

ECON 7320 Advanced Microeconometrics

Assignment I

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Q1: Estimating Equations

(A)

Show normal equations for B_1 and B_2 :

Initially, we try to minimize the function below:

$$\sum u_i^2 = \sum (Y_i - \widehat{B}_1 - \widehat{B}_2 X_i)^2$$

First order conditions:

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma u^2}{\partial \widehat{B_1}} = 0; \frac{\partial \Sigma u^2}{\partial \widehat{B_2}} = 0$$

Where:

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma u^2}{\partial \widehat{B_1}} = \frac{\partial \Sigma (Y_i - \widehat{B_1} - \widehat{B_2} X_i)^2}{\partial \widehat{B_1}} = 0$$

Partial derivative with respect to $\widehat{B_1}$

$$2\sum (Y_i - \widehat{B_1} - \widehat{B_2}X_i) (-1) = 0$$

$$\sum (Y_i - \widehat{B_1} - \widehat{B_2} X_i) = 0$$

Partial derivative with respect to $\widehat{B_2}$

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma u^2}{\partial \widehat{B_2}} = \frac{\partial \Sigma (Y_i - \widehat{B_1} - \widehat{B_2} X_i)^2}{\partial \widehat{B_2}} = 0$$

$$2\sum (Y_i - \widehat{B_1} - \widehat{B_2}X_i) (-X_i) = 0$$

$$\sum (Y_i X_i - \widehat{B_1} X_i - \widehat{B_2} X_i^2) = 0$$

Perform summation:

$$\sum (Y_i - \widehat{B_1} - \widehat{B_2} X_{2i}) = 0$$

$$\sum (Y_i X_i - \widehat{B_1} X_i - \widehat{B_2} X_i^2) = 0$$

Obtain the normal equation:

$$\sum Y_i = \widehat{B_1} \mathbf{N} + \widehat{B_2} \sum X_{2i}$$

$$\sum Y_i X_{2i} = \widehat{B_1} \sum X_i + \widehat{B_2} \sum X_i^2$$

Finally, we obtain the least square estimates:

$$\widehat{B_1} = \frac{\sum X_i^2 \sum Y_i - \sum X_i \sum X_i Y_i}{N \sum X_i^2 - (\sum X_i)^2}$$

$$\widehat{B_2} = \frac{N\sum X_i Y_i - \sum X_i \sum Y_i}{N\sum X_i^2 - (\sum X_i)^2}$$

Alternatively, estimates can be expressed in deviations of the variables from means:

$$\widehat{B_1} = \overline{Y} - \widehat{B_2} \overline{X}$$

$$\widehat{B_2} = \frac{\sum X_i Y_i}{\sum X_i^2}$$

(B)

Express equations and solutions in matrix notation:

Given:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} Y_i = N\widehat{B_1} + \widehat{B_2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} X_{2i}$$
 (1)

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} Y_i X_{2i} = \widehat{B_1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} X_{2i} + \widehat{B_2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} X_{2i}^2$$
 (2)

Expression in matrix notations are:

$$i^{T}Y_{i} = N(\frac{1}{n}i^{T}Y_{i} - \hat{\beta}_{2}\frac{1}{n}i^{T}X_{2i}) + \hat{\beta}_{2}i^{T}X_{2i}$$
 (1)

$$Y_{i}i^{T}X_{2i} = \widehat{\beta}_{1}i^{T}X_{2i} + \widehat{\beta}_{2}i^{T}X_{2i}^{T}X_{2i}$$
 (2)

Where the solutions in matrix notations are:

$$\widehat{\beta_2} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y = \frac{N X_{2i}^T - i^T Y_i X_{2i}^T i}{N X_{2i}^T X_{2i} - i^T X_{2i} X_{2i}^T i}$$

$$\widehat{\beta_{1}} = \frac{1}{i^{T}i} i^{T} Y_{i} - \frac{1}{i^{T}i} i^{T} X_{2i} \widehat{\beta_{2}} = \frac{1}{N} i^{T} Y_{i} - \frac{1}{N} i^{T} X_{2i} \widehat{\beta_{2}}$$

(C)

Usual moment condition of the linear regression in matrix notation:

Assumption 1: $E(u_i|x_i) = 0$ (exogeneity of regressors)

