Code for QSS tidyverse Chapter 2: Causality

Kosuke Imai and Nora Webb Williams

First Printing

Causality

Racial Discrimination in the Labor Market

```
## Load required packages
library(tidyverse)
library(qss)
## Load in the data from QSS package
data(resume, package = "qss")
## Or read in a saved CSV
resume <- read_csv("resume.csv")</pre>
##
## -- Column specification -----
## cols(
    firstname = col_character(),
    sex = col_character(),
##
    race = col_character(),
    call = col_double()
##
resume <- read_csv("resume.csv",</pre>
                  col_types = cols(
                    firstname = col_character(),
                    sex = col_character(),
                    race = col_character(),
                    call = col_number()))
dim(resume)
## [1] 4870
head(resume)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
   firstname sex race call
   <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> <dbl>
## 1 Allison female white
## 2 Kristen female white
## 3 Lakisha female black 0
## 4 Latonya female black 0
## 5 Carrie female white
                          0
## 6 Jay
             male white
tail(resume)
## # A tibble: 6 x 4
## firstname sex race
                          call
##
   <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> <dbl>
## 1 Lakisha female black
## 2 Tamika female black
## 3 Ebony female black
## 4 Jay male white
                            0
## 5 Latonya female black
                            0
             female white
## 6 Laurie
glimpse(resume)
## Rows: 4,870
## Columns: 4
## $ firstname <chr> "Allison", "Kristen", "Lakisha", "Latony~
<chr> "white", "white", "black", "black", "whi~
## $ race
             ## $ call
summary(resume)
##
   firstname
                        sex
                                         race
                    Length: 4870
## Length:4870
                                     Length: 4870
## Class :character Class :character
                                     Class : character
## Mode :character Mode :character
                                     Mode :character
##
##
##
##
       call
## Min. :0.00000
## 1st Qu.:0.00000
## Median :0.00000
## Mean :0.08049
## 3rd Qu.:0.00000
## Max. :1.00000
race.call.summary <- resume %>%
 group_by(race, call) %>% # create for each race and callback status
 count()
race.call.summary
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 3
## # Groups: race, call [4]
## race call
    <chr> <dbl> <int>
##
## 1 black 0 2278
## 2 black 1 157
## 3 white 0 2200
## 4 white
            1 235
race.call.tab <- race.call.summary %>%
 pivot_wider(names_from = call, # reshape the data
             values_from = n)
race.call.tab
## # A tibble: 2 x 3
## # Groups: race [2]
          '0' '1'
## race
    <chr> <int> <int>
## 1 black 2278 157
## 2 white 2200 235
race.call.tab.names <- race.call.tab %>%
   rename(no_callback = "0",
        callback = "1")
race.call.tab.names
## # A tibble: 2 x 3
## # Groups: race [2]
## race no_callback callback
   <chr> <int>
                       <int>
## 1 black
                 2278
                          157
## 2 white
                 2200
                          235
race.call.tab.names <- race.call.tab.names %>%
 mutate(total_resumes = no_callback + callback,
        callback_prop = callback / total_resumes)
race.call.tab.names
## # A tibble: 2 x 5
## # Groups: race [2]
    race no_callback callback total_resumes callback_prop
   <chr>
              <int>
                       <int>
                                      <int>
                                                   <dbl>
## 1 black
                 2278
                                       2435
                                                  0.0645
                          157
## 2 white
                2200
                                       2435
                          235
                                                  0.0965
overall_callback <- resume %>%
 summarize(total callback rate = sum(call) / n())
overall callback
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 1
## total_callback_rate
##
                  <dbl>
## 1
                 0.0805
overall_callback <- resume %>%
  summarize(total_callback_rate = mean(call))
overall\_callback
## # A tibble: 1 x 1
## total_callback_rate
##
                  <dbl>
                 0.0805
## 1
callback_by_race <- resume %>%
 group_by(race) %>%
 summarize(callback_rate = mean(call))
callback_by_race
## # A tibble: 2 x 2
    race callback_rate
##
    <chr>
                 <dbl>
                 0.0645
## 1 black
## 2 white
                 0.0965
Subsetting Data in R
```

