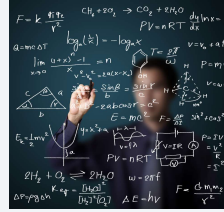


# Introduction

## Module 1

Professor Daniel Guetta  
© 2024

You don't always get what you want – but if you try sometimes, you get what you need...



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## This Module

- Course logistics/requirements
- Introduction to business analytics
- Course overview

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## What is business analytics?

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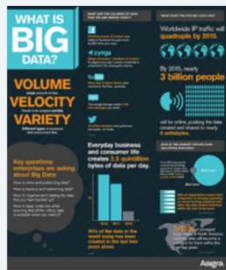
Business analytics is the use of data, modeling, and computation to identify and capture value

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## Why now?

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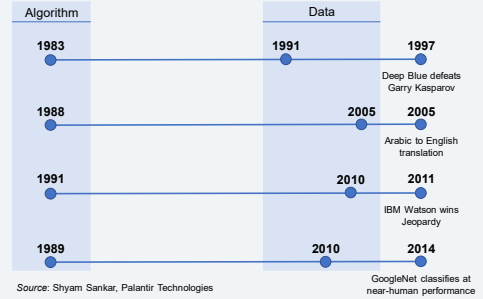
## Available data is exploding



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## The importance of data

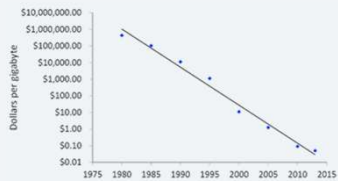


Source: Shyam Sankar, Palantir Technologies

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## Storage cost is plummeting



- Complete works of Shakespeare: 5 megabytes
- One DVD: 17 gigabytes (1000 megabytes in a gigabyte)
- US library of congress (print): 10 terabytes (1000 gigabytes in a terabyte)
- A terabyte hard drive now costs about \$50

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## Storage cost is plummeting



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## The stakes are huge



<https://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/24/business/24brynjolfsson.html>

- MIT/Wharton study (2011, Brynjolfsson et. al.)
- Study of 179 large publicly traded firms
- Firms that emphasize data driven decision making (DDD) and business analytics perform significantly better
- Output and productivity 5-6% higher after adjusting for other factors

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## Early reports on economic potential of business analytics



- McKinsey report (2011): assessment of potential value
- US health care: \$300B annual savings
- European public sector: €250B annual value
- Global retailing: 60% increase in operating margins
- Personal location data: \$600B added consumer surplus

**Bottleneck: analytics talent, not data**

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## The need to be well-rounded



"The search for vital analytics talent has often focused on data scientists. In this article, we describe the overlooked analytics role that's even more critical to fill."

"In many organizations, data professionals and business leaders often struggle to articulate their needs in a language that the other can execute on."

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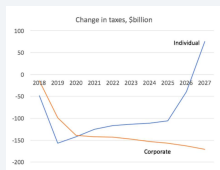
## The need to be well-rounded



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## The need to be well-rounded



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## Your unique position

- You are **engineers** at a **business school**
- This puts you in the position to be a super-analytics translator – someone who can not only **understand** the analytics, but **do** it too
- Whether you intend to be closer to the **analytics side** or closer to the **business side**, you can bring both sides together
  - The impact of doing this well can be enormous
- Demand for this combined set of skills is exploding

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## Four high level goals

- Help you **think critically** about data and the analyses based on those data
- **Identify opportunities** for creating value using business analytics
- Teach you **essential tools and theory** so you can apply these methods yourselves
  - Our focus will be on **deeply understanding** the methods rather than rigorous proofs – but we **will** develop **real** understanding
- Teach you how to **talk about** these concepts to less technical audiences

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AT THE VERY CENTER OF BUSINESS

An interesting example

## Target targeting mothers-to-be



Andrew Pole, Target analytics:  
asked to identify pregnant women  
(2002)

What did he do?



<https://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/11/magazine/shopping-habits.html>

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## Why target pregnant women?

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## Negative reactions



### How does Target know I'm pregnant?

By Jenna Karvunidis, April 12, 2013 at 6:44 pm

This post was written a week after my positive pregnancy test. I'm now nine weeks along (with twins!) and since Target knows, why shouldn't you? Get caught up [here](#) and [here](#).

Three parties know my period is late: me, my husband, and Target. Yesterday, I purchased a winter maternity coat at an end-of-season clearance sale online (I plan ahead!) so technically the drones handling orders for the Destination

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## Colbert report



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## A matter of framing?

"With the pregnancy products, though, we learned that some women react badly," the executive said. "Then we started mixing in all these ads for things we knew pregnant women would never buy, so the baby ads looked random. We'd put an ad for a lawn mower next to diapers. We'd put a coupon for wineglasses next to infant clothes. That way, it looked like all the products were chosen by chance... As long as we don't spook her, it works."

"We are very conservative about compliance with all privacy laws. But even if you're following the law, you can do things where people get queasy".

Target executive to the New York Times

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## Business impact



- Strong revenue growth from \$44B in 2002 to \$67B in 2010
- CEO Steinhafel: results due to "heightened focus on items and categories that appeal to specific guest segments such as mom and baby."

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## Shift in global privacy norms

- Regulations emerging
  - EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
  - California Consume Privacy Act (CCPA)
- Rights of consumers
  - To obtain their data
  - To prevent the sale of personal data to other parties
  - To be forgotten
- Slow change in norms

## How is it done? The course plan...

## Three elements of AI



## Predictive analytics

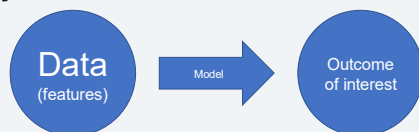


Predictive analytics is about *predicting future outcomes* based on data about *past outcomes*. Predictive analytics use cases form the bulk of the goldmine, and will be the focus of the class

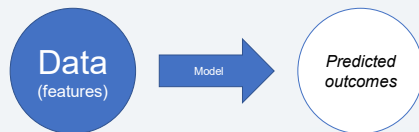
The past data is called *training data* and this is often called *supervised learning*

## Predictive analytics

Use *past data* with *known outcomes* to train a model



Make predictions for new data with unknown outcome. This is known as inference



## Example: the Zestimate



## How does the Zestimate fit in the framework of predictive analytics?

### Example: the Zestimate

Use past data with known outcomes to train a model

Previous transactions, surrounding transactions, market conditions before date X

Model

Price of property at date X

Make predictions for new data with unknown outcome. This is known as inference

Previous transactions, surrounding transactions, market conditions before date Y

Model

Predicted price of property on date Y

### Three elements of AI



### Example: Orbitz

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**  
On Orbitz, Mac Users Steered to Pricier Hotels  
By Dana Mattioli  
Updated Aug 23, 2012 6:07 pm ET

Orbitz Worldwide Inc. has found that people who use Apple Inc. Mac computers spend as much as 30% more a night on hotels, so the online travel agency is starting to show them different, and sometimes costlier, travel options than Windows visitors see. ... "We had the intuition, and we were able to confirm it based on the data," Orbitz Chief Technology Officer Roger Liew said.

### Three elements of AI



### Example: CBS Clusters



- Every incoming CBS class needs to be split into clusters, and each cluster into learning teams
- These groups are subject to many constraints on the size and diversity of each cluster, on many dimensions (international, gender, industry background, race, etc...)
- Optimal clusters are of the right size
- CBS uses an optimization algorithm to find the best composition of each cluster to balance all these requirements.

## Example: Copenhagen Airports



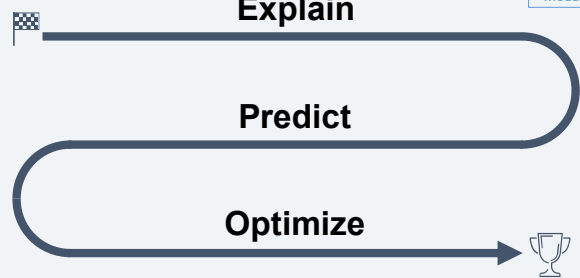
- Planning gate and check-in counter assignments at airports is an enormously complicated task
  - Certain aircraft can only park at certain gates
  - Airlines prefer to have their gates close to each other
  - There is only limited space for gates, and not all gates can be placed next to each other
  - Flexibility is required to modify these assignments in the future
- Copenhagen Airports use a complex Gurobi-based optimization problem to find the best assignment in ~5 minutes

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## This class

+ Optional modules



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## This class

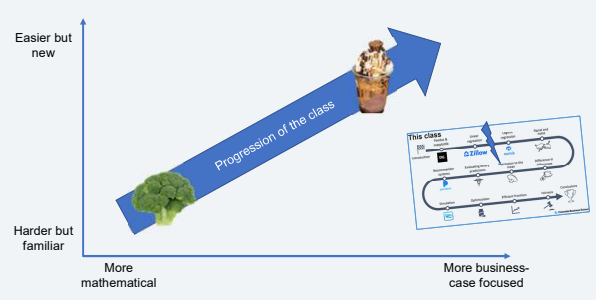
+ Optional modules



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## This class



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What about GenAI?!

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Logistics 🤔

## Course materials

- The following will be posted on Canvas
  - Lecture slides
  - Cases
  - Jupyter notebooks
- The slides are designed to be comprehensive

## Grading

- **Final exam:** 50%
  - In class during our last one or two lectures
  - Multiple choice – no computer/phone required or allowed
- **Homeworks:** 25%
  - These will be graded on effort
  - Solutions
- **Attendance and participation:** 25%

## Advanced material

- In many lectures, I will cover material that is more advanced than the rest of the class
- This will usually be material of a more mathematical nature
- When this happens, the slides will be outlined in blue
- The mathematical content of these slides will not be examined in the final exam, but the concepts underlying it might be
- Very rarely, some cells in the Jupyter notebooks will appear with a blue background, indicating advanced coding concepts beyond those we cover in this class. Most of the time, we'll be able to avoid this

## Help!!!

All emails about this class should be sent to

[ba@guetta.com](mailto:ba@guetta.com)

This sends the email to me and to all TAs, and uses a roboTA to keep track of all emails – if we don't respond to you fast enough, it'll bug us until we do!

If you respond to a response and that response requires a reply, make sure to "reply all" so that [ba@guetta.com](mailto:ba@guetta.com) stays copied.

All due dates will be posted on Canvas; please make sure you carefully check our lecture schedule (already online now)

Python and math

Doing business analytics without coding and math is like playing Chopin with oven mitts

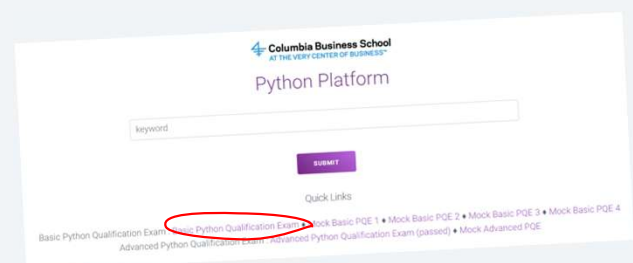
## Python and math

- **Coding** and **mathematics** are the workhorses of Business Analytics
- But they are **not** what this class is about
- That said, there's going to be no way around knowing **some** coding/math to appreciate what we're doing in this class
- You will find the first 3-4 lectures will be *much* heavier on the mathematics/coding, whereas the remaining lectures will still introduce new techniques, but will also be much more case-focused

## Python

- The first homework for this class won't be due for at least 3-4 weeks
- During this time, I will expect you to go through a basic Python class, to learn the fundamentals of the language
  - Some of you will already know Python, or have gone through this class pre-semester and won't need to do this
- You will do this by going through the following Canvas class  
<https://courseworks2.columbia.edu/courses/152704>
- By the end of week 3, I will expect you to have passed the Basic Python Qualification exam here:  
<http://cbspython.herokuapp.com/>

## Python



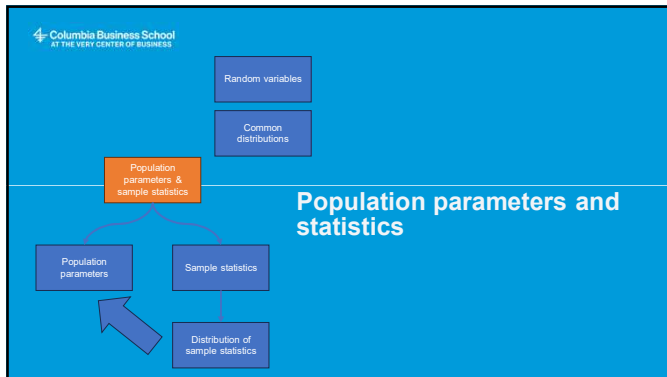
## Math pre-requisites

- Basic algebra
- Basic calculus
- Basic matrix algebra
- I have included two handouts on Canvas to help you catch up with these pre-reqs if you're rusty
- They include "class exercises", which will guide you through calculations we'll do in class before we do them

## Important note



This is **not** a programming class and **not** a math class. We will cover programming and math, but only to the extent they are required to demonstrate, and deeply understand the tools we will learn. We will cut corners by writing code that is not as efficient as it could be. We will also eschew mathematical details in proofs. There are plenty of other classes I'll recommend at the end that you can take to go more in-depth; our focus will be **business** analytics



## Population parameters

- **Population parameters** refers to truths about the world that we typically care about.
- For example:
  - The average willingness to pay for a new iPhone in the USA
  - The proportion of people in the USA who would say they would vote for a democrat if asked in a phone poll
  - The extent to which the COVID vaccine reduces the chance of getting COVID
  - The extra monthly rent people are willing to pay in NYC to rent in a building with a gym

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## Statistics

- Unfortunately, we can (almost) **never** observe these true population parameters because we can (almost) **never** observe the whole population
- Instead, we observe a **sample**, from which we can calculate a **statistic**, which will likely depend on the population parameter
- For example:
  - The proportion of people who said they would vote for a democrat in a phone survey involving 100 people
  - In a clinical study of the COVID vaccine, the difference between the proportion of people in the test group and control group who got COVID
  - etc...

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## Statistics

- Statistics is all about trying to figure out what a **statistic** based on a **sample** can tell us about the **population parameter**
- For example:
  - 52% of people in our phone poll said they'd vote democrat; what does that tell us about the country as a whole?
  - In our clinical study, 1% of people in the test group got COVID, and 3% of people in the control group got COVID. What does that tell us about the efficacy of the vaccine?
  - etc...
- This is hard because even though **population parameters** are **constant**, **statistics** are **random** – if we collect a statistics on two different samples, they'll be different even if the population parameter is the same

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## Statistics

Let's consider a simple example...

### Population

Every single time in the history of the world anyone has ever flipped a coin twice

### Population parameter

The probability heads will show up when a coin is flipped

### Parameter value

0.5

### Sample

A single time someone flipped a coin twice

### Statistic

The number of times heads came up those two times

### Statistic value

??????

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## Random variables

- A **random variable** is a number that might take different values every time it is measured
  - Each time it is measured, the value we get is called a **realization**
- A **statistic** based on a **sample** is a **random variable**
- To fully describe a random variable, we consider **all the values it could take** and the corresponding **probabilities** (the proportion of times the realization is equal to that value) – this is called the random variable's **distribution**
- In the example on the previous slide, the statistic's distribution is

Value	Probability
0	$\frac{1}{4}$
1	$\frac{1}{2}$
2	$\frac{1}{4}$

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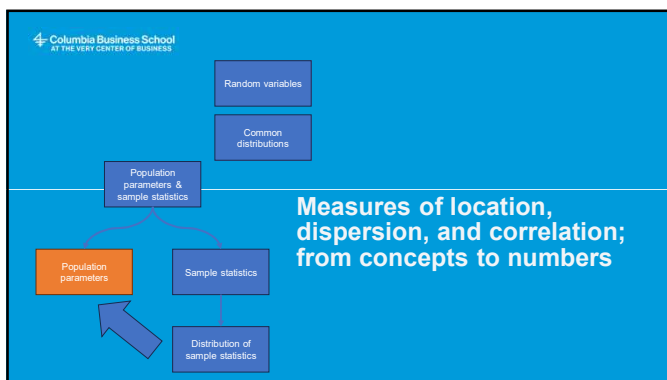
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## Random variables

- How did we figure out the probabilities on the previous slide?
- We simply looked at every possible outcome the variable could take...
  - HH (2 heads)
  - HT (1 head)
  - TH (1 head)
  - TT (0 heads)
- ...and calculated probabilities using the proportion of outcomes that would lead to that value of the statistic given the population parameter

In this exercise, we assumed we knew the population parameter, and we worked out the distribution of the statistic

The first part of this class is all about going in the opposite direction



So far so good

But how do we define the population parameters we care about?

## Evaluating salespeople



<https://www.mckinsey.com/capabilities/growth-marketing-and-sales/out- insights/how-top-performers-outpace-peers-in-sales-productivity>

You have data on the number of contracts each of your salespeople have closed since they've been employed with you (at least 12 months, at most 60)...

How can you determine who your best salesperson is? How about your most reliable salesperson?



## Concepts vs. numbers

- Part of the problem with answering these questions is that they involve **concepts**
- Concepts are inherently **fuzzy** – what does “**best**” and “**most reliable**” mean?
- The first part of Business Analytics is **modelling** – converting a concept to a **number** that we can objectively compare

What are some potential options for a number capturing “the best salesperson”?

## A few options

Evaluate each salesperson using

- The **sum** of the salesperson's contracts closed **over the last 12 months**
- The **mean** of each salesperson's contracts closed **over the time they've been employed**
- The **median** of each salesperson's contracts closed **over the time they've been employed**

What are some pros and cons of each?

## The mean

The **mean** takes the **sum of contracts closed**, and divides them by the **total number of months** the employee has been working for us. Let  $x_i$  denote each point, and  $N$  the number of points

$$\text{Mean } (\mu) = \frac{\text{Sum of all the points}}{\text{Number of points}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i$$

The mean has a number of great properties:

- Replacing every number by the mean **doesn't change the sum**
- The mean **minimizes** the **mean squared error** (see next slide)
- The mean has roots in the **normal distribution** (later)
- Some **nice statistics** can be used to estimate the mean (later)

## The mean and the mean squared error

Suppose we want to pick the measure of location  $\omega$  that minimizes the average **squared** distance from every point... Let  $x_i$  denote point  $i$ . We want

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \omega)^2 &= 0 \\ -\sum_{i=1}^N 2(x_i - \omega) &= 0 \\ \left( \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \right) - N\omega &= 0 \\ \omega &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i = \mu \end{aligned}$$

CE A1

## The median

The median finds the “**midway point**”

Specifically, we **order the points in ascending order**, and find the **point in the middle**. If there is an even number of numbers, we average the two numbers in the middle

The median has a number of great properties

- It is **not** heavily affected by **very large** or **very small** numbers
- It **minimizes** the **absolute squared error** (next slide)
- Unfortunately, it doesn't share any of the mean's **nice statistical properties** (later)

## The median and the absolute error

Suppose we want to pick the measure of location  $\omega$  that minimizes the average **absolute** distance from every point... Let  $x_i$  denote point  $i$ . We want

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \omega} \sum_{i=1}^N |x_i - \omega| = 0$$

Equal to 1 if  $x_i > \omega$   
and 0 otherwise

$$\sum_{i=1}^N (I_{\{x_i > \omega\}} - I_{\{x_i < \omega\}}) = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N I_{\{x_i > \omega\}} = \sum_{i=1}^N I_{\{x_i < \omega\}}$$

CE A2

In other words, a point  $\omega$  such that as many points are **larger** than it and **smaller** – the **median**!

Population parameters are generally denoted by Greek letters

The population parameter denoting the mean of all the points in the population is denoted  $\mu$

What are some potential options for a number capturing “the most reliable salesperson”?

## A few options

Evaluate each salesperson using

- The **most** contracts they closed in a month **minus the least**
- The **mean** of the **square of the difference** between **each point and the mean** – this is called the **variance**

What are some pros and cons of each?

There are other options (eg: the square of the difference between the point and the median, the absolute difference of the difference between the point and the mean, etc...) – but they don't have great statistical properties

## The variance

Suppose each point is denoted by  $x_i$ , and that there are  $N$  points in total. The variance is calculated as

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2}{N}$$

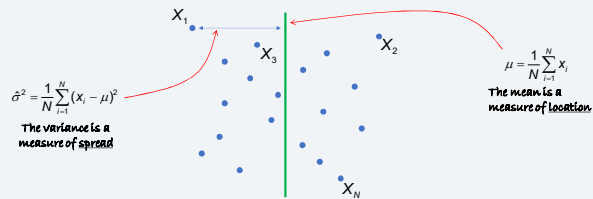
A downside of the variance is that it isn't in the same “units” as the original variables; for that reason, we often use the **square root of the variance**, called the **standard deviation**

The population parameter denoting the variance of all the points in the population is denoted  $\sigma^2$

The standard deviation is the square root of the variance, and is denoted  $\sigma$

## The variance

Suppose we have  $N$  points, each denoted  $x_i$ .



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## An easier way to calculate the variance

There's an easier way to calculate the variance

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma^2 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i^2 - 2\mu x_i + \mu^2) \\ &= \mu^2 + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i^2 - \frac{2\mu}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \\ &= \mu^2 + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i^2 - 2\mu^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i^2 - \mu^2\end{aligned}$$

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## Back to salesforce analytics



So how could we initially find the best salesperson and the most reliable?

- **Best:** find the mean for each salesperson, find the one with the best mean
- **Most reliable:** find the variance for each salesperson, find the one with the lowest variance

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What if you wanted to figure out whether the performance of two salespeople was related?

When Juan does well, does Xie tend to do well also? Or is it the other way round? Or are Xie and Juan's performances completely unrelated?

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## The covariance

The covariance allows us to figure out whether two variables tend to move "in the same direction". Suppose we have  $N$  observations of Xie's and Juan's performance. Let Juan's performance in a given month be  $x_i$  and Xie's be  $y_i$ .

$$\text{Covariance} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu_x)(y_i - \mu_y)$$

If Juan's performance tends to be higher than average when Xie's is, both terms will be positive and negative at the same time; the covariance will be **positive**. If they're unrelated, the terms will have the same sign sometimes, and different signs other times; they'll cancel out; the covariance will be **close to 0**

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## An easier way to calculate the covariance

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Covariance} &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu_x)(y_i - \mu_y) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N x_i y_i - \mu_x \sum_{i=1}^N y_i - \mu_y \sum_{i=1}^N x_i + \mu_x \mu_y \sum_{i=1}^N 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N x_i y_i - N \mu_x \mu_y - N \mu_y \mu_x + N \mu_x \mu_y \right) \\ &= \text{Mean of the product of the two variables} - \mu_x \mu_y\end{aligned}$$

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## The correlation

The problem with the covariance is that it depends on the **scale** of the variables. If the **variables are large**, the **covariance will be large**

The correlation **standardizes** by the **variance** of each variable to get a **number between -1 and 1**

$$\text{Correlation}(X, Y)(\rho) = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}$$

The population parameter denoting the correlation between two variables is denoted  $\rho$

## Back to salesforce analytics



- Salespeople are often **paid** based on the **number of contracts** they close
- There might therefore be **incentives** to **"game"** the system
- Suppose your salespeople close a **mean of 23 contracts/month**, with a **standard deviation of 4 contracts**
- One month, Bob reports closing **47 contracts** – seems a little high. But is it **suspiciously high**? What's the **probability** of his closing so many contracts?

## Chebyshev's Inequality

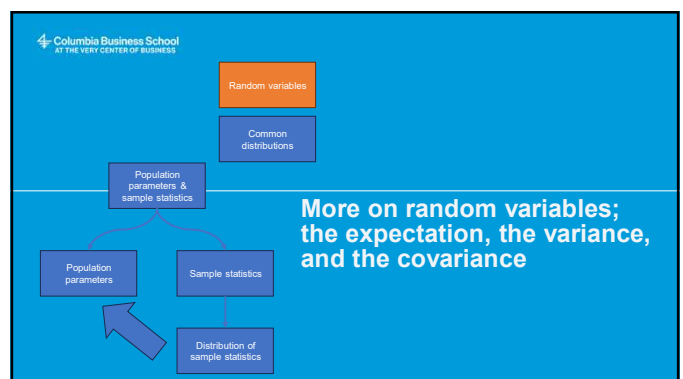
Astonishingly the **mean** and the **variance** alone are enough to make a **strikingly general statement**

The probability of observing a value of a quantity more than  $k$  standard deviations away from its mean is less than  $1/k^2$

This is called **Chebyshev's Inequality**, and we'll be able to prove it a little bit later

## Back to salesforce analytics

- The mean contracts closed per month is **23**, with a standard deviation of **4**
- Bob closed **47** contracts – that is  $(47 - 23)/4 = 6$  **standard deviations** away from the mean
- According to Chebyshev's Inequality, the probability of observing a value this far from the mean is **less than  $1/6^2 = \text{around } 3 \text{ in } 100$**
- As we'll see later, if we know more about this quantity we might be able to get this **even tighter** (i.e., the probability will be even less)



## Reminder: random variables

- A **random variable** is a number that might take different values every time it is measured
  - Each time it is measured, the value we get is called a **realization**
- The **distribution** of the variable is a list of all the values it can take, and the probabilities of each value
- For example, if a fair coin is flipped, the result is a random variable that can take “heads” with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  and “tails” with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$
- If a **fair coin** is flipped **twice**, the number of heads is a random variable, with the distribution listed to the right

Value	Probability
0	$\frac{1}{4}$
1	$\frac{1}{2}$
2	$\frac{1}{4}$

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Random variables are usually denoted by uppercase Latin letters. Realizations of these variables are denoted by lowercase Latin letters

So  $X$  is the number of heads we get when we flip a coin twice. If we do it once, and we get 1 head, we say that realization was  $x = 1$

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## The expectation

- Take a random variable  $X$ , **observe it an infinite number of times**, and find the **mean** of all the **realizations**
- We can use the **distribution** of a random variable  $X$  to calculate what we would **expect** that mean to be – this is called the **expectation** and is denoted  $E(X)$
- We can calculate it as follows

$$E(X) = \sum_{\text{All the possible realizations } x_i \text{ of } X} x_i P(X = x_i)$$

Short for “probability”

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## The expectation

Let’s calculate this for our simple example

Potential realization $x_i$	Probability $P(X = x_i)$	$x_i P(X = x_i)$
0	$\frac{1}{4}$	0
1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
2	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
Sum →		1

This means that if we get an **infinite number of people** to **toss a coin twice**, record the results, and **find the mean**, we’d get 1

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## Subtle, but important difference

Consider these two numbers

Get **100 people** to each toss a coin twice. Record the number of heads each get. Find the mean of the results

This is a **statistic** (based on a sample) and it is a **random variable**; if you do this again and again and again, you’ll get **different results each time**

Get **infinite people** to each toss a coin twice. Record the number of heads each get. Find the mean of the results

This **population parameter** is a **constant**; if you do this again and again and again, you’ll get the **same result each time**

This is the expectation

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## Expectation of the sum of random variables

- Suppose you have **two random variables**  $X$  and  $Y$ , with **expectations**  $E(X)$  and  $E(Y)$  respectively. For example:
  - $X$  is the **number of heads** you get if you **toss a coin twice**;  $E(X) = 1$
  - $Y$  is the **score** that comes up if you **throw a die**;  $E(Y) = 3.5$
- Suppose that for some reason, you decide to **toss a coin twice**, **double the number of heads** ( $2X$ ), **throw a die**, **triple the score** you get ( $3Y$ ), and sum the result ( $2X + 3Y$ ). Suppose you do this an **infinite number of times**. What’s the mean?
- Meet your new best friend:

$$E(aX + bY) = aE(X) + bE(Y)$$

Not proved here! See a probability class

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## The variance

- Take a random variable  $X$ , **observe it an infinite number of times**, and find the **variance** of all the **realizations**
  - In other words, for every realization  $x$ , subtract the population parameter  $E(X)$ , square it...
  - ...and then find the average of all of them
- It should be straightforward to see that

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - E[X])^2]$$

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## An easier way to calculate the variance

Again, there is an easier way to calculate the variance

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X) &= E[(X - E[X])^2] \\ &= E(X^2 - 2XE[X] + E[X]^2) \\ &= E(X^2) - 2E(X)E[E(X)] + E[E(X)^2] \\ &= E(X^2) - 2E(X)E(X) + E(X)^2 \\ &= E(X^2) - E(X)^2 \end{aligned}$$

*Now use  $E(ax + by) = aE(X) + bE(Y)$ ; every item in red in this equation is a random variable, and every item in green is a constant*

*This is the expected value of a constant - it's just equal to the constant*

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## The variance

Let's calculate this for our simple example

Potential realization $x_i$	$(x_i)^2$	Probability $P(X = x_i)$	$x_i P(X = x_i)$	$(x_i)^2 P(X = x_i)$
0	0	$\frac{1}{4}$	0	0
1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
2	4	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
Sum →			$E(X) = 1$	$E(X^2) = 1.5$

Therefore

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2 = 1.5 - 1^2 = 0.5$$

This means that if we get an **infinite number of people to toss a coin twice**, record the results, and **find the variance**, we'd get 0.5

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## Subtle, but important difference

Consider these two numbers

Get 100 people to each toss a coin twice. Record the number of heads each get. Find the variance of the results

↑  
This is a **statistic** (based on a sample) and it is a **random variable**; if you do this again and again and again, you'll get **different results each time**

Get infinite people to each toss a coin twice. Record the number of heads each get. Find the variance of the results

↑  
This **population parameter** is a **constant**; if you do this again and again and again, you'll get the **same result each time**

*This is the variance of a random variable*

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## The covariance

- Take two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ ; observe **pairs of realizations** an **infinite number of times**, and find the **covariance** of the results
- It should be straightforward to see that

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]$$

- Using a trick similar to the one we've been using...

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]$$

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## Variance of the sum of random variables

- Suppose you have **two random variables**  $X$  and  $Y$ , with **expectations**  $E(X)$  and  $E(Y)$  respectively. For example:
  - $X$  is the **number of heads** you get if you **toss a coin twice**;  $E(X) = 1$
  - $Y$  is the **score** that comes up if you **throw a die**;  $E(Y) = 3.5$
- Suppose that for some reason, you decide to **toss a coin twice**, **double the number of heads** ( $2X$ ), **throw a die**, **triple the score** you get ( $3Y$ ), and sum the result ( $2X + 3Y$ ). Suppose you do this an **infinite number of times**. What's the variance?
- Meet your (second) new best friend:

*Not proved here!*

$$\text{Var}(aX + bY) = a^2\text{Var}(X) + b^2\text{Var}(Y) + 2ab\text{Cov}(X, Y)$$

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## The cumulative distribution function

- We have so far defined a distribution by the **probability of each outcome**,  $P(X = x)$
- Sometimes, it is more convenient to define the distribution of  $X$  by its **cumulative distribution function (CDF)**:

$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

- The distribution and the CDF both fully describe  $X$
- For example

$x$	$P(X = x)$	$F_X(x)$
0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$
2	$\frac{1}{4}$	1

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## Continuous random variables

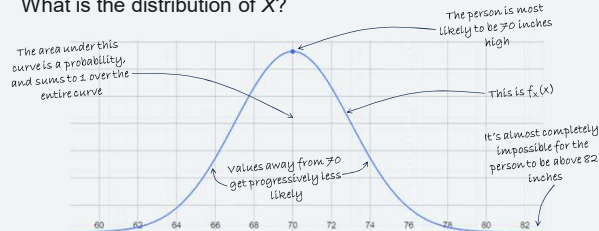
- In the example on the previous slide, the random variable could only take a few **discrete** values
- We'll also see examples of **continuous** random variables, which can take a **range of continuous values**
- It's obviously impossible to **manually** specify the probability of **each value** in such a distribution, so instead we define a **density function** – for each value, it tells us **how likely that value is**. The density function of a random variable  $X$  at the point  $x$  is denoted  $f_X(x)$
- Let's look at an example...

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## Continuous random variables

Pick a random man in the USA. Let  $X$  be that person's height. What is the distribution of  $X$ ?

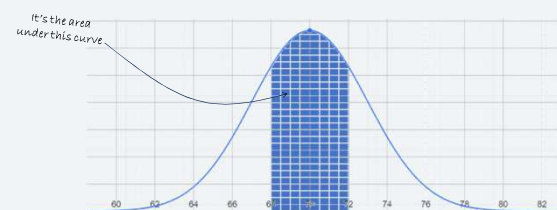


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## Continuous random variables

What is the probability someone is **exactly** 70 inches? 0. What is the probability someone is between 68 and 72 inches?



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## Continuous random variables

- Continuous random variables also have means, variances, and covariances, though they need to be calculated by **integration**

$$Var(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2$$

$$Cov(X, Y) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)$$

- All of the results we've derived in this section also apply to continuous random variables too

$$E(aX + bY) = aE(X) + bE(Y)$$

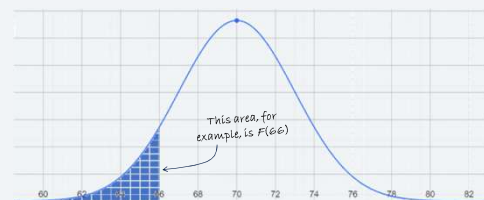
$$Var(aX + bY) = a^2Var(X) + b^2Var(Y) + 2abCov(X, Y)$$

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## Continuous random variables – the CDF

We can also define a continuous random variable by its cumulative distribution function... For example:



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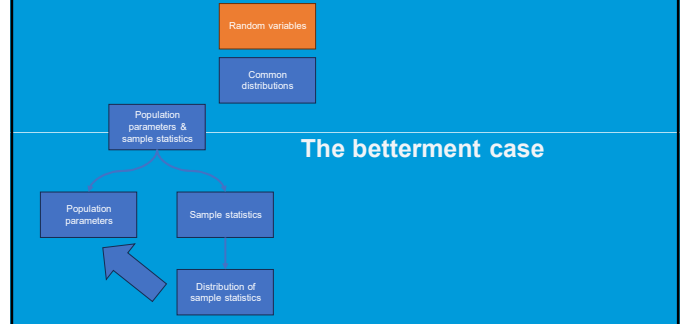
### (Sketch) Proving Chebyshev's Inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma^2 &= E[(X - \mu)^2] \\ (X - \mu)^2 &\geq (k\sigma)^2 & (X - \mu)^2 &\leq (k\sigma)^2 \\ \geq & & \geq & \\ k^2 \sigma^2 & & 0 & \\ \sigma^2 &\geq k^2 \sigma^2 P[(X - \mu)^2 \geq (k\sigma)^2] \\ \Downarrow & \\ P(|X - \mu| \geq k\sigma) &\leq \frac{1}{k^2} \end{aligned}$$

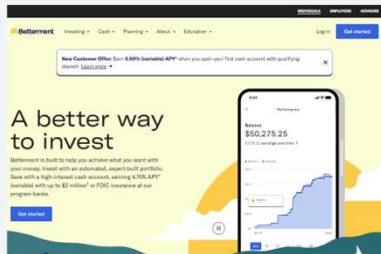
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AT THE VERY CENTER OF BUSINESS



### Betterment: disrupting financial services

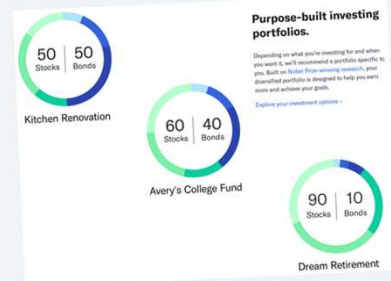


**Jonathan Stein**  
Board Member, Founder, and CEO  
Founded by Jon Stein, CBS '09

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### Key decision: stocks or bonds?



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### Historical data

Consider two (fictitious but representative) ETFs (exchange traded funds)

Instrument	Mean return	Standard deviation of returns
Stock ETF	10%	15%
Bond ETF	5%	8%

Correlation  $\rho = -0.3$

(These numbers can be worked out using historical returns data for both ETFs)

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Why would we ever invest in bonds?

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Suppose you have a portfolio that is  $a\%$  stocks, and  $b\%$  bonds... What would the expected return of the portfolio be? What about the standard deviation?

## Expected and standard deviation of returns

Suppose we invest in a portfolio that is  $a\%$  stocks, and  $b\%$  bonds...

$$E(\text{Portfolio}) = aE(\text{Stock}) + bE(\text{Bonds})$$

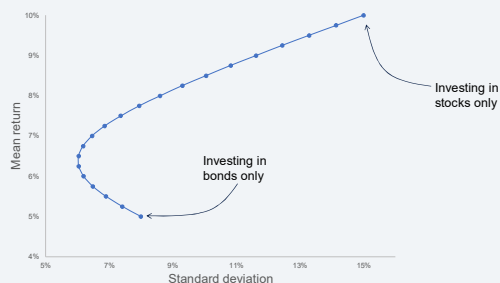
$$= 0.1a + 0.05b$$

$$\text{Std}(\text{Portfolio}) = \sqrt{a^2 \text{Std}(\text{Stock})^2 + b^2 \text{Std}(\text{Bond})^2 + 2ab \text{Cov}(\text{Stock}, \text{Bond})}$$

$$= \sqrt{a^2 \times 0.15^2 + b^2 \times 0.08^2 - 2ab \times 0.3 \times 0.15 \times 0.08}$$

$$= \sqrt{0.0225a^2 + 0.0064b^2 - 0.0072ab}$$

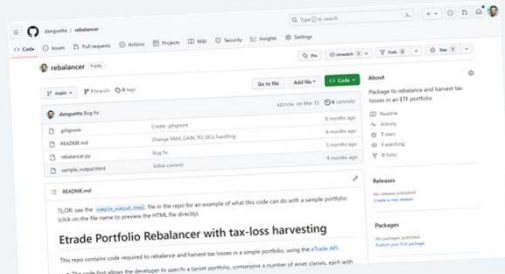
## Resulting portfolios

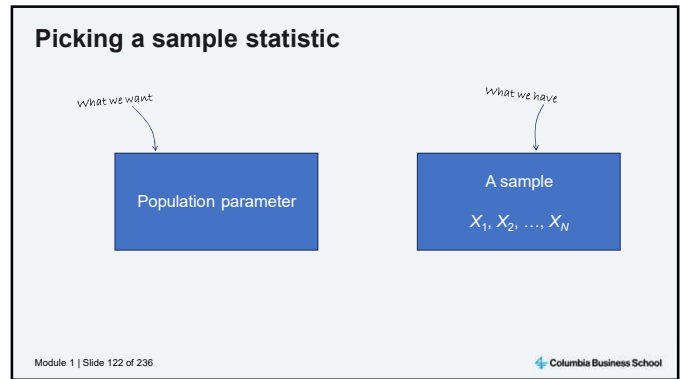
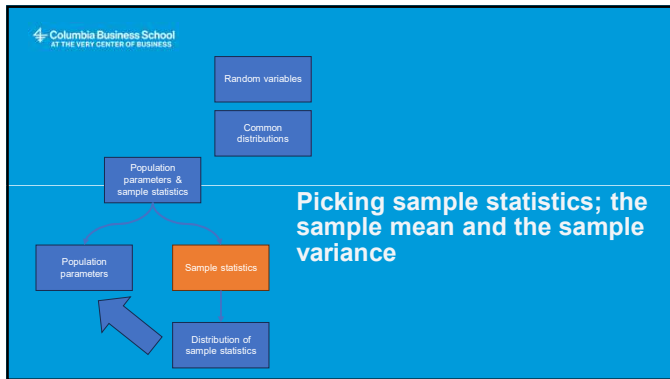


What would happen if the correlation were positive?

We will look at more complex efficient frontiers in our last module...

## Side note – what I do...





### What statistic should we pick to estimate the population parameter?

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- ### Picking a sample statistic
- There is a **whole theory** covering the art of picking the best statistic to estimate a population parameter
  - If this were a pure stats class, we'd spend half a semester on that theory
  - Instead, we'll focus on **one specific aspect**, to give you a flavor – the requirement for a statistic to be **unbiased**
  - If a statistic is **unbiased**, its **expectation** is equal to the **population parameter** we're trying to estimate
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### An example

<p><b>Population</b></p> <p>Every single man in the united states today</p> <p><b>Population parameter</b></p> <p>The mean height of men in the united states</p> <p><b>Parameter value</b></p> <p><math>\mu</math></p>	<p><b>Sample</b></p> <p>A sample of <math>N</math> men in the united states, whose heights were measured</p> <p><b>Statistic</b></p> <p>The <b>sample mean</b> height of those <math>N</math> people</p> $\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N}{N}$
---	--

Is this statistic unbiased?

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### An example

$$E\left[\frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N}{N}\right] = \frac{1}{N}E[X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N]$$

$$= \frac{1}{N}(E(X_1) + E(X_2) + \dots + E(X_N))$$

$$= \frac{1}{N}(\mu + \mu + \dots + \mu)$$

$$= \mu$$


The statistic is unbiased!

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### Another example

<p><b>Population</b></p> <p>Every single man in the united states today</p> <p><b>Population parameter</b></p> <p>The variance of the height of men in the united states</p> <p><b>Parameter value</b></p> <p><math>\sigma^2</math></p>	<p><b>Sample</b></p> <p>A sample of <math>N</math> men in the united states, whose heights were measured</p> <p><b>Statistic</b></p> <p>The variance of the height of those <math>N</math> people</p> <p><math>\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{(X_1 - \bar{X})^2 + \dots + (X_N - \bar{X})^2}{N}</math></p>
---	--

Is this statistic unbiased?

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### Another example

**An easier way to calculate the variance**

There is an easier way to calculate the variance:


$$s^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i^2 - (\bar{X})^2$$

**An easier way to calculate the variance**


Again, there is an easier way to calculate the variance:

$$\begin{aligned} E\left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (X_i - \bar{X})^2\right] &= E\left[\left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i^2\right) - \bar{X}^2\right] \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N E[X_i^2]\right) - E[\bar{X}^2] \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (Var[X_i] + E[X_i]^2)\right) - (Var[\bar{X}] + E[\bar{X}]^2) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (Var[X_i] + \mu^2)\right) - (Var[\bar{X}] + \mu^2) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N Var[X_i]\right) - Var[\bar{X}] \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sigma^2\right) - Var\left[\frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N}\right] \\ &= \sigma^2 - \frac{\sigma^2}{N} = \frac{N-1}{N} \sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

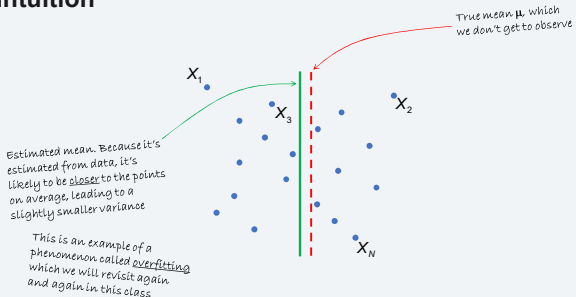
$\frac{1}{N^2} [Var(X_1) + \dots + Var(X_N)]$


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### Why does this happen?

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### Intuition




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### Intuition

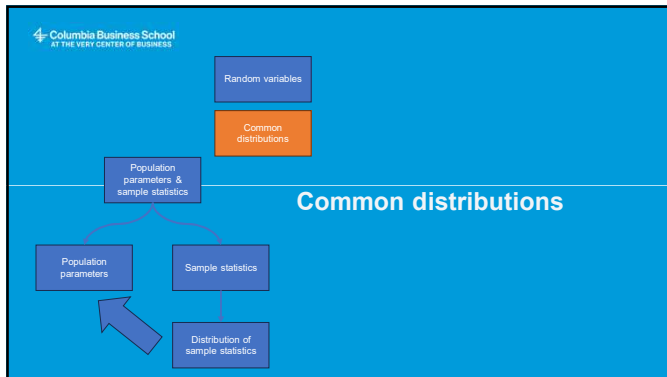
What we want	$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N [(X_i - \mu)^2]$
What we have	$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N [(X_i - \bar{X})^2]$
How we fix it	$s^2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^N [(X_i - \bar{X})^2]$

This is called the sample variance

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### The sample variance is an unbiased statistic of the population variance

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## Common distributions

- There are **many distributions** that **commonly arise** in business applications
- You can learn about them all, and more, in a probability class
- In this section, we'll cover **three distributions** which will be essential in this class
  - The **uniform distribution** (discrete and continuous)
  - The **binomial distribution**
  - The **normal distribution**

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## The discrete uniform distribution

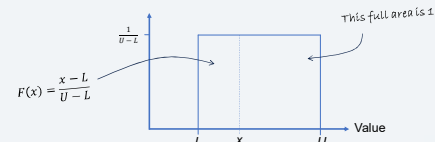
- The **discrete uniform distribution** can take integer values between a **lower point  $L$**  and an **upper point  $U$**  with **equal probability**
- For example, the score you will get if you roll a fair die will be **uniformly distributed** between **1 and 6**
- There are  $U - L + 1$  possible points, so the probability of each point is  $1 / (U - L + 1)$

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## The continuous uniform distribution

- The **continuous uniform distribution** can take any value between a **lower point  $L$**  and an **upper point  $U$** , with **equal probability**
- For example if you **randomly throw a dart at a rectangle**, the **distance** it will land from the **end of the rectangle** will have a **uniform distribution**



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## The binomial distribution

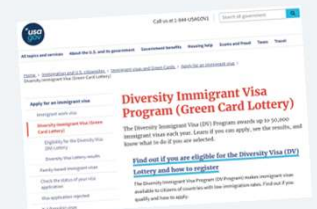
- Consider a game in which the probability of winning is  $p$ , and the probability of losing is  $1 - p$
- Suppose you play this game  $n$  times, and that each of those plays are independent
- Let  $X$  be the number of wins you achieve in total
- Then  $X$  follows a binomial distribution, with parameters  $n$  and  $p$

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## The binomial distribution

- The green card lottery provides some non-citizens the opportunity to get a "green card" every year
- For French citizens, the probability of winning is 1.17%
- Suppose 20 French citizens apply in one year. Let  $X$  be the number of people who win it



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## The binomial distribution

In this scenario

$$X \sim \text{Binomial}(n = 20, p = 0.0117)$$

Number of "tries"

Probability of "success"

## The binomial distribution

Consider three questions

- What is the probability exactly one person wins the lottery  
 $P(X = 1)$

- What is the probability no more than one person wins the lottery

$$P(X \leq 1) = F_X(1)$$

- I want to buy enough "congratulations" presents for winners, and I want to guarantee there's at least a 99% chance I have enough presents. How many should I buy?

$$F_X^{-1}(0.99)$$

## Important properties of the binomial

- Mean:  $np$
- Variance:  $np(1 - p)$

The binomial distribution in Excel						
1						
2						
3		n	20			
4		p	0.0117			
5		x	1			
6		q	0.99			
7						
8						
9		$P(X = x)$	0.1872			
10		$F_X(x)$	0.9772			
11		$F_X^{-1}(q)$	2			

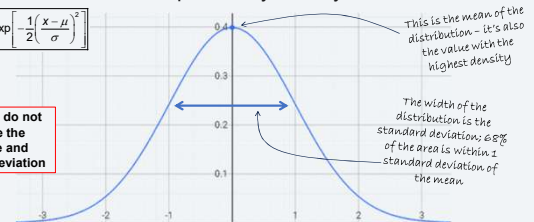
```
import scipy.stats
n = 20
p = 0.0117
x = 1
q = 0.99
print(scipy.stats.binom.pmf(x, n=n, p=p))
print(scipy.stats.binom.cdf(x, n=n, p=p))
print(scipy.stats.binom.ppf(q, n=n, p=p))
0.1871125723594806
0.9773833213461247
2.0
```

## The normal distribution

The normal distribution is the most important continuous distribution out there. Its probability density function is

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2\right]$$

Important: do not confuse the variance and standard deviation



## The normal distribution

You own a tanning bed company, and you design your tanning beds to accommodate people up to 75 inches tall. Let  $X$  be the height of a man in the united states

- What is the probability a man will fit in your tanning bed

$$P(X \leq 75) = F_X(75)$$

- You want to make sure your tanning bed fits at least 99% of men. How tall should you make it?

$$F_X^{-1}(0.99)$$

## Important properties of the normal distribution

- Mean:  $\mu$
- Variance:  $\sigma^2$

The normal distribution in Excel						
1						
2						
3		$\mu$	70			
4		$\sigma$	3			
5						
6		x	75			
7		q	0.99			
8						
9		$f_X(x)$	0.0332			
10		$F_X(x)$	0.9522			
11		$F_X^{-1}(q)$	76.9790			

```
import scipy.stats
mu = 70
sigma = 3
x = 75
q = 0.99
print(scipy.stats.norm.pmf(x, loc=mu, scale=sigma))
print(scipy.stats.norm.cdf(x, loc=mu, scale=sigma))
print(scipy.stats.norm.ppf(q, loc=mu, scale=sigma))
0.04839414490382867
0.8413447460685429
76.97900000000001
```

### Important properties of the normal distribution

If

$$X \sim \text{Norm}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

then

$$aX + b \sim \text{Norm}(a\mu + b, a^2\sigma^2)$$

(Note: this is a stronger statement than just saying  $E(aX) = aE(X)$  and  $\text{Var}(aX) = a^2\text{Var}(X)$ , which is true for *all* random variables)

### Important properties of the normal distribution

If

$$X \sim \text{Norm}(\mu_X, \sigma_X^2) \text{ and } Y \sim \text{Norm}(\mu_Y, \sigma_Y^2)$$

then

$$X + Y \sim \text{Norm}(\mu_X + \mu_Y, \sigma_X^2 + \sigma_Y^2 + 2\text{Cov}(X, Y))$$

(Note: this is a stronger statement than just saying  $E(X + Y) = E(X) + E(Y)$  and  $\text{Var}(X + Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + 2\text{Cov}(X, Y)$  which is true for *all* random variables)

### The Z-score

- Suppose  $X$  is a normally distributed random variable with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$
- Because of the properties of the normal distribution that we discussed

$$\frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \sim N(\mu = 0, \sigma = 1)$$

- This is called a "Z-score", and it is a convenient way to compare values from different normal distributions with different parameters

### The normal approximation to the binomial

- When  $n$  is large, it can be shown that the binomial distribution is very closely approximated by the normal distribution
- So if

$$X \sim \text{Binomial}(n = n, p = p)$$

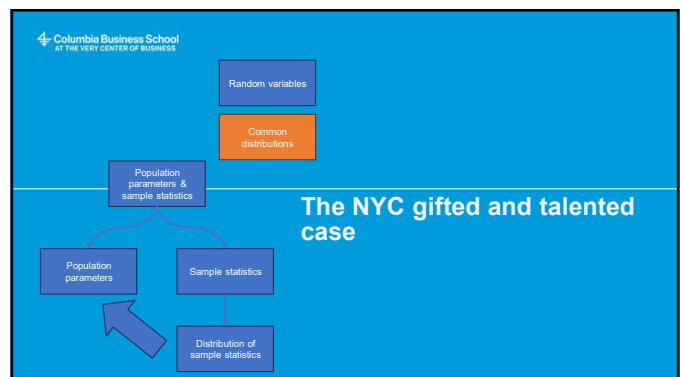
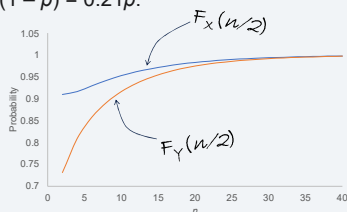
and  $n$  is very large, we can approximately say that

$$X \sim \text{Normal}(\mu = np, \sigma^2 = np(1 - p))$$

- This is useful because the sum of two normal random variables is normal, but the sum of two binomials is not binomial

### The normal approximation to the binomial

Suppose  $X$  is a binomial random variable with  $n = n$  and  $p = 0.3$ . Let  $Y$  be a normal random variable with mean  $np = 0.3p$ , and variance  $np(1 - p) = 0.21p$ .





## The NYC Gifted & Talented Exam Case

### The New York Times More in New York City Qualify as Gifted After Error Is Fixed

By Al Baker  
April 19, 2013

Nearly 2,700 New York City students were wrongly told in recent weeks they were not eligible for seats in public school gifted and talented programs because of errors in scoring the tests used for admission, the Education Department said on Friday.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/22/us/politics/ny-schools-corrections-qualify.html>  
2700 more pupils for gifted programs.html

The errors were discovered when two parents, one a statistician, complained that their children had been incorrectly scored, the department said.

According to Pearson, three mistakes were made. Students' ages, which are used to calculate their percentile ranking against students of similar age, were recorded in years and months, but should also have counted days to be precise. Incorrect scoring tables were used. And the formula used to combine the two test parts into one percentile ranking contained an error.

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## The NYC Gifted & Talented Exam Case

Students are eligible for district G&T programs if they score in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile... Anne scored as follows

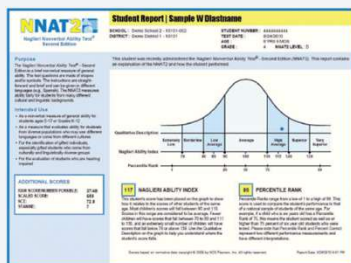
Test	Score	Mean	Standard deviation	Percentile
Verbal	119/150	100	16	88.30
Non-verbal	123/160	100	16	92.51

What do those percentiles mean? Where do they come from?

