Review of Published Regression Analysis

Introduction
Regression is a rich suite of analytical tools. Often, when you read a published paper you'll see regression used in ways that are familiar, and also in ways that are not familiar. Analysis can look unfamiliar because different notation is being used but also because the methods are being used in ways that are new to you or in a discipline that you're not familiar with.

The goal of this project is to learn by example. In this project you will present a summary of a regression analysis from a published paper. This achieves two goals. First, you get to tear into someone else's analysis, pull it apart, and see how it works. Second, you get to share with your classmates a regression situation from a discipline they aren't familiar with, bringing a new perspective.

Guidelines
Take some time and identify a paper that is interesting and features some aspect of regression as the cornerstone of the paper. A given study doesn't have to focus on building a regression model; papers on model validation, regression theory, or use of an existing model to discover properties of an ecological system are fine. The paper should also be from your discipline.

Your task is [1] to prepare a written review of the regression analysis used in the paper and [2] to present the review to the class. Please note: you are not reviewing the paper; you are reviewing the regression analysis presented in the paper. Your review will have three parts:

1. Just enough background and objectives from the paper to understand why regression was being used
2. A summary of the regression analysis used in the paper
3. Your thoughts on the strengths, weaknesses and usefulness of the regression analysis.

Your written review is restricted to a single, double-sided page of text and your presentation is restricted to 15 minutes and three slides. I suggest you divide the space equally among the three parts. We will set up a schedule for in-class presentations, which will start on March 26.

Grading
This project is worth 20% of your course grade. Of the 20%, 15% or ¾ will be based on the depth, creativity, and professionalism of your written review. The other 5% or ¼ will be based on the quality of your presentation to the class.

Timeline
Start looking for papers now. Submit your written review to me no later than the Friday before you present. Students who choose to present early will have the benefit of fewer presentations to be compared to; i.e., the grading and the difficulty of the questions you'll be asked will probably get tougher as more of you complete the assignment.