Title

ivtobit — Tobit model with continuous endogenous regressors

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Syntax

Maximum likelihood estimator ivtobit depvar [varlist₁] (varlist₂ = varlist_{iv}) [if] [in] [weight], ll[(#)] ul[(#)] [mle_options]

Two-step estimator

```
ivtobit depvar [varlist_1] (varlist_2 = varlist_iv) [if] [in] [weight], <u>two</u>step
```

ll[(#)] ul[(#)] [*tse_options*]

mle_options	Description		
Model			
*11[(#)]	lower limit for left censoring		
*ul[(#)]	upper limit for right censoring		
mle	use conditional maximum-likelihood estimator; the default		
<pre>constraints(constraints)</pre>	apply specified linear constraints		
SE/Robust			
vce(<i>vcetype</i>)	<i>vcetype</i> may be oim, <u>r</u> obust, <u>cl</u> uster <i>clustvar</i> , opg, <u>boot</u> strap, or <u>jackknife</u>		
Reporting			
<u>l</u> evel(#)	set confidence level; default is level(95)		
first	report first-stage regression		
<u>nocnsr</u> eport	do not display constraints		
display_options	control column formats, row spacing, line width, display of omitted variables and base and empty cells, and factor-variable labeling		
Maximization			
maximize_options	control the maximization process		
<u>coefl</u> egend	display legend instead of statistics		
*You must specify at least one of ll[(#)] and ul[(#)].			

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tse_options	Description		
Model			
* <u>two</u> step	use Newey's two-step estimator; the default is mle		
* 11[(#)]	lower limit for left censoring		
*ul[(#)]	upper limit for right censoring		
SE			
vce(<i>vcetype</i>)	vcetype may be twostep, <u>boot</u> strap, or <u>jackknife</u>		
Reporting			
<u>l</u> evel(#)	set confidence level; default is level(95)		
first	report first-stage regression		
display_options	control column formats, row spacing, line width, display of omitted variables and base and empty cells, and factor-variable labeling		
<u>coefl</u> egend	display legend instead of statistics		

*twostep is required. You must specify at least one of ll[(#)] and ul[(#)].

varlist₁ and varlist_{iv} may contain factor variables; see [U] 11.4.3 Factor variables.

depvar, varlist₁, varlist₂, and varlist_{iv} may contain time-series operators; see [U] 11.4.4 Time-series varlists.

bootstrap, by, jackknife, rolling, statsby, and svy are allowed; see [U] 11.1.10 Prefix commands. fp is allowed with the maximum likelihood estimator.

Weights are not allowed with the bootstrap prefix; see [R] bootstrap.

vce(), first, twostep, and weights are not allowed with the svy prefix; see [SVY] svy.

fweights, iweights, and pweights are allowed with the maximum likelihood estimator. fweights are allowed with Newey's two-step estimator. See [U] 11.1.6 weight.

coeflegend does not appear in the dialog box.

See [U] 20 Estimation and postestimation commands for more capabilities of estimation commands.

Menu

Statistics > Endogenous covariates > Tobit model with endogenous covariates

Description

ivtobit fits tobit models where one or more of the regressors is endogenously determined. By default, ivtobit uses maximum likelihood estimation. Alternatively, Newey's (1987) minimum chi-squared estimator can be invoked with the twostep option. Both estimators assume that the endogenous regressors are continuous and so are not appropriate for use with discrete endogenous regressors. See [R] **ivprobit** for probit estimation with endogenous regressors and [R] **tobit** for tobit estimation when the model contains no endogenous regressors.

Options for ML estimator

Model

11(#) and ul(#) indicate the lower and upper limits for censoring, respectively. You may specify one or both. Observations with $depvar \leq 11$ () are left-censored; observations with $depvar \geq$ ul() are right-censored; and remaining observations are not censored. You do not have to specify the censoring values at all. It is enough to type 11, ul, or both. When you do not specify a censoring value, ivtobit assumes that the lower limit is the minimum observed in the data (if 11 is specified) and that the upper limit is the maximum (if ul is specified).

mle requests that the conditional maximum-likelihood estimator be used. This is the default.

constraints(constraints); see [R] estimation options.

