

Extension of the corrected score estimator in a Poisson regression model with a measurement error

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Error-in-variables (EIV)

A regression model with measurement errors in explanatory variables.

In this research, we focus on estimation methods of a Poisson regression model with EIV.

An example of a Poisson regression with EIV

Real data examples include epidemiologic studies (e.g., [1]).

Y : Cardiovascular disease emergency visits

X : True exposure amount (air pollutants)

Consider regressing Y on X , but X is subject to measurement error U due to **instrument imprecision and spatial variability**.

Research status of a Poisson regression model with EIV

Table: Bias correction using estimating equations of EIV

Explanatory variable	Normal	General
Univariate	Kukush et al. [2]	Wada et al. [3]
Multivariate(All error)	Shklyar et al. [4]	Wada et al. [5]
Multivariate(Partial error)	Wada et al. [5]	Wada et al. [5]

All error : All explanatory variables are subject to errors

Partial error : Explanatory variables are partially subject to errors

We call the estimator in Wada et al. [5] the **CPN** estimator.

Problems of the CPN estimator

Although the CPN estimator is consistent for regression parameters, there are the following problems.

- 1 We **can not obtain an explicit form** of the CPN estimator depending on distributions of explanatory variables and errors.
- 2 **Tedious calculations** are required to obtain the explicit form of the CPN estimator.

Purpose of this research

Table: Bias correction based on the **corrected score** function

Explanatory variable	Normal	General
Univariate	Kukush et al. [2]	Not finished
Multivariate(All error)	Shklyar et al. [4]	Not finished
Multivariate(Partial error)	Not finished	Not finished

We propose the following extension to the **Corrected Score (CS) estimator** discussed in Kukush et al. [2] and Shklyar et al. [4].

- 1 Explanatory variables are **partially subject to errors in the multivariate EIV**.
- 2 Explanatory variable and error vectors follow **arbitrary distributions**.

Contributions of this research

Under multivariate EIV included errors partially in the explanatory variables,

it becomes **possible to perform a consistent estimation** for the regression parameters

even when the CPN estimator cannot be computed in an explicit form.

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A Poisson regression model with multivariate regressor

We assume a Poisson regression model between the objective variable Y and the vector of explanatory variables

$\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_{p+q})'$:

$$Y|\mathbf{X} \sim \text{Po} \left(\exp \left(\boldsymbol{\beta}' \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{X} \end{pmatrix} \right) \right), \quad \boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_0, \dots, \beta_{p+q})' \in \mathbb{R}^{p+q+1}. \quad (1)$$

Subvectors of explanatory variables

We define subvectors of \mathbf{X} as:

$$\mathbf{X}_o = (X_1, \dots, X_p)', \quad \mathbf{X}_e = (X_{p+1}, \dots, X_{p+q})'. \quad (2)$$

While \mathbf{X}_o represents a vector of explanatory variables that **can be observed directly**, \mathbf{X}_e represents a vector of explanatory variables that **cannot be observed directly**.

We assume here that

- $W = X_e + U$.
- U is supposed to be independent of (X, Y) .
- $(X_i = (X'_{o,i}, X'_{e,i})', Y_i)$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) are i.i.d. samples from the distribution of (X, Y) and U_i ($i = 1, \dots, n$) are i.i.d. samples from the distribution of U .

Although we can observe $Y_i, X_{o,i}, W_i = X_{e,i} + U_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$), we assume that X_e and U cannot be observed directly.

Assumptions of EIV model

In EIV models, it is common that some of the parameters of the model are **known** [6].

- Regression with known mean and variance of U .
- Regression with known mean of U and variance ratio of components of X_e and W .

In this study, we assume that the mean and variance of U are **known**.

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Partial-error Naive (PN) estimator

PN estimator

The estimator using the observed variables \mathbf{W} with errors in place of the unobserved explanatory variables \mathbf{X}_e in the likelihood equation of $Y|\mathbf{X}$ [5].

