



# ESCB CompNet Meeting

## Remarks on on Firm-Level Production Function Estimation

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Banque de France, 20-21 September 2012



# Outline

- Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), Ackerberg et al. (2006) critique, Wooldridge (2009)
- Correct for measurement error in capital
- Stata code in Appendix (see also Amil Petrin's web page)
- This presentation draws on Galuščák and Lízal, „The Impact of Capital Measurement Error Correction on Firm-Level Production Function Estimation,“ mimeo; the previous version published as CNB WP 9/2011



# Introduction I

- Estimation of TFP and returns to scale depends on the first-stage correct identification of production functions
  - Simultaneity bias caused by the relationship between unobserved productivity shocks and production inputs
  - Measurement issues: the true stock of capital is difficult to measure
    - Perpetual investment method (depreciation rate and initial stock of capital are unknown)
    - Stock of fixed assets deflated by industry deflators
  - Gorodnichenko (2010): the large variation of input prices across firms does not allow for non-stochastic inversion of firm's input choice into firm's unobserved productivity



# Introduction II

- We correct for measurement error in capital in the estimation of production functions, using Czech manufacturing firm-level data merged with firm-level data on energy consumption in physical units
  - Wooldridge (2009), using instruments for capital
  - Modify the Levinsohn and Petrin (2003) approach implemented in Stata to correct for the measurement error in capital
    - We generate predicted values of capital and use these predictions as the capital data input
    - We modify the non-parametric bootstrap used to obtain standard errors to account for the IV regression in the first stage
  - Correction for measurement error in capital yields sizeably higher coefficient estimates of capital; increasing returns to scale cannot be rejected



# Estimation I

- Consider a Cobb-Douglas production function:
$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_l l_t + \beta_k k_t + \omega_t + \varepsilon_t$$
- $y_t$  is log of output (value added or revenue),  $l_t$  is log of freely variable inputs (labour),  $k_t$  is log of quasi-fixed capital
- The error term has two components: the unobserved productivity component  $\omega_t$ , and an error term  $\varepsilon_t$  uncorrelated with inputs
- $\omega_t$  affects the choice of inputs, leading to simultaneity problem in the estimation
- Levinsohn and Petrin (2003): two-step estimation using intermediate inputs as a proxy to invert out the unobserved productivity shock  $\omega_t$



## Estimation II

- Demand for the intermediate input:  
$$m_t = f_t(k_t, \omega_t)$$
- Under mild assumptions about the firm's production technology, the demand function is monotonically increasing in  $\omega_t$ , allowing the inversion of the demand function:  
$$\omega_t = g_t(k_t, m_t)$$
  - The unobservable productivity term is a function of two observed inputs
  - Assume the productivity can be expressed as a first-order Markov process:

$$\omega_t = E[\omega_t | \omega_{t-1}] + \xi_t$$

where  $\xi_t$  is uncorrelated with  $k_t$ , but not necessarily with  $l_t$



# Estimation III

- LP method is implemented in Stata (Poi, Petrin, and Levinsohn, 2004)
- In the value added case:

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 l_t + \beta_k k_t + \omega_t + \varepsilon_t$$

$$y_t = \beta_1 l_t + \phi_t(k_t, m_t) + \varepsilon_t$$

where  $\phi_t(k_t, m_t) = \beta_0 + \beta_k k_t + g_t(k_t, m_t)$

and  $E(\varepsilon_t | l_t, k_t, m_t) = 0$

- Substitute a third-order polynomial approximation in  $k_t$  and  $m_t$  in place of  $\phi_t$  and estimate  $\beta$ , using OLS; this completes the first stage of the LP routine

