predict advanced — predict's advanced features

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Description

predict's features are documented in

[ERM] eregress predict

[ERM] eintreg predict

[ERM] eprobit predict

[ERM] eoprobit predict

[ERM] predict treatment

Here, we document predict's advanced features.

Syntax

predict [type] newvar [if] [in] [, statistic treatstatistic asfmethod counterfactual treatmodifier oprobitmodifier advanced]

In some cases, more than one new variable needs to be specified:

predict [type] { stub* | newvarlist } [if] [in] [, statistic treatstatistic
 asfmethod counterfactual treatmodifier oprobitmodifier advanced]

With the exception of *advanced*, you have seen this syntax in the other predict manual entries. We will not cover old ground.

advanced	Description
Main	
equation(<i>depvar</i>)	calculate results for specified dependent variable
nooffset	ignore option offset() specified when model was fit in making calculation
pr(<i>a</i> , <i>b</i>)	calculate $Pr(a < \mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta} + e_i.depvar < b)$; a and b are numbers or variable names
e(<i>a</i> , <i>b</i>)	calculate $E(y_i a < y_i < b)$, where $y_i = \mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta} + e_i$. <i>depvar</i> ; <i>a</i> and <i>b</i> are numbers or variable names
fix(<i>endogvars</i>)	fix specified endogenous covariates
base(valspecs)	specify base values of any variables
scores	calculate equation-level score variables for cross-sectional models and parameter-level score variables for panel-data models

base() and fix() exist so margins can manipulate variables to form counterfactuals. You should not use them to calculate predictions. Use target() if you want to compute counterfactuals using predict.

base() and fix() imply option noasf.

endogvars are names of one or more endogenous variables appearing in the main equation.

valspecs specify the values for variables at which predictions are to be evaluated. Each *valspec* is of the form

varname = #
varname = (exp)
varname = othervarname

For instance, base(valspecs) could be base(w1=0) or base(w1=0 w2=1).

Also note that even though option mean was not included in *treatstatistic* for eprobit, eoprobit, xteprobit, and xteoprobit, it is allowed with them. mean returns the probability of a positive outcome after eprobit and xteprobit and returns the expected value of the outcome after eoprobit and xteoprobit.

Options

Main

equation(*depvar*) specifies the dependent variable for which predictions are to be calculated. By default, predictions are made for the dependent variable of the main equation.

- nooffset is relevant only if you specified offset () when you fit the model. It modifies the calculations made by predict so that they ignore the offset variable.
- pr(a, b) calculates $Pr(a < \mathbf{x}_i \beta + e_i.depvar < b)$, the probability that the linear prediction is between a and b.

a and *b* may be specified as numbers or variable names. If *a* is missing $(a \ge .)$, then *a* is treated as $-\infty$. If *b* is missing $(b \ge .)$, then *b* is treated as $+\infty$.

e(a, b) calculates $E(y_i|a < y_i < b)$, where $y_i = \mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\beta} + e_i \cdot depvar$. This is the linear prediction conditional on the outcome being between a and b.

a and *b* may be specified as numbers or variable names. If *a* is missing $(a \ge .)$, then *a* is treated as $-\infty$. If *b* is missing $(b \ge .)$, then *b* is treated as $+\infty$.

- fix(endogvars) is an advanced option seldom used for prediction. If you want to specify counterfactuals, you should use target().fix() specifies a list of endogenous variables from the main equation to be treated as if they were exogenous. This was discussed in [ERM] Intro 7.
- base(valspecs) is an advanced option seldom used for prediction. If you want to specify counterfactuals, you should use target(). base() specifies a list of variables from any equation and values for them. Those values will be used in calculating the expected value of e_i .y (or e_{ij} .y in the panel case). Errors from other equations spill over into the main equation because of correlations between errors. The correlations were estimated when the model was fit. The amount of spillover depends on those correlations and the values of the errors. This issue was discussed in [ERM] Intro 7.
- scores calculates equation-level scores for cross-sectional models (eintreg, eoprobit, eprobit, and eregress) and parameter-level scores for panel-data models (xteintreg, xteoprobit, xteprobit, and xteregress).

Remarks and examples

The most important of the advanced features is the equation() option. Previously, we documented that predict calculates results for the main equation only. That was not true. The equation() option can be used to target the other equations. The equation() option is important because it can apply so many of predict's features to them.

ERMs provide three types of equations. The endogenous () option names two of them and leaves the other unnamed:

endogenous(..., none specified ...)
endogenous(..., probit ...)
endogenous(..., oprobit ...)

none specified should have been called linear. Meanwhile, entreat() adds probit or oprobit equations, select() adds probit equations, and tobitselect() adds linear equations. Thus, there are three types of equations in total: linear, probit, and oprobit.

equation() can be used to provide the following predict features with the other equations in the model:

Option	Description
Linear equations	
mean	linear prediction
xb	linear prediction excluding complications
ystar()	censored prediction
e()	constrained expected value
pr()	probability in range
expmean	mean of exponentiated outcome
Probit equations	
xb	linear prediction excluding complications
pr	probability of positive outcome
mean	synonym for pr
Ordered probit equations	
xb	linear prediction excluding complications
pr	probability of each outcome
mean	expected value of outcome

Note 1: Option outlevel (#) is used with pr in oprobit equations to restrict the calculation to the specified outcome.

Note 2: When equation(depvar) is the main equation, you can use any of predict's options.

Note 3: For the main equation, options e() and pr() can be used with *howcalculated* options fix(), base(), and target().

Options not allowed with equation() include predict's treatment options as well as fix(), base(), and target().

For an example of predict with the equation() option, see [ERM] Example 6b.

Methods and formulas

See Methods and formulas of [ERM] eprobit postestimation.

Also see

- [ERM] eintreg postestimation Postestimation tools for eintreg and xteintreg
- [ERM] eintreg predict predict after eintreg and xteintreg
- [ERM] eoprobit postestimation Postestimation tools for eoprobit and xteoprobit
- [ERM] eoprobit predict predict after eoprobit and xteoprobit
- [ERM] eprobit postestimation Postestimation tools for eprobit and xteprobit
- [ERM] eprobit predict predict after eprobit and xteprobit
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- [ERM] eregress predict predict after eregress and xteregress

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