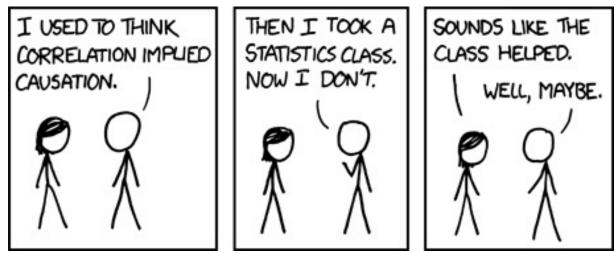
201ab Quantitative methods L.08: Correlation, regression.

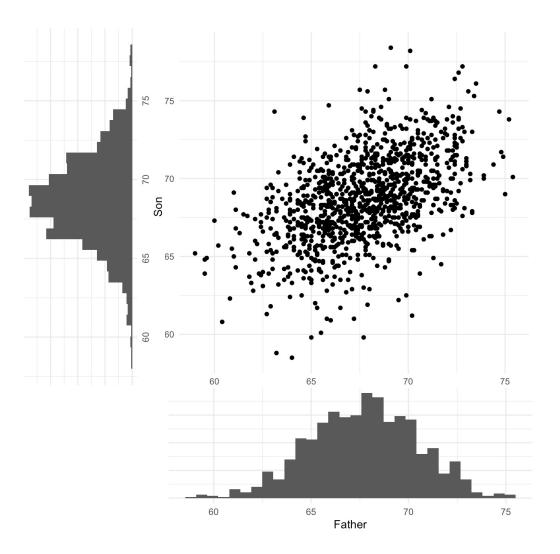


Alt-text:

Correlation doesn't imply causation, but it does waggle its eyebrows suggestively and gesture furtively while mouthing 'look over there'.

Projects!

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))



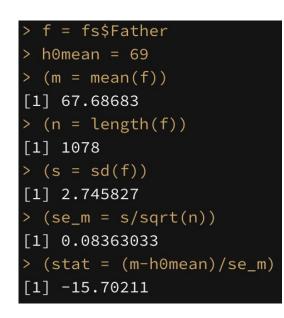
Questions we might want to ask:

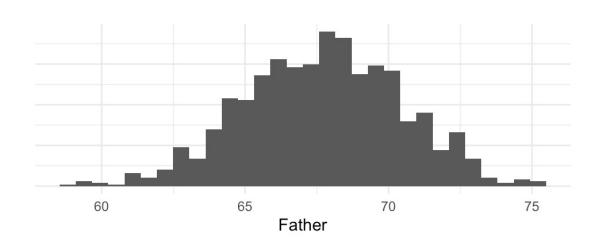
- How do fathers' heights compare to the current UK male mean?
 - Can we reject the null of the current UK mean?
 - What is our confidence interval on the mean of fathers' heights?
 - What is our prediction interval on the height of a new father?
- Are sons taller than their fathers?
 - Can we reject the null of mean=zero difference?
- What is the relationship between sons' and fathers' heights?

Questions we might want to ask:

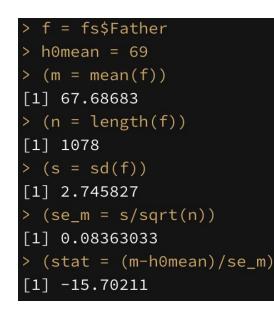
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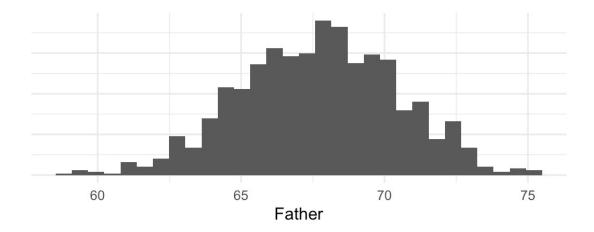




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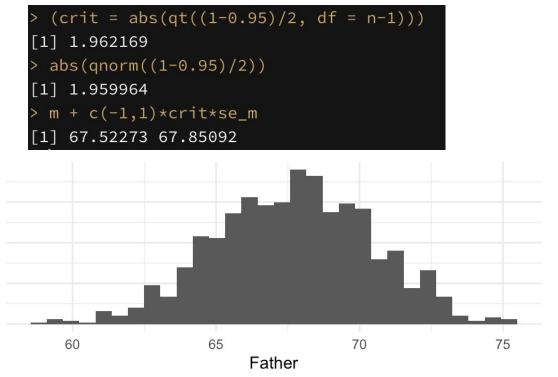


> 2*pt(-abs(stat), df = n-1)
[1] 3.457638e-50
> 2*pnorm(-abs(stat))
[1] 1.462962e-55

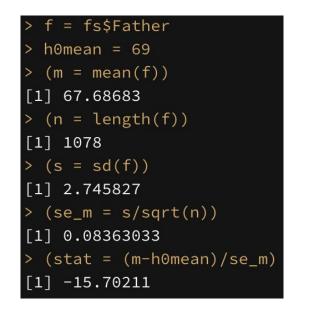


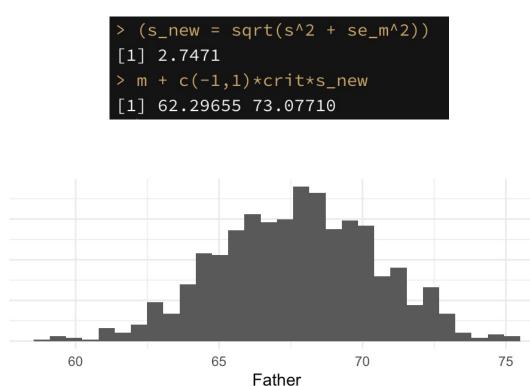
- How do fathers' heights compare to the current UK male mean?
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 - What is our confidence interval on the mean of fathers' heights?
 - What is our prediction interval on the height of a new father?

```
> f = fs$Father
> h0mean = 69
> (m = mean(f))
[1] 67.68683
> (n = length(f))
[1] 1078
> (s = sd(f))
[1] 2.745827
> (se_m = s/sqrt(n))
[1] 0.08363033
> (stat = (m-h0mean)/se_m)
[1] -15.70211
```



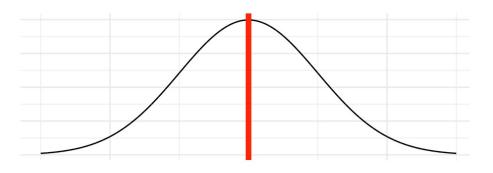
- How do fathers' heights compare to the current UK male mean?
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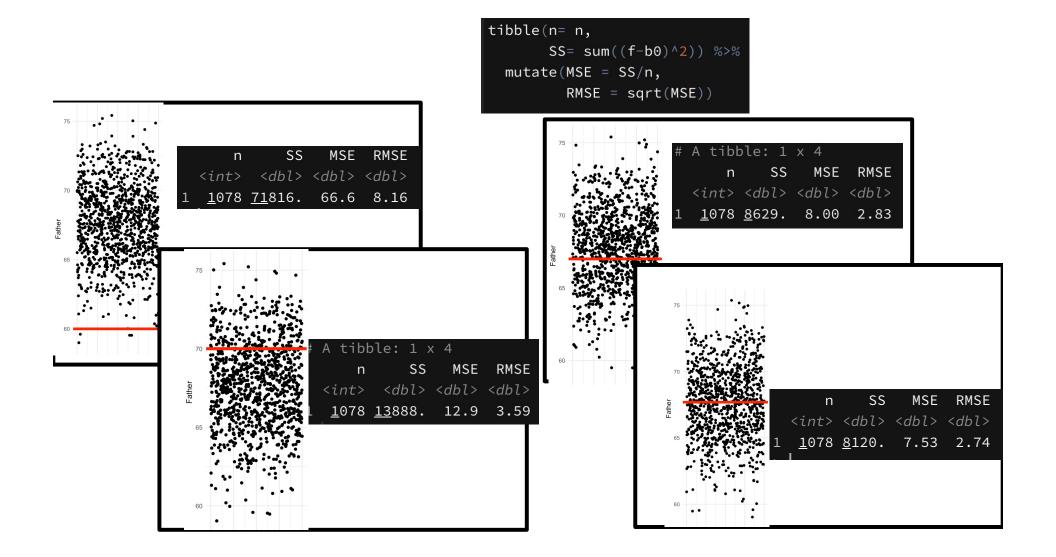
Linear model formulation

$$y_i = (1) \cdot \beta_0 + \epsilon_i$$
$$\epsilon_i \sim \mathbf{N}(0, \sigma_\epsilon)$$

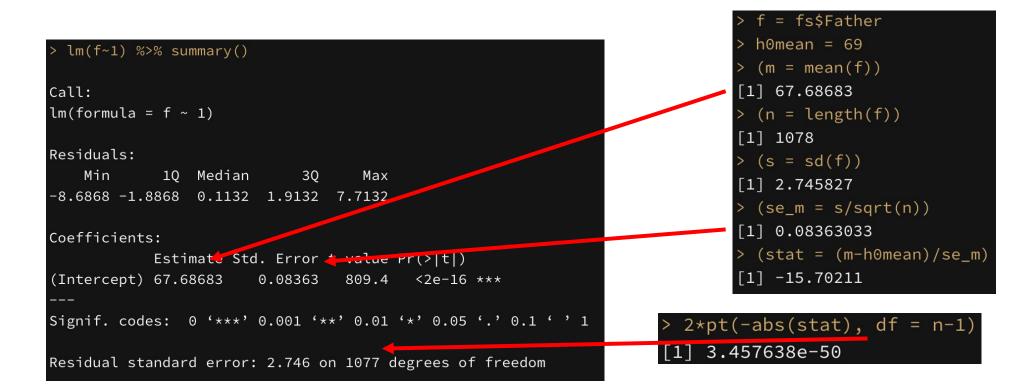




Least squares fit.



- How do fathers' heights compare to the current UK male mean?
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- How do fathers' heights compare to the current UK male mean?
 - Can we reject the null of the current UK mean?
 - What is our confidence interval on the mean of fathers' heights?
 - What is our prediction interval on the height of a new father?

> (s_new = sqrt(s^2 + se_m^2))
[1] 2.7471
> m + c(-1,1)*crit*s_new
[1] 62.29655 73.07710

Evaluating a mean

- Fitting a mean, on the assumption of gaussian variability...
 - Requires that we use a t-distribution to respect the uncertainty of our standard deviation estimate.
 - Is the simplest/smallest "linear model": (just an intercept term)

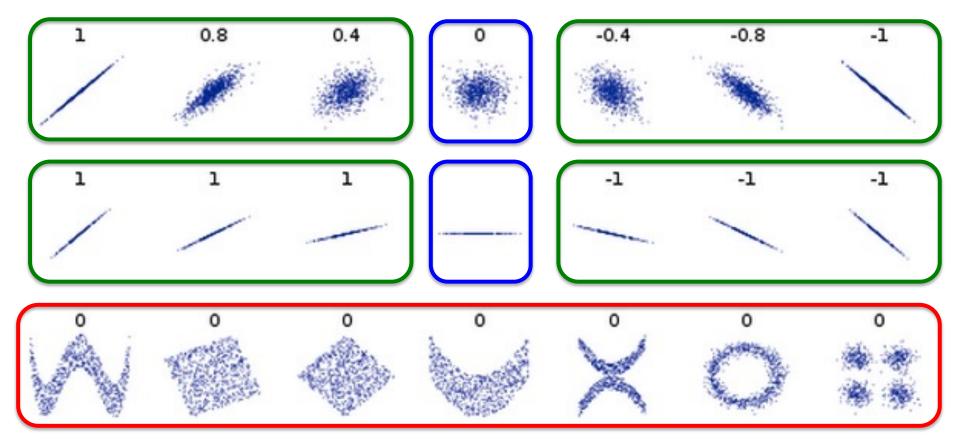
Questions we might want to ask:

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- Are sons taller than their fathers?

– Can we reject the null of mean=zero difference?

• What is the relationship between sons and fathers heights?

