

# Inference and Regression

Conditions Necessary for Valid Inference in the Least Squares Regression Model

Testing Individual Regression Parameters

Addressing Nonsignificant Independent Variables

Multicollinearity

## Inference and Regression

### ► Statistical inference:

- Process of making estimates and drawing conclusions about one or more characteristics of a population (parameter) through the analysis of sample data drawn from the population.
- In regression, inference is commonly used to estimate and draw conclusions about:

The regression parameters

$$\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_q$$

The mean value and/or the predicted value of the dependent variable  $y$  for specific values of the independent variables

$$x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_q^*$$

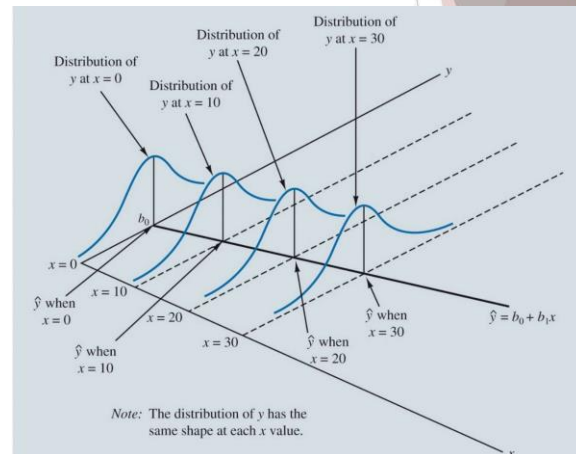
- Consider both **hypothesis testing** and **interval estimation**.

## Inference and Regression

### Conditions Necessary for Valid Inference in the Least Squares Regression Model:

- ▶ 1. For any given combination of values of the independent variables
  - ▶  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p$ , the population of potential error terms  $\varepsilon$  is normally distributed with a mean of 0 and a constant variance.
- ▶ 2. The values of  $\varepsilon$  are statistically independent

### Illustration of the Conditions for Valid Inference in Regression



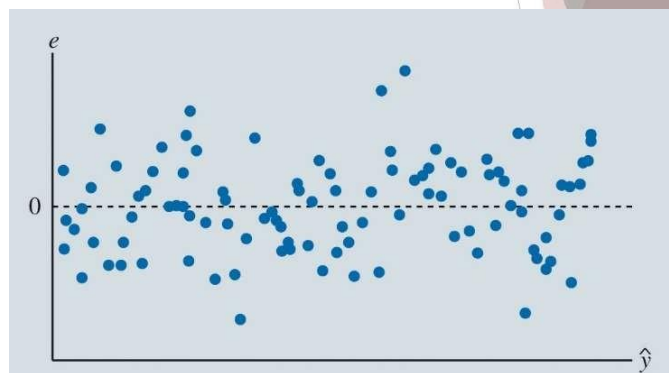
## Inference and Regression

### Are the conditions violated?

- ▶ 1. Center of the residuals should be approximately 0.
  - ▶ Mean 0
- ▶ 2. The spread in data should be about the same throughout
  - ▶ Constant variance
- ▶ 3. Errors should be symmetrically distributed with values near 0 occurring more frequently
  - ▶ Normally Distributed
- ▶ 4. Independent
  - ▶ Current data points do not depend on previous points

These residuals look good! - No violations

### Example of a Random Error Pattern in a Scatter Chart of Residuals and Predicted Values of the Dependent Variable



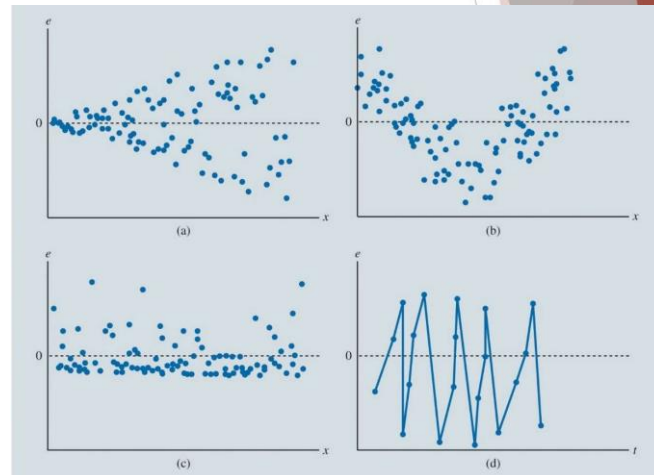
## Inference and Regression

Examples of Diagnostic Scatter Charts of Residuals from Four Regressions

Are the conditions violated?

