Efficient Estimation of Causal Effects Under Two-Phase Sampling with Error-Prone Outcome and Treatment Measurements

ENAR 2025 Spring Meeting

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Roadmap

Background

Methods

Data Application

Discussion

Motivation

Explosion of the use of electronic health record (EHR) data for conducting observational causal inference studies

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And for good reason!

• EHR data is typically cheaper to obtain, fairly representative of patient populations, rich in information on potential confounding factors X, and big

But EHR data tends to present numerous challenges

ullet Including measurement error in outcomes (Y) and treatments (A) of interest

EHR data: in a perfect world

Suppose we aim to estimate the average treatment effect of a binary treatment ${\cal A}$ on ${\cal Y}$

$$\tau = \mathbb{E}[Y(1) - Y(0)]$$

EHR data: in a perfect world

Suppose we aim to estimate the average treatment effect of a binary treatment A on Y

$$au = \mathbb{E}[Y(1) - Y(0)]$$
 $Y = A = X$
 $Y_1 = A_1 = X_1$
 $Y_2 = A_2 = X_2$
 $Y_3 = A_3 = X_3$
 $Y_4 = A_4 = X_4$
 $Y_5 = A_5 = X_5$
 $Y_6 = A_6 = X_6$

In a perfect world, we'd have access to the true outcome + treatment values (+ covariates X)

EHR data: in a perfect world reality

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X
NA	Y_1^*	NA	A_1^*	\boldsymbol{X}_1
NA	Y_2^*	NA	A_2^*	$oldsymbol{X}_2$
NA	Y_3^*	NA	A_3^*	X_3
NA	Y_4^*	NA	A_4^*	$oldsymbol{X}_4$
NA	Y_5^*	NA	A_5^*	$oldsymbol{X}_5$
NA	Y_6^*	NA	A_6^*	X_6

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NA	Y_4^*	NA	A_4^*	$oldsymbol{X}_4$
NA	Y_5^*	NA	A_5^*	$oldsymbol{X}_5$
NA	Y_6^*	NA	A_6^*	$oldsymbol{X}_6$

In practice, we often only have error-prone measurements of Y and A, denoted Y^{\ast} and A^{\ast}

ullet Well-documented that using Y^* and A^* in place of Y and A can lead to severely biased causal effect estimates

EHR data: a study design-based workaround

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1

In practice, can sometimes spend time + money to obtain gold-standard measurements for a random (typically small) subset of this data

EHR data: a study design-based workaround

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
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In practice, selection into this subset can often be controlled, and may depend on the initial error-prone measurements: $R \not\perp \!\!\! \perp A^*, Y^*, X$

ullet Especially common sampling strategy if Y and/or A are rare

EHR data: a study design-based workaround

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
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• Intuition: over-sample subjects who contribute more information to the target estimand

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- 1. We have error-prone outcome + treatment measurements for all subjects
- 2. We have gold-standard treatment + outcome measurements for a *subset* of our EHR data, where...
- 3. This subset was collected according to a sampling rule that is **dependent** on the initially observed data: X, A^* and Y^* all influence R

At a high-level, our work addresses the following question: How do we estimate causal effects nonparametrically when

- 1. We have error-prone outcome + treatment measurements for all subjects
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We present two asymptotically equivalent approaches to constructing <u>efficient nonparametric</u> causal effect estimators

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Approach 2

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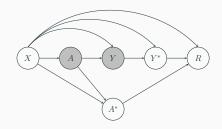
Approach 1

Approach 2

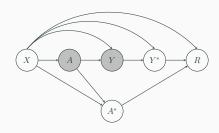
Data Application

Discussion

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
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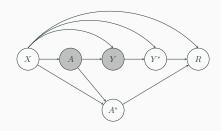


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Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
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Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
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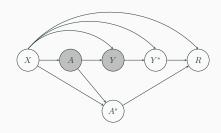
Main goal: Estimate counterfactual means $\mathbb{E}[Y(a)]$ $(a \in \{0,1\})$ efficiently, allowing R to depend on X,Y^* and A^*

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1



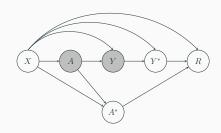
$$\mathop{\mathbb{E}}[Y(a)]$$

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
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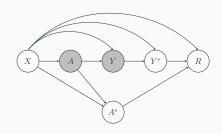


