Simple Linear Regression – Categorical Predictors

Grinnell College

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$$\hat{y} = \hat{\beta_0} + X \times \hat{\beta_1}$$

- Describe how correlation and regression related
- Why regression?
- Be able to predict an outcome, given a predictor
- Interpret the slope and intercept (if applicable)
- Assess the quality of a fitted line









Consider how data is stored in our data frames in R

Name	Private
Adrian College	Private
Alabama A&M	Public
Alfred University	Private
Beloit College	Private
Binghamton University	Public

How might these be used in regression?

Name	Private	Nar	ne
Adrian College	Private	Adı	rian
Alabama A&M	Public	Ala	bam
Alfred University	Private	Alfı	red l
Beloit College	Private	Bel	oit (
Binghamton University	Public	Bin	ghai

Name	Public	Private
Adrian College	0	1
Alabama A&M	1	0
Alfred University	0	1
Beloit College	0	1
Binghamton University	1	0

Name	Public	Private
Adrian College	0	1
Alabama A&M	1	0
Alfred University	0	1
Beloit College	0	1
Binghamton University	1	0

$$\mathbb{1}_{Private} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if Private} \\ 0 & \text{if Public} \end{cases}$$
$$\mathbb{1}_{Public} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if Public} \\ 0 & \text{if Private} \end{cases}$$

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Indicator Variables

$$Avg Fac Sal = 71,836 \times \mathbb{1}_{Private} + 79,636 \times \mathbb{1}_{Public}$$



Name	Public	Private	Fac Sal
Adrian College	0	1	72873
Alabama A&M	1	0	63909
Alfred Uni	0	1	58410
Beloit College	0	1	63387
Binghamton Uni	1	0	88011
:	:	:	:
•	•	•	•

Private	Average Fac Salary
Private	71836
Public	79636

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By default, the first indicator will be absorbed into an intercept, making it the *reference variable*

```
1 > lm(Avg_Fac_Salary ~ Private, college)
2
3 Coefficients:
4 (Intercept) PrivatePublic
5 71836 7800
```

 $Avg \ Fac \ Sal = 71,836 + 7,800 \times \mathbb{1}_{Public}$

What are my indicator variables going to look like?

model	cty	drv
new beetle	21	f
gti	19	f
mustang	18	r
grand cherokee 4wd	11	4
sonata	21	f
civic	24	f
toyota tacoma 4wd	15	4

What are my indicator variables going to look like?

model	cty	drv	model	cty	drvf	drvr	drv4
new beetle	21	f	new beetle	21	1	0	0
gti	19	f	gti	19	1	0	0
mustang	18	r	mustang	18	0	1	0
grand cherokee	11	4	grand cherokee	11	0	0	1
sonata	21	f	sonata	21	1	0	0
civic	24	f	civic	24	1	0	0
toyota tacoma	15	4	toyota tacoma	15	0	0	1

```
1 > lm(cty ~ drv, mpg)
2
3 Coefficients:
4 (Intercept) drvf drvr
5 14.33 5.64 -0.25
```

- What is the reference variable
- Equation for line?
- Interpretation of intercept? Slope?
- What is the average city mileage for:
 - 4-wheel drive?
 - Front-wheel drive?
 - Rear-wheel drive?

1 > lm(cty ~ drv, mpg)
2
3 Coefficients:
4 (Intercept) drvf drvr
5 14.33 5.64 -0.25



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Often times where we have multiple predictors in linear regression model

Consider an example where we investigate odontoblasts measured in 60 guinea pigs, each receiving three doses of vitamin C a day (0.5, 1, 2mg/day) by one of two methods (orange juice (OJ) or ascorbic acid (VC))

We are interested in finding out two things:

- 1. Is more vitamin C associated with greater odontoblast growth?
- 2. Does the ROA of vitamin C influence odontoblast growth?

Building the model

```
1 > lm(len ~ supp + dose, ToothGrowth)
2
3 Coefficients:
4 (Intercept) suppVC dose
5 9.27 -3.70 9.76
```

- What is the formula for this regression line?
- What is my reference variable?
- How does ascorbic acid compare with orange juice?
- Is more vitamin C associated with greater tooth growth?

Model Interpretation



Model Interpretation

$$\widehat{\text{Tooth Growth}} = 9.27 + -3.70 \times \mathbb{1}_{VC} + 9.76 \times \text{Dose}$$



Model Interpretation

$$Tooth Growth = \begin{cases} 9.27 + 9.76 \times Dose & \text{if OJ} \\ 5.57 + 9.76 \times Dose & \text{if VC} \end{cases}$$



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- Categorical variables can be used in regression
- Indicator and reference variables
- Interpretation using only one categorical
- Interpretation using categorical and continuous