Package 'RDHonest'

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cghs CVb EqKern FRDData FRDHonest FRDOptBW

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cghs

Oreopoulos (2006) UK general household survey dataset

Description

Oreopoulos (2006) UK general household survey dataset

Usage

cghs

Format

A data frame with 73,954 rows and 2 variables:

earnings Annual earnings in 1998 (UK pounds)

yearat14 Year individual turned 14

Source

American Economic Review data archive, https://doi.org/10.1257/000282806776157641

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References

Oreopoulos, P. (2006): "Estimating Average and Local Average Treatment Effects When Compulsory Education Schooling Laws Really Matter", American Economic Review, 96 (1), 152-175

CVb

Critical values for CIs based on a biased Gaussian estimator.

Description

Computes the critical value $cv_{1-\alpha}(B)$ such that the confidence interval $X \pm cv_{1-\alpha}(B)$ will have coverage $1-\alpha$, where X is normally distributed with variance equal to 1 and maximum bias at most B.

Usage

```
CVb(B, alpha = 0.05)
```

Arguments

B Maximum bias, vector of non-negative numbers.

alpha Determines CI level, $1 - \alpha$. Vector of values between 0 and 1.

Value

Data frame with the following columns:

bias Value of bias as specified by B

alpha Value of α as specified by alpha

cv Critical value

TeXDescription LaTeX-friendly description of the current row

Examples

```
## 90% critical value: CVb(B = 1, alpha = 0.1) ## Returns data frame with 4 rows CVb(B = c(0, 0.5, 1), alpha = c(0.05, 0.1))
```

4 FRDData

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Equivalent kernel for local linear regression.

Description

Calculates equivalent kernel for local polynomial regression.

Usage

```
EqKern(kernel = "uniform", boundary = TRUE, order = 0)
```

Arguments

kernel kernel type. Can be a function supported on [0,1] (boundary kernel) or [-1,1]

(interior kernel), or else one of "triangular" ($k(u) = (1-|u|)_+$), "epanechnikov"

 $(k(u) = (3/4)(1 - u^2)_+)$, or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2).

boundary Logical scalar, specifying whether we are at a boundary.

order Order of local polynomial: 0 means local constant, 1 local linear, 2 local quadratic

etc.

Value

Equivalent kernel function.

Examples

```
EqKern(kernel = "uniform", order = 2)
```

FRDData

Class Constructor for "FRDData"

Description

Convert data to a standardized format for use with low-level functions. If the cutoff for treatment is non-zero, shift the running variable so that the cutoff is at zero.

Usage

```
FRDData(d, cutoff)
```

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Arguments

d

list with first element corresponding to the outcome vector, second element to the treatment vector, third element to running variable vector, optionally an element called "sigma2" that is a matrix with four columns corresponding to the [1,1], [1,2], [2,1], and [2,2] elements of the conditional variance matrix of the outcome and the treatment (or an estimate of the conditional variance matrix), and optionally a column called "weights" if observations are aggregated by cell.

cutoff

specifies the cutoff for the running variable

Value

An object of class "FRDData", which is a list containing the following components:

Ym Matrix of outcomes and treatments for observations below cutoff

Yp Matrix of outcomes and treatments for observations above cutoff

Xm Running variable for observations below cutoff

Xp Running variable for observations above cutoff

wm weights for observations below cutoff

wp weights for observations above cutoff

sigma2m Matrix of conditional covariances for the outcome and the treatment for observations below cutoff

sigma2p Matrix of conditional covariances for the outcome and the treatment for observations above cutoff

orig.cutoff Original cutoff

var.names Names of the outcome, the treatment, and the running variable in supplied data frame

See Also

RDData for sharp RD, and LPPData for inference at a point

Examples

```
## Transform retirement data
d <- FRDData(rcp[, c(6, 3, 2)], cutoff=0)
## Outcome in logs
d <- FRDData(cbind(logcn=log(rcp[, 6]), rcp[, c(3, 2)]), cutoff=0)</pre>
```

FRDHonest FRDHonest

FRDHonest

Honest inference in fuzzy RD

Description

Calculate estimators and one- and two-sided CIs based on local polynomial estimator in fuzzy RD under second-order Taylor or Hölder smoothness class.

Usage

```
FRDHonest(
  formula,
  data,
  subset,
 weights,
  cutoff = 0,
 Μ,
  kern = "triangular",
  na.action,
  opt.criterion,
  bw.equal = TRUE,
 h,
  se.method = "nn",
  alpha = 0.05,
 beta = 0.8,
  J = 3,
  sclass = "H",
 order = 1,
  se.initial = "EHW",
  T0 = 0
)
```

Arguments

formula	object of class "formula" (or one that can be coerced to that class) of the form outcome ~ running_variable
data	optional data frame, list or environment (or object coercible by as.data.frame to a data frame) containing the outcome and running variables in the model. If not found in data, the variables are taken from environment(formula), typically the environment from which the function is called.
subset	optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used in the fitting process.
weights	Optional vector of weights to weight the observations (useful for aggregated data). Disregarded if optimal kernel is used.
cutoff	specifies the RD cutoff in the running variable.

Μ Bound on second derivative of the conditional mean function. specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string kern equal to "triangular" $(k(u) = (1-|u|)_+)$, "epanechnikov" $(k(u) = (3/4)(1-u))_+$ $(u^2)_+$), or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2), or else a kernel function. function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The na.action default is set by the na. action setting of options (usually na.omit). opt.criterion Optimality criterion that bandwidth is designed to optimize. The options are: "MSE" Finite-sample maximum MSE "FLCI" Length of (fixed-length) two-sided confidence intervals. "OCI" Given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals The methods use conditional variance given by sigma2, if supplied. Otherwise, for the purpose of estimating the optimal bandwidth, conditional variance is estimated using the method specified by se.initial. bw.equal logical specifying whether bandwidths on either side of cutoff should be constrained to equal to each other. h bandwidth, a scalar parameter. For fuzzy or sharp RD, it can be a named vector of length two with names "p" and "m", in which case the bandwidth h["m"] is used for observations below the cutoff, and the bandwidth h["p"] is used for observations above the cutoff. If not supplied, optimal bandwidth is computed according to criterion given by opt.criterion. se.method Vector with methods for estimating standard error of estimate. If NULL, standard errors are not computed. The elements of the vector can consist of the following methods: "nn" Nearest neighbor method "EHW" Eicker-Huber-White, with residuals from local regression (local polynomial estimators only). "demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope). Local polynomial estimators only. "plugin" Plug-in estimate based on asymptotic variance. Local polynomial estimators in sharp RD only. "supplied.var" Use conditional variance supplied by sigma2 or d instead of computing residuals determines confidence level, 1-alpha for constructing/optimizing confidence alpha intervals. beta Determines quantile of excess length to optimize, if bandwidth optimizes given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals; otherwise ignored.

J Number of nearest neighbors, if "nn" is specified in se.method.

Smoothness class, either "T" for Taylor or "H" for Hölder class.

