

Conditional likelihood models for distributional regression analysis

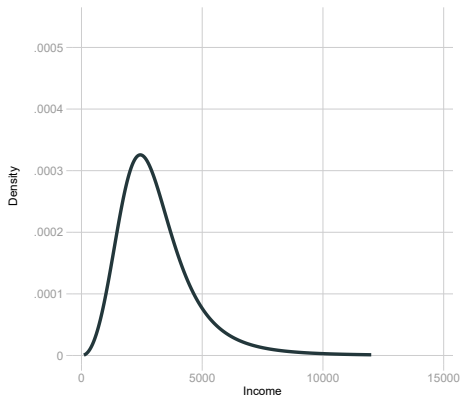
Philippe Van Kerm

University of Luxembourg and LISER

2020 Swiss Stata Conference — November 19, 2020

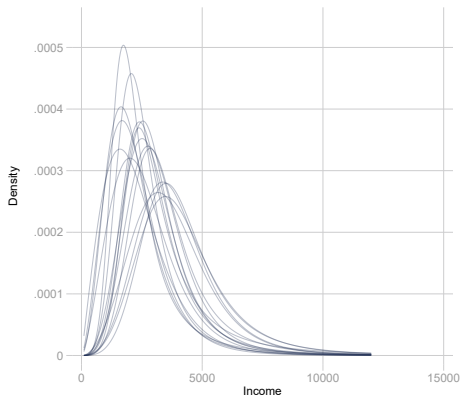
Conditional likelihood models in a nutshell

- Fit a parametric distribution function $f_{\theta}(y)$...
 - θ is a small vector of parameters (typically, say, 2–4 parameters)
 - e.g., a (log-)normal, a gamma, a beta distribution, etc.
- ... conditioning on vector of covariates, $f_{\theta(x)}(y)$
- ... by specifying a parametric relationship between X and θ
 - For example, $\theta(X) = X\beta$ (or $\theta(x) = \exp(X\beta)$ if $\theta(X)$ must be > 0)



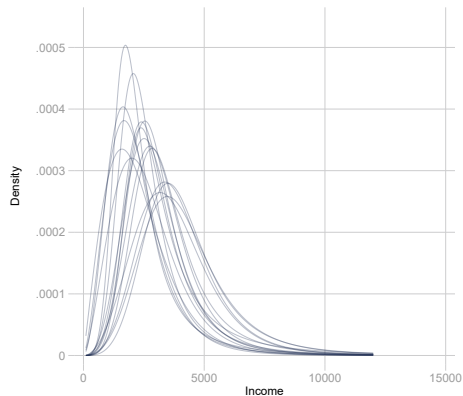
Conditional likelihood models in a nutshell

- Fit a parametric distribution function $f_{\theta}(y)$...
 - θ is a small vector of parameters (typically, say, 2–4 parameters)
 - e.g., a (log-)normal, a gamma, a beta distribution, etc.
- ... conditioning on vector of covariates, $f_{\theta(x)}(y)$
 - ... by specifying a parametric relationship between X and θ
 - For example, $\theta(X) = X\beta$ (or $\theta(x) = \exp(X\beta)$ if $\theta(X)$ must be > 0)



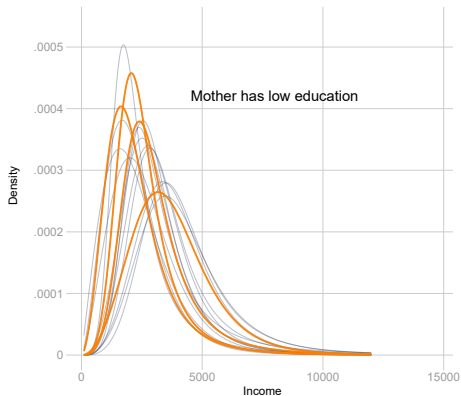
Conditional likelihood models in a nutshell

- Fit a parametric distribution function $f_{\theta}(y)$...
 - θ is a small vector of parameters (typically, say, 2–4 parameters)
 - e.g., a (log-)normal, a gamma, a beta distribution, etc.
- ... conditioning on vector of covariates, $f_{\theta(X)}(y)$
- ... by specifying a parametric relationship between X and θ
 - For example, $\theta(X) = X\beta$ (or $\theta(x) = \exp(X\beta)$ if $\theta(X)$ must be > 0)



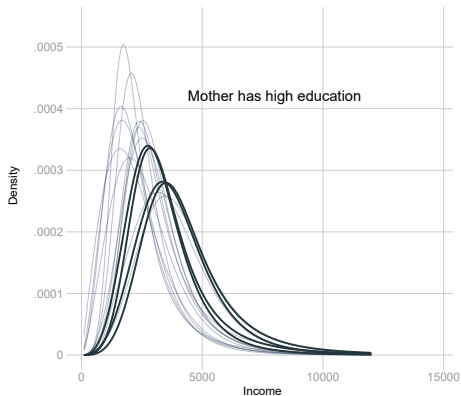
Conditional likelihood models in a nutshell

- Fit a parametric distribution function $f_{\theta}(y)$...
 - θ is a small vector of parameters (typically, say, 2–4 parameters)
 - e.g., a (log-)normal, a gamma, a beta distribution, etc.
- ... conditioning on vector of covariates, $f_{\theta(X)}(y)$
- ... by specifying a parametric relationship between X and θ
 - For example, $\theta(X) = X\beta$ (or $\theta(x) = \exp(X\beta)$ if $\theta(X)$ must be > 0)



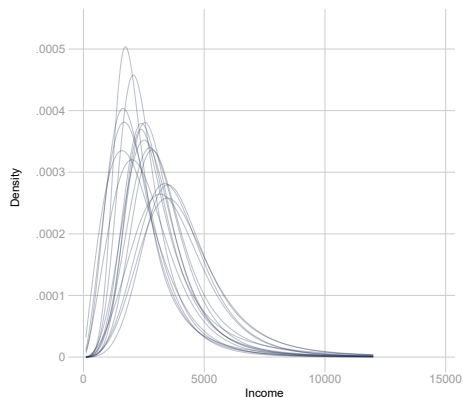
Conditional likelihood models in a nutshell

- Fit a parametric distribution function $f_{\theta}(y)$...
 - θ is a small vector of parameters (typically, say, 2–4 parameters)
 - e.g., a (log-)normal, a gamma, a beta distribution, etc.
- ... conditioning on vector of covariates, $f_{\theta(X)}(y)$
- ... by specifying a parametric relationship between X and θ
 - For example, $\theta(X) = X\beta$ (or $\theta(x) = \exp(X\beta)$ if $\theta(X)$ must be > 0)



