Linear Regression in Python

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1 Contents

- Overview 2
- Simple Linear Regression 3
- Extending the Linear Regression Model 4
- Endogeneity 5
- Summary 6
- Exercises 7
- Solutions 8

In addition to what's in Anaconda, this lecture will need the following libraries:

[1]: [!pip install linearmodels

2 Overview

Linear regression is a standard tool for analyzing the relationship between two or more variables.

In this lecture, we'll use the Python package **statsmodels** to estimate, interpret, and visualize linear regression models.

Along the way, we'll discuss a variety of topics, including

- simple and multivariate linear regression
- visualization
- endogeneity and omitted variable bias
- two-stage least squares

As an example, we will replicate results from Acemoglu, Johnson and Robinson's seminal paper [1].

• You can download a copy here.

In the paper, the authors emphasize the importance of institutions in economic development.

The main contribution is the use of settler mortality rates as a source of *exogenous* variation in institutional differences.

Such variation is needed to determine whether it is institutions that give rise to greater economic growth, rather than the other way around.

Let's start with some imports:

```
[2]: import numpy as np import matplotlib.pyplot as plt %matplotlib inline import pandas as pd import statsmodels.api as sm from statsmodels.iolib.summary2 import summary_col from linearmodels.iv import IV2SLS
```

2.1 Prerequisites

This lecture assumes you are familiar with basic econometrics.

For an introductory text covering these topics, see, for example, [2].

2.2 Comments

This lecture is coauthored with Natasha Watkins.

3 Simple Linear Regression

[1] wish to determine whether or not differences in institutions can help to explain observed economic outcomes.

How do we measure institutional differences and economic outcomes?

In this paper,

- economic outcomes are proxied by log GDP per capita in 1995, adjusted for exchange rates.
- institutional differences are proxied by an index of protection against expropriation on average over 1985-95, constructed by the Political Risk Services Group.

These variables and other data used in the paper are available for download on Daron Acemoglu's webpage.

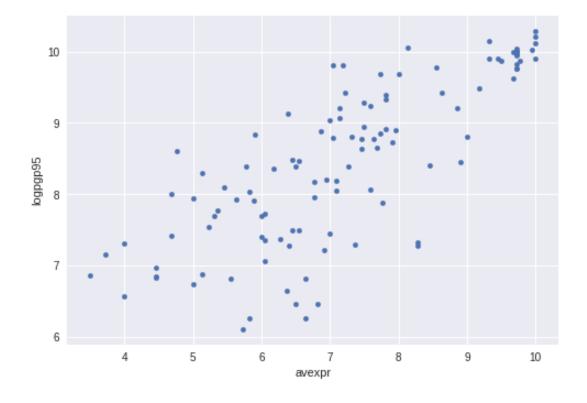
We will use pandas' $.read_stata()$ function to read in data contained in the .dta files to dataframes

```
cons90
                                                                               democ00a
                   euro1900
                              excolony
                                                    logpgp95
                                                               cons1
       shortnam
                                           avexpr
[3]:
             AFG
                   0.000000
                                    1.0
                                              NaN
                                                          NaN
                                                                 1.0
                                                                          2.0
     1
            AG0
                   8.000000
                                         5.363636
                                                    7.770645
                                                                          3.0
                                    1.0
                                                                 3.0
                                                                                     0.0
                                         7.181818
     2
                   0.000000
                                                    9.804219
                                                                 NaN
                                                                          NaN
                                                                                     NaN
            ARE
                                    1.0
     3
             ARG
                  60.000004
                                    1.0
                                         6.386364
                                                    9.133459
                                                                 1.0
                                                                          6.0
                                                                                     3.0
     4
             ARM
                   0.000000
                                    0.0
                                              NaN
                                                    7.682482
                                                                 NaN
                                                                          NaN
                                                                                     NaN
        cons00a
                    extmort4
                                 logem4
                                          loghjypl
                                                     baseco
     0
                   93.699997
                               4.540098
             1.0
                                                NaN
                                                         NaN
     1
             1.0
                  280.000000
                               5.634789
                                         -3.411248
                                                         1.0
     2
                                                         NaN
            NaN
                          NaN
                                     NaN
                                                NaN
     3
                   68.900002
                               4.232656
             3.0
                                         -0.872274
                                                         1.0
     4
             NaN
                          NaN
                                     NaN
                                                NaN
                                                         NaN
```

Let's use a scatterplot to see whether any obvious relationship exists between GDP per capita and the protection against expropriation index

```
[4]: plt.style.use('seaborn')

df1.plot(x='avexpr', y='logpgp95', kind='scatter')
plt.show()
```



The plot shows a fairly strong positive relationship between protection against expropriation and log GDP per capita.

