Correlation and Simple Regression

Advanced Psychological Research Methods

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Questions from last week's session?



Submit your attendance

Attendance code: 78012







By the end of this section, you will be able to:



Correlation

- The relationship between 2 variables
- Question: Is treatment duration related to aggression levels?

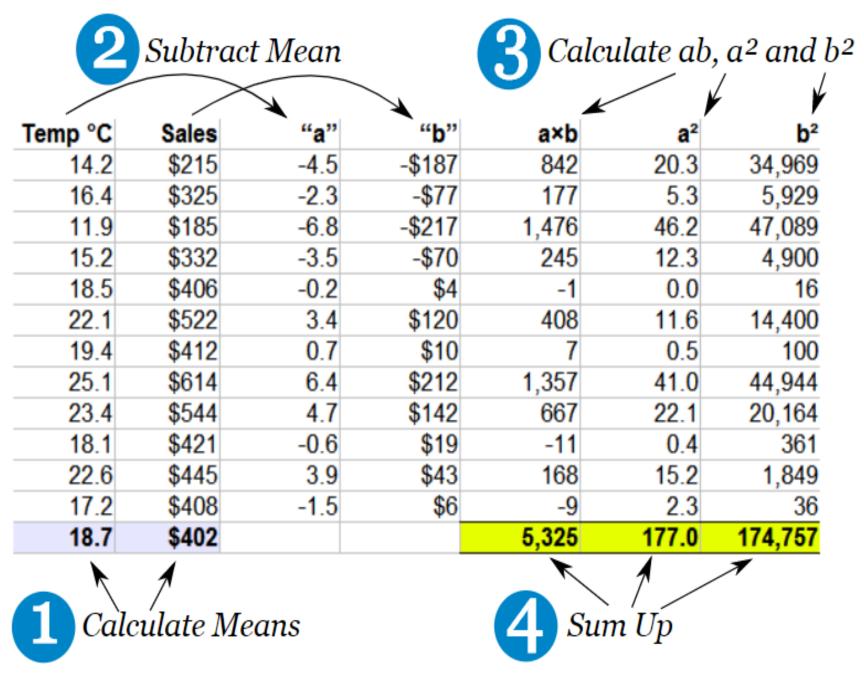


How is correlation calculated?

$$\mathbf{r}_{xy} = rac{\Sigma_{i=1}^n (x - ar{x})(y - ar{y})}{\Sigma_{i=1}^n (x_i - ar{x})^2 \Sigma_{i=1}^n (y_i - ar{y})^2}$$



How is correlation calculated?



$$\frac{5,325}{\sqrt{177.0 \times 174,757}} = 0.9575$$

Running correlation in R

- Step 1: Check assumptions
 - Data, distribution, linearity
- Step 2: Run correlation
- Step 3: Check R value
- Step 4: Check significance



Check assumptions: data

- Parametric tests require interval or ratio data
- If the data are ordinal then a non-parametric correlation is used

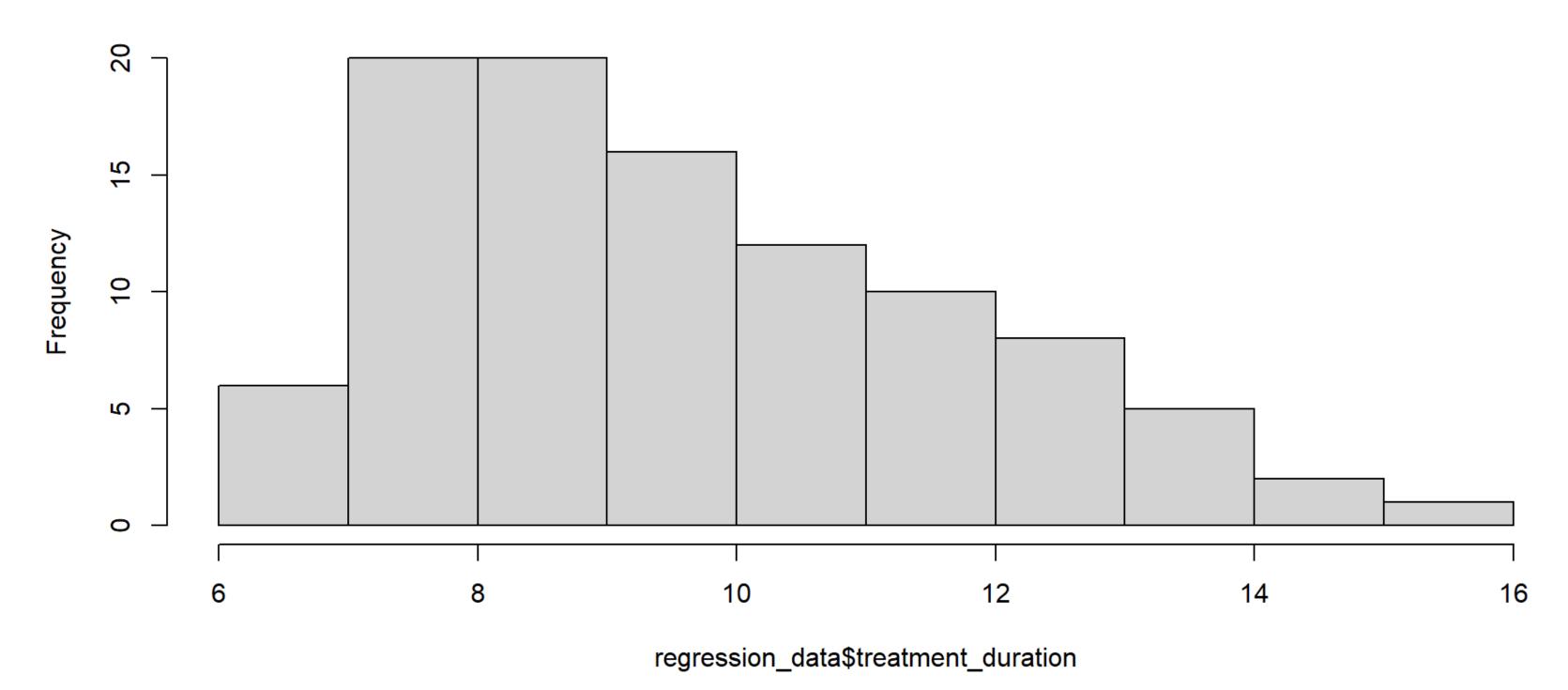
What type of data are treatment duration and aggression level?



