

Lesson 13: Purposeful model selection

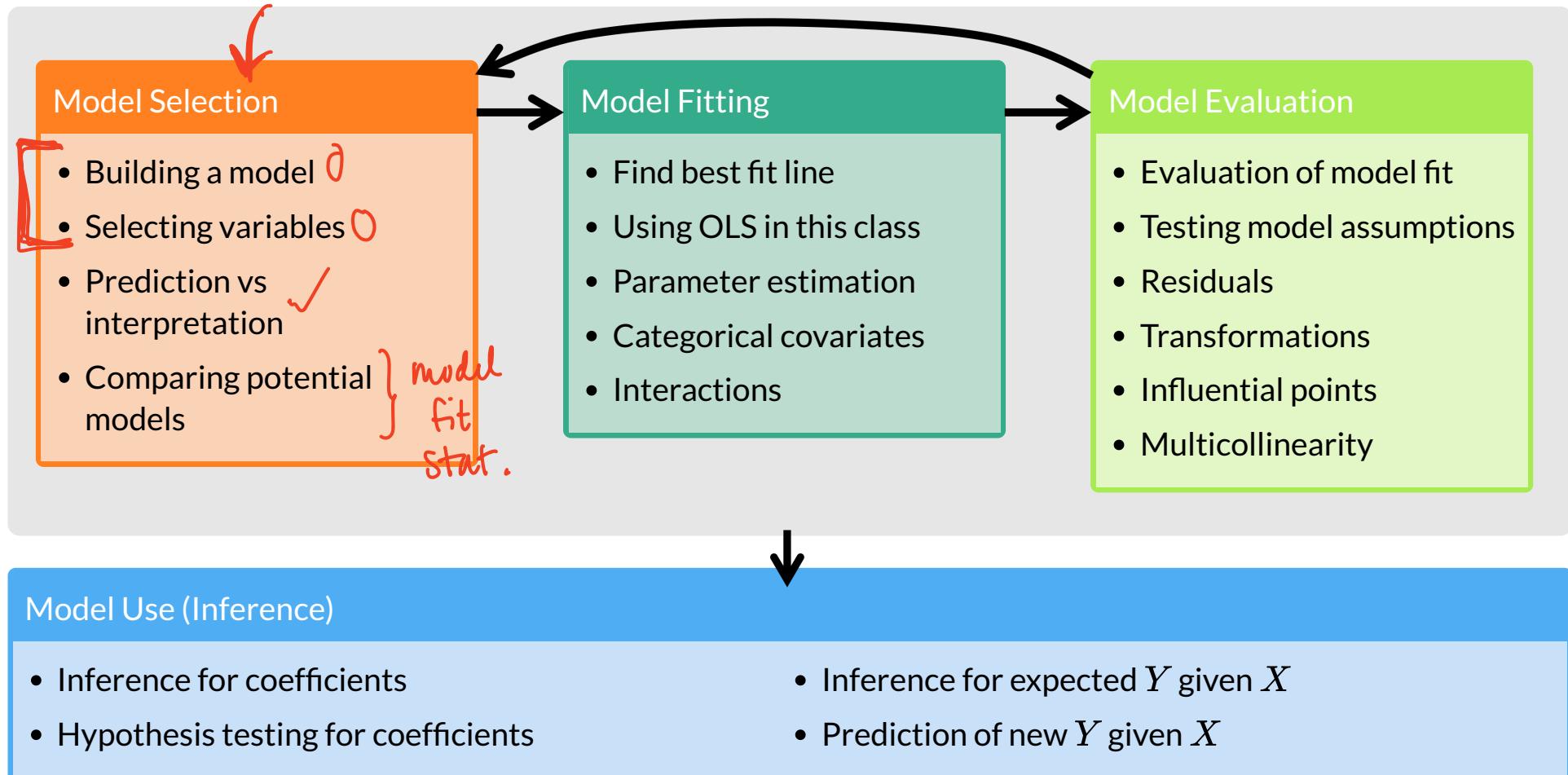
Nicky Wakim

2024-03-04

Learning Objectives

1. Understand the overall steps for purposeful selection as a model building strategy
2. Apply purposeful selection to a dataset using R
3. Use different approaches to assess the linear scale of continuous variables in logistic regression

Regression analysis process



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1. Understand the overall steps for purposeful selection as a model building strategy
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“Successful modeling of a complex data set is part science, part statistical methods, and part experience and common sense.”

Hosmer, Lemeshow, and Sturdivant Textbook, pg. 101

Overall Process

0. Exploratory data analysis

1. Check unadjusted associations in simple linear regression - Lab 3

2. Enter all covariates in model that meet some threshold

- One textbook suggest $p < 0.2$ or $p < 0.25$: great for modest sized datasets
- PLEASE keep in mind sample size in your study
- Can also use magnitude of association rather than, or along with, p-value

3. Remove those that no longer reach some threshold

- Compare magnitude of associations to unadjusted version (univariable)

4. Check scaling of continuous and coding of categorical covariates

5. Check for interactions

6. Assess model fit

- Model assumptions, diagnostics, overall fit

Process with snappier step names

- Pre-step: Exploratory data analysis (EDA)
- Step 1: Simple linear regressions / analysis
- Step 2: Preliminary variable selection
- Step 3: Assess change in coefficients
- Step 4: Assess scale for continuous variables
- Step 5: Check for interactions
- Step 6: Assess model fit
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Learning Objectives

1. Understand the overall steps for purposeful selection as a model building strategy
2. Apply purposeful selection to a dataset using R
3. Use different approaches to assess the linear scale of continuous variables in logistic regression

Pre-step: Exploratory data analysis

- Things we have been doing over the quarter in class and in our project
- I will not discuss some of the methods mentioned in our lab and data management class
 - I am only going to introduce additional exploratory functions

A few things we can do:

- Check the data ✓
- Study your variables ✓
- Missing data? ✓
- Explore simple relationships and assumptions ✓

Pre-step: Exploratory data analysis: Check the data

- Get to know the potential values for the data
 - Categories
 - Units
- Then make sure the summary of values makes sense
 - If minimum or maximum look outside appropriate range
 - For example: a negative value for a measurement that is inherently positive (like population or income)

Search

Home > Download the data > Documentation

Documentation

Gapminder combines data from multiple sources into unique coherent time-series that can't be found elsewhere. Most of our data are not good enough for detailed numeric analysis. They are only good enough to revolutionize people's worldview. But we only fill in gaps whenever we believe we know roughly what the numbers would have been, had they existed. The uncertainties are often large. But we comfort ourselves by knowing the errors in peoples worldview are even larger. Our data is constantly improved by feedback in our data forum from users finding mistakes.

We fill in all gaps: Our data is more consistent over time and space than most other sources, because we dare to fill all the gaps in the sources. We dare this because our purpose is to show people the big picture, and they won't understand it if its full of holes.

We use current geographic boundaries: We show the world history as if country borders had always been the same as today. Read more [here](#).

Below are links to documentation describing how we have combined the sources in each case. For the sake of transparency, whenever allowed to share the underlying data, we make our complete calculations available for download, often in Excel files. In most of these files the details are not documented, as we haven't had time to describe every little step in our data process. But our data is constantly being improved by people who help find problems. If you have questions, we will try to answer them in our data-forum.

Each documentation page has a version number and links to the previous versions. Whenever we update the data, or make other significant changes in the documentation, we make a new version.

Data combined by Gapminder

Average age at 1st marriage (girls)
Babies per woman (total fertility rate)
Child Mortality Rate, under age five
GDP per capita in constant PPP dollars
Gini
HIV/AIDS
Income Mountains
Infant Mortality Rate, under age one
Legal slavery
Life Expectancy at Birth
Maternal mortality
Population
World Health Chart, data sources

This list only includes data that we have somehow modified or calculated ourselves. The complete list of data we use is [here](#) >

<https://www.gapminder.org/data/documentation/>

Pre-step: Exploratory data analysis: Check the data

- Look at a summary for the raw data
- Typical use:

```
1 library(skimr)  
2 skim(gapm)
```

- Some skim() help

Pre-step: Exploratory data analysis: Check the data

- Look at a summary for the raw data
- Typical use:

```
1 library(skimr)  
2 skim(gapm)
```

- Some `skim()` help
- Note that `skim(gapm)` looks different because I had to create factors
- I am breaking down the `skim()` function into the categorical and continuous variables only because I want to show them on the slides

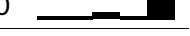
skim_variable	n_missing	complete_rate	ordered	n_unique	top_counts
four_regions	0	1.00	FALSE	4	Asi: 57, Afr: 54, Eur: 49, Ame: 35
income_levels1	1	0.99	FALSE <i>TRUE</i>	4	Hig: 56, Upp: 55, Low: 52, Low: 31
income_levels2	1	0.99	FALSE	2	Hig: 111, Low: 83

Pre-step: Exploratory data analysis: Check the data

```
1 skim(gapm_sub1) %>% yank("numeric")
```

Summary ()

