

# Classical linear model \*

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# Contents

<b>1. Model-free linear regression and ordinary least squares</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1. Notations . . . . .	1
1.2. The least squares problem . . . . .	2
<b>2. Classical linear model</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. Linear unbiased estimation</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4. Prediction</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>5. Estimation with Gaussian errors</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>6. Confidence and prediction intervals</b>	<b>18</b>
6.1. Confidence interval for the error variance . . . . .	18
6.2. Confidence interval for a linear combination of regression coefficients . . . . .	18
6.3. Confidence region for a regression coefficient vector . . . . .	19
6.4. Prediction intervals . . . . .	20
6.5. Confidence regions for several predictions . . . . .	20
<b>7. Hypothesis tests</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>8. Estimator optimal properties with Gaussian errors</b>	<b>27</b>

# 1. Model-free linear regression and ordinary least squares

## 1.1. Notations

We wish to explain or predict a variable  $y$  through  $k$  other  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$ . We  $T$  observations on each variable:

$$y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_T \end{pmatrix} : \text{dependent variable (to explain)}$$
$$x_i = \begin{pmatrix} x_{1i} \\ x_{2i} \\ \vdots \\ x_{Ti} \end{pmatrix}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k : \text{explanatory variables.}$$

Usually, the explanatory variables are represented by the  $T \times k$  matrix

$$X = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k] = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \cdots & x_{1k} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & \cdots & x_{2k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ x_{T1} & x_{T2} & \cdots & x_{Tk} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X'_1 \\ X'_2 \\ \vdots \\ X'_T \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $X_t$  is a  $k \times 1$  vector:

$$X'_t = (x_{t1}, x_{t2}, \dots, x_{tk}), \quad t = 1, \dots, T.$$

We wish to represent each observation  $y_t$  as a function of  $x_{t1}, \dots, x_{tk}$ :

$$y_t = x_{t1}\beta_1 + x_{t2}\beta_2 + \cdots + x_{tk}\beta_k + \varepsilon_t, \quad t = 1, \dots, T \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\varepsilon_t$  is a “residual” which is left unexplained by the explanatory variables. This model can also be written in the following matrix form:

$$y = X\beta + \varepsilon \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_T)'$ .

## 1.2. The least squares problem

**1.2.1** In general, we cannot obtain a “perfect fit” ( $\varepsilon_t = 0$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, T$ ). In view of this, a natural approach (proposed by Gauss) consists in minimizing the sum of squared residuals:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{t=1}^T \varepsilon_t^2 &= \sum_{t=1}^T [y_t - x_{t1}\beta_1 - \dots - x_{tk}\beta_k]^2 \\ &= (y - X\beta)'(y - X\beta) \equiv S(\beta) .\end{aligned}$$

We consider the problem:

$$\text{Min}_{\beta} (y - X\beta)'(y - X\beta) .$$

Since

$$S(\beta) = (y' - \beta'X')(y - X\beta) = y'y - 2\beta'X'y + \beta'X'X\beta ,$$

we have:

$$\frac{\partial S(\beta)}{\partial \beta} = -2X'y + 2X'X\beta .$$

To compute the above, we use the following result on differentiation with respect to a vector  $x$  :

$$\frac{\partial (x'a)}{\partial x} = a , \tag{1.3}$$

$$\frac{\partial (x'Ax)}{\partial x} = (A + A')x . \tag{1.4}$$

For any point  $\beta = \hat{\beta}$  such that  $S(\beta)$  is a minimum, we must have:

$$\frac{\partial S(\beta)}{\partial \beta} \Big|_{\beta=\hat{\beta}} = -2X'y + 2X'X\hat{\beta} = 0$$

hence

$$(X'X)\hat{\beta} = X'y : \text{normal equations} .$$

**1.2.2** When  $\text{rank}(X) = k$ , we must have  $\text{rank}(X'X) = k$  so that  $(X'X)^{-1}$  exists. In this case, the normal equations have a unique solution:

$$\hat{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1} X'y . \tag{1.5}$$

Once  $\hat{\beta}$  is known, we can compute the “fitted values” and the “residuals” of the model.

**1.2.3** The model fitted values are

$$\hat{y} = X\hat{\beta} = X(X'X)^{-1} X'y = Py ,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} P &= X(X'X)^{-1}X' && \text{(projection matrix)} \\ P' &= P, PP = P && \text{(symmetric idempotent matrix).} \end{aligned}$$

**1.2.4** The model residuals are:

$$\hat{\varepsilon} = y - X\hat{\beta} = y - \hat{y} = y - Py = (I - P)y = My$$

where

$$PX = X, MX = 0, \tag{1.6}$$

$$PM = P(I - P) = 0, MP = 0. \tag{1.7}$$

**1.2.5** Each column of  $M$  is orthogonal with each column of  $X$  :

$$\begin{aligned} X'M &= 0, \\ x'_i M &= 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, k. \end{aligned}$$

Residuals and regressors are orthogonal:

$$\begin{aligned} X'\hat{\varepsilon} &= X'My = 0 \\ \Rightarrow x'_i \hat{\varepsilon} &= 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, k \\ \Rightarrow i'_T \hat{\varepsilon} &= \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{\varepsilon}_t = 0, \quad \text{if the matrix } X \text{ contains a constant.} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\hat{\varepsilon} = (\hat{\varepsilon}_1, \hat{\varepsilon}_2, \dots, \hat{\varepsilon}_T)'$  et  $i_T = (1, 1, \dots, 1)'$ .

**1.2.6** Fitted values and residuals are orthogonal:

$$\hat{y}'\hat{\varepsilon} = y'PM y = 0. \tag{1.8}$$

**1.2.7** The vector  $y$  can be decomposed as the sum of two orthogonal vectors:

$$y = Py + (I - P)y = \hat{y} + \hat{\varepsilon}. \tag{1.9}$$

**1.2.8** For any vector  $\beta$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} S(\beta) &\equiv (y - X\beta)'(y - X\beta) = (y - X\hat{\beta})'(y - X\hat{\beta}) + (\hat{\beta} - \beta)'X'X(\hat{\beta} - \beta) \\ &\geq (y - X\hat{\beta})'(y - X\hat{\beta}) = S(\hat{\beta}) \end{aligned}$$

for

$$(y - X\beta)'(y - X\beta) = [y - X\hat{\beta} + X(\hat{\beta} - \beta)]' [y - X\hat{\beta} + X(\hat{\beta} - \beta)]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left[ \hat{\varepsilon} + X(\hat{\beta} - \beta) \right]' \left[ \hat{\varepsilon} + X(\hat{\beta} - \beta) \right] \\
&= \hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon} + 2(\hat{\beta} - \beta)'X'\hat{\varepsilon} + (\hat{\beta} - \beta)'X'X(\hat{\beta} - \beta) \\
&= \hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon} + (\hat{\beta} - \beta)'X'X(\hat{\beta} - \beta) .
\end{aligned}$$

This directly verifies that  $\beta = \hat{\beta}$  minimizes  $S(\beta)$ .

## 2. Classical linear model

In order to establish the statistical properties of  $\hat{\beta}$ , we need assumptions on  $X$  and  $\varepsilon$ . The following assumptions define the *classical linear model* (CLM).

