

Language of Models

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Announcements

- Reading 05 for Tuesday
- Labs resume on Friday
- Solutions to webscraping application exercise



The language of models



Modeling

- Use models to explain the relationship between variables and to make predictions
- For now we focus on **linear** models (but remember there are other types of models too!)



Packages



Packages



- You're familiar with the tidyverse:

```
library(tidyverse)
```

- The broom package takes the messy output of built-in functions in R, such as `lm`, and turns them into tidy data frames.

```
library(broom)
```

Data: Paris Paintings



Paris Paintings

```
pp <- read_csv("data/paris_paintings.csv", na = c("n/a", "", "NA"))
```

What does the **data/** mean in the code above? Hint: Where is the data file located?

- Paris Paintings Codebook

Meet the data curators



Sandra van Ginhoven Hilary Coe Cronheim

PhD students in the Duke Art, Law, and Markets Initiative in 2013

- Source: Printed catalogues of 28 auction sales in Paris, 1764- 1780
- 3,393 paintings, their prices, and descriptive details from sales catalogues over 60 variables

Auctions today

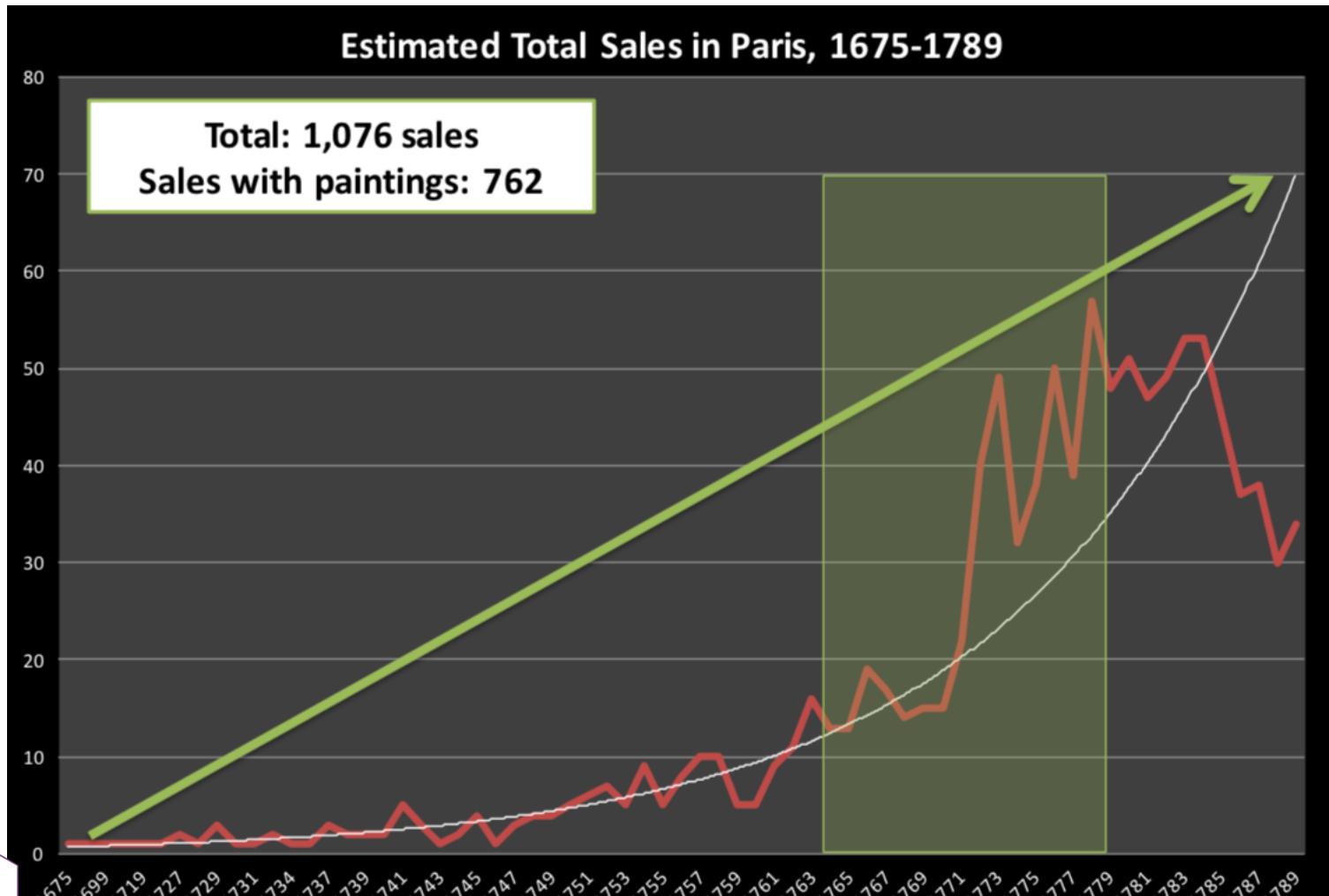


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=apaE1Q7r4so>

Auctions back in the day



Paris auction market



Depart pour la chasse



Auction catalogue text



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```
pp %>% filter(name == "R1777-89a") %>%  
  select(name:endbuyer) %>% t()
```

```
## [,1]  
## name      "R1777-89a"  
## sale       "R1777"  
## lot        "89"  
## position    "0.3755274"  
## dealer      "R"  
## year        "1777"  
## origin_author "D/FL"  
## origin_cat    "D/FL"  
## school_pntg   "D/FL"  
## diff_origin    "0"  
## logprice     "8.575462"  
## price        "5300"  
## count        "1"  
## subject      "D\x8e part pour la chasse"  
## authorstandard "Wouwerman, Philips"  
## artistliving   "0"  
## authorstyle     NA  
## author        "Philippe Wouwermans"  
## winningbidder  "Langlier, Jacques for Poullain, Antoine"  
## winningbiddertype "DC"  
## endbuyer      "C"
```

```
pp %>% filter(name == "R1777-89a") %>%  
  select(Interm:finished) %>% t()
```