Logical Values and Operators

```
class(TRUE)

## [1] "logical"

as.integer(TRUE)

## [1] 1

as.integer(FALSE)

## [1] 0

x <- c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE) # a vector with logical values
mean(x) # proportion of TRUEs</pre>
```

```
sum(x) # number of TRUEs
## [1] 2
FALSE & TRUE
## [1] FALSE
TRUE & TRUE
## [1] TRUE
TRUE | FALSE
## [1] TRUE
FALSE | FALSE
## [1] FALSE
TRUE & FALSE & TRUE
## [1] FALSE
(TRUE | FALSE) & FALSE # the parentheses evaluate to TRUE
## [1] FALSE
TRUE | (FALSE & FALSE) # the parentheses evaluate to FALSE
## [1] TRUE
TF1 <- c(TRUE, FALSE, FALSE)
TF2 <- c(TRUE, FALSE, TRUE)
TF1 | TF2
## [1] TRUE FALSE TRUE
TF1 & TF2
## [1] TRUE FALSE FALSE
```

Relational Operators

```
4 > 3
## [1] TRUE
"Hello" == "hello" # R is case-sensitive
## [1] FALSE
"Hello" != "hello"
## [1] TRUE
x \leftarrow c(3, 2, 1, -2, -1)
## [1] TRUE TRUE FALSE FALSE FALSE
x != 1
## [1] TRUE TRUE FALSE TRUE TRUE
## logical conjunction of two vectors with logical values
(x > 0) & (x <= 2)
## [1] FALSE TRUE TRUE FALSE FALSE
## logical disjunction of two vectors with logical values
(x > 2) | (x <= -1)
## [1] TRUE FALSE FALSE TRUE TRUE
x.int \leftarrow (x > 0) & (x \leftarrow 2) # logical vector
x.int
## [1] FALSE TRUE TRUE FALSE FALSE
mean(x.int) # proportion of TRUEs
## [1] 0.4
sum(x.int) # number of TRUEs
## [1] 2
```

Subsetting

```
## callback rate for black-sounding names
resume %>%
  filter(race == "black") %>% # only keep observations where "race" is black
  summarize(mean(call)) # take the average of call
## # A tibble: 1 x 1
   'mean(call)'
##
            <dbl>
## 1
           0.0645
## Subset the data with black names
resumeB <- filter(resume, race == "black")</pre>
## Calculate the mean callback rate
summarize(resumeB, mean(call))
## # A tibble: 1 x 1
## 'mean(call)'
##
            <dbl>
## 1
           0.0645
## with $ operator to run mean() on the call column
mean(resumeB$call)
## [1] 0.06447639
resumeBf <- filter(resume, race == "black" & sex == "female")</pre>
## callback rate for black female names
Bf_callback <- filter(resume, race == "black" & sex == "female") %>%
  summarize(callback_rate = mean(call)) %>%
  pull()
## print the value to the console
print(Bf_callback)
## [1] 0.06627784
## callback rate for black male names
Bm callback <- filter(resume, race == "black" & sex == "male") %>%
  summarize(callback_rate = mean(call)) %>%
 pull()
## print the value to the console
print(Bm_callback)
```