SE/Robust

vce(vcetype) specifies the type of standard error reported, which includes types that are derived from asymptotic theory (oim, opg), that are robust to some kinds of misspecification (robust), that allow for intragroup correlation (cluster clustvar), and that use bootstrap or jackknife methods (bootstrap, jackknife); see [R] vce_option.

Reporting

level(#); see [R] estimation options.

first requests that the parameters for the reduced-form equations showing the relationships between the endogenous variables and instruments be displayed. For the two-step estimator, first shows the first-stage regressions. For the maximum likelihood estimator, these parameters are estimated jointly with the parameters of the tobit equation. The default is not to show these parameter estimates.

nocnsreport; see [R] estimation options.

display_options: noomitted, vsquish, noemptycells, baselevels, allbaselevels, nofvlabel, fvwrap(#), fvwrapon(style), cformat(%fmt), pformat(%fmt), sformat(%fmt), and nolstretch; see [R] estimation options.

Maximization

maximize_options: difficult, technique(algorithm_spec), iterate(#), [no]log, trace, gradient, showstep, hessian, showtolerance, tolerance(#), ltolerance(#), nrtolerance(#), nonrtolerance, and from(init_specs); see [R] maximize. This model's likelihood function can be difficult to maximize, especially with multiple endogenous variables. The difficult and technique(bfgs) options may be helpful in achieving convergence.

Setting the optimization type to technique(bhhh) resets the default vcetype to vce(opg).

The following option is available with ivtobit but is not shown in the dialog box:

coeflegend; see [R] estimation options.

Options for two-step estimator

__ Model]

twostep is required and requests that Newey's (1987) efficient two-step estimator be used to obtain the coefficient estimates.

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11(#) and ul(#) indicate the lower and upper limits for censoring, respectively. You may specify one or both. Observations with $depvar \leq 11$ () are left-censored; observations with $depvar \geq$ ul() are right-censored; and remaining observations are not censored. You do not have to specify the censoring values at all. It is enough to type 11, ul, or both. When you do not specify a censoring value, ivtobit assumes that the lower limit is the minimum observed in the data (if 11 is specified) and that the upper limit is the maximum (if ul is specified).

SE

vce(vcetype) specifies the type of standard error reported, which includes types that are derived from asymptotic theory (twostep) and that use bootstrap or jackknife methods (bootstrap, jackknife); see [R] vce_option.

Reporting

level(#); see [R] estimation options.

- first requests that the parameters for the reduced-form equations showing the relationships between the endogenous variables and instruments be displayed. For the two-step estimator, first shows the first-stage regressions. For the maximum likelihood estimator, these parameters are estimated jointly with the parameters of the tobit equation. The default is not to show these parameter estimates.
- display_options: noomitted, vsquish, noemptycells, baselevels, allbaselevels, nofvlabel, fvwrap(#), fvwrapon(style), cformat(%fmt), pformat(%fmt), sformat(%fmt), and nolstretch; see [R] estimation options.

The following option is available with ivtobit but is not shown in the dialog box:

coeflegend; see [R] estimation options.

Remarks and examples

stata.com

ivtobit fits models with censored dependent variables and endogenous regressors. You can use it to fit a tobit model when you suspect that one or more of the regressors is correlated with the error term. ivtobit is to tobit what ivregress is to linear regression analysis; see [R] ivregress for more information.

Formally, the model is

$$egin{aligned} &y_{1i}^* = oldsymbol{y}_{2i}oldsymbol{eta} + oldsymbol{x}_{1i}oldsymbol{\gamma} + u_i \ &oldsymbol{y}_{2i} = oldsymbol{x}_{1i} oldsymbol{\Pi}_1 + oldsymbol{x}_{2i} oldsymbol{\Pi}_2 + oldsymbol{v}_i \ \end{aligned}$$

where i = 1, ..., N; y_{2i} is a $1 \times p$ vector of endogenous variables; x_{1i} is a $1 \times k_1$ vector of exogenous variables; x_{2i} is a $1 \times k_2$ vector of additional instruments; and the equation for y_{2i} is written in reduced form. By assumption $(u_i, v_i) \sim N(\mathbf{0})$. β and γ are vectors of structural parameters, and \mathbf{I}_1 and \mathbf{I}_2 are matrices of reduced-form parameters. We do not observe y_{1i}^* ; instead, we observe

$$y_{1i} = \begin{cases} a & y_{1i}^* < a \\ y_{1i}^* & a \le y_{1i}^* \le b \\ b & y_{1i}^* > b \end{cases}$$

