A brush-up on residuals

Going back to a single level model...

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1i} + \varepsilon_i$$

The residual for each observation is the difference between the value of y predicted by the equation and the actual value of y

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► In symbols, $y_i - \hat{y}_i$

A brush-up on residuals

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- The residual for each observation is the difference between the value of y predicted by the equation and the actual value of y
- ln symbols, $y_i \hat{y}_i$
- So we can calculate the residuals by:

$$r_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i = y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 x_{1i})$$

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 Graphically, we can think of the residual as the distance between the data point and the regression line





Multilevel residuals

Back to multilevel modelling ...

$$y_{ij} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1ij} + u_j + e_{ij}$$

 Multilevel residuals follow the same basic idea, but now that we have two error terms, we have two residuals

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 - the distance from the overall regression line to the line for the group (the level 2 residual)

Back to multilevel modelling ...

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- Multilevel residuals follow the same basic idea, but now that we have two error terms, we have two residuals:
 - the distance from the overall regression line to the line for the group (the level 2 residual)
 - and the distance from the line for the group to the data point (the level 1 residual)

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Raw residuals

First, we must calculate the raw residual r_i

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• Define
$$r_{ij} = y_{ij} - \hat{y}_{ij}$$

This is just as if we were treating it as a single-level model

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Now r_j is the mean of r_{ij} for group j

Suppose we have just two data points for one of our groups

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- But our points are always a sample and we can't know if they're typical of their group
- We can combine the data from the group with information from the other groups to bring the residuals towards the overall average
- Then the level 2 residuals will be less sensitive to outlying elements of the group









Raw residuals

- $\blacktriangleright r_{ij} = y_{ij} \hat{y}_{ij}$
- r_j is the mean of r_{ij} for group j

Level 2 residual

The estimated level 2 residual is the shrinkage factor times the raw residual

$$\hat{\mu}_{0j} = \frac{\sigma_{u_0}^2}{\sigma_{u_0}^2 + \frac{\sigma_{e_0}^2}{n_j}} \cdot r_j$$

Shrinkage factor



Level 1 residual

The level 1 residual is the observed value, minus the predicted value from the overall regression line, minus the level 2 residual

$$\hat{e}_{0ij} = y_{ij} - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_{1ij}) - \hat{u}_{0j}$$

A lot of shrinkage

Not much shrinkage

A lot of shrinkage

Not much shrinkage

nj

A lot of shrinkage

*n*_j When there are not many level 1 units in the group

Not much shrinkage

When there are a lot of level 1 units in the group

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 $\sigma_{e_0}^2$

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 - V

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When the level 1 variance is big

Not much shrinkage When there are a lot of level 1 units in the group

When the level 1 variance is small

A lot of shrinkage

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When the level 1 variance is big

Not much shrinkage When there are a lot of level 1 units in the group

When the level 1 variance is small

A lot of shrinkage

- *nj* When there are not many level 1 units in the group
- $\sigma^2_{e_0} \qquad \mbox{ When the level 1} \\ \mbox{ variance is big }$
- $\sigma^2_{u_0}$ When the level 2 variance is small

Not much shrinkage When there are a lot of level 1 units in the group

When the level 1 variance is small

When the level 2 variance is big

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Measuring dependency

- ► The question of the relative sizes of σ²_{u0} and σ²_{e0} is actually quite important.
- The relative sizes change according to how much dependency we have in our data.
- The dependency arises because observations from the same group are likely to be more similar than those from different groups.
- The fact that we have dependent data is the whole reason that we are using multilevel modelling.
 - We use multilevel modelling partly in order to correctly estimate standard errors
 - If we use a single-level model for dependent data, standard errors will be overestimated
- So we would like to know how much dependency we have in our data

Example

Parameter

Intercept Boy school Girl school Between school variance (σ_u^2) Between student variance (σ_e^2) Single levelMultilevel-0.098(0.021)-0.101(0.070)0.122(0.049)0.122(0.049)0.244(0.034)0.258(0.117)...0.155(0.030)0.985(0.022)0.848(0.019)

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Measuring dependency

- We can use the variance partitioning coefficient to measure dependency
 - \blacktriangleright also called VPC or ρ or intraclass correlation
 - ▶ For the two-level random intercepts case, $\rho = \frac{\sigma_{u_0}^2}{\sigma_{u_0}^2 + \sigma_{w_0}^2}$
 - Beware! Note how the VPC is similar to, but not identical to, the shrinkage factor

- The VPC is the proportion of the total variance that is at level 2
- How can we interpret it?





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Correlation structure of single level model

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1i} + e_{0i}$$

S		1	1	1					3	3	3
	Р	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	1	2	3
1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
2	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Correlation structure of two level random intercept model

$$y_{ij} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1ij} + u_{0j} + e_{0ij}$$

S		1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3
	Р	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	1	2	3
1	1	1	ρ	ρ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	2	ρ	1	ρ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	3	ρ	ρ	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	1	ρ	ρ	ρ	0	0	0
2	2	0	0	0	ρ	1	ρ	ρ	0	0	0
2	3	0	0	0	ρ	ρ	1	ρ	0	0	0
2	4	0	0	0	ρ	ρ	ρ	1	0	0	0
3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	ρ	ρ
3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	ρ	1	ρ
3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	ρ	ρ	1

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