```
##          [,1]  
## Interm      "1"  
## type_intermed "D"  
## Height_in    "17.25"  
## Width_in     "23"  
## Surface_Rect "396.75"  
## Diam_in      NA  
## Surface_Rnd  NA  
## Shape         "squ_rect"  
## Surface       "396.75"  
## material      "bois"  
## mat           "b"  
## materialCat   "wood"  
## quantity      "1"  
## nfigures      "0"  
## engraved      "0"  
## original      "0"  
## prevcoll      "1"  
## othartist     "0"  
## paired        "1"  
## figures       "0"  
## finished      "0"
```

```
pp %>% filter(name == "R1777-89a") %>%
  select(lrgfont:other) %>% t()
```

```
##          [,1]
## lrgfont      0
## relig        0
## landsALL    1
## lands_sc     0
## lands_elem   1
## lands_figs   1
## lands_ment   0
## arch         1
## mytho        0
## peasant      0
## othgenre     0
## singlefig    0
## portrait      0
## still_life   0
## discauth     0
## history       0
## allegory      0
## pastorale     0
## other         0
```

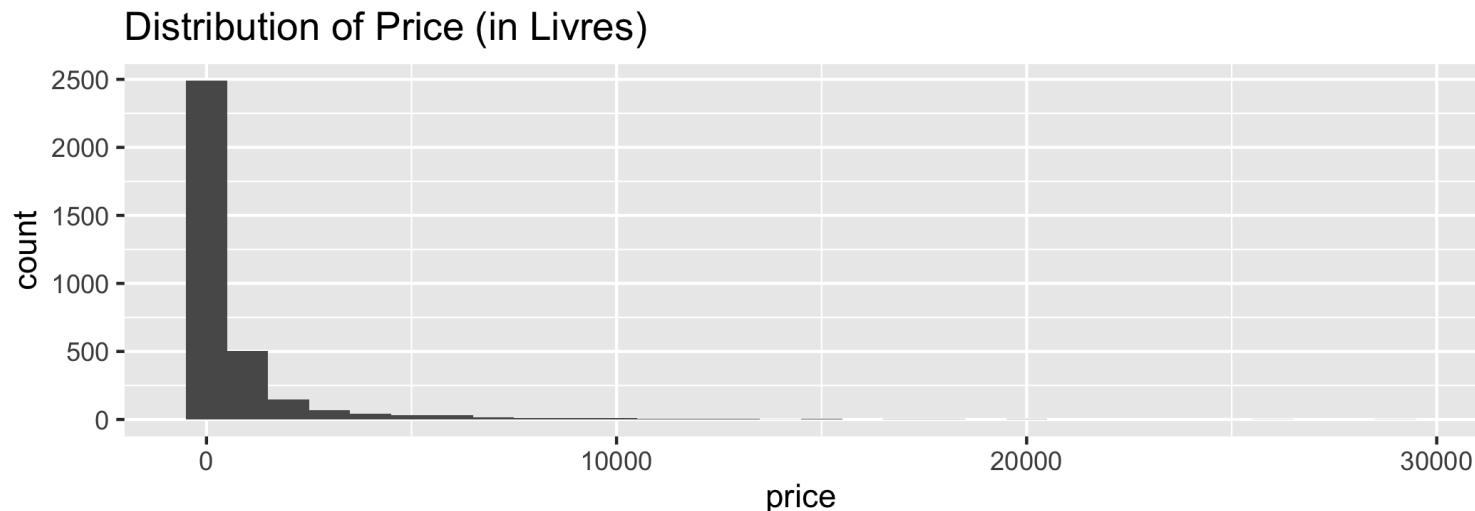
Modeling the relationship between variables



Prices

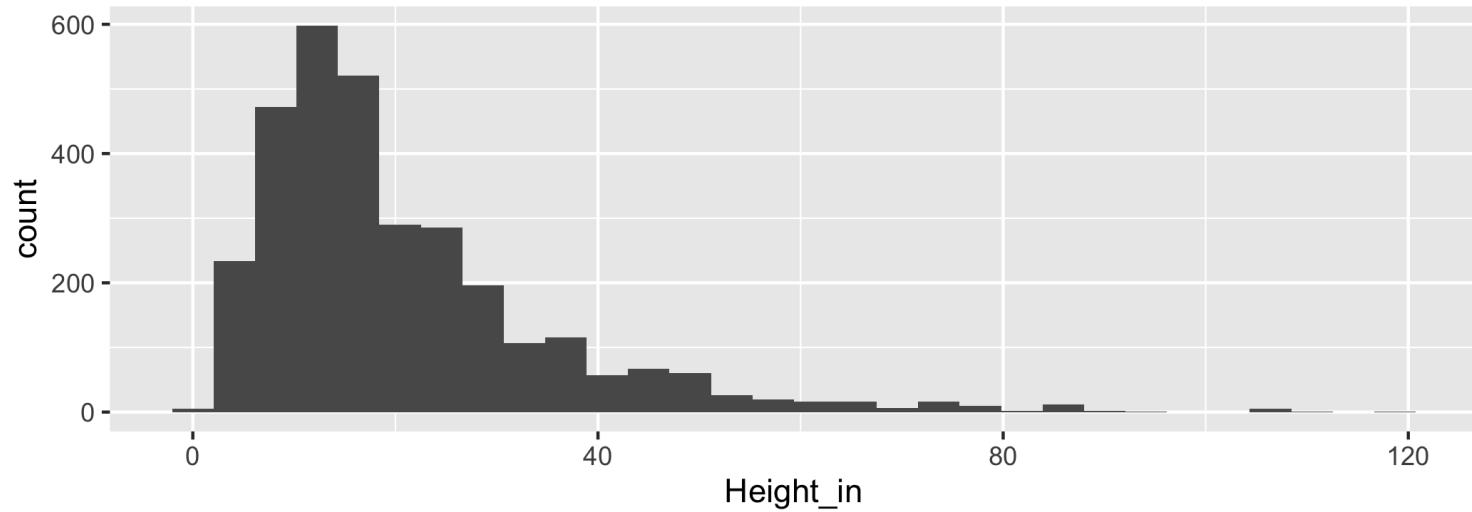
Describe the distribution of prices of paintings.