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

sclass

se.initial

Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD), or for all data (for inference at a point).

- "EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW.fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW.fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reducedform regression.
- "demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).
- "Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)
- "SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.
- "nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

Initial estimate of the treatment effect for calculating the optimal bandwidth. Only relevant for Fuzzy RD.

Details

T0

The bandwidth is calculated to be optimal for a given performance criterion, as specified by opt.criterion. It is calculated using the function FRDOptBW. Alternatively, the bandwidth can be specified by h.

Value

Returns an object of class "NPRResults". The function print can be used to obtain and print a summary of the results. An object of class "NPRResults" is a list containing the following components

estimate Point estimate. This estimate is MSE-optimal if opt.criterion="MSE"

1ff Not relevant for fuzzy RD.

maxbias Maximum bias of estimate

sd Standard deviation of estimate

lower, upper Lower (upper) end-point of a one-sided CI based on estimate. This CI is optimal if opt.criterion=="OCI"

hl Half-length of a two-sided CI based on estimate, so that the CI is given by c(estimate-hl,estimate+hl). The CI is optimal if opt.criterion="FLCI"

eff.obs Effective number of observations used by estimate

hp, hm Bandwidths used above and below the cutoff

naive Coverage of CI that ignores bias and uses qnorm(1-alpha/2) as critical value

call the matched call

fs Estimate of the first-stage coefficient

Note

subset is evaluated in the same way as variables in formula, that is first in data and then in the environment of formula.

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References

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2018. "Optimal Inference in a Class of Regression Models." Econometrica 86 (2): 655–83.

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2020. "Simple and Honest Confidence Intervals in Nonparametric Regression." Quantitative Economics 11 (1): 1–39.

See Also

FRDOptBW

Examples

```
FRDHonest(cn~retired | elig_year, data=rcp, cutoff=0, M=c(1, 0.1), kern="triangular", opt.criterion="MSE", T0=0)
```

FRDOptBW

Optimal Bandwidth Selection in Regression Discontinuity

Description

Estimate bandwidth for sharp RD based on local polynomial regression that optimizes either maximum mean squared error, or length or quantiles of excess length of a honest CI under second order Hölder or Taylor class.

Usage

```
FRDOptBW(
  formula,
  data,
  subset,
  weights,
  cutoff = 0,
  kern = "triangular",
  na.action,
  opt.criterion,
  bw.equal = TRUE,
  alpha = 0.05,
  beta = 0.8,
  sclass = "H",
  order = 1,
  se.initial = "EHW",
  T0 = 0
)
```

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Arguments

formula object of class "formula" (or one that can be coerced to that class) of the form

outcome ~ running_variable

data optional data frame, list or environment (or object coercible by as.data.frame

to a data frame) containing the outcome and running variables in the model. If not found in data, the variables are taken from environment(formula), typi-

cally the environment from which the function is called.

subset optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used in the fitting pro-

cess.

weights Optional vector of weights to weight the observations (useful for aggregated

data). Disregarded if optimal kernel is used.

cutoff specifies the RD cutoff in the running variable.

M Bound on second derivative of the conditional mean function.

kern specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string

equal to "triangular" $(k(u) = (1-|u|)_+)$, "epanechnikov" $(k(u) = (3/4)(1-u))_+$

 $(u^2)_+$), or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2), or else a kernel function.

na.action function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The

default is set by the na. action setting of options (usually na.omit).

opt.criterion Optimality criterion that bandwidth is designed to optimize. The options are:

"MSE" Finite-sample maximum MSE

"FLCI" Length of (fixed-length) two-sided confidence intervals.

"OCI" Given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals

The methods use conditional variance given by sigma2, if supplied. Otherwise, for the purpose of estimating the optimal bandwidth, conditional variance is

estimated using the method specified by se.initial.

bw.equal logical specifying whether bandwidths on either side of cutoff should be con-

strained to equal to each other.

alpha determines confidence level, 1-alpha for constructing/optimizing confidence

intervals.

beta Determines quantile of excess length to optimize, if bandwidth optimizes given

quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals; otherwise ignored.

sclass Smoothness class, either "T" for Taylor or "H" for Hölder class.

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

se.initial Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD),

or for all data (for inference at a point).

"EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW.fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW.fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reduced-

form regression.

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"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).

"Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

"SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.

"nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

Initial estimate of the treatment effect for calculating the optimal bandwidth. Only relevant for Fuzzy RD.

Value

T0

Returns an object of class "RDBW". The function print can be used to obtain and print a summary of the results. An object of class "RDBW" is a list containing the following components:

hp bandwidth for observations above cutoff

hm bandwidth for observations below cutoff, equal to hp unless bw.equal==FALSE

sigma2m, sigma2p estimate of conditional variance just above and just below cutoff, $\sigma_+^2(0)$ and $\sigma_-^2(0)$

f0 estimate of density of running variable at cutoff, if bandwidth computed using asymptotic method

call the matched call

na.action (where relevant) information on handling of missing data.

Note

subset is evaluated in the same way as variables in formula, that is first in data and then in the environment of formula.

References

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2018. "Optimal Inference in a Class of Regression Models." Econometrica 86 (2): 655–83.

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2020. "Simple and Honest Confidence Intervals in Nonparametric Regression." Quantitative Economics 11 (1): 1–39.

Imbens, Guido, and Kalyanaraman, Karthik, "Optimal bandwidth choice for the regression discontinuity estimator." The Review of Economic Studies 79 (3): 933-959.

Kolesár, Michal, and Christoph Rothe. 2018. "Inference in Regression Discontinuity Designs with a Discrete Running Variable." American Economic Review 108 (8): 2277–2304.

See Also

RDHonest

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Examples

headst

Head Start data from Ludwig and Miller (2007)

Description

Subset of Ludwig-Miller data. Counties with missing poverty rate, or with both outcomes missing (hs and mortality) were removed. In the original dataset, Yellowstone County, MT (oldcode = 27056) was entered twice, here the duplicate is removed. Yellowstone National Park, MT (oldcode = 27057) is also removed due to it being an outlier for both outcomes. Counties with oldcode equal to (3014, 32032, 47010, 47040, 47074, 47074, 47078, 47079, 47096) matched more than one FIPS entry, so the county labels may not be correct. Mortality data is missing for Alaska.

Usage

headst

Format

A data frame with 3,127 rows and 9 variables:

statefp State FIPS code
countyfp County FIPS code

oldcode ID in Ludwig-Miller dataset

povrate60 Poverty rate in 1960 relative to 300th poorest county (which had poverty rate 59.1984)

mortHS Average Mortality rate per 100,000 for children aged 5-9 over 1973–83 due to causes addressed as part of Head Start's health services.

mortInj Average Mortality rate per 100,000 for children aged 5-9 over 1973–83 due to injury.

highSchool High school completion rate in 1990 census, ages 18-24

statepc State postal codecounty County name

Source

Douglas Miller's website, http://faculty.econ.ucdavis.edu/faculty/dlmiller/statafiles/

References

Ludwig, J., and D. L. Miller (2007): "Does Head Start improve children's life chances? Evidence from a regression discontinuity design," Quarterly Journal of Economics, 122 (1), 159-208.

