





### **CB-IV: Instrumental Variable Regression with Confounder Balancing**

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An Instrument Variable Z is an exogenous variable that affects the treatment T, but does not directly affect the outcome Y.

- Relevance: Z is a cause of T, i.e.,  $P(T | Z) \neq P(T)$ ;
- Exclusion: Z does not directly affect the outcome Y, i.e.,  $Z \perp Y \mid T, X$ ;
- Unconfounded: Z is independent of all confounders X, i.e.,  $Z \perp X$ .

## **Identifying Assumption**



(1) Linear Assumption:  $Y = \beta T + \theta_1 X + \theta_2$ ,  $T = \alpha Z + \theta_3 X + \theta_4$ 

#### **Instrumental Variable Regression:**

• Stage 1:  $\hat{\alpha} = \arg \min_{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (t_i - \alpha z_i)^2$ • Stage 2:  $\hat{\beta} = \arg \min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \beta \hat{t}_i)^2 = \arg \min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \beta \hat{\alpha} z_i)^2$ 



# **Identifying Assumption**



(2) Additive Noise Assumption:  $Y = g(T, X_o) + X_U$ 



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n

#### **Instrumental Variable Regression:**

• **Stage 1:** 
$$\hat{f} = \arg\min_{f} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (t_i - P_{f(z_i, x_i)}(t_i \mid z_i, x_i))^2, \hat{t}_i \sim P_{\hat{f}(z_i, x_i)}(t \mid z_i, x_i)$$

• Stage 2: 
$$\hat{g} = \arg\min_{g} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - g(\hat{t}_i, x_i))^2, \hat{t}_i \text{ is obtained from stage 1.}$$



### Motivation



X: Covariate; Z: Instrument (Seasons); T: Treatment (Price); Y: Outcome (Sales); →: Stage 1; →: Stage 2.

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Homogeneity Assumptions: (3) E[T | Z = a, U] - E[T | Z = b, U] = E[T | Z = a] - E[T | Z = b](4) E[Y | T = a, U] - E[Y | T = b, U] = E[Y | T = a] - E[Y | T = b]

**Theorem 4.1.** (*Inverse Relationship of Eq.* (13)). If the learned representation of observed confounders  $C = f_{\theta}(X)$  is independent with the estimated treatment  $\hat{T}$ , then the counterfactual prediction function h(T, C) can be identified with instrumental variables Z and representation C. Then, we can establish an inverse relationship for h(T, C) given  $\mathbb{E}[Y \mid Z, C, X]$  and  $P(T \mid Z, X)$ , as follow:

$$\mathbb{E}[Y \mid Z, C, X] = \int \left[h(T, C)\right] dP(T \mid Z, X)$$
(15)

### Method



Instrumental Variable Regression with Confounder Balancing (CB-IV)

- Treatment Regression (Stage 1)
- Confounder Balancing (Stage 2)
- Outcome Regression (Stage 2)

**Binary Cases** 

**Treatment Regression:** In this part, we propose to regress treatment T with IVs Z and observed confounders X directly, as the treatment regression stage did in the previous nonlinear IV-based method. Specifically, we estimate the conditional probability distribution of the treatments  $\hat{P}(T|Z, X)$  with a logistic regression network  $\pi_{\mu}(z_i, x_i)$ with learnable parameter  $\mu$  for each unit *i*, and optimize the following loss function for treatment regression:

$$\mathcal{L}_{T} = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (t_{i} \log (\pi_{\mu}(z_{i}, x_{i})) + (1 - t_{i}) (1 - \log (\pi_{\mu}(z_{i}, x_{i}))))$$
(4)



**Continuous Cases** Besides, to reduce computational complexity, we can set  $\sigma_{\psi} = c$  as constant for low uncertainty models, and simplify the distribution estimation as a regression problem:

$$\mathcal{L}_T = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m \left( t_i - \hat{t}_i^j \right)^2, \hat{t}_i^j \sim \hat{P}(t_i | z_i, x_i),$$
(27)

we sample m (the larger the better) treatment  $\{t_i^j\}_{j=1,...,m}$  for each unit  $\{z_i, x_i\}$  to approximate the true treatment  $t_i$ . Empirically, the above objective (Eq. (27)) is sufficient to accurately estimate causal effects in continuous CB-IV framework.

