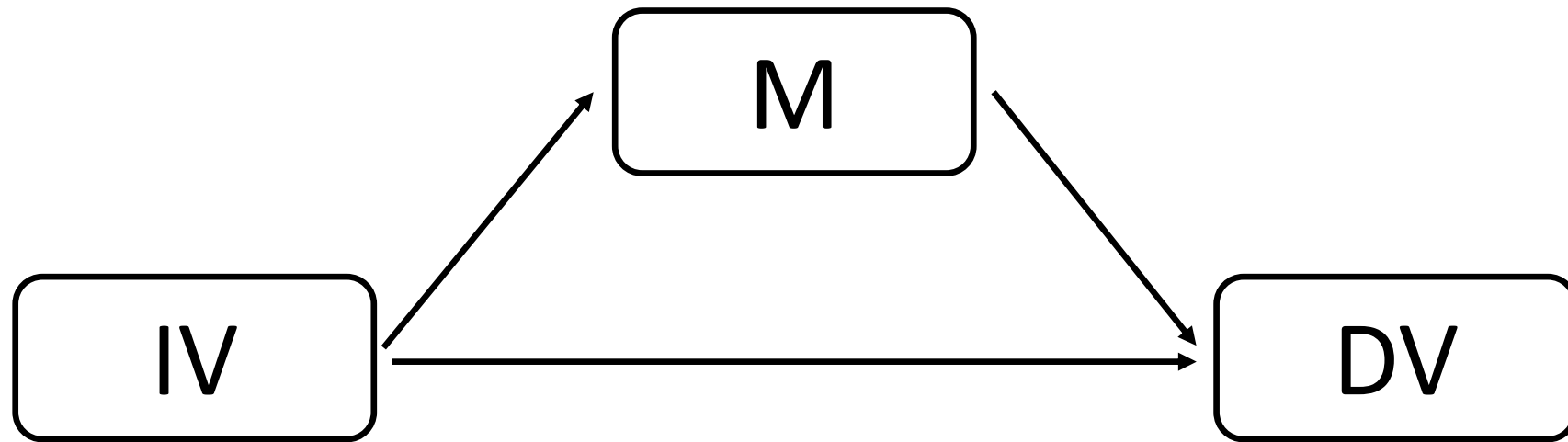




Mediation Analysis in R



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Content of This Video

- Method 1:
 - Basic idea of mediation analysis
 - Baron & Kenny (1986) 3 regressions
 - Use mediate() in mediation package for 95% CI
- Method 2:
 - Bootstrapping mediation from scratch
 - Write our own mediation function

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Mediation Analysis in R

Method - 1

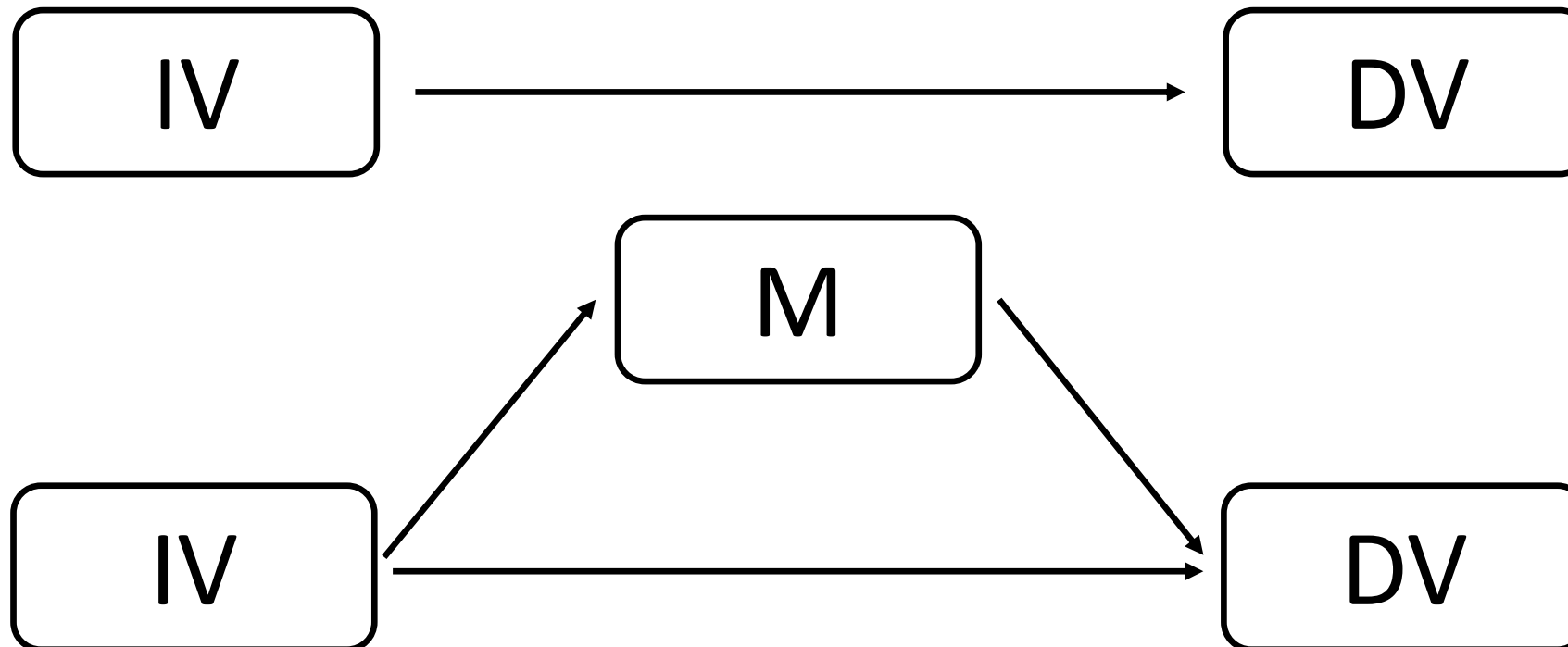
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Definition of Mediation

- Mediation:
 - An observed relationship between an independent variable (IV, or X) and a dependent variable (DV, or Y).
 - The name of the mechanism is called mediator (M).



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Conditions of Mediation

- Based on Baron & Kenny (1986), there are three sets of regression:
- (1) $X \rightarrow Y$ (c needs to be significant, generally speaking.)

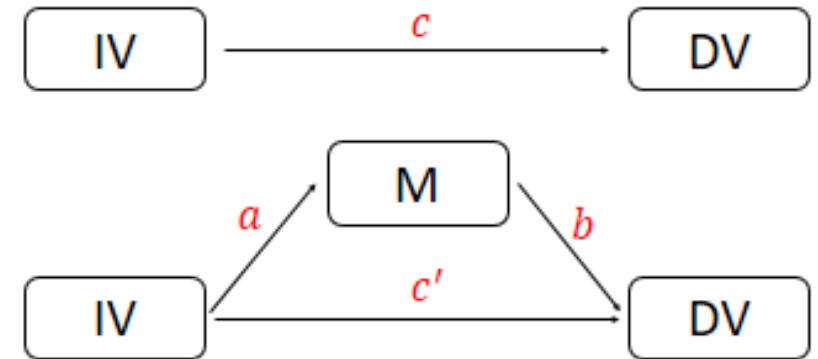
$$Y = cX$$

- (2) $X \rightarrow M$ (a needs to be significant.)

$$M = aX$$

- (3) $X + M \rightarrow Y$ (b needs to be significant.)

$$Y = c'X + bM$$

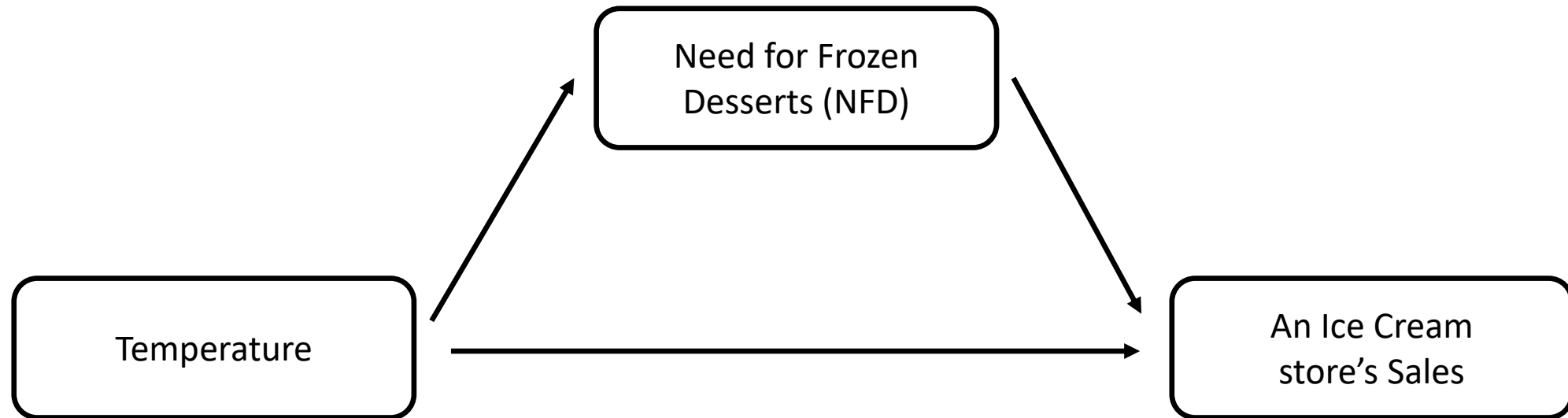


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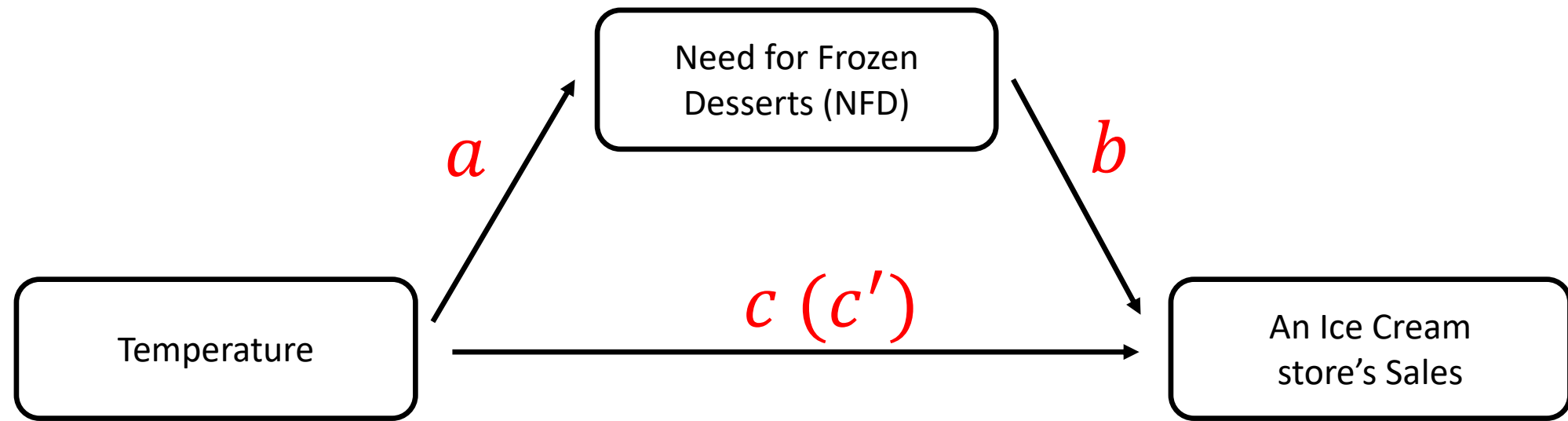
Example of Mediation

- The following is a hypothetical study.
 - Higher temperatures increase an ice cream store's sales.
 - This is because higher temperatures make people want to have frozen desserts, making them more likely to buy ice cream from the store



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- (1) $X \rightarrow Y$ (*c* needs to be significant, generally speaking.)

$$Y = cX$$

$$\text{Sales} = b_0 + c \text{ Temperature}$$

- (2) $X \rightarrow M$ (*a* needs to be significant.)

$$M = aX$$

$$\text{NFD} = b_0 + a \text{ Temperature}$$

- (3) $X + M \rightarrow Y$ (*b* needs to be significant.)

$$Y = c'X + bM$$

$$\text{Sales} = c' \text{ Temperature} + b \text{ NFD}$$

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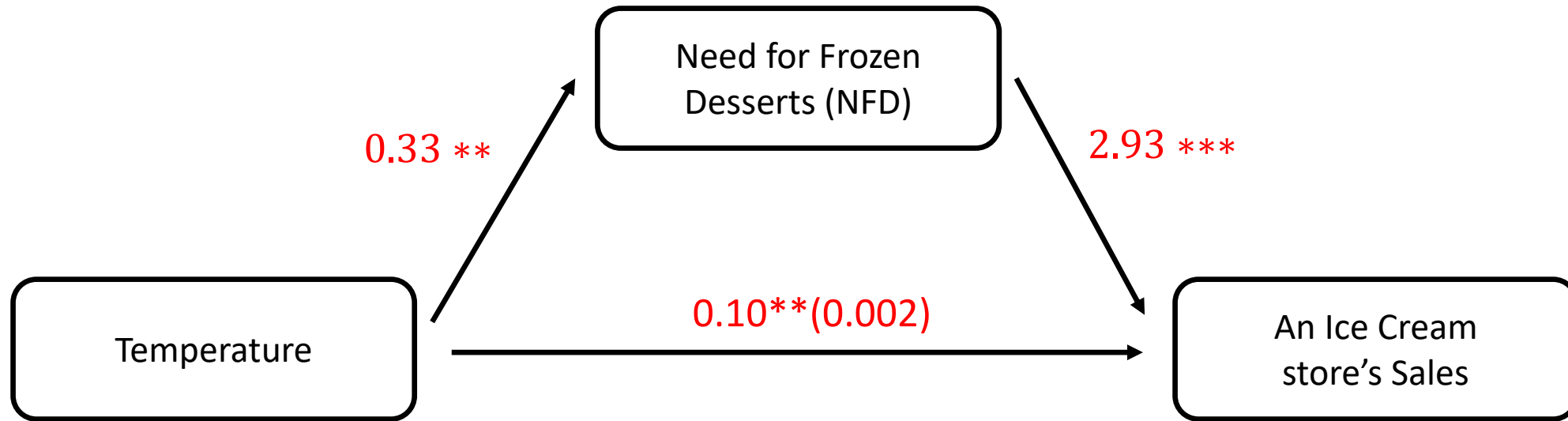
Hypothetical Data

- **Note:** This data is generated via R programming (i.e., not real data). Please do **not** interpret the findings from a theoretical perspective.
- IV = Temperature
- DV = Sales
- Mediator = Need for Frozen Desserts (NFD)
 - How much do you want to have frozen desserts?
 - 0 = Not at all, 6 = Very much

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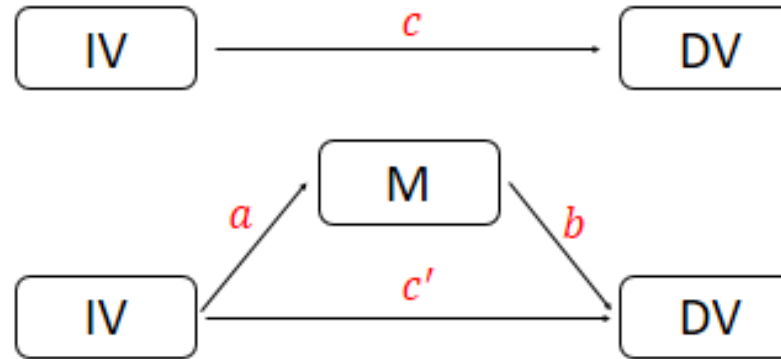
* $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$

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Test Indirect effect $a*b$



- **Bootstrapping**
- Bootstrapping is a non-parametric method based on resampling with replacement which is done many times, e.g., 5000 times.
 - From each of these samples the indirect effect is computed and a sampling distribution can be empirically generated.

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Mediation Analysis in R

Method - 2

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Mediation Analysis in R from Scratch

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Topics in this video

- 1. What is bootstrapping?
- 2. How to write the R program?
- 3. Standard Error (SE) and Standard Deviation (SD) in bootstrapping
- 4. Bias in bootstrapping

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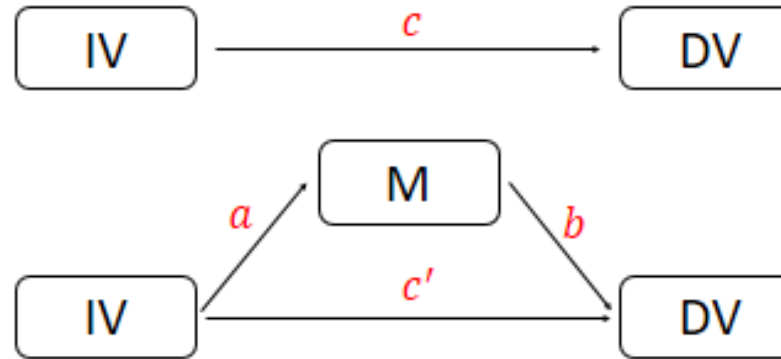
What is bootstrapping?

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Test Indirect effect $a*b$



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- Bootstrapping is a non-parametric method based on resampling with replacement which is done many times, e.g., 5000 times.
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Use R to test Indirect effect $a*b$

Sample a data to calculate
a and b path and indirect
effect (i.e., $a*b$)



Use boot() to bootstrap it
(e.g., 5000 times). Thus,
5000 indirect effects.

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95% Confidence Interval for Indirect Effect

- Normal distribution assumption:
 - 95% CI =
 - (indirect effect – bias – 1.69*SE,
indirect effect – bias + 1.69*SE)
- Percentile:
 - 95% CI =(2.5% pt, 97.5% pt)

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