

# Ordinary, Ordinary Least Squares

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## 1 Inference for Bivariate Regression

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## 3 Linear Algebra and OLS

Introductions

OLS Estimator

Properties of the Least Squares Estimator

# The Bottom Line

$$H_0 : \beta = 0 \quad H_A : \beta \neq 0$$

Calculate estimated slope and intercept. Could they just be random?

- 1 State null and alternative hypotheses
- 2 Calculate standard error of slope and test statistic.
- 3 How likely is  $\hat{\beta}$  if the true value is 0? If there were NO relationship, how likely is it that we would randomly see a slope this big?
- 4 If very unlikely, reject null hypothesis that no relationship. If rather likely, then maybe it is just random - fail to reject null.

# The Bottom Line

	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
difleft	.004647	.0012787	3.63	0.001	.0020454	.0072485
prural	-.0594083	.1155061	-0.51	0.610	-.2944073	.1755906
avgyed	.1135818	.0417256	2.72	0.010	.0286905	.1984731
ppubjobs	.0172879	.0458901	0.38	0.709	-.0760762	.110652
pntmigra	.0008118	.0010028	0.81	0.424	-.0012285	.0028521
m96m92	.003807	.009613	0.40	0.695	-.0157508	.0233647
_cons	-.5324989	.2414704	-2.21	0.035	-1.023774	-.0412238

# Regression and Inference

- Let's start with a slightly different perspective. Instead of “what's the best line to draw on this data to summarize a relationship?”, let's assume a theory and estimate parameters.
- Nature generates data  $y$  according to the model:

$$y = \alpha + \beta x + \epsilon$$

$$\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

- Our *parameters* of interest are  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\sigma$
- We don't get to see any of them!

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# Regression and Inference

- We estimate parameters with statistics  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $\hat{\sigma}$  There are lots of ways to estimate them. (Why is OLS the best? What needs be true?)
- Two things we usually want:
  - ① Confidence interval: what could the true value be?
  - ② Hypothesis testing: Is the true  $\beta$  different from zero? Or: Does democracy affect  $P(\text{war})$ , do deficits affect inflation, do electoral rules determine party cohesion?
- More precisely:
  - ① “What is the probability of seeing an estimated slope as large as the one we found if the true slope is in fact zero?”, **OR**
  - ② “If the true slope were zero, what is the probability of seeing data like ours, with an estimated slope like the one we found, just due to random error?”

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To answer these questions, we need to know about the distribution of  $\hat{\beta}$ .  
Let's think about this for a minute.

- Recall,  $\beta$  is the true value. It is FIXED.
- $\hat{\beta}$  is a Random variable - it is determined from the data, which includes a systematic component ( $\alpha + \beta x$ ) and a random component ( $\epsilon$ ).
- So we want to know about the distribution of  $\hat{\beta}$
- With enough information, we'll be able to calculate the probability of seeing a  $\hat{\beta}$  like ours, assuming that the true  $\beta$  is equal to zero - that is, we'll be able to conduct a hypothesis test.

# Simulation

Let's start with a simulation.

Go to the code, Luke.

# Inference for Bivariate Regression

$$Y = \alpha + \beta X + \epsilon$$

Assumptions:

- Linearity
- Distribution of the errors:  $\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$ 
  - Normality
  - Expectation of zero
  - Constant Variance
  - Independence
- Fixed X, or X independent of the error

# Inference for Bivariate Regression

OLS Estimates are Unbiased:

$$E(\hat{\alpha}) = \alpha$$

$$E(\hat{\beta}) = \beta$$

The Variances of OLS Bivariate Estimates are:

$$\hat{V}(A) = \frac{\sigma^2 \sum x_i^2}{n \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

$$\hat{V}(B) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

Revisit R simulation for intuition.

