

Homoskedasticity

$$\text{Var}(\epsilon_j) = \sigma^2 \quad \Rightarrow \text{variance of error term is constant}$$

Heteroskedasticity?

1) When value of independent variable increases

$$\text{\$ spent on vacation} = \beta_0 + \beta_1(\text{income})$$

low inc \rightarrow spend less, less variation

high inc \rightarrow spend more, more variation

2) measurement errors

3) sub-population differences or other interaction effects

4) Model misspecifications

Consequences

1) Do not provide estimates w/ smallest variance

2) Standard errors will be biased

How to detect Heteroskedasticity?

Plot residuals vs fitted values

\hookrightarrow If uniform across zero, homoskedasticity is satisfied

rve plot in STATA \rightarrow residuals vs independent var

rvp plot in STATA \rightarrow residuals vs x var

White's Test \Rightarrow Test null that there is homoskedasticity
 H_0 : homoskedasticity
 H_a : heteroskedasticity

$P > .05 \Rightarrow$ fail to reject H_0 .

Stata \rightarrow regress y x
 estat imtest, white

How to fix heteroskedasticity

1) improper model specification

- check for left out variables

- transfer variables

2) use robust standard errors

regress y x, robust

3) use weighted linear regression

Use log when dependent var can't be negative