

# Statistics MM6: Regression

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# Schedule

1. Introduction to statistics
2. Parameter estimation
3. Confidence intervals
4. Hypothesis testing 1
5. Hypothesis testing 2
- 6. Regression**
7. Workshop: wrap-up and exam problems

# Outline

**Recap on hypothesis testing**

**Linear regression**

**Least squares estimators**

**Inference**

**Residual analysis**

**Summary**

# Recap on hypothesis testing

# Types of tests based on the populations

## Parameter testing with 1 population

There is some idea about the value of a parameter

Is that idea correct?

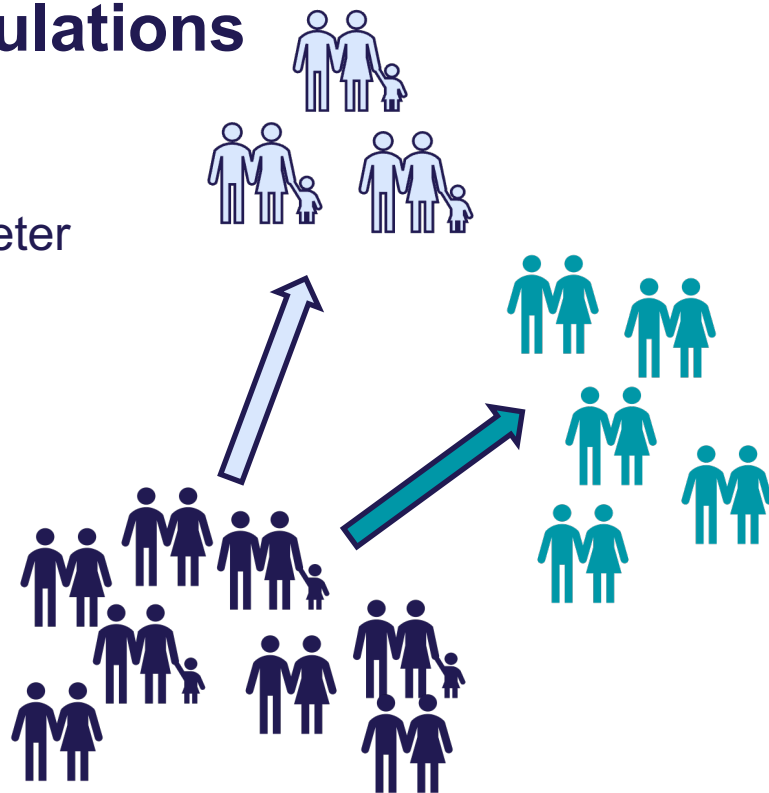
**Example:** Is it true that the average age is 20?

## Compare 2 populations with each other

No parameter known a priori

- Begin with different populations
- One initial population divided into 2

Can we find differences between populations?



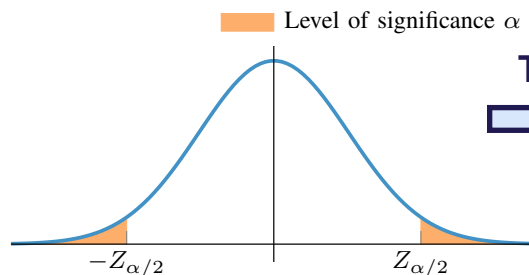
# The limits of hypothesis testing

$H_0$ : The **null hypothesis**, the one assumed to be true

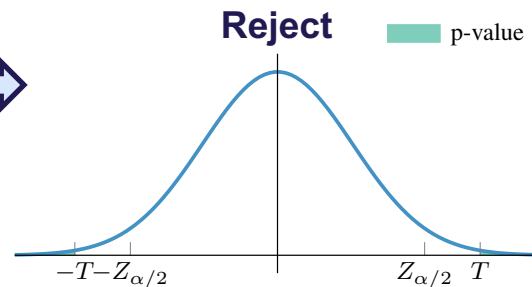
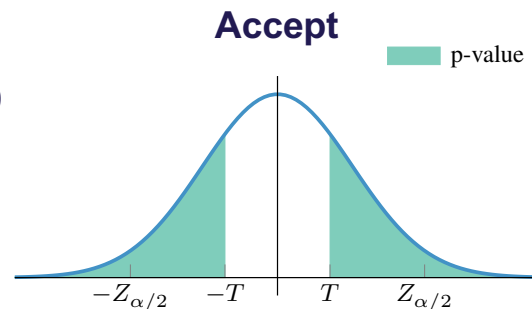
$H_1$ : The **alternative hypothesis**, which contradicts  $H_0$

We try to find evidence to reject  $H_0$

But we don't want to reject  $H_0$  when it's true:  $\alpha$



Test statistic



What if we want to find relations between populations?

