

Econ203B HW1

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*I worked on this problem set with Luna Shen.

1 Question 1

In our sample, we have the minimization problem

$$\begin{aligned}\beta_0 &= \arg \min_{b \in \mathbb{R}^2} \mathbb{E}[(Y - (1, X)b)^2] \\ \implies \beta_0 &= \mathbb{E}[(1, X)'(1, X)]^{-1} \mathbb{E}[Y, (1, X)'].\end{aligned}$$

Let's build the matrices we need to perform this calculation.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} \left[\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix} [1, X] \right] &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mathbb{E}[X] \\ \mathbb{E}[X] & \mathbb{E}[X^2] \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

The finite variance allows us to invert this matrix:

$$E[(1, X)'(1, X)]^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -6 \\ -6 & 12 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now, onto the next matrix. We're going to use the Law of Iterated Expectations for this one, since we know $\mathbb{E}[Y | X]$.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[Y(1, X)'] &= \mathbb{E} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[Y | X] \\ X \mathbb{E}[Y | X] \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \mathbb{E} \begin{bmatrix} X^2 \\ X^3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$

We can plug these matrices into our FOC formula:

$$\begin{aligned}\beta_0 &= \mathbb{E}[(1, X)'(1, X)]^{-1} \mathbb{E}[Y, (1, X)'] &= \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -6 \\ -6 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{6} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

2 Question 2

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[Y \mid X]] &= \left(\frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[Y \mid X]}{\partial X_1} \dots \frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[Y \mid X]}{\partial X_d} \right)' \\
\mathbb{E}[\|\nabla \mathbb{E}[Y \mid X] - b\|^2] &= \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^d \left(\frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[Y \mid X]}{\partial X_i} - b_i \right)^2 \right] \\
\frac{\partial}{\partial b_i} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla \mathbb{E}[Y \mid X] - b\|^2] &= -2 \left[\frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[Y \mid X]}{\partial X_i} - b_i \right] \\
&= 0 \\
\implies b^* &= \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[Y \mid X]}{\partial X_i} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

This expression is the same as

$$b_0 = \nabla \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[Y \mid X]].$$

For a counter example, consider $X \sim U[0, 2]$; $Y = X^3$. The OLS coefficient we get from this is

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\mathbb{E}[(X^3 - \mathbb{E}(X^3))(X - 1)]}{\mathbb{E}[(X - 1)^2]} &= \frac{\mathbb{E}[(X^3 - 2)(X - 1)]}{\mathbb{E}[(X - 1)^2]} \\
&= \frac{9}{10},
\end{aligned}$$

but

$$\begin{aligned}
E[3X^2] &= \int_0^2 3x^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} dx \\
&= 4
\end{aligned}$$

3 Question 3

a)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E}[Y_i \mid D_i] &= \mathbb{E}[D_i Y_i(1) + (1 - D_i) Y_i(0) \mid D_i] \\
 &= D_i \mathbb{E}[Y_i \mid D_i = 1] + (1 - D_i) \mathbb{E}[Y_i(0) \mid D_i = 0] \\
 &= \mathbb{E}[Y_i \mid D_i = 0] + D_i (\mathbb{E}[Y_i \mid D_i = 1] - \mathbb{E}[Y_i(0) \mid D_i = 0]) \\
 &= \alpha_0 + D_i \beta_0
 \end{aligned}$$

Now define

$$\begin{aligned}
 \eta &= Y_i - \alpha_0 - D_i \beta_0 \\
 &= Y_i - \mathbb{E}[Y_i \mid D_i] \\
 \mathbb{E}[\eta \mid D_i] &= \mathbb{E}[Y_i - \alpha_0 - D_i \beta_0] \\
 &= \mathbb{E}[Y_i \mid D_i] - \alpha_0 - D_i \beta_0 \\
 &= \alpha_0 + D_i \beta_0 - \alpha_0 - D_i \beta_0 \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

b)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \beta_0 &= \mathbb{E}[Y_i(1) \mid D_i = 1] - \mathbb{E}[Y_i(0) \mid D_i = 0] \\
 &= \mathbb{E}[Y_i(1) \mid D_i = 1] - \mathbb{E}[Y_i(0) \mid D_i = 0] + \mathbb{E}[Y_i(0) \mid D_i = 0] - \mathbb{E}[Y_i(0) \mid D_i = 0] \\
 &= \mathbb{E}[Y_i - Y_i(0) \mid D_i = 1] + \mathbb{E}[Y_i(0) \mid D_i = 1] - \mathbb{E}[Y_i(0) \mid D_i = 0]
 \end{aligned}$$

