

# Simple Linear Regression

MSc Statistics

# Introduction

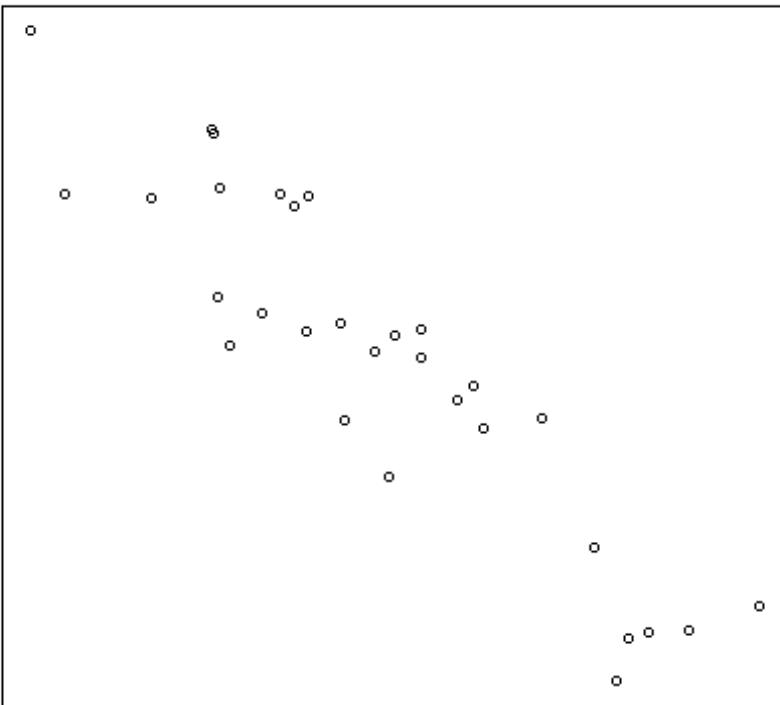
- Correlation and regression – for quantitative/numeric variables
  - Correlation: assessing the association between quantitative variables
  - Simple linear regression: description and prediction of one quantitative variable from another

# Introduction

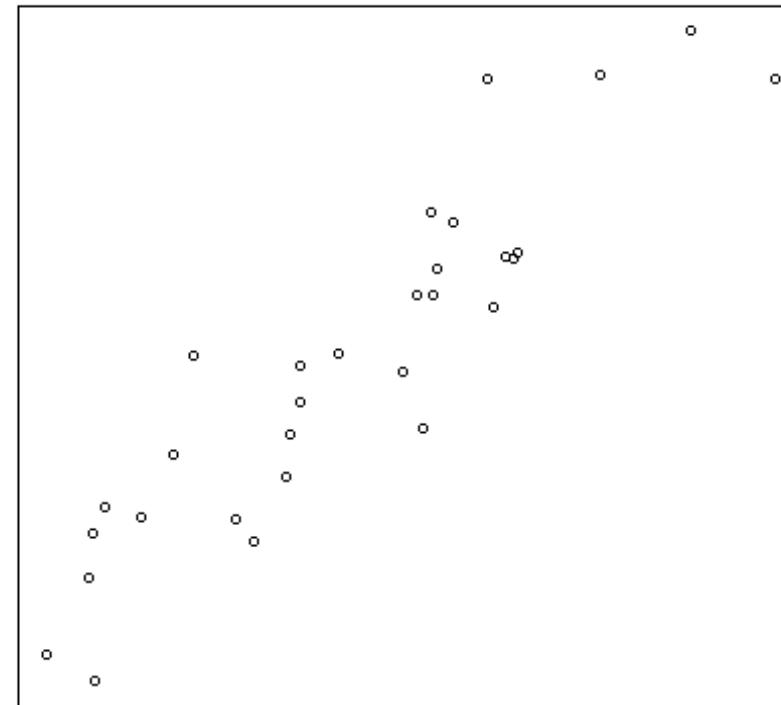
- Simple linear regression: only considering linear (straight-line) relationships
- When considering correlation or carrying out a regression analysis between two variables always plot the data on a scatter plot first

# Scatter Plots

Linear

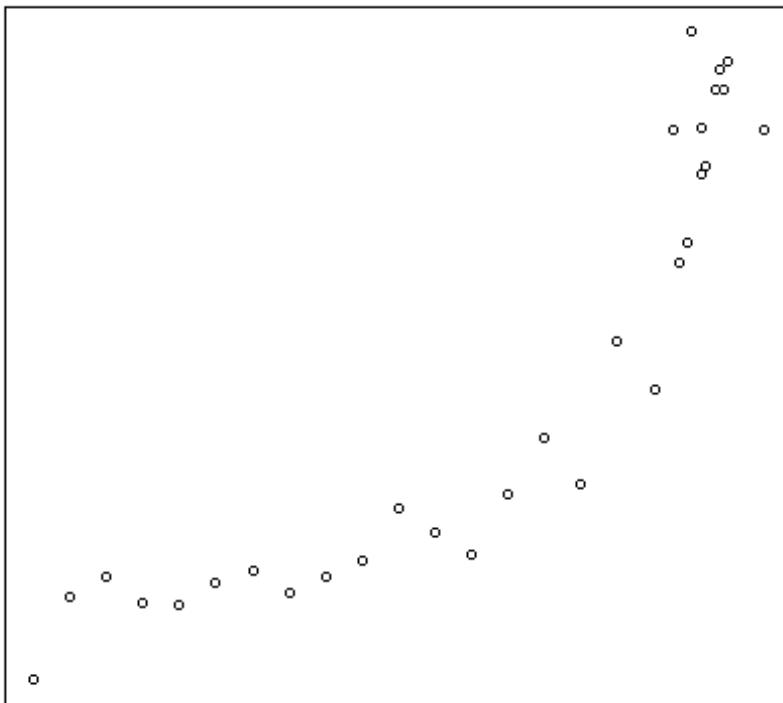


Linear

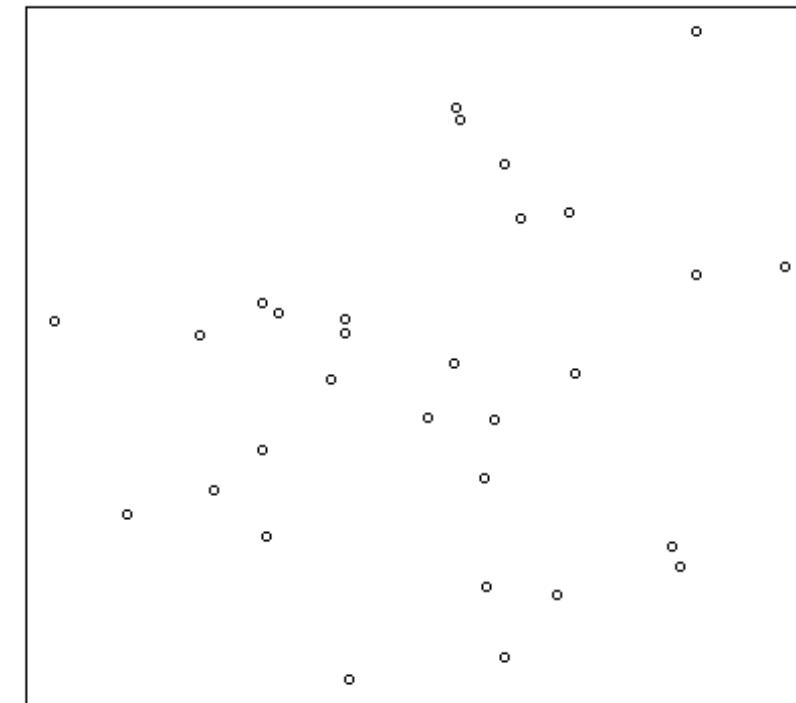


# Scatter Plots

Non-Linear



No Relationship



# Simple Linear Regression

- Data on two numerical variables
- Aim is to describe the relationship between the two variables and/or to predict the value of one variable when we only know the other variable
- Interested in a linear relationship between the two variables X and Y

| Y | Predicted Variable | Dependent Variable   | Response Variable | Outcome Variable |
|---|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| X | Predictor Variable | Independent Variable | Carrier Variable  | Input Variable   |

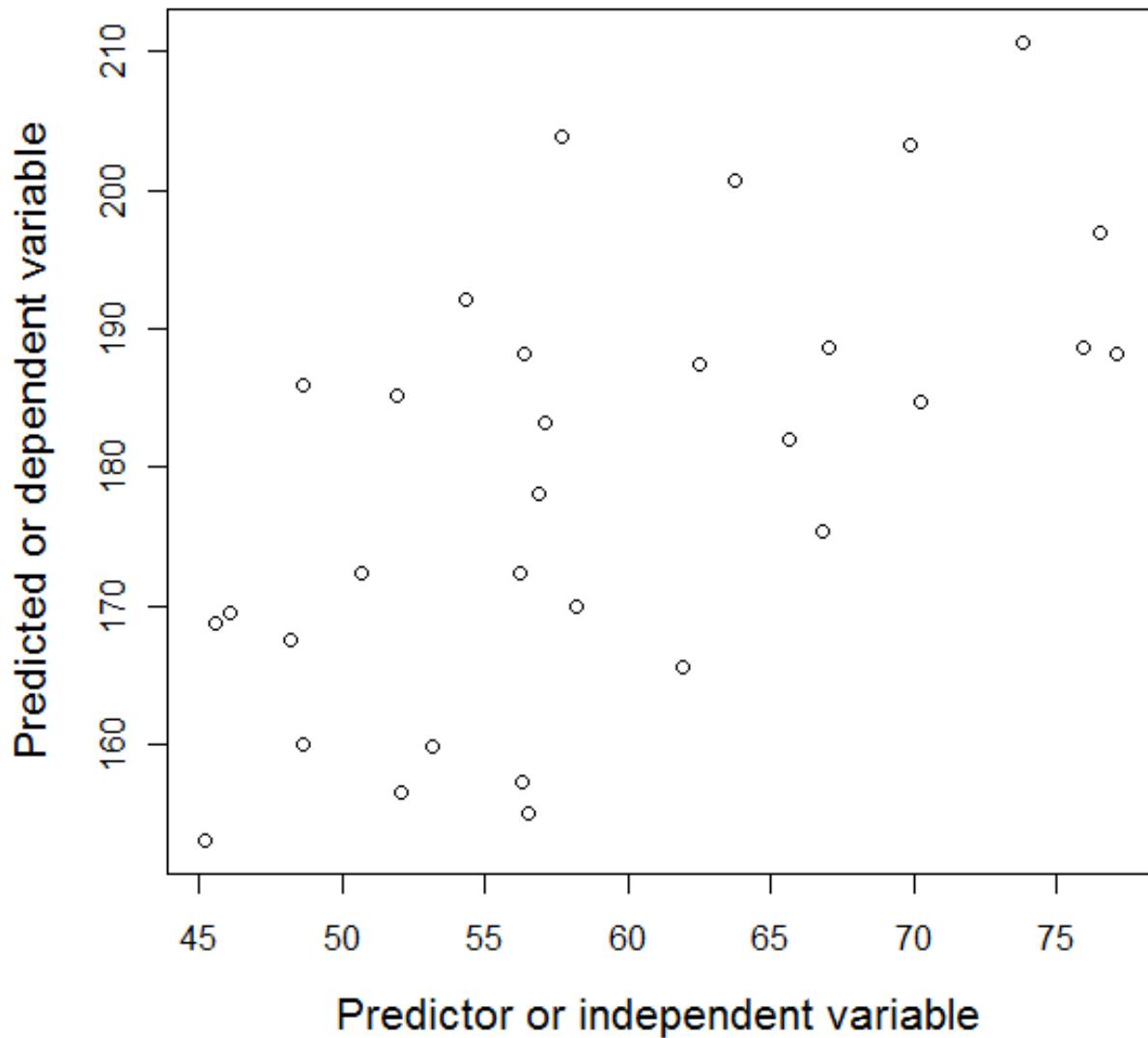
# Simple Linear Regression

- Simple linear regression - when there is only one predictor variable, which we will consider here
- Multiple or multivariate regression - when there is more than one predictor variable

