

# Assignment 5

Ozone

## Preliminary questions

- ▶ 1. Under the case  $\beta = 0$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\text{Prob}(\text{selecting the true model}) = \text{Prob}(\text{Not reject} | H_0 \text{ is true}) = 1 - \alpha$ , where  $\alpha$  is the size of the test. Under the case  $\beta \neq 0$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\text{Prob}(\text{selecting the true model}) = \text{Prob}(\text{Reject} | H_0 \text{ is not true}) = \text{power} = 1$
- ▶ 2. Post-test estimator for  $\alpha$  is consistent. Under the case  $\beta = 0$ , no matter whether we choose the restricted model or unrestricted model, the estimator  $\hat{\alpha}$  is unbiased and consistent estimator for the true  $\alpha$ . Under the case  $\beta \neq 0$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , the  $\text{Prob}(\text{selecting the true model})$  is 1, then  $\hat{\alpha}$  will be consistent with the true  $\alpha$ . Therefore, the post-test estimator for  $\alpha$  is consistent.

## Simulation (Compare Variance)

Table 1:

	beta	model	n	variance
1	0	res	50	0.021
2	0	res	100	0.010
3	0	res	150	0.007
4	0	res	200	0.005
5	0	select	50	0.035
6	0	select	100	0.017
7	0	select	150	0.010
8	0	select	200	0.009
9	0	unres	50	0.071
10	0	unres	100	0.034
11	0	unres	150	0.021
12	0	unres	200	0.017

## Compare Variance Comment

- Under the case of  $\beta = 0$ , holding the sample size  $n$  constant, the variance of the restrictive model estimator is the smallest, then the post-test OLS estimator, and the variance of the unrestricted model estimator is the largest. This makes intuitive sense, because when  $X_2$  is not relevant in the model, including  $X_2$  basically adds more noise to the model, which increases the variance of  $\alpha$ . We see the results shown in class. The post-test OLS estimator is a combination of the restricted and unrestricted estimators, therefore the size of the post-test OLS estimator variance is between the restricted and unrestricted estimators.

## Simulation (Bias Computation)

Table 2:

	beta	model	n	bias	true_bias
1	0.160	res	200	0.113	0.112
2	0.160	select	200	0.064	
3	0.160	unres	200	-0.002	0
4	0.240	res	200	0.166	0.168
5	0.240	select	200	0.072	
6	0.240	unres	200	-0.0002	0
7	0.500	res	200	0.347	0.350
8	0.500	select	200	0.011	
9	0.500	unres	200	-0.007	0

## Bias Computation Comment

- ▶ Theoretically,  $E[\hat{\alpha}] - \alpha$  is the bias. When the true model is  $y = \alpha X + \beta X_2 + \epsilon$  (unrestricted model), where  $\beta \neq 0$ ,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  is jointly normal distributed, with sd of 1 and cov of 0.7 and we choose the model  $y = \gamma X + e$  (restricted model), there will be omitted variable bias.

$E[\hat{\alpha}^{res} | \beta \neq 0] - \alpha = \beta \frac{\text{cov}(X_1, X_2)}{\text{Var}(X_1)} = \beta \cdot 0.7$ . If we estimate the true model (unrestricted model), then there will be no bias because  $E[\hat{\alpha}^{unres} | \beta \neq 0] - \alpha = 0$ . For the post-test estimator,  $E[\hat{\alpha}^{post} | \beta \neq 0] - \alpha \neq 0$  and the bias will be smaller if  $\beta$  is larger and sample size  $n$  is larger.

- ▶ Our simulation is line with our theory above. Under the cases  $\beta \neq 0$ , the bias of the restricted estimator, is around 0.112, 0.168 and 0.35 respectively. The bias of the unrestricted estimator is around 0 as expected. The bias of the post-estimator is bigger than 0, smaller than the restricted estimator, and decreases as  $\beta$  and sample size  $n$  increases.

