Assumption MLR.2 (Random Sampling)

We have a random sample of n observations, $\{(x_{i1}, x_{i2}, ..., x_{ik}, y_i): i = 1, 2, ..., n\}$, following the population model in Assumption MLR.1.

Assumption MLR.3 (No Perfect Collinearity)

In the sample (and therefore in the population), none of the independent variables is constant, and there are no exact linear relationships among the independent variables.

Assumption MLR.4 (Zero Conditional Mean)

The error u has an expected value of zero given any values of the independent variables. In other words.

$$E(u|x_1, x_2, ..., x_k) = 0.$$

Assumption MLR.5 (Homoskedasticity)

The error u has the same variance given any value of the explanatory variables. In other words,

$$Var(u|x_1, ..., x_{\nu}) = \sigma^2.$$

KEY TERMS

Inclusion of an Irrelevant Best Linear Unbiased Estimator (BLUE) Biased Toward Zero Ceteris Paribus Degrees of Freedom (df) Disturbance Downward Bias Endogenous Explanatory Variable Error Term Excluding a Relevant Variable **Exogenous Explanatory** Variable Explained Sum of Squares (SSE) First Order Conditions Gauss-Markov Assumptions Gauss-Markov Theorem

Variable Intercept Micronumerosity Misspecification Analysis Multicollinearity Multiple Linear Regression Model Multiple Regression Analysis **OLS** Intercept Estimate **OLS Regression Line OLS Slope Estimate** Omitted Variable Bias Ordinary Least Squares Overspecifying the Model Partial Effect Perfect Collinearity

Population Model Residual Residual Sum of Squares Sample Regression Function (SRF) Slope Parameter Standard Deviation of $\hat{\beta}_i$ Standard Error of $\hat{\beta}$, Standard Error of the Regression (SER) Sum of Squared Residuals (SSR) Total Sum of Squares (SST) True Model Underspecifying the Model Úpward Bias Variance Inflation · Factor (VIF)

PROBLEMS

3.1 The data in WAGE2.RAW on working men was used to estimate the following equation:

$$\widehat{educ} = 10.36 - .094 \text{ sibs} + .131 \text{ meduc} + .210 \text{ feduc}$$

 $n = 722, R^2 = .214,$

where *educ* is years of schooling, *sibs* is number of siblings, *meduc* is mother's years of schooling, and *feduc* is father's years of schooling.

- (i) Does *sibs* have the expected effect? Explain. Holding *meduc* and *feduc* fixed, by how much does *sibs* have to increase to reduce predicted years of education by one year? (A noninteger answer is acceptable here.)
- (ii) Discuss the interpretation of the coefficient on meduc.
- (iii) Suppose that Man A has no siblings, and his mother and father each have 12 years of education. Man B has no siblings, and his mother and father each have 16 years of education. What is the predicted difference in years of education between B and A?
- **3.2** Using the data in GPA2.RAW on 4,137 college students, the following equation was estimated by OLS:

$$\widehat{colgpa} = 1.392 - .0135 \ hsperc + .00148 \ sat$$

 $n = 4,137, R^2 = .273,$

where colgpa is measured on a four-point scale, hsperc is the percentile in the high school graduating class (defined so that, for example, hsperc = 5 means the top 5% of the class), and sat is the combined math and verbal scores on the student achievement test.

- (i) Why does it make sense for the coefficient on hsperc to be negative?
- (ii) What is the predicted college GPA when hsperc = 20 and sat = 1,050?
- (iii) Suppose that two high school graduates, A and B, graduated in the same percentile from high school, but Student A's SAT score was 140 points higher (about one standard deviation in the sample). What is the predicted difference in college GPA for these two students? Is the difference large?
- (iv) Holding *hsperc* fixed, what difference in SAT scores leads to a predicted *colgpa* difference of .50, or one-half of a grade point? Comment on your answer.
- 3.3 The median starting salary for new law school graduates is determined by

$$\begin{split} \log(salary) &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 LSAT + \beta_2 GPA + \beta_3 \log(libvol) + \beta_4 \log(cost) \\ &+ \beta_5 rank + u, \end{split}$$

where LSAT is the median LSAT score for the graduating class, GPA is the median college GPA for the class, libvol is the number of volumes in the law school library, cost is the annual cost of attending law school, and rqnk is a law school ranking (with rank = 1 being the best).

