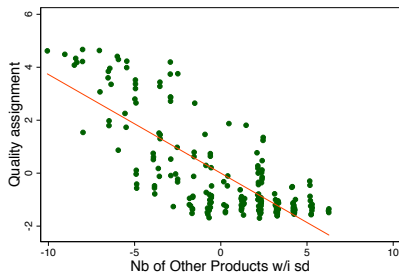
Differentiation IV: Number of competitors located within 1 std-dev of $x_{jt}^{(2)}$

(A) Residual quality at $\sigma_x = \sigma_x^0$



Note: Regression $R^2=0$.

(B) Residual quality at $\sigma_x = 0$



Note: Regression $R^2=.60016$.

- **Moment restriction:** Independence of ξ_{jt} and the *number of close competitors* rules out (B).
 - ▶ **Testable implication:** *Strong* instruments must reject $H_0 : \hat{\sigma}_x = 0$
- Let's formalize this intuition for the general model:

$$\beta_i^{(2)} = \beta^{(2)} + \mathbf{v}_i, \quad \Pr(\mathbf{v}_i) = F_v(\mathbf{v}_i; \Sigma)$$

Optimal IV

- The “optimal” IV for Σ is (Amemyia (1977), Chamberlain (1987)):

$$D_{j,k}(\mathbf{x}_t; \Sigma^0) = E \left[\frac{\partial \sigma_j^{-1}(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{x}_t^{(2)}; \Sigma^0)}{\partial \Sigma_k} \middle| \mathbf{x}_t \right]$$

- **How?** Approximate the optimal IV by estimating a non-parametric first-stage regression (Newey, 1990)
- **Curse of Dimensionality:** $D_{j,k}(\mathbf{x}_t)$ is a j -specific function of the entire menu of characteristics.
 - ▶ First order: $D_{j,k}(\mathbf{x}_t; \Sigma^0) \approx \sum_{j=1}^{n_t} \mathbf{x}_{jt} \mathbf{a}_j$
 - ▶ Impossible: BLP (1995)
- **Bottom line:** If we can't estimate the first-stage, how can we construct powerful instruments?

What does the characteristic structure imply for the reduced-form of the model?

- Market-structure facing product j (dropping t):

$$(\mathbf{w}_j, \mathbf{w}_{-j}) \equiv \left((\delta_j, \mathbf{x}_j^{(2)}), (\delta_{-j}, \mathbf{x}_{-j}^{(2)}) \right)$$

- Properties of the linear-in-characteristics model:

- ▶ Symmetry:

$$\sigma_j(\mathbf{w}_j, \mathbf{w}_{-j}) = \sigma_k(\mathbf{w}_j, \mathbf{w}_{-j}) \quad \forall k \neq j$$

- ▶ Anonymity:

$$\sigma(\mathbf{w}_j, \mathbf{w}_{-j}) = \sigma(\mathbf{w}_j, \mathbf{w}_{\rho(-j)}) \quad \forall \rho$$

- ▶ Translation invariant: for any $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^K$

$$\sigma(\mathbf{w}_j + (0, \mathbf{c}), \mathbf{w}_{-j} + (0, \mathbf{c})) = \sigma(\mathbf{w}_j, \mathbf{w}_{-j})$$

Re-Express the Demand System

- Express the “state” of the market in *differences* relative to j and treat the outside option just like any other product.

- ▶ Characteristic differences:

$$\mathbf{d}_{j,k}^{(2)} = \mathbf{x}_k^{(2)} - \mathbf{x}_j^{(2)}$$

- ▶ New normalization:

$$\tau_j = \frac{\exp(\delta_j)}{1 + \sum_{j'} \exp(\delta_{j'})}, \forall j = 0, \dots, n.$$

- ▶ Product k attributes: $\boldsymbol{\omega}_{j,k} = (\tau_k, \mathbf{d}_{jt,k}^{(2)})$

- Demand for product j is a fully exchangeable function of $\boldsymbol{\omega}_j$:

$$\sigma(\mathbf{w}_j, \mathbf{w}_{-j}) = \mathcal{D}(\boldsymbol{\omega}_j)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\omega}_j = \{\omega_{j,0}, \dots, \omega_{j,j-1}, \omega_{j,j+1}, \dots, \omega_{j,n}\}$.

