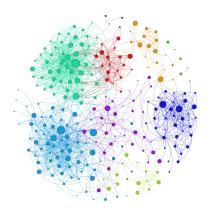
Regression

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The linear regression model¹ is a discriminative model with $f(x) = E[y|x]^2$ as the target function and $\mathcal{H} = \{h(x)\}$ consisting of linear functions³:

$$h(x) = x'\beta$$

, where
$$x=(1,x_1,\ldots,x_p)'$$
 and $\beta=(\beta_0,\beta_1,\ldots,\beta_p)'$.

The goal is to find $g \in \mathcal{H}$ that best approximates f.

³Since each h(x) is associated with a unique β , h(x) is said to be **parametrized** by β . In this case, choosing a hypothesis h is equivalent to choosing a parameter β .



¹Note on terminology: linear regression can refer broadly to the use of any linear models for regression purposes. However, historically it often refers more narrowly to least squares linear regression. Here we start by discussing the least squares linear regression model.

²The conditional expectation function (CEF), E[y|x], is also known as the regression function.

Error measures:

$$E_{out}(h) = E\left[(y - h(x))^2 \right]$$
 (1)

$$E_{in}(h) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i - h(x_i))^2$$
 (2)

• The VC dimension of a linear model is $p+1^4$. For $N\gg p$, the linear model generalizes well from E_{in} to E_{out} .

⁴p is the dimension of the input space.

Let

$$\beta^* = \arg\min_{\beta} E\left[\left(y - x'\beta \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= \underbrace{E\left(xx' \right)^{-1}}_{(p+1)\times(p+1)} \underbrace{E\left(xy \right)}_{(p+1)\times1}$$
(3)

 β^* is the *population* regression coefficient.

 $x'\beta^*$ is the best⁵ linear predictor of y given x in the underlying population.

⁵in the sense of minimizing the L2 loss function.

Recall that the CEF f(x) = E[y|x] is the best⁶ predictor of y given x in the class of all functions of x.

The function $x'\beta^*$ provides the best⁶ linear approximation to the CEF:

$$\beta^* = \arg\min_{\beta} E\left[\left(E\left[y|x\right] - x'\beta\right)^2\right]$$

⁶minimum L2 loss

Let $e^* \equiv y - x'\beta^*$. By construction,

$$\underbrace{E\left(xe^*\right)}_{(p+1)\times 1} = 0\tag{4}$$

In particular, if x contains a constant term, then (4) $\Rightarrow E(e^*) = 0$. In this case e^* and x are uncorrelated.

We can separate the constant term and write the linear model as

$$y = \beta_0 + \widetilde{x}'\widetilde{\beta} + e$$

, where
$$\widetilde{x}=(x_1,\ldots,x_p)'$$
 and $\widetilde{\beta}=(\beta_1,\ldots,\beta_p)'$.

Then $(3) \Rightarrow$

$$\widetilde{\beta}^* = Var(\widetilde{x})^{-1} Cov(\widetilde{x}, y)$$

$$\beta_0^* = E(y) - E(\widetilde{x})' \widetilde{\beta}^*$$
(5)

When p = 1,

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + e$$

 $(5) \Rightarrow$

$$\beta_1^* = \frac{Cov(x_1, y)}{Var(x_1)} \tag{6}$$

When p > 1, (5) \Rightarrow for any $j \in \{1, \dots, p\}$,

$$\beta_j^* = \frac{Cov\left(u_j^*, y\right)}{Var\left(u_j^*\right)} \tag{7}$$

, where u_i^* is the residual from a regression of x_i on all the other inputs.

- $\beta^* = E\left(xx'\right)^{-1} E\left(xy\right)$ is the $(p+1) \times 1$ vector with the $j^{th}\left(j>1\right)$ element being $\beta_j^* = \frac{Cov\left(u_j^*,y\right)}{Var\left(u_i^*\right)}$.
- Each β_j^* is the slope coefficient on a scatter plot with y on the y-axis and u_j^* on the x-axis.

Given observed data $\mathcal{D} = \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_N, y_N)\} \sim^{i.i.d.} p(x, y)$, we have, for $i = 1, \dots, N$,

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \dots + \beta_p x_{ip} + e_i$$

, which can be written as

$$Y = X\beta + e$$

, where $Y = [y_1, ..., y_N]'$, $e = [e_1, ..., e_N]'$, and

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_{11} & \cdots & x_{1p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_{N1} & \cdots & x_{Np} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ \vdots \\ x_N' \end{bmatrix}$$

, where $x_i = [1, x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip}]'$.



Minimizing the in-sample error $(2) \Rightarrow$

$$\widehat{\beta} = \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i x_i'\right]^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i y_i$$

$$= \left(X'X\right)^{-1} X'Y$$
(8)

 $\widehat{\beta}$ is the *least squares* regression coefficient – the sample estimate of β^* .

When p = 1,

$$\widehat{\beta}_{0} = \overline{y} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \overline{x}_{i1}$$

$$\widehat{\beta}_{1} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_{i1} - \overline{x}_{i1}) y_{i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_{i1} - \overline{x}_{i1})^{2}}$$

, where $\overline{x}_{i1} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_{i1}$.

When p > 1, for any $j \in \{1, \dots, p\}$,

$$\widehat{\beta}_{j} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \widehat{u}_{ij} y_{i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \widehat{u}_{ij}^{2}} = \frac{\widehat{u}_{j}^{l} Y}{\widehat{u}_{j}^{l} \widehat{u}_{j}}$$
(9)

, where $\widehat{u}_j = (\widehat{u}_{1j}, \dots, \widehat{u}_{Nj})'$, and \widehat{u}_{ij} is the estimated residual from a regression of x_{ij} on $(1, \{x_{ik}\}_{k \neq j})$.

Generate some data:

$$x_1 \sim U(0,1)$$

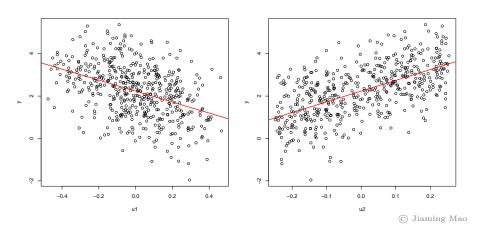
 $x_2 = 0.5x_1 + 0.5r, r \sim U(0,1)$
 $y = 1 - 2.5x_1 + 5x_2 + e, e \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

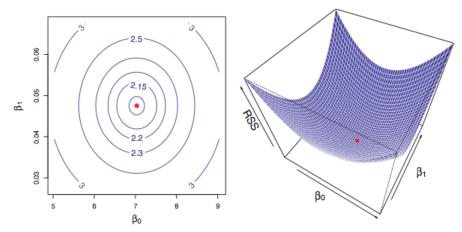
```
n <- 500
e <- rnorm(n)
x1 <- runif(n)
x2 <- 0.5*x1 + 0.5*runif(n)
y <- 1 - 2.5*x1 + 5*x2 + e</pre>
```

```
require (AER)
reg < -lm(y ~ x1 + x2)
coeftest(reg)
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
##
             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 1.01013 0.11884 8.4997 2.233e-16 ***
     -2.59166 0.22529 -11.5039 < 2.2e-16 ***
## x1
## x2 5.06250 0.31213 16.2193 < 2.2e-16 ***
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

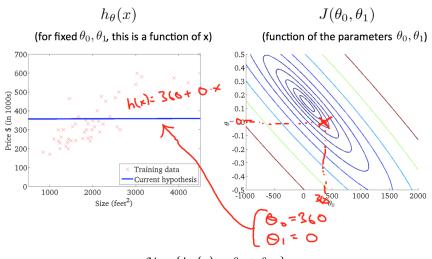
```
X \leftarrow cbind(rep(1,n),x1,x2)
beta <- solve(t(X)%*%X)%*%t(X)%*%y
t(beta)
##
                           x1
                                     x2
## [1,] 1.010133 -2.591657 5.062497
x1reg \leftarrow lm(x1~x2)
u1 <- residuals(x1reg)
b1 \leftarrow cov(u1, y)/var(u1)
x2reg \leftarrow lm(x2~x1)
u2 <- residuals(x2reg)</pre>
b2 \leftarrow cov(u2,y)/var(u2)
b0 = mean(y) - b1*mean(x1) - b2*mean(x2)
cbind(b0,b1,b2)
##
                b0 b1
                                     b2
   [1,] 1.010133 -2.591657 5.062497
```

