

- 2: a) There are 2^n possible ways that treatment can be assigned to the n units. Each unit i can be assigned either treatment $T_i = 1$ or $T_i = 0$. There is no restriction in the problem description on the number of units that can be assigned treatment. Since there are n units in total, there are $n2^n$ total potential outcomes in this experiment.

b) We break this down into two cases.

Case 1: $\sum_{i=1}^n T_i < n/2$. The outcome when unit i is treated is the same for all treatment assignments satisfying this case with $T_i = 1$. The outcome when unit i is not treated is the same for all treatment assignments satisfying this case with $T_i = 0$. Thus, there are two outcomes for each unit when treatment assignment satisfies the above condition, the one when the unit is assigned to treatment and the one when assigned to control.

Case 2: $\sum_{i=1}^n T_i \geq n/2$. When this happens, each treatment assignment has its own potential outcome. It follows that the number of potential outcomes is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \# \text{outcomes} &= \# \text{outcomes when } \sum_{i=1}^n T_i < n/2 + \# \text{outcomes when } \sum_{i=1}^n T_i \geq n/2 \\
 &= 2 + \sum_{i=\lceil n/2 \rceil}^n \# \text{ways exactly } i \text{ treatments can be assigned} \\
 &= 2 + \sum_{i=\lceil n/2 \rceil}^n \binom{n}{i} \\
 &= \begin{cases} 2 + 2^{n-1} & n \text{ is odd} \\ 2 + 2^{n-1} + \frac{1}{2} \binom{2n}{n} & n \text{ is even} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\lceil x \rceil$ denotes “round x up to the nearest whole number.”

These formulas can be derived by the properties:

$$\sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} = 2^n$$

and

$$\sum_{i=0}^k \binom{n}{i} = \sum_{i=n-k}^n \binom{n}{i}.$$

- c) Note, since unit 1 and unit n only have one neighbor, both of these units only have two potential outcomes. Now, consider unit i where $1 < i < n$. Unit i 's response depends on whether $i + 1$ and $i - 1$ both get treatment. However, unit $i + 1$'s response is affected by whether units i and $i + 2$ get treatment; the outcome of i when units $i - 1$, i , $i + 1$ and $i + 2$ all get treatment may be different from the outcome where units $i - 1$, i , $i + 1$ get treatment, but $i + 2$ gets control. Thus, we obtain the following cases:

Case 1: Units $i - 1$ and units $i + 1$ are not both treated.

In this case, unit i has two potential outcomes, response under treated and response under control.

Case 2: Units $i - 1$ and units $i + 1$ are both treated, but unit i is not treated.

In this case, units $i - 1$ and units $i + 1$'s response are not affected by neighboring units, and so, there is only one outcome.

Case 3: Units $i - 1$, i and $i + 1$ are all treated.

In this case, the response of i is also going to depend on whether $i - 2$ is treated (as if $i - 2$ is treated, then $i - 1$ will have interference, otherwise it will not). Likewise, it will also depend on whether $i + 2$ is treated. Moreover, if $i - 2$ is also treated, the response of i will also depend on whether or not $i - 3$ is treated, and so on. It follows that there are $i - 1$ cases to consider to the left of unit i , and $n - (i + 1)$ cases to consider

to the right of unit i , leading to $(i - 1)(n - (i + 1))$ potential outcomes. Thus, in total, there are

$$2 + 1 + (i - 1)(n - (i + 1))$$

potential outcomes.

- 3) a) The average treatment effect parameter is

$$\bar{\tau} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i.$$

That is, $\bar{\tau}$ is the difference of the average effect of treatment A over all N subjects and the average effect of treatment B over all N subjects.

b)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}(\bar{X} - \bar{Y}) &= \text{var}(\bar{X}) + \text{var}(\bar{Y}) - 2\text{cov}(\bar{X}, \bar{Y}) \\ &= \frac{1}{N-1} \left((N-n) \frac{\sigma^2}{n} + (N-m) \frac{\tau^2}{m} + 2\text{cov}(x, y) \right) \\ &= \frac{N}{N-1} \left(\frac{\sigma^2}{n} + \frac{\tau^2}{m} \right) - \frac{1}{N-1} (\sigma^2 + \tau^2 - 2\text{cov}(x, y)). \end{aligned}$$

c) From part b),

$$\frac{N}{N-1} \left(\frac{\sigma^2}{n} + \frac{\tau^2}{m} \right) - \text{var}(\bar{X} - \bar{Y}) = \frac{1}{N-1} (\sigma^2 + \tau^2 - 2\text{cov}(x, y)).$$

The right-hand side is the difference between our formula and the usual formula. This quantity is not identifiable as the covariance of x and y is never observed.

d) Note that,

$$\sigma^2 + \tau^2 - 2\text{cov}(x, y) = \text{var}(x) + \text{var}(y) - 2\text{cov}(x, y) = \text{var}(x - y) \geq 0.$$

Thus, the “usual” estimate greater than or equal to the truth asymptotically. The bias will be 0 when $\text{var}(x - y) = 0$. This is only true if $x_i = y_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq N$. That is, this is only true if the sharp null of no treatment effect of B relative to A for all subjects i in the population is true.