The order condition for identification of the structural parameters is that $k_2 \ge p$. Presumably, Σ is not block diagonal between u_i and v_i ; otherwise, y_{2i} would not be endogenous.

Technical note

This model is derived under the assumption that (u_i, v_i) is independent and identically distributed multivariate normal for all *i*. The vce(cluster *clustvar*) option can be used to control for a lack of independence. As with the standard tobit model without endogeneity, if u_i is heteroskedastic, point estimates will be inconsistent.

Example 1

Using the same dataset as in [R] ivprobit, we now want to estimate women's incomes. In our hypothetical world, all women who choose not to work receive \$10,000 in welfare and child-support payments. Therefore, we never observe incomes under \$10,000: a woman offered a job with an annual wage less than that would not accept and instead would collect the welfare payment. We model income as a function of the number of years of schooling completed, the number of children at home, and other household income. We again believe that other_inc is endogenous, so we use male_educ as an instrument.

. use http://www.stata-press.com/data/r13/laborsup . ivtobit fem_inc fem_educ kids (other_inc = male_educ), 11 Fitting exogenous tobit model Fitting full model Iteration 0: \log likelihood = -3228.4224 Iteration 1: log likelihood = -3226.2882 log likelihood = -3226.085 Iteration 2: Iteration 3: \log likelihood = -3226.0845 \log likelihood = -3226.0845 Iteration 4: Tobit model with endogenous regressors Number of obs 500 = Wald chi2(3) = 117.42 Log likelihood = -3226.0845Prob > chi2 = 0.0000 Coef. Std. Err. P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval] 7 -.9045399 .1329762 -6.80 0.000 -1.165168-.6439114 other_inc 3.272391 .3968708 8.25 0.000 4.050243 fem educ 2.494538 -3.312357.7218628 -4.590.000 -4.727182-1.897532kids 19.24735 7.372391 2.61 0.009 4.797725 33.69697 _cons /alpha .2907654 .1379965 2.11 0.035 .0202972 .5612336 /lns 2.874031 .0506672 56.72 0.000 2.774725 2.973337 /lnv 2.813383 .0316228 88.97 0.000 2.751404 2.875363 17.70826 .897228 16.03422 19.55707 s v 16.66621 .5270318 15.66461 17.73186 other_inc Instrumented: fem_educ kids male_educ Instruments: Wald test of exogeneity (/alpha = 0): chi2(1) = 4.44 Prob > chi2 = 0.0351 Obs. summary: 272 left-censored observations at fem_inc<=10 228 uncensored observations 0 right-censored observations

Because we did not specify mle or twostep, ivtobit used the maximum likelihood estimator by default. ivtobit fits a tobit model, ignoring endogeneity, to get starting values for the full model. The header of the output contains the maximized log likelihood, the number of observations, and a

Wald statistic and *p*-value for the test of the hypothesis that all the slope coefficients are jointly zero. At the end of the output, we see a count of the censored and uncensored observations.

Near the bottom of the output is a Wald test of the exogeneity of the instrumented variables. If the test statistic is not significant, there is not sufficient information in the sample to reject the null hypothesis of no endogeneity. Then the point estimates from ivtobit are consistent, although those from tobit are likely to have smaller standard errors.

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Various two-step estimators have also been proposed for the endogenous tobit model, and Newey's (1987) minimum chi-squared estimator is available with the twostep option.

