

## 10.3: Inference for Regression and Correlation

How do you really say you have a correlation? Can you test to see if there really is a correlation? Of course, the answer is yes. The hypothesis test for correlation is as follows:

### Hypothesis Test for Correlation:

1. State the random variables in words.

$x$  = independent variable

$y$  = dependent variable

2. State the null and alternative hypotheses and the level of significance

$H_o : \rho = 0$  (There is no correlation)

$H_A : \rho \neq 0$  (There is a correlation)

or

$H_A : \rho < 0$  (There is a negative correlation)

or

$H_A : \rho > 0$  (There is a positive correlation)

Also, state your  $\alpha$  level here.

3. State and check the assumptions for the hypothesis test

The assumptions for the hypothesis test are the same assumptions for regression and correlation.

4. Find the test statistic and p-value

$$t = \frac{r}{\sqrt{\frac{1-r^2}{n-2}}}$$

with degrees of freedom =  $df = n - 2$

p-value: Using the TI-83/84: tcdf(lower limit, upper limit,  $df$ )

#### Note

If  $H_A : \rho < 0$ , then lower limit is -1E99 and upper limit is your test statistic. If  $H_A : \rho > 0$ , then lower limit is your test statistic and the upper limit is 1E99. If  $H_A : \rho \neq 0$ , then find the p-value for  $H_A : \rho < 0$ , and multiply by 2.

Using R: `pt(t, df)`

#### Note

If  $H_A : \rho < 0$ , then use `pt(t, df)`, If  $H_A : \rho > 0$ , then use `1 - pt(t, df)`. If  $H_A : \rho \neq 0$ , then find the p-value for  $H_A : \rho < 0$ , and multiply by 2.

5. Conclusion

This is where you write reject  $H_o$  or fail to reject  $H_o$ . The rule is: if the p-value  $< \alpha$ , then reject  $H_o$ . If the p-value  $\geq \alpha$ , then fail to reject  $H_o$ .

6. Interpretation

This is where you interpret in real world terms the conclusion to the test. The conclusion for a hypothesis test is that you either have enough evidence to show  $H_A$  is true, or you do not have enough evidence to show  $H_A$  is true.

#### Note

The TI-83/84 calculator results give you the test statistic and the p-value. In R, the command for getting the test statistic and p-value is `cor.test(independent variable, dependent variable, alternative = "less" or "greater")`. Use `less` for  $H_A : \rho < 0$ , use `greater` for  $H_A : \rho > 0$ , and leave off this command for  $H_A : \rho \neq 0$ .

### Example 10.3.1 Testing the claim of a linear correlation

Is there a positive correlation between beer's alcohol content and calories? To determine if there is a positive linear correlation, a random sample was taken of beer's alcohol content and calories for several different beers ("Calories in beer," 2011), and the data is in Example 10.3.1. Test at the 5% level.

#### Solution

1. State the random variables in words.

$x$  = alcohol content in the beer

$y$  = calories in 12 ounce beer

2. State the null and alternative hypotheses and the level of significance.

Since you are asked if there is a positive correlation,  $\rho > 0$ .

$$H_o : \rho = 0$$

$$H_A : \rho > 0$$

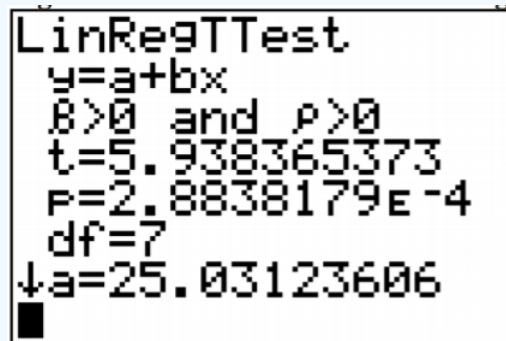
$$\alpha = 0.05$$

3. State and check the assumptions for the hypothesis test.

The assumptions for the hypothesis test were already checked in *Example 10.3.2*

4. Find the test statistic and p-value.

The results from the TI-83/84 calculator are in *Figure 10.3.1*.