# Inference for Bivariate Regression

- Problem - we don't observe or know  $\sigma$ . We have to estimate it. How will we estimate it?
- Extent to which we are off in our estimate of  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  means we will also be off in our estimate of  $\sigma$ . Indeed, our estimates of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  minimize what?
- Means we need to account for this additional uncertainty.

```
# Regression Simulation 2 - Estimating Sigma  
# RegSim2.R
```

# Inference for Bivariate Regression

$$S_E^2 = \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\sum E_i^2}{n-2}$$

- Why do we divide by  $n - 2$ ?
- Remember that our estimates of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are certainly not the right ones - they are just the best estimates we can get.
- Furthermore,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are chosen to *minimize*  $\sum e_i^2$
- So the raw sum of squared residuals ( $\sum e_i^2$ ) is less than the true sum of squared errors ( $\sum \epsilon_i^2$ )
- Said another way, since  $\mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e}$  is always smaller than  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}'\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$ , we compensate by dividing by  $n - k$ , or in this case,  $n - 2$ .
- Because our estimate of the sum of squared deviations is biased downward, we divide by a smaller number - inflating the estimate.



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# Inference for Bivariate Regression: Intercept

$$S_E^2 = \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\sum E_i^2}{n-2}$$

$$V(A) = \frac{\hat{\sigma}^2 \sum x_i^2}{n \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

$$SE(\hat{\alpha}) = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\sigma}^2 \sum x_i^2}{n \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}}$$

# Inference for Bivariate Regression: Slope

$$S_E^2 = \frac{\sum e_i^2}{n - 2}$$

$$V(B) = \frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

$$SE(\hat{\beta}) = \frac{S_E}{\sqrt{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}}$$

# Inference for Bivariate Regression: Tests

Confidence Interval for  $\beta$ :

$$\hat{\beta} \pm ME$$

$$\hat{\beta} \pm t_{\alpha/2} * SE\hat{\beta}$$

Test Statistic:

$$t_0 = \frac{\hat{\beta} - \beta_0}{SE(\hat{\beta})}$$

where  $t_0 \sim T_{df=n-2}$

# Inference for Bivariate Regression

$H_0 : \beta = 0$   $H_A : \beta \neq 0$  Calculate estimated slope and intercept. Could they just be random?

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# A Long Boring Painful Example

Time to go get coffee or check your email...or help me so we cruise through?

<b>Income</b>	<b>Education</b>
9	8
11	8
12	10
13	12
15	12

① Inference for Bivariate Regression

② Multiple Regression

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# Multiple Regression

What's wrong with these models?

- $\text{Income} = \alpha + \beta * \text{Female}$
- $P(\text{War}) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{Democ Score}$
- $\text{Party Cohesion} = a + b * \text{Electoral Rules}$

# Multiple Regression and Matrix Algebra

This implies a more complex set of models:

- $\text{Income} = \alpha + \beta \cdot \text{Female} + \beta_2 \cdot \text{Market Salary} + \beta_3 \cdot \text{Publications}$
- $P(\text{War}) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot \text{Democ Score} + \beta_2 \cdot \text{Proximity} + \beta_3 \cdot \text{Trade}$
- $\text{Party Cohesion} = b_0 + b_1 \cdot \text{Electoral Rules} + b_2 \cdot \text{Parliamentary} + b_3 \cdot \text{Voter Partisanship}$

# Multiple Regression: Interpretation

Party Cohesion =  $b_0 + b_1 * \text{Electoral Rules} + b_2 * \text{Parliamentary} + b_3 * \text{Voter Partisanship}$

- All else equal, a one percent increase in voter partisanship produces a  $b_3$  increase in Party cohesion.
- All else equal, a one unit increase in Electoral Rules Scores produces a  $b_1$  increase in party cohesion.
- All else equal, being a Parliamentary form of government increases party cohesion by  $b_2$ .
- If the electoral rules score were 0, the country were a presidential regime, and voter partisanship were zero, the predicted level of party cohesion is  $b_0$ .

