

704SM Biostatistica

Massimo Borelli

ottobre 2016



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE

Dipartimento di Scienze della Vita



SOCIETÀ DEI MATEMATICI
E NATURALISTI DI MODENA
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Francis Galton

Sir Francis Galton, FRS (*/ˈfrɑːnsɪs ˈɡɒltn/*; 16 February 1822 – 17 January 1911) was an English **Victorian progressive**, **polymath**, **psychologist**,^{[1][2]} **anthropologist**, **eugenicist**, **tropical explorer**, **geographer**, **inventor**, **meteorologist**, **proto-geneticist**, **psychometrician**, and **statistician**. He was knighted in 1909.

Galton produced over 340 papers and books. He also created the statistical concept of **correlation** and widely promoted **regression toward the mean**. He was the first to apply statistical methods to the study of human differences and **inheritance of intelligence**, and introduced the use of **questionnaires** and **surveys** for collecting data on human communities, which he needed for genealogical and biographical works and for his **anthropometric** studies.

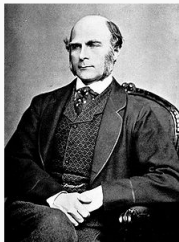
He was a pioneer in **eugenics**, coining the term itself^[3] and the phrase "**nature versus nurture**".^[4] His book *Hereditary Genius* (1869) was the first social scientific attempt to study **genius** and **greatness**.^[5]

As an investigator of the human mind, he founded **psychometrics** (the science of measuring mental faculties) and **differential psychology** and the **lexical hypothesis** of personality. He devised a method for classifying **fingerprints** that proved useful in **forensic science**. He also conducted research on the **power of prayer**, concluding it had none by its null effects on the longevity of those prayed for.^[6]

As the initiator of scientific **meteorology**, he devised the first **weather map**, proposed a theory of **anticyclones**, and was the first to establish a complete record of short-term climatic phenomena on a European scale.^[7] He also invented the **Galton Whistle** for testing differential hearing ability.^[8]

He was cousin of **Douglas Strutt Galton** and half-cousin of **Charles Darwin**.

Sir Francis Galton



Born	16 February 1822 Birmingham, England
Died	17 January 1911 (aged 88) Haslemere, Surrey, England
Residence	England
Nationality	English
Fields	Anthropology and polymathy
Institutions	Meteorological Council Royal Geographical Society
Alma mater	King's College London

Credits: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis_Galton

ANTHROPOLOGICAL MISCELLANEA.

REGRESSION *towards* MEDIOCRITY *in* HEREDITARY STATURE.
By FRANCIS GALTON, F.R.S., &c.

[WITH PLATES IX AND X.]

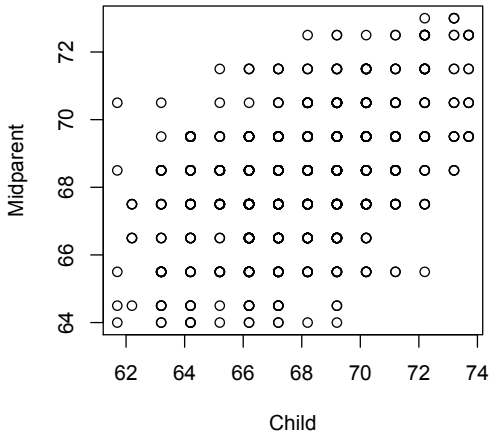
THIS memoir contains the data upon which the remarks on the Law of Regression were founded, that I made in my Presidential Address to Section H, at Aberdeen. That address, which will appear in due course in the Journal of the British Association, has already been published in "Nature," September 24th. I reproduce here the portion of it which bears upon regression together with some

