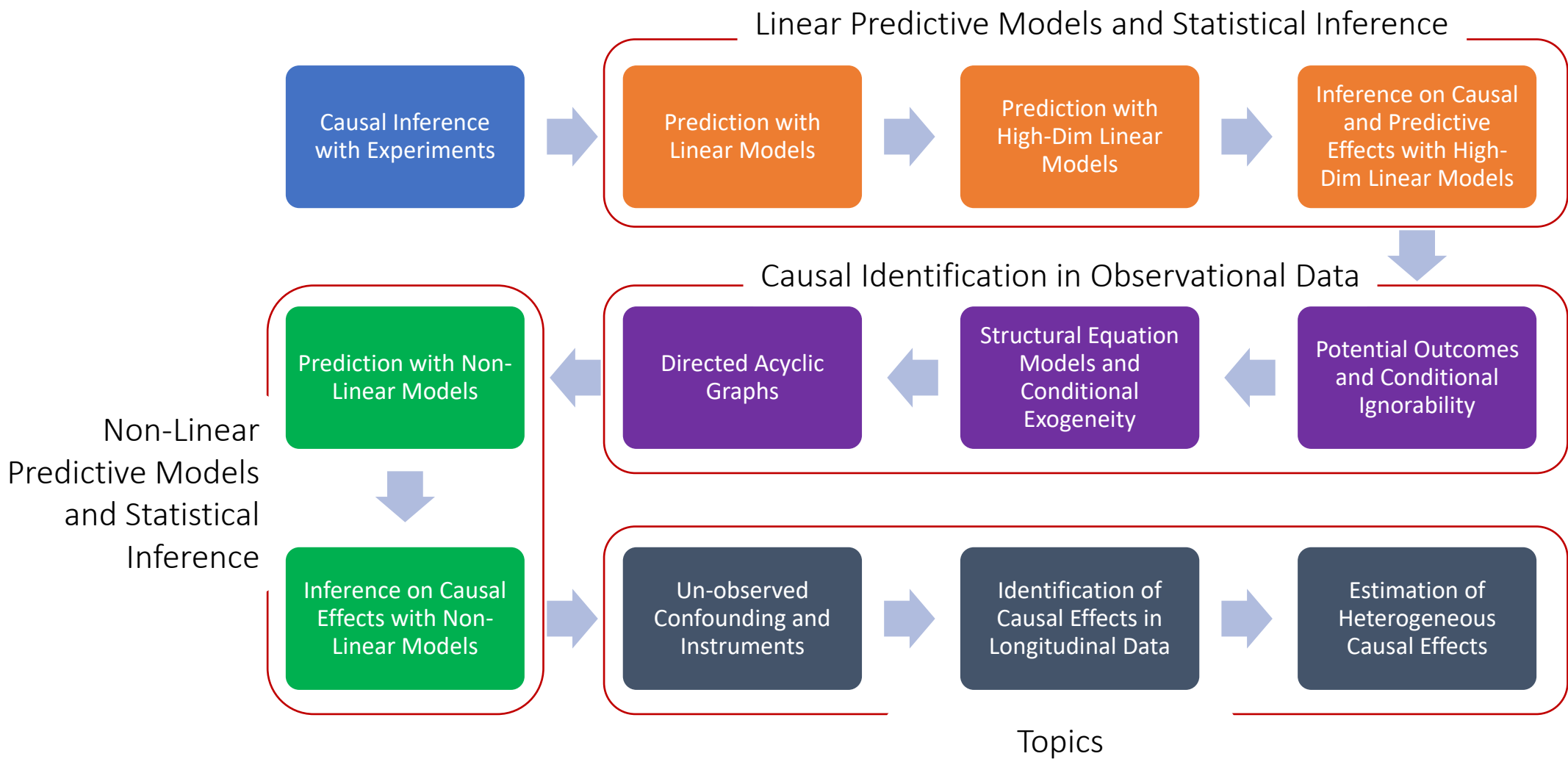
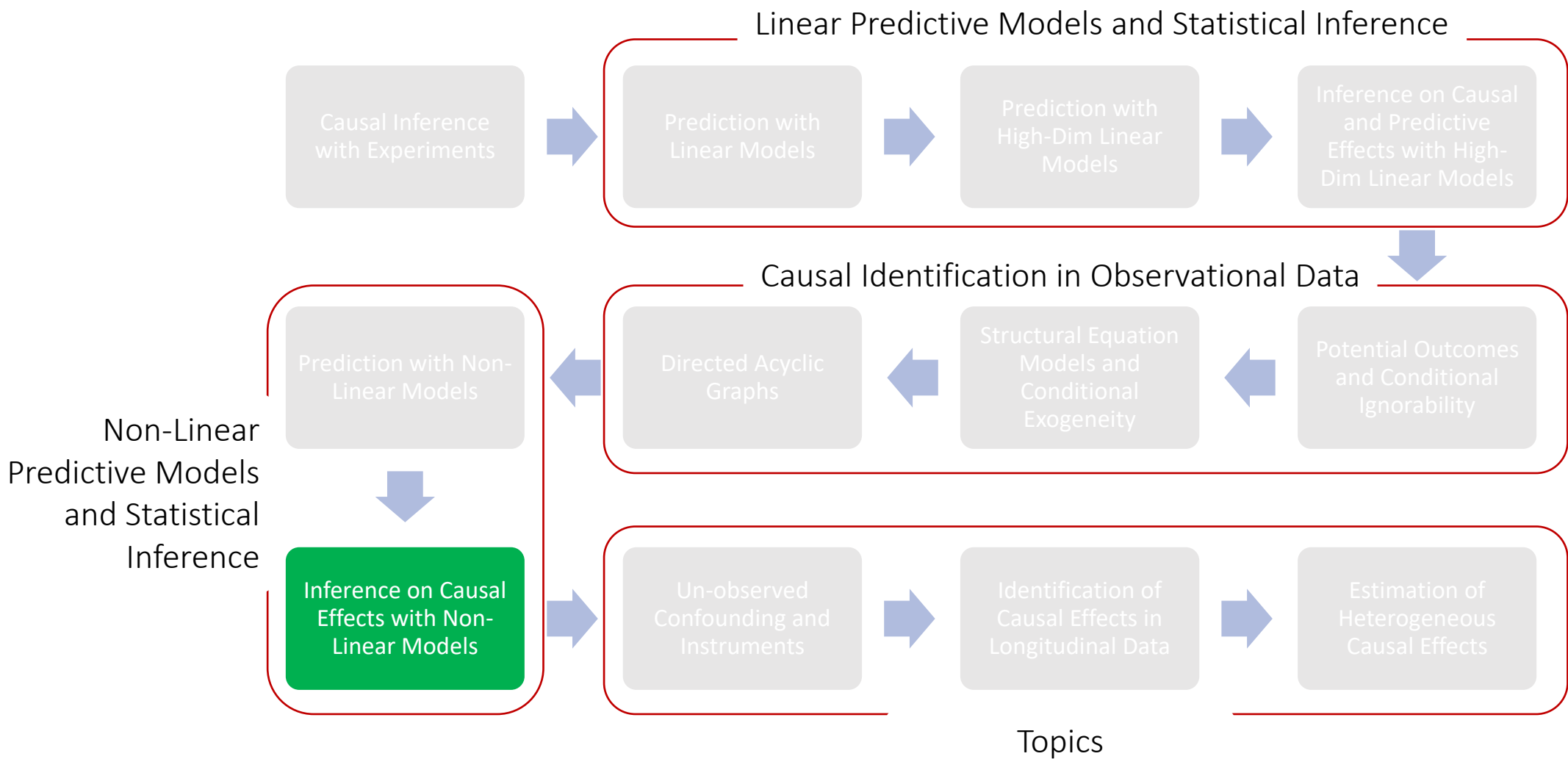


