Multiple Linear Regression.

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Multiple Linear Regression: Two Variables.

Multiple linear regression deals with multiple explanatory variables.

Example. Now, let's include both $X_1 = TV$ and $X_2 = radio$ to predict Y = sales. Then the multiple linear regression modeling equation is

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \epsilon, \ \epsilon \sim_{i.i.d.} N(0, \sigma^2),$$

or (with "i" indexation)

Replacing "Y" and "X" with the actual names of variables:

or (with "i" indexation):

Multiple Linear Regression: Two Variables.

Corresponding multiple linear regression equation for **predictions** is:

$$\hat{Y} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2$$

Task: Find $\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2$ such that

$$\hat{Y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_{1,i} + \hat{\beta}_2 X_{2,i}$$
 (the **predicted** value)

is as close as possible to

$$Y_i$$
 (the **true** value), $i = 1, \ldots, n$

We need to minimize magnitude of residuals $e_i = Y_i - \hat{Y}_i, i = 1, ..., n$

That's done via **least squares** yet again: $\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2$ result from

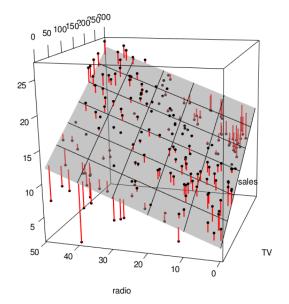
$$\min_{eta_0,eta_1,eta_2}$$
 RSS $=$

Geometry of Least Squares for 2-Predictor Regression.

Geometrically, it amounts to finding a plane

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_1 + \hat{\beta}_2 X_2$$

that's closest to the data points (vertical lines are residuals $e_i = \hat{Y}_i - Y_i$):



Slopes in Multiple Linear Regression: Partial Effects.

Development of least-squares linear regression estimates is similar for simple and multiple regression, but their **interpretation** is **different**:

• $\hat{\beta}_1$ in **multiple** regression is a **partial** coefficient: it represents the "effect" on Y of a one-unit increment in X_1 , **holding** X_2 **constant**. Same goes for $\hat{\beta}_2$, but **holding** X_1 **constant**.

• The $\hat{\beta}_1$ in **simple** regression represents the **marginal** relationship between Y and X_1 , completely ignoring X_2 .

Advertising example.

Task (see *R* **code)**. Fit the following multiple linear regression model for *Advertising* data:

sales
$$\sim TV + radio$$

and

Write down the fitted model equation.

2 Interpret the coefficients.

For TV predictor, $\hat{\beta}_1 = 0.045$: Per 1,000\$ increase in TV budget, **holding** radio **budget constant**, ...

Interpreting Effects of Predictors in MLR.

Example (cont'd). Fitted MLR equation is:

$$\widehat{sales} = 2.921 + 0.046 \times TV + 0.188 \times radio$$

Generic version for slope interpretation in MLR:

Per 1-unit increase in X, **holding all other predictors constant**, Y will increase $(\hat{\beta} > 0)$ /decrease $(\hat{\beta} < 0)$ by $|\hat{\beta}|$ units, **on average**.

Task. Interpret effects of each advertising media on sales.

• For *radio*, $\hat{\beta}_2 = 0.189$:

Interpreting the **intercept** in MLR.

Example (cont'd). Fitted MLR equation is:

$$\widehat{sales} = 2.921 + 0.046 \times TV + 0.188 \times radio$$

• For intercept, $\hat{\beta}_0 = 2.921$:

Multiple Linear Regression (MLR): General p Predictors.

Full modeling equation for multiple linear regression with *p* **predictors**:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \dots + \beta_p X_p + \epsilon, \ \epsilon \sim_{i.i.d.} N(0, \sigma^2),$$

or, with proper "i" indexation,

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{1,i} + \beta_2 X_{2,i} + \dots + \beta_p X_{p,i} + \epsilon_i, \ \epsilon_i \sim_{i.i.d.} N(0, \sigma^2)$$

Model assumptions on conditional response distribution $(Y \mid X_1, \dots, X_p)$ are **analogous** to those of **simple linear regression**.