Main Theory Result

- Define the *exogenous* state of the market facing product j :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{d}_{j,k} &= \mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}_j \\ \mathbf{d}_j &= (\mathbf{d}_{j,0}, \dots, \mathbf{d}_{j,j-1}, \mathbf{d}_{j,j+1}, \dots, \mathbf{d}_{j,n})\end{aligned}$$

Theorem

If the distribution of $\{\xi_j\}_{j=1,\dots,n}$ is exchangeable, then the reduced form becomes

$$D_{j,k}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^0) = E \left[\left. \frac{\partial \sigma_j^{-1}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{x}^{(2)}; \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^0)}{\partial \Sigma_k} \right| \mathbf{x} \right] = h_k(\mathbf{d}_j)$$

where h_k is a **symmetric** function of the state vector.

- Implication:** h_k is a *vector symmetric function* (see Briand 2009)

Why is it useful?

- ① **Curse of dimensionality:** In any fixed order approximation the number of basis functions is *independent* of the number of products.
 - ▶ A vector generalization of Pakes (1994), Pakes and McGuire (1994).

- ② **Examples:**

- ▶ First-order (i.e. market):

$$\sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbf{d}_{jt,j'} \left(\equiv \sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbf{x}_{jt} \right)$$

- ▶ Second-order (i.e. distance):

$$\sum_{j' \neq j} \left(\mathbf{d}_{jt,j'}^k \right)^2, \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, K$$

- ▶ Histogram basis (i.e. nested-logit or hotelling):

$$\sum_{j' \neq j} \mathbf{1}(|d_{jt,j'}^k| < \kappa_k) \mathbf{d}_{jt,j'}, \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, K$$

Closing the loop

- Let $A_j(\mathbf{x}_t)$ be an L vector of basis functions summarizing the empirical distribution of characteristic differences: $\{\mathbf{d}_{jt,k}\}_{k=0,\dots,n_t}$.
- **Differentiation IV:** These functions are moments describing the relative isolation of each product in characteristic space.
- **Donald, Imbens, and Newey (2003):** Using basis functions directly as IVs, is asymptotically equivalent to approximating the optimal IV.
 - ▶ Recommended practice is to use low-order basis functions (Donald, Imbens, and Newey 2008).
- Alternatively use Lasso methods with higher order polynomials (e.g. Belloni, Chernozhukov, and Hansen (2012))

Experiment 1: Exogenous Characteristics

- Random coefficient model:

$$u_{ijt} = \delta_{jt} + \sum_{k=1}^K v_{ik} x_{jt,k}^{(2)} + \varepsilon_{ijt}, \quad v_i \sim N(0, \sigma_x^2 \mathbf{I}).$$

- Data:

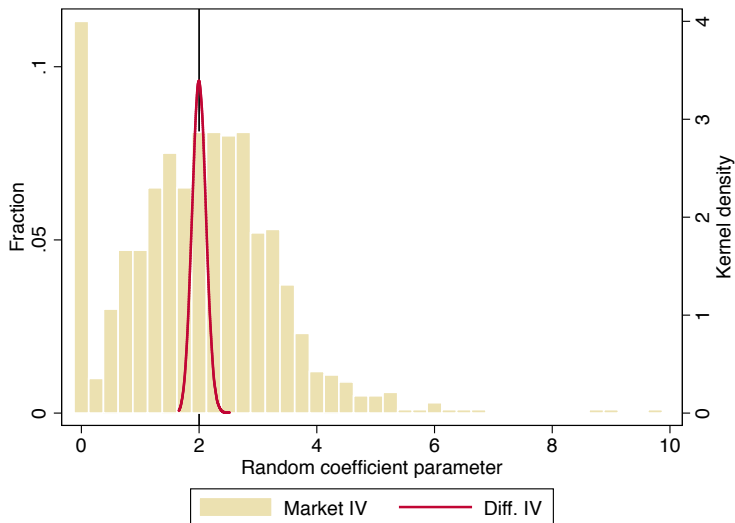
- ▶ Panel structure: 100 markets \times 15 products
- ▶ Characteristics: $(\xi_{jt}, \mathbf{x}_{jt}) \sim N(0, \mathbf{I})$.
- ▶ Dimension: $|\mathbf{x}_{jt}| = K + 1$
- ▶ Monte-Carlo replications = 1,000

