Unit 6: Simple linear regression

1. Introduction to regression

Sta 104 - Summer 2015

Duke University, Department of Statistical Science

June 12, 2015

2. Main ideas

- 1. Correlation coefficient describes the strength and direction of the linear association between two numerical variables
 - 2. Least squares line minimizes squared residuals
 - Interpreting the last squares line
 - 4. Predict, but don't extrapolate

Announcements

1

2. Main ideas

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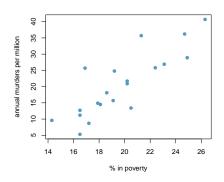
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Clicker question

Which of the following is the best guess for the correlation between annual murders per million and percentage living in poverty?

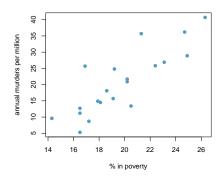
- (a) -1.52
- **(b)** -0.63
- (c) -0.12
- (d) 0.02
- (e) 0.84



Clicker question

Which of the following is the best guess for the correlation between annual murders per million and percentage living in poverty?

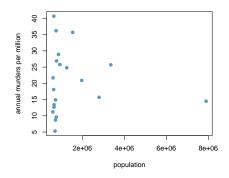
- (a) -1.52
- **(b)** -0.63
- (c) -0.12
- (d) 0.02
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Clicker question

Which of the following is the best guess for the correlation between annual murders per million and population size?

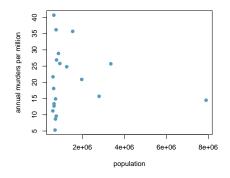
- (a) -0.97
- (b) -0.61
- (c) -0.06
- (d) 0.55
- (e) 0.97



Clicker question

Which of the following is the best guess for the correlation between annual murders per million and population size?

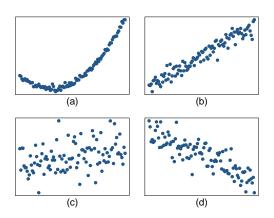
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Assessing the correlation

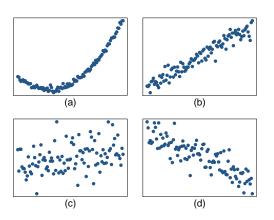
Clicker question

Which of the following is has the strongest correlation, i.e. correlation coefficient closest to +1 or -1?



Clicker question

Which of the following is has the strongest correlation, i.e. correlation coefficient closest to +1 or -1?



(b) → correlation means <u>linear</u> association

Play the game!

Post a screenshot with your problem set HW for +1 pt extra credit!

http://mih5.github.io/correlation_game2/correlationgame.html

Spurious correlations

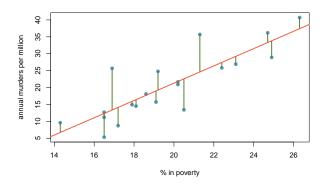
Remember: correlation does not always imply causation! http://www.tylervigen.com/

2. Main ideas

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(2) Least squares line minimizes squared residuals

- ▶ Residuals are the leftovers from the model fit, and calculated as the difference between the observed and predicted y: $e_i = y_i \hat{y}_i$
- The least squares line minimizes squared residuals:
 - Population data: $\hat{y} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$
 - Sample data: $\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1 x$



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(3) Interpreting the last squares line

Slope: For each <u>unit</u> increase in \underline{x} , \underline{y} is expected to behigher/lower on average by the slope.

$$b_1 = \frac{s_y}{s_x} R$$

▶ *Intercept:* When $\underline{x} = \underline{0}$, \underline{y} is expected to equal the intercept.

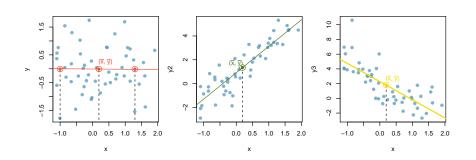
$$b_0 = \bar{y} - b_1 \bar{x}$$

- The calculation of the intercept uses the fact the a regression line **always** passes through (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) .

Why does the regression line **always** pass through (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) ?

Why does the regression line **always** pass through (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) ?

- ▶ If there is no relationship between x and y ($b_1 = 0$), the best guess for \hat{y} for any value of x is \bar{y} .
- ▶ Even when there is a relationship between x and y ($b_1 \neq 0$), the best guess for \hat{y} when $x = \bar{x}$ is still \bar{y} .



Application exercise: 6.1 Linear mode

See course website for details

Clicker question

What is the interpretation of the slope?

$$\widehat{murders} = -29.91 + 2.56 \ poverty$$

- (a) Each additional percentage in those living in poverty increases number of annual murders per million by 2.56.
- (b) For each percentage increase in those living in poverty, the number of annual murders per million is expected to be higher by 2.56 on average.
- (c) For each percentage increase in those living in poverty, the number of annual murders per million is expected to be lower by 29.91 on average.
- (d) For each percentage increase annual murders per million, the percentage of those living in poverty is expected to be higher by 2.56 on average.

Clicker question

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- (d) For each percentage increase annual murders per million, the percentage of those living in poverty is expected to be higher by 2.56 on average.

2. Main ideas

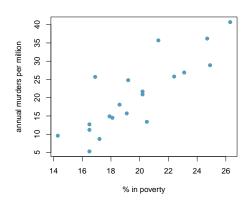
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Clicker question

Suppose you want to predict annual murder count (per million) for a series of districts that were not included in the dataset. For which of the following districts would you be most comfortable with your prediction?

A district where % in poverty =

- (a) 5%
- (b) 15%
- (c) 20%
- (d) 26%
- (e) 40%

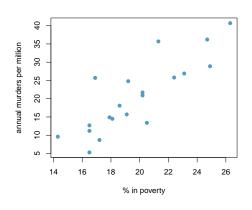


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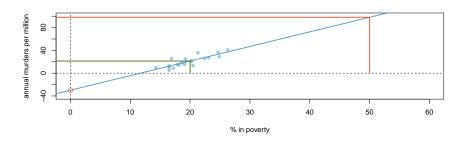
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A note about the intercept

Sometimes the intercept might be an extrapolation: useful for adjusting the height of the line, but meaningless in the context of the data.



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Summary of main ideas

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