- c) ATEU should be positive if college has a positive impact on earnings.
- d) Selection bias should be positive. Regardless of whether they attended college, more talented individuals would have earned more, so we are conflating the effect of attending college with these individuals' innate abilities.
- e) OLS is not consistent for ATE regardless of heterogeneity, because we will still have a bias term. Note that, even with heterogeneity, we are only trying to identify the *average* treatment effect.

4 Question 6

For this problem, it's easier to work with the demeaned data,

$$\tilde{\beta}_n = \arg \min_{b \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n ((Y_i - \bar{Y}_n) - (X_i - \bar{X}_n)'b)^2.$$

Starting with the forward direction,

$$\begin{aligned} R^2 = 1 &\implies RSS = 0 \\ &\equiv 0 = \sum_{i=1}^n ((Y_i - \bar{Y}_n) - (X_i - \bar{X}_n)' \tilde{\beta}_n)^2 \\ 0 &= Y_i - \bar{Y}_n - (X_i - \bar{X}_n)' \tilde{\beta}_n \quad \forall i \\ Y_i &= \underbrace{\bar{Y}_n - \bar{X}_n' \tilde{\beta}_n}_{\alpha_0} + X_i' \underbrace{\tilde{\beta}_n}_{b_0} \quad \forall i \end{aligned}$$

To go the other way, suppose

$$\begin{aligned} Y_i &= a_0 + X_i' b_0 \quad \forall i \\ \tilde{\beta}_n &= \arg \min_{b \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n ((Y_i - \bar{Y}_n) - (X_i - \bar{X}_n)'b)^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{b \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n ((X_i - \bar{X}_n)'b_0 - (X_i - \bar{X}_n)'b)^2. \end{aligned}$$

The arg min for this expression is $b = b_0$.

$$\begin{aligned} Y_i - \bar{Y}_n &= a_0 - a_0 + (X_i - \bar{X}_n)'b_0 \\ &= (X_i - \bar{X}_n)'b_0 \\ &= (X_i - \bar{X}_n)' \tilde{\beta}_n \\ \implies RSS &= \sum_{i=1}^n ((Y_i - \bar{Y}_n) - (X_i - \bar{X}_n)' \tilde{\beta}_n)^2 = 0 \\ \implies R^2 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

5 Question 8

- a) See the `python` code below; the function that does this part of the problem is `drop_missing_observations`.
- b) The function that performs these calculations is `calculate_summary_statistics`. Our dataset contains 2620.0 boys. 2960 students were assigned to tracking schools. The average baseline original score was 0.028842416616841626, and our dataset contains 108 unique schools.
- c) See the code below for the actual calculations; the code contains the outcome and covariates for each specification I report.

Table 1: Regression to estimate the treatment effect, run on the sample of only girls

Dep. Variable:	totalscore	R-squared:	0.005
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.004
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	12.36
Date:	Mon, 18 Jan 2021	Prob (F-statistic):	0.000446
Time:	22:59:22	Log-Likelihood:	-3674.1
No. Observations:	2530	AIC:	7352.
Df Residuals:	2528	BIC:	7364.
Df Model:	1		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	0.0623	0.032	1.945	0.052	-0.001	0.125
tracking	0.1469	0.042	3.516	0.000	0.065	0.229

Omnibus:	185.750	Durbin-Watson:	1.427
Prob(Omnibus):	0.000	Jarque-Bera (JB):	172.304
Skew:	0.576	Prob(JB):	3.84e-38
Kurtosis:	2.447	Cond. No.	2.88

Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

e)