Specifically, if higher protection against expropriation is a measure of institutional quality, then better institutions appear to be positively correlated with better economic outcomes (higher GDP per capita).

Given the plot, choosing a linear model to describe this relationship seems like a reasonable assumption.

We can write our model as

$$logpgp95_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 avexpr_i + u_i$$

where:

- β_0 is the intercept of the linear trend line on the y-axis
- β_1 is the slope of the linear trend line, representing the marginal effect of protection against risk on log GDP per capita
- u_i is a random error term (deviations of observations from the linear trend due to factors not included in the model)

Visually, this linear model involves choosing a straight line that best fits the data, as in the following plot (Figure 2 in [1])

```
# Dropping NA's is required to use numpy's polyfit
df1_subset = df1.dropna(subset=['logpgp95', 'avexpr'])
# Use only 'base sample' for plotting purposes
df1_subset = df1_subset[df1_subset['baseco'] == 1]
X = df1_subset['avexpr']
y = df1_subset['logpgp95']
labels = df1_subset['shortnam']
# Replace markers with country labels
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.scatter(X, y, marker='')
for i, label in enumerate(labels):
    ax.annotate(label, (X.iloc[i], y.iloc[i]))
# Fit a linear trend line
ax.plot(np.unique(X),
          np.poly1d(np.polyfit(X, y, 1))(np.unique(X)),
          color='black')
ax.set_xlim([3.3,10.5])
ax.set_ylim([4,10.5])
ax.set_xlabel('Average Expropriation Risk 1985-95')
ax.set_ylabel('Log GDP per capita, PPP, 1995')
ax.set_title('Figure 2: OLS relationship between expropriation \
    risk and income')
plt.show()
```

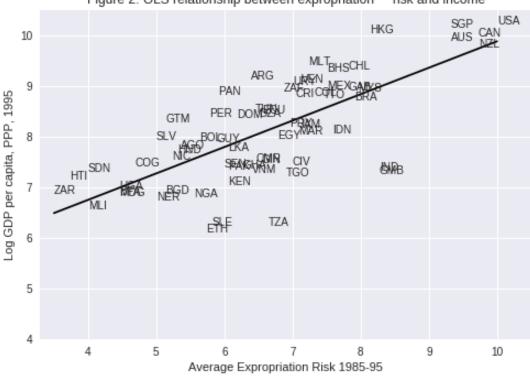


Figure 2: OLS relationship between expropriation risk and income

The most common technique to estimate the parameters (β 's) of the linear model is Ordinary Least Squares (OLS).

As the name implies, an OLS model is solved by finding the parameters that minimize the sum of squared residuals, i.e.

$$\min_{\hat{\beta}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \hat{u}_i^2$$

where \hat{u}_i is the difference between the observation and the predicted value of the dependent variable.

To estimate the constant term β_0 , we need to add a column of 1's to our dataset (consider the equation if β_0 was replaced with $\beta_0 x_i$ and $x_i = 1$)

Now we can construct our model in statsmodels using the OLS function.

We will use pandas dataframes with statsmodels, however standard arrays can also be used as arguments

[7]. statsmodels.regression.linear_model.OLS

So far we have simply constructed our model.

We need to use .fit() to obtain parameter estimates $\hat{\beta}_0$ and $\hat{\beta}_1$

- [8]: results = reg1.fit()
 type(results)
- [8]. statsmodels.regression.linear_model.RegressionResultsWrapper

We now have the fitted regression model stored in results.

To view the OLS regression results, we can call the .summary() method.

Note that an observation was mistakenly dropped from the results in the original paper (see the note located in maketable2.do from Acemoglu's webpage), and thus the coefficients differ slightly.