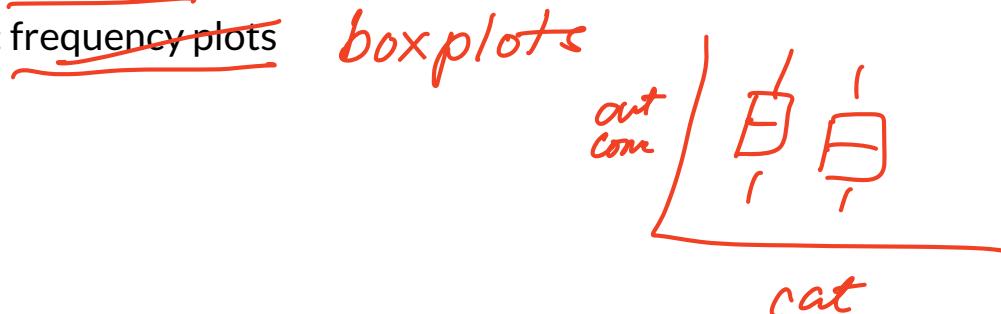
Variable type: numeric

skim_variable	n_missing	complete_rate	mean	sd	p0	p25	p50	p75	p100	hist
CO2emissions	4	0.98	4.55	6.10	0.03	0.64	2.41	6.22	41.20	
ElectricityUsePP	58	0.70	4220.92	5964.07	31.10	699.00	2410.00	5600.00	52400.00	
FoodSupplykcPPD	27	0.86	2825.06	443.59	1910.00	2490.00	2775.00	3172.50	3740.00	
IncomePP	2	0.99	16704.45	19098.61	614.00	3370.00	10100.00	22700.00	129000.00	
LifeExpectancyYrs	8	0.96	70.66	8.44	47.50	64.30	72.70	76.90	82.90	
FemaleLiteracyRate	115	0.41	81.65	21.95	13.00	70.97	91.60	98.03	99.80	
WaterSourcePrct	1	0.99	84.84	18.64	18.30	74.90	93.50	99.07	100.00	
Latitude	0	1.00	19.11	23.93	-42.00	4.00	17.33	40.00	65.00	
Longitude	0	1.00	21.98	66.52	-175.00	-5.75	21.00	49.27	179.14	
population_mill	0	1.00	35.95	136.87	0.00	1.73	7.57	24.50	1370.00	

Poll Everywhere Question 1

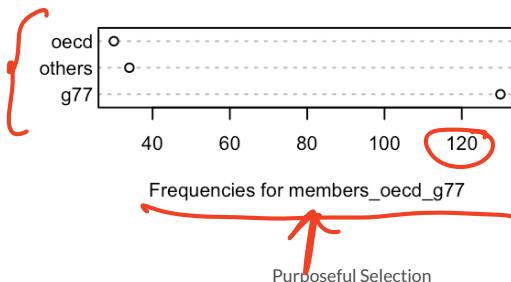
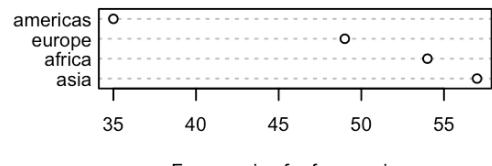
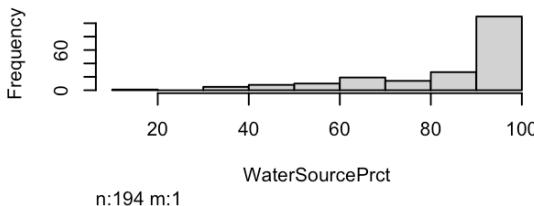
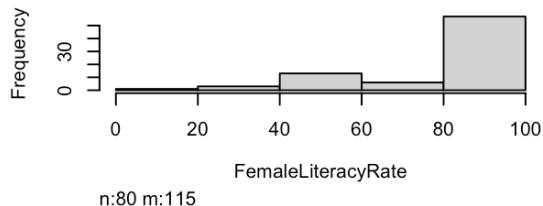
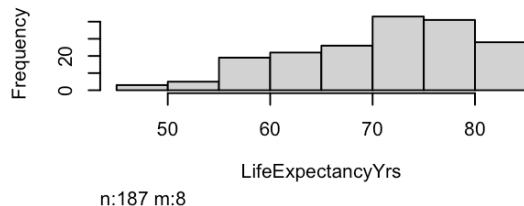
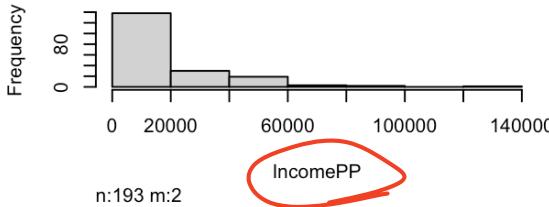
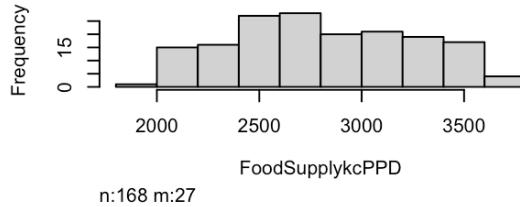
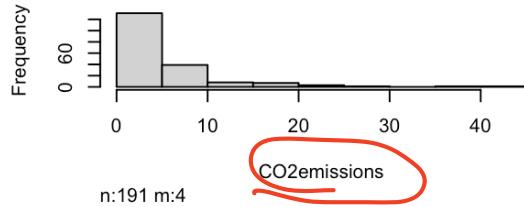
Pre-step: Exploratory data analysis: Study your variables

- Started this a little bit in previous slide (`skim()`), but you may want to look at things like:
 - Sample size
 - Counts of missing data
 - Means and standard deviations
 - IQRs
 - Medians
 - Minimums and maximums
- Can also look at visuals
 - Continuous variables: histograms (in `skimr()` a little)
 - Categorical variables: frequency plots



Pre-step: Exploratory data analysis: Study your variables

```
1 library(Hmisc)  
2 hist.data.frame(gapm %>% select(-Longitude, -Latitude, -eight_regions, -six_regions, -geo, -`World bank`, 4 income groups)
```



Poll Everywhere Question 2



Join by Web PollEv.com/nickywakim275



What function might you use to visualize or summarize the frequencies of categorical variables?

tabyl() ggplot
gt() freq() Skim
unique gtsummary()
table()
summarize()
graph
bar
jitter
summary(model cat)

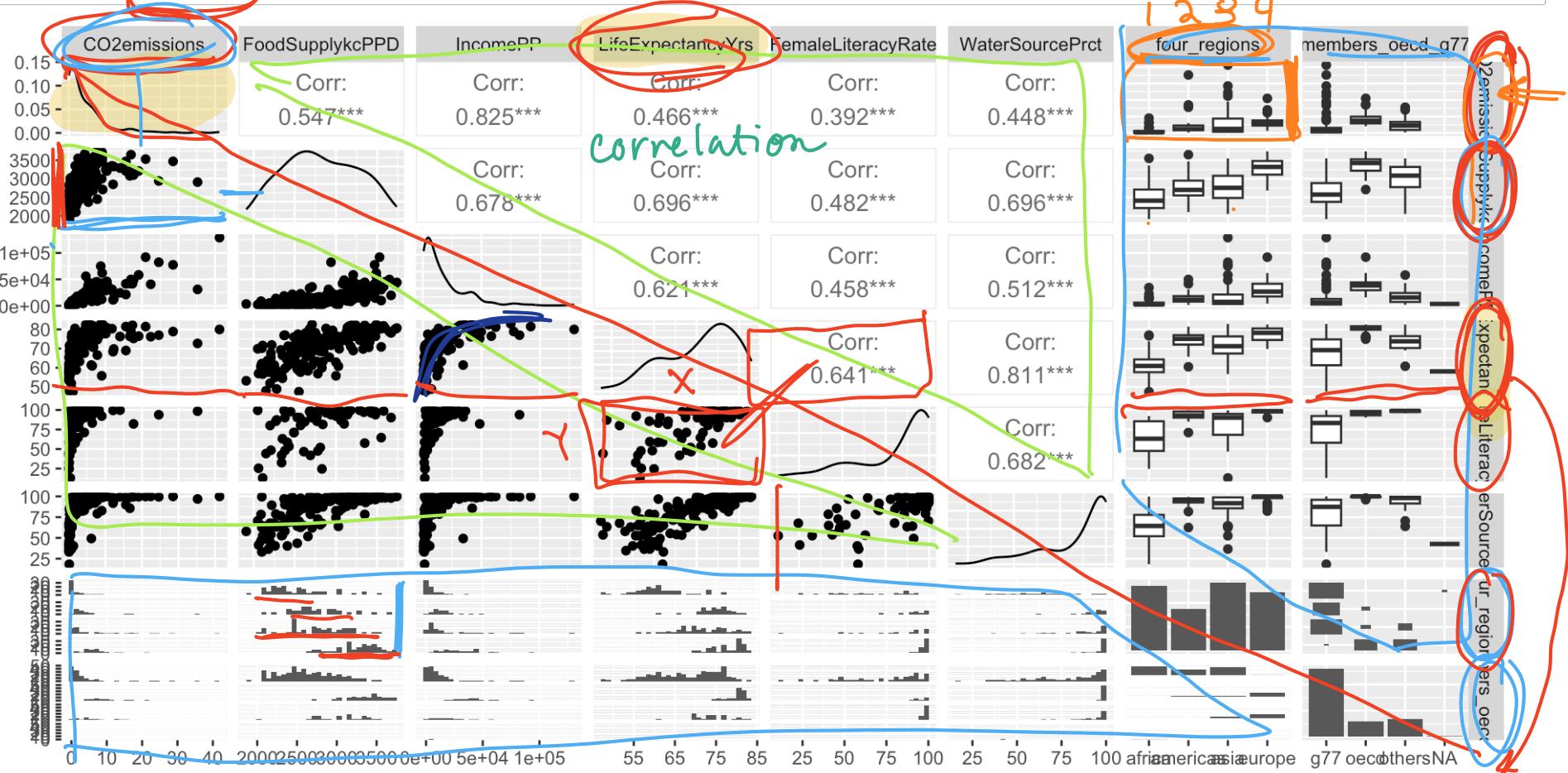
Pre-step: Exploratory data analysis: Missing data