[1] 0.0582878

```
## callback rate for white female names
Wf_callback <- filter(resume, race == "white" & sex == "female") %>%
  summarize(callback rate = mean(call)) %>%
  pull()
## print the value to the console
print(Wf_callback)
## [1] 0.09892473
## callback rate for white male names
Wm_callback <- filter(resume, race == "white" & sex == "male") %>%
  summarize(callback_rate = mean(call)) %>%
  pull()
## print the value to the console
print(Wm_callback)
## [1] 0.08869565
## difference between white women and black women
Wf_callback - Bf_callback
## [1] 0.03264689
## difference between white men and black men
Wm_callback - Bm_callback
## [1] 0.03040786
racial_gaps_by_sex <- resume %>%
  group_by(race, sex) %>% # using two variables to group the data
  summarize(callback = mean(call)) %>% # the callback rate for each group
  pivot_wider(names_from = race, # reshaping the data
              values_from = callback) %>%
  mutate(race_gap = white - black)
print(racial_gaps_by_sex)
## # A tibble: 2 x 4
     sex black white race_gap
##
     <chr> <dbl> <dbl>
                            <dbl>
## 1 female 0.0663 0.0989
                            0.0326
## 2 male 0.0583 0.0887 0.0304
## what happens in this portion of the code?
resume %>%
  group by (race, sex) %>%
  summarize(callback = mean(call))
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 3
## # Groups: race [2]
   race sex callback
    <chr> <chr>
##
                   <dbl>
## 1 black female 0.0663
## 2 black male 0.0583
## 3 white female 0.0989
## 4 white male
                 0.0887
## What happens after we add the pivot_wider()?
resume %>%
 group_by(race, sex) %>%
 summarize(callback = mean(call)) %>%
 pivot_wider(names_from = race,
          values_from = callback)
## # A tibble: 2 x 3
           black white
##
   sex
    <chr> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 female 0.0663 0.0989
## 2 male 0.0583 0.0887
## And so on
```

Simple Conditional Statements

Factor Variables

```
type = if_else(race == "white" & sex == "female", "WhiteFemale", type),
        type = if_else(race == "white" & sex == "male", "WhiteMemale", type))
head(resume_fact)
## # A tibble: 6 x 6
## firstname sex race call BlackFemale type
   <chr> <chr> <chr> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <chr>
##
                                         0 WhiteFemale
## 1 Allison female white 0
## 2 Kristen female white
                             0
                                         0 WhiteFemale
## 3 Lakisha female black 0
## 4 Latonya female black 0
                                         1 BlackFemale
                                         1 BlackFemale
## 5 Carrie female white 0
                                         0 WhiteFemale
## 6 Jay male white 0
                                         0 WhiteMemale
resume <- resume %>%
  ## add a categorical variable for race/gender type
 mutate(type = case_when(race == "black" & sex == "female" ~ "BlackFemale",
                         race == "white" & sex == "female" ~ "WhiteFemale",
                         race == "black" & sex == "male" ~ "BlackMale",
                         race == "white" & sex == "male" ~ "WhiteMale",
                         TRUE ~ "other"
))
head(resume)
## # A tibble: 6 x 6
## firstname sex race call BlackFemale type
   <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> <dbl> <dbl> <chr>
## 1 Allison female white 0
                                        O WhiteFemale
## 2 Kristen female white 0
                                         0 WhiteFemale
## 3 Lakisha female black 0
## 4 Latonya female black 0
                                         1 BlackFemale
                                         1 BlackFemale
## 5 Carrie female white 0
                                         0 WhiteFemale
## 6 Jay
             male white 0
                                         0 WhiteMale
## Did any observations receive the "other" value for type?
filter(resume, type == "other")
## # A tibble: 0 x 6
## # ... with 6 variables: firstname <chr>, sex <chr>,
## # race <chr>, call <dbl>, BlackFemale <dbl>, type <chr>
## check object class
class(resume$type)
## [1] "character"
## coerce the character variable into a factor variable
resume <- resume %>%
 mutate(type = as.factor(type))
```

```
## look at the levels of the factor
levels(resume$type)
## [1] "BlackFemale" "BlackMale"
                                    "WhiteFemale" "WhiteMale"
firstname_callback <- resume %>%
  group_by(firstname) %>%
  select(firstname, call) %>%
  summarize(callback = mean(call))
head(firstname_callback)
## # A tibble: 6 x 2
##
   firstname callback
    <chr> <dbl>
## 1 Aisha 0.0222
## 2 Allison 0.0948
               0.0826
## 3 Anne
## 4 Brad 0.159
## 5 Brendan 0.0769
## 6 Brett
                 0.0678
```

