

MITx: 14.310x Data Analysis for Social Scientists

Help



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- Module 2:

 Fundamentals of
 Probability, Random

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Education IV Example, cont. - Quiz

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Question 1

0.0/1.0 point (graded)

Why would your estimate of $m{\beta}$ in the following simple OLS model be a biased estimate of the effect of education on earnings? (Select all that apply)

$$Y_i = \alpha + \beta A_i + \epsilon_i$$

where Y_i denotes earnings and A_i is whether individual i goes to secondary school

- a. We believe that education is a bad instrument.
- lacksquare b. We do not believe that Y and A_i are correlated.
- lacklossim c. We do not believe that A_i and the error term are uncorrelated

<u>Functions of Random</u> Variable

- Module 5: Moments of a Random Variable,
 Applications to Auctions, & Intro to Regression
- Module 6: Special
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- Module 7: Assessing and Deriving Estimators -Confidence Intervals, and Hypothesis Testing
- Module 8: Causality,
 Analyzing Randomized
 Experiments, &
 Nonparametric
 Regression

 $exttt{ iny }$ d. We believe that there are omitted variables in these regression, which are correlated both with ϵ and A_i .



Explanation

We do not believe A_i and the error term are uncorrelated because by definition, since ability is an omitted variable that means it is correlated with both A_i and the error term. So C implies your $\hat{\beta}$ would be biased. D is a more explicit version of C, so it is also correct.

B just means your true beta is 0, it says nothing about the interpretability of your $\hat{\beta}$. A is irrelevant because we are not instrumenting anything in the model above.

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You have used 2 of 2 attempts

Question 2

1.0/1.0 point (graded)

Professor Duflo mentioned that the secondary school study had a 97% tracking rate. Which of the following might be the problem if they had a low tracking rate? (Select all that apply)

a. The final sample for which they have data might not be representative of their initial sample.

- Module 9: Single and Multivariate Linear Models
- Module 10: Practical Issues in Running Regressions, and Omitted Variable Bias
- Module 11: Intro to
 Machine Learning and
 Data Visualization
- Module 12:

 Endogeneity,
 Instrumental

 Variables, and
 Experimental Design

Endogeneity and Instrumental Variables

Finger Exercises due Dec 14, 2016 05:00 IST

Experimental Design

Finger Exercises due Dec 14, 2016 05:00 IST

Module 12: Homework

- b. Low tracking rates imply that your instrument was not randomly assigned.
- c. Low tracking rates imply that your instrument is not correlated with your regressor.
- d. The set of people who dropped out might be different in the treatment and control groups, leading to a final sample that is not comparable in Treatment and Control groups.



Explanation

As Prof. Duflo explained, there are two concerns with low tracking: first, the sample you end up with might be different from the sample you started with. Therefore, you might be worried that you are not estimating what you thought you were or on the relevant population of interest. The second reason one might worry about low tracking rates is that the set of people who couldn't be tracked might be different in both groups. This would imply that the remaining samples in each group are no longer comparable, and your estimates would be biased since they fail to account for that.

B is incorrect, because you might have low tracking rates even in an RCT.

C is incorrect because low tracking rates do not imply anything about whether your instrument is correlated with your regressor.

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(A)

You have used 1 of 2 attempts

Homework due Dec 12, 2016 Question 3 (A) 05:00 IST 1.0/1.0 point (graded) True or False: As described in the lecture, the fact that the scholarships are randomly assigned, enabled Prof. Duflo and her co-authors to identify the casual effect of assigned scholarships on ▶ Exit Survey school completion rates. a. True 🗸 b. False **Explanation** In this segment, Prof.Duflo uses the random assignment of scholarships to estimate the causal effect of assigned scholarships on secondary school enrollment rates Submit You have used 1 of 1 attempt Discussion **Show Discussion** Topic: Module 12 / Education IV Example, cont. - Quiz



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