Tutorial 9: Data Management and Two-Stage Least Squares (2SLS)

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Today's Agenda

- 1. Data management I: reading/subsetting data, keeping/deleting variables
- 2. Data management II: data transformation
- 3. Data management III: creating new variables
- 4. Data management IV: useful commands
- 5. Two-stage least squares (2SLS) regression

1. Data management I: reading/subsetting data, keeping/deleting variables

R can save its own datafiles. Those will have the format ".Rdata". In order to load such a dataset, you can simply use the load command.

```
load(filename.Rdata)
## Error in load(filename.Rdata): object 'filename.Rdata' not found
R can also read some other file formats, including .csv and .txt files.
### .csv files
csvdata = read.csv("filename.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
## Warning in file(file, "rt"): cannot open file 'filename.csv': No such file
## or directory
## Error in file(file, "rt"): cannot open the connection
# stringsAsFactors=FALSE is important because otherwise R will load
# character variables as factors, treating them as numerical under the
# surfae, which can lead to complications later on
### .txt files
textdata = read.table("filename.txt", header = TRUE)
## Warning in file(file, "rt"): cannot open file 'filename.txt': No such file
## or directory
## Error in file(file, "rt"): cannot open the connection
```

```
# header=TRUE indicates that the first row contains the names of the
# variables (see later for example)
```

Additionally, there are many other data formats (SPSS (sav) and STATA (dta) files). Some of them require the foreign package.

```
library(foreign)
spssdata = read.spss("filename.sav", to.data.frame = TRUE)
```

Error in read.spss("filename.sav", to.data.frame = TRUE): unable to open file: 'No such file or dire

```
library(foreign)
statadata = read.dta("filename.dta")
```

```
## Error in read.dta("filename.dta"): unable to open file: 'No such file or directory'
```

For data files that were saved by the most recent version of STATA (13), you will need another package called "readstata13". Please use the following command to install it:

install.packages("readstata13")

```
library(readstata13)
```

Error in library(readstata13): there is no package called 'readstata13'

```
read.dta13("filename.dta")
```

Error in eval(expr, envir, enclos): could not find function "read.dta13"

Let us now read our LDC dataset.

```
setwd('C:/Users/Jan/OneDrive/Documents/GitHub/ps630_lab/')
LDC=read.dta("LDC_IO_replication.dta")
```

To delete a variable in a data frame, we simply use the following command:

```
LDC$ecris2 = NULL
```

We can also only keep the data that we actually need for our analysis:

The following command allows us to only look at cases on which we have all observations of specific variables.

```
complete = with(LDC, complete.cases(polityiv_update2, gdp_pc_95d))
# The 'with' command allows you to evaluate a file for certain expressions,
# such as complete.cases
LDC = LDC[complete, ]
# Then we subset the file and only take the complete cases
```

This is often a better solution than na.omit because na.omit will remove all rows with missing values, which can result in the loss of too many values

```
LDComit = na.omit(LDC) # only 383 observations remaining
```

Before doing any analysis, you should inspect your variables closely. Make sure that you are aware of the properties of your most important variables.

```
summary(LDC$polityiv_update2)
      Min. 1st Qu. Median
                              Mean 3rd Qu.
## -10.000 -7.000 -4.000 -1.121
                                      7.000 10.000
summary(LDC$gdp_pc_95d)
##
       Min.
             1st Qu.
                       Median
                                   Mean
                                         3rd Qu.
                                                     Max.
##
      91.02
              380.70
                       978.00
                               2320.00
                                         2437.00 44160.00
summary(LDC$newtar)
##
      Min. 1st Qu.
                    Median
                              Mean 3rd Qu.
                                                       NA's
                                               Max.
##
                     17.80
                              21.73
                                      27.50
                                             102.20
                                                        2014
      0.10
             11.70
```

You have learned how to merge data in one of the previous tutorials. But what happens if we want to merge data with different numbers of observations?

```
## Name Person
## 1 Household A Individual 1
## 2 Household A Individual 2
## 3 Household B Individual 3
## 4 Household B Individual 4
```

a = c("Household A", "Household B")

As we can see, the data has different numbers of observations on the household level.

```
merge(data1, data2, by = ("Name"))
```

As we can see, the data will expand.

