

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

CORRELATIONS (2)

AGENDA

1. Follow-up
2. Scatterplots
3. Pearson's r
4. Power Analysis
5. Cronbach's α
6. Automation and Replication

1 FOLLOW-UP

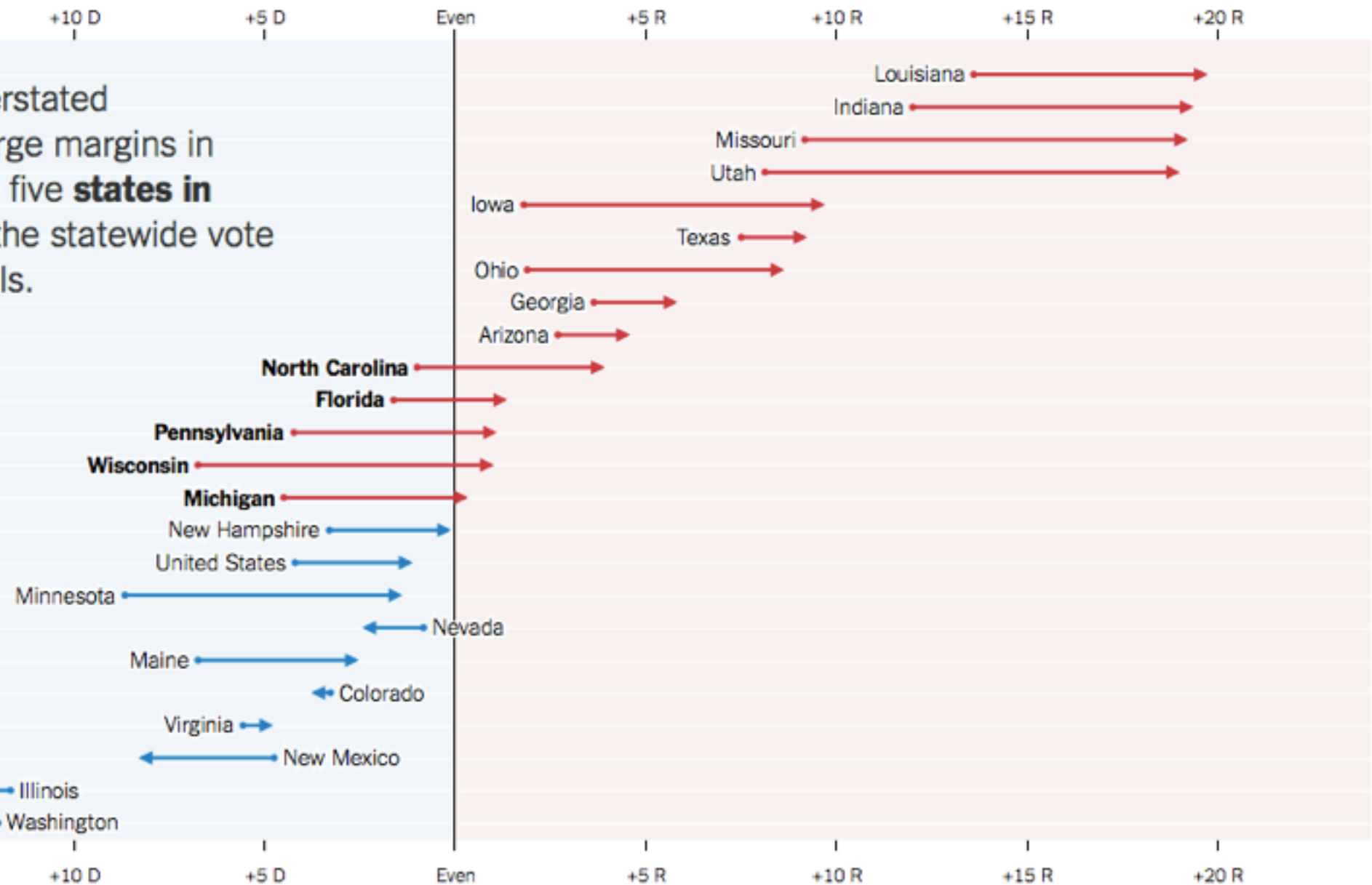
1. FOLLOW-UP

STATE-LEVEL POLLING ERRORS

In **2016**, state polls understated Republican support by large margins in many small states. In the five **states in bold**, Hillary Clinton lost the statewide vote despite leading in the polls.

Key

Pre-election polling average
Election result

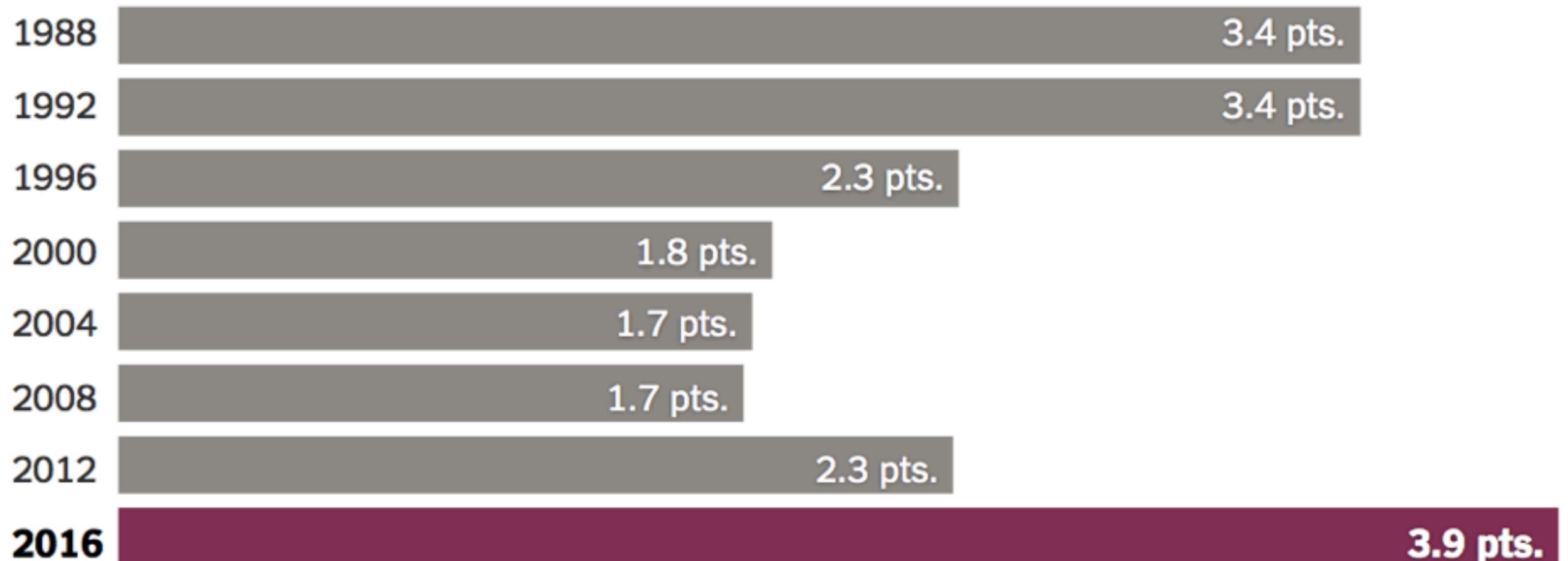


Arrows show simple average of state polls conducted in the three weeks before Election Day in states with at least three polls, compared with the projected final election result.

STATE-LEVEL POLLING ERRORS

State Polling Errors in 2016 Were the Largest in Decades

Average absolute difference between polling average and final vote in the ten states closest to the national average with at least three polls.

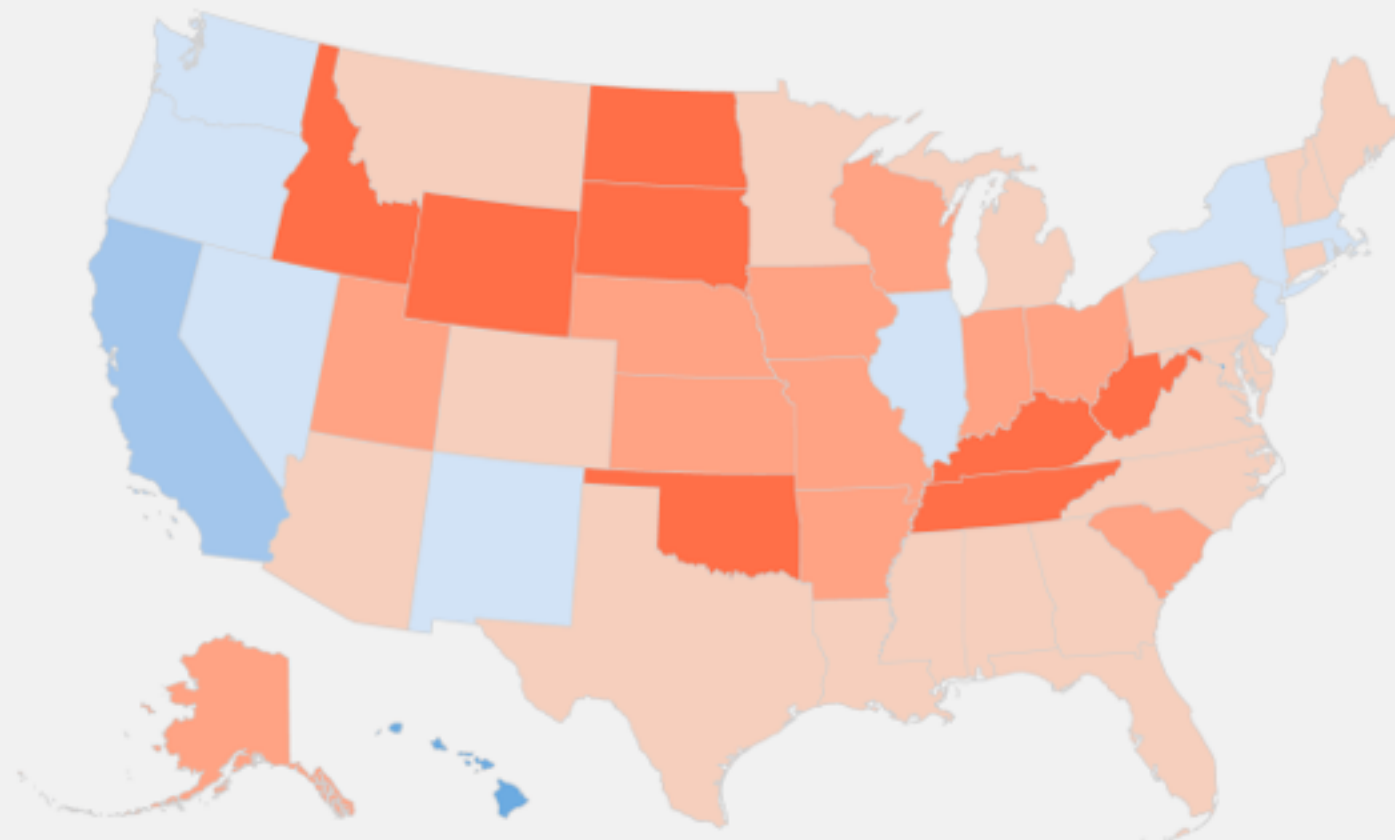
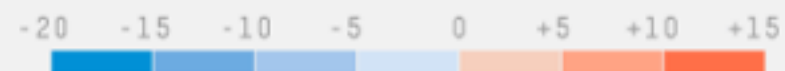


