

# STAT479-HW2

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## data cleaning

```
#install.packages("blscrapeR")
library(blscrapeR)
library(tidyverse)

# get the latest nemployment data.
df <- get_bls_county()
WIunemployment = df %>% filter(fips_state == 55)

# get the unemployment data from November 2019 (the data from previous month)
df2 = get_bls_county("November 2019")
WIunemployment_Nov = df2 %>% filter(fips_state == 55)

# rename the column names to avoid confusion
colnames(WIunemployment_Nov)[colnames(WIunemployment_Nov) == "unemployed"] = "unemployed_Nov"
colnames(WIunemployment_Nov)[colnames(WIunemployment_Nov) == "unemployed_rate"] = "unemployed_rate_Nov"

# get the bridges data in WI.
bridges = read_csv("https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/nbi/2018/delimited/WI18.txt")

# selecting variables which are relevant to the unemployment number / rate.
table2 = bridges %>%
  group_by(COUNTY_CODE_003) %>%
  left_join(WIunemployment, by = c("COUNTY_CODE_003" = "fips_county")) %>%
  select(area_title, unemployed, unemployed_rate, APPR_WIDTH_MT_032, PERCENT_ADT_TRUCK_109, APPR_ROAD_EVAL_01,
         FUNCTIONAL_CLASS_026)

# Add the unemployed data from November 2019 into table2
table3 = table2 %>%
  group_by(COUNTY_CODE_003) %>%
  left_join(WIunemployment_Nov, by = c("COUNTY_CODE_003" = "fips_county"))
```

## building linear model with relevant variables

This linear model has 4 independent variables.

Continuous variables: - APPR\_WIDTH\_MT\_03 represents the width of usable roadway approaching the bridge. - PERCENT\_ADT\_TRUCK\_109 represents the percentage of average daily traffic that is truck. - ADT\_029 represents the overall average daily traffic

Dummy variables (categorical variables): - FUNCTIONAL\_CLASS\_026 represents the location and function of the bridge. 01-09 indicates the bridge is in a rural area, and 11 - 19 means the bridge is in an urban area.

```
# Build a linear model to predict unemployment rate
lm_unemployed_rate = lm(data = table2, unemployed_rate ~ APPR_WIDTH_MT_032 + PERCENT_ADT_TRUCK_109 + ADT_029 + FUNCTIONAL_CLASS_026)
summary(lm_unemployed_rate)
```

The result of this linear model shows that larger width of usable roadway approaching the bridge is associated with lower unemployment rate. As the percentage of trunk traffic increases, the unemployment rate will also rise. The average daily traffic tells a different story: more traffic in general leads to lower unemployment rate. The location of bridges shows that rural area is associated with higher unemployment rate, which makes sense. Even though the coefficients of urban area are also positive, we cannot say urban area is associated with higher unemployment rate since their p-values are very large, which means that the coefficients do not have significant difference with zero.

```
# Build a linear model to predict unemployed number
lm_unemployed = lm(data = table2, unemployed ~ APPR_WIDTH_MT_032 + PERCENT_ADT_TRUCK_109 + ADT_029 + as
summary(lm_unemployed)
```

## Using the unemployed number and rate from the previous month as additional predictors to the linear model

```
# linear model predicting unemployment rate
lm_unemployed_rate2 = lm(data = table3, unemployed_rate ~ unemployed_rate_Nov + unemployed_Nov + APPR_W
summary(lm_unemployed_rate2)
```

The result shows that a higher unemployment rate of previous month are likely to lead to a higher unemployment rate of future month. For some reason, the predictor unemployed number from previous month tells a different story, and I am not sure why this is happening. A larger width of usable roadway approaching the bridge is associated with even lower unemployment rate in this model compared to the model without unemployment data from previous month. A larger percentage of trunk traffic is associated with lower unemployment rate, which is contradict to the first model. Higher average daily traffic in general leads to lower unemployment rate, which totally makes sense, but unfortunately the p-value here is way too large which means we cannot get this conclusion. Rural areas are associated with higher unemployment rate, and the p-value for urban areas are too large so being in urban area might not be an effective predictor.

```
# linear model predicting unemployed number
lm_unemployed2 = lm(data = table3, unemployed ~ unemployed_rate_Nov + unemployed_Nov + APPR_WIDTH_MT_03
summary(lm_unemployed_rate2)
```