Example Presentation

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Overview

- As a student writing an empirical research paper, does writing a longer paper attain a higher grade?
- Simple OLS regression
- Sample data collected from previous classes with paper assignments
- Strong positive effect: for every marginal page written, grades improve by about 1-2 points
- Robust to different models

Theory

- Dilemma:

1. Longer papers might imply students work hard and write a good paper
2. But students might also put in low quality filler hoping to inflate their grades

Data

- I collected data from 7 different classes at 2 different colleges where I assigned a longer term paper

Variables

Variable	Description
Grade	Grade on paper assignment (0-100)
Pages	Number of pages written
Final	Final course grade for student
Gender	Gender of student
Class	Class in which paper was assigned
School	School of class taught
Year	Year of class
Time	Time of day class met
Covid	Course during Covid?

Summary Statistics

Variable

Obs

Min

Q1

Median

Q3

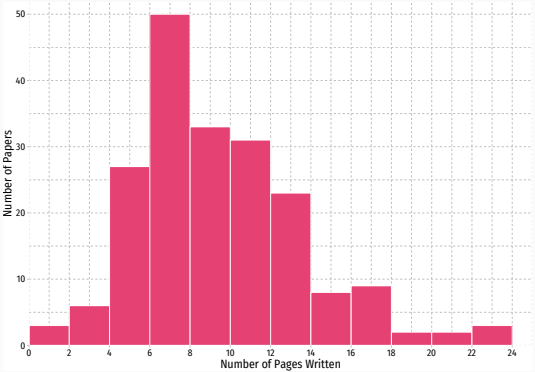
Max

Mean

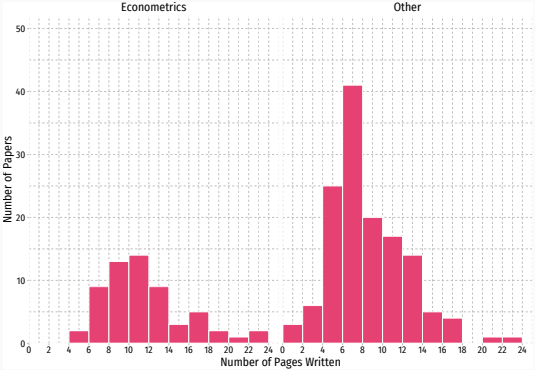
Std. Dev.

Covid

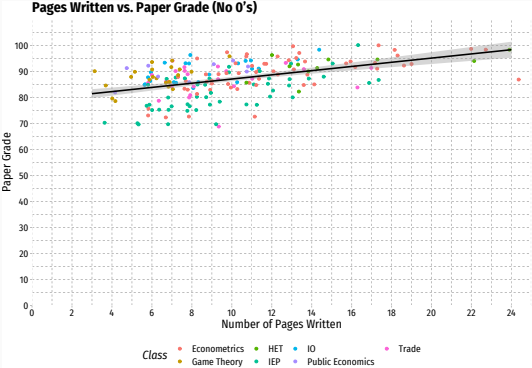
Data: Histogram of X



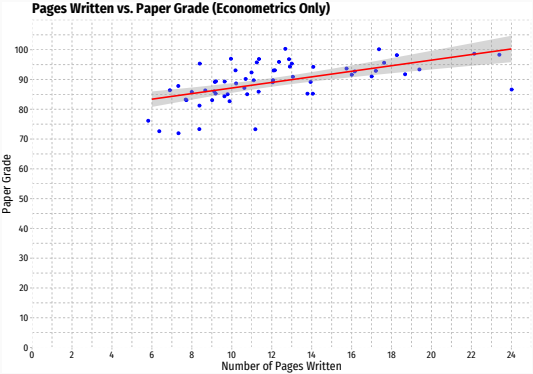
Data


Econometrics
Other
Number of Papers
0
10
20
30
40
50
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24
Number of Pages Written

Data


Pages Written vs. Paper Grade (No 0's)
Paper Grade
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
0
2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
20
22
24
Number of Pages Written
Class
Econometrics
Game Theory
HET
IEP
IO
Public Economics
Trade

Data


Pages Written vs. Paper Grade (Econometrics Only)
Paper Grade
Number of Pages Written
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100
0
2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
20
22
24

Empirical Model

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Paper Grade}_i = &\beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Paper Length}_i + \beta_2 \text{Course Grade}_i \\ &+ \beta_3 \text{Gender}_i + \beta_4 \text{School}_i + \beta_5 \text{Covid}_i \\ &+ \beta_6 \text{Course}_i + u_i\end{aligned}$$