Example 2

Refitting our labor-supply model with the two-step estimator yields

. ivtobit fem_	_inc fem_educ	kids (other	_inc = ma	ale_educ)	, ll twostep	
Two-step tobit	: with endogen	ous regresso	ors	Numbe Wald Prob	r of obs = chi2(3) = > chi2 =	500 117.38 0.0000
	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf	. Interval]
other_inc fem_educ kids _cons	9045397 3.27239 -3.312356 19.24735	.1330015 .3969399 .7220066 7.37392	-6.80 8.24 -4.59 2.61	0.000 0.000 0.000 0.009	-1.165218 2.494402 -4.727463 4.794728	6438616 4.050378 -1.897249 33.69997
Instruments:	fem_educ kid	s male_educ				
Wald test of e Obs. summary	exogeneity: 7: 272 228 0	chi2(1) = left-censor uncensor right-censor	4.64 red obser red obser red obser	t vations vations vations	Prob > ch: at fem_inc<=:	i2 = 0.0312 10

All the coefficients have the same signs as their counterparts in the maximum likelihood model. The Wald test at the bottom of the output confirms our earlier finding of endogeneity.

Technical note

In the tobit model with endogenous regressors, we assume that (u_i, v_i) is multivariate normal with covariance matrix

$$\operatorname{Var}(u_i, \boldsymbol{v}_i) = \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_u^2 & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{21}' \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{21} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Using the properties of the multivariate normal distribution, $\operatorname{Var}(u_i|v_i) \equiv \sigma_{u|v}^2 = \sigma_u^2 - \Sigma'_{21}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}$. Calculating the marginal effects on the conditional expected values of the observed and latent dependent variables and on the probability of censoring requires an estimate of σ_u^2 . The two-step estimator identifies only $\sigma_{u|v}^2$, not σ_u^2 , so only the linear prediction and its standard error are available after you have used the twostep option. However, unlike the two-step probit estimator described in [R] **ivprobit**, the two-step tobit estimator does identify β and γ . See Wooldridge (2010, 683–684) for more information.

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Stored results

ivtobit, mle stores the following in e():

Scal	ars	
	e(N)	number of observations
	e(N_unc)	number of uncensored observations
	e(N_lc)	number of left-censored observations
	e(N_rc)	number of right-censored observations
	e(llopt)	contents of 11()
	e(ulopt)	contents of ul()
	e(k)	number of parameters
	e(k_eq)	number of equations in e(b)
	e(k_eq_model)	number of equations in overall model test
	e(k_aux)	number of auxiliary parameters
	e(k_dv)	number of dependent variables
	e(df_m)	model degrees of freedom
	e(11)	log likelihood
	e(N_clust)	number of clusters
	e(endog_ct)	number of endogenous regressors
	e(p)	model Wald <i>p</i> -value
	e(p_exog)	exogeneity test Wald p-value
	e(chi2)	model Wald χ^2
	e(chi2_exog)	Wald χ^2 test of exogeneity
	e(rank)	rank of e(V)
	e(ic)	number of iterations
	e(rc)	return code
	e(converged)	1 if converged, 0 otherwise
Mac	aros.	
wiac	a (and)	intabit
	e(cmd)	approximate as triangle
		nome of dependent veriable
	e(depvar)	instrumented veriables
	e(insta)	instrumented variables
	e(Insts)	usight type
	e(wtype)	weight type
	e(wexp)	title in estimation estimat
	e(title)	title in estimation output
	e(clustvar)	name of cluster variable
	e(chi2type)	wald; type of model χ^2 test
	e(vce)	vcetype specified in vce()
	e(vcetype)	
	e(method)	mi tura of antimization
	e(opt)	
	e(Wnich)	max or min; whether optimizer is to perform maximization or minimization
	e(ml_method)	type of m1 method
	e(user)	name of likelihood-evaluator program
	e(technique)	maximization technique
	e(properties)	b V
	e(predict)	program used to implement predict
	e(iootnote)	program used to implement the footnote display
	e(marginsok)	predictions allowed by margins
	e(asbalanced)	factor variables ivset as asbalanced
	e(asobserved)	lactor variables ivset as asobserved

