

# Classical Linear Regression Model

- Finite Sample Properties of OLS
- Restricted Least Squares
- Specification Errors
  - Omitted Variables
  - Irrelevant Variables

# Finite Sample Properties of OLS

- Finite Sample Properties of  $\mathbf{b}$

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

- Under A.1-3,  $E(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{X}) = \boldsymbol{\beta}$

- Under A.1-4,  $\text{Var}(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{X}) = \sigma^2(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}$

- Under A.1-4, the OLS estimator is **efficient** in the class of linear unbiased estimators (Gauss-Markov Theorem).

# Finite Sample Properties of OLS

- Proof of Gauss-Markov Theorem
  - $\mathbf{b} = (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y}$ ,  $\text{Var}(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{X}) = \sigma^2(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}$
  - Let  $\mathbf{d}=\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}$  be another linear unbiased estimator of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ , where  $\mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}' + \mathbf{C}$  and  $\mathbf{C} \neq \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{C}\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{0}$ 
    - $E(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{X}) = E[(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}' + \mathbf{C})(\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon})|\mathbf{X}] = \boldsymbol{\beta}$
    - $\text{Var}(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{X}) = \text{Var}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X})$ 
      - $= \sigma^2((\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}' + \mathbf{C})((\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}' + \mathbf{C})'$
      - $= \sigma^2((\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{C}')$
      - $= \text{Var}(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{X}) + \sigma^2\mathbf{C}\mathbf{C}'$
    - Therefore,  $\text{Var}(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{X}) \geq \text{Var}(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{X})$

# Finite Sample Properties of OLS

- OLS estimator is BLUE. Assumption 2 (exogeneity) plays an important role to establish these results:
  - $\mathbf{b}$  is linear in  $\mathbf{y}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ .
  - $\mathbf{b}$  is unbiased estimator of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ :  
$$E(\mathbf{b}) = E(E(\mathbf{b}|X)) = \boldsymbol{\beta}$$
  - $\mathbf{b}$  is efficient or best:  
$$\text{Var}(\mathbf{b}) = E(\text{Var}(\mathbf{b}|X))$$
 is the minimum variance-covariance matrix

# Finite Sample Properties of OLS

- The relationship between  $s^2$  and  $\sigma^2$ 
  - $s^2 = \mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e}/(n-K)$ ,  $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{b}$
- Finite Sample Properties of  $s^2$ 
  - Under A.1-4,  $E(s^2|\mathbf{X}) = \sigma^2$  (and hence  $E(s^2) = \sigma^2$ ), provided  $n > K$ .

# Finite Sample Properties of OLS

- Proof of  $E(s^2|\mathbf{X})=\sigma^2$ :  $s^2$  is an unbiased estimator of  $\sigma^2$  (Recall:  $s^2=\mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e}/(n-K)$ ,  $\mathbf{e}=\mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ ,  $\mathbf{M}=\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'$ )
  - $E(\mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e}|\mathbf{X})=E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}'\mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}|\mathbf{X})=E(\text{trace}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}'\mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon})|\mathbf{X})$   
 $=E(\text{trace}(\mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}')|\mathbf{X})=\text{trace}(\mathbf{M}E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}'|\mathbf{X}))$   
 $=\text{trace}(\mathbf{M}\sigma^2\mathbf{I})=\sigma^2\text{trace}(\mathbf{M})=\sigma^2(n-K)$
  - Therefore,  $E(s^2|\mathbf{X})=E(\mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e}/(n-K)|\mathbf{X})=\sigma^2$

# Finite Sample Properties of OLS

- Estimate of  $\text{Var}(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{X}) = s^2(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}$
- Standard Errors

$$\text{SE}(b_k) = \sqrt{s^2 [(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}]_{kk}}$$

# Restricted Least Squares

- $\mathbf{b}^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \operatorname{SSR}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta})'(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta})$   
s.t.  $\mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{q}$
  - $(\mathbf{b}^*, \boldsymbol{\lambda}^*) = \operatorname{argmin}_{(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\lambda})} \operatorname{SSR}^*(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\lambda})$   
 $= (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta})'(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}) + \boldsymbol{\lambda}'(\mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{q})$
- $\mathbf{R}$ :  $J \times K$  restriction matrix  
 $\mathbf{q}$ :  $J \times 1$  vector of restricted values  
 $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ :  $J \times 1$  vector of Lagrangian multiplier



