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Debiased Calibration for Generalized Two-Phase Sampling

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Introduction

In classical two-phase sampling, one first selects a sample A_1 from a finite population U of size N, and observes $(\mathbf{X}_i)_{i=1}^{n_1}$. Then one selects a sample A_2 from A_1 and observes $(\mathbf{X}_i, Y_i)_{i=1}^{n_2}$. We take the framework of two-phase sampling and view data integration as specific case of observing a variable of interest Y within a single data set while we also observe common covariates (\mathbf{X}_i) between both the data set with Y as well as an outside auxiliary sample. We focus on the case:

- Where all of the surveys are probability samples,
- Where we only have summary level information instead of individual observation values,
- When we want the estimate the finite population total of Y,

$$Y_T = \sum_{i \in U} y_i.$$

Notation

- Let π_{1i} be the probability that element i is selected into the Phase 1 sample, A_1 .
- Let $\pi_{2i|1}$ be the probability that element i is selected into the Phase 1 sample, A_2 conditional on the fact that $i \in A_1$.
- Let $d_{1i} = 1/\pi_{1i}$ and $d_{2i|1} = 1/\pi_{2i|1}$.
- We use δ_{1i} and δ_{2i} to indicate if an observation in contained within A_1 and A_2 respectively.

Goal

We want a two-phase sampling framework to

- 1. Combine information from multiple data sources,
- 2. In a way that is efficient, and
- 3. Approximately design unbiased.

Comparable Methods

• The double expansion estimator of Kott and Stukel (1997) is a Horvitz-Thompson like estimator that is design unbiased, but inefficient:

$$\hat{Y}_{\text{DEE}} = \sum_{i \in A_2} \frac{y_i}{\pi_{1i} \pi_{2i|1}}.$$

• The two-phase regression estimator is approximately design unbiased but not as efficient as our proposed method:

$$\hat{Y}_{\text{Reg}} = \sum_{i \in A_1} \frac{\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_q}{\pi_{1i}} + \sum_{i \in A_2} \frac{1}{\pi_{1i} \pi_{2i|1}} (y_i - \mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_q)$$

where $q_i = q(\mathbf{x_i})$ and

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_q = \left(\sum_{i \in A_2} \frac{\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i'}{\pi_{1i} q_i}\right)^{-1} \sum_{i \in A_2} \frac{\mathbf{x}_i y_i}{\pi_{1i} q_i}.$$

Methodology

Generalized Calibration

 In a seminal paper, Deville and Sarndal (1992) generalized the regression estimator to other loss functions besides squared-error loss for a sample A with auxiliary information about X. Their generalized loss function minimizes,

$$\sum_{i \in A} G(w_i, d_i) \text{ such that } \sum_{i \in A} d_i w_i \mathbf{x_i} = \sum_{i \in U} \mathbf{x_i}.$$

for a non-negative, strictly convex function with respect to w function G, with a minimum at $g(w_i,d_i)=\frac{\partial G}{\partial w}$ defined on an interval containing d_i with $g(w_i,d_i)$ continuous.

Calibration with Generalized Entropy

• Recently, Kwon, Kim, and Qiu (2024) proposed a calibration estimator that uses a generalized entropy function G(w) (Gneiting and Raftery (2007)) instead of the generalized loss function G(w,d) of Deville and Sarndal (1992). They separate the bias calibration from the minimization term and solve the following equation for estimated sample weights:

$$\hat{w}_i = \arg\min_{i \in A} \sum_{i \in A} G(w_i) \text{ such that } \sum_{i \in A} w_i \mathbf{x}_i = \sum_{i \in U} \mathbf{x}_i, \sum_{i \in A} w_i g(d_i) = \sum_{i \in U} g(d_i).$$

Our proposed method extends their result to two-phase sampling.

Proposal

Let $\mathbf{z}_i = (\mathbf{x}_i, g(d_{2i|1}))^T$, the proposed debiased calibration estimator is

$$\hat{Y}_{\text{DCE}} = \sum_{i \in A_2} d_{1i} \hat{w}_{2i|1} y_i \tag{1}$$

where $d_{1i}=\pi_{1i}^{-1}, d_{2i|1}=\pi_{2i|1}^{-1}$ and

$$\hat{w}_{2i|1} = \underset{w_{2|1}}{\arg\min} \sum_{i \in A_2} d_{1i} G(w_{2i|1}) \text{ such that } \sum_{i \in A_2} d_{1i} w_{2i|1} \mathbf{z}_i = \sum_{i \in A_1} d_{1i} \mathbf{z}_i. \quad (2)$$

Theoretical Results: Asymptotic Design Consistency

Under some regularity conditions,

$$\hat{Y}_{DCE} = \hat{Y}_{\ell} + O_p(N/n_2),$$

where

$$\hat{Y}_{\ell} = \hat{Y}_{\text{DEE}} + \left(\sum_{i \in A_1} d_{1i}\mathbf{z}_i - \sum_{i \in A_2} d_{1i}\pi_{2i|1}^{-1}\mathbf{z}_i\right) \phi^*$$

and

$$\phi^* = \left[\sum_{i \in U} \frac{\pi_{2i|1} \mathbf{z}_i \mathbf{z}_i^T}{g'(d_{2i|1})} \right]^{-1} \sum_{i \in U} \frac{\pi_{2i|1} \mathbf{z}_i y_i}{g'(d_{2i|1})}.$$

Simulation Study

For a finite population of size N = 10,000, and $n_1 = 1000$,

•
$$X_{1i} \stackrel{ind}{\sim} N(2,1), X_{2i} \stackrel{ind}{\sim} \mathrm{Unif}(0,4), Z_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} N(0,1), \varepsilon_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} N(0,1)$$

$$Y_i = 3X_{1i} + 2X_{2i} + 0.5Z_i + \varepsilon_i$$

•
$$\pi_{1i} = n_1/N$$
, $\pi_{2i|1} = \max(\min(\Phi_3(z_i - 1), 0.7), 0.02)$.

where Φ_3 is the CDF of a t-distribution with 3 degrees of freedom. We compare the following algorithms:

- 1. Double Expansion Estimator (DEE)
- 2. Two-Phase Regression estimator (TP-Reg)
- 3. Debiased Calibration with Population Constraints (DC-Pop): This solves

$$\underset{w_{2|1}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \sum_{i \in A_2} d_{1i} G(w_{2i}) \text{ such that } \sum_{i \in A_2} d_{1i} w_{2i|1} \mathbf{z}_i = \sum_{i \in U} \mathbf{z}_i.$$

4. Debiased Calibration with Estimated Population Constraints (DC-Est): This solves Equation (2).

Est	Bias	RMSE	EmpCl	Ttest
DEE	-0.050	0.793	0.942	1.986
TP-Reg	0.005	0.153	0.947	1.131
DC-Pop	0.002	0.092	0.968	0.677
DC-Est	0.001	0.139	0.951	0.243

Table 1. This table shows the results of the simulation study. It displays the Bias, RMSE, empirical 95% confidence interval, and a t-statistic assessing the unbiasedness of each estimator for the estimators: DEE, TP-Reg, DC-Pop, and DC-Est.

Extensions

We also consider the following extensions:

- Non-nested two-phase sampling: when A_1 and A_2 are independent.
- Multi-source sampling: when Y is contained in a sample A_0 that shares common covariates \mathbf{X} , with samples $A_1, A_2, ..., A_M$.

References

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