

Statistical Foundations of Data Science

Hypothesis testing

University of the Witwatersrand

2025

Review Question

- Three players roll dice. What's the probability that they all get different numbers?

Lesson Plan

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- Review Question
- Hypothesis Tests

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- Z - Test

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- $\frac{6}{6} \frac{5}{6} \frac{4}{6} = \frac{5}{9}$

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- If it isn't we reject the null hypothesis. The potion becomes a medicine.
- If the data does fit the hypothesis we'll say we "fail to reject". Don't trust the random guy claiming to have a magical cure!

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- At the point where we have 9 out of 10 we do not.

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- Does random chance explain the potion curing 67 out of 100 patients when we usually see 58 recover?
- Compare this to the Bayesian approach where we'd have a distribution on the coins probability of coming up heads and adjust.

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- Compute Z-score and p-value

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- Yeah they lied!

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- $s^2 = \frac{(x_i - \bar{X})^2}{n-1}$

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- $T = \frac{170-175}{\frac{\sqrt{75}}{\sqrt{3}}} = -1$

Example

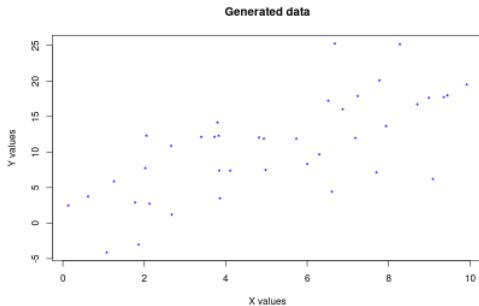
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- $\bar{X} = 170. s^2 = \frac{100+25+100}{3} = 75$
- $T = \frac{170-175}{\frac{\sqrt{75}}{\sqrt{3}}} = -1$
- p-value is around about 0.19 We don't have evidence to conclude our guys are too small

Given some data

- Given some data we'd like to predict Y from X

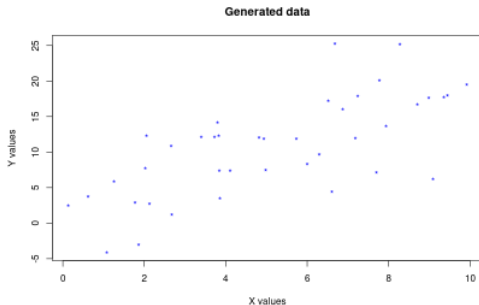
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- Simplest idea is to fit a line

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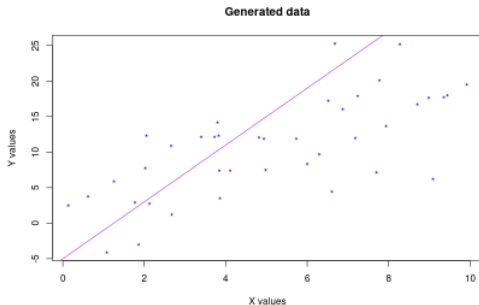
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$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

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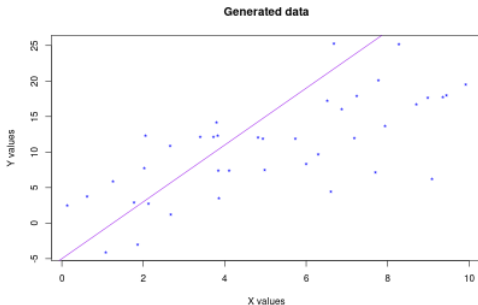
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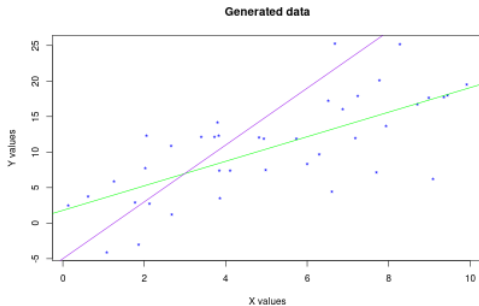
-
- Idea is we'll predict Y from X . As no line is exact we'll really use $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \epsilon$. Where the ϵ are distributed normal, independent with mean zero and common variance.

Model fitting

- β_0 and β_1 can we fit with something like gradient descent.
Some values are better than others

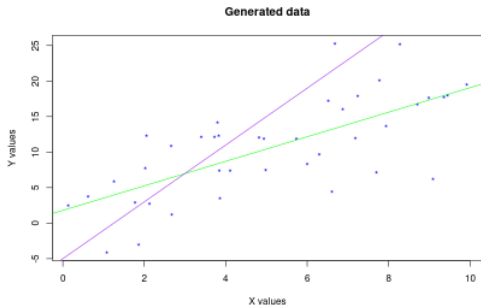
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- In the case of single variable linear regression we have mathematical tools to get exact formulas. Which provide interruptibility and intuition for what's going on.

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- β_0 and β_1 are still best guesses. I generated them with $\beta_0 = 0$ and $\beta_1 = 2$. The values that the computer worked out given the data were $\hat{\beta}_0 = 1.801564$ and $\hat{\beta}_1 = 1.727012$

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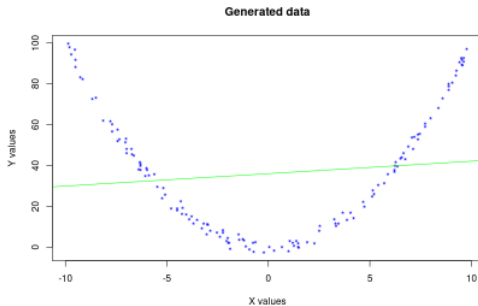
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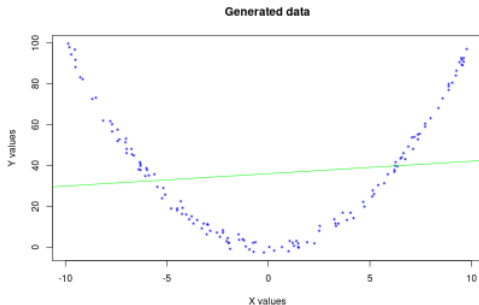
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- Quadratic signal. Slope insignificant! But you can still get a good estimate from x just not with a linear model.

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- Important bit here is that we care if a variable is doing significantly better than random.