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THE LEE-MADDALA-TROST G2SLS IN A
SIMULTANEOUS-EQUATIONS TOBIT MODEL

by
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A COMPARISON OF THE AMEMIYA GLS AND
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by

Takeshi Amemiya*

Amemiya [1978 and 1979] proposed a method of obtaining estimates of structural parameters from given estimates of reduced-form parameters in simultaneous-equations probit and Tobit models respectively. In these papers I discussed both LS and GLS estimators, but in this paper I will consider only GLS. It should be noted that in these papers I actually proposed a class of LS and GLS estimators, since different estimators of structural parameters result (even asymptotically) from using different estimators of reduced-form parameters to begin with. Lee, Maddala, and Trost [1980] proposed an alternative method of estimating structural parameters in a simultaneous-equations Tobit model, which I will call the LMT-2SLS estimator. This estimator was generalized by Lee [1981] to take account of a non-scalar covariance matrix and yielded what I will call the LMT-G2SLS estimator. It should be noted that the asymptotic properties of the LMT-2SLS and the LMT-G2SLS estimators do not depend upon the choice of the estimator of the reduced-form parameters, provided that the latter is a consistent estimator. Lee [1981] demonstrated that in a simultaneous-equation Tobit model the LMT-G2SLS estimator is asymptotically more efficient than the Amemiya GLS estimator. In this paper I will point out that the

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Amemiya GLS estimator which Lee found to be inferior is merely a member of the class of the Amemiya GLS estimators and that the Amemiya GLS class actually contains members which beat the LMT-G2SLS as well as one which is asymptotically equivalent to the LMT-G2SLS.

The model I will consider throughout this paper is defined as follows:

$$(1) \quad y_t = Y_{1t}' \gamma_1 + X_{1t}' \beta_1 + u_t$$

and

$$(2) \quad Y_t' = X_t' \Pi + V_t' \quad , \quad t = 1, 2, \dots, T \quad ,$$

where Y_t' and X_t' are observed if

$$(3) \quad w_t > -S_t' \delta \quad ,$$

where $Y_t = (y_t, Y_{1t}')'$ is a G -vector of endogenous variables, $X_t = (X_{1t}', X_{2t}')'$ is a $(K_1 + K_2)$ -vector of exogenous variables (where I assume $K_2 \geq G - 1$ for identifiability), γ_1 , β_1 , and Π are a $(G - 1)$ -vector, a K_1 -vector, and a $K \times G$ matrix of unknown parameters respectively, and $(u_t, V_t', w_t)'$ is an i.i.d. drawing from a $(G + 2)$ -variate normal distribution with zero mean and a general variance-covariance matrix except that $Vw_t = 1$ for normalization. It is assumed that if (3) does not hold we observe that fact and S_t , so that δ , a vector of nuisance parameters, can be consistently estimated by the probit MLE.

We have

$$(4) \quad E(u_t | w_t > -S_t' \delta) = \mu \lambda(S_t' \delta) \quad ,$$

where $\mu = E u_t w_t$ and $\lambda(\cdot) = \phi(\cdot)/\Phi(\cdot)$ where ϕ and Φ are the density and the distribution function respectively of the standard normal variable, and similarly,

$$(5) \quad E(V_t | w_t > -S_t' \delta) = \theta \lambda(S_t' \delta),$$

where $\theta = E V_t w_t$. Using (4) and (5), we can rewrite (1) and (2) as

$$(6) \quad y_t = Y_{1t}' \gamma_1 + X_{1t}' \beta_1 + \mu \lambda(S_t' \delta) + \bar{u}_t + \mu [\lambda(S_t' \delta) - \lambda(S_t' \hat{\delta})]$$

and

$$(7) \quad Y_t' = X_t' \Pi + \lambda(S_t' \delta) \theta' + \bar{V}_t' + [\lambda(S_t' \delta) - \lambda(S_t' \hat{\delta})] \theta',$$

where $\bar{u}_t = u_t - E(u_t | w_t > -S_t' \delta)$, $\bar{V}_t = V_t - E(V_t | w_t > -S_t' \delta)$, and $\hat{\delta}$ is the probit MLE of δ (i.e., $\hat{\delta}$ is the value of δ that maximizes $\prod_{t=1}^{T_1} \phi(S_t' \delta) \prod_{t=1}^{T_0} [1 - \phi(S_t' \delta)]$ where $\prod$ is the product over those t for which (3) holds and $\prod$ is the product over those t for which (3) does not hold).

