Econ 7010 - Assignment 4

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Due: Nov. 22nd. Worth 3% of your mark. For each answer include the R code that you use, as well as a brief explanation. Upload your answers to the assignment 3 dropbox on UM Learn.

In example 9.2 (Life Expectancy - F-test), in Section 9.6 (Testing for differences), we drew the conclusion that the determinants of life expectancy might have different effects between OECD and non-OECD countries. In particular, health expenditure (HEXP) seems to be more effective in OECD countries. This result was controversial.

Let's revisit this conclusion by estimating a model that includes additional variables:

$$DALE = \beta_1 + \beta_2 HEXP + \beta_3 HC3 + \beta_4 HC3^2 + \beta_5 GINI + \beta_6 TROPICS + \beta_7 POPDEN + \beta_8 PUBTHE + \beta_9 GDPC + \beta_{10} VOICE + \beta_{11} GEFF + \epsilon$$
(1)

where GINI is the Gini coefficient for income inequality, TROPICS is a dummy variable, POPDEN is population density, PUBTHE is the proportion of health expenditure paid by public authorities, GDPC is Normalized GDP per capita, VOICE is the World Bank measure of democratization, and GEFF is the World Bank measure of government effectiveness (see Table F6.3 from Greene).

In addition to model 1, estimate a model that allows the OECD dummy variable to fully interact with every variable.

- 1. Test the hypothesis that there are no differences between OECD and non-OECD countries.
- 2. Your conclusion should differ from that drawn in example 9.2. Explain this discrepancy using the concepts of unbiasedness, consistency, and Section 8.1 of the lecture notes.