

Unit 7: Multiple linear regression

1. Introduction to multiple linear regression

Sta 101 - Spring 2015

Duke University, Department of Statistical Science

April 6, 2015

1. Main ideas

1. In MLR everything is conditional on all other variables in the model
2. Categorical predictors and slopes for (almost) each level
3. Inference for MLR: model as a whole + individual slopes
4. Adjusted R^2 applies a penalty for additional variables
5. Avoid collinearity in MLR
6. Model selection criterion depends on goal: significance vs. prediction
7. Conditions for MLR are (almost) the same as conditions for SLR

2. Summary

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2. Summary

(1) In MLR everything is conditional on all other variables in the model

- ▶ All estimates in a MLR for a given variable are conditional on all other variables being in the model.
- ▶ **Slope:**
 - Numerical x : *All else held constant*, for one unit increase in x_i , y is expected to be higher / lower on average by b_i units.
 - Categorical x : *All else held constant*, the predicted difference in y for the baseline and given levels of x_i is b_i .

A random sample of 783 observations from the 2012 ACS.

1. **income:** Yearly income (wages and salaries)
2. **employment:** Employment status, not in labor force, unemployed, or employed
3. **hrs_work:** Weekly hours worked
4. **race:** Race, White, Black, Asian, or other
5. **age:** Age
6. **gender:** gender, male or female
7. **citizens:** Whether respondent is a US citizen or not
8. **time_to_work:** Travel time to work
9. **lang:** Language spoken at home, English or other
10. **married:** Whether respondent is married or not
11. **edu:** Education level, hs or lower, college, or grad
12. **disability:** Whether respondent is disabled or not
13. **birth_qrtr:** Quarter in which respondent is born, jan thru mar, apr thru jun, jul thru sep, or oct thru dec

Application exercise: 6.3

See course website

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t)
(Intercept)	-15342.76	11716.57	-1.31	0.19
hrs_work	1048.96	149.25	7.03	0.00
raceblack	-7998.99	6191.83	-1.29	0.20
raceasian	29909.80	9154.92	3.27	0.00
raceother	-6756.32	7240.08	-0.93	0.35
age	565.07	133.77	4.22	0.00
genderfemale	-17135.05	3705.35	-4.62	0.00
citizenyes	-12907.34	8231.66	-1.57	0.12
time_to_work	90.04	79.83	1.13	0.26
langoother	-10510.44	5447.45	-1.93	0.05
marriedyes	5409.24	3900.76	1.39	0.17
educollege	15993.85	4098.99	3.90	0.00
edugrad	59658.52	5660.26	10.54	0.00
disabilityyes	-14142.79	6639.40	-2.13	0.03
birth_qrtrapr thru jun	-2043.42	4978.12	-0.41	0.68
birth_qrtrjul thru sep	3036.02	4853.19	0.63	0.53
birth_qrthroct thru dec	2674.11	5038.45	0.53	0.60

1. Main ideas

1. In MLR everything is conditional on all other variables in the model
2. Categorical predictors and slopes for (almost) each level
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7. Conditions for MLR are (almost) the same as conditions for SLR

2. Summary

(2) Categorical predictors and slopes for (almost) each level

- ▶ Each categorical variable, with k levels, added to the model results in $k - 1$ parameters being estimated.
- ▶ It only takes $k - 1$ columns to code a categorical variable with k levels as 0/1s.

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Citizen: yes / no ($k = 2$)

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Respondent		citizen:yes
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Baseline: no

Respondent	citizen:yes
1, Citizen	1

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Citizen: yes / no ($k = 2$)

Baseline: no

Respondent	citizen:yes
1, Citizen	1
2, Not-citizen	0

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Citizen: yes / no ($k = 2$)

Baseline: no

Race: ($k = 4$)

Respondent	citizen:yes
1, Citizen	1
2, Not-citizen	0

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Citizen: yes / no ($k = 2$)
Baseline: no

Race: ($k = 4$)
Baseline: White

Respondent	citizen:yes
1, Citizen	1
2, Not-citizen	0

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Citizen: yes / no ($k = 2$)
Baseline: no

Race: ($k = 4$)
Baseline: White

Respondent	citizen:yes
1, Citizen	1
2, Not-citizen	0

Respondent	race:black	race:asian	race:other
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Citizen: yes / no ($k = 2$)

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Respondent	citizen:yes
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1, Citizen	1
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1, White	0	0	0
2, Black	1	0	0

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Baseline: White

Respondent	race:black	race:asian	race:other
1, White	0	0	0
2, Black	1	0	0
3, Asian	0	1	0

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Citizen: yes / no ($k = 2$)

Baseline: no

Respondent	citizen:yes
1, Citizen	1
2, Not-citizen	0

Race: ($k = 4$)

Baseline: White

Respondent	race:black	race:asian	race:other
1, White	0	0	0
2, Black	1	0	0
3, Asian	0	1	0
4, Other	0	0	1

Clicker question

All else held constant, how do incomes of those born January thru March compare to those born April thru June?