Now, I will rewrite (6) and (7) in vector notation, but in doing so, I will use only those periods for which (3) holds. Thus, the following vectors and matrices of observations have only T_1 rows, T_1 being the number of periods for which (3) holds:

$$(8) \quad y = Y_1' \gamma_1 + X_1' \beta_1 + \mu \hat{\lambda} + \bar{u} + \mu(\lambda - \hat{\lambda}) \equiv Z\alpha + \mu \hat{\lambda} + \epsilon$$

and

$$(9) \quad Y = X\Pi + \hat{\lambda}\theta' + \bar{V} + (\lambda - \hat{\lambda})\theta'.$$

We will assume that $\lim_{T_1 \rightarrow \infty} T_1^{-1} X'X$ exists and is positive-definite.

A simple consistent estimator of Π , denoted $\hat{\Pi}$, can be obtained by applying LS to (9):^{1/}

$$(10) \quad \hat{\Pi} = (X'MX)^{-1} X'MY,$$

where $\hat{M} = I - (\hat{\lambda}'\hat{\lambda})^{-1} \hat{\lambda}'\hat{\lambda}$.

Given $\hat{\Pi}$, the LMT-G2SLS estimator of $\alpha = (\gamma_1', \beta_1')'$, denoted $\hat{\alpha}_L$, is defined by

$$(11) \quad \hat{\alpha}_L = (\hat{Z}'\Sigma^{-1/2}\hat{M}_1\Sigma^{-1/2}\hat{Z})^{-1} \hat{Z}'\Sigma^{-1/2}\hat{M}_1\Sigma^{-1/2}y,$$

where $\hat{Z} = (X\Pi, X_1)$, $\hat{M}_1 = I - (\hat{\lambda}'\Sigma^{-1}\hat{\lambda})^{-1} \hat{\lambda}'\Sigma^{-1}\hat{\lambda}$, and Σ denotes the asymptotic variance-covariance matrix of ϵ . In practice, Σ must be estimated, but I will proceed as if Σ were known since all the asymptotic results of the paper remain valid if Σ is replaced by a consistent estimate of Σ . The asymptotic variance covariance matrix of $\hat{\alpha}_L$, denoted $V\hat{\alpha}_L$, is given by

$$(12) \quad V\hat{\alpha}_L = (\bar{Z}'\Sigma^{-1/2}\bar{M}_1\Sigma^{-1/2}\bar{Z})^{-1},$$

where $\bar{Z} = (X\Pi, X_1)$ and $\bar{M}_1$ is obtained from $\hat{M}_1$ by omitting the $\hat{\lambda}$ over λ . Though I defined $\hat{\alpha}$ using $\hat{\Pi}$ in the above, the asymptotic variance-covariance matrix $V\hat{\alpha}_L$ is unchanged if any other consistent estimator of Π is used.^{2/}

In order to define the Amemiya GLS class, I use the following identity relationship between the structural and reduced-form parameters:

$$(13) \quad \pi = \Pi_1 \gamma_1 + J\beta_1,$$

where $\Pi = [\pi, \Pi_1]$ and $J = [I, 0]'$ where I is the identity matrix of size K_1 and 0 is the $K_2 \times K_1$ matrix of zeroes. Let $\tilde{\Pi}$ be an arbitrary consistent estimator of Π such that $\tilde{\Pi} - \Pi$ is of the order of $T_1^{-1/2}$. Then, (13) can be rewritten as

$$(14) \quad \tilde{\pi} = \tilde{\Pi}_1 \gamma_1 + J\beta_1 + \eta \equiv A\alpha + \eta,$$

where $\eta = \tilde{\pi} - \pi - (\tilde{\Pi}_1 - \Pi_1)\gamma_1$. Then, the Amemiya GLS class, denoted $\tilde{\alpha}_A$, is defined by

$$(15) \quad \tilde{\alpha}_A = (A'\Omega^{-1}A)^{-1}A'\Omega^{-1}\tilde{\pi},$$

where Ω denotes the asymptotic variance-covariance matrix of η . In practice, Ω must be consistently estimated, but the asymptotic results are unchanged. Note that (15) defines a class of estimators since we let $\tilde{\Pi}$ vary among all the consistent estimators of the specified order. Note that Ω also changes with the choice of estimator of Π . The asymptotic variance-covariance matrix of $\tilde{\alpha}_A$ is given by

$$(16) \quad V\tilde{\alpha}_A = (A'\Omega^{-1}A)^{-1},$$

where $A = (\Pi_1, J)$.