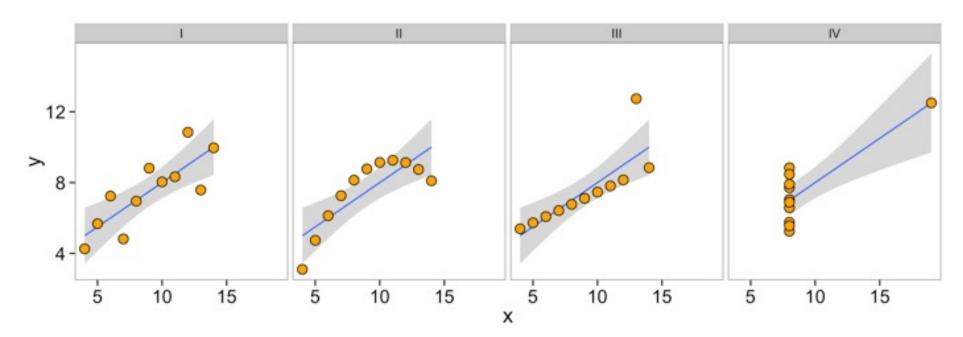
Relationship between two variables



X and Y can be...

- Independent.
- Dependent, but not linearly (tricky to measure in general)
- Linearly dependent (this is what we are going to measure)

Anscombe's quartet



Property	Value		
Mean of x in each case	9 (exact)		
Sample variance of x in each case	11 (exact)		
Mean of y in each case	7.50 (to 2 decimal places)		
Sample variance of y in each case	4.122 or 4.127 (to 3 decimal places)		
Correlation between x and y in each case	0.816 (to 3 decimal places)		
Linear regression line in each case	y = 3.00 + 0.500x (to 2 and 3 decimal places, respectively)		

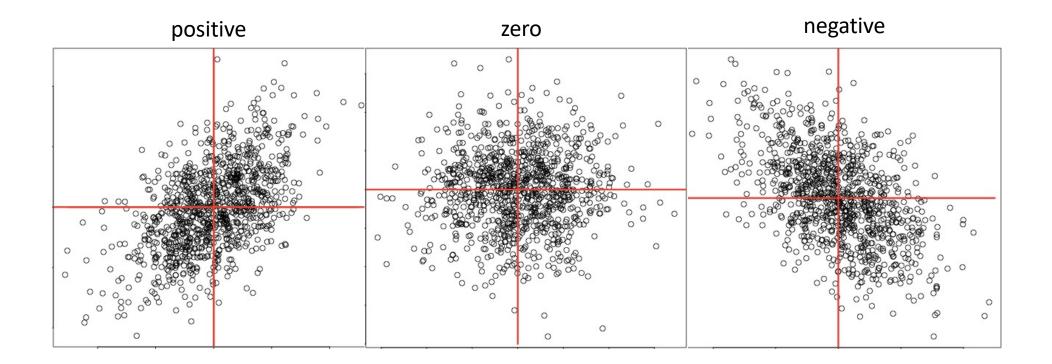
You can always fit a line; doesn't mean it's a good idea.

Measures of linear relationship

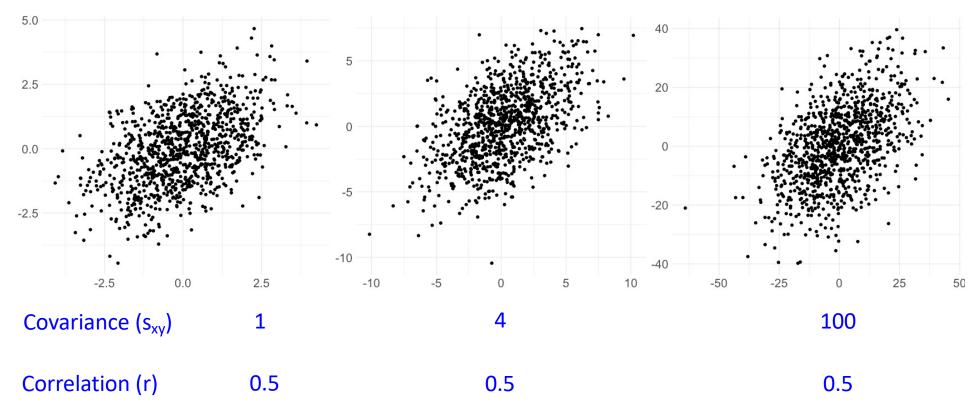
- *Covariance*: shared variance between x and y
- *Correlation*: standardized covariance
- *Coefficient of determination*: how much variance is captured by linear relationship.
- *Regression slope of y~x*: predict y for given x (minimizing squared deviation of y from prediction)
- *Regression slope of x~y*: predict x for given y (minimizing squared deviation of x from prediction)
- *Principle component line*: (minimize squared deviation of (x,y) from line.)

Covariance: varying together.

When X deviates from the mean, does Y deviate from its mean. What is the size and direction of these shared deviations?



Covariance and correlation



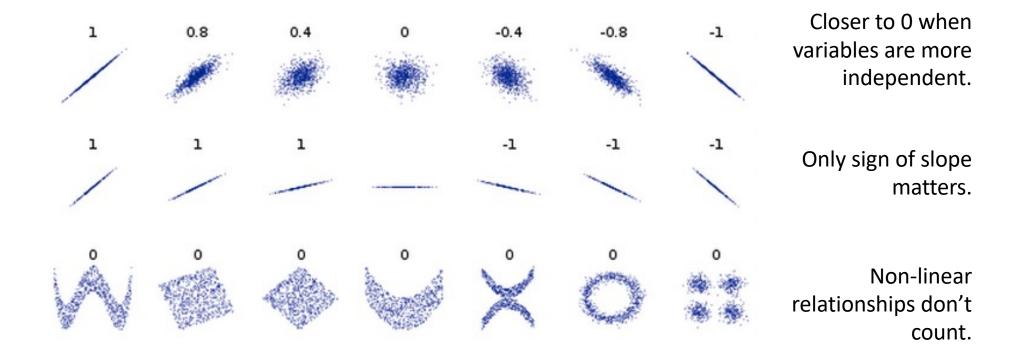
Covariance: magnitude of shared variance.

Covariance will change with unit rescaling (heights in cm vs in) Correlation: Covariance scaled by the (marginal) variances of x and y Correlation will not change with rescaling.

Correlation

Covariance scaled to the overall variances.

Between -1 and 1. Measures direction, strength of linear relationship

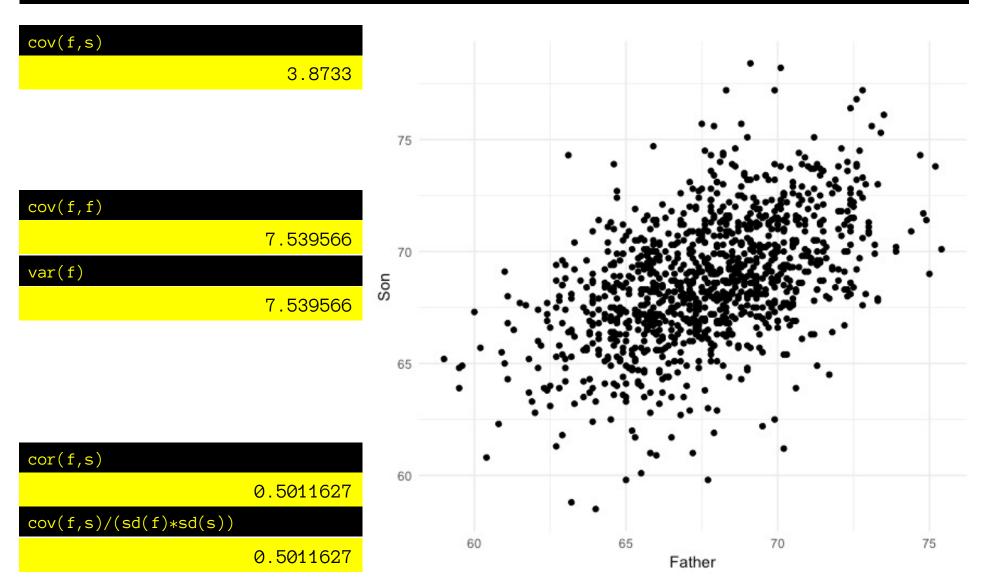


Calculation correlation, covariance

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

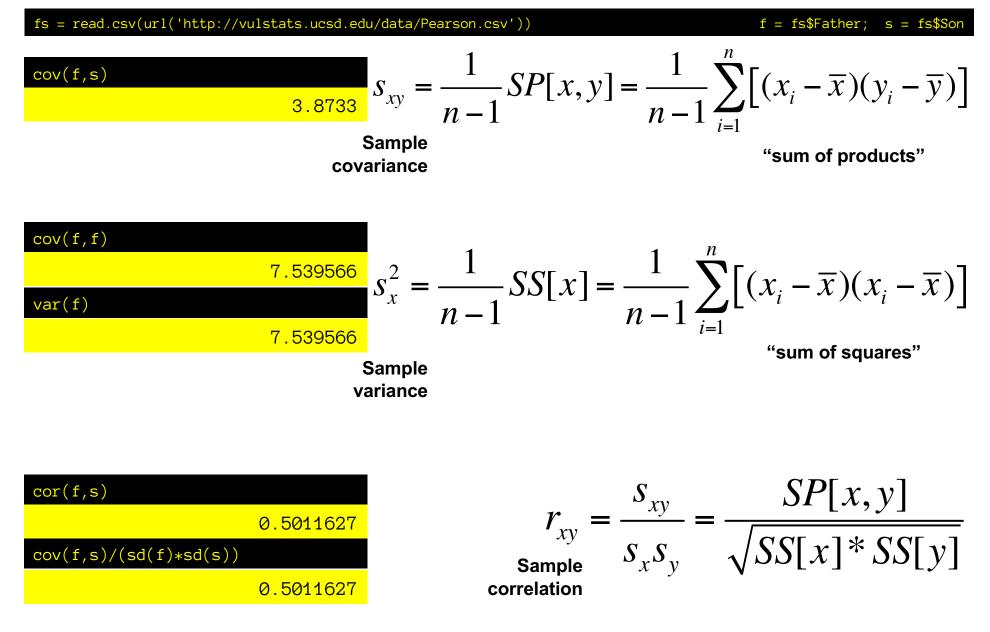
f = fsFather; s = fsSon

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))



Calculation correlation, covariance

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)



The covariance matrix

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))

f = fsFather; s = fsSon

cov(fs)		
	Father	Son
Father	7.539566	3.875382
Son	3.875382	7.930949

<pre>var(f)</pre>	<pre>cov(f,s)</pre>		
7.539566	3.875382		
cov(f,s)	<pre>var(s)</pre>		
3.875382	7.930949		

Linear transformations

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

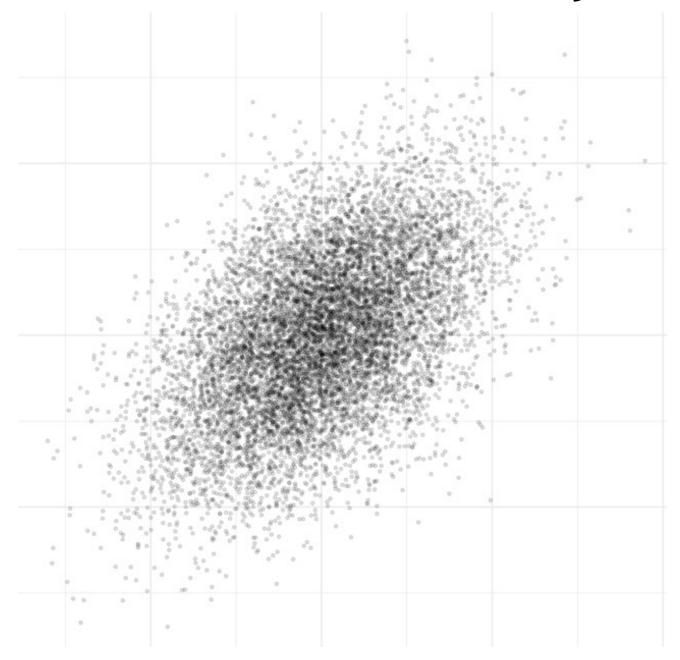
fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))

Original va	iginal variables Shifted variab		variables	s Scaled variables	
f = fs\$Father s = fs\$Son		f = fs\$Father s = fs\$Son + 3		f = fs\$Father s = fs\$Son * 3	
<pre>mean(f) mean(s) sd(f) sd(s) cov(f,s) cor(f,s)</pre>	67.68683 68.68423 2.745827 2.816194 3.875382 0.5011627	<pre>mean(f) mean(s) sd(f) sd(s) cov(f,s) cor(f,s)</pre>	69.68683 71.68423 2.745827 2.816194 3.875382 0.5011627	<pre>mean(f) mean(s) sd(f) sd(s) cov(f,s) cor(f,s)</pre>	135.3737 206.0527 5.491654 8.448582 23.25229 0.5011627