```
plot(u1,y)
abline(lm(y~u1),col="red",lwd=2)
plot(u2,y)
abline(lm(y~u2),col="red",lwd=2)
```





Contour and three-dimensional plots of RSS $=\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left(y_{i}-x_{i}'\beta\right)^{2}$

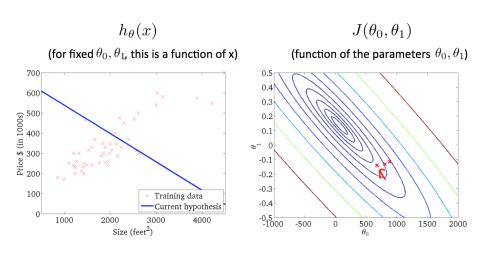


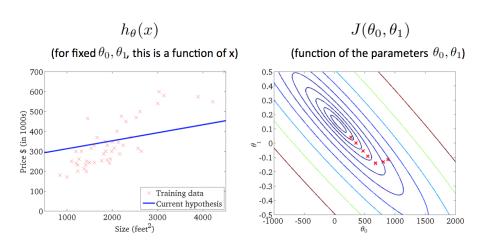
$$\mathcal{H} = \{h_{\theta}(x) = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x\}$$

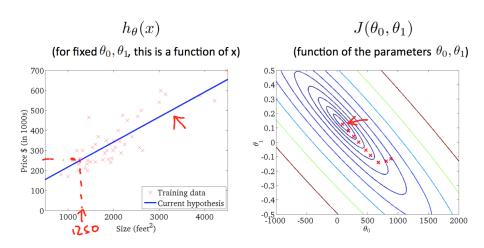
Left: training data and $h_{\theta}(x)$ for a particular $\theta = (\theta_0, \theta_1)$

Right: RSS: $J(\theta_0, \theta_1) = \sum_i (y_i - \theta_0 - \theta_1 x_i)^2$

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Consider two n-dimensional vectors: $a = (a_1, ..., a_n)$ and $b = (b_1, ..., b_n)$. The **Euclidean distance** between a and b is:

$$||a-b|| = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (a_i - b_i)^2} = \sqrt{(a-b) \cdot (a-b)}$$

The cosine of the angle between a and b is:

$$\cos\theta = \frac{a \cdot b}{\|a\| \|b\|}$$

, where ||a|| = ||a - 0|| is the length of a.

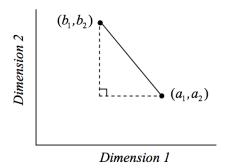
When $a \cdot b = 0$, a and b are **orthogonal**, denoted by $a \perp b$.

The linear space spanned by a, denoted by $\mathcal{R}(a)$, is the collection of points $\beta a = (\beta a_1, \dots, \beta a_n)$ for any real number β .

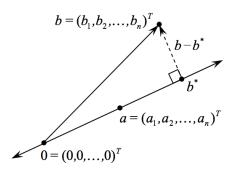
The **projection** of b onto $\mathcal{R}(a)$ is the point b^* in $\mathcal{R}(a)$ that is closest to b in terms of Euclidean distance:

$$b^* = \left(\frac{a \cdot b}{\|a\|^2}\right) a$$

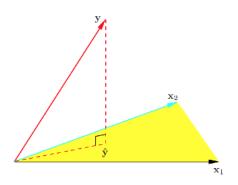
•
$$(b - b^*) \perp a$$



Euclidean Distance in two Dimensions



The linear regression fit \widehat{Y} is the projection of Y onto the linear space spanned by $\{1, X_1, \dots, X_p\}^7$.



 $^{{}^{7}}X_{j} = (x_{1j}, \dots, x_{Nj})' \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, p.$

• Projection matrix $\mathbb{H} = X(X'X)^{-1}X'$

$$\mathbb{H}Y = \widehat{Y}$$

 $ightharpoonup \mathbb{H}$ is also called the **hat matrix**^{8,9}.

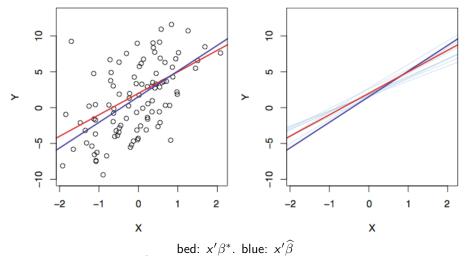
•
$$\hat{e} = Y - X \hat{\beta} = (\mathbb{I} - \mathbb{H}) Y \perp \mathcal{R} (\mathbf{1}, X_1, \dots, X_p).$$

- $ightharpoonup \widehat{e} \perp X_j \, \forall j.$
- $ightharpoonup \widehat{e} \perp \mathbf{1} \Rightarrow \sum_{i} \widehat{e}_{i} = 0.$

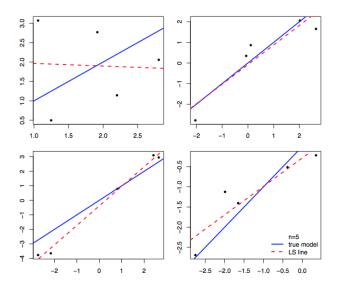
⁸Since it "puts a hat" on Y.

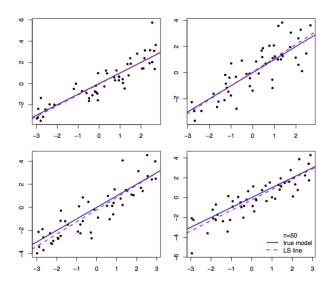
 $^{^9}$ The hat matrix has many special properties such as: $\mathbb{H}^2=\mathbb{H}$, $(\mathbb{I}-\mathbb{H})^2=(\mathbb{I}-\mathbb{H})$, and trace $(\mathbb{H})=1+p$.

- $\widehat{\beta}$ is unbiased: $E(\widehat{\beta}) = \beta^*$.
- But how much does $\widehat{\beta}$ vary around β^* ?



Right: $x'\widehat{\beta}$ based on 10 random set of observations.





By the central limit theorem,

$$\sqrt{N}\left(\widehat{\beta}-\beta^{*}\right) \longrightarrow^{d} \mathcal{N}\left(0, E\left(xx'\right)^{-1} E\left[xx'\left(e^{*}\right)^{2}\right] E\left(xx'\right)^{-1}\right)$$

- $V\left(\widehat{\beta}\right) = \underbrace{N^{-1}E\left(xx'\right)^{-1}E\left[xx'\left(e^*\right)^2\right]E\left(xx'\right)^{-1}}_{(p+1)\times(p+1)}$ is the **asymptotic** variance of $\widehat{\beta}$ conditional on x.
- ullet $V\left(\widehat{eta}
 ight)$ quantifies the uncertainty of \widehat{eta} due to random sampling.

$$\widehat{V}\left(\widehat{\beta}\right) = \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i x_i'\right]^{-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i x_i' \widehat{e}_i^2\right) \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i x_i'\right]^{-1}$$

$$= (X'X)^{-1} (X'\Omega X) (X'X)^{-1}$$

$$\to^{p} V\left(\widehat{\beta}\right)$$
(10)

, where
$$\Omega = \text{diag}\left(\widehat{e}_1^2, \dots, \widehat{e}_N^2\right) = \left[\begin{array}{ccc} \widehat{e}_1^2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \widehat{e}_N^2 \end{array} \right].$$

Homoskedasticity:
$$E\left[\left(e^{*}\right)^{2}\middle|x\right]=\sigma^{2}$$

Heteroskedasticity:
$$E\left[\left(e^{*}\right)^{2}\middle|x\right]=\sigma^{2}\left(x\right)$$

Under homoskedasticity,

$$\sqrt{N} \left(\widehat{\beta} - \beta^* \right) \longrightarrow^d \mathcal{N} \left(0, E \left(x x' \right)^{-1} \sigma^2 \right)$$

$$\widehat{V} \left(\widehat{\beta} \right) = \left(X' X \right)^{-1} \widehat{\sigma}^2 \tag{11}$$

From (9), we can also derive the homoskedastic asymptotic variance of $\widehat{\beta}_j$ – the $(j+1)^{th}$ diagonal element of $V\left(\widehat{\beta}\right)$ – as:

For $j = 1, \ldots, p$,

$$\sqrt{N} \left(\widehat{\beta}_{j} - \beta_{j}^{*} \right) \longrightarrow^{d} \mathcal{N} \left(0, \frac{\sigma^{2}}{Var \left(u_{j} \right)} \right)$$

$$\widehat{V} \left(\widehat{\beta}_{j} \right) = \frac{\widehat{\sigma}^{2}}{\widehat{u}_{i}^{\prime} \widehat{u}_{j}} \tag{12}$$

Asymptotic Properties

t-statistic

$$t_{j}=rac{\widehat{eta}_{j}-eta_{j}^{*}}{\widehat{se}\left(\widehat{eta}_{j}
ight)}
ightarrow^{d}\mathcal{N}\left(0,1
ight)$$

, where
$$\widehat{se}\left(\widehat{\beta}_{j}\right)=\sqrt{\widehat{V}\left(\widehat{\beta}_{j}\right)}.$$

• 95% confidence interval for β_i^* :

$$\left[\widehat{\beta}_{j}-1.96\times\widehat{se}\left(\widehat{\beta}_{j}\right),\widehat{\beta}_{j}+1.96\times\widehat{se}\left(\widehat{\beta}_{j}\right)\right]$$

▶ The interval represents a set estimate of β_j^* .

$$\mathbb{H}_0: \beta_i^* = 0 \text{ vs. } \mathbb{H}_1: \beta_i^* \neq 0$$

Under H_0 ,

$$t_{j} = \frac{\widehat{\beta}_{j}}{\widehat{se}\left(\widehat{\beta}_{j}\right)} \to^{d} \mathcal{N}\left(0,1\right)$$
(13)

P-value: probability of observing any value $\geq |t_j|$ under \mathbb{H}_0 . (13) \Rightarrow in large sample,

$$p - \text{value} \approx 2 \left(1 - \Phi \left(t_j \right) \right)$$
 (14)

, where Φ is the CDF of $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$.



For significance level α , reject \mathbb{H}_0 if $|t_j| > c_{\alpha} = \Phi^{-1}(1 - \alpha/2)$, or equivalently, if p – value $< \alpha^{10}$.

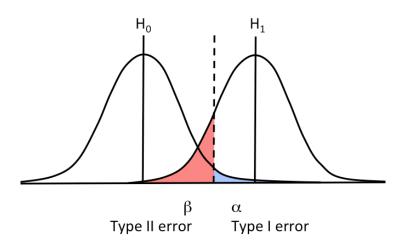
- c_{α} is called the **asymptotic critical value**.
- Common practice: $\alpha = 5\%$ ($c_{.05} \approx 1.96$), $\alpha = 10\%$ ($c_{.10} \approx 1.64$), $\alpha = 1\%$ ($c_{.01} \approx 2.58$).

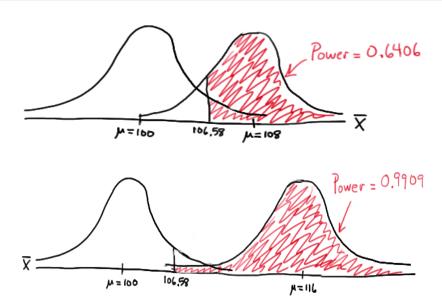
 $^{^{10}}$ It is worth emphasizing that (14) is only valid *in large samples*, since it is based on the asymptotic distribution of t_j . Any p-values calculated using (14) on small samples should *not* be trusted. In general, hypothesis tests based on the asymptotic properties of test statistics are only valid for large samples.

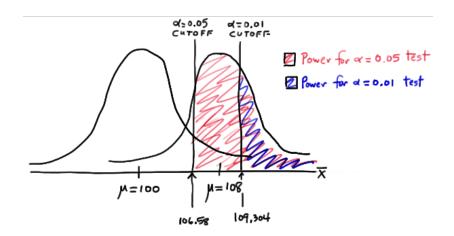
Hypothesis Testing Decisions

	$\text{Accept }\mathbb{H}_0$	Reject \mathbb{H}_0	
\mathbb{H}_0 true	Correct Decision	Type I Error	
\mathbb{H}_1 true	Type II Error	Correct Decision	

- α is the **size** of the test the probability of making a Type I error: $\Pr(\text{reject } \mathbb{H}_0 | \mathbb{H}_0 \text{ is true}).$
- The **power** or **sensitivity** of a test, is the probability of rejecting \mathbb{H}_0 when \mathbb{H}_1 is true. Thus (1-power), denoted by β , is the probability of making a Type II error: $\Pr(\text{fail to reject } \mathbb{H}_0 | \mathbb{H}_1 \text{ is true})$.
 - ▶ Power \uparrow as $\alpha \uparrow$, or sample size $N \uparrow$, or the true (population) parameter value is further away from its hypothesized value under \mathbb{H}_0 .







$$R^{2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (\widehat{y}_{i} - \overline{y})^{2}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_{i} - \overline{y})^{2}} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \widehat{e}_{i}^{2}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_{i} - \overline{y})^{2}}$$

- measures the amount of variation in y_i accounted for by the model: 1 = perfect, 0 = perfect misfit.
- cannot go down when you add regressors.
 - ▶ Intuition: adding more regressors always allow us to fit the training data more accurately (i.e., reduce E_{in} , but not necessary E_{out})¹¹.

¹¹Technically, $\widehat{\beta}$ is chosen to minimize $\sum_i \widehat{e}^2$. if you add a regressor, you can always set the coefficient of that regressor equal to zero to get the same $\sum_i \widehat{e}^2$. Therefore R^2 cannot go down.

Robust Standard Errors

(10) is known as heteroskedasticity-consistent (HC) standard error, robust standard error, or White standard error.

Let's generate some data:

$$x = U(0, 100)$$

 $y = 5x + e, e \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \exp(x))$