- (i) Explain why we expect $\beta_s \le 0$.
- (ii) What signs do you expect for the other slope parameters? Justify your answers.
- (iii) Using the data in LAWSCH85.RAW, the estimated equation is

$$\widehat{\log(salary)} = 8.34 + .0047 LSAT + .248 GPA + .095 \log(libvol) + .038 \log(cost) - .0033 rank$$

 $n = 136, R^2 = .842.$

What is the predicted ceteris paribus difference in salary for schools with a median GPA different by one point? (Report your answer as a percentage.)

- (iv) Interpret the coefficient on the variable log(libvol).
- (v) Would you say it is better to attend a higher ranked law school? How much is a difference in ranking of 20 worth in terms of predicted starting salary?
- The following model is a simplified version of the multiple regression model used by Biddle and Hamermesh (1990) to study the tradeoff between time spent sleeping and working and to look at other factors affecting sleep:

$$sleep = \beta_0 + \beta_1 totwrk + \beta_2 educ + \beta_3 age + u,$$

where sleep and totwrk (total work) are measured in minutes per week and educ and age are measured in years. (See also Computer Exercise C2.3.)

- If adults trade off sleep for work, what is the sign of β ,?
- What signs do you think β_2 and β_3 will have? (ii)
- (iii) Using the data in SLEEP75.RAW, the estimated equation is

$$\widehat{sleep} = 3,638.25 - .148 \ totwrk - 11.13 \ educ + 2.20 \ age$$

 $n = 706, R^2 = .113.$

If someone works five more hours per week, by how many minutes is sleep predicted to fall? Is this a large tradeoff?

- (iv) Discuss the sign and magnitude of the estimated coefficient on educ.
- (v) Would you say totwrk, educ, and age explain much of the variation in sleep? What other factors might affect the time spent sleeping? Are these likely to be correlated with totwrk?
- 3.5 Consider the multiple regression model containing three independent variables, under Assumptions MLR.1 through MLR.4:

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \beta_3 x_3 + u.$$

You are interested in estimating the sum of the parameters on x_1 and x_2 ; call

- this $\theta_1 = \beta_1 + \beta_2$. (i) Show that $\hat{\theta}_1 = \hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_2$ is an unbiased estimator of θ_1 . (ii) Find $Var(\hat{\theta}_1)$ in terms of $Var(\hat{\beta}_1)$, $Var(\hat{\beta}_2)$, and $Corr(\hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2)$.
- 3.6 In a study relating college grade point average to time spent in various activities, you distribute a survey to several students. The students are asked how many hours they spend each week in four activities: studying, sleeping, working, and leisure. Any activity is put into one of the four categories, so that for each student, the sum of hours in the four activities must be 168.
 - In the model (i)

$$GPA = \beta_0 + \beta_1 study + \beta_2 sleep + \beta_3 work + \beta_4 leisure + u,$$

does it make sense to hold sleep, work, and leisure fixed, while changing study?

(ii) Explain why this model violates Assumption MLR.3.

- (iii) How could you reformulate the model so that its parameters have a useful interpretation and it satisfies Assumption MLR.3?
- **3.7** Suppose that average worker productivity at manufacturing firms (avgprod) depends on two factors, average hours of training (avgtrain) and average worker ability (avgabil):

$$avgprod = \beta_0 + \beta_1 avgtrain + \beta_2 avgabil + u.$$

Assume that this equation satisfies the Gauss-Markov assumptions. If grants have been given to firms whose workers have less than average ability, so that *avgtrain* and *avgabil* are negatively correlated, what is the likely bias in $\tilde{\beta}_1$ obtained from the simple regression of *avgtrain*?