# Estimation IV

- In the second stage, the coefficient  $\beta_k$  is identified
- Estimated values computed:  $\hat{\phi}_t = \hat{y}_t - \hat{\beta}_l l_t$
- For a candidate value  $\beta_k^*$  calculate (up to a constant) a prediction:  $\hat{\omega}_t = \hat{\phi}_t - \beta_k^* k_t$
- Consistent non-parametric approximation to  $E[\omega_t | \omega_{t-1}]$  is given by predicted values from regression:  
$$\hat{\omega}_t = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 \hat{\omega}_{t-1} + \gamma_2 \hat{\omega}_{t-2} + \gamma_3 \hat{\omega}_{t-3} + \varepsilon_t$$
which LP call  $E[\widehat{\omega_t | \omega_{t-1}}]$
- The estimate of  $\beta_k$  is defined as a solution to the minimization of  
$$\min_{\beta_k^*} \sum \left( y_t - \hat{\beta}_l l_t - \beta_k^* k_t - E[\widehat{\omega_t | \omega_{t-1}}] \right)^2$$
- Bootstrap approach is used to construct standard errors for the estimates  $\beta_l$  and  $\beta_k$

# Estimation V

- LP assume that given  $k_t$ , the firm decides on  $l_t$  and then, given  $l_t$ , determines  $m_t$
- Ackerberg, Caves and Frazer (2006) show that  $l_t$  and  $m_t$  are chosen simultaneously so that  $\beta_l$  is not identified in the first step
- Recall that  $m_t = f_t(k_t, \omega_t)$
- Since  $l_t$  is not in  $f$ , it may also be chosen as  $l_t = h_t(k_t, \omega_t)$
- While  $h_t$  is a different function than  $f_t$ , substituting yields
$$l_t = h_t(k_t, g_t(k_t, m_t)) = i_t(k_t, m_t)$$
- This invalidates the identification of  $\beta_l$  in the first step

# Estimation VI

- Wooldridge (2009) proposes to estimate  $\beta_l$  and  $\beta_k$  together
- In  $y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_l l_t + \beta_k k_t + \omega_t + \varepsilon_t$
- Assume  $E(\varepsilon_t | l_t, k_t, m_t, l_{t-1}, k_{t-1}, m_{t-1}, \dots, l_1, k_1, m_1) = 0$
- Restrict the dynamics of productivity shocks

$$E(\omega_t | k_t, l_{t-1}, k_{t-1}, m_{t-1}, \dots) = E(\omega_t | \omega_{t-1}) = j(\omega_{t-1}) = j(g(k_{t-1}, m_{t-1}))$$

- Now we can write  $\omega_t = j(\omega_{t-1}) + a_t$   
$$E(a_t | k_t, l_{t-1}, k_{t-1}, m_{t-1}, \dots) = 0$$
- This means that variable inputs  $l_t$  and  $m_t$  are correlated with productivity innovations  $a_t$ , but  $k_t$ , and all past values of  $l_t$ ,  $k_t$ ,  $m_t$  (and functions of these) are uncorrelated with  $a_t$
- Plugging into the production function yields

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_l l_t + \beta_k k_t + j(g(k_{t-1}, m_{t-1})) + u_t$$

where  $u_t = a_t + \varepsilon_t$  and  $E(u_t | k_t, l_{t-1}, k_{t-1}, m_{t-1}, \dots) = 0$

# Estimation VII

- Now we have two equations which identify  $\beta_l$  and  $\beta_k$ :

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_l l_t + \beta_k k_t + g(k_t, m_t) + \varepsilon_t$$

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_l l_t + \beta_k k_t + j(g(k_{t-1}, m_{t-1})) + u_t$$

where  $u_t = a_t + \varepsilon_t$  and

$$E(\varepsilon_t | l_t, k_t, m_t, l_{t-1}, k_{t-1}, m_{t-1}, \dots, l_1, k_1, m_1) = 0$$

$$E(u_t | k_t, l_{t-1}, k_{t-1}, m_{t-1}, \dots, l_1, k_1, m_1) = 0$$

- $g$  may be a low-degree polynomial; the productivity process (function  $j$ ) may be a random walk with drift  $\omega_t = \tau + \omega_{t-1} + a_t$
  - The second equation becomes
- $$y_t = (\beta_0 + \tau) + \beta_l l_t + \beta_k k_t + g(k_{t-1}, m_{t-1}) + u_t$$
- Estimate both equations using the joint GMM, or the second equation by pooled IV with instruments for  $l_t$  (Petrin, Levinsohn, 2011)

