

Part 01 : Overview

Preparation

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Data Handling

Exploring Data

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Exploring Data 2

Building Models

Autumn Semester, 2025

Outline

- Regression assumptions, and how-
- to deal with heteroscedasticity and why it is a problem
- unrepresentative training data can lead to overfitting
- feature collinearity can be assessed
- Provide a worked example of forward selection of features, and interaction terms, for model building

Wrap up

Data Mining (Week 9)

Introduction

Motivating Example

Preparation

Data Handling

Exploring Data 1

Exploring Data 2

Building Models

Prediction

Regression
1

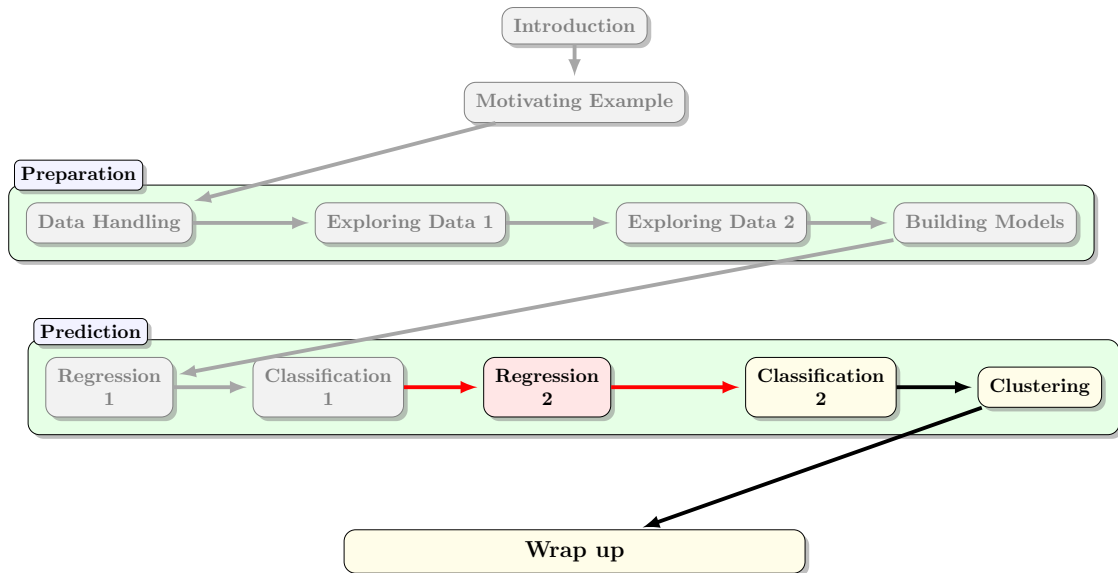
Classification
1

Regression
2

Classification
2

Clustering

Wrap up



Outline

1. Introduction	3
2. Regression1 review	5
3. Case Study 1: Generated	9
4. Case Study 3: Advertising	14

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 - Generated data (various)
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 - Credit dataset: predicting credit balance using income, status, etc.

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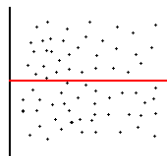
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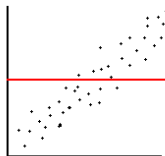
These assumptions can be used constructively, when model building, or as checks, when validating models.

Bias and variance in regression

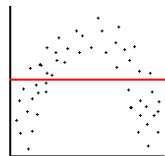
- Bias is caused by underfitting.



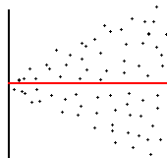
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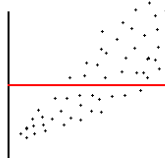
(b) Biased and Homoscedastic



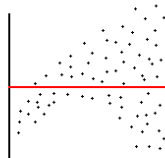
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(d) Unbiased and Heteroscedastic



