

JASA 91 (1996)

Identification of Causal Effects Using Instrumental Variables

Joshua D. ANGRIST, Guido W. IMBENS, and Donald B. RUBIN

Y_i obs health outcome D_i veteran status (treatment)
 effect: veteran status on health outcome (Vietnam era) p445
 Z_i "assignment" draft status, lottery: $Z=1$ low lottery number
 imperfect compliance: not all $Z=1$ became $D=1$
 Z, D positive association not all $Z=0$ became $D=0$, volunteers

OLS regression (t-test) $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 D_i + \epsilon$
 indicate effect of service on health (self-selection etc)
 β_1 biased? egs p.445
 Use Z as instrument uncorr ϵ, Z

$$\hat{\beta}_1^{IV} = S_{YZ} / S_{DZ} = \frac{\bar{Y}_{Z=1} - \bar{Y}_{Z=0}}{\bar{D}_{Z=1} - \bar{D}_{Z=0}} \quad p.447$$

Results p.453

Born 1950

service $D=1$ If $Z=1$ then .353 $D=1$ Draft status (random)
 $Z=0$ then .193 $D=1$ produced .159 increment

mortality $Y=1$ If $Z=1$.0204 died diff .0009
 $Z=0$.0195 died ACE draft on mortality

IV estimator $.0009 / .159 = .0056$

causal effect of military service
on mortality (population induced by draft)

Compliance Formulation for AIR

Assignment
Draft Lottery

people do
what they want

Vietnam
Service
D=1 serve

Z

(Z=1 low lottery
number)

imperfect compliance
w/ lottery designation
here both directions
Z=0 volunteer for service
Z=1 dodge, alternative

Y health
outcome
(death)

Compliance Family
Simpsons
Homer nothing
Bart opposite
Marge comply
Lisa protocol,
regardless

1950 results

effect of lottery on Viet service

$$\hat{\beta}_{DZ} = \text{Marge } .353 - \text{Lise/Bart } .193 = .159$$

effect lottery on death

$$\hat{\beta}_{YZ} = .0204 - .0195 = .0009$$

proportion compliers

ITT
draft
status =
served

consider Z as an instrument
for Y on D regression (effect of Viet on health)

$$\text{IV est } \frac{S_{YZ}}{S_{DZ}} = \frac{\hat{\beta}_{YZ}}{\hat{\beta}_{DZ}} = \frac{.0009}{.159} = .0057$$

CACE (AIR)
effect of service on death.
iv est is adjusted for
compliance

AIR eqs
Vietnam env

$$Y = \text{health outcome}$$

D "treatment"

-serving in military
draft status
(at random birthday)

Z "assignment"
lottery

compliance imperfect
low lottery # $\Rightarrow Z=1$
not all $D=1$ served

"drafted"

high lottery number $Z=0$ exempt from draft.
not all $D=0$ set out, "volunteers"

Because of self-selection in part to D Your D regression (t-test) can't indicate effect of service on health.

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 D + \epsilon \quad \beta_1 \text{ biased?}$$

cut-off of control analogues

$$D_i^* = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 Z_i + v_i \quad D_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } D_i^* > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } D_i^* \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_1^{IV} = S_{YZ} / S_{DZ}$$