#### **Binary Cases**

**Confounder Balancing:** After treatment regression, we can obtain the causal graph as shown in the figure 1(b), where the observed variables X would become the confounders for outcome regression. To address this problem, we propose to learn a representation of X (i.e.,  $C = f_{\theta}(X)$ ) with a representation network  $f_{\theta}(\cdot)$  with learnable parameter  $\theta$ , and minimize the discrepancy of distributions for different treatment arms to achieve  $C \perp \hat{T}$  for confounder balancing:

$$disc(\hat{T}, f_{\theta}(X)) = IPM(\{f_{\theta}(x_i)\hat{P}(t_i = 0 \mid z_i, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n, \\ \{f_{\theta}(x_i)\hat{P}(t_i = 1 \mid z_i, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n)$$
(5)



#### **Continuous Cases**

**Confounder Balancing:** For continuous treatment T, we learn a "balanced" representation (i.e., C) of the observed confounders X as  $C = f_{\theta}(X)$  via mutual information (MI) minimization constraints (Cheng et al., 2020): firstly, we use variational distribution  $Q_{\psi}(\hat{T} \mid C) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_{\psi}(C), \sigma_{\psi}(C))$  parameterized by neural networks  $\{\mu_{\psi}, \sigma_{\psi}\}$  to approximate the true conditional distribution  $P(\hat{T} \mid C)$ ; then, we minimize the log-likelihood loss function of variational approximation  $Q_{\psi}(\hat{T} \mid C)$  with n samples to estimate MI:

$$\operatorname{disc}(\hat{T}, C) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left[ \log Q_{\psi}\left(\hat{t}_i \mid c_i\right) - \log Q_{\psi}\left(\hat{t}_j \mid c_i\right) \right].$$
(28)

where,  $C = f_{\theta}(X)$ . We adopt an alternating training strategy to iteratively optimize  $Q_{\psi}(\hat{T} \mid C)$  and the network  $C = f_{\theta(X)}$  to implement balanced representation in the Confounder Balancing.



**Outcome Regression:** Finally, we propose to regress the outcome with the estimated treatment  $\hat{T} \sim P(T|Z, X)$  obtained in treatment regression module and the representation of confounders  $C = f_{\theta}(X)$  obtained in confounder balancing module:

$$\mathcal{L}_Y = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - h_{\xi}(\hat{t}_i, f_{\theta}(x_i)) \right)^2 + \alpha \operatorname{disc}(\hat{T}, f_{\theta}(X))$$
(29)

where  $\alpha$  is a trade-off hyper-parameter, and  $\hat{t}_i \sim \hat{P}(T|Z, X)$  and  $f_{\theta}(x_i)$  are derived from treatment regression module and confounder balancing module, respectively.



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**Conditional average treatment effect:**  $ATE_i = h(T = t_i, f(x_i)) - h(T = 0, f(x_i))$ 

### **Evaluation Measure**

The conditional average treatment effect (CATE):

ATE(t) = E[Y | do(T = t), X] - E[Y | do(T = 0), X]

**Bias of the conditional average treatment effect:** 

$$ATE_{i} = h(T = t_{i}, f(x_{i})) - h(T = 0, f(x_{i}))$$
$$MSE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (ATE_{i} - ATE_{i})^{2}$$

The lower is the better.

