

Statistical Rethinking: Chapter 5 - Multivariate Linear Models

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1 Easy

Problem 5E1.

Which of the linear models below are multiple linear regressions?

1. $\mu_i = \alpha + \beta x_i$
2. $\mu_i = \beta_x x_i + \beta_z z_i$
3. $\mu_i = \alpha + \beta(x_i - z_i)$
4. $\mu_i = \alpha + \beta_x x_i + \beta_z z_i$

Linear models 2 and 4 are multiple linear regressions.

Problem 5E2.

Write down a multiple regression to evaluate the claim: *Animal diversity is linearly related to latitude, but only after controlling for plant diversity.* You just need to write down the model definition.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{animal diversity}_i &\sim \text{Normal}(\mu_i, \sigma) \\ \mu_i &= \beta_{\text{latitude}} \text{latitude}_i + \beta_{\text{diversity}} \text{diversity}_i \\ \beta_{\text{latitude}} &\sim \text{Normal}(0, 10) \\ \beta_{\text{diversity}} &\sim \text{Normal}(0, 10) \\ \sigma &\sim \text{Uniform}(0, 10) \end{aligned}$$

Problem 5E3.

Write down a multiple regression to evaluate the claim: *Neither amount of funding nor size of laboratory is by itself a good predictor of time to PhD degree; but together these variables are both positively associated with time to degree.* Write down the model definition and indicate which side of zero each slope parameter should be on.

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{time}_i &\sim \text{Normal}(\mu_i, \sigma) \\
\mu_i &= \beta_{\text{lab size}} \text{lab size}_i + \beta_{\text{funding}} \text{funding}_i \\
\beta_{\text{lab size}} &\sim \text{Normal}(0, 10) \\
\beta_{\text{funding}} &\sim \text{Normal}(0, 10) \\
\sigma &\sim \text{Uniform}(0, 10)
\end{aligned}$$

Both parameters should have slopes greater than zero since the problem specifies that "together the variables are both positively associated with time to degree".

Problem 5E4.

Suppose you have a single categorical predictor with 4 levels (unique values), labeled A, B, C, and D. Let A_i be an indicator variable that is 1 where case i is in category A. Also suppose B_i , C_i , and D_i for the other categories. Now which of the following linear models are inferentially equivalent ways to include the categorical variable in a regression? Models are inferentially equivalent when it's possible to compute one posterior distribution from the posterior distribution of another model.

1. $\mu_i = \alpha + \beta_A A_i + \beta_B B_i + \beta_D D_i$
2. $\mu_i = \alpha + \beta_A A_i + \beta_B B_i + \beta_C C_i + \beta_D D_i$
3. $\mu_i = \alpha + \beta_B B_i + \beta_C C_i + \beta_D D_i$
4. $\mu_i = \alpha_A A_i + \alpha_B B_i + \alpha_C C_i + \alpha_D D_i$
5. $\mu_i = \alpha_i(1 - B_i - C_i - D_i) + \alpha_B B_i + \alpha_C C_i + \alpha_D D_i$

Models 1, 3, 4, and 5 are all inferentially equivalent.