Multiple regression

Jeffrey Leek, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Key ideas

- · Regression with multiple covariates
- · Still using least squares/central limit theorem
- Interpretation depends on all variables

Example - Millenium Development Goal 1



GOAL 1 Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

FACT SHEET

TARGETS

- 1. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day
- 2. Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people
- 3. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG_FS_1_EN.pdf

http://apps.who.int/gho/athena/data/GHO/WHOSIS_000008.csv? profile=text&filter=COUNTRY:;SEX:

3/16

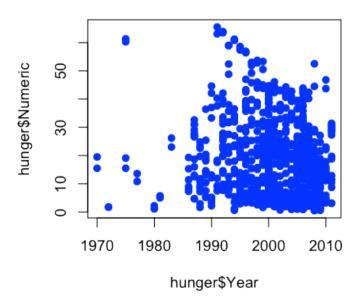
WHO childhood hunger data

```
download.file("http://apps.who.int/gho/athena/data/GHO/WHOSIS_000008.csv?profile=text&filter=COUNTR
hunger <- read.csv("./data/hunger.csv")
hunger <- hunger[hunger$Sex!="Both sexes",]
head(hunger)</pre>
```

```
Indicator Data. Source
                                                           Country
                                                                       Sex Year
                                                                                            WHO.region
   Children aged <5 years underweight (%) NLIS 312819 Afghanistan
                                                                     Male 2004 Eastern Mediterranean
   Children aged <5 years underweight (%) NLIS 312819 Afghanistan Female 2004 Eastern Mediterranean
   Children aged <5 years underweight (%) NLIS 312361
                                                            Albania
                                                                      Male 2000
                                                                                                Europe
   Children aged <5 years underweight (%) NLIS 312361
                                                           Albania Female 2000
                                                                                                Europe
                                                           Albania Female 2005
   Children aged <5 years underweight (%) NLIS 312879
                                                                                                Europe
10 Children aged <5 years underweight (%) NLIS 312879
                                                           Albania
                                                                      Male 2005
                                                                                                Europe
   Display. Value Numeric Low High Comments
2
            32.7
                    32.7
                          NA
                                NA
                                         NA
4
            33.0
                    33.0
                          NA
                                         NA
                                NA
7
            19.6
                    19.6
                          NA
                                NA
                                         NA
            14.2
8
                    14.2
                          NA
                                NA
                                         NA
9
             5.8
                     5.8
                          NA
                                         NA
                                NA
             7.3
                     7.3
10
                          NA
                                NA
                                         NA
                                                                                             4/16
```

Plot percent hungry versus time

```
lm1 <- lm(hunger$Numeric ~ hunger$Year)
plot(hunger$Year,hunger$Numeric,pch=19,col="blue")</pre>
```



Remember the linear model

$$Hu_i = b_0 + b_1 Y_i + e_i$$

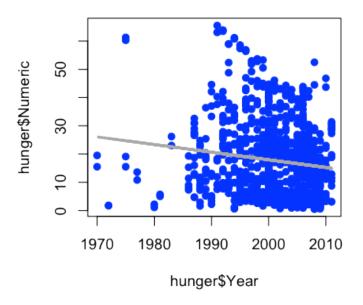
 b_0 = percent hungry at Year 0

 b_1 = decrease in percent hungry per year

 e_i = everything we didn't measure

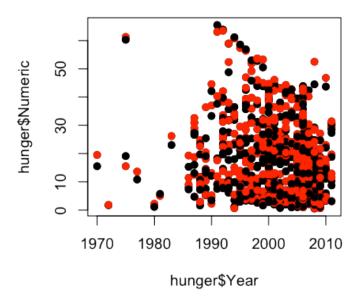
Add the linear model

```
lm1 <- lm(hunger$Numeric ~ hunger$Year)
plot(hunger$Year,hunger$Numeric,pch=19,col="blue")
lines(hunger$Year,lm1$fitted,lwd=3,col="darkgrey")</pre>
```



Color by male/female

```
plot(hunger$Year,hunger$Numeric,pch=19)
points(hunger$Year,hunger$Numeric,pch=19,col=((hunger$Sex=="Male")*1+1))
```



