

Notation Cheat Sheet for Oral Defense

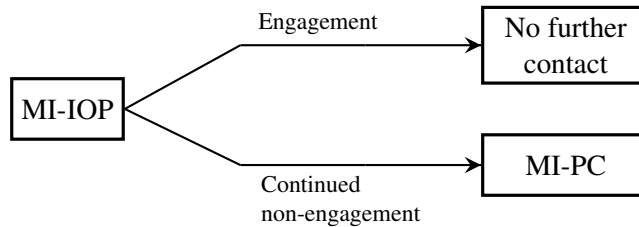
Nicholas J. Seewald

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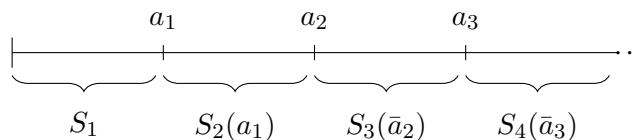
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1 Dynamic Treatment Regimens (DTRs)

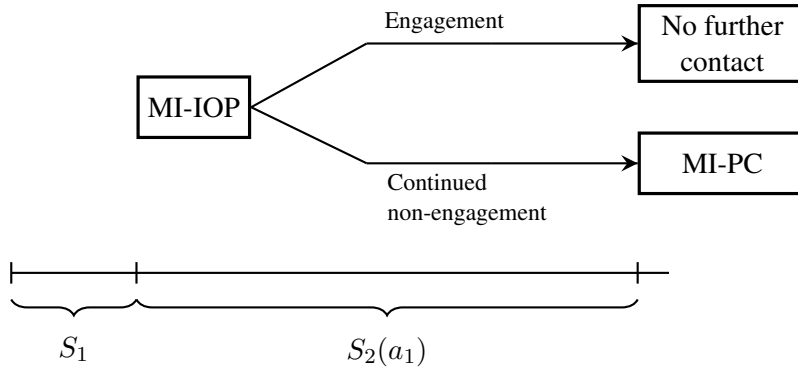


An example DTR

- **MI-IOP**: 2 motivational interviews to re-engage patient in intensive outpatient program
- **MI-PC**: 2 motivational interviews to engage patient in treatment of their choice.
- a_1, \dots, a_M indicate treatment recommendations
 - $\bar{a}_j := \{a_1, \dots, a_j\}$
- $S_j(\bar{a}_{j-1})$ is all information collected after providing treatment a_{j-1} until just before providing a_j .
 - $\bar{S}_j(\bar{a}_{j-1}) := \{S_1, S_2(a_1), \dots, S_j(\bar{a}_{j-1})\}$



- A **decision rule** φ_j is a function of $\bar{S}_j(\bar{a}_{j-1})$ which outputs a recommendation for subsequent treatment a_j .
 - Note that φ_j doesn't need to use *all* the information in $\bar{S}_j(\bar{a}_{j-1})$, but it can.
- An **M -stage dynamic treatment regimen** is a sequence of M decision rules $\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_M\}$
- A **tailoring variable** is information contained in $S_j(\bar{a}_{j-1})$ which is used to inform recommendation to subsequent treatment
 - For example, “**response**” to prior treatment



- The above DTR can be written $\{\varphi_1, \varphi_2\}$, where

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_1(S_1) &= \text{MI-IOP} \\ \varphi_2(\bar{S}_2(a_1)) &= R \cdot (\text{No further contact}) + (1 - R) \cdot (\text{MI-PC})\end{aligned}$$

where R is an indicator for response to MI-IOP

- For 2-stage DTRs, we can write $\{\varphi_1, \varphi_2\}$ as (a_1, a_{2R}, a_{2NR}) where a_1 is first-stage treatment, a_{2R} is second-stage treatment for *responders*, and a_{2NR} is second-stage treatment for *non-responders*.

