

# Multiple Linear Regression

## Special Predictors

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# Announcements

- Lab 04 **due tomorrow at 11:59p**
  - pdf of instructions in GitHub repo
- HW 02 **due Wed, Feb 12 at 11:59p**
  - pdf of instructions in GitHub repo
- [Reading for today & Wednesday](#)
- StatSci Majors Union: Careers at Research in Sports Analytics
  - Tuesday at 7p
  - Old Chem lobby

# Today's agenda

- Inference for regression coefficients
- Prediction
- Quick math details
- Special predictors

# House prices in Levittown (sec. 1.4)

- Public data on the sales of 85 homes in Levittown, NY from June 2010 to May 2011
- Levittown was built right after WWI and was the first planned suburban community built using mass production techniques

## Questions:

- What is the relationship between the characteristics of a house in Levittown and its sale price?
- Given its characteristics, what is the expected sale price of a house in Levittown?

# Data

```
glimpse(homes)
```

```
## Observations: 85
```

```
## Variables: 7
```

```
## $ bedrooms      <dbl> 4, 4, 4, 5, 5, 4, 4, 4, 4, 3, 4, 4, 3, 4, 3, 5, 4, .
```

```
## $ bathrooms      <dbl> 1.0, 2.0, 2.0, 2.0, 2.5, 2.0, 1.0, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.
```

```
## $ living_area     <dbl> 1380, 1761, 1564, 2904, 1942, 1830, 1585, 941, 1481,
```

```
## $ lot_size        <dbl> 6000, 7400, 6000, 9898, 7788, 6000, 6000, 6800, 600.
```

```
## $ year_built      <dbl> 1948, 1951, 1948, 1949, 1948, 1948, 1948, 1951, 194.
```

```
## $ property_tax    <dbl> 8360, 5754, 8982, 11664, 8120, 8197, 6223, 2448, 90.
```

```
## $ sale_price      <dbl> 350000, 360000, 350000, 375000, 370000, 335000, 295.
```

# Variables

## Predictors

- **bedrooms**: Number of bedrooms
- **bathrooms**: Number of bathrooms
- **living\_area**: Total living area of the house (in square feet)
- **lot\_size**: Total area of the lot (in square feet)
- **year\_built**: Year the house was built
- **property\_tax**: Annual property taxes (in U.S. dollars)

## Response

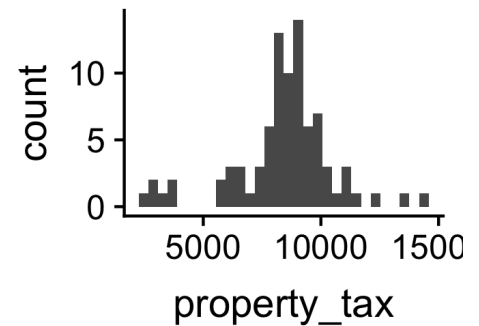
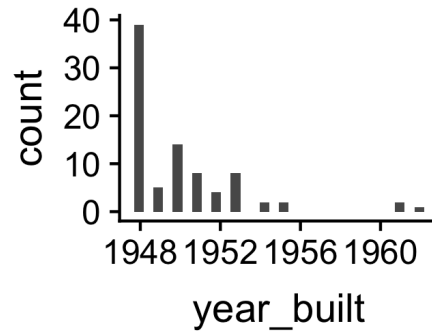
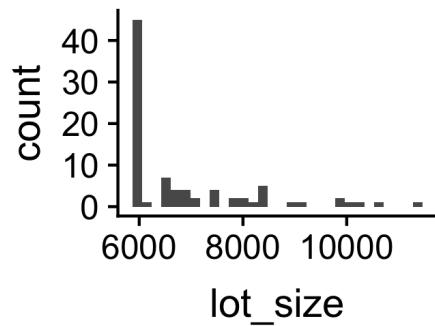
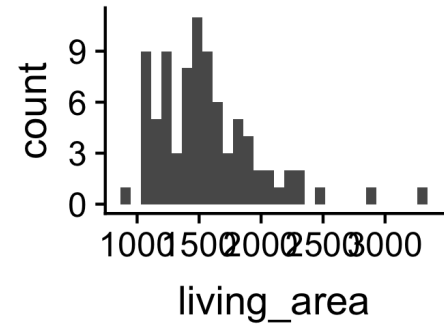
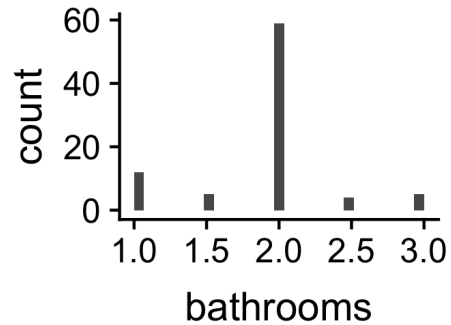
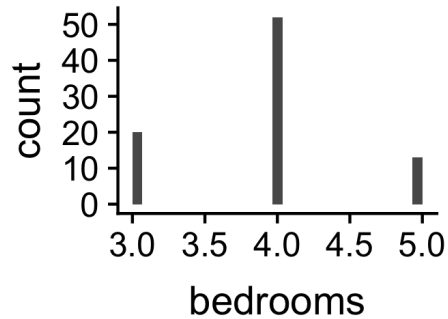
- **sale\_price**: Sales price (in U.S. dollars)

