

Quantitative Statistical Methods II

Outline of the Course

JOAN LLULL

Quantitative & Statistical Methods II
Master in Economics of Public Policy
Barcelona GSE

Chapter 1. Potential Outcomes and Causality: Treatment Effects

- I. Introduction*
- II. Potential Outcomes, Selection Bias, and Treatment Effects*
- III. Identification of Treatment Effects under Different Assumptions*
- IV. Linear Regression and Treatment Effects*
 - A. Conditional independence
 - B. Omitted variable bias
 - C. Treatment variables that take more than two values
 - D. Endogenous controls

Chapter 2: Social Experiments

- I. Randomized Control Trials and Natural Experiments*
- II. Random Assignment and Treatment Effects*
- III. Standard Errors and Inference*
- IV. Introduction of Additional Regressors*
- V. Warnings: Imperfect Compliance and Effects on Intermediate Outcomes*
 - A. Partial or Imperfect Compliance and Intention-to-Treat Analysis
 - B. Longer Run Interaction of Treatment and Intermediate Outcomes

Chapter 3. Selection on Observables. Matching

- I. Selection Based on Observables and (Exact) Matching*
- II. The Common Support Condition*
- III. Propensity Score Matching*
- IV. Estimation methods*
- V. Matching versus Regression*
- VI. Inference: Bootstrap Standard Errors*

Chapter 4. Instrumental Variables

- I. Identification of causal effects in IV settings*
 - A. Homogeneous treatment effects
 - B. Heterogeneous treatment effects
- II. Imperfect Compliance and IV*

- III. Local Average Treatment Effects (LATE)*
- IV. Conditional Estimation with Instrumental Variables*
- V. Continuous Instruments: Marginal Treatment Effects (MTE)*
- VI. Some Remarks about Unobserved Heterogeneity in IV Settings*
- VII. Weak Instruments*

Chapter 5. Regression Discontinuity

- I. The fundamental RD assumption*
- II. Homogeneous Treatment Effects*
- III. Heterogeneous Treatment Effects*
 - A. Sharp design
 - B. Fuzzy design
- IV. Estimation Strategies*
- V. Conditioning on Covariates*

Chapter 6. Panel Data

- I. Introduction*
- II. Static Models*
 - A. The Fixed Effects Model. Within Groups Estimation
 - B. The Random Effects Model. Error Components
 - C. Testing for Correlated Individual Effects
- III. Dynamic Models*
 - A. Autoregressive Models with Individual Effects
 - B. A small digression: quick review of Generalized Method of Moments (GMM)
 - C. Difference GMM Estimation
 - D. System GMM Estimation
 - E. Specification Tests

Chapter 7. Difference in differences

- I. Difference in Differences Setup*
- II. Difference in Differences in the Regression Context*
- III. Triple Differences*
- IV. Synthetic Control Methods*

Chapter 8. Quantile Regression and Quantile Treatment Effects

- I. Introduction*
 - A. Motivation
 - B. Unconditional quantiles
 - C. Nonparametric conditional quantiles

II. Quantile Regression

- A. Conditional Quantiles (revisited)
- B. The Quantile Regression Model
- C. Estimation
- D. Quantile Regression with Censoring

III. Quantile Treatment Effects (QTE)

- A. What We Do (and What We Do Not Do)
- B. The QTE Estimator

References

General References

Angrist, J. D. and J.-S. Pischke, 2009, *Mostly Harmless Econometrics, An Empiricists Companion*, Princeton University Press.

Cameron, C. A. and P. K. Trivedi, 2005, *Microeconometrics: Methods and Applications*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Social Experiments

Bertrand, M. and S. Mullainathan, 2004, “Are Emily and Greg More Employable than Lakisha and Jamal? A Field Experiment on Labor Market Discrimination,” *American Economic Review*, 94, 991-1013.

Duflo, E. R. Glennerster and M. Kremer, 2007, *Using Randomization in Development Economics Research: A Toolkit*, CEPR Discussion Paper No. 6059.

Ham, J. C. and R. J. LaLonde, 1996, “The Effect of Sample Selection and Initial Conditions in Duration Models: Evidence from Experimental Data on Training”, *Econometrica*, 64, 175-205.

Krueger, A. B., 1999, “Experimental Estimates of Education Production Functions”, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 114, 497-532.

Miguel, E. and M. Kremer, 2004, “Worms: Identifying Impacts on Education and Health in the Presence of Treatment Externalities,” *Econometrica*, 72, 159-217.

Moffitt, R. A., 2003, *Means-Tested Transfer Programs in the United States*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

Snow, J., 1855, *On the Mode of Communication of Cholera*, Churchill, London. Reprinted by Hafner, New York, 1965.

Stock, J. H., J. Wright and M. Yogo, 2002, “A Survey of Weak Instruments and Weak Identification in Generalized Method of Moments,” *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, 20, 518-529.

Stock, J. H. and M. Yogo, 2005, “Testing for Weak Instruments in Linear IV Regression,” Ch. 5 in D. W. K. Andrews (ed.), *Identification and Inference for Econometric Models*, New York, Cambridge University Press, 109-120.

Selection on Observables (matching)

Dehejia, R. and S. Wahba (1999), “Causal Effects in Nonexperimental Studies: Reevaluating the Evaluation of Training Programs,” *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 94, 1053-1062.

Dehejia, R. and S. Wahba (2002), “Propensity Score Matching Methods for Non-experimental Causal Studies,” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 84, 151-161.

Dearden, L., C. Emmerson, C. Frayne, and C. Meghir, 2009, “Conditional Cash Transfer and School Dropout Rates”, *Journal of Human Resources*, 44, 827-857.

