


$$e = Y - \hat{Y} \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad Y \in R^n$$

$\hat{Y}$   


vector space spanned by the columns of  $X$ .  
 dimension of this space is  $\text{rank}(X)$ .

The residual vector

$$e = Y - \tilde{Y} = (I - P_X)Y$$

is in the space orthogonal to the space spanned by the columns of  $X$ . It has dimension

$$n - \text{rank}(X).$$

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### Partition of a total sum of squares

Squared length of  $Y$

$$\text{is } \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 = Y^T Y$$

Squared length of the residual vector is

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 &= e^T e \\ &= [(I - P_X)Y]^T (I - P_X)Y \\ &= Y^T (I - P_X)Y \end{aligned}$$

Squared length of  $\hat{Y} = P_X Y$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{Y}_i^2 &= \hat{Y}^T \hat{Y} \\ &= (P_X Y)^T (P_X Y) \\ &= Y^T (P_X)^T P_X Y \quad \text{since } P_X \text{ is symmetric} \\ &= Y^T P_X P_X Y \quad \text{since } P_X \text{ is idempotent} \\ &= Y^T P_X Y \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} Y^T Y &= Y^T (P_X + I - P_X) Y \\ &= Y^T P_X Y + Y^T (I - P_X) Y \end{aligned}$$

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### ANOVA

Source of Variation	Degrees of Freedom	Sums of Squares
model (uncorrected)	$\text{rank}(X)$	$\hat{Y}^T \hat{Y} = Y^T P_X Y$
residuals	$n - \text{rank}(X)$	$e^T e = Y^T (I - P_X) Y$
total (uncorrected)	$n$	$Y^T Y = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2$

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### Result 3.6 For the linear model

$$E(Y) = X\beta \text{ and } \text{Var}(Y) = \Sigma,$$

the OLS estimator  $\hat{Y} = Xb = P_X Y$  for  $X\beta$  is

- (i) unbiased, i.e.,  $E(\hat{Y}) = X\beta$
- (ii) a linear function of  $Y$
- (iii) has variance-covariance matrix

$$\text{Var}(\hat{Y}) = P_X \Sigma P_X$$

This is true for any solution

$$b = (X^T X)^- X^T Y$$

to the normal equations.

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**Proof:**

(ii) is trivial, since  $\hat{Y} = P_X Y$

(iii) follows from result 2.1.(ii)

(i)

$$\begin{aligned}
E(\hat{Y}) &= E(P_X Y) \\
&= P_X E(Y) \text{ from result 2.1.(i)} \\
&= P_X X \beta \\
&= X \beta \text{ since } P_X X = X
\end{aligned}$$

**Comments:**

- $\hat{Y} = Xb = P_X Y$  is said to be a **linear unbiased** estimator for  $E(Y) = X\beta$

- For the Gauss-Markov model,  $Var(Y) = \sigma^2 I$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
Var(\hat{Y}) &= P_X (\sigma^2 I) P_X \\
&= \sigma^2 P_X P_X \\
&= \sigma^2 P_X \\
&= \sigma^2 \underline{X(X^T X)^{-1} X^T}
\end{aligned}$$

↑  
this is sometimes called the "hat" matrix.

**Questions**

Is  $\hat{Y} = Xb = P_X Y$  the "best" estimator for  $E(Y) = X\beta$ ?

Is  $\hat{Y} = Xb = P_X Y$  the "best" estimator for  $E(Y) = X\beta$  in the class of linear, unbiased estimators?

What other linear functions of  $\beta$ , say

$$c^T \beta = c_1 \beta_1 + c_2 \beta_2 + \dots + c_k \beta_k,$$

have OLS estimators that are invariant to the choice of

$$b = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$$

that solves the normal equations?

**Estimable Functions**

Some estimates of linear functions of the parameters have the same value, regardless of which solution to the normal equations is used

- These are called estimable functions
- An example is  $E(Y) = X\beta$

Check that  $Xb$  has the same value for each solution to the normal equations obtained in Example 3.2, i.e.,

$$Xb = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{Y}_1. \\ \bar{Y}_1. \\ \bar{Y}_2. \\ \bar{Y}_3. \\ \bar{Y}_3. \\ \bar{Y}_3. \end{bmatrix}$$

## Estimable Functions

**Defn 3.6:** For a linear model

$$E(Y) = X\beta \quad \text{and} \quad Var(Y) = \Sigma$$

we will say that

$$c^T\beta = c_1\beta_1 + c_2\beta_2 + \cdots + c_k\beta_k$$

is estimable if there exists a linear unbiased estimator  $a^TY$  for  $c^T\beta$ , i.e., for some non-random vector  $a$ , we have  $E(a^TY) = c^T\beta$ .