Q #1: What were those modeling assumptions?

Multiple Linear Regression (MLR): General p Predictors.

The fitted *p*-dimensional **hyperplane** will have the following equation:

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_1 + \hat{\beta}_2 X_2 + \dots + \hat{\beta}_p X_p$$

Although impossible to visualize the data with a p-dimensional plane $(p \ge 3)$, estimates $\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1, \dots, \hat{\beta}_p$ are still found via **least squares**.

Q #2: Assumptions from **Q** #1 lead to what properties of least squares estimators $\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{\beta}_1, \dots, \hat{\beta}_p$ for population parameters $\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_p$?

Statistical Inference for Multiple Linear Regression.

Just like for simple linear regression,

$$\frac{\hat{eta}_j - eta_j}{\sqrt{V(\hat{eta}_j)}} \sim N(0,1), \quad j = 0,1,2,\ldots,p$$

where $V(\hat{\beta}_i)$ contains the unknown σ , which we substitute for $\hat{\sigma}$:

$$\hat{\sigma} = RSE = \sqrt{\frac{RSS}{n - (p + 1)}} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i} (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2}{n - (p + 1)}}$$
 (1)

That leads to us using t-distribution:

$$\frac{\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j}{SE(\hat{\beta}_j)} \sim t_{n-(p+1)}, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, p$$
(2)

Q: Why "n - (p + 1)" in (1) and (2)?

Statistical Inference in MLR: Confidence Intervals.

Fact (2) leads to the $(1 - \alpha)$ % **confidence interval** formula for β_j :

$$(\hat{\beta}_j - t_{[n-(p+1),1-\alpha/2]}SE(\hat{\beta}_j), \ \hat{\beta}_j + t_{[n-(p+1),1-\alpha/2]}SE(\hat{\beta}_j))$$

Task (See *R* **code)**. Fit multiple linear regression of

sales
$$\sim TV + radio$$

Next, for β_1, β_2 , proceed to

• Calculate and **interpret** the 95% and 90% confidence intervals.

Statistical Inference in MLR: Confidence Intervals.

Task (cont'd).

• Calculate and **interpret** the 95% and 90% confidence intervals.

Statistical Inference in MLR: Hypothesis Testing.

Task (cont'd). In multiple linear regression of

sales
$$\sim TV + radio$$

for β_1, β_2 , proceed to

• Interpret the *summary()* results of respective hypotheses tests.

Multiple Linear Regression: Advertising example.

Task. For the following multiple linear regression model:

$$sales \sim TV + radio + newspaper$$
,

proceed to:

• Write down the general modeling equation.

• Fit the model in R, write the **fitted** model equation.

• Interpret the coefficients.

For
$$TV$$
, $\hat{\beta}_1 = 0.046$:

Multiple Linear Regression: Advertising example.

Task (cont'd).

• Interpret the coefficients (cont'd).

Advertisement example.

Example. Having fitted MLR for *Advertisement* data, we got

	Coefficient	Std. error	t-statistic	p-value
Intercept	2.939	0.3119	9.42	< 0.0001
TV	0.046	0.0014	32.81	< 0.0001
radio	0.189	0.0086	21.89	< 0.0001
newspaper	-0.001	0.0059	-0.18	0.8599

Questions:

• Practically, what does standard error describe for each coefficient?

• What H_0 hypotheses do the t-statistic and p-value columns refer to?

Advertisement example.

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Questions (cont'd):

• What values of t-statistic are expected of H_0 were true?

• What do the p-values tell us about H_0 ?

Newspaper advertising in SLR & MLR.

As a result of fitting **multiple** linear regression, we see that *newspaper* doesn't have an effect on sales, **BUT...**

Meanwhile, in simple linear regression:

$$sales = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \times newspaper + \epsilon$$
,

we actually witness a significant effect for newspaper:

Q: Why?

