

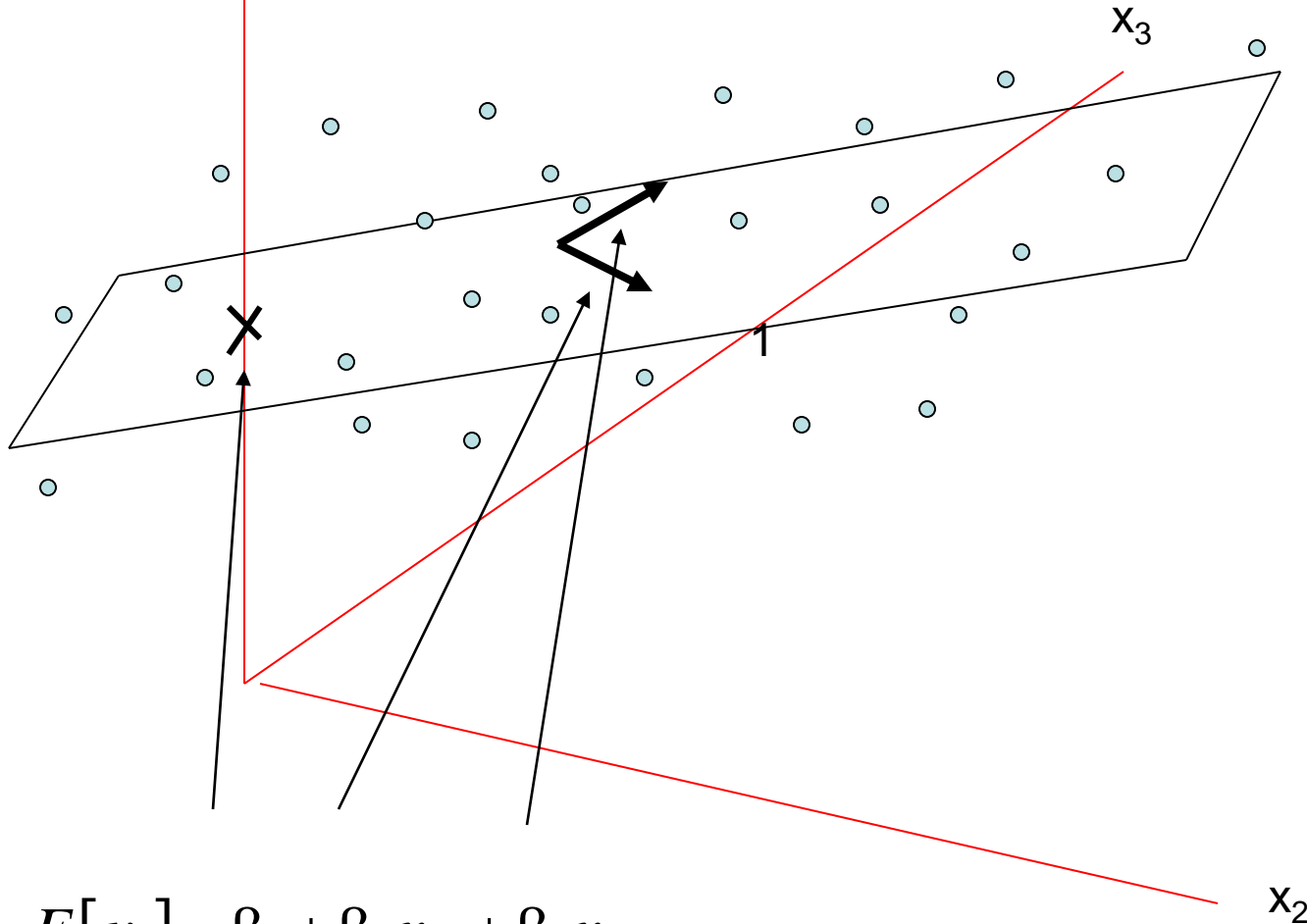
Econometrics V lecture 3

Multiple Regression Analysis

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- Basic principle the same.
- OLS still minimises the sum of the squared residuals.
- Now there is more than 1 explanatory (right hand side) variable.
- Slide on next page illustrates idea when we have 2 explanatory variables – its 3D space and we fit a plane

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$$E[y_t] = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_{t2} + \beta_3 x_{t3}$$

- Start with a simple example:
-
- What might y and x_1 and x_2 be?
- y could be consumption
- x_2 could be income
- x_3 could be the interest rate
- Interpretation of parameters?
- Very similar to simple regression

$$\beta_2 = \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} \quad \beta_3 = \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_3}$$

- What if we were using logarithms???