Let's assume we are only interested in a subset of the data. For example, we are only interested in the country Angola. How can we subset the data that we have?

```
LDC2 = subset(LDC, ctylabel == "Angola")
summary(LDC2)
```

```
gdp_pc_95d
##
      ctylabel
                              date
                                         polityiv update2
                                                 :-7.000
##
    Length:14
                                :1980
                                         Min.
                                                                    :519.6
                         Min.
                                                            Min.
##
    Class : character
                         1st Qu.:1983
                                         1st Qu.:-7.000
                                                            1st Qu.:643.8
##
    Mode :character
                         Median:1986
                                         Median :-7.000
                                                            Median :675.3
##
                         Mean
                                :1988
                                         Mean
                                                 :-6.143
                                                            Mean
                                                                    :651.0
                                         3rd Qu.:-7.000
##
                         3rd Qu.:1990
                                                            3rd Qu.:707.4
##
                         Max.
                                 :1999
                                                 :-3.000
                                                                    :732.4
                                         Max.
                                                            Max.
##
##
        newtar
                       11polity
                                        l1polity.1
                                                            11signed
                           :-7.000
                                              :-7.000
##
    Min.
            : NA
                   Min.
                                      Min.
                                                        Min.
                                                                :0
##
    1st Qu.: NA
                   1st Qu.:-7.000
                                      1st Qu.:-7.000
                                                         1st Qu.:0
##
    Median : NA
                   Median :-7.000
                                      Median :-7.000
                                                        Median:0
                                              :-6.385
##
    Mean
                           :-6.385
            :NaN
                   Mean
                                      Mean
                                                        Mean
                                                                :0
##
    3rd Qu.: NA
                   3rd Qu.:-7.000
                                      3rd Qu.:-7.000
                                                         3rd Qu.:0
##
    Max.
            : NA
                   Max.
                           :-3.000
                                      Max.
                                              :-3.000
                                                        Max.
                                                                :0
    NA's
                                      NA's
##
            :14
                   NA's
                           :1
                                              :1
##
                                                             l1ecris2
       11office
                                           111npop
                          l1gdp_pc
##
    Min.
            : 1.000
                      Min.
                              :504.1
                                        Min.
                                                :15.74
                                                                 :0.0000
    1st Qu.: 4.000
##
                      1st Qu.:641.4
                                        1st Qu.:15.82
                                                          1st Qu.:0.0000
    Median : 6.000
                      Median :672.5
                                        Median :15.91
                                                         Median : 0.0000
            : 7.231
##
    Mean
                      Mean
                              :646.8
                                        Mean
                                                :15.96
                                                         Mean
                                                                 :0.1429
    3rd Qu.: 9.000
                      3rd Qu.:713.1
                                                          3rd Qu.:0.0000
##
                                        3rd Qu.:16.00
##
    Max.
            :18.000
                      Max.
                              :732.4
                                        Max.
                                                :16.30
                                                                 :1.0000
                                                          Max.
##
    NA's
                       NA's
            :1
                              :1
##
        11bpc1
                    11avnewtar
                                        l1fdi
                                           : 1.718
##
    Min.
            :1
                  Min.
                          : 0.00
                                    Min.
##
    1st Qu.:1
                  1st Qu.:17.05
                                    1st Qu.: 2.421
##
    Median:1
                  Median :24.69
                                    Median : 4.211
                          :22.28
##
    Mean
            :1
                  Mean
                                    Mean
                                           : 8.115
    3rd Qu.:1
                                    3rd Qu.: 5.726
##
                  3rd Qu.:28.25
##
    Max.
            :1
                  Max.
                          :30.52
                                    Max.
                                           :36.361
    NA's
##
            :12
                                    NA's
                                           :6
```

We are only left with all observations for Angola.

What would you do if you have multiple datafiles that all have a similar name. How can you load this data very efficiently?

Credit to Brett Gall for this chunk of the code.

