Project 4: Causal Inference Algorithms Evaluation

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Setup

```
First, we set working directories, install required libraries and import the data.
setwd("C:/Users/wuyam/Desktop/Fall2020-Project4-group-4")
packages.used <- c("dplyr", "ggplot2", "WeightedROC", "rpart", "rpart.plot")</pre>
# check packages that need to be installed.
packages.needed <- setdiff(packages.used, intersect(installed.packages()[,1], packages.used))</pre>
# install additional packages
if(length(packages.needed) > 0){
   install.packages(packages.needed, dependencies = TRUE)
}
library(dplyr)
##
## Attaching package: 'dplyr'
## The following objects are masked from 'package:stats':
##
##
       filter, lag
## The following objects are masked from 'package:base':
##
       intersect, setdiff, setequal, union
library(ggplot2)
## Warning: package 'ggplot2' was built under R version 3.6.3
library(WeightedROC)
## Warning: package 'WeightedROC' was built under R version 3.6.3
library(rpart)
library(rpart.plot)
## Warning: package 'rpart.plot' was built under R version 3.6.3
library(base)
```

Introduction

In this project, we are looking for the best algorithm method for causal inference of propensity scores to see how close the estimated ATEs and true ATEs would be. The algorithms we use to compare ATE in

df_high <- read.csv("C:/Users/wuyam/Desktop/Fall2020-Project4-group-4/data/highDim_dataset.csv")
df_low <- read.csv("C:/Users/wuyam/Desktop/Fall2020-Project4-group-4/data/lowDim_dataset.csv")</pre>

this project are regression adjustment, stratification, and the combination of them. For the estimation of propensity score, we use the regression trees. The results of estimated ATE of best algorhitms, combination of stratification and regression adjustment, are -2.504545 for high dimension data set and 3.058512 for low dimension data set, which are really closed to the true ATE: -2.5 for high dimension and 3 for low dimension. We notice that regression adjustment also performs well on estimating the ATEs: 3.05324 for low dimension and -2.527116 for high dimension. However, the estimated ATEs of stratification are significantly different from the true value.

About the Data

There are two attached data set for this project, named *highDim_dataset* and *lowDim_dataset*. For high dimension data, there are 2000 observations, 185 variables, 1 treatment indicator and 1 response variable. For low dimension data, there are 475 observations, 22 variables, 1 treatment indicator and 1 response variable

Background: Trees

Regression tree is the method we used for estimating propensity scores. In this project, regression tree is designed for classification for the quantile of propensity score. The tree seperated by every variable which will significantly influence the quantile that the propensity scores will falls in. The more layers tree has, the more precise quantile and propensity score will be.

Cross-Validation

Usually we make a 5-folds cross validation for stratification.

Step 1: Set Controls and Establish Hyperparameters

In order to get a balanced tree model, which is neither too much layers or too much bias, we need to find the best hyperparameter for the tree.

```
K <- 5 # number of CV folds
sample.reweight <- TRUE # run sample reweighting in model training

# setting the following to false loads data generated from a previous run

# this data is the same in each run due to a set seed

run.cv.trees_high <- FALSE # run cross-validation on the training set for trees on high dim data

run.cv.trees_low <- FALSE # run cross-validation on the training set for trees on low dim data
```

The index of power shows the layers we may want to check.

Step 2: Cross-Validate the Hyperparameters

The hyperparameter affects the performance of regression tree model which will directly influence the results of propensity scores. To get the best hyperparameter, we need to check the mean AUC and mean error of model under different hyperparameter value.

```
# features are the predictors: V1 - Vp
# column 1 is the response Y
# column 2 is the treatment A

feature_train_high = df_high[, -1:-2]
label_train_high = df_low[, -1:-2]
label_train_low = df_low[, -1:-2]
label_train_low = df_low[, 2]
```

High Dimensional Data

Creating the cross validation for high dimension.

