

# Gov 50: 13. Regression

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# Roadmap

1. Prediction
2. Modeling with a line
3. Linear regression in R

# 1/ Prediction

# Predicting my weight

Predicting weight with activity: health data

Name	Description
date	date of measurements
active_calories	calories burned
steps	number of steps taken (in 1,000s)
weight	weight (lbs)
steps_lag	steps on day before (in 1,000s)
calories_lag	calories burned on day before

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- Terminology:
  - **Dependent/outcome variable:** what we want to predict (weight).
  - **Independent/explanatory variable:** what we're using to predict (steps).

# Weight data

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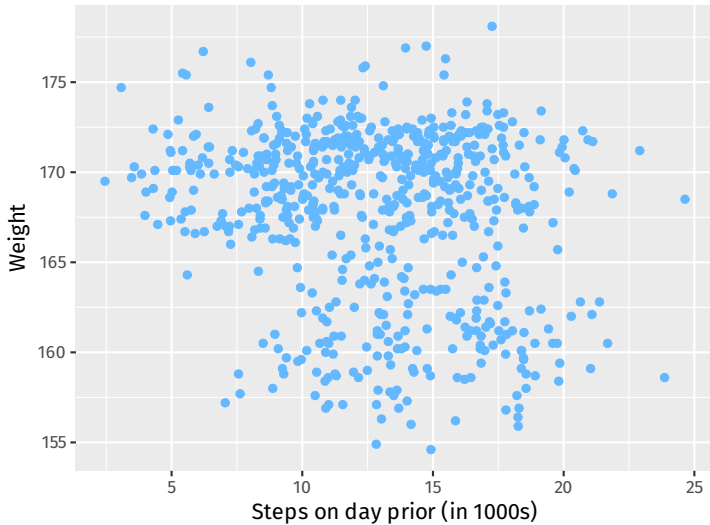
- Load the data:

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health <- drop_na(health)
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- Plot the data:

```
ggplot(health, aes(x = steps_lag, y = weight)) +
  geom_point(color = "steelblue1") +
  labs(
    x = "Steps on day prior (in 1000s)",
    y = "Weight",
    title = "Weight and Steps"
  )
```

## Weight and Steps



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  - Need a function  $y = f(x)$  that maps values of  $X$  into predictions.
  - **Machine learning**: fancy ways to determine  $f(x)$
- Example: what if did 5,000 steps today? What's my best guess about weight?

# Start with looking at a narrow strip of X

Let's find all values that round to 5,000 steps:

```
health |>  
  filter(round(steps_lag) == 5)
```

```
## # A tibble: 12 x 6  
##   date      active_calories steps weight steps_lag  
##   <date>          <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>    <dbl>  
## 1 2015-09-08      1111.  15.2  169.     5.02  
## 2 2015-12-12       728.  14.7  167.     5.36  
## 3 2015-12-28       430.   8.94  170.     5.19  
## 4 2016-01-29       475.   8.26  171.     4.95  
## 5 2016-02-14       264.   5.42  172.     4.86  
## 6 2016-02-15       892.  13.1  171.     5.42  
## 7 2016-05-02       627.  11.8  170.     5.04  
## 8 2016-06-27       352.   7.21  169.     4.93  
## 9 2016-07-22       766.  14.8  167.     4.96  
## 10 2016-11-25       452   9.4   173.     5.26  
## 11 2016-11-28       577.  11.8  171.     4.97  
## 12 2016-12-30       621.  12.4  176.     5.42  
## # i 1 more variable: calorie_lag <dbl>
```

# Best guess about Y for this X

Best prediction about weight for a step count of roughly 5,000 is the average weight for observations around that value:

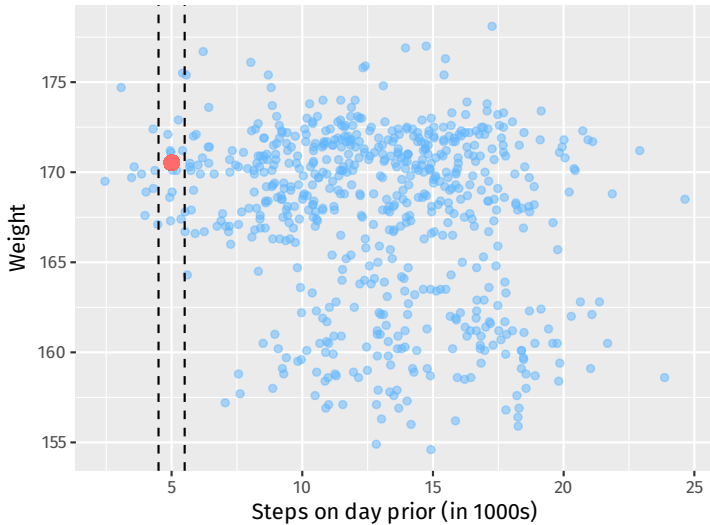
```
mean_wt_5k_steps <- health |>
  filter(round(steps_lag) == 5) |>
  summarize(mean(weight)) |>
  pull()
mean_wt_5k_steps
```

```
## [1] 171
```

