

First Order Optimality of 2SLS: Alternative Derivation

Suppose that we have a linear model

$$y_i = x_i' \beta + u_i \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

where there exists some z_i such that $E[z_i u_i] = 0$ and $E[z_i x_i']$ is nonsingular. We will suppose that $\dim(z_i) \geq \dim(x_i)$, and analyze 2SLS. As before, we will assume that $(y_i, x_i', z_i)'$ is i.i.d.

Condition 1 $E[z_i u_i] = 0$, $E[u_i^2 z_i z_i'] = \sigma^2 E[z_i z_i']$

We will first consider a class of IV estimators using Lz_i as an instrument, where L is a $\dim(x_i) \times \dim(z_i)$ matrix. Note that the IV estimator can be written as

$$b_L = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (Lz_i) x_i' \right)^{-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (Lz_i) y_i \right)$$

We know that

$$\sqrt{n} (b_L - \beta) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Omega_L),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_L &= A_L^{-1} B_L (A_L')^{-1} \\ A_L &= E[(Lz_i) x_i'] = LE[z_i x_i'] \\ B_L &= E[(Lz_i u_i) (Lz_i u_i)'] = LE[u_i^2 z_i z_i'] L' = \sigma^2 LE[z_i z_i'] L' \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_L &= \sigma^2 (LE[z_i x_i'])^{-1} LE[z_i z_i'] L' (E[x_i z_i'] L')^{-1} \\ &= \sigma^2 (LG)^{-1} LHL' (G'L')^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

where we write

$$\begin{aligned} G &= E[z_i x_i'] \\ H &= E[z_i z_i'] \end{aligned}$$

for simplicity of notation.

We would want to choose L to minimize Ω_L . It can be shown that $L^* = G'H^{-1}$ minimizes Ω_L . In order to appreciate it, let

$$\begin{aligned} Q^* &= (L^* G)^{-1} L^* = (G'H^{-1}G)^{-1} G'H^{-1} \\ Q &= (LG)^{-1} L \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} H(Q^*)' &= G(G'H^{-1}G)^{-1} \\ Q^*G &= (G'H^{-1}G)^{-1}G'H^{-1}G = I \\ QG &= (LG)^{-1}LG = I \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$(Q - Q^*)H(Q^*)' = (Q - Q^*)G(G'H^{-1}G)^{-1} = QG - Q^*G = I - I = 0$$

from which we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (LG)^{-1}LHL'(G'L')^{-1} &= QHQ' \\ &= [Q^* + (Q - Q^*)]H[Q^* + (Q - Q^*)]' \\ &= Q^*H(Q^*)' + (Q - Q^*)H(Q - Q^*)' \\ &\geq Q^*H(Q^*)' \\ &= (G'H^{-1}G)^{-1}G'H^{-1} \cdot H \cdot [(G'H^{-1}G)^{-1}G'H^{-1}]' \\ &= (G'H^{-1}G)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

We can therefore see that the optimal choice of L is

$$L^* = G'H^{-1} = (E[x_i z_i']) (E[z_i z_i'])^{-1}$$

We now consider a class of estimators $b_{\hat{L}}$, where $\hat{L} = L^* + o_p(1)$. We can see that

$$\begin{aligned} b_{\hat{L}} &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{L} z_i) x_i' \right)^{-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{L} z_i) y_i \right) = \left(\hat{L} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i x_i' \right)^{-1} \left(\hat{L} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i y_i \right) \\ &= \beta + \left(\hat{L} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i x_i' \right)^{-1} \left(\hat{L} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i u_i \right) = \beta + \left[\hat{L} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i x_i' \right) \right]^{-1} \left[\hat{L} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i u_i \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

We therefore have

$$\sqrt{n}(b_{\hat{L}} - \beta) = \left\{ \left[\hat{L} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i x_i' \right) \right]^{-1} \hat{L} \right\} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i u_i \right)$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\hat{L} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i x_i' \right) \right]^{-1} \hat{L} &= [(L^* + o_p(1)) (E[z_i x_i'] + o_p(1))]^{-1} (L^* + o_p(1)) \\ &= [(L^* + o_p(1)) (G + o_p(1))]^{-1} (L^* + o_p(1)) \\ &= (L^* G)^{-1} L^* + o_p(1) \\ &= (G'H^{-1}G)^{-1} G'H^{-1} + o_p(1) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i u_i \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \sigma^2 E[z_i z_i']) = N(0, \sigma^2 H)$$