```
n <- 1e3
x <- 100*runif(n)
y <- rnorm(n,mean=5*x,sd=exp(x))</pre>
```

Robust Standard Errors

```
require(AER)
coeftest(lm(y~x)) # homoskedastic standard error
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
                Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
## (Intercept) 1.0116e+41 9.0736e+40 1.1148 0.26519
     -3.0822e+39 1.5634e+39 -1.9715 0.04895 *
## x
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
coeftest(lm(v~x),vcov=vcovHC) # robust standard error
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
##
                Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 1.0116e+41 8.6253e+40 1.1728 0.2412
##
      -3.0822e+39 2.6314e+39 -1.1713 0.2417
                                                          © Jiaming Mao
```

- The bootstrap is a statistical tool that can be used to quantify the uncertainty associated with a given estimator or statistical method.
 - ► For example, it can provide an estimate of the standard error of a coefficient.
- The term is believed to derive from "The Surprising Adventures of Baron Munchausen" by Rudolph Erich Raspe¹²:

The Baron had fallen to the bottom of a deep lake. Just when it looked like all was lost, he thought to pick himself up by his own bootstraps.

 $^{^{12}\}mbox{We}$ also have the Munchausen number – a number that is equal to the sum of each digit raised to the power of itself. E.g., $3435=3^3+4^4+3^3+5^5.$





Baron Munchausen pulls himself out of a mire by his own hair (illustration by Oskar Herrfurth)

Suppose we wish to invest a fixed sum of money in two financial assets that yield returns of X and Y. Suppose our goal is to minimize the total risk, or variance, of our investment. Then the problem is to choose α such that

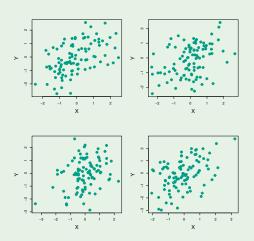
$$\alpha = \arg\min_{\gamma} Var \left[\gamma X + (1 - \gamma) Y \right] \tag{15}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\sigma_Y^2 - \sigma_{XY}}{\sigma_X^2 + \sigma_Y^2 - 2\sigma_{XY}} \tag{16}$$

Suppose we do not know $\sigma_X^2, \sigma_Y^2, \sigma_{XY}$ but have access to a random sample $\mathcal D$ that is drawn from p(X,Y). Then we can compute $\widehat{\sigma}_X^2, \widehat{\sigma}_Y^2, \widehat{\sigma}_{XY}$ from $\mathcal D$ and calculate $\widehat{\alpha}$.

Simulation:

- $\sigma_X^2 = 1, \sigma_Y^2 = 1.25, \sigma_{XY} = 0.5 \ (\Rightarrow \alpha = 0.6)$
- Draw random samples $\mathcal{D} = \{(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)\}$ from p(X, Y).



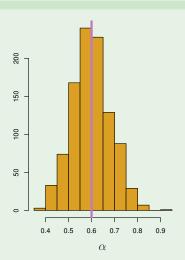
Each panel displays 100 simulated returns for investments X and Y . The resulting estimates for α are 0.576, 0.532, 0.657, and 0.651 clockwise.

To estimate the standard deviation of α , we simulate R random samples \mathcal{D} from p(X, Y) and estimate α R times \Rightarrow

$$\widehat{\alpha} = \frac{1}{R} \sum_{r=1}^{R} \widehat{\alpha}_{r}$$

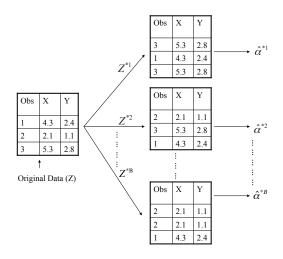
$$\widehat{se}(\widehat{\alpha}) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{R-1} \sum_{r=1}^{R} (\widehat{\alpha}_{r} - \widehat{\alpha})^{2}}$$

• Let n = 100 and R = 1000. One run of this simulation $\Rightarrow \hat{\alpha} = 0.5996$ and $\hat{se}(\hat{\alpha}) = 0.083$.



A histogram of the estimates of α obtained by generating 1,000 simulated data sets from the true population.

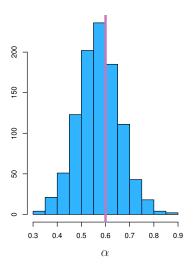
- In practice, we cannot generate new samples from the true population.
- Instead, The bootstrap approach generates new samples from the observed sample itself, by repeatedly drawing observations from the observed sample with replacement.
- Each generated bootstrap sample contains the same number of observations as the original observed sample. As a result, some observations may appear more than once in a given bootstrap sample and some not at all.



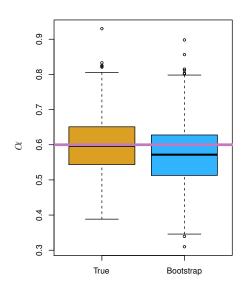
The bootstrap approach on a sample containing 3 observations.

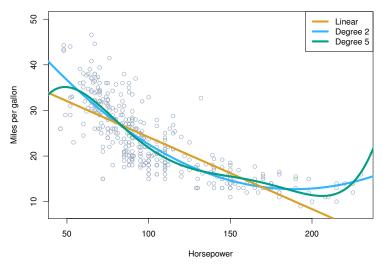
```
## Function to calculate alpha
alpha <- function(data,index){</pre>
  X <- data$X[index]</pre>
  Y <- data$Y[index]
  return((var(Y)-cov(X,Y))/(var(X)+var(Y)-2*cov(X,Y)))
}
## 'Portfolio' is a simulated data set containing the returns of X and Y
require(ISLR) # contains 'Portfolio'
n <- nrow(Portfolio)
bootsample <- sample(n,n,replace=T) # generate one bootstrap sample
alpha (Portfolio, bootsample) # calculate alpha based on the bootstrap sample
## [1] 0.4896806
```