# Plotting the best guess

```
ggplot(health, aes(x = steps_lag, y = weight)) +  
  geom_point(color = "steelblue1", alpha = 0.5) +  
  labs(  
    x = "Steps on day prior (in 1000s)",  
    y = "Weight",  
    title = "Weight and Steps"  
  ) +  
  geom_vline(xintercept = c(4.5, 5.5), linetype = "dashed") +  
  geom_point(aes(x = 5, y = mean_wt_5k_steps), color = "indianred1",  
             size = 3)
```

## Weight and Steps



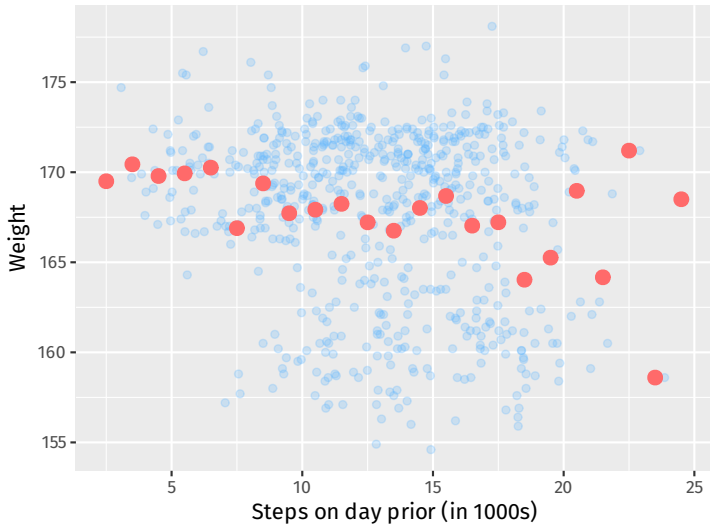
# Binned means

We can use a `stat_summary_bin()` to add these binned means all over the scatter plot:

```
ggplot(health, aes(x = steps_lag, y = weight)) +  
  geom_point(color = "steelblue1", alpha = 0.25) +  
  labs(  
    x = "Steps on day prior (in 1000s)",  
    y = "Weight",  
    title = "Weight and Steps"  
  ) +  
  stat_summary_bin(fun = "mean", color = "indianred1", size = 3,  
                  geom = "point", binwidth = 1)
```



## Weight and Steps

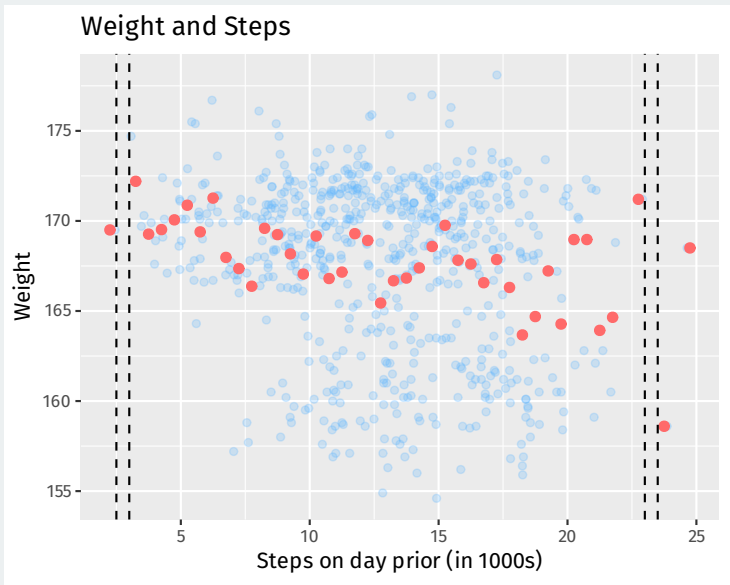


# Smaller bins

But what happens when we make the bins too small?

```
ggplot(health, aes(x = steps_lag, y = weight)) +  
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  labs(  
    x = "Steps on day prior (in 1000s)",  
    y = "Weight",  
    title = "Weight and Steps"  
  ) +  
  stat_summary_bin(fun = "mean", color = "indianred1", size = 2,  
                   geom = "point", binwidth = 0.5) +  
  geom_vline(xintercept = c(2.5, 3, 23, 23.5), linetype = "dashed")
```

## Gaps and bumps:



## **2/** Modeling with a line

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- Problem: for any line we draw, not all the data is on the line.
  - Some points will be above the line, some below.
  - Need a way to account for **chance variation** away from the line.