- Why are there missing data?
 - Which variables and observations should be excluded because of missing data?
 - Will I impute missing data?
-
- Unfortunately, we don't have time to discuss missing data more thoroughly
 - I will try to cover this topic more thoroughly in BSTA 513
-
- For the Gapminder dataset, we chose to use complete cases

Pre-step / Step 1 : Explore simple relationships and assumptions

**do NOT
put in
Report!**

```
1 gapm2 %>% ggpairs() # gapm2 is a new dataset with some variables selected
```



Poll Everywhere Question 3

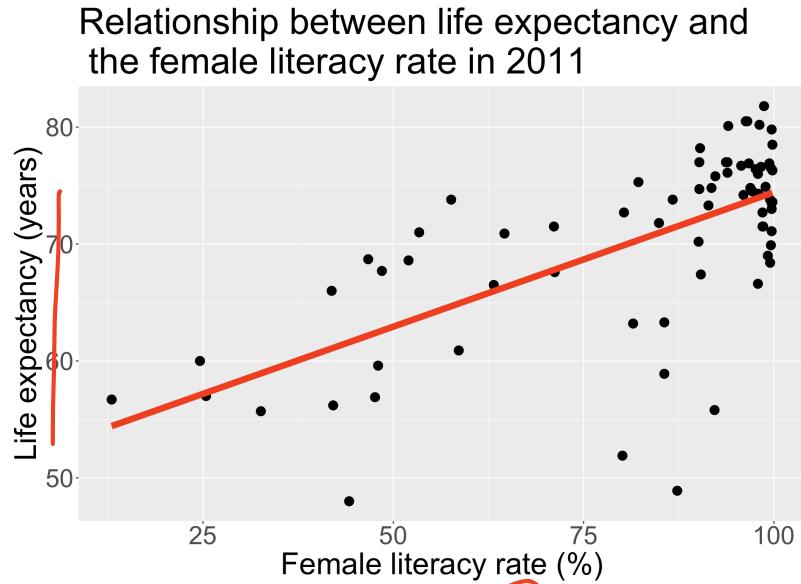
Step 1: Simple linear regressions / analysis

- For each covariate, we want to see how it relates to the outcome (without adjusting for other covariates)
- We can partially do this with visualizations
 - Helps us see the data we throw it into regression that makes assumptions (like our LINE assumptions)
 - ggpairs() can be a quick way to do it
 - ggplot() can make each plot
 - + geom_boxplot() to make boxplots by groups for categorical covariates
 - + geom_jitter() + stat_summary() to make non-overlapping points with group means for categorical covariates
 - + geom_point() to make scatterplots for continuous covariates
- We need to run simple linear regression
 - We're calling regression with multi-level categories "simple" even though there are multiple coefficients

Step 1: Simple linear regressions / analysis

- Let's think back to our Gapminder dataset
- Always good to start with our main relationship: life expectancy vs. female literacy rate
 - Throwback to Lesson 3 SLR when we first visualized and ran `lm()` for this relationship

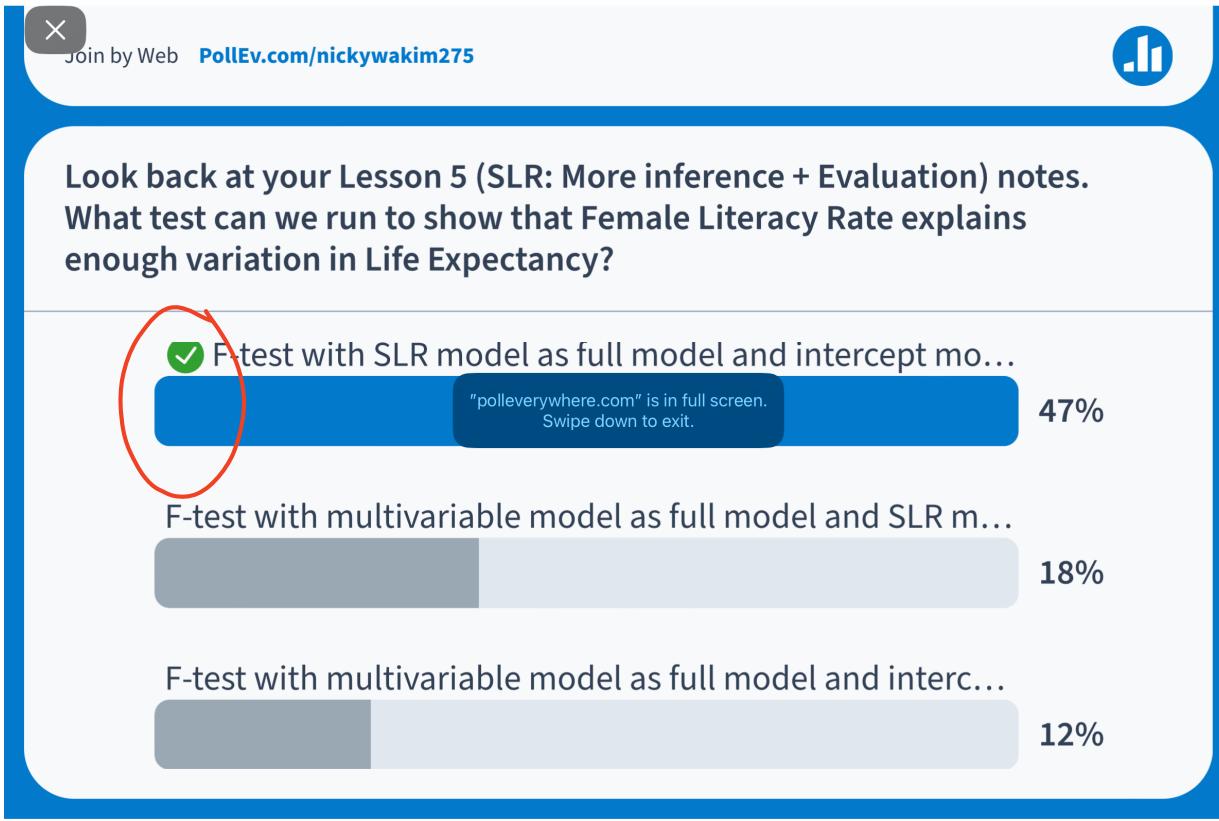
```
1 model_FLR = lm(LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate, data = gapm_sub)
```



term estimate std.error statistic p.value

term	estimate	std.error	statistic	p.value
(Intercept)	51.438	2.739	18.782	0.000
FemaleLiteracyRate	0.230	0.032	7.141	0.000

Poll Everywhere Question 4



$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \varepsilon$$

~~ε~~ full

Red ↗

$$Y = \beta_0 + \varepsilon$$

full:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 I(X=2) + \beta_2 I(X=3)$$

where $X=1$ is Ref

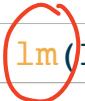
Red: $Y = \beta_0 + \varepsilon$

Step 1: Simple linear regressions / analysis

- Let's do this with one other variable before I show you a streamlined version of SLR

```
1 model_WR = lm(LifeExpectancyYrs ~ four_regions, data = gapm_sub)
```

model_WR



Step 1: Simple linear regressions / analysis

- If we do a good job visualizing the relationship between our outcome and each covariate, then we can proceed to a streamlined version of the F-test for each relationship
- First, I will select the variables that we are considering for model selection:

```
1 gapm2 = gapm_sub %>% select(LifeExpectancyYrs, CO2emissions, FoodSupplykcPPD,  
2 IncomePP, FemaleLiteracyRate, WaterSourcePrct,  
3 four_regions, members_oecd_g77)
```

- We need to make sure our dataset only contains the variables we are considering for the model:

```
1 gapm3 = gapm2 %>% select(-LifeExpectancyYrs)
```

Step 1: Simple linear regressions / analysis

- Now I can run the `lapply()` function, which allows me to run the same function multiple times over all the columns in `gapm3`
- For each covariate I am running: `lm(gapm2$LifeExpectancyYrs ~ x) %>% anova()` (F-test)
 - So I am fitting the simple linear regression and printing the ANOVA table with F-test (comparing model with & without the covariate)

```
1 lapply(gapm3, function(x) lm(gapm2$LifeExpectancyYrs ~ x) %>% anova())  
$CO2emissions  
Analysis of Variance Table  
  
Response: gapm2$LifeExpectancyYrs  
          Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value    Pr(>F)  
x         1  452.3  452.31  7.6536 0.007241 **  
Residuals 70 4136.8   59.10  
---  
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1  
  
$FoodSupplykcPPD  
Analysis of Variance Table  
  
Response: gapm2$LifeExpectancyYrs  
          Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value    Pr(>F)
```

- We can scroll through the output to see the ANOVA table for each covariate

Step 1: Simple linear regressions / analysis

- We can also filter the ANOVA table to just show the p-value for each F-test

```
1 sapply( gapm3, function(x) anova(lm(gapm2$LifeExpectancyYrs ~ x))$Pr(>F) )
```

	CO2emissions	FoodSupplykcPPD	IncomePP	FemaleLiteracyRate
[1,]	0.007241207	1.187753e-09	3.557341e-06	6.894997e-10
[2,]	NA	NA	NA	NA

	WaterSourcePrct	four_regions	members_oecd_g77
[1,]	1.148644e-17	1.857818e-13	7.55261e-05
[2,]	NA	NA	NA

- Row 1 is the p-value for the F-test
 - This will help us in Step 2

lower p-value = variance explained

F-test: does X explain variation in LE?