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### Example 3.2. Blood coagulation times

Diet 1	Diet 2	Diet 3
$Y_{11} = 62$	$Y_{21} = 71$	$Y_{31} = 72$
$Y_{12} = 60$		$Y_{32} = 68$
		$Y_{33} = 67$

The "Effects" model

$$Y_{ij} = \mu + \alpha_i + \epsilon_{ij}$$

can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y_{11} \\ Y_{12} \\ Y_{21} \\ Y_{31} \\ Y_{32} \\ Y_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mu \\ \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_{11} \\ \epsilon_{12} \\ \epsilon_{21} \\ \epsilon_{31} \\ \epsilon_{32} \\ \epsilon_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

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### Examples of estimable functions

$\mu + \alpha_1$

Choose  $a^T = (\frac{1}{2} \ \frac{1}{2} \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} E(a^TY) &= E\left(\frac{1}{2}Y_{11} + \frac{1}{2}Y_{12}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}E(Y_{11}) + \frac{1}{2}E(Y_{12}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\mu + \alpha_1) + \frac{1}{2}(\mu + \alpha_1) \\ &= \mu + \alpha_1 \end{aligned}$$

Choose  $a^T = (1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)$  and note that  $E(a^TY) = E(Y_{11}) = \mu + \alpha_1$ .

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$\mu + \alpha_2$

Choose  $a^T = (0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)$ . Then,

$$a^TY = Y_{21}$$

and

$$E(a^TY) = E(Y_{21}) = \mu + \alpha_2.$$

$\mu + \alpha_3$

Choose  $a^T = (0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0)$ . Then,

$$E(a^TY) = E(Y_{31}) = \mu + \alpha_3$$

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$$\underline{\alpha_1 - \alpha_2}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 &= (\mu + \alpha_1) - (\mu + \alpha_2) \\ &= E(Y_{11}) - E(Y_{21}) \\ &= E(Y_{11} - Y_{21}) \\ &= E(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{Y})\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathbf{a}^T = (1 \ 0 \ -1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)$$

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$$\underline{2\mu + 3\alpha_1 - \alpha_2}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}2\mu + 3\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 &= 3(\mu + \alpha_1) - (\mu + \alpha_2) \\ &= 3E(Y_{11}) - E(Y_{21}) \\ &= E(3Y_{11} - Y_{21}) \\ &= E(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{Y})\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathbf{a}^T = (3 \ 0 \ -1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)$$

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Quantities that are not estimable include

$$\mu, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, 3\alpha_1, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$$

To show that a linear function of parameters,

$$c_0\mu + c_1\alpha_1 + c_2\alpha_2 + c_3\alpha_3$$

is not estimable, one must show that there is no non-random vector

$$\mathbf{a}^T = (a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3)$$

for which

$$E(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{Y}) = c_0\mu + c_1\alpha_1 + c_2\alpha_2 + c_3\alpha_3$$

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For  $\alpha_1$  to be estimable we would need to find an  $\mathbf{a}$  that satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_1 &= E(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{Y}) \\ &= a_1E(Y_{11}) + a_2E(Y_{12}) + a_3E(Y_{21}) \\ &\quad + a_4(E(Y_{31}) + a_5E(Y_{32}) + a_6E(Y_{33})) \\ &= (a_1 + a_2)(\mu + \alpha_1) + a_3(\mu + \alpha_2) \\ &\quad + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)(\mu + \alpha_3)\end{aligned}$$

This implies  $0 = a_3 = (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)$ ,

Then  $\alpha_1 = (a_1 + a_2)(\mu + \alpha_1)$  which is impossible.

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**Example 3.1.** Yield of a chemical process

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \\ Y_3 \\ Y_4 \\ Y_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 160 & 1 \\ 1 & 165 & 3 \\ 1 & 165 & 2 \\ 1 & 170 & 1 \\ 1 & 175 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \epsilon_2 \\ \epsilon_3 \\ \epsilon_4 \\ \epsilon_5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since  $X$  has full column rank, each element of  $\beta$  is estimable.

Consider  $B_1 = c^T \beta$  where  $c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Since  $X$  has full column rank, the unique least squares estimator for  $\beta$  is

$$b = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$$

and an unbiased linear estimator for  $c^T \beta$  is

$$c^T b = \frac{c^T (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y}{\text{call this } a^T}$$

**Result 3.7** For a linear model with  $E(Y) = X\beta$  and  $Var(Y) = \Sigma$

- (i) The expectation of any observation is estimable.
- (ii) A linear combination of estimable functions is estimable.
- (iii) Each element of  $\beta$  is estimable if and only if  $\text{rank}(X) = k = \text{number of columns}$ .
- (iv) Every  $c^T \beta$  is estimable if and only if  $\text{rank}(X) = k = \text{number of columns in } X$ .

**Proof:**

(i) For  $Y = \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{bmatrix}$  with  $E(Y) = X\beta$  we have

$$Y_i = a_i^T Y \text{ where } a_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{matrix} \text{one in} \\ \text{the } i\text{th} \\ \text{position} \end{matrix}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y_i) &= E(a_i^T Y) = a_i^T E(Y) \\ &= \underline{a_i^T X \beta} \\ &= c_i^T \beta \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Suppose  $c_i^T \beta$  is estimable. Then, there is an  $a_i$  such that  $E(a_i^T Y) = c_i^T \beta$ .

Now consider a linear combination of estimable functions

$$w_1 c_1^T \beta + w_2 c_2^T \beta + \dots + w_p c_p^T \beta$$

Let  $a = w_1 a_1 + w_2 a_2 + \dots + w_p a_p$ .

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} E(a^T Y) &= E(w_1 a_1^T Y + \dots + w_p a_p^T Y) \\ &= w_1 E(a_1^T Y) + \dots + w_p E(a_p^T Y) \\ &= w_1 c_1^T \beta + \dots + w_p c_p^T \beta \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Previous argument.

(iv) Follows from (ii) and (iii).

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**Result 3.8.** For a linear model with

$$E(Y) = X\beta \text{ and } Var(Y) = \Sigma,$$

each of the following is true if and only if  $c^T \beta$  is estimable.

(i)  $c^T = a^T X$  for some  $a$  i.e.,  $c$  is in the space spanned by the rows of  $X$ .

(ii)  $c^T a = 0$  for every  $a$  for which  $Xa = 0$ .

(iii)  $c^T b$  is the same for any solution to the normal equations  $(X^T X)b = X^T Y$ , i.e., there is a unique least squares estimator for  $c^T \beta$ .

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Use Result 3.8. (ii) to show that  $\mu$  is not estimable in Example 3.2. In that case

$$E(Y) = X\beta = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mu \\ \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\mu = c^T \beta = [1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0] \beta.$$

Let  $d^T = [1 \ -1 \ -1 \ -1]$ , then

$$Xd = 0, \text{ but } c^T d = 1 \neq 0$$

Hence,  $\mu$  is not estimable.

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Part (ii) of Result 3.8 sometimes provides a convenient way to identify all possible estimable functions of  $\beta$ .

In example 3.2,  $Xd = 0$  if and only if

$$d = w \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ for some scalar } w.$$

Then,  $c^T \beta$  is estimable if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= c^T d = w(c_1 - c_2 - c_3 - c_4) \\ \iff c_1 &= c_2 + c_3 + c_4. \end{aligned}$$

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Then,

$(c_2 + c_3 + c_4)\mu + c_2\alpha_1 + c_3\alpha_2 + c_4\alpha_3$   
is estimable for any  $(c_2 \ c_3 \ c_4)$  and these are the only estimable functions of  $\mu, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ .

Some estimable functions are

$$\mu + \frac{1}{3}(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3) \quad (c_2 = c_3 = c_4 = \frac{1}{3})$$

and

$$\mu + \alpha_2 \quad (c_2 = 1 \ c_3 = c_4 = 0)$$

but

$\mu + 2\alpha_2$   
is not estimable.

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**Defn 3.7:** For a linear model with

$$E(Y) = X\beta \text{ and } Var(Y) = \Sigma,$$

where  $X$  is an  $n \times k$  matrix,  $C_{r \times k}\beta_{k \times 1}$  is said to be estimable if all of its elements

$$C\beta = \begin{bmatrix} c_1^T \\ c_2^T \\ \vdots \\ c_r^T \end{bmatrix} \beta = \begin{bmatrix} c_1^T \beta \\ c_2^T \beta \\ \vdots \\ c_r^T \beta \end{bmatrix}$$

are estimable.

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**Result 3.9** For the linear model with  $E(Y) = X\beta$  and  $Var(Y) = \Sigma$ , where  $X$  is an  $n \times k$  matrix, each of the following conditions hold if and only if  $C\beta$  is estimable.

- (i)  $AX = C$  for some matrix  $A$ , i.e., each row of  $C$  is in the space spanned by the rows of  $X$ .
- (ii)  $Cd = 0$  for any  $d$  for which  $Xd = 0$ .
- (iii)  $Cb$  is the same for any solution to the normal equations  $(X^T X)b = X^T y$ .

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## Summary

For a linear model

$$Y = X\beta + \epsilon$$

with  $E(Y) = X\beta$  and  $Var(Y) = \Sigma$ , we have

- Any estimable function has a unique interpretation
- The OLS estimator for an estimable function  $C\beta$  is unique

$$Cb = C(X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$$

- The OLS estimator for an estimable function  $C\beta$  is
  - a linear estimator
  - an unbiased estimator

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In the class of linear unbiased estimators for  $c^T\beta$ , is the OLS estimator the “best?”

Here “best” means smallest expected squared error. Let  $t(Y)$  denote an estimator for  $c^T\beta$ . Then, the expected squared error is

$$\begin{aligned} MSE &= E[t(Y) - c^T\beta]^2 \\ &= E[t(Y) - E(t(Y)) + E(t(Y)) - c^T\beta]^2 \\ &= E[t(Y) - E(t(Y))]^2 \\ &\quad + [E(t(Y)) - c^T\beta]^2 \\ &\quad + 2[E(t(Y)) - c^T\beta]E[t(Y) - E(t(Y))] \\ &= E[t(Y) - E(t(Y))]^2 + [E(t(Y)) - c^T\beta]^2 \\ &= Var(t(Y)) + [bias]^2 \end{aligned}$$

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If we restrict our attention to linear unbiased estimators for  $c^T\beta$ :

- $E(t(Y)) = c^T\beta$
- $t(Y) = a^TY$  for some  $a$

then,  $t(Y) = a^TY$  is the best linear unbiased estimator (blue) for  $c^T\beta$  if

$$Var(a^TY) \leq Var(d^TY)$$

for any  $d$  and any value of  $\beta$ .

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### Result 3.10 (Gauss-Markov Theorem)

For the Gauss-Markov model,

$$E(Y) = X\beta \text{ and } Var(Y) = \sigma^2I,$$

the OLS estimator of an estimable function  $c^T\beta$  is the unique best linear unbiased estimator (blue) of  $c^T\beta$ .

Proof:

- (i) For any solution  $b = (X^TX)^{-1}X^TY$  to the normal equations, the OLS estimator for  $c^T\beta$  is

$$c^Tb = c^T(X^TX)^{-1}X^Ty$$

which is a linear function of  $Y$ .

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- (ii) From Result 3.8.(i), there exists a vector  $a$  such that  $c^T = a^TX$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} E(c^Tb) &= E(c^T(X^TX)^{-1}X^TY) \\ &= c^T(X^TX)^{-1}X^TE(Y) \\ &= c^T(X^TX)^{-1}X^TX\beta \\ &= a^T\underbrace{X(X^TX)^{-1}X^T}_{\uparrow}X\beta \end{aligned}$$

projection  $P_X$  onto the column space of  $X$

$$\begin{aligned} &= a^TX\beta \\ &= c^T\beta \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $c^Tb$  is an unbiased estimator.

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(iii) Minimum variance in the class of linear unbiased estimators

Suppose  $d^T Y$  is any other linear unbiased estimator for  $c^T \beta$ . Then

$$E(d^T Y) = d^T E(Y) = d^T X \beta = c^T \beta$$

for every  $\beta$ . Hence,  $d^T X = c^T$  and  $c = X^T d$ .

We must show that

$$\text{Var}(c^T b) \leq \text{Var}(d^T Y).$$

First, note that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(d^T Y) &= \text{Var}(c^T b + [d^T Y - c^T b]) \\ &= \text{Var}(c^T b) + \text{Var}(d^T Y - c^T b) \\ &\quad + 2\text{Cov}(c^T b, d^T Y - c^T b) \end{aligned}$$

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Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(d^T Y) &\geq \text{Var}(c^T b) \\ &\quad + 2\text{Cov}(c^T b, d^T Y - c^T b) \\ &= \text{Var}(c^T b) \end{aligned}$$

because

$$\text{Cov}(c^T b, d^T Y - c^T b) = 0.$$

To show this first note that

$$c^T b = c^T (X^T X)^{-} X^T Y$$

is invariant with respect to the choice of  $(X^T X)^{-}$ . Consequently, we can use the Moore-Penrose generalized inverse which is symmetric. (Not every generalized inverse of  $X^T X$  is symmetric.)

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Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(c^T b, d^T Y - c^T b) &= \text{Cov}(c^T (X^T X)^{-} X^T Y, [d^T - c^T (X^T X)^{-} X^T] Y) \\ &= (c^T (X^T X)^{-} X^T) \text{Var}(Y) [d^T - c^T (X^T X)^{-} X^T]^T \\ &= [c^T (X^T X)^{-} X^T] \sigma^2 I [d - \underbrace{X (X^T X)^{-} c}_{\uparrow}] \\ &\quad \text{This is where the symmetry of } (X^T X)^{-} \text{ is needed.} \\ &= \sigma^2 [c^T (X^T X)^{-} X^T d - c^T \underbrace{X (X^T X)^{-} X^T X (X^T X)^{-} c}_{\uparrow}] \\ &\quad \text{since } X^T d = c \end{aligned}$$

Since  $c^T b$  is invariant to the choice of  $b$  (result 3.8.(iii)), we were able to use the Moore-Penrose inverse for  $(X^T X)^{-}$  which satisfies

$$(X^T X)^{-} (X^T X) (X^T X)^{-} = X^T X$$

by definition.

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Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(c^T b, d^T Y - c^T b) &= \sigma^2 [c^T (X^T X)^{-} c - c^T (X^T X)^{-} c] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\text{Var}(d^T Y) \geq \text{Var}(c^T b)$$

and  $c^T b$  is blue.

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(iv) To show that the OLS estimator is the unique blue, note that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(d^T Y) &= \text{Var}(c^T b + [d^T Y - c^T b]) \\ &= \text{Var}(c^T b) + \text{Var}(d^T Y - c^T b) \end{aligned}$$

because  $\text{Cov}(c^T b, d^T Y - c^T b) = 0$ .

Then,  $d^T Y$  is blue if and only if

$$\text{Var}(d^T Y - c^T b) = 0 .$$

This is equivalent to

$$d^T Y - c^T b = \text{constant}.$$

Since both estimators are unbiased

$$\begin{aligned} E(d^T Y - c^T b) &= E(d^T Y) - E(c^T b) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,  $d^T Y - c^T b = 0$  for all  $Y$  and  $c^T b$  is the unique blue.

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What if you have a linear model that is not a Gauss-Markov model?

$$E(Y) = X\beta$$

$$\text{Var}(Y) = \Sigma \neq \sigma^2 I$$

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- Parts (i) and (ii) of the proof of result 3.11 do not require

$$\text{Var}(Y) = \sigma^2 I .$$

Consequently, the OLS estimator for  $c^T \beta$ ,

$$c^T b = c^T (X^T X)^- X^T Y$$

is a linear unbiased estimator.

- Result 3.8 does not require

$$\text{Var}(Y) = \sigma^2 I$$

and the OLS estimator for any estimable quantity,

$$c^T b = c^T (X^T X)^- X^T Y ,$$

is invariant to the choice of  $(X^T X)^-$ .

- The OLS estimator  $c^T b$  may not be blue. There may be other linear unbiased estimators with smaller variance.

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Variance of the OLS estimator of an estimable quantity:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(c^T b) &= \text{Var}(c^T (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y) \\ &= c^T (X^T X)^{-1} X^T \Sigma X [(X^T X)^{-1}]^T c \end{aligned}$$

For the Gauss-Markov model

$$\text{Var}(Y) = \Sigma = \sigma^2 I$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(c^T b) &= \sigma^2 c^T (X^T X)^{-1} X^T X [(X^T X)^{-1}]^T c \\ &= \sigma^2 c^T (X^T X)^{-1} c \end{aligned}$$

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Generalized Least Squares (GLS) Estimation:

**Defn 3.8:** For a linear model with

$$E(Y) = X\beta \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Var}(Y) = \Sigma,$$

where  $\Sigma$  is positive definite, a generalized least squares estimator for  $\beta$  minimizes

$$(Y - Xb_{\text{GLS}})^T \Sigma^{-1} (Y - Xb_{\text{GLS}})$$

**Strategy:** Transform  $Y$  to a random vector  $Z$  for which the Gauss-Markov model applies.

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The spectral decomposition of  $\Sigma$  yields

$$\Sigma = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j u_j u_j^T.$$

Define

$$\Sigma^{-1/2} = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_j}} u_j u_j^T$$

and create the random vector

$$Z = \Sigma^{-1/2} Y.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(Z) &= \text{Var}(\Sigma^{-1/2} Y) \\ &= \Sigma^{-1/2} \Sigma \Sigma^{-1/2} = I \end{aligned}$$

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and

$$\begin{aligned} E(Z) &= E(\Sigma^{-1/2} Y) \\ &= \Sigma^{-1/2} E(Y) = \Sigma^{-1/2} X\beta \\ &= W\beta \end{aligned}$$

and we have a Gauss-Markov model for  $Z$ , where  $W = \Sigma^{-1/2} X$  is the model matrix.

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (Z - Wb)^T(Z - Wb) \\
 &= (\Sigma^{-1/2}Y - \Sigma^{1/2}Xb)^T \\
 &\quad (\Sigma^{-1/2}Y \Sigma^{-1/2}Xb) \\
 &= (Y - Xb)^T \Sigma^{-1/2} \Sigma^{-1/2} (Y - Xb) \\
 &= (Y - Xb)^T \Sigma^{-1} (Y - Xb)
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, any GLS estimator for the Y model is an OLS estimator for the Z model.

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It must be a solution to the normal equations for the Z model

$$\begin{aligned}
 W^T W b &= W^T Z \\
 \Leftrightarrow (X^T \Sigma^{-1/2} \Sigma^{-1/2} X) b & \\
 &= X^T \Sigma^{-1/2} \Sigma^{-1/2} Y \\
 \Leftrightarrow (X^T \Sigma^{-1} X) b &= X^T \Sigma^{-1} Y
 \end{aligned}$$

These are the generalized least squares estimating equations.

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Any solution

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_{\text{GLS}} &= (W^T W)^{-1} W^T Z \\
 &= (X^T \Sigma^{-1} X)^{-1} X^T \Sigma^{-1} Y
 \end{aligned}$$

is called a generalized least squares (GLS) estimator for  $\beta$ .

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**Result 3.11** For a linear model with  $E(Y) = X\beta$  and  $Var(Y) = \Sigma$ , the GLS estimator of an estimable function  $c^T\beta$ ,

$$c^T b_{\text{GLS}} = c^T (X^T \Sigma^{-1} X)^{-1} X^T \Sigma^{-1} Y,$$

is the unique BLUE of  $c^T\beta$ .

**Proof:** Since  $c^T\beta$  is estimable, there is an  $a$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 c^T \beta &= E(a^T Y) \\
 &= E(a^T \Sigma^{1/2} \Sigma^{-1/2} Y) \\
 &= E(a^T \Sigma^{1/2} Z)
 \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,  $c^T\beta$  is estimable for the Z model. Apply the Gauss-Markov theorem (result 3.10) to the Z model.

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## Comments

- For the linear model with

$$E(Y) = X\beta \text{ and } Var(Y) = \Sigma,$$

both the OLS and GLS estimators for an estimable function  $c^T\beta$  are linear unbiased estimators.

$$Var(c^T b_{OLS}) = c^T (X^T X)^{-1} X^T \Sigma X [(X^T X)^{-1}]^T c$$

$$Var(c^T b_{GLS}) = c^T (X^T \Sigma^{-1} X)^{-1} X^T \Sigma^{-1} X (X^T \Sigma^{-1} X)^{-1} c$$

and

$$Var(c^T b_{OLS}) \geq Var(c^T b_{GLS})$$

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- For the Gauss-Markov model,

$$c^T b_{GLS} = c^T b_{OLS} .$$

- The blue property of  $c^T b_{GLS}$  assumes that  $Var(Y) = \Sigma$  is known.
- The same results, including Results 3.12, hold for the Aitken model where  $E(Y) = X\beta$  and  $Var(Y) = \sigma^2 V$  for some known matrix  $V$ .

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- In practice  $Var(Y) = \Sigma$  is usually unknown. An approximation to

$$b_{GLS} = (X^T \Sigma^{-1} X)^{-1} X^T \Sigma^{-1} Y$$

is obtained by substituting a consistent estimator  $\hat{\Sigma}$  for  $\Sigma$ .  
 – use method of moments or maximum likelihood estimation to obtain  $\hat{\Sigma}$

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– the resulting estimator

- is not a linear estimator
- is consistent but not necessarily unbiased
- does not provide a blue for estimable functions
- may have larger mean squared error than the OLS estimator

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