Uses of conditional likelihood models

- Functional outcomes (Biewen and Jenkins, 2005)
- Quantile regression... without running quantile regression (Noufaily and Jones, 2013)
- Censored data (Jenkins et al., 2011)
- Endogenous selection (Van Kerm, 2013)
- Instrumental variables (Briseño Sanchez et al., 2020)
- Marginalisation and counterfactual distributions (Van Kerm et al., 2017)



Array of models for conditional distributions F_X

Many models and estimators available, more or less parametrically restricted, e.g.,

- quantile regression (Koenker and Bassett, 1978)
- distribution regression (Foresi and Peracchi, 1995, Chernozhukov et al., 2013, Van Kerm, 2016)
- duration models (Donald et al., 2000, Royston, 2001)
- conditional likelihood models (Biewen and Jenkins, 2005, Van Kerm et al., 2017)

- ① Quantile regression
- ② Distribution regression
- ③ Conditional likelihood models

Linear quantile regression model

Assume a particular relationship (linear) between conditional quantile and x :

$$Q_{\tau}(y|x) = x\beta_{\tau}$$

(Or equivalently $y_i = x_i\beta_{\tau} + u_i$ where $F_{u_i|x_i}^{-1}(\tau) = 0$)

$$\hat{\beta}_{\tau} = \arg \min_{\beta} \sum_i \rho_{\tau}(y_i - x_i\beta)$$

(Koenker and Bassett, 1978)

Estimate of the conditional quantile (given linear model):

$$\hat{Q}_{\tau}(y|x) = x\hat{\beta}_{\tau}$$

$\hat{\beta}_{\tau}$ can be interpreted as the marginal change in the τ conditional quantile for a marginal change in x

Recovering $\nu(F_X)$

Estimation of $\hat{Q}_\tau(y|x)$ for a continuum of τ in $(0, 1)$ provides a model for the entire conditional quantile function of Y given X (the quantile 'process'—See Blaise Melly's presentation and `qrprocess` for fast implementation)

After estimation of the quantile process $(0, 1)$, estimation of the distributional statistic conditional on X is relatively easy by simulation:

- a set of predicted conditional quantile values $\{x_i \hat{\beta}_\theta\}_{\theta \in (0,1)}$ is a pseudo-random draw from F_X (if grid for θ is equally-spaced) (Autor et al., 2005)
- so, a simple estimator for ν from unit-record data can be used to estimate $\nu(F_{X_i})$

Disadvantage?

Linearity of the model $Q_\tau(y|x) = x\beta_\tau$ may possibly be problematic in some situations

- discontinuities (e.g. minimum wage)
- quantile crossing within the support of X (Simple solution is re-arrangement of quantile predictions (Chernozhukov et al., 2009))

- ① Quantile regression
- ② Distribution regression
- ③ Conditional likelihood models

'Distribution regression'

$F_x(y) = \Pr\{y_i \leq y|x\}$ is a binary choice model once y is fixed (dependent variable is $1(y_i < y)$)

Estimate $F_x(y)$ on a grid of values for y spanning the domain of definition of Y by running repeated standard binary choice models, e.g. a logit:

$$\begin{aligned} F_x(y) &= \Pr\{y_i \leq y|x\} \\ &= \Lambda(x\beta_y) \\ &= \frac{\exp(x\beta_y)}{1 + \exp(x\beta_y)} \end{aligned}$$

or a probit $F_x(y) = \Phi(x\beta_y)$ or else ...

'Distribution regression'

- Estimate distributional process by repeating estimation at different values of y —makes little assumptions about the overall shape of distribution
- Discontinuities are handled without difficulties
- Estimation of these models is well-known and straightforward (probit, logit)
- Faster to run than quantile regression
- Evidence that provides better fit to conditional quantile processes than quantile regression (Rothe and Wied, 2013, Van Kerm et al., 2017)

Disadvantage

Drawback: Conditional statistic $v(F_x)$ often less easy to recover from the \hat{F}_X predictions than with quantile regression

- invert the predicted F_x to obtain predicted quantiles
- proceed as with quantiles predicted from quantile regression (see above)

- ① Quantile regression
- ② Distribution regression
- ③ Conditional likelihood models

Conditional likelihood models

Assume that the conditional distribution has a particular parametric form: e.g., (log-)normal (2 parameters – quite restrictive), Gamma (2 params), Singh-Maddala (3 param.), Dagum (3 param.), GB2 (4 param.), ... or any other distribution that is likely to fit the data at hand (think domain of definition, fatness of tails, modality)

Let parameters (say vector θ) depend on x in a particular fashion, typically linearly (up to some transformation satisfying range of variation of the parameters), e.g., $\theta_x^1 = \exp(x\beta_1)$, $\theta_x^2 = \exp(x\beta_2)$ and $\theta_x^3 = x\beta_3$

This gives a fully specified parametric model which can be estimated using maximum likelihood (\implies inference is straightforward).

Functionals derived from conditional likelihood models

- With parameter estimates $\hat{\theta}_X$, we can recover conditional quantiles, CDF, PDF and all sort of functionals $v(F_X)$ (means, dispersion measures, etc.) often from closed-form expressions
- Typically much less computationally expensive than estimating full quantile/distributional processes
- Price to pay is stronger parametric assumptions! (Look at goodness-of-fit statistics (KS, KL, of predicted dist – contrast with non-parametric fit also useful; see (Rothe and Wied, 2013))
- User-written commands in Stata do these estimations for many models (Stephen Jenkins, Nick Cox and colleagues): `smfit`, `dagumfit`, `gb2fit`, `lognfit`, `paretofit`, `fiskfit`, `gammafit`, `betafit`, `gevfit`, `invgammafit`, `weibullfit`) – and relatively easy to program new distributions

Likelihood framework makes several important extensions easy

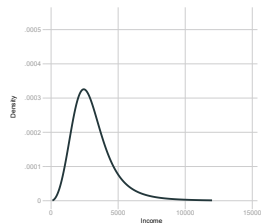
- Censoring (e.g., top-coding in income data, minimum wage)
 - Involves minor modification to likelihood contribution for censored observations ($1 - F(y)$ instead of $f(y)$)
- Endogenous selection
 - Standard selection model à la Heckman (joint normal) (relatively) easily extended to other distributional assumptions in likelihood framework using copula-based representations (Van Kerm, 2013) [▶ Details](#)
- Multivariate distributions [▶ Details](#)

Example: Modelling income with a Singh-Maddala distribution

Household income in Luxembourg, by educational achievement of father and mother (cf. *inequality of opportunity* analysis)

3-parameters Singh-Maddala distribution often provides good fit to income distributions