# Estimation VIII

- Measurement error in capital, yielding biased estimates (capital coefficient is attenuated towards zero, see LP 2003)
- Given the iid measurement error  $e_t$ , true values  $\hat{k}_t = k_t - e_t$  are obtained as predicted values from the OLS estimation of

$$k_t = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 z_{1t} + \dots + \gamma_N z_{Nt} + e_t$$

where  $z_{1t}, \dots, z_{Nt}$  are determinants (instruments) of capital and  $\gamma_0$  is a firm-specific fixed effect

- Then the first step of LP becomes

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_l l_t + \beta_k \hat{k}_t + g(\hat{k}_t, m_t) + \varepsilon_t, \text{ where } E(e_t | \varepsilon_t) = 0$$

- The estimates are inconsistent for a higher-order polynomial:
  - If  $g = d_1(k_t - e_t) + d_2(k_t - e_t)^2 + \dots$ , then  $E\{(k_t - e_t)^2\} \neq \{E(k_t - e_t)\}^2$
  - Linear approximation could be used instead as

$$E(k_t - e_t) = E(k_t) \text{ since } E(k_t, e_t) = 0$$



# Estimation IX

- Modify the LP routine:
- The IV regression is used in the first stage instead of OLS, using appropriate instruments for capital
- Predicted values of capital are used in the second stage:

$$\min_{\beta_k^*} \sum \left( y_t - \hat{\beta}_l l_t - \beta_k^* \hat{k}_t - E\left[ \widehat{\omega_t \mid \omega_{t-1}} \right] \right)^2$$



# Estimation X

- The current LP non-parametric bootstrap (based on random sampling from observations) used to get standard errors for the estimates is modified to account for IV regression in the first stage: we sample the observations from a distribution that reflects the uncertainty in the capital value
  - Capital values for each firm are drawn with 100 replications from a distribution  $\hat{k}_t + \eta_t$ , where  $\hat{k}_t$  is the predicted capital (including fixed effect) from the IV regression and  $\eta_t \sim N(0, \sigma_k^2)$ . The parameter  $\sigma_k^2$  is the firm-specific variance of predicted capital  $\hat{k}_t$  obtained by bootstrap with 1,000 replications. (Sampling is done twice: first, the firm-specific variance of the predicted capital is obtained; second, standard LP sampling is done where capital is randomly drawn from the distribution reflecting the firm-specific variance of the predicted capital.)



# Estimation XI

- In Wooldridge (2009) approach, capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption as instruments



# Data I

- Selected items from yearly datasets obtained from the Czech Statistical Office:
  - Balance sheet and income statement information
  - Energy consumption in physical units: electricity, gas, oil
- Value added deflators in manufacturing industries (at 2-digit NACE level)
- All manufacturing firms with 20 or more employees in 2002-2007
- Our sample covers economically active firms in each year without organizational changes
- All intermediate inputs are reported in physical units so that there is no (even potential) problem with prices and deflating



## Data II

- Value added
  - Accounting approach: sales + stocks + new investments - intermediate inputs – sales and services costs (some values are missing)
  - Economic approach: wage bill + profit +depreciation
  - Results do not differ qualitatively => we use the „accounting measure“
- Labour
  - Average number of employees (full-time equivalent) used as instrument
  - Number of hours worked used as production input



# Data III

- Capital
  - Tangible and intangible assets at the beginning of the period, net of depreciation
    - Measured with an error due to deflation or due to using book values
    - Instruments: depreciation, full-time equivalent of the average number of employees, gas consumption in physical units
  - Two alternative deflators for capital
    - Average inflation rate
    - Interest rate of new borrowing (cost of capital)
  - Proxy variables: electricity consumption, (gas consumption)
  - We imputed missing values as averages of adjacent observations
    - 6 % of all observations; the results are robust when these observations are dropped



