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## Testing Hypotheses about Regression Coefficients in Misspecified Models

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# Testing Hypotheses about Regression Coefficients in Misspecified Models 

Dilip K. Bhattacharyya and Jan Kmenta*

If in a classical regression model $y=X_{1} \beta_{1}+X_{2} \beta_{2}+U$ the values of $X_{2}$ are omitted, the least squares estimator of $\beta_{1}$ is biased (unless $X_{1}^{\prime} X_{2}=0$ ) and the conventional tests of significance concerning $\beta_{1}$ are not valid. The purpose of this paper is to propose a method for estimating the noncentrality parameters of the $\mathbf{F}$ distribution involved in testing hypotheses about $\beta_{1}$ when there is no information about $\mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}$. The estimated noncentrality parameters can be used to approximate the true size of the tests. Further uses of the estimates include choosing the most suitable proxies for $\mathrm{X}_{2}$ and ranking competing models according to their proximity to the true model. Our theoretical results are supported by a suitably designed Monte Carlo experiment.

KEY WORDS: Misspecified models; Noncentral F distribution; Omitted variables; Regression models; RESET.
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In empirical research most researchers start with a theoretical model showing that an outcome (say Y ) depends on many variables. It is also common that the researcher's primary interest lies in studying the effect of subset of explanatory variables on Y. At the same time in many situations some of the explanatory variables are not directly observable, or their measurements are not available, or they are not properly identified by the researcher. Given that the researcher is interested mainly in the interrelationship between $Y$ and the specified set of variables for which measurements are available, a question arises as to what one should do about the variables omitted from the model. There are two obvious choices in this situation; either use proxy variables for the unobserved variables or ignore the existence of the omitted variables and estimate the truncated model without them. However, in both cases the estimators of the coefficients of the included variables will be biased as long as the omitted explanatory variables are not orthogonal to the included explanatory variables and the proxies are not perfect; see, e.g., Kmenta (1986). As orthogonality of data or existence of perfect proxies are not likely in empirical research, McCallum (1972) and Wickens (1972) compared the two biases and concluded, on the basis of the size of the asymptotic bias, that models with proxies for the omitted variables produce better estimates of the coefficients associated with the included variables than the truncated models. However, using a mean square error criterion Aigner (1974) found that under certain conditions the estimated parameters of the truncated model are better, see also Kinal and Lahiri (1983) and Terasvirta (1987). Thus it is not possible to generalize the results in favor of the 'truncated' or the 'proxy' model. It is also important to note that all of the results in the existing literature are derived with the assumption that the proxies represent a linear combination of the omitted variables and a white noise error term. Since this assumption is frequently questionable, we derive our results with proxies without assigning any prior structure to their relationship with the
omitted variables.

It is well known that biased estimates also distort the test statistics normally used in testing hypotheses about the respective coefficients. For example, a bias will turn a conventional central $\chi^{2}$ into a noncentral $\chi^{2}$. The effect of this change in distribution changes the size of the test. Therefore, one can argue that the larger the noncentrality parameters the more does the estimated model differ from the true model. Hence, it seems reasonable to discriminate among models on the basis of the magnitude of the noncentrality parameters.

In this paper we propose a method of estimating the noncentrality parameters of the $F$ distribution involved in testing hypotheses about the coefficients of the included variables when there is no information about the omitted variables and their coefficients. The estimated noncentrality parameters can be used
a) to approximate the true significance level of the tests;
b) to choose the most suitable proxies for the omitted variables among all available candidates; and
c) to rank competing models according to their estimated proximity to the true model.

All of these uses are important in practical situations. The unreliability of testing hypotheses in misspecified regression models is notorious and any improvement in the standard procedure should be welcome. Further, having a criterion for choosing among all available proxies for the omitted variables when the introduction of proxies is desirable also has a lot of potential use in practice. Finally, having a criterion for ranking competing models on the basis of sample of evidence would certainly add a new dimension to the existing practices of discriminating among models.

The plan of the paper is as follows. In Section 2 we derive the $F$ statistics and their noncentrality parameters for regression models with omitted relevant explanatory variables. In Section 3 we propose a method for estimating the noncentrality parameters derived in

Section 2. Section 4 contains the results of a stylized simulation study designed to illustrate the estimation method of Section 3. The paper ends with some concluding remarks presented in Section 5.