# MS&E 228: Inference with Modern Non-Linear Prediction

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MS&E, Stanford

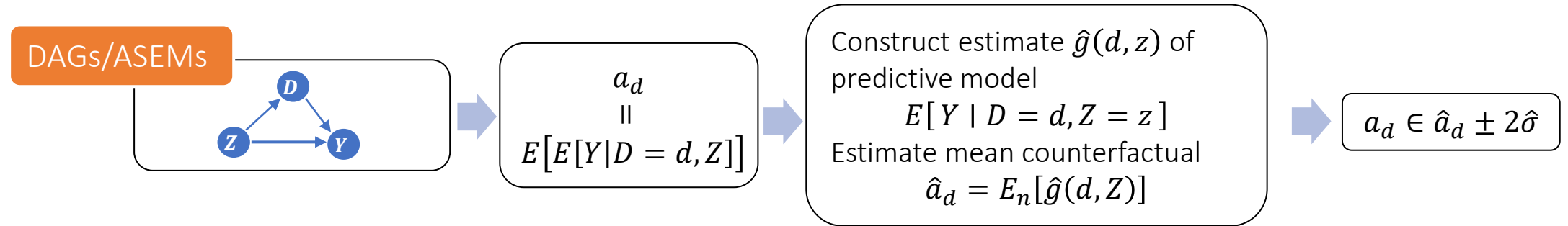




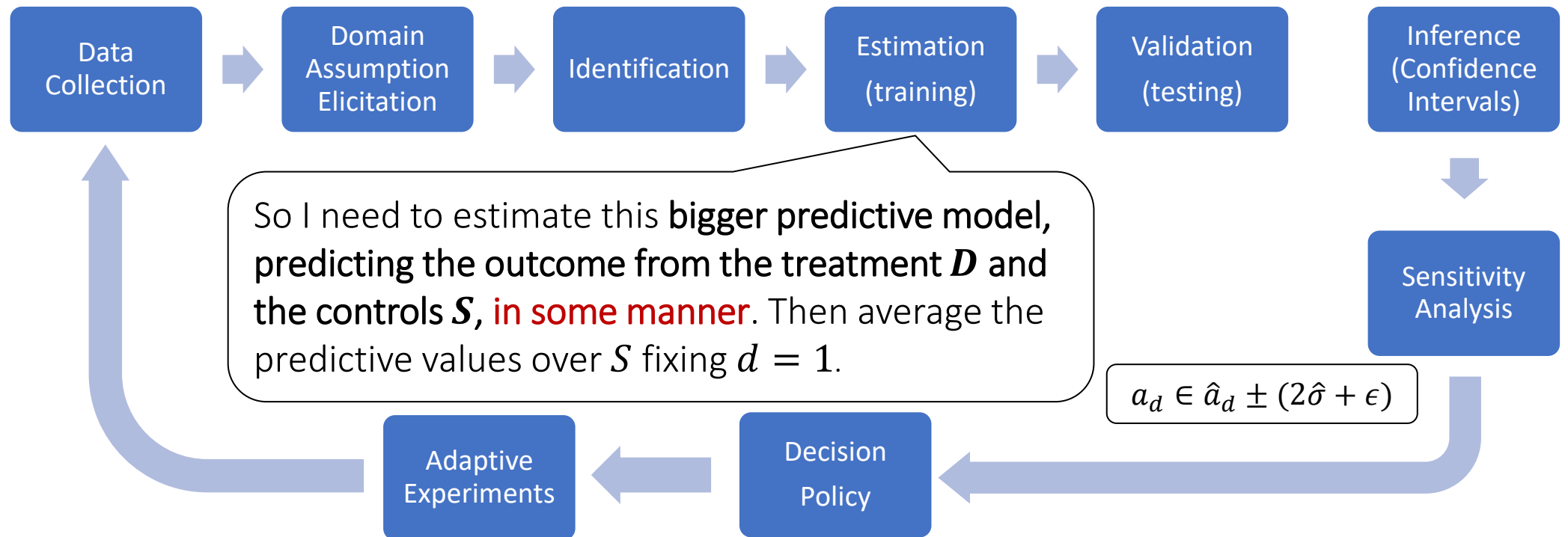
# Recap of Last Lecture

# Causal Inference Pipeline

Theory

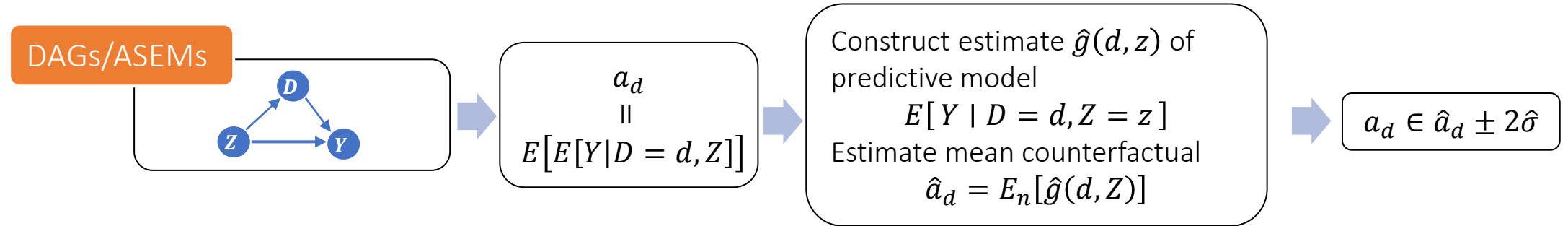


Practice

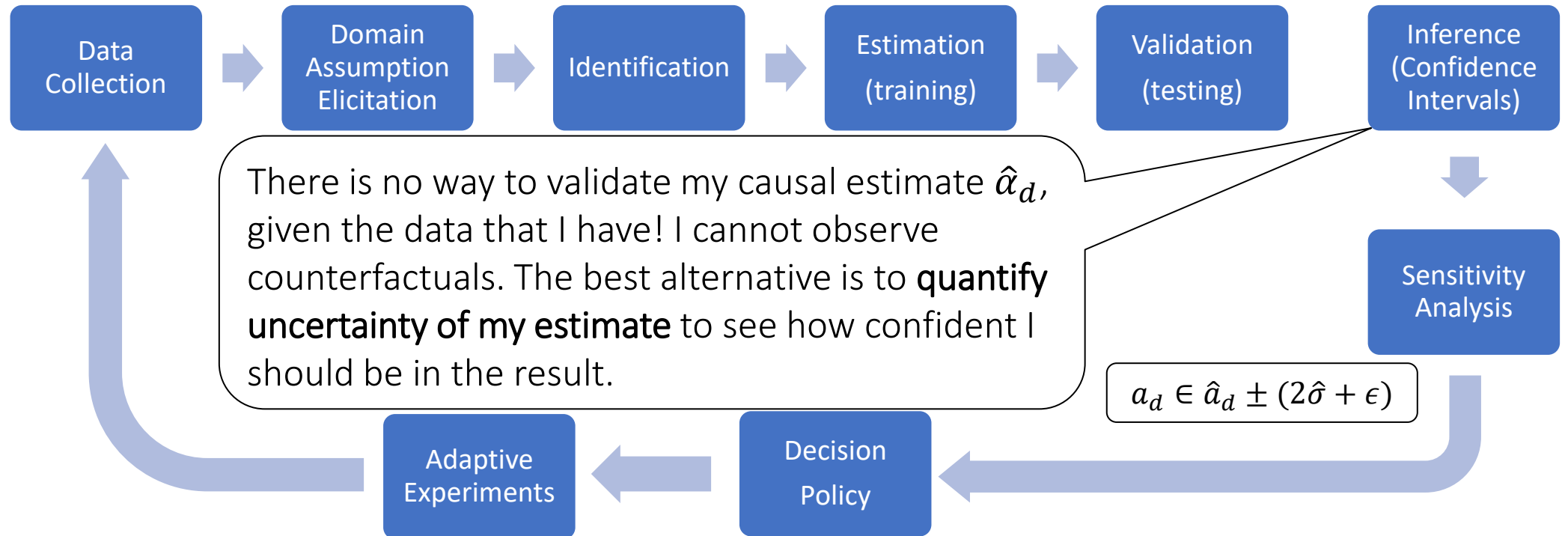


# Causal Inference Pipeline

Theory



Practice



# Goals for Today

- Methods for Confidence Intervals for ATE with non-linear models
  - General Neyman Orthogonality Framework (Double/Debiased ML)
  - Methods for Confidence Intervals for ATE in a partially-linear model
  - Sample-splitting and cross-fitting
- 
- Proof sketch of main theorem\*

# The Example Problem



# Identification under Conditional Ignorability

- Once we condition on enough variables  $X$  that affect treatment assignment, remnant variation in  $D$  is exogenous (as-if trial)

$$Y^{(d)} \perp D \mid X \quad (\text{conditional ignorability})$$

- Why useful:

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y \mid D = d, X] &= E[Y^{(D)} \mid D = d, X] \\ &= E[Y^{(d)} \mid D = d, X] = E[Y^{(d)} \mid X] \end{aligned}$$

- Average treatment effect is “identified” as (g-formula):

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_0 &= E[Y^{(1)} - Y^{(0)}] = E[E[Y^{(1)} - Y^{(0)} \mid X]] \\ &= E[E[Y \mid D = 1, X] - E[Y \mid D = 0, X]] \end{aligned}$$

# Let's take it to data

- We observe  $n$  samples  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n$  where  $Z_i = (X_i, D_i, Y_i)$

- Want to estimate average effect  $\theta_0$ , which satisfies:

$$\theta_0 = E[g_0(1, X) - g_0(0, X)]$$

- Where:

$$g_0(D, X) := E[Y \mid D, X]$$

- We want to be able to use ML to learn regression function  $g_0$ !

# A General Estimation Framework

# Semi-Parametric Moment Restrictions

- Observe samples  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n$  i.i.d. from data distribution  $D$
- Distribution  $D$  satisfies vector of moment restrictions
$$M(\theta_0, g_0) := E_{Z \sim D}[m(Z; \theta_0, g_0)] = 0$$
- $\theta_0 \in R^d$  finite dimensional target parameter of interest
- $g_0 \in G$  potentially infinite dimensional (an un-known function) we don't care (nuisance)
- $g_0$  is un-known and needs to be estimated from data

# ATE under Conditional Exogeneity

- We observe  $n$  samples  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n$  where  $Z_i = (X_i, D_i, Y_i)$

- Want to estimate average effect  $\theta_0$ , which satisfies:

$$M(\theta_0, g_0) := E[g_0(1, X) - g_0(0, X) - \theta_0] = 0$$

- Where:

$$g_0(D, X) := E[Y \mid D, X]$$

- We want to be able to use ML to learn regression function  $g$ !

Given  $n$  samples we want to produce estimate  $\hat{\theta}$

# What do we want from $\hat{\theta}$ ?

- Consistency

$$\hat{\theta} \rightarrow_p \theta_0$$

# What do we want from $\hat{\theta}$ ?

- Finite sample parametric rate:

$$\|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\| = o_p\left(\sqrt{d/n}\right)$$



# What do we want from $\hat{\theta}$ ?

- Asymptotic normality

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \rightarrow_d N(0, \sigma^2)$$

- Construction of confidence intervals:

$$\text{with prob. } \approx 95\%: \theta_0 \in [\hat{\theta} - 1.96\hat{\sigma}, \hat{\theta} + 1.96\hat{\sigma}].$$