# Linear regression

# Where is life expectancy higher?

No binary distinction

**Independent variable (x-axis):**

- Life satisfaction index

**Dependent variable (y-axis):**

- Life expectancy at birth

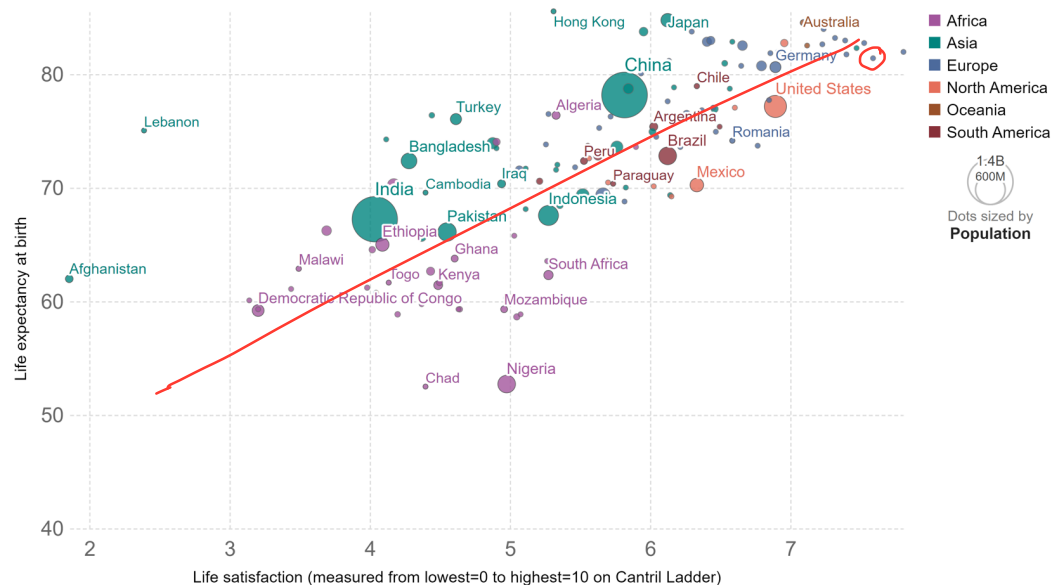
We start from scatter plot

Can we see a trend?

Can we use it for prediction?

Life satisfaction vs. life expectancy, 2021

The vertical axis shows life expectancy at birth. The horizontal axis shows self-reported life satisfaction in the Cantril Ladder (0-10 point scale with higher values representing higher life satisfaction).



Source: United Nations – Population Division (2022); World Happiness Report (2023) OurWorldInData.org/happiness-and-life-satisfaction • CC BY



# Linear regression

We have data in the form  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$

And assume that the relationship between variables is **linear**

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i + \epsilon_i,$$

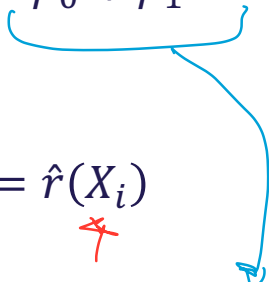
Where

- $\beta_0$  is the y-intercept
- $\beta_1$  is the slope
- $\epsilon_i$  is the error (also called the noise)
- $\mathbb{E}(\epsilon_i | X_i) = 0$
- $\text{var}(\epsilon_i | X_i) = \sigma^2$


# Simple linear regression

The parameters  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  are **unknown**: we have to estimate them

We end up with  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  so the **fitted line** is

$$\hat{r}(x) = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x$$


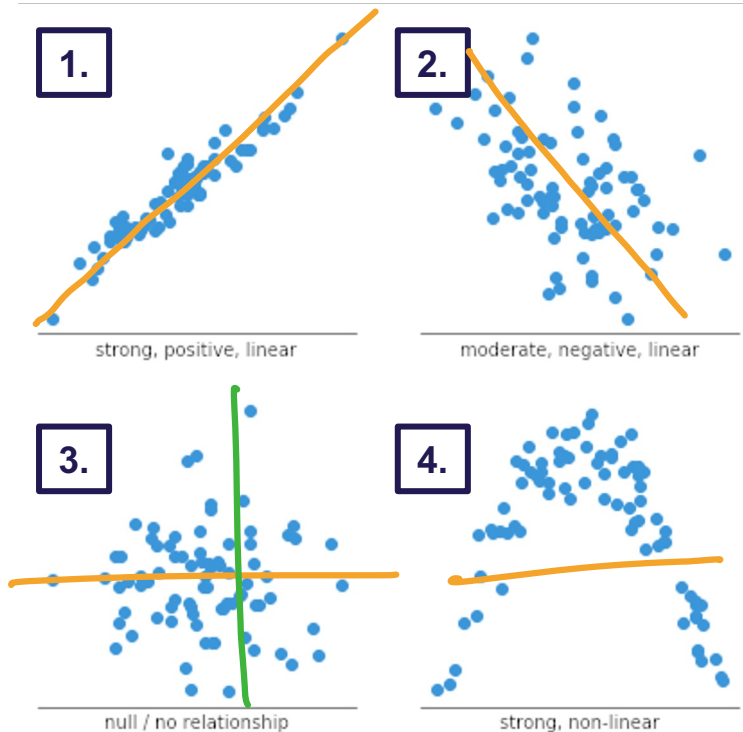
The **predicted values** are

$$\hat{Y}_i = \hat{r}(X_i)$$


And the **residuals** are

$$\hat{\epsilon}_i = \underbrace{Y_i}_{\text{real}} - \underbrace{\hat{Y}_i}_{\text{real}} = \underbrace{Y_i}_{\text{real}} - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i)$$