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## The test results are normally distributed



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## Verbal score

Anne's verbal score is 119. On average, students scored 100 with a standard deviation of 16. What proportion of students did worse than that?

$$0.882485 = \text{NORM.DIST}(119, 100, 16, \text{TRUE})$$

Hence scoring in the "88<sup>th</sup> percentile". Note that a more traditional way to get this number is to first find the so-called "z-score"  $(119 - 100)/16 = 1.1875$ , and then to calculate

$$0.882485 = \text{NORM.DIST}(1.1875, 0, 1, \text{TRUE})$$

Why does this work? Because the z-score is  $N(0, 1)$

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How can we calculate Anne's "combined" z-score?

Do you agree with Barnett's argument that "higher correlation is less favorable to Anne Elizabeth"?

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## The "combined" score

The combined score is

$$0.35 \times \text{Verbal} + 0.65 \times \text{Nonverbal}$$

So Anne's combined score is 121.6.

The mean of combined scores is

$$0.35 \times E(\text{Verbal}) + 0.65 \times E(\text{Nonverbal}) = 100$$

The overall standard deviation is

$$\sqrt{0.35^2 \times 16^2 + 0.65^2 \times 16^2 + 2 \times 0.35 \times 0.65 \times 16 \times 16 \times \rho} = \sqrt{139.52 + 116.48\rho}$$

The "combined" score will also be normally distributed... Why?

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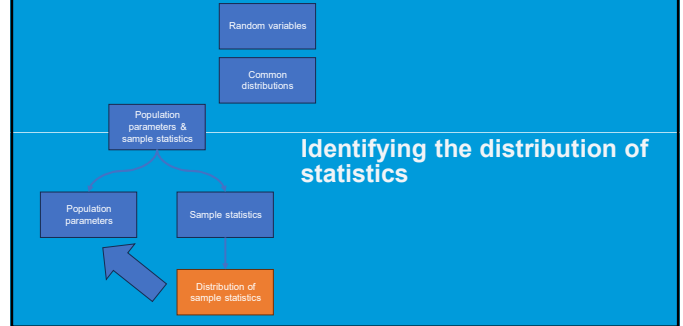
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## The “combined” score

Correlation	STDev	Percentile	
-1	4.8	100.0%	
-0.8	6.80706	99.9%	
-0.6	8.34458	99.5%	
-0.4	9.63992	98.7%	
-0.2	10.7807	97.7%	
0	11.8119	96.6%	
0.2	12.7599	95.5%	
0.4	13.6423	94.3%	
0.6	14.4709	93.2%	
0.8	15.2546	92.2%	
1	16	91.1%	

=SQRT(139.52+116.48\*B5)

=NORM.DIST(121.6,100,C5,TRUE)



## Identifying the distribution of statistics

## Reminder

**Population parameters**

Population parameters refers to truths about the world that we typically care about.

- For example:
  - The average willingness to pay for a new iPhone in the USA
  - The proportion of people in the USA who would say they would vote for a democrat if asked in a phone poll
  - The extent to which the COVID vaccine reduces the chance of getting COVID
  - The extra money rent people are willing to pay in NYC to rent in a building with a gym

**Statistics**

Unfortunately, we can (almost) never observe these true population parameters because we can (almost) never observe the whole population.

- Instead, we observe a **sample**, from which we can calculate a **statistic**, which will likely depend on the population parameter
- For example:
  - The proportion of people who said they would vote for a democrat in a phone survey involving 100 people
  - In a clinical study of the COVID vaccine, the difference between the proportion of people in the test group and control group who got COVID
  - etc...

**Statistics**

Statistics is all about trying to figure out what a statistic based on a sample can tell us about the population parameter.

- For example:
  - 50% of people in our phone poll said they'd vote democrat, what does that tell us about the country as a whole?
  - In our clinical study, 1% of people in the test group got COVID, and 3% of people in the control group got COVID. What does that tell us about the efficacy of the vaccine?
  - etc...
- This is hard because even though population parameters are constant, statistics are **random** – if we collect a statistic on two different samples, they'll be different even if the population parameter is the same

The first step to going through the process of going from statistic → population parameter is going *the other way around*...

...suppose I knew the population parameter, what would the statistic look like?

## A first easy example from before

### Population

Every single time in the history of the world anyone has ever flipped a **biased** coin twice

### Population parameter

The “biasedness” of the coin; i.e., the probability  $p$  of the coin coming out heads

### Parameter value

$p$

Side note:  $(1-p)^2 + 2p(1-p) + p^2 = 1$ , as expected...

### Sample

A single time someone flipped a coin twice

### Statistic

The number of times heads came up those two times

### Statistic distribution

Value $x_i$	$P(X = x_i)$
0	$(1-p)^2$
1	$2p(1-p)$
2	$p^2$

## A second example

### Population

Every single person in the united states today

### Population parameter

The proportion of people in the united states today who would answer “democrat” if asked “whom you would vote for if the election were held today”

### Parameter value

$p$

### Sample

A survey carried out using  $N$  respondents, asking them whether they would vote democrat or republican if the vote happened today

### Statistic

The number of these  $N$  people who said “democrat”

### Statistic distribution

$\text{Binom}(n = N, p = p)$

### A third example

#### Population

Every single man in the united states today

#### Population parameter

The mean height of men in the united states, and the standard deviation of heights of men in the united states

#### Parameter value

$\mu$   $\sigma$

#### Sample

A sample of  $N$  men in the united states, whose heights were measured

#### Statistic

The mean height of those  $N$  people

$$\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N}{N}$$

#### Statistic distribution

????

### A third example

We know that  $E(X_i) = \mu$  and  $Var(X_i) = \sigma^2$  for all the  $X_i$

$$\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N}{N}$$

*= 0 assuming the variables are independent - eg we didn't pick people in one family to collect the data*

So we know that

$$E(\bar{X}) = \frac{1}{N} [E(X_1) + \dots + E(X_N)] = \frac{1}{N} N\mu = \mu$$

$$Var(\bar{X}) = \frac{1}{N^2} [Var(X_1) + \dots + Var(X_N) + Covariances] = \frac{\sigma^2}{N}$$

But what is the full distribution?

First, let's suppose that the heights of men in the US are normally distributed (not a crazy assumption)...

### A third example

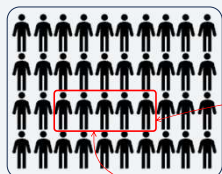
We know that  ~~$E(X_i) = \mu$  and  $Var(X_i) = \sigma^2$~~  for all the  $X_i$   
 $X_i \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N}{N}$$

And therefore...

$$\bar{X} \sim N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{N}\right)$$

### Keeping our head on straight...



Population mean  $\mu$ , population standard deviation  $\sigma$

Sample mean

$$\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N} \sim N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{N}\right)$$

Sample variance

$$S^2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_i (X_i - \bar{X})^2$$

We know  $E(S^2) = \sigma^2$ , but we haven't discussed how to find the distribution (it's hard...)

### A fourth example

#### Population

Every single person in the united states today

#### Population parameter

The mean time of day at which the person was born (i.e., the mean number of minutes since midnight), and the standard deviation of that number

#### Parameter value

$\mu$   $\sigma$

#### Sample

A sample of  $N$  people in the united states, whose time of birth were collected

#### Statistic

The mean time of birth of those  $N$  people

$$\frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N}{N}$$

#### Statistic distribution

????

## A fourth example

This is still true...

### A third example

We know that  $E(X_i) = \mu$  and  $Var(X_i) = \sigma^2$  for all the  $X_i$

$$\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N}{N}$$

So we know that

$$E(\bar{X}) = \frac{1}{N} [E(X_1) + \dots + E(X_N)] = \frac{1}{N} N\mu = \mu$$

$$Var(\bar{X}) = \frac{1}{N^2} [Var(X_1) + \dots + Var(X_N) + Covariances] = \frac{\sigma^2}{N}$$

But what is the full distribution?

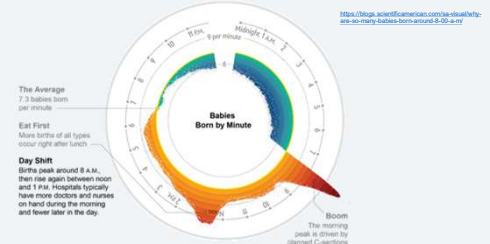
= assuming the variables are independent - so we didn't pick people in the same family to collect the data

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## A fourth example

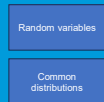
The distribution of  $X_i$  is absolutely not normal!



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## The Central Limit Theorem

## The Central Limit Theorem

The **Central Limit Theorem** is one of the most important theorems in statistics; to understand its significance, let's review what we had in our third example:

$$\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N}{N}$$

$$E(X_i) = \mu, Var(X_i) = \sigma^2 \xrightarrow{\text{Independent } X_i\text{'s}} E(\bar{X}) = \mu, Var(\bar{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{N} \xrightarrow{X_i \text{ normally distributed}} \bar{X} \sim N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{N}\right)$$

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The Central Limit Theorem tells us that this second step is true regardless of the distribution of the  $X_i$ 's...

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## Back to the fourth example...

### Population

Every single person in the united states today

### Population parameter

The mean time of day at which the person was born (i.e., the mean number of minutes since midnight), and the standard deviation of that number

### Parameter value

$$\mu \quad \sigma$$

### Sample

A sample of  $N$  people in the united states, whose time of birth were collected

### Statistic

The mean time of birth of those  $N$  people

$$\frac{X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_N}{N}$$

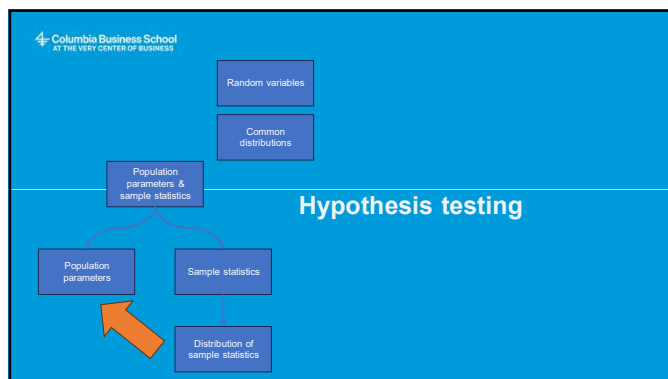
### Statistic distribution

$$N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{N}\right)$$

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We can see this in action in the  
“time of birth” example...  
...see “Central limit theorem.xlsx”



## From statistic to population

- We are finally ready to go “the other direction”
- We observe a sample, calculate a statistic, and want to figure out what this tells us about the population parameter
- The first approach we will cover is called **hypothesis testing**, which achieves this in what might initially seem like a “backwards” procedure
  - First, we make an assumption about the true population parameter – this is called the **null hypothesis**
  - Then, we calculate the distribution of the statistic **assuming our null hypothesis is true**
  - Then, we ask how unlikely our observed statistic is under that distribution
  - We use the answer to tell us how true the null hypothesis is

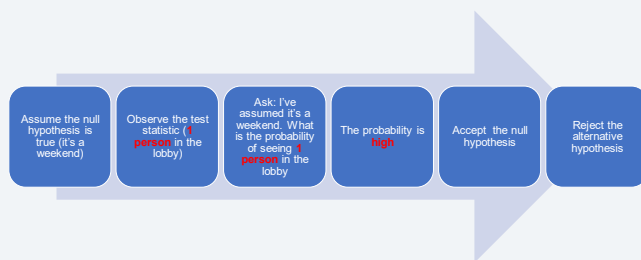
## Hypothesis testing

- I show up to Geffen one morning, and I’ve forgotten whether it’s a weekday or a weekend...
  - **Population parameter:** is it a weekend (1 or 0)
  - **Sample statistic:** the number of people in the lobby
- How do I figure out what the sample statistic tells me about the population parameter?
- Let’s set up a test
  - **Null hypothesis:** it’s a weekend
  - **Alternative hypothesis:** it’s a weekday

## Hypothesis testing



## Hypothesis testing



### Is the height of men in this room different than average?

- The mean height of men in the USA is 70 inches; the standard deviation is 3 inches
- You measure the height of 10 men in this room and calculate the sample mean  $\bar{X}$  – you find it is 71 inches

$$H_0 \text{ (null hypothesis) : } \mu = 70$$

$$H_1 \text{ (alternative hypothesis) : } \mu \neq 70$$

Step 1: assume the null hypothesis is true;  $\mu = 70$

### What statistic should we use?

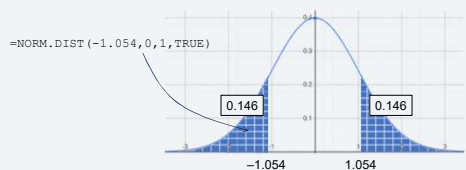
- What statistic should we use to test this hypothesis?
  - In theory, we could use  $\bar{X}$  itself (71)
  - In practice, it is more common to use the so-called Z-score, which calculates the sample mean, minus the population mean, divided by the population standard deviation divided by the square root of the number of observations
- $$\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}}$$
- In this case, our sample mean was 71, the population mean is 70, the population standard deviation is 3, and  $n = 10$
  - So the statistic here is 1.054

### The Z-score

- Assuming the null hypothesis ( $\mu = 70$ ) is true...
  - ...what would the distribution of  $\bar{X}$  be?
- $$\bar{X} \sim N\left(\mu, \left[\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}\right]^2\right)$$
- And therefore, what would the distribution of the test statistic (Z) be?
- $$Z = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}} \sim N(0, 1)$$
- This is why the Z statistic is so useful

### Testing the null hypothesis

- OK, so assuming the null hypothesis is true,  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ .
- We observed  $Z = 1.054$ . What is the probability of observing this kind of deviation if the null hypothesis were true?



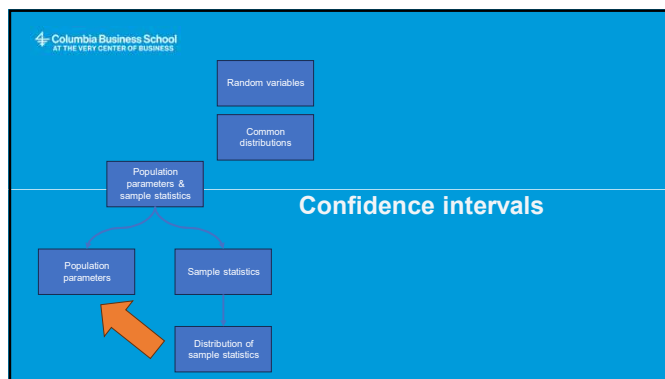
Answer: 0.29

### Testing the null hypothesis

- If the null hypothesis is true, there is a **29% chance** of observing our **sample mean of 71**
  - This is called the **p-value** of the test
- That's quite a high probability
- So we **accept the null hypothesis!** Heights in this room are **no different than the average in the country**
- What we count as a "high probability" is somewhat arbitrary – traditionally, we use 5% – 0.05
- If the p-value had been *smaller* than 0.05, we conclude the null hypothesis is **very** unlikely, and we **reject** it

## A complication

- In practice, we don't actually know the true standard deviation
- So when we calculate the Z static  $\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma}$ , we don't know  $\sigma$ .
- Instead, we have to use  $s$ , the sample standard deviation based on our data, to calculate  $\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{s}$
- In those circumstances, the static has a  $t$ -distribution, not a normal distribution
- This is beyond what we'll discuss in this class

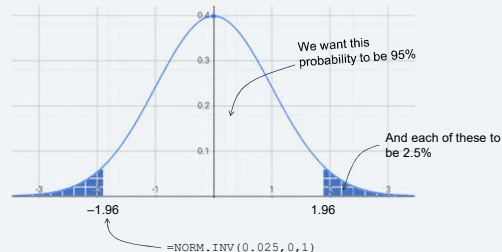


## Confidence intervals

- In the previous example, we saw that if the true mean was 70 and the standard deviation was 3, there was a 29% chance of observing a sample mean more extreme than 71 from 10 samples
- We might wonder – if the “line” at which we define significance is 5%, what is the range of population means that would still lead us to accept the null hypothesis when observing  $\bar{X} = 71$ ?
- Let's consider this in terms of Z-values...

## Confidence intervals

Remember that the distribution of Z is always  $N(0, 1)$ .



## Confidence intervals

So – as long as the Z statistic is between  $-1.96$  and  $1.96$ , the null hypothesis will be accepted. Let's see what that means about  $\mu$ :

$$-1.96 \leq \frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \leq 1.96$$

$$\bar{X} - 1.96 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \leq \mu \leq \bar{X} + 1.96 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

In other words, as long as the population mean is in between these two numbers, we would **accept** the null hypothesis if observing a sample mean of  $\bar{X}$  from  $n$  samples

## Confidence interval

Let's put in some numbers...

$$71 - 1.96 \frac{3}{\sqrt{10}} \leq \mu \leq 71 + 1.96 \frac{3}{\sqrt{10}}$$

$$69.14 \leq \mu \leq 72.86$$

This is called the **95% confidence interval** of the **population mean** based on our sample of 10 observations

In some sense, it is what we can “conclude” about the population parameter based on our sample



**We have finally achieved our aim!**

**We can go from our sample to a conclusion about our population parameter**

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**The confidence interval**

Let  $X$  be a normally distributed random variable. Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N$  be independent samples of this random variable. A 95% confidence interval on the population mean can be calculated as

$$\bar{X} \pm 1.96 \cdot \frac{s}{\sqrt{N}}$$

*In reality, we'd need to use the t distribution instead of the normal distribution to get this number, because we're using  $s$  instead of  $\sigma$ , but it's common to just use  $\pm 1.96$  anyway*

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**Practicing with CIs in Excel**

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**Bias on the variance**

True mean: 50  
True Variance: 100

Standard deviation of all the numbers in that column divided by the square root of 500

Mean of all the numbers in that column

Mean  $\pm 1.96$  times the standard error

Sample #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mean	42.258559	31.0384	36.89351	56.54796	51.98345	60.5523	55.83726	40.3779	69.97262	69.10674	51.4560693	161.8645124	179.8494583							
Std. error	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	
Conf. int.	49.9	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	

The mean of the 10 points in that row

The estimated variance for the 10 points in that row dividing by  $N$  (10)

The estimated variance for the 10 points in that row dividing by  $N - 1$  (9)

800 samples, each with 10 normally distributed points, with a mean of 50 and a variance of 100

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Random variables  
Common distributions

Population parameters & sample statistics

Population parameters  
Sample statistics  
Distribution of sample statistics

**An application: dishwasher etiquette**

**Dishwasher etiquette**

**martha stewart**

Should You Point Silverware Up or Down in the Dishwasher? 3 Experts Weigh In

This highly contested debate ultimately comes down to personal preference.

By **Rebecca Baker** and **Martha Stewart** | Updated on August 9, 2023

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**An experiment**

You carry out experiments to find the best way to load your dishwasher

Experiment #	Loading style	Total pieces	Clean pieces
1	Up	20	19
2	Up	25	25
3	Up	19	17
4	Down	23	21
5	Up	20	18
6	Down	28	21
7	Down	19	18
8	Down	23	22
9	Up	25	23
10	Down	30	30

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How can you use the concepts we've covered to determine whether one loading method is better than another?

### What population parameter do we care about?

- We care about how effective each cleaning “modality” is (cutlery up or down)
- There are *many* complexities here, which we *could* model, but let's do a simpler back of the envelope calculation
- Let  $p_{up}$  be the probability a piece of cutlery gets cleaned when they are loaded upwards, and  $p_{down}$  be that number from downward loading
- The statistic we care about here is  $p_{up} - p_{down}$ . Our null hypothesis is that it is 0, and our alternative hypothesis is that it is not 0

### Looking at our data

	Up	Down
$X_i$	102	112
$n_i$	109	123
$P_i = X_i / n_i$	0.94	0.91

$$\hat{p}_{up} - \hat{p}_{down} = 0.03$$

Do we conclude that facing cutlery upward is better? What are we missing?

### The distribution of the statistic

- To do hypothesis testing, we need to find the distribution of the statistic  $\hat{p}_{up} - \hat{p}_{down}$ .
- Let's first make an **enormous assumption** – that each piece of cutlery gets cleaned **independently**. Under that assumption

$$X_i \sim \text{Binomial}(n = n_i, p = p_i)$$

- Because each of the  $n_i$  are large, we can make the following estimate

$$X_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu = n_i p_i, \sigma = \sqrt{n_i p_i (1 - p_i)})$$

- And finally, using the usual rules, we find that

$$\hat{p}_i = \frac{X_i}{n_i} \sim \text{Normal}\left(\mu = p_i, \sigma = \sqrt{\frac{p_i(1 - p_i)}{n_i}}\right)$$

### The distribution of the statistic

Given these assumptions, and the property of normal distributions, we conclude that

$$\hat{p}_{up} - \hat{p}_{down} \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

Where

$$\mu = p_{up} - p_{down}$$

and

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{p_{up}(1 - p_{up})}{n_{up}} + \frac{p_{down}(1 - p_{down})}{n_{down}}}$$

Based on the values we observed, our best estimate of  $\sigma$  is

$$\hat{\sigma} = 0.034834$$

## Hypothesis testing

- Our hypotheses are as follows

$$H_0: p_{up} - p_{down} = 0$$

$$H_1: p_{up} - p_{down} \neq 0$$

- Our observed test statistic is  $\hat{p}_{up} - \hat{p}_{down} = 0.025211$ , with a z-value of

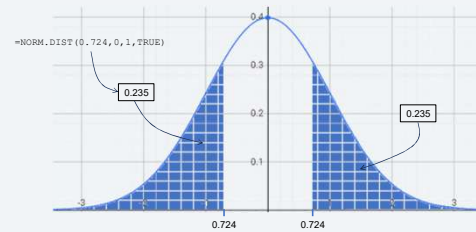
$$\frac{0.025211 - 0}{0.034834} = 0.723742$$

- Let's see what the probability is of observing a deviation from the mean this high if the null hypothesis were true...

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## Hypothesis testing



The probability of observing a deviation this extreme if the null hypothesis was true is  $2 \times 0.235 = 0.47$  – the  $p$ -value for our test

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## Hypothesis testing

- The probability of observing a deviation this extreme if the null hypothesis was true is  $2 \times 0.235 = 0.47$  – the  $p$ -value for our test
- This is quite a high probability, so we do **not** reject the null hypothesis
- We conclude that the null hypothesis is true – the direction makes **no difference** to cleaning ability

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## Confidence intervals

- We can also calculate a **confidence interval** on the population parameter  $p_{up} - p_{down}$
- We can do this using our normal approximation  
 $\hat{p}_{up} - \hat{p}_{down} \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$   
 with  $\hat{\sigma} = 0.034834$
- We would accept our null hypothesis as long as the true population parameter was between  
 $0.025211 \pm 1.96 \times 0.034834$   
 Calculating, we get a CI of  
 $-0.0431$  to  $0.0935$

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## Hypothesis testing in action – a COVID testing example (optional)

## A mini-case



- You are working at a chain of clinics dispensing Moderna COVID vaccines
- Each Moderna injection should contain **250 µg of vaccine**; the correct doses are **normally** distributed with **mean 250 µg** and **standard deviation 10 µg**
- It has come to your attention that due to a **typo in instructions**, some of your clinics have been systematically administering **too much vaccine per syringe**
- There are **no adverse effects on health** (the large doses are still within allowable volumes) but in aggregate, this **wastes supply** of precious vaccines
- Unfortunately, the instructions have all been thrown out so you can't check them, but you have samples of **20 syringes** from **each of your 100 clinics**

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## Data

20 samples from each clinic

100 clinics

Clinic	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6	Sample 7	Sample 8	Sample 9	Sample 10	Sample 11	Sample 12	Sample 13	Sample 14	Sample 15	Sample 16	Sample 17	Sample 18	Sample 19	Sample 20
1	240.11	258.26	250.34	250.08	263.14	253.28	252.43	255.96	219.48	243.56	242.58	240.00	258.6	240.00	258.6	240.00	258.6	240.00	258.6	240.00
2	232.69	260.65	248.81	249.78	260.82	251.24	251.25	257.63	261.17	235.58	255.75	232.02	243.4	232.02	243.4	232.02	243.4	232.02	243.4	232.02
3	246.33	245.68	241.27	254.04	259.57	253.19	251.07	246.17	245.00	260.15	251.83	258.85	259.8	258.85	259.8	258.85	259.8	258.85	259.8	258.85
4	243.15	241.69	254.68	256.82	255.28	237.82	259.98	254.51	242.07	251.06	239.44	245.59	250.9	245.59	250.9	245.59	250.9	245.59	250.9	245.59
5	242.17	250.75	258.02	255.59	248.94	257.61	234.74	263.47	247.39	247.11	257.21	261.96	240.8	261.96	240.8	261.96	240.8	261.96	240.8	261.96
6	243.32	238.83	243.87	251.85	256.14	240.89	264.48	241.85	246.75	250.06	244.86	250.14	257.2	250.14	257.2	250.14	257.2	250.14	257.2	250.14
7	242.35	265.93	255.38	253.93	254.54	238.82	262.98	253.73	248.03	263.95	252.05	239.91	240.5	239.91	240.5	239.91	240.5	239.91	240.5	239.91
8	249.35	249.29	247.99	238.33	250.03	238.55	254.66	247.40	251.19	240.97	258.13	242.83	259.1	242.83	259.1	242.83	259.1	242.83	259.1	242.83
9	248.97	257.19	247.64	262.64	250.53	249.35	252.66	252.85	248.12	252.89	248.26	261.04	252.1	261.04	252.1	261.04	252.1	261.04	252.1	261.04
10	243.61	254.74	265.47	266.68	248.20	244.86	259.48	253.37	245.91	259.07	249.66	258.63	248.2	258.63	248.2	258.63	248.2	258.63	248.2	258.63
11	258.82	241.18	245.59	224.66	250.65	261.83	246.91	256.76	255.36	244.84	235.32	259.60	242.1	259.60	242.1	259.60	242.1	259.60	242.1	259.60
12	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11	244.11

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How would you use the 20-syringe sample from each clinic to figure out whether the clinic had incorrect instructions?

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## Hypothesis tests

We want to carry out the following hypothesis test for each clinic

- **Null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ):** mean dose is  $250 \mu\text{g}$
- **Alternative hypothesis ( $H_1$ ):** mean dose is  $> 250 \mu\text{g}$

The test statistic is the mean of the 20 doses at each clinic.

Under the **null hypothesis**, the distribution of the test statistic is

$$N\left(\mu = 250, \sigma = \frac{10}{\sqrt{20}}\right)$$

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## p-values

Suppose the average dose observed at clinic  $i$  is  $\bar{X}_i$ . The  $p$ -value associated with this test statistic is

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Observing } \bar{X}_i \text{ or worse} | H_0 \text{ is true}) \\ &= P\left(N\left(\mu = 250, \sigma = \frac{10}{\sqrt{20}}\right) \geq \bar{X}_i\right) \\ &= 1 - P\left(Z \leq \frac{\bar{X}_i - 250}{10/\sqrt{20}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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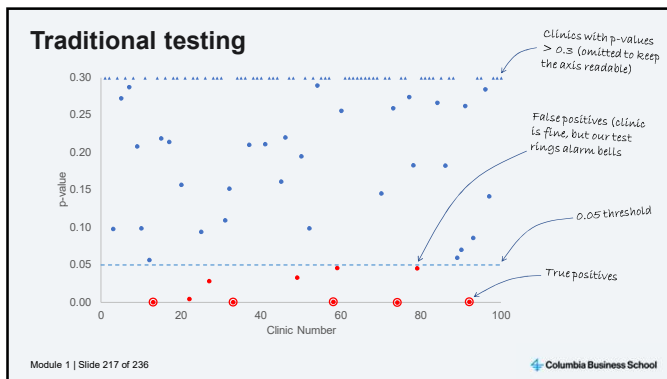
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The traditional  $p$ -value test would have us reject null hypotheses for all clinics with  $p < 0.05$

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What are some issues with doing this?

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### The problem with multiple testing

- $p < 0.05$  means that there is a **< 5% chance** of observing such a **large test statistic** if the **null hypothesis** were **true**
- The problem is that we're doing **100 tests**
- Intuitively, if there is a **5% chance** each null hypothesis will be **falsely rejected** and we do it **100 times**, there's a very high chance **at least one** of our 100 hypotheses will be falsely rejected
- So we are almost **guaranteed** to have some perfectly **true null hypotheses** be **rejected**
- In practice: clinics that had correct instructions that will be flagged as problematic

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### Getting mathematical

Suppose we have  $N$  tests total, we reject any  $p$ -value  $\leq \alpha$ , and we make no assumptions about the tests. Then:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P(\text{Any hypothesis rejected} \mid \text{All } H_0 \text{ true}) \\
 &= P(\text{At least one } p \text{ value} \leq \alpha \mid \text{All } H_0 \text{ true}) \\
 &\leq \sum_{i=1}^N P(p \text{ value } i \leq \alpha \mid i^{\text{th}} H_0 \text{ true}) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha \\
 &= N\alpha
 \end{aligned}$$

Because  $P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \text{ and } B)$

In our case,  $N = 100$  and  $\alpha = 5\%$  so we can guarantee this probably will be  $\leq 5\%$ . Thanks a lot!!

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### The Bonferroni Correction

- We can only **guarantee** the probability of **incorrectly rejecting a null hypothesis** is  **$\leq N\alpha$**
- The **Bonferroni Correction** basically says "I want to **guarantee** this is  **$\leq 0.05$** "
- For this to be true, the  $\alpha$  for **each** individual **hypothesis** should be  **$0.05/100 = 0.0005$**

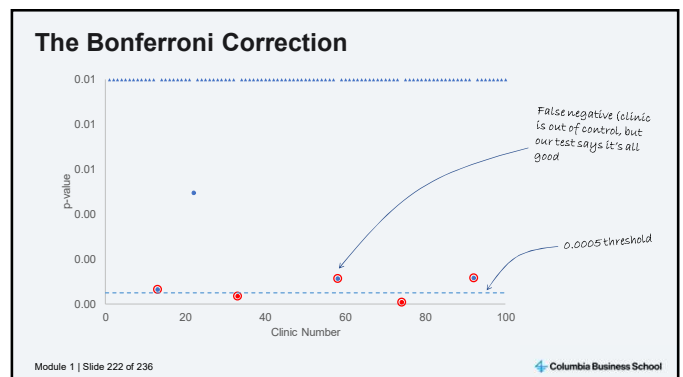
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### Any issues with the Bonferroni Correction approach?

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How can we fix this?

## The Benjamini-Hochberg procedure

- The BH procedure **changes the question** completely
- Instead of asking “what is the probability of incorrectly rejecting **any null hypothesis**”, it asks “what is the **proportion of rejected null hypotheses** that were actually **true**”
- Framed in the language of our case
  - The **Bonferroni Correction** asks “what is the probability **any** clinic that is fine will be flagged as out of control”
  - The **BH procedure** asks “of all the clinics that **flagged** as out of control, how many of them **deserved it**”
- Clearly, the BH question is far more relevant in many business applications

The Bonferroni Correction controls the probability **any** null hypothesis is rejected. This is called the **familywise error rate (FWER)**

The Benjamini-Hochberg procedure controls the proportion of rejected null hypotheses that are incorrectly rejected. This is called the **false discovery proportion (FDP)**

## The Benjamini-Hochberg procedure

Suppose you want to ensure that no more than a **proportion  $\alpha$**  of **rejected null hypotheses** were **actually true**

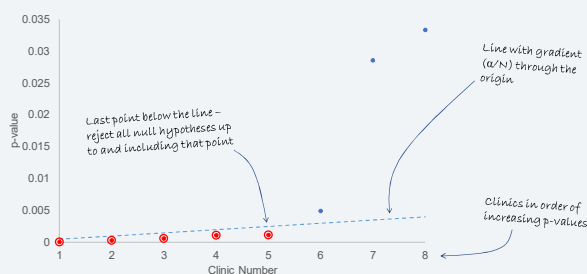
- **Step 1:** sort all the  $p$ -values from smallest to largest

$$p_{(1)} \leq p_{(2)} \leq \dots \leq p_{(N)}$$

- **Step 2:** start from  $p_{(1)}$  and work your way upwards; for each  $p$ -value, check whether  $p_{(k)} \leq (\alpha/N)k$ , where  $N$  is the **total number of hypotheses**. Let the largest  $p$  value for which this is true be  $p^*$
- **Step 3:** reject all null hypotheses with  $p \leq p^*$

That's a lot of words... Let's see it in practice...

## The Benjamini-Hochberg procedure



Why does this work?!

## The Benjamini-Hochberg Procedure

**Theorem:** The Benjamini-Hochberg Procedure ensures that

$$E\left(\frac{\# \text{ incorrectly rejected null hypotheses}}{\# \text{ rejected null hypotheses}}\right) \leq \alpha$$

## First, a proposition

**Theorem:** suppose that all of the null hypotheses are independent, and that we reject any hypothesis with  $p\text{-value} \leq$  a certain cutoff. Then for any cutoff,

$$E\left(\frac{\# \text{ of incorrectly rejected null hypotheses}}{\text{Cut-off } p\text{-value}}\right) = \# \text{ true null hypotheses}$$

The intuition here is that the cut-off is “the probably we incorrectly reject a true null hypothesis” – so if we multiply the number of true null hypotheses by this cut-off, we should get the number of *incorrectly* rejected null hypotheses...

## Sketch proof of the proposition

**Sketch proof:** by definition, the probability we reject a null hypothesis incorrectly is equal to the cut-off  $p\text{-value}$ .

Therefore, assuming all the hypotheses are independent, the number of null hypotheses that will be rejected incorrectly is ( $\#$  true null hypotheses)  $\times$  cut-off  $p\text{-value}$ .

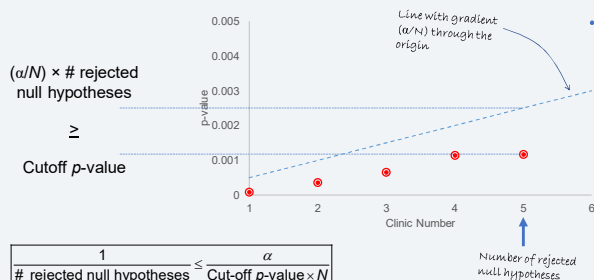
The result follows.

## Back to the Benjamini-Hochberg Procedure

**Theorem:** The Benjamini-Hochberg Procedure ensures that

$$E\left(\frac{\# \text{ incorrectly rejected null hypotheses}}{\# \text{ rejected null hypotheses}}\right) \leq \alpha$$

## The Benjamini-Hochberg Procedure: proof



## The Benjamini-Hochberg Procedure: sketch proof

$$\begin{aligned} E\left(\frac{\# \text{ incorrectly rejected null hypotheses}}{\# \text{ rejected null hypotheses}}\right) &\leq E\left(\frac{\alpha \times \# \text{ incorrectly rejected null hypotheses}}{\text{Cut-off } p\text{-value} \times N}\right) \\ &= \frac{\alpha}{N} E\left(\frac{\# \text{ incorrectly rejected null hypotheses}}{\text{Cut-off } p\text{-value}}\right) \\ &= \frac{\alpha}{N} \# \text{ true null hypotheses} \\ &= \alpha \frac{\# \text{ true null hypotheses}}{N} \leq \alpha \end{aligned}$$

From the previous slide

This is the proposition we proved earlier

The number of true hypotheses is, by definition, smaller than the total number of hypotheses, so this is  $\leq 1$

## One last point: pointers in Python

## Pointers in Python

```
x = [1,2,3,4]
y = x
y.append(5)
x
[1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

x = [1,2,3,4]
y = list(x)
y.append(5)
x
[1, 2, 3, 4]

x = [1,2,3,[1,2,3]]
y = list(x)
y[-1].append(4)
y.append(5)
x
[1, 2, 3, [1, 2, 3, 4], 5]
```



# Pandas & Matplotlib

## Module 2

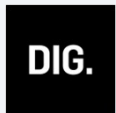
Professor Daniel Guetta  
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### This Module

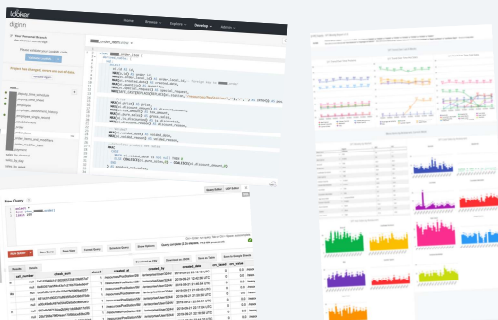
- The case of Dig
- Pandas
- Matplotlib

## Dig: From Intuition to Data-Driven Analytics

### Dig



### Dig



### A Dig order

The main item that can be ordered at Dig is a bowl. Each bowl contains

- A base (salad, farro, or rice)
- A main (chicken, beef, etc...)
- Two sides (mac and cheese, carrots, etc...)

In addition, each order might also contain one or more cookies, and one or more drinks. Sometimes, orders will only contain cookies and drinks if no bowl is ordered. (This is a simplified view for this case)

## Simulated Dig data

The main table we'll use in our introduction to Pandas is `BA_orders.zip`, with the following columns

- **ORDER\_ID**: ID of the order
- **DATETIME**: the date and time the order was placed
- **RESTAURANT**: the name of the restaurant at which the order was made
- **TYPE**: the order type (`IN_STORE`, `PICKUP`, or `DELIVERY`)
- **DRINK**: the number of drinks in the order
- **COOKIES**: the number of cookies in the order
- **MAIN**, **BASE**, **SIDE\_1**, **SIDE\_2**: the main, base, and sides in the bowl (these are missing if the order does not include a bowl)
- **ORDER\_TIME**: how long it took to process the order (either in the store or digitally)

This file is impossible to open in Excel – too many rows!

## Introducing Pandas

## When Excel just won't do!

Why go beyond Excel?

- **Scale**: dealing with really large data
- **Robustness**: it can be exceptionally difficult to get a “big picture” idea of what a large/complex Excel workbook is doing
- **Automation**: automating repetitive tasks many times, or on many files
- **Integration**: Python is a “real” programming language, and allows your data work to interact with other systems

## When Excel just won't do!



### INSIDER How The London Whale Debacle Is Partly The Result Of An Error Using Excel

Linette Lopez Feb 12, 2015, 2:04 PM

### THE VERGE Excel spreadsheet error blamed for UK's 16,000 missing coronavirus cases

The case went missing after the spreadsheet hit its filesize limit  
By James Vincent | Feb 5, 2020, 9:41am EDT

## Important note



This won't be a comprehensive introduction to Pandas. We'll only introduce the bits we'll need for this class. You'll notice we'll include more obscure parts and leave out more straightforward parts, simply because we want to cover everything we'll need in this class, but no more.

In later lectures, you can always return to these slides to look up any features we use that you are unfamiliar with.

## Importing Pandas and loading a file

Tell Python we're going to need Pandas

```
import pandas as pd
```

Load the Dig file

```
df_orders = pd.read_csv('BA_orders.zip')
df_orders.head()
```

	ORDER_ID	DATETIME	TYPE	DRINKS	COOKIES	RESTAURANT	MAIN	BASE	SIDE_1	SIDE_2
0	01000000	2018-10-01 12:28:00	IN_STORE	1.0	0.0	Melrose 1379 Brooklyn, NY 10019	Nuts	Nuts	Nuts	Nuts
1	01011112	2018-05-01 11:28:00	IN_STORE	0.0	0.0	Brooklyn 10 Brooklyn, NY 10019	Nuts	Nuts	Nuts	Nuts
2	01020004	2018-04-21 18:12:07	DELIVERY	0.0	0.0	Columbia 2004 Brooklyn, NY 10025	Chicken	Chicken	Pasta with Sausage Vegetables	Shrimp Garden Potato
3	00070004	2018-10-07 12:00:00	PICKUP	1.0	0.0	Palmer 4010 2018-10-07 Brooklyn, NY 10010	Chicken	Chicken	Beef with Potato	Chicken Potato
4	01000000	2018-10-04 18:12:07	IN_STORE	0.0	0.0	Brooklyn 10 Brooklyn, NY 10019	Nuts	Nuts	Nuts	Nuts

View the first 5 rows in the file

A csv file can be read directly inside a zip file, without unzipping!

## Loading a file and skipping rows

```
pd.read_csv("BA_orders.csv", skiprows=2).head()
```

	Q1011112	2018-05-15 11:35:08	IN_STORE	0.0	0.0	Bryant Park 70 W 40th St, New York, NY 10018	Unnamed: 6	Unnamed: 7	Unnamed: 8	Unnamed: 9
0	0792854	2018-04-18 12:27	DELIVERY	0.0	2.0	Columbia 284 Broadway, New York, NY 10025	Chared Chicken Marketbol	Fans with Summer Vegetables	Snap Peas	Green Goddess Beans with Sesame
1	02076864	2018-11-17 12:50:52	PICKUP	1.0	0.0	Platoon 40 W 25th St, New York, NY 10010	Chared Chicken Marketbol	Classic Brown Rice	Jasper Hill Mac & Cheese	Cashew Kale Caesar
2	01988888	2018-11-04 18:37:24	IN_STORE	0.0	0.0	Williamsburg 45 S 3rd St, Brooklyn, NY 11249	SpiCy Mac&Cheese Marketbol	Fans with Summer Vegetables	Jasper Hill Mac & Cheese	Jasper Hill Mac & Cheese
3	01025484	2018-06-02 14:32:53	DELIVERY	1.0	0.0	Williamsburg 45 S 3rd St, Brooklyn, NY 11249	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
4	01878199	2018-10-19 19:55:09	PICKUP	0.0	0.0	Williamsburg 45 S 3rd St, Brooklyn, NY 11249	Herb Roasted Chicken Marketbol	Farm Greens with Mint	Roasted Sweet Potatoes	Cashew Kale Caesar

Number of rows to skip

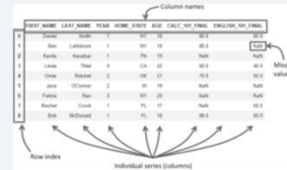
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## Pandas elements

Pandas makes two new data types available to us

- The **Series**, which can store columns; each row has an index (think of this as a "row name")
- The **DataFrame**, which collects multiple series (columns) together with their titles to give us a full table



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## Creating DataFrames from dictionaries

As well as reading DataFrames from files, we can also create them from dictionaries. In so doing, we can specify the index we want to use, which doesn't have to be the row number!

```
df_small = pd.DataFrame({'A': [1,2,3], 'B': [4,5,6]})
```

```
df_small
```

```
A B
0 1 4
1 2 5
2 3 6
```

```
pd.DataFrame({'A': [1,2,3], 'B': [4,5,6], index=[5,7,9]})
```

```
A B
```

```
5 1 4
7 2 5
9 3 6
```

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## Transposing DataFrames

Transposing a DataFrame swaps the rows and the columns

```
pd.DataFrame({'A': [1,2,3], 'B': [4,5,6]}).transpose()
```

```
0 1 2
A 1 2 3
B 4 5 6
```

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## Accessing and modifying data in a Pandas DataFrame

## Accessing columns as series

There are two ways to access a column in a Pandas DataFrame

```
df_orders.T
```

```
0 IN_STORE
1 IN_STORE
2 DELIVERY
3 PICKUP
4 IN_STORE
...
2387219 IN_STORE
2387220 PICKUP
2387221 DELIVERY
2387222 IN_STORE
2387223 IN_STORE
Name: TYPE, Length: 2387224, dtype: object
```

```
df_orders['TYPE']
```

```
0 IN_STORE
1 IN_STORE
2 DELIVERY
3 PICKUP
4 IN_STORE
...
2387219 IN_STORE
2387220 PICKUP
2387221 DELIVERY
2387222 IN_STORE
2387223 IN_STORE
Name: TYPE, Length: 2387224, dtype: object
```

Only works if the column name doesn't have spaces, doesn't start with a number, etc...

Notice the output isn't formatted - this is a tell-tale sign it's a series, not a DataFrame

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## Accessing a subset of columns as a DataFrame

```
df_orders[['ORDER_ID', 'TYPE']]
```

	ORDER_ID	TYPE
0	01820060	IN_STORE
1	01011112	IN_STORE
2	0752854	DELIVERY
3	03076864	PICKUP
4	01988889	IN_STORE
...	...	...
2387219	0420721	IN_STORE
2387220	01738792	PICKUP
2387221	0858342	DELIVERY
2387222	02093417	IN_STORE
2387223	0718185	IN_STORE
...	...	...
2387224	...	...

2387224 rows x 2 columns

Notice the double square brackets - we're passing a list to the outer []

Nicely formatted! This is a **DataFrame**, not a series

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## Changing and resetting the index

```
df_small.index = [4, 8, 25]
df_small
```

	A	B
4	1	4
8	2	5
25	3	6

Notice that `reset_index` doesn't change the DataFrame: it simply returns a modified DataFrame

```
df_small.reset_index()
```

```
Index A B
```

```
0 4 1 4
```

```
1 8 2 5
```

```
2 25 3 6
```

If you don't include this, the **old** index is kept as a new column

```
df_small = df_small.reset_index(drop=True)
```

```
df_small
```

```
A B
```

```
0 1 4
```

```
1 2 5
```

```
2 3 6
```

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## Changing column names – two ways

```
df_small.columns
Index(['A', 'B'], dtype='object')

df_small.columns = ['Hello', 'Goodbye']
df_small
```

	Hello	Goodbye
0	1	4
1	2	5
2	3	6

```
df_small = df_small.rename(columns={'Hello': 'A', 'Goodbye': 'B'})
df_small
```

	A	B
0	1	4
1	2	5
2	3	6

Notice that `rename` doesn't change the DataFrame: it simply returns a modified DataFrame

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## Adding a column

```
# Does not work!
df_small.C = 1
df_small
```

	A	B
0	1	4
1	2	5
2	3	6

The dot technique **does not work!** You must use the square bracket technique!

```
df_small['D'] = 1
df_small['E'] = [2,3,4]
df_small
```

```
A B D E
```

```
0 1 4 1 2
```

```
1 2 5 1 3
```

```
2 3 6 1 4
```

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## A warning: when to use `.copy()`

```
df_small_2 = df_small[['A', 'B']]
df_small_2
```

	A	B
0	1	4
1	2	5
2	3	6

```
df_small_2.B = 5
```

C:\Users\erg2133\anaconda3\lib\site-packages\pandas\core\generic.py:3588: SettingWithCopyWarning: A value is trying to be set on a copy of a slice from a DataFrame. Try using `.loc[row_indexer,col_indexer] = value` instead. See the caveats in the documentation: [https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/user\\_guide/indecing.html#returning-a-new-versus-a-copy](https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/user_guide/indecing.html#returning-a-new-versus-a-copy)

```
df_small_2 = df_small[['A', 'B']].copy()
df_small_2.B = 5
```

There is no way to know whether `df_small_2` contains a **copy** of the relevant columns or whether it contains a **pointer** to the original DataFrame. So if we change it, it might change the original DataFrame

Tell pandas we want a **copy** specifically

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## Deleting rows and columns

```
df_small_3 = df_small.copy()
df_small_3
```

	A	B	D	E
0	1	4	1	2
1	2	5	1	3
2	3	6	1	4

```
df_small_3.drop(labels=[0, 2])
```

```
A B D E
```

```
1 2 5 1 3
```

```
df_small_3.drop(columns=['B', 'E'])
```

```
A D
```

```
0 1 1
```

```
1 2 1
```

```
2 3 1
```

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## .loc

.loc allows you to access specific parts of a DataFrame using the column names and the index

	A	B	D	E
0	1	4	1	2
1	2	5	1	3
2	3	6	1	4

```
df_small.loc[:, 'B']  
B  
0 1 2  
1 2 4  
2 3 4  
Name: B, dtype: int64  
  
df_small.loc[:, ['A', 'B']]  
A B  
0 1 2  
1 2 4  
2 3 4  
Name: B, dtype: int64  
  
df_small.loc[:, :]  
A B D E  
0 1 4 1 2  
1 2 5 1 3  
2 3 6 1 4  
Name: B, dtype: int64
```

This means "include everything"

## .iloc

.iloc allows you to access specific parts of a DataFrame using the column and row numbers

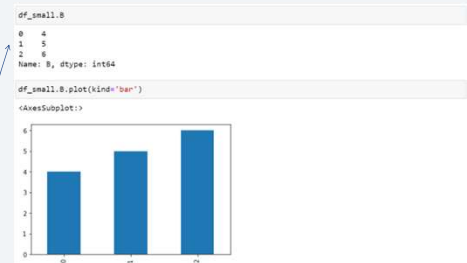
	A	B	D	E
0	1	4	1	2
1	2	5	1	3
2	3	6	1	4

```
df_small.iloc[0, 1]  
B  
0 1 2  
1 2 4  
2 3 4  
Name: B, dtype: int64  
  
df_small.iloc[0, :]  
A B  
0 1 4 1 2  
1 2 5 1 3  
2 3 6 1 4  
Name: B, dtype: int64  
  
df_small.iloc[:, 0]  
A  
0 1 2  
1 2 4  
2 3 4  
Name: B, dtype: int64
```

a: goes from a all the way till the end

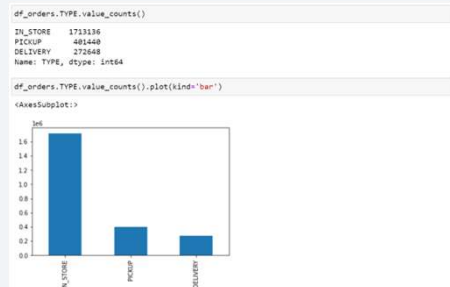
## Plotting directly from Pandas

## Plotting a series

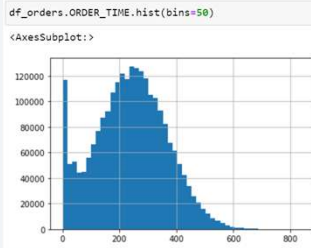


## Operations on Columns

## Exploring discrete columns



## Exploring continuous columns



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## Aggregations

```
df_orders.DRINKS.sum()
```

238344.0

```
df_orders.DRINKS.mean()
```

0.09649031678635939

```
df_orders.ORDER_TIME.median()
```

240.0

```
df_small.A.tolist()
```

[1, 2, 3]

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## Arithmetic

```
(df_small.A + 3)*2
```

```
0    8
1   10
2   12
Name: A, dtype: int64
```

```
import numpy as np
np.exp(df_small.A)
```

```
0    2.718282
1    7.389056
2   20.085537
Name: A, dtype: float64
```

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## Logic

```
(df_orders.DRINKS >= 1).head()
```

```
0    True
1    False
2    False
3    True
4    False
Name: DRINKS, dtype: bool
```

```
((df_orders.DRINKS >= 1) & (df_orders.COOKIES >= 1)).head()
```

```
# The brackets are essential, this is WRONG and will lead to an error
# (df_orders.DRINKS >= 1 & df_orders.COOKIES >= 1).head()
```

```
0    True
1    False
2    False
3    False
4    False
dtype: bool
```

```
((df_orders.DRINKS >= 1) | (df_orders.COOKIES >= 1)).head()
```

```
0    True
1    False
2    True
3    True
4    False
dtype: bool
```

Notice "S" and  
not "and"

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## isin

```
df_orders.head()
```

Unnamed: 0	ORDER_ID	DATE/TIME	TYPE	DRINKS	COOKIES	RESTAURANT	MAIN	BASE	SIDE_1	SI
0	0	01/02/2000 11:17:55	IN_STORE	1.0	2.0	Molloy's 1379 6th Ave, New York, NY 10019	NAN	NAN	NAN	
1	1	01/01/1112 11:35:00	IN_STORE	0.0	0.0	Biggie Park, 100 W 4th St, New York, NY 10013	NAN	NAN	NAN	
2	2	07/02/04 18:13:07	DELIVERY	0.0	2.0	Columbia 1084 Broadway, New York, NY 10020	Chicken Sandwich	Fruit with Shag Peas	Shag Peas	F
3	3	03/07/04 12:30:00	PICKUP	1.0	0.0	Falton, 40 St 239 St, New York, NY 10013	Chicken Sandwich	Shag Peas	Shag Peas	C
4	4	01/08/08 10:27:24	IN_STORE	0.0	0.0	Williamsburg 45 E 3rd St, Brooklyn, NY 11249	Sushi Medians	Fruit with Shag Peas	Shag Peas	C

```
df_orders.TYPE.isin(['IN_STORE']).head()
```

```
0    True
1    True
2    False
3    False
4    True
Name: TYPE, dtype: bool
```

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## apply

```
%time
def total_extras(row):
    return row.COOKIES + row.DRINKS
df_orders.apply(total_extras, axis=1).head()
```

```
Wall time: 32.6 s
```

```
0    3.0
1    0.0
2    2.0
3    1.0
4    0.0
dtype: float64
```

```
%time
(df_orders.COOKIES + df_orders.DRINKS).head()
```

```
Wall time: 5.01 ms
```

```
0    3.0
1    0.0
2    2.0
3    1.0
4    0.0
dtype: float64
```

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## Filtering DataFrames

## Sorting DataFrames

```
df_orders[['ORDER_ID', 'ORDER_TIME']].sort_values('ORDER_TIME', ascending=True).head()
```

	ORDER_ID	ORDER_TIME
1009664	O1447781	0.0
2079924	O1407264	0.0
1405027	O2297969	0.0
640419	O1600213	0.0
122476	O290965	0.0

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## Filtering DataFrames

df\_orders.head()

	ORDER_ID	DATETIME	TYPE	DRINKS	COOKIES	RESTAURANT	MAIN	BASE	SIDE_1	SIDE_2	ORD
0	O160000	2016-10-17 17:25:02	PL_STORE	1.0	0.0	Midtown 1375 6th Ave, New York, NY 10011	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
1	O101119	2016-09-11 11:30:00	PL_STORE	0.0	0.0	Upper East Side, New York, NY 10017	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	TH df_orders[df_orders.DRINKS > 0].head()
2	O102994	2016-04-18 12:57	DELIVERY	0.0	2.0	Clinton 2884 Broadway New York, NY 10001	Chopped Chicken	Farm at South MarketDist	Vegetarian		
3	O2079864	2016-11-12 12:50:02	PICKUP	1.0	0.0	Midtown 41 W 29th St, New York, NY 10012	Chopped Chicken	Class Bowl			
4	O166666	2016-11-18 27:24	PL_STORE	0.0	0.0	Midtown 41 W 29th St, New York, NY 10012	Chopped Chicken	Farm at South MarketDist	Vegetarian		

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## Reviewing square brackets

df\_orders[ ]

What's in the [ ]	What happens
A string	A series is returned containing the column with the name in the string
A list	A DataFrame is returned, containing the subset of columns named in the list
A series of True/False values	A DataFrame is returned, containing

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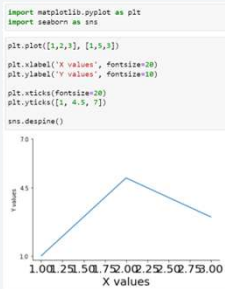
## Plotting in matplotlib

## matplotlib

- matplotlib is Python's most popular plotting library
- It was designed to emulate Matlab's plotting capability
- A sometimes less well-known fact is that there are **two** very different ways to use the library
  - **The state based/pyplot interface**, which is great for creating quick-and-easy plots, but gives you much less control over the finer aspects of the plot
  - **The object oriented interface**, which gives far finer control over every aspect of the plot

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## The pyplot interface



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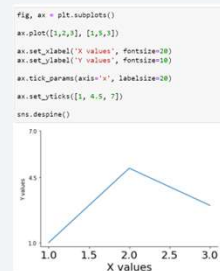
## The object-oriented interface

- Every Python plot comprises a **figure**, on which one or more **axes** are plotted. Various **artist** elements (lines, labels, etc...) are then plotted on top of that axis
- The object-oriented interface creates these elements manually, and allows you to manipulate them one by one
- It also allows you to create a figure with multiple axes; there are two reasons you might want to do this
  - Include a "secondary axis" with a different scale
  - Create multiple plots in one figure

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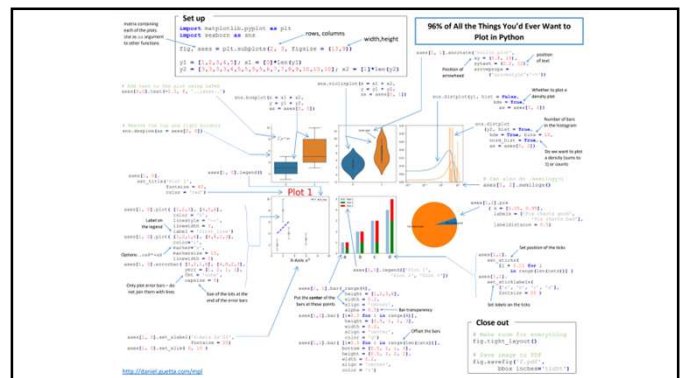
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## The object-oriented interface



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# Linear Regression

## Module 3

Professor Daniel Guetta  
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## This Module

- Simple linear regression
- Multiple linear regression
- The  $R^2$
- Dummy variables
- Variable selection
- Making predictions
- Interpreting regression output
- Advanced regression: nonlinearities, interactions, penalties...