- Assumptions?
- Essentially those of simple regression – but now we have to add to the assumption that x is not random as there are more than 1 x variables (explanatory variables).
- We now have to assume that the x variables are not perfectly linearly related to each other ie $x_2 \neq 4x_3$ – this is the assumption of no perfect multicollinearity.

- SR1 $E[y_t] = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_{t2} + \beta_3 x_{t3}$
- SR2. $E(e) = 0 \Leftrightarrow E(y) = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x$
- SR3. $\text{var}(e) = \sigma^2 = \text{var}(y)$
- SR4. $\text{cov}(e_i, e_j) = \text{cov}(y_i, y_j) = 0$
- SR5. The variable x is not random and are not exact linear functions of each other.
- SR6. (optional) The values of e are *normally distributed* about their mean

$$e \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

- Multicollinearity
- M is important – think how it might arise.
- If we do have perfect M ols will fail – try it – make up some data and make one of the x's a linear function of the other – then try running it.
- The software will fail – - “singular matrix” or some such nonsense?!

- We will look at the effects of M later in the lecture – but the logic is simple – suppose you are trying to explain the weight of individuals – you use two explanatory variables – height and inside leg measurement.
- OLS will have problems sorting out the effects of the 2 exp. Variables because they are likely to be highly collinear.

- Estimation

- You will not have to do any calculations “by hand” for the multiple regression model – computers only and in the exam we will focus on interpretation and use of results – not parameter calculation.
- Method the same:

$$E[y_t] = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_{t2} + \beta_3 x_{t3}$$

$$\text{Min}^m Q = \sum (y - \hat{\beta}_1 - \hat{\beta}_2 - \hat{\beta}_3)^2$$

$$\text{w.r.t. } \hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2, \hat{\beta}_3$$

- So as before – differentiate w.r.t. to each parameter, set equal to zero – we will get 3 equations in 3 unknowns, the normal equations - which can then be solved.
- So given data on y , x_1 and x_2 we can use the method of ols to obtain estimates of the parameters β_1 , β_2 and β_3 which we will call

$$\hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2, \hat{\beta}_3$$

- OK just like simple regression
- We have estimators of the parameters
- Once again the estimators are random variables.
- Again to make it useful we need to know their means and variances
- Once again it turns out expected values equal population values – so we just need formulae for the variances.
- Once again the first step is the error variance

- And once again

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\sum \hat{e}^2}{T - k}$$

- So the estimator of the error variance uses the same formulae as for simple regression but now k is not always equal to 2
- k is the number of estimated parameters in the regression model so varies according to how many explanatory variables there are.

- Now, and again without proof, we can work out expressions for the variances and covariances of the estimated parameters.
- These formulae involve σ^2 and we can use our estimate of this.
- For our example model

$$E[y_t] = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_{t2} + \beta_3 x_{t3}$$

- We can write these down. For example:

$$\hat{\text{var}}(\hat{\beta}_2) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_1^T (x_2 - \bar{x}_2)^2 (1 - r_{23}^2)}$$
$$r_{12} = \frac{\sum (x_2 - \bar{x}_2)(x_3 - \bar{x}_3)}{\sqrt{\sum (x_2 - \bar{x}_2)^2 \sum (x_3 - \bar{x}_3)^2}}$$

which is the correlation coefficient between x_2 and x_3

- I don't expect you to remember that – but there are some things about it I do expect you to remember.
- Smaller variance is important. The smaller the parameter variance is the more likely the estimate is going to be close to its true value.
- If the variance is large (and since the test of significance of the coefficient is coefficient divided by se) then the estimated coefficient is not likely to be statistically significant.

- So its good to know what factors affect the size of the variance of the estimated coefficients.
- Lets list them – you keep looking back at the slide with the formulae

$$\text{vâr}(\hat{\beta}_2) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_1^T (x_2 - \bar{x}_2)^2 (1 - r_{23}^2)}$$

- The larger σ^2 the larger the variance of the least squares estimators. This is to be expected since σ^2 measures the overall uncertainty in the model specification. If σ^2 is large, then data values may be widely spread about the regression function

$$E[y_t] = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_{t2} + \beta_3 x_{t3}$$

- and there is less information in the data about the parameter values.

