STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY

Department of Statistics Econometrics I, Regression analysis, ST223G Autumn semester 2019

Written Examination in Econometrics I

Date

2019-12-03

Hour:

10.00-15.00

Examiner:

Jörgen Säve-Söderbergh

Allowed tools:

1) Textbook: Wooldridge, J.M. Introductory Econometrics: A Modern Approach, Cengage.

2) Pocket calculator

3) Notes written in the text book are allowed.

- Note that no formula sheet is provided.
- Passing rate: 50% of overall total, which is 100 points. For detailed grading criteria, see the course description.
- The maximum number of points for each problem is stated after each question. If not indicated otherwise, to obtain the maximum number of points on each problem, detailed and clear solutions are required. Answers may be given in English or Swedish.

Good luck!

- 1. This question concerns a data set that includes information on wages, education, parents' education and several other variables for 1230 working men in 1991. We also have a measure of cognitive ability (abil) and the costs for entering college education in 2017 and 2018.
 - (a) The model

$$educ = \beta_0 + \beta_1 motheduc + \beta_2 fatheduc + \beta_3 abil + \beta_4 abil^2 + u$$

was estimated using R:

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	r t value
(Intercept)	8.240226	0.287410	28.671
motheduc	0.190126	0.028096	6.767
fatheduc	0.108939	0.019601	5.558
abil	0.401462	0.030288	13.255
I(abil^2)	0.050599	0.008304	

Residual standard error: 1.758 on 1225 degrees of freedom Multiple R-squared: 0.4444, Adjusted R-squared: 0.4425 F-statistic: 244.9 on 4 and 1225 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

Test the null hypothesis that educ is linearly related to abil against the alternative that the relationship is quadratic. (10 p)

- (b) Using the equation in (a), test $H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2$ against a two-sided alternative. State the null and alternative clearly. Use 5% significance level. [Hint It is necessary to know that $\widehat{\text{Cov}}\left(\hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2\right) = -0.0002928221$.] (10 p)
- (c) The costs for entering college education in 2017 and 2018 were added to the model in (a). Do a formal hypothesis testing to determine whether they are jointly statistically significant or not. Use 5% significance level. (10 p)
- 2. A telephone survey attempted to elicit the demand for a (fictional) "ecologically friendly" apple. Each family was (randomly) presented with a set of prices for regular apples and the eco-labeled apples. They were asked how many pounds of each kind of apple they would buy. We use the following variables from this survey

- *ecolbs* = the amount ecological apples that you would buy at a certain price.
- *ecoprc* = price of ecological apple
- regprc = price of regular (not ecological) apple
- faminc = family income
- hhsize = household size
- a) Does the variable ecolbs seem to have a continuous distribution over strictly positive values? What implications does your answer have for the suitability of a Tobit model for ecolbs? The variable ecolbs is illustrated in figure 1 below. The number of households that did not demand any amount of ecological apples were 248. (10 p)

Demand for ecolabeled apples in a telephone survey

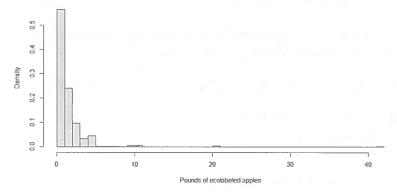


Figure 1: Relative histogram for part a)

b) A Tobit model was estimated using R. Write the estimated equation. Which variables seem to influence the dependent variable? Discuss this question without a formal hypothesis testing framework. (10 p)

Call:

tobit(ecolbs ~ ecoprc + regprc + faminc + hhsize)

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	r z valu	e Pr(> z)
(Intercept)	1.002687	0.667972	1.501	0.1333	
ecoprc	-5.821484	0.885840	-6.572	4.97e-11	***
regprc	5.655171	1.064647	5.312	1.09e-07	***
faminc	0.006638	0.004001	1.659	0.0971	
hhsize	0.130315	0.095038	1.371	0.1703	

Gaussian distribution

Number of Newton-Raphson Iterations: 3

Log-likelihood: -1266 on 6 Df

Wald-statistic: 48.4 on 4 Df, p-value: 7.778e-10

- c) Are the signs of the coefficients on the price variables from (b) what you expect? Explain. (10 p)
- 3. The following model was suggested for studying expenditures on marketing for Swedish municipalities (sv. kommuner).

$$Marketing = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Population + \beta_2 Tax + \beta_3 Proportion Young + u$$

From previous studies we know that it is reasonable to assume the following on the error term \boldsymbol{u}

$$E(u \mid Population, Tax, ProportionYoung) = 0$$

and

$$Var(u \mid Population, Tax, ProportionYoung) = \sigma^2 Population^2$$

Are you satisfied with the model and the assumptions? If not, please explain what the problem consists of and demonstrate how we can solve the problem in this case. (20 p)

4. Let *corn* denote per capita consumption of corn in bushels at the county level, let *price* be the price per bushel of corn, let *income* denote per

capita county income, and let rainfall be inches of rainfall during the last corn-growing season. The following simultaneous equations model imposes the equilibrium condition that supply equals demand:

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corn = \alpha_1 price + \beta_1 income + u_1

corn = \alpha_2 price + \beta_2 rainfall + \gamma_2 rainfall^2 + u_2
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The variables income, rainfall and $rainfall^2$ are considered exogenous in the model. Is the model identified, that is, are both equations identified? (20 p)

STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY Department of Statistics Econometrics I, Regression analysis, ST223G Autumn semester 2019

Addendum to Written Examination in Econometrics I

On problem 1c) the information that $R_{ur}^2 = 0.4451$ was forgotten.



Department of Statistics

Correction sheet

Date: 191203

Room: Brunnsvikssalen

Exam: Econometrics I

Course: Econometrics

Anonymous code:

0042-JMZ

I authorise the anonymous posting of my exam, in whole or in part, on the department homepage as a sample student answer.

NOTE! ALSO WRITE ON THE BACK OF THE ANSWER SHEET

Mark answered questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total number of pages
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Teacher's notes	30	20	20						

Points Grade Teacher's sign.

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