## 2. DERIVATION OF THE PROPERTIES OF CONVENTIONAL TESTS UNDER MISSPECIFICATION

Suppose the true model is

$$
\begin{equation*}
Y=X_{1} \beta_{1}+X_{2} \beta_{2}+U \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where
$\mathrm{Y} \rightarrow(\mathrm{n} \times 1), \mathrm{X}_{1} \rightarrow\left(\mathrm{n} \times \mathrm{K}_{1}\right), \mathrm{X}_{2} \rightarrow\left(\mathrm{n} \times \mathrm{K}_{2}\right), \beta_{1} \rightarrow\left(\mathrm{~K}_{1} \times 1\right), \beta_{2} \rightarrow\left(\mathrm{~K}_{2} \times 1\right)$, and $\mathrm{U} \rightarrow(\mathrm{n} \times 1)$.

Further, we assume that $E(U)=0$ and, without any loss of generality, that $E(U U)=I_{n}$. We also assume that $U$ is normally and independently distributed and that $X_{1}$ and $X_{2}$ are fixed. (If $\mathrm{X}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{X}_{2}$ are stochastic, our results can be viewed as conditional on the sample values of these variables.)

According to our presumption the researcher fails to implement the model because $X_{2}$ is unobservable. The available alternatives then are:
(i) a truncated model

$$
\begin{equation*}
Y=X_{1} \beta_{1}+U_{1} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

or (ii) a proxied model

$$
\begin{equation*}
Y=X_{1} \beta_{1}+Z \gamma+U_{2} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $Z$ is a $\left(n \times K_{3}\right)$ matrix of the chosen proxy variable and $\gamma$ is a ( $K_{3} \times 1$ ) vector of constants. Thus $\mathrm{Z}_{\gamma}$ is used in place of $\mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}$. Given (1), both models (2) and (3) are, of course, misspecified.

From equation (2) the least squares estimator of $\beta_{1}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{\beta}_{1}=\left(X_{1}^{\prime} X_{1}\right)^{-1} X_{1}^{\prime} Y \tag{2a}
\end{equation*}
$$

and its bias is

$$
\begin{equation*}
E\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}-\beta_{1}\right)=\left(X_{1}^{\prime} X_{1}\right)^{-1} X_{1}^{\prime} X_{2} \beta_{2} \tag{2b}
\end{equation*}
$$

The matrix mean square error of $\hat{\beta}_{1}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{Mtx} . \operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}\right)=v\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}\right)+\left(x_{1}^{\prime} x_{1}\right)^{-1} x_{1}^{\prime} x_{2} \beta_{2} \dot{\beta}_{2} x_{1}\left(x_{1}^{\prime} x_{1}\right)^{-1} \tag{2c}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\mathbf{V}\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}\right)=\left(\mathbf{X}_{1}^{\prime} \mathbf{X}_{1}\right)^{-1}
$$

On the other hand using equation (3) the estimator of $\beta_{1}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\tilde{\beta}=\left(X_{1}^{\prime} M_{z} X_{1}\right)^{-1} X_{1}^{\prime} M_{z} Y \tag{3a}
\end{equation*}
$$

and its bias is

$$
E\left(\tilde{\beta}_{1}-\beta_{1}\right)=\left(\dot{X_{1}} M_{z} X_{1}\right)^{-1} X_{1} M_{z} \beta_{2}
$$

where

$$
M_{z}=I-Z(Z Z)^{-1} Z
$$

The matrix mean square error of $\tilde{\beta}_{1}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{Mtx.} \operatorname{MSE}\left(\tilde{\beta}_{1}\right)=\operatorname{V}\left(\tilde{\beta}_{1}\right)+\left(X_{1}^{\prime} M_{z} X_{1}\right)^{-1} X_{1}^{\prime} M_{z} X_{2} \beta_{2} \dot{\beta}_{2}^{\prime} X_{2}^{\prime} M_{z} X_{1}\left(X_{1}^{\prime} M_{z} X_{1}\right)^{-1} \tag{3c}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
V\left(\tilde{\beta}_{1}\right)=\left(X_{1}^{\prime} M_{2} X_{1}\right)^{-1}
$$

It is clear from (2a)-(2c) and (3a)-(3c) that the difference in biases and mean square errors depends very largely on $Z$. The biases in estimating $\beta_{1}$ also bring problems in testing hypotheses concerning $\beta_{1}$. As our parameter vector of interest is $\beta_{1}$, we propose to choose between the alternative misspecified models on the basis of 'test distortion'. We shall demonstrate below that the tests of hypotheses concerning $\beta_{1}$ for both models in (2) and (3) should be based on noncentral distributions. For the true model, of course, the tests of hypotheses concerning $\beta_{1}$ are based on central distributions. Hence one can argue that the further the noncentrality parameters are from zero, the worse is the model as an approximation of the true model.

