

# **STA302/1001: Methods of Data Analysis**

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## Chapter 9: Outliers and Influence

# Outliers

- quote from textbook:  
"cases that do not follow the same model as the rest of the data are called outliers"
- note: outliers are defined with respect to a model
- not all outliers are bad
- e.g., a geologist searching for oil deposits may be looking for outliers

# Models for Outliers

- two main types: (i) mean shift and (ii) inflated variance
- we will use mean shift outlier model
- non-outlier:  $E(Y|\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}_i) = \mathbf{x}_i'\beta$   
outlier:  $E(Y|\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}_i) = \mathbf{x}_i'\beta + \delta$   
test  $NH : \delta = 0$  (the  $i$ th observation is not an outlier)
- the variance function assumption  $\text{Var}(Y|\mathbf{X}) = \sigma^2$  stays the same
- inflated variance model: change the model assumption on  $\text{Var}(Y|\mathbf{X})$  but keep  $E(Y|\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}_i)$  the same

# An Outlier Test

- suppose the  $i$ th case is suspected to be an outlier
- define a dummy variable  $U : \begin{cases} u_j = 0 \text{ for } j \neq i \\ u_i = 1 \end{cases}$
- then we fit the model using least squares

$$E(Y|X) = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \delta U$$

- $\hat{\delta}$  is the estimated mean shift
- do a two-sided  $t$ -test:  $NH: \delta = 0$ ,  $AH: \delta \neq 0$ .
- what is df of this  $t$ -statistic under  $NH$ ?

# An Alternative Approach

- this leads to the same test as before, but from a different angle
- and there is a good reason to use it
- suppose again that the  $i$ th case is suspected to be an outlier
- Step 1: delete the  $i$ th case from the data (so  $n - 1$  data points left)
- Step 2: with the reduced dataset, estimate  $\beta$  and  $\sigma^2$ .  
Denote the resulting estimates as  $\hat{\beta}_{(i)}$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_{(i)}^2$ .  
Note that  $df$  for  $\hat{\sigma}_{(i)}^2$  is  $n - p' - 1$ .

# An Alternative Approach -cont

- Step 3: compute the fitted value for the deleted case:

$$\hat{y}_{i(i)} = \mathbf{x}_i' \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{(i)}$$

Since  $y_i$  and  $\hat{y}_{i(i)}$  are independent (why?),

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(y_i - \hat{y}_{i(i)}) &= \text{Var}(y_i) + \text{Var}(\hat{y}_{i(i)}) \\ &= \sigma^2 + \sigma^2 \mathbf{x}_i' (\mathbf{X}_{(i)}' \mathbf{X}_{(i)})^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{X}_{(i)}$  is the matrix  $\mathbf{X}$  with the  $i$ th row deleted

# An Alternative Approach -cont

- Step 4: under the mean shift model, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E(y_i) &= \mathbf{x}'_i \boldsymbol{\beta} + \delta, & E(\hat{y}_{i(i)}) &= E(\mathbf{x}'_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{(i)}) = \mathbf{x}'_i \boldsymbol{\beta} \\ \Rightarrow E(y_i - \hat{y}_{i(i)}) &= \delta \end{aligned}$$

and the  $t$ -statistic for  $\delta = 0$  is:

$$t_i = \frac{y_i - \hat{y}_{i(i)}}{\hat{\sigma}_{(i)} \sqrt{1 + \mathbf{x}'_i (\mathbf{X}'_{(i)} \mathbf{X}_{(i)})^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i}}$$

- use  $\hat{\sigma}_{(i)}$  to replace  $\sigma$
- with  $\hat{\sigma}_{(i)}$ , the  $df$  is  $n - p' - 1$ , and it is identical to the previous  $t$ -test we discussed

# Why do we prefer the second approach?

- there is a nice formula for  $t_i$
- first define **standardized residual**

$$r_i = \frac{\hat{e}_i}{\hat{\sigma} \sqrt{1 - h_{ii}}}$$

- try to make all  $r_i$ 's to have the same variance
- (so it may be better to plot  $r_i$ 's instead of  $\hat{e}_i$ 's)
- then from Appendix A.12, we have

$$t_i = \frac{\hat{e}_i}{\hat{\sigma}_{(i)} \sqrt{1 - h_{ii}}} = r_i \left( \frac{n - p' - 1}{n - p' - r_i^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$