Step 2: Preliminary variable selection

- Identify candidates for your first multivariable model by performing an F-test on each covariate's SLR
 - Using p-values from previous slide
 - If the p-value of the test is less than 0.25, then consider the variable a candidate
- Candidates for first multivariable model
 - All clinically important variables (regardless of p-value)
 - Variables with ~~univariate test~~ with p-value < 0.25
SLR F-test 
- With more experience, you won't need to rely on these strict rules as much

Step 2: Preliminary variable selection

- From the previous p-values from the F-test on each covariate's SLR
 - Decision: we keep all the covariates since they all have a p-value < 0.25

```
1 sapply( gapm3, function(x) anova( lm(gapm2$LifeExpectancyYrs ~ x) )$`Pr(>F)` )
```

	CO2emissions	FoodSupplykcPPD	IncomePP	FemaleLiteracyRate
[1,]	0.007241207	1.187753e-09	3.557341e-06	6.894997e-10
[2,]	NA	NA	NA	NA
	WaterSourcePrct	four_regions	members_oecd_g77	
[1,]	1.148644e-17	1.857818e-13	7.55261e-05	
[2,]	NA	NA	NA	

all less than 0.25

Step 2: Preliminary variable selection

- Fit an **initial model** including any independent variable with p-value < 0.25 and clinically important variables

```
1 init_model = lm(LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate + CO2emissions + IncomePP +
2                         four_regions + WaterSourcePrct + FoodSupplykcPPD + members_oecd_g77,
3                         data = gapm2)
4 tidy(init_model, conf.int = T) %>% gt() %>% tab_options(table.font.size = 30) %>%
5   fmt_number(decimals = 4)
```

term	estimate	std.error	statistic	p.value	conf.low	conf.high
(Intercept)	37.5560	4.4083	8.5194	0.0000	28.7410	46.3710
FemaleLiteracyRate	0.0020	0.0352	0.0580	0.9539	-0.0684	0.0725
CO2emissions	-0.2860	0.1340	-2.1344	0.0368	-0.5539	-0.0181
IncomePP	0.0002	0.0001	2.4133	0.0188	0.0000	0.0003
four_regionsAmericas	9.8963	2.0031	4.9405	0.0000	5.8909	13.9017
four_regionsAsia	5.7849	1.5993	3.6172	0.0006	2.5870	8.9829
four_regionsEurope	7.1421	2.6994	2.6458	0.0104	1.7442	12.5399
WaterSourcePrct	0.1377	0.0658	2.0928	0.0405	0.0061	0.2693
FoodSupplykcPPD	0.0052	0.0021	2.4961	0.0153	0.0010	0.0093
members_oecd_g77oecd	-0.3317	2.5476	-0.1302	0.8968	-5.4259	4.7625
members_oecd_g77others	0.3341	2.2986	0.1453	0.8849	-4.2622	4.9304

Step 3: Assess change in coefficient

- This is where we start identifying covariates that we might remove

- I would start by using the p-value to guide me towards specific variables

- Female literacy rate, but that's our main covariate
- members_oecd_g77 ✓
- Maybe water source percent? ✓

- Some people will say you can use the p-value alone
 - I like to double check that those variables do not have a large effect on the other coefficients

term	estimate	std.error	statistic	p.value
(Intercept)	37.5560	4.4083	8.5194	0.0000
FemaleLiteracyRate	0.0020	0.0352	0.0580	0.9539
CO2emissions	-0.2860	0.1340	-2.1344	0.0368
IncomePP	0.0002	0.0001	2.4133	0.0188
four_regionsAmericas	9.8963	2.0031	4.9405	0.0000
four_regionsAsia	5.7849	1.5993	3.6172	0.0006
four_regionsEurope	7.1421	2.6994	2.6458	0.0104
WaterSourcePrct	0.1377	0.0658	2.0928	0.0405
FoodSupplykcPPD	0.0052	0.0021	2.4961	0.0153
members_oecd_g77oecd	-0.3317	2.5476	-0.1302	0.8968
members_oecd_g77others	0.3341	2.2986	0.1453	0.8849

g77: developing countries w/
common econ interests

Main effect of explanatory var.

Step 3: Assess change in coefficient

- Very similar to the process we used when looking at confounders

initial model

- One variable at a time, we run the multivariable model with and without the variable
 - We look at the p-value of the F-test for the coefficients of said variable — *oecd, g77, others*:
 - We look at the percent change for the coefficient ($\Delta\%$) of our explanatory variable
- General rule: We can remove a variable if...
 - p-value > 0.05 for the F-test of its own coefficients
 - AND change in coefficient ($\Delta\%$) of our explanatory variable is $< 10\%$

*F-test
p-value
w/in
MLR
model*

$\geq 10\%$ indicates confounder

Step 3: Assess change in coefficient

- Let's try this out on members_oecd_g77
 - Display the ANOVA table with F-statistic and p-value

term	df.residual	rss	df	sumsq	statistic	p.value
LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate + CO2emissions + IncomePP + four_regions + WaterSourcePrct + FoodSupplykcPPD + members_oecd_g77	61.000	999.201	NA	NA	NA	NA
LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate + CO2emissions + IncomePP + four_regions + WaterSourcePrct + FoodSupplykcPPD	63.000	1,000.988	-2.000	-1.787	0.055	0.947

- $\hat{\beta}_{FLR,full} = 0.002, \hat{\beta}_{FLR,red} = 0.0036$

$$\Delta\% = 100\% \cdot \frac{\hat{\beta}_{FLR,full} - \hat{\beta}_{FLR,red}}{\hat{\beta}_{FLR,full}} = 100\% \cdot \frac{0.002 - 0.0036}{0.002} = -74.41\%$$

- Based off the percent change, I would keep this in the model

can remove members vars BVT check Δ%

Step 3: Assess change in coefficient

- Let's try this out on water source percent (even though the p-value was < 0.05)

► Display the ANOVA table with F-statistic and p-value

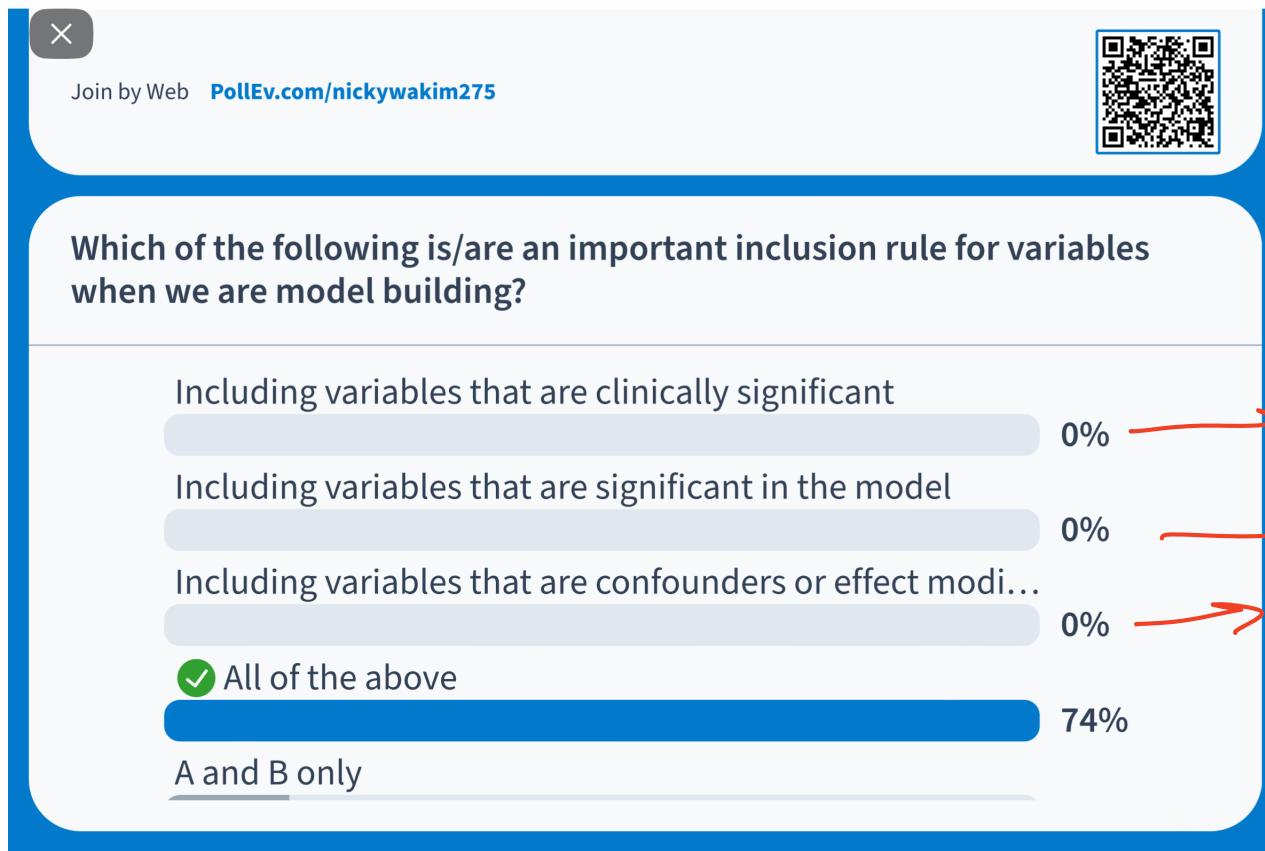
term	df.residual	rss	df	sumsq	statistic	p.value
LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate + CO2emissions + IncomePP + four_regions + WaterSourcePrct + FoodSupplykcPPD + members_oecd_g77	61.000	999.201	NA	NA	NA	NA
LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate + CO2emissions + IncomePP + four_regions + members_oecd_g77 + FoodSupplykcPPD	62.000	1,070.944	-1.000	-71.744	4.380	0.041

