Ignoring Measurement Error in Regression¹ STA2053 Fall 2022

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- Snack food consumption
- Exercise
- Income
- Cause of death
- Even amount of drug that reaches animal's blood stream in an experimental study
- Is there anything that is *not* measured with error?

Measurement error in two explanatory variables



Want to assess the relationship of X_2 to Y controlling for X_1 by testing $H_0: \beta_2 = 0$.

Statement of the model

Independently for $i = 1, \ldots, n$

$$Y_{i} = \beta_{0} + \beta_{1}X_{i,1} + \beta_{2}X_{i,2} + \epsilon_{i}$$

$$W_{i,1} = X_{i,1} + e_{i,1}$$

$$W_{i,2} = X_{i,2} + e_{i,2},$$

where

$$E(X_{i,1}) = \mu_1, \ E(X_{i,2}) = \mu_2, \ E(\epsilon_i) = E(e_{i,1}) = E(e_{i,2}) = 0,$$

$$Var(\epsilon_i) = \psi, \ Var(e_{i,1}) = \omega_1, \ Var(e_{i,2}) = \omega_2,$$

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The errors $\epsilon_i, e_{i,1}$ and $e_{i,2}$ are all independent,

 $X_{i,1}$ and $X_{i,2}$ are independent of $\epsilon_i, e_{i,1}$ and $e_{i,2}$, and

$$cov \begin{pmatrix} X_{i,1} \\ X_{i,1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{11} & \phi_{12} \\ \phi_{12} & \phi_{22} \end{pmatrix}.$$

True Model versus Naive Model

Independently for $i = 1, \ldots, n$

True model:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} Y_{i} &=& \beta_{0} + \beta_{1} X_{i,1} + \beta_{2} X_{i,2} + \epsilon_{i} \\ W_{i,1} &=& X_{i,1} + e_{i,1} \\ W_{i,2} &=& X_{i,2} + e_{i,2}, \end{array}$$

Naive model: $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 W_{i,1} + \beta_2 W_{i,2} + \epsilon_i$



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