# Inference in Simple Linear Regression

Keegan Korthauer

Department of Statistics

UW Madison

# Recap – Correlation Coefficient

$$r = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{i} y_{i} - n \overline{x} \overline{y}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{i}^{2} - n \overline{x}^{2}} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{n} y_{i}^{2} - n \overline{y}^{2}}}$$

- Measures the strength of linear relationship
- Unitless, always between -1 and 1
- Correlation does not imply causation
- If (X,Y) bivariate normal, have CI and HT for population correlation coefficient ρ

# Recap -Simple Linear Regression

The simple linear regression model assumes:

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \varepsilon_i$$

• The least-squares line is:

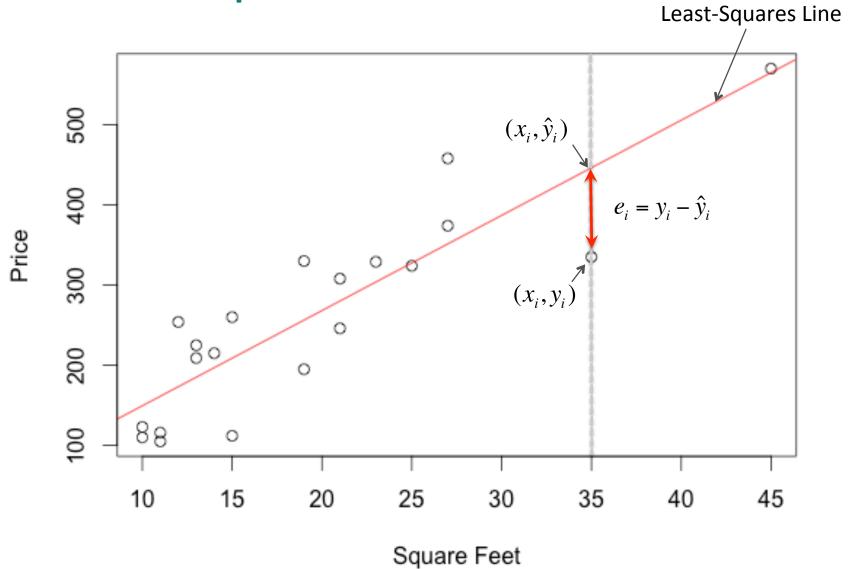
$$\hat{y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i$$

Where

$$\hat{\beta}_{1} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{i} y_{i} - n \overline{x} \overline{y}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{i}^{2} - n \overline{x}^{2}}, \ \hat{\beta}_{0} = \overline{y} - \hat{\beta}_{1} \overline{x}$$

- Only applies when relationship is linear
- Be wary of extrapolation

#### Least-Squares Line Minimizes SSE



# Sums of Squares

- Error Sum of Squares  $SSE = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i \hat{y}_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i^2 \sum_{i=1}^{n} \hat{y}_i^2$
- Total Sum of Squares  $SST = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i \overline{y})^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i^2 n\overline{y}^2$
- Regression Sum of Squares  $SSR = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\hat{y}_i \overline{y})^2$

Analysis of Variance property: SST = SSR + SSE

Coefficient of Determination (Goodness-of-fit measure):

$$r^2 = \frac{\text{Regression sum of squares}}{\text{Total sum of squares}} = \frac{SSR}{SST}$$

# **Example - Finding Sums of Squares**

For the housing data example, find SSE, SSR and SST using the following quantities:

$$\bar{x} = 19.3, \ \bar{y} = 259.9, \ n = 20$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i y_i = 119,156$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i^2 = 9036, \ \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i^2 = 1,639,188, \ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \hat{y}_i^2 = 1,574,603$$

# UNCERTAINTIES AND INFERENCE FOR THE LEAST-SQUARES COEFFICIENTS

#### ε<sub>i</sub> - Error Term in the Simple Linear Model

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \varepsilon_i$$

Measurement errors and/or uncontrolled variation in experimental conditions

Unknown

Expect to be zero on average

#### Repeated Experimental Processes

- The errors  $\varepsilon_i$  will change from experiment to experiment, and so will the estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$
- The errors  $\epsilon_i$  create **uncertainty** in the estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$
- Smaller errors are associated with smaller amount of uncertainty in the estimates
  - Likewise larger errors lead to larger uncertainty in the estimates

#### Assumptions for Errors in Linear Models

- 1. Errors  $\varepsilon_1$ ,...,  $\varepsilon_n$  are **random** and **independent**. In particular, the magnitude of any error  $\varepsilon_i$  does not influence the value of the next error  $\varepsilon_{i+1}$
- 2. Errors  $\varepsilon_1,..., \varepsilon_n$  all have mean 0
- 3. Errors  $\epsilon_1$ ,...,  $\epsilon_n$  all have the same variance denoted by  $\sigma^2$
- 4. Errors  $\varepsilon_1$ ,...,  $\varepsilon_n$  are normally distributed

