



Darwin's finches: A full-blown statistical analysis



Your well-equipped toolbox

- Graphical and quantitative EDA
- Parameter estimation
- Confidence interval calculation
- Hypothesis testing



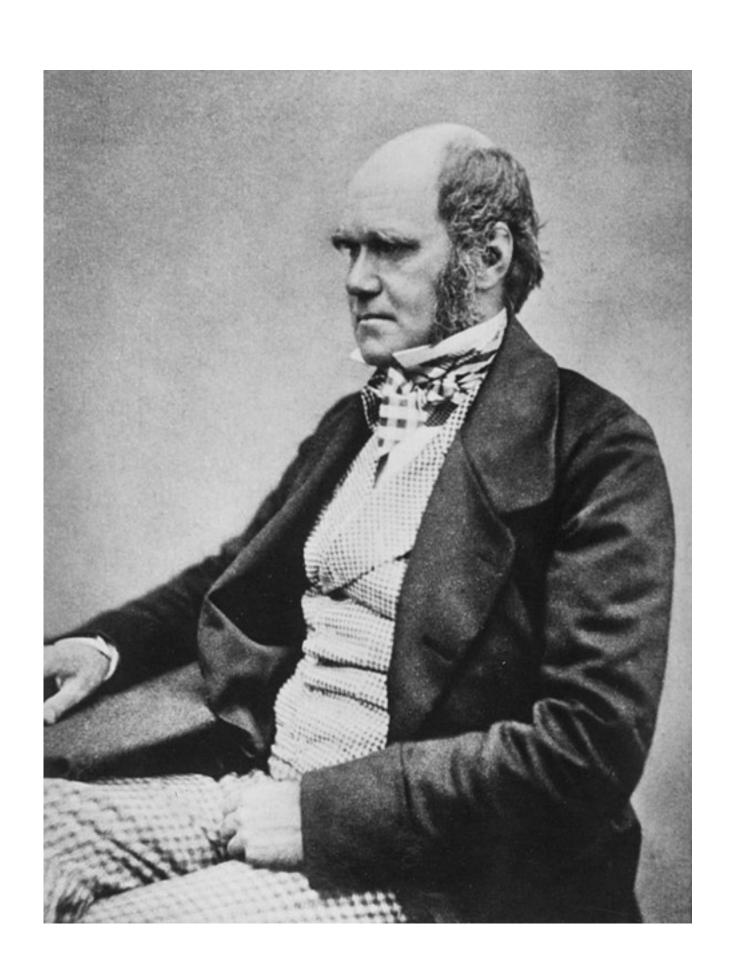








Image: NASA





The island of Daphne Major







The finches of Daphne Major







Our data source

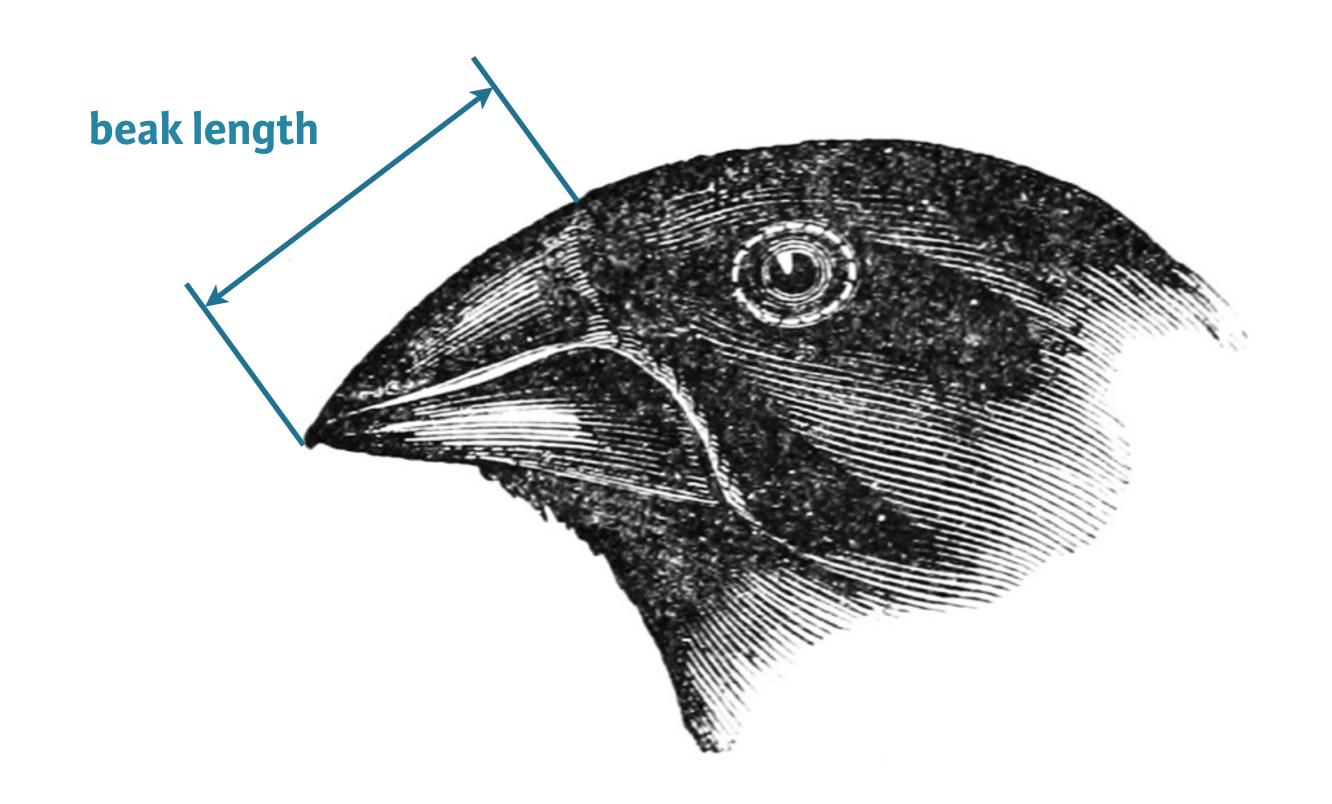
- Peter and Rosemary Grant
 40 Years of Evolution: Darwin's Finches on Daphne Major Island
 Princeton University Press, 2014
- Data acquired from Dryad Digital Repository http://dx.doi.org/10.5061/dryad.g6g3h