# When to use linear regression



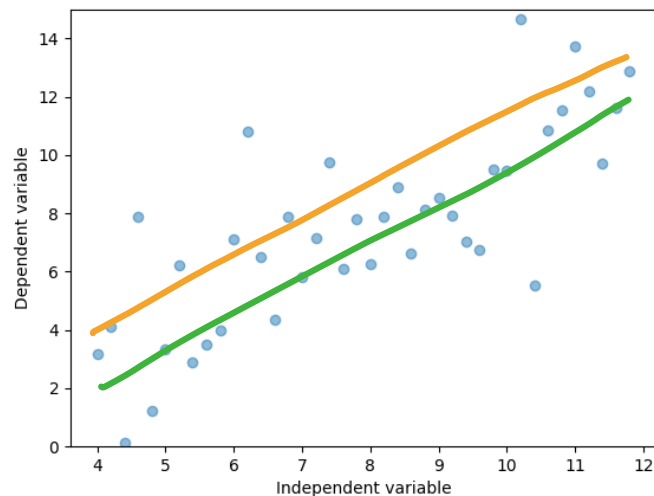
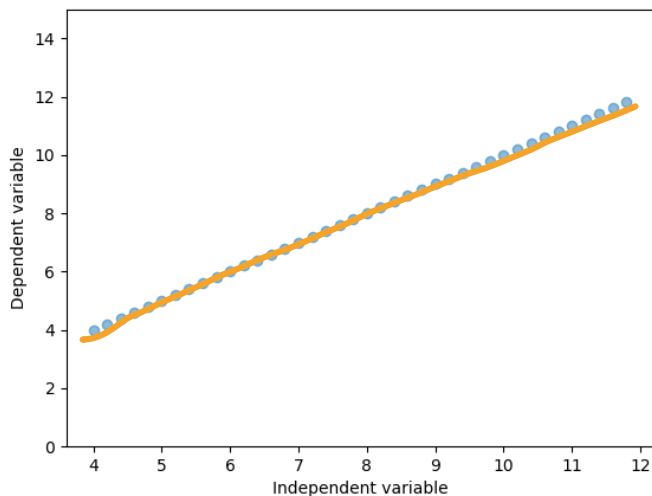
1. Good prediction with linear regression
2. Good average prediction but high variance
3. No observable trend
4. Not linear, leading to wrong predictions

There is also multiple regression

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i^{(1)} + \dots + \beta_k X_i^{(k)} + \epsilon_i$$

# Intuitive explanation

We are recovering the underlying function after removing the noise



# Least squares estimators

# Determining the best estimate

In general, it is impossible to find a line that passes over all the points

What is the best fitted line?

$$\hat{r}(x) = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x$$

The one with the best estimators  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$

In general, it is impossible to find a line that passes over all the points

What is the best fitted line?

$$\hat{r}(x) = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x$$

The one with the best estimators  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$

# Least squares regression

Approach: Minimize the Mean Square Error (MSE) for the residuals

$$\hat{\epsilon}_i = Y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i)$$

Specifically, we minimize the Residual Sum of Squares (RSS)

$$\min_{\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( Y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i) \right)^2$$

# Finding the least squares estimates

$$[f(g(x))]' = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$

Estimators

$$\hat{\beta}_1: \frac{\partial \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - (\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i))^2}{\partial \beta_1} = 0 \quad \sum_{i=1}^n 2(Y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 X_i)(-X_i)$$

$$\hat{\beta}_0: \frac{\partial \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - (\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i))^2}{\partial \beta_0} = 0 \quad \sum_{i=1}^n 2(Y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 X_i)(-1) = 0$$

$$-\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_1 X_i = 0$$

$$\beta_0 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i - \beta_1 \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \bar{Y}_n - \beta_1 \bar{X}_n$$




# The least squares estimates

Estimators

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)(Y_i - \bar{Y}_n)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{Y}_n - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{X}_n$$

Unbiased estimator for  $\sigma^2$


$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \left( \frac{1}{n-2} \right) \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_i^2$$

# Distribution of the estimators

The estimators  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  are RVs

Usually, we assume Gaussian noise:

$$\epsilon_i \sim N(\underline{0}, \underline{\sigma^2})$$

Therefore, for a given  $X_i$  we have

$$\underline{Y_i} \sim N(\underline{\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i}, \underline{\sigma^2})$$

Least squares regression makes sense with Gaussian noise

Not so much if the noise is heavy-tailed

# Distribution of $\hat{\beta}_1$

Recall that  $\hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)(Y_i - \bar{Y}_n)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2}$

Sample variance  $S_X^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2$

$$\hat{\beta}_1 \sim N\left(\beta_1, \frac{\sigma^2}{S_X^2 n}\right)$$

# Distribution of $\hat{\beta}_0$

Recall that  $\hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{Y}_n - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{X}_n = \bar{Y}_n - \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)(Y_i - \bar{Y}_n)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2} \right) \bar{X}_n$

And  $Y_i \sim N(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i, \sigma^2)$

Sample variance  $S_X^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2$

$$\hat{\beta}_0 \sim N \left( \beta_0, \frac{\sigma^2}{S_X^2 n} \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2}{n} \right) \right)$$

# Example

Underlying model

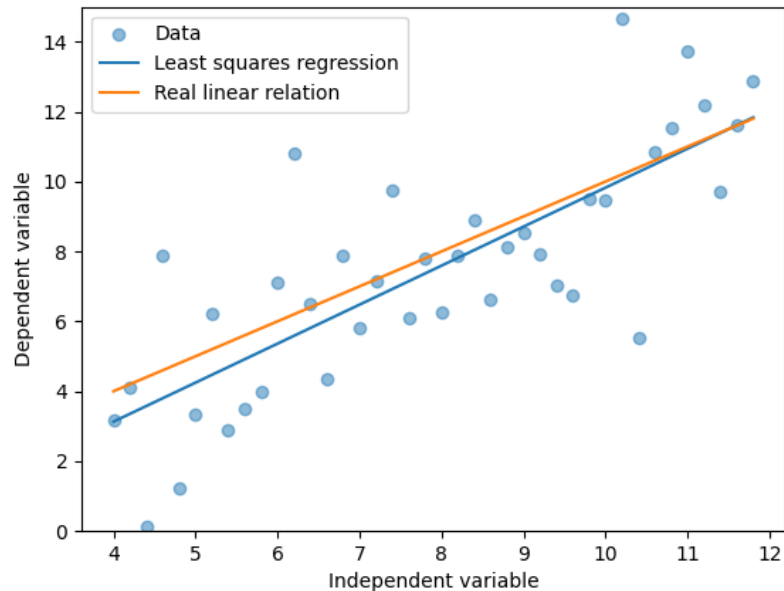
$$Y_i = X_i + \epsilon_i$$

$$\beta_0 = 0 \quad \beta_1 = 1$$

Estimated model with least squares

$$\hat{Y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i = -1.332 + 1.115X_i$$