Low Dimensional Data

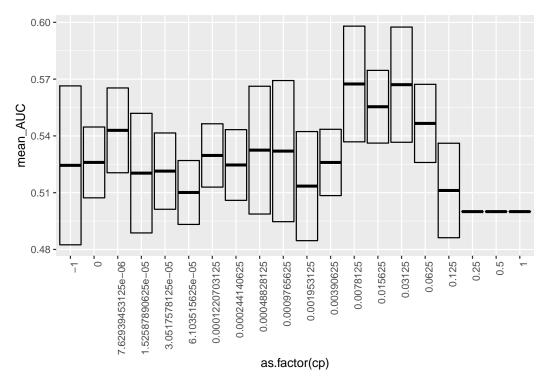
Creating the cross validation for low dimension.

Step 3: Visualize CV Error and AUC

In this section, we will use the bar plot to figure out the highest mean AUC and its complex parameter.

High Dimensional Data

```
The best complex parameter for high dimension data is 0.0078125.
# create data frame to organize results
res_cv_trees_high <- as.data.frame(res_cv_trees_high)</pre>
colnames(res_cv_trees_high) <- c("mean_error", "sd_error", "mean_AUC", "sd_AUC")</pre>
cv_results_trees_high = data.frame(hyper_grid_trees, res_cv_trees_high)
# look at top 5 models with highest AUC
cv_results_trees_high[order(cv_results_trees_high$mean_AUC, decreasing = TRUE), ][1:5, ]
##
                       sd_error mean_AUC
                                         sd_AUC
            cp mean_error
## 8
    ## 18 7.629395e-06  0.4633120 0.01383644 0.5429351 0.02240466
       0.52
       0.48
```



[1] 0.0078125

Low Dimensional Data

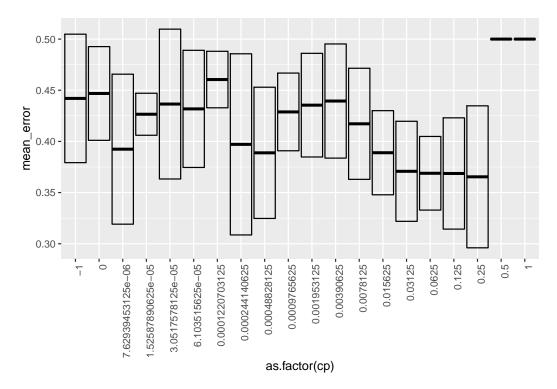
The best complex parameter for low dimension data is 7.629395e-06.

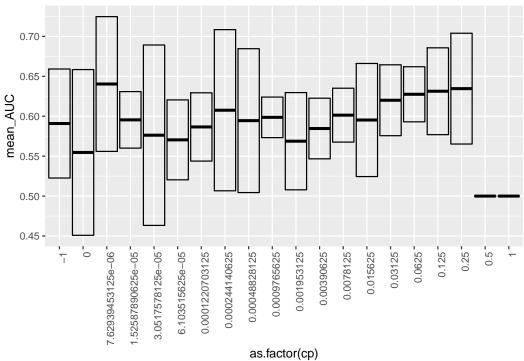
3 2.500000e-01 0.3653965 0.06938198 0.6346035 0.06938198 ## 4 1.250000e-01 0.3686625 0.05437925 0.6313375 0.05437925 ## 5 6.250000e-02 0.3688654 0.03598451 0.6275346 0.03449488 ## 6 3.125000e-02 0.3707763 0.04889355 0.6200507 0.04439815

```
# create data frame to organize results
res_cv_trees_low <- as.data.frame(res_cv_trees_low)
colnames(res_cv_trees_low) <- c("mean_error", "sd_error", "mean_AUC", "sd_AUC")
cv_results_trees_low = data.frame(hyper_grid_trees, res_cv_trees_low)

# look at top 5 models with lowest AUC
cv_results_trees_low[order(cv_results_trees_low$mean_AUC, decreasing = TRUE), ][1:5, ]

## cp mean_error sd_error mean_AUC sd_AUC
## 18 7.629395e-06 0.3924126 0.07329778 0.6403787 0.08438962</pre>
```





