

# Linear Regression Report

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## 1 Introduction

- **Regression** shows a line or curve that passes through all the data points on a target-predictor graph s.t the vertical distance between the data points and the regression line is minimum.
- Linear regression shows the linear relationship between the independent variable (X-axis) and the dependent variable (Y-axis), consequently called linear regression
- The below graph gives the linear relationship between the dependent and independent variables.

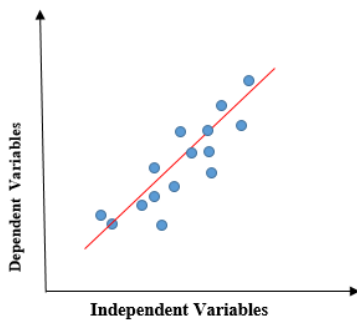


Figure 1: Linear graph  $y = mx + c$

- The red line is referred to as the best fit straight line. Based on the given data points, we try to plot a line that models the points the best.
- To calculate best-fit line linear regression uses a traditional slope-intercept form.

$$h(x) = mx + c = a_0 + a_1x \quad (1)$$

## 2 Key Points of the Algorithm

Let for our simplicity, we have only 2 parameters  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  i.e we work on 2-Dimensions

The goal of the algorithm is to get the best values of  $a_0$  and  $a_1$ , to find the best fit line. The best fit line should have the least error i.e the error between predicted values and actual values be minimized. The **cost function** ( $J(a)$ ) in Linear Regression is defined by **Mean Squared Error(MSE)**

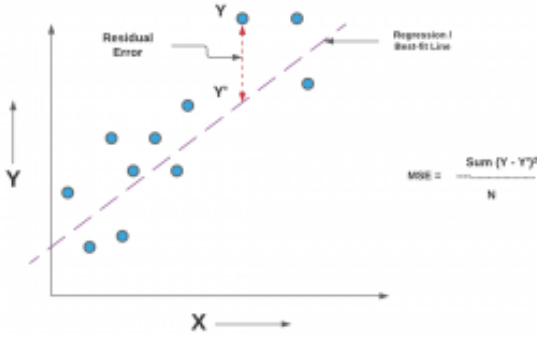


Figure