



# Correlation and Regression



# Correlation and Regression

The test you choose depends on level of measurement:

| Independent                           | Dependent                     | Statistical Test                          |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Dichotomous                           | Interval-ratio<br>Dichotomous | Independent Samples t-test                |
| Nominal<br>Dichotomous                | Nominal<br>Dichotomous        | Cross Tabs                                |
| Nominal<br>Dichotomous                | Interval-ratio<br>Dichotomous | ANOVA                                     |
| <b>Interval-ratio<br/>Dichotomous</b> | <b>Interval-ratio</b>         | <b>Correlation and<br/>OLS Regression</b> |



# Correlation and Regression

- Correlation is a statistic that assesses the strength and direction of linear association of two interval-ratio variables . . . It is created through a technique called “regression”
- Bivariate regression is a technique that fits a straight line as close as possible between all the coordinates of two interval-ratio variables plotted on a two-dimensional graph--to summarize the relationship between the variables

# Correlation and Regression

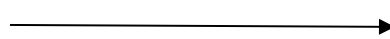
## ■ For example:

A sociologist may be interested in the relationship between education and self-esteem or Income and Number of Children in a family.

Independent Variables

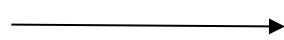
Dependent Variables

Education



Self-Esteem

Family Income



Number of Children

# Correlation and Regression

- For example:

- May expect: As education increases, self-esteem increases (positive relationship).
- May expect: As family income increases, the number of children in families declines (negative relationship).

Independent Variables

Dependent Variables

Education      +      →      Self-Esteem

Family Income      -      →      Number of Children

# Correlation and Regression

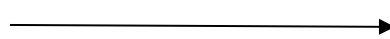
## ■ For example:

- Null Hypothesis: There is no relationship between education and self-esteem.
  - Null Hypothesis: There is no relationship between family income and the number of children in families.
  - $H_o: b = 0$
  - $H_a: b \neq 0$
- [“b” is a symbol for a statistic  
that describes the relationship]

Independent Variables

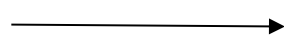
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Self-Esteem

Family Income



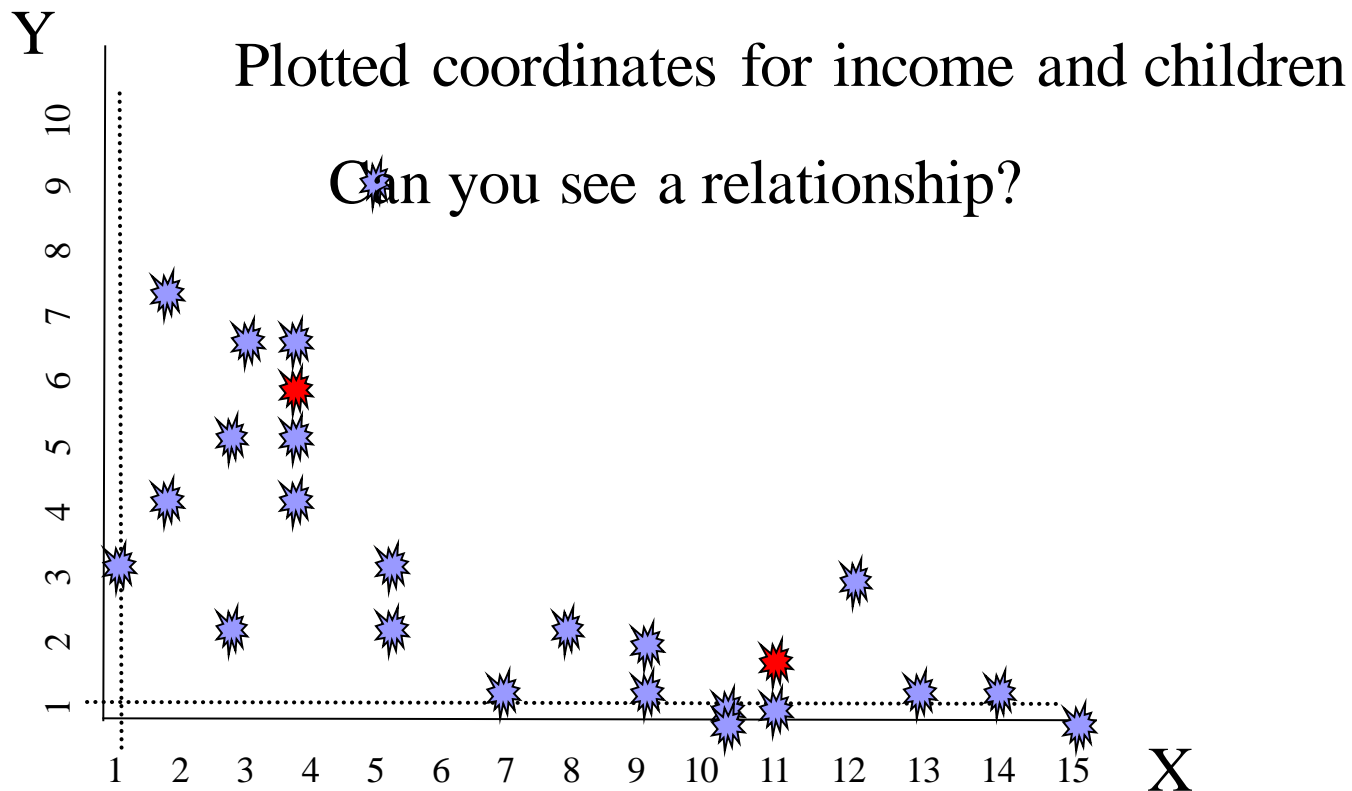
Number of Children

# Correlation and Regression

- Let's look at the relationship between income and number of children.
- Regression will start with plotting the coordinates in your data (although you will hardly ever “plot” your data in reality).
- Some data:

|                     |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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# Correlation and Regression

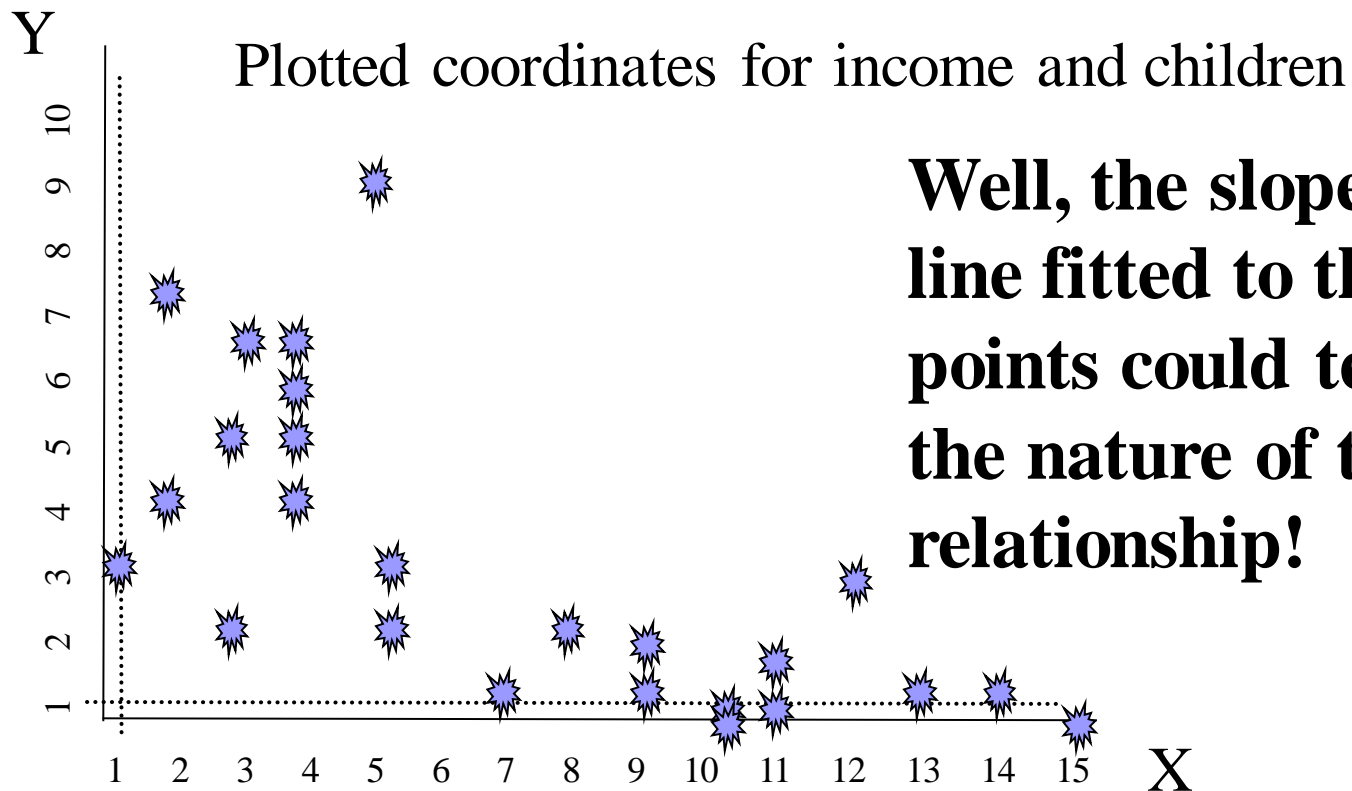


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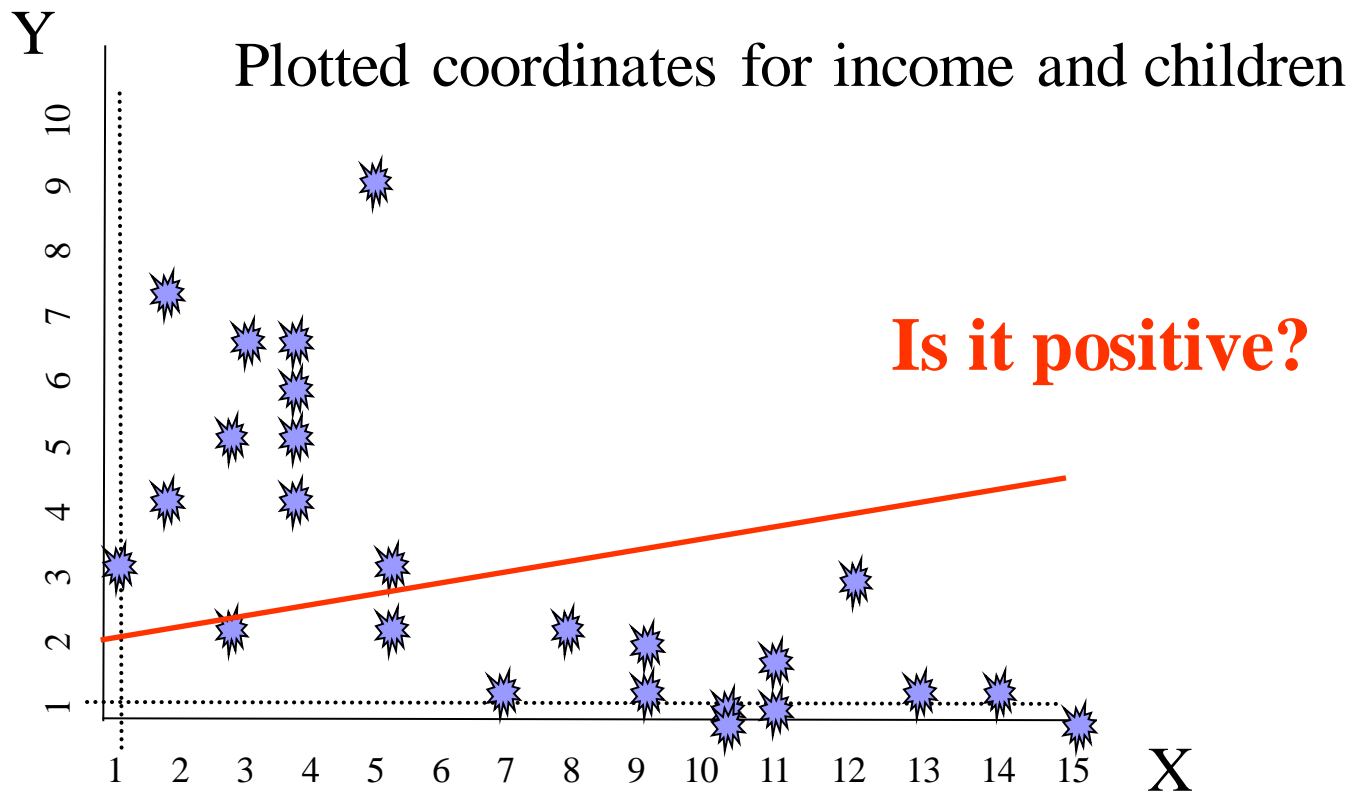