[1] 7.629395e-06

Propensity Score Estimation

In this section, we will use regression tree to get our propensity score based on the variables from two datasets.

```
# imbalanced dataset requires weights
# to be used in the trained model

weights_high <- rep(NA, length(df_high$A))
for (v in unique(df_high$A)){
   weights_high[df_high$A == v] = 0.5 * length(df_high$A) / length(df_high$A[df_high$A == v])
}

weights_low <- rep(NA, length(df_low$A))
for (v in unique(df_low$A)){
   weights_low[df_low$A]) <- weights_low[df_low$A] / length(df_low$A[df_low$A] == v])
}</pre>
```

High Dimensional Data

```
start.time_propensity_score_high <- Sys.time()

# create tree model for high dimensional data with best cp parameter

tree_high <- rpart(A ~ . - Y, method = "class", data = df_high, cp = best_cp_high)

# calculate propensity scores

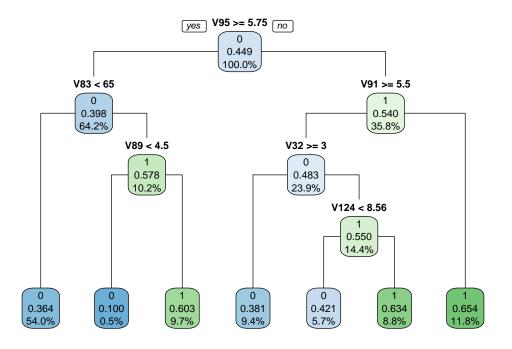
prop_score_high <- predict(tree_high, newdata = df_high[, -2], type = "prob")[, 2]

end.time_propensity_score_high <- Sys.time()

time_propensity_score_high <- end.time_propensity_score_high - start.time_propensity_score_high

time_propensity_score_high</pre>
```

Time difference of 2.348685 secs



Low Dimensional Data

```
start.time_propensity_score_low <- Sys.time()

# create tree model for low dimensional data with best cp parameter

tree_low <- rpart(A ~ . - Y, method = "class", data = df_low, cp = best_cp_low)

# calculate propensity scores

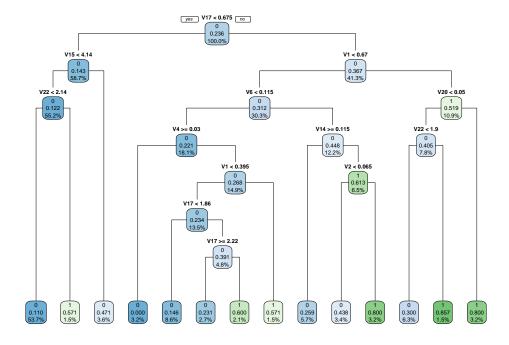
prop_score_low <- predict(tree_low, newdata = df_low[, -2], type = "prob")[, 2]

end.time_propensity_score_low <- Sys.time()

time_propensity_score_low <- end.time_propensity_score_low - start.time_propensity_score_low

time_propensity_score_low</pre>
```

Time difference of 0.058846 secs



ATE Estimation

$$\Delta = E(Y_1 - Y_0) = E(Y_1) - E(Y_0)$$

This is the formula of Average Treatment Effect(ATE). We use it for control experiment. ATE can measure the average difference of results between the control group and treating group.

Stratification

we divide the whole propensity score into 5 strata. In each strata, we calculate the mean propensity score of control group and treating group, and then we calculate the difference of mean propensity scores of two groups of each strata. Finally, we calculate the weighted average of mean difference of 5 stratas.

```
K = 5 quintiles <- seq(0, 1, by = 1/K)
```