- Constrained version of 4-parameter GB2; similar to a Dagum distribution
- Stephen Jenkins' `smfit`
 - (Using here home-brewed `smfit2`—log-linear in covariates)
- Closed-form expressions available for PDF, CDF, percentiles, mode, Gini coefficient, etc. (see `help smfit`)



Fitting a model with no covariates

```
. smfit2 eqinc , svy stats
```

```
initial:      log pseudolikelihood = -4075915.3
alternative:  log pseudolikelihood = -3094364.2
rescale:     log pseudolikelihood = -2875478.5
rescale eq:  log pseudolikelihood = -2514467.8
Iteration 0:  log pseudolikelihood = -2514467.8 (not concave)
Iteration 1:  log pseudolikelihood = -2323390.4
Iteration 2:  log pseudolikelihood = -2229316.3
Iteration 3:  log pseudolikelihood = -2227868.2
Iteration 4:  log pseudolikelihood = -2226987.1
Iteration 5:  log pseudolikelihood = -2226983.8
Iteration 6:  log pseudolikelihood = -2226983.8
```

ML fit of Singh-Maddala distribution

```
pweight: wfinal          Number of obs   =    7400
Strata:  <one>           Number of strata =     1
PSU:    <observations>  Number of PSUs  =   4331
                               Population size = 256957.34
                               F( 0, 4331) = .
                               Prob > F   = .
```

	eqinc	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
a	_cons	1.165815	.0510336	22.84	0.000	1.065763	1.265867
b	_cons	8.07241	.0652616	123.69	0.000	7.944464	8.200356
q	_cons	.2963603	.1372053	2.16	0.031	.0273676	.5653531

Fitting a model with no covariates

```
. smfit2 eqinc , svy stats
```

```
initial:      log pseudolikelihood = -4075915.3
alternative:  log pseudolikelihood = -3094364.2
rescale:     log pseudolikelihood = -2875478.5
rescale eq:  log pseudolikelihood = -2514467.8
Iteration 0:  log pseudolikelihood = -2514467.8 (not concave)
Iteration 1:  log pseudolikelihood = -2323390.4
Iteration 2:  log pseudolikelihood = -2229316.3
Iteration 3:  log pseudolikelihood = -2227868.2
Iteration 4:  log pseudolikelihood = -2226987.1
Iteration 5:  log pseudolikelihood = -2226983.8
Iteration 6:  log pseudolikelihood = -2226983.8
```

ML fit of Singh-Maddala distribution

```
pweight: wfinal      Number of obs =      7400
Strata:  <one>       Number of strata =      1
PSU:    <observations> Number of PSUs =     4331
                          Population size = 256957.34
                          F( 0, 4331) = .
                          Prob > F = .
```

	eqinc	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
a	_cons	1.165815	.0510336	22.84	0.000	1.065763 1.265867
b	_cons	8.07241	.0652616	123.69	0.000	7.944464 8.200356
q	_cons	.2963603	.1372053	2.16	0.031	.0273676 .5653531

	Quantiles	Cumulative shares of total eqinc (Lorenz ordinates)		
1%	697.48948	0.00168		
5%	1.16e+03	0.01396		
10%	1.47e+03	0.03494		
20%	1.88e+03	0.08824		
25%	2.05e+03	0.11933		
30%	2.21e+03	0.15304		
40%	2.52e+03	0.22787	Mode	2.44e+03
50%	2.83e+03	0.31250	Mean	3.16e+03
60%	3.18e+03	0.40753	Std. Dev.	1.75e+03
70%	3.60e+03	0.51448		
75%	3.85e+03	0.57332	Variance	3.07e+06
80%	4.16e+03	0.63659	Half CV^2	0.15358
90%	5.14e+03	0.78172	Gini coeff.	0.27412
95%	6.19e+03	0.87021	p90/p10	3.50079
99%	9.22e+03	0.96184	p75/p25	1.87852

Fitting a model with no covariates

Recover functionals with closed form expressions: nlcom

```
. nlcom exp(_b[b:_cons])
```

```
_nl_1: exp(_b[b:_cons])
```

eqinc	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
_nl_1	3204.817	209.1515	15.32	0.000	2794.887	3614.746

```
. nlcom (1 - (exp(lgamma(exp(_b[q:_cons]))) * exp(lgamma(2 * exp(_b[q:_cons]) - 1 / exp(_b[a:_cons]))) / (
> exp(lgamma(exp(_b[q:_cons]) - 1 / exp(_b[a:_cons]))) * exp(lgamma(2 * exp(_b[q:_cons])))))
```

```
_nl_1: 1 - (exp(lgamma(exp(_b[q:_cons]))) * exp(lgamma(2 * exp(_b[q:_cons]) - 1 / exp(_b[a:_cons]))) / ( ex
> p(lgamma(exp(_b[q:_cons]) - 1 / exp(_b[a:_cons]))) * exp(lgamma(2 * exp(_b[q:_cons]))))
```

eqinc	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
_nl_1	.2741153	.0058528	46.83	0.000	.262644	.2855866

Fitting a model *with* covariates

```
. smfit2 eqinc , svy a(`vars' ) b(`vars' ) q(`vars' ) iterate(100) nolog
```

ML fit of Singh-Maddala distribution

```
pweight: wfinal          Number of obs   =    7400
Strata:   <one>          Number of strata =     1
PSU:     <observations> Number of PSUs  =   4331
                               Population size = 256957.34
                               F( 6, 4325) = 1.45
                               Prob > F    = 0.1928
```

eqinc	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
a					
F_educ_med~m	-.1364453	.0822718	-1.66	0.097	-.2977403 .0248496
F_educ_high	.0213813	.0919567	0.23	0.816	-.1589009 .2016635
F_educ_99	-.5430838	.2265472	-2.40	0.017	-.9872324 -.0989352
M_educ_med~m	-.183148	.0753087	-2.43	0.015	-.3307915 -.0355045
M_educ_high	-.0172072	.1048687	-0.16	0.870	-.2228034 .1883891
M_educ_99	.1134547	.2575129	0.44	0.660	-.3914024 .6183119
_cons	1.441756	.0559656	25.76	0.000	1.332035 1.551477
b					
F_educ_med~m	.4197169	.0874385	4.80	0.000	.2482927 .5911412
F_educ_high	.3077951	.0919526	3.35	0.001	.1275208 .4880693
F_educ_99	.3242196	.3384133	0.96	0.338	-.3392436 .9876829
M_educ_med~m	.3441702	.097583	3.53	0.000	.1528576 .5354827
M_educ_high	.2360692	.1090313	2.17	0.030	.022312 .4498264
M_educ_99	-.2715757	.1519467	-1.79	0.074	-.569469 .0263176
_cons	7.716722	.0501402	153.90	0.000	7.618421 7.815022
q					
F_educ_med~m	.4565336	.2063705	2.21	0.027	.0519417 .8611255
F_educ_high	-.0381287	.2099373	-0.18	0.856	-.4497134 .3734559
F_educ_99	.9756004	.6154183	1.59	0.113	-.2309346 2.182135
M_educ_med~m	.4495618	.2124156	2.12	0.034	.0331184 .8660052
M_educ_high	.1248801	.2415592	0.52	0.605	-.3486995 .5984597
M_educ_99	-.4907478	.4019395	-1.22	0.222	-1.278755 .2972593
_cons	-.1584176	.1191991	-1.33	0.184	-.392109 .0752737

