

Nonlinear Difference-in-Differences with Panel Data

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1. Why Nonlinear Difference-in-Differences?
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1. Why Nonlinear Difference-in-Differences?

- Economic outcomes often are limited in some important way.
- At disaggregated levels, the response variable Y_{it} is often binary.
- At all levels of aggregation, Y_{it} might be a fractional response:

$$0 \leq Y_{it} \leq 1.$$

- Nonnegative outcomes are also important: $Y_{it} \geq 0$.
 - ▶ Could be a count variable, continuous, or mixed.
 - ▶ Zero is often an important value.

- Standard argument for using nonlinear models for limited dependent variables:
 - ▶ They provide a better “fit” than linear models.
 - ▶ Marginal effects are often more plausible.
- In DID settings, using nonlinear mean functions can make the parallel (common) trends assumption more plausible.
- The PT assumption is not generally invariant to transformations.
 - ▶ If PT holds in logs, say, it is unlikely it holds in levels.

- Roth and Sant’Anna (2020, WP) on PT invariance to transformations.
- Athey and Imbens (2006, Econometrica): “Changes-in-Changes” formulations.
 - ▶ With discrete outcomes, only get bounds on the average treatment effect on the treated (ATT).
- With functional form assumptions, can identified ATTs.
- Current work: Extension of linear case in Wooldridge (2021, WP).

2. Nonlinear Models with $T = 2$

- Binary treatment indicator, D .
 - ▶ Treatment in second period.
- Potential outcomes are $Y_t(0), Y_t(1), t \in \{1, 2\}$.
- We want the ATT in $t = 2$:

$$\tau_2 = E[Y_2(1) - Y_2(0) | D = 1]$$

- Impose a no anticipation assumption:

$$Y_1 = Y_1(1) = Y_1(0)$$

- Impose parallel trends in untreated state.
- For a strictly increasing, continuously differentiable function $G(\cdot)$,

$$E[Y_1(0)|D] = G(\alpha + \beta D)$$

- ▶ Treatment can be systematically related to $Y_1(0)$.
- In the second period,

$$E[Y_2(0)|D] = G(\alpha + \beta D + \gamma_2)$$

- Linear case:

$$E[Y_2(0)|D] - E[Y_1(0)|D] = (\alpha + \beta D + \gamma_2) - (\alpha + \beta D) = \gamma_2$$

- ▶ Trend in mean does not depend on D .

- Linear parallel trends might be unrealistic.
- Suppose $Y_t(0)$ is binary:

$$Y_t(0) = 1[Y_t^*(0) > 0]$$

$$Y_t^*(0) = \alpha + \beta D + \gamma f 2_t + U_{it}$$

U_{it} continuous, independent of D , $t = 1, 2$

U_{i1}, U_{i2} identically distributed (may be correlated) with CDF $F(\cdot)$

- Then

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y_t(0)|D] &= P[Y_t(0) = 1|D] = P[\alpha + \beta D + \gamma_t + U_t > 0|D] \\ &= 1 - F[-(\alpha + \beta D + \gamma_t)] \equiv G(\alpha + \beta D + \gamma_t) \end{aligned}$$

- PT assumption for a linear model holds for the latent variable $Y_t^*(0)$:

$$E[Y_t^*(0)|D] = \alpha + \beta D + \gamma_t, t = 1, 2$$

- ▶ PT fails for $E[Y_t(0)|D]$.

- Exponential example:

$$E[Y_t(0)|D] = \exp(\alpha + \beta D + \gamma_t), t = 1, 2 \quad (\gamma_1 \equiv 0)$$

$$\frac{E[Y_2(0)|D]}{E[Y_1(0)|D]} = \exp(\gamma_2)$$

- ▶ Does not depend on D .
- Equivalently, the growth in the mean is free of D :

$$\log\{E[Y_2(0)|D]\} - \log\{E[Y_1(0)|D]\} = \gamma_2$$

- General restriction: For the chosen, invertible function $G(\cdot)$,

$$G^{-1}(E[Y_2(0)|D]) - G^{-1}(E[Y_1(0)|D]) = \gamma_2$$

- By no anticipation,

$$E(Y_1|D) = E[Y_1(0)|D] = G(\alpha + \beta D)$$

- ▶ So α and β are identified using $t = 1$ data.

- What about identifying the parameter of interest,

$$\tau_2 = E[Y_2(1)|D = 1] - E[Y_2(0)|D = 1]?$$

- We observe D , $Y_1 = Y_1(0) = Y_1(1)$, and

$$Y_2 = (1 - D)Y_2(0) + DY_2(1)$$

- First term in τ_2 is easy:

$$E(Y_2|D = 1) = E[Y_2(1)|D = 1]$$

- Given a random sample of size N , number of treated units is

$$N_1 = \sum_{i=1}^N D_i$$

- A consistent (unbiased conditional on $N_1 > 0$) estimator of $E[Y_2(1)|D = 1]$ is

$$\bar{Y}_{12} = N_1^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_i Y_{i2} = \left(\frac{N_1}{N} \right)^{-1} \left(N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_i Y_{i2} \right)$$

- ▶ Average of treated units in $t = 2$.

- Second part is harder.

$$E[Y_2(0)|D] = G(\alpha + \beta D + \gamma_2)$$

$$E[Y_2(0)|D = 1] = G(\alpha + \beta + \gamma_2)$$

- Need to estimate α , β , and γ_2 .
- α and β are identified using $t = 1$ and $D \in \{0, 1\}$:

$$E(Y_1|D) = E[Y_1(0)|D] = G(\alpha + \beta D)$$

► No anticipation.