2 Sequential, Multiple-Assignment Randomized Trials (SMARTs)

2.1 Observed Data

- We observe the outcome at T measurement occasions, with T_1 measurements in the first stage (including baseline) and T_2 in the second stage.
- For the i th individual, we collect

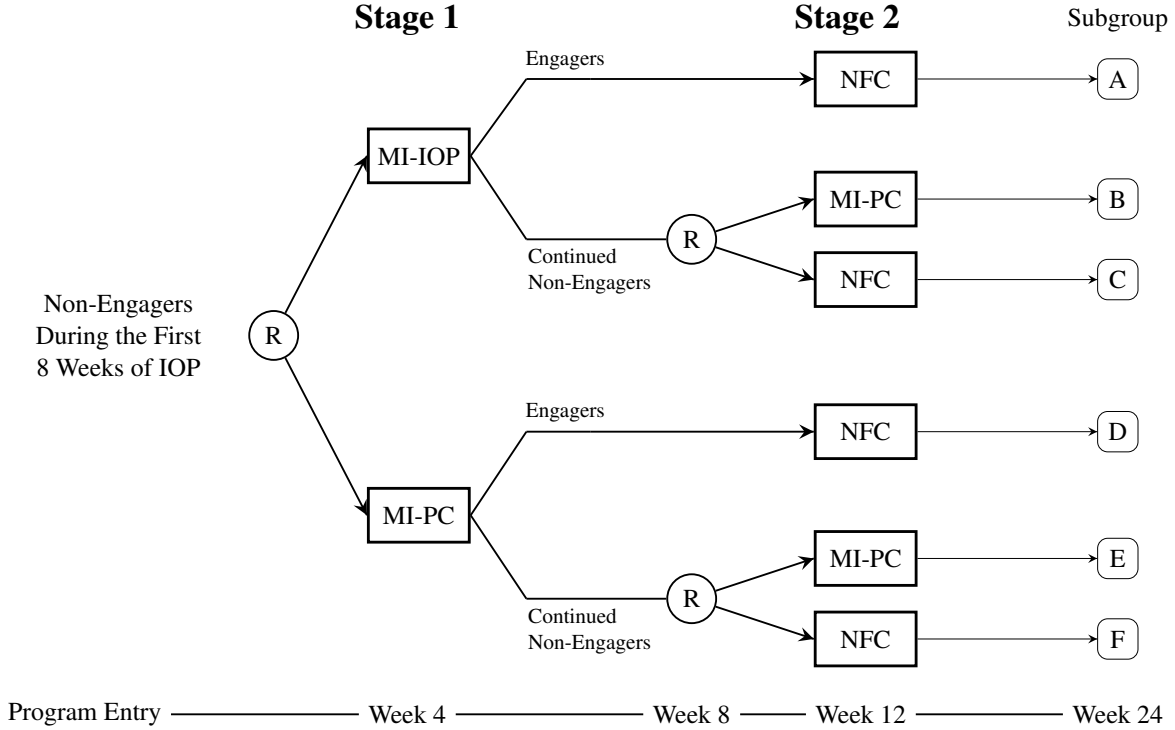
$$(\mathbf{X}_i, Y_{1,i}, A_{1,i}, \mathbf{Y}_{2:T_1,i}, R_i, A_{2,i}, \mathbf{Y}_{T_1+1:T,i})$$

where

- \mathbf{X}_i is a vector of baseline covariates
- $Y_{1,i}$ is the baseline outcome measurement

- $A_{1,i}$ is the randomly-assigned first-stage treatment
- $\mathbf{Y}_{2:T_1,i}$ is a vector of outcome measurements in the first stage (for times $2, \dots, T_1$)
- R_i is response status (1 if responder, 0 if non-responder); the tailoring variable
- $A_{2,i}$ is the randomly-assigned second-stage treatment
- $\mathbf{Y}_{T_1+1:T,i}$ is a vector of outcome measurements in the first stage (for times $T_1 + 1, \dots, T$)