STATE-LEVEL POLLING ERRORS

Polls underestimated Trump in red states, Clinton in blue states

2016 election results vs. FiveThirtyEight's adjusted polling average by state

REPUBLICAN VOTE MARGIN RELATIVE TO POLLS

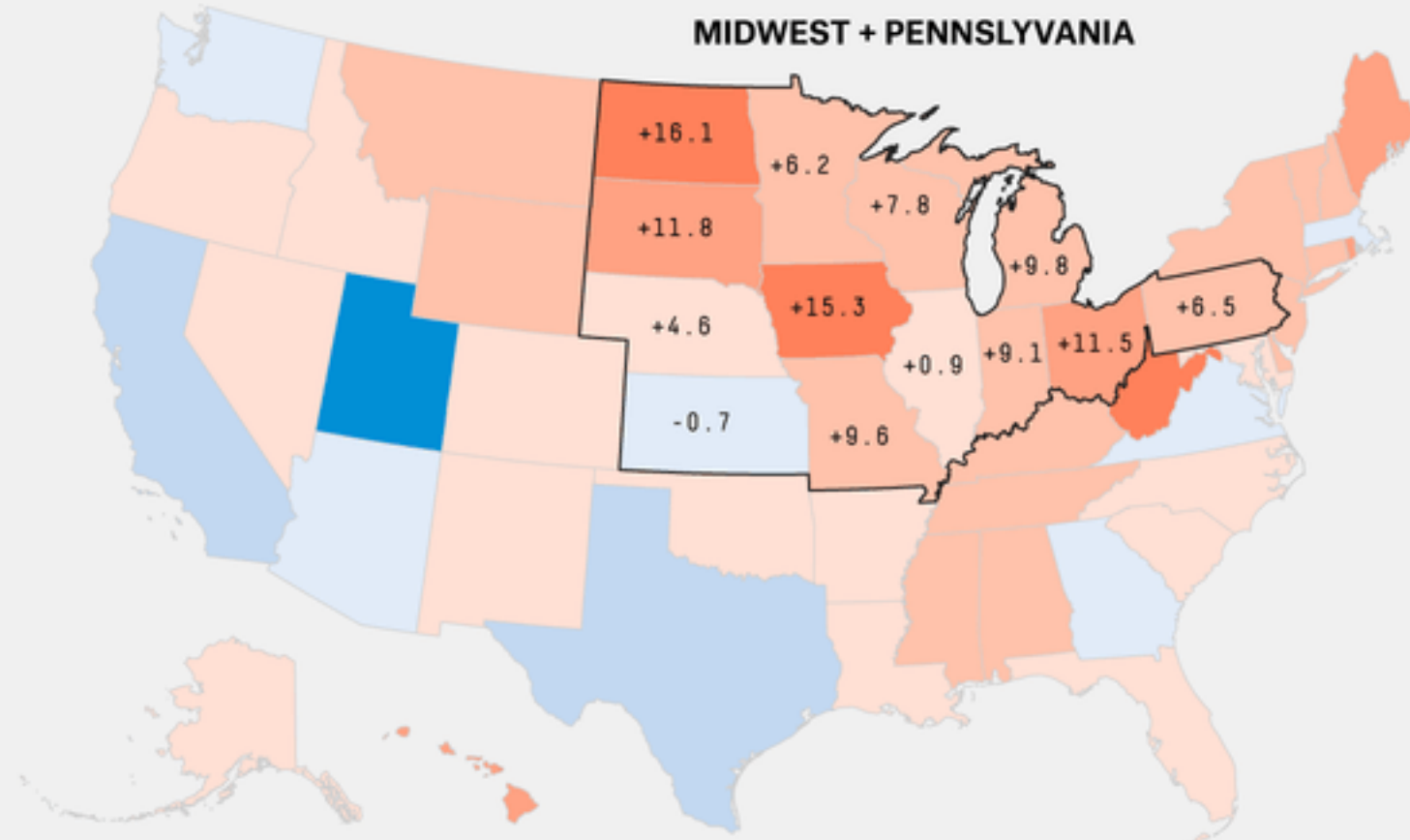
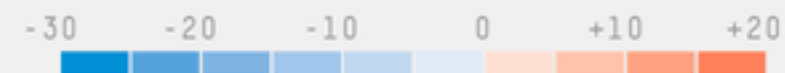


STATE-LEVEL POLLING ERRORS ARE CORRELATED

The Midwest became much redder

2016 vs. 2012 election results by state

REPUBLICAN 2016 VOTE MARGIN RELATIVE TO 2012



UNDECIDED = UNCERTAINTY

Voters who decided in the final week went strongly for Trump

STATE	VOTE SHARE OF THOSE WHO DECIDED THE WEEK BEFORE THE ELECTION	
	CLINTON	TRUMP
Wisconsin	30%	59%
Minnesota	31	53
Utah	19	41
Iowa	34	54
Pennsylvania	37	54
Florida	38	55
Maine	33	49
New Hampshire	37	52
Michigan	39	50
North Carolina	41	49
New Mexico	41	46
Ohio	43	46
Virginia	45	42
Nevada	45	40
Georgia	52	42

The exit poll did not provide a breakout of voters who decided in the last week in Colorado or Arizona, because the sample size was too small.

SOURCE: NATIONAL EXIT POLL

2 SCATTER PLOTS

2. SCATTER PLOTS

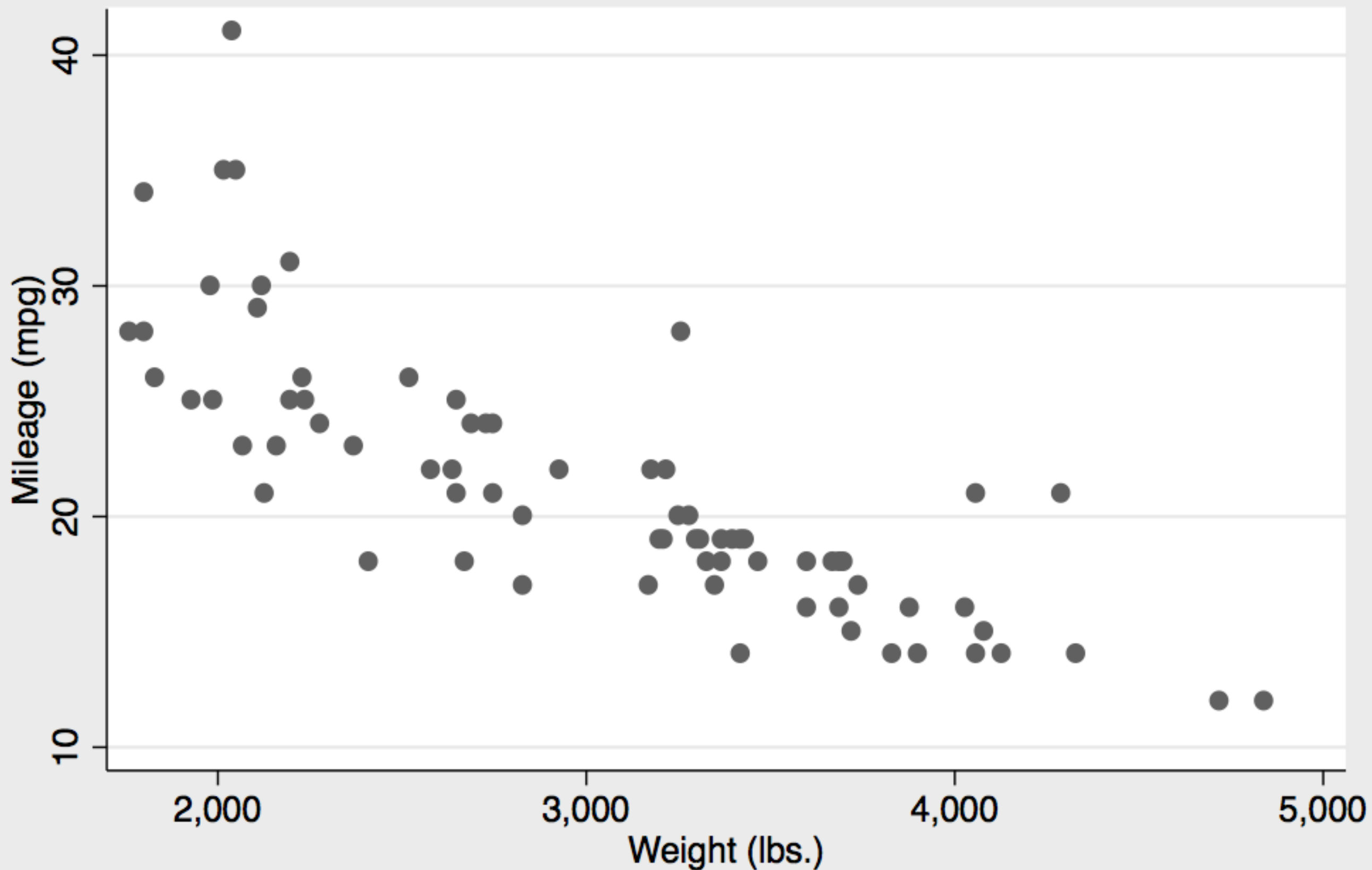
SCATTERPLOTS

`graph twoway scatter yvar xvar [, STANDARD OPTIONS]`

- `graph twoway scatter mpg weight`

Miles per Gallon and Vehicle Weight

1978 Automobiles



2. SCATTER PLOTS

SCATTERPLOTS WITH A REGRESSION LINE

```
graph twoway (lfit yvar xvar) (scatter yvar xvar) [, STD OPTIONS]
```