### Benchmarks

### **Binary Cases**

- Systematically varied the dimensions of Z, X and U: m<sub>Z</sub>, m<sub>X</sub>, m<sub>U.</sub>
- Naming convention:  $Syn m_Z m_X m_U$
- 10 runs for each trial with 10000 samples

### **Continuous Cases**

- Demand is a common benchmark used in IV Regressions (Hartford et al., 2017, Singh et al., 2019, Muandet et al., 2020, Xu et al., 2021).
- Systematically varied the importance of instrumental variables and confounders:  $\gamma$ ,  $\lambda$
- Naming convention: Demand  $-\gamma \lambda$

### **Real-World Datasets**

• IHDP/Twins  $-m_Z - m_X - m_U$ 

|            | (            | Out-of-Sample |              |              |            | Out-of-S     | Sample       |              | Out-of-Sample |              |              |              |              |  |
|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Method     | Syn-1-4-4    | Syn-2-4-4     | Syn-2-10-4   | Syn-2-4-10   | Method     | Demand-0-1   | Demand-0-5   | Demand-5-1   | Method        | IHDP-2-6-0   | IHDP-2-4-2   | Twins-5-8-0  | Twins-5-5-3  |  |
| DeepIV-LOG | 1.055(0.010) | 1.057(0.008)  | 1.093(0.009) | 1.020(0.008) | DeepIV-LOG | -            | -            | -            | DeepIV-LOG    | 2.876(0.055) | 2.623(0.069) | 0.014(0.021) | 0.024(0.011) |  |
| DeepIV-GMM | 0.933(0.011) | 0.874(0.019)  | 0.768(0.023) | 0.925(0.017) | DeepIV-GMM | 1006(313.7)  | 2829(724.6)  | 1151(284.1)  | DeepIV-GMM    | 3.777(0.035) | 3.739(0.042) | 0.019(0.005) | 0.022(0.004) |  |
| KernelIV   | 0.495(0.055) | 0.458(0.052)  | 0.765(0.028) | 0.625(0.063) | KernelIV   | 994.9(146.2) | 5435(435.2)  | 1004(216.7)  | KernelIV      | 3.070(0.306) | 3.023(0.440) | -            | -            |  |
| DualIV     | 1.472(0.079) | 1.467(0.076)  | 1.732(0.072) | 1.513(0.066) | DualIV     | >5000        | >5000        | >5000        | DualIV        | 0.564(0.266) | 0.715(0.355) | -            | -            |  |
| OneSIV     | 0.822(0.076) | 0.661(0.095)  | 0.690(0.053) | 0.851(0.073) | OneSIV     | >5000        | >5000        | >5000        | OneSIV        | 1.729(0.372) | 1.735(0.343) | 0.008(0.019) | 0.008(0.017) |  |
| DFIV       | 0.851(0.009) | 0.860(0.007)  | 0.851(0.007) | 0.886(0.009) | DFIV       | 190.5(8.977) | 668.3(566.7) | 196.2(16.66) | DFIV          | 3.554(0.090) | 3.623(0.106) | 0.027(0.001) | 0.026(0.000) |  |
| DFL        | 0.840(0.002) | 0.851(0.002)  | 0.838(0.002) | 0.831(0.004) | DFL        | 182.9(11.52) | 597.6(622.1) | 189.7(7.422) | DFL           | 3.204(0.050) | 3.199(0.038) | 0.062(0.058) | 0.085(0.005) |  |
| DirectRep  | 0.172(0.016) | 0.164(0.009)  | 0.116(0.015) | 0.199(0.014) | DirectRep  | 193.9(7.380) | 689.6(692.1) | 489.9(121.1) | DirectRep     | 0.061(0.082) | 0.457(0.076) | 0.016(0.018) | 0.019(0.025) |  |
| CFR        | 0.172(0.015) | 0.159(0.018)  | 0.103(0.019) | 0.198(0.016) | CFR        | 192.0(8.932) | 417.3(123.5) | 469.7(140.7) | CFR           | 0.079(0.081) | 0.480(0.069) | 0.011(0.016) | 0.022(0.018) |  |
| DRCFR      | 0.151(0.055) | 0.137(0.035)  | 0.062(0.045) | 0.154(0.032) | DRCFR      | 532.4(199.5) | 497.3(26.37) | 470.5(143.4) | DRCFR         | 0.045(0.095) | 0.432(0.067) | 0.011(0.022) | 0.012(0.017) |  |
| CB-IV      | 0.037(0.075) | 0.017(0.046)  | 0.075(0.040) | 0.010(0.064) | CB-IV      | 172.9(5.340) | 224.3(18.06) | 165.8(7.142) | CB-IV         | 0.015(0.393) | 0.158(0.254) | 0.006(0.027) | 0.002(0.025) |  |

