What about LATE?

Applied Microeconomics

Hans-Martin von Gaudecker & Florian Zimmermann

Local Average Treatment Effects (LATE)



- Additional assumption: Uniformity ("Monotonicity")
- LATE: Average treatment effect for compliers

LATE interpretation of 2SLS

- 2SLS developed in constant-treatment framework
- If monotonicity holds, can interpret 2SLS estimate as LATE
- This intuition holds for setup on previous slide

Interpretation complicated in more general settings

- Covariates: Need "saturate and weight" (Blandhol, Bonney, Mogstad, Torgovitsky:
 "When is 2SLS actually LATE?")
- Multivalued / multiple instruments: Need more general monotonicity conditions (Mogstad, Torgovitsky, Walters: "The Causal Interpretation of Two-Stage Least Squares with Multiple Instrumental Variables")
- Multivalued treatments
 - Ordered (fairly standard, starting with original Imbens-Angrist paper)
 - Unordered (Kirkeboen, Mogstad, Leuven: "Field of Study, Earnings, and Self-Selection")

Equivalence results

 Vytlacil ("Independence, Monotonicity, and Latent Index Models: An Equivalence Result", 2002)

$$S=\mathbb{I}[\mu(Z)+ ilde{\omega}>0]$$

Kline, Walters ("On Heckits, Late, And Numerical Equivalence", 2019)