$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{causal estimand} & & \text{stat. estimand} \\ \mathbb{E}[Y(a)] & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{E}[f(\mathsf{data})] \end{array}$$

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1

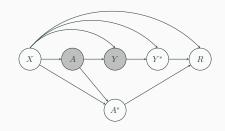


Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
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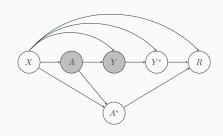
causal estimand
$$\mathbb{E}[Y(a)] \qquad \overset{\text{stat. estimand}}{\longrightarrow} \qquad \overset{\text{stat. estimand}}{\mathbb{E}[f(\mathsf{data})]} \qquad \longrightarrow \qquad \hat{\psi}_a^{\mathsf{PI}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{f}(\mathsf{data}_i) \qquad \overset{\text{debiased est. }}{\longrightarrow} \qquad \overset{\text{debiased est. }}{\widehat{\psi}_a^{\mathsf{OS}}}$$

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
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Letting $Z = (X, A^*, Y^*)$, we derive a plug-in estimator

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
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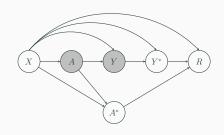


Letting $Z = (X, A^*, Y^*)$, we derive a plug-in estimator

$$\hat{\psi}_{a}^{\mathsf{Pl},1} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\hat{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{\lambda}_{a}(\boldsymbol{Z}) \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{a}(\boldsymbol{Z}) | \boldsymbol{X}]}{\hat{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{\lambda}_{a}(\boldsymbol{Z}) | \boldsymbol{X}]}$$

where $\hat{\lambda}_a$ and $\hat{\mu}_a$ are imputation functions for A and Y, respectively

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
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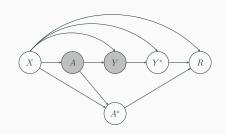
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where $\hat{\lambda}_a$ and $\hat{\mu}_a$ are imputation functions for A and Y, respectively

• Interpretation: IPW on imputed values, after marginalizing out post-treatment variables

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
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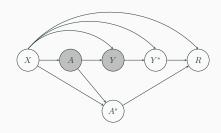
Letting $Z = (X, A^*, Y^*)$, we derive a plug-in estimator

$$\hat{\psi}_a^{\mathsf{PI},1} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\hat{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{\lambda}_a(\boldsymbol{Z}) \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_a(\boldsymbol{Z}) | \boldsymbol{X}]}{\hat{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{\lambda}_a(\boldsymbol{Z}) | \boldsymbol{X}]}$$

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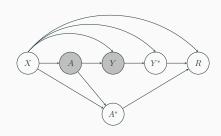
• Drawback: Inference intractable when nuisance models are fit data-adaptively

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1



To enable inference, we derive a one-step debiased estimator

\overline{Y}	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
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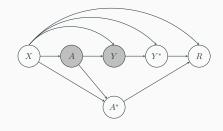


To enable inference, we derive a one-step debiased estimator

$$\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS},1} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\hat{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{\lambda}_a(\boldsymbol{Z}) \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_a(\boldsymbol{Z}) | \boldsymbol{X}]}{\hat{\mathbb{E}}[\hat{\lambda}_a(\boldsymbol{Z}) | \boldsymbol{X}]} + \widehat{\text{BC}}$$

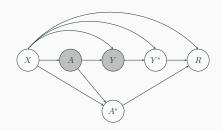
where $\widehat{\mathsf{BC}}$ is a bias correction term based on the efficient influence function for ψ_a

\overline{Y}	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1



We document multiple properties of $\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS},1}$

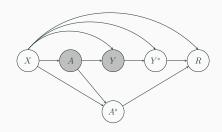
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Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
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We document multiple properties of $\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS},1}$

1. Bias correction enables valid inference when nuisance models are fit with flexible ML methods that converge at $n^{1/4}$ rates, however...