```
ggplot(data = pp, aes(x = price)) +  
  geom_histogram(binwidth = 1000) +  
  labs(title="Distribution of Price (in Livres)")
```



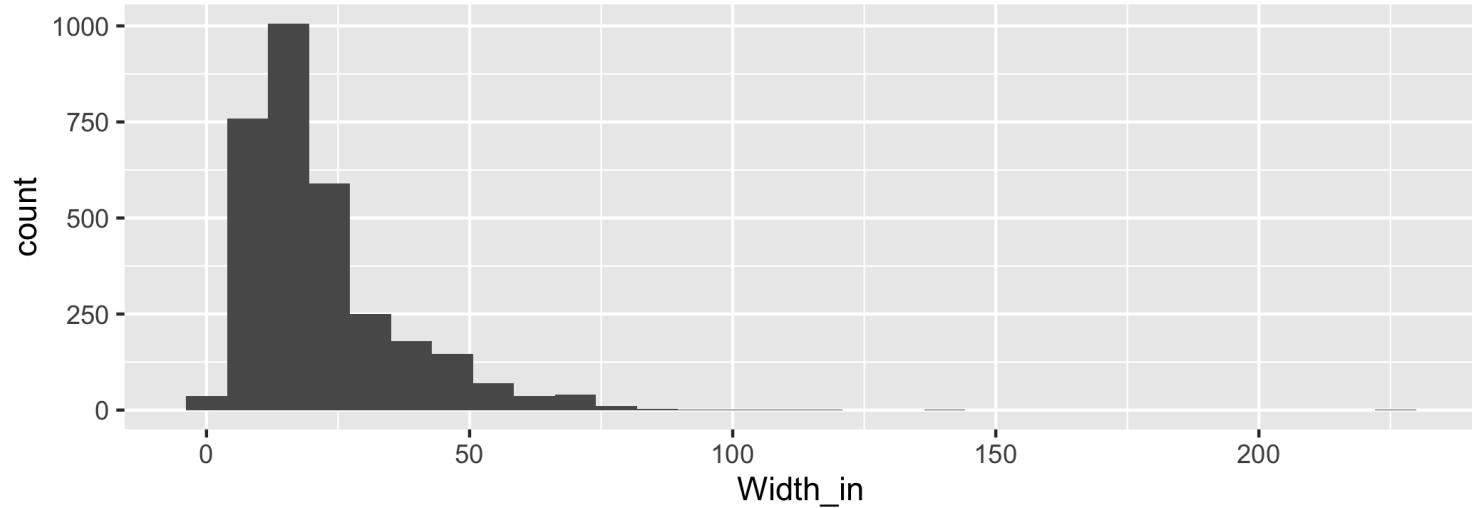
Height