Average marginal effects margins

Fitting a model *with* covariates

```
. smfit2 eqinc , svy a(`vars' ) b(`vars' ) q(`vars' ) iterate(100) nolog
```

ML fit of Singh-Maddala distribution

```
pweight: wfinal      Number of obs   =      7400
Strata:  <one>       Number of strata =        1
PSU:     <observations> Number of PSUs   =     4331
                               Population size = 256957.34
                               F( 6, 4325) =      1.45
                               Prob > F      =      0.1928
```

eqinc	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
a						
F_educ_med~m	-.1364453	.0822718	-1.66	0.097	-.2977403	.0248496
F_educ_high	.0213813	.0919567	0.23	0.816	-.1589009	.2016635
F_educ_99	-.5430838	.2265472	-2.40	0.017	-.9872324	-.0989352
M_educ_med~m	-.183148	.0753087	-2.43	0.015	-.3307915	-.0355045
M_educ_high	-.0172072	.1048687	-0.16	0.870	-.2228034	.1883891
M_educ_99	.1134547	.2575129	0.44	0.660	-.3914024	.6183119
_cons	1.441756	.0559656	25.76	0.000	1.332035	1.551477
b						
F_educ_med~m	.4197169	.0874385	4.80	0.000	.2482927	.5911412
F_educ_high	.3077951	.0919526	3.35	0.001	.1275208	.4880693
F_educ_99	.3242196	.3384133	0.96	0.338	-.3392436	.9876829
M_educ_med~m	.3441702	.097583	3.53	0.000	.1528576	.5354827
M_educ_high	.2360692	.1090313	2.17	0.030	.022312	.4498264
M_educ_99	-.2715757	.1519467	-1.79	0.074	-.569469	.0263176
_cons	7.716722	.0501402	153.90	0.000	7.618421	7.815022
q						
F_educ_med~m	-.4565336	.2063705	2.21	0.027	-.0519417	.8611255
F_educ_high	-.0381287	.2099373	-0.18	0.856	-.4497134	.3734559
F_educ_99	.9756004	.6154183	1.59	0.113	-.2309346	2.182135
M_educ_med~m	.4495618	.2124156	2.12	0.034	.0331184	.8660052
M_educ_high	.1248801	.2415592	0.52	0.605	-.3486995	.5984597
M_educ_99	-.4907478	.4019395	-1.22	0.222	-1.278755	.2972593
_cons	-.1584176	.1191991	-1.33	0.184	-.392109	.0752737

Average marginal effects margins

```
. // Quantile effects
. loc ax exp(predict(equation(a)))

. loc bx exp(predict(equation(b)))

. loc qx exp(predict(equation(q)))

. foreach quant of numlist .1(.2).9 {
2.     margins , expression(`bx'*((1-`quant')^(-1/`qx') - 1)^(1/`ax')) dydx(*)
3. }
```

Average marginal effects

```
Number of strata =      1      Number of obs   =      7,400
Number of PSUs   =     4,331  Population size = 256,957.34
Model VCE       : Linearized      Design df      =      4,330
```

```
Expression      : exp(predict(equation(b)))*((1-.1)^(-1/exp(predict(equation(q)))) -
1)^(1/exp(predict(equation(a))))
dy/dx w.r.t.    : F_educ_medium F_educ_high F_educ_99 M_educ_medium M_educ_high M_educ_99
```

	Delta-method				[95% Conf. Interval]
	dy/dx	Std. Err.	t	P> t	
F_educ_medium	328.2016	72.46092	4.53	0.000	186.1411 470.2621
F_educ_high	534.26	91.4912	5.84	0.000	354.8904 713.6296
F_educ_99	-480.3538	144.3838	-3.33	0.001	-763.4199 -197.2877
M_educ_medium	161.4287	63.85339	2.53	0.012	36.24334 286.614
M_educ_high	305.6255	96.29058	3.17	0.002	116.8467 494.4044
M_educ_99	-98.4401	241.5729	-0.41	0.684	-572.0466 375.1664

SM fit vs quantile regression

```
. margins , expression(`bx'*((1-0.5)^(-1`qx') - 1)^(1`ax')) dydx(*) post
```

Average marginal effects

```
Number of strata = 1          Number of obs = 7,400
Number of PSUs   = 4,331     Population size = 256,957.34
Model VCE       : Linearized   Design df      = 4,330
```

```
Expression : exp(predict(equation(b)))*((1-0.5)^(-1/exp(predict(equation(q)))) - 1)^(1/exp(predict(equation(a))))
dy/dx w.r.t. : F_educ_medium F_educ_high F_educ_99 M_educ_medium M_educ_high M_educ_99
```

	Delta-method				
	dy/dx	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
F_educ_medium	704.2529	61.35307	11.48	0.000	583.9695 824.5363
F_educ_high	925.7618	100.7973	9.18	0.000	728.1475 1123.376
F_educ_99	-191.9853	303.2901	-0.63	0.527	-786.5892 402.6186
M_educ_medium	484.5383	65.9422	7.35	0.000	355.2579 613.8188
M_educ_high	544.5631	107.7364	5.05	0.000	333.3446 755.7816
M_educ_99	-249.8355	180.6226	-1.38	0.167	-603.9483 104.2774

```
. estimates store smed
```

```
. qreg eqinc `vars' [pw=wfinal] , vce(robust) quant(.5) nolog
```

```
Median regression          Number of obs = 7,400
Raw sum of deviations 1.54e+08 (about 2797.8333)
Min sum of deviations 1.39e+08          Pseudo R2 = 0.1003
```

eqinc	Robust				
	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
F_educ_medium	752.1333	66.21129	11.36	0.000	622.3403 881.9263
F_educ_high	1073.583	116.4441	9.22	0.000	845.3189 1301.846
F_educ_99	-258.0278	129.1406	-2.00	0.046	-511.1802 -4.875464
M_educ_medium	493.3584	72.26787	6.83	0.000	351.6928 635.024
M_educ_high	682.8489	130.1273	5.25	0.000	427.7623 937.9355
M_educ_99	-280.3833	161.583	-1.74	0.083	-597.132 36.36543
_cons	2337.133	33.57903	69.60	0.000	2271.309 2402.958

```
. estimates table smed qrmcd , b(%5.2f) se(%5.2f)
```

Variable	smed	qrmcd
F_educ_med~m	704.25	752.13
	61.35	66.21
F_educ_high	925.76	1073.58
	100.80	116.44
F_educ_99	-191.99	-258.03
	303.29	129.14
M_educ_med~m	484.54	493.36
	65.94	72.27
M_educ_high	544.56	682.85
	107.74	130.13
M_educ_99	-249.84	-280.38
	180.62	161.58
_cons		2337.13
		33.58

Legend: b/se

Marginal effects on other outcome functionals

Marginal effect on conditional
distribution dispersion as
measured by Gini coefficient
(a “Gini regression”?)