## Regression analysis: the big picture

### Regression analysis: the big picture

- Regression is used to describe the relationship between two or more variables
- There are two main purposes of a regression
  - Quantifying causality (**explain**)
    - What is the effect of smoking on the likelihood of cardiovascular disease?
    - Do mask mandates reduce COVID transmission rates?
  - Prediction and forecasting (**predict**)
    - Predict home sales for December given an interest rate
    - Predict the price of wine given its acidity

## Example 1: the wine equation

<https://www.nytimes.com/1990/03/04/us/wine-equation-puts-some-noses-out-of-joint>

Calculate the winter rain and the harvest rain (in millimeters). Add summer heat in the vineyard (in degrees centigrade). Subtract 12.145. And what do you have? A very, very passionate argument over wine.

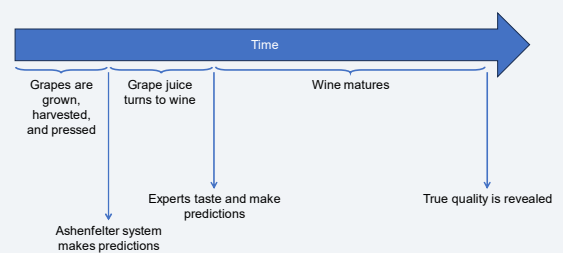
Prof. Orley Ashenfelter, a Princeton economist, has devised a mathematical formula for predicting the quality of red wine vintages in France. And the guardians of tradition are fuming.

Robert M. Parker Jr., generally regarded as the most influential wine critic in America, calls Professor Ashenfelter's research "ludicrous and absurd."

NYT, March 4<sup>th</sup> 1990

$$\log(\text{Quality}) = -12.145 + \beta_{\text{wr}}(\text{WinterRain}) + \beta_{\text{hr}}(\text{HarvestRain}) + \beta_{\text{sh}}(\text{SummerHeat})$$

## Why do we even need a prediction?



## Example 1: the wine equation

Mr. Parker rates the 1986's as "very good and sometimes exceptional." Peter A. Sichel, author of the influential Bordeaux Vintage and Market Report, said the 1986's have "elegance and classic Bordeaux structure." New York stores, brimming with the vintage, are pricing the wines in the same range as the much-praised 1985's.

But according to the Ashenfelter system, below-average growing season temperatures and above-average harvest rainfall doom the 1986 Bordeaux to mediocrity. When the dust settles, he predicts, it will be judged the worst vintage of the 1980's, and no better than the unmemorable 1974's or 1969's.

Perhaps the most dramatic Ashenfelter prediction, the one likely to vault the ratings system into prominence or doom it to obscurity, is for the 1989 vintage.

These wines are barely three months in the cask and have yet to be tasted by critics. By Professor Ashenfelter's calculations, the hottest growing season in memory, combined with a very dry harvest, all but guarantee that the 1989 Bordeaux will be stunningly good. Adjusted for age, he predicts, these wines will eventually sell for a substantial premium over the great 1961 vintage.

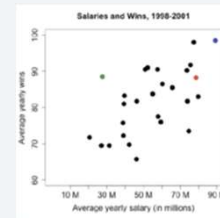
What part of this example quantifies causality? What part does prediction and forecasting?



## Example 1: the verdict

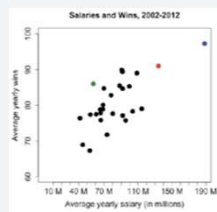
- "1986 was largely OK, but stopped short of excellent."
- "1989 was a fantastic vintage year. Bordeaux, particularly, had virtually no faults with red, whites, and dessert wines all performing exceptionally well."

## Example 2: the baseball equation



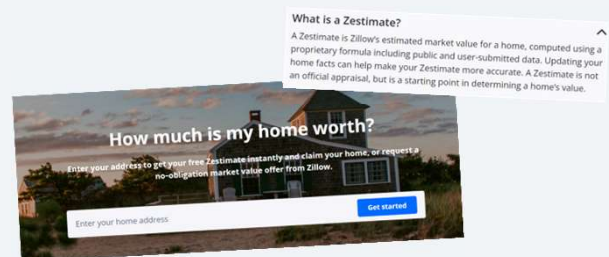
$$\text{RunScored} = \beta_0 + \beta_{\text{obp}}(\text{OnBasePer}) + \beta_{\text{slp}}(\text{SluggingPer}) + \beta_{\text{ba}}(\text{BattingAvg}) + \dots$$

## Example 2: once everyone catches on...



$$\text{RunScored} = \beta_0 + \beta_{\text{obp}}(\text{OnBasePer}) + \beta_{\text{slp}}(\text{SluggingPer}) + \beta_{\text{ba}}(\text{BattingAvg}) + \dots$$

## Example 3: the zestimate



### Example 3: the zestimate

(12) **United States Patent**  
Humphries et al.

(10) Patent No.: **US 8,140,421 B1**  
(45) Date of Patent: **Mar. 20, 2012**

(54) **AUTOMATICALLY DETERMINING A CURRENT VALUE FOR A HOME**

2005-03-08 A1 \* 5-2005 Bassonetti et al. 705/30  
2005-03-10 A1 \* 7-2005 Kim et al. 705/30  
2005-03-14 A1 \* 7-2005 Kim et al. 705/30  
2005-03-17 A1 \* 12-2005 Enbar et al.

Handerson County recent sales table for linear regression model

id	sq. ft.	lot size	bedrooms	bathrooms	year	selling price	roof type	year code
1	1850	4340	4	2	1953	\$132,000	shingle	single-family 2001
2	2220	6000	6	2	1965	\$201,000	shingle	single-family 2002
3	1375	3100	3	1	1974	\$98,750	tile	single-family 2003
4	1590	4575	2	2	1973	\$106,500	shingle	single-family 2004
5	2280	7300	3	3	1948	\$251,000	shingle	single-family 2005
6	1950	6200	2	2	1925	\$240,000	shingle	single-family 2006
7	2180	7880	5	2	1940	\$230,000	shake	single-family 2007

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### The CBSTimate

### The CBSTimate



- We will create a mini version of the Zestimate
- We'll be using data from the UWS – specifically, the following four zip codes
- Our data comprises 1,464 apartments, the price per square foot they brought in when sold, and several apartment characteristics we'll discuss shortly

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### Loading the StreetEasy data

```
import pandas as pd
df_se = pd.read_excel('StreetEasy data.xlsx')
df_se.head()
```

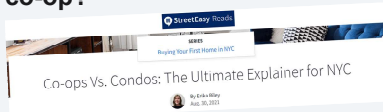
	price_per_sqft	zip_code	sqft	bedrooms	bathrooms	rooms	property_type	floor	door_attendant	gym
0	1476.894640	10025	541	0.0	1.0	0.5	condo	17	1	1
1	1910.413476	10023	1306	3.0	2.5	5.5	condo	14	1	1
2	1588.235294	10024	255	0.0	1.0	2.0	condo	5	0	0
3	1053.097345	10023	565	0.0	1.0	2.5	coop	21	1	0
4	357.142857	10025	1400	2.0	1.0	2.0	coop	5	0	0

Real estate agent definitions, lol

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### Condo or co-op?



#### Condos

- Traditional real estate investment (own the apartment)
- Fewer restrictions (on renting for eg)
- Often newer
- Often more amenities

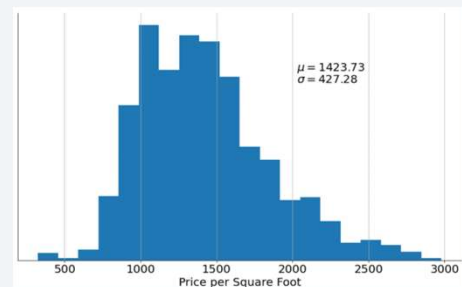
#### Co-ops

- Owns a share in the building
- Sale and rentals require board approval
- Often older
- Often fewer amenities
- Board can block rentals and purchases

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### Price per square foot



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What “explain” and “predict” questions might we ask using this data?



## Beginning with univariate regression

### Important note



To focus on the insights behind linear regression, we are going to be a little sloppy with the distinction between random variables and specific deterministic values these random variables can take, and various other mathematical details; a more rigorous, mathematical class would make that distinction more carefully. Those interested can refer to any advanced text on linear regression, or my notes [here](#).

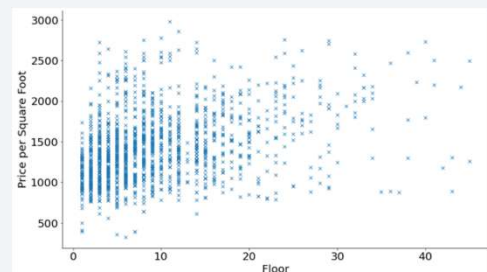
Let's begin with two simple questions:  
1. Does floor affect price?  
2. Given the floor, can I predict price?

How might we begin answering these questions?

### Correlation

```
df_se.price_per_sqft.corr(df_se.floor)  
0.3446584152519978
```

### Visualization



This is all a little bit noisy... How can we make this more concrete?

## Linear regression

Linear regression posits that the relationship between the floor (which we denote  $x$ ) and the price per square foot (which we denote  $y$ ) is given by

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta x_i + \varepsilon_i$$

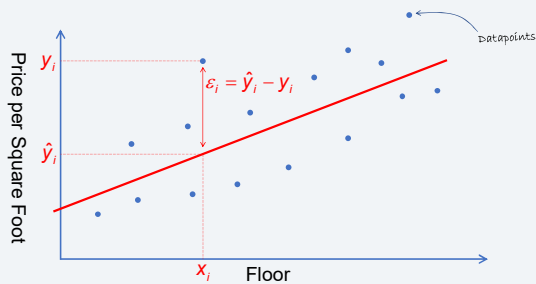
Also known as the dependent variable, or the response variable. In this class, we'll stick to "y-variable"

An error term, which we assume is normally distributed with a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of  $\sigma_\varepsilon$ . This is also called the *residual*

Also known as the independent variable, the covariate, or the explanatory variable. In this class, we'll stick to "x-variable"

i.e., there is a "true", "underlying" price of an apartment on floor  $x$ , equal to  $\alpha + \beta x$ , but because other things affect the price, there is randomness around this value

## Linear regression



How can we pick  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  to get the "best" line? What does the "best line" even mean?

## Finding the "best" line

The "best" line is the one that minimizes

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{y}_i - y_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N (\alpha + \beta x_i - y_i)^2$$

Number of datapoints

## Linear regression as a maximizer of likelihood

Our linear regression model is

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta x_i + \varepsilon_i \quad \text{with } \varepsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

We can think of  $x_i$  as a fixed number and  $y_i$  as a random variable, with the following distribution (uppercase for RV)

$$Y_i \sim N(\alpha + \beta x_i, \sigma^2)$$

The PDF of  $Y_i$  is

$$f_{Y_i}(y_i) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{y_i - (\alpha + \beta x_i)}{\sigma}\right]^2\right)$$

## Linear regression as a maximizer of likelihood

Suppose we observe  $N$  points  $(x_i, y_i)$ . The likelihood of observing these points is

$$\prod_{i=1}^N f_{y_i}(y_i) = \prod_{i=1}^N \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{y_i - (\alpha + \beta x_i)}{\sigma} \right]^2 \right) \right\}$$

Let's take the logarithm of this expression...

## Linear regression as a maximizer of likelihood

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{i=1}^N f_{y_i}(y_i) &= \prod_{i=1}^N \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{y_i - (\alpha + \beta x_i)}{\sigma} \right]^2 \right) \right\} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{y_i - (\alpha + \beta x_i)}{\sigma} \right]^2 \right) \right\} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \right\} - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N [y_i - (\alpha + \beta x_i)]^2 \end{aligned}$$

Maximizing this likelihood w.r.t  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is identical to minimizing

$$\sum_{i=1}^N [y_i - (\alpha + \beta x_i)]^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{y}_i - y_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N e_i^2$$

CE A3

Now how do we find the  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  that minimize this error?

## Differentiating with respect to $\alpha$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \sum_{i=1}^N (\alpha + \beta x_i - y_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N 2(\alpha + \beta x_i - y_i)$$

Setting this to 0, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^N 2(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} x_i - y_i) &= 0 \\ \hat{\alpha} N + \hat{\beta} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \right) - \sum_{i=1}^N y_i &= 0 \\ \hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i &= 0 \\ \hat{\alpha} &= \bar{y} - \hat{\beta} \bar{x} \end{aligned}$$

CE A3

## Differentiating with respect to $\beta$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \sum_{i=1}^N (\alpha + \beta x_i - y_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N 2x_i(\alpha + \beta x_i - y_i)$$

Substituting  $\hat{\alpha} = \bar{y} - \hat{\beta} \bar{x}$  and setting this to 0, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^N 2x_i(\bar{y} - \hat{\beta} \bar{x} + \hat{\beta} x_i - y_i) &= 0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^N x_i[(y_i - \bar{y}) - \hat{\beta}(x_i - \bar{x})] &= 0 \\ \hat{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i(x_i - \bar{x}) &= \sum_{i=1}^N x_i(y_i - \bar{y}) \end{aligned}$$

At this point, we could write  $\hat{\beta} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i(x_i - \bar{x})}$  and we'll use this version later. But there's a way to write this that will make the expression more intuitive.

## Differentiating with respect to $\beta$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i(x_i - \bar{x}) &= \bar{x} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x}) = \bar{x}(N\bar{x} - N\bar{x}) = 0 \quad \text{This is just 0} \\ \hat{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i(x_i - \bar{x}) &= \sum_{i=1}^N x_i(y_i - \bar{y}) \\ \hat{\beta} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N x_i(x_i - \bar{x}) - \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{x}(x_i - \bar{x}) \right] &= \sum_{i=1}^N x_i(y_i - \bar{y}) - \sum_{i=1}^N \bar{x}(y_i - \bar{y}) \quad \text{This is just 0} \\ \hat{\beta} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})(x_i - \bar{x}) \right] &= \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y}) \\ \hat{\beta} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \end{aligned}$$

## A more intuitive explanation for $\beta$

Note that we can write

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \\ &= \frac{NCov(X, Y)}{NStd(X)^2} \frac{Std(Y)}{Std(X)} \\ &= \frac{Cov(X, Y)}{Std(X)Std(Y)} \frac{Std(Y)}{Std(X)} \\ &= Corr(X, Y) \frac{Std(Y)}{Std(X)}\end{aligned}$$

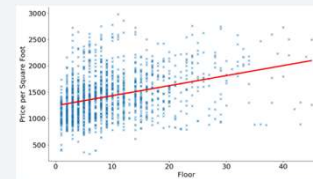
In other words, the gradient is just the correlation, corrected for the variance of each column!

## Univariate regression in Python

```
def find_beta(var):
    return df.se.price_per_sqft.corr(df.se[var]) * df.se.price_per_sqft.std() / df.se[var].std()

def find_alpha(var):
    return df.se.price_per_sqft.mean() - find_beta(var) * df.se[var].mean()

beta = find_beta('floor')
alpha = find_alpha('floor')
```



$$y = 1239.79 + 19.07x$$

How can this be used for “predict” and “explain” purposes?

## The “predict” vs. “explain”



Explain

Price per square foot =  
1239.79 + 19.07 × Floor

An apartment on “floor 0” costs \$1239.79 per square foot

Every extra floor leads to an extra \$19.07 per square foot



Predict

Price per square foot =  
1239.79 + 19.07 × Floor

Given the floor of an apartment, I can predict the price per square foot for that apartment

How does this relate to the concept of population parameter/sample statistic from our first lecture?

## Population parameters and statistics

$\alpha, \beta$

These are the **population parameters** – the true impact of floor on the price per square foot

$\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}$

These are the **statistics**, which are **random variables** – we derive these from our sample, which is random (why?) We will later find the **distribution** of these statistics

## Population parameter vs. statistics



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(Optional) Better understanding the regression coefficients

## Understanding the coefficients – part 1

Feeding  $\hat{\alpha}$  and this value of  $\hat{\beta}$  into  $\hat{y} = \hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{y} &= \hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x \\ \hat{y} &= (\bar{y} - \hat{\beta}\bar{x}) + \hat{\beta}x \\ \hat{y} - \bar{y} &= \hat{\beta}(x - \bar{x}) \\ \hat{y} - \bar{y} &= \text{Corr}(X, Y) \frac{\text{Std}(Y)}{\text{Std}(X)} (x - \bar{x}) \\ \frac{\hat{y} - \bar{y}}{\text{Std}(Y)} &= \text{Corr}(X, Y) \frac{x - \bar{x}}{\text{Std}(X)}\end{aligned}$$

If the variables are standardized, the intercept is 0 and the gradient is just the correlation!

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## Understanding the coefficients – part 2

We saw that

$$\frac{\hat{y} - \bar{y}}{\text{Std}(Y)} = \text{Corr}(X, Y) \frac{x - \bar{x}}{\text{Std}(X)}$$

Suppose we have a datapoint with  $x$  just equal to the mean. For example, suppose an apartment is on the 9.6<sup>th</sup> floor (the average). Then

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\hat{y} - \bar{y}}{\text{Std}(Y)} &= 0 \\ \hat{y} &= \bar{y}\end{aligned}$$

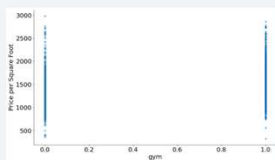
We just predict the average price per square feet. If the apartment is average, why predict anything else?!

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## Understanding the coefficients – part 3

To get an even deeper understanding of the slope and intercept, let's consider an example in which  $x$  only takes two values (0 and 1). For example, a regression of `price_per_sqft` against `gym`



$$\begin{aligned}N_0 &= (\# \text{ points with } x = 0) \\ N_1 &= (\# \text{ points with } x = 1) \\ \bar{y}_0 &= \frac{1}{N_0} \left( \sum_{\text{points with } x_i=0} y_i \right) \\ \bar{y}_1 &= \frac{1}{N_1} \left( \sum_{\text{points with } x_i=1} y_i \right) \\ \bar{y} &= \bar{y}_1 P(X=1) + \bar{y}_0 P(X=0) \\ &= \bar{y}_1 \bar{x} + \bar{y}_0 (1 - \bar{x})\end{aligned}$$

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## Understanding the coefficients – part 3

Let's now go back to our original expression for  $\beta$

$$\hat{\beta} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i (y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i (x_i - \bar{x})}$$

Now split it into points with  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta} &= \frac{\sum_{\text{points with } x_i=0} x_i (y_i - \bar{y}) + \sum_{\text{points with } x_i=1} x_i (y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{\text{points with } x_i=0} x_i (x_i - \bar{x}) + \sum_{\text{points with } x_i=1} x_i (x_i - \bar{x})} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{\text{points with } x_i=1} y_i - \bar{y}}{\sum_{\text{points with } x_i=1} 1 - \bar{x}}\end{aligned}$$

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## Understanding the coefficients – part 4

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta} &= \frac{\sum_{\text{points with } x_i=1} y_i - \bar{y}}{\sum_{\text{points with } x_i=1} 1 - \bar{x}} \\ &= \frac{N_1(\bar{y}_1 - \bar{y})}{N_1(1 - \bar{x})} \\ &= \frac{\bar{y}_1 - [\bar{y}_0\bar{x} + \bar{y}_0(1 - \bar{x})]}{1 - \bar{x}} \\ &= \frac{(\bar{y}_1 - \bar{y}_0)(1 - \bar{x})}{1 - \bar{x}} \\ &= \bar{y}_1 - \bar{y}_0 \\ \hat{\alpha} &= \bar{y} - \hat{\beta}\bar{x} \\ &= \bar{y}_0\bar{x} + \bar{y}_0(1 - \bar{x}) - (\bar{y}_1 - \bar{y}_0)\bar{x} \\ &= \bar{y}_0\end{aligned}$$

We showed earlier that  $\bar{y} = \bar{y}_0\bar{x} + \bar{y}_0(1 - \bar{x})$

This is the difference between the average price per sqft with and without a gym; in other words, the "gym premium."

This is the average price per sqft for apartments without a gym.

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## Understanding the coefficients – part 3

```
print(find_alpha('gym'))
df_se[df_se.gym==0].price_per_sqft.mean()

1263.8474455067726
1263.8474455067758

print(find_beta('gym'))
df_se[df_se.gym==1].price_per_sqft.mean() - df_se[df_se.gym==0].price_per_sqft.mean()

298.1799869483872
298.1799869483825
```

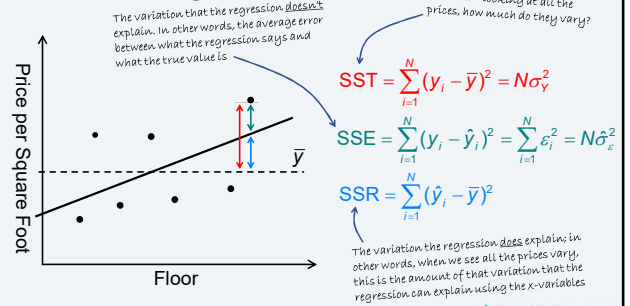
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## Errors

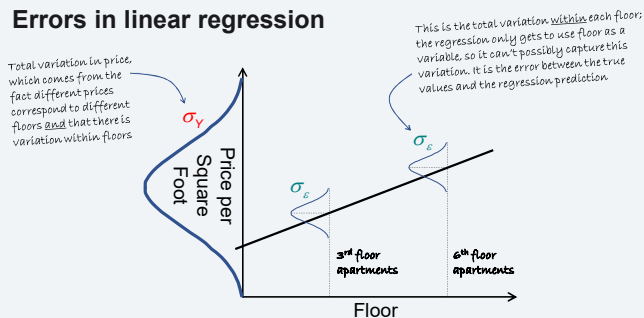
## Errors in linear regression



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## Errors in linear regression



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## Estimating the residual error $\sigma_\varepsilon$

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## Estimating $\sigma_\varepsilon$

- Estimating  $\sigma_\varepsilon$  from data proceeds just as you'd expect – you find the average error the regression makes
- However, we are estimating this from **limited data**
- Recall that when we found an estimate of the standard deviation from data, we had to divide by  $N - 1$  to ensure our estimate was **unbiased**
- The same applies here, except we need to divide by  $N - 2$

$$s_\varepsilon^2 = \frac{1}{N-2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$$

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## Why $N - 2$

- Fundamentally, the reason we divide by  $N - 2$  is because

$$E\left(\frac{1}{N-2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2\right) = \sigma_\varepsilon^2$$

- This is – unfortunately – quite hard to show (see [here](#) – footnote 9 and the proof of Cochran's Theorem on page 27)
- One common explanation goes as follows
  - When estimating the standard deviation, we are already estimating the mean which removes **1** degree of freedom, and so we divide by  **$N - 1$**
  - When estimating a regression, we are estimating **2** parameters, which removes **2** degrees of freedom, and so we divide by  **$N - 2$** .
- I personally loathe this “logic”, for reasons we'll discuss in class; but if it helps you remember the formula, it works well enough

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## Finding the standard error in our regression

```
df_se.price_per_sqft.std()
427.2751500848644

import numpy as np
sigma_epsilon_2 = ((df_se.price_per_sqft - (alpha + beta*df_se.floor))**2).sum()/(len(df_se)-2)
sigma_epsilon = np.sqrt(sigma_epsilon_2)

print(sigma_epsilon_2)
print(sigma_epsilon)

160987.41446618343
401.2323696639934
```

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## Side note; back to the likelihood...

$$\begin{aligned} \log \text{likelihood} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \right\} - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} [y_i - (\alpha + \beta x_i)]^2 \\ &= -\frac{N}{2} \log \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N [y_i - (\alpha + \beta x_i)]^2 + \text{constant} \end{aligned}$$

Suppose we want to maximize this with respect to  $\sigma$ ; let's differentiate this with respect to  $\sigma^2$  and set to 0

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{N}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \sum_{i=1}^N [y_i - (\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} x_i)]^2 &= 0 \\ \hat{\sigma}^2 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N [y_i - (\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} x_i)]^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon_i^2 \end{aligned}$$

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## Properties of residuals

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## Residuals and predicted values

We can prove some important properties of residuals. Recall that linear regression solves the problem

$$\min_{\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}} \sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon_i^2 \quad \text{where } \varepsilon_i = (\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} x_i - y_i)$$

When we differentiated with respect to  $\hat{\alpha}$  and  $\hat{\beta}$  and set them to 0, we found that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon_i = 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} &= \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \varepsilon_i = 0 \end{aligned}$$

If this weren't true, we would just change  $\alpha$  until it becomes true

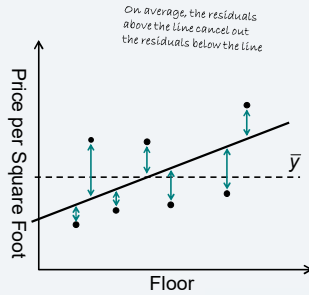
If this weren't true, we would just change  $\beta$  until it becomes true

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### Fact 1: mean residual is 0

$$\bar{\varepsilon} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon_i = 0$$

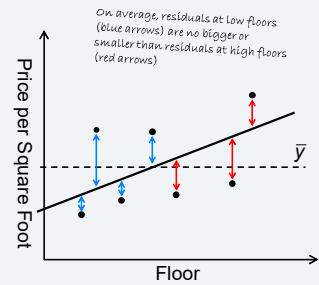


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### Fact 2: residuals uncorrelated to x-values

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Corr}(x, \varepsilon) &\propto \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})(\varepsilon_i - \bar{\varepsilon}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})\varepsilon_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \varepsilon_i - \bar{x} \sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon_i \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

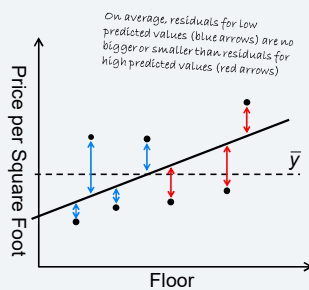


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### Fact 3: residuals uncorrelated to predicted values

$$\begin{aligned} E(\hat{y}_i) &= E(\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x_i) = E(\hat{y}) = \bar{y} \\ \text{Corr}(\hat{y}, \varepsilon) &\propto \sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})(\varepsilon_i - \bar{\varepsilon}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{y}_i \varepsilon_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x_i)\varepsilon_i \\ &= \hat{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon_i + \hat{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \varepsilon_i \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



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### Fact 4: the beauty

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SST} &= \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \bar{y})^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i + \hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i)(\hat{y}_i - \bar{y}) \\ &= \text{SSE} + \text{SSR} + 2 \sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})\varepsilon_i \\ &= \text{SSE} + \text{SSR} \end{aligned}$$

We conclude

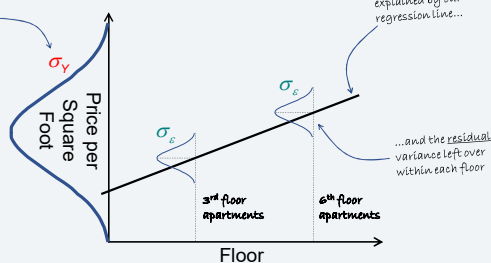
$$\boxed{\text{SST} = \text{SSE} + \text{SSR}}$$

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### The beauty

This total variation in price per squared foot is equal to the sum of...



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How “good” is a regression?

What number can we use to describe how “good” our linear regression is?

## The “predict” vs. “explain”



### Explain

For “explain”, we care about how correctly  $\hat{\beta}$  reflects the true  $\beta$ ...  
... we’ll first need the distribution of the stastic (later)



### Predict

For “predict”, we care about how **much** of the variation in  $y$  our regression explains

## Are these really different?

Consider these two regressions

$$\text{Max 1RM deadlift} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \times \text{Athlete weight}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Max 1RM deadlift} \\ = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \times \text{Max 2RM DL} + \beta_2 \times \text{Max 5RM DL} \end{aligned}$$

## The $R^2$ (coefficient of determination)

The more of the total variance is explain by our model, the better the model for prediction. We define

$$R^2 = \frac{\text{explained by model}}{\text{total variance}} = \frac{\text{SSR}}{\text{SST}} = 1 - \frac{\text{SSE}}{\text{SST}}$$

This will be between 0 and 1 (for **in-sample data**; we’ll discuss this in the future).

## The $R^2$ (coefficient of determination)

Note that for this simple case, with one variable,

$$\begin{aligned} R^2 &= \frac{\text{SSR}}{\text{SST}} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2}{N\sigma_y^2} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta}x_i - \bar{y})^2}{N\sigma_y^2} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (\bar{y} - \hat{\beta}\bar{x} + \hat{\beta}x_i - \bar{y})^2}{N\sigma_y^2} \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} &= \frac{\hat{\beta}^2 \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{N\sigma_y^2} \\ &= \frac{\hat{\beta}^2 N\sigma_x^2}{N\sigma_y^2} \\ &= \text{Corr}(X, Y)^2 \frac{\sigma_y^2}{\sigma_x^2} \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} \\ &= \text{Corr}(X, Y)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Moar variables... Multivariate regression

## The “predict” vs. “explain”



### Explain

Price per square foot =  
1239.79 + 19.07 × Floor

*Do higher floors really get a higher price per square foot? Or is it because apartments on higher floors have more bathrooms, making them more desirable?*

*Adding “number of bathrooms” to our regression can **control** for the number of bathrooms and reveal the true effect of the floor*



### Predict

Price per square foot =  
1239.79 + 19.07 × Floor

*If our regression gets to use more characteristics of the apartment, the predictions are likely to be more accurate*

## Multivariate regression

- We have thus far been using **one** independent variable in our analysis. Multivariate regression uses **many** variables.
- With more variables, everything is more difficult
  - We can't display things on a simple diagram
  - The proofs become more difficult; this isn't a math class, so we won't focus on these, but the intuition transfers from the univariate case
- With more difficulty comes a great reward!

## Multivariate linear regression; matrix notation

When working with multivariate linear regression, it is simplest to work in matrix notation. As a simple example, let's consider two variables only; **rooms** (the number of rooms in the apartment) and **bathrooms** (the number of bathrooms in the apartment). We'll consider four rows only:

```
df_se[['price_per_sqft', 'bathrooms', 'rooms']].head(4)
```

	price_per_sqft	bathrooms	rooms
0	1476.894640	1.0	0.5
1	1910.413476	2.5	5.5
2	1588.235294	1.0	2.0
3	1053.097345	1.0	2.5

## Multivariate linear regression; classical notation

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1,i} + \beta_2 x_{2,i} + \dots$$

## Multivariate linear regression; matrix notation

We can express the regression as follows:

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

vector of y-variables

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1477 \\ 1910 \\ 1588 \\ 1053 \end{pmatrix}$$

Matrix of x-variables (the first column represents the intercept)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0.5 \\ 1 & 2.5 & 5.5 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2.5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Intercept  
Bathrooms  
Rooms

vector of coefficients

$$\begin{pmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

vector of errors

$$\begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_0 \\ \varepsilon_1 \\ \varepsilon_2 \\ \varepsilon_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Some matrix reminders (from pre-class note!)

$$(\mathbf{X}^T)^T = \mathbf{X}$$

$$(\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y})^T = \mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{X}^T$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{X}} (\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{X}} (\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{Y}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{X}} (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Y}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{X}} (\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}^T) = \mathbf{Y}^T$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{X}} (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{X}^T (\mathbf{Y}^T + \mathbf{Y})$$

## Finding the coefficients $\beta$

We can find the best coefficients just as we did before – minimizing the errors

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\beta} \|Y - X\beta\|^2 \\ \Rightarrow \min_{\beta} (Y - X\beta)^T (Y - X\beta) \\ \Rightarrow \min_{\beta} Y^T Y - Y^T X\beta - \beta^T X^T Y + \beta^T X^T X\beta \end{aligned}$$

Because we have combined the intercept and the coefficients into one lump, we only need to differentiate with respect to one vector and set to 0

CE B1

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## Finding the coefficients $\beta$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} (Y^T Y - Y^T X\beta - \beta^T X^T Y + \beta^T X^T X\beta) = 0$$

$$0 - Y^T X - (X^T Y)^T + \beta^T (X^T X)^T + X^T X\beta = 0$$

$$2\hat{\beta}^T X^T X = 2Y^T X$$

$$X^T X\hat{\beta} = X^T Y$$

$$\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$$

CE B1

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## Finding the coefficients $\beta$

$$\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$$

Computers can carry out matrix operations phenomenally quickly; this formula provides a convenient way to get regression coefficients using matrix operations only

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## Fitting a multivariate linear regression in Python

## Multivariate regression in Python

- We can carry out regression in Python using the matrix formula in the previous slide
- This is somewhat inconvenient
  - It requires converting your data into matrices
  - It requires knowledge of some more advanced Python libraries that can carry out matrix operations
- We demonstrate this approach in the optional cells of the Jupyter notebook; you can confirm it yields identical results
- We will instead use a Python package called `statsmodels` which will make carrying out multivariate regression a breeze
- There are two ways to use `statsmodels`; we will use the so-called **formula api**, which I find much more convenient

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## Linear regression in statsmodels

```
import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
```

```
# Create the regression object
reg = smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ rooms + bathrooms', data=df_se)

# Fit the regression
reg_result = reg.fit()
```

`statsmodels` allows us to specify a *formula* in which you first type the *y* variable, then a *tilde*, then the *x* variables separated by *+* signs. The names of the variables must correspond to columns in the data

The data. Note that the column names for variables that will be used in the formula have to be valid Python variable names (no spaces, can't start with digits, etc...)

"OLS" stands for "ordinary least squares", another name for the kind of regression we've been discussing in which we minimize the square of the errors

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## View the regression results

```
# Show the result
reg_result.summary()
```

OLS Regression Results				
	Dep. Variable:	price_per_sqft	R-squared:	0.322
Model:	OLS		Adj. R-squared:	0.321
Method:	Least Squares		F-statistic:	346.8
Date:	Wed, 29 Dec 2021		Prob (F-statistic):	5.47e-124
Time:	16:13:36		Log-Likelihood:	-1086.5
No. Observations:	1465		AIC:	2.133e+04
Df Residuals:	1461		BIC:	2.134e+04
Df Model:	2			
Covariance Type: nonrobust				
	coef	std err	t	Pr> t
Intercept	1057.439550	89.124	11.868	0.000
rooms	-60.889124	112.193	-0.542	0.590
bathrooms	379.295767	112.193	3.379	0.001
Omnibus: 1.912	Durbin-Watson:	1.912		
Prob(Omnibus): 0.000	Jarque-Bera (JB):	108.217		
Skew: 0.000	Prob(JB):	5.17e-24		
Kurtosis: 3.702	Cond. No.	14.7		

Price per square foot  
= 1057  
- 60 × rooms  
+ 379 × bathrooms

```
reg_result.params
Intercept    1057.439550
rooms       -60.889124
bathrooms    379.295767
dtype: float64
```

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Using multivariate linear regression to “explain”; controlling for other variables

## Three regressions

```
reg_result.params
```

```
Intercept    1057.439550
rooms       -60.889124
bathrooms    379.295767
dtype: float64
```

→ An extra room drops the price \$60/sq ft; an extra bathroom raises the price \$379/sq ft

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ rooms', data=df_se).fit().params
```

```
Intercept    984.682999
rooms       111.823866
dtype: float64
```

→ An extra room raises the price \$111/sq ft

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ bathrooms', data=df_se).fit().params
```

```
Intercept    951.784433
bathrooms    296.468172
dtype: float64
```

→ An extra bathroom raises the price \$296/sq ft

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How do we explain these seemingly contradictory conclusions?

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## Controlling for other variables

- Apartments with **more rooms** are **more expensive**, per sqft
- Apartments with **more bathrooms** are **more expensive**, per sqft
- **BUT**, apartments with more rooms have more bathrooms (the **correlation** between the two variables is **0.81**)
  - So maybe the only reason it looks like more rooms = more expensive is because of more bathrooms, or vice-versa
- When both variables are included, the regression figures out how much of the effect is due to each variable
- To be able to do this, the regression needs examples where one variable is high and the other is low
  - If the correlation between variables is too high, there won't be such cases and the regression won't be able to do its job – more on that later

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Multivariate linear regression can disentangle the impact of multiple variables on the outcome. In other words, it can find the impact of one variable controlling for the effect of another

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Are we now sure that the results of the larger regression are reliable? Are there any other variable that might change the picture?

Using multivariate linear regression to “predict”

### Predicted values

Suppose we have new values of the x-values, say  $\mathbf{X}_{\text{new}}$ . We can find an expression for the predicted values for these values of x from our multivariate regression

$$\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = \mathbf{X}_{\text{new}} \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = \mathbf{X}_{\text{new}} (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Y}$$

### Predicted values from statsmodels

statsmodels can easily make predictions on new data

```
new_data = pd.DataFrame({'rooms': [1, 1, 2, 2], 'bathrooms': [1, 2, 1, 2]})
new_data

rooms  bathrooms
0      1          1
1      1          2
2      2          1
3      2          2

reg_result.predict(new_data)

0    1376.646192
1    1755.941959
2    1316.557068
3    1695.852835
dtype: float64
```

Dealing with categorical variables

### Categorical variables

- The regressions we have fit so far have all used **continuous** variables
- Our dataset contains some **categorical variables** – variables that can only take one of a few values, and that might not even be numeric
  - Property type (condo/co-op)
  - Zip code
  - etc...
- How can we use these in a regression? How do we get them to fit in an  $\mathbf{X}$  matrix?
- There are a number of ways to do this – we'll cover the **dummy variable encoding** or **one hot encoding**



## Why can we not just do this?

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ zip_code', data=df_ia).fit().summary()
```

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	price_per_sqft	R-squared:	0.023			
Model: <td>OLS</td> <td>Adj. R-squared: <td>0.022</td> </td>	OLS	Adj. R-squared: <td>0.022</td>	0.022			
Method: <td>Least Squares</td> <td>F-statistic: <td>34.19</td> </td>	Least Squares	F-statistic: <td>34.19</td>	34.19			
Date: <td>Thu, 30 Jun 2022</td> <td>Prob (F-statistic): <td>6.16e-09</td> </td>	Thu, 30 Jun 2022	Prob (F-statistic): <td>6.16e-09</td>	6.16e-09			
Time: <td>09:49:29</td> <td>Log-Likelihood: <td>-10928.</td> </td>	09:49:29	Log-Likelihood: <td>-10928.</td>	-10928.			
No. Observations: <td>1464</td> <td>AIC: <td>2.186e+04</td> </td>	1464	AIC: <td>2.186e+04</td>	2.186e+04			
DF Residuals: <td>1462</td> <td>BIC: <td>2.187e+04</td> </td>	1462	BIC: <td>2.187e+04</td>	2.187e+04			
DF Model: <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td>	1					
Covariance Type: <td>nonrobust</td> <td></td> <td></td>	nonrobust					
	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	-4.851e+04	8538.747	-5.680	0.000	-6.53e+04	-3.18e+04
zip_code	4.9794	0.852	5.847	0.000	3.309	6.650
Omnibus:	133.882	Durbin-Watson:	1.904			
Prob(Omnibus):	0.000	Jarque-Bera (JB):	170.465			
Skew:	0.795	Prob(JB):	0.04e-38			
Kurtosis:	3.518	Cond. No.	7.78e+06			

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## Creating dummy variables

In the dummy variable approach, we create one column for every category of the variable:

### Original data

Prop. Type
condo
condo
coop
coop
coop
condo

### Dummy variables

Type_condo	Type_coop
1	0
1	0
0	1
0	1
0	1
1	0

We're now almost ready to fit our regression using these **new** variables

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## What if we have a categorical with > 2 values

### Original data

ZIP
10023
10024
10023
10023
10025
10025

### Dummy variables

ZIP_10023	ZIP_10024	ZIP_10025
1	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	0	0
0	0	1
0	0	1

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Why can we not use these new variables directly in a regression?

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## The redundant dummy

- Remember regression disentangles the impact of various variables on the outcome
- If we fit a regression with both dummies, it's equivalent to disentangling the impact of
  - The property being a condo and not a co-op
  - The property being a co-op and not a condo
- But these are the **same thing** – the two columns basically contain **exactly the same data**, and have a correlation of 1
- So it's pointless to include both, and the regression won't be able to disentangle them

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## What if we have a categorical with > 2 values

- The solution is to pick **one possible value** of the categorical variable as a **baseline**
- We then create dummy variables for **every other category**
- And finally, we fit the regression normally

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When a categorical variable has  $m$  possible values, we pick one as the baseline, and we create dummies for the remaining  $m - 1$  values

## Dummy variables in Python

- Luckily, `statsmodels` will create dummy variables for us automatically – there's no need to do all of this manually
- The key is to surround the categorical variable with the `C()` keyword
- Let's look at an example with zip codes; the zip codes in the data are 10023, 10024, 10025, 10069

## Dummy variables in Python

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ C(zip_code)', data=df_se).fit().summary()
```

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	price_per_sqft	R-squared:	0.089
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.088
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	47.77
Date:	Wed, 29 Dec 2021	Prob (F-statistic):	1.89e-29
Time:	19:54:45	Log-Likelihood:	-10876.
No. Observations:	1464	AIC:	2.178e+04
DF Residuals:	1460	BIC:	2.178e+04
DF Model:	3		
Covariance Type:	nonrobust		

	coef	std err	t	Pr(> t )	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	1522.7123	17.916	84.983	0.000	1487.869	1559.566
C(zip_code)[T.10024]	-116.2938	26.737	-4.367	0.000	-172.693	-59.935
C(zip_code)[T.10025]	-256.0747	25.918	-9.918	0.000	-306.720	-205.429
C(zip_code)[T.10069]	127.0532	38.868	3.263	0.001	49.242	204.865

The `C()` keyword ensures the zip code is turned into a dummy

There are four different zip codes, but only three variables – 10023 is dropped as the baseline

## How do we interpret these coefficients?

## Interpreting the coefficients

	coef
Intercept	1522.7123
C(zip_code)[T.10024]	-116.2938
C(zip_code)[T.10025]	-256.0747
C(zip_code)[T.10069]	127.0532

This is the average price per square foot for the baseline category (10023); properties in 10023 on average cost \$1,523 per square foot

This is the "premium" for properties in 10024; on average, properties in that zip code cost \$1,523 - \$116 = \$1,407 per square foot

This is the "premium" for properties in 10069; on average, properties in that zip code cost \$1,523 + \$127 = \$1,650 per square foot

## How do we interpret coefficients when there are multiple dummy variables and continuous variables

## Interpreting the coefficients

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ C(zip_code) + C(property_type) + #floor', data=df_se).fit().summary()
```

	coef
Intercept	1594.2265
C(zip_code)[T.10024]	-16.8472
C(zip_code)[T.10025]	-241.5274
C(zip_code)[T.10069]	-101.9790
C(property_type)[T.coop]	-496.2814
floor	12.4461

This is the average price per square foot for condo apartments (the base category) on floor 0, in zip 10023 (the base category)

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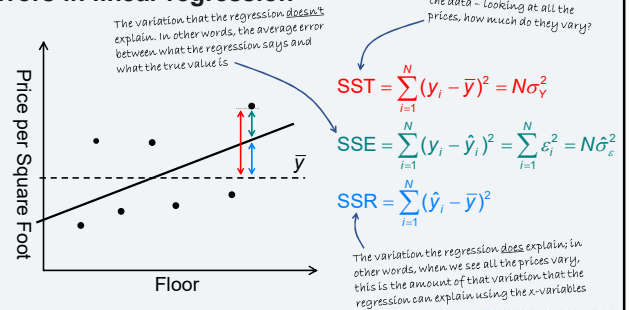
## Why have the coefficients on the zip codes changed?

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## Errors

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## Errors in linear regression



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## Errors in linear regression

All the results we derived for univariate regression apply to multivariate regression; they're just a little harder to prove (my notes [here](#) have all the proofs you might want)

$$\bar{\varepsilon} = 0 \quad (\text{Mean of the residuals is 0})$$

$$\text{Corr}(x, \varepsilon) = 0 \quad (\text{Residuals are uncorrelated with the x-values})$$

$$\text{Corr}(\hat{y}, \varepsilon) = 0 \quad (\text{Residuals are uncorrelated with the predicted values})$$

$$SST = SSE + SSR \quad (\text{Errors decompose})$$

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## Estimating $\sigma_\varepsilon$

To get an **unbiased estimator** of  $\sigma_\varepsilon^2$ , we divide by  $N - p - 1$ , where  $p$  is the number of variables in our model:

$$s_\varepsilon^2 = \frac{1}{N - p - 1} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$$

If you like the "degree of freedom" explanation, this is because we are estimating  $p$  coefficients plus the intercept. Dividing by this number makes the estimator unbiased

$$E\left[\frac{1}{N - p - 1} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2\right] = \sigma_\varepsilon^2$$

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## The distribution of the $\hat{\beta}$

We saw that the  $\hat{\beta}$  were a sample statistic... They must therefore be a random variable...

To find confidence intervals, etc..., we need the distribution of this random variable

## The multivariate normal distribution

The multivariate normal distribution produces a **vector** of normally distributed random variables

$$N_k(\mu, \Sigma)$$

The number of normally distributed random variables in the vector

A vector of means with  $k$  entries; each entry containing the mean of the corresponding random variable

A covariance matrix. The diagonal elements are the variances of each of the variables - the off-diagonal elements are the covariances between the variables. If this is a diagonal matrix, the variables are uncorrelated

## The multivariate normal distribution

It can easily be shown that if

$$Y \sim N_k(\mu, \Sigma)$$

Then if  $X$  is a constant matrix with  $w$  rows and  $k$  columns

$$XY \sim N_w(X\mu, X\Sigma X^T)$$

This is the more general version of the rule that "summing normal random variables gives another normal random variable"

## Our estimated $\hat{\beta}$ is a random variable

This is the **true  $\beta$**  (notice no hat). No way to know what it actually is. This is the population parameter

The identity matrix - a fundamental assumption of linear regression is that (1) the errors are uncorrelated (2) the errors are the same for every observation. More complex versions of regression relax these assumptions

$$Y \sim N_N(X\beta, \sigma_\epsilon^2 I)$$

This is a **multivariate normal distribution**.  $N$  is the total number of datapoints we have

$$\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$$

$Y$  is a random variable, so  $\hat{\beta}$  will be as well - in fact, it will also be a multivariate normal

This is the **true  $\sigma$**  (notice no hat). No way to know what it actually is

## Our estimated $\hat{\beta}$ is a random variable

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\beta} &\sim N_p \left( [X^T X]^{-1} X^T X \beta, \sigma_\epsilon^2 [X^T X]^{-1} X^T I \{ [X^T X]^{-1} X^T \}^T \right) \\ &\sim N_p \left( [X^T X]^{-1} X^T X \beta, \sigma_\epsilon^2 [X^T X]^{-1} X^T I X [X^T X]^{-1} \right) \\ &\sim N_p \left( [X^T X]^{-1} X^T X \beta, \sigma_\epsilon^2 [X^T X]^{-1} X^T I X [X^T X]^{-1} \right) \\ &\sim N_p \left( \beta, \sigma_\epsilon^2 [X^T X]^{-1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$Y \sim N_N(X\beta, \sigma_\epsilon^2 I)$$

$$\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$$

Our estimated  $\hat{\beta}$  is a random variable

$$\hat{\beta} \sim N_p(\beta, \sigma_\varepsilon^2 [\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}]^{-1})$$

We have shown that  $\hat{\beta}$  is a normally distributed random variable. The mean is the true  $\beta$  which is fantastic news, but there's some variance around it, which comes from the errors in the data. Because there's some noise in the data, there will also be some noise in the  $\hat{\beta}$ .

### Finding these variances in practice

- We can find the variances manually
  - Estimate  $\sigma_\varepsilon^2$  using  $s_\varepsilon^2$ .
  - Calculate  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}$
- We take this approach in the optional cell of the Jupyter notebook, but it requires some more advanced Python functionality
- Luckily, `statsmodels` can calculate these variances for us

### Finding these variances in practice

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ sqft + bedrooms + bathrooms + rooms', data=df_se).fit().summary()
```

	coef	std err
Intercept	1093.2072	34.007
sqft	-0.0470	0.046
bedrooms	54.1766	22.918
bathrooms	379.3654	26.075
rooms	-77.9379	16.012

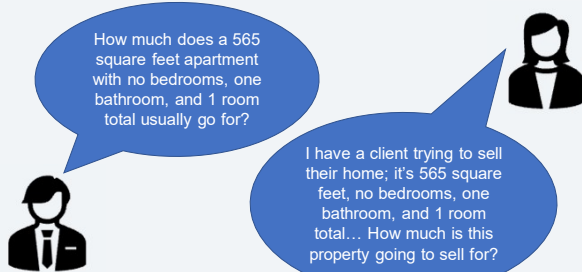
These are the  
diagonal elements of  
 $\sqrt{\sigma_\varepsilon^2 [\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}]^{-1}}$

k. This is lovely, but why do I care?

It turns out the distribution on these  $\hat{\beta}$  plays an essential role both in “explain” and “predict” regressions

Errors in “predict”  
regressions: prediction and  
confidence intervals

## Making predictions using a regression



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Are these questions identical?