# EDA: Response variable

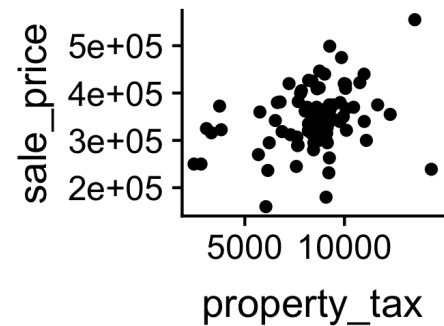
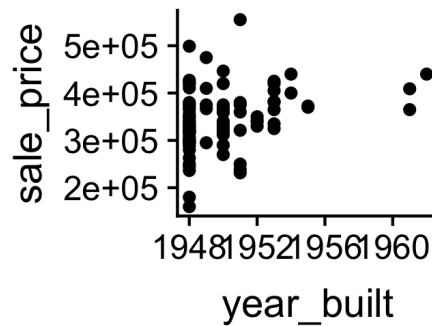
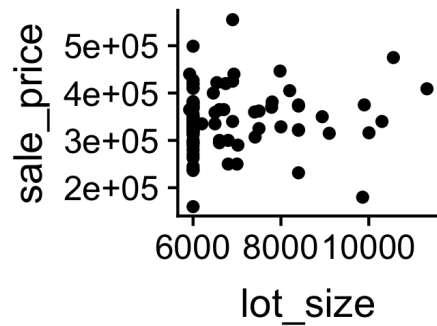
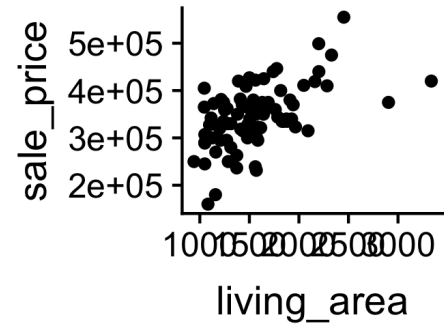
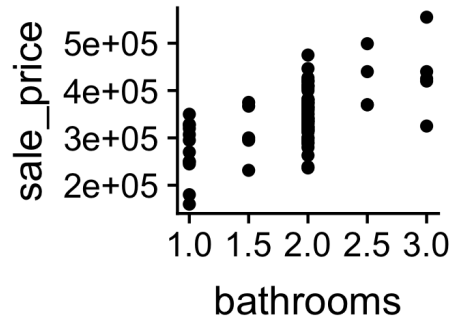
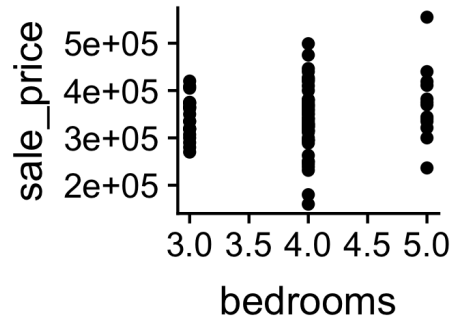




# EDA: Predictor variables



# EDA: Response vs. Predictors



# Regression Output

term	estimate	std.error	statistic	p.value	conf.low	conf.high
(Intercept)	-7148818.957	3820093.694	-1.871	0.065	-14754041.291	456403.376
bedrooms	-12291.011	9346.727	-1.315	0.192	-30898.915	6316.893
bathrooms	51699.236	13094.170	3.948	0.000	25630.746	77767.726
living_area	65.903	15.979	4.124	0.000	34.091	97.715
lot_size	-0.897	4.194	-0.214	0.831	-9.247	7.453
year_built	3760.898	1962.504	1.916	0.059	-146.148	7667.944
property_tax	1.476	2.832	0.521	0.604	-4.163	7.115

# Interpreting $\hat{\beta}_j$

- An estimated coefficient  $\hat{\beta}_j$  is the expected change in  $y$  to change when  $x_j$  increases by one unit holding the values of all other predictor variables constant.
- *Example:* The estimated coefficient for **living\_area** is 65.90. This means for each additional square foot of living area, we expect the sale price of a house in Levittown, NY to increase by \$65.90, on average, holding all other predictor variables constant.

