

# BSc - Data Mining 1

## Topic 07 : Regression1

---

### Part 01 : Regression - Overview

Dr Bernard Butler

Department of Computing and Mathematics, WIT.  
([bernard.butler@waltoninstitute.ie](mailto:bernard.butler@waltoninstitute.ie))

Autumn Semester, 2021

#### Outline

- Regression as a means of minimising sum of the squared errors
- Regression assumptions - what they mean, how they can be used for validation and model building
- Case studies from Diamond sales

# Data Mining (Week 7)

Introduction

Motivating Example

## Preparation

Data Handling

Exploring Data 1

Exploring Data 2

Building Models

## Prediction

Regression  
1

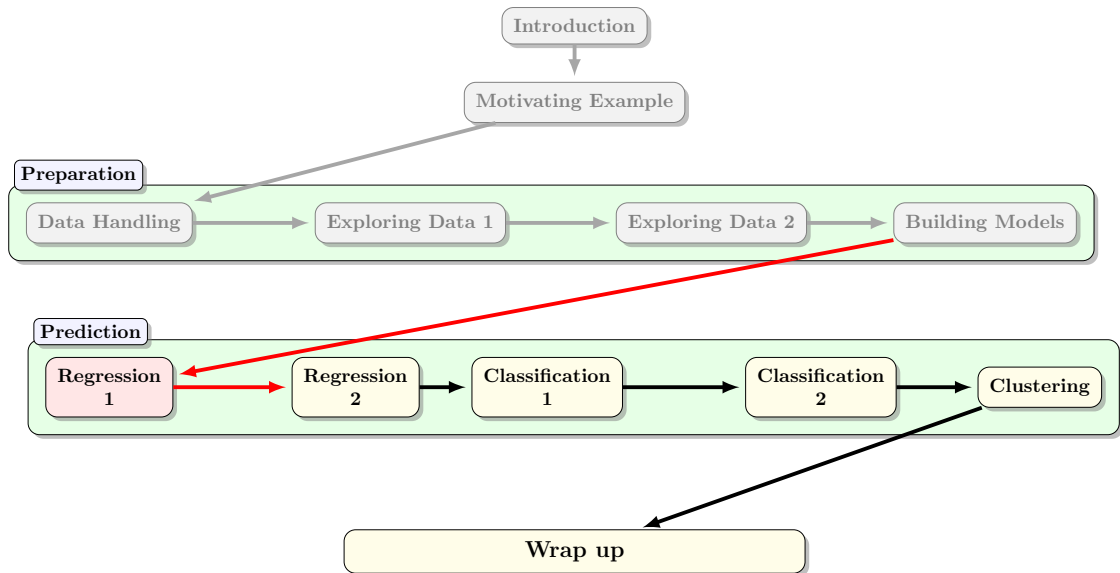
Regression  
2

Classification  
1

Classification  
2

Clustering

Wrap up



# Regression - Overview — Summary

---

1. Introduction

2. Linear regression assumptions

3. Reviewing regression results

4. Case Study 2: Diamonds

4.1 Review

# This Week's Aim

This week's aim is to give an overview of the linear regression: fitting linear models to data, to predict a numeric value.

- High level view of regression: where it came from, what it attempts to do.
- Examine some extensions to the simplest case of linear regression.
- Consider how to check that the regression was successful, and make some improvements if necessary
- To provide context we will use the following datasets:
  - Generated data (various)
  - Diamond dataset: predicting diamond prices given their weights
  - Advertising dataset: predicting widgets sold based on spending in different advertising channels
  - Credit dataset: predicting credit balance using income, status, etc.

# Simple Linear Regression: Background

- Linear regression was discovered by Gauss and others around 1800. The “name” came later!
- With small data sets, calculations can be done by hand, but they are tedious and error-prone.
- The goal is simple: Given a **training** set of  $(x, y)$  data where  $y$  is assumed to have a linear relationship with  $x$ 
  - Find the line that is the “best fit” to that data
  - Use the specification of that line to *predict*  $y$  for the **test**  $x$  values
- Note that the “linear relationship” of  $y$  upon  $x$  is just one of the underlying assumptions
- In practice, the data does not have an exact linear relationship, but it should be “close enough”—but what does that mean?