- 3.8 Which of the following can cause OLS estimators to be biased?
 - (i) Heteroskedasticity.
 - (ii) Omitting an important variable.
 - (iii) A sample correlation coefficient of .95 between two independent variables both included in the model.
- 3.9 Suppose that you are interested in estimating the ceteris paribus relationship between y and x_1 . For this purpose, you can collect data on two control variables, x_2 and x_3 . (For concreteness, you might think of y as final exam score, x_1 as class attendance, x_2 as GPA up through the previous semester, and x_3 as SAT or ACT score.) Let $\tilde{\beta}_1$ be the simple regression estimate from y on x_1 and let $\hat{\beta}_1$ be the multiple regression estimate from y on x_1, x_2, x_3 .
 - (i) If x_1 is highly correlated with x_2 and x_3 in the sample, and x_2 and x_3 have large partial effects on y, would you expect $\tilde{\beta}_1$ and $\hat{\beta}_1$ to be similar or very different? Explain.
 - (ii) If x_1 is almost uncorrelated with x_2 and x_3 , but x_2 and x_3 are highly correlated, will $\tilde{\beta}_1$ and $\hat{\beta}_1$ tend to be similar or very different? Explain.
 - (iii) If x_1 is highly correlated with x_2 and x_3 , and x_2 and x_3 have small partial effects on y, would you expect $se(\tilde{\beta}_1)$ or $se(\hat{\beta}_1)$ to be smaller? Explain.
 - (iv) If x_1 is almost uncorrelated with x_2 and x_3 , x_2 and x_3 have large partial effects on y, and x_2 and x_3 are highly correlated, would you expect $se(\tilde{\beta}_1)$ or $se(\hat{\beta}_1)$ to be smaller? Explain.
- **3.10** Suppose that the population model determining y is

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \beta_3 x_3 + u,$$

and this model satisifies Assumptions MLR.1 through MLR.4. However, we estimate the model that omits x_3 . Let $\tilde{\beta}_0$, $\tilde{\beta}_1$, and $\tilde{\beta}_2$ be the OLS estimators from the regression of y on x_1 and x_2 . Show that the expected value of $\tilde{\beta}_1$ (given the values of the independent variables in the sample) is

$$E(\tilde{\beta}_{1}) = \beta_{1} + \beta_{3} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \hat{r}_{i1} x_{i3}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \hat{r}_{i1}^{2}},$$

where the \hat{r}_{i1} are the OLS residuals from the regression of x_1 on x_2 . [Hint: The formula for $\tilde{\beta}_1$ comes from equation (3.22). Plug $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \beta_3 x_{i3} + u_i$ into this equation. After some algebra, take the expectation treating x_{i3} and \hat{r}_{i1} as nonrandom.]

3.11 The following equation describes the median housing price in a community in terms of amount of pollution (nox for nitrous oxide) and the average number of rooms in houses in the community (rooms):

$$\log(price) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(nox) + \beta_2 rooms + u.$$

- (i) What are the probable signs of β_1 and β_2 ? What is the interpretation of β_1 ? Explain.
- (ii) Why might nox [or more precisely, log(nox)] and rooms be negatively correlated? If this is the case, does the simple regression of log(price) on log(nox) produce an upward or a downward biased estimator of β_1 ?
- (iii) Using the data in HPRICE2.RAW, the following equations were estimated:

$$\widehat{\log(price)} = 11.71 - 1.043 \log(nox), n = 506, R^2 = .264.$$

$$\widehat{\log(price)} = 9.23 - .718 \log(nox) + .306 \ rooms, n = 506, R^2 = .514.$$

Is the relationship between the simple and multiple regression estimates of the elasticity of *price* with respect to *nox* what you would have predicted, given your answer in part (ii)? Does this mean that -.718 is definitely closer to the true elasticity than -1.043?