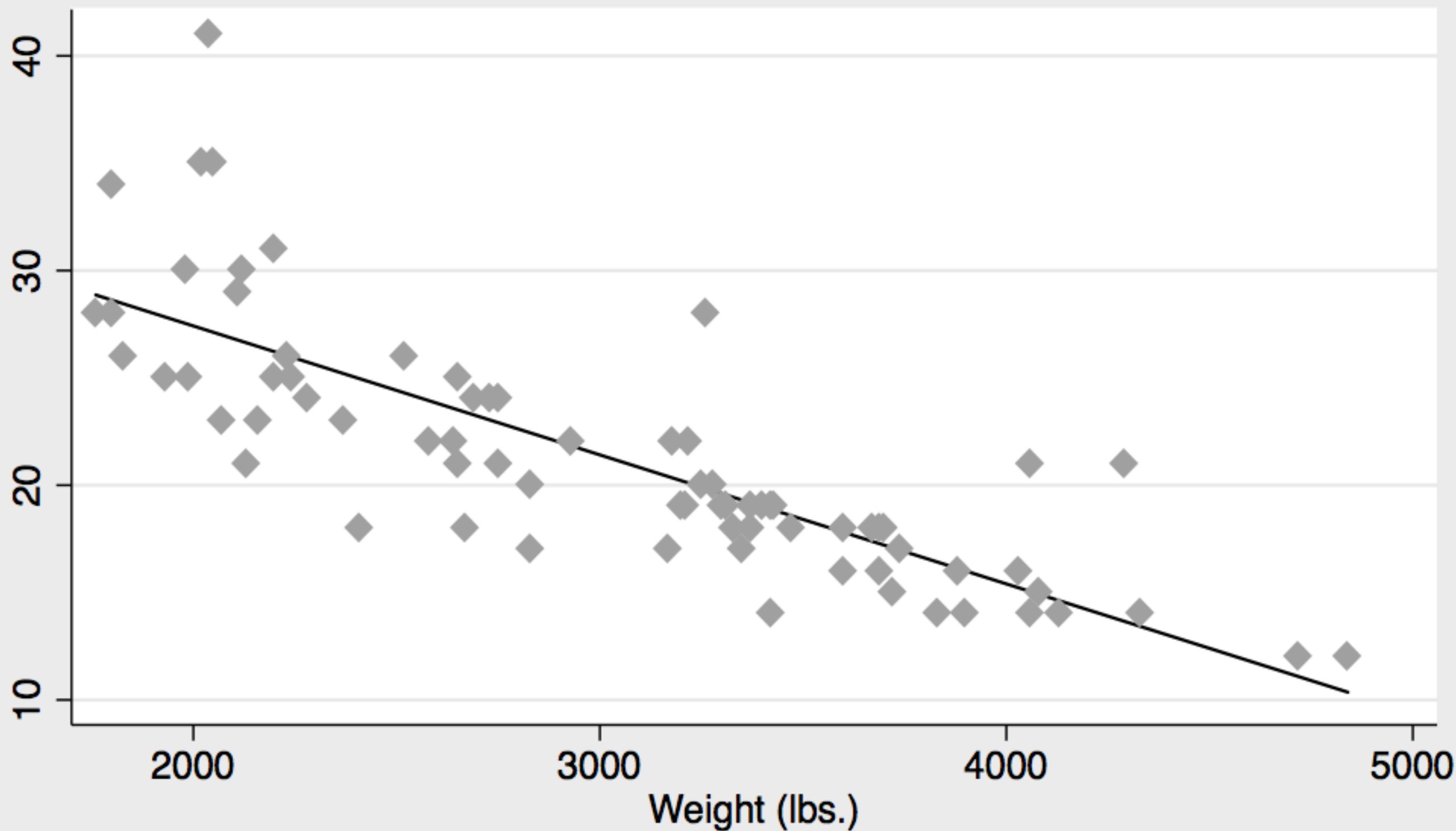
- `graph twoway (lfit mpg weight) (scatter mpg weight)`

DEFINITION

STRAIGHT LINE THAT IS DRAWN THROUGH THE CENTER MASS OF THE POINTS ON A SCATTERPLOT – USED TO ILLUSTRATE TRENDS IN A DATASET

Miles per Gallon and Vehicle Weight

1978 Automobiles



— Fitted values ♦ Mileage (mpg)

2. SCATTER PLOTS

SCATTERPLOTS WITH A REGRESSION LINE

```
graph twoway (lfitci yvar xvar) (scatter yvar xvar) [, STD OPTIONS]
```

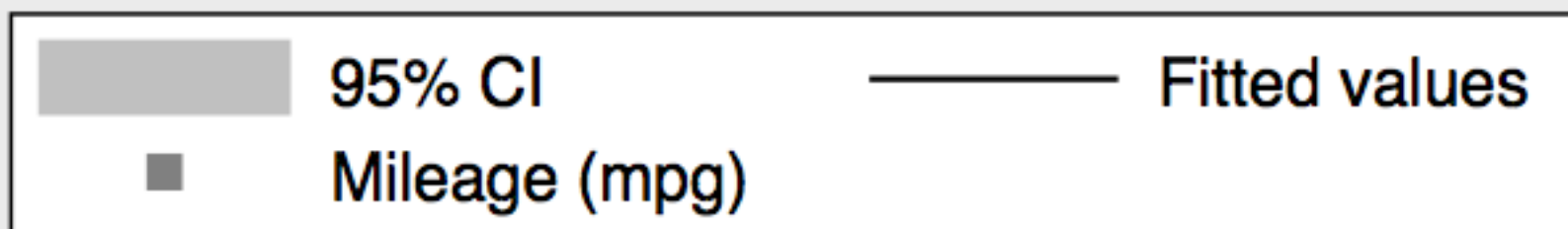
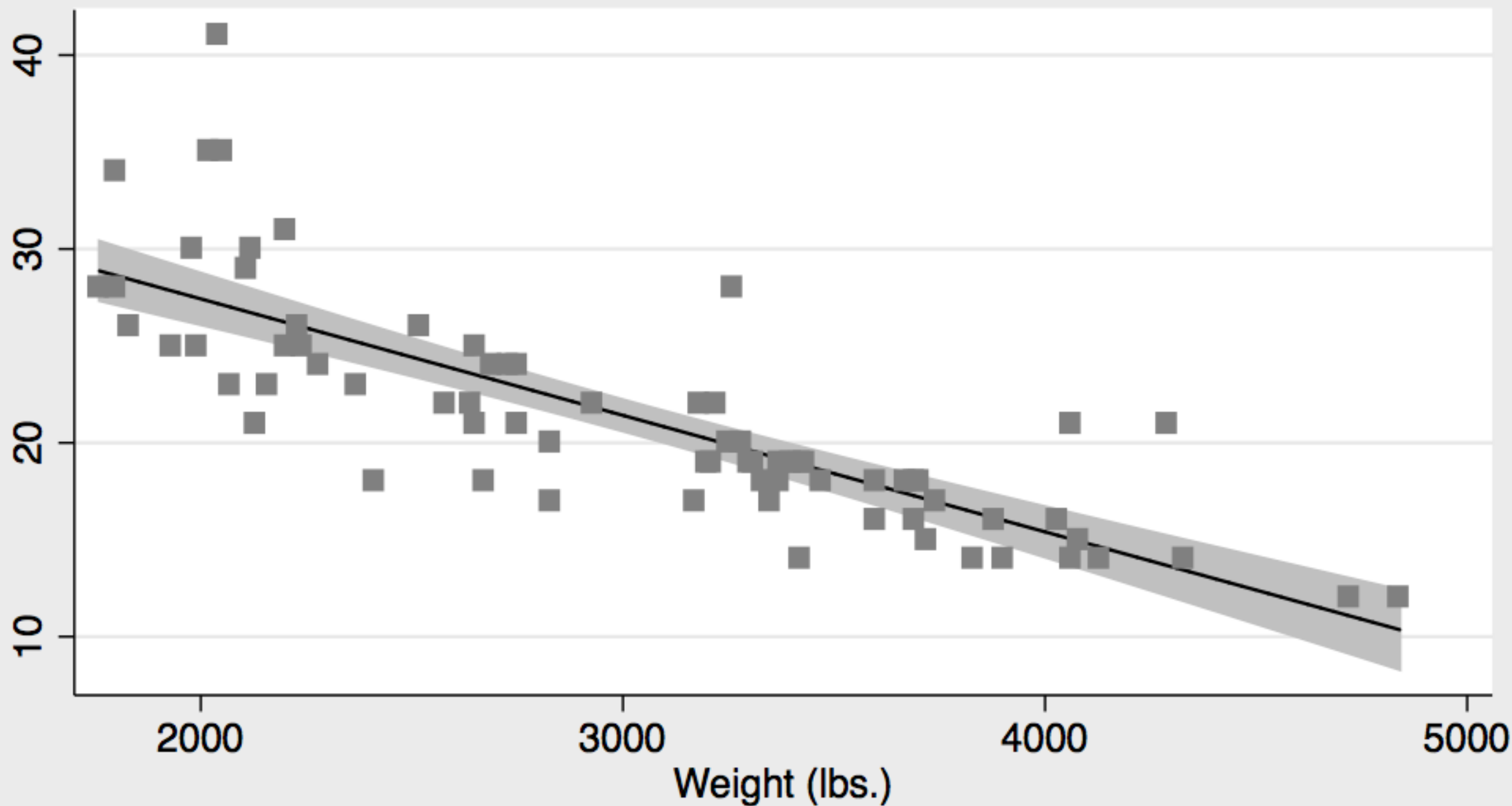
- `graph twoway (lfitci mpg weight) (scatter mpg weight)`

DEFINITION

THE TREND IS AN ESTIMATE, SO IT HAS A CORRESPONDING CONFIDENCE INTERVAL THAT REPRESENTS THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE ESTIMATE