**2.1 Assumption**  $y = X\beta + \varepsilon$

where  $y$  is a  $T \times 1$  vector of observations on a dependent variable ,

$X$  is a  $T \times k$  matrix of observations on explanatory variables,

$\beta$  is a  $k \times 1$  vector of fixed parameters,

$\varepsilon$  is a  $T \times 1$  vector of random disturbances.

**2.2 Assumption**  $E(\varepsilon) = 0$ .

**2.3 Assumption**  $E[\varepsilon\varepsilon'] = \sigma^2 I_T$ .

**2.4 Assumption**  $X$  is fixed (non-stochastic).

**2.5 Assumption**  $\text{rank}(X) = k < T$ .

From the assumption 2.1 - 2.4, we see that:

$$\begin{aligned}
E(y) &= E(y | X) = X\beta = \begin{pmatrix} X_1'\beta \\ \vdots \\ X_T'\beta \end{pmatrix} \\
&= (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_k \end{pmatrix} \\
&= x_1\beta_1 + x_2\beta_2 + \dots + x_k\beta_k, \\
V(y) &= V(y | X) = \sigma^2 I_T \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} \sigma^2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \sigma^2 \end{bmatrix} = V(\varepsilon) .
\end{aligned}$$

If, furthermore, we add the assumption that  $\varepsilon$  follows a multinormal (or Gaussian) distribution, we get the normal classical linear model (NCLM).

**2.6 Assumption**  $\varepsilon$  follows a multinormal distribution.

### 3. Linear unbiased estimation

From the assumptions 2.1 - 2.5, we can make the following observations.

**3.1**  $\hat{\beta}$  is linear with respect to  $y$ .

PROOF  $\hat{\beta}$  has the form  $\hat{\beta} = Ay$ , where  $A = (X'X)^{-1}X'$  is a non-stochastic matrix. □

**3.2**  $\hat{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1}X'(X\beta + \varepsilon) = \beta + (X'X)^{-1}X'\varepsilon$ .

**3.3**  $\hat{\beta}$  is an unbiased estimator of  $\beta$ .

PROOF  $E(\hat{\beta}) = \beta + (X'X)^{-1}X'E(\varepsilon) = \beta$ . □

**3.4**  $V(\hat{\beta}) = \sigma^2(X'X)^{-1}$ .

PROOF

$$\begin{aligned} V(\hat{\beta}) &= E[(\hat{\beta} - \beta)(\hat{\beta} - \beta)'] \\ &= E[(X'X)^{-1}X'\varepsilon\varepsilon'X(X'X)^{-1}] \\ &= (X'X)^{-1}X'E(\varepsilon\varepsilon')X(X'X)^{-1} \\ &= \sigma^2(X'X)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

where the last identity follows from Assumption 2.3. □

**3.5 Theorem** GAUSS-MARKOV THEOREM.  $\hat{\beta}$  is the best estimator of  $\beta$  in the class of linear linear unbiased estimators (BLUE) of  $\beta$ , i.e.  $V(\hat{\beta}) - V(\tilde{\beta})$  is a positive semidefinite matrix for any linear unbiased estimator (LUE)  $\tilde{\beta}$  of  $\beta$ . In particular, if  $\tilde{\beta} = Cy$  and  $D = C - (X'X)^{-1}X'$ , then

$$V(\tilde{\beta}) = V(\hat{\beta}) + \sigma^2DD'$$

PROOF Since  $\tilde{\beta}$  is unbiased and

$$C = D + (X'X)^{-1}X',$$

we have:

$$\begin{aligned} E(\tilde{\beta}) &= E\left\{ \left[ D + (X'X)^{-1}X' \right] (X\beta + \varepsilon) \right\} \\ &= DX\beta + \beta \\ &= \beta, \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$DX = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad CX = I_k.$$

Consequently,

$$\tilde{\beta} = Cy = CX\beta + C\varepsilon = \beta + C\varepsilon$$

and

$$\tilde{\beta} - \beta = C\varepsilon,$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} V(\tilde{\beta}) &= E[(\tilde{\beta} - \beta)(\tilde{\beta} - \beta)'] = E[C\varepsilon\varepsilon'C'] = \sigma^2CC' \\ &= \sigma^2[D + (X'X)^{-1}X'] [D' + X(X'X)^{-1}] \\ &= \sigma^2[DD' + (X'X)^{-1}] = \sigma^2DD' + \sigma^2(X'X)^{-1} \\ &= \sigma^2DD' + V(\hat{\beta}) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$V(\tilde{\beta}) - V(\hat{\beta}) = \sigma^2DD' \tag{3.1}$$

is a positive semidefinite matrix. □

**3.6 Corollary** *Let  $w$  be a  $k \times 1$  vector of constants. Then,*

$$V(w'\tilde{\beta}) \geq V(w'\hat{\beta})$$

*for any linear unbiased estimator  $\tilde{\beta}$  of  $\beta$ .*

PROOF Since  $E(\tilde{\beta}) = E(\hat{\beta}) = \beta$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} E(w'\tilde{\beta}) &= E(w'\hat{\beta}) = w'\beta, \\ V(w'\tilde{\beta}) &= w'V(\tilde{\beta})w = w'[\sigma^2DD' + V(\hat{\beta})]w \\ &= \sigma^2w'DD'w + w'V(\hat{\beta})w \end{aligned}$$



$$= \sigma^2 w' D D' w + V(w' \hat{\beta}) \geq V(w' \hat{\beta}),$$

for  $w' D D' w \geq 0$ . □

In particular, we must have:

$$V(\tilde{\beta}_i) \geq V(\hat{\beta}_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

**3.7 Theorem** GENERALIZED GAUSS-MARKOV THEOREM. *Let  $L$  be a  $r \times k$  fixed matrix and  $\gamma = L\beta$ . Then  $\hat{\gamma} = L\hat{\beta}$  is the BLUE  $\gamma$ , i.e.  $V(\tilde{\gamma}) - V(\hat{\gamma})$  is a positive semidefinite matrix for any linear unbiased estimator  $\tilde{\gamma}$  of  $\gamma$ . In particular, if  $\tilde{\gamma} = Cy$  and  $D = C - L(X'X)^{-1}X'$ , then*

$$V(\tilde{\gamma}) = V(\hat{\gamma}) + \sigma^2 D D'$$

and

$$C(\tilde{\gamma} - \hat{\gamma}, \hat{\gamma}) = 0.$$

PROOF Since  $\tilde{\gamma}$  is unbiased and

$$C = D + L(X'X)^{-1}X'$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} E(\tilde{\gamma}) &= E\{(D + L(X'X)^{-1}X')(X\beta + \varepsilon)\} \\ &= DX\beta + L\beta = DX\beta + \gamma \\ &= \gamma, \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$DX = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad CX = L.$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\gamma} &= Cy = CX\beta + C\varepsilon \\ &= L\beta + C\varepsilon = \gamma + C\varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} V(\tilde{\gamma}) &= E[(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)'] = E[C\varepsilon\varepsilon'C] = \sigma^2 CC' \\ &= \sigma^2 [D + L(X'X)^{-1}X'] [D' + X(X'X)^{-1}L'] \\ &= \sigma^2 [DD' + L(X'X)^{-1}L'] \\ &= \sigma^2 DD' + \sigma^2 L(X'X)^{-1}L' = \sigma^2 DD' + V(L\hat{\beta}) \\ &= \sigma^2 DD' + V(\hat{\gamma}), \end{aligned}$$

so

$$V(\tilde{\gamma}) - V(\hat{\gamma}) = \sigma^2 DD' \quad (3.2)$$

is a positive semidefinite matrix, and

$$\begin{aligned} C(\tilde{\gamma}, \hat{\gamma}) &= E[C\varepsilon\varepsilon'X(X'X)^{-1}L'] \\ &= \sigma^2 CX(X'X)^{-1}L' = \sigma^2 L(X'X)^{-1}L' = V(\hat{\gamma}), \\ C(\tilde{\gamma} - \hat{\gamma}, \hat{\gamma}) &= C(\tilde{\gamma}, \hat{\gamma}) - C(\hat{\gamma}, \hat{\gamma}) = V(\hat{\gamma}) - V(\hat{\gamma}) = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

