

Line / Plane of best fit

# Linear Regression

ACTL3142 & ACTL5110 Statistical Machine Learning for Risk and Actuarial Applications

Linear in  $X$  (or some function of  $X$ )



## Disclaimer

Some of the figures in this presentation are taken from “An Introduction to Statistical Learning, with applications in R” (Springer, 2013) with permission from the authors: G. James, D. Witten, T. Hastie and R. Tibshirani



# Overview

- Simple Linear Regression
- Multiple Linear Regression
- Linear model Selection
- Potential problems with Linear Regression



## Reading

James et al (2021), Chapter 3, Chapter 6.1



# Linear Regression

- A classical and easily applicable approach for supervised learning
- Useful tool for predicting a quantitative response — *Non categorical*
- Many more advanced techniques can be seen as an extension of linear regression



# Simple Linear Regression



# Overview

$$Y = f(X) + \varepsilon$$

Output ↙      ↘ Data

- Predict a quantitative response  $Y$  based on a single predictor variable  $X$
- Approximately a linear relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \varepsilon$$

$$f(X) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

- Use (training) data to produce estimates  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$
- Make predictions of  $Y_i$  (given  $X = x_i$ )

$X$  is one-dimensional here.

$$E[Y] = \beta_0 + \beta_1 E[X] \longrightarrow \hat{y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i$$

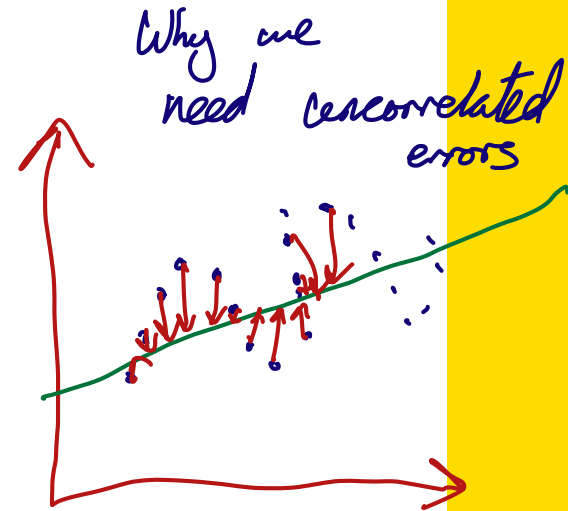
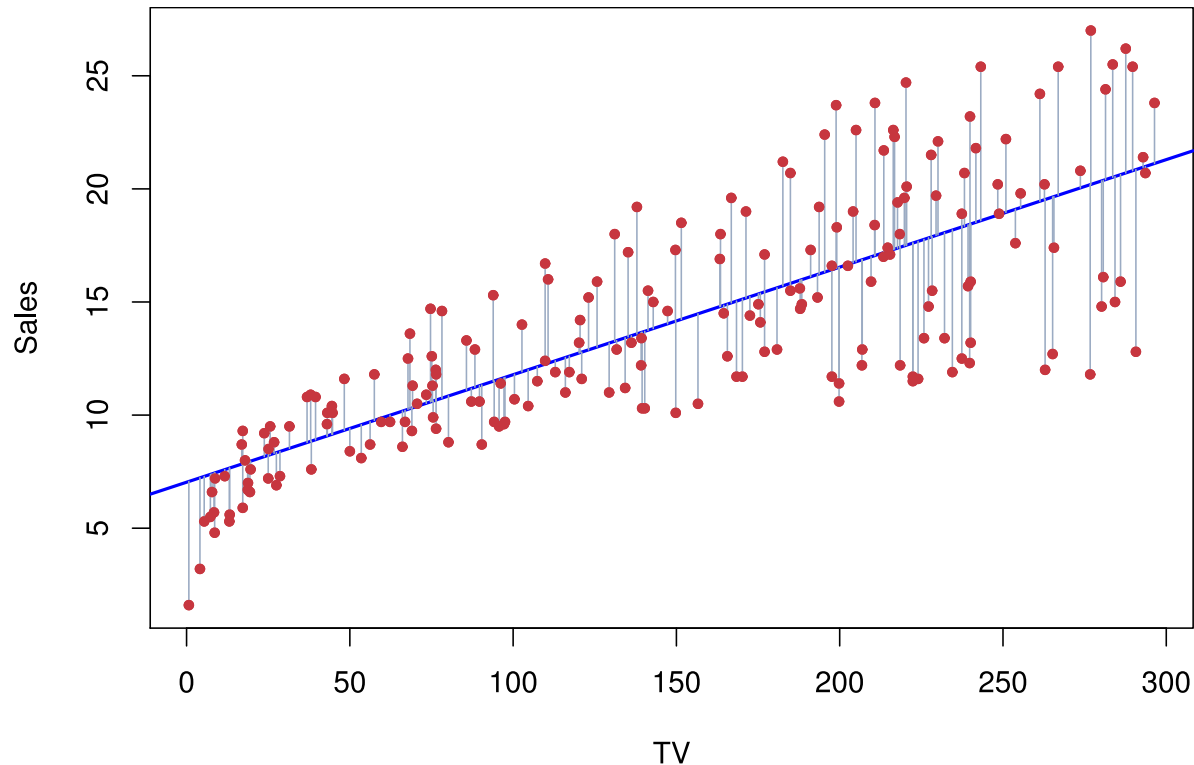
+ ~~E[E]~~ → 0

- Simple and easy to understand

- $X$  is assumed to be deterministic

# Advertising Example

$$\text{sales} \approx \beta_0 + \beta_1 \times \text{TV}$$



# Assumptions of the Model

Specific vector of  $X$ .

- Weak assumptions

Error is 0  
on average

$$\mathbb{E}(\epsilon_i | X = \underline{x}) = 0, \quad \mathbb{V}(\epsilon_i | X = \underline{x}) = \sigma^2$$

Constant variance

and  $\text{Cov}(\epsilon_i, \epsilon_j | X = \underline{x}) = 0$  - Errors are uncorrelated

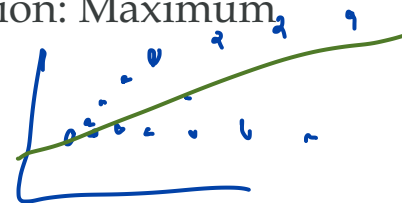
for  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ ; for all  $i \neq j$  and  $\underline{x} = [x_1, \dots, x_n]^T$ . In other words, errors have **zero mean, common variance** and are **uncorrelated**. Parameters estimation: Least Squares

- Strong assumptions

$$\epsilon_i | X = \underline{x} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

If met, the line  
Linear regression should  
be pretty good.

for  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ . In other words, errors are **i.i.d. Normal** random variables with **zero mean** and **constant variance**. Parameters estimation: Maximum Likelihood or Least Squares



It allows

for  
hypothesis  
testing





# Least Squares Estimates (LSE)

"True" model is

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \varepsilon$$

- Most common approach to estimating  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$
- Minimise the residual sum of squares (RSS)

$$\text{RSS} = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 x_i)^2$$

*(Handwritten note:  $\hat{y}_i = f(x)$  with an arrow pointing to  $\hat{y}_i$ )*

- The least square coefficient estimates are (make sure you can derive these!)

*Best estimates*

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} = \frac{S_{xy}}{S_{xx}}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{x}$$

*Slide 67, notations*

where  $\bar{y} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$  and  $\bar{x} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$ . See **slide** on  $S_{xy}$ ,  $S_{xx}$  and sample (co-)variances. **Proof:** See Lab questions.

**LS Demo**

*- Orange book.*



# Least Squares Estimates (LSE) - Properties

Under the **weak assumptions** we have **unbiased estimators**:

- $\mathbb{E} [\hat{\beta}_0 | X = \underline{x}] = \beta_0$  and  $\mathbb{E} [\hat{\beta}_1 | X = \underline{x}] = \beta_1$ .
- An (unbiased) estimator of  $\sigma^2$  is given by:

$$\text{Var}(\varepsilon_i | X = x_i)$$

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\varepsilon}_i^2}{n-2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i) \right)^2}{n-2} = \frac{\text{RSS}}{n-2} = \text{RSE}^2$$

where  $\hat{\varepsilon}_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i = e_i$  are called the residuals and RSE the residual standard error.