$\hat{\beta}_0$        $\hat{\beta}_1$



# Example

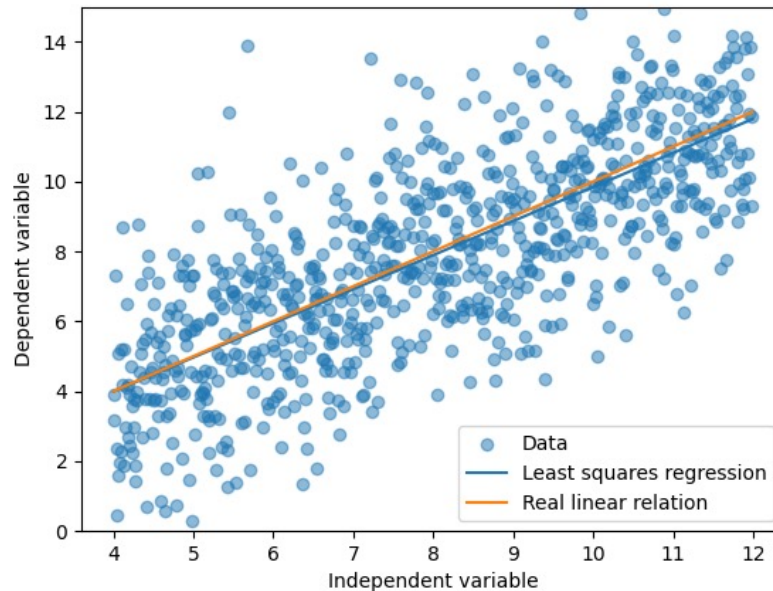
Underlying model

$$Y_i = X_i + \epsilon_i$$

Estimated model with least squares

$$\hat{Y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i = 0.094 + 0.974 X_i$$

$$\beta_0 = 0 \quad \beta_1 = 1$$



# Inference using $\beta_1$

# Example

A guy claims that how fast one drives has no impact on fuel consumption of a car  
To test this, measurements were collected for a car driving at different speeds  
Can we reject the claim with these data?

Speed (mph)	Miles per gallon
45	24.2
50	25.0
55	23.3
60	22.0
65	21.5
70	20.6
75	19.8



# Estimated standard errors

We already had an unbiased estimator

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \left(\frac{1}{n-2}\right) \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_i^2 = \left(\frac{1}{n-2}\right) \sum_{i=1}^n \left(Y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_i)\right)^2$$

$$\text{var}(\hat{\beta}_0) = \frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{S_X^2 n} \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2}{n} \right)$$

$$\text{var}(\hat{\beta}_1) = \frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{S_X^2 n}$$

$$\widehat{\text{se}}(\hat{\beta}_0) = \frac{\hat{\sigma}}{S_X \sqrt{n}} \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2}{n}}$$

$$\widehat{\text{se}}(\hat{\beta}_1) = \frac{\hat{\sigma}}{S_X \sqrt{n}}$$

# Properties of the estimators

Under appropriate conditions we have

1. Consistency:  $\hat{\beta}_0 \xrightarrow{P} \beta_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1 \xrightarrow{P} \beta_1$

2. Asymptotic Normality:

Both  $\frac{\hat{\beta}_0 - \beta_0}{\widehat{\text{se}}(\hat{\beta}_0)}$  and  $\frac{\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1}{\widehat{\text{se}}(\hat{\beta}_1)}$  are asymptotically standard Normal RVs:  $N(0,1)$

3. Approximate  $1 - \alpha$  confidence intervals for  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$

$$\hat{\beta}_0 \pm Z_{\alpha/2} \widehat{\text{se}}(\hat{\beta}_0) \text{ and } \hat{\beta}_1 \pm Z_{\alpha/2} \widehat{\text{se}}(\hat{\beta}_1)$$

# Inference on the slope

Does  $X_i$  have an effect on  $Y_i$ ?

If  $\beta_1 = 0$ , there is no effect

But we don't have  $\beta_1$ , we're stuck with its estimator  $\hat{\beta}_1$

We can do hypothesis testing  $\mathbf{H}_0: \beta_1 = \beta_H = 0$

Due to asymptotic normality

$$\hat{\beta}_1 \sim N\left(\beta_1, \frac{\sigma^2}{s_X^2 n}\right), \text{ then } \frac{\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1}{\widehat{\text{se}}(\hat{\beta}_1)} \sim N(0, 1)$$

# Hypothesis testing

We use

$$\widehat{\text{se}}(\hat{\beta}_1) = \frac{\hat{\sigma}}{S_X \sqrt{n}}$$

To get

$$\frac{\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1}{\widehat{\text{se}}(\hat{\beta}_1)} = \frac{(\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1) S_X \sqrt{n}}{\hat{\sigma}} = \frac{(\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1) S_X \sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{n-2}\right) \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_i^2}} \sim \underline{T_{n-2}}$$

