Econ 890: Partial Identification: Theory and Applications in Industrial Organization

Allan Collard-Wexler* Adam Rosen[†]

Spring Semester, 2020 MW 15:05 – 16:20, Social Sciences 327.

Synopsis

This module will focus on the use of partially identifying models for applications in industrial organization, investigating a mix of methodological, theoretical, econometric and applied issues. Particular areas of application in the IO literature will comprise a selection of research employing various models of auctions, entry, matching, and demand estimation. For each area of application, we will cover both the econometric theory underlying the partial identification analysis employed, as well as the motivation for the use of the partially identifying model in empirical practice. We will discuss what features of these applications have made the use of such models successful, and highlight their ability to aid the credibility of empirical findings, for example by allowing for the possibility of multiple equilibria, or by dispensing with strong restrictions on unobservable heterogeneity that do not follow from economic theory.

Background

This is a class for second year PhD students interested in research in microeconometrics or empirical IO using structural models, or both. We expect all of you to have micro background on the order of what is covered in the first year micro sequence and Mas-Colell, Whinston, and Green (1995), and econometrics background on the order of what is covered in the first years econometrics sequence. In addition, this class will require you to be able to program. You are expected to have a working knowledge of MATLAB and STATA, or equivalent software (such as R, Julia, Java, Python, C++, whatever). However, it will be advantageous for you to settle on software that is part of the current equilibrium in economics.

^{*}allan.collard-wexler@duke.edu

[†]adam.rosen@duke.edu

Office Hour

Allan Collard-Wexler: Sign up for office hours on website. Adam Rosen: Thursdays 13:30 – 14:30, Social Sciences 221B.

Assessments

Course grades will be determined by a combination of problem sets, in class presentations of research papers, and a research proposal of approximately three to four pages.

Lecture Plan and Reading List

The schedule is tentative and subject to change.

Allan • Wednesday 8 January: Introduction and motivation. Multiple equilibria, incomplete models, and partial identification.

Primary references: Ho and Rosen (2017).

Supplementary references: Manski (1989, 2007), Pakes (2010, 2014), Tamer (2010).

Adam • Monday 13 January: Identification, Partial Identification, Generalized IV Models. Primary references: Chesher and Rosen (2020), Molinari (2020).

Supplementary references: Cowles 10, Manski (2003, 2007), Matzkin (2007), Tamer (2010), Chesher and Rosen (2017a).

Adam • Wednesday 15 January: Identification, Partial Identification, Generalized IV Models.. References: Same as previous lecture.

For presentation: Manski (1990).

- Problem Set 1: Partial Identification.
- Monday 20 January: MLK Jr holiday. No class.
- Allan Wednesday 22 January: Empirical work on auctions (1).

Primary references: Hendricks and Porter (1988) and Porter and Zona (1993).

Supplementary references: Myerson (1981), Klemperer (2004) (first chapter in particular at https://www.nuff.ox.ac.uk/users/klemperer/virtualbook/07_chapter1.pdf). John Asker's Lecture notes on Auctions (http://www.johnasker.com/Auctions%201.pdf).

Allan • Monday 27 January: Empirical work on auctions (2).

Primary references: Laffont, Ossard, and Vuong (1995), Guerre, Perrigne, and Vuong (2000).

Supplementary references: Paarsch, Hong, et al. (2006), Athey and Haile (2007), Hendricks and Porter (2007).

For presentation: Asker (2010).