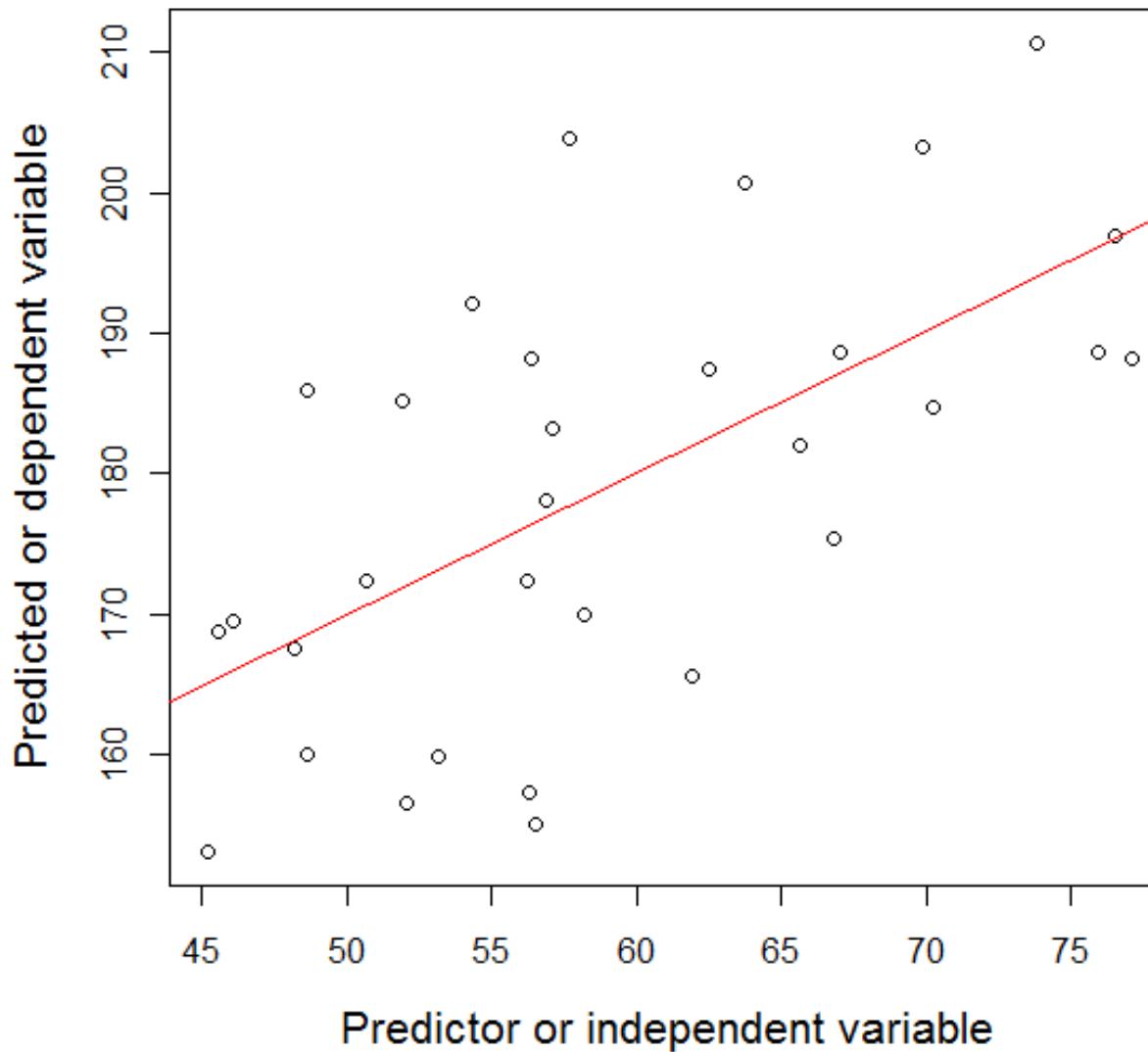
# Simple Linear Regression

- The aim is to fit a straight line to the data that predicts the mean value of the dependent variable ( $Y$ ) for a given value of the independent variable ( $X$ )
- Intuitively this will be a line that minimizes the distance between the data and the fitted line
- Standard method is *least squares regression*
- Notation:  $n$  pairs of data points,  $(x_i, y_i)$

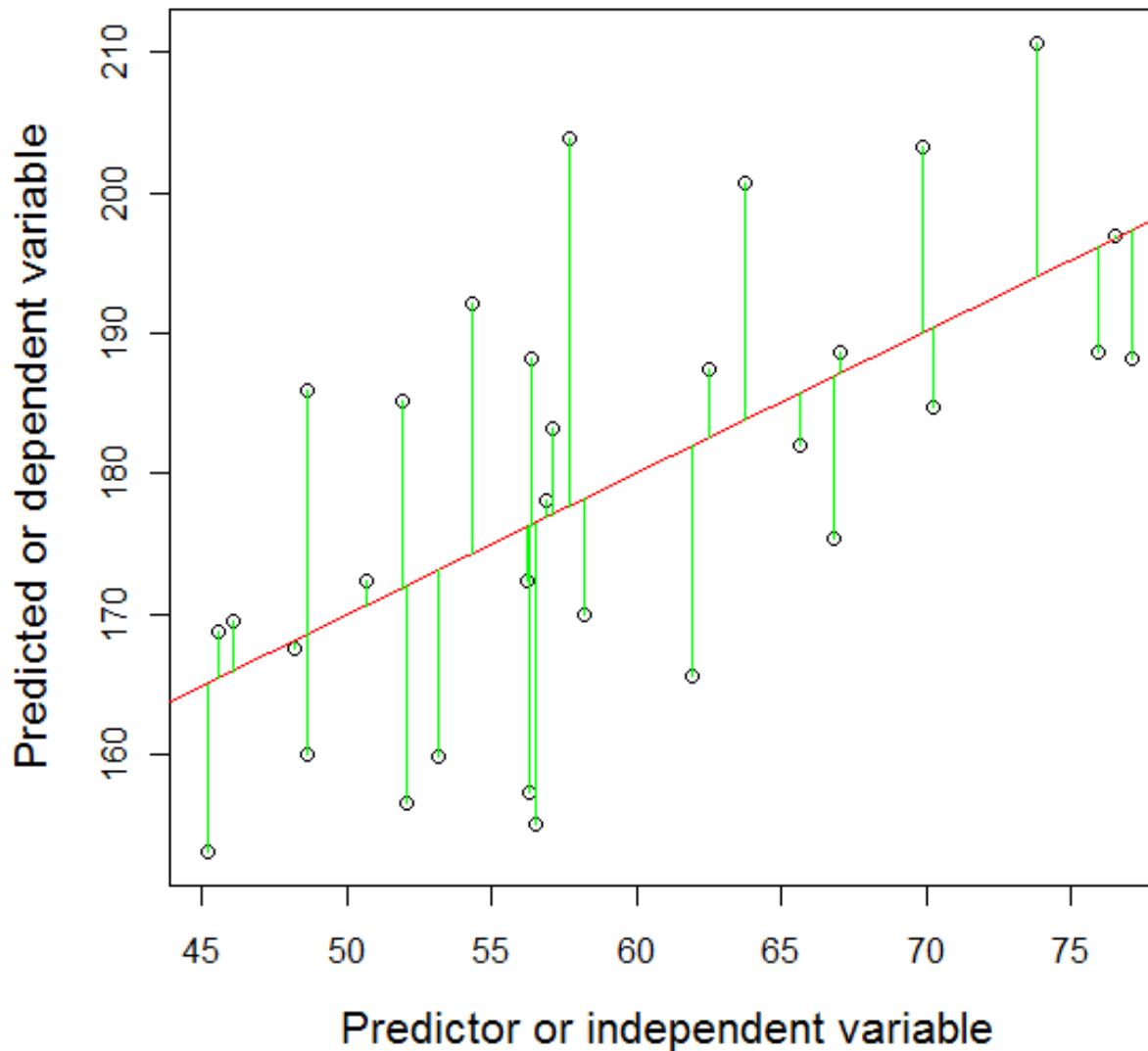
# Two Quantitative Variables



# Two Quantitative Variables, Regression Line



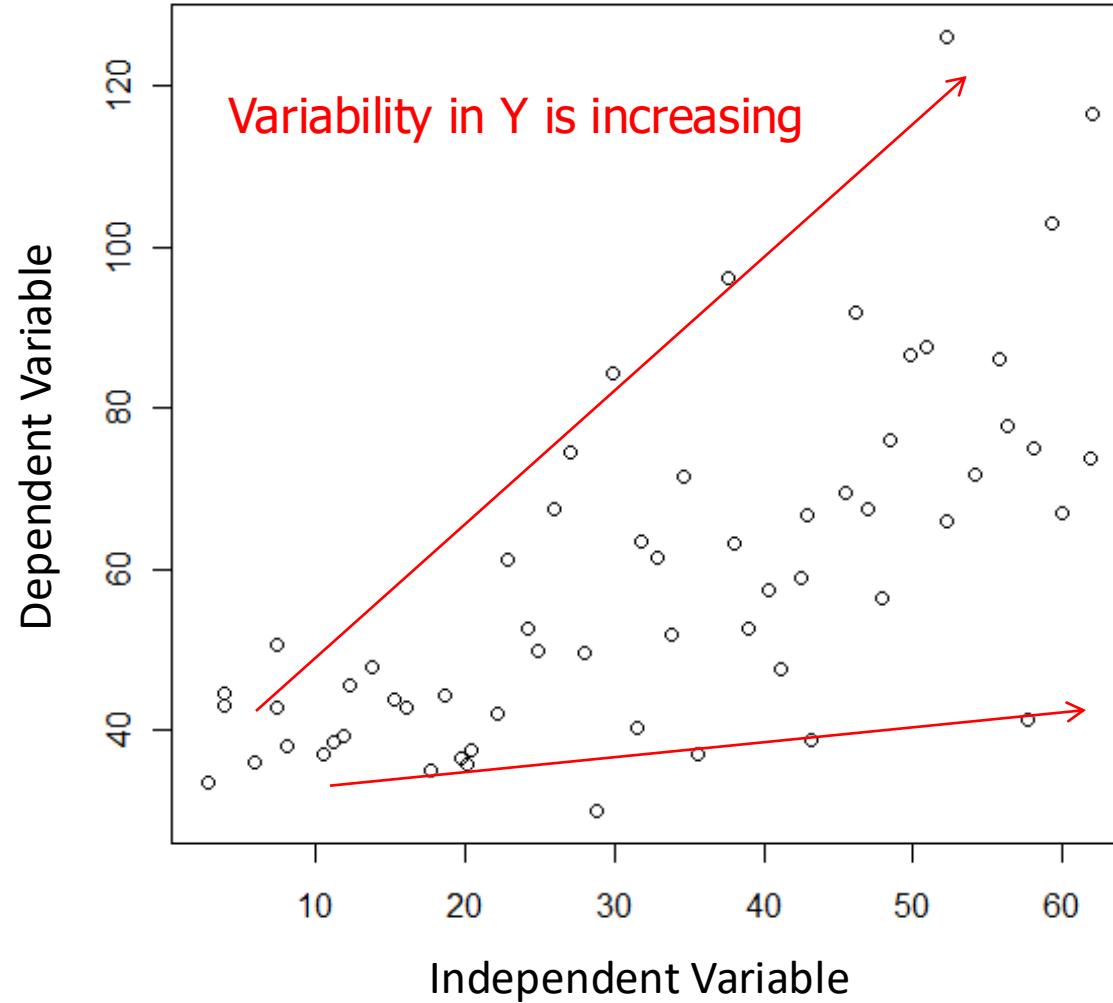
# Two Quantitative Variables, Regression Line