```
ggplot(data = pp, aes(x = Height_in)) +  
  geom_histogram()
```



Width

```
ggplot(data = pp, aes(x = Width_in)) +  
  geom_histogram()
```



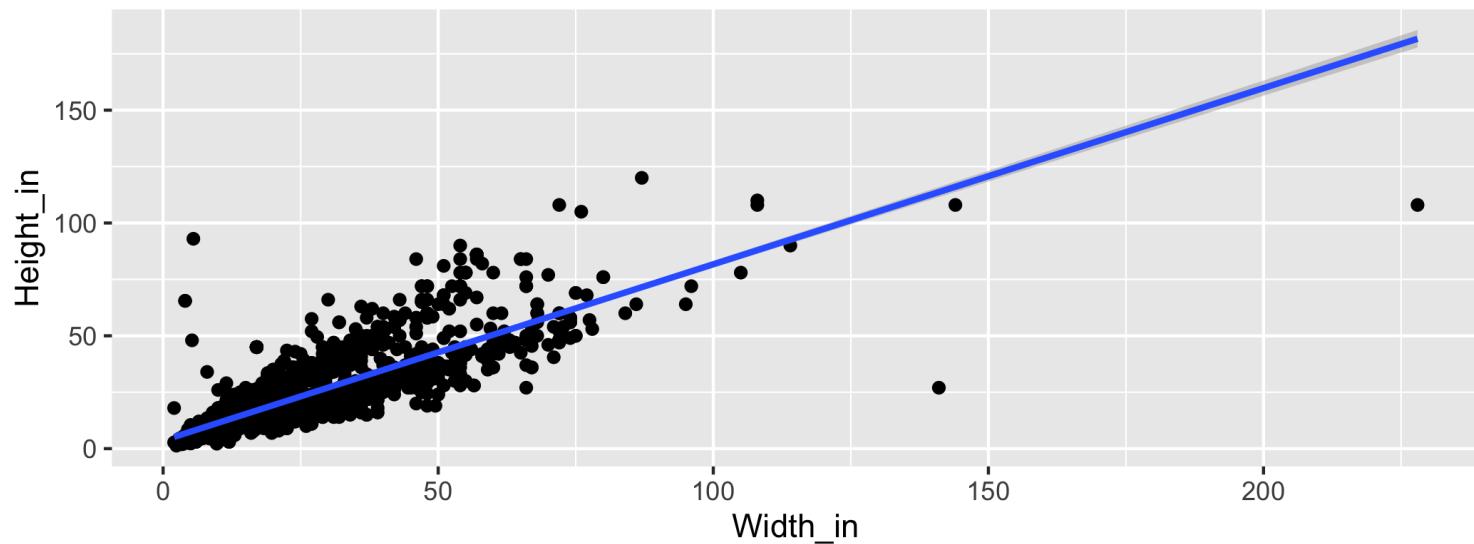
Models as functions

- We can represent relationships between variables using **functions**
- A **function** is a mathematical concept: the relationship between an output and one or more inputs.
 - Plug in the inputs and receive back the output
- Example: the formula $y = 3x + 7$ is a function with input x and output y , when x is 5, the output y is 22

$$y = 3 * 5 + 7 = 22$$

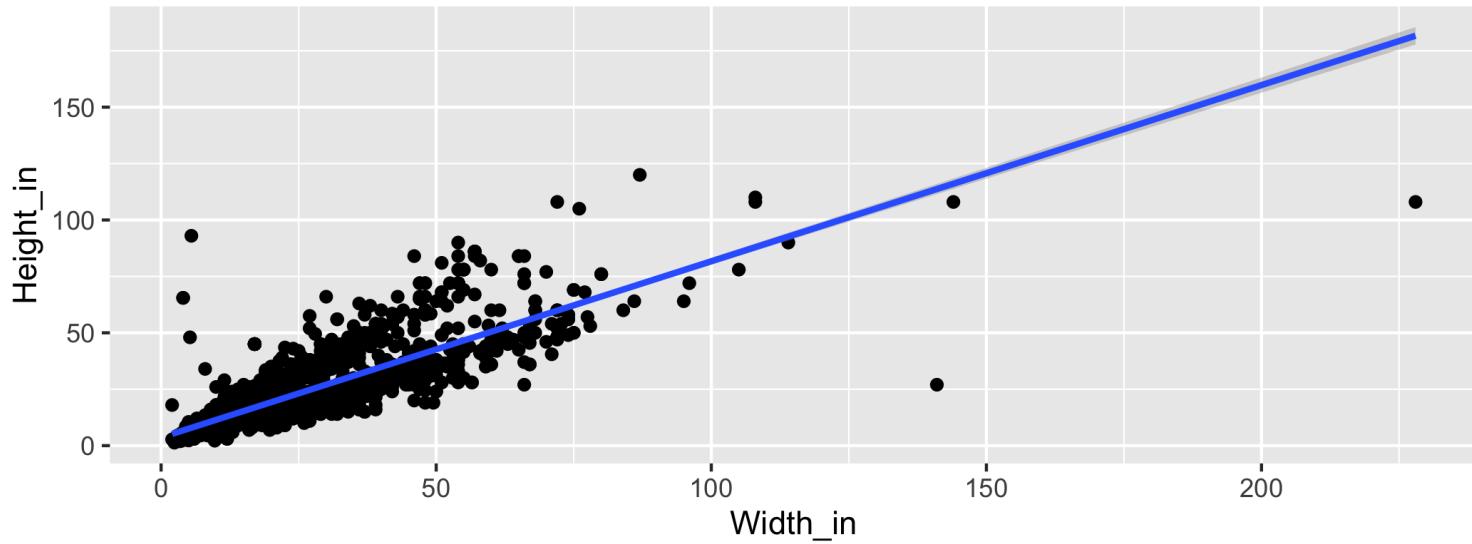
Height as a function of width