Let's assume we have 1000 different individuals and their files have similar names. How can we load those files without writing 1000 separate commands for loading the data?

```
ind.files <- dir(pattern = "ind\\d+\\.sav")
# This command allows us to get the names of the datafiles Note that
# \\d+\\ is a so-called 'regular expression'

ind.data <- lapply(ind.files, read.spss)
# This loads the data via the 'lapply' command Here we apply the command
# 'read.spss' to each element of our list

names(ind.data) <- gsub("\\.sav", "", ind.files)
# Rename list elements, remove '.sav'</pre>
```

2. Data management II: data transformation and recoding

We can transform variables in a number of ways. One of the most common ways to transform data is to square it to estimate curvilinear relationships. Let us construct a squared version of the Polity IV Score.

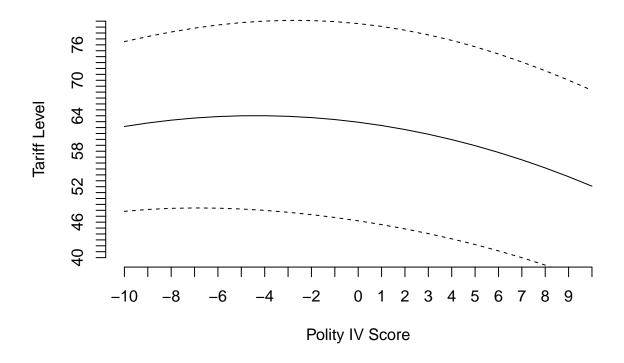
```
LDC$polityiv_squared = (LDC$polityiv_update2)^2
LDC$11polity_squared = (LDC$11polity)^2
```

Let us see whether there is a curvilinear relationship between the Polity IV Score and tariff levels.

```
main_int=lm(newtar ~ l1polity + l1polity_squared + l1signed + l1office + l1gdp_pc + l1lnpop + l1ecris2
# summary(main_int)
```

Interestingly, there appears to be a curvilinear relationship between the two variables! How would we interpret the results of the linear regression? How would we plot this curvilinear relationship?

Polity IV Score and Tariff Level (Algeria)

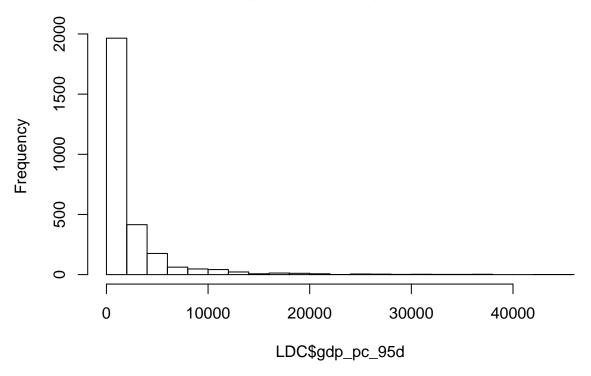


This relationship looks slightly different than the relationship estimated by Milner and Kubota.

Moreover, another frequently used way to transform data is to take the natural logarithm. In many cases, researchers do this because the distribution of the data is skewed to the right. The goal is to reduce the skewness.

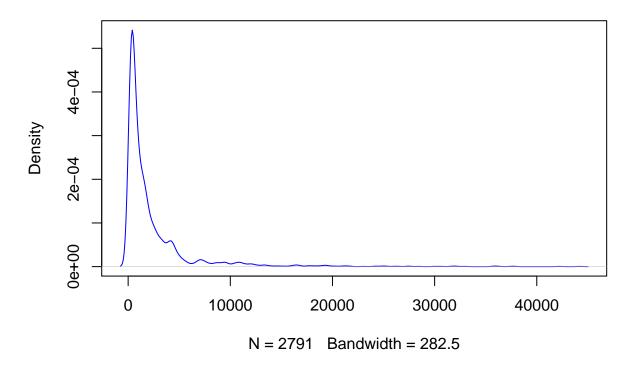
hist(LDC\$gdp_pc_95d, breaks = 21)