# Linear regression model

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- Useful fiction: this model represents the **data generating process**
  - George Box: "all models are wrong, some are useful"

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  - Average weight when I take 0 steps the day prior.
- **Slope**  $\beta$ : average change in  $Y$  when  $X$  increases by one unit.
  - Average decrease in weight for each additional 1,000 steps.

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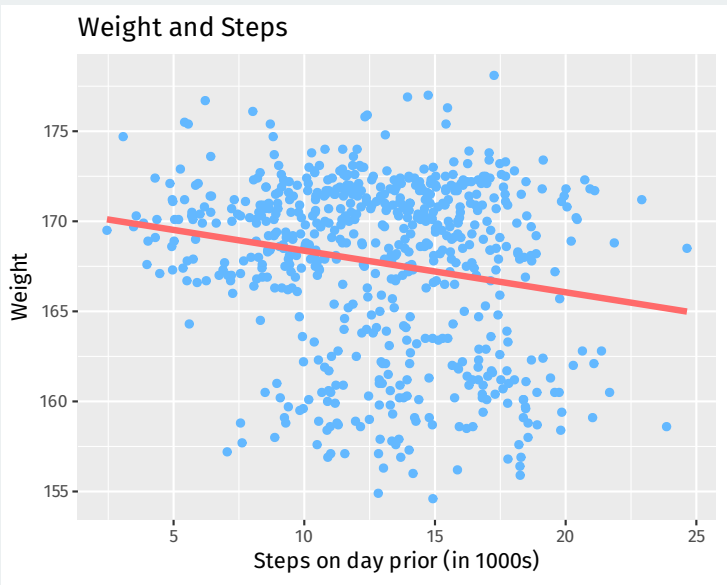
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- **Regression line:**  $\hat{Y} = \hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} \cdot x$ 
  - Average value of  $Y$  when  $X$  is equal to  $x$ .
  - Represents the best guess or **predicted value** of the outcome at  $x$ .

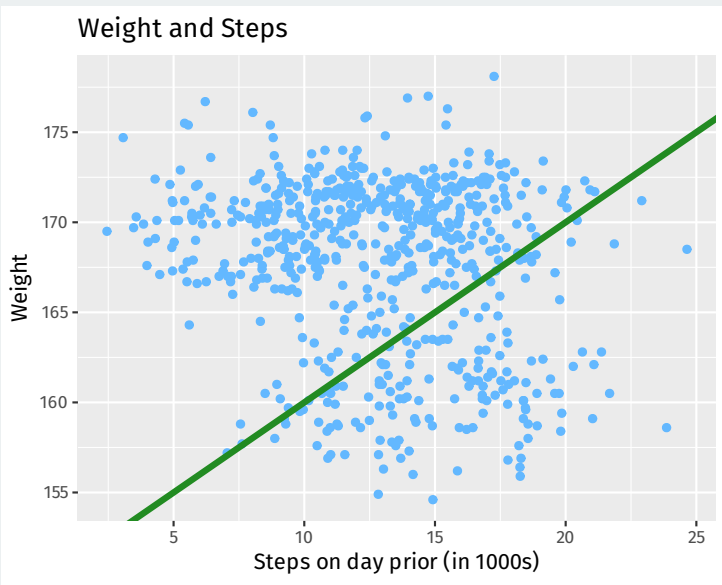
# Line of best fit

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# Why not this line?





# Prediction error

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**Prediction error (residual):**

$$\text{error} = \text{actual} - \text{predicted} = Y_i - (a + b \cdot X_i)$$

# Prediction errors/residuals



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- Minimize the **sum of the squared residuals** (SSR):

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- Finds the line that minimizes the magnitude of the prediction errors!

## **3/** Linear regression in R



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fit <- lm(weight ~ steps_lag, data = health)
fit
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```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = weight ~ steps_lag, data = health)
##
## Coefficients:
## (Intercept)      steps_lag
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# Coefficients

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**Interpretation:** a 1-unit increase in  $X$  (1,000 steps) is associated with a decrease in the average weight of 0.231 pounds.

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```

**Interpretation:** a 1-unit increase in  $X$  (1,000 steps) is associated with a decrease in the average weight of 0.231 pounds.

**Question:** what would this model predict about the change in average weight for a 10,000 step increase in steps?

# broom package

The broom package can provide nice summaries of the regression output.