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
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We document multiple properties of $\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS},1}$

- 1. Bias correction enables valid inference when nuisance models are fit with flexible ML methods that converge at $n^{1/4}$ rates, however...
- 2. This bias correction term introduces numerous unstable weighting terms that can harm finite sample performance
 - Particularly concerning, as <u>validation samples tend to be small</u> in practice

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Approach 1

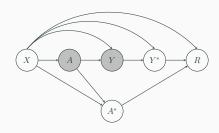
Approach 2

Data Application

Discussion

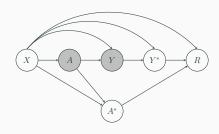
Approach 2: Complete-data projection

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
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Approach 2 is based on a well-developed, but relatively underutilized, framework for constructing debiased estimators under missing data (van der Laan and Robins 2003)

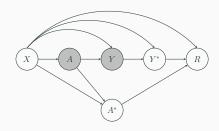
Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
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Approach 2 is based on a well-developed, but relatively underutilized, framework for constructing debiased estimators under missing data (van der Laan and Robins 2003)

• Links (i) the estimator we'd ideally construct under complete data to (ii) the observed data structure, where Y and A are partially missing

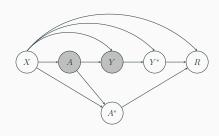
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Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
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Y_3	Y_3^*	A_3	A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
Y_5	Y_5^*	A_5	A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1



Idea: If we had complete data, could construct a plug-in estimator $\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI},2} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{m}_a(X_i)$,

where
$$m_a(X) = \mathbb{E}(Y|A=a,X)$$

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
Y_2	Y_2^*	A_2	A_2^*	X_2	0
Y_3	Y_3^*	A_3	A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
Y_5	Y_5^*	A_5	A_5^*	X_5	0
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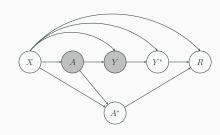


Idea: If we had complete data, could construct a plug-in estimator $\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI},2} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{m}_a(X_i)$, as well as an AIPW estimator

$$\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS,2}} = \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI,2}} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\hat{m}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i) + \frac{I(A_i = a)}{\hat{g}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i)} \{ Y_i - \hat{m}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i) \} - \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI,2}} \right)$$

where
$$m_a(X) = \mathbb{E}(Y|A=a,X)$$
 and $g_a(X) = \mathbb{P}(A=a|X)$

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
Y_2	Y_2^*	A_2	A_2^*	X_2	0
Y_3	Y_3^*	A_3	A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
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Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1

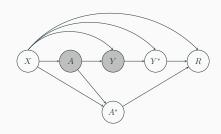


Idea: If we had complete data, could construct a plug-in estimator $\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI},2} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{m}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i)$, as well as an AIPW estimator

$$\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS,2}} = \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI,2}} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\hat{m}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i) + \frac{I(A_i = a)}{\hat{\boldsymbol{g}}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i)} \{ Y_i - \hat{m}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i) \} - \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI,2}} \right)$$

Above, $m_a(X)$ and $\hat{g}_a(X)$ can be estimated with weighted regressions that add weights $R/\mathbb{P}(R=1|Z)$ to the underlying loss function

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
Y_2	Y_2^*	A_2	A_2^*	X_2	0
Y_3	Y_3^*	A_3	A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
Y_5	Y_5^*	A_5	A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1

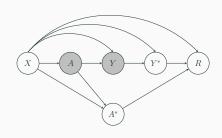


$$\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS,2}} = \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI,2}} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\hat{m}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i) + \frac{I(A_i = a)}{\hat{g}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i)} \{ Y_i - \hat{m}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i) \} - \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI,2}} \right)$$

Issue: The bias correction terms are only observed when $R_i = 1$

Above estimator is infeasible

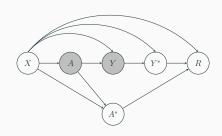
\overline{Y}	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
Y_2	Y_2^*	A_2	A_2^*	X_2	0
Y_3	Y_3^*	A_3	A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
Y_5	Y_5^*	A_5	A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1



Key idea: Treat the bias correction terms as pseudo-outcomes:

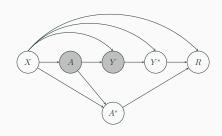
$$\begin{split} \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS},2} &= \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI},2} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\hat{m}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i) + \frac{I(A_i = a)}{\hat{g}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i)} \{Y_i - \hat{m}_a(\boldsymbol{X}_i)\} - \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI},2} \right) \\ &= \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI},2} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{\chi_a(\boldsymbol{O}_i; \hat{m}_a, \hat{g}_a)}_{\text{pseudo outcome}} \end{split}$$