# Restricted Least Squares

- Linear Restrictions:  $\mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{q}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & \cdots & r_{1K} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & \cdots & r_{2K} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ r_{J1} & r_{J2} & \cdots & r_{JK} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_K \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ \vdots \\ q_J \end{bmatrix}$$

# Algebra of Restricted Least Squares

- $\partial \text{SSR}^*(\beta, \lambda) / \partial \beta = -2\mathbf{X}'(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\beta) + \mathbf{R}'\lambda = \mathbf{0}$   
 $\partial \text{SSR}^*(\beta, \lambda) / \partial \lambda = \mathbf{R}\beta - \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{0}$
- $\lambda^* = 2[\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}']^{-1}[\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{q}]$   
 $\mathbf{b}^* = (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y} - 1/2(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}'\lambda^*$   
 $= (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y} - (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}'[\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}']^{-1}[\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{q}]$   
 $= \mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}'[\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}']^{-1}(\mathbf{R}\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{q})$
- $\mathbf{e}^* = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{b}^* = \mathbf{e} + \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}^*)$   
 $\mathbf{e}^{*\prime}\mathbf{e}^* = \mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e} + (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}^*)'\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}^*) > \mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e}$   
 $\mathbf{e}^{*\prime}\mathbf{e}^* - \mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e} = (\mathbf{R}\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{q})'[\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}']^{-1}(\mathbf{R}\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{q})$
- $E(\mathbf{b}^* | \mathbf{X}) = \beta - (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}'[\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}']^{-1}[\mathbf{R}\beta - \mathbf{q}]$   
 $E(\mathbf{b}^* | \mathbf{X}) \neq \beta$  unless  $\mathbf{R}\beta = \mathbf{q}$
- $\text{Var}(\mathbf{b}^* | \mathbf{X}) = \text{Var}(\mathbf{b} | \mathbf{X}) - \sigma^2(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}'[\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{R}']^{-1}\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}$

# Discussions

- Linear regression without constant term (or intercept), a special case of restricted least squares.
- Restricted least squares estimator is biased if the restriction is incorrectly specified.

# Application: Specification Errors

- Omitting relevant variables: Suppose the correct model is  $y = \mathbf{X}_1\boldsymbol{\beta}_1 + \mathbf{X}_2\boldsymbol{\beta}_2 + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ . That is, two sets of variables. Compute least squares omitting  $\mathbf{X}_2$ . Some easily proved results:
- $\text{Var}[\mathbf{b}_1]$  is smaller than  $\text{Var}[\mathbf{b}_{1,2}]$ . (The latter is the northwest sub-matrix of the full covariance matrix. The proof uses the residual maker (again!). That is, you get a smaller variance when you omit  $\mathbf{X}_2$ . (One interpretation: Omitting  $\mathbf{X}_2$  amounts to using extra information ( $\boldsymbol{\beta}_2 = \mathbf{0}$ ). Even if the information is wrong, it reduces the variance.)

# Application: Specification Errors

- $E[\mathbf{b}_1] = \boldsymbol{\beta}_1 + (\mathbf{X}_1' \mathbf{X}_1)^{-1} \mathbf{X}_1' \mathbf{X}_2 \boldsymbol{\beta}_2 \neq \boldsymbol{\beta}_1$ . So,  $\mathbf{b}_1$  is **biased**.(!!!)  
The bias can be huge. Can reverse the sign of a price coefficient in a “demand equation.”
- $\mathbf{b}_1$  may be more “precise.”  
Precision = Mean squared error  
= variance + squared bias.  
Smaller variance but positive bias. If bias is small, may still favor the short regression.
- Suppose  $\mathbf{X}_1' \mathbf{X}_2 = \mathbf{0}$ . Then the bias goes away.  
Interpretation, the information is not “right,” it is irrelevant.  $\mathbf{b}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{b}_{1.2}$ .

# Application: Specification Errors

- Including superfluous variables: Just reverse the results.
- Including superfluous variables increases variance. (The cost of not using information.)
- Does not cause a bias, because if the variables in  $\mathbf{X}_2$  are truly superfluous, then  $\beta_2 = \mathbf{0}$ , so  $E[\mathbf{b}_{1.2}] = \beta_1$ .

# Example

- Linear Regression Model:  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$   
 $G = \beta_0 + \beta_1 PG + \beta_2 Y + \beta_3 PNC + \beta_4 PUC + \varepsilon$   
 $\mathbf{y} = G; \mathbf{X} = [1 \text{ PG } Y \text{ PNC } PUC]$   
Note: All variables are log transformed.
- Linear Restrictions:  $\mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{0}$

$$\beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \beta_3 \\ \beta_4 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$