# Results I

- We estimate firm-level production functions for 2-digit NACE level manufacturing industries (excluding petroleum and refining) in 2003-2007
  - (1): Wooldridge (2009), capital endogenous
  - (2): Wooldridge (2009), capital exogenous
  - (3): Standard LP method
  - (4): LP method with correction for capital measurement error
  - Repeat (3) and (4) with linear approximation of  $g$
- Robustness checks: alternative definition of value added (economic approach), alternative capital deflator, gas consumption as a proxy in the LP method; electricity consumption as an instrument for real capital

# Results II

## Food products and beverages, Textiles

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>Man. of food (NACE 15-16)</i>												
Log hours	0.636*** [0.0403]	0.686*** [0.0372]	0.700*** [0.0348]	0.690*** [0.0347]	0.700*** [0.0323]	0.687*** [0.0383]	0.675*** [0.0576]	0.553*** [0.0866]	0.587*** [0.0885]	0.586*** [0.0851]	0.609*** [0.0958]	0.607*** [0.0881]
Log real capital	0.578*** [0.122]	0.282*** [0.0362]	0.301*** [0.0721]	0.581*** [0.103]	0.348*** [0.0519]	0.541*** [0.0994]	0.609*** [0.185]	0.165*** [0.0487]	0.156* [0.0796]	0.305*** [0.101]	0.264*** [0.0946]	0.298*** [0.0967]
Observations	1510	1510	1510	1510	1510	1510	829	829	829	829	829	829
Firms	467	467	467	467	467	467	279	279	279	279	279	279
Returns to scale	1.214* 1.214*	0.968	1.001	1.271** 1.271**	1.048	1.228** 1.228**	1.284	0.718*** 0.718***	0.744** 0.744**	0.891	0.872	0.904

Notes: Standard errors in brackets, \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. Real value of capital (deflated by the average inflation rate).

Returns to scale (log labour + log real capital) and significance level of Wald test of constant returns reported ( $H_0: \text{log labour} + \text{log real capital} = 1$ ).

(1) Wooldridge (2009), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

(2) Wooldridge (2009).

(3) Levinsohn-Petrik (2003).

(4) Levinsohn-Petrik (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

(5) Levinsohn-Petrik (2003), linear approximation used for  $g$ .

(6) Levinsohn-Petrik (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption, linear approximation used for  $g$ .

- The correction significantly increases the coeff. estimate of capital
- LP (2003) gives similar results as Wooldridge (2009): (3) versus (2)
- „Linear“ LP method: results in (5) and (6) are similar as in (3) and (4)

# Results III

## Wood, Chemicals

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>Man. of wood (NACE 20-22)</i>						<i>Man. of chemicals (NACE 24)</i>						
Log hours	0.580*** [0.0737]	0.606*** [0.0908]	0.657*** [0.0971]	0.640*** [0.0830]	0.654*** [0.0900]	0.639*** [0.0758]	0.624*** [0.100]	0.574*** [0.140]	0.610*** [0.129]	0.608*** [0.147]	0.629*** [0.115]	0.619*** [0.115]
Log real capital	0.697*** [0.144]	0.254*** [0.0588]	0.260** [0.111]	0.326*** [0.118]	0.315*** [0.110]	0.458*** [0.153]	1.997*** [0.561]	0.374*** [0.0993]	0.465*** [0.146]	1.204*** [0.197]	0.424** [0.185]	1.206*** [0.213]
Observations	620	620	620	620	620	620	444	444	444	444	444	444
Firms	201	201	201	201	201	201	120	120	120	120	120	120
Returns to scale	1.277* 1.277*	0.859	0.917	0.965	0.969	1.097	2.621*** 2.621***	0.948	1.075	1.812*** 1.812***	1.052	1.825*** 1.825***

Notes: Standard errors in brackets, \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. Real value of capital (deflated by the average inflation rate).

Returns to scale (log labour + log real capital) and significance level of Wald test of constant returns reported ( $H_0: \text{log labour} + \text{log real capital} = 1$ ).

(1) Wooldridge (2009), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

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(5) Levinsohn-Petrik (2003), linear approximation used for  $g$ .

(6) Levinsohn-Petrik (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption, linear approximation used for  $g$ .

