

Reflections on Chapter 14

General Thoughts

Heterogeneous Treatment effects appear to be quite useful in real life, since we can often expect treatment effects to be based on confounders, and allocating treatment according to that heterogeneity is desirable. The estimation techniques for it in this chapter seem somewhat weak and fraught with pitfalls, so if you want this kind of granular estimation I suspect you need one or more of the following: very large and dense datasets, very high impact of heterogeneity, or strong priors on which specific confounders are interesting, and in which ways. Luckily this might be the case more often than expected when we want this, in medicine trials for instance there are strong priors, and datasets are growing bigger and better every day, as well as our ability to efficiently work with them. These tools do still seem a bit out of reach for the hobbyist in most cases, but they are again always good to have encountered, and may very well come up in my professional life, at which point having some understanding from this, and a quality reference to go to will be very useful.

Space for future reading

Categorical heterogeneity or low dim heterogeneity are achievable to work with in some smaller project alt. to read more about, but still capture a good deal of the important intuition and knowledge for these tools.