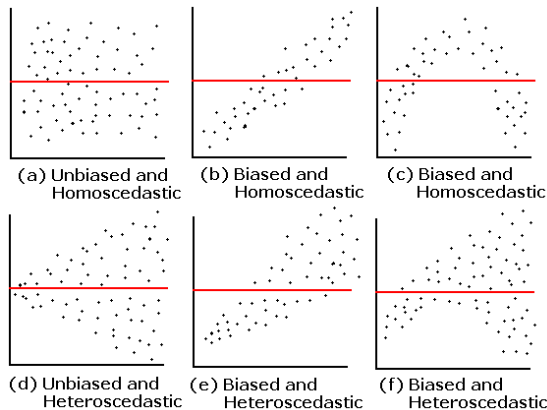
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Source: <https://bit.ly/3vC9zK7>

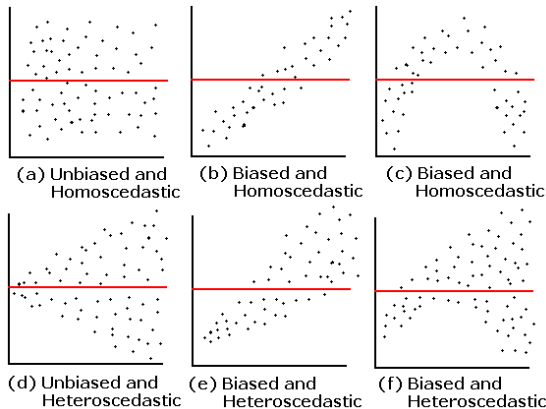
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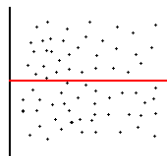
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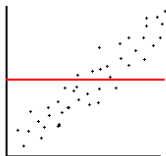
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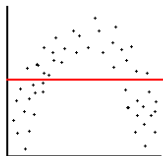
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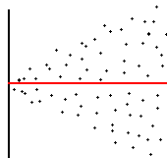
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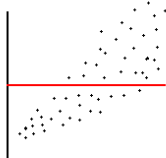
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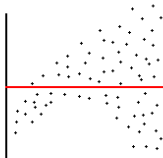
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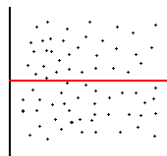


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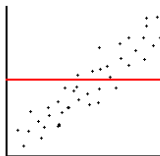
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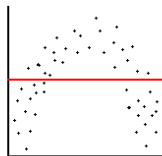
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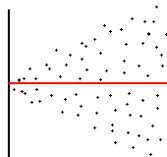
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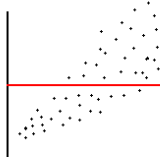
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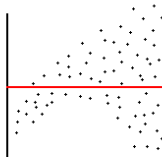
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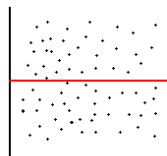


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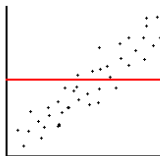
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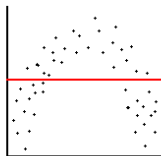
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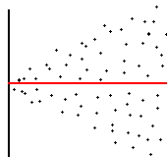
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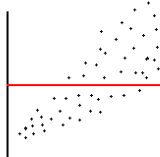
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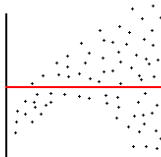
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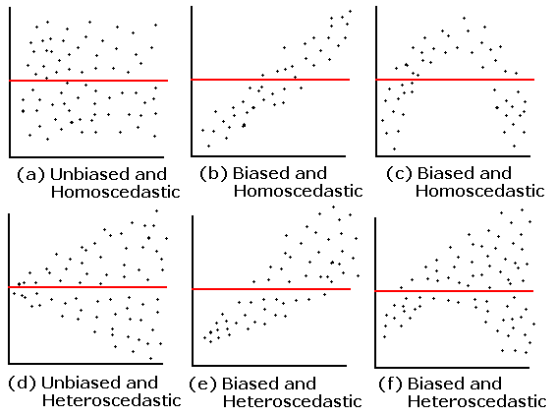