#### Violations of Error Assumptions

- If the sample size is large, Assumption 4 (normality) is not very important
- Mild violations of Assumption 3 (constant variance)
  are OK, but severe violations are not
  - More on this (how to diagnose, correct) later

#### Estimation of Error Variance $\sigma^2$

- Assumption 3: all errors have variance  $\sigma^2$
- To estimate uncertainty in estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ , must first estimate  $\sigma^2$  with  $s^2$ :

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2}{n-2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}{n-2}$$

Equivalent formulae:

$$s^{2} = \frac{SSE}{n-2} = \frac{SST(1-r^{2})}{n-2}$$

# Consequences of the Assumptions

• The errors  $\varepsilon_1$ ,...,  $\varepsilon_n$  are independent normal random variables with mean zero and variance  $\sigma^2$ :

$$e_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

• Since  $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \varepsilon_i$  the  $y_i$  are a linear combination of  $\varepsilon_i$  so they are also normally distributed:

$$y_i \sim N(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i, \sigma^2)$$

• We can now calculate the means and standard deviations of the estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ 

#### **Uncertainties of Coefficients**

Under assumptions 1-4,  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$ 

- are normally distributed
- have mean  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ , respectively
- have standard deviations:

$$s_{\hat{\beta}_0} = s \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{\overline{x}^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{x})^2}} \text{ and } s_{\hat{\beta}_1} = \frac{s}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{x})^2}}$$

where 
$$s = \hat{\sigma}$$

# Housing Data Example

Estimate the standard deviations of the regression coefficients using the following quantities:

$$\overline{x} = 19.3, \ \overline{y} = 259.9, \ n = 20$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i y_i = 119,156$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i^2 = 9036, \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i^2 = 1,639,188$$

# Ways to Improve Accuracy

Improving accuracy = decreasing variation

Increase sample size

Increase range of x values

#### Inference on the Coefficients

• Now that we have their mean and standard deviations, we can get CIs/HTs about the true values  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  using the t distribution:

$$\frac{(\hat{\beta}_0 - \beta_0)}{s_{\hat{\beta}_0}} \sim t_{n-2} \text{ and } \frac{(\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1)}{s_{\hat{\beta}_1}} \sim t_{n-2}$$

• We can test a hypothesis for  $\beta_0$  or  $\beta_1$  using a t-test where the quantities above are the test statistics

# Housing Data Example

Someone claims that for every additional 100 square feet, a home will sell for about \$10,000 more. To evaluate this claim on our dataset, perform a hypothesis test at the 0.05 level of

$$H_0$$
:  $β_1$  = 10 versus  $H_1$ :  $β_1 ≠ 10$ 

# Confidence Intervals for $\beta_0$ and $\beta_1$

From the previous results, we can obtain a  $100(1-\alpha)$ % CI for  $\beta_0$  or  $\beta_1$  with the following:

$$\hat{\beta}_0 \pm t_{n-2, \alpha/2} s_{\hat{\beta}_0}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_1 \pm t_{n-2, \alpha/2} s_{\hat{\beta}_1}$$

# Housing Data Example

Find 95% confidence intervals for the regression coefficients  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ :

#### Confidence Interval of Mean Response

What if we want an interval of plausible values for the mean value of y at a certain value of x?

A level  $100(1-\alpha)\%$  confidence interval for the quantity  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 x$  is given by

$$\widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1 x \pm t_{n-2,\alpha/2} \cdot s_{\widehat{y}} \tag{7.41}$$

where 
$$s_{\widehat{y}} = s \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{(x - \overline{x})^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{x})^2}}$$
.

#### Prediction Interval for Future Observations

What if we want an interval of plausible values for y for a particular observation with a certain x value?

A level  $100(1-\alpha)\%$  prediction interval for the quantity  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 x$  is given by

$$\widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1 x \pm t_{n-2,\alpha/2} \cdot s_{\text{pred}} \tag{7.44}$$

where 
$$s_{\text{pred}} = s \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(x - \overline{x})^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{x})^2}}$$
.

# Housing Data Example

#### Find:

- A 95% confidence interval for the mean cost of a home with 2500 square feet
- A 95% prediction interval for a 2500 square foot home that will be put on the market next week

#### **INTERPRETING R OUTPUT**

# R: Summary of an SLR fit

test statistic and p-value

for the test of the null

hypothesis that the coefficient is equal to 0 > summary(lm(Price~Sqft)) Coefficients: Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|) (Intercept)  $30.731\hat{\beta}_0$   $31.969^S\hat{\beta}_0$  0.961 0.349 Sqft  $11.874\hat{\beta}_1$   $1.504S\hat{\beta}_1$  7.895 2.96e-07 \*\*\* --- Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1 Residual standard error: 59.9 on 18 degrees of freedom Multiple R-squared: 0.7759, Adjusted R-squared: 0.7635 F-statistic: 62.33 on 1 and 18 DF, p-value: 2.957e-07

#### Next

Exam 2 handed back Wednesday

How to Check Assumptions 1-4

- What to do when assumptions are violated
  - Transformation of Data
  - Addressing Outliers and Influential Points