# Correlation and Regression



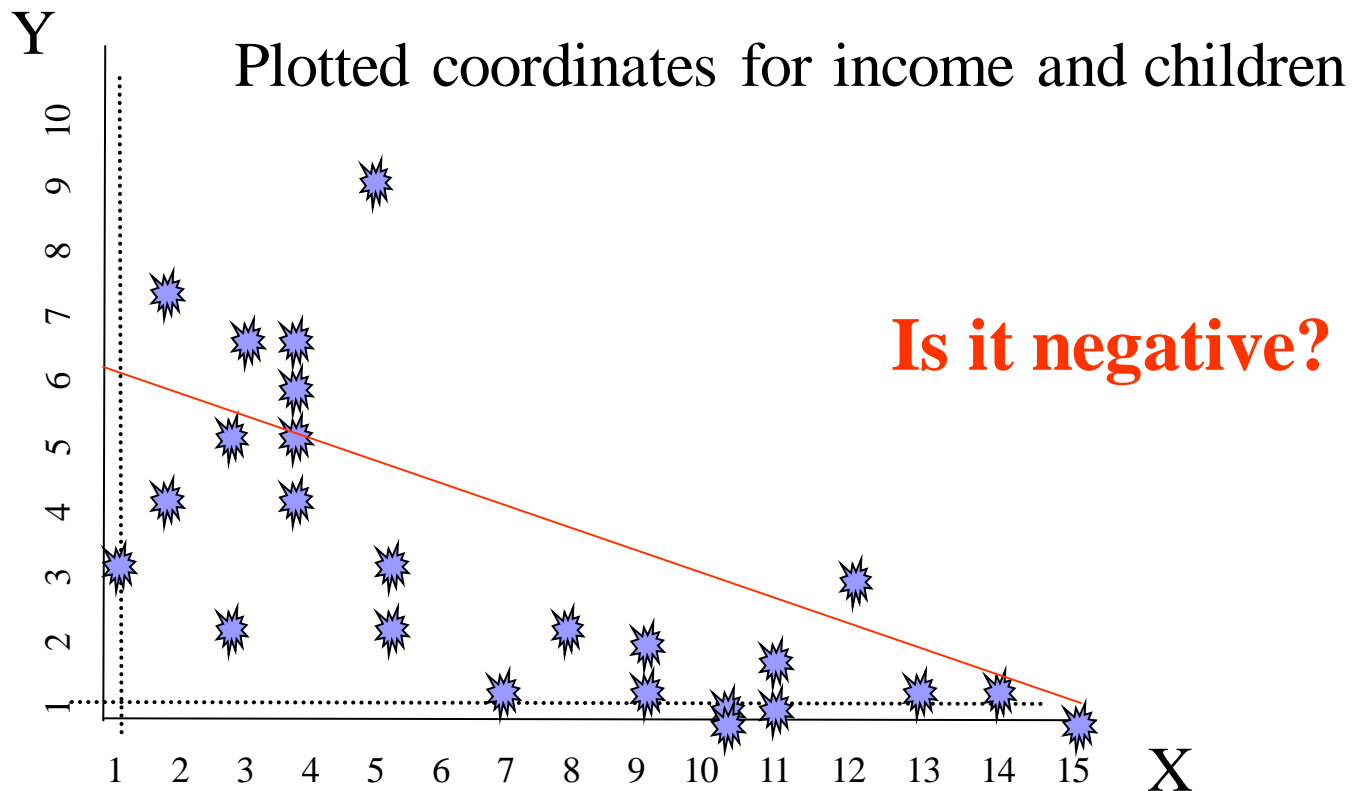
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# Correlation and Regression



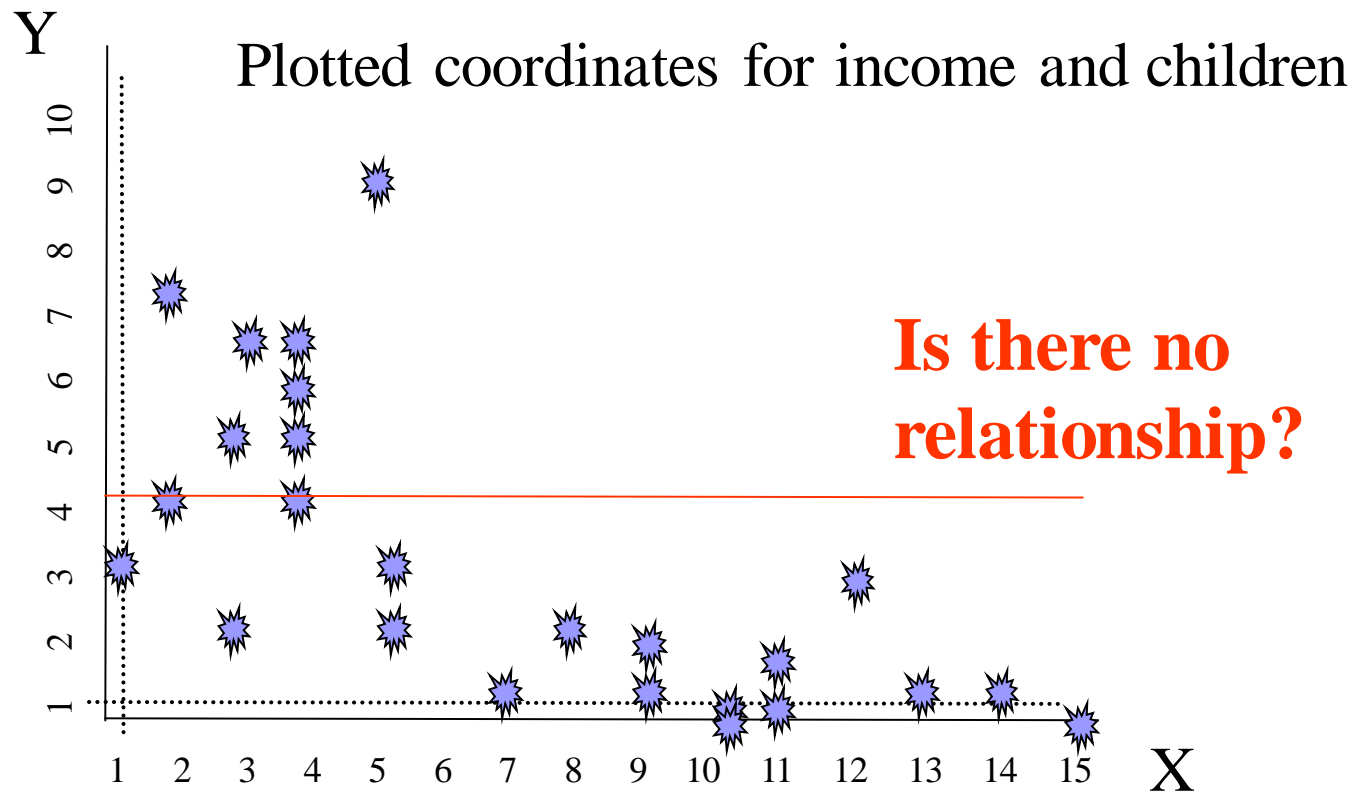
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# Correlation and Regression



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# Correlation and Regression



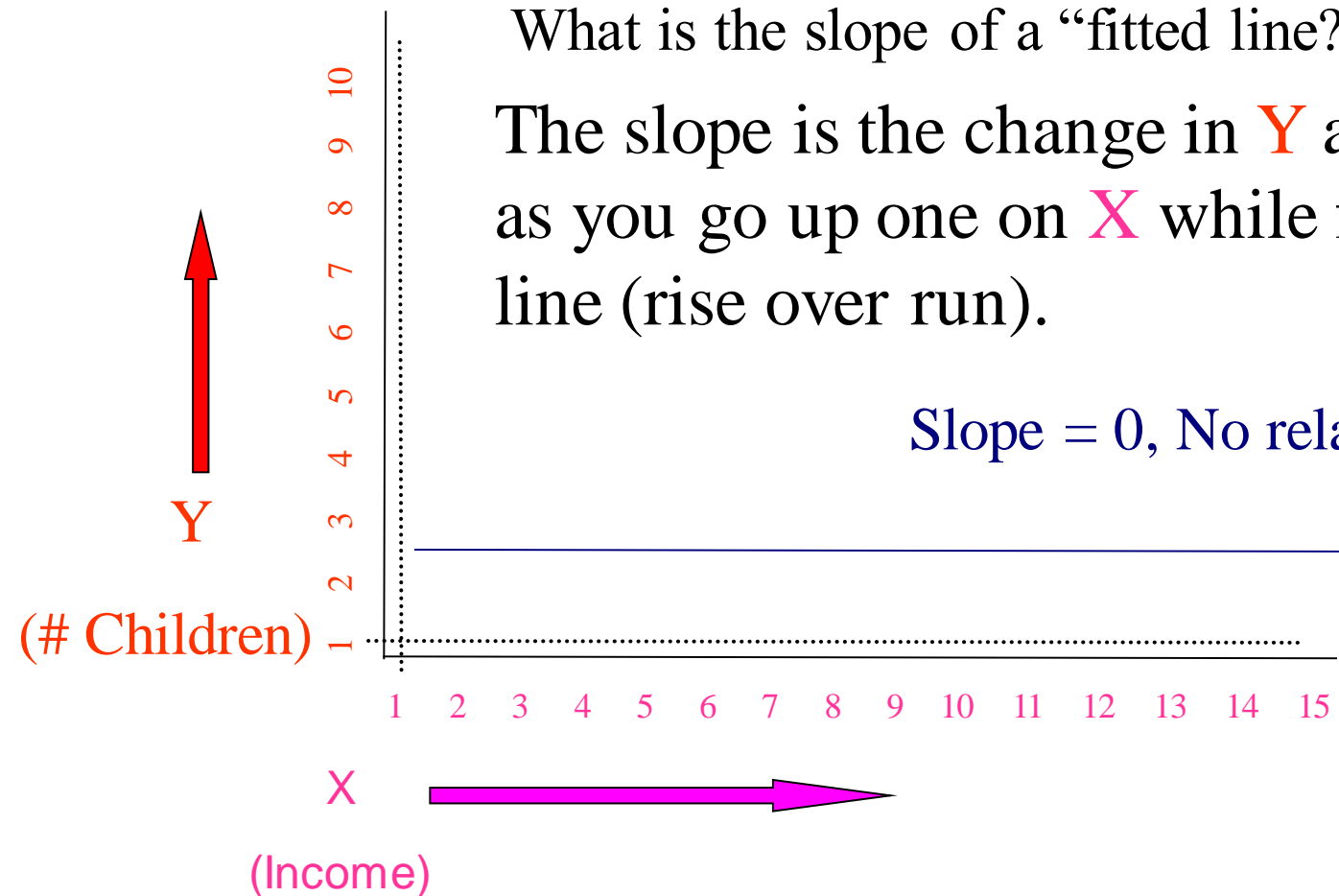
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# Correlation and Regression