- Instruments ($K + 1$):

- ▶ Market IVs (first-order): $A_j(\mathbf{x}_t) = \sum_{l \neq j}^{n_t} x_{lt,k}, \forall k = 1, \dots, K$
- ▶ Diff. IVs (2nd-order): $A_j(\mathbf{x}_t) = \sum_{j'=1}^{n_t} (d_{jt,j'}^k)^2, \forall k = 1, \dots, K$

Result 1: Weak IV Problem

Specification: One dimension of heterogeneity



Result 2: Weak IVs with Multiple Dimensions

| VARIABLES | Dimensions of consumer heterogeneity | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| σ_1 | 2.012 (1.3) | 1.931 (1.423) | 1.919 (1.383) | 2.055 (1.467) |
| σ_2 | | 1.978 (1.302) | 1.934 (1.313) | 2.055 (1.412) |
| σ_3 | | | 1.992 (1.353) | 2.088 (1.564) |
| σ_4 | | | | 2.106 (1.494) |
| Nb. IVs | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Parenthesis: RMSE. Starting at true parameter = 2.

Result 3: Differentiation IVs with Multiple Dimensions

| VARIABLES | Dimensions of consumer heterogeneity | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| σ_1 | 2.002 (.107) | 1.998 (.109) | 1.994 (.105) | 1.994 (.111) | 1.991 (.115) |
| σ_2 | | 1.995 (.108) | 1.996 (.105) | 1.992 (.111) | 1.993 (.115) |
| σ_3 | | | 1.995 (.109) | 1.994 (.113) | 1.991 (.116) |
| σ_4 | | | | 1.995 (.11) | 1.990 (.115) |
| σ_5 | | | | | 1.997 (.118) |
| σ_6 | | | | | 1.993 (.118) |
| Nb. IVs | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 7 |

Parenthesis: RMSE. Starting at true parameter = 2.

Result 4: Weak IVs and Numerical Problems

Simulation: 1,000 samples and 10 random starting values each

| | Differentiation IV | | Market IV | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| | Est. | RMSE | Est. | RMSE |
| σ_1 | 1.994 | 0.111 | 2.107 | 1.536 |
| σ_2 | 1.992 | 0.111 | 2.053 | 1.477 |
| σ_3 | 1.994 | 0.113 | 2.088 | 1.618 |
| σ_4 | 1.995 | 0.110 | 2.131 | 1.640 |
| Algorithm | Simplex | | Simplex | |
| Nb. IVs | 5 | | 5 | |
| CPU time (sec) | 0.718 | | 33 | |
| Local optima (fraction) | 0.002 | | 0.53 | |
| Global min/Local min | 46.6 | | 53 | |

Result 4: Weak IVs and Numerical Problems

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Experiment 2: Correlated Random Coefficients

- Consumer heterogeneity:

$$\beta_i^{(2)} \sim N(\beta^{(2)}, \Sigma)$$

Note: 4 dimensions \Rightarrow 10 non-linear parameters (choleski)

- Panel structure:

100 markets \times 50 products

- **Differentiation IVs:** Second-order polynomials (with interactions):

$$\sum_{j'=1}^{n_t} \left(d_{jt,j'}^k \right)^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j'=1}^{n_t} \left(d_{jt,j'}^k \times d_{jt,j'}^l \right)$$

for all characteristics k and l .