High Dimensional Data

The ATE of high dimension is -1.87638. Runtime of high dimension is 0.621835 secs.

```
start.time_stratification_high <- Sys.time()

df_high <- cbind(df_high, prop_score_high)
quintile_values_high <- rep(NA, length(quintiles))

for (i in 1:length(quintiles)){
   quintile_values_high[i] <- quantile(prop_score_high, quintiles[i])
}</pre>
```

```
# values of quintiles for high data
quintile_values_high
## [1] 0.1000000 0.3635523 0.3635523 0.3809524 0.6342857 0.6540084
df_high$quintile_class_high <- rep(NA, nrow(df_high))</pre>
# assign quintile class to each observation
for (i in 1:nrow(df high)){
  if ((quintile_values_high[1] <= df_high$prop_score_high[i]) &</pre>
      (df_high$prop_score_high[i] < quintile_values_high[2])) {</pre>
    df high$quintile class high[i] <- 1</pre>
  } else if ((quintile_values_high[2] <= df_high$prop_score_high[i]) &</pre>
              (df_high$prop_score_high[i] < quintile_values_high[3])) {</pre>
    df_high$quintile_class_high[i] <- 2</pre>
  } else if ((quintile_values_high[3] <= df_high$prop_score_high[i]) &</pre>
              (df_high$prop_score_high[i] < quintile_values_high[4])) {</pre>
    df_high$quintile_class_high[i] <- 3</pre>
  } else if ((quintile_values_high[4] <= df_high$prop_score_high[i]) &</pre>
              (df_high$prop_score_high[i] < quintile_values_high[5])) {</pre>
    df_high$quintile_class_high[i] <- 4</pre>
  } else if ((quintile_values_high[5] <= df_high$prop_score_high[i]) &</pre>
              (df_high$prop_score_high[i] <= quintile_values_high[6])) {</pre>
    df high$quintile class high[i] <- 5</pre>
  }
}
summary_high = expand.grid(
 A = c(0, 1),
  quintile = c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5),
  n = NA
 prop = NA,
  avg_y = NA
for (i in 1:nrow(summary_high)) {
  subset <- df_high[(df_high$A == summary_high$A[i]) & (df_high$quintile_class_high == summary_high$qui
  summary_high$n[i] = nrow(subset)
  summary_high$prop[i] = summary_high$n[i]/nrow(df_high)
  summary_high$avg_y[i] = mean(subset$Y)
}
for (i in 1:nrow(summary_high)) {
  if (is.nan(summary_high$avg_y[i]) == TRUE) {
    summary high$avg y[i] <- 0</pre>
  }
}
# this table records the mean response in each quintile; needed for stratification
summary_high
      A quintile n prop
                                   avg_y
```

9 0.0045 -1.556754

1 0

1

```
## 2 1
              1 1 0.0005
                             3.448809
## 3 0
              2 0 0.0000 0.000000
## 4 1
             2 0 0.0000 0.000000
## 5 0
             3 688 0.3440 -13.637227
## 6 1
             3 393 0.1965 -16.140803
## 7 0
             4 260 0.1300 -10.267325
## 8 1
             4 237 0.1185 -10.349496
             5 146 0.0730 -6.152075
## 9 0
## 10 1
              5 266 0.1330 -8.714239
quntile_prop_high <- summary_high %>% group_by(quintile) %>% summarise(sum = sum(n)/nrow(df_high))
# this table records the proportions for each quintile; also needed for stratification
quntile_prop_high
## # A tibble: 5 x 2
    quintile
##
       <dbl> <dbl>
## 1
           1 0.005
## 2
           2 0
## 3
           3 0.540
           4 0.248
## 4
## 5
           5 0.206
ATE_stratification_high = quntile_prop_high$sum[1]*(summary_high$avg_y[2] - summary_high$avg_y[1]) +
 quntile_prop_high$sum[2]*(summary_high$avg_y[4] - summary_high$avg_y[3]) +
 quntile_prop_high$sum[3]*(summary_high$avg_y[6] - summary_high$avg_y[5]) +
 quntile_prop_high$sum[4]*(summary_high$avg_y[8] - summary_high$avg_y[7]) +
 quntile_prop_high$sum[5]*(summary_high$avg_y[10] - summary_high$avg_y[9])
ATE_stratification_high
## [1] -1.87638
end.time_stratification_high <- Sys.time()</pre>
time_stratification_high <- end.time_stratification_high - start.time_stratification_high
time_stratification_high
## Time difference of 0.6093709 secs
```

