STA671: REGRESSION AND CORRELATION
Spring 2012

Instructor:
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Teaching Assistant:
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Office hours: TBA

Lectures:
Time: MWF 11:00-11:50am (January 11 – March 2)
Place: Whitehall Classroom Building Room 204

Computing labs:
Section 001: Tu 4:30-6:20pm (January 19 – February 28) in WCB Rm 307
Section 002: Th 4:30-6:20pm (January 21 – March 1) in WCB Rm 307

Blackboard:
Course materials will be posted on Blackboard. Please check that you have access and that the e-mail address provided is correct.

Course Description

How does annual rainfall affect crop yields? Is there a link between smoking and the incidence of cancer? What are the best predictors of a child's success in school?

Until now, you have used basic statistics to study a single variable within a group or to compare a variable between groups. Regression and correlation provide the basis for studying relationships between two or more variables and for answering questions about associations which arise in all areas of quantitative research. This course will introduce the essential methods of simple and multiple linear regression. Our attention will focus on developing a non-mathematical understanding of the concepts behind these methods, implementing basic techniques in standard statistical software, and interpreting and summarizing the results. Specific content will include:

- computing correlations to measure the association between two variables,
- fitting simple and multiple regression models,
- interpreting the results of these procedures,
- checking modelling assumptions and correcting problems, and
- selecting the best model/set of variables to predict an outcome of interest.

Course Objectives

The primary goals of this course are that you develop the skills necessary:

1) to perform a full regression analysis of simple data,
2) to interpret and summarize the results you obtain, and
3) to think critically about applications of regression methods in your field of study.

Course activities are designed help you to develop a conceptual understanding of correlation and regression analysis, to implement these methods in the SAS statistical software package and to interpret the results, and to evaluate the use of these methods in your own work and in published literature in your field.

Evaluation

Your performance in the course will be assessed through the following:

1. Assignments (50% of final grade):
   There will be a total of 6 weekly assignments based around the weekly computer labs that will require you to implement the methods you have learned in the course and to answer questions and/or submit short reports on your work.

   Assignments are to be submitted at the **start** of the following computer lab.

2. Tests (20% of final grade):
   There will be two in-class tests on February 3 and March 2. Tests will cover all material introduced during the lectures, labs, and on assignments. Please let me know as soon as possible if you will be away for one of the tests. Make-up tests will only be provided for students with an approved, official university excuse.

3. Final data analysis (30% of final grade):
   The final data analysis will require you to apply the methods you have learned to a real data set. You will be required to submit a report describing your analysis, justifying the methods you have chosen, and interpreting the results. Your report will be due at 11:00am on March 9. More details will be provided closer to the end of the course.

All work to be assessed must be submitted either in hard copy. Late work will only be accepted with an official university excuse. Please see the UK policy on Student Rights and Responsibilities, Part II, Section 5.2.4.2 (http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html) for details on official excuses.

Materials

The recommended textbook for this course is:

Dielman, T.E. (2004) *Applied Regression Analysis: A Second Course in Business and Economic Statistics*, 4th Edition. Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole Thomson Learning.

You may also find useful information in other introductory regression analysis texts. Ask me if you would like recommendations on further reading.

Policies

Academic accommodations:
Please see me as soon as possible if you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754, jkarnes@uky.edu) for coordination of campus disability services available to students. We can then work together to find the best solutions for you.

Attendance:
Your attendance in class will not be checked but regular attendance is the best way to learn the material. You are responsible for all material covered during the class. If you know that you will be away ahead of time then I recommend stopping by my office hours and I will do the best I can to accommodate.

Academic integrity:
Academic dishonesty of any form will not be tolerated. Minor forms of dishonesty will result in a score of zero for that component of the course work. More serious forms of dishonesty will be reported to the university. Further information on plagiarism, how to avoid plagiarism, and the university's academic offense policy are available from the web-site of the Office of Academic Ombud Services (http://www.uky.edu/Ombud).

Classroom behaviour:
I view my role as a teacher is not to deliver knowledge to you, but to guide you through your own learning process. The course will require participation from every student, and I expect you to come to class willing to participate by completing exercises to the best of your ability and by engaging in class discussions. I will work to maintain an open and respectful atmosphere in the classroom and expect you to do the same. This includes providing others with the opportunity to ask questions and express opinions. Please turn of all mobile devices before class so that they will not interrupt the other students.

Timetable (tentative)

Topics	Expected Timing
Measuring Association between Two Variables • Scatterplots • Correlation	Jan 11 – 20
Fitting Simple Linear Regression Models (Chapter 3) • Least squares estimation • Confidence intervals and significance tests • Prediction	Jan 23 – Feb 3
Fitting Multiple Lin. Reg. Models (Chapters 4, 5, and 7) • Estimation with several predictors • Confidence intervals and significance tests • ANOVA tables • Prediction • Multi-collinearity • Indicator variables and interactions	Feb 6 – Feb 17
Checking Model Assumptions (Chapter 6) • Assumptions of a regression model • Checking assumptions and fixing problems	Feb 20 – Feb 24
Comparing and Selecting Models (Chapter 8) • Tests for comparing two models • Stepwise model selection • All possible regressions	Feb 27 – Feb 29

Chapter information refers to the recommended text, Dielman (2004). Note that the course will not cover all of the material in these chapters and will also contain material not included in this text.