Simulation Results: Unrestricted Covariances

| | $\Sigma_{.1}$ | $\Sigma_{.2}$ | $\Sigma_{.3}$ | $\Sigma_{.4}$ |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Estimated parameters: | | | | |
| $\Sigma_{1.}$ | 4.066 (.214) | | | |
| $\Sigma_{2.}$ | -2.080 (.132) | 4.268 (.242) | | |
| $\Sigma_{3.}$ | 1.993 (.143) | 0.697 (.154) | 4.502 (.212) | |
| $\Sigma_{4.}$ | -1.147 (.123) | -0.405 (.124) | -0.458 (.135) | 3.050 (.204) |
| True parameters: | | | | |
| $\Sigma_{1.}$ | 4.064 | | | |
| $\Sigma_{2.}$ | -2.083 | 4.270 | | |
| $\Sigma_{3.}$ | 1.995 | 0.689 | 4.505 | |
| $\Sigma_{4.}$ | -1.152 | -0.398 | -0.462 | 3.071 |
| CPU time (sec) | 3.151 | | | |

Paranthesis: RMSE. Starting values = true. Algorithm: Gauss-Newton.

How to incorporate endogenous prices?

- Vertical differentiation example:

$$u_{ijt} = \delta_{jt} - \alpha_i p_{jt} + \varepsilon_{ijt}$$

where $\alpha_i = \sigma_p y_i^{-1}$, and $\log(y_i) \sim N(\mu_y, \sigma_y)$ (known).

- Price instruments: $\mathbf{w}_t = \{w_{jt}\}_{j=1, \dots, n_t}$
- New reduced-form:

$$D_j(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{w}_t; \sigma_p^0) = E \left(\frac{\partial \sigma_j^{-1}(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{p}_t | \sigma_p^0)}{\partial \sigma_p} \middle| \mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{w}_t \right) \neq h(\mathbf{d}_j^x, \mathbf{d}_j^p)$$

- **Solution:** Use insights from BLP (1999) and Reynaert & Verboven (2013) to take expectation for price *inside*:

$$D_j(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{w}_t; \sigma_p^0) \approx h(\mathbf{d}_j^x, \hat{\mathbf{d}}_j^p)$$

I.e., $d_{jt,k}^p = p_{kt} - p_{jt}$ is replaced by $\hat{d}_{jt,k}^p = E(p_{kt} | \mathbf{w}_{kt}) - E(p_{jt} | \mathbf{w}_{jt})$.

Conclusion

- What did we do:
 - ▶ Show how that the characteristic model can be used to construct **relevant** instruments to identify substitution patterns
 - ▶ And, eliminate the weak IV problem that is present in applied work
 - ▶ *Differentiation IV's*: Capture the relative position of each product in the characteristic space.
- Extensions (in paper):
 - ▶ **Endogenous prices**
 - ▶ **Natural experiments**
 - ▶ **Demographic variation**
 - ▶ **Weak IV tests**
- What's next?
 - ▶ Higher-order basis: Lasso
 - ▶ Conduct tests
 - ▶ Non-parametric estimation

DGP: Exogenous Characteristics

- Random coefficient model:

$$u_{ijt} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{jt}^{(1)} + \beta_2 x_{jt}^{(2)} + \xi_{jt} + \sigma_x v_i x_{jt}^{(2)} + \varepsilon_{ijt}.$$

- Unobserved heterogeneity:
 - ▶ $v_i \sim N(0, 1)$
 - ▶ Numerical integration: 10 points Gauss-Hermite quadrature.
- Data:
 - ▶ Panel structure: 100 markets \times 15 products
 - ▶ Characteristics: $(\xi_{jt}, x_{jt}) \sim N(0, \mathbf{I})$.
 - ▶ Dimension: $|x_{jt}| = K + 1$