Miles per Gallon and Vehicle Weight

1978 Automobiles



2. SCATTER PLOTS

CLEANING UP SCATTERPLOTS

```
// options:
```

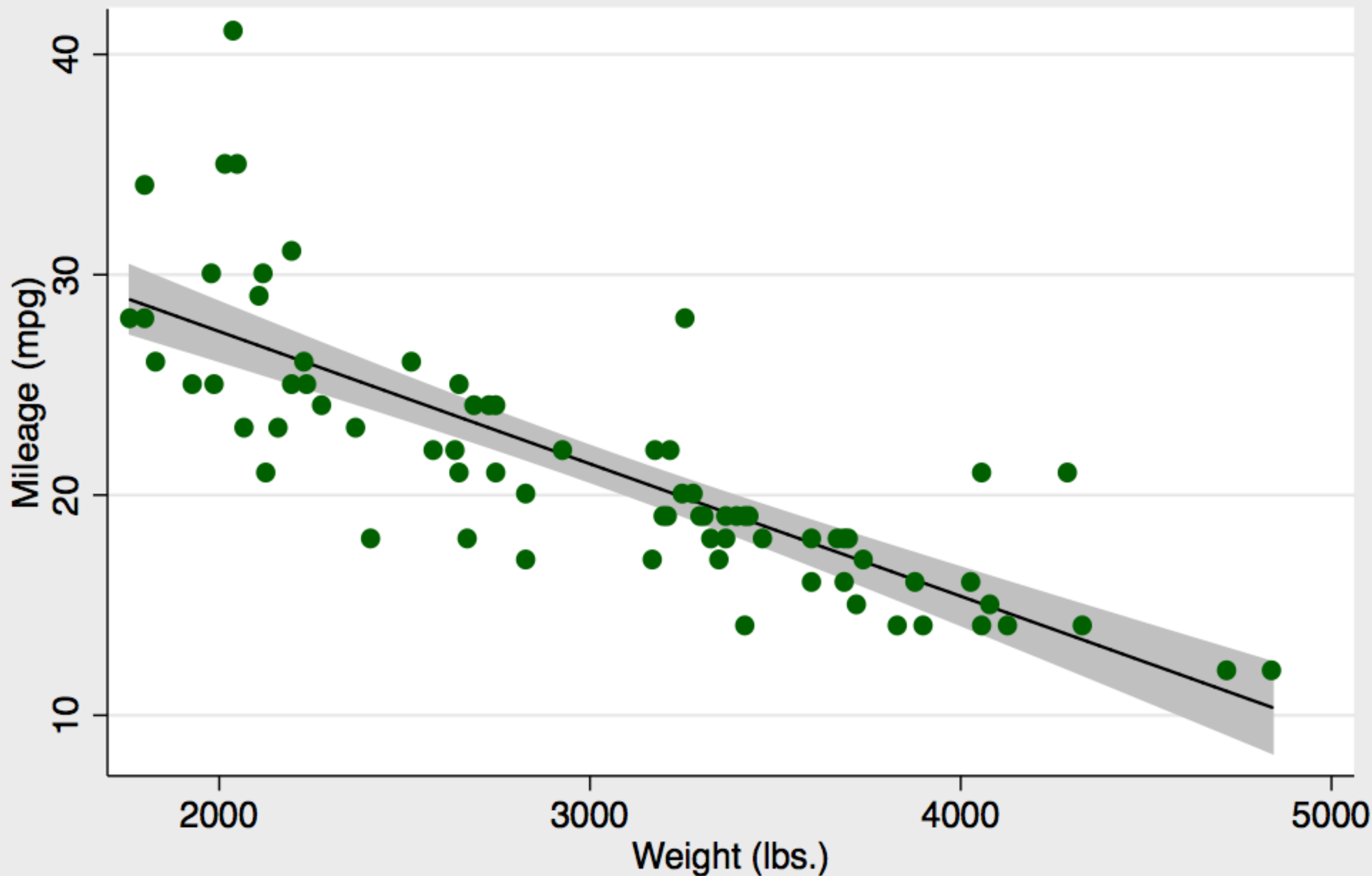
```
// – turn legend off – legend(off)
```

```
// – change symbol – msymbol(circle)
```

- `graph twoway (lfitci mpg weight) ///`
 `(scatter mpg weight, msymbol(circle) mcolor(dkgreen)), ///`
 `legend(off)`

Miles per Gallon and Vehicle Weight

1978 Automobiles



2. SCATTER PLOTS

FACTORING

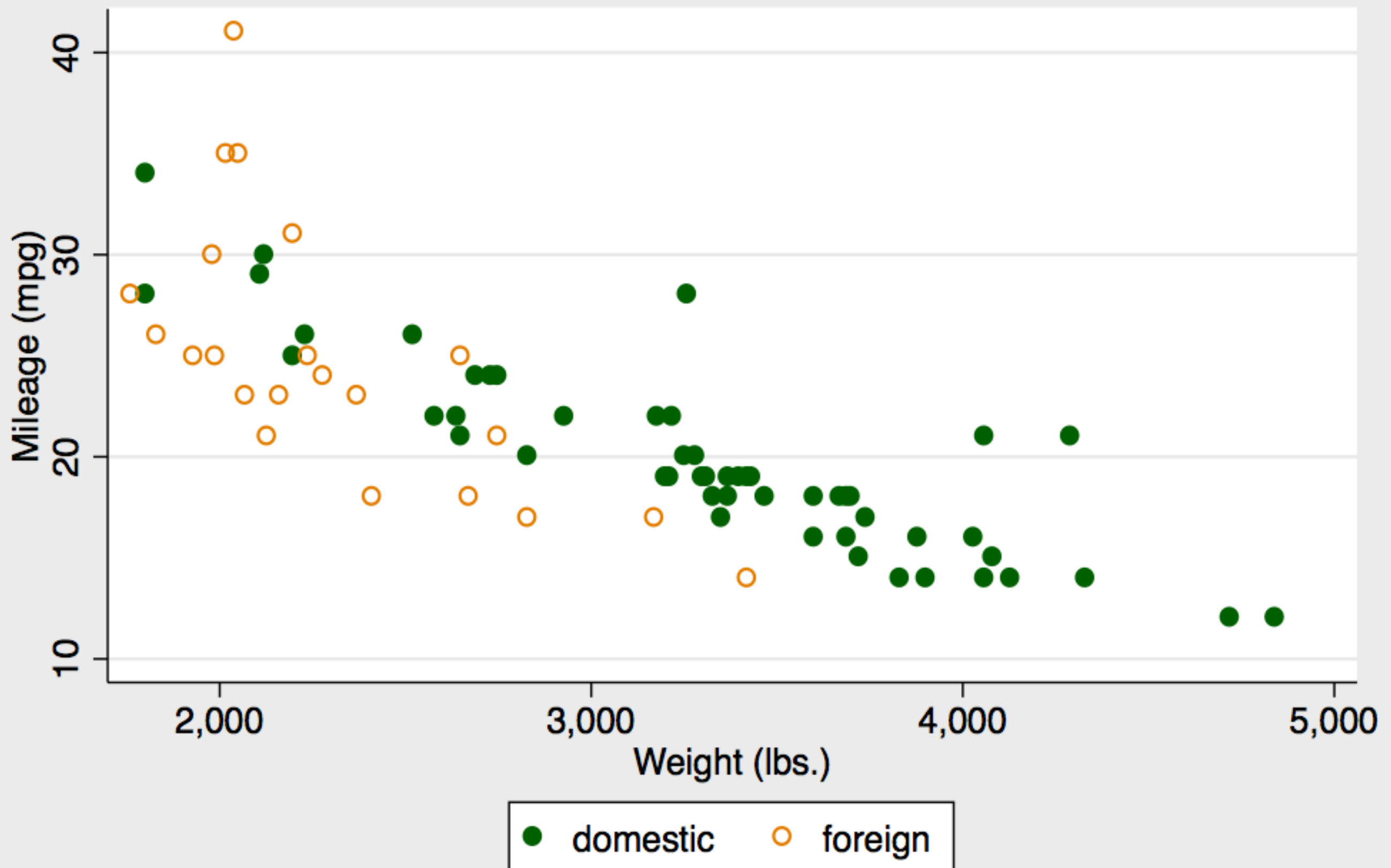
// use if qualifier to facet plot; use symbols ***and*** color to

// differentiate between groups

- `graph twoway (scatter mpg weight if foreign==0, ///
msymbol(circle) mcolor(dkgreen)) ///
(scatter mpg weight if foreign==1, ///
msymbol(circle_hollow) mlcolor(dkorange))`

Miles per Gallon and Vehicle Weight

1978 Automobiles



2. SCATTER PLOTS

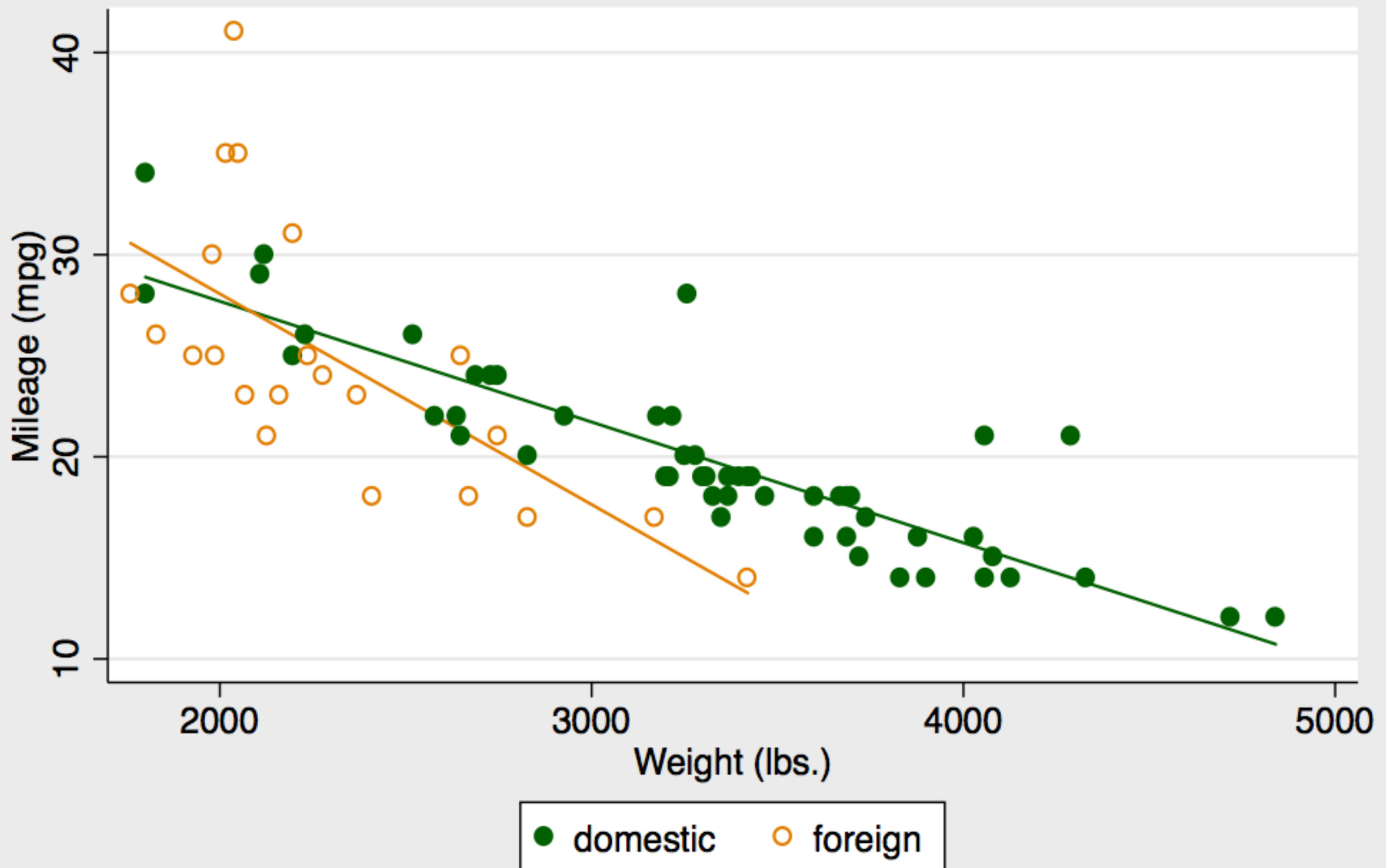
FACTORING WITH REGRESSION LINES

```
// add two new layers, one for reach line; use symbols and color to  
// differentiate between groups; edit the legend for clarity
```

```
• graph twoway (lfit mpg weight if foreign==0, lcolor(dkgreen)) ///  
  (lfit mpg weight if foreign==1, lcolor(dkorange) lpattern(solid)) ///  
  (scatter mpg weight if foreign==0, msymbol(circle) ///  
  mcolor(dkgreen)) ///  
  (scatter mpg weight if foreign==1, msymbol(circle_hollow)  
  mcolor(dkorange)), legend(order(3 "domestic" 4 "foreign"))
```