Assumption 2: $E(u_i^2|x_i) = \sigma^2$ (conditional homoskedasticity)

Assumption 3: $E(u_i u_j | x_i x_j) = 0$, $i \neq j$ (conditionally uncorrelated observations)

 $Y=X \beta + \mu$ (Linearity)

X is an n x K matrix with rank K (No exact linear relationships among the variables)

$$\beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$E[\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{X}] = \begin{bmatrix} E[u_1|X] \\ E[u_1|X] \\ \vdots \\ E[u_N|X] \end{bmatrix} = 0 \text{ (The disturbances have conditional expected value zero at every }$$

observations)

 $E[u_i|X] = \sigma^2$ for all i = 1,...,N. (Constant variance or homoscedasticity)

 $Cov[u_i, u_i|X]=0$ for all $i \neq j$ (No autocorrelation)

Which means:

$$E[uu^T|X] = \sigma^2I$$
; $Var[u] = E[Var[u|X] + Var[E[u|X]] = \sigma^2I$; $Var[u] = E[uu^T] = \sigma^2I$

(D)

Show that moment conditions imply the least squares equations (1) - (2):

Since:

$$E[u_i] = E[E[u_i|X_i]] = E[0] = 0$$

 $E[X_iu_i] = E[E[u_iX_i|X_i]] = E[X_iE[u_i|X_i]]$
 $= E[X_i \times 0] = 0$

Given that:

$$Y_i = B_1 + B_2 X_{2i} + u_i$$

Estimated equation of the bivariate regression:

$$Y = \widehat{B}_1 + \widehat{B}_2 X_2 + e_i$$

Since assumptions or the moment conditions:

$$\sum e_i = 0$$
 and $\sum eX_i = 0$

We obtain the first normal equation by summing all sample observations and using $\sum e_i = 0$:

$$\sum \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{N}\hat{B}_1 + \hat{B}_2 X_2$$

Pre-multiplying the estimated form by X_2 :

$$YX_2 = \hat{B}_1 X_2 + \hat{B}_2 X_2^2 + eX_2$$

Summing over the N sample observations and use the assumption $\sum eX_2 = 0$, we obtain the second normal equation:

$$\sum YX_2 = \widehat{B}_1 \sum X_2 + \widehat{B}_2 \sum X_2^2$$

Q2: Generalized Least Squares

(A)

Verify that $\Omega = E[uu^T]$ is a band matrix:

Recapture the assumptions of homoscedasticity:

$$\mathrm{E}[u_i^2] = \mathrm{E}[\mathrm{E}[u_i^2]X_i] = \mathrm{E}[\sigma^2] = \sigma^2 \ \forall \ \mathrm{i}$$

Also recapture the assumption of no autocorrelation:

$$Cov(u_i u_j | X) = E[u_i u_j] = 0 \text{ for } i \neq j$$

If two assumptions are met:

$$\Omega = E[uu^{T}] = \begin{bmatrix} E[u_{1}^{2}] & E[u_{1}u_{2}] & E[u_{1}u_{N}] \\ E[u_{1}u_{2}] & E[u_{2}^{2}] & E[u_{2}u_{N}] \\ E[u_{N}u_{1}] & E[u_{N}u_{2}] & E[u_{N}^{2}] \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \sigma^{2} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{1}^{2}/\sigma^{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{2}^{2}/\sigma^{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_{n}^{2}/\sigma^{2} \end{bmatrix} = \sigma^{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \sigma^{2} I$$

However, $E[u_i u_j]$ can also be $E[\rho \sigma^2] = \rho \sigma^2$ if |i - j| = 1 in which ρ is the residual correlation coefficient and σ^2 is the residual variance. Then Ω can be expressed as:

$$\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma^2 & \rho\sigma^2 & \rho\sigma^2 \\ \rho\sigma^2 & \sigma^2 & \rho\sigma^2 \\ \rho\sigma^2 & \rho\sigma^2 & \sigma^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

(B)

