## **Simple Linear Regression**

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## Simple Linear Regression

#### **Definition 1: Simple Linear Regression**

The population simple linear regression model for  $i = 1, \ldots, n$  is given as

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + u_i.$$

- $y_i$  is often called a dependent variable, response variable, predicted variable, or outcome variable.
- $x_i$  is often called an independent variable, explanatory variable, regressor, or covariate.
- $u_i$  is often called the error term or idiosyncratic shock.
  - It represents all other factors than  $x_i$  that explain  $y_i$ .
- $\beta_0$  is the intercept/constant term.
- β<sub>1</sub> is the slope parameter.
  - It represents the effect of x on y. Simple Linear Regression

#### How do we Estimate the Parameters?

#### Question 1: How do we Estimate the Parameters?

How would you estimate  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ ?

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How would you estimate  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ ?

#### Answer to Question 1

Ordinary Least Squares (OLS).

- We try to minimize the squared difference between our observed  $y_i$ and our predicted  $\hat{y}_i$  for each observation i.
  - $\triangleright$   $\hat{y}_i$  is often called a fitted value for observation i.

## Residuals

#### **Definition 2: Residual**

A residual  $\widehat{u}_i$  is defined as

$$\widehat{u}_i = y_i - \widehat{y}_i = y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i.$$

- The residual is the estimated error for each i.
- OLS wants to minimize these residuals for each i.

## **Definition 3: Sum of Squared Residuals**

The sum of squared residuals (SSR) is defined as

$$SSR = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{u}_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \widehat{y}_i)^2$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i)^2.$$

- The squaring of the residuals makes everything positive.
- We use *SSR* instead of the summing the absolute values because the latter is not differentiable at zero.

#### **Definition 4: Ordinary Least Squares (OLS)**

The ordinary least squares (OLS) algorithm minimizes the SSR to obtain  $(\widehat{\beta}_0,\widehat{\beta}_1)$ :

$$\underset{b_0,b_1}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \sum_{i=1}^n \widehat{u}_i^2 = \left(\widehat{\beta}_0, \widehat{\beta}_1\right).$$

#### How to Minimize the SSR?

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Simple Linear Regression OLS

## How to Minimize the SSR?

#### Question 2: How to Minimize the SSR?

How do we minimize the SSR?

#### Answer to Question 2

Calculus! Take the derivative of the SSR with respect to each parameter. Then, set the derivatives equal to zero and solve the equations for  $(\widehat{\beta}_0, \widehat{\beta}_1)$ .

## The OLS Solution

#### Theorem 1: The OLS Solution

The OLS Solution is given by

$$\widehat{\beta}_0 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \widehat{\beta}_1 \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

$$= \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X}$$

$$\widehat{\beta}_1. = \frac{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{X}) (y_i - \overline{Y})}{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{X})^2}$$

$$= \frac{\widehat{\sigma}_{xy}}{\widehat{\sigma}^2}.$$

#### **Proof 1: OLS Solution's Constant Term Part 1**

The problem is to find the intercept term  $\widehat{\beta}_0$  by minimizing the SSR:

$$\min_{\widehat{\beta}_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \widehat{u}_i^2 = \min_{\widehat{\beta}_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right)^2.$$

To do so, we take the derivative of the SSR with respect to  $\widehat{\beta}_0$  and set it equal to zero (first order condition).

#### Proof 1: OLS Solution's Constant Term Part 2

$$\frac{\partial SSR}{\partial \widehat{\beta}_0} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right) (-1)$$
$$= -2 \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right)$$

#### **Proof 1: OLS Solution's Constant Term Part 2**

$$\frac{\partial SSR}{\partial \widehat{\beta}_0} = 2\sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right) (-1)$$
$$= -2\sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right)$$

Setting this equal to zero we have

$$-2\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right) = 0 \iff \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right) = 0.$$

#### **Proof 1: OLS Solution's Constant Term Part 3**

Solving the equation for  $\widehat{\beta}_0$  we get

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right) = 0 \iff \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{\beta}_0 - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i = 0$$
$$\iff \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{\beta}_0 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i$$

#### **Proof 1: OLS Solution's Constant Term Part 4**

Lastly,

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{\beta}_{0} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_{i} - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{\beta}_{1} x_{i} \iff n \widehat{\beta}_{0} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_{i} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{i}$$

$$\iff \widehat{\beta}_{0} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_{i} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{i}$$

$$\iff \widehat{\beta}_{0} = \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \overline{X}. \quad \Box$$

Hooray!