- 4) a) The design matrix for the correct model is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \text{education level}_1 & \text{intelligence}_1 \\ 1 & \text{education level}_2 & \text{intelligence}_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \text{education level}_N & \text{intelligence}_N \end{pmatrix}$$

and for the incorrect model is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \text{education level}_1 \\ 1 & \text{education level}_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \text{education level}_N \end{pmatrix}.$$

b) It is equivalent to show

$$\sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i) = 0.$$

Consider

$$Y - \hat{Y} = Y - X(X'X)^{-1}X'Y = (1 - X(X'X)^{-1}X)Y.$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} X'(Y - \hat{Y}) &= X'(1 - X(X'X)^{-1}X')Y = (X' - X'X(X'X)^{-1}X')Y \\ &= (X' - X')Y = \mathbf{0}. \end{aligned}$$

Since X has a column of 1's, then we must have that

$$(1, 1, \dots, 1)(Y - \hat{Y}) = \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i) = 0.$$

- c) Part b) is guaranteed to be true by the properties of OLS. All that is necessary is that the design matrix is full rank and that the model has an intercept term (hence, the design matrix has a column of ones).
d,e) Although it's not explicitly stated, we assume

$$E(\epsilon_{i1} | \text{correct design matrix}) = 0.$$

By running the naive model instead of the true model, you are introducing “omitted variable bias” into your estimate of the effect of education. The proof is as follows:

Let X denote the incorrect model, let $Z = (\text{intelligence}_1, \text{intelligence}_2, \dots, \text{intelligence}_N)'$, let $\beta_0 = (\alpha_2, \beta)'$, and let $\epsilon_1 = (\epsilon_{11}, \epsilon_{12}, \dots, \epsilon_{1n})$. The expectation of the OLS estimates for the coefficients in the second model (assuming that the values of the covariates is fixed) is

$$\begin{aligned} E(\hat{\beta}_0 | X, Z) &= E((X'X)^{-1}X'Y) = E((X'X)^{-1}X'(X\beta_0 + Z\gamma_2 + \epsilon_1) | X, Z) \\ &= E((X'X)^{-1}(X'X)\beta_0 + (X'X)^{-1}(X'Z)\gamma_2 + (X'X)^{-1}X'\epsilon_1 | X, Z) \\ &= E(\beta_0 + (X'X)^{-1}(X'Z)\gamma_2 + (X'X)^{-1}X'\epsilon_1 | X, Z) \\ &= \beta_0 + (X'X)^{-1}(X'Z)\gamma_2 + 0 \neq \beta_0. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, our parameter β is not estimated unbiasedly unless the second row of the matrix $(X'X)^{-1}(X'Z) = 0$. We now try to identify exactly when this happens.

Let ℓ_i denote education level _{i} and let g_i denote intelligence _{i} . We find that

$$(X'X) = \begin{pmatrix} n & \sum \ell_i \\ \sum \ell_i & \sum \ell_i^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

and so

$$(X'X)^{-1} = \frac{1}{n \sum \ell_i^2 - (\sum \ell_i)^2} \begin{pmatrix} \sum \ell_i^2 & -\sum \ell_i \\ -\sum \ell_i & n \end{pmatrix}.$$

It follows that the bottom row of the matrix $(X'X)^{-1}(X'Z)$ is proportional to

$$(-\sum \ell_i, n)(\sum g_i, \sum \ell_i g_i)' = n \sum \ell_i g_i - \sum \ell_i \sum g_i.$$

It is easy to show that this is equation zero if and only if the correlation between $(\ell_i)_{i=1}^n$ and $(g_i)_{i=1}^n$ is zero.