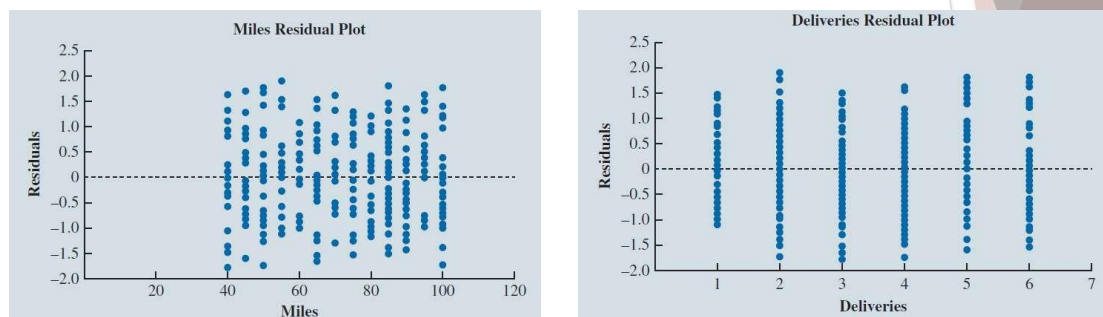
- ▶ 1. Center of the residuals should be approximately 0.
  - ▶ Mean 0
- ▶ 2. The spread in data should be about the same through out
  - ▶ Constant variance
- ▶ 3. Errors should be symmetrically distributed with values near 0 occurring more frequently
  - ▶ Normally Distributed
- ▶ 4. Independent
  - ▶ Current data points do not depend on previous points

These residuals do **NOT** look good!



## Inference and Regression

Figure 7.18: Excel Residual Plots for the Butler Trucking Company Multiple Regression



## Inference and Regression

Table of the First Several Predicted Values  $\hat{y}$  and Residuals  $e$  Generated by the Excel Regression Tool

Scatter chart of  $\hat{y}$  vs Residuals  $e$  -  
- used to assess whether the regression model satisfies the conditions needed for inference

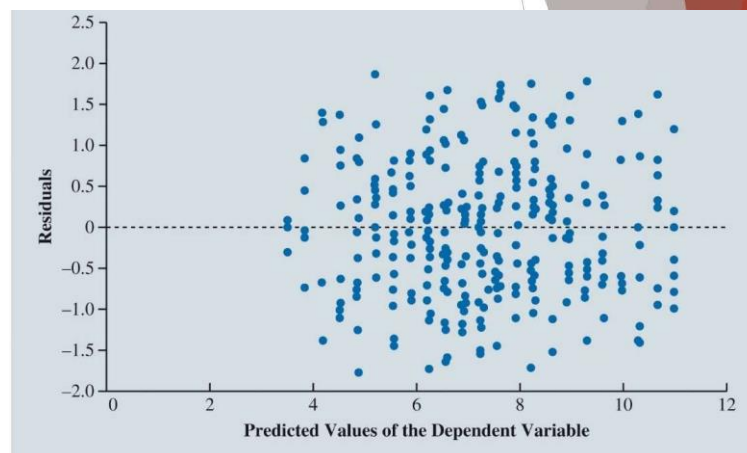
23	RESIDUAL OUTPUT		
24			
25	Observation	Predicted Time	Residuals
26	1	9.605504464	-0.305504464
27	2	5.556419081	-0.756419081
28	3	9.605504464	-0.705504464
29	4	8.225507903	-1.725507903
30	5	4.8664208	-0.6664208
31	6	6.881873062	-0.681873062
32	7	7.235932632	0.164037368
33	8	7.254143492	-1.254143492
34	9	8.243688763	-0.643688763
35	10	7.553690482	-1.453690482
36	11	6.936415641	0.063584359
37	12	7.290505212	-0.290505212
38	13	9.287776613	0.312223387
39	14	5.874146931	0.625853069
40	15	6.954596501	0.245403499
41	16	5.556419081	0.443580919

## Inference and Regression

Scatter Chart of Predicted Values  $\hat{y}$  and Residuals  $e$

- ▶ Mean 0
- ▶ Similar Variance
- ▶ Concentrated around 0

No evidence for violation of the conditions  
=> Trust the statistical inference!