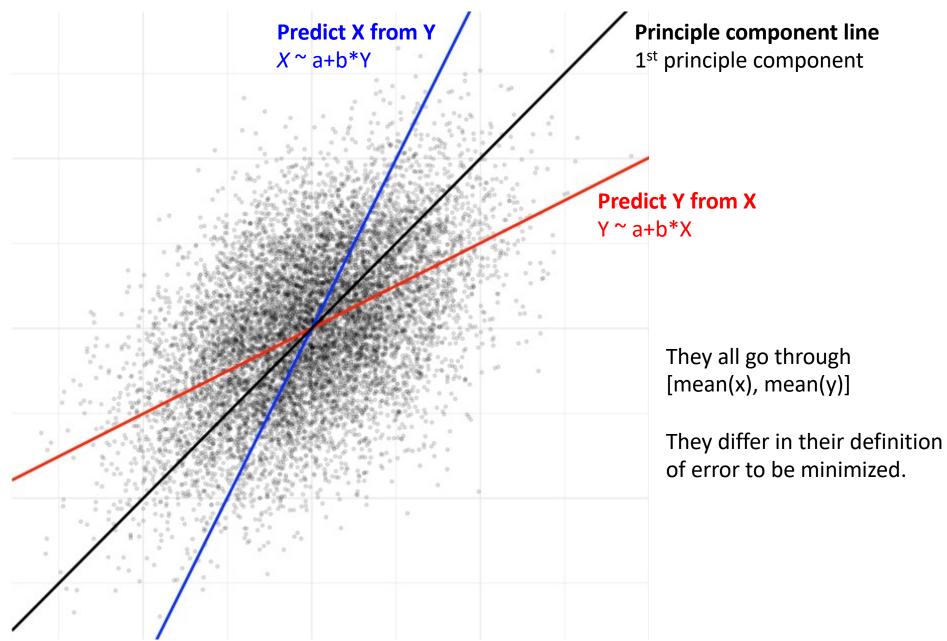
Shifting influences the mean, nothing else. Scaling changes mean, variance, sd, covariance, but not the *correlation*:

The correlation normalizes the covariance to the sd of x,y, so is constant.

What line would you draw?

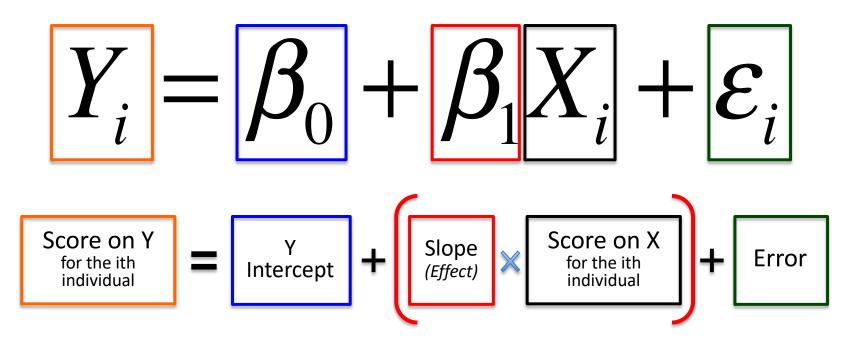


Different regressions, lines



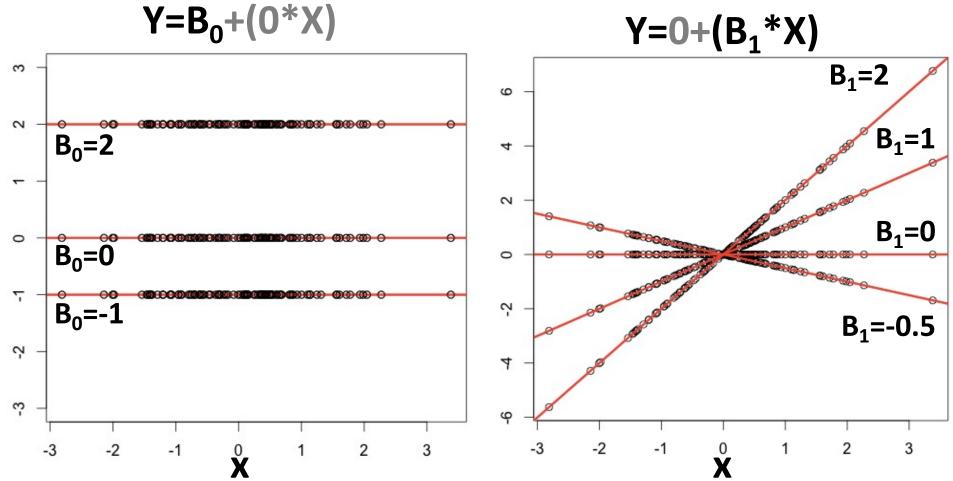
OLS regression model.

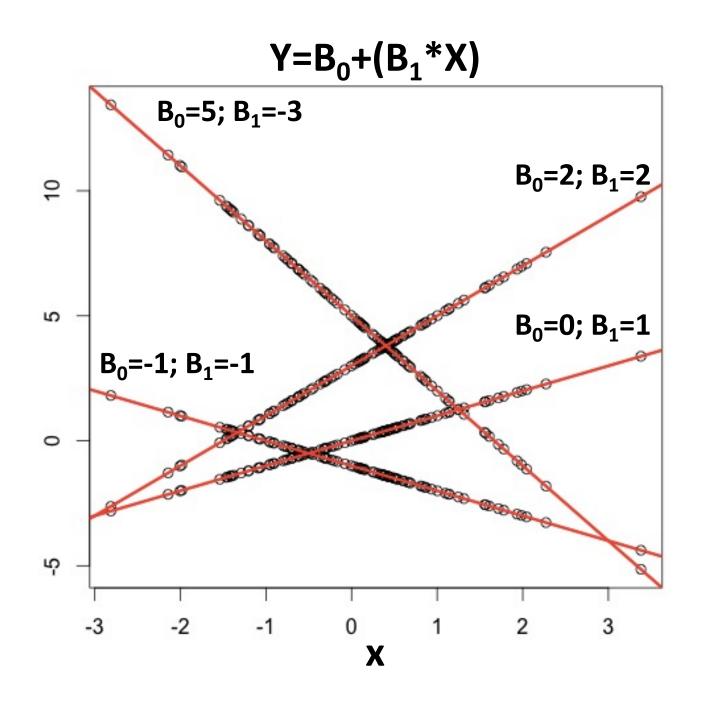
Y is is a line (w.r.t. X) plus "error"

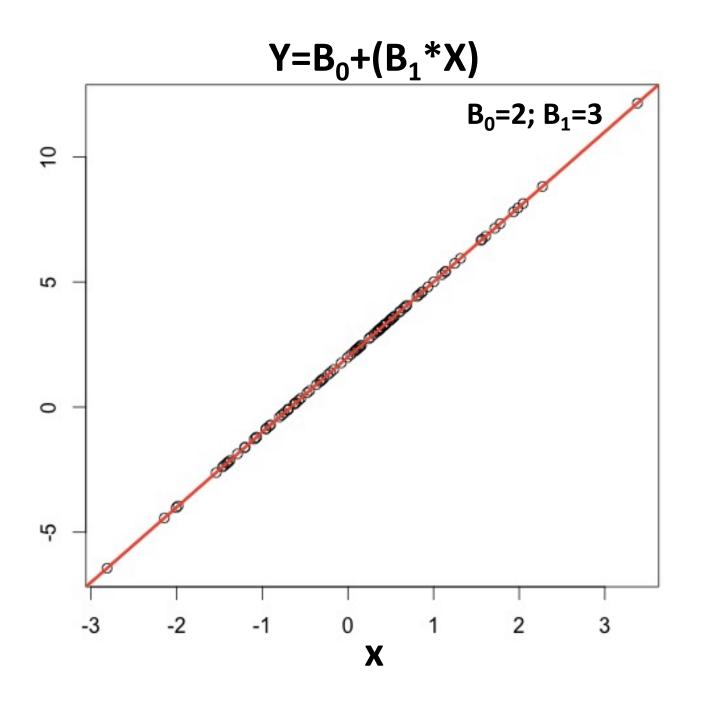


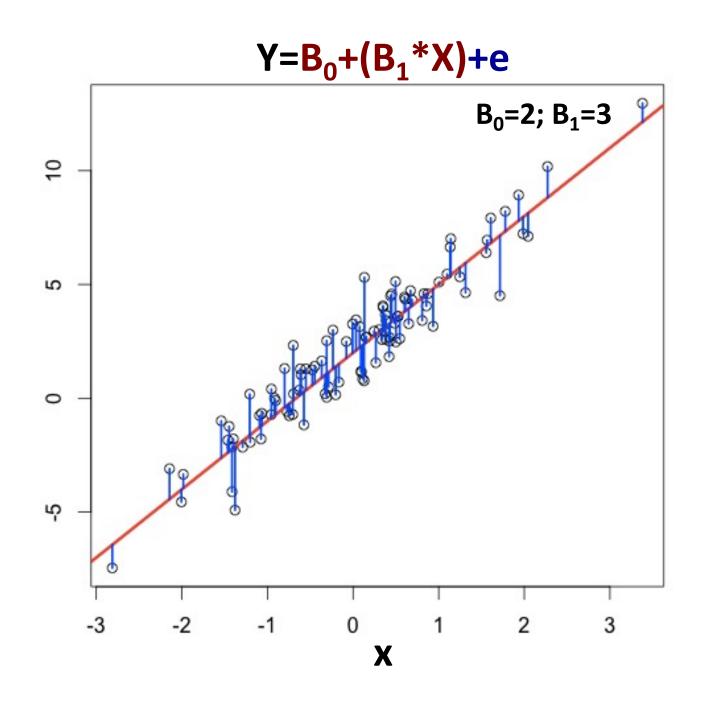
Error assumed to be independent, identically distributed, Gaussian noise.

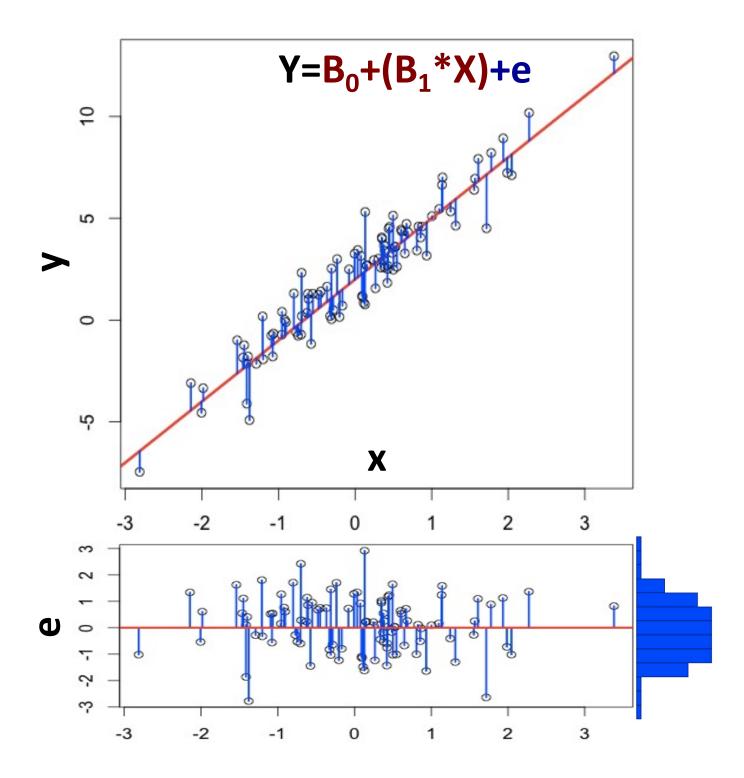
$$\varepsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma_{\varepsilon})$$