[9]: print(results.summary())

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:		logpg	p95 R-s	quared:		0.611
Model:		0LS		. R-squared:		0.608
Method:		Least Squa	res F-s	tatistic:		171.4
Date:		Thu, 07 Nov 20	919 Pro	b (F-statistio	c):	4.16e-24
Time:		17:07	:53 Log	-Likelihood:		-119.71
No. Observations:		111 AIC:			243.4	
Df Residuals:		:	109 BIC	:		248.8
Df Model:			1			
Covariance Type:		nonrob	ust			
========	=======	=========	=======	=========		=======
	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	4.6261	0.301	15.391	0.000	4.030	5.222
avexpr	0.5319	0.041	13.093	0.000	0.451	0.612

avexpr 0.5319 0.041 13.093 0.000 0.451 0.6		coef	std err	t P>	t [0.025	0.975]
Omnibus: 9.251 Durbin-Watson: 1.6						5.222 0.612
Skew: -0.680 Prob(JB): 0.01	Prob(Omnibus): Skew:		0.010 -0.680	Jarque-Bera Prob(JB):		1.689 9.170 0.0102 33.2

Warnings:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

From our results, we see that

- The intercept $\hat{\beta}_0 = 4.63$.
- The slope $\hat{\beta}_1 = 0.53$.
- The positive $\hat{\beta}_1$ parameter estimate implies that, institutional quality has a positive effect on economic outcomes, as we saw in the figure.
- The p-value of 0.000 for $\hat{\beta}_1$ implies that the effect of institutions on GDP is statistically significant (using p < 0.05 as a rejection rule).
- The R-squared value of 0.611 indicates that around 61% of variation in log GDP per capita is explained by protection against expropriation.

Using our parameter estimates, we can now write our estimated relationship as

$$\widehat{logpgp}95_i = 4.63 + 0.53~avexpr_i$$

This equation describes the line that best fits our data, as shown in Figure 2.

We can use this equation to predict the level of log GDP per capita for a value of the index of expropriation protection.

For example, for a country with an index value of 7.07 (the average for the dataset), we find that their predicted level of log GDP per capita in 1995 is 8.38.

```
[10]: mean_expr = np.mean(df1_subset['avexpr'])
mean_expr
```

[10]. 6.515625

```
[11]: predicted_logpdp95 = 4.63 + 0.53 * 7.07 predicted_logpdp95
```

[11]: 8.3771

An easier (and more accurate) way to obtain this result is to use .predict() and set constant = 1 and $avexpr_i = mean_expr$

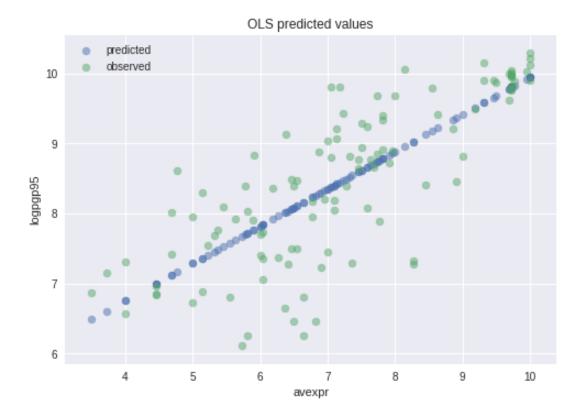
```
[12]: results.predict(exog=[1, mean_expr])
```

[12]: array([8.09156367])

We can obtain an array of predicted $logpgp95_i$ for every value of $avexpr_i$ in our dataset by calling .predict() on our results.

Plotting the predicted values against $avexpr_i$ shows that the predicted values lie along the linear line that we fitted above.

The observed values of logpgp95, are also plotted for comparison purposes



4 Extending the Linear Regression Model

So far we have only accounted for institutions affecting economic performance - almost certainly there are numerous other factors affecting GDP that are not included in our model.

Leaving out variables that affect $logpgp95_i$ will result in **omitted variable bias**, yielding biased and inconsistent parameter estimates.

We can extend our bivariate regression model to a **multivariate regression model** by adding in other factors that may affect $logpgp95_i$.

[1] consider other factors such as:

- the effect of climate on economic outcomes; latitude is used to proxy this
- differences that affect both economic performance and institutions, eg. cultural, historical, etc.; controlled for with the use of continent dummies

Let's estimate some of the extended models considered in the paper (Table 2) using data from maketable2.dta

```
X3 = ['const', 'avexpr', 'lat_abst', 'asia', 'africa', 'other']
# Estimate an OLS regression for each set of variables
reg1 = sm.OLS(df2['logpgp95'], df2[X1], missing='drop').fit()
reg2 = sm.OLS(df2['logpgp95'], df2[X2], missing='drop').fit()
reg3 = sm.OLS(df2['logpgp95'], df2[X3], missing='drop').fit()
```