- $\hat{\beta}_{FLR,full} = 0.002, \hat{\beta}_{FLR,red} = 0.034$

$$\Delta\% = 100\% \cdot \frac{\hat{\beta}_{FLR,full} - \hat{\beta}_{FLR,red}}{\hat{\beta}_{FLR,full}} = 100\% \cdot \frac{0.002 - 0.034}{0.002} = -1561.06\%$$

- Based off the percent change (and p-value), I would keep this in the model

Poll Everywhere Question 5



Step 3: Assess change in coefficient

- At the end of this step, we have a **preliminary main effects model**
- Where the variables are excluded that met the following criteria:
 - P-value > 0.05 for the F-test of its own coefficients
 - Change in coefficient ($\Delta\%$) of our explanatory variable is < 10%
- In our example, the **preliminary main effects model** (end of Step 3) was the same as the **initial model** (end of Step 2)

Step 3: Assess change in coefficient

- At the end of this step, we have a **preliminary main effects model**
- Where the variables are excluded that met the following criteria:
 - P-value > 0.05 for the F-test of its own coefficients
 - Change in coefficient ($\Delta\%$) of our explanatory variable is < 10%
- In our example, the **preliminary main effects model** (end of Step 3) was the same as the **initial model** (end of Step 2)
- Preliminary main effects model includes:
 - FemaleLiteracyRate
 - CO2emissions
 - IncomePP
 - four_regions
 - members_oecd_g77
 - FoodSupplykcPPD
 - WaterSupplePct

Recap of Steps 1-3

- Pre-step: Exploratory data analysis
 - Step 1: Simple linear regressions / analysis
 - Look at each covariate with outcome
 - Perform SLR for each covariate
 - Step 2: Preliminary variable selection
 - From SLR, decide which variables go into the initial model
 - Use F-test to see if each covariate (on its own) explains enough variation in outcome
 - End with initial model
 - Step 3: Assess change in coefficients
 - From the initial model at end of step 2, we take a variable out of the model if:
 - P-value > 0.05 for the F-test of its own coefficients
 - Change in coefficient ($\Delta\%$) of our explanatory variable is < 10%
 - End with preliminary main effects model
- , adjusting
for all other
covariates*
- and
or*

Learning Objectives

1. Understand the overall steps for purposeful selection as a model building strategy
2. Apply purposeful selection to a dataset using R
3. Use different approaches to assess the linear scale of continuous variables in logistic regression

Step 4: Assess scale for continuous variables

- We assume the linear regression model is linear for each continuous variable
- We need to assess linearity for continuous variables in the model

▪ Do this through smoothed scatterplots that we introduced in Lesson 6 (SLR Diagnostics)

▪ Residual plots (can be used in SLR) does not help us in MLR *not helpful*

▪ Each term in MLR model needs to have linearity with outcome

- Three methods/approaches to address the violation of linearity assumption:

★ ▪ Approach 1: Categorize continuous variable

▪ Approach 2: Fractional Polynomials

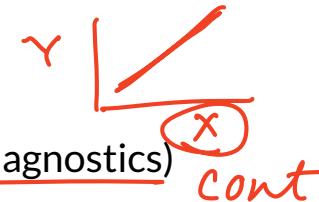
▪ Approach 3: Spline functions

- Approach will depend on the covariate!!

- For our class, only implement Approach 1 or 2

- Model at the end of Step 4 is the main effects model

LINE assumptions



keep things most interpretable
Tukey's power ladder

Step 4: Assess scale for continuous variables: Smoothed scatterplots

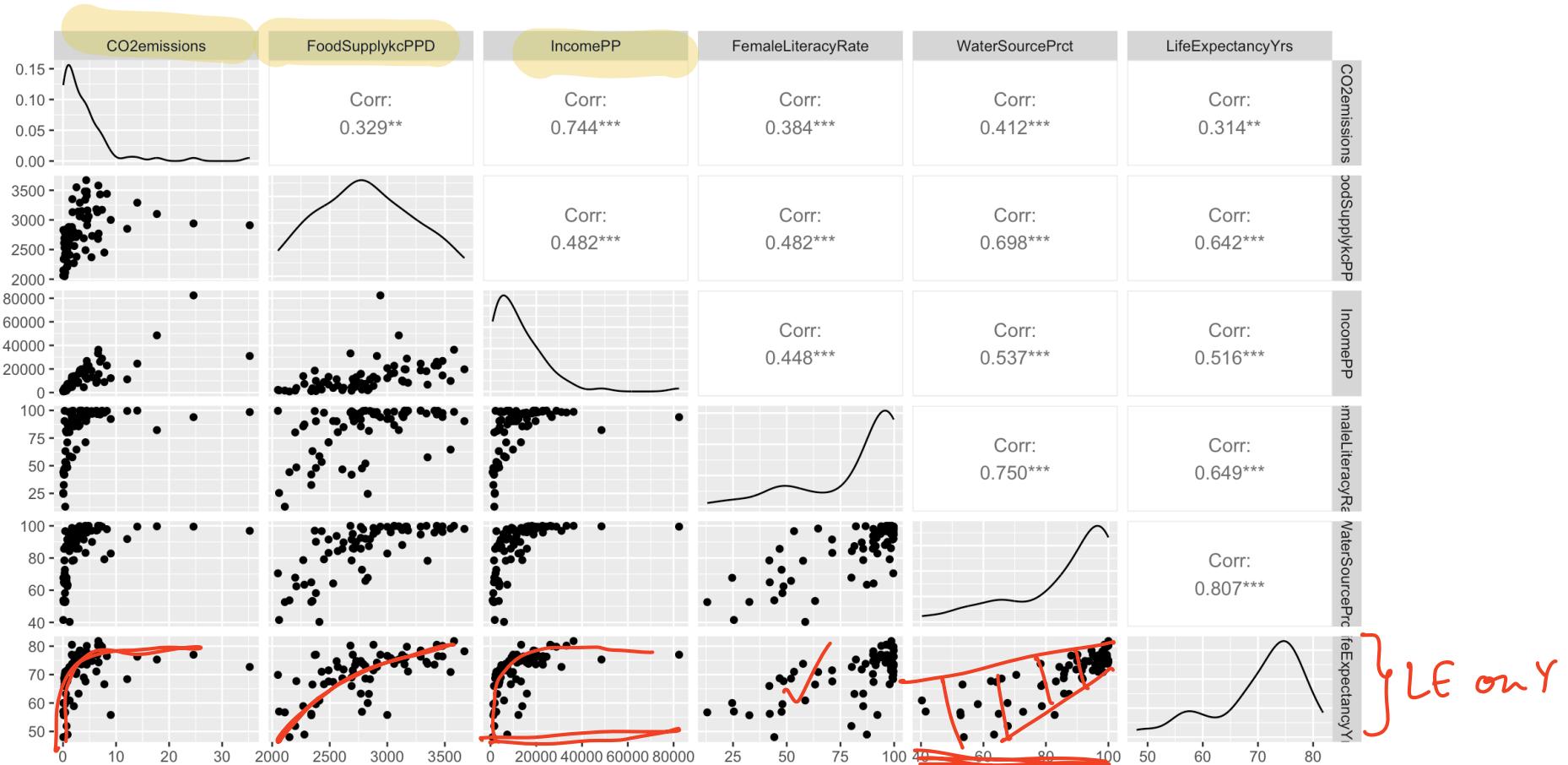
- Smoother scatterplots **only check linearity**, not addressing linearity issues
- Can also identify extreme observations
 - Again, just want to flag these values
 - Can influence the assessment of linearity when using fractional polynomials or spline functions
- Helps us decide if the continuous variable can stay as is in the model
 - **Problem:** if not linear, then we need to represent the variable in a new way (Approaches 1-3)

Step 4: Assess scale for continuous variables: Smoothed scatterplots

- In Gapminder dataset, we have 5 continuous variables:
 - CO2 Emissions
 - Food Supply
 - Income
 - Female Literacy Rate
 - Water source percent
- Plot each of these agains the outcome, life expectancy