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
Y_2	Y_2^*	A_2	A_2^*	X_2	0
Y_3	Y_3^*	A_3	A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
Y_5	Y_5^*	A_5	A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1



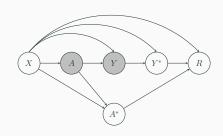
$$\hat{\psi}_a^{\mathsf{OS},2} = \hat{\psi}_a^{\mathsf{PI},2} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \chi_a(\boldsymbol{O}_i; \hat{m}_a, \hat{g}_a)$$

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
Y_2	Y_2^*	A_2	A_2^*	X_2	0
Y_3	Y_3^*	A_3	A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
Y_5	Y_5^*	A_5	A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1



$$\hat{\psi}_a^{\mathsf{OS},2} = \hat{\psi}_a^{\mathsf{PI},2} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\hat{\varphi}_a(\boldsymbol{Z}_i) + \frac{R_i}{\mathbb{P}(R_i = 1 | \boldsymbol{Z}_i)} \{ \chi_a(\boldsymbol{O}_i; \hat{m}_a, \hat{g}_a) - \hat{\varphi}_a(\boldsymbol{Z}_i) \} \right)$$

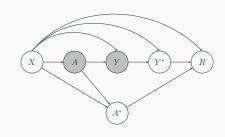
Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
Y_2	Y_2^*	A_2	A_2^*	X_2	0
Y_3	Y_3^*	A_3	A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
Y_5	Y_5^*	A_5	A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1



$$\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS},2} = \hat{\psi}_a^{\text{PI},2} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_a(\boldsymbol{Z}_i) + \frac{R_i}{\mathbb{P}(R_i = 1 | \boldsymbol{Z}_i)} \{ \boldsymbol{\chi}_a(\boldsymbol{O}_i; \hat{m}_a, \hat{g}_a) - \hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_a(\boldsymbol{Z}_i) \} \right)$$

where
$$\hat{m{arphi}}_{a}(m{Z})=\hat{\mathbb{E}}[m{\chi}_{a}(m{O};\hat{m}_{a},\hat{g}_{a})|m{Z},R=1]$$

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
Y_2	Y_2^*	A_2	A_2^*	X_2	0
Y_3	Y_3^*	A_3	A_3^*	X_3	0
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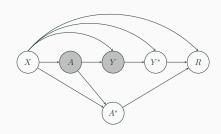


$$\hat{\psi}_a^{\mathsf{OS},2} = \hat{\psi}_a^{\mathsf{PI},2} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_{\boldsymbol{a}}(\boldsymbol{Z}_i) + \frac{R_i}{\mathbb{P}(R_i = 1 | \boldsymbol{Z}_i)} \{ \boldsymbol{\chi}_{\boldsymbol{a}}(\boldsymbol{O}_i; \hat{m}_a, \hat{g}_a) - \hat{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_{\boldsymbol{a}}(\boldsymbol{Z}_i) \} \right)$$

where
$$\hat{m{arphi}}_a(m{Z}) = \mathbb{E}[m{\chi}_a(m{O}_i;\hat{m}_a,\hat{g}_a)|m{Z},R=1]$$

- Feasible estimator!
- \bullet When sampling probabilities are known, $\hat{\psi}_a^{\mathrm{OS},2}$ is doubly-robust in the traditional sense

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
Y_2	Y_2^*	A_2	A_2^*	X_2	0
Y_3	Y_3^*	A_3	A_3^*	X_3	0
Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
Y_5	Y_5^*	A_5	A_5^*	X_5	0
Y_6	Y_6^*	A_6	A_6^*	X_6	1



Connections between $\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS},1}$ and $\hat{\psi}_a^{\text{OS},2}$:

- Can be shown that asymptotically, Approach 1 and Approach 2 estimators are equivalent
 - Approach 2 can be viewed as a re-parameterization of Approach 1
- Both estimators have unique sources of finite sample instability

Roadmap

Background

Methods

Data Application

Discussion

EHR database with information on \approx 1900 patients living with HIV between 1998-2011 that began receiving care at the VCCC

