Multivariate Modeling with Stata and R

Workshops in Social Science Research
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Instructors:

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Course Description:

This workshop teaches participants how to use the popular software packages Stata and R to conduct theoretically interesting and practically useful analyses of social, economic and political data. Throughout the course, the emphases will be on how to conduct and present sound analyses and strategies for learning new techniques. We begin with a review/crash course in the linear multiple regression model, and then move other important multivariate models including binomial logit and probit models, the multinomial logit model and the mixed logit model. The workshop then considers the interpretation of interaction effects in linear and nonlinear models as well as multilevel models that analyze how socio-economic and political contexts influence individual behavior. Time series and pooled time series methods that investigate how factors such as policy interventions and socio-economic conditions affect dynamic outcomes also are considered. Additional topics, such as the analysis of spatial statistical models will be covered based on student interests and time availability. Assuming only familiarity with introductory statistics, the workshop emphasizes practical approaches to analyzing individual- and aggregate-level social science data. Participants are invited to bring their own data sets to daily lab sessions.

Recommended Texts


**Other Readings**

To assist students wishing to learn more about various topics after the course is completed, a number of additional readings are suggested. A list of references is provided at the end of the syllabus.

**Data Sets**: Students are encouraged to bring their own data sets to analyze in daily labs. The instructors also will provide several data sets for use in lab sessions. Some of these data sets are based on national surveys of political attitudes and voting in recent American, British and Canadian general elections, whereas others track the aggregate dynamics of public attitudes towards important issues such as the economy, health care and immigration, as well support for political parties, presidents and prime ministers.

**Topics**

1. Introduction to Multivariate Modeling
   - How This Course Will Run
   - Some Rules of the Road for Conducting Statistical Analyses
   - Taking Command of Mathematical Notation
   - Getting to Know Your Data
   - Using Stata
   - Using R
   - Specialized Software Alternatives - Eviews, NLOGIT, RATS
   - Readings:
     - Acock (2014)
     - Fox and Weisberg (2011), chs. 1, 2, 3
     - Long and Freese (2014), ch. 2

2. Multiple Regression Models: Reviewing Basics
   - Introduction
   - Assumptions - Everybody Makes Them!
   - Introduction to Regression Simulation
   - Hypothesis Tests
   - Goodness of Fit
   - Model Selection Criteria
   - Hypothesis Tests
3. Multiple Regression Models: Specification, Diagnostics, Fix-Ups, Interpretation
   - Dummy Independent Variables
   - Interaction Effects
   - Functional Form
   - Multicollinearity
   - Heteroskedasticity
   - Autocorrelation
   - Readings:
     - Kellstedt and Whitten, ch. 10
     - King, Tomz and Wittenberg (2000)
     - Long and Freese (2014), chs. 3, 4
     - Brambor, Clark and Golder (2006)
     - Clarke, Elliott and Stewart (2016a)

4. Dichotomous and Ordinal Dependent Variables
   - Linear Probability Model
   - Binomial Logit and Probit Models
   - Ordinal Logit and Probit Models
   - Readings:
     - Kellstedt and Whitten, pp. 247-55
     - Long and Freese (2014), chs. 5, 6, 7
     - Fox and Weisberg (20111), ch. 5

5. Unordered Multi-Category Dependent Variables
   - Multinomial Logit Model
   - Multinomial Probit Model
   - Mixed Logit Model
   - Readings:
     - Whitten and Palmer (1996)
     - Glasgow (2001)
     - Hensher, Rose and Green (2005)
     - Clarke et al. (2009), ch. 5
     - Long and Freeze (2014), ch. 8
     - Train (2003)

6. Multilevel Models
   - Nests Everywhere!
   - Multilevel Regression Models
   - Multilevel Discrete Choice Models
   - Cross-Classified Multilevel Models
- Readings:
  - Raudenbush and Bryk (2002), chs. 1, 2, 4, 8, 10, 12

7. Time Series Analysis I
   - Time Series Data
   - Specifying Time Series Models
   - Autocorrelation - Just a Nuisance?
   - Autoregressive, Distributed Lag (ADL) Models
   - Readings:
     - Box-Steffensmeier et al. (2014), chs. 1-3
     - Kellstedt and Whitten, pp. 256-69

8. Time Series Analysis II
   - Nonstationarity: Deterministic and Stochastic Trends
   - ARIMA Models
   - Cointegration and Error Correction
   - Fractionally Integrated Models
   - GARCH
   - Readings:
     - Box-Steffensmeier et al. (2014), chs. 5-7
     - Charemza and Deadman (1997)
     - Clarke et al. (2009), ch. 4.
     - Clarke et al. (2016b)
     - Enders (2014)

   - To Pool or Not to Pool?
   - Fixes with Fixed Effects?
   - Panacea Corrected Standard Error
   - Interpreting Dynamic TSCS Models
   - Readings:
     - Williams and Whitten (2012)
     - Clark and Linzer (2015)

10. Spatial Regression Models
    - Spatial Basics
    - Thinking theoretically about spatial relationships (not just geography)
    - Estimation and interpretation of spatial models
    - Readings:
      - Beck, Gleditsch, and Beardsley (2006)
      - Pluemper and Neumayer (2015)
List of Recommended Readings


Clark, Tom S., and Drew A. Linzer. "Should I use fixed or random effects?" *Political Science Research and Methods* 3.02 (2015): 399-408.


Pluemper, Thomas, and Eric Neumayer. 2015. “W.” *Political Science Research and Methods*.


