Understanding Multiple Regression Models



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Overview

Extend regression analysis to multiple explanatory variables

Interpret the results of a multiple regression

Mitigate the risks that accompany multiple regression

Apply multiple regression to include categorical variables

Introducing Multiple Regression

"A butterfly flapping its wings in Brazil can cause a tornado in Texas"

Butterfly Effect

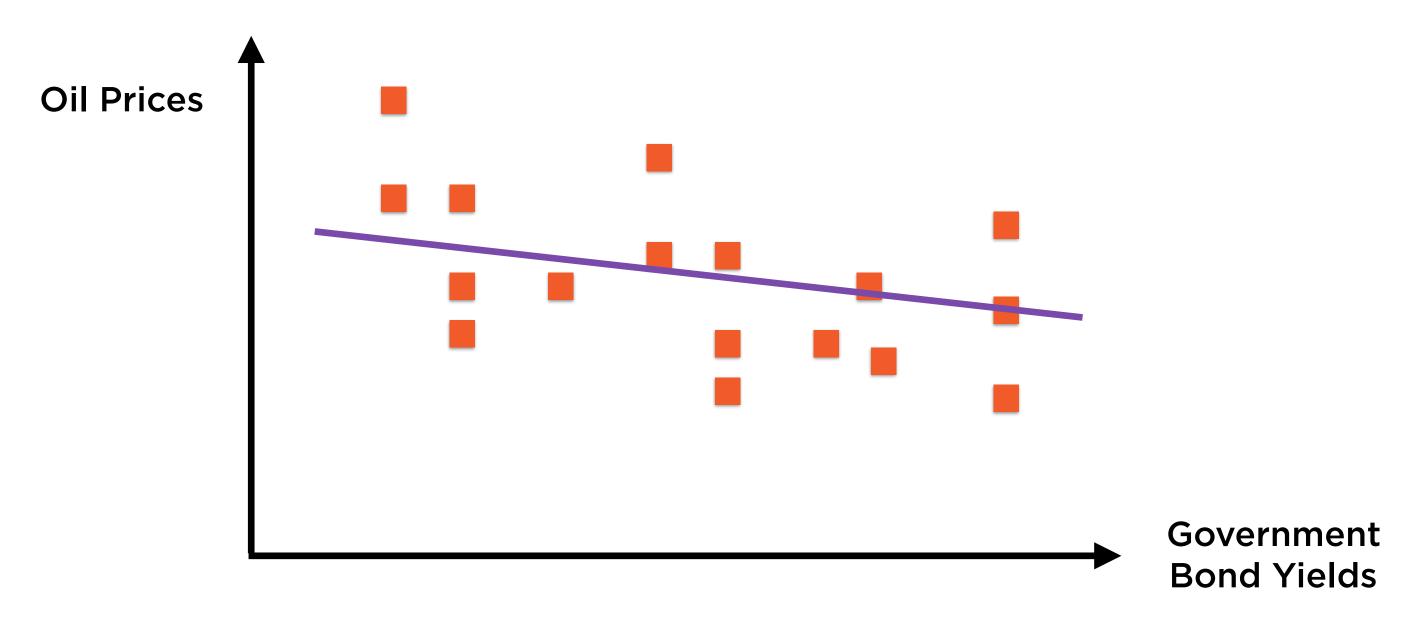
The butterfly effect is the concept that small causes can have large effects. In chaos theory, the butterfly effect is the sensitive dependence on initial conditions in which a small change in one state of a deterministic nonlinear system can result in large differences in a later state. Wikipedia