## Inference and Regression

### Testing Individual Regression Parameters:

To determine whether statistically significant relationships exist between the dependent variable  $y$  and each of the independent variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_q$ , individually

If  $\beta_j = 0$ , there is no linear relationship between the dependent variable  $y$  and the independent variable  $x_j$ .

If  $\beta_j \neq 0$ , there is a linear relationship between  $y$  and  $x_j$ .

$$H_0: \beta_j = 0$$

$$H_a: \beta_j \neq 0$$

## Inference and Regression

### Testing Individual Regression Parameters (cont.):

- ▶ Use a t test to test the Null Hypothesis
- ▶ The test statistic for this t test is,

$$t = \frac{b_j}{s_{b_j}}$$

Where  $s_{b_j}$  is the estimated standard deviation of  $b_j$

- ▶ As the magnitude of  $t$  increases (as  $t$  deviates from zero in either direction),
  - ▶ we are more likely to reject the hypothesis that the regression parameter  $\beta_j$  is 0.
  - ▶ Implies  $\beta_j \neq 0$  and there is a relationship between  $y$  and  $x_j$

## Inference and Regression

### Testing Individual Regression Parameters (cont.):

- ▶ Typically, most software will provide a p-value to determine if  $\beta_j$  is significant (not equal to 0)
- ▶ Confidence interval can be used to test whether each of the regression parameters

$\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_q$  is equal to zero as well.

#### ▶ Confidence interval:

- ▶ An estimated interval believed to contain the value of the parameter at some level of confidence.
  - ▶ Example 95% confidence interval

$$b_j \pm t_{\alpha/2} S_{b_j}$$

#### ▶ Confidence level: $\alpha$ - Alpha

- ▶ Indicates how frequently interval estimates will contain the true value of the parameter we are estimating.
  - ▶ Example = 0.05

## Inference and Regression

### Addressing Nonsignificant Independent Variables:

- ▶ If practical experience dictates that the nonsignificant independent variable has a relationship with the dependent variable
  - ▶ the independent variable should be left in the model.
- ▶ If the model sufficiently explains the dependent variable without the nonsignificant independent variable
  - ▶ then consider rerunning the regression without the nonsignificant independent variable.
- ▶ The appropriate treatment of the inclusion or exclusion of the y-intercept

when  $b_0$  is not statistically significant may require special consideration.

## Inference and Regression

### Multicollinearity:

- ▶ the correlation among the independent variables in multiple regression analysis.
- ▶ In  $t$  tests for the significance of individual parameters, multicollinearity may lead to:
  - ▶ concluding that a parameter associated with one of the multicollinear independent variables is not significantly different from zero when the independent variable actually has a strong relationship with the dependent variable.
- ▶ This problem is avoided when there is little correlation among the independent variables.

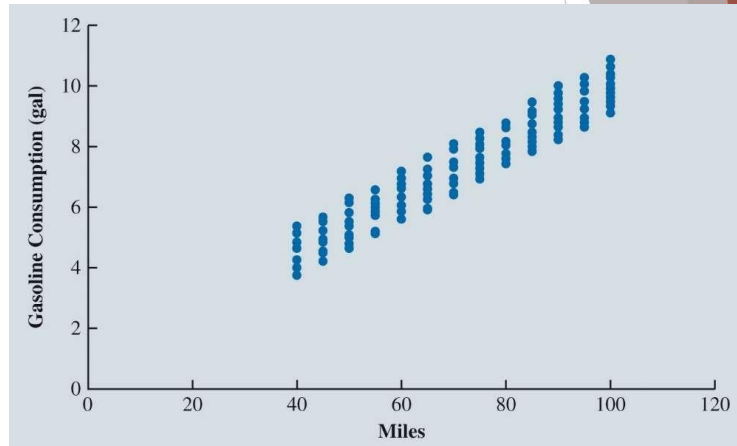
## Inference and Regression

Figure 7.21: Excel Regression Output for the Butler Trucking Company with Miles and Gasoline Consumption as Independent Variables