**Degrees of freedom:** no. of independent variables minus the no. of equations

We have  $n$  values and one equation for each  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ , so  $n - 2$  dofs

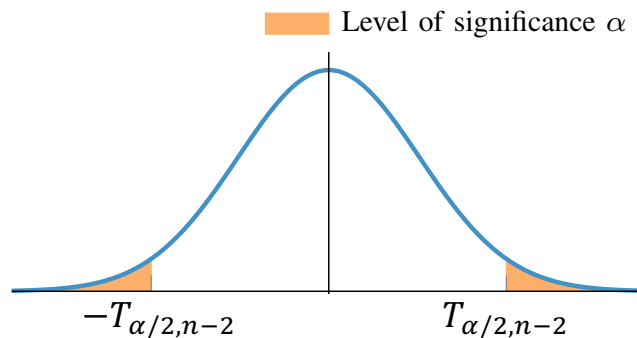
# Test statistic and rejection region

Test statistic for two-sided test is

$$T = \frac{|\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_H|}{\widehat{\text{se}}(\hat{\beta}_1)} = \frac{|\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_H| S_X \sqrt{n}}{\left(\frac{1}{n-2}\right) \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_i^2}$$

Rejection region for level of significance  $\alpha$  is  $R = \{\hat{\beta}_1 : T > T_{n-2, \alpha/2}\}$

P-value: same as before



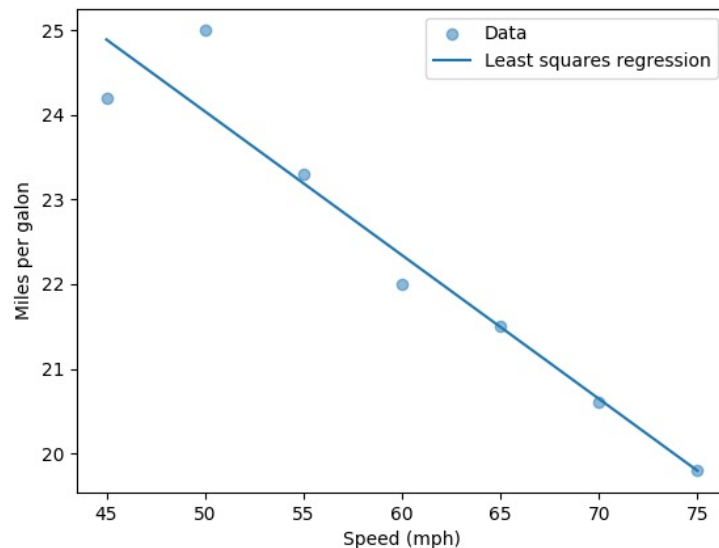
# Solving the example

$$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_H = 0$$

**Estimators:**  $\hat{\beta}_0 = 32.542$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1 = -0.169$  and  $\widehat{se}(\hat{\beta}_1) = 0.0208$

$$T = \frac{|\hat{\beta}_1 - 0|}{\widehat{se}(\hat{\beta}_1)} = 8.139 > 2.5705: \text{reject } H_0$$

Speed (mph)	Miles per gallon
45	24.2
50	25.0
55	23.3
60	22.0
65	21.5
70	20.6
75	19.8



# Mean response

We “train” the regression model with  $n$  data points and a new one  $x_*$  appears  
The estimate of  $Y_*$  is also called the **mean response**

$$Y_* = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_*$$

What is the confidence interval for the mean response with a new value  $x_*$ ?

$$C_{1-\alpha} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_* \pm T_{n-2, \alpha/2} \sqrt{\hat{\sigma}^2 \left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(x_* - \bar{X}_n)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2} \right)}$$

**Example:** What would be the **mean price** for a 100 m<sup>2</sup> house in Copenhagen?

# Prediction interval for a new response

We “train” the regression model with  $n$  data points and a new one  $x_*$  appears  
The estimate of  $Y_*$  is also called the **mean response**

$$Y_* = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_*$$

What is its **prediction interval** for a new response?

$$\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_* \pm T_{n-2, \alpha/2} \sqrt{\hat{\sigma}^2 \left( \underbrace{1 + \frac{1}{n}}_{\text{green box}} + \frac{(x_* - \bar{X}_n)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2} \right)}$$

**Example:** What would be the **price** for a 100 m<sup>2</sup> house in Copenhagen?



# Residual analysis

# Good scenario for linear regression

Standardized residuals

$$Z_i = \frac{(Y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 X_i)}{\hat{\sigma}}$$

