

(see page 224)

Digging into the OLS estimator, b .

Recall that:

$$\begin{aligned} b &= (X'X)^{-1}X'y \\ &= (X'X)^{-1}X'(X\beta + e) \\ &= (X'X)^{-1}X'X\beta + (X'X)^{-1}X'e \\ &= \beta + (X'X)^{-1}X'e \end{aligned}$$

Do this before proving b is BLUE.

Gauss Markov Assumptions:

$$b \sim (\beta, \sigma^2(X'X)^{-1})$$

$$y \sim (X\beta, \sigma^2 I_n)$$

$$e \sim (0, \sigma^2 I_n)$$

Provided that the Gauss Markov Assumptions hold, the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) estimator, $\mathbf{b}$, will be the best linear unbiased estimator (BLUE).

Prove that, given the Gauss Markov Assumptions hold, the OLS estimator $\mathbf{b}$ is in fact BLUE.

To prove that the OLS estimator $\mathbf{b}$ is BLUE I must first show that it is a linear estimator, second that it is an unbiased linear estimator, and lastly that it is the best of unbiased linear estimators.

- Assume that $E[\mathbf{e}] = \mathbf{0}$ and $E[\mathbf{ee}'] = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$.

Any linear estimator of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ may be written as:

$\tilde{\mathbf{b}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}$ where $\mathbf{A}$ is a $K \times n$ matrix made up of elements independent of the dependent variable and the unknown parameter to be estimated.

Now, recall that the OLS estimator is:

$$\mathbf{b} = (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y} \quad (\text{where } (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}' \text{ is a } K \times n \text{ matrix that does not depend on } \boldsymbol{\beta} \text{ or } \mathbf{y})$$

$\therefore \mathbf{b}$ is a linear estimator of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$.

To show that $\mathbf{b}$ is an unbiased estimator, I must show that $E[\mathbf{b}] = \boldsymbol{\beta}$

$$\begin{aligned} E[\mathbf{b}] &= E[(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y}] && (\text{by definition}) \\ &= [(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}'] \cdot E[\mathbf{y}] && (\text{by rules regarding mathematical expectation}) \\ &= [(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}'] \cdot E[\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{e}] && (\text{by definition of } \mathbf{y}) \\ &= [(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}'] \cdot (\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + E[\mathbf{e}]) && (\text{by rules of mathematical expectation}) \\ &= [(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}] + (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}' \cdot E[\mathbf{e}] && (\text{by distributive property}) \end{aligned}$$

$$= I\beta + 0$$

(by Gauss-Markov assumption
that $E[\mathbf{e}] = \mathbf{0}$)

$$= \beta$$

(by properties of identity matrices)

$\therefore E[\mathbf{b}] = \beta$; that is, the OLS estimator is unbiased.

To show that the linear, unbiased estimator is best of the linear unbiased estimators of the unknown population parameter, I must show that it has the minimum variance of the other linear unbiased estimators.

The sampling variability of $\mathbf{b}$ is given by its variance-covariance matrix.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cov}(\mathbf{b}) &= E[(\mathbf{b} - E[\mathbf{b}])(\mathbf{b} - E[\mathbf{b}])'] && \text{(by definition of the covariance matrix)} \\ &= E[(\mathbf{b} - \beta)(\mathbf{b} - \beta)'] && \text{(since OLS estimator is unbiased)} \\ &= E[(\beta + (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{e} - \beta)(\beta + (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{e} - \beta)'] \end{aligned}$$

(from earlier equality^{*})

$$\mathbf{b} = \beta + (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{e}$$

^{*}see "Digging into the OLS estimator"

$$\begin{aligned} &= E[(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{e})(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{e})'] \\ &= E[(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{e})(\mathbf{e}'\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1})] \end{aligned}$$

(by linear algebra rules:

$$1] (\mathbf{ABC})' = \mathbf{C}'\mathbf{B}'\mathbf{A}'$$

when A, B, and

$$y = X\beta + e$$

$n \times 1$ $n \times k$ $k \times 1$
 y X β e

C are conformable matrices, and
 2] the transpose of a symmetric matrix is itself *
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$$= \underbrace{(X'X)^{-1}}_{(k \times k)} \underbrace{X'E[ee']X}_{(k \times n)(n \times n)(n \times k)} \underbrace{(X'X)^{-1}}_{(n \times k)(k \times k)}$$

(since X is fixed from sample to sample)

$$= \underbrace{(X'X)^{-1}}_{k \times n} \underbrace{X}_{n \times n} \underbrace{\sigma^2 I_n}_{n \times n} \underbrace{X(X'X)^{-1}}_{n \times k}$$

(by Gauss Markov assumption that $E(ee') = \sigma^2 I_n$)
 (σ^2 is a scalar)

$$= \sigma^2 \underbrace{(X'X)^{-1}}_{(k \times k)} \underbrace{X'X}_{(k \times k)} \underbrace{(X'X)^{-1}}_{(k \times k)}$$

$$= \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1} I_k$$

$$= \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}$$

$$\therefore \text{cov}(b) = \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}$$

and from above results that the estimator is unbiased, we can say that

$$b \sim (\beta, \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1})$$

Consider $\tilde{b}$, which is an alternative estimator of β , where

$$\tilde{b} = [(X'X)^{-1}X + C]y$$

(where C is a constant $k \times n$ matrix)

$\tilde{\mathbf{b}}$ is in the form $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}$ where $\mathbf{A}$ is still independent of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ & $\mathbf{y}$, and thus is a linear estimator.