Let $\hat{\alpha}_A$ be a member of the class (15) obtained by using $\hat{\Pi}$ defined in (10) in place of $\tilde{\Pi}$. Then, Lee [1981] proved

$$(17) \quad V\hat{\alpha}_L \leq V\hat{\alpha}_A,$$

where (17) means that the right-hand side minus the left-hand side is nonnegative definite. I will give a proof in my notation. It is easy to show that $\hat{\alpha}_A$ is the GLS estimator applied to

$$(18) \quad X'My = X'MZ\alpha + X'M\varepsilon.$$

Therefore, we have

$$(19) \quad V\hat{\alpha}_A = [\bar{Z}'MX(X'MMX)^{-1}X'M\bar{Z}]^{-1}.$$

Therefore, (17) follows from the matrix inequality

$$(20) \quad I \geq (\lambda'\Sigma^{-1}\lambda)^{-1}\Sigma^{-1/2}\lambda\lambda'\Sigma^{-1/2} + \Sigma^{1/2}MX(X'MMX)^{-1}X'M\Sigma^{1/2},$$

which can be proved by noting that the matrices in the right-hand side of (20) are projection matrices projecting onto the spaces spanned by $\Sigma^{-1/2}\lambda$ and $\Sigma^{1/2}MX$ respectively, which are orthogonal to each other.

Next, I will obtain a member of the Amemiya GLS class which has the same asymptotic variance-covariance matrix as the LMT-G2SLS estimator. Such a member, denoted α_A^* , is obtained by using

$$(21) \quad \Pi^* = (X'\Sigma^{-1/2}M_1\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^{-1}X'\Sigma^{-1/2}M_1\Sigma^{-1/2}Y$$

in place of $\tilde{\Pi}$ in the definition (15). It is easy to show that α_A^* is the GLS estimator applied to

$$(22) \quad X' \Sigma^{-1/2} \hat{M}_1 \Sigma^{-1/2} Y = X' \Sigma^{-1/2} \hat{M}_1 \Sigma^{-1/2} Z \alpha + X' \Sigma^{-1/2} \hat{M}_1 \Sigma^{-1/2} \varepsilon$$

and hence

$$(23) \quad V \alpha_A^* = V \alpha_L$$

Finally, I will show that the Amemiya GLS class contains estimators which are asymptotically more efficient than the LMT-G2SLS estimator. From (16) it is clear that the smaller (in matrix sense) is Ω , the smaller is $V \alpha_A$. Therefore, the better the estimator of Π one uses in (15), the smaller $V \alpha_A$ becomes. This fact and (23) imply that a member of the Amemiya GLS class which uses an asymptotically more efficient estimator of Π than Π^* beats the LMT-G2SLS. One can find such estimators. I will mention two examples. One is the GLS estimator applied to (9). It is asymptotically better than Π^* since the latter is a "wrong" GLS estimator applied to the same equation. The other is the maximum likelihood estimator of Π in the model defined by (2) and (3). Since this estimator is asymptotically efficient, it is better than either Π^* or the correct GLS estimator mentioned above. However, I should point out that the estimator of α based on either of these two estimators of Π is computationally more burdensome than either α_A^* or $\hat{\alpha}_L$ because in these cases Ω depends on γ_1 and hence one must first obtain a consistent estimate of γ_1 in some way.

Footnotes

1. This estimator was first suggested by Heckman [1976] and its asymptotic variance-covariance matrix is given in Heckman [1979].
2. This can be easily proved by proving $\text{plim } T_1^{-1} [\hat{Z}' \Sigma^{-1/2} \hat{M}_1 \Sigma^{-1/2} Z - \bar{Z}' \Sigma^{-1/2} M_1 \Sigma^{-1/2} \bar{Z}] = 0$ and $\text{plim } T_1^{-1/2} [\hat{Z}' \Sigma^{-1/2} \hat{M}_1 \Sigma^{-1/2} \varepsilon - \bar{Z}' \Sigma^{-1/2} M_1 \Sigma^{-1/2} \varepsilon] = 0$ for an arbitrary consistent estimator $\hat{\Pi}$.

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