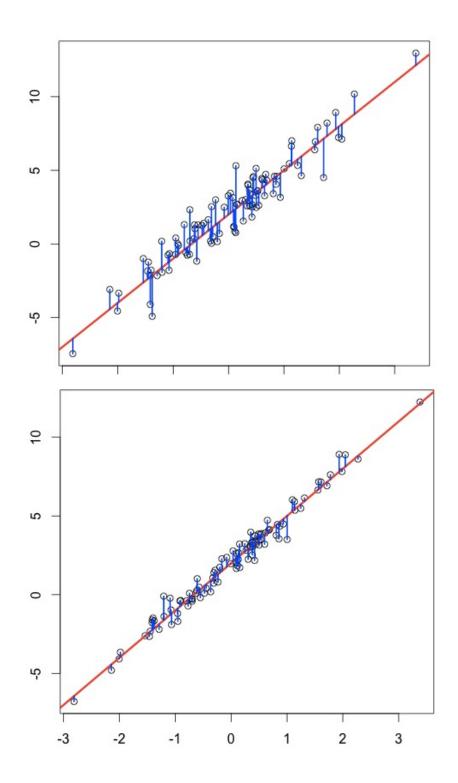


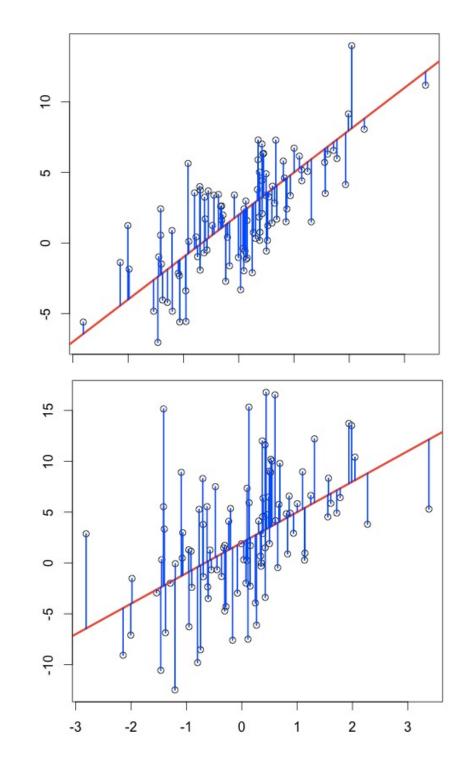


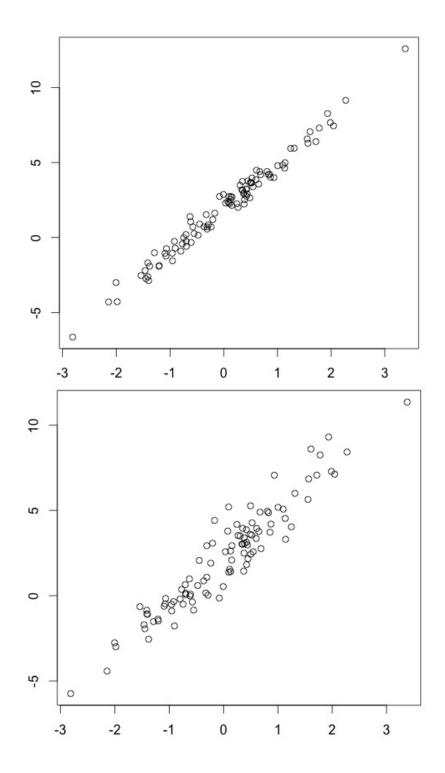


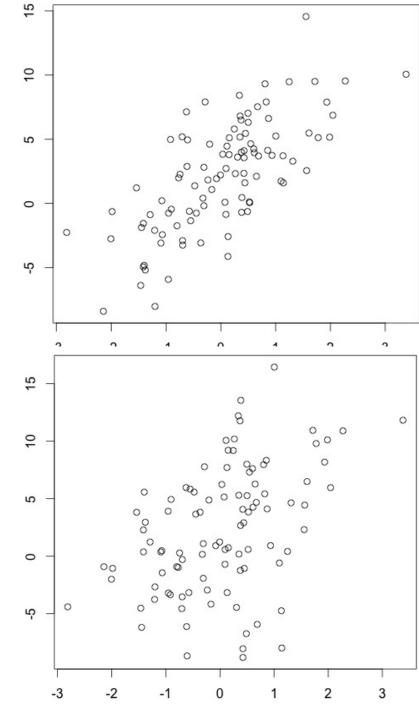






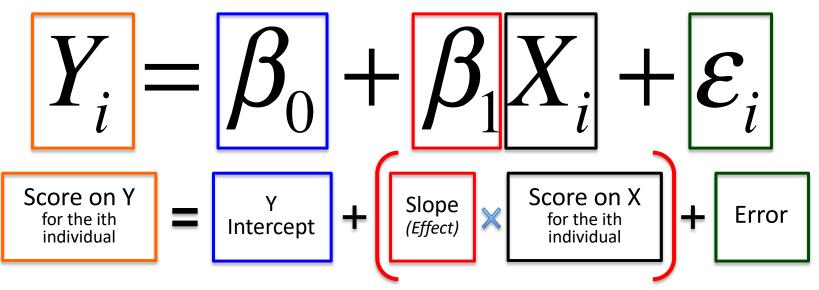






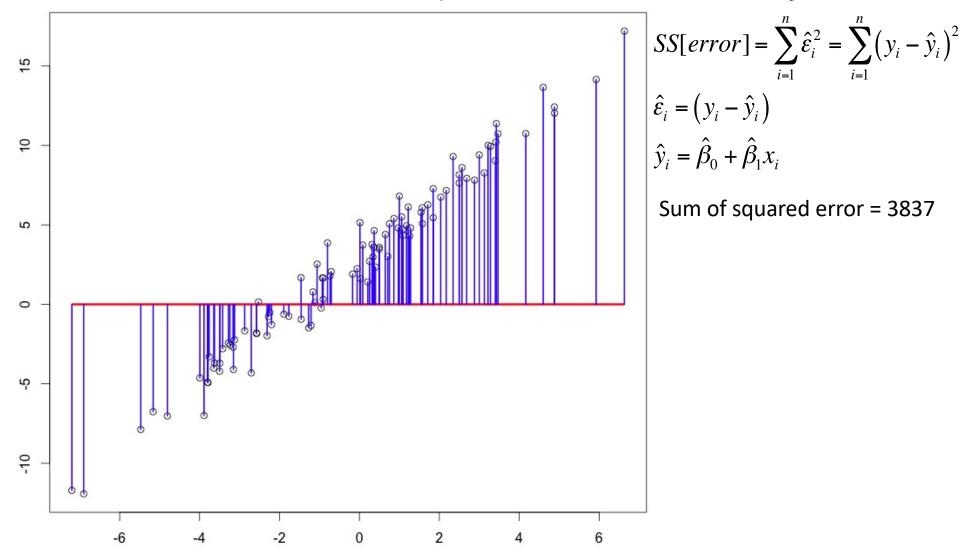
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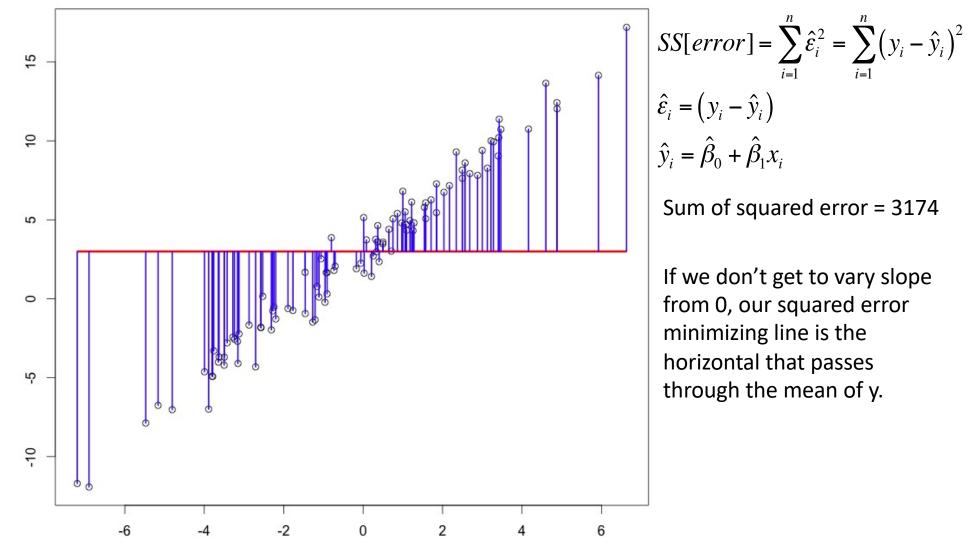
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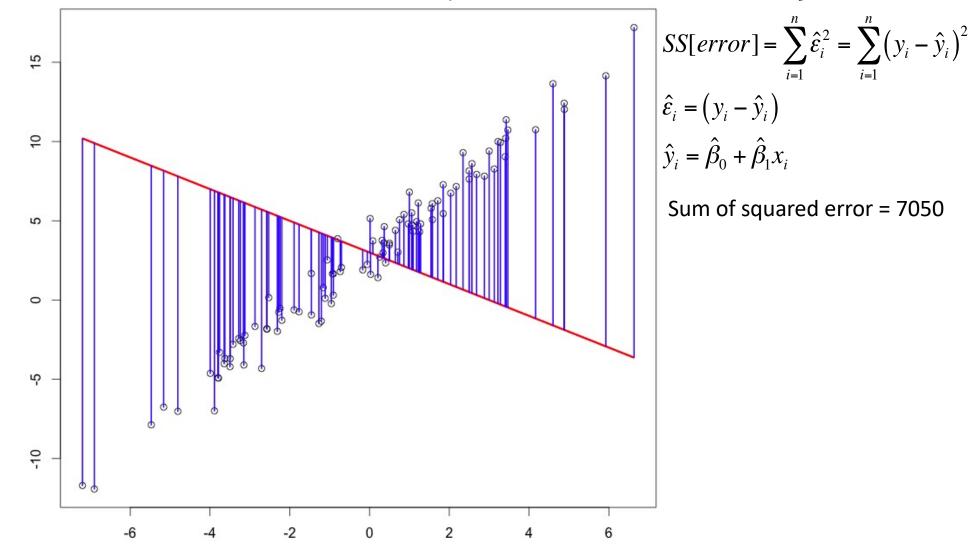


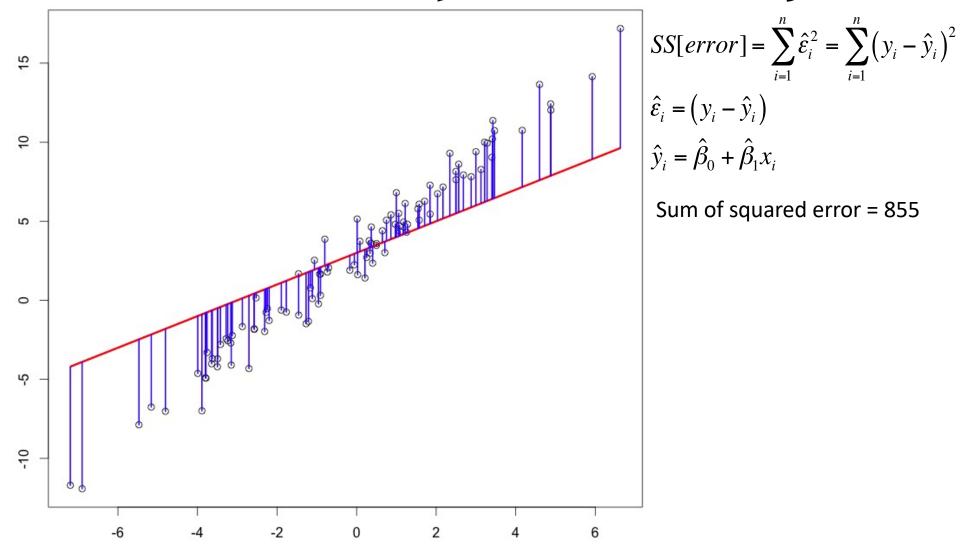
Inference goal is to estimate Bo, B1, error.

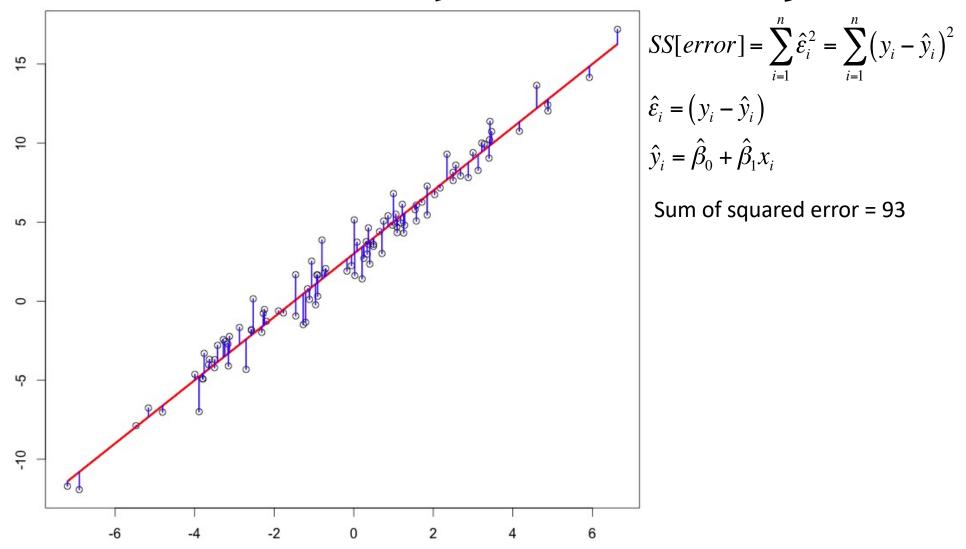
This is harder when there is more error.











