PO12Q: Introduction to Quantitative Political Analysis II

Week 7 - Worksheet Solutions



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1 Regression – Hypothesis Testing & Confidence Intervals

```
## $coefficients
## Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) -94306.813 10406.7267 -9.062101 3.328834e-16
## lifeexp 1503.211 144.3715 10.412105 7.027122e-20
```

- 1. Formulate the null and alternative hypotheses which is tested in this model.
- H_0 : Life expectancy does not influence the level of per capita GDP.
- H_A: The higher the level of life expectancy, the higher the level of per capita GDP.
- 2. Build the regression function.

$$\hat{gdp}_i = -94306.813 + 1503.211 \text{ life}_i$$

- 3. Is the coefficient significant
- Yes, it is. The p-value is <0.05.
- 4. Interpret the coefficients.
 - **intercept:** if life expectancy was zero years, the per capita GDP would be US\$ -94,306.81, on average (substantively, this makes zero sense.)
 - **slope:** For each additional year of life expectancy, per capita GDP increases by US\$ 1,503.21, on average.
- If life was insignificant, you could not interpret it other than saying "there is no relationship". We have not rejected the null hypothesis, and so we are not confident enough that it is different from "no influence".
- 5. Plot the regression function in a suitable diagram using ggplot.

```
library(tidyverse)

ggplot(data=wdi, aes(x=lifeexp, y=gdppc)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth(method=lm, se=FALSE, fullrange=TRUE) +
  theme_classic()+
  scale_x_continuous(name = "Life Expectancy", limits=c(0,90)) +
  scale_y_continuous(name = "per capita GDP", limits=c(-100000, 100000))
```





6. Explain how the t-value for life is obtained.

$$t = \frac{\hat{\beta}_2}{\hat{se}(\hat{\beta}_2)} = \frac{1503.211}{144.3715} = 10.412105$$

- 7. What do our results mean for the hypotheses?
- We have verified our alternative hypothesis and rejected the null hypothesis.
- 8. What does the value of "Multiple R-Squared" (this is equivalent to the R-Squared we calculated by hand last week) mean?
- R-Squared is 0.3936, which means that life expectancy is able to explain 39.36% of the variation in GDP.
- 9. Calculate the 95% confidence intervals for the coefficient life and the intercept. Compare your results to the R output below.

$$1503.211 - 1.96 \times 144.4 \le life \le 1503.211 + 1.96 \times 144.4$$

- 10. Find two explanations in the output for why the coefficient for lifeexp is statistically significant at the 5% level?
 - 1. p-value is 7.027122e-20
 - 2. |t| > 2 with df=167