Show that $V[\widehat{\beta}|X] = E[(X^TX)^{-1}X^T\Omega X(X^TX)^{-1}|X]$:

$$V[\hat{\beta}|X] = E[(\hat{\beta} - \beta) (E(\hat{\beta} - \beta)^{T}|X)$$

$$= E(X^{T}X)^{-1}X^{T}\Omega X(X^{T}X)^{-1}$$

$$= (X^{T}X)^{-1}X^{T} (Euu^{T}|X)X(X^{T}X)^{-1}$$

$$= \sigma^{2}(X^{T}X)^{-1}X^{T} (X^{T}X) (X^{T}X)^{-1}$$

$$= \sigma^{2}(X^{T}X)^{-1}$$

Where:

$$E[\hat{\beta}] = E[E[\hat{\beta}|X]] = E[\beta] = \beta$$

$$\hat{\beta} - E[\hat{\beta}|X] = \hat{\beta} - \beta = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T u$$

$$\Omega = (Euu^T | X) = E[(u-E[u|X]) (u - E[u|X])^T | X]$$

$$= V[u|X] = \sigma^2 I$$

Therefore:

$$\hat{\beta}_{OLS} \sim (\beta, \, \sigma^2(X^TX)^{-1})$$

(C)

Is the usual OLS estimates $s^2(X^TX)^{-1}$ a consistent estimator?

No, although $s^2(X^TX)^{-1}$ is the default estimator of the VCE, it may not be the consistent estimator due to $E[u_iu_j]$ inside the $\Omega = \sigma^2I$. More precisely, since $E[u_iu_j]$ can also be $E[\rho\sigma^2] = \rho\sigma^2$, so unless ρ is zero, this usual OLS estimates $s^2(X^TX)^{-1}$ cannot be consistent.

(D)

Is White's heteroskedasticity robust estimator of $V[\widehat{\beta}|X]$ consistent?

No, the White's heteroskedasticity robust estimator of $V(\hat{\beta}|X)$ will not be consistent if heteroskedasticity exists due to the fact that $\Omega = \operatorname{diag}(\sigma_1^2, ..., \sigma_n^2)$. The OLS standard error will be incorrect when $X^T \operatorname{E}[\operatorname{uu}^T]X \neq \sigma^2(X^TX)$. Since $\operatorname{E}[u_i u_j]$ can also be $\operatorname{E}[\rho\sigma^2] = \rho\sigma^2$; therefore, ρ must be zero for the White's heteroskedasticity robust estimator of $V(\hat{\beta}|X)$ to be consistent and otherwise.

(E)

How to obtain consistent estimate of $V[\widehat{\beta}|X]$ that does not depend on unknown parameters?

We should use the feasible generalized least squares estimator (FGLS). As we know, an asymptotically efficient FGLS estimator does not require efficient estimator of θ but a consistent one is required to achieve full efficiency. In FGLS, we will replace the unknown Ω with a consistent estimator. We have $\widehat{\Omega} \stackrel{p}{\to} \Omega$ when $\widehat{\sigma^2} \stackrel{p}{\to} \sigma^2$ and $\widehat{\rho\sigma^2} \stackrel{p}{\to} \rho\sigma^2$ and otherwise $\widehat{\rho} \stackrel{p}{\to} \rho$. Further, we let $\widehat{\Omega} = \Omega(\widehat{\theta})$ to replace the true Ω . The FGLS can be described as $\widehat{\beta}_F = [X^T \widehat{\Omega}^{-1} X]^{-1} X^T \widehat{\Omega}^{-1} y$. As a result, $\widehat{\beta}_F$ is consistent under the general condition.

Since plim $\hat{\theta} = \theta$, conditions for $\hat{\beta}_F$ asymptotically equal to $\hat{\beta}$ are shown below:

Plim
$$\left[\left(\frac{1}{N}X^T\widehat{\Omega}^{-1}X\right) - \left(\frac{1}{N}X^T\widehat{\Omega}^{-1}X\right)\right] = 0$$

Plim
$$\left[\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}X^T\widehat{\Omega}^{-1}\mathbf{u}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}X^T\widehat{\Omega}^{-1}\mathbf{u}\right)\right] = 0$$

As we know: $\widehat{\sigma^2} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (\mathbf{Y} - X^T \hat{\beta})^2$. Then to obtain FGLS, we need to estimate for ρ in which the estimator of ρ is: $\widehat{\rho} = \frac{\sum_{t=2}^{T} \widehat{u_{t-1}} \widehat{u_t}}{\sum_{t=2}^{T} \widehat{u_{t-1}^2}}$. So then $\widehat{\sigma^2} \widehat{\rho} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (\mathbf{Y} - X^T \hat{\beta})^2 \frac{\sum_{t=2}^{T} \widehat{u_{t-1}} \widehat{u_t}}{\sum_{t=2}^{T} \widehat{u_{t-1}^2}}$.