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## Making predictions using a regression



*How much does a home like this usually go for?*

$$Y_{\text{pred}} = X_{\text{new}}\beta$$



*How much will my client's home go for?*

$$Y_{\text{pred}} = X_{\text{new}}\beta + \epsilon$$

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## The mean response is the same in both cases

```
reg = smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ sqft + bedrooms + bathrooms + rooms', data=df_se).fit()

new_home = pd.DataFrame({'sqft': [565], 'bedrooms': [0], 'bathrooms': [1], 'rooms': [1]})
new_home

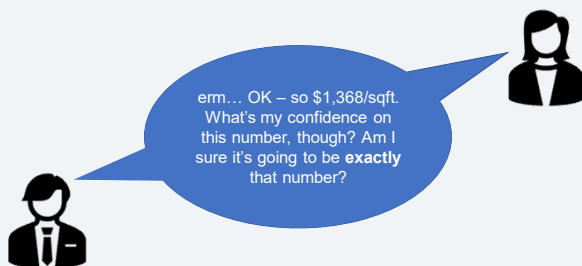
   sqft  bedrooms  bathrooms  rooms
0  565         0          1       1

reg.predict(new_home)
0    1368.073354
dtype: float64
```

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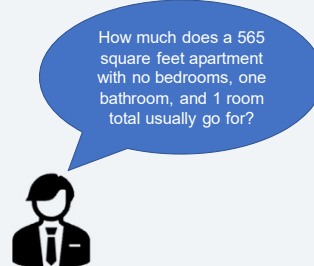
## Making predictions using a regression



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## Let's start with the error on the mean



$$Y_{\text{pred}} = X_{\text{new}}\hat{\beta}$$

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Where does uncertainty come from in this prediction?

Let's start with the error on the mean

$$Y_{\text{pred}} = X_{\text{new}} \hat{\beta}$$

This is not the real  $\beta$ . It's  $\hat{\beta}$ , a multivariate normal random variable! We can use the rules of multivariate normal to calculate the distribution of our predictions. Recall  $\hat{\beta} \sim N(\beta, \sigma^2 [X^T X]^{-1})$

$$Y_{\text{pred}} \sim N(X_{\text{new}} \beta, \sigma^2 X_{\text{new}} [X^T X]^{-1} X_{\text{new}}^T)$$

What about the error on a specific observation

$$Y_{\text{pred}} = X_{\text{new}} \hat{\beta} + \varepsilon$$



I have a client trying to sell their home; it's 565 square feet, no bedrooms, one bathroom, and 1 room total... How much is this property going to sell for?

What about the error on a specific observation

$$Y_{\text{pred}} = X_{\text{new}} \hat{\beta} + \varepsilon$$

$N(0, \sigma^2 \mathbf{1})$



$$Y_{\text{pred}} \sim N(X_{\text{new}} \beta, \sigma^2 [1 + X_{\text{new}} [X^T X]^{-1} X_{\text{new}}^T])$$

Calculating these numbers in Python

- As before, we can calculate these numbers directly in Python
  - We first need to estimate  $\sigma^2$  using  $s^2$
  - Then, we use the formula to calculate the covariance matrices
- Again, we do this in the optional cells of our Jupyter notebook, but it requires a little more Python than we've covered
- Instead, `statsmodels` can do this for us automatically!

Getting prediction variances in `statsmodels`

The standard error on the mean

```
predictions = reg.get_prediction(new_home)
predictions.predicted_mean
array([1368.07335384])
predictions.se_mean
array([27.37525612])
predictions.se_obs
array([352.67199473])
```

The standard error on a single observation

## Confidence intervals in statsmodels

```
predictions.summary_frame()
```

	mean	mean_se	mean_ci_lower	mean_ci_upper	obs_ci_lower	obs_ci_upper
0	1368.073354	27.375256	1314.37429	1421.772417	676.275048	2059.871659

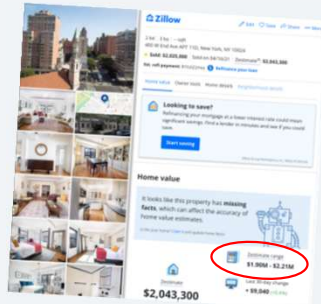
95% confidence interval on the mean

95% confidence interval on a single observation

## Confidence intervals on these means

- Note that in theory, if we **knew** the **true**  $\sigma_\epsilon^2$ , we'd be able to calculate these confidence intervals using a normal distribution
- Unfortunately, we don't – instead, we know  $s_\epsilon^2$  estimated from the errors, which isn't quite the same thing
- For that reason, we need a **t-distribution**, not a normal distribution – and the details are beyond what we'll have time to cover
- Thankfully, statsmodels does it all for us

## Predictions



## Errors in “explain” regressions: confidence intervals on the coefficients

## An “explain” regression



I'm going to build a building of 1 bed, 1 bath, 3 room total apartments; how should I use my space? More apartments but keep them smaller, or fewer larger apartments?

## An “explain” regression

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ sqft + bedrooms + bathrooms + rooms', data=df_se).fit().summary()
```

	coef
Intercept	1093.2072
sqft	-0.0470
bedrooms	54.1766
bathrooms	379.3654
rooms	-77.9379

At first glance, this coefficient is negative; this means the smaller the apartment, the more expensive it is per square foot! So we should definitely build smaller apartments...



Does anything cause you to doubt that conclusion?

## An “explain” regression

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ sqft + bedrooms + bathrooms + rooms', data=df_se).fit().summary()
```

	coef
Intercept	1093.2072
sqft	-0.0470
bedrooms	54.1766
bathrooms	379.3654
rooms	-77.9379

This number is a single draw from the distribution

$$\hat{\beta} \sim N_p(\beta, \sigma_e^2 [\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}]^{-1})$$

and what we care about isn't the draw; it's the true  $\beta$ . Does observing one single negative draw from this distribution tell you for sure that the true  $\beta$  is negative??

An analogy: suppose you flip a coin 20 times and it comes up heads 12 times; do you immediately conclude the coin is biased with  $p = P(\text{head}) = 0.6$ ? In other words, does the single draw  $\hat{p} = 0.6$  convince you the true  $p \neq 0.5$ ?

## A hypothesis test on $\hat{\beta}$

$$\hat{\beta} \sim N_p(\beta, \sigma_e^2 [\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}]^{-1})$$

- We observe a single draw from  $\hat{\beta}_{\text{sqft}}$ ; in this case,  $-0.0470$
- We want to carry out the following hypothesis test
  - Null hypothesis  $H_0$ :  $\beta_{\text{sqft}} = 0$
  - Alternative hypothesis  $H_1$ :  $\beta_{\text{sqft}} \neq 0$
- If we knew  $\sigma_e^2$  exactly, then we could say that under the null hypothesis,

$$\hat{\beta}_{\text{sqft}} \sim N(0, \sigma_e^2 [\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}]_{\text{sqft, sqft}}^{-1}) \Rightarrow \frac{\hat{\beta}_{\text{sqft}}}{\sqrt{\sigma_e^2 [\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}]_{\text{sqft, sqft}}^{-1}}} \sim N(0, 1)$$

## A hypothesis test on $\beta$

- Unfortunately, we do not know  $\sigma_e^2$  exactly. Instead, we have to use  $s_e^2$ .
- It turns out, for reason that go beyond what we cover in this class, that under the null hypothesis,

$$\frac{\hat{\beta}_{\text{sqft}}}{\sqrt{s_e^2 [\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}]_{\text{sqft, sqft}}^{-1}}} \sim t_{N-p}$$

Student's t distribution with  $N - p$  degrees of freedom

Number of variables in the regression

Number of data points

- Luckily, statsmodels will handle all the details for us!

## Hypothesis tests with statsmodels

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ sqft + bedrooms + bathrooms + rooms', data=df_se).fit().summary()
```

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	1093.2072	34.007	32.146	0.000	1026.499	1159.915
sqft	-0.0470	0.046	-1.015	0.310	-0.138	0.044
bedrooms	54.1766	22.918	2.364	0.018	9.221	99.132
bathrooms	379.3654	26.075	14.549	0.000	328.217	430.514
rooms	-77.9379	16.012	-4.868	0.000	-109.347	-46.529

The probability of getting this draw from  $\beta$ , assuming the null hypothesis  $\beta_i = 0$  is true. If this is smaller than 5%, we reject the null hypothesis

The 95% confidence interval on  $\hat{\beta}_i$ ; if the null hypothesis is rejected, this won't include 0

## Our conclusion

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ sqft + bedrooms + bathrooms + rooms', data=df_se).fit().summary()
```

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	1093.2072	34.007	32.146	0.000	1026.499	1159.915
sqft	-0.0470	0.046	-1.015	0.310	-0.138	0.044
bedrooms	54.1766	22.918	2.364	0.018	9.221	99.132
bathrooms	379.3654	26.075	14.549	0.000	328.217	430.514
rooms	-77.9379	16.012	-4.868	0.000	-109.347	-46.529

It looks like in this instance, we cannot reject the null hypothesis - there is not enough evidence to show that everything else being equal, the size of the apartment affects the price of the apartment per square foot.

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## Regression is the right way to “explain”

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MANHATTAN  
RENTAL MARKET REPORT  
[https://www.mns.com/manhattan\\_rental\\_market\\_report](https://www.mns.com/manhattan_rental_market_report)



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## Regression is the right way to “explain”

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ c(door_attendant)', data=df_se).fit().summary()
```

**\*A doorman adds between \$307 and \$424 per sq foot\***

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	113.5102	27.302	4.159	0.000	59.904	207.116
C(door_attendant)[T=1]	402.9171	15.411	26.149	0.000	372.095	433.739

```
smf.ols('price_per_sqft ~ bedrooms + bathrooms + floor + c(door_attendant) + c(property_type) + c(zip_code) + sqft + rooms + c(gym)', data=df_se).fit().summary()
```

**\*A doorman adds between \$39 and \$123 per sq foot\***

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	124.5402	17.202	7.240	0.000	90.146	168.934
C(door_attendant)[T=1]	41.7669	2.770	15.077	0.000	36.246	47.287
C(property_type)[T=condo]	109.9102	16.138	6.781	0.000	77.639	142.181
C(zip_code)[10014]	62.2184	19.207	3.240	0.002	14.121	110.316
C(zip_code)[10016]	141.1204	14.860	9.497	0.000	111.381	170.859
C(zip_code)[10018]	147.2100	26.089	5.644	0.000	95.048	199.372
C(gym)[T=1]	33.4739	14.366	2.331	0.023	4.749	62.200
bedrooms	16.1770	14.384	1.125	0.261	-22.587	54.939
bathrooms	177.0112	19.876	8.885	0.000	137.016	217.004
floor	9.1051	0.840	10.840	0.000	7.426	10.784
sqft	0.0160	0.004	4.040	0.000	0.008	0.024
rooms	-2.4604	11.910	-0.206	0.824	-26.351	21.422

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## Multicollinearity

## Multicollinearity

- Multicollinearity** refers to the fact some variables in the data might be highly correlated
- This makes the regression much less reliable
  - Shows up as **broader confidence intervals**
- Two ways of thinking about why
  - If two variables are highly correlated, it's difficult to know which one causes variations in the outcome (eg: predicting)
  - If two variables are highly correlated  $X^T X$  is very hard to invert
- A common misconception I've seen is people getting scared when there is **any** correlation between variables. Wrong. Separating between correlated variables is precisely what linear regression is about! Trouble only arises when variables are **highly correlated**.

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## The F-test (optional)

## Multicollinearity

- We can demonstrate this using some **synthetic data**
- The notebook contains optional code that generates a data frame with four columns
  - Two variables **X1**, and **X2**, designed so that **Corr(X1, X2) = 0.999**
  - A variable **Y1**, generated so that **Y1 = X1 + ε**
  - A variable **Y2**, generated so that **Y2 = ε** (i.e., Y2 has no relationship to the X variables)

	Y1	Y2	X1	X2
0	2.203714	0.551302	1.063058	1.107660
1	-1.037392	0.419589	-0.249226	-0.316590
2	0.806762	1.815652	0.541528	0.615383
3	2.063392	-0.252750	2.435663	2.416482
4	-0.071639	-0.262004	-1.248239	-1.285001

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## Multicollinearity

Let's fit a first regression that tries to predict **Y1** using **X1** and **X2**

```
smf.ols('Y1 ~ X1 + X2', data=df_data).fit().summary()
```

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	-0.0491	0.058	-0.840	0.402	-0.164	0.066
X1	0.6455	1.326	0.487	0.627	-1.965	3.256
X2	0.2552	1.330	0.192	0.848	-2.362	2.873

Massive confidence intervals - the variables are so highly correlated the regression just can't figure out where the variation in Y is coming from, even though there is signal there

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In this case, there really is a signal in the data ( $Y = X1 + \epsilon$ ), we just can't find it.

How do we distinguish this from a situation in which there is truly no signal in the data at all?

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## No signal at all

Let's try and predict **Y2** using **X1** and **X2**; there's no signal there at all, Y2 is completely random

```
smf.ols('Y2 ~ X1 + X2', data=df_data).fit().summary()
```

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	-0.0444	0.056	-0.790	0.430	-0.155	0.066
X1	-0.5573	1.276	-0.437	0.663	-3.068	1.953
X2	0.5404	1.279	0.422	0.673	-1.977	3.058

Also massive confidence intervals... How do we tell the difference?

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## The F-test

- The F-test tests the regression **as a whole**
  - Null hypothesis:** every  $\beta = 0$
  - Alternative hypothesis:** one or more  $\beta > 0$
- Under the null hypothesis, it can be shown that

$$\frac{\frac{1}{p} \hat{\beta}^T X^T X \hat{\beta}}{S_e^2} \sim F_{p, N-p}$$

$\frac{1}{p} \hat{\beta}^T X^T X \hat{\beta}$ : F distribution with p and N - p degrees of freedom  
 $S_e^2$ : Number of variables in the regression  
 $N$ : Number of data points

- As ever, statsmodels will handle all the gory details of the computation for us

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## A model with signal

```
smf.ols('Y1 ~ X1 + X2', data=df_data).fit().summary()
```

Dep. Variable:	Y1	R-squared:	0.454
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.450
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	123.5
Date:	Sat 01 Jan 2022	Prob (F-statistic):	9.52e-44
Time:	14:02:07	Log-Likelihood:	-527.61
No. Observations:	300	AIC:	861.2
Df Residuals:	297	BIC:	872.3
Df Model:	2		
Covariance Type:	nonrobust		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	-0.0491	0.058	-0.840	0.402	-0.164	0.066
X1	0.6455	1.326	0.487	0.627	-1.965	3.256
X2	0.2552	1.330	0.192	0.848	-2.362	2.873

Tiny p-values: we reject the null hypothesis that  $\beta = 0$ ; there is signal...

...even though the variables are too correlated to tell where the signal is coming from

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## A model with no signal

```
smf.ols('Y2 ~ X1 + X2', data=df_data).fit().summary()
```

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	Y2	R-squared:	0.001
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	-0.006
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	0.1485
Date:	Sat, 01 Jan 2022	Prob (F-statistic):	0.862
Time:	14:02:49	Log-Likelihood:	-415.94
No. Observations:	300	AIC:	837.9
Df Residuals:	297	BIC:	849.0
Df Model:	2		
Covariance Type:	nonrobust		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	-0.0444	0.056	-0.790	0.430	-0.155	0.066
X1	-0.5573	1.276	-0.437	0.663	-3.068	1.953
X2	0.5404	1.279	0.422	0.673	-1.977	3.058

High p-value: we accept the null hypothesis that  $\beta = 0$ ; there is no signal

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## Variable selection

## Variable selection

- Throughout this lecture, we have been fitting a variety of regressions, with a variety of variables
- We've seen that adding or removing one variable can have a **massive effect** on the coefficients (and its confidence intervals and p-values)
- This begs the question – when we have a lot of variables, **which should we include?**
- This is called **variable selection**
- Variable selection is an enormously complex topic – we'll scratch the surface here; more in **Applied Regression Analysis**, and **BA2**

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## Why not include every variable

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## Why not include every variable?



- Suppose this apartment sold for an unusually high price
- What would happen in our regression if we added a dummy variable for leopard print?
- Should we add the variable?

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## Overfitting

- Every **extra variable** can only help **reduce SSE**, and make the  **$R^2$  higher**
- However, with too many variables, the regression will start capturing some **spurious correlations** in the data
- As such, we'd like to include **just enough variables** to **capture the signal**, but **not so many** that we start capturing **noise**

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### Overfitting – one approach

One approach to try and avoid overfitting is to use the **adjusted  $R^2$**  instead of the  $R^2$

$$\text{Adjusted } R^2 = 1 - \frac{\text{SSE} / (n - p - 1)}{\text{SST} / (n - 1)}$$

unbiased estimator of  $\sigma_e^2$

unbiased estimator of  $\sigma^2$

The unbiased estimator captures the fact that as we add more coefficients ( $p$  goes up) our estimate of  $\sigma_e^2$  also goes up, and so the Adjusted  $R^2$  might go down. The maximum adjusted  $R^2$  is now no longer necessarily attained using every variable.

### Picking significant $p$ -values

- The most obvious way to do variable selection is to simply pick **all the variables with  $p$ -values  $\leq 0.05$**
- This gives us **only** the variables for which there is **enough evidence** in the data to **reject the null hypothesis** that the variable is equal to 0

Any issues with doing this?

### Two major issues

- **The multiple testing problem**
  - This amounts to doing **lots of hypothesis tests** one after the other
  - This is likely to identify more variables than are truly significant
- **Adding variables one-by-one**
  - As we've seen many times before, if two variables are correlated, it's possible that neither will be significant when they are in the model together
  - But if only one is in the model, it would be very significant

The solutions to this problem are beyond this class... See BA2

Another example: Glassdoor

## Glassdoor jobs report



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## Glassdoor jobs report

### Key Findings

- Today's labor market favors the candidate. With abundant opportunities, job seekers are increasingly choosy in the United States. 17 percent of job offers, more than in any previous year according to Glassdoor data, reflecting a steady increase in offer rejection rates over the last five years. In some cases, employers that qualified candidates, it's often difficult to convince candidates to accept offers.
- Candidates are choosier to leave industries than others. Candidates in professional and technical industries, the business services and information technology, reject 18.4 percent of job offers compared with 14.8 percent in other industries. These workers are often highly educated and have the ability to compare competing offers.
- Difficult interviews can increase offer acceptance rates. Candidates in professional and business industries are significantly more likely to accept an offer after facing a difficult job interview. Candidates are 2.4 percentage points more likely to accept a job offer after three or more interviews with a difficulty score higher than 4.5 (on a scale of 1-5).
- Candidates use interviews to gauge the quality of a potential employer. For candidate seeking career growth, a challenging interview can be motivating for reasons, average 3.2 and informal workers (aged 18 to 34), for whom career growth is most top of mind, have the strongest positive link between interview difficulty and likelihood to accept job offers.
- Companies have more to say about interviews. Candidates in professional and technical industries are most likely to avoid an offer that interview was "difficult" (rating of 4 or 5) and 14.8 percent of interview today are considered "very difficult" (rating of 5). While employers don't want to broadly advertise with very difficult interviews, there's a trade-off to increase the difficulty of interviews without creating that demand.
- Different types of tests during interviews can affect job offer acceptance rates. Candidates are 1.4 to 3.3 percentage points more likely to accept an offer if their interview includes a skills test, when it does or otherwise that experience. However, they are 1.5 to 3.3 percentage points less likely to accept if their interview includes an IQ test or personality test.
- Our results are similar across five developed countries. Candidates for jobs in professional and technical industries in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Germany and France are all more likely to accept offers when their interviews are more difficult.

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## Glassdoor jobs report

### A1: Regression of Interview Difficulty on Offer Acceptance Probability

Variable of Interest	Type of Industry	Country						
		United States	Canada	France	Germany	United Kingdom		
Level of interview difficulty (1-5 stars)	Professional and Technical Industries	0.024*** (0.003)	0.025*** (0.003)	0.031*** (0.002)	0.026*** (0.003)	0.039*** (0.004)	0.031*** (0.009)	0.034*** (0.004)
	Other	-0.011*** (0.001)	-0.011*** (0.001)	-0.002*** (0.001)	-0.002*** (0.001)	-0.006*** (0.003)	-0.009*** (0.003)	-0.021*** (0.003)
Controls for year and industry		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Controls for state of employer		-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Controls for occupation category		-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Controls for specific employer		-	-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y
Observations		490,449	490,449	454,328	411,145	35,437	7,368	4,472
Adjusted R-squared		0.07	0.07	0.09	0.13	0.12	0.10	0.14

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## Glassdoor jobs report

### A3: Categorical Regression of Interview Difficulty for Professional & Technical Industries on Offer Acceptance Probability

Variable of Interest	Country				
	United States	Canada	France	Germany	United Kingdom
Level of interview difficulty = 2 stars	0.020*** (0.003)	0.026*** (0.011)	0.051*** (0.025)	0.040*** (0.027)	0.068*** (0.015)
Level of interview difficulty = 3 stars	0.050*** (0.004)	0.054*** (0.005)	0.079*** (0.025)	0.062*** (0.024)	0.100*** (0.014)
Level of interview difficulty = 4 stars	0.080*** (0.005)	0.079*** (0.013)	0.144*** (0.038)	0.113*** (0.038)	0.143*** (0.015)
Level of interview difficulty = 5 stars	0.039*** (0.009)	0.011 (0.045)	0.025 (0.092)	0.058 (0.068)	0.092*** (0.026)
Controls for year and industry		Y	Y	Y	Y
Controls for state of employer		Y	Y	Y	Y
Controls for occupation category		Y	Y	Y	Y
Controls for specific employer		Y	Y	Y	Y
Observations		411,145	35,437	7,368	4,472
Adjusted R-squared		0.13	0.13	0.1	0.14

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# Pricing and Logistic Regression

## Session 4

Professor Daniel Guetta  
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## This Module

- The case of Nomis
- E-Car and the pricing analytics opportunity
- Logistic regression – predicting customer's decision
- Multivariate logistic regression
- Analytics-driven APR
- Calibration

## The case of Nomis

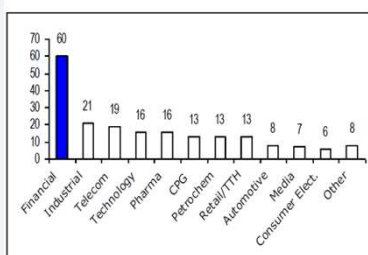


www.nomissolutions.com

Bob and Simon offer you the chance to be Nomis' third employee. Would you take it?

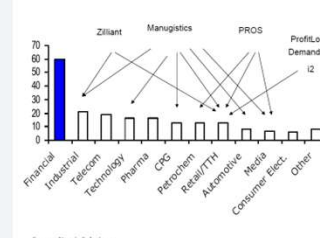
## Exhibit 1

The Largest 200 Global Companies (by Market Cap) by Industry



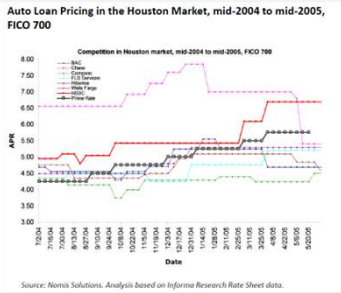
## Exhibit 3

Existing Price Optimization Companies and their Industries of Focus (2002)



Source: Nomis Solutions.

## Exhibit 6

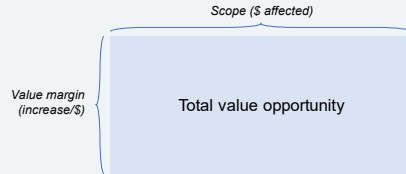


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## Assessing the size of an opportunity

- **Value margin**: how much can analytics improve each transaction or decision
- **Scope**: how many transactions and decisions can we improve?



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## The value stick



Business analytics can help firms capture unrealized value from customers willing to pay more by raising prices, or increase their customer base by lowering prices

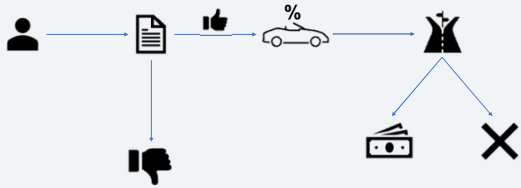
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e-Car

### What is the process of getting a loan at e-Car?



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## The e-Car data (208,085 rows)

```
import pandas as pd
df_nomis = pd.read_excel('Nomis data.xlsx')
df_nomis.head()
```

	Tier	FICO	Approve Date	Term	Amount	Previous Rate	Car Type	Competition rate	Outcome	Rate	Cost of Funds	Partner Bin
0	3	695	2002-07-01	72	35000.0		N	6.25	0	7.49	1.8388	1
1	1	751	2002-07-01	60	40000.0		N	5.65	0	5.49	1.8388	3
2	1	731	2002-07-01	60	18064.0		N	5.65	0	5.49	1.8388	3
3	4	652	2002-07-01	72	15415.0		N	6.25	0	8.99	1.8388	3
4	1	730	2002-07-01	48	32000.0		N	5.65	0	5.49	1.8388	1

The car type: N means "new", U means "used", R means "refinance"

Where e-Car got this lead from

How good is this person's FICO score?

How long is the loan (months)

Rate offered by competitors around that time

Did the customer accept the loan (1) or not (0)

Rate offered to the consumer

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Let's start by focusing on a single segment

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## Starting with an easier problem

- With any problem like this one, it's helpful to begin with a smaller, simpler segment of the data to understand what's happening
- We will use
  - Used cars
  - Borrowers with FICO scores between 684 and 712
  - Loans with a term of 60 months
  - Loan amounts between 17.8K and 25K
- How could we determine whether e-Car is mispricing loans in this segment?

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## Starting with an easier problem

```
df_segment = df_nomis[(df_nomis['Car Type'] == 'U')
                      & (df_nomis['FICO'] >= 684)
                      & (df_nomis['FICO'] <= 712)
                      & (df_nomis['Term'] == 60)
                      & (df_nomis['Amount'] >= 17800)
                      & (df_nomis['Amount'] <= 25000)].copy()

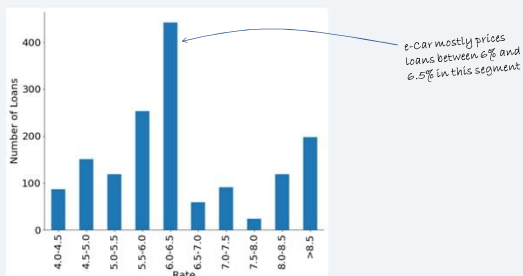
len(df_segment)
```

1548

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## What is e-Car doing in this segment?



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How do we determine e-Car's revenue in each segment? We want to check whether the segment they use is the best one...

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## Revenue per accepted quote

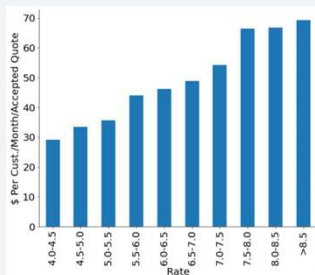
- Revenue per client is the money received from the client minus the cost of funds
- Both can be calculated using the `numpy_financial.pmt` function, equivalent to the Excel `PMT` function

```
import numpy_financial as npf

def loan_rev(APR, cost_of_funds, term, amount):
    return -npf.pmt(APR/(100*12), term, amount) + npf.pmt(cost_of_funds/(100*12), term, amount)
```

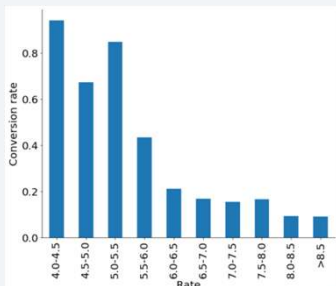
**Important note: the “cost of funds” includes the probability of default**

## Revenue per accepted quote

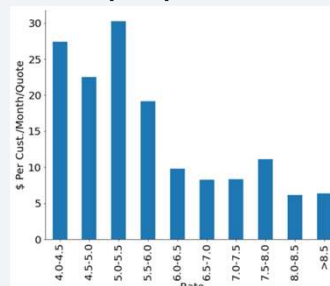


**Why not just price at the highest rate all the time? It gives the highest revenue...**

## Conversion rate

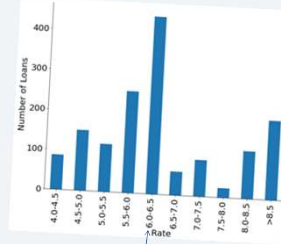
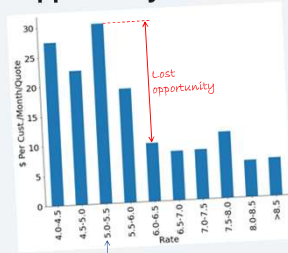


## Revenue per quote



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Revenue per quote} &= \\ &\text{Revenue per accepted quote} \\ &\times \\ &\text{Acceptance rate} \end{aligned}$$

## The opportunity



What e-Car should be doing

What e-Car is doing

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## Framing the problem

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## Framing the problem

- Given a new customer, we want an algorithm that can tell us the best rate to offer that customer
  - Too low, we're leaving some money on the table
  - Too high, the customer might leave
- In fact, we want to find the APR that maximizes

$$\text{Net revenue for the loan(APR)} \\ \times P(\text{Loan accepted given APR})$$

loan\_rev(APR, cost of funds, loan term, loan size)

This is a demand curve and what we need to estimate

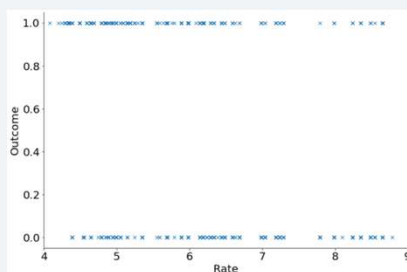
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## Estimating the demand function

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## Estimating the probability of accepting



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## What model could we use to make this prediction?

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## Estimating the probability of accepting

Linear regression

$$\text{Outcome}_j = a + b \text{APR}_j + \varepsilon_j$$

Where  $\text{APR}_j$  is the APR quoted to customer  $j$ , and:

$$\text{Outcome}_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if customer } j \text{ accepted the quote} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## Linear regression

```
library(statsmodels.formula.api as smf)
linear_reg = smf.ols('Outcome ~ Rate', data=df_segment).fit()
linear_reg.summary()
```

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	Outcome	R-squared:	0.231
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.231
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	463.7
Date:	Mon, 10 Dec 2021	Prob (F-statistic):	7.89e-40
Time:	09:29:50	Log Likelihood:	-446.08
No. Observations:	1500	AIC:	898.08
Df Residuals:	1498	BIC:	1597.0
Df Model:	1		
Covariance Type:	nonrobust		

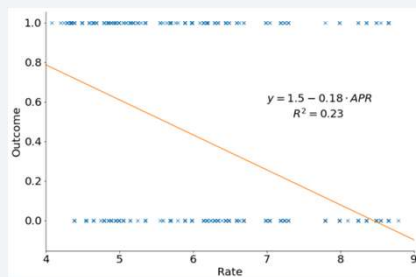
	coef	std err	t	Prob	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	1.4564	0.004	27.391	0.000	1.448	1.465
Rate	-0.1771	0.000	-21.498	0.000	-0.180	-0.161

Omnibus:	200.876	Durbin-Watson:	1.889
Prob(Omnibus):	0.000	Jarque-Bera (JB):	62.031
Skew:	0.424	Prob(Skew):	1.26e-25
Kurtosis:	2.754	Prob(Kurt):	3e-1

Notes:  
[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

## Linear regression



Does this seem reasonable?

## Issues with linear regression

- Predictions need to be probabilities (between 0 and 1) but linear regression might predict numbers smaller than 0 or larger than 1
- The “normal errors”/“errors independent of  $x$ ” assumptions of linear regression are violated

Logistic regression

## Logistic regression

- **Logistic regression** is a technique for fitting a curve to data in which the **dependent variable is binary**
- Applications
  - Response to a medical treatment: worked (coded as 1) or did not work (coded as 0)
  - Customized pricing: bought (1) or not (0)
  - Sponsored search: user clicked (1) or not (0)

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## Logistic regression

$$P(\text{Accepting given APR}) = \text{Logit}^{-1}(a + b \cdot \text{APR})$$

$$\text{Logit}(p) = \ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)$$

$$\text{Logit}^{-1}(w) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-w}}$$

- The Logit function *squeezes* the results of the linear regression to the range [0, 1]
- The responses are always between 0 and 1
- Allows for flexible nonlinear shapes
- Parameters  $a$  and  $b$  need to be chosen to fit the data “best”; more on that later

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## Differing conventions

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Logit}^{-1}(w) &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-w}} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-w}} \times \frac{e^w}{e^w} \\ &= \frac{e^w}{1 + e^w} \end{aligned}$$

Some texts you will read will use the second form of this function – they are identical.

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## Logistic regression in Python

```
import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
logistic_reg = smf.logit(Outcome ~ Rate, data=df_segment).fit()
logistic_reg.summary()

Optimization terminated successfully:
  Current function value: 0.516588
  Iterations: 7
```

Logit Regression Results

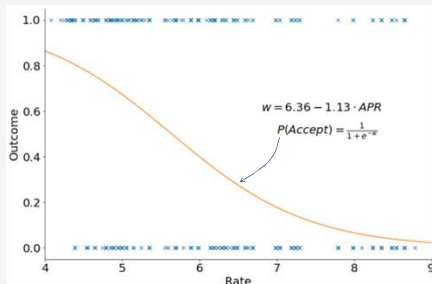
Dep. Variable:	Outcome	No. Observations:	1540
Model:	Logit	DF Residuals:	1538
Method:	NMLE	DF Model:	1
Date:	Mon, 08 Dec 2021	Pseudo R-sq:	0.2138
Time:	08:57:56	Log-Likelihood:	-789.29
Converged:	True	LL-Null:	-1000.1
Covariance Type:	nonrobust	LLR p-value:	0.225e-85

	coef	std err	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	6.3603	0.421	15.115	0.000	5.536	7.185
Rate	-1.1278	0.070	-16.173	0.000	-1.264	-0.991

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## Logistic regression in Python



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## Understanding logistic regression

```
logistic_reg.params
Intercept    6.360323
Rate       -1.127767
dtype: float64

df_segment[['Rate']].head(2)
   Rate
358  6.10
466  6.10

logistic_reg.predict(df_segment[['Rate']].head(2))
358    0.349656
466    0.349656
dtype: float64
```

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## Interpreting coefficients

- Coefficients are harder to interpret in a logistic regression
- If  $w$  goes from 1 to 2, it has a different impact on the predicted probability than if it goes from 10 to 11
- The **sign** of the coefficient, however, can easily be interpreted; the **negative coefficient** here means that **as the APR increases, the probability of acceptance goes down**

## A deeper dive into logistic regression (optional)

## Where does logistic regression come from?

- There are many ways to motivate the exact form of logistic regression
- Many of them are summarized surprisingly well at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logistic\\_regression](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logistic_regression)
- We're going to focus on one specific interpretation that is particularly well-suited to the problem at hand

## A latent-variable model of logistic regression

- The theory of **discrete choice models** tries to explain how consumers make purchasing decisions
- The idea is that when we decide to buy something, we weigh up the pros and cons
  - Getting the item is a pro (positive utility)
  - Having to pay for it is a con (negative utility) – the more expensive, the worse (more negative) the con
  - There might be some randomness (positive or negative) based on who the consumer is exactly
- If the total utility is positive, the consumer gets *more* out of buying the item than not and buys it. Otherwise, they don't

## A latent-variable model of logistic regression

$$\text{Utility}_j = a + b \text{APR}_j - \varepsilon_j$$

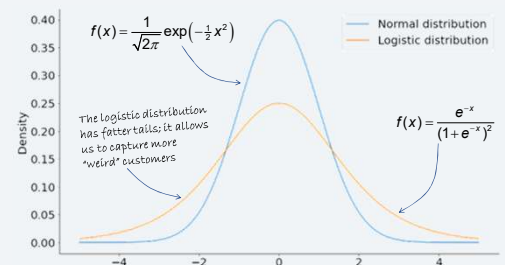
The utility a certain consumer would get out of accepting the car loan

The disutility from having to pay for the loan. ( $b$  will be negative). The more negative  $b$  is, the more customers care about price

The base utility everyone gets from getting a car loan

The random component of the customer's utility; across the whole population,  $E[\varepsilon_j] = 0$

## The distribution of $\varepsilon_j$



## The CDF of the logistic distribution

Suppose  $X$  has a logistic distribution

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(x) = P(X \leq x) &= \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{e^{-x}}{(1+e^{-x})^2} dx \\
 &= \int_0^{1+e^{-x}} \frac{u-1}{u^2} \cdot \frac{1}{1-u} du \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Substitute } u = 1 + e^{-x} \\ \rightarrow du = -e^{-x} dx \\ \rightarrow du = (1-u) dx \end{array} \\
 &= - \int_0^{1+e^{-x}} u^{-2} du \\
 &= - \left[ -u^{-1} \right]_0^{1+e^{-x}} \\
 &= - \left[ \left( -\frac{1}{1+e^{-x}} \right) - (0) \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## From latent variables to logistic regression

Suppose the error  $\varepsilon_j$  has a logistic distribution...

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\text{Customer } j \text{ accepts}) &= P(a + b \cdot \text{APR}_j - \varepsilon_j \geq 0) \\
 &= P(\varepsilon_j \leq a + b \cdot \text{APR}_j) \\
 &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(a + b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}}
 \end{aligned}$$

This is just the formula for logistic regression!

Using a logistic distribution makes the model less sensitive to outliers than if we'd used a normal distribution... Why?

Finding the best coefficients in logistic regression

## Back to linear regression

Recall that in linear regression, we find the best coefficients by using...

$$\min_{\beta} \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\beta\|^2$$

What can we use as a similar "loss function" to minimize the "errors" our logistic regression makes?

## An example

APR <sub>j</sub>	Outcome <sub>j</sub>
2.1	1
2.2	0
1.3	1

What if  $a = 2$  and  $b = -3$

$$P(\text{Data}) = P(\text{APR 2.1 accepts}) \times P(\text{APR 2.2 doesn't accept}) \times P(\text{APR 1.3 accepts})$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(2 \cdot 2.1 - 3)}} \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(2 \cdot 2.2 - 3)}}\right) \times \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(2 \cdot 1.3 - 3)}}$$

$$= 0.0134 \times 0.9900 \times 0.1301$$

$$= 0.0017$$

Now suppose  $a = 1$  and  $b = -2$

$$P(\text{Data}) = P(\text{APR 2.1 accepts}) \times P(\text{APR 2.2 doesn't accept}) \times P(\text{APR 1.3 accepts})$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(1 \cdot 2.1 - 2)}} \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(1 \cdot 2.2 - 2)}}\right) \times \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(1 \cdot 1.3 - 2)}}$$

$$= 0.0392 \times 0.09677 \times 0.1680$$

$$= 0.0064$$

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## The likelihood in logistic regression

Recall that logistic regression assumes

$$P(j \text{ Accepting given APR}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}}$$

And therefore

$$P(j \text{ NOT Accepting given APR}) = 1 - \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}}$$

$$= \frac{e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}}{1 + e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}}$$

Using these formulas, we can calculate the **likelihood** of the data we're observing given any value of  $a$  and  $b$ .

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## More generally

Suppose we have  $N$  datapoints, with rates  $\text{APR}_j$  and outcomes  $y_j$  (equal to 1 if the loan is accepted, and 0 otherwise)

$$P(\text{Data}) = \prod_{j=1}^N \left[ P(\text{APR}_j \text{ accepts}) \right]^{y_j} \left[ P(\text{APR}_j \text{ rejects}) \right]^{1-y_j}$$

$$= \prod_{j=1}^N \left( \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}} \right)^{y_j} \left( \frac{e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}}{1 + e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}} \right)^{1-y_j}$$

Logistic regression finds the best  $a$  and  $b$  by **maximizing** this likelihood

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Can you think of any issues trying to maximize this expression?

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## The log-likelihood

The likelihood can become very small. Instead, therefore, we usually use the log-likelihood:

$$\log P(\text{Data}) = \log \prod_{j=1}^N \left( \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}} \right)^{y_j} \left( \frac{e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}}{1 + e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}} \right)^{1-y_j}$$

Multiply the top and bottom of each fraction in the previous line by  $e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}$ .

$$= \sum_{j=1}^N y_j \log \left( \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}} \right) + (1-y_j) \log \left( \frac{e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}}{1 + e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j)}} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^N y_j \log \left( \frac{e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}}{1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}} \right) + (1-y_j) \log \left( \frac{1}{1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}} \right)$$

Work through the logarithms

$$= \sum_{j=1}^N y_j (a + b \cdot \text{APR}_j) - \log(1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j})$$

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## Finding the best coefficients

- The best  $a$  and  $b$  can be found by **maximizing** this log likelihood, or, equivalently, **minimizing** the **negative log likelihood**.
- This negative log-likelihood is also called the **loss**.

$$\min_{a,b} [-\log P(\text{Data})] = \min_{a,b} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^N \log(1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}) - y_j (a + b \cdot \text{APR}_j) \right]$$

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The concept of minimizing a loss function is ubiquitous in all of AI and machine learning, from linear regression to logistic regression. The log-likelihood is often the basis for this loss function

### Finding the best coefficients

$$\min_{a,b} [-\log P(\text{Data})] = \min_{a,b} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^N \log(1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}) - y_j(a + b \cdot \text{APR}_j) \right]$$

To find the minimum, let's find the derivative of this expression

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial a} [-\log P(\text{Data})] &= \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}}{1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}} - y_j \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial b} [-\log P(\text{Data})] &= \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{\text{APR}_j \cdot e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}}{1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}} - y_j \text{APR}_j \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ \frac{e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}}{1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}} - y_j \right] \text{APR}_j \end{aligned}$$

Unlike in linear regression, it is impossible to solve these equations exactly

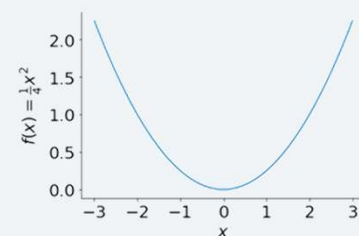
### Gradient descent

### Gradient descent

- Gradient descent is a very general algorithm that can be used to solve these kinds of optimization problems
- The idea is to start with some random values for the parameters...
- ...and then move in the direction of the gradient
- Let's look at an example with an easy function

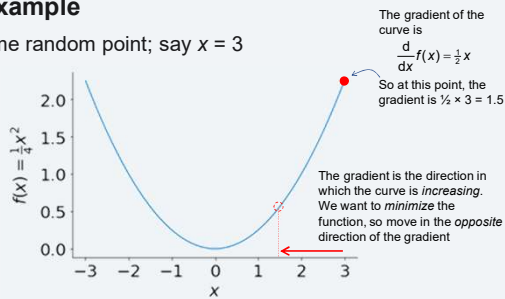
### A simple example

Suppose we are trying to find the minimum of  $f(x) = 0.25x^2$



## A simple example

Start at some random point; say  $x = 3$

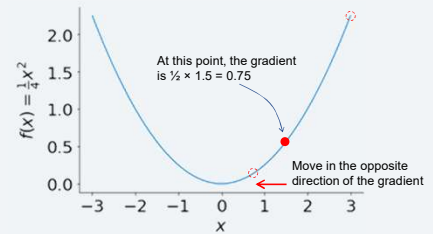


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## A simple example

We are now at  $x = 1.5$

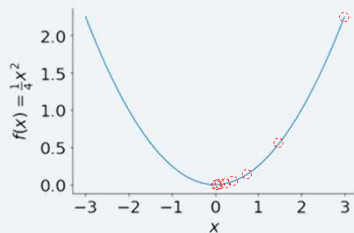


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## A simple example

We will eventually reach the optimum...



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Can we try to speed this process up?

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## The learning rate

- We have implicitly assumed that every step we take is  $1 \times$  the gradient
- We have implicitly been using a **learning rate** of  $\gamma = 1$
- We could move faster – why not use a learning rate of  $\gamma = 5$ , and make our steps **five times** the gradient at that point
- Let's see what that looks like...
  - $x = 3$ . Gradient is 1.5. Move to  $3 - (5 \times 1.5) = -4.5$
  - $x = -4.5$ . Gradient is  $-2.25$ . Move to  $-4.5 - (5 \times -2.25) = 6.75$
  - $x = 6.75$ . Gradient is 3.375. Move to  $6.75 - (5 \times 3.375) = -10.13$
  - $x = -10.13$ . Gradient is  $-5.07$ . Move to  $-10.13 - (5 \times -5.07) = 15.22$

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## Better understanding gradient descent

Taylor's Theorem claims that for any function  $f$ , and any two points  $x$  and  $\bar{x}$ , there is some point  $z$  such that  $x \leq z \leq \bar{x}$

$$f(\bar{x}) = f(x) + f'(x)(\bar{x} - x) + \frac{1}{2}f''(z)(\bar{x} - x)^2$$

Now assume that the second derivative of  $f$  is bounded\* by some constant  $L$ , so that we can write, for any two points:

$$f(\bar{x}) \leq f(x) + f'(x)(\bar{x} - x) + \frac{L}{2}(\bar{x} - x)^2$$

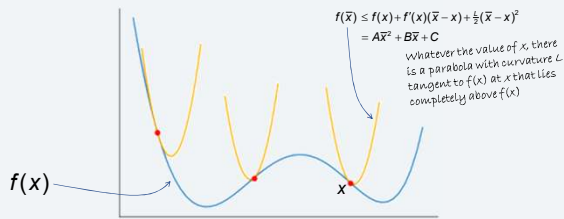
\* This is closely related to a concept called Lipschitz continuity, beyond the scope of this class

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## Better understanding gradient descent

There is a simple graphical interpretation of this inequality



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**Key insight to analyze gradient descent:**  
we take a gradient descent step *on the parabola* instead of taking a step on the function itself

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## Gradient descent step

- Let  $x$  be the current step in the algorithm
- Let  $\bar{x} = x - \gamma f'(x)$  be the *next* step in the algorithm
- What is the value of the parabola at that new point?

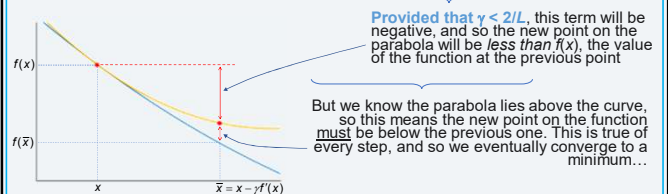
$$\begin{aligned} f(\bar{x}) &\leq f(x) + f'(x)(\bar{x} - x) + \frac{L}{2}(\bar{x} - x)^2 \\ &= f(x) - \gamma[f'(x)]^2 + \frac{L}{2}\gamma^2[f'(x)]^2 \\ &= f(x) - \left(1 - \frac{L\gamma}{2}\right)\gamma[f'(x)]^2 \end{aligned}$$

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## Gradient descent step

$$f(\bar{x}) \leq f(x) - \left(1 - \frac{L\gamma}{2}\right)\gamma[f'(x)]^2$$



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Increasing  $\gamma$  can make the algorithm go faster, but if it's too large, the algorithm isn't guaranteed to converge. We need to make sure  $\gamma < 2/L$ , but we don't necessarily know  $L$

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## Gradient descent – going beyond the basics

- Gradient descent is ubiquitous in all of machine learning – from logistic regression to deep neural nets
- Gradient descent works best for **convex optimization problems** – but it can still help with nonconvex problems
- The choice of learning rate is important – choosing the wrong learning rate can mean the algorithm doesn't converge
- In practice it is often helpful to use an **adaptive learning rate**, which change as the algorithm progresses
- In some cases, the gradient can't be calculated analytically – gradient descent can use an **empirical gradient** based on data in those cases
- We will later see a version of the algorithm called **stochastic gradient descent** that can work with small chunks of data at a time
- Gradient descent can get **very slow**, especially in high dimensions – there are many, more advanced techniques that perform much better

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## Gradient descent for logistic regression

## The gradient of the loss in logistic regression

Recall that for logistic regression, the loss is given by

$$-\log P(\text{Data}) = \sum_{j=1}^N \log(1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}) - y_j (a + b \cdot \text{APR}_j)$$

And that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial a} [-\log P(\text{Data})] = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}}{1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}} - y_j$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial b} [-\log P(\text{Data})] = \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ \frac{e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}}{1 + e^{a+b \cdot \text{APR}_j}} - y_j \right] \text{APR}_j$$

## Gradient descent step

```
def gd_step(a, b, gamma=0.0001):
    # Make a copy of the data so we can add columns
    df_copy = df_segment.copy()

    # Calculate parts of the log likelihood: w = a + b*APR and exp(w)
    # Create one column for each
    df_copy['w'] = a + b*df_copy['Rate']
    df_copy['exp_w'] = np.exp(df_copy.w)

    # Find the loss at the current values of a and b
    loss = (np.log(1 + df_copy.exp_w) - df_copy.Outcome).sum()

    # For each row, find the derivatives
    d_da = ((df_copy.exp_w / (1 + df_copy.exp_w)) - df_copy.Outcome).sum()
    d_db = (((df_copy.exp_w / (1 + df_copy.exp_w)) - df_copy.Outcome) * df_copy.Rate).sum()

    # Take a step in the direction of the negative gradient
    a -= gamma*d_da
    b -= gamma*d_db

    # Return the new a, new b, and new loss function
    return (a, b, loss)
```

## Carrying out gradient descent

```
# Perform 10,000 steps of gradient descent, starting with a = 0
# and b = 0

from tqdm import tqdm

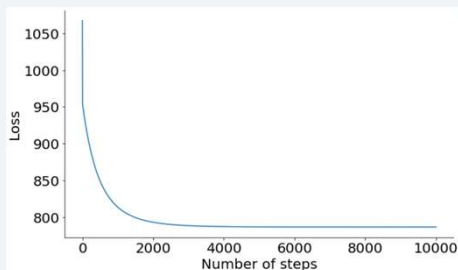
losses = []

a = 0
b = 0

for i in tqdm(range(10000)):
    a, b, loss = gd_step(a, b)
    losses.append(loss)

100% | 10000/10000 [0
0:24:00:00, 412.951t/s]
```

## Carrying out gradient descent



## Carrying out gradient descent

```
print(a)
print(b)

6.34478779056682
-1.1252187175282786

logistic_reg.params
Intercept    6.360323
Rate        -1.127767
dtype: float64
```

## Back to Nomis

## Back to framing the problem

### Framing the problem

- Given a new customer, we want an algorithm that can tell us the best rate to offer that customer
- Too low, we're leaving some money on the table
- Too high, the customer might leave
- In fact, we want to find the APR that maximizes

Net revenue for the loan(APR)  
 $\times P(\text{Loan accepted given APR})$

loan\_rev(APR, cost of funds,  
loan term, loan size)

This is a *stochastic process*, and what we need to compute!

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We now have a way to estimate the probability a loan will be accepted! How can we use this to get to the best APR?

## Getting to the best APR

- Suppose a customer in our reduced segment (the one we've been working with) arrives
- The size of the loan is \$22K, and the cost of funds is 1.412%
- What APR should we offer this person?
  - On the one hand, we want to maximize the price we can get...
  - ...on the other, we want to maximize the number of customers who accept our offer
- In fact, we want

$$\max_{\text{APR}} [\text{loan\_rev}(\text{APR}, 1.412, 60, 22000) \times P(\text{Accept given APR})]$$

$$\max_{\text{APR}} \left[ \text{loan\_rev}(\text{APR}, 1.412, 60, 22000) \times \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(a+b \cdot \text{APR})}} \right]$$

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## Getting to the best APR

```
# Finding the best APR for our segment

# Try a range of APRs
APRs = np.linspace(3, 10)

# Find the loan revenues for each of these APRs
loan_revs = [loan_rev(i, 1.412, 60, 22000) for i in APRs]

# Find the probability of accepting for each of these APRs
prob_accept = logistic_reg.predict(pd.DataFrame({'Rate': APRs}))

# Find the profit for each APR
profits = [i*j for i,j in zip(loan_revs, prob_accept)]

# Find the best profit and best APR
best_profit = max(profits)
print(f'Best profit: ${round(best_profit,2)}')
best_apr = APRs[np.argmax(profits)]
print(f'Best APR: {round(best_apr,2)}%')

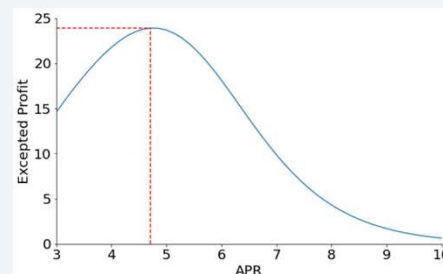
Best profit: $23.9
Best APR: 4.71%
```

	Rate
0	3
1	3.1
2	3.2
3	3.3
4	...

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## Getting to the best APR



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## Multivariate logistic regression

Is there a way to fit a logistic regression with *many* variables, just like a multivariate linear regression?

## Multivariate logistic regression

```
# Ensure there are no spaces in the names of the columns so that we
# can carry out a logistic regression using "glm" the variables
df_nomis.columns = [i.replace(' ', '_') for i in df_nomis.columns]

df_nomis.columns
Index(['Tier', 'FICO', 'Approve_Date', 'Term', 'Amount', 'Previous_Rate',
       'Car_Type', 'Competition_rate', 'Outcome', 'Rate', 'Cost_of_Funds',
       'Partner_Bin', 'predictions'],
      dtype='object')