The problem is to find the slope term  $\widehat{\beta}_1$  by minimizing the SSR:

$$\min_{\widehat{\beta}_1} \sum_{i=1}^n \widehat{u}_i^2 = \min_{\widehat{\beta}_1} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right)^2$$

#### **Proof 2: OLS Solution's Slope Term Part 1**

The problem is to find the slope term  $\widehat{\beta}_1$  by minimizing the SSR:

$$\min_{\widehat{\beta}_1} \sum_{i=1}^n \widehat{u}_i^2 = \min_{\widehat{\beta}_1} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right)^2 \\
= \min_{\widehat{\beta}_1} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \left( \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X} \right) - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right)^2$$

#### **Proof 2: OLS Solution's Slope Term Part 1**

The problem is to find the slope term  $\hat{\beta}_1$  by minimizing the SSR:

$$\min_{\widehat{\beta}_{1}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{u}_{i}^{2} = \min_{\widehat{\beta}_{1}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_{i} - \widehat{\beta}_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} x_{i} \right)^{2}$$

$$= \min_{\widehat{\beta}_{1}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_{i} - \left( \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \overline{X} \right) - \widehat{\beta}_{1} x_{i} \right)^{2}$$

$$= \min_{\widehat{\beta}_{1}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_{i} - \overline{Y} + \widehat{\beta}_{1} \overline{X} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} x_{i} \right)^{2}$$

#### **Proof 2: OLS Solution's Slope Term Part 1**

The problem is to find the slope term  $\widehat{\beta}_1$  by minimizing the SSR:

$$\min_{\widehat{\beta}_{1}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{u}_{i}^{2} = \min_{\widehat{\beta}_{1}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_{i} - \widehat{\beta}_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} x_{i} \right)^{2}$$

$$= \min_{\widehat{\beta}_{1}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_{i} - \left( \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \overline{X} \right) - \widehat{\beta}_{1} x_{i} \right)^{2}$$

$$= \min_{\widehat{\beta}_{1}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_{i} - \overline{Y} + \widehat{\beta}_{1} \overline{X} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} x_{i} \right)^{2}$$

$$= \min_{\widehat{\beta}_{1}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_{i} - \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right) \right)^{2}.$$

#### Proof 2: OLS Solution's Slope Term Part 2

Now we take the derivative of the SSR with respect to  $\widehat{\beta}_1$ :

$$\frac{\partial SSR}{\partial \widehat{\beta}_{1}} = -2 \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_{i} - \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right) \right) \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right).$$

#### **Proof 2: OLS Solution's Slope Term Part 3**

Setting this derivative equal to zero gives

$$-2\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(y_i - \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_1 \left(x_i - \overline{X}\right)\right) \left(x_i - \overline{X}\right) = 0$$

Setting this derivative equal to zero gives

$$-2\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(y_i - \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_1 \left(x_i - \overline{X}\right)\right) \left(x_i - \overline{X}\right) = 0$$

$$\iff \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_1 (x_i - \overline{X})) (x_i - \overline{X}) = 0$$

#### **Proof 2: OLS Solution's Slope Term Part 3**

Setting this derivative equal to zero gives

$$-2\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(y_{i} - \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_{1}\left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)\right) \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) = 0$$

$$\iff \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(y_{i} - \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_{1}\left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)\right) \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) = 0$$

$$\iff \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\left(y_{i} - \overline{Y}\right) \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) - \widehat{\beta}_{1}\left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)\right) = 0.$$

#### **Proof 2: OLS Solution's Slope Term Part 4**

Some algebra gives

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \left( y_{i} - \overline{Y} \right) \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right) - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right) \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right) \right) = 0$$