Check assumptions: distribution #1

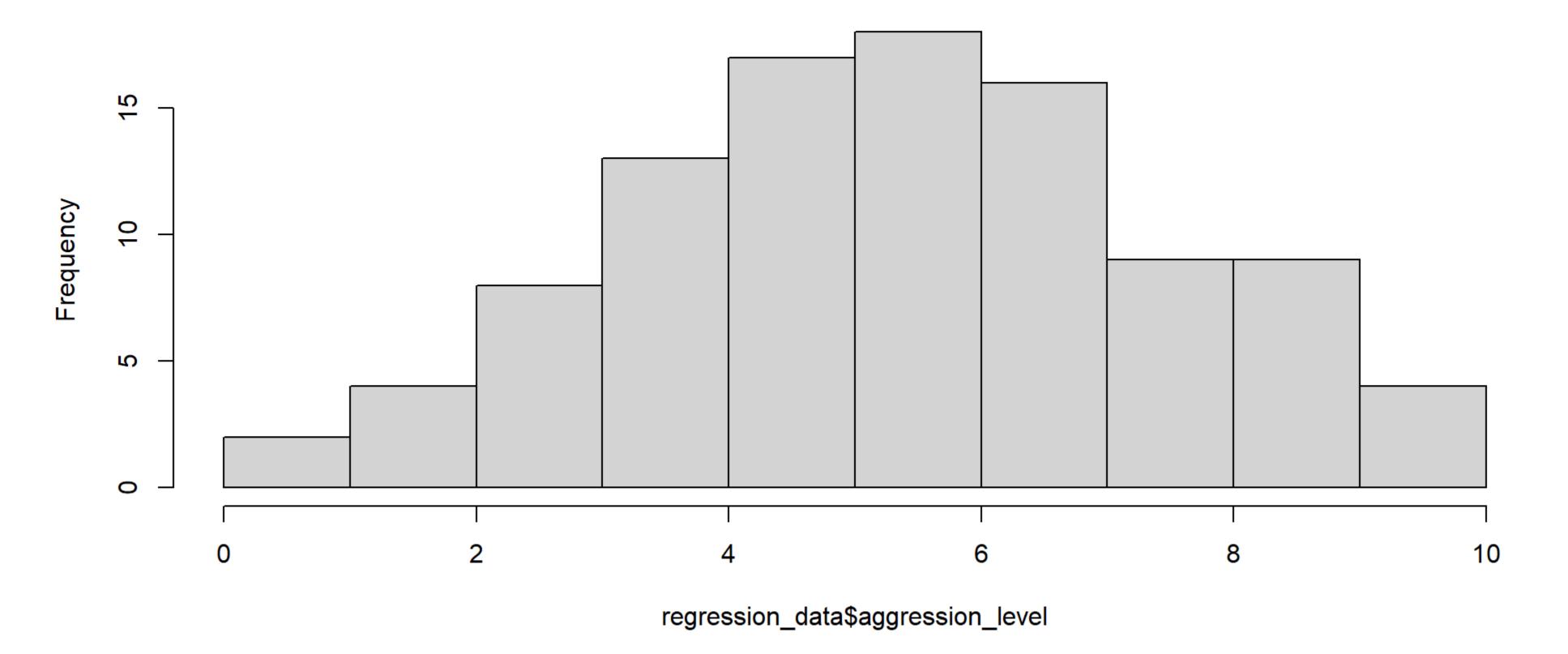
• Parametric tests require normally distributed data

Histogram of regression_data\$treatment_duration





Histogram of regression_data\$aggression_level



Check assumptions: distribution #2

Parametric tests require normally distributed data

data: regression data\$aggression_level W = 0.9928, p-val $\overline{u}e = 0.8756$

```
1 shapiro.test(regression_data$treatment_duration)

Shapiro-Wilk normality test
data: regression data$treatment_duration
W = 0.94971, p-vaTue = 0.0007939

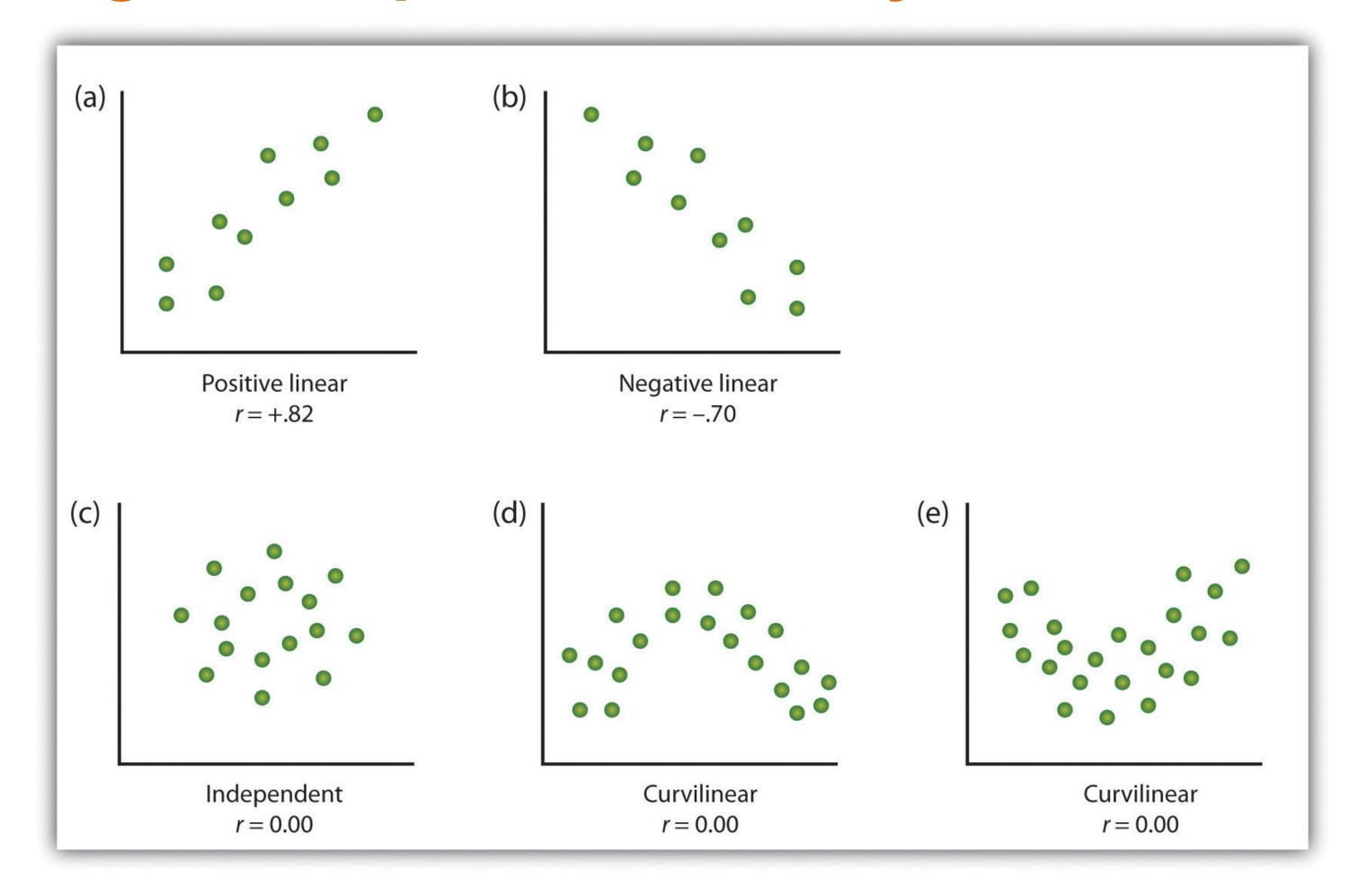
1 shapiro.test(regression_data$aggression_level)

Shapiro-Wilk normality test
```