# Hypothesis Tests for $\hat{\beta}_j$

- We want to test whether a particular coefficient has a value of 0 in the population, given all other variables in the model:

$$H_0 : \beta_j = 0$$

$$H_a : \beta_j \neq 0$$

- The test statistic reported in R is the following:

$$\text{test statistic} = t = \frac{\hat{\beta}_j - 0}{SE(\hat{\beta}_j)}$$

- Calculate the p-value using the  $t$  distribution with  $n - p - 1$  degrees of freedom, where  $p$  is the number of terms in the model (not including the intercept).

# Confidence Interval for $\beta_j$

The  $C$  confidence interval for  $\beta_j$

$$\hat{\beta}_j \pm t^* SE(\hat{\beta}_j)$$

where  $t^*$  follows a  $t$  distribution with  $(n - p - 1)$  degrees of freedom

- **General Interpretation:** We are  $C$  confident that the interval LB to UB contains the population coefficient of  $x_j$ . Therefore, for every one unit increase in  $x_j$ , we expect  $y$  to change by LB to UB units, holding all else constant.

# Confidence interval for `living_area`

Interpret the 95% confidence interval for the coefficient of `living_area`.

# Caution: Large sample sizes

If the sample size is large enough, the test will likely result in rejecting  $H_0 : \beta_j = 0$  even  $x_j$  has a very small effect on  $y$

- Consider the **practical significance** of the result not just the statistical significance
- Use the confidence interval to draw conclusions instead of p-values



# Caution: Small sample sizes

If the sample size is small, there may not be enough evidence to reject  $H_0 : \beta_j = 0$

- When you fail to reject the null hypothesis, **DON'T** immediately conclude that the variable has no association with the response.
- There may be a linear association that is just not strong enough to detect given your data, or there may be a non-linear association.

# Prediction

- We calculate predictions the same as with simple linear regression
- **Example:** What is the predicted sale price for a house in Levittown, NY with 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1050 square feet of living area, 6000 square foot lot size, built in 1948 with \$6306 in property taxes?

```
-7148818.957 - 12291.011 * 3 + 51699.236 * 1 +  
65.903 * 1050 - 0.897 * 6000 + 3760.898 * 1948 + 1.476 * 6306
```

```
## [1] 265360.4
```

The predicted sale price for a house in Levittown, NY with 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1050 square feet of living area, 6000 square foot lot size, built in 1948 with \$6306 in property taxes is **\$265,360**.

# Intervals for predictions

- Predictions have uncertainty just like any other quantity that is estimated, so we so we want to report the appropriate interval along with the predicted value.
- Go to <http://bit.ly/sta210-sp20-pred> and use the model to answer the questions
  - Use **NetId@duke.edu** for your email address.
  - You are welcome (and encouraged!) to discuss these questions with 1 - 2 people around you, but **each person** must submit a response.

03 : 00

# Intervals for predictions

```
x0 <- data.frame(bedrooms = 3, bathrooms = 1, living_area = 1050,  
                 lot_size = 6000, year_built = 1948,  
                 property_tax = 6306)
```

Predict the **mean** response for the **subset** of observations that have the given characteristics:

```
predict(price_model, x0, interval = "confidence")
```

```
##           fit           lwr           upr  
## 1 265360.2 238481.7 292238.7
```

Predict the response for an **individual** observation with the given characteristics:

```
predict(price_model, x0, interval = "prediction")
```

```
##           fit           lwr           upr  
## 1 265360.2 167276.8 363443.6
```

# Cautions

- **Do not extrapolate!** Because there are multiple explanatory variables, you can extrapolation in many ways
- The multiple regression model only shows **association, not causality**
  - To show causality, you must have a carefully designed experiment or carefully account for confounding variables in an observational study

# Math details

# Regression Model

- The multiple linear regression model assumes

$$y|x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p \sim N(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_p x_p, \sigma^2)$$

- For a given observation  $(x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ip}, y_i)$ , we can rewrite the previous statement as

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \beta_p x_{ip} + \epsilon_i \quad \epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

# Estimating $\sigma^2$

- For a given observation  $(x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ip}, y_i)$  the residual is

$$e_i = y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_{i1} + \hat{\beta}_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_p x_{ip})$$

- The estimated value of the regression variance,  $\sigma^2$ , is

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{RSS}{n - p - 1} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2}{n - p - 1}$$



# Estimating Coefficients

- One way to estimate the coefficients is by taking partial derivatives of the formula

$$\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n [y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_{i1} + \hat{\beta}_2 x_{i2} + \cdots + \hat{\beta}_p x_{ip})]^2$$

- This produces messy formulas, so instead we can use matrix notation for multiple linear regression and estimate the coefficients using rules from linear algebra.
  - For more details, see Section 1.2 of the textbook and the supplemental notes [Matrix Notation for Multiple Linear Regression](#)
  - **Note:** You are not required to know matrix notation for MLR in this class