Allan	 Wednesday 29 January: Empirical work on auctions (3): recent applications.
	Primary references: Bhattacharya, Roberts, and Ordin (2019) and Cassola, Hortaçsu, and Kastl (2013).
	Supplementary references: Hortaçsu and McAdams (2010).
Adam	• Monday 3 February: Incomplete models of auctions (1).
	Primary references: Haile and Tamer (2003).
	Supplementary references: Athey and Haile (2002), Gentry and Li (2014), Chesher and Rosen (2017a, 2017b), Freyberger and Larsen (2017).
Adam	• Wednesday 5 February: Incomplete models of auctions (2).
	References: Same as previous lecture.
	For presentation: Aradillas-Lopez, Gandhi, and Quint (2013).
	• Problem Set 2: Auctions.
Adam	• Monday 10 February: Incomplete models of auctions (3).
	References: Same as previous two lectures.
Allan	• Wednesday 12 February: Entry models (1).
	Primary references: Mankiw and Whinston (1986), Bresnahan and Reiss (1990, 1991a, 1991b).
	Supplementary references: Sutton (1991), Syverson (2004), Dixit and Stiglitz (1977).
Allan	• Monday 17 February: Entry models (2).
	References: Same as previous lecture.
	For presentation: Backus (2019).
Allan	• Wednesday 19 February: Entry models (3).
	Primary references: Berry (1992).
	Supplementary references: none.
Allan	• Monday 24 February: Entry models (4).
	Primary references: Mazzeo (2002), Seim (2006).
	Supplementary references: Bajari, Hong, and Ryan (2010)
	For presentation: TBD.
Adam	• Wednesday 26 February: Incomplete models of entry (1).
	Primary references: Tamer (2003), Ciliberto and Tamer (2009).
	Supplementary references: Berry and Tamer (2007), Aradillas-López and Tamer (2008),

Aradillas-López (2010), Beresteanu, Molchanov, and Molinari (2011), Galichon and Henry (2011), Kline (2016).

For presentation: Heckman (1978).

• Problem Set 3: Entry Models.

Adam • Monday 2 March: Inference in incomplete models. (1)

Primary references: Ciliberto and Tamer (2009), Chernozhukov, Hong, and Tamer (2007).

Supplementary references: Rosen (2008), Andrews and Soares (2010), Holmes (2011), Beresteanu and Molinari (2008), Bugni (2010), Canay (2010), Romano and Shaikh (2010), Canay and Shaikh (2017).

• Wednesday 4 March: Application of incomplete entry models using moment inequalities .

Primary references: Holmes (2011).

Supplementary references: Eizenberg (2014), Wollmann (2018).

For presentation: Ho (2009).

- Monday 9 March: No class. Spring Break.
- Wednesday 11 March: No class. Spring Break.

Adam • Monday 16 March: Incomplete models of entry (2).

Primary references: Chesher and Rosen (2019).

Supplementary references: Berry and Tamer (2007), Aradillas-López and Tamer (2008), Aradillas-López (2010), Beresteanu, Molchanov, and Molinari (2011), Galichon and Henry (2011), Kline (2016).

Adam • Wednesday 18 March: Incomplete models of entry (3).

References: Same as last lecture.

For presentation: Kline and Tamer (2012).

- Problem Set 4: Inference in Incomplete Models.
- Adam Monday 23 March: Inference in incomplete models. (2)

Primary references: Imbens and Manski (2004), Stoye (2009), Rosen (2008).

Supplementary references: Beresteanu and Molinari (2008), Bugni (2010), Canay (2010), Romano and Shaikh (2010), Canay and Shaikh (2017).

Adam • Wednesday 25 March: Inference with conditional moment inequalities.

Primary references: Andrews and Shi (2013), Chernozhukov, Lee, and Rosen (2013)

Supplementary references: Chernozhukov, Chetverikov, and Kato (2013), Armstrong (2014, 2015), Bugni, Canay, and Shi (2017), Kaido, Molinari, and Stoye (2017), Belloni, Bugni, and Chernozhukov (2018), Chen, Christensen, and Tamer (2018), Chetverikov (2018). For presentation: Andrews and Soares (2010)

Allan • Monday 30 March: Partially identifying models of demand.

Primary references: Nevo (2001), Pakes (2010) Ho and Pakes (2014).

Supplementary references: Berry, Levinsohn, and Pakes (1995), Griliches and Hausmann (1986), Blundell, Browning, and Crawford (2008), Nevo and Rosen (2012), Blundell, Kristensen, and Matzkin (2014), Hausman and Newey (2016), Kitamura and Stoye (forthcoming).

Adam • Wednesday 1 April: IV models for discrete choice.