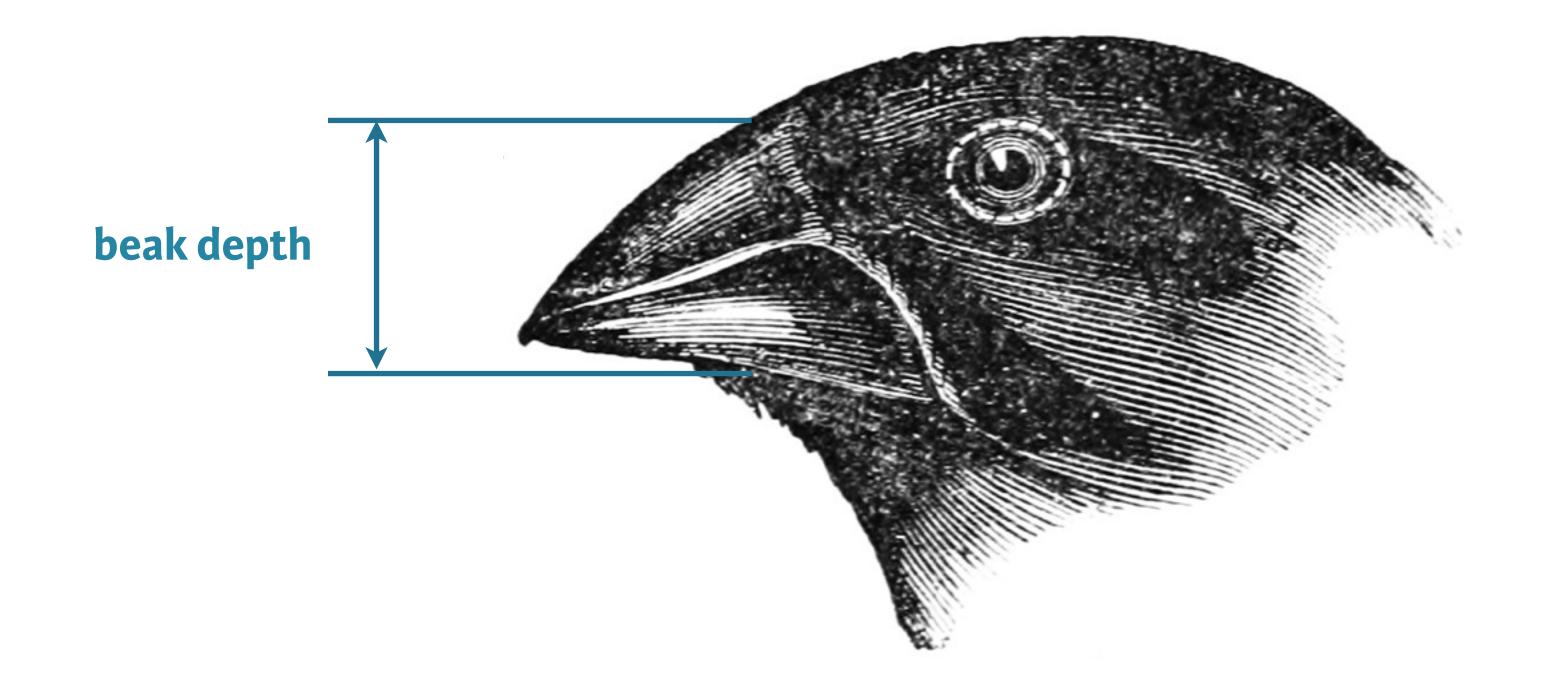
The dimensions of the finch beak







The dimensions of the finch beak





Investigation of G. scandens beak depth

- EDA of beak depths in 1975 and 2012
- Parameter estimates of mean beak depth
- Hypothesis test: did the beaks get deeper?





Let's do it!