#### The results of ATE estimation, including bias (mean(std)), in

(a) Binary Cases

(b) Continuous Cases

<sup>\*</sup> Most confounders are discrete variables and the outcome is binary variable in Twins data. The results of kernel-based IV methods in Twins are NaN. We use '-' to denote it.

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|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Method     | Syn-1-4-4    | Syn-2-4-4     | Syn-2-10-4   | Syn-2-4-10   | Method     | Demand-0-1   | Demand-0-5   | Demand-5-1   | Method        | IHDP-2-6-0   | IHDP-2-4-2   | Twins-5-8-0  | Twins-5-5-3  |  |
| DeepIV-LOG | 1.055(0.010) | 1.057(0.008)  | 1.093(0.009) | 1.020(0.008) | DeepIV-LOG | -            | -            | -            | DeepIV-LOG    | 2.876(0.055) | 2.623(0.069) | 0.014(0.021) | 0.024(0.011) |  |
| DeepIV-GMM | 0.933(0.011) | 0.874(0.019)  | 0.768(0.023) | 0.925(0.017) | DeepIV-GMM | 1006(313.7)  | 2829(724.6)  | 1151(284.1)  | DeepIV-GMM    | 3.777(0.035) | 3.739(0.042) | 0.019(0.005) | 0.022(0.004) |  |
| KernelIV   | 0.495(0.055) | 0.458(0.052)  | 0.765(0.028) | 0.625(0.063) | KernelIV   | 994.9(146.2) | 5435(435.2)  | 1004(216.7)  | KernelIV      | 3.070(0.306) | 3.023(0.440) | -            | -            |  |
| DualIV     | 1.472(0.079) | 1.467(0.076)  | 1.732(0.072) | 1.513(0.066) | DualIV     | >5000        | >5000        | >5000        | DualIV        | 0.564(0.266) | 0.715(0.355) | -            | -            |  |
| OneSIV     | 0.822(0.076) | 0.661(0.095)  | 0.690(0.053) | 0.851(0.073) | OneSIV     | >5000        | >5000        | >5000        | OneSIV        | 1.729(0.372) | 1.735(0.343) | 0.008(0.019) | 0.008(0.017) |  |
| DFIV       | 0.851(0.009) | 0.860(0.007)  | 0.851(0.007) | 0.886(0.009) | DFIV       | 190.5(8.977) | 668.3(566.7) | 196.2(16.66) | DFIV          | 3.554(0.090) | 3.623(0.106) | 0.027(0.001) | 0.026(0.000) |  |
| DFL        | 0.840(0.002) | 0.851(0.002)  | 0.838(0.002) | 0.831(0.004) | DFL        | 182.9(11.52) | 597.6(622.1) | 189.7(7.422) | DFL           | 3.204(0.050) | 3.199(0.038) | 0.062(0.058) | 0.085(0.005) |  |
| DirectRep  | 0.172(0.016) | 0.164(0.009)  | 0.116(0.015) | 0.199(0.014) | DirectRep  | 193.9(7.380) | 689.6(692.1) | 489.9(121.1) | DirectRep     | 0.061(0.082) | 0.457(0.076) | 0.016(0.018) | 0.019(0.025) |  |
| CFR        | 0.172(0.015) | 0.159(0.018)  | 0.103(0.019) | 0.198(0.016) | CFR        | 192.0(8.932) | 417.3(123.5) | 469.7(140.7) | CFR           | 0.079(0.081) | 0.480(0.069) | 0.011(0.016) | 0.022(0.018) |  |
| DRCFR      | 0.151(0.055) | 0.137(0.035)  | 0.062(0.045) | 0.154(0.032) | DRCFR      | 532.4(199.5) | 497.3(26.37) | 470.5(143.4) | DRCFR         | 0.045(0.095) | 0.432(0.067) | 0.011(0.022) | 0.012(0.017) |  |
| CB-IV      | 0.037(0.075) | 0.017(0.046)  | 0.075(0.040) | 0.010(0.064) | CB-IV      | 172.9(5.340) | 224.3(18.06) | 165.8(7.142) | CB-IV         | 0.015(0.393) | 0.158(0.254) | 0.006(0.027) | 0.002(0.025) |  |

