

# Applied Econometrics

## Lecture 11

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# Multinomial models

Unordered	Ordered
Multinomial logit	Ordered logit
Multinomial probit	Ordered probit
Conditional logit	
<del>Nested logit</del>	

- Outcomes for the  $i^{th}$  chooser (the  $i^{th}$  individual) are denoted  $y_i$
- An outcome is a choice among several alternatives or options
- There are  $m$  alternatives
- The probability that the  $j^{th}$  alternative is chosen by the  $i^{th}$  chooser is given by  $Pr(y_i = j) = F(x_i, \beta)$
- Note that C&T use the notation  $F(x_i, \theta)$  rather than  $F(x_i, \beta)$
- We want to estimate  $\beta$  using maximum likelihood
- We want to obtain  $\hat{\beta}^{MLE}$

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# Multinomial choice

- We want a framework that enables us to specify all the choices in a single model, rather than as a bunch of individual models
- Why bother with the complication? Why not just write  $m$  individual probit/logit models?

$$y = \{car, not\ car\}$$

$$y = \{metro, not\ metro\}$$

$$y = \{walk, not\ walk\}$$

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- When individuals face  $m$  choices simultaneously and make a single choice, it makes intuitive sense to build a model that reflects this fact
- The single model enforces that the probability of choice sum to 1
- Allows us to evaluate marginal effects as they influence *all* the possible choices
- An increase in an independent variable  $x$  cannot increase the probability of every choice — some alternatives become more likely and so other alternatives must become *less* likely

# Multinomial choice

## Logic of the model

- If an individual faces a choice of  $m$  alternatives, we think that individual  $i$  will choose alternative  $j$  if the  $j^{\text{th}}$  alternative is *better* than all other alternatives
- In economics-world, a choice is “better” if it results in a higher utility
- So ... an individual selects alternative  $j$  if alternative  $j$  yields more utility than any other available alternative

$$y_i = j \text{ if } U_{ij} > U_{ik} \forall k \neq j$$
$$\Rightarrow \Pr(y_i = j) = \Pr(U_{ij} > U_{ik}) \forall k \neq j$$

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# Multinomial choice

## Logic of the model

- We want to express utility as a function of data that we observe
- Denote the “observable” utility that individual  $i$  gets from selecting alternative  $j$  by  $V_{ij}$
- Assume that utility (like everything else) is made up of observable and unobservable parts

$$U_{ij} = V_{ij} + \epsilon_{ij} \quad (1)$$

- We model observable utility  $V_{ij}$  as a function of independent variables and parameters

$$V_{ij} = x_{ij}\beta + z_i\gamma_j \quad (2)$$

- Put (1) and (2) together and we get:

$$U_{ij} = x_{ij}\beta + z_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij} \quad (3)$$



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## Variable types

- OK, by now you are really used to seeing dependent variables modeled as a function of some independent variables  $x_{ij}$  and some parameters  $\beta$
- So what's with this new  $z_i$  and  $\gamma_j$  stuff?

$$U_{ij} = x_{ij}\beta + z_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij}$$

- In the multinomial choice world, we think that it is the *interaction* of characteristics of individual  $i$  and alternative  $j$  that determine whether individual  $i$  chooses alternative  $j$
- Let's look at  $x_{ij}$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $z_i$ , and  $\gamma_j$  one at a time

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# Multinomial choice

## Variable types

$$U_{ij} = x_{ij}\beta + z_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij}$$

- $x_{ij}$  are those independent variables that vary over choices (they are  $j$ -specific) and *possibly* vary across individuals
- $\beta$  does not vary over individuals or choices
- $z_i$  are those independent variables that vary over individuals (*choosers*) but **not** over choices (that's why  $z$  doesn't get a  $j$  subscript)
- $\gamma_j$  is a set of coefficients (like  $\beta$ ) — but the  $\gamma_j$  coefficients vary over choices

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# Multinomial choice

## Variable types

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- This model of utility allows us to model the effect of several different types of variables on the utility that individual  $i$  gets from selecting choice  $j$ :
  - Variables that vary over individuals (but not over choices)
  - Variables that vary over choices (but not individuals)
  - Variables that vary over *both* individuals and choices (more rare)

# Multinomial choice

## Logic of the model

- Taking stock:
- We have a model of utility (3) that expresses utility as a function of observable and unobservable stuff

$$U_{ij} = x_{ij}\beta + z_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij}$$