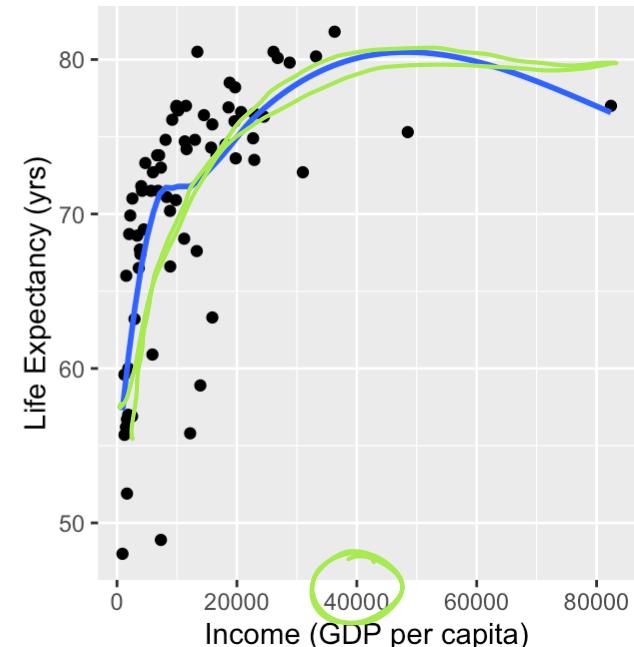
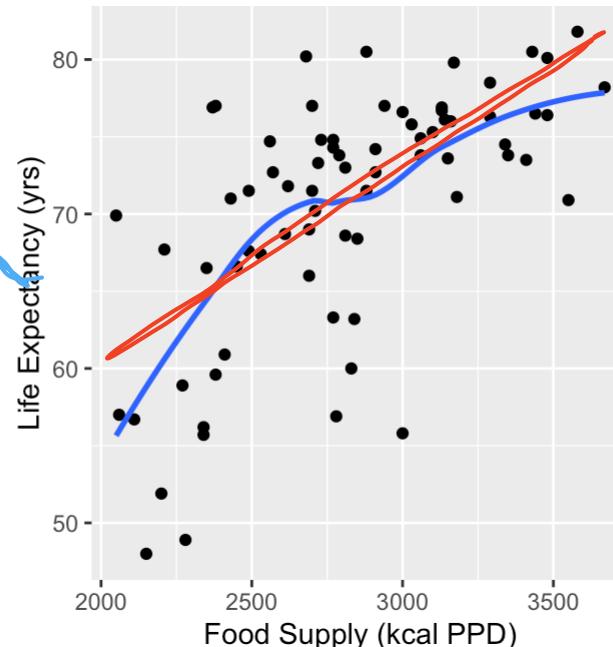
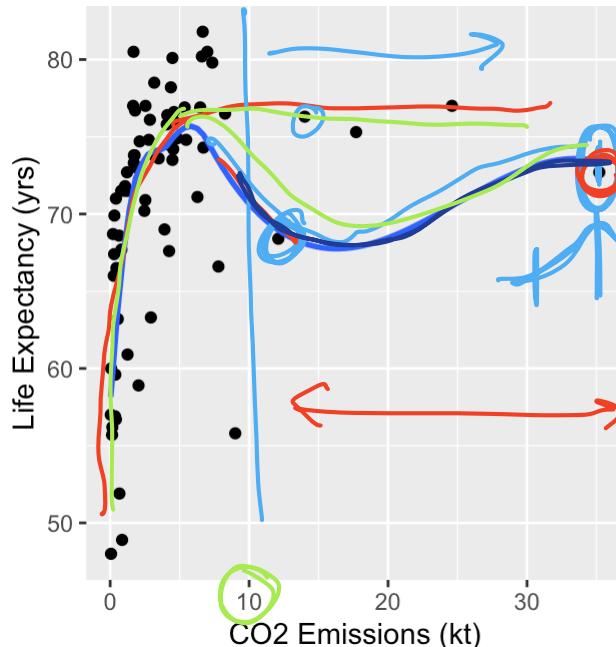
Step 4: Assess scale for continuous variables: Smoothed scatterplots

- We can quickly look at `ggpairs()` to identify variables



Step 4: Assess scale for continuous variables: Smoothed scatterplots

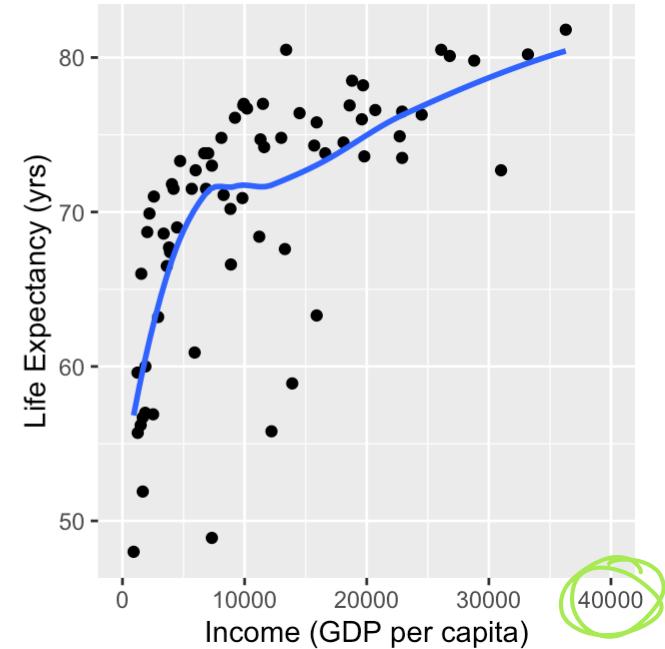
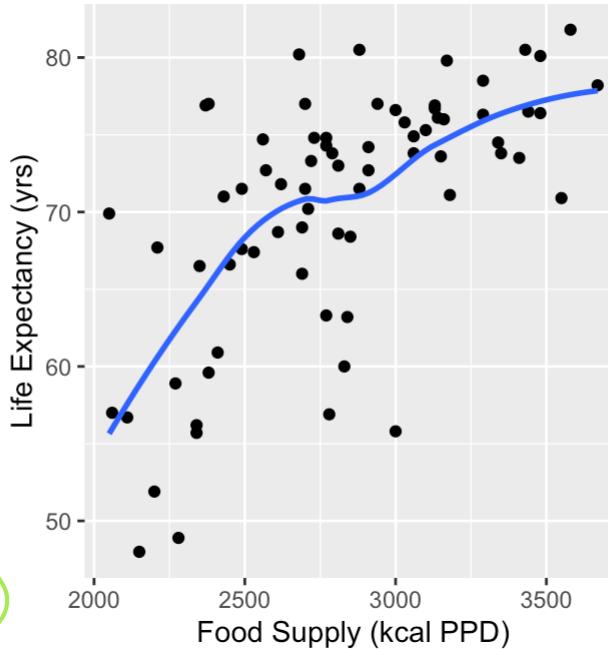
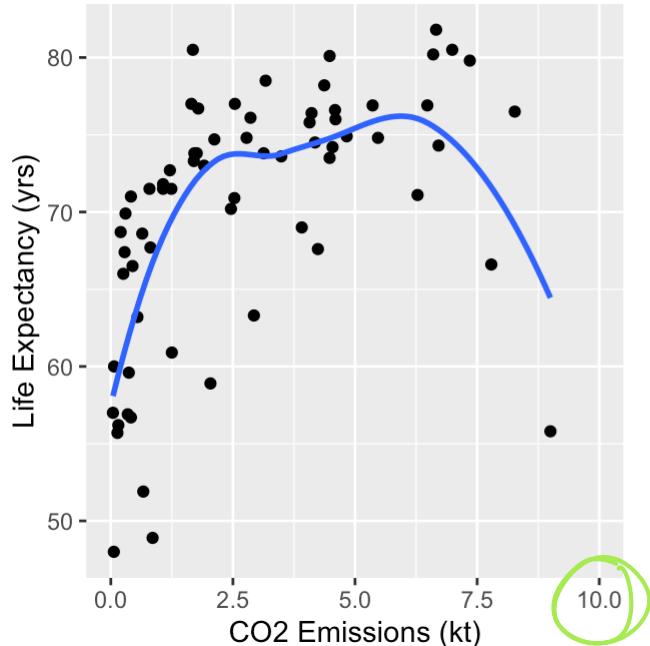
- Take a look at CO₂, Food Supply, and Income



- Food Supply looks admissible
- CO₂ Emissions and Income do not look very linear, but I want to zoom into the area of the plots that have most of the data

Step 4: Assess scale for continuous variables: Smoothed scatterplots

- ▶ Zoom into areas on plots with more data



- Food Supply still looks admissible
- CO2 Emissions and Income not linear: will address this!!