# Linear Regression Assumptions

- The values of the dependent variable  $Y$  should be Normally distributed for each value of the independent variable  $X$  (needed for hypothesis testing and confidence intervals)
- The variability of  $Y$  should be the same for each value of  $X$  (homoscedasticity)

# Linear Regression Assumptions



# Linear Regression Assumptions

Other points to note:

- The relationship between the two variables should be linear
- The observations should be independent
- Values of  $X$  do not have to be random
- Values of  $X$  don't have to be Normally distributed

# Linear Regression Assumptions

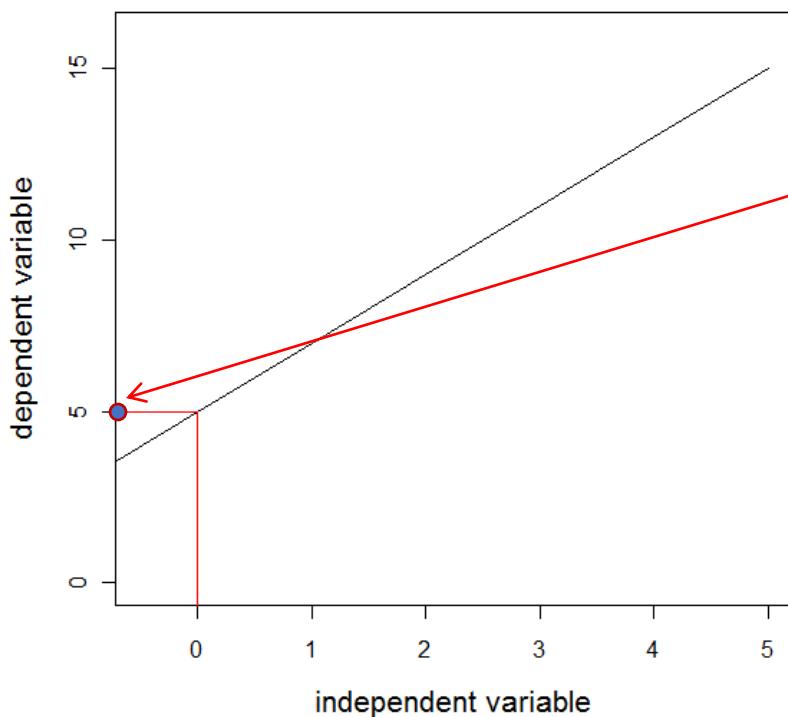
- It is easier to check many of these assumptions after the regression has been carried out
- Use residuals to do this and we will return to these later

# Linear Regression Assumptions

- The straight line or linear relationship is described by the equation for a straight line

$$y = a + bx$$

Dependent variable      Independent variable  
Intercept      Slope

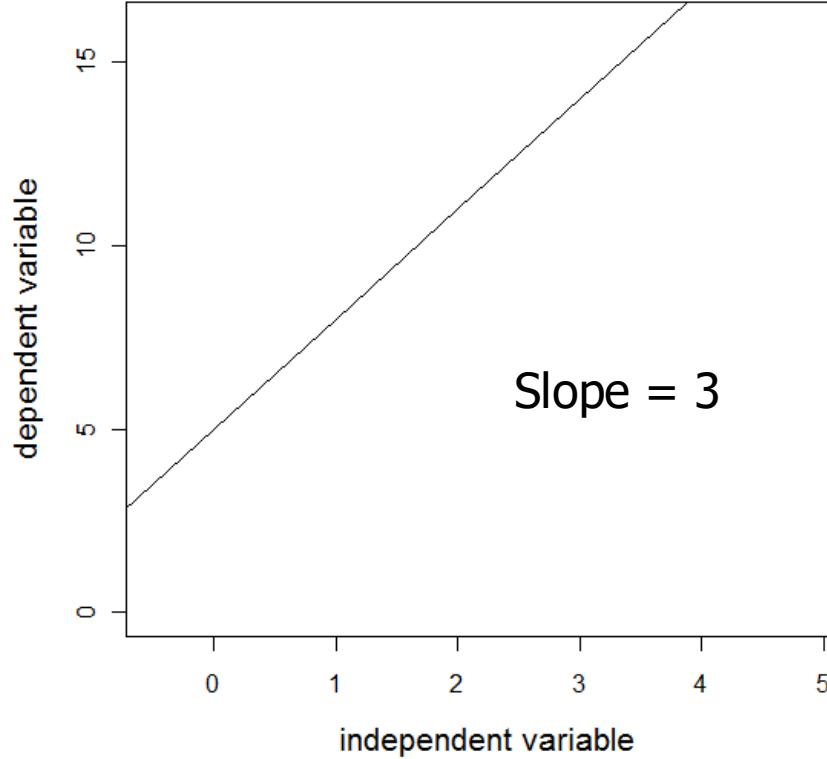
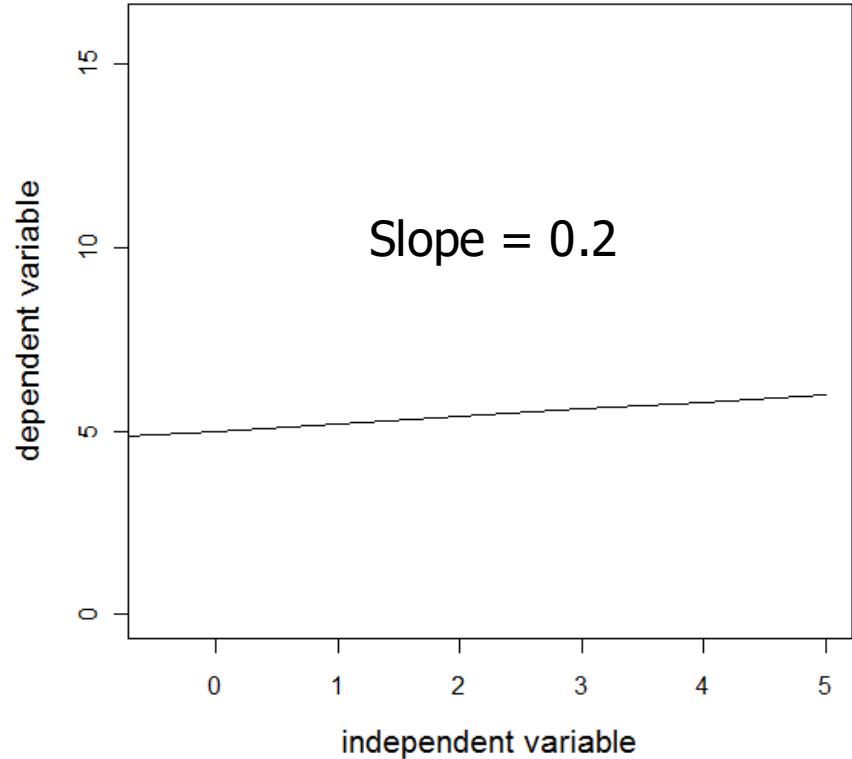


Intercept, value of y when  $x = 0$ ,  
 $a = 5$ ,  $y = 5 + b \cdot 0$

Slope of the line,  $b = 2$  here

$$y = 5 + 2x$$

# Slopes



Same intercept = 5

# Least Squares Regression

- No line could pass through all the data points in our example
- We want the best “average” equation (*regression equation*) that would represent a line through the middle of the data, this is the *regression line*:

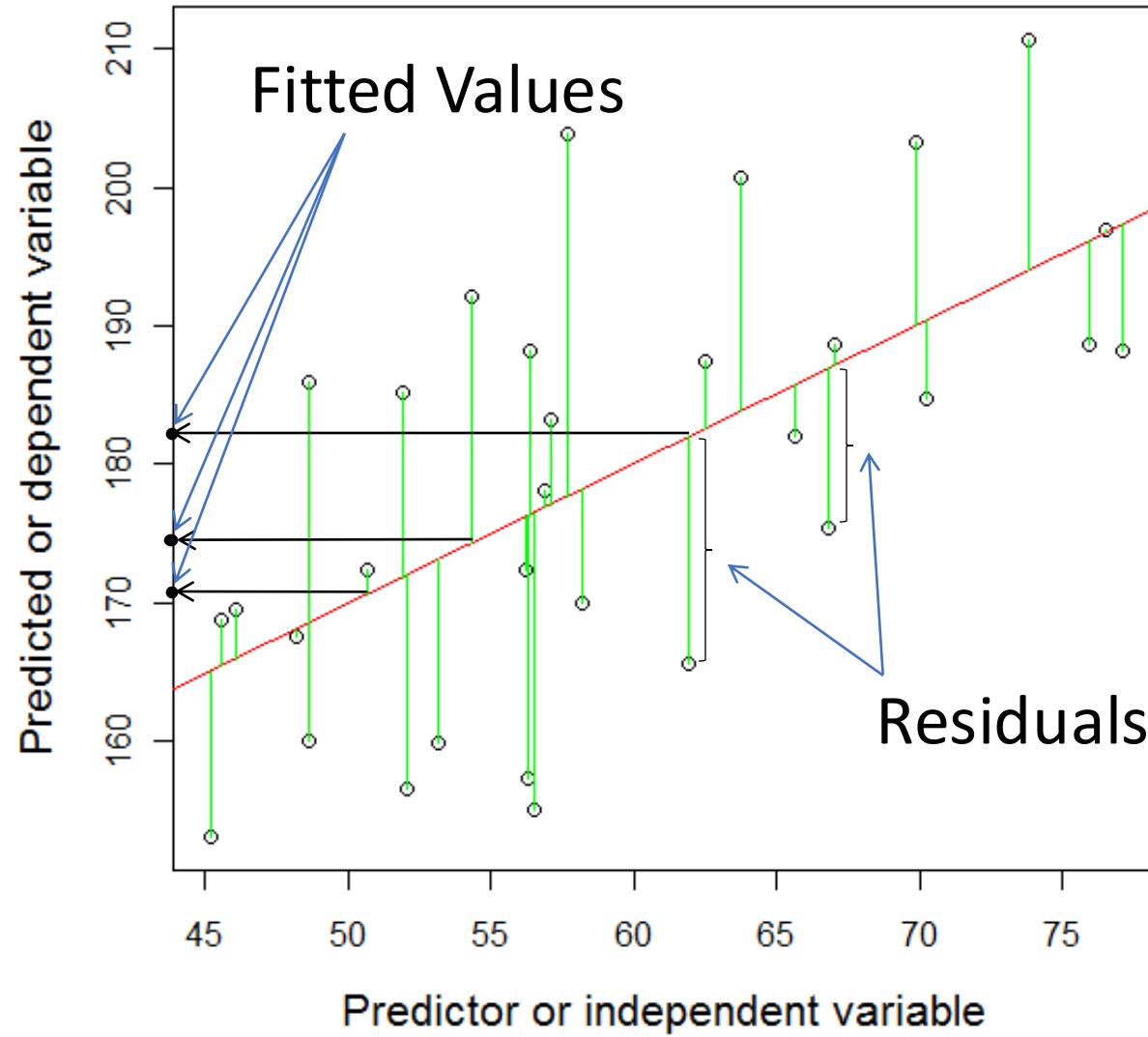
$$\hat{y}_i = \hat{a} + \hat{b}x_i$$

- The constants  $a$ , the intercept and  $b$ , the slope or regression coefficient are computed using the method of least squares