A: See R code and the following slides...

Newspaper advertising in SLR & MLR.

Example (cont'd): Full correlation matrix for *Advertisement* data set

	TV	radio	newspaper	sales
TV	1.0000	0.0548	0.0567	0.7822
radio		1.0000	0.3541	0.5762
newspaper			1.0000	0.2283
sales				1.0000

What do we see?

cor(newspaper, radio) =

It means: in simple linear regression of sales \sim newspaper, a 1,000\$ increase in newspaper ads is also accompanied by ...

Newspaper advertising in SLR & MLR.

Example (cont'd):

Q: Could we make that mistake in MLR? Why? **See** *R* **code**.

Absurd example: Shark Attacks & Ice Cream sales.

Example:

- Simple linear regression of $Y = \{ \# \text{ shark attacks} \}$ on $X_1 = \{ \text{ice cream sales} \}$ might yield a **strong positive relationship**.
- Extra variable correlated with both is $X_2 = \{ \# \text{ of beach visitors} \}$:
 - ullet more people at the beach \implies more shark attacks & ice cream sold

Question: What would likely happen in a **multiple** linear regression of shark attacks (Y) on both ice cream sales (X_1) & # of beach-goers (X_2) ?

Question: How do we match up the variables from *Advertisement* example with those in the *Shark* example in terms of their roles?

Multiple Linear Regression: Important Questions.

Critical questions when performing MLR:

① (Model significance) Is at least one of the predictors X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_p useful in predicting the response?

(Variable selection) Do all the predictors help to explain Y, or is only a subset of the predictors useful?

Quality of Fit) How well does the model fit the data?

(Prediction) Given a set of predictor values, what response value should we predict, and how confident are we in our prediction?

Model significance: F-statistic.

To determine if at least one predictor has a strong relationship with the response (to **test for model significance**):

• Hypotheses are

$$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_p = 0$$
 vs $H_a: \{\text{at least one } \beta_j \neq 0\}$

Test statistic used is F-statistic (FS):

$$FS = \frac{RegSS/p}{RSS/(n - (p + 1))}$$

where

- RSS (Residual Sum of Squares) = $\sum_i (Y_i \hat{Y}_i)^2$ {initial variance in response Y that's left unexplained after regression},
- RegSS(Regression Sum of Squares) = TSS RSS = {initial variance in response Y that's **explained** by regression}.

Model significance: Analysis of Variance (ANOVA).

This breakdown of the **initial variance in** Y(TSS) into

- Variance left unexplained by regression (RSS),
- Variance **explained** by regression (*RegSS*),

$$TSS = RSS + RegSS$$
,

is known as ANalysis Of VAriance (ANOVA) for regression.

In many traditional statistics texts, it's accompanied by an ANOVA table:

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F
Regression	RegSS	р	RegSS	RegMS RMS
Residuals	RSS	<i>n−p</i> −1	$\frac{RSS}{n-p-1}$	
Total	TSS	<i>n</i> − 1		

F-Statistic Breakdown.

$$FS = \frac{RegSS/p}{RSS/(n - (p + 1))}$$

Given that

• RegSS = initial variance in response Y that's ...

• RSS = initial variance in response Y that's ...

Question: What values of *F*-statistic indicate a **good model** - high or low? Why?

F-test.

To formalize **how high** a value of *F*-statistic is **evidence enough** to claim **model significance** (\Leftrightarrow reject $H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_p = 0$), we need **sampling distribution of** *F*-statistic under H_0 .

1 Under $H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_p = 0$, we would expect:

$$(F \mid H_0) \sim F_{p,n-(p+1)},$$

where $F_{p,n-(p+1)}$ is F-distribution with

- p numerator degrees of freedom, and
- n (p + 1) **denominator** degrees of freedom

See https://istats.shinyapps.io/FDist/ for demo.