#### Some algebra gives

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \left( y_i - \overline{Y} \right) \left( x_i - \overline{X} \right) - \widehat{\beta}_1 \left( x_i - \overline{X} \right) \left( x_i - \overline{X} \right) \right) = 0$$

$$\iff \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \overline{Y}) (x_i - \overline{X}) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{\beta}_1 (x_i - \overline{X})^2 = 0$$

#### **Proof 2: OLS Solution's Slope Term Part 4**

#### Some algebra gives

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \left( y_{i} - \overline{Y} \right) \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right) - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right) \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right) \right) = 0$$

$$\iff \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_{i} - \overline{Y} \right) \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{\beta}_{1} \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right)^{2} = 0$$

$$\iff \widehat{\beta}_{1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right)^{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_{i} - \overline{Y} \right) \left( x_{i} - \overline{X} \right).$$

#### Proof 2: OLS Solution's Slope Term Part 5

Solving for  $\widehat{\beta}_1$  yields

$$\widehat{\beta}_1 \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{X})^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \overline{Y}) (x_i - \overline{X})$$

$$\iff \widehat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \overline{Y}) (x_i - \overline{X})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{X})^2}.$$

#### **Proof 2: OLS Solution's Slope Term Part 6**

Lastly, multiplying and dividing by  $\frac{1}{n-1}$  doesn't change anything. So.

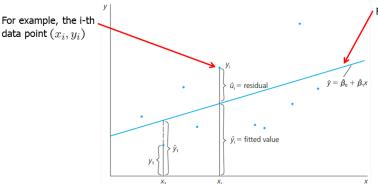
$$\widehat{\beta}_{1} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_{i} - \overline{Y}) (x_{i} - \overline{X})}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_{i} - \overline{X})^{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_{i} - \overline{Y}) (x_{i} - \overline{X})}{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_{i} - \overline{X})^{2}}$$

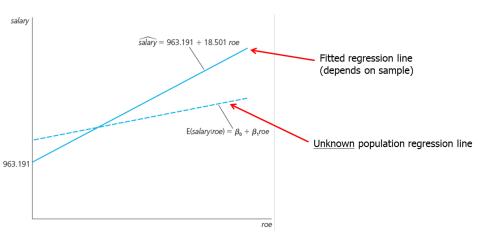
$$= \frac{\widehat{\sigma}_{xy}}{\widehat{\sigma}_{x}^{2}}. \quad \square$$

Horray!

## Visualization of What We Are Doing



Fitted regression line



#### Property 1: OLS Residuals Sum to Zero

Recall from the F.O.C. for  $\widehat{\beta}_0$  from Part 3 of the proof that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{u}_i = 0.$$

- This directly implies the mean of the residuals  $\overline{U} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{u}_i = 0.$
- If we don't included an intercept, then the residuals don't necessary sum to zero.

## Properties of OLS

#### Property 2: Zero Sample Covariance Between Residuals and Regressor

Without first substituting in  $\widehat{\beta}_0$  for the F.O.C. for  $\widehat{\beta}_1$ , we could've written it as

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right) x_i = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{u}_i x_i = 0.$$

## Properties of OLS

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Without first substituting in  $\widehat{\beta}_0$  for the F.O.C. for  $\widehat{\beta}_1$ , we could've written it as

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 x_i \right) x_i = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{u}_i x_i = 0.$$

$$\widehat{\sigma}_{x\widehat{u}} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \widehat{u}_i - \overline{U} \right) \left( x_i - \overline{X} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{u}_i x_i - \frac{\overline{X}}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \widehat{u}_i - \frac{\overline{U}}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i + \frac{n\overline{X}\overline{U}}{n-1}$$

$$= 0.$$

# Property 4: Sample Means of Dependent Variable and Regressor Lie on Regression Line

Recall 
$$\widehat{\beta}_0 = \overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X}$$
. So,

$$\overline{Y} = \widehat{\beta}_0 + \widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X}.$$

• If we try to predict  $y_i$  with  $\overline{X}$ , the prediction will be  $\overline{Y}$ .