• The normality assumption is less of an issue when sample size is > 30



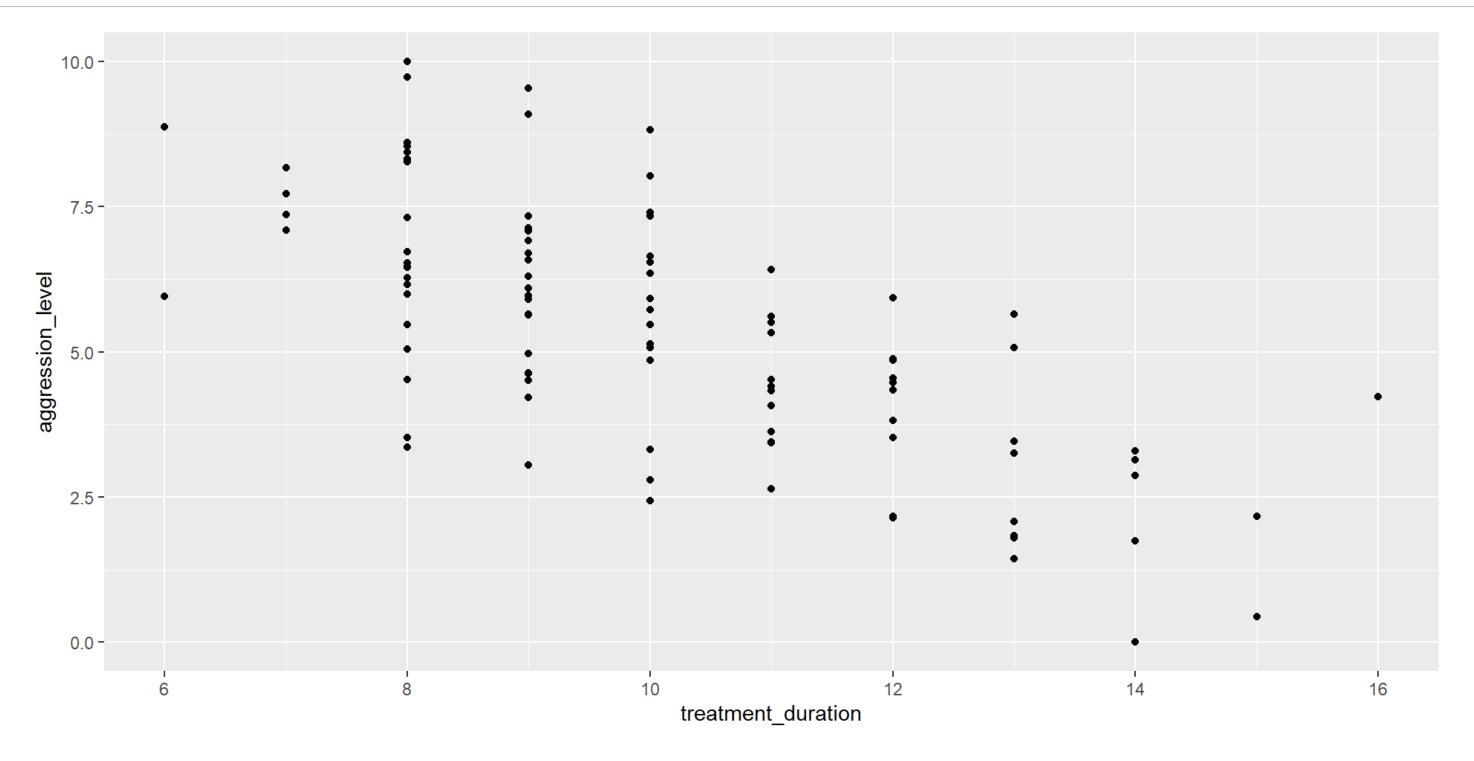
Checking assumptions: linearity





Checking assumptions: linearity

```
1 regression_data %>% ggplot(aes(x=treatment_duration,y=aggression_level)) +
2 geom_point()
```



• Here we are looking to see if the relationship is linear



Run correlation

• R can run correlations using the *cor.test()* command

```
1 cor.test(regression_data$treatment_duration,regression_data$aggression_level)

Pearson's product-moment correlation

data: regression_data$treatment duration and regression_data$aggression_level
t = -9.5503, df = 98, p-value = T.146e-15
alternative hypothesis: true correlation is not equal to 0
95 percent confidence interval:
-0.7838251 -0.5765006
sample estimates:
cor
-0.6942996
```

Check r Value (correlation value)

- The r value tells us the strength and direction of the relationship
- In the output it is labelled as "cor" (short for correlation)

-0.6942996

```
1 cor.test(regression_data$treatment_duration,regression_data$aggression_level)

Pearson's product-moment correlation

data: regression_data$treatment duration and regression_data$aggression_level

t = -9.5503, df = 98, p-value = T.146e-15
alternative hypothesis: true correlation is not equal to 0

95 percent confidence interval:
    -0.7838251 -0.5765006
sample estimates:
```

Check the significance of the correlation

- We can see that the significance by looking at the p value
 - The significance is 1.146^-15
 - This means: 0.000000000000001146
- Therefore p value < 0.05