## Simulation (Confidence Interval)

Table 3:

	beta	model	n	true
4	0	res	200	0.944
8	0	select	200	0.920
12	0	unres	200	0.946
16	0.160	res	200	0.636
20	0.160	select	200	0.688
24	0.160	unres	200	0.952
28	0.240	res	200	0.345
32	0.240	select	200	0.538
36	0.240	unres	200	0.951
40	0.500	res	200	0.002
44	0.500	select	200	0.861
48	0.500	unres	200	0.948

## Confidence Interval Comment

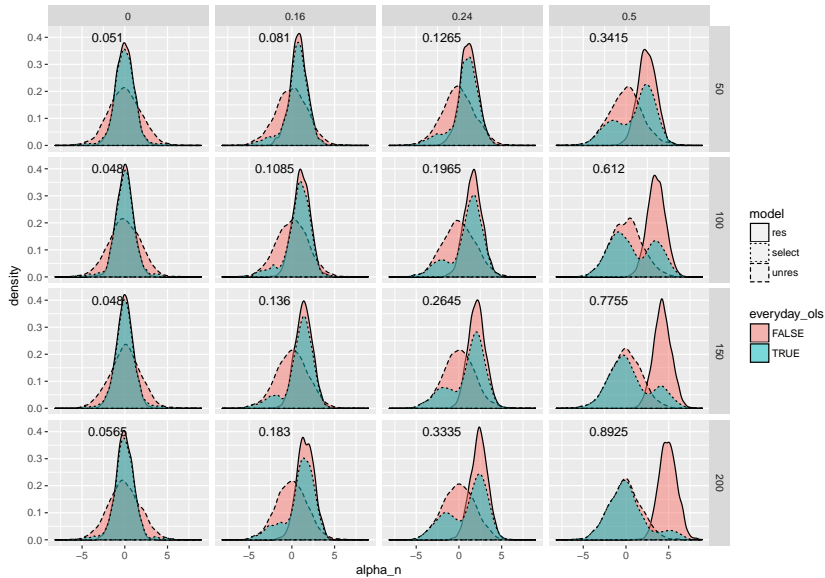
- ▶ Under the case  $\beta = 0$ , about 95% of the time the confidence interval contains the true  $\alpha = 0.2$  no matter we use restricted, unrestricted or everyday OLS. Under the case  $\beta \neq 0$ , only the the confidence interval of the unrestricted OLS case, contains the true  $\alpha$  around 95% of the time. Because both of the two cases,  $\hat{\alpha}$  is unbiased and the corresponding T statistics is t-distributed. Therefore the 95% confidence interval contains the true  $\alpha$  95% of the times as constructed.
- ▶ When  $\beta \neq 0$ , the confidence interval of restricted OLS contains the true  $\alpha$  all less than 95% of the time. The bigger the beta is, the less times the confidence interval contains the true beta. Notice that when  $\beta$  is 0.5, the confidence interval of the restricted model only have 0.2% of the time containing the true  $\alpha$ . This makes sense, because the confidence interval is computed as  $[\hat{\alpha} - c_{0.25} \cdot se(\hat{\alpha}), \hat{\alpha} + c_{0.25} \cdot se(\hat{\alpha})]$ . The bigger the beta is, the more bias the  $\hat{\alpha}$  is, the less time the interval computed based on  $\hat{\alpha}$  will contain the true  $\alpha$ .



## Confidence Interval Comment (Continue)

- ▶ When  $\beta \neq 0$ , how many times the confidence interval of post OLS contain  $\alpha$  is related to how big the  $\beta$  and sample size  $n$  is. This could be seen better in the graph in next the slide. Under the case  $n = 200$  and  $\beta = 0.5$ , the distribution of  $\hat{\alpha}_{post}$  is closer to the distribution of  $\hat{\alpha}_{unres}$  than other  $n - \beta$  cases, therefore the times of the confidence interval containing the true *alpha* is the highest, 86% of the time. Under  $\beta \neq 0$ , the closer the distribution of  $\sqrt{n} \cdot (\hat{\alpha}_{post} - 0.2)$  is to the distribution of  $\sqrt{n} \cdot (\hat{\alpha}_{unres} - 0.2)$ , the time containing the true *alpha* will be more close to 95%.

# Simulation (Plots)



## Simulation Plots Comment

- ▶  $\sqrt{n} \cdot (\hat{\alpha} - 0.2)$  is asymptotically  $N(0, V_{\alpha})$  distributed when  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and we use the correct model.
- ▶ If  $n$  is big and the true  $\beta$  is much bigger than zero, the distribution of the post-test OLS is closer to the true distribution.
- ▶ The bigger the  $\beta$  and  $n$  is, the higher the percentage of rejection of the t-test for  $\beta$ .

# Summary

- ▶ Consistency holds no matter whether the true  $\beta$  and the  $\beta$  under the null hypothesis are equal or not. Unbiasness does not hold in small sample if the true  $\beta$  and the  $\beta$  are different. Efficiency does not hold.
- ▶ If “the sample size is big and the true  $\beta$  and the  $\beta$  under the null hypothesis are very different” OR “the true  $\beta$  is the  $\beta$  under the null hypothesis”, the usual OLS distribution approximate the distribution of the post-test OLS.