

Answers to the 5th problem set

Suppose $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n \sim \text{i. i. d. } N(0, \sigma^2)$, and for $i = 1, \dots, n$ we have $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \varepsilon_i$. (Capital “Y” and lower-case “x”; the former is random; the latter is constant.) This model can be written as

$$Y = X\beta + \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim N_n(0, \sigma^2 I_n)$$

or as

$$Y \sim N_n(X\beta, \sigma^2 I_n).$$

1. Find the entries in the matrix X .

Answer: “ $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \varepsilon_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$ ” is equivalent to

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_1 \\ \vdots \\ \varepsilon_n \end{bmatrix}. \quad \text{So } X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

2. Let $H = X(X'X)^{-1}X'$. Show that if u is in the column space of X , then $Hu = u$, and if u is orthogonal (i.e., at right angles) to the column space of X , then $Hu = 0$.

Answer: If u is in the column space of X then for some vector a we have $u = Xa$. Therefore

$$Hu = HXa = \left\{ X(X'X)^{-1}X' \right\} \left\{ Xa \right\} = X \left\{ (X'X)^{-1}(X'X) \right\} a = Xa = u.$$

“ u is orthogonal to the column space” means u is orthogonal to every member of the column space, and that is true if and only if u is orthogonal to every column. If the columns of X are called X_1 and X_2 , then u is orthogonal to X_1 iff the dot-product of u with X_1 is 0, and that is the same as $u'X_1 = 0$. Similarly $u'X_2 = 0$. So $u'X = u' [X_1, X_2] = [0, 0]$, or, understanding “0” to mean this two-component row vector, we have $u'X = 0$. That is true iff $X'u = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, or, if we understand “0” to be this two-component column vector, $X'u = 0$. So we have

$$Hu = \left\{ X(X'X)^{-1}X' \right\} u = X(X'X)^{-1} \left\{ X'u \right\} = X(X'X)^{-1} \left\{ 0 \right\} = 0.$$

3. Fill in the blanks:

$$(X'X)^{-1}X'Y \sim N_2(?, ?).$$

What is $(X'X)^{-1}X'Y$ an unbiased estimator of? (X and Y are “observable.”)

Answer: If A is a constant (i.e., non-random) $m \times n$ matrix then $\mathbf{E}(AY) = A\mathbf{E}(Y)$ and $\mathbf{var}(AY) = A(\mathbf{var}(Y))A'$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}((X'X)^{-1}X'Y) &= (X'X)^{-1}X'\mathbf{E}(Y) \\ &= (X'X)^{-1}X'X\beta \\ &= \beta,\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{and } \mathbf{var}((X'X)^{-1}X'Y) &= (X'X)^{-1}X'(\mathbf{var}(Y))X(X'X)^{-1} \\ &= (X'X)^{-1}X'(\sigma^2 I_n)X(X'X)^{-1} \\ &= \sigma^2(X'X)^{-1}X'X(X'X)^{-1} \\ &= \sigma^2(X'X)^{-1}.\end{aligned}$$

So $(X'X)^{-1}X'Y$ is an unbiased estimator of $\beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix}$.

4. Use the result of #3 to find an unbiased estimator $\hat{\beta}_1$ of the slope β_1 . Write this estimator in the form

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = [\text{some row vector (specify and simplify!)}] Y.$$

Fill in the blanks:

$$\hat{\beta}_1 \sim N_2(?, ?).$$

Answer: We have

$$\hat{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\beta}_0 \\ \hat{\beta}_1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ so } \hat{\beta}_1 = [0, 1] \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\beta}_0 \\ \hat{\beta}_1 \end{bmatrix} = [0, 1]\hat{\beta} = [0, 1](X'X)^{-1}X'Y.$$

In order to simplify this we first recall two identities:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad - bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \right) - n\bar{x}^2.$$

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Now

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta}_1 &= [0, 1](X'X)^{-1}X'Y = [0, 1] \begin{bmatrix} n & n\bar{x} \\ n\bar{x} & \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} X'Y \\ &= [0, 1] \frac{1}{n((\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2) - \bar{x}^2)} \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 & -n\bar{x} \\ -n\bar{x} & n \end{bmatrix} X'Y \\ &= \frac{[-\bar{x}, 1]}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} X'Y \\ &= \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} [-\bar{x}, 1] \begin{bmatrix} 1, & \dots, & 1 \\ x_1, & \dots, & x_n \end{bmatrix} Y \\ &= \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} [x_1 - \bar{x}, \dots, x_n - \bar{x}] Y \\ &= \left[\frac{x_1 - \bar{x}}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}, \dots, \frac{x_n - \bar{x}}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \right] \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{bmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$