## Total Sum of Squares (SST)

#### **Definition 5: Total Sum of Squares (SST)**

The total sum of squares (SST) is defined as

$$SST = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \overline{Y})^2.$$

Measures how much the observed outcome varies with respect to its mean.

## Explained Sum of Squares (SSE)

#### **Definition 6: Explained Sum of Squares (SSE)**

The explained sum of squares (SSE) is defined as

$$SSE = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\widehat{y}_i - \overline{Y})^2.$$

Measures how much the predicted outcome varies with respect to the mean of the observe outcome.

## Property 5: SST = SSE + SSR

We can write the SST in terms of the SSE and SSR as

$$SST = SSE + SSR.$$

# R-squared

#### **Definition 7: R-squared**

The R-squared measures how well our regressor explains our outcome and is defined as

$$R^2 = \frac{SSE}{SST} = 1 - \frac{SSR}{SST}.$$

- R<sup>2</sup> lies between zero and one.
- Higher R<sup>2</sup> suggests better model fit.
- $R^2$  is overrated as it always increases as the number. covariates in model increases.

# Adjusted R-squared

#### **Definition 8: Adjusted R-squared**

The adjusted R-squared is a modified version of the R-square defined as

$$\widetilde{R}^2 = 1 - \frac{SSR/(n-k)}{SST/(n-1)} = 1 - \frac{(1-R^2)(n-1)}{n-k}$$

where k is the number of estimated parameters (including the intercept).

- Penalization for adding more regressors.
- Does not lie between zero and one.
  - Can be negative when a horizontal regression lie (such as at  $\overline{Y}$ ) predicts y better.

### **Property 6: Level-Level Regression Model**

A level-level simple linear regression model is given by

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + u_i.$$

It follows that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \beta_1.$$

- When x changes by 1 unit, y changes by  $\beta_1$  units.
- When x changes by 3 units, y changes by  $3 * \beta_1$ . units

### **Property 7: Log-Level Regression Model**

A log-level simple linear regression model is given by

$$ln(y_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + u_i.$$

It follows that

$$\frac{d\ln(y)}{dx} = \beta_1.$$

- This represents a semi-elasticity of y with respect to x.
- When x changes by 1 unit, y changes by approximately  $100 * \beta_1$ percent.
- When x changes by 5 units, y changes by approximately  $100 * 5 * \beta_1$ percent.

#### Proof 3: Property 7 Part 1

If  $\ln(y) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + u$ , then

$$\frac{d\ln(y)}{dx} = \beta_1.$$

Note that  $\ln(y)$  is a function of x Let  $u = \ln(y)$ . By the chain rule

$$\frac{d\ln(y)}{dx} = \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{du}{dy}\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{y}\frac{dy}{dx}$$

Setting these equations equal to each other we see

$$\frac{1}{y}\frac{dy}{dx} = \beta_1 \iff \frac{dy}{y} = \beta_1 dx.$$

#### Proof 3: Property 7 Part 2

 $\frac{dy}{y}$  represents the relative or proportional change in y telling us how much y changes relative to its current value. Think of dy as  $y_1-y$  then  $\frac{dy}{y}$  is the exact formula for the proportional change in y. dx represents a small change in x. So, given a small change in x (dx), the proportional change in y ( $\frac{dy}{y}$ ) is  $\beta_1$ . To get the percentage change from the proportional change, we just multiply both sides of the equation by 100. This gives

$$100\frac{dy}{y} = 100\beta_1 dx.$$

Thus, the percentage change in  $y\left(100\frac{dy}{y}\right)$  given a small change in  $x\left(dx\right)$  is given by  $100\beta_1$ .

#### Property 8: Log-Log Regression Model

A log-log simple linear regression model is given by

$$\ln(y_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln(x_i) + u_i.$$

It follows that

$$\frac{d\ln(y)}{d\ln(x)} = \beta_1.$$

- This represents an elasticity of y with respect to x.
- When x changes by 1 percent, y changes by approximately  $\beta_1$  percent.
- When x changes by 5 percent, y changes by approximately  $5\beta_1$  percent.

