

1. Prove the Frisch–Waugh–Lovell theorem

Given the model:

$$y = D\beta_1 + W\beta_2 + \mu \quad (1)$$

where y is an $n \times 1$ vector, D is an $n \times k_1$ matrix, β_1 is a $k_1 \times 1$ vector, W is an $n \times k_2$ matrix, β_2 is a $k_2 \times 1$ vector, and μ is an $n \times 1$ vector of error terms.

We can construct the following equation:

$$\epsilon_y = \epsilon_D\phi + \xi \quad (2)$$

where ϵ_y is the vector of residuals from regressing y on W , ϵ_D is the matrix of residuals from regressing each column of D on W , and e is an $n \times 1$ vector of error terms.

Running y on W we get:

$$y = W\hat{\alpha}_1 + \epsilon_y \iff \epsilon_y = y - W\hat{\alpha}_1 \quad (3)$$

Similarly, running D on W gives us:

$$D = W\hat{\alpha}_2 + \epsilon_D \iff \epsilon_D = D - W\hat{\alpha}_2 \quad (4)$$

Running ϵ_y on ϵ_D :

$$\begin{aligned} y - W\hat{\alpha}_1 &= (D - W\hat{\alpha}_2)\phi + \xi \\ y &= W\hat{\alpha}_1 + (D - W\hat{\alpha}_2)\phi + \xi \\ y &= W\hat{\alpha}_1 + D\phi - W\hat{\alpha}_2\phi + \xi \\ y &= D\phi + W(\hat{\alpha}_1 - \hat{\alpha}_2\phi) + \xi \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Comparing (1) with (5) we can see that:

$$\beta_1 = \phi \quad (6)$$

$$\beta_2 = \hat{\alpha}_1 - \hat{\alpha}_2\phi \quad (7)$$

$$\mu = \xi \quad (8)$$

2. Show that the Conditional Expectation Function minimizes the expected squared error.

Given the model:

$$Y = m(X) + e \quad (9)$$

Where $m(X)$ represents the conditional expectation of Y on X . Lets define the arbitrary model:

$$Y = g(X) + w \quad (10)$$

Where $g(X)$ represents any function of X .

Working with the expected squared error from model (10):

$$\begin{aligned} E[(Y - g(X))^2] &= E[(Y - m(X) + m(X) - g(X))^2] \\ &= E[(Y - m(X))^2 + 2(Y - m(X))(m(X) - g(X)) + (m(X) - g(X))^2] \\ &= E[(Y - m(X))^2] + 2E[(Y - m(X))(m(X) - g(X))] + E[(m(X) - g(X))^2] \\ &= E[(e^2)] + 2E[(Y - m(X))(m(X) - g(X))] + E[(m(X) - g(X))^2] \end{aligned}$$

Using the law of iterated expectations:

$$E[(Y - g(X))^2] = E[(e^2)] + 2E[E[(Y - m(X))(m(X) - g(X))|X]] + E[(m(X) - g(X))^2]$$

Since $m(X)$ and $g(X)$ are functions of X , the term $(m(X) - g(X))$ can be thought as constant when conditioning on X . Thus, we get:

$$E[(Y - g(X))^2] = E[(e^2)] + 2E[E[Y - m(X)|X](m(X) - g(X))] + E[(m(X) - g(X))^2]$$

It is important to note that $E[Y - m(X)|X] = 0$ by definition of $m(X)$, so we get:

$$E[(Y - g(X))^2] = E[(e^2)] + E[(m(X) - g(X))^2]$$

Because the second term in the equation is always non-negative, it is clear that the function is minimized when $g(X)$ equals $m(X)$. In which case:

$$E[(Y - g(X))^2] = E[(e^2)] \quad (11)$$