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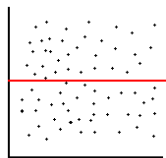
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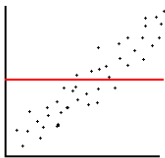
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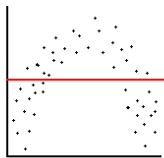
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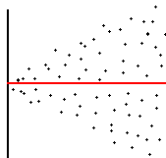
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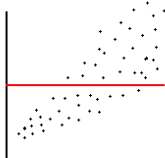
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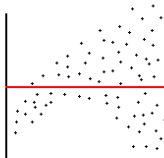
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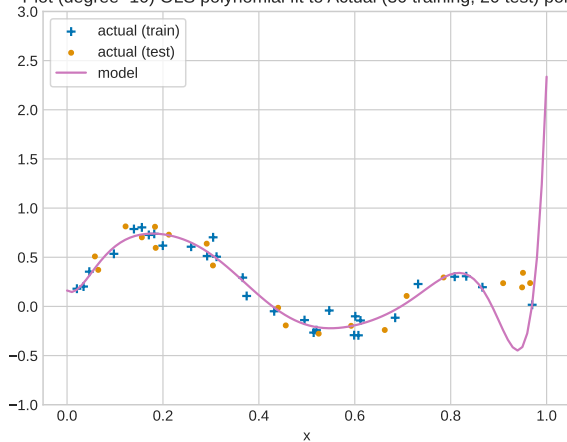
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 - Using scikit-learn: add the argument `sample_weight = someWeights`, e.g., `model.fit(Xtrain, yTrain, sample_weight=someWeights)`.
 - Using statsmodels: use the weighted version of least squares: `WLS(y, X, someWeights)` not `OLS(y, X)`

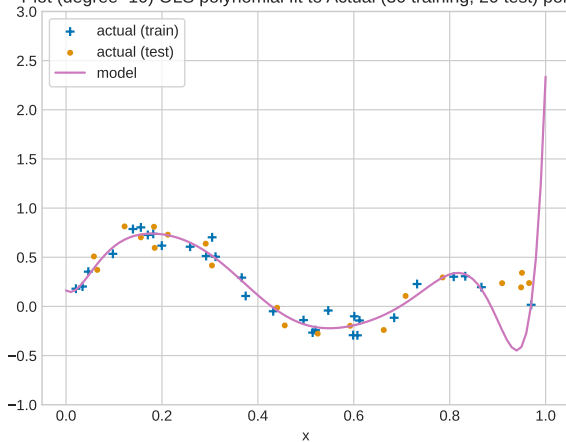
What's happening here???

Plot (degree=10) OLS polynomial fit to Actual (30 training, 20 test) points



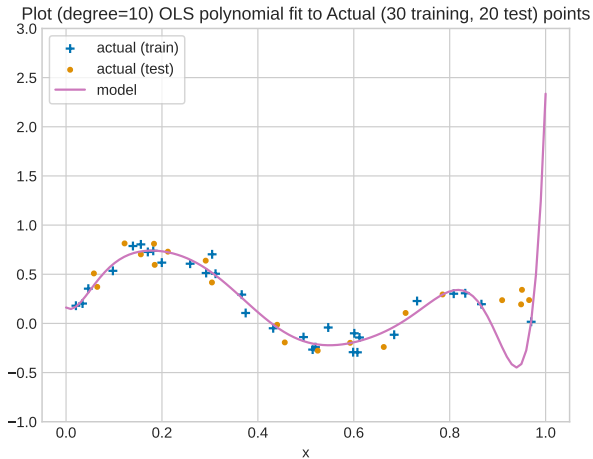
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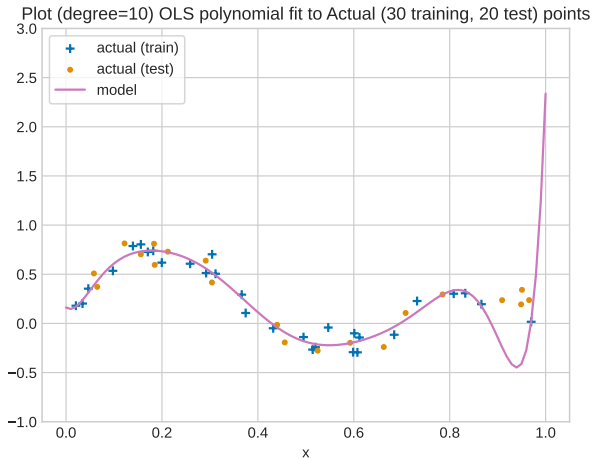
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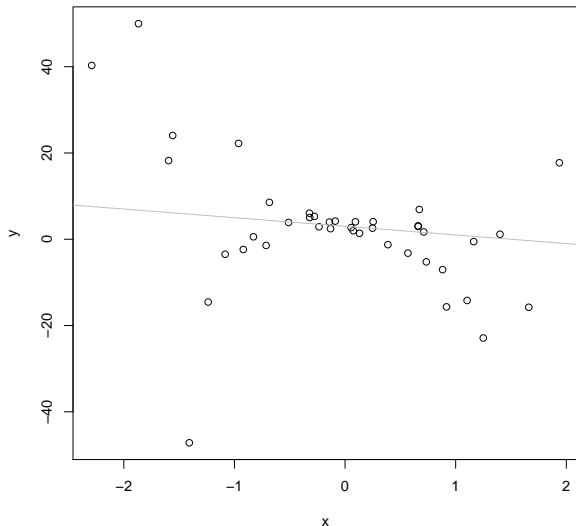