IKBW.fit

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Imbens and Kalyanaraman bandwidth

Description

Calculate bandwidth for sharp RD based on local linear regression using method by Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

Usage

```
IKBW.fit(d, kern = "triangular", order = 1, verbose = FALSE)
```

Arguments

d object of class "RDData"

kern specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string

equal to "triangular" $(k(u) = (1-|u|)_+)$, "epanechnikov" $(k(u) = (3/4)(1-u))_+$

 $(u^2)_+$), or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2), or else a kernel function.

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

verbose Print details of calculation?

Value

Imbens and Kalyanaraman bandwidth

References

Imbens, Guido, and Kalyanaraman, Karthik, "Optimal bandwidth choice for the regression discontinuity estimator." The Review of Economic Studies 79 (3): 933-959.

Examples

```
## Reproduce bandwidth from Section 6.2 in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)
IKBW.fit(RDData(lee08, cutoff=0))
```

kernC

Constants for common kernels.

Description

First four moments of uniform, triangular, and Epanechnikov equivalent kernels. Up to numerical integration precision, these moments are matched by KernMoment(). See vignette lpkernels

Usage

kernC

14 KernMoment

Format

A data frame with 18 rows and 19 variables:

```
kernel Kernel type.
order Order of local polynomial.
boundary Boundary regression?
mu0, mu1, mu2, mu3, mu4 \int_X u^j k(u) du, raw moments
nu0, nu1, nu2, nu3, nu4 \int_X u^j k^2(u) du, raw moments of kernel squared
pi0, pi1, pi2, pi3, pi4 \int_X |u^j k(u)| du, absolute moments
pMSE constant for pointwise MSE optimal bandwidth, ((p+1)!^2\nu_0/(2(p+1)\mu_{p+1}^2))^{1/(2p+3)}, see
     page 67 in Fan and Gijbels (1996)
```

Source

Computed analytically using symbolic math software

References

Fan , J., and I. Gijbels (1996): Local Polynomial Modelling and Its Applications, Monographs on Statistics and Applied Probability. Chapman & Hall/CRC, New York, NY.

KernMoment

Moments of a kernel.

Description

Computes moments of a kernel over X = [0, 1] (boundary case), or X = [-1, 1] (interior case),

Usage

```
KernMoment(K, moment = 0, boundary = TRUE, type = "raw")
```

Arguments

kernel function. Κ

moment order j of moment to compute.

Logical scalar, specifying whether we are at a boundary. boundary

Type of moment. "raw" computes $\int_X u^j k(u)$, "absolute" computes $\int_X |u^j k(u)|$, and "raw2" computes $\int_X u^j k(u)^2$. type

Value

Integral value (a scalar).

Examples

```
KernMoment(function(u) abs(u) < 1, moment = 3, boundary = FALSE)
KernMoment(EqKern(kernel = "triangular", order = 2), moment = 3)
```

lee08 15

lee08

Lee (2008) US House elections dataset

Description

Lee (2008) US House elections dataset

Usage

lee08

Format

A data frame with 6,558 rows and 2 variables:

voteshare Vote share in next electionmargin Democratic margin of victory

Source

Mostly Harmless Econometrics data archive, https://economics.mit.edu/faculty/angrist/data1/mhe

References

Lee, D. S. (2008): "Randomized experiments from non-random selection in U.S. House elections," Journal of Econometrics, 142 (2), 675-697.

LPPData

Class Constructor for "LPPData"

Description

Convert data to standardized format for use with low-level functions. If the point of interest x_0 is non-zero, shift the independent variable so that it is at zero.

Usage

LPPData(d, point)

Arguments

d

a data frame or a list with first column corresponding to the outcome variable, second column corresponding to the independent variable, optionally a column called "sigma2" that corresponds to the conditional variance of the outcome (or an estimate of the conditional variance), and optionally a column called "weights" if observations are aggregated by cell.

point

specifies the point x_0 at which to calculate the conditional mean

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Value

An object of class "LPPData", which is a list containing the following components:

```
Y Outcome vector
```

X Independent variable

```
w Weights
```

sigma2 Conditional variance of the outcome

orig.point Original value of x_0

var.names Names of outcome and independent variable in supplied data frame

See Also

FRDData for fuzzy RD, and RDData for sharp RD

Examples

```
## Transform Lee data
d1 <- LPPData(lee08[lee08$margin>=0, ], point=0)
d2 <- LPPData(lee08, point=50)</pre>
```

LPPHonest

Honest inference at a point

Description

Calculate estimators and one- and two-sided honest CIs for value of conditional mean at a point based on a local polynomial estimator under second-order Taylor or Hölder smoothness class.

Usage

```
LPPHonest(
  formula,
  data,
  subset,
  weights,
  point = 0,
  M,
  kern = "triangular",
  na.action,
  opt.criterion,
  h,
  se.method = "nn",
  alpha = 0.05,
  beta = 0.8,
  J = 3,
  sclass = "H",
```

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```
order = 1,
  se.initial = "EHW"
)
```

Arguments

formula object of class "formula" (or one that can be coerced to that class) of the form

outcome ~ independent_variable

data optional data frame, list or environment (or object coercible by as.data.frame

to a data frame) containing the outcome and independent variables in the model. If not found in data, the variables are taken from environment(formula), typ-

ically the environment from which the function is called.

subset optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used in the fitting pro-

cess.

weights Optional vector of weights to weight the observations (useful for aggregated

data).

point specifies the point x_0 at which to calculate the conditional mean

M Bound on second derivative of the conditional mean function.

kern specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string

equal to "triangular" $(k(u) = (1-|u|)_+)$, "epanechnikov" (k(u) = (3/4)(1-

 $(u^2)_+$), or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2), or else a kernel function.

na.action function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The

default is set by the na.action setting of options (usually na.omit).

opt.criterion Optimality criterion that bandwidth is designed to optimize. The options are:

"MSE" Finite-sample maximum MSE

"FLCI" Length of (fixed-length) two-sided confidence intervals.

"OCI" Given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals

The methods use conditional variance given by sigma2, if supplied. Otherwise, for the purpose of estimating the optimal bandwidth, conditional variance is

estimated using the method specified by se.initial.

bandwidth, a scalar parameter. For fuzzy or sharp RD, it can be a named vector of length two with names "p" and "m", in which case the bandwidth h["m"] is used for observations below the cutoff, and the bandwidth h["p"] is used for observations above the cutoff. If not supplied, optimal bandwidth is computed

according to criterion given by opt.criterion.

vector with methods for estimating standard error of estimate. If NULL, standard errors are not computed. The elements of the vector can consist of the following

methods:

"nn" Nearest neighbor method

"EHW" Eicker-Huber-White, with residuals from local regression (local polynomial estimators only).

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope). Local polynomial estimators only.

h

. .

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"plugin" Plug-in estimate based on asymptotic variance. Local polynomial estimators in sharp RD only.

"supplied.var" Use conditional variance supplied by sigma2 or d instead of computing residuals

alpha determines confidence level, 1-alpha for constructing/optimizing confidence

intervals.

beta Determines quantile of excess length to optimize, if bandwidth optimizes given

quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals; otherwise ignored.

J Number of nearest neighbors, if "nn" is specified in se.method.

sclass Smoothness class, either "T" for Taylor or "H" for Hölder class.

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except

for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD), or for all data (for inference at a point)

or for all data (for inference at a point).

"EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW.fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW.fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reducedform regression.

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).

"Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

"SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.

"nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

Details

se.initial

The bandwidth is calculated to be optimal for a given performance criterion, as specified by opt.criterion. It is calculated using the function LPPOptBW. Alternatively, the bandwidth can be specified by h.

Value

Returns an object of class "NPResults". The function print can be used to obtain and print a summary of the results. An object of class "NPRResults" is a list containing the following components

estimate Point estimate. This estimate is MSE-optimal if opt.criterion="MSE"

1ff Not relevant for inference at a point

maxbias Maximum bias of estimate

sd Standard deviation of estimate

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```
lower, upper Lower (upper) end-point of a one-sided CI based on estimate. This CI is optimal if opt.criterion="OCI"
```