To perform a suitable test of the null hypothesis $\mathrm{H}_{0}: \beta_{1}=\beta_{1}^{*}$ against $\mathrm{H}_{1}: \beta_{1} \neq \beta_{1}^{*}$ in terms of the truncated model in equation (2), we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
F_{1}=\frac{\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}-\beta_{\beta_{1}^{*}}^{*}\right)\left(X_{1}^{\prime} X_{1}\right)\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}-\beta_{1}^{*}\right) / K_{1}}{\hat{U}_{1} \hat{U}_{1} /\left(n-K_{1}\right)} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\hat{U}_{1}=Y-X_{1} \hat{\beta}_{1}=M_{1} Y \text { and } M_{1}=I-X_{1}\left(X_{1}^{\prime} X_{1}\right)^{-1} X_{1}^{\prime}
$$

The researcher would generally regard $\mathrm{F}_{1}$ as having a central F distribution with ( $\mathrm{K}_{1}, \mathrm{n}-\mathrm{K}_{1}$ ) degrees of freedom.

In terms of the true model (1) we have, under $\mathrm{H}_{0}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}-\beta_{1}^{*}\right)^{\prime}\left(\mathrm{X}_{1}^{\prime} \mathrm{X}_{1}\right)\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}-\beta_{1}^{*}\right)=\left(\mathrm{U}+\mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}\right)^{\prime}\left(\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{M}_{1}\right)\left(\mathrm{U}+\mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}\right) \tag{4a}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{U}_{1} \hat{U}_{1}=\left(U+X_{2} \beta_{2}\right) M_{1}\left(U+X_{2} \beta_{2}\right) \tag{4b}
\end{equation*}
$$

When $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ is true, we know from standard theorems (for references see, e.g., Bhattacharyya (1985)) the expression in (4a) is distributed as noncentral $\chi^{2}$ with degrees of freedom given by $\operatorname{Tr}\left(I-M_{1}\right)$ and with the noncentrality parameter equal to $\dot{\beta}_{2}^{\prime} \mathrm{X}_{2}^{\prime}\left(\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{M}_{1}\right) \mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}$. Similarly the expression in (4b) is distributed as noncentral $\chi^{2}$ with degrees of freedom given by $\operatorname{Tr}\left(\mathrm{M}_{1}\right)$ and with the noncentrality parameter equal to $\dot{\beta}_{2} \dot{X}_{2}^{\prime} M_{1} X_{2} \beta_{2}$. Hence the expression for $F_{1}$ in (4) is distributed as doubly noncentral $F$ with noncentrality parameters $\left[\beta_{2}^{\prime} X_{2}^{\prime}\left(I-M_{1}\right) X_{2} \beta_{2}\right.$, $\beta_{2} \mathrm{X}_{2}^{\prime} \mathrm{M}_{1} \mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}$ ] and degrees of freedom [ $\mathrm{K}_{1}, \mathrm{n}-\mathrm{K}_{1}$ ]. It is clear that the researcher can use the correct degrees of freedoms but cannot calculate the noncentrality parameters without the knowledge of $\mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}$. If the values of noncentrality parameters are known then following

Johnson and Kotz (1970, pp. 178-179), we can approximate $\mathrm{F}_{1}$ as follows:

$$
\begin{equation*}
F_{1} \simeq \frac{\left(n-K_{1}\right)\left[K_{1}+\dot{\beta_{2}} \dot{x}_{2}^{\prime}\left(\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{M}_{1}\right) \mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}\right]}{\mathrm{K}_{1}\left[\left(\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{K}_{1}\right)+\dot{\beta_{2}} \dot{x}_{2}^{\prime} \mathrm{M}_{1} \mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}\right]} \quad \mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{n}_{1}{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{n}_{2}}, \tag{4c}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{n}_{1}=\frac{\left[\mathrm{K}_{1}+\dot{\beta}_{2}^{\prime} \mathrm{X}_{2}^{\prime}\left(\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{M}_{1}\right) \mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}\right]^{2}}{\mathrm{~K}_{1}+2 \dot{\beta_{2}^{\prime}} \mathrm{X}_{2}^{\prime}\left(\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{M}_{1}\right) \mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}} \tag{4d}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
n_{2}=\frac{\left[\left(n-K_{1}\right)+\beta_{2}^{\prime} X_{2}^{\prime} M_{1} X_{2} \beta_{2}\right]^{2}}{\left(n-K_{1}\right)+2 \beta_{2}^{\prime} X_{2}^{\prime} M_{1} X_{2} \beta_{2}} \tag{4e}
\end{equation*}
$$

and $F_{n_{1}{ }^{\prime} n_{2}}$ stands for central $F$ distribution with $n_{1}$ and $n_{2}$ degrees of freedom.