-0.6942996

```
1 cor.test(regression_data$treatment_duration,regression_data$aggression_level)

Pearson's product-moment correlation

data: regression_data$treatment duration and regression_data$aggression_level
t = -9.5503, df = 798, p-value = T.146e-15
alternative hypothesis: true correlation is not equal to 0
95 percent confidence interval:
-0.7838251 -0.5765006
sample estimates:
```

Regression



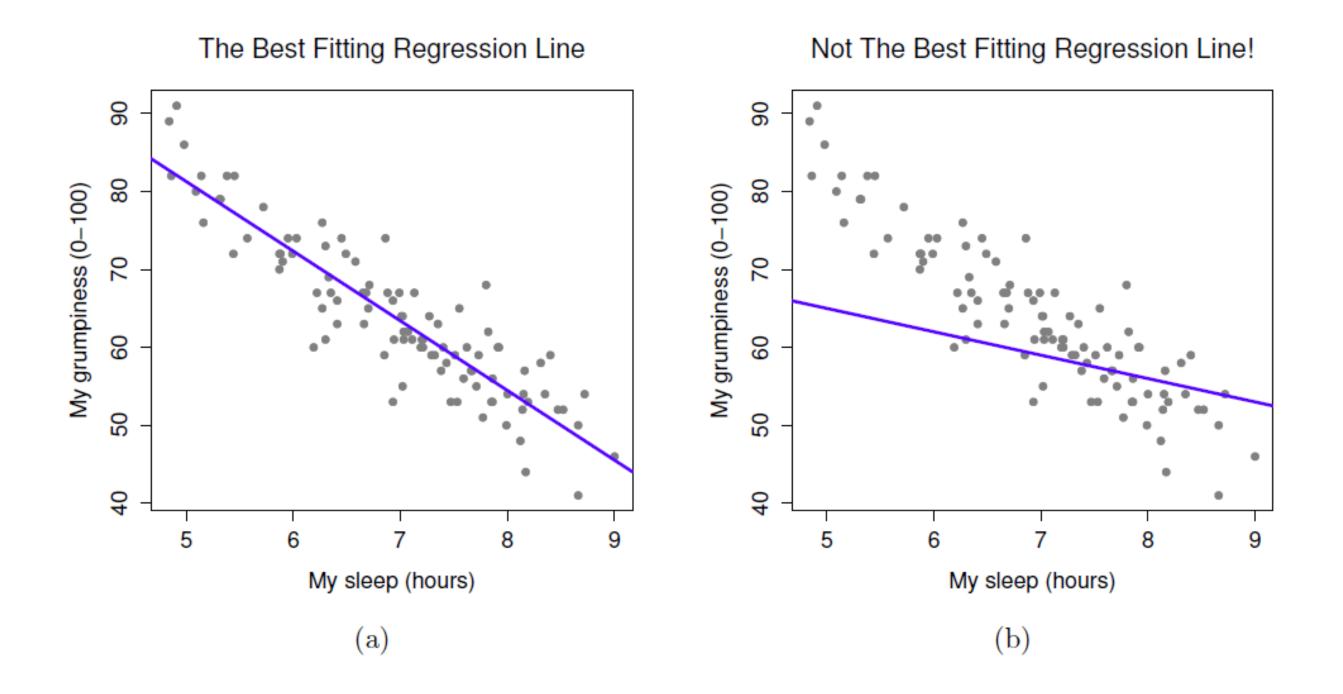
What is regression?

• Testing to see if we can make predictions based on data that are correlated

We found a strong correlation between treatment duration and agression levels. Can we use this data to predict aggression levels of other clients, based on their treatment duration?

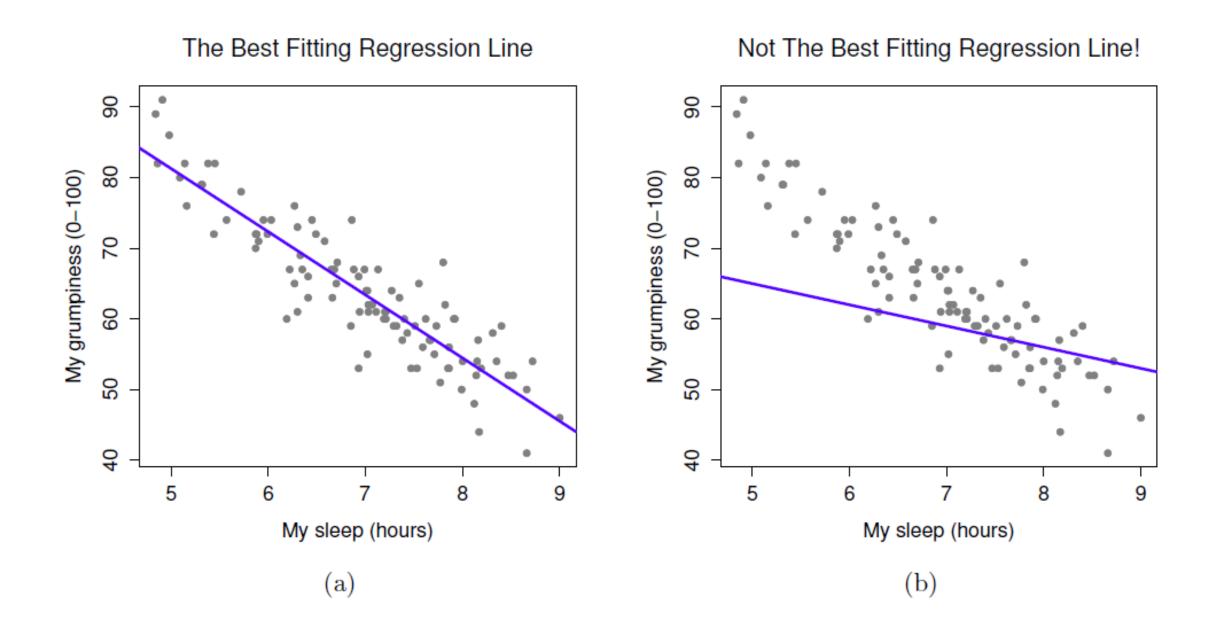
- When we carry out regression, we get a information about:
 - How much variance in the **outcome** is explained by the **predictor**
 - How confident we can be about these results generalising (i.e. significance)
 - How much error we can expect from anu predictions that we make (i.e. standard error of the estimate)
 - The figures we need to calculate a predicted outcome value (i.e. coefficient values)

How is regression calculated?