Table 2: Regression to estimate the treatment effect, run on the sample of only boys

d)	Dep. Variable:	totalscore	R-squared:	0.003
	Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.002
	Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	7.538
	Date:	Mon, 18 Jan 2021	Prob (F-statistic):	0.00608
	Time:	22:59:22	Log-Likelihood:	-3671.1
	No. Observations:	2620	AIC:	7346.
	Df Residuals:	2618	BIC:	7358.
	Df Model:	1		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	-0.0323	0.029	-1.115	0.265	-0.089	0.025
tracking	0.1063	0.039	2.746	0.006	0.030	0.182

Omnibus:	199.415	Durbin-Watson:	1.472
Prob(Omnibus):	0.000	Jarque-Bera (JB):	246.077
Skew:	0.748	Prob(JB):	3.67e-54
Kurtosis:	2.869	Cond. No.	2.79

Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

$$Y_i = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 G_i + \beta_0 T_i \times (1 - G_i) + \beta_1 T_i \times G_i$$

α_0 = boy, untreated mean

α_1 = girl, untreated mean

β_0 = boy, treatment effect

β_1 = girl, treatment effect

Let

$$\begin{aligned}
Y_i(1) &= \text{outcome with treatment} \\
\mathbb{E}[Y_i \mid T_i, G_i] &= (1 - T_i)(1 - G_i)\mathbb{E}[Y_i^{\text{boy}}(0) \mid T_i = 0, \text{ boy}] \\
&\quad + (1 - T_i)G_i\mathbb{E}[Y_i^{\text{girl}}(0) \mid T_i = 0, \text{ girl}] \\
&\quad + T_i(1 - G_i)\mathbb{E}[Y_i^{\text{boy}}(1) \mid T_i = 1, \text{ boy}] \\
&\quad + T_iG_i\mathbb{E}[Y_i^{\text{girl}}(1) \mid T_i = 1, \text{ girl}] \\
&= \underbrace{(1 - G_i)\mathbb{E}[Y_i^{\text{boy}}(0)]}_{\alpha_0} + \underbrace{G_i\mathbb{E}[Y_i^{\text{girl}}(0)]}_{\alpha_1} \\
&\quad + \underbrace{T_i(1 - G_i)\mathbb{E}[Y_i^{\text{boy}}(1) - Y_i^{\text{boy}}(0)]}_{\beta_0} + \underbrace{T_iG_i\mathbb{E}[Y_i^{\text{girl}}(1) - Y_i^{\text{girl}}(0)]}_{\beta_1}
\end{aligned}$$

Table 3: Regression to estimate the treatment effect for both boys and girls, run on the whole sample

Dep. Variable:	totalscore	R-squared:	0.007
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.007
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	12.92
Date:	Mon, 18 Jan 2021	Prob (F-statistic):	2.09e-08
Time:	22:59:22	Log-Likelihood:	-7348.6
No. Observations:	5150	AIC:	1.471e+04
Df Residuals:	5146	BIC:	1.473e+04
Df Model:	3		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	-0.0323	0.030	-1.086	0.277	-0.091	0.026
girl	0.0946	0.043	2.193	0.028	0.010	0.179
treated_boy	0.1063	0.040	2.676	0.007	0.028	0.184
treated_girl	0.1469	0.041	3.606	0.000	0.067	0.227

Omnibus:	351.267	Durbin-Watson:	1.399
Prob(Omnibus):	0.000	Jarque-Bera (JB):	397.937
Skew:	0.658	Prob(JB):	3.88e-87
Kurtosis:	2.647	Cond. No.	5.14

Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

Table 4: Regression to estimate the treatment effect, run on the top half of the sample

f)

Dep. Variable:	totalscore	R-squared:	0.006
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.005
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	14.60
Date:	Mon, 18 Jan 2021	Prob (F-statistic):	0.000136
Time:	22:59:22	Log-Likelihood:	-3748.5
No. Observations:	2642	AIC:	7501.
Df Residuals:	2640	BIC:	7513.
Df Model:	1		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	0.3882	0.030	13.133	0.000	0.330	0.446
tracking	0.1501	0.039	3.821	0.000	0.073	0.227

Omnibus:	200.720	Durbin-Watson:	1.468
Prob(Omnibus):	0.000	Jarque-Bera (JB):	116.240
Skew:	0.372	Prob(JB):	5.74e-26
Kurtosis:	2.291	Cond. No.	2.80

Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

We can estimate these objects via OLS since conditional expectation is linear.