Insert the $\hat{\rho}$ into the inverse of autocovariance matrix, Ω_1^{-1} , and then plug this estimate of Ω^{-1} into $[X^T \hat{\Omega}^{-1} X]^{-1} X^T \hat{\Omega}^{-1} y$ should we obtain the FGLS estimator $\hat{\beta}_F$.

Q3: Minimizing A Quadratic Form

(A)

Obtain the formula for \hat{B} which maximizes the objective function $Q_N(\beta) = -u^T Wu$:

Given: $y = X \beta + u$

$$Q_N(\beta) = -u^T W u$$

$$u^T w^T u = u^T \left[\frac{1}{2}(w + w^T)\right] u = u^T \widehat{w} u$$

$$\frac{\partial Q_N(\beta)}{\partial \beta} = -\frac{\partial u}{\partial \beta} \frac{\partial u^T \widehat{w} u}{\partial \beta} = -(-X^T) (2\widehat{w} u)$$
$$= 2X^T \widehat{w} (y - X \beta)$$

$$\frac{\partial Q_N(\beta)}{\partial B}|_{\widehat{B}} = 0 \text{ then } X^T \widehat{w} X \widehat{B} = X^T \widehat{w} y$$

$$\widehat{B} = (X^T \widehat{w} X)^{-1} (X^T \widehat{w} y)$$

Where $(X^T \widehat{w} X)^{-1}$ exists and has full rank

(B)

For which W does your answer to (a) equal the OLS estimator?

$$W = I_N$$

(C)

For which W does your answer to (a) equal the GLS estimator?

$$W = \Omega^{-1}$$
 where $E[u^T u] = \Omega$

(D)

How you would obtain the Feasible GLS estimator if $\Omega = E[uu^T]$?

The W should be $\widehat{\Omega}^{-1}$ in which the variance-covariance matrix of the coefficient vector from the White estimator should be:

$$(X^TX)^{-1}X^T(ee^T)X(X^TX)^{-1}$$
 rather than:

$$(X^TX)^{-1}X^T(uu^T)X(X^TX)^{-1} = (X^TX)^{-1}X^T(\sigma^2I)X(X^TX)^{-1}.$$

In practice, we should test for the existence of heteroskedasticity by regressing the squared residuals e_i^2 on X^TX . If the R^2 is larger than the critical value $(nR^2 \sim \chi_k^2)$, then the model will take a toll on heteroskedasticity. Thereafter, we use the White estimator.

Q4: Data Analysis

(A)

Log transformation of all variables:

- . generate lcost=log(cost)
- . generate lkwh=log(kwh)
- . generate lpl=log(pl)
- . generate lpf=log(pf)
- . generate lpk=log(pk)

Correlation matrix:

. correlate lcost lkwh lpl lpf lpk
(obs=145)

	lcost	lkwh	lpl	lpf	lpk
lcost	1.0000				
lkwh	0.9542	1.0000			
lpl	0.1174	0.0422	1.0000		
lpf	-0.0455	-0.1689	0.3319	1.0000	
lpk	-0.1042	-0.0988	-0.1865	0.1309	1.0000

Plot lcosts against lkwh:

lkwh

Comment:

.693147

Firstly, the correlation matrix shows that correlation between lcost and lkwh is 0.95 which is extremely high. The coefficient of lkwh can be biased if there exists omitted variable. Secondly, the plot shows that the relationship between lcost and lkwh is less clear when both are at low regions but becomes more linear and monotonic increasing when both gets higher and higher.