Misspecified estimation of the PN estimator

In other words, the PN estimator applies **MLE using a misspecified model** that assumes

$$Y \left| \left(\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{X}_o \\ \mathbf{W} \end{array} \right) \right. \sim \text{Po} \left(\exp \left(\boldsymbol{\beta}' \left(\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \mathbf{X}_o \\ \mathbf{W} \end{array} \right) \right) \right).$$

Inconsistency of the PN estimator

The PN estimator is **inconsistent for β** because it estimates the parameter incorrectly.

$$\hat{\beta}^{(PN)} \xrightarrow{a.s.} b \neq \beta,$$

where b is a constant vector defined as a solution to the following estimating equation:

$$\mathbf{E}_{X,W}[\mathbf{E}_{Y|(X,W)}[\{Y - \exp(b_0 + b'_1 X_o + b'_2 W)\}(1, X'_o, W')']] = \mathbf{0}_{p+q+1}.$$

Corrected Partial-error Naive (CPN) estimator

The PN estimator has an asymptotic bias for true β .

⇒ Wada and Kurosawa [5] **proposed the CPN estimator as a consistent estimator** by correcting the bias of the PN estimator.

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Score function of a Poisson regression model

The score function of a Poisson regression model (1) is given by

$$\psi(\beta|Y, \mathbf{X}) = (Y - \exp(\beta_0 + \beta'_1 \mathbf{X}_o + \beta'_2 \mathbf{X}_e)) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{X} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Corrected score function

Corrected score function

A function such that its **conditional expectation given Y and X** **equals the true score function** in EIV models [7, 8].

Therefore, we construct the **corrected score function** $\psi_c : \mathbb{R}^{p+q+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{p+q+1}$ to satisfy

$$\mathbf{E} [\psi_c(\beta|Y, X_o, W)|Y, X] = \psi(\beta|Y, X).$$

Corrected score function under multivariate EIV

The function $\psi_c(\beta|Y, \mathbf{X}_o, \mathbf{W})$ can be obtained by

$$Y \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{X}_o \\ \mathbf{W} - \mathbf{E}[U] \end{pmatrix} - \frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta'_1 \mathbf{X}_o + \beta'_2 \mathbf{W})}{M_U(\beta_2)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{X}_o \\ \mathbf{W} - \frac{1}{M_U(\beta_2)} \frac{\partial M_U(\beta_2)}{\partial \beta_2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Partial-error Corrected Score (PCS) estimator

Thus, we define the PCS estimator as a solution to the corrected estimating equation:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \psi_c(\hat{\beta}^{(PCS)} | Y_i, \mathbf{X}_{o,i}, \mathbf{W}_i) = \mathbf{0}_{p+q+1} \quad (3)$$

and propose it as a consistent estimator for β . This definition is a natural extension of the univariate CS estimator discussed in Kukush et al. [2].

Numerical algorithm

We derive a solution to equation (3) using the Newton-Raphson method with the following update formula.

$$\beta^{(k+1)} = \beta^{(k)} - \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial \psi_c(\hat{\beta}^{(k)} | Y_i, \mathbf{X}_{o,i}, \mathbf{W}_i)}{\partial \beta'} \right)^{-1} \\ \times \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \psi_c(\hat{\beta}^{(k)} | Y_i, \mathbf{X}_{o,i}, \mathbf{W}_i) \right) \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots),$$

where $\beta^{(0)} = \hat{\beta}^{(PN)}$.

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- Multivariate normal distribution + normal error ($p = 2, q = 1$)

$$\mathbf{X} \sim N_3(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma), U \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

- Gumbel distribution + normal error ($p = 0, q = 2$)

$$X_1 \sim Gu(\mu_1, \eta_1), X_2 \sim Gu(\mu_2, \eta_2), U_1 \sim N(0, \sigma_1^2), U_2 \sim N(0, \sigma_2^2)$$

We perform simulations in above 2 ways with n as the sample size and MC as the number of simulations.