Regression in R via lm()

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))

f = fsFather; s = fsSon

lm(data = fs, So	n~Father)
	Coefficients:
(Interce	pt) Father
33.	<mark>893 0.514</mark>

Formula syntax: response ~ explanatory variables

Regression in R via lm()

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f = fsFather; s = fsSon

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))

lm(data = fs, Son~Father) Coefficients: (Intercept) Father 33.893 0.514 75 70 Son 65 ggplot(fs, aes(x=Father, y=Son))+ 60 slope = 0.514,color="red", size=1.5)+ 60 65 70 75

Father

geom_point()+ geom_abline(intercept = 33.893, theme_minimal()

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lm(data = fs, Son~Father) Coefficients: Father (Intercept) 33.893 0.514 75 70 Son ggplot(fs, aes(x=Father, y=Son))+ geom_point()+ geom_smooth(method = "lm")+ theme_minimal() 60 60 65 70 75

Father

f = fsFather; s = fsSon

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))

f = fs\$Father; s = fs\$Son

<pre>summary(lm(data = fs, Son~Father))</pre>
Call: lm(formula = Son ~ Father, data = fs)
Residuals: Min 1Q Median 3Q Max -8.8910 -1.5361 -0.0092 1.6359 8.9894
Coefficients: Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(> t) (Intercept) 33.89280 1.83289 18.49 <2e-16 Father 0.51401 0.02706 19.00 <2e-16
Residual standard error: 2.438 on 1076 degrees of freedom Multiple R-squared: 0.2512, Adjusted R-squared: 0.2505 F-statistic: 360.9 on 1 and 1076 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

lm(data = fs, Son~Father))	
Analysis of Variance Table	
se: Son Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value Pr(>F)	
als 1076 6396.3 5.94	
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Where do all these numbers come from? What do they mean?

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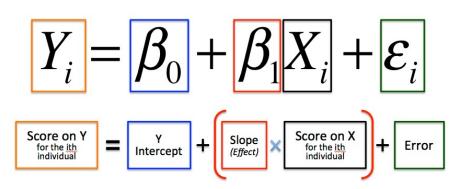
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anova(lm(da	a = fs, Son~Father))
Analysis of Variance Table	
Response: Sol) Of Sum Sq Mean Sq F value Pr(>F)
Father	
Residuals 10	6 6396.3 5.94

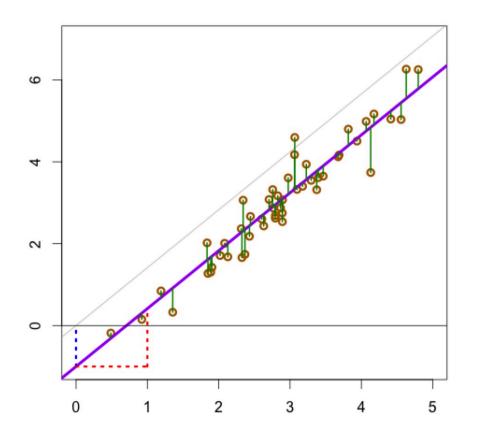
Where do all these numbers come from? What do they mean?

OLS regression: estimate of slope



Least squares estimates Line that minimizes sum of squared errors

This is the line that gives us E[Y|X]



$$\hat{\beta}_1 = r_{xy} \frac{S_y}{S_x}$$

There are equivalent formulae using covariance, etc.

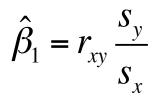
A few consequences of E[Y|X] (slope)

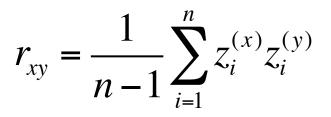
$$\hat{\beta}_1 = r_{xy} \frac{S_y}{S_x}$$

- Correlation is the slope of the z-scores.
- Regression to the mean.
- Asymmetry between y~x and x~y.

Correlation is the slope of z-scores.

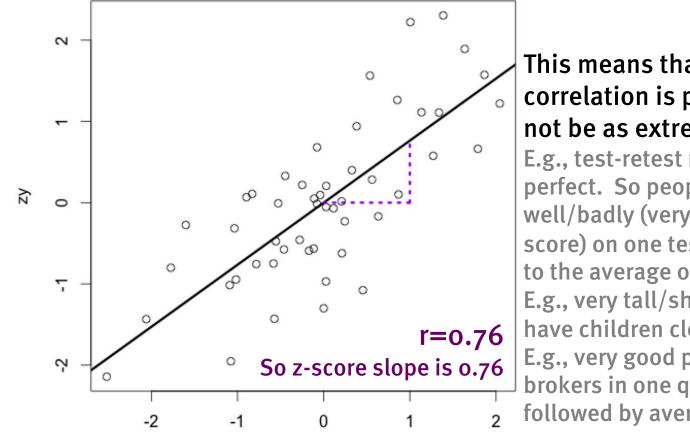
The correlation coefficient is the slope of the z-scores: how many standard deviations in y do you go up for every 1 s.d. increase in x?





Regression to the mean

The correlation coefficient is the slope of the z-scores...



This means that (unless the correlation is perfect) the y value will not be as extreme as the x value.

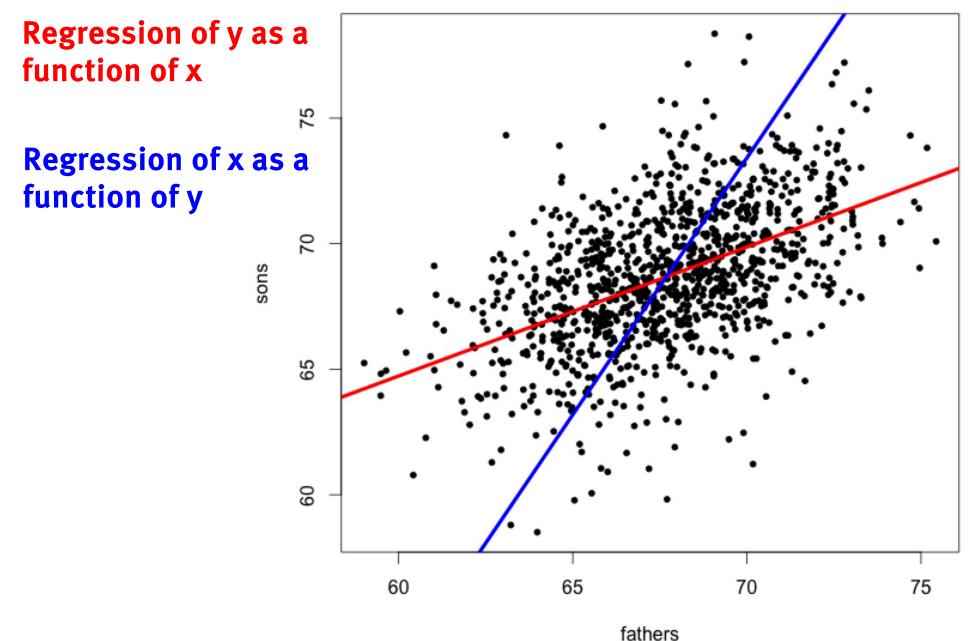
E.g., test-retest reliability is never perfect. So people who do really well/badly (very big positive/negative zscore) on one test, will tend to be closer to the average on the retest E.g., very tall/short parents will tend to have children closer to average. E.g., very good performance by stock brokers in one quarter is likely to be followed by average performance.

$Y \sim bo+b1(X)+e \neq X \sim bo+b1(Y)+e$

Regression of Y as fx. of X gives different line than X as fx. of Y. Why?

$\hat{y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i$ $(\hat{y}_i - \hat{\beta}_0) / \hat{\beta}_1 = x$	b0=33.89 b1=0.514 a = 1/b1 b = b0/b1 a [1] 1.94 b [1] 65.93	Co (I	<pre>mmary(lm(sons~fathers)) efficients:</pre>
$a = 1 / \hat{\beta}_1$ $b = -\hat{\beta}_0 / \hat{\beta}_1$ $\hat{x} = a \cdot y + b$	So, since son.height ~ fath we might expect father.height ~ s And we would be	on.height*2	e + 66
	<pre>summary(lm(fathers+ Coefficients:</pre>	ce 15	very different from what we get by using the same line and just algebraically shuffling to get x~y Why?

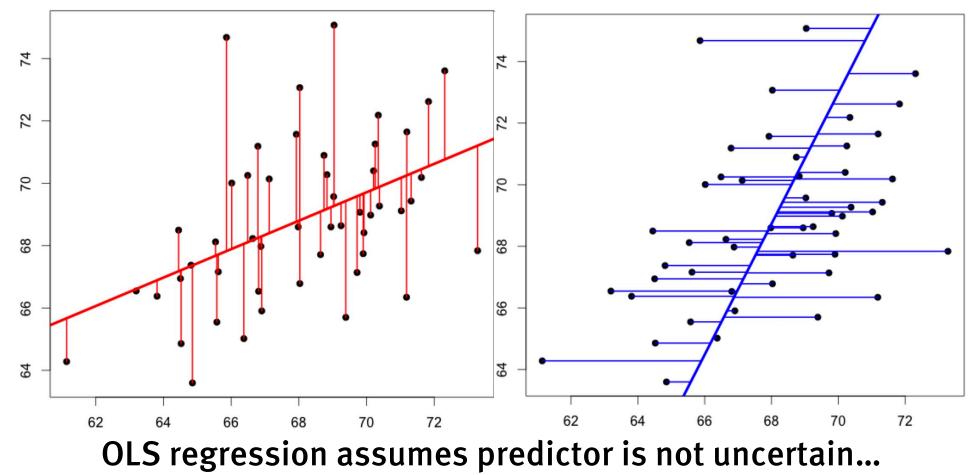
Y~bo+b1(X)+e ≠ X~bo+b1(Y)+e



$Y \sim bo+b1(X)+e \neq X \sim bo+b1(Y)+e$

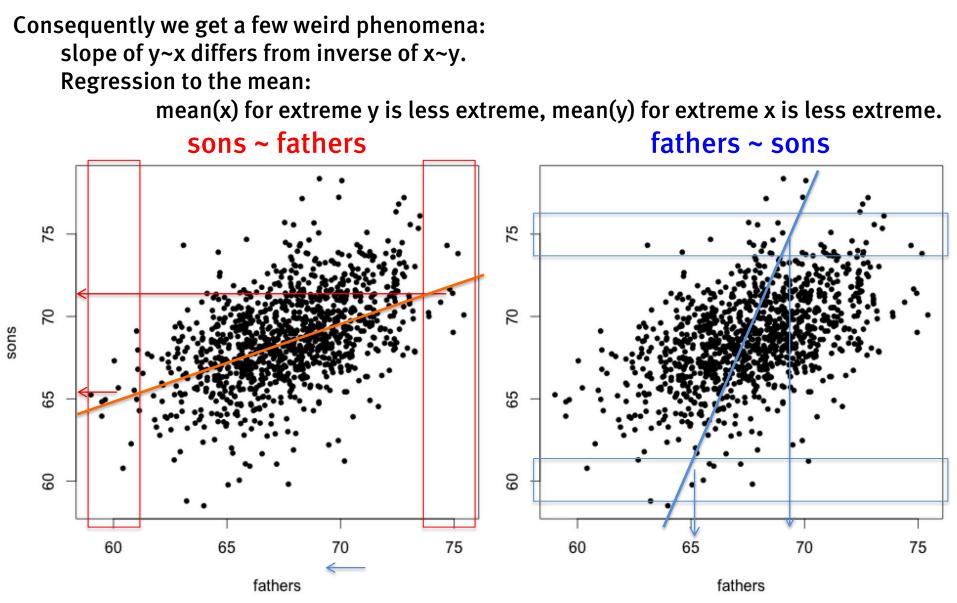
Why is regression of Y as fx. of X different than X as fx. of Y?

