

We have a simple regression model: $Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i + \varepsilon_i$

The least squares estimator can be found by minimising the squared Euclidean distance function:

$$Q = d(b_0, b_1) = \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - b_0 - b_1 x_i)^2$$

The estimates for β_0 and β_1 that minimise the above distance function can be found by solving the following normal equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial d}{\partial b_0} &= -2 \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - b_0 - b_1 x_i) = 0 \\ \frac{\partial d}{\partial b_1} &= -2 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i (Y_i - b_0 - b_1 x_i) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

A bit of algebra simplifies the two equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i &= \sum_{i=1}^n (b_0 + b_1 x_i) = nb_0 + b_1 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = n(b_0 + b_1 \bar{x}) \\ \sum_{i=1}^n x_i Y_i &= b_0 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + b_1 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 = n(b_0 \bar{x} + b_1 \bar{x}^2) + b_1 S_{xx} \end{aligned}$$

Where,

$$\begin{aligned} S_{xx} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i^2 - 2x_i \bar{x} + \bar{x}^2) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \bar{x} - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \bar{x} + \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{x}^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x}) x_i - \bar{x} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + n\bar{x}^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x}) x_i - n\bar{x}^2 + n\bar{x}^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x}) x_i \end{aligned}$$

Solving the first equations gives us: $b_0 = \bar{Y} - b_1 \bar{x}$

Substituting this in the second equation gives us:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i Y_i = n \left((\bar{Y} - b_1 \bar{x}) \bar{x} + b_1 \bar{x}^2 \right) + b_1 S_{xx} = n \bar{x} \bar{Y} + b_1 S_{xx}$$

Thus,

$$b_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i Y_i - n \bar{x} \bar{Y}}{S_{xx}} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i Y_i - \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{x} Y_i}{S_{xx}} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x}) Y_i}{S_{xx}} = \frac{S_{xy}}{S_{xx}}$$

Where,

$$\begin{aligned} S_{xy} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(Y_i - \bar{Y}) = \sum_{i=1}^n [(x_i - \bar{x})Y_i - x_i \bar{Y} + \bar{x} \bar{Y}] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})Y_i - \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i \bar{Y} - \bar{x} \bar{Y}) = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})Y_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n x_i Y_i - n \bar{x} \bar{Y} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, our estimates are:

$$b_1 = \frac{S_{xy}}{S_{xx}} \quad \text{and} \quad b_0 = \bar{Y} - \frac{S_{xy}}{S_{xx}} \bar{x}$$