# Review: Linear combinations (scalar product)

## Definition 1 (Linear Combination of two vectors)

Given two vectors **a** and **b**, each with  $n$  elements, the *linear combination* ( $c$ ) of **a** and **b** is

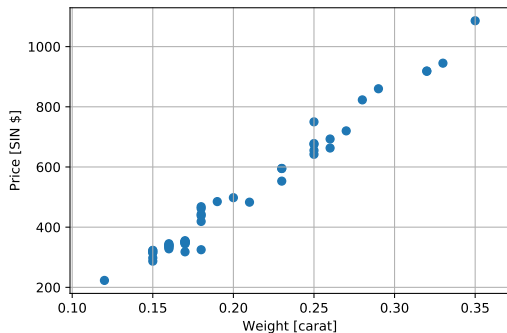
$$c \equiv a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + \dots + a_nb_n = \sum_{i=1}^n a_ib_i \equiv |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \cos(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$$

## Remarks

- The linear combination of 2 vectors is a scalar, which can be seen as “mixing” two vectors.
- Matrix-vector multiplication  $\mathbf{Ax}$  can be seen as the linear combination of each row in the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  with the (column) vector  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- Matrix-matrix multiplication  $\mathbf{AB}$  can be seen as the linear combination of each row in the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  with each column in the matrix  $\mathbf{B}$ .
- Two nonzero vectors **a** and **b** can have a scalar product that is zero if  $\cos(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = 0$ , i.e., the **a** and **b** vectors are perpendicular to each other.
- Linear combinations are used for prediction from linear (regression) models.

# Motivating example: Diamond data

Relation between diamonds' price and weight



## Diamond Prices by Weight

- Given the data on the left, can we use it to predict the price of a diamond that weighs 0.22 carat?
- NB - we have not seen a diamond with that weight before in the data
- Can you think of at least 4 other factors that might affect the price?

# Simple Linear Regression: Formulation

## Definition 2 (Matrix formulation)

- Given data  $\{x_i, y_i\}$  where  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$  and  $\beta_0, \beta_1$  as the (unknown, but to be determined) *intercept* and *slope* of the regression line for this data.
- For  $n = 2$  points with  $x_2 \neq x_1$ , this can be solved uniquely for  $\beta_0, \beta_1$ , using techniques you learnt for your Junior/Inter Cert.
- For  $n > 2$  collinear points, just pick any two points and solve as before.
- Otherwise you need a more general formulation, and can use linear algebra to solve for  $\beta_0, \beta_1$ .
- General equation is  $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \epsilon_i = \hat{y}_i + \epsilon_i$  (data = model + error), where  $\hat{y}$  is the predicted  $y$  for these values of  $\beta_0, \beta_1$ .
- Matrix form is  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\beta$ . Remember matrix-vector multiplication: inner product of  $i^{\text{th}}$  row of  $\mathbf{X}$  times the vector  $\beta = 1 \times \beta_0 + x_i \times \beta_1 = \hat{y}_i$ .
- However, we don't know  $\beta$  yet, nor do we know  $\hat{y}_i$ , so we use  $y_i$  as an estimate of  $\hat{y}_i$  and solve for all data in the training set.
- So: our task is to solve the *overdetermined* (number of rows exceeds the number of columns) system of equations  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\beta$  for  $\beta$



# Simple Linear Regression: Normal Equations

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{y} &\approx \mathbf{X}\beta \\ \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{X}\beta + \epsilon \\ \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} \beta + \mathbf{X}^T \epsilon \\ \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} \beta\end{aligned}$$

because  $\mathbf{X}^T \epsilon \equiv 0$  by definition\*. Swapping sides, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}) \beta &= \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} \\ (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}) \beta &= (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}\end{aligned}$$

which is equivalent to the *Normal equations*

$$\beta = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} \tag{1}$$

Note that everything on the right is a set of operations on the data.

# Simple Linear Regression: Implementation

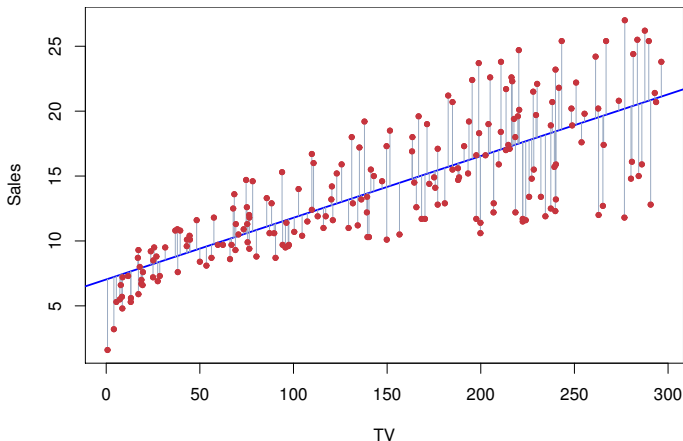
When implemented in software, the Normal equations are not used directly: faster and more numerically accurate algorithms are used instead, but the results are equivalent in exact arithmetic (remember: digital computers perform finite-precision arithmetic and so cannot be exact).