Hirano, K. G. W. Imbens, and G. Ridder, 2003, “Efficient Estimation of Average Treatment Effects Using the Estimated Propensity Score”, *Econometrica*, 73, 669-738.

Rosenbaum, P.R. and D.B. Rubin, 1983, “The Central Role of the Propensity Score in Observational Studies for Causal Effects”, *Biometrika*, 70, 41-55.

Instrumental Variables

Angrist, J. D., 1990, “Lifetime Earnings and the Vietnam Era Draft Lottery: Evidence from Social Security Administrative Records,” *American Economic Review*, 80, 313-336.

Angrist, J. D., 1998, “Estimating the Labor Market Impact of Voluntary Military Service using Social Security Data on Military Applicants,” *Econometrica*, 66, 249-288.

Edin, P-A., P. Fredriksson, and O. Aslund, 2003, “Ethnic Enclaves and the Economic Success of Immigrants – Evidence from a Natural Experiment,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 118, 329-357.

Frlich, M., 2003, *Program Evaluation and Treatment Choice*, Berlin-Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag.

Heckman, J. J. and E. Vytlacil, 2005, “Structural Equations, Treatment Effects, and Econometric Policy Evaluation,” *Econometrica* 73, 669-738.

Imbens, G. W. and J. D. Angrist, 1994, “Identification and Estimation of Local Average Treatment Effects”, *Econometrica*, 62, 467-475.

Vytlacil, E., 2002, “Independence, Monotonicity, and Latent Index Models: An Equivalence Result”, *Econometrica*, 70, 331-341.

Willis, R. J. and S. Rosen, 1979, "Education and Self-Selection", *Journal of Political Economy*, 70, 331-341.

Regression Discontinuity

Angrist, J. D. and V. Lavy, 1999, "Using Maimonides Rule to Estimate the Effect of Class Size on Scholastic Achievement," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 114, 533-775.

Cool, T. and D. T. Campbell, 1979, *Quasi-Experimentation: Design & Analysis Issues of Field Settings*, Chicago: Rand McNally College Publishing Company.

Fredriksson, P., ckert B. and H. Oosterbeek, 2013, "Long-Term Effects of Class Size," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 249-285.

Hoxby, C. M., 2000, "The Effects of Class Size on Student Achievement: New Evidence from Population Variation", *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 115, 1239-1285.

Lee, D. S., and T. Lemieux, 2009, "Regression Discontinuity Designs in Economics," *Journal of Economic Literature*, 48, 281-355.

Ludwig, J. and D. L. Miller, 2007, "Does Head Start Improve Childrens Life Chances? Evidence from a Regression Discontinuity Design," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122, 159-208.

Panel Data

Aker, J. C., 2010, "Information from Markets Near and Far: Mobile Phones and Agricultural Markets in Niger", *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2, 46-59.

Arellano, M., 2003, *Panel Data Econometrics*, Oxford University Press.

Arellano, M. and S. Bond, 1991, "Some Tests of Specification for Panel Data: Monte Carlo Evidence and an Application to Employment Equations", *Review of Economic Studies*, 58, 277-297.

Arellano, M. and O. Bover, 1995, "Another Look at the Instrumental-Variable Estimation of Error-Components Models", *Journal of Econometrics*, 68, 29-51.

Arellano, M., and B. Honoré, 2001, "Panel Data Models: Some Recent Developments," in J. J. Heckman and E. E. Leamer (Eds.), *Handbook of Econometrics*, Vol, 5, 32293296.

Balestra, P. and M. Nerlove, 1966, "Pooling Cross Section and Time Series Data in the Estimation of a Dynamic Model: The Demand for Natural Gas", *Econometrica*, 34, 585-612.

Chamberlain, G., 1984, "Panel Data", in Z. Griliches and M.D. Intriligator (eds.), *Handbook of Econometrics*, vol. 2, Elsevier Science, Amsterdam.

Fang, H. and A. Gavazza, 2011, “Dynamic Inefficiencies in an Employment-Based Health Insurance System: Theory and Evidence”, *American Economic Review*, 101, 2047-3077.

Hausman, J. A., 1978, “Specification Tests in Econometrics”, *Econometrica*, 46, 1251-1272.,

Differences-in-differences

Abadie, A. and J. Gardeazabal, 2003, “The Economic Costs of Conflict: A Case Study of the Basque Country”, *American Economic Review*, 93, 113-132.

Duflo, E., 2001, “Schooling and Labor Market Consequences of School Construction in Indonesia: Evidence from an Unusual Policy Experiment,” *American Economic Review*, 91, 795-913.

Card, D. E. and A. B. Krueger, 1994, “Minimum Wages and Employment: A Case Study of the Fast-Food Industry in New Jersey and Pennsylvania,” *American Economic Review*, 84, 772-793.

Quantile Regression and Quantile Treatment Effects

Abadie, A., 2003, “Semiparametric instrumental variable estimation of treatment response models” *Journal of Econometrics*, 113, 231-263.

Abadie, A., J. D. Angrist, and G. W. Imbens, 2002, “Instrumental Variables Estimates of the Effect of Subsidized Training on the Quantiles of Trainee Earnings”, *Econometrica*, 70, 91-117.

Firpo, S., 2007, “Efficient Semiparametric Estimation of Quantile Treatment Effects,” *Econometrica*, 75, 259-276.

Imbens, G. W. and D. B. Rubin, 1997, “Estimating Outcome Distributions for Compliers in Instrumental Variables Models”, *Review of Economic Studies*, 64, 555-574.

Koenker R., 2005, *Quantile Regression*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Koenker R. and G. Basset, 1978, “Regression Quantiles”, *Econometrica*, 46, 33-50.

Powell, J. L., 1986, “Censored Regression Quantiles” *Journal of Econometrics*, 32, 143-155.