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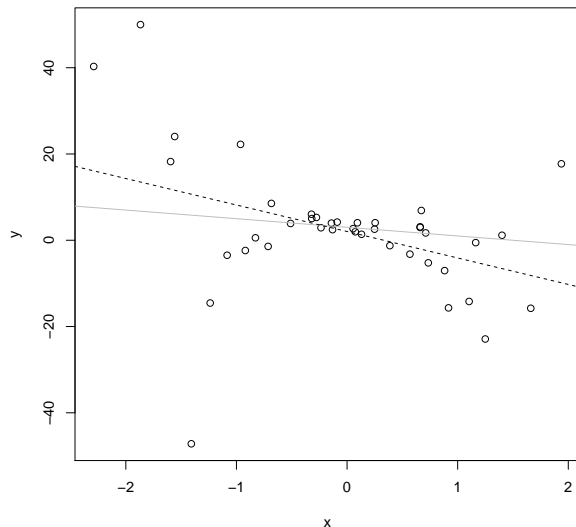
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Case Study 1: Heteroscedasticity - Step 1



I generated 41 x, y points based on $y = 3 - 2x$, but with added errors that increase away from $x = 0$. The plot shows the line with $\beta = (3, -2)$ in grey.

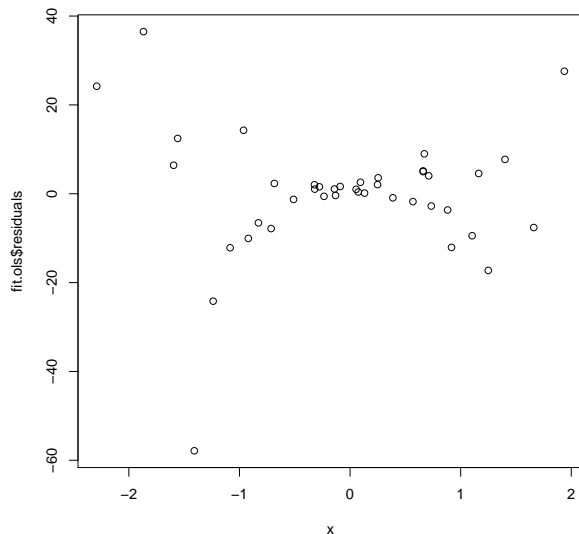
Case Study 1: Heteroscedasticity - Step 2



In this plot I added the OLS fit as a dashed line. Note that the parameters of the fit are quite different:

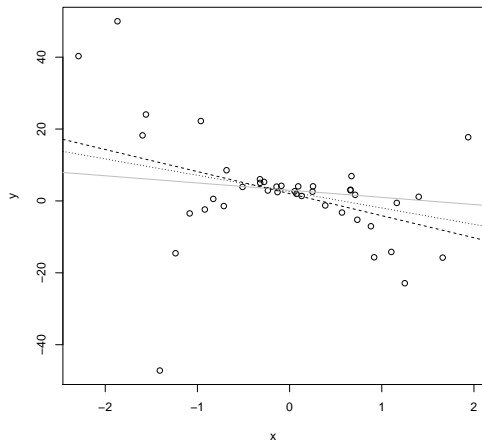
$\beta_{OLS} \approx (2, -6)$, equivalent to $y = 2 - 6x$.