To affirm that $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}$ is an unbiased linear estimator, I must show that $E[\tilde{\mathbf{b}}] = \boldsymbol{\beta}$.

$$\begin{aligned} E[\tilde{\mathbf{b}}] &= E[(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}' + \mathbf{C})\mathbf{y}] && \text{(by definition of } \tilde{\mathbf{b}}) \\ &= (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}' + \mathbf{C}(E[\mathbf{y}]) && \text{(by nature of mathematical expectation)} \end{aligned}$$

$$= (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}' + \mathbf{C}(E[\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{e}])$$

$$= (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}' + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + E[\mathbf{e}])$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}' + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}) && \text{(by Gauss Markov Assumption that } E[\mathbf{e}] = \mathbf{0}) \\ &= (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}$$

$$= \boldsymbol{\beta} \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathbf{C}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{0}$$

$\therefore \tilde{\mathbf{b}}$ is unbiased if $\mathbf{C}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{0}$, so we will assume this restriction to check whether $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}$ is best.

To determine whether $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}$ is best (has minimum sampling variability) I must know that of $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}$.

$$\text{cov}(\tilde{\mathbf{b}}) = E[(\tilde{\mathbf{b}} - E[\tilde{\mathbf{b}}])(\tilde{\mathbf{b}} - E[\tilde{\mathbf{b}}])'] \quad (\text{by definition of } \text{cov}(\tilde{\mathbf{b}}))$$

$$= E[(\tilde{\mathbf{b}} - \boldsymbol{\beta})(\tilde{\mathbf{b}} - \boldsymbol{\beta})']$$

$$= E[(([X'X]^{-1}X' + C)\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\beta})(([X'X]^{-1}X' + C)\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\beta})']$$

$$= E[(([X'X]^{-1}X' + C)(X\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{e}) - \boldsymbol{\beta})(([X'X]^{-1}X' + C)(X\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{e}) - \boldsymbol{\beta})']$$

$$= E[((X'X)^{-1}X'X\boldsymbol{\beta} + (X'X)^{-1}X'\mathbf{e} + CX\boldsymbol{\beta} + C\mathbf{e} - \boldsymbol{\beta})((X'X)^{-1}X'X\boldsymbol{\beta} + (X'X)^{-1}X'\mathbf{e} + CX\boldsymbol{\beta} + C\mathbf{e} - \boldsymbol{\beta})']$$

$$= E[((X'X)^{-1}X'\mathbf{e} + C\mathbf{e})((X'X)^{-1}X'\mathbf{e} + C\mathbf{e})']$$

(because $CX\boldsymbol{\beta} = 0$
for unbiasedness)

$$= E[(([X'X]^{-1}X'\mathbf{e} + C\mathbf{e})(\mathbf{e}'X[X'X]^{-1} + \mathbf{e}'C)']$$

(because transpose of a sum is the sum of a transpose, transpose of a symmetric matrix is the matrix, and $(ABC)' = C'B'A'$ with conformable matrices)

$$= E[(X'X)^{-1}X'ee'X(X'X)^{-1} + (X'X)^{-1}X'ee'C' + Cee'X + Cee'C']$$

$$= (X'X)^{-1}X'E[ee']X(X'X)^{-1} + (X'X)^{-1}X'E[ee']C' + CE[ee']X + CE[ee']C'$$

(because X is fixed from sample to sample)

$$= (X'X)^{-1}X'\sigma^2 I_n X(X'X)^{-1} + (X'X)^{-1}X'\sigma^2 I_n C' + C\sigma^2 I_n X + C\sigma^2 I_n C'$$

(by Gauss markov assumption that $E[ee'] = \sigma^2 I_n$)

$$= \sigma^2([X'X]^{-1} + [X'X]^{-1}X'C' + CX + CC')$$

$$= \sigma^2([X'X]^{-1} + (CX[X'X]^{-1})' + CX + CC')$$

(because $(ABC)' = C'B'A'$)

$$= \sigma^2[(X'X)^{-1} + CC']$$

(because $CX = 0$ by unbiased assumption)

$\therefore \text{var}(\tilde{b}) = \sigma^2[(X'X)^{-1} + CC']$ where $CC' \geq 0$ because any matrix multiplied by its own transpose is positive semidefinite.

Therefore $\text{var}(\tilde{\mathbf{b}}) \geq \text{var}(\mathbf{b})$ in every case except when $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{0}$, at which point $\tilde{\mathbf{b}} = \mathbf{b}$ and I conclude that $\mathbf{b}$ is the best of all linear unbiased estimators.

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) Find A^{-1} , B^{-1} , and $B^{-1}A^{-1}$:

$$\begin{aligned} A^{-1} &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} & B^{-1} &= \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ -\frac{1}{4} & \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$B^{-1}A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

complete later if there is time

The takeaway is that the transpose of a symmetric matrix is itself, but where I'm going to take for granted is that $(X'X)^{-1}$ is symmetric.