Low Dimensional Data

The ATE of low dimension is 2.662275. Runtime of low dimension is 0.4974492 secs.

```
start.time_stratification_low <- Sys.time()

df_low <- cbind(df_low, prop_score_low)
  quintile_values_low <- rep(NA, length(quintiles))

for (i in 1:length(quintiles)){
    quintile_values_low[i] <- quantile(prop_score_low, quintiles[i])
}

# values of quintiles for low data</pre>
```

##

A quintile n

prop

avg_y

```
## 1 0
              1 15 0.03157895 18.25654
## 2 1
              1 0 0.00000000 0.00000
                 0 0.0000000 0.00000
## 3 0
## 4 1
              2
                 0 0.0000000 0.00000
## 5 0
              3 227 0.47789474 15.06273
## 6 1
              3 28 0.05894737 18.56302
              4 65 0.13684211 17.99996
## 7 0
              4 16 0.03368421 20.74083
## 8 1
## 9 0
              5 56 0.11789474 19.23768
## 10 1
              5 68 0.14315789 22.65577
quntile_prop_low <- summary_low %>% group_by(quintile) %>% summarise(sum = sum(n)/nrow(df_low))
# this table records the proportions for each quintile; also needed for stratification
quntile_prop_low
## # A tibble: 5 x 2
##
    quintile
                sum
       <dbl> <dbl>
##
## 1
           1 0.0316
## 2
           2 0
## 3
           3 0.537
## 4
           4 0.171
## 5
           5 0.261
ATE_stratification_low = quntile_prop_low$sum[1]*(summary_low$avg_y[2] - summary_low$avg_y[1]) +
  quntile_prop_low$sum[2]*(summary_low$avg_y[4] - summary_low$avg_y[3]) +
  quntile_prop_low$sum[3]*(summary_low$avg_y[6] - summary_low$avg_y[5]) +
  quntile_prop_low\$sum[4]*(summary_low\$avg_y[8] - summary_low\$avg_y[7]) +
  quntile prop low\sum[5]*(summary low\savg y[10] - summary low\savg y[9])
ATE stratification low
## [1] 2.662275
end.time_stratification_low <- Sys.time()</pre>
time_stratification_low <- end.time_stratification_low - start.time_stratification_low
time_stratification_low
```

Regression Adjustment

The ATE of propensity scores under this method is the coefficients of linear regression of the whole propensity scores. The coefficients of treatment indicator show how much the treatment will affects the reponse variable.

High Dimensional Data

The ATE of high dimension is -2.527116. Runtime of high dimension is 0.06682205 secs.

Time difference of 0.1665521 secs

```
start.time_regression_adjustment_high <- Sys.time()

ps_RA_high <- predict(tree_high, df_high, type = "prob")
high_data_ps <- cbind(ps_RA_high, df_high)</pre>
```

```
pred_high <- lm(Y ~ A + ps_RA_high, data = high_data_ps)</pre>
summary(pred_high)
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = Y ~ A + ps_RA_high, data = high_data_ps)
##
## Residuals:
##
        Min
                     Median
                                     30
                                             Max
                  1Q
## -17.4713 -3.4878 -0.6694
                                2.7522 30.0897
##
## Coefficients: (1 not defined because of singularities)
               Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
## (Intercept)
                 5.9564
                            0.6207
                                     9.596
                                              <2e-16 ***
                            0.2569 -9.836
## A
                -2.5271
                                              <2e-16 ***
## ps_RA_high0 -30.5718
                            1.0322 -29.617
                                              <2e-16 ***
## ps_RA_high1
                     NA
                                NA
                                         NA
                                                  NA
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 5.535 on 1997 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.3068, Adjusted R-squared: 0.3061
## F-statistic: 441.8 on 2 and 1997 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
ATE_regression_adjustment_high = pred_high$coefficients[2]
ATE_regression_adjustment_high
##
## -2.527116
end.time_regression_adjustment_high <- Sys.time()</pre>
time_regression_adjustment_high <- end.time_regression_adjustment_high - start.time_regression_adjustmen
time_regression_adjustment_high
## Time difference of 0.04587293 secs
Low Dimensional Data
The ATE of low dimension is 3.05324.
Runtime of low dimension is 0.06382895 secs.
start.time_regression_adjustment_low <- Sys.time()</pre>
ps_RA_low <- predict(tree_low, df_low, type = "prob")</pre>
low_data_ps <- cbind(ps_RA_low, df_low)</pre>
pred_low <- lm(Y ~ A + ps_RA_low, data = low_data_ps)</pre>
summary(pred_low)
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = Y ~ A + ps_RA_low, data = low_data_ps)
##
## Residuals:
        Min
                  1Q
                       Median
                                     3Q
                                             Max
## -11.5153 -2.6807 -0.5655
                                1.8184 26.9282
```

