Introductory Econometrics

Lecture 20: Multiple linear IV model and two-stage least squares (2SLS)

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Multiple linear IV model

- In empirical research, we often have to estimate models that include multiple endogenous and exogenous regressors.
- Example:

$$\log Wage_i = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 Age_i + \gamma_2 Sex_i + \beta_1 Educ_i + \beta_2 Children_i + U_i.$$

  - Exogenous regressors: age, sex, and a constant.
  - Endogenous regressors: education and children (family size).

- Consider the following model:

$$y_i = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 X_{1,i} + \ldots + \gamma_k X_{k,i} + \beta_1 Y_{1,i} + \ldots + \beta_m Y_{m,i} + U_i,$$

  where
  - y_i is the dependent variable.
  - γ_0 is the coefficient on the constant regressor: $\mathrm{E}[U_i] = 0$.
  - $X_{1,i}, \ldots, X_{k,i}$ are the k exogenous regressors:

$$\mathrm{Cov}\left[X_{1,i}, U_i\right] = \ldots = \mathrm{Cov}\left[X_{k,i}, U_i\right] = 0.$$

  - $Y_{1,i}, \ldots, Y_{m,i}$ are the m endogenous regressors:

$$\mathrm{Cov}\left[Y_{1,i}, U_i\right] \neq 0, \ldots, \mathrm{Cov}\left[Y_{k,i}, U_i\right] \neq 0.$$

Identification problem

- There are $k + 1 + m$ unknown coefficients

$$y_i = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 X_{1,i} + \ldots + \gamma_k X_{k,i} + \beta_1 Y_{1,i} + \ldots + \beta_m Y_{m,i} + U_i.$$

- The exogeneity conditions $\mathrm{E}[U_i] = 0$ and $\mathrm{Cov}\left[X_{1,i}, U_i\right] = \ldots = \mathrm{Cov}\left[X_{k,i}, U_i\right] = 0$ give us only $k + 1$equations:

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \mathrm{E}\left[y_i - \gamma_0 - \gamma_1 X_{1,i} - \ldots - \gamma_k X_{k,i} - \beta_1 Y_{1,i} - \ldots - \beta_m Y_{m,i}\right], \\
0 &= \mathrm{E}\left[X_{1,i}\left(y_i - \gamma_0 - \gamma_1 X_{1,i} - \ldots - \gamma_k X_{k,i} - \beta_1 Y_{1,i} - \ldots - \beta_m Y_{m,i}\right)\right], \\
\vdots &\quad \vdots \quad \vdots \\
0 &= \mathrm{E}\left[X_{k,i}\left(y_i - \gamma_0 - \gamma_1 X_{1,i} - \ldots - \gamma_k X_{k,i} - \beta_1 Y_{1,i} - \ldots - \beta_m Y_{m,i}\right)\right].
\end{aligned}$$

- There are more unknowns than equations. Thus, the knowledge of the true covariances between X's, Y's and y is not sufficient to recover the unknown coefficients $\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \ldots, \gamma_k, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_m$.
- Without additional information, the coefficients are not identified even at the population level.
- We need at least m additional equations!

IVs

- Suppose that the econometrician observes l additional exogenous variables (IVs) $Z_{1,i}, \ldots, Z_{l,i}$
- We assume that the IVs $Z_{1,i}, \ldots, Z_{l,i}$ are excluded from the structural equation:

$$y_i = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 X_{1,i} + \ldots + \gamma_k X_{k,i} + \beta_1 Y_{1,i} + \ldots + \beta_m Y_{m,i} + U_i,$$

so we still have $k + 1 + m$ structural coefficients to estimate.

- Since the IVs are exogenous, we have now $k + 1 + l$ equations determining the structural coefficients:

$$
\begin{aligned}
0 &= E\left[y_i - \gamma_0 - \gamma_1 X_{1,i} - \ldots - \gamma_k X_{k,i} - \beta_1 Y_{1,i} - \ldots - \beta_m Y_{m,i}\right], \\
0 &= E\left[X_{1,i}\left(y_i - \gamma_0 - \gamma_1 X_{1,i} - \ldots - \gamma_k X_{k,i} - \beta_1 Y_{1,i} - \ldots - \beta_m Y_{m,i}\right)\right], \\
\vdots & \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \\
0 &= E\left[X_{k,i}\left(y_i - \gamma_0 - \gamma_1 X_{1,i} - \ldots - \gamma_k X_{k,i} - \beta_1 Y_{1,i} - \ldots - \beta_m Y_{m,i}\right)\right], \\
0 &= E\left[Z_{1,i}\left(y_i - \gamma_0 - \gamma_1 X_{1,i} - \ldots - \gamma_k X_{k,i} - \beta_1 Y_{1,i} - \ldots - \beta_m Y_{m,i}\right)\right], \\
\vdots & \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \\
0 &= E\left[Z_{l,i}\left(y_i - \gamma_0 - \gamma_1 X_{1,i} - \ldots - \gamma_k X_{k,i} - \beta_1 Y_{1,i} - \ldots - \beta_m Y_{m,i}\right)\right].
\end{aligned}
$$

- The necessary condition for identification is that the number of equations is at least as large as the number of unknowns or $l \geq m$.

- In addition to being exogenous, the IVs have to be related to the endogenous regressors (or they have to determine the endogenous regressors).
- The system can be described using the following structural equation:

$$y_i = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 X_{1,i} + \ldots + \gamma_k X_{k,i} + \beta_1 Y_{1,i} + \ldots + \beta_m Y_{m,i} + U_i,$$

  and m first-stage (reduced-form) equations:

$$\begin{aligned}
Y_{1,i} &= \pi_{0,1} + \pi_{1,1} Z_{1,i} + \ldots + \pi_{l,1} Z_{l,i} + \pi_{l+1,1} X_{1,i} + \ldots \\
&\quad + \pi_{l+k,1} X_{k,i} + V_{1,i}, \\
&\vdots \\
Y_{m,i} &= \pi_{0,m} + \pi_{1,m} Z_{1,i} + \ldots + \pi_{l,m} Z_{l,i} + \pi_{l+1,m} X_{1,i} + \ldots \\
&\quad + \pi_{l+k,m} X_{k,i} + V_{m,i}.
\end{aligned}$$

- Note that in general the exogenous regressors X's can be correlated with the endogenous regressors Y's and therefore should be included in the first-stage equations.
- It is assumed that the exogenous regressors X's and IVs Z's are uncorrelated with the errors U and V's.

The order condition for identification

- The necessary condition for identification is that for every endogenous regressors Y we bring at least one exogenous variable Z excluded from the structural equation:

$$l \geq m.$$

- When $l = m$, the system is exactly identified.
- When $l > m$, the system is overidentified.
- When $l < m$, the system is underidentified, and the estimation of the structural coefficients γ's and β's is impossible.

2SLS estimation: the first stage

- Consider the first-stage equations:

$$
\begin{aligned}
Y_{1,i} &= \pi_{0,1} + \pi_{1,1} Z_{1,i} + \ldots + \pi_{l,1} Z_{l,i} \\
&\quad + \pi_{l+1,1} X_{1,i} + \ldots + \pi_{l+k,1} X_{k,i} + V_{1,i}, \\
\vdots \quad & \vdots \quad \vdots \\
Y_{m,i} &= \pi_{0,m} + \pi_{1,m} Z_{1,i} + \ldots + \pi_{l,m} Z_{l,i} \\
&\quad + \pi_{l+1,m} X_{1,i} + \ldots + \pi_{l+k,m} X_{k,i} + V_{m,i}.
\end{aligned}
$$

- All right-hand side variables are exogenous.
- The first stage coefficients π's can be estimated consistently by OLS by regressing Y's against Z's and X's.

- Let $\hat{\pi}$'s denote the OLS estimators of π.
- After estimating π's, obtain the fitted (predicted) values for Y's:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\hat{Y}_{1,i} &= \hat{\pi}_{0,1} + \hat{\pi}_{1,1} Z_{1,i} + \ldots + \hat{\pi}_{l,1} Z_{l,i} \\
&\quad + \hat{\pi}_{l+1,1} X_{1,i} + \ldots + \hat{\pi}_{l+k,1} X_{k,i}, \\
\vdots \quad &\vdots \quad \vdots \\
\hat{Y}_{m,i} &= \hat{\pi}_{0,m} + \hat{\pi}_{1,m} Z_{1,i} + \ldots + \hat{\pi}_{l,m} Z_{l,i} \\
&\quad + \hat{\pi}_{l+1,m} X_{1,i} + \ldots + \hat{\pi}_{l+k,m} X_{k,i}.
\end{aligned}
$$

- $\hat{Y}$'s are functions of Z's and X's (all exogenous) and asymptotically uncorrelated with the errors.