Primary references: Chesher, Rosen, and Smolinski (2013).

Supplementary references: Manski (2007b), Chesher (2010), Chesher and Smolinski (2012), Chesher and Rosen (2020), Chesher, Rosen, and Siddique (2019).

Allan • Monday 6 April: Partially Identifying Models of Networks.

Primary references: .

Supplementary references: Ishii (2005).

- Wednesday 8 April: Open.
- Monday 13 April: Open.
- Wednesday 15 April: Open.

References

- ANDREWS, D. W. K., AND X. SHI (2013): "Inference Based on Conditional Moment Inequalities," *Econometrica*, 81(2), 609–666.
- ANDREWS, D. W. K., AND G. SOARES (2010): "Inference for Parameters Defined by Moment Inequalities Using Generalized Moment Selection," *Econometrica*, 78(1), 119–157.
- ARADILLAS-LÓPEZ, A. (2010): "Semiparametric Estimation of a Simultaneous Game with Incomplete Information," *Journal of Econometrics*, 157(2), 409–431.
- ARADILLAS-LOPEZ, A., A. GANDHI, AND D. QUINT (2013): "Identification and Inference in Ascending Auctions with Correlated Private Values," *Econometrica*, 81(2), 489–534.
- ARADILLAS-LÓPEZ, A., AND E. TAMER (2008): "The Identification Power of Equilibrium in Simple Games," *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, 26(3), 261–283.
- ARMSTRONG, T. B. (2014): "Weighted KS Statistics for Inference on Conditional Moment Inequalities," *Journal of Econometrics*, 181(2), 92–116.
- ——— (2015): "Asymptotically Exact Inference in Conditional Moment Inequality Models," *Journal of Econometrics*, 186(1), 51–65.
- ASKER, J. (2010): "A study of the internal organization of a bidding cartel," *American Economic Review*, 100(3), 724–62.

- ATHEY, S., AND P. HAILE (2002): "Identification of Standard Auction Models," *Econometrica*, 70(6), 2107–2140.
- ATHEY, S., AND P. A. HAILE (2007): "Nonparametric approaches to auctions," *Handbook of econometrics*, 6, 3847–3965.
- BACKUS, M. (2019): "Why is productivity correlated with competition?," Discussion paper, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- BAJARI, P., H. HONG, AND S. P. RYAN (2010): "Identification and Estimation of a Discrete Game of Complete Information," *Econometrica*, 78(5), 1529–1568.
- BELLONI, A., F. BUGNI, AND V. CHERNOZHUKOV (2018): "Subvector Inference in Partially Identified Models with Many Moment Inequalities," arXiv:1806.11466.
- BERESTEANU, A., I. MOLCHANOV, AND F. MOLINARI (2011): "Sharp Identification Regions in Models with Convex Moment Predictions," *Econometrica*, 79(6), 1785–1821.
- BERESTEANU, A., AND F. MOLINARI (2008): "Asymptotic Properties for a Class of Partially Identified Models," *Econometrica*, 76(4), 763–814.
- BERRY, S. (1992): "Estimation of a Model of Entry in the Airline Industry," *Econometrica*, 60(4), 889–917.
- BERRY, S., J. LEVINSOHN, AND A. PAKES (1995): "Automobile Prices in Market Equilibrium," *Econometrica*, 63, 841–841.
- BERRY, S., AND E. TAMER (2007): "Identification in Models of Oligopoly Entry," in Advances in Economics and Econometrics: Theory and Applications, Ninth World Congress, Volume II, ed. by R. Blundell, W. Newey, and T. Persson, pp. 46–85. Cambridge University Press.
- BHATTACHARYA, V., J. ROBERTS, AND A. ORDIN (2019): "Bidding and Drilling Under Uncertainty: Identification and Estimation of Contingent Payment Auctions," *Working Paper, Duke University*.
- BLUNDELL, R., M. BROWNING, AND I. CRAWFORD (2008): "Best Nonparametric Bounds on Demand Responses," *Econometrica*, 76(6), 1227–1262.
- BLUNDELL, R., D. KRISTENSEN, AND R. MATZKIN (2014): "Bounding Quantile Demand Functions Using Revealed Preference Inequalities," *Journal of Econometrics*, 179(2), 112–127.
- BRESNAHAN, T. F., AND P. J. REISS (1990): "Entry in Monopoly Markets," *Review of Economic Studies*, 57, 531–553.