Describe the relationship between height and width of paintings.



Visualizing the linear model

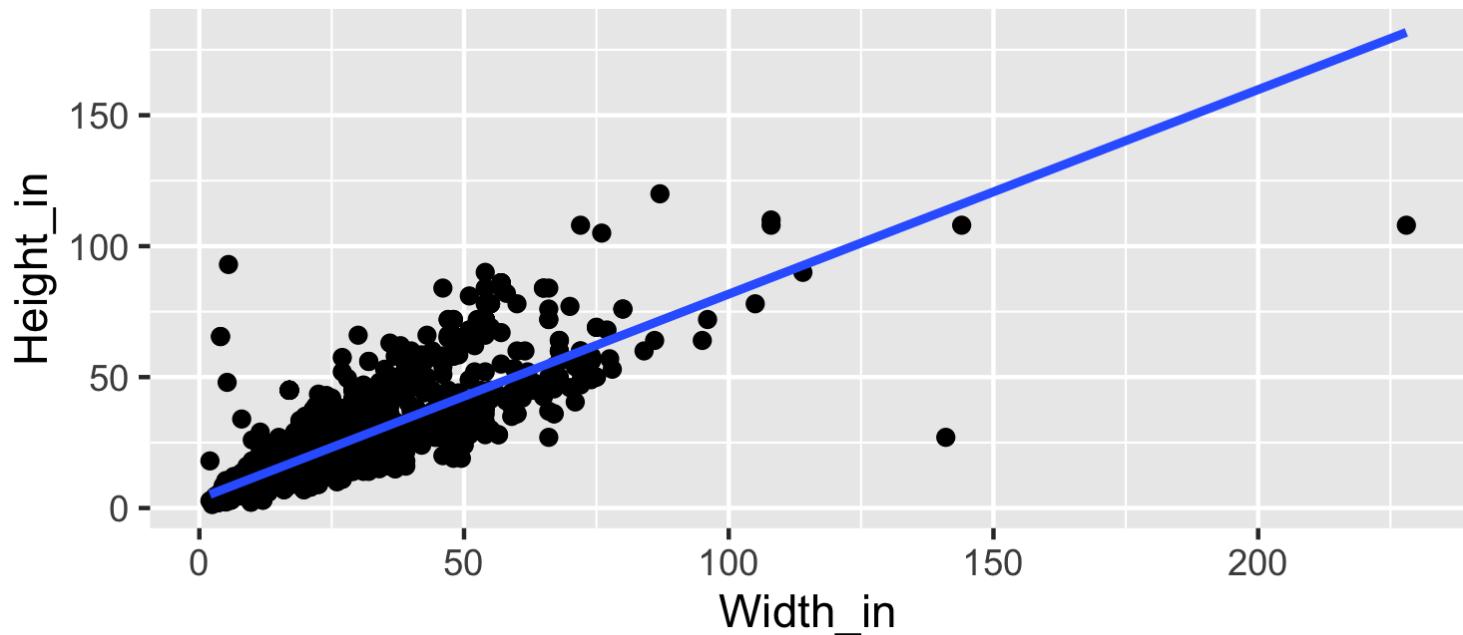
```
ggplot(data = pp, aes(x = Width_in, y = Height_in)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth(method = "lm") # lm for linear model
```



Visualizing the linear model

... without the measure of uncertainty around the line

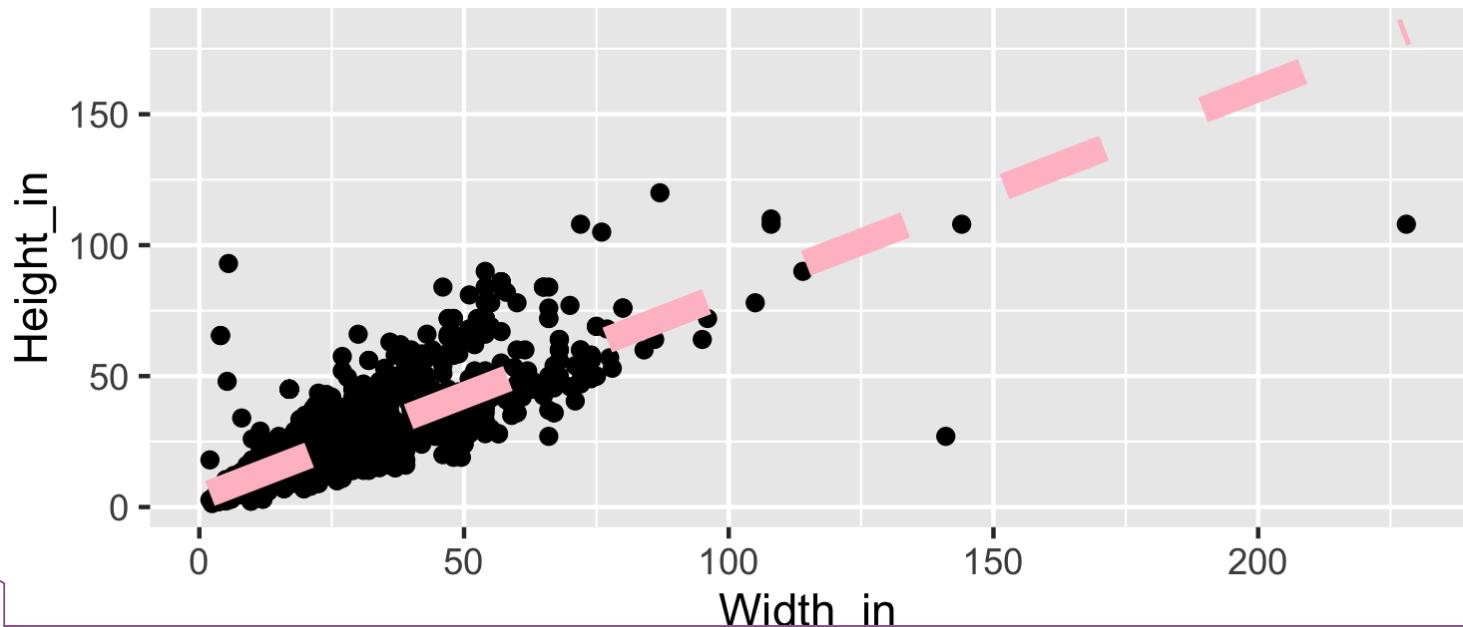
```
ggplot(data = pp, aes(x = Width_in, y = Height_in)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE) # lm for linear model
```



Visualizing the linear model

... with different cosmetic choices for the line

