Sensitivity Analyses

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Table of contents I

Sensitivity

What is "sensitivity"?

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- With different variables in model, does parameter of interest change?
- With different assumptions about error structures, does causal mediation estimate change?
- With different data collected, would causal conclusion change?

Sensitivity to Model Specification

Should we trust our model?

Estimating all possible regressions

Idea

Example 1: Congressional Auto Industry Support

- “Great Recession” following global financial crisis of 2008-2009 (“subprime mortage crisis”)

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Moore, Powell, and Reeves (2013): two quasi-private, particularistic bills.

Estimate relationship

(presence of auto factories) $\Rightarrow$ (Congressional votes)

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Claim: **Local econ interests** at least on par w/ corporate campaign contributions, lobbying, public positions.

Moore, Powell, and Reeves (2013)

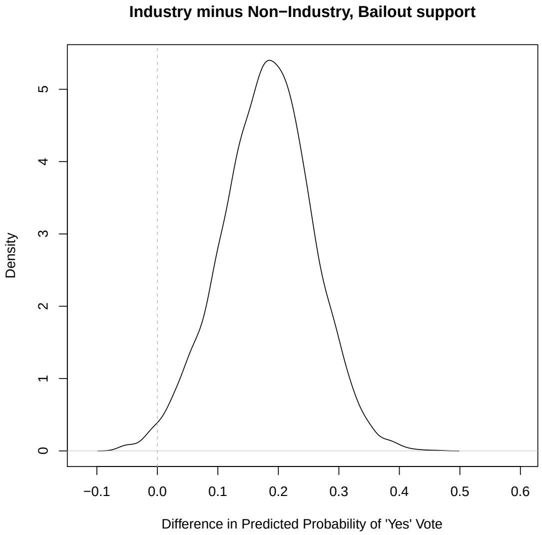

Figure 1: First diffs, predicted prob MoC supports auto bailout, member from industry v. non-industry district, other vars at means.

Moore, Powell, and Reeves (2013)

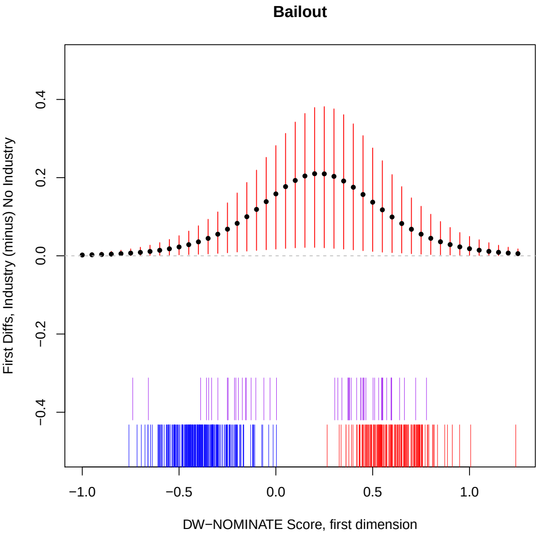

Figure 2: First diffs, industry v. non-industry district member prob of supporting bailout positive at any value of DW-NOMINATE score.

Insensitivity to Specification

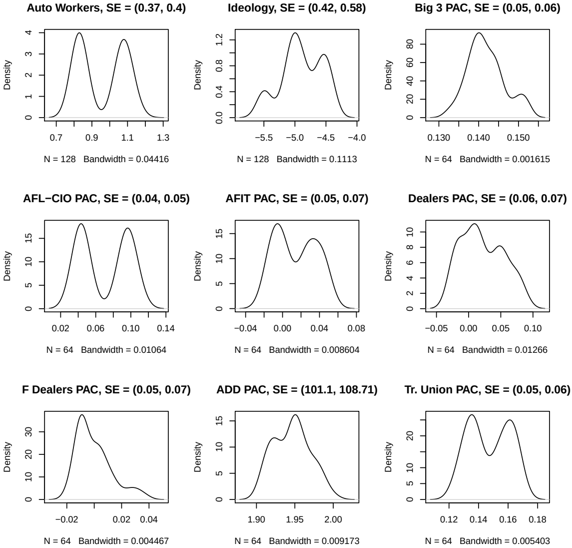

Figure 3: Industry presence coef always positive in Bailout logistic regressions. Coef densities w/ industry presence and

Insensitivity to Specification

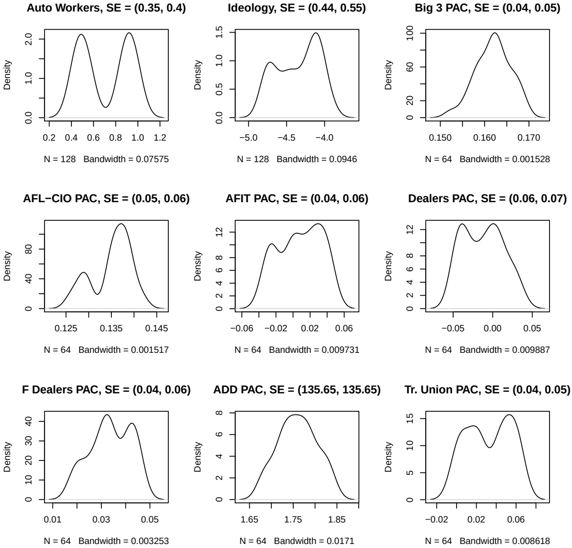

Figure 4: Industry presence coef always positive in Cash for Clunkers logistic regressions. Coef densities w/ industry presence and

Implementation

```r
library(olsrr)
```

- Estimate (all) linear models

Implementation

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- Estimate (all) linear models
- Provide model fit stats

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```

- Estimate (all) linear models
- Provide model fit stats
- Provide coefs

Hebbali (2024)

Example 2: Social Pressure Mailers

```
library(qss)
data(social)
```

```
social |> select(-yearofbirth) |> head()
```

```
     sex primary2004    messages primary2006 hhsize age
1   male           0 Civic Duty           0      2  65
2 female           0 Civic Duty           0      2  59
3   male           0  Hawthorne           1      3  55
4 female           0  Hawthorne           1      3  56
5 female           0  Hawthorne           1      3  24
6   male           0    Control           0      3  25
```

Example 2: Social Pressure Mailers

```
lm_out <- lm(primary2006 ~ messages + sex + age +
               primary2004 + hhsize, data = social)

all_lm_social <- ols_step_all_possible(lm_out)$result

dim(all_lm_social)
```

```
[1] 31 15
```

```
head(all_lm_social)
```

```
   mindex n       predictors      rsquare         adjr
4       1 1      primary2004 0.0261502651 0.0261470812 0.457
3       2 1              age 0.0167659386 0.0167627240 0.459
1       3 1         messages 0.0032825640 0.0032727879 0.462
5       4 1           hhsize 0.0025142362 0.0025109749 0.462
2       5 1              sex 0.0001863186 0.0001830498 0.463
13      6 2 age primary2004 0.0409175309 0.0409112596 0.453
```

