



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN  
McCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

# Correlation & Simple Regression 2

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**Lecture 10**

**STA 371G**

1. Regression basics

2. Regression assumptions

3. Regression to the mean



## National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health

Nationally representative sample of US students in grades 7-12 were surveyed in the 1994-95 school year

(<http://www.cpc.unc.edu/projects/addhealth>)

Students were followed up on with subsequent in-home interviews four times (most recently 2008)

This is an **awesome** data set, with data on:

- family
- relationships
- health
- military service
- religion
- sex and STDs
- economics
- education
- personality
- criminality
- tobacco
- drugs
- alcohol
- pregnancy
- sleep
- daily activities

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We want to know:

- What is our best **prediction** of alcohol consumption if we know at what age they had their first drink?
- How good is that prediction?
- What is the **relationship** between alcohol consumption and age of first drink?



Age of first drink

**Explanatory variable (X)**

Number of drinks consumed as adult

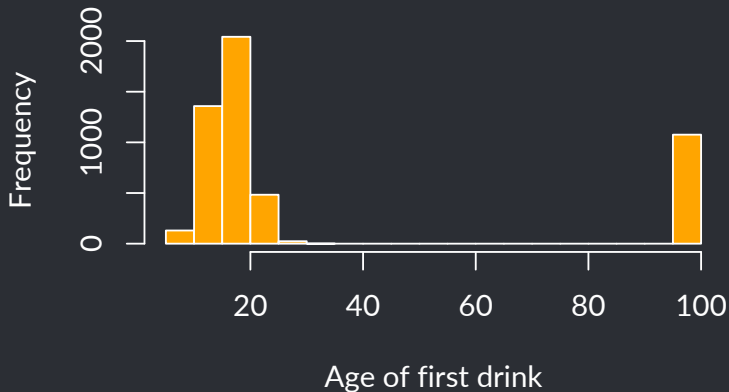
**Response variable (Y)**

## Working with a large data set

Put the variables you will work with into a new data set in R; it's easier to work with and clean up that way.

```
drinking <- data.frame(age=addhealth$h4to34,  
                        num.drinks=addhealth$h4to36)
```

```
hist(drinking$age,  
     main='', xlab="Age of first drink",  
     col="orange")
```

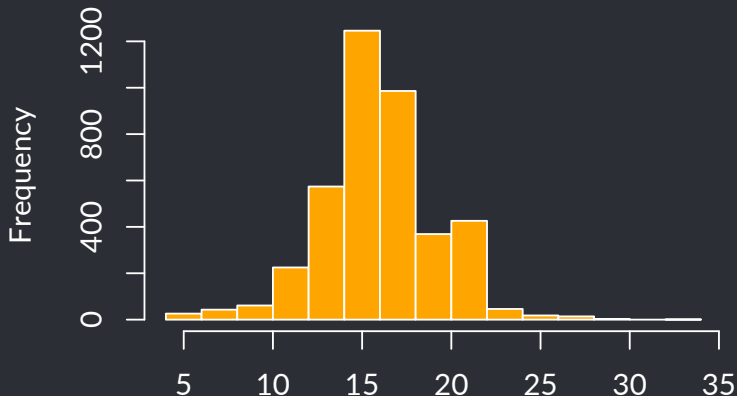


## Let's examine our variables using the codebook

*If Q.33 = 1, ask Q.34, else skip to Q.63.*

H4TO34		Num	34. How old were you when you first had an alcoholic drink? By drink, we mean a glass of wine, a can or bottle of beer, a wine cooler, a shot glass of liquor, or a mixed drink, not just sips or tastes from someone else's drink. NOTE: Smallest 5 and largest 5 values are displayed.
Frequency	Percent	Value	Label
56	0.4%	5	5 years
30	0.2%	6	6 years
21	0.1%	7	7 years
71	0.5%	8	8 years
52	0.3%	9	9 years
12014	76.5%	10-31	NOTE: Range of values omitted from display
1	0.0%	32	32 years
2	0.0%	33	33 years
21	0.1%	96	refused
3322	21.2%	97	legitimate skip
111	0.7%	98	don't know