# Fit the full logistic regression
full_logistic_reg = smf.logit('Outcome'
                              ~ C(Tier)
                              + FICO
                              + C(Term)
                              + Amount
                              + C(Car_Type)
                              + Competition_rate
                              + Rate
                              + Cost_of_Funds
                              + C(Partner_Bin)), data = df_nomis).fit()

Optimization terminated successfully.
Current function value: 0.593276
Iterations: 7
```

Create categorical variables

## Multivariate logistic regression

	coef	std err	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	5.9190	0.235	25.178	0.000	5.458	6.380
C(Tier)[T2]	-0.2662	0.022	-11.957	0.000	-0.310	-0.223
C(Tier)[T3]	-0.2550	0.029	-8.887	0.000	-0.312	-0.198
C(Tier)[T4]	-0.0159	0.045	-0.350	0.728	-0.105	0.073
C(Term)[T48]	0.2678	0.024	11.111	0.000	0.221	0.315
C(Term)[T49]	0.7394	0.022	34.115	0.000	0.697	0.782
C(Term)[T49]	0.9063	0.052	17.420	0.000	0.804	1.008
C(Car_Type)[T4]	1.5954	0.036	43.850	0.000	1.524	1.667
C(Car_Type)[T4]	1.9155	0.024	74.721	0.000	1.768	1.863
C(Car_Type)[T5]	2.1303	0.019	114.894	0.000	2.103	2.176
C(Partner_Bin)[T3]	-1.4587	0.022	-64.888	0.000	-1.500	-1.412
C(Partner_Bin)[T3]	-0.2529	0.013	-21.948	0.000	-0.319	-0.267
FICO	-0.0089	0.000	-24.332	0.000	-0.007	-0.006
Amount	-8.523e-05	8.52e-07	-96.841	0.000	-8.7e-05	-8.35e-05
Competition_rate	0.1594	0.022	7.195	0.000	0.116	0.203
Rate	-0.5072	0.009	-59.200	0.000	-0.524	-0.490
Cost_of_Funds	0.3654	0.030	12.368	0.000	0.308	0.423

Notice we get access to all the same "goodies" as we did in linear regression - p-values, confidence intervals, etc...

Think back to our motivation for logistic regression... How does multivariate logistic regression fit into this framework?

$$\text{Utility} = a + b \text{APR}_i + \epsilon_i$$

The utility a rational consumer would get out of accepting the price.

The best utility a rational gets from getting a car loan.

The disutility from having to pay for the loan. (Could be negative). The most important is the most important disutility price.

The disutility component of the customer's utility, denoted by  $\epsilon_i$ .

## Finding the optimal rate

Hi there! I'd like a 60 month \$22K loan to buy a used car

Sure, let me check what rate we can give you

## Finding the optimal rate

```
def pricing_model(Term = 3,
                 FICO = 650,
                 Term = 36,
                 Amount = 10000,
                 Car_Type = "S",
                 Competition_Rate = 0.8,
                 Cost_of_Funds = 0.1,
                 Partner_Bin = 3):
    # Try a range of APRs
    APRs = np.linspace(0, 10)

    # Find the revenue at each APR
    loan_revs = [loan_revs, Cost_of_Funds, Term, Amount] for i in APRs

    # Use the full logistic regression to find the probability of the
    # loan getting accepted at each APR
    df = pd.DataFrame({'APR': APRs,
                      'Term': Term,
                      'Amount': Amount,
                      'Car_Type': Car_Type,
                      'Competition_Rate': Competition_Rate,
                      'Cost_of_Funds': Cost_of_Funds,
                      'Partner_Bin': Partner_Bin,
                      'Data': (APRs)})

    prob_accept = full_logistic_reg_predict(df)

    # Calculate the profit
    profit = [0 for i in range(len(revs))]

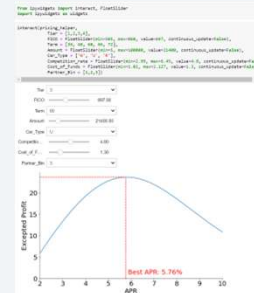
    # Figure out the best profit and plot it
    best_profit = max(profit)
    best_apr = APRs[np.argmax(profit)]

    plt.figure(figsize=(10, 8))
```

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## A decision support system



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## Model quality and calibration

Is there an equivalent of the  $R^2$  for logistic regression? Something to tell us how “good” our logistic regression is?

## Evaluating a logistic regression

- Binary models such as logistic regressions aren't as simple to evaluate as continuous regression models
- There are several reasons for this – among them
  - The predicted outcome (a probability) is not of the same “type” as the true outcome (a 0/1 binary outcome)
  - There are many ways the outcome might be used; each will have different definition of a “good” model
    - **As a probability**; this is how we're using it here
    - **To rank outcomes**; “we have a 100 loans sitting in our inbox, but only time to follow up on 30 of them; rank them by score and follow up on the top ones”
    - **To make a yes/no decision**: “a loan comes in and we think it might be fraud; use a model to predict the probability it's fraud, and reject it if it's above a certain threshold”

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We will look at the second two applications in later lectures; let's focus on the first

## Is the outcome actually a probability?

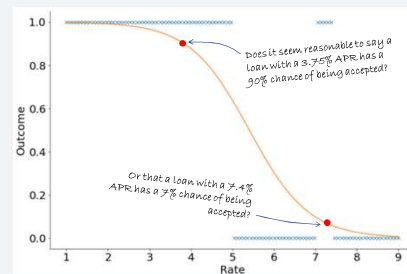
Remember this formula?

$$\text{Net revenue for the loan(APR)} \\ \times P(\text{Loan accepted given APR})$$

There is a key, implicit assumption we made when using this formula – that the score coming out of logistic regression is indeed a probability...

...this wouldn't matter if we were ranking

## Is the outcome really a probability?

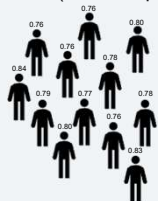


Just like a linear regression, a logistic regression makes assumptions about how probabilities vary with the independent variable. These might not hold

Calibration curves allow us to compare the score from a model to the *true* probability of the points assigned that score

## Understanding calibration

Our model will assign a score to every customer – let's gather everyone in our data who was assigned a score between 0.75 and 0.85 (for example)



Good calibration

About 80% of those people will have accepted the offer

Bad calibration

The proportion of those people who have accepted the offer is far from 80%

In what sense could a model be “good” but badly calibrated?



Imagine taking a perfectly calibrated model and dividing all the scores by 10. The order of the scores would still be correct (the most likely person to accept would get the highest score) but the model would now be totally mis-calibrated

## Creating a calibration curve

Add a column called "predictions" to the Nomis DataFrame that contains the logistic regression predictions

```
df_nomis_cal = df_nomis.copy()
df_nomis_cal['predictions'] = full_logistic_reg.predict(df_nomis_cal)

model_probs = np.linspace(0.05, 0.95, num=10)
true_probs = []

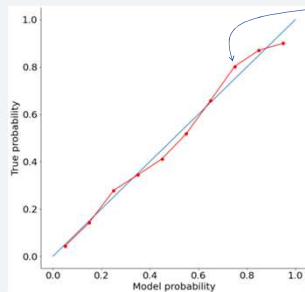
for prob in model_probs:
    true_probs.append(df_nomis_cal[(df_nomis_cal.predictions >= prob+0.05)
    & (df_nomis_cal.predictions <= prob+0.05)].Outcome.mean())
```

Example: 0.15

All rows where the prediction from our model was between 0.1 and 0.2

The true fraction of these rows in which the loan was actually accepted

## The calibration curve



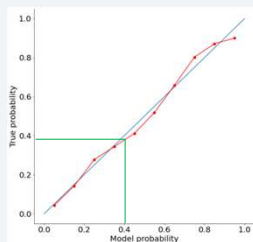
Points for which we predict the probability of conversion is 0.75 convert on average 80% of the time; so it's not quite a true probability

## Calibrating a model

- Our Nomis model's calibration isn't too bad
- Sometimes, a model's calibration will be much worse
- This precludes using it in the way we've described in this lecture
- It would be nice to find a "converter function" that takes the probabilities output by our model, and converts them to true probabilities



## One example...

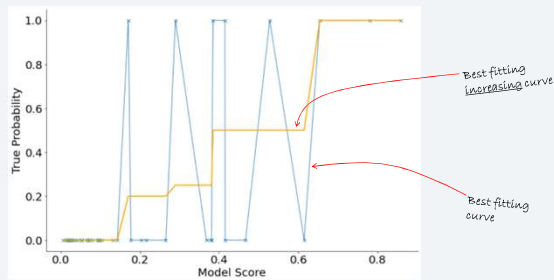


- A simple "converter function" might just use the calibration curve itself
- For example, this calibration curve would map a model score of 0.4 to a true probability of 0.38
- But how should we decide how many bins to use?

## Isotonic regression

- Isotonic regression takes a different approach to building a "converter function"
- It plots the model score ( $s_i$ ) on the x-axis, and the true outcome ( $y_i$ ) on the y-axis
- It then tries to find the **increasing function** that best fits these outcomes

## Isotonic regression (small sample of Nomis data)



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## Isotonic regression

- Suppose we have  $N$  points with scores  $s_i$  and true outcomes  $y_i$
- For each score  $s_i$ , Isotonic regression finds the best fitting “true probability”  $z(s_i)$  that solves

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^N [y_i - z(s_i)]^2 \text{ such that } z(s_i) \leq z(s_{i+1})$$

- $z$  is our “converter function”
- This problem can be solved using the **pair-adjacent violators** algorithm, which I’ll demo in class

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## Isotonic regression in Python

The `sklearn` package can carry out Isotonic regression in Python

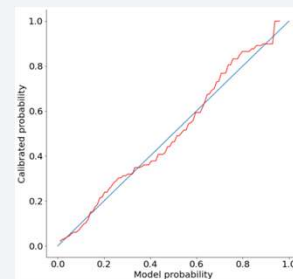
```
import sklearn.isotonic as sk_i
i_r = sk_i.IsotonicRegression().fit(df_nomis_cal.predictions, df_nomis_cal.Outcome)
model_probs = np.linspace(0, 1, num=100)
calibrated_probs = i_r.predict(model_probs)

plt.figure(figsize=(10, 10))
plt.plot([0, 1], [0, 1])
plt.plot(model_probs, calibrated_probs, color='red')
plt.xlabel('Model probability', fontsize=20)
plt.ylabel('Calibrated probability', fontsize=20)
plt.xticks(fontsize=20)
plt.yticks(fontsize=20)
sns.despine()
```

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## Isotonic regression on the Nomis data



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Nomis Solutions today

## Nomis solutions today



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# Training and Testing Models: Financial Analytics

## Session 5

Professor Daniel Guetta  
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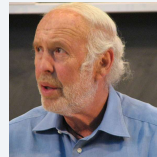
## This Module

- Financial analytics
- Predicting stock returns
- Quantitative investment strategies
- Prediction performance evaluation

## Quantitative investment strategies: theory versus practice

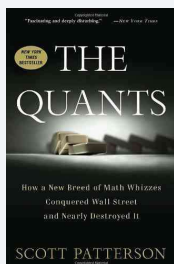
## Quant investment strategies: theory vs. practice

- **Theory:** markets are efficient → no arbitrage opportunities
- **Practice:**



*"Patterns of price movements are not random. However, they're close enough to random so that getting some excess, some edge out of it, is not easy and not so obvious, thank God"*  
Jim Simons, Renaissance Technologies

## Quant investment strategies: background



- Quantitative and data-driven methods are used in many investment strategies
- They are fundamental for systematic strategies such as statistical arbitrage, trend-following, etc...
- Examples of quant/systematic managers: D.E. Shaw, Renaissance, Citadel, Two Sigma, PDT, AQR, Cubist (formerly SAC), Millenium/WorldQuant, Winton, etc...

## Quant investment strategies: objective

- How can analytics capture value in the investment process?
- **Goal:** make money! (...without too much risk)
  - Use data to predict future prices
  - Make trading decisions based on predictions

## What data might we use to make these predictions?

### Data

There are many data sources we might use to predict future stock prices

- Technical data
  - Own price history
  - Cross-sectional price history (eg: AAPL vs. GOOG)
- Fundamental data
  - Sales, earnings, supply chain indicators, etc...
- Alternative data
  - News (natural language processing, NLP)
  - Analyst ratings, sentiment, (social media)
  - Satellite data
  - Credit card data (eg: mint.com)

statsmodels vs. sklearn

### Three elements of AI



### Explain vs. predict in Python

- Most of what we've done so far has been about **explaining** what we saw in data
- We've used a number of tools to make this happen
  - Descriptive statistics
  - Hypothesis tests
  - $p$ -values in regression
- We're now going to shift to a **predict** framework, in which we will be using past data to **train** models, which we will then use to make **predictions** in a process called **inference**

We are now shifting from  
explaining to predicting

## statsmodels VS. sklearn

- We have thus far relied on `statsmodels` for our modelling efforts
- The package is useful for “explain” use cases (what we might call “traditional” statistics)
- We *could* also use it for predict use cases, but there is another Python package, `scikit-learn` (or `sklearn`) that is far better suited for these use cases
- It comprises an enormous number of features – we’ll only scratch the surface in this class

## Importing sklearn

- `sklearn` is vast and contains many sub-packages; it is good practice to import only those you need
- The [documentation](#) is a great place to start if you want to learn more
- Let’s begin by importing the package that does linear regression

```
# Import linear models from sklearn
from sklearn import linear_model
```

## Re-running the UWS apartment regression

- Let’s re-run the UWS apartment regression
- Start by loading the data

```
import pandas as pd
df_apt = pd.read_excel('UWS_Apt.xlsx').drop(columns=['Property_Type', 'ZIP_code'])
df_apt.columns = [i.replace(' ','_') for i in df_apt.columns]
df_apt.head(2)
```

	Price_per_SqFt	SqFt	Nb_of_Bedrooms	Nb_of_Bathrooms	Number_of_Rooms	Floor	Doorman	Gym
0	1475.894640	541	0.0	1.0	0.5	17	1	1
1	1010.413478	1306	3.0	2.5	5.5	14	1	1

- Notice that we are dropping the categorical variables
- `sklearn` can handle categoricals, but it’s a little more difficult than with `statsmodels`. If we have time, we’ll cover this at the end of class

## A reminder: linear regression in statsmodels

```
import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
linear_regression = smf.ols("""Price_per_SqFt ~ SqFt + Nb_of_Bedrooms + Nb_of_Bathrooms
                             + Number_of_Rooms + Floor + Doorman + Gym""", data=df_apt).fit()
linear_regression.summary()
```

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	Price_per_SqFt	R-squared:	0.649
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.647
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	169.7
Date:	Thu, 09 Dec 2021	Prob(>F-statistic):	1.00e-163
Time:	19:03:04	Log Likelihood:	-13058.
No. Observations:	1404	AIC:	2.100e+04
Df Residuals:	1400	BIC:	2.107e+04
Df Model:	7		
Covariance Type:	nonconstant		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	79.5170	36.760	2.163	0.032	70.449	88.526
SqFt	-0.0015	0.0002	-2.875	0.004	-0.0020	-0.0008
Nb_of_Bedrooms	85.5027	20.868	4.096	0.000	43.868	130.437
Nb_of_Bathrooms	307.8859	23.833	12.923	0.000	260.650	354.542
Number_of_Rooms	-46.4919	14.650	-3.174	0.002	-75.146	-17.838
Floor	13.2886	1.191	11.156	0.000	9.937	16.507
Doorman	162.0387	20.738	7.816	0.000	111.590	212.524
Gym	147.4430	18.658	7.900	0.000	110.760	184.121

## Linear regression in sklearn

All predictive models in `sklearn` begin with a **model object**. Let’s create a linear regression model object

```
linear_regression = linear_model.LinearRegression()
```

`sklearn` models don’t use formulas – instead, we have to create a `DataFrame` containing the `x` columns only, and a `Series` containing the `y` column only:

```
X = df_apt.drop(columns='Price_per_SqFt')
y = df_apt.Price_per_SqFt
```

## Linear regression in sklearn

We are now ready to fit the model using the `x` and `y` `DataFrames`

```
linear_regression.fit(X, y)
linear_regression
```

Notice how – unlike in `statsmodels`, `.fit()` modifies the model object itself; there’s no need to save anything it returns.

## Linear regression in sklearn

Once we've fit our model, we can view the intercept and the coefficients

```
linear_regression.intercept_
781.5169948496335

linear_regression.coef_
array([-1.21528716e+01,  8.95421268e+01,  3.07595838e+02, -4.64018127e+01,
        1.12888708e+01,  1.62036706e+02,  1.47443000e+02])
```

Notice how much less convenient this is for explain use cases – there is no `.summary()` in the style of `statsmodels`... In predict use cases, the coefficients aren't really the point.

## Linear regression in sklearn

If we want to, we can view the coefficients next to the variable names; they match `statsmodels` exactly

```
pd.DataFrame({'col_names': ['Intercept'] + X.columns.tolist(),
             'coeffs': [linear_regression.intercept_] + linear_regression.coef_.tolist()})
```

	col_names	coeffs
0	Intercept	781.516995
1	SqFt	-0.121528
2	Nb_of_Bedrooms	89.542127
3	Nb_of_Bathrooms	307.595838
4	Number_of_Rooms	-46.401813
5	Floor	11.288871
6	Doorman	162.036706
7	Gym	147.443000

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]	
	Intercept	781.5170	38.760	0.000	709.408	853.828	
	SqFt	-0.1215	0.042	-2.870	0.004	-0.205	-0.038
	Nb_of_Bedrooms	89.5421	20.848	4.295	0.000	48.848	130.437
	Nb_of_Bathrooms	307.5958	23.933	12.853	0.000	260.650	354.542
	Number_of_Rooms	-46.4018	14.655	-3.168	0.002	-75.149	-17.655
	Floor	11.2889	1.131	9.984	0.000	9.071	13.507
	Doorman	162.0367	25.738	6.296	0.000	111.550	212.524
	Gym	147.4430	18.698	7.886	0.000	110.765	184.121

**sklearn doesn't give us  $p$ -values, nor does it allow us to see coefficients particularly easily. But it's perfect for predict use cases, and supports many more models than `statsmodels`**

## Making predictions in sklearn

- Making predictions in `sklearn` is easy
- We simply create a new matrix containing *exactly* the same  $x$  columns in the same order...
- ...and then use `.predict()` on them

```
linear_regression.predict(X)
array([1501.55540025, 1872.73039364, 1921.76373864, ..., 1387.15311903,
       1521.82008262, 1114.92896052])
```

## Predictions: statsmodels vs sklearn

statsmodels

```
linear_regression.predict(df_apt)
```

A `statsmodels` linear regression object can make a prediction on a `DataFrame` even if

- It contains extra columns over and above those in the training data
- And even if they are not in the same order

sklearn

```
linear_regression.predict(X)
```

A `sklearn` linear regression object can only make predictions on a `DataFrame` that has

- *exactly* the same columns as the training data
- in the same order

## Calculating $R^2$ in sklearn

- `sklearn` contains utility functions that allow us to measure all kinds of metrics – for example, the  $R$ -squared
- You first have to make predictions using the model, and you can then use `sklearn` to compare them to the true values and find the  $R^2$

```
import sklearn.metrics as sk_m
predicted_vals = linear_regression.predict(X)
sk_m.r2_score(y, predicted_vals)
0.44926201520287845
```

In this class, we will use abbreviations of this kind to refer to `sklearn` packages we import

## Logistic regression

sklearn can also handle logistic regression; let's import the Nomis dataset, and keep only two variables for simplicity

```
df_nomis = pd.read_excel('Nomis data.xlsx')
df_nomis_sub = df_nomis[['Rate', 'Competition rate', 'Outcome']].copy()
df_nomis_sub = df_nomis_sub.rename(columns={'Competition rate': 'Competition_rate'})
df_nomis_sub.head()
```

	Rate	Competition_rate	Outcome
0	7.49	6.25	0
1	5.49	5.65	0
2	5.49	5.65	0
3	8.99	6.25	0
4	5.49	5.65	0

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## Logistic regression in statsmodels

```
import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
logistic_reg = smf.logit('Outcome ~ Rate + Competition_rate', data=df_nomis_sub).fit()
logistic_reg.summary()
```

Optimization terminated successfully:  
Current function value: 0.511217  
Iterations: 6

Logit Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	Outcome	No. Observations:	208060
Model:	Logit	DF Residuals:	208062
Method:	MLE	DF Model:	2
Date:	Fri, 10 Dec 2021	Pseudo R-squ:	0.02987
Time:	07:07:55	Log-Likelihood:	-1.0630e+05
converged:	True	LL-Null:	-1.0650e+05
Covariance Type:	nonrobust	LLR p-value:	0.000

	coef	std err	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	-4.3491	0.045	-95.942	0.000	-4.438	-4.260
Rate	-0.1379	0.004	-33.824	0.000	-0.146	-0.130
Competition_rate	0.7922	0.010	79.478	0.000	0.773	0.812

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## Logistic regression in sklearn

```
import sklearn.linear_model as sk_lm
logistic_reg = sk_lm.LogisticRegression(penalty='none')
X = df_nomis_sub[['Rate', 'Competition_rate']]
y = df_nomis_sub.Outcome
logistic_reg.fit(X, y)
print(logistic_reg.intercept_)
print(logistic_reg.coef_)
```

```
[-4.3491978]
[[-0.13784947  0.79217734]]
```

	coef
Intercept	-4.3491
Rate	-0.1379
Competition_rate	0.7922

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## Logistic regression in sklearn: warning 1



sk\_lm.LogisticRegression(penalty='none')

- By default, sklearn adds a **penalty** to logistic regression
- This topic goes beyond this class, and is covered in BA2
- For now, suffice it to say that if you want to fit a simple logistic regression of the kind we have described (that matches the statsmodels regression) you must pass `penalty='none'` when you create the `LogisticRegression` model

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## Logistic regression in sklearn: warning 2



```
linear_regression.coef_
array([[1.21328720e-01,  0.35421208e+01,  3.97599310e+02, -4.64818177e+01,
        1.12889780e+01,  1.82936789e+02,  1.47430000e+02]])
```

```
print(logistic_reg.intercept_)
print(logistic_reg.coef_)
```

```
[-4.3491978]
[[-0.13784947  0.79217734]]
```

- `LinearRegression.coef_` looks reasonable; an array/list with one entry per coefficient
- For reasons we won't get into, `LogisticRegression.coef_` returns a list with *one* element (another list); that list contains one entry per coefficient

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## Making logistic regression predictions in sklearn

```
logistic_reg.predict(X)
array([0, 0, 0, ..., 0, 0, 0], dtype=int64)

logistic_reg.predict_proba(X)
array([[0.60609262, 0.39390738],
       [0.65293241, 0.34706759],
       [0.65293241, 0.34706759],
       ...,
       [0.88489259, 0.11510741],
       [0.88484232, 0.11515768],
       [0.76417915, 0.23582085]])

[1] for i in logistic_reg.predict_proba(X):
    [0.39390738, 0.60609262]
    [0.34706759, 0.65293241]
    [0.34706759, 0.65293241]
    ...
    [0.11510741, 0.88489259]
    [0.11515768, 0.88484232]
    [0.23582085, 0.76417915]
```

This function will use 0.5 as a threshold; any points with a score above 0.5 get classified as "1", others as "0"

This function returns one length-2 list per datapoint. The first element gives the predicted probability the outcome will be 0. The second gives the predicted probability the outcome will be 1.

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### Logistic regression in sklearn: warning 3



```
logistic_reg.predict(X)
array([0, 0, 0, ..., 0, 0, 0], dtype=int64)
```

- **Never, ever, ever, ever**, use `.predict()` for a classification model, unless you know exactly what you're doing
- The choice of 0.5 as a threshold is completely arbitrary (as we'll see in a later lecture)
- Remove this function from your minds completely

## Logistic regression in sklearn: warning 4



```
logistic_reg.predict_proba(X)
array([[0.60601262, 0.39398738],
       [0.65253241, 0.34746759],
       [0.65253241, 0.34746759],
       ...,
       [0.88498259, 0.11501741],
       [0.80464232, 0.19535768],
       [0.76417515, 0.23582485]])
```

- Remember that `.predict_proba()` returns a list of lists
- You generally want to extract the *second* element to get the probability the outcome is 1.

## Logistic regression in sklearn: warning 5



- Packages like `sklearn` and `statsmodels` can make all these models seem like simple commodities
- It's easy to forget there are complex, iterative algorithms working in the background (like gradient descent but more complicated) that fit these models
- Like all algorithms, these can sometimes struggle
- Let's look at an example in which two columns are of very different magnitudes

## Logistic regression in sklearn: warning 5

```
df_pivot_sub = df_pivot[['Rate', 'Amount', 'Outcome']].copy()
df_pivot_sub.head()
```

	Rate	Amount	Outcome
0	7.65	20000.0	0
1	8.40	40000.0	0
2	5.62	18000.0	0
3	9.30	10410.0	0
4	6.40	32000.0	0

[illegible]

```
logistic_reg = sklearn.linear_model.LogisticRegression()
X = df[['age', 'sex', 'education', 'income']]
y = df['target']

logistic_reg.fit(X, y)

print(logistic_reg.coef_)
print(logistic_reg.intercept_())
```

**When coefficients have very different magnitudes, the algorithms we've discussed can sometimes struggle...**

## Back to financial analytics



## Back to financial analytics

- Let's kick off with a simple, down to earth model
- Consider the IBM stock as an example
- On each day, we can calculate the stock's return as follows

$$\frac{\text{Today's adjusted close} - \text{Last trading day's adjusted close}}{\text{Last trading day's adjusted close}} - 1$$

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## Calculating IBM returns

```
df_ibm.head()

df_ibm = df_ibm.copy()
df_returns['return_today'] = (df_returns['Adj Close'] - df_returns['Adj Close'].shift(1)) / df_returns['Adj Close'].shift(1)
df_returns = df_returns[[date, 'return_today', 'return_id']]
df_returns = df_returns[df_returns.date >= '2012-01-01']
df_returns.head()
```

Downloaded from a finance API  
- see notebook for optional code

Shift the column one row down  
so we're looking at the previous  
day's value

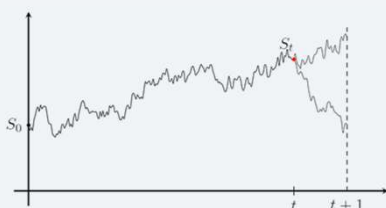
Keep track of the returns the  
day before; we'll need this later

Keep July-December 2012

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## Examples of patterns: momentum and reversals



Suppose the stock has been running up... Will it continue going up (**momentum**) or start going down (**reversal**)?

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If we could predict whether momentum or reversal is more likely for a stock, we could trade on this information!

How might we use analytics to predict this?

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## Linear regression

We could start with a very simple model that predicts returns on each day based on returns the day before

$$\text{return\_today} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot \text{return\_1D} + \text{error}$$

- What would you expect the value of  $\beta_0$  to be?
- How could we look at the results of this model and determine whether we have momentum, reversal, neither or both?

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## Linear regression

```
import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
linear_id = smf.ols('return_today ~ return_1D', data=df_returns).fit()
linear_id.summary()
```

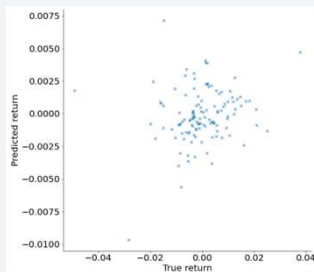
```
OLS Regression Results
Dep. Variable:    return_today    R-squared:    0.038
Model:            OLS            Adj. R-squared: 0.030
Method:            Least Squares    F-statistic: 4.855
Date:    Fri, 10 Dec 2021    Prob(F-statistic): 0.0265
Time:    12:18:27    Log-Likelihood: 391.72
No. Observations:    124    AIC:    -779.4
DF Residuals:    122    BIC:    -773.8
DF Model:    1
Covariance Type:    nonrobust

coef    std err    t    P>|t|    [0.025    0.975]
Intercept    -0.0002    0.001    -0.162    0.871    -0.002    0.002
return_1D    0.1938    0.088    2.203    0.029    0.020    0.368
```

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## Linear regression



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## From predictions to trades

## How can we design a trading strategy based on these predictions?

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## A simple trading strategy

- Every night, close out your position
- Then, observe the previous day's return
- Predict the next day's return
  - If we predict a positive return, buy the stock (go long)
  - If we predict a negative return, sell the stock (go short)
- (This, of course, ignores any tax/transaction fee implications, but it'll serve as a first model)

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## A simple strategy

$$= -0.0002 + 0.1938 \times \text{Yesterday's return}$$

Buy if the predicted return is positive, sell otherwise.

Equal to actual return if we went long, and minus the actual return if we shorted.

Previous day's return thus far \* (1 + this day's strategy return)

Date	Yesterday's return	Predicted return today	Decision made last night	Actual return today	Strategy return	Return thus far
7/2/2012	2.18%	0.41%	Long	0.13%	0.13%	1.0013
7/3/2012	0.13%	0.01%	Long	0.05%	0.05%	1.0018
7/5/2012	0.05%	-0.01%	Short	-0.32%	0.32%	1.0051
7/6/2012	-0.32%	-0.08%	Short	-1.99%	1.99%	1.0250
7/9/2012	-1.99%	-0.40%	Short	-0.91%	0.91%	1.0343

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## A simple strategy in Python

```

import numpy as np

df_returns['pred_return_today'] = linear_id.predict(df_returns)
df_returns['decision_last_night'] = np.sign(df_returns.pred_return_today)
df_returns['strategy_return'] = 1 * (df_returns.return_today * df_returns.decision_last_night)
df_returns['cumulative_return'] = df_returns.strategy_return.cumprod()

df_returns.head(3)
    
```

	Date	return_today	return_1D	pred_return_today	decision_last_night	strategy_return	cumulative_return
252	2012-07-02	0.001278	0.021839	0.004082	1.0	1.001278	1.001278
253	2012-07-03	0.000511	0.001278	0.000097	1.0	1.000511	1.001790
254	2012-07-05	-0.003267	0.000511	-0.000052	-1.0	1.003267	1.005062

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## Total return after 6 months...

```
df_returns.tail(3)
```

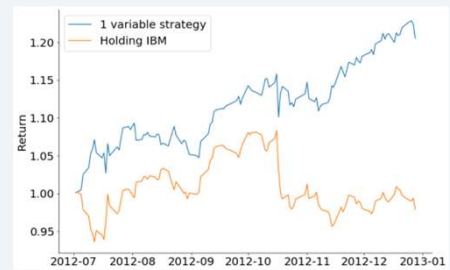
	Date	return_today	return_1D	pred_return_today	decision_last_night	strategy_return	cumulative_return
373	2012-12-26	-0.002339	-0.005274	-0.001173	-1.0	1.002339	1.228383
374	2012-12-27	0.003960	-0.002339	-0.000604	-1.0	0.996040	1.223519
375	2012-12-28	-0.014945	0.003960	0.000617	1.0	0.985055	1.205233



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## Total return after 6 months



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## How does a bad model do so well?



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How can we do even better?

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## Using 14 variables

```
df_returns_14 = df_ibm.copy()
df_returns_14['return_today'] = (df_returns_14['Adj Close'] /
df_returns_14['Adj Close'].shift(1)) - 1

lagged_cols = ['1D':1, '3D':3, '1M':17, '3M':37,
               '1Y':126, '5Y':617, '10Y':1238, '30Y':1939, '40Y':4939,
               '50Y':5939, '60Y':6939, '90Y':9939, '1Y':1363]

for col in lagged_cols:
    df_returns_14['return_' + col] = (df_returns_14['return_today']
                                     - df_returns_14['return_today'].shift(1))

df_returns_14 = df_returns_14[['Date', 'return_today']
                              + [col for col in lagged_cols]]
df_returns_14 = df_returns_14[(df_returns_14.Date >= '2012-07-02')
                              & (df_returns_14.Date <= '2012-12-31')]
df_returns_14.head(2)
```

	Date	return_today	return_1D	return_3D	return_1W	return_2W	return_3W	return_1M	return_6W	return_3M	ret
373	2012-12-26	0.001278	0.021839	0.006340	-0.002221	0.001204	0.000736	-0.000320	-0.001315	-0.000739	0.1
374	2012-12-27	0.000910	0.001278	0.004942	0.001835	0.000539	0.001740	0.000055	-0.001291	-0.000671	-0.1

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## Using 14 variables

```
X = df_returns_14.drop(columns=['Date', 'return_today']).copy()
y = df_returns_14['return_today']

import sklearn.linear_model as sk_lm
linear_14d = sk_lm.LinearRegression()
linear_14d.fit(X, y)

LinearRegression()

df_returns_14['pred_return_today'] = linear_14d.predict(X)
df_returns_14['decision_last_night'] = np.sign(df_returns_14['pred_return_today'])
df_returns_14['strategy_return'] = 1 + (df_returns_14['return_today']
                                     - df_returns_14['pred_return_today'])
df_returns_14['cumulative_return'] = df_returns_14['strategy_return'].cumprod()

df_returns_14.tail(2)
```

	1M	return_6M	return_6M	return_1Y	pred_return_today	decision_last_night	strategy_return	cumulative_return
43	-0.000094	-0.0000205	0.000311	0.000421	-0.001375	-1.0	0.996040	1.536502
17	-0.000028	-0.000143	0.000052	0.000411	-0.000022	-1.0	1.014945	1.559465

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## Using 14 variables



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How does our strategy perform over the next 6 months?

## The next 6 months...

First, prepare the data without removing any dates

```
df_returns_all = df_ibm.copy()
df_returns_all['return_today'] = (df_returns_all['Adj Close'] /
df_returns_all['Adj Close'].shift(1)) - 1

lagged_cols = ['1D':1, '3D':3, '1W':7, '2W':14, '3W':21, '1M':30, '2M':60, '3M':90, '4M':120, '5M':150, '6M':180, '9M':270, '1Y':365]

for col in lagged_cols:
    df_returns_all[f'return_{col}'] = (df_returns_all.rolling(lagged_cols[col])
    .mean()
    .shift(1))

df_returns_all = df_returns_all[['Date', 'return_today']
+ [f'return_{col}' for col in lagged_cols]]
```

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## The next 6 months...

Create the model as we did on July 2012 – December 2012

```
df_returns_early = df_returns_all[(df_returns_all.Date >= '2012-07-02')
& (df_returns_all.Date <= '2012-12-31')].copy()

X_1_lvar = df_returns_early[['return_1D']]
X_1_14var = df_returns_early[[f'return_{i}' for i in lagged_cols]]
y_1 = df_returns_early.return_today

lm_1 = sk_lm.LinearRegression().fit(X_1_lvar, y_1)
lm_14 = sk_lm.LinearRegression().fit(X_1_14var, y_1)
```

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## The next 6 months...

Run the strategy on the next 6 months

```
df_returns_late = df_returns_all[(df_returns_all.Date >= '2013-01-01')
& (df_returns_all.Date <= '2013-06-30')].copy()

X_2_lvar = df_returns_late[['return_1D']]
X_2_14var = df_returns_late[[f'return_{i}' for i in lagged_cols]]
y_2 = df_returns_late.return_today

df_returns_late['pred_return_today_1'] = lm_1.predict(X_2_lvar)
df_returns_late['pred_return_today_14'] = lm_14.predict(X_2_14var)

df_returns_late['decision_last_night_1'] = np.sign(df_returns_late.pred_return_today_1)
df_returns_late['decision_last_night_14'] = np.sign(df_returns_late.pred_return_today_14)

df_returns_late['strategy_return_1'] = 1 + (df_returns_late.return_today
- df_returns_late.decision_last_night_1)
df_returns_late['strategy_return_14'] = 1 + (df_returns_late.return_today
- df_returns_late.decision_last_night_14)

df_returns_late['cumulative_return_1'] = df_returns_late.strategy_return_1.cumprod()
df_returns_late['cumulative_return_14'] = df_returns_late.strategy_return_14.cumprod()
```

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## The next 6 months...



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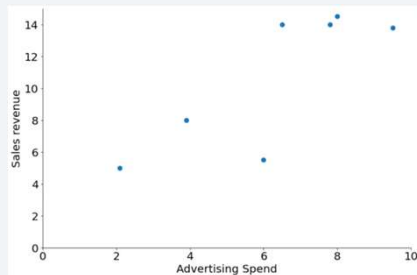
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What happened?!

(a) Why didn't either strategy do as well as expected? (b) Why did the 14 variable strategy (expected to do better) end up doing worse?!

Performance evaluation:  
train versus test sets

### Example



### Two potential models

#### Model 1

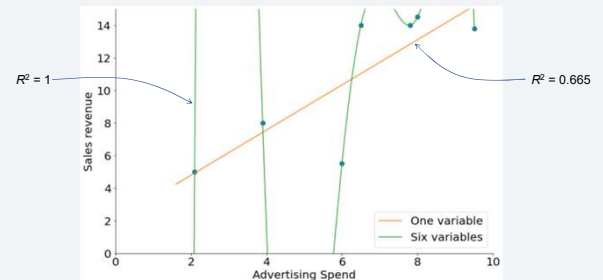
$$y = 2.00 + 1.39x$$

#### Model 2

$$y = -5506.49 + 6892.44x - 3315.93x^2 + 799.61x^3 - 103.25x^4 + 6.83x^5 - 0.18x^6$$

Which of these models would you use?

### More variables = better fit = better predictions?



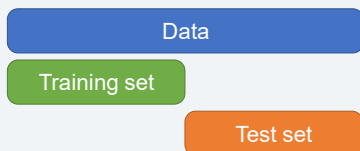
Models with more variables better fit the training data, but partly because they capture so much noise; this doesn't translate to making good predictions

How do we figure out the *true* performance of the model?

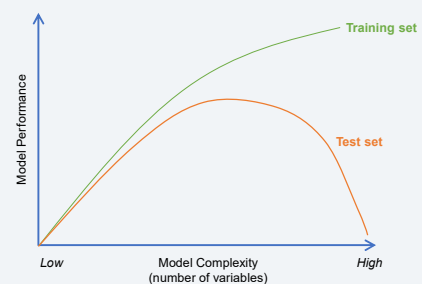
### “Out of sample” performance

We divide the data into two sets

- A **training set**, used to fit the model
- A **test set**, used to assess the quality of the model's predictions – this is called the “out of sample” performance



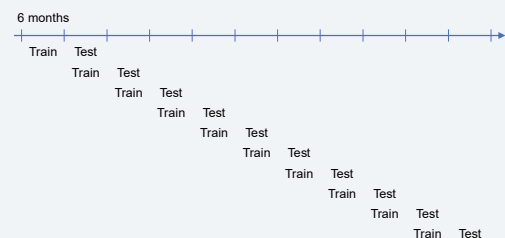
### Prediction error vs. model complexity



### Training/testing financial strategies

### Training/testing financial strategies

6 months to fit a regression equation, use the model to trade in the next 6 months; update the model every 6 months and repeat



## Sequentially training a model

```
for i in range(len(intervals) - 1):
    this_interval = intervals[i]
    next_interval = intervals[i+1]

    # Train the model on this interval
    df_train = df_implement[(df_implement.Date >= this_interval[0])
                             & (df_implement.Date <= this_interval[1])]

    X_lvar = df_train[['return_10']]
    X_14var = df_train[['return_14']]
    y = df_train.return_today

    lm_1 = sk_lm.LinearRegression().fit(X_lvar, y)
    lm_14 = sk_lm.LinearRegression().fit(X_14var, y)

    # Make predictions on the "next" intervals
    next_interval_rows = (df_implement.Date >= next_interval[0])
    & (df_implement.Date <= next_interval[1])

    df_predict = df_implement[next_interval_rows]

    df_implement.loc[next_interval_rows, 'pred_return_today_1'] = (
        lm_1.predict(df_predict[['return_10']]))
    df_implement.loc[next_interval_rows, 'pred_return_today_14'] = (
        lm_14.predict(df_predict[['return_14']] for i in lagged_cols)))
```

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## The results



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## Where to go from here

- We can get more power by using 50 stocks instead of just 1
  - Every day, predict the returns for the 50 stocks
  - Buy those with the top 5 predicted returns, short those with the bottom 5 predicted returns (this is a "neutral" portfolio)
- However complex the strategy, we need a principled test/train approach to make sure we're not overfitting

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**Alternative data has also become a major part of the way quantitative trading is done today**

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## Miscellaneous thoughts

## Methods for creating train/test sets

- This lecture has dealt with a very specific kind of time series data, in which we can create train/test sets chronologically
- In other non-time series cases, it makes more sense to split training and test sets randomly
- sklearn has functions to make this happen – let's look at an example on the Nomis data

```
import sklearn.model_selection as sk_ms
df_train, df_test = sk_ms.train_test_split(df_nomis, train_size=0.8, random_state=123)
```

Train and test sets are split randomly, but if you provide a random state, the split will be the same every time you provide the same random state; we will discuss this in far greater detail in our simulation lecture

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## Methods for creating train/test sets

```
print(list(mp_nomis()))
mp_nomis.head(2)
289885

  Tier  FICO  Approval  Term  Amount  Previous  Car  Competition  Outcome  Rate  Cost of  Partner
      Date                                     Rate  Type  rate                                     Rate  Funds  Bin
8  3  685  2020-07-01  72  30000.0  N      N      5.25  0  7.45  1.0355  1
1  1  751  2020-07-01  60  40000.0  N      N      5.95  0  5.40  1.0355  3

print(list(mp_train()))
mp_train.head(2)
166468

  Tier  FICO  Approval  Term  Amount  Previous  Car  Competition  Outcome  Rate  Cost of  Partner
      Date                                     Rate  Type  rate                                     Rate  Funds  Bin
166278  3  624  2020-06-01  71  60  65000.0  N      N      4.25  0  5.45  1.12  1
58660  3  675  2020-06-01  60  30000.0  N      N      4.35  0  5.15  1.31  3

print(list(mp_test()))
mp_test.head(2)
43202

  Tier  FICO  Approval  Term  Amount  Previous  Car  Competition  Outcome  Rate  Cost of  Partner
      Date                                     Rate  Type  rate                                     Rate  Funds  Bin
167081  1  719  2020-06-01  25  30  30000.0  N      N      2.50  0  2.50  1.0100  1
40041  3  690  2020-06-01  60  45000.0  N      N      4.40  0  5.15  1.3375  1
```

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## Methods for creating train/test sets

- In practice, a technique called *K*-fold cross validation is used to achieve the train/test effect without “wasting” data
- This technique goes beyond what we’ll discuss in this class, but is covered in BA2

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In theory, we should have done all this with Nomis... Why is it likely it wouldn’t have made a massive difference?

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## Picking models using the train/test strategy

- We have been using train/test sets to test our 1 variable strategy against a 14 variable strategy
- What happens if we do this with thousands of different models...
- ...we end up **overfitting** to the test set
- The solution is to create a separate **validation set**
- We discuss this in more detail in BA2

Training set

Test set

Evaluation set

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# Quality of Predictions and Classification; Healthcare Analytics

## Module 6

Professor Daniel Guetta  
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## This Module

- The challenge of readmissions reduction at Tahoe Healthcare
- Classification: predicting an outcome
- Performance of a classifier (" $R^2$  for 0/1 outcomes")
- Economic tradeoffs in classification

## Readmissions at the Tahoe healthcare system

## What is a readmission?

## Hospital Readmissions



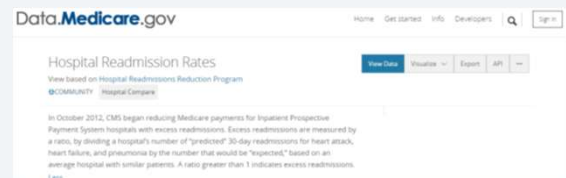
New England Journal of Medicine Study (2009)

- Approximately 20% of hospitalized Medicare patients are readmitted within 30 days; 34% are readmitted within 90 days
- Estimated cost to the US healthcare system: \$17 billion

2010 Affordable Care Act established a Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program (HRRP)

- Medicare payments to hospitals are reduced for excess readmissions
- Three conditions: acute myocardial infraction (AMI), heart failure (HF), and pneumonia
- Based on 30-day, risk-adjusted readmissions rate
- 3-year rolling horizon measure

## Medicare readmissions stats



## Tell me about the Tahoe Healthcare System. How is it affected by readmissions?

## Tahoe Healthcare System

- Case study uses real, but anonymized data
- Operates 14 hospitals in the Pacific Northwest
- 18% of total revenues are from Medicare reimbursement for the three HRRP conditions
- Management is concerned about the impact of the new HRRP rules on reimbursement revenues

## Interventions to reduce readmissions



- During hospitalization
  - Tailored patient care
  - Communication with PCP, family and home care
  - Patient education
- At discharge
  - Discharge planning
  - Patient/caregiver education
  - Transition coaching
  - Schedule and prepare follow-up appointments
- Post-discharge
  - Home nursing visits
  - Phone follow-up checks
  - Tele-health monitoring

## CareTracker

- Tahoe has been working with a variety of interventions to try and reduce readmissions
- CareTracker, a new program the clinical staff has piloted with AMI patients has proved effective at reducing readmissions through a combination of patient education and post-discharge monitoring
  - Cost/patient: **\$1,200**
  - Reduces readmission risk by **40%**
  - Reimbursement penalty per readmission: **\$8,000**

## Data on past patients

Tahoe has provided data on past patients that did **not** receive the CareTracker intervention. We can load it into Python

Was the patient admitted during flu season

Was the patient admitted through the emergency department

How unwell the patient is with the condition they were admitted for

How unwell the patient is with conditions related to the one they were admitted for

Equal to 1 if the patient was re-admitted within 30 days of discharge, 0 otherwise

```
import pandas as pd
df_tahoe = pd.read_excel('tahoe data.xlsx')
df_tahoe.head()
```

	age	female	flu_season	ed_admit	severity score	comorbidity score	readmit30
0	100	1	1	1	38	112	0
1	83	1	0	1	8	109	1
2	74	0	1	0	1	80	0
3	66	1	1	1	25	4	0
4	68	1	1	1	25	32	0

Based on these data, should CareTracker be deployed for **all** patients?

## Initial analysis

```

currency_format = lambda x : '$({:,.2f})'.format(x)

Problem data

# Penalty per re-admitted patient
readmit_penalty = 8000

# Cost of CareTracker per patient
caretracker_cost = 1200

# Percentage reduction in readmissions with CareTracker
readmit_reduction = 0.6

Status quo

# In the status quo, we would pay for all re-admitted
# patients
currency_format(readmit_penalty * df_tahoe.readmit30.sum())
"$7,884,000.00"

Implementing CareTracker for everyone

total_caretracker_cost = len(df_tahoe) * caretracker_cost
total_readmit_penalty = df_tahoe.readmit30.sum() * readmit_reduction * readmit_penalty
currency_format(total_caretracker_cost + total_readmit_penalty)
"$10,048,000.00"

```

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## The cost matrix approach

## The cost matrix

We can calculate these numbers more systematically using a **cost matrix**

		Treatment	
		0	1
Outcome	0	\$0	\$1,200
	1	\$8,000	\$6,000

What we chose to do - did we give the patient CareTracker (1) or not (0)

What would have happened in the absence of treatment - would they have gotten readmitted (1) or not (0). This is what we observe in our data

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## Why \$6,000?

If someone *would have been re-admitted* but we give them CareTracker, their probability of being re-admitted drops to 0.6, and so their expected penalty is

$$\$8,000 \times 0.6 = \$4,800$$

Of course, we also need to pay \$1,200 to give them CareTracker, which results in a total cost of

$$\$4,800 + \$1,200 = \$6,000$$

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## Basic scenarios

Status quo – no CareTracker for anyone

		Treatment	
		0	1
Outcome	0	3,384	0
	1	998	0

Use CareTracker for everyone

		Treatment	
		0	1
Outcome	0	0	3,384
	1	0	998

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## Basic scenarios

```

cost_matrix = pd.DataFrame([0,1000],[0,0])
cost_matrix

# 0 1000
# 0 0 0
# 1 0 0

Status quo

status_quo = pd.DataFrame([0,df_tahoe.readmit30.sum(),0],[0,df_tahoe.readmit30.sum(),0])
status_quo

# 0 1
# 0 1000
# 1 0 0

currency_format(cost_matrix*status_quo).sum()
"$7,884,000.00"

Implementing CareTracker for everyone

all_caretracker = pd.DataFrame([0,1-df_tahoe.readmit30.sum()/df_tahoe.readmit30.sum(),0])
all_caretracker

# 0 1
# 0 0.3384
# 1 0.998

currency_format(cost_matrix*all_caretracker).sum()
"$10,048,000.00"

```

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Is the idea of CareTracker dead? What else could be done?

We could try and predict how likely patients are to *need* CareTracker, and only prescribe it to people who are very likely to need it

Before we even launch into this, how could we verify that there is some value to be captured here?

### Perfect predictions



Suppose we had perfect foresight, and could apply CareTracker *only to patients we knew would be readmitted...*

		Treatment	
		0	1
Outcome	0	3,384	0
	1	0	998

### Perfect predictions

```
best_case = pd.DataFrame([[(1-df_tahoe.readmit30).sum(), 0], [0, df_tahoe.readmit30.sum()]])
currency_format((cost_matrix*best_case).sum().sum())
'$5,988,000.00'
```

With perfect foresight, we would go from a status quo of **\$7,984,000** to a perfect cost of **\$5,988,000**, that is a potential saving of

**\$1,996,000**

This provides a benchmark for evaluating future improvements.

How might we capture some of this potential value? What approach might we use to try and predict whether someone will need CareTracker?

## A first classifier

### A first classifier

The severity score seems like a likely candidate...