# Least Squares Regression

- Fitted value = value of Y given by the line for any value of the variable X
- Residual = difference between the observed value of Y and the fitted value
- Least squares aim: to minimize the sum of squares of the residuals

# Fitted Values and Residuals



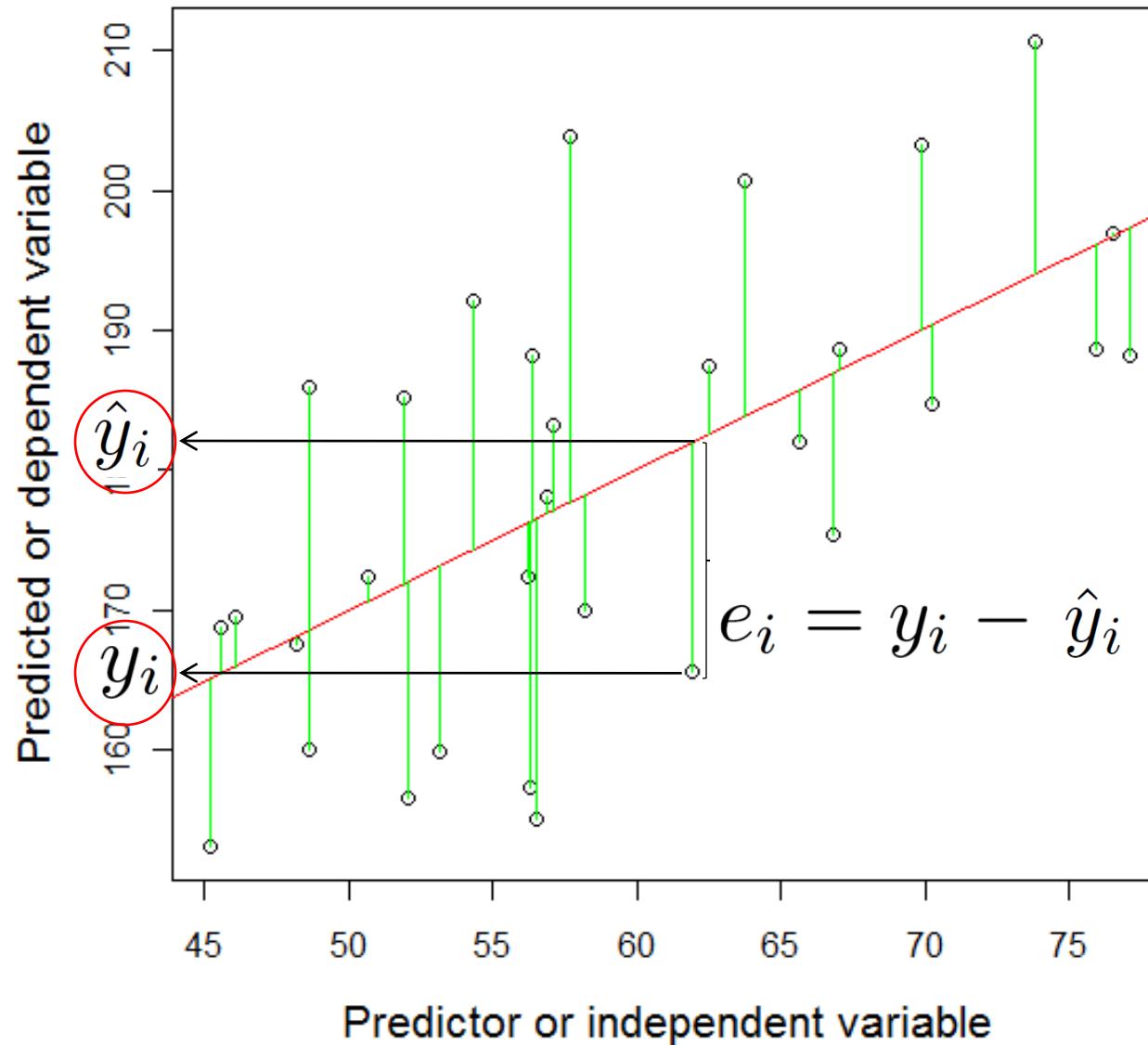
# Least Squares Regression

- At any point  $x_i$ , the corresponding point on the line is given by:  $a + bx_i$

Regression equation:  $\hat{y}_i = \hat{a} + \hat{b}x_i$

Residuals (errors):  $e_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i$

# Fitted Values and Residuals



# Least Squares Regression

- Linear model:

$$y_i = \hat{a} + \hat{b}x_i + e_i, \quad e_i \sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma^2)$$

- Note: if the errors/residuals are correlated or have unequal variances then least squares is not the best way to estimate the regression coefficient

# Least Squares Regression

- Minimize the sum of squares ( $S$ ) of the vertical distances of the observations from the fitted line (residuals)

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n [y_i - \hat{y}_i]^2$$

- In order to find the intercept and regression coefficient that minimize  $S$  the mathematical technique of differentiation is employed

# Least Squares Regression

- The solution for these two equations results in the following two formulae for the estimates of the intercept and regression coefficients respectively:

$$\hat{a} = \bar{y} - \hat{b}\bar{x} \quad \hat{b} = \frac{\sum(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum(x_i - \bar{x})^2} = \frac{\sum x_i y_i - n\bar{x}\bar{y}}{\sum x_i^2 - n(\bar{x})^2}$$

- For the systolic blood pressure and age data in the previous plots:

$$\hat{a} = 118.7$$

$$\hat{b} = 1.0$$

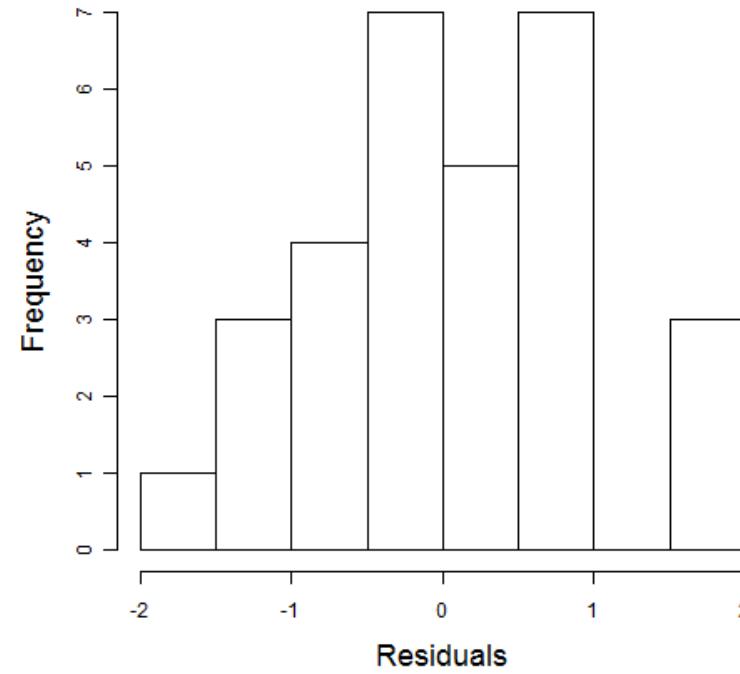
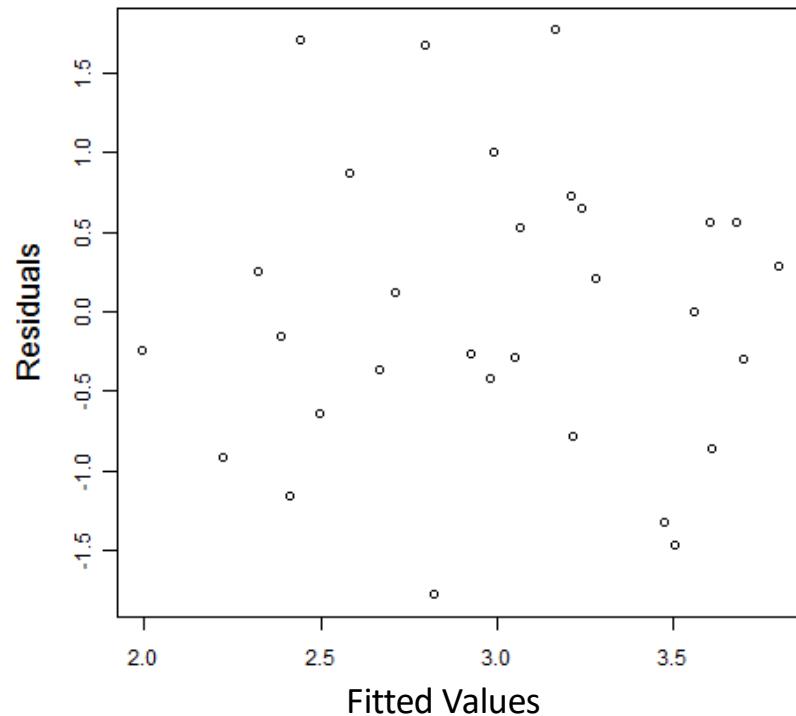
| $x_i$ | $y_i$ | $\hat{y}_i$ | $e_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i$ |
|-------|-------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 49    | 186   | 168.7       | 17.3                    |
| 46    | 169   | 165.7       | 3.3                     |
| 58    | 170   | 177.9       | -7.9                    |
| 53    | 160   | 172.8       | -12.8                   |
| :     | :     | :           | :                       |

# Residuals

- Checking assumptions:
  - ✓ Linearity: A linear relationship between the dependent variable and the independent variables.  
(scatterplot of x and y)
  - ✓ Normal Distribution: Residuals are normally distributed with mean zero.  
(histogram or qqplot of residuals)
  - ✓ Constant Variance: The variance of the residuals are similar across the values of the independent variables.  
(scatterplot of residuals vs fitted values: constant spread)
  - ✓ i.i.d: Residuals are independently and identically distributed – random scatter.  
(scatterplot of residuals vs fitted values: random scatter)