- And we think that individual  $i$  selects choice  $j$  if the utility of choice  $j$  is greater than all other options:

$$U_{ij} > U_{ik} \quad \forall k \neq j$$

# Multinomial choice

## Logic of the model

- This leads us to model the probability of individual  $i$  selecting choice  $j$  as the probability of  $U_{ij}$  being greater than all other  $U_{ik}$

$$Pr(U_{ij} > U_{ik}) \forall k \neq j$$

- Notice that this is the same as the probability that the difference in utilities is less than 0

$$Pr(U_{ij} > U_{ik}) \forall k \neq j$$
$$Pr(U_{ik} - U_{ij} < 0) \forall k \neq j$$



# Multinomial choice

Making the model operational

$$Pr(U_{ik} - U_{ij} < 0) \forall k \neq j$$

- Expand this expression by inserting the definition of  $U$

$$Pr(V_{ik} + \epsilon_{ik} - V_{ij} - \epsilon_{ij} < 0) \forall k \neq j$$

- Rearrange this just a little bit to get

$$Pr(\epsilon_{ik} - \epsilon_{ij} < V_{ij} - V_{ik}) \forall k \neq j$$

- **This** is the key equation that makes our model operational

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# Multinomial choice

## Making the model operational

- Depending on the distribution of  $\epsilon$ , we get different models
- Notice that it is the *difference* between two sets of random variables  $\epsilon_{ij}$  and  $\epsilon_{ik}$  that we want to know the distribution of
- If we assume that  $\epsilon_{ik} - \epsilon_{ij}$  is distributed normally, then we work with probit models
- If we assume that  $\epsilon_{ik} - \epsilon_{ij}$  is distributed logistic, then we work with logit models
- (For those of you who want to know: the difference between two normal random variables is itself a normal random variable; the difference between two *extreme value* random variables is a logistic random variable. This means that we can make assumptions about the  $\epsilon$ s themselves which lead us to model the *differences* between  $\epsilon$ s in a way that we find convenient.)

# Multinomial logit

- Because the logit model is a bit easier to work with we will start with the multinomial logit model rather than the multinomial probit model
- We use the multinomial logit model when we are interested in the effect of independent variables that are choice-invariant on the probability of selecting choice  $j$
- To focus on these individual-specific variables, we look at observable utility only as a function of these variables — that is, we eliminate variable that are alternative-specific:

$$\begin{aligned}U_{ij} &= x_{ij}\beta + z_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij} \\ &= \cancel{x_{ij}\beta} + z_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij} \\ U_{ij} &= z_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij}\end{aligned}$$

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# Multinomial logit

- So we have:

$$\begin{aligned}Pr(y_i = j) &= \\&= Pr(\epsilon_{ik} - \epsilon_{ij} < V_{ij} - V_{ik}) \\&= F(V_{ij} - V_{ik}) \\&= F(z_i \gamma_j - z_i \gamma_k)\end{aligned}$$

- Factor out the  $z_i$  and we get:

$$\begin{aligned}Pr(y_i = j) &= \\&= F(z_i (\gamma_j - \gamma_k))\end{aligned}$$

- where  $F$  is the logistic distribution function with mean 0 and scale parameter 1 (the same distribution we used for the regular logit model)

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# Multinomial logit

- This leads us to the multinomial logit model:

$$Pr(y_i = j) = \frac{\exp(z_i \gamma_j)}{\exp(z_i \gamma_1) + \dots + \exp(z_i \gamma_m)}$$

- or:

$$Pr(y_i = j) = \frac{\exp(z_i \gamma_j)}{\sum_k \exp(z_i \gamma_k)}$$

- As you may recall, we have  $m$  different alternatives that individual  $i$  is choosing between
- Since the probabilities  $Pr(y_i = 1), \dots, Pr(y_i = m)$  sum to 1, we only need to identify  $m - 1$  of the  $\gamma$  parameters in order to determine all the probabilities (think of the red and black balls: we only needed to know how many red balls there were to then know how many black balls there were)

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# Multinomial logit

- Since we only need to identify  $m - 1$  of the  $\gamma_j$ s, a convenient normalization is  $\gamma_1 = 0$

$$Pr(y_i = j) = \frac{\exp(z_i \gamma_j)}{\sum_k \exp(z_i \gamma_k)}$$

- Insert  $\gamma_1 = 0$  into the equation above and we get:

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(y_i = j) &= \frac{\exp(z_i \gamma_j)}{\exp(0) + \exp(z_i \gamma_2) + \dots + \exp(z_i \gamma_m)} \\ &= \frac{\exp(z_i \gamma_j)}{1 + \exp(z_i \gamma_2) + \dots + \exp(z_i \gamma_m)} \end{aligned}$$

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# Multinomial logit

- Put it all back together and you get something that looks very similar to a regular logit model

$$Pr(y_i = j) = \frac{\exp(z_i \gamma_j)}{1 + \sum_{k=2}^m \exp(z_i \gamma_k)}$$

- This is essentially what you see on page 498 of C&T, but C&T haven't put the normalization into the formula yet
- We use this definition of the probability of each individual  $i$  selecting choice  $j$  as the basis for our model
- Anybody remember what we do with these probabilities?