Miles per Gallon and Vehicle Weight

1978 Automobiles



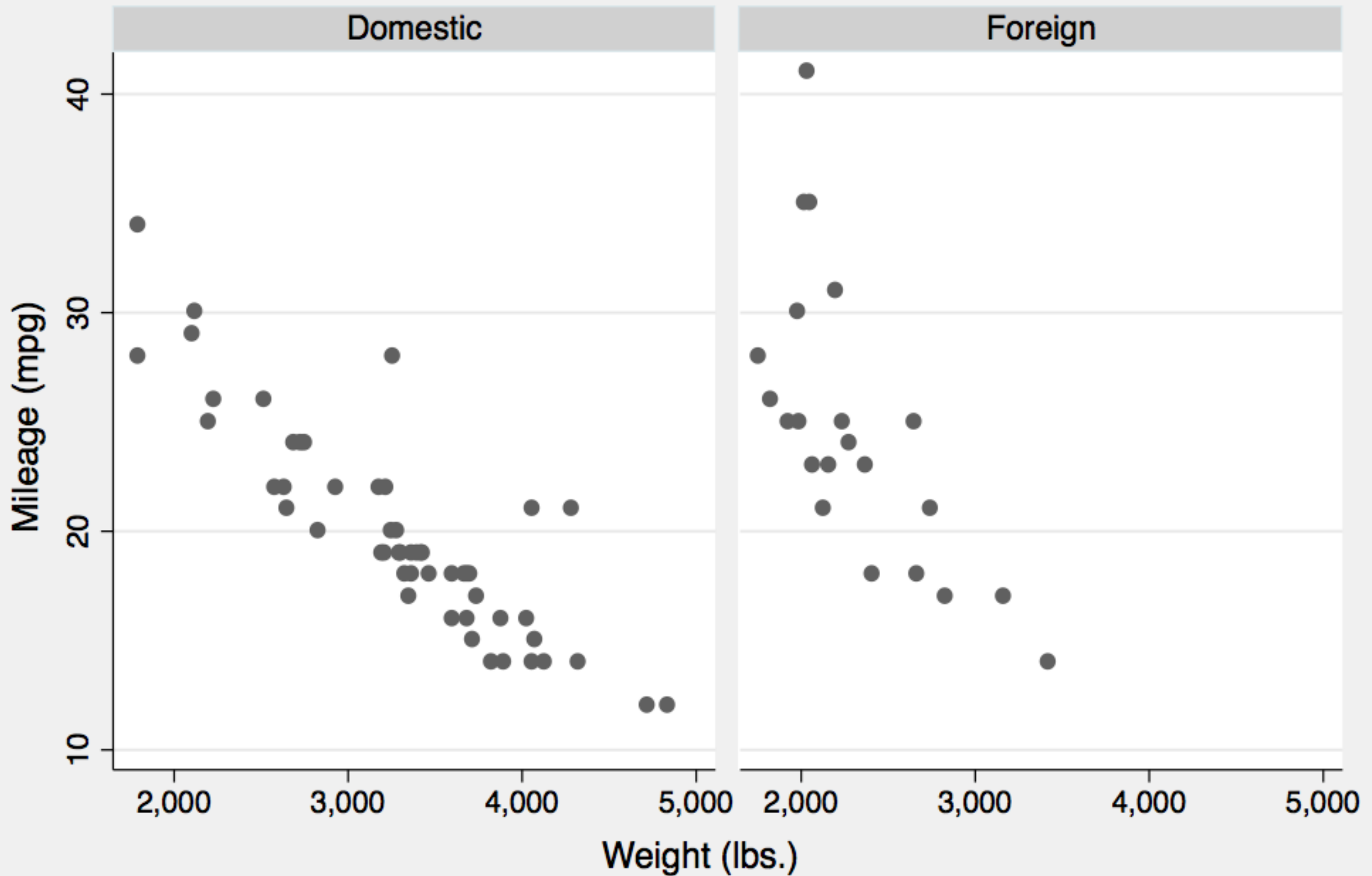
2. SCATTER PLOTS

FACETING

```
// use the by() option with title() and subtitle() specified as  
// suboptions within by() to adjust their positioning appropriately
```

- `graph twoway scatter mpg weight, ///`
 `by(foreign, title("Miles per Gallon and Vehicle Weight"))`

Miles per Gallon and Vehicle Weight



Graphs by Car type

2. SCATTER PLOTS

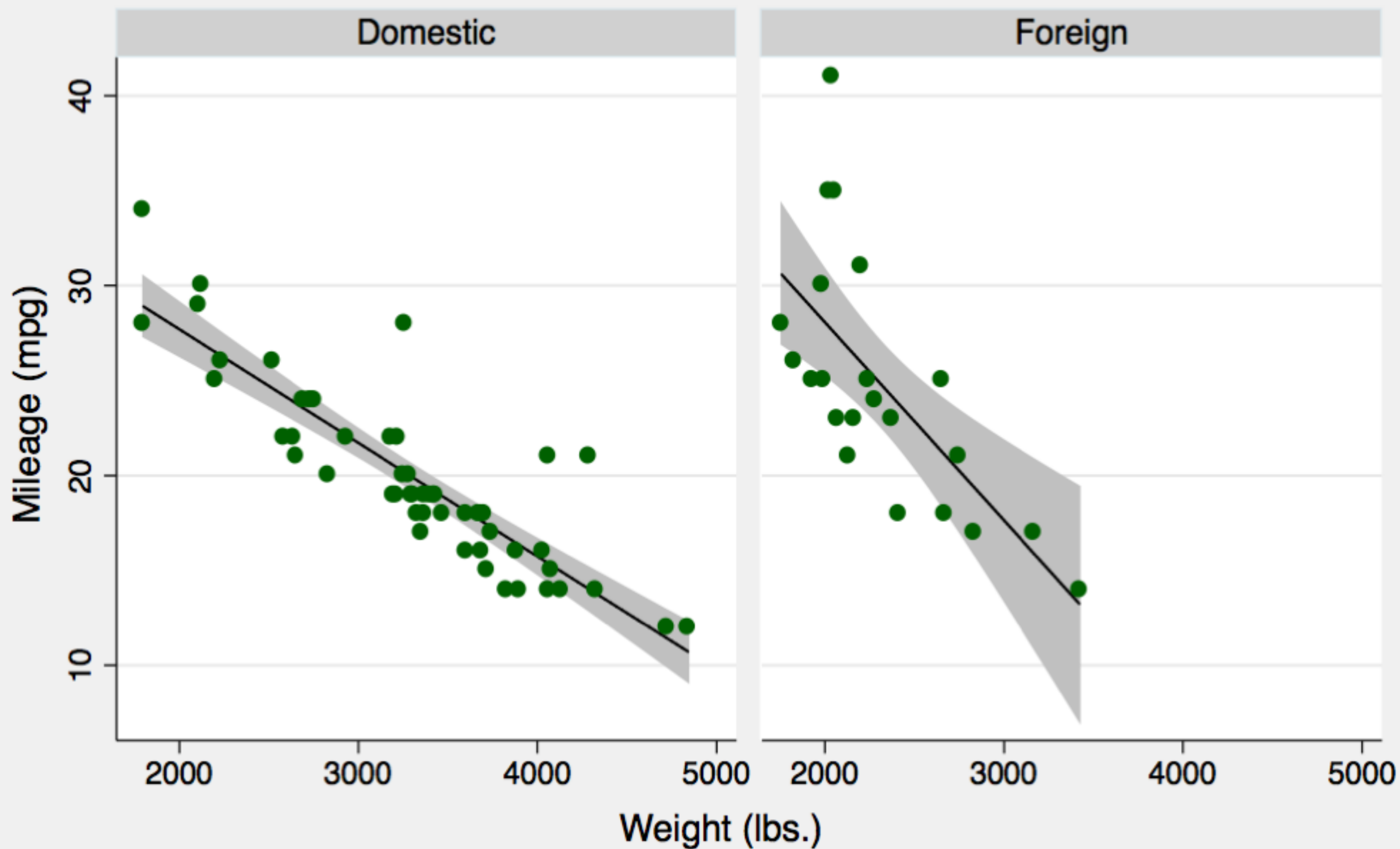
FACETING WITH REGRESSION LINES

```
// use the by() option with title() and subtitle() specified as  
// suboptions within by() to adjust their positioning appropriately
```

- `graph twoway (lfitci mpg weight) ///`
 `(scatter mpg weight, msymbol(circle) mcolor(dkgreen)), ///`
 `by(foreign, title("Miles per Gallon and Vehicle Weight")) ///`
 `subtitle("1978 Automobiles") legend(off))`