- γ_2 is then identified using $t = 2$ and $D = 0$.

$$E(Y_2|D = 0) = E[Y_2(0)|D = 0] = G(\alpha + \gamma_2)$$

- Can estimate all parameters at once.
- Define $f2_t = 1$ if $t = 2$, zero otherwise.
- Time-varying treatment indicator:

$$W_t = D \cdot f2_t, t = 1, 2$$

- ▶ $W_t = 1$ for treated units in period two.
- Use the $W_t = 0$ (“untreated”) observations to estimate α, β, γ_2 .
 - ▶ $D = 0$ in both periods, $t = 1$ for $D = 1$.

- Linear case: Obtain $\hat{\alpha}$, $\hat{\beta}$, $\hat{\gamma}_2$ from the OLS regression

$$Y_{it} \text{ on } 1, D_i, f2_t, \quad t = 1, 2; \quad i = 1, \dots, N \text{ if } W_{it} = 0$$

- Then ATT for $t = 2$ is estimated as

$$\hat{\tau}_2 = \bar{Y}_{12} - (\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_2)$$

- This is an imputation estimator similar to Borusyak, Jaravel, and Spiess (2021, WP).

- Wooldridge (2021, WP): $\hat{\tau}_2$ is also the coefficient on W_{it} using all of the data:

$$Y_{it} \text{ on } 1, D_i, f2_t, W_{it}, \quad t = 1, 2; \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

- Equivalently,

$$Y_{it} \text{ on } 1, D_i, f2_t, D_i \cdot f2_t, \quad t = 1, 2; \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

- Produces usual DID estimator:

$$\hat{\tau}_2 = (\bar{Y}_{12} - \bar{Y}_{11}) - (\bar{Y}_{02} - \bar{Y}_{01})$$

- With nonlinear $G(\cdot)$, for robust use quasi-MLE in the linear exponential family (LEF).

► But can use other methods to estimate

$$E(Y_{it}|D_i, W_{it} = 0) = G(\alpha + \beta D_i + \gamma_2 f2_t)$$

- Benefits if we use the canonical link function in the chosen LEF.
- Then, can show that $\hat{\tau}_2$ is equivalent to the average partial effect of W_t evaluated at $D = 1, f2_t = 1$.

- Specifically, let $\hat{\alpha}$, $\hat{\beta}$, $\hat{\gamma}_2$, and $\hat{\delta}_2$ be the QMLEs from using all of the data and estimating the mean function

$$E(Y_{it}|D_i, W_{it}) = G(\alpha + \beta D_i + \gamma_2 f_{2t} + \delta_2 W_{it}), t = 1, 2$$

- ▶ Only needs to be the mean function for $W_t = 0$.
- Then

$$\hat{\tau}_2 = G(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_2 + \hat{\delta}_2) - G(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_2) = \bar{Y}_{12} - G(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_2)$$
- ▶ Convenient for obtaining standard error of $\hat{\tau}_2$.

- Canonical link pairs (mean + LLF):
 - ▶ Linear + Normal (leads to OLS)
 - ▶ Logistic + Bernoulli (binary and fractional)
 - ▶ Logistic + Binomial (nonnegative, known upper bound)
 - ▶ Exponential + Poisson (nonnegative, no natural upper bound)

3. General Common Timing Case

- Allow any $T > 2$. Intervention occurs at $1 < q \leq T$.
- Treatment indicator is D . Potential outcomes are still $Y_t(0)$, $Y_t(1)$.
- No anticipation:

$$Y_t = Y_t(0) = Y_t(1), 1 \leq t < q$$

- ATTs for each treated period:

$$\tau_r = E[Y_r(1) - Y_r(0) | D = 1], r = q, q + 1, \dots, T$$

- Common or Parallel Trends Assumption: For a known, strictly increasing, continuously differentiable function $G(\cdot)$ and parameters α , β , and $\gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_T$,

$$E[Y_t(0)|D] = G(\alpha + \beta D + \gamma_t), t = 1, 2, \dots, T \ (\gamma_1 \equiv 0)$$

- Equivalently,

$$G^{-1}(E[Y_t(0)|D]) - G^{-1}(E[Y_{t-1}(0)|D]) = \gamma_t - \gamma_{t-1}, t = 2, \dots, T$$

- Transformation of mean does not depend on D .

- ATTs still have the form

$$\tau_r = E(Y_r|D = 1) - G(\alpha + \beta + \gamma_r), r = q, \dots, T$$

- Time-varying treatment indicator:

$$W_{it} = D_i(fq_t + \dots + fT_t) \equiv D_i p_t$$

- $W_{it} = 1$ for a treated unit in an intervention period.
- $\alpha, \beta, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_T$ estimated by pooling $W_{it} = 0$ observations.

$$\hat{\tau}_r = \bar{Y}_{1r} - G(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_r), r = q, \dots, T$$

$$\bar{Y}_{1r} = N_1^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_i Y_{ir}$$

- When $G(\cdot)$ is the canonical link, $\hat{\tau}_r$ can be obtained as estimated APEs with respect to W_{it} in the mean function

$$E(Y_{it}|D_i) = G[\alpha + \beta D_i + \gamma_2 f_2 + \cdots + \gamma_T f_T + \delta_q(W_{it} \cdot f_q) + \cdots + \delta_T(W_{it} \cdot f_T)]$$

- Pooled estimation using all data.

$$\hat{\tau}_r = G(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_r + \hat{\delta}_r) - G(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_r), r = q, \dots, T$$

► Because of algebraic equivalence, $G(\alpha + \beta + \gamma_t)$ only has to be the mean function when $W_t = 0$.

► $W_{it} \cdot f_r = W_{it} \cdot D_i \cdot f_r$ and APE calculations are the same.