- When we run a regression analysis, a calculation is done to select the "line of best fit"
- This is a "prediction line" that minimises the overall amount of error
 - Error = difference between the data points and the line

The regression equation #1



- Once the line of best fit is calculated, predictions are based on this line
- To make predictions we need the **intercept** and **slope** of the line
 - Intercept or constant= where the line crosses the y axis
 - Slope or beta = the angle of the line



The regression equation #2

• Predictions are made using the calculation for a line:

$$Y = bX + c$$

You can think of the equation like this:

predicted outcome value = beta coefficient * value of predictor + constant



Running regression in R

- Step 1: Run regression
- Step 2: Check assumptions
 - Data
 - Distribution
 - Linearity
 - Homogeneity of variance
 - Uncorrelated predictors
 - Independence of residuals
 - No influential cases / outliers
- Step 3: Check R^2 value
- Step 4: Check model significance
- Step 5: Check coefficient values



Run regression

- We use the *lm()* command to run regression while saving the results
- We then use the *summary()* function to check the results

```
1 model1 <- lm(formula= aggression_level ~ treatment_duration ,data=regression_data)
2
3 summary(model1)

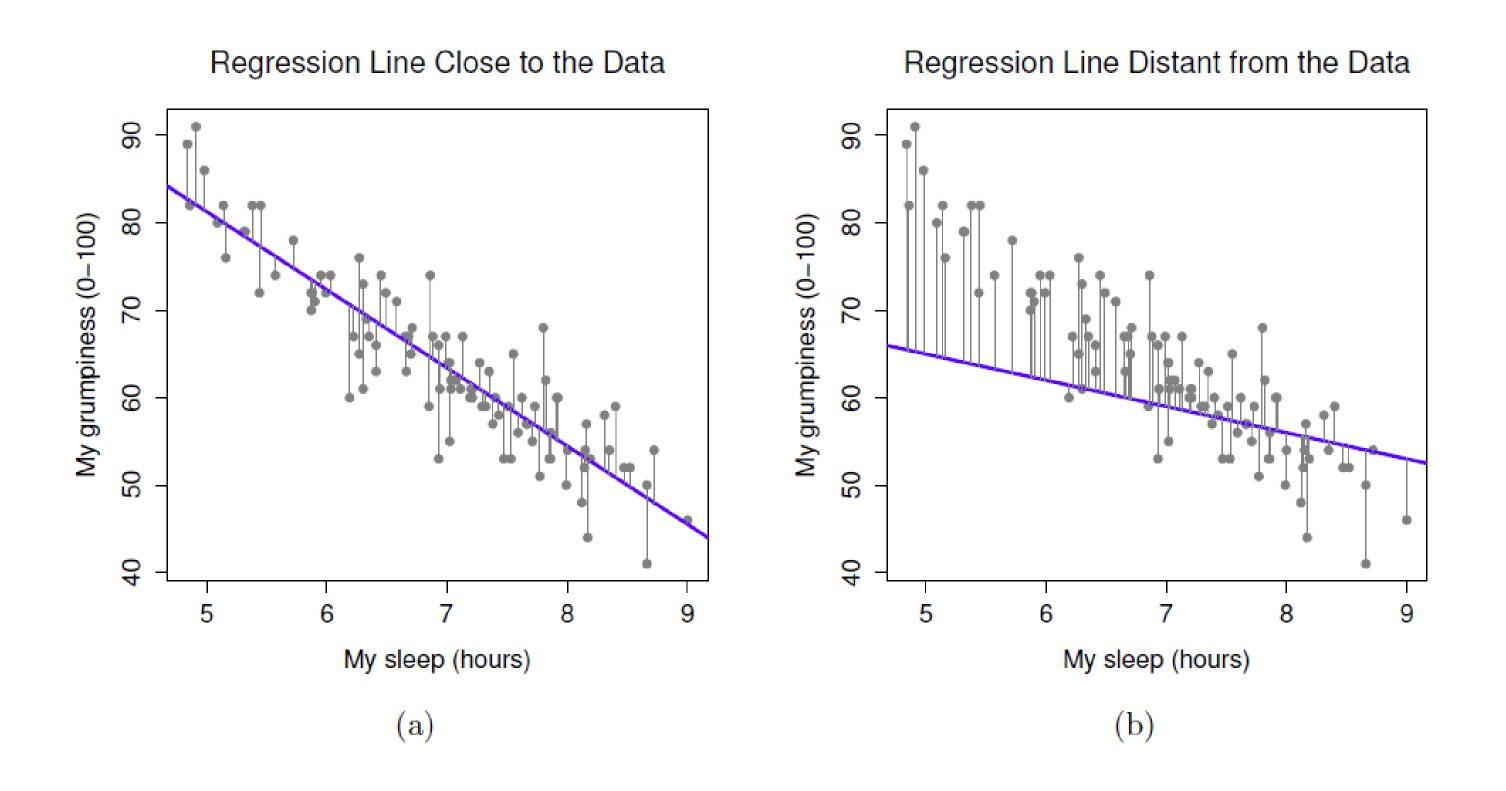
Call:
lm(formula = aggression_level ~ treatment_duration, data = regression_data)</pre>
```

Coefficients:

Daaidaal ataadaad amaan 1 EE1 am 00 daamaa af faaadam

What are residuals?

