

# Math 459 Lecture 17

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# Linear Regression Model

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \beta_2 X_{i2} + \cdots + \beta_{k-1} X_{i,k-1} + \varepsilon_i$$

- ▶ response variable  $Y$  related to predictors/covariates/explanatory variables  $X_1, \dots, X_{k-1}$
- ▶ observe  $n$  predictor-response pairs  $\{X_{ij}, Y_i\}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$
- ▶  $\varepsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} g(\cdot)$ ; usually  $E(\varepsilon_i) = 0$  and  $\text{Var}(\varepsilon_i) = \sigma^2$

## Model in Matrix Form

$$Y = X\beta + \varepsilon$$

with

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & X_{11} & \cdots & X_{1,k-1} \\ 1 & X_{21} & \cdots & X_{2,k-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & X_{n1} & \cdots & X_{n,k-1} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_{k-1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_1 \\ \vdots \\ \varepsilon_n \end{pmatrix}$$

## What this actually means

The random variable  $Y$  is a linear combination of the random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_{k-1}, \epsilon$ .

- ▶ often the goal is prediction of  $Y \Rightarrow$  (conditional) mean of  $Y$  is best predictor *under squared-error loss*
- ▶ the conditional distribution  $Y|X$  has

$$E(Y|X) = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \beta_j X_j + E(\epsilon|X), \quad \text{Var}(\epsilon|X) = \sigma^2 I_{n \times n}$$

- ▶ each unknown parameter  $\beta_j$  represents the **expected change in  $Y$**  per unit change in  $X_j$ , when all other predictors are held fixed
- ▶ i.e.  $\beta_j$  is the partial derivative of the conditional mean  $E(Y|X)$  w.r.t.  $X_j$ ,  $\beta_j = \partial E(Y|X) / \partial X_j$
- ▶ ‘linear’ means the *parameters* enter linearly

# Frequentist Estimation by Least Squares

The least squares estimator is the solution to

$$\min_{\beta} (Y - X\beta)^T (Y - X\beta)$$

and this is equal to

$$\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y, \quad \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{(Y - X\hat{\beta})^T (Y - X\hat{\beta})}{n - k}$$

provided  $(X^T X)^{-1}$  exists.

- ▶ if we assume  $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I_{n \times n})$ , the likelihood function is

$$L(\beta, \sigma^2; Y, X) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} \sigma^n} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (Y - X\beta)^T (Y - X\beta) \right)$$

- ▶ maximizing this is equivalent to the least squares problem

# Towards a Bayesian Analysis

When a Bayesian encounters this model, she sees  $X$  and  $Y$  and immediately thinks there must be some sampling model for each of them:

$$p(X|\psi), \quad p(Y|\theta)$$

but in fact we have a joint density  $f(x, y|\psi, \theta)$  and hence a joint likelihood  $L(\psi, \theta)$ .

- ▶ we need a joint prior  $p(\psi, \theta)$
- ▶ Bayesians like to assume the distribution of  $X$ ,  $p(X|\psi)$ , and hence the parameter  $\psi$ , provides no information about  $p(Y|X, \theta)$
- ▶ i.e. **prior independence** of  $\psi$  and  $\theta$ ,  $p(\psi, \theta) = p(\psi)p(\theta)$

If we assume that  $p(\psi, \theta) = p(\psi)p(\theta)$  and, if the likelihood factors, then the posterior distribution factors

$$p(\psi, \theta|X, y) = p(\psi|X)p(\theta|X, y)$$

and the second factor (i.e. the regression model) can be studied by itself without information loss:

$$p(\theta|X, y) \propto p(\theta)p(y|X, \theta)$$

In a fixed design, the  $X$ s are not random, and then  $p(X)$  is known (there are no parameters  $\psi$ ).

