



$$Z \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_z, v_z)$$

$$U \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_u, v_u)$$

$$\varepsilon_x \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \epsilon_x)$$

$$\varepsilon_y \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \epsilon_y)$$

$$X = w_{x0} + w_{xz}Z + w_{xu}U + \varepsilon_x$$

$$Y = w_{y0} + w_{yu}U + w_{yx}X + \varepsilon_y$$

As all the exogenous variables $(Z, U, \varepsilon_x, \varepsilon_y)$ are Gaussian and all the functions linear, $P\{Z, U, X, Y\}$ and thus $P\{Z, X, Y\}$ is a multivariate Gaussian.

$$P\{Z, X, Y\} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_z \\ w_{x0} + w_{xz}\mu_z + w_{xu}\mu_u \\ (w_{y0} + w_{yx}w_{x0}) + (w_{yu} + w_{yx}w_{xu})\mu_u + w_{yx}w_{xz}\mu_z \end{bmatrix}, \Sigma\right)$$

where,

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{zz} & \Sigma_{zx} & \Sigma_{zy} \\ \cdot & \Sigma_{xx} & \Sigma_{xy} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \Sigma_{yy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_z & w_{xz}\Sigma_{zz} & w_{yx}\Sigma_{zx} \\ \cdot & w_{xz}^2v_z + w_{xu}^2v_u + \epsilon_x & w_{xu}w_{yu}v_u + w_{yx}\Sigma_{xx} \\ \cdot & \cdot & w_{yx}^2\Sigma_{xx} + 2w_{yx}w_{yu}w_{xu}v_u + w_{yu}^2v_u + \epsilon_y \end{bmatrix}$$

We want to identify,

$$\begin{aligned} Y|do(X=x) &= w_{y0} + w_{yu}U + w_{yx}x + \varepsilon_y \\ \implies P\{Y|do(X=x)\} &= \mathcal{N}(w_{y0} + w_{yu}\mu_u + w_{yx}x, w_{yu}^2v_u + \epsilon_y) \\ &= \mathcal{N}(\mu_y + w_{yx}(x - \mu_x), w_{yu}^2v_u + \epsilon_y) \\ &= \mathcal{N}\left(\mu_y + \frac{\Sigma_{zy}}{\Sigma_{zx}}(x - \mu_x), \Sigma_{yy} + \frac{\Sigma_{zy}}{\Sigma_{zx}}\left(\frac{\Sigma_{zy}}{\Sigma_{zx}}\Sigma_{xx} - 2\Sigma_{xy}\right)\right) \end{aligned}$$

The final equation is purely in terms of x and properties of the joint (non interventional) distribution $P\{X, Y, Z\}$ so we get unbiased point estimates for both the mean and variance of $P\{Y|do(X=x)\}$ provided $\Sigma_{zx} \neq 0$, that is if $v_z \neq 0$ and $w_{xz} \neq 0$.

We can identify the difference in the average causal effect for two interventions on X (assuming $v_z, w_{xz} > 0$).

$$\mathbb{E}[Y|do(X=x)] - \mathbb{E}[Y|do(X=x')] = w_{yx}(x - x') = \frac{\Sigma_{zy}}{\Sigma_{zx}}(x - x')$$

We can also identify the variance of $P\{Y|do(X=x)\}$.

$$w_{yu}^2 v_u + \epsilon_y = \Sigma_{yy} + \frac{\Sigma_{zy}}{\Sigma_{zx}} \left(\frac{\Sigma_{zy}}{\Sigma_{zx}} \Sigma_{xx} - 2\Sigma_{xy} \right)$$

Conditional distributions are also gaussian.

$$P(Y|X=x) = \mathcal{N} \left(\mu_y + \frac{\Sigma_{xy}}{\Sigma_{yy}} (x - \mu_x), \Sigma_{yy} - \frac{\Sigma_{xy}^2}{\Sigma_{yy}} \right)$$

$$=$$

Intuitively we want the link $Z \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y$ to be stronger than $Z \rightarrow X \rightarrow U \rightarrow Y$. If we can see that X is mostly determined by Z then this must be the case. Similarly it would be good if Y is strongly determined by X (then U cannot have much influence). Quantify this statement.

Start by looking at the variance of $P(X|Z)$ - relative to the mean? Also the variance of $P(Y|X)$.

Look at some extreme examples - what happens when Z exactly determines X .

We know all the diagonal terms in the covariance matrix are positive. This will create bounds on terms that cannot be exactly identified.