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- We want to estimate a multinomial model by maximum likelihood
- To do this we set up a likelihood function
- We do this just like we have set up likelihood functions before
- Remember how we set up the likelihood function with the red ball / black ball example . . .

# Maximum likelihood

- Four balls in a hat
- Pull balls out of the hat  $N$  times (generate  $N$  pieces of data)
- We get data:  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N)$
- Suppose (just to have a concrete example) that the data looked like this:

*(red, red, red, black, red, black, black, red, red, red)*

- $N = 10$  (10 draws)
- Number of **red balls** drawn = 7
- Number of black balls drawn = 3
- We want to know how many red balls are in the hat (the number of red balls is equal to  $\beta$ , the parameter to be estimated)



# Maximum likelihood

- If there had been one red ball and three black balls in the hat:
- The probability of observing the data we observed would be:

$$\left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}\right) \quad (4)$$

- Or, more compactly:

$$\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^7 \times \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^3$$

- This is the probability of the first draw being a red ball, the second draw being a red ball, etc., so that we get *exactly* the draws in the exact order that we got them in (4) above
- (Note that this is not quite the same thing as the probability of getting 7 red balls and 3 black balls)

# Maximum likelihood

- If, instead, if there had been two red balls and two black balls in the hat:
- The probability of observing

(*red, red, red, black, red, black, black, red, red, red*)

would be:

$$\left(\frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}\right)$$

or

$$\left(\frac{2}{4}\right)^7 \times \left(\frac{2}{4}\right)^3$$

- If there were three red balls and one black ball in the hat then the probability of getting the data we observed would be:

$$\left(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}\right)$$

or

$$\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^7 \times \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^3$$

# Maximum likelihood

- Compare the probability of observing

(red, red, red, black, red, black, black, red, red, red)

- If there had been one red ball in the hat:

$$\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^7 \times \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^3 = 0.0000257492$$

- If there had been two red balls in the hat:

$$\left(\frac{2}{4}\right)^7 \times \left(\frac{2}{4}\right)^3 = 0.0009765625$$

- Or if there had been three red balls in the hat:

$$\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^7 \times \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^3 = 0.002085686$$

# Maximum likelihood

- If there had only been  $\beta = 1$  red ball in the hat, the chance of observing the data that we did is about 0.003%
- If there had been  $\beta = 2$  red balls in the hat, the chance of observing the data that we did is approximately 0.1%, i.e. a little better
- Finally, if there had been  $\beta = 3$  red balls in the hat, the chance of observing the data that we did is about 0.2%, twice as likely as if there had been two red balls!

# Maximum likelihood

- What is our *maximum likelihood* estimate of  $\beta$ ?
- Of the choices 1, 2, or 3 red balls, which one is most likely to have produced the data we observed?
- We pick the choice that results in the highest likelihood

$$\left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}\right) = 0.0000257492$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{2}{4}\right) = 0.0009765625$$

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- We choose  $\hat{\beta}^{MLE} = 3$

# Maximum likelihood

## How the method is used

- OK. Leave the balls-in-a-hat example behind.
- Speaking generally:
- The maximum likelihood concept is very “portable” — the basic concept works the same in all cases
- The question we seek to answer is always the same: What  $\beta$ s make the data that we observed the most likely?
- We select the parameters  $\beta$  that are most likely to have generated the data we observe  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N)$  and call those  $\beta$ s our estimates  $\hat{\beta}^{MLE}$
- To do this we only need to be able to form the likelihood function

# Maximum likelihood

## How the method is used

- The likelihood function always takes the same basic form
- To form the likelihood we need to be able to express the probability of each “event,” or piece of data  $y_i$  occurring
- We need to be able to write down the probability that each observation turns out as it does, that:  $Y_i = y_i$
- We write this probability in terms of our data and call it  $p(y_i|x_i, \beta)$ 
  - This is what we did in the balls-in-a-hat example when we wrote down the probability that a given draw  $y_i = 1$  (red ball)  $= \frac{\beta}{4}$  and the probability that a given draw  $y_i = 0$  (black ball)  $= 1 - \frac{\beta}{4}$
  - Those two things were expressions of  $p(y_i = 1|x_i, \beta)$  and  $p(y_i = 0|x_i, \beta)$ , respectively