Case Study 1: Heteroscedasticity - Step 3

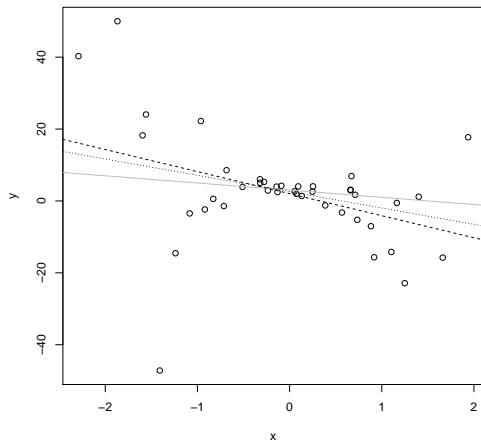


This plot shows how the OLS residuals ϵ_{OLS} increase rapidly away from 0, as expected (since this was how the data was generated).

Case Study 1: Heteroscedasticity - Step 4

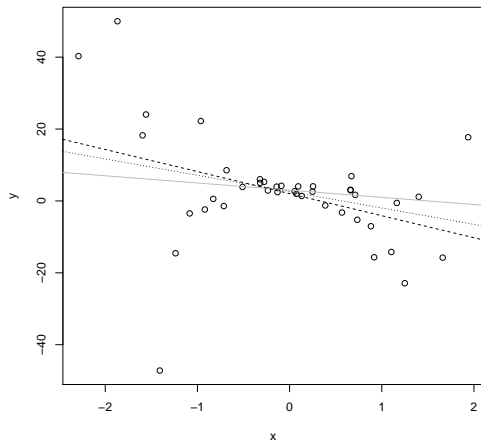


Case Study 1: Heteroscedasticity - Step 4



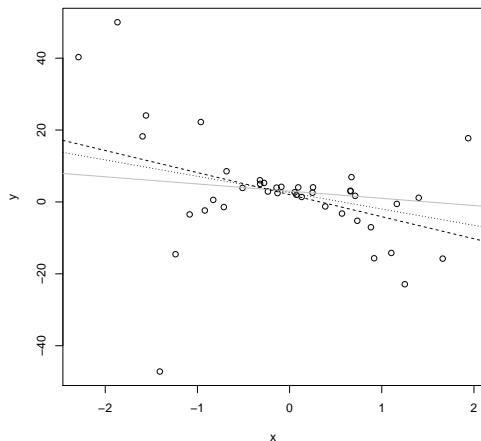
- By inspecting the previous residual plot I estimated a weighting function so that the residuals would be “more constant”. When this was used to scale the residuals, the resulting Weighted Least Squares estimates were $\beta \approx (2.6, -4.5)$ (shown as a dotted line) and hence closer to the “true” $\beta = (3, -2)$.

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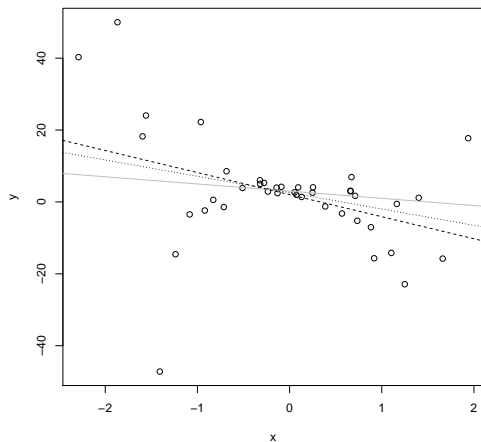
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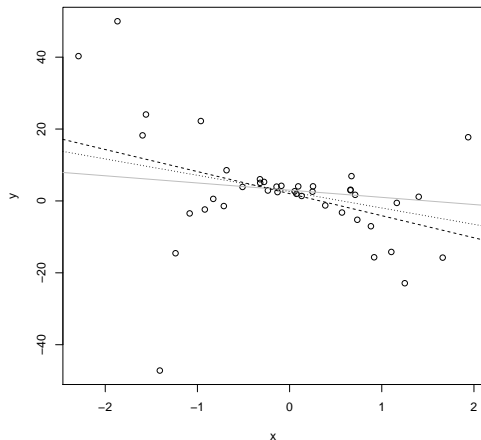
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- *Iteratively Reweighted Least Squares* has been proposed to optimise regression models.