□

**3.8 Corollary** QUADRATIC GAUSS-MARKOV OPTIMALITY. *Let  $Q$  be a  $r \times r$  positive semidefinite fixed matrix and  $L$  a  $r \times k$  fixed matrix,  $\gamma = L\beta$  and  $\hat{\gamma} = L\hat{\beta}$ . Then*

$$E[(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)'Q(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)] \geq E[(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)'Q(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)]$$

for any linear unbiased estimator  $\tilde{\gamma}$  of  $\gamma$ .

PROOF Let  $\tilde{\gamma} = C\gamma$  and  $D = C - L(X'X)^{-1}X'$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} E[(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)'Q(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)] &= E[\text{tr}Q(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)'] \\ &= \text{tr}QE[(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)'] \\ &= \text{tr}Q[\sigma^2 DD' + V(\hat{\gamma})] \\ &= \sigma^2 \text{tr}(QDD') + \text{tr}[QV(\hat{\gamma})] \\ &= \sigma^2 \text{tr}(D'QD) + \text{tr}QE[(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)'] \\ &= \sigma^2 \text{tr}(D'QD) + E[\text{tr}(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)'Q(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)] \\ &= \sigma^2 \text{tr}(D'QD) + E[(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)'Q(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)] \\ &\geq E[(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)'Q(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)] \end{aligned}$$

since  $Q$  is p.s.d.  $\Rightarrow D'QD$  is p.s.d.  $\Rightarrow \text{tr}D'QD \geq 0$ . □

**3.9 Corollary** For any LUE of  $\tilde{\gamma}$  of  $\gamma = L\beta$ ,

$$\text{tr}V(\tilde{\gamma}) \geq \text{tr}V(\hat{\gamma}).$$

PROOF

$$\text{tr}V(\tilde{\gamma}) = \text{tr}E[(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)'] = E[\text{tr}(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)']$$

$$= E[(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)'(\tilde{\gamma} - \gamma)] \geq E[(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)'(\hat{\gamma} - \gamma)] = \text{tr}V(\hat{\gamma})$$

by Corollary 3.8 with  $Q = I$ . □

**3.10 Lemma** PROPERTIES OF MATRIX DOMINANCE. *If  $A = B + C$  where  $B$  is a p.d. matrix and  $C$  is a p.s.d. matrix, then*

- (a)  $A$  is p.d.,
- (b)  $|B| \leq |A|$ ,
- (c)  $B^{-1} - A^{-1}$  is p.s.d.

**3.11 Corollary** *Let  $L$  be an  $r \times k$  fixed matrix,  $\gamma = L\beta$  and  $\hat{\gamma} = L\hat{\beta}$ . Then*

$$|V(\tilde{\gamma})| \geq |V(\hat{\gamma})|$$

for any LUE  $\tilde{\gamma}$  of  $\gamma$ .

PROOF Since  $\hat{\gamma}$  is the BLUE of  $\gamma$  (by the generalized Gauss-Markov theorem), we have:

$$V(\tilde{\gamma}) = V(\hat{\gamma}) + C \tag{3.4}$$

where  $C$  is p.s.d. If  $|V(\hat{\gamma})| = 0$ , then  $|V(\tilde{\gamma})| \leq |V(\hat{\gamma})|$ , for  $\text{car } |V(\tilde{\gamma})| \geq 0$ . If  $|V(\hat{\gamma})| > 0$ , then  $V(\hat{\gamma})$  is p.d. This entails that  $V(\tilde{\gamma})$  is also p.d. and  $|V(\hat{\gamma})| \leq |V(\tilde{\gamma})|$ . □

**3.12**  $\hat{y} = X\beta + P\varepsilon$ ,  $\hat{\varepsilon} = My = M\varepsilon$ .

PROOF

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{y} &= Py = P[X\beta + \varepsilon] = X\beta + P\varepsilon, \quad \text{car } PX = X, \\ \hat{\varepsilon} &= My = M[X\beta + \varepsilon] = M\varepsilon, \quad \text{car } MX = 0. \end{aligned}$$

□

**3.13**  $E(\hat{y}) = X\beta$ ,  $E(\hat{\varepsilon}) = 0$ .

PROOF

$$\begin{aligned} E(\hat{y}) &= E[X\beta + P\varepsilon] = X\beta + PE(\varepsilon) = X\beta, \\ E(\hat{\varepsilon}) &= E(y - \hat{y}) = X\beta - X\beta = 0. \end{aligned}$$

□

**3.14**  $V(\hat{y}) = \sigma^2 P$ ,  $V(\hat{\varepsilon}) = \sigma^2 M$ .

PROOF

$$\begin{aligned} V(\hat{y}) &= V(X\hat{\beta}) = XV(\hat{\beta})X' = \sigma^2 X(X'X)^{-1}X' = \sigma^2 P, \\ V(\hat{\varepsilon}) &= V(My) = MV(y)M' = \sigma^2 M. \end{aligned}$$

□

**3.15**  $\hat{y}$  is the best linear unbiased estimator of  $X\beta$ .

PROOF This follows directly on taking  $L = X$  in the generalized Gauss-Markov theorem. □

**3.16**  $\hat{\varepsilon}$  is the best linear unbiased estimator (BLUE) of  $\varepsilon$ , in the sense that  $E(\hat{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon) = 0$  and

$$V(\tilde{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon) - V(\hat{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon) \text{ is a p.s.d. matrix}$$

for for LUE  $\tilde{\varepsilon}$  of  $\varepsilon$ .