It follows that

$$\sqrt{n} (b_{\hat{L}} - \beta) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \sigma^2 (G' H^{-1} G)^{-1})$$

Note that

$$\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i z_i' \right) \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i z_i' \right)^{-1} = (E[x_i z_i']) (E[z_i z_i'])^{-1} + o_p(1)$$

so we can take

$$\hat{L} = \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i z_i' \right) \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i z_i' \right)^{-1}$$

We then have

$$\begin{aligned} b_{\hat{L}} &= \left(\hat{L} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i x_i' \right)^{-1} \left(\hat{L} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i y_i \right) \\ &= \left[\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i z_i' \right) \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i z_i' \right)^{-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n z_i x_i' \right) \right]^{-1} \left[\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i z_i' \right) \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i z_i' \right)^{-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n z_i y_i \right) \right] \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i z_i' \right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^n z_i z_i' \right)^{-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n z_i x_i' \right) \right]^{-1} \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i z_i' \right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^n z_i z_i' \right)^{-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n z_i y_i \right) \right] \\ &= \left(X' Z (Z' Z)^{-1} Z' X \right)^{-1} X' Z (Z' Z)^{-1} Z' y \\ &= b_{2SLS} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\sqrt{n} (b_{2SLS} - \beta) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Omega)$$

where

$$\Omega = \sigma^2 \left[(E[x_i z_i']) (E[z_i z_i'])^{-1} (E[z_i x_i']) \right]^{-1}$$

Theorem 1 $\hat{\Omega} = \Omega + o_p(1)$, where

$$\hat{\Omega} = \hat{A}^{-1} \hat{B} (\hat{A}')^{-1}$$

$$\hat{A} = \left[\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i z_i' \right) \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i z_i' \right)^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i x_i' \right) \right]^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i z_i' \right) \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i z_i' \right)^{-1}$$

$$\hat{B} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{u}_i^2 z_i z_i'$$

$$\hat{u}_i = y_i - x_i' b = y_i - x_i' \beta - x_i' \beta + x_i' b = u_i - x_i' (b - \beta)$$

Higher Order Asymptotics: Some Preliminaries

In this section, we assume that z_i are non-stochastic. We also assume that

$$\frac{1}{n} Z' Z = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i z_i z_i'$$

is fixed at Υ . This simplifies some of the calculations without sacrificing too much generality. Finally, we assume that (ε_i, v_i) is bivariate normal.

Note that the 2SLS $\widehat{\beta}$ is such that

$$\sqrt{n} (\widehat{\beta} - \beta) = \frac{(\frac{1}{n} X' Z) (\frac{1}{n} Z' Z)^{-1} (\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} Z' \varepsilon)}{(\frac{1}{n} X' Z) (\frac{1}{n} Z' Z)^{-1} (\frac{1}{n} Z' X)} = \frac{(\frac{1}{n} X' Z) \Upsilon^{-1} (\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} Z' \varepsilon)}{(\frac{1}{n} X' Z) \Upsilon^{-1} (\frac{1}{n} Z' X)}$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_1 &\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} Z' \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N} \left(0, \frac{\sigma_\varepsilon^2}{n} Z' Z \right) = \mathcal{N} (0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \Upsilon) = O_p(1) \\ \omega_2 &\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} Z' v \sim \mathcal{N} \left(0, \frac{\sigma_v^2}{n} Z' Z \right) = \mathcal{N} (0, \sigma_v^2 \Upsilon) = O_p(1) \end{aligned}$$

Writing

$$\frac{1}{n} Z' X = \frac{1}{n} Z' Z \pi + \frac{1}{n} Z' v = \Upsilon \pi + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \omega_2$$

we can rewrite

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n} (\widehat{\beta} - \beta) &= \frac{\left(\Upsilon \pi + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \omega_2 \right)' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_1}{\left(\Upsilon \pi + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \omega_2 \right)' \Upsilon^{-1} \left(\Upsilon \pi + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \omega_2 \right)} \\ &= \frac{(\Upsilon \pi)' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_1}{(\Upsilon \pi)' \Upsilon^{-1} (\Upsilon \pi) + \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}} \omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} (\Upsilon \pi) + \frac{1}{n} \omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_2} \\ &= \frac{\pi' \omega_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_1}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi + \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}} \omega_2' \pi + \frac{1}{n} \omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_2} \\ &\equiv \frac{a_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} a_2}{b_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} (2b_2) + \frac{1}{n} b_3} \end{aligned}$$