```
print('Re-admitted patients')
print(df_tahoe[df_tahoe.readmit30 == 1]['severity score'].mean())
print(df_tahoe[df_tahoe.readmit30 == 1]['severity score'].std())

Re-admitted patients
38.672344689378757
20.579026841682253

print('NON re-admitted patients')
print(df_tahoe[df_tahoe.readmit30 == 0]['severity score'].mean())
print(df_tahoe[df_tahoe.readmit30 == 0]['severity score'].std())

NON re-admitted patients
19.89982269503546
16.388526875595662
```

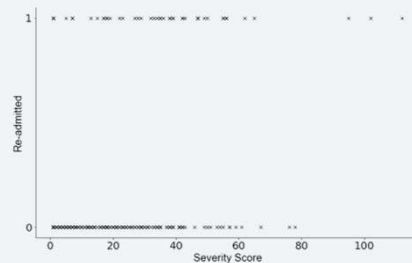
Maybe we should only give CareTracker to patients that have a high severity score when they are discharged?

What score should we use as the threshold?

How can we rigorously determine what the best threshold might be?

## Performance of a classifier

### Evaluating the performance of a classifier





### Suppose we pick a threshold of $S^* = 25.5$

```

true_positives = ((df_tahoe['severity score'] >= 25.5) & (df_tahoe.readmit30 == 1)).sum()
true_positives
546

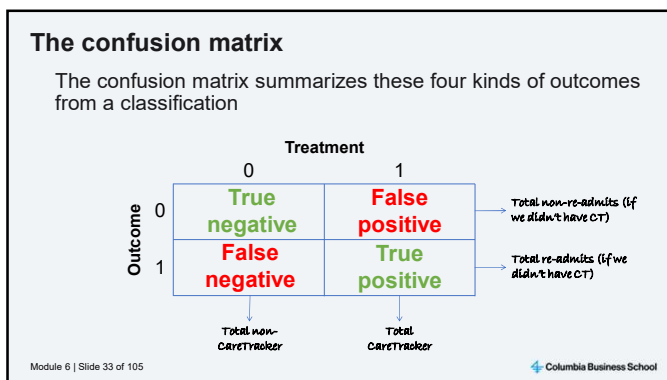
false_negatives = ((df_tahoe['severity score'] < 25.5) & (df_tahoe.readmit30 == 1)).sum()
false_negatives
452

false_positives = ((df_tahoe['severity score'] >= 25.5) & (df_tahoe.readmit30 == 0)).sum()
false_positives
1841

true_negatives = ((df_tahoe['severity score'] < 25.5) & (df_tahoe.readmit30 == 0)).sum()
true_negatives
2343

```

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### The confusion matrix in Python

```

import sklearn.metrics as sk_m
confusion_matrix = sk_m.confusion_matrix(df_tahoe.readmit30, df_tahoe['severity score'] >= 25.5)
confusion_matrix
array([[2343, 1841],
       [ 452,  546]], dtype=int64)

```

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### Error rates

		Treatment	
		0	1
Outcome	0	True negative	False positive
	1	False negative	True positive

How likely are we to make an error of some type?

$$\text{Total error rate} = \frac{\# \text{ False positives} + \# \text{ False negatives}}{\text{Total number of outcomes}}$$

How likely are we to misclassify a negative as a positive?

$$\text{False positive rate} = \frac{\# \text{ False positives}}{\text{Total number of actual negatives}}$$

How likely are we to correctly classify an observation as positive?

Also called the sensitivity

$$\text{True positive rate} = \frac{\# \text{ True positives}}{\text{Total number of actual positives}}$$

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### Error rates

```

total_error_rate = (confusion_matrix[0,1] + confusion_matrix[1,0])/len(df_tahoe)
total_error_rate
0.34071200365130088

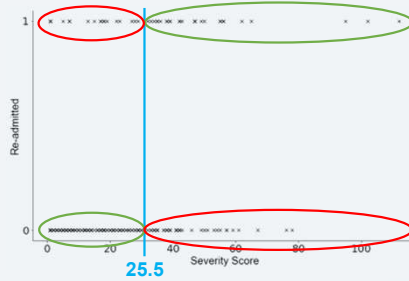
false_positive_rate = confusion_matrix[0,1]/(confusion_matrix[0,1] + confusion_matrix[0,0])
false_positive_rate
0.3076241134751773

true_positive_rate = confusion_matrix[1,1]/(confusion_matrix[1,0] + confusion_matrix[1,1])
true_positive_rate
0.5470941883767535

```

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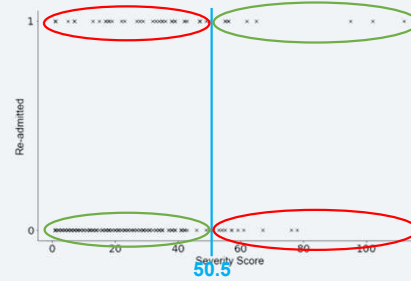
## Moving the threshold from 25.5 to 50.5



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## Moving the threshold from 25.5 to 50.5



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## Error rates

```
import sklearn.metrics as sk_m
confusion_matrix = sk_m.confusion_matrix(df_tahoe.readmit30, df_tahoe['severity score'] >= 50.5)
confusion_matrix
array([[3190, 194],
       [ 826, 172]], dtype=int64)

total_error_rate = (confusion_matrix[0,1] + confusion_matrix[1,0])/len(df_tahoe)
total_error_rate
0.2327704244637152

false_positive_rate = confusion_matrix[0,1]/(confusion_matrix[0,1] + confusion_matrix[0,0])
false_positive_rate
0.057328605200945626 ← Was 0.308

true_positive_rate = confusion_matrix[1,1]/(confusion_matrix[1,1] + confusion_matrix[1,0])
true_positive_rate
0.17234468937875752 ← Was 0.547
```

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There is a tradeoff – higher thresholds lead to a better (lower) FPR, but also a worse (lower) TPR

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## The tradeoff for every threshold

Scikit-learn allows us to calculate the FPR and TPR for every possible threshold of the score

```
fpr, tpr, thresh = sk_m.roc_curve(df_tahoe.readmit30, df_tahoe['severity score'])
```

The true outcomes  
The score we're using  
Every threshold of the score  
The true positive rate for every threshold  
The false positive rate for every threshold

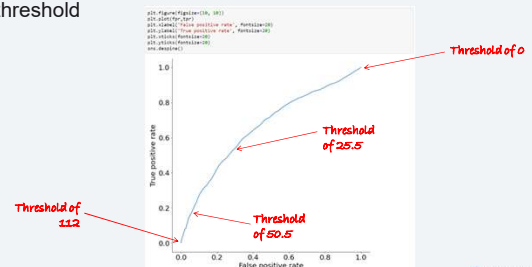
⚠ The true outcomes are the first argument; don't switch them.

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## The ROC curve

The ROC curve plots the TPR against the FPR for every threshold



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The ROC curve summarizes the tradeoffs inherent in picking a threshold; increase the TPR also increases the FPR. We'll come back to it later.

This doesn't help us decide *what* threshold to use...

## Economic tradeoffs in classification

## Calculating classification cost

The benefit of the confusion matrix is that it can directly be multiplied by the confusion matrix to find the cost of classification

Cost

=

		Treatment	
		0	1
Outcome	0	True negative	False positive
	1	False negative	True positive

×

		Treatment	
		0	1
Outcome	0	\$0	\$1,200
	1	\$8,000	\$6,000

## Cost with a threshold of 25.5

		Treatment	
		1	0
Outcome	1	2,343	1,041
	0	452	546

×

		Treatment	
		0	1
Outcome	0	\$0	\$1,200
	1	\$8,000	\$6,000

```
currency_format((sk_m.confusion_matrix(df_tahoe.readmit30,
df_tahoe['severity score'] >= 25.5)
*cost_matrix).sum().sum())
```

'\$8,141,200.00'

"Only" \$157,200 worse than status-quo

## Cost with a threshold of 50.5

		Treatment	
		1	0
Outcome	1	3,190	194
	0	826	172

×

		Treatment	
		0	1
Outcome	0	\$0	\$1,200
	1	\$8,000	\$6,000

```
currency_format((sk_m.confusion_matrix(df_tahoe.readmit30,
df_tahoe['severity score'] >= 50.5)
*cost_matrix).sum().sum())
```

'\$7,872,800.00'

\$111,200 better than status-quo... Yay!

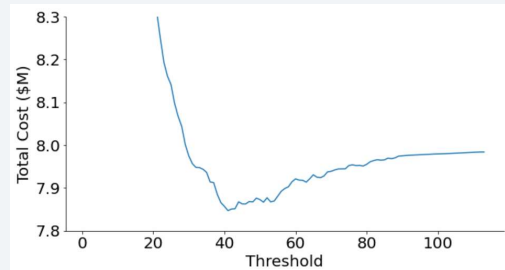


## Trying every threshold

```
costs = []
for t in thresh:
    costs.append((sk_m.confusion_matrix(df_tahoe.readmit30,
                                       df_tahoe['severity score'] >= t)
                 * cost_matrix).sum().sum())

plt.figure(figsize=(10, 5))
plt.plot(thresh, costs)
plt.ylim([7.8*10**6, 8.3*10**6])
plt.xlabel('Threshold', fontsize=20)
plt.ylabel('Total Cost ($M)', fontsize=20)
plt.xticks(fontsize=20)
plt.yticks(fontsize=20)
sns.despine()
```

## Trying every threshold



## Picking the best threshold

```
print(currency_format(min(costs)))
print(currency_format((cost_matrix*status_quo).sum().sum() - min(costs)))
print(thresh[costs.index(min(costs))])
```

\$7,847,200.00  
\$136,800.00  
42

Find the smallest cost  
Find the position of the smallest cost in the costs vector  
Find the threshold at that position, that led to the lowest cost

The optimal severity threshold is 42 with a net benefit over status quo of \$136,800

## Training/test sets

- It doesn't seem like we've "trained" a model, but in fact we have
- Picking the threshold of 42 is – in itself – a form of "training"
- It *could* be that this choice is "overfitting" to the data, and so in theory we should check the benefit of using this threshold on a test set
- That said, the model is so simple that it's really quite unlikely
- We will nevertheless shortly see what the test set performance looks like

Can we do better?

## Using more complex classifiers

## Logistic regression

- Severity is only one of the variables that could be used to carry out this classification
- But there are others – could we use all of them together?
- That is exactly what logistic regression allows us to do, by fitting the following model

$$P(\text{Re-admit}) = \frac{\exp(w)}{1 + \exp(w)} = \frac{e^w}{1 + e^w}$$

$$\text{with } w = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot \text{age} + \beta_2 \cdot \text{female} + \beta_3 \cdot \text{flu\_season} + \beta_4 \cdot \text{ed\_admit} + \beta_5 \cdot \text{severity} + \beta_6 \cdot \text{comorbidity}$$

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## Logistic regression (training set)

```
seed = 123

import sklearn.linear_model as sk_lm
import sklearn.model_selection as sk_ms

X_cols = df_tahoe.columns[df_tahoe.columns != 'readmit30'].tolist()
df_train, df_test = sk_ms.train_test_split(df_tahoe,
                                          train_size=0.7,
                                          random_state=seed,
                                          shuffle=True)

lr = sk_lm.LogisticRegression(penalty='none')
lr.fit(df_train[X_cols], df_train.readmit30)
pd.DataFrame(zip(X_cols, lr.coef_[0]))
```

	0	1
0	age	0.005275
1	female	0.239143
2	flu_season	0.716987
3	ed_admit	-0.907144
4	severity_score	0.025642
5	comorbidity_score	0.015323

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## Making predictions in the training and test set

```
# Add predictions to the training and test set; we need to copy
# the DataFrames because sk_ms.train_test_split doesn't necessary
# copy the data
df_train, df_test = df_train.copy(), df_test.copy()

df_train['lr_score'] = [i[i] for i in lr.predict_proba(df_train[X_cols])]
df_test['lr_score'] = [i[i] for i in lr.predict_proba(df_test[X_cols])]
```

DO NOT USE  
.predict

```
df_train.head(2)
```

	age	female	flu_season	ed_admit	severity_score	comorbidity_score	readmit30	lr_score
4021	79	1	1	1	14	150	1	0.422452
3152	80	0	1	1	57	96	1	0.432558

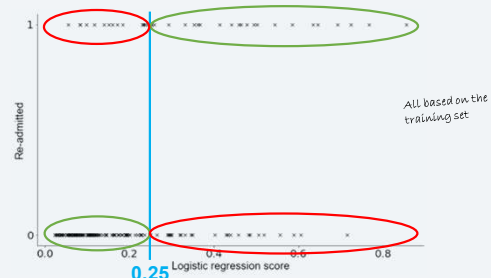
```
df_test.head(2)
```

	age	female	flu_season	ed_admit	severity_score	comorbidity_score	readmit30	lr_score
4013	88	0	0	1	18	9	0	0.035324
3519	67	0	0	1	23	23	0	0.044139

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Any aspect of a model we train (whether the model or the threshold) needs to be chosen using the *training set*, and then evaluated on the *test set*

## Picking a threshold for logistic regression



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## Financial impact of logistic regression

Outcome	Treatment	
	1	0
1	1,798	560
0	248	461

×

Outcome	Treatment	
	0	1
0	\$0	\$1,200
1	\$8,000	\$6,000

```
currency_format((sk_m.confusion_matrix(df_train.readmit30,
df_train.lr_score >= 0.25)
*cost_matrix).sum().sum())
'$5,422,000.00'
```

## Trying every threshold

```
costs_severity = []
costs_logistic = []

threshold_severity = sorted(df_train['severity_score'].unique().tolist())
threshold_logistic = sorted(df_train['lr_score'].unique().tolist())

for t in threshold_severity:
    costs_severity.append((sk_m.confusion_matrix(df_train.readmit30,
df_train['severity_score'] >= t)
*cost_matrix).sum().sum())

for t in threshold_logistic:
    costs_logistic.append((sk_m.confusion_matrix(df_train.readmit30,
df_train['lr_score'] >= t)
*cost_matrix).sum().sum())

optimal_threshold_severity = threshold_severity[np.argmin(costs_severity)]
print(optimal_threshold_severity)

0.37165675215126787

optimal_threshold_logistic = threshold_logistic[np.argmin(costs_logistic)]
print(optimal_threshold_logistic)
```

Find all the possible thresholds, and sort them in ascending order

Let's see how well these thresholds do on the test set

## Performance on the test set

```
# See how well these thresholds do on the test set
status_qso_test = (pd.DataFrame([[(1 if df_test.readmit30.sum() > 0,
0 if df_test.readmit30.sum() < 0]]
*cost_matrix).sum().sum())

perfect_class_test = (pd.DataFrame([[(1 if df_test.readmit30.sum() > 0,
0 if df_test.readmit30.sum() < 0]]
*cost_matrix).sum().sum())

severity_test = (sk_m.confusion_matrix(df_test.readmit30,
df_test['severity_score'] >= optimal_threshold_severity)
*cost_matrix).sum().sum())

logistic_test = (sk_m.confusion_matrix(df_test.readmit30,
df_test['lr_score'] >= optimal_threshold_logistic)
*cost_matrix).sum().sum())

print('Perfect classification: ' + currency_format(status_qso_test - perfect_class_test))
print('Severity score classifier: ' + currency_format(status_qso_test - severity_test))
print('Logistic classifier: ' + currency_format(status_qso_test - logistic_test))
print('% improvement in costs: ' + str( np.round((status_qso_test - logistic_test)*100
/ (status_qso_test - perfect_class_test), 2) ))
print('% of total value captured: ' + str( np.round((status_qso_test - logistic_test)*100
/ (status_qso_test - perfect_class_test), 2) ))

Perfect classification: $078,000.00
Severity score classifier: $49,400.00
Logistic classifier: $04,400.00
% improvement in costs: 4.26
% of total value captured: 23.05
```

(Note: because the test set is smaller here, the impact will look smaller – a better metric would be the savings per patient)

The Area Under the Curve (AUC)

## Back to the ROC curve

We can construct ROC curves using the test data

```
fpr_severity, tpr_severity, _ = sk_m.roc_curve(df_test.readmit30, df_test['severity score'])
fpr_logistic, tpr_logistic, _ = sk_m.roc_curve(df_test.readmit30, df_test.ln_score)

plt.figure(figsize=(10, 10))
plt.plot(fpr_severity, tpr_severity)
plt.plot(fpr_logistic, tpr_logistic)

plt.xlabel('False positive rate', fontsize=20)
plt.ylabel('True positive rate', fontsize=20)

plt.legend(['Severity classifier', 'Logistic classifier'], fontsize=20)
plt.xticks(fontsize=20)
plt.yticks(fontsize=20)

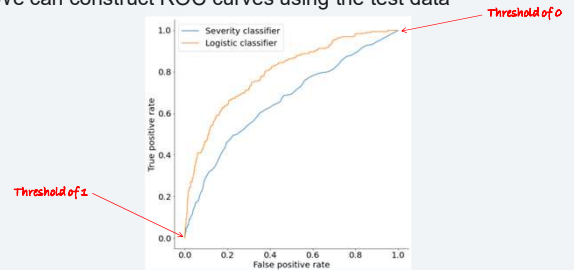
sns.despine()
```

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## Back to the ROC curve

We can construct ROC curves using the test data



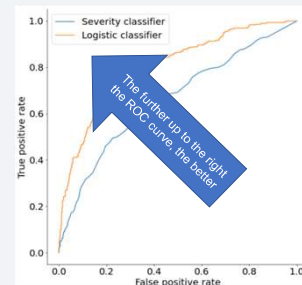
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How might we use these ROC curves to determine which of the two models is "better"?

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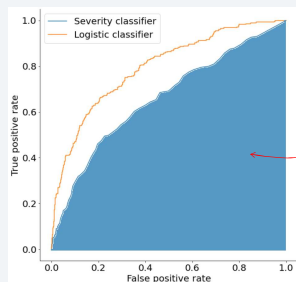
## Model quality via ROC curves



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## The Area Under the Curve (AUC)



The area under the ROC curve is a way to measure the "goodness" of the model

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## The AUC in Python

```
sk_m.roc_auc_score(df_test.readmit30, df_test['severity score'])
0.6585692412499915

sk_m.roc_auc_score(df_test.readmit30, df_test.ln_score)
0.7948157591209859
```

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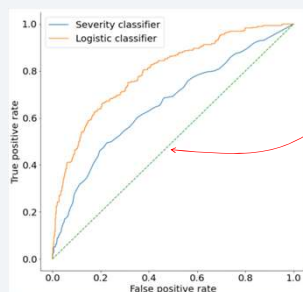
What is the smallest possible value the AUC could take?

In other words, what is the worst possible classification model, and what AUC would it achieve?

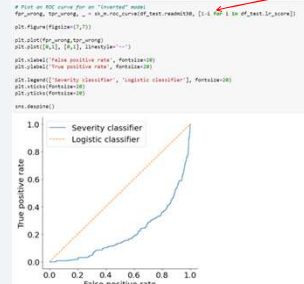
### A “random score” model

- The worst imaginable model just assigns a random score between 0 and 1 to every data point
- What would the ROC curve look like for such a model?
- Suppose we set the threshold at 0.5
  - Half the true positives will be classified as positive, half the true negatives will be classified as negative
  - So  $FPR = TPR = 0.5$
- Suppose we set the threshold at 0.7
  - $FPR = TPR = 0.3$
- etc...

### A “random score” model



### A model done wrong



## Understanding the AUC

The “area under the curve” definition of the AUC makes sense, but what does it actually mean in practice?

### A simple example...

Readm.	0.95
Readm.	0.78
Not readm.	0.76
Readm.	0.75
Readm.	0.65
Not readm.	0.62
Not readm.	0.12

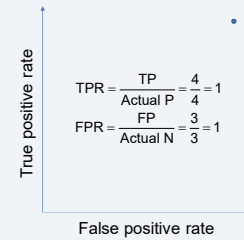


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### A simple example...

Readm.	0.95	TP
Readm.	0.78	TP
Not readm.	0.76	FP
Readm.	0.75	TP
Readm.	0.65	TP
Not readm.	0.62	FP
Not readm.	0.12	FP



$$TPR = \frac{TP}{\text{Actual P}} = \frac{4}{4} = 1$$

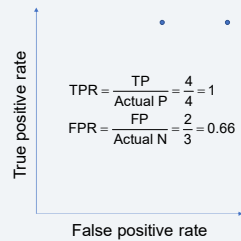
$$FPR = \frac{FP}{\text{Actual N}} = \frac{3}{3} = 1$$

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### A simple example...

Readm.	0.95	TP
Readm.	0.78	TP
Not readm.	0.76	FP
Readm.	0.75	TP
Readm.	0.65	TP
Not readm.	0.62	FP
Not readm.	0.12	TN



$$TPR = \frac{TP}{\text{Actual P}} = \frac{4}{4} = 1$$

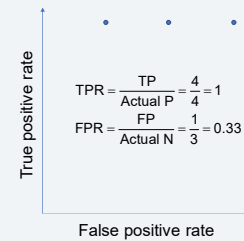
$$FPR = \frac{FP}{\text{Actual N}} = \frac{2}{3} = 0.66$$

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### A simple example...

Readm.	0.95	TP
Readm.	0.78	TP
Not readm.	0.76	FP
Readm.	0.75	TP
Readm.	0.65	TP
Not readm.	0.62	TN
Not readm.	0.12	TN



$$TPR = \frac{TP}{\text{Actual P}} = \frac{4}{4} = 1$$

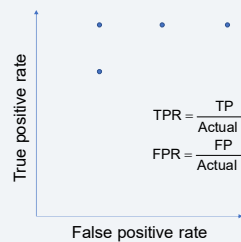
$$FPR = \frac{FP}{\text{Actual N}} = \frac{1}{3} = 0.33$$

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### A simple example...

Readm.	0.95	TP
Readm.	0.78	TP
Not readm.	0.76	FP
Readm.	0.75	TP
Readm.	0.65	FN
Not readm.	0.62	TN
Not readm.	0.12	TN



$$TPR = \frac{TP}{\text{Actual P}} = \frac{3}{4} = 0.75$$

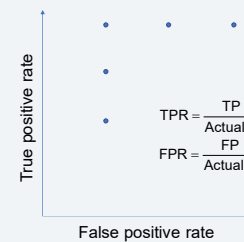
$$FPR = \frac{FP}{\text{Actual N}} = \frac{1}{3} = 0.33$$

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### A simple example...

Readm.	0.95	TP
Readm.	0.78	TP
Not readm.	0.76	FP
Readm.	0.75	FN
Readm.	0.65	FN
Not readm.	0.62	TN
Not readm.	0.12	TN



$$TPR = \frac{TP}{\text{Actual P}} = \frac{2}{4} = 0.5$$

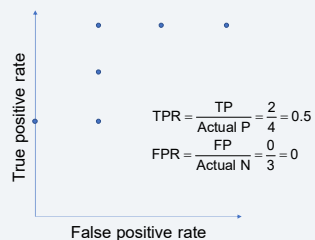
$$FPR = \frac{FP}{\text{Actual N}} = \frac{1}{3} = 0.33$$

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### A simple example...

Readm.	0.95	TP
Readm.	0.78	TP
Not readm.	0.76	TN
Readm.	0.75	FN
Readm.	0.65	FN
Not readm.	0.62	TN
Not readm.	0.12	TN



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### A simple example...

Readm.	0.95	TP
Readm.	0.78	FN
Not readm.	0.76	TN
Readm.	0.75	FN
Readm.	0.65	FN
Not readm.	0.62	TN
Not readm.	0.12	TN

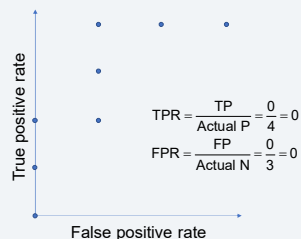


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### A simple example...

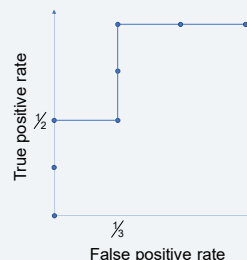
Readm.	0.95	FN
Readm.	0.78	FN
Not readm.	0.76	TN
Readm.	0.75	FN
Readm.	0.65	FN
Not readm.	0.62	TN
Not readm.	0.12	TN



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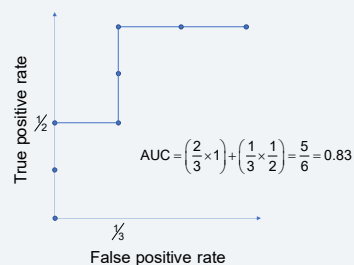
### A simple example...



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### The AUC



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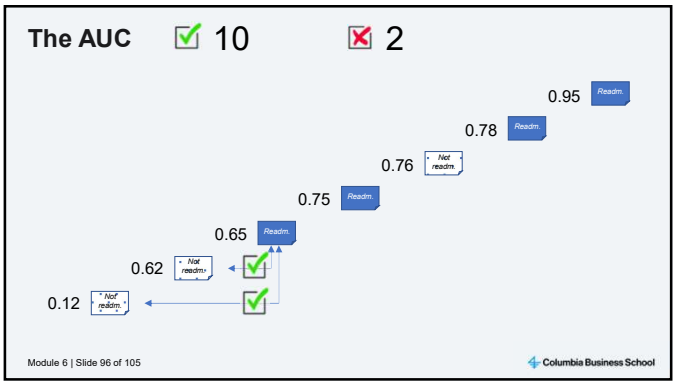
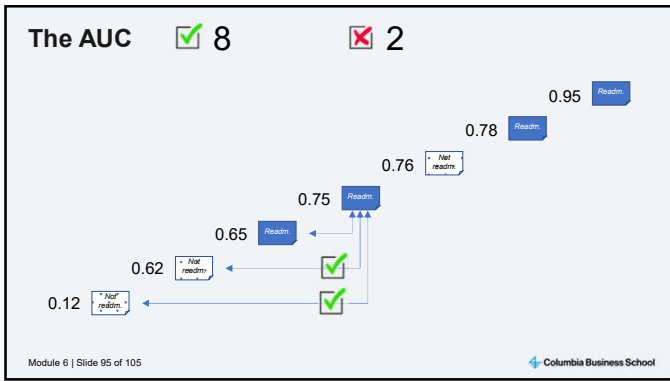
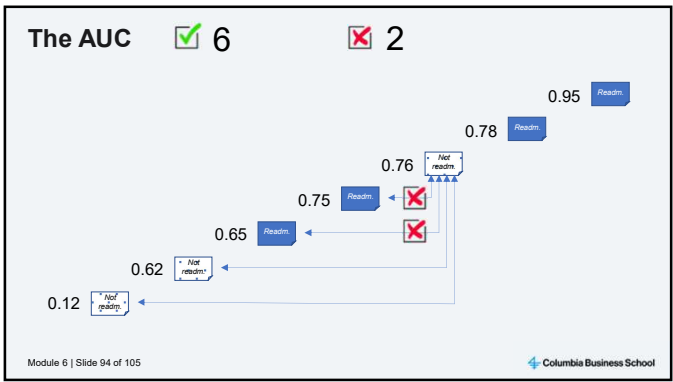
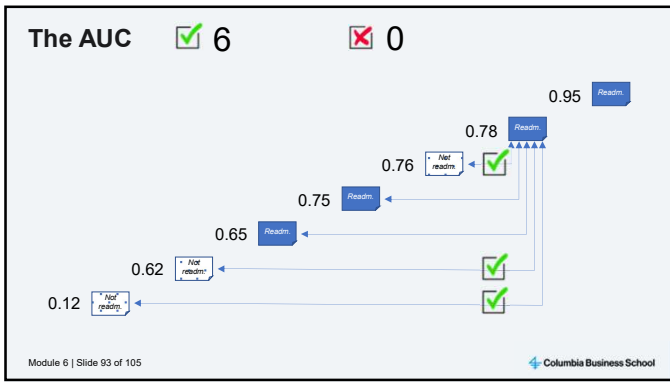
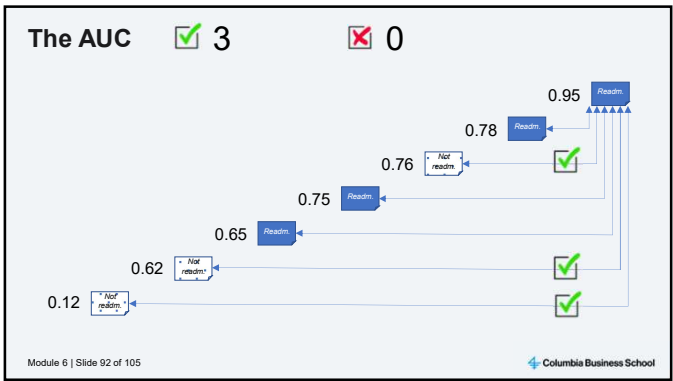
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### The AUC

0.95	Readm.
0.78	Readm.
0.76	Not readm.
0.75	Readm.
0.65	Readm.
0.62	Not readm.
0.12	Not readm.

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## The AUC

✓ 10

✗ 2

$$\frac{\checkmark}{\checkmark + \times} = \frac{10}{12} = 0.83 = \text{AUC}$$

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## A mathematical explanation

Define the following notation

- Let  $X_1$  be a random variable denoting the model score of a re-admitted patient and  $X_0$  be a random variable denoting the model score of a non-readmitted patient (p.d.f.s  $f_1$  and  $f_0$ )
- Let  $\text{TPR}(T)$  and  $\text{FPR}(T)$  be the true positive rate and false positive rate when the threshold is  $T$ . Convince yourself that

$$\text{TPR}(T) = P(X_1 \geq T) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{\{x \geq T\}} f_1(x) dx$$

$$\text{FPR}(T) = P(X_0 \geq T) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{\{x \geq T\}} f_0(x) dx$$

Even though these are similar expressions, we're writing them slightly differently for reasons that will become obvious

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## A mathematical explanation

$$\begin{aligned} \text{AUC} &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \text{TPR}(T) d\text{FPR}(T) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \text{TPR}(T) \frac{d}{dT} \text{FPR}(T) dT \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(X_1 \geq T) \frac{d}{dT} P(X_0 \geq T) dT \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{\{x \geq T\}} f_1(x) dx \right] \frac{d}{dT} \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{\{y \geq T\}} f_0(y) dy \right] dT \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{\{x \geq T\}} f_1(x) dx \right] f_0'(T) dT \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{\{x \geq y\}} f_1(x) f_0(y) dy \right] f_0'(T) dT \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{\{x \geq y\}} f_1(x) f_0(y) dx dy = P(X_1 \geq X_0) \end{aligned}$$

Notice we're going from infinity to minus infinity (not the other way round) because the threshold decreases as we move up the curve

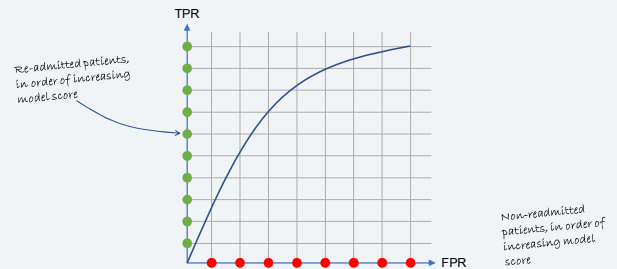
From previous slide

Probability the score for a re-admitted patient is higher than the score for a non-readmitted patient

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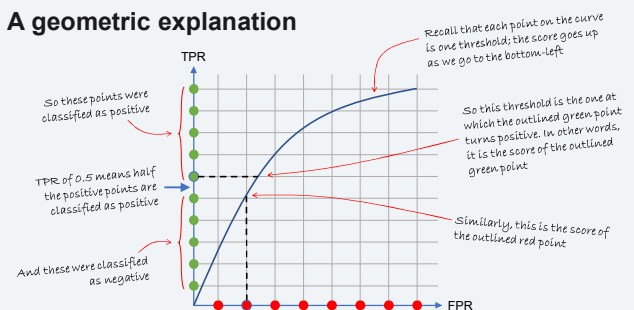
## A geometric explanation



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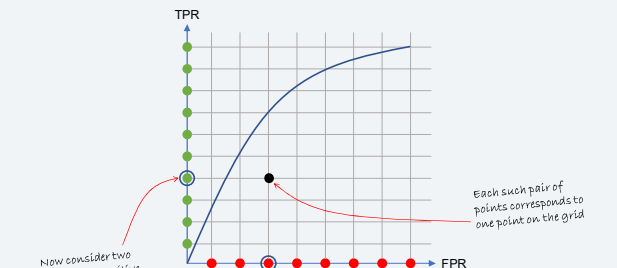
## A geometric explanation



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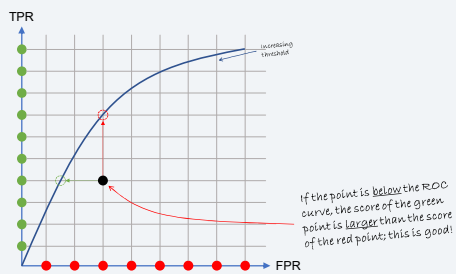
## A geometric explanation



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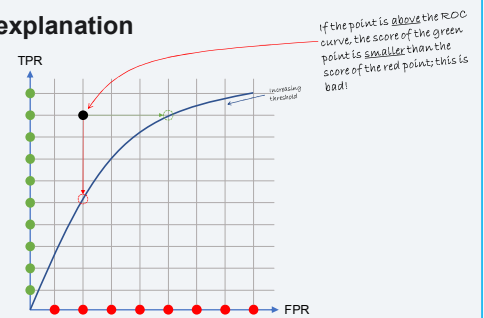
## A geometric explanation



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## A geometric explanation



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## Verifying the probabilistic interpretation

```
sk_m.roc_auc_score(df_test.readmit30, df_test.lr_score)
0.7948157591209859

outcomes = df_test.readmit30.tolist()
scores = df_test.lr_score.tolist()

n_correct = 0
n_wrong = 0

for i in range(len(outcomes)):
    for j in range(i+1, len(outcomes)):
        if outcomes[i] != outcomes[j]:
            if np.sign(outcomes[i] - outcomes[j]) == np.sign(scores[i] - scores[j]):
                n_correct += 1
            else:
                n_wrong += 1

print(n_correct/(n_correct+n_wrong))
0.7948157591209859
```

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# Skill vs. Luck: Sports Analytics

## Module 7

Professor Daniel Guetta  
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## This Module

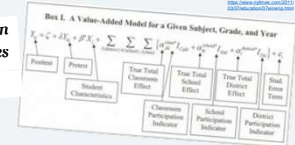
- Harnessing your competitive instincts
- Identifying skill versus luck
- Shrinkage estimators to predict future performance

## Introduction – value-added teacher evaluations in New York City

## Value-added teacher evaluations in New York City

Teachers to Be Measured Based on Students' Standardized Test Scores

By Jennifer Heidman  
Oct. 1, 2009



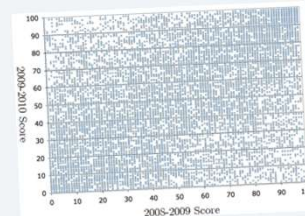
"To avoid a contentious fight with the teachers' union, the New York City Department of Education has agreed not to make public the reports... 'They won't be used in tenure determinations or the annual rating process' "

## Despite the best intentions...



[https://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/24/us/politics/nyc-releases-teachers-value-added-scores-unfortunately/2012/02/24/gOAB/XXYS\\_blog.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/24/us/politics/nyc-releases-teachers-value-added-scores-unfortunately/2012/02/24/gOAB/XXYS_blog.html)

## One issue with these scores...



Each point is one teacher; the correlation is 0.35. These scores seem to be the result of *luck* as much as the teacher's intrinsic *skill*.  
Source: Gary Rubinstein

## Skills vs. luck

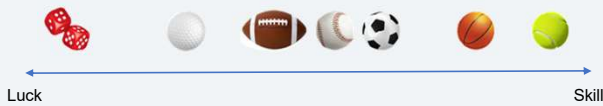
$$\text{performance} = \text{skill} + \text{luck}$$

## Skill vs. luck in sports

## Luck-skill continuum



Where would you place these games on the luck-skill continuum? And why?



## CBS Skee Ball

## CBS Skee Ball: rules

[https://bit.ly/cbs\\_skee\\_ball](https://bit.ly/cbs_skee_ball)



- A game is 3 tosses
- Click on the ball and drag it upwards. Let go to toss
- If you have a touch screen, use the touch screen (not the mouse)
- Each toss can score up to 50 points if the ball goes into a hole
- Goal: score as many points as possible
- Note: reload the page to play

Take a few minutes to play the game  
once or twice to get used to it

## May the best procrastinator win

- Load this form: [https://bit.ly/cbs\\_skee\\_ball\\_form](https://bit.ly/cbs_skee_ball_form); **each person** should submit the form
- Every person should play **two games**, each comprising **three tosses** (so 6 tosses total per person)
- **For those on zoom**: the first person should share their screen and play the game in front of everyone else. Then the next person goes. **For those in person**: same thing, in person
- Submit the form after your two games

## Reversion to the mean

## Reversion to the mean

Suppose the average class performance in the game is 30  
Suppose someone plays once and gets a score of 150  
How will they perform next time they play the game?

### If the game is mostly luck...

- A big chunk of the 150 is coming from luck
- It *could* be that the skill was 150 and the luck happened to be 0
- But 150 is very unlikely... it's far more likely luck is what pushed the score so high

So the score in the second game is likely to be much lower – to *revert to the mean*.

### If the game is mostly skill...

- Only a small chunk of the 150 is coming from luck
- It's unlikely this small chunk of luck would have pushed the score all the way up to 150
- 150 is likely more reflective of the true underlying skill level

So the score in the second game is likely to be closer – less reversion to the mean.

## Shrinkage estimators

## Shrinkage estimators and mean reversion

We're going to use a number  $c$  (between 0 and 1) to denote how much skill there is in a game. The higher  $c$ , the more skill...

$$\text{Game 2 performance} = \text{skill} + \text{luck}$$

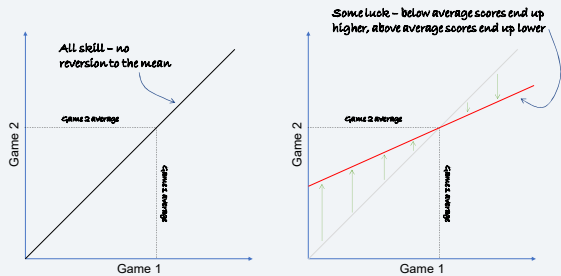
$$\text{Game 2 performance} = c \times (\text{Game 1 score}) + (1 - c) \times (\text{Game 1 average})$$

Shrinkage coefficient  $c$

- Weight on the past outcome in the prediction
- The prediction **shrinks** from the past outcome to the population average
- If  $c = 1$ , the game is all skill. If  $c = 0$ , the game is all luck

How might we find this shrinkage coefficient  $c$ ?

### One way to find the shrinkage coefficient $c$



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The slope of the line of the game 2 score against the game 1 score is roughly equal to the shrinkage coefficient

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### A better way to find $c$

Suppose the game 1 average is 4. First, try  $c = 0.4$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Game 2 score} &= (0.4 \times \text{Game 1 score}) + (0.6 \times \text{Game 1 average}) \\ &= (0.4 \times \text{Game 1 score}) + (0.6 \times 4) \end{aligned}$$

Player	Game 1	Game 2	Shrinkage estimator	Prediction error
1	5	7	4.4	-2.6
2	10	6	6.4	0.4
...	...	...	...	...
$N$	1	4	2.8	-1.2

Try every possible value of the shrinkage estimator  $c$  until you find the one that minimizes the mean squared error.

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The shrinkage coefficient  $c$  gives us a way to quantitatively evaluate how much skill and how much luck there is in a given score

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### Slope and shrinkage coefficient

It isn't too hard to prove the relationship between the slope and the shrinkage coefficient. Start with the regression equation:

$$G_2 = a + bG_1$$

Taking expectations, we get  $\bar{G}_2 = a + b\bar{G}_1$ . Subtracting this from the regression equation, we get

$$G_2 - \bar{G}_2 = b(G_1 - \bar{G}_1)$$

$$G_2 = bG_1 + \bar{G}_2 - b\bar{G}_1$$

If the average doesn't change from one game to the next:

$$G_2 = bG_1 + \bar{G}_1 - b\bar{G}_1$$

$$G_2 = bG_1 + (1-b)\bar{G}_1$$

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Baseball analytics: from shrinkage estimators to moneyball

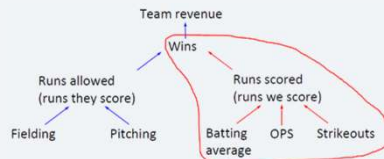
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## Value of a baseball player

Professional sports teams now use analytics to drive decisions about nearly every aspect of the game



Miguel Cabrera



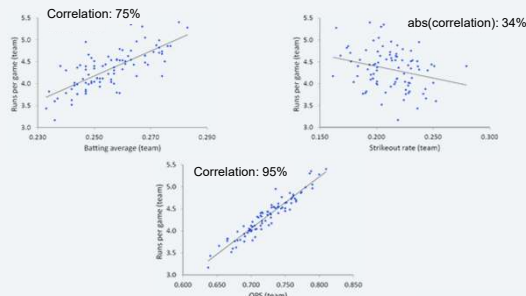
Value of a player

- Better hitters help teams score more runs
- Teams that score more runs win more games

We want to pick players that will give us the most runs.

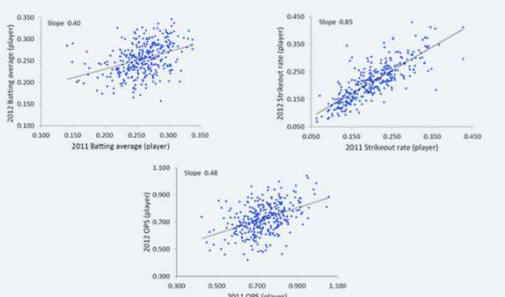
What statistic should we use to determine whom to pick?

## Predictive: correlated with runs

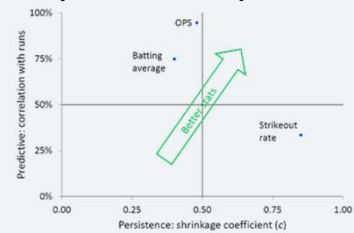


What else would we need to know to decide which statistic is good?

## Persistent: skill v. luck



## Best statistics: persistent and predictive



Moneyball, p.128: OPS "was a much better indicator than any other offensive statistic of the number of runs a team would score... The one attribute most critical to the success of a baseball team was an attribute they could afford to buy."

## Moneyball: Bill James, Billy Beane, and Brad Pitt



**Bill James**

- Father of modern baseball analytics (Sabermetrics)
- With Red Sox since 2003: Boston won World Series in 2004, 2007, and 2013
- 60 minutes video: <https://cbsn.ws/wGu0Bb>



**Billy Beane**

- General manager, Oakland Athletics
- 2022 Oakland payroll: \$41M; Texas payroll: \$107M
- Oakland: 103 wins (64%); Texas: 72 wins (44%)
- Billy Beane interview: <http://bit.ly/1b1Bahq>



**Brad Pitt**

- Played Billy Beane in the movie *Moneyball*
- Moneyball video: <http://bit.ly/1dQ13>

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## Moneyball



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**Other applications of shrinkage estimators: predicting future stock  $\beta$**

## The Capital Asset Pricing Model

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### Capital Asset Pricing Model

1. Time value of money (TVM):  $r_f$
2. Average return for systematic risk:  $\bar{r}_m - r_f$
3. How much systematic risk:  $\beta_j$

$$\bar{r} = \underbrace{r_f}_{\text{TVM}} + \underbrace{\beta \times (\bar{r}_m - r_f)}_{\text{Risk-premium}}$$

Price of risk  
Quantity of risk

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**$\beta$  measures the risk of a specific asset...**

**...the average  $\beta$  for all assets in the market is 1**

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## Predicting average stock returns

Example: CBS (media company)

$$\bar{r}_{\text{CBS}} - r_f = \beta \times (\bar{r}_m - r_f)$$

Expected stock return:

- Estimate  $\beta$
- Estimate equity premium  $(\bar{r}_m - r_f)$
- Compute expected stock return using these quantities

Based on the period Sep 2007 to Jan 2011:  $\beta = 2.4$

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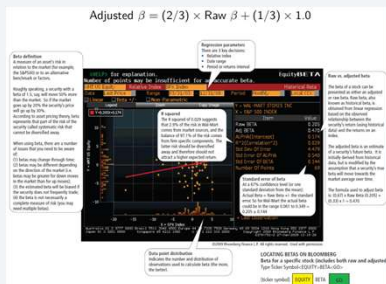


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$$\begin{aligned}\text{Predicted } \beta \text{ for CBS} &= c \times (\text{Observed } \beta) + (1 - c) \times (\text{Average } \beta) \\ &= 0.54 \times 2.4 + 0.46 \times 1.0 \\ &= 1.8\end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{Adjusted } \beta = (2/3) \times \text{Raw } \beta + (1/3) \times 1.0$$


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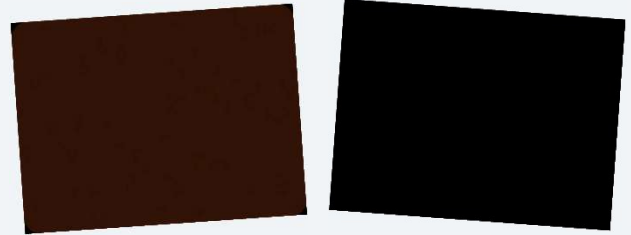
# Recommendation Analytics; Music Streaming Services

## Module 8

Professor Daniel Guetta  
© 2024

### A musical start...

I'm going to play two songs, and then ask you how similar you think they are...



Module 8 | Slide 2 of 140

What aspects of the songs did you consider when you were comparing them to answer this question?

### This Module



- Recommendation systems
- How did services such as Pandora and Spotify capture value through analytics?
  - Pandora acquired by SiriusXM for \$3.5 billion
  - Spotify valued at over \$50 billion
- Recommendations through  $k$ -NN
- Moving from a predictive algorithm to a recommendation system

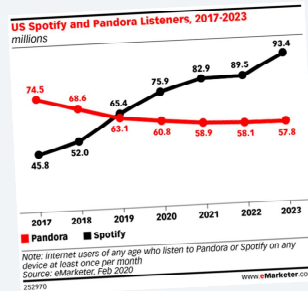
## Pandora and the Music Genome Project

### What is pandora and what value does it capture?



- Internet radio station featuring personalized playlist tailored to a user's taste
- Tim Westergren: founder of Pandora, former Chief Executive Officer
- Number one radio station in most major US markets in 2018

## Pandora vs. Spotify



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## The music genome project

- Conceived by Will Glaser and Tim Westergren in 1999; capture the essence of music at a fundamental level
- 5 genomes: pop/rock, hip-hop/electronica, jazz, world music, and classical
- Categories of attributes: melody, harmony, rhythm, form, sound (i.e., instrumentation and voice), lyrics
- Specific attributes (rated by analysts on a 0 to 5 scale)
  - Acid rock qualities, accordion playing, acousti-lectric sonority, acousti-synthetic sonority, ...
- Example: For Led Zeppelin's song "Kashmir," the rating starts 4-0-3-3 (high on acid rock attributes, no accordion, medium sonorities)

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## Example: Norwegian Wood and Stayin' Alive

	Norwegian Wood (Beattles)	Stayin' Alive (Bee Gees)
Beat (fast/slow)	Slow	Fast
Strings	✓	×
Disco	×	✓
Electric guitar	×	✓
Vocals	✓	✓

- Other attributes: harmony, melody, rhythm, specific instruments, etc...
- Pandora introduced a scale for each attribute

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**What is the main challenge in getting the music genome project to work?**

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## Creating the data!

- How many songs can be rated in nine months? What is the cost?
- 450 musical attributes (250 attributes for a pop song)
  - 50 song analysts; 20 minutes for one analyst to rate a pop song on 10 attributes
  - each analyst works 8 hours/day, 20 days/month at 15 \$/hour
- Number of songs rated in 9 months
- 250 attributes requires 25 analysts working 20 minutes
  - 50 analysts can rate 6 songs per hour; 48 songs per day; 960 songs/month
  - Approximately 10,000 songs rated in 9 months
- Cost
- 50 song analysts; 15 \$/hour; 8 hour/day; 20 days/month; 9 months
  - \$1 million for 9 months to rate 10,000 songs

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**How does Pandora go from a genome to recommendations?**

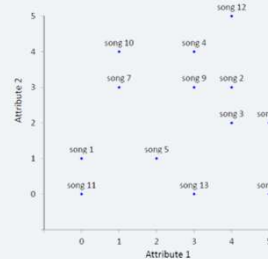
## Distance metrics and the 1-NN algorithm

- User selects a favorite song
- We find the “weighted distance” of this song to every other song
- We recommend the song with the minimum weighted distance to the favorite song

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## 1-NN algorithm: Pandora

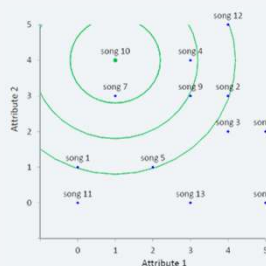


- A user chooses song 10 to listen to first, and rates it “like”
- Assume the two attributes are equally important
- What song would 1-NN pick to play for the user next?

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## 1-NN algorithm: Pandora

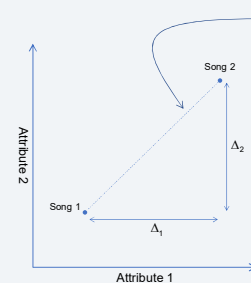


- A user chooses song 10 to listen to first, and rates it “like”
- Assume the two attributes are equally important
- What song would 1-NN pick to play for the user next?
- **Song 7: it's the closest song to song 10**

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## How is “distance” defined?



$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{(\Delta_1)^2 + (\Delta_2)^2}$$

What happens if there are more than two dimensions? For  $N$  dimensions, the formula is

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N (\Delta_i)^2}$$

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## Pandora's first test



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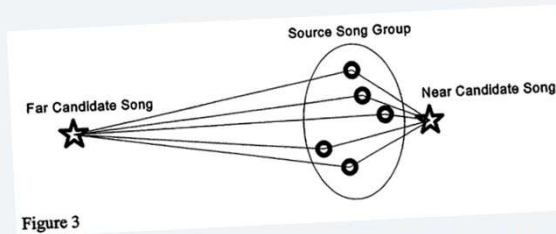
## (Optional) Complexities

- If attributes are on very different scales (eg: one rating on a 1-5 scale, and one on a 1-1,000 scale) this distance metric doesn't work as expected; it helps to standardize columns.
- It is sometimes useful to *weight* different attributes differently (eg: loudness is much more important than tempo).
- In practice, there might be missing values in the data; handling these is a whole topic in its own right.

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## Pandora's Patent



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## Applying nearest-neighbors to predictions

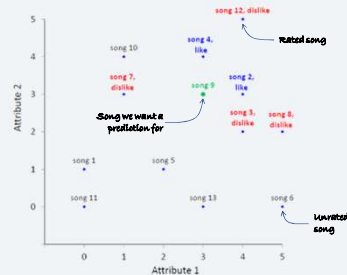
## k-NN algorithm

- The concept of a nearest-neighbor can be used for prediction
- This applies very generally
  - Response: take a loan or not
  - Response: like a song or not
  - Response: how much this diamond costs
- The k-NN algorithm works as follows
  - Take the individual for which we want to make a prediction
  - Find its k-closest neighbors
  - Average the response for these k-closest neighbors to get a prediction for our point

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## 3-NN prediction algorithm

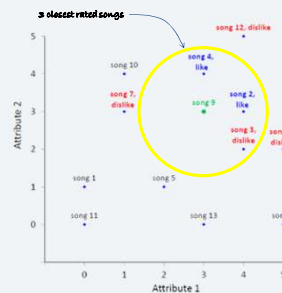


- New song: **song 9**
- Does the 3-NN algorithm predict the user will like or dislike it
  - Assume attributes are equally important
  - Note: the user has only rated 6 songs

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## 3-NN prediction algorithm



- New song: **song 9**
- Does the 3-NN algorithm predict the user will like or dislike it
  - Assume attributes are equally important
  - Note: the user has only rated 6 songs
- 3 closest rated songs are 4 (like), 2 (like), 3 (dislike)
- $P(\text{Like song 9}) = 2/3$

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## k-NN vs. Linear Regression

***k*-NN is just a model like linear regression is – it takes in some variables, and it spits out a prediction**

**How are *k*-NN and linear regression different? When would you expect one to be better than the other?**

### Parametric vs. nonparametric models

- **Parametric models** assume a very specific relationship between variables (eg: they are linearly related)
  - If the data fits these assumptions, they're great!
  - If not, they will be sub-optimal
- **Nonparametric models** allow **any** relationship between variables
  - This gives them much more flexibility
  - But it might also make them unnecessarily **complex** and **opaque**

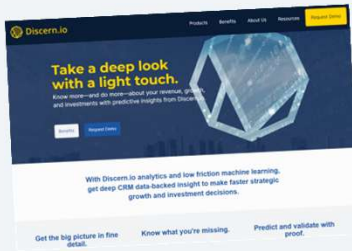
**Another example –  
calculating CLV in B2B  
businesses**

### B2B CRM (Customer Relationship Management)

- A large part of the economy comprises businesses that sell their products to *other businesses* only
- Examples include Salesforce, Hubspot, MongoDB, Datadog, Toast, etc..., etc...
- As in every business, sales and customer acquisition are essential parts of growing a business successfully

**In what ways to sales in a B2B business  
differ from sales in a B2C business?  
How might analytics help with B2B  
customer acquisition?**

## Example: Discern.io



Helen Lin  
Founder and CEO



Ling Ling  
Chief Data Scientist

**Disclaimer:** I am one of discern.io's advisors and own a small amount of stock in the company. The details in this lecture are fictionalized based on Discern.io's work and do not use any proprietary info.

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## The use case

- During customer acquisition, a B2B business talks to hundreds of businesses in their "sales pipeline"
- Some won't even convert, and of those that do, some will go on to have high CLV (customer lifetime value), some low
- The onboarding process for a new customer involves talking to five departments at the company. Each department gives the customer a score from 1 to 100
- The company then needs to decide which customers to follow up with – the process is time-consuming, and so the company doesn't follow up with everyone

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## The Data

We have data on 5,000 past customers of the company. In each case, we know the scores assigned by each of the five teams, and the customer lifetime value of the customer

	Dept 1	Dept 2	Dept 3	Dept 4	Dept 5	Ltv
0	52	17	45	22	53	5989
1	89	74	0	35	83	6960
2	94	71	39	87	83	7783
3	78	29	19	37	1	5405
4	5	81	35	77	25	6207

Each row is one customer

Customer lifetime value. This will be 0 if the customer doesn't end up closing the deal

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What analytic opportunities does this dataset create? What algorithms might we use?

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## Option 1: linear regression

We could use the past data to fit a linear regression of the form

$$ltv = \beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^5 \beta_i (\text{Department } i \text{ score})$$

When faced with a new customer for whom we want to predict the lifetime value, we just multiply each of the scores by the relevant  $\beta$ , sum up the results, and get our prediction.

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## Option 2: k-NN

- We could use  $k$ -NN to make the prediction instead
- When faced with a new customer for whom we want to predict the lifetime value, we would
  - Look at all **past** customers for which we **know** the LTV
  - Find the  $k$  "closest" customers among those past ones, based on department ratings
  - These are "lookalike" customers that are most similar to our new customer
  - Find the average of these "lookalike" customers – this is the prediction for our new customer

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## k-NN in Python

## Loading the data

```
import pandas as pd

# Load the B2B data
df_customers = pd.read_csv('B2B sales.csv')
df_customers.head()

Dept 1 Dept 2 Dept 3 Dept 4 Dept 5 ltv
0 52 17 45 22 53 5989
1 89 74 0 35 83 6960
2 94 71 39 87 83 7783
3 78 29 19 37 1 5405
4 5 61 35 77 25 6207

len(df_customers)
5000
```

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## Splitting the data into a training and test set

```
import sklearn.model_selection as sk_ms

df_train, df_test = sk_ms.train_test_split(df_customers,
                                          train_size = 0.7,
                                          random_state = 123,
                                          shuffle = True)

print(len(df_train))
print(len(df_test))

3500
1500
```

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## Let's try linear regression

```
import sklearn.linear_model as sk_lm
import sklearn.metrics as sk_m

# Fit a linear regression model on the training set
lm = sk_lm.LinearRegression()
lm.fit(df_train.loc[:, df_train.columns != 'ltv'], df_train.ltv)

# Make predictions on the test set
preds = lm.predict(df_test.loc[:, df_test.columns != 'ltv'])

# Find the R-squared on the test set
sk_m.r2_score(df_test.ltv, preds)

0.0910480787721818
```

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Linear regression doesn't seem to be working so well on this dataset!  
Let's try k-NN

## k-NN in Python

- scikit-learn has an in-built model to make predictions using k-NN
- These reside in `sklearn.neighbors`
- As with other models, there are separate models for continuous outcomes (regression) and binary outcomes (classification)
  - `KNeighborsRegression()`
  - `KNeighborsClassifier()`
- Let's see how it's used

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## k-NN