4. Adding Covariates

- Still assume no anticipation.
- Parallel trends conditional on \mathbf{X} :

$$E[Y_t(0)|D, \mathbf{X}] = G[\alpha + \beta D + \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\kappa} + (D \cdot \mathbf{X})\boldsymbol{\xi} \\ + \gamma_2 f_2 + \cdots + \gamma_T f_T + (f_2 \cdot \mathbf{X})\boldsymbol{\pi}_2 + \cdots + (f_T \cdot \mathbf{X})\boldsymbol{\pi}_T]$$

- ▶ No interactions between D and the f_s .
- ▶ No triple interactions $D \cdot f_s \cdot \mathbf{X}$.

- Still want ATTs for $r = q, q + 1, \dots, T$:

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_r &= E[Y_r(1) - Y_r(0)|D = 1] \\ &= E(Y_r|D = 1) - E[G(\alpha + \beta + \gamma_r + \mathbf{X}(\boldsymbol{\kappa} + \boldsymbol{\xi} + \boldsymbol{\pi}_r))|D = 1]\end{aligned}$$

- $\alpha, \beta, \boldsymbol{\kappa}, \boldsymbol{\xi}, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_T, \boldsymbol{\pi}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\pi}_T$ can be estimated using a quasi-MLE in the LEF restricted to $W_{it} = 0$.

- Imputation estimator:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\tau}_r &= \bar{Y}_{1r} - N_1^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_i G(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_r + \mathbf{X}_i(\hat{\boldsymbol{\kappa}} + \hat{\boldsymbol{\xi}} + \hat{\boldsymbol{\pi}}_r)) \\ \bar{Y}_{1r} &= N_1^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_i Y_{ir}, N_1 = \sum_{i=1}^N D_i, r = q, \dots, T\end{aligned}$$

- In the canonical link case, equivalent to pooling all data to estimate

$$\begin{aligned}
E(Y_{it}|D_i, \mathbf{X}_i) = & G[\alpha + \beta D_i + \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\kappa} + (D_i \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\xi} \\
& + \gamma_2 f_2 + \cdots + \gamma_T f_T + (f_2 \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\pi}_2 + \cdots + (f_T \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\pi}_T \\
& + \delta_q(W_{it} \cdot f_q) + \cdots + \delta_T(W_{it} \cdot f_T) \\
& + (W_{it} \cdot f_q \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\xi}_q + (W_{it} \cdot f_T \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\xi}_T]
\end{aligned}$$

- For $\hat{\tau}_r$, obtain the APE of W_t at $D = 1, fr_t = 1, fs_t = 0$ all $s \neq r$, and average across the subsample $D_i = 1$.
- Same as using $W_{it} \cdot D_i$ in place of W_{it} .

- For $r = q, \dots, T$,

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\tau}_r &= N_1^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_i \left[G\left(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_r + \hat{\delta}_t + \mathbf{X}_i\left(\hat{\mathbf{k}} + \hat{\xi} + \hat{\pi}_r + \hat{\xi}_r\right)\right) - \right. \\ &\quad \left. G\left(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_r + \mathbf{X}_i\left(\hat{\mathbf{k}} + \hat{\xi} + \hat{\pi}_r\right)\right) \right] \\ &= \bar{Y}_{1r} - N_1^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_i G\left(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} + \hat{\gamma}_r + \mathbf{X}_i\left(\hat{\mathbf{k}} + \hat{\xi} + \hat{\pi}_r\right)\right)\end{aligned}$$

- In Stata, the `margins` command is convenient.
 - Use `vce(uncond)` to account for sampling error in $\{\mathbf{X}_i : i = 1, \dots, N\}$.

```

logit y i.w#c.fq ... i.w#c.fT
      i.w#c.fq#c.x1 ... i.w#c.fq#c.xK
      ... i.w#c.fT#c.x1 ... i.w#c.fT#c.xK
d x1 ...xK c.d#c.x1 ... c.d#c.xK
f2 ... fT c.f2#c.x1 ... c.f2#c.xK
... c.fT#c.x1 ... c.fT#c.xK,
noomitted vce(cluster id)

```

```

margins, dydx(w) at(d = 1 f2 = 0 ... fq_min1 = 0
    fq = 1 fq_plus1 = 0 ... fT = 0)
subpop(if d == 1) vce(uncond)
margins, dydx(w) at(d = 1 f2 = 0 ... fq_min1 = 0
    fq = 0 fq_plus1 = 1 ... fT = 0)
subpop(if d == 1) vce(uncond)
:
margins, dydx(w) at(d = 1 f2 = 0 ... fq_min1 = 0
    fq = 0 fq_plus1 = 0 ... fT = 1)
subpop(if d == 1) vce(uncond)

```

```
. use did_common_6_binary, clear
```

```
. tab year
```

year	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
2001	1,000	16.67	16.67
2002	1,000	16.67	33.33
2003	1,000	16.67	50.00
2004	1,000	16.67	66.67
2005	1,000	16.67	83.33
2006	1,000	16.67	100.00
Total	6,000	100.00	

```
. tab d if f06
```

d	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
0	618	61.80	61.80
1	382	38.20	100.00
Total	1,000	100.00	

```
. tab y
```

y	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
0	3,468	57.80	57.80
1	2,532	42.20	100.00
Total	6,000	100.00	

```
. * Sample ATTs:
```

```
. sum te_i if d & f04
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
te_i	382	.078534	.6054086	-1	1

```
. sum te_i if d & f05
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
te_i	382	.117801	.6055278	-1	1

```
. sum te_i if d & f06
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
te_i	382	.1099476	.6177221	-1	1


```

. * Linear model (standard errors not adjusted for xbar):
.
. reg y c.d#c.f04 c.d#c.f05 c.d#c.f06 ///
>      c.d#c.f04#c.x_dm c.d#c.f05#c.x_dm c.d#c.f06#c.x_dm ///
>      f02 f03 f04 f05 f06 ///
>      c.f02#c.x c.f03#c.x c.f04#c.x c.f05#c.x c.f06#c.x ///
>      d x c.d#c.x, vce(cluster id)

```