Once again we will use the identities $\mathbf{E}(AY) = A\mathbf{E}(Y)$ and $\mathbf{var}(AY) = A(\mathbf{var}(Y))A'$:

$$\mathbf{E}(\hat{\beta}_1) = \mathbf{E}([0, 1]\hat{\beta}) = [0, 1]\mathbf{E}(\hat{\beta}) = [0, 1]\beta = \beta_1.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{var}(\hat{\beta}_1) &= [0, 1] \left(\mathbf{var}(\hat{\beta}) \right) \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= [0, 1] \frac{\sigma^2}{n(\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2)} \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 & -n\bar{x} \\ -n\bar{x} & n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \hat{\beta}_1 \sim N_1 \left(\beta_1, \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \right).$$

5. Use the result of #4 to find a 90% confidence interval for the slope β_1 , assuming (unrealistically) that σ is known. I.e., we want

$$\Pr(\text{some statistic} < \beta_1 < \text{some statistic}) = 0.9.$$

Answer: From $\hat{\beta}_1 \sim N_1 \left(\beta_1, \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \right)$, it follows that

$$\Pr \left(-1.645 < \frac{\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1}{\left(\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}} \right)} < 1.645 \right) = 0.9,$$

and thence, that

$$\Pr \left(\hat{\beta}_1 - 1.645 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}} < \beta_1 < \hat{\beta}_1 + 1.645 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}} \right) = 0.9.$$

6. First some notation:

$$\varepsilon = Y - X\beta = (\text{unobservable}) \text{ vector of "errors,"}$$

$$\hat{\varepsilon} = Y - X\hat{\beta} = (\text{observable}) \text{ vector of "residuals."}$$

Show that $\hat{\varepsilon} = (I - H)Y$. Use the result, and the identity

$$\mathbf{cov}(AU, BV) = A(\mathbf{cov}(U, V))B' \quad (A, B \text{ are constant})$$

to find $\mathbf{cov}(\widehat{\varepsilon}, \widehat{\beta}_1)$. From the result, and the joint normality of these two random variables, draw a conclusion about the nature of the dependence between them.

Answer: First observe that $HX = X$. This follows instantly from the definition of H : We have $HX = \left\{ X(X'X)^{-1}X' \right\} X = X \left\{ (X'X)^{-1}X'X \right\} = X$. From this it follows that $(I - H)X = X - X = 0$. And then:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{cov}(\widehat{\varepsilon}, \widehat{\beta}_1) &= \mathbf{cov}((I - H)Y, [0, 1](X'X)^{-1}X'Y) \\
 &= (I - H)(\mathbf{cov}(Y, Y))([0, 1](X'X)^{-1}X')' \\
 &= (I - H)(\sigma^2 I_n)X(X'X)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \sigma^2 \underbrace{(I - H)X}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{This} = 0.}} (X'X)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

The answer to #6 continues on the next page. →

If $Y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ has a multivariate normal distribution and $C \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ then CY has a multivariate normal distribution. In particular if $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $B \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n}$, so that $\begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{(n+1) \times n}$, then $\begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} Y = \begin{bmatrix} AY \\ BY \end{bmatrix}$ has a multivariate normal distribution. In other words, the two random vectors AY and BY are jointly normal. If they are jointly normal and uncorrelated, then they are independent. Therefore $\hat{\varepsilon}$ and $\hat{\beta}_1$ are independent.

7. From #2 we conclude that H represents the orthogonal projection onto the column space of X . Use that fact and some facts discussed in class to find the distribution of

$$\frac{\|\hat{\varepsilon}\|^2}{\sigma^2}$$

and to show this is independent of $\hat{\beta}_1$.

Answer: Their independence follows immediately from the answer to #6.

Observe that $I - H$ is idempotent:

$$(I - H)(I - H) = I - H - H + H^2 = I - H - H + H = I - H.$$

Since I and H are symmetric, $I - H$ is symmetric. Since $u \mapsto Hu$ is the orthogonal projection onto the 2-dimensional column space of X , it must be that $u \mapsto (I - H)u$ is the orthogonal projection onto the $(n - 2)$ -dimensional orthogonal complement of the column space of X . Proceeding as in the “attachment” to the summary of March 13th (see <http://web.mit.edu/18.441/summaries.html>) we conclude that there must be an orthogonal matrix $G = [g_1, \dots, g_n]$ such that

$$I - H = G \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & I_{n-2} \end{bmatrix} G' \quad \text{and} \quad G'(I - H)G = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & I_{n-2} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Multiplication by this diagonal matrix takes $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ to 0, and takes $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ to 0. There-

fore

$$0 = G'(I - H)G \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = G'(I - H)g_1,$$

and since G' is invertible, we get $(I - H)g_1 = 0$. In the same way, we get $(I - H)g_2 = 0$. So g_1 and g_2 must be in the 2-dimensional column space of X , and so g_3, \dots, g_n must be orthogonal to the column space of X . CONTINUED \longrightarrow