- Calculation of  $p$ -value for zero effect

# What do we want from $\hat{\theta}$ ?

- Asymptotic linearity

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_0(Z_i) + o_p(1)$$

- Consistency of bootstrap confidence intervals

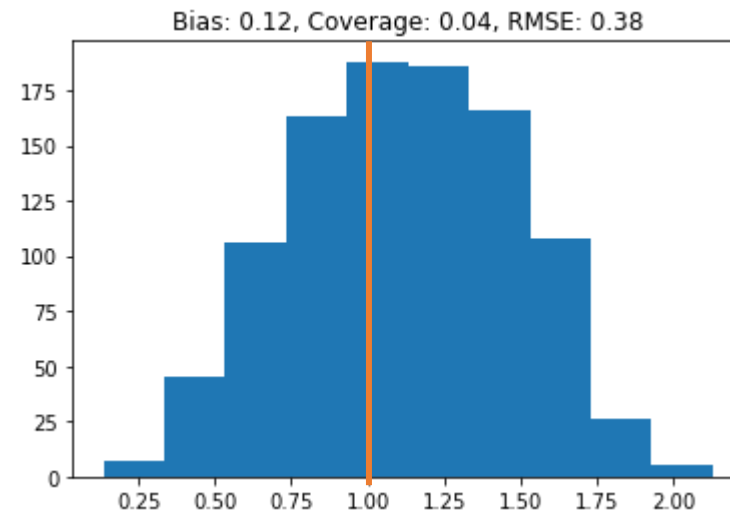
# Natural Estimation Algorithm

- Estimate  $\hat{g}$  of  $g_0$  from data
- Return solution  $\hat{\theta}$  to empirical plug-in moment equation:

$$M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n m(Z_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) = 0$$

# Natural Algorithm Gone Wrong

```
def est(X, D, y): # direct non-orthogonal estimator of average effect
    est = RandomForestRegressor(min_samples_leaf=20)
    est.fit(np.hstack([D.reshape(-1, 1), X]), y)
    ones = np.hstack([np.ones((X.shape[0], 1)), X])
    zeros = np.hstack([np.zeros((X.shape[0], 1)), X])
    preds = est.predict(ones) - est.predict(zeros)
    return np.mean(preds), np.std(preds)/np.sqrt(X.shape[0])
```



# Natural Estimation Algorithm (Draft 2)

- Split the data in half
- On first half, estimate  $\hat{g}$  of  $g_0$
- On second half, solution  $\hat{\theta}$  to empirical plug-in moment equation:

$$M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) := \frac{1}{n_2} \sum_{i \in S_2} m(Z_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) = 0$$

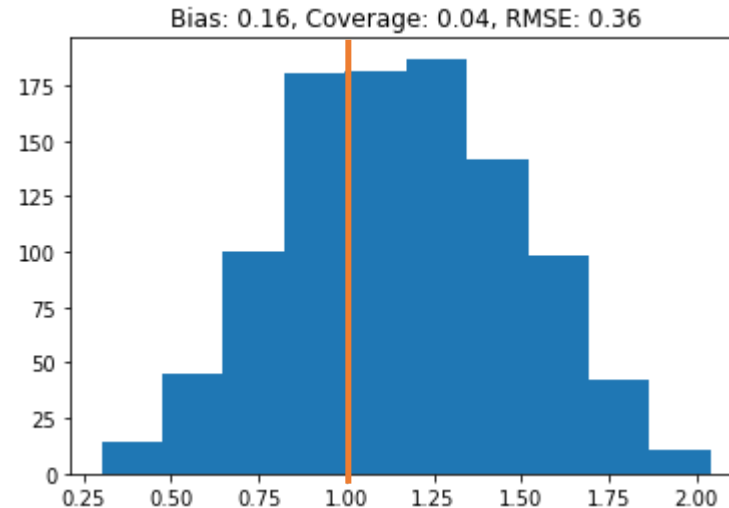
# Natural Estimation Algorithm (Draft 3)

- Split data in  $K$  parts,  $S_1, \dots, S_K$
- For each part  $k$ , estimate  $\hat{g}_k$  using data from all parts except  $S_k$
- Return solution  $\hat{\theta}$  to cross-fitted empirical moment equation:

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i \in S_k} m(Z_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{g}_k) = 0$$

# Natural Algorithm (Draft 3) Gone Wrong

```
def est2(X, D, y): # direct non-orthogonal estimator with sample splitting
    effects = np.zeros(X.shape[0])
    for train, test in KFold(n_splits=3).split(X):
        est = RandomForestRegressor(min_samples_leaf=20)
        est.fit(np.hstack([D[train].reshape(-1, 1), X[train]]), y[train])
        ones = np.hstack([np.ones((X[test].shape[0], 1)), X[test]])
        zeros = np.hstack([np.zeros((X[test].shape[0], 1)), X[test]])
        effects[test] = est.predict(ones) - est.predict(zeros)
    return np.mean(effects), np.std(effects)/np.sqrt(X.shape[0])
```



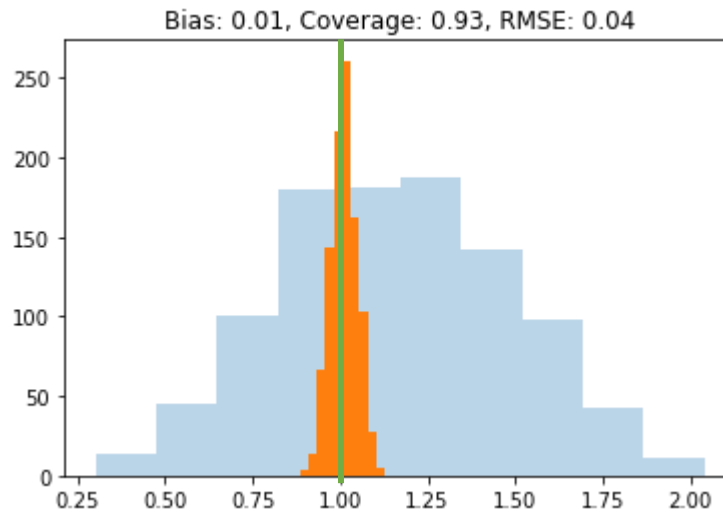
When is estimate  $\hat{\theta}$   $\sqrt{n}$ -asymptotically normal?



# Natural Algorithm (Draft 3) Gone Right

```
def dml2(X, D, y): # orthogonal dml with sample-splitting
    est_y = RandomForestRegressor(min_samples_leaf=20)
    yres = y - cross_val_predict(est_y, X, y, cv=3)
    est_t = RandomForestRegressor(min_samples_leaf=20)
    Dres = D - cross_val_predict(est_t, X, D, cv=3)
    final = LinearRegression(fit_intercept=False).fit(Dres.reshape(-1, 1), yres)
    point = final.coef_[0]
    var = np.mean((Dres**2) * (yres - point*Dres)**2) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    stderr = np.sqrt(var / X.shape[0])
    return point, stderr
```

TO BE UNCOVERED!



