Anscombe Regression Example

Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>x</th>
<th>y1</th>
<th>y2</th>
<th>y3</th>
<th>x4</th>
<th>y4</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>9.14</td>
<td>7.46</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6.58</td>
</tr>
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<td>8.14</td>
<td>6.77</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5.76</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>7.71</td>
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<tr>
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<td>8.77</td>
<td>7.11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>8.33</td>
<td>9.26</td>
<td>7.81</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8.47</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>9.96</td>
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<td>6.77</td>
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<td>12.50</td>
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<tr>
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<td>7.91</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5.68</td>
<td>4.74</td>
<td>5.73</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Basic S/R Code and Output

R : Copyright 2003, The R Development Core Team
Version 1.7.1 (2003-06-16)

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Type ‘demo()’ for some demos, ‘help()’ for on-line help, or
‘help.start()’ for a HTML browser interface to help.
Type ‘q()’ to quit R.

[Previously saved workspace restored]

> options(STERM='iESS', editor='gnuclient.exe')

> attach(anscombe)
> anscombe <- read.table("anscombe.dat", header=T)
> mean(anscombe)
  x     y1     y2     y3     x4     y4
Plot Data and Ordinary Least Squares Line

> postscript(file="ansc1.ps")
> plot(x,y1)
> lm1 <- lm(y1 ~ x, data=anscombe)
> summary(lm1)

Call:
lm(formula = y1 ~ x, data = anscombe)

Residuals:
   Min     1Q Median     3Q    Max
-1.9213 -0.4558 -0.0414  0.7094  1.8388

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)  3.0001    1.1247   2.667  0.02573 *
x            0.5001    0.1179   4.241  0.00217 **
---
Signif. codes: 0 ‘***’ 0.001 ‘**’ 0.01 ‘*’ 0.05 ‘.’ 0.1 ‘ ’ 1

Residual standard error: 1.237 on 9 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-Squared: 0.6665,   Adjusted R-squared: 0.6295
F-statistic: 17.99 on 1 and 9 DF,  p-value: 0.002170

> abline(coefficients(lm1))
> dev.off()

Figure 1: Scatter Plot of pairs (x, y1) from Anscombe example
Summaries from Other Regressions

> summary(lm(y2 ~ x, data=anscombe))

Residuals:
  Min 1Q Median 3Q Max
-1.9009 -0.7609  0.1291  0.9491  1.2691

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error  t value  Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)  3.001      1.125   2.667  0.02576 *
x           0.500      0.118   4.239  0.00218 **
---
Signif. codes:  0 ‘***’ 0.001 ‘**’ 0.01 ‘*’ 0.05 ‘.’ 0.1 ‘ ’ 1

Residual standard error: 1.237 on 9 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-Squared: 0.6662, Adjusted R-squared: 0.6292
F-statistic: 17.97 on 1 and 9 DF,  p-value: 0.002179

> summary(lm(y3 ~ x, data=anscombe))

Residuals:
  Min 1Q Median 3Q Max
-1.1586 -0.6146 -0.2303 0.1540 3.2411

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error  t value  Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)  3.0025     1.1245   2.670  0.02562 *
x           0.4997     0.1179   4.239  0.00218 **
---
Signif. codes:  0 ‘***’ 0.001 ‘**’ 0.01 ‘*’ 0.05 ‘.’ 0.1 ‘ ’ 1

Residual standard error: 1.236 on 9 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-Squared: 0.6663, Adjusted R-squared: 0.6292
F-statistic: 17.97 on 1 and 9 DF,  p-value: 0.002176

> summary(lm(y4 ~ x4, data=anscombe))

Residuals:
  Min 1Q Median 3Q Max
-1.751e+00 -8.310e-01  1.258e-16  8.090e-01 1.839e+00

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error  t value  Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)  3.0017     1.1239   2.671  0.02559 *
x4          0.4999     0.1178   4.243  0.00216 **
---
Signif. codes:  0 ‘***’ 0.001 ‘**’ 0.01 ‘*’ 0.05 ‘.’ 0.1 ‘ ’ 1

Residual standard error: 1.236 on 9 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-Squared: 0.6667, Adjusted R-squared: 0.6297
F-statistic: 18 on 1 and 9 DF,  p-value: 0.002165

Which Summaries are the Same?
Create Plots of Other Data Sets with OLS line

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{lm2} & \leftarrow \text{lm}(y2 \sim x, \text{data}=\text{anscombe}) \quad \# \text{ CREATE A LINEAR MODEL OBJECT} \\
\text{lm3} & \leftarrow \text{lm}(y3 \sim x, \text{data}=\text{anscombe}) \\
\text{lm4} & \leftarrow \text{lm}(y4 \sim x4, \text{data}=\text{anscombe}) \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{pdf(file="anscombe-plots.pdf", horizontal=T)} \quad \# \text{ Create a PDF output file} \\
\text{par(mfrow=c(2,2))} \\
\text{plot}(x,y1) \\
\text{abline(coefficients(lm1))} \\
\text{plot}(x,y2) \\
\text{abline(coefficients(lm2))} \\
\text{plot}(x,y3) \\
\text{abline(coefficients(lm2))} \\
\text{plot}(x4,y4) \\
\text{abline(coefficients(lm2))} \\
\text{dev.off()} \\
\end{align*}
\]

---

![Graphs showing OLS plots for different data sets](image-url)
Summary

- data set 1 is clearly linear with some scatter
- data set 2 is clearly quadratic
- data set 3 has an “outlier”
- data set 4 – poor experimental design! the extreme x value far removed from the bulk of the data has undue influence on the estimate “wagging the dog”

One can always find the best fitting least squares line: the value of $\beta_0$ and $\beta_1$ that minimize

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n}(Y_i - (\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i))^2$$

While all data sets had the same OLS estimates, correlations, etc, the estimated slopes and intercepts are misleading because the estimation is done in the context of an assumed linear model.