

Package ‘bndovb’

July 22, 2025

Title Bounding Omitted Variable Bias Using Auxiliary Data

Version 1.1

Description Functions to implement a Hwang(2021) <[doi:10.2139/ssrn.3866876](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3866876)> estimator, which bounds an omitted variable bias using auxiliary data.

License GPL-3

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

Depends R (>= 2.10)

RoxxygenNote 7.1.1

Imports np, pracma, stats, utils, MASS, dplyr, factormodel, nnet

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown

VignetteBuilder knitr

NeedsCompilation no

Author Yujung Hwang [aut, cre] (ORCID:
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8136-8987>>)

Maintainer Yujung Hwang <yujungghwang@gmail.com>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2021-07-30 17:40:02 UTC

Contents

auxdat_mecont	2
auxdat_medisc	2
auxdat_nome	3
bndovb	3
bndovbme	5
maindat_mecont	7
maindat_medisc	7
maindat_nome	8

Index	9
--------------	----------

auxdat_mecont	<i>A simulated auxiliary data to show how to use 'bndovbme' function with continuous proxy variables</i>
---------------	--

Description

A simulated auxiliary data to show how to use 'bndovbme' function with continuous proxy variables

Usage

auxdat_mecont

Format

A data frame with 3000 rows and 5 variables:

w1 A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data

x A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data

z1 A continuous proxy variable

z2 A continuous proxy variable

z3 A continuous proxy variable

Source

This dataset was simulated by simulatePackageData.R in data-raw folder

auxdat_medisc	<i>A simulated auxiliary data to show how to use 'bndovbme' function with discrete proxy variables</i>
---------------	--

Description

A simulated auxiliary data to show how to use 'bndovbme' function with discrete proxy variables

Usage

auxdat_medisc

Format

A data frame with 3000 rows and 5 variables:

w1 A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data

x A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data

z1 A discrete proxy variable

z2 A discrete proxy variable

z3 A discrete proxy variable

Source

This dataset was simulated by simulatePackageData.R in data-row folder

auxdat_nome	<i>A simulated auxiliary data to show how to use 'bndovb' function</i>
-------------	--

Description

A simulated auxiliary data to show how to use 'bndovb' function

Usage

```
auxdat_nome
```

Format

A data frame with 50000 rows and 3 variables:

- x1** An omitted variable in the main data
- x2** A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data
- x3** A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data

Source

This dataset was simulated by simulatePackageData.R in data-row folder

bndovb	<i>bndovb</i>
--------	---------------

Description

This function runs a two sample least squares when auxiliary data contains every right-hand side regressor and main data contains a dependent variable and every right-hand side regressor but one omitted variable.

Usage

```
bndovb(
  maindat,
  auxdat,
  depvar,
  ovar,
  comvar,
  method = 1,
  mainweights = NULL,
  auxweights = NULL,
  signres = NULL
)
```

Arguments

<code>maindat</code>	Main data set. It must be a data frame.
<code>auxdat</code>	Auxiliary data set. It must be a data frame.
<code>depvar</code>	A name of a dependent variable in main dataset
<code>ovar</code>	A name of an omitted variable in main dataset which exists in auxiliary data
<code>comvar</code>	A vector of the names of common regressors existing in both main data and auxiliary data
<code>method</code>	CDF and Quantile function estimation method. Users can choose either 1 or 2. If the method is 1, the CDF and quantile function is estimated assuming a parametric normal distribution. If the method is 2, the CDF and quantile function is estimated using a nonparaemtric estimator in Li and Racine(2008) doi: 10.1198/073500107000000250 , Li, Lin, and Racine(2013) doi: 10.1080/07350015.2012.738955 . Default is 1.
<code>mainweights</code>	An optional weight vector for the main dataset. The length must be equal to the number of rows of 'maindat'.
<code>auxweights</code>	An optional weight vector for the auxiliary dataset. The length must be equal to the number of rows of 'auxdat'.
<code>signres</code>	An option to impose a sign restriction on a coefficient of an omitted variable. Set either NULL or pos or neg. Default is NULL. If NULL, there is no sign restriction. If 'pos', the estimator imposes an extra restriction that the coefficient of an omitted variable must be positive. If 'neg', the estimator imposes an extra restriction that the coefficient of an omitted variable must be negative.

Value

Returns a list of 4 components :

hat_beta_l lower bound estimates of regression coefficients

hat_beta_u upper bound estimates of regression coefficients

mu_l lower bound estimate of $E[ovar*depvar]$

mu_u upper bound estimate of $E[ovar*depvar]$

Author(s)

Yujung Hwang, <yujungghwang@gmail.com>

References

Hwang, Yujung (2021) Bounding Omitted Variable Bias Using Auxiliary Data. Available at SSRN.doi: [10.2139/ssrn.3866876](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3866876)

Examples

```
data(maindat_nome)
data(auxdat_nome)

bndovb(maindat=maindat_nome,auxdat=auxdat_nome,depvar="y",ovar="x1",comvar=c("x2","x3"),method=1)
```

bndovbme	<i>bndovbme</i>
----------	-----------------

Description

This function runs a two sample least squares when main data contains a dependent variable and every right hand side regressor but one omitted variable. The function requires an auxiliary data which includes every right hand side regressor but one omitted variable, and enough proxy variables for the omitted variable. When the omitted variable is continuous, the auxiliary data must contain at least two continuous proxy variables. When the omitted variable is discrete, the auxiliary data must contain at least three continuous proxy variables.