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- The larger sample size T the smaller the variances. The sum in the denominator is

$$\sum_{t=1}^T (x_{t2} - \bar{x}_2)^2$$

- The larger is the sample size T the larger is this sum and thus the smaller is the variance.
- More observations yield more precise parameter estimation.

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- In order to estimate β_2 precisely we would like there to be a large amount of variation in x_{t2} , $\sum_{t=1}^T (x_{t2} - \bar{x}_2)^2$. The intuition here is that it is easier to measure β_2 , the change in y we expect given a change in x_2 , the more sample variation (change) in the values of x_2 that we observe.

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- In the denominator of $\text{var}(b_2)$ is the term where r_{23} is the correlation between the sample values of x_{t2} and x_{t3} . Recall that the correlation coefficient measures the linear association between two variables. If the values of x_{t2} and x_{t3} are correlated then

$$1 - r_{23}^2$$

- is a fraction that is less than 1.

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- The larger the correlation between x_{t2} and x_{t3} the larger is the variance of the least squares estimator b_2 . The reason for this fact is that variation in x_{t2} adds most to the precision of estimation when it is not connected to variation in the other explanatory variables.
- If the two variables are linearly related the correlation coefficient = 1 and ols fails. This is perfect multicollinearity

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- So just as with simple regression the variances and covariance's between the estd parameters will be of interest and we could write formulae down for them.
- We will not be writing them down but the computer will be calculating them.
- Once again we can get the computer to print the variance/covariance matrix for the estimated coefficients.

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3 + \beta_4 + e$$

	b_0	b_1	b_2	b_3	b_4
b_0	var(b_0)				
b_1					
b_2					
b_3					
b_4		cov(b_4, b_1)			

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- Now the next bits are easy.
- If the error term is assumed normally distributed, then just as in the simple regression case:

$$t = \frac{\hat{\beta}_k - \beta_k}{se(\hat{\beta}_k)} \sim t_{T-k}$$

and

$$\hat{\beta}_k \pm t_c \cdot se(\hat{\beta}_k)$$

gives us a confidence interval

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- R^2 and \bar{R}^2
- How is it calculated
- Why is that not much help in the multiple regression case.
- If we have $T-1$ variables $R^2 = 1$

$$\bar{R}^2 = 1 - \frac{SSE / (T - k)}{SST / (T - 1)}$$

- Now no longer % total variation explained
- Think of it as fit
- Uses – and abuses – don't use to pick variables for inclusion

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- We have used our t test to test simple hypothesis about single coefficients.
- It can be used for slightly more complex hypothesis.
- Example
- $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1x_1 + \beta_2x_2 + u$
- $H_0 : \beta_1 = 4$
- $H_a : \beta_1 \neq 4$
- Is straight forward

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- But what about
- $H_0 : \beta_1 = 2\beta_2$

- This can be done in the usual way but will need some manipulation

- How about
- $H_0 : \beta_1 + \beta_2 = 4$

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- What about
- $H_0 : \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$
- Can we do this using a t test – how about 2 t tests?
- If we cannot reject $H_0 \beta_2 = 0$ and we cannot reject $H_0 \beta_3 = 0$ then we cannot reject the above?
- Not necessarily – the estimators of β_2 and β_3 are correlated – a test of joint hypothesis such as the above should take this into account
- Think of example of equation with multicollinearity??????
- Effects of multicollinearity – signs of multicollinearity....

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- So rule of thumb
- If there is a single = sign it can be done as a t test (you need the VCV matrix – if this is not there take that as a hint that you have to do it a different way)
- If there is more than 1 equals sign (multiple restrictions) it cannot be done as a t test – we will look in a future slide at the F test which is how we will do it.