**Figure 10.3.1** : Results for Linear Regression Test on TI-83/84

Test statistic:  $t \approx 5.938$  and p-value:  $p \approx 2.884 \times 10^{-4}$

If we ran the same test using the software package R we would get

Pearson's product-moment correlation

data: alcohol and calories

$t = 5.9384$ ,  $df = 7$ , p-value = 0.0002884

alternative hypothesis: true correlation is greater than 0

95 percent confidence interval:

0.7046161 1.0000000

sample estimates:

cor

0.9134414

Test statistic:  $t \approx 5.9384$  and p-value:  $p \approx 0.0002884$

5. Conclusion

Reject  $H_o$  since the p-value is less than 0.05.

6. Interpretation

There is enough evidence to show that there is a positive correlation between alcohol content and number of calories in a 12-ounce bottle of beer.

### Prediction Interval

Using the regression equation you can predict the number of calories from the alcohol content. However, you only find one value. The problem is that beers vary a bit in calories even if they have the same alcohol content. It would be nice to have a range instead

of a single value. The range is called a prediction interval. To find this, you need to figure out how much error is in the estimate from the regression equation. This is known as the **standard error of the estimate**.

### Definition

#### Standard Error of the Estimate

This is the sum of squares of the residuals

$$s_e = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (y - \hat{y})^2}{n - 2}}$$

This formula is hard to work with, so there is an easier formula. You can also find the value from technology, such as the calculator.

$$s_e = \sqrt{\frac{SS_y - b^* SS_{xy}}{n - 2}}$$

### Example 10.3.2 finding the standard error of the estimate

Find the standard error of the estimate for the beer data. To determine if there is a positive linear correlation, a random sample was taken of beer's alcohol content and calories for several different beers ("Calories in beer," 2011), and the data are in Example 10.3.1.

#### Solution

$x$  = alcohol content in the beer

$y$  = calories in 12 ounce beer

Using the TI-83/84, the results are in *Figure 10.3.2*

```
LinRegTTest
y=a+bx
b>0 and p>0
↑b=26.31860776
s=15.63798068
r²=.8343751268
r=.9134413647
```

Figure 10.3.2: Results for Linear Regression Test on TI-83/84

The  $s$  in the results is the standard error of the estimate. So  $s_e \approx 15.64$ . From this output, you can also see that the slope is 26.319.

If you want to know how to calculate the standard error of the estimate from the formula, refer to Example 10.3.3

### Example 10.3.3 finding the standard error of the estimate from the formula

Find the standard error of the estimate for the beer data using the formula. To determine if there is a positive linear correlation, a random sample was taken of beer's alcohol content and calories for several different beers ("Calories in beer," 2011), and the data are in Example 10.3.1.

#### Solution

$x$  = alcohol content in the beer

$y$  = calories in 12 ounce beer

From Example 10.3.3:

$$SS_y = \sum (y - \bar{y})^2 = 10335.56$$

$$SS_{xy} = \sum (x - \bar{x})(y - \bar{y}) = 327.6666$$

$$n = 9$$

$$b = 26.3$$

The standard error of the estimate is

$$s_e = \sqrt{\frac{SS_y - b^* SS_{xy}}{n - 2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{10335.56 - 26.3(327.6666)}{9 - 2}}$$

$$= 15.67$$

### Prediction Interval for an Individual y

Given the fixed value  $x_0$ , the prediction interval for an individual y is

$$\hat{y} - E < y < \hat{y} + E$$

where

$$\hat{y} = a + bx$$

$$E = t_c s_e \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(x_0 - \bar{x})^2}{SS_x}}$$

$$df = n - 2$$

#### Note

To find  $SS_x = \sum (x - \bar{x})^2$  remember, the standard deviation formula from chapter 3  $s_x = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x - \bar{x})^2}{n - 1}}$

$$\text{So, } s_x = \sqrt{\frac{SS_x}{n - 1}}$$

Now solve for  $SS_x$

$$SS_x = s_x^2 (n - 1)$$

You can get the standard deviation from technology.

R will produce the prediction interval for you. The commands are (Note you probably already did the `lm.out` command. You do not need to do it again.)