2.2 The ENGAGE Study



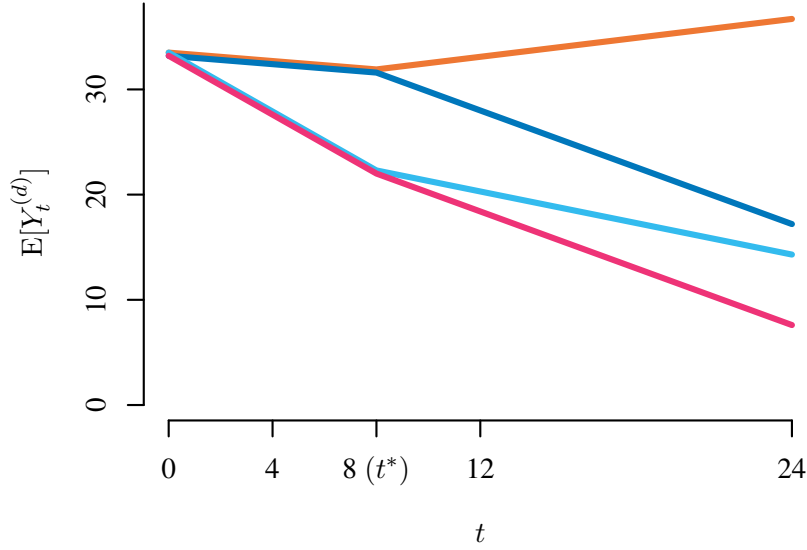
The ENGAGE SMART. **MI-IOP** is two motivational interviews to re-engage patient in *intensive outpatient program*; **MI-PC** is two motivational interviews to engage patient in treatment of *patient's choice*; **NFC** is *no further contact*.

2.3 Modeling and Estimation

- An example marginal structural mean model for ENGAGE is

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_t^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = & \boldsymbol{\eta}^\top \mathbf{X} + \beta_0 + \mathbb{1}_{\{t \leq t^*\}} (\beta_1 t + \beta_2 a_1 t) \\ & + \mathbb{1}_{\{t > t^*\}} (\beta_1 t^* + \beta_2 t^* a_1 + \beta_3 (t - t^*) + \beta_4 (t - t^*) a_1 \\ & + \beta_5 (t - t^*) a_{2NR} + \beta_6 (t - t^*) a_1 a_{2NR}), \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbb{1}_{\{E\}}$ is the indicator function for the event E .



Visualization of example marginal structural mean model for ENGAGE

- An M -estimator for the regression parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\boldsymbol{\eta}^\top, \boldsymbol{\beta}^\top)^\top$ solves

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_d \left[\frac{I^{(d)}(A_{1,i}, R_i, A_{2,i})}{P(A_{1,i} = a_1)P(A_{2,i} = a_2 | A_{1,i} = a_1, R_i)} \cdot \left(\mathbf{D}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i) \right)^\top \cdot \mathbf{V}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i; \boldsymbol{\tau})^{-1} \cdot \left(\mathbf{Y}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i; \boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\beta}) \right) \right],$$

where

- $I^{(d)}(A_{1,i}, R_i, A_{2,i}) = \mathbb{1}_{\{A_{1,i}=a_1\}} \left(R_i + (1 - R_i) \mathbb{1}_{\{A_{2,i}=a_2\}} \right)$ for ENGAGE
- $\mathbf{D}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i) = \frac{\partial}{\partial (\boldsymbol{\eta}^\top, \boldsymbol{\beta}^\top)^\top} \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i; \boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\beta})$
- $\mathbf{V}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i; \boldsymbol{\tau})$ is a working model for $\mathbf{Var}(\mathbf{Y}^{(d)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i; \boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\beta}))$
- d specifies an embedded DTR

$$\bullet W^{(d)}(A_{1,i}, R_i, A_{2,i}) = \frac{I^{(d)}(A_{1,i}, R_i, A_{2,i})}{P(A_{1,i}=a_1)P(A_{2,i}=a_2|A_{1,i}=a_1, R_i)} \text{ for a DTR } d$$

Proposition. Suppose $\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$ is a correctly-specified model for $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{Y}^{(d)} | \mathbf{X}]$, then $\boldsymbol{\theta}_n$ is consistent for $\boldsymbol{\theta}^*$, the true parameter value.

Proposition. $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_n - \boldsymbol{\theta})$ converges in distribution to $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{B}^{-1})$, where

$$\mathbf{B} := \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{d \in \mathcal{D}} W^{(d)}(A_{1,i}, R_i, A_{2,i}) \mathbf{D}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i)^\top \mathbf{V}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i; \boldsymbol{\tau})^{-1} \mathbf{D}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i) \right] \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$$

and

$$M := \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\sum_{d \in \mathcal{D}} W^{(d)}(A_{1,i}, R_i, A_{2,i}) \mathbf{D}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i)^\top \mathbf{V}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i; \boldsymbol{\tau})^{-1} \left(Y_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)}(\mathbf{X}_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) \right)^{\otimes 2} \right] \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p},$$

with $\mathbf{Z}^{\otimes 2} = \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{Z}^\top$.