• p-value= {how likely is F = FS value (or more extreme) under H_0 }: p-value = $P(F \ge FS \mid H_0) \equiv P(F_{p,p-(p+1)} \ge FS)$

Question: Why does "more extreme" mean **higher** values of *F*-stat?

Sampling Distribution of *F*-statistic (**FOR CURIOUS**).

Definition. Random variable F (for F-statistic) has F-distribution with p numerator and n-(p+1) denominator degrees of freedom (AKA $FS \sim F_{p,n-(p+1)}$)

$$F = \frac{X_p^2/p}{X_{n-(p+1)}^2/(n-(p+1))},$$

where $X_p^2 \sim \chi_p^2$, $X_{n-(p+1)}^2 \sim \chi_{n-(p+1)}^2$, $X_p^2 \& X_{n-(p+1)}^2$ are **independent**.

Definition. Random variable X_p^2 has χ^2 distribution with p degrees of freedom (AKA $\sim \chi_p^2$) if

$$\chi_p^2 = Z_1^2 + Z_2^2 + \dots + Z_p^2,$$

where $Z_i \sim_{i,i,d} N(0,1), i = 1,..., p$.

Sampling Distribution of *F*-statistic (**FOR CURIOUS**).

In our case, from some **deep linear models theory**, the following result on sampling distributions of RegSS and RSS under H_0 is available:

$$\begin{split} \textit{RegSS} &= \sum_i (\hat{Y}_i - \bar{\mathbf{Y}})^2 \mid \textit{H}_0 \sim \sigma^2 \chi_p^2 \\ \textit{RSS} &= \sum_i (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2 \mid \textit{H}_0 \sim \sigma^2 \chi_{n-(p+1)}^2, \end{split}$$

leading to

$$F = \frac{RegSS/p}{RSS/(n - (p+1))} \equiv \frac{RegSS/p}{RSS/(n - (p+1))} \mid H_0 \sim \frac{2\chi_p^2/p}{2\chi_{n-(p+1)}^2/(n - (p+1))} \equiv F_{p,n-(p+1)}$$

P-value - how likely is this value of FS under H_0 - is calculated as

$$p$$
-value = $P(F_{p,n-(p+1)} \ge FS)$

Steps of *F*-test.

Task. Proceed to lay out the steps of F-test in general case (hypotheses, test statistic & its sampling distribution, p-value calculation, conclusion).

F-Test for Advertisement.

Task (See R **code as well)**. Proceed to lay out the steps of F-test for *Advertisement* example of

 $sales \sim TV + radio + newspaper$

Why need *F*-statistic?

Question: Why not just look at **single variable** t-test results and p-values (if at least one is significant - reject H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_p = 0$)?

Answer: In many cases - sure, but **generally WRONG**.

Example. Say, for

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \dots + \beta_{100} X_{100} + \epsilon,$$

we know that H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_{100} = 0$ is indeed **true**.

Then, at significance level $\alpha=0.05$, we can expect 5% of *p*-values ending up < 0.05 simply due to **Type I error** allowance:

$$lpha = P(ext{Reject } H_0 ext{: } eta_j = 0 \mid H_0 ext{ is true}) = P(ext{Type I error}), \ j = 1, 2, \dots, 100$$

Meanwhile, *F*-test doesn't suffer from this issue, by looking at the effect of the model as a whole.

See the homework problem on "Why need *F*-statistic?".

Why need *F*-statistic? Rule of thumb.

1 If F-test shows that the model is insignificant: drop the model.

Issues might be:

- predictors are really useless,
- relationship is not linear, hence some data transformations are needed (see next deck of slides).

② If *F*-test shows that the model is significant: proceed to interpret the predictors with significant individual *t*-tests.

F-test: Reverse situation.

NOTE: Reverse situation is also possible in multiple linear regression.