(1991a): "Empirical Models of Discrete Games," *Journal of Econometrics*, 48(1-2), 57–81.

- (1991b): "Entry and Competition in Concentrated Markets," *Journal of Political Economy*, 99(5), 977–1009.
- BUGNI, F. (2010): "Bootstrap Inference for Partially Identified Models Defined by Moment Inequalities: Coverage of the Identified Set," *Econometrica*, 78(2), 735–753.

- BUGNI, F., I. CANAY, AND X. SHI (2017): "Inference for Subvectors and Other Functions of Partially Identified Parameters in Moment Inequality Models," *Quantitative Economics*, 8(1), 1–38.
- CANAY, I. (2010): "EL Inference for Partially Identified Models: Large Deviations Optimality and Bootstrap Validity," *Journal of Econometrics*, 156(2), 408–425.
- CANAY, I., AND A. SHAIKH (2017): "Practical and Theoretical Advances for Inference in Partially Identified Models," in *Advances in Economics and Econometrics: Eleventh World Congress, Volume II*, ed. by B. Honore, A. Pakes, M. Piazzesi, and L. Samuelson. Cambridge University Press.
- CASSOLA, N., A. HORTAÇSU, AND J. KASTL (2013): "The 2007 Subprime Market Crisis Through the Lens of European Central Bank Auctions for Short-Term Funds," *Econometrica*, 81(4), 1309–1345.
- CHEN, X., T. M. CHRISTENSEN, AND E. TAMER (2018): "Monte Carlo Confidence Sets for Identified Sets," *Econometrica*, 86(6), 1965–2018.
- CHERNOZHUKOV, V., D. CHETVERIKOV, AND K. KATO (2013): "Testing Many Moment Inequalities," CeMMAP working paper CWP65/13.
- CHERNOZHUKOV, V., H. HONG, AND E. TAMER (2007): "Estimation and Confidence Regions for Parameter Sets in Econometric Models," *Econometrica*, 75(5), 1243–1284.
- CHERNOZHUKOV, V., S. LEE, AND A. ROSEN (2013): "Intersection Bounds: Estimation and Inference," *Econometrica*, 81(2), 667–737.
- CHESHER, A. (2010): "Instrumental Variable Models for Discrete Outcomes," *Econometrica*, 78(2), 575–601.
- CHESHER, A., AND A. M. ROSEN (2017a): "Generalized Instrumental Variable Models," *Econometrica*, 85(3), 959–990.
- CHESHER, A., AND A. M. ROSEN (2017b): "Incomplete English Auction Models with Heterogeneity," CeMMAP working paper CWP27/17.
- CHESHER, A., AND A. M. ROSEN (2019): "Structural Modeling of Simultaneous Discrete Choice," working paper.
 - (2020): "Generalized Instrumental Variable Models, Methods, and Applications," in *The Handbook of Econometrics*, ed. by S. Durlauf, L. P. Hansen, H. J. J., and R. Matzkin, vol. 7a. Elsevier, Forthcoming. Draft available as CeMMAP working paper CWP41/19.
- CHESHER, A., A. M. ROSEN, AND Z. SIDDIQUE (2019): "Estimating Endogenous Effects on Ordered Outcomes," CeMMAP working paper CWP66/19.
- CHESHER, A., A. M. ROSEN, AND K. SMOLINSKI (2013): "An Instrumental Variable Model of Multiple Discrete Choice," *Quantitative Economics*, 4(2), 157–196.
- CHESHER, A., AND K. SMOLINSKI (2012): "IV Models of Ordered Choice," Journal of Econometrics, 166(1), 33–48.