# Graphically

- With two  $X$  variables, the formula defines a plane in three dimensions.
- With more than two  $X$  variables, the formula defines a “hyperplane” in  $k+1$  dimensions.
- Display options?

```
require(rgl)
example(plot3d)
```

```
n<-2000
x<-rnorm(n)
y<-rnorm(n)
z<-x+.25*y^3+rnorm(n)
plot3d(x,y,z,size=4)
```

```
z<-1+2*x+3*y+rnorm(n)
plot3d(x,y,z,size=4)
```

# Estimation

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \epsilon$$

We want to find the values of  $\beta_0$ ,  $\beta_1$ , and  $\beta_2$ , that minimize the sum of squared residuals (least squares regression).

Minimize:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum e_i^2 &= \sum (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 \\ &= \sum (y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_{i1} + \hat{\beta}_2 X_{i2}))^2 \\ &= S(B_0, B_1, B_2)\end{aligned}$$

We remember how to do this in live action, right?

## Estimation

$$\frac{\partial S(B_0, B_1, B_2)}{\partial B_1} = \sum (-1)(2)(Y_i - B_0 - B_1X_{i1} - B_2X_{i2})$$

$$\frac{\partial S(B_0, B_1, B_2)}{\partial B_1} = (-X_{i1})(2)(Y_i - B_0 - B_1X_{i1} - B_2X_{i2})$$

$$\frac{\partial S(B_0, B_1, B_2)}{\partial B_3} = -X_{i2}(2)(Y_i - B_0 - B_1X_{i1} - B_2X_{i2})$$

Applying these partial derivatives, then setting equal to zero...

$$An + B_1 \sum X_{i1} + B_2X_{i2} = \sum Y_i$$

$$A \sum X_{i1} + B_1 \sum X_{i1}^2 + B_2 \sum X_{i1}X_{i2} = \sum X_{i1} Y_i$$

$$A \sum X_{i2} + B_1 \sum X_{i2}X_{i1} + B_2X_{i2}^2 = \sum X_{i2} Y_i$$

# Estimation

Multiplying everything out, differentiating and setting equal to zero and substituting will produce:

$$\hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{Y} - \beta_1 \bar{X}_1 - \beta_2 \bar{X}_2$$

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum[(X_1 - \bar{X}_1)(Y - \bar{Y})] \sum(X_2 - \bar{X}_2)^2 - \sum[(X_2 - \bar{X}_2)(Y - \bar{Y})] \sum[(X_1 - \bar{X}_1)(X_2 - \bar{X}_2)]}{\sum(X_1 - \bar{X}_1)^2 \sum(X_2 - \bar{X}_2)^2 - \sum[(X_1 - \bar{X}_1)(X_2 - \bar{X}_2)]}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_2 = \frac{\sum[(X_2 - \bar{X}_2)(Y - \bar{Y})] \sum(X_1 - \bar{X}_1)^2 - \sum[(X_1 - \bar{X}_1)(Y - \bar{Y})] \sum[(X_2 - \bar{X}_2)(X_1 - \bar{X}_1)]}{\sum(X_2 - \bar{X}_2)^2 \sum(X_1 - \bar{X}_1)^2 - \sum[(X_2 - \bar{X}_2)(X_1 - \bar{X}_1)]}$$

You can do this. But it would be a real pain.



# Standard Error of the Regression

Reasonably, the **Standard Error of the Regression** is related to the  $SE_R$  from the single variable case, and is

$$SE_R = S_E = \sqrt{\frac{\sum E_i^2}{n - k - 1}}$$

where  $n$  is the number of obs;  $k$  is the number of substantive regressors, and 1 is for the intercept.

Heuristically: we “lose”  $k + 1$  degrees of freedom by calculating the  $k + 1$  regression coefficients.

# Sums of Squares

The sums of squares are calculated in exactly the same way as simple regression

$$TSS = \sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2$$

$$RegSS = \sum (\hat{Y}_i - \bar{Y})^2$$

$$RSS = \sum (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2 = \sum E_i^2$$

# Estimation

- If it's a pain once...Alex will make us do it.
- But what about when we have 3 substantive RHS variables?

$$\sum (y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_{i1} + \hat{\beta}_2 X_{i2} + \hat{\beta}_3 X_{i3}))^2$$

- Four?

$$\sum (y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_{i1} + \hat{\beta}_2 X_{i2} + \hat{\beta}_3 X_{i3} + \hat{\beta}_4 X_{i4}))^2$$

- Five?