Histogram of LDC\$gdp_pc_95d



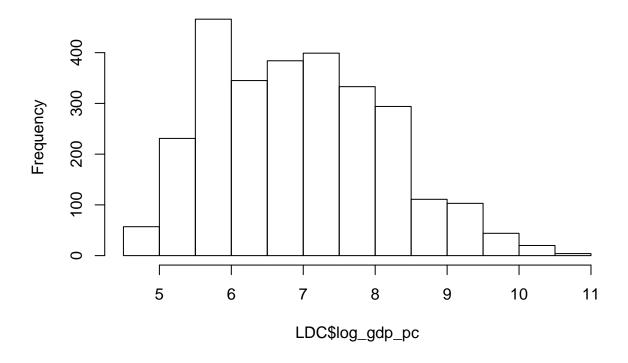
```
dens = density(LDC$gdp_pc_95d, na.rm = TRUE)
plot(dens, col = "blue")
```

density.default(x = LDC\$gdp_pc_95d, na.rm = TRUE)



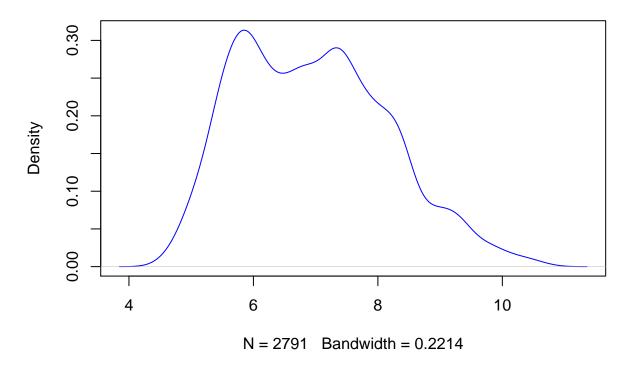
```
LDC$log_gdp_pc = log(LDC$gdp_pc_95d)
hist(LDC$log_gdp_pc, breaks = 21)
```

Histogram of LDC\$log_gdp_pc



```
dens = density(LDC$log_gdp_pc, na.rm = TRUE)
plot(dens, col = "blue")
```

density.default(x = LDC\$log_gdp_pc, na.rm = TRUE)



We have reduced the skewness and enforced a distribution that is closer to ### a unimodal distribution

What do we do if the data is not in the format in which we want it to be?

Let us look at a dataset that deals with lotteries in different states.

```
setwd("C:/Users/Jan/OneDrive/Documents/GitHub/ps630_lab/w9/")
prize = read.csv("Lottery Prize Amounts Awarded.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
tickets = read.csv("Lottery Ticket Sales.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)

# Let's look at the datasets

# Let's get rid of missing values

prize = prize[93:103, ]
tickets = tickets[93:103, ]
```

We want to have the data in a format in which we have both the tickets sold and the prizes awarded for each year and state. How do we get there? The "reshape" package is very useful in this respect.

install.packages("reshape")

```
library(reshape)
```

Warning: package 'reshape' was built under R version 3.2.2

```
prize <- melt(prize, id = c("Year"))
prize$Prize = prize$value
prize$value = NULL

tickets <- melt(tickets, id = c("Year"))
tickets$TSales = tickets$value
tickets$value = NULL</pre>
```

Now let's merge the two dataframes.

```
full = merge(prize, tickets, by = c("Year", "variable"))
View(full)
```

More information on the reshape package can be found here: http://had.co.nz/reshape/

3. Data management III: creating new variables

Does not work because it is not numeric!

Often we can create new variables from existing ones. Let us create three categories for a country's wealth. (1) Low income countries, (2) middle income countries, and (3) high income countries.