3.12 (i) Consider the simple regression model $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + u$ under the first four Gauss-Markov assumptions. For some function g(x), for example $g(x) = x^2$ or $g(x) = \log(1 + x^2)$, define $z_i = g(x_i)$. Define a slope estimator as

$$\widetilde{\beta}_1 = \left| \sum_{i=1}^n (z_i - \overline{z}) y_i \right| / \left| \sum_{i=1}^n (z_i - \overline{z}) x_i \right|.$$

Show that $\tilde{\beta}_1$ is linear and unbiased. Remember, because E(u|x) = 0, you can treat both x_i and z_i as nonrandom in your derivation.

(ii) Add the homoskedasticity assumption, MLR.5. Show that

$$\operatorname{Var}(\tilde{\beta}_{1}) = \sigma^{2} \left| \sum_{i=1}^{n} (z_{i} - \overline{z})^{2} \right| \left| \left| \sum_{i=1}^{n} (z_{i} - \overline{z}) x_{i} \right|^{2}.$$

(iii) Show directly that, under the Gauss-Markov assumptions, $Var(\hat{\beta}_1) \leq Var(\tilde{\beta}_1)$, where $\hat{\beta}_1$ is the OLS estimator. [Hint: The Cauchy-Schwartz inequality in Appendix B implies that

$$\left| n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (z_i - \overline{z})(x_i - \overline{x}) \right|^2 \le \left| n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (z_i - \overline{z})^2 \right| \left| n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{x})^2 \right|;$$

notice that we can drop \bar{x} from the sample covariance.]

3.13 The following equation represents the effects of tax revenue mix on subsequent employment growth for the population of counties in the United States:

$$growth = \beta_0 + \beta_1 share_p + \beta_2 share_1 + \beta_3 share_s + other factors,$$

where growth is the percentage change in employment from 1980 to 1990, $share_p$ is the share of property taxes in total tax revenue, $share_I$ is the share of income tax revenues, and $share_s$ is the share of sales tax revenues. All of these variables are measured in 1980. The omitted share, $share_p$, includes fees and miscellaneous taxes. By definition, the four shares add up to one. Other factors would include expenditures on education, infrastructure, and so on (all measured in 1980).

- (i) Why must we omit one of the tax share variables from the equation?
- (ii) Give a careful interpretation of β_1 .

COMPUTER EXERCISES

C3.1 A problem of interest to health officials (and others) is to determine the effects of smoking during pregnancy on infant health. One measure of infant health is birth weight; a birth weight that is too low can put an infant at risk for contracting various illnesses. Since factors other than cigarette smoking that affect birth weight are likely to be correlated with smoking, we should take those factors into account. For example, higher income generally results in access to better prenatal care, as well as better nutrition for the mother. An equation that recognizes this is

$$bwght = \beta_0 + \beta_1 cigs + \beta_2 faminc + u.$$

- (i) What is the most likely sign for β_2 ?
- (ii) Do you think *cigs* and *faminc* are likely to be correlated? Explain why the correlation might be positive or negative.
- (iii) Now, estimate the equation with and without *faminc*, using the data in BWGHT .RAW. Report the results in equation form, including the sample size and *R*-squared. Discuss your results, focusing on whether adding *faminc* substantially changes the estimated effect of *cigs* on *bwght*.
- C3.2 Use the data in HPRICE1.RAW to estimate the model

$$price = \beta_0 + \beta_1 sqrft + \beta_2 bdrms + u,$$

where price is the house price measured in thousands of dollars.

- (i) Write out the results in equation form.
- (ii) What is the estimated increase in price for a house with one more bedroom, holding square footage constant?
- (iii) What is the estimated increase in price for a house with an additional bedroom that is 140 square feet in size? Compare this to your answer in part (ii).
- (iv) What percentage of the variation in price is explained by square footage and number of bedrooms?
- (v) The first house in the sample has sqrft = 2,438 and bdrms = 4. Find the predicted selling price for this house from the OLS regression line.
- (vi) The actual selling price of the first house in the sample was \$300,000 (so price = 300). Find the residual for this house. Does it suggest that the buyer underpaid or overpaid for the house?