```
## Calculate alpha based on 1000 bootstrap samples
require(boot)
boot(Portfolio,alpha,R=1000)
##
## ORDINARY NONPARAMETRIC BOOTSTRAP
##
##
## Call:
## boot(data = Portfolio, statistic = alpha, R = 1000)
##
##
  Bootstrap Statistics:
       original bias std. error
##
## t1* 0.5758321 0.002353412 0.08752433
```



A histogram of the estimates of α obtained from 1,000 bootstrap samples from a single data set





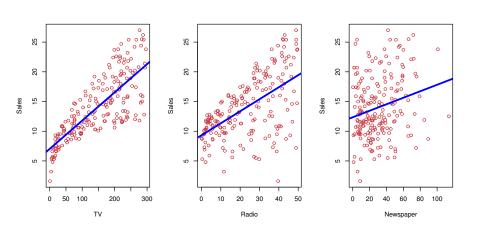
```
require(ISLR) # contains the data set 'Auto'
require(boot)
beta <- function(data,index){</pre>
  coef(lm(mpg~horsepower,data=data,subset=index))
}
boot(Auto, beta, R=1000)
##
   ORDINARY NONPARAMETRIC BOOTSTRAP
##
##
## Call:
## boot(data = Auto, statistic = beta, R = 1000)
##
##
## Bootstrap Statistics :
##
         original bias std. error
## t1* 39.9358610 0.0269563085 0.859851825
## t.2* -0.1578447 -0.0002906457 0.007402954
```

```
require(AER)
coeftest(lm(mpg ~ horsepower,data=Auto)) # homoskedastic std err

##
## t test of coefficients:
##
## Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 39.9358610 0.7174987 55.660 < 2.2e-16 ***
## horsepower -0.1578447 0.0064455 -24.489 < 2.2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1</pre>
```

```
coeftest(lm(mpg ~ horsepower,data=Auto),vcov=vcovHC) # robust std err

##
## t test of coefficients:
##
## Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 39.9358610  0.8644903  46.196 < 2.2e-16 ***
## horsepower -0.1578447  0.0074943 -21.062 < 2.2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1</pre>
```



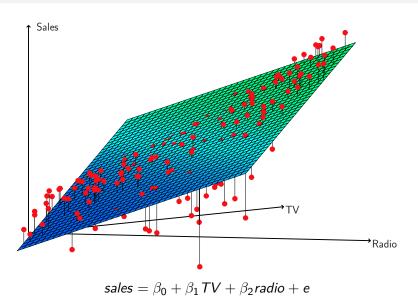
	Coefficient	Std. error	t-statistic	p-value
Intercept	7.0325	0.4578	15.36	< 0.0001
TV	0.0475	0.0027	17.67	< 0.0001
		~ -		
	Coefficient	Std. error	t-statistic	p-value
Intercept	9.312	0.563	16.54	< 0.0001
radio	0.203	0.020	9.92	< 0.0001
	Coefficient	Std. error	t-statistic	p-value
Intercept	12.351	0.621	19.88	< 0.0001
newspaper	0.055	0.017	3.30	< 0.0001

Simple regression of sales on TV, radio and newspaper respectively.

	Coefficient	Std. error	t-statistic	p-value
Intercept	2.939	0.3119	9.42	< 0.0001
TV	0.046	0.0014	32.81	< 0.0001
radio	0.189	0.0086	21.89	< 0.0001
newspaper	-0.001	0.0059	-0.18	0.8599

$$sales = \beta_0 + \beta_1 TV + \beta_2 radio + \beta_3 newspaper + e$$

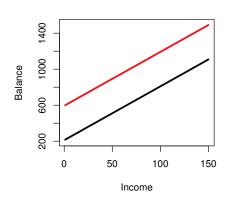
	TV	radio	newspaper	sales
TV	1.0000	0.0548	0.0567	0.7822
radio		1.0000	0.3541	0.5762
newspaper			1.0000	0.2283
sales				1.0000

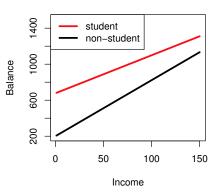


	Coefficient	Std. error	t-statistic	p-value
Intercept	6.7502	0.248	27.23	< 0.0001
TV	0.0191	0.002	12.70	< 0.0001
radio	0.0289	0.009	3.24	0.0014
TV×radio	0.0011	0.000	20.73	< 0.0001

$$sales = \beta_0 + \beta_1 TV + \beta_2 radio + \beta_3 (TV \times radio) + e$$

Credit Card Balance





Credit Card Balance

Let $student \in \{0,1\}$ indicate student status. Two models:

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{balance} &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 \textit{income} + \beta_2 \textit{student} + e \\ &= \begin{cases} \beta_0 + \beta_1 \textit{income} + e & \text{if not student} \\ (\beta_0 + \beta_2) + \beta_1 \textit{income} + e & \text{if student} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{balance} &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 \textit{income} + \beta_2 \textit{student} + \beta_3 \textit{income} \times \textit{student} + e \\ &= \begin{cases} \beta_0 + \beta_1 \textit{income} + e & \text{if not student} \\ (\beta_0 + \beta_2) + (\beta_1 + \beta_3) \textit{income} + e & \text{if student} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Interaction Terms and the Hierarchy Principle

- Sometimes an interaction term has a very small p-value, but the associated main effects do not.
- The hierarchy principle: If we include an interaction in a model, we should also include the main effects, even if the p-values associated with their coefficients are not significant.

Log-Linear Regression

When y changes on a multiplicative or percentage scale, it is often appropriate to use log(y) as the dependent variable¹³:

$$y = Ae^{\beta x + e} \Rightarrow \log(y) = \log(A) + \beta x + e$$

e.g.,

$$\log(\mathsf{GDP}) = \alpha + \mathsf{g} \times \mathsf{t} + \mathsf{e}$$

, where t= years, $\alpha=\log$ (base year GDP), and g= annual growth rate.

¹³Suppose y grows at a rate i. If i is continuously compounded, then $y_t = y_0 \lim_{n \to \infty} \left(1 + \frac{i}{n}\right)^{nt} = y_0 e^{it} \Rightarrow \log\left(y_t\right) = \log\left(y_0\right) + i \times t$. If i is not continuously compounded, then $y_t = y_0 \left(1 + i\right)^t \Rightarrow \log\left(y_t\right) = \log\left(y_0\right) + t \log\left(1 + i\right) \approx \log\left(y_0\right) + i \times t$.

Elasticity and Log-Log Regression

In a log-log model:

$$\log(y) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(x) + e$$

 β_1 can often be interpreted as an elasticity measure:

$$\beta_1 = \frac{\partial \log(y)}{\partial \log(x)} = \frac{\partial y/y}{\partial x/x} \approx \frac{\%\Delta y}{\%\Delta x}$$

e.g.,

$$\log (sales) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log (price) + e$$

14

¹⁴Note: in general,
$$E[f(y)] \neq f(E[y])$$
. In particular, by the Jensen's inequality, $E[\log(y)] < \log(E[y])$. Therefore, if $E[\log(y)|x] = \alpha + \beta x$, then $E[y|x] > \exp(\alpha + \beta x)$.

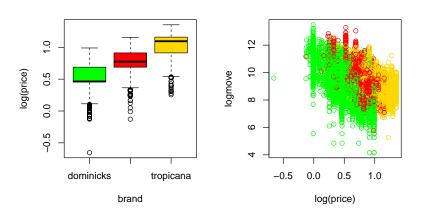
If we are willing to assume

$$\log(y) = \alpha + \beta x + e, \ e \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

, then we have: $E[y|x] = \exp\left(\alpha + \beta x + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2\right) = \exp\left(E[\log(y)|x] + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2\right)$.

Three brands: Tropicana, Minute Maid, Dominick's

Data from 83 stores on price, sales (units moved), and whether featured in the store



```
\log(\mathsf{sales}) = \alpha + \beta \log(\mathsf{price}) + e
```

```
require (AER)
oj <- read.csv('oj.csv')</pre>
reg1 = lm(logmove ~ log(price), data=oj)
coeftest(reg1)
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
##
              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
   (Intercept) 10.4234 0.0154 679.0 <2e-16 ***
## log(price) -1.6013 0.0184 -87.2 <2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

 $\log(\text{sales}) = \alpha_b + \beta_b \log(\text{price}) + e$, where b denotes brand

```
reg2 = lm(logmove ~ log(price)*brand, data=oj)
coeftest(reg2)
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
                          Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
  (Intercept)
                           10.9547
                                     0.0207 529.14 <2e-16 ***
  log(price)
                           -3.3775 0.0362 -93.32 <2e-16 ***
                            0.8883 0.0416 21.38 <2e-16 ***
  brandminute.maid
                            ## brandtropicana
  log(price):brandminute.maid
                            0.0568 0.0573 0.99
                                                      0.32
## log(price):brandtropicana
                                     0.0535 12.44
                                                    <2e-16 ***
                            0.6658
##
## Signif. codes: 0 '*** 0.001 '** 0.01 '* 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