▶ Return

Weak IV: BLP (1999) with **random** starting values

| | $\Sigma_{.1}$ | $\Sigma_{.2}$ | $\Sigma_{.3}$ | $\Sigma_{.4}$ |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Estimated parameters: | | | | |
| $\Sigma_{1.}$ | 4.491 (3.136) | | | |
| $\Sigma_{2.}$ | -2.047 (1.379) | 4.394 (1.57) | | |
| $\Sigma_{3.}$ | 2.059 (.735) | 0.747 (.41) | 4.558 (.355) | |
| $\Sigma_{4.}$ | -1.243 (.497) | -0.389 (.307) | -0.484 (.264) | 3.089 (.256) |
| True parameters: | | | | |
| $\Sigma_{1.}$ | 4.064 | | | |
| $\Sigma_{2.}$ | -2.083 | 4.270 | | |
| $\Sigma_{3.}$ | 1.995 | 0.689 | 4.505 | |
| $\Sigma_{4.}$ | -1.152 | -0.398 | -0.462 | 3.071 |
| CPU time (sec) | 191.690 | | | |
| Singular matrix (fraction) | 0.24 | | | |

Extension: Endogenous Prices

- **Demand:** Mixed-logit with vertical differentiation
 - ▶ Indirect utility

$$u_{ijt} = \delta_{jt} - \alpha_i p_{jt} + \varepsilon_{ijt}$$

where $\alpha_i = \sigma_p y_i^{-1}$, and $\log(y_i) \sim N(\mu_y, \sigma_y^2)$ (known).

- **Supply:** Bertrand-Nash with multi-product firms
 - ▶ Marginal cost: $\log(\text{mc}_{jt}) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_x x_{jt} + \gamma_\xi \xi_{jt} + \omega_{jt}$

Differentiation IVs with Endogenous Prices

- How to incorporate endogenous prices into Differentiation IV's?
- **Solution:** Use the exogenous component of prices
 - ▶ Let w_{jt} denote a valid/relevant price IV
 - ▶ Exogenous differences:

$$\hat{d}_{jt,j'}^p = \hat{p}_{j't} - \hat{p}_{jt}$$

where $\hat{p}_{jt} = E(p_{jt} | x_{jt}, \omega_{jt})$

- ▶ Similar approach in Reynaert and Verboven (2013)
- Examples:

$$\sum_{j' \in \mathcal{F}_{ft}} \left(\hat{d}_{jt,j'}^p \right)^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j' \notin \mathcal{F}_{ft}} \left(\hat{d}_{jt,j'}^p \right)^2$$

The weak IV problem is very severe without cost-shifters

Panel structure: $\bar{J} = 50$ and $T = 10$

| | | IV: Sum of charact. | | IV: Local competitors | |
|------------|---------|---------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| | | w/o cost | w/ cost | w/o cost | w/ cost |
| β_p | Average | 0.46 | 1.08 | 1.00 | 1.02 |
| | RMSE | 2.19 | 1.32 | 0.22 | 0.18 |
| σ_p | Average | 13.24 | 17.47 | 19.10 | 19.68 |
| | RMSE | 10.84 | 7.95 | 3.93 | 1.51 |

Simulation Results: Optimal IV Approximation

- **Optimal IV:** Jacobian at $\xi_{jt} = 0$ (Berry et al. (AER, 1999), and Reynaert & Verboven (JE, 2013)) :

$$E \left(\left. \frac{\partial \sigma_j^{-1}(s_t, x_t, p_t | \theta^0)}{\partial \theta} \right| x_t \right) \approx \left. \frac{\partial \sigma_j^{-1}(s_t, x_t, \hat{p}_t | \hat{\theta})}{\partial \theta} \right|_{\xi_t=0}$$

Where $\hat{\theta}$ is a **first-stage** estimate using IVs.