**Proof:** See Lab questions.



# Least Squares Estimates (LSE) - Uncertainty

Under the **weak assumptions** we have that the (co-)variance of the parameters is given by:

More confident in estimate with more data →

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_0 | X = \underline{x}) = \sigma^2 \left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{\bar{x}^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \right) = \sigma^2 \left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{\bar{x}^2}{S_{xx}} \right)$$

$$= SE(\hat{\beta}_0)^2$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_1 | X = \underline{x}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{S_{xx}} = SE(\hat{\beta}_1)^2$$

$$\text{Cov}(\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1 | X = \underline{x}) = - \frac{\bar{x}\sigma^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} = - \frac{\bar{x}\sigma^2}{S_{xx}}$$

If  $n \uparrow$ ,  $\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_0) \downarrow$

$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_1) \downarrow$

since  $s^2 \downarrow$

**Proof:** See Lab questions.

$$\bar{x} = E[X] \quad E[Y | X = 3]$$

$$= \sum_i \frac{x_i}{n} \quad x_i \in \underline{x}$$



# Maximum Likelihood Estimates (MLE)

- In the regression model there are three parameters to estimate:  $\beta_0$ ,  $\beta_1$ , and  $\sigma^2$ .
- Under the **strong assumptions** (i.i.d Normal RV), the joint density of  $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n$  is the product of their marginals (independent by assumption) so that the likelihood is:

$$\ell(\underline{y}; \beta_0, \beta_1, \sigma) = -n \log(\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - (\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i))^2.$$

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \varepsilon_i$$

↓  
 $N(0, \sigma^2)$

**Proof:** See Lab questions.

Under strong, you can estimate  $\beta_0, \beta_1, \sigma^2$  by MLE.  
 -  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  estimates by MLE or LS are the same.



# Maximum Likelihood Estimates (MLE)

Partial derivatives set to zero give the following MLEs:

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} = \frac{S_{xy}}{S_{xx}},$$

$$\hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{x},$$

and

$$\hat{\sigma}_{\text{MLE}}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \left( \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i \right) \right)^2.$$

- Note that the parameters  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  have the same estimators as that produced from Least Squares.
- However, the MLE  $\hat{\sigma}^2$  is a biased estimator of  $\sigma^2$ .
- In practice, we use the unbiased variant  $s^2$  (see [slide](#)).

• Since LS and MLE are the same, we more or less assume the strong assumptions hold when we do testing.



# Assessing the Accuracy I

- How to assess the accuracy of the coefficient estimates? In particular, consider the following questions:

What are the confidence intervals for  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ ?

*Test if these are different from 0.*

How to test the null hypothesis that there is no relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$ ?

How to test if the influence of the exogenous variable ( $X$ ) on the endogenous variable ( $Y$ ) is larger/smaller than some value?

## Note

For inference (e.g. confidence intervals, hypothesis tests), we need the strong assumptions!



# Assessing the Accuracy II

Checking MSE.

- How to assess the accuracy of the model?
- How to assess the accuracy of the predictions? In particular:
  - for the population regression line (i.e. mean response)?
  - for the actual value of the dependent variable (i.e. individual response)?

•  $R^2$

- Mallows  $C_p$

- Adj.  $R^2$

- AIC

- BIC



# Assessing the Accuracy of the Coefficient Estimates - Confidence Intervals

Using the **strong assumptions**, a 100(1 -  $\alpha$ )% confidence interval (CI) for  $\beta_1$ , and *resp.* for  $\beta_0$ , are given by:

- for  $\beta_1$ :

$$\hat{\beta}_1 \pm t_{1-\alpha/2, n-2} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{s}{\sqrt{S_{xx}}}}_{\hat{SE}(\hat{\beta}_1)}$$

$S \downarrow$   
 $\text{or } n \uparrow$

See **rationale slide**.

As  $n$  increases,  
becomes  
narrower distribution

- for  $\beta_0$ :

$$\hat{\beta}_0 \pm t_{1-\alpha/2, n-2} \cdot s \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{\bar{x}^2}{S_{xx}}}}_{\hat{SE}(\hat{\beta}_0)}$$

as  $n$  increases,  
interval shrinks





# Assessing the Accuracy of the Coefficient Estimates - Inference on the slope

- When we want to test whether the exogenous variable has an influence on the endogenous variable or if the influence is larger/smaller than some value.
- For testing the hypothesis

$$H_0 : \beta_1 = \tilde{\beta}_1 \quad \text{vs} \quad H_1 : \beta_1 \neq \tilde{\beta}_1$$

— Specific value  
for  $\beta_1$

for some constant  $\tilde{\beta}_1$ , we use the test statistic:

$$t(\hat{\beta}_1) = \frac{\hat{\beta}_1 - \tilde{\beta}_1}{\hat{SE}(\hat{\beta}_1)} = \frac{\hat{\beta}_1 - \tilde{\beta}_1}{(s / \sqrt{S_{xx}})}$$

which has a  $t_{n-2}$  distribution under the  $H_0$  (see **rationale slide**).

Typically

test  $\beta_1 = 0$

— Is  $\beta_1$  helpful?

— If  $\hat{\beta}_1 = 0$ , then  
 $\hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{y}$

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= f(X) + \varepsilon \\ &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

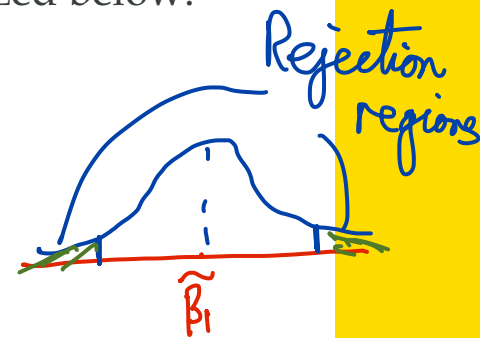


# Assessing the Accuracy of the Coefficient Estimates - Inference on the slope

The decision rules under various alternative hypotheses are summarized below.

Decision Making Procedures for Testing  $H_0 : \beta_1 = \tilde{\beta}_1$

Alternative $H_1$	Reject $H_0$ in favor of $H_1$ if
$\beta_1 \neq \tilde{\beta}_1$	$ t(\hat{\beta}_1)  > t_{1-\alpha/2, n-2}$
$\beta_1 > \tilde{\beta}_1$	$t(\hat{\beta}_1) > t_{1-\alpha, n-2}$
$\beta_1 < \tilde{\beta}_1$	$t(\hat{\beta}_1) < -t_{1-\alpha, n-2}$



To test whether the regressor variable is significant or not, it is equivalent to testing whether the slope is zero or not. Thus, test  $H_0 : \beta_1 = 0$  against  $H_1 : \beta_1 \neq 0$ .

Default test in regression outputs.

# Assessing the Accuracy of the Coefficient Estimates - Inference on the intercept

Similarly, for testing the null hypothesis  $H_0 : \beta_0 = \tilde{\beta}_0$  for some constant  $\tilde{\beta}_0$ , we use the test statistic:

$$t(\hat{\beta}_0) = \frac{\hat{\beta}_0 - \tilde{\beta}_0}{\hat{SE}(\hat{\beta}_0)} = \frac{\hat{\beta}_0 - \tilde{\beta}_0}{\left( s \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{\bar{x}^2}{S_{xx}}} \right)},$$

which has a  $t_{n-2}$  distribution under the  $H_0$  (see **rationale slide**).



# Assessing the Accuracy of the Coefficient Estimates - Advertising Example

	Coefficient	Std. error	t-statistic	p-value
Intercept	7.0325	0.4578	15.36	< 0.0001
TV	0.0475	0.0027	17.67	< 0.0001

$$\frac{0.0475}{0.0027}$$

→ Many std  
away from 0.

Reject at  
a p-value < 0.0001

Testing if  
 $\hat{\beta}_0 = 0$   
 $\hat{\beta}_1 = 0$

# Assessing the Accuracy of the Model

$$\text{If } \begin{cases} \hat{\beta}_1 = 0 \\ \hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{y} \end{cases}$$

Partitioning the variability is used to assess how well the linear model explains the trend in data:

How much does data differ from average

$$\underbrace{(y_i - \bar{y})}_{\text{total deviation}} = \underbrace{(y_i - \hat{y}_i)}_{\text{unexplained deviation}} + \underbrace{(\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})}_{\text{explained deviation}}$$

Error we can't explain

Error explained by our model

We then obtain:

$$\underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2}_{\text{SST}} = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}_{\text{SSE}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2}_{\text{SSM}}$$

TSS                      RSS                       $\sum \epsilon_i^2$

$$\text{SSM} = \text{TSS} - \text{RSS}$$

where:

- SST or TSS: **total sum of squares**;
- SSE or RSS: **sum of squares error or residual sum of squares**;
- SSM: **sum of squares model** (sometime called regression).



**Proof:** See Lab questions

# Assessing the Accuracy of the Model

Interpret these sums of squares as follows:

- SST (or TSS) is the total variability in the absence of knowledge of the variable  $X$ ;
- SSE (or RSS) is the total variability remaining after introducing the effect of  $X$ ;
- SSM is the total variability “explained” because of knowledge of  $X$ .