```
import sklearn.neighbors as sk_n

# Fit a k-NN model on the training set
knn = sk_n.KNeighborsRegressor()
knn.fit(df_train.loc[:, df_train.columns != 'ltv'], df_train.ltv)

KNeighborsRegressor()

# Make predictions on the test set
preds = knn.predict(df_test.loc[:, df_test.columns != 'ltv'])

# Find the R-squared on the test set
sk_m.r2_score(df_test.ltv, preds)

0.1857625335748494
```

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## Taking stock...



Linear Regression

0.09



k-NN

0.19

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Much better! Why might *k*-NN be working better than linear regression in this instance?

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There's something we've swept under the rug... What is it??

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Picking the value of *k* when using *k*-NN for predictions

## Model parameters

- In *k*-NN, we are encountering something we haven't seen before
- You can't just unleash the model on data, as with linear and logistic regression
- There is a *parameter* required – the *k* in *k*-NN
- How can we specify it?

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## k in Python

Whenever a model accepts a parameter, scikit-learn will usually allow you to specify it when you first create the model

```
sk_n.KNeighborsRegressor(n_neighbors=12)
```

If you *don't* specify the parameter, scikit-learn will usually use a default, specified in the documentation:

Parameters: **n\_neighbors**: int, default=5  
Number of neighbors to use by default for `kneighbors` queries.  
**weights**: {'uniform', 'distance'} or callable, default='uniform'

## k-NN with 12 neighbors

```
# Fit a k-NN model on the training set
knn = sk_n.KNeighborsRegressor(n_neighbors=12)
knn.fit(df_train.loc[:, df_train.columns != 'ltv'], df_train.ltv)

# Make predictions on the test set
preds = knn.predict(df_test.loc[:, df_test.columns != 'ltv'])

# Find the R-squared on the test set
sk_m.r2_score(df_test.ltv, preds)

0.27308609926870075
```

Picking the right value of  $k$  is essential – going from the default  $k=5$  to  $k=12$  increased our  $R^2$  from 0.19 to 0.27

Never, ever, ever, use `sklearn` defaults

But why are some values of  $k$  “better” than others?

...and how do we pick the best one?

## Picking the value of $k$

- The value of  $k$  controls the amount of overfitting in the model
  - If  $k$  is small (say  $k=1$ ) we simply predict the value of the *closest* neighbor. This is a highly-tailored prediction, but very noisy
  - If  $k$  is large, *many* points are averaged – this won't be very tailored, but very stable

We discuss how this relates to overfitting in greater detail in BA2

- To pick the best  $k$ , we try every value on the test set, and find the one that gives the best performance

## Picking the value of $k$

```
# Go through values of k between 5 and 40, train a k-NN model
# for each value, see how well it does on the test set, and
# store the results in a list
score_list = []

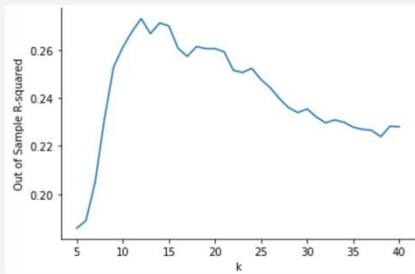
for k in range(5, 41):
    knn = sk_n.KNeighborsRegressor(n_neighbors=k)
    knn.fit(df_train.loc[:, df_train.columns != 'ltv'], df_train.ltv)

    # Make predictions on the test set
    preds = knn.predict(df_test.loc[:, df_test.columns != 'ltv'])

    # Find the R-squared on the test set and append it to the
    # score list
    score_list.append(sk_m.r2_score(df_test.ltv, preds))

# Plot the results
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
plt.plot(range(5, 41), score_list)
```

## Picking the value of $k$



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## Parameter selection

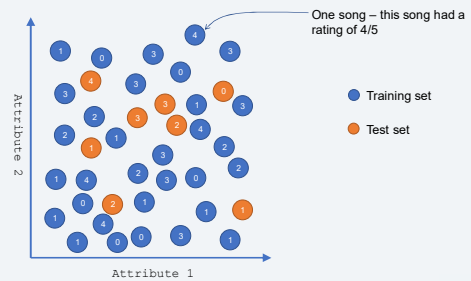
- Parameter selection lies at the very core of modern machine learning
- We have barely scratched the surface of parameter selection in Python
- BA2 delves into more advanced techniques in more detail

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Side note: what does it mean to make “out of sample” predictions with  $k$ -NN?

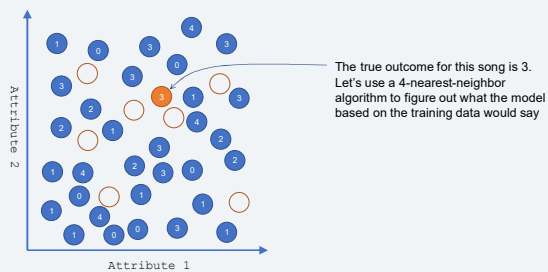
## Out-of-sample $k$ -NN



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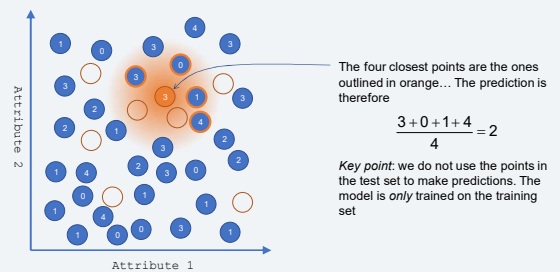
## Out-of-sample $k$ -NN



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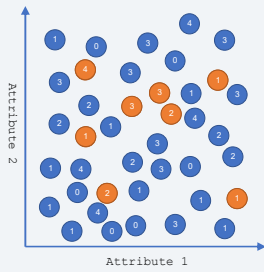
## Out-of-sample $k$ -NN



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## Out-of-sample $k$ -NN

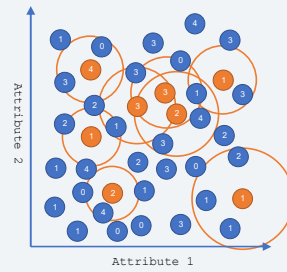


We then do this with every point in the test set..

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## Out-of-sample $k$ -NN



We then do this with every point in the test set..

True value	Prediction	Error <sup>2</sup>
4	1.5	6.25
1	2.75	3.06
2	2	1
3	2.25	0.56
5	2.5	0.25
1	2.25	1.56
2	2.25	0.06
1	1	0

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Back to pandora

We discussed the method Pandora uses to predict users' preferences using the *content* of the songs.

What are some shortcomings of this approach?

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How else might we generate recommendations in a less time-consuming way?

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Collaborative filtering uses data about *other similar users* to predict preferences for this user

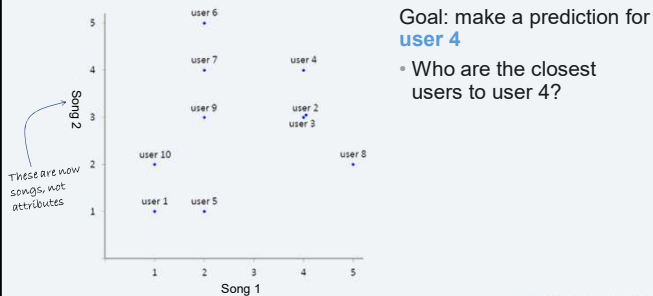
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## Memory-based collaborative filtering

## Memory-based collaborative filtering

- **Collaborative filtering** uses data about what the users have liked to identify *similar users*
- It then uses what these other users have liked to make predictions
- **Memory-based** versions of the algorithm use the past data directly in the most obvious way...

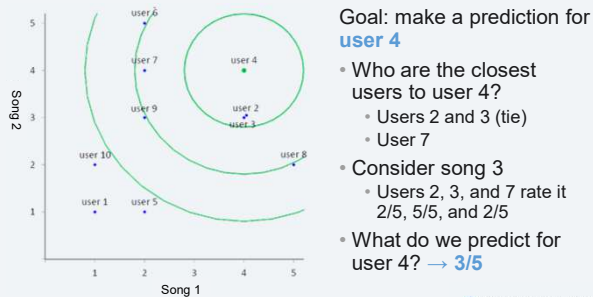
## k-NN-based collaborative filtering



## k-NN-based collaborative filtering



## k-NN-based collaborative filtering



## Memory-based collaborative filtering in Python

## Important note



The most efficient way of carrying out these operations is using high-performance Python libraries like `numpy`. We will use **much slower** – but easier to understand – techniques to cover these concepts without too many prerequisites.

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## Loading the canvas survey results

We first load the Canvas survey results; see the optional cell in the notebook for the code. The data looks like this:

```
print(movies)
df_movies.head()
```

	name	section	gender	The Godfather	Vicky Cristina Barcelona	Black Swan	Top Gun	Bourne Identity	Texas Chainsaw Massacre	Pretty Woman	Inception	Working Girl	Forrest Gump
0	Sudha	001	F	4.0	NAN	NAN	5.0	4.0	NAN	3.0	...	5.0	NAN
1	Nicole	001	F	4.0	2.0	NAN	3.0	3.0	NAN	2.0	...	NAN	3.0
2	Mohammadali	001	F	NAN	NAN	3.0	NAN	NAN	NAN	NAN	...	3.0	NAN
3	Sudha	001	F	NAN	3.0	4.0	NAN	3.0	NAN	NAN	...	NAN	NAN
4	Nicole	001	F	3.0	NAN	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	...	4.0	NAN

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## Summary statistics (most seen movies)

```
# Find the movies that were seen by the most people
df_movies.set_index('name')[movies].notnull().sum(axis=0).sort_values()
```

	name	gender	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
0	Sudha	F	5.0	NAN	5.0
1	Nicole	F	4.0	3.0	4.0
2	Mohammadali	M	5.0	5.0	NAN

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## Summary statistics (most seen movies)

```
# Find the movies that were seen by the most people
df_movies.set_index('name')[movies].notnull().sum(axis=0).sort_values()
```

	gender	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
name				
Sudha	F	5.0	NAN	5.0
Nicole	F	4.0	3.0	4.0
Mohammadali	M	5.0	5.0	NAN

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## Summary statistics (most seen movies)

```
# Find the movies that were seen by the most people
df_movies.set_index('name')[movies].notnull().sum(axis=0).sort_values()
```

	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
name			
Sudha	5.0	NAN	5.0
Nicole	4.0	3.0	4.0
Mohammadali	5.0	5.0	NAN

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## Summary statistics (most seen movies)

```
# Find the movies that were seen by the most people
df_movies.set_index('name')[movies].notnull().sum(axis=0).sort_values()
```

	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
name			
Sudha	True	False	True
Nicole	True	True	True
Mohammadali	True	True	False

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## Summary statistics (most seen movies)

```
# Find the movies that were seen by the most people
df_movies.set_index('name')[movies].notnull().sum(axis=0).sort_values()
```

```
The Godfather    3
Top Gun          2
Pretty Woman     2
dtype: int64
```

## Summary statistics (most seen movies)

```
# Find the movies that were seen by the most people
df_movies.set_index('name')[movies].notnull().sum(axis=0).sort_values()
```

```
Top Gun          2
Pretty Woman     2
The Godfather    3
dtype: int64
```

## Summary statistics (highest rated movies)

```
# Find the movies with the highest rankings
df_movies.set_index('name')[movies].mean(axis=0).sort_values()
```

	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
name			
Sudha	5.0	NaN	5.0
Nicole	4.0	3.0	4.0
Mohammadali	5.0	5.0	NaN

## Summary statistics (highest rated movies)

```
# Find the movies with the highest rankings
df_movies.set_index('name')[movies].mean(axis=0).sort_values()
```

```
The Godfather    4.666667
Top Gun          4.000000
Pretty Woman     4.500000
dtype: float64
```

## Summary statistics (highest rated movies)

```
# Find the movies with the highest rankings
df_movies.set_index('name')[movies].mean(axis=0).sort_values()
```

```
Top Gun          4.000000
Pretty Woman     4.500000
The Godfather    4.666667
dtype: float64
```

## Distance

```
import math

def dist(x, y):
    """
    This function takes two vectors, and finds the euclidean distance
    between them, using "only" the movies that are present in "both"
    vectors
    """
    # Find the distance squared between the two vectors for each movie
    dists = [(i,j)**2 for i, j in zip(x,y)]
    # Find the number of movies that are present in both vectors
    n_movies = sum([pd.notnull(i) for i in dists])
    # Find the sum of distances squares for movies that are in both
    # of them
    sum_dists = sum([i for i in dists if pd.notnull(i)])
    # If there are no overlapping ratings, return infinity. If not,
    # return the square root of the standardized distance
    if n_movies == 0:
        return float('inf')
    else:
        return math.sqrt(sum_dists/n_movies)
```

[7, 2, 6] [1, NaN, 4]

[36, NaN, 4]

[True, False, True]

2

[36, 4]

40

4.47

## All distances

Example: 0

name	gender	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
0	Suzy	F	5.0	NaN
1	Nicole	F	4.0	3.0
2	Mohammad	M	5.0	5.0

```
def all_distances(df, ref):
    """
    This function takes two arguments:
    - df: a DataFrame in which each row contains a user, and
      each column a movie (Additional columns will be
      ignored)
    - ref: the index of a specific row, corresponding to a
      specific user

    It returns a list of tuples. Each tuple corresponds to one
    row in the original DataFrame (EXCEPT FOR REF), and contains
    two elements:
    - The first element is the index of that row
    - The second element is the distance between the user, and
      the vector ref
    The list is returned in increasing order of distance - so
    the first element is the closest to ref
    """
    dists = []
    for user in df.index:
        if user != ref:
            dists.append((user, dist(df.loc[user, movies], df.loc[ref, movies])))
    # Sort the list in ascending order based on the "second"
    # element in each tuple
    return sorted(dists, key = lambda x: x[1])
```

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## Example: one specific person

df\_movies =

name	gender	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
0	Suzy	F	5.0	NaN
1	Nicole	F	4.0	3.0
2	Mohammad	M	5.0	5.0

```
person = 'Nicole'
person_row = get_row_index(df_movies, person)

# Get all the distances from this person
dists = all_distances(df_movies, person_row)

# Make a copy of the name column, and put it into a new DataFrame
df_distances = df_movies[['name']].copy()

# Create a distance column, and start it off empty
df_distances['dist'] = float('nan')

# Fill in the distances for every person
for i in df_distances.index:
    df_distances.loc[i, 'dist'] = i[1]

# Display the sorted results
df_distances = df_distances.sort_values('dist')
```

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## Making predictions

Example: The Godfather

name	gender	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
0	Suzy	F	5.0	NaN
1	Nicole	F	4.0	3.0
2	Mohammad	M	5.0	5.0

```
def make_preds(df, ref, k):
    """
    This function takes three arguments:
    - df: a DataFrame in which each row contains a user, and
      each column a movie (Additional columns will be
      ignored)
    - ref: the index of a specific row, corresponding to a
      specific user
    - k: the number of nearest neighbors to use for the
      prediction

    It returns a prediction for the user ref, based on the
    k nearest neighbors.
    """
    # Sort the DataFrame by the distance from the ref row; the
    # first row is the "closest" to ref
    dists = all_distances(df, ref)
    # Get the k nearest neighbors
    neighbors = dists[:k]
    # Go through each column, and make predictions
    # for that movie
    for movie in df.columns:
        # Filter the sorted DataFrame down to those k with ratings
        relevant_scores = df_sorted.loc[neighbors, movie].tolist()
        # Extract the first k scores for that movie (only that of user
        # ref)
        relevant_scores = relevant_scores[:k]
        # Find the average to make the prediction
        if len(relevant_scores) == 0:
            preds[movie] = float('nan')
        else:
            preds[movie] = sum(relevant_scores)/len(relevant_scores)
    return preds
```

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## Example: recommendations

df\_movies =

name	gender	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
0	Suzy	F	5.0	NaN
1	Nicole	F	4.0	3.0
2	Mohammad	M	5.0	5.0

```
# Create the predictions, and put them in a DataFrame
df_preds = (make_preds(df_movies, ref, k) for k in people_of_interest)
df_preds = pd.DataFrame(df_preds).transpose().round(2)
```

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## Example: recommendations

df\_movies =

name	gender	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
0	Suzy	F	5.0	NaN
1	Nicole	F	4.0	3.0
2	Mohammad	M	5.0	5.0

```
# Go through the DataFrame, and remove any movies that have
# already been watched - there's no point watching them again
for user in df_preds.index:
    if pd.isnull(df_movies.loc[user, movie]):
        df_preds.loc[user, movie] = 1

# Add an empty name column to the DataFrame, put it first, then
# add the names
df_preds['name'] = ''
df_preds = df_preds[['name'] + movies]

# Add the names to the DataFrame
for user in df_preds.index:
    df_preds.loc[user, 'name'] = df_movies.loc[user, 'name']
```

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Once again, we need to find the best value of k. How do we define "best" in this case?

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## Finding the RMSE

- The concept of RMSE is a little more tricky here
- There isn't a set of "y" values that we are trying to predict with a set of "x" values. Everything is intertwined
- Instead, we will make predictions for every user (using every other user) and compare these predictions to the truth
- In reality, we should do this with a training/test set (keeping some of the movies as "test") but we'll leave that as an exercise...

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## Finding the RMSE

name	gender	The Godfather	Top Gun	Pretty Woman
1	Male	F	5.0	NaN
1	Male	F	4.0	3.0
2	Woman	M	5.0	5.0
2	Male	F	NaN	3.0

Example: 2

{'The Godfather': 5.0,  
'Top Gun': 3.0, 'Pretty  
Woman': 5.0}

Example: Top Gun

```
def get_rmse(df, k):
    sum_sq_error = 0
    n_errors = 0
    # Go through every user in the data
    for user in df.index:
        # Make predictions for that user
        preds = make_preds(df, user, k)
        # Go through every movie - (if the person initially rated the
        # movie, calculate the squared error between what they ranked
        # and our prediction
        for movie in df.columns:
            squared_error = (df.loc[user, movie] - preds[movie])**2
            if pd.notnull(squared_error):
                sum_sq_error += squared_error
                n_errors += 1
    return math.sqrt(sum_sq_error/n_errors)
```

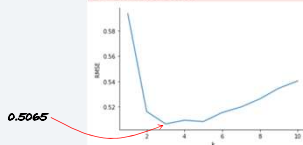
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## The best RMSE

```
# Try values of k from 1 to 10, and find the mean squared error
# for each
mises = []
import tqdm
for k in tqdm.tqdm(range(1, 11)):
    mses.append(get_rmse(df_movies, k))
plt.plot(range(1, 11), mses)
plt.xlabel('k')
plt.ylabel('RMSE')
sns.despine()
```

100% [02:42:00.00, 10.20s/11]



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Why is this not quite correct? What are we missing?

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In theory, we should split the data into a training and test set, and only use the test set in determining  $k$ ...

I leave this as an exercise...

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Model-based collaborative  
filtering

## Model-based collaborative filtering

- Like  $k$ -NN, memory-based collaborative filtering is a non-parametric model
- It doesn't assume anything about the data – it just uses it like it sees it
- Is there a *parametric* version of collaborative filtering we could try?

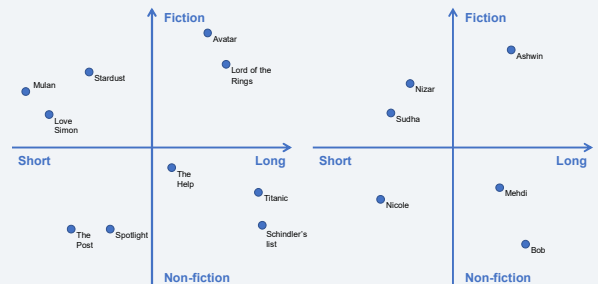
What would a parametric model look like for collaborative filtering?

How could we model what goes on in our brain when we rate a movie?

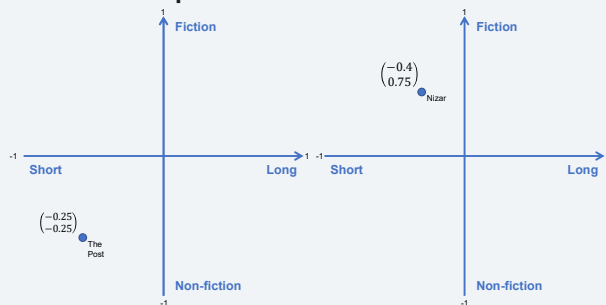
## Latent factor model

- Every movie can be described by a set of “latent factors”. Examples might include
  - Length
  - Level of action
  - Happy vs. sad
  - etc...
- Every person has a preference set over these latent factors. For example
  - Sarah likes short, happy, action movies
  - Bob likes long, sad, action movies
- We can use these two predict a person's rating of a movie

## Latent factor models



## From factors to predictions



## From factors to predictions

$$\begin{pmatrix} -0.25 \\ -0.25 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} -0.4 \\ 0.75 \end{pmatrix}$$

The Post      Nizar

$$\text{Prediction} = (-0.25 \times -0.4) + (-0.25 \times 0.75) = -0.0875$$

## Latent factor models provide a parametric framework for collaborative filtering

### Getting mathematical...

- Let  $F$  be the number of latent factors
- Let there be  $U$  users – each one has a *persona vector*  $\mathbf{p}_{(u)}$  containing  $F$  elements, one for each latent factor
- Let there be  $M$  movies – each one has an *attribute vector*  $\mathbf{a}_{(m)}$  containing  $F$  elements, one for each latent factor
- Our model then predicts that user  $u$  will give the following rating to movie  $m$

$$\hat{r}_{u,m} = \mathbf{p}_{(u)} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{(m)} = \sum_{f=1}^F p_{u,f} a_{m,f}$$

The hat means it's a predicted rating

### Matrix factorization

- This is also called a **matrix factorization** model
- To understand why, imagine all the ratings were in a big matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  with  $U$  rows (one for each user) and  $M$  columns (one for each movie), where the entry is the rating
  - The matrix will have lots of missing value for unrated movies
- Further imagine
  - All the personas were stacked in a matrix  $\mathbf{P}$  with  $U$  rows (one for each user) and  $F$  columns (one for each factor)
  - All the attributes were stacked in a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  with  $M$  rows (one for each movie) and  $F$  columns (one for each factor)
- Our collaborative filtering model could then be written

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^T$$

How do we figure out the latent factors based on the few ratings we do have?

### Minimizing the errors

One approach to finding the correct latent factors is to solve an optimization problem that minimizes the errors made by our model's predictions

$$\min_{\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{A}} \left( \sum_{u,m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} [r_{u,m} - \hat{r}_{u,m}]^2 \right)$$

$$\min_{\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{A}} \left( \sum_{u,m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} [r_{u,m} - \mathbf{p}_{(u)} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{(m)}]^2 \right)$$

This is a little bit like linear regression, but with a more complicated model... How can we find the personas and attributes that minimize this error?

### A complication

- The total number of parameters we're optimizing over is  $(F \times M) + (F \times U)$
- When  $F$  is large (i.e., we're using many latent factors), the number of parameters being estimated also gets very large
- This can lead to overfitting
- This kind of overfitting can be prevented using a technique called **regularization** which is outside the scope of this class (see BA2)

The latent number of factors needs to be specified manually in this model... More advanced models exist which can help us “detect” the “best” number of factors.

## Stochastic gradient descent for matrix factorization (optional)

### Gradient descent

- We can use gradient descent – which we saw when we discussed logistic regression – to solve this problem as well
- Note that gradient descent isn't guaranteed to work when the optimization problem is **nonconvex** (a concept you might cover in more advanced classes).
  - This problem is non-convex, but as we'll see, gradient descent will work fine

### The gradient

What is the gradient with respect to the variables  $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{A}$  in this case?

$$\min_{\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{A}} \left( \sum_{u,m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} [r_{u,m} - \mathbf{p}_{(u)} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{(m)}]^2 \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}_{(u)}} = - \sum_{m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} 2[r_{u,m} - \mathbf{p}_{(u)} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{(m)}] \mathbf{a}_{(m)} = - \sum_{m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} 2e_{u,m} \mathbf{a}_{(m)}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{a}_{(m)}} = - \sum_{u \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} 2[r_{u,m} - \mathbf{p}_{(u)} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{(m)}] \mathbf{p}_{(u)} = - \sum_{u \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} 2e_{u,m} \mathbf{p}_{(u)}$$

### The gradient descent update

In every step of the gradient descent, we will pick a learning rate/step size  $\gamma$  and update the parameters as follows

$$\mathbf{p}_{(u)} \leftarrow \mathbf{p}_{(u)} - \gamma \left( - \sum_{m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} 2e_{u,m} \mathbf{a}_{(m)} \right) = \mathbf{p}_{(u)} + \gamma \sum_{m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} e_{u,m} \mathbf{a}_{(m)}$$

$$\mathbf{a}_{(m)} \leftarrow \mathbf{a}_{(m)} - \gamma \left( - \sum_{u \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} 2e_{u,m} \mathbf{p}_{(u)} \right) = \mathbf{a}_{(m)} + \gamma \sum_{u \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} e_{u,m} \mathbf{p}_{(u)}$$

### Stochastic gradient descent

- Notice that to compute the gradient, we need to take a sum over every rating in the dataset
- This is very common in ML problems
- When datasets are *massive*, it can take an enormous amount of time to calculate this gradient, making gradient descent very slow
- **Stochastic gradient descent** takes a different approach – it calculates the gradient using only **one** datapoint at a time
- This can make it much easier to apply gradient descent with massive datasets

### The stochastic gradient descent update

In every step of the gradient descent, we will pick a learning rate/step size  $\gamma$  and update the parameters as follows

for every rating  $r_{u,m}$  :

$$\mathbf{p}_{(u)} \leftarrow \mathbf{p}_{(u)} + \gamma \mathbf{e}_{u,m} \mathbf{a}_{(m)}$$

$$\mathbf{a}_{(m)} \leftarrow \mathbf{a}_{(m)} + \gamma \mathbf{e}_{u,m} \mathbf{p}_{(u)}$$

Continue doing this again and again until the RMSE stops getting better.

### Why is this called “stochastic gradient descent”?

- The idea is that instead of using the “true” gradient (calculated using every data point)...
- ...we use an estimate of the gradient (the “expected” gradient), calculated by taking a small number of datapoints, and finding the gradient based on those
- In this case, the “small number of datapoints” is just 1
- It can be shown that under certain conditions, this works just as well as normal gradient descent
- In practice, we use more than 1 datapoint in each step – this is called **minibatch stochastic gradient descent**.

Stochastic gradient descent makes gradient descent easier to apply on massive datasets by updating the variables one datapoint at a time

Stochastic gradient descent for matrix factorization in Python (optional)

### Important note



The most efficient way of carrying out these operations is using high-performance Python libraries like `numpy`. We will use **much slower** – but easier to understand – techniques to cover these concepts without too many prerequisites.

### Initializing the algorithm with random parameters

```
# Number of latent factors
f = 2

# Create DataFrames to store the parameters

# Movie attributes
m = pd.DataFrame(0, index=range(f), columns=movies)

# User personas
p = pd.DataFrame(0, index=range(f), columns=df_movies.index)

# Go through the parameter DataFrames, and fill them with random values
import numpy as np
np.random.seed(123)
for df in [m, p]:
    for user in df.index:
        for movie in df:
            df.loc[user, movie] = np.random.uniform()
```

## Initializing the algorithm with random parameters

a

	Avatar	Black Swan	...	Pretty Woman	Titanic
0	0.737995	0.226851	...	0.980764	0.398044
1	0.312261	0.724455	...	0.361789	0.425830

p

	0	1	...	144	145
0	0.623953	0.115618	...	0.467988	0.807938
1	0.007426	0.551593	...	0.680903	0.904226

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## Making predictions

4 Avatar

0 0.866309  
1 0.296096  
Name: 4, dtype: float64

0 0.737995  
1 0.312261  
Name: Avatar, dtype: float64

```
def make_pred(user, movie):
    ...
    This function will take a user ID and a movie, and make a prediction
    based on the current set of parameters.
    ...
    return (a[movie]*p[user]).sum()
```

0 0.639332  
1 0.064356  
dtype: float64

0.70

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## Getting the RMSE

```
def get_rmse():
    ...
    Given the current parameters, this function calculates the RMSE of
    predictions
    ...

    total_error = 0
    n_errors = 0

    for user in df_movies.index:
        for movie in movies:
            if pd.notnull(df_movies.loc[user, movie]):
                total_error += (df_movies.loc[user, movie] - make_pred(user, movie))**2
                n_errors += 1

    return (total_error/n_errors)
```

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## Stochastic gradient descent

```
def sgd_step():
    ...
    This function takes a single step in the stochastic gradient descent
    algorithm, going through every rating once to update the parameters
    ...

    for user in df_movies.index:
        for movie in movies:
            if pd.notnull(df_movies.loc[user, movie]):
                # Calculate the error for this rating
                error = df_movies.loc[user, movie] - make_pred(user, movie)

                # Take a step in the direction of the gradient
                a_step = gamma*error*p[user]
                p_step = gamma*error*a[movie]

                a[movie] += a_step
                p[user] += p_step
```

$$p_{(u)} \leftarrow p_{(u)} + \gamma e_{u,m} a_{(m)}$$

$$a_{(m)} \leftarrow a_{(m)} + \gamma e_{u,m} p_{(u)}$$

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## Stochastic gradient descent

Only plot the fourth step of the algorithm onwards. The early errors will be very large, so if we plot them the y-axis will be so large that we won't see the variation in the later steps...

```
# Perform stochastic gradient descent
# Learning rate/step size
gamma = 0.02
# Number of steps
n_steps = 100
# Prepare to plot dynamically
from IPython import display

rmse = [get_rmse()]
for i in range(n_steps):
    # Clear the plot and the display
    plt.clf()
    display.clear_output(wait=True)

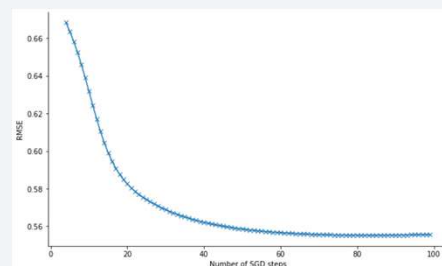
    # Plot the 4th step onward (so as not to distort the axis with
    # the first two steps which will be terrible)
    fig, axes = plt.subplots(1, 1, figsize=(10,5))
    axes.plot(range(4, len(rmse)), rmse[4:], marker='x')
    axes.set_xlabel('Number of SGD steps')
    axes.set_ylabel('RMSE')
    axes.legend()
    display.display(plt.gcf())

    # Carry out a stochastic gradient descent step, and calculate
    # the RMSE
    sgd_step()
    rmse.append(get_rmse())
```

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## Stochastic gradient descent



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## Adding fixed effects

## Model limitations

- The current model only allows us to capture user preferences as a *function of the latent factors*.
- But in some cases, the movie is more liked just because it's a better movie – not because it's more “fiction” or more “long” or some other factor
- Similarly, in some cases, a user might like a movie just because they're an easier “grader”

## Model limitations part 2

- The model also doesn't allow any “side information” to be used
- For example, we know whether each of our users are men or women
- Can we use that information to capture more signal in the model?

## Matrix factorization with fixed effects and side info

$$\hat{r}_{u,m} = \mu + \pi_u + \alpha_m + \mathbf{p}_{(u)} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{(m)} + \begin{cases} \phi & \text{if the } u \text{ is a woman} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}_{(u)}} &= -2 \sum_{m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} \mathbf{e}_{u,m} \mathbf{a}_{(m)} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} &= -2 \sum_{u,m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} \mathbf{e}_{u,m} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{a}_{(m)}} &= -2 \sum_{u \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} \mathbf{e}_{u,m} \mathbf{p}_{(u)} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \pi_u} &= -2 \sum_{m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} \mathbf{e}_{u,m} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} &= -2 \sum_{u,m \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available and } u \text{ is a woman}} \mathbf{e}_{u,m} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha_m} &= -2 \sum_{u \text{ if } r_{u,m} \text{ available}} \mathbf{e}_{u,m} \end{aligned}$$

## Initializing the algorithm with random parameters

```
# Create DataFrames to store the parameters
import numpy as np
np.random.seed(123)

# Movie attributes and fixed effects
a = pd.DataFrame(0, index=range(f), columns=movies)
alpha = (i*np.random.uniform()) for i in movies

# User personas and fixed effects
p = pd.DataFrame(0, index=range(f), columns=df_movies.index)
pi = (i*np.random.uniform()) for i in df_movies.index

# Mean rating
mu = [np.random.uniform()]

# Gender effect
phi = [np.random.uniform()]

# Go through the parameter DataFrames, and fill them with random values
for df in [a, p]:
    for user in df.index:
        for movie in df:
            df.loc[user, movie] = np.random.uniform()
```

## Making predictions

```
def make_pred(user, movie):
    """
    This function will take a user ID and a movie, and make a prediction
    based on the current set of parameters.
    """
    pred = (a[movie]*p[user]).sum() + mu[0] + alpha[movie] + pi[user]

    # If the user is a woman, add that fixed effect
    if df_movies.loc[user, 'gender'] == 'F':
        pred += phi[0]

    return pred
```

## Stochastic gradient descent

```
def sgd_step():
    """
    This function takes a single step in the stochastic gradient descent
    algorithm, going through every rating once to update the parameters
    """
    for user in df_movies.index:
        for movie in movies:
            if pd.notnull(df_movies.loc[user, movie]):
                # Calculate the error for this rating
                error = df_movies.loc[user, movie] - make_pred(user, movie)

                # Take a step in the direction of the gradient
                a_step = gamma*error*user
                p_step = gamma*error*movie

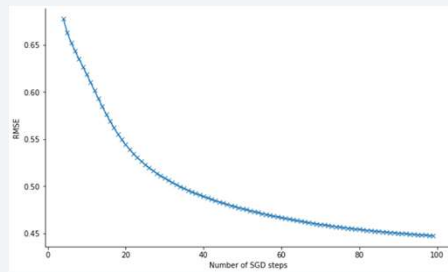
                a[movie] += a_step
                p[user] += p_step
                mu[0] += gamma*error
                alpha[movie] += gamma*error
                pi[user] += gamma*error

            if df_movies.loc[user, 'gender'] == 'F':
                phi[0] += gamma*error
```

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## Stochastic gradient descent



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## Visualizing the latent factors

```
# Plot the movie attributes
fig, axes = plt.subplots(1, 1, figsize=(13, 13))
axes.plot(a.loc[0,:], a.loc[1,:], marker='x', linewidth=0)

axes.set_xlabel('Attribute 1')
axes.set_ylabel('Attribute 2')

for c in a:
    axes.text(a.loc[0, c], a.loc[1, c], c)

sns.despine()

# View the movie fixed effect
pd.Series(alpha).sort_values()

# View the gender fixed effect
phi
```

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## Other examples of recommendation systems

## The Netflix prize

Netflix offered \$1,000,000 to anyone who could improve their recommendation algorithms

*"The RMSE of Cinematch on the test subset, based on training the Cinematch algorithm using the training set alone, was 0.9525 ...*

*The quality for the Grand Prize, the RMSE of Participant's submitted predictions on the test subset much be less than or equal to 90% of 0.9525, or 0.8572"*

Netflix Prize winner: BellKor's Pragmatic Chaos. RMSE **0.8567**. They used many of the techniques we discussed here.

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## Amazon item-to-item collaborative filtering



$$CI(item\_P, item\_X) = 20 / \sqrt{(300 \times 300)} = 0.0667$$

$$CI(item\_P, item\_Y) = 25 / \sqrt{(300 \times 30,000)} = 0.0083$$

Thus, even though items P and Y have more customers in common than items P and X, items P and X are treated as being more similar than items P and Y. This result desirably reflects the fact that the percentage of item\_X customers that bought item\_P (6.7%) is much greater than the percentage of item\_Y customers that bought item\_P (0.08%).

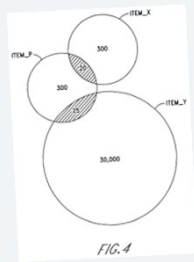
<https://patents.google.com/patent/US7113917>

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## Amazon item-to-item collaborative filtering

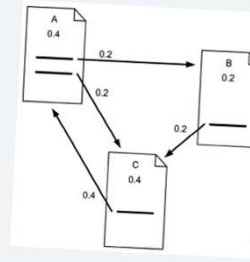


$CI(item\_P, item\_X) = 20 / \sqrt{(300 \times 300)} = 0.0667$   
 $CI(item\_P, item\_Y) = 25 / \sqrt{(300 \times 30,000)} = 0.0083$

Thus, even though items P and Y have more customers in common than items P and X, items P and X are treated as being more similar than items P and Y. This result desirably reflects the fact that the percentage of item\_X customers that bought item\_P (6.7%) is much greater than the percentage of item\_Y customers that bought item\_P (0.08%).

<https://patents.google.com/patent/US7113917>

## Google PageRank



<https://patents.google.com/patent/US6285999>

One aspect of the present invention is directed to taking advantage of the linked structure of a database to assign a rank to each document in the database, where the document rank is a measure of the importance of a document. Rather than determining relevance only from the intrinsic content of a document, or from the anchor text of backlinks to the document, a method consistent with the invention determines importance from the extrinsic relationships between documents. Intuitively, a document should be important (regardless of its content) if it is highly cited by other documents. Not all citations, however, are necessarily of equal significance. A citation from an important document is more important than a citation from a relatively unimportant document. Thus, the importance of a page, and hence the rank assigned to it, should depend not just on the number of citations it has, but on the importance of the citing documents as well. This implies a recursive definition of rank: the rank of a document is a function of the ranks of the documents which cite it. The ranks of documents may be calculated by an iterative procedure on a linked database.

# Simulation; Medical Testing & Pension Analytics

## Session 9

Professor Daniel Guetta  
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## This Module

- COVID-19: every test counts
- Decision making through Monte Carlo simulation
- Evaluating GM's healthcare pension liabilities

## COVID-19: every test counts

## The importance of testing



- When cases are still rare, allows for far less onerous social distancing
- Essential part of any “track and trace” approach
- Important part of protecting healthcare and other social workers
- Basis of pretty much everything we say, know, and decide about the virus

## (At least) two types of COVID-19 tests



Viral tests are the most useful for track and trace – we'll focus on these today

## Viral tests were in short supply

- The first viral test for COVID-19 was available in record time – early cases were reported in late December, the full gene sequence was submitted by China to the WHO on January 12<sup>th</sup>, and there were reports of viral testing happening on January 17<sup>th</sup>
- Many specific “recipes” for this test have emerged since, with varying degrees of success.
- Unfortunately, there are many hurdles between a test that works in principle and a test that can be applied usefully at scale – testing was plagued by a whole host of issues from the getgo
  - Shortage of collection kit (eg: nasal swabs)
  - Shortage of reagents and/or staff to analyze collected samples
  - Contaminated/flaws tests
  - Bureaucratic hurdles

How can we do more with the testing capacity we have?

An idea...

**The New York Times**

Opinion

## Five People. One Test. This Is How You Get There.

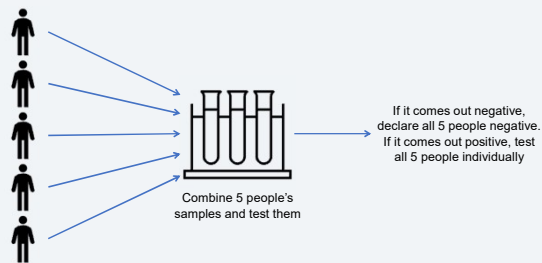
Nebraska is testing more people with the tests it has. The technique is simple.

By Jordan Ellenberg  
Mr. Ellenberg is a professor of mathematics.

May 7, 2020

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/07/opinion/nebraska-testing.html>

An idea...



Any thoughts on this technique?

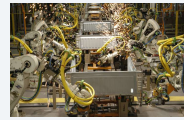
## Pros and cons

- Pros
  - Test the population with fewer tests
  - Can vary the group size if needed
- Cons
  - Do diluted samples work? (c.f. Wassermann test for syphilis in WW2)
    - Nebraska required special permission to do this
  - Does it *really* result in fewer tests?
  - Does it affect the accuracy of the test?
  - What kind of shortage does this help?

Does this really reduce the number of tests needed, and by how much?

## Simulation

## Monte Carlo simulation



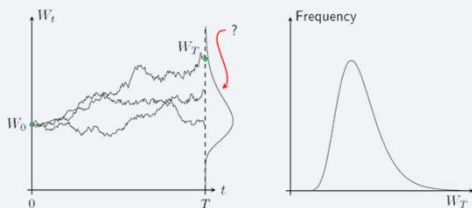
- Simulation is the imitation of real-world process
- Analyze the consequences of decisions before real-world implementation
- Two reasons for simulation
  - Random events impact the outcome of interest and need to understand the range of future outcomes (**Monte Carlo simulation**)
  - Even in the absence of randomness, there might be no simple formula for the outcome of interest, and simulation is the only way to do testing (dynamical systems)

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## Simulation in the presence of randomness

Key idea: simulate "many" possible paths to understand the possible scenarios you could face.



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## Monte Carlo simulation process

### Construct a model connecting inputs to outputs

- Output of interest and random inputs that impact the output
- How the random inputs impact the outputs
- Nature of random inputs: distribution

### Run the simulation

- Generate many possible values that random inputs may take
- For each sequence of events, record outputs

### Analyze the output

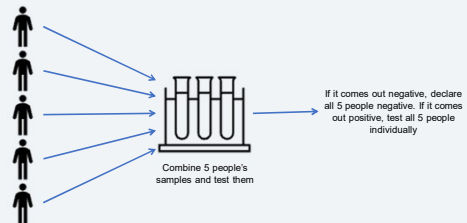
- Simulation shows how random inputs lead to a range of outcomes for the random outputs
- Distribution of the outputs: average, standard deviation, percentiles...

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## Back to COVID

## An idea...



On average, how many tests does it take to test a single person conclusively?

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## What are the sources of randomness that might lead this number being different each time?

### Sources of randomness

- Whether the patient of interest has COVID
  - This depends on how much of the population is infected with COVID
  - We'll denote this variable  $s_1$ ; equal to 1 if the patient has COVID, and 0 otherwise
- Whether the other four patients being tested have COVID
  - We'll denote these variables  $s_2, s_3, s_4$ , and  $s_5$ ; each variable will be 1 if the relevant patient has COVID, and 0 otherwise
- Whether the combined sample tests are positive or negative
  - This depends on the sensitivity and specificity of the test *and* on whether anyone in the sample is positive
  - We'll denote this  $T$ , equal to 1 if the test is positive, and 0 otherwise

### Sensitivity and specificity of the test

The accuracy of diagnostic tests is encapsulated by two numbers

- **The sensitivity** (true positive rate): this is the probability someone tests positive if they do indeed have the condition
- **The specificity** (true negative rate): this is the probability someone tests negative if they do *not* have the condition

Many estimates of these two numbers exist for COVID tests; we'll go with fairly plausible **sensitivity = 0.9**, and **specificity = 0.98**, but we'll play with these later.

### Sources of randomness

- The  $s$  variables depend on the proportion  $p$  of the population that is currently infected with COVID

$$s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5 \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$$

- The  $T$  variable depends on whether the sample had any COVID-positive samples

$$T = \begin{cases} \text{Bernoulli}(0.9) & \text{if } \max(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5) = 1 \\ \text{Bernoulli}(0.02) & \text{if } \max(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5) = 0 \end{cases}$$

## How do these sources of randomness affect the outcome we care about

### The outcome

- If  $T = 0$ , we don't need to carry out any further test
  - The number of tests required for our person of interest is 0.2
- If  $T = 1$ , we need to re-test every one of the five people in the sample
  - The number of tests required per person is therefore 1.2

## Random numbers in Python

## Generating random numbers in Python

We'll discuss  
this shortly

```
import numpy as np
np.random.seed(123)

np.random.uniform(size=10)
array([0.69646919, 0.28613933, 0.22685145, 0.55131477, 0.71946897,
       0.42310646, 0.9807642 , 0.68402974, 0.4809319 , 0.39211752])

np.random.binomial(n=1, p=0.4, size=10)
array([0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0])

np.random.normal(loc=0, scale=1, size=10)
array([ 1.0040519 ,  0.3861864 ,  0.73736558,  1.49073203, -0.93583387,
        1.17582904, -1.25380807, -0.6377515 ,  0.9071052 , -1.42868007])
```

numpy has in-built functions to generate random numbers from all common distributions. For others, we can use the inverse CDF method (but it'll be **slower** than the built-in ones).

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## The inverse CDF method

- Let  $U$  be a uniformly distributed random variable
- Suppose we have a distribution  $f$  with cumulative density function (CDF)  $F(x)$ ... In other words, if a variable  $X$  has distribution  $f$ , then

$$P(X \leq x) = F(x)$$

- Let  $F^{-1}(p)$  be the inverse function of  $F(x)$
- Then it can be shown that  $F^{-1}(U)$  has distribution  $f$ !
- To see why, recall that the CDF of a uniform distribution is  $F(x) = x$ , and so

$$P(F^{-1}(U) \leq x) = P(U \leq F(x)) = F(x)$$

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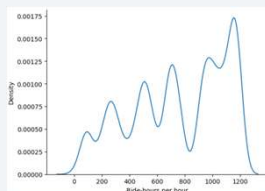
## The inverse CDF method – an example

- You oversee operations at a ridesharing company
- You are given a file, `demand.csv` that contains one column – `total_trip_hours` – which contains historical ride demand
- Every row corresponds to one hour in the last four years, and it lists the number of trip-hours that were taken during that hour
  - For example, if during that hour, 10 people took 10 minute rides, the total number of ride-minutes in that hour is  $10 \times 10 = 100$  ride-minutes = 1.67 ride-hours – so that row would contain 1.67
- You want to be able to simulate an “average day” in your company’s operations – in particular, you want to be able to simulate a random variable that represents the number of ride-hours in any given hour

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## The inverse CDF method – an example

Let's have a look at the distribution of hours



This is a complicated distribution! How do we generate variables from it?

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## The inverse CDF method – an example

- To use the inverse-CDF method, we need to calculate  $F^{-1}(p)$
- Remember;  $F(x) = P(\text{Ride-hours per hour} \leq x)$
- Thus,  $F^{-1}(p)$  is the number of ride-hours such that a proportion  $p$  of ride-hours is less than that number
  - $F^{-1}(0.5)$  is the *median* number of ride-hours
  - $F^{-1}(0.9)$  is the number of ride-hours such that 90% of ride-hours is less than that
- We can calculate this in Python!

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## The inverse CDF method – an example

Calculating  $F^{-1}(p)$

```
# Sort the demand list from smallest to largest
demand = sorted(demand)

def inverse_cdf(p):
    # Note: this can be done using the np.quantile function, but we
    # want to show the full details here

    # Suppose p = 0.9 as an example. There are len(demand) points in
    # total. 90% of those points is len(demand)*0.9. Since the points
    # are sorted, we just need to look at the value at THAT position
    # to give us the inverse CDF
    return demand[int(len(demand)*p)]
```

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## The inverse CDF method – an example

We can now use the inverse CDF method to generate variables from this distribution

```
# Generate 50,000 uniform random variables
uniform_vars = np.random.uniform(low=0, high=1, size=50000)

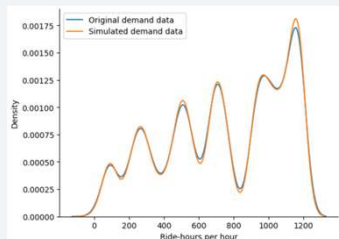
# Apply the inverse-CDF to them
sampled_demand = [inverse_cdf(i) for i in uniform_vars]
```

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## The inverse CDF method – an example

We can verify it worked...



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## The randomization seed

- Computers cannot generate random numbers.
- Instead, we give the computer a **seed**. It then uses complex mathematical formulas to generate **pseudo-random numbers**.
- If you give a computer the same seed, the same sequence of random numbers will be generated.
- In numpy, the randomization seed can be set using