`lm.out = lm(dependent variable ~ independent variable)` – calculates the linear model

`predict(lm.out, newdata=list(independent variable = value), interval="prediction", level=C)` – will compute a prediction interval for the independent variable set to a particular value (put that value in place of the word value), at a particular C level (given as a decimal)

#### Example 10.3.4 find the prediction interval

Find a 95% prediction interval for the number of calories when the alcohol content is 6.5% using a random sample taken of beer's alcohol content and calories ("Calories in beer," 2011). The data are in Example 10.3.1.

#### Solution

$x$  = alcohol content in the beer

$y$  = calories in 12 ounce beer

Computing the prediction interval using the TI-83/84 calculator:

From Example 10.3.2

$$\hat{y} = 25.0 + 26.3x$$

$$x_o = 6.50$$

$$\hat{y} = 25.0 + 26.3(6.50) = 196 \text{ calories}$$

From Example #10.3.2

$$s_e \approx 15.64$$

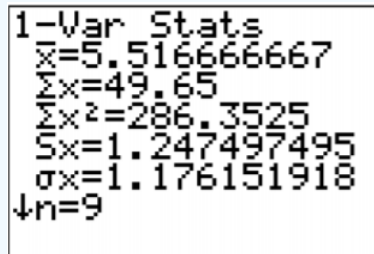


Figure 10.3.3: Results of 1-Var Stats on TI-83/84

$$\bar{x} = 5.517$$

$$s_x = 1.247497495$$

$$n = 9$$

Now you can find

$$SS_x = s_x^2(n-1)$$

$$= (1.247497495)^2(9-1)$$

$$= 12.45$$

$$df = n - 2 = 9 - 2 = 7$$

Now look in table A.2. Go down the first column to 7, then over to the column headed with 95%.

$$t_c = 2.365$$

$$E = t_c s_e \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(x_o - \bar{x})^2}{SS_x}}$$

$$= 2.365(15.64) \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{(6.50 - 5.517)^2}{12.45}}$$

$$= 40.3$$

Prediction interval is

$$\hat{y} - E < y < \hat{y} + E$$

$$196 - 40.3 < y < 196 + 40.3$$

$$155.7 < y < 236.3$$

Computing the prediction interval using R:

```
predict(lm.out, newdata=list(alcohol=6.5), interval = "prediction", level=0.95)
```

```
fit      lwr      upr
1  196.1022 155.7847 236.4196
```

fit =  $\hat{y}$  when  $x = 6.5\%$ . lwr = lower limit of prediction interval. upr = upper limit of prediction interval. So the prediction interval is  $155.8 < y < 236.4$

Statistical interpretation: There is a 95% chance that the interval  $155.8 < y < 236.4$  contains the true value for the calories when the alcohol content is 6.5%.

Real world interpretation: If a beer has an alcohol content of 6.50% then it has between 156 and 236 calories.

### Example 10.3.5 Doing a correlation and regression analysis using the ti-83/84

Example 10.3.1 contains randomly selected high temperatures at various cities on a single day and the elevation of the city.

Table 10.3.1: Temperatures and Elevation of Cities on a Given Day

Elevation (in feet)	7000	4000	6000	3000	7000	4500	5000
Temperature (°F)	50	60	48	70	55	55	60

- State the random variables.
- Find a regression equation for elevation and high temperature on a given day.
- Find the residuals and create a residual plot.
- Use the regression equation to estimate the high temperature on that day at an elevation of 5500 ft.
- Use the regression equation to estimate the high temperature on that day at an elevation of 8000 ft.
- Between the answers to parts d and e, which estimate is probably more accurate and why?
- Find the correlation coefficient and coefficient of determination and interpret both.
- Is there enough evidence to show a negative correlation between elevation and high temperature? Test at the 5% level.
- Find the standard error of the estimate.
- Using a 95% prediction interval, find a range for high temperature for an elevation of 6500 feet.

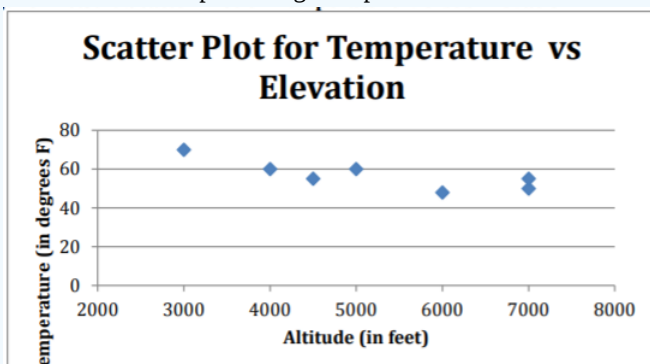
#### Solution

a.  $x$  = elevation

$y$  = high temperature

b.