PROOF Since  $\tilde{\varepsilon}$  is a LUE of  $\varepsilon$ , we must have:

$$\tilde{\varepsilon} = Ay \quad \text{and} \quad E(\tilde{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon) = 0.$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} E(\tilde{\varepsilon}) &= E(Ay) \\ &= E[A(X\beta + \varepsilon)] = AX\beta = 0, \forall \beta, \end{aligned}$$

which entails that

$$\begin{aligned} AX &= 0, \\ \tilde{\varepsilon} &= A(X\beta + \varepsilon) = A\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$B = A - M \quad \text{where} \quad M = I - X(X'X)^{-1}X'.$$

Then

$$AX = [B + M]X = BX = 0, \quad \text{since} \quad MX = 0,$$

hence

$$V(\tilde{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon) = V[A\varepsilon - \varepsilon]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= V[(B+M)\varepsilon - \varepsilon] = V[(B+M-I)\varepsilon] \\
&= E[(B+M-I)\varepsilon\varepsilon'(B'+M-I)] \\
&= \sigma^2[B-X(X'X)^{-1}X'] [B'-X(X'X)^{-1}X'] \\
&= \sigma^2[BB'+X(X'X)^{-1}X'] ,
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
V(\hat{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon) &= E[(M-I)\varepsilon\varepsilon'(M-I)] \\
&= \sigma^2(I-M) = \sigma^2X(X'X)^{-1}X' ,
\end{aligned}$$

so that

$$V(\tilde{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon) = \sigma^2BB' + V(\hat{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon) .$$

Thus

$$V(\tilde{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon) - V(\hat{\varepsilon} - \varepsilon) = \sigma^2BB'$$

a p.s.d. matrix. □

**3.17**  $C(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\varepsilon}) = C(\hat{\beta}, y - X\hat{\beta}) = 0.$

PROOF

$$\begin{aligned}
C(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\varepsilon}) &= E[(\hat{\beta} - \beta)\hat{\varepsilon}'] = E[(X'X)^{-1}X'\varepsilon\varepsilon'M] \\
&= \sigma^2(X'X)^{-1}X'M = 0 .
\end{aligned}$$
□

**3.18**  $C(\hat{y}, \hat{\varepsilon}) = 0.$

PROOF

$$\begin{aligned}
C(\hat{y}, \hat{\varepsilon}) &= E[(X\hat{\beta} - X\beta)\hat{\varepsilon}'] \\
&= XE[(\hat{\beta} - \beta)\hat{\varepsilon}'] = XC(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\varepsilon}) = 0 .
\end{aligned}$$
□

**3.19 Estimation of  $\sigma^2$ .** Since  $\sigma^2 = E(\varepsilon_t^2), t = 1, \dots, T$ , it is natural to consider the residuals of the regression which can be viewed as estimations of the error terms  $\varepsilon_t$ :

$$\hat{\varepsilon} = y - X\hat{\beta} = My = M(X\beta + \varepsilon) = M\varepsilon ,$$

$$\sum_{t=1}^T \hat{\varepsilon}_t^2 = \hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon} = \varepsilon'M'\mathbf{M}\varepsilon = \varepsilon'M\varepsilon,$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon}] &= \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon'M\varepsilon] = \mathbb{E}[\text{tr}(\varepsilon'M\varepsilon)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\text{tr}(\mathbf{M}\varepsilon\varepsilon')] = \text{tr}[\mathbf{M}\mathbb{E}(\varepsilon\varepsilon')] \\ &= \sigma^2 \text{tr} \mathbf{M}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr} \mathbf{M} &= \text{tr}[I_T - X(X'X)^{-1}X'] = \text{tr} I_T - \text{tr}[X(X'X)^{-1}X'] \\ &= \text{tr} I_T - \text{tr}[X'X(X'X)^{-1}] = \text{tr} I_T - \text{tr} I_k \\ &= T - k. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(\hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon}) &= \sigma^2(T - k) \\ \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon}}{T - k}\right] &= \sigma^2. \end{aligned}$$

**3.20** The statistic

$$s^2 = \hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon} / (T - k) = y'My / (T - k)$$

is an unbiased estimator of  $\sigma^2$ , and  $s^2(X'X)^{-1}$  is an unbiased estimator of  $\mathbb{V}(\hat{\beta}) = \sigma^2(X'X)^{-1}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(s^2) &= \sigma^2, \\ \mathbb{E}\left[s^2(X'X)^{-1}\right] &= \sigma^2(X'X)^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

## 4. Prediction

In the previous section, we studied how one can estimate  $\beta$  in the linear regression model. Suppose now we know the matrix  $X_0$  of explanatory variables for  $m$  additional periods (or observations). We wish to predict the corresponding values of  $y$ :

$$y_0 = X_0\beta + \varepsilon_0$$

where

$$\mathbb{E}(\varepsilon_0) = 0, \mathbb{V}(\varepsilon_0) = \sigma^2 I_m, \mathbb{E}(\varepsilon\varepsilon'_0) = 0.$$

The natural “predictor” in this case is:

$$\hat{y}_0 = X_0\hat{\beta} = X_0(X'X)^{-1}X'y. \quad (4.1)$$

We can then show the following properties.

**4.1**  $\hat{y}_0$  is an unbiased estimator of  $X_0\beta$  :

$$E(\hat{y}_0) = X_0\beta = E(y_0) , \quad E(\hat{y}_0 - y_0) = 0.$$

**4.2**  $V(\hat{y}_0) = V(X_0\hat{\beta}) = X_0V(\hat{\beta})X_0' = \sigma^2X_0(X'X)^{-1}X_0'$ .

**4.3**  $C(y_0, \hat{y}_0) = 0$ .

PROOF

$$\begin{aligned} C(y_0, \hat{y}_0) &= E \left[ (y_0 - X_0\beta) (X_0\hat{\beta} - X_0\beta)' \right] \\ &= E \left[ \varepsilon_0 (\hat{\beta} - \beta)' X_0' \right] = E \left[ \varepsilon_0 \varepsilon' X (X'X)^{-1} X_0' \right] = 0 . \end{aligned}$$

□

**4.4**  $\hat{y}_0$  is best linear unbiased estimator of  $X_0\beta$ , in the sense that  $V(\tilde{y}_0) - V(\hat{y}_0)$  is a p.s.d. matrix for any linear unbiased estimator  $\tilde{y}_0$  of  $X_0\beta$ . In particular, if  $\tilde{y}_0 = Cy$  and  $D = C - X_0(X'X)^{-1}X'$ , then

$$V(\tilde{y}_0) = V(\hat{y}_0) + \sigma^2DD' .$$

PROOF This follows directly from the generalized Gauss-Markov theorem. □

The “prediction errors” are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\varepsilon}_0 &= y_0 - \hat{y}_0 = y_0 - X_0\hat{\beta} \\ &= X_0\beta + \varepsilon_0 - X_0\hat{\beta} = \varepsilon_0 + X_0(\beta - \hat{\beta}) . \end{aligned}$$

**4.5**  $\hat{y}_0$  is a linear unbiased predictor (LUP) of  $y_0$ :

$$E[\hat{\varepsilon}_0] = 0 .$$

PROOF  $\hat{y}_0 = X_0\hat{\beta}$  and

$$E[\hat{\varepsilon}_0] = E[y_0 - \hat{y}_0] = X_0\beta - X_0\beta = 0 .$$

□

$$4.6 \quad V(\hat{e}_0) = \sigma^2 \left[ I_m + X_0 (X'X)^{-1} X_0' \right].$$

PROOF

$$\begin{aligned} V(y_0 - \hat{y}_0) &= V(y_0) + V(\hat{y}_0) - C(y_0, \hat{y}_0) - C(\hat{y}_0, y_0) \\ &= \sigma^2 I_m + \sigma^2 X_0 (X'X)^{-1} X_0' \\ &= \sigma^2 \left[ I_m + X_0 (X'X)^{-1} X_0' \right]. \end{aligned}$$