#### The results of ATE estimation, including bias (mean(std)), in

(a) Binary Cases

(b) Continuous Cases

<sup>\*</sup> Most confounders are discrete variables and the outcome is binary variable in Twins data. The results of kernel-based IV methods in Twins are NaN. We use '-' to denote it.

#### (c) Real-World Datasets

|            | (            | Out-of-Sample |              |              |            | Out-of-S     | Sample       |              | Out-of-Sample |              |              |              |              |  |
|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Method     | Syn-1-4-4    | Syn-2-4-4     | Syn-2-10-4   | Syn-2-4-10   | Method     | Demand-0-1   | Demand-0-5   | Demand-5-1   | Method        | IHDP-2-6-0   | IHDP-2-4-2   | Twins-5-8-0  | Twins-5-5-3  |  |
| DeepIV-LOG | 1.055(0.010) | 1.057(0.008)  | 1.093(0.009) | 1.020(0.008) | DeepIV-LOG | -            | -            | -            | DeepIV-LOG    | 2.876(0.055) | 2.623(0.069) | 0.014(0.021) | 0.024(0.011) |  |
| DeepIV-GMM | 0.933(0.011) | 0.874(0.019)  | 0.768(0.023) | 0.925(0.017) | DeepIV-GMM | 1006(313.7)  | 2829(724.6)  | 1151(284.1)  | DeepIV-GMM    | 3.777(0.035) | 3.739(0.042) | 0.019(0.005) | 0.022(0.004) |  |
| KernelIV   | 0.495(0.055) | 0.458(0.052)  | 0.765(0.028) | 0.625(0.063) | KernelIV   | 994.9(146.2) | 5435(435.2)  | 1004(216.7)  | KernelIV      | 3.070(0.306) | 3.023(0.440) | -            | -            |  |
| DualIV     | 1.472(0.079) | 1.467(0.076)  | 1.732(0.072) | 1.513(0.066) | DualIV     | >5000        | >5000        | >5000        | DualIV        | 0.564(0.266) | 0.715(0.355) | -            | -            |  |
| OneSIV     | 0.822(0.076) | 0.661(0.095)  | 0.690(0.053) | 0.851(0.073) | OneSIV     | >5000        | >5000        | >5000        | OneSIV        | 1.729(0.372) | 1.735(0.343) | 0.008(0.019) | 0.008(0.017) |  |
| DFIV       | 0.851(0.009) | 0.860(0.007)  | 0.851(0.007) | 0.886(0.009) | DFIV       | 190.5(8.977) | 668.3(566.7) | 196.2(16.66) | DFIV          | 3.554(0.090) | 3.623(0.106) | 0.027(0.001) | 0.026(0.000) |  |
| DFL        | 0.840(0.002) | 0.851(0.002)  | 0.838(0.002) | 0.831(0.004) | DFL        | 182.9(11.52) | 597.6(622.1) | 189.7(7.422) | DFL           | 3.204(0.050) | 3.199(0.038) | 0.062(0.058) | 0.085(0.005) |  |
| DirectRep  | 0.172(0.016) | 0.164(0.009)  | 0.116(0.015) | 0.199(0.014) | DirectRep  | 193.9(7.380) | 689.6(692.1) | 489.9(121.1) | DirectRep     | 0.061(0.082) | 0.457(0.076) | 0.016(0.018) | 0.019(0.025) |  |
| CFR        | 0.172(0.015) | 0.159(0.018)  | 0.103(0.019) | 0.198(0.016) | CFR        | 192.0(8.932) | 417.3(123.5) | 469.7(140.7) | CFR           | 0.079(0.081) | 0.480(0.069) | 0.011(0.016) | 0.022(0.018) |  |
| DRCFR      | 0.151(0.055) | 0.137(0.035)  | 0.062(0.045) | 0.154(0.032) | DRCFR      | 532 4(199 5) | 497 3(26 37) | 470 5(143 4) | DRCFR         | 0.045(0.095) | 0.432(0.067) | 0.011(0.022) | 0.012(0.017) |  |
| CB-IV      | 0.037(0.075) | 0.017(0.046)  | 0.075(0.040) | 0.010(0.064) | CB-IV      | 172.9(5.340) | 224.3(18.06) | 165.8(7.142) | CB-IV         | 0.015(0.393) | 0.158(0.254) | 0.006(0.027) | 0.002(0.025) |  |