Since intelligence and education are positively correlated, and since the estimate of β is unbiased if and only if intelligence and education are uncorrelated it follows that our estimate of β is biased. Thus, our estimate of β is not BLUE, since it is not unbiased.

f) Note that:

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{\beta}_0 - E(\hat{\beta}_0) &= (X'X)^{-1}X'Y - (\beta_0 + (X'X)^{-1}(X'Z)\gamma_2) \\
&= (X'X)^{-1}X'(X\beta_0 + Z\gamma_2 + \epsilon_1) - \beta_0 - (X'X)^{-1}(X'Z)\gamma_2 \\
&= \beta_0 + (X'X)^{-1}X'Z\gamma_2 + (X'X)^{-1}X'\epsilon_1 - \beta_0 - (X'X)^{-1}(X'Z)\gamma_2 \\
&= (X'X)^{-1}X'\epsilon_1.
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{cov}(\hat{\beta}_0|X, Z) &= E[(\hat{\beta}_0 - E(\hat{\beta}_0))(\hat{\beta}_0 - E(\hat{\beta}_0))'|X, Z] \\
&= E[((X'X)^{-1}X'\epsilon_1)((X'X)^{-1}X'\epsilon_1)'|X, Z] \\
&= E[((X'X)^{-1}X'\epsilon_1\epsilon_1'X((X'X)^{-1})')|X, Z] \\
&= (X'X)^{-1}X'E[\epsilon_1\epsilon_1'|X, Z]X((X'X)^{-1})' \\
&= (X'X)^{-1}X'I_{n \times n}\sigma_1^2X((X'X)^{-1})' \\
&= \sigma_1^2(X'X)^{-1}X'I_{n \times n}X((X'X)^{-1})' \\
&= \sigma_1^2(X'X)^{-1}X'X((X'X)^{-1})' \\
&= \sigma_1^2(X'X)^{-1}.
\end{aligned}$$

The last equality uses the fact that $(X'X)^{-1}$ is symmetric. The covariance of our estimate for β is just simply the entry in the second row and second column of $(X'X)^{-1}\sigma_1^2$. From part d), it follows that the covariance of our estimate is

$$\sigma^2 \frac{n}{n \sum \ell_i^2 - (\sum \ell_i)^2} = \sigma^2 \frac{1}{\sum \ell_i^2 - n(\bar{\ell})^2} = \sigma^2 \frac{1}{\sum (\ell_i - \bar{\ell})^2}.$$

5) We will prove these results in a similar way as in problem 4. Let X denote the design matrix:

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & T_1 \\ 1 & T_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & T_N \end{pmatrix}$$

Let Z_a denote the design matrix for the model in part a).

$$Z_a = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & T_1 & S_{t-1,1} \\ 1 & T_2 & S_{t-1,2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & T_N & S_{t-1,N} \end{pmatrix}$$

Let Z_b denote the design matrix for the model in part b).

$$Z_b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & T_1 & S_{t-1,1} & S_{t+1,1} \\ 1 & T_2 & S_{t-1,2} & S_{t+1,2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & T_N & S_{t-1,N} & S_{t+1,N} \end{pmatrix}$$

Note, if we estimate the model

$$S_{t+2,i} = \alpha + T_i\beta_1 + \epsilon_i \tag{1}$$

using OLS, we find that our estimate for β_1 is

$$\frac{\sum (T_i - \bar{T})(S_{t+2,i} - \bar{S}_{t+2})}{\sum (T_i - \bar{T})^2} = \left(\frac{1}{\sum T_i} \sum_{i:T_i=1} S_{t+2,i} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{N - \sum T_i} \sum_{i:T_i=0} S_{t+2,i} \right)$$

which is an unbiased estimate (asymptotically) for the ATE.

- a) To show that the estimate for β_1 is unbiased, we will show that the estimate of this model is the same (asymptotically) as the estimate for β_1 in 1. Are argument will be entirely brute-forced; there are far more elegant ways to prove this result.

Let $\beta_0 = (\alpha, \beta_1, \beta_2)'$. The OLS estimate for β_0 is

$$(Z'_a Z_a)^{-1} Z'_a S_{t+2}$$

We are interested in the second row of this estimate. Now (thanks to the magic of Wolfram Alpha), the second row of $(Z'_a Z_a)^{-1}$ is

$$C \left(\left(\sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 - \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i \right), \left(\left(\sum S_{t-1,i} \right)^2 - n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \right), \left(n \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i} \right) \right)$$

where

$$C = \frac{1}{-n \sum T_i^2 \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 + n(\sum T_i S_{t-1,i})^2 + (\sum T_i)^2 \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 - 2 \sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} + (\sum S_{t-1,i})^2 \sum T_i^2}$$

Also,

$$Z'_a S_{t+2} = \left(\sum S_{t+2,i}, \sum T_i S_{t+2,i}, \sum S_{t-1,i} S_{t+2,i} \right)'$$

