

Econometrics 2018, Final Exam, Time to complete : 60 minutes

Minimum points required for a positive grade: 20

Name and student ID _____

Signature _____

This exam contains 4 pages (including this cover page) and 2 questions.
Total of points is 40.

Grade Table (for teacher use only)

Question	Points	Score
Problem 1	20	
Problem 2	20	
Total:	40	

<https://github.com/feb-uni-sofia/econometrics2018-exam-2018-06-20>

The dataset `trips` is based on the 2016 NYC Yellow Cab trip record data and provides a sample of 988 taxi trips. For each trip you are given the following measurements:

1. **trip_duration** : Trip duration in seconds.

day : Day of week with two categories: 'workday' and 'weekend'.

- (a) (1 point) Compute the average trip duration and write down the *result* (not the R-code)!

- (b) (2 points) Create a new variable in the dataset called `trip_duration_minutes` that contains the trip duration in minutes. Create another variable called `weekend` that is TRUE (logical) if the trip took place on a weekend and FALSE (logical) otherwise.

- (c) (1 point) Fit the linear regression model :

$$\text{trip_duration_minutes}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{weekend}_i + u_i$$

with $i = 1, \dots, n$ and where u_i are independent random terms with zero mean and constant variance.

- (d) (2 points) Write down the estimated regression *equation*.

- (e) (5 points) Explain the *meaning* of the estimated regression coefficients *in relation to the data*.

- (f) (6 points) A taxi driver claims that trips on workdays take longer on average than trips during the week. Express this hypothesis in terms of the model coefficients and test it at a 90% significance level (10% error probability) using the output from the model fitted in (c) . Write down the test-statistic and the p-value of the test and explain your decision to reject or not to reject the hypothesis.

- (g) (3 points) The taxi driver confronts you with the claim that your test is invalid because it assumes that the trip duration is normally distributed in both groups (weekends/workdays). Respond to that claim.

2. The dataset **store** contains data about a Rossmann drug store located in Germany. Each observation corresponds to one of 942 days from 2013-01-01 to 2015-07-31 and consists of the following measurements:

Sales (numeric): Store sales in EUR.

SchoolHoliday (0/1): Equals 1 if the day was a school holiday in the state where the store is located and 0 otherwise.

Customers (numeric): Number of customers for the day.

- (a) (1 point) Fit the linear regression model:

$$\text{Sales}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{SchoolHoliday}_i + \beta_2 \text{Customers}_i + u_i \quad (1)$$

with $i = 1, \dots, n$ and where u_i are independent random terms with zero mean and constant variance.

- (b) (2 points) Write down the estimated regression *equation*.

- (c) (5 points) Explain the *meaning* of the regression coefficients *in relation* to the data (generic answers bring no points).

- (d) (5 points) The store manager has estimated the following model:

$$\text{Sales}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{SchoolHoliday}_i + u_i \quad (2)$$

with the same assumptions about u_i as in (1) and finds a much higher estimated coefficient for **SchoolHoliday**. Estimate the model in (2) and compare the coefficient for **SchoolHoliday** with the corresponding coefficient from (1). How would you explain the difference between the two coefficients?

- (e) (2 points) Create a new variable called **CustomersCentered** that equals the number of customers minus the average number of customers per day and fit the model:

$$\text{Sales}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{SchoolHoliday}_i + \beta_2 \text{CustomersCentered}_i + u_i$$

- (f) (5 points) The manager asks you to estimate the sales for the store on a non-school-holiday day with the usual (average) number of customers. Write down your estimated sales amount together with an approximate 95% confidence interval and explain to the manager why you are calculating this interval and what it means.