Causal Effects and the Counterfactual

Randomized Controlled Trials

The Role of Randomization

Social Pressure and Voter Turnout

```
##
                       yearofbirth primary2004
        sex
                      Min. :1900 Min.
##
                                            :0.0000
   Length:305866
   Class : character
                      1st Qu.:1947 1st Qu.:0.0000
   Mode :character
                      Median :1956 Median :0.0000
##
##
                      Mean
                             :1956
                                    Mean
                                            :0.4014
##
                      3rd Qu.:1965
                                     3rd Qu.:1.0000
##
                      Max.
                             :1986 Max. :1.0000
                       primary2006
                                           hhsize
##
      messages
##
   Length:305866
                      Min.
                              :0.0000
                                       Min. :1.000
                                       1st Qu.:2.000
##
   Class :character
                      1st Qu.:0.0000
   Mode :character
                      Median :0.0000
                                       Median :2.000
##
                      Mean
                              :0.3122
                                       Mean
                                             :2.184
                                        3rd Qu.:2.000
##
                       3rd Qu.:1.0000
##
                      Max.
                            :1.0000
                                       Max. :8.000
## Average turnout by treatment message
turnout_by_message <- social %>%
  group_by(messages) %>%
  summarize(turnout = mean(primary2006))
turnout_by_message
## # A tibble: 4 x 2
##
     messages
               turnout
##
     <chr>>
                 <dbl>
## 1 Civic Duty
                 0.315
## 2 Control
                 0.297
## 3 Hawthorne
                 0.322
## 4 Neighbors
                 0.378
## Differences between treatment(s) and control means
turnout_diffs <- turnout_by_message %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = messages,
              values_from = turnout) %>%
  mutate(diff_Civic_Duty = `Civic Duty` - Control,
        diff Hawthorne = Hawthorne - Control,
         diff_Neighbors = Neighbors - Control) %>%
  select(diff_Civic_Duty, diff_Hawthorne, diff_Neighbors)
turnout_diffs
## # A tibble: 1 x 3
    diff_Civic_Duty diff_Hawthorne diff_Neighbors
##
               <dbl>
                              dbl>
                                             <dbl>
## 1
             0.0179
                             0.0257
                                            0.0813
social %>%
  mutate(age = 2006 - yearofbirth) %>%
  group_by(messages) %>%
  summarize(age_avg = mean(age),
            primary2004_avg = mean(primary2004),
            hhsize_avg = mean(hhsize))
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
    messages age_avg primary2004_avg hhsize_avg
##
##
     <chr>
                  <dbl>
                                  <dbl>
                                             <dbl>
                   49.7
                                  0.399
                                              2.19
## 1 Civic Duty
## 2 Control
                   49.8
                                  0.400
                                              2.18
## 3 Hawthorne
                   49.7
                                  0.403
                                              2.18
## 4 Neighbors
                   49.9
                                  0.407
                                              2.19
```

Observational Studies

Minimum Wage and Unemployment

```
minwage <- read_csv("minwage.csv") # load the data
## or
data(minwage, package = "qss")
dim(minwage) # dimension of data
## [1] 358 8</pre>
```

glimpse(minwage)

