

MITx: 14.310x Data Analysis for Social Scientists

Help



- Module 1: The Basics of R and Introduction to the Course
- Entrance Survey
- Module 2:

 Fundamentals of
 Probability, Random
 Variables,
 Distributions, and Joint
 Distributions
- Module 3: Gathering and Collecting Data,
 Ethics, and Kernel Density Estimates
- Module 4: Joint,
 Marginal, and
 Conditional
 Distributions &

Module 12: Endogeneity, Instrumental Variables, and Experimental Design > Endogeneity and Instrumental Variables > Assessing the Instrument - Quiz

Assessing the Instrument - Quiz

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Question 1

1.0/1.0 point (graded)

A good instrument needs to: (Select all that apply)

- a. Be correlated with your regressor of interest
- b. Randomly assigned or as good as randomly assigned
- ☑ c. Have no direct effect on the outcome variable of interest.
- d. Positively correlated with the outcome variable



Explanation

If the instrument is not correlated with the regressor, then it will not produce variation in the regressor. If the instrument is not randomly assigned, then the instrument may not produce only exogenous variation in the regressor. If the instrument directly affected the outcome variable, then

<u>Functions of Random</u> Variable

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

we could not distinguish between the effect from the variation in the regressor and the direct effect. Positive correlation with the outcome variable is irrelevant.

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You have used 1 of 2 attempts

Question 2

1.0/1.0 point (graded)

Which of the conditions for a good instrument **cannot** be tested or proven empirically? (Select all that apply)

- a. Your instrument is correlated with your regressor of interest.
- b. Your instrument is randomly or as good as randomly assigned.
- c. Your instrument has no direct effect on Y
- d. They can all be tested.



Explanation

We can test A very easily by regressing the regressor on the instrument. With an RCT, B is guaranteed (in other cases, we might need to assume this, however, you can show that the instrument is uncorrelated with other observable baseline characteristics to support your claim

- 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

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Experimental Design

Finger Exercises due Dec 14, 2016 05:00 IST

Module 12: Homework

that this assumption holds). We cannot test C, because the direct effect on Y and the indirect effect (through the instrumented for regressor) cannot be disentangled. The key assumption underlying any IV strategy is that the only impact of your instrument on your outcome (test scores) is through your instruments' effect on your regressor (attendance). This is commonly known as the "exclusion restriction."

This is not an assumption you can test or prove empirically, but you can try and think of what other variables might be affected by your instrument and affect your outcome of interest and try to find evidence in support of your claim.

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You have used 2 of 2 attempts

Question 3

1.0/1.0 point (graded)

Which of the following statements represent the assumption that the "exclusion restriction" is satisfied in this context?

$$ullet$$
 a. $E[\epsilon_i \,|\, Z_i=1]-E[\epsilon_i \,|\, Z_i=0]=0$ 🗸

$$lacksquare$$
 b. $E[A_i \, | \, Z_i = 1] - E[A_i \, | \, Z_i = 0]
eq 0$

ullet c. $E[X_i \,|\, Z_i=1]-E[X_i \,|\, Z_i=0]=0,$ where X_i is a vector of observable baseline characteristics.

Homework due Dec 12, 2016	
05:00 IST	

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$$ullet$$
 d. $E[Y_i \, | \, Z_i = 1] - E[Y_i \, | \, Z_i = 0]
eq 0$

Exit Survey

Explanation

As explained, the exclusion restriction refers to the assumption that is that the only impact of your instrument on your outcome (test scores) is through your instruments' effect on your regressor (attendance). This requires that there is no omitted variable in your model which is correlated with both assignment and test scores. This will only be true if your error term is uncorrelated with your instrument.

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You have used 1 of 2 attempts

Discussion

Topic: Module 12 / Assessing the Instrument - Quiz

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