This partitioning of the variability is used in ANOVA tables:

Source	Sum of squares	DoF	Mean square	F
Regression	$SSM = \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2$	$DFM = 1$	$MSM = \frac{SSM}{DFM}$	$\frac{MSM}{MSE}$
Error	$SSE = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$	$DFE = n - 2$	$MSE = \frac{SSE}{DFE}$	
Total	$SST = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2$	$DFT = n - 1$	$MST = \frac{SST}{DFT}$	

- Also allows us to do F test  $\longrightarrow$  Testing if model is non-zero

-  $R^2$



# Assessing the Accuracy of the Model

MSE unit less

Noting that:

$$\text{SSE} = \underbrace{S_{yy}}_{=\text{SST}} - \underbrace{\hat{\beta}_1 S_{xy}}_{=\text{SSM}}$$

or hard to  
compare on  
diff datasets

we can define the  $R^2$  **statistic**, the square of the sample correlation, as:

$$R^2 = \left( \frac{S_{xy}}{\sqrt{S_{xx} \cdot S_{yy}}} \right)^2 = \hat{\beta}_1 \frac{S_{xy}}{S_{yy}} = \frac{\hat{\beta}_1 S_{xy}}{S_{yy}} = \frac{\text{SSM}}{\text{SST}} = 1 - \frac{\text{SSE}}{\text{SST}}$$

*Error explained*

*Total variation*

• Tells you  
how good is  
your  
model fit

- $R^2$  is interpreted as the proportion of total variation in the  $y_i$ 's explained by the variable  $x$  in a linear regression model.
- $R^2$  takes on a value between 0 and 1.
- $R^2$  is also called **coefficient of determination**.

$$0 \leq R^2 \leq 1$$

$$R^2 = 1$$

**Proof:** See Lab questions



# Assessing the Accuracy of the Predictions - Mean Response

$$Y = f(x) + \varepsilon = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \varepsilon$$

Suppose  $x = x_0$  is a specified value of the *out of sample* regressor variable and we want to predict the corresponding  $Y$  value associated with it. The **mean** of  $Y$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[Y | x_0] &= \mathbb{E}[\beta_0 + \beta_1 x | x = x_0] \\ &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_0. \end{aligned}$$

$\leftarrow \mathbb{E}[Y | x = x_0]$

Our (unbiased) estimator for this mean (also the fitted value of  $y_0$ ) is:

$$\hat{y}_0 = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_0.$$

Predict  $f(x)$

The variance of this estimator is:

$$\text{Var}(\hat{y}_0) = \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(\bar{x} - x_0)^2}{S_{xx}} \right)}_{*} \sigma^2 \neq \text{SE}(\hat{y}_0)^2 = s^2 *$$

**Proof:** See Lab questions.





# Assessing the Accuracy of the Predictions - Mean Response

Using the **strong assumptions**, the  $100(1 - \alpha)\%$  confidence interval for  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_0$  (mean of  $Y$ ) is:

$$\underbrace{(\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_0)}_{\hat{y}_0} \pm t_{1-\alpha/2, n-2} \times s \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{(\bar{x} - x_0)^2}{S_{xx}}}}_{\hat{SE}(\hat{y}_0)}$$

Confidence interval for  $f(x_0)$

as we have

$$\hat{y}_0 \sim \mathcal{N}(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_0, \text{SE}(\hat{y}_0)^2)$$

and

$$\frac{\hat{y}_0 - (\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_0)}{\hat{SE}(\hat{y}_0)} \sim t(n-2).$$

Similar rationale to **slide**.

- Ignored variability from  $\epsilon$



# Assessing the Accuracy of the Predictions - Individual response

A **prediction interval** is a confidence interval for the **actual value** of a  $Y_i$  (not for its mean  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i$ ). We base our prediction of  $Y_i$  (given  $X = x_i$ ) on:

$$\hat{y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i.$$

Here trying to predict  $Y_i$ , not  $f(x)$

The error in our prediction is:

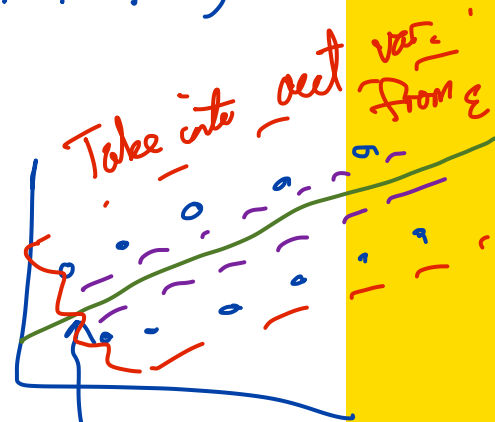
$$Y_i - \hat{y}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \epsilon_i - \hat{y}_i = \mathbb{E}[Y|X = x_i] - \hat{y}_i + \epsilon_i.$$

with

$$\mathbb{E}[Y_i - \hat{y}_i | \underline{X} = \underline{x}, X = x_i] = 0, \text{ and}$$

$$\text{Var}(Y_i - \hat{y}_i | \underline{X} = \underline{x}, X = x_i) = \sigma^2 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(\bar{x} - x_i)^2}{S_{xx}} \right).$$

**Proof:** See Lab questions.



Comes from  $\epsilon$

Before we predicted average value

# Assessing the Accuracy of the Predictions - Individual response

A  $100(1 - \alpha)\%$  **prediction interval** for  $Y_i$ , the value of  $Y$  at  $X = x_i$ , is given by:

$$\underbrace{\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i}_{\hat{y}_i} \pm t_{1-\alpha/2, n-2} \cdot s \cdot \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(\bar{x} - x_i)^2}{S_{xx}}},$$

*Wider due to accounting for  $\epsilon$ .*

as

$$(Y_i - \hat{y}_i | \underline{X} = \underline{x}, X = x_i) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \sigma^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(\bar{x} - x_i)^2}{S_{xx}}\right)\right), \text{ and}$$

$$\frac{Y_i - \hat{y}_i}{s \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(\bar{x} - x_i)^2}{S_{xx}}}} \sim t_{n-2}.$$



# Multiple Linear Regression



# Overview

- Extend the simple linear regression model to accommodate multiple predictors

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \dots + \beta_p X_p + \epsilon$$

*intercept*
*X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, ..., X<sub>p</sub>*
*orthogonal directions*

- $\beta_j$ : the average effect on  $Y$  of a one unit increase in  $X_j$ , holding all other predictors fixed

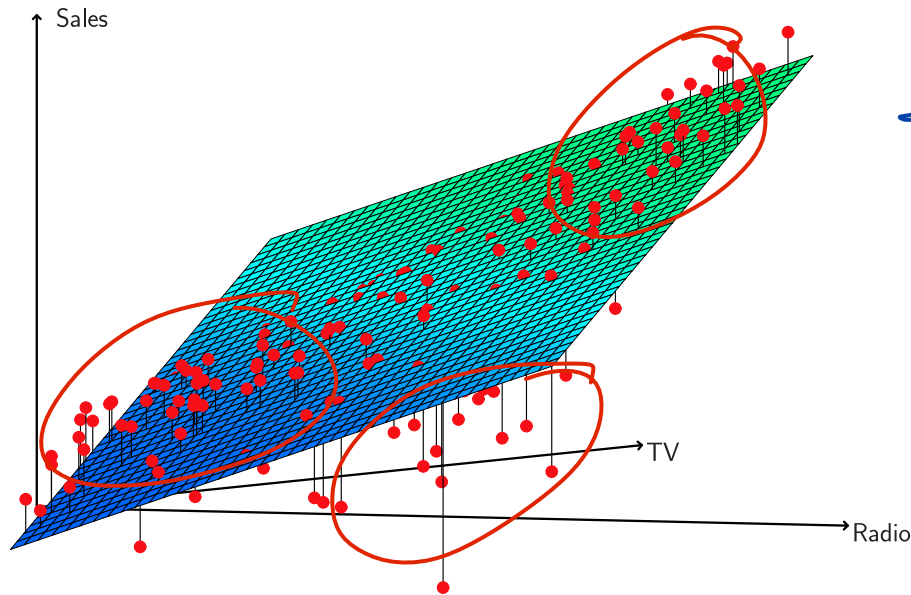
- Simple linear  $\rightarrow$  line of best fit

- Multiple linear  $\rightarrow$  plane of best fit



# Advertising Example

$$\text{sales} \approx \beta_0 + \beta_1 \times \text{TV} + \beta_2 \times \text{radio}$$



- Not a perfect fit,  
discernable errors  
X (uncorrelated errors)

# Qualitative predictors

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \epsilon$$

— Yes/No

Suppose a predictor is qualitative (e.g. 2 different levels) - how would you model/code this in a regression? What if there are more than 2 levels?