```
\log(\text{sales}) = (\alpha_{0b} + \text{feature} \times a_{1b}) + (\beta_{0b} + \text{feature} \times \beta_{1b}) \times \log(\text{price}) + e
reg3 = lm(logmove ~ log(price)*brand*feat, data=oj)
coeftest(reg3)
##
   t test of coefficients:
##
                                      Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
   (Intercept)
                                       10,4066
                                                    0.0234 445.67 < 2e-16 ***
   log(price)
                                       -2.7742
                                                    0.0388
                                                            -71.45 < 2e-16 ***
   brandminute.maid
                                        0.0472
                                                    0.0466 1.01
                                                                        0.31
   brandtropicana
                                        0.7079
                                                    0.0508 13.94 < 2e-16 ***
                                                    0.0381 28.72 < 2e-16 ***
## feat.
                                        1.0944
  log(price):brandminute.maid
                                        0.7829
                                                    0.0614 12.75 < 2e-16 ***
   log(price):brandtropicana
                                                    0.0568
                                                            12.95
                                                                     < 2e-16 ***
                                        0.7358
   log(price):feat
                                       -0.4706
                                                    0.0741
                                                            -6.35
                                                                     2.2e-10 ***
   brandminute.maid:feat
                                        1.1729
                                                    0.0820
                                                            14.31
                                                                     < 2e-16 ***
   brandtropicana:feat
                                        0.7853
                                                    0.0987
                                                              7.95 1.9e-15 ***
   log(price):brandminute.maid:feat
                                       -1.1092
                                                    0.1222
                                                             -9.07
                                                                     < 2e-16 ***
   log(price):brandtropicana:feat
                                       -0.9861
                                                    0.1241
                                                             -7.95
                                                                     2.0e-15 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:
                    0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

- Elasticity 15: -1.6
- Brand-specific elasticities:

Dominick's: -3.4, Minute Maid: -3.4, Tropicana: -2.7

• How does featuring a product affect its elasticity?

	Dominick's	Minute Maid	Tropicana
not featured	-2.8	-2.0	-2.0
featured	-3.2	-3.6	-3.5

¹⁵What economic assumptions need to be satisfied in order for the coefficients to be interpreted as price elasticities of demand?

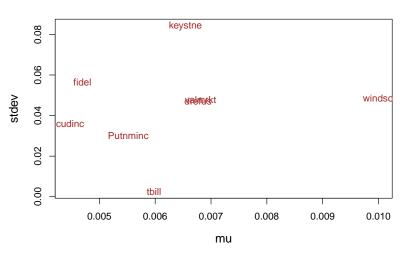
The Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) for asset A relates return $R_{A,t}$ to the market return, $R_{M,t}$:

$$R_{A,t} = \alpha + \beta R_{M,t} + e$$

When asset A is a mutual fund, this CAPM regression can be used as a performance benchmark for fund managers.

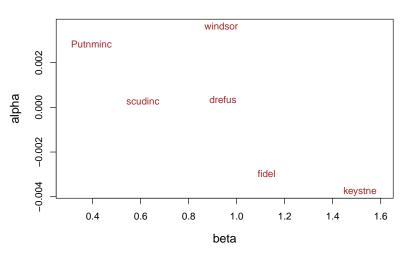
```
# 'mfunds.csv' contains data on the historical returns of
# 6 mutual funds as well as the market return
mfund <- read.csv('mfunds.csv')
mu <- apply(mfund,2,mean)
stdev <- apply(mfund,2,sd)</pre>
```

Mutual Funds

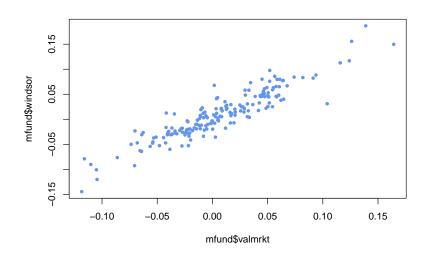


```
CAPM <- lm(as.matrix(mfund[,1:6]) ~ mfund$valmrkt)
CAPM
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = as.matrix(mfund[, 1:6]) ~ mfund$valmrkt)
##
## Coefficients:
                drefus fidel keystne Putnminc scudinc
##
  (Intercept) 0.0003462 -0.0029655 -0.0037704 0.0028271 0.000281
## mfund$valmrkt 0.9424286 1.1246549 1.5137186 0.3948280 0.609202
##
               windsor
  (Intercept) 0.0036469
## mfund$valmrkt 0.9357170
```

Mutual Funds



Look at windsor (which dominates the market):



Does Windsor have an "alpha" over the market?

```
\mathbb{H}_0: \alpha = 0 \text{ vs. } \mathbb{H}_1: \alpha \neq 0
```

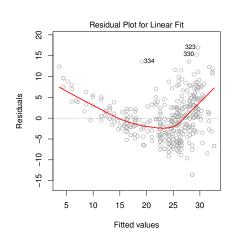
```
require(AER)
reg <- lm(mfund$windsor ~ mfund$valmrkt)
coeftest(reg)

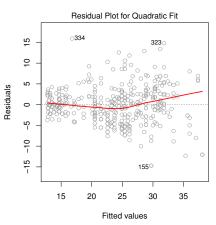
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
## Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 0.0036469 0.0014094 2.5876 0.01046 *
## mfund$valmrkt 0.9357170 0.0291499 32.1002 < 2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1</pre>
```

Now look at beta:

```
\mathbb{H}_0: \beta=1, Windsor is just the market (+ alpha). \mathbb{H}_1: \beta \neq 1, Windsor softens or exaggerates market moves.
```

```
linearHypothesis(reg, "mfund$valmrkt = 1")
## Linear hypothesis test
##
## Hypothesis:
## mfund$valmrkt = 1
##
## Model 1: restricted model
## Model 2: mfund$windsor ~ mfund$valmrkt
##
## Res.Df RSS Df Sum of Sq F Pr(>F)
## 1 179 0.064082
## 2 178 0.062378 1 0.0017042 4.8632 0.02872 *
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```





Anscombe's quartet comprises four datasets that have similar statistical properties ...

```
attach(anscombe <- read.csv("anscombe.csv"))
c(x.m1=mean(x1), x.m2=mean(x2), x.m3=mean(x3), x.m4=mean(x4))

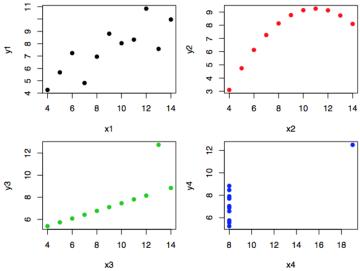
## x.m1 x.m2 x.m3 x.m4
## 9 9 9 9

c(y.m1=mean(y1), y.m2=mean(y2), y.m3=mean(y3), y.m4=mean(y4))

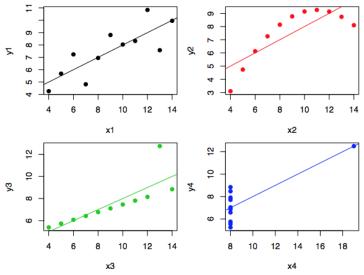
## y.m1 y.m2 y.m3 y.m4
## 7.500909 7.500909 7.500000 7.500909</pre>
```

```
c(x.sd1=sd(x1), x.sd2=sd(x2), x.sd3=sd(x3), x.sd3=sd(x4))
## x.sd1 x.sd2 x.sd3 x.sd3
## 3.316625 3.316625 3.316625 3.316625
c(v.sd1=sd(v1), v.sd2=sd(v2), v.sd4=sd(v3), v.sd4=sd(v4))
## y.sd1 y.sd2 y.sd4 y.sd4
## 2.031568 2.031657 2.030424 2.030579
c(cor1=cor(x1,y1), cor2=cor(x2,y2), cor3=cor(x3,y3), cor4=cor(x4,y4))
## cor1 cor2 cor3 cor4
## 0.8164205 0.8162365 0.8162867 0.8165214
```

...but vary considerably when graphed:



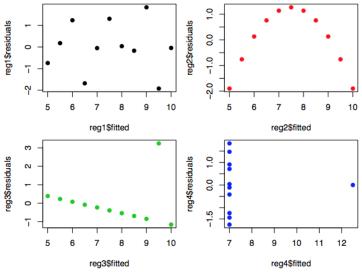
Linear regression on each dataset:



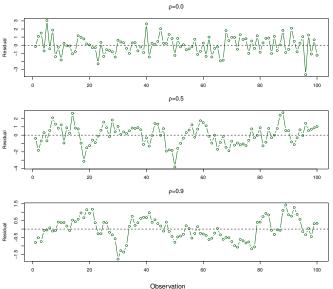
The regression lines and R^2 values are the same...