Example 2: Social Pressure Mailers

```
all_lm_social_coefs <- ols_step_all_possible_betas(lm_out)

all_lm_social_coefs
```

```
   model          predictor         beta
1      1        (Intercept)  0.2966383083
2      1 messagesCivic Duty  0.0178993441
3      1  messagesHawthorne  0.0257363121
4      1  messagesNeighbors  0.0813099129
5      2        (Intercept)  0.3059095493
6      2            sexmale  0.0126509479
7      3        (Intercept)  0.1055564253
8      3                age  0.0041515670
9      4        (Intercept)  0.2508820413
10     4        primary2004  0.1528795252
11     5        (Intercept)  0.3763534949
12     5             hhsize -0.0293482475
13     6        (Intercept)  0.2902800648
```

Example 2: Social Pressure Mailers

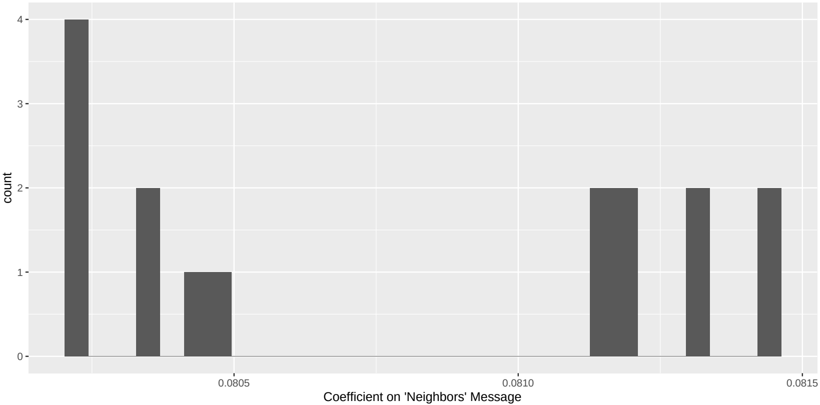

Figure 5: 'Neighbors' Coefs from All Possible Regressions

```
   Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
0.08023 0.08032 0.08081 0.08080 0.08122 0.08145
```

All Coefficients

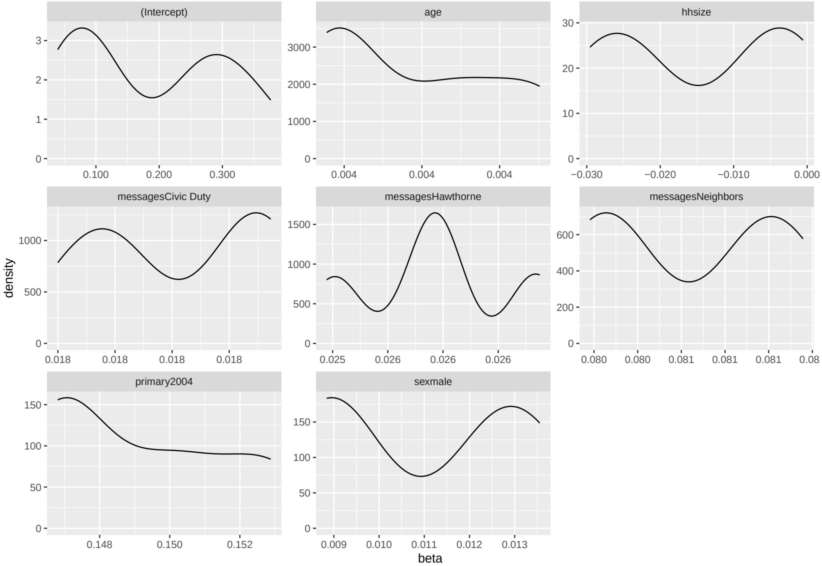

Figure 6: Coefs from All Possible Regressions

Preprocessing to Control Sensitivity

- So far, “show all the models”

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- Better: preprocess data to minimize effects of model-based adjustment

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- Match, subclassify

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Preprocessing to Control Sensitivity

- So far, “show all the models”
- Better: preprocess data to minimize effects of model-based adjustment
- Match, subclassify

“model-based adjustments ...will give basically the same point estimates”

Matching

X	T	$Y(0)$	$Y(1)$	Y^{obs}
1	1	1	2	2
1	0	1	2	1
1	0	1	2	1
2	1	2	3	3
2	1	2	3	3
2	0	2	3	2

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- $\tau_i = 1 \quad \forall i$

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- $\tau_i = 1 \quad \forall i$
- $ATE = \overline{Y(1) - Y(0)} = 1$
- $\widehat{ATE} = \left(\overline{Y(1)}|T = 1\right) - \left(\overline{Y(0)}|T = 0\right) = \frac{8}{3} - \frac{4}{3} = \frac{4}{3}$

Matching

Suppose we 1:1 exact match on X:

X	T	$Y(0)$	$Y(1)$	Y^{obs}
1	1	1	2	2
1	0	1	2	1
~~1~~	~~0~~	~~1~~	~~2~~	~~1~~
2	1	2	3	3
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$$\widehat{ATE}_m = \left(\overline{Y_m(1)}|T=1\right) - \left(\overline{Y_m(0)}|T=0\right) = \frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2} = 1$$

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Suppose we 1:1 exact match on X:

X	T	$Y(0)$	$Y(1)$	Y^{obs}
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~~2~~	~~1~~	~~2~~	~~3~~	~~3~~
2	0	2	3	2

$$\widehat{ATE}_m = \left(\overline{Y_m(1)}|T=1\right) - \left(\overline{Y_m(0)}|T=0\right) = \frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2} = 1$$

Not just coincidence; matching removes $X \to T$.

Ho et al. (2007)

"Matching as Nonparametric Preprocessing for Reducing Model Dependence in Parametric Causal Inference"

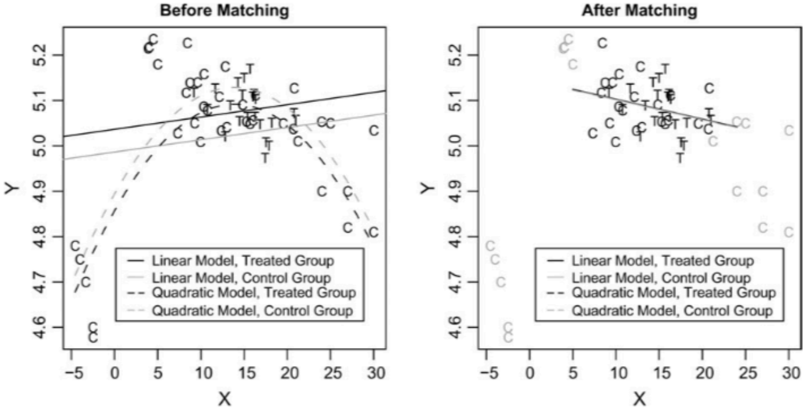


Figure 7: Before: Direction of Effect depends on Model. After: Effect indendent of Model.