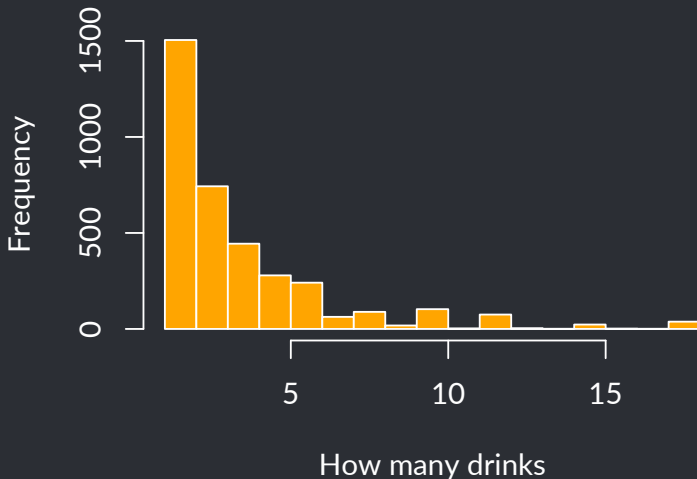
```
drinking$age[drinking$age >= 96] <- NA  
hist(drinking$age, main='', xlab='', col="orange")
```



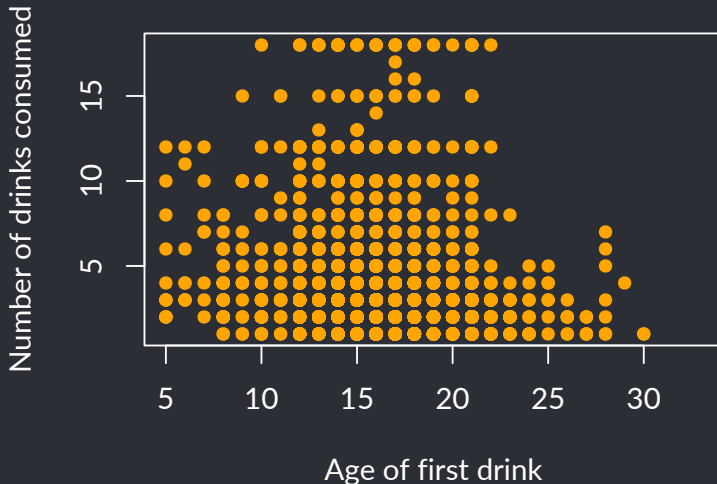
# Let's examine our variables using the codebook

If Q.35 not equal 0, ask Q.36, else if Q.35 = 0, then skip to Q.43.			
H4TO36		Num	36. Think of all the times you have had a drink during the past 12 months. How many drinks did you <b>usually</b> have each time? A 'drink' is a glass of wine, a can or bottle of beer, a wine cooler, a shot glass of liquor, or a mixed drink. NOTE: Smallest 5 and largest 5 values are displayed.
Frequency	Percent	Value	Label
1651	10.5%	1	1 drink
3051	19.4%	2	2 drinks
2274	14.5%	3	3 drinks
1343	8.6%	4	4 drinks
891	5.7%	5	5 drinks
1815	11.6%	6-16	NOTE: Range of values omitted from display
4	0.0%	17	17 drinks
108	0.7%	18	18 drinks
27	0.2%	96	refused
4427	28.2%	97	legitimate skip
110	0.7%	98	don't know

```
drinking$num.drinks[drinking$num.drinks >= 96] <- NA  
hist(drinking$num.drinks, main='', xlab='How many drinks',  
     col="orange")
```



```
plot(num.drinks ~ age, data=drinking, pch=16, col="orange",  
     xlab="Age of first drink",  
     ylab="Number of drinks consumed")
```

