

Stats Lesson 70 - Inference for Linear Regression – Confidence Intervals

Confidence Interval for Slope

We are going to learn how to construct a confidence interval to estimate the unknown slope b of the population (true) regression line because that is usually the most important parameter in the regression problem.

Step 1: State the name of the confidence interval and the parameter of interest that we are estimating.

Step 2: Conditions for Regression Inference (Confidence Interval and Hypothesis Test)

Linear – The actual relationship between x and y is **Linear**. For any fixed value of x , the mean response μ_y falls on the population (true) regression line $\mu_y = \alpha + \beta x$. The slope b and intercept a are unknown parameters.

Independent – Individual observations are **Independent** of each other.

Normal – For any fixed value of x , the response y varies according to a **Normal** distribution. In other words the residuals should have an approximately normal distribution. A stemplot of the residuals will show this.

Equal variance – The standard deviation of y is the same for all values of x . In other words, the residuals have **Equal variance**. A residual plot will show this – We want the residuals to appear random and we do not want the residuals to follow a pattern (growing, shrinking, etc.)

Random – The data comes from a well-designed **Random** sample or a randomized experiment.

*****Remember **L.I.N.E.R.*******

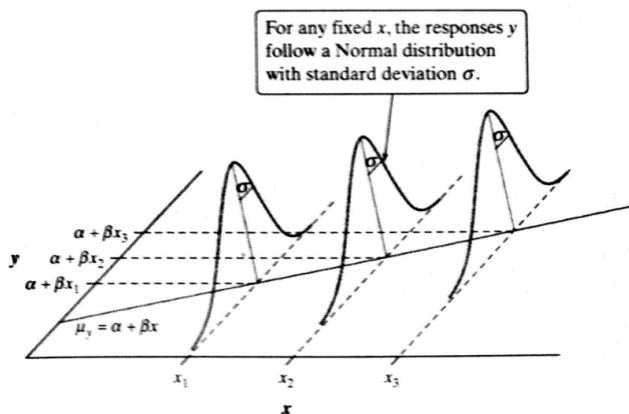


FIGURE 12.6 The regression model when the conditions for inference are met. The line is the population (true) regression line, which shows how the mean response μ_y changes as the explanatory variable x changes. For any fixed value of x , the observed response y varies according to a Normal distribution having mean μ_y and standard deviation σ .

Step 3: Calculations

From the AP stat packet: statistic \pm (critical value) \cdot (standard deviation of statistic)

IN AP STAT PROGRAM: Run Linear Regression, then Error Analysis

Error: $1.76 \cdot .0007414 = .0013$ Interval: $(-.00475, -.00214)$

Step 4: Interpretation

We are 90% confident that the slope of the true regression line is captured by the interval: $(-.00475, -.00214)$. zero is not in the interval, so we have evidence that a negative association exists.

Significant results are reached when zero is NOT in the interval.