Rewrite further $s = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$

$$\frac{a_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} a_2}{b_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} (2b_2) + \frac{1}{n} b_3} = \frac{a_1 + a_2 s}{b_1 + (2b_2) s + b_3 s^2}$$

Because s is small, we can think of a Taylor series approximation at $s = 0$:

$$\frac{a_1 + a_2 s}{b_1 + (2b_2) s + b_3 s^2} = \frac{a_1}{b_1} + \left(\frac{a_2}{b_1} - \frac{2a_1 b_2}{b_1^2} \right) s + o(s)$$

which roughly means that we can rewrite

$$\frac{a_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}a_2}{b_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}(2b_2) + \frac{1}{n}b_3} \approx \frac{a_1}{b_1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left(\frac{a_2}{b_1} - \frac{2a_1b_2}{b_1^2} \right)$$

or

$$\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\beta} - \beta) \approx \frac{\pi' \omega_1}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left(\frac{\omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_1}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi} - \frac{2(\pi' \omega_1)(\omega_2' \pi)}{(\pi' \Upsilon \pi)^2} \right)$$

Remark 1 *With some abuse of notation, we can write*

$$\pi' \omega_1 \sim \pi' \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \Upsilon) = \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \pi' \Upsilon \pi)$$

so that

$$\frac{\pi' \omega_1}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi} \sim \frac{\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \pi' \Upsilon \pi)}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi} = \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{\sigma_\varepsilon^2}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi}\right)$$

We therefore have

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[\sqrt{n}(\widehat{\beta} - \beta) \right] &\approx \frac{E[\pi' \omega_1]}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left(\frac{E[\omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_1]}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi} - \frac{2E[(\pi' \omega_1)(\omega_2' \pi)]}{(\pi' \Upsilon \pi)^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left(\frac{E[\omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_1]}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi} - \frac{2E[(\pi' \omega_1)(\omega_2' \pi)]}{(\pi' \Upsilon \pi)^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Because

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_1 &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} Z' v \right)' \left(\frac{1}{n} Z' Z \right)^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} Z' \varepsilon \right) = v' Z (Z' Z)^{-1} Z' \varepsilon \\ &= \text{trace} \left(v' Z (Z' Z)^{-1} Z' \varepsilon \right) = \text{trace} \left(Z (Z' Z)^{-1} Z' \cdot \varepsilon v' \right) \\ (\pi' \omega_1)(\omega_2' \pi) &= \pi' \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} Z' \varepsilon \right) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} v' Z \right) \pi = \frac{1}{n} \pi' Z' (\varepsilon v') Z \pi \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} E[\omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_1] &= \text{trace} \left(Z (Z' Z)^{-1} Z' \cdot E[\varepsilon v'] \right) = \text{trace} \left(Z (Z' Z)^{-1} Z' \cdot \sigma_{\varepsilon v} I_n \right) \\ &= \sigma_{\varepsilon v} \text{trace} \left(Z (Z' Z)^{-1} Z' \right) = \sigma_{\varepsilon v} q \\ E[(\pi' \omega_1)(\omega_2' \pi)] &= \frac{1}{n} \pi' Z' (E[\varepsilon v']) Z \pi = \frac{1}{n} \pi' Z' (\sigma_{\varepsilon v} I_n) Z \pi \\ &= \sigma_{\varepsilon v} \frac{1}{n} \pi' Z' Z \pi = \sigma_{\varepsilon v} \pi' \Upsilon \pi \end{aligned}$$

we obtain

$$\frac{E[\omega_2' \Upsilon^{-1} \omega_1]}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi} - \frac{2E[(\pi' \omega_1)(\omega_2' \pi)]}{(\pi' \Upsilon \pi)^2} = \frac{q-2}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi} \sigma_{\varepsilon v}$$

and

$$E \left[\sqrt{n} \left(\widehat{\beta} - \beta \right) \right] \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \frac{q-2}{\pi' \Upsilon \pi} \sigma_{\varepsilon v}$$