If we want a histogram of our data, our argument needs to be numeric. We can do a simple data transformation to turn the variable into a numeric variable.

```
LDC$incomelevel[LDC$incomelevel=="Low-income country"]=0
LDC$incomelevel[LDC$incomelevel=="Middle-income country"]=1
LDC$incomelevel[LDC$incomelevel=="High-income country"]=2
hist(LDC$incomelevel)
```

Error in hist.default(LDC\$incomelevel): 'x' must be numeric

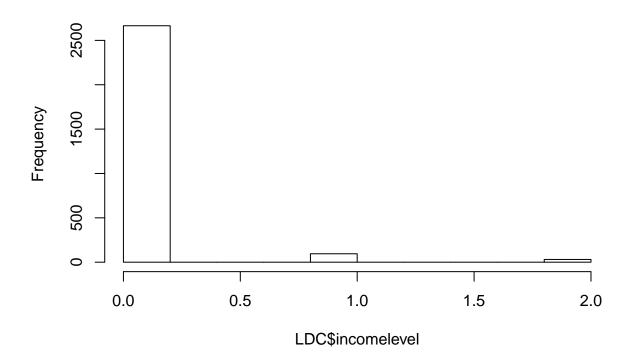
```
### Why does this not work? We just assigned numeric values.
```

We just assigned numeric values to our variable but R still treats this a character variable. What is the reason for this?

In order to change the coding of the variable to numeric, we can use the following command:

```
LDC$incomelevel = as.numeric(LDC$incomelevel)
hist(LDC$incomelevel)
```

Histogram of LDC\$incomelevel



As we can see, the vast majority of our sample are low-income countries.

Now let us try to create a new variable that depends on two other variables. We want to have a major economic crises when we have both an economic crisis and a balance-of-payment crisis. How can we do that in R?

```
LDC$major_crisis = NA
LDC$major_crisis[LDC$ecris2 == 1 & LDC$bpcris == 1] <- 1
```

Let's say you want to create a variable that shows you if the Polity IV Score changed in any given year, with 0 indicating no change and 1 indicating a change. How would we do that?

```
LDC$politychange = NA
for (i in 2:length(LDC$polityiv_update2)) {
   if (LDC$ctylabel[i] == LDC$ctylabel[i - 1]) {
      if (LDC$polityiv_update2[i] != LDC$polityiv_update2[i - 1]) {
         LDC$politychange[i] = 1
      } else {
         LDC$politychange[i] = 0
      }
}
```