```
np.random.seed()
```

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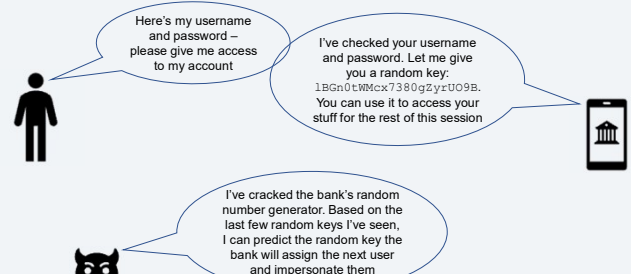
## Generating random numbers

- We will heavily rely on Python's ability to generate sequences of pseudo-random numbers
- We require a sequence that is **completely unpredictable** – even if you see every number in the sequence so far, there should be **no way to predict the next number**.
- Computers have no way to generate random numbers – so instead they use **complicated mathematical functions** to generate these sequences.
- Doing this properly is **hard**.
- Doing this is **really, really, really important**.

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## Why are random numbers so important?



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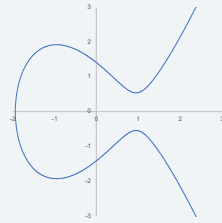
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## Elliptic curves

Elliptic curves are graphs that satisfy

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$$

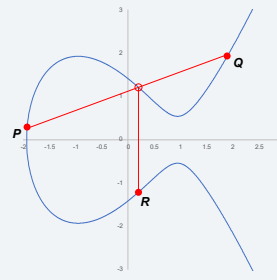
Example with  
 $a = -2.7$  and  $b = 2$



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## Summing points on elliptic curves



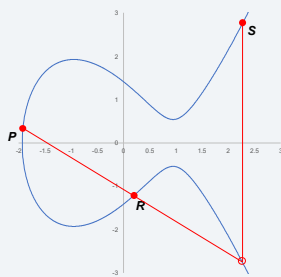
- Suppose we have two points  $P$  and  $Q$  on an elliptic curve
- We **define** summation on an elliptic curve in a weird way
  - Draw the line from  $P$  to  $Q$
  - This line will cross the graph once at a single point
  - Reflect that point on the x-axis to get  $R$ , the sum
- So we say

$$P + Q = R$$

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## Summing points on elliptic curves



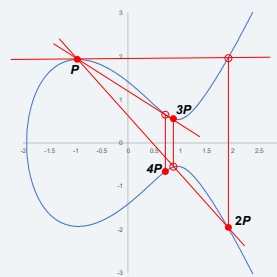
- Another example: let's find  $P + R$ 
  - Draw the line between  $P$  and  $R$
  - Find the point at which it crosses the curve
  - Reflect it in the x-axis
- So

$$P + R = S$$

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## Summing points on elliptic curves

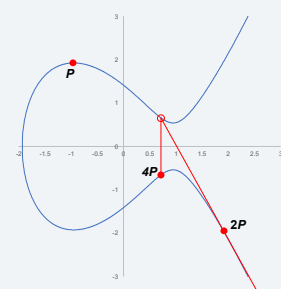


- What if we want to add a point to itself (i.e.  $P + P$ )?
- We simply find the tangent line to  $P$ , and reflect the crossing point in the x-axis
- We can then find  $2P + P = 3P$
- And  $3P + P = 4P$

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## Summing points on elliptic curves



- But there's another way to find  $4P$ ; we can just add  $2P$  to itself
- If our concept of addition is "consistent", this should lead to the same point
- And it does!

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## Nerd notes (very, very, optional)

- In practice, cryptography uses elliptic curves mod  $p$  over the integers; it can be shown that – as long as we add an identity element at infinity – these integers form a finite abelian group
- A lot of the underlying math behind this was developed by Evariste Galois, a French mathematician who died in a duel in 1832 (possibly over a love affair) at the age of 20; he was also a political firebrand, spent time in jail, and we know a lot of this because Alexandre Dumas (who wrote *The Count of Monte Cristo*) talked about it in his diaries... No biggie...



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### Point multiplication is easy

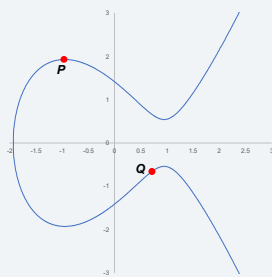
- Suppose we want to calculate 1,000,000  $P$
- We can do this in only 25 operations! Just sum the red points

• $2P$	• $64P$	• $2,048P$	• $65,536P$
• $4P$	• $128P$	• $4,096P$	• $131,072P$
• $8P$	• $256P$	• $8,192P$	• $262,144P$
• $16P$	• $512P$	• $16,384P$	• $524,288P$
• $32P$	• $1024P$	• $32,768P$	

### Point “division” is really, really, really hard

- Suppose we have a point  $Q$ , and we know that  $Q = nP$ , where  $n$  is very large
- Finding  $n$  is *really difficult*; you would need to go through every number from 1 until you find the right one
- This is known as the **discrete logarithm problem for elliptic curves**

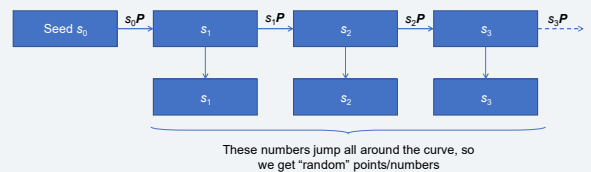
### Point “division” is really, really, really hard



Even if we know that  $Q = nP$ , finding  $n$  is *really* difficult

### Generating random numbers with elliptic curves

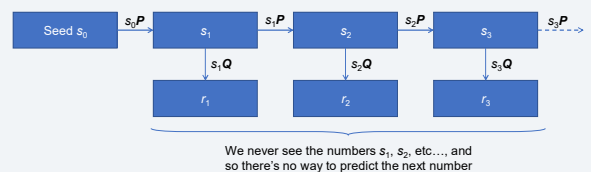
- This algorithm requires a defined elliptic curve, and a point  $P$  on the curve. This point  $P$  can be public.
- Start with a seed  $s_0$ , and then...



What’s the problem with this technique?

### Generating random numbers with elliptic curves

- This algorithm requires a defined elliptic curve, and two points  $P$  and  $Q$  on the curve; both points are public
- Start with a seed  $n_0$ , and then...



**This is real...**

NIST Special Publication 800-90A

**Recommendation for Random Number  
Generation Using Deterministic  
Random Bit Generators**

COMPUTER SECURITY

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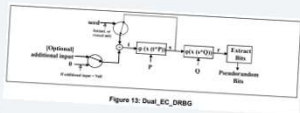


Figure 13: Dual\_EC\_DRBG

Each of following curves is given by the equation:

$$y^2 = x^3 - 3x + b \pmod{p}$$

Notation:

- $p$  - Order of the field  $F_p$ , given in decimal
- $n$  - Order of the Elliptic Curve Group, in decimal.
- $a = (-3)$  in the above equation
- $b$  - Coefficient above

A.1.1 Curve P-256

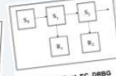
[illegible]

Figure 14: Dual\_EC\_2 Backtracking Resist

**Except...**

The New York Times  
**N.S.A. Able to Foil Basic Safeguards  
of Privacy on Web**

By Nicole Perleoth, Jeff Larson and Scott Sharpe  
Sept. 9, 2013

Many users assume — or have been assured by Internet companies — that their data is safe from prying eyes, including those of the government, and the N.S.A. wants to keep it that way. The agency treats its recent successes in deciphering protected information as among its most closely guarded secrets, restricted to those cleared for a highly classified program code-named Bullrun, according to the documents, provided by Edward J. Snowden, the former N.S.A. contractor.

...

One goal in the agency's 2013 budget request was to "influence policies, standards and specifications for commercial public key technologies," the most common encryption method.

One goal in the agency's 2013 budget request was to "influence policies, standards and specifications for commercial public key technologies," the most common encryption method.

Cryptographers have long suspected that the agency planted vulnerabilities in a standard adopted in 2006 by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and later by the International Organization for Standardization, which has 163 countries as members.

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REUTERS  
EXCLUSIVE: Secret contract tied NSA and security industry pioneer

Documents [linked](#) by former NSA contractor [Edward Snowden](#) show that the NSA created and promulgated a [flawed formula for generating random numbers](#) to create a "back door" in encryption products, the New York Times reported in September. Reuters later reported that RSA became the most important distributor of that formula by rolling it into a software tool called Bsafe that is used to enhance security in personal computers and many other products.

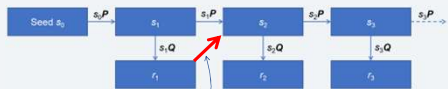
Undisclosed until now was that RSA received \$10 million in a deal that set the NSA formula as the preferred, or default, method for number generation in the BSafe software, according to two sources familiar with the contract. Although that sum might seem paltry, it represented more than a third of the revenue that the relevant division at RSA had taken in during the entire previous year, securities filings show.

 **SPEAKING OF SECURITY**  
**RSA RESPONSE TO MEDIA CLAIMS REGARDING NSA RELATIONSHIP**  
Arlene - Bruce Babbitt - RSA Response to Media Claims Regarding NSA Relationship  
December 22, 2013

Recent press coverage has asserted that RSA entered into a "secret contract" with the NSA to incorporate a known flawed random number generator into its RSAFEE encryption libraries. [We categorically deny this allegation.](#)

## Explaining the backdoor

- In theory,  $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$  should be picked completely randomly
- It can be shown that whatever  $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$  are, there is always a  $d$  such that  $\mathbf{P} = d\mathbf{Q}$
- Because of the discrete logarithm problem, it's almost impossible to compute  $d$  – but suppose you choose a  $\mathbf{Q}$  and  $d$ , and then write the NIST standard to pick a  $\mathbf{P}$  equal to  $d\mathbf{Q}$  (which is easy to compute)
- Then given the last “random” number, you can predict the next...



$$dr_1 = ds_1 \mathbf{Q} = s_1(d\mathbf{Q}) = s_1 \mathbf{P} = s_2$$

<http://rump2007.cr.jp.toi/15-shumow.pdf>

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## The dénouement

**The New York Times**  
Government Announces Steps to Restore Confidence on  
Encryption Standards  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2013 7:02 PM



The screenshot shows the top portion of a Wikipedia article. On the left is the Wikipedia logo. The article title is "Nothing-up-my-sleeve number". Below the title is the text "From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia". At the bottom of the screenshot, the URL [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nothing-up-my-sleeve\\_number](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nothing-up-my-sleeve_number) is visible.

In cryptography, nothing-up-my-sleeve numbers are any numbers which, by their construction, are above suspicion of hidden properties... An example would be the use of initial digits from the number  $\pi$  as the constants. Using digits of  $\pi$  millions of places after the decimal point would not be considered trustworthy because the algorithm designer might have selected that starting point because it created a secret weakness the designer could later exploit.

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## Elliptic curves are everywhere: key exchange

- Suppose Alice and Bob live on opposite sides of the world and want to exchange a message
- The NSA is eager to know what Alice wants to tell Bob, and can read any messages they send to each other
- Alice and Bob could encrypt the message, but what encryption key would they use? If they exchange the encryption key, the NSA will intercept it too
- Astonishingly, the **Elliptic-Curve Diffie-Hellman algorithm** will allow them to do this securely!
- This algorithm is in use today – when you go to an https site, you might be using it!

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### Elliptic curves are everywhere: key exchange

Bob chooses an elliptic curve and a point  $P$  and sends it to Alice

Alice stores this curve and the point  $P$

The NSA intercepts both

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### Elliptic curves are everywhere: key exchange

Bob privately chooses a large number  $a$ , calculates  $aP$ , and sends it to Alice

Alice privately chooses a large number  $b$ , calculates  $bP$ , and sends it to Bob

The NSA intercepts both. Even though it knows  $P$ ,  $aP$ , and  $bP$ , it can't figure out  $a$  and  $b$  because of the discrete logarithm problem

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### Elliptic curves are everywhere: key exchange

Bob calculates  $a \times$  the point he received, and gets  $abP$

Alice calculates  $b \times$  the point she received, and gets  $baP$

Alice and Bob now have the same point  $abP = baP$ , which they can use as their encryption key!

The NSA doesn't know  $a$  or  $b$ , and so they can't find this number

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### Elliptic curves are everywhere: Bitcoin

#### Protocol documentation

This page *describes* the behavior of the [reference client](https://en.bitcoin.it/wiki/Protocol_documentation). The Bitcoin protocol is specified [here](https://en.bitcoin.it/wiki/Protocol_documentation).

#### Signatures

Bitcoin uses [Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm \(ECDSA\)](#) to sign transactions. For ECDSA the secp256k1 curve from <http://www.secg.org/sec2-v2.pdf> is used. Public keys (in scripts) are given as 04 <x> <y> where  $x$  and  $y$  are 32 byte big-endian integers representing the coordinates of a point on the curve or in compressed form given as <sign> <x> where <sign> is 0x02 if  $y$  is even and 0x03 if  $y$  is odd. Signatures use [DER encoding](#) to pack the  $r$  and  $s$  components into a single byte stream (this is also what OpenSSL produces by default).

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AT THE VERY CENTER OF BUSINESS

## Back to COVID; simulation in Python

### Reminder

- The  $s$  variables depend on the proportion  $p$  of the population that is currently infected with COVID
 
$$s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5 \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$$
- The  $T$  variable depends on whether the sample had any COVID-positive samples
 
$$T = \begin{cases} \text{Bernoulli}(0.9) & \text{if } \max(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5) = 1 \\ \text{Bernoulli}(0.02) & \text{if } \max(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5) = 0 \end{cases}$$
- If  $T = 0$ , we don't need to carry out any further test, and the number of tests for the person of interest is 0.2. If  $T = 1$ , we need to re-test everyone; the tests required per person is 1.2

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How can we use Python to simulate thousands of instances of this test, to see what the average number of tests is?

## Simulating the tests

```
def average_n_tests(p, n=1000, seed=123):
    # Seed the random number generator
    np.random.seed(seed)

    # Create a list to store the number of tests per person
    n_tests = []

    for i in range(n):
        # Simulate the five people we're pooling; each will be
        # drawn from a Bernoulli random variable with probability
        # equal to the proportion of the population that is
        # COVID+ (i.e.)
        s = np.random.binomial(1, p, size=5)

        if sum(s) == 1:
            # If sum(s) is 1, then at least one person is +ve;
            # the outcome of the test will be a Bernoulli RV
            # with prob.1 (the sensitivity of the test)
            T = np.random.binomial(1, p*0.9)
        else:
            # If sum(s) is 0, then everyone in the pool is
            # negative
            T = np.random.binomial(1, p*0.02)

        if T == 0:
            # If the test was negative, it only takes one test
            # to test someone
            n_tests.append(0.1)
        else:
            # If the test was positive, we need to test every
            # person again, so it takes 1.2 tests per person
            n_tests.append(1.2)

    return np.mean(n_tests)
```

Example: [0, 0, 1, 0, 1]

Example: 1

Example: [0.2, 0.2, 1.2, ..., 1.2, 0.2]

## Running the simulation

Suppose 20% of the population is currently infected with COVID. How many tests will the pooled procedure require on average?

average\_n\_tests(0.2)

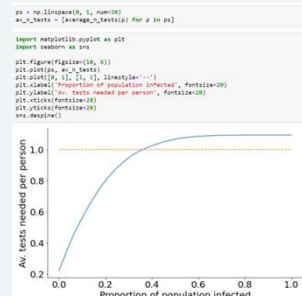
0.7999999999999999

What if 90% of the population is infected?

average\_n\_tests(0.9)

1.0928

## Managerial insights



Simulation can provide valuable managerial insights that would otherwise take costly experiments to obtain

Simulation accuracy

## Simulation accuracy

- Our simulation has told us if 20% of the population is infected, we will need 0.8 tests per person
- If we run it again with a different seed, we might get a slightly different number
- How can we get an estimate of roughly how accurate our result is?
- The key, it turns out, is the Central Limit Theorem
- If we use  $n$  simulation trials, and the standard deviation of the results from each trial is  $\sigma$ , the mean will be normally distributed with a standard deviation of  $\sigma/\sqrt{n}$ .

## Simulation accuracy

This means that if the mean of all the simulations is  $\mu$ , and the standard deviation is  $\sigma$ , we know that 95% of times we run this simulation, the mean will be in the interval

$$\mu \pm 1.96 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

## Simulation accuracy

```
def average_n_tests(p, n=1000, seed=123):
    # Seed the random number generator
    np.random.seed(seed)

    # Create a list to store the number of tests per person
    # measured in each of our simulations
    n_tests = []

    for i in range(n):
        # Simulate the five people we're pooling; each will be
        # drawn from a Bernoulli random variable with probability
        # equal to the proportion of the population that is
        # COVID +ive
        x = np.random.binomial(1, p, size=5)

        if sum(x) == 1:
            # If max(x) is 1, then at least one person is +ive;
            # the outcome of the test will be a Bernoulli 0/1
            # with prob 0 (the sensitivity of the test)
            T = np.random.binomial(1, prob=0)
        else:
            # If max(x) is 0, then everyone in the pool is
            # negative
            T = np.random.binomial(1, prob=0.02)

        if T == 0:
            # If the test was negative, it only takes one test
            # to test someone
            n_tests.append(1)
        else:
            # If the test was positive, we need to test every
            # person again, so it takes 4.2 tests per person
            n_tests.append(4.2)

    return [np.mean(n_tests), np.std(n_tests)]
```

## Simulation accuracy

```
n = 5000
mu, sigma = average_n_tests(0.2, n=n)
print(f'95% CI: {round(mu - 1.96*sigma/np.sqrt(n),4)}-{round(mu + 1.96*sigma/np.sqrt(n),4)}')
95% CI: 0.7864-0.8136
```

## Verifying the central limit theorem

```
n = 5000
mu, sigma = average_n_tests(0.2, n=n)
print(f'95% CI: {round(mu - 1.96*sigma/np.sqrt(n),4)}-{round(mu + 1.96*sigma/np.sqrt(n),4)}')
95% CI: 0.7864-0.8136

from tqdm import tqdm
means = []

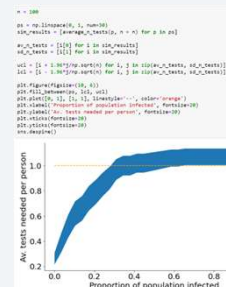
for i in tqdm(range(500)):
    mu, _ = average_n_tests(0.2, n=n, seed=i)
    means.append(mu)

100% |#####| 500/500 [00:20:00:00, 24.97it/s]

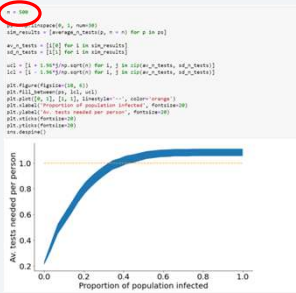
np.quantile(means, 0.025)
0.798295

np.quantile(means, 0.975)
0.8253050000000001
```

## Simulation accuracy

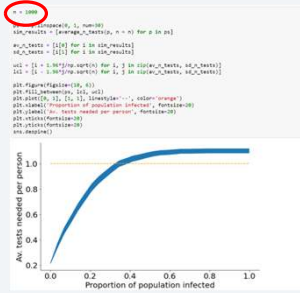


## Simulation accuracy



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### Simulation accuracy



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## Valuing the healthcare pension liability at GM

## Valuing the healthcare pension liability at GM



- The UAW (United Auto Workers) union and GM are in negotiations
- The transfer of the healthcare liability from GM to the union for a fixed amount is being discussed

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## Pro-forma analysis

### Data on the average employee

- Male
- Age: 45 years
- Age at retirement: 65 years
- Age at death: 78 years

## Healthcare costs

- Current year: \$10,000
- Annual increase in healthcare costs: 8.5%
- Discount rate assumption: 5%

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## Pro-forma analysis

```
def pro_forma_liability(age_at_death):
    # Growth rate of healthcare costs
    cost_growth = 0.085

    # Discount rate
    discount_r = 0.85

    # Initialize the variables with the first year, age, and cost
    # The total liability starts at 0
    year = 2013
    age = 45
    cost = 10
    total_liability = 0

    # Loop through all the years from now until the employee dies
    for y in range(age_at_death - age):
        # Only track costs if the age is >= 65; else the employer
        # isn't paying for this liability
        if age >= 65:
            total_liability += cost / ((1 + discount_r)**y)

        # Update the year, age, and healthcare cost
        year += 1
        age += 1
        cost *= (1 + cost_growth)

    return total_liability
```

$$\frac{\text{cost}}{(1 + \text{discount rate})^{\text{years}}}$$

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## Pro-forma analysis

The average employee dies at 78:

```
pro_forma_liability(78)
307.22630336630107
```

So the net present value of the liability is \$307,000

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Should we conclude that the UAW should settle for a \$307K payment per worker from GM to take the liability off their books?

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## The impact of randomness

```
pro_forma_liability(78)
307.22630336630107

pro_forma_liability(66)
19.26676420332768

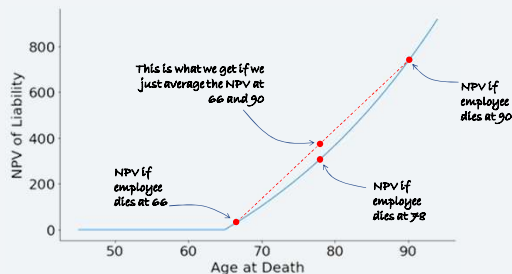
pro_forma_liability(90)
734.0187643884853
```

- Suppose employees die at 66 with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  and at 90 with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  (expected age of death: 78)
- The expected NPV is  $(\frac{1}{2} \times \$19.27K) + (\frac{1}{2} \times \$734.02K) = \$377K$
- This is much larger than the \$307K obtained from just assuming an age of 78

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## The impact of randomness



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## Jensen's Inequality

- This is the result of a more general result called **Jensen's Inequality**
- Given a random variable  $X$  and a convex function  $f$ , Jensen's Inequality states that
 
$$E[f(X)] \geq f(E[X])$$
- This requires understanding the concept of a convex function, which we won't cover in this class
- In this instance,  $X$  is the age of death (which is random) and  $f$  is `pro_forma_liability`

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Because of Jensen's Inequality, we need to take randomness into account when calculating the expected value of a function

## Modelling the randomness in the death age – actuarial life tables

### Actuarial life table: male

Actuarial life tables reports the remaining life expectancy at any specific age:

Age	Death probability	Life expectancy	Age	Death probability	Life expectancy	Age	Death probability	Life expectancy	Age	Death probability	Life expectancy	Age	Death probability	Life expectancy	Age	Death probability	Life expectancy
0	0.70%	75.9	20	0.11%	55.0	40	0.24%	37.3	60	1.18%	20.5	80	6.10%	8.3	100	100.00%	0.0
1	0.68%	75.4	21	0.11%	55.0	41	0.24%	37.3	61	1.18%	20.5	81	6.62%	7.6	101	100.00%	0.0
2	0.68%	74.5	22	0.11%	55.0	42	0.26%	36.4	62	1.27%	19.7	82	7.19%	7.1	102	100.00%	0.0
3	0.62%	73.5	23	0.14%	54.0	43	0.29%	35.5	63	1.37%	19.0	83	8.32%	6.7	103	100.00%	0.0
4	0.62%	72.5	24	0.14%	53.1	44	0.33%	34.6	64	1.49%	18.2	84	9.39%	6.2	104	100.00%	0.0
5	0.62%	71.5	25	0.14%	52.2	45	0.34%	33.7	65	1.62%	17.5	85	10.50%	5.8	105	100.00%	0.0
6	0.62%	70.5	26	0.14%	51.3	46	0.37%	32.8	66	1.76%	16.8	86	11.24%	5.4	106	100.00%	0.0
7	0.61%	69.5	27	0.14%	50.3	47	0.41%	31.9	67	1.91%	16.1	87	12.45%	5.0	107	100.00%	0.0
8	0.61%	68.6	28	0.14%	49.4	48	0.44%	31.1	68	2.08%	15.4	88	13.70%	4.7	108	100.00%	0.0
9	0.61%	67.6	29	0.14%	48.5	49	0.48%	30.2	69	2.25%	14.7	89	15.10%	4.3	109	100.00%	0.0
10	0.61%	66.6	30	0.14%	47.5	50	0.51%	29.4	70	2.43%	14.0	90	16.64%	4.0	110	100.00%	0.0
11	0.61%	65.6	31	0.14%	46.6	51	0.54%	28.5	71	2.67%	13.4	91	18.33%	3.7	111	100.00%	0.0
12	0.61%	64.6	32	0.13%	45.7	52	0.61%	27.7	72	2.92%	12.7	92	20.30%	3.3	112	100.00%	0.0
13	0.61%	63.6	33	0.13%	44.7	53	0.64%	26.8	73	3.19%	12.1	93	22.33%	3.0	113	100.00%	0.0
14	0.61%	62.6	34	0.18%	43.8	54	0.79%	26.0	74	3.48%	11.5	94	24.99%	3.0	114	100.00%	0.0
15	0.61%	61.6	35	0.18%	42.9	55	0.79%	25.2	75	3.82%	10.9	95	28.42%	2.8	115	100.00%	0.0
16	0.61%	60.6	36	0.17%	41.9	56	0.85%	24.4	76	4.21%	10.3	96	32.42%	2.6	116	100.00%	0.0
17	0.61%	59.7	37	0.18%	41.0	57	0.91%	23.6	77	4.63%	9.7	97	36.92%	2.3	117	100.00%	0.0
18	0.61%	58.7	38	0.18%	40.1	58	0.97%	22.8	78	5.08%	9.2	98	42.09%	2.1	118	100.00%	0.0
19	0.10%	57.8	39	0.21%	39.2	59	1.04%	22.0	79	5.59%	8.6	99	83.69%	2.2	119	100.00%	0.0

<http://www.ssa.gov/oact/STATS/tabled5.html>

### Actuarial life table: female

Actuarial life tables reports the remaining life expectancy at any specific age:

Age	Death probability	Life expectancy	Age	Death probability	Life expectancy	Age	Death probability	Life expectancy	Age	Death probability	Life expectancy
0	0.57%	80.0	20	0.04%	61.3	40	0.13%	42.2	60	0.67%	24.3
1	0.60%	80.3	21	0.04%	60.6	41	0.11%	41.5	61	0.79%	23.5
2	0.62%	79.3	22	0.05%	59.6	42	0.16%	40.9	62	0.80%	22.6
3	0.62%	78.3	23	0.05%	58.6	43	0.18%	39.4	63	0.87%	21.8
4	0.62%	77.3	24	0.05%	57.6	44	0.20%	38.5	64	0.94%	21.0
5	0.61%	76.4	25	0.05%	56.7	45	0.22%	37.6	65	1.01%	20.2
6	0.61%	75.4	26	0.06%	55.7	46	0.24%	36.6	66	1.12%	19.4
7	0.61%	74.4	27	0.06%	54.7	47	0.26%	35.7	67	1.24%	18.6
8	0.61%	73.4	28	0.06%	53.8	48	0.28%	34.8	68	1.36%	17.8
9	0.61%	72.4	29	0.06%	52.8	49	0.30%	33.9	69	1.48%	17.1
10	0.61%	71.4	30	0.07%	51.8	50	0.33%	33.0	70	1.64%	16.3
11	0.61%	70.4	31	0.07%	50.8	51	0.36%	32.1	71	1.82%	15.6
12	0.61%	69.4	32	0.07%	49.9	52	0.38%	31.2	72	2.00%	14.9
13	0.61%	68.4	33	0.08%	48.9	53	0.41%	30.4	73	2.20%	14.2
14	0.61%	67.4	34	0.08%	48.0	54	0.44%	29.5	74	2.42%	13.5
15	0.62%	66.4	35	0.09%	47.0	55	0.46%	28.6	75	2.67%	12.8
16	0.62%	65.5	36	0.09%	46.1	56	0.49%	27.7	76	2.96%	12.1
17	0.62%	64.5	37	0.10%	45.1	57	0.51%	26.9	77	3.27%	11.5
18	0.62%	63.5	38	0.11%	44.1	58	0.54%	26.0	78	3.60%	10.9
19	0.64%	62.5	39	0.12%	43.2	59	0.61%	25.2	79	3.97%	10.2

<http://www.ssa.gov/oact/STATS/tabled5.html>

### Actuarial life tables

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Mortality table values from: <a href="http://www.ssa.gov/oact/STATS/tabled5.html">http://www.ssa.gov/oact/STATS/tabled5.html</a>									
2										
3	Male					Female				
age	Death probability	Life expectancy	Death probability	Life expectancy		Death probability	Life expectancy			
4	0	0.70%	75.9	0.6%	80.8	a Probability of dying within one year.				
5	1	0.04%	75.4	0.0%	80.3	Note: The period life expectancy at age				
6	2	0.03%	74.5	0.0%	79.3	The Social Security area population is cc				
7	3	0.02%	73.5	0.0%	78.3					
8	4	0.02%	72.5	0.0%	77.3					
9	5	0.02%	71.5	0.0%	76.4					
10	6	0.02%	70.5	0.0%	75.4					
11	7	0.01%	69.5	0.0%	74.4					
12	8	0.01%	68.6	0.0%	73.4					
13	9	0.01%	67.6	0.0%	72.4					
14	10	0.01%	66.6	0.0%	71.4					
15	11	0.01%	65.6	0.0%	70.4					
16	12	0.01%	64.6	0.0%	69.4					
17	13	0.02%	63.6	0.0%	68.4					
18	14	0.03%	62.6	0.0%	67.4					

### Actuarial life tables

```

import pandas as pd
df_actuarial = pd.read_excel('actuarial_tables.xlsx', skiprows=3)
df_actuarial.head()

```

age	Death probability	Life expectancy	Death probability	Life expectancy	Unnamed: 5	Unnamed: 6
0	0.00680	75.90	0.00728	80.81	NaN	a Probability of dying within one year
1	0.00047	75.43	0.00073	80.28	NaN	Note: The period life expectancy at age
2	0.00030	74.48	0.00041	79.31	NaN	The Social Security area population is cc
3	0.00023	73.48	0.00036	78.32	NaN	
4	0.00017	72.50	0.00030	77.34	NaN	

```

df_actuarial = df_actuarial.iloc[:,1:5]
df_actuarial = df_actuarial.set_index('age')
df_actuarial.head()

```

age	Death probability	Life expectancy
0	0.00680	75.90
1	0.00047	75.43
2	0.00030	74.48
3	0.00023	73.48
4	0.00017	72.50



## Simulating age of death

- For every year, generate a Bernoulli random variable with  $p$  equal to the probability of death at that age
- If the variable is 1, the person dies at that age. If it is 0, the person doesn't
- The age of death is the *minimum* age with an indicator of 1

## Simulating age of death

```
def simulate_death_age():
    """
    This function goes through every age from 45 to 119 and simulates
    the probability of death at that age. As soon as one of the
    simulations returns 1, that age is returned as the age of death
    """
    for age in range(45, 120):
        if np.random.binomial(n=1, p=pdf_actuarial.loc[age, 'Death probability']) == 1:
            return age

np.random.seed(123)
print(simulate_death_age())
print(simulate_death_age())
print(simulate_death_age())
```

## Back to the GM case

```
n = 5000  
liability_npv = []  
  
np.random.seed(123)  
  
for i in tqdm(range(n)):  
    liability_npv.append(pro_forma_liability(simulate_death_age()))  
  
100% |██████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████| 5000/5000 [0  
0:01<00:00, 3867.69it/s]  
  
mean_liability = np.mean(liability_npv)  
se_liability = np.std(liability_npv)/np.sqrt(n)  
  
print(f'95% CI: {round(mean_liability - 1.96*se_liability,2)}--{round(mean_liability + 1.96*se_lia  
95% CI: 392.55-410.08
```

**Correctly incorporating randomness shows us the liability was not \$307K (pro-forma assuming death age of 78) but \$401K**

## Estimating probabilities

## Estimating probabilities

- Monte Carlo simulation can also be used to estimate the probability of an event
- Suppose we want to estimate the probability the age of death is  $\geq 65$
- Define

$$X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if age of death} \geq 65 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Then

$$E[X] = 0 \times P(X = 0) + 1 \times P(X = 1) = P(\text{age of death} \geq 65)$$

## Estimating probabilities

```
n = 5000
x = []
np.random.seed(123)
for i in tqdm(range(n)):
    x.append(1 if simulate_death_age(i) >= 65 else 0)
100% |#####| 5000/5000 [0
0:01:00:00, 3059.721t/s]
np.mean(x)
0.8546
```

## Simulation applications

## Traffic simulation



## Traffic simulation

- Traffic light timing
- One-way versus two-way streets
- Impact of road closures

## Simulation of epidemics



## Simulation of epidemics

- Spread through air travel
- Analyze potential interventions
- Analyze vaccination policies

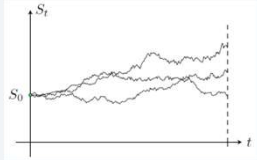
## Call center simulation



## Call center simulation

- Random arrival times of calls
- Analyze impact of staffing plans on key performance metrics

## Financial simulation



### Financial simulation

- Pricing options and other securities
- Analyze hedging (risk management) strategies
- Capital allocation
- Value-at-risk and other simulation methods mandated by government regulation
- Note: can only simulate known unknowns

# Prescriptive Analytics: Testing Channel Management in Retail

## Module 10

Professor Daniel Guetta  
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### This Module

- Evaluating the Buy Online Pickup in Store (BOPS) program at *Home and Kitchen*
  - Analyzing the impact
  - Prescription (keep or drop)

Source: "Integration of Online and Offline Channels in Retail: The Impact of Sharing Reliable Inventory Availability Information", 2014, Gallino, S., Moreno, A. *Management Science*

- Difference in Differences (DiD) method
- Evaluating the impact of Search Engine Marketing at eBay

## Buy online pick up in store (BOPS) at Home & Kitchen

### What is BOPS?

### Data from the original pilot

```
import pandas as pd  
  
df_bm = pd.read_excel('BOPS_data.xlsx', sheet_name='BM Sales')  
df_online = pd.read_excel('BOPS_data.xlsx', sheet_name='Online Sales')
```

df\_bm.head()

id (store)	date	year	month	week	usa	after	sales
0	2011-04-17	2011	4	16	0	0	116000.750000
1	2011-04-24	2011	4	17	0	0	113884.266667
2	2011-05-01	2011	4	18	0	0	172104.333333
3	2011-05-08	2011	5	19	0	0	105500.966667
4	2011-05-15	2011	5	20	0	0	94884.300000

df\_online.head()

id (DMA)	date	year	month	week	after	close	sales
0	2011-04-24	2011	4	17	0	1	10584.400000
1	2011-05-01	2011	4	18	0	1	32582.500000
2	2011-05-08	2011	5	19	0	1	37424.900000
3	2011-05-15	2011	5	20	0	1	32582.600000
4	2011-05-22	2011	5	21	0	1	35772.871188

Was this week after the  
introduction of BOPS (1)  
or before (0)

### Was the BOPS pilot a success? Should Home & Kitchen deploy it to Canada?

## Initial analysis

```
current_format = lambda x: '%10.2f' % x

print('Online sales')
print()
df_online_pre = df_online[df_online.after == 0]
df_online_post = df_online[df_online.after == 1]

print('Pre-BOPS: ', current_format(df_online_pre.sales.mean()))
print('Post-BOPS: ', current_format(df_online_post.sales.mean()))
print()

print('BOPS sales')
print()
df_bops_pre = df_bops[df_bops.after == 0]
df_bops_post = df_bops[df_bops.after == 1]

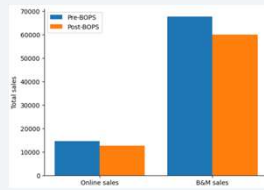
print('Pre-BOPS: ', current_format(df_bops_pre.sales.mean()))
print('Post-BOPS: ', current_format(df_bops_post.sales.mean()))
print()

print('BOPS sales')
print()
df_bops_pre = df_bops[df_bops.after == 0]
df_bops_post = df_bops[df_bops.after == 1]

print('Pre-BOPS: ', current_format(df_bops_pre.sales.mean()))
print('Post-BOPS: ', current_format(df_bops_post.sales.mean()))
print()

print('BOPS sales')
print()
df_bops_pre = df_bops[df_bops.after == 0]
df_bops_post = df_bops[df_bops.after == 1]

print('Pre-BOPS: ', current_format(df_bops_pre.sales.mean()))
print('Post-BOPS: ', current_format(df_bops_post.sales.mean()))
print()
```



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What do we conclude? What might we be missing?

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## Factors we might be missing

Other factors might be causing the disparity between the “before” and “after” period

- Seasonality (holidays, back-to-school, summer moving season)
- Macro-economic factors (growth, shocks)
- Systemic company-wide factors (product selection, marketing)
- Systemic competitive factors (entrance of a new competitor)

How can we isolate the effect of BOPS from all these other confounding factors

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The Differences in Differences (DiD) approach

## Isolating the impact of BOPS

General idea of the difference in differences (DiD) approach

- Identify a control group
  - Similar to the test group and subject to the same common factors
  - **Not** exposed to the treatment
- Compare the **change in outcome** in the control group to the **change in outcome** in the test group

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## Example of DiD



A recent study at Columbia College reports that freshmen who participate in club sports gain an average of 3.6 pounds during their first year of college

Student group	Average starting weight	Average ending weight
Club sports	144.3	147.9
No club sports		

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Does participating in sports cause weight gain?

### Example of DiD



A recent study at Columbia College reports that freshmen who participate in club sports gain an average of 3.6 pounds during their first year of college

Student group	Average starting weight	Average ending weight	Difference
Club sports	144.3	147.9	3.6
No club sports	149.2	156.3	7.1
DiD			-3.5

What fundamental assumption are we making in this analysis?

### Testing

#### Decision/treatment → outcome

- How can we quantify the impact of a treatment?
- Looking at the outcome alone ignores *confounding factors*
- Testing seeks to isolate the treatment's *causal effect*

### A/B testing

Testing for Statistical Significance

Lecture 10 / #19

#### A/B testing

- A/B testing has been referred to as a fundamental change in strategy for business decision-making
  - A turn towards evidence-based decision-making
  - For example, at Facebook data scientists run over 1000 experiments each day
- What has driven this change?
  - On the Internet, small improvements can translate into massive profits given its large scale
  - Running A/B tests is cheap
- A/B testing is a term for a randomized experiment with two "treatments" or variants
  - A "bake-off" between competing variants
  - A/B tests can be extended to three or more variants

What would A/B testing have looked like for BOPS?

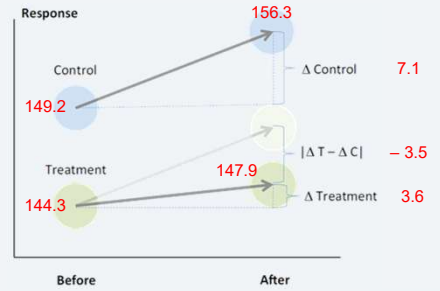
## Common approaches to testing the impact of treatment

- A/B testing (randomized trials)
  - Pros
    - Little chance of systematic differences between treatment and control
    - Allows us to isolate the true effect
  - Cons
    - Can be difficult to operationalize
    - Opportunity cost: can we afford to wait for the results of the randomized test?
- **Difference-in-Differences method:** use when control and treatment groups are not assigned randomly, find the best control group possible **ex-post**
  - Pros
    - Can leverage data that was already collected
    - No need to wait for new data to come in
  - Cons
    - Potential biases between control and treatment group

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## The concept behind DiD



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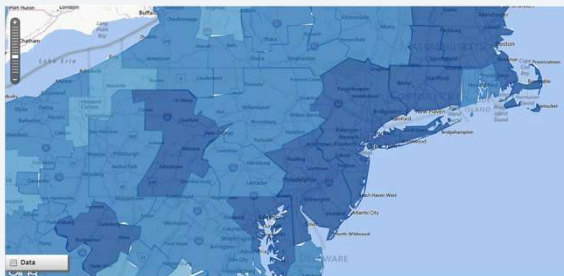
## DiD for BOPS

How can we apply DiD to analyze online sales?

What should we pick as the treatment and control groups?

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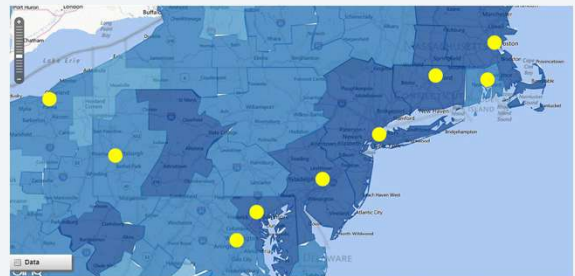
## Which DMAs are affected by BOPS?



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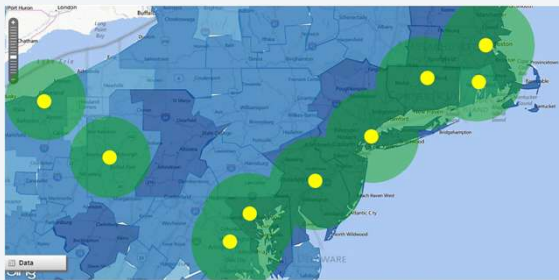
## Store locations



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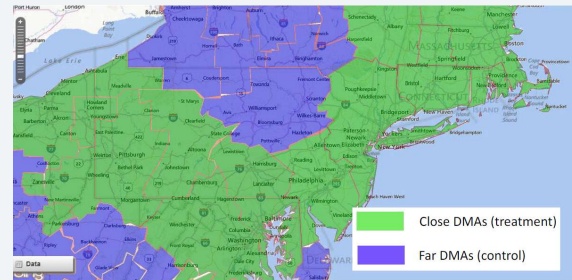
## 50 mile radius from stores



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## “Close” and “Far” DMAs



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## DiD for online sales analysis

1 if this DMA was close to a home  
kitchen store, 0 if it was far from a store

df\_online.head()

	id (DMA)	date	year	month	week	after	close	sales
0	1	2011-04-24	2011	4	17	0	1	18564.46094
1	1	2011-05-01	2011	4	18	0	1	30882.56055
2	1	2011-05-08	2011	5	19	0	1	37424.92578
3	1	2011-05-15	2011	5	20	0	1	32562.69336
4	1	2011-05-22	2011	5	21	0	1	35772.67188

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## DiD for online sales analysis

```
print('Far DMAs (no BOPS)')
far_pre_bops = df_online[df_online['close'] == 0].sales.sum()
far_post_bops = df_online[df_online['close'] == 0].sales.sum()
print('Pre-BOPS: ', currency_format(far_pre_bops))
print('Post-BOPS: ', currency_format(far_post_bops))
print('Difference: ', currency_format(far_post_bops - far_pre_bops))
far_perc_diff = (far_post_bops - far_pre_bops) / far_pre_bops
print(' % difference: ', round(far_perc_diff, 2))

print()

print('Close DMAs (with BOPS)')
close_pre_bops = df_online[df_online['close'] == 1].sales.sum()
close_post_bops = df_online[df_online['close'] == 1].sales.sum()
print('Pre-BOPS: ', currency_format(close_pre_bops))
print('Post-BOPS: ', currency_format(close_post_bops))
print('Difference: ', currency_format(close_post_bops - close_pre_bops))
close_perc_diff = (close_post_bops - close_pre_bops) / close_pre_bops
print(' % difference: ', round(close_perc_diff, 2))

print()

print('Difference in differences: ', round(close_perc_diff - far_perc_diff, 2))

print()

far DMAs (no BOPS)
Pre-BOPS: $44,179,429.47
Post-BOPS: $37,525,897.96
Difference: -6,653,531.51
% difference: -15.06%

Close DMAs (with BOPS)
Pre-BOPS: $39,080,882.97
Post-BOPS: $29,329,842.89
Difference: -9,751,040.08
% difference: -24.95%

Difference in differences: -3.29%
```

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What are some potential caveats of this analysis?

Assuming it's correct, what do we conclude? Any thoughts?

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How could we apply DiD to brick & mortar sales – what's our control group?

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## DiD for B&M sales analysis

1 if this store was in the USA, 0 if it was in Canada

df\_bm.head()

	id (store)	date	year	month	week	usa	after	sales
0	1	2011-04-17	2011	4	16	0	0	119890.700000
1	1	2011-04-24	2011	4	17	0	0	113804.266667
2	1	2011-05-01	2011	4	18	0	0	172104.333333
3	1	2011-05-08	2011	5	19	0	0	105590.966667
4	1	2011-05-15	2011	5	20	0	0	94884.300000

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## DiD for B&M sales analysis

```
print('Canadian stores (no BOPS)')
ca_pre_bops = df_bm_pre[df_bm_pre['usa'] == 0].sales.sum()
ca_post_bops = df_bm_post[df_bm_post['usa'] == 0].sales.sum()
print('Pre-BOPS: ', currency_format(ca_pre_bops))
print('Post-BOPS: ', currency_format(ca_post_bops))
print('Difference: ', currency_format(ca_post_bops - ca_pre_bops))
ca_parc_diff = (ca_post_bops - ca_pre_bops) / 100 / ca_pre_bops
print(' % difference: ', round(ca_parc_diff, 2) %)
```

```
print()
print('USA stores (with BOPS)')
usa_pre_bops = df_bm_pre[df_bm_pre['usa'] == 1].sales.sum()
usa_post_bops = df_bm_post[df_bm_post['usa'] == 1].sales.sum()
print('Pre-BOPS: ', currency_format(usa_pre_bops))
print('Post-BOPS: ', currency_format(usa_post_bops))
print('Difference: ', currency_format(usa_post_bops - usa_pre_bops))
usa_parc_diff = (usa_post_bops - usa_pre_bops) / 100 / usa_pre_bops
print(' % difference: ', round(usa_parc_diff, 2) %)
```

```
print()
print('Difference in differences: ', round(usa_parc_diff - ca_parc_diff, 2) %)
```

Canadian stores (no BOPS)  
Pre-BOPS: \$38,489,747.28  
Post-BOPS: \$29,853,282.86  
Difference: -8,636,464.42  
% difference: -22.45%

USA stores (with BOPS)  
Pre-BOPS: \$122,739,479.27  
Post-BOPS: \$118,455,589.56  
Difference: -4,283,889.71  
% difference: -3.5%

Difference in differences: 1.25%

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What are some potential caveats of this analysis?

Assuming it's correct, what do we conclude? Any thoughts?

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## Aggregate impact of BOPS on sales

Estimated impact of BOPS on *Home and Kitchen* sales

- Online sales affected by BOPS:  $\$36.1\text{M} \times -3.3\% = \$-1.2\text{M}$
- B&M sales affected by BOPS:  $\$123\text{M} \times 5.8\% = \$7.1\text{M}$

Estimated aggregate impact on sales

- $\$7.1\text{M} - \$1.2\text{M} = \$5.9\text{M}$
- 2.9% increase in company-wide revenues

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Should *Home and Kitchen* drop the BOPS initiative, or move ahead and deploy BOPS to Canada?

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What unit to use?

## An alternative approach to DiD

The DiD method computed the impact of the BOPS treatment according to

$$(\% \text{TotalSalesChange})_{\text{TREATED}} - (\% \text{TotalSalesChange})_{\text{CONTROL}}$$

It then combines **all the units** (stores or DMAs) in the two groups. It then finds the difference between the two groups.

One shortcoming is that small units (small stores/small DMAs) will be dwarfed by large ones. To resolve this, we could first find the % change in each unit

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## An example

Store	Sales before	Sales after	USA?	Sales difference	% difference
1	\$1M	\$1M	0	\$0	0%
2	\$100M	\$100M	0	\$0	0%
<b>Total Canada</b>	<b>\$101M</b>	<b>\$101M</b>		<b>\$0</b>	
3	\$1M	\$2M	1	\$1M	100%
4	\$100M	\$101M	1	\$1M	1%
<b>Total USA</b>	<b>\$101M</b>	<b>\$103M</b>		<b>\$2M</b>	

Two ways to calculate these – either by averaging the percentage differences in each store, or by using the aggregates to calculate the percentage difference

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## An example; aggregated [what we did with BOPS]

Store	Sales before	Sales after	USA?	Sales difference	% difference
1	\$1M	\$1M	0	\$0	0%
2	\$100M	\$100M	0	\$0	0%
<b>Total Canada</b>	<b>\$101M</b>	<b>\$101M</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0 ÷ \$101M = 0%</b>
3	\$1M	\$2M	1	\$1M	100%
4	\$100M	\$101M	1	\$1M	1%
<b>Total USA</b>	<b>\$101M</b>	<b>\$103M</b>		<b>\$2M</b>	<b>\$2M ÷ \$101M = 1.98%</b>

Each store gets counted proportionally to its size

$$\text{DiD} = 1.98\% - 0\% = 1.98\%$$

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## An example; unit-wise

Store	Sales before	Sales after	USA?	Sales difference	% difference
1	\$1M	\$1M	0	\$0	0%
2	\$100M	\$100M	0	\$0	0%
<b>Total Canada</b>	<b>\$101M</b>	<b>\$101M</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>(0 + 0) ÷ 2 = 0%</b>
3	\$1M	\$2M	1	\$1M	100%
4	\$100M	\$101M	1	\$1M	1%
<b>Total USA</b>	<b>\$101M</b>	<b>\$103M</b>		<b>\$2M</b>	<b>(100 + 1) ÷ 2 = 50.5%</b>

Each store gets counted equally

$$\text{DiD} = 50.5\% - 0\% = 50.5\%$$

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Which method should we use?

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## Preparing for unit-wise DiD

```
optional_material()
df_online_reg = pd.merge(df_online_pre.groupby(['id (DMA)', 'close'])
                        .sales
                        .sum()
                        .reset_index()
                        .rename(columns={'sales': 'sales_before'}),
                        df_online_post.groupby(['id (DMA)'])
                        .sales
                        .sum()
                        .reset_index()
                        .rename(columns={'sales': 'sales_after'}),
                        on = 'id (DMA)',
                        validate='one_to_one')

df_bm_reg = pd.merge(df_bm_pre.groupby(['id (store)', 'usa'])
                    .sales
                    .sum()
                    .reset_index()
                    .rename(columns={'sales': 'sales_before'}),
                    df_bm_post.groupby(['id (store)'])
                    .sales
                    .sum()
                    .reset_index()
                    .rename(columns={'sales': 'sales_after'}),
                    on = 'id (store)',
                    validate='one_to_one')
```

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## Preparing for unit-wise DiD

```
df_online_reg.head()
```

	id (DMA)	close	sales_before	sales_after
0	1	1	6.500395e+05	5.312964e+05
1	2	0	1.818505e+06	1.976250e+06
2	3	1	5.175134e+05	3.469291e+05
3	4	1	8.494751e+04	7.400218e+04
4	5	0	8.926940e+05	5.490454e+05

```
df_bm_reg.head()
```

	id (store)	usa	sales_before	sales_after
0	1	0	3.428210e+06	3.067861e+06
1	3	1	1.286236e+06	1.138918e+06
2	5	1	2.724178e+06	2.518139e+06
3	7	1	2.220210e+06	1.772800e+06
4	9	1	2.647521e+06	2.617902e+06

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## Preparing for unit-wise DiD

```
df_online_reg['perc_change'] = ((df_online_reg.sales_after -
                                df_online_reg.sales_before)/df_online_reg.sales_before)
df_bm_reg['perc_change'] = ((df_bm_reg.sales_after -
                              df_bm_reg.sales_before)/df_bm_reg.sales_before)
```

```
df_online_reg.head(2)
```

	id (DMA)	close	sales_before	sales_after	perc_change
0	1	1	6.500395e+05	5.312964e+05	-0.182071
1	2	0	1.818505e+06	1.976250e+06	0.086744

```
df_bm_reg.head(2)
```

	id (store)	usa	sales_before	sales_after	perc_change
0	1	0	3428216.30	3.067861e+06	-0.104563
1	3	1	1286235.86	1.138918e+06	-0.114534

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## Unit-wise DiD

```
print('Online DiD')
print(str(round((df_online_reg[df_online_reg.close == 1].perc_change.mean() -
                  df_online_reg[df_online_reg.close == 0].perc_change.mean())*100, 2)) + '%')

print()

print('B&M DiD')
print(str(round((df_bm_reg[df_bm_reg.usa == 1].perc_change.mean() -
                  df_bm_reg[df_bm_reg.usa == 0].perc_change.mean())*100, 2)) + '%')
```

Online DiD  
-2.67%

B&M DiD  
5.74%

Was -3.3% using Method 2

Was 5.8% using Method 2

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## DiD and linear regression

## DiD using linear regression

Unit-wise DiD can we done using linear regression

$$\%SalesChange_i = a + b \times TREATED_i + error$$

Each line in the data is one unit (DMA/store/etc...)

- $i$ : the index of the unit (DMA or store)
- $TREATED_i$ : equal to 1 if unit  $i$  received the treatment (i.e., if the DMA was close for online sales or the store was in the USA for B&M sales) and 0 otherwise
- $b$ : measures the impact of the treatment (BOPS)

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Why can we not do this using aggregated DiD?

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## Unit-wise DiD (online sales)

```
library(stargazer, formula, aes) as stargazer
res = sef.ols(formula="perc_change ~ close", data=df_online_reg, fit())
res.summary()
```

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	perc_change	R-squared:	0.017
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.012
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	0.002
Date:	Tue, 30 Nov 2021	Prob (F-statistic):	0.0004
Time:	08:37:15	Log Likelihood:	162.30
No. Observations:	210	AIC:	-180.8
DF Residuals:	208	BIC:	-183.9
DF Model:	1		
Covariance Type:	nonrobust		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	-0.001	-17.387	-0.000	<1.0e-16		
close	0.000	2.014	-1.000	0.309	-0.005	0.005

Conduct: 12.213 Durbin-Watson: 2.080  
 Prob(Omnibus): 0.000 Jarque-Bera (JB): 19.085  
 Skew: 0.739 Kurtosis: 7.254-05  
 Kstest: 0.910 Cond. No. 2.58

Notes:  
 [1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

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## Unit-wise DiD (B&M sales)

```
res = sef.ols(formula="perc_change ~ usa", data=df_bm_reg, fit())
res.summary()
```

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	perc_change	R-squared:	0.141
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared: <td>0.130</td>	0.130
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	13.43
Date:	Tue, 30 Nov 2021	Prob (F-statistic):	0.000000
Time:	08:37:16	Log Likelihood:	121.67
No. Observations:	84	AIC:	-128.9
DF Residuals:	82	BIC:	-124.1
DF Model:	1		
Covariance Type:	nonrobust		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Intercept	-0.132	0.014	-11.371	0.000	-0.167	-0.101
usa	0.000	0.016	3.884	0.000	0.008	0.008

Conduct: 0.689 Durbin-Watson: 1.975  
 Prob(Omnibus): 0.710 Jarque-Bera (JB): 0.749  
 Skew: 0.080 Kurtosis: 0.080  
 Kstest: 2.569 Cond. No. <24

Notes:  
 [1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

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What are some benefits of doing this over just finding the difference as we did before?

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## Adding explanatory variables

Suppose, in some stores, Home and Kitchen competes with Bed, Bath, and Beyond. This can be accounted for in the regressing

$$\%SalesChange_i = a + b \times TREATED_i + c \times BBB_i + \text{error}$$

Each line in the data is one unit (DMA/store/etc...)

- $i$ : the index of the unit (DMA or store)
- $TREATED_i$ : equal to 1 if unit  $i$  received the treatment (i.e., if the DMA was close for online sales or the store was in the USA for B&M sales) and 0 otherwise
- $b$ : measures the impact of the treatment (BOPS)
- Other variables can be added (e.g.: store specific variables, etc...) to correct for confounding variables

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DiD can discover causal impact where a basic analysis might have missed it

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Another application: search engine marketing (SEM) at eBay

## Search engine marketing at eBay



**Context:** in 2010, eBay spent \$4 million per month on “search engine marketing” (SEM) (also known as sponsored search advertising)

Cost of SEM: pay a fee each time a customer clicks on an ad

## How to compute the ROI of SEM?

## Measuring the impact of advertising: Google’s Advice

### How ROI Works

ROI is the ratio of your net profit to your costs. It’s typically the most important measurement for an advertiser because it’s based on your specific advertising goals and shows the real effect your advertising efforts have on your business. The exact method you use to calculate ROI depends upon the goals of your campaign.

One way to define ROI is:

$$\text{ROI} = (\text{Revenue} - \text{Cost of goods sold}) / \text{Cost of goods sold}$$

Let’s say you have a product that costs \$100 to produce, and sells for \$200. You sell 6 of these products as a result of advertising them on Google Ads, so your total cost is \$600 and your total sales is \$1200. Let’s say your Google Ads costs are \$200, for a total cost of \$800. Your ROI is:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\$1200 - \$800) / \$800 \\ &= \$400 / \$800 \\ &= 50\% \end{aligned}$$

In this example, you’re earning a 50% return on investment. For every \$1 you spend, you get \$1.50 back.

For physical products, the cost of goods sold is equal to the manufacturing cost of all the items you sold plus your advertising costs, and your revenue is how much you made from selling those products. The amount you spend for each sale is known as cost per conversion.

<https://support.google.com/google-ads/answer/172568>

## What do we think of Google’s advice?

## Measuring the impact of SEM at eBay

Experiment (focus on non-branded keywords without the word “eBay”):

- Construct treatment/control groups through DMAs (it’s easy to restrict ads by geographic areas; serve ads only to *some* areas)
- **Treated group:** out of 210 DMAs, randomly select 65 where Google SEM would be turned off from two months
- **Control group:** create a control group of DMAs that match the previous 65 (similar traffic seasonality)

## Measuring the impact of SEM at eBay

Estimate the impact of SEM on sales by using difference in differences

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{Difference in Sales in treated group}) \\ &- (\text{Difference in Sales in control group}) \end{aligned}$$

### Result:

- SEM increases sales by about 0.44% (not statistically significant)
- **ROI estimate:** –63% (short term estimate)

Source: “Consumer Heterogeneity and Paid Search Effectiveness: A Large Scale Field Experiment,” *Econometrica*, 2015. Blake, T., Nosko, C., and Tadelis, S.  
<http://conference.nber.org/confer/2015/05/05a13/Tadelis.pdf>