One option is to use statsmodels: consistent with R (separate model specification), excellent diagnostics as standard

Another option is to use sklearn: consistent with other sklearn algorithms, more controls

Remember: after *learning* the  $\beta$  parameters using the training data  $\{\mathbf{x}_i, y_i\}$ , with the model encoded in the feature matrix  $\mathbf{X}$ , it is then possible to predict  $\hat{y}_k$  for “new” (test)  $\mathbf{x}_k$  values, using separate *prediction* function calls.

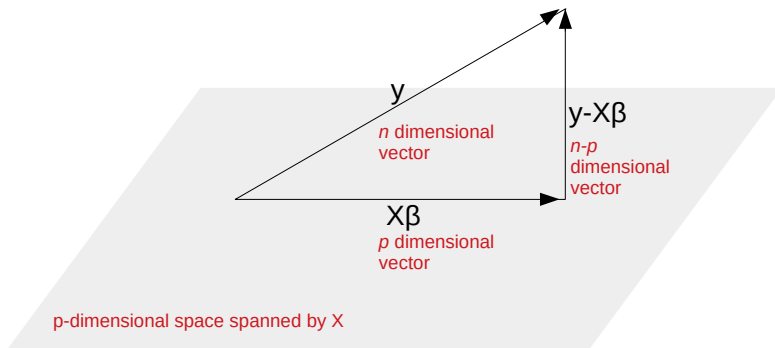
## SLR: Residual Plot for the model



Source: ISLR, Fig 3.1: Advertising data with the model “ $\text{Sales} \sim \text{TV}$ ”.

Note the vertical distance between the red dots (data points)  $\mathbf{y}$  and the corresponding  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  on the regression line, which is termed the *error*  $\epsilon$ .

# Geometrical interpretation of regression



Note that the  $X$  matrix spans the  $p \times p$  space represented by the grey plane, but  $y$  has  $n > p$  dimensions and so is represented by a point that lies outside the plane. When  $y$  is projected onto the  $X$  space, the projected point is  $\hat{y}$  and the residuals are represented by the vector  $y - X\beta \equiv y - \hat{y}$ .

This decomposition of  $n$  data dimensions (observations) into  $p$  model parameters and  $n$  residuals with rank  $n - p$  is helpful when interpreting regression diagnostics.

# OLS and Linear Regression

## Definition 3 (BLUE)

According to the Gauss-Markov theorem, *Ordinary Least Squares* (OLS), which uses the Normal equations to minimise the sum of the squares of the errors ( $\|\epsilon\|_2 \equiv \sqrt{e_1^2 + e_2^2 + e_3^2 + \dots + e_n^2}$ ), is the *Best, Linear, Unbiased, Estimator* of that model that can be derived from the training data, provided some reasonably loose assumptions hold.

When we discuss Bias, Variance and Irreducible Error, it is clear that low bias is not enough. OLS might be BLUE but that does not guarantee low variance, because overfitting can still be a problem. In practice, the assumptions required for OLS to be appropriate can be stated in terms of properties of the residual vector  $\epsilon$ .

In the rest of this lecture, we will generalise from Simple to Multiple Linear Regression, where  $\beta = (\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_p)$  and  $2 \leq p \leq n$ , so instead of fitting lines, we fit (hyper)planes to data.

