

## SLR Estimation and Inference: Key Concepts RoadMap

### 1) SLR Estimation

- a) Those OLS Estimates: min SSRs
- b) Estimators (ex ante) v. estimates (ex post)
- c) The Simple Linear Regression (SLR) Conditions 1-4
  - i) **SLR.1 – Linear DGM:**  $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + U$  ( $X$ ,  $U$  and  $Y$  are random variables)
  - ii) **SLR.2 – Random sampling:**  $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i + U_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  generate data:  $\{(x_i, y_i)\}$
  - iii) **SLR.3 – Variation in the  $x$ 's**
  - iv) **SLR.4 – Conditional mean of  $U$  is 0:**  $E(U_i | X_i = x_i) = 0$ 
    - (1) So:  $E(U) = 0$  and  $Cov(X, U) = 0$
- d) Under SLR.1 – SLR.4 (skip proofs for now; focus on  $B_1$ )
  - i) OLS estimators,  $B_0$  and  $B_1$ , are linear (conditional on the  $x$ 's)
  - ii) OLS estimators are unbiased,  $E(B_0) = \beta_0$  and  $E(B_1) = \beta_1$
  - iii) So  $B_0$  and  $B_1$  are **LUEs** ... but  $B_1$  is not alone; there are lots of unbiased linear estimators of  $\beta_1$ ; How to choose between them?  
$$LUEs: B_1 = \sum w_i \left( \frac{Y_i - \bar{Y}}{x_i - \bar{x}} \right), \text{ where } w_i = \left[ \frac{(x_i - \bar{x})^2}{(n-1)S_{xx}} \right] \text{ and } \sum w_i = 1$$
- e) OLS estimators have a variance... (driven by random nature of the sample; pictures!)
- f) The Simple Linear Regression (SLR) Condition 5
  - i) **SLR.5 – Homoskedasticity:**  $Var(U_i | X_i = x_i) = \sigma^2$

### 2) Gauss-Markov Theorem

- a) Under SLR.1 – SLR.5, OLS estimators are **BLUE!** (Who saw this coming?)

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### 3) SLR Estimation, cont'd

a) Under SLR.1 – SLR.5

i)  $Var(B_1) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$  (skip proof for now), and so  $sd(B_1) = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}}$

ii) MSE is an unbiased estimator of  $Var(U | x\text{'s})$ :  $E(MSE) = E\left(\frac{SSR}{n-2}\right) = \sigma^2$  (skip proof)

(1)  $Var(B_1) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2} = E\left(\frac{MSE}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}\right)$  ... use  $\hat{\sigma} = RMSE$  to estimate  $\sigma$

(2) Use  $StdErr(B_1) = se(B_1) = \frac{RMSE}{\sqrt{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}}$  to estimate  $sd(B_1)$

### 4) SLR Inference

a) **SLR.6 – Normality:**  $U_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$  and is independent of X's

b) Under SLR.1 – SLR.6:

i)  $\{Y_i | X_i = x_i\} \sim Normal(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i, \sigma^2)$  since  $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i + U_i$  and  $U_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$

ii)  $B_1 \sim Normal(\beta_1, Var(B_1))$  where  $Var(B_1) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$

iii)  $\frac{B_1 - \beta_1}{sd(B_1)} \sim Normal(0,1)$  ... could use for inference if only we knew  $\sigma$

iv) The **t statistic:**  $\frac{B_1 - \beta_1}{se(B_1)} \sim t_{n-2}$  ... used for inference (estimate  $\sigma$  with RMSE)

c) Use the t statistic for Inference (Confidence Intervals and Hypothesis Testing)

5) Heteroskedasticity and **robust** (White corrected) standard errors