# Analyzing Proportions 

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- A proportion is bounded between 0 and 1, this means that:
- the effect of explanatory variables tends to be non-linear, and
- the variance tends to decrease when the mean gets closer to one of the boundaries.
- This makes linear regression unattractive.


## Solutions

- model the distribution of the dependent variable(s) with either
- a beta distribution, betafit
- a zero/one inflated beta distribution, zoib
- a Dirichlet distribution, dirifit


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- model the distribution of the dependent variable(s) with either
- a beta distribution, betafit
- a zero/one inflated beta distribution, zoib
- a Dirichlet distribution, dirifit
- model how the mean proportion relates to explanatory variables using
- a fractional logit, glm
- a fractional multinomial logit, fmlogit


## Outline

A single proportion Multiple proportions

## the beta distribution

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- Two parameters: the mean and a scale parameter.
- The variance is a function of the mean and the scale parameter: the variance is largest when the mean is 0.5 .


## Some pictures



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## betafit

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- Various types of partial and marginal effects: dbetafit
- Can be installed by typing in Stata ssc install betafit


## example



## example



| Marginal <br> Effects | MFX at x |  | Max MFX |  |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | coef. | se | coef. | se |
| houseval | .0254 | .0056 | .0743 | .0121 |
| popdens | -.0107 | .0021 | -.0312 | .0066 |

$E($ governing $\mid x)=.0945$

|  | x | mean | sd | min | max |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| minorityleft | 0 | .434 | .4963 | 0 | 1 |
| noleft | 0 | .3858 | .4874 | 0 | 1 |
| houseval | 1.492 | 1.492 | .3971 | .72 | 3.63 |
| popdens | .7629 | .7629 | .9303 | .025 | 5.711 |

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- Os and 1 s represent distinct processes
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- Alternatively, you can transform your dependent variable to "push" your 0s and 1s a tiny bit inwards
- Smithson and Verkuilen (2006) propose

$$
y^{\prime}=\left(y^{*}(N-1)+.5\right) / N
$$

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- less sensitive to errors in other parts of the model, e.g. the variance, but
- not suitable when interest is in other quantities than the mean, e.g. the variance
- Can be estimated with glm in combination with the link(logit) family(binomial) robust options.

Multiple proportions

## example



## example

| ```Marginal effects after glm y = Predicted mean prate (predict) =.86775841``` |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| variable | $d y / d x$ | Std. Err. | z | $\mathrm{P}>\|\mathrm{z}\|$ | [ 95\% | C.I. | X |
| mrate | . 0658047 | . 00803 | 8.19 | 0.000 | . 050058 | . 081551 | . 746335 |
| totemp | -. 0066326 | . 00132 | -5.02 | 0.000 | -. 009224 | -. 004041 | . 462107 |
| age | . 0035453 | . 00033 | 10.69 | 0.000 | . 002895 | . 004195 | 13.1398 |
| sole* | . 0364495 | . 00471 | 7.73 | 0.000 | . 027209 | . 04569 | 0 |

## zoib: zero one inflated beta

- A zero/one inflated beta model consists of three parts:
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- a beta model for the proportions between 0 and 1 .


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- a logistic regression model for whether or not the proportion equals 0 ,
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- a beta model for the proportions between 0 and 1 .
- This model is for situations where you believe that the decisions for proportions of 0 and/or 1 are governed by a different process as the other proportions.


## example



## example

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Marginal effects after zoib } \\ & \text { y }=\text { Proportion (predict, pr) } \\ &=.85369833 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| variable | $d y / d x$ | Std. Err. | z | $\mathrm{P}>\|\mathrm{z}\|$ | 95\% | C.I. | X |
| mrate | . 0566366 | . 00679 | 8.34 | 0.000 | . 043326 | . 069947 | . 746335 |
| totemp | -. 0100315 | . 00208 | -4.83 | 0.000 | -. 014104 | -. 005959 | . 462107 |
| age | . 0034952 | . 00031 | 11.37 | 0.000 | . 002893 | . 004098 | 13.1398 |
| sole* | . 053115 | . 0047 | 11.31 | 0.000 | . 043908 | . 062322 | 0 |

(*) $d y / d x$ is for discrete change of dummy variable from 0 to 1

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## Comparing models

|  | beta | beta with <br> transformed y | flogit | zoib |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| mrate | 0.027 | 0.033 | 0.066 | 0.057 |
|  | $(3.30)$ | $(17.20)$ | $(8.19)$ | $(8.34)$ |
| totemp | -0.005 | -0.006 | -0.007 | -0.010 |
|  | $(-2.86)$ | $(-5.23)$ | $(-5.02)$ | $(-4.83)$ |
| age | 0.004 | 0.001 | 0.004 | 0.003 |
|  | $(10.54)$ | $(8.38)$ | $(10.69)$ | $(11.37)$ |
| sole (d) | 0.011 | 0.038 | 0.036 | 0.053 |
|  | $(1.62)$ | $(13.74)$ | $(7.73)$ | $(11.31)$ |
| $N$ | 2711 | 4734 | 4734 | 4734 |