Simulation configuration 1 ($p = 2, q = 1$)

We assume the Poisson regression model with multivariate EIV ($p = 2, q = 1$).

$$Y|\mathbf{X} \sim \text{Po} \left(\exp \left(\boldsymbol{\beta}' \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{X} \end{pmatrix} \right) \right), \boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^4,$$

$$\mathbf{X}_o = (X_1, X_2)', X_e = X_3, W = X_3 + U,$$

$$\mathbf{X} = (X_1, X_2, X_3)' \sim N_3(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}), U \sim N(0, \sigma^2),$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} \in \mathbb{R}^3, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}, 0 < \sigma^2 < \infty.$$

Parameter configuration (Multivariate normal+normal error)

We set the parameters as

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0.1 \\ 0.1 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{pmatrix}, \mu = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1.2 \\ 0.5 \end{pmatrix}, \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.2 & -0.5 \\ 0.2 & 1.1 & 0.3 \\ -0.5 & 0.3 & 1.2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$n = 5000$, $MC = 10000$, $\epsilon = 10^{-8}$, the maximum number of iterations as 100 and calculate the estimated bias with $\sigma^2 = 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1, 1.25$.

Results of estimated bias (β_0, β_1)

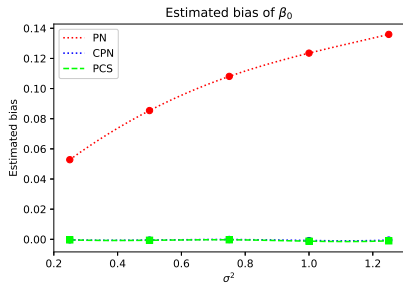


Figure: Estimated bias for β_0

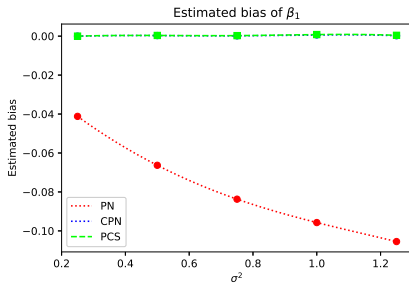


Figure: Estimated bias for β_1

Results of estimated bias (β_2, β_3)

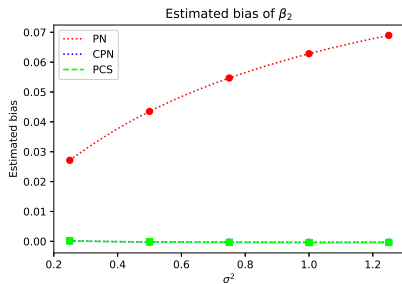


Figure: Estimated bias for β_2

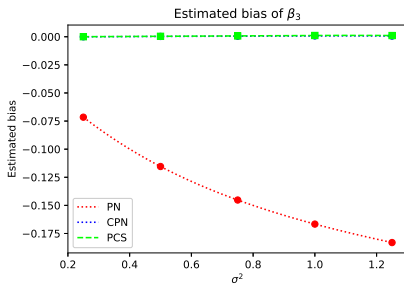


Figure: Estimated bias for β_3

Simulation configuration 2 ($p = 0, q = 2$)

We assume the Poisson regression model with multivariate EIV ($p = 0, q = 2$).

$$Y|\mathbf{X} \sim \text{Po} \left(\exp \left(\beta' \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{X} \end{pmatrix} \right) \right), \beta \in \mathbb{R}^3,$$

$$\mathbf{X}_e = (X_1, X_2)' = \mathbf{X}, W_1 = X_1 + U_1, W_2 = X_2 + U_2,$$

$$X_1 \sim Gu(\mu_1, \eta_1), X_2 \sim Gu(\mu_2, \eta_2), U_1 \sim N(0, \sigma_1^2), U_2 \sim N(0, \sigma_2^2),$$

$$\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathbb{R}, \eta_1 > 0, \eta_2 > 0, 0 < \sigma_1^2 < \infty, 0 < \sigma_2^2 < \infty.$$

Parameter configuration (Gumbel+normal error)

We set the parameters as

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0.1 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{pmatrix}, \mu_1 = -0.5, \eta_1 = 1, \mu_2 = 0.25, \eta_2 = 0.5, \sigma_2^2 = 0.5,$$

$n = 5000$, $MC = 10000$, $\epsilon = 10^{-8}$, the maximum number of iterations as 100 and calculate the estimated bias with $\sigma_1^2 = 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1, 1.25$.