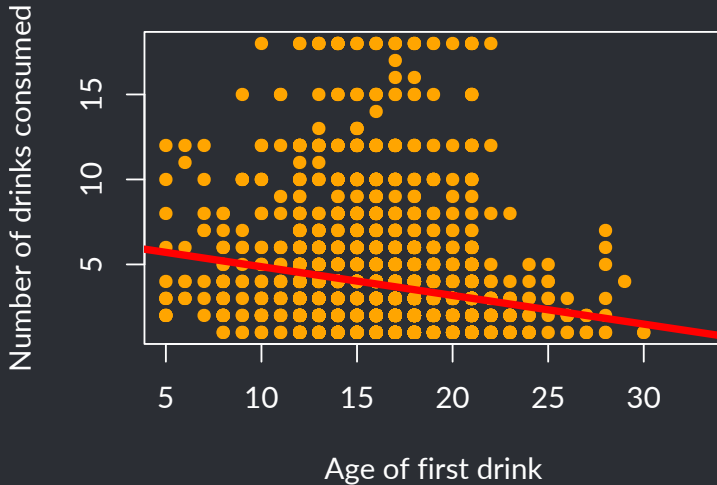




```
plot(jitter(num.drinks, 4) ~ jitter(age, 4),  
     data=drinking, pch=".", col="orange",  
     xlab="Age of first drink",  
     ylab="Number of drinks consumed")
```



The regression line is the line of “best fit” through this plot:



## What is linear regression doing?

We model each case ( $x_i$  = age for  $i$ th person,  $y_i$  = number of drinks for  $i$ th person) as a linear relationship plus some error:

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \epsilon_i$$

$\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  are the intercept and slope, respectively.

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$\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  are the intercept and slope, respectively.

We find estimates for  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  in our sample that *minimize* the errors:

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X$$

This is the regression (best fit) line.

## Finding the regression equation

When there is just one  $X$  variable, the formulas are straightforward:

1. The slope is  $\hat{\beta}_1 = r \cdot \frac{SD(Y)}{SD(X)}$ .
2. Solve for the intercept using the fact that the regression line will always pass through  $(\bar{X}, \bar{Y})$ :  $\hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{Y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{X}$ .

```
model <- lm(num.drinks ~ age, data=drinking)
summary(model)
```

Call:

```
lm(formula = num.drinks ~ age, data = drinking)
```

Residuals:

	Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
	-4.2035	-1.8528	-0.8528	0.8095	15.1602

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	6.55417	0.26532	24.70	<2e-16 ***
age	-0.16883	0.01588	-10.63	<2e-16 ***

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 2.963 on 3600 degrees of freedom  
(2902 observations deleted due to missingness)

Multiple R-squared: 0.03044, Adjusted R-squared: 0.03017

F-statistic: 113 on 1 and 3600 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

This translates to a regression line of:

$$\widehat{\text{num drinks}} = 6.55 - 0.17 \cdot \text{age}$$

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Predict number of drinks for age = 21:

$$\widehat{\text{num drinks}} = 6.55 - 0.17 \cdot 21 = 3.01$$

Or we can use R to do the work for us:

```
predict(model, list(age=21))
```



## How good are our predictions?

$R^2$  quantifies how closely the model fits the data.

- $R^2$  is the fraction of the variation of  $Y$  explained by the model (i.e.,  $R^2 = \text{Var}(\hat{Y})/\text{Var}(Y)$ ).

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model <- lm(num.drinks ~ age, data=drinking)
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```

Call:

```
lm(formula = num.drinks ~ age, data = drinking)
```

Residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-4.204	-1.853	-0.853	0.810	15.160

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	6.5542	0.2653	24.7	<2e-16 ***
age	-0.1688	0.0159	-10.6	<2e-16 ***

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 3 on 3600 degrees of freedom  
(2902 observations deleted due to missingness)

Multiple R-squared: 0.0304, Adjusted R-squared: 0.0302

F-statistic: 113 on 1 and 3600 DF, p-value: <2e-16

In our regression,  $R^2 = 0.03$ , so  $r = \sqrt{0.03} = -0.17$  (negative since the slope is negative).

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Is this “significant?” We'll discuss this next time!

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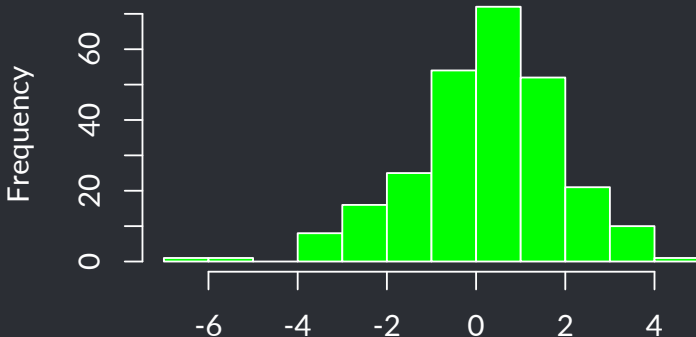
- $\beta = 1$  rises and falls with the market as a whole.
- $\beta > 1$  is **more** volatile than the market as a whole.
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$\beta$  is just the slope of the regression line (i.e.  $\hat{\beta}_1$ ) when we regress the asset's weekly returns against the weekly returns of a market index.



