

# Class 19: Modeling I

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June 15, 2018



# General

# Announcements

- Complete Reading 14 in advance of class on Monday, June 18th
- Homework 4 and extra credit Homework 5 due by **11:59pm on Wednesday, June 20th**
  - Homework 4 must be submitted before you can turn in Homework 5

# Statistical errors and $p$ -hacking

# Issues with statistics in modern science

- Over-reliance of  $p$ -values when determining an experiment's worth

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# Issues with statistics in modern science

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- Data dredging/ $p$ -hacking
- Lack of transparency regarding statistical analysis
- Poor statistical practices among researchers
- Lack of reports about experiments that fail to reject the null hypothesis
- Ignoring or underemphasizing effect size

# Example: Which political party is better for the economy?

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# Example: Which political party is better for the economy?

- Start with a reasonable hypothesis: the economy is affected by whether or not Democrats or Republicans are in office
- Collect data about different measures of economic performance and when different politicians were in office
- Construct a basic model connecting the two
- **FiveThirtyEight Applet** (<http://53eig.ht/HackingScience>)

# **Line fitting, residuals, and correlation**

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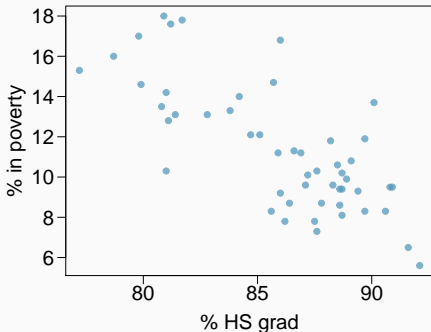
## Modeling numerical variables

In this unit we will learn to quantify the relationship between two numerical variables, as well as modeling numerical response variables using a numerical or categorical explanatory variable.



## Poverty vs. HS graduate rate

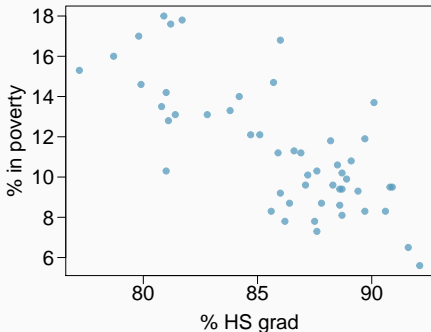
The *scatterplot* below shows the relationship between HS graduate rate in all 50 US states and DC and the % of residents who live below the poverty line (income below \$23,050 for a family of 4 in 2012).



Response variable?

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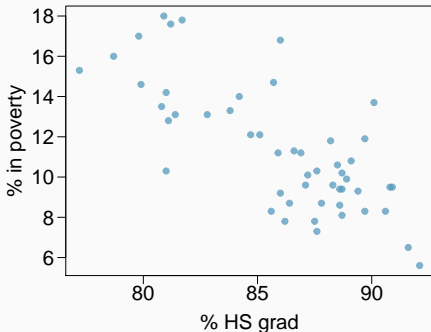


Response variable?

*% in poverty*

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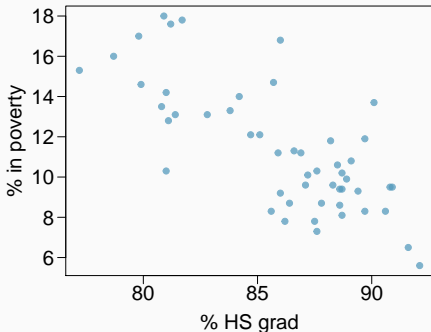
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Explanatory variable?

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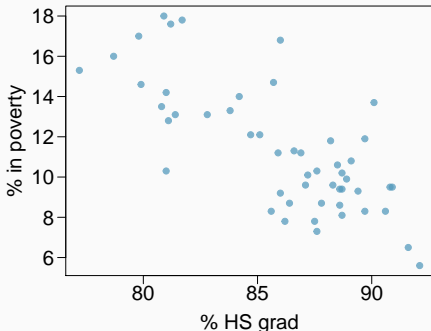
*% in poverty*

Explanatory variable?

*% HS grad*

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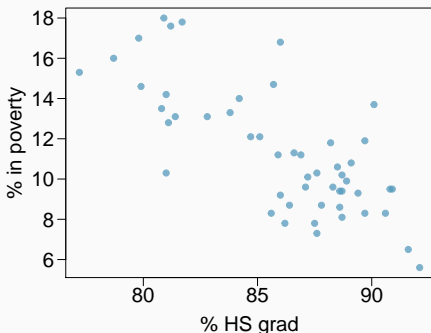
Explanatory variable?