# Bayesian Linear Regression with Noninformative Prior

Common to use uniform prior on  $(\beta, \log \sigma)$ , which is the same as

$$p(\beta, \sigma^2 | X) \propto \sigma^{-2}$$

Based on the above justification, and to facilitate the use of Gibbs sampling, we factor the joint posterior as

$$p(\beta, \sigma^2 | X, y) = p(\beta | \sigma^2, X, y) p(\sigma^2 | X, y)$$

Start by finding the posterior for  $\beta$ , conditional on  $\sigma$ , then find marginal distribution of  $\sigma^2$ .



## Conditional posterior $\beta|\sigma$

$\beta|\sigma$  is the exponential of a quadratic form in  $\beta \Rightarrow$  conditional posterior

$$\beta|\sigma, X, y \sim \mathcal{N}(\hat{\beta}, (X^T X)^{-1} \sigma^2)$$

which can be seen noting that  $\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$

## Marginal posterior of $\sigma^2$

Written as

$$p(\sigma^2|y) = \frac{p(\beta, \sigma^2|X, y)}{p(\beta|\sigma^2, X, y)}$$

which is a scaled inverse- $\chi^2$  so that

$$\sigma^2 \sim \text{Inv-}\chi^2(n - k, s^2)$$

with

$$s^2 = \frac{1}{n - k} (Y - X\hat{\beta})^T (Y - X\hat{\beta})$$

- ▶ marginal posterior of  $\beta|X, y$ , found by *averaging over*  $\sigma$ , is multivariate  $t$  with  $(n - k)$  degrees of freedom (and some covariance matrix)
- ▶ in practice we use MCMC by drawing from  $\sigma$  and then drawing  $\beta|\sigma$ , so we don't really need to use  $\beta|X, y$  explicitly

# Is the posterior proper?

The joint posterior  $p(\beta, \sigma^2 | X, y)$  is **proper** provided that

1.  $n > k$
2.  $\text{rank}(X) = k$

# Posterior Predictive Density

Common use of regression modeling is prediction of future observation  $\tilde{y}$  corresponding to a covariate vector  $x^*$ .

- ▶ from above we know that  $\tilde{y}$ , conditional on the parameters, has distribution

$$\tilde{y}|\beta, \sigma^2, x^* \sim \mathcal{N}(x^* \beta, \sigma)$$

- ▶ posterior predictive density of  $\tilde{y}$ , denoted  $p(\tilde{y}|y)$ , represented as a *mixture* of these sampling densities  $p(\tilde{y}|\beta, \sigma^2)$ , averaged over the posterior of  $\beta, \sigma^2$ :

$$p(\tilde{y}|y) = \int p(\tilde{y}|\beta, \sigma^2)p(\beta, \sigma^2|y)d\beta d\sigma^2$$

## Sampling from the posterior

To sample from  $p(\beta, \sigma^2 | X, y)$ ,

1. Compute  $\hat{\beta}$  and  $(X^T X)^{-1}$ .
2. Compute  $s^2$ .
3. Draw  $\sigma^2$  from scaled inverse- $\chi^2$  distribution.
4. Draw  $\beta$  from multivariate normal distribution above.

# Gibbs Sampling

If we know the full conditional distributions  $p(\beta|\sigma^2, X, Y)$  and  $p(\sigma^2|\beta, X, Y)$ , we can sample from the joint posterior  $p(\beta, \sigma^2|X, Y)$  using the **Gibbs sampler**:

**Initialize**  $\beta_{(1)}, \sigma_{(1)}^2$

**For**  $t = 1 : T$

$$\beta_{(t+1)} \sim p(\beta_{(t)}|\sigma_{(t)}^2, X, Y)$$

$$\sigma_{(t+1)} \sim p(\sigma_{(t)}^2|\beta_{(t+1)}, X, Y)$$

**END**

## The puffin data from LearnBayes package

Measurements on breedings of the common puffin on different habits at Great Island, Newfoundland. A data frame with 38 observations on the following 5 variables.