# Why do we prefer the second approach? -con't

- so what is the good thing about this?
- suppose we want to perform outlier tests for 100 cases, then we do not need to fit 100 regressions by removing one case each time
- we only need to fit the regression using full data once, then compute all  $t_i$ 's for cases to be tested using

$$t_i = r_i \left( \frac{n - p' - 1}{n - p' - r_i^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

- $t_i$  is also called the **studentized residual**
- another useful formula:  $\hat{e}_{i(i)} = \hat{e}_i / (1 - h_{ii})$   
called predicted residual or PRESS residual

# Significance levels for outlier test

● two situations:

1. before even looking at the data, you suspect in advance that the  $i$ th case is an outlier
2. you first look at the scatterplot or fit the regression and examine residual plots, then suspect the case with the largest residual is an outlier

● what is the problem? if  $r_1, \dots, r_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} N(0, 1)$

case 1 is like:  $P(r_i > 2)$  for an arbitrary **fixed**  $i$

(is it possible to choose  $i$  before you check the data?)

case 2 is like:  $P(\max\{r_i : i = 1, \dots, n\} > 2)$

(this probability is for sure large with sufficient  $n$ )

# Bonferroni Adjustment

- so we need to do adjustment - decrease  $\alpha$
- idea: if we have  $n$  data points, we apply the above  $t$ -test to all cases and adjust the overall significance level to be  $\alpha$
- we will use Bonferroni adjustment
- if we will perform  $n$  tests, change the significance level for each individual test to  $\frac{\alpha}{n}$
- then the overall significance level for all tests will not be bigger than  $\alpha$
- we could also multiply the  $p$ -value by  $n$

# An Example

- Forbe's data: case 12 was suspected to be an outlier
- from standard calculation ( $i = 12$ ):  
 $\hat{e}_{12} = 1.36, \hat{\sigma} = 0.379, h_{12,12} = 0.0639$   
 $\implies r_{12} = \frac{1.36}{0.379\sqrt{1-0.0639}} = 3.7078$   
 $\implies t_{12} = 3.7078\left(\frac{17-2-1}{17-2-3.7078^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 12.40$
- the  $p$ -value is  $6.13 \times 10^{-9}$  (from  $t$  with  $df = 14$ )
- multiply by  $n = 17$ :  $1.04 \times 10^{-7} \ll 0.05$
- so it supports that case 12 is an outlier
- what do we do then? find the cause if possible