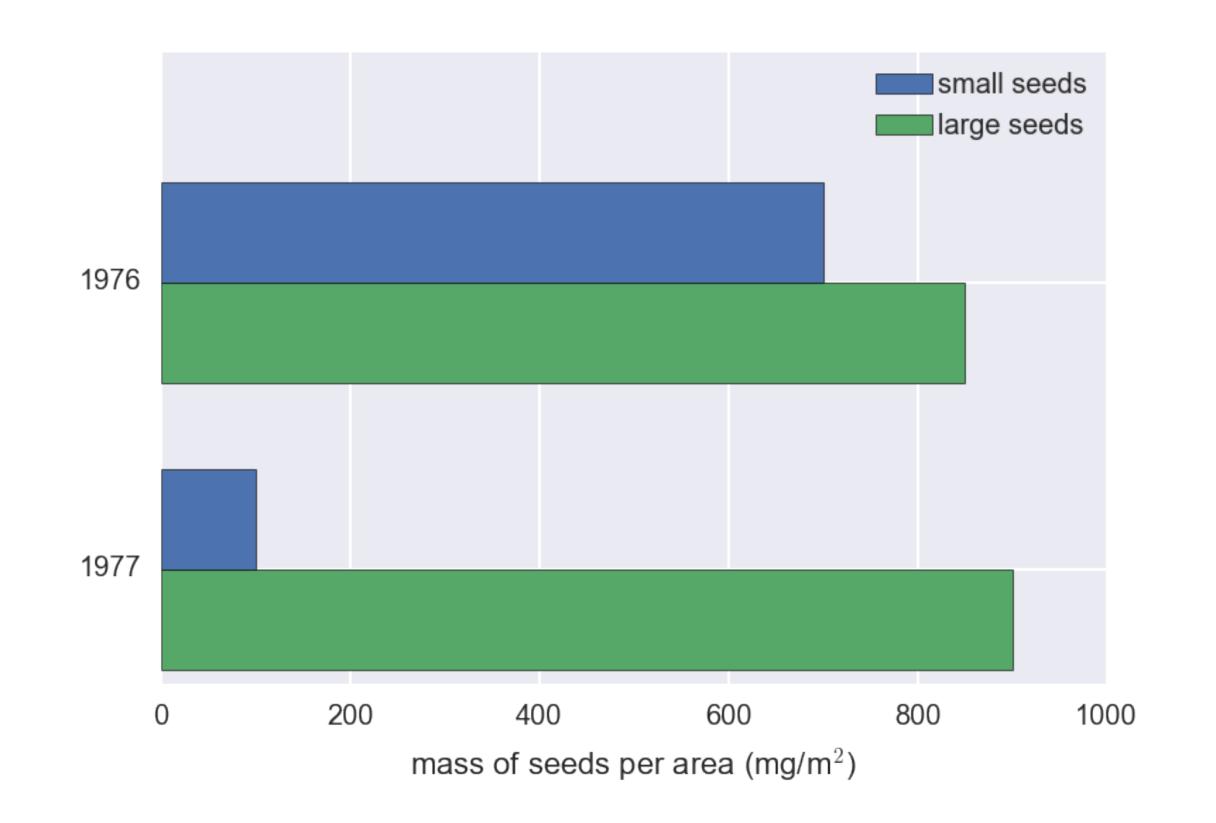


Variation in beak shapes





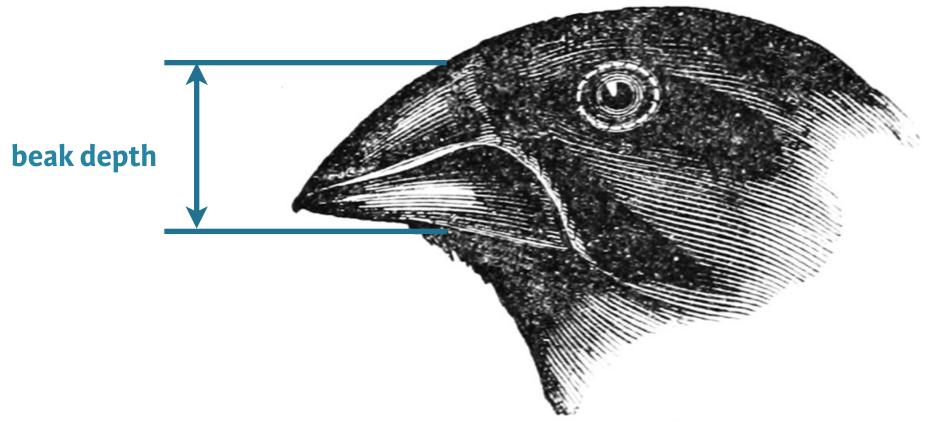
The drought of winter 1976/1977

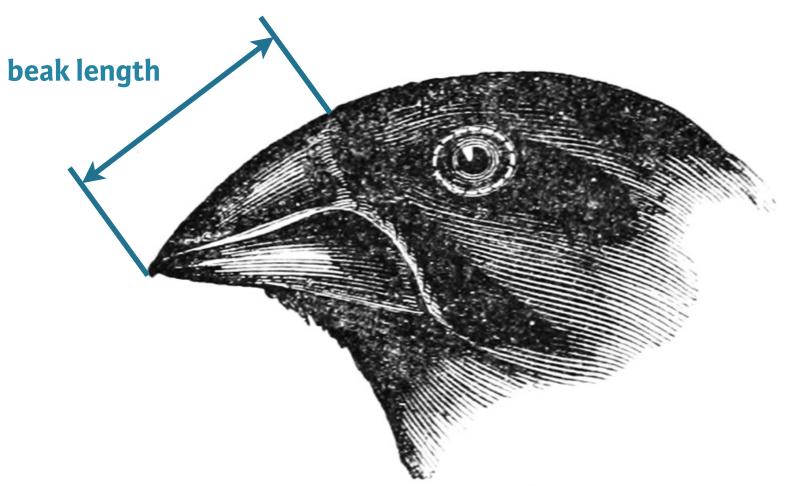






Beak geometry







Hint

draw_bs_pairs_linreg() will come in handy





Let's do it!





Calculation of heredity





The finches of Daphne Major







Heredity

 The tendency for parental traits to be inherited by offspring





Let's do it!





Final thoughts





Your statistical thinking skills

- Perform EDA
 - Generate effective plots like ECDFs
 - Compute summary statistics
- Estimate parameters
 - By optimization, including linear regression
 - Determine confidence intervals
- Formulate and test hypotheses





Bon voyage!