# The Meaning of "Linear" in Linear Regression

### Property 9: The Meaning of "Linear" in Linear Regression

When we estimate a linear regression model, we mean linear in parameters, not necessarily linear in covariates.

- The model  $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \sqrt{x_i} + u_i$  is linear in parameters so we are fine.
- The model  $y_i = \beta_0 + \sqrt{\beta_1}x_i + u_i$  is not linear in parameters and we cannot cast it as a linear regression model.

# The Meaning of "Linear" in Linear Regression

#### Question 3

Is the model  $y_i = e^{\beta_0} x_i^{\beta_1} e^{u_i}$  linear in parameters? Could we cast it as a linear regression problem?

# The Meaning of "Linear" in Linear Regression

#### Question 3

Is the model  $y_i=e^{\beta_0}x_i^{\beta_1}e^{u_i}$  linear in parameters? Could we cast it as a linear regression problem?

#### Answer to Question 3

As it stands, it is not linear in parameters because  $y_i$  is a non-linear function of the parameters. However, we could transform it into a linear regression problem by taking the log of both sides of the equation giving

$$\ln(y_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln(x_i) + u_i$$

which is a log-log model we can estimate via OLS.

# OLS Does Not Necessarily Give us Causality

#### Property 10: OLS Does Not Necessarily Give us Causality

While OLS will generate the best possible line by minimizing the SSR, this does not mean  $\beta_1$  measures a causal relationship. To identify the causal relationship between y and x, we need

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1\right] = \beta_1.$$

- This means  $\widehat{\beta}_1$  is unbiased for  $\beta_1$ .
- We need the following four assumptions to be able to conclude  $\beta_1$  is unbiased for  $\beta_1$ .

## Linear in Parameters

### **SLR Assumption 1: Linear in Parameters**

The population model is a linear function of the parameters.

• For instance,  $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + u_i$ .

# Random Sampling

### **SLR Assumption 2: Random Sampling**

We have a random (i.i.d.) sample  $\{(y_i, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n$  from the population of interest.

This will ensure Assumption 4 holds for the entire sample and not just subsets.

# Non-Zero Regressor Variance

### **SLR Assumption 3: Non-Zero Regressor Variance**

The sample outcomes of our regressor, namely  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , are not all the same value, i.e.,  $\hat{\sigma}_x^2 \neq 0$ .

Easy to verify by loading data into software and calculating the sample variance of  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ .

### Zero Conditional Mean

#### **SLR Assumption 4: Zero Conditional Mean**

The expectation of the error term conditioned on the regressor is zero, i.e.,  $\mathbb{E}[u_i \mid x_i] = 0$  for each  $i = 1, \ldots, n$ .

- Also called the exogeneity assumption
- Important implications include:
  - 1.  $\mathbb{E}[u_i] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[u_i \mid x_i]] = \mathbb{E}[0] = 0.$
  - 2.  $Cov[u_i, x_i] = \mathbb{E}[u_i x_i] \mathbb{E}[u_i] \mathbb{E}[x_i] = \mathbb{E}[u_i x_i] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[u_i x_i]]$  $[x_i]$ ] =  $\mathbb{E}[x_i\mathbb{E}[u_i \mid x_i]] = 0$ .
  - 3.  $\mathbb{E}[y_i \mid x_i] = \mathbb{E}[\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + u_i \mid x_i] = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i$  so  $\beta_1$ represents the average impact of  $x_i$  on  $y_i$ .
  - Sample analogs of 1. and 2. are justified by Properties 1 and 2.

## Unbiasedness of OLS

#### Theorem 2: Unbiasedness of OLS

Under SLR Assumptions 1-4, the OLS estimator is unbiased, i.e.,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_0 \mid x_i\right] = \beta_0.$$

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1 \mid x_i\right] = \beta_1.$$

- This means that on average if we take many samples and compute  $\widehat{\beta}_0$  and  $\widehat{\beta}_1$  we will get  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ .
  - ► The sampling distribution of our estimated parameters is centered around their true values.
- By the law of total expectation,  $\mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_{0}\right]=\beta_{0}$  and  $\mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_{1}\right]=\beta_{1}$ .

