

Section 2A Lab Discussion

Dec 1st, 2009

We started with a review of the plots at the end of this document. Then we reviewed the quiz 1 questions below. The last 10 minutes of class was for evaluations.

Which of the following is NOT a property of the Least Squares Regression Line?

- (a) The sum of squared residuals is minimized.
- (b) The sum of the distances between each point and the LSR Line is minimized.
- (c) The sum of the residuals = 0.
- (d) The average x value and the average y value lie on the LSR

Interpretation of correlation coefficient (causal?)

A friend claims that when the correlation coefficient is close to 1, a change in the explanatory variables causes a strong positive change in the response variable and when the correlation coefficient is close to -1, the independent variable causes a strong negative change in the dependent variable.

True or False?

Interpreting slope

A study on the effects of a restricted calorie diet on overweight, healthy adults fit the following regression line:

$$\text{predicted weight change} = 3 - 0.232(\text{adherence})$$

Weight was measured in kilograms. "Adherence" measures how well the dieter stuck to the diet: a high score (100) means they followed the diet perfectly. A score of 0 means they did not follow the diet at all. A scatterplot shows a linear association.

Which of the following is the best interpretation of the slope?

- (a) Dieters whose adherence score was 10 points higher, lost, on average, 2.32 kilograms more than those with the lower adherence.
- (b) If a dieter can increase his adherence by 10 points, he will lose an additional 2.32 kilograms.
- (c) The low value for the slope means that the correlation coefficient was close to 0, and that this is therefore not a strong association.
- (d) Dieters who lost 10 kilograms more weight had an average adherence of 2.32 more points than the others.