summary(minwage) # summary of data

```
##
      chain
                       location
                                         wageBefore
## Length:358
                     Length:358
                                       Min.
                                              :4.250
                     Class :character
##
  Class :character
                                       1st Qu.:4.250
## Mode :character Mode :character
                                       Median :4.500
##
                                             :4.618
                                       Mean
##
                                       3rd Qu.:4.987
##
                                       Max.
                                             :5.750
##
     wageAfter
                    fullBefore
                                    fullAfter
##
   Min.
         :4.250
                 Min. : 0.000
                                  Min. : 0.000
   1st Qu.:5.050
                  1st Qu.: 2.125
                                  1st Qu.: 2.000
##
## Median :5.050
                 Median : 6.000
                                  Median : 6.000
## Mean
         :4.994
                  Mean : 8.475
                                  Mean : 8.362
## 3rd Qu.:5.050
                  3rd Qu.:12.000
                                  3rd Qu.:12.000
                         :60.000
## Max. :6.250
                  Max.
                                  Max. :40.000
     partBefore
                  partAfter
## Min. : 0.00 Min. : 0.00
```

```
## 1st Qu.:11.00 1st Qu.:11.00
## Median :16.25 Median :17.00
## Mean :18.75 Mean :18.69
## 3rd Qu.:25.00 3rd Qu.:25.00
## Max. :60.00 Max. :60.00
## Add a 'state' variable
minwage <- minwage %>%
 mutate(state = if_else(location == "PA", "PA", "NJ"))
## Create the 'new_wage' object
new_wage <- 5.05
## Calculate the proportions above and below the new wage by state
state_props <- minwage %>%
 mutate(above_min_before = if_else(wageBefore >= new_wage, 1, 0),
        above min after = if else(wageAfter >= new wage, 1, 0)) %>%
 group_by(state) %>%
 summarize(prop_before = mean(above_min_before),
           prop_after = mean(above_min_after))
state_props
## # A tibble: 2 x 3
##
    state prop_before prop_after
              <dbl>
                          <dbl>
              0.0893
                          0.997
## 1 NJ
## 2 PA
               0.0597
                          0.0448
## First create new variables to calculate the
## proportion of full-time employees
minwage <- minwage %>%
 mutate(totalAfter = fullAfter + partAfter,
       fullPropAfter = fullAfter / totalAfter)
## Then calculate the average proportion of full-time workers by state
full_prop_by_state <- minwage %>%
 group_by(state) %>%
 summarize(fullPropAfter = mean(fullPropAfter))
## To calculate the difference between states, we use pivot_wider()
## and mutate()
pivot_wider(full_prop_by_state,
           names_from = state, values_from = fullPropAfter) %>%
 mutate(diff = NJ - PA)
## # A tibble: 1 x 3
##
       NJ PA diff
   <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 0.320 0.272 0.0481
```

Confounding Bias

```
chains_by_state <- minwage %>%
  group_by(state) %>%
  count(chain) %>%
 mutate(prop = n / sum(n)) %>%
  pivot_wider(-n, # this drops the 'n' variable prior to pivoting
             names_from = state,
             values_from = prop)
chains_by_state
## # A tibble: 4 x 3
##
   chain NJ
                       PΔ
    <chr> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 burgerking 0.405 0.463
          0.223 0.149
## 2 kfc
             0.251 0.224
## 3 roys
## 4 wendys 0.120 0.164
full_prop_by_state_chain <- minwage %>%
  group_by(state, chain) %>%
  summarize(fullPropAfter = mean(fullPropAfter)) %>%
 pivot_wider(names_from = state,
             values_from = fullPropAfter) %>%
 mutate(diff = NJ - PA)
full_prop_by_state_chain
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
##
   chain
             NJ PA
                           diff
   ##
## 1 burgerking 0.358 0.321 0.0364
## 2 kfc 0.328 0.236 0.0918
## 3 roys
             0.283 0.213 0.0697
## 4 wendys 0.260 0.248 0.0117
prop_by_state_chain_location_subset <- minwage %>%
 filter(!location %in% c("shoreNJ", "centralNJ")) %>%
  group_by(state, chain) %>%
  summarize(fullPropAfter = mean(fullPropAfter)) %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = state,
             values_from = fullPropAfter) %>%
 mutate(diff = NJ - PA)
prop_by_state_chain_location_subset
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
##
                       PA
    chain
                 NJ
                             diff
    <chr>
             <dbl> <dbl>
                            <dbl>
## 1 burgerking 0.353 0.321 0.0315
```

```
## 2 kfc 0.385 0.236 0.149
## 3 roys 0.289 0.213 0.0761
## 4 wendys 0.253 0.248 0.00510
```

Before-and-After and Difference-in-Differences Designs

```
## First, create a variable for the full-time
## proportion prior to the change
minwage <- minwage %>%
 mutate(totalBefore = fullBefore + partBefore,
         fullPropBefore = fullBefore / totalBefore)
## Then look at the differences in average proportion of full-time
## before and after (in NJ only)
minwage %>%
 filter(state == "NJ") %>%
  summarize(diff = mean(fullPropAfter) - mean(fullPropBefore))
          diff
## 1 0.02387474
## DiD estimate
minwage %>%
 group_by(state) %>%
  ## difference before and after
 summarize(diff = mean(fullPropAfter) - mean(fullPropBefore)) %>%
 pivot_wider(names_from = state, values_from = diff) %>%
  ## difference in difference between states
 mutate(diff_in_diff = NJ - PA)
## # A tibble: 1 x 3
       NJ PA diff_in_diff
##
     <dbl> <dbl>
                       <dbl>
## 1 0.0239 -0.0377
                         0.0616
```

