Title

persuasio4yz — Conduct causal inference on persuasive effects for binary outcomes *y* and binary instruments *z*

Syntax

persuasio4yz *depvar* *instrvar* [*covariates*] [*if*] [*in*] [, **level**(*#*) **model**(*string*) **method**(*string*) **nboot**(*#*) **title**(*string*)]

Options

option	*Description*
level(*#*)	Set confidence level; default is **level**(95)
model(*string*)	Regression model when *covariates* are present
method(*string*)	Inference method; default is **method**("normal")
nboot(*#*)	Perform # bootstrap replications
title(*string*)	Title of estimation

Description

persuasio4yz conducts causal inference on persuasive effects.

It is assumed that binary outcomes *y* and binary instruments *z* are observed. This command is for the case when persuasive treatment (*t*) is unobserved, using an estimate of the lower bound on the average persuation rate (APR) via this package's command **aprlb**.

varlist should include *depvar* *instrvar* *covariates* in order. Here, *depvar* is binary outcomes (*y*), *instrvar* is binary instruments (*z*), and *covariates* (*x*) are optional.

When treatment *t* is unobserved, the upper bound on the APR is simply 1.

There are two cases: (i) *covariates* are absent and (ii) *covariates* are present.

- Without *x*, the lower bound (**theta_L**) on the APR is defined by

theta_L = {Pr(*y*=1|*z*=1) - Pr(*y*=1|*z*=0)}/{1 - Pr(*y*=1|*z*=0)}.

The estimate and confidence interval are obtained by the following procedure:

1. Pr(y=1|z=1) and Pr(y=1|z=0) are estimated by regressing y on z.
2. **theta_L** is computed using the estimates obtained above.
3. The standard error is computed via STATA command **nlcom**.
4. Then, a confidence interval for the APR is set by

    [*est* - *cv* * *se* , 1],

where *est* is the estimate, *se* is the standard error, and *cv* is the one-sided standard normal critical value (e.g., *cv* = 1.645 for **level**(95)).

- With x, the lower bound (**theta_L**) on the APR is defined by

    theta_L = E[**theta_L**(x)],

where

    theta_L(x) = {Pr(y=1|z=1,x) - Pr(y=1|z=0,x)}/{1 - Pr(y=1|z=0,x)}.

The estimate is obtained by the following procedure.

If **model**("no_interaction") is selected (default choice),

1. Pr(y=1|z,x) is estimated by regressing y on z and x.

Alternatively, if **model**("interaction") is selected,

1a. Pr(y=1|z=1,x) is estimated by regressing y on x given z = 1.
1b. Pr(y=1|z=0,x) is estimated by regressing y on x given z = 0.

Ater step 1, both options are followed by:

2. For each x in the estimation sample, **theta_L**(x) is evaluated.
3. The estimates of **theta_L**(x) are averaged to estimate **theta_L**.
4. A bootstrap confidence interval for the APR is set by

    [bs_est(*alpha*) , 1],

where bs_est(*alpha*) is the *alpha* quantile of the bootstrap estimates of **theta_L** and 1 - *alpha* is the confidence level.

The bootstrap procedure is implemented via STATA command **bootstrap**.

Options

model(*string*) specifies a regression model of *y* on *z* and *x*.

This option is only relevant when *x* is present. The default option is "no_interaction" between *z* and *x*. When "interaction" is selected, full interactions between *z* and *x* are allowed; this is accomplished by estimating Pr(*y*=1|*z*=1,*x*) and Pr(*y*=1|*z*=0,*x*), separately.

level(#) sets confidence level; default is **level**(95).

method(*string*) refers the method for inference.

The default option is **method**("normal"). By the naure of identification, one-sided confidence intervals are produced.

1. When *x* is present, it needs to be set as **method**("bootstrap"); otherwise, the confidence interval will be missing.

2. When *x* is absent, both options yield non-missing confidence intervals.

nboot(#) chooses the number of bootstrap replications.

The default option is **nboot**(50). It is only relevant when **method**("bootstrap") is selected.

title(*string*) specifies the title of estimation.

Remarks

It is recommended to use **nboot**(#) with # at least 1000. A default choice of 50 is meant to check the code initially because it may take a long time to run the bootstrap part. The bootstrap confidence interval is based on percentile bootstrap. A use of normality-based bootstrap confidence interval is not recommended because bootstrap standard errors can be unreasonably large in applications.

Examples

We first call the dataset included in the package.

```
. use GKB, clear
```

The first example conducts inference on the APR without covariates, using normal approximation.

```
. persuasio4yz voteddem_all post, level(80) method("normal")
```

The second example conducts bootstrap inference on the APR.

```
. persuasio4yz voteddem_all post, level(80) method("bootstrap")
nboot(1000)
```

The third example conducts bootstrap inference on the APR with a covariate, MZwave2, interacting with the instrument, post.

```
. persuasio4yz voteddem_all post MZwave2, level(80)
model("interaction") method("bootstrap") nboot(1000)
```

Stored results

Matrices

e(apr_est): (1*2 matrix) bounds on the average persuasion rate in the form of [lb, 1]

e(apr_ci): (1*2 matrix) confidence interval for the average persuasion rate in the form of [lb_ci, 1]

Macros

e(cilevel): confidence level

e(inference_method): inference method: "normal" or "bootstrap"

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References

Sung Jae Jun and Sokbae Lee (2019), Identifying the Effect of Persuasion, arXiv:1812.02276 [econ.EM]