3 Sample Size for Comparing DTRs in Longitudinal SMARTs

- **Simplifications:**

- No baseline covariates (conservative)
- Measurement occasions are equally spaced in both stages
 - * T_1 measurements in stage 1 (includes baseline)
 - * T_2 measurements in stage 2
 - * $T = T_1 + T_2$ total measurements

- **Estimand of interest:** $\mathbb{E} \left[Y_T^{(1, a_{2R}, a_{2NR})} - Y_T^{(-1, a'_{2R}, a'_{2NR})} \right]$

- **Hypothesis test of interest:**

$$H_0 : \mathbb{E} \left[Y_T^{(1, a_{2R}, a_{2NR})} - Y_T^{(-1, a'_{2R}, a'_{2NR})} \right] = 0 \quad \text{vs.} \quad H_1 : \mathbb{E} \left[Y_T^{(1, a_{2R}, a_{2NR})} - Y_T^{(-1, a'_{2R}, a'_{2NR})} \right] = \Delta$$

- Under our example model, $\mathbb{E} \left[Y_T^{(-1, a_{2R}, a_{2NR})} - Y_T^{(-1, a'_{2R}, a'_{2NR})} \right] = \mathbf{c}^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}$

- **Working Assumptions:**

1. *Constrained conditional variability:*

(a) For all embedded DTRs d ,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\left(\mathbf{Y}_i^{(d)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)} \right)^{\otimes 2} \mid R_i^{(d)} = 1 \right] - \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\mathbf{Y}_i^{(d)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)} \right)^{\otimes 2} \right]$$

is positive semi-definite.

(b) For all embedded DTRs d ,

$$\frac{1}{P(R_i^{(d)} = 1)} \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\mathbf{Y}_i^{(d)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)} \right)^{\otimes 2} \right] - \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\mathbf{Y}_i^{(d)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)} \right)^{\otimes 2} \mid R_i^{(d)} = 1 \right]$$

is positive semi-definite.

2. *Constrained Conditional Means.* For every embedded DTR d and all embedded DTRs d' such that $a_1^{(d)} \neq a_1^{(d')}$,

$$\left(\mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{Y}_i^{(d)} \mid R_i^{(d)} = 1 \right] - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)} \right) \left(\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(d')} \right)^\top$$

is “small”.

• **Sample Size Formula:**

$$n \geq \frac{4(z_{1-\alpha/2} + z_{1-\beta})^2}{\delta^2} \cdot \text{DE}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \omega(\rho, T, T_2)$$

where

- $\delta = \Delta/\sigma$ is the target standardized effect size
- α is the desired type-I error
- $1 - \gamma$ is the desired power
- $\rho = \text{cor}(Y_t, Y_{t'})$ for $t \neq t'$
- T_1 is the number of measurements in stage 1
- T_2 is the number of measurements in stage 2
- $\text{DE}(\mathbf{r})$ is a SMART design-specific inflation factor which depends on response probabilities \mathbf{r}
 - * For an ENGAGE-type SMART, $\text{DE}(\mathbf{r}) = 2 - (r_1 + r_{-1})/2$
 - * For a SMART in which all participants are re-randomized, $\text{DE}(\mathbf{r}) = 2$
 - * For a SMART in which only responders to first-stage treatment 1 are re-randomized, $\text{DE}(\mathbf{r}) = (3 - r_1)/2$
- $\omega(\rho, T, T_2) = \frac{f(\rho, T, T_2)}{g(\rho, T, T_2)}$ is a deflation factor that accounts for within-person correlation where

$$f(\rho, T, T_2) = 6(1 - \rho)(T - 1) (\rho(T - 1) ((T - 1)T_2 - T_2^2 + 2) + 4T_2(T - T_2 - 1) + 2)$$

and

$$g(\rho, T, T_2) = (T_2 + 1) \left(2 \left(T^2 (4T_2 + 2) - T (T_2(5T_2 + 9) + 1) + T_2 (T_2 + 2)^2 \right) + \rho(T - 1)(T - T_2 - 2) (2TT_2 + T - 2T_2(T_2 + 2)) \right)$$