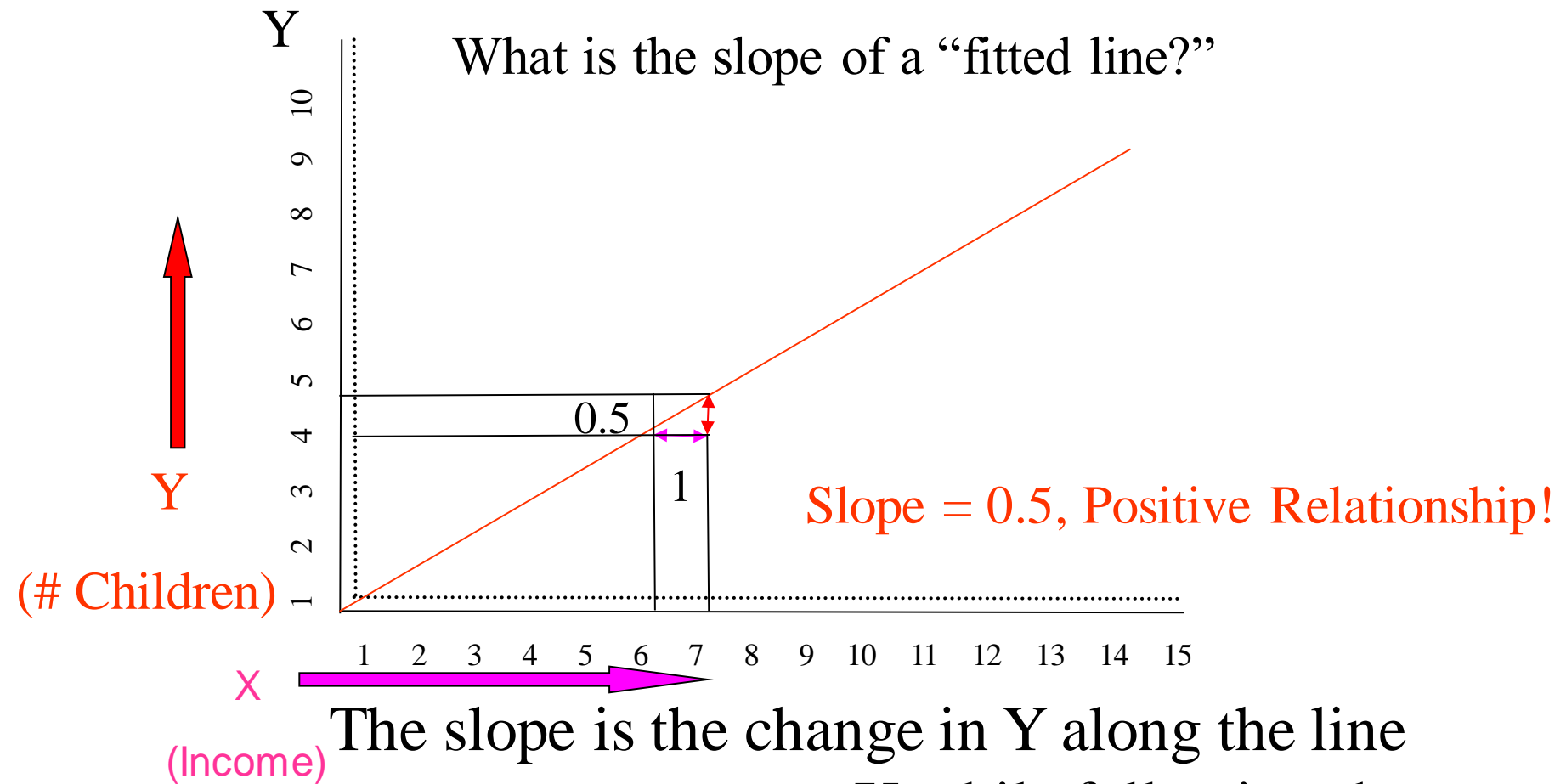
What is the slope of a “fitted line?”

The slope is the change in **Y** along the line as you go up one on **X** while following the line (rise over run).

Slope = 0, No relationship!

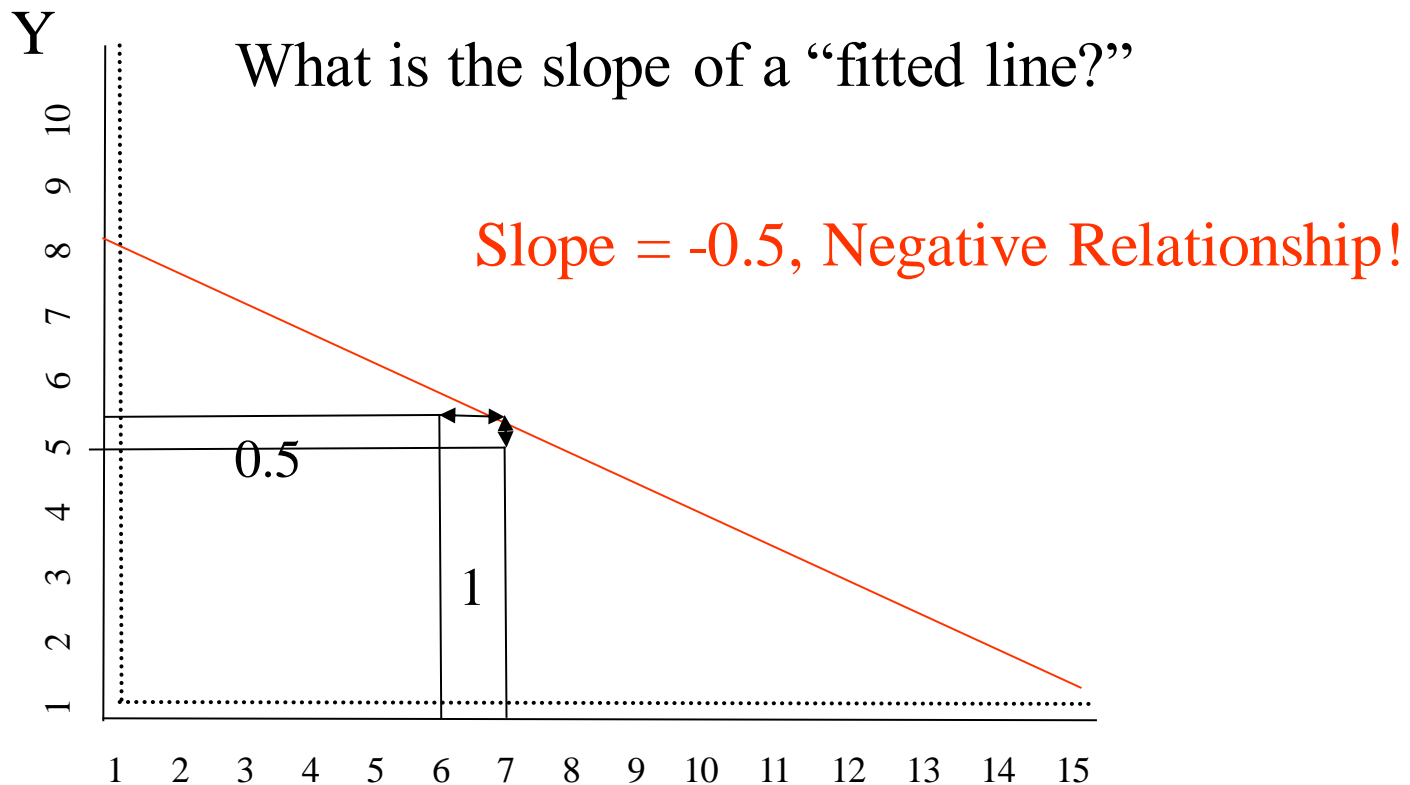


# Correlation and Regression



The slope is the change in Y along the line as you go up one on X while following the line (rise over run).

# Correlation and Regression



The slope is the change in Y along the line as you go up one on X while following the line (rise over run).

# Correlation and Regression

- The mathematical equation for a line:

$$Y = mx + b$$

Where:  $Y$  = the line's position on the  
axis at any point

vertical

$X$  = the line's position on the  
axis at any point

horizontal

$m$  = the slope of the line

$b$  = the intercept with the  $Y$  axis,

where

$X$  equals zero



# Correlation and Regression

- The statistics equation for a line:

$$Y = \hat{a} + bx$$

Where:  $\hat{Y}$  = the line's position on the vertical axis at any point (estimated value of dependent variable)

$X$  = the line's position on the horizontal axis at any point (value of the independent variable for which you want an estimate of  $Y$ )

$b$  = the slope of the line (called the coefficient)

$a$  = the intercept with the  $Y$  axis, where

$X$  equals zero



# Correlation and Regression

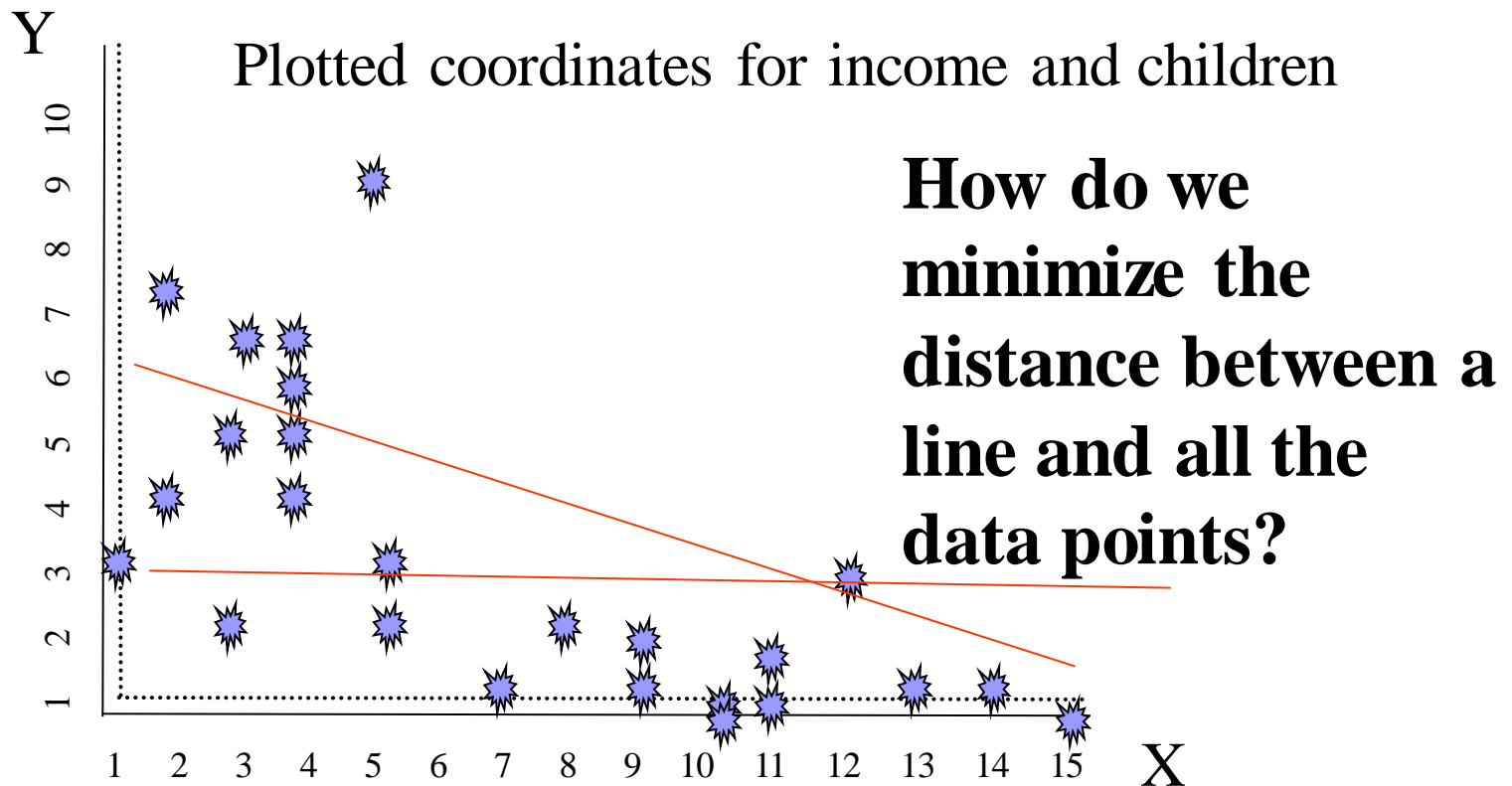
- The next question:

How do we draw the line???