□

**4.7 Theorem**  $\hat{y}_0$  is the best linear unbiased predictor (BLUP) of  $y_0$ , in the sense that  $V(y_0 - \tilde{y}_0) - V(y_0 - \hat{y}_0)$  is a p.s.d. matrix for any LUP  $\tilde{y}_0$  of  $y_0$ . In particular, if  $\tilde{y}_0 = Cy$  and  $D = C - X_0 (X'X)^{-1} X_0'$ , then

$$V(y_0 - \tilde{y}_0) = V(y_0 - \hat{y}_0) + \sigma^2 DD'.$$

PROOF

$$V(y_0 - \tilde{y}_0) = V(y_0) + V(\tilde{y}_0) - C(y_0, \tilde{y}_0) - C(\tilde{y}_0, y_0)$$

where

$$C(y_0, \tilde{y}_0) = E[\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon' C'] = 0$$

for, by the generalized Gauss-Markov theorem,

$$E[\tilde{y}_0] = X_0 \beta \Rightarrow CX = X_0 \Rightarrow \tilde{y}_0 = C(X\beta + \varepsilon) = X_0 \beta + C\varepsilon.$$

Further,  $V(\tilde{y}_0) = V(\hat{y}_0) + \sigma^2 DD'$  and  $V(y_0) = \sigma^2 I_m$ . Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} V(y_0 - \tilde{y}_0) &= \sigma^2 I_m + V(\hat{y}_0) + \sigma^2 DD' \\ &= \left[ \sigma^2 I_m + \sigma^2 X_0 (X'X)^{-1} X_0' \right] + \sigma^2 DD' \\ &= V(y_0 - \hat{y}_0) + \sigma^2 DD'. \end{aligned}$$

□

## 5. Estimation with Gaussian errors

If we wish to build confidence intervals and perform hypothesis tests, we need a more complete specification of the error distribution. The standard hypothesis for this is to assume that the errors follow a Gaussian distribution.



**5.1 Assumption**  $\varepsilon \sim N_T [0, \sigma^2 I_T]$ .

This means that the errors  $\varepsilon_t$  are i.i.d.  $N [0, \sigma^2]$ . We can now completely establish the distribution of the least squares estimator.

**5.2**  $y \sim N [X\beta, \sigma^2 I_T]$ , since  $y = X\beta + \varepsilon$ .

**5.3**  $\hat{\beta} \sim N [\beta, \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}]$ , since  $\hat{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1} X'y$ .

The probability density function of  $y$  is given by:

$$L(y; X\beta, \sigma^2 I_T) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{T/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{(y - X\beta)'(y - X\beta)}{\sigma^2} \right\}.$$

**5.4**  $\hat{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1} X'y$  and  $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon}/T$  are the maximum likelihood estimators of  $\beta$  and  $\sigma^2$  respectively.

PROOF To maximize  $L$  is equivalent to maximizing  $\ln(L)$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(L) &= -\frac{T}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{T}{2} \ln(\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (y - X\beta)'(y - X\beta) \\ &= -\frac{T}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{T}{2} \ln(\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} [y'y - 2y'X\beta + \beta'X'X\beta], \end{aligned}$$

the first-order conditions (which are necessary) for a maximum is:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial (\ln(L))}{\partial \beta} &= -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} [-2X'y + 2(X'X)\beta] = 0, \\ \frac{\partial (\ln(L))}{\partial \sigma^2} &= -\frac{T}{2} \frac{1}{\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} (y - X\beta)'(y - X\beta) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} (X'X)\hat{\beta} &= X'y, \hat{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1} X'y, \\ \hat{\sigma}^2 &= (y - X\hat{\beta})'(y - X\hat{\beta})/T. \end{aligned}$$

Further the second-order derivative of  $\ln(L)$  is:

$$\frac{\partial (\ln(L))}{\partial \beta' \partial \beta} = -\frac{1}{\sigma^2} (X'X) \tag{5.1}$$

which is negative semidefinite as required for a maximum. □

**5.5**  $\hat{y} = X\hat{\beta} \sim N_T [X\beta, \sigma^2 P]$ .

5.6  $\hat{\varepsilon} = M\varepsilon \sim N_T [0, \sigma^2 M]$  .

5.7  $\hat{\varepsilon}$  and  $\hat{\beta}$  are independent, because  $\hat{\varepsilon}$  et  $\hat{\beta}$  are multinormal and  $C(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\varepsilon}) = 0$  .

5.8  $\hat{\varepsilon}$  and  $\hat{y}$  are independent, because  $\hat{\varepsilon}$  and  $\hat{y}$  are multinormal and  $C(\hat{y}, \hat{\varepsilon}) = 0$  .

**5.9 Lemma** DISTRIBUTION OF AN IDEMPOTENT QUADRATIC FORM IN I.I.D. GAUSSIAN VARIABLES. Let  $Q$  be a  $T \times T$  symmetric idempotent matrix of rank  $q \leq T$ . If  $\varepsilon \sim N_T [0, \sigma^2 I_T]$ , then

$$\varepsilon' Q \varepsilon / \sigma^2 \sim \chi^2(q) .$$

PROOF Since  $Q$  is a symmetric idempotent matrix, there is a  $T \times T$  orthogonal matrix  $C$ , i.e.  $CC' = C'C = I_T$ , such that

$$CQC' = \begin{pmatrix} I_q & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} ,$$

hence

$$\varepsilon' Q \varepsilon = \varepsilon' C' C Q C' C \varepsilon = (C\varepsilon)' (CQC') (C\varepsilon) .$$

Further,

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon &\sim N [0, \sigma^2 I_T] \Rightarrow C\varepsilon \sim N [0, \sigma^2 C I_T C'] \\ &\Rightarrow C\varepsilon \sim N [0, \sigma^2 I_T] . \end{aligned}$$

Let  $v = C\varepsilon = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_T)'$ . Then

$$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_T \text{ are i.i.d. } N [0, \sigma^2]$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon' Q \varepsilon &= v' (CQC') v \\ &= (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_T) \begin{pmatrix} I_q & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_T \end{bmatrix} \\ &= v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots + v_q^2 + 0 \cdot v_{q+1}^2 \dots + 0 \cdot v_T^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^q v_i^2 . \end{aligned}$$

This entails

$$\frac{\varepsilon' Q \varepsilon}{\sigma^2} = \sum_{i=1}^q \left( \frac{v_i}{\sigma} \right)^2 ,$$

where  $\frac{v_t}{\sigma} \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} N[0, 1]$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, T$ ,

and

$$\varepsilon' Q \varepsilon / \sigma^2 \sim \chi^2(q) .$$

□

### 5.10

$$\frac{S(\hat{\beta})}{\sigma^2} = \frac{\hat{\varepsilon}' \hat{\varepsilon}}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2(T - k) .$$

PROOF This follows directly on applying Lemma 5.9 with  $Q = M$  and the fact that  $\text{tr}(M) = T - k$ . □

**5.11** Let  $R$  be a  $q \times k$  fixed matrix. Then,

$$R\hat{\beta} \sim N_q \left[ R\beta, \sigma^2 R(X'X)^{-1} R' \right] . \quad (5.2)$$

Further  $R\hat{\beta}$  and  $s^2$  are independent.

PROOF  $\hat{\beta} \sim N \left[ \beta, \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1} \right]$  entails  $R\hat{\beta} \sim N \left[ R\beta, \sigma^2 R(X'X)^{-1} R' \right]$ . Since  $\hat{\beta}$  and  $\hat{\varepsilon}$  are independent,  $R\hat{\beta}$  and  $\hat{\varepsilon}' \hat{\varepsilon}$  are also independent, so that  $R\hat{\beta}$  and  $s^2 = \hat{\varepsilon}' \hat{\varepsilon} / (T - k)$  are independent. □

**5.12** Let  $R$  be a  $q \times k$  fixed matrix of rank  $q$ ,  $r = R\beta$  and

$$S(R, \hat{\beta}) = [R\hat{\beta} - r]' \left[ R(X'X)^{-1} R' \right]^{-1} [R\hat{\beta} - r] .$$

Then

$$S(R, \hat{\beta}) / \sigma^2 \sim \chi^2(q) . \quad (5.3)$$

Further,  $S(R, \hat{\beta})$  and  $s^2$  are independent.

