# Instrumental Variables and Regression Discontinuity

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$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 T_{i,1} + u_i$$

• WLOG (since we include a constant)  $E[u_i] = 0$ 

• But!  $E[T_{i,1}u_i] \neq 0$  (so  $Cov(T_{i,1}, u_i) \neq 0$ )

 $\beta_1$  is not identified by BLP of  $Y_i$  on a constant and  $T_{i,1}$  (i.e.,  $\beta_1 \neq \frac{Cov(Y_i, T_{i,1})}{Var(T_{i,1})}$ ). We need something more...an instrument  $Z_{i,1}$ . It is a variable that satisfies:

(Relevance) Cov(T<sub>i,1</sub>, Z<sub>i,1</sub>) ≠ 0
 (Exclusion) E[Z<sub>i,1</sub>u<sub>i</sub>] = 0 (so Cov(Z<sub>i,1</sub>, u<sub>i</sub>) = 0)

Then  $\beta_1$  is identified by the following "IV object" (Exercise: show!):

$$\beta_1 = \frac{Cov(Y_i, Z_{i,1})}{Cov(T_{i,1}, Z_{i,1})}$$

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More generally:

$$Y_i = T'_i\beta + u_i$$

 $\Rightarrow \text{ If } Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 T_{i,1} + u_i \text{ (i.e., } T_i = [1 \ T_{i,1}]' \text{) and } Z_i \text{ is } L \times 1 \text{, with } L \ge 1 \text{:}$ 

$$\beta_1 = \frac{E[T_{i,1}Z'_i]E[Z_iZ'_i]^{-1}E[Z_iY_i]}{E[T_{i,1}Z'_i]E[Z_iZ'_i]^{-1}E[Z_iT_{i,1}]}$$

Exercise: show that when  $Z_i = [1 \ Z_{i,1}]'$  (i.e, it includes a constant and a single instrument), we get  $\beta_1 = \frac{Cov(Y_i, Z_{i,1})}{Cov(T_{i,1}, Z_{i,1})}$ 

 $\Rightarrow \text{ If } T_i \text{ is } k \times 1 \text{ and } Z_i \text{ is } L \times 1, \text{ with } L \ge k:$  $\beta = \left( E[T_i Z'_i] E[Z_i Z'_i]^{-1} E[Z_i T'_i] \right)^{-1} E[T_i Z'_i] E[Z_i Z'_i]^{-1} E[Z_i Y_i]$ 

This object can be recovered from a two-stage procedure (2SLS):

First stage: regress endogenous variable(s) on instrument(s) (include a constant in Z<sub>i</sub>)

$$E^*[T_i|Z_i] = E[T_iZ_i']E[Z_iZ_i']^{-1}Z_i \equiv \hat{T}_i$$

(Note: in this formula,  $Z_i$  can be  $L \times 1$  and  $T_i$  can be  $k \times 1$ .  $E^*[T_i|Z_i]$  is  $k \times 1$ : each row contains the BLP of one endogenous variable (i.e., one component of  $T_i$ ). If k = 1 then  $E[T_iZ'_i]E[Z_iZ'_i]^{-1}Z_i$  is  $1 \times 1$  and so it is equal to its transpose:  $E^*[T_i|Z_i] = Z'_iE[Z_iZ'_i]^{-1}E[Z_iT_i]$  which is the familiar notation " $X'_i\beta = X'_iE[X_iX'_i]^{-1}E[X_iY_i]$ " that you're used to when there's only one dependent variable being regressed against covariates.)

Second stage: regress dependent variable on prediction from previous step

$$E^*[Y_i|\hat{T}_i] = \hat{T}'_i \underbrace{E[\hat{T}_i\hat{T}'_i]^{-1}E[\hat{T}_iY_i]}_{=\beta}$$

**Exercise**: show that  $\beta = E[\hat{T}_i \hat{T}'_i]^{-1} E[\hat{T}_i Y_i]$ 

IV object (2SLS estimand) can be seen as a GMM estimand derived from the following moment condition:

$$E[Z_i u_i] = 0$$

$$E[Z_i(Y_i - T'_i \beta)] = 0$$

This is a linear system of L equations and k unknowns.

Note: by including a constant in  $Z_i$ , we include  $E[u_i] = 0$  in our system of equations.

