

Some algebraic results for OLS estimation in the bivariate regression model

Suppose we have n observations on a random variable X

$$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$$

and n observations on a random variable Y

$$Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n$$

The sample means are

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n X_t \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{Y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n Y_t$$

When discussing OLS estimation in the bivariate regression model, we need to manipulate expressions like

$$\sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})(Y_t - \bar{Y})$$

and $\sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})^2$

You must make sure you understand how to derive the following results:

Result 1:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})(Y_t - \bar{Y}) &= \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})Y_t \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^n X_t Y_t - n \bar{X} \bar{Y} \end{aligned}$$

Result 2:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})^2 &= \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})X_t \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^n X_t^2 - n \bar{X}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Derivation of Result 1:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})(Y_t - \bar{Y}) \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n \{ (X_t - \bar{X})Y_t - (X_t - \bar{X})\bar{Y} \} \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})Y_t - \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})\bar{Y} \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})Y_t - \bar{Y} \{ \sum_{t=1}^n X_t - n\bar{X} \} \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})Y_t - \bar{Y} \{ \sum_{t=1}^n X_t - \sum_{t=1}^n X_t \} \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})Y_t \quad (\text{FIRST PART OF RESULT 1}) \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n \{ X_t Y_t - \bar{X} Y_t \} \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n X_t Y_t - \bar{X} \sum_{t=1}^n Y_t \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n X_t Y_t - n\bar{X}\bar{Y} \quad (\text{SECOND PART OF RESULT 1})
\end{aligned}$$

Derivation of Result 2:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})^2 \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})(X_t - \bar{X}) \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n \{ (X_t - \bar{X})X_t - (X_t - \bar{X})\bar{X} \} \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})X_t - \underbrace{\bar{X} \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})}_{\text{THIS TERM EQUALS ZERO (SEE ABOVE)}} \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})X_t \quad (\text{FIRST PART OF RESULT 2}) \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n X_t^2 - \bar{X} \sum_{t=1}^n X_t \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^n X_t^2 - n\bar{X}^2 \quad (\text{SECOND PART OF RESULT 2})
\end{aligned}$$

In Lecture 14, we will show that for a model

$$Y_t = \alpha + \beta X_t \quad t=1, \dots, n$$

the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) estimate of β is

$$\hat{\beta} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})(Y_t - \bar{Y})}{\sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})^2}$$

Using the above results, this can be written equivalently as

$$\hat{\beta} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^n X_t Y_t - n \bar{X} \bar{Y}}{\sum_{t=1}^n X_t^2 - n \bar{X}^2}$$

or

$$\hat{\beta} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X}) Y_t}{\sum_{t=1}^n (X_t - \bar{X})^2}$$