Yuefu Jiang

RRA Week of 10/25

“I don’t get it: Sum of Squares”

Although I have taken some Statitical courses, I still have trouble understand how sum of squares help us to understand the variance of a population. Yes, I do know how to calculate it and yes, I do know how to use the value to do tests, but I still don’t really know the conception behind. In the text, Motulsky did talked about the bulk term of SS in the linear regression part as well as in the non-linear regression part. However, when talking about the SS in variance analysis, I don’t see an explanation of how SS, in this case, works. In page 409-410, he talked about how to calculate the R^2 value as it is a result of dividing SS\_null by SS\_alt, but I still don’t understand why SS is significant in this analysis.