- CHETVERIKOV, D. (2018): "Adaptive Tests of Conditional Moment Inequalities," *Econometric Theory*, 34(1), 186–227.
- CILIBERTO, F., AND E. TAMER (2009): "Market Structure and Multiple Equilibria in Airline Markets," *Econometrica*, 77(6), 1791–1828.
- DIXIT, A. K., AND J. E. STIGLITZ (1977): "Monopolistic competition and optimum product diversity," *The American economic review*, 67(3), 297–308.
- EIZENBERG, A. (2014): "Upstream innovation and product variety in the us home pc market," *Review of Economic Studies*, 81(3), 1003–1045.
- FREYBERGER, J., AND B. J. LARSEN (2017): "Identification in ascending auctions, with an application to digital rights management," working paper, University of Wisconsin, Madison.
- GALICHON, A., AND M. HENRY (2011): "Set Identification in Models with Multiple Equilibria," *Review of Economic Studies*, 78(4), 1264–1298.
- GENTRY, M., AND T. LI (2014): "Identification in Auctions with Selective Entry," *Econometrica*, 82(1), 315–344.
- GRILICHES, Z., AND J. HAUSMANN (1986): "Errors in Variables in Panel Data," Journal of Econometrics, 31, 93–118.
- GUERRE, E., I. PERRIGNE, AND Q. VUONG (2000): "Optimal nonparametric estimation of first-price auctions," *Econometrica*, 68(3), 525–574.
- HAILE, P. A., AND E. TAMER (2003): "Inference with an Incomplete Model of English Auctions," Journal of Political Economy, 111(1), 1–51.
- HAUSMAN, J., AND W. NEWEY (2016): "Individual Heterogeneity and Average Welfare," *Econometrica*, 84(3), 1225–1248.
- HECKMAN, J. J. (1978): "Dummy Endogenous Variables in a Simultaneous Equation System," *Econometrica*, 46, 931–959.
- HENDRICKS, K., AND R. H. PORTER (1988): "An empirical study of an auction with asymmetric information," *The American Economic Review*, pp. 865–883.
- HENDRICKS, K., AND R. H. PORTER (2007): An empirical perspective on auctions, vol. 3. Elsevier.
- Ho, K. (2009): "Insurer-provider networks in the medical care market," *American Economic Review*, 99(1), 393–430.
- HO, K., AND A. PAKES (2014): "Hospital choices, hospital prices, and financial incentives to physicians," *American Economic Review*, 104(12), 3841–84.
- HO, K., AND A. M. ROSEN (2017): "Partial Identification in Applied Research: Benefits and Challenges," in Advances in Economics and Econometrics: Eleventh World Congress, Volume II, ed. by B. Honore, A. Pakes, M. Piazzesi, and L. Samuelson, pp. 292–345. Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.

- HOLMES, T. J. (2011): "The diffusion of Wal-Mart and economies of density," *Econometrica*, 79(1), 253–302.
- HORTAÇSU, A., AND D. MCADAMS (2010): "Mechanism choice and strategic bidding in divisible good auctions: An empirical analysis of the turkish treasury auction market," *Journal of Political Economy*, 118(5), 833–865.
- IMBENS, G., AND C. F. MANSKI (2004): "Confidence Intervals for Partially Identified Parameters," *Econometrica*, 72(6), 1845–1857.
- ISHII, J. (2005): "Compatibility, competition, and investment in network industries: ATM networks in the banking industry," *Unpublished working paper*.
- KAIDO, H., F. MOLINARI, AND J. STOYE (2017): "Inference for Projections of Identified Sets," CeMMAP working paper CWP49/17.
- KITAMURA, Y., AND J. STOYE (forthcoming): "Nonparametric Analysis of Random Utility Models," *Econometrica*.
- KLEMPERER, P. (2004): Auctions: Theory and Practice. The Toulouse Lectures in Economics. Princeton University Press.
- KLINE, B. (2016): "The Empirical Content of Games with Bounded Regressors," *Quantitative of Economics*, 7(1), 37–81.
- KLINE, B., AND E. TAMER (2012): "Bounds on Best Response Functions in Binary Games," *Journal* of Econometrics, 166(1), 92–105.
- LAFFONT, J.-J., H. OSSARD, AND Q. VUONG (1995): "Econometrics of First-Price Auctions," *Econometrca*, 63(4), 953–980.
- MANKIW, N. G., AND M. D. WHINSTON (1986): "Free entry and social inefficiency," *The RAND Journal of Economics*, pp. 48–58.
- MANSKI, C. F. (1989): "Anatomy of the Selection Problem," Journal of Human Resources, 24(3), 343–360.
 - —— (1990): "Nonparametric Bounds on Treatment Effects," American Economic Review, 80(2), 319–323, Papers and Proceedings of the Hundred and Second Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association.
- MANSKI, C. F. (2007a): Identification for Prediction and Decision. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA.
- MANSKI, C. F. (2007b): "Partial Identification of Counterfactual Choice Probabilities," *International Economic Review*, 48(4), 1393–1410.
- MAS-COLELL, A., M. D. WHINSTON, AND J. R. GREEN (1995): *Microeconomic Theory*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom.
- MATZKIN, R. (2007): "Nonparametric Identification," in *The Handbook of Econometrics*, ed. by J. J. Heckman, and E. E. Leamer, vol. 6b, pp. 5307–5368. North-Holland.