- Our goal for the line:

Fit the line as close as possible to all the data points for all values of  $X$ .

# Correlation and Regression



|                     |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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# Correlation and Regression

How do we minimize the distance between a line and all the data points?

You already know of a statistic that minimizes the distance between itself and all data values for a variable--the mean!

**The mean minimizes the sum of squared deviations--it is where deviations sum to zero and where the squared deviations are at their lowest value.  $\Sigma(Y - \bar{Y})^2$**

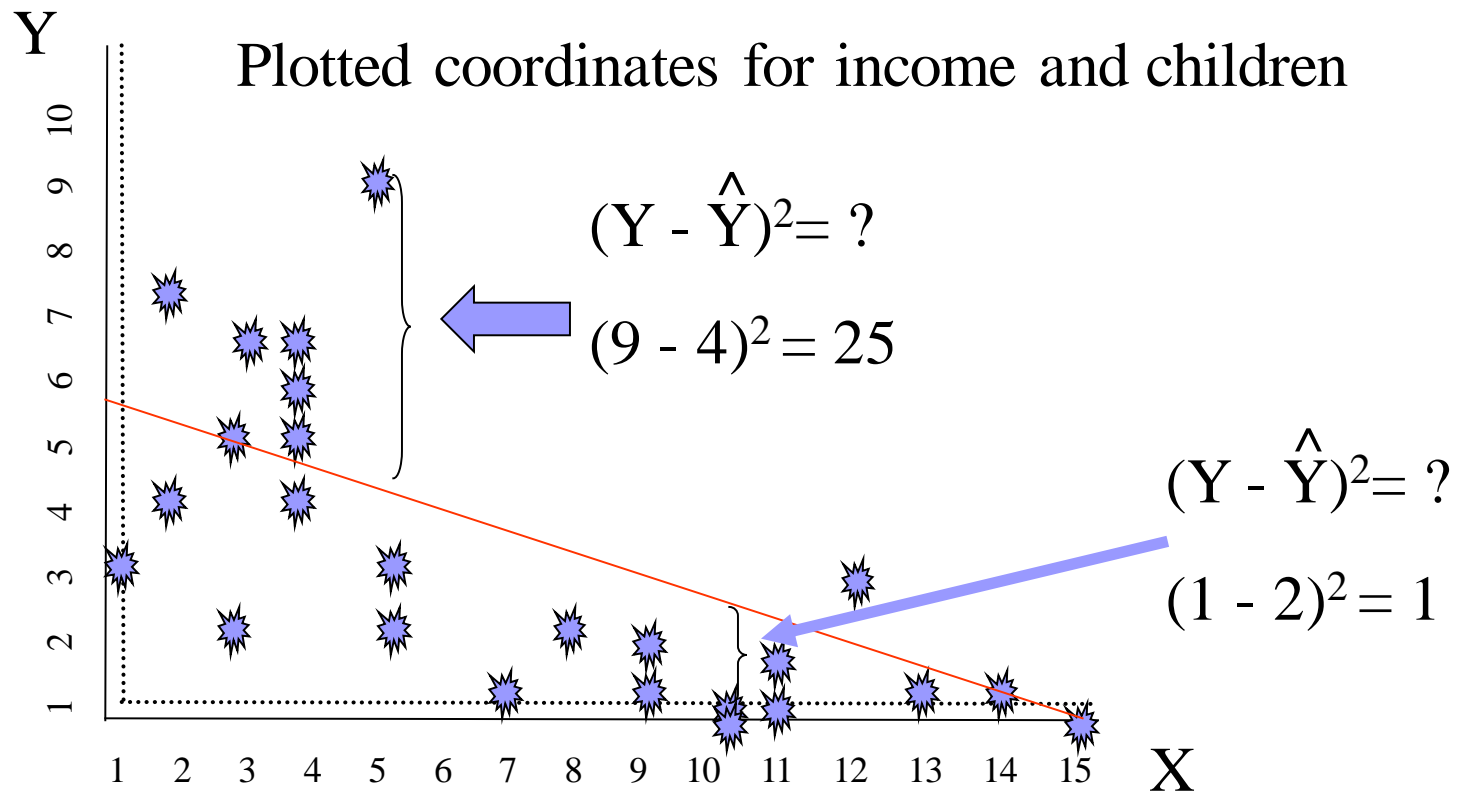
# Correlation and Regression

Let's “fit the line” to the place where squared deviations from the line (vertically) are at their lowest value (across all X's).

Minimize this:  $\Sigma(Y - \hat{Y})^2$        $\hat{Y} = \text{line}$

Minimizing the sum of squared errors gives you the unique, best fitting line for all the data points. It is the line that is closest to all points.

# Correlation and Regression



|                     |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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# Correlation and Regression

- $\Sigma(Y - \hat{Y})^2$  aka “sum of squared errors”
- There is a simple, elegant formula for “discovering” the line that minimizes the sum of squared errors—**You don't have to memorize!**

$$b = \frac{\Sigma((X - \bar{X})(Y - \bar{Y}))}{\Sigma(X - \bar{X})^2} \quad a = \bar{Y} - b\bar{X} \quad \hat{Y} = a + bX$$

- This is the method of least squares, it gives our least squares estimate and indicates why we call this technique “ordinary least squares” or OLS regression

# Correlation and Regression

In fact, this is the output that would give you for the data values:

**Model Summary**

| Model | R                 | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate |
|-------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1     | .679 <sup>a</sup> | .460     | .437              | 1.9048                     |

a. Predictors: (Constant), INCOME

**ANOVA<sup>b</sup>**

| Model |            | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F      | Sig.              |
|-------|------------|----------------|----|-------------|--------|-------------------|
| 1     | Regression | 71.194         | 1  | 71.194      | 19.623 | .000 <sup>a</sup> |
|       | Residual   | 83.446         | 23 | 3.628       |        |                   |
|       | Total      | 154.640        | 24 |             |        |                   |

a. Predictors: (Constant), INCOME

$$\hat{Y} = a + bX$$

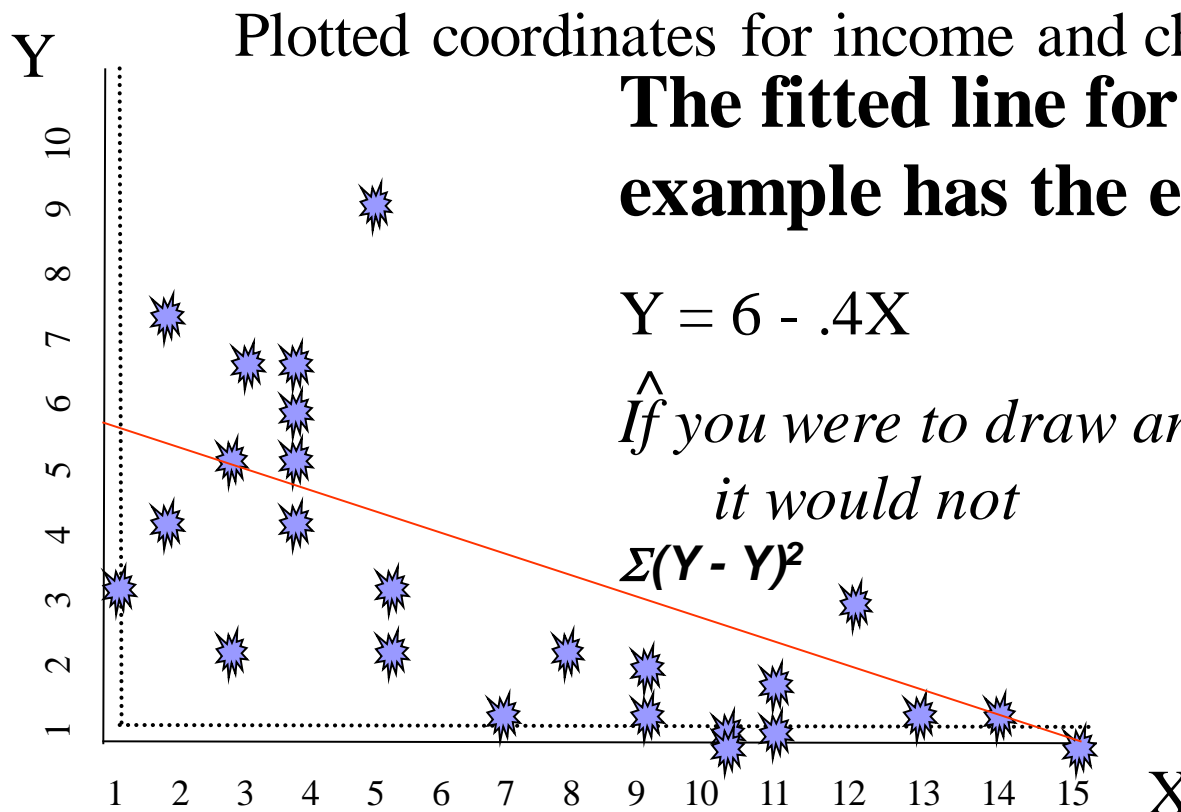
**Coefficients<sup>a</sup>**

| Model |            | Unstandardized Coefficients |            | Standardized Coefficients | t      | Sig. |
|-------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------|------|
|       |            | B                           | Std. Error | Beta                      |        |      |
| 1     | (Constant) | 6.003                       | .754       |                           | 7.960  | .000 |
|       | INCOME     | -.414                       | .094       | -.679                     | -4.430 | .000 |