hl Half-length of a two-sided CI based on estimate, so the CI is c(estimate-hl, estimate+hl). The CI is optimal if opt.criterion="FLCI"

eff.obs Effective number of observations used by estimate

hp, hm Bandwidth used, both numbers are equal (i.e. hp=hm)

naive Coverage of CI that ignores bias and uses qnorm(1-alpha/2) as critical value

call The matched call

fs Not relevant for inference at a point

Note

subset is evaluated in the same way as variables in formula, that is first in data and then in the environment of formula.

References

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2020. "Simple and Honest Confidence Intervals in Nonparametric Regression." Quantitative Economics 11 (1): 1–39.

See Also

LPPOptBW

Examples

LPP0ptBW

Optimal Bandwidth Selection for inference at a point

Description

Estimate bandwidth based on local polynomial regression that optimizes either maximum mean squared error, or length or quantiles of excess length of a honest CI under second order Hölder or Taylor class.

20 LPPOptBW

Usage

```
LPPOptBW(
  formula,
  data,
  subset,
  weights,
  point = 0,
  Μ,
  kern = "triangular",
  na.action,
  opt.criterion,
  alpha = 0.05,
  beta = 0.8,
  sclass = "H",
  order = 1,
  se.initial = "EHW"
)
```

Arguments

formula	object of class "form	nula" (or one that	can be coerced to that	t class) of the form
---------	-----------------------	--------------------	------------------------	----------------------

outcome ~ independent_variable

data optional data frame, list or environment (or object coercible by as.data.frame

to a data frame) containing the outcome and independent variables in the model. If not found in data, the variables are taken from environment(formula), typ-

ically the environment from which the function is called.

subset optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used in the fitting pro-

cess.

weights Optional vector of weights to weight the observations (useful for aggregated

data).

point specifies the point x_0 at which to calculate the conditional mean

M Bound on second derivative of the conditional mean function.

kern specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string

equal to "triangular" $(k(u) = (1 - |u|)_+)$, "epanechnikov" $(k(u) = (3/4)(1 - u)_+)$

 $(u^2)_+$), or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2), or else a kernel function.

na.action function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The

default is set by the na.action setting of options (usually na.omit).

opt.criterion Optimality criterion that bandwidth is designed to optimize. The options are:

"MSE" Finite-sample maximum MSE

"FLCI" Length of (fixed-length) two-sided confidence intervals.

"OCI" Given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals

The methods use conditional variance given by sigma2, if supplied. Otherwise, for the purpose of estimating the optimal bandwidth, conditional variance is estimated using the method specified by se.initial.

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alpha determines confidence level, 1-alpha for constructing/optimizing confidence

intervals.

beta Determines quantile of excess length to optimize, if bandwidth optimizes given

quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals; otherwise ignored.

sclass Smoothness class, either "T" for Taylor or "H" for Hölder class.

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

se.initial Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD), or for all data (for inference at a point).

"EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW.fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW.fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reduced-form regression.

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).

"Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

"SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.

"nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

Value

Returns an object of class "NPRBW". The function print can be used to obtain and print a summary of the results. An object of class "NPRBW" is a list containing the following components:

h Bandwidth

sigma2 estimate of conditional variance at a point

call the matched call

na.action (where relevant) information on handling of missing data.

Note

subset is evaluated in the same way as variables in formula, that is first in data and then in the environment of formula.

References

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2020. "Simple and Honest Confidence Intervals in Nonparametric Regression." Quantitative Economics 11 (1): 1–39.

See Also

LPPHonest

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Examples

NPR_MROT.fit

Rule of thumb for choosing M

Description

Use global quartic regression to estimate a bound on the second derivative for inference under under second order Hölder class. For RD, use a separate regression on either side of the cutoff

Usage

```
NPR_MROT.fit(d)
```

Arguments

```
d object of class "RDData", "FRDData", or "LPPData".
```

Examples

```
NPR_MROT.fit(RDData(lee08, cutoff=0))
NPR_MROT.fit(LPPData(lee08[lee08$margin>0, ], point=0))
d <- FRDData(cbind(logcn=log(rcp[, 6 ]), rcp[, c(3, 2)]), cutoff=0)
NPR_MROT.fit(d)</pre>
```

NPRHonest.fit

Honest inference in nonparametric regression

Description

Basic computing engine called by RDHonest, LPPHonest, and FRDHonest to compute honest confidence intervals for local polynomial estimators.

Usage

```
NPRHonest.fit(
  d,
  M,
  kern = "triangular",
  h,
  opt.criterion,
  bw.equal = TRUE,
```