- MAZZEO, M. J. (2002): "Product choice and oligopoly market structure," *Rand Journal of Economics*, 33(2), 221–242.
- MOLINARI, F. (2020): "Econometrics with Partial Identification," in *The Handbook of Econometrics*, ed. by S. Durlauf, L. P. Hansen, H. J. J., and R. Matzkin, vol. 7a. Elsevier, Forthcoming. Draft available as CeMMAP working paper CWP25/19.
- MYERSON, R. B. (1981): "Optimal auction design," Mathematics of operations research, 6(1), 58–73.
- NEVO, A. (2001): "Measuring market power in the ready-to-eat cereal industry," *Econometrica*, 69(2), 307–342.
- NEVO, A., AND A. M. ROSEN (2012): "Identification with Imperfect Instruments," *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 93(3), 659–671.
- PAARSCH, H. J., H. HONG, ET AL. (2006): *An introduction to the structural econometrics of auction data*, vol. 1. The MIT Press.
- PAKES, A. (2010): "Alternative Models for Moment Inequalities," Econometrica, 78(6), 1783–1822.
- —— (2014): "The 2013 Lawrence R. Klein Lecture: Behavioral and Descriptive Forms of Choice Models," *International Economic Review*, 55(3), 603–624.
- PORTER, R. H., AND J. D. ZONA (1993): "Detection of bid rigging in procurement auctions," *Journal* of political economy, 101(3), 518–538.
- Romano, J. P., and A. M. Shaikh (2010): "Inference for the Identified Set in Partially Identified Econometric Models," *Econometrica*, 78(1), 169–211.
- ROSEN, A. M. (2008): "Confidence Sets for Partially Identified Parameters that Satisfy a Finite Number of Moment Inequalities," *Journal of Econometrics*, 146(1), 107–117.
- SEIM, K. (2006): "An empirical model of firm entry with endogenous product-type choices," *The RAND Journal of Economics*, 37(3), 619–640.
- STOYE, J. (2009): "More on Confidence Regions for Partially Identified Parameters," *Econometrica*, 77(4), 1299–1315.
- SUTTON, J. (1991): Sunk costs and market structure: Price competition, advertising, and the evolution of concentration. MIT press.
- SYVERSON, C. (2004): "Market Structure and Productivity: A Concrete Example," *Journal of Political Economy*, 112(6), 1181–1222.
- TAMER, E. (2003): "Incomplete Simultaneous Discrete Response Model with Multiple Equilibria," *Review of Economic Studies*, 70(1), 147–167.
- (2010): "Partial Identification in Econometrics," Annual Review of Economics, 2, 167–195.
- WOLLMANN, T. G. (2018): "Trucks without bailouts: Equilibrium product characteristics for commercial vehicles," *American Economic Review*, 108(6), 1364–1406.