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Relationship?

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Response variable?

*% in poverty*

Explanatory variable?

*% HS grad*

Relationship?

*linear, negative, moderately strong*

## Quantifying the relationship

- *Correlation* describes the strength of the *linear* association between two variables.

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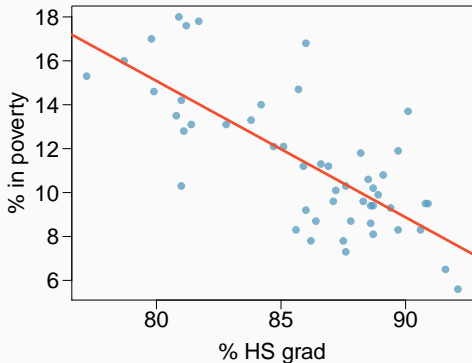
## Quantifying the relationship

- *Correlation* describes the strength of the *linear* association between two variables.
- It takes values between -1 (perfect negative) and +1 (perfect positive).
- A value of 0 indicates no linear association.

## Guessing the correlation

Which of the following is the best guess for the correlation between % in poverty and % HS grad?

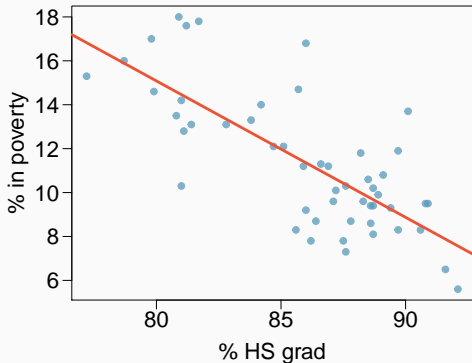
- (a) 0.6
- (b) -0.75
- (c) -0.1
- (d) 0.02
- (e) -1.5



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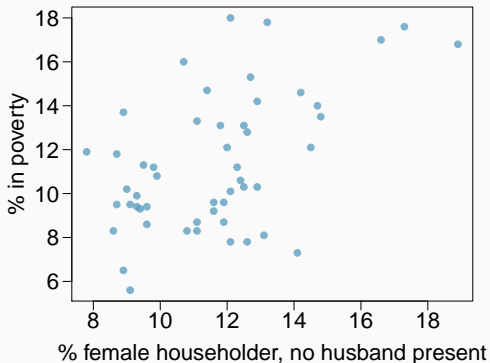
- (a) 0.6
- (b) **-0.75**
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## Guessing the correlation

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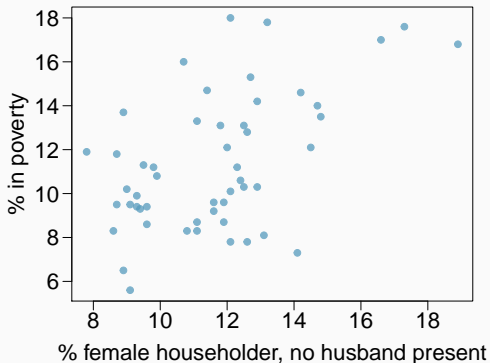
- (a) 0.1
- (b) -0.6
- (c) -0.4
- (d) 0.9
- (e) 0.5



## Guessing the correlation

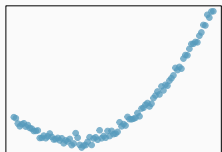
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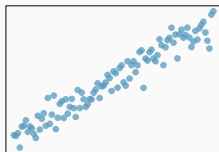


# Assessing the correlation

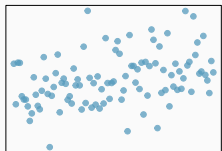
Which of the following is has the strongest correlation, i.e. correlation coefficient closest to +1 or -1?



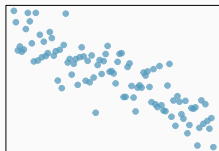
(a)



(b)



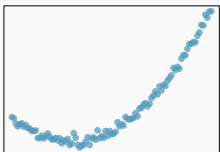
(c)



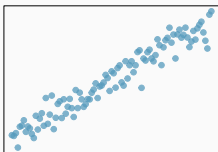
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# Assessing the correlation

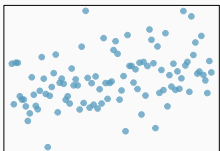
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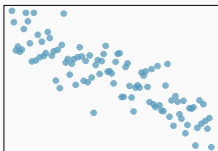
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