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  - Those two things were expressions of  $p(y_i = 1|x_i, \beta)$  and  $p(y_i = 0|x_i, \beta)$ , respectively

# Maximum likelihood

How the method is used

- We write down each and every likelihood function in exactly the same way:

$$L(y_1, \dots, y_N) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(y_i | x_i, \beta)$$

# Multinomial models

## Maximum likelihood

- How to write the likelihood function for a multinomial model?
- How do we write down the probability of each occurrence in a multinomial model?

$$L(y_1, \dots, y_N) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(y_i | x_i, \beta)$$

- Start with  $p(y_i | x_i, \beta)$  — what are the probabilities that we'd like to express?

# Multinomial logit

- We would like to express the probability of each choice being made
- If there are three alternative choices 1, 2, and 3, then we write the likelihood function:

$$L(y_1, \dots, y_N) = \prod_{i \in 1} p(y_i = 1 | z_i \gamma_1) \prod_{i \in 2} p(y_i = 2 | z_i \gamma_2) \prod_{i \in 3} p(y_i = 3 | z_i \gamma_3)$$

- If there are  $m$  alternative choices, then we write the likelihood function:

$$L(y_1, \dots, y_N) = \prod_{j=1}^m \prod_{i \in j} Pr(y_i = j)$$

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$$L(y_1, \dots, y_N) = \prod_{j=1}^m \prod_{i \in j} Pr(y_i = j)$$

# Multinomial logit

- When we express the probability that  $y_i = j$  in the way we just derived, we can write the likelihood function:

$$L(y_1, \dots, y_N) = \prod_{j=1}^m \prod_{i \in j} \frac{\exp(z_i \gamma_j)}{1 + \sum_{k=2}^m \exp(z_i \gamma_k)}$$

- We estimate the model by selecting the  $\gamma_j$ s that maximize the likelihood function
- We find a different set of  $\gamma$ s for each of the  $m - 1$  alternative choices (remember we have a *base case*) that make the likelihood function above as big as it can be



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# Multinomial logit

- We find these estimates,  $\hat{\gamma}_2, \dots, \hat{\gamma}_m$  by optimizing the likelihood function
- Luckily, Stata does the optimization for us so we don't have to worry about how to find the correct  $\gamma_j$ s
- We use the `mlogit` command to estimate this model

## Stata code

```
mlogit y x1 x2 ..., baseoutcome(base_y_num)
```

# Multinomial probit

- The multinomial probit model works almost exactly like the multinomial logit model
- The practical difference is that the model is harder to compute (because the normal distribution is harder to work with than the logistic distribution)
- This doesn't mean much to us if we have a relatively modestly-sized dset and a relatively small number of choice alternatives ( $m$  is small)
- If, however,  $m$  is large and/or  $N$  is very large, the multinomial probit model may be extremely time-consuming to compute

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# Multinomial probit

- So why compute `mprobit` at all if it's so hard?
- There is an advantage to the multinomial probit model:
- The multinomial logit model forces us to make the assumption of independence of irrelevant alternatives (IIA). The multinomial probit model does *not* force us to make this assumption
- IIA says that adding an extra alternative does nothing to change the relative probability of any other two choices
- Might be OK in some circumstances — not such a good assumption when some choices are close substitutes

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- IIA says that adding an extra alternative does nothing to change the relative probability of any other two choices
- Might be OK in some circumstances — not such a good assumption when some choices are close substitutes



- Done with multinomial logit/probit for now
- On to conditional logit

# Conditional logit

- Rewind way back to when we made the decision to eliminate all but the individual-specific (C&T call them case-specific) regressors:

$$\begin{aligned}U_{ij} &= \mathbf{x}_{ij}\beta + \mathbf{z}_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij} \\ &= \cancel{\mathbf{x}_{ij}}\beta + \mathbf{z}_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij} \\ U_{ij} &= \mathbf{z}_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij}\end{aligned}$$