2SLS: the second stage

- In the second stage, regress (OLS) the dependent variable y against a constant, X's, and $\hat{Y}$'s obtained in the first stage:

$$y_i = \hat{\gamma}_0^{2SLS} + \hat{\gamma}_1^{2SLS} X_{1,i} + \ldots + \hat{\gamma}_k^{2SLS} X_{k,i} + \hat{\beta}_1^{2SLS} \hat{Y}_{1,i} + \ldots + \hat{\beta}_m^{2SLS} \hat{Y}_{m,i} + \hat{U}_i.$$

- One can show that the resulting 2SLS estimators $\hat{\gamma}_0^{2SLS}, \hat{\gamma}_1^{2SLS}, \ldots, \hat{\gamma}_k^{2SLS}, \hat{\beta}_1^{2SLS}, \ldots, \hat{\beta}_m^{2SLS}$ are consistent and asymptotically normal.
- When using the above steps to obtain the 2SLS estimates, the standard errors reported from the second-stage OLS estimation do not take into the account that $\hat{Y}$'s were constructed using $\hat{\pi}$'s and not the true (unknown) π's. Therefore, they are incorrect and have to adjusted for the estimation error in the first stage.
- Most statistical packages have pre-programmed procedures that report the estimation results for both stages and report the corrected standard errors for the second stage.

Stata

- In Stata, 2SLS estimator can be obtained using the command `ivregress 2sls`. The command accepts the options `robust` to compute heteroskedasticity robust standard errors and `first` to report the first stage.

```
. ivregress 2sls lwage (educ=motheduc fatheduc) exper expersq, robust first

First-stage regressions
-----------------------

                                                  Number of obs   =        428
                                                  F(   4,    423) =      25.76
                                                  Prob > F        =     0.0000
                                                  R-squared       =     0.2115
                                                  Adj R-squared   =     0.2040
                                                  Root MSE        =     2.0390

------------------------------------------------------------------------------
             |               Robust
        educ |      Coef.   Std. Err.      t    P>|t|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
       exper |   .0452254   .0419107     1.08   0.281    -.0371538    .1276046
     expersq |  -.0010091   .0013233    -0.76   0.446    -.0036101    .0015919
    motheduc |    .157597   .0354502     4.45   0.000     .0879165    .2272776
    fatheduc |   .1895484   .0324419     5.84   0.000      .125781    .2533159
       _cons |    9.10264   .4241444    21.46   0.000     8.268947    9.936333
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
```

```
Instrumental variables (2SLS) regression               Number of obs =     428
                                                       Wald chi2(3)  =   18.61
                                                       Prob > chi2   =  0.0003
                                                       R-squared     =  0.1357
                                                       Root MSE      =  .67155

------------------------------------------------------------------------------
             |               Robust
       lwage |      Coef.   Std. Err.      z    P>|z|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
        educ |   .0613966   .0331824     1.85   0.064    -.0036397     .126433
       exper |   .0441704   .0154736     2.85   0.004     .0138428     .074498
     expersq |   -.000899   .0004281    -2.10   0.036     -.001738     -.00006
       _cons |   .0481003   .4277846     0.11   0.910    -.7903421    .8865427
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
Instrumented:  educ
Instruments:   exper expersq motheduc fatheduc
```

- For comparison, the OLS estimates are below:

```
. regress lwage educ exper expersq, robust
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
             |               Robust
       lwage |      Coef.   Std. Err.      t    P>|t|     [95% Conf. Interval]
-------------+----------------------------------------------------------------
        educ |   .1074896    .013219     8.13   0.000     .0815068    .1334725
       exper |   .0415665    .015273     2.72   0.007     .0115462    .0715868
     expersq |  -.0008112   .0004201    -1.93   0.054    -.0016369    .0000145
       _cons |  -.5220406   .2016505    -2.59   0.010    -.9183996   -.1256815
------------------------------------------------------------------------------
```