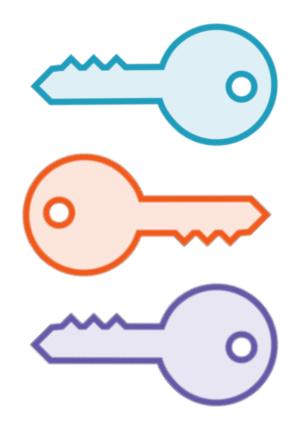
Cause Independent variable



EffectDependent variable



One cause, one effect



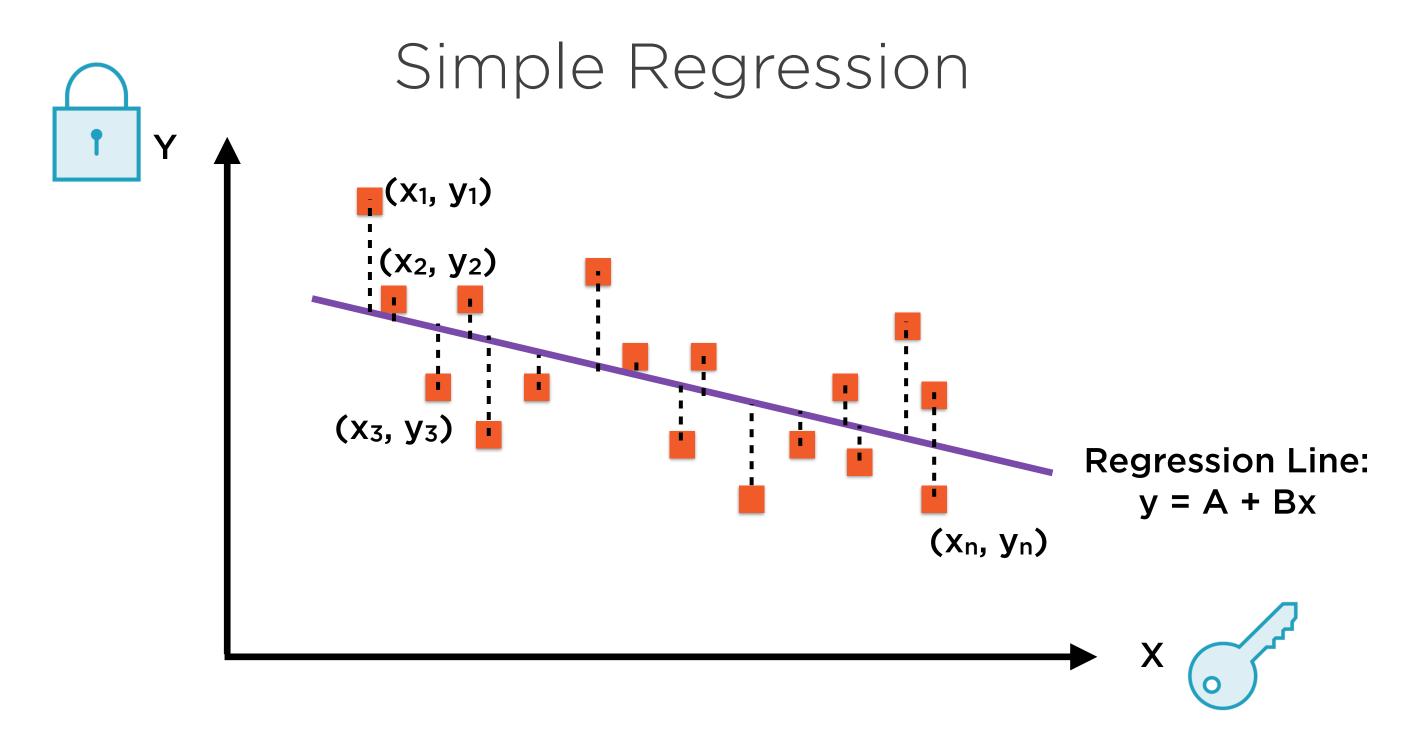
Causes
Independent variables



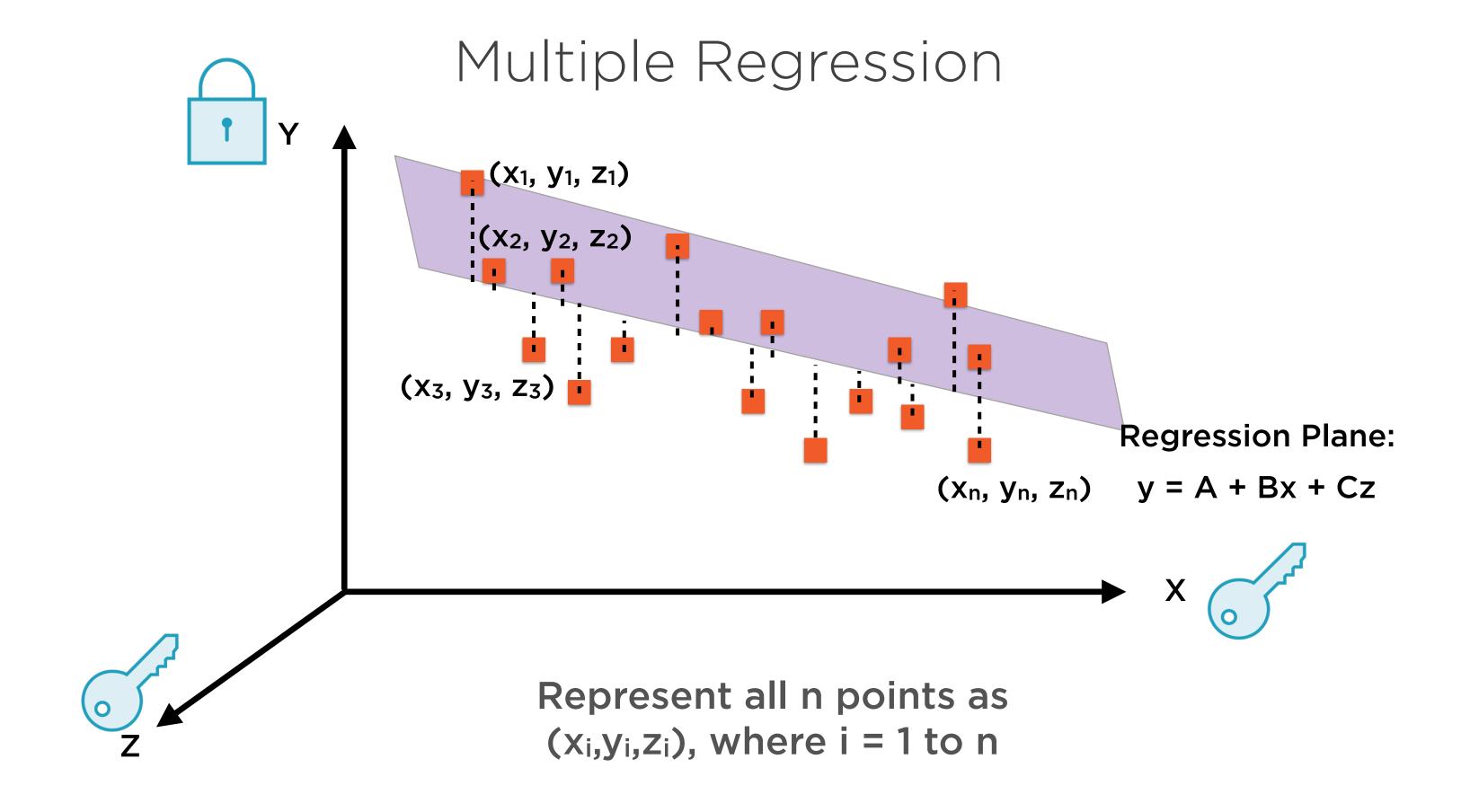
EffectDependent variable

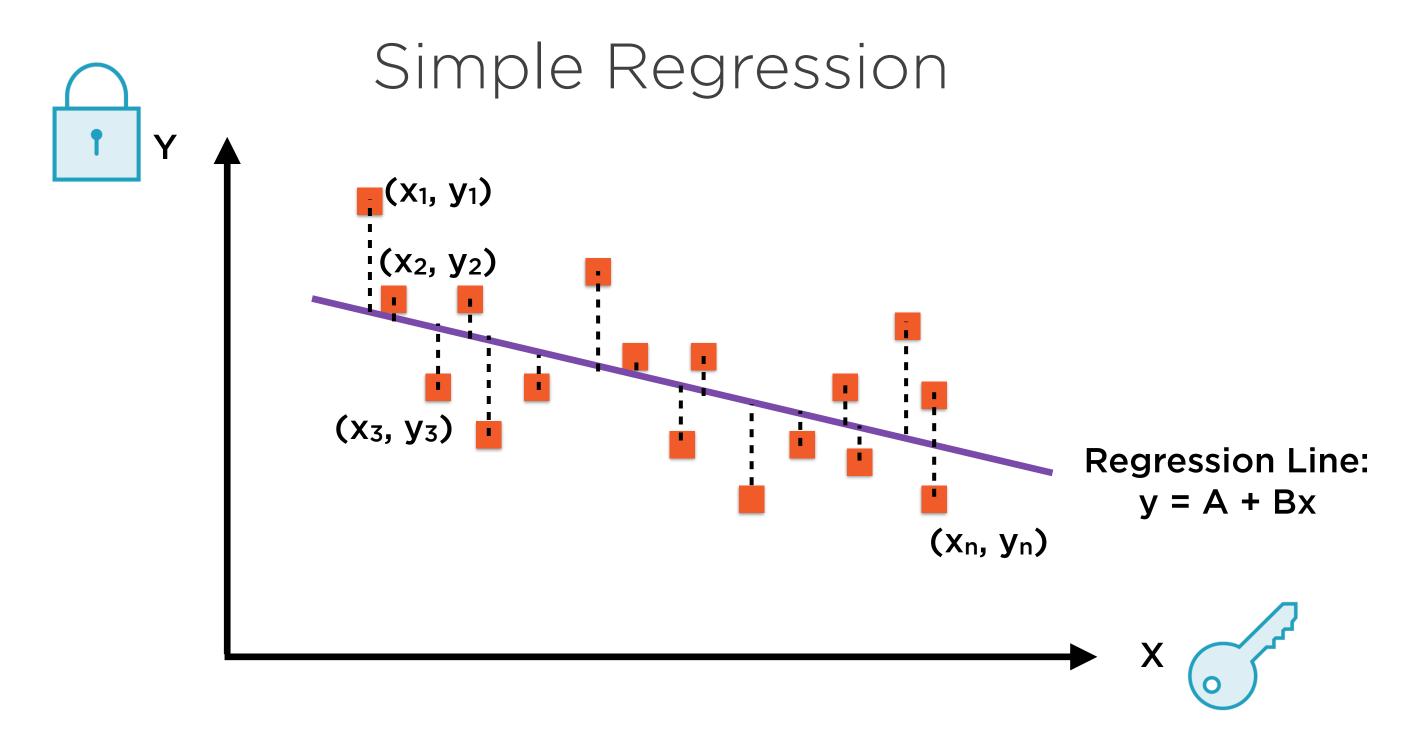


Many causes, one effect



Represent all n points as (x_i,y_i) , where i = 1 to n





Represent all n points as (x_i,y_i) , where i = 1 to n

$$y = A + Bx$$

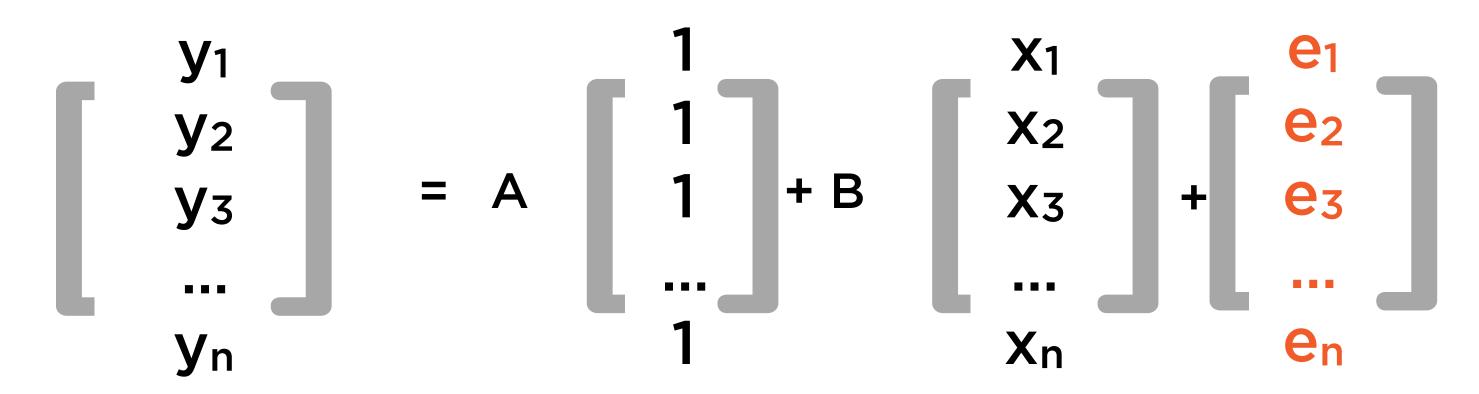
$$y_1 = A + Bx_1$$
 $y_2 = A + Bx_2$
 $y_3 = A + Bx_3$
...
 $y_n = A + Bx_n$

$$y = A + Bx$$

$$y_1 = A + Bx_1 + e_1$$

 $y_2 = A + Bx_2 + e_2$
 $y_3 = A + Bx_3 + e_3$
...
$$y_n = A + Bx_n + e_n$$

$$y = A + Bx$$



Regression Equation:

$$EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_1 \\ E_2 \\ E_3 \\ ... \\ E_n \end{bmatrix} = A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + B \begin{bmatrix} D_1 \\ D_2 \\ D_3 \\ ... \\ D_n \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \\ e_2 \\ e_3 \\ ... \\ D_n \end{bmatrix}$$

E_i = % return on Exxon stock on day i D_i = % return of Dow Jones index on day i



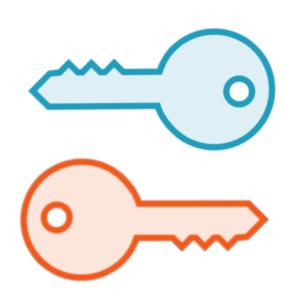
Cause

Changes in Dow Jones equity index



Effect

Changes in price of Exxon Stock



Causes

Dow Jones index, price of oil



Effect

Exxon stock

Regression Equation:

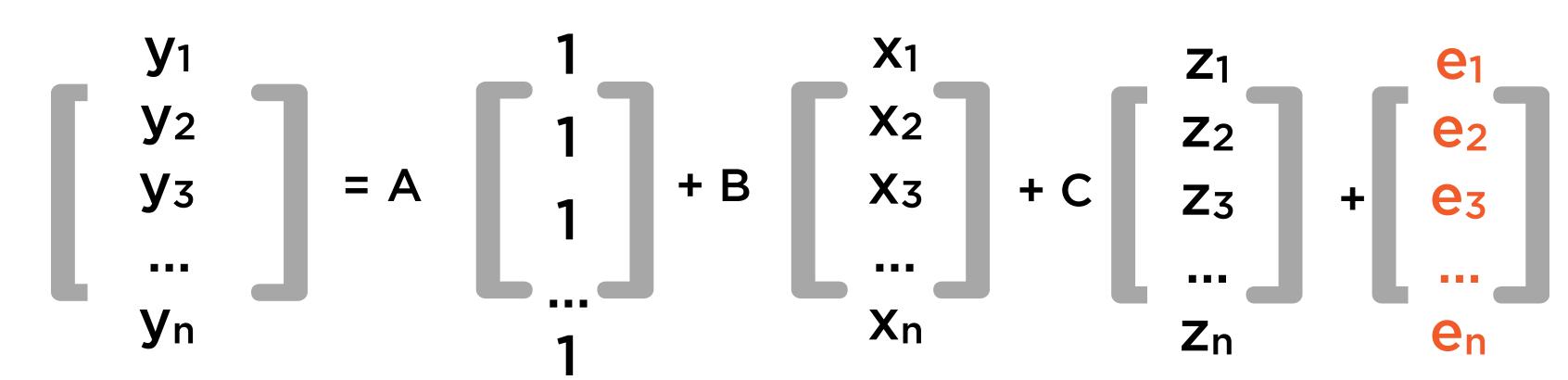
$$EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C OIL_t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_1 \\ E_2 \\ E_3 \\ ... \\ E_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + B \begin{bmatrix} D_1 \\ D_2 \\ D_3 \\ ... \\ D_n \end{bmatrix} + C \begin{bmatrix} O_1 \\ O_2 \\ O_3 \\ ... \\ O_n \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \\ e_2 \\ e_3 \\ ... \\ O_n \end{bmatrix}$$

E_i = % return on Exxon stock on day i D_i = % return of Dow Jones index on day i

O_i = % change in price of oil on day i

$$y = A + Bx + Cz$$



Regression Equation:

$$y = A + Bx + Cz$$

n Rows, 1 Column

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & X_1 & Z_1 \\ 1 & X_2 & Z_2 \\ 1 & X_3 & Z_3 \\ & & & C \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \\ e_2 \\ e_3 \\ & & e_n \end{bmatrix}$$

n Rows, 3 Columns 3 Rows, n Rows,1 Column1 Column



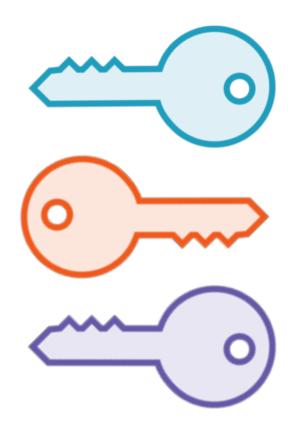
2 Causes

Dow Jones index, price of oil



1 Effect

Exxon stock



k Causes

Dow Jones index, price of oil, bond yields...



1 Effect

Exxon stock

$$y = C_1 + C_2 x_1 + ... + C_{k+1} x_k$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ \dots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} \\ x_{21} \\ x_{31} \\ \dots \\ x_{n1} \end{bmatrix} + \dots C_{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} x_{1k} \\ x_{2k} \\ x_{3k} \\ \dots \\ x_{nk} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \\ e_2 \\ e_3 \\ \dots \\ x_{nk} \end{bmatrix}$$

Regression Equation:

$$y = C_1 + C_2 x_1 + ... + C_{k+1} x_k$$

n Rows, 1 Column

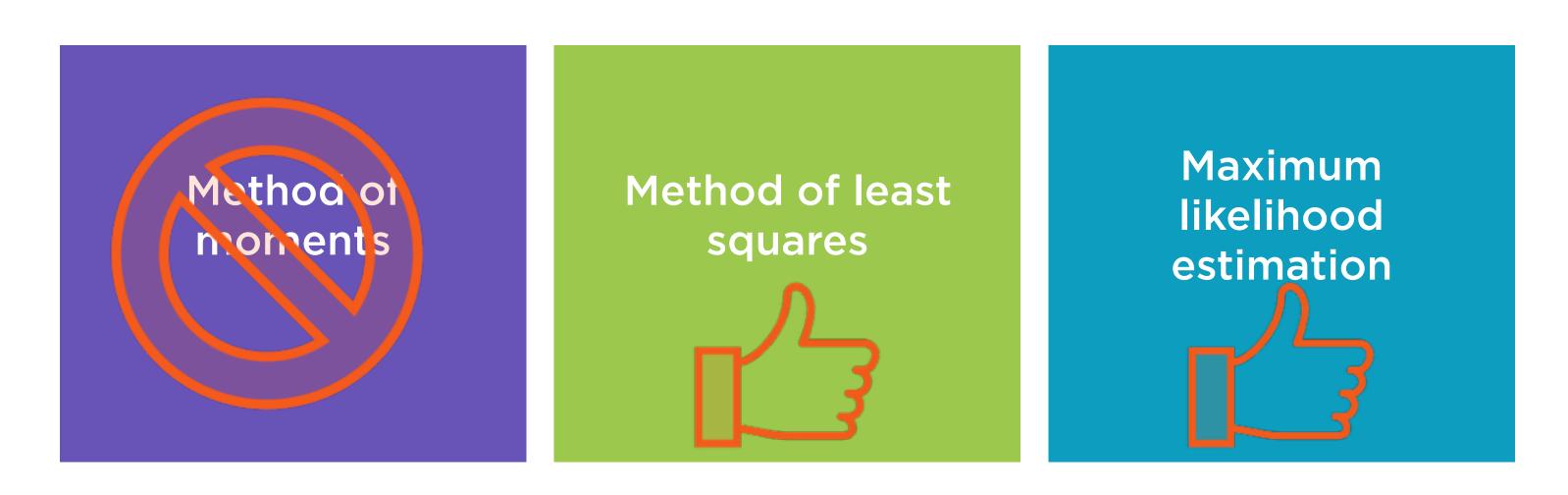
n Rows, k Columns k Rows, 1 Column

Regression Equation:

$$y = C_1 + C_2 X_1 + ... + C_{k+1} X_k$$

Multiple regression involves finding k+1 coefficients, k for the explanatory variables, and 1 for the intercept

Estimation Methods in Multiple Regression



The method of least squares works for multiple regression too

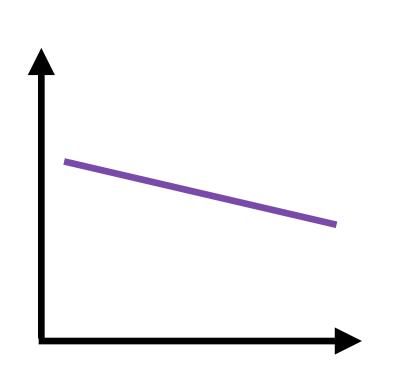
Regression Equation:

$$y = C_1 + C_2 x_1 + ... + C_{k+1} x_k$$

The "best fit" line is the one where the sum of the squares of the lengths of the errors is minimised

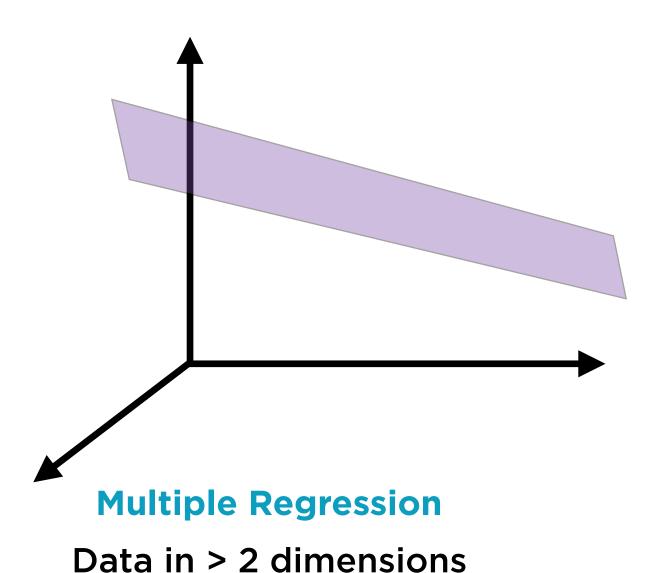
Risks in Multiple Regression

Simple and Multiple Regression

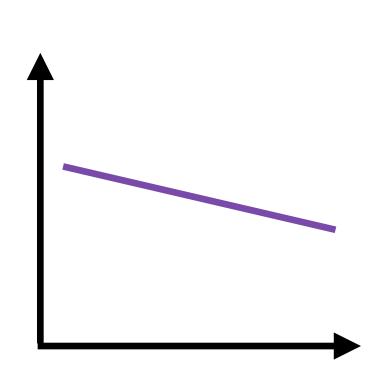


Simple Regression

Data in 2 dimensions

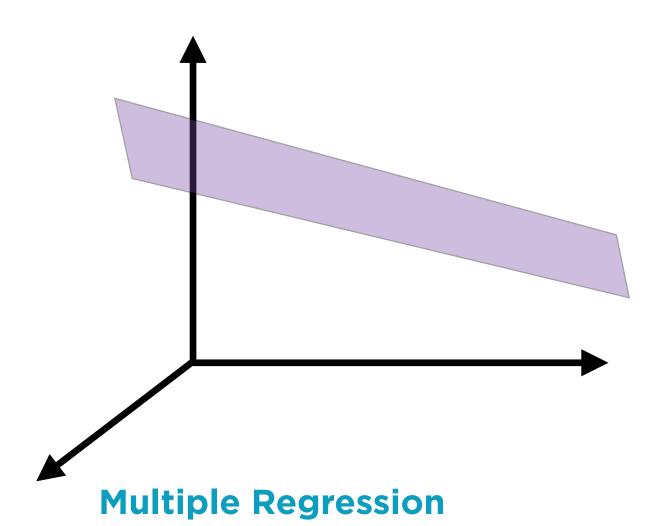


Simple and Multiple Regression



Simple Regression

Risks exist, but can usually be mitigated analysing R² and residuals



Risks are more complicated, require interpreting regression statistics

Risks in Simple Regression

No cause-effect relationship

Regression on completely unrelated data series

Mis-specified relationship

Non-linear (exponential or polynomial) fit

Incomplete relationship

Multiple causes exist, we have captured just one

Diagnosing Risks in Simple Regression

No cause-effect relationship

low R², plot of X ~ Y has no pattern

Mis-specified relationship

high R², residuals are not independent of each other

Incomplete relationship

low R^{2,} residuals are not independent of x

Mitigating Risks in Simple Regression

No cause-effect relationship

Wrong choice of X and Y - back to drawing board

Mis-specified relationship

Transform X and Y - convert to logs or returns

Incomplete relationship

Add X variables (move to multiple regression)

The big new risk with multiple regression is **multicollinearity**: X variables containing the same information

"If everyone is thinking alike, then somebody isn't thinking."