# Results IV

## Rubber, Other mineral products

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>Man. of rubber (NACE 25)</i>												
Log hours	0.548*** [0.0705]	0.618*** [0.0671]	0.642*** [0.0727]	0.629*** [0.0701]	0.644*** [0.0723]	0.623*** [0.0584]	0.345*** [0.0514]	0.392*** [0.0644]	0.430*** [0.0606]	0.421*** [0.0637]	0.436*** [0.0601]	0.425*** [0.0692]
Log real capital	0.733*** [0.136]	0.290*** [0.0798]	0.464*** [0.0792]	0.601*** [0.165]	0.451*** [0.0805]	0.610*** [0.152]	0.803*** [0.191]	0.328*** [0.0796]	0.265** [0.115]	0.392*** [0.132]	0.297*** [0.0948]	0.482*** [0.143]
Observations	613	613	613	613	613	613	728	728	728	728	728	728
Firms	216	216	216	216	216	216	200	200	200	200	200	200
Returns to scale	1.281** 1.281**	0.908	1.106	1.229	1.096	1.233	1.148	0.72*** 0.72***	0.695** 0.695**	0.814	0.733** 0.733**	0.907

Notes: Standard errors in brackets, \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. Real value of capital (deflated by the average inflation rate).

Returns to scale (log labour + log real capital) and significance level of Wald test of constant returns reported ( $H_0: \text{log labour} + \text{log real capital} = 1$ ).

(1) Wooldridge (2009), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

(2) Wooldridge (2009).

(3) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003).

(4) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

(5) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), linear approximation used for  $g$ .

(6) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption, linear approximation used for  $g$ .

# Results V

## Metals, Machinery

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>Man. of metals (NACE 27-28)</i>												
Log hours	0.638*** [0.0398]	0.664*** [0.0445]	0.684*** [0.0430]	0.680*** [0.0379]	0.705*** [0.0404]	0.700*** [0.0438]	0.711*** [0.0452]	0.812*** [0.0426]	0.857*** [0.0517]	0.849*** [0.0452]	0.883*** [0.0438]	0.874*** [0.0416]
Log real capital	0.575*** [0.104]	0.243*** [0.0365]	0.247*** [0.0551]	0.371*** [0.0912]	0.228*** [0.0596]	0.339*** [0.0721]	0.633*** [0.108]	0.171*** [0.0350]	0.185*** [0.0363]	0.406*** [0.0753]	0.193*** [0.0422]	0.405*** [0.0852]
Observations	1673	1673	1673	1673	1673	1673	1510	1510	1510	1510	1510	1510
Firms	592	592	592	592	592	592	502	502	502	502	502	502
Returns to scale	1.213** 1.213**	0.906* 0.906*	0.931 0.931	1.052 1.052	0.934 0.934	1.039 1.039	1.344*** 1.344***	0.983 0.983	1.041 1.041	1.255*** 1.255***	1.076 1.076	1.279*** 1.279***

Notes: Standard errors in brackets, \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. Real value of capital (deflated by the average inflation rate).

Returns to scale (log labour + log real capital) and significance level of Wald test of constant returns reported ( $H_0: \log \text{labour} + \log \text{real capital} = 1$ ).

(1) Wooldridge (2009), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

(2) Wooldridge (2009).

(3) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003).

(4) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

(5) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), linear approximation used for  $g$ .

(6) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption, linear approximation used for  $g$ .

# Results VI

## Optical and Electronics, Motor vehicles

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>Man. of electrical and optical machinery (NACE 30-33)</i>							<i>Man. of motor vehicles (NACE 34-35)</i>					
Log hours	0.728*** [0.0392]	0.820*** [0.0485]	0.845*** [0.0493]	0.843*** [0.0453]	0.868*** [0.0402]	0.862*** [0.0396]	0.642*** [0.0861]	0.647*** [0.0812]	0.719*** [0.0911]	0.685*** [0.0794]	0.717*** [0.0868]	0.690*** [0.0788]
Log real capital	0.747*** [0.122]	0.172*** [0.0437]	0.204** [0.0837]	0.336*** [0.115]	0.162* [0.0886]	0.344*** [0.0975]	0.597*** [0.176]	0.13 [0.0923]	0.174 [0.115]	0.576*** [0.145]	0.171 [0.107]	0.623*** [0.136]
Observations	1250	1250	1250	1250	1250	1250	669	669	669	669	669	669
Firms	367	367	367	367	367	367	192	192	192	192	192	192
Returns to scale	1.475***	0.993	1.049	1.179	1.03	1.206**	1.239	0.777**	0.894	1.261	0.888	1.314**

Notes: Standard errors in brackets, \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. Real value of capital (deflated by the average inflation rate).

