

# Confidence intervals for regression coefficients

- ▶ Consider the model  $y = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x + u$
- ▶ You estimate the model using  $n$  observations and find coefficients  $\hat{\beta}_1$  and  $\hat{\beta}_2$
- ▶ Confidence intervals for the coefficients are constructed using the same logic as confidence intervals for sample means
- ▶ Consider the null hypothesis that the true coefficient on  $x$  is equal to  $\beta_2$
- ▶ As we discussed previously,  $\frac{\hat{\beta}_2 - \beta_2}{\text{se}(\hat{\beta}_2)}$  has a  $t$  distribution with  $n - 2$  degrees of freedom

# Confidence intervals for regression coefficients

1. 95% confidence interval for  $\beta_2$ :  
 $[\hat{\beta}_2 - se(\hat{\beta}_2) \cdot t_{n-2,0.025}, \hat{\beta}_2 + se(\hat{\beta}_2) \cdot t_{n-2,0.025}]$ .
2. 99% confidence interval for  $\beta_2$ :  
 $[\hat{\beta}_2 - se(\hat{\beta}_2) \cdot t_{n-2,0.005}, \hat{\beta}_2 + se(\hat{\beta}_2) \cdot t_{n-2,0.005}]$ .
3. **Exercise:** Consider regression results with  $N = 25$ ,  $\hat{\beta}_2 = 1.1$  and the standard error of 0.41. Use this information together with a t-table to construct 95% and 99% confidence intervals for  $\beta_2$ .