# Influence Analysis

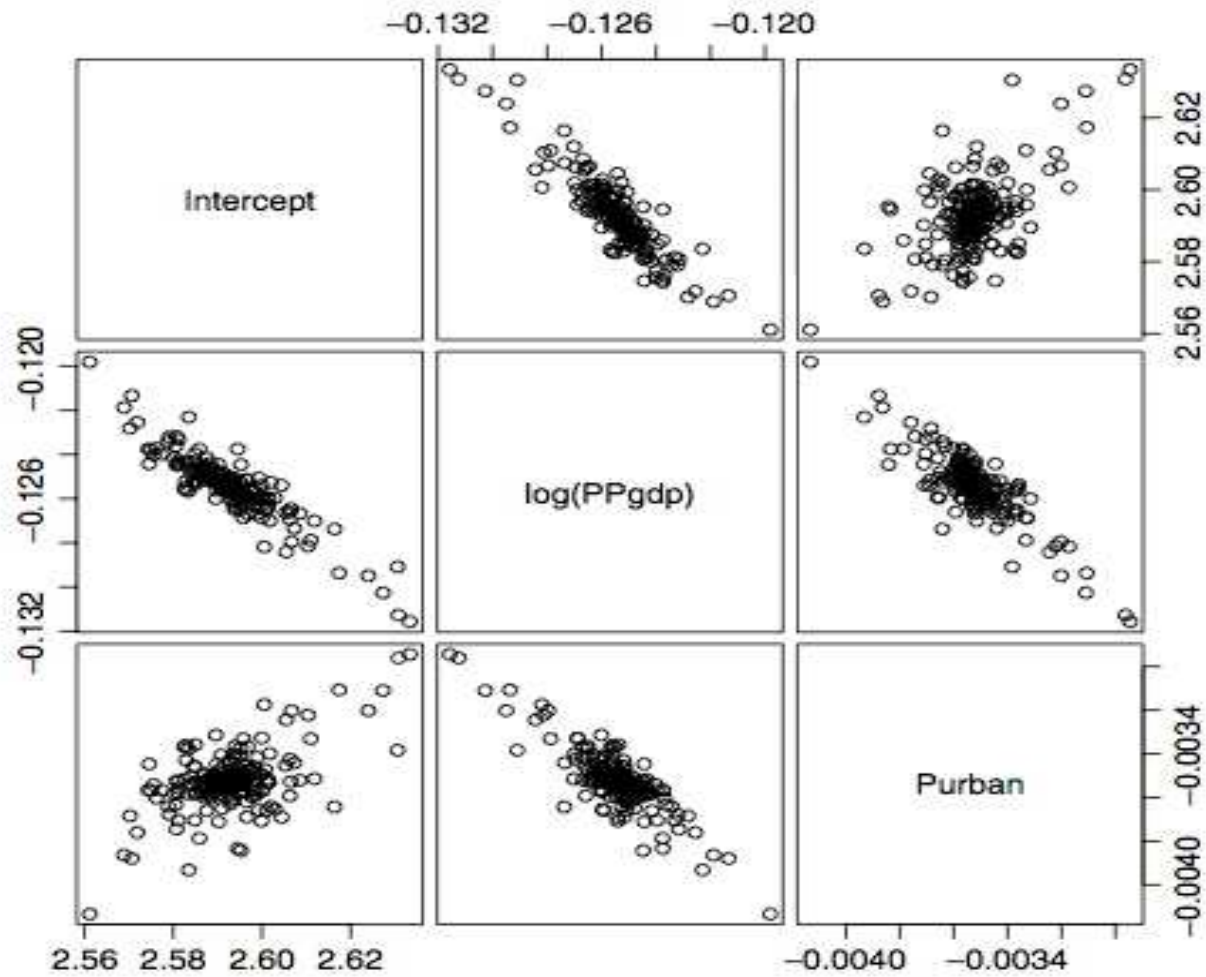
- general idea: to study changes in a specific part of an analysis when the data are slightly perturbed
- the most useful and important method is to remove one data point at a time and re-do the analysis
- using similar notation as before, we want to compare

$$\hat{\beta}_{(i)} = (\mathbf{X}'_{(i)} \mathbf{X}_{(i)})^{-1} \mathbf{X}'_{(i)} \mathbf{Y}_{(i)}$$

for different values of  $i$

- how the estimate of  $\beta$  is affected by each case
- let's look at an example

# Plots of $\hat{\beta}_{(i)}$



**FIG. 9.1** Estimates of parameters in the UN data obtained by deleting one case at a time.

# Plotting is not always possible

- this is good, but not always possible, especially for large data set with many predictors
- we need a one-number numerical summary that can be calculated easily and quickly

# Cook's distance

- definition:

$$\begin{aligned} D_i &= \frac{(\hat{\beta}_{(i)} - \hat{\beta})'(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})(\hat{\beta}_{(i)} - \hat{\beta})}{p'\hat{\sigma}^2} \\ &= \frac{(\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{(i)} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}})'(\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{(i)} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}})}{p'\hat{\sigma}^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{p'} r_i^2 \frac{h_{ii}}{1 - h_{ii}} \quad (\text{easy to compute}) \end{aligned}$$

- a normalized distance between  $\hat{\beta}_{(i)}$  and  $\hat{\beta}$
- a scaled Euclidean distance between  $\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{(i)}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{Y}}$
- large  $D_i \rightarrow$  potential problem
- how larger is large? compare it to 1