- A random sample was taken as stated in the problem.
- The distribution for each high temperature value is normally distributed for every value of elevation.
  - Look at the scatter plot of high temperature versus elevation.



**Figure 10.3.4:** Scatter Plot of Temperature Versus Elevation

The scatter plot looks fairly linear.

- There are no points that appear to be outliers.
- The residual plot for temperature versus elevation appears to be fairly random. (See Figure 10.3.7.)

It appears that the high temperature is normally distributed.

All calculations computed using the TI-83/84 calculator.

```

LinRegTTest
Xlist:L1
Ylist:L2
Freq:1
 $\beta$  &  $\rho$ : $\neq 0$   $\llbracket$   $\gg$ 
RegEQ:
Calculate

```

Figure 10.3.5: Setup for Linear Regression on TI-83/84 Calculator

```

LinRegTTest
y=a+bx
 $\beta < 0$  and  $\rho < 0$ 
t=-3.138748764
p=.0128512886
df=5
 $\downarrow$ a=77.36666667

LinRegTTest
y=a+bx
 $\beta < 0$  and  $\rho < 0$ 
 $\uparrow$ b=-.0039333333
s=4.676893556
r2=.6633391967
r=-.8144563811

```

Figure 10.3.6: Results for Linear Regression on TI-83/84 Calculator

$$\hat{y} = 77.4 - 0.0039x$$

c.

Table 10.3.2: Residuals for Elevation vs. Temperature Data

$x$	$y$	$\hat{y}$	$y - \hat{y}$
7000	50	50.1	-0.1
4000	60	61.8	-1.8
6000	48	54.0	-6.0
3000	70	65.7	4.3
7000	55	50.1	4.9
4500	55	59.85	-4.85
5000	60	57.9	2.1

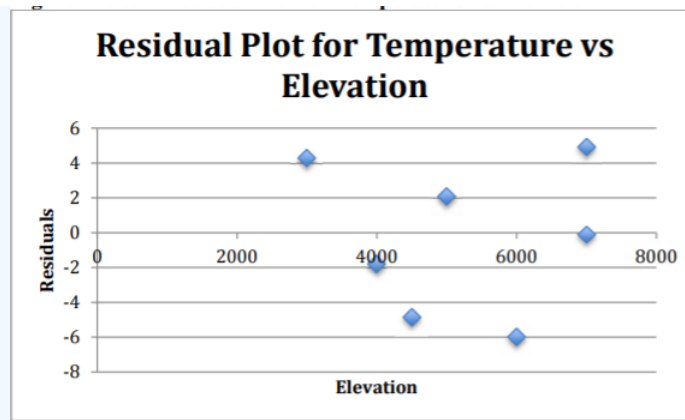


Figure 10.3.7: Residual Plot for Temperature vs. Election

The residuals appear to be fairly random.

d.

$$x_o = 5500$$

$$\hat{y} = 77.4 - 0.0039(5500) = 55.95^\circ F$$

e.

$$x_o = 8000$$

$$\hat{y} = 77.4 - 0.0039(8000) = 46.2^\circ F$$

f. Part d is more accurate, since it is interpolation and part e is extrapolation.

g. From Figure 10.3.6 the correlation coefficient is  $r \approx -0.814$ , which is moderate to strong negative correlation.

From Figure 10.3.6 the coefficient of determination is  $r^2 \approx 0.663$ , which means that 66.3% of the variability in high temperature is explained by the linear model. The other 33.7% is explained by other variables such as local weather conditions.

h.

1. State the random variables in words.

$x$  = elevation

$y$  = high temperature

2. State the null and alternative hypotheses and the level of significance

$$H_o : \rho = 0$$

$$H_A : \rho < 0$$

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

3. State and check the assumptions for the hypothesis test The assumptions for the hypothesis test were already checked part b.