```
areg \leftarrow list(areg1=lm(y1~x1), areg2=lm(y2~x2), areg3=lm(y3~x3),
             areg4=lm(y4~x4))
attach(areg)
cbind(areg1$coef, areg2$coef, areg3$coef, areg4$coef)
                    [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]
##
## (Intercept) 3.0000909 3.000909 3.0024545 3.0017273
## x1
               0.5000909 0.500000 0.4997273 0.4999091
s <- lapply(areg, summary)</pre>
c(s$areg1$r.sq, s$areg2$r.sq,s$areg3$r.sq, s$areg4$r.sq)
   [1] 0.6665425 0.6662420 0.6663240 0.6667073
```

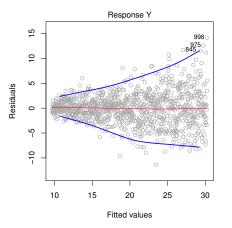
...but residual plots show the differences:

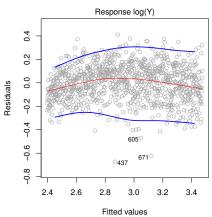


Rregression Diagnostics: Nonrandom Sampling



Rregression Diagnostics: Heteroskedasticity





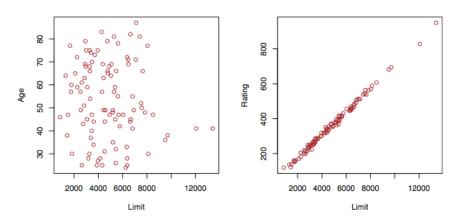


FIGURE 3.14. Scatterplots of the observations from the Credit data set. Left: A plot of age versus limit. These two variables are not collinear. Right: A plot of rating versus limit. There is high collinearity.

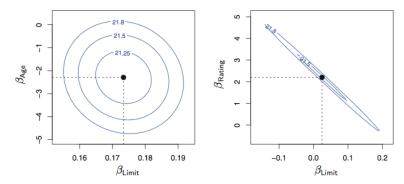


FIGURE 3.15. Contour plots for the RSS values as a function of the parameters β for various regressions involving the Credit data set. In each plot, the black dots represent the coefficient values corresponding to the minimum RSS. Left: A contour plot of RSS for the regression of balance onto age and limit. The minimum value is well defined. Right: A contour plot of RSS for the regression of balance onto rating and limit. Because of the collinearity, there are many pairs (β_{Limit} , β_{Rating}) with a similar value for RSS.

From (9), we can see that:

• If X_1, \ldots, X_p are orthogonal, $\widehat{\beta}_j$ is equal to the simple regression coefficient of y on $(1, X_j)$.

$$ightharpoonup \widehat{u}_j = X_j - \overline{X}_j$$

• If X_1, \ldots, X_p are correlated – in particular – if X_j is highly correlated with the other predictors, then \widehat{u}_j will be close to 0. This makes $\widehat{\beta}_j$ unstable, as both the denominator and the numerator are small.

From (12), we can see that:

• If X_j is highly correlated with the other predictors, the variance of $\widehat{\beta}_j$ is inflated, making it less likely to be significant.

		Coefficient	Std. error	t-statistic	p-value
Model 1	Intercept	-173.411	43.828	-3.957	< 0.0001
	age	-2.292	0.672	-3.407	0.0007
	limit	0.173	0.005	34.496	< 0.0001
Model 2	Intercept	-377.537	45.254	-8.343	< 0.0001
	rating	2.202	0.952	2.312	0.0213
	limit	0.025	0.064	0.384	0.7012

- A simple way to detect collinearity is to look at the correlation matrix of the predictors.
- However, it is possible for collinearity to exist between three or more variables even if no pair of variables has a particularly high correlation. This is called multicollinearity.
- Variance inflation factor (VIF):

$$VIF\left(\widehat{\beta}_{j}\right) = \frac{1}{1 - R_{X_{j}|X_{-j}}^{2}}$$

, where $R_{X_j\mid X_{-j}}^2$ is the R^2 from a regression of X_j onto all of the other predictors.

 $ightharpoonup VIF \geq 1$. Large VIF indicates a problematic amount of collinearity.

- When faced with the problem of collinearity, a simple solution is to drop one of the problematic variables.
- Suppose two variables both contribute in explaining *y*, but are highly correlated with each other.
 - ▶ Both will be insignificant if both are included in the regression model.
 - Dropping one will likely make the other significant.
- This is why we can't remove two (or more) supposedly insignificant predictors at a time: significance depends on what other predictors are in the model!

Maximum Likeliood Estimation

- While least squares regression learns a deterministic function f(x) that directly maps each x into a prediction of y, an alternative approach is to learn the conditional distribution p(y|x) and use the estimated p(y|x) to form a prediction of y.
- To do so, let $\mathcal{H} = \{q_{\theta}(y|x) : \theta \in \Theta\}$, where the hypotheses $q_{\theta}(y|x)$ are conditional distributions parametrized by $\theta \in \Theta$.
- We select a $q_{\theta}(y|x) \in \mathcal{H}$, or equivalently, a $\theta \in \Theta$, by minimizing the empirical KL divergence, or equivalently, by maximizing the (log) likelihood function.

Maximum Likeliood Estimation

The log likelihood function 16:

$$\log \mathcal{L}\left(\theta\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \log q_{\theta}\left(y_{i} \left| x_{i} \right.\right)$$

The maximum likelihood estimator chooses

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \boldsymbol{\Theta}} \log \mathcal{L}\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}\right)$$

¹⁶Also written as $\log \mathcal{L}(\theta|\mathcal{D})$ to emphasize its dependence on sample \mathcal{D} .

The normal linear regression model is $\mathcal{H} = \{q_{\theta}(y|x)\}$, where

$$q_{\theta}(y|x) = \mathcal{N}\left(x'\beta, \sigma^2\right) \tag{17}$$

, where $\theta = (\beta, \sigma)$.

This is equivalent to assuming 17:

$$y = x'\beta + e, \ e \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \sigma^2\right)$$
 (18)

¹⁷Notice the strong assumptions imposed by (17) and (18). In addition to assuming a linear regression function, we are now assuming that (1) at each x, the scatter of y around the regression function is Gaussian (**Gaussianity**); (2) the variance of this scatter is constant (**homoskedasticity**); and (3) there is no dependence between this scatter and anything else (**error independence**).

Given sample \mathcal{D} and model (17),

$$\log \mathcal{L} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \log \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left(y_i - x_i'\beta\right)^2\right) \right\}$$

$$= -\frac{N}{2} \log (2\pi) - N \log \sigma - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(y_i - x_i'\beta\right)^2$$

$$(19)$$

RSS

Maximizing (19) with respect to β and $\sigma \Rightarrow$

$$\frac{\partial \log \mathcal{L}}{\partial \beta} = 0 \Rightarrow \widehat{\beta} = \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i x_i' \right]^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i y_i = (X'X)^{-1} X'Y$$

$$\frac{\partial \log \mathcal{L}}{\partial \sigma} = 0 \Rightarrow \widehat{\sigma} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(y_i - x_i' \widehat{\beta} \right)^2}$$

Thus, maximum likelihood estimation of the normal linear model produces the same estimate of β as least squares regression.

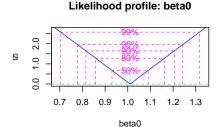
Let's fit the normal linear model (17) on the data we generated on page 14:

```
# Define the negative log likelihood function
nll <-function(theta){
  beta0 <- theta[1]
  beta1 <- theta[2]
  beta2 <- theta[3]
  sigma <- theta[4]
  N <- length(y)
  z \leftarrow (y - beta0 - beta1*x1 - beta2*x2)/sigma
  logL <- -1*N*log(sigma) - 0.5*sum(z^2)
  return(-logL)}
# Minimize the negative likelihood function
mlefit \leftarrow optim(c(0,0,0,1),nll) # initial value for theta: (0,0,0,1)
mlefit$par # parameter estimate
## [1] 1.010153 -2.591790 5.062709 1.004935
```

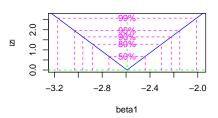
Normal Linear Model

```
# Alternatively, use the mle2 function from the bbmle package
require(bbmle)
parnames(nll) <- c("beta0","beta1","beta2","sigma")</pre>
result <- mle2(nll,start=c(beta0=0,beta1=0,beta2=0,sigma=1))
summary(result)
## Maximum likelihood estimation
##
## Call:
## mle2(minuslog1 = nl1, start = c(beta0 = 0, beta1 = 0, beta2 = 0,
      sigma = 1))
##
##
## Coefficients:
      Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(z)
##
## beta0 1.010134 0.118487 8.5253 < 2.2e-16 ***
## beta1 -2.591654  0.224609 -11.5385 < 2.2e-16 ***
## beta2 5.062493 0.311189 16.2682 < 2.2e-16 ***
## sigma 1.004913 0.031778 31.6227 < 2.2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
                                                             © Jiaming Mao
##
```

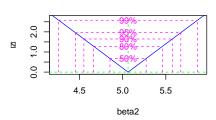
Normal Linear Model



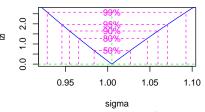
Likelihood profile: beta1



Likelihood profile: beta2



Likelihood profile: sigma

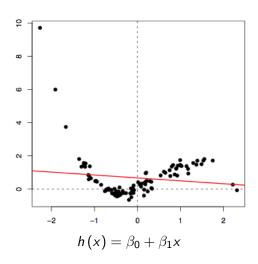


Moving Beyond Linearity

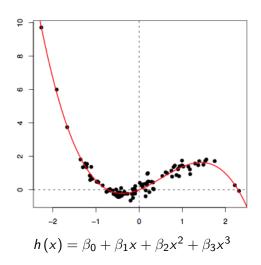
- The CEF f(x) = E(y|x) is seldom linear. The least squares linear regression model, however, doesn't have to be linear in x either. We can move beyond linearity in inputs x as long as we retain linearity in parameters β^{18} .
- Polynomial regression is a standard way to extend linear regression to settings in which the relationship between x and y is nonlinear.

¹⁸We have already seen examples of including nonlinear terms in x such as $\log(x)$ and interaction effects (x_1x_2) in the regression model.

Polynomial Regression



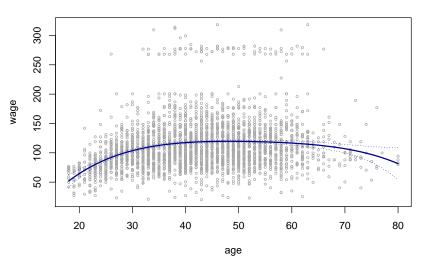
Polynomial Regression



Data: income survey for men in central Atlantic region of USA