General Patton

Regression Equation:

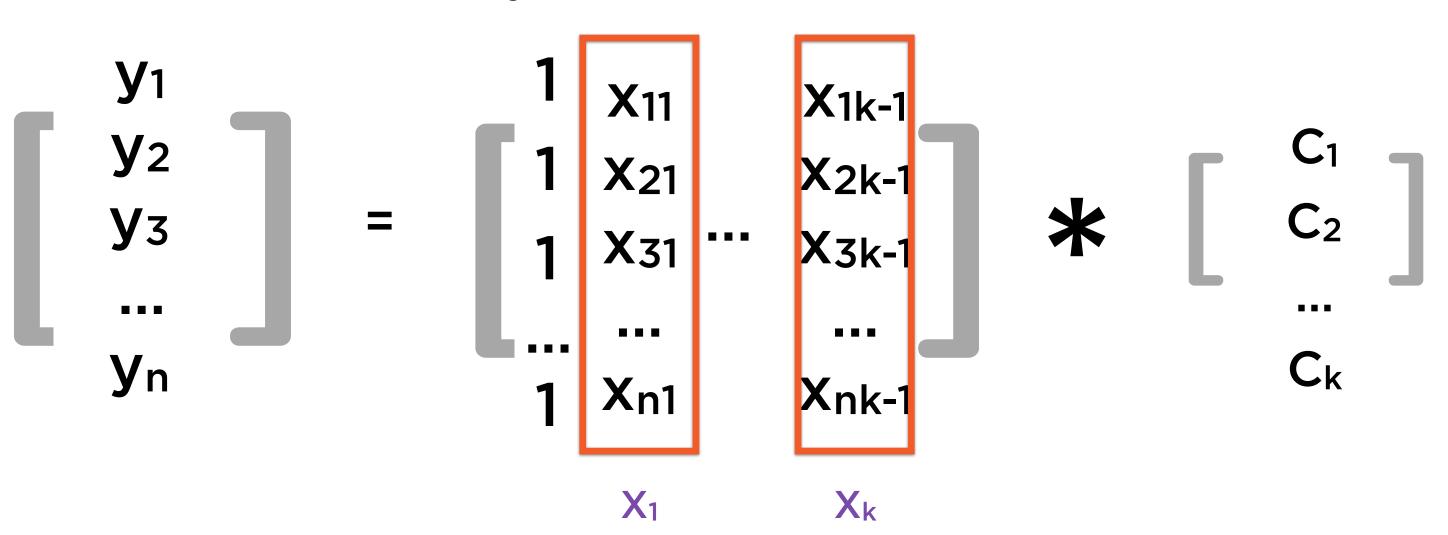
$$y = C_1 + C_2 X_1 + ... + C_k X_{k-1}$$

n Rows, 1 Column

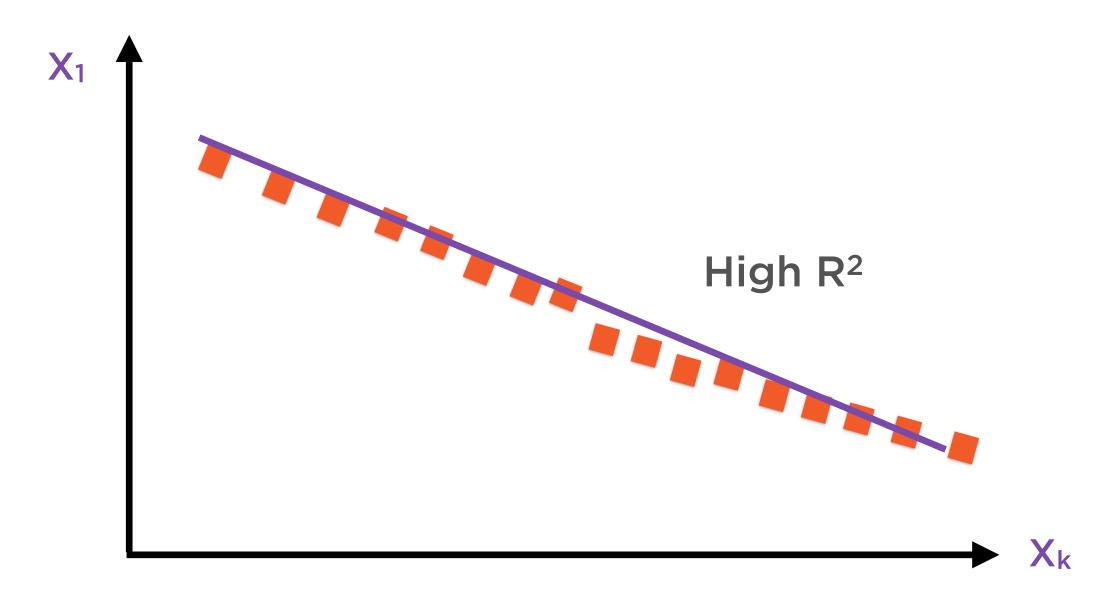
n Rows, k Columns k Rows, 1 Column

Regression Equation:

