HW week 13

w203: Statistics for Data Science

1-Speakign of a curse

In this assignment, your job is to replicate Table 2 from this paper.[1] In the real world, as much as 80% of the time one spends on replication may be spent on trying to find/request the data. Here, we have chosen a paper for which you can get the data easily from Harvard Dataverse.[2]

- Download the data set (it is the *short* one that we need).
  - Both tables are estimated using standardized variables and those variables start with letter `z` in the data frame. If you
  - The data frame can be downloaded in a variety of formats. You should download the `Rdata` version, or download the `original` Stata file and use `read.dta` from the `foreign` package.
  - After you load the data, get the attributes using `attributes(DATA)` to see what attributes it has. The one you need is `var.labels` and you can access it using attr(DATA , 'var.labels') which explains each column of the data.
  - Skim the paper, with a focus on three things: (1) What are the hypotheses? (2) What is the answer? (3) What is the evidence?
  - Read pages 5,6, and 7 (pp. 111-13) more carefully.

2-Replication:

- Replicate Table 2. Do your results differ from what is reported? (Replicate means "make a sincere effort to do exactly as the author did." Despite your best effort, you may not have enough information to do this as well as you wish.)
- Specify an additional model and estimate it. Compare your model and Model (4) in Table 2.
- Can you make write a model in which "oil" is not significant? Ho about a model in which "Islam" is significant?
- What do you conclude?

3-Helping your future self

- Watch this: https://youtu.be/N2zK3sAtr-4

[1] Ross, Michael L. "Oil, Islam, and women." American Political Science Review 102, no. 01 (2008): 107-123.

[2] There is an R package named `dvn` which allows you to interact with the data in the dataverse from within R. Also, in the dataverse website, if you press the `explore` button in front of a dataset, you will see an environment that allows you to run simple models on your web browser.