It follows that the second row of the OLS estimate is proportional to

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 - \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i \\ & + \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} (\sum S_{t-1,i})^2 - n \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \\ & + n \sum S_{t-1,i} S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum S_{t-1,i} S_{t+2,i} \sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i} \end{aligned}$$

Now, treatment should be (asymptotically) uncorrelated with $S_{t-1,i}$, since treatment is assigned independently of previous test scores. Thus, the constant C simplifies to

$$\begin{aligned} C &= \frac{1}{-n \sum T_i^2 \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 + n(\sum T_i S_{t-1,i})^2 + (\sum T_i)^2 \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 - 2 \sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} + (\sum S_{t-1,i})^2 \sum T_i^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sum S_{t-1,i}^2 ((\sum T_i)^2 - n \sum T_i^2) + \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} (n(\sum T_i S_{t-1,i}) - \sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i}) - \sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} + (\sum S_{t-1,i})^2 \sum T_i^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{-n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T})^2 + \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} (0) - \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum T_i \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} - \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i^2)} \\ &= \frac{1}{-n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T})^2 - \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum T_i \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} - \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i^2)} \end{aligned}$$

and we can simplify

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 - \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i \\ & + \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} (\sum S_{t-1,i})^2 - n \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \\ & + n \sum S_{t-1,i} S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum S_{t-1,i} S_{t+2,i} \sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i} \\ & = - \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 (n \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} - \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum T_i) \\ & - \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i}) \\ & + \sum S_{t-1,i} S_{t+2,i} (n \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i \sum S_{t-1,i}) \\ & = -n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T}) (S_{t+2,i} - \bar{S}_{t+2}) \\ & - \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i}) \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned}
& n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T})^2 \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i}) \\
&= - \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 ((\sum T_i)^2 - n \sum T_i^2) \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i}) \\
&= - \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum S_{t-1,i} ((\sum T_i)^2 - n \sum T_i^2) (\sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i}) \\
&= \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum S_{t-1,i} (n \sum T_i^2 - (\sum T_i)^2) (\sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i}) \\
&= \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum S_{t-1,i} (n \sum T_i^2 \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i + (\sum T_i)^2 \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} \\
&\quad - (\sum T_i)^2 \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - n \sum T_i^2 \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i}) \\
&= \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum T_i^2 \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i + n (\sum T_i) \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} \\
&\quad - (\sum T_i)^2 \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - n \sum T_i^2 \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i}) \\
&= \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum S_{t-1,i} (n \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} - \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum T_i) (\sum T_i \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} - \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i^2) \\
&= \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 (n \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} - \sum S_{t+2,i} \sum T_i) \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum T_i \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} - \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i^2) \\
&= n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T}) (S_{t+2,i} - \bar{S}_{t+2}) \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum T_i \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} - \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i^2)
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\frac{\sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i})}{n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T}) (S_{t+2,i} - \bar{S}_{t+2})} = \frac{\sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum T_i \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} - \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i^2)}{n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T})^2}$$

And so,

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{\beta} &= \frac{-n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T}) (S_{t+2,i} - \bar{S}_{t+2}) - \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i})}{-n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T})^2 - \sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum T_i \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} - \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i^2)} \\
&= \frac{(-n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T}) (S_{t+2,i} - \bar{S}_{t+2})) (1 + \frac{\sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i} T_i - \sum T_i S_{t+2,i} \sum S_{t-1,i})}{n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T}) (S_{t+2,i} - \bar{S}_{t+2})})}{(-n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T})^2) (1 + \frac{\sum S_{t-1,i} (\sum T_i \sum T_i S_{t-1,i} - \sum S_{t-1,i} \sum T_i^2)}{n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T})^2})} \\
&= \frac{-n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T}) (S_{t+2,i} - \bar{S}_{t+2})}{-n \sum S_{t-1,i}^2 \sum (T_i - \bar{T})^2} = \frac{\sum (T_i - \bar{T}) (S_{t+2,i} - \bar{S}_{t+2})}{\sum (T_i - \bar{T})^2}
\end{aligned}$$

That is, the $\hat{\beta}$ in this model is the same as the $\hat{\beta}$ in the model without S_{t-1} . Thus, $\hat{\beta}$ is an unbiased estimate of β .

- b) The process for part a) can be followed for part b). However, the correlation between T_i and $S_{t+1,i}$ is not zero, and in fact, is probably positive. Similar to 4d), the result will then be biased.
- c) The estimate will be biased asymptotically. The non-zero correlation between T_i and $S_{t+1,i}$ will exist asymptotically, and so, the estimate in expectation will be biased.