$$y = C_1 + C_2 X_1 + ... + C_k X_{k-1}$$

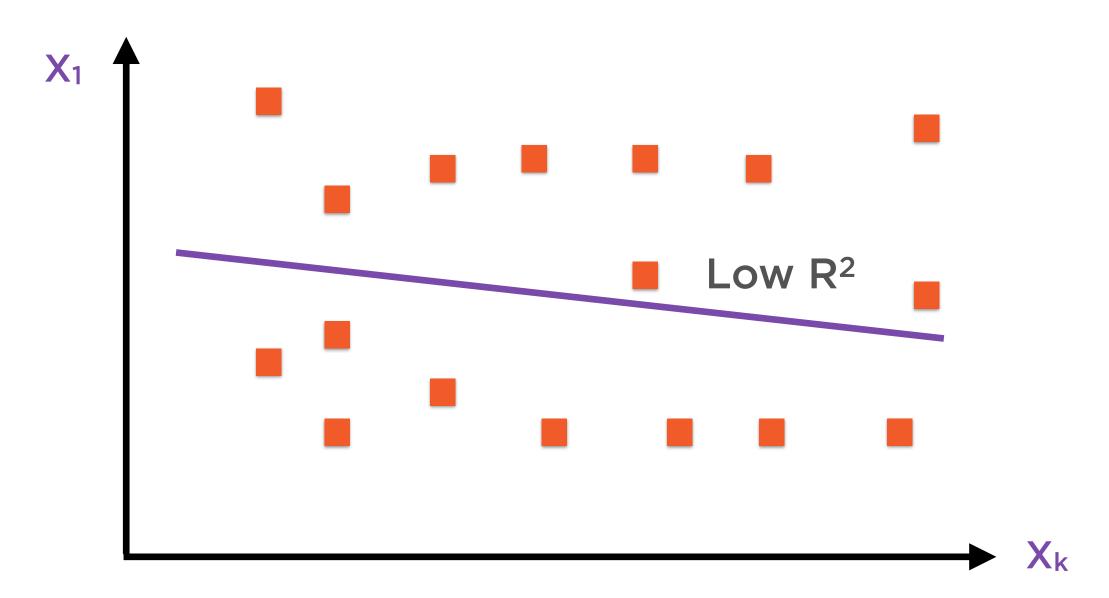


Bad News: Multicollinearity Detected



Highly correlated explanatory variables

Good News: No Multicollinearity Detected



Uncorrelated explanatory variables

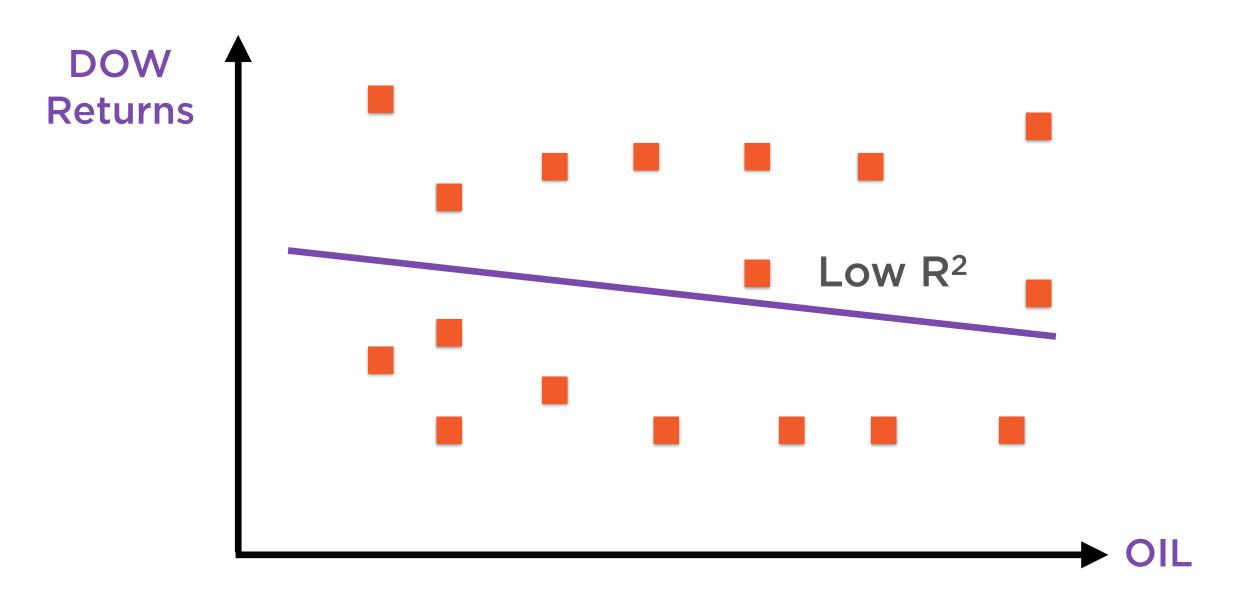
Regression Equation:

$$EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C OIL_t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_1 \\ E_2 \\ E_3 \\ ... \\ E_n \end{bmatrix} = A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + B \begin{bmatrix} D_1 \\ D_2 \\ D_3 \\ ... \\ D_n \end{bmatrix} + C \begin{bmatrix} O_1 \\ O_2 \\ O_3 \\ ... \\ O_n \end{bmatrix}$$

E_i = % return on Exxon stock on day i D_i = % return of Dow Jones index on day i O_i = % change in price of oil on day i

Good News: No Multicollinearity Detected



Uncorrelated explanatory variables

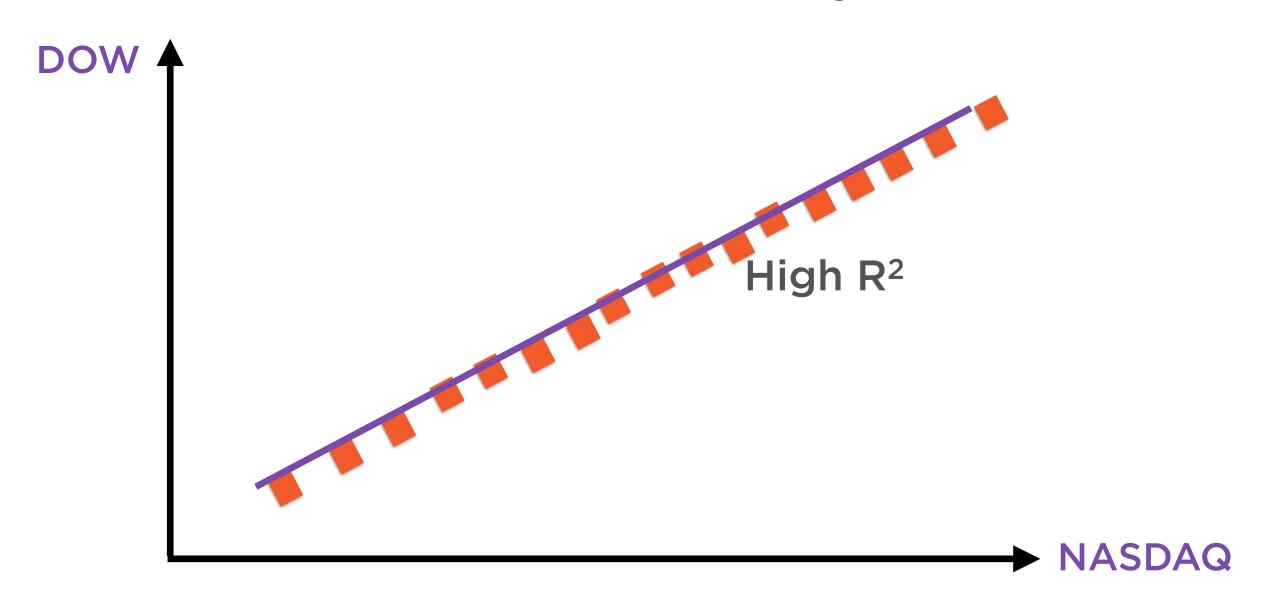
Regression Equation:

$$EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C NASDAQ_t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_1 \\ E_2 \\ E_3 \\ ... \\ E_n \end{bmatrix} = A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + B \begin{bmatrix} D_1 \\ D_2 \\ D_3 \\ ... \\ D_n \end{bmatrix} + C \begin{bmatrix} N_1 \\ N_2 \\ N_3 \\ ... \\ N_n \end{bmatrix}$$

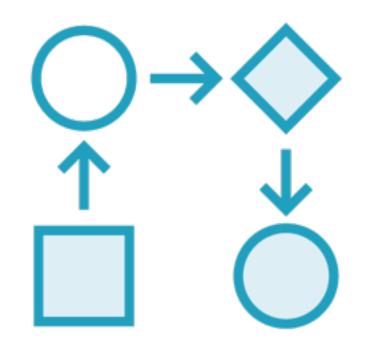
E_i = % return on Exxon stock on day i D_i = % return of Dow Jones index on day i N_i = % return of NASDAQ index on day i

Bad News: Multicollinearity Detected



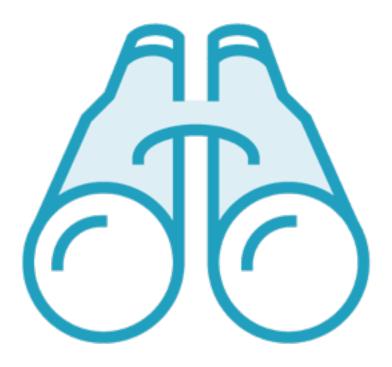
Highly correlated explanatory variables

Multicollinearity Kills Regression's Usefulness



Explaining Variance

The R² as well as the regression coefficients are not very reliable



Making Predictions

The regression model will perform poorly with out-of-sample data

Multicollinearity: Prevention and Cure





Big-picture understanding of the data



Nuts and Bolts

Setting up data right



Heavy Lifting

Factor analysis,
Principal components
analysis (PCA)



Think deeply about each x variable

Eliminate closely related ones

Dig down to underlying causes

Proposed Regression Equation:

 $EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C NASDAQ_t + D OIL_t$

% return on Exxon stock on day i

% return of index on day i

% return of Dow Jones NASDAQ index on day i

% change in price of oil on day i

Proposed Regression Equation:

$$EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C NASDAQ_t + D OIL_t$$

Dow Jones Industrial Average

30 Large-cap US stocks

NASDAQ 100 Index

100 large tech stocks

Oil Prices

Price of barrel of oil

Proposed Regression Equation:

$$EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C NASDAQ_t + D OIL_t$$

Dow Jones Industrial Average

30 Large-cap US stocks

NASDAQ 100 Index

100 large tech stocks

Oil Prices

Price of barrel of oil

Do we really need both Dow and NASDAQ returns as explanatory variables?

Proposed Regression Equation:

$$EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C NASDAQ_t + D OIL_t$$

Dow Jones Industrial Average

30 Large-cap US stocks

NASDAQ 100 Index

100 large tech stocks

Oil Prices

Price of barrel of oil

If yes - consider keeping one, and constructing a new explanatory variable of their difference

Proposed Regression Equation:

$$EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C OIL_t$$

Dow Jones
Industrial Average

30 Large-cap US stocks

Oil Prices

Price of barrel of oil

What underlying factors drive both US large-cap stocks and the price of oil?

GDP growth Interest rates **US** dollar strength Seasonality

What underlying factors drive both US large-cap stocks and the price of oil?

GDP growth Interest rates

US dollar strength Seasonality

What underlying factors drive both US large-cap stocks and the price of oil?