a. Dependent Variable: CHILD

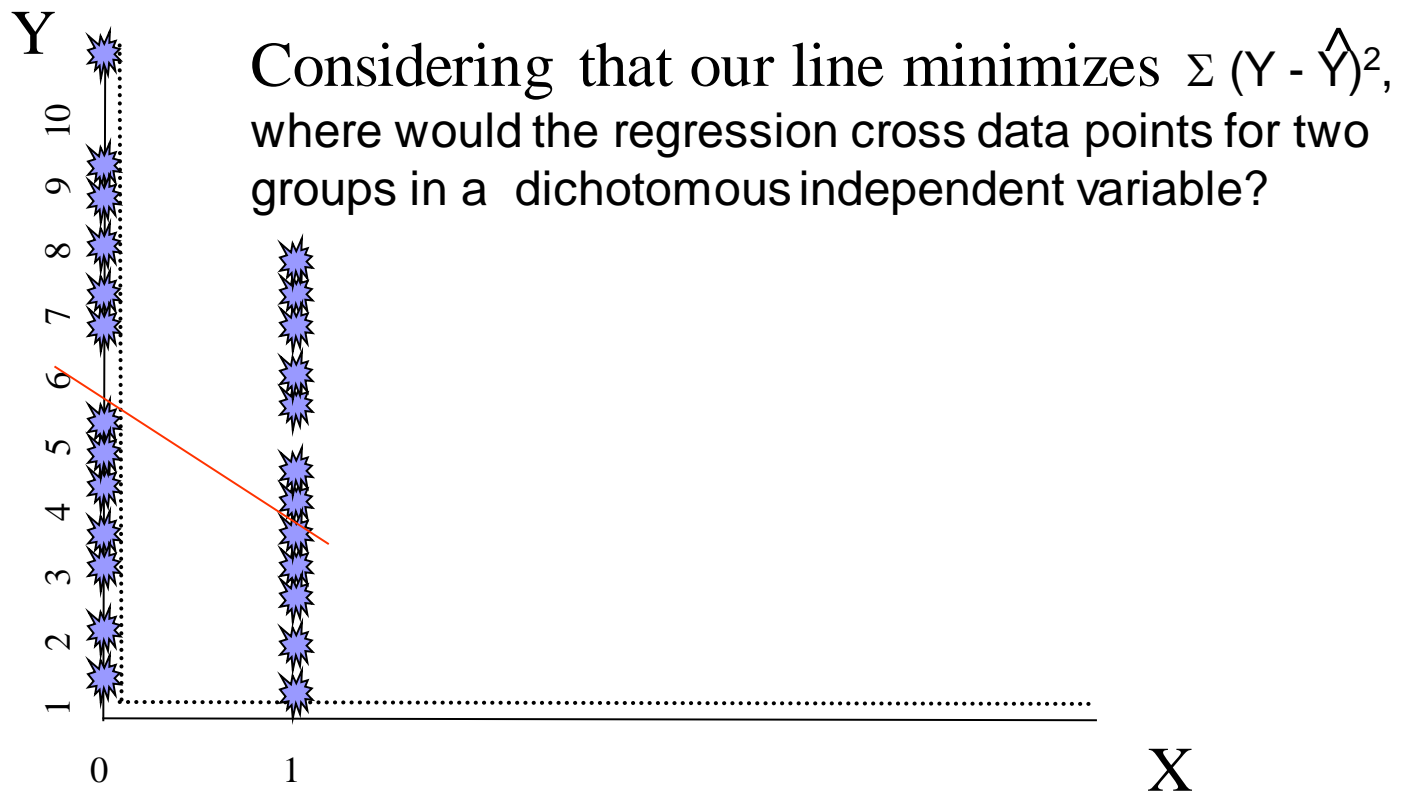


# Correlation and Regression



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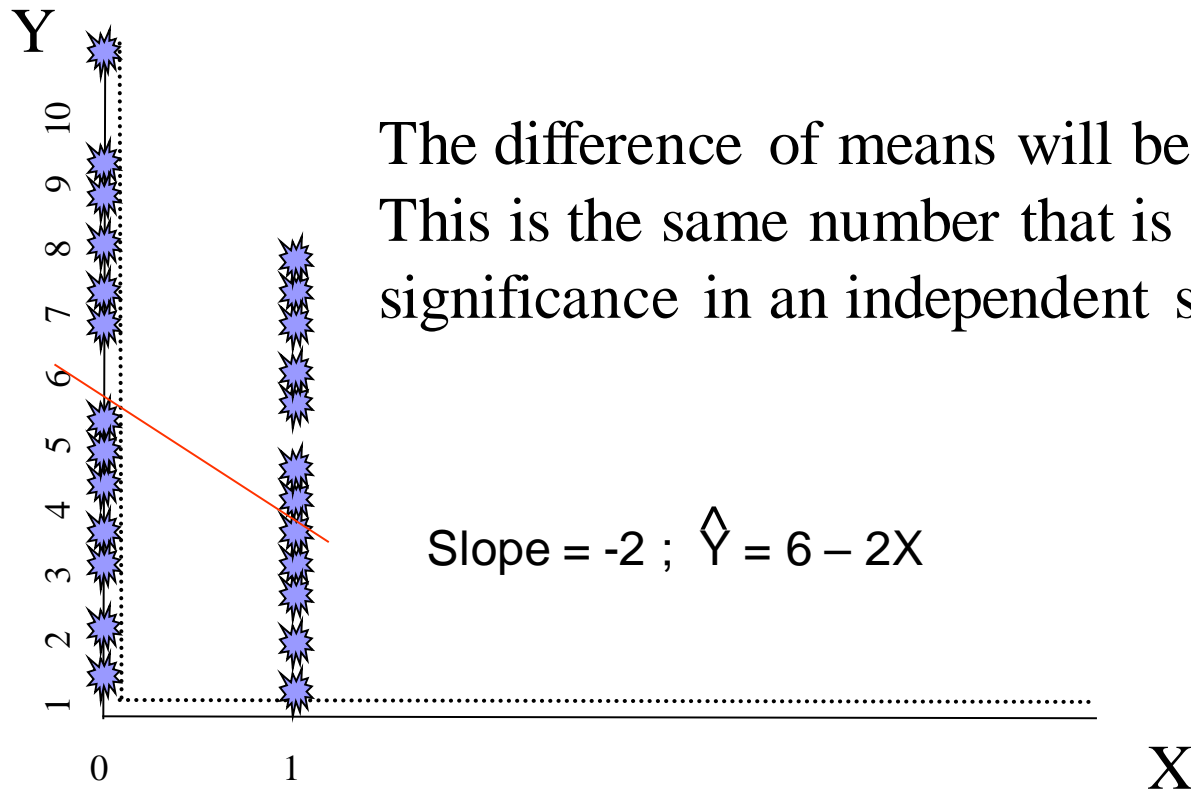
# Correlation and Regression



0=Men: Mean = 6

1=Women: Mean = 4

# Correlation and Regression



The difference of means will be the slope.  
This is the same number that is tested for  
significance in an independent samples t-test.

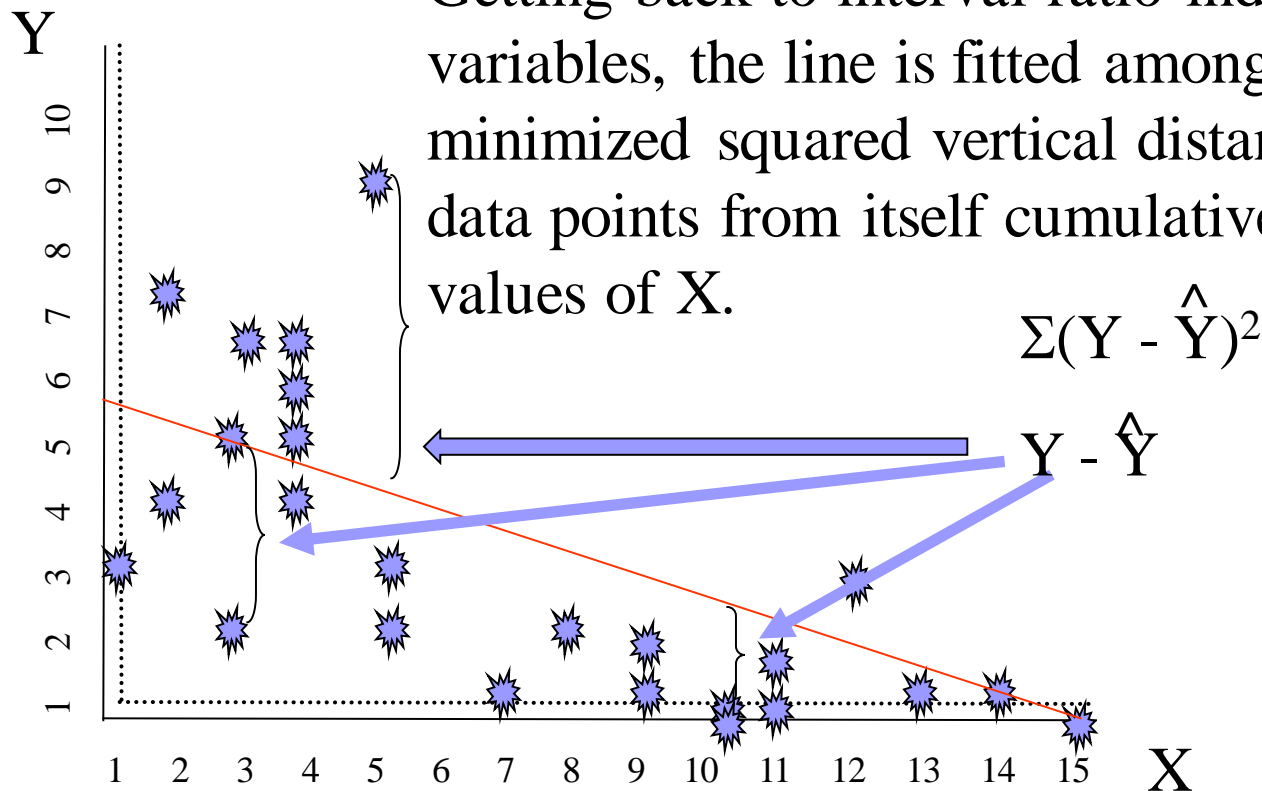
$$\text{Slope} = -2 ; \hat{Y} = 6 - 2X$$

0=Men:                      Mean = 6

1=Women:                  Mean = 4

# Correlation and Regression

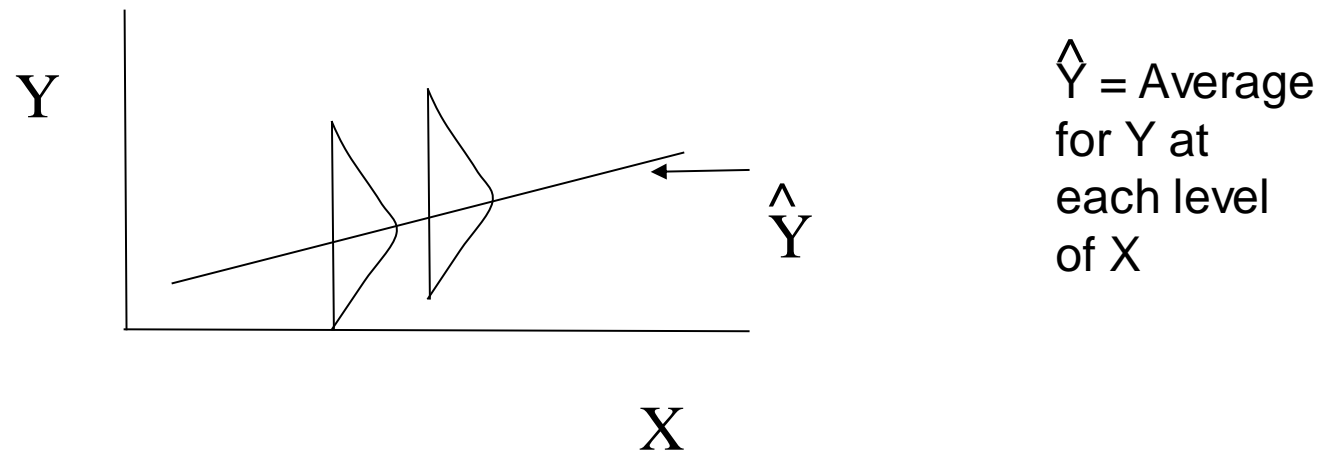
Getting back to interval-ratio independent variables, the line is fitted among the minimized squared vertical distance of all data points from itself cumulatively for all values of X.



|                     |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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# Correlation and Regression

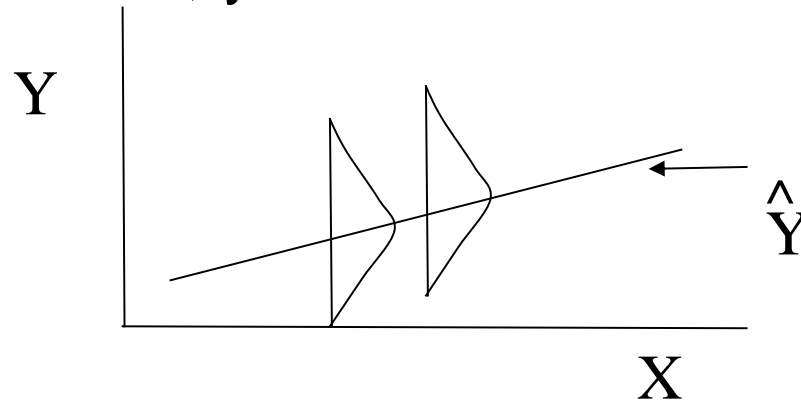
- $\hat{Y} = a + bX$  This equation gives the conditional mean of  $Y$  at any given value of  $X$ .