- Multiple Regression Analysis

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

- 3. Asymptotic Properties

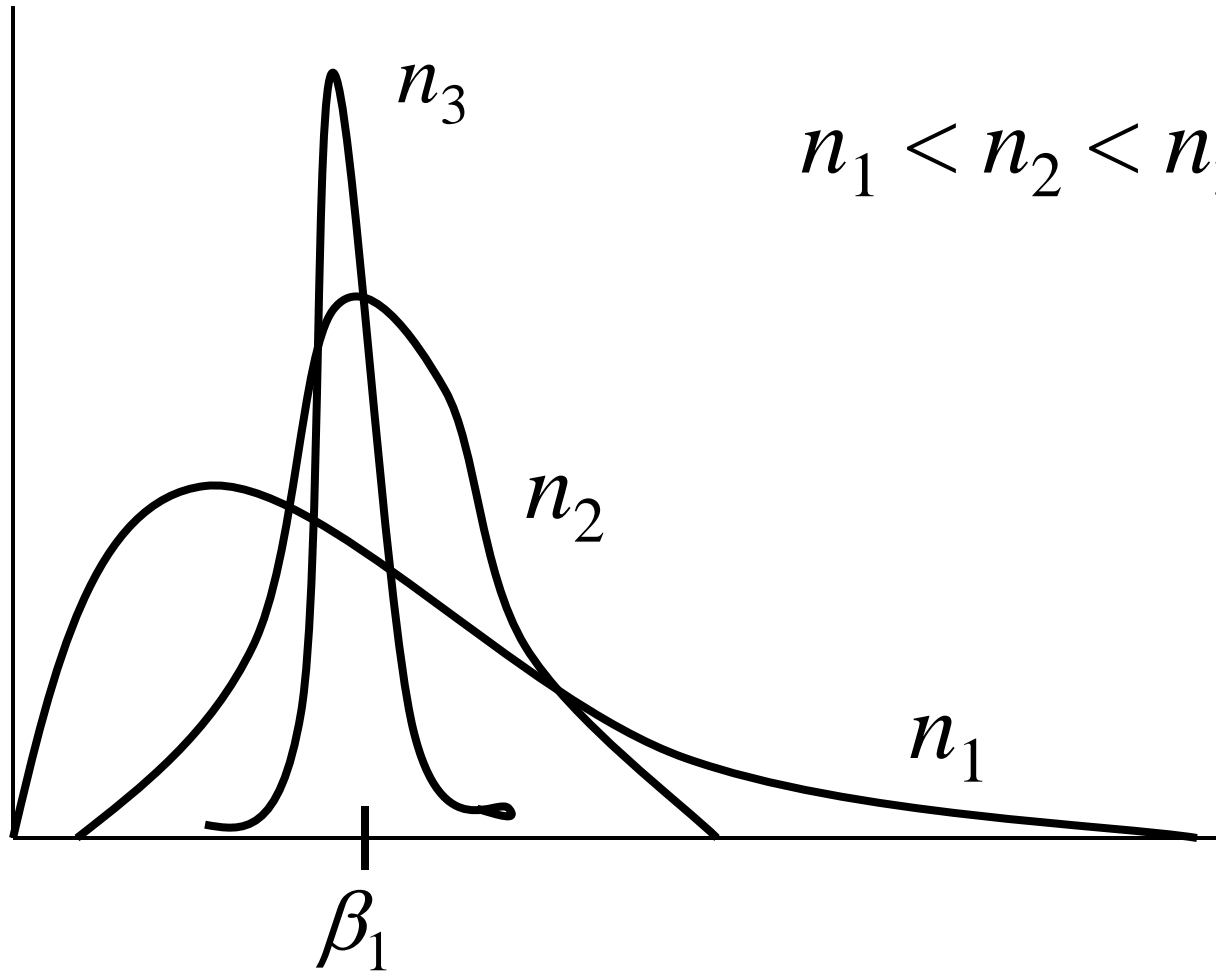
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Consistency

- Under the Gauss-Markov assumptions OLS is BLUE, but in other cases it won't always be possible to find unbiased estimators
- In those cases, we may settle for estimators that are consistent, meaning as $n \rightarrow \infty$, the distribution of the estimator collapses to the parameter value

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Sampling Distributions as $n \uparrow$



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Consistency of OLS

- Under the Gauss-Markov assumptions, the OLS estimator is consistent (and unbiased)
- Consistency can be proved for the simple regression case in a manner similar to the proof of unbiasedness
- Will need to take probability limit (plim) to establish consistency

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \left(\sum (x_{i1} - \bar{x}_1) y_i \right) / \left(\sum (x_{i1} - \bar{x}_1)^2 \right)$$
$$= \beta_1 + \left(n^{-1} \sum (x_{i1} - \bar{x}_1) u_i \right) / \left(n^{-1} \sum (x_{i1} - \bar{x}_1)^2 \right)$$

$$\text{plim} \hat{\beta}_1 = \beta_1 + \text{Cov}(x_1, u) / \text{Var}(x_1) = \beta_1$$

$$\text{because } \text{Cov}(x_1, u) = 0$$

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A Weaker Assumption

- For unbiasedness, we assumed a zero conditional mean – $E(u|x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) = 0$
- For consistency, we can have the weaker assumption of zero mean and zero correlation – $E(u) = 0$ and $\text{Cov}(x_j, u) = 0$, for $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$
- Without this assumption, OLS will be biased and inconsistent!

