

# Econometrics

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笔记使用中英双语。斜体为个人批注。翻译在括号中。

教材: "Introduction to Econometrics (4th Edition)" by Stock, Watson

## Lecture 1

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### 1.1 The population linear regression model (总体回归函数)

Linear regression lets us estimate the population regression line and its slope.

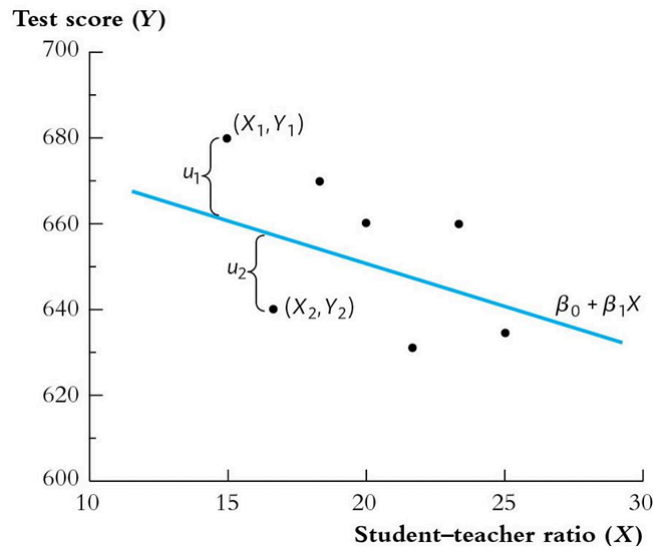
- The The population regression line is the **expected value** of  $Y$  given  $X$ .
- The estimated regression can be used either for:
  - **causal inference** (learning about the causal effect on  $Y$  of a change in  $X$ )
  - **prediction** (predicting the value of  $Y$  given  $X$ , for an observation not in the data set)
- **Causal inference** and **prediction** place different requirements on the data – but both use the same regression toolkit.

Statistical, or econometric, inference about the slope entails

- Estimation:
  - How should we draw a line through the data to estimate the population slope?
    - Answer: ordinary least squares (OLS, 最小二乘法).
- Hypothesis testing
- Confidence intervals (置信区间)

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i + u_i, i = 1, \dots, n \quad (1)$$

- We have  $n$  observations,  $(X_i, Y_i), i = 1, \dots, n$ .
- $X$  is the independent variable or regressor
- $Y$  is the dependent variable
- $\beta_0$  = intercept
- $\beta_1$  = slope
- $u_i$  = the regression error
- The regression error consists of omitted factors and error in the measurement of  $Y$ .



## 1.2 Derivation (推导) of OLS estimator (估计值) $\hat{\beta}_0$ and $\hat{\beta}_1$

Pick  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  to minimize the sum of the squared errors.

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2$$

We get

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\beta}_0 &= \bar{Y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{X} \\ \hat{\beta}_1 &= \frac{\sum_i^n (X_i - \bar{X})(Y_i - \bar{Y})}{\sum_i^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

The OLS predicted values  $\hat{Y}_i$  and residuals  $u_i$  are

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{Y}_i &= \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i \\ u_i &= Y_i - \hat{Y}_i \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

## 1.3 Measures of Fit

Two regression statistics provide complementary measures of **how well the regression line “fits”** or explains the data.

### 1.3.1 The Regression $R^2$

It measures the fraction (比例) of the variance of  $Y$  is explained by  $X$ . It ranges from 0 (no fit) to 1 (perfect fit).

$$R^2 = \frac{\text{ESS}}{\text{TSS}} = \frac{\sum_i^n (\hat{Y}_i - \bar{Y})^2}{\sum_i^n (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2} \quad (4)$$

- **TSS (Total Sum of Squares)** :  $Y$  的总变异 (实际值与均值的偏离) 。
- **ESS (Explained Sum of Squares)** : 回归模型能解释的变异 (预测值与均值的偏离) 。
- **RSS (Residual Sum of Squares)** :  $\sum_i^n \hat{u}_i^2$   
模型无法解释的残差异变 (实际值与预测值的偏离) 。

$$\text{TSS} = \text{ESS} + \text{RSS} \quad (5)$$

### 1.3.2 The Standard Error of the Regression (SER)

The SER measures the spread of the distribution of  $u$ . The SER is (almost) the sample standard deviation of the OLS residuals

$$\begin{aligned}\text{SER} &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-2} \sum_i^n (\hat{u}_i - \bar{\hat{u}})^2} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-2} \sum_i^n \hat{u}_i^2}\end{aligned}\tag{6}$$

The second equality holds because  $\bar{\hat{u}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i^n \hat{u}_i = 0$ .

Division by  $n - 2$  is a "degrees of freedom" correction, because two parameters ( $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ ) have been estimated.

When  $n$  is large, it doesn't matter whether  $n$ ,  $n - 1$ , or  $n - 2$  are used.

### 1.3.3 Adjusted $R^2$

The measure  $R^2$  defined earlier keeps on increasing as we add extra explanatory variables and thus **not take account of the degrees of freedom problem**.

增加变量会增强模型的拟合能力,  $RSS$ 会相应减小,  $R^2 = 1 - \frac{RSS}{TSS}$  则增大, 直到等于1. 过度增加变量会导致过拟合。

The adjusted  $R^2$  is simply  $R^2$  adjusted for degrees of freedom.

$$1 - \bar{R}^2 = \frac{n-1}{n-(k+1)}(1 - R^2)\tag{7}$$

where  $k$  is the number of regressors.

参数比变量多一个 $\beta_0$ .

If  $R^2$  does not increase significantly on the addition of a new independent variable, then the value of  $\bar{R}^2$  will actually decrease. Vice versa.

## 1.4 The Least Square Assumption for Causal Inference

We have treated OLS as a way to draw a straight line through the data on  $Y$  and  $X$ . We want to know under what conditions does the slope of this line have a causal interpretation?

**The least square assumption for causal inference:**

1. The conditional distribution of  $u$  given  $X$  has mean zero, that is  $E(u|X = x) = 0$ 
  - It implies that  $X_i$  and  $u_i$  are uncorrelated. 这意味着 $X$ 是一个足够独立的变量在影响 $Y$ , 而不会通过 $u$ 作用于 $Y$ 。
2.  $(X_i, Y_i)$  are independently and identically distributed.
3. Large outliers in  $X$  and/or  $Y$  are rare.