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## Problem:

- A different formula for every possible number of variables
- A pain to calculate by hand

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## Solution:

- There *must* be a better way...
- There is, and it is in linear algebra.

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# Why Linear Algebra

- Multiple, and varied estimating equations are, well, hairy.
- Basis of more advanced work for the rest of the course
- It's elegant. Like Dame Judy Dench.

Because we did this in math boot camp, I'm taking a *very serious risk* that you can do this on your own. If you want more, see

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# General Linear Form

In the single regression case we wrote our estimating equation as:

$$Y_i = A + BX_i + e_i$$

Without loss of generality, for any set of regression coefficients,  $1 \dots k$ , we can write the following regression equation

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \beta_2 X_{i2} + \dots + \beta_k X_{ik} + \epsilon_i$$

Collect those regressors ( $X$ 's) into a row vector, and the regression coefficients into a column vector:

$$Y_i = [1, x_{1i}, x_{2i}, \dots, x_{ki}] \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_k \end{bmatrix} + \epsilon_i$$

## That was for one observation

For several ( $N$ ) observations, we are just adding rows to the  $Y_i$ 's,  $X_i$ 's, &

$$\epsilon_i\text{'s.} \quad \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_{11} & \dots & x_{1k} \\ 1 & x_{21} & \dots & x_{2k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_{n1} & \dots & x_{nk} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_k \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \epsilon_2 \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Which we can just *VERY* compactly write as

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

### Definition

The **Model Matrix** is the matrix of  $X$ 's stacked and aligned.

# The Vector of Errors

The  $\epsilon$  is a vector of errors, and so we can again, very succinctly restate the assumptions of OLS:

- 1  $E(\epsilon) = 0$
- 2  $V(\epsilon) = \sigma^2 < \infty$
- 3  $COV(\epsilon_i, \epsilon_j) = 0, \forall i \neq j$ 
  - $V(\epsilon) = E(\epsilon\epsilon') = \sigma_\epsilon^2 \mathbf{I}_n$
- 4 And if  $Y$  is a linear combination of  $X$ s

# OLS Estimator

To find the OLS coefficients, we rewrite the linear model as:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{e}$$

where

- $\mathbf{b} = [B_0 + B_1 + \cdots + B_k]'$  is the vector of fitted coefficients; and
- $\mathbf{e} = [E_1 + E_2 + \cdots + E_n]'$  is the vector or residuals.

And so, following our standard optimization...

$$S(b) = \sum E_i^2$$

# OLS Estimator

$$\begin{aligned} S(b) &= \sum E_i^2 = \mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e} = (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{b})'(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{b}) \\ &= \mathbf{y}'\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'\mathbf{X}\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}'\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{b}'\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}\mathbf{b} \\ &= \mathbf{y}'\mathbf{y} - (2\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{X})\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}'(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})\mathbf{b} \end{aligned}$$

Here, we take the partial derivative with respect to  $\mathbf{b}$

$$\frac{\partial S(\mathbf{b})}{\partial \mathbf{b}} = 0 - 2\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y} + 2\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}\mathbf{b}$$

Setting equal to zero and solving

$$\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y}$$

And then, if we can invert  $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}$ ,

$$\mathbf{b} = (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y}$$

# Properties of Least Squares Estimator

What are properties we care about?

- 1 Unbiasedness
- 2 Efficiency
- 3 Consistent
- 4 Sufficient



# Unbiasedness

Fix the model matrix,  $\mathbf{X}$ . Then,

- $\mathbf{b}$  is a linear transformation of the response variable

$$b = (X'X)^{-1}X'y = My$$

- Where we have defined  $M \equiv (X'X)^{-1}X'$
- And the expected value can be calculated easily

$$\begin{aligned}E(b) &= E(My) \\ &= ME(y) \\ &= (X'X)^{-1}X'(X\beta) \\ &= \beta\end{aligned}$$

And so the OLS estimator  $\mathbf{b}$  is unbiased. Sweet!