(b) →  
correlation  
means linear  
association

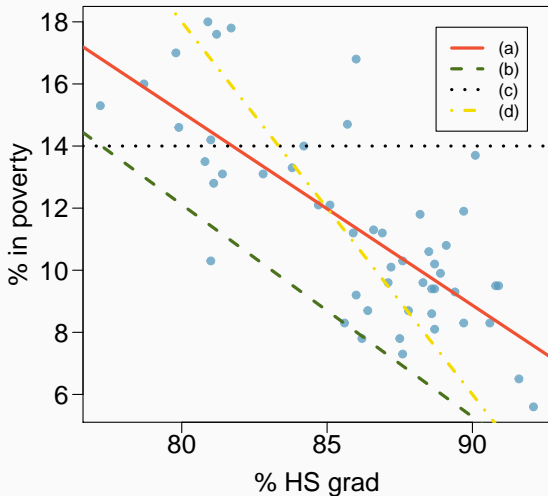
# **Fitting a line by least squares regression**

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# Eyeballing the line

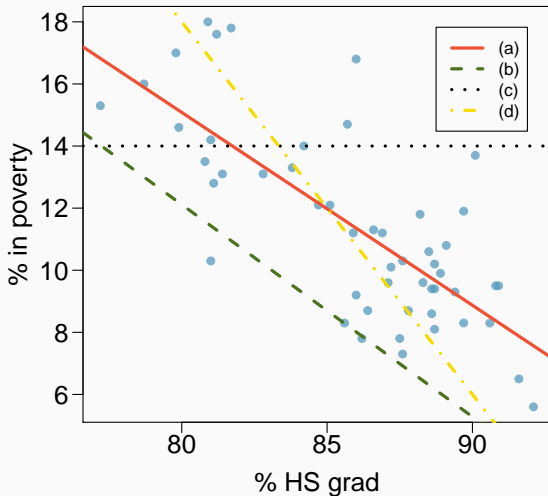
Which of the following appears to be the line that best fits the linear relationship between % in poverty and % HS grad? Choose one.



## Eyeballing the line

Which of the following appears to be the line that best fits the linear relationship between % in poverty and % HS grad? Choose one.

(a)



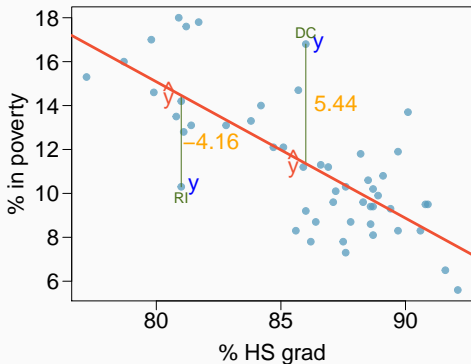


## Residuals (cont.)

### Residual

Residual is the difference between the observed ( $y_i$ ) and predicted  $\hat{y}_i$ .

$$e_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i$$

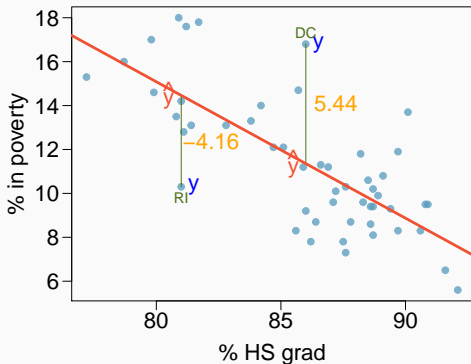


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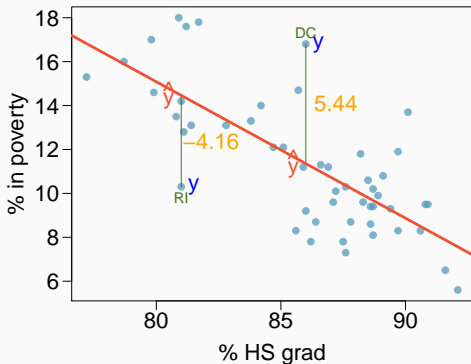
- % living in poverty in DC is 5.44% more than predicted.

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- % living in poverty in DC is 5.44% more than predicted.
- % living in poverty in RI is 4.16% less than predicted.