Results of estimated bias (β_0, β_1)

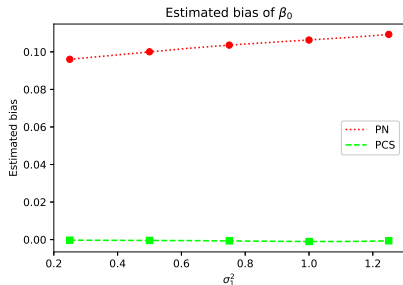


Figure: Estimated bias for β_0

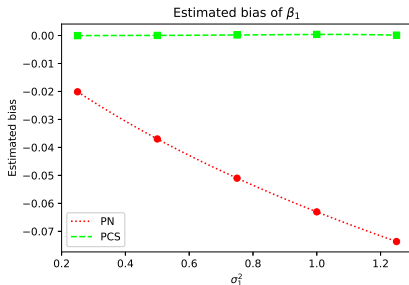


Figure: Estimated bias for β_1

Results of estimated bias (β_2)

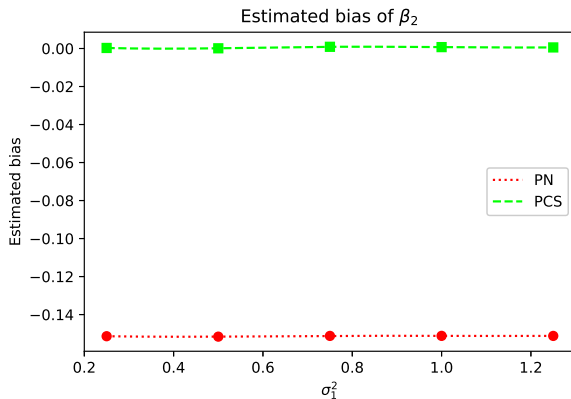


Figure: Estimated bias for β_2

- We extend the CS estimator to multivariate EIV with partially included errors in explanatory variables.
- Consistent estimation is possible even when the CPN estimator cannot be computed in closed form.
- The PCS estimator achieves estimation performance comparable to the CPN estimator, even in cases where the CPN estimator is computable.

Future works

- Consider numerical algorithms with reduced computational cost.
- Derive an asymptotic distribution of the PCS estimator.
- Construct confidence intervals of the regression parameter under multivariate EIV.

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Notations

- M_X : Moment generating function of a random vector X
 K_X : Cumulant generating function of a random vector X
 β_1 : Subvector of β corresponding to X_o
 β_2 : Subvector of β corresponding to X_e

Definition of the PN estimator

The PN estimator $\hat{\beta}^{(PN)}$ for β is defined as the solution of the following equation [5]:

$$S_n(\hat{\beta}^{(PN)}) = \mathbf{0}_{p+q+1},$$

where

$$S_n(\tilde{\mathbf{b}}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \{Y_i - \exp(\tilde{b}_0 + \tilde{\mathbf{b}}_1' \mathbf{X}_{o,i} + \tilde{\mathbf{b}}_2' \mathbf{W}_i)\} (1, \mathbf{X}_{o,i}', \mathbf{W}_i')',$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{b}} = (\tilde{b}_0, \dots, \tilde{b}_{p+q})',$$

$\tilde{\mathbf{b}}_1 = (\tilde{b}_1, \dots, \tilde{b}_p)'$, $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}_2 = (\tilde{b}_{p+1}, \dots, \tilde{b}_{p+q})'$ are subvectors of $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}$ and $\mathbf{0}_{p+q+1}$ is a $(p + q + 1)$ -dimensional vector with zeros.