Matrices	
e(b)	coefficient vector
e(Cns)	constraints matrix
e(ilog)	iteration log (up to 20 iterations)
e(gradient)	gradient vector
	$\tilde{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}$
	A variance covariance matrix of the estimators
e(V)	model based variance
e(v_moderbased)	model-based variance
Functions	
e(sample)	marks estimation sample
ivtobit, twostep stor	res the following in e():
Scalars	
e(N)	number of observations
e(N_unc)	number of uncensored observations
e(N_lc)	number of left-censored observations
e(N_rc)	number of right-censored observations
e(llopt)	contents of 11()
e(ulopt)	contents of ul()
e(df_m)	model degrees of freedom
e(df_exog)	degrees of freedom for χ^2 test of exogeneity
e(p)	model Wald <i>p</i> -value
e(p_exog)	exogeneity test Wald p-value
e(chi2)	model Wald χ^2
e(chi2_exog)	Wald χ^2 test of exogeneity
e(rank)	rank of e(V)
Macros	
e(cmd)	ivtobit
e(cmdline)	command as typed
e(depvar)	name of dependent variable
e(instd)	instrumented variables
e(insts)	instruments
e(wtype)	weight type
e(wexp)	weight expression
e(chi2type)	Wald; type of model χ^2 test
e(vce)	vcetype specified in vce()
e(vcetype)	title used to label Std. Err.
e(method)	twostep
e(properties)	b V
e(predict)	program used to implement predict
e(footnote)	program used to implement the footnote display
e(marginsok)	predictions allowed by margins
e(asbalanced)	factor variables fvset as asbalanced
e(asobserved)	factor variables fvset as asobserved
Matrices	
e(b)	coefficient vector
e(Cns)	constraints matrix
e(V)	variance-covariance matrix of the estimators
e(V_modelbased)	model-based variance
Functions	
e(sample)	marks estimation sample
-	-

Methods and formulas

The estimation procedure used by ivtobit is similar to that used by ivprobit. For compactness, we write the model as

$$y_{1i}^* = \boldsymbol{z}_i \boldsymbol{\delta} + \boldsymbol{u}_i \tag{1a}$$

$$\boldsymbol{y}_{2i} = \boldsymbol{x}_i \boldsymbol{\Pi} + \boldsymbol{v}_i \tag{1b}$$

where $\boldsymbol{z}_i = (\boldsymbol{y}_{2i}, \boldsymbol{x}_{1i}), \ \boldsymbol{x}_i = (\boldsymbol{x}_{1i}, \boldsymbol{x}_{2i}), \ \boldsymbol{\delta} = (\boldsymbol{\beta}', \boldsymbol{\gamma}')'$, and $\boldsymbol{\Pi} = (\boldsymbol{\Pi}_1', \boldsymbol{\Pi}_2')'$. We do not observe y_{1i}^* ; instead, we observe

$$y_{1i} = egin{cases} a & y_{1i}^* < a \ y_{1i}^* & a \leq y_{1i}^* \leq b \ b & y_{1i}^* > b \end{cases}$$

 (u_i, v_i) is distributed multivariate normal with mean zero and covariance matrix

$$\mathbf{\Sigma} = egin{bmatrix} \sigma_u^2 & \mathbf{\Sigma}_{21} \ \mathbf{\Sigma}_{21} & \mathbf{\Sigma}_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Using the properties of the multivariate normal distribution, we can write $u_i = v'_i \alpha + \epsilon_i$, where $\alpha = \sum_{22}^{-1} \sum_{21}; \epsilon_i \sim N(0; \sigma^2_{u|v})$, where $\sigma^2_{u|v} = \sigma^2_u - \sum_{21}' \sum_{22}^{-1} \sum_{21};$ and ϵ_i is independent of v_i , z_i , and x_i .