```

Linear regression                                Number of obs    =      6,000
                                                F(19, 999)       =      73.84
                                                Prob > F         =      0.0000
                                                R-squared        =      0.1458
                                                Root MSE        =      .45722

```

(Std. err. adjusted for 1,000 clusters in id)

	y	Coefficient	Robust std. err.	t	P> t	[95% conf. interval]	

	c.d#c.f04	.0462206	.0367915	1.26	0.209	-.0259768	.1184181
	c.d#c.f05	.0755069	.0375981	2.01	0.045	.0017265	.1492873
	c.d#c.f06	.0445457	.0378681	1.18	0.240	-.0297645	.118856
c.d#c.f04#c.x_dm		-.0185417	.0885739	-0.21	0.834	-.1923539	.1552704
c.d#c.f05#c.x_dm		.0453048	.085807	0.53	0.598	-.1230779	.2136875
c.d#c.f06#c.x_dm		.130662	.0841938	1.55	0.121	-.0345549	.2958789
	f02	.0009375	.0509461	0.02	0.985	-.0990362	.1009113
	f03	-.0363479	.0531606	-0.68	0.494	-.1406672	.0679714
	f04	.0227675	.0718298	0.32	0.751	-.118187	.1637221

f05		.0047325	.068471	0.07	0.945	-.129631	.1390961
f06		.132355	.0694451	1.91	0.057	-.0039201	.26863
c.f02#c.x		-.0118991	.0455013	-0.26	0.794	-.1011881	.0773899
c.f03#c.x		.0392213	.0484515	0.81	0.418	-.0558571	.1342997
c.f04#c.x		.0613781	.0705436	0.87	0.384	-.0770525	.1998087
c.f05#c.x		.0941201	.0663857	1.42	0.157	-.0361513	.2243914
c.f06#c.x		.0185686	.0705219	0.26	0.792	-.1198194	.1569567
d		-.3353013	.0434568	-7.72	0.000	-.4205783	-.2500243
x		.1262778	.0447227	2.82	0.005	.0385166	.214039
c.d#c.x		-.0628457	.0421785	-1.49	0.137	-.1456143	.019923
_cons		.3866191	.0456444	8.47	0.000	.2970492	.4761891

. * Pooled logit:

```
. logit y i.w#c.d#c.f04 i.w#c.d#c.f05 i.w#c.d#c.f06 ///
> i.w#c.d#c.f04#c.x i.w#c.d#c.f05#c.x i.w#c.d#c.f06#c.x ///
> f02 f03 f04 f05 f06 c.f02#c.x c.f03#c.x c.f04#c.x c.f05#c.x c.f06#c.x ///
> d x c.d#c.x, noomitted vce(cluster id)
```

	y	Coefficient	Robust std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]	

w#c.d#c.f04							
1		.9412159	.5137085	1.83	0.067	-.0656342	1.948066
w#c.d#c.f05							
1		.7852733	.4969686	1.58	0.114	-.1887672	1.759314
w#c.d#c.f06							
1		.2581332	.4880446	0.53	0.597	-.6984167	1.214683
w#c.d#c.f04#c.x							
1		-.3314925	.4347067	-0.76	0.446	-1.183502	.520517
w#c.d#c.f05#c.x							
1		-.0874416	.423375	-0.21	0.836	-.9172414	.7423582
w#c.d#c.f06#c.x							
1		.2483893	.4193698	0.59	0.554	-.5735604	1.070339

f02		.0159557	.254879	0.06	0.950	-.4835981	.5155094
f03		-.1853553	.2622365	-0.71	0.480	-.6993293	.3286188
f04		.0539743	.3137998	0.17	0.863	-.5610619	.6690106
f05		-.0386572	.3041224	-0.13	0.899	-.6347261	.5574118
f06		.4795352	.3138648	1.53	0.127	-.1356284	1.094699
c.f02#c.x		-.0749433	.2420313	-0.31	0.757	-.549316	.3994294
c.f03#c.x		.2054979	.2502045	0.82	0.411	-.284894	.6958897
c.f04#c.x		.2938375	.3180849	0.92	0.356	-.3295974	.9172724
c.f05#c.x		.4540765	.30813	1.47	0.141	-.1498472	1.058
c.f06#c.x		.1561729	.3322175	0.47	0.638	-.4949615	.8073073
d		-2.185559	.2805608	-7.79	0.000	-2.735448	-1.63567
x		.5048528	.2036075	2.48	0.013	.1057896	.9039161
c.d#c.x		.0588332	.2287561	0.26	0.797	-.3895205	.5071869
_cons		-.4500012	.2046174	-2.20	0.028	-.8510439	-.0489586

```
. margins, dydx(w) at(d = 1 f02 = 0 f03 = 0 f04 = 1 f05 = 0 f06 = 0) ///
> subpop(if d == 1) noestimcheck vce(uncond)
```

		Unconditional				
		dy/dx	std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]

1.w		.0886639	.0326848	2.71	0.007	.0246029 .1527249

```
. margins, dydx(w) at(d = 1 f02 = 0 f03 = 0 f04 = 0 f05 = 1 f06 = 0) ///
> subpop(if d == 1) noestimcheck vce(uncond)
```

		Unconditional				
		dy/dx	std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]

1.w		.1217999	.0355845	3.42	0.001	.0520556 .1915441

```
. margins, dydx(w) at(d = 1 f02 = 0 f03 = 0 f04 = 0 f05 = 0 f06 = 1) ///
> subpop(if d == 1) noestimcheck vce(uncond)
```

		Unconditional				
		dy/dx	std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]

1.w		.1073639	.0371242	2.89	0.004	.0346018 .1801261