Step 4: Assess scale for continuous variables

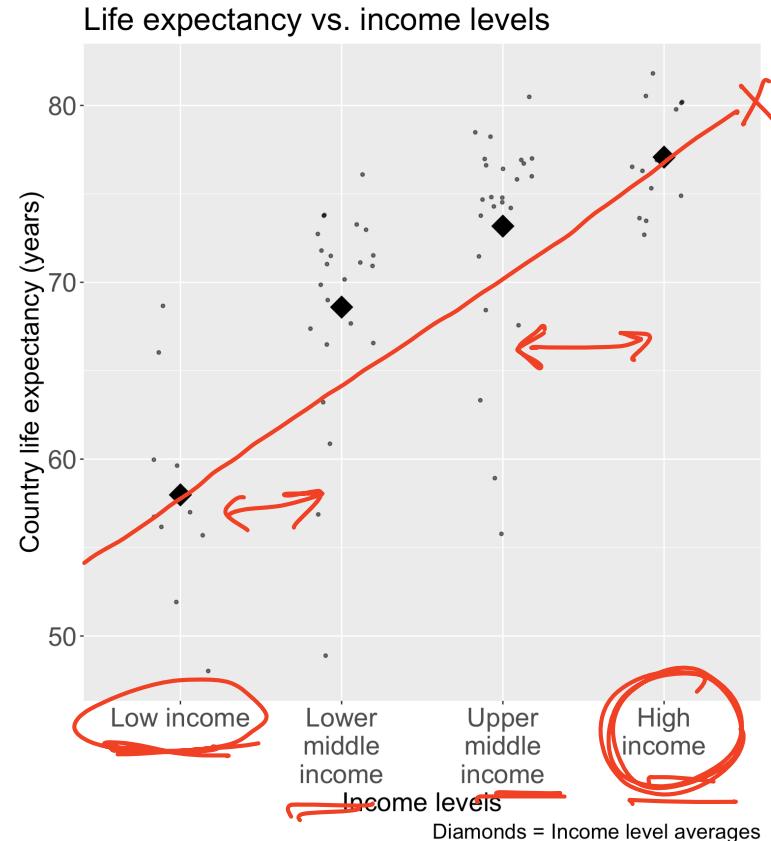
- Three methods/approaches to address the violation of linearity assumption:
 - **Approach 1:** Categorize continuous variable
 - **Approach 2:** Fractional Polynomials
 - **Approach 3:** Spline functions

Step 4: Approach 1: Categorize continuous variable

- Categorize continuous variables
 - Percentiles, quartiles, quantiles
 - Create indicator variables corresponding to each quartile
 - Meaningful thresholds
 - Example: income level groups discussed by Gapminder
- Disadvantages:
 - Takes some time to create new variables, especially with multiple continuous covariates
 - Start with quartiles, but might be more appropriate to use different splits
 - No set rules on this
- Advantage: graphical and visually helps

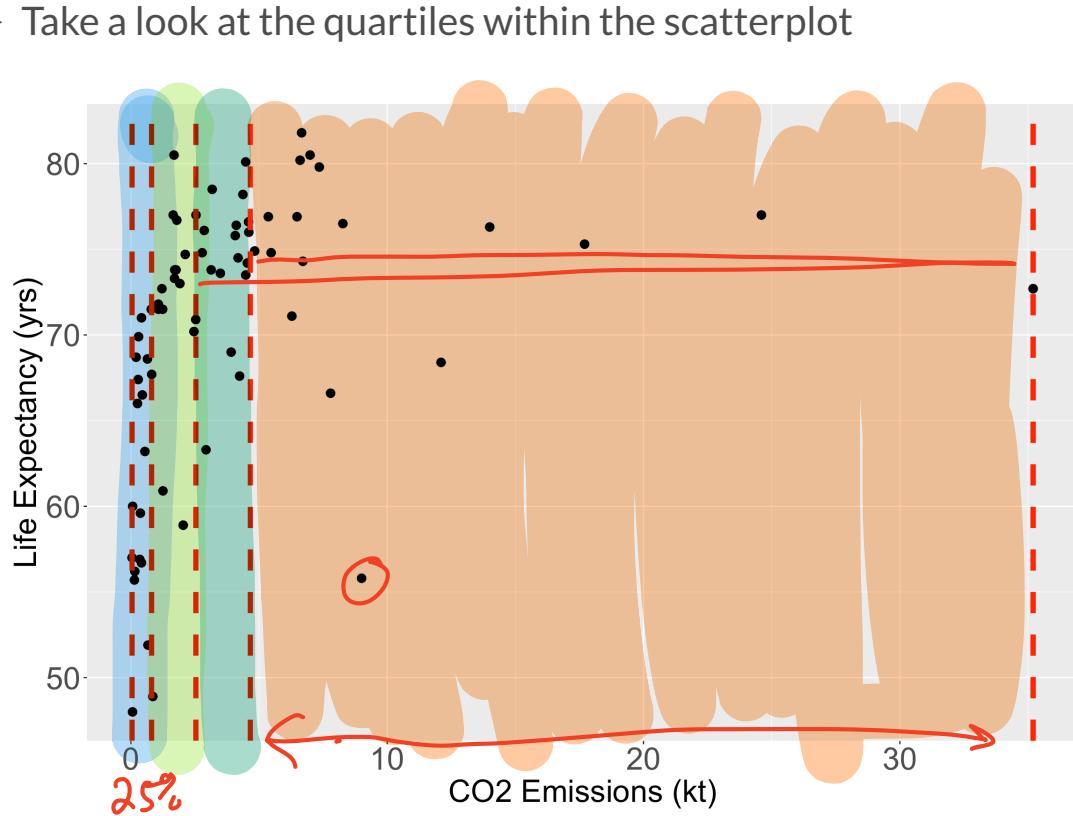
Step 4: Approach 1: Categorize continuous variable

- For income, I would use **Gapminder's income level groups**
 - Discussed in Lesson 10 Categorical Covariates (slide 43)
- Experts in the field have developed these income groups
 - I think this is best solution for income (that was not meeting linearity as a continuous variable)



Step 4: Approach 1: Categorize continuous variable

- Let's still try it out with CO2 Emissions (kt)
- I have plotted the quartile lines of food supply with red lines



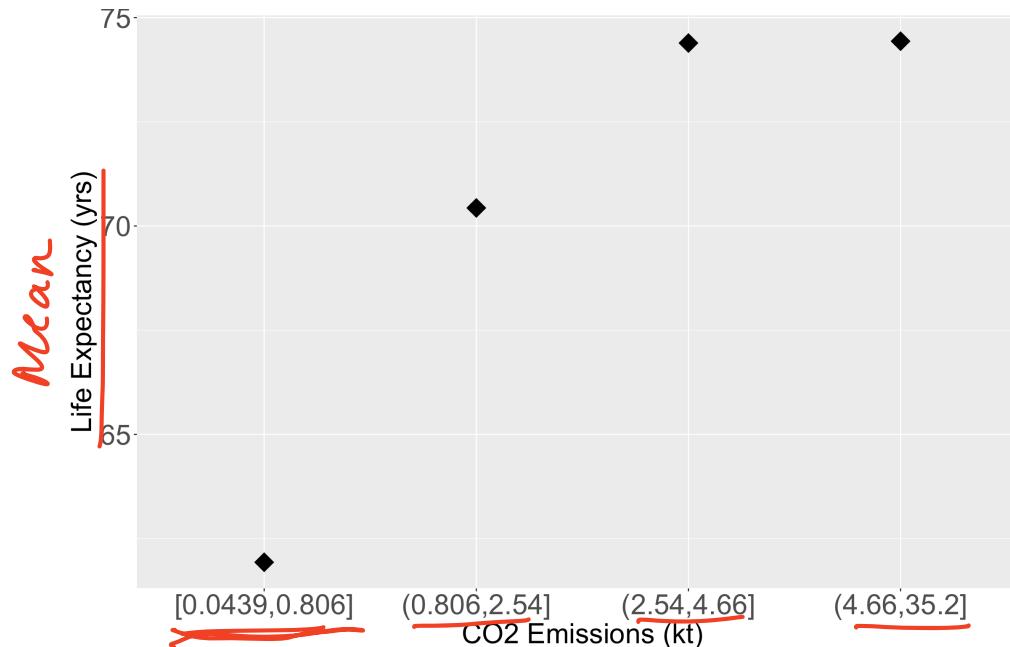
Step 4: Approach 1: Categorize continuous variable

- Let's make the quartiles for CO2 emissions:

```
1 library(dvmisc)
2 gapm2 = gapm2 %>%
3   mutate(CO2_q = quant_groups(CO2emissions, groups = 4) %>% factor())
```

quartiles

- Take a look at the quartile means within the scatterplot



Step 4: Approach 1: Categorize continuous variable

- Let's fit a new model with the two new representations for income and CO2 emissions
- Remember, this is the main effects model if we decide to make CO2 into quartiles

term	estimate	std.error	statistic	p.value
(Intercept)	39.877	4.889	8.157	0.000
FemaleLiteracyRate	-0.073	0.047	-1.555	0.125
CO2_q(0.806,2.54]	1.099	1.914	0.574	0.568
CO2_q(2.54,4.66]	-0.292	2.419	-0.121	0.904
CO2_q(4.66,35.2]	-0.595	2.524	-0.236	0.814
income_levels1Lower middle income	5.441	2.343	2.322	0.024
income_levels1Upper middle income	6.111	2.954	2.069	0.043
income_levels1High income	7.959	3.277	2.429	0.018
four_regionsAmericas	9.003	2.050	4.391	0.000
four_regionsAsia	5.260	1.637	3.213	0.002
four_regionsEurope	6.855	2.871	2.387	0.020
WaterSourcePrct	0.166	0.066	2.496	0.015
FoodSupplykcPPD	0.004	0.002	1.825	0.073
members_oecd_g77oecd	1.119	2.674	0.418	0.677
members_oecd_g77others	1.047	2.511	0.417	0.678

Step 4: Approach 2: Fractional Polynomials

- Main concepts and transformations presented in Lesson 7 SLR: Model Evaluation and Diagnostics (slide 33 on)
- Idea: test many transformations of a continuous covariate
 - Based on Royston and Altman, Applied Statistics, 1994
- Recall Tukey's transformation (power) ladder
 - And can use R's `gladder()` to see the transformations