- What if we wanted to identify coefficients on alternative-specific variables?
- We can do this by essentially doing exactly the opposite of what we did last time

$$\begin{aligned}U_{ij} &= \mathbf{x}_{ij}\beta + \mathbf{z}_i\gamma_j + \epsilon_{ij} \\ &= \mathbf{x}_{ij}\beta + \cancel{\mathbf{z}_i\gamma_j} + \epsilon_{ij} \\ U_{ij} &= \mathbf{x}_{ij}\beta + \epsilon_{ij}\end{aligned}$$

# Conditional logit

- By essentially the exact same reasoning that lead us to model last time, we get

$$Pr(y_i = j) = \frac{\exp(x_{ij}\beta)}{\sum_{k=1}^m \exp(x_{ik}\beta)}$$

- The only real difference here is that we don't use the same normalization because now there is only one set of  $\beta$ s (we don't have a different set of coefficients for each choice anymore, since we are identifying parameters that vary over choices)
- What's left to do? Just have to form the likelihood function and estimate

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- What's left to do? Just have to form the likelihood function and estimate

# Conditional logit

- The likelihood function is written in much the same way we did before, but with the new expression for the  $Pr(y_i = j)$ :

$$L(y_1, \dots, y_N) = \prod_{j=1}^m \prod_{i \in j} \frac{\exp(x_{ij}\beta)}{\sum_{k=1}^m \exp(x_{ik}\beta)}$$

- We estimate the model by selecting the  $\beta$ s that maximize the likelihood function

# Conditional logit

- We find these estimates,  $\hat{\beta}$ , by optimizing the likelihood function
- Luckily, Stata does the optimization for us so we don't have to worry about how to find the correct  $\hat{\beta}$ s
- We use the `clogit` command to estimate this model

## Stata code

```
clogit y x1 x2 ..., group(groupid)
```

- But WAIT — conditional logit models can actually be run using a different command in Stata that is actually easier to use: `asclogit`

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# Conditional logit

- `asclogit` *is* a conditional logit model
- It just so happens that Stata has some more flexible commands that make learning `asclogit` more useful than learning `clogit`

## Stata code

```
asclogit y x1 x2 ..., case(idvar) ///  
alternatives(altvar)
```



# Conditional logit

- Let's try it so you learn how to use `asclogit` — it's easier to learn this by doing
- We'll start by using a dset that is already in the correct format

## Stata code

```
use choice.dta
* Explore the data a bit first
browse
```

- What do you see? How is the data organized?

# Conditional logit

- The data is organized in *long* form
- Rather than having a single observation per individual, we have many
- Each observation represents a *possible* choice an individual could have made (an alternative)
- Notice that the `id` variable helps us realize which observations belong to which individual
- We have two types of variables: ones that do not vary within an individual and ones that do
- Which are which? Make a list.

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# Conditional logit

- Every individual has three choices of cars to purchase: American, Japanese, or a European car
- `income` varies across individuals, but does not vary across choices. Neither do `sex` or `size`
- `car` simply identifies the type of car that is an alternative
- `choice` indicates the car selected, so it obviously varies over alternatives (only one is selected)
- `dealer` also varies across alternatives
- So what is `dealer`? `dealer` represents the number of dealerships in the “neighborhood” (or car-searching area) of the individual

# Conditional logit

- Let's run a conditional logit model to determine whether the number of dealers in a neighborhood influences the probability that a particular type of car will be purchased. Don't bother controlling for anything else (yet)

## Stata code

```
asclogit choice dealer, case(id) ///  
alternatives(car)
```

- What do you get? Notice anything?

# Conditional logit

- You get one coefficient on `dealer` and one each for the estimated constant on the two non-base alternatives
- Any idea what's going on?
- What the single coefficient is telling us is simple: the effect of having more dealerships in an individual's neighborhood is positive
- But, as before, we need to calculate marginal effects using a postestimation command, since coefficients are not equal to marginal effects in *any of these models*

## Stata code

```
* Calc MEs  
estat mfx
```

- Interpretation?



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## Stata code

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* Calc MEs  
estat mfx
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- Interpretation?