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- And the expected value can be calculated easily

$$\begin{aligned} E(\mathbf{b}) &= E(\mathbf{M}\mathbf{y}) \\ &= \mathbf{M}E(\mathbf{y}) \\ &= (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'(\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}) \\ &= \boldsymbol{\beta} \end{aligned}$$

And so the OLS estimator  $\mathbf{b}$  is unbiased. Sweet!

# Efficiency

We want the most efficient estimate, *based on the data we have*.

$$\begin{aligned}V(b) &= V(My) \\&= MV(y)M' = [(X'X)^{-1}X']\sigma_\epsilon^2\mathbf{I}_n[(X'X)^{-1}X']' \\&= \sigma_\epsilon^2(X'X)^{-1}X'X(X'X)^{-1} \\&= \sigma_\epsilon^2(X'X)^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

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# Distributions of $\beta$

To derive  $E(\mathbf{b})$  and  $V(\mathbf{b})$ , then “all” we needed were:

- 1 Linearity:  $E(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{X}\beta$
- 2 Known, constant variance:  $V(b) = \sigma_\epsilon^2(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}$ , and
- 3 Independence of Xs:  $V(\mathbf{y}) = \sigma_\epsilon^2\mathbf{I}_n$

But, if we make the additional assumption that conditional on  $\mathbf{X}\beta$  then  $\mathbf{Y}$  is normally distributed, then so too is  $\beta$  normally distributed:

$$\mathbf{b} \sim N_{k+1}[\beta, \sqrt{\sigma_\epsilon^2(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}}]$$

# Inference for Multiple Regression

We know (from the last slide) that  $\mathbf{b}$  is distributed normal.

- $E(\mathbf{b}) = \beta$
- $VCOV(\mathbf{b}) = \sigma_\epsilon^2(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}^{-1})$

## Theorem

*Then, for some individual coefficient,  $B_j$ , the coefficient is also normally distributed with expectation  $\beta_j$  and sampling variance  $\sigma_\epsilon^2 v_{jj}$ , where  $v_{jj}$  is the  $j$ th diagonal entry of the VCOV matrix.*

# Inference for Multiple Regression

Then, most awesomely, the ratio

$$\frac{(B_j - \beta_j)}{\sigma_\epsilon \sqrt{v_{jj}}}$$

is on the unit-normal distribution ( $N(0, 1)$ ). So, most, most awesomely, we can calculate the following test statistic for the hypothesis:

$$H_0 : \beta_j = \beta_j$$

$$Z_0 = \frac{B_j - \beta_j}{\sigma_\epsilon \sqrt{v_{jj}}}$$

# Inference for Multiple Regression

- Just like in the simple OLS case, we don't actually *know*  $\sigma_\epsilon^2$ .
- But, we do know an unbiased estimate (estimates on estimates..., for days...):

$$S_E^2 = \frac{\mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e}}{n - k - 1}$$

- And so, we can estimate the VCOV of the least squares coefficients as:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{V}(\mathbf{b}) &= S_E^2(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1} \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{e}'\mathbf{e}}{n - k - 1}(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\end{aligned}$$



# Multiple Regression Inference

$$H_0 : \beta_j = 0 \quad H_A : \beta_j \neq 0$$

Calculate estimated slopes and intercept. Could they just be random?

- 1 State Null and alternative hypotheses
- 2 Calculate test statistic.
- 3 How likely is  $\hat{\beta}_j$  if the true value is 0? If there were NO relationship, how likely is it that we would randomly see a slope this big?
- 4 If very unlikely, reject null hypothesis that no relationship. If rather likely, then maybe it is just random - fail to reject null.

# Multiple Regression Inference

$$\hat{\beta} \sim N(\beta, \sigma_E^2(X'X)^{-1})$$

Standard error for a slope under multiple regression:

$$\mathbf{V}(\hat{\beta}) = S_E^2(X'X)^{-1}$$

Square root of diagonals are the standard errors for each coefficient.

$$\frac{\hat{\beta} - \beta_0}{SE(\hat{\beta}_j)} \sim t_{n-k-1}$$