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	SUMMARY OUTPUT								
2									
3	Regression Statistics								
4	Multiple R	0.69406354							
5	R Square	0.481724198							
6	Adjusted R Square	0.478234125							
7	Standard Error	1.398077545							
8	Observations	300							
9									
10	ANOVA								
11		df	SS	MS	F	Significance F			
12	Regression	2	539.5808158	269.7904079	138.0269794	4.09542E-43			
13	Residual	297	580.5223842	1.954620822					
14	Total	299	1120.1032						
15									
16		Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	Lower 99.0%	Upper 99.0%
17	Intercept	2.493095385	0.33669895	7.404523781	1.36703E-12	1.830477398	3.155713373	1.620208758	3.365982013
18	Miles	0.074701825	0.014274552	5.233216928	3.15444E-07	0.046609743	0.102793908	0.037695279	0.111708371
19	Gasoline Consumption	-0.067506102	0.152707928	-0.442060235	0.658767336	-0.368032789	0.233020584	-0.463398955	0.328386751

## Inference and Regression

Figure 7.22: Scatter Chart of Miles and Gasoline Consumed for Butler Trucking Company



## Inference and Regression

### Multicollinearity (cont.):

- ▶ Testing for an overall regression relationship:
  - ▶ Use an  $F$  test based on the  $F$  probability distribution.
  - ▶ If the  $F$  test leads us to reject the hypothesis that the values of

$$b_1, b_2, \dots, b_q$$

are all zero:

- ▶ Conclude that there is an overall regression relationship.
- ▶ Otherwise, conclude that there is no overall regression relationship.



## Inference and Regression

Multicollinearity (cont.):

- ▶ Testing for an overall regression relationship (cont.):
  - ▶ The test statistic generated by the sample data for this test is:

$$F = \frac{SSR/q}{SSE/(n - q - 1)}$$

- ▶ SSR = Sum of squares due to regression.
- ▶ SSE = Sum of squares due to error.
- ▶  $q$  = the number of independent variables in the regression model.
- ▶  $n$  = the number of observations in the sample.
- ▶ Larger values of  $F$  provide stronger evidence of an overall regression relationship.
- ▶ For a small p-value => Reject null and conclude there is a regression relationship

## Categorical Independent Variables

Butler Trucking Company and Rush Hour

Interpreting the Parameters

More Complex Categorical Variables

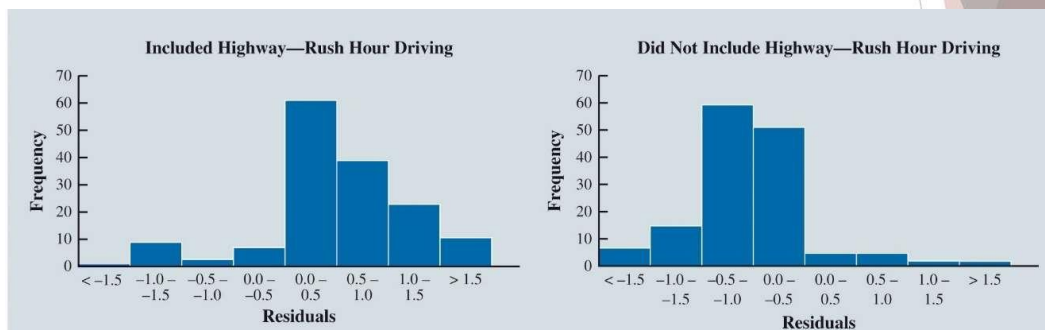
## Categorical Independent Variables

### Butler Trucking Company and Rush Hour:

- ▶ Dependent Variable,  $y$  : Travel Time
- ▶ Independent Variables
  - ▶  $x_1$  - Miles Traveled
  - ▶  $x_2$  - Number of Deliveries
  - ▶  $x_3$  - Rush Hour
    - ▶ Categorical Variable
    - ▶  $x_3 = 0$  if delivery trip took place during rush hour
    - ▶  $x_3 = 1$  if delivery trip did not take place during rush hour



## Categorical Independent Variables



## Categorical Independent Variables

### Excel Data and Output for Butler Trucking with

Miles Traveled ( $x_1$ ),  
Number of Deliveries ( $x_2$ ), and the  
Highway Rush Hour Dummy  
Variable ( $x_3$ ), as the Independent  
Variables

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	SUMMARY OUTPUT								
2									
3	Regression Statistics								
4	Multiple R	0.940107228							
5	R Square	0.8838016							
6	Adjusted R Square	0.882623914							
7	Standard Error	0.663106426							
8	Observations	300							
9									
10	ANOVA								
11		df	SS	MS	F	Significance F			
12	Regression	3	989.9490008	329.9830003	750.455757	5.7766E-138			
13	Residual	296	130.1541992	0.439710132					
14	Total	299	1120.1032						
15									
16		Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	Lower 99.0%	Upper 99.0%
17	Intercept	-0.330229304	0.167677925	-1.969426232	0.04983651	-0.66022126	-0.000237349	-0.764941128	0.104482519
18	Miles	0.067220302	0.00196142	34.27125147	4.7853E-105	0.063360208	0.071080397	0.062135243	0.072305362
19	Deliveries	0.67351584	0.023619993	28.51465981	6.74797E-87	0.627031441	0.720900239	0.612280051	0.734751629
20	Highway	0.9980033	0.076706582	13.0106605	6.49817E-31	0.847043924	1.148962677	0.799138374	1.196868226

## Categorical Independent Variables

### Interpreting the Parameters:

- ▶ The model estimates that travel time **increases** by:
  - ▶ **0.0672 hours (about 4 minutes)** for every increase of 1 mile traveled, holding all other variables constant
  - ▶ **0.6735 hours (about 40 minutes)** for every delivery, holding all other variables constant
  - ▶ **0.9980 hours (about 60 minutes)** if the driving route took place during the afternoon rush hour period, holding all other variables constant
  - ▶  $R^2 = 0.8838$ 
    - ▶ indicates that the regression model explains approximately 88.4% of the variability in travel time for the driving assignments in the sample

## Categorical Independent Variables

### Interpreting the Parameters (cont.):

Compare the regression model for the case when  $x_3 = 0$  and when  $x_3 = 1$ .

When  $x_3 = 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{y} &= -0.3302 + 0.0672x_1 + 0.6735x_2 + 0.9980(0) \\ &= -0.3302 + 0.0672x_1 + 0.6735x_2\end{aligned}\tag{7.16}$$

When  $x_3 = 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{y} &= -0.3302 + 0.0672x_1 + 0.6735x_2 + 0.9980(1) \\ &= 0.6678 + 0.0672x_1 + 0.6735x_2\end{aligned}\tag{7.17}$$

## Categorical Independent Variables

### More Complex Categorical Variables:

If a categorical variable has  $k$  levels,  $k$  minus 1 dummy variables are required, with each dummy variable corresponding to one of the levels of the categorical variable and coded as 0 or 1.

► Example:

- Suppose a manufacturer of vending machines organized the sales territories for a particular state into three regions: A, B, and C.
- Sales Region - Categorical variable with 3 levels (A, B, C)
- Number of Dummy Variables =  $3 - 1 = 2$

Region	$x_1$	$x_2$
A	0	0
B	1	0
C	0	1

## Categorical Independent Variables

### More Complex Categorical Variables:

#### ► Example Continued:

- The regression equation:

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1x_1 + b_2x_2$$

- Observations corresponding to Region A  $\rightarrow x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0$ ,
  - Estimated mean number of units sold in Region A

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1(0) + b_2(0) = b_0$$

## Categorical Independent Variables

### More Complex Categorical Variables:

#### ► Example Continued:

- Observations corresponding to Region B  $\rightarrow x_1 = 1, x_2 = 0$ ,
- Estimated number of units sold in Region B:

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1(1) + b_2(0) = b_0 + b_1$$

- Observations corresponding to Region C  $\rightarrow x_1 = 0, x_2 = 1$ ,
- Estimated number of units sold in Region C:

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1(0) + b_2(1) = b_0 + b_2$$

## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

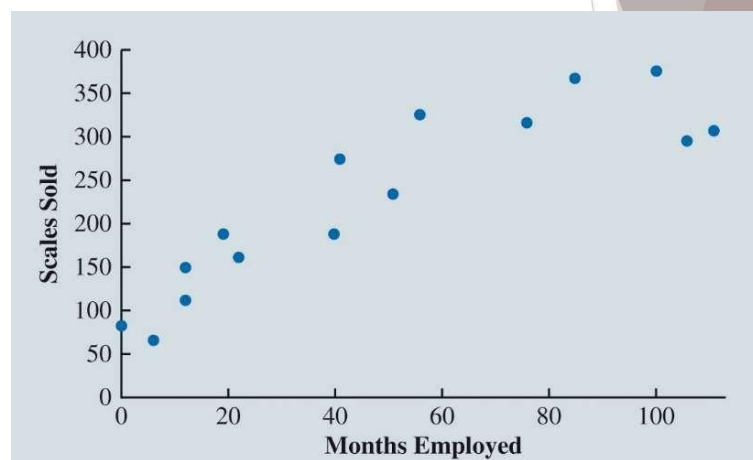
Quadratic Regression Models

Piecewise Linear Regression Models

Interaction Between Independent Variables

## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.25: Scatter Chart  
for the Reynolds Example