Reducing Sensitivity in FDA Example

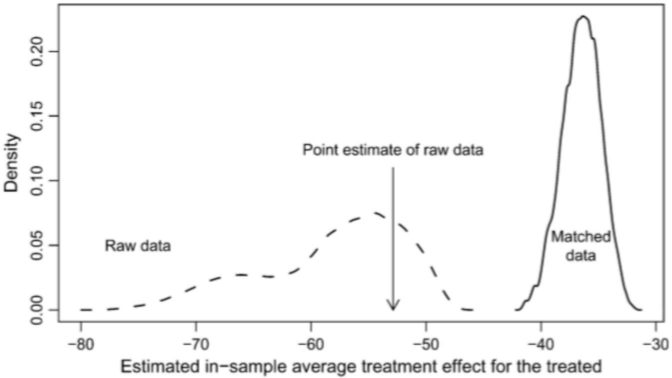


Fig. 2 Kernel density plot (a smoothed histogram) of point estimates of the in-sample ATT of the Democratic Senate majority on FDA drug approval time across 262,143 specifications. The solid line

How to Identify Sensitivity?

Different distributions; non-overlap

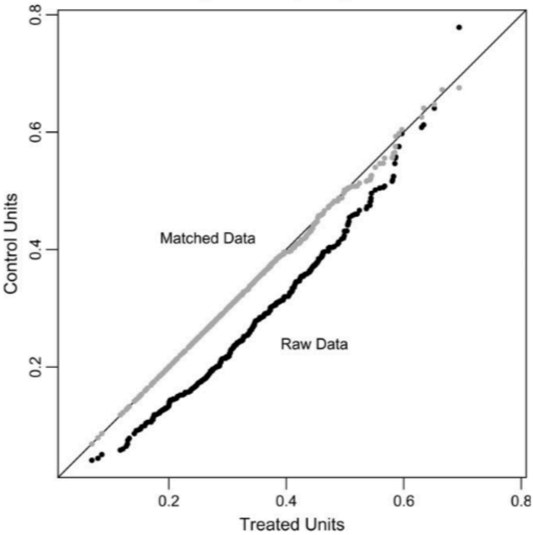


Fig. 3 QQ plot of propensity score for candidate visibility. The black dots represent empirical QQ

Reducing Sensitivity in Candidate Visibility Example

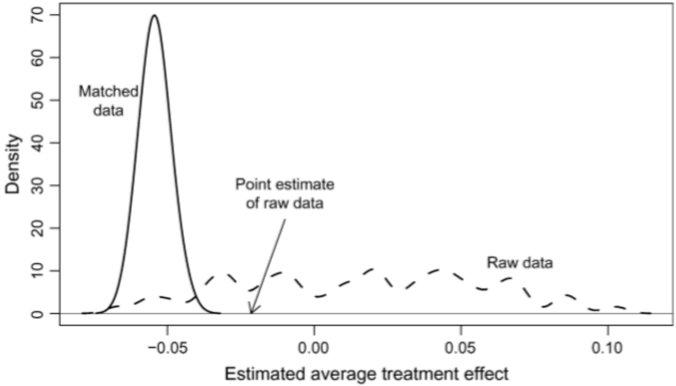


Fig. 4 Kernel density plot of point estimates of the effect of being a less visible male Republican candidate across 63 possible specifications with the Koch data. The dashed line presents estimates for

Paradox of Regression for causal inference?

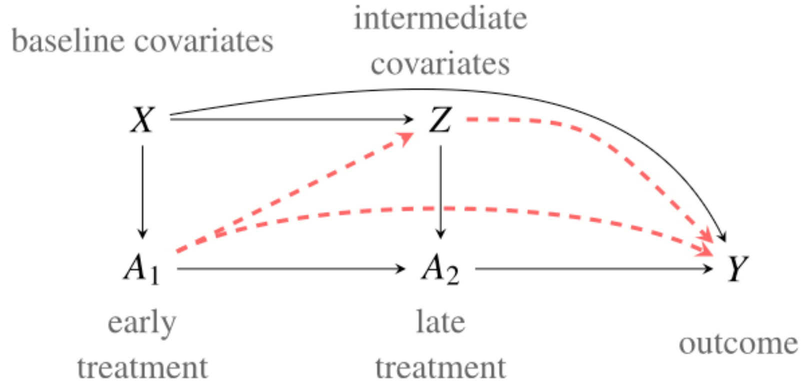
- If large diffs in distn's,
  $\rightsquigarrow$ regression not enough, very sensitive

Paradox of Regression for causal inference?

- If large diffs in distn's,
  $\rightsquigarrow$ regression not enough, very sensitive
- If small diffs in distn's,
  $\rightsquigarrow$ regression won't matter much

Dynamic Treatment Regimes

Dynamic Treatment Regimes



Blackwell and Strezhnev (2022)

Telescope Matching

Preprocessing for Dynamic Treatment Regimes:

- Match across early Tr (A_1) on baseline covariates X

Telescope Matching

Preprocessing for Dynamic Treatment Regimes:

- Match across early Tr (A_1) on baseline covariates X
- Match across late Tr (A_2) on early Tr (exact), baseline + intermediate covariates (A_1, X, Z [or X_1, X_2])

Telescope Matching

Preprocessing for Dynamic Treatment Regimes:

- Match across early Tr (A_1) on baseline covariates X
- Match across late Tr (A_2) on early Tr (exact), baseline + intermediate covariates (A_1, X, Z [or X_1, X_2])
- Use matches to impute "paths not taken"

Telescope Matching

Preprocessing for Dynamic Treatment Regimes:

Diff-in-means estimator for effect of "early treatment":

$$\hat{\tau} \equiv \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(\hat{Y}_i(1,0) - \hat{Y}_i(0,0) \right)$$

Telescope Matching Example

```
library(DirectEffects)
data(jobcorps)
```

- Y: self-reported good health (0/1)
- $X1$: school/training/job before Job Corps
- $A1$: Job Corps program
- $X2$: employment in Q4 after assg
- $A2$: employment in Q just before outcome

```
# Formula: Y ~ X1 | A1 | X2 | A2

tm_form <- exhealth30 ~ schobef + trainyrbef + jobeverbef
  treat | emplq4 + emplq4full | work2year2q

tm_out <- telescope_match(tm_form, data = jobcorps, verbose
```

Telescope Matching Example

```
tm_out
```

```
Telescope matching output

Call:
telescope_match(formula = tm_form, data = jobcorps, verbose

Active treatment:  treat
Controlled treatment(s): work2year2q

Estimated controlled direct effects of treat:
  work2year2q     estimate
1           0 -0.003326327
2           1  0.029113581
```