Similarly, to test $\mathrm{H}_{0}: \beta_{1}=\beta_{1}^{*}$ against $\mathrm{H}_{1}: \beta_{1} \neq \beta_{1}^{*}$ using the proxied model of equation (3), the research would generally use,

$$
\begin{equation*}
F_{2}=\frac{\left(\tilde{\beta}_{1}-\beta_{1}^{*}\right) \cdot\left(X_{1}^{\prime} M_{z} X_{1}\right)\left(\tilde{\beta}_{1}-\beta_{1}^{*}\right) / K_{1}}{\tilde{U}_{2}^{\prime} U_{2} /\left(\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{K}_{1}-\mathrm{K}_{3}\right)} \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\tilde{U}_{2}=Y-X_{1} \tilde{\beta}_{1}-Z \tilde{\gamma}$ and $\tilde{\gamma}=\left(Z M_{1} Z\right)^{-1}\left(\mathrm{ZM}_{1} \mathrm{Y}\right)$.

Thus, under $\mathrm{H}_{0}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}-\beta_{1}^{*}\right)^{\prime}\left(\mathrm{X}_{1}^{\prime} \mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{z}} \mathrm{X}_{1}\right)\left(\hat{\beta}_{1}-\beta_{1}^{*}\right)=\left(\mathrm{U}_{2}+\mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}\right) \mathrm{M}\left(\mathrm{U}+\mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}\right) \tag{5a}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
M=M_{z} X_{1}\left(X_{1}^{\prime} M_{z} X_{1}\right)^{-1} X_{1}^{\prime} M_{z}
$$

is distributed as noncentral $\chi^{2}$ with $\operatorname{Tr}(M)=K_{1}$ degrees of freedom and with the noncentrality parameter equal to $\dot{\beta}_{2} \mathrm{X}_{2} \mathrm{MX}_{2} \beta_{2}$.

Further,

$$
\tilde{U}_{2} \tilde{U}_{2}=\left(U_{2}+X_{2} \beta_{2}\right)^{\prime}\left(M_{z}-M\right)\left(U+X_{2} \beta_{2}\right)
$$

is distributed as noncentral $\chi^{2}$ with degrees of freedom equal to $\operatorname{tr}\left(M_{z}-M\right)=n-K_{1}-K_{3}$ and noncentrality parameters equal to $\boldsymbol{\beta}_{2}^{\prime} \mathbf{X}_{2}^{\prime}\left(M_{z}-M\right) X_{2} \beta_{2}$.

Again, when the noncentrality parameters are known, the doubly noncentral distribution of $\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{2}}$ can be approximated as follows:

$$
\begin{equation*}
F_{2} \simeq \frac{\left[\left(n-K_{1}-K_{2}\right)\left[K_{1}+\beta_{2}^{\prime} X_{2}^{\prime} M X_{2} \beta_{2}\right]\right.}{K_{1}\left[\left(n-K_{1}-K_{2}\right)+2 \beta_{2}^{\prime} X_{2}^{\prime}\left(M_{2}-M\right) X_{2} \beta_{2}\right]} \quad F_{m_{1}^{\prime} m_{2}} \tag{5c}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{m}_{1}=\frac{\left(\mathrm{K}_{1}+\dot{\beta}_{2}^{\prime} \mathrm{x}_{2}^{\prime} \mathrm{MX} \mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}\right)^{2}}{\mathrm{~K}_{1}+2 \dot{\beta}_{2}^{\prime} \mathrm{X}_{2}^{\prime} \mathrm{MX} \mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}} \tag{5d}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
m_{2}=\frac{\left[\left(n-K_{1}-K_{2}\right)+\dot{\beta_{2}} \mathbf{X}_{2}^{\prime}\left(M_{z}-M\right) X_{2} \beta_{2}\right]^{2}}{\left(n-K_{1}-K_{2}\right)+2 \dot{\beta_{2}^{\prime}} \mathbf{X}_{2}^{\prime}\left(M_{z}-M\right) X_{2} \beta_{2}} \tag{5e}
\end{equation*}
$$

and $F_{m_{1} m_{2}}$ is distributed as central $F$ with $m_{1}$ and $m_{2}$ degrees of freedom.