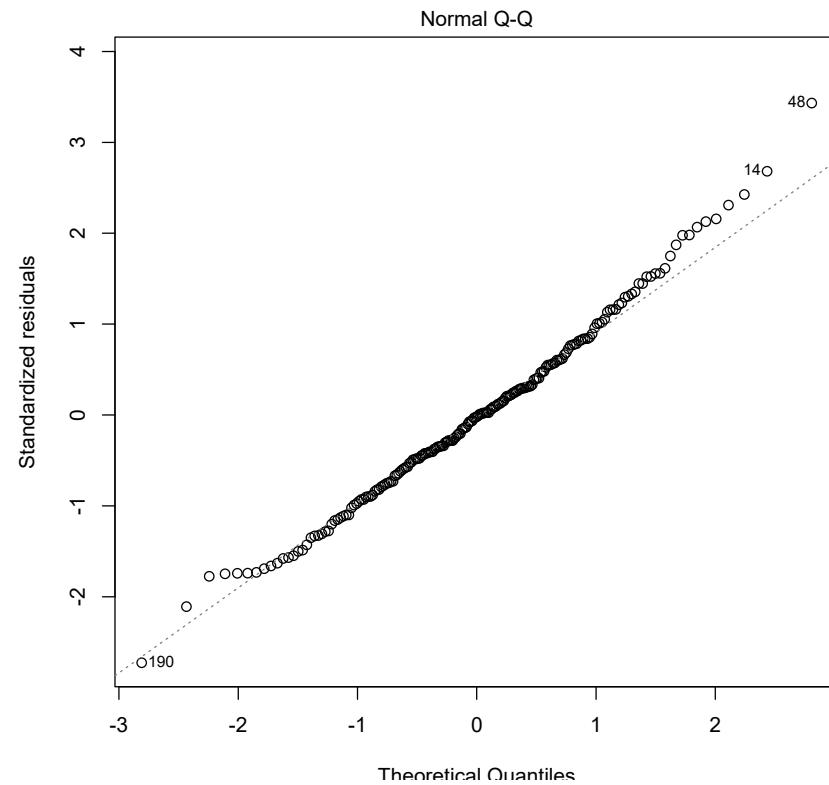
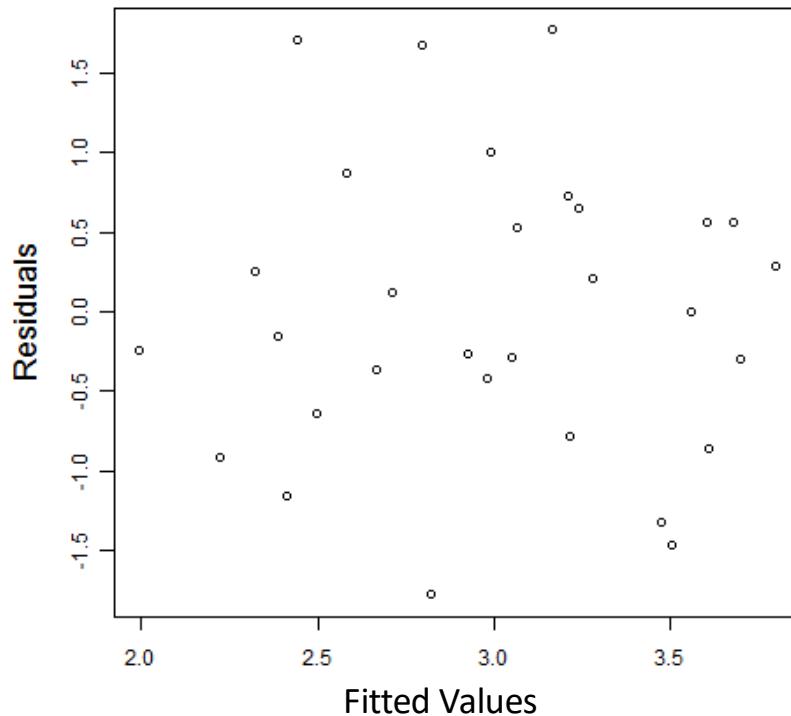
# Residuals

- These residuals appear reasonable



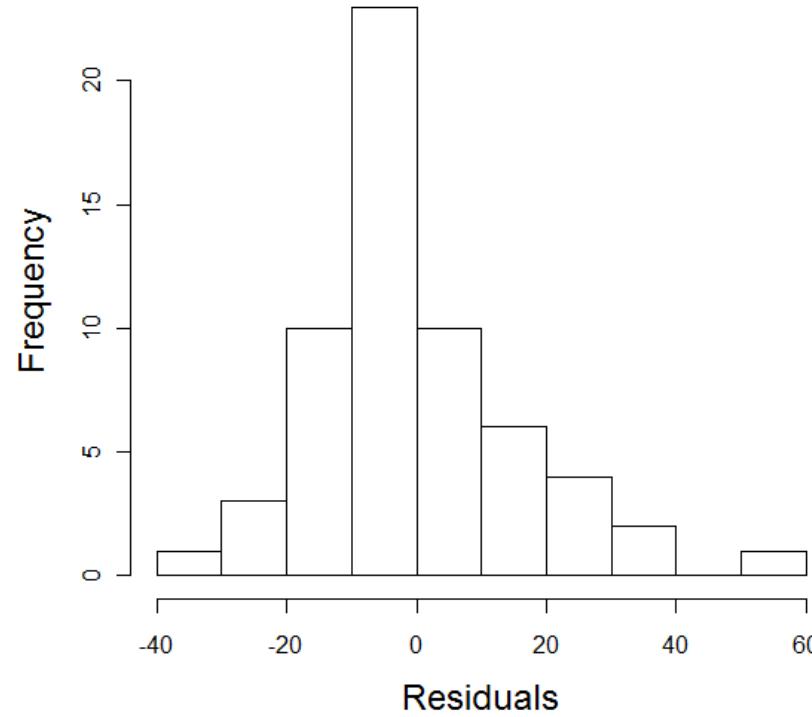
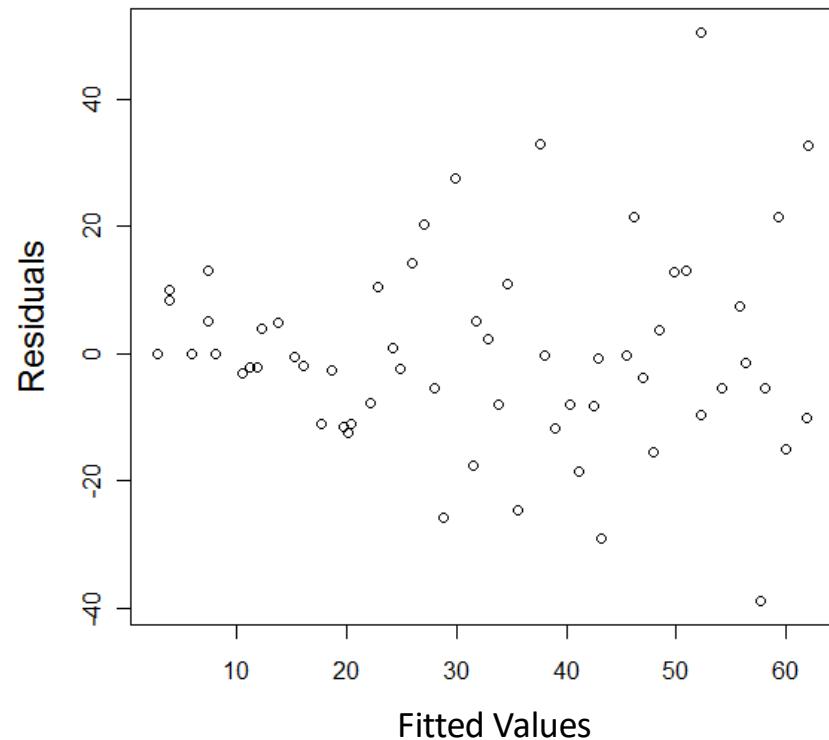
# Residuals

- These residuals appear reasonable



# Residuals

- These residuals show increasing variability



# Regression Coefficient $b$

- Regression coefficient:
  - this is the slope of the regression line
  - indicates the strength of the relationship between the two variables
  - interpreted as the expected change in  $y$  for a one-unit change in  $x$

# Regression Coefficient $b$

- Regression coefficient:
  - can calculate a standard error for the regression coefficient
  - can calculate a confidence interval for the coefficient
  - can test the hypothesis that  $b = 0$ , i.e., that there is no relationship between the two variables

# Regression Coefficient b

- To test the hypothesis that  $b = 0$ , testing the hypothesis that there is no relationship between the  $X$  and  $Y$  variables, the test statistic is given by:

$$t = \frac{b}{se(b)}$$

comparing this ratio with a  $t$  distribution with  $n-2$  degrees of freedom

- Can also calculate a confidence interval for  $b$ :

$$b \pm t_{0.975} se(b)$$

# Intercept $a$

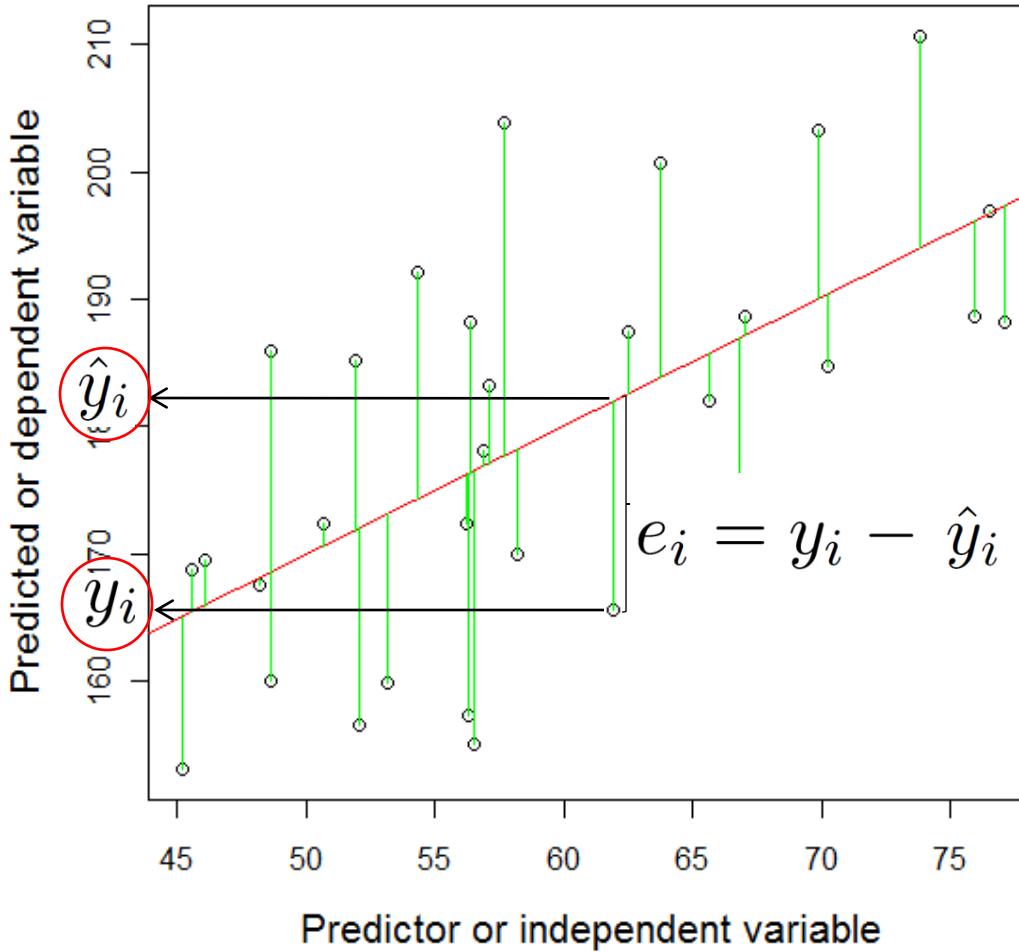
- Intercept:
  - the estimated intercept  $a$  gives the value of  $y$  that is expected when  $x = 0$
  - often not very useful as in many situations it may not be realistic or relevant to consider  $x = 0$
  - it is possible to get a confidence interval and to test the null hypothesis that the intercept is zero and most statistical packages will report these

# Coefficient of Determination, R-Squared

- The coefficient of determination or R-squared is the amount of variability in the data set that is explained by the statistical model
- Used as a measure of how good predictions from the model will be
- In linear regression R-squared is the square of the correlation coefficient