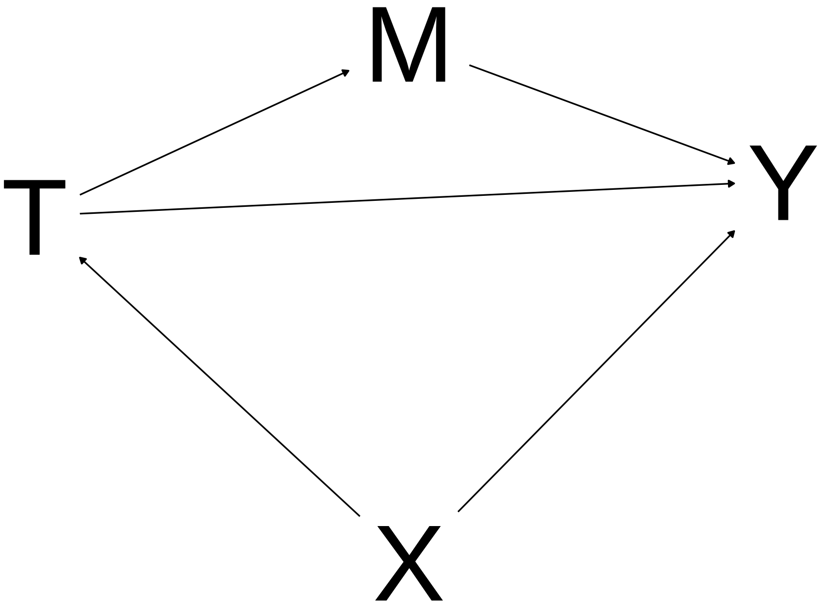
Telescope Matching Example

```r
summary(tm_out)
```

```
Telescope matching results
----------------------------

Call:
telescope_match(formula = tm_form, data = jobcorps, verbose = FALSE)

Active treatment:  treat
Controlled treatment(s): work2year2q

Matching summary:
         Term Matching Ratio L:1 N == 1 N == 0 Matched == 1 Matched == 0
1       treat                  5   6034   3991         5792         3991
2 work2year2q                  5   6207   3818         3658         3667


Summary of units matching contributions:
                  Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu.  Max.
treat                0     0.6    0.8    1    1.40  4.00
treat:work2year2q    0     0.0    0.4    1    1.04 93.04
work2year2q          0     0.0    0.4    1    1.20 65.60


Estimated controlled direct effects of treat:
                  work2year2q  Estimate Estimate (no BC) Std. Err.
(1, 0) vs. (0, 0)           0 -0.003326        -0.002749   0.03763
(1, 1) vs. (0, 1)           1  0.029114         0.029091   0.01430
```

Sensitivity to an Unidentifiable Parameter

Confounding in Observational Studies



Mediation Effects

- If interest is $M \to Y$, seek experiment-like M

Mediation Effects

- If interest is $M \to Y$, seek experiment-like M
  - random M

Mediation Effects

- If interest is $M \to Y$, seek experiment-like M
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  - subclassify/match for M

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- If interest is $M \to Y$, seek experiment-like M
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Mediation Effects

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Mediation Effects

- If interest is $M \to Y$, seek experiment-like M
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Mediation Effects

- If interest is $M \rightarrow Y$, seek experiment-like M
  - random M
  - subclassify/match for M
  - instrumented M
  - RDD, synthetic control for M
- If interest is $T \rightarrow Y$, seek experimental T
  - random T
  - subclassify/match for T
  - instrumented T
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Mediation Effects

- If interest is $M \rightarrow Y$, seek experiment-like M
  - random M
  - subclassify/match for M
  - instrumented M
  - RDD, synthetic control for M
- If interest is $T \rightarrow Y$, seek experimental T
  - random T
  - subclassify/match for T
  - instrumented T
  - RDD, synthetic control for T
- In <u>mediation</u>, interest is $T \rightarrow M \rightarrow Y$

Mediation Effects

- If interest is $M \to Y$, seek experiment-like M
  - random M
  - subclassify/match for M
  - instrumented M
  - RDD, synthetic control for M
- If interest is $T \to Y$, seek experimental T
  - random T
  - subclassify/match for T
  - instrumented T
  - RDD, synthetic control for T
- In <u>mediation</u>, interest is $T \to M \to Y$
  - (and maybe $T \to (\neg M) \to Y$)

Mediation Effects

Condition on /control for M?

Mediation Effects

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- No: how to estimate $M \rightarrow Y$?

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- Yes: induces post-treatment bias in estimate of $T \to Y$

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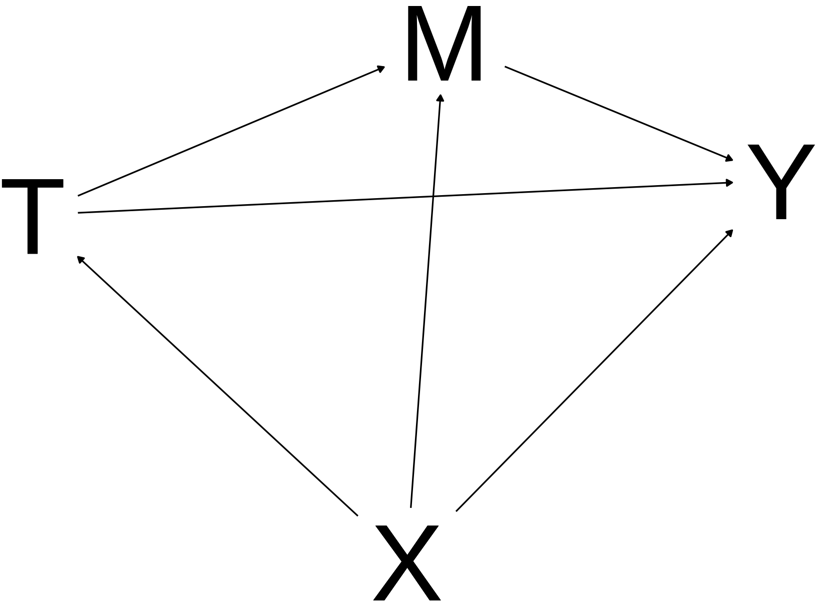
- And if $X \to M$, too?

Mediation Effects

Condition on /control for M?

- No: how to estimate $M \to Y$?
- Yes: induces <u>post-treatment bias</u> in estimate of $T \to Y$

- And if $X \to M$, too?
- Even worse ...


M
T
Y
X

Addressing Confounding

To break confounding,

- can't break $X \to Y$

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To break confounding,

- can't break $X \to Y$
- break $X \to T$

Addressing Confounding

To break confounding,

- can't break $X \to Y$
- break $X \to T$
- but $X \to M$ may still remain!

Post-Treatment Bias

- Interest in effect of news on attitude.