NPRHonest.fit 23

```
alpha = 0.05,
  beta = 0.8,
  se.method = "nn",
  J = 3.
  sclass = "H",
  order = 1,
  se.initial = "EHW",
 T0 = 0,
  T0bias = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

d object of class "RDData", "FRDData", or "LPPData"

М Bound on second derivative of the conditional mean function.

specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string kern

equal to "triangular" $(k(u) = (1-|u|)_+)$, "epanechnikov" (k(u) = (3/4)(1-

 $(u^2)_+$), or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2), or else a kernel function.

bandwidth, a scalar parameter. For fuzzy or sharp RD, it can be a named vector of length two with names "p" and "m", in which case the bandwidth h["m"] is used for observations below the cutoff, and the bandwidth h["p"] is used for observations above the cutoff. If not supplied, optimal bandwidth is computed

according to criterion given by opt.criterion.

Optimality criterion that bandwidth is designed to optimize. The options are:

"MSE" Finite-sample maximum MSE

"FLCI" Length of (fixed-length) two-sided confidence intervals.

"OCI" Given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals

The methods use conditional variance given by sigma2, if supplied. Otherwise, for the purpose of estimating the optimal bandwidth, conditional variance is estimated using the method specified by se.initial.

bw.equal logical specifying whether bandwidths on either side of cutoff should be constrained to equal to each other.

> determines confidence level, 1-alpha for constructing/optimizing confidence intervals.

> Determines quantile of excess length to optimize, if bandwidth optimizes given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals; otherwise ignored.

> Vector with methods for estimating standard error of estimate. If NULL, standard errors are not computed. The elements of the vector can consist of the following methods:

"nn" Nearest neighbor method

"EHW" Eicker-Huber-White, with residuals from local regression (local polynomial estimators only).

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope). Local polynomial estimators only.

h

opt.criterion

alpha beta

se.method

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"**plugin**" Plug-in estimate based on asymptotic variance. Local polynomial estimators in sharp RD only.

"supplied.var" Use conditional variance supplied by sigma2 or d instead of computing residuals

J Number of nearest neighbors, if "nn" is specified in se.method.

sclass Smoothness class, either "T" for Taylor or "H" for Hölder class.

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD), or for all data (for inference at a point).

"EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW.fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW.fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reduced-form regression.

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).

"Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

"SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.

"nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

Initial estimate of the treatment effect for calculating the optimal bandwidth.

Only relevant for Fuzzy RD.

When evaluating the maximum bias of the estimate, use the estimate itself (if T0bias==FALSE), or use the preliminary estimate T0 (if T0bias==TRUE). Only relevant for Fuzzy RD.

Value

Returns an object of class "NPRResults", see descriptions in RDHonest, LPPHonest, and FRDHonest.

Examples

```
d <- RDData(lee08, cutoff=0)
NPRHonest.fit(d, opt.criterion="MSE", M=NPR_MROT.fit(d))</pre>
```

T0

T0bias

se.initial

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NPROptBW.fit

Optimal bandwidth selection in nonparametric regression

Description

Basic computing engine called by RDOptBW, FRDOptBW, and LPPOptBW to compute the optimal bandwidth

Usage

```
NPROptBW.fit(
   d,
   M,
   kern = "triangular",
   opt.criterion,
   bw.equal = TRUE,
   alpha = 0.05,
   beta = 0.8,
   sclass = "H",
   order = 1,
   se.initial = "EHW",
   T0 = 0
)
```

Arguments

d	object of class	"RDData",	"FRDData".	or "LPPData"

M Bound on second derivative of the conditional mean function.

kern specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string

equal to "triangular" $(k(u)=(1-|u|)_+)$, "epanechnikov" $(k(u)=(3/4)(1-|u|)_+)$

 $(u^2)_+$), or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2), or else a kernel function.

opt.criterion Optimality criterion that bandwidth is designed to optimize. The options are:

"MSE" Finite-sample maximum MSE

"FLCI" Length of (fixed-length) two-sided confidence intervals.

"OCI" Given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals

The methods use conditional variance given by sigma2, if supplied. Otherwise, for the purpose of estimating the optimal bandwidth, conditional variance is

estimated using the method specified by se.initial.

bw.equal logical specifying whether bandwidths on either side of cutoff should be con-

strained to equal to each other.

alpha determines confidence level, 1-alpha for constructing/optimizing confidence

intervals.

beta Determines quantile of excess length to optimize, if bandwidth optimizes given

quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals; otherwise ignored.

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sclass Smoothness class, either "T" for Taylor or "H" for Hölder class.

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

se.initial Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD),

or for all data (for inference at a point).

"EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW.fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW.fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reducedform regression.

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).

"Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

"SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.

"nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

Initial estimate of the treatment effect for calculating the optimal bandwidth. Only relevant for Fuzzy RD.

Value

Returns an object of class "NPRBW", see descriptions in RDOptBW, FRDOptBW, and LPPOptBW.

References

Imbens, Guido, and Kalyanaraman, Karthik, "Optimal bandwidth choice for the regression discontinuity estimator." The Review of Economic Studies 79 (3): 933-959.

Examples

```
## Lee data
d <- RDData(lee08, cutoff=0)
NPROptBW.fit(d, M=0.1, opt.criterion="MSE")[c("hp", "hm")]</pre>
```

NPRPrelimVar.fit

Compute preliminary estimate of variance

Description

Compute estimate of variance, which can then be used in optimal bandwidth calculations. Except for se.initial="nn", these estimates are unweighted.

T0

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Usage

```
NPRPrelimVar.fit(d, se.initial = "EHW")
```

Arguments

d se.initial object of class "RDData", "FRDData", or "LPPData"

Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD), or for all data (for inference at a point).

"EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW.fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW.fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reduced-form regression.

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).

"Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

"SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.

"nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

Value

object of the same class as d containing estimated variances.

NPRreg.fit

Nonparametric Regression

Description

Calculate fuzzy or sharp RD estimate, or estimate of a conditional mean at a point (depending on the class of d), and its variance using local polynomial regression of order order.

Usage

```
NPRreg.fit(
   d,
   h,
   kern = "triangular",
   order = 1,
   se.method = "nn",
   no.warning = FALSE,
   J = 3
)
```

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Arguments

d object of class "LPPData", "RDData", or "FRDData"

h bandwidth, a scalar parameter. For fuzzy or sharp RD, it can be a named vector

of length two with names "p" and "m", in which case the bandwidth h["m"] is used for observations below the cutoff, and the bandwidth h["p"] is used for observations above the cutoff. If not supplied, optimal bandwidth is computed

according to criterion given by opt.criterion.

kern specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string

equal to "triangular" $(k(u)=(1-|u|)_+)$, "epanechnikov" $(k(u)=(3/4)(1-|u|)_+)$

 $(u^2)_+$), or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2), or else a kernel function.

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

se.method Vector with methods for estimating standard error of estimate. If NULL, standard errors are not computed. The elements of the vector can consist of the following

methods:

methods:

"nn" Nearest neighbor method

"EHW" Eicker-Huber-White, with residuals from local regression (local polynomial estimators only).

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope). Local polynomial estimators only.

"plugin" Plug-in estimate based on asymptotic variance. Local polynomial estimators in sharp RD only.

"supplied.var" Use conditional variance supplied by sigma2 or d instead of computing residuals

no.warning Don't warn about too few observations

J Number of nearest neighbors, if "nn" is specified in se.method.

Value

list with elements:

estimate point estimate

se Named vector of standard error estimates, as specified by se.method.

w Implicit weight function used

sigma2 Estimate of $\sigma^2(X)$ for values of X receiving positive kernel weight. By default, estimates are based on squared regression residuals, as used in "EHW". If se.method="demeaned" or se.method="nn" is specified, estimates are based on that method, with "nn" method used if both are specified.

eff.obs Number of effective observations

Examples

```
NPRreg.fit(RDData(lee08, cutoff=0), h=5, order=2, se.method=c("nn", "plugin", "EHW"))
NPRreg.fit(LPPData(lee08[lee08$margin>=0, ], point=0), h=5, order=1)
d <- FRDData(cbind(logcn=log(rcp[, 6]), rcp[, c(3, 2)]), cutoff=0)
r <- NPRreg.fit(d, h=10, order=1)</pre>
```

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plot_RDscatter	Scatterplot of binned raw observations

Description

Scatterplot of raw observations in which each point corresponds to an binned average.

Usage

```
plot_RDscatter(
   d,
   avg = 10,
   xlab = NULL,
   ylab = NULL,
   window = NULL,
   vert = TRUE,
   propdotsize = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

d	Object of class "RDdata"
avg	Number of observations to average over. If set to Inf, then take averages for each possible value of the running variable (convenient when the running variable is discrete).
xlab, ylab	x- and y-axis labels
window	Width of a window around cutoff to which the graph should be restricted. If not specified, full data range will be plotted
vert	Draw a vertical line at cutoff?
propdotsize	If TRUE, then size of points is proportional to number of observations that the point averages over (useful when avg=Inf). Otherwise the size of points is constant.

Examples

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rcp

Battistin et al. (2009) retirement consumption puzzle dataset

Description

Battistin et al. (2009) retirement consumption puzzle dataset

Usage

rcp

Format

A data frame with 30,006 rows and 6 variables:

survey_year Survey year

elig_year Years to/from eligibility (males)

retired Retirement status (males)

food Total household food expenditure

c Total household consumption

cn Total household expenditure on non-durable goods

Source

American Economic Review data archive, https://doi.org/10.1257/aer.99.5.2209

References

Battistin, Erich, Agar Brugiavini, Enrico Rettore, and Guglielmo Weber. 2009. "The Retirement Consumption Puzzle: Evidence from a Regression Discontinuity Approach." American Economic Review 99 (5): 2209–26.

RDData

Class Constructor for "RDData"

Description

Convert data to a standardized format for use with low-level functions. If the cutoff for treatment is non-zero, shift the running variable so that the cutoff is at zero.

Usage

RDData(d, cutoff)

Arguments

d a data frame or a list with first column corresponding to the outcome vari-

able, second column corresponding to the running variable, optionally a column called "sigma2" that corresponds to the conditional variance of the outcome (or an estimate of the conditional variance), and optionally a column called

"weights" if observations are aggregated by cell.

cutoff specifies the cutoff for the running variable

Value

An object of class "RDData", which is a list containing the following components:

Ym Outcome vector for observations below cutoff

Yp Outcome vector for observations above cutoff

Xm Running variable for observations below cutoff

Xp Running variable for observations above cutoff

wm weights for observations below cutoff

wp weights for observations above cutoff

sigma2m Conditional variance of the outcome for observations below cutoff

sigma2p Conditional variance of the outcome for observations above cutoff

orig.cutoff Original cutoff

var.names Names of the outcome and the running variable in supplied data frame

See Also

FRDData for fuzzy RD, and LPPData for inference at a point

Examples

```
## Transform Lee data
d <- RDData(lee08, cutoff=0)</pre>
```

RDHonest

Honest inference in RD

Description

Calculate estimators and one- and two-sided CIs based on local polynomial estimator in RD under second-order Taylor or Hölder smoothness class. If kern="optimal", calculate optimal estimators under second-order Taylor smoothness class.

Usage

```
RDHonest(
  formula,
  data,
  subset,
 weights,
  cutoff = 0,
 Μ,
  kern = "triangular",
  na.action,
  opt.criterion,
  bw.equal = TRUE,
  se.method = "nn",
  alpha = 0.05,
  beta = 0.8,
  J = 3,
  sclass = "H",
  order = 1,
  se.initial = "EHW"
)
```

Arguments

formula

opt.criterion

	outcome ~ running_variable
data	optional data frame, list or environment (or object coercible by as.data.frame to a data frame) containing the outcome and running variables in the model. If not found in data, the variables are taken from environment(formula), typically the environment from which the function is called.
subset	optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used in the fitting process.
weights	Optional vector of weights to weight the observations (useful for aggregated data). Disregarded if optimal kernel is used.
cutoff	specifies the RD cutoff in the running variable.
М	Bound on second derivative of the conditional mean function.
kern	specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string equal to "triangular" $(k(u)=(1- u)_+)$, "epanechnikov" $(k(u)=(3/4)(1-u^2)_+)$, or "uniform" $(k(u)=(u <1)/2)$, or else a kernel function.
na.action	function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The

default is set by the na.action setting of options (usually na.omit).

"FLCI" Length of (fixed-length) two-sided confidence intervals.

"MSE" Finite-sample maximum MSE

Optimality criterion that bandwidth is designed to optimize. The options are:

"OCI" Given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals

object of class "formula" (or one that can be coerced to that class) of the form

> The methods use conditional variance given by sigma2, if supplied. Otherwise, for the purpose of estimating the optimal bandwidth, conditional variance is estimated using the method specified by se.initial.

bw.equal

logical specifying whether bandwidths on either side of cutoff should be constrained to equal to each other.

h

bandwidth, a scalar parameter. For fuzzy or sharp RD, it can be a named vector of length two with names "p" and "m", in which case the bandwidth h["m"] is used for observations below the cutoff, and the bandwidth h["p"] is used for observations above the cutoff. If not supplied, optimal bandwidth is computed according to criterion given by opt.criterion.

se.method

Vector with methods for estimating standard error of estimate. If NULL, standard errors are not computed. The elements of the vector can consist of the following methods:

"nn" Nearest neighbor method

"EHW" Eicker-Huber-White, with residuals from local regression (local polynomial estimators only).

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope). Local polynomial estimators only.

"plugin" Plug-in estimate based on asymptotic variance. Local polynomial estimators in sharp RD only.

"supplied.var" Use conditional variance supplied by sigma2 or d instead of computing residuals

alpha

determines confidence level, 1-alpha for constructing/optimizing confidence intervals.

beta

Determines quantile of excess length to optimize, if bandwidth optimizes given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals; otherwise ignored.

Number of nearest neighbors, if "nn" is specified in se.method.

sclass

Smoothness class, either "T" for Taylor or "H" for Hölder class.

order

Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

se.initial

Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD), or for all data (for inference at a point).

"EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW. fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW.fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reducedform regression.

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).

"Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

"SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.

"nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

Details

The bandwidth is calculated to be optimal for a given performance criterion, as specified by opt.criterion. For local polynomial estimators, this optimal bandwidth is calculated using the function RDOptBW. Alternatively, for local polynomial estimators, the bandwidths above and below the cutoff can be specified by h.

Value

Returns an object of class "NPRResults". The function print can be used to obtain and print a summary of the results. An object of class "NPRResults" is a list containing the following components

estimate Point estimate. This estimate is MSE-optimal if opt.criterion="MSE"

1ff Least favorable function, only relevant for optimal estimator under Taylor class.

maxbias Maximum bias of estimate

sd Standard deviation of estimate

lower, upper Lower (upper) end-point of a one-sided CI based on estimate. This CI is optimal if opt.criterion=="OCI"

hl Half-length of a two-sided CI based on estimate, so that the CI is given by c(estimate-hl, estimate+hl). The CI is optimal if opt.criterion="FLCI"

eff.obs Effective number of observations used by estimate

hp, hm Bandwidths used above and below the cutoff

naive Coverage of CI that ignores bias and uses qnorm(1-alpha/2) as critical value

call the matched call

fs Not relevant for sharp RD

Note

subset is evaluated in the same way as variables in formula, that is first in data and then in the environment of formula.

References

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2018. "Optimal Inference in a Class of Regression Models." Econometrica 86 (2): 655–83.

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2020. "Simple and Honest Confidence Intervals in Nonparametric Regression." Quantitative Economics 11 (1): 1–39.

Imbens, Guido, and Kalyanaraman, Karthik, "Optimal bandwidth choice for the regression discontinuity estimator." The Review of Economic Studies 79 (3): 933-959.

Kolesár, Michal, and Christoph Rothe. 2018. "Inference in Regression Discontinuity Designs with a Discrete Running Variable." American Economic Review 108 (8): 2277–2304.

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See Also

RDOptBW

Examples

```
# Lee dataset RDHonest(voteshare ~ margin, data = lee08, kern = "uniform", M = 0.1, h = 10, sclass = "T")
```

RDHonestBME

CIs in sharp RD with discrete regressors under bounded misspecification error class

Description

Computes honest CIs for local linear regression with uniform kernel under the bounded misspecification error class of functions, as considered in Kolesár and Rothe (2018)

Usage

```
RDHonestBME(
formula,
data,
subset,
weights,
cutoff = 0,
na.action,
h = Inf,
alpha = 0.05,
order = 0,
regformula
)
```

Arguments

formula	object of class "formula" (or one that can be coerced to that class) of the form outcome ~ running_variable
data	optional data frame, list or environment (or object coercible by as.data.frame to a data frame) containing the outcome and running variables in the model. If not found in data, the variables are taken from environment(formula), typically the environment from which the function is called.
subset	optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used in the fitting process.
weights	Optional vector of weights to weight the observations (useful for aggregated data). Disregarded if optimal kernel is used.

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cutoff specifies the RD cutoff in the running variable.

na.action function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The

default is set by the na. action setting of options (usually na.omit).

h bandwidth, a scalar parameter. For fuzzy or sharp RD, it can be a named vector

of length two with names "p" and "m", in which case the bandwidth h["m"] is used for observations below the cutoff, and the bandwidth h["p"] is used for observations above the cutoff. If not supplied, optimal bandwidth is computed

according to criterion given by opt.criterion.

alpha determines confidence level, $1 - \alpha$

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

regformula Explicitly specify regression formula to use instead of running a local linear

regression, with y and x denoting the outcome and the running variable, and cutoff is normalized to 0. Local linear regression (order = 1) is equivalent to regformula = " $y \sim x \times 1(x > 0)$ ". Inference is done on the order+2th element of

the design matrix

Details

The parameter weights is ignored, it is only included to keep a unified interface with RDHonest.

Note

subset is evaluated in the same way as variables in formula, that is first in data and then in the environment of formula.

References

Kolesár, Michal, and Christoph Rothe. 2018. "Inference in Regression Discontinuity Designs with a Discrete Running Variable." American Economic Review 108 (8): 2277–2304.

Examples

RDOptBW

Optimal Bandwidth Selection in Regression Discontinuity

Description

Estimate bandwidth for sharp RD based on local polynomial regression that optimizes either maximum mean squared error, or length or quantiles of excess length of a honest CI under second order Hölder or Taylor class.

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Usage

```
RDOptBW(
  formula,
  data,
  subset,
 weights,
  cutoff = 0,
 Μ,
  kern = "triangular",
  na.action,
  opt.criterion,
  bw.equal = TRUE,
  alpha = 0.05,
  beta = 0.8,
  sclass = "H"
 order = 1,
  se.initial = "EHW"
)
```

Arguments

formula object of class "formula" (or one that can be coerced to that class) of the form

outcome ~ running_variable

data optional data frame, list or environment (or object coercible by as.data.frame

to a data frame) containing the outcome and running variables in the model. If not found in data, the variables are taken from environment(formula), typi-

cally the environment from which the function is called.

subset optional vector specifying a subset of observations to be used in the fitting pro-

cess.

weights Optional vector of weights to weight the observations (useful for aggregated

data). Disregarded if optimal kernel is used.

cutoff specifies the RD cutoff in the running variable.

M Bound on second derivative of the conditional mean function.

kern specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string

equal to "triangular" $(k(u) = (1-|u|)_+)$, "epanechnikov" (k(u) = (3/4)(1-

 $(u^2)_+$), or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2), or else a kernel function.

na.action function which indicates what should happen when the data contain NAs. The

default is set by the na.action setting of options (usually na.omit).

opt.criterion Optimality criterion that bandwidth is designed to optimize. The options are:

"MSE" Finite-sample maximum MSE

"FLCI" Length of (fixed-length) two-sided confidence intervals.

"OCI" Given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals

The methods use conditional variance given by sigma2, if supplied. Otherwise, for the purpose of estimating the optimal bandwidth, conditional variance is estimated using the method specified by se.initial.

RDOptBW

bw. equal logical specifying whether bandwidths on either side of cutoff should be constrained to equal to each other.

alpha determines confidence level, 1-alpha for constructing/optimizing confidence intervals.

beta Determines quantile of excess length to optimize, if bandwidth optimizes given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals; otherwise ignored.

sclass Smoothness class, either "T" for Taylor or "H" for Hölder class.

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD), or for all data (for inference at a point).

"EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW.fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW.fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reduced-form regression.

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).

"Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

"SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.

"nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

Value

se.initial

Returns an object of class "RDBW". The function print can be used to obtain and print a summary of the results. An object of class "RDBW" is a list containing the following components:

hp bandwidth for observations above cutoff

hm bandwidth for observations below cutoff, equal to hp unless bw.equal==FALSE

sigma2m, sigma2p estimate of conditional variance just above and just below cutoff, $\sigma_+^2(0)$ and $\sigma_-^2(0)$

f0 estimate of density of running variable at cutoff, if bandwidth computed using asymptotic method

call the matched call

na.action (where relevant) information on handling of missing data.

Note

subset is evaluated in the same way as variables in formula, that is first in data and then in the environment of formula.

RDSmoothnessBound 39

References

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2018. "Optimal Inference in a Class of Regression Models." Econometrica 86 (2): 655–83.

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2020. "Simple and Honest Confidence Intervals in Nonparametric Regression." Quantitative Economics 11 (1): 1–39.

Imbens, Guido, and Kalyanaraman, Karthik, "Optimal bandwidth choice for the regression discontinuity estimator." The Review of Economic Studies 79 (3): 933-959.

Kolesár, Michal, and Christoph Rothe. 2018. "Inference in Regression Discontinuity Designs with a Discrete Running Variable." American Economic Review 108 (8): 2277–2304.

See Also

RDHonest

Examples

RDSmoothnessBound

Lower bound on smoothness constant M in RD designs

Description

Estimate a lower bound on smoothness constant M and provide a lower confidence interval.

Usage

```
RDSmoothnessBound(
   d,
   s,
   separate = TRUE,
   multiple = TRUE,
   alpha = 0.05,
   sclass = "T"
)
```

Arguments

d object of class "RDData"

s Number of support points that curvature estimates should average over

separate If TRUE, report estimates separately for data above and below cutoff. If FALSE,

report pooled estimates

multiple If TRUE, use multiple curvature estimates. If FALSE, use a single estimate using

only observations closest to the cutoff.

alpha determines confidence level 1-alpha.

sclass Smoothness class, either "T" for Taylor or "H" for Hölder class.

Value

Returns a list with the following elements

mu+, mu- Lower bound of CI for observations above and below cutoff

Z+, Z- Point estimate used for lower bound

sd+, sd- Standard deviations of point estimates

References

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2018. "Optimal Inference in a Class of Regression Models." Econometrica 86 (2): 655–83.

Kolesár, Michal, and Christoph Rothe. 2018. "Inference in Regression Discontinuity Designs with a Discrete Running Variable." American Economic Review 108 (8): 2277–2304.

RDTEfficiencyBound

Finite-sample efficiency bounds for minimax CIs

Description

Compute efficiency of minimax one-sided CIs at constant functions, or efficiency of two-sided fixed-length CIs at constant functions under second-order Taylor smoothness class.

Usage

```
RDTEfficiencyBound(
   d,
   M,
   opt.criterion = "FLCI",
   alpha = 0.05,
   beta = 0.5,
   se.initial = "EHW"
)
```

Arguments

d object of class "RDData"

M Bound on second derivative of the conditional mean function.

 $\verb"opt.criterion" \verb"FLCI" for computing efficiency of two-sided CIs, and \verb"OCI" for minimax one-$

sided CIs.

RDTOpt.fit 41

alpha determines confidence level, 1-alpha for constructing/optimizing confidence intervals.

Determines quantile of excess length to optimize, if bandwidth optimizes given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals; otherwise ignored.

Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD), or for all data (for inference at a point).

"EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW.fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW.fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reducedform regression.

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).

"Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

"SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.

"nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

References

beta

se.initial

Armstrong, Timothy B., and Michal Kolesár. 2018. "Optimal Inference in a Class of Regression Models." Econometrica 86 (2): 655–83.

RDTOpt.fit

Optimal inference in RD under Taylor class

Description

Basic computing engine called by RDHonest to compute honest confidence intervals for optimal estimators in RD under second-order Taylor class.

Usage

```
RDTOpt.fit(
   d,
   M,
   opt.criterion,
   alpha = 0.05,
   beta = 0.5,
   se.method = "supplied.var",
   J = 3,
   se.initial = "IKEHW"
)
```

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Arguments

d object of class "RDData"

Μ Bound on second derivative of the conditional mean function.

opt.criterion Optimality criterion that bandwidth is designed to optimize. The options are:

"MSE" Finite-sample maximum MSE

"FLCI" Length of (fixed-length) two-sided confidence intervals.

"OCI" Given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals

The methods use conditional variance given by sigma2, if supplied. Otherwise, for the purpose of estimating the optimal bandwidth, conditional variance is estimated using the method specified by se.initial.

determines confidence level, 1-alpha for constructing/optimizing confidence intervals.

> Determines quantile of excess length to optimize, if bandwidth optimizes given quantile of excess length of one-sided confidence intervals; otherwise ignored.

> Vector with methods for estimating standard error of estimate. If NULL, standard errors are not computed. The elements of the vector can consist of the following methods:

"nn" Nearest neighbor method

"EHW" Eicker-Huber-White, with residuals from local regression (local polynomial estimators only).

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope). Local polynomial estimators only.

"plugin" Plug-in estimate based on asymptotic variance. Local polynomial estimators in sharp RD only.

"supplied.var" Use conditional variance supplied by sigma2 or d instead of computing residuals

Number of nearest neighbors, if "nn" is specified in se.method.

Method for estimating initial variance for computing optimal bandwidth. Except for "nn", all methods assume homoskedasticity on either side of cutoff (for RD), or for all data (for inference at a point).

"EHW" Based on residuals from a local linear regression using a triangular kernel, and and bandwidth given by a rule-of-thumb bandwidth (for inference at a point, see ROTBW. fit), or IK bandwidth (for fuzzy and sharp RD, see IKBW. fit). For fuzzy RD, the IK bandwidth is based on the reducedform regression.

"demeaned" Like EHW, but instead of using the regression residuals, estimate σ_i^2 by subtracting the estimated intercept from the outcome (and not subtracting the estimated slope).

"Silverman" Use residuals from local constant regression with uniform kernel and bandwidth selected using Silverman's rule of thumb, as in Equation (14) in Imbens and Kalyanaraman (2012)

"SilvermanNN" Use Silverman's rule of thumb to pick the bandwidth, but use nearest neighbor estimates, rather than the residuals.

"nn" Use nearest neighbor estimates, without assuming homoskedasticity

alpha

beta

se.method

J

se.initial

rebp 43

Value

Returns an object of class "RDResults", see description in RDHonest

rebp

Austrian unemployment duration data from Lalive (2008)

Description

Subset of Lalive data for individuals in the regions affected by the REBP program

Usage

rebp

Format

A data frame with 29,371 rows and 4 variables:

age Age in years, at monthly accuracy

period Indicator for whether REBP is in place

female Indicator for female

duration unemployment duration in weeks

Source

Rafael Lalive's website, https://sites.google.com/site/rafaellalive/

References

Lalive, R. (2008): "How Do Extended Benefits Affect Unemployment Duration? A Regression Discontinuity Approach." Journal of Econometrics, 142 (2): 785-806.

ROTBW.fit

Rule of thumb bandwidth for inference at a point

Description

Calculate bandwidth for inference at a point with local linear regression using method in Fan and Gijbels (1996, Chapter 4.2).

Usage

```
ROTBW.fit(d, kern = "triangular", order = 1, boundary = NULL)
```

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Arguments

d object of class "LPPData"

kern specifies kernel function used in the local regression. It can either be a string

equal to "triangular" $(k(u) = (1-|u|)_+)$, "epanechnikov" $(k(u) = (3/4)(1-u))_+$

 $(u^2)_+$), or "uniform" (k(u) = (|u| < 1)/2), or else a kernel function.

order Order of local regression 1 for linear, 2 for quadratic.

boundary Is point at a boundary?

Value

ROT bandwidth

References

Fan , J., and I. Gijbels (1996): Local Polynomial Modelling and Its Applications, Monographs on Statistics and Applied Probability. Chapman & Hall/CRC, New York, NY.

Examples

```
dp <- LPPData(lee08[lee08$margin>0, ], point=0)
bp1 <- ROTBW.fit(dp, kern="uniform", order=1)</pre>
```

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