**Nest** nesting frequency (burrows per 9 square meters)

**Grass** grass cover (percentage)

**Soil** mean soil depth (in centimeters)

**Angle** angle of slope (in degrees)

**Distance** distance from cliff edge (in meters)

# Frequentist Fit

```
library(LearnBayes); library(MASS)
fit <- lm(Nest ~ Grass + Soil + Angle
          + Distance, data = puffin)
```



```
summary(fit)
```

Call:

```
lm(formula = Nest ~ Grass + Soil + Angle + Distance, data = puffin)
```

Residuals:

|  | Min     | 1Q      | Median | 3Q     | Max    |
|--|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
|  | -4.0166 | -2.1088 | 0.2293 | 1.2505 | 6.9881 |

Coefficients:

|             | Estimate  | Std. Error | t value | Pr(> t ) |     |
|-------------|-----------|------------|---------|----------|-----|
| (Intercept) | 10.117840 | 3.185028   | 3.177   | 0.00323  | **  |
| Grass       | -0.007408 | 0.019459   | -0.381  | 0.70586  |     |
| Soil        | 0.209211  | 0.077238   | 2.709   | 0.01062  | *   |
| Angle       | 0.082389  | 0.077796   | 1.059   | 0.29727  |     |
| Distance    | -0.366571 | 0.057473   | -6.378  | 3.18e-07 | *** |

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Residual standard error: 2.647 on 33 degrees of freedom

Multiple R-squared: 0.8792, Adjusted R-squared: 0.8645

Minor detour (the `graph` package is not on CRAN)

```
source("http://bioconductor.org/biocLite.R")  
biocLite(c("graph", "RBGL", "Rgraphviz"))  
install.packages("gRain", dependencies=TRUE)
```

# Bayesian Fit with MCMCpack

```
library(MCMCpack)
```

Warning: package 'MCMCpack' was built under R version 3.2.4

```
Bfit <- MCMCregress(Nest ~ Grass + Soil + Angle  
  + Distance, data = puffin,  
  burnin = 1000, mcmc = 25000, thin = 25)
```

## summary(Bfit)

Iterations = 1001:25976  
Thinning interval = 25  
Number of chains = 1  
Sample size per chain = 1000

1. Empirical mean and standard deviation for each variable,  
plus standard error of the mean:

|             | Mean      | SD      | Naive SE  | Time-series SE |
|-------------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------|
| (Intercept) | 10.083975 | 3.25933 | 0.1030689 | 0.1081777      |
| Grass       | -0.006773 | 0.01968 | 0.0006224 | 0.0006627      |
| Soil        | 0.204445  | 0.08408 | 0.0026587 | 0.0026587      |
| Angle       | 0.087999  | 0.08374 | 0.0026481 | 0.0026481      |
| Distance    | -0.363486 | 0.06300 | 0.0019924 | 0.0021090      |
| sigma2      | 7.409313  | 1.92603 | 0.0609063 | 0.0609063      |

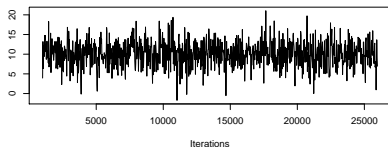
2. Quantiles for each variable:

|             | 2.5%     | 25%      | 50%       | 75%       | 97.5%    |
|-------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| (Intercept) | 3.86041  | 7.79296  | 10.094169 | 12.364227 | 16.37203 |
| Grass       | -0.04390 | -0.02070 | -0.007058 | 0.006583  | 0.03036  |

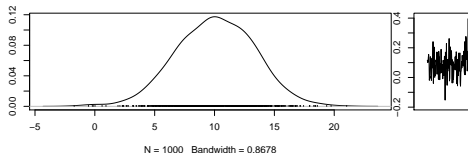
# Posterior Density Plot

```
plot(Bfit)
```

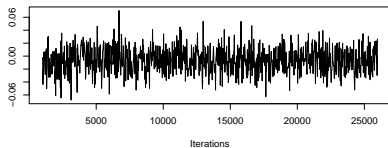
Trace of (Intercept)



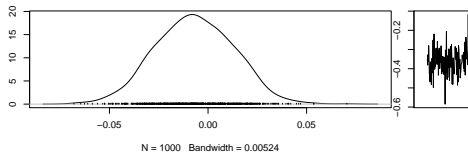
Density of (Intercept)