$X = \text{Yes}$       code as 1  
 $X = \text{No}$         code as 0

$X = \text{Yes}$   
 $X = \text{No}$   
 $X = \text{Maybe}$

$X =$ 

No	Maybe
1	0
0	1
0	0

# Linear Algebra and Matrix Approach

The model can be re-written as:

$$\underline{y} = \mathbf{X}\underline{\beta} + \underline{\varepsilon}$$

with

$$\underline{y} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_{11} & x_{12} & \dots & x_{1,p} \\ 1 & x_{21} & x_{22} & \dots & x_{2,p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_{n1} & x_{n2} & \dots & x_{n,p} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{\beta} = [\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_p]^\top$$

$$\underline{\varepsilon} = [\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n]^\top$$

*y is a vector*  $y = f(x) + \varepsilon$

$f(x) = X\beta$  — Vector  
*X matrix*

Note that the matrix  $\mathbf{X}$  is of size  $n \times p + 1$ , the vectors  $\underline{y}$ ,  $\underline{\beta}$  and  $\underline{\varepsilon}$  are column vectors.





# Assumptions of the Model

$$Y = X\beta + \varepsilon$$

## Weak Assumptions:

The error terms  $\varepsilon_i$  satisfy the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon_i | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}] &= 0, & \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n; \\ \text{Var}(\varepsilon_i | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) &= \sigma^2, & \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n; \\ \text{Cov}(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_j | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) &= 0, & \text{for all } i \neq j. \end{aligned}$$

Same assumptions  
as before, but extends  
for multivariate

In words, the errors have **zero means**, **common variance**, and are **uncorrelated**.

In matrix form, we have:

$$\mathbb{E}[\underline{\varepsilon}] = \underline{0}; \quad \text{Cov}(\underline{\varepsilon}) = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n,$$

where  $\mathbf{I}_n$  is a matrix of size  $n \times n$  with ones on the diagonal and zeros on the off-diagonal elements.

**Strong Assumptions:**  $\varepsilon_i | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ .

In words, errors are **i.i.d. normal** random variables with **zero mean** and **constant variance**.



# Least Squares Estimates (LSE)

- Same least squares approach as in Simple Linear Regression
- Minimise the residuals sum of squared (RSS)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RSS} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 x_{i1} - \dots - \hat{\beta}_p x_{ip} \right)^2 \\ &= \underbrace{(\underline{y} - \mathbf{X}\underline{\beta})^\top (\underline{y} - \mathbf{X}\underline{\beta})}_{\text{Loss}} = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\varepsilon}_i^2. \end{aligned}$$

*at  $(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \underline{y}$*

*$-\frac{\partial \text{Loss}}{\partial \underline{\beta}}$*

- If  $(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1}$  exists, it can be shown that the solution is given by:

$$\hat{\underline{\beta}} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \underline{y}.$$

- The corresponding vector of fitted (or predicted) values is
- will result in a matrix w. a column linearly dependent on the others*

$$\hat{\underline{y}} = \mathbf{X}\hat{\underline{\beta}}.$$



# Least Squares Estimates (LSE) - Properties

Under the **weak assumptions** we have **unbiased estimators**:

1. The least squares estimators are unbiased:  $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}] = \beta$ .

2. The variance-covariance matrix of the least squares estimators is:  $\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) = \sigma^2 \cdot (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1}$ .

3. An unbiased estimator of  $\sigma^2$  is:

$$s^2 = \frac{1}{n - p - 1} (\underline{y} - \hat{\underline{y}})^\top (\underline{y} - \hat{\underline{y}}) = \frac{\text{RSS}}{n - p - 1},$$

$p + 1$  is the total number of parameters estimated.

4. Under the **strong assumptions**, each  $\hat{\beta}_k$  is normally distributed. See details in see [slide](#).

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}] &= \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}] \\ &= (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}] \\ &= \beta \end{aligned}$$



# Test the Relationship Between the Response and Predictors

$$H_0 : \beta_1 = \dots = \beta_p = 0$$

— Is our model better than no model.

$H_a$  : at least one  $\beta_j$  is non-zero

- F-statistic =  $\frac{(TSS-RSS)/p}{RSS/(n-p-1)}$  — From ANOVA table

- Question: Given the individual p-values for each variable, why do we need to look at the overall F-statistics?

— By statistical chance if  $p$  is large at least one  $\beta$  will be non-zero.

Accounts for #  $p$  and tests relationship holistically

Test if  $\hat{\beta}_j = 0$

t-value as:  $\frac{\hat{\beta}_j}{s.e(\hat{\beta}_j)}$



# Analysis of variance (ANOVA)

The sums of squares are interpreted as follows:

- SST (or TSS) is the total variability in the absence of knowledge of the variables  $X_1, \dots, X_p$ ;
- SSE (or RSS) is the total variability remaining after introducing the effect of  $X_1, \dots, X_p$ ;
- SSM is the total variability “explained” because of knowledge of  $X_1, \dots, X_p$ .



# ANOVA

This partitioning of the variability is used in ANOVA tables:

Source	Sum of squares	DoF	Mean square	F	p-value
Regression	$SSM = \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2$	$DFM = p$	$MSM = \frac{SSM}{DFM}$	$\frac{MSM}{MSE}$	$1 - F_{DFM, DFE}(F)$
Error	$SSE = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$	$DFE = n - p - 1$	$MSE = \frac{SSE}{DFE}$		
Total	$SST = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2$	$DFT = n - 1$	$MST = \frac{SST}{DFT}$		

Tests if model is  
non-zero.



# Model Fit and Predictions

- Measure model fit (similar to the simple linear regression)
  - Residual standard error (RSE)
  - $R^2$
- Uncertainties associated with the prediction

- $\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1, \dots, \hat{\beta}_p$  are estimates

*— Same as before in simple linear*

- linear model is an approximation
- random error  $\epsilon$

$$\hat{\beta}_j = 0$$

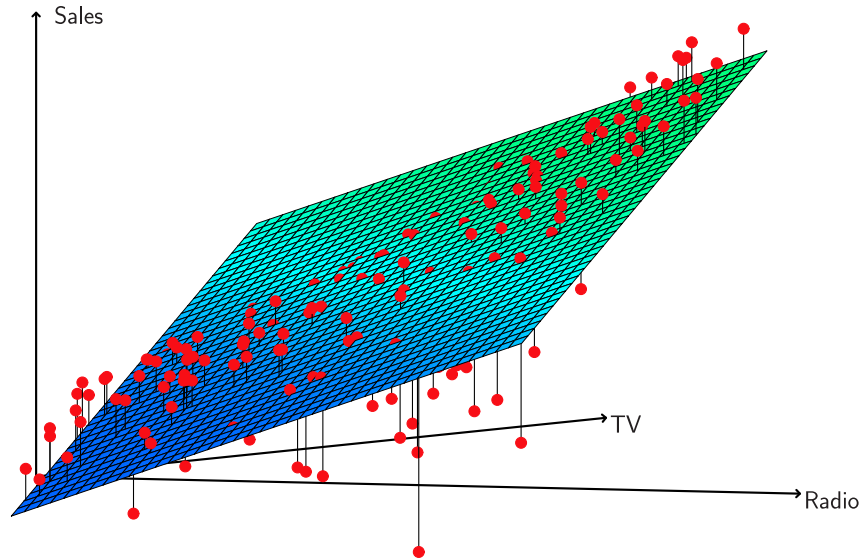
*t-stat*

$$\frac{\hat{\beta}_j}{\text{se}(\hat{\beta}_j)}$$



# Advertising Example (continued)

Linear regression fit using TV and Radio:



What do you observe?





# Other Considerations in the Regression Model

- Qualitative predictors
  - two or more levels, with no logical ordering
  - create binary (0/1) dummy variables
  - Need (#levels - 1) dummy variables to fully encode
- Interaction terms ( $X_i X_j$ ) (removing the additive assumption)
- Quadratic terms ( $X_i^2$ ) (non-linear relationship)

Week - 7.  $x =$

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} T \\ T \\ F \\ T \\ F \\ F \\ M \\ F \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} F & M \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

T      F

- Be careful in interpretations!