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Deriving the Inconsistency

- Just as we could derive the omitted variable bias earlier, now we want to think about the inconsistency, or asymptotic bias, in this case

True model : $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + v$

You think : $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + u$, so that

$u = \beta_2 x_2 + v$ and, $\text{plim} \tilde{\beta}_1 = \beta_1 + \beta_2 \delta$

where $\delta = \text{Cov}(x_1, x_2) / \text{Var}(x_1)$

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Asymptotic Bias (cont)

- So, thinking about the direction of the asymptotic bias is just like thinking about the direction of bias for an omitted variable
- Main difference is that asymptotic bias uses the population variance and covariance, while bias uses the sample counterparts
- Remember, inconsistency is a large sample problem – it doesn't go away as add data

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Large Sample Inference

- Recall that under the CLM assumptions, the sampling distributions are normal, so we could derive t and F distributions for testing
- This exact normality was due to assuming the population error distribution was normal
- This assumption of normal errors implied that the distribution of y , given the x 's, was normal as well

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- If there are n data points to estimate parameters of both models from, then one can calculate the F statistic, given by

$$F = \frac{\left(\frac{RSS_1 - RSS_2}{p_2 - p_1} \right)}{\frac{RSS_2}{n - p_2}}$$

- where RSS_i is the residual sum of squares of model i .

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Large Sample Inference (cont)

- Easy to come up with examples for which this exact normality assumption will fail
- Any clearly skewed variable, like wages, arrests, savings, etc. can't be normal, since a normal distribution is symmetric
- Normality assumption not needed to conclude OLS is BLUE, only for inference

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Central Limit Theorem

- ◆ Based on the central limit theorem, we can show that OLS estimators are asymptotically normal
- ◆ Asymptotic Normality implies that $P(Z < z) \rightarrow \Phi(z)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, or $P(Z < z) \approx \Phi(z)$
- ◆ The central limit theorem states that the standardized average of any population with mean μ and variance σ^2 is asymptotically $\sim N(0,1)$, or

$$Z = \frac{\bar{Y} - \mu_Y}{\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}} \overset{a}{\sim} N(0,1)$$

Under the Gauss - Markov assumptions,

$$(i) \sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j) \overset{a}{\sim} \text{Normal}(0, \sigma^2 / a_j^2),$$

$$\text{where } a_j^2 = \text{plim}(n^{-1} \sum \hat{r}_{ij}^2)$$

(ii) $\hat{\sigma}^2$ is a consistent estimator of σ^2

$$(iii) (\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j) / se(\hat{\beta}_j) \overset{a}{\sim} \text{Normal}(0,1)$$

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Asymptotic Normality (cont)

- Because the t distribution approaches the normal distribution for large df , we can also say that

$$\left(\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j \right) / se\left(\hat{\beta}_j \right) \sim t_{n-k-1}$$

- ◆ Note that while we no longer need to assume normality with a large sample, we do still need homoskedasticity

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Asymptotic Standard Errors

- ◆ If u is not normally distributed, we sometimes will refer to the standard error as an asymptotic standard error, since

$$se(\hat{\beta}_j) = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{SST_j(1 - R_j^2)}}$$

$$se(\hat{\beta}_j) \approx c_j / \sqrt{n}$$

- ◆ So, we can expect standard errors to shrink at a rate proportional to the inverse of \sqrt{n}

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Lagrange Multiplier statistic

- With large samples, by relying on asymptotic normality for inference, we can use more than t and F stats
- The Lagrange multiplier or LM statistic is an alternative for testing multiple exclusion restrictions
- Because the LM statistic uses an auxiliary regression it's sometimes called an nR^2 stat

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LM Statistic (cont)

- Suppose we have a standard model, $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_k x_k + u$ and our null hypothesis is
- $H_0: \beta_{k-q+1} = 0, \dots, \beta_k = 0$
- First, we just run the restricted model

$$y = \tilde{\beta}_0 + \tilde{\beta}_1 x_1 + \dots + \tilde{\beta}_{k-q} x_{k-q} + \tilde{u}$$

