

1. Suppose that you wish to estimate a regression in deviations-from-means form. The deviations-from-means model is given by $y_i = \beta x_i + \varepsilon_i$ and all standard assumptions hold (i.e., x_i is nonrandom, $\mathbb{E}(\varepsilon_i) = 0$, $\text{var}(\varepsilon_i) = \sigma^2$ for all i , and $\text{cov}(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_j) = 0$ for all observations).
- (a) Derive the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) estimator $\hat{\beta}^{OLS}$. Show all work and simplify completely to receive full credit.

$$\hat{\beta}^{OLS} \equiv \underset{\hat{\beta}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(y_i - \hat{\beta} x_i \right)^2 \quad (\text{recalling that } e_i = y_i - \hat{\beta} x_i)$$

Differentiate with respect to $\hat{\beta}$, set it equal to zero, and solve for $\hat{\beta}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{F.O.C.:} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n -2(y_i - \hat{\beta} x_i) x_i = 0 \\ & 2 \sum_{i=1}^n y_i x_i - 2\hat{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 = 0 \\ & \sum_{i=1}^n y_i x_i = \hat{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \\ & \boxed{\hat{\beta}^{OLS} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}} \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Determine if $\hat{\beta}^{OLS}$ is an unbiased estimator of β . Make sure to be clear about when you use an assumption, show all work, and simplify completely to receive full credit.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \underline{A1} : & \quad y_i = \beta x_i + \varepsilon_i \text{ is the true DGP} \\
 \underline{A2} : & \quad x_i \text{ is nonrandom} \\
 \underline{A3} : & \quad \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon_i] = 0 \quad \forall i \\
 \underline{A4} : & \quad \text{Var}(\varepsilon_i) = \sigma^2 \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\
 & \quad \text{Cov}(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_j) = 0 \quad \forall i \neq j
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E} \left[\hat{\beta}^{OLS} \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\sum_i y_i x_i}{\sum_i x_i^2} \right] \\
 &= \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\sum_i (\beta x_i + \varepsilon_i) x_i}{\sum_i x_i^2} \right] \tag{A1}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\sum_i (\beta x_i^2 + \varepsilon_i x_i)}{\sum_i x_i^2} \right] \\
 &= \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\sum_i \beta x_i^2}{\sum_i x_i^2} + \frac{\sum_i \varepsilon_i x_i}{\sum_i x_i^2} \right] \\
 &= \mathbb{E} \left[\beta + \frac{\sum_i x_i \varepsilon_i}{\sum_i x_i^2} \right] \\
 &= \beta + \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\sum_i x_i \varepsilon_i}{\sum_i x_i^2} \right] \\
 &= \beta + \frac{\sum_i x_i \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon_i]}{\sum_i x_i^2} \tag{A2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\mathbb{E} \left[\hat{\beta}^{OLS} \right] = \beta} \tag{A3}$$

$\implies \hat{\beta}^{OLS}$ is an unbiased estimator of β

- (c) Find the variance of $\hat{\beta}^{OLS}$. Make sure to be clear about when you use an assumption, show all work and simplify completely to receive full credit.

$$\begin{aligned} Var\left(\hat{\beta}^{OLS}\right) &= Var\left(\frac{\sum_i x_i y_i}{\sum_i x_i^2}\right) \\ &= Var\left(\frac{\sum_i x_i (\beta x_i + \varepsilon_i)}{\sum_i x_i^2}\right) \end{aligned} \tag{A1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= Var\left(\beta + \frac{\sum_i x_i \varepsilon_i}{\sum_i x_i^2}\right) \\ &= Var\left(\frac{\sum_i x_i \varepsilon_i}{\sum_i x_i^2}\right) \end{aligned} \quad \text{(the variance of a constant is zero)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\left(\sum_i x_i^2\right)^2} Var\left(\sum_i x_i \varepsilon_i\right) \quad \text{(pull constant out and square)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\left(\sum_i x_i^2\right)^2} \left[\sum_i Var(x_i \varepsilon_i) + \sum_{i \neq j} Cov(x_i \varepsilon_i, x_j \varepsilon_j) \right] \quad \text{(property of variance)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\left(\sum_i x_i^2\right)^2} \left[\sum_i x_i^2 Var(\varepsilon_i) + \sum_{i \neq j} x_i x_j Cov(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_j) \right] \tag{A2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\left(\sum_i x_i^2\right)^2} \left[\sigma^2 \sum_i x_i^2 \right] \tag{A4}$$

$$Var\left(\hat{\beta}^{OLS}\right) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_i x_i^2}$$