Now that we have fitted our model, we will use **summary_col** to display the results in a single table (model numbers correspond to those in the paper)

```
info_dict={'R-squared' : lambda x: f"{x.rsquared:.2f}",
             'No. observations' : lambda x: f"{int(x.nobs):d}"}
 results_table = summary_col(results=[reg1, reg2, reg3],
                              float_format='%0.2f',
                              stars = True,
                              model_names=['Model 1',
                                            'Model 3'
                                           'Model 4'],
                              info dict=info dict,
                              regressor_order=['const',
                                                'avexpr'
                                                'lat_abst',
                                                'asia',
                                                'africa'])
results_table.add_title('Table 2 - OLS Regressions')
print(results_table)
```

Table 2 - OLS Regressions

	Model 1	Model 3	Model 4				
	4 60***	4 07***					
const		4.87***					
	,	(0.33)	` ,				
avexpr		0.46***					
	(0.04)	(0.06)	(0.05)				
lat_abst		0.87*	0.33				
		(0.49)	(0.45)				
asia			-0.15				
			(0.15)				
africa -0.92***							
(0.17)							
other 0.30							
001101			(0.37)				
R-squared	0.61	0.62	0.72				
•							
No. observations 111 111 111							
Standard errors in parentheses.							
* p<.1, ** p<.05, ***p<.01							

5 Endogeneity

As [1] discuss, the OLS models likely suffer from **endogeneity** issues, resulting in biased and inconsistent model estimates.

Namely, there is likely a two-way relationship between institutions and economic outcomes:

- richer countries may be able to afford or prefer better institutions
- variables that affect income may also be correlated with institutional differences
- the construction of the index may be biased; analysts may be biased towards seeing countries with higher income having better institutions

To deal with endogeneity, we can use **two-stage least squares (2SLS) regression**, which is an extension of OLS regression.

This method requires replacing the endogenous variable $avexpr_i$ with a variable that is:

- 1. correlated with avexpr_i
- 2. not correlated with the error term (ie. it should not directly affect the dependent variable, otherwise it would be correlated with u_i due to omitted variable bias)

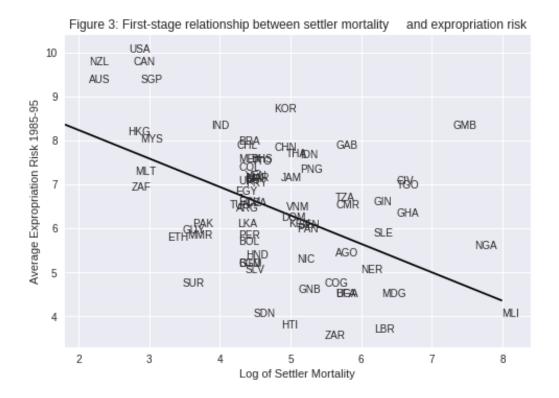
The new set of regressors is called an **instrument**, which aims to remove endogeneity in our proxy of institutional differences.

The main contribution of [1] is the use of settler mortality rates to instrument for institutional differences.

They hypothesize that higher mortality rates of colonizers led to the establishment of institutions that were more extractive in nature (less protection against expropriation), and these institutions still persist today.

Using a scatterplot (Figure 3 in [1]), we can see protection against expropriation is negatively correlated with settler mortality rates, coinciding with the authors' hypothesis and satisfying the first condition of a valid instrument.

```
# Dropping NA's is required to use numpy's polyfit
df1_subset2 = df1.dropna(subset=['logem4', 'avexpr'])
X = df1_subset2['logem4']
y = df1_subset2['avexpr']
labels = df1_subset2['shortnam']
# Replace markers with country labels
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.scatter(X, y, marker='')
for i, label in enumerate(labels):
   ax.annotate(label, (X.iloc[i], y.iloc[i]))
# Fit a linear trend line
ax.plot(np.unique(X),
         np.poly1d(np.polyfit(X, y, 1))(np.unique(X)),
         color='black')
ax.set_xlim([1.8,8.4])
ax.set_ylim([3.3,10.4])
ax.set_xlabel('Log of Settler Mortality')
ax.set_ylabel('Average Expropriation Risk 1985-95')
ax.set_title('Figure 3: First-stage relationship between settler mortality \
    and expropriation risk')
plt.show()
```



The second condition may not be satisfied if settler mortality rates in the 17th to 19th centuries have a direct effect on current GDP (in addition to their indirect effect through institutions).