```
ggplot(data = pp, aes(x = Width_in, y = Height_in)) +  
  geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE,  
              # color      #line type #line weight  
              col = "pink", lty = 2,    lwd = 3)
```

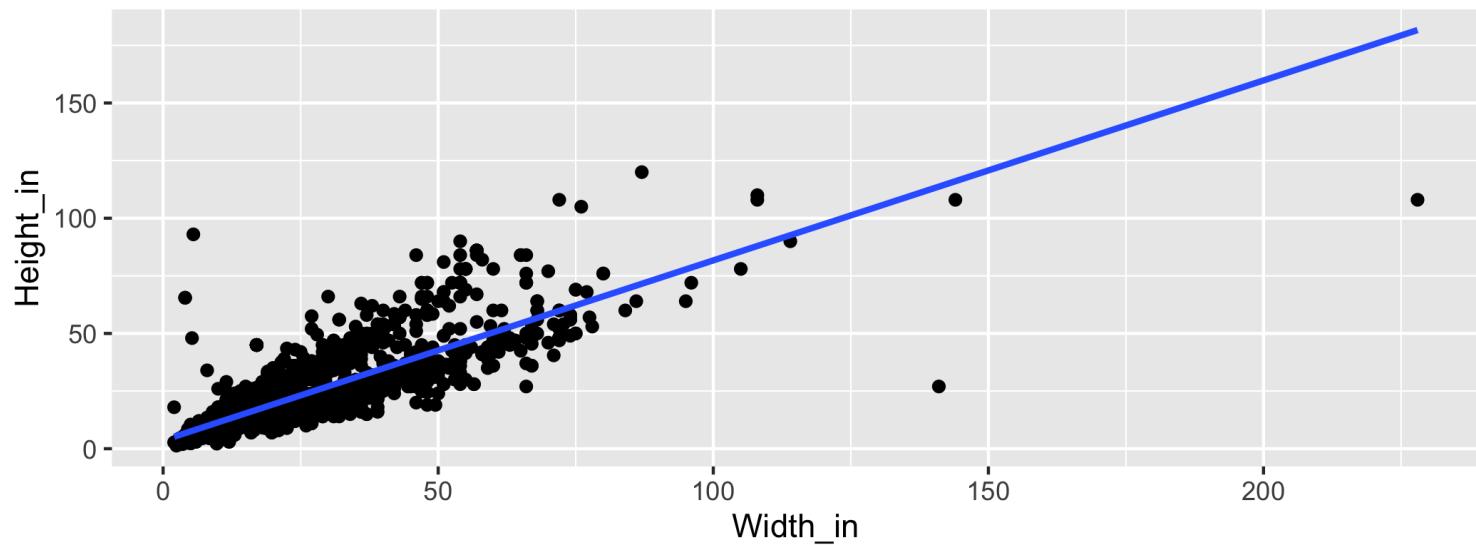


Vocabulary

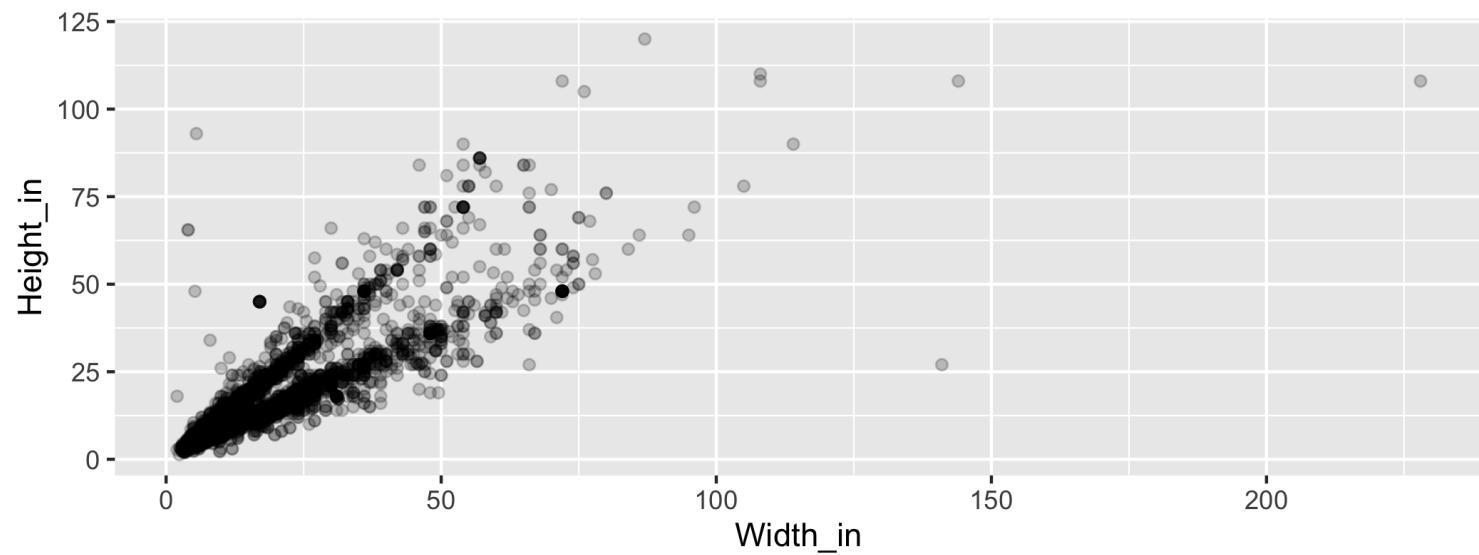
- **Response variable:** Variable whose behavior or variation you are trying to understand, on the y-axis (dependent variable)
- **Explanatory variables:** Other variables that you want to use to explain the variation in the response, on the x-axis (independent variables)
- **Predicted value:** Output of the **model function**
 - The model function gives the typical value of the response variable *conditioning* on the explanatory variables
- **Residuals:** Show how far each case is from its model value
 - **Residual = Observed value - Predicted value**
 - Tells how far above/below the model function each case is

Residuals

What does a negative residual mean? Which paintings on the plot have negative residuals, those below or above the line?



The plot below displays the relationship between height and width of paintings. It uses a lower alpha level for the points than the previous plots we looked at. What feature is apparent in this plot that was not (as) apparent in the previous plots? What might be the reason for this feature?



Landscape paintings

- **Landscape painting** is the depiction in art of landscapes – natural scenery such as mountains, valleys, trees, rivers, and forests, especially where the main subject is a wide view – with its elements arranged into a coherent composition.¹
 - Landscape paintings tend to be wider than longer.
- **Portrait painting** is a genre in painting, where the intent is to depict a human subject.²
 - Portrait paintings tend to be longer than wider.

[1] Source: Wikipedia, [Landscape painting](#)

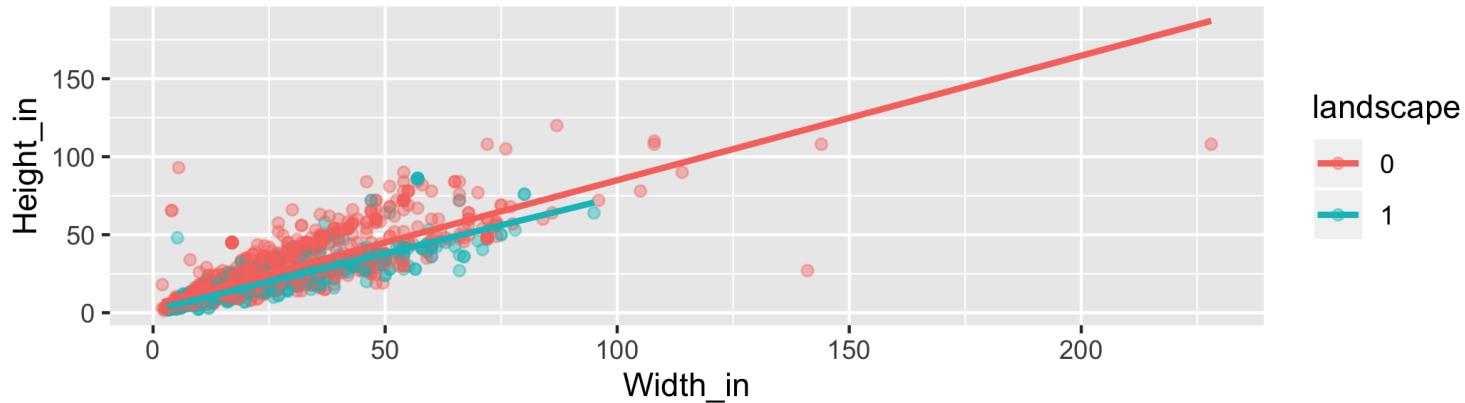
[2] Source: Wikipedia, [Portait painting](#)



Multiple explanatory variables

How, if at all, does the relationship between width and height of paintings vary by whether or not they have any landscape elements?