Example. Data on 25 patients with cystic fibrosis yields:

```
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept) 176.0582
                  225.8912 0.779
                                  0.448
          -2.5420
                   4.8017 -0.529
                                  0.604
age
       -3.7368 15.4598 -0.242
                                 0.812
sex
height -0.4463
                   0.9034 -0.494
                                  0.628
weight 2.9928 2.0080 1.490
                                  0.157
       -1.7449 1.1552 -1.510
bmp
                                  0.152
         1.0807 1.0809 1.000
fev1
                                  0.333
                   0.1962 1.004
                                  0.331
rv
         0.1970
frc
         -0.3084
                   0.4924 - 0.626
                                  0.540
tlc
           0.1886
                   0.4997 0.377
                                  0.711
```

F-statistic: 2.929 on 9 and 15 DF, p-value: 0.03195

Task. Comment on what you observe.

Issue of **Collinearity**.

Example (cont'd). The overall model significance tells us that **there is** at **least one important variable** in the set of *p* predictors,

BUT

We can't see its' **single** *t***-test** significance yet due to the

• Issue of collinearity:

some important predictors are strongly correlated with each other



makes it difficult to separate their effects on the response.

Solution: drop variables that cause collinearity.

Collinearity.

In linear regression, collinearity refers to two or more predictors being closely linearly related to each other.

Example. In *Credit* data set, using customers' credit *Balance* as response, and customer's *Age*, *Limit* and *Rating* as predictors, the **predictor correlation matrix** looks as follows:

```
Age Limit Rating
Age 1.000 0.101 0.103
Limit 0.101 1.000 0.997
Rating 0.103 0.997 1.000
```

Question: Which predictors are collinear? Why?

Example (cont'd). Let's fit the following two models:

2 Balance =
$$\beta_0 + \beta_{Rating} \times Rating + \beta_{Limit} \times Limit + \epsilon$$

Question: Which model has collinearity? Why?

Example (cont'd). Let's check the impact collinearity may have on inference, by looking at the hypothesis test results for these two models:

		Coefficient	Std. error	t-statistic	p-value
Model 1	Intercept	-173.411	43.828	-3.957	< 0.0001
	age	-2.292	0.672	-3.407	0.0007
	limit	0.173	0.005	34.496	< 0.0001
Model 2	Intercept	-377.537	45.254	-8.343	< 0.0001
	rating	2.202	0.952	2.312	0.0213
	limit	0.025	0.064	0.384	0.7012

Q: What happens to $SE(\hat{\beta}_{limit})$ and corresponding *p*-value once collinearity is introduced? **See** R **code as well**.

The uncertainty introduced by collinearity is reflected in increased standard error of respective coefficient estimates.

Q: Why is it **intuitive** that **collinearity** makes estimating β_j coefficients **tougher? Hint**: Recall $\hat{\beta}_j$ interpretation in multiple linear regression.

Presume we have the following "fitted" model:

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_1 + \hat{\beta}_2 X_2,$$

where X_1, X_2 are **perfectly correlated** ($cor(X_1, X_2) = 1$).

Q: Can we estimate β_1, β_2 here? Why? **Hint**: Recall their interpretations.

Collinearity: Remedial measures.

There are a couple approaches to deal with collinearity:

Approach #1: Correlation matrix of predictors.

- Calculate full correlation matrix of all predictors.
- ② From a group of variables that are highly correlated (e.g. |cor| > 0.90, or 0.80) with each other, proceed to only retain one of them in the model, while dropping the others.

See R code example.

Multi-Collinearity.

Issue with Approach #1: it is possible for collinearity to exist between **three or more** variables even if there are **no high pairwise correlations**. That is known as **multi-collinearity**.

Example. For Advertising data,

- Let Total = radio + newspaper,
- 2 Consider regression sales $\sim radio + newspaper + total$.

Task. Work through this example (see *R* code as well).

Multi-Collinearity: Variance Inflation Factor (VIF).