Now two lines

$$HuF_i = bf_0 + bf_1YF_i + ef_i$$

 bf_0 = percent of girls hungry at Year 0

 bf_1 = decrease in percent of girls hungry per year

 ef_i = everything we didn't measure

$$HuM_i = bm_0 + bm_1 YM_i + em_i$$

 bm_0 = percent of boys hungry at Year 0

 bm_1 = decrease in percent of boys hungry per year

 em_i = everything we didn't measure

Color by male/female

```
lmM <- lm(hunger$Numeric[hunger$Sex=="Male"] ~ hunger$Year[hunger$Sex=="Male"])
lmF <- lm(hunger$Numeric[hunger$Sex=="Female"] ~ hunger$Year[hunger$Sex=="Female"])
plot(hunger$Year, hunger$Numeric, pch=19)
points(hunger$Year, hunger$Numeric, pch=19, col=((hunger$Sex=="Male")*1+1))
lines(hunger$Year[hunger$Sex=="Male"], lmM$fitted, col="black", lwd=3)
lines(hunger$Year[hunger$Sex=="Female"], lmF$fitted, col="red", lwd=3)</pre>
```

Two lines, same slope

$$Hu_i = b_0 + b_1 \mathbb{1}(Sex_i = "Male") + b_2 Y_i + e_i^*$$

 b_0 - percent hungry at year zero for females

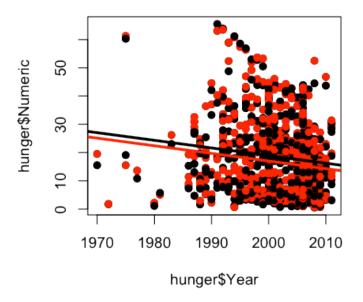
 $b_0 + b_1$ - percent hungry at year zero for males

 b_2 - change in percent hungry (for either males or females) in one year

 e_i^* - everything we didn't measure

Two lines, same slope in R

```
lmBoth <- lm(hunger$Numeric ~ hunger$Year + hunger$Sex)
plot(hunger$Year, hunger$Numeric,pch=19)
points(hunger$Year, hunger$Numeric,pch=19,col=((hunger$Sex=="Male")*1+1))
abline(c(lmBoth$coeff[1],lmBoth$coeff[2]),col="red",lwd=3)
abline(c(lmBoth$coeff[1] + lmBoth$coeff[3],lmBoth$coeff[2]),col="black",lwd=3)</pre>
```



12/16

Two lines, different slopes (interactions)

$$Hu_i = b_0 + b_1 \mathbb{1}(Sex_i = Male') + b_2 Y_i + b_3 \mathbb{1}(Sex_i = Male') \times Y_i + e_i^+$$

 b_0 - percent hungry at year zero for females

 $b_0 + b_1$ - percent hungry at year zero for males

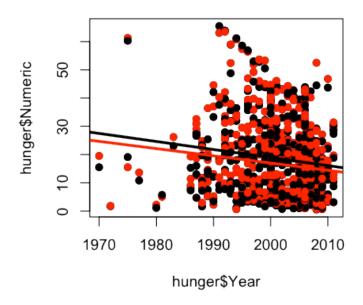
 b_2 - change in percent hungry (females) in one year

 $b_2 + b_3$ - change in percent hungry (males) in one year

 e_i^+ - everything we didn't measure

Two lines, different slopes in R

```
lmBoth <- lm(hunger$Numeric ~ hunger$Year + hunger$Sex + hunger$Sex*hunger$Year)
plot(hunger$Year, hunger$Numeric,pch=19)
points(hunger$Year, hunger$Numeric,pch=19,col=((hunger$Sex=="Male")*1+1))
abline(c(lmBoth$coeff[1],lmBoth$coeff[2]),col="red",lwd=3)
abline(c(lmBoth$coeff[1] + lmBoth$coeff[3],lmBoth$coeff[2] +lmBoth$coeff[4]),col="black",lwd=3)</pre>
```



14/16

Two lines, different slopes in R

summary(lmBoth)

```
Call:
lm(formula = hunger$Numeric ~ hunger$Year + hunger$Sex + hunger$Sex *
   hunger$Year)
Residuals:
  Min 10 Median 30
                          Max
-25.11 -11.55 -2.12 7.02 46.22
Coefficients:
                        Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
                        529.4033 190.8185 2.77 0.0057 **
(Intercept)
hunger$Year
                       -0.2562 0.0954 -2.69 0.0074 **
hunger$SexMale
                       59.5912 269.8581 0.22 0.8253
hunger$Year:hunger$SexMale -0.0288 0.1349 -0.21 0.8309
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
                                                                                 15/16
```

Interactions for continuous variables

$$Hu_i = b_0 + b_1 In_i + b_2 Y_i + b_3 In_i \times Y_i + e_i^+$$

 b_0 - percent hungry at year zero for children with whose parents have no income

 b_1 - change in percent hungry for each dollar of income in year zero

 b_2 - change in percent hungry in one year for children whose parents have no income

 b_3 - increased change in percent hungry by year for each dollar of income - e.g. if income is \$10,000, then change in percent hungry in one year will be

$$b_2 + 1e4 \times b_3$$

 e_i^+ - everything we didn't measure

Lot's of care/caution needed!