- Numerous variables recorded with error
 - Date of antiretroviral therapy (ART) initiation
 - Occurrence of AIDS-defining events (ADEs)

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 ${\bf Causal\ estimand:}\ {\bf Average\ causal\ effect\ of\ starting\ ART\ within\ 1\ month\ of\ first\ visit\ (A)\ on\ 3-year\ (post\ initial\ visit)\ risk\ of\ suffering\ an\ ADE\ (Y)$

- E.g. 5%, 10%, 15%,...
- Implement proposed estimators at each share

Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
	Y_2^*		A_2^*	X_2	0
	Y_3^*		A_3^*	X_3	0
	Y_4^*		A_4^*	X_4	0
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
	Y_6^*		A_6^*	X_6	0
	Y_7^*		A_7^*	X_7	0
	Y_8^*		A_8^*	X_8	0
	Y_9^*		A_9^*	X_9	0
	Y_{10}^{*}		A_{10}^{*}	X_{10}	0

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Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
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	Y_6^*		A_6^*	X_6	0
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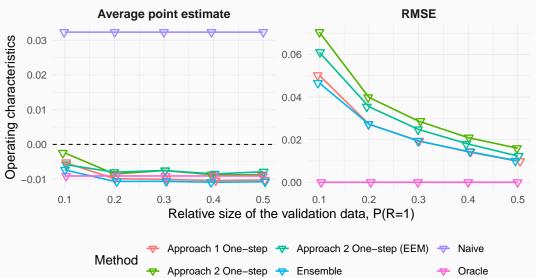
Y	Y^*	A	A^*	X	R
Y_1	Y_1^*	A_1	A_1^*	X_1	1
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	Y_4^*		A_4^*	X_4	0
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Y_4	Y_4^*	A_4	A_4^*	X_4	1
	Y_5^*		A_5^*	X_5	0
	Y_6^*		A_6^*	X_6	0
	Y_7^*		A_7^*	X_7	0
	Y_8^*		A_8^*	X_8	0
	Y_9^*		A_9^*	X_9	0
	Y_{10}^{*}		A_{10}^{*}	X_{10}	0

Operating characteristics: 3-year ADE risk

Treatment: ART initiation within one month of first visit



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Discussion

Our work addresses the following high-level question:

How do we estimate causal effects nonparametrically when (1) we have error-prone outcome + treatment measurements, (2) we have gold-standard treatment + outcome measurements for a *subset* of our data, where (3) that subset was collected according to a sampling rule that depends on the initially observed data

We've presented plug-in + debiased one-step estimators that accommodate these sampling schemes (and general two-phase sampling schemes). Currently working on

- Further studying approaches that improve the finite-sample behavior of the one-step estimators
- Development of R package implementing Approach 2 for general missing data patterns

Thank you!

Working paper coming soon!

References

van der Laan, M. J. and Robins, J. M. (2003). *Unified methods for censored longitudinal data and causality*. Springer.



First, let $W = (Y^*, A^*)$. Then, we have

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}(Y(a)) &= \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{X}} \mathbb{E}(Y(a)|\boldsymbol{X}) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{W}(a)|\boldsymbol{X}} \ [\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{X}} \mathbb{E}(Y(a)|\boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{W}(a))] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{W}(a)|\boldsymbol{X}} \ [\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{X}} \mathbb{E}(Y(a)|\boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{W}(a), \boldsymbol{A} = a, \boldsymbol{R} = 1)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{W}|\boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{A}} \ [\mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{X}} \mathbb{E}(Y|\boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{W}, \boldsymbol{A} = a, \boldsymbol{R} = 1)] \end{split}$$

The problem: the density p(w|x,a) is unidentified

ullet We only see A in the validation data, which is **not** independent of $oldsymbol{W}$ so we can't just condition on R=1

Notice

$$\mathbb{E}(Y(a)) = \sum_{w} \sum_{x} \sum_{y} y \cdot p(y|w, x, a, r = 1) \cdot \frac{p(w|x, a)}{p(x)} \cdot p(x)$$