It may be useful to note that a test of hypothesis $\mathrm{H}_{0}: \boldsymbol{\gamma}=\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{*}$ against $\mathrm{H}_{1} ; \boldsymbol{\gamma} \boldsymbol{\gamma} \boldsymbol{\gamma}^{*}$ will also lead to a doubly noncentral F distribution.

From the above results, it is clear that in order to obtain the correct significance level for a test it is necessary to know the noncentrality parameters. In the next section we suggest a procedure for obtaining consistent estimate of these parameters.

## 3. AN EMPIRICAL METHOD OF ESTIMATING NONCENTRALITY PARAMETERS

Consider the model with proxy variables in equation (3), i.e.,

$$
Y=X_{1} \beta_{1}+Z \gamma+U_{2}
$$

We define 'pseudo' least squares residuals as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{\mathrm{V}}=\mathrm{Y}-\mathrm{X}_{1} \tilde{\rho}_{1} \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\tilde{\beta}_{1}=\left({\dot{X_{1}}}_{1} M_{Z} X_{1}\right)^{-1} \dot{X}_{1} M_{2} Y
$$

Substituting for Y from equation (1) into (6) we find that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{\mathrm{V}}=\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}\right)+\mathrm{NU} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
N=I-X_{1}\left(X_{1}^{\prime} M_{z} X_{1}\right)^{-1} X_{1}^{\prime} M_{z} \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Hence, we have

$$
E(\hat{\mathrm{~V}})=N X_{2} \beta_{2}
$$

Given the assumptions of the classical regression model concerning $X$ and $Z$, it can be shown that for large samples the matrix N converges towards I .

A consistent estimator of $X_{2} \mathcal{F}_{2}$ can then be found with the help of the following theorems.

## Theorem 1:

Let $\mathrm{Ax}=\mathrm{b}$ represent a mathematically inconsistent system that may have no solution. This system may then be expressed as $r(x)=A x-b$. An approximate solution of the system by the least squares method is given by $x^{*}=\mathrm{Bb}$
where $B$ satisfies the following conditions: (i) $A B A=A$, and (ii) $A B$ is symmetric.

Proof: See Dhrymes (1978), Appendix 3.5.

## Theorem 2: (Singular Value Decomposition)

Let A be a ( $n \times n$ ) matrix of rank ( $n-k$ ). Then there exist ( $n \times n$ ) orthogonal matrices H and V and a ( $\mathrm{n} \times \mathrm{n}$ ) diagonal matrix S such that
$H^{\prime} A V=S$ and $A=H S V '$
The successive diagonal entries of $S$ are positive and non-increasing. The matrix S takes the form

$$
S=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
S_{11} & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right]
$$

where $S_{11}$ is $(n-k) \times(n-k)$ matrix of $\operatorname{rank}(n-k)$.

Proof: See Lawson and Hanson (1974), pp. 20-21.

## Theorem 3:

The solutions to the problem of minimizing \|Ax-b|| (the least squares solutions) are of the form

$$
\hat{\mathrm{X}}=\mathrm{V}\left[\begin{array}{l}
\tilde{y}_{1} \\
\tilde{y}_{2}
\end{array}\right]
$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{2}$ is arbitrary. Further, $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{\mathbf{1}}$ is the unique solution of

$$
S_{11} y_{1}=g_{1}
$$

where $g_{1}$ is obtained from

$$
\mathrm{Hb}=\mathrm{g}=\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathrm{g}_{1} \\
\mathrm{~g}_{2}
\end{array}\right]_{\mathrm{k}}^{\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{k}}
$$

Proof: See Lawson and Hanson (1974), pp. 5-7.
Thus by minimizing $\left\|\hat{\mathrm{V}}-\mathrm{NX}_{2} \beta_{2}\right\|$ we can obtain the least squares solution for equation (7). This particular procedure, as justified by the three theorems above, is used in our empirical work. Let the estimate of $\mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2^{\prime}}$ ) given by as the least squares solution of $\left\|\hat{\mathrm{V}}-\mathrm{NX}_{2} \beta_{2}\right\|$, be called $Q$. Then the following estimates of biases and of the noncentrality parameters are available using the observed variables:
(II) $\hat{\operatorname{Bias} 2:}\left(\mathbf{X}_{1}^{\prime} \mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{z}} \mathrm{X}_{1}\right)^{-1} \mathrm{X}_{1}^{\prime} \mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{z}} \mathrm{Q}$
(III)

$$
\hat{\delta}_{11}: Q\left(I-M_{1}\right) Q
$$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{\delta}_{12}: Q M_{1} Q \tag{IV}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{\delta}_{21}: \text { QMQ } \tag{V}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{\delta}_{22}: Q^{\prime}\left(M_{z}-M\right) Q \tag{VI}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here (I) and (II) are obtained from equations (2b) and (3b), $\delta_{11}$ and $\delta_{12}$ are the noncentrality parameters of the respective numerator and denominator of $F_{1}$ in (4), and $\delta_{21}$ and $\delta_{22}$ are the noncentrality parameters of the respective numerator and denominator of $\mathrm{F}_{2}$ in (5).