# Assumptions required for the linear model to be meaningful

## Definition 4 (Linear Regression Assumptions)

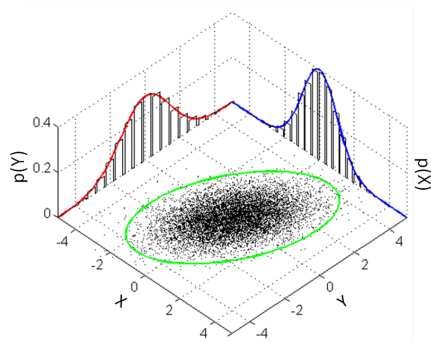
- 1 The underlying relationship between the predictors and the response is linear in the regression parameters  $\beta$ .
- 2 The residual errors  $\epsilon$  are drawn from a (multivariate) Normal distribution  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  where  $\mu = \mathbf{0}$ .
- 3 The predictors are not pairwise collinear, i.e., each pair of predictors  $\beta_{j_1}$  and  $\beta_{j_2}$  (associated with columns  $X(:, j_1)$  and  $X(:, j_2)$ ) have low correlation (equivalently, the inner product of  $X(:, j_1)$  and  $X(:, j_2)$  is far from zero).
- 4 There is no auto-correlation in  $\mathbf{y}$ : each observation is independent of its “neighbours”.
- 5 The errors are *homoscedastic* (i.e.,  $\text{Var}(\epsilon)$  is constant over the range of  $\mathbf{x}$  or  $\mathbf{y}$ ).

Because these assumptions depend both on the data and on the model fitted to that data, it is meaningless to say that “Data set A does not satisfy the linear regression assumptions”, because this observation might not apply to all formulations of all models applied to that data.

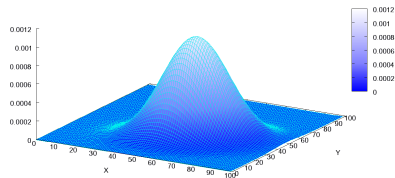
Consequently, these assumptions can be used constructively, when model building, or as checks, when validating models.

# Errors are normally distributed

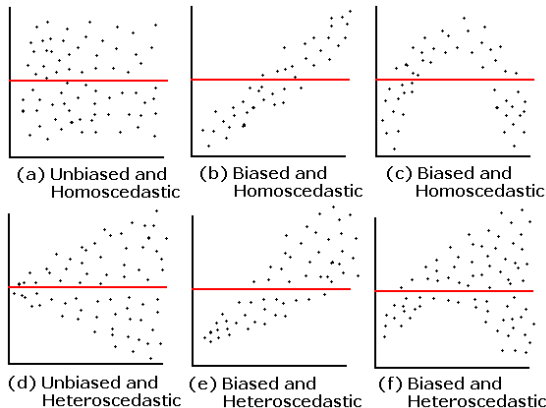
- Centred on zero so small errors are more common
- Symmetric so positive and negative balance out



Multivariate Normal Distribution



# Bias and variance in regression



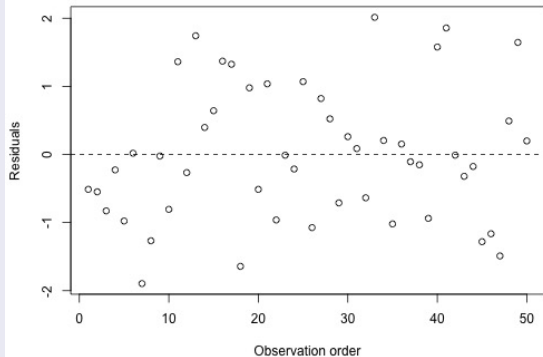
- Bias is caused by underfitting.
- Fix bias by adding suitable predictors.
- Overfitting causes large variance.
- If variance changes over the range, some errors get undue attention.
- Fix this by weighting the errors so they are balanced.