Now take the residuals, \tilde{u} , and regress \tilde{u} on x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k (i.e. *all* the variables)

$LM = nR_u^2$, where R_u^2 is from this reg

$LM \stackrel{a}{\sim} \chi_q^2$, so can choose a critical value, c , from a χ_q^2 distribution, or just calculate a p-value for χ_q^2

- With a large sample, the result from an F test and from an LM test should be similar
- Unlike the F test and t test for one exclusion, the LM test and F test will not be identical

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Multiple Regression Analysis

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

\diamond 4. Further Issues

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Asymptotic Efficiency

- Estimators besides OLS will be consistent
- However, under the Gauss-Markov assumptions, the OLS estimators will have the smallest asymptotic variances
- We say that OLS is asymptotically efficient
- Important to remember our assumptions though, if not homoskedastic, not true

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Redefining Variables

- Changing the scale of the y variable will lead to a corresponding change in the scale of the coefficients and standard errors, so no change in the significance or interpretation
- Changing the scale of one x variable will lead to a change in the scale of that coefficient and standard error, so no change in the significance or interpretation

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Beta Coefficients

- Occasional you'll see reference to a "standardized coefficient" or "beta coefficient" which has a specific meaning
- Idea is to replace y and each x variable with a standardized version – i.e. subtract mean and divide by standard deviation
- Coefficient reflects standard deviation of y for a one standard deviation change in x

Functional Form

- OLS can be used for relationships that are not strictly linear in x and y by using nonlinear functions of x and y – will still be linear in the parameters
- Can take the natural log of x , y or both
- Can use quadratic forms of x
- Can use interactions of x variables

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Interpretation of Log Models

- If the model is $\ln(y) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln(x) + u$
- β_1 is the elasticity of y with respect to x
- If the model is $\ln(y) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + u$
- β_1 is approximately the percentage change in y given a 1 unit change in x
- If the model is $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln(x) + u$
- β_1 is approximately the change in y for a 100 percent change in x

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Why use log models?

- Log models are invariant to the scale of the variables since measuring percent changes
- They give a direct estimate of elasticity
- For models with $y > 0$, the conditional distribution is often heteroskedastic or skewed, while $\ln(y)$ is much less so
- The distribution of $\ln(y)$ is more narrow, limiting the effect of outliers

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Some Rules of Thumb

- What types of variables are often used in log form?
- Dollar amounts that must be positive
- Very large variables, such as population
- What types of variables are often used in level form?
- Variables measured in years
- Variables that are a proportion or percent

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Quadratic Models

- For a model of the form $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_2 x^2 + u$ we can't interpret β_1 alone as measuring the change in y with respect to x , we need to take into account β_2 as well, since

$$\Delta \hat{y} \approx (\hat{\beta}_1 + 2\hat{\beta}_2 x) \Delta x, \text{ so}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \hat{y}}{\Delta x} \approx \hat{\beta}_1 + 2\hat{\beta}_2 x$$

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More on Quadratic Models

- Suppose that the coefficient on x is positive and the coefficient on x^2 is negative
- Then y is increasing in x at first, but will eventually turn around and be decreasing in x

For $\hat{\beta}_1 > 0$ and $\hat{\beta}_2 < 0$ the turning point

will be at $x^* = \left| \hat{\beta}_1 / (2\hat{\beta}_2) \right|$

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More on Quadratic Models

- Suppose that the coefficient on x is negative and the coefficient on x^2 is positive
- Then y is decreasing in x at first, but will eventually turn around and be increasing in x

For $\hat{\beta}_1 < 0$ and $\hat{\beta}_2 > 0$ the turning point

will be at $x^* = \left| \hat{\beta}_1 / (2\hat{\beta}_2) \right|$, which is

the same as when $\hat{\beta}_1 > 0$ and $\hat{\beta}_2 < 0$

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Interaction Terms

- For a model of the form $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \beta_3 x_1 x_2 + u$ we can't interpret β_1 alone as measuring the change in y with respect to x_1 , we need to take into account β_3 as well, since

$$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x_1} = \beta_1 + \beta_3 x_2, \text{ so to summarize}$$

the effect of x_1 on y we typically evaluate the above at \bar{x}_2

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Adjusted R -Squared

- Recall that the R^2 will always increase as more variables are added to the model
- The adjusted R^2 takes into account the number of variables in a model, and may decrease