- R does this automatically

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i$$

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i^2$$

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \beta_2 X^2$$

F      M  
↑      ↑

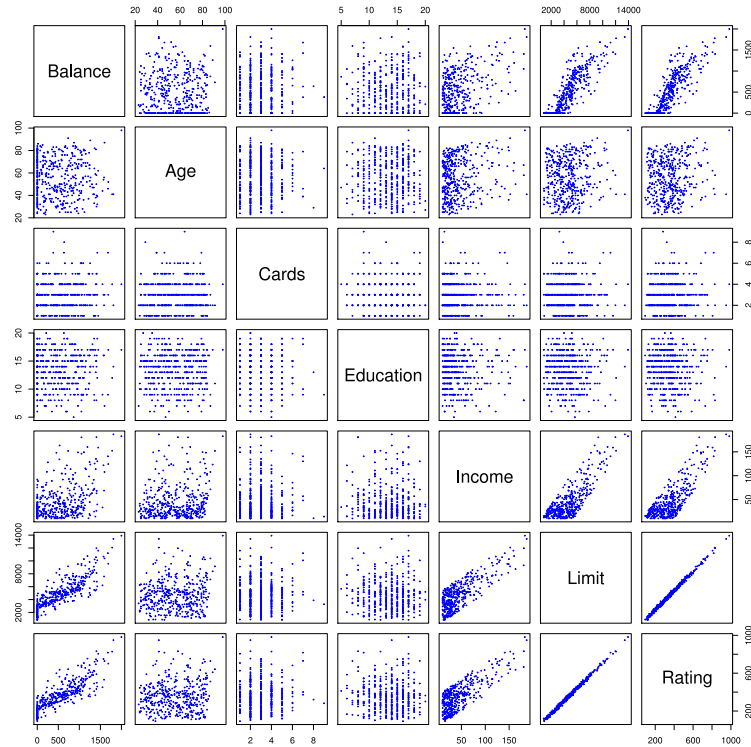
If  $X = F$ , then  $Y$  increases by  $\beta_1$  on average compared to if  $X = T$ .



# Linear model selection



# The credit dataset



Qualitative covariates: own, student, status, region



# Linear Model selection

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p$$

- Various approaches - we will focus on
  - Subset selection
  - Indirect methods
  - Shrinkage (also called Regularization) (Later in the course)
  - Dimension Reduction (Later in the course)

If  $X_i$  are quantitative  
 then: If  $X_i$  increases by 1, (others fixed)  
 $Y_i$  increases by  $\beta_i$  on average



# Subset selection

- The classic approach is subset selection
- Standard approaches include
  - Best subset
  - Forward stepwise
  - Backwards stepwise
  - Hybrid stepwise

MSE  
 $R^2$  } Always improve  
when  $p$  increases



# Best subset selection

Consider a linear model with  $n$  observations and  $p$  potential predictors:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \cdots + \beta_p X_p$$

Algorithm:

- Consider the models with 0 predictors, and call this  $\mathcal{M}_0$ . This is the null model
- Consider all models with 1 predictor, pick the best fit, and call this  $\mathcal{M}_1$
- ...
- Consider the model with  $p$  predictor, and call this  $\mathcal{M}_p$ . This is the full model
- Pick the best fit of  $\mathcal{M}_0, \mathcal{M}_1, \dots, \mathcal{M}_p$

Adj  $R^2$ , AIC, BIC,  $C_p$



# Best subset selection - behaviour

- Considers all possible models, given the predictors
- Optimal model  $\mathcal{M}_k$  sets  $p - k$  parameters to 0, the rest are found using the normal fitting technique
- Picks the best of all possible models, given selection criteria
- Very computationally expensive. Calculates:

$$\sum_{k=0}^p \binom{p}{k} = 2^p \text{ models}$$

— Very expensive if  $p$  is not small.



# Stepwise Example: Forward stepwise selection

Algorithm:

- Start with the null model  $\mathcal{M}_0$
  - Consider the  $p$  models with 1 predictor, pick the best, and call this  $\mathcal{M}_1$
  - Extend  $\mathcal{M}_1$  with one of the  $p - 1$  remaining predictors. Pick the best, and call this  $\mathcal{M}_2$
  - ...
  - End with the full model  $\mathcal{M}_p$
  - Pick the best fit of  $\mathcal{M}_0, \mathcal{M}_1, \dots, \mathcal{M}_p$
- Improves your metric the most*





# Stepwise subset selection - behaviour

- Considers a much smaller set of models, but the models are generally good fits
- Far less computationally expensive. Considers only:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (p - k) = 1 + \frac{p(p+1)}{2} \text{ models}$$

*grows quad instead of exponentially in p.*

- Like best-subset, sets excluded predictor's parameters to 0
- Backward and forward selection give similar, but possibly different models
- Assumes each "best model" with  $n$  predictors is a proper subset of the one with size  $n + 1$ 
  - In other words, it only looks one step ahead at a time
- Hybrid approaches exist, adding some variables, but also removing variables at each step



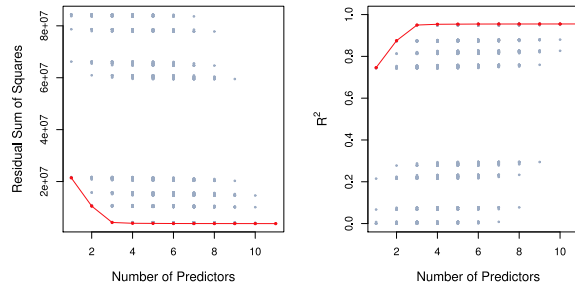
# Example: Best subset and forward selection on *Credit* data

# Variables	Best subset	Forward stepwise
1	<i>rating</i>	<i>rating</i>
2	<i>rating, income</i>	<i>rating, income</i>
3	<i>rating, income, student</i>	<i>rating, income, student</i>
4	<i>cards, income, student, limit</i>	<i>rating, income, student, limit</i>



# How to determine the “best” model

- Need a metric to compare different models
- $R^2$  can give misleading results as models with more parameters always have a higher  $R^2$  on the training set:



RSS and  $R^2$  for each possible model containing a subset of the ten predictors in the **Credit** data set.

- Want low test error:
  - Indirect: estimate test error by adjusting the training error metric due to bias from overfitting
  - Direct: e.g. cross-validation, validation set *— Week 5.*



# Indirect methods

1.  $C_p$  with  $d$  predictors:

*Mallow  $C_p$*

$$\frac{1}{n}(\text{RSS} + \underbrace{2d\hat{\sigma}^2}) \text{ penalty on } \# \text{ predictors}$$

- Unbiased estimate of test MSE if  $\hat{\sigma}^2$  is an unbiased estimate of  $\sigma^2$

2. Akaike information criteria (AIC) with  $d$  predictors:

$$\frac{1}{n}(\text{RSS} + \underbrace{2d\hat{\sigma}^2}) - \text{penalty}$$

- Proportional to  $C_p$  for least squares, so gives the same results



# Indirect methods cont.

## 3. Bayesian information criteria (BIC) with $d$ predictors

$$\frac{1}{n}(\text{RSS} + \log(n) d \hat{\sigma}^2)$$

- $\log(n) > 2$  for  $n > 7$ , so this is a much heavier penalty

## 4. Adjusted $R^2$ with $d$ predictors

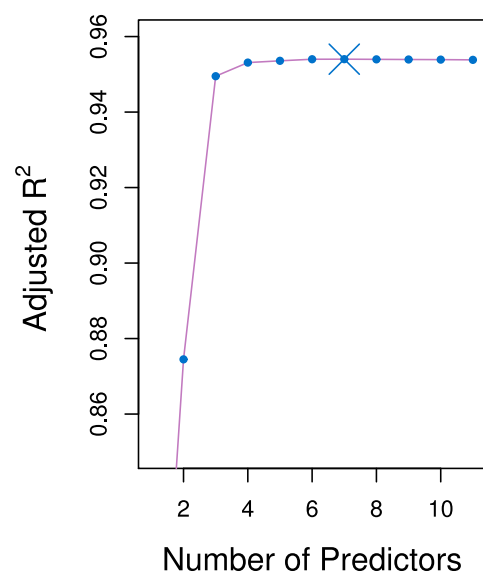
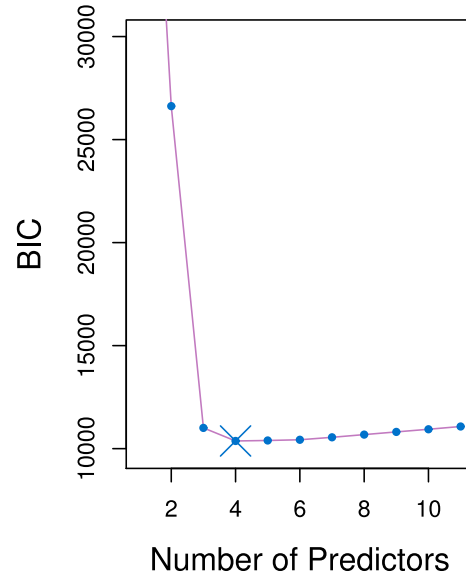
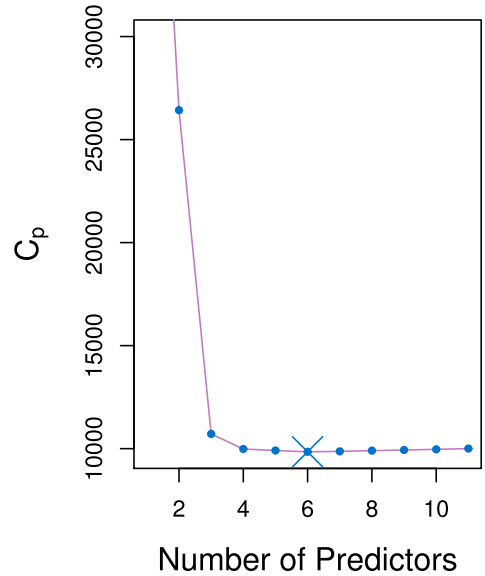
$$1 - \frac{\text{RSS}/(n - d - 1)}{\text{TSS}/(n - 1)}$$

