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WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD

CHE384, From Data to Decisions: Measurement, Uncertainty, Analysis, and Modeling

## Lecture 41 Regression Review (what we've done so far)

Chris A. Mack  
Adjunct Associate Professor

<http://www.lithoguru.com/scientist/statistics/>

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## Assumptions in OLS Regression

1.  $\varepsilon$  is a random variable that does not depend on  $x$  (i.e., the model is perfect, it properly accounts for the role of  $x$  in predicting  $y$ )
2.  $E[\varepsilon_i] = 0$  (the population mean of the true residual is zero); this will always be true for a model with an intercept
3. All  $\varepsilon_i$  are independent of each other (uncorrelated for the population, but not for a sample)
4. All  $\varepsilon_i$  have the same probability density function (pdf), and thus the same variance (called homoscedasticity)
5.  $\varepsilon \sim N(0, \sigma_\varepsilon)$  (the residuals, and thus the  $y_i$ , are normally distributed)
6. The values of each  $x_i$  are known exactly

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## Why OLS?

- Ordinary least squares (OLS) provides the **best linear unbiased estimates** (BLUE) of the parameters *if* the assumptions of OLS are true (by the Gauss-Markov theorem)
  - “best” means lowest variance, and thus tightest confidence intervals around the parameters
- Other regression techniques (robust regression, generalized regression) are not as efficient (larger confidence intervals)

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## Overall Regression Process

1. Pick and run the regression method that best suits the problem
  - OLS
  - Weighted Regression
  - Total Regression
    - Geometric Mean, Effective Variance, Deming Regression, Total Regression (exact solution)
  - Generalized Linear Regression
  - Nonlinear Regression
2. Plot and study the residuals

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## 2. Study the Residuals

- A. Plot the residuals
  - **externally studentized residuals (esr)** versus regressors,  $\hat{y}$
- B. Look for outliers and influential data points
- C. Check for normality, homoscedasticity
- D. Check for model error
- E. Check for residual independence

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## 2B. Outliers and Influential Data

- Calculate the leverage, internally studentized residual (isr), externally studentized residual (esr), Cook's distance, and DFFITS for each data point, and/or DFBETA for each model coefficient
- Construct a Williams Graph of  $|esr|$
- Perform Grubbs' test on the esr of a potential outlier, if needed
- Decide what to do with influential outliers

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## 2C. Check for Normality

- Perform these tests *after* dealing with outliers, using the **externally studentized residuals (esr)**
- Plot esr histogram, is it unimodal?
- Compare the empirical CDF of the esr to the normal CDF using the normal probability (Q-Q) plot
  - For small data sets, use the Student's t instead of normal
  - If obviously non-normal, can you find a distribution that makes sense and matches the data?
- Perform skewness and kurtosis tests on the esr
- Check for heteroscedasticity (Bartlett or Brown-Forsythe test) using the esr and appropriate split of the data into two halves (e.g., sort by predicted  $y$ )

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## 2D. Check for Model Error

- Overall F-test
  - For one  $x$ -variable, just check that  $\beta_1 \neq 0$  with t-test
  - Large F (small p-value) means a significant model
- $\chi^2$  test – is there variability not explained by the model + measurement error?
  - Requires an independent estimate of  $y$ -measurement uncertainty
  - Large  $\chi^2$  (small p-value) means the model does not account for all variability that is not measurement error
- For multiple regression, check for correlated parameters
  - More on this later

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## 2E. Check for Residual Independence

- Lag plots
  - Determine the correlation coefficient from a lag-1 plot of the raw residuals
  - Durbin-Watson test: is the observed autocorrelation statistically significant?
- Create an ACF plot ( $r$  vs. lag  $k$ ) – is an AR(1) model appropriate?
- If needed, transform the data based on an AR(1) model before performing OLS regression, then transform the model back

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## Conclusions

- In the end, state your “confidence” in the regression results
  - What regression approach did you use and why? If OLS, can you justify its use?
  - Describe any concerns about regression assumptions that were not fully remediated
  - Always include confidence intervals or standard errors for the model parameters of interest
- Two uses/goals of modeling
  - Predictive ability
  - Interpretive ability

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