Post-Treatment Bias

- Interest in effect of news on attitude. Randomly assign news:

```
n <- 200
news <- sample(0:1, n, replace = TRUE)
```

Post-Treatment Bias

- News status greatly affects Anxiety:

```
pr.anx <- 1/(1 + exp(-(news * 2 + rnorm(n))))
```

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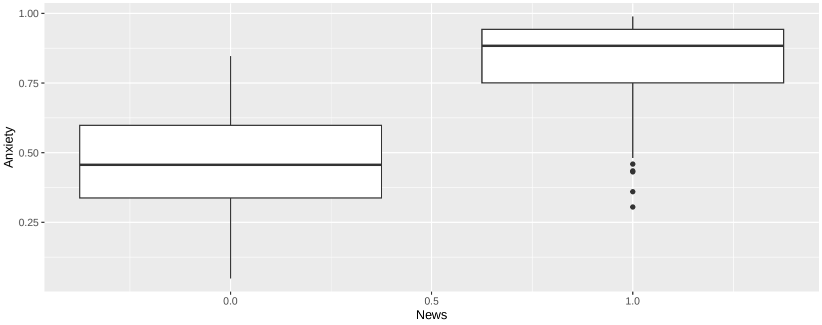

Post-Treatment Bias

- News status greatly affects Anxiety:

```r
summary(lm(pr.anx ~ news))$coef |> round(3)
```

```
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)    0.461      0.017  26.551        0
news           0.360      0.025  14.138        0
```

Post-Treatment Bias

- Anxiety greatly increases (negative) attitude

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  - (but news also has other ways to increase negative attitude)

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```
attitude <- .1 * news + pr.anx + rnorm(n, sd = 0.2)
```

Post-Treatment Bias

- Anxiety greatly increases (negative) attitude
  - (but news also has other ways to increase negative attitude)

```
attitude <- .1 * news + pr.anx + rnorm(n, sd = 0.2)
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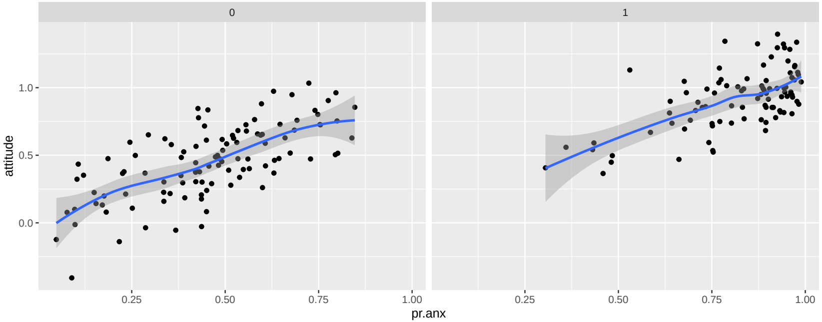

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- Analysis 1: Adjust for anxiety status:

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Post-Treatment Bias

- Interested in causal effect of news on attitude
- Analysis 1: Adjust for anxiety status:

```r
summary(lm(attitude ~ news + pr.anx))$coef |> round(4)
```

```
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)   0.0290     0.0388  0.7476   0.4556
news          0.1278     0.0378  3.3862   0.0009
pr.anx        0.9257     0.0744 12.4441   0.0000
```

Post-Treatment Bias

- Interested in causal effect of news on attitude
- Analysis 1: Adjust for anxiety status:

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```

```
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)   0.0290     0.0388  0.7476   0.4556
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pr.anx        0.9257     0.0744 12.4441   0.0000
```

- Great! Now, say, multiply coefs, to get $T \rightarrow M \rightarrow Y$?