# Rat Data

- $X$  terms: BodyWt, LiverWt, Dose (injected to 19 rats)
- response: dose in liver

TABLE 9.1 Regression Summary for the Rat Data

Coefficients:

|             | Estimate  | Std. Error | t value | Pr(> t ) |
|-------------|-----------|------------|---------|----------|
| (Intercept) | 0.265922  | 0.194585   | 1.367   | 0.1919   |
| BodyWt      | -0.021246 | 0.007974   | -2.664  | 0.0177   |
| LiverWt     | 0.014298  | 0.017217   | 0.830   | 0.4193   |
| Dose        | 4.178111  | 1.522625   | 2.744   | 0.0151   |

Residual standard error: 0.07729 on 15 degrees of freedom

Multiple R-Squared: 0.3639

F-statistic: 2.86 on 3 and 15 DF, p-value: 0.07197

# Rat Data - con't

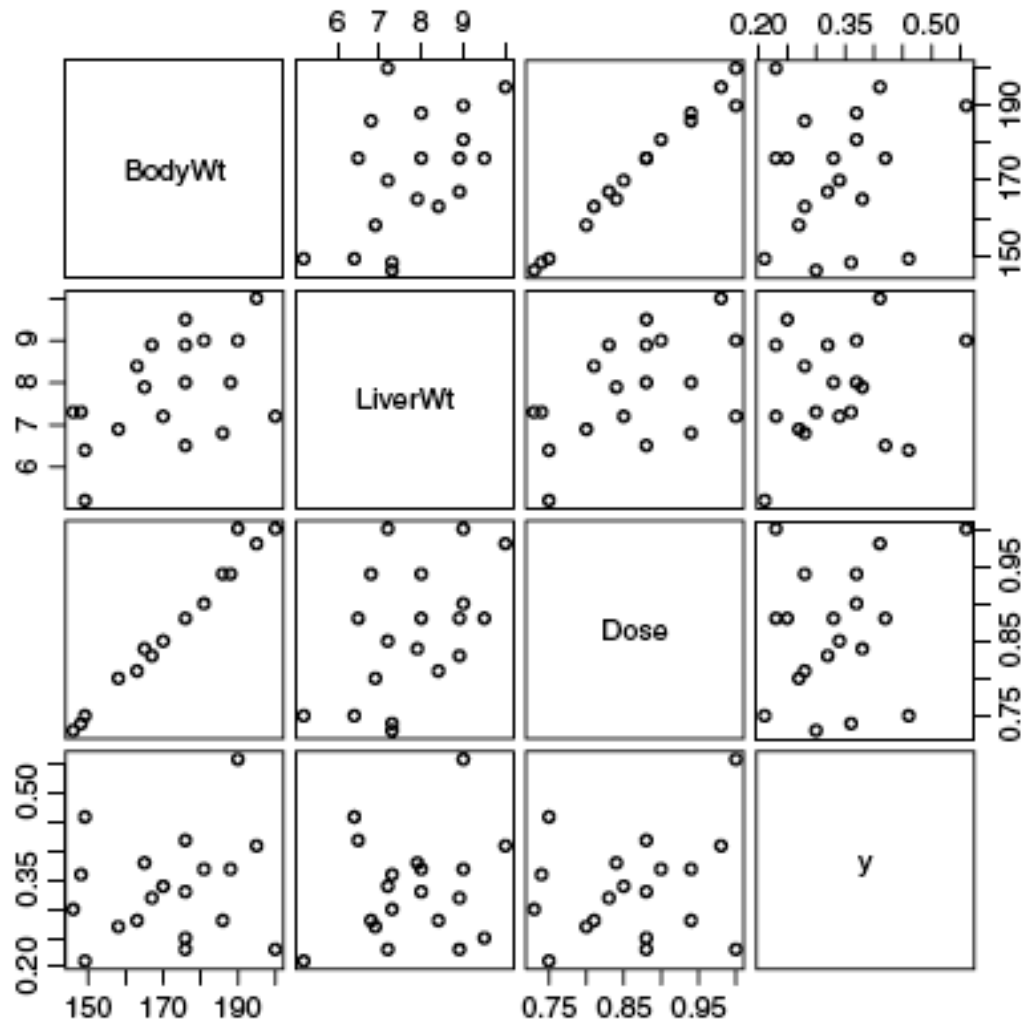
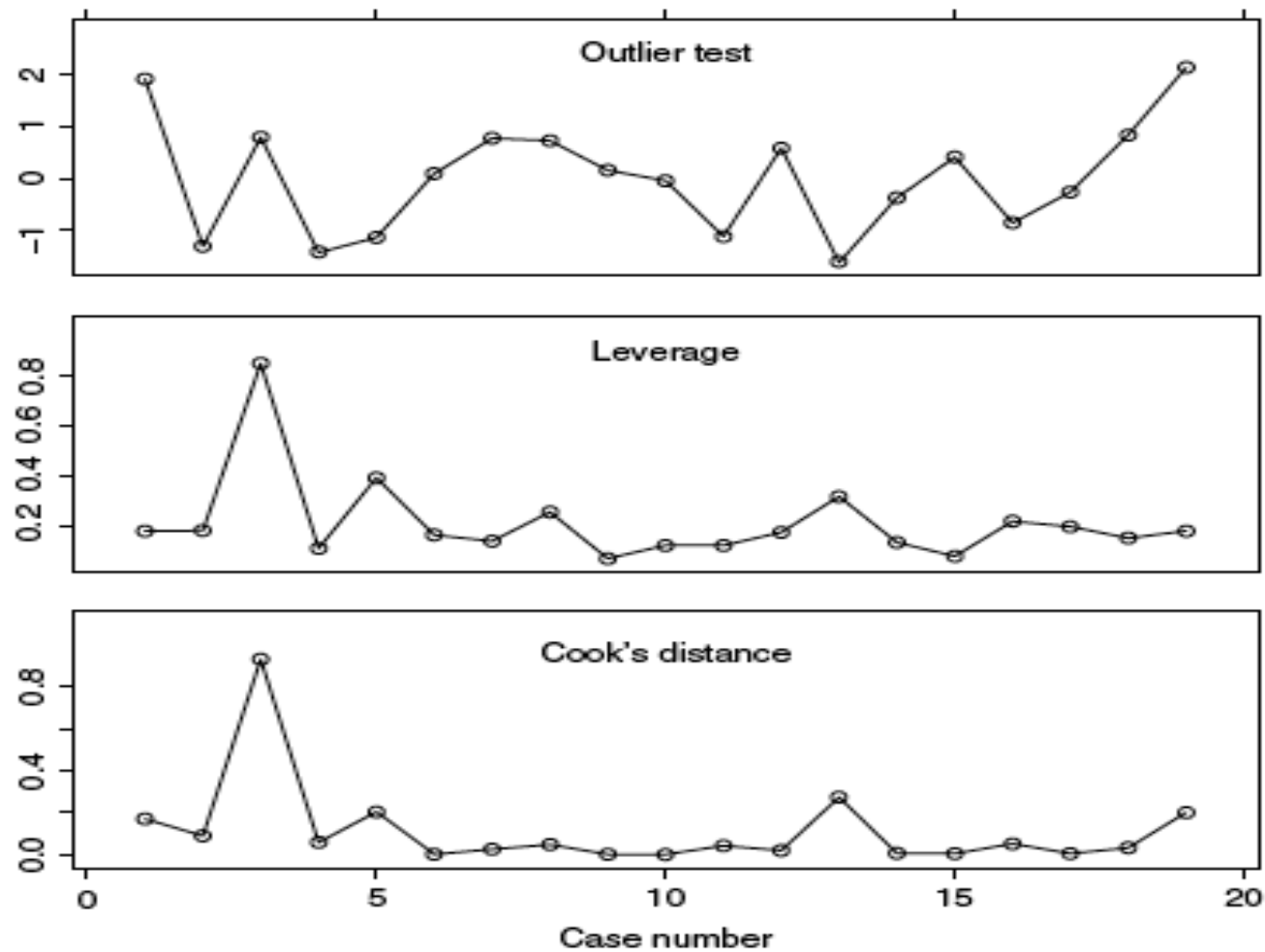


FIG. 9.2 Scatterplot matrix for the rat data.