Based on the point estimates, students in the top half of the sample benefit more from being assigned to a tracking school.

Table 5: Regression to estimate the treatment effect, run on the bottom half of the sample

Dep. Variable:	totalscore	R-squared:	0.006
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.006
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	15.49
Date:	Mon, 18 Jan 2021	Prob (F-statistic):	8.53e-05
Time:	22:59:22	Log-Likelihood:	-3139.7
No. Observations:	2508	AIC:	6283.
Df Residuals:	2506	BIC:	6295.
Df Model:	1		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	-0.3987	0.026	-15.225	0.000	-0.450	-0.347
tracking	0.1349	0.034	3.935	0.000	0.068	0.202

Omnibus:	387.199	Durbin-Watson:	1.504
Prob(Omnibus):	0.000	Jarque-Bera (JB):	588.956
Skew:	1.101	Prob(JB):	1.29e-128
Kurtosis:	3.885	Cond. No.	2.86

Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

```
import numpy as np
import os
import pandas as pd
import scipy.io
import statsmodels.api as sm

def load_matlab_data(filename='DDKData.mat'):
    matlab_data = scipy.io.loadmat(filename)
    df = pd.DataFrame(
        columns=[data_field for data_field in matlab_data.keys() if data_field[0] != '_']
    )
    for column in df.columns:
        df[column] = matlab_data[column].flatten()
    return df

def drop_missing_observations(dataframe, obs_to_check=['girl', 'std_mark', 'totalscore', 'tra
original_nObs = dataframe.shape[0]
df = dataframe.dropna(subset=obs_to_check)
print(f'We dropped {original_nObs - df.shape[0]} observations.')
return df
```

```

def calculate_summary_statistics(dataframe, filename=False):
    num_boys = dataframe.shape[0] - dataframe.girl.sum()
    num_tracking = dataframe.tracking.sum()
    original_score = dataframe.std_mark.mean()
    unique_schools = len(dataframe.schoolid.unique())
    if filename:
        with open(filename, 'w') as text_file:
            print(f'Our dataset contains {num_boys} boys. \
                  {num_tracking} students were assigned to tracking schools. \
                  The average baseline original score was {original_score}, \
                  and our dataset contains {unique_schools} unique schools.',
                  file=text_file)

def prepare_datasets(dataframe):
    dataframe['const'] = 1
    girls = dataframe[dataframe.girl == 1]
    boys = dataframe[dataframe.girl == 0]
    dataframe['boy'] = pd.get_dummies(dataframe['girl'])[0.0]
    dataframe['treated_boy'] = dataframe['tracking'] * dataframe['boy']
    dataframe['treated_girl'] = dataframe['tracking'] * dataframe['girl']
    top = dataframe[dataframe['tophalf'] == 1]
    bottom = dataframe[dataframe['bottomhalf'] == 1]
    return dataframe, girls, boys, top, bottom

def calculate_ATE(dataframe, outcome, exog, filename=False):
    reg = sm.OLS(endog=dataframe[outcome],
                  exog=dataframe[exog]
                  ).fit()
    if filename:
        with open(filename, 'w') as text_file:
            print(f'{reg.summary().as_latex()}', file=text_file)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    os.chdir('/home/chris/files/school/ucla/first_year/winter/203b/psets/pset1')
    df = load_matlab_data()
    df = drop_missing_observations(df)
    calculate_summary_statistics(df, filename='summary_statistics.tex')
    complete_dataset, girls, boys, top, bottom = prepare_datasets(df)
    girls_spec = [girls, 'totalscore', ['const', 'tracking'], 'girls.tex']
    boys_spec = [boys, 'totalscore', ['const', 'tracking'], 'boys.tex']

```

```
all_spec = [complete_dataset, 'totalscore', ['const', 'girl', 'treated_boy', 'treated_gir  
top_spec = [top, 'totalscore', ['const', 'tracking'], 'top.tex']  
bottom_spec = [bottom, 'totalscore', ['const', 'tracking'], 'bottom.tex']  
specifications = [girls_spec, boys_spec, all_spec, top_spec, bottom_spec]  
for specification in specifications:  
    calculate_ATE(*specification)
```