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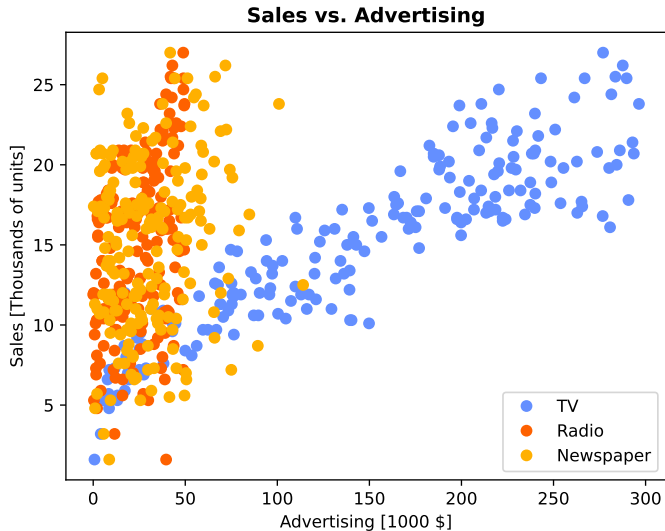
Case Study 3: Advertising: Data and Hypotheses

TV Radio Newspaper Sales

0	230.1	37.8	69.2	22.1
1	44.5	39.3	45.1	10.4
2	17.2	45.9	69.3	12.0
3	151.5	41.3	58.5	16.5
4	180.8	10.8	58.4	17.9

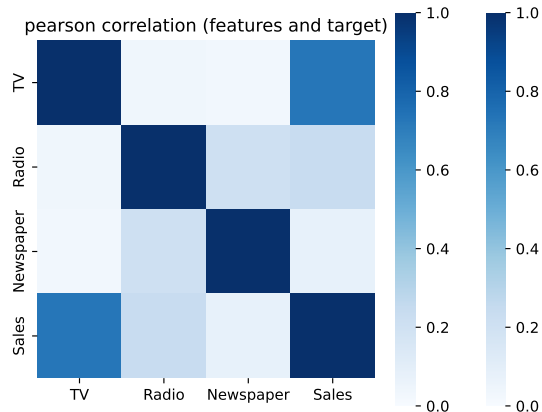
- In this data set, the sales figure captures how many thousands of widgets of a particular type were sold in a year.
- Newspaper, Radio and TV represent the annual spend per widget type on the associated advertising channel.
- The hypothesis is that spend on advertising is a good predictor of sales performance.
- Since marketing budgets are limited, where should the adverts be placed for maximum sales?
- Alternatively, how should marketing funds be distributed across the 3 channels to achieve a specified sales performance, while keeping the total spend as low as possible?

Case Study 3: Advertising: Looking at the data



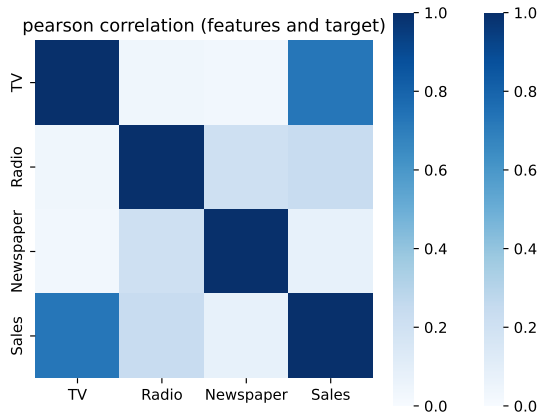
Which of the advertising channels appear to have a linear relationship with Sales?