Returns to scale (log labour + log real capital) and significance level of Wald test of constant returns reported (H0: log labour + log real capital = 1).

(1) Wooldridge (2009), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

(2) Wooldridge (2009).

(3) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003).

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(5) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), linear approximation used for  $g$ .

(6) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption, linear approximation used for  $g$ .

# Results VII

## Other manufacturing

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>Man. other (NACE 36-37)</i>						
Log hours	1.112*** [0.0971]	1.055*** [0.135]	1.093*** [0.137]	1.089*** [0.125]	1.101*** [0.119]	1.101*** [0.138]
Log real capital	0.758 [0.485]	0.140* [0.0783]	0.270** [0.135]	0.752** [0.321]	0.247** [0.118]	0.837** [0.363]
Observations	622	622	622	622	622	622
Firms	206	206	206	206	206	206
Returns to scale	1.87* (1) Wooldridge (2009), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.	1.196 (2) Wooldridge (2009).	1.363** (3) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003).	1.841** (4) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.	1.348** (5) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), linear approximation used for $g$ .	1.937** (6) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption, linear approximation used for $g$ .

Notes: Standard errors in brackets, \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1. Real value of capital (deflated by the average inflation rate).

Returns to scale ( $\log \text{labour} + \log \text{real capital}$ ) and significance level of Wald test of constant returns reported ( $H_0: \log \text{labour} + \log \text{real capital} = 1$ ).

(1) Wooldridge (2009), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

(2) Wooldridge (2009).

(3) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003).

(4) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

(5) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), linear approximation used for  $g$ .

(6) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption, linear approximation used for  $g$ .

# Results VIII

**Returns to scale in Czech manufacturing industries, 2002-2007**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Food products, beverages and tobacco products (NACE 15-16)	1.214*	0.968	1.001	1.271**
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather (NACE 17-19)	1.284	0.718***	0.744**	0.891
Wood, pulp and paper, publishing and printing (NACE 20-22)	1.277*	0.859	0.917	0.965
Chemicals (NACE 24)	2.621***	0.948	1.075	1.812***
Rubber and plastic products (NACE 25)	1.281**	0.908	1.106	1.229
Other non-metallic mineral products (NACE 26)	1.148	0.72***	0.695**	0.814
Metals (NACE 27-28)	1.213**	0.906*	0.931	1.052
Machinery and other equipment (NACE 29)	1.344***	0.983	1.041	1.255***
Electrical and optical machinery and equipment (NACE 30-33)	1.475***	0.993	1.049	1.179
Motor vehicles and other transport equipment (NACE 34-35)	1.239	0.777**	0.894	1.261
Furniture, other manufacturing, recycling (NACE 36-37)	1.87*	1.196	1.363**	1.841**

Notes: Returns to scale (log labour + log real capital) and significance level of Wald test of constant returns reported ( $H_0: \log \text{labour} + \log \text{real capital} = 1$ );

\*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1.

(1) Wooldridge (2009), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

(2) Wooldridge (2009).

(3) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003).

(4) Levinsohn-Petrin (2003), real capital is instrumented using depreciation, employment and gas consumption.