```
. * Callaway and Sant'Anna (2020, Journal of Econometrics)
```

```
.  
. gen first_treat = 0
```

```
. replace first_treat = 2004 if d  
(2,292 real changes made)
```

```
. csdid y x, ivar(id) time(year) gvar(first_treat)
```

```
.....
```

Difference-in-difference with Multiple Time Periods

Outcome model :

Treatment model:

	Coefficient	Std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]	
g2004						
t_2001_2002	.0395675	.0423073	0.94	0.350	-.0433533	.1224884
t_2002_2003	-.009403	.0413075	-0.23	0.820	-.0903642	.0715583
t_2003_2004	.0278723	.0461201	0.60	0.546	-.0625215	.1182661
t_2003_2005	.0610949	.0457254	1.34	0.182	-.0285252	.150715
t_2003_2006	.0367104	.0448462	0.82	0.413	-.0511866	.1246074

Control: Never Treated

See Callaway and Sant'Anna (2020) for details

5. Staggered Interventions

- Now we have different treatment cohorts.
- First group (cohort) is $g = q$, last is $g = T$.
- No reversibility.
 - ▶ Potential outcome in the never treated state: $Y_t(\infty)$.
 - ▶ Potential outcome if first treatment period is g : $Y_t(g)$, $g = q, \dots, T$.
- Assume a never treated group.
 - ▶ Easy to relax.

- For $g \in \{q, q+1, \dots, T\}$ we are interested in the following ATTs:

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_{gr} &= E[Y_r(g) - Y_r(\infty) | D_g = 1] \\ &= E[Y_r(g) | D_g = 1] - E[Y_r(\infty) | D_g = 1], \quad r = g, g+1, \dots, T\end{aligned}$$

- Because $Y_r = Y_r(g)$ when $D_g = 1$, $E[Y_r(g) | D_g = 1]$ is always estimable:

$$\bar{Y}_{gr} = N_g^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_{ig} \cdot Y_{ir} = N_g^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_{ig} \cdot Y_{ir}(g) \xrightarrow{p} E[Y_r(g) | D_g = 1]$$

$$N_g = \sum_{i=1}^N D_{ig}$$

- To estimate $E[Y_r(\infty)|D_g = 1]$, we assume the following.

1. No anticipation: For cohorts $g = q, \dots, T$,

$$Y_t(g) = Y_t(\infty), t = 1, \dots, g - 1$$

► Can be relaxed.

2. Conditional common or parallel trends: For a known, strictly increasing function $G(\cdot)$,

$$E[Y_{it}(\infty)|D_{iq}, \dots, D_{iT}, \mathbf{X}_i] = G \left[\alpha + \sum_{g=q}^T \beta_g D_{ig} + \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\kappa} + \sum_{g=q}^T (D_{ig} \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\xi}_g + \sum_{s=2}^T \gamma_s f s_t + \sum_{s=2}^T (f s_t \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\pi}_s \right]$$

- In the linear case [Wooldridge (2021)],

$$\begin{aligned}
E[Y_{it}(\infty)|D_{iq}, \dots, D_{iT}, \mathbf{X}_i] = & \alpha + \sum_{g=q}^T \beta_g D_{ig} + \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\kappa} + \sum_{g=q}^T (D_{ig} \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\xi}_g \\
& + \sum_{s=2}^T \gamma_s f_{st} + \sum_{s=2}^T (f_{st} \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\pi}_s
\end{aligned}$$

- No anticipation means we observe $Y_{it}(\infty)$ for eventually treated cohorts prior to intervention.
- Conditional PT means no interactions allowed among D_{ig} and f_{st} .

- To estimate τ_{gr} , we need to estimate

$$E[Y_r(\infty)|D_g = 1] = E\left[G\left(\alpha + \beta_g + \mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\kappa} + \mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\xi}_g + \gamma_r + \mathbf{X}_i\boldsymbol{\pi}_r\right) \middle| D_g = 1\right]$$

- Use an imputation approach.

1. Using $W_{it} = 0$ observations, estimate the parameters

$$\left(\alpha, \beta_q, \dots, \beta_T, \boldsymbol{\kappa}, \boldsymbol{\xi}_q, \dots, \boldsymbol{\xi}_T, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_T, \boldsymbol{\pi}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\pi}_T\right)$$

using pooled quasi-MLE in the linear exponential family (LEF).

► Bernoulli ($0 \leq Y_{it} \leq 1$), Poisson ($Y_{it} \geq 0$) most common.

2. Impute $Y_{ir}(\infty)$ for $W_{ir} = 1$:

$$\hat{Y}_{igr}(\infty) \equiv G\left(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}_g + \mathbf{X}_i\hat{\boldsymbol{\kappa}} + \mathbf{X}_i\hat{\boldsymbol{\xi}}_g + \hat{\gamma}_r + \mathbf{X}_i\hat{\boldsymbol{\pi}}_r\right), r = g, \dots, T$$

- Estimate of τ_{gr} : For $r = g, \dots, T$,

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\tau}_{gr} &= N_g^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_{ig} [Y_{ir} - \hat{Y}_{igr}(\infty)] \\ &= \bar{Y}_{gr} - N_g^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N D_{ig} G(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}_g + \mathbf{X}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\kappa}} + \mathbf{X}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\xi}}_g + \hat{\gamma}_r + \mathbf{X}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\pi}}_r)\end{aligned}$$

- Extension of linear imputation estimators.
- Can obtain an analytical standard error or use bootstrap.

- With a canonical link in the LEF, same as estimating a conditional mean on the full sample with many interactions.

$$\begin{aligned}
E(Y_{it}|D_{iq}, \dots, D_{iT}, \mathbf{X}_i) = G & \left[\alpha + \sum_{g=q}^T \beta_g D_{ig} + \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\kappa} + \sum_{g=q}^T (D_{ig} \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\eta}_g \right. \\
& + \sum_{s=2}^T \gamma_s f_{st} + \sum_{s=2}^T (f_{st} \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\pi}_s \\
& + \sum_{g=q}^T \sum_{s=g}^T \delta_{gs} (W_{it} \cdot D_{ig} \cdot f_{st}) \\
& \left. + \sum_{g=q}^T \sum_{s=g}^T (W_{it} \cdot D_{ig} \cdot f_{st} \cdot \mathbf{X}_i) \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{gs} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

- Partial effect still taken with respect to W_t .
- Interactions must include the D_{ig} to get the $\hat{\tau}_{gr}$ as average partial effects.
- Average over the different subsamples determined by the D_g and fr_t .
- Centering the covariates can make the parameters more interpretable, but has no effect on properly computed APEs.
- Correctly done, `margins` in Stata provides proper standard errors.