- So... In reality, our **line gives us the expected mean of  $Y$**  given each value of  $X$
- The line's equation tells you how the mean on your dependent variable changes as your independent variable goes up.

# Correlation and Regression

- As you know, every mean has a distribution around it--so there is a standard deviation. This is true for conditional means as well. So, you also have a conditional standard deviation.

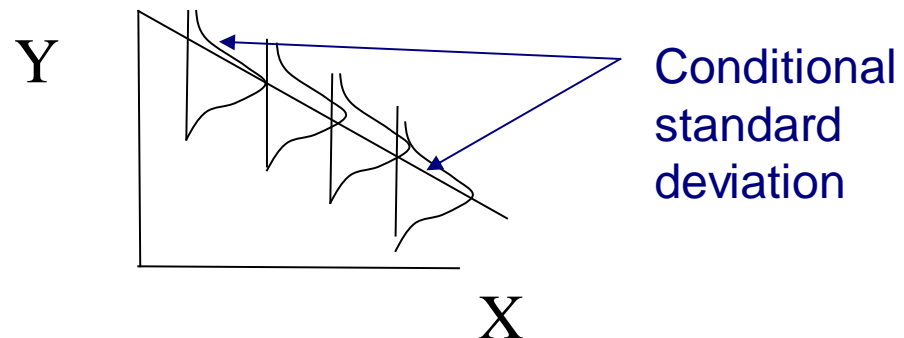
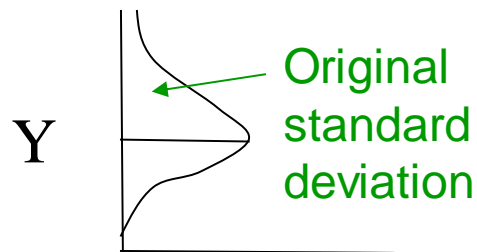


- “Conditional Standard Deviation” or “Root Mean Square Error” equals “approximate average deviation from the line.”

$$\hat{\sigma} = \sqrt{\frac{SSE}{n - 2}} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (Y - \hat{Y})^2}{n - 2}}$$

# Correlation and Regression

- The Assumption of **Homoskedasticity**:
  - The variation around the line is the same no matter the  $X$ .
  - The conditional standard deviation is for any given value of  $X$ .



- If there is a relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$ , the conditional standard deviation is going to be less than the standard deviation of  $Y$ --if this is so, you have improved prediction of the mean value of  $Y$  by taking into account each level of  $X$ .
- If there were no relationship, the conditional standard deviation would be the same as the original, and the regression line would be flat at the mean of  $Y$ .

# Correlation and Regression

- So guess what?



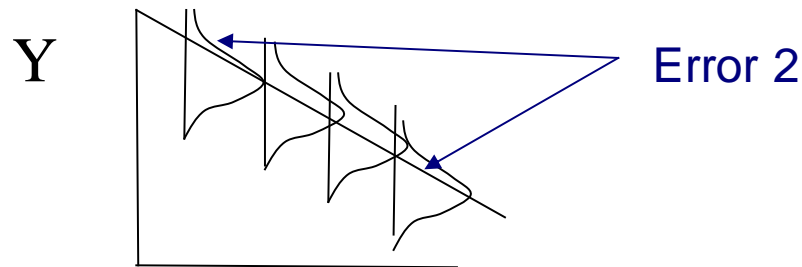
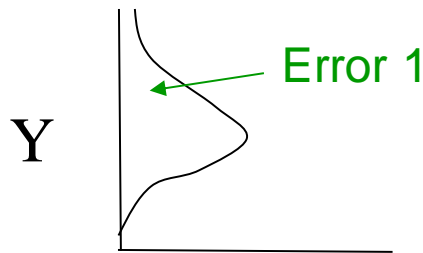
- We have a way to determine how much our understanding of  $Y$  is improved when taking  $X$  into account—it is based on the fact that conditional standard deviations should be smaller than  $Y$ 's original standard deviation.



# Correlation and Regression

## ■ Proportional Reduction in Error

- Let's call the variation around the mean in Y "Error 1."
- Let's call the variation around the line when X is considered "Error 2."



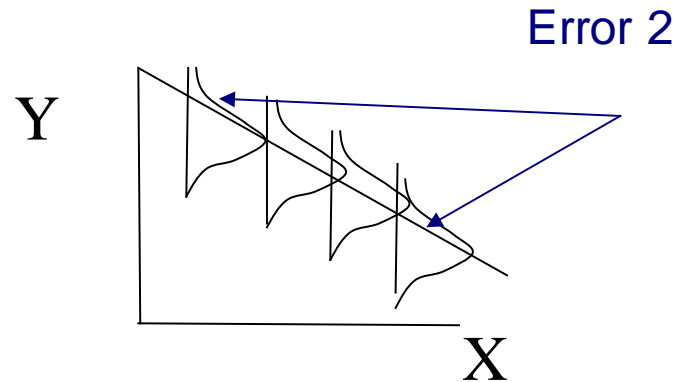
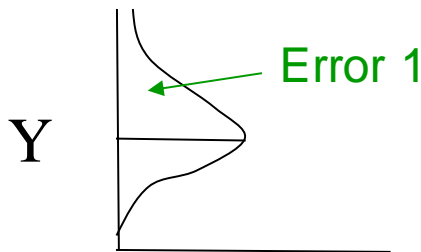
- But rather than going all the way to standard deviation to determine error, let's just stop at the basic measure, Sum of Squared Deviations.
- Error 1 (E1) =  $\sum (Y - \bar{Y})^2$  also called "Sum of Squares"
- Error 2 (E2) =  $\sum (Y - \hat{Y})^2$  also called "Sum of Squared Errors"

# Correlation and Regression

## ■ Proportional Reduction in Error

- To determine how much taking X into consideration reduces the variation in Y (at each level of X) we can use a simple formula:

$$\frac{E1 - E2}{E1} \quad \text{Which tells us the proportion or percentage of original error that is Explained by X.}$$



- Error 1 (E1) =  $\sum (Y - \bar{Y})^2$
- Error 2 (E2) =  $\sum (Y - \hat{Y})^2$

# Correlation and Regression

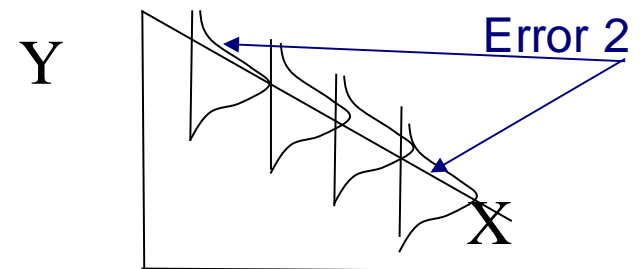
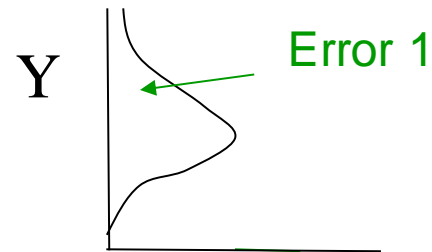
$$r^2 = \frac{E1 - E2}{E1}$$

$$= \frac{TSS - SSE}{TSS}$$

$$= \frac{\sum (Y - \bar{Y})^2 - \sum (Y - \hat{Y})^2}{\sum (Y - \bar{Y})^2}$$

$r^2$  is called the “coefficient of determination”...

It is also the square of the Pearson correlation



# Correlation and Regression

## ■ $R^2$

- Is the improvement obtained by using  $X$  (and drawing a line through the conditional means) in getting as near as possible to everybody's value for  $Y$  over just using the mean for  $Y$  alone.
- Falls between 0 and 1
  - 1 means an exact fit (and there is no variation of scores around the regression line)
  - 0 means no relationship (and as much scatter around the line as in the original  $Y$  variable and a flat regression line (slope = 0) through the mean of  $Y$ )
- Would be the same for  $X$  regressed on  $Y$  as for  $Y$  regressed on  $X$
- Can be interpreted as the percentage of variability in  $Y$  that is explained by  $X$ .

- *Some people get hung up on maximizing  $R^2$ , but this is too bad because any effect is still a finding—a small  $R^2$  only indicates that you haven't told the whole (or much of the) story of the relationship between your variables.*

# Correlation and Regression

Back to the output:

**Model Summary**

| Model | R                 | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate |
|-------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1     | .679 <sup>a</sup> | .460     | .437              | 1.9048                     |

a. Predictors: (Constant), INCOME

$$r^2 = \frac{\sum (Y - \bar{Y})^2 - \sum (Y - \hat{Y})^2}{\sum (Y - \bar{Y})^2}$$

**ANOVA<sup>b</sup>**

| Model |            | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F      | Sig.              |
|-------|------------|----------------|----|-------------|--------|-------------------|
| 1     | Regression | 71.194         | 1  | 71.194      | 19.623 | .000 <sup>a</sup> |
|       | Residual   | 83.446         | 23 | 3.628       |        |                   |
|       | Total      | 154.640        | 24 |             |        |                   |

a. Predictors: (Constant), INCOME

**Coefficients<sup>a</sup>**

| Model |            | Unstandardized Coefficients |            | Standardized Coefficients | t      | Sig. |
|-------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------|------|
|       |            | B                           | Std. Error | Beta                      |        |      |
| 1     | (Constant) | 6.003                       | .754       |                           | 7.960  | .000 |
|       | INCOME     | -.414                       | .094       | -.679                     | -4.430 | .000 |

a. Dependent Variable: CHILD

$$71.194 \div 154.64 = .460$$

# Correlation and Regression

**Q: So why did I see an ANOVA Table?**

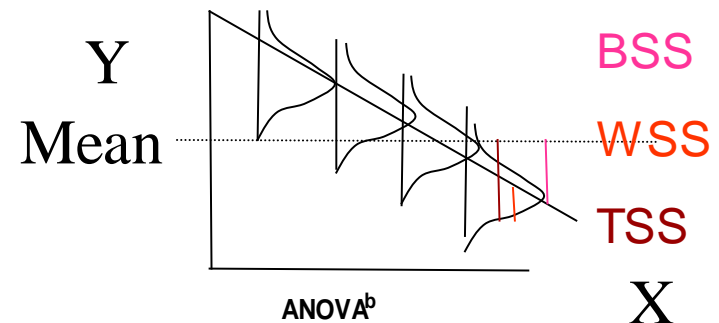
**A: Levels of X can be thought of like groups in ANOVA**

**...and the squared distance from the line to the mean (Regression SS) is equivalent to BSS—group mean to big mean (but  $df = 1$ )**

**...and the squared distance from the line to the data values on Y (Residual SS) is equivalent to WSS—data value to the group's mean**