# Residual Sum of Squares

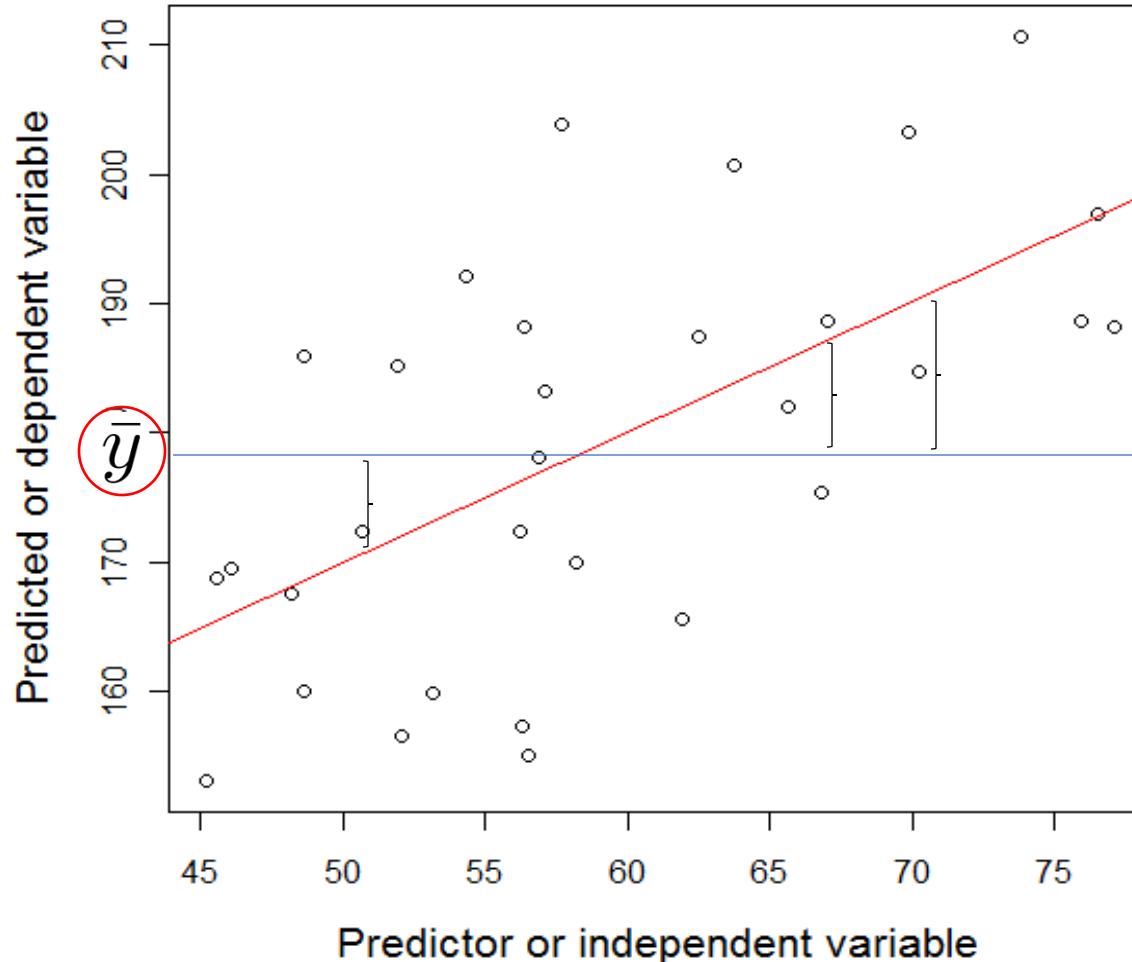
$$\sum_i (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$$



# Regression Sum of Squares

$$\sum_i (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2$$

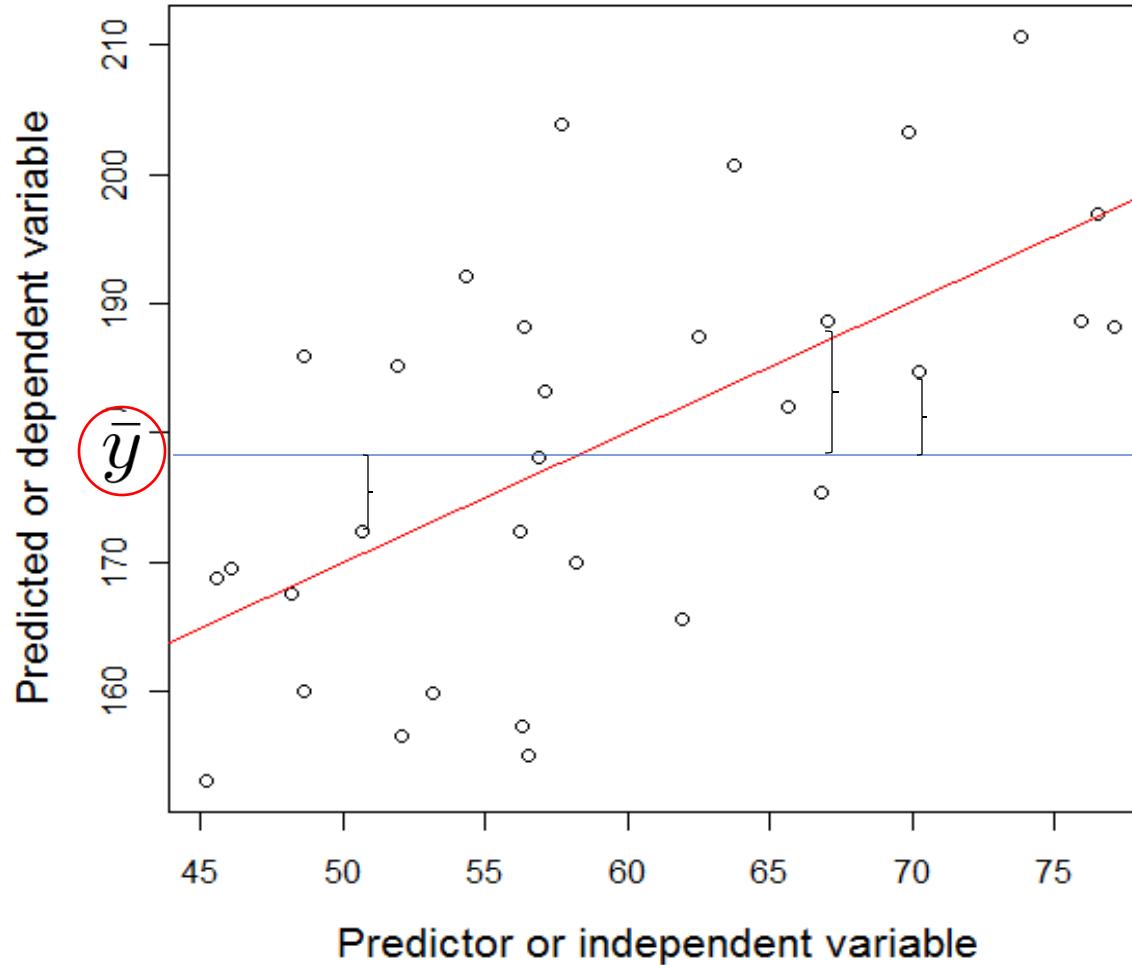
Here  $\bar{y} = 179$



# Total Sum of Squares

$$\sum_i (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$

Here  $\bar{y} = 179$



# Sum of Squares

$$\sum_i (y_i - \bar{y})^2 = \sum_i (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 + \sum_i (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \text{Total} & = & \text{Residual} \\ \text{sum of squares} & & \text{sum of squares} \\ & & + \\ & & \text{Regression} \\ & & \text{sum of squares} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \text{Total} & = & \text{Unexplained} \\ \text{Variation} & & \text{Variation} \\ & & + \\ & & \text{Explained} \\ & & \text{Variation} \end{array}$$

# Coefficient of Determination

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \text{Total} & = & \text{Residual} + \text{Regression} \\ \text{sum of squares} & & \text{sum of squares} \quad \text{sum of squares} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \text{Total} & = & \text{Unexplained} + \text{Explained} \\ \text{Variation} & & \text{Variation} \quad \text{Variation} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Coefficient of Determination} &= \frac{\text{Explained Variation}}{\text{Total Variation}} \\ &= \frac{\text{Regression SS}}{\text{Total SS}} \end{aligned}$$

# Coefficient of Determination, R-Squared

- Coefficient of determination
  - = R-Squared
  - =  $R^2$
  - = R-Sq

# Coefficient of Determination, R-Squared

- R-Sq must lie between 0 and 1
- If it is equal to one then all the observed points must lie exactly on a straight line – no residual variability
- Often expressed as a percentage
- High R-squared says that the majority of the variability in the data is explained by the model (good!)

# Adjusted R-Squared

- Sometimes an adjusted R-squared will be presented in the output as well as the R-squared
- Adjusted R-squared is a modification to the R-squared adjusting for the sample size and for the number of explanatory or predictor variables in the model (more relevant when considering multiple regression)
- The adjusted R-squared will only increase if the addition of the new predictor improves the model more than would be expected by chance

# Mean Squared Error

- The **Mean Squared Error** is the mean of the squares of the errors:

$$MSE = \frac{1}{n-2} \sum_i (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 = \frac{\text{Residual Sum of Squares}}{DF_{\text{Error}}}$$

- Degrees of Freedom in Simple Linear regression are n-2
- Lose one degree of freedom for each parameter estimated

# Residual Standard Deviation

- Remember the linear model formulation:

$$y_i = \hat{a} + \hat{b}x_i + e_i, \quad e_i \sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma^2)$$

- The residual standard deviation is an estimate of the standard deviation of the residuals
- The **residual standard error** is the positive square root of the mean square error

$$\text{Residual Standard Error} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{DF_{Error}} \sum_i (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}$$