For example, settler mortality rates may be related to the current disease environment in a country, which could affect current economic performance.

[1] argue this is unlikely because:

- The majority of settler deaths were due to malaria and yellow fever and had a limited effect on local people.
- The disease burden on local people in Africa or India, for example, did not appear to be higher than average, supported by relatively high population densities in these areas before colonization.

As we appear to have a valid instrument, we can use 2SLS regression to obtain consistent and unbiased parameter estimates.

First stage

The first stage involves regressing the endogenous variable $(avexpr_i)$ on the instrument.

The instrument is the set of all exogenous variables in our model (and not just the variable we have replaced).

Using model 1 as an example, our instrument is simply a constant and settler mortality rates $logem 4_i$.

Therefore, we will estimate the first-stage regression as

$$avexpr_i = \delta_0 + \delta_1 logem 4_i + v_i$$

The data we need to estimate this equation is located in maketable4.dta (only complete data, indicated by baseco = 1, is used for estimation)

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable Model: Method: Date: Time: No. Observati Df Residuals: Df Model: Covariance Ty	ons: pe:	Least Sq Thu, 07 Nov 17:	0LS uares 2019 07:55 64 62 1 obust	Adj. F-st Prob Log- AIC: BIC:			0.270 0.258 22.95 1.08e-05 -104.83 213.7 218.0
=========					======== P> t		
const logem4	9.3414				0.000 0.000	-0.860	-0.354
Omnibus: Prob(Omnibus) Skew: Kurtosis:	:	(0.983 0.045	Jarq Prob	in-Watson: ue-Bera (JB): (JB): . No.		2.003 0.172 0.918 19.4

Warnings:

 $\[1\]$ Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

Second stage

We need to retrieve the predicted values of $avexpr_i$ using .predict().

We then replace the endogenous variable $avexpr_i$ with the predicted values $a\widehat{vexpr_i}$ in the original linear model.

Our second stage regression is thus

$$logpgp95_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 a \widehat{vexp} r_i + u_i$$

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable: logpgp95 R-squared: 0.477 Model: OLS Adj. R-squared: 0.469

Method: Date: Time: No. Observations: Df Residuals: Df Model: Covariance Type:	ate: Thu, 07 Nov 2019 ime: 17:07:55 o. Observations: 64 f Residuals: 62 f Model: 1		Prob (F-stat	56.60 2.66e-10 -72.268 148.5 152.9	
0.975]	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025
const 3.555 predicted_avexpr 1.195	1.9097 0.9443	0.823 0.126	2.320 7.523	0.024	0.264 0.693
Omnibus: Prob(Omnibus): Skew: Kurtosis:	=======	10.547 0.005 -0.790 4.277	Jarque-Bera		2.137 11.010 0.00407 58.1

Warnings:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

The second-stage regression results give us an unbiased and consistent estimate of the effect of institutions on economic outcomes.

The result suggests a stronger positive relationship than what the OLS results indicated.

Note that while our parameter estimates are correct, our standard errors are not and for this reason, computing 2SLS 'manually' (in stages with OLS) is not recommended.

We can correctly estimate a 2SLS regression in one step using the linear models package, an extension of <code>statsmodels</code>

Note that when using IV2SLS, the exogenous and instrument variables are split up in the function arguments (whereas before the instrument included exogenous variables)

IV-2SLS Estimation Summary

============	=======================================		============
Dep. Variable:	logpgp95	R-squared:	0.1870
Estimator:	IV-2SLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.1739
No. Observations:	64	F-statistic:	37.568
Date:	Thu, Nov 07 2019	P-value (F-stat)	0.0000
Time:	17:07:55	Distribution:	chi2(1)
Cov. Estimator:	unadjusted		

Parameter Estimates

========	=========	========	========	=========		
	Parameter	Std. Err.	T-stat	P-value	Lower CI	Upper CI
	4 0007	4 0400	4 0007	0.0500	0.0740	0.000
const	1.9097	1.0106	1.8897	0.0588	-0.0710	3.8903
avexpr	0.9443	0.1541	6.1293	0.0000	0.6423	1.2462

Endogenous: avexpr Instruments: logem4

Unadjusted Covariance (Homoskedastic) Debiased: False

Given that we now have consistent and unbiased estimates, we can infer from the model we have estimated that institutional differences (stemming from institutions set up during colonization) can help to explain differences in income levels across countries today.