#### **Proof 4: Unbiasedness of the OLS Intercept Term Part 1**

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_0 \mid x_i\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X} \mid x_i\right]$$

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_0 \mid x_i\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X} \mid x_i\right]$$
$$= \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X} \mid x_i\right]$$

### **Proof 4: Unbiasedness of the OLS Intercept Term Part 1**

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_0 \mid x_i\right] &= \mathbb{E}\left[\overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X} \mid x_i\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X} \mid x_i\right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[y_i \mid x_i] - \mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X} \mid x_i\right] \end{split}$$

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_{0} \mid x_{i}\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_{1}\overline{X} \mid x_{i}\right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}y_{i} - \widehat{\beta}_{1}\overline{X} \mid x_{i}\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\mathbb{E}[y_{i} \mid x_{i}] - \mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_{1}\overline{X} \mid x_{i}\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\mathbb{E}[\beta_{0} + \beta_{1}x_{i} \mid x_{i}] - \beta_{1}\mathbb{E}\left[\overline{X} \mid x_{i}\right]$$

### **Proof 4: Unbiasedness of the OLS Intercept Term Part 1**

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_{0} \mid x_{i}\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\overline{Y} - \widehat{\beta}_{1}\overline{X} \mid x_{i}\right]$$

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$$= \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\mathbb{E}[y_{i} \mid x_{i}] - \mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_{1}\overline{X} \mid x_{i}\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\mathbb{E}[\beta_{0} + \beta_{1}x_{i} \mid x_{i}] - \beta_{1}\mathbb{E}\left[\overline{X} \mid x_{i}\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(\beta_{0} + \beta_{1}x_{i}) - \beta_{1}\overline{X}.$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i) - \beta_1 \overline{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_0 + \beta_1 \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i - \beta_1 \overline{X}$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i) - \beta_1 \overline{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_0 + \beta_1 \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i - \beta_1 \overline{X}$$
$$= \beta_0 + \beta_1 \overline{X} - \beta_1 \overline{X}$$

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$$= \beta_0 + \beta_1 \overline{X} - \beta_1 \overline{X}$$
$$= \beta_0. \quad \Box$$

Hooray!

#### **Proof 5: Unbiasedness of the OLS Slope Term Part 1**

Using SLR Assumption 1 of  $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + u_i$  and Assumption

3 of 
$$\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})^2 > 0$$
,

$$\widehat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \overline{Y}) (x_i - \overline{X})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{X})^2}$$

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$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (\beta_{0} + \beta_{1}x_{i} + u_{i} - \overline{Y}) (x_{i} - \overline{X})}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_{i} - \overline{X})^{2}}$$

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$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (\beta_{0} + \beta_{1}x_{i} + u_{i} - \overline{Y}) (x_{i} - \overline{X})}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_{i} - \overline{X})^{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (\beta_{0} + \beta_{1}x_{i} + u_{i} - \widehat{\beta}_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{1}\overline{X}) (x_{i} - \overline{X})}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_{i} - \overline{X})^{2}}$$

$$\widehat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + u_i - \widehat{\beta}_0 - \widehat{\beta}_1 \overline{X}\right) \left(x_i - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \left(x_i - \overline{X}\right)^2}$$

### Proof 5: Unbiasedness of the OLS Slope Term Part 2

$$\widehat{\beta}_{1} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\beta_{0} + \beta_{1} x_{i} + u_{i} - \widehat{\beta}_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \overline{X}\right) \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\left(\beta_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{0}\right) + \beta_{1} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) + u_{i}\right) \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}$$

$$\widehat{\beta}_{1} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\beta_{0} + \beta_{1} x_{i} + u_{i} - \widehat{\beta}_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{1} \overline{X}\right) \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\left(\beta_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{0}\right) + \beta_{1} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) + u_{i}\right) \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\left(\beta_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{0}\right) \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}} + \frac{\beta_{1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) u_{i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}$$

$$\widehat{\beta}_{1} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\beta_{0} + \beta_{1}x_{i} + u_{i} - \widehat{\beta}_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{1}\overline{X}\right) \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\left(\beta_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{0}\right) + \beta_{1} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) + u_{i}\right) \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\left(\beta_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{0}\right) \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}} + \frac{\beta_{1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) u_{i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\left(\beta_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{0}\right) \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)} + \beta_{1} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) u_{i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}.$$