When is estimate  $\hat{\theta}$   $\sqrt{n}$ -asymptotically normal?  
We need to change the moment we use

# Debiasing Intuition

# ATE under Conditional Exogeneity

- We observe  $n$  samples  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n$  where  $Z_i = (X_i, D_i, Y_i)$
- Want to estimate average effect  $\theta_0$ , which satisfies:

$$M(\theta_0, g_0) := E[g_0(1, X) - g_0(0, X) - \theta_0] = 0$$

- Where:

$$g_0(D, X) := E[Y \mid D, X]$$

- The moment  $M(\theta, g)$  is sensitive to variations in  $g$
- Any bias or error in  $g$  propagates to bias or error in moment and  $\hat{\theta}$
- Can we add a correction that corrects the biases of  $\hat{g}$

# Better Moment for ATE

- Add a “debiasing” correction:

$$\tilde{M}(\theta, g, a) = M(\theta, g) + E[a(D, X) (Y - g(D, X))]$$

- What is  $a_0$ ? Should be such that

$$E[a_0(D, X) g(D, X)] = E[g(1, X) - g(0, X)]$$

- If this holds then if  $g$  is very wrong but  $a$  is correct:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{M}(\theta, g) &= E[a(D, X)Y] = E[a(D, X)E[Y \mid D, X]] \\ &= E[a(D, X)g(D, X)] = E[g(1, X) - g(0, X)]\end{aligned}$$

# Inverse Propensity Weighting (IPW)

- The following works: inverse propensity scoring

$$a_0(D, X) = \frac{D}{\Pr[D = 1|X]} - \frac{1 - D}{\Pr[D = 0|X]}$$

- Sketch:

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[ \frac{D}{\Pr[D = 1|X]} g(D, X) \right] &= E \left[ \frac{D}{\Pr[D = 1|X]} g(1, X) \right] \\ &= E \left[ \frac{E[D|X]}{\Pr[D = 1|X]} g(1, X) \right] \\ &= E[g(1, X)] \end{aligned}$$

# New Moment is Insensitive

$$\tilde{M}(\theta, g, a) = M(\theta, g) + E[a(D, X) (Y - g(D, X))]$$

- Take derivative with respect to  $g$  at  $\theta_0, g_0, a_0$  in any direction  $v \in G$

$$\left. \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \tilde{M}(\theta_0, g_0 + t v, a_0) \right|_{t=0} = E[v(1, X) - v(0, X)] + E[a(D, X) v(D, X)]$$

$$= 0$$

- Take derivative with respect to  $a$  at  $\theta_0, g_0, a_0$  in any direction  $v \in A$

$$\left. \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \tilde{M}(\theta_0, g_0, a_0 + t v) \right|_{t=0} = E[v(D, X) (Y - g_0(D, X))]$$

$$= 0$$

# Neyman Orthogonality



# Formal Definition

- Moment  $M(\theta, g)$  is Neyman orthogonal if for any  $v \in G - g_0$ :

$$D_g M(\theta_0, g_0)[v] := \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial t} M(\theta_0, g_0 + t v) \right|_{t=0} = 0$$

# Sample-Splitting Estimation Algorithm

- Split the data in half
- On first half, estimate  $\hat{g}$  of  $g_0$
- On second half, solution  $\hat{\theta}$  to empirical plug-in moment equation:

$$M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) := \frac{1}{n_2} \sum_{i \in S_2} m(Z_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) = 0$$

# Main Theorem

- If moment is Neyman orthogonal and RMSE of  $\hat{g}$  is  $o_p(n^{-1/4})$  \*

$$\sqrt{n} (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \rightarrow N \left( 0, A^{-1} \Sigma (A^{-1})^\top \right)$$

- $A = \nabla_{\theta} M(\theta_0, g_0)$  and  $\Sigma = E[m(Z; \theta_0, g_0) m(Z; \theta_0, g_0)^\top]$

\*plug regularity conditions

# Continuous Treatments under Partial Linearity

# Partially Linear Model

- Relevant in many applications: dose-response curve in healthcare, effect of price on demand, return-on-investment
- Assume conditional exogeneity

$$Y^{(d)} \perp D \mid X$$

- Assume partially linear response

$$g_0(D, X) = E[Y \mid D, X] = \theta_0 D + f_0(X)$$

- Parameter of interest  $\theta_0$  is constant marginal effect of treatment

# Partially Linear Model

- By definition of CEF we have the decomposition

$$Y = g_0(D, X) + \epsilon = \theta_0 D + f_0(X) + \epsilon, \quad E[\epsilon|D, X] = 0$$

- By definition of  $g_0$ , for any function  $q(D, X)$

$$E[(Y - \theta_0 D - f_0(X))q(D, X)] = E[E[Y - g_0(D, X) | D, X] q(D, X)] = 0$$

- Direct non-orthogonal method, estimate  $\hat{f}$  and solve:

$$E[(Y - \theta D - \hat{f}(X))D] = 0$$

# Generalization of FWL Theorem

- Let's define a slight variant of residualization

$$\tilde{V} = V - E[V|X]$$

- Generalization of FWL theorem to partially linear models

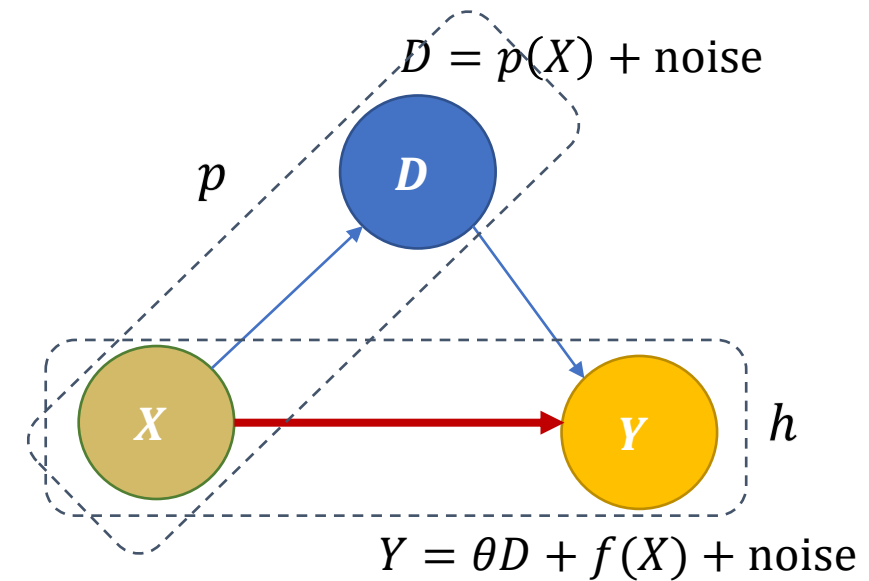
$$\tilde{Y} = \theta_0 \tilde{D} + \epsilon, \quad E[\epsilon|\tilde{D}] = 0$$