$R^2$  with penalty  
Adj.  $R^2$  can be negative

- Decreases in RSS from adding parameters are offset by the increase in  $1/(n - d - 1)$
- Popular and intuitive, but theoretical backing not as strong as the other measures



# How to determine the “best” model - Credit dataset



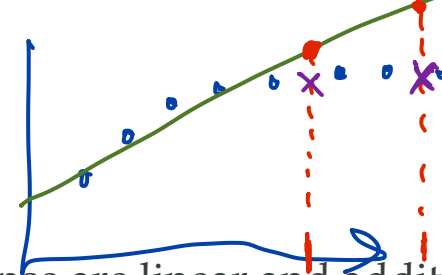
# Potential problems with Linear Regression



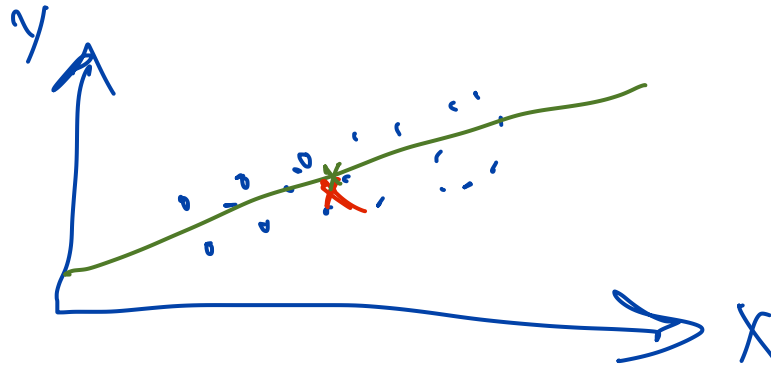
# Potential Problems/Concerns

To apply linear regression properly:

- The relationship between the predictors and response are linear and additive (i.e. effects of the covariates must be additive);
- Homoskedastic (constant) variance;
- Errors must be independent of the explanatory variables with mean zero (weak assumptions);
- Errors must be Normally distributed, and hence, symmetric (only in case of testing, i.e., strong assumptions).



A "good" model is one with a low test error.





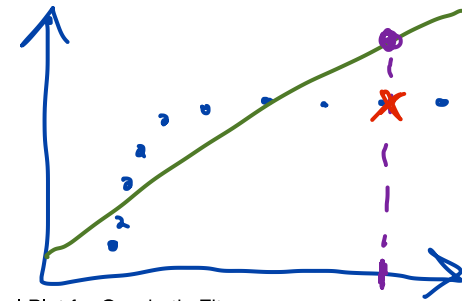
# Potential Problems/Concerns

1. Non-linearity of the response-predictor relationships
2. Correlation of error terms
3. Non-constant variance of error terms
4. Outliers
5. High-leverage points
6. Collinearity
7. Confounding effect (correlation does not imply causality!)



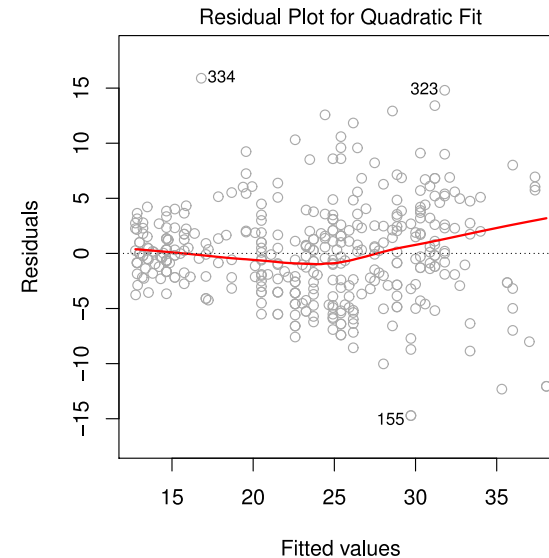
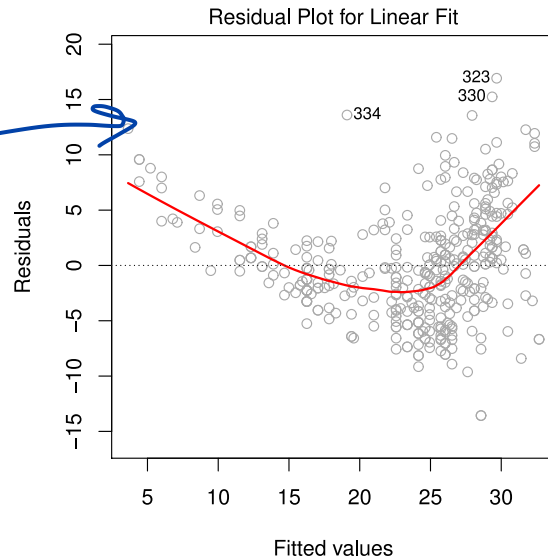
# 1. Non-linearities

Example: residuals vs fitted for MPG vs Horsepower:



$$y_i - \hat{y}_i$$

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1$$



$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1^2$$

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \gamma(x_i)$$

LHS is a linear model. RHS is a quadratic model.

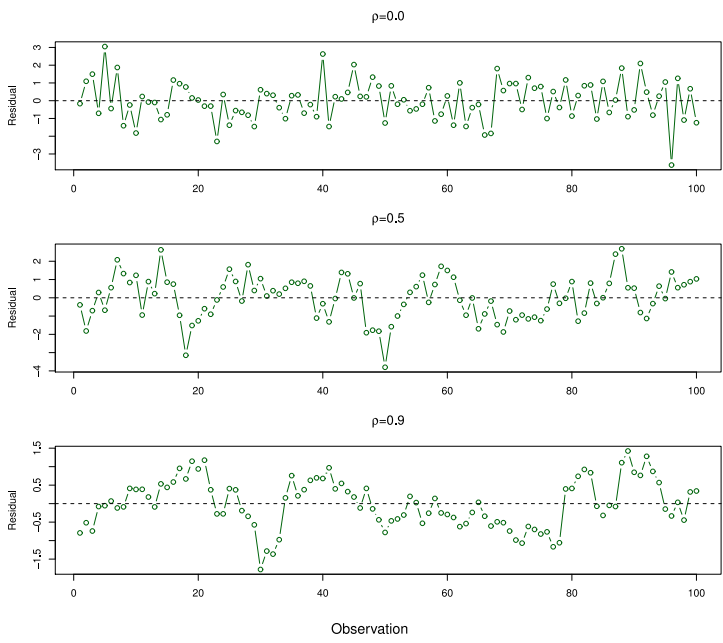
Quadratic model removes much of the pattern - we look at these in more detail later.



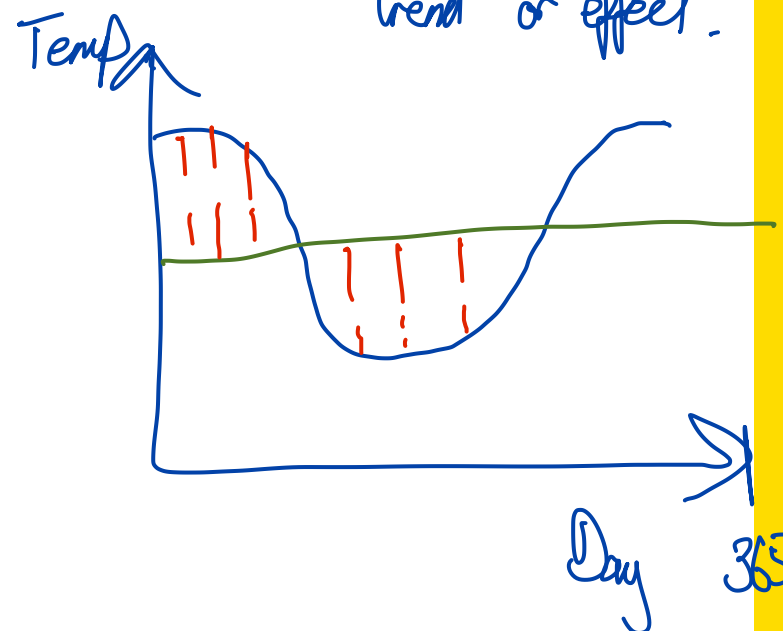
# 2. Correlations in the Error terms

Time series have correlated errors. Regressions tend not to work on time series

- The assumption in the regression model is that the error terms are uncorrelated with each other.
- If they are not uncorrelated the standard errors will be incorrect.