4. Find the test statistic and p-value

From Figure 10.3.6

Test statistic:

$$t \approx -3.139$$

p-value:

$$p \approx 0.0129$$

5. Conclusion

Reject  $H_o$  since the p-value is less than 0.05.

6. Interpretation

There is enough evidence to show that there is a negative correlation between elevation and high temperatures.

i. From Figure 10.3.6

$$s_e \approx 4.677$$

$$j. \hat{y} = 77.4 - 0.0039(6500) \approx 52.1^\circ F$$



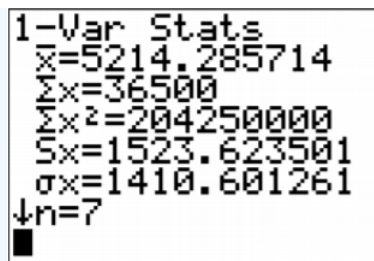


Figure 10.3.8: Results of 1-Var Stats on TI-83/84

$$\bar{x} = 5214.29$$

$$s_x = 1523.624$$

$$n = 7$$

Now you can find

$$\begin{aligned} SS_x &= s_x^2(n-1) \\ &= (1523.623501)^2(7-1) \\ &= 13928571.43 \end{aligned}$$

$$df = n - 2 = 7 - 2 = 5$$

Now look in table A.2. Go down the first column to 5, then over to the column headed with 95%.

$$t_c = 2.571$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} E &= t_c s_e \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(x_o - \bar{x})^2}{SS_x}} \\ &= 2.571(4.677) \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{(6500 - 5214.29)^2}{13928571.43}} \\ &= 13.5 \end{aligned}$$

Prediction interval is

$$\hat{y} - E < y < \hat{y} + E$$

$$52.1 - 13.5 < y < 52.1 + 13.5$$

$$38.6 < y < 65.6$$

Statistical interpretation: There is a 95% chance that the interval  $38.6 < y < 65.6$  contains the true value for the temperature at an elevation of 6500 feet.

Real world interpretation: A city of 6500 feet will have a high temperature between 38.6°F and 65.6°F. Though this interval is fairly wide, at least the interval tells you that the temperature isn't that warm.

### Example 10.3.6 doing a correlation and regression analysis using r

Example 10.3.1 contains randomly selected high temperatures at various cities on a single day and the elevation of the city.

- State the random variables.
- Find a regression equation for elevation and high temperature on a given day.
- Find the residuals and create a residual plot.
- Use the regression equation to estimate the high temperature on that day at an elevation of 5500 ft.
- Use the regression equation to estimate the high temperature on that day at an elevation of 8000 ft.
- Between the answers to parts d and e, which estimate is probably more accurate and why?
- Find the correlation coefficient and coefficient of determination and interpret both.
- Is there enough evidence to show a negative correlation between elevation and high temperature? Test at the 5% level.
- Find the standard error of the estimate.
- Using a 95% prediction interval, find a range for high temperature for an elevation of 6500 feet.

# Solution

a.  $x$  = elevation

$y$  = high temperature

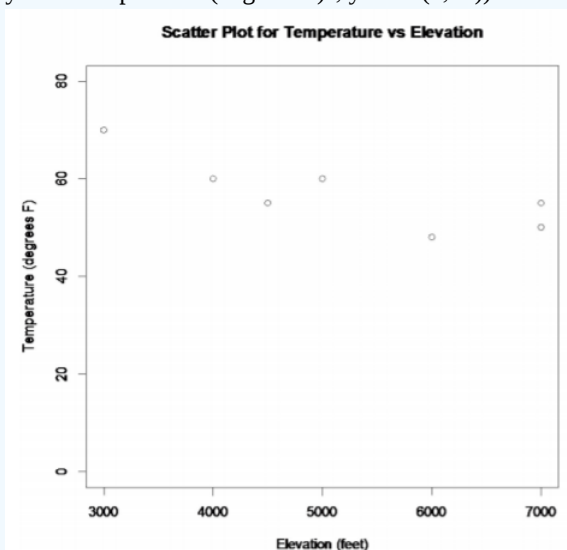
b.

a. A random sample was taken as stated in the problem.

b. The distribution for each high temperature value is normally distributed for every value of elevation.

i. Look at the scatter plot of high temperature versus elevation.

