

## 1. Motivation

$$\hat{\beta}_{OLS} = (X'X)^{-1} (X'y)$$

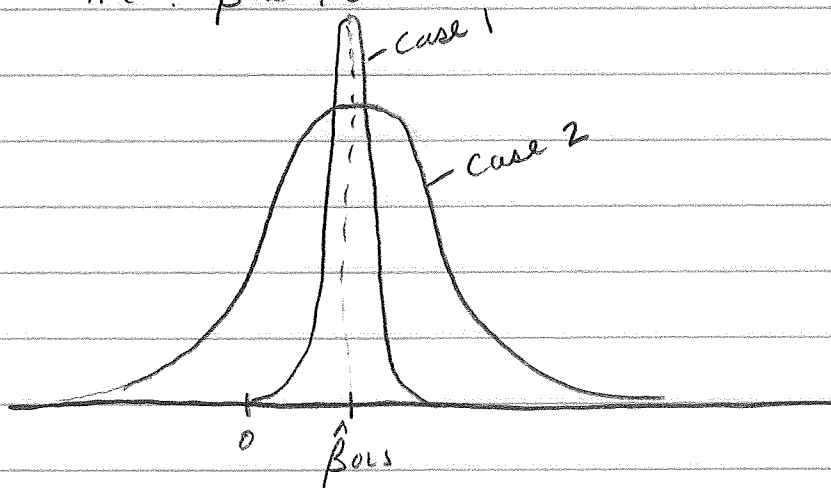
$$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS}) = \hat{\sigma}^2 (X'X)^{-1} = \frac{\hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon}}{n-K} (X'X)^{-1}$$

$$\hat{SE} = \sqrt{\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS})}$$

Suppose testing:

$$H_0: \beta_{OLS} = 0$$

$$H_a: \beta_{OLS} \neq 0$$



1. Obtain estimate of  $\beta$ .
2. Is this estimate different from zero?
  - a. Case 1. Yes. Standard errors are pretty tight. Reject null in favor of alternate.
  - b. Case 2. No. Standard errors are large. Cannot reject at "high enough" confidence level that  $\beta_{OLS}$  different from zero.

Example: HIV testing of a batch of blood.

→ If underestimating the variance of  $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$ , might falsely lead to too tight of standard errors, rejecting  $H_0$  that blood HIV-infected in favor of alternate, not infected. We want to make sure we don't falsely reject  $H_0$  just because we underestimated  $\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS})$ .

What can lead to underestimating  $\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS})$ ?

Violation of first assumption of OLS:

(1)  $\varepsilon_i \sim \text{iid}(0, \sigma^2) \Rightarrow E(\varepsilon) = 0, \text{Var}(\varepsilon) = \sigma^2 \cdot I_{N \times N}$ .

a.  $\varepsilon_i$  not iid

b.  $\text{Var}(\varepsilon) \neq \sigma^2 \cdot I_{N \times N}$

2. calculating standard errors under homoskedasticity.

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\varepsilon}) = E(\hat{\varepsilon}^2) = \frac{\hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon}}{n-K} = \frac{\hat{\varepsilon}_1^2 + \hat{\varepsilon}_2^2 + \dots + \hat{\varepsilon}_n^2}{n-K} = \hat{\sigma}^2$$

$\Rightarrow$  Covariance-Variance matrix of  $\varepsilon$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\sigma}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\sigma}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \hat{\sigma}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \hat{\sigma}^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \hat{\sigma}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \hat{\sigma}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Under homoskedasticity:

$$\widehat{\text{Var}}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS}) = \hat{\sigma}^2 (X'X)^{-1}$$

$$\widehat{\text{Var}}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS}) = \frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{\text{Var}(\tilde{x}_i)}$$

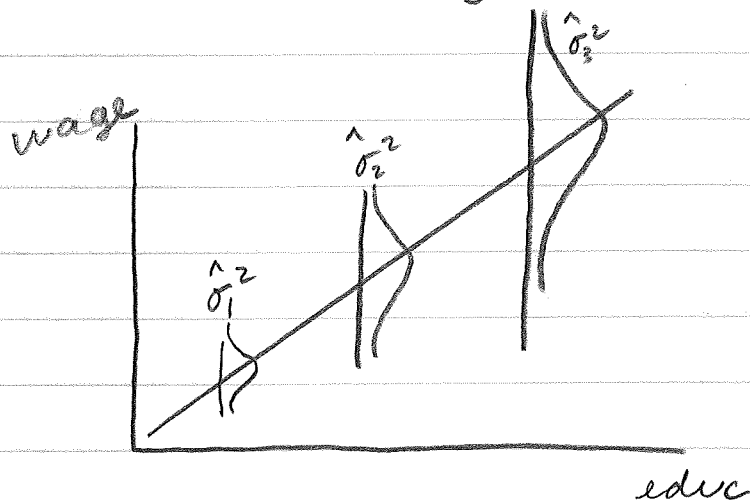
$\downarrow$   
residual of  $x_i$  on  $x_k$ 's for  $i \neq k$

3. What is heteroskedasticity?

Covariance - variance matrix of  $\varepsilon$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\sigma}_1^2 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\sigma}_2^2 & & & \\ & & \hat{\sigma}_3^2 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & & \hat{\sigma}_n^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Here  $\hat{\sigma}_1^2 \neq \hat{\sigma}_2^2 \neq \hat{\sigma}_3^2 \neq \dots \neq \hat{\sigma}_n^2$



If we just assume  $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \hat{\sigma}_1^2 = \hat{\sigma}_2^2 = \dots = \hat{\sigma}_n^2$ ,  
then  $\hat{Var}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS})$  is usually too small. So  
correct with the following:

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS}) = (X'X)^{-1} X' \hat{\Sigma} X (X'X)^{-1},$$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \text{diag}[\hat{\varepsilon}_1^2, \hat{\varepsilon}_2^2, \hat{\varepsilon}_3^2, \dots, \hat{\varepsilon}_n^2]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \text{when } \hat{\Sigma} &= \text{diag}[\hat{\sigma}^2, \hat{\sigma}^2, \hat{\sigma}^2, \dots, \hat{\sigma}^2] \\ &= (X'X)^{-1} (X'X) \hat{\sigma}^2 (X'X)^{-1} \\ &= \hat{\sigma}^2 (X'X)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

How to test for heteroskedasticity:

White test:

- regress  $\hat{\varepsilon}_i^2$  on  $X$ 's, squares and cross products
- obtain  $R^2$

Under  $H_0$ : No heteroskedasticity

$$\rightarrow \left\{ nR^2 \xrightarrow{d} \chi^2(q) \quad \begin{array}{l} \nearrow \# \text{ of regressors} \\ q = K-1 (\text{constant}) \end{array} \right.$$

This is known as a LM test.

- if  $nR^2 > 5\%$  critical value, then reject  $H_0$ .

In stata, "estat imtest, white" after estimation.

### Breusch-Pagan:

- similar to White test, except depends on knowing variables causing hetero.

In stata, "`estat hettest [variables], iid`"  
after estimation.

↓  
variables you think cause hetero  
or just use  $y$  or  $x$ 's.

↳ White test is the better test because does not assume knowledge of what's causing heteroskedasticity.

Plot and look at the data!

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In general, in stata:

- (1) `reg y x`
- (2) `reg y x, robust`

choose the one that maximizes the std errors on your variables of interest.

↳ When heteroskedasticity not present, correcting for it can actually underestimate std errors!

# Heteroskedasticity

```
cd "C:\Users\lfeler1\Documents\Applied Econometrics Course\Notes\Weeks 1-3"
clear
clear matrix
set seed 1000
use restricted92
sample 100, count
```

```
gen wage=exp(lnw)
```

```
*****
```

```
reg wage ed exp exp2
predict e_hat, resid
```

```
mkmat e_hat, matrix(E)
matrix VCV=E'E'
```

```
svmat VCV
```

```
matrix v=[vecdiag(VCV)]'
```

```
svmat v
```

```
sum v1
local vmean=r(mean)
```

```
reg ed exp exp2
predict ed_resid, resid
sum ed_resid
```

```
display sqrt((\vmean'*100/96)/((r(sd)^2)*100))
```

```
gen constant=1
mkmat ed exp exp2 constant, matrix(X)
```

```
matrix VarB=((E'*E)/96)*inv(X'*X)
matrix VB=[vecdiag(VarB)]'
svmat VB
gen SE=sqrt(VB1)
```

```
*****
```

```
**Manually calculate robust standard errors**
```

```
reg wage ed exp exp2, robust
reg wage ed exp exp2,
```

```
matrix sigma=diag(vecdiag(VCV))
```

```
matrix VarBr=inv(X'*X)*(X'*sigma*X)*inv(X'*X)
```

```
matrix Vr=[vecdiag(VarBr)]'
svmat Vr
gen SER=sqrt(Vr1)
```

```
*****
```

```
**What does heteroskedasticity look like**
```

```
twoway (scatter v1 ed) (lfit v1 ed)
```

```
twoway (scatter v1 exp) (lfit v1 exp)
```

```
*****  
**How to test for heteroskedasticity**
```

```
*White*
```

```
reg wage ed exp exp2  
estat imtest, white
```

```
gen e_hat2=e_hat^2
```

```
gen ed2=ed^2  
gen exp3=exp^3  
gen exp4=exp^4  
gen edXexp=ed*exp  
gen edXexp2=ed*exp2
```

```
reg e_hat2 ed exp exp2 ed2 exp4 edXexp exp3 edXexp2
```

```
display e(N)*e(r2)
```

```
**Look in a Chi-squared table for this value with 8 degrees of freedom**  
display 1-chi2(8,6.6887103)
```

```
*Breusch-Pagan*
```

```
reg wage ed exp exp2  
predict wage_hat  
estat hettest, iid
```

```
reg e_hat2 wage_hat
```

```
display e(N)*e(r2)
```

```
**Look in a Chi-squared table for this value with 8 degrees of freedom**  
display 1-chi2(1,2.8132943)
```

```
    **but if we think a particular variable is causing heteroskedasticity, we  
can do the
```

```
    **Breusch-Pagan test just on that
```

```
reg wage ed exp exp2  
estat hettest ed, iid
```

```
reg e_hat2 ed
```

```
display e(N)*e(r2)
```

```
**Look in a Chi-squared table for this value with 8 degrees of freedom**  
display 1-chi2(1,3.6802517)
```



### 3. Correcting SEs for clustering

$E(\varepsilon_i \cdot \varepsilon_j) \neq 0 \Rightarrow$  clustering, random group effects  
 $\Rightarrow$  serial correlation (time series)

$\text{Var}(\varepsilon) = \Sigma$ , off-diagonal elements  $\neq 0$ .

If  $E(\varepsilon_i \cdot \varepsilon_j) > 0$  (positive correlation between errors),  
then w/o correction for clustering,  $\hat{\text{Var}}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS})$  is  
biased down (too small).

If  $E(\varepsilon_i \cdot \varepsilon_j) < 0$  (negative correlation between  
errors), then w/o correction for clustering,  
 $\hat{\text{Var}}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS})$  is biased up (too big).

Example:

$$y_{is} = \beta X_s + \varepsilon_{is}$$

$$\varepsilon_{is} = a_s + u_{is}$$

$$u_{is} \sim \text{iid}(0, \sigma_u^2)$$

random school effect  $\sim (0, \sigma_s^2)$

- individuals in same schools have  
similar unobservables, shocks

$$E(a_s \cdot u_{is}) = 0$$

$$E(\varepsilon_{is} \cdot \varepsilon_{js}) = \sigma_s^2 > 0$$

$$E(\varepsilon\varepsilon') = \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{s1}^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{s2}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_{sn}^2 \end{bmatrix} \equiv \text{Block diagonal with } S \text{ blocks}$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_{OLS, c}) = (X'X)^{-1}(X'\hat{\Sigma}X)(X'X)^{-1}$$

1. estimate  $\hat{\sigma}_s^2$  for  $s=1, \dots, n$  and plug into  $\hat{\Sigma}$ . OR

2. in stata:

reg y x, cluster(school)

3.  $\bar{y}_s = \beta X_s + \bar{\varepsilon}_s$  or and weight by  $N_s$

$$\bar{\varepsilon}_s = \bar{u}_s \sim \text{iid}(0, \sigma_u^2)$$

→ OLS with clustering is more efficient, but not always possible. # of clusters must be  $> 42$ !

4. Bootstrap standard errors (for this, number of clusters can be less than 42).

What is bootstrapping?

↳ Suppose 400 random samples of an estimator  $\hat{\beta}$  were available from the population. Then to get the "standard error" of  $\hat{\beta}$ , we could simply calculate the standard deviation of the 400  $\hat{\beta}$ 's.

→ Bootstrapping will draw a random sample (or clustered random sample) from your sample 400 times, calculate 400  $\hat{y} = X'\hat{\beta}$ , and then take the standard deviation of these 400  $\hat{\beta}$ 's and report that as the "standard error".

↳ This is computationally intensive!

Let  $\hat{\beta}_1, \dots, \hat{\beta}_{400}$  denote the 400 estimates  $\hat{\beta}$ . The bootstrap estimate of the variance of  $\hat{\beta}$  is:

$$\hat{\text{Var}}_{\text{boot}}(\hat{\beta}) = \frac{1}{400-1} \sum_{b=1}^{400} (\hat{\beta}_b - \bar{\hat{\beta}})^2$$

$$\bar{\hat{\beta}} = \frac{1}{400} \sum_{b=1}^{400} \hat{\beta}_b \rightarrow \text{Just the averages of all the 400 } \hat{\beta} \text{'s.}$$

Why 400? Apparently, if you increase beyond 400, you don't decrease the  $\hat{\text{var}}_{\text{boot}}(\hat{\beta})$  by all that much, but you increase computation time.

# Clustering and Bootstrap

```
clear
use prosp

reg nmsc wc

***Clustering at the school level: note the number of clusters***
sort schoolid
loneway nmsc schoolid
reg nmsc wc, cluster(schoolid)

***Just obtain school means for y and x; now no worries about clustered SEs***
preserve
collapse (mean) nmsc wc, by(schoolid)

reg nmsc wc

restore

***Bootstrap standard errors, with resampling iid across clusters but not iid within
clusters***
reg nmsc wc, vce(boot, cluster(schoolid) reps(400) seed(1000))
```