Revisiting valid instruments: A Bayesian approach

Jonathan Sweeney

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Applied Micro Workshop, February 21, 2017

Valid Instruments

- Satisfy the exclusion restriction
- Satisfy the monotonicity assumption

•

Valid Instruments

► These assumptions are relevant whether you use IVs to evaluate causality or in traditional simultaneous equation models.

The Phenomenological Bayesian Approach

- ► Causal inference is framed in terms of potentially observable outcomes for all units to all treatments.
- ▶ What about the counterfactual problem? It doesn't exist for Bayesians.

In the morning

```
# Generate data
n <- 1000
z <- rnorm(n)
x <- 1 + 2*z + rnorm(n)

# True model specified by instrument
e <- rnorm(n, 1)
y <- 3 + 1.5*2*x + e</pre>
```

Getting up

- ► Turn off alarm
- ▶ Get out of bed

Breakfast