Original Regression Equation:

$$EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C NASDAQ_t + D OIL_t$$

Revised Regression Equation:

 $EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C INTEREST_t + D GDP_t$



Nuts and Bolts

'Standardise' the variables
Rely on adjusted-R², not plain R²
Set up dummy variables right
Distribute lags



Nuts and Bolts

'Stepwise regression' - use with care
Automated selection of x variables
Variants

- Backward elimination
- Forward selection
- Iterative Elimination



Find underlying factors that drive the correlated x variables

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) is a great tool

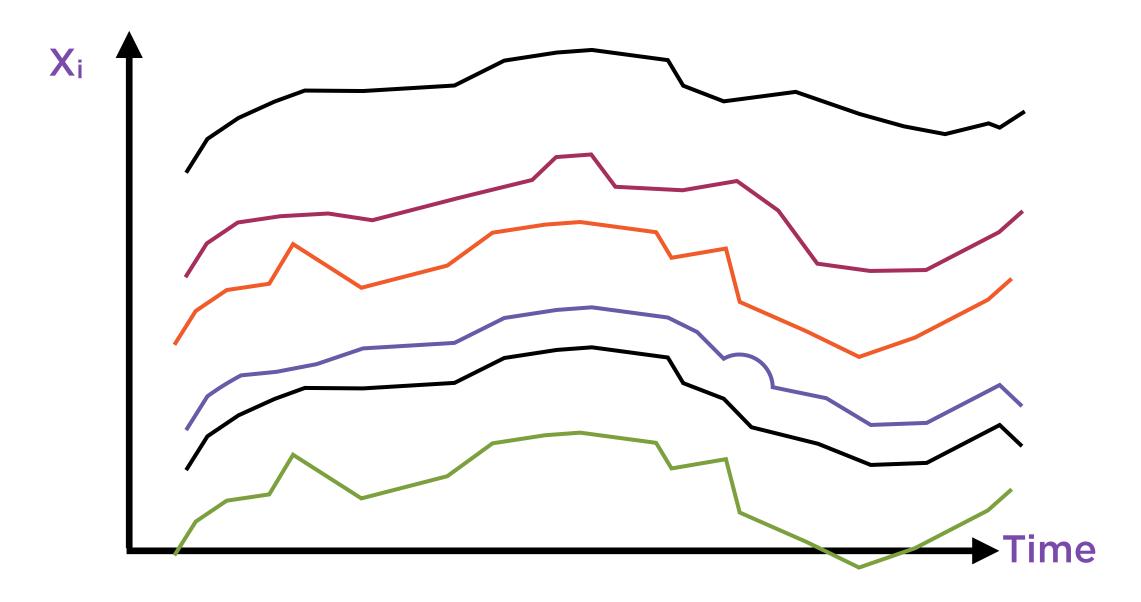
Proposed Regression Equation:

$$HOME_t = A + B 5-yr_t + C 10-year_t + D 2-year_t + E 1-year_t + F 3-month_t + G 1-day_t + ...$$

% change in month i

yield on 5- yield on 10home prices in year bond in year bond in month i month i

Bad News: Multicollinearity Detected



Highly correlated explanatory variables

Factor Analysis

3-month government bonds

1-year government bonds

5-year government bonds

1-day (overnight) money market 30-year government bonds

5-year swap rate (inter-bank)

Interest rates on a wide variety of fixed-income instruments

Factor Analysis on Interest Rates

Level

How high are interest rates?

Slope

How steep is the yield curve?

Twist

How convex is the yield curve?

Three uncorrelated factors explain most variation in all interest rates

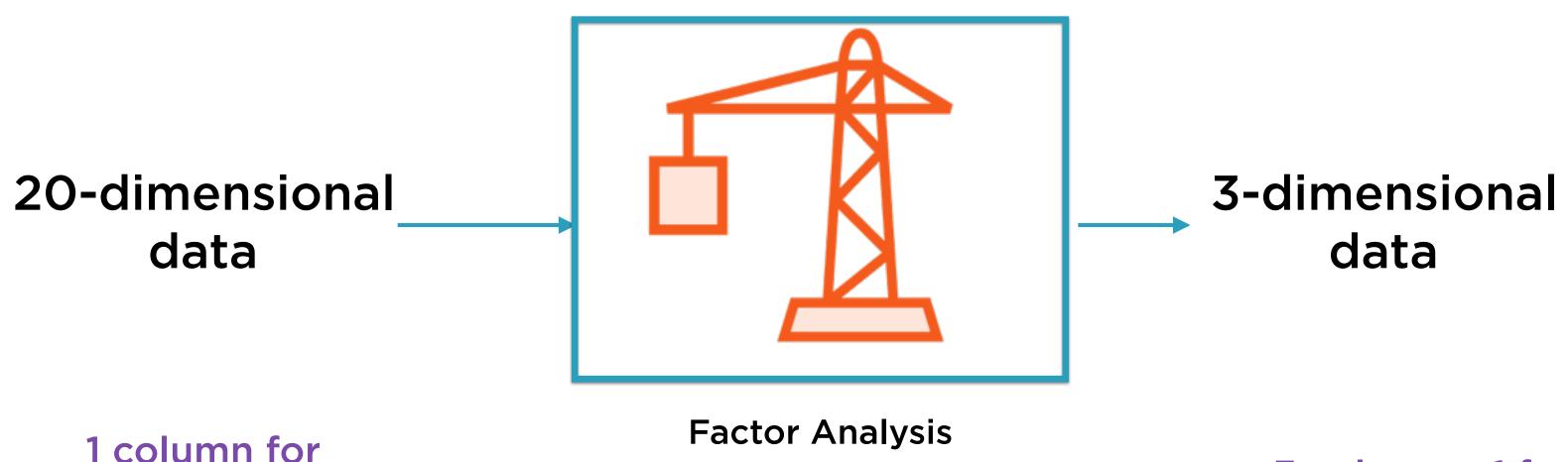


Factor Analysis The factors identified are guaranteed to be uncorrelated

However, they may not have an intuitive interpretation

Principal Component Analysis is one procedure for factor analysis

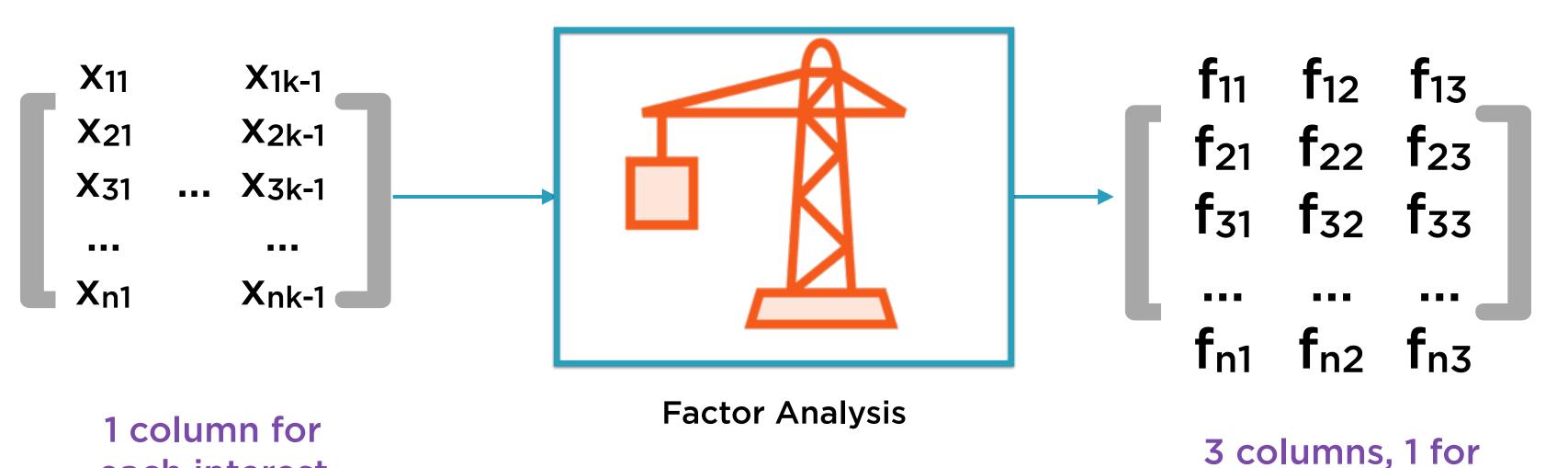
Dimensionality Reduction via Factor Analysis



1 column for each interest rate out there

3 columns, 1 for each factor

Dimensionality Reduction via Factor Analysis



each factor

each interest

rate out there

Factor Analysis is a dimensionalityreduction technique to identify a few underlying causes in data

Proposed Regression Equation:

$$HOME_t = A + B 5-yr_t + C 10-year_t + D 2-year_t +$$

Principal Component Analysis

Revised Regression Equation:

HOME_t = A + B LEVEL_t + C SLOPE_t + D TWIST_t

Benefits of Multiple Regression

Simple Regression Is a Great Tool

Powerful

Perfectly suited to two common use-cases

Versatile

Easily extended to nonlinear relationships

Deep

The first "crossover hit" from Machine Learning

Multiple Regression Is Even Better

Powerful

Also controls for effects different causes

Versatile

Also works with categorical data

Deep

Especially if combined with factor analysis

Multiple Regression Is Even Better

Powerful

Also controls for effects different causes

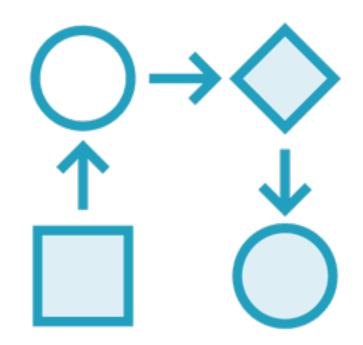
Versatile

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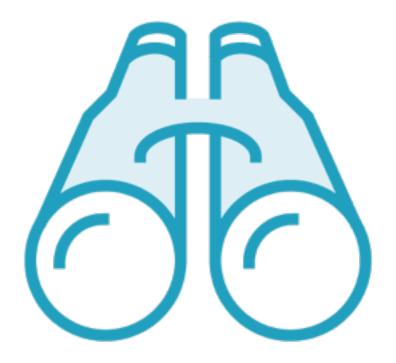
Especially if combined with factor analysis

Two Common Applications of Regression



Explaining Variance

How much variation in one data series is caused by another?