Regression of y as a function of Regression of x as a function of x minimizes squared errors in y y minimizes squared errors in x

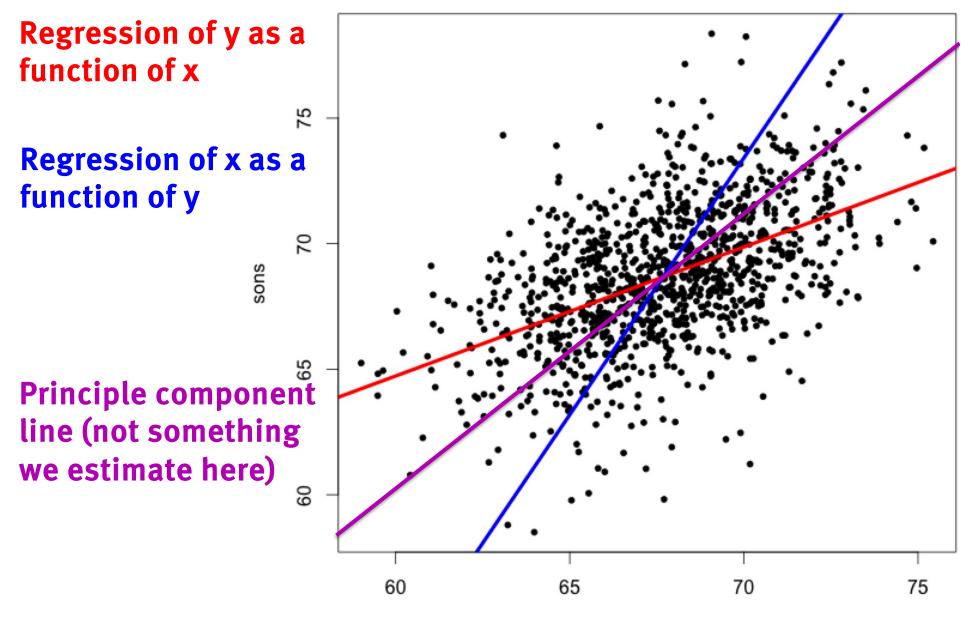


Regression: conditional means

Regression estimates conditional means. E.g., y~x estimates mean(y | x)



Y~bo+b1(X)+e ≠ X~bo+b1(Y)+e



fathers

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))

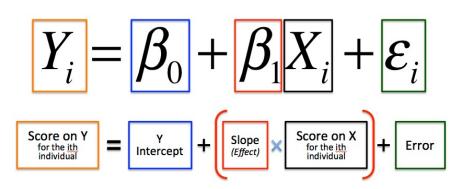
f = fs\$Father; s = fs\$Son

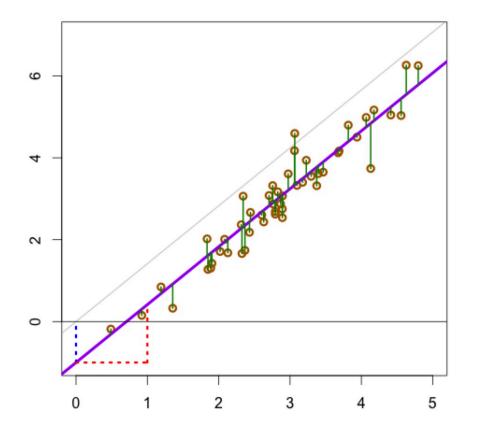
	1
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Analysis of Variance Tab	le

Analysis of Variance Table Response: Son Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value Pr(>F) Father 1 2145.4 2145.35 360.9 < 2.2e-16 Residuals 1076 6396.3 5.94

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OLS regression: estimate of intercept





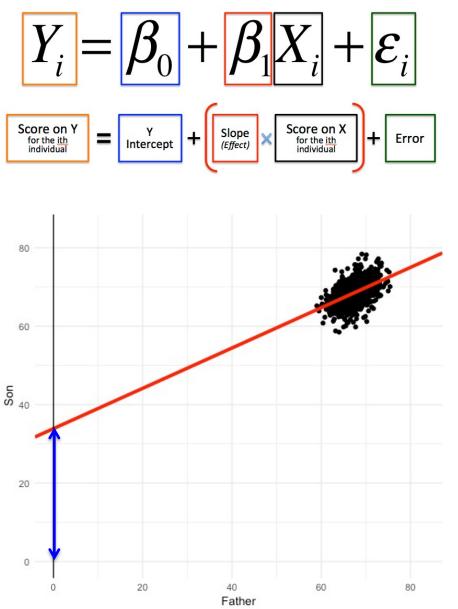
Least squares estimates Line that minimizes sum of squared errors

This is the line that gives us E[Y|X]

$$\hat{\beta}_0 = \overline{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \overline{x}$$

This comes from the constraint that the line must go through [mean(x), mean(y)].

OLS regression: estimate of intercept



Least squares estimates Line that minimizes sum of squared errors

This is the line that gives us E[Y|X]

$$\hat{\beta}_0 = \overline{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \overline{x}$$

Interpretation of intercept is rather challenging. It is the predicted y value at x=0. e.g., the height of a son whose father is o inches tall.

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))

f = fs\$Father; s = fs\$Son

Pr(>F)

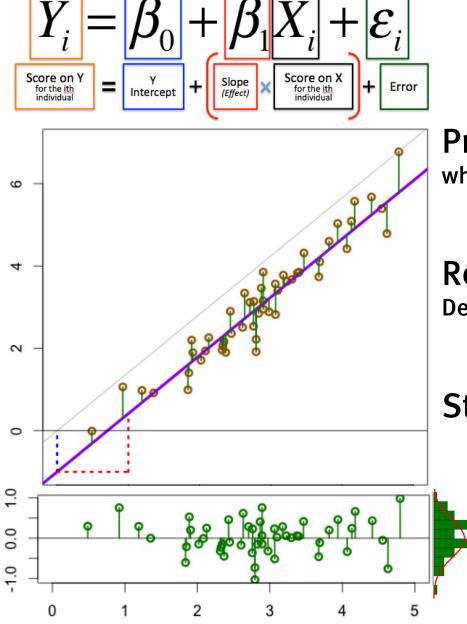
<pre>summary(lm(data = fs, Son~Father))</pre>	
Call: lm(formula = Son ~ Father, data = fs)	
Residuals: Min 1Q Median 3Q Max -8.8910 -1.5361 -0.0092 1.6359 8.9894	
Coefficients:	
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(> t)(Intercept) 33.892801.8328918.49<2e-16Father0.514010.0270619.00<2e-16	
Residual standard error: 2.438 on 1076 degrees of Multiple R-squared: 0.2512, Adjusted R-squar F-statistic: 360.9 on 1 and 1076 DF, p-value: <	red: 0.2505
	anova(lm(data = fs, Son~Father))
	Analysis of Variance Table
	Response: Son Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value Father 1 2145.4 2145.35 360.9 <

Where do all these numbers come from? What do they mean?

Residuals 1076 6396.3

5.94

OLS regression: estimate of residuals



Least squares estimates

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = r_{xy} \frac{s_y}{s_x} \qquad \hat{\beta}_0 = \overline{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \overline{x}$$

Predicted y values where the estimated line passes at each x value

$$\hat{y}_i = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i$$

Residuals (estimated error) Deviation of real y value from line prediction

$$\hat{\varepsilon}_i = (y_i - \hat{y}_i)$$

Standard deviation of residuals

$$\hat{\sigma}_{\varepsilon} = s_r = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}$$

The sum of squared errors: SS[e] df=n-2, we fit two parameters (Bo,B1)

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))

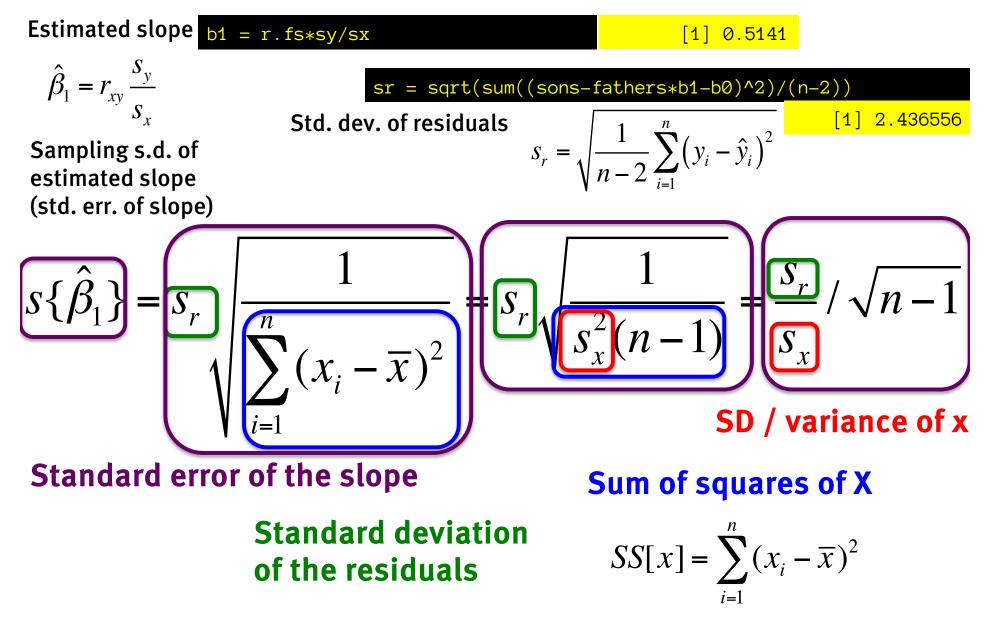
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Call: lm(formula = Son ~ Father, data = fs)	
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	anova(lm(data = fs, Son~Father))
	Analysis of Variance Table

Analysis	JI Vai	Tance	labie		
Response:	Son				
	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F value	Pr(>F)
Father	1	2145.4	2145.35	360.9	< 2.2e-16
Residuals	1076	6396.3	5.94		

Where do all these numbers come from? What do they mean?

Standard Error of the Slope

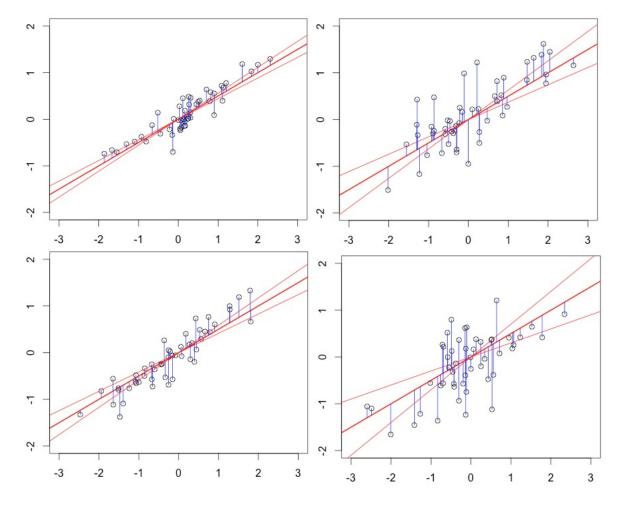


What makes our slope estimate better?

$$s\{\hat{\beta}_1\} = \frac{S_r}{S_x} / \sqrt{n-1}$$

Standard error of the slope is lower (and so slope estimate is better) when:

 Error around the line is smaller (lower sd of residuals)

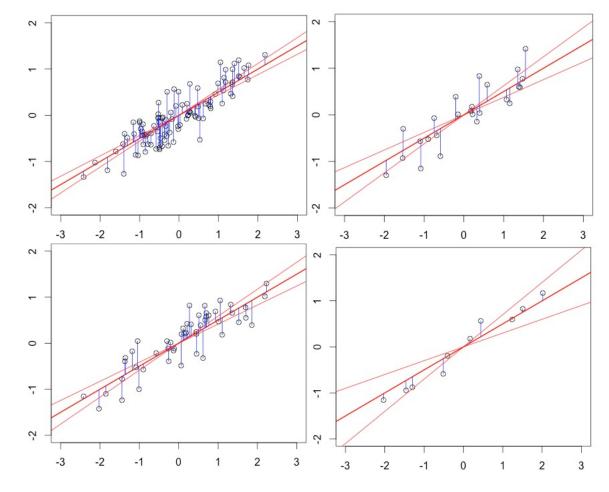


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Standard error of the slope is lower (and so slope estimate is better) when:

- Error around the line is smaller (lower sd of residuals)
- We have more data.