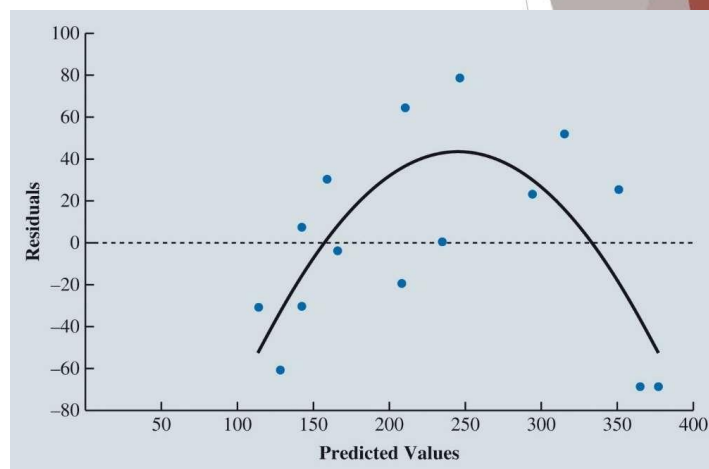
## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.26: Excel Regression Output for the Reynolds Example

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	SUMMARY OUTPUT								
2									
3	Regression Statistics								
4	Multiple R	0.888897515							
5	R Square	0.790138792							
6	Adjusted R Square	0.773995622							
7	Standard Error	48.49087146							
8	Observations	15							
9									
10	ANOVA								
11		df	SS	MS	F	Significance F			
12	Regression	1	115089.1933	115089.1933	48.94570268	9.39543E-06			
13	Residual	13	30567.74	2351.364615					
14	Total	14	145656.9333						
15									
16		Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	Lower 95.0%	Upper 95.0%
17	Intercept	113.7452874	20.81345608	5.464987985	0.000108415	68.78054927	158.7100256	68.78054927	158.7100256
18	Months Employed	2.367463621	0.338396631	6.996120545	9.39543E-06	1.636402146	3.098525095	1.636402146	3.098525095

## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.27: Scatter Chart of the Residuals and Predicted Values of the Dependent Variable for the Reynolds Simple Linear Regression



## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

- Equation (7.18) corresponds to a **quadratic regression model**.

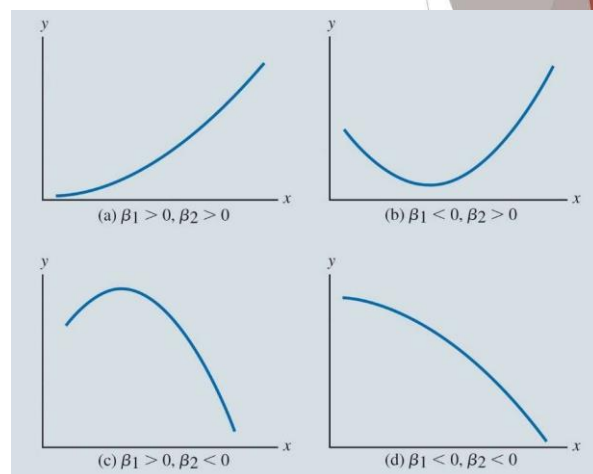
$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1x_1 + b_2x_1^2$$

Quadratic Regression Models:

- In the Reynolds example,
  - To account for the curvilinear relationship between months employed and scales sold,
  - include the square of the number of months the salesperson has been employed

## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.28: Relationships That Can Be Fit with a Quadratic Regression Model





## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.29: Excel Data for the Reynolds Quadratic Regression Model

	A	B	C
1	Months Employed	MonthsSq	Scales Sold
2	41	1,681	275
3	106	11,236	296
4	76	5,776	317
5	100	10,000	376
6	22	484	162
7	12	144	150
8	85	7,225	367
9	111	12,321	308
10	40	1,600	189
11	51	2,601	235
12	0	0	83
13	12	144	112
14	6	36	67
15	56	3,136	325
16	19	361	189