Source: <https://bit.ly/3vC9zK7>

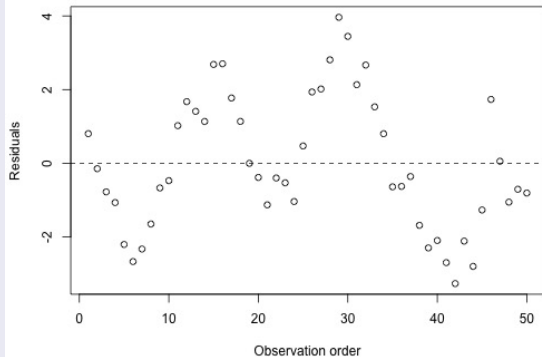


# Errors should not be serially correlated

## No serial correlation

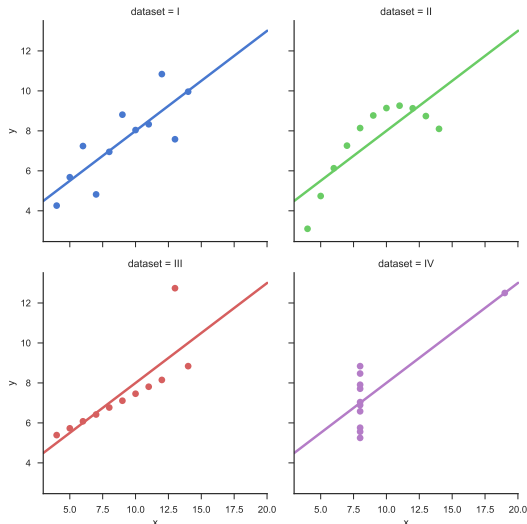


## Positive serial correlation



Source: <https://bit.ly/3b3oQtY>

# Anscombe's quartet (1973)



Francis Anscombe devised 4 data sets to show different forms of misalignment between data and models. Sets I,II,III share the same  $x$  values. All 4 sets share approximately the same descriptive statistics (mean and variance), but little else is common to all 4!

Only I appears suited as it stands. The other data sets require some work, particularly IV.

**What do you think needs to be done for each data set?**

# Common Cost Functions in Regression Models

Remember: we are trying to minimise a loss function based on the error.

Measure	Definition	Purpose
Mean square error (MSE)	$\frac{(p_1 - a_1)^2 + \dots + (p_m - a_m)^2}{m}$	Mathematically tractable but places greater emphasise on observations with large error
Root mean square error (RMSE)	$\sqrt{\frac{(p_1 - a_1)^2 + \dots + (p_m - a_m)^2}{m}}$	Has same units as data
Mean absolute error (MAE)	$\frac{ p_1 - a_1  + \dots +  p_m - a_m }{m}$	Does not overemphasise observations with large error (like MSE does)
Relative square error (RSE)	$\frac{(p_1 - a_1)^2 + \dots + (p_m - a_m)^2}{(p_1 - \bar{a})^2 + \dots + (p_m - \bar{a})^2}$	Relative metric compares the error in the predictions with errors in the simplest model possible (a model just always predicting the average value of y)
Root Relative square error (RRSE)	$\sqrt{\frac{(p_1 - a_1)^2 + \dots + (p_m - a_m)^2}{(p_1 - \bar{a})^2 + \dots + (p_m - \bar{a})^2}}$	
Relative absolute error (RAE)	$\frac{ p_1 - a_1  + \dots +  p_m - a_m }{ p_1 - \bar{a}  + \dots +  p_m - \bar{a} }$	

where  $a_j$  is the actual value,  $p_j$  is the predicted value,  $m$  is the number of observations, and  $\bar{a}$  represents the mean of the  $a_j$ .

# Choices of Vector norms

## Definition 5 (Manhattan norm)

$\ell_1(\dots) = \|\dots\|_1$  is the *Manhattan* norm (length) of a vector. Let  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$ . Then  $\ell_1(\dots) = \|\dots\|_1 = |x_1| + |x_2| + \dots + |x_m|$  is the *Manhattan* distance of  $\mathbf{x}$  from the origin. Think of having to *walk* from one junction in Manhattan to another, the distance is the difference in the Street numbers plus the difference in the Avenue numbers.

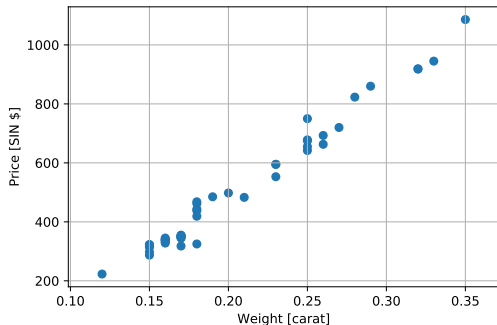
## Definition 6 (Euclidean norm)

$\ell_2(\dots) = \|\dots\|_2$  is the *Euclidean* norm (length) of a vector. Let  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$ . Then  $\ell_2(\dots) = \|\dots\|_2 = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_m^2}$  is the *Euclidean* distance of  $\mathbf{x}$  from the origin. Think of being able to *fly* over all the buildings using the shortest route (think: Pythagoras theorem!) from one junction in Manhattan to another.

