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Effects of Collinearity

Collinearity can be interpreted theoretically and empirically

Theoretical:

IF  $E[Y|X_1, X_2]$  linear in  $X_1, X_2$ , is  $E(Y|X_1)$  linear in  $X_1$ ?  
If so, how are the linear relationships related?

Empirically:

How does including or excluding a variable change the OLS coef for another?

Theoretical collinearity:

Suppose  $E[Y|X_1, X_2] = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_1 + \alpha_2 X_2$

$$y = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_1 + \alpha_2 X_2 + \epsilon, \quad E[\epsilon|X_1, X_2] = 0$$

Suppose we fit  $y \sim X_1$ ; i.e.  $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \epsilon$ . Is this incorrect?

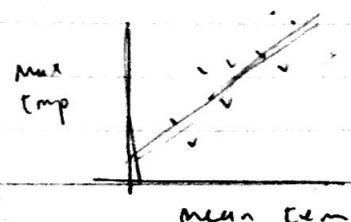
Case 0:  $\alpha_2 = 0$ , then  $E[Y|X_1, X_2] = E[Y|X_1] = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_1$ : correct

Case 1:  $\alpha_2 \neq 0$ ,  $X_2$  is a deterministic experimental condition; incorrect

Case 2:  $X_2$  is a randomly sampled quantity or random experimental condition: possibly correct

Suppose  $E[X_2|X_1] \approx \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 X_1$

Example:  $X_1 =$  Mean temperature  
 $X_2 =$  Max temperature



In this case,

$$Y = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_1 + \alpha_2 X_2 + \epsilon$$

$$E[Y | X_1] = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_1 + E[\alpha_2 X_2 | X_1] + E[\epsilon | X_1]$$

$$= \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_1 + \alpha_2 [\gamma_0 + \gamma_1 X_1] + 0$$

$$= (\alpha_0 + \alpha_2 \gamma_0) + (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \gamma_1) X_1$$

$$= \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 \quad \checkmark \text{ Linear model is correct.}$$

Weather Example revisited:

$X_1$  = mean temp

$X_2$  = max temp

assume true values

$\alpha_1$  small, neg.

$\alpha_2$  large, positive

$\gamma_1$  large positive

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 then  $\beta_1 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \gamma_1 =$  large, positive.

⇒ true marginal effect of  $X_1$  is large positive

true conditional effect of  $X_1$  is small negative.

Marginal: Model is "marginalized" over possible values of  $X_2$

$$E[Y | X_1] = \int E[Y | X_1, X_2] P(X_2 | X_1) dX_2$$

conditional: model is conditional on each value of  $X_2$ .

In this case,

\* Both models are correct!!

# Their interpretations are different

# "effects" of a variable depend on the context!

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Thought question:

$$\text{Suppose } E[y | x_1, x_2] = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x_1 + \alpha_2 x_2$$

$$E[x_2 | x_1] = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 x_1$$

$$\Rightarrow E[y | x_1] = (\alpha_0 + \alpha_2 \gamma_0) + (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \gamma_1) x_1 \\ = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1$$

Conditional effect of  $x_1$  is  $\alpha_1$

What is range of marginal effect  $\beta_1$  as  $\gamma_1$  ranges from  $-\infty$  to  $\infty$ ?

What is relationship between  $\alpha_1, \beta_1$  when  $\gamma_1 = 0$ ?

Empirical colinearity: given data  $y, x_1, x_2$

$$\text{fit } y \sim x_1 + x_2 \Rightarrow \hat{y} = \hat{\alpha}_0 + \hat{\alpha}_1 x_1 + \hat{\alpha}_2 x_2$$

$$y \sim x_1 \Rightarrow \hat{y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_1$$

Questions: what is relation between  $\hat{\alpha}_1, \hat{\beta}_1$ ?  
How does  $x_2$  affect  $\hat{\alpha}_1, \hat{\beta}_1$ ?

OLS Estimator: for convenience, assume centered  $x_1, x_2$

$$\text{SLR: } \hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{S_{xy}}{S_{xx}} = \frac{\sum (x_{1i} - \bar{x}_1)(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum (x_{1i} - \bar{x}_1)^2} = \frac{\sum x_{1i} (y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum x_{1i}^2}$$

$$= \frac{\sum x_{1i} y_i}{\sum x_{1i}^2} = \frac{\underline{\underline{x_1^T y}}}{\underline{\underline{x_1^T x_1}}}$$

$$= \frac{x_1^T y}{x_1^T x_1}$$

MLR:  $\hat{\alpha} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$ ;  $X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_1 & x_2 \end{pmatrix}$

$$X^T y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \dots & 1 \\ x_1^T & \dots & \\ x_2^T & \dots & \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y \\ \vdots \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} n\bar{y} \\ x_1^T y \\ x_2^T y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X^T X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \dots & 1 \\ x_1^T & \dots & \\ x_2^T & \dots & \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_1 & x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} n & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x_1^T x_1 & x_1^T x_2 \\ 0 & x_2^T x_1 & x_2^T x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(X^T X)^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/n & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{\phantom{0}} & \\ 0 & & \boxed{\phantom{0}} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x_2^T x_2 & -x_1^T x_2 \\ -x_1^T x_2 & x_1^T x_1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \frac{1}{|x_1|^2 |x_2|^2 - |x_1^T x_2|^2}$$

$$(X^T X)^{-1} X^T y = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\alpha}_0 \\ \hat{\alpha}_1 \\ \hat{\alpha}_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \hat{\alpha}_0 = \frac{1}{n} n\bar{y} = \bar{y}$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_1 = \frac{1}{|x_1|^2 |x_2|^2 - |x_1^T x_2|^2} \times \begin{pmatrix} (x_2^T x_2) x_1^T y - (x_1^T x_2) x_2^T y \\ \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{x_1^T y}{x_1^T x_1} \times \frac{(x_1^T x_1) (x_2^T x_2)}{(x_1^T x_1) (x_2^T x_2) - (x_1^T x_2)^2} - \frac{x_2^T y}{x_2^T x_2} \frac{(x_2^T x_2) (x_1^T x_2)}{(x_1^T x_1) (x_2^T x_2) - (x_1^T x_2)^2}$$

$$= \hat{\beta}_1 \times w_1 - \text{"}\hat{\beta}_2\text{"} (w_2)$$

↑  
slope when  $x_1$  is in model  
 $x_2$  is in model

- what happens when:
- ①  $x_1^T x_2 = 0$
  - ②  $x_1^T x_2 > 0$
  - ③  $x_1^T x_2 < 0$

Example: reconsider our example.