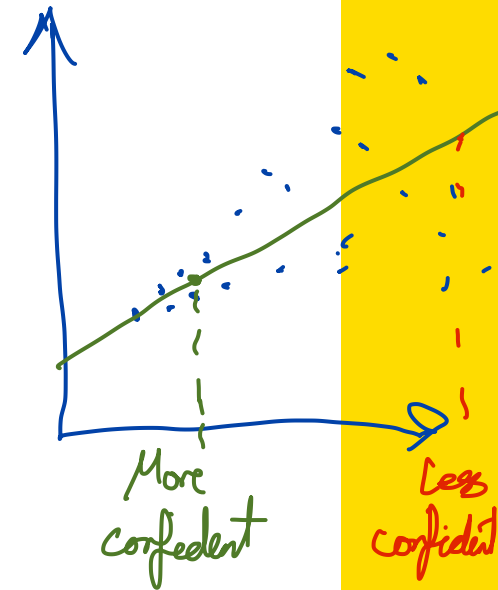
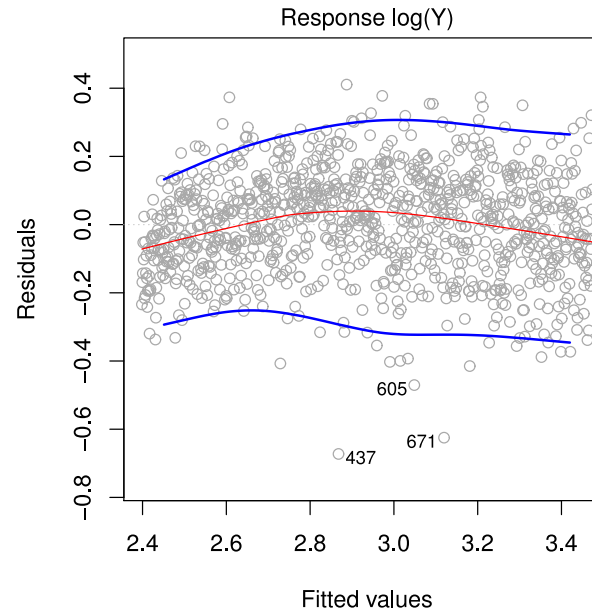
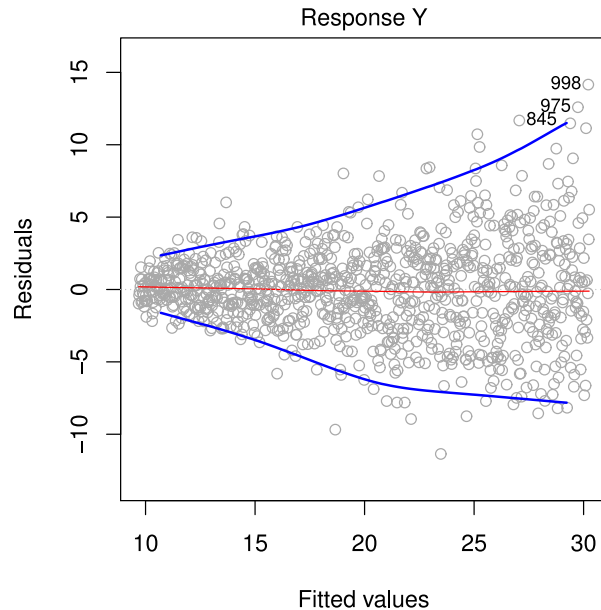


Probably have not identified an underlying trend or effect.



### 3. Non-constant error terms

The following are two regression outputs vs  $Y$  (LHS) and  $\ln Y$  (RHS)

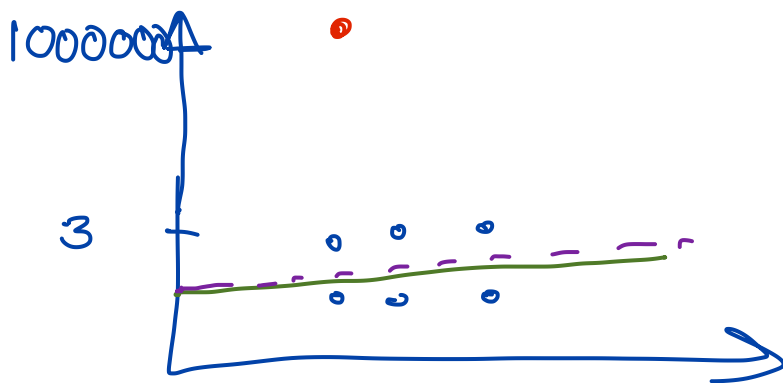
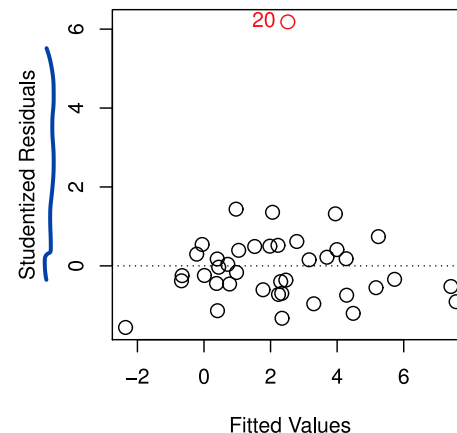
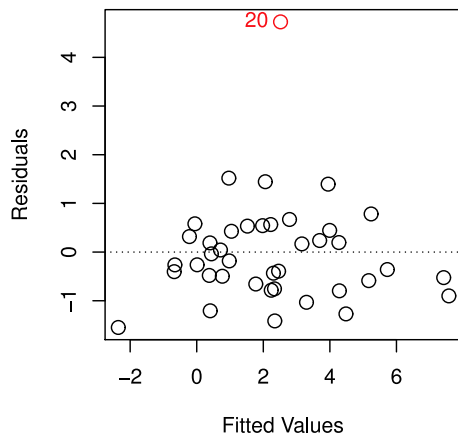
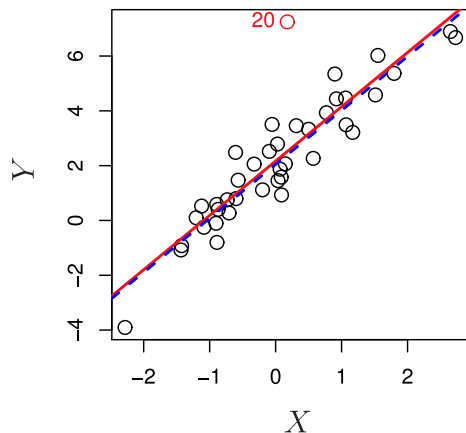


In this example log transformation removed much of the heteroscedasticity.



# 4. Outliers

Residuals  
S.E. residuals



$$n \quad (y - X^T \beta)^T (y - X^T \beta)$$

$$S \quad \sum (y_i - \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i)^2$$

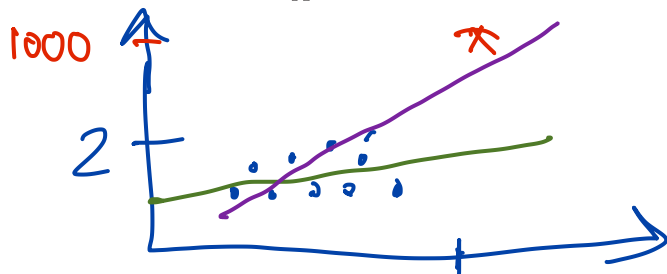
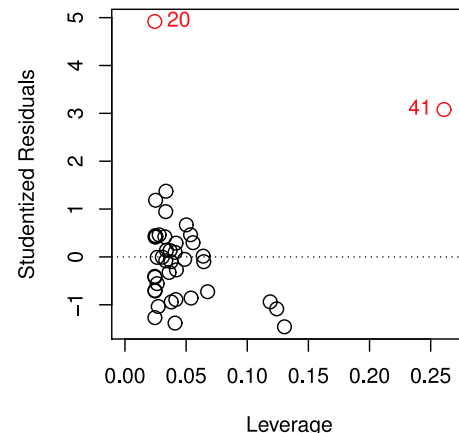
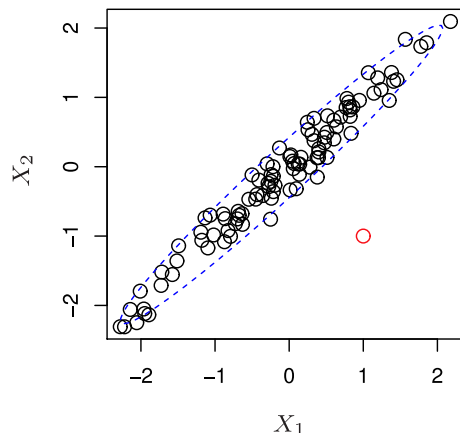
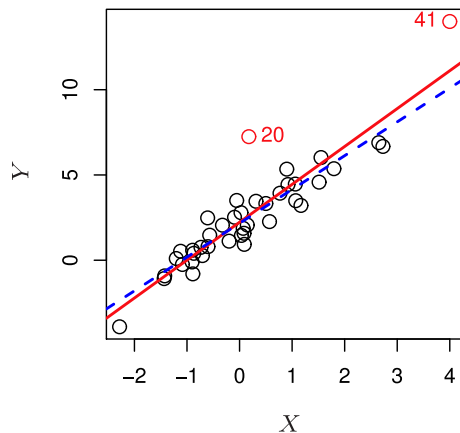
- Error in data collection
- Feature you need to identify



## 5. High-leverage points

The following compares the fitted line with (RED) and without (BLUE) observation 41 fitted.