Making Predictions

How much does a move in one series impact another?

Proposed Regression Equation:

 $EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C OIL_t$

Exxon stock on

% return on % return of Dow Jones day i index on day i

% change in price of oil on day i

Proposed Regression Equation:

 $EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C OIL_t$

 $EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C OIL_t$

 $EXXON_? = A + B DOW_t + C (OIL_t + 1\%)$

Change in EXXON = EXXON_t - EXXON_?

EXXON_t =
$$A + B DØW_t + C O/L_t$$

- EXXON_? = $A + B DØW_t + C (O/L_t + 1%)$

$$EXXON_t = A + B DOW_t + C OIL_t$$

-
$$EXXON_? = A + B DOW_t + C (OIL_t + 1\%)$$

Change in EXXON = C

Regression coefficients tell how much y changes for a unit change in each predictor, all others being held constant

Multiple Regression Is Even Better

Powerful

Also controls for effects different causes

Versatile

Also works with categorical data

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Especially if combined with factor analysis

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Interpreting the Results of a Regression Analysis

Interpreting Results of a Simple Regression

\mathbb{R}^2

Measures overall quality of fit - the higher the better (up to a point)

Residuals

Check if regression assumptions are violated

Standard errors of individual coefficients are usually of little significance

Interpreting Results of a Multiple Regression



```
e = y - y'
=> y = y' + e
=> Variance(y) = Variance(y' + e)
=> Variance(y) = Variance(y') + Variance(e) + Covariance(y',e)
```

A Not-Very-Important Intermediate Step

Variance of the dependent variable can be decomposed into variance of the regression fitted values, and that of the residuals

```
e = y' - y
=> y = y' + e
=> Variance(y) = Variance(y' + e)

Always = 0

Variance(y) = Variance(y') + Variance(e) + Covariance(y',e)
```

A Leap of Faith

This is important - more on why in a bit

Variance(y) = Variance(y') + Variance(e)

Variance Explained

Variance of the dependent variable can be decomposed into variance of the regression fitted values, and that of the residuals

Variance(y) = Variance(y') + Variance(e)

Total Variance (TSS)

A measure of how volatile the dependent variable is, and of much it moves around

Explained Variance (ESS)

A measure of how volatile the fitted values are - these come from the regression line

TSS = Variance(y)

Residual Variance (RSS)

This the variance in the dependent variable that can not be explained by the regression

TSS = Variance(y) ESS = Variance(y')

TSS = ESS + RSS

Variance Explained

Variance of the dependent variable can be decomposed into variance of the regression fitted values, and that of the residuals

TSS = Variance(y) ESS = Variance(y) RSS = Variance(e)

 $R^2 = ESS / TSS$

 \mathbb{R}^2

The percentage of total variance explained by the regression. Usually, the higher the R², the better the quality of the regression (upper bound is 100%)

 $R^2 = ESS / TSS$

 \mathbb{R}^2

In multiple regression, adding explanatory variables always increases R², even if those variables are irrelevant and increase danger of multicollinearity

Adjusted- $R^2 = R^2 \times (Penalty for adding irrelevant variables)$

Adjusted-R²

Increases if irrelevant* variables are deleted

(*irrelevant variables = any group whose F-ratio < 1)



Nuts and Bolts

'Stepwise regression' - use with care
Automated selection of x variables
Variants

- Backward elimination
- Forward selection
- Iterative Elimination

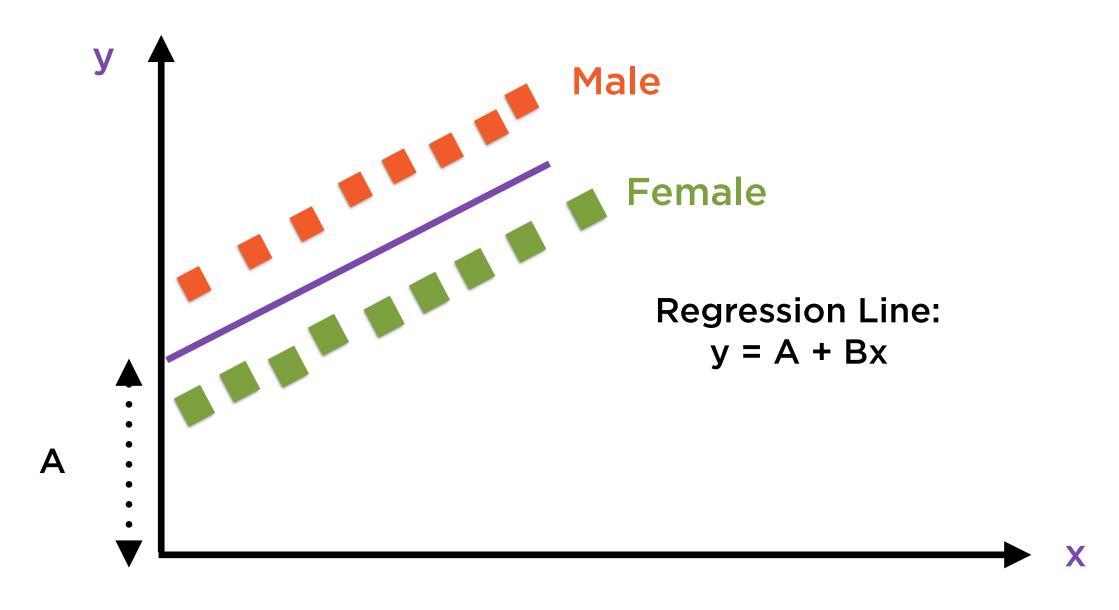
Extending Multiple Regression to Categorical Variables

Proposed Regression Equation:

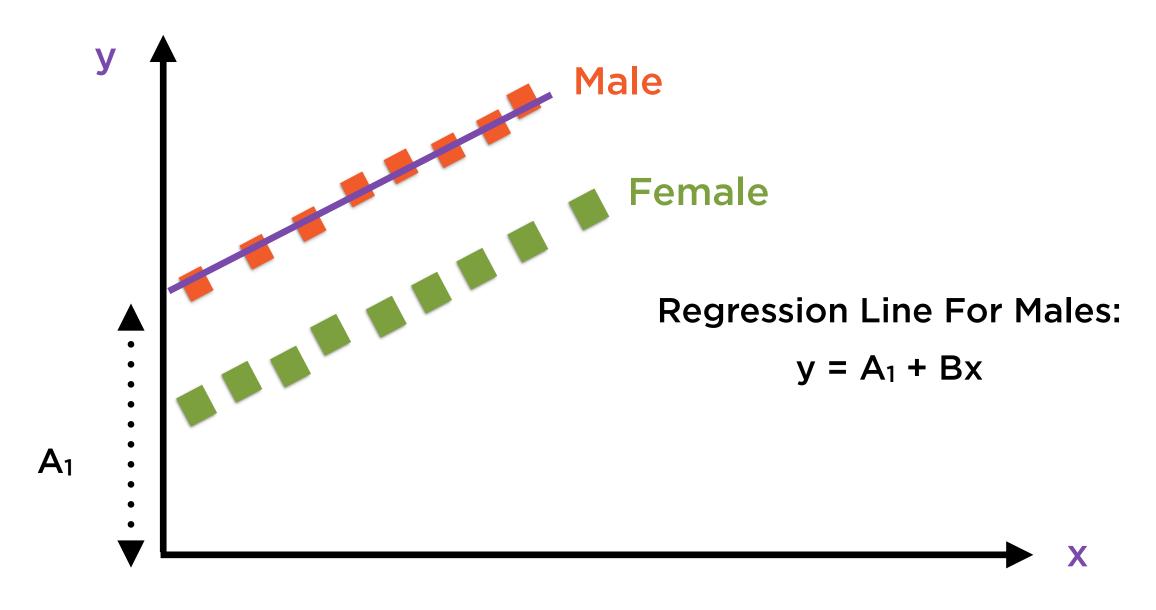
$$y = A + Bx$$

Height of individual

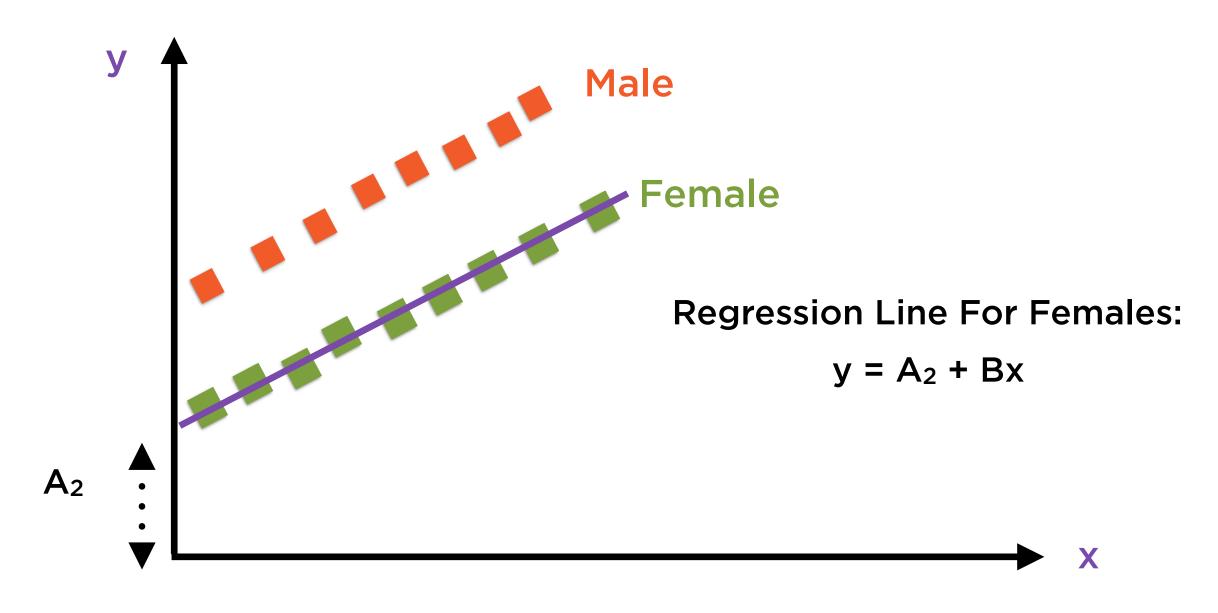
Average height of parents



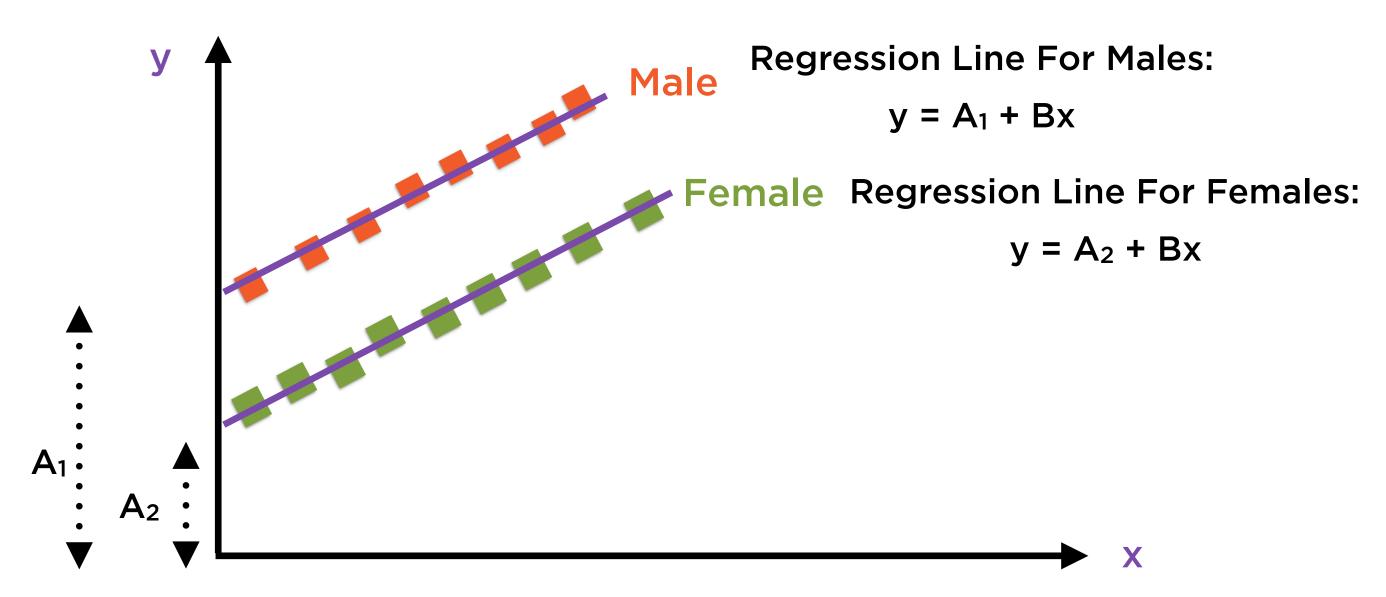
Not a great fit - regression line is far from all points!



We can easily plot a great fit for males...



...and another great fit for females



Two lines - same slope, different intercepts

Regression Line For Males:

$$y = A_1 + Bx$$

Regression Line For Females:

$$y = A_2 + Bx$$

Combined Regression Line:

$$y = A_1 + (A_2 - A_1)D + Bx$$

D = 0 for males

= 1 for females

Regression Line For Males:

$$y = A_1 + Bx$$

Regression Line For Females:

$$y = A_2 + Bx$$

Combined Regression Line:

$$y = A_1 + (A_2 - A_1)D + Bx$$

$$D = 0$$
 for males

$$y = A_1 + (A_2 - A_1)D + Bx$$

$$= A_1 + B_X$$

Regression Line For Males:

$$y = A_1 + Bx$$

Regression Line For Females:

$$y = A_2 + Bx$$

Combined Regression Line:

$$y = A_1 + (A_2 - A_1)D + Bx$$

D = 1 for females

$$y = A_1 + (A_2 - A_1) + Bx$$

$$= A_2 + B_X$$

Original Regression Equation:

$$y = A + Bx$$

Height of individual

Average height of parents

Combined Regression Line:

$$y = A_1 + (A_2 - A_1)D + Bx$$

D = 0 for males

= 1 for females

Combined Regression Line:

$$y = A_1 + (A_2 - A_1)D + Bx$$

D = 0 for males

= 1 for females

The data contained 2 groups, so we added 1 dummy variable

Given data with k groups, set up k-1 dummy variables, else multicollinearity occurs

Dummy and Other Categorical Variables

Dummy Variables

Binary - 0 or 1

Categorical Variables

Finite set of values - e.g. days of week, months of year...

To include non-binary categorical variables, simply add more dummies

Testing for Seasonality

Proposed Regression Equation:

$$y = A + BQ_1 + CQ_2 + DQ_3$$

returns

Average stock Quarter of the year

The data contains 4 groups, so we added 3 dummy variables

Testing for Seasonality

$$y = A + BQ_1 + CQ_2 + DQ_3$$

The data contains 4 groups, so we added 3 dummy variables

```
Q_1 = 1 for Jan, Feb, Mar
```

= 0 for other quarters

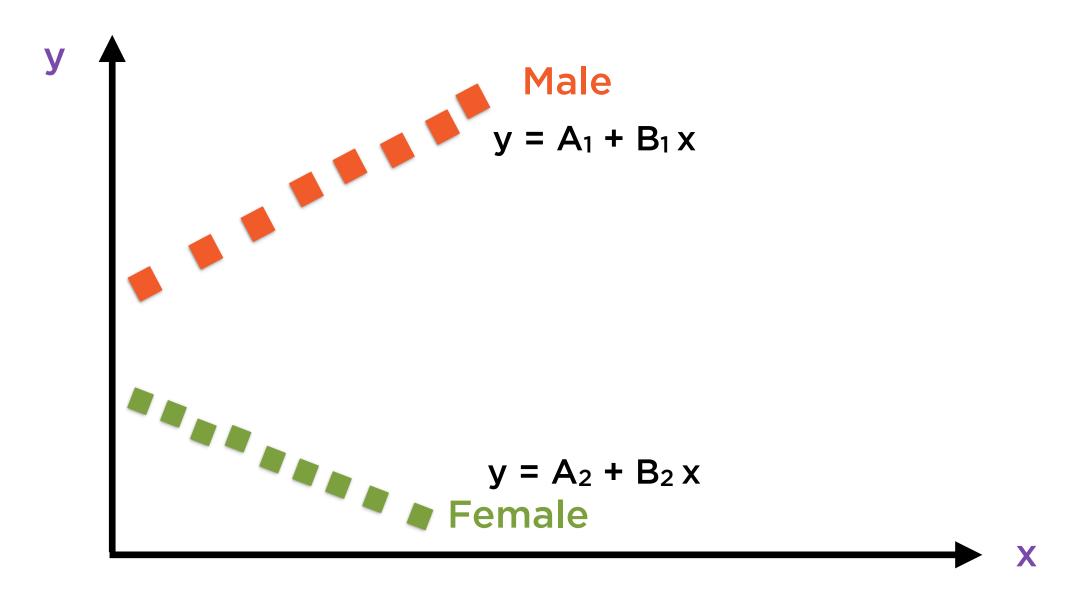
 $Q_2 = 1$ for Apr, May, Jun

= 0 for other quarters

 $Q_3 = 1$ for July, Aug, Sep

= 0 for other quarters

Different Groups, Different Slopes



Dummy variables can also be extended for use where groups have different slopes

Regression Line For Males:

$$y = A_1 + B_1 x$$

Regression Line For Females:

$$y = A_2 + B_2 x$$

Combined Regression Line:

$$y = A_1 + (A_2 - A_1)D_1 +$$

 $B_1x + (B_2 - B_1)D_2$

$$D_1 = 0$$
 for males

$$D_2 = 0$$
 for males

Regression Line For Males:

$$y = A_1 + B_1 x$$

Regression Line For Females:

$$y = A_2 + B_2 x$$

For males:

$$y = A_1 + (A_2 - A_1)D_1 + (B_2 - B_1)D_2$$

 $= A_1 + B_1 x$

Regression Line For Males:

$$y = A_1 + B_1 x$$

Regression Line For Females:

$$y = A_2 + B_2 x$$

For females:

$$y = A_1 + (A_2 - A_1)(1) + B_1x + (B_2 - B_1)x$$
 $D_2 = x$

$$= A_1 + (A_2 - A_1) + B_1x + (B_2 - B_1)x$$

$$= A_2 + B_2 x$$

Dummy Variables



Summary

Understood the formidable benefits of multiple regression

Mitigated the significant risks that come with those benefits

Understood the utility of Adjusted-R²

Used multiple regression to work with categorical variables