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birth_qrtroct thru dec	2674.11	5038.45	0.53	0.60

All else held constant, those born Jan thru Mar make, on average,

- (a) \$2,043.42 less (b) \$2,043.42 more (c) \$4978.12 less (d) \$4978.12 more

than those born Apr thru Jun.

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(b) **\$2,043.42**
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(c) \$4978.12
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1. Main ideas

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2. Summary

- Inference for the model as a whole: F-test, $df_1 = p$,

$$df_2 = n - k - 1$$

$$H_0 : \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_k = 0$$

$$H_A : \text{At least one of the } \beta_i \neq 0$$

(3) Inference for MLR: model as a whole + individual slopes

- ▶ Inference for the model as a whole: F-test, $df_1 = p$,
 $df_2 = n - k - 1$
 $H_0 : \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \dots = \beta_k = 0$
 $H_A : \text{At least one of the } \beta_i \neq 0$
- ▶ Inference for each slope: T-test, $df = n - k - 1$
 - HT:
 $H_0 : \beta_1 = 0$, when all other variables are included in the model
 $H_A : \beta_1 \neq 0$, when all other variables are included in the model
 - CI: $b_1 \pm T_{df}^* SE_{b_1}$

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t)	
(Intercept)	-15342.76	11716.57	-1.309	0.190760	
hrs_work	1048.96	149.25	7.028	4.63e-12	***
raceblack	-7998.99	6191.83	-1.292	0.196795	
raceasian	29909.80	9154.92	3.267	0.001135	**
raceother	-6756.32	7240.08	-0.933	0.351019	
age	565.07	133.77	4.224	2.69e-05	***
genderfemale	-17135.05	3705.35	-4.624	4.41e-06	***
citizenyes	-12907.34	8231.66	-1.568	0.117291	
time_to_work	90.04	79.83	1.128	0.259716	
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marriedyes	5409.24	3900.76	1.387	0.165932	
educollege	15993.85	4098.99	3.902	0.000104	***
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Residual standard error: 48670 on 766 degrees of freedom

(60 observations deleted due to missingness)

Multiple R-squared: 0.3126, Adjusted R-squared: 0.2982

F-statistic: 21.77 on 16 and 766 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

Clicker question

True / False: The F test yielding a significant result means the model fits the data well.

- (a) True
- (b) False

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- (a) True
- (b) *False*

The F test yielding a significant result doesn't mean the model fits the data well, it just means at least one of the β s is non-zero. Whether or not the model fit the data well is evaluated based on model diagnostics.

Clicker question

True / False: The F test not yielding a significant result means individual variables included in the model are not good predictors of y .

- (a) True
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- (a) True
- (b) *False*

The F test not yielding a significant result doesn't mean individual variables included in the model are not good predictors of y , it just means that the combination of these variables doesn't yield a good model.

Significance also depends on what else is in the model

Model 1:	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t)
(Intercept)	-15342.76	11716.57	-1.309	0.190760
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Model 2:	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t)
(Intercept)	-22498.2	8216.2	-2.738	0.00631
hrs_work	1149.7	145.2	7.919	7.60e-15
raceblack	-7677.5	6350.8	-1.209	0.22704
raceasian	38600.2	8566.4	4.506	7.55e-06
raceother	-7907.1	7116.2	-1.111	0.26683
age	533.1	131.2	4.064	5.27e-05
genderfemale	-15178.9	3767.4	-4.029	6.11e-05
marriedyes	8731.0	3956.8	2.207	0.02762 <----

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Adjusted R^2

$$R_{adj}^2 = 1 - \left(\frac{SS_{Error}}{SS_{Total}} \times \frac{n - 1}{n - k - 1} \right)$$

where n is the number of cases and k is the number of predictors (explanatory variables) in the model.

Analysis of Variance Table

Response: income

	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F value	Pr(>F)
hrs_work	1	3.0633e+11	3.0633e+11	129.3025	< 2.2e-16 ***
race	3	7.1656e+10	2.3885e+10	10.0821	1.608e-06 ***
age	1	7.6008e+10	7.6008e+10	32.0836	2.090e-08 ***
gender	1	4.8665e+10	4.8665e+10	20.5418	6.767e-06 ***
citizen	1	1.1135e+09	1.1135e+09	0.4700	0.49319
time_to_work	1	3.5371e+09	3.5371e+09	1.4930	0.22213
lang	1	1.2815e+10	1.2815e+10	5.4094	0.02029 *
married	1	1.2190e+10	1.2190e+10	5.1453	0.02359 *
edu	2	2.7867e+11	1.3933e+11	58.8131	< 2.2e-16 ***
disability	1	1.0852e+10	1.0852e+10	4.5808	0.03265 *
birth_qtr	3	3.3060e+09	1.1020e+09	0.4652	0.70667
Residuals	766	1.8147e+12	2.3691e+09		
Total	782	2.6399e+12			

$$R^2_{adj} = 1 - \left(\frac{1.8147e + 12}{2.6399e + 12} \times \frac{783 - 1}{783 - 16 - 1} \right) \approx 1 - 0.7018 = 0.2982$$

Clicker question

True / False: For a model with at least one predictor, R_{adj}^2 will always be smaller than R^2 .