Miles per Gallon and Vehicle Weight

1978 Automobiles



Graphs by Car type

3 PEARSON'S R

PAIRWISE VS. LISTWISE DELETION

```
. corr mpg weight rep78
(obs=69)
```

	mpg	weight	rep78
mpg	1.0000		
weight	-0.8055	1.0000	
rep78	0.4023	-0.4003	1.0000


```
. pwcorr mpg weight rep78
```

	mpg	weight	rep78
mpg	1.0000		
weight	-0.8072	1.0000	
rep78	0.4023	-0.4003	1.0000

```
. list mpg weight rep78 in 1/10
```

	mpg	weight	rep78
1.	22	2,930	3
2.	17	3,350	3
3.	22	2,640	.
4.	20	3,250	3
5.	15	4,080	4
6.	18	3,670	3
7.	26	2,230	.
8.	20	3,280	3
9.	16	3,880	3
10.	19	3,400	3

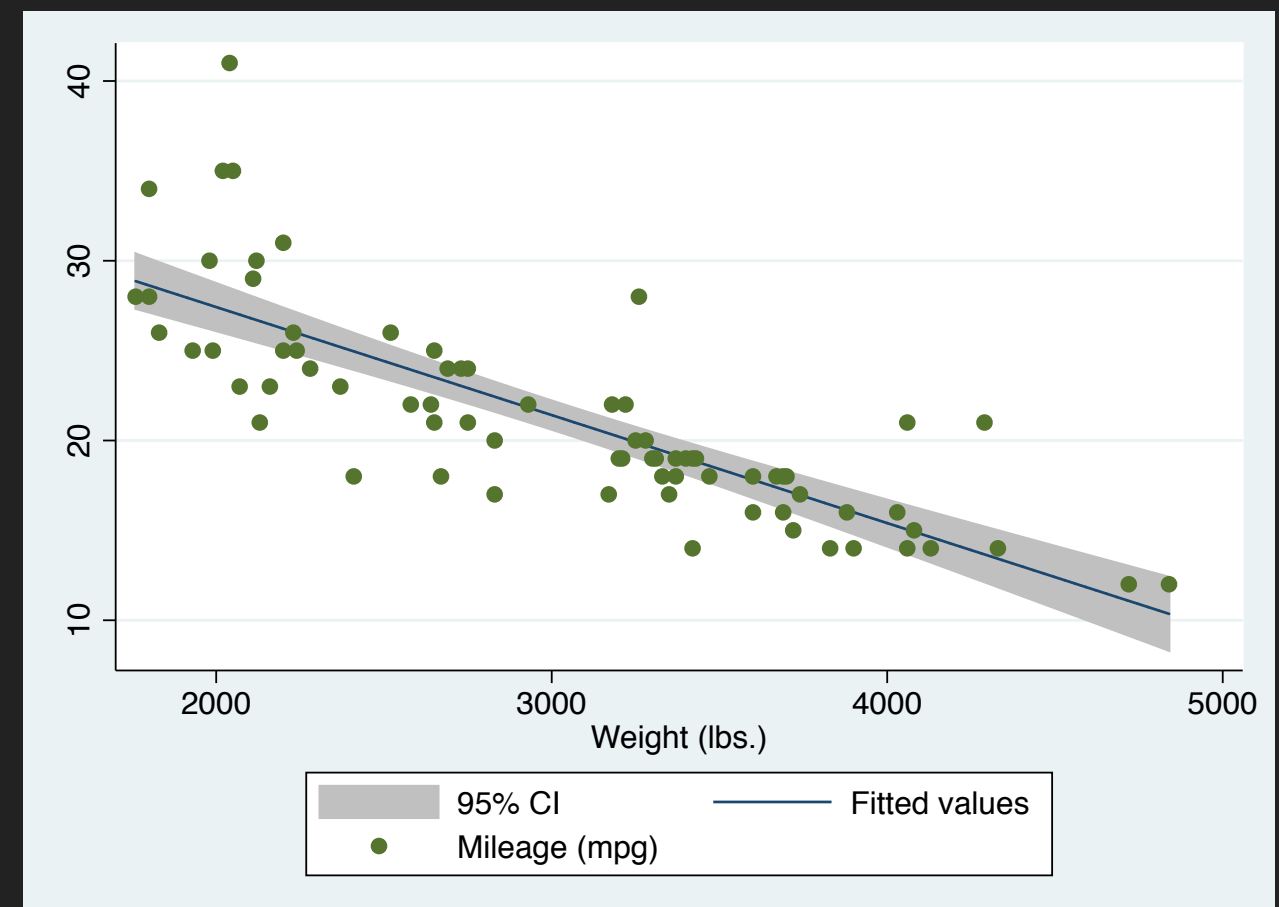
3. PEARSON'S R

CONTINUOUS-CONTINUOUS RELATIONSHIP

```
pwcorr varlist [, listwise sig]
```

```
. pwcorr mpg weight foreign, listwise sig
```

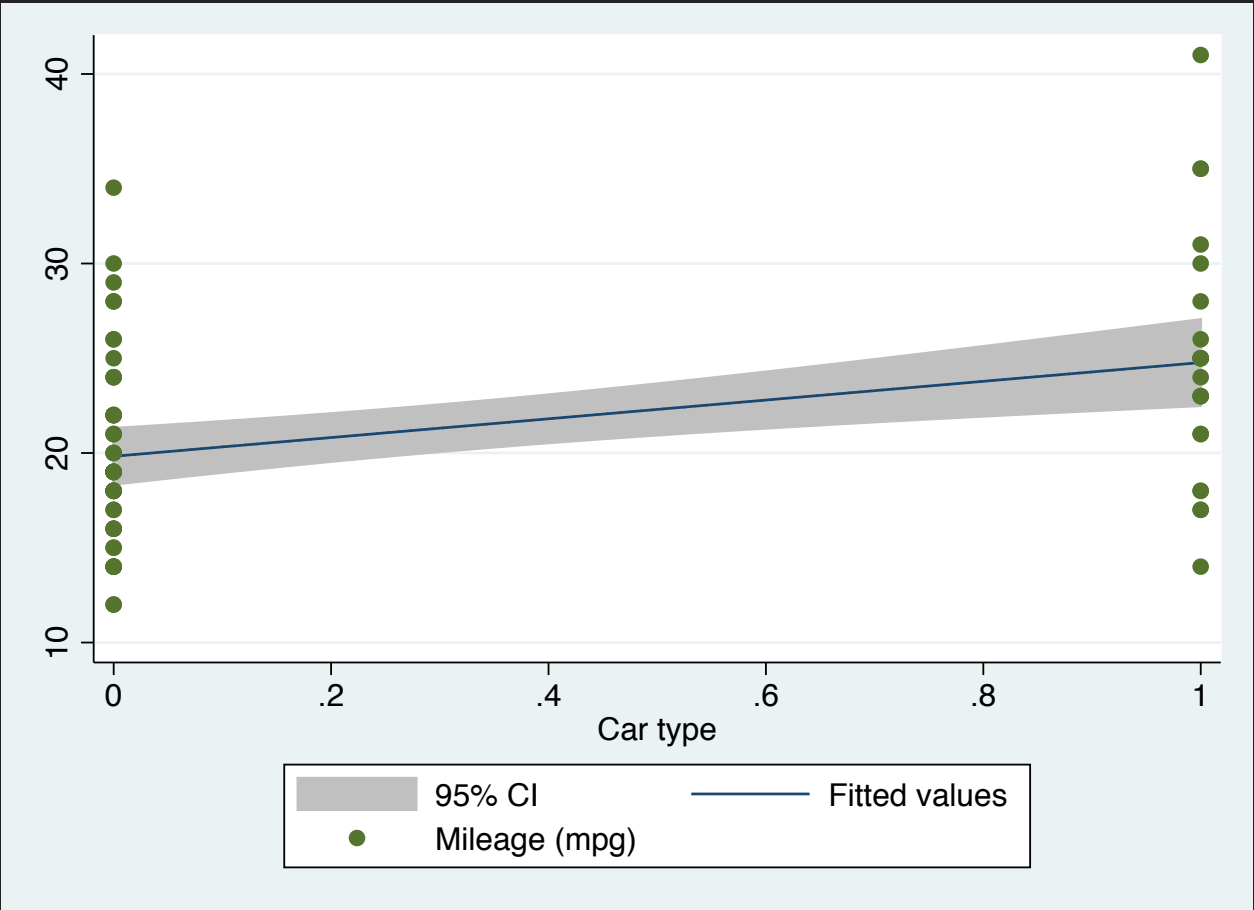
	mpg	weight	foreign
mpg	1.0000		
weight	-0.8072	1.0000	
foreign	0.3934	-0.5928	1.0000



CONTINUOUS-BINARY RELATIONSHIP

```
. pwcorr mpg weight foreign, listwise sig
```

	mpg	weight	foreign
mpg	1.0000		
weight	-0.8072	1.0000	
foreign	0.3934	-0.5928	1.0000



CONTINUOUS-BINARY RELATIONSHIP

```
. pwcorr mpg weight foreign, listwise sig
```

	mpg	weight	foreign
mpg	1.0000		
weight	-0.8072	1.0000	
foreign	0.3934	-0.5928	1.0000

```
. generate domestic = foreign
```

```
. recode domestic 0=1 1=0  
(domestic: 74 changes made)
```

```
. label define domestic ///  
    0 foreign 1 domestic
```