Marginal effects; $z$ statistics in parentheses
(d) for discrete change of dummy variable from 0 to 1

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- Have not been implemented in Stata.
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- dirifit: Fits a Dirichlet distribution, which is an extension of the beta distribution to multiple proportions.
- fmlogit: Fits a fractional multinomial logit, which is an extension of the fractional logit to multiple proportions.
- Both assume that all correlation between proportions is due to the 'automatic correlation'


## example



```
mu2 = safety
mu3 = social
mu4 = urbanplanning
```

base outcome = governing

## example

| discrete change | Min coef. | $\operatorname{Max}$ se | $\begin{aligned} & +-S D / 2 \\ & \text { coef. } \end{aligned}$ |  | $+-1 / 2$ <br> coef. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| governing minorityleft noleft houseval popdens | $\begin{array}{r} -.0078 \\ .0099 \\ .0937 \\ -.0461 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .0066 \\ & .0074 \\ & .0233 \\ & .0115 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .0115 \\ -.0087 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .0024 \\ & .0027 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .0293 \\ -.0093 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .0062 \\ & .0029 \end{aligned}$ |
| safety <br> minorityleft noleft houseval popdens | $\begin{array}{r} .0072 \\ .0257 \\ .0926 \\ -.0792 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .0088 \\ & .0096 \\ & .0254 \\ & .0152 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .013 \\ -.0149 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .003 \\ .0035 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .0333 \\ -.0159 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .0077 \\ .0037 \end{array}$ |
| social <br> minorityleft noleft houseval popdens | $\begin{array}{r} -.0159 \\ -.0527 \\ -.264 \\ .0865 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .0114 \\ .012 \\ .0304 \\ .0251 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -.0366 \\ .0164 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .0045 \\ & .0042 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -.0935 \\ .0174 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .0114 \\ & .0045 \end{aligned}$ |
| urbanplann_g minorityleft noleft houseval popdens | $\begin{aligned} & .0165 \\ & .0171 \\ & .0777 \\ & .0387 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .0097 \\ & .0102 \\ & .0265 \\ & .0219 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .0121 \\ & .0073 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .0033 \\ & .0034 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .0309 \\ .0078 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .0085 \\ & .0036 \end{aligned}$ |

## example

| Marginal Effects | MFX at x coef. |
| :---: | :---: |
| governing houseval popdens | $\begin{array}{rr} .0293 & .0061 \\ -.0093 & .0029 \end{array}$ |
| safety <br> houseval popdens | $\begin{array}{rr} .0334 & .0077 \\ -.0159 & .0037 \end{array}$ |
| social <br> houseval popdens | $\begin{array}{rr} -.0937 & .0115 \\ .0174 & .0045 \end{array}$ |
| urbanplann ${ }_{\sim} g$ houseval popdens | $\begin{array}{rr} .031 & .0085 \\ .0078 & .0035 \end{array}$ |


| $\mathrm{E}($ governing $\mid \mathrm{x})=$ | .0993 |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\mathrm{E}($ safety $\mid \mathrm{x})=$ |  | .175 |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{E}($ social $\mid \mathrm{x})=$ |  | .5032 |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{E}($ urbanplann $\mathrm{g} \mid \mathrm{x})=$ | .2225 |  |  |  |  |
|  | x | mean | sd | min | max |
| minorityleft | 0 | .4337 | .4962 | 0 | 1 |
| noleft | 0 | .3878 | .4879 | 0 | 1 |
| houseval | 1.483 | 1.483 | .3902 | .72 | 3.63 |
| popdens | .7839 | .7839 | .9408 | .025 | 5.711 |

## example



## example



## example

| Marginal <br> Effects | MFX at x <br> coef. | se |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| governing <br> houseval <br> popdens | -.0317 | .0065 |
| safety <br> houseval <br> popdens | -.0117 | .0024 |
| social <br> houseval <br> popdens | -.0966 | .0178 |
| .017 | .0047 |  |
| urbanplann <br> houseval <br> popdens | .0335 | .0139 |



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- relationship between these proportions: no solution in Stata (yet)
- relationship between mean proportions and explanatory variables: dirifit or fmlogit


## References

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