```
. * Generated data, T = 6, three treated periods.
. * y a corner solution outcome.
```

```
. use did_staggered_6_corner, clear
```

```
. xtset id year
```

```
Panel variable: id (strongly balanced)
```

```
Time variable: year, 2001 to 2006
```

```
Delta: 1 unit
```

```
. sum dinf d4 d5 d6 if year == 2001
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
dinf	1,000	.503	.5002412	0	1
d4	1,000	.277	.4477404	0	1
d5	1,000	.163	.3695505	0	1
d6	1,000	.057	.2319586	0	1

```
. sum y
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
y	6,000	6.356815	30.53533	0	977.2437

```
. count if y == 0
2,194
```

```
. * The sample ATTs:
```

```
. gen te_4i = y4 - yinf
```

```
. sum te_4i if d4 & f04
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
te_4i	277	2.079871	11.41619	-31.82291	74.87006

```
. sum te_4i if d4 & f05
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
te_4i	277	5.265336	47.0484	-474.6237	402.3652

```
. sum te_4i if d4 & f06
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
te_4i	277	4.622355	19.60196	-37.414	168.5657


```
. gen te_5i = y5 - yinf
```

```
. sum te_5i if d5 & f05
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
te_5i	163	4.392324	29.06417	-41.48495	273.8863

```
. sum te_5i if d5 & f06
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
te_5i	163	5.179047	32.92998	-200.6624	179.0408

```
. gen te_6i = y6 - yinf
```

```
. sum te_6i if d6 & f06
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
te_6i	57	11.63881	71.78052	-19.07541	529.1949

```
. poisson y i.w#c.d4#c.f04 i.w#c.d4#c.f05 i.w#c.d4#c.f06 ///
> i.w#c.d5#c.f05 i.w#c.d5#c.f06 ///
> i.w#c.d6#c.f06 ///
> i.w#c.d4#c.f04#c.x i.w#c.d4#c.f05#c.x i.w#c.d4#c.f06#c.x ///
> i.w#c.d5#c.f05#c.x i.w#c.d5#c.f06#c.x ///
> i.w#c.d6#c.f06#c.x ///
> f02 f03 f04 f05 f06 ///
> c.f02#c.x c.f03#c.x c.f04#c.x c.f05#c.x c.f06#c.x ///
> d4 d5 d6 x c.d4#c.x c.d5#c.x c.d6#c.x, noomitted vce(cluster id)
note: you are responsible for interpretation of noncount dep. variable.
```

		Robust		z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]	
y	Coefficient	std. err.					
w#c.d4#c.f04							
1	.4798855	.5537199	0.87	0.386	-.6053856	1.565157	
w#c.d4#c.f05							
1	1.26722	.5110232	2.48	0.013	.2656328	2.268807	
w#c.d4#c.f06							
1	.6365721	.5979153	1.06	0.287	-.5353202	1.808465	
w#c.d5#c.f05							
1	.3369498	1.14253	0.29	0.768	-1.902368	2.576267	
w#c.d5#c.f06							
1	-.0489807	.9182506	-0.05	0.957	-1.848719	1.750757	
w#c.d6#c.f06							
1	2.035604	1.182908	1.72	0.085	-.282853	4.354062	

w#c.d4#c.f04#c.x							
1		-.2052884	.4326644	-0.47	0.635	-1.053295	.6427182
w#c.d4#c.f05#c.x							
1		-.1320868	.4592519	-0.29	0.774	-1.032204	.7680304
w#c.d4#c.f06#c.x							
1		.2263718	.5356826	0.42	0.673	-.8235468	1.27629
w#c.d5#c.f05#c.x							
1		.9717867	.9239081	1.05	0.293	-.83904	2.782613
w#c.d5#c.f06#c.x							
1		1.201889	.7255394	1.66	0.098	-.2201419	2.62392
w#c.d6#c.f06#c.x							
1		-.3027545	.6868041	-0.44	0.659	-1.648866	1.043357

f02		-.1661607	.5602147	-0.30	0.767	-1.264161	.93184
f03		.9632906	.4634932	2.08	0.038	.0548607	1.871721
f04		.543864	.4113719	1.32	0.186	-.26241	1.350138
f05		.4526241	.3643914	1.24	0.214	-.26157	1.166818
f06		.4978902	.3614676	1.38	0.168	-.2105733	1.206354
c.f02#c.x		.7084648	.5577776	1.27	0.204	-.3847592	1.801689
c.f03#c.x		-.361231	.4055552	-0.89	0.373	-1.156105	.4336426
c.f04#c.x		.2070722	.3604028	0.57	0.566	-.4993044	.9134488
c.f05#c.x		.1624938	.3205892	0.51	0.612	-.4658495	.7908371
c.f06#c.x		.2472584	.313374	0.79	0.430	-.3669434	.8614602
d4		-.4357018	.4858549	-0.90	0.370	-1.38796	.5165563
d5		-.3063094	.6184987	-0.50	0.620	-1.518545	.9059257
d6		-.9770025	.5265438	-1.86	0.064	-2.009009	.0550044
x		.3293786	.1887492	1.75	0.081	-.0405631	.6993202
c.d4#c.x		-.6559586	.4395996	-1.49	0.136	-1.517558	.2056407
c.d5#c.x		-.9547599	.5199871	-1.84	0.066	-1.973916	.0643961
c.d6#c.x		-.2140135	.4812769	-0.44	0.657	-1.157299	.7292719
_cons		1.202868	.229064	5.25	0.000	.7539108	1.651825