| | | IV: Sum of charact. | | IV: Local competitors | |
|------------|---------|---------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| | | BLP (1995) | Opt. IV | Diff. IV | Opt. IV |
| β_p | Average | 0.46 | 1.29 | 1.00 | 1.16 |
| | RMSE | 2.19 | 0.93 | 0.22 | 0.45 |
| σ_p | Average | 13.24 | 16.61 | 19.10 | 17.28 |
| | RMSE | 10.84 | 28.23 | 3.93 | 19.07 |

Extension: Demographic Panel

- In many settings, product characteristics are fixed across markets, but the distribution of consumer types vary (e.g. Nevo 2001).
- Focus on a single characteristics x_j
- **Assumption:** Consumer heterogeneity η_{it} follows distribution of a demographic can be decomposed as

$$\eta_{it} = \mu_t + \sigma_t \nu_i$$

where (μ_t, σ_t) are known, and $\Pr(\nu_i < x) = F(x)$ is common across t .

- Preferences

$$\begin{aligned} u_{ijt} &= \delta_{jt} + \theta \eta_{it} x_j + \varepsilon_{ijt} \\ &= \tilde{\delta}_{jt} + \theta \nu_i \tilde{x}_{jt} + \varepsilon_{ijt} \end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{x}_{jt} = \sigma_t x_j$, and $\delta_{jt} = x_j(\beta + \theta \mu_t) + \xi_{jt} = x_j \beta_t + \xi_{jt}$.

- Differentiation IVs can be constructed as before: $d_{jt,k}^x = \tilde{x}_{kt} - \tilde{x}_{jt}$.

Extension: Evaluating the Relevance of Instruments

- **Ex-post:** First-stage test

- ▶ First-stage of the non-linear GMM problem at $\hat{\theta}^{gmm}$:

$$J_{jt,k}(\hat{\theta}^{gmm}) = \pi_x x_{jt} + \pi_z z_{jt} + e_{jt}$$

where $J_{jt,k} = \partial \sigma^{-1} / \partial \theta_k$.

- ▶ Standard tests for weak instruments in linear models can be used to test the relevance of z_{jt} (Wright, 2003).

- **Ex-ante:** IIA test

- ▶ A **strong** instrument for Σ is able to reject the wrong model (Stock and Wright, 2000)
- ▶ Under $H_0 : \Sigma = 0$, the inverse demand equation is independent of x_{-j} :

$$\sigma_{jt}^{-1}(s_t, x_t; \theta = 0) = \ln s_{jt} / s_{0t} = x_{jt} \beta + z_{jt} \gamma + \xi_{jt}$$

- ▶ Standard test statistics for $H_0 : \gamma = 0$, can be used to test null hypothesis of IIA preferences

Weak IV Tests: Endogenous prices experiment

| | | Market (1) | Neighborhood (2) | Second order (3) |
|------------------------|----------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| No cost shifter | | | | |
| IIA test | χ^2 | 2.31 | 70.28 | 99.15 |
| | p-value | 0.47 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Weak IV (θ^0) | χ^2 | 2.21 | 355.52 | 957.38 |
| | p-value | 0.48 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Degree of freedom | | 0 | 0 | 6 |

▶ Return

Extension: Natural Experiments

- **Hotelling example:** Exogenous entry of a new product ($x' = 5$)
- Three-way panel: product j , market m , and time ($t = 0, 1$).
- Treatment variable:

$$D_{jm} = 1 (|x_{jm} - 5| < \text{Cutoff})$$

- First-stage difference-in-difference regression:

$$J_{jmt}(\theta) = \hat{\mu}_{jm} + \hat{\tau}_t + \hat{\gamma} D_{jm} \times 1(t = 1) + \hat{\epsilon}_{jmt}$$

- GMM Problem:
 - ▶ Linear characteristics: $x_{jmt}^{(1)} = \text{Market/Product FE} + \text{After Dummy}$
 - ▶ Differentiation IV: $z_{jmt} = D_{jm} \times 1(t = 1)$
 - ▶ $\hat{\theta}^{gmm}$ is identified from the DiD variation in z_{jmt} .