

Abstract

In this talk, I consider a partially linear model where the vector of coefficients in the linear part can be partitioned where first sub-vector is the coefficient vector for main effects (e.g. treatment effect, genetic effects) and the other is a vector for 'nuisance' effects (e.g., age, lab). In this situation, inference about important parameters may benefit from moving the least squares estimate for the full model in the direction of the least squares estimate without the nuisance variables (Steinian shrinkage), or to drop the nuisance variables if there is evidence that they do not provide useful information (pre-testing). We investigate the asymptotic properties of Stein-type and pretest semi-parametric estimators under quadratic loss and show that under general conditions a Stein-type semi-parametric estimator improves on the full model conventional semi-parametric least square estimator. We also consider a Lasso type estimator for partially linear models and give a Monte Carlo simulation comparison of theses estimators. The comparison shows that shrinkage method performs better than Lasso when the number of restriction on the parameter space is large.

Tea and Coffee will be served