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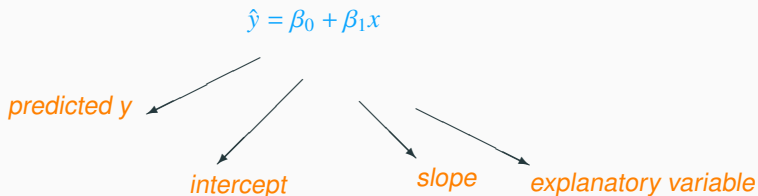
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- Why least squares?
  1. Most commonly used
  2. Easier to compute by hand and using software
  3. In many applications, a residual twice as large as another is usually more than twice as bad

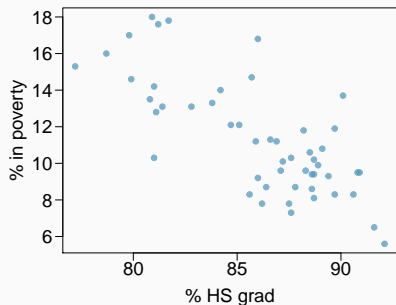
# The least squares line



## Notation:

- Intercept:
  - Parameter:  $\beta_0$
  - Point estimate:  $b_0$
- Slope:
  - Parameter:  $\beta_1$
  - Point estimate:  $b_1$

# Given...



	% HS grad ( $x$ )	% in poverty ( $y$ )
mean	$\bar{x} = 86.01$	$\bar{y} = 11.35$
sd	$s_x = 3.73$	$s_y = 3.1$
correlation		$R = -0.75$

# Slope

## Slope

The slope of the regression can be calculated as

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*In context...*

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*Interpretation*

For each additional % point in HS graduate rate, we would expect the % living in poverty to be lower on average by 0.62% points.

# Intercept

## Intercept

The intercept is where the regression line intersects the  $y$ -axis. The calculation of the intercept uses the fact the a regression line always passes through  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ .

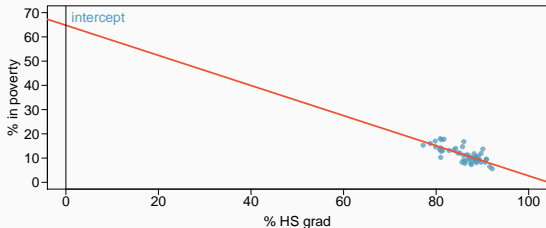
$$b_0 = \bar{y} - b_1\bar{x}$$

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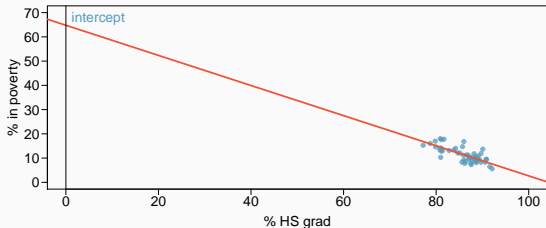


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$$\begin{aligned} b_0 &= 11.35 - (-0.62) \times 86.01 \\ &= 64.68 \end{aligned}$$

Which of the following is the correct interpretation of the intercept?

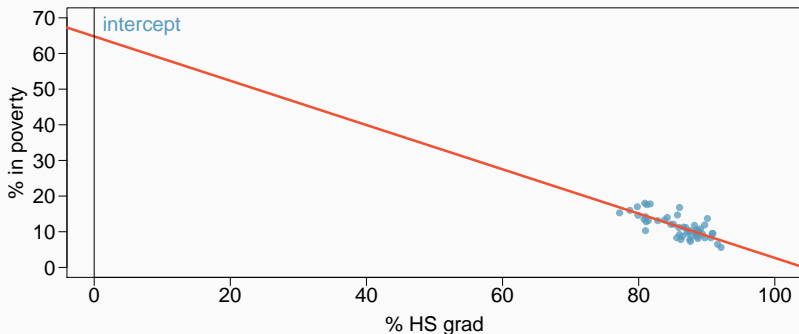
- (a) For each % point increase in HS graduate rate, % living in poverty is expected to increase on average by 64.68%.
- (b) For each % point decrease in HS graduate rate, % living in poverty is expected to increase on average by 64.68%.
- (c) Having no HS graduates leads to 64.68% of residents living below the poverty line.
- (d) States with no HS graduates are expected on average to have 64.68% of residents living below the poverty line.
- (e) In states with no HS graduates % living in poverty is expected to increase on average by 64.68%.

Which of the following is the correct interpretation of the intercept?

- (a) For each % point increase in HS graduate rate, % living in poverty is expected to increase on average by 64.68%.
- (b) For each % point decrease in HS graduate rate, % living in poverty is expected to increase on average by 64.68%.
- (c) Having no HS graduates leads to 64.68% of residents living below the poverty line.
- (d) *States with no HS graduates are expected on average to have 64.68% of residents living below the poverty line.*
- (e) In states with no HS graduates % living in poverty is expected to increase on average by 64.68%.