R command: `plot(elevation, temperature, main="Scatter Plot for Temperature vs Elevation", xlab="Elevation (feet)", ylab="Temperature (degrees F)", ylim=c(0,80))`



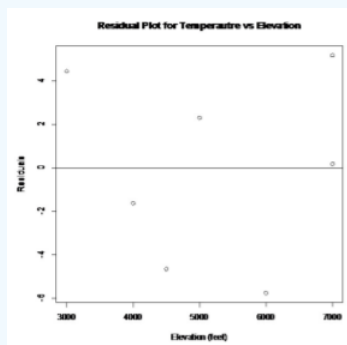
**Figure 10.3.9:** Scatter Plot of Temperature Versus Elevation

The scatter plot looks fairly linear.

ii. The residual plot for temperature versus elevation appears to be fairly random. (See Figure 10.3.10.)

It appears that the high temperature is normally distributed.

Below is a plot of the residuals.



**Figure 10.3.10:** Residual Plot for Temperature vs. Elevation

The residuals appear to be fairly random.

d.  $x_o = 5500$   
 $\hat{y} = 77.4 - 0.0039(5500) = 55.95^\circ F$

e.  $x_o = 8000$   
 $\hat{y} = 77.4 - 0.0039(8000) = 46.2^\circ F$

f. Part d is more accurate, since it is interpolation and part e is extrapolation.

g.  $r \approx -0.814$ , which is moderate to strong negative correlation.

So  $r^2 \approx 0.663$ , which means that 66.3% of the variability in high temperature is explained by the linear model. The other 33.7% is explained by other variables such as local weather conditions.

h.

1. State the random variables in words.

$x$  = elevation

$y$  = high temperature

2. . State the null and alternative hypotheses and the level of significance

$H_o : \rho = 0$

$H_A : \rho < 0$

$\alpha = 0.05$

3. State and check the assumptions for the hypothesis test.

The assumptions for the hypothesis test were already checked part b.

4. Find the test statistic and p-value

$t = -3.1387$ ,  $df = 5$ ,  $p\text{-value} = 0.01285$

alternative hypothesis: true correlation is less than 0

95 percent confidence interval:

-1.0000000 -0.3074247

sample estimates:

cor

-0.8144564

Test statistic:  $t \approx -3.1387$  and p-value:  $p \approx 0.01285$

5. Conclusion

Reject  $H_o$  since the p-value is less than 0.05.

6. Interpretation

There is enough evidence to show that there is a negative correlation between elevation and high temperatures.

i. From summary(lm.out), Residual standard error: 4.677.

So,  $s_e \approx 4.677$

j. When  $x = 6500$  feet,  $\hat{y} = 51.8^\circ F$  and  $38.29672 < y < 65.30328$ .

Statistical interpretation: There is a 95% chance that the interval  $38.3 < y < 65.3$  contains the true value for the temperature at an elevation of 6500 feet.

Real world interpretation: A city of 6500 feet will have a high temperature between  $38.3^\circ F$  and  $65.3^\circ F$ . Though this interval is fairly wide, at least the interval tells you that the temperature isn't that warm.

## Homework

### Exercise 10.3.1

For each problem, state the random variables. The data sets in this section are in the homework for section 10.1 and were also used in section 10.2. If you removed any data points as outliers in the other sections, remove them in this sections homework too.

1. When an anthropologist finds skeletal remains, they need to figure out the height of the person. The height of a person (in cm) and the length of their metacarpal bone one (in cm) were collected and are in Example 10.3.5("Prediction of height," 2013).

a. Test at the 1% level for a positive correlation between length of metacarpal bone one and height of a person.

b. Find the standard error of the estimate.

c. Compute a 99% prediction interval for height of a person with a metacarpal length of 44 cm.

2. Example 10.3.6 contains the value of the house and the amount of rental income in a year that the house brings in ("Capital and rental," 2013).