To conclude, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[\widehat{\beta} \right] &\approx \beta + \frac{q-2}{n \cdot \pi' \Upsilon \pi} \sigma_{\varepsilon v} = \beta + \frac{q-2}{\pi' Z' Z \pi} \sigma_{\varepsilon v} \\ &\approx \beta + \frac{1}{\sum_i x_i^2} \frac{q-2}{\mathbb{R}^2} \sigma_{\varepsilon v} \end{aligned}$$

Improvement over 2SLS?

Write

$$\widehat{\beta} = \frac{X' P y}{X' P X}$$

We will consider estimators of the form

$$\widetilde{\beta} \equiv \frac{X' P y - k \cdot X' M y}{X' P X - k \cdot X' M X} = \beta + \frac{X' P \varepsilon - k \cdot X' M \varepsilon}{X' P X - k \cdot X' M X}$$

One possibility is LIML, where k is some eigenvalue. Another possibility is

$$k = \frac{\frac{q-2}{n}}{1 - \frac{q-2}{n}}$$

This estimator is due to Nagar (1959).

Remark 2 (Intuition) *We noted above that the bias problem of 2SLS may be due to the fact that the expected value of the numerator is not equal to zero. Now, note that*

$$\begin{aligned} E [X' P \varepsilon - k \cdot X' M \varepsilon] &= E [(Z\pi + v)' P \varepsilon - k \cdot (Z\pi + v)' M \varepsilon] \\ &= E [v' P \varepsilon - k \cdot v' M \varepsilon] \\ &= \text{trace}(P) \cdot \sigma_{\varepsilon v} - k \cdot \text{trace}(M) \cdot \sigma_{\varepsilon v} \\ &= (q - k(n - q)) \cdot \sigma_{\varepsilon v} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if we take

$$k \approx \frac{q}{n - q}$$

we expect the bias problem to be ameliorated.

Rothenberg (1983) and Donald and Newey (2001), based on even higher order expansion than we considered, established that

$$MSE_A(\text{LIML}) < MSE_A(\text{Nagar}) < MSE_A(\text{2SLS})$$

Here, MSE_A denotes approximate mean squared error.

Digression: Choosing Instruments

Donald and Newey (2001) looked at a more complicated model

$$\begin{aligned} y_i &= x_i\beta + u_i \\ x_i &= f(z_i) + v_i \end{aligned}$$

where $f(\cdot)$ is an unknown function of z_i , and the researcher uses

$$\psi_i^K \equiv \psi^K(z_i) \equiv (\psi_{1K}(z_i), \dots, \psi_{KK}(z_i))'$$

as an instrument.¹ They showed that the approximate MSEs of $\sqrt{n}(\text{estimator} - \beta)$ are such that

$$\begin{aligned} MSE_A(\sqrt{n}(2SLS - \beta)) &\approx \sigma_\varepsilon^2 \left(\frac{1}{H} + \frac{f'(I - P^K)f}{nH^2} \right) + \sigma_{\varepsilon v}^2 \frac{K^2}{nH^2} \\ MSE_A(\sqrt{n}(\text{LIML} - \beta)) &\approx \frac{\sigma_\varepsilon^2}{H} \left(\frac{1}{H} + \frac{f'(I - P^K)f}{nH^2} \right) + (\sigma_\varepsilon^2 \sigma_v^2 - \sigma_{\varepsilon v}^2) \frac{K}{nH^2} \\ MSE_A(\sqrt{n}(\text{Nagar} - \beta)) &\approx \frac{\sigma_\varepsilon^2}{H} \left(\frac{1}{H} + \frac{f'(I - P^K)f}{nH^2} \right) + (\sigma_\varepsilon^2 \sigma_v^2 + \sigma_{\varepsilon v}^2) \frac{K}{nH^2} \end{aligned}$$

Here, $H = E[f(z_i)^2]$, $f = (f(z_1), \dots, f(z_n))'$, and P^K denotes the P matrix based on instruments ψ_i^K . In general, K need to be “large” for us to have a good approximation of $f(z_i)$ in the first stage. They suggest an empirically feasible method to choose K in such a way that MSE is minimized. Their proposal will not be discussed explicitly in class.