9.7243

(B)

Regress lcosts on lkwh and an intercept:

. reg lcost lkwh, robust

Linear regression	Number of obs	=	145
	F(1, 143)	=	423.43
	Prob > F	=	0.0000
	R-squared	=	0.9104
	Root MSE	=	.42699

lcost	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lkwh _cons	.7092017 -2.925325	.0344649			.6410752 -3.412474	.7773282 -2.438175

Regress lcosts on lkwh, lpl, lpk, lpf and an intercept:

. reg lcost lkwh lpl lpf lpk, robust

Linear regression	Number of obs	=	145
	F(4, 140)	=	175.79
	Prob > F	=	0.0000
	R-squared	=	0.9260
	Root MSE	=	.39236

lcost	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lkwh	.7203941	.0325975	22.10	0.000	.655947	.7848411
lpl	.4363412	.2456358	1.78	0.078	049294	.9219763
lpf	.4265169	.0754827	5.65	0.000	.2772835	.5757503
lpk	2198882	.3238121	-0.68	0.498	8600822	.4203057
_cons	-3.526503	1.7186	-2.05	0.042	-6.924269	128738

Explain why the two estimates are different:

The coefficients of lkwh in the second regression is larger than that in the first regression. This difference is caused by the omitted variable bias (OVB) in the first regression in which the OVB may results in violations of unbiasedness and consistency in the OLS regression.

(C)

Using the R^2 measure of goodness of fit would you say that the first regression in (B) provides a satisfactory fit to the data? Explain:

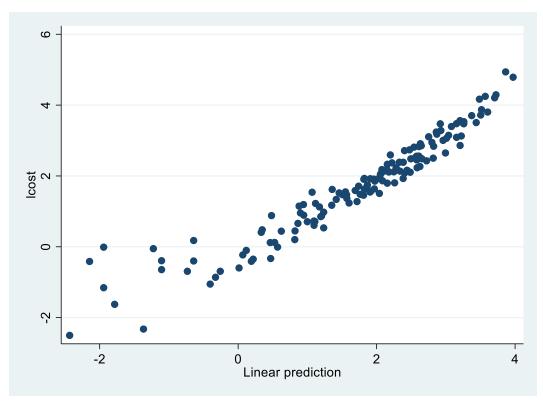
The R^2 of the first regression is 0.91 which implies that lkwh and lcost are highly correlated. However, R^2 has limitation in which it fails to tell whether the coefficient and prediction are biased and cannot indicate whether the regression has an adequate fit.

(D)

Generate the fitted values of the dependent variable in the first regression of part (B):

- . quietly reg lcost lkwh, robust
- . predict lyhat, xb

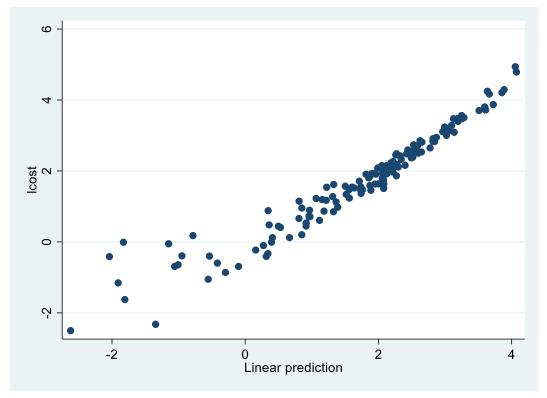
Scatter plot of the fitted and observed values of lcosts:



Comment on the goodness of fit of the model:

Generally speaking, this is a good fit since the plot is nearly 45 degrees after loost becomes positive. However, when loost is in negative region, the discrepancy between the observed and the fitted values is quite large. The fit gets better as loost moves past zero.

(E)
Scatter plot of observed values of lcosts and the fitted values of the second regression in part (B):



Interpret the results:

The points generated from the second regression are more concentrated around the 45-degree line than the first regression in part (B). Although it is difficult to distinguish them visually, the R^2 of the second regression is higher than that of the first regression. As a result, the second regression has better fit.

(F)

What advantages does this assumption (error term u has log-normal distribution) have?

A random variable which is log-normally distributed takes only positive real values. As a result, ln(u) will be normally distributed. The main advantage is that it can be used to apply on the Cobb-Douglas function which requires log linearization. Moreover, we should use log-normal distribution to deal with any data that exhibits low average and large variance.