- C3.3 The file CEOSAL2.RAW contains data on 177 chief executive officers and can be used to examine the effects of firm performance on CEO salary.
 - Estimate a model relating annual salary to firm sales and market value. Make the model of the constant elasticity variety for both independent variables. Write the results out in equation form.
 - (ii) Add profits to the model from part (i). Why can this variable not be included in logarithmic form? Would you say that these firm performance variables explain most of the variation in CEO salaries?
 - (iii) Add the variable *ceoten* to the model in part (ii). What is the estimated percentage return for another year of CEO tenure, holding other factors fixed?
 - (iv) Find the sample correlation coefficient between the variables log(mktval) and profits. Are these variables highly correlated? What does this say about the OLS estimators?
- C3.4 Use the data in ATTEND.RAW for this exercise.
 - Obtain the minimum, maximum, and average values for the variables atndrte, priGPA, and ACT.
 - (ii) Estimate the model

$$atndrte = \beta_0 + \beta_1 priGPA + \beta_2 ACT + u$$
,

and write the results in equation form. Interpret the intercept. Does it have a useful meaning?

- (iii) Discuss the estimated slope coefficients. Are there any surprises?
- (iv) What is the predicted atndrte if priGPA = 3.65 and ACT = 20? What do you make of this result? Are there any students in the sample with these values of the explanatory variables?
- (v) If Student A has priGPA = 3.1 and ACT = 21 and Student B has priGPA = 2.1and ACT = 26, what is the predicted difference in their attendance rates?
- **C3.5** Confirm the partialling out interpretation of the OLS estimates by explicitly doing the partialling out for Example 3.2. This first requires regressing educ on exper and tenure and saving the residuals, \hat{r}_1 . Then, regress $\log(wage)$ on \hat{r}_1 . Compare the coefficient on \hat{r}_1 with the coefficient on educ in the regression of log(wage) on educ, exper, and tenure.
- C3.6 Use the data set in WAGE2.RAW for this problem. As usual, be sure all of the following regressions contain an intercept.
 - Run a simple regression of IQ on educ to obtain the slope coefficient, say, $\tilde{\delta}_1$.
 - Run the simple regression of log(wage) on educ, and obtain the slope coefficient, β_1 .
 - (iii) Run the multiple regression of log(wage) on educ and IQ, and obtain the slope coefficients, $\hat{\beta}_1$ and $\hat{\beta}_2$, respectively. (iv) Verify that $\tilde{\beta}_1 = \hat{\beta}_1 + \hat{\beta}_2 \tilde{\delta}_1$.
- **C3.7** Use the data in MEAP93.RAW to answer this question.
 - (i) Estimate the model

$$math10 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(expend) + \beta_2 lnchprg + u,$$

and report the results in the usual form, including the sample size and R-squared. Are the signs of the slope coefficients what you expected? Explain.

(ii) What do you make of the intercept you estimated in part (i)? In particular, does it make sense to set the two explanatory variables to zero? [Hint: Recall that log(1)=0.]

(iii) Now run the simple regression of math10 on log(expend), and compare the slope coefficient with the estimate obtained in part (i). Is the estimated spending effect

now larger or smaller than in part (i)?

- (iv) Find the correlation between lexpend = log(expend) and lnchprg. Does its sign make sense to you?
- (v) Use part (iv) to explain your findings in part (iii).
- C3.8 Use the data in DISCRIM.RAW to answer this question. These are ZIP code-level data on prices for various items at fast-food restaurants, along with characteristics of the zip code population, in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The idea is to see whether fast-food restaurants charge higher prices in areas with a larger concentration of blacks.
 - (i) Find the average values of *prpblck* and *income* in the sample, along with their standard deviations. What are the units of measurement of *prpblck* and *income*?
 - (ii) Consider a model to explain the price of soda, *psoda*, in terms of the proportion of the population that is black and median income:

$$psoda = \beta_0 + \beta_1 prpblck + \beta_2 income + u.$$

Estimate this model by OLS and report the results in equation form, including the sample size and *R*-squared. (Do not use scientific notation when reporting the estimates.) Interpret the coefficient on *prpblck*. Do you think it is economically large?