- Let's consider the residual outcome

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{Y} &= Y - E[Y|X] \\ &= \theta_0 D + f_0(X) + \epsilon - E[\theta_0 D + f_0(X) + \epsilon|X] \\ &= \theta_0 D + f_0(X) + \epsilon - \theta_0 E[D|X] - f_0(X) \\ &= \theta_0 (D - E[D|X]) + \epsilon\end{aligned}$$

# Orthogonal Method: Double ML

- **Double ML.** Split samples in half
  - Regress  $Y \sim X$  with ML on first half, to get estimate  $\hat{h}(S)$  of  $E[Y|X]$
  - Regress  $D \sim X$  with ML on first half, to get estimate  $\hat{p}(S)$  of  $E[D|X]$





# Orthogonal Method: Double ML

- **Double ML.** Split samples in half

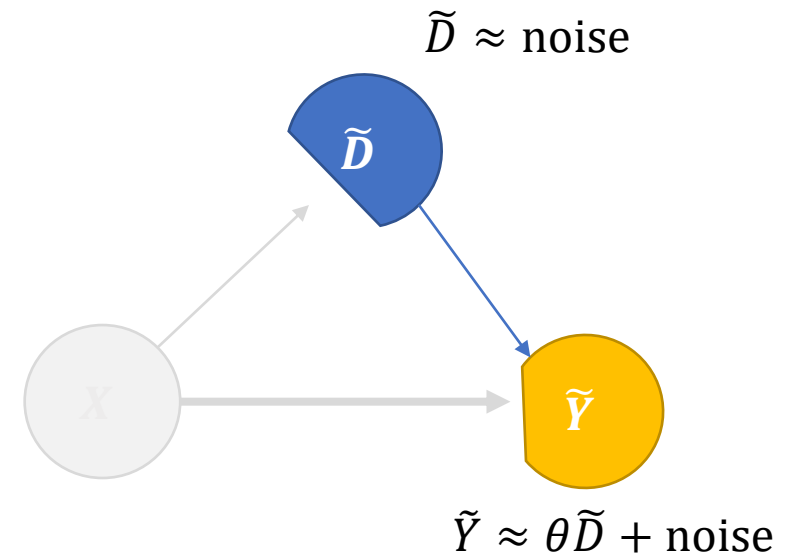
- Regress  $Y \sim X$  with ML on first half, to get estimate  $\hat{h}(S)$  of  $E[Y|X]$
- Regress  $D \sim X$  with ML on first half, to get estimate  $\hat{p}(S)$  of  $E[D|X]$
- Construct residuals on other half,  $\tilde{D} := D - \hat{p}(X)$  and  $\tilde{Y} := Y - \hat{h}(X)$
- Run OLS on residuals:  $\tilde{Y} \sim \tilde{D}$  to get  $\hat{\theta}$

- OLS equivalent to solving moment condition:

$$E[(\tilde{Y} - \theta \tilde{D})\tilde{D}] = 0$$

- Orthogonal Moment condition:

$$M(\theta, h, p) = E \left[ \left( Y - h(X) - \theta (D - p(X)) \right) (D - p(X)) \right]$$



# Practical Variants of Sample-Splitting

Cross-fitting and semi-cross-fitting

# Cross-fitting

- Sample splitting is statistically lossy
- Only half of the data are used for the final parameter estimation
- Can we utilize all the data?
- *Cross-fitting*: analogous to cross-validation
- Use the second half to train  $g$  and predict on first half
- Then calculate parameter using all the data

# Cross-fitting Estimation Algorithm

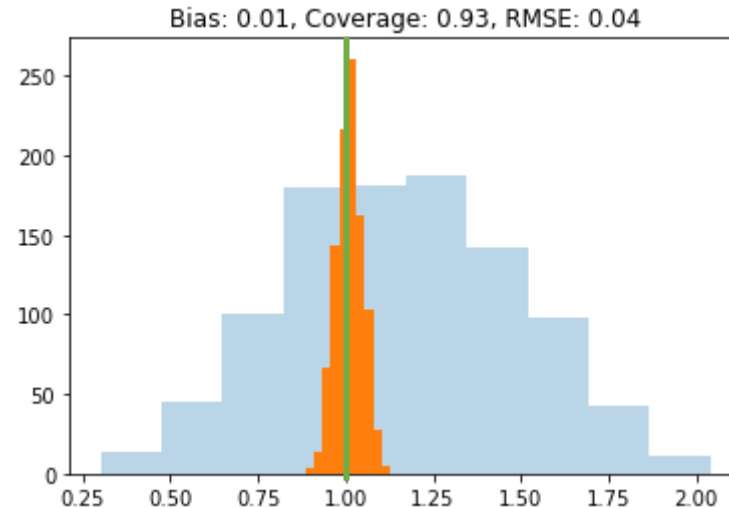
- Split the data in half
- On first half, estimate  $\hat{g}_1$  of  $g_0$  and predict on second half
- On second half, estimate  $\hat{g}_2$  of  $g_0$  and predict on first half
- On all data, solution  $\hat{\theta}$  to empirical plug-in moment equation:

$$M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in S_1} m(Z_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{g}_2) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in S_2} m(Z_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{g}_1) = 0$$

- In practice do this with  $K \approx 3$  to 5 folds: for each fold  $k$  train on all other folds and predict on fold  $k$