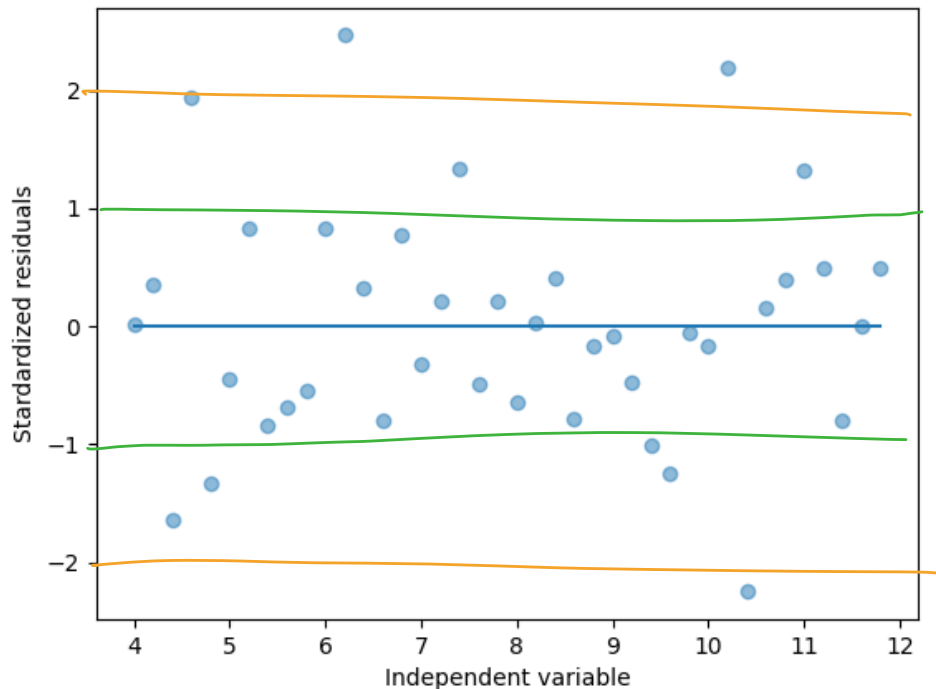
Measures in std. deviation units

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \left( \frac{1}{n-2} \right) \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_i^2$$

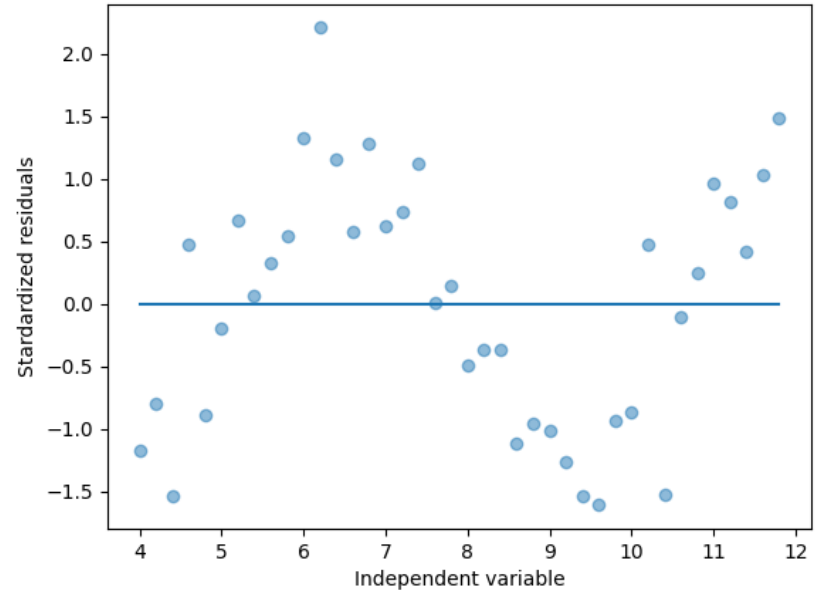
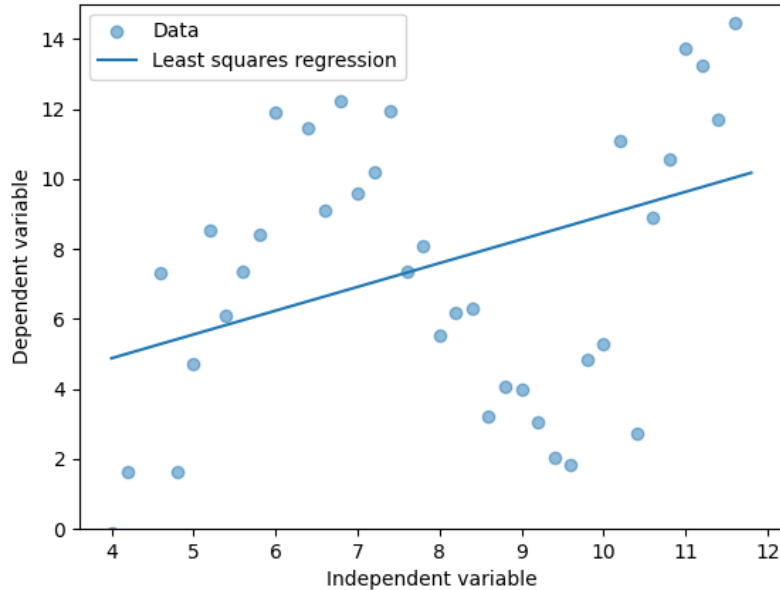
Should be no correlation with x-axis