- (iii) Compare the estimate from part (ii) with the simple regression estimate from *psoda* on *prpblck*. Is the discrimination effect larger or smaller when you control for income?
- (iv) A model with a constant price elasticity with respect to income may be more appropriate. Report estimates of the model

$$\log(psoda) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 prpblck + \beta_2 \log(income) + u.$$

If *prpblck* increases by .20 (20 percentage points), what is the estimated percentage change in *psoda*? (*Hint*: The answer is 2.xx, where you fill in the "xx.")

(v) Now add the variable *prppov* to the regression in part (iv). What happens to $\hat{\beta}_{prpb/ck}$?

(vi) Find the correlation between log(income) and prppov. Is it roughly what you expected?

(vii) Evaluate the following statement: "Because log(income) and prppov are so highly correlated, they have no business being in the same regression."

C3.9 Use the data in CHARITY.RAW to answer the following questions:

(i) Estimate the equation

$$gift = \beta_0 + \beta_1 mailsyear + \beta_2 giftlast + \beta_3 propresp + u$$

by OLS and report the results in the usual way, including the sample size and *R*-squared. How does the *R*-squared compare with that from the simple regression that omits *giftlast* and *propresp*?

(ii) Interpret the coefficient on *mailsyear*. Is it bigger or smaller than the corresponding simple regression coefficient?

(iii) Interpret the coefficient on *propresp*. Be careful to notice the units of measurement of *propresp*.

- (iv) Now add the variable avggift to the equation. What happens to the estimated effect of mailsyear?
- (v) In the equation from part (iv), what has happened to the coefficient on *giftlast*? What do you think is happening?

Appendix 3A

3A.1 Derivation of the First Order Conditions in Equation (3.13)

The analysis is very similar to the simple regression case. We must characterize the solutions to the problem

$$\min_{b_0, b_1, \dots, b_k} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - b_0 - b_1 x_{i1} - \dots - b_k x_{ik})^2.$$

Taking the partial derivatives with respect to each of the b_j (see Appendix A), evaluating them at the solutions, and setting them equal to zero gives

$$-2\sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 x_{i1} - \dots - \hat{\beta}_k x_{ik}) = 0$$

$$-2\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{ij} (y_i - \hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 x_{i1} - \dots - \hat{\beta}_k x_{ik}) = 0, \text{ for all } j = 1, \dots, k.$$

Canceling the -2 gives the first order conditions in (3.13).

3A.2 Derivation of Equation (3.22)

To derive (3.22), write x_{i1} in terms of its fitted value and its residual from the regression of x_1 on x_2 , ..., x_k : $x_{i1} = \hat{x}_{i1} + \hat{r}_{i1}$, for all i = 1, ..., n. Now, plug this into the second equation in (3.13):

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} (\hat{x}_{i1} + \hat{r}_{i1})(y_i - \hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 x_{i1} - \dots - \hat{\beta}_k x_{ik}) = 0.$$
 3.60

By the definition of the OLS residual \hat{u}_i , since \hat{x}_{i1} is just a linear function of the explanatory variables x_{i2}, \ldots, x_{ik} , it follows that $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \hat{x}_{i1} \hat{u}_i = 0$. Therefore, equation (3.60) can be expressed as

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \hat{r}_{i1}(y_i - \hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 x_{i1} - \dots - \hat{\beta}_k x_{ik}) = 0.$$
 3.61

Since the \hat{r}_{i1} are the residuals from regressing x_1 on x_2 , ..., x_k , $\sum_{i=1}^n x_{ij} \hat{r}_{i1} = 0$, for all j = 2, ..., k. Therefore, (3.61) is equivalent to $\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{r}_{i1}(y_i - \hat{\beta}_1 x_{i1}) = 0$. Finally, we use the fact that $\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{x}_{i1} \hat{r}_{i1} = 0$, which means that $\hat{\beta}_1$ solves

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \hat{r}_{i1}(y_i - \hat{\beta}_1 \hat{r}_{i1}) = 0.$$