

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	

1. The dataset **trips** contains data on randomly sampled ($n = 1991$) taxi trips that took place during 2015 in New York, USA. For each trip the data contains:

tip_amount (numeric): The tip (in USD) given to the driver.

trip_distance (numeric): Trip distance in miles.

total_amount (numeric): Total amount (in USD) charged to the customer for the trip (includes the initial fee, fee for distance travelled, tolls, waiting/standing time, etc.).

- (a) (2 points) Create a new variable in the dataset **trips** called **trip_distance_km** that gives the trip distance in kilometers. Hint: one mile corresponds to about 1.6 km.
- (b) (2 points) Fit the linear regression model :

$$\text{tip_amount}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{trip_distance_km}_i + u_i \quad (1)$$

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

- (c) (3 points) Take a look at the estimated regression coefficients. How would you explain the positive association between the amount of the tip and the distance travelled (short answer)?

- (d) (5 points) Estimate the expected tip for a 10 km ride and give an approximate 95% confidence interval. Explain the meaning of the confidence interval.

- (e) (2 points) What is the meaning of the intercept β_0 in this model (in the context of *this* data)?

- (f) (2 points) Estimate the following linear regression model:

$$\text{tip_amount}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{trip_distance_km}_i + \beta_2 \text{total_amount}_i + u_i \quad (2)$$

with the same assumptions about u_i as in model (1).

- (g) (2 points) Interpret the intercept in model (2). Is this a meaningful quantity?

- (h) (2 points) Estimate the expected tip for a 10 km ride that cost a total of 20 USD.

2. The dataset **homeCredit** is a random sample of $n = 2000$ loan records from Home Credit, a consumer finance provider that lends to people with little or no credit history. Assume that each row in the data corresponds to a single person who has received a loan from Home Credit. The dataset contains the following columns:

credit (numeric): Amount of credit received (in USD).

ownsRealty (character): Equals "Y" if the person owns real estate property and "N" otherwise.

- (a) (2 points) Create a new variable in the dataset **homeCredit** called **noProperty** that equals TRUE if the person owns real estate (i.e. **ownsProperty** == "Y") and is FALSE otherwise.
- (b) (2 points) Fit the linear regression model:

$$\text{credit}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{noProperty}_i + u_i \quad (3)$$

with $i = 1, \dots, n$ and where u_i are independent random terms with zero mean and constant variance. Note that the **lm** function treats logical variables as 0/1 variables: TRUE corresponds to 1 and FALSE corresponds to 0.

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

- (d) (3 points) Let μ_{property} denote the expected amount of credit received by a person who owns real estate property. Estimate μ_{property} using the estimated regression coefficients.

- (e) (3 points) Let $\mu_{\text{no-property}}$ denote the expected amount of credit received by a person without real estate property. Estimate $\mu_{\text{no-property}}$ using the estimated regression coefficients.

- (f) (2 points) Give an approximate 95% confidence interval for the *difference* between the expected tip amount on card-paid trips μ_{property} and the expected tip amount on cash-paid trips $\mu_{\text{no-property}}$ using the estimated regression coefficients.

- (g) (2 points) Formulate the hypothesis:

$$H_0 : \mu_{\text{property}} \geq \mu_{\text{no-property}}$$

$$H_1 : \mu_{\text{property}} < \mu_{\text{no-property}}$$

in terms of β_1 (note that the alternative is one-sided).

- (h) (3 points) Write down the t-test statistic for the hypothesis from (g) using the regression output. Compute the p-value of the test in R and explain your decision to reject or not to reject the null hypothesis at a 90% significance level (10% error probability).

- (i) (1 point) How would you explain the difference between the average amounts of credit received by property owners and non-owners (short answer).