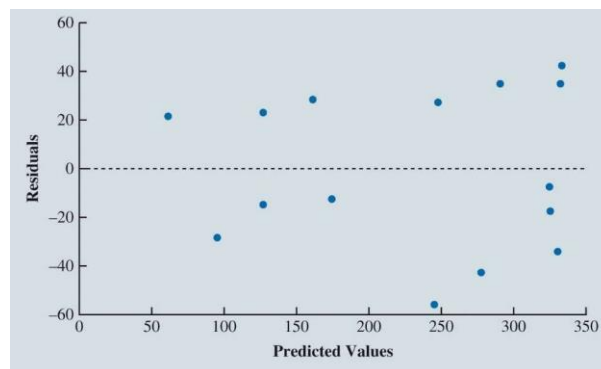
## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.30: Excel Output for the Reynolds Quadratic Regression Model

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	SUMMARY OUTPUT								
2									
3	Regression Statistics								
4	Multiple R	0.949361402							
5	R Square	0.901287072							
6	Adjusted R Square	0.884834917							
7	Standard Error	34.61481184							
8	Observations	15							
9									
10	ANOVA								
11		df	SS	MS	F	Significance F			
12	Regression	2	131278.711	65639.35548	54.78231208	9.25218E-07			
13	Residual	12	14378.22238	1198.185199					
14	Total	14	145656.9333						
15									
16		Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	Lower 99.0%	Upper 99.0%
17	Intercept	61.42993467	20.57433536	2.985755485	0.011363561	16.60230882	106.2575605	-1.415187222	124.2750566
18	Months Employed	5.819796648	0.969766536	6.001234761	6.20497E-05	3.706856877	7.93273642	2.857606371	8.781986926
19	MonthsSq	-0.031009589	0.008436087	-3.675826286	0.003172962	-0.049390243	-0.012628935	-0.05677795	-0.005241228

## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.31: Scatter Chart of the Residuals and Predicted Values of the Dependent Variable for the Reynolds Quadratic Regression Model



## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

### Piecewise Linear Regression Models:

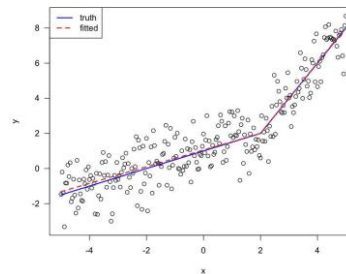
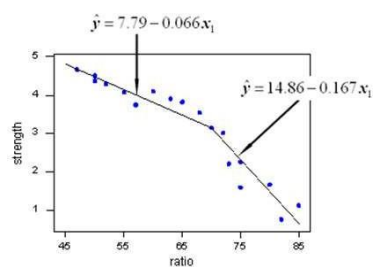
- ▶ For the Reynolds data, as an alternative to a quadratic regression model:
  - ▶ Recognize that up to a certain point of Months Employed
    - ▶ the relationship between Months Employed and Sales appears to be positive and linear.
  - ▶ After this point,
    - ▶ the relationship between Months Employed and Sales appears to be negative and linear
- ▶ **Piecewise linear regression model:**
  - ▶ This model will allow us to fit these relationships as two linear regressions
    - ▶ joined at the value of Months where the relationship between Months Employed and Sales changes.

## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

### Piecewise Linear Regression Models (cont.):

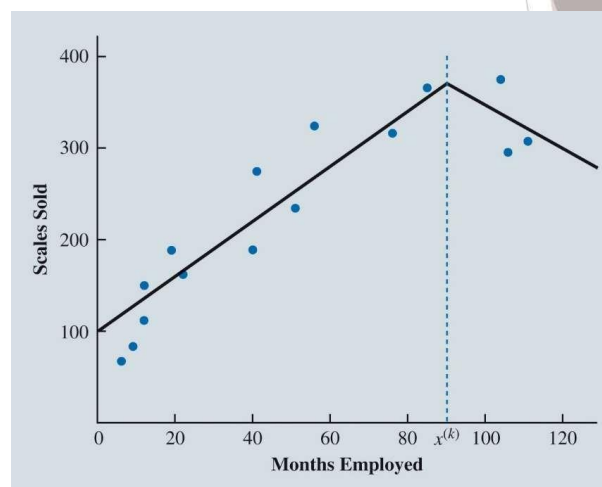
► **Knot:**

- The value of the independent variable at which the relationship between dependent variable and independent variable changes;
- also called *breakpoint*.



## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.32: Possible Position of Knot  $x^{(k)}$



## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Piecewise Linear Regression Models (cont.):

- Define a dummy variable:

$$x_k = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x_1 \leq x^{(k)} \\ 1 & \text{if } x_1 > x^{(k)} \end{cases}$$

$x_1$  = Months.

$x^{(k)}$  = value of the knot (90 months for the Reynolds example).

$x_k$  = the knot dummy variable.

- Then fit the following estimated regression equation:

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1x_1 + b_2(x_1 - x^{(k)})x_k$$

## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.33: Data and Excel Output for the Reynolds Piecewise Linear Regression Model

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Knot Dummy	Months Employed	Knot Dummy * Months	Salaries Paid					
2	0	41	0	275					
3	1	106	106	290					
4	0	36	0	317					
5	1	100	100	276					
6	0	11	0	163					
7	0	12	0	150					
8	0	80	0	307					
9	1	111	111	308					
10	0	40	0	109					
11	0	31	0	133					
12	0	0	0	83					
13	0	12	0	112					
14	0	4	0	97					
15	0	56	0	333					
16	0	19	0	109					
17									
18									
19	SUMMARY OUTPUT								
20	Regression Statistics								
21	Multiple R								
22	0.991796127								
23	R Square								
24	0.98357226								
25	Adjusted R Square								
26	0.981179								
27	Observations								
28	19								
29	ANOVA								
30		df	SS	MS	F	Significance F			
31	Regression	2	13306.3433	6653.17165	61.881288	4.17E-07			
32	Residual	17	1204.3903	70.8464882					
33	Total	19	14510.7333						
34		Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	Lower 90%	Upper 90%
35	Intercept	47.2722291	15.1682819	3.11617366	0.005207	16.857208	78.4872503	13.944151	83.030289
36	Months Employed	3.49619789	0.37630666	9.2921442	2.287E-07	2.7320762	4.2603196	2.3788091	4.4428605
37	Knot Dummy * Months	-7.67252229	3.80253043	-2.017730	0.066961	-15.2810176	9.9357732	-10.6234179	15.2810179

## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

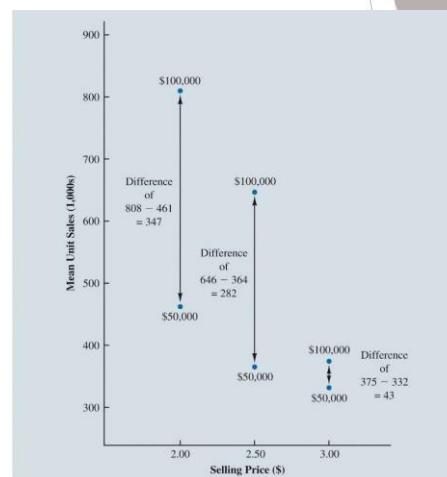
### Interaction Between Independent Variables:

- ▶ **Interaction:**
  - ▶ This occurs when the relationship between the dependent variable and one independent variable is different at various values of a second independent variable.
- ▶ The estimated multiple linear regression equation is given as:

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1x_1 + b_2x_2 + b_3x_1x_2$$

## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.34: Mean Unit Sales (1,000s) as a Function of Selling Price and Advertising Expenditures



## Modeling Nonlinear Relationships

Figure 7.35: Excel Output for the Tyler Personal Care Linear Regression Model with Interaction

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	SUMMARY OUTPUT								
2									
3	Regression Statistics								
4	Multiple R	0.988993815							
5	R Square	0.978108766							
6	Adjusted R Square	0.974825081							
7	Standard Error	28.17386496							
8	Observations	24							
9									
10	ANOVA								
11		df	SS	MS	F	Significance F			
12	Regression	3	709316	236438.6667	297.8692	9.25881E-17			
13	Residual	20	15875	793.7666667					
14	Total	23	5191.3333						
15									
16		Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	Lower 99.0%	Upper 99.0%
17	Intercept	-275.8333333	112.8421033	-2.444418575	0.023898351	-511.2178361	-40.44883053	-596.9074508	-45.24078413
18	Price	175	44.54679188	3.928453489	0.0008316	82.07702045	267.9229796	48.24924412	301.7507559
19	Advertising Expenditure (\$1,000s)	19.68	1.42735225	13.78776683	1.1263E-11	16.70259538	22.65740462	15.61869796	23.74130204
20	Price*Advertising	-6.08	0.563477299	-10.79014187	8.67721E-10	-7.255393049	-4.904606951	-7.683284335	-4.476715665