

1970's

Regression Adjustment in Quasi-experiments

outcome Y
group $G = 1, 0$

Head Start
Payk, Weisberg
in oakes

mis-specified model

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 G + u$$

t-test.
but G, u not indep

adjustment (premeasure) X (pre-test?)

estimated effect

$$\hat{\alpha} = \bar{Y}_1 - \bar{Y}_0 - \hat{\beta} (\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_0)$$

$\hat{\beta} = 0$ t-test no adj

IV alternative
 X as instrument
for G to
correct bias in
(t-test)
 β_{IV}

$\hat{\beta} = 1$

gain score & if X "pretest"

$$\hat{\beta} = \hat{\beta}_{YX \cdot G}$$

standard uncouq
(underadjusts, overadjusts)

correcting for underadjusts

$$\hat{\beta} = \hat{\beta}_{YX \cdot G} / \text{rel}(X)$$

adjustment for measurement error in slope

$$\hat{\beta} = \hat{\beta}_{YX \cdot G} / \sqrt{YX \cdot G} = \frac{S_{Y \cdot G}}{S_{X \cdot G}}$$

validity correction
Campbell-Felderick
st. change score
(week 5)

$$\hat{\beta} = \hat{\beta}_0$$

control slope
Belson equiv to $D(\bar{X}_1)$

adjustment

Anderson et al (1980) Ch.12 Table 12.1 Head Start Data

Innovative curriculum	Pre	Post	$r_{prepost}$	n
	17.1 (6.1)	23.3 (4.6)	.67	157
Standard Head Start	14.6 (6.2)	18.9 (5.8)	.78	669

pre diff 2.5 post diff 4.4

$\hat{\beta}$ options	t-test	$\hat{\beta} = 0$	$\hat{\alpha} = 4.4$	Inference?
gain		$\hat{\beta} = 1$	$\hat{\alpha} = 1.9$	
ancova		$\hat{\beta} = \beta_{y \cdot x \cdot G} = .16$	$\hat{\alpha} = 2.5$	
C-E		$\hat{\beta} = \frac{5.6}{6.2} = .9$	$\hat{\alpha} = 2.1$	
Belson		$\hat{\beta} = .73$	$\hat{\alpha} = 2.57$	

Analytic results

Weisberg (1979) Ancova bias positive or negative

Potential outcomes setup: w_i outcome if T ($Q=1$)

$z_i = w_i - \tau_i$ treatment effect. z_i outcome if C ($Q=0$)

observable $y_i = z_i + Q\alpha$ (set $\alpha_i = \alpha$) $P = E(Q)$

for non-random assignment ($P_{zQ} \neq 0$)

$$\mu_{y_1} - \mu_{y_0} = \alpha + (\mu_{z_1} - \mu_{z_0}) \leftarrow \text{selection bias}$$

Can ancova with covariate X reduce or eliminate bias?

resul. bias from ancova $\delta = (\mu_{z_1} - \mu_{z_0}) \left(\frac{P_{zQ \cdot X}}{P_{zQ}} \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{1 - \rho_{zX}^2}}{\sqrt{1 - \rho_{XQ}^2}} \right)$

H.I.W. uses $\pi = \delta / (\mu_{z_1} - \mu_{z_0})$ "proportion bias"

Weisberg Ancova Results

STAT 209
week 5

Potential Outcomes
person i

Recast week 2
Holland

W_i outcome if T ($Q=1$)

treatment/control
difference

Z_i outcome if C ($Q=0$)

$\alpha_i = W_i - Z_i$
(set $\alpha_i = \alpha$)

Observable $Y_i = Z_i + Q_i \alpha$

$P = E(Q)$ prop in T

Non-random assignment $\rho_{ZQ} \neq 0$

observables

point-biserial ρ_{ZQ}

$\mu_{Y_1} - \mu_{Y_0}$

$\mu_{Z_1} - \mu_{Z_0} = \frac{\sigma_Z}{\sqrt{P(1-P)}} \rho_{ZQ}$

$= \alpha + (\mu_{Z_1} - \mu_{Z_0})$ selection bias

recall week 2 FACE results BIAS = $E(Y_c | S=t) - E(Y_c | S=0)$

Ancova with covariate X , saves the day?

(18) $E(Y | X, Q) = \mu + \beta X + (\delta + \alpha) Q$ [note: matching works, eqs 9-12]

can only estimate $\delta + \alpha$, want α

bias from ancova

(19) $\delta = \rho_{ZQ} \cdot X \frac{\sigma_{Z \cdot X}}{\sigma_{Q \cdot X}}$
 $= \rho_{ZQ} \cdot X \frac{\sigma_Z}{\sqrt{P(1-P)}} \frac{\sqrt{1 - \rho_{XZ}^2}}{\sqrt{1 - \rho_{XQ}^2}}$

proportion of bias

$\pi = \frac{\delta}{\mu_{Z_1} - \mu_{Z_0}} = \frac{\rho_{ZQ} \cdot X \frac{\sigma_Z}{\sqrt{P(1-P)}} \frac{\sqrt{1 - \rho_{XZ}^2}}{\sqrt{1 - \rho_{XQ}^2}}}{\rho_{ZQ} \frac{\sigma_Z}{\sqrt{P(1-P)}}}$

ancova can overadjust
or increase bias

WEISBERG

Table 1
Range of π for Different Combinations of ρ_{ZQ} , ρ_{XZ} , ρ_{XQ}

Basic situation	Case	Sign (ρ_{ZQ})	Sign (ρ_{XQ})	Sign (ρ_{XZ})	π
1	1	+	+	+	$-\infty$ to +1
	2	+	-	-	$-\infty$ to +1
	3	-	+	-	$-\infty$ to +1
	4	-	-	+	$-\infty$ to +1
2	5	-	-	-	1 to $+\infty$
	6	-	+	+	1 to $+\infty$
	7	+	-	+	1 to $+\infty$
	8	+	+	-	1 to $+\infty$

Case 1 right direction,
but can overadjust
Case 2 adjustment in
wrong direction