We now assume a special situation where we have some prior knowledge about $f(z_i)$. Suppose that there is a function $\phi(z_i)$, of which functional form is known, such that $f(z_i) = \pi \cdot \phi(z_i)$ for some unknown π . We can then use only one-dimensional IV $\phi(z_i)$. This will reduce MSE of various IV estimators in two ways. First, we can see that $f'(I - P^K)f = 0$. This is because we know that $f(z_i) = \pi \cdot \phi(z_i)$ so that the regression of $f(z_i)$ on $\phi(z_i)$ will leave zero residuals. Second, we can see that the additional terms $\sigma_{\varepsilon v}^2 \frac{K^2}{nH^2}$, $(\sigma_\varepsilon^2 \sigma_v^2 - \sigma_{\varepsilon v}^2) \frac{K}{nH^2}$, or $(\sigma_\varepsilon^2 \sigma_v^2 + \sigma_{\varepsilon v}^2) \frac{K}{nH^2}$ will be substantially reduced compared to the case where we have to use $K = 100$, e.g. This idea was exploited by Currie and Gruber (1996), who called $\phi(z_i)$ the “simulated instrument”.

Understanding Nagar

2SLS solves

$$0 = \widehat{A}'(y - xb) = \sum_{i=1}^n \widehat{a}_i (y_i - x_i b)$$

where

$$\widehat{A} \equiv Px.$$

¹For example, we can think of polynomials of z_i including $1, z_i, z_i^2, \dots, z_i^K$. If K is large, then $f(z_i)$ will be approximated arbitrarily well by the first stage OLS.

Note that

$$\hat{a}_i = z_i' \hat{\pi}$$

where

$$\hat{\pi} = (Z'Z)^{-1} Z'x$$

We would expect good finite sample performance if

$$E[x'P(y - x\beta)] = 0$$

But

$$E[x'P(y - x\beta)] = E[x'P\varepsilon] = E[(z\pi + v)'P\varepsilon] = E[v'P\varepsilon] = q\sigma_{\varepsilon v} \neq 0$$

The problem can be fixed by considering the fact that

$$\frac{q}{n-q} E[x'M\varepsilon] = \frac{q}{n-q} E[v'M\varepsilon] = q\sigma_{\varepsilon v}$$

and hence

$$E\left[x' \left(P - \frac{q}{n-q} M\right) \varepsilon\right] = 0$$

This suggests an estimator that solves

$$x' \left(P - \frac{q}{n-q} M\right) (y - xb) = 0$$

or

$$\frac{x'Py - \frac{q}{n-q}x'My}{x'Px - \frac{q}{n-q}x'Mx}$$

Note that we can fix the problem by considering a solution to

$$0 = \tilde{A}'(y - xb) = \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{a}_i (y_i - x_i b)$$

where

$$\tilde{a}_i = z_i' \tilde{\pi}_{(i)}$$

Here, $\tilde{\pi}_{(i)}$ denotes the OLS estimator for π based on every observation except the i th. Therefore, $\tilde{\pi}_{(i)}$ and ε_i are independent of each other by construction, and therefore the solution is expected to have a good performance in finite sample. The estimator

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (z_i' \tilde{\pi}_{(i)}) y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n (z_i' \tilde{\pi}_{(i)}) x_i}$$

is often called the JIVE (Jackknife Instrumental Variables Estimator) in the literature.

Exact Finite Sample Distribution under Normality

We will continue to assume that $\frac{1}{n} \sum_i z_i z_i'$ is fixed at Υ . We will also assume that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_i \\ v_i \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_\varepsilon^2 & \sigma_{\varepsilon v} \\ \sigma_{\varepsilon v} & \sigma_v^2 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