Question: How to automatically detect that "sneaky" multi-collinearity?

Answer: Variance Inflation Factor (VIF).

Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) for predictor X_j is calculated as

$$VIF(\hat{\beta}_j) = \frac{1}{1 - R_{X_j|X_{-j}}^2},$$

where $R_{X_i|X_{-i}}^2$ is the R^2 from regressing X_j onto all **other predictors**:

$$X_{j} \sim X_{1} + \cdots + X_{j-1} + X_{j+1} + \cdots + X_{p}$$

If we get

•
$$R_{X_i|X_{-i}}^2 \approx 1 \implies$$

$$\bullet \ R^2_{X_i|X_{-i}}\approx 0 \implies$$

Multi-Collinearity: Variance Inflation Factor (VIF).

Approach #2: Variance Inflation Factor (VIF). Proceed to

- Calculate VIF for each predictor in the model.
- ② In case there are VIF values ≥ 5 (rule of thumb) drop the one predictor corresponding to the largest VIF value.
- ullet Repeat steps 1 & 2 for reduced model, until **all VIF values are** < 5.

See R code for examples.

Variable (Model) Selection.

Even after collinearity gets taken care of, one should still further consider:

Variable (or model) selection - task of retaining in the model only the most essential variables.

Variable selection methods differ by the

- direction of the procedure:
 - Backward: starts with full model, drops variables one at a time,
 - Forward:
 - Mixed: combines forward and backward.
- selection criteria used:
 - Akaike Information Criteria (AIC),
 - Bayesian Information Criteria (BIC),
 - Mallow's C_p

Here, we'll just provide the default approach of step() function in R:

backward selection via AIC criteria

Backward Selection via AIC.

- **1** Start with a full model $\{\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_p\}$.
- ② Drop one variable (and its coefficient β_j) at a time, aiming to **minimize** an information criterion AIC:

$$AIC(\beta_1, ..., \beta_p) \approx \{ Model Fitting Error \} + \{ Model Complexity \} \approx RSS(\beta_0, \beta_1, ..., \beta_p) + (p+1)$$

which accounts for

- model fit quality -
- model complexity -

Note: Dropping a variable from the model:

- always makes the fit quality worse (larger RSS), BUT
- it also decreases the complexity,

hence AIC balances those out to select the best subset of variables.

Stop once you can't improve AIC by dropping any of the remaining variables. See step() function output for illustration.

Backward Selection via **AIC**.

Example. Using backwards AIC selection on *cystfibr* data:

```
> lm.obj <- lm(pemax ~ ., data=cystfibr)</pre>
> step(lm.obj)
Start: AIC=169.11
pemax ~ age + sex + height + weight + bmp + fev1 + rv + frc + tlc
        Df Sum of Sq RSS AIC
- sex 1 37.90 9769.2 167.20
- tlc 1 92.40 9823.7 167.34
. . .
<none>
                     9731.2 169.11
. . .
Step: AIC=167.2
pemax ~ age + height + weight + bmp + fev1 + rv + frc + tlc
        Df Sum of Sq RSS AIC
- tlc 1 115.94 9885.1 165.50
- height 1 131.21 9900.4 165.54
. . .
```

Backward Selection via AIC.

Example (ct'd). After several more steps:

Qs:

• What's the final model selected?

• Why did the step() function stop at that particular model?

Quality of Fit: RSE and R^2 for Multiple Linear Regression.

To measure the **quality of fit** for our multiple linear regression model, we use the following metrics:

• Residual Standard Error (RSE):

$$RSE = \sqrt{\frac{SSE}{n - (p+1)}} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i} e_{i}^{2}}{n - (p+1)}}$$

 \bullet R^2 (coefficient of determination) calculated in the same manner:

$$R^{2} = \frac{TSS - RSS}{TSS} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (Y_{i} - \bar{\mathbf{Y}})^{2} - \sum_{i=1}^{n} (Y_{i} - \hat{Y}_{i})^{2}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (Y_{i} - \bar{\mathbf{Y}})^{2}}$$

Quality of Fit: RSE and R^2 for Multiple Linear Regression.