### Proof 5: Unbiasedness of the OLS Slope Term Part 3

Now, using SLR Assumption 2 of random sampling, SLR Assumption 4 of exogeneity, and unbiasedness of  $\beta_0$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_{1} \mid x_{i}\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\left(\beta_{0} - \widehat{\beta}_{0}\right) \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}} \mid x_{i}\right] + \mathbb{E}\left[\beta_{1} \mid x_{i}\right] + \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}\right]$$

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$$= \frac{\left(\beta_{0} - \mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_{0} \mid x_{i}\right]\right) \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}} + \beta_{1} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{x_{i} - \overline{X}}{\overline{X}}\right]}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}$$

#### Proof 5: Unbiasedness of the OLS Slope Term Part 3

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$$= \frac{\left(\beta_{0} - \mathbb{E}\left[\widehat{\beta}_{0} \mid x_{i}\right]\right) \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}} + \beta_{1} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}\right]}$$

$$= \frac{\left(\beta_{0} - \beta_{0}\right) \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}} + \beta_{1} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right) 0}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}$$

$$= \beta_{1}, \quad \square$$

Hooray!

#### Question 4

Under SLR Assumptions 1-4 we will, on average, correctly estimate  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ . However, what is the variability of this estimate?

• By "on average", we mean the sampling distribution of  $\widehat{\beta}_0$  and  $\widehat{\beta}_1$ will be centered around  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ , respectively.

# Homoskedasticity

#### **SLR Assumption 5: Homoskedastic Errors**

Homoskedasticity states  $\mathbb{V}[u_i \mid x_i] = \sigma^2$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

- Under SLR Assumptions 1-5.  $\mathbb{V}[u_i] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{V}[u_i \mid x_i]] + \mathbb{V}[\mathbb{E}[u_i \mid x_i]] = \mathbb{E}[\sigma^2] = \sigma^2.$
- The variance of our error is constant across all observations when conditioning on our regressor.
- When this assumption fails, we say the errors are heteroskedastic.
- Really not that important since White's 1980 correction.

#### Theorem 3: Variance of OLS Estimates

Under SLR Assumptions 1-5, the variance of the OLS estimators  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  are

$$\mathbb{V}\left[\widehat{\beta}_0 \mid x_i\right] = \frac{\sigma^2 n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \left(x_i - \overline{X}\right)^2}.$$

$$\mathbb{V}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1 \mid x_i\right] = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \left(x_i - \overline{X}\right)^2}.$$

- As  $\sigma^2$  increases, the variance of our estimators increase.
- As the SST of x (denominator) increases, the variance of our estimators decrease.
- As n increases the SST of x increases implying the variance of our estimates decreases.

#### **Proof 6: Variance of OLS Slope Estimate Part 1**

Recall from Proof 4, Part 2 that

$$\widehat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( x_i - \overline{X} \right) u_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( x_i - \overline{X} \right)^2}.$$

#### Proof 6: Variance of OLS Slope Estimate Part 1

Recall from Proof 4. Part 2 that

$$\widehat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{X}) u_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{X})^2}.$$

Taking the variance of both sides of this equation yields

$$\mathbb{V}\left[\widehat{\beta}_{1} - \beta_{1} \mid x_{i}\right] = \mathbb{V}\left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)u_{i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(x_{i} - \overline{X}\right)^{2}}\middle|x_{i}\right].$$

Inspecting the left hand side,

$$\mathbb{V}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1 \mid x_i\right] = \mathbb{V}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1 \mid x_i\right] + \mathbb{V}[\beta_1 \mid x_i] - 2\mathsf{Cov}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1, \beta_1 \mid x_i\right].$$