Since multiplication by the diagonal matrix takes $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ to itself, the same sort of reasoning as above shows that $(I - H)g_3 = g_3, \dots, (I - H)g_n = g_n$.

Now apply this to $\|\hat{\varepsilon}\|^2$:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{\varepsilon}\|^2 &= \hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon} = ((I - H)Y)'((I - H)Y) = Y'(I - H)'(I - H)Y = Y'(I - H)(I - H)Y \\ &= Y'(I - H)Y = Y'G \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & I_{n-2} \end{bmatrix} G'Y = (G'Y)' \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & I_{n-2} \end{bmatrix} (G'Y) \\ &= Z' \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & \\ & 0 & \\ & & I_{n-2} \end{bmatrix} Z = Z_3^2 + \dots + Z_n^2. \end{aligned}$$

So we need the distribution of Z :

$$\begin{aligned} Z = G'Y &\sim N_n(G' \mathbf{E}(Y), G'(\mathbf{var}(Y))G) = N_n(G'X\beta, G'(\sigma^2 I_n)G) \\ &= N_n(G'X\beta, \sigma^2 G'G) = N_n(G'X\beta, \sigma^2 I_n). \end{aligned}$$

What do we do with $G'X\beta$? Notice that

$$G'X\beta = \begin{bmatrix} g'_1 \\ g'_2 \\ g'_3 \\ \vdots \\ g'_n \end{bmatrix} X\beta = \begin{bmatrix} g'_1 X \\ g'_2 X \\ 0 \ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \ 0 \end{bmatrix} \beta = \begin{bmatrix} g'_1 X\beta \\ g'_2 X\beta \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

since g_3, \dots, g_n are orthogonal to the column space of X .

Consequently $\mathbf{E}(Z_3) = \dots = \mathbf{E}(Z_n) = 0$. We have $Z_3, \dots, Z_n \sim \text{i.i.d. } N(0, \sigma^2)$, and so $Z_3^2 + \dots + Z_n^2 \sim \sigma^2 \chi_{n-2}^2$. Since $\|\hat{\varepsilon}\|^2 = Z_3^2 + \dots + Z_n^2$, we have

$$\frac{\|\hat{\varepsilon}\|^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_{n-2}^2.$$

8. Use the results of (4), (6), and (7) to find a 90% confidence interval for β_1 , i.e., two statistics satisfying

$$\Pr(\text{statistic} < \beta_1 < \text{statistic}) = 0.9.$$

Answer: We have found that

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta}_1 &\sim N_1\left(\beta_1, \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}\right), \\ \|\hat{\varepsilon}\|^2 &\sim \sigma^2 \chi_{n-2}^2,\end{aligned}$$

and these are independent. Therefore

$$\frac{\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1}{\left(\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}}\right)} \sim N(0, 1),$$

$$\frac{\|\hat{\varepsilon}\|^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_{n-2}^2,$$

and these are independent. We know that

$$\frac{N(0, 1)}{\sqrt{\chi_{n-2}^2/(n-2)}} = t_{n-2}$$

if the numerator and denominator are independent. So

$$\frac{(\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1) \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}}{\|\hat{\varepsilon}\|/\sqrt{n-2}} \sim t_{n-2},$$

and “ σ ” has canceled out. So

$$\Pr\left(-c < \frac{(\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1) \sqrt{(n-2) \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}}{\|\hat{\varepsilon}\|} < c\right) = 0.9$$

where c is the 95th (not 90th!) percentile of Student’s distribution with $n - 2$ degrees of freedom. If you knew the value of n , you could find the value of c in the table on pages 776-777 of DeGroot & Schervish.

$$\Pr\left(\hat{\beta}_1 - c \frac{\|\hat{\varepsilon}\|}{\sqrt{(n-2) \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}} < \beta_1 < \hat{\beta}_1 + c \frac{\|\hat{\varepsilon}\|}{\sqrt{(n-2) \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}}\right) = 0.9.$$

The leftmost and rightmost members of the inequality are the bounds of the confidence interval.