##

```
## Coefficients: (1 not defined because of singularities)
##
              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 22.5693
                            0.8535 26.445 < 2e-16 ***
                                     5.999 3.95e-09 ***
                3.0532
                            0.5089
## A
## ps_RA_low0
                -7.5200
                            1.0017
                                    -7.507 3.04e-13 ***
## ps_RA_low1
                     NA
                                NA
                                        NA
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 4.055 on 472 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.2829, Adjusted R-squared: 0.2798
## F-statistic: 93.08 on 2 and 472 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
ATE_regression_adjustment_low = pred_low$coefficients[2]
ATE_regression_adjustment_low
##
         Α
## 3.05324
end.time_regression_adjustment_low <- Sys.time()</pre>
time_regression_adjustment_low <- end.time_regression_adjustment_low - start.time_regression_adjustment
time_regression_adjustment_low
```

Stratification and Regression Adjustment

Time difference of 0.01795197 secs

In this section, we will combine two algorithms together. Fist, we will divide the data into 5 stratas by stratification, then we will do regression adjustment for each strata. Finally, calculate the weighted average of all stratas.

High Dimensional Data

The ATE of high dimension is -2.504545. Runtime of high dimension is 0.158493 secs.

```
start.time_stratification_regression_adjustment_high <- Sys.time()</pre>
lm_beta_high <- rep(NA, K)</pre>
for (i in 1:K){
  subset <- df_high[df_high$quintile_class_high == i, ]</pre>
  if (nrow(subset) == 0) {
    # if the quintile is empty, let the coefficient for A automatically be 0
    lm beta high[i] <- 0</pre>
  } else if (sum(subset$prop_score_high) == 0) {
    # if the propensity scores in the quintile are all O, let the coefficient for A automatically be O
    lm_beta_low[i] <- 0</pre>
  } else {
    # otherwise, run a linear model on the subset
    lm <- lm(Y ~ A + prop_score_high, data = subset)</pre>
    lm_beta_high[i] <- as.numeric(lm$coefficients[2])</pre>
  }
}
```

```
lm_beta_high
## [1] 5.005563 0.000000 -2.503576 -2.516297 -2.675199
ATE_stratification_regression_adjustment_high <- quntile_prop_high$sum[1]*lm_beta_high[1] +
  quntile_prop_high$sum[2]*lm_beta_high[2] +
  quntile_prop_high$sum[3]*lm_beta_high[3] +
  quntile_prop_high$sum[4]*lm_beta_high[4] +
  quntile_prop_high$sum[5]*lm_beta_high[5]
ATE stratification regression adjustment high
## [1] -2.504545
end.time_stratification_regression_adjustment_high <- Sys.time()</pre>
time_stratification_regression_adjustment_high <- end.time_stratification_regression_adjustment_high --
time_stratification_regression_adjustment_high
## Time difference of 0.0518899 secs
Low Dimensional Data
The ATE of low dimension is 3.058512.
Runtime of low dimension is 0.1477561 secs.
start.time_stratification_regression_adjustment_low <- Sys.time()</pre>
lm beta low <- rep(NA, 5)</pre>
for (i in 1:K){
  subset <- df_low[df_low$quintile_class_low == i, ]</pre>
  if (nrow(subset) == 0) {
    # if the quintile is empty, let the coefficient for A automatically be 0
    lm_beta_low[i] <- 0</pre>
  } else if (sum(subset$prop_score_low) == 0) {
    # if the propensity scores in the quintile are all 0, let the coefficient for A automatically be 	extit{0}
    lm_beta_low[i] <- 0</pre>
  } else {
    # otherwise, run a linear model on the subset
    lm <- lm(Y ~ A + prop_score_low, data = subset)</pre>
    lm_beta_low[i] <- as.numeric(lm$coefficients[2])</pre>
  }
}
lm_beta_low
## [1] 0.000000 0.000000 3.500291 2.452154 2.916085
ATE_stratification_regression_adjustment_low <- quntile_prop_low$sum[1]*lm_beta_low[1] +
  quntile_prop_low$sum[2]*lm_beta_low[2] +
  quntile_prop_low$sum[3]*lm_beta_low[3] +
  quntile_prop_low$sum[4]*lm_beta_low[4] +
```