## More on the intercept

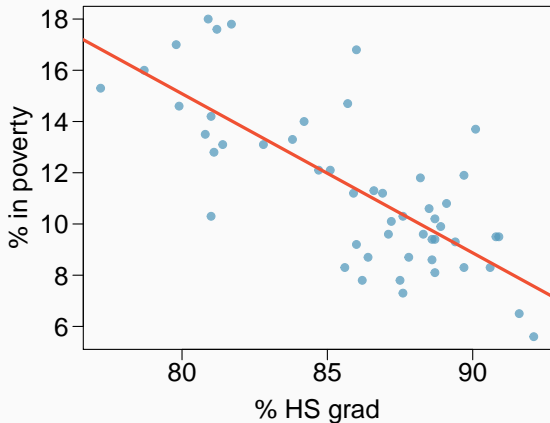
Since there are no states in the dataset with no HS graduates, the intercept is of no interest, not very useful, and also not reliable since the predicted value of the intercept is so far from the bulk of the data.





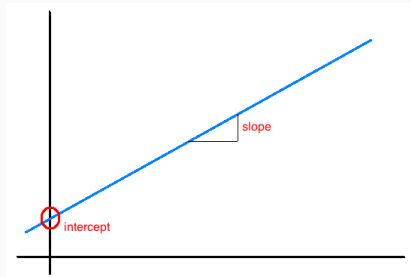
## Regression line

$$\widehat{\% \text{ in poverty}} = 64.68 - 0.62 \% \text{ HS grad}$$



# Interpretation of slope and intercept

- **Intercept:** When  $x = 0$ ,  $y$  is expected to equal the intercept.
- **Slope:** For each unit in  $x$ ,  $y$  is expected to increase / decrease on average by the slope.

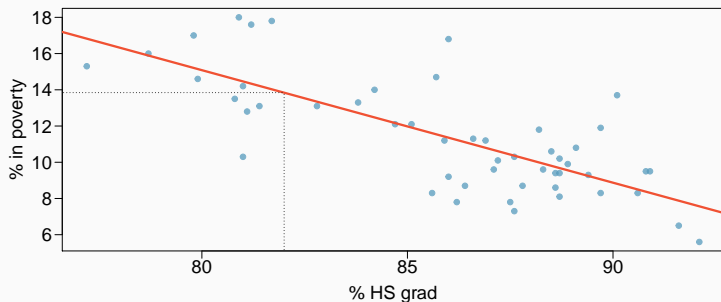


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**Note:** These statements are not causal, unless the study is a randomized controlled experiment.

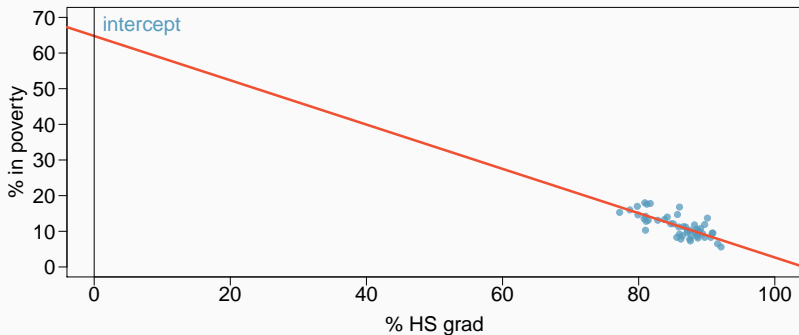
# Prediction

- Using the linear model to predict the value of the response variable for a given value of the explanatory variable is called *prediction*, simply by plugging in the value of  $x$  in the linear model equation.
- There will be some uncertainty associated with the predicted value.

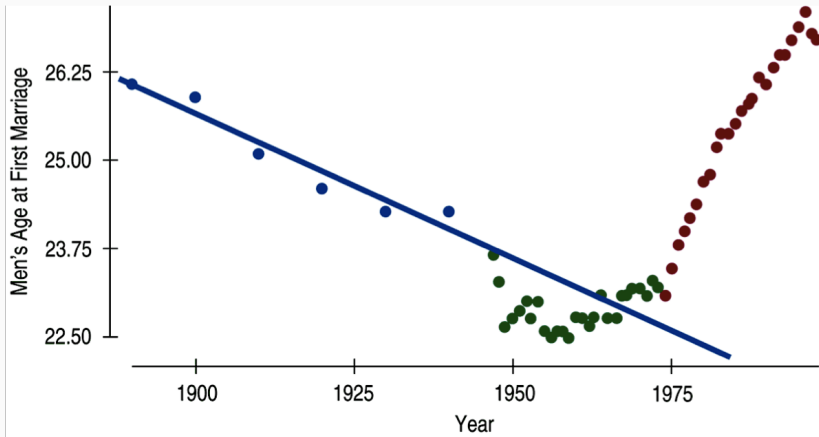


# Extrapolation

- Applying a model estimate to values outside of the realm of the original data is called *extrapolation*.
- Sometimes the intercept might be an extrapolation.