```
. margins, dydx(w) at(d4 = 1 d5 = 0 d6 = 0 f02 = 0 f03 = 0 f04 = 1 f05 = 0 f06 = 0) ///
> subpop(if d4 == 1) noestimcheck vce(uncond)
```

	Unconditional					
	dy/dx	std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]	
1.w	1.017501	1.033521	0.98	0.325	-1.008164	3.043166

```
. margins, dydx(w) at(d4 = 1 d5 = 0 d6 = 0 f02 = 0 f03 = 0 f04 = 0 f05 = 1 f06 = 0) ///
> subpop(if d4 == 1) noestimcheck vce(uncond)
```

	Unconditional					
	dy/dx	std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]	
1.w	6.00713	2.162626	2.78	0.005	1.76846	10.2458

```
. margins, dydx(w) at(d4 = 1 d5 = 0 d6 = 0 f02 = 0 f03 = 0 f04 = 0 f05 = 0 f06 = 1) ///
> subpop(if d4 == 1) noestimcheck vce(uncond)
```

	Unconditional					
	dy/dx	std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]	
1.w	4.569667	1.369919	3.34	0.001	1.884675	7.254658

```
. margins, dydx(w) at(d4 = 0 d5 = 1 d6 = 0 f02 = 0 f03 = 0 f04 = 0 f05 = 1 f06 = 0) ///
> subpop(if d5 == 1) noestimcheck vce(uncond)
```

		Unconditional				
		dy/dx	std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]

1.w		7.170127	3.355386	2.14	0.033	.5936913 13.74656

```
. margins, dydx(w) at(d4 = 0 d5 = 1 d6 = 0 f02 = 0 f03 = 0 f04 = 0 f05 = 0 f06 = 1) ///
> subpop(if d5 == 1) noestimcheck vce(uncond)
```

		Unconditional				
		dy/dx	std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]

1.w		7.185492	2.781751	2.58	0.010	1.73336 12.63762

```
. margins, dydx(w) at(d4 = 0 d5 = 0 d6 = 1 f02 = 0 f03 = 0 f04 = 0 f05 = 0 f06 = 1) ///
> subpop(if d6 == 1) noestimcheck vce(uncond)
```

		Unconditional				
		dy/dx	std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]

1.w		13.73294	10.32555	1.33	0.184	-6.504777 33.97065

```
. * Imputation is the same (no standard errors):
.
. poisson y f02 f03 f04 f05 f06 ///
>      c.f02#c.x c.f03#c.x c.f04#c.x c.f05#c.x c.f06#c.x ///
>      d4 d5 d6 x c.d4#c.x c.d5#c.x c.d6#c.x if ~w
note: you are responsible for interpretation of noncount dep. variable.
```

y	Coefficient	Std. err.	z	P> z	[95% conf. interval]	
f02	-.1661604	.0602748	-2.76	0.006	-.2842969	-.0480239
f03	.9632911	.0596965	16.14	0.000	.846288	1.080294
f04	.5438644	.0602786	9.02	0.000	.4257205	.6620082
f05	.4526244	.0628473	7.20	0.000	.329446	.5758028
f06	.4978898	.0619736	8.03	0.000	.3764238	.6193557
c.f02#c.x	.7084644	.0556699	12.73	0.000	.5993535	.8175753
c.f03#c.x	-.3612316	.0586636	-6.16	0.000	-.4762102	-.2462529
c.f04#c.x	.2070717	.0574569	3.60	0.000	.0944582	.3196852
c.f05#c.x	.1624933	.0600223	2.71	0.007	.0448518	.2801349
c.f06#c.x	.247259	.0592517	4.17	0.000	.1311277	.3633902

d4	-.4357019	.0682781	-6.38	0.000	-.5695245	-.3018793
d5	-.3063131	.0773811	-3.96	0.000	-.4579772	-.154649
d6	-.9770024	.1088114	-8.98	0.000	-1.190269	-.7637361
x	.329379	.0475337	6.93	0.000	.2362146	.4225435
c.d4#c.x	-.6559584	.0624641	-10.50	0.000	-.7783858	-.5335309
c.d5#c.x	-.954755	.0718444	-13.29	0.000	-1.095567	-.8139425
c.d6#c.x	-.2140135	.0791491	-2.70	0.007	-.3691428	-.0588841
_cons	1.202868	.0492831	24.41	0.000	1.106275	1.299461

```
. predict double yh
(option n assumed; predicted number of events)
```

```
. gen teyh = y - yh
```

```
. sum teyh if d4 & f04
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
teyh	277	1.017501	12.06767	-3.527664	81.15445


```
. sum teyh if d4 & f05
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
teyh	277	6.00713	37.30788	-3.129414	399.5018

```
. sum teyh if d4 & f06
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
teyh	277	4.569665	20.86058	-3.46407	175.1626

```
. sum teyh if d5 & f05
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
teyh	163	7.170124	43.97455	-3.200809	411.3746

```
. sum teyh if d5 & f06
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
teyh	163	7.185487	36.58664	-3.444643	305.0844

```
. sum teyh if d6 & f06
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
teyh	57	13.73293	78.90365	-4.725423	570.4094

. * Linear Model:

