

Multiple linear regression

Lecture: 12

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Statistics

Outline

- 1 Linear Regression Assumptions
- 2 Introduction to multiple linear regression
- 3 Interpretation of regression estimators
- 4 Hypothesis testing
- 5 Exercise

Assumption 1

- In the population model, the relationship of the dependent variable y with the independent variable x and the error (or disturbance) ε is given by:

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \varepsilon$$

The model is linear in the parameters.

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Assumption 3

- The error terms are random variables, $\varepsilon_i (i = 1, \dots, n)$, which have a mean of 0 and variance σ^2 . This property is called homoscedasticity, or uniform variance:

$$E(\varepsilon_i) = 0 \text{ and } E(\varepsilon_i^2) = \sigma^2 \quad (1)$$

Assumption 4

- The random error terms, ε , are not correlated with one another, so that

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Assumption 5

- There is no direct linear relationship between the independent variables.

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Example: the determinants of imports

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- Economic theory argues that factors such as income of a country (GDP) and price competitiveness affect the demand for its imports. This simple argument leads to a model such as:

$$imports = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Y + \beta_2 REER + e$$

where Y is GDP, and $REER$ is real effective exchange rate (which is a proxy of price competitiveness)

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- In general, a multiple linear regression is given by:

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_k x_k + \varepsilon$$

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- The estimator β_2 is estimated as follows:

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- OLS will estimate β_1 and β_2 in such a way that it will minimise the sum of squared residuals:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (y - (\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2))^2$$

The minimisation process involves taking partial derivatives (which we will do in Econometrics I).

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- Now to interpret the above, first we need to know the units of education and wages. For example, if this model investigates the effect of years of education on hourly wage. Then, we will interpret the model as: *an increase in one year of education increases hourly wage by β_1 .*
- Note: if we take the natural log of the variables, the interpretations will change which we will cover in Econometrics I

Example: A simple regression model

```
library(foreign)
data1<-read.dta("http://fmwww.bc.edu/ec-p/data/wooldridge/wage1.dta")
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```
wage = data1$wage
educ=data1$educ
slr=lm(wage~educ)
slr

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = wage ~ educ)
##
## Coefficients:
## (Intercept)      educ
##      -0.905      0.541
```

In the above example, one year of additional education is associated with a 0.5 dollar increase in hourly wage.

Multiple linear regression (cont)

Interpretation

- Assume a multiple regression model with two independent variables (x_1 and x_2):

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + e \quad (6)$$

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- β_1 and β_2 are the **partial effects** of x_1 and x_2 , respectively.

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- R usually performs all these calculations for you. You can see the details of your model by typing: `summary(mlr)`. Note mlr is the name of my model.

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- And finally, you have to test whether these estimates are statistically significant or not?
- Calculate the confidence interval of your estimators