```
require (AER)
require(ISLR) # contains the data set 'Wage'
fit = lm(wage ~ poly(age,4,raw=T),data=Wage) # degree-4 polynomial
coeftest(fit)
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
                            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
## (Intercept) -1.8415e+02 6.0040e+01 -3.0672 0.0021803 **
## poly(age, 4, raw = T)1 2.1246e+01 5.8867e+00 3.6090 0.0003124 ***
## poly(age, 4, raw = T)2 -5.6386e-01 2.0611e-01 -2.7357 0.0062606 **
## poly(age, 4, raw = T)3 6.8107e-03
                                     3.0659e-03 2.2214 0.0263978 *
## poly(age, 4, raw = T)4 -3.2038e-05 1.6414e-05 -1.9519 0.0510386 .
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```





- For the following analysis, consider modeling the relationship between y and a single input variable x.
- So far we have imposed a \mathfrak{P}_{global} \mathfrak{D} structure on the relationship between x and y.
- Piecewise regression breaks the input space into distinct regions and fit a different relationship in each region.

How it works:

1. Divide the range of x into M regions by creating M-1 cutpoints, or **knots**, ξ_1, \ldots, ξ_{M-1} . Then construct the following dummy variables:

Region
$$\phi(x)$$

$$R_1 \qquad \phi_1(x) = \mathcal{I}(x < \xi_1)$$

$$R_2 \qquad \phi_2(x) = \mathcal{I}(\xi_1 \le x < \xi_2)$$

$$\vdots \qquad \vdots$$

$$R_M \qquad \phi_M(x) = \mathcal{I}(\xi_{M-1} \le x)$$

This amounts to converting a continuous variable into an *ordered* categorical variable.

How it works:

2. Fit the following model:

$$y = \beta_1 \phi_1(x) + \beta_2 \phi_2(x) + \dots + \beta_M \phi_M(x) + e$$
 (20)

 $\sum_{m=1}^{M} \beta_m \phi_m(x)$ is a step function or piecewise constant function, and (20) is called a piecewise constant regression model.

Solving (20) by least squares \Rightarrow

$$\widehat{\beta}_m = \overline{y}_m$$

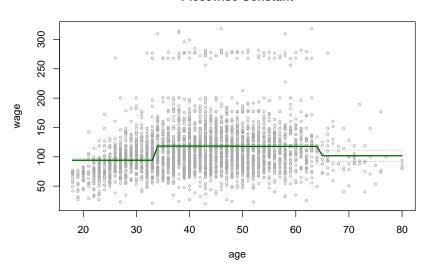
, where
$$\overline{y}_m \equiv \frac{1}{n_m} \sum_{x_i \in R_m} y_i^{19}$$
.

i.e., for every $x \in R_m$, we make the same prediction, which is simply the mean of the response values for the training observations in R_m .

 $^{^{19}}n_m$ is the number of observations in R_m .

```
# cut(x,M) divides x into M pieces of equal length
          and generates the corresponding dummy variables
fit = lm(wage ~ 0 + cut(age,4),data=Wage) # no intercept
coeftest(fit)
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
                        Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
                                     1.4761 63.790 < 2.2e-16 ***
## cut(age, 4)(17.9,33.5] 94.1584
## cut(age, 4)(33.5,49] 118.2119 1.0808 109.379 < 2.2e-16 ***
## cut(age, 4)(49,64.5] 117.8230 1.4483 81.351 < 2.2e-16 ***
## cut(age, 4)(64.5,80.1] 101.7990 4.7640 21.368 < 2.2e-16 ***
##
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Piecewise Constant



Basis Functions

In general, $\phi(x)$ are called **basis functions** and do not have to be dummy variables. They can be any functions of x.

A linear basis function model is defined as²⁰:

$$y = \beta_1 \phi_1(x) + \beta_2 \phi_2(x) + \dots + \beta_M \phi_M(x) + e = \beta' \Phi(x) + e$$
 (21)

, where $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_M)'$ and $\Phi = (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_M)'$.

Solving (21) by least squares \Rightarrow

$$\widehat{\beta} = \left(\Phi'\Phi\right)^{-1}\Phi'Y$$

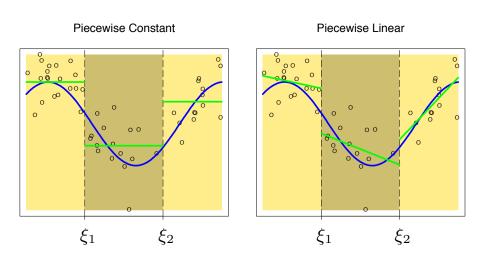
, where $\Phi = \Phi(X)$.

²⁰Notice that (21) is the same as (20), except now $\phi(x)$ can be any function of x.



- Polynomial and piecewise constant regression models are special cases of linear basis function models²¹.
- We can also do **piecewise polynomial regression**, which involves fitting different polynomials over different regions of *x*.

²¹For example, for K-degree polynomial regressions, $\phi_1(x) = 1, \phi_2(x) = x, \phi_3(x) = x^2, \dots, \phi_K(x) = x^K$.



Oftentimes it is desired that the fitted curve is continuous over the range of x, i.e. there should be no jump at the knots.

For piecewise linear regression with one knot (ξ) , this means:

$$y = \begin{cases} \alpha_{10} + \alpha_{11}x + e & x < \xi \\ \alpha_{20} + \alpha_{21}(x - \xi) + e & x \ge \xi \end{cases}$$
 (22)

under the constraint that

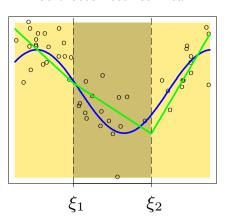
$$\alpha_{10} + \alpha_{11}\xi = \alpha_{20} \tag{23}$$

(22) and (23) \Rightarrow the continuous piecewise linear model can be parametrized as

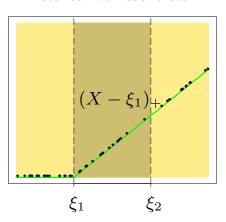
$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_2 (x - \xi)_+ + e$$
 (24)

, where
$$\beta_0 = \alpha_{10}$$
, $\beta_1 = \alpha_{11}$, $\beta_2 = \alpha_{21} - \alpha_{11}$, and $(x - \xi)_+ \equiv (x - \xi)\mathcal{I} (x \ge \xi)$.

Continuous Piecewise Linear



Piecewise-linear Basis Function



For higher-order piecewise polynomial regression, in addition to the fitted curve being continuous, we may also want it to be smooth by requiring the derivatives of the piecewise polynomials to be also continuous at the knots.

For piecewise cubic polynomial regression with one knot (ξ) , this means:

$$y = \begin{cases} \alpha_{10} + \alpha_{11}x + \alpha_{12}x^2 + \alpha_{13}x^3 + e & x < \xi \\ \alpha_{20} + \alpha_{21}(x - \xi) + \alpha_{22}(x - \xi)^2 + \alpha_{23}(x - \xi)^3 + e & x \ge \xi \end{cases}$$
 (25)

subject to the constraints that the piecewise polynomials as well as their 1^{st} and 2^{nd} derivatives are continuous at ξ :

$$\alpha_{10} + \alpha_{11}\xi + \alpha_{12}\xi^{2} + \alpha_{13}\xi^{3} = \alpha_{20}$$

$$\alpha_{11} + 2\alpha_{12}\xi + 3\alpha_{13}\xi^{2} = \alpha_{21}$$

$$\alpha_{12} + 3\alpha_{13}\xi = \alpha_{22}$$
(26)

(25) and (26)
$$\Rightarrow$$

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_2 x^2 + \beta_3 x^3 + \beta_4 (x - \xi)_+^3 + e \qquad (27)$$

, where $\beta_0 = \alpha_{10}$, $\beta_1 = \alpha_{11}$, $\beta_2 = \alpha_{12}$, $\beta_3 = \alpha_{13}$, and $\beta_4 = \alpha_{23} - \alpha_{13}$.

(24) and (27) are examples of **regression splines**. (24) is called a *linear spline* and (27) is called a *cubic spline*.

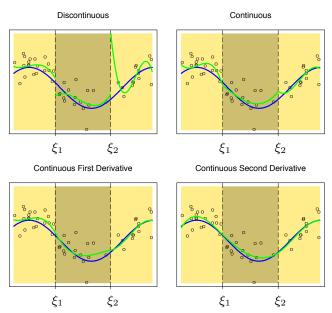
Regression Spline

A degree -d spline is a piecewise degree -d polynomial, with continuity in derivatives up to degree d-1 at each knot.

• In general, a degree—d spline with M-1 knots has d+M degrees of freedom²².

²²For example, a linear spline has 1+M degrees of freedom (see (24)). A cubic spline has 3+M degrees of freedom (see (27)). In comparison, a degree -d polynomial has d+1 degrees of freedom.

Piecewise Cubic Polynomials



Natural Splines

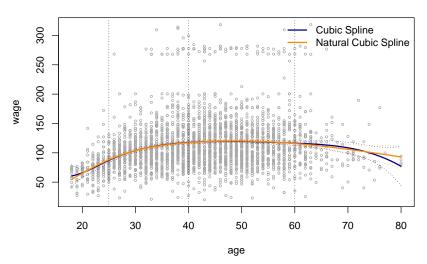
- Splines tend to have high variance at the boundary ($x < \xi_1$ or $x \ge \xi_{M-1}$, where M-1 is the total number of knots).
- A natural spline is a regression spline with additional boundary constraints: the function is required to be *linear* beyond the boundary knots, in order to produce more stable estimates.