# Natural Algorithm (Draft 3) Gone Right

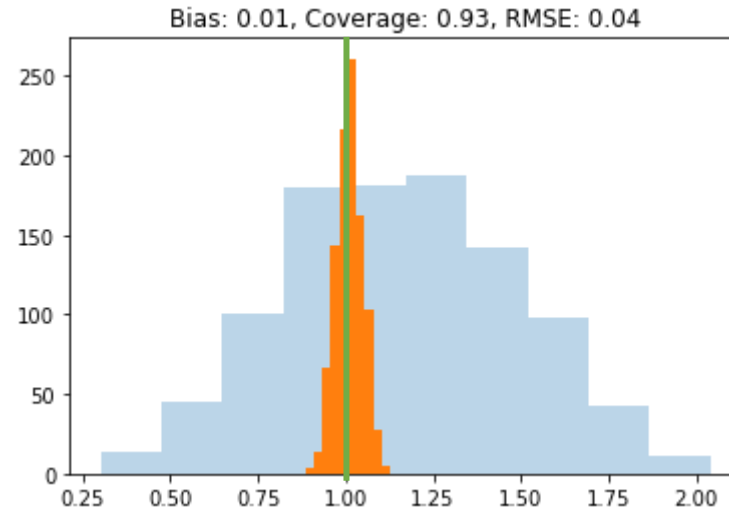
```
def dml2(X, D, y): # orthogonal dml with sample-splitting
    est_y = RandomForestRegressor(min_samples_leaf=20)
    yres = y - cross_val_predict(est_y, X, y, cv=3)
    est_t = RandomForestRegressor(min_samples_leaf=20)
    Dres = D - cross_val_predict(est_t, X, D, cv=3)
    theta = np.mean(yres * Dres) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    var = np.mean((Dres**2) * (yres - theta*Dres)**2) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    stderr = np.sqrt(var / X.shape[0])
    return theta, stderr
```



# Natural Algorithm (Draft 3) Gone Right

```
from econml.dml import LinearDML

dml = LinearDML(model_y=RandomForestRegressor(min_samples_leaf=20),
                 model_t=RandomForestRegressor(min_samples_leaf=20))
est.fit(y, D, W=X).effect_inference()
```



# Stacking and Model Selection

- If we want to choose among many models or perform stacking, we can just use a stacked or automl model in place of each ML model

# Stacking ML Models

```
def dml2(X, D, y): # orthogonal dml with sample-splitting
    est_y = StackingRegressor([rf, nnet, gbf, lasso])
    yres = y - cross_val_predict(est_y, X, y, cv=3)
    est_t = StackingRegressor([rf, nnet, gbf, lasso])
    Dres = D - cross_val_predict(est_t, X, D, cv=3)
    theta = np.mean(yres * Dres) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    var = np.mean((Dres**2) * (yres - theta*Dres)**2) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    stderr = np.sqrt(var / X.shape[0])
    return theta, stderr
```



# AutoML Models

```
from flaml import AutoML

def dml2(X, D, y): # orthogonal dml with sample-splitting
    est_y = AutoML()
    yres = y - cross_val_predict(est_y, X, y, cv=3)
    est_t = AutoML()
    Dres = D - cross_val_predict(est_t, X, D, cv=3)
    theta = np.mean(yres * Dres) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    var = np.mean((Dres**2) * (yres - theta*Dres)**2) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    stderr = np.sqrt(var / X.shape[0])
    return theta, stderr
```

# Stacking and Model Selection

- If we want to choose among many models or perform stacking, we can just use a stacked or automl model in place of each ML model
- Model selection or stacking done many times within each training fold
- Computationally expensive and statistically lossy
- Can we use all the data to at least select among models?

# Semi-Cross-fitting Estimation Algorithm

- Split the data in half (*in practice K folds*)
- On first half, estimate  $\hat{g}_1^{(1)}, \dots, \hat{g}_1^{(L)}$  of  $g_0$  and predict on second half
- On second half, estimate  $\hat{g}_2^{(1)}, \dots, \hat{g}_2^{(L)}$  of  $g_0$  and predict on first half
- Choose the model  $\ell \in \{1, \dots, L\}$  that optimizes out-of-sample RMSE
- On all data, solution  $\hat{\theta}$  to empirical plug-in moment equation:

$$M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in S_1} m(Z_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{g}_2^{(\ell)}) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in S_2} m(Z_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{g}_1^{(\ell)}) = 0$$

# Semi-Crossfitting

```
def dml2(X, D, y): # orthogonal dml with semi-crossfitting
    # cross val predict with many models
    est_y = [rf, gbf, lasso]
    yres = np.array([y - cross_val_predict(est, X, y, cv=3) for est in est_y])
    est_d = [rf, gbf, lasso]
    Dres = np.array([D - cross_val_predict(est, X, D, cv=3) for est in est_d])
    # select models with best out of fold performance
    best_y = np.argmin(np.mean(yres**2, axis=1))
    best_d = np.argmin(np.mean(Dres**2, axis=1))
    yres = yres[best_y]
    Dres = Dres[best_d]
    # go with their corresponding residuals
    theta = np.mean(yres * Dres) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    var = np.mean((Dres**2) * (yres - theta*Dres)**2) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    stderr = np.sqrt(var / X.shape[0])
    return theta, stderr
```

# Semi-Crossfitting

- If the number of models  $L$  is small, then “spillover” is ok and approach still works. For practical purposes  $L$  should be thought as constant.
- Under further regularity, provably asymptotic normality holds if

$$\sqrt{\log(L)} = o(n^{1/4})$$

# Semi-Cross-fitting with Stacking

- Split the data in half (*in practice  $K$  folds*)
- On first half, estimate  $\hat{g}_1^{(1)}, \dots, \hat{g}_1^{(L)}$  of  $g_0$  and predict on second half
- On second half, estimate  $\hat{g}_2^{(1)}, \dots, \hat{g}_2^{(L)}$  of  $g_0$  and predict on first half
- Construct weights  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell$  on the models using all the data (stacking)

- On all data, solution  $\hat{\theta}$  to empirical plug-in moment equation:

$$M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in S_1} m(Z_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{g}_2^{(\ell)}) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in S_2} m(Z_i; \hat{\theta}, \hat{g}_1^{(\ell)}) = 0$$

# Semi-Crossfitting with Stacking

```
def dml2(X, D, y): # orthogonal dml with semi-crossfitting and stacking
    # cross val predict with many models
    est_y = [rf, gbf, lasso]
    ypreds = np.array([cross_val_predict(est, X, y, cv=3) for est in est_y]).T
    est_d = [rf, gbf, lasso]
    Dpreds = np.array([cross_val_predict(est, X, D, cv=3) for est in est_d]).T
    # calculate stacked residuals by finding optimal coefficients
    # and weighing out-of-sample predictions by these coefficients
    yres = y - LinearRegression().fit(ypreds, y).predict(ypreds)
    Dres = D - LinearRegression().fit(Dpreds, D).predict(Dpreds)
    # go with the stacked residuals
    theta = np.mean(yres * Dres) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    var = np.mean((Dres**2) * (yres - theta*Dres)**2) / np.mean(Dres**2)
    stderr = np.sqrt(var / X.shape[0])
    return theta, stderr
```

# Semi-Crossfitting

- If the number of models  $L$  is small, then “spillover” is ok and approach still works. For practical purposes  $L$  should be thought as constant.
- Under further regularity, provably asymptotic normality holds if
$$\sqrt{L} = o(n^{1/4})$$