- Returns to scale are increasing in about half of manufacturing industries when the measurement error in capital is accounted for
  - Accounting for capacity utilization marginally decreases the coefficient estimates of capital; no impact on RTS test results



# Conclusions

- Wooldridge (2009) is a superior method of production function estimation, but the results do not differ much from LP (hence, little impact on TFP); runs faster in Stata
- The measurement error of capital is a substantial problem: the correction significantly increases the coefficient estimate of capital
  - Ignoring the measurement error may lead to underestimation of the effect of capital on value added formation
- The measurement error matters more than specific assumptions approximating the unknown function  $g$
- While most industries using the standard methods exhibit constant or decreasing returns to scale, we cannot reject the presence of increasing returns in some industries when the estimation is corrected for the measurement error in capital

# Appendix

\* Wooldridge (2009) method of production function estimation

\* lagged variables

```
xtset ico rok, yearly
gen ln_L_11=L.lnodprac_hod
gen ln_K_11=L.lnkap_infl
gen ln_E_11=L.lnelektrina
```

\* defining exponential function of lnK and lnM

```
gen km_11=ln_K_11*ln_E_11
gen k2_11=ln_K_11^2
gen m2_11=ln_E_11^2
```

```
gen k2m_11=ln_K_11^2*ln_E_11
gen km2_11=ln_K_11*ln_E_11^2
gen k3_11=ln_K_11^3
gen m3_11=ln_E_11^3
```

\* defining instruments for capital and its interations

```
* ln_K_11
gen ln_odp_11=L.lnodpisy
gen ln_emp_11=L.empl_avg_prepocteny
gen ln_plyn_11=L.lnplyn_m3
```

\* km\_11

```
gen odp_11=ln_odp_11*ln_E_11
gen empm_11=ln_emp_11*ln_E_11
gen plyn_11=ln_plyn_11*ln_E_11
```

\* k2\_11

```
gen odp2_11=ln_odp_11^2
gen emp2_11=ln_emp_11^2
gen plyn2_11=ln_plyn_11^2
```

\* k2m\_11

```
gen odp2m_11=ln_odp_11^2*ln_E_11
gen emp2m_11=ln_emp_11^2*ln_E_11
gen plyn2m_11=ln_plyn_11^2*ln_E_11
```

\* km2\_11

```
gen odpkm2_11=ln_odp_11*ln_E_11^2
gen empm2_11=ln_emp_11*ln_E_11^2
gen plynkm2_11=ln_plyn_11*ln_E_11^2
```

\* k3\_11

```
gen odp3_11=ln_odp_11^3
gen emp3_11=ln_emp_11^3
gen plyn3_11=ln_plyn_11^3
```

\* denote the instruments for capital

```
global instr_K lnodpisy lnempl_avg_prepocteny
lnplyn_m3 ln_odp_11 ln_emp_11 ln_plyn_11 odp_11
empm_11 plyn_11 odp2_11 emp2_11 plyn2_11 odp2m_11
emp2m_11 plyn2m_11 odpm2_11 empm2_11 plynkm2_11
odp3_11 emp3_11 plyn3_11
```

\* column 1: Wooldridge (2009), account for measurement error in capital

```
ivreg2 lnph1_defl ln_E_11 m2_11 m3_11 (lnodprac_hod
lnkap_infl ln_K_11 km_11 k2_11 k2m_11 km2_11
k3_11=ln_L_11 $instr_K), gmm2s cluster(ico)
```

local rs=\_b[lnodprac\_hod]+\_b[lnkap\_infl]

local firms=e(N\_clust)

test \_b[lnodprac\_hod]+\_b[lnkap\_infl]=1

local pvalue=r(p)

outreg2 using "ind106\_1.xls", append br auto(3) nor2 addstat(Firms, `firms', Returns to scale, `rs', p-value, `pvalue')

\* column 2: Wooldridge (2009)

```
ivreg2 lnph1_defl lnkap_infl ln_K_11 ln_E_11 km_11
k2_11 m2_11 k2m_11 km2_11 k3_11 m3_11
(lnodprac_hod=ln_L_11), gmm2s cluster(ico)
```

local rs=\_b[lnodprac\_hod]+\_b[lnkap\_infl]

local firms=e(N\_clust)

test \_b[lnodprac\_hod]+\_b[lnkap\_infl]=1

local pvalue=r(p)

outreg2 using "ind106\_1.xls", append br auto(3) nor2 addstat(Firms, `firms', Returns to scale, `rs', p-value, `pvalue')



- Thank you for your attention
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