Descriptive Statistics for a Single Variable

Quantiles

```
## summary() shows quartiles for the two wages variables
## as well as minimum, maximum, and mean
minwage %>%
  filter(state == "NJ") %>% # just look at NJ
  select(wageBefore, wageAfter) %>%
  summary()
##
      wageBefore
                    wageAfter
## Min. :4.25
                 Min. :5.000
## 1st Qu.:4.25 1st Qu.:5.050
                 Median :5.050
## Median :4.50
## Mean :4.61 Mean :5.081
## 3rd Qu.:4.87 3rd Qu.:5.050
## Max. :5.75 Max. :5.750
## The interquartile range
minwage %>%
  filter(state == "NJ") %>%
  select(wageBefore, wageAfter) %>%
  summarize(wageBeforeIQR = IQR(wageBefore),
            wageAfterIQR = IQR(wageAfter))
##
    wageBeforeIQR wageAfterIQR
## 1
              0.62
## Create an object for the quantiles we want (deciles)
decile_probs \leftarrow seq(from = 0, to = 1, by = 0.1)
## Save deciles as characters
decile_names <- as.character(decile_probs)</pre>
## Generate the deciles for wage before and after
minwage %>%
  filter(state == "NJ") %>%
  select(wageBefore, wageAfter) %>%
  summarize(wageBeforeDecile = quantile(wageBefore, probs = decile_probs),
            wageAfterDecile = quantile(wageAfter, probs = decile_probs),
            decile = decile_names)
##
      wageBeforeDecile wageAfterDecile decile
## 1
                  4.25
                                  5.00
## 2
                  4.25
                                  5.05
                                          0.1
## 3
                  4.25
                                  5.05
                                         0.2
## 4
                  4.25
                                  5.05
                                         0.3
## 5
                  4.50
                                  5.05
                                          0.4
                                  5.05
## 6
                  4.50
                                         0.5
                                 5.05
## 7
                 4.65
                                          0.6
## 8
                 4.75
                                 5.05
                                          0.7
## 9
                  5.00
                                 5.05
                                          0.8
## 10
                  5.00
                                  5.15
                                          0.9
## 11
                  5.75
                                  5.75
                                           1
```

Standard Deviation

```
## Calculate the RMS of the change in full-time
## employment proportion in NJ
minwageNJ %>%
  mutate(fullPropChange = fullPropAfter - fullPropBefore,
         sqfullPropChange = fullPropChange^2) %>%
  summarize(rms = sqrt(mean(sqfullPropChange)))
##
           rms
## 1 0.3014669
## Compare to the mean
minwageNJ %>%
  mutate(fullPropChange = fullPropAfter - fullPropBefore) %>%
  summarize(mean = mean(fullPropChange))
##
           mean
## 1 0.02387474
minwage %>%
  group_by(state) %>%
  summarize_at(vars(fullPropBefore, fullPropAfter),
      .funs = list(sd, var))
## # A tibble: 2 x 5
     state fullPropBefore_f~ fullPropAfter_fn1 fullPropBefore_~
##
   <chr>
                       <dbl>
                                         <dbl>
                                                         <dbl>
## 1 NJ
                       0.230
                                         0.251
                                                         0.0531
## 2 PA
                       0.240
                                         0.247
                                                         0.0575
## # ... with 1 more variable: fullPropAfter_fn2 <dbl>
minwage %>%
  group_by(state) %>%
  summarize_at(vars(fullPropBefore, fullPropAfter),
               .funs = list(stdv = sd,
                    variance = var))
## # A tibble: 2 x 5
##
     state fullPropBefore_s~ fullPropAfter_s~ fullPropBefore_v~
                       <dbl>
                                       <dbl>
##
     <chr>
                                                          <dbl>
                       0.230
                                       0.251
                                                         0.0531
## 1 NJ
## 2 PA
                       0.240
                                       0.247
                                                         0.0575
## # ... with 1 more variable: fullPropAfter_variance <dbl>
```