- Points that influence line/plane fit significantly



- Probably should model w. and without to see overall effect on AIC



# High-leverage points

$$\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$$

- Have unusual predictor values, causing the regression line to be dragged towards them
- A few points can significantly affect the estimated regression line
- Compute the leverage using the hat matrix:

$$\hat{y} = X\hat{\beta}$$

$$\hat{y} = \underbrace{X(X^T X)^{-1} X^T}_{\text{hat matrix}} y$$

$$H = \underbrace{X(X^T X)^{-1} X^T}$$

The hat matrix puts a hat on  $y$

- Note that

$$\hat{Y}_i = \sum_{j=1}^n h_{ij} Y_j = h_{ii} Y_i + \sum_{j \neq i}^n h_{ij} Y_j$$

so each prediction is a linear function of all observations, and  $h_{ii} = [H]_{ii}$  is the weight of observation  $i$  on its own prediction

- If  $h_{ii} > 2(p+1)/n$  the predictor can be considered as having a high leverage

$h_{ii}$  is closer to 1, then it is high leverage.



## 6. Collinearity

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} \text{int} & & & \\ \vdots & \cdot & & \\ & & \cdot & \\ & & & \cdot \end{pmatrix}$$

- Two or more predictor values are closely related to each other
- Reduces the accuracy of the regression by increasing the set of plausible coefficient values
- In effect, the causes **SE of the beta coefficients to grow.**
- Correlation can indicate one-to-one (linear) collinearity

False conclusions  
on  $\hat{\beta}_i = 0$  tests

$X^T X$  is not full rank, means

$(X^T X)^{-1}$  does not exist

$$\hat{y} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$$

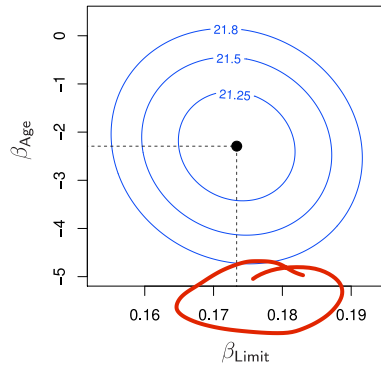
- If factors are not coded properly  
then  $X^T X$  will not be full rank

but one  
weeks  
1-4/5

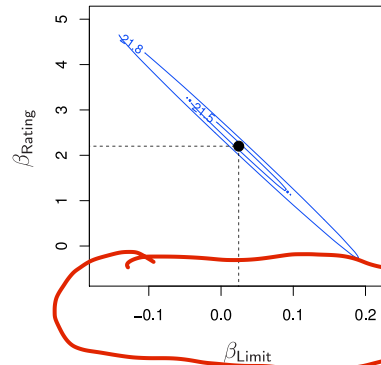




# Collinearity makes optimisation harder



$\beta_{Limit}$   $\beta$ -value small



$\beta$ -value large.

- Contour plots of the values as a function of the predictors. **Credit** dataset used.
- Left: **balance** regressed onto **age** and **limit**. Predictors have low collinearity
- Right: **balance** regressed onto **rating** and **limit**. Predictors have high collinearity
- Black: coefficient estimate



# Multicollinearity

- Use variance inflation factor

$$\text{VIF}(\hat{\beta}_j) = \frac{1}{1 - R_{X_j|X_{-j}}^2}$$

- $R_{X_j|X_{-j}}^2$  is the  $R^2$  from  $X_j$  being regressed onto all other predictors
- Minimum 1, higher is worse ( $> 5$  or  $10$  is considered high)

Test for linear dependence

fit just predictor  $j$   
on other predictors

Look at difference  
in s.e.

$$X_j = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_{j-1} X_{j-1} + \beta_{j+1} X_{j+1} + \dots + \beta_p X_p$$



## 7. Confounding effects

- But what about confounding variables? Be careful, correlation does not imply causality!<sup>1</sup>
- $C$  is a **confounder** (confounding variable) of the relation between  $X$  and  $Y$  if:
  - $C$  influences  $X$  and  $C$  influences  $Y$ ,
  - but  $X$  does not influence  $Y$  (directly).

Just because  $X$  and  $Y$  appear related,  
does not mean they are!

# ice cream sales  $\longleftrightarrow$  # shark attacks.

temperature,  
# people at beach.

1. Check this website on [spurious correlations](#).



# Confounding effects

- The predictor variable  $X$  would have an indirect influence on the dependent variable  $Y$ .
  - Example: Age  $\Rightarrow$  Experience  $\Rightarrow$  Probability of car accident. If experience can not be measured, age can be a proxy for experience.
- The predictor variable  $X$  would have no direct influence on dependent variable  $Y$ .
  - Example: Becoming older does not make you a better driver.
- Hence, a predictor variable works as a predictor, but action taken on the predictor itself will have no effect.

— Be careful with interpretation if you believe  
a confounding effect is present!



# Confounding effects

How to correctly use/don't use confounding variables?

- If a confounding variable is observable: add the confounding variable.
- If a confounding variable is unobservable: be careful with interpretation!



So what's next



# Generalisations of the Linear Model

In much of the rest of this course, we discuss methods that expand the scope of linear models and how they are fit:

(Binary)

- *Classification problems*: logistic regression ~ *Y is quantitative*  
~ *Will it rain tomorrow?*
- *Non-normality*: Generalised Linear Model
- *Non-linearity*: splines and generalized additive models; KNN, tree-based methods *Week 7*
- *Regularised fitting*: Ridge regression and lasso
- *Non-parametric*: Tree-based methods, bagging, random forests and boosting, KNN (these also capture non-linearities) *Week 9/10*



# Appendices





# Appendix: Sum of squares

Recall from ACTL2131/ACTL5101, we have the following sum of squares:

$$\begin{aligned} S_{xx} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2 & \implies s_x^2 &= \frac{S_{xx}}{n-1} \\ S_{yy} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2 & \implies s_y^2 &= \frac{S_{yy}}{n-1} \\ S_{xy} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y}) & \implies s_{xy} &= \frac{S_{xy}}{n-1}, \end{aligned}$$

Here  $s_x^2$ ,  $s_y^2$  (and  $s_{xy}$ ) denote sample (co-)variance.



## Appendix: CI for $\beta_1$ and $\beta_0$

Rationale for  $\beta_1$ : Recall that  $\hat{\beta}_1$  is unbiased and  $\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_1) = \sigma^2/S_{xx}$ . However  $\sigma^2$  is usually unknown, and estimated by  $s^2$  so, under the **strong assumptions**, we have:

$$\frac{\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1}{s/\sqrt{S_{xx}}} = \underbrace{\frac{\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1}{\sigma/\sqrt{S_{xx}}}}_{\mathcal{N}(0,1)} / \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{(n-2) \cdot s^2}{\sigma^2}}}_{\sqrt{\chi_{n-2}^2/(n-2)}} \sim t_{n-2}$$

as  $\epsilon_i \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$  then  $\frac{(n-2) \cdot s^2}{\sigma^2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 \cdot x_i)^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_{n-2}^2$ .

Note: Why do we lose two degrees of freedom? Because we estimated two parameters!

Similar rationale for  $\beta_0$ .



# Appendix: Statistical Properties of the Least Squares Estimates

4. Under the strong assumptions of normality each component  $\hat{\beta}_k$  is normally distributed with mean and variance

$$\mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}_k] = \beta_k, \quad \text{Var}(\hat{\beta}_k) = \sigma^2 \cdot c_{kk},$$

and covariance between  $\hat{\beta}_k$  and  $\hat{\beta}_l$ :

$$\text{Cov}(\hat{\beta}_k, \hat{\beta}_l) = \sigma^2 \cdot c_{kl},$$

where  $c_{kk}$  is the  $(k + 1)^{\text{th}}$  diagonal entry of the matrix  $\mathbf{C} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1}$ .  
The standard error of  $\hat{\beta}_k$  is estimated using  $\text{se}(\hat{\beta}_k) = s\sqrt{c_{kk}}$ .