The results of ATE estimation, including bias (mean(std)), in

(a) Binary Cases

(b) Continuous Cases

Most confounders are discrete variables and the outcome is binary variable in Twins data. The results of kernel-based IV methods in Twins are NaN. We use '-' to denote it.

(c) Real-World Datasets

#### Conclusion

• The traditional IV-based methods would suffer from the confounding bias from the observed confounders, if the outcome model is mis-specified and covariates are imbalanced;

|            |              |               |              |              |            |              | U            |              |                  |                      |                    |                    |                     |  |
|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|
|            | (            | Out-of-Sample |              |              |            | Out-of-S     | Sample       |              | Out-of-Sample    |                      |                    |                    |                     |  |
| Method     | Syn-1-4-4    | Syn-2-4-4     | Syn-2-10-4   | Syn-2-4-10   | Method     | Demand-0-1   | Demand-0-5   | Demand-5-1   | Method           | IHDP-2-6-0           | IHDP-2-4-2         | Twins-5-8-0        | Twins-5-5-3         |  |
| DeepIV-LOG | 1.055(0.010) | 1.057(0.008)  | 1.093(0.009) | 1.020(0.008) | DeepIV-LOG | -            | -            | -            | DeepIV-LOG       | 2.876(0.055)         | 2.623(0.069)       | 0.014(0.021)       | 0.024(0.011)        |  |
| DeepIV-GMM | 0.933(0.011) | 0.874(0.019)  | 0.768(0.023) | 0.925(0.017) | DeepIV-GMM | 1006(313.7)  | 2829(724.6)  | 1151(284.1)  | DeepIV-GMM       | 3.777(0.035)         | 3.739(0.042)       | 0.019(0.005)       | 0.022(0.004)        |  |
| KernelIV   | 0.495(0.055) | 0.458(0.052)  | 0.765(0.028) | 0.625(0.063) | KernelIV   | 994.9(146.2) | 5435(435.2)  | 1004(216.7)  | KernelIV         | 3.070(0.306)         | 3.023(0.440)       | -                  | -                   |  |
| DualIV     | 1.472(0.079) | 1.467(0.076)  | 1.732(0.072) | 1.513(0.066) | DualIV     | >5000        | >5000        | >5000        | DualIV           | 0.564(0.266)         | 0.715(0.355)       | -                  | -                   |  |
| OneSIV     | 0.822(0.076) | 0.661(0.095)  | 0.690(0.053) | 0.851(0.073) | OneSIV     | >5000        | >5000        | >5000        | OneSIV           | 1.729(0.372)         | 1.735(0.343)       | 0.008(0.019)       | 0.008(0.017)        |  |
| DFIV       | 0.851(0.009) | 0.860(0.007)  | 0.851(0.007) | 0.886(0.009) | DFIV       | 190.5(8.977) | 668.3(566.7) | 196.2(16.66) | DFIV             | 3.554(0.090)         | 3.623(0.106)       | 0.027(0.001)       | 0.026(0.000)        |  |
| DFL        | 0.840(0.002) | 0.851(0.002)  | 0.838(0.002) | 0.831(0.004) | DFL        | 182.9(11.52) | 597.6(622.1) | 189.7(7.422) | DFL              | 3.204(0.050)         | 3.199(0.038)       | 0.062(0.058)       | 0.085(0.005)        |  |
| DirectRep  | 0.172(0.016) | 0.164(0.009)  | 0.116(0.015) | 0.199(0.014) | DirectRep  | 193.9(7.380) | 689.6(692.1) | 489.9(121.1) | DirectRep        | 0.061(0.082)         | 0.457(0.076)       | 0.016(0.018)       | 0.019(0.025)        |  |
| CFR        | 0.172(0.015) | 0.159(0.018)  | 0.103(0.019) | 0.198(0.016) | CFR        | 192.0(8.932) | 417.3(123.5) | 469.7(140.7) | CFR              | 0.079(0.081)         | 0.480(0.069)       | 0.011(0.016)       | 0.022(0.018)        |  |
| DRCFR      | 0.151(0.055) | 0.137(0.035)  | 0.062(0.045) | 0.154(0.032) | DRCFR      | 532.4(199.5) | 497 3(26 37) | 470 5(143.4) | DRCFR            | 0.045(0.095)         | 0.432(0.067)       | 0.011(0.022)       | 0.012(0.017)        |  |
| CB-IV      | 0.037(0.075) | 0.017(0.046)  | 0.075(0.040) | 0.010(0.064) | CB-IV      | 172.9(5.340) | 224.3(18.06) | 165.8(7.142) | CB-IV            | 0.015(0.393)         | 0.158(0.254)       | 0.006(0.027)       | 0.002(0.025)        |  |
|            |              |               |              |              |            |              |              |              | * Most confounde | rs are discrete vari | ables and the outc | ome is binary vari | able in Twins data. |  |

