# inference for MLR

- significant predictors
- HT and CI for the slope
- interpretations



Dr. Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel Duke University

### modeling cognitive test scores of children

Data: Cognitive test scores of three- and four-year-old children and characteristics of their mothers (from a subsample from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth).

	kid_score	mom_hs	mom_iq	mom_work	mom_age
	65	yes	121.12	yes	27
• • •					
6	98	no	107.90	no	18
• • •					
434	70	yes	91.25	yes	25

```
R
# load data
> cognitive = read.csv("http://bit.ly/dasi cognitive")
# full model
> cog full = lm(kid score ~ mom hs + mom iq + mom_work + mom_age, data = cognitive)
> summary(cog full)
Coefficients:
           Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept) 19.59241 9.21906 2.125 0.0341 *
mom hs:yes 5.09482 2.31450 2.201 0.0282 *
mom iq 0.56147 0.06064 9.259 <2e-16 ***
mom work:yes 2.53718 2.35067 1.079 0.2810
mom age 0.21802 0.33074 0.659 0.5101
Residual standard error: 18.14 on 429 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared: 0.2171, Adjusted R-squared: 0.2098
F-statistic: 29.74 on 4 and 429 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

#### inference for the model as a whole

$$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_1 = \dots = \beta_k = 0$$

 $H_A$ : At least one  $\beta_i$  is different than 0

```
F-statistic: 29.74 on 4 and 429 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

Since p-value < 0.05, the model as a whole is significant.

- The F test yielding a significant result doesn't mean the model fits the data well, it just means at least one of the  $\beta$ s is non-zero.
- The F test not yielding a significant result doesn't mean individuals variables included in the model are not good predictors of y, it just means that the combination of these variables doesn't yield a good model.

## hypothesis testing for slopes

Is whether or not the mother went to high school a significant predictor of the cognitive test scores of children, given all other variables in the model?

 $H_0$ :  $\beta_1 = 0$ , when all other variables are included in the model

 $H_A$ :  $\beta_1 \neq 0$ , when all other variables are included in the model

Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
19.59241	9.21906	2.125	0.0341
5.09482	2.31450	2.201	0.0282
0.56147	0.06064	9.259	<2e-16
2.53718	2.35067	1.079	0.2810
0.21802	0.33074	0.659	0.5101
	19.59241 5.09482 0.56147 2.53718	19.592419.219065.094822.314500.561470.060642.537182.35067	5.094822.314502.2010.561470.060649.2592.537182.350671.079

Whether or not mom went to high school is a significant predictor of the cognitive test scores of children, given all other variables in the model.

## testing for the slope - mechanics

use a t-statistic in inference for regression

$$T = \frac{\text{point estimate - null value}}{SE}$$

$$SE_{b_1}$$

t-statistic for the slope: 
$$T=rac{b_1-0}{SE_{b_1}}$$
  $d\!f=n-k-1$ 



multiple predictors: df = n - k - 1

SINGLE PREDICTOR: df = n - 1 - 1

Lose I df for each parameter estimated, and one for the intercept

#### Verify the T score and the p-value for the slope of mom\_hs.

```
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept) 19.59241 9.21906 2.125 0.0341

mom_hs:yes 5.09482 2.31450 2.201 0.0282

mom_iq 0.56147 0.06064 9.259 <2e-16

mom_work:yes 2.53718 2.35067 1.079 0.2810

mom_age 0.21802 0.33074 0.659 0.5101

Residual standard error: 18.14 on 429 degrees of freedom
```

$$T = \frac{5.095 - 0}{2.315}$$

$$= 2.201$$

$$df = n - k - 1$$

$$= 434 - 4 - 1$$

$$= 429$$

```
R
> pt(2.201,df = 429, lower.tail = FALSE) * 2
[1] 0.0282
```

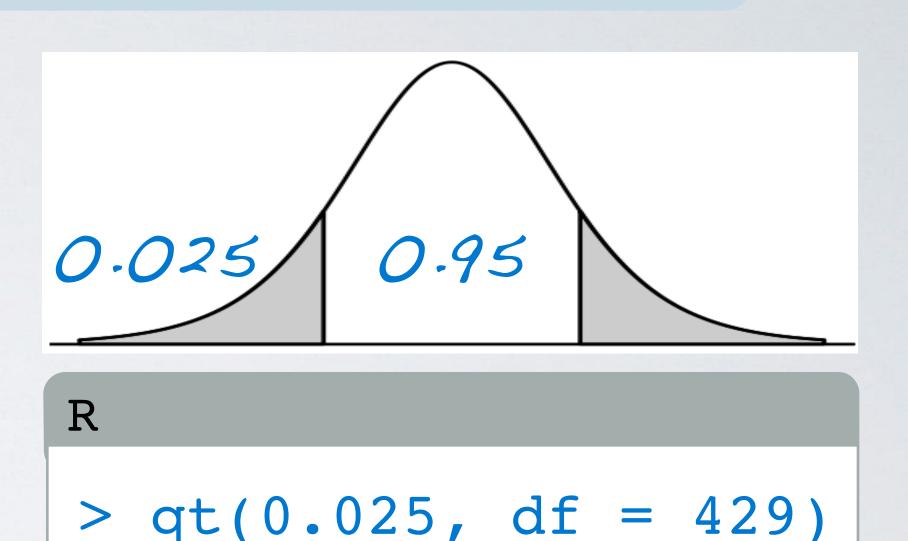
## confidence intervals for slopes

point estimate ± margin of error

$$b_1 \pm t_{df}^{\star} SE_{b_1}$$

#### Calculate the 95% confidence interval for the slope of mom\_work.

```
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
                                        0.0341
(Intercept) 19.59241
                       9.21906
                                2.125
mom hs:yes 5.09482
                       2.31450 2.201 0.0282
mom iq 0.56147
                               9.259 <2e-16
                       0.06064
                       2.35067
                                      0.2810
                               1.079
mom work: yes 2.53718
        0.21802
                       0.33074
                                0.659
                                       0.5101
mom age
Residual standard error: 18.14 on 429 degrees of freedom
df = 434 - 4 - 1 = 429
t* 429 = 1.97
2.54 \pm 1.97 \times 2.35 \approx (-2.09, 7.17)
```



[1] -1.97

Interpret the 95% confidence interval for the slope of **mom\_work**. Cl: (-2.09, 7.17)

We are 95% confident that, all else being equal, the model predicts that children whose moms worked during the first three years of their lives score 2.09 points lower to 7.17 points higher than those whose moms did not work.