# Examples of extrapolation



# Examples of extrapolation

**BBC NEWS**

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Last Updated: Thursday, 30 September, 2004, 04:04 GMT 05:04 UK

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## Women 'may outspint men by 2156'

**Women sprinters may be outrunning men in the 2156 Olympics if they continue to close the gap at the rate they are doing, according to scientists.**



Women are set to become the dominant sprinters

**UK**

England  
Northern Ireland  
Scotland  
Wales  
UK Politics  
Education  
Magazine  
**Business**  
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**Also in the news**

An Oxford University study found that women are running faster than they have ever done over 100m.

At their current rate of improvement, they should overtake men within 150 years, said Dr Andrew Tatem.

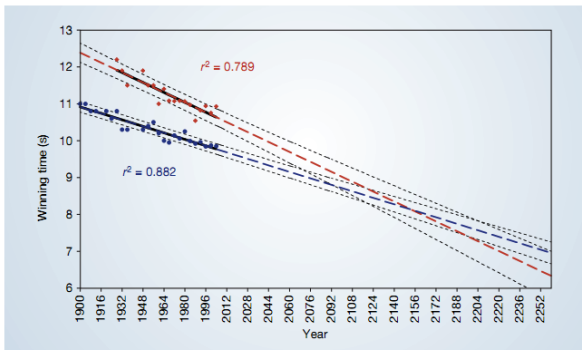
The study, comparing winning times for the Olympic 100m since 1900, is published in the journal Nature.

However, former British Olympic sprinter Derek Redmond told the BBC: "I find it difficult to believe.

"I can see the gap closing between men and women but I can't necessarily see it being overtaken because mens' times are also going to improve."

# Momentous sprint at the 2156 Olympics?

Women sprinters are closing the gap on men and may one day overtake them.



**Figure 1** The winning Olympic 100-metre sprint times for men (blue points) and women (red points), with superimposed best-fit linear regression lines (solid black lines) and coefficients of determination. The regression lines are extrapolated (broken blue and red lines for men and women, respectively) and 95% confidence intervals (dotted black lines) based on the available points are superimposed. The projections intersect just before the 2156 Olympics, when the winning women's 100-metre sprint time of 8.079 s will be faster than the men's at 8.098 s.

# Conditions for the least squares line

1. Linearity



## Conditions for the least squares line

1. Linearity
2. Nearly normal residuals

## Conditions for the least squares line

1. Linearity
2. Nearly normal residuals
3. Constant variability

## Conditions: (1) Linearity

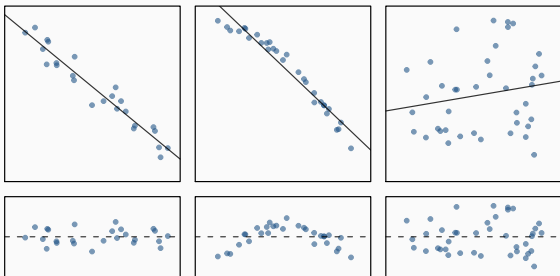
- The relationship between the explanatory and the response variable should be linear.

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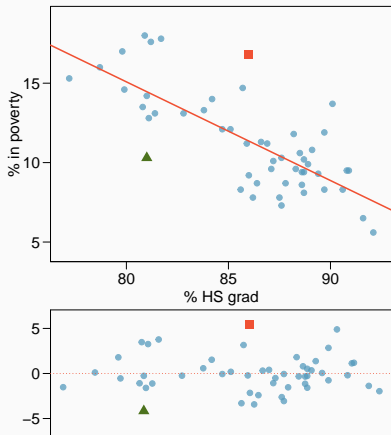
- The relationship between the explanatory and the response variable should be linear.
- Methods for fitting a model to non-linear relationships exist, but are beyond the scope of this class. If this topic is of interest, an Online Extra is available on [openintro.org](http://openintro.org) covering new techniques.

## Conditions: (1) Linearity

- The relationship between the explanatory and the response variable should be linear.
- Methods for fitting a model to non-linear relationships exist, but are beyond the scope of this class. If this topic is of interest, an Online Extra is available on [openintro.org](http://openintro.org) covering new techniques.
- Check using a scatterplot of the data, or a *residuals plot*.