Notice

$$\mathbb{E}(Y(a)) = \sum_{w} \sum_{x} \sum_{y} y \cdot p(y|w, x, a, r = 1) \cdot \frac{p(w|x, a) \cdot p(x)}{p(a|x, w)p(w|x)p(x)}$$
$$= \sum_{w} \sum_{x} \sum_{y} y \cdot p(y|w, x, a, r = 1) \cdot \frac{p(a|x, w)p(w|x)p(x)}{p(a|x)p(x)} \cdot p(x)$$

Notice

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}(Y(a)) &= \sum_{w} \sum_{x} \sum_{y} y \cdot p(y|w, x, a, r = 1) \cdot \frac{p(w|x, a) \cdot p(x)}{p(a|x, w)p(w|x)p(x)} \cdot p(x) \\ &= \sum_{w} \sum_{x} \sum_{y} y \cdot p(y|w, x, a, r = 1) \cdot \frac{\frac{p(a|x, w)p(w|x)p(x)}{p(a|x)p(x)}}{\frac{p(a|x, w, r = 1)p(w|x)}{\sum_{w'} p(a|w', x)p(w'|x)}} \cdot p(x) \end{split}$$

Notice

$$\mathbb{E}(Y(a)) = \sum_{w} \sum_{x} \sum_{y} y \cdot p(y|w, x, a, r = 1) \cdot \frac{p(w|x, a) \cdot p(x)}{p(a|x, w)p(w|x)p(x)} \cdot p(x)$$

$$= \sum_{w} \sum_{x} \sum_{y} y \cdot p(y|w, x, a, r = 1) \cdot \frac{\frac{p(a|x, w)p(w|x)p(x)}{p(a|x)p(x)}}{\frac{p(a|x, w, r = 1)p(w|x)}{\sum_{w'} p(a|w', x)p(w'|x)}} \cdot p(x)$$

Key idea: Use Bayes rule to re-express un-identified density in terms of identifiable ones

 Then, overall expression is identified – just need to define terms and "collapse" the above expectations

Y_i	Y_i^*	A_i	A_i^*	$oldsymbol{X}_i$	R_i	$\hat{\lambda}_a$	$\hat{\mu}_a$	$\hat{\pi}_a$	$\hat{\eta}_a$
1	0	0	1	3.2	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
0	1	1	1	2.1	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
1	1	0	0	0.3	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
1	0	0	1	1.6	0	NA	NA	NA	NA
0	1	0	1	4.8	0	NA	NA	NA	NA
1	1	0	0	0.9	0	NA	NA	NA	NA

Step 1: use validation data to fit $\hat{\lambda}_a$ and $\hat{\mu}_a$

Y_i	Y_i^*	A_i	A_i^*	$oldsymbol{X}_i$	R_i	$\hat{\lambda}_a$	$\hat{\mu}_a$	$\hat{\pi}_a$	$\hat{\eta}_a$
1	0	0	1	3.2	1	0.2	0.72	NA	NA
0	1	1	1	2.1	1	0.43	0.18	NA	NA
1	1	0	0	0.3	1	0.64	0.77	NA	NA
1	0	0	1	1.6	0	0.03	0.55	NA	NA
0	1	0	1	4.8	0	0.81	0.11	NA	NA
1	1	0	0	0.9	0	0.39	0.83	NA	NA

Step 1: use validation data to fit $\hat{\lambda}_a$ and $\hat{\mu}_a$

Y_i	Y_i^*	A_i	A_i^*	$oldsymbol{X}_i$	R_i	$\hat{\lambda}_a$	$\hat{\mu}_a$	$\hat{\pi}_a$	$\hat{\eta}_a$
1	0	0	1	3.2	1	0.2	0.72	NA	NA
0	1	1	1	2.1	1	0.43	0.18	NA	NA
1	1	0	0	0.3	1	0.64	0.77	NA	NA
1	0	0	1	1.6	0	0.03	0.55	NA	NA
0	1	0	1	4.8	0	0.81	0.11	NA	NA
1	1	0	0	0.9	0	0.39	0.83	NA	NA

Step 2: regress $\hat{\lambda}_a$ and $\hat{\mu}_a$ on \pmb{X} and A^* to yield $\hat{\pi}_a$ and $\hat{\eta}_a$