```
ggplot(data = pp, aes(x = Width_in, y = Height_in,  
                      color = factor(landsALL))) +  
  geom_point(alpha = 0.4) +  
  geom_smooth(method = "lm", se = FALSE) +  
  labs(color = "landscape")
```



Models - upsides and downsides

- Models can sometimes reveal patterns that are not evident in a graph of the data. This is a great advantage of modeling over simple visual inspection of data.
- There is a real risk, however, that a model is imposing structure that is not really there on the scatter of data, just as people imagine animal shapes in the stars. A skeptical approach is always warranted.



Variation around the model...

is just as important as the model, if not more!

Statistics is the explanation of variation in the context of what remains unexplained.

- The scatter suggests that there might be other factors that account for large parts of painting-to-painting variability, or perhaps just that randomness plays a big role.
- Adding more explanatory variables to a model can sometimes usefully reduce the size of the scatter around the model. (We'll talk more about this later.)

How do we use models?

1. **Explanation:** Characterize the relationship between y and x via *slopes* for numerical explanatory variables or *differences* for categorical explanatory variables
2. **Prediction:** Plug in x , get the predicted y

Interpreting Models



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Want to follow along?

Go to RStudio Cloud -> make a copy of "Modeling Paris Paintings"



Height & width

```
m_ht_wt <- lm(Height_in ~ Width_in, data = pp)
tidy(m_ht_wt)
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 x 5
##   term      estimate std.error statistic p.value
##   <chr>     <dbl>    <dbl>     <dbl>    <dbl>
## 1 (Intercept) 3.62     0.254     14.3 8.82e-45
## 2 Width_in    0.781    0.00950    82.1 0.
```

$$\widehat{Height}_{in} = 3.62 + 0.78 \ Width_{in}$$

- **Slope:** For each additional inch the painting is wider, the height is expected to be higher, on average, by 0.78 inches.