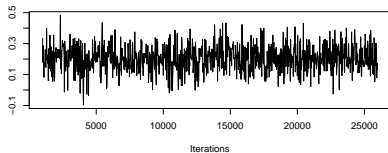
Trace of Grass



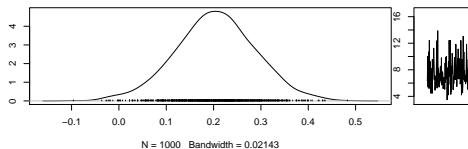
Density of Grass



Trace of Soil



Density of Soil



## What MCMCregress does

Simulates from posterior using Gibbs sampling.

$$y_i = x_i' \beta + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

$$\beta \sim \mathcal{N}(b_0, B_0^{-1}), \quad \sigma^{-2} \sim \text{Gamma}(\frac{c_0}{2}, \frac{d_0}{2})$$

and  $\beta, \sigma^{-2}$  assumed to be *a priori* independent

- ▶  $b_0$  prior mean for  $\beta$ ; if scalar then all means the same
- ▶ default prior precision of  $\beta$  is  $B_0 = 0$ , equivalent to improper uniform prior on  $\beta$ ; if scalar then it is value times identity matrix
- ▶  $c_0/2$ : shape parameter for inverse gamma prior on  $\sigma^2$
- ▶  $d_0/2$ : scale parameter for inverse gamma prior

## More details

- ▶ multivariate normal draw for  $\beta$
- ▶ inverse gamma draw for conditional error variance  $\sigma^2|\beta$
- ▶ output is `mcmc` object (can use with `coda`)
- ▶ conditional error variance is the first block in the sampler, so only  $\beta$  is initialized

## Example using LearnBayes package

Source: N.B. Al-Majed and M.R. Preston (2000). “Factors Influencing the Total Mercury and Methyl Mercury in the Hair of Fishermen in Kuwait,” Environmental Pollution, Vol. 109, pp. 239-250 Description: Factors related to mercury levels among fishermen and a control group of non-fishermen.

**Fisherman** indicator (fisherman)

**Age** in years (age)

**Residence** Time in years (restime)

**Height** in cm (height)

**Weight** in kg (weight)

**Fish** meals per week ((fishmlwk)

**Parts of fish consumed**: 0=none, 1=muscle tissue only, 2=mt and sometimes whole fish, 3=whole fish (fishpart)

**Methyl** Mercury in mg/g (MeHg)

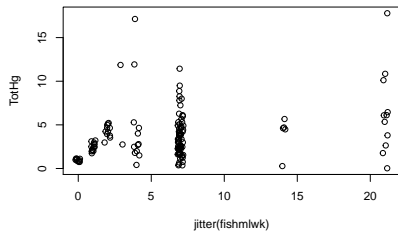
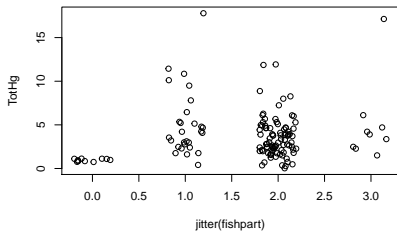
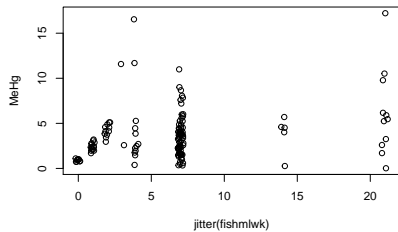
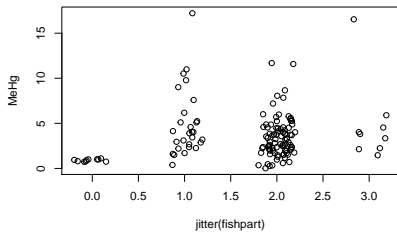
**Total** Mercury in mg/g (TotHg)



```
data <- read.csv(file="fishermen_mercury.csv")
attach(data)
head(data)
```