Post-Treatment Bias

- Interested in causal effect of news on attitude
- Analysis 1: Adjust for anxiety status:

```r
summary(lm(attitude ~ news + pr.anx))$coef |> round(4)
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Mediation

Mediation analysis tries to estimate how much effect of T on Y goes through M.

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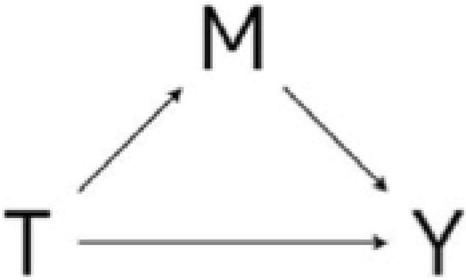

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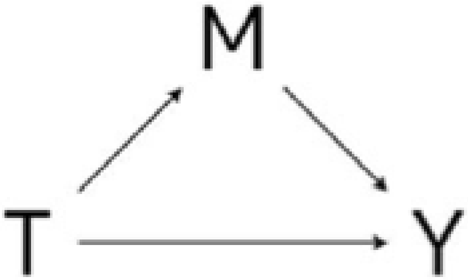

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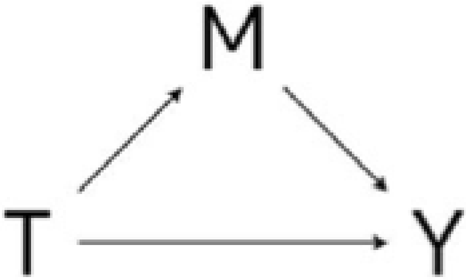

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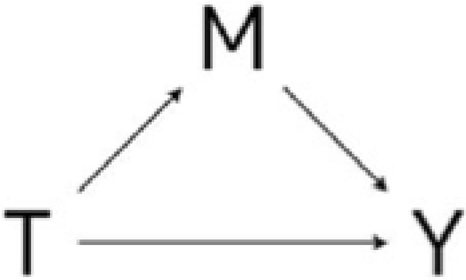

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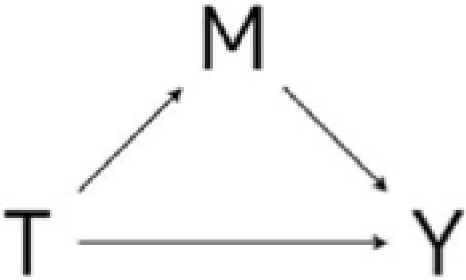

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  - Informative bounds for ACME!

Usual (Best-Case?) Way to "Combine Somehow"

"Baron & Kenny Procedure"

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Population Proportion	Potential Mediators and Outcomes $M_i(1)$	$M_i(0)$	$Y_i(t,1)$	$Y_i(t,0)$	Treatment Effect on Mediator $M_i(1) - M_i(0)$	Mediator Effect on Outcome $Y_i(t,1) - Y_i(t,0)$	Causal Mediation Effect $Y_i(t, M_i(1)) - Y_i(t, M_i(0))$
0.3	1	0	0	1	1	−1	−1
0.3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
0.1	0	1	0	1	−1	−1	1
0.3	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
Average	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	−0.2

Notes: The left five columns of the table show a hypothetical population proportion of "types" of units defined by the values of potential mediators and outcomes. Note that these values can never be jointly observed. The last row of the table shows the population average value of each column. In this example, the average causal effect of the treatment on the mediator (the sixth column) is positive and equal to 0.2. Moreover, the average causal effect of the mediator on the outcome (the seventh column) is also positive and equals 0.2. And yet the average causal mediation effect (ACME; final column) is negative and equals −0.2.

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But, true $\bar{\delta}(t)$, ACME, $= -0.2$!

What Else Do You Need?

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(Other manipulations of M rely on consistency.)

What Else Do You Need?

Big picture: to get more detailed estimates from same data, need more assumptions

Assumption 1 [Sequential Ignorability (Imai, Keele, and Yamamoto 2010)].

$$\{Y_i(t', m), M_i(t)\} \perp\!\!\!\perp T_i \mid X_i = x, \qquad \textbf{(3)}$$

$$Y_i(t', m) \perp\!\!\!\perp M_i(t) \mid T_i = t, X_i = x, \qquad \textbf{(4)}$$

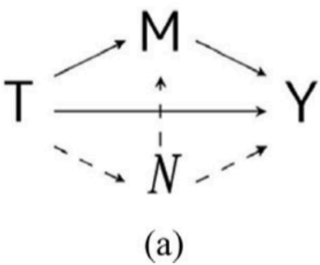
where $0 < \Pr(T_i = t \mid X_i = x)$ and $0 < p(M_i = m \mid T_i = t, X_i = x)$ for $t = 0, 1$, and all x and m in the support of X_i and M_i, respectively.

What Else Do You Need?

- Eqn 3: Conditional independence of PotOut's from Tr, given X (pretreatment!)
  - Ok, for random T, or balanced obs design. T as good as random, exog., etc.
  - (t' is just saying, for each $t = 0, 1$, must have Y's from both $t = 0, 1$ must be indep.)
- Eqn 4: Hard. Mediator is as good as random, given particular Tr status
- Problem: can't randomize <u>both</u> T and M in same experiment
  - (if want effect of T through M)
- You're getting 2 different QoI's if you randomize both: $T \to M, Y$ and $M \to Y$.
  - Showed can't combine those into $T \to M \to Y$

When Can You Get It?

FIGURE 8. Second Mediator Causing Serious Problem



Estimating Mediation Effects

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- However, must convince that $\nexists\ N \to M$, whether or not N observed.
- Practical advice: start there. Then, formal mediation.

Sensitivity for Mediation Effects

Given

$$\begin{aligned} M_i &= \alpha_1 + aT_i + \epsilon_{i1} &(4) \\ Y_i &= \alpha_2 + cT_i + \epsilon_{i2} &(5) \\ Y_i &= \alpha_3 + dT_i + bM_i + \epsilon_{i3} &(6) \end{aligned}$$

- Q: How much covariance ρ is there between ϵ_{i1} and ϵ_{i3}?

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  (If $\neg Q$, then $\neg P$.)

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  (If P, then Q.)
- If $\rho \neq 0$, then Seq. Ig. is false (likely hidden confounder)

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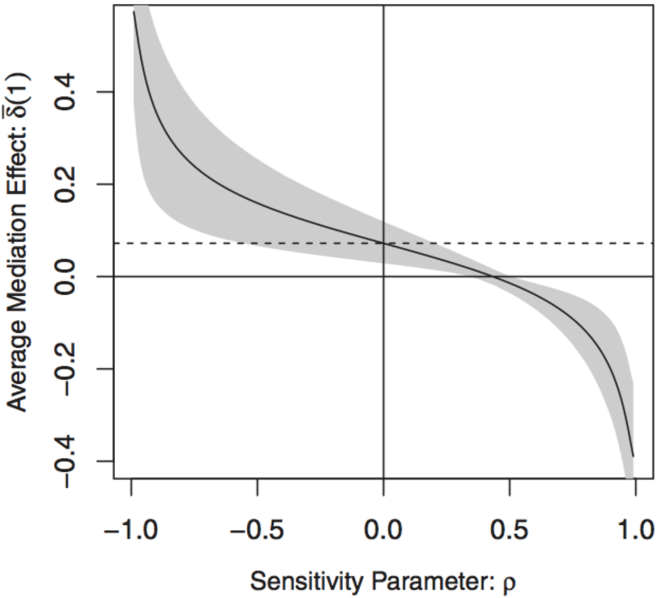
  (I.e., From freq. standpoint, you can find "evidence of problem", or "no evidence of problem", but not "evidence of no problem".)

Sensitivity for Mediation Effects



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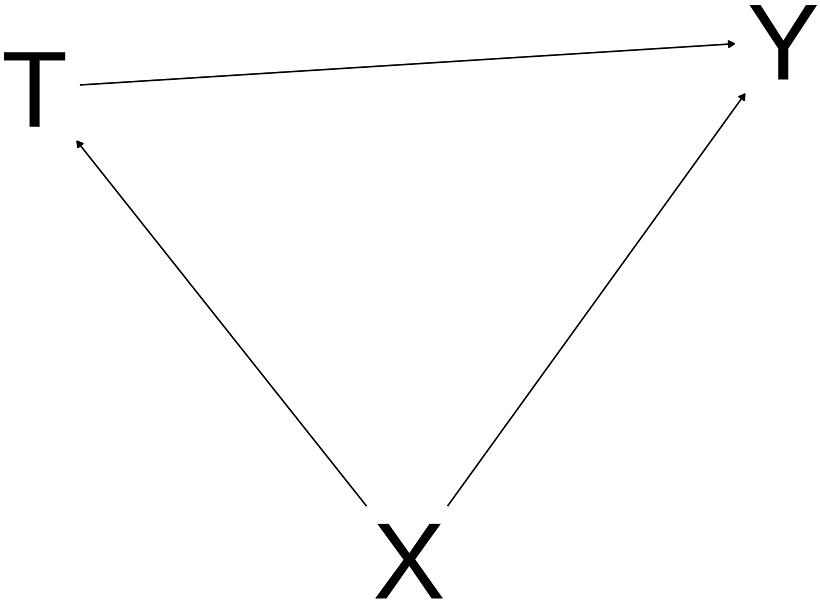
Summary

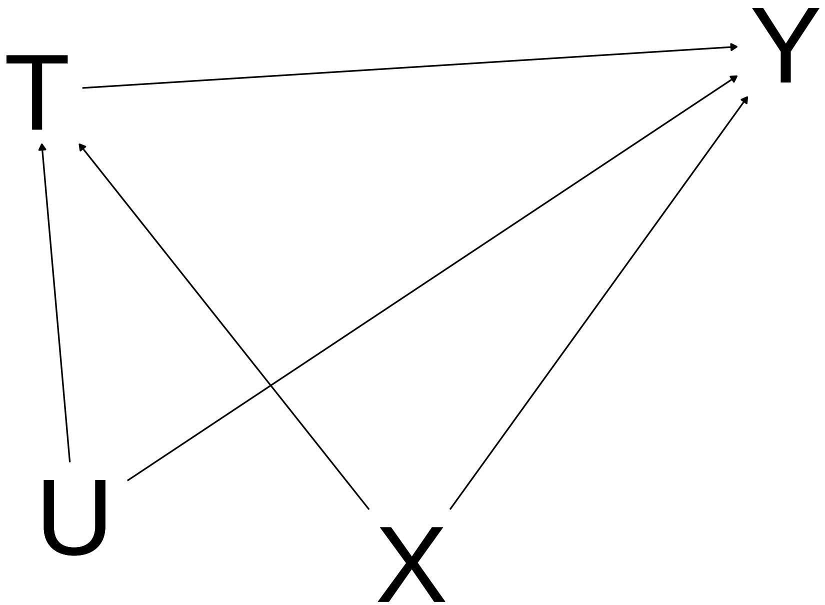
- Be careful. If you estimate, you must do sensitivity.
  - A serious case of “don’t just get an answer”
  - (Do `plot(lm_out)`, too ...)
- Imai et al. (2011) thorough on assumptions, when trouble, when sensitivity is OK, when identification can be done
- From Bullock, Green, and Ha (2010):

a cumulative enterprise. Persuasive conclusions about mediation are difficult to reach under any circumstances, but they are most likely to be reached when they derive from an experimental research program that addresses the particular challenges of mediation analysis—challenges that we describe here.

Sensitivity to an Unobserved Covariates

Confounding in Observational Studies




T
Y
U
X