PROOF

$$R\hat{\beta} - r = R(\hat{\beta} - \beta)$$

and

$$R(\hat{\beta} - \beta) \sim N_q \left[ 0, \sigma^2 R(X'X)^{-1} R' \right] .$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} S(R, \hat{\beta})/\sigma^2 &= \left[ R(\hat{\beta} - \beta) \right]' \left[ \sigma^2 R(X'X)^{-1} R' \right]^{-1} \left[ R(\hat{\beta} - \beta) \right] \\ &\sim \chi^2(q) . \end{aligned}$$

□

## 6. Confidence and prediction intervals

### 6.1. Confidence interval for the error variance

In the normal classical linear model, we have:

$$\hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon}/\sigma^2 = (T - k)s^2/\sigma^2 \sim \chi^2(T - k) .$$

Thus, we can find  $a$  and  $b$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{P}[\chi^2(T - k) > b] &= \frac{\alpha}{2}, \\ \mathrm{P}[\chi^2(T - k) < a] &= \frac{\alpha}{2}, \\ \mathrm{P}[a \leq \chi^2(T - k) \leq b] &= 1 - \left( \frac{\alpha}{2} + \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) = 1 - \alpha, \end{aligned}$$

which entails that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{P}\left[ a \leq \frac{(T - k)s^2}{\sigma^2} \leq b \right] &= 1 - \alpha \\ \mathrm{P}\left[ \frac{1}{b} \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{(T - k)s^2} \leq \frac{1}{a} \right] &= 1 - \alpha \\ \mathrm{P}\left[ \frac{(T - k)s^2}{b} \leq \sigma^2 \leq \frac{(T - k)s^2}{a} \right] &= 1 - \alpha . \end{aligned}$$

It is important to note this is not the smallest confidence interval for  $\sigma^2$ .

### 6.2. Confidence interval for a linear combination of regression coefficients

Consider now the linear combination  $w'\beta$ . Then

$$w'\hat{\beta} - w'\beta \sim N\left[0, \sigma^2 w'(X'X)^{-1} w\right] ,$$

hence

$$\frac{w'\hat{\beta} - w'\beta}{\sigma\Delta} \sim N[0, 1]$$

where  $\Delta = \sqrt{w'(X'X)^{-1}w}$ . Since  $\sigma$  is unknown, consider:

$$\begin{aligned} t &= \frac{w'\hat{\beta} - w'\beta}{s\Delta} \\ &= \frac{w'\hat{\beta} - w'\beta}{\Delta\sigma\sqrt{\frac{s^2}{\sigma^2}}} = \frac{w'\hat{\beta} - w'\beta}{\sigma\Delta} / \sqrt{\frac{(T-k)s^2}{\sigma^2(T-k)}} \\ &= Y / \sqrt{\frac{X}{T-k}} \end{aligned}$$

where  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent,  $Y \sim N[0, 1]$  and  $X \sim \chi^2(T-k)$ . Thus,  $t$  follows a Student  $t$  distribution with  $T-k$  degrees of freedom:

$$t \sim t(T-k)$$

hence

$$P[-t_{\alpha/2} \leq t(T-k) \leq t_{\alpha/2}] = 1 - \alpha$$

where  $P[t(T-k) > t_{\alpha/2}] = \alpha/2$  and

$$P[w'\hat{\beta} - t_{\alpha/2}s\Delta \leq w'\beta \leq w'\hat{\beta} + t_{\alpha/2}s\Delta] = 1 - \alpha .$$

### 6.3. Confidence region for a regression coefficient vector

We now wish to build a confidence region for a vector  $R\beta$  of linear combinations of the elements of  $\beta$ , where  $R: q \times k$  and has rank  $q$ . Then

$$S(R, \hat{\beta})/\sigma^2 = (R\hat{\beta} - R\beta)'(R(X'X)^{-1}R')^{-1}(R\hat{\beta} - R\beta)/\sigma^2 \sim \chi^2(q) .$$

Since  $\sigma$  is unknown, let us consider:

$$F = S(R, \hat{\beta})/qs^2 = \frac{S(R, \hat{\beta})/q\sigma^2}{(T-k)s^2/\sigma^2(T-k)} = \frac{X_1/q}{X_2/(T-k)}$$

where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independent,

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= S(R, \hat{\beta})/\sigma^2 \sim \chi^2(q) , \\ X_2 &= (T-k)s^2/\sigma^2 \sim \chi^2(T-k) . \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $F$  follows a Fisher distribution with  $(q, T-k)$  degrees of freedom:

$$F \sim F(q, T-k) .$$

If we define  $F_\alpha$  by

$$P[F(q, T - k) > F_\alpha] = \alpha ,$$

the set of all vectors  $R\beta$  such that  $F \leq F_\alpha$  :

$$(R\hat{\beta} - R\beta)' [R(X'X)^{-1}R']^{-1} (R\hat{\beta} - R\beta) / qs^2 \leq F_\alpha .$$

is a confidence region with level  $1 - \alpha$  for  $R\beta$ . This set is a an ellipsoid (*confidence ellipsoid*).

#### 6.4. Prediction intervals

$$y_0 = x'_0\beta + \varepsilon_0$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon \\ \varepsilon_0 \end{pmatrix} \sim N[0, \sigma^2 I_{T+1}] .$$

Further

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{y}_0 &= x'_0\hat{\beta} , \quad \hat{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1}X'y , \\ \hat{y}_0 - y_0 &= x'_0(\hat{\beta} - \beta) - \varepsilon_0 \sim N\{0, \sigma^2[1 + x'_0(X'X)^{-1}x_0]\} . \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\frac{\hat{y}_0 - y_0}{\sigma\Delta_1} \sim N[0, 1] ,$$

where  $\Delta_1 = [1 + x'_0(X'X)^{-1}x_0]^{1/2}$ , and

$$\frac{\hat{y}_0 - y_0}{s\Delta_1} \sim t(T - k)$$

where  $t_{\alpha/2}$  satisfies

$$P[\hat{y}_0 - t_{\alpha/2}s\Delta_1 \leq y_0 \leq \hat{y}_0 + t_{\alpha/2}s\Delta_1] = 1 - \alpha .$$