# Anatomy of a residuals plot



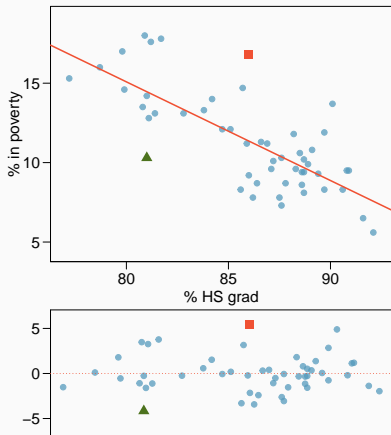
▲ RI:

$$\% \text{ HS grad} = 81 \quad \% \text{ in poverty} = 10.3$$

$$\% \text{ in } \widehat{\text{poverty}} = 64.68 - 0.62 * 81 = 14.46$$

$$e = \% \text{ in poverty} - \% \text{ in } \widehat{\text{poverty}}$$
$$= 10.3 - 14.46 = -4.16$$

# Anatomy of a residuals plot



▲ RI:

$$\% \text{ HS grad} = 81 \quad \% \text{ in poverty} = 10.3$$

$$\% \text{ in } \widehat{\text{poverty}} = 64.68 - 0.62 * 81 = 14.46$$

$$\begin{aligned} e &= \% \text{ in poverty} - \% \text{ in } \widehat{\text{poverty}} \\ &= 10.3 - 14.46 = -4.16 \end{aligned}$$

■ DC:

$$\% \text{ HS grad} = 86 \quad \% \text{ in poverty} = 16.8$$

$$\% \text{ in } \widehat{\text{poverty}} = 64.68 - 0.62 * 86 = 11.36$$

$$\begin{aligned} e &= \% \text{ in poverty} - \% \text{ in } \widehat{\text{poverty}} \\ &= 16.8 - 11.36 = 5.44 \end{aligned}$$

## Conditions: (2) Nearly normal residuals

- The residuals should be nearly normal.

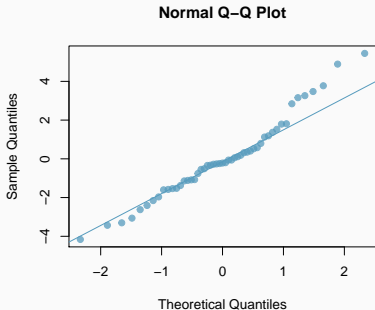
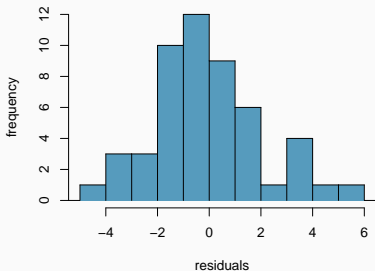


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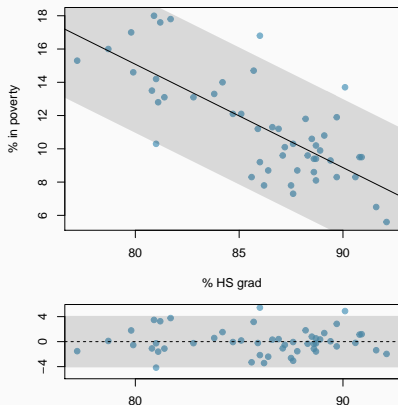
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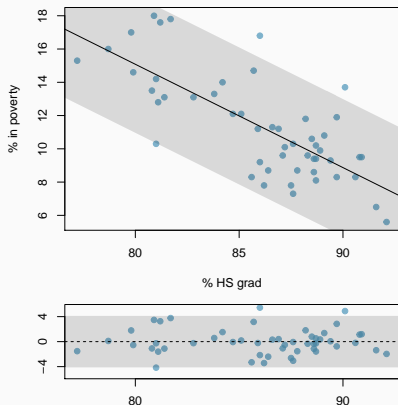