[1] use a marginal effect of 0.94 to calculate that the difference in the index between Chile and Nigeria (ie. institutional quality) implies up to a 7-fold difference in income, emphasizing the significance of institutions in economic development.

6 Summary

We have demonstrated basic OLS and 2SLS regression in statsmodels and linearmodels.

If you are familiar with R, you may want to use the formula interface to statsmodels, or consider using r2py to call R from within Python.

7 Exercises

7.1 Exercise 1

In the lecture, we think the original model suffers from endogeneity bias due to the likely effect income has on institutional development.

Although endogeneity is often best identified by thinking about the data and model, we can formally test for endogeneity using the **Hausman test**.

We want to test for correlation between the endogenous variable, $avexpr_i$, and the errors, u_i

$$H_0: Cov(avexpr_i, u_i) = 0$$
 (no endogeneity)
 $H_1: Cov(avexpr_i, u_i) \neq 0$ (endogeneity)

This test is running in two stages.

First, we regress $avexpr_i$ on the instrument, $logem4_i$

$$avexpr_i = \pi_0 + \pi_1 logem4_i + \upsilon_i$$

Second, we retrieve the residuals \hat{v}_i and include them in the original equation

$$logpgp95_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 avexpr_i + \alpha \hat{v}_i + u_i$$

If α is statistically significant (with a p-value < 0.05), then we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that $avexpr_i$ is endogenous.

Using the above information, estimate a Hausman test and interpret your results.

7.2 Exercise 2

The OLS parameter β can also be estimated using matrix algebra and numpy (you may need to review the numpy lecture to complete this exercise).

The linear equation we want to estimate is (written in matrix form)

$$y = X\beta + u$$

To solve for the unknown parameter β , we want to minimize the sum of squared residuals

$$\min_{\hat{\beta}} \hat{u}' \hat{u}$$

Rearranging the first equation and substituting into the second equation, we can write

$$\min_{\hat{\beta}} \; (Y - X \hat{\beta})' (Y - X \hat{\beta})$$

Solving this optimization problem gives the solution for the $\hat{\beta}$ coefficients

$$\hat{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1}X'y$$

Using the above information, compute $\hat{\beta}$ from model 1 using numpy - your results should be the same as those in the statsmodels output from earlier in the lecture.

8 Solutions

8.1 Exercise 1

```
OLS Regression Results
```

Dep. Variable: logpgp95 R-squared: 0.689
Model: OLS Adj. R-squared: 0.679

```
74.05
Method:
                  Least Squares
                               F-statistic:
                Thu, 07 Nov 2019
                                                      1.07e-17
Date:
                               Prob (F-statistic):
                      17:07:56
Time:
                                                       -62.031
                               Log-Likelihood:
No. Observations:
                           70
                               AIC:
                                                         130.1
                           67
Df Residuals:
                               BIC:
                                                         136.8
Df Model:
                           2
Covariance Type:
                     nonrobust
           coef std err
                            t P>|t| [0.025 0.975]
      2.4782 0.547 4.530 0.000 1.386 3.570
const
avexpr
           0.8564
                     0.082
                            10.406
                                      0.000
                                               0.692
                                                         1.021
         -0.4951 0.099 -5.017
                                     0.000 -0.692
resid
                                                        -0.298
______
Omnibus:
                        17.597 Durbin-Watson:
                                                         2.086
                              Jarque-Bera (JB):
Prob(Omnibus):
                        0.000
                                                        23.194
                        -1.054 Prob(JB):
                                                      9.19e-06
Skew:
Kurtosis:
                         4.873
                               Cond. No.
                                                          53.8
```

Warnings:

 $\[1\]$ Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

The output shows that the coefficient on the residuals is statistically significant, indicating $avexpr_i$ is endogenous.

8.2 Exercise 2

 $\beta_0 = 4.6$ $\beta_1 = 0.53$

It is also possible to use $np.linalg.inv(X.T @ X) @ X.T @ y to solve for <math>\beta$, however .solve() is preferred as it involves fewer computations.

References

- [1] Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James A Robinson. The colonial origins of comparative development: An empirical investigation. *The American Economic Review*, 91(5):1369–1401, 2001.
- [2] Jeffrey M Wooldridge. Introductory econometrics: A modern approach. Nelson Education, 2015.