

# Orthogonality and Un-correlation

As noted previously, for 3 models:

$$\underline{\text{Model 1}}: z_i = \mu + \alpha x_i + \varepsilon_i$$

$$\underline{\text{Model 2}}: z_i = \mu + \beta y_i + \varepsilon_i$$

$$\underline{\text{Model 3}}: z_i = \mu + \alpha x_i + \beta y_i + \varepsilon_i,$$

If the vectors  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  and  $(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  are orthogonal [i.e.  $\sum x_i y_i = 0$ ] then the model sums of squares in the ANOVA table are related as:

$$SS_{\text{Model 3}} = SS_{\text{Model 1}} + SS_{\text{Model 2}}$$

Orthogonality of  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$  is not the same as un-correlated-ness of  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$ . If

$$n \sum x_i y_i - (\sum x_i)(\sum y_i) = 0$$

then  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$  are uncorrelated.

So the question is: If  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$  are uncorrelated, does this also imply that

$$SS_{\text{Model 3}} = SS_{\text{Model 1}} + SS_{\text{Model 2}} ?$$

The answer turns out to be yes.

Here is the reasoning:

1. If  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$  are centered, then  
uncorrelated  $\Rightarrow$  orthogonal.

Def. centered:  $\bar{x} = 0, \bar{y} = 0$ .

$\rightarrow$  Prove this for yourself [easy].

2. You can easily obtain a centered vector ~~to~~ from an uncentered one by the following replacement

$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow (x_1 - \bar{x}, x_2 - \bar{x}, \dots, x_n - \bar{x})$$

$\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{x}_{\text{centered}}$

3. The regression of  $\vec{z}$  on  $\vec{x}$  and/or  $\vec{y}$  is equivalent to the regression of  $\vec{z}$  on  $\vec{x}_{\text{centered}}$  and/or  $\vec{y}_{\text{centered}}$ .

4. The model sums of squares for the centered predictors  $\vec{x}_{\text{centered}}$  and/or  $\vec{y}_{\text{centered}}$  are the same as the model sums of squares for  $\vec{x}$  and/or  $\vec{y}$ .