Task (see R code). For advertisement data, when fitting the full model

$$sales \sim TV + radio + newspaper$$

proceed to interpret

•
$$R^2 = ...$$

Prediction for MLR: Prediction and Confidence Bands.

Last, but not least, the question of **prediction** for MLR:

Example (See *R* **code)**. Presume we spend 50,000\$ on TV, 20,000\$ on radio and 5,000\$ on newspaper ads. **Interpret the following statements**:

• sales prediction is \Longrightarrow

• sales 95% confidence bands are

 \Longrightarrow

• sales 95% prediction bands are

=

Dealing with Categorical Variables.

So far we've mostly dealt with **quantitative** predictors: advertisement budget, age, height, weight,...

Q: How does one incorporate categorical predictors?

Example. Carseats data set deals with car seat sales in different stores based on a variety of area and store characteristics. Besides

• quantitative variables (e.g. income, competitor price, population ...),

it also utilizes

categorical variables

such as (see R code)

- Urban (Yes/No),
- ...
- ...

Example (ct'd). Say, we wish to investigate differences in car seat sales for **urban** and **non-urban** areas, ignoring other variables for the moment.

We create a **dummy variable** for *Urban* status of the area:

$$D_{Urb,i} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i^{th} \text{ store is in urban area,} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and use it as a predictor in SLR, resulting into

$$Sales_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 D_{Urb,i} + \epsilon_i =$$

Using **least squares**, one would obtain (see *R* code to confirm)

 $\hat{\beta}_0$

- average car seat sales for stores in non-urban areas,

•

- average car seat sales for stores in **urban** areas.

Example (ct'd). For our "single dummy variable" model,

$$Sales_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 D_{Urb,i} + \epsilon_i,$$

how to specify a hypothesis test for the following question

"Is there a significant difference in car seat sales for stores in urban and non-urban areas?"

Example (cont'd). Below is the coefficients table:

Coefficients:

Task. Proceed to interpret:

• The effect of urban area on car seat sales.

Std. error for that effect.

Hypothesis test results for that effect

Example (cont'd). Below is the coefficients table:

Coefficients:

Task. Proceed to interpret:

Intercept coefficient

Std. error for that effect.

• (if relevant) hypothesis test results for Intercept

Q: What if a variable has > 2 categories?

A: Create more dummy variables.

Example. To model the shelve location variable with K=3 levels (Good, Medium, Bad) in *Carseats* data set, we use K-1=2 dummy variables:

$$D_{GoodLoc,i} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{shelve location in } i^{th} \text{ store is good} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$D_{MedLoc,i} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{shelve location in } i^{th} \text{ store is medium} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Note: Bad location is our baseline (or reference) category here.

Example (ct'd). With $D_{GoodLoc}$ and D_{MedLoc} from previous slide, we get:

$$Sales_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 D_{GoodLoc,i} + \beta_2 D_{MedLoc,i} + \epsilon_i =$$

Task. For our model of

$$Sales_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 D_{GoodLoc,i} + \beta_2 D_{MedLoc,i} + \epsilon_i$$

specify hypotheses in order to answer the following questions:

Is there a significant difference in car seat sales between good and bad shelve locations?"

"Does shelve location affect car seat sales?"

Task (ct'd). Fit the *Sales* \sim *ShelveLoc* regression model,

• Write down the fitted equation.

• Interpret all $\hat{\beta}$ coefficients. Should we trust all of these interpretations (from statistical significance standpoint)?

Task (cont'd). Fit the *Sales* \sim *ShelveLoc* regression model,

• Interpret all $\hat{\beta}$ coefficients. Should we trust all of these interpretations (from statistical significance standpoint)?

Categorical Predictors in MLR.