Since we treat  $\beta_1$  as a constant,

$$\mathbb{V}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1 \mid x_i\right] = \mathbb{V}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1 \mid x_i\right].$$

Inspecting the right hand side from Part 1,

$$\mathbb{V}\left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(x_{i}-\overline{X}\right)u_{i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(x_{i}-\overline{X}\right)^{2}}\bigg|x_{i}\right] = \frac{\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(x_{i}-\overline{X}\right)\right]^{2}\mathbb{V}[u_{i}\mid x_{i}]}{\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(x_{i}-\overline{X}\right)^{2}\right]^{2}}$$

#### **Proof 6: Variance of OLS Slope Term Estimate Part 3**

Inspecting the right hand side from Part 1,

$$\mathbb{V}\left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X}) u_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})^2} \middle| x_i\right] = \frac{\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})\right]^2 \mathbb{V}[u_i \mid x_i]}{\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})^2\right]^2}$$
$$= \frac{\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})\right]^2 \sigma^2}{\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})^2\right]^2}$$

#### **Proof 6: Variance of OLS Slope Term Estimate Part 3**

Inspecting the right hand side from Part 1,

$$\mathbb{V}\left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X}) u_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})^2} \middle| x_i\right] = \frac{\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})\right]^2 \mathbb{V}[u_i \mid x_i]}{\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})^2\right]^2}$$
$$= \frac{\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})\right]^2 \sigma^2}{\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})^2\right]^2}$$
$$= \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \overline{X})^2}.$$

#### **Proof 6: Variance of OLS Slope Term Estimate Part 4**

Putting the right and left hand sides together, we have

$$\mathbb{V}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1 \mid x_i\right] = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \left(x_i - \overline{X}\right)^2}.$$

Hooray!

- By the law of total variance,  $\mathbb{V}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1 \mid x_i\right] = \mathbb{V}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1\right]$ .
- This is the true conditional variance of our estimator  $\widehat{\beta}_1$ .
  - How do we obtain the estimate of this conditional variance?

#### Property 11: Conditional Variance of Error Term

Under SLR Assumptions 1-5, the conditional variance of  $u_i$  for each  $i = 1, \ldots, n$  can be written as

$$\begin{split} \sigma^2 &= \mathbb{V}\left[u_i \mid x_i\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[u_i^2 \mid x_i\right] - \mathbb{E}\left[u_i \mid x_i\right]^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[u_i^2 \mid x_i\right]. \end{split}$$

- If we had data on  $u_i$ , an unbiased estimate of  $\sigma^2$  would then be
  - We only have data on  $\hat{u}_i$  though. What do we do?

### Theorem 4: Unbiased Estimator of the Variance of the Error **Term**

An unbiased estimator of  $\sigma^2$  is

$$\widehat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n-k} \sum_{i=1}^n \widehat{u}_i^2 = \frac{SSR}{n-k}.$$

where k is the number of estimated parameters (including intercept).

- In the simple linear regression model, k=2.
- The n-k term is called the degree of freedom correction.
- $\mathbb{E}[SSR] = (n-k)\sigma^2$ .

#### Theorem 5: Estimator of the Variance of the OLS Slope Term **Estimator**

Under SLR Assumptions 1-5, an unbiased estimator of  $\mathbb{V}\left|\widehat{\beta}_1\mid x_i\right|$ is

$$\widehat{\mathbb{V}}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1 \mid x_i\right] = \frac{\widehat{\sigma}^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \left(x_i - \overline{X}\right)^2}.$$

#### **Definition 9: Standard Errors of OLS Estimates**

The standard errors of our OLS estimators are

$$\operatorname{se}\left[\widehat{\beta}_0 \mid x_i\right] = \sqrt{\widehat{\mathbb{V}}\left[\widehat{\beta}_0 \mid x_i\right]}$$

$$\operatorname{se}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1\mid x_i\right] = \sqrt{\widehat{\mathbb{V}}\left[\widehat{\beta}_1\mid x_i\right]}.$$

The standard error of an estimator is simply its estimated standard deviation.

# Thank You!