quntile prop low\$sum[5]*lm beta low[5]

```
ATE_stratification_regression_adjustment_low

## [1] 3.058512

end.time_stratification_regression_adjustment_low <- Sys.time()

time_stratification_regression_adjustment_low <- end.time_stratification_regression_adjustment_low - st

time_stratification_regression_adjustment_low
```

Results

Insert Comparison of ATE and all Runtimes Here 8 Runtime values 6 ATE estimations + 2 true ATE create table and analyze results

Runtime results

Time difference of 0.041888 secs

```
time <- matrix(c(time_propensity_score_high, time_stratification_high,</pre>
                 time_regression_adjustment_high, time_stratification_regression_adjustment_high,
                 time_propensity_score_low, time_stratification_low, time_regression_adjustment_low,
                 time_stratification_regression_adjustment_low), ncol = 2, byrow = F)
colnames(time) <- c("High Dimensional Data", "Low Dimensional Data")</pre>
rownames(time) <- c("Propensity Score Estimation", "Stratification", "Regression Adjustment",
                    "Stratification + Regression Adjustment")
time <- as.table(time)
time
##
                                           High Dimensional Data
## Propensity Score Estimation
                                                      2.34868479
## Stratification
                                                      0.60937095
## Regression Adjustment
                                                      0.04587293
## Stratification + Regression Adjustment
                                                      0.05188990
                                           Low Dimensional Data
## Propensity Score Estimation
                                                     0.05884600
## Stratification
                                                     0.16655207
## Regression Adjustment
                                                     0.01795197
## Stratification + Regression Adjustment
                                                     0.04188800
```

ATE Results

```
ATE <- as.table(ATE)
ATE
```

```
##
                                           High Dimensional Data
## True
                                                       -3.000000
## Stratification
                                                       -1.876380
## Regression Adjustment
                                                        -2.527116
## Stratification + Regression Adjustment
                                                        -2.504545
##
                                           Low Dimensional Data
## True
                                                       2.500000
                                                       2.662275
## Stratification
## Regression Adjustment
                                                       3.053240
## Stratification + Regression Adjustment
                                                       3.058512
```

Conclusion

Runtimes of propensity Score Estimation for high dimensional data is 0.704 seconds, while for low dimensional data, it's 0.095 seconds. Among three methods, Stratification + Regression has the shortest runtimes: 0.284 seconds for high dimensinal data, and 0.335 seconds for low dimensional data.

By comparing ATE from three methods with the true ATE, we concluded that regression adjustment is the best method which estimates ATE for high dimensional data and low dimensional data that are the closest to the true ATEs.

References

Description