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{R}^2 &\equiv 1 - \frac{[SSR/(n - k - 1)]}{[SST/(n - 1)]} \\ &= 1 - \frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{[SST/(n - 1)]}\end{aligned}$$

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Adjusted R -Squared (cont)

- It's easy to see that the adjusted R^2 is just $(1 - R^2)(n - 1) / (n - k - 1)$, but most packages will give you both R^2 and adj- R^2
- You can compare the fit of 2 models (with the same y) by comparing the adj- R^2
- You cannot use the adj- R^2 to compare models with different y 's (e.g. y vs. $\ln(y)$)

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Goodness of Fit

- Important not to fixate too much on $\text{adj-}R^2$ and lose sight of theory and common sense
- If economic theory clearly predicts a variable belongs, generally leave it in
- Don't want to include a variable that prohibits a sensible interpretation of the variable of interest – remember ceteris paribus interpretation of multiple regression

Standard Errors for Predictions

- Suppose we want to use our estimates to obtain a specific prediction?
- First, suppose that we want an estimate of $E(y|x_1=c_1, \dots, x_k=c_k) = \theta_0 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 c_1 + \dots + \beta_k c_k$
- This is easy to obtain by substituting the x 's in our estimated model with c 's , but what about a standard error?
- Really just a test of a linear combination

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Predictions (cont)

- Can rewrite as $\beta_0 = \theta_0 - \beta_1 c_1 - \dots - \beta_k c_k$
- Substitute in to obtain $y = \theta_0 + \beta_1 (x_1 - c_1) + \dots + \beta_k (x_k - c_k) + u$
- So, if you regress y_i on $(x_{ij} - c_{ij})$ the intercept will give the predicted value and its standard error
- Note that the standard error will be smallest when the c 's equal the means of the x 's

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Predictions (cont)

- This standard error for the expected value is not the same as a standard error for an outcome on y
- We need to also take into account the variance in the unobserved error. Let the prediction error be

$$\hat{e}^0 = y^0 - \hat{y}^0 = (\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1^0 + \dots + \beta_k x_k^0) + u^0 - \hat{y}_0$$

$$E(\hat{e}^0) = 0 \text{ and } Var(\hat{e}^0) = Var(\hat{y}^0) + Var(u^0) =$$

$$Var(\hat{y}^0) + \sigma^2, \text{ so } se(\hat{e}^0) = \left\{ [se(\hat{y}^0)]^2 + \hat{\sigma}^2 \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Prediction interval

$\hat{e}^0 / se(\hat{e}^0) \sim t_{n-k-1}$, so given that $\hat{e}^0 = y^0 - \hat{y}^0$

we have a 95% prediction interval for y^0

$$\hat{y}^0 \pm t_{.025} \bullet se(\hat{e}^0)$$

- Usually the estimate of s^2 is much larger than the variance of the prediction, thus
- This prediction interval will be a lot wider than the simple confidence interval for the prediction

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Residual Analysis

- Information can be obtained from looking at the residuals (i.e. predicted vs. observed)
- Example: Regress price of cars on characteristics – big negative residuals indicate a good deal
- Example: Regress average earnings for students from a school on student characteristics – big positive residuals indicate greatest value-added

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Predicting y in a log model

- Simple exponentiation of the predicted $\ln(y)$ will underestimate the expected value of y
- Instead need to scale this up by an estimate of the expected value of $\exp(u)$

$$E(\exp(u)) = \exp(\sigma^2/2) \text{ if } u \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

In this case can predict y as follows

$$\hat{y} = \exp(\hat{\sigma}^2/2) \exp(\ln \hat{y})$$

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Predicting y in a log model

- If u is not normal, $E(\exp(u))$ must be estimated using an auxiliary regression
- Create the exponentiation of the predicted $\ln(y)$, and regress y on it with no intercept
- The coefficient on this variable is the estimate of $E(\exp(u))$ that can be used to scale up the exponentiation of the predicted $\ln(y)$ to obtain the predicted y

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Comparing log and level models

- A by-product of the previous procedure is a method to compare a model in logs with one in levels.
- Take the fitted values from the auxiliary regression, and find the sample correlation between this and y
- Compare the R^2 from the levels regression with this correlation squared