**... and the ratio of these forms an F distribution in repeated sampling**

**If F is significant, X is explaining some of the variation in Y.**



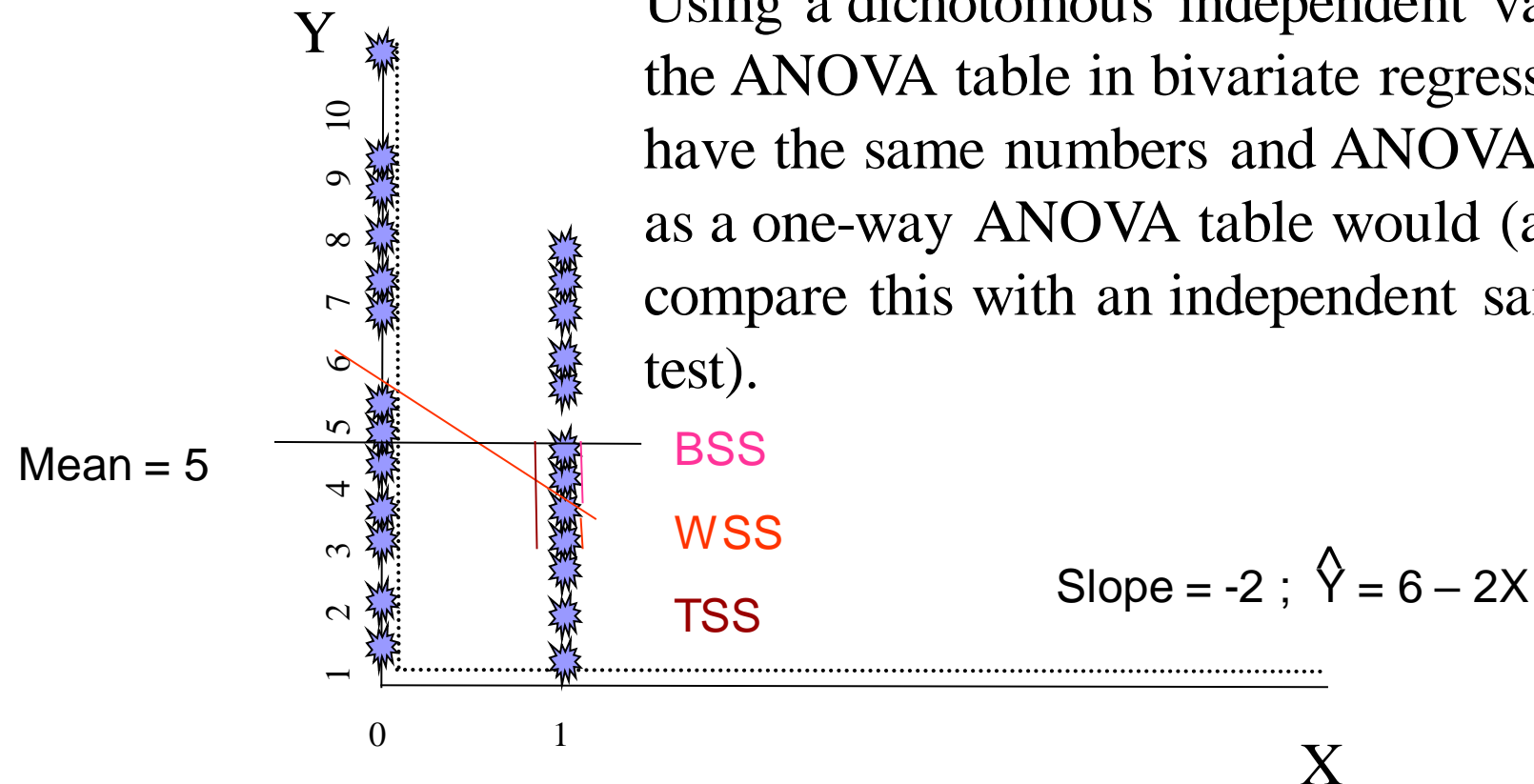
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a. Predictors: (Constant), INCOME

b. Dependent Variable: CHILD

# Correlation and Regression

Using a dichotomous independent variable, the ANOVA table in bivariate regression will have the same numbers and ANOVA results as a one-way ANOVA table would (and compare this with an independent samples t-test).



0=Men: Mean = 6

1=Women: Mean = 4



# Correlation and Regression

Recall that statistics are divided between descriptive and inferential statistics.

## **Descriptive:**

- The equation for your line is a descriptive statistic. It tells you the real, best-fitted line that minimizes squared errors.

## **Inferential:**

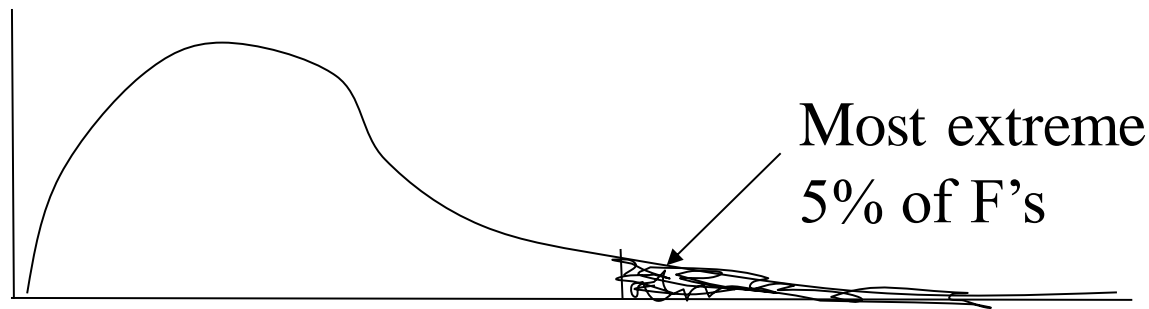
- But what about the population? What can we say about the relationship between your variables in the population???
- The inferential statistics are estimates based on the best-fitted line.



# Correlation and Regression

- The significance of F, you already understand.

$$F = \text{Regression SS} / \text{Residual SS}$$

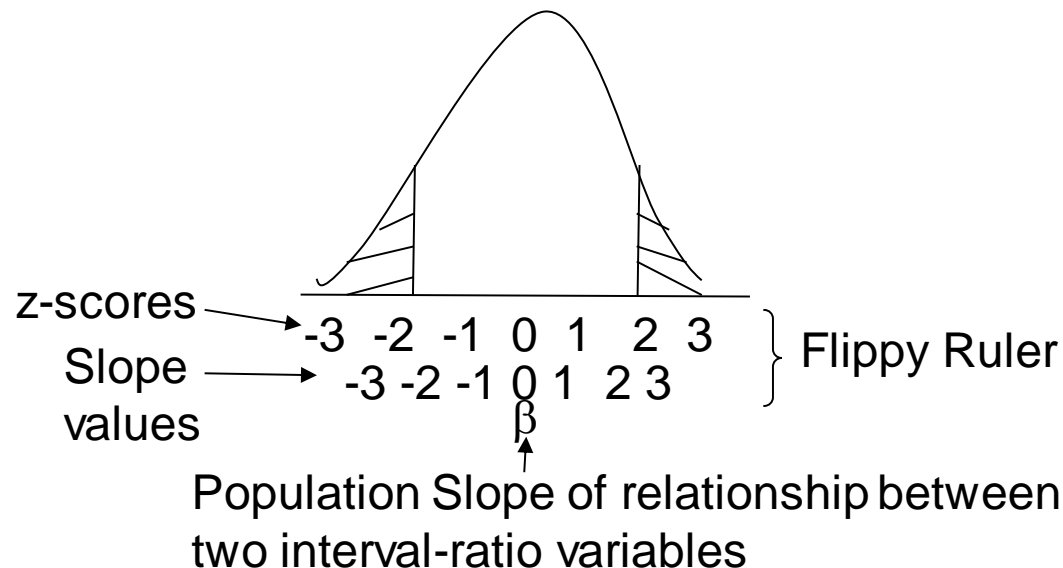


- The ratio of Regression (line to the mean of Y) to Residual (line to data point) Sums of Squares forms an F ratio in repeated sampling.
- Null:  $r^2 = 0$  in the population. If F exceeds critical F, then your variables have a relationship in the population (X explains some of the variation in Y).

# Correlation and Regression

## ■ What about the Slope (called “Coefficient”)?

- The slope has a sampling distribution that is normally distributed.
- So we can do a significance test.



# Correlation and Regression

## Conducting a Test of Significance for the slope of the Regression Line

By slapping the sampling distribution for the slope over a guess of the population's slope,  $H_0$ , we can find out whether our sample could have been drawn from a population where the slope is equal to our guess.

1. Two-tailed significance test for  $\alpha$ -level = .05
2. Critical  $t = \pm 1.96$
3. To find if there is a significant slope in the population,

$$H_0: \beta = 0$$

$$H_a: \beta \neq 0$$

4. Collect Data

5. Calculate  $t$  (z):  $t = \frac{b - \beta_0}{\text{s.e.}}$       s.e. =

$$\frac{\sqrt{\frac{\sum (Y - \hat{Y})^2}{n - 2}}}{\sqrt{\sum (X - \bar{X})^2}}$$

6. Make decision about the null hypothesis
7. Find P-value

# Correlation and Regression

Back to the output:

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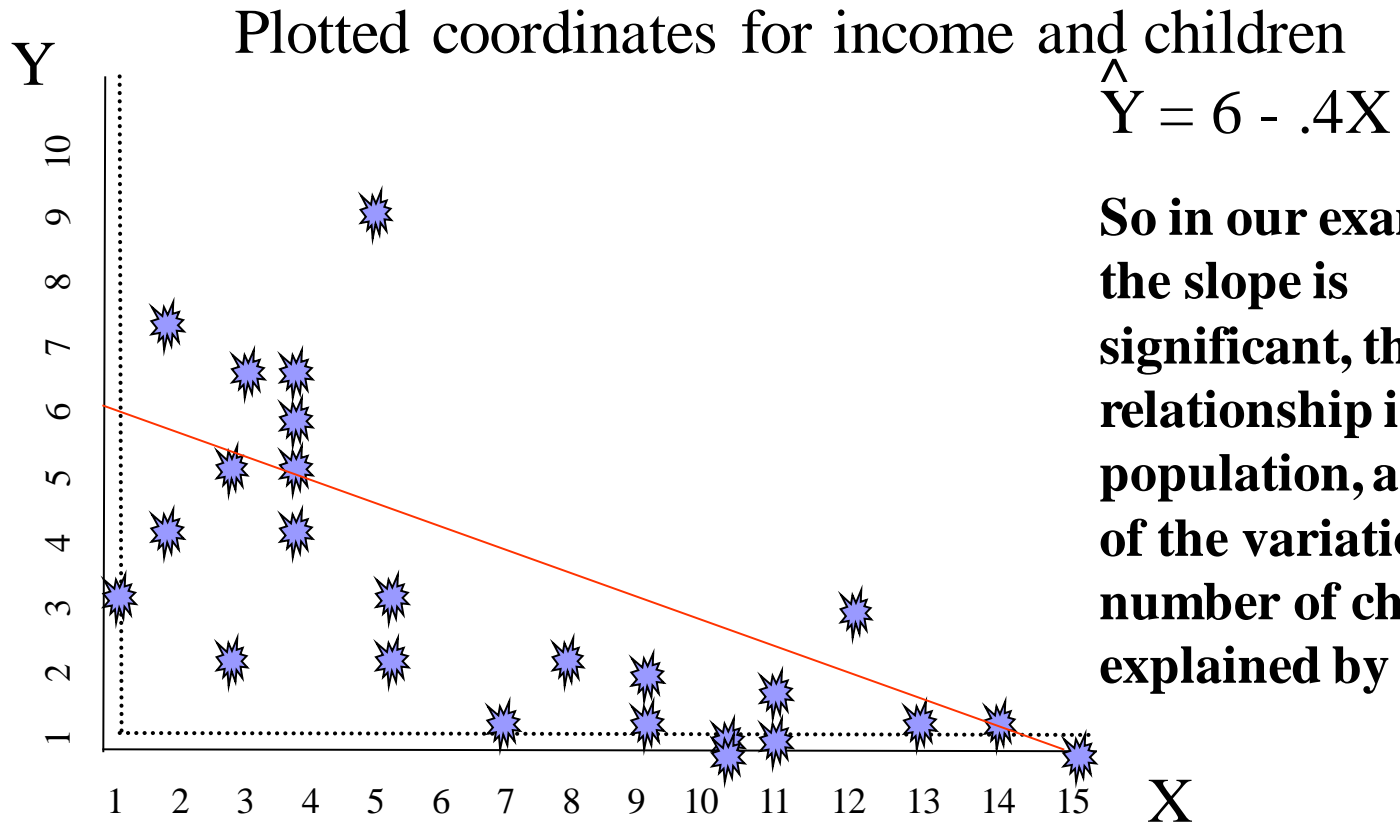
a. Dependent Variable: CHILD

Of course, you get the **standard error** and

**t** on your output,

...and the **p-value** too!