Y_i	Y_i^*	A_i	A_i^*	$oldsymbol{X}_i$	R_i	$\hat{\lambda}_a$	$\hat{\mu}_a$	$\hat{\pi}_a$	$\hat{\eta}_a$
1	0	0	1	3.2	1	0.2	0.72	0.77	0.23
0	1	1	1	2.1	1	0.43	0.18	0.41	0.26
1	1	0	0	0.3	1	0.64	0.77	0.59	0.80
1	0	0	1	1.6	0	0.03	0.55	0.08	0.53
0	1	0	1	4.8	0	0.81	0.11	0.72	0.18
1	1	0	0	0.9	0	0.39	0.83	0.38	0.79

Step 2: regress $\hat{\lambda}_a$ and $\hat{\mu}_a$ on X and A^* to yield $\hat{\pi}_a$ and $\hat{\eta}_a$

Y_i	Y_i^*	A_i	A_i^*	$oldsymbol{X}_i$	R_i	$\hat{\lambda}_a$	$\hat{\mu}_a$	$\hat{\pi}_a$	$\hat{\eta}_a$
1	0	0	1	3.2	1	0.2	0.72	0.77	0.23
0	1	1	1	2.1	1	0.43	0.18	0.41	0.26
1	1	0	0	0.3	1	0.64	0.77	0.59	0.80
1	0	0	1	1.6	0	0.03	0.55	0.08	0.53
0	1	0	1	4.8	0	0.81	0.11	0.72	0.18
1	1	0	0	0.9	0	0.39	0.83	0.38	0.79

Step 3: construct $\hat{\psi}_a^{\rm PI}=rac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n rac{\hat{\eta}_a(\pmb{X}_i,A_i^*)}{\hat{\pi}_a(\pmb{X}_i,A_i^*)}$

$$\begin{split} \phi_a^{\text{obs}}(\boldsymbol{O}) &= \frac{R}{\mathbb{P}(R=1|\boldsymbol{Z})} \chi_a^{\text{full}}(\boldsymbol{O}) \\ &- \left(\frac{R}{\mathbb{P}(R=1|\boldsymbol{Z})} - 1\right) \varphi_a(\boldsymbol{Z}) \end{split}$$

$$\phi_a^{\text{obs}}(\boldsymbol{O}) = \frac{R}{\mathbb{P}(R=1|\boldsymbol{Z})} \left[\frac{I(A=a)}{e_a(\boldsymbol{X})} (Y - m_a(\boldsymbol{X})) + m_a(\boldsymbol{X}) - \psi_a \right] - \left(\frac{R}{\mathbb{P}(R=1|\boldsymbol{Z})} - 1 \right) \varphi_a(\boldsymbol{Z})$$

$$\phi_a^{\text{obs}}(\boldsymbol{O}) = \frac{R}{\mathbb{P}(R=1|\boldsymbol{Z})} \left[\frac{I(A=a)}{\pi_a(\boldsymbol{X})} \left(Y - \frac{\eta_a(\boldsymbol{X})}{\pi_a(\boldsymbol{X})} \right) + \frac{\eta_a(\boldsymbol{X})}{\pi_a(\boldsymbol{X})} - \psi_a \right] - \left(\frac{R}{\mathbb{P}(R=1|\boldsymbol{Z})} - 1 \right) \varphi_a(\boldsymbol{Z})$$

$$\phi_a^{\text{obs}}(\boldsymbol{O}) = \frac{R}{\mathbb{P}(R=1|\boldsymbol{Z})} \left[\frac{I(A=a)}{\pi_a(\boldsymbol{X})} \left(Y - \frac{\eta_a(\boldsymbol{X})}{\pi_a(\boldsymbol{X})} \right) + \frac{\eta_a(\boldsymbol{X})}{\pi_a(\boldsymbol{X})} - \psi_a \right] - \left(\frac{R}{\mathbb{P}(R=1|\boldsymbol{Z})} - 1 \right) \left(\frac{\lambda_a(\boldsymbol{Z})\mu_a(\boldsymbol{Z})}{\pi_a(\boldsymbol{X})} - \frac{\lambda_a(\boldsymbol{Z})\eta_a(\boldsymbol{X})}{\pi_a(\boldsymbol{X})^2} + \frac{\eta_a(\boldsymbol{X})}{\pi_a(\boldsymbol{X})} - \psi_a \right)$$