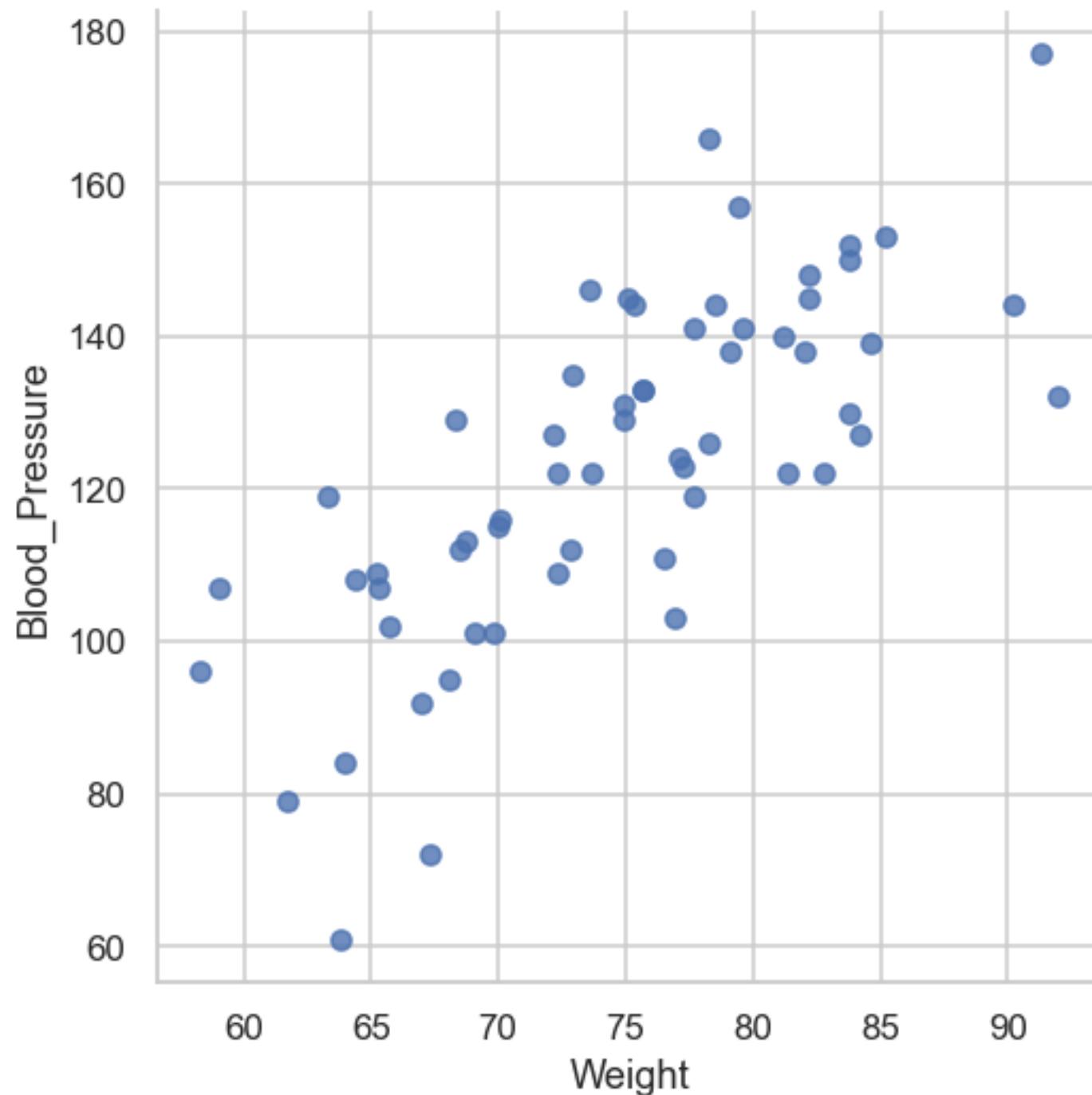
- Measures the spread of the y values about the regression line

# Residual Standard Deviation

- The residual standard deviation is a goodness-of-fit measure
- The smaller the residual standard deviation the closer the fit to the data

# Regression: Python Example

- Data has been collected on individuals weights and blood pressure, to see if there is relationship between the two and can one be used to predict the other
- Which variable is the response and which is the predictor?



# Regression: Python Example

- Data has been collected on individuals weights and blood pressure, to see if there is relationship between the two and can one be used to predict the other
- Which variable is the response and which is the predictor?

```
X = df["Weight"]
X = sm.add_constant(X)
y = df["Blood_Pressure"]
model = sm.OLS(y, X).fit()
model.summary()
```

## OLS Regression Results

=====

Dep. Variable: Blood\_Pressure R-squared: 0.560  
Model: OLS Adj. R-squared: 0.552  
Method: Least Squares F-statistic: 73.71  
Date: Wed, 01 Jan 2020 Prob (F-statistic): 6.44e-12  
Time: 12:59:00 Log-Likelihood: -247.03  
No. Observations: 60 AIC: 498.1  
Df Residuals: 58 BIC: 502.2  
Df Model: 1  
Covariance Type: nonrobust

=====

|        | coef     | std err | t      | P> t  | [0.025  | 0.975] |
|--------|----------|---------|--------|-------|---------|--------|
| const  | -37.1113 | 18.824  | -1.971 | 0.053 | -74.792 | 0.569  |
| Weight | 2.1499   | 0.250   | 8.586  | 0.000 | 1.649   | 2.651  |

=====

Omnibus: 1.448 Durbin-Watson: 2.317  
Prob(Omnibus): 0.485 Jarque-Bera (JB): 1.095  
Skew: -0.331 Prob(JB): 0.578  
Kurtosis: 3.014 Cond. No. 726.

=====

Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

"""

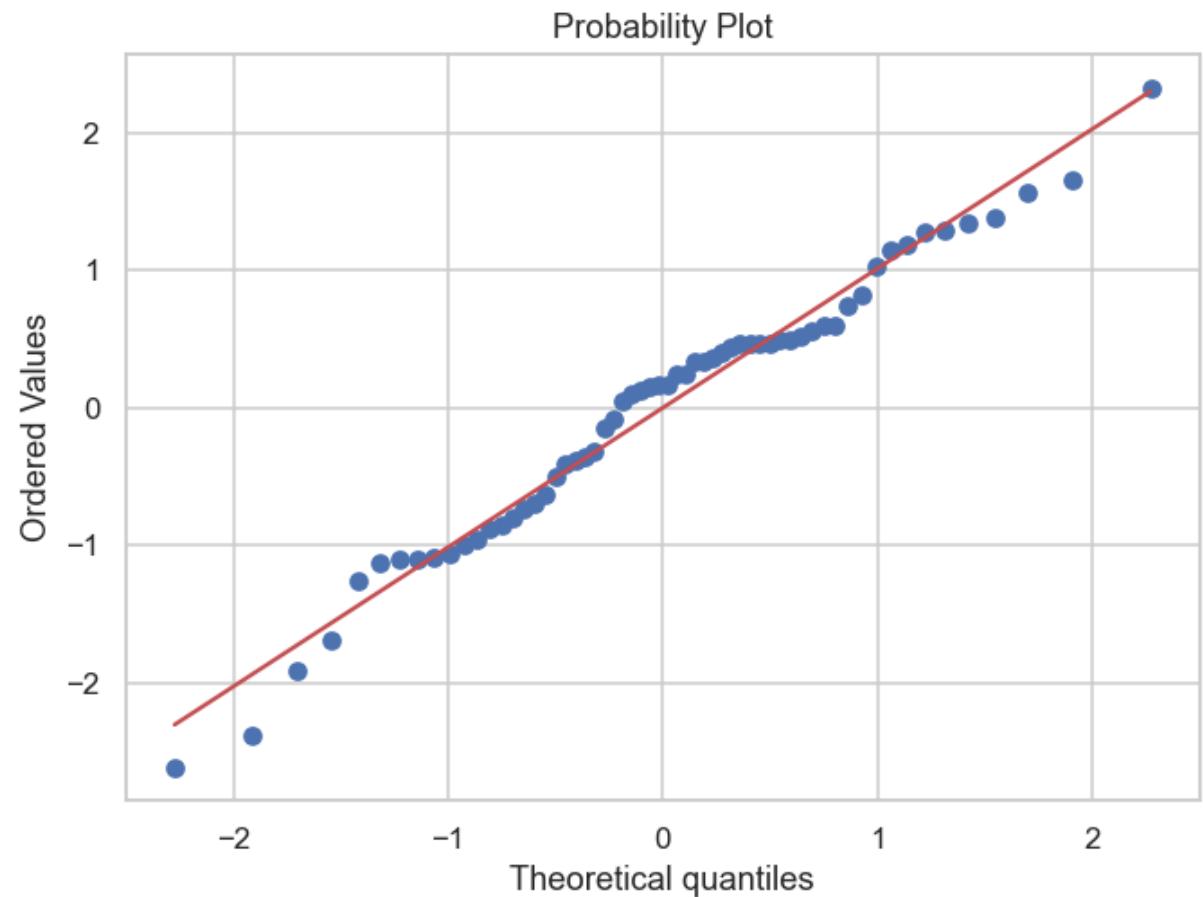
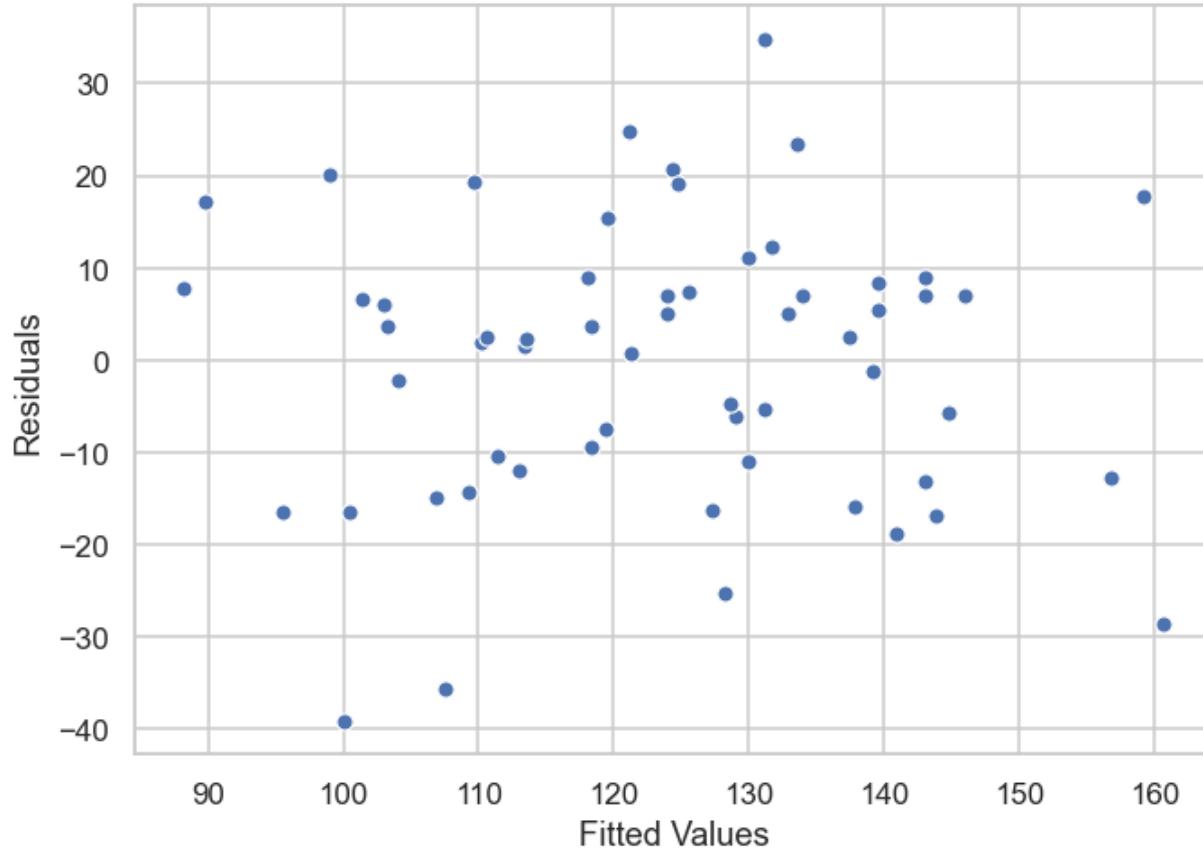
# Residual plots for Checking Assumptions

```
#get the fitted values from the model output
fitted_values=model.fittedvalues
#get the residual (error) values from the fitted values and actual observations (y)
residual = y - fitted_values

#plot scatterplot to see residuals vs fits to check iid and equal variance assumptions
sns.scatterplot(x=fitted_values,y=residual)
plt.xlabel("Fitted Values")
plt.ylabel("Residuals")

#needed for qqplot to check normality of standardised residuals
import statistics
import scipy.stats as stats
#create standardised residuals
sd_red=(residual-statistics.mean(residual))/statistics.stdev(residual)
#create qqplot
stats.probplot(sd_red, plot=sns.mpl.pyplot)
```