The likelihood function is straightforward to derive because we can write the joint density $f(y_{1i}, y_{2i}|x_i)$ as $f(y_{1i}|y_{2i}, x_i) f(y_{2i}|x_i)$. With one endogenous regressor,

$$\ln f(y_{2i}|\boldsymbol{x}_i) = -\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \ln 2\pi + \ln \sigma_v^2 + \frac{(y_{2i} - \boldsymbol{x}_i \boldsymbol{\Pi})^2}{\sigma_v^2} \right\}$$

and

$$\ln f(y_{1i}|y_{2i}, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}) = \begin{cases} \ln \left\{ 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{m_{i} - a}{\sigma_{u|v}}\right) \right\} & y_{1i} = a \\ -\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \ln 2\pi + \ln \sigma_{u|v}^{2} + \frac{(y_{1i} - m_{i})^{2}}{\sigma_{u|v}^{2}} \right\} & a < y_{1i} < b \\ \ln \Phi\left(\frac{m_{i} - b}{\sigma_{u|v}}\right) & y_{1i} = b \end{cases}$$

where

$$m_i = \boldsymbol{z}_i \boldsymbol{\delta} + \alpha \left(y_{2i} - \boldsymbol{x}_i \boldsymbol{\Pi} \right)$$

and $\Phi(\cdot)$ is the normal distribution function so that the log likelihood for observation i is

$$\ln L_i = w_i \left\{ \ln f(y_{1i} | y_{2i}, \boldsymbol{x}_i) + \ln f(y_{2i} | \boldsymbol{x}_i) \right\}$$

where w_i is the weight for observation *i* or one if no weights were specified. Instead of estimating $\sigma_{u|v}$ and σ_v directly, we estimate $\ln \sigma_{u|v}$ and $\ln \sigma_v$.

For multiple endogenous regressors, we have

$$\ln f(\boldsymbol{y}_{2i}|\boldsymbol{x}_i) = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\ln 2\pi + \ln |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{22}| + \boldsymbol{v}_i' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{22}^{-1} \boldsymbol{v}_i \right)$$

and $\ln f(y_{1i}|\boldsymbol{y}_{2i}, \boldsymbol{x}_i)$ is the same as before, except that now

$$m_i = \boldsymbol{z}_i \boldsymbol{\delta} + (\boldsymbol{y}_{2i} - \boldsymbol{x}_i \boldsymbol{\Pi}) \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{22}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{21}$$

Instead of maximizing the log-likelihood function with respect to Σ , we maximize with respect to the Cholesky decomposition S of Σ ; that is, there exists a lower triangular matrix S such that $SS' = \Sigma$. This maximization ensures that Σ is positive definite, as a covariance matrix must be. Let

$$\boldsymbol{S} = \begin{bmatrix} s_{11} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ s_{21} & s_{22} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ s_{31} & s_{32} & s_{33} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ s_{p+1,1} & s_{p+1,2} & s_{p+1,3} & \dots & s_{p+1,p+1} \end{bmatrix}$$

With maximum likelihood estimation, this command supports the Huber/White/sandwich estimator of the variance and its clustered version using vce(robust) and vce(cluster *clustvar*), respectively. See [P] **_robust**, particularly *Maximum likelihood estimators* and *Methods and formulas*.

The maximum likelihood version of ivtobit also supports estimation with survey data. For details on VCEs with survey data, see [SVY] variance estimation.

The two-step estimates are obtained using Newey's (1987) minimum chi-squared estimator. The procedure is identical to the one described in [R] ivprobit, except that tobit is used instead of probit.

Acknowledgments

The two-step estimator is based on the tobitiv command written by Jonah Gelbach of the Department of Economics at Yale University and the ivtobit command written by Joe Harkness of the Institute of Policy Studies at Johns Hopkins University.

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Also see

- [R] ivtobit postestimation Postestimation tools for ivtobit
- [R] gmm Generalized method of moments estimation
- [R] **ivprobit** Probit model with continuous endogenous regressors
- [R] ivregress Single-equation instrumental-variables regression
- [R] regress Linear regression
- [R] **tobit** Tobit regression
- [SVY] svy estimation Estimation commands for survey data
- [XT] **xtintreg** Random-effects interval-data regression models
- [XT] **xttobit** Random-effects tobit models
- [U] 20 Estimation and postestimation commands