

# Week 6 – Tuesday Session

## Linear Regression

EPI202 – Epidemiologic Methods II

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# Advantages of Regression Models

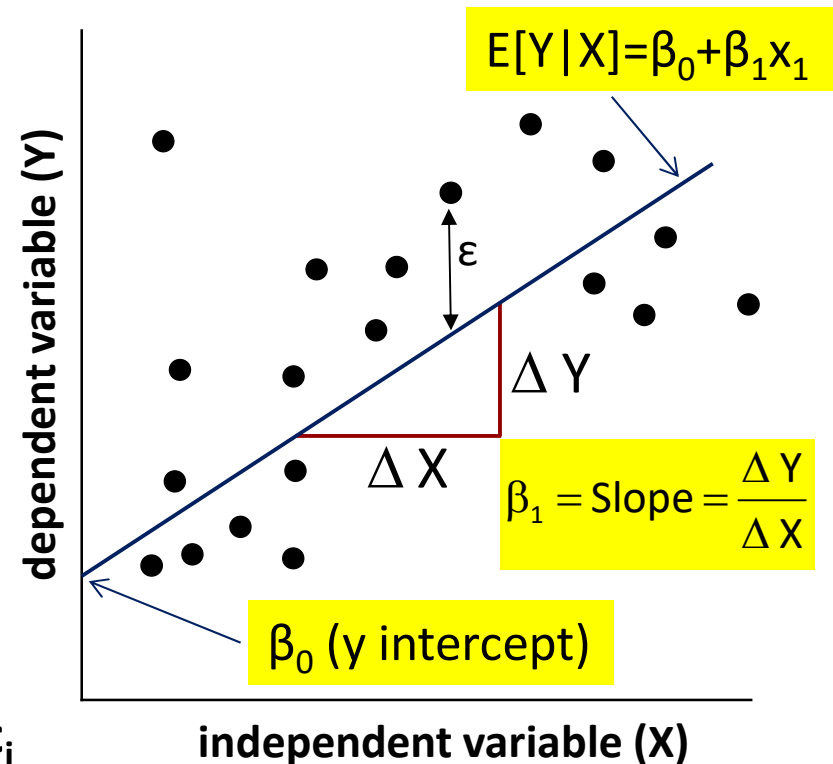
- Generally more efficient than stratification-based methods when data are sparse
- Modelling of a continuous outcomes
- Specify continuous and categorical exposures, confounders and modifiers
- Specify interactions to model effect modification
- Model nonlinear relations associations hips between exposure and outcome and other covariates

# Regression Models

$y$	=	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots \beta_i x_i + \varepsilon$
Dependent		Independent
Predicted		Predictor variables
Response variable		Explanatory variables
Outcome variable		Covariables

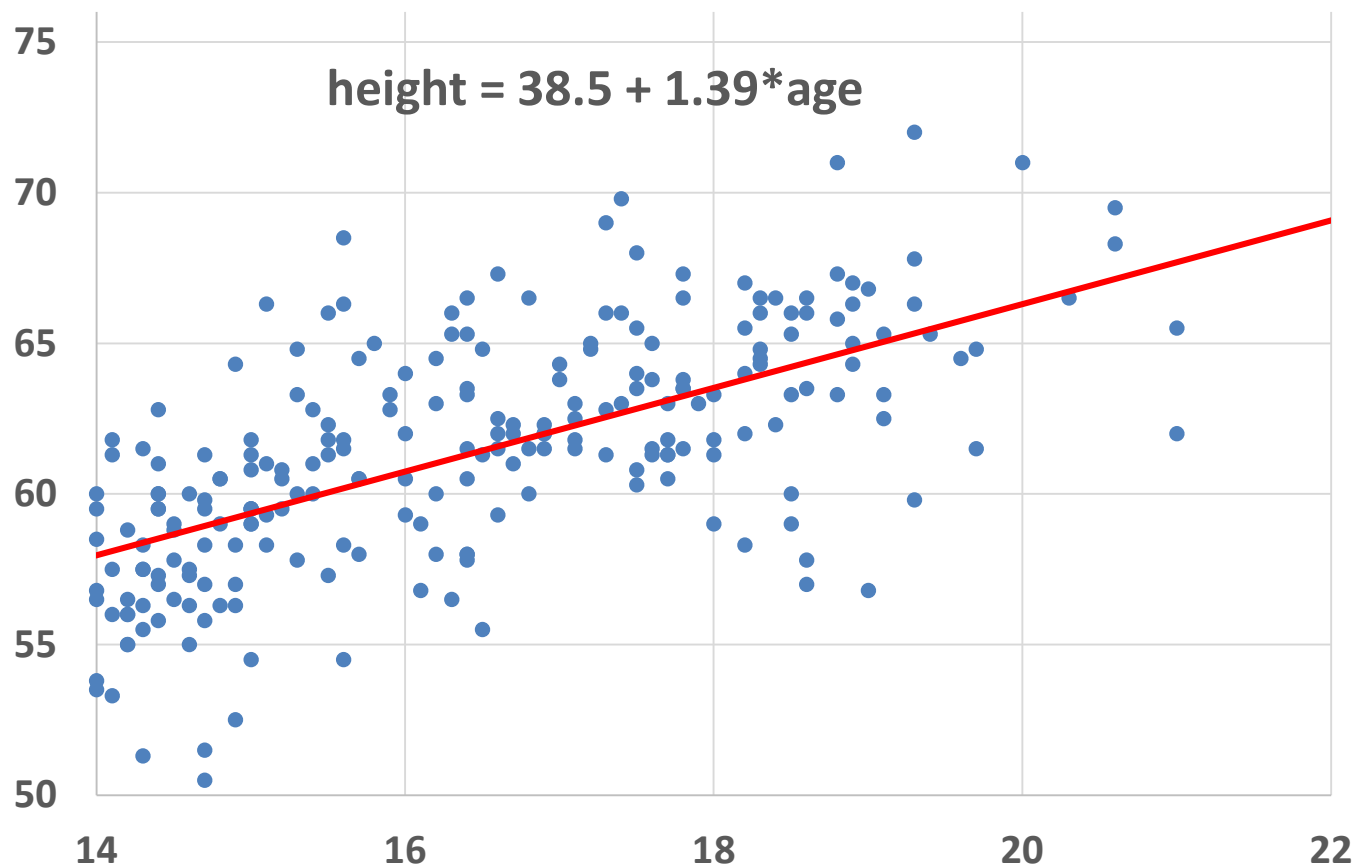
# Simple Linear Regression

- Predict a continuous dependent (outcome) variable  $y$  from a continuous independent (exposure) variable  $x$
- Simple linear regression fits a straight line to the data using the least squares method.
- Regression line:  $E[Y|X] = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1$ 
  - Often presented as  $y = mx + b$  where
    - $b = y\text{-intercept}$
    - $m = \text{slope} = \Delta y / \Delta x$  (rise/run)
- Individual predicted value:  $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1i} + \varepsilon_i$ 
  - $\beta_0 = y\text{-intercept}$  (where the line crosses the Y-axis)
  - $\beta_1 = \text{slope} = \Delta y / \Delta x$  = average change in  $y$  when  $x$  changes by one unit
  - $x_1$  is a known constant
  - $\varepsilon$ , the error, is an observation's deviation from the conditional mean,  $N(0, \sigma^2)$



# Linear Regression

Age versus Height



## **Week 6 Linear Regression Exercise**

**HAVE A GOOD WEEK**