# Assumption Checking Output



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Kurtosis:          3.014   Cond. No.           726.
=====
```

Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

"""

R-Sq says that 56% of the variability in the data is explained by the model

Estimate of the intercept,  $a$

Estimate of the regression coefficient,  $b$

P-value of regression coefficient,  $b$

# Residual Standard Deviation in Python

- summary does not give residual standard error which can be used as a measure of fit when comparing models, but can get it from the output from OLS

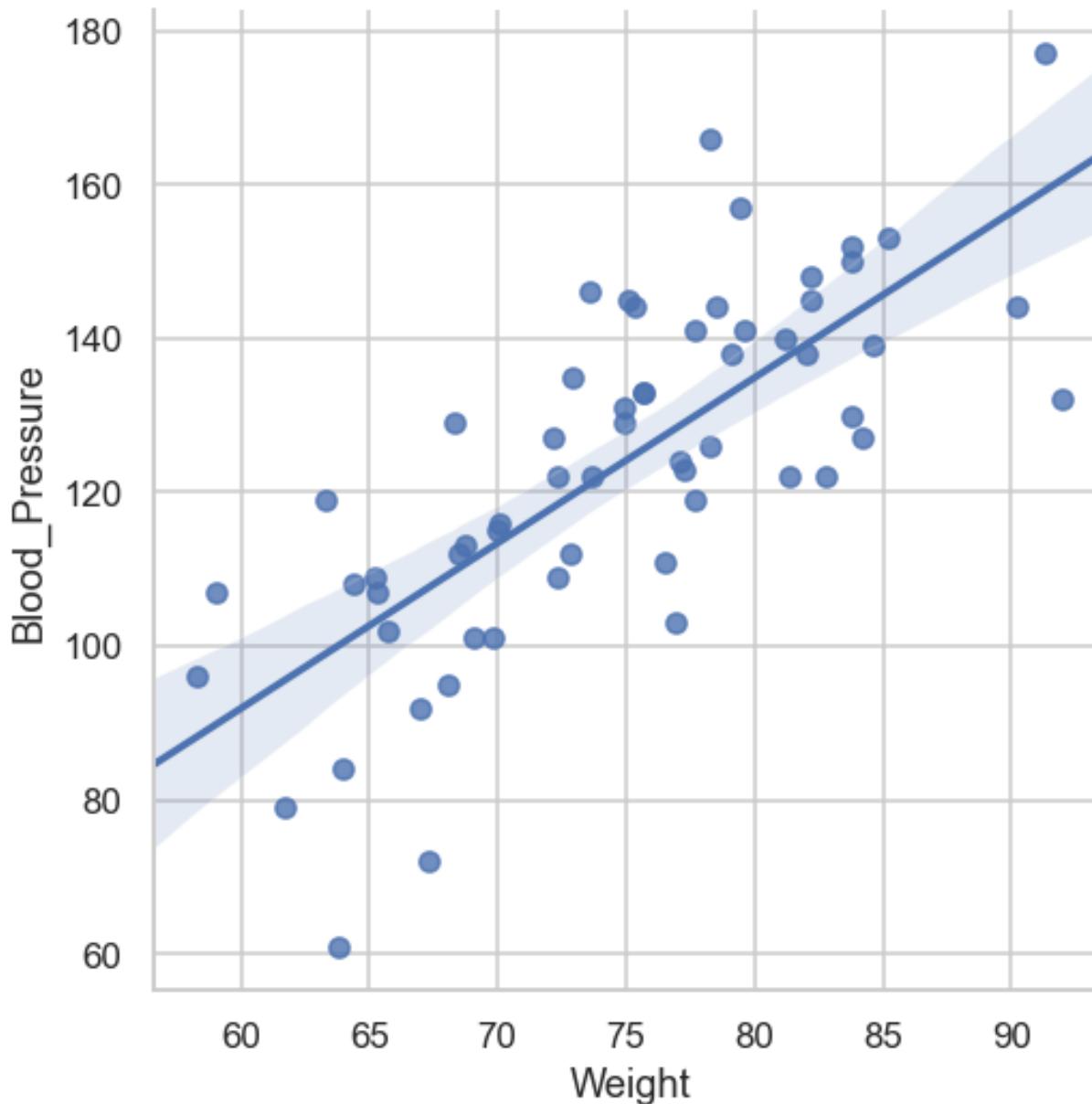
```
#mean square error using scale  
In [830]: model.scale  
Out[830]: 228.19489603432334
```

```
#Take square root of mean square error to get residual standard error  
In [831]: np.sqrt(model.scale)  
Out[831]: 15.10612114456664
```

# Confidence Interval on Fitted Values

- Can calculate a confidence interval on the fitted value:  $\hat{y}_i$
- This is a confidence interval for the mean value of  $y$ , given a value of  $x$
- The width of the confidence interval depends on the value of  $x_i$  and will be a minimum at  $x_i = \bar{x}$  and will widen as  $|x_i - \bar{x}|$  increases

# 95% Confidence Interval



# Prediction Interval for Future Values

- Can predict the range of possible values of  $y$  for a new independent value of  $x$  not used in the regression model
- The prediction interval describes the spread of the observations around the mean value:  $\hat{y}_i$
- The prediction interval is wider than the confidence interval
- The interval widens with distance from the mean value of  $x$ , but is not so obvious to see

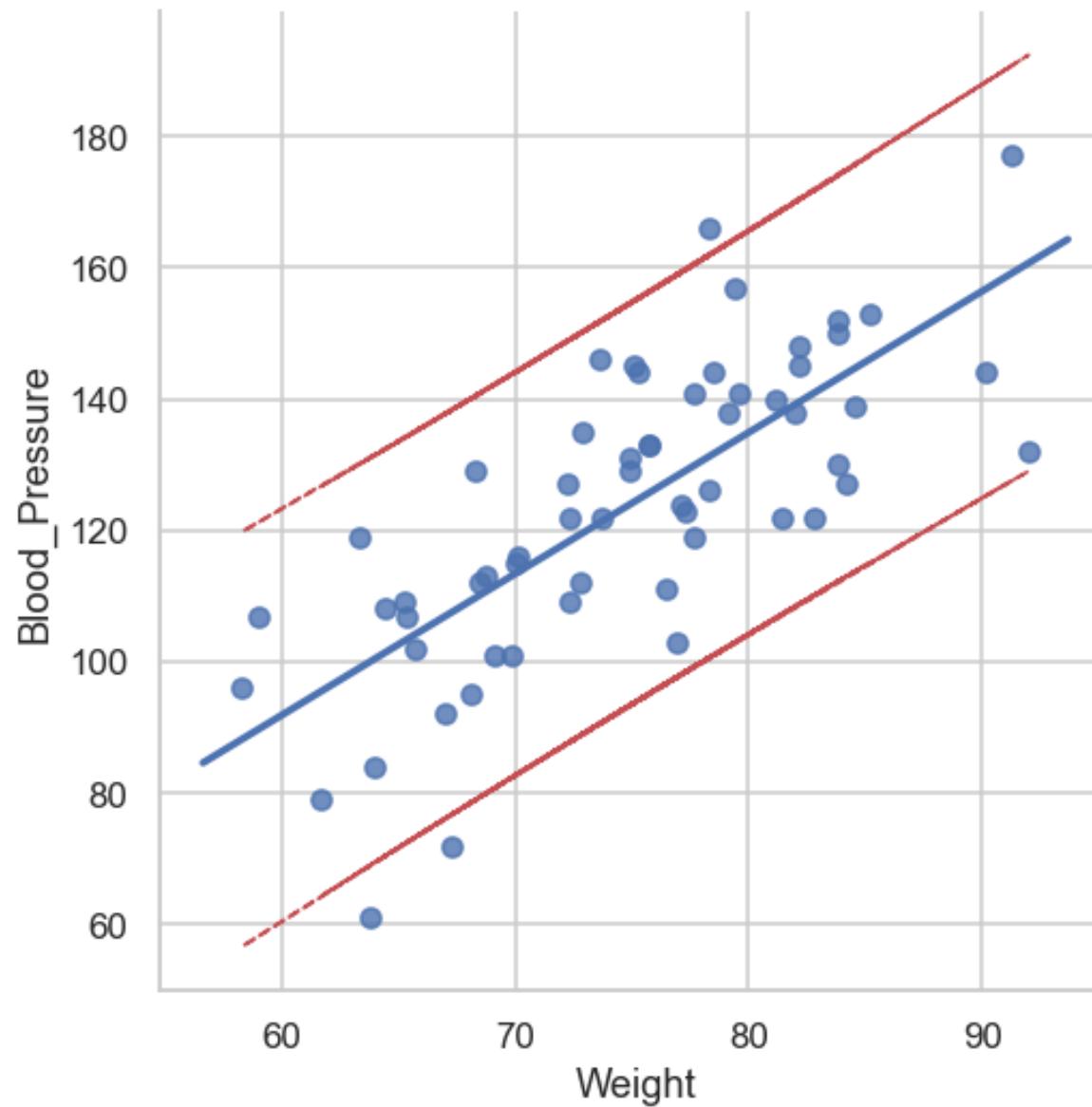
```
In [810]: predictions = model.get_prediction()
...: pred_df=predictions.summary_frame(alpha=0.05)
...: pred_df.info()
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 60 entries, 0 to 59
Data columns (total 6 columns):
# Column Non-Null Count Dtype
-----  
0 mean 60 non-null float64
1 mean_se 60 non-null float64
2 mean_ci_lower 60 non-null float64
3 mean_ci_upper 60 non-null float64
4 obs_ci_lower 60 non-null float64
5 obs_ci_upper 60 non-null float64
dtypes: float64(6)
memory usage: 2.9 KB
```

```
#add prediction interval lines to the plot instead confidence interval lines
```

```
In [811]: sns.lmplot(x='Weight', y='Blood_Pressure', data=df, ci=0)
...: plt.plot(df['Weight'], pred_df['obs_ci_lower'], 'r--', lw=1)
...: plt.plot(df['Weight'], pred_df['obs_ci_upper'], 'r--', lw=1)
```

```
Out[811]: [
```

# 95% Prediction Interval



# Interpolation and Extrapolation

- *Interpolation*
  - Making a prediction for  $Y$  within the range of values of the predictor  $X$  in the sample used in the analysis
  - Generally this is fine
- *Extrapolation*
  - Making a prediction for  $Y$  outside the range of values of the predictor  $X$  in the sample used in the analysis
  - No way to check linearity outside the range of values sampled, not a good idea to predict outside this range

# Correlation and Regression

- Correlation only indicates the strength of the relationship between two variables, it does not give a description of the relationship or allow for prediction
- The t-test of the null hypothesis that the correlation is zero is exactly equivalent to that for the hypothesis of zero slope in the regression analysis

```
corr= pearsonr(df["Blood_Pressure"], df["Weight"])
corr
Out[812]: (0.7480937239999523, 6.444357622401537e-12)
```

# Correlation and Regression

- For correlation both variables must be random, for regression  $X$  does not have to be random
- Correlation is often over used
- One role for correlation is in generating hypotheses, remember correlation is based on one number, limit to what can be inferred with one number

# Summary I

- Simple linear regression- describe and predict linear relationship
- Least squares regression
- Assumptions:
  - Linearity: A linear relationship between the dependent variable and the independent variables.
  - Normal Distribution: Residuals are normally distributed with mean zero.
  - Constant Variance: The variance of the residuals are similar across the values of the independent variables.
  - i.i.d: Residuals are independently and identically distributed –random scatter.

# Summary II

- Need to be familiar with:
  - Regression coefficient (slope)
  - Intercept
  - Residuals –  $\text{Normal}(0, \sigma^2)$
  - Fitted Value
  - $R^2$  (coefficient of determination)
  - Residual standard deviation
- Confidence and Prediction Intervals
- Interpolation and Extrapolation