Marginal effects on other outcome functionals

Marginal effect on conditional distribution dispersion as measured by Gini coefficient (a “Gini regression”?)

```
. margins , expression(1 - (exp(lgamma(`qx`))*exp(lgamma(2*`qx` - 1/`ax`)) / ( exp(lgamma(`qx`-1/`ax`))*exp(> lgamma(2*`qx`)) ))) dydx(*)
```

Average marginal effects

```
Number of strata = 1                Number of obs = 7,400
Number of PSUs   = 4,331           Population size = 256,957.34
Model VCE       : Linearized        Design df      = 4,330
```

```
Expression      : 1 - (exp(lgamma(exp(predict(equation(q)))))*exp(lgamma(2*exp(predict(equation(q)))) -> 1/exp(predict(equation(a)))))) / (
                  exp(lgamma(exp(predict(equation(q))))-1/exp(predict(equation(a)))))*exp(lgamma(2*exp(predict(> equation(q)))))) )
dy/dx w.r.t.    : F_educ_medium F_educ_high F_educ_99 M_educ_medium M_educ_high M_educ_99
```

	Delta-method					
	dy/dx	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
F_educ_medium	-.0164227	.0119007	-1.38	0.168	-.0397543	.0069088
F_educ_high	-.0011366	.0169179	-0.07	0.946	-.0343043	.0320311
F_educ_99	.0280777	.0458904	0.61	0.541	-.0618909	.1180464
M_educ_medium	-.0039178	.0153331	-0.26	0.798	-.0339784	.0261429
M_educ_high	-.009545	.0186855	-0.51	0.610	-.0461783	.0270882
M_educ_99	.0259968	.0411598	0.63	0.528	-.0546976	.1066911

Allowing for censoring is (almost) trivial

```
. smfit2 eqinc2 , svy a(`vars' ) b(`vars' ) q(`vars' ) censored(censored)
```

```
initial:   log pseudolikelihood = -4033348.5
alternative: log pseudolikelihood = -3045664.8
rescale:   log pseudolikelihood = -2821319
rescale eq: log pseudolikelihood = -2466588.1
Iteration 0: log pseudolikelihood = -2466588.1 (not concave)
Iteration 1: log pseudolikelihood = -2371433.1 (not concave)
Iteration 2: log pseudolikelihood = -2221615.1
Iteration 3: log pseudolikelihood = -2166750.9
Iteration 4: log pseudolikelihood = -2160448.8
Iteration 5: log pseudolikelihood = -2160316.9
Iteration 6: log pseudolikelihood = -2160315.4
Iteration 7: log pseudolikelihood = -2160315.4
```

ML fit of Singh-Maddala distribution

```
pweight: wfinal           Number of obs = 7421
Strata: <one>             Number of strata = 1
PSU: <observations>      Number of PSUs = 4347
                           Population size = 257330.02
                           F( 6, 4341) = 2.49
                           Prob > F = 0.0208
```

eqinc2	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
a					
F_educ_med-m	-.1573756	.0824665	-1.91	0.056	-.319052 .0043008
F_educ_high	.0223444	.0975184	0.23	0.819	-.1688414 .2135302
F_educ_99	-.492445	.2498827	-1.97	0.049	-.9823426 -.0025475
M_educ_med-m	-.2224373	.0705865	-3.15	0.002	-.3608229 -.0840518
M_educ_high	.0165667	.1134237	0.15	0.884	-.2058015 .238935
M_educ_99	.0529433	.3137487	0.17	0.866	-.5621641 .6680508
_cons	1.449801	.0544394	26.63	0.000	1.343072 1.55653
b					
F_educ_med-m	.4576982	.1019152	4.49	0.000	.2578924 .6575041
F_educ_high	.2799387	.122373	2.29	0.022	.0400252 .5198522
F_educ_99	.1887622	.3347119	0.56	0.573	-.4674439 .8449682
M_educ_med-m	.4688615	.1129831	4.15	0.000	.247357 .6903661
M_educ_high	.2011779	.1326776	1.52	0.130	-.0589379 .4612938
M_educ_99	-.1775786	.2151357	-0.83	0.409	-.5993543 .2441971
_cons	7.703581	.048204	159.81	0.000	7.609076 7.798085
q					

Comparison of P90 quantile coefficient
censored/uncensored

Allowing for censoring is (almost) trivial

```
. smfit2 eqinc2 , svy a(`vars') b(`vars') q(`vars') censored(censored)
```

```
initial:      log pseudolikelihood = -4033348.5
alternative:  log pseudolikelihood = -3045664.8
rescale:     log pseudolikelihood = -2821319
rescale eq:  log pseudolikelihood = -2466588.1
Iteration 0: log pseudolikelihood = -2466588.1 (not concave)
Iteration 1: log pseudolikelihood = -2371433.1 (not concave)
Iteration 2: log pseudolikelihood = -2221615.1
Iteration 3: log pseudolikelihood = -2166750.9
Iteration 4: log pseudolikelihood = -2160448.8
Iteration 5: log pseudolikelihood = -2160316.9
Iteration 6: log pseudolikelihood = -2160315.4
Iteration 7: log pseudolikelihood = -2160315.4
```

ML fit of Singh-Maddala distribution

```
pweight: wfinal          Number of obs = 7421
Strata: <one>           Number of strata = 1
PSU: <observations>    Number of PSUs = 4347
                        Population size = 257330.02
                        F( 6, 4341) = 2.49
                        Prob > F = 0.0208
```

eqinc2	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
a					
F_educ_med~m	-.1573756	.0824665	-1.91	0.056	-.319052 .0043008
F_educ_high	.0223444	.0975184	0.23	0.819	-.1688414 .2135302
F_educ_99	-.492445	.2498827	-1.97	0.049	-.9823426 -.0025475
M_educ_med~m	-.2224373	.0705865	-3.15	0.002	-.3608229 -.0840518
M_educ_high	.0165667	.1134237	0.15	0.884	-.2058015 .238935
M_educ_99	.0529433	.3137487	0.17	0.866	-.5621641 .6680508
_cons	1.449801	.0544394	26.63	0.000	1.343072 1.55653
b					
F_educ_med~m	.4576982	.1019152	4.49	0.000	.2578924 .6575041
F_educ_high	.2799387	.122373	2.29	0.022	.0400252 .5198522
F_educ_99	.1887622	.3347119	0.56	0.573	-.4674439 .8449682
M_educ_med~m	.4688615	.1129831	4.15	0.000	.247357 .6903661
M_educ_high	.2011779	.1326776	1.52	0.130	-.0589379 .4612938
M_educ_99	-.1775786	.2151357	-0.83	0.409	-.5993543 .2441971
_cons	7.703581	.048204	159.81	0.000	7.609076 7.798085

q

Comparison of P90 quantile coefficient
censored/uncensored

```
. estimates table nocen cen , b(%7.2f) se(%7.2f)
```

Variable	nocen	cen
F_educ_med~m	838.21	969.85
F_educ_high	146.95	177.06
F_educ_99	1271.79	1638.26
M_educ_med~m	219.65	281.58
M_educ_high	-274.93	-114.24
M_educ_99	512.80	568.50
M_educ_med~m	498.81	567.39
M_educ_high	150.80	179.11
M_educ_99	719.07	920.49
	205.68	279.96
	-268.21	-282.34
	418.42	509.10

A sample selection model: earnings distributions with endogenous LM participation

```
. selsnfit py010g [pww=final] , a('vars') b('vars') q('vars') m(atwork = 'vars' bothparents) robust cl
> uster(hid)
```

```
Initial:      log pseudolikelihood =      <inf> (could not be evaluated)
feasible:    log pseudolikelihood = -3264348.3
rescale:     log pseudolikelihood = -2961568.9
rescale eq:  log pseudolikelihood = -2673775.5
Iteration 0: log pseudolikelihood = -2673775.5 (not concave)
Iteration 1: log pseudolikelihood = -2672623.7 (not concave)
Iteration 2: log pseudolikelihood = -2550380.8 (not concave)
Iteration 3: log pseudolikelihood = -2511135
Iteration 4: log pseudolikelihood = -2508669.5 (not concave)
Iteration 5: log pseudolikelihood = -2477948 (not concave)
Iteration 6: log pseudolikelihood = -2449200.9 (not concave)
Iteration 7: log pseudolikelihood = -2445995.5 (not concave)
Iteration 8: log pseudolikelihood = -2444528.7 (not concave)
Iteration 9: log pseudolikelihood = -2443819.7 (not concave)
Iteration 10: log pseudolikelihood = -2443404.4
Iteration 11: log pseudolikelihood = -2443388.1
Iteration 12: log pseudolikelihood = -2442068.4 (not concave)
Iteration 13: log pseudolikelihood = -2441707.1
Iteration 14: log pseudolikelihood = -2441560.9
Iteration 15: log pseudolikelihood = -2441322.4
Iteration 16: log pseudolikelihood = -2441298.3
Iteration 17: log pseudolikelihood = -2441296.5
Iteration 18: log pseudolikelihood = -2441296.5
```

ML fit of Singh-Maddala distribution with endogenous sample selection

```

                                Number of obs   =    7,390
                                Wald chi2(6)      =    10.02
                                Prob > chi2      =    0.1238
Log pseudolikelihood = -2441296.5
```

(Std. Err. adjusted for 4,339 clusters in hid)

	Robust				
	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
a					
F_educ_medium	.008689	.120015	0.07	0.942	-.2265361 .243914
F_educ_high	-.0579292	.1384985	-0.42	0.676	-.3293813 .213523
F_educ_99	.3224045	.317147	1.02	0.309	-.2991922 .9440012
M_educ_medium	.1241578	.0982026	1.26	0.206	-.0683158 .3166314
M_educ_high	.1278647	.1742204	0.73	0.466	-.214401 .4685304
M_educ_99	.1415868	.527333	0.27	0.788	-.8919668 1.175314
_cons	.6053633	.1244153	4.87	0.000	.3615139 .8492127

b									
F_educ_medium	.7549241	.3435027	2.20	0.028	.0816711	1.428177			
F_educ_high	.7792893	.4685174	1.66	0.096	-.1389881	1.697567			
F_educ_99	-.6508057	.4384438	-1.48	0.138	-1.51014	.2085283			
M_educ_medium	-.1031399	.3576386	-0.29	0.773	-.0804986	.5978188			
M_educ_high	-.1623631	.5355654	-0.30	0.762	-1.212852	.8873257			
M_educ_99	-.486774	.5764455	-0.84	0.398	-1.616586	.6430383			
_cons	10.75241	.4715018	22.80	0.000	9.828283	11.67654			
q									
F_educ_medium	.6947501	.4597264	1.51	0.131	-.206297	1.595797			
F_educ_high	.5023466	.6519717	0.77	0.441	-.7754945	1.780188			
F_educ_99	-.8657182	.6306449	-1.37	0.170	-2.101759	.3703231			
M_educ_medium	-.2181679	.4958463	-0.44	0.660	-1.190009	.753673			
M_educ_high	-.1593864	.7391883	-0.22	0.829	-1.608169	1.289396			
M_educ_99	-.3879608	.9091663	-0.43	0.670	-2.160984	1.393973			
_cons	.1033944	.6389945	0.16	0.871	-1.149012	1.355801			
m									
F_educ_medium	-.0782107	.0574784	-1.36	0.174	-.1908663	.034445			
F_educ_high	-.0971069	.0956444	-1.02	0.310	-.2845665	.0903528			
F_educ_99	.0606312	.1636486	0.37	0.711	-.2601142	.3813766			
M_educ_medium	-.1614078	.0680914	-2.37	0.018	-.2948646	-.027951			
M_educ_high	-.2042567	.1196805	-1.71	0.088	-.4388262	.0303129			
M_educ_99	-.1729523	.2001426	-0.86	0.388	-.5652247	.21932			
bothparents	-.1354852	.0492244	-2.75	0.006	-.2319633	-.039067			
_cons	-.5604291	.0560934	-9.99	0.000	-.6703702	-.450488			
theta									
_cons	-13.57081	3.75177	-3.62	0.000	-20.92414	-6.217475			

More complex likelihood function (with 5 equations), but same use

A sample selection model: earnings distributions with endogenous LM participation

Comparison of median regression with/without selection correction

```
. semsfit py010g [pww=final] , a('vars') b('vars') c('vars') n(ataork = 'vars' bothparents) robust cl
> aster(hid)
```

```
initial: log pseudolikelihood = -1inf (could not be evaluated)
feasible: log pseudolikelihood = -3264368.3
rescale: log pseudolikelihood = -2061568.9
rescale eq: log pseudolikelihood = -2673775.5
Iteration 0: log pseudolikelihood = -2673775.5 (not concave)
Iteration 1: log pseudolikelihood = -2672623.7 (not concave)
Iteration 2: log pseudolikelihood = -2508300.8 (not concave)
Iteration 3: log pseudolikelihood = -2511335
Iteration 4: log pseudolikelihood = -2508669.5 (not concave)
Iteration 5: log pseudolikelihood = -2477948 (not concave)
Iteration 6: log pseudolikelihood = -2469200.9 (not concave)
Iteration 7: log pseudolikelihood = -2465095.5 (not concave)
Iteration 8: log pseudolikelihood = -2444528.7 (not concave)
Iteration 9: log pseudolikelihood = -2443819.7 (not concave)
Iteration 10: log pseudolikelihood = -2443484.4
Iteration 11: log pseudolikelihood = -2443388.1
Iteration 12: log pseudolikelihood = -2442808.4 (not concave)
Iteration 13: log pseudolikelihood = -2443707.1
Iteration 14: log pseudolikelihood = -2441560.9
Iteration 15: log pseudolikelihood = -2441322.4
Iteration 16: log pseudolikelihood = -2441298.3
Iteration 17: log pseudolikelihood = -2441296.5
Iteration 18: log pseudolikelihood = -2441296.5
```

ML fit of Singh-Maddala distribution with endogenous sample selection

```
Number of obs = 7,330
Wald chi2(0) = 10.02
Prob > chi2 = 0.1238
Log pseudolikelihood = -2441296.5
```

(Std. Err. adjusted for 4,339 clusters in hid)

	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
a					
F_educ_med~m	-.000889	.120015	0.07	0.942	-.2205361 .2439314
F_educ_high	-.0579292	.1584985	-0.42	0.676	-.3293813 .2135253
F_educ_99	-.3240465	.517147	-1.02	0.309	-.2991322 .9440812
M_educ_med~m	1.1451578	.0002426	3.26	0.001	1.0641158 .1166114
M_educ_high	-.1270647	.1742304	-0.73	0.466	-.314401 .6853304
M_educ_99	-.1415848	.527153	-0.27	0.788	-.8919448 1.17514
_cons	-.095353	.1244353	-0.87	0.386	-.3533159 .8492127
b					
F_educ_med~m	-.7549241	.3435027	-2.20	0.028	-.0816711 1.428177
F_educ_high	-.7792893	.4685174	-1.66	0.096	-.1369881 1.697567
F_educ_99	-.6509957	.4304438	-1.48	0.138	-1.51014 .2085283
M_educ_med~m	-.1851359	.1576286	-1.18	0.273	-.5049969 .1978186
M_educ_high	-.1623631	.5356954	-0.30	0.762	-1.212852 .8873257
M_educ_99	-.486774	.5764455	-0.84	0.400	-1.616586 .6430183
_cons	10.75241	.4719818	22.88	0.000	9.828283 11.67654
c					
F_educ_med~m	-.0347581	.4597204	-1.51	0.131	-.2862297 1.5957297
F_educ_high	-.5023466	.6519717	-0.77	0.441	-.7754045 1.780188
F_educ_99	-.0657182	.6306449	-1.37	0.170	-2.101750 .3702321
M_educ_med~m	-.2181679	.4954863	-0.44	0.660	-1.198069 .753673
M_educ_high	-.1593864	.7391883	-0.22	0.829	-1.688169 1.289396
M_educ_99	-.3879088	.9091663	-0.43	0.670	-2.109894 1.393973
_cons	-.1033944	.6389945	-0.16	0.871	-1.149012 1.355901
d					
F_educ_med~m	-.0782187	.0574784	-1.36	0.174	-.1988663 .084445
F_educ_high	-.0971069	.0956444	-1.02	0.310	-.2845665 .0983528
F_educ_99	-.0506312	.1036486	-0.37	0.711	-.2401342 .3813760

```
. estimates table nosel sel , b(%5.2f) se(%5.2f)
```

Variable	nosel	sel
F_educ_med~m	13731.41	15045.43
	1549.90	2095.02
F_educ_high	18464.21	22146.73
	2661.19	3294.31
F_educ_99	-4331.88	-9.68
	7317.12	8746.21
M_educ_med~m	6855.53	3621.08
	1683.84	2216.25
M_educ_high	3855.99	-1411.96
	2579.26	3458.65
M_educ_99	-1902.05	-1.0e+04
	16080.64	9637.90
bothparents		(omitted)

legend: b/se

Marginalisation: deriving unconditional distributions

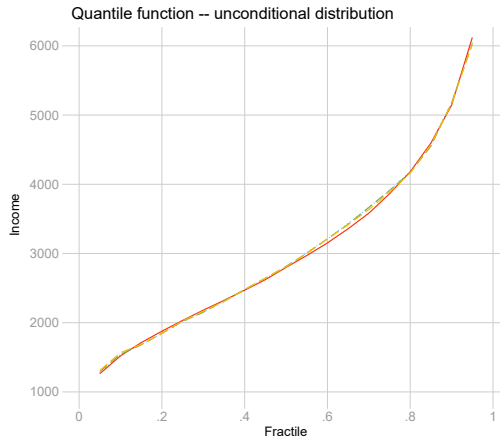
- ① Fit the model (possibly allowing for censoring, selection)
- ② Generate (equally-spaced), say, 99 predicted quantiles from the model
- ③ Vectorize the $N \times 99$ predicted quantiles into V (reshape or some simple Mata operations)
- ④ Calculate quantiles of V (or CDF or whatever functional)

Procedure does not depend on specific conditional distribution model used.

(Can easily be used to generate counterfactual distributions. (Not shown today.))