Using (III) through (VI), one can calculate the approximate values of the doubly noncentral F's in terms of the standard F distribution, as shown in equations (4c) and (5c). With respect to choosing between the truncated and the proxied model, suppose we find

$$
\hat{\delta}_{11}<\hat{\delta}_{21} \text { and } \hat{\delta}_{12}<\hat{\delta}_{22}
$$

Then, for the given set of data, the truncated model is closer to the true model. If the inequality is reversed, then the proxied model is preferable to the truncated model. However, these easy choice situations may not arise and we may find that the two inequalities under consideration appear in different directions. In that case our decision can be made in terms of the distance from the origin, i.e.,

$$
\Delta_{1}=\hat{\delta}_{11}^{2}+\delta_{12}^{2} \text { and } \Delta_{2}=\hat{\delta}_{21}^{2}+\hat{\delta}_{22}^{2}
$$

where the model with lower $\Delta$ values is to be preferred.

## 4. MONTE CARLO RESULTS

To illustrate the usefulness of our approach in empirical situations, we carry out a small Monte Carlo experiment based on a design that has been used in previous studies dealing with testing for specification errors. Our procedure applies to any choice of proxy variables for which N converges to identity, but for designing our experiment we have to make a particular choice. Since we wish to use a reasonably generic model, we use uninformative proxies as proposed by Ramsey (1969) and modified by Thursby and Schmidt (1977). The design of the experiment is also taken from Thursby and Schmidt (1977). The true model is assumed to be

$$
\begin{equation*}
Y_{t}=10+5 X_{1 t}-2 X_{2 t}+U_{t} ; U_{t} \sim \operatorname{NID}(0,1) \tag{A}
\end{equation*}
$$

In accordance with our earlier discussion, the truncated model is

$$
\begin{equation*}
Y_{t}=a_{1}+b_{1} X_{1 t}+U_{1 t} \tag{B}
\end{equation*}
$$

and the proxy model is

$$
\begin{equation*}
Y_{t}=a_{2}+b_{2} X_{1 t}+c_{1} Z_{1 t}+c_{2} Z_{2 t}+c_{3} Z_{3 t}+U_{2 t} \tag{C}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\mathrm{Z}_{1 \mathrm{t}}=\mathrm{X}_{1 \mathrm{t}}^{2}, \mathrm{Z}_{2 \mathrm{t}}=\mathrm{X}_{1 \mathrm{t}}^{3} \text { and } \mathrm{Z}_{3 \mathrm{t}}=\mathrm{X}_{1 \mathrm{t}}^{4}
$$

This particular choice of proxies is recommended by Thursby and Schmidt (1977) who found them to be, in general, the most satisfactory in comparison with other alternatives within the RESET principle as discussed by Ramsey (1969).

In conducting the experiment we generated fixed samples of sizes 30 and 50 . The values of $X_{1}$ and $X_{2}$ were chosen to be the same as those used by Thursby and Schmidt (1977) and Ramsey and Gilbert (1972). They are given as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& X_{1}=1.0,3.7,0.8,9.9,1.2,6.6,3.1,8.5,6.3, \text { and } 7.3 \\
& X_{2}=9.0,9.0,8.0,1.0,8.0,6.0,6.0,8.0,12.0, \text { and } 16.0 .
\end{aligned}
$$

We replicated three or five times the basic 10 observations to obtain sample sizes 30 and 50 , respectively. The actual values of biases and the values of noncentrality parameters are calculated using these fixed values of $X_{1}$ and $X_{2}$ and the parameters of the true model in (A). These results are presented in Table 1. Finally, the random values of $Y_{t}$ were generated using the NAG (Numerical Algorithm Group) library routine for the given values of $X_{1}$ and $X_{2}$ and model (A). The estimation and calculations are done as described in section 3. The experiments were repeated 1000 times for each sample size.

The figures in Table 1 are quite informative and can be taken as a guideline for empirical study. First, we observe that the values of the noncentrality parameters are higher for sample size 50 than for sample size 30 . Further, the noncentrality parameter associated with the denominator of the truncated (OVM) model is higher than that for the proxied (PVM) model, whereas the noncentrality parameter associated with the numerator of the test statistic is lower for the OVM than for the PVM model. The calculated biases have higher values for the PVM than for the OVM specification.