68% between -1 and 1

95% between -2 and 2

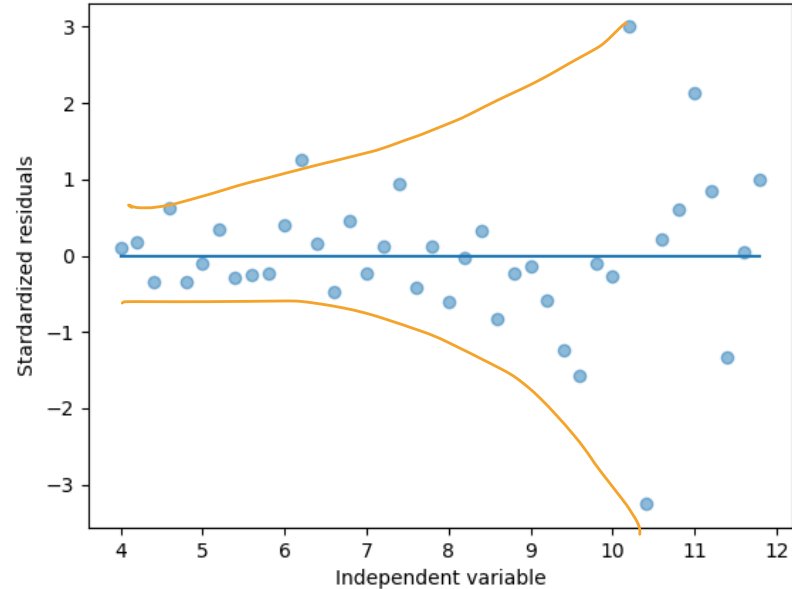


# Bad scenario for linear regression: model is not linear




# Another bad scenario: correlation of $\epsilon_i$ with $X_i$

The variance grows with  $X_i$   
Heteroscedastic samples



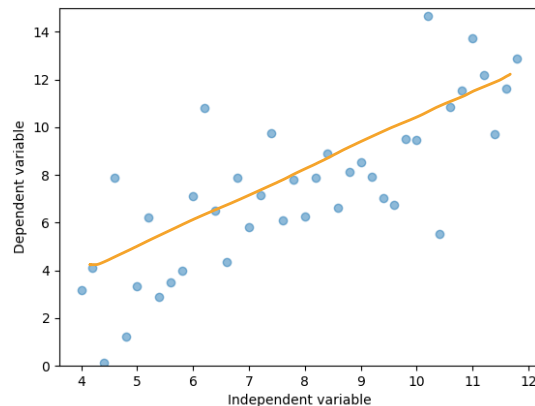
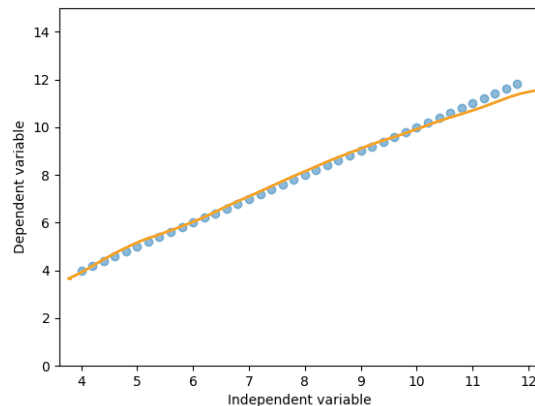
# Coefficient of determination

Measure of how good is the fit in a single value

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_i^2}{nS_Y^2}$$


Maximum value is 1: the best possible fit

The lower the value, the worse the fit

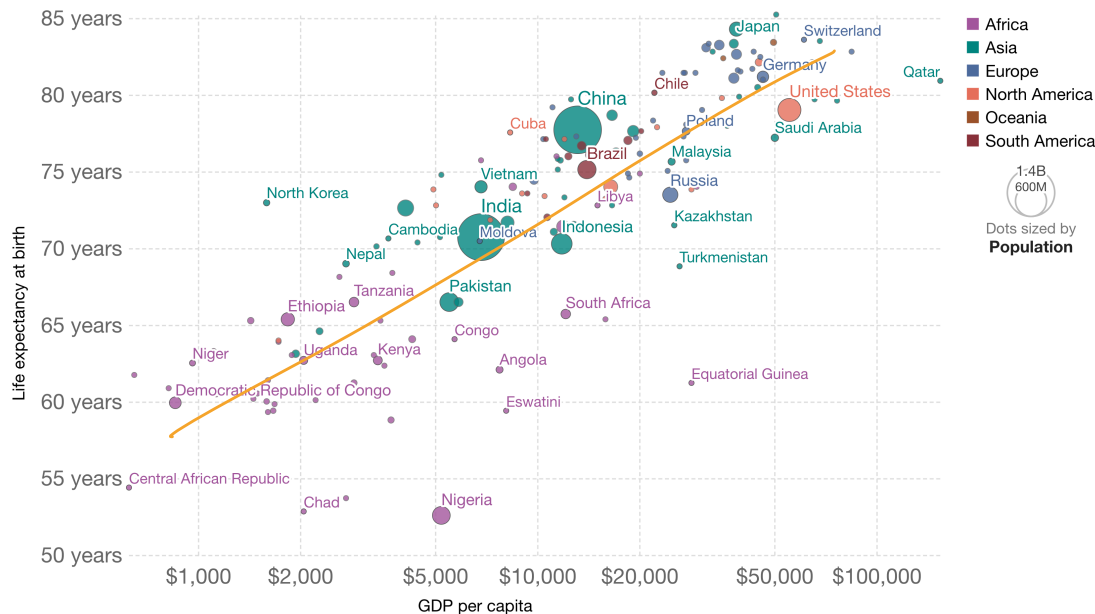


# Transforming the data

X-axis is not linear!