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Instrumental Variables (without additional covariates) Let's look at the IV object if system is just-identified and over-identified:

$$\beta = \left( E[T_i Z_i'] E[Z_i Z_i']^{-1} E[Z_i T_i'] \right)^{-1} E[T_i Z_i'] E[Z_i Z_i']^{-1} E[Z_i Y_i]$$

• If L = k, notice that we can simplify this formula:  $E[T_iZ'_i]$  and  $E[Z_iT'_i]$  are  $k \times k$  and full rank (by relevance assumption), so they are invertible (and remember:  $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$ )

$$\beta = E[Z_i T_i']^{-1} \left( E[T_i Z_i'] E[Z_i Z_i']^{-1} \right)^{-1} E[T_i Z_i'] E[Z_i Z_i']^{-1} E[Z_i Y_i]$$
$$\beta = E[Z_i T_i']^{-1} E[Z_i Y_i]$$

We could arrive at this result by solving the system of equations from before:

$$E[Z_i(Y_i - T'_i\beta)] = 0$$
$$E[Z_iY_i] = E[Z_iT'_i]\beta$$

Since  $E[Z_i T'_i]$  is invertible:

$$\beta = E[Z_i T_i']^{-1} E[Z_i Y_i]$$

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Exercise: show what the moment conditions look like in the case in which  $T_i = [1 \ T_{i,1}]$  and  $Z_i = [1 \ Z_{i,1}]$  (i.e., one endogenous regressor and one instrument).

$$E[Z_i(Y_i - T'_i\beta)] = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} E[Y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 T_{i,1}] \\ E[Z_{i,1}(Y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 T_{i,1})] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
show that  $\beta_0 = E[Y_i] - \beta_1 E[T_{i,1}]$  and  $\beta_1 = \frac{Cov(Y_i, Z_{i,1})}{Cov(T_{i,1}, Z_{i,1})}.$ 

Conclusion:  $\frac{Cov(Y_i, Z_{i,1})}{Cov(T_{i,1}, Z_{i,1})}$  identifies the  $\beta_1$  from a model  $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 T_{i,1} + u_i$  that satisfies the moment conditions  $E[u_i] = 0$  and  $E[Z_{i,1}u_i] = 0$  (but doesn't satisfy the moment condition  $E[T_{i,1}u_i] = 0$ ).

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Exercise:

• If L > k, can combine the L equations (moment conditions) and obtain k linear combinations. (A particular example of this would be to assign weight 0 to L - k of them, so essentially dropping them to get a just-identified system).

The IV object (2SLS estimand) essentially considers weight  $E[T_iZ'_i]E[Z_iZ'_i]^{-1}$  and solves the following system of k equations and k unknowns:

$$\underbrace{E[T_i Z'_i] E[Z_i Z'_i]^{-1}}_{k \times L} \underbrace{E[Z_i (Y_i - T'_i \beta)]}_{L \times 1} = 0$$

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Let's look at an example:

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 T_{i,1} + u_i$$

Where  $E[T_{i,1}u_i] \neq 0$ , so  $T_{i,1}$  is endogenous.

Suppose there are two instruments available:

$$E[Z_{i}(Y_{i} - T_{i}'\beta)] = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} E[Y_{i} - \beta_{0} - \beta_{1}T_{i,1}] \\ E[Z_{i,1}(Y_{i} - \beta_{0} - \beta_{1}T_{i,1})] \\ E[Z_{i,2}(Y_{i} - \beta_{0} - \beta_{1}T_{i,1})] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that we are assuming that  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  satisfy all three equations (moment conditions).

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The issue is that, while this is true in population moments, when we replace these equations with their sample analogs (means instead of expectations) in order to obtain estimators  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  then we (most likely) end up with three linear equations where none is a linear combination of the others, so the system will have no solution. Remember:

System of linear equations: suppose we have L equations and k unknowns.

- If L = k (just-identified system): one solution
- If L > k (over-identified system): no solution
- If L < k (under-identified system):  $\infty$  solutions

So we can first work with the population system of moment conditions to derive a just-identified system and then motivate our estimators as a solution to the sample analog of that system.

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We first combine the equations available to create a system of k equations. This is achieved by pre-multiplying our system by a matrix D (nonrandom) that is  $k \times L$ . The  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  that we are trying to retrieve satisfy this new system.

$$D \times E[Z_{i}(Y_{i} - T_{i}'\beta)] = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_{11} & D_{12} & D_{13} \\ D_{21} & D_{22} & D_{23} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E[Y_{i} - \beta_{0} - \beta_{1}T_{i,1}] \\ E[Z_{i,1}(Y_{i} - \beta_{0} - \beta_{1}T_{i,1})] \\ E[Z_{i,2}(Y_{i} - \beta_{0} - \beta_{1}T_{i,1})] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\beta = (DE[Z_{i}T_{i}'])^{-1} (DE[Z_{i}Y_{i}])$$

For instance, 2SLS considers  $D = E[T_i Z'_i] E[Z_i Z'_i]^{-1}$ .

This new system motivates an estimator  $\hat{\beta}$  for  $\beta$  by replacing D with a  $\hat{D}$  (that is consistent) and the expectations with means.

We require that  $DE[Z_iT'_i]$  is nonsingular, and that there is a  $\hat{D}$  that converges in probability to D and  $\hat{D}\frac{1}{n}\sum Z_iT'_i$  is nonsingular. While any D under these conditions will motivate an estimator of  $\beta$  that is consistent ( $\hat{\beta} \stackrel{P}{\rightarrow} \beta$ ), some will be "better" than others (example: efficiency). For instance, the 2SLS estimator is the efficient GMM estimator under homoskedasticity.

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Model (same but adding covariates):

$$Y_i = X_i' \alpha + \beta T_i + u_i$$

- WLOG (because  $X_i$  includes a constant)  $E[u_i] = 0$
- $E[X_i u_i] = 0$  (so  $Cov(X_{i,j}, u_i) = 0$  for all the other *j* components of  $X_i$ )

• But! 
$$E[T_i u_i] \neq 0$$
 (so  $Cov(T_i, u_i) \neq 0$ )

 $\beta$  is not identified by BLP of  $Y_i$  on  $X_i$  and  $T_i$ . We need something more...an instrument  $Z_i$ . It is a variable that satisfies:

- (Relevance)  $Cov(T_i, Z_i) \neq 0$
- (Exclusion)  $E[Z_i u_i] = 0$  (so  $Cov(Z_i, u_i) = 0$ )

Then  $\beta$  is identified by the following "IV object" (Exercise: show!):

$$\beta = \frac{Cov(Y_i, \tilde{Z}_i)}{Cov(T_i, \tilde{Z}_i)} = \frac{E[Y_i \tilde{Z}_i]}{E[T_i \tilde{Z}_i]}$$

Where  $\tilde{Z}_i$  is the residual from regressing  $Z_i$  on  $X_i$ .

More generally:

$$Y_{i} = X_{i}'\alpha + T_{i}'\beta + u_{i}$$
  

$$\Rightarrow \text{ If } Y_{i} = X_{i}'\alpha + \beta T_{i} + u_{i} \text{ and } Z_{i} \text{ is } L \times 1, \text{ with } L \ge 1:$$
  

$$\beta = \frac{E[T_{i}\tilde{Z}_{i}']E[\tilde{Z}_{i}\tilde{Z}_{i}']^{-1}E[\tilde{Z}_{i}Y_{i}]}{E[T_{i}\tilde{Z}_{i}']E[\tilde{Z}_{i}\tilde{Z}_{i}']^{-1}E[\tilde{Z}_{i}T_{i}]}$$

 $\Rightarrow$  If  $T_i$  is  $k \times 1$  and  $Z_i$  is  $L \times 1$ , with  $L \ge k$ :

$$\beta = \left( E[T_i \tilde{Z}'_i] E[\tilde{Z}_i \tilde{Z}'_i]^{-1} E[\tilde{Z}_i T'_i] \right)^{-1} E[T_i \tilde{Z}'_i] E[\tilde{Z}_i \tilde{Z}'_i]^{-1} E[\tilde{Z}_i Y_i]$$

Where  $\tilde{Z}_i$  is the residual from regressing  $Z_i$  on  $X_i$ .

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In what cases do we have a model where  $T_i$  is "endogenous"? (And so its coefficient can't be identified by BLP).

IV estimator motivated in different contexts:

- Simulatenous equation bias ("reverse causation")
- 2 Measurement error bias
- Omitted variable bias (OVB)

That is, people have shown that in these contexts, the "IV object" can identify the desired structural parameter (the coefficient on  $T_i$ ).

But basically, all these can be seen as an OVB problem.