## W5000 (Wilshire 5000, a broad market index)

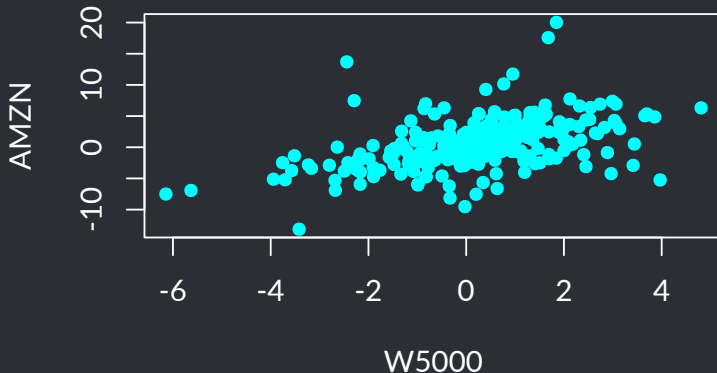
```
hist(stock.market$W5000, col="green", main="",  
      xlab="W5000 return as a % of previous week close")
```

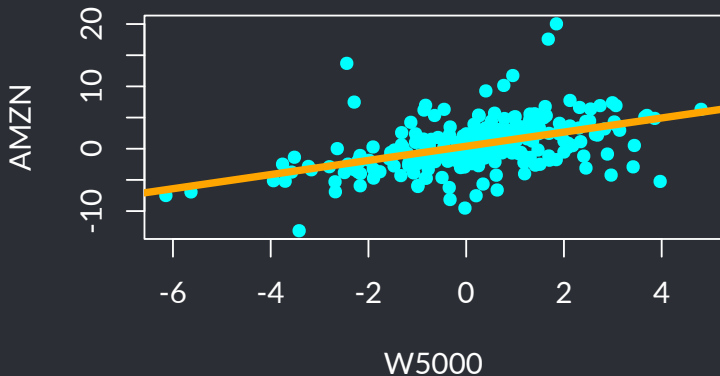


W5000 return as a % of previous week close

## Amazon (AMZN)

```
plot(AMZN ~ W5000, data=stock.market,  
     pch=16, col='cyan')
```





The regression line is

$$\widehat{\text{AMZN}} = 0.4 + 1.13 \cdot \text{W5000},$$

with  $R^2 = 0.22$ .

## Interpreting the regression statistics

- $\hat{\beta}_1 = 1.13$  (“ $\beta$ ”) is the predicted increase in returns for AMZN when W5000 returns increase by 1 percentage point—since this is  $> 1$  AMZN will swing more than the market as a whole

## Interpreting the regression statistics

- $\hat{\beta}_1 = 1.13$  (“ $\beta$ ”) is the predicted increase in returns for AMZN when W5000 returns increase by 1 percentage point—since this is  $> 1$  AMZN will swing more than the market as a whole
- $R^2 = 0.22$  indicates how closely AMZN tracks W5000 (the market as a whole)

## Simple regression assumptions

We need four things to be true for a regression model to be a good fit for the data:

1. Both  $X$  and  $Y$  are quantitative
2.  $X$  and  $Y$  are approximately linearly related
3. There are no extreme outliers
4. The variance of  $Y$  is the same for any value of  $X$  (“homoscedasticity”)

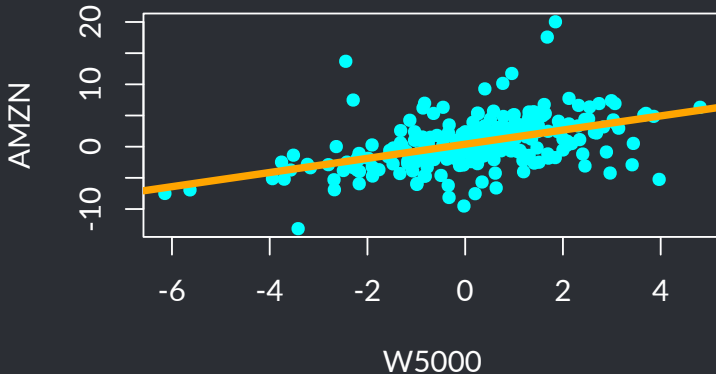
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## Assumption 2: Linearity

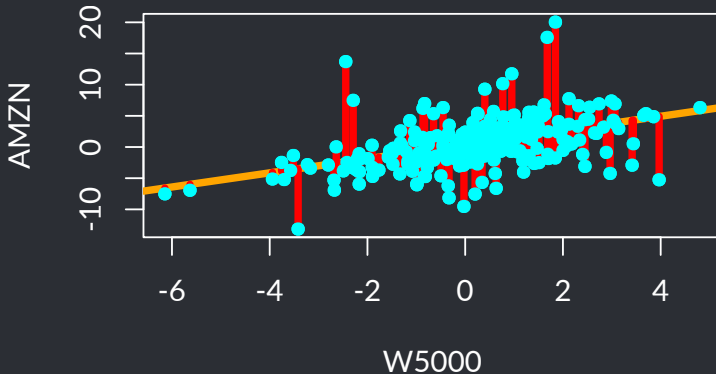
Step 1: Visually examine to ensure a line is a good fit for the data:





## Assumption 2: Linearity

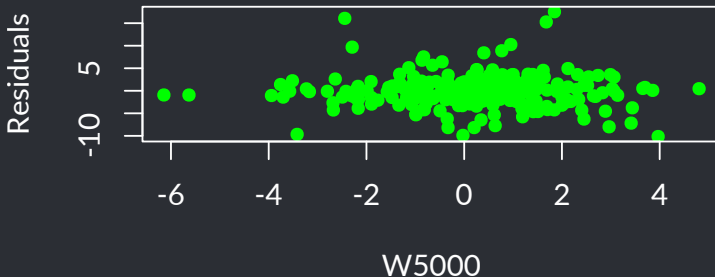
Each point has a **residual** ( $Y - \hat{Y}$ ); this is the over/under-prediction of the model (red lines).



## Assumption 2: Linearity

A **residual plot** (of residuals vs  $X$ ) helps us ensure that there is not subtle nonlinearity. We want to see **no trend** in this plot:

```
model <- lm(AMZN ~ W5000, data=stock.market)
plot(stock.market$W5000, resid(model),
     pch=16, col="green", xlab='W5000', ylab='Residuals')
```



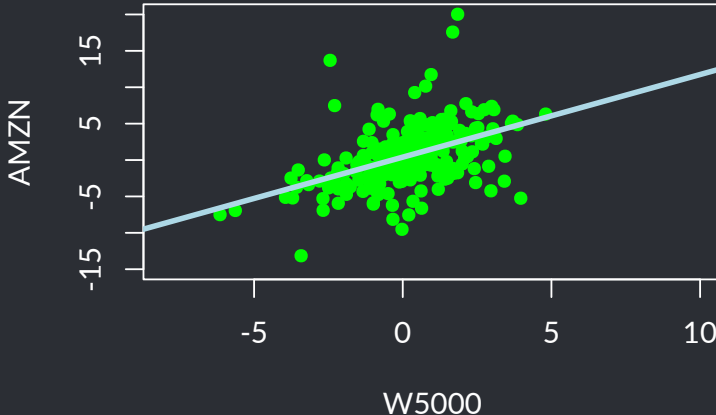
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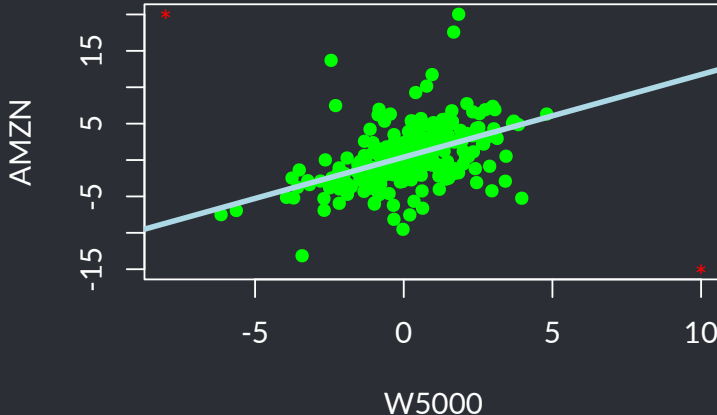
### Assumption 3: There are no extreme outliers

The outliers that would be problematic are those that *deviate from the existing relationship* between  $X$  and  $Y$  and are far from the mean on  $X$ . These would be called **influential points**:



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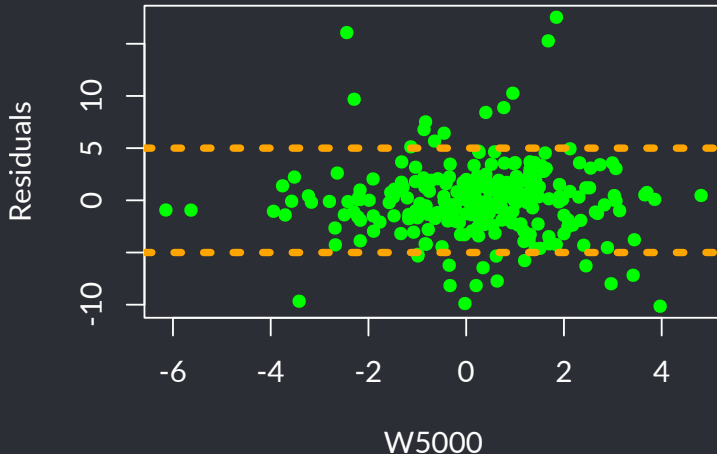
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## Assumption 4: Homoscedasticity

Look for the residual plot to have roughly equal vertical spread all the way across:



## Simple regression assumptions

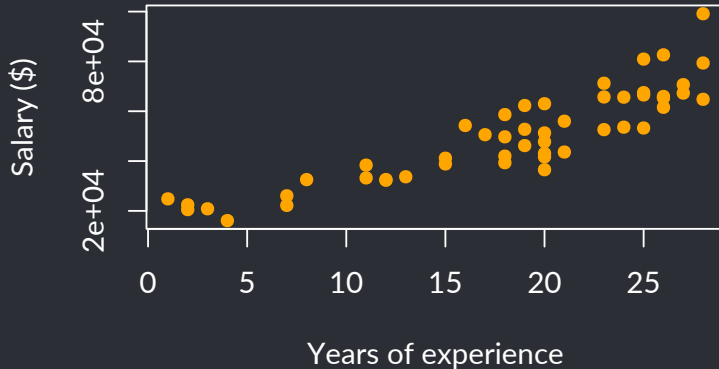
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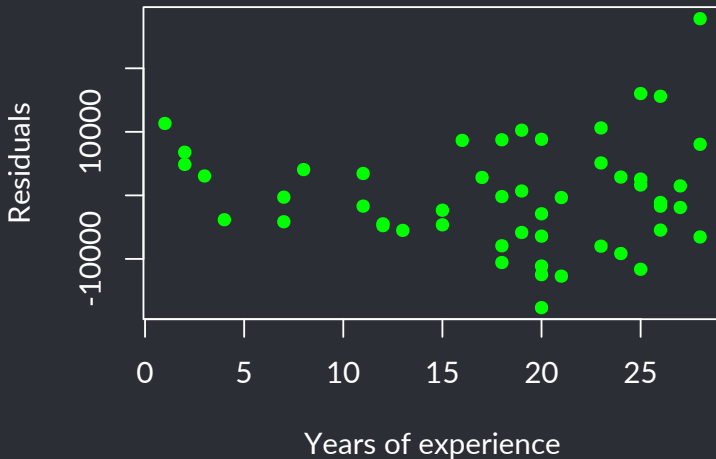


## An example where an assumption fails

This is a data set of social worker salaries based on years of experience. Which assumption might be violated here?