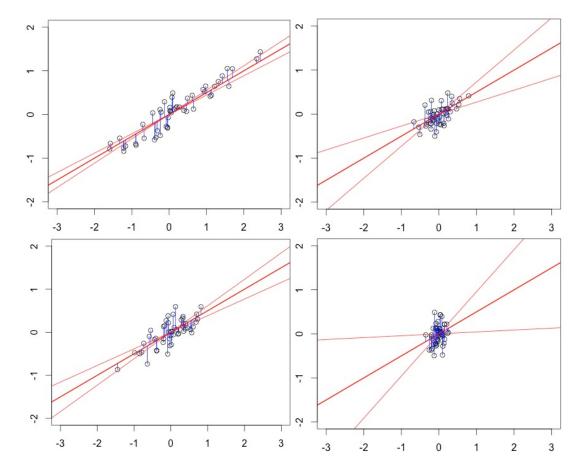


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Standard error of the slope is lower (and so slope estimate is better) when:

- Error around the line is smaller (lower sd of residuals)
- We have more data.
- X is more spread out (higher sd of x)



Why? SD of x determines the range of x, and the amount of variation in y due to variation in x. Thus, signal (var y due to x) to noise (var y due to error) ratio goes up.

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))

f = fs\$Father; s = fs\$Son

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Call: lm(formula = Son ~ Father, data = fs)	
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anova $(lm(data = fs, Southast))$	n~Fat

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Analysis of Variance Table
Response: Son
Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value Pr(>F) Father 1 2145.4 2145.35 360.9 < 2.2e-16
Residuals 1076 6396.3 5.94

Where do all these numbers come from? What do they mean?

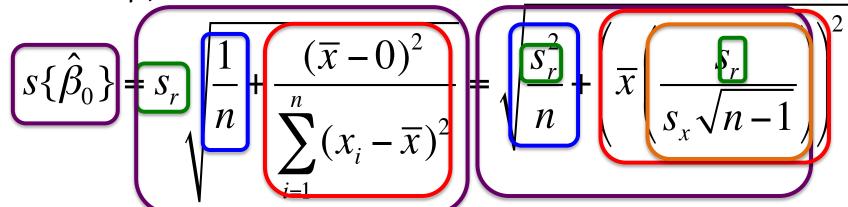
Standard error of the intercept

Estimated intercept

$$\hat{\beta}_0 = \overline{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \overline{x}$$

This comes from the constraint that the line must go through [mean(x), mean(y)].

Sampling s.d. of estimated intercept (std. err. of intercept)



Standard error of the Standard deviation of the residuals Error in estimating the mean of Error from extrapolating slope to x dec The familiar std. error of the slope!

Standard error of the intercept

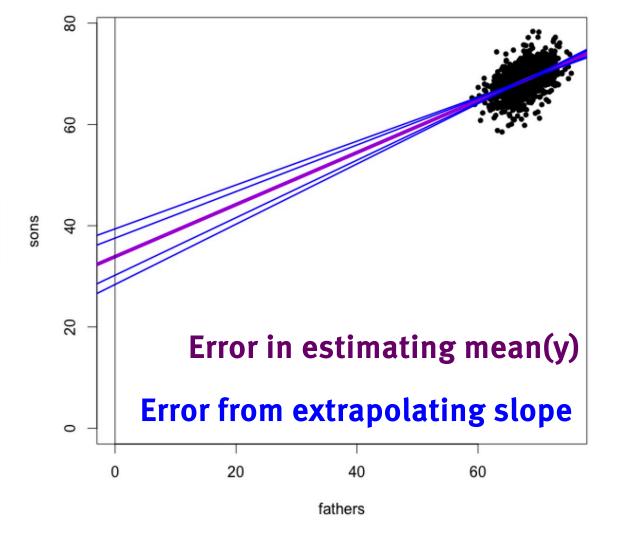
Estimated intercept

 $\hat{\beta}_0 = \overline{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \overline{x}$

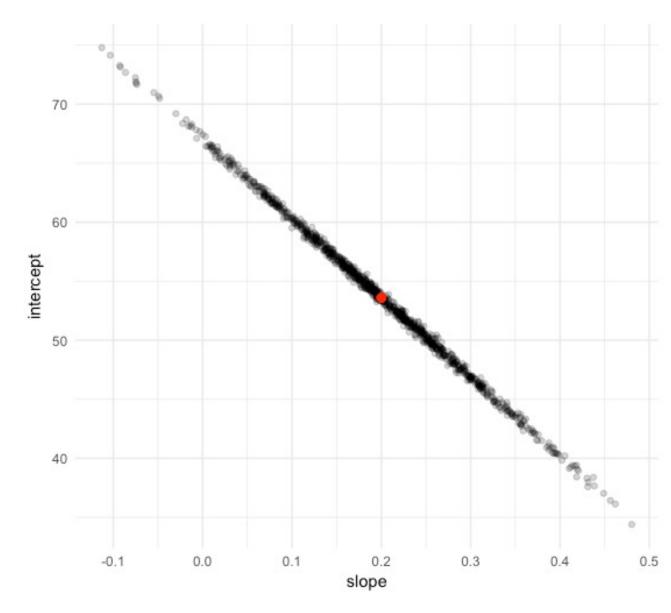
This comes from the constraint that the line must go through [mean(x), mean(y)]. So we have to extrapolate line to x=o to find intercept.

Sampling s.d. of estimated intercept (std. err. of intercept)

$$s\{\hat{\beta}_0\} = \sqrt{\frac{s_r^2}{n} + \left(\overline{x}\left(\frac{s_r}{s_x\sqrt{n-1}}\right)\right)^2}$$



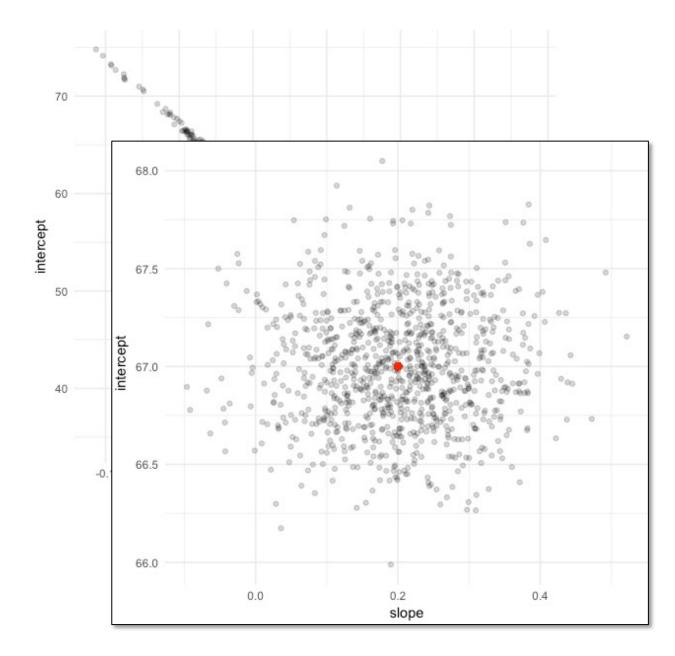
Correlation of estimation errors.



Error from extrapolating slope means:

Errors of slope and intercept will be very correlated (if we get the slope wrong, we will get the intercept wrong). How bad this correlation is depends on how far we have to extrapolate: Mean(x)-o The sign of this correlation depends on sign of mean(x).

Marginal std. error of intercept



Standard error of intercept is the *marginal* standard errors. So this very large correlation will look like a very large error in estimating intercept.

Centering x is generally a very good idea: x' = x-mean(x) Im(y~x')

Gets rid of huge errors in intercept, and also makes intercept interpretable as mean(y) at mean(x) (rather than mean(y) at x=0)

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

fs = read.csv(url('http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/data/Pearson.csv'))

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anova($lm(data = fs, S)$	on^
Analysis of Variance Ta	ble

Analysis of Variance Table	
Response: Son	,
Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value Pr(>F)
Father 1 2145.4 2145.35 360.9 < 2.2e-1	6
Residuals 1076 6396.3 5.94	

Father)

Where do all these numbers come from? What do they mean?

Standard Errors of coefficients

Standard error of the slope *decreases* with:

Smaller s.d. of residuals Larger sample size Larger spread of x values

$$s\{\hat{\beta}_1\} = \frac{S_r}{S_x} / \sqrt{n-1}$$

Standard error of the intercept *decreases* with:

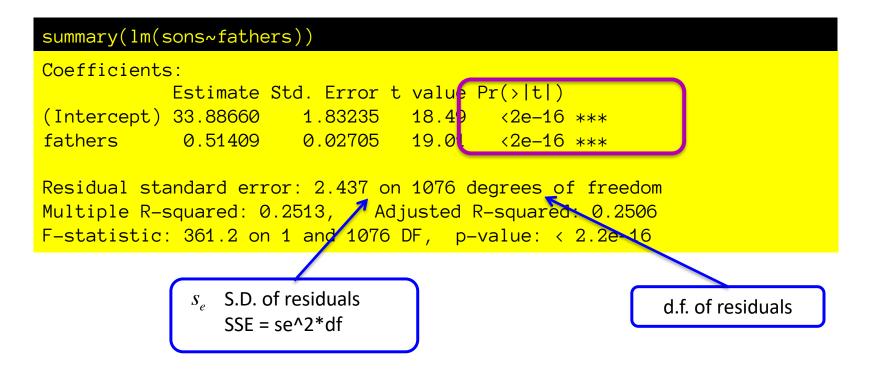
Smaller s.d. of residuals Larger sample size Smaller std. distance between o and mean(x)

$$s\{\hat{\beta}_0\} = s_r \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{\overline{x}^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \overline{x})^2}}$$

We do the usual t-test procedures to test null hypotheses and obtain confidence intervals

With df=n-2: degrees of freedom in estimating the s.d. of residuals.

$$t_{b1} = \frac{\hat{\beta}_1 - h0}{s\{\hat{\beta}_1\}} \qquad \hat{\beta}_1 \pm t_{\alpha/2}s\{\hat{\beta}_1\}$$



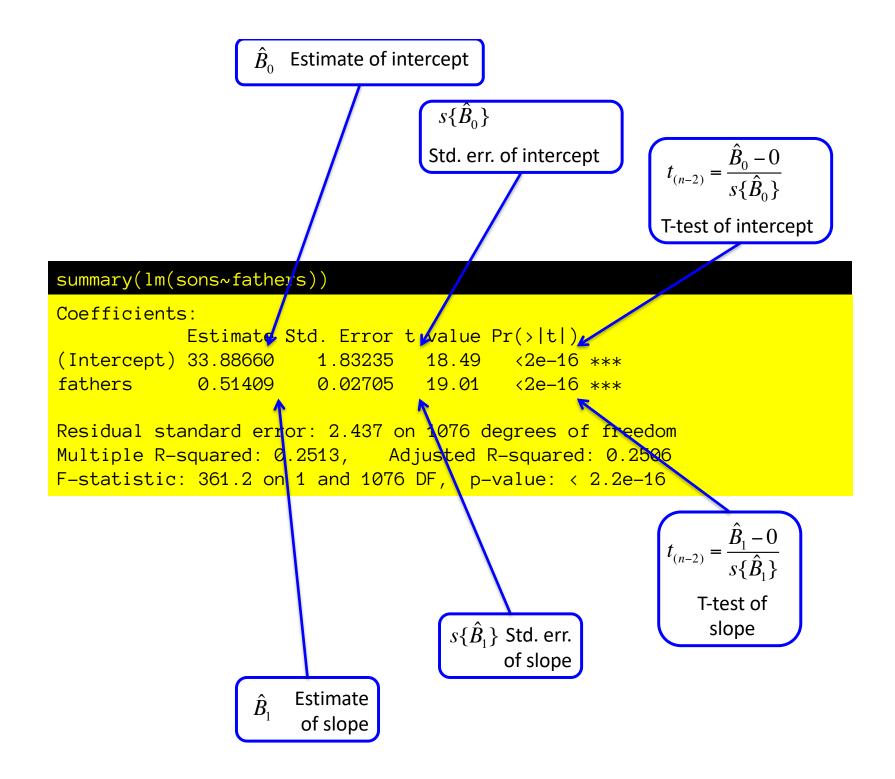
These t-statistics and p values are calculated just like all other t statistics:

t = (estimate - null.value)/se{estimate}

Default null.value=0

So t tests are asking if those parameter estimates differ from zero. df: df for estimating sample variance (residual std. deviation/error)

Can define confidence intervals the usual way as well: estimate +/- t.crit * se{estimate} e.g., 95% C.I. on slope: 0.514 +/- (~)2 * 0.027 => (0.46, 0.57)



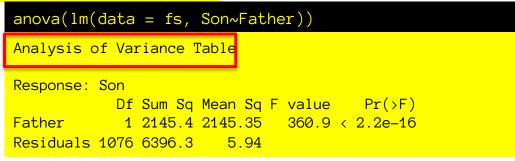
Regression in R

Karl Pearson's data on fathers' and (grown) sons' heights (England, c. 1900)

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f = fs\$Father; s = fs\$Son

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Where do all these numbers come from? What do they mean?