Case Study 3: Advertising: Collinearity?



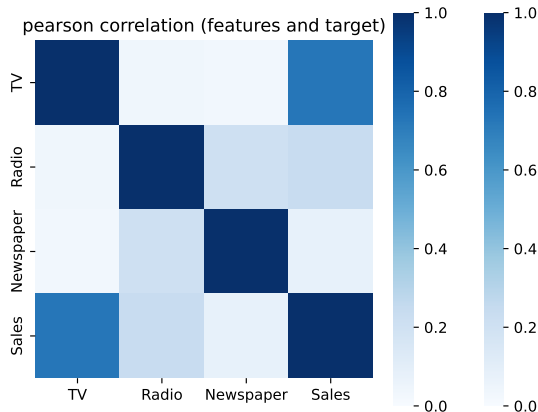
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Case Study 3: Advertising: Collinearity?



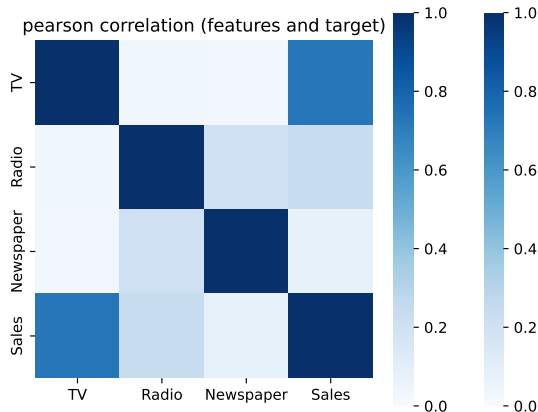
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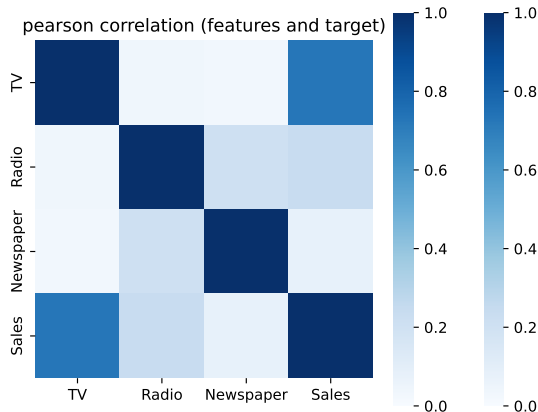
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 - Sales (the target) is placed in the last row (or column).

Case Study 3: Advertising: Collinearity?



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- A good predictor should have a **high correlation with the target** (Sales in this case) and should have **low correlation with other candidate predictors**.
- What are expected to be good predictors for this data?**
 - Sales (the target) is placed in the last row (or column).
 - TV > Radio > Newspaper, with moderate correlation between Radio and Newspaper.

Sidebar: specifying models

The statsmodels way

- The dataframe contains the observed variables

The sklearn way

- The dataframe contains the (computed) features

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- statsmodels models are expressed like "Sales \sim TV * Radio + poly(Newspaper,2)". This notation came from the applied statistics community.
- In words: "Sales depends on TV spending, Radio spending, the interaction between TV and Radio spending, Newspaper spending and Newspaper spending squared (5 features from 3 measured features)."
- statsmodels offers its own plotting (like seaborn but not as good). Its model summary is very convenient.
- sklearn exposes more of the details (e.g., choice of algorithm and configuration parameters).
- Both statsmodels and sklearn use the same libraries (scipy, numpy, etc.) underneath.

The sklearn way

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Case Study 3: Advertising: Model Building (“stats” way)

- Start from a “full model” and prune, versus from an “empty model” and add
- We choose the latter, as it is often easier to avoid overfitting

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Example 2 (Forward Selection for Advertising Data)

Define: model score: mean-square-error on the test set for a given model.