With respect to our Monte Carlo experiment, we first obtained the least squares solution of $\left\|\hat{\mathrm{V}}-\mathrm{NX}_{2} \beta_{2}\right\|$ where N is the observed matrix defined in (8). The solution procedure is explained in connection with Theorems 2 and 3 . To estimate $X_{2} \beta_{2}$, we used the program F04JAF in the NAG library. The averages of $\mathbf{1 0 0 0}$ replications are presented in Table 1. The estimates of the biases and of the noncentrality parameters (see expressions (I) through (VI) in Section 3) are close to the actual values. It is interesting to note that both models used, OVM and PVM, perform well in estimating the noncentrality parameter of the denominator of the F statistic, but that the proxied model (PVM) does better in estimating the noncentrality parameter of the numerator than the truncated model (OVM). Also, in terms of the distance measure $\Delta$ discussed in Section 3 the proxied model performs better than the truncated model.

If the noncentrality parameters are ignored and the conventional critical values of the $F$ statistic are used, the critical points will differ from the conventional ones. However, this divergence is substantially more pronounced for large values of the noncentrality parameter of the numerator ( $\delta_{1}$ ) of the $F$ statistic than for large values of the noncentrality parameter of the denominator $\left(\delta_{2}\right)$. The magnitude of the difference between the true and the conventional value of the $F$ statistic is much more sensitive to increases in $\delta_{1}$ than to increases in $\delta_{2}$. This can be clearly seen from Table 2 in which some stylized results are presented. Hence it is considerably more important to have a good estimate of $\delta_{1}$ than of $\delta_{2}$. On this count the
proxied model performs better than the truncated model. Thus according to the results of our experiment the proxied model is to be recommended over the truncated model when it comes to testing hypothesis about $\beta_{1}$, the coefficients of the included variables.

## 5. OTHER APPLICATIONS OF THE ESTTMATED NONCENTRALITY PARAMETERS

In the preceding sections we concentrated on the problem of estimating the noncentrality parameters associated with the $F$ statistic for the truncated and the proxy model. The implied purpose was to carry out hypotheses concerning $\beta_{1}$. However, the estimated noncentrality parameters have a wider potential use when it comes to model selection. For instance, suppose the researcher is faced with a choice between two sets of proxy variables $Z_{1}$ and $Z_{2}$. On the presumption supported by our earlier results that the proxied model is to be preferred to the truncated model, one can calculate the suggested pseudo-residuals using $Z_{1}$ and $Z_{2}$ in turn, i.e.,

$$
\hat{\mathrm{V}}=\mathrm{Y}-\mathrm{X}_{1} \tilde{\beta}_{11}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \tilde{\beta}_{11}=\left(\mathrm{X}_{1}^{\prime} \mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{Z}_{1}} \mathrm{X}_{1}\right)^{-1} \mathrm{X}_{1}^{\prime} \mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{Z}_{1}} \mathrm{Y} \\
& \mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{Z}_{1}}=\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{Z}_{1}\left(\mathrm{Z}_{1}^{\prime} \mathrm{Z}_{1}\right)^{-1} \mathrm{Z}_{1}^{\prime}
\end{aligned}
$$

and

$$
\begin{aligned}
\tilde{\mathrm{V}}_{2} & =\mathrm{Y}-\mathrm{X}_{1} \tilde{\beta}_{12} \\
\tilde{\beta} & =\left(\mathrm{X}_{1}^{\prime} \mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{Z}_{2}} \mathrm{X}_{1}\right)^{-1} \mathrm{X}_{1}^{\prime} \mathrm{M}_{Z_{2}} Y \\
\mathrm{M}_{Z_{2}} & =\mathrm{I}-\mathrm{Z}_{2}\left(\mathrm{Z}_{2}^{\prime} \mathrm{Z}_{2}\right)^{-1} \mathrm{Z}_{2}^{\prime}
\end{aligned}
$$

Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{V}_{i}=N_{i}\left(X_{2} \beta_{2}+U\right) \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
N_{i}=I-X_{1}\left(X_{1}^{\prime} M_{Z_{i}} X_{1}\right)^{-1} X_{1}^{\prime} M_{Z_{i}} \quad \text { for } i=1,2
$$

Using $\hat{V}_{i}(i=1,2)$, two alternative least squares estimates of $X_{2} \beta_{2}$ can be derived, yielding two sets of estimates of the respective noncentrality parameters. Then the set of proxy variables that produces a lower distance measure $\Delta$ can be regarded as providing a better approximation to the true model for the given sample size. To allow for sampling fluctuations, an appropriate test of significance could be developed.