`augment()` can show fitted values, residuals and other unit-level statistics:

```
library(broom)
augment(fit) |> head()
```

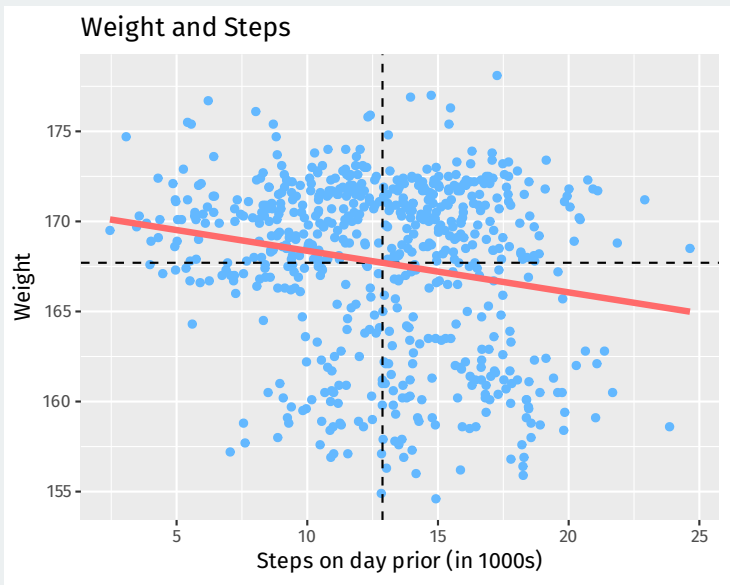
```
## # A tibble: 6 x 8
##   weight steps_lag .fitted .resid    .hat .sigma    .cooksd
##   <dbl>    <dbl>    <dbl>  <dbl>  <dbl> <dbl>    <dbl>
## 1   169.    17.5    167.  2.46  0.00369  4.68  5.13e-4
## 2   168     18.4    166.  1.57  0.00463  4.68  2.64e-4
## 3   167.    19.6    166.  1.05  0.00609  4.68  1.54e-4
## 4   168.    10.4    168. -0.0750 0.00217  4.68  2.80e-7
## 5   168.    18.7    166.  1.44  0.00496  4.68  2.38e-4
## 6   166.     9.14    169. -2.27  0.00296  4.68  3.49e-4
## # i 1 more variable: .std.resid <dbl>
```

# Properties of least squares

Least squares line always goes through  $(\bar{X}, \bar{Y})$ .

```
ggplot(health, aes(x = steps_lag, y = weight)) +  
  geom_point(color = "steelblue1") +  
  labs(  
    x = "Steps on day prior (in 1000s)",  
    y = "Weight",  
    title = "Weight and Steps"  
  ) +  
  geom_hline(yintercept = mean(health$weight), linetype = "dashed") +  
  geom_vline(xintercept = mean(health$steps_lag), linetype = "dashed") +  
  geom_smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE, color = "indianred1", size = 1.5)
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Estimated slope is related to correlation:

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Mean of residuals is always 0.

```
augment(fit) |>  
  summarize(mean(.resid))
```

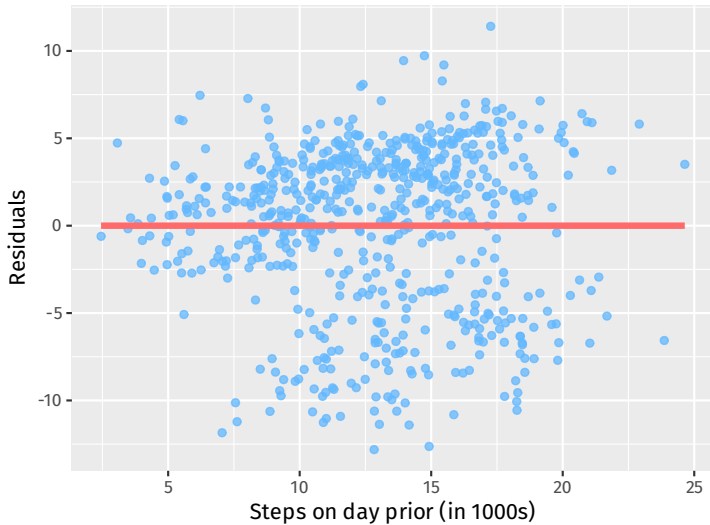
```
## # A tibble: 1 x 1  
##   `mean(.resid)`  
##           <dbl>  
## 1          -1.27e-13
```



# Plotting the residuals

```
augment(fit) |>
  ggplot(aes(x = steps_lag, y = .resid)) +
  geom_point(color = "steelblue1", alpha = 0.75) +
  labs(
    x = "Steps on day prior (in 1000s)",
    y = "Residuals",
    title = "Residual plot"
  ) +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE, color = "indianred1", size = 1.5)
```

Residual plot



# Smoothed graph of averages

Another way to think of the regression line is a smoothed version of the binned means plot:

```
ggplot(health, aes(x = steps_lag, y = weight)) +  
  geom_point(color = "steelblue1", alpha = 0.25) +  
  labs(  
    x = "Steps on day prior (in 1000s)",  
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## Weight and Steps