|   | fisherman | age | restime | height | weight | fishmlwk | fishpart | MeHg   | TotHg  |
|---|-----------|-----|---------|--------|--------|----------|----------|--------|--------|
| 1 | 1         | 45  | 6       | 175    | 70     | 14       | 2        | 4.011  | 4.484  |
| 2 | 1         | 38  | 13      | 173    | 73     | 7        | 1        | 4.026  | 4.789  |
| 3 | 1         | 24  | 2       | 168    | 66     | 7        | 2        | 3.578  | 3.856  |
| 4 | 1         | 41  | 2       | 183    | 80     | 7        | 1        | 10.988 | 11.435 |
| 5 | 1         | 43  | 11      | 175    | 78     | 21       | 1        | 10.520 | 10.849 |
| 6 | 1         | 58  | 2       | 176    | 75     | 21       | 1        | 6.169  | 6.457  |

```
par(mfrow = c(2, 2))  
plot(jitter(fishpart), MeHg)  
plot(jitter(fishmlwk), MeHg)  
plot(jitter(fishpart), TotHg)  
plot(jitter(fishmlwk), TotHg)
```



## Linear model for total mercury against height, weight, age, restime, fishmlwk and fishpart

Call:

```
lm(formula = TotHg ~ age + height + weight + restime + fishmlwk +  
    fishpart, x = TRUE, y = TRUE)
```

Residuals:

|  | Min     | 1Q      | Median  | 3Q     | Max     |
|--|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
|  | -4.7487 | -1.3973 | -0.3171 | 0.7519 | 11.0089 |

Coefficients:

|             | Estimate  | Std. Error | t value | Pr(> t )     |
|-------------|-----------|------------|---------|--------------|
| (Intercept) | -17.92133 | 5.82703    | -3.076  | 0.00257 **   |
| age         | 0.04986   | 0.03456    | 1.443   | 0.15157      |
| height      | 0.03701   | 0.03420    | 1.082   | 0.28118      |
| weight      | 0.16790   | 0.03511    | 4.782   | 4.69e-06 *** |
| restime     | -0.05791  | 0.05324    | -1.088  | 0.27874      |
| fishmlwk    | 0.14380   | 0.04407    | 3.263   | 0.00141 **   |
| fishpart    | 0.35247   | 0.32244    | 1.093   | 0.27638      |

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Residual standard error: 2.558 on 128 degrees of freedom

Multiple R-squared: 0.2761, Adjusted R-squared: 0.2422

F-statistic: 8.138 on 6 and 128 DF, p-value: 1.848e-07

## Using the `blinreg` function in `LearnBayes`

```
theta.sample = blinreg(fit$y, fit$x, 5000)
```

Samples from joint posterior, taking the response and design matrix defined in the linear model fit above.

# Posterior Summaries

```
apply(theta.sample$beta, 2, quantile, c(0.025, 0.5, 0.975))
```

|       | X(Intercept) | Xage        | Xheight     | Xweight    | Xrestime    |
|-------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 2.5%  | -29.600940   | -0.01720058 | -0.03139177 | 0.09859833 | -0.16622606 |
| 50%   | -17.886906   | 0.05036845  | 0.03668394  | 0.16746942 | -0.05804612 |
| 97.5% | -6.308901    | 0.12037359  | 0.10586953  | 0.23673457 | 0.04725259  |
|       | Xfishmlwk    | Xfishpart   |             |            |             |
| 2.5%  | 0.0564391    | -0.2776243  |             |            |             |
| 50%   | 0.1436992    | 0.3575589   |             |            |             |
| 97.5% | 0.2287748    | 0.9904738   |             |            |             |

```
quantile(theta.sample$sigma, c(0.025, 0.5, 0.975))
```

|  | 2.5%     | 50%      | 97.5%    |
|--|----------|----------|----------|
|  | 2.279657 | 2.562344 | 2.925803 |