Power p	-3	-2	-1	-1/2	0	1/2	1	2	3
	$\frac{1}{x^3}$	$\frac{1}{x^2}$	$\frac{1}{x}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$	$\log(x)$	\sqrt{x}	x	x^2	x^3

- We can run through each and test different models, or use the approach from Lesson 7
- There is also a package we can use!
 - mfp package in R contains the fp() function

Step 4: Approach 2: Fractional Polynomials

```
1 library(mfp)
2
3 fp_model_CO2 = mfp(LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate +
4                     fp(CO2emissions, df = 4) + income_levels1 + four_regions +
5                     WaterSourcePrct + FoodSupplykcPPD + members_oecd_g77,
6                     data = gapm2, family = "gaussian")
7
8 fp_model_CO2$fptable %>% gt(rownames_to_stub = T) %>% tab_options(table.font.size =
```

	df.initial	select	alpha	df.final	power1	power2
four_regionsAmericas	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
four_regionsAsia	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
four_regionsEurope	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
WaterSourcePrct	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
income_levels1Lower middle income	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
income_levels1Upper middle income	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
income_levels1High income	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
FoodSupplykcPPD	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
FemaleLiteracyRate	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
CO2emissions	4	1	0.05	1	1	.
members_oecd_g77oecd	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
members_oecd_g77others	1	1	0.05	1	1	.

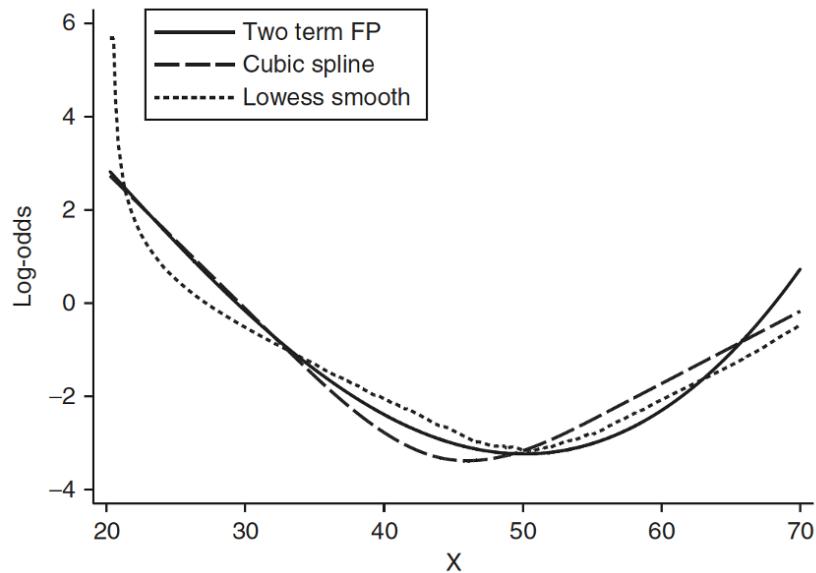
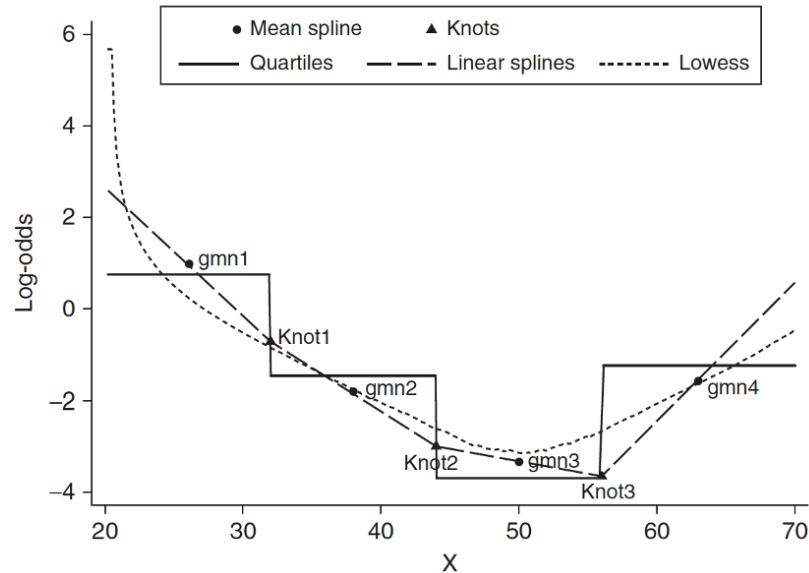
Step 4: Approach 2: Fractional Polynomials

	df.initial	select	alpha	df.final	power1	power2
four_regionsAmericas	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
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four_regionsEurope	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
WaterSourcePrct	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
income_levels1Lower middle income	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
income_levels1Upper middle income	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
income_levels1High income	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
FoodSupplykcPPD	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
FemaleLiteracyRate	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
CO2emissions	4	1	0.05	1	1	.
members_oecd_g77oecd	1	1	0.05	1	1	.
members_oecd_g77others	1	1	0.05	1	1	.

- Conclusion from fractional polynomial is that CO2 does not need to be transformed
- A little counter-intuitive to what we saw in quartiles
- Thus, I think leaving CO2 emissions as quartiles is best!

Step 4: Approach 3: Spline functions

- Spline function is to fit a series of smooth curves that joined at specific points (called knots)



Step 4: Approach 3: Spline functions

- Need to specify knots for spline functions
 - More knots are flexible, but requires more parameters to estimate
 - In most applications three to five knots are sufficient
- Within our class, fractional polynomials will be sufficient
- If you think this is cool, I highly suggest you look into Functional Data Analysis (FDA) or Functional Regression
 - Jeffrey Morris is a big name in that field
- In R there are a few options to incorporate splines
 - `pspline()`: [More information](#)
 - `smoothHR()`: [More information](#)

Step 4 Conclusion: main effects model

- We concluded that we will use:
 - Income levels (categorical) that Gapminder created
 - Quartiles for CO2 Emissions

term	estimate	std.error	statistic	p.value
(Intercept)	39.877	4.889	8.157	0.000
FemaleLiteracyRate	-0.073	0.047	-1.555	0.125
CO2_q(0.806,2.54]	1.099	1.914	0.574	0.568
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members_oecd_g77oecd	1.119	2.674	0.418	0.677
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Learning Objectives

1. Understand the overall steps for purposeful selection as a model building strategy
2. Apply purposeful selection to a dataset using R
3. Use different approaches to assess the linear scale of continuous variables in logistic regression

Step 5: Check for interactions

- Create a list of interaction terms from variables in the “main effects model” that has clinical plausibility
- Add the interaction variables, one at a time, to the main effects model, and assess the significance using a likelihood ratio test or Wald test
 - May keep interaction terms with p-value < 0.10 (or 0.05)
- Keep the main effects untouched, only simplify the interaction terms
- Use methods from Step 2 (comparing model with all interactions to a smaller model with interactions) to determine which interactions to keep
- The model by the end of Step 5 is called the **preliminary final model**

Step 5: Check for interactions

```
1 vars = names(model.frame(main_eff_model))[-1]
2
3 interactions = combn(vars, 2, function(x) paste(x, collapse=" * ")) %>%
4   grep(., pattern = "FemaleLiteracyRate", value = T)
1 MLRs = lapply(interactions, function(int)
2   lm(reformulate(c(vars, int), "LifeExpectancyYrs"), data = gapm2))
```

Step 5: Check for interactions

Step 5: Check for interactions

You can also go straight to using the `anova()` function to compare the preliminary model.

```
1 anova_res = lapply(interactions,
2                     function(int) anova(lm(reformulate(c(vars, int), "LifeExpectancyYrs"),
3                                         data = gapm2), main_eff_model))
4 anova_res[[1]] %>% tidy() %>%
5   gt() %>% tab_options(table.font.size = 35) %>% fmt_number(decimals = 3)
```

term	df.residual	rss	df	sumsq	statistic	p.value
LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate + CO2_q + income_levels1 + four_regions + WaterSourcePrct + FoodSupplykcPPD + members_oecd_g77 + FemaleLiteracyRate * CO2_q	54.000	919.287	NA	NA	NA	NA
LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate + CO2_q + income_levels1 + four_regions + WaterSourcePrct + FoodSupplykcPPD + members_oecd_g77	57.000	946.458	-3.000	-27.171	0.532	0.662

Step 5: Check for interactions

- I went through all the ANOVA tables, and found the following significant interactions:
 - None!

```
1 anova_res
```

```
[[1]]
Analysis of Variance Table

Model 1: LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate + CO2_q + income_levels1 +
        four_regions + WaterSourcePrct + FoodSupplykcPPD + members_oecd_g77 +
        FemaleLiteracyRate * CO2_q
Model 2: LifeExpectancyYrs ~ FemaleLiteracyRate + CO2_q + income_levels1 +
        four_regions + WaterSourcePrct + FoodSupplykcPPD + members_oecd_g77
Res.Df   RSS Df Sum of Sq    F Pr(>F)
1      54  919.29
```

- Think about it:** does that track with what we saw in our interactions lecture?

Step 6: Assess model fit

- Assess the adequacy of the model and check its fit
- Methods will be discussed next class
 - Combination of diagnostics and model fit statistics!
- If the model is adequate and fits well, then it is the **Final model**