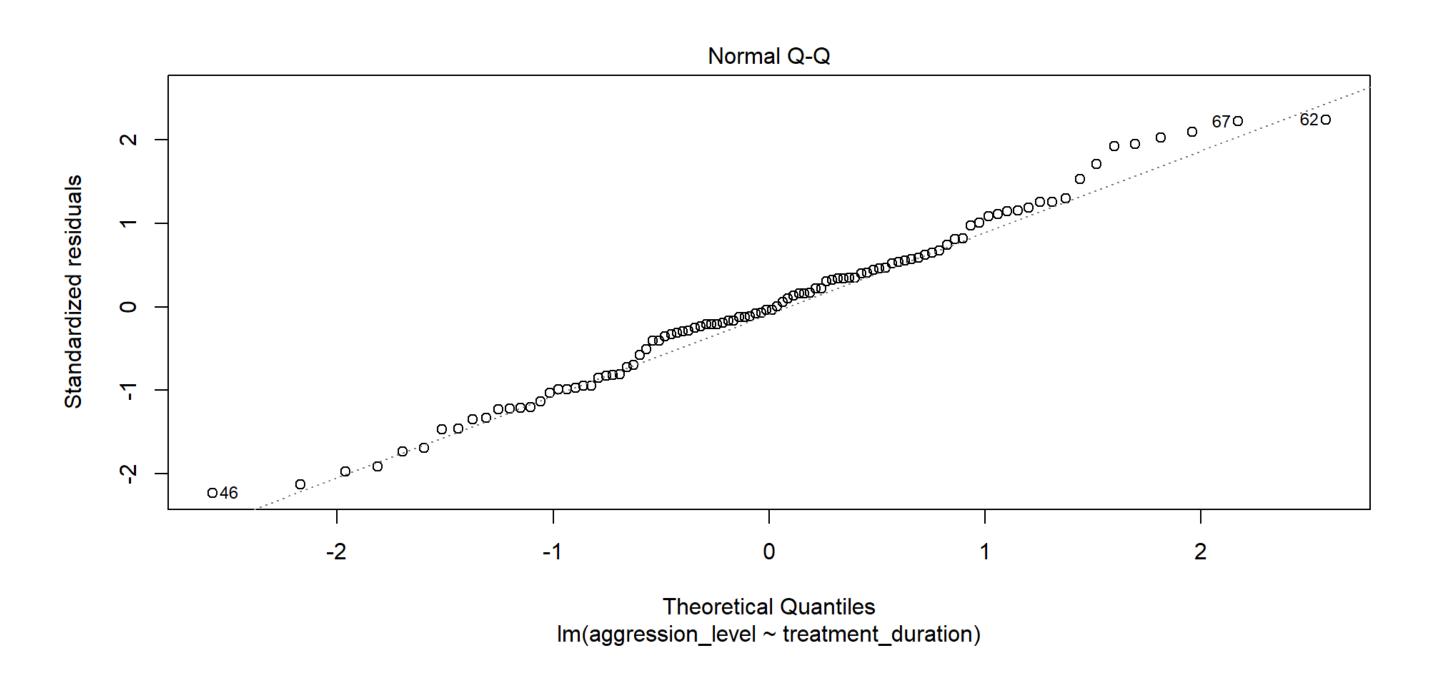
- In regression, the assumptions apply to the residuals, not the data themselves
- Residual just means the difference between the data point and the regression line



Check assumptions: distribution

- Using the *plot()* command on our regression model will give us some useful diagnostic plots
- The second plot that it outputs shows the normality

```
1 plot(model1, which=2)
```



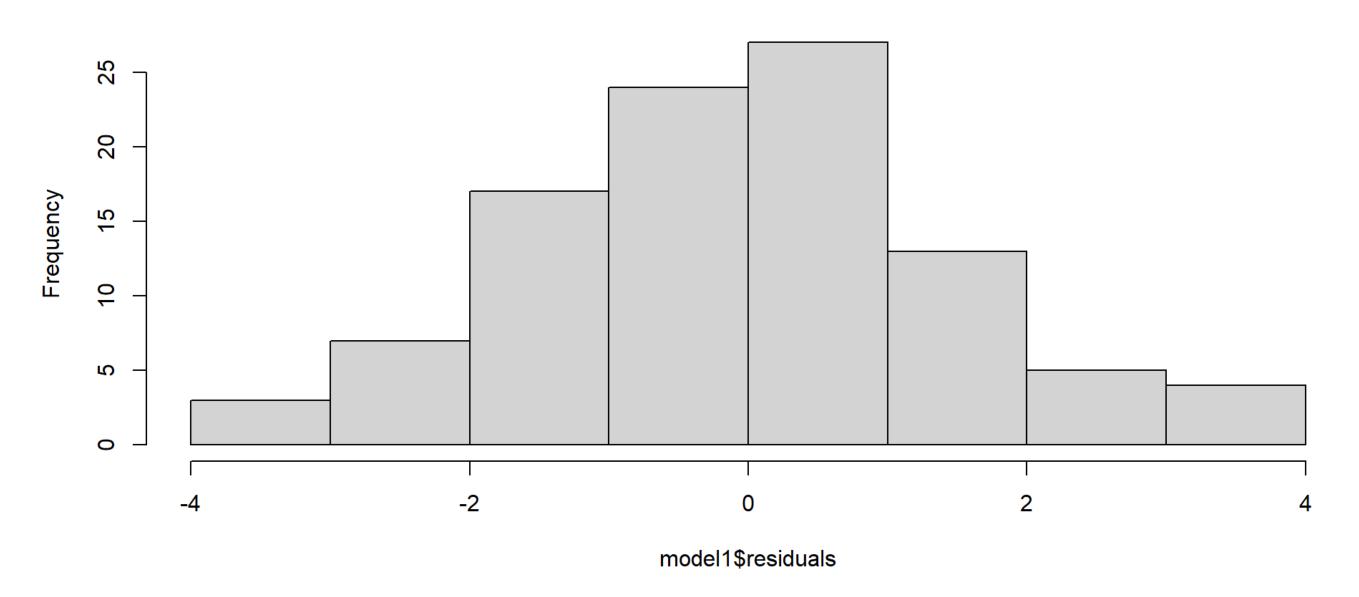


Check assumptions: distribution

- We could also use a histogram to check the distribution
- Notice how we can use the \$ sign to get the residuals from the model

```
1 hist(model1$residuals)
```