# Conditional logit

- Suppose you didn't have `asclogit`. What to do?
- Create dummy variables for each category of `car`: `tab car, gen(cartype)`
- Now run a conditional logit model using `clogit` instead of `asclogit`
- Recall what we typed before: `asclogit choice dealer, case(id) alternatives(car)`
- Instead, this time type: `clogit choice dealer cartype*, group(id)`
- (Note: `margins` must be used to get marginal effects when using `clogit`)

# Conditional logit

## Mixing both models

- What some people refer to as a *mixed* model is what we use when we want to identify individual *and* alternative-specific variables in a single model
- In Stata, we use `asclogit` to run what many people refer to as mixed models (or fixed-effects logits)
- Try this with the same data: try to identify coefficients on `dealer` (as before) and this time add coefficients on `sex` and `income` to the model:

```
asclogit choice dealer, case(id)
alternatives(car) casevars(sex income)
```

- Try `estat mfx` to examine the marginal effects

- Finally, we need to discuss one more type of model that you might run in to: ordered models
- The predominant models of this type are the ordered probit and ordered logit models

# Ordered logit/probit

- Grades
- Credit ratings (AAA, BBB, etc.)
- This model is actually pretty intuitive
- Once again  $y^*$  is an unobserved variable
- Let's play out the grades example:

$$\begin{aligned}y = \textit{Fail} & \quad \text{if} & \quad y^* = X\beta + \epsilon \leq \gamma_1 \\y = D & \quad \text{if} & \quad \gamma_1 < y^* = X\beta + \epsilon \leq \gamma_2 \\y = C & \quad \text{if} & \quad \gamma_2 < y^* = X\beta + \epsilon \leq \gamma_3 \\y = B & \quad \text{if} & \quad \gamma_3 < y^* = X\beta + \epsilon \leq \gamma_4 \\y = A & \quad \text{if} & \quad \gamma_4 < y^* = X\beta + \epsilon \leq \gamma_5\end{aligned}$$

- You can already see how this is going
- Let's just take one example (all the rest are analogous)

$$Pr(y = C) = \gamma_2 < y^* = X\beta + \epsilon \leq \gamma_3$$

$$Pr(y = C) = \gamma_2 - X\beta < \epsilon \leq \gamma_3 - X\beta$$

- We get a condition for every possible grade
- If we assume that  $\epsilon$  is distributed normally we can form a likelihood function
- All we need is an expression in terms of the distribution function (like always)

- Look at just the  $F$  outcome first

$$Pr(y = Fail) = Pr(X\beta + \epsilon \leq \gamma_1) = Pr(\epsilon \leq \gamma_1 - X\beta) = F(\gamma_1 - X\beta)$$

$$Pr(y = Fail) = F(\gamma_1 - X\beta)$$

$$Pr(y = D) = F(\gamma_2 - X\beta) - F(\gamma_1 - X\beta)$$

$$Pr(y = C) = F(\gamma_3 - X\beta) - F(\gamma_2 - X\beta)$$

$$Pr(y = B) = F(\gamma_4 - X\beta) - F(\gamma_3 - X\beta)$$

$$Pr(y = A) = F(\gamma_5 - X\beta) - F(\gamma_4 - X\beta)$$



- Look at just the  $F$  outcome first

$$Pr(y = Fail) = Pr(X\beta + \epsilon \leq \gamma_1) = Pr(\epsilon \leq \gamma_1 - X\beta) = F(\gamma_1 - X\beta)$$

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$$Pr(y = B) = F(\gamma_4 - X\beta) - F(\gamma_3 - X\beta)$$

$$Pr(y = A) = F(\gamma_5 - X\beta) - F(\gamma_4 - X\beta)$$

- In Stata we use `oprobit` or `ologit`

## Stata code

```
oprobit y x1 x2 ...  
ologit y x1 x2 ...
```

- Practical differences are almost nil, but `oprobit` is more popular (for reasons that escape me)
- The likelihood functions are not appreciably different in their difficulty to solve (because there is no “base case”)

# Ordered probit

- Since ordered probit is a little bit more popular, let's try some examples
- First we need some data

## Stata code

```
use ordwarm2.dta
```

- Each subject in the dset was asked to evaluate the following statement: “A working mother can establish just as warm and secure of a relationship with her child as a mother who does not work.”
- The response is recoded in a variable called `warm`. It has four levels: 1 = Strongly Disagree (SD), 2 = Disagree (D), 3 = Agree (A) and 4 = Strongly Agree (SA).
- Other variables in the dset include `age`, `ed`, `male`, etc.

# Ordered probit

- Try to run a model where the response of the individual is expressed as a function of the survey year (in case there were cultural changes over time), and the gender, race, age, education, and occupation of the respondent

## Stata code

```
oprobit warm yr89 male white age ed prst
```

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## Stata code

```
oprobit warm yr89 male white age ed prst
```

# Ordered probit

- To get the marginal effects you can use `margins` as with the other commands we have talked about today
- Just for some variety, however, try `prchange`
- Most of you have already installed `prchange` from a previous assignment
- For those of you who haven't, you can install it now

# Homework

- Read section 15.9
- Do exercise 4 on p. 533