- 1 Fit “Sales \sim Newspaper”, “Sales \sim Radio”, “Sales \sim TV” and calculate their loss values.
- 2 Choose the best (lowest loss) single-term model (“Sales \sim TV” in this case), with loss $\text{MSE}(\text{TV})$.
- 3 Fit “Sales \sim TV + Newspaper” and “Sales \sim TV + Radio” and choose the lowest loss score, which is “Sales \sim TV + Radio” with loss being $\text{MSE}(\text{TV} + \text{Radio})$, which is significantly better.
- 4 Fit “Sales \sim TV + Radio + Newspaper”. Its loss is the same ($\text{MSE}(\text{TV} + \text{Radio}) \approx \text{MSE}(\text{TV} + \text{Radio} + \text{Newspaper})$), so we favour the existing simpler two-term model (Occam’s Razor: other things being equal, choose the simplest model.).

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So our preferred model is “Sales \sim TV + Radio”.

Forward selection in action, with and without the interaction term

Main features only

feature	test_neg_mean_squared_error	test_r2
0 TV	(-7.324310374422007, -3.936981032219174)	(0.7603440777107349, 0.8390841989031752)
1 Radio	(-4.718440611471559, -1.8510139478354652)	(0.8456097326980662, 0.9322678692463671)
2 Newspaper	(-4.72039259225367, -1.8510521207093062)	(0.8455458626911012, 0.9317779087301497)

$\text{MSE}(\text{TV}) \approx 5.5$; $\text{MSE}(\text{TV} + \text{Radio}) \approx 3.5$; $\text{MSE}(\text{TV} + \text{Radio} + \text{Newspaper}) \approx 3.5 \approx \text{MSE}(\text{TV} + \text{Radio})$.
 Adding Newspaper does not reduce MSE.

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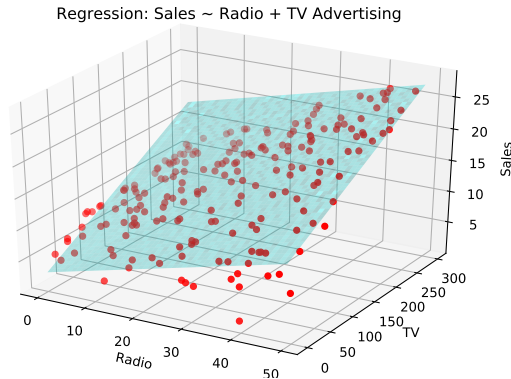
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Main features with TV:Radio interaction term

feature	test_neg_mean_squared_error	test_r2
0 TV	(-7.324310374422007, -3.936981032219174)	(0.7603440777107349, 0.8390841989031752)
1 TV:Radio	(-3.695048288640374, -1.8479935191656154)	(0.8790957564264388, 0.9377953274242408)
2 Radio	(-3.929784758825862, -1.751389612982793)	(0.8714150353235091, 0.9410470781968057)
3 Newspaper	(-3.9387465036567235, -1.7715653928145287)	(0.8711218015427205, 0.9403679482294234)

$\text{MSE}(\text{TV}) \approx 5.5$; $\text{MSE}(\text{TV} + \text{TV:Radio}) \approx 2.8$; $\text{MSE}(\text{TV} + \text{TV:Radio} + \text{Radio}) \approx 2.8 \approx \text{MSE}(\text{TV} + \text{TV:Radio})$. Adding Radio and Newspaper does not reduce MSE.

Case Study 3: Advertising: Viewing the Model



Since this two-term model ignores the contribution of the newspaper channel, the Newspaper spend as a contribution to Sales is just another component of the unmodelled (and apparently random) contribution to Sales.

However, the result is a model where every term is highly significant and the model “explains” 90% of the variance of the data, which is high for an observational study. **Why? Can we do better?**

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- $\beta_0 = 6.75$, $\beta_{\text{TV}} = 0.019$, $\beta_{\text{Radio}} = 0.029$ and $\beta_{\text{TV:Radio}} = 0.001$, indicating that there is a favourable relationship between TV and Radio advertising ($\beta_{\text{TV:Radio}} > 0$), and that additional spending on Radio results in more Sales than the same spending on TV ($\beta_{\text{Radio}} > \beta_{\text{TV}}$).

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- Spending on Newspaper advertising should be discontinued as its contribution to Sales is insignificant (indistinguishable from random noise).