# Correlation and Regression



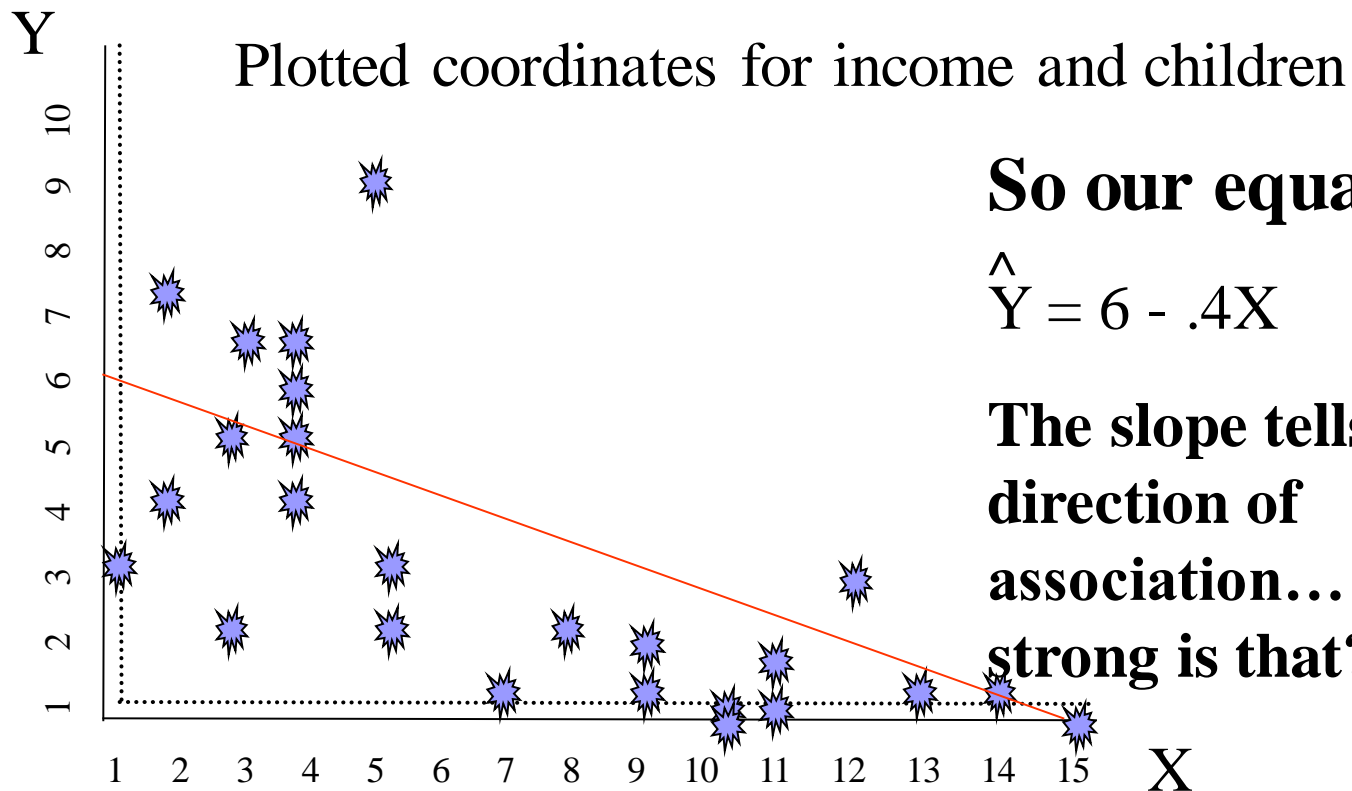
|                     |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Case:               | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| Children (Y):       | 2 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 3  | 1  | 0  | 3 | 7  | 7  | 2  | 4  | 2  | 1  | 0  | 1  | 2  | 4  | 3  | 0  | 1  | 2  | 5  | 7  |
| Income 1=\$10K (X): | 3 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 12 | 14 | 10 | 1 | 4  | 3  | 11 | 4  | 9  | 13 | 10 | 7  | 5  | 2  | 5  | 15 | 11 | 8  | 3  | 2  |

# Correlation and Regression

- We've talked about the summary of the relationship, but not about strength of association.
- How strong is the association between our variables?
- For this we need correlation.



# Correlation and Regression



|                     |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Case:               | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
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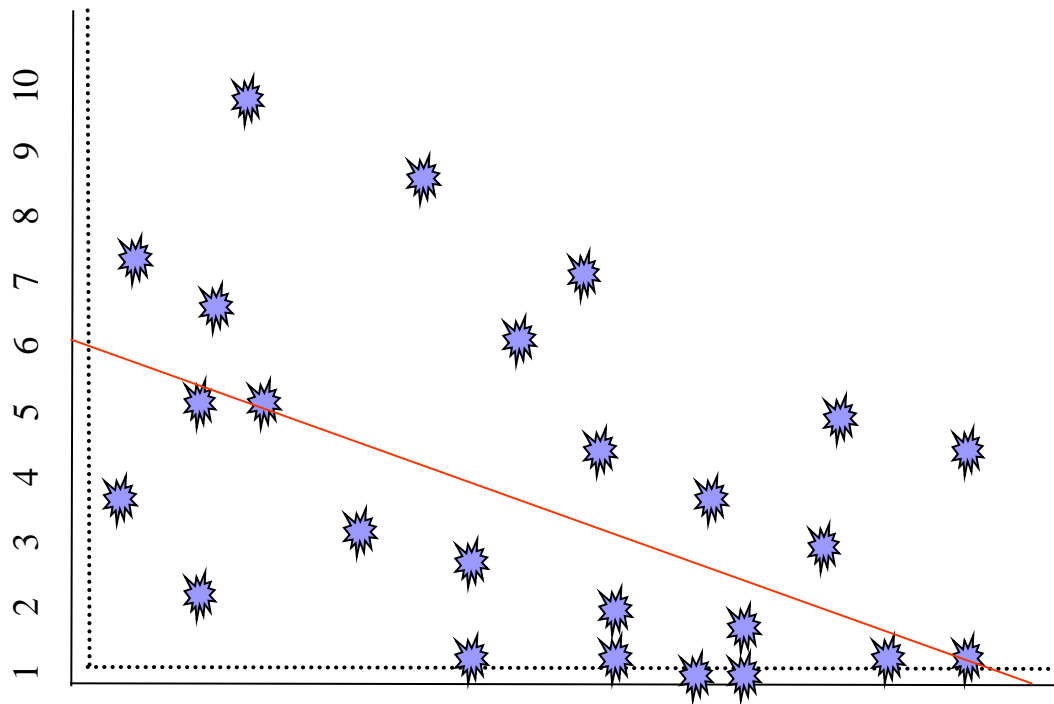


# Correlation and Regression

- To find the strength of the relationship between two variables, we need correlation.
- The correlation is the standardized slope... it refers to the standard deviation change in  $Y$  when you go up a standard deviation in  $X$ .

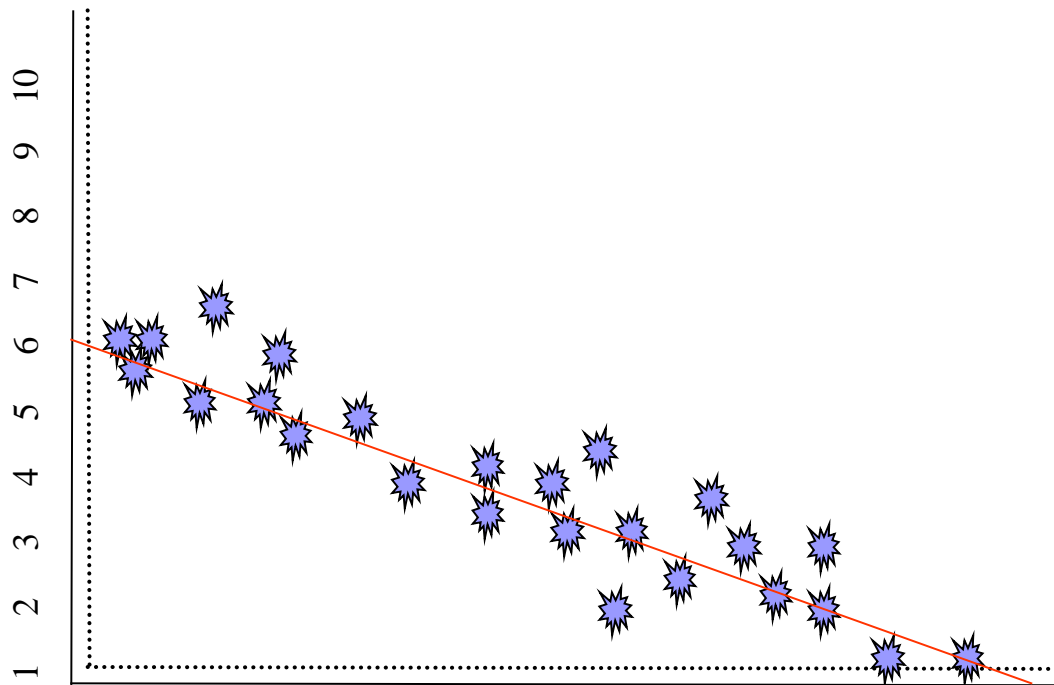


# Correlation and Regression



Example of *Low Negative Correlation*

# Correlation and Regression



Example of *High* Negative Correlation

# Correlation and Regression

- The correlation is the standardized slope... it refers to the standard deviation change in Y when you go up a standard deviation in X.

$$\Sigma(X - \bar{X})^2$$

- Recall that s.d. of x,  $S_x =$

$$\Sigma(Y - \bar{Y})^2$$

- and the s.d. of y,  $S_y =$

- Pearson correlation,  $r = \left( \frac{S_x}{S_y} \right) b$



# Correlation and Regression

- The Pearson Correlation,  $r$ :
  - tells the direction and strength of the relationship between continuous variables
  - ranges from -1 to +1
  - is + when the relationship is positive and - when the relationship is negative
  - the higher the absolute value of  $r$ , the stronger the association
  - a standard deviation change in  $x$  corresponds with  $r$  standard deviation change in  $Y$

# Correlation and Regression

## ■ The Pearson Correlation, $r$ :

- The pearson correlation is a statistic that is an inferential statistic too.

- $t_{n-2} = \frac{r - (null = 0)}{\sqrt{(1-r^2) (n-2)}}$

- When it is significant, there is a linear relationship between the two variables in the population—it is *not* non-existent!

# Correlation and Regression

Our data's correlation is .679. How strong is that?

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**Coefficients<sup>a</sup>**

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|       | INCOME     | -.414                       | .094       | -.679                     | -4.430 | .000 |

a. Dependent Variable: CHILD

Correlation,  $r$ ,  
is significant.

# Correlation and Regression

If you were to use the “correlate, bivariate” command, you’d get this output...

## Correlations

Correlation,  $r$ , is significant.

Correlations

|          |                     | CHILDREN | INCOME  |
|----------|---------------------|----------|---------|
| CHILDREN | Pearson Correlation | 1        | -.679** |
|          | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .        | .000    |
|          | N                   | 25       | 25      |
| INCOME   | Pearson Correlation | -.679**  | 1       |
|          | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .000     | .       |
|          | N                   | 25       | 25      |

\*\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).