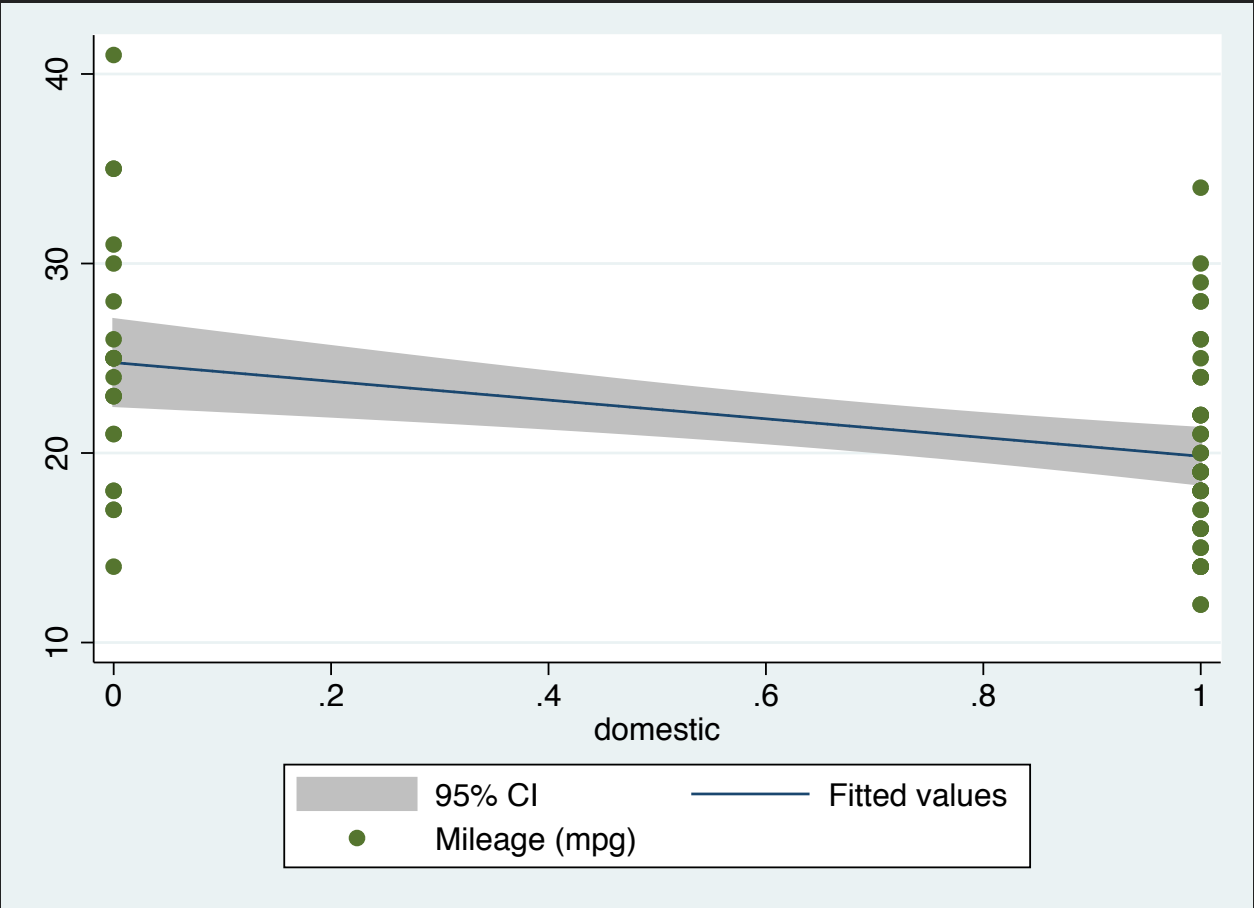
```
. label values domestic domestic
```

```
. label variable "Car type, domestic"
```

CONTINUOUS-BINARY RELATIONSHIP

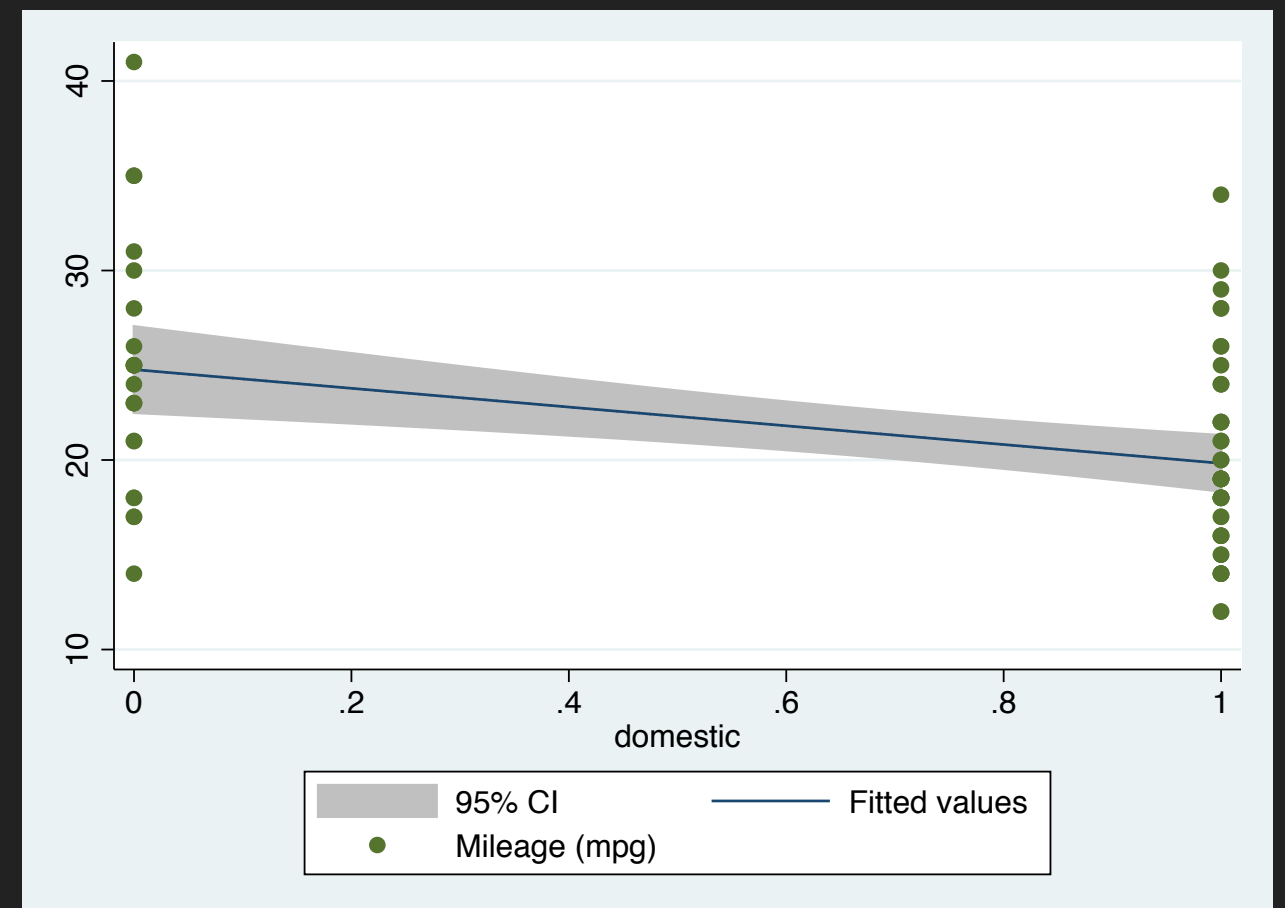
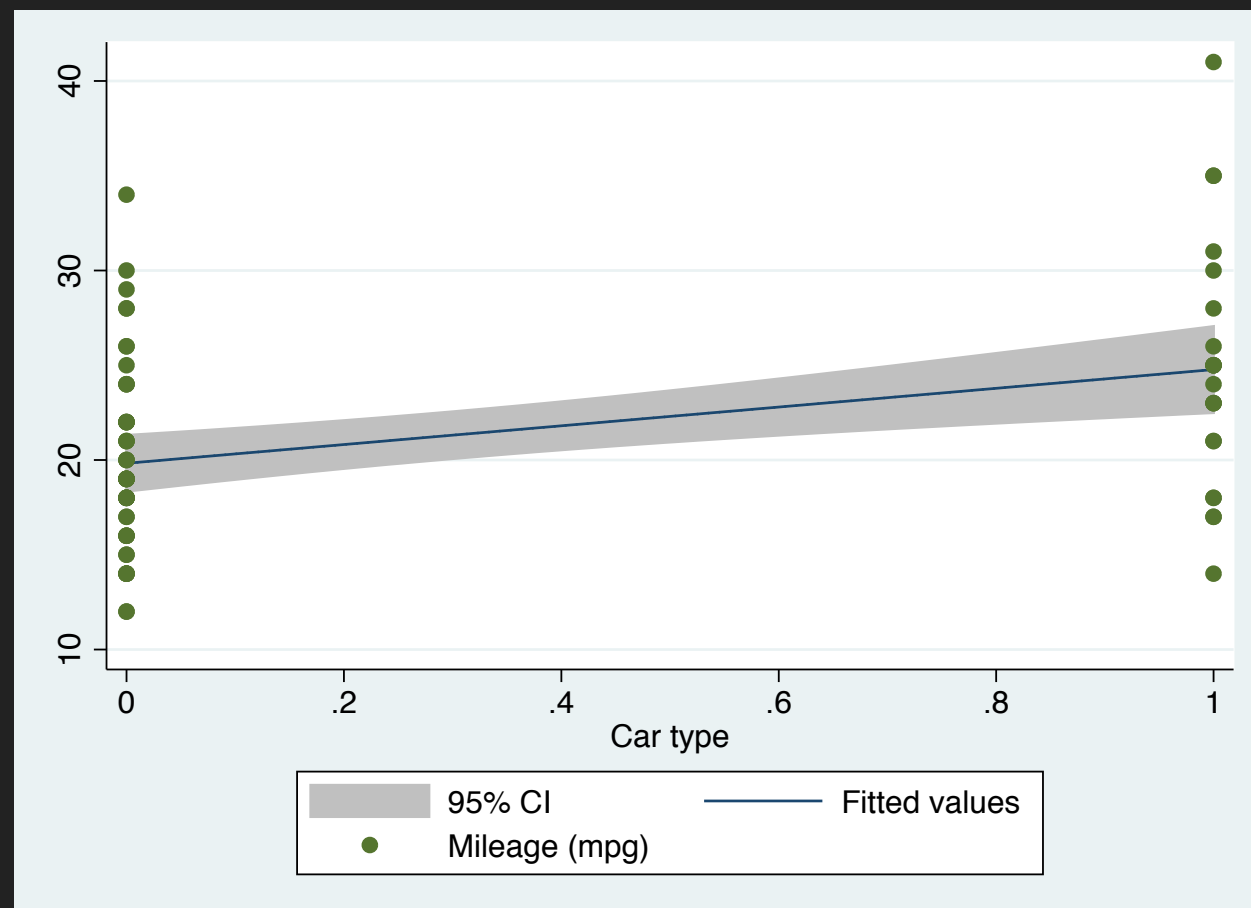
```
. pwcorr mpg weight foreign domestic, listwise sig
```

	mpg	weight	foreign	domestic
mpg	1.0000			
weight	-0.8072	1.0000		
foreign	0.3934	-0.5928	1.0000	
domestic	-0.3934	0.5928	-1.0000	1.0000



3. PEARSON'S R

CONTINUOUS-BINARY RELATIONSHIP



REPORTING CORRELATIONS

- `pwcorr mpg weight foreign, listwise sig`

	mpg	weight	foreign
mpg	1.0000		
weight	−0.8072	1.0000	
foreign	0.3934	−0.5928	1.0000

REPORTING CORRELATIONS

	mpg	weight	foreign
mpg	1.00	-	-
weight	-.807***	1.00	-
foreign	.393***	-.593***	1.00

* - $p < .05$; ** - $p < .01$; *** - $p < .001$

4 POWER ANALYSIS

KEY ASSUMPTIONS

- ▶ What is the null hypothesis? $r = 0$
- ▶ What effect size is meaningful to calculate? $r = ?$
- ▶ How much power do I want to have? $\beta=0.8$ or $\beta=0.9$ are common
- ▶ What alpha level am I using? typically $\alpha=0.05$

4. POWER ANALYSIS

ESTIMATING SAMPLE SIZE

```
power onecorrelation nullVal effectSize [, power(val)]
```

```
. power onecorrelation 0 .3, power(.8)
```

Performing iteration ...