Il dataset originale

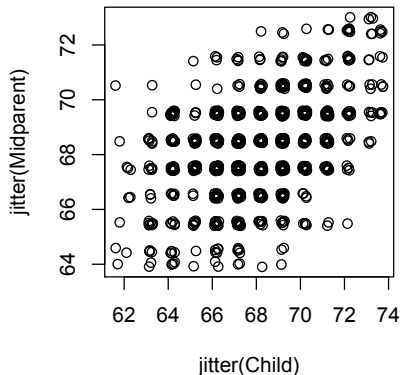
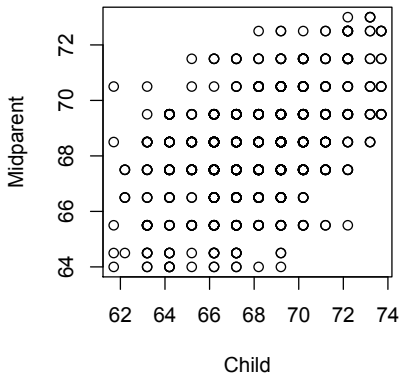
```
indirizzo = http://www.math.uah.edu/stat/data/Galton.txt  
galton = read.table(indirizzo, header = TRUE)  
attach(galton)  
str(galton)
```

```
'data.frame': 928 obs. of 2 variables:  
 $ Child : num 61.7 61.7 62.2 62.2 ...  
 $ Midparent: num 70.5 68.5 67.5 66.5 ...
```

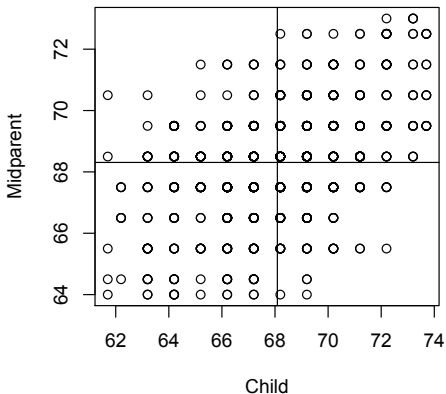
plot(Child, Midparent)

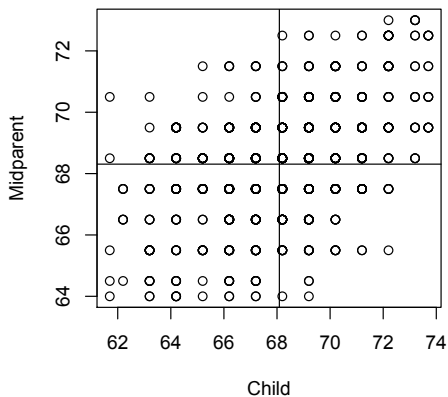


```
par(mfrow = c(1,2))  
plot(Child, Midparent)  
plot(jitter(Child), jitter(Midparent))
```



```
plot(Child, Midparent)  
abline( h = mean(Midparent) )  
abline( v = mean(Child) )
```





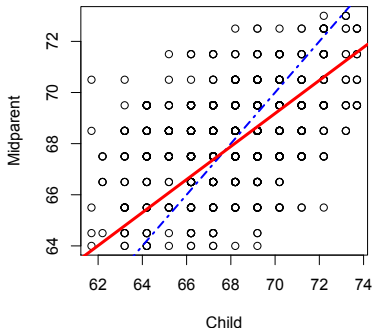
? Child - mean(Child)


```
> sum((Child - mean(Child))*(Midparent - mean(Midparent)))  
[1] 1913.898  
> sum((Child - mean(Child))*(Midparent - mean(Midparent)))/(928-1)  
[1] 2.064614  
> cov(Child, Midparent)  
[1] 2.064614
```

```
> cov(Child, Midparent) / (sd(Child) * sd(Midparent))  
[1] 0.4587624  
> cor(Child, Midparent)  
[1] 0.4587624
```

La retta di regressione

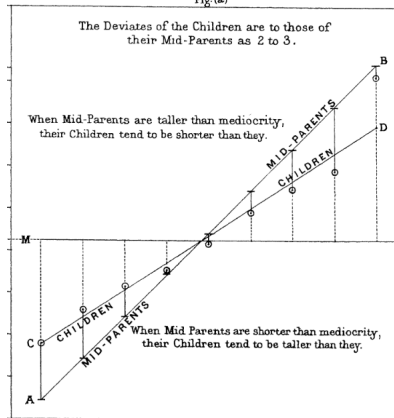
```
plot(Child, Midparent)  
abline(0,1, col = blue, lty = 4, lwd = 2)  
modello = lm(Child ~ Midparent)  
abline(modello, col = red, lwd = 3)
```



La correlazione

RATE OF REGRESSION IN HEREDITARY STATURE.

Fig. (a)



La retta di regressione

questione da approfondire

- adesso che conosciamo il 'razionale' della retta di regressione, come possiamo precisare il fatto che essa sia **la migliore** retta che passa per la nuvola di punti?
 - come sono legati tra loro la correlazione ed i coefficienti della retta di regressione?