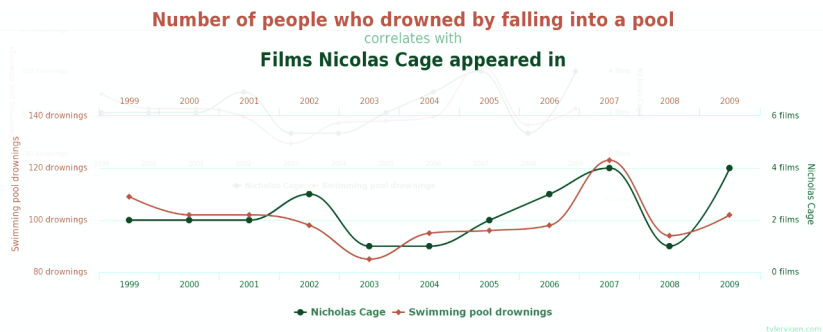
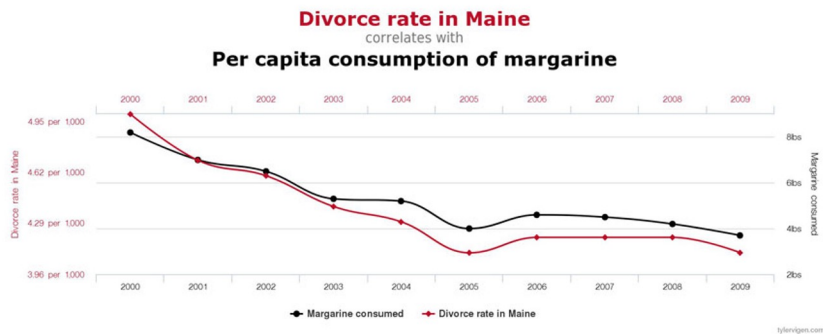
## Life expectancy vs. GDP per capita, 2018

GDP per capita is measured in 2011 international dollars, which corrects for inflation and cross-country price differences.



OurWorldInData.org/life-expectancy • CC BY

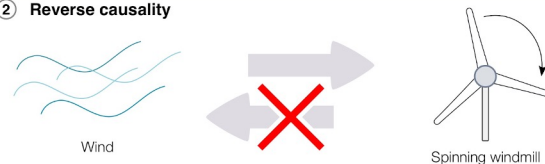
# Correlation does not imply causation



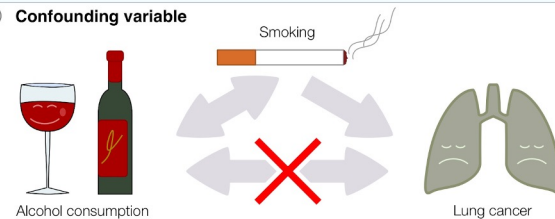
## 1 Random coincidence



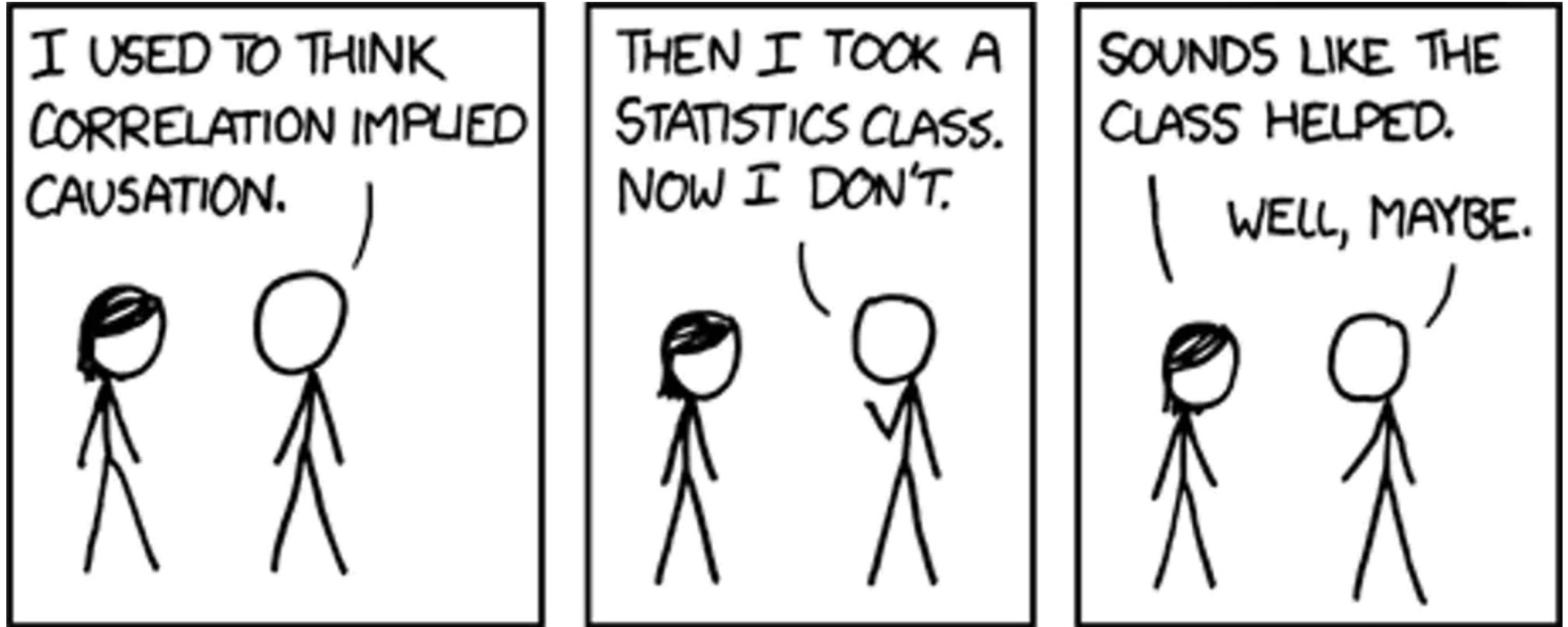
## 2 Reverse causality



## 3 Confounding variable



# Words of wisdom





# Summary

# Summary

Regression helps us identify correlation

**Linear regression** assumes the underlying model is linear

Besides fitting, we can perform:

- Hypothesis testing
- Prediction of the mean
- Prediction of a single new value

Residuals help us determine goodness of fit: is the model linear?

**As initial test, try regression with a linear model with known parameters**

**That's all for the lectures**