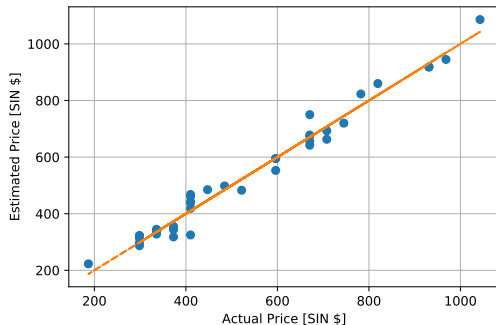
The Euclidean norm is very common, but the Manhattan norm is gaining popularity, because it is robust to outliers and computers are becoming powerful enough. However we generally use Euclidean norm in this module.

## Case Study 2: Diamonds - Check relationship

Relation between diamonds' price and weight



Relation between estimated and actual diamonds' prices

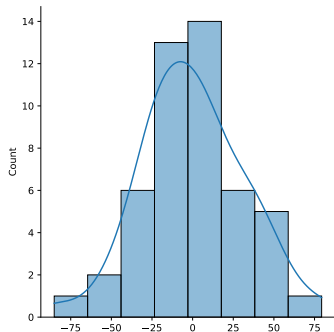


Clearly there is a linear relationship between a diamond's weight (in carats) and its price (in Singapore dollars, as here). So that is one assumption satisfied!

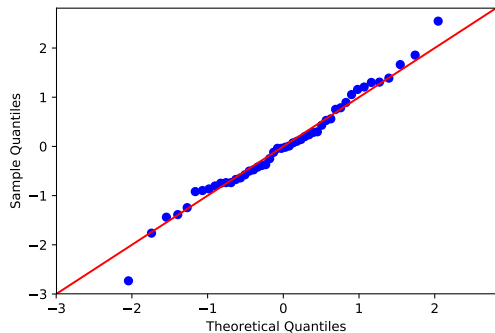
Sometimes the dependent variable has a linear dependence on a function of an attribute. Example functions include log, exp, sqrt, polynomial, etc. Even if the function is nonlinear in the attribute, that does not matter, as long as the model is linear in the regression parameters  $\beta$ .

## Case Study 2: Diamonds - Check residual distribution

```
import seaborn as sns
resFig = "res/residHist.pdf"
sns_plot = sns.displot(x = residuals, kde=True)
sns_plot.savefig(resFig)
```



```
# Q-Q plot to verify the residuals distribution
resFig = "res/residualsqq.pdf"
fig = sm.qqplot(residuals, fit=True, line = '45')
fig.savefig(resFig)
```



Both diagnostic plots indicate the residuals are reasonably close to Normal distribution centred on 0. The qqplot is perhaps more informative. Looking good so far!

**Is the standardised residual distribution heavy-tailed or light-tailed relative to the Normal distribution? Any other features?**

## Case Study 2: Diamonds - model summary

<b>Dep. Variable:</b>	price	<b>R-squared:</b>	0.978
<b>Model:</b>	OLS	<b>Adj. R-squared:</b>	0.978
<b>Method:</b>	Least Squares	<b>F-statistic:</b>	2070.
<b>Date:</b>	Sun, 11 Feb 2018	<b>Prob (F-statistic):</b>	6.75e-40
<b>Time:</b>	16:22:40	<b>Log-Likelihood:</b>	-233.20
<b>No. Observations:</b>	48	<b>AIC:</b>	470.4
<b>Df Residuals:</b>	46	<b>BIC:</b>	474.1
<b>Df Model:</b>	1		
<b>Covariance Type:</b>	nonrobust		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
<b>const</b>	-259.6259	17.319	-14.991	0.000	-294.487	-224.765
<b>carats</b>	3721.0249	81.786	45.497	0.000	3556.398	3885.651

<b>Omnibus:</b>	0.739	<b>Durbin-Watson:</b>	1.994
<b>Prob(Omnibus):</b>	0.691	<b>Jarque-Bera (JB):</b>	0.181
<b>Skew:</b>	0.056	<b>Prob(JB):</b>	0.913
<b>Kurtosis:</b>	3.280	<b>Cond. No.</b>	18.5

```
simpleModel.summary()
```

The output from Python's statsmodels.summary() call has lots of information!

- How much of the variability of the data is explained by the model?
- What is the probability that such data arose if price does not increase with weight?
- Explain the degrees of freedom in the table
- What scores indicate that the distribution of the residuals is Normal?

# Summary

---

- We described linear models
- We gave several ways to view what regression is: geometry, linear algebra, optimisation
- We described regression assumptions
- We looked at a simple example
- We consider how to judge the success of regression
- Next week - we consider how to fix problems with regression models