(G)

Suppose we change the functional form of the cost function in which the error term enters additively and is assumed to be normally distributed. Is ordinary least squares an appropriate estimator? Justify your answer:

No, in this case, the Nonlinear Least Squares (NLS) estimator should be used for the Cobb-Doubles production function which is nonlinear. The estimators are assumed to be jointly normal. The NLS is achieved by means of minimizing the sum of squares However, this minimization process cannot be solved analytically and instead, it must be solved with numerical methods that requires iterative algorithm. Another way to tackle this type of nonlinear function is by using the Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE).

(H)

Given the alternative specification, what advantages if any does the original (with multiplicative error) functional form have relative to this one?

The original model (with multiplicative error) functional form will indicate whether the inputs have increasing $((\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3) > 1)$, decreasing $((\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3) < 1)$, or constant returns to scale $((\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3) = 1)$. On the contrary, the alternative model strictly imposes constant return to scale which is unfavored (too little R^2 and insignificant F-test) by the regression which will be shown in part (I). Furthermore, if we conduct test on whether the inputs result in constant returns to scale on the output, the test shows that we can reject the null hypothesis that the output, lkwh, is generated with constant returns to scale at the five percent significance level.

```
. test lkwh==1  (1) \quad lkwh = 1   F(1, 140) = 73.57   Prob > F = 0.0000
```

(I)

Estimate this alternative model and interpret the regression results:

Alternative model:

- . generate cpkwh =lcost/lkwh
- . reg cpkwh lpl lpf lpk, robust

Linear regression	Number of obs	=	145
	F(3, 141)	=	1.13
	Prob > F	=	0.3409
	R-squared	=	0.0203
	Root MSE	=	.39831

cpkwh	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lpl	1455475	.3134051	-0.46	0.643	7651279	.474033
lpf	.0496846	.116223	0.43	0.670	1800803	.2794495
lpk	5854167	.4010958	-1.46	0.147	-1.378356	.2075222
_cons	3.137474	1.972547	1.59	0.114	7621171	7.037064

Original model (multiplicative error):

. reg lcost lkwh lpl lpf lpk,robust

Linear regression	Number of obs	=	145
	F(4, 140)	=	175.79
	Prob > F	=	0.0000
	R-squared	=	0.9260
	Root MSE	=	.39236

lcost	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf.	Interval]
lkwh	.7203941	.0325975	22.10	0.000	.655947	.7848411
lpl	.4363412	.2456358	1.78	0.078	049294	.9219763
lpf	.4265169	.0754827	5.65	0.000	.2772835	.5757503
lpk	2198882	.3238121	-0.68	0.498	8600822	.4203057
_cons	-3.526503	1.7186	-2.05	0.042	-6.924269	128738

Interpretation of the regression results:

The R^2 of the alternative model is nearly zero while the R^2 of the original model with multiplicative error is above 0.90. The F-test of the alternative model also indicates that we

fail to reject the null hypothesis that nothing is going on at the five percent significance level. Moreover, none of p-values for each independent variable in the alternative model can be statistically significant at the five percent level.

Appendix: STATA code for Q4:

```
clear
capture log close
set logtype text
log using A1Q4CSLO.txt, replace
cd "D:\UQ\2020 S1\ECON7320 Advanced MicroMetrics\Assignment"
use nerlove63.dta
//A//
generate lcost=log(cost)
generate lkwh=log(kwh)
generate lpl=log(pl)
generate lpf=log(pf)
generate lpk=log(pk)
correlate lcost lkwh lpl lpf lpk
//plot lcost lkwh//
//scatter lcost lkwh//
//graph export a.png, replace//
//B//
reg lcost lkwh, robust
reg lcost lkwh lpl lpf lpk, robust
//C//
//Explain r-squared from part B//
//D//
quietly reg lcost lkwh, robust
predict lyhat, xb
//scatter lcost lyhat//
//E//
quietly reg lcost lkwh lpl lpf lpk, robust
predict lyhat2, xb
//scatter lcost lyhat2 //
```

```
//graph export E.png, replace//
//F//
//See word or pdf//
//G//
//See word or pdf//
//H//
reg lcost lkwh lpl lpf lpk,robust
test lkwh==1
//I//
generate cpkwh =lcost/lkwh
reg cpkwh lpl lpf lpk, robust
log cl
```