4. Data management IV: useful commands

Here are some more useful commands for data management:

```
unique(LDC$ctylabel)
```

```
##
     [1] "Turkey"
                                   "SouthAfrica"
##
     [3] "Argentina"
                                   "Bolivia"
     [5] "Brazil"
                                   "Chile"
##
##
     [7] "Colombia"
                                   "CostaRica"
                                   "Ecuador"
##
     [9] "DominicanRepublic"
  [11] "ElSalvador"
                                   "Guatemala"
##
   [13] "Haiti"
                                   "Honduras"
   [15] "Mexico"
                                   "Nicaragua"
##
  [17] "Panama"
                                   "Paraguay"
  [19] "Peru"
##
                                   "Uruguay"
##
   [21] "Venezuela"
                                   "Guyana"
##
   [23] "Jamaica"
                                   "Trinidad&Tobago"
  [25] "Bahrain"
##
                                   "Cyprus"
  [27] "Iran"
                                   "Israel"
##
                                   "Kuwait"
## [29] "Jordan"
                                   "SaudiArabia"
## [31] "Oman"
## [33] "Syria"
                                   "UnitedArabEmirates"
## [35] "Egypt"
                                   "Bangladesh"
##
   [37] "Bhutan"
                                   "Cambodia"
## [39] "SriLanka"
                                   "India"
## [41] "Indonesia"
                                   "Korea"
## [43] "Laos"
                                   "Malaysia"
## [45] "Nepal"
                                   "Pakistan"
##
  [47] "Philippines"
                                   "Singapore"
                                   "Djibouti"
## [49] "Thailand"
  [51] "Algeria"
##
                                   "Angola"
   [53] "Botswana"
##
                                   "Burundi"
##
  [55] "Cameroon"
                                   "CentralAfricanRepublic"
                                   "Comoros"
##
  [57] "Chad"
## [59] "Congo"
                                   "Zaire"
## [61] "Benin"
                                   "EquatorialGuinea"
## [63] "Ethiopia"
                                   "Gabon"
                                   "Ghana"
## [65] "Gambia"
## [67] "GuineaBissau"
                                   "Guinea"
```

```
[69] "Coted'Ivoire"
                                   "Kenva"
##
   [71] "Lesotho"
                                  "Madagascar"
  [73] "Malawi"
                                   "Mali"
##
  [75] "Mauritania"
                                   "Mauritius"
##
   [77] "Morocco"
                                   "Mozambique"
## [79] "Niger"
                                  "Nigeria"
## [81] "Zimbabwe"
                                  "Rwanda"
                                  "SierraLeone"
## [83] "Senegal"
   [85] "Namibia"
                                   "Swaziland"
## [87] "Tanzania"
                                  "Togo"
## [89] "Tunisia"
                                  "Uganda"
## [91] "BurkinaFaso"
                                  "Zambia"
## [93] "Fiji"
                                  "PapuaNewGuinea"
## [95] "Armenia"
                                   "Azerbaijan"
## [97] "Belarus"
                                   "Albania"
## [99] "Georgia"
                                   "Kazakhstan"
## [101] "KyrgyzRepublic"
                                  "Bulgaria"
                                  "Russia"
## [103] "Moldova"
## [105] "Tajikistan"
                                  "China"
## [107] "Turkmenistan"
                                  "Ukraine"
## [109] "Uzbekistan"
                                  "Estonia"
## [111] "Latvia"
                                  "Hungary"
## [113] "Lithuania"
                                   "Mongolia"
## [115] "Croatia"
                                   "Slovenia"
## [117] "Poland"
                                   "Romania"
# Displays all of the empirically observed unique values Is this useful for
# continuous variables?
head(LDC$polityiv_update2)
## [1] 8 -2 -2 9 9 9
# Returns the first five values of a vector Also, tail() returns the last
# five values
names(LDC)
   [1] "ctylabel"
                           "date"
                                               "polityiv_update2"
   [4] "gdp_pc_95d"
                           "newtar"
                                               "l1polity"
## [7] "l1polity.1"
                           "l1signed"
                                               "l1office"
## [10] "l1gdp_pc"
                           "l1lnpop"
                                               "l1ecris2"
## [13] "l1bpc1"
                           "l1avnewtar"
                                               "l1fdi"
## [16] "polityiv_squared" "l1polity_squared" "log_gdp_pc"
## [19] "incomelevel"
                           "major_crisis"
                                               "politychange"
# Returns the variable names of a data frame colnames() does the same
class(LDC$ctylabel)
```

[1] "character"

```
# Show the classification of a variable
char_newtar = as.character(LDC$newtar)
# Changes a variable to a character variable

val_newtar = as.numeric(LDC$char_newtar)
# Changes a variable to a numeric variable

quantile(LDC$newtar, p = c(0.1, 0.9), na.rm = T)

## 10% 90%
## 8.5 40.0

# Displays the 10th and 90th percentile of a variable
```

5. Two-Stage Least Squares (2SLS) Regression

Two-stage least squares regression is an important tool when we believe that there is a high level of endogeneity in our model. Endogeneity refers to a situation in which there is a mutual influence of our dependent and independent variables (feedback loop).

In one of our last sessions, we looked at the influence of economic development on the level of democracy. But what if there is (on average) better economic growth in democratic political systems? This would result in a feedback loop as described above.

Let us use the LDC dataset to illustrate 2SLS regression.

```
setwd("C:/Users/Jan/OneDrive/Documents/GitHub/ps630_lab/")
library(foreign)
LDC = read.dta("LDC_IO_replication.dta")
model1 = lm(polityiv_update2 ~ l1gdp_pc, data = LDC)
summary(model1)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = polityiv_update2 ~ l1gdp_pc, data = LDC)
##
## Residuals:
##
      Min
               1Q Median
                               3Q
                                      Max
## -10.161 -5.841 -2.886
                            8.051 11.178
##
## Coefficients:
                Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) -1.205e+00 1.588e-01 -7.584 4.6e-14 ***
               6.274e-05 3.404e-05
                                      1.843
                                              0.0654 .
## l1gdp_pc
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 7.157 on 2696 degrees of freedom
     (2672 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared: 0.001258,
                                   Adjusted R-squared: 0.000888
## F-statistic: 3.397 on 1 and 2696 DF, p-value: 0.06543
```

In this regression we might have the problem of endogeneity.