Estimated sample size for a one-sample correlation test

Fisher's z test

Ho: $r = r_0$ versus Ha: $r \neq r_0$

Study parameters:

alpha =	0.0500
power =	0.8000
delta =	0.3000
r0 =	0.0000
ra =	0.3000

Estimated sample size:

N =	85
-----	----

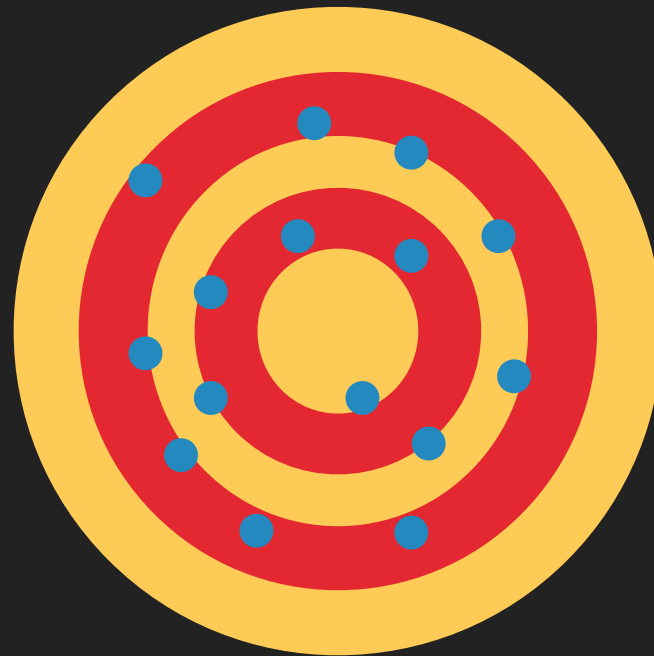
5 CRONBACH'S ALPHA

RELIABILITY VS VALIDITY

Reliable, Not Valid



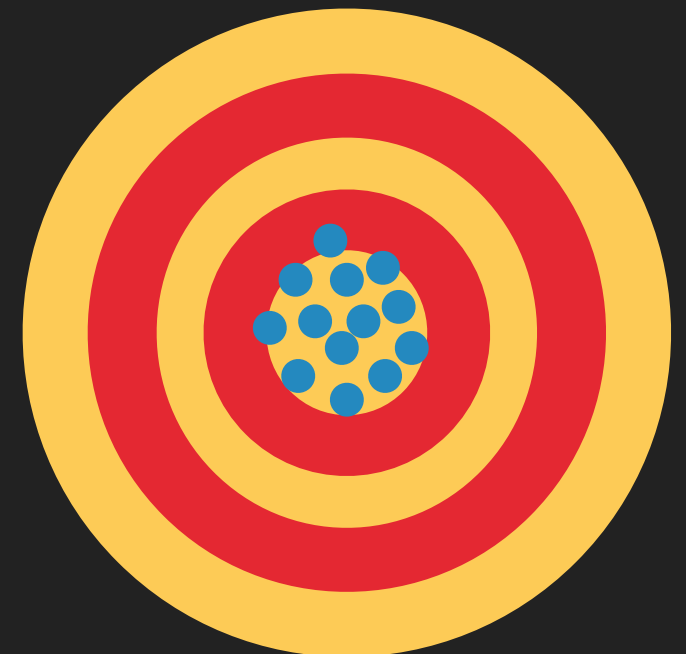
Valid, Not Reliable



Not Reliable or Valid



Valid and Reliable



THEORY

What is the size of the car?

DEFINITION

THE PROPORTION OF THE OBSERVED VARIANCE THAT REPRESENTS THE TRUE VARIANCE. INTERPRETED AS A MEASURE OF HOW RELIABLY A GROUP OF VARIABLES MEASURE A SINGLE FACTOR (LATENT CONSTRUCT).

THEORY

What is the size of the car?

```
alpha varlist [, std detail generate(scaleVar)]
```

```
. alpha weight length turn displacement, std
```

```
Test scale = mean(standardized items)
```

Average interitem correlation:	0.8624
Number of items in the scale:	4
Scale reliability coefficient:	0.9616

DEFINITION
THE PROPORTION OF THE OBSERVED VARIANCE THAT REPRESENTS THE TRUE VARIANCE. INTERPRETED AS A MEASURE OF HOW RELIABLY A GROUP OF VARIABLES MEASURE A SINGLE FACTOR (LATENT CONSTRUCT).

THEORY

What is the size of the car?

```
. alpha weight length turn displacement, std
```

```
Test scale = mean(standardized items)
```

```
Average interitem correlation:      0.8624
```

```
Number of items in the scale:      4
```

```
Scale reliability coefficient:      0.9616
```

INTERPRETATION

NO HARD RULES, BUT $\alpha < .7$ IS
OFTEN CONSIDERED ADEQUATE.

5. CRONBACH'S ALPHA

FULL OUTPUT

. alpha weight length turn displacement, std item
Test scale = mean(standardized items)

				item-test	item-rest	average	
Item		Obs	Sign	correlation	correlation	interitem	alpha
weight		74	+	0.9763	0.9569	0.8254	0.9341
length		74	+	0.9624	0.9319	0.8430	0.9416
turn		74	+	0.9236	0.8645	0.8920	0.9612
displacement		74	+	0.9258	0.8683	0.8892	0.9601
Test scale						0.8624	0.9616

alpha = alpha with all items in scale

5. CRONBACH'S ALPHA

FULL OUTPUT

```
. alpha weight length turn displacement, std item
Test scale = mean(standardized items)
```

Item	Obs	Sign	item-test correlation	item-rest correlation	average interitem correlation	alpha
weight	74	+	0.9763	0.9569	0.8254	0.9341
length	74	+	0.9624	0.9319	0.8430	0.9416
turn	74	+	0.9236	0.8645	0.8920	0.9612
displacement	74	+	0.9258	0.8683	0.8892	0.9601
Test scale					0.8624	0.9616

item-test = correlation between item and the test scale as a whole

5. CRONBACH'S ALPHA

FULL OUTPUT

```
. alpha weight length turn displacement, std item
Test scale = mean(standardized items)
```

Item	Obs	Sign	item-test correlation	item-rest correlation	average interitem correlation	alpha
weight	74	+	0.9763	0.9569	0.8254	0.9341
length	74	+	0.9624	0.9319	0.8430	0.9416
turn	74	+	0.9236	0.8645	0.8920	0.9612
displacement	74	+	0.9258	0.8683	0.8892	0.9601
Test scale					0.8624	0.9616

item-rest = correlation between item and the test scale as a whole (calculated without item)

5. CRONBACH'S ALPHA

FULL OUTPUT

. alpha weight length turn displacement, std item
Test scale = mean(standardized items)

Item	Obs	Sign	item-test correlation	item-rest correlation	average interitem correlation	alpha
weight	74	+	0.9763	0.9569	0.8254	0.9341
length	74	+	0.9624	0.9319	0.8430	0.9416
turn	74	+	0.9236	0.8645	0.8920	0.9612
displacement	74	+	0.9258	0.8683	0.8892	0.9601
Test scale					0.8624	0.9616

average interitem correlation = mean of correlations
between individual items excluding given items

5. CRONBACH'S ALPHA

FULL OUTPUT

. alpha weight length turn displacement, std item
Test scale = mean(standardized items)

				item-test	item-rest	average	
Item		Obs	Sign	correlation	correlation	interitem	alpha
weight		74	+	0.9763	0.9569	0.8254	0.9341
length		74	+	0.9624	0.9319	0.8430	0.9416
turn		74	+	0.9236	0.8645	0.8920	0.9612
displacement		74	+	0.9258	0.8683	0.8892	0.9601
Test scale						0.8624	0.9616

alpha = alpha if given item was not included in scale

FINAL SCALE CONSTRUCTION

. alpha weight length turn displacement, std `generate(size)`

Test scale = mean(standardized items)

Average interitem correlation: 0.8624
Number of items in the scale: 4
Scale reliability coefficient: 0.9616

Variables		
	Name	Label
	make	Make and Model
	price	Price
	mpg	Mileage (mpg)
	rep78	Repair Record 1978
	headroom	Headroom (in.)
	trunk	Trunk space (cu. ft.)
	weight	Weight (lbs.)
	length	Length (in.)
	turn	Turn Circle (ft.)
	displacement	Displacement (cu. in.)
	gear_ratio	Gear Ratio
	foreign	Car type
	size	mean(standardized...



6 AUTOMATION AND REPLICATION

DEFINING SETS OF VARIABLES

- `local ctrlSize "weight length displacement"`
- `local ctrlEfficient "mpg gear_ratio"`
- `local ctrlCon "price weight length displacement mpg"`
- `local ctrlAll "price weight length displacement mpg gear_ratio"`

LOOPS FOR DATA ANALYSIS

```
. local ctrlCon "price weight length displacement mpg"

. foreach var in `ctrlAll' {
    ttest `ctrlCon', by(foreign)
}
```

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS



**BASELINE
STATISTICS**

**DOCUMENT
PROCESS AND
RESULTS**

**VERSION
CONTROL**
STATA & GITHUB

**KEEP FULL
REPOSITORIES**

**AUTOMATE AS
MUCH AS
POSSIBLE**

DOCUMENT DETAILS

Document produced by [Christopher Prener, Ph.D](#) for the Saint Louis University course SOC 5050: QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS - APPLIED INFERENTIAL STATISTICS. See the [course wiki](#) and the repository [README.md](#) file for additional details.



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