158.1928 157.0185 153.2481 156.1513 154.1769 155.1849 155.4694 155.9177 153.8620 158.7263 156.3841 156.9075 156.9597 155.8952 160.1060 159.2632 157.8709 156.5646 158.1436 154.6955 159.4184 159.5932 158.9586 156.9553 155.9073 156.1151 157.5840 155.2092 156.7197 156.1086 155.4311 154.4730 154.2109 157.4233 155.7556 157.1322 155.8327 156.0758

Variation and randomness

Measure weight 168 times



153.2481

153.8620

154.1769 154.2109 154.2850

154.9990 154.9997 155.0386 155.1849 155.2092 155.3161 155.4191 155.4311 155.4667

Variation and randomness

- ^{154,4140} ^{154,4730} • Measure weight 168 times
- Sort measurements:

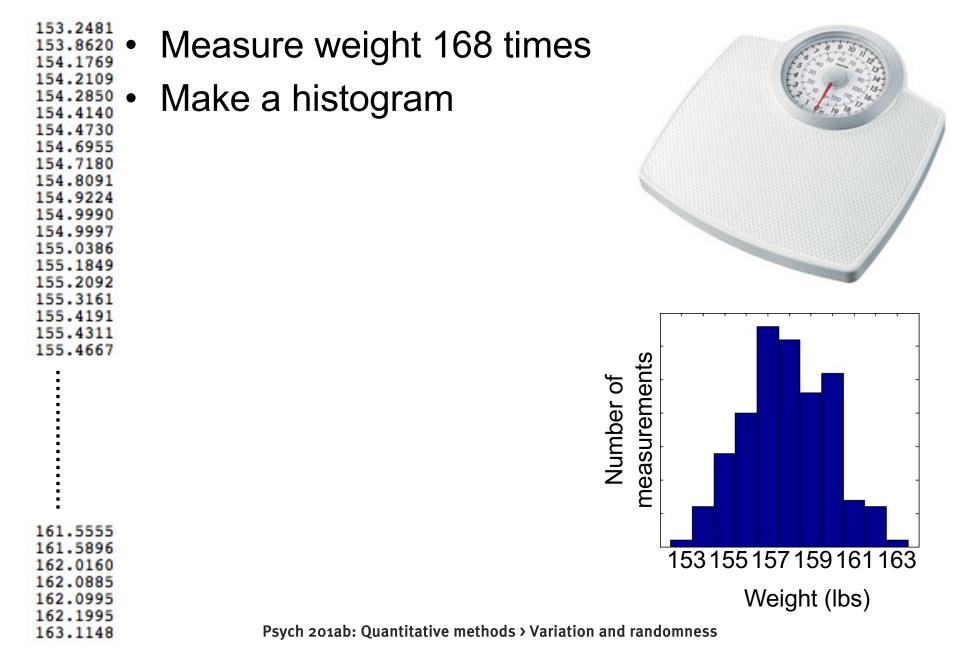


161.5555 161.5896 162.0160 162.0885 162.0995 162.1995

163.1148

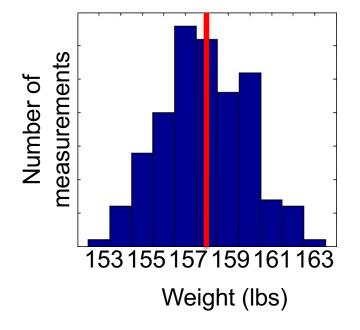
Psych 201ab: Quantitative methods > Variation and randomness

153.2481 153.8620 154.1769 154.2109 154.2850 154.4140 154.4730		Measure weight 168 times Bin the measurements				10111111111 1011111111111 101111111111
154.6955 154.7180 154.8091 154.9224 154.9990 154.9997 155.0386 155.1849 155.2092 155.3161 155.4191 155.4311 155.4667			156.0251 156.1086 156.1151 156.2832 156.3873 156.3873 156.5246 156.5246 156.5634 156.5634 156.5634 156.6763 156.6920 156.7093 156.7197 156.7197 156.7343 156.8443 156.8420 156.9169 156.9169	158.0551 158.0623 158.0717 158.1436 158.1813 158.1928 158.2152 158.2264 158.2264 158.3271 158.3519 158.3566 158.3953 158.4081 158.4175 158.4654 158.4779 158.4654 158.6562 158.6562 158.7267		
161.5555 161.5896 162.0160 162.0885 162.0995 162.1995 163.1148	153.2481 153.8620 152-154	154.1769 154.2109 154.2850 154.4140 154.4730 154.6955 154.7180 154.9990 154.9990 154.9990 154.9990 154.9990 155.0386 155.1849 155.401 155.4191 155.467 155.467 155.467 155.467 155.5786 155.5786 155.5786 155.6990 155.5786 155.8327 155.8327 155.8327 155.8327 155.9972 155.9972 155.9982	156.9831 157.0185 157.0185 157.0901 157.0917 157.1322 157.1376 157.2534 157.2818 157.2818 157.2818 157.4020 157.4057 157.4057 157.4354 157.5840 157.6622 157.6892 157.7325 157.7325 157.7927 157.8709 157.9139 157.9391 156–1588	158.7663 158.7801 158.7813 158.7813 158.7813 158.9586 159.0148 159.0149 159.0561 159.0499 159.0561 159.0601 159.2632 159.3555 159.3555 159.3555 159.593 159.593 159.593 159.593 159.593 159.593 159.593 159.593 159.593 159.593 159.669 159.7500 159.7500 159.7729 159.8272 159.8577 159.9878 159.816	160.0779 160.1060 160.1280 160.2301 160.3018 160.3463 160.3494 160.3592 160.4515 160.4515 160.6519 160.6519 160.6519 160.6519 161.1887 161.1887 161.3951 161.5555 161.5555 161.5555	162.0160 162.0885 162.0895 162.0995 163.1148 160-162



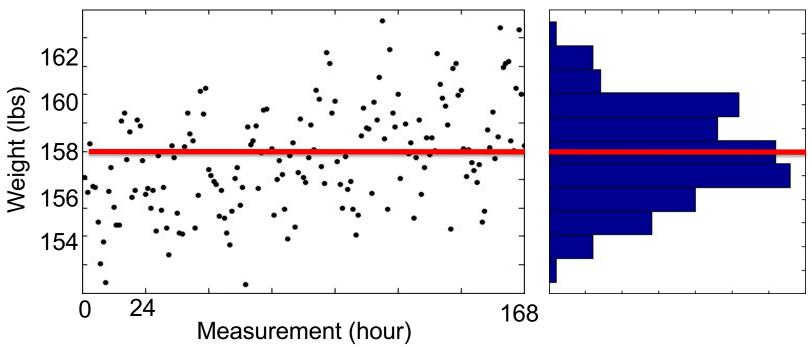
- Measure weight 168 times
- What is my weight?
- Different each time I measure it.
- Mean is 157.9
- Variation around the mean (157.9) is "random", as far as I know.



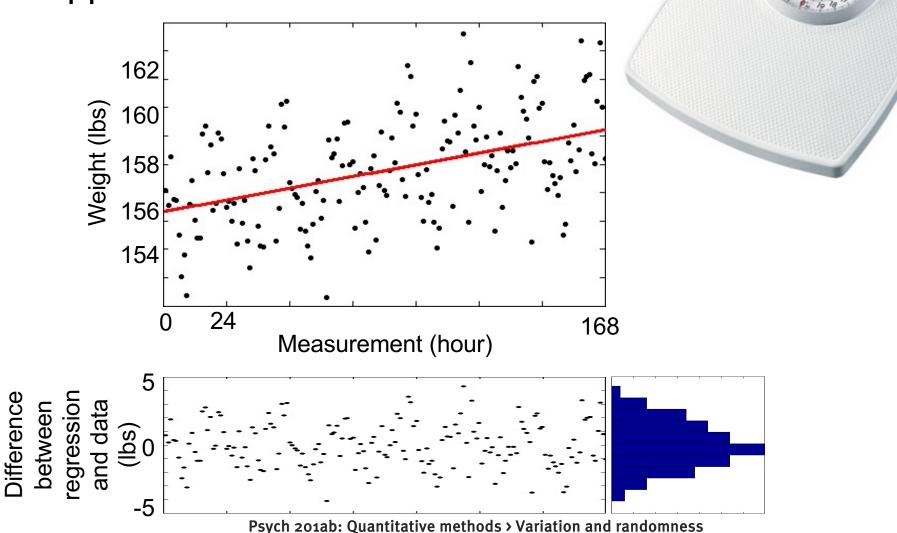


- Oh yeah:
- 168 measurements are hourly for 7 consecutive days

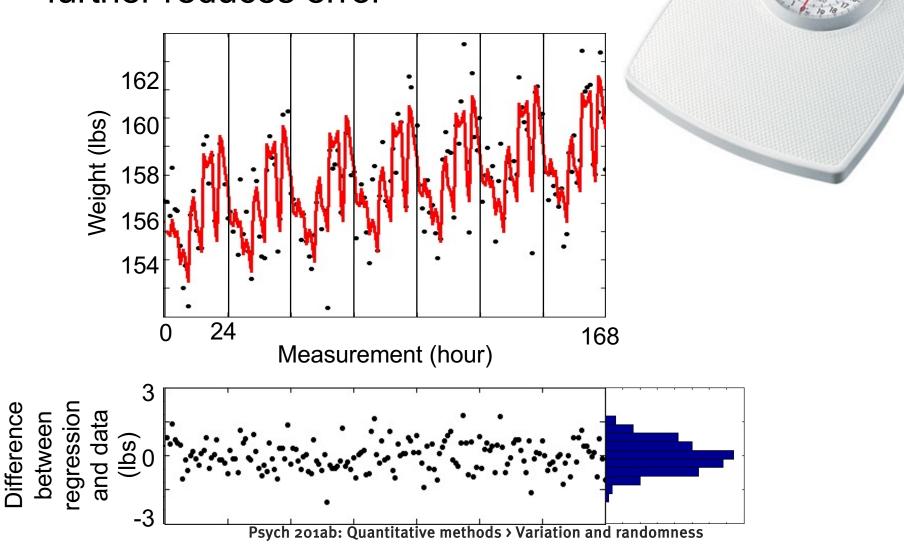




 Taking trend into account reduces the apparent randomness

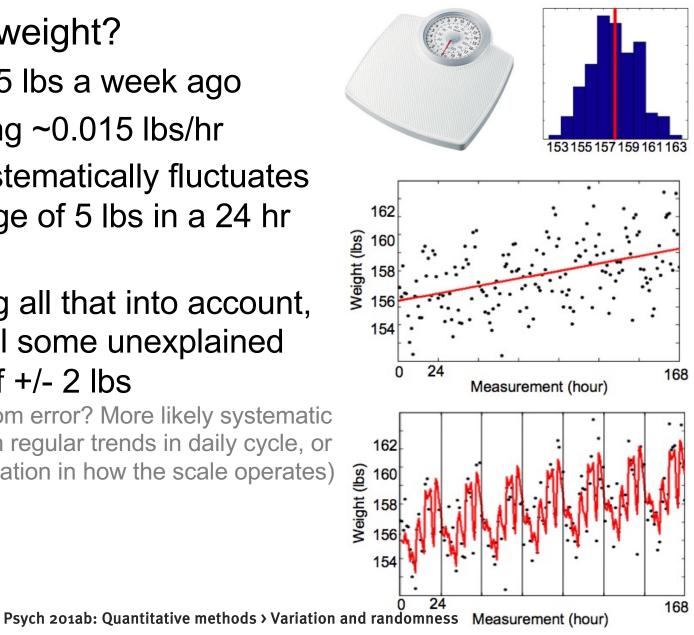


 Taking cyclical (hourly, daily) patterns further reduces error



- What is my weight?
 - It was ~155 lbs a week ago
 - I am gaining ~0.015 lbs/hr
 - Weight systematically fluctuates over a range of 5 lbs in a 24 hr cycle.
 - After taking all that into account, there is still some unexplained variation of +/- 2 lbs

(perhaps random error? More likely systematic deviations from regular trends in daily cycle, or systematic variation in how the scale operates)



- Unaccounted-for variation is considered "random"
- This can be called:
 - "noise"
 - "random error"
 - "sampling variability"
- Someone's "noise" may be another's "signal", depending on what you know about the data and what analytical tools you have at your disposal.