## Rat Data - con't

- BodyWt and Dose are almost perfectly correlated  
→ they measure the same thing!
- $y \sim \text{BodyWt} + \text{LiverWt} + \text{Dose}$   
BodyWt and Dose are significant
- same conclusion if LiverWt is removed
- but  $y \sim \text{BodyWt}$  does not show any relationship, nor  
 $y \sim \text{Dose}$
- however, jointly they are useful
- seems a paradox, let's have a closer look

# Rat Data - con't



**FIG. 9.3** Diagnostic statistics for the rat data.

# Rat Data - con't

- case 3 is problematic: though not an outlier, but has a large leverage and Cook's distance
- remove this case and re-do the analysis

**TABLE 9.2 Regression Summary for the Rat Data with Case 3 Deleted**

Coefficients:

|             | Estimate  | Std. Error | t value | Pr(> t ) |
|-------------|-----------|------------|---------|----------|
| (Intercept) | 0.311427  | 0.205094   | 1.518   | 0.151    |
| BodyWt      | -0.007783 | 0.018717   | -0.416  | 0.684    |
| LiverWt     | 0.008989  | 0.018659   | 0.482   | 0.637    |
| Dose        | 1.484877  | 3.713064   | 0.400   | 0.695    |

Residual standard error: 0.07825 on 14 degrees of freedom

Multiple R-Squared: 0.02106

F-statistic: 0.1004 on 3 and 14 DF, p-value: 0.9585

# Rat Data - con't

- case 3: – incorrect amount of dose was injected
- added-variable plots also help detect influential cases
- x-axis: residuals from  $E(X_j \mid \text{others})$   
y-axis: residuals from  $E(Y \mid \text{others})$

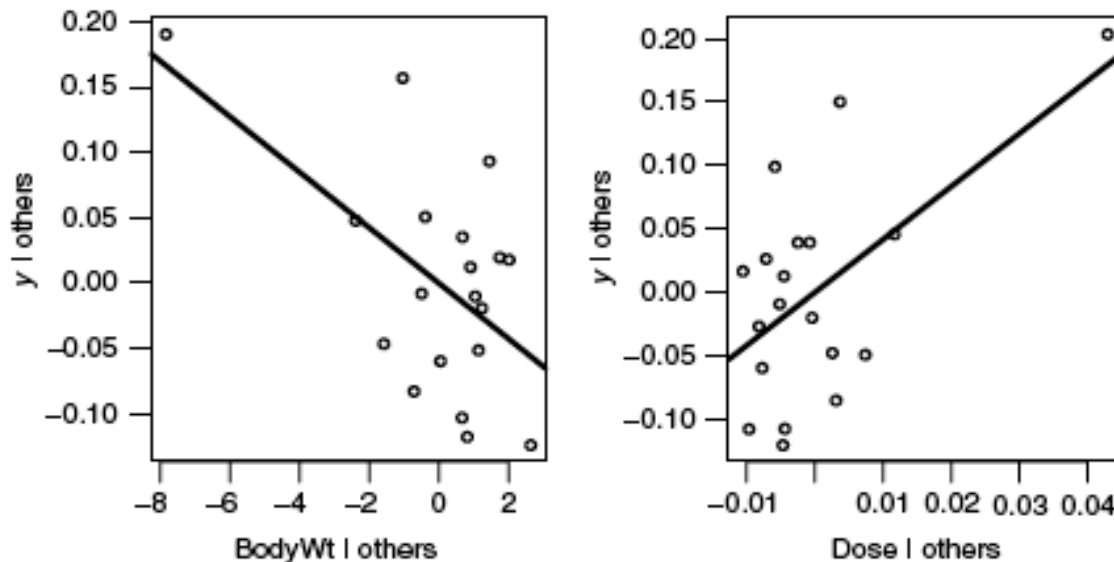


FIG. 9.4 Added-variable plots for *BodyWt* and *Dose*.