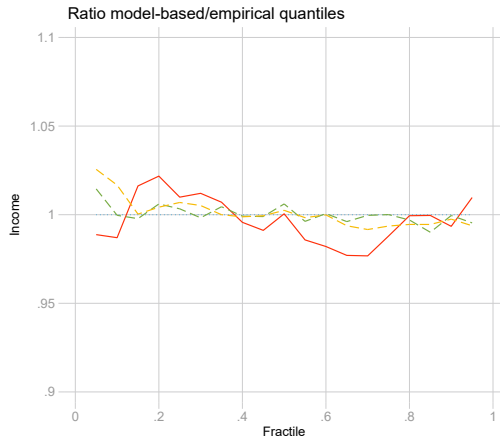
Marginalisation: comparison with different conditional quantile prediction models

- conditional Singh-Maddala
- quantile regression
- distribution regression



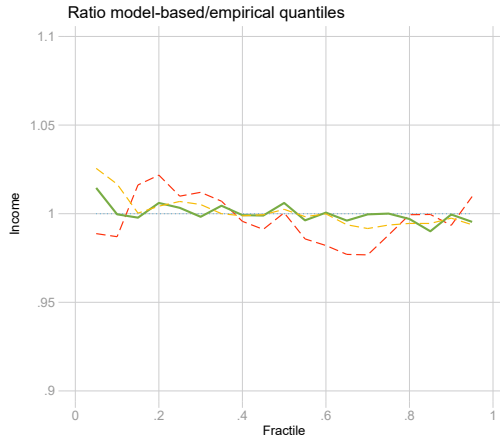
Marginalisation: comparison with different conditional quantile prediction models

- conditional Singh-Maddala
- quantile regression
- distribution regression



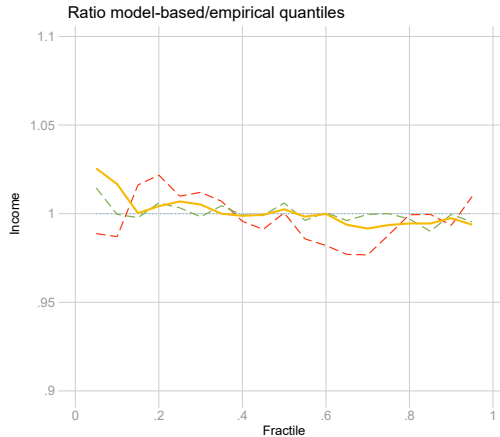
Marginalisation: comparison with different conditional quantile prediction models

- conditional Singh-Maddala
- **quantile regression**
- distribution regression



Marginalisation: comparison with different conditional quantile prediction models

- conditional Singh-Maddala
- quantile regression
- **distribution regression**



- ① Conditional likelihood models are *easy*
- ② ... and already packaged in a collection of user-written commands on SSC
- ③ `margins`, `nlcom`, `predictnl` are essential here
- ④ Combine advantages of quantile regression and distribution regression...
- ⑤ ... at the cost of imposing parametric restrictions (whose credibility is often an empirical question)
- ⑥ Interest in handling censoring, selection, joint distributions with simple, familiar estimators

References

Autor, D. H., Katz, L. F. and Kearney, M. S. (2005), Rising wage inequality: The role of composition and prices, NBER Working Paper 11628, National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge MA, USA.

Biewen, M. and Jenkins, S. P. (2005), 'A framework for the decomposition of poverty differences with an application to poverty differences between countries', *Empirical Economics* **30**(2), 331–358.
URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00181-004-0229-1>

Briseño Sanchez, G., Hohberg, M., Groll, A. and Kneib, T. (2020), 'Flexible instrumental variable distributional regression', *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A (Statistics in Society)* **183**(4), 1553–1574.

References ii

- Chernozhukov, V., Fernández-Val, I. and Galichon, A. (2009), 'Improving point and interval estimators of monotone functions by rearrangement', *Biometrika* **96**(3), 559–575.
- Chernozhukov, V., Fernandez-Val, I. and Melly, B. (2013), 'Inference on counterfactual distributions', *Econometrica* **81**(6), 2205–2268.
URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3982/ECTA10582>
- Donald, S. G., Green, D. A. and Paarsch, H. J. (2000), 'Differences in wage distributions between Canada and the United States: An application of a flexible estimator of distribution functions in the presence of covariates', *Review of Economic Studies* **67**(4), 609–633.
- Foresi, S. and Peracchi, F. (1995), 'The conditional distribution of excess returns: An empirical analysis', *Journal of the American Statistical Association* **90**(430), 451–466.
- Jäntti, M., Sierminska, E. M. and Van Kerm, P. (2015), Modeling the joint distribution of income and wealth, in T. Garner and K. Short, eds, 'Measurement of Poverty, Deprivation, and Economic Mobility', number 23 in 'Research on Economic Inequality', Emerald Group Publishing Limited, pp. 301–327.

- Jenkins, S. P., Burkhauser, R. V., Feng, S. and Larrimore, J. (2011), 'Measuring inequality using censored data: a multiple imputation approach', *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A (Statistics in Society)* **174**(1), 63–81.
- Koenker, R. and Bassett, G. (1978), 'Regression quantiles', *Econometrica* **46**(1), 33–50.
URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1913643>
- Noufaily, A. and Jones, M. C. (2013), 'Parametric quantile regression based on the generalized gamma distribution', *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series C (Applied Statistics)* **62**(5), 723–740.
URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/rssc.12014>
- Rothe, C. and Wied, D. (2013), 'Misspecification testing in a class of conditional distributional models', *Journal of the American Statistical Association* **108**(501), 314–324.
- Royston, P. (2001), 'Flexible alternatives to the Cox model, and more', *Stata Journal* (1), 1–28.
- Van Kerm, P. (2013), 'Generalized measures of wage differentials', *Empirical Economics* **45**(1), 465–482. (published online, DOI:10.1007/s00181-012-0608-y).

Van Kerm, P. (2016), Distribution regression made easy, United Kingdom Stata Users' Group Meetings 2016 13, Stata Users Group.

URL: <https://ideas.repec.org/p/boc/usug16/13.html>

Van Kerm, P., Yu, S. and Choe, C. (2017), 'Decomposing quantile wage gaps: a conditional likelihood approach', *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series C (Applied Statistics)* **65**(4), 507–527.

URL: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/rssc.12137/pdf>

Conditional likelihood models with endogenous selection

Let s denote binary participation (outcome y only observed if $s = 1$). Assume $s = 1$ if $s^* > 0$ and $s = 0$ otherwise. s^* is latent propensity to be observed.

Assume pair (y, s^*) is jointly distributed H and express H using its copula formulation

$$H(y, s^*) = \Psi(F(y), G(s^*))$$

where F is outcome distribution, G is latent participation distribution (typically Gaussian), and Ψ is a parametric copula function.

Everything is parametric (need to select a copula) and can be estimated using maximum likelihood (Van Kerm, 2013)

Derivation of conditional functionals (incl., quantiles) from \hat{F} remains trivial



Conditional multivariate likelihood models

The same modelling approach can be used to build conditional multivariate models

Assume pair (y, z) is jointly distributed H and express H using its copula formulation

$$H(y, z) = \Psi(F(y), G(z))$$

where F and G are outcome distributions (of the same or different family) and Ψ is a copula function.

Everything is parametric and can be estimated using maximum likelihood (see Jäntti et al. (2015) for a model of the joint distribution of income and wealth)