Write

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\beta} &= \beta + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_i z_i x_i\right)' \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_i z_i z_i'\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_i z_i \varepsilon_i\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_i z_i x_i\right)' \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_i z_i z_i'\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_i z_i x_i\right)} \\ &= \beta + \frac{\left(\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_i z_i z_i'\right) (\sqrt{n}\pi) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_i z_i v_i\right)' \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_i z_i z_i'\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_i z_i \varepsilon_i\right)}{\left(\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_i z_i z_i'\right) (\sqrt{n}\pi) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_i z_i v_i\right)' \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_i z_i z_i'\right)^{-1} \left(\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_i z_i z_i'\right) (\sqrt{n}\pi) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_i z_i v_i\right)} \\ &= \beta + \frac{(\Upsilon c + \Phi_{zv})' \Upsilon^{-1} (\Phi_{z\varepsilon})}{(\Upsilon c + \Phi_{zv})' \Upsilon^{-1} (\Upsilon c + \Phi_{zv})} \end{aligned}$$

where we write

$$\begin{aligned} c &\equiv \sqrt{n}\pi \\ \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{z\varepsilon} \\ \Phi_{zv} \end{pmatrix} &\equiv \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_i z_i \varepsilon_i \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_i z_i v_i \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{z\varepsilon} \\ \Phi_{zv} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_\varepsilon^2 & \sigma_{\varepsilon v} \\ \sigma_{\varepsilon v} & \sigma_v^2 \end{bmatrix} \otimes \Upsilon\right)$$

Higher Order Expansion for M-Estimator

Consider the M-estimator which solves

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n s(z_i, \widehat{\theta}) = 0$$

For simplicity, we will assume that $\dim(s) = \dim(\theta) = 1$.

We first review the usual (first order) asymptotics. From the first order Taylor expansion

$$0 \approx \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n s(z_i, \theta_0) + \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta}\right) (\widehat{\theta} - \theta_0)$$

and the law of large numbers

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} = E\left[\frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta}\right] + o_p(1),$$

we obtain

$$0 \approx \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n s(z_i, \theta_0) + E \left[\frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \right] (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0)$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) &\approx - \left(E \left[\frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \right] \right)^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n s(z_i, \theta_0) \right) \\ &= -QJ \end{aligned}$$

where, for simplicity of notation, we write

$$\begin{aligned} Q &\equiv \left(E \left[\frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \right] \right)^{-1} \\ J &\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n s(z_i, \theta_0) = O_p(1) \end{aligned}$$

Higher order expansion is based on the higher order Taylor expansion:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\approx \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n s(z_i, \theta_0) + \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \right) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta^2} \right) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n s(z_i, \theta_0) + \left(E \left[\frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \right] + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} - E \left[\frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \right] \right) \right) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \left(E \left[\frac{\partial^2 s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta^2} \right] + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\partial^2 s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta^2} - E \left[\frac{\partial^2 s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta^2} \right] \right) \right) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} J + \left(Q^{-1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} V \right) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) + \left(H + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} W \right) (\hat{\theta} - \theta_0)^2 \end{aligned}$$

where, for simplicity of notation, we write

$$\begin{aligned} V &\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} - E \left[\frac{\partial s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \right] \right) = O_p(1) \\ W &\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\partial^2 s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta^2} - E \left[\frac{\partial^2 s(z_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta^2} \right] \right) = O_p(1) \end{aligned}$$

Now “guess”

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \approx -QJ + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \Lambda$$

for some Λ , and obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\approx J + \left(Q^{-1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} V \right) (\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0)) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left(H + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} W \right) (\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0))^2 \\ &= J + \left(Q^{-1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} V \right) (-QJ + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \Lambda) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left(H + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} W \right) (-QJ + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \Lambda)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left(-VQJ + \frac{1}{2} H Q^2 J^2 + \frac{1}{Q} \Lambda \right) + O_p \left(\frac{1}{n} \right) \end{aligned}$$

From

$$0 = -VQJ + \frac{1}{2}HQ^2J^2 + \frac{1}{Q}\Lambda$$

we obtain

$$\Lambda = Q^2JV - \frac{1}{2}Q^3J^2H$$

or

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \approx -QJ + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\left(Q^2JV - \frac{1}{2}Q^3HJ^2\right)$$

We can now calculate the higher order bias of $\hat{\theta}$ as

$$E\left[-\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}QJ + \frac{1}{n}\left(Q^2JV - \frac{1}{2}Q^3HJ^2\right)\right] = \frac{1}{n}Q^2E[JV] - \frac{1}{2n}Q^3HE[J^2]$$