# Normal Probability Plots

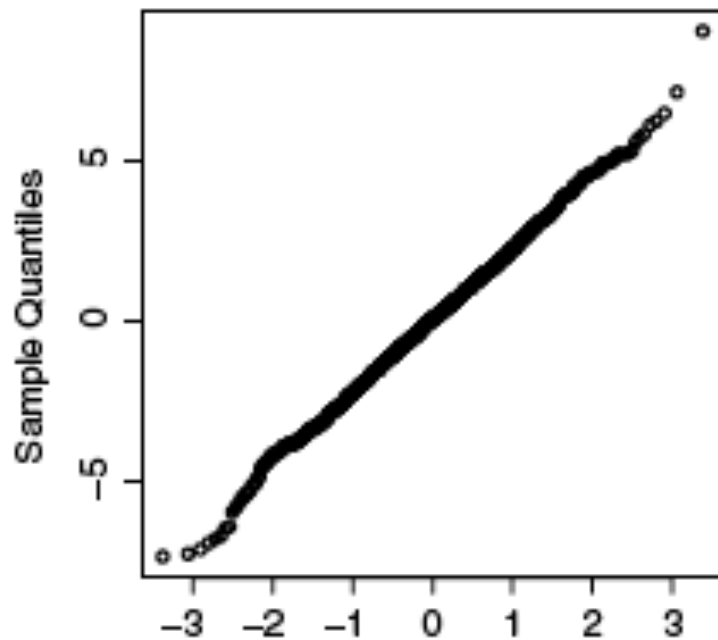
- aim: check for normality of  $e_i$
- Q-Q plot: we have i.i.d. random numbers  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ 
  - (i) sort  $x_{(1)} \leq \dots \leq x_{(n)}$ , the sample order statistic
  - (ii) find the expected order statistic  $u_{(1)} \leq \dots \leq u_{(n)}$  from  $N(0, 1)$ ,  $u_{(i)}$  is actually the  $100i/n$ th percentile,

$$P(Z \leq z_{(i)}) = \frac{i}{n}, \quad Z \sim N(0, 1)$$

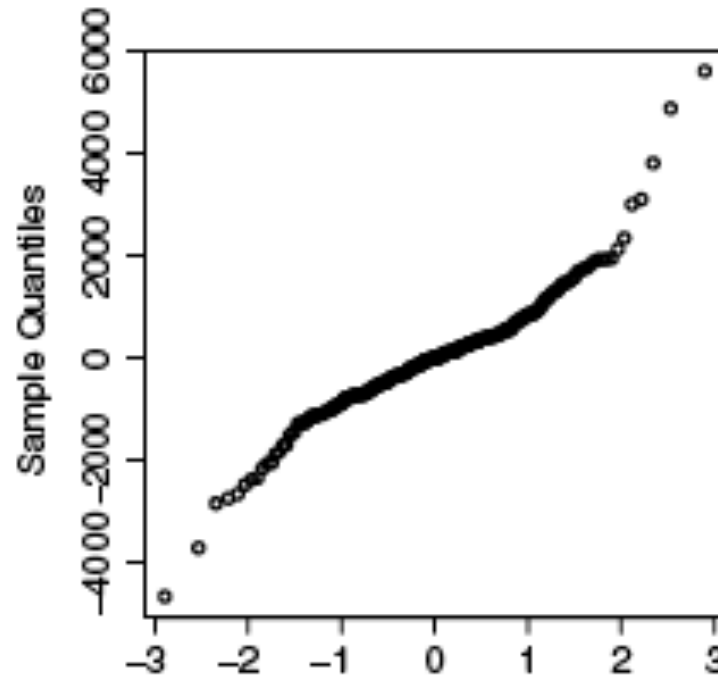
- (iii) if  $x_i \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , then  $E(x_{(i)}) = \mu + \sigma u_{(i)}$ .  
this suggests the Q-Q plot, also referred to as “sample quantile v.s. population quantile”

# Normal Probability Plots - con't

- if the residuals are (approximately) normal, we should see a (approximately) straight line



(a) Heights data



(b) Transaction data