When we use 2SLS regression, we identify an instrument that we believe to not be correlated with our dependent variable of interest, but to have an influence on our independent variable. With this method, we can isolate the effect that our independent variable has through our instruments.

We will use a package called "Zelig" to estimate a 2SLS regression.

Y = Democracy Level (dependent variable) X = GDP per capita (explanatory variable, instrumental variable) I = FDI inflows (instrument variable)

Note that these claims contradict the theoretical claims made in tutorial 7. So please just treat this as a demonstration of how to set up such a regression.

install.packages("Zelig")

```
formula_1 <- list(mu1 = polityiv_update2 ~ l1gdp_pc, mu2 = l1gdp_pc ~ l1fdi,
    inst = ~l1fdi)
z.out <- zelig(formula = formula_1, model = "twosls", data = LDC)</pre>
```

```
## Loading required package: systemfit
## Warning: package 'systemfit' was built under R version 3.2.2
## Loading required package: Matrix
##
## Attaching package: 'Matrix'
##
## The following object is masked from 'package:reshape':
##
##
       expand
##
## Loading required package: car
## Warning: package 'car' was built under R version 3.2.2
##
  Attaching package: 'car'
##
##
##
  The following object is masked from 'package:boot':
##
##
       logit
##
## Loading required package: lmtest
## Warning: package 'lmtest' was built under R version 3.2.2
## Loading required package: zoo
##
## Attaching package: 'zoo'
##
## The following objects are masked from 'package:base':
##
##
       as.Date, as.Date.numeric
```

```
## Warning in systemfit(data = data, formula = formula, method = method, inst
## = inst, : the estimation of systems of equations with unequal numbers of
## observations has not been thoroughly tested yet
##
##
  How to cite this model in Zelig:
    Ferdinand Alimadhi, Ying Lu, and Elena Villalon. 2015.
     "twosls"
##
##
     in Kosuke Imai, Gary King, and Olivia Lau, "Zelig: Everyone's Statistical Software,"
##
    http://gking.harvard.edu/zelig
##
summary(z.out)
## systemfit results
## method: 2SLS
##
                DF
                           SSR
                                 detRCov
                                           OLS-R2 McElroy-R2
## system 5217 5213 7452859889 112809845 0.006978
##
          N
             DF
                        SSR
                                    MSE
                                             RMSE
                                                                Adj R2
## mu1 2376 2374
                     502127
                                211.511
                                          14.5434 -3.228237 -3.230018
## mu2 2841 2839 7452357762 2624993.928 1620.1833 0.007029 0.006679
## The covariance matrix of the residuals
##
              mu1
                        mu2
          211.511 -19734.4
## mu1
## mu2 -19734.354 2374603.4
##
## The correlations of the residuals
                       m112
            mu1
## mu1 1.000000 -0.882904
## mu2 -0.882904 1.000000
##
##
## 2SLS estimates for 'mu1' (equation 1)
## Model Formula: polityiv_update2 ~ l1gdp_pc
## Instruments: ~11fdi
##
                   Estimate
                              Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) -14.73013136
                              9.48794685 -1.55251 0.12067
## l1gdp_pc
                 0.00964792
                              0.00664071 1.45284 0.14640
##
## Residual standard error: 14.543415 on 2374 degrees of freedom
## Number of observations: 2376 Degrees of Freedom: 2374
## SSR: 502126.957721 MSE: 211.510934 Root MSE: 14.543415
## Multiple R-Squared: -3.228237 Adjusted R-Squared: -3.230018
##
## 2SLS estimates for 'mu2' (equation 2)
## Model Formula: l1gdp_pc ~ l1fdi
```

How would we interpret these results? How are they different from the results obtained by OLS?