Let us consider the situation when we are concerned about deciding between two nonnested models:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Model I: } & \mathrm{Y}=\mathrm{X}_{1} \beta_{1}+\mathrm{U}_{1} \\
\text { Model II: } & \mathrm{Y}=\mathrm{X}_{2} \beta_{2}+\mathrm{U}_{2}
\end{array}
$$

Neither of the two models can be asserted to be true. In this case we can choose a set of proxy variables Z that could be used for both models. Given Z we can obtain two sets of pseudo-
residuals from the two competing models. Using the procedure outlined in Section 3 above, we can then calculate two sets of estimates of the respective noncentrality parameters, yielding two distance measures $\Delta$. The model with the lower distance measure can then be regarded as being closer to the true model.

## Table 1. <br> ACTUAL AND ESTIMATED VALUES OF THE NONCENTRALITY PARAMETERS AND BLASES

|  | Model | Sample <br> Size | $\delta_{1}$ | $\delta_{2}$ | Bias | $\Delta$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| ACTUAL |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | OVM | 30 | 23.464 | 1599.13 | 0.2812 | 1599.30 |
|  | PVM | 30 | 954.695 | 667.90 | 1.7476 | 1165.14 |
|  | OVM | 50 | 39.107 | 2665.21 | 0.2812 | 2655.50 |
|  | PVM | 50 | 1591.159 | 1113.16 | 1.7476 | 1941.88 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | OVM | 30 | 0.00 | 1629.78 | 0.000 | 1629.78 |
|  | PVM | 30 | 935.69 | 694.09 | 1.2828 | 1165.02 |
|  | OVM | 50 | 0.00 | 2713.07 | 0.000 | 2713.07 |
|  | PVM | 50 | 1555.36 | 1157.71 | 1.5569 | 1938.93 |

$\delta_{1}$ : Noncentrality parameter associated with the numerator of the test statistic;
$\delta_{2}:$ Noncentrality parameter associated with the denominator of the test statistic;
$\Delta$ : Square root of the distance measure as reported in (8);
OVM: Truncated (omitted variable) model;
PVM: Proxied (proxy variable) model.

Table 2
EFFECT OF THE NONCENTRALITY PARAMETERS ON THE 5\% CRITICAL POINTS

| DF1 | DF2 | $\delta_{1}$ | $\delta_{2}$ | $\mathrm{~m}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{~m}_{2}$ | CF | $\mathrm{F}_{5 \%}\left(\mathrm{~m}_{1}, \mathrm{~m}_{2}\right)$ | True $\mathrm{F}_{5 \%}$ |
| :---: | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 29 | 1 | 4.183 | 4.183 |
| 1 | 29 | 50 | 1500 | 26 | 772 | 0.9672 | 1.5 | 1.451 |
| 1 | 29 | 1500 | 50 | 751 | 48 | 551 | 1.504 | 822.70 |
| 1 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 60 | 1 | 4.0012 | 4.0012 |
| 1 | 60 | 50 | 1500 | 26 | 795 | 1.9301 | 1.6427 | 3.1704 |
| 1 | 60 | 1500 | 50 | 751 | 75 | 812.47 | 1.3554 | 1101.22 |
| 5 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 60 | 1 | 2.3683 | 2.3683 |
| 5 | 60 | 50 | 1500 | 29 | 792 | 0.3891 | 1.4037 | 0.5462 |
| 5 | 60 | 1500 | 50 | 754 | 71 | 157.67 | 1.3642 | 215.09 |

DF1 = Degrees of freedom of the numerator
DF2 $=$ Degrees of freedom of the denominator
$\delta_{1}=$ Noncentrality parameter of the numerator
$\delta_{2}=$ Noncentrality parameter of the denominator
$m_{1}=$ Degrees of freedom of the numerator for the approximate noncentral $\mathbf{F}$ distribution
$m_{2}=$ Degrees of freedom of the denominator for the approximate noncentral $F$ distribution

CF = Multiplicative correction factor for the approximate $F$ distribution
$\mathrm{F}_{5 \%}\left(\mathrm{~m}_{1}, \mathrm{~m}_{2}\right)=$ Table value from Biometrika table.
True $\mathrm{F}_{5 \%}=$ CF multiplied by the table value of $\mathbf{F}$ (see Section 3).

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