

Event Count Exercise
QuantII
Due: Feb. 25, 2009

1. Practice in writing likelihoods

Use `zorn.sc.dta`, data provided by Chris Zorn for the number of amicus curiae briefs filed in 7000 some odd cases, 1953-1985. `term` is the year of term (53 to 85, which is just a linear trend variable) and `civilib` is a dummy for whether the case involved civil liberties.

Assuming the data are Poisson, estimate the ml estimates for a model of briefs on `term` and `type` of case. Do this using Mata

Use the stata `poisson` command to check your results in Stata.

2. Run the same model using `nbreg` in Stata (only try in Mata if you like, is not quite so easy). How do the results differ?

3. Using Stata (and clarify where you can), for a year in the middle of the term how much does being a civil liberties case increase the number of brief? Do by hand for the expected difference for both models, use `clarify` to get a confidence interval for the poisson case.