#### The results of ATE estimation, including bias (mean(std)), in

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(b) Continuous Cases

#### (c) Real-World Datasets

The results of kernel-based IV methods in Twins are NaN. We use '-' to denote it.

- The traditional IV-based methods would suffer from the confounding bias from the observed confounders, if the outcome model is mis-specified and covariates are imbalanced;
- Considering confounder balancing in IV regression, our CB-IV improves considerably over the traditional IVbased methods and achieves better performance than confounder balancing methods in most settings.

|            |              |               |              |              |            |              | U            |              |                  |                      |                    |                    |                     |  |
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| Method     | Syn-1-4-4    | Syn-2-4-4     | Syn-2-10-4   | Syn-2-4-10   | Method     | Demand-0-1   | Demand-0-5   | Demand-5-1   | Method           | IHDP-2-6-0           | IHDP-2-4-2         | Twins-5-8-0        | Twins-5-5-3         |  |
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| DRCFR      | 0.151(0.055) | 0.137(0.035)  | 0.062(0.045) | 0.154(0.032) | DRCFR      | 532.4(199.5) | 497 3(26 37) | 470 5(143.4) | DRCFR            | 0.045(0.095)         | 0.432(0.067)       | 0.011(0.022)       | 0.012(0.017)        |  |
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|            |              |               |              |              |            |              |              |              | * Most confounde | rs are discrete vari | ables and the outc | ome is binary vari | able in Twins data. |  |

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- The traditional IV-based methods would suffer from the confounding bias from the observed confounders, if the outcome model is mis-specified and covariates are imbalanced;
- Considering confounder balancing in IV regression, our CB-IV improves considerably over the traditional IVbased methods and achieves better performance than confounder balancing methods in most settings.
- Extensive experimental results supports the promise of the proposed method and perspective.

### **Our implementation of CB-IV is publicly available at:** https://github.com/anpwu/CB-IV

# Thanks

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