```
. reg y i.w#c.d4#c.f04 i.w#c.d4#c.f05 i.w#c.d4#c.f06 ///
>       i.w#c.d5#c.f05 i.w#c.d5#c.f06 ///
>       i.w#c.d6#c.f06 ///
>       i.w#c.d4#c.f04#c.x_dm4 i.w#c.d4#c.f05#c.x_dm4 i.w#c.d4#c.f06#c.x_dm4 ///
>       i.w#c.d5#c.f05#c.x_dm5 i.w#c.d5#c.f06#c.x_dm5 ///
>       i.w#c.d6#c.f06#c.x_dm6 ///
>       f02 f03 f04 f05 f06 ///
>       c.f02#c.x c.f03#c.x c.f04#c.x c.f05#c.x c.f06#c.x ///
>       d4 d5 d6 x c.d4#c.x c.d5#c.x c.d6#c.x, noomitted vce(cluster id)
```

	y	Coefficient	Robust std. err.	t	P> t	[95% conf. interval]	

w#c.d4#c.f04	1	-.1455549	1.671318	-0.09	0.931	-3.425251	3.134142
w#c.d4#c.f05	1	5.288825	2.478633	2.13	0.033	.4249014	10.15275
w#c.d4#c.f06	1	2.816552	2.138228	1.32	0.188	-1.379381	7.012485
w#c.d5#c.f05	1	6.697316	3.623153	1.85	0.065	-.4125477	13.80718
w#c.d5#c.f06	1	5.562791	3.329713	1.67	0.095	-.971242	12.09682
w#c.d6#c.f06	1	12.0696	10.58551	1.14	0.254	-8.702791	32.842

w#c.d4#c.f04#c.x_dm4 1	-1.534406	2.608612	-0.59	0.557	-6.653393	3.584581
w#c.d4#c.f05#c.x_dm4 1	-2.391267	3.602391	-0.66	0.507	-9.460388	4.677855
w#c.d4#c.f06#c.x_dm4 1	-.3870517	5.016994	-0.08	0.939	-10.23211	9.458004
w#c.d5#c.f05#c.x_dm5 1	6.001162	10.44713	0.57	0.566	-14.49967	26.50199
w#c.d5#c.f06#c.x_dm5 1	8.149612	7.926036	1.03	0.304	-7.403976	23.7032
w#c.d6#c.f06#c.x_dm6 1	-1.548522	9.214616	-0.17	0.867	-19.63074	16.5337

f02	-1.432423	3.368666	-0.43	0.671	-8.042895	5.178049
f03	4.808135	2.685276	1.79	0.074	-.461293	10.07756
f04	2.574639	2.6855	0.96	0.338	-2.695229	7.844507
f05	2.058054	2.334671	0.88	0.378	-2.523368	6.639476
f06	1.717605	3.16678	0.54	0.588	-4.496699	7.93191
c.f02#c.x	3.707984	3.898847	0.95	0.342	-3.942884	11.35885
c.f03#c.x	-2.24394	2.146963	-1.05	0.296	-6.457014	1.969134
c.f04#c.x	1.070393	2.568546	0.42	0.677	-3.969972	6.110759
c.f05#c.x	.7396578	2.404356	0.31	0.758	-3.97851	5.457825
c.f06#c.x	2.432101	3.621197	0.67	0.502	-4.673923	9.538126
d4	-.6732229	3.071511	-0.22	0.827	-6.700577	5.354131
d5	-.647893	3.189825	-0.20	0.839	-6.907419	5.611633
d6	-2.281338	2.931903	-0.78	0.437	-8.034733	3.472056
x	3.560941	2.190103	1.63	0.104	-.736789	7.858671
c.d4#c.x	-4.43147	3.546717	-1.25	0.212	-11.39134	2.528399
c.d5#c.x	-5.120498	3.631408	-1.41	0.159	-12.24656	2.005565
c.d6#c.x	-3.426569	3.452896	-0.99	0.321	-10.20233	3.349192
_cons	2.326338	1.7649	1.32	0.188	-1.136999	5.789674

6. Some Simulations

Common Intervention, Logit Mean

- $Y_{it}(0)$ a binary variable, generated to depend on heterogeneity, C_i .
- Logit mean is correctly specified.
- All serial correlation due to C_i .
- $P(D_i = 1) \approx 0.39$.
- $P[Y_{it}(0) = 1] \approx 0.38$; $P[Y_{it}(1) = 1] \approx 0.46$.
- $N = 1,000$, $T = 6$, 1,000 Monte Carlo Replications.

	Sample ATT	Logit (Pooled Bernoulli)		Linear (Pooled OLS)		CS (2020)	
$N = 1,000$	Mean	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
τ_4	0.082	0.081	0.021	-0.043	0.029	-0.041	0.036
τ_5	0.120	0.119	0.025	-0.027	0.032	-0.025	0.039
τ_6	0.166	0.165	0.027	0.0005	0.032	0.0026	0.039

Staggered Intervention, Exponential Mean

- $Y_{it}(g)$ a count variable, generated to depend on heterogeneity, C_i .
- Exponential mean is correctly specified.
- Conditional distribution of $Y_{it}(g)$ is mixture of Poisson and lognormal.
- All serial correlation due to C_i .
- $N = 500$, $T = 6$, 1,000 Monte Carlo Replications.

	Sample ATT	Exponential (Pooled Poisson)		Linear (Pooled OLS)		CS (2020)	
$N = 500$	Mean	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
τ_{44}	5.35	5.34	0.73	3.93	0.94	3.99	0.97
τ_{45}	13.20	13.21	1.61	10.31	1.94	10.37	1.87
τ_{46}	20.07	20.07	2.38	14.72	2.90	15.62	2.78
τ_{55}	12.02	12.03	1.66	9.67	2.01	10.50	1.93
τ_{56}	24.91	24.91	3.30	19.86	3.88	21.75	3.66
τ_{66}	4.72	4.76	1.15	-0.04	2.11	3.05	1.93