Exact distribution of Y given (X_o, W)

$$\begin{aligned} & f_{Y|(X_o, W)}(y|(x_o, w)) \\ &= \frac{\int \text{Po}\left(\exp\left(\beta' \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{pmatrix}\right)\right) f_U(w - x_e) f_X(x) dx_e}{\int f_U(w - x_e) f_X(x) dx_e}. \end{aligned}$$

The exact distribution of Y given (X_o, W) is not a Poisson regression model.

Assumptions for the CPN estimator

We assume the following conditions (C1) and (C2).

Ⓒ1 $M_X \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix}$, $M_X \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}$, and $M_U(b_2)$ exist.

Ⓒ2 $\det \frac{\partial G}{\partial \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix}} \neq 0$ is satisfied where

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial b_1} K_X \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_1} K_X \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial b_2} K_X \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{\partial}{\partial b_2} K_U(b_2) - \mathbf{E}[U] - \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_2} K_X \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Formula of the CPN estimator

$$\hat{\beta}_0^{(CPN)} = \hat{\beta}_0^{(PN)} + \log \left(\frac{M_X \left(\begin{pmatrix} \hat{\beta}_1^{(PN)} \\ \hat{\beta}_2^{(PN)} \end{pmatrix} \right) M_U(\hat{\beta}_2^{(PN)})}{M_X \left(\begin{pmatrix} \hat{\beta}_1^{(CPN)} \\ \hat{\beta}_2^{(CPN)} \end{pmatrix} \right)} \right),$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{\beta}_1^{(CPN)} \\ \hat{\beta}_2^{(CPN)} \end{pmatrix} = h \left(\begin{pmatrix} \hat{\beta}_1^{(PN)} \\ \hat{\beta}_2^{(PN)} \end{pmatrix} \right),$$

where h is a continuously differentiable implicit function with $\begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix} = h \left(\begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} \right)$ in the neighborhood of $\left(\begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} \right)$ satisfying $G = 0$.

Application example of the CPN estimator

We assume the Poisson regression model with multivariate EIV ($p = 2, q = 1$).

$$Y|\mathbf{X} \sim \text{Po} \left(\exp \left(\boldsymbol{\beta}' \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{X} \end{pmatrix} \right) \right), \boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^4,$$

$$\mathbf{X}_o = (X_1, X_2)', X_e = X_3, W = X_3 + U,$$

$$\mathbf{X} = (X_1, X_2, X_3)' \sim N_3(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}), U \sim N(0, \sigma^2),$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} \in \mathbb{R}^3, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}, 0 < \sigma^2 < \infty.$$

Application example of the CPN estimator

We use following partition expressions of μ and Σ .

$$\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_3 \end{pmatrix}, \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_1 & \sigma_3 \\ \sigma_3' & \sigma_{33} \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$\mu_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{pmatrix}, \Sigma_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \sigma_3 = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{23} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Application example of the CPN estimator

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta}_0^{(CPN)} &= \hat{\beta}_0^{(PN)} + \left(\hat{\beta}_1^{(PN)} - \hat{\beta}_1^{(CPN)} \right)' \mu_1 + \left(\hat{\beta}_3^{(PN)} - \hat{\beta}_3^{(CPN)} \right) \mu_3 \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left(\hat{\beta}_1^{(CPN)'} \Sigma_1 \hat{\beta}_1^{(CPN)} + \hat{\beta}_3^{(CPN)} \left(2\sigma_3' \hat{\beta}_1^{(CPN)} + \sigma_{33} \hat{\beta}_3^{(CPN)} \right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \left(\hat{\beta}_1^{(PN)'} \Sigma_1 \hat{\beta}_1^{(PN)} + \hat{\beta}_3^{(PN)} \left(2\sigma_3' \hat{\beta}_1^{(PN)} + \sigma_{33} \hat{\beta}_3^{(PN)} \right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \hat{\beta}_3^{(PN)2},\end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_1^{(CPN)} = \hat{\beta}_1^{(PN)} - \frac{\sigma^2 \hat{\beta}_3^{(PN)}}{\sigma_{33} - \sigma_3' \Sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_3} \Sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_3,$$

$$\hat{\beta}_3^{(CPN)} = \frac{\sigma_{33} + \sigma^2 - \sigma_3' \Sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_3}{\sigma_{33} - \sigma_3' \Sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_3} \hat{\beta}_3^{(PN)}.$$