- (a) True
- (b) False

Clicker question

True / False: For a model with at least one predictor, R_{adj}^2 will always be smaller than R^2 .

- (a) *True*
- (b) False

Because k is never negative, R_{adj}^2 will always be smaller than R^2 .

$$R_{adj}^2 = 1 - \left(\frac{SS_{Error}}{SS_{Total}} \times \frac{n-1}{n-k-1} \right)$$

Clicker question

True / False: Adjusted R^2 tells us the percentage of variability in the response variable explained by the model.

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R^2 tells us the percentage of variability in the response variable explained by the model, adjusted R^2 is only useful for model selection.

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- ▶ Two predictor variables are said to be collinear when they are correlated, and this *collinearity* (also called *multicollinearity*) complicates model estimation.

Remember: Predictors are also called explanatory or independent variables, so they should be independent of each other.

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- ▶ We don't like adding predictors that are associated with each other to the model, because often times the addition of such variable brings nothing to the table. Instead, we prefer the simplest best model, i.e. *parsimonious* model.
- ▶ In addition, addition of collinear variables can result in unreliable estimates of the slope parameters.
- ▶ While it's impossible to avoid collinearity from arising in observational data, experiments are usually designed to control for correlated predictors.

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4. Adjusted R^2 applies a penalty for additional variables
5. Avoid collinearity in MLR
6. Model selection criterion depends on goal: significance vs. prediction
7. Conditions for MLR are (almost) the same as conditions for SLR

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(6) Model selection criterion depends on goal: significance vs. prediction

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- ▶ Either way, can use *backward elimination* or *forward selection*.
- ▶ Expert opinion and focus of research might also demand that a particular variable be included in the model.

Clicker question

Using the p-value approach, which variable would you remove from the model first?

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t)
(Intercept)	-15342.76	11716.57	-1.31	0.19
hrs_work	1048.96	149.25	7.03	0.00
raceblack	-7998.99	6191.83	-1.29	0.20
raceasian	29909.80	9154.92	3.27	0.00
raceother	-6756.32	7240.08	-0.93	0.35
age	565.07	133.77	4.22	0.00
genderfemale	-17135.05	3705.35	-4.62	0.00
citizenyes	-12907.34	8231.66	-1.57	0.12
time_to_work	90.04	79.83	1.13	0.26
langother	-10510.44	5447.45	-1.93	0.05
marriedyes	5409.24	3900.76	1.39	0.17
educollege	15993.85	4098.99	3.90	0.00
edugrad	59658.52	5660.26	10.54	0.00
disabilityyes	-14142.79	6639.40	-2.13	0.03
birth_qrtrapr thru jun	-2043.42	4978.12	-0.41	0.68
birth_qrtrjul thru sep	3036.02	4853.19	0.63	0.53
birth_qrthroct thru dec	2674.11	5038.45	0.53	0.60

(a) race:other

(b) race

(c) time_to_work

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(Intercept)	-14022.48	11137.08	-1.26	0.21
hrs_work	1045.85	149.05	7.02	0.00
raceblack	-7636.32	6177.50	-1.24	0.22
raceasian	29944.35	9137.13	3.28	0.00
raceother	-7212.57	7212.25	-1.00	0.32
age	559.51	133.27	4.20	0.00
genderfemale	-17010.85	3699.19	-4.60	0.00
citizenyes	-13059.46	8219.99	-1.59	0.11
time_to_work	88.77	79.73	1.11	0.27
langother	-10150.41	5431.15	-1.87	0.06
marriedyes	5400.41	3896.12	1.39	0.17
educollege	16214.46	4089.17	3.97	0.00
edugrad	59572.20	5631.33	10.58	0.00
disabilityyes	-14201.11	6628.26	-2.14	0.03

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- (b) race
- (c) race:other

- (d) race:black
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2. Summary

(7) Conditions for MLR are (almost) the same as conditions for SLR

- ▶ Linearity → randomly scattered residuals around 0 in the residuals plot -- important regardless of doing inference
- ▶ Nearly normally distributed residuals → histogram or normal probability plot of residuals -- important for inference
- ▶ Constant variability of residuals (*homoscedasticity*) → no fan shape in the residuals plot -- important for inference
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- ▶ Independence of residuals (and hence observations) → depends on data collection method, often violated for time-series data -- important for inference
- ▶ Also important to make sure that your explanatory variables are not *collinear*.

Clicker question

Which of the following is the appropriate plot for checking the homoscedasticity condition in MLR?

- (a) scatterplot of residuals vs. \hat{y}
- (b) scatterplot of residuals vs. x
- (c) histogram of residuals
- (d) normal probability plot of residuals
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Plotting residuals against \hat{y} (predicted, or fitted, values of y) allows us to evaluate the whole model as a whole as opposed to homoscedasticity with regards to just one of the explanatory variables in the model.

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