Addressing Confounding

To break confounding,

- can't break $X \to Y$
- break $X \to T$
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(Of course, if no causal effect of $U \to Y$, no problem.)

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but are different in prop score:

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Sensitivity: how strong must sociability be to invalidate inference about phone calls?

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$$A_1 : A_2 = \frac{p(A_1)}{p(A_2)}$$

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Application: Measuring Group Differences (JP Scanlon)

	% Below Pov Line			% Above Pov Line		
	B	W	$\frac{B}{W}$	B	W	$\frac{B}{W}$
t_1	90	80	1.1	10	20	0.5

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Clearly, huge absolute improvements.

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- (Easy to produce examples of OR's same and AbsDiffs slightly diff.)
- (Diffs betwn groups real, importnt, but how we meas. changes is tricky)

King's Conjecture


Gary King @kinggary
the "odds ratio" is a lame way to communicate statistical results; I conjecture that there's *always* a better way
Expand Reply Retweet Favorite

17 October 2012

Modeling Hidden Bias

Odds of treatment for i and j:

$$\frac{\pi_i}{1-\pi_i}, \frac{\pi_j}{1-\pi_j}$$

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OR of i versus j:

$$\begin{aligned} OR &= \frac{\pi_i}{1-\pi_i} \div \frac{\pi_j}{1-\pi_j} \\ &= \frac{\pi_i(1-\pi_j)}{\pi_j(1-\pi_i)} \end{aligned}$$

Modeling Hidden Bias

Let Γ be upper bound on OR of treatment.

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma} \leq \frac{\pi_i(1-\pi_j)}{\pi_j(1-\pi_i)} \leq \Gamma \qquad \forall i, j \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_j$$

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By what factor does the odds of treatment differ? (No more than Γ)

Modeling Hidden Bias

Rosenbaum (2020) shows that this is same as

$$
\begin{aligned}
\log\left(\frac{\pi_i}{1-\pi_i}\right) &= \kappa(\mathbf{x}_i) + \gamma u_i \\
\log\left(\frac{\pi_j}{1-\pi_j}\right) &= \kappa(\mathbf{x}_j) + \gamma u_j
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s.t. $0 \leq u_i \leq 1$.

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s.t. $0 \leq u_i \leq 1$.

Interpretation: first rewrite

$$\log\left(\frac{\pi_j}{1-\pi_j}\right) = \kappa(\mathbf{x}_i) + \gamma u_j$$

Exponentiate:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left(\frac{\pi_i}{1-\pi_i}\right) &= e^{\kappa(\mathbf{x}_i)+\gamma u_i} \\
\left(\frac{\pi_j}{1-\pi_j}\right) &= e^{\kappa(\mathbf{x}_i)+\gamma u_j}
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Exponentiate:

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Calculate OR:

$$\begin{aligned}OR &= \frac{\pi_i(1-\pi_j)}{\pi_j(1-\pi_i)}\\ &= \frac{e^{\kappa(\mathbf{x}_i)+\gamma u_i}}{e^{\kappa(\mathbf{x}_i)+\gamma u_j}}\\ &= e^{(\kappa(\mathbf{x}_i)+\gamma u_i)-(\kappa(\mathbf{x}_i)+\gamma u_j)}\\ &= e^{(\gamma u_i-\gamma u_j)}\\ &= e^{\gamma(u_i-u_j)}\end{aligned}$$

Interpreting Γ

$$OR = e^{\gamma(u_i - u_j)}$$

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Log odds differ by factor of γ times diff in unobs confounder.

Shows $\Gamma = e^{\gamma}$.

TABLE 4.1. Sensitivity Analysis for Hammond's Study of Smoking and Lung Cancer: Range of Significance Levels for Hidden Biases of Various Magnitudes.

Γ	Minimum	Maximum
1	< 0.0001	< 0.0001
2	< 0.0001	< 0.0001
3	< 0.0001	< 0.0001
4	< 0.0001	0.0036
5	< 0.0001	0.03
6	< 0.0001	0.1

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3	< 0.0001	< 0.0001
4	< 0.0001	0.0036
5	< 0.0001	0.03
6	< 0.0001	0.1

- Groups: smokers/nonsmokers
- Outcome: lung cancer
- Something must increase smoking by $6\times$ to change inference.
- If exists, maybe it's that factor, not smoking directly.

(Bias from $U \to T$; effectively, $U \to Y$ nearly perfect.)

Γ	Minimum	Maximum
1	≤ 0.0001	≤ 0.0001
2	≤ 0.0001	0.0018
3	≤ 0.0001	0.0136
4	≤ 0.0001	0.0388
4.25	≤ 0.0001	0.0468
5	≤ 0.0001	0.0740

Table 4.2: Signed-Rank Statistic p-value Sensitivity for Lead in Children's Blood

- Groups: parents occupationally exposed/unexposed
- Outcome: children's levels
- Something must increase parents' exposure by $5\times$ to change inference.
- If exists, maybe it's that, not parental exposure directly.

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(one-sided)

Γ	Minimum	Maximum
1	15	15
2	10.25	19.5
3	8	23
4	6.5	25
5	5	26.5

Table 4.3: Point Estimate Sensitivity for Lead in Children's Blood

Γ	Minimum	Maximum
1	15	15
2	10.25	19.5
3	8	23
4	6.5	25
5	5	26.5

Table 4.3: Point Estimate Sensitivity for Lead in Children's Blood

- HL point estimate: 15 (median of all $m \times n$ possible matched pairs)
- With confounding, wider range of possible effects.

Γ	95% CI
1	(9.5, 20.5)
2	(4.5, 27.5)
3	(1.0, 32.0)
4	(-1.0, 36.5)
5	(-3.0, 41.5)

Table 4.4: Confidence Interval Sensitivity for Lead in Children's Blood

Γ	95% CI
1	(9.5, 20.5)
2	(4.5, 27.5)
3	(1.0, 32.0)
4	(-1.0, 36.5)
5	(-3.0, 41.5)

Table 4.4: Confidence Interval Sensitivity for Lead in Children's Blood

- Inverted NHST CI's
- If something increases parental exposure by $4\times$, negative estimates of parents on children are reasonable.

(two-sided)

Implementation

Packages

- Frank et al. (2013): `konfound`
- Keele (2022): `rbounds`
- `sensitivitymw`
- `sensitivitymv`

Example

