ECONOMICS 8346, Fall 2011 Bent E. Sørensen

Homework 2. August 31—due September 12.

1. Modify the program hansin.pgm to replicate the study by Hansen and Singleton. Try and estimate the model using 3–5 different sets of instruments. Try a set of instruments which you may think is "best" (argue why) and one which you may think is not so good. Try some instruments that you think are bad and some you think are good. Try using a lot of instrument and try to use just a few. Are the results stable to the choice of instruments? (You will likely find that they are not, so "weird" results are OK and doesn't necessarily indicate that you have messed up.)

Try different lag-lengths, weighting matrices, pre-whitening etc. (I will explain what prewhitening is in class on Wednesday the 7th.) Also try some crazy starting values and see if you get a solution. Comment on your results.