- a. Test at the 5% level for a positive correlation between house value and rental amount.
  - b. Find the standard error of the estimate.
  - c. Compute a 95% prediction interval for the rental income on a house worth \$230,000.
3. The World Bank collects information on the life expectancy of a person in each country ("Life expectancy at," 2013) and the fertility rate per woman in the country ("Fertility rate," 2013). The data for 24 randomly selected countries for the year 2011 are in Example 10.3.7.
  - a. Test at the 1% level for a negative correlation between fertility rate and life expectancy.
  - b. Find the standard error of the estimate.
  - c. Compute a 99% prediction interval for the life expectancy for a country that has a fertility rate of 2.7.
4. The World Bank collected data on the percentage of GDP that a country spends on health expenditures ("Health expenditure," 2013) and also the percentage of women receiving prenatal care ("Pregnant woman receiving," 2013). The data for the countries where this information is available for the year 2011 are in Example 10.3.8
  - a. Test at the 5% level for a correlation between percentage spent on health expenditure and the percentage of women receiving prenatal care.
  - b. Find the standard error of the estimate.
  - c. Compute a 95% prediction interval for the percentage of woman receiving prenatal care for a country that spends 5.0 % of GDP on health expenditure.
5. The height and weight of baseball players are in Example 10.3.9("MLB heightsweights," 2013).
  - a. Test at the 5% level for a positive correlation between height and weight of baseball players.
  - b. Find the standard error of the estimate.
  - c. Compute a 95% prediction interval for the weight of a baseball player that is 75 inches tall.
6. Different species have different body weights and brain weights are in Example 10.3.10 ("Brain2bodyweight," 2013).
  - a. Test at the 1% level for a positive correlation between body weights and brain weights.
  - b. Find the standard error of the estimate.
  - c. Compute a 99% prediction interval for the brain weight for a species that has a body weight of 62 kg.
7. A random sample of beef hotdogs was taken and the amount of sodium (in mg) and calories were measured. ("Data hotdogs," 2013) The data are in Example 10.3.11
  - a. Test at the 5% level for a correlation between amount of calories and amount of sodium.
  - b. Find the standard error of the estimate.
  - c. Compute a 95% prediction interval for the amount of sodium a beef hotdog has if it is 170 calories.
8. Per capita income in 1960 dollars for European countries and the percent of the labor force that works in agriculture in 1960 are in Example 10.3.12("OECD economic development," 2013).
  - a. Test at the 5% level for a negative correlation between percent of labor force in agriculture and per capita income.
  - b. Find the standard error of the estimate.
  - c. Compute a 90% prediction interval for the per capita income in a country that has 21 percent of labor in agriculture.
9. Cigarette smoking and cancer have been linked. The number of deaths per one hundred thousand from bladder cancer and the number of cigarettes sold per capita in 1960 are in Example 10.3.13("Smoking and cancer," 2013).
  - a. Test at the 1% level for a positive correlation between cigarette smoking and deaths of bladder cancer.
  - b. Find the standard error of the estimate.
  - c. Compute a 99% prediction interval for the number of deaths from bladder cancer when the cigarette sales were 20 per capita.
10. The weight of a car can influence the mileage that the car can obtain. A random sample of cars weights and mileage was collected and are in Example 10.3.14("Passenger car mileage," 2013).
  - a. Test at the 5% level for a negative correlation between the weight of cars and mileage.
  - b. Find the standard error of the estimate.
  - c. Compute a 95% prediction interval for the mileage on a car that weighs 3800 pounds.

### Answer

For hypothesis test just the conclusion is given. See solutions for entire answer.

1. a. Reject  $H_0$ , b.  $s_e \approx 4.559$ , c.  $151.3161\text{cm} < y < 187.3859\text{cm}$
3. a. Reject  $H_0$ , b.  $s_e \approx 3.204$ , c.  $62.945\text{ years} < y < 81.391\text{years}$
5. a. Reject  $H_0$ , b.  $s_e \approx 15.33$ , c.  $176.02\text{ inches} < y < 240.92\text{inches}$
7. a. Reject  $H_0$ , b.  $s_e \approx 48.58$ , c.  $348.46\text{mg} < y < 559.38\text{mg}$
9. a. Reject  $H_0$ , b.  $s_e \approx 0.6838$ , c.  $1.613\text{ hundred thousand} < y < 5.432\text{ hundred thousand}$

### Data Source:

*Brain2bodyweight.* (2013, November 16). Retrieved from <http://wiki.stat.ucla.edu/socr/index...ain2BodyWeight>

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