## Conditions: (3) Constant variability



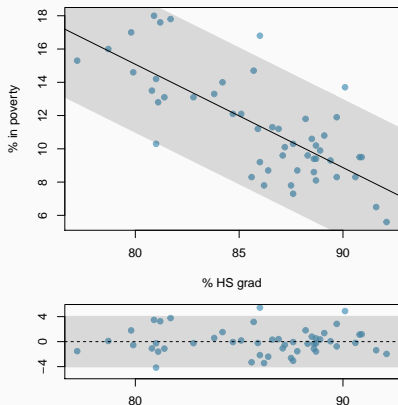
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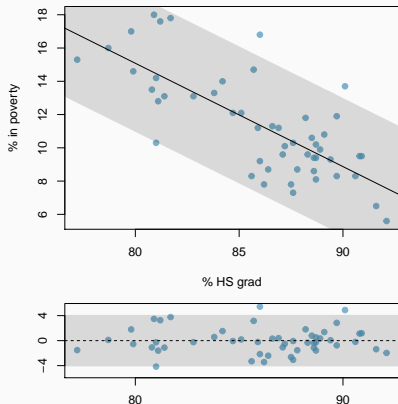
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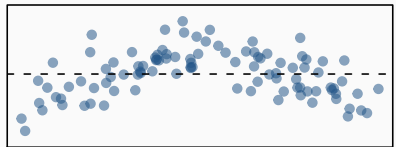
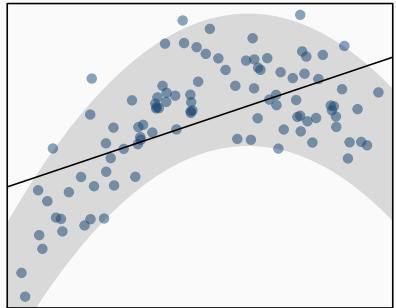


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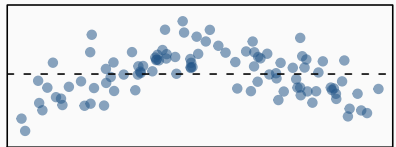
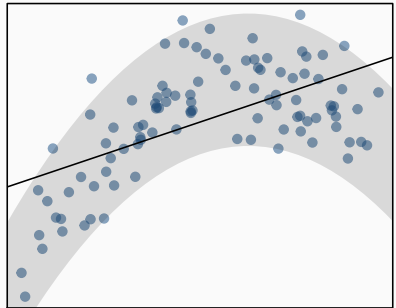
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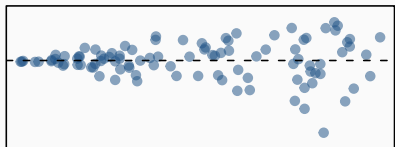
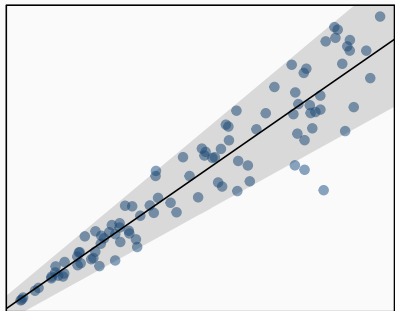




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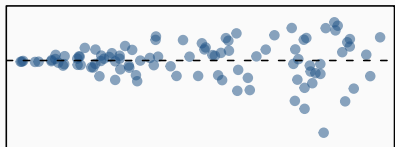
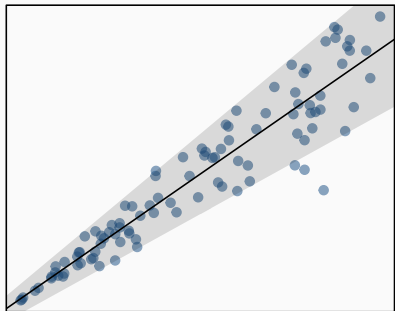
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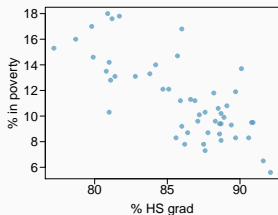
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- For the model we've been working with,  $R^2 = -0.62^2 = 0.38$ .

# Interpretation of $R^2$

Which of the below is the correct interpretation of  $R = -0.62$ ,  $R^2 = 0.38$ ?

- (a) 38% of the variability in the % of HG graduates among the 51 states is explained by the model.
- (b) 38% of the variability in the % of residents living in poverty among the 51 states is explained by the model.
- (c) 38% of the time % HS graduates predict % living in poverty correctly.
- (d) 62% of the variability in the % of residents living in poverty among the 51 states is explained by the model.

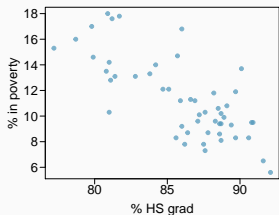




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## Poverty vs. region (east, west)

$$\widehat{poverty} = 11.17 + 0.38 \times west$$

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- *Intercept*: The estimated average poverty percentage in eastern states is 11.17%

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Which region (northeast, midwest, west, or south) is the reference level?

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(Intercept)	9.50	0.87	10.94	0.00
region4midwest	0.03	1.15	0.02	0.98
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