Suggested graduate lecture at CES (in the period 2nd half of February until mid March 2011) by Jan F. Kiviet (University of Amsterdam)

Title:
Econometric inference on endogenous interventions: some empirical examples, technical complications and simulated illustrations

Lecture 1:
On the perils of unobserved heterogeneity and the advantages of panel data, illustrated by a simulation study of artificial data on student efforts and grades

Lecture 2:
Identification and inference in a simultaneous equation under alternative information sets and sampling schemes, illustrated by the return on education and the effect of trade on growth

Lecture 3:
Reliability of econometric inference from small panel data sets, illustrated by an analysis of determinants of the decline in infant mortality in Brazil

Handouts in the form of a copy of the slides of each lecture will become available shortly before their actual presentation. Each lecture will first aim to explain the problem and options for its possible solution in an intuitive way, before focusing in more detail on the required technicalities. The estimation techniques employed and studied are least-squares, instrumental variables and generalized method of moments, both for simple cross-section relationships and for static and dynamic panel data models. The qualities of these techniques under empirically relevant situations will be examined by both analytic asymptotic approximations and synthetic Monte Carlo simulation studies. Discussion papers are in preparation on the major topics to be discussed in lectures 2 and 3.

Some background literature that will be used and/or criticized:
Angrist, J.D., Pitschke, J-S., 2010. The credibility revolution in empirical economics: How better research design is taking the con out of econometrics. Journal of Economic Perspectives 24, 3-30; plus discussions, on pages 31-94.