```
require(splines)
# Cubic Spline
  bs() generates B-spline basis functions with specified degrees
      of polynomials and knots
fit = lm(wage \sim bs(age,knots=c(25,40,60),degree=3),data=Wage)
      knots at age 25,40,60
#
# Natural Cubic Spline
# ns() fits a natural cubic spline
fit2 = lm(wage \sim ns(age,knots=c(25,40,60)))
```

```
coeftest(fit)
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
##
                                              Estimate Std. Error t value
                                               60.4937
                                                           9.4604 6.3944
  (Intercept)
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)1 3.9805 12.5376 0.3175
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)2 44.6310 9.6263 4.6364
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)3 62.8388 10.7552 5.8426
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)4 55.9908
                                                         10.7063
                                                                  5.2297
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)5 50.6881 14.4018
                                                                  3.5196
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)6 16.6061
                                                         19.1264
                                                                  0.8682
##
                                               Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                                              1.863e-10 ***
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)1 0.7508987
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)2 3.698e-06 ***
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)3 5.691e-09 ***
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)4 1.815e-07 ***
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)5 0.0004387 ***
                                                            © Jiaming Mao
## bs(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60), degree = 3)6 0.3853380
```

```
coeftest(fit2)
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
                                Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
## (Intercept)
                                 54.7595 5.1378 10.6581 < 2.2e-16 **
## ns(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60))1 67.4019 5.0134 13.4442 < 2.2e-16 **
## ns(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60))2 51.3828 5.7115 8.9964 < 2.2e-16 **
## ns(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60))3 88.5661 12.0156 7.3709 2.181e-13 **
## ns(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60))4 10.6369 9.8332 1.0817 0.2795
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Cubic and Natural Cubic Spline



Generalized Additive Models

So far we have been dealing with a single input \boldsymbol{x} in our discussion of polynomial regression and regression splines. A natural way to extend this discussion to multiple inputs is to assume the following model:

$$y = \omega_0 + \omega_1(x_1) + \omega_2(x_2) + \cdots + \omega_p(x_p) + e$$
 (28)

, where

$$\omega_{j}(x_{j}) = \sum_{m=1}^{M_{j}} \beta_{jm} \phi_{jm}(x_{j})$$

(28) is called a generalized additive model (GAM).

Generalized Additive Models

The GAM allows for flexible nonlinear relationships in each dimension of the input space while maintaining the additive structure of linear models.

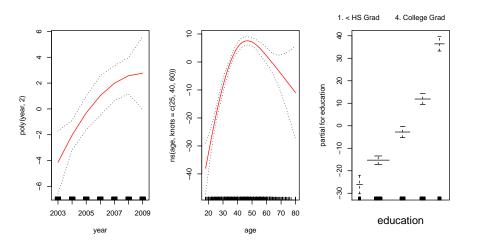
- For example, we can fit a linear relationship in x_1 , a polynomial in x_2 , a cubic spline in x_3 , etc.
- The GAM remains a linear basis function model and therefore can be fit by least squares²³.

$$y = \beta' \Phi(x) + e$$

, where $\Phi = \left(\mathbf{1},\phi_{11},\ldots,\phi_{1M_1},\ldots,\phi_{p1},\ldots,\phi_{pM_p}\right)'$.

²³(28) is equivalent to

```
fit = lm(wage \sim poly(year, 2) + ns(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60)) + education)
coeftest(fit)
##
## t test of coefficients:
##
##
                                 Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                                 47.5751 4.8992 9.7108 < 2.2e-16 **
                                 130.4942
                                            35.2930 3.6974 0.0002217 **
## poly(year, 2)1
## poly(year, 2)2
                                 -36.3005 35.2579 -1.0296 0.3032959
## ns(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60))1 51.1072 4.4572 11.4662 < 2.2e-16 **
## ns(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60))2 33.1989 5.0767 6.5394 7.237e-11 **
## ns(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60))3 53.5004 10.6621 5.0178 5.532e-07 **
## ns(age, knots = c(25, 40, 60))4 12.3733 8.6866 1.4244 0.1544320
## education2. HS Grad
                                 10.8174 2.4305 4.4507 8.871e-06 **
## education3. Some College 23.3191 2.5626 9.0997 < 2.2e-16 **
## education4. College Grad 37.9867 2.5464 14.9176 < 2.2e-16 **
## education5. Advanced Degree 62.5184 2.7629 22.6275 < 2.2e-16 **
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```



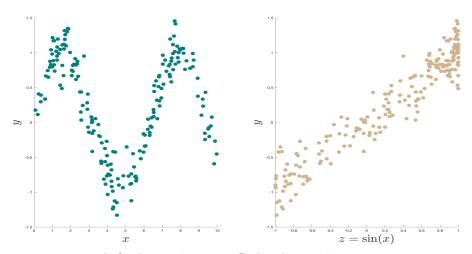
A GAM model of wage with a quadratic polynomial in year, a natural cubic spline in age, and a step function in education

Fitting a linear basis function model (21) can be thought of as a two-step process:

- **1** Transform x into $\Phi(x)^{24}$.
 - ▶ Let $z = \Phi(x) \in \mathcal{Z}$. $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Z}$ is called a **feature transform**.
- ② Fit the linear model: $\mathcal{H}_{\Phi} = \{h : h(z) = \beta'z\}$, where \mathcal{H}_{Φ} denotes the hypothesis set corresponding to the feature transform Φ .

²⁴x can be multi-dimensional: $x = (x_1, \dots, x_p)$

Feature Transform



Left: data in $\mathcal{X}{-}\mathsf{space};$ Right: data in $\mathcal{Z}{-}\mathsf{space}$

If we decide on the feature transform Φ before seeing the data, then the VC generalization bound holds with $d_{VC}(\mathcal{H}_{\Phi})$ as the VC dimension.

I.e., for any $g \in \mathcal{H}_{\Phi}$, with probability at least $1-\delta$,

$$E_{out}(g) \leq E_{in}(g) + \sqrt{\frac{8}{N} \ln \frac{4\left((2N)^{d_{VC}} + 1\right)}{\delta}}$$

$$= E_{in}(g) + \mathcal{O}\left(\sqrt{\frac{d_{VC}}{N} \ln N}\right)$$
(29)

, where $d_{VC}=d_{VC}\left(\mathcal{H}_{\Phi}\right)$.

Therefore, when choosing a high-order polynomial, or a spline with many degrees of freedom, or a GAM with complex nonlinearities in many dimensions, we cannot avoid the approximation-generalization tradeoff:

- More complex \mathcal{H}_{Φ} $(d_{VC}(\mathcal{H}_{\Phi})\uparrow) \Rightarrow E_{in} \downarrow$
- Less complex \mathcal{H}_{Φ} $(d_{VC}(\mathcal{H}_{\Phi})\downarrow) \Rightarrow |E_{out} E_{in}|\downarrow$

What if we try a transformation Φ_1 first, and then, finding the results unsatisfactory, decide to use Φ_2 ? Then we are effectively using a model that contains both $\{\beta'\Phi_1(x)\}$ and $\{\beta'\Phi_2(x)\}$.

- For example, if we try a linear model first, then a quadratic polynomial, then a piecewise constant model, before settling on a cubic spline, then d_{VC} in (29) should be the VC dimension of a hypothesis set that contains not only the cubic spline model, but all of the aforementioned models.
- The process of trying a series of models until we get a satisfactory result is called **specification search** or **data snooping**. In general, the more models you try, the poorer your final result will generalize out of sample.

Acknowledgement I

Part of this lecture is adapted from the following sources:

- Gramacy, R. B. *Applied Regression Analysis*. Lecture at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, retrieved on 2017.01.01. [link]
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- Ng, A. Machine Learning. Lecture at Stanford University, retrieved on 2017.01.01. [link]
- Penn State University. Probability Theory and Mathematical Statistics. Online course, retrieved on 2017.01.01. [link]
- Shalizi, C. R. 2019. Advanced Data Analysis from an Elementary Point of View. Manuscript.

Acknowledgement II

• Taddy, M. *Big Data*. Lecture at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, retrieved on 2017.01.01. [link]