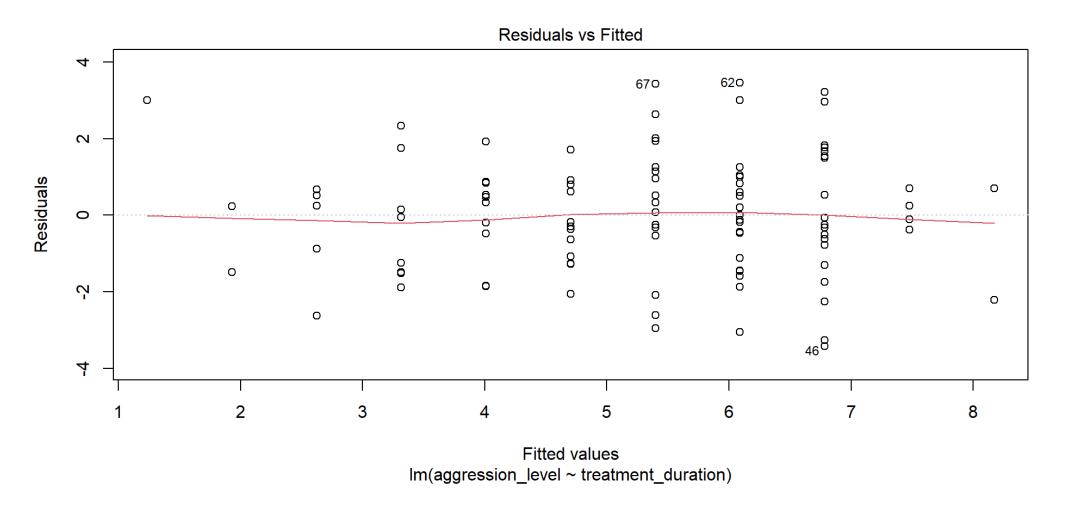
Histogram of model1\$residuals



Check assumptions: linearity

- Using the *plot()* command on our regression model will give us some useful diagnostic plots
- The first plot that it outputs shows the residuals vs the fitted values
- Here, we want to see them spread out, with the line being horizontal and straight

```
1 plot(model1, which=1)
```



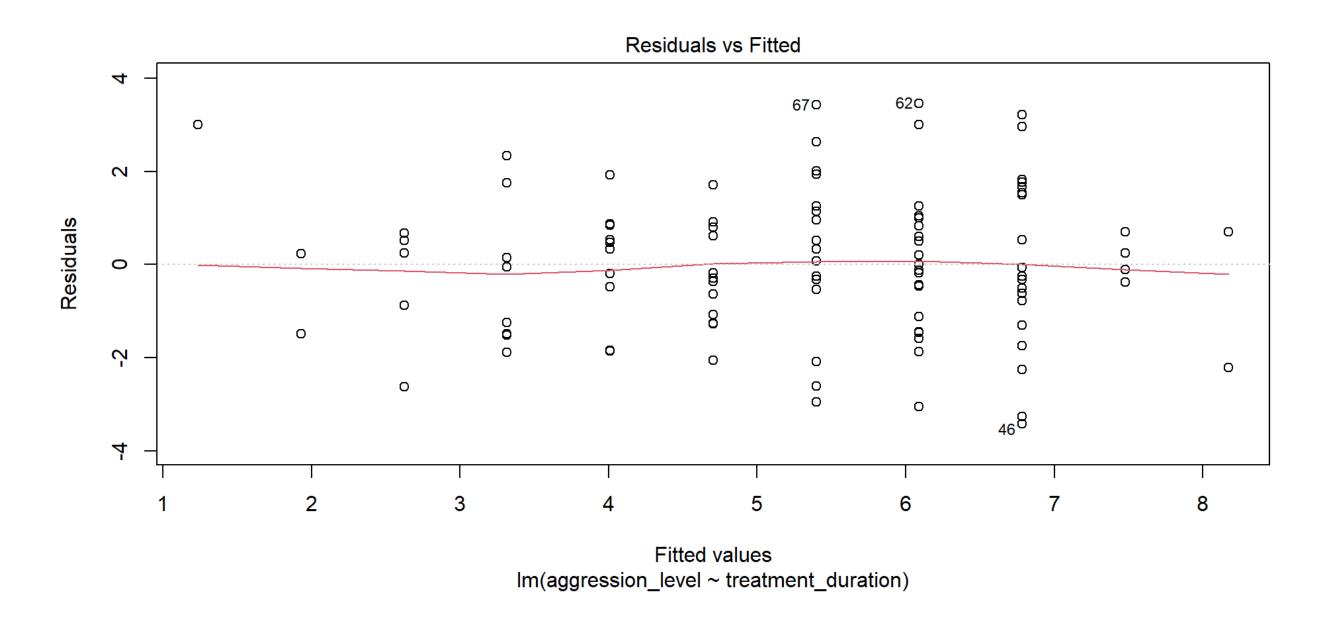
• There is a slight amount of curvilinearity here but nothing to be worried about



Check assumptions: Homogeneity of Variance #1

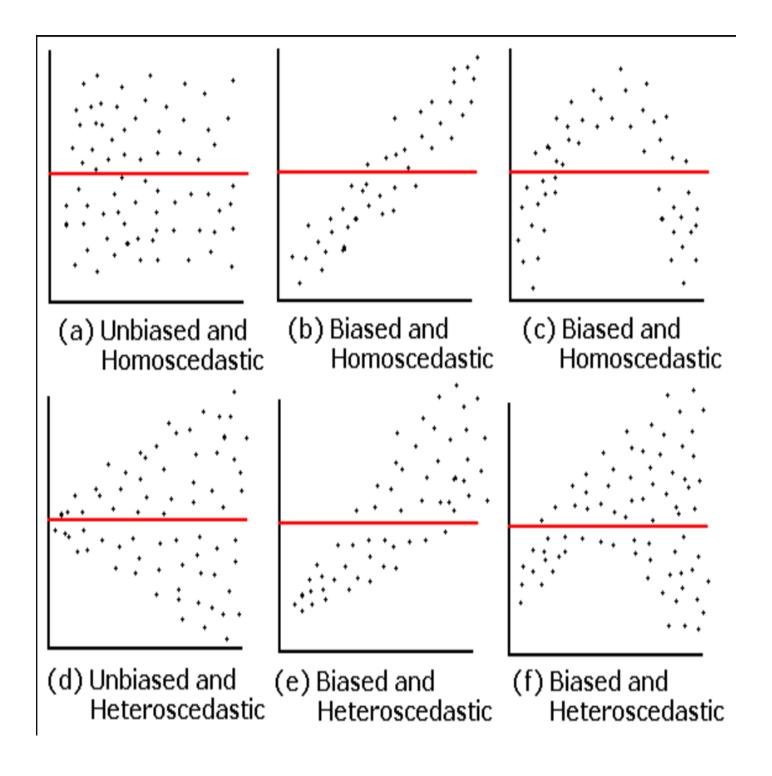
- We can use the sample plot to check Homogeneity of Variance
- We want the variance to be constant across the data set. We do not want the variance to change at different points in the data

```
1 plot(model1, which=1)
```



Check assumptions: Homogeneity of Variance #2

• A violation of Homogeneity of Variance would usually look like a funnel, with the data narrowing