#### 6.5. Confidence regions for several predictions

We now consider the problem of predicting a vector of observations  $y_0$  generated according to the same model independently of  $y$  :

$$\begin{aligned} y_0 &= X_0\beta + \varepsilon_0 , \\ \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon \\ \varepsilon_0 \end{pmatrix} &\sim N[0, \sigma^2 I_{T+m}] , \end{aligned}$$

where  $X_0$  is known but  $y_0$  is not observed. For predicting  $y_0$ , let us define:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{y}_0 &= X_0 \hat{\beta}, \\ \hat{e}_0 &= y_0 - \hat{y}_0 = \varepsilon_0 - X_0(\hat{\beta} - \beta),\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}(\hat{e}_0) &= \mathbf{0}, \\ \mathbf{V}(\hat{e}_0) &= \sigma^2 \left[ I_m + X_0 (X'X)^{-1} X_0' \right] = \sigma^2 D_0, \\ \hat{e}_0 &\sim N \left[ \mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 [I_m + X_0 (X'X)^{-1} X_0'] \right].\end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{e}_0' \mathbf{V}(\hat{e}_0)^{-1} \hat{e}_0 &\sim \chi^2(m), \\ \hat{e}_0' D_0^{-1} \hat{e}_0 / \sigma^2 &\sim \chi^2(m).\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\sigma^2$  is unknown, we replace it by  $s^2$ :

$$(T - k) s^2 / \sigma^2 \sim \chi^2(T - k).$$

Further, since  $s^2$  is independent of  $y_0$  and  $\hat{y}_0 = X \hat{\beta}$ ,  $s^2$  is independent of  $\hat{e}_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}F &= \frac{\hat{e}_0' D_0^{-1} \hat{e}_0}{m s^2} = \frac{\hat{e}_0' D_0^{-1} \hat{e}_0 / \sigma^2 m}{(T - k) s^2 / \sigma^2 (T - k)} \sim F(m, T - k), \\ F &= (y_0 - \hat{y}_0)' \left[ I_m + X_0 (X'X)^{-1} X_0' \right]^{-1} (y_0 - \hat{y}_0) / m s^2 \sim F(m, T - k).\end{aligned}$$

Then the set of vectors  $y_0$  such that

$$F \leq F_\alpha(m, T - k)$$

is a confidence region for  $y_0$  with level  $1 - \alpha$ .

## 7. Hypothesis tests

**7.0.1** Let us now consider the problem of testing an hypothesis of the form

$$H_0 : w' \beta = w_0 \tag{7.1}$$

where  $w$  be a  $k \times 1$  vector of constants. To test  $H_0$ , it is natural to consider the difference:

$$w' \hat{\beta} - w_0 = w' (\hat{\beta} - \beta) \sim N \left[ \mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 w' (X'X)^{-1} w \right].$$

Under the assumptions of the Gaussian classical linear model, we then have:

$$\frac{w' \hat{\beta} - w_0}{\sigma \Delta} \sim N[0, 1], \Delta = \left[ w' (X'X)^{-1} w \right]^{1/2},$$

$$t = \frac{w' \hat{\beta} - w_0}{s \Delta} \sim t(T - k).$$

This suggests the following tests of  $H_0$  :

$$\text{reject } H_0 \text{ at level } \alpha \text{ against } w' \beta - w_0 \neq 0 \text{ when } |t| \geq t_{\alpha/2} \quad (\text{two-sided test}) \quad (7.2)$$

$$\text{reject } H_0 \text{ at level } \alpha \text{ against } w' \beta - w_0 > 0 \text{ when } t \geq t_{\alpha} \quad (\text{one-sided test}) \quad (7.3)$$

$$\text{reject } H_0 \text{ at level } \alpha \text{ against } w' \beta - w_0 < 0 \text{ when } t \leq -t_{\alpha} \quad (\text{one-sided test}). \quad (7.4)$$

An important special case of the above problem consists in testing the value of any given component of  $\beta$  :

$$H_0(\beta_{i_0}) : \beta_{i_0} = \beta_{i_0}$$

where  $\beta_{i_0}$  is an element of  $\beta$ .

Let us now consider the more general hypothesis which consists in testing the value of a general vector linear transformation of  $\beta$  :

$$H_0 : R\beta = r = \begin{bmatrix} w'_1 \\ w'_2 \\ \vdots \\ w'_q \end{bmatrix} \beta = \begin{bmatrix} w'_1 \beta \\ w'_2 \beta \\ \vdots \\ w'_q \beta \end{bmatrix} \quad (7.5)$$

where  $R$  is a  $q \times k$  fixed matrix with full row rank [ $\text{rank}(R) = q$ ].

**7.0.2 Wald-type test.** A natural approach then consists in estimating  $R\beta$  by  $R\hat{\beta}$ , and then to examine the difference  $R\hat{\beta} - r$ . Under  $H_0$ ,

$$R\hat{\beta} \sim N[r, \Sigma_R], \quad \text{where } \Sigma_R = \sigma^2 R (X'X)^{-1} R'.$$

We need a concept of distance between  $R\hat{\beta}$  and  $r$ . By (5.3),

$$W = (R\hat{\beta} - r)' \Sigma_R^{-1} (R\hat{\beta} - r) \sim \chi^2(q) \quad \text{under } H_0.$$

We tend to reject  $H_0$  when  $W$  is too large ( $W \geq c$ ). However,  $\sigma^2$  and  $\Sigma_R$  are unknown. It is then natural to replace  $\sigma^2$  by the estimate  $s^2$ , and  $\Sigma_R$  by

$$\hat{\Sigma}_R = s^2 R (X'X)^{-1} R'.$$



This yields a Wald-type criterion:

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{W} &= (R\hat{\beta} - r)' \hat{\Sigma}_R^{-1} (R\hat{\beta} - r) \\
&= (R\hat{\beta} - r)' \left[ s^2 R (X'X)^{-1} R' \right]^{-1} (R\hat{\beta} - r) \\
&= (R\hat{\beta} - r)' \left[ R (X'X)^{-1} R' \right]^{-1} (R\hat{\beta} - r) / s^2 \\
&= S(R, \hat{\beta}) / s^2 .
\end{aligned}$$

Since

$$F = \hat{W} / q = S(R, \hat{\beta}) / qs^2 \sim F(q, T - k) ,$$

we reject  $H_0$  at level  $\alpha$  when

$$F > F_\alpha(q, T - k) . \quad (7.6)$$

**7.0.3 Likelihood ratio test.** Another approach to testing  $H_0$  consists in looking for a likelihood ratio test. This test is based on focusing on the likelihood function:

$$L(y; X\beta, \sigma^2 I_T) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{T/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{(y - X\beta)'(y - X\beta)}{\sigma^2} \right\} . \quad (7.7)$$

Let

$$L(\hat{\Omega}) = \max_{\beta, \sigma^2} L = \max_{(\beta, \sigma^2) \in \Omega} L \quad (7.8)$$

*i.e.* we find values of  $\beta$  and  $\sigma^2$  which maximize “the probability of the observed sample”, and

$$L(\hat{\omega}) = \max_{\substack{\beta, \sigma^2 \\ R\beta = r}} L \quad (7.9)$$

*i.e.* we find values of  $\beta$  and  $\sigma^2$  which maximize “the probability of the observed sample” and satisfy  $H_0$ , where

$$\begin{aligned}
\Omega &= \{ (\beta, \sigma^2) : -\infty < \beta_i < +\infty, i = 1, \dots, k, 0 < \sigma^2 < +\infty \} , \\
\omega &= \{ (\beta, \sigma^2) \in \Omega : R\beta = r \} .
\end{aligned}$$

We see easily that

$$0 \leq L(\hat{\omega}) \leq L(\hat{\Omega}) ,$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &\leq \frac{L(\hat{\omega})}{L(\hat{\Omega})} \leq 1 , \\
\frac{L(\hat{\Omega})}{L(\hat{\omega})} &\geq 1 .
\end{aligned}$$

