





Recent Advances in the Field of Trade Theory and Policy Analysis Using Micro-Level Data

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Content

- a) Basic regression in Stata (see "ols.do")
- b) Panel data regressions in Stata (see "panel.do")

- Stata's regress command runs a simple OLS regression
 - *Regress depvar indepvar1 indepvar2, options*
- Always use the option robust to ensure that the covariance estimator can handle heteroskedasticity of unknown form
- Usually apply the cluster option and specify an appropriate level of clustering to account for correlation within groups
- Rule of thumb: apply cluster to the most aggregated level of variables in the model
 - Example: In a model with data by city, state, and country, cluster by country

b) Panel data regressions in Stata

- Fixed effects (within) estimation
- Brute force OLS
- LSDV
- Random effects
- Testing for fixed vs. random effects

Fixed effects (within) estimation

- A variety of commands are available for estimating fixed effects regressions
- The most efficient method is the fixed effects regression (within estimation), *xtreg*
- Stata's *xtreg* command is purpose built for panel data regressions
- Use the *fe* option to specify fixed effects
- Make sure to set the panel dimension before using the *xtreg* command, using *xtset*
- For example:
 - *xtset countries* sets up the panel dimension as countries
 - *xtreg depvar indepvar1 indepvar2 ..., fe* runs a regression with fixed effects by country
- Hint: xtset cannot work with string variables, so use (e.g.) egen countries = group(country) to convert string categories to numbers

Fixed effects (within) estimation (ct'd)

- As with regress, always specify the robust option with *xtreg*
- *xtreg, robust* will automatically correct for clustering at the level of the panel variable (firms in the previous example)
- Note that *xtreg* can only include fixed effects in one dimension. For additional dimensions, enter the dummies manually (see slide 8)

Brute force OLS

- The fixed effects can enter as dummies in a standard regression (brute force OLS)
 - *Regress depvar indepvar1 indepvar2 ... dum1 dum2, options*
 - Specify *dum** to include all dummy variables with the same stem
- Stata automatically excludes one dummy if a constant is retained in the model
- With the same clustering specification, results should be identical between regress with dummy variables and *xtreg, fe*

Brute force OLS (ct'd)

- To create dummy variables based on categories of another variable, use the tabulate command with the gen() option
- For example:
 - Quietly tabulate country, gen(ctry_dum_)
 - Will produce ctry_dum_1, ctry_dum_2, etc. automatically
 - Then regress depvar indepvar1 indepvar2 ... ctry_dum_*, robust cluster()
- Or you can use the *i.varname* command to creates dummies
 - regress depvar indepvar1 indepvar2 ... i.country, robust cluster()



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