Equivalent view of cross-fitting with stacking (lens of FWL theorem)

- Construct out of fold predictions based on many ML models
- Use these predictions as engineered features  $X$  in a simple OLS regression on  $D, X$
- Use the coefficient and standard error of  $D$  from this final OLS



# Proving the Main Theorem

# Linear in $\theta$ Moments

- We will restrict attention to a broad class that simplifies proof
- Moment is linear in target parameter

$$m(Z; \theta, g) = a(Z; g)' \theta + v(Z; g)$$

- Expected moment also linear in  $\theta$

$$M(\theta, g) = A(g)' \theta + V(g)$$

# Proof Ingredients: Linear in $\theta$ Moments

- Since  $M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) = 0$  we expect by concentration and sample splitting  $M(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) \approx n^{-1/2}$
- Since  $M(\theta_0, g_0) = 0$  we expect by Neyman orthogonality  $M(\theta_0, \hat{g}) \approx RMSE(\hat{g})^2 = o(n^{-1/2})$
- Since moment is linear in  $\theta$ :  $A(\hat{g})(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = M(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) - M(\theta_0, \hat{g})$
- Since  $A$  is Lipschitz and  $\hat{g} \rightarrow g_0$ :  $A(g_0)(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = M(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) - M(\theta_0, \hat{g}) + o_p(\|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\|)$
- Since  $A(g_0)$  is invertible:  $\|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\| = O(\|M(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g})\| + \|M(\theta_0, \hat{g})\|) = O_p(n^{-1/2})$
- More fine-grained analysis of  $M(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g})$  term, shows:  $\sqrt{n}M(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) \rightarrow N(0, V)$

# Proof of Main Theorem

- Since moment  $M(\theta, g)$  is linear in  $\theta$  and  $M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) = 0$  and  $M(\theta_0, g_0) = 0$   

$$A(\hat{g}) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = M(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) - M(\theta_0, \hat{g})$$

$$= M(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) - M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) + M(\theta_0, g_0) - M(\theta_0, \hat{g})$$

- Since  $\text{RMSE}(\hat{g}) = \|\hat{g} - g_0\| = o_p(1)$

$$A(g_0) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = A(\hat{g}) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) + o_p(\|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\|)$$

- Thus

$$A(g_0) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = \underbrace{M(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) - M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g})}_{\rightarrow N(0, V)} + \underbrace{M(\theta_0, g_0) - M(\theta_0, \hat{g})}_{= o_p(n^{-1/2})} + o_p(\|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\|)$$

$\rightarrow N(0, V)$   
 via CLT  
 + sample-splitting  
 + concentration  
 +  $\hat{g} \rightarrow g_0$

$= o_p(n^{-1/2})$   
 via orthogonality  
 +  $\|\hat{g} - g_0\| = o_p(n^{-1/4})$

# Proof of Main Theorem: Orthogonality

- By Neyman orthogonality and bounded second derivative of  $M(\theta_0, g)$  w.r.t.  $g$   
 $M(\theta_0, g_0) - M(\theta_0, \hat{g}) = D_g M(\theta_0, g_0)[g_0 - g] + O(\|\hat{g} - g_0\|^2) = o_p(n^{-1/2})$

- Thus

$$A(g_0) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = \underbrace{M(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) - M_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g})}_{G_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g})} + o_p(n^{-1/2} + \|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\|)$$

# Proof of Main Theorem: Sample-Splitting (1)

- Let  $G_n(\theta, g) = M(\theta, g) - M_n(\theta, g)$   
$$G_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) = G_n(\theta_0, g_0) + G_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) - G_n(\theta_0, \hat{g}) + G_n(\theta_0, \hat{g}) - G_n(\theta_0, g_0)$$
- Linearity of moment + (sample-splitting and concentration  $\Rightarrow \|A(\hat{g}) - A_n(\hat{g})\| = o_p(1)$ ):  
$$G_n(\hat{\theta}, \hat{g}) - G_n(\theta_0, \hat{g}) = (A(\hat{g}) - A_n(\hat{g})) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = o_p(\|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\|)$$
- Thus  
$$A(g_0) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = G_n(\theta_0, g_0) + G_n(\theta_0, \hat{g}) - G_n(\theta_0, g_0) + o_p(n^{-1/2} + \|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\|)$$

# Proof of Main Theorem: Sample-Splitting (2)

- Note for  $X_i = m(Z_i; \theta_0, \hat{g}) - m(Z_i; \theta_0, \hat{g}) - E[m(Z_i; \theta_0, \hat{g}) - m(Z_i; \theta_0, \hat{g})]$

$$G_n(\theta_0, \hat{g}) - G_n(\theta_0, g_0) = \frac{1}{n_2} \sum_{i \in S_2} X_i$$

- By sample splitting,  $X_i$  are i.i.d. with  $E[X_i] = 0$ . By variance decomposition (concentration)

$$\left\| \frac{1}{n_2} \sum_{i \in S_2} X_i \right\|_{L_2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{E[X_i^2]}{n}}$$

- Thus

$$\|G_n(\theta_0, \hat{g}) - G_n(\theta_0, g_0)\|_{L_2} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sqrt{E \left[ \left( m(Z_i; \theta_0, \hat{g}) - m(Z_i; \theta_0, \hat{g}) \right)^2 \right]} = O \left( \frac{\|\hat{g} - g_0\|}{\sqrt{n}} \right) = o_p(n^{-1/2})$$

# Concluding

- So far

$$A(g_0) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = G_n(\theta_0, g_0) + o_p(n^{-1/2} + \|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\|)$$

- Since  $A(g_0)$  is invertible and  $G_n(\theta_0, g_0) = O_p(n^{-1/2})$  by concentration  
 $\|\hat{\theta} - \theta_0\| = O_p(n^{-1/2})$

- Thus, we have asymptotic linearity

$$\sqrt{n} (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) = \sqrt{n} A(g_0)^{-1} G_n(\theta_0, g_0) + o_p(1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_2}} \sum_{i \in S_2} A(g_0)^{-1} m(Z_i; \theta_0, g_0) + o_p(1)$$

- By CLT we get the theorem



# Main Theorem

- If moment is Neyman orthogonal and RMSE of  $\hat{g}$  is  $o_p(n^{-1/4})$  \*

$$\sqrt{n} (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \rightarrow N \left( 0, A^{-1} \Sigma (A^{-1})^\top \right)$$

- $A = \nabla_{\theta} M(\theta_0, g_0)$  and  $\Sigma = E[m(Z; \theta_0, g_0) m(Z; \theta_0, g_0)^\top]$

\*plus regularity conditions