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OBV:

$$Y_i = \alpha + \beta T_i + \underbrace{\gamma A_i + v_i}_{u_i}$$

• WLOG (since we include a constant)  $E[v_i] = 0$ 

• 
$$E[T_i v_i] = 0$$
 (so  $Cov(T_i, v_i) = 0$ )

• 
$$E[A_i v_i] = 0$$
 (so  $Cov(A_i, v_i) = 0$ )

If we could regress  $Y_i$  on a constant,  $T_i$  and  $A_i$  (ECON2120: "long regression"), then  $\beta$  is identified. Assumptions imply that BLP recovers the coefficients of the model:  $E^*[Y_i|1, T_i, A_i] = \alpha + \beta T_i + \gamma A_i$ 

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But suppose that instead we regress  $Y_i$  on a constant and  $T_i$  only (ECON2120: "short regression"):

$$E^*[Y_i|1, T_i] = E^*[\alpha + \beta T_i + \gamma A_i + v_i|1, T_i]$$
$$= \alpha + \beta T_i + \gamma E^*[A_i|1, T_i]$$

Auxiliary regression:  $E^*[A_i|1, T_i] = \phi_0 + \phi_1 T_i$  where  $\phi_1 = \frac{Cov(A_i, T_i)}{Var(T_i)}$ 

$$E^*[Y_i|1, T_i] = \alpha + \beta T_i + \gamma E^*[A_i|1, T_i]$$
$$= \alpha + \gamma \phi_0 + (\beta + \gamma \phi_1) T_i$$

So unless  $Cov(T_i, A_i) = 0$ , the BLP  $E^*[Y_i|1, T_i]$  doesn't allow to identify  $\beta$ . Instead, it identifies  $\beta + \gamma \phi_1$ , where  $\gamma \phi_1$  is the "OVB".

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IV to the rescue!  $\beta$  can be identified by the "IV object"  $\frac{Cov(Y_i, Z_i)}{Cov(Y_i, T_i)}$  for a  $Z_i$  that satisfies  $Cov(Z_i, \underbrace{\gamma A_i + v_i}_{u_i}) = 0$  (exclusion) and  $Cov(T_i, Z_i) \neq 0$  (relevance):

$$Cov(Y_i, Z_i) = Cov(\alpha + \beta T_i + \gamma A_i + v_i, Z_i) = \beta Cov(T_i, Z_i)$$

So far we haven't said anything about causality. Let's see a model that introduces the notion of causality and how the "IV object" helps identify a causal effect.

Simple model with causal interpretation:

$$Y_i = Y_i(T_i) = \alpha + \beta T_i + u_i$$

In particular, if  $T_i \in \{0, 1\}$ :

$$Y_i(0) = \alpha + u_i$$
$$Y_i(1) = \alpha + \beta + u_i$$
$$\Rightarrow TE \equiv Y_i(1) - Y_i(0) = \beta$$

 $Y_i = Y_i(1)T_i + Y_i(0)(1 - T_i) = \frac{Y_i(0)}{(1 - Y_i(0))} + (\frac{Y_i(1)}{(1 - Y_i(0))})T_i = \alpha + \beta T_i + u_i$ 

So model assumes no heterogeneity of treatment effects.

Goal is to identify  $\beta = TE = Y_i(1) - Y_i(0)$  (constant for every *i*). Note: TE = ATE because TE is constant.

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1) Easy case:

- WLOG (since we introduce a constant)  $E(u_i) = 0$
- Assume E[T<sub>i</sub>u<sub>i</sub>] = 0 (so Cov(T<sub>i</sub>, u<sub>i</sub>) = 0) (treatment is independent of potential outcomes)

 $\Rightarrow$  under these identifiying assumptions,  $\beta$  identified by BLP:

$$\beta = TE = ATE = \frac{Cov(Y_i, T_i)}{Var(T_i)}$$

Exercise: Show that  $\frac{Cov(Y_i, T_i)}{Var(T_i)} = E[Y_i | T_i = 1] - E[Y_i | T_i = 0]$ 

2) Adding some more structure to the model:

$$Y_i = Y_i(T_i) = \alpha + \beta T_i + \underbrace{\gamma A_i + v_i}_{\equiv u_i}$$

- A<sub>i</sub> is additional control that affects potential outcomes
- WLOG (since we introduce a constant)  $E(v_i) = 0$
- Assume  $E[A_i v_i] = 0$  (so  $Cov(A_i, v_i) = 0$ )
- Assume E[T<sub>i</sub>v<sub>i</sub>] = 0 (so Cov(T<sub>i</sub>, v<sub>i</sub>) = 0) and A<sub>i</sub> observed (treatment is independent of the unobservable stuff that affects potential outcomes, and the observable stuff we can control for because...it's observed.)