- **Intercept:** Paintings that are 0 inches wide are expected to be 3.62 inches high, on average.
 - Does this make sense?

broom



- **broom** follows tidyverse principles and tidies up regression output
- **tidy**: Constructs a tidy data frame summarizing model's statistical findings
- **glance**: Constructs a concise one-row summary of the model
- **augment**: Adds columns (e.g. predictions, residuals) to the original data that was modeled

<https://broom.tidyverse.org/>

The linear model with a single predictor

- We're interested in the β_0 (population parameter for the intercept) and the β_1 (population parameter for the slope) in the following model:

$$\hat{y} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$$

- Unfortunately, we can't get these values
- So we use the sample statistics to estimate them:

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1 x$$

Least squares regression

The regression line minimizes the sum of squared residuals.

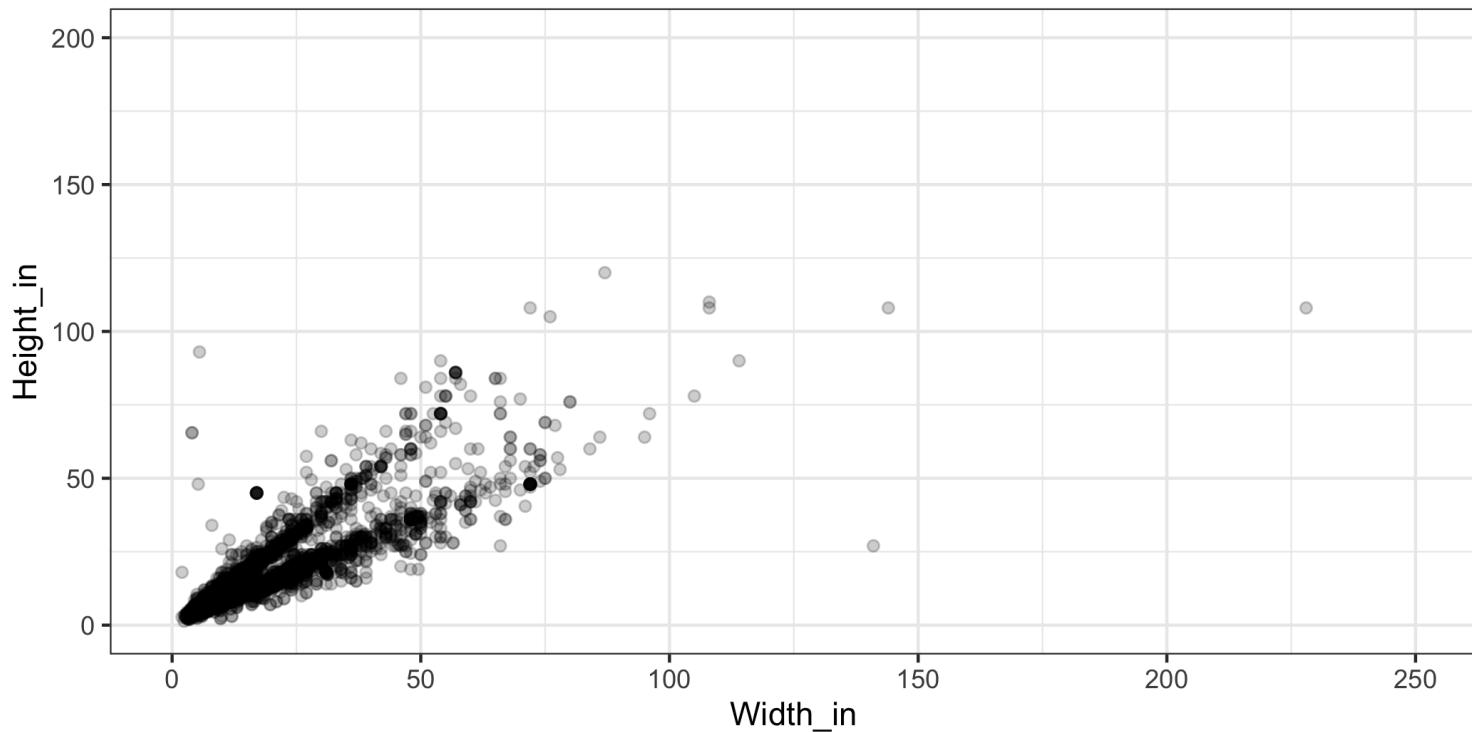
- **Residuals:** $e_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i$,
- The regression line minimizes $\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2$.



Visualizing residuals

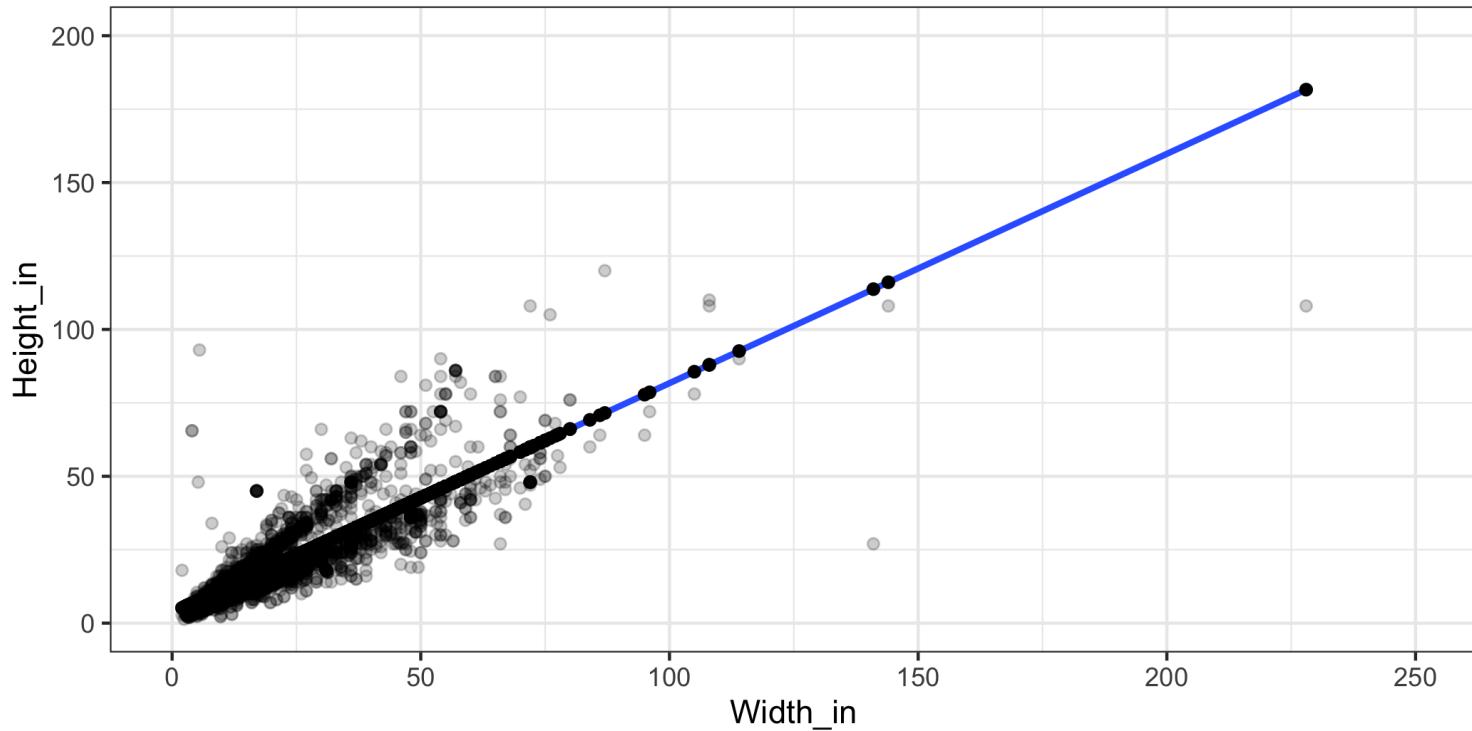
Height vs. width of paintings

Just the data



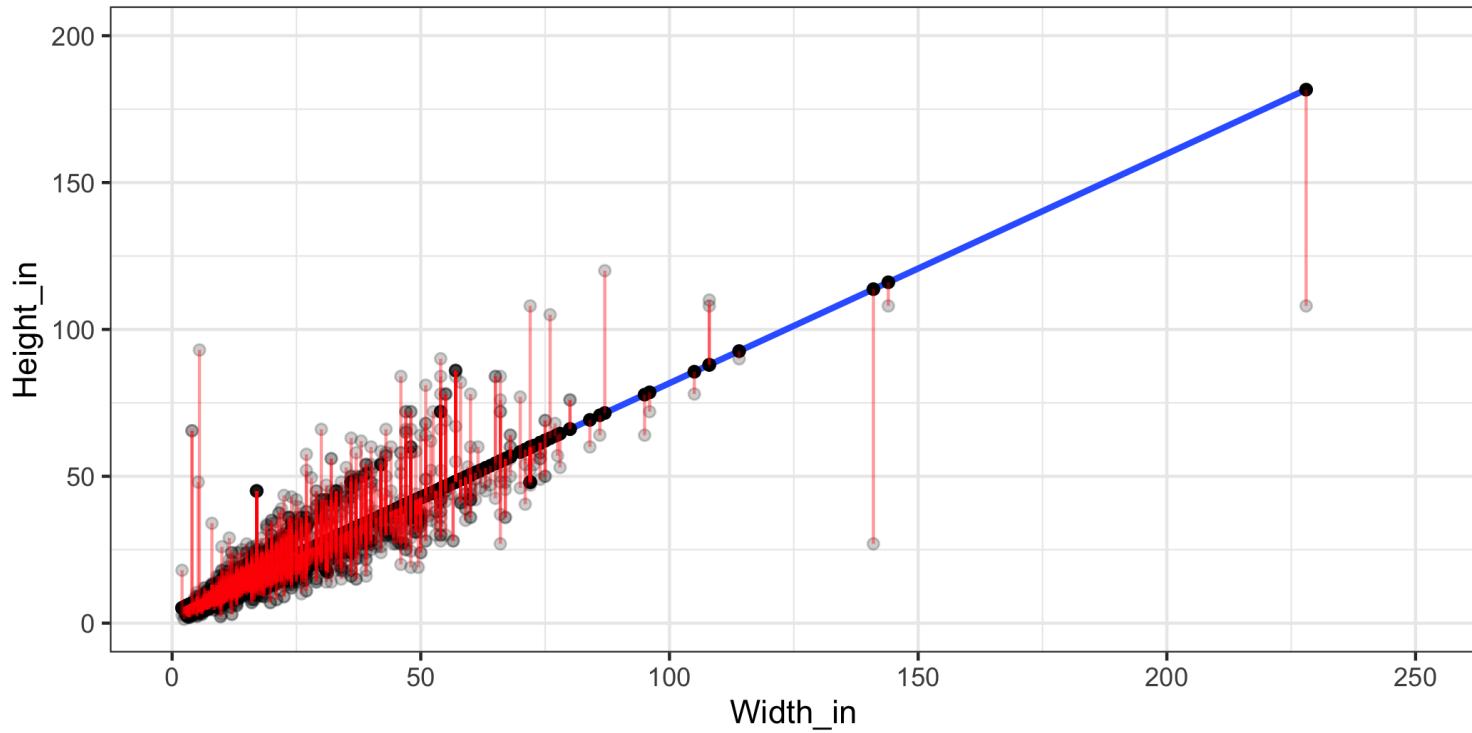
Visualizing residuals (cont.)

Height vs. width of paintings
Data + least squares regression line



Visualizing residuals (cont.)

Height vs. width of paintings
Data + least squares regression line + residuals



Properties of the least squares regression line

- The slope has the same sign as the correlation coefficient:

$$b_1 = r \frac{s_y}{s_x}$$

- The regression line goes through the center of mass point, the coordinates corresponding to average x and average y : (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) .

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1 x \quad \Rightarrow \quad b_0 = \bar{y} - b_1 \bar{x}$$

- The sum of the residuals is zero:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n e_i = 0$$

- The residuals and x values are uncorrelated.