Usage

```
bndovbme(
  maindat,
  auxdat,
  depvar,
  pvar,
  ptype = 1,
  comvar,
  sbar = 2,
  mainweights = NULL,
  auxweights = NULL,
  normalize = TRUE,
  signres = NULL
)
```

Arguments

maindat	Main data set. It must be a data frame.
auxdat	Auxiliary data set. It must be a data frame.
depvar	A name of a dependent variable in main dataset
pvar	A vector of the names of the proxy variables for the omitted variable. When proxy variables are continuous, the first proxy variable is used as an anchoring variable. When proxy variables are discrete, the first proxy variable is used for initialization (For details, see a documentation for "dproxyme" function).

ptype	Either 1 (continuous) or 2 (discrete). Whether proxy variables are continuous or discrete. Default is 1 (continuous).
comvar	A vector of the names of the common regressors existing in both main data and auxiliary data
sbar	A cardinality of the support of the discrete proxy variables. Default is 2. If proxy variables are continuous, this variable is irrelevant.
mainweights	An optional weight vector for the main dataset. The length must be equal to the number of rows of 'maindat'.
auxweights	An optional weight vector for the auxiliary dataset. The length must be equal to the number of rows of 'auxdat'.
normalize	Whether to normalize the omitted variable to have mean 0 and standard deviation 1. Set TRUE or FALSE. Default is TRUE. If FALSE, then the scale of the omitted variable is anchored with the first proxy variable in pvar list.
signres	An option to impose a sign restriction on a coefficient of an omitted variable. Set either NULL or pos or neg. Default is NULL. If NULL, there is no sign restriction. If 'pos', the estimator imposes an extra restriction that the coefficient of an omitted variable must be positive. If 'neg', the estimator imposes an extra restriction that the coefficient of an omitted variable must be negative.

Value

Returns a list of 4 components :

hat_beta_l lower bound estimates of regression coefficients

hat_beta_u upper bound estimates of regression coefficients

mu_l lower bound estimate of $E[\text{ovar} * \text{depvar}]$

mu_u upper bound estimate of $E[\text{ovar} * \text{depvar}]$

Author(s)

Yujung Hwang, <yujungghwang@gmail.com>

References

Hwang, Yujung (2021) Bounding Omitted Variable Bias Using Auxiliary Data. Available at SSRN.
doi: [10.2139/ssrn.3866876](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3866876)

Examples

```
## load example data
data(maindat_mecont)
data(auxdat_mecont)

## set ptype=1 for continuous proxy variables
pvar<-c("z1", "z2", "z3")
cvar<-c("x", "w1")
bndovbme(maindat=maindat_mecont, auxdat=auxdat_mecont, depvar="y", pvar=pvar, ptype=1, comvar=cvar)
```

```
## set ptype=2 for discrete proxy variables
data(maindat_medisc)
data(auxdat_medisc)
bndovbme(maindat=maindat_medisc,auxdat=auxdat_medisc,depvar="y",pvar=pvar,ptype=2,comvar=cvar)
```

maindat_mecont	<i>A simulated main data to show how to use 'bndovbme' function with continuous proxy variables</i>
----------------	---

Description

A simulated main data to show how to use 'bndovbme' function with continuous proxy variables

Usage

```
maindat_mecont
```

Format

A data frame with 3000 rows and 3 variables:

- w1** A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data
- x** A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data
- y** A dependent variable

Source

This dataset was simulated by simulatePackageData.R in data-raw folder

maindat_medisc	<i>A simulated main data to show how to use 'bndovbme' function with discrete proxy variables</i>
----------------	---

Description

A simulated main data to show how to use 'bndovbme' function with discrete proxy variables

Usage

```
maindat_medisc
```

Format

A data frame with 3000 rows and 3 variables:

w1 A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data

x A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data

y A dependent variable

Source

This dataset was simulated by simulatePackageData.R in data-raw folder

maindat_nome

A simulated main data to show how to use 'bndovb' function

Description

A simulated main data to show how to use 'bndovb' function

Usage

```
maindat_nome
```

Format

A data frame with 100000 rows and 3 variables:

x2 A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data

x3 A common covariate in both main and auxiliary data

y A dependent variable

Source

This dataset was simulated by simulatePackageData.R in data-raw folder

Index

* datasets

- auxdat_mecont, [2](#)
- auxdat_medisc, [2](#)
- auxdat_nome, [3](#)
- maindat_mecont, [7](#)
- maindat_medisc, [7](#)
- maindat_nome, [8](#)

- auxdat_mecont, [2](#)
- auxdat_medisc, [2](#)
- auxdat_nome, [3](#)

- bndovb, [3](#)
- bndovbme, [5](#)

- maindat_mecont, [7](#)
- maindat_medisc, [7](#)
- maindat_nome, [8](#)