```r
anes <- read_csv("../data/anes_pilot_2016.csv")
dim(anes)
```

```
[1] 1200  594
```

```r
anes <- anes |> mutate(age = 2016 - birthyr,
                       pid_rep = as.numeric(pid3 == 3),
                       pid_dem = as.numeric(pid3 == 1))
```

```r
lm_out <- lm(turnout12 ~ pid_rep, data = anes)
summary(lm_out)
```

```
Call:
lm(formula = turnout12 ~ pid_rep, data = anes)

Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max 
-0.3395 -0.2451 -0.2451 -0.2451  1.7549 

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)    
(Intercept)  1.24512    0.01868  66.641  < 2e-16 ***
pid_rep      0.09435    0.03320   2.842  0.00456 ** 
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 '

Residual standard error: 0.535 on 1198 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.006695,	Adjusted R-squared:  0.0058
```

```
library(konfound)
konfound(lm_out, pid_rep)
```

```
library(konfound)
konfound(lm_out, pid_rep)
```

```
Robustness of Inference to Replacement (RIR):
To invalidate an inference, 30.959 % of the estimate would
have to be due to bias.
This is based on a threshold of 0.065 for statistical
significance (alpha = 0.05).

To invalidate an inference, 372 observations would have to
be replaced with cases
for which the effect is 0 (RIR = 372).

See Frank et al. (2013) for a description of the method.

Citation: Frank, K.A., Maroulis, S., Duong, M., and Kelcey,
B. (2013).
What would it take to change an inference?
Using Rubin's causal model to interpret the
robustness of causal inferences.
```

```r
lm_out <- lm(turnout12 ~ pid_rep + age, data = anes)
summary(lm_out)
```

```

Call:
lm(formula = turnout12 ~ pid_rep + age, data = anes)

Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
-0.5825 -0.3388 -0.1711  0.0301  1.9831

Coefficients:
             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)  1.678649   0.045960  36.524  < 2e-16 ***
pid_rep      0.082685   0.031870   2.594  0.00959 **
age         -0.008943   0.000873 -10.244  < 2e-16 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 '

Residual standard error: 0.5132 on 1197 degrees of freedom
```

```r
konfound(lm_out, pid_rep)
```

```
Robustness of Inference to Replacement (RIR):
To invalidate an inference, 24.379 % of the estimate would
have to be due to bias.
This is based on a threshold of 0.063 for statistical
significance (alpha = 0.05).

To invalidate an inference, 293 observations would have to
be replaced with cases
for which the effect is 0 (RIR = 293).

See Frank et al. (2013) for a description of the method.

Citation: Frank, K.A., Maroulis, S., Duong, M., and Kelcey,
B. (2013).
What would it take to change an inference?
Using Rubin's causal model to interpret the
robustness of causal inferences.
Education, Evaluation and
```

```r
cor(anes[,c("pid_rep", "turnout12", "econnow")])
```

```
             pid_rep   turnout12     econnow
pid_rep   1.00000000 0.081825966 0.141257803
turnout12 0.08182597 1.000000000 0.008599061
econnow   0.14125780 0.008599061 1.000000000
```

```r
lm_out <- lm(turnout12 ~ pid_rep + age + econnow, data = ar
summary(lm_out)
```

```
Call:
lm(formula = turnout12 ~ pid_rep + age + econnow, data = ar

Residuals:
     Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-0.60257 -0.33748 -0.17138  0.04458  1.96702

Coefficients:
              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)  1.6290966  0.0565381  28.814   <2e-16 ***
pid_rep      0.0755031  0.0322095   2.344   0.0192 *
age         -0.0091496  0.0008833 -10.358   <2e-16 ***
econnow      0.0202398  0.0134633   1.503   0.1330
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 '
```

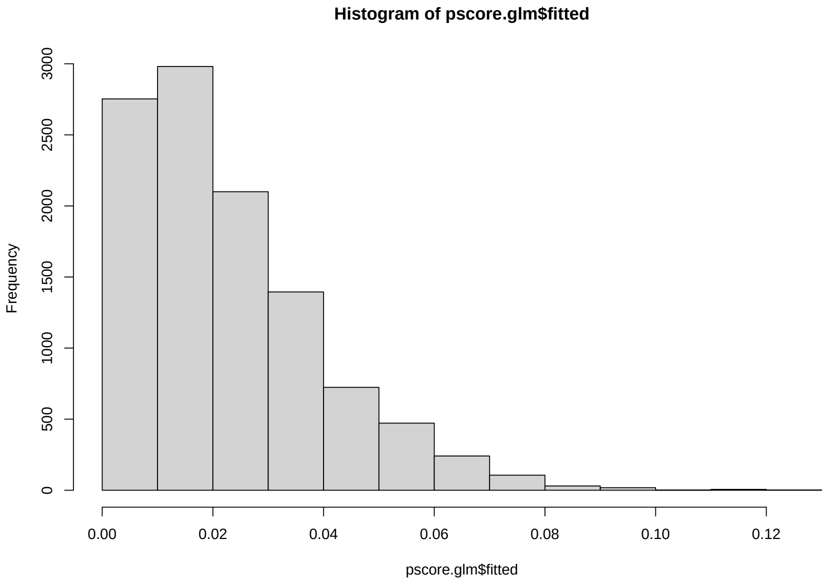
```r
konfound(lm_out, pid_rep)
```

```
Robustness of Inference to Replacement (RIR):
To invalidate an inference, 16.303 % of the estimate would
have to be due to bias.
This is based on a threshold of 0.063 for statistical
significance (alpha = 0.05).

To invalidate an inference, 196 observations would have to
be replaced with cases
for which the effect is 0 (RIR = 196).

See Frank et al. (2013) for a description of the method.

Citation: Frank, K.A., Maroulis, S., Duong, M., and Kelcey,
B. (2013).
What would it take to change an inference?
Using Rubin's causal model to interpret the
robustness of causal inferences.
Education, Evaluation and
```

Implementation in rbounds

```r
library(Matching)
data(GerberGreenImai)

# Estimate Propensity Score
pscore.glm <- glm(PHN.C1 ~ PERSONS + VOTE96.1 +
                    NEW + MAJORPTY + AGE + WARD +
                    PERSONS:VOTE96.1 + PERSONS:NEW +
                    AGE2, family = binomial(logit),
                  data = GerberGreenImai)
```

```r
hist(pscore.glm$fitted)
```



Implementation in rbounds

```r
# Match - without replacement
m.obj <- Match(Y = GerberGreenImai$VOTED98,
               Tr = GerberGreenImai$PHN.C1,
               X = fitted(pscore.glm), M = 1, replace = FAL

summary(m.obj)
```

```
Estimate...  0.032389
SE.........  0.042412
T-stat.....  0.76367
p.val......  0.44506

Original number of observations..............  10829
Original number of treated obs...............  247
Matched number of observations...............  247
Matched number of observations  (unweighted).  247
```

Implementation in rbounds

```r
library(rbounds)

# Sensitivity Test
# binarysens(m.obj, Gamma = 2, GammaInc = .1)
```

Implementation in `rbounds`

```
#hlsens(m.obj, Gamma = 5, GammaInc = 1)
```

Thanks!

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