 $\Rightarrow$  under these identifying assumptions,  $\beta$  is identified by BLP of  $Y_i$  on a constant and two regressors  $T_i$ ,  $A_i$ .

$$\beta = TE = ATE = \left\{ E(X_i X_i')^{-1} E(X_i Y_i) \right\}_{2,2} = \frac{Cov(Y_i, \tilde{T}_i)}{Var(\tilde{T}_i)} = \frac{E(Y_i \tilde{T}_i)}{E(\tilde{T}_i^2)}$$

Where  $X_i = [1 \ T_i \ A_i]$  and  $\tilde{T}_i$  is the residual from regressing  $T_i$  against a constant and  $A_i$  (remember Frisch-Waugh-Lovell?).

**3)** But! Suppose  $A_i$  is **unobserved** and  $Cov(T_i, A_i) \neq 0$  (example:  $A_i$  is ability,  $T_i$  is education, and smarter kids select into better schools). In other words, treatment is not independent of unobserved stuff that affects potential outcomes.

 $\Rightarrow$  BLP of  $Y_i$  on a constant and  $T_i$  can't identify  $\beta$ . There is OVB.

Instrumental variables: suppose there is an instrument  $Z_i \in \{0, 1\}$  that satisfies:

- (Relevance)  $Cov(T_i, Z_i) \neq 0$
- (Exclusion) Cov(u<sub>i</sub>, Z<sub>i</sub>) ≠ 0 (it only impacts observed outcome Y<sub>i</sub> through T<sub>i</sub>; that is, it doesn't affect potential outcomes)
- $\Rightarrow \beta$  is identified by:

$$\beta = TE = ATE = \frac{Cov(Y_i, Z_i)}{Cov(T_i, Z_i)}$$

Exercise: Show that  $\frac{Cov(Y_i,Z_i)}{Cov(T_i,Z_i)} = \frac{E[Y_i|Z_i=1] - E[Y_i|Z_i=0]}{E[T_i|Z_i=1] - E[T_i|Z_i=0]}$ 

Conclusion: in a linear model of constant causal effects with a binary endogenous treatment and a binary instrument,  $\frac{Cov(Y_i,Z_i)}{Cov(T_i,Z_i)}$  identifies the TE (which is also the ATE).

### Nonparametric model of heterogenous treatment effects

More general model with causal interpretation (we still assume  $T_i \in \{0, 1\}$ ):

$$Y_i = Y_i(1)T_i + Y_i(0)(1 - T_i) = \frac{Y_i(0)}{Y_i(1) - Y_i(0)}T_i$$

We don't want to make any further assumptions about  $(Y_i(1) - Y_i(0))$ . So model assumes heterogeneity of treatment effects.

- Goal is to identify  $ATE = E[Y_i(1) Y_i(0)].$
- **1)** Easy case:  $T_i \perp (Y_i(0), Y_i(1))$  $\Rightarrow$  under these identifying assumptions, *ATE* identified by:

$$ATE = \frac{Cov(Y_i, T_i)}{Var(T_i)}$$

Exercise: Show that  $\frac{Cov(Y_i, T_i)}{Var(T_i)} = E[Y_i | T_i = 1] - E[Y_i | T_i = 0]$ 

Nonparametric model of heterogenous treatment effects 2)  $T_i \not\perp (Y_i(0), Y_i(1))$ 

Instrumental variables: suppose there is an instrument  $Z_i \in \{0, 1\}$  that satisfies:

- (Relevance)  $Cov(T_i, Z_i) \neq 0$
- (Exclusion) + (Independence)  $Y_i$  is not a function of  $Z_i$  and  $Z_i \perp Y_i(1), Y_i(0)$

Also:  $Z_i \perp T_i(1), T_i(0)$ 

 $\Rightarrow$  ATE is identified for compliers (LATE) -under monotonicity- by:

$$LATE = \frac{Cov(Y_i, Z_i)}{Cov(T_i, Z_i)}$$

Exercise: Show that  $\frac{Cov(Y_i,Z_i)}{Cov(T_i,Z_i)} = \frac{E[Y_i|Z_i=1] - E[Y_i|Z_i=0]}{E[T_i|Z_i=1] - E[T_i|Z_i=0]}$ 

Note: if we use another instrument, then we uncover another LATE in the sense that there will be another set of compliers for that other instrument,  $\sim$ 

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# Recap

We've studied the potential outcomes model:

$$Y_i = Y_i(1)T_i + Y_i(0)(1 - T_i)$$

(Implicit is SUTVA assumption)

Identifying assumptions on how treatment is assigned - cases discussed:

- 1) T is randomly assigned:  $\{Y_i(1), Y_i(0)\} \perp T_i$
- 2) *T* is *not* randomly assigned:  $\{Y_i(1), Y_i(0)\} \not\perp T_i$
- 3) T is not randomly assigned but there is random assignment of an instrument Z:  $\{Y_i(1), Y_i(0), T_i(1), T_i(0)\} \perp Z_i$
- T is randomly assigned conditional on a set of observable characteristics X: {Y<sub>i</sub>(1), Y<sub>i</sub>(0)} ⊥ T<sub>i</sub> | X<sub>i</sub>
- 5) T is not randomly assigned but there is random assignment of an instrument Z if we condition on a set of observables X:
   {Y<sub>i</sub>(1), Y<sub>i</sub>(0), T<sub>i</sub>(1), T<sub>i</sub>(0)} ⊥ Z<sub>i</sub> | X<sub>i</sub>

### Regression discontinuity

Still within the framework of potential outcomes model, but now instead of relying on random assignment of treatment (or instrument) as identifying assumption, the key assumption is that there is some "running" variable according to which treatment (or instrument) is assigned.

Sharp RD: running variable determines if you received treatment or not

$$T_i = T_i(R) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } R < r^* \\ 1 & \text{if } R \ge r^* \end{cases}$$
$$Y_i = Y_i(1) \mathbb{1}\{R \ge r^*\} + Y_i(0) \mathbb{1}\{R < r^*\}$$

Fuzzy RD: running variable determines if you received instrument or not

$$Z_{i} = Z_{i}(R) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } R < r^{*} \\ 1 & \text{if } R \ge r^{*} \end{cases}$$
$$T_{i} = T_{i}(1)1\{R \ge r^{*}\} + T_{i}(0)1\{R < r^{*}\}$$
$$Y_{i} = Y_{i}(1)T_{i} + Y_{i}(0)(1 - T_{i})$$

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# Analogies to help you remember

Random assignment of T (Case 1)):

- **1** Key assumption:  $Y_i(0), Y_i(1) \perp T_i$
- Treatment is independent of potential outcomes, so people are "intrinsically" the same (on average), except that some got treatment and some didn't. So compare those in treated v non-traded groups to identify causal effect of treatment.
- Oan identify ATE:

$$E[Y_i(1)] - E[Y_i(0)] = E[Y_i|T_i = 1] - E[Y_i|T_i = 0]$$

#### Sharp RD:

- **()** Key assumption:  $E[Y_i(0)|R_i]$  and  $E[Y_i(1)|R_i]$  continuous at  $R_i = r^*$ .
- People "close to" R = r\* are "intrinsically" the same (on average), except some got treatment and some didn't. So compare their outcomes to identify causal effect of treatment.
- 3 Can identify a ATE at  $R = r^*$ :

$$E[Y_i(1)|R_i = r^*] - E[Y_i(0)|R_i = r^*] = \lim_{r \downarrow r^*} E[Y_i|R_i = r] - \lim_{r \uparrow r^*} E[Y_i|R_i = r]$$

### Analogies to help you remember Random assignment of Z (Case 3)):

- **1** Key assumption:  $Y_i(0), Y_i(1), T_i(0), T_i(1) \perp Z_i$
- exlcusion, monotonicity, first stage
- Oan identify LATE:

$$E[Y_i(1) - Y_i(0)|T_i(1) > T_i(0)] = \frac{E[Y_i|Z_i = 1] - E[Y_i|Z_i = 0]}{E[T_i|Z_i = 1] - E[T_i|Z_i = 0]}$$

#### Fuzzy RD:

- Key assumption: E[Y<sub>i</sub>(1)|R<sub>i</sub>], E[Y<sub>i</sub>(0)|R<sub>i</sub>], E[T<sub>i</sub>(1)|R<sub>i</sub>] and E[T<sub>i</sub>(0)|R<sub>i</sub>] are continuous at R<sub>i</sub> = r\*
- **2** + exclusion, monotonicity, first stage, all conditional on  $R_i = r^*$
- 3 Can identify a LATE at  $R = r^*$ :

$$E[Y_i(1) - Y_i(0)|T_i(1) > T_i(0), R_i = r^*] = \frac{\lim_{r \downarrow r^*} E[Y_i|R_i = r] - \lim_{r \uparrow r^*} E[Y_i|R_i = r]}{\lim_{r \downarrow r^*} E[T_i|R_i = r] - \lim_{r \uparrow r^*} E[T_i|R_i = r]}$$