## An example where an assumption fails



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EXCLUSIVE THE ATHLETICISM OF LEBRON • THE DRIVE OF KOBE • RUSSELL WESTBROOK

BY LEE JENKINS P. 28

# Sports Illustrated

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FROM  
THE BRINK.  
TO THE  
BRINK.

KENTUCKY

CLOSES  
IN ON...

40-0

Karl-Anthony Towns  
leads Kentucky's quest for  
college hoops' first undefeated  
season since 1976.





# SAT<sup>®</sup> Prep



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- Whenever two variables are imperfectly related (e.g. first SAT attempt vs second SAT attempt), **regression to the mean** will occur

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## What is regression to the mean?

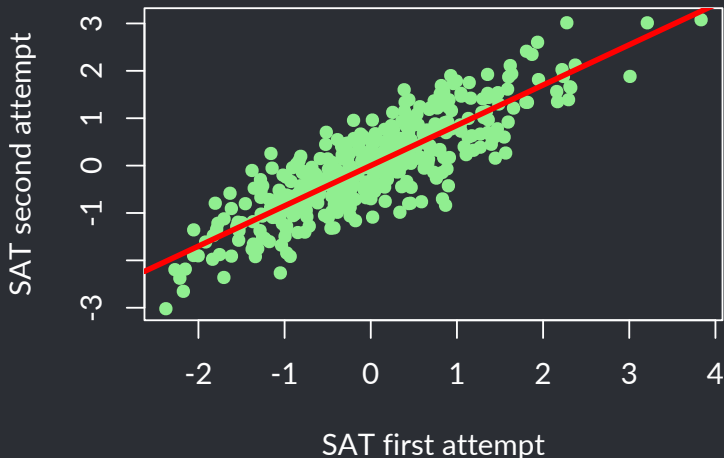
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  - If you got a very high SAT score the first time, you probably will score high again, but you probably won't be as lucky the next time around
  - If you got a very low SAT score the first time, you probably will score poorly again, but you probably won't be as unlucky the next time around

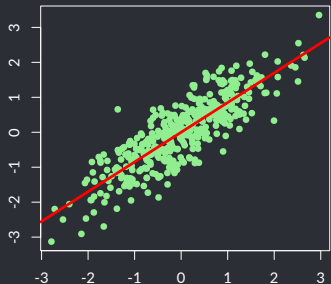
## What does it have to do with regression?

Suppose the correlation between first and second SAT attempts is  $r = 0.85$ , and scores have been standardized, so  $\hat{Y} = 0.85X$ :



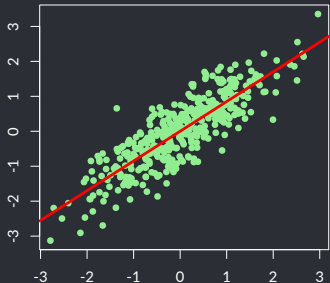
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- $X = 2$  (first attempt 2 SD above mean)  $\longrightarrow \hat{Y} = 1.7$  (second attempt 1.7 SD above mean)



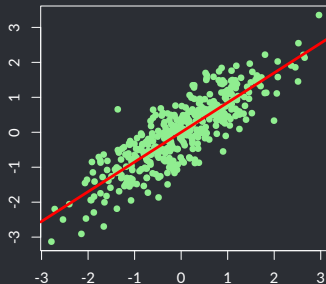
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- $X = 0 \longrightarrow \hat{Y} = 0$



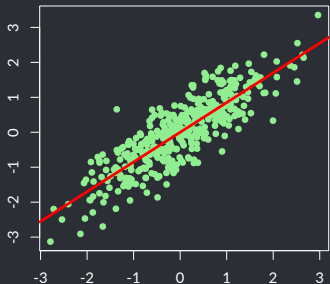
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- $X = -2 \longrightarrow \hat{Y} = -1.7$



## What does it have to do with regression?

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- $X = 0 \longrightarrow \hat{Y} = 0$
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- In other words, the second attempts will tend to “regress” towards the mean



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- $X = 0 \longrightarrow \hat{Y} = 0$
- $X = -2 \longrightarrow \hat{Y} = -1.7$
- In other words, the second attempts will tend to “regress” towards the mean
- This has nothing to do with the SAT in particular—it’s a statistical phenomenon!