We reject  $H_0$  when

$$LR(y) \equiv \frac{L(\hat{\Omega})}{L(\hat{\omega})} \geq \lambda_\alpha,$$

where  $\lambda_\alpha$  depends on the level of the test:

$$P[LR(y) \geq \lambda_\alpha] = \alpha.$$

**7.0.4**  $L(\hat{\Omega})$  is achieved when  $\beta = \hat{\beta}$  and  $\sigma^2 = \hat{\sigma}^2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} L(\hat{\Omega}) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi\hat{\sigma}^2)^{T/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{(y - X\hat{\beta})' (y - X\hat{\beta})}{\hat{\sigma}^2} \right\} = \frac{1}{(2\pi\hat{\sigma}^2)^{T/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{T}{2} \right\} \\ &= \frac{e^{-T/2}}{[2\pi\hat{\sigma}^2]^{T/2}} = \frac{T^{T/2} e^{-T/2}}{(2\pi)^{T/2} \left[ (y - X\hat{\beta})' (y - X\hat{\beta}) \right]^{T/2}} \\ &= \frac{T^{T/2} e^{-T/2}}{(2\pi)^{T/2} S_\Omega^{T/2}}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $S_\Omega = (y - X\hat{\beta})' (y - X\hat{\beta})$ .

**7.0.5** To find  $L(\hat{\omega})$ , it is equivalent to maximize

$$\ln(L) = -\frac{T}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{T}{2} \ln(\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (y - X\beta)' (y - X\beta)$$

under the constraint  $R\beta = r$ . Consider  $\sigma^2$  as given. It is then sufficient to solve the problem:

$$\text{Min}_{\beta} (y - X\beta)' (y - X\beta)$$

with restriction  $r - R\beta = 0$ . To do this, we consider the Lagrangian function:

$$\mathcal{L} = (y - X\beta)' (y - X\beta) - \lambda' [r - R\beta].$$

The optimum  $\beta = \tilde{\beta}$  must satisfy the first-order conditions:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \beta} = -2X'y + 2(X'X)\tilde{\beta} + R'\lambda = 0 \quad (7.10)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \lambda} = r - R\tilde{\beta} = 0. \quad (7.11)$$

On multiplying by (7.10) by  $R(X'X)^{-1}$ , we get:

$$\begin{aligned} -2R(X'X)^{-1}X'y + 2R\tilde{\beta} + R(X'X)^{-1}R'\lambda &= 0 \\ R(X'X)^{-1}R'\lambda &= 2R(X'X)^{-1}X'y - 2r = 2[R\hat{\beta} - r] \\ \lambda &= 2[R(X'X)^{-1}R']^{-1}[R\hat{\beta} - r]. \end{aligned}$$

By (7.10),

$$2(X'X)\tilde{\beta} = 2X'y - R'\lambda \quad (7.12)$$

$$= 2X'y - 2R'[R(X'X)^{-1}R']^{-1}[R\hat{\beta} - r] \quad (7.13)$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\beta} &= (X'X)^{-1}X'y - (X'X)^{-1}R'[R(X'X)^{-1}R']^{-1}[R\hat{\beta} - r] \\ &= \hat{\beta} + (X'X)^{-1}R'[R(X'X)^{-1}R']^{-1}[r - R\hat{\beta}]. \end{aligned}$$

We see that  $\tilde{\beta}$  does not depend on  $\sigma^2$ . Substituting  $\tilde{\beta}$  in  $\ln(L)$ , we see that

$$\ln(L) = -\frac{T}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{T}{2} \ln \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} S_\omega$$

where  $S_\omega = (y - X\tilde{\beta})'(y - X\tilde{\beta})$ , from which we get

$$\frac{\partial \ln(L)}{\partial \sigma^2} = -\frac{T}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{S_\omega}{2\sigma^4} = 0$$

at the optimum, hence

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\sigma}^2 &= S_\omega/T = (y - X\tilde{\beta})'(y - X\tilde{\beta})/T, \\ L(\hat{\omega}) &= \frac{T^{T/2} e^{-T/2}}{(2\pi)^{T/2} S_\omega^{T/2}}, \end{aligned}$$

The likelihood ratio test is given by the critical region:

$$\frac{L(\hat{\Omega})}{L(\hat{\omega})} = \left(\frac{S_\omega}{S_\Omega}\right)^{T/2} \geq \lambda_\alpha$$

or, equivalently,

$$\frac{S_\omega}{S_\Omega} \geq \lambda_\alpha^{2/T}. \quad (7.14)$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned}
S_\omega &= (y - X\tilde{\beta})'(y - X\tilde{\beta}) \\
&= (y - X\hat{\beta})'(y - X\hat{\beta}) + (\hat{\beta} - \tilde{\beta})'(X'X)(\hat{\beta} - \tilde{\beta}) \\
&= S_\Omega + (\hat{\beta} - \tilde{\beta})'(X'X)(\hat{\beta} - \tilde{\beta}),
\end{aligned}$$

we also see that

$$\begin{aligned}
S_\omega - S_\Omega &= (r - R\hat{\beta})' \left[ R(X'X)^{-1}R' \right]^{-1} R(X'X)^{-1} (X'X)(X'X)^{-1} \\
&\quad R' \left[ R(X'X)^{-1}R' \right]^{-1} [r - R\hat{\beta}] \\
&= (r - R\hat{\beta})' \left[ R(X'X)^{-1}R' \right]^{-1} [r - R\hat{\beta}] \\
&= (R\hat{\beta} - r)' \left[ R(X'X)^{-1}R' \right]^{-1} (R\hat{\beta} - r) = S(R, \hat{\beta}) \\
&= (qs^2)F,
\end{aligned}$$

hence

$$F = \frac{S_\omega - S_\Omega}{qs^2} = \frac{(S_\omega - S_\Omega)/q}{S_\Omega/(T-k)}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{S_\omega}{S_\Omega} &= \frac{S_\Omega + (qs^2)F}{S_\Omega} = 1 + \frac{(qs^2)F}{(T-k)s^2} = 1 + \frac{q}{T-k}F \geq \lambda_\alpha^{2/T} \\
\iff F &\geq \frac{T-k}{q} (\lambda_\alpha^{2/T} - 1) = F_\alpha.
\end{aligned}$$

The likelihood ratio test of  $H_0 : R\beta = r$  has the critical region

$$F \equiv \frac{(S_\omega - S_\Omega)/q}{S_\Omega/(T-k)} \geq F_\alpha(q, T-k)$$

where

$$F \sim F(q, T-k).$$

This is an easy method for testing  $H_0 : R\beta = r$ . Note also that:

$$\begin{aligned}
LR &= \left( \frac{S_\omega}{S_\Omega} \right)^{T/2} = \left( 1 + \frac{q}{T-k}F \right)^{T/2}, \\
F &= \frac{T-k}{q} (LR^{2/T} - 1).
\end{aligned}$$

## 8. Estimator optimal properties with Gaussian errors

When errors are Gaussian, the OLS estimators  $\hat{\beta}_i, i = 1, \dots, k$  and  $s^2 = (y - X\hat{\beta})'(y - X\hat{\beta}) / (T - k)$  have minimum variance in the class of all unbiased estimators of  $\beta_i, i = 1, \dots, k$ , and  $\sigma^2$  respectively [see Rao (1973, section 5a)].

## **References**

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