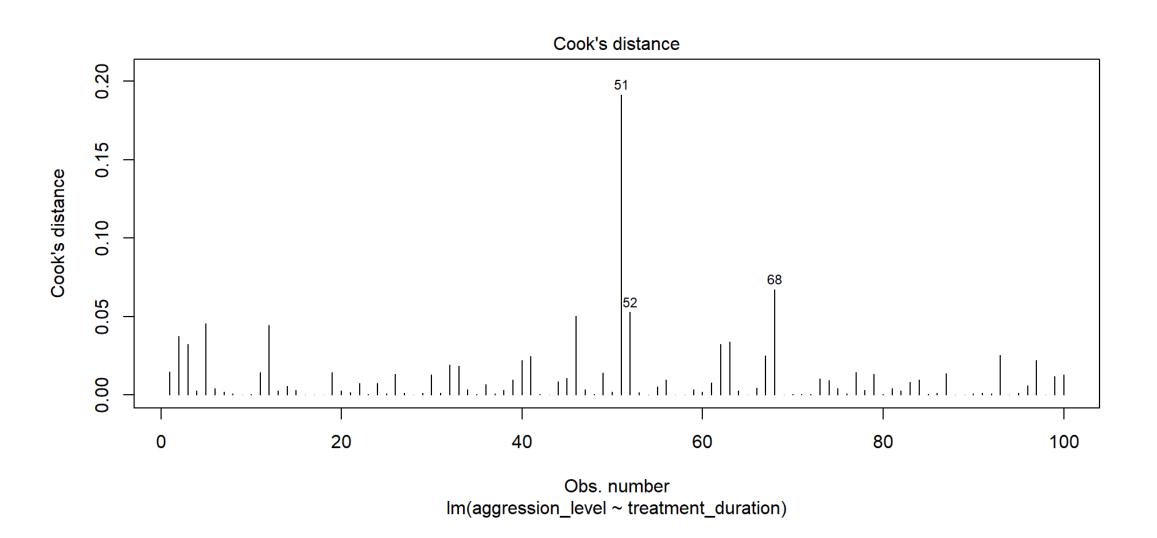




Check assumptions: Influential cases #1

- We need to check that there are no extreme outliers they could throw off our predictions
- We are looking for participants that have high rediduals + high leverage
 - Some guidance suggests anything higher than 1 is an influential case
 - Others suggest 4/n is the cut off point (4 divided by number of participants)

```
1 plot(model1, which=4)
```

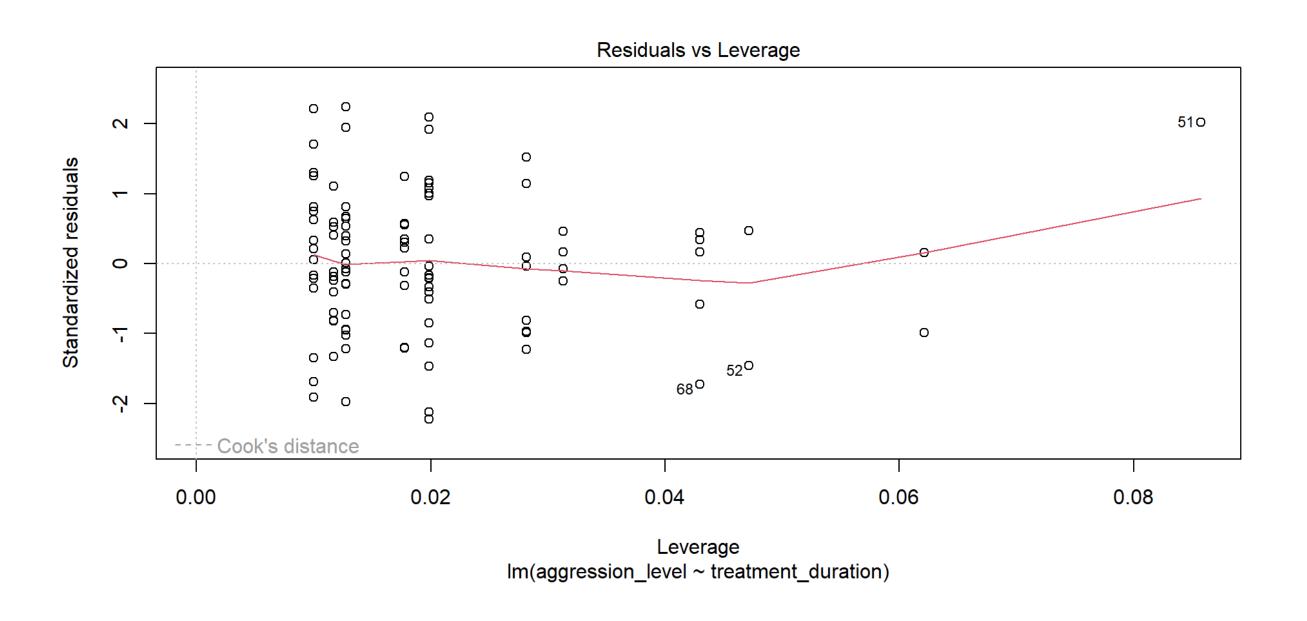




Check assumptions: Influential cases #2

- We are looking for participants that have high rediduals + high leverage
 - No cases over 1
 - Many are over 0.04 (4/n = 0.04)

```
1 plot(model1, which=5)
```



Check the r squared value

- r^2 = the amount of variance in the **outcome** that is explained by the **predictor(s)**
- The closer this value is to 1, the more useful our regression model is for predicting the outcome

• The r^2 of 0.482052 means that 48% of the variance in aggression level is explained by treatment duration

Check model significance

- The model significance is displayed at the very end of the output
 - *p-value:* 1.146e-15
 - As p < 0.05, the model is significant

Check coefficient values #1

- The coefficient values are displayed in the coefficients table
- If we have more than one predictor, they are all listed here

```
1 modelSummary$coefficients
```

```
(Intercept) Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|) (Intercept) 12.3300211 0.75087601 16.420848 6.840516e-30 treatment duration -0.6933201 0.07259671 -9.550297 1.145898e-15
```

- The **beta coefficient** for treatment duration is in the *Estimate* column
- For every unit increase in treatment duration, aggression level decreases by 0.69

The regression equation

• The regression equation is:

Outcome = predictor value * beta coefficient + constant

• For this model, that is:

Aggression level = treatment duration * -0.69 + 12.33

```
1 modelSummary$coefficients
```

```
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|) (Intercept) 12.3300211 0.75087601 16.420848 6.840516e-30 treatment_duration -0.6933201 0.07259671 -9.550297 1.145898e-15
```



Accounting for error in predictions

- We also know that the accuracy of predictions will be within a certain margin of error
- This is known as standard error of the estimate or residual standard error



Questions?

