

- (iii) What is the predicted value of  $GPA$  when  $ACT = 20$ ?  
 (iv) How much of the variation in  $GPA$  for these eight students is explained by  $ACT$ ? Explain.

**2.3** Let  $kids$  denote the number of children ever born to a woman, and let  $educ$  denote years of education for the woman. A simple model relating fertility to years of education is

*inclass.*

$$kids = \beta_0 + \beta_1 educ + u,$$

where  $u$  is the unobserved error.

- (i) What kinds of factors are contained in  $u$ ? Are these likely to be correlated with level of education?  
 (ii) Will a simple regression analysis uncover the ceteris paribus effect of education on fertility? Explain.

**2.4** Suppose you are interested in estimating the effect of hours spent in an SAT preparation course ( $hours$ ) on total SAT score ( $sat$ ). The population is all college-bound high school seniors for a particular year.

- (i) Suppose you are given a grant to run a controlled experiment. Explain how you would structure the experiment in order to estimate the causal effect of  $hours$  on  $sat$ .  
 (ii) Consider the more realistic case where students choose how much time to spend in a preparation course, and you can only randomly sample  $sat$  and  $hours$  from the population. Write the population model as

$$sat = \beta_0 + \beta_1 hours + u$$

where, as usual in a model with an intercept, we can assume  $E(u) = 0$ . List at least two factors contained in  $u$ . Are these likely to have positive or negative correlation with  $hours$ ?

- (iii) In the equation from part (ii), what should be the sign of  $\beta_1$  if the preparation course is effective?  
 (iv) In the equation from part (ii), what is the interpretation of  $\beta_0$ ?

**2.5** Consider the savings function

$$sav = \beta_0 + \beta_1 inc + u, u = \sqrt{inc} \cdot e,$$

where  $e$  is a random variable with  $E(e) = 0$  and  $\text{Var}(e) = \sigma_e^2$ . Assume that  $e$  is independent of  $inc$ .

- (i) Show that  $E(u|inc) = 0$ , so that the key zero conditional mean assumption (Assumption SLR.4) is satisfied. [Hint: If  $e$  is independent of  $inc$ , then  $E(e|inc) = E(e)$ .]  
 (ii) Show that  $\text{Var}(u|inc) = \sigma_e^2 inc$ , so that the homoskedasticity Assumption SLR.5 is violated. In particular, the variance of  $sav$  increases with  $inc$ . [Hint:  $\text{Var}(e|inc) = \text{Var}(e)$ , if  $e$  and  $inc$  are independent.]  
 (iii) Provide a discussion that supports the assumption that the variance of savings increases with family income.

**2.6** Let  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and  $\hat{\beta}_1$  be the OLS intercept and slope estimators, respectively, and let  $\bar{u}$  be the sample average of the errors (not the residuals!).

- (i) Show that  $\hat{\beta}_1$  can be written as  $\hat{\beta}_1 = \beta_1 + \sum_{i=1}^n w_i u_i$  where  $w_i = d_i / \text{SST}_x$  and  $d_i = x_i - \bar{x}$ .  
 (ii) Use part (i), along with  $\sum_{i=1}^n w_i = 0$ , to show that  $\hat{\beta}_1$  and  $\bar{u}$  are uncorrelated. [Hint: You are being asked to show that  $E[(\hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1) \cdot \bar{u}] = 0$ .]