Estimation of μ and Σ

We can estimate μ and Σ in the formula of the CPN estimator using the method of moments in terms of $\mathbf{X}_o = (X_1, X_2)'$ and W .

$$\hat{\mu}_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_{o,i}, \quad \hat{\mu}_3 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i,$$

$$\hat{\Sigma}_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{o,i} - \bar{x}_o)(x_{o,i} - \bar{x}_o)',$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_3 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{o,i} - \bar{x}_o)(w_i - \bar{w}),$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{33} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (w_i - \bar{w})^2 - \sigma^2.$$

Theorem 1

Let $Y|X$ be a Poisson regression model in (1) with (2). We assume the following condition (D1).

(D1) *$M_U(\beta_2)$ exists and is differentiable in the neighborhood of β_2 .*

Then, the PCS estimator $\hat{\beta}^{(PCS)}$ of β , which is defined as a solution of equation (3), is strongly consistent.

Convergence of the corrected estimating equation

By the strong law of large numbers, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \psi_c(\hat{\beta}^{(PCS)} | Y_i, \mathbf{X}_{o,i}, \mathbf{W}_i) \xrightarrow{a.s.} \mathbf{E} \left[\psi_c(\hat{\beta}^{(PCS)} | Y, \mathbf{X}_o, \mathbf{W}) \right].$$

Expectation of the corrected score function

We can calculate the expectation of ψ_c as

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{E}_{X,Y,U}[\psi_c(\beta|Y, \mathbf{X}_o, \mathbf{W})] \\ &= \mathbf{E}_{X,Y}[\mathbf{E}[\psi_c(\beta|Y, \mathbf{X}_o, \mathbf{W})|\mathbf{X}, Y]] \\ &= \mathbf{E}_{X,Y} \left[(Y - \exp(\beta_0 + \beta'_1 \mathbf{X}_o + \beta'_2 \mathbf{X}_e)) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{X} \end{pmatrix} \right] = \mathbf{0}. \end{aligned}$$

Strong consistency of the PCS estimator

From the same argument in Kukush and Shklyar [9], we obtain the strong consistency of the PCS estimator:

$$\hat{\beta}^{(PCS)} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \beta.$$

Conditions for the convergence of numerical algorithm

We implicitly assume the following conditions (D2)-(D4) to ensure that the algorithms converge.

- Ⓓ2 $\mathbf{E} \left[\frac{\partial \psi_c(\beta|Y, \mathbf{X}_o, \mathbf{W})}{\partial \beta'} \right]$ exists and is nonsingular.
- Ⓓ3 ψ_c is differentiable and locally Lipschitz continuous.
- Ⓓ4 Satisfying

$$\alpha_0 = M \left\| \left(\frac{\partial F(\beta^{(0)})}{\partial \beta'} \right)^{-1} \right\| \left\| h^{(0)} \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2},$$

where

$$h^{(0)} = - \left(\frac{\partial F(\beta^{(0)})}{\partial \beta'} \right)^{-1} F(\beta^{(0)}), \quad F(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \psi_c(\beta|Y_i, \mathbf{X}_{o,i}, \mathbf{W}_i)$$

and M is a Lipschitz constant of $\frac{\partial F}{\partial \beta'}$.

Stopping criterion for numerical algorithm

The iteration is stopped when one of the following stopping criteria is fulfilled.

- 1 $\|\beta^{(k+1)} - \beta^{(k)}\| < \epsilon$ is satisfied for a pre-specified $\epsilon > 0$.
- 2 The maximum number of iterations has been reached.