Example. Lastly, let's run MLR with a **mixture** of quantitative & categorical predictors:

$$Sales \sim Advertising + ShelveLoc$$

Task.

• Write down full modeling equation.

• Write down the fitted equation.

Categorical Predictors in MLR.

Task (cont'd).

• Interpret all β 's (including β_0). Should we trust all of these interpretations (from statistical significance standpoint)?

Categorical Predictors in MLR.

Task (cont'd).

Testing for Significance of a Categorical Predictor.

Q: How could we test for significance of a categorical predictor, when being used in multiple linear regression with other predictors, if it

• has K = 2 levels? **See** R **code**.

• has K > 2 levels?

Option #1 (wrong one):

Q: Why is that approach wrong?

Option #2 (correct one): Use **incremental** *F***-test** for significance of a **subset** of predictors.

Testing for Significance of a Categorical Predictor.

Example. Full model eq. for $Sales \sim Advertising + ShelveLoc$ regression

$$\textit{Sales}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \textit{Advert}_i + \beta_2 D_{\textit{GoodLoc},i} + \beta_3 D_{\textit{MedLoc},i} + \epsilon_i, \ \epsilon_i \sim_{\textit{i.i.d.}} \textit{N}(0,\sigma^2),$$

Task: Formulate the hypotheses that will address the significance of the **entire** *ShelveLoc* categorical variable.

Hence, technically, we want to test for significance of **subset** of predictors (in that case, $D_{GoodLoc}$ and D_{MedLoc}).

Q: How?

A: Incremental F-test.

Incremental *F*-test for hypotheses

$$H_0$$
: $\beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$, vs H_a : {at least one of $\beta_2, \beta_3 \neq 0$ }

in regression like this

$$Sales_{i} = \beta_{0} + \beta_{1}Advert_{i} + \beta_{2}D_{GoodLoc,i} + \beta_{3}D_{MedLoc,i} + \epsilon_{i}, \ \epsilon_{i} \sim_{i.i.d.} N(0, \sigma^{2}),$$

is based on a comparison of RegSS (Q: What's that?) for

• Full model: includes all slope coefficients (RegSS_{Full})

• Null model, with β_2 , β_3 excluded ($RegSS_{Null}$). It is **nested** within the full model (hence the name "incremental" F-test).

The incremental *F*-test statistic is:

$$FS = \frac{(RegSS_{Full} - RegSS_{Null})/q}{RSS_{Full}/(n - (p + 1))}$$

where we have

- q number of β -coefficients tested in H_0 (e.g. if H_0 : $\beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$, then q = 2)
- numerator is the incremental sum of squares, capturing the increase in response variance explained when going from "Null"

 "Full" model (as in - when adding that subset of predictors),
- denominator unbiased estimate of error variance (details left out)

Q: Intuitively, what values of FS serve as evidence to reject H_0 ?

Q: How high an F-statistic value is evidence enough to reject H_0 ?

A: Need sampling distribution of F-stat vals expected under H_0 .

Under H_0 being true, we have

$$F \mid H_0 \sim F_{q,n-(p+1)}$$

The **exact** p-values - quantifying the evidence of how likely it was to see such value of F = FS (or more extreme) - are calculated as

$$\mathsf{p\text{-}value} = P(F_{q,n-(p+1)} \geq \mathit{FS})$$

Steps of **incremental** *F*-test.

Task. Proceed to lay out the steps of incremental F-test in general case (hypotheses, test stat. & its sampling distr., p-value calc., conclusion).

Example (ct'd). For our *Sales* \sim *Advertising* + *ShelveLoc* regression:

$$Sales_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Advert_i + \beta_2 D_{GoodLoc,i} + \beta_3 D_{MedLoc,i} + \epsilon_i, \ \epsilon_i \sim_{i.i.d.} N(0, \sigma^2),$$

lay out the steps of incremental F-test for significance of ShelveLoc.

Example (cont'd). Be able to interpret all entires in the summary below: