

Problem set 4: Dummy variables

Data analysis part, ØKA201

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Exercise 1

Consider data on an outcome variable Y_i and an indicator variable D_i .

a)

Suppose $\bar{Y} = 30$ for the subsample with $D_i = 1$ and $\bar{Y} = 20$ for the subsample with $D_i = 0$. Give the fitted model from OLS regression of Y_i on D_i using the full sample.

b)

Suppose OLS regression using all data yields the fitted model $\hat{Y}_i = 3 + 5D_i$. Give \bar{Y} for the subsample with $D_i = 0$ and \bar{Y} for the subsample with $D_i = 1$.

Exercise 2

Use the data set `HousePrice.gdt` (the same as in PS3) for this exercise.

a)

Create three separate dummy variables `Dlotsize_1`, `Dlotsize_2`, `Dlotsize_3` for lotsize equal to 1, 2 and 3 using Gretl.¹

b)

Verify that these dummy variables are mutually exclusive.

c)

Regress price on size and lotsize.

d)

Regress price on size, `Dlotsize_2` and `Dlotsize_3`. Are `Dlotsize_2` and `Dlotsize_3` jointly statistically significant?

e)

Which model do you prefer, that in (b) or that in (c)? Explain.

f)

Redo part (d) with `Dlotsize_1` and `Dlotsize_2` rather than `Dlotsize_2` and `Dlotsize_3`. How have your answers changed?

g)

Regress price on size, `Dlotsize_1`, `Dlotsize_2` and `Dlotsize_3`. Explain what has happened.

h)

Regress price on size, `Dlotsize_1`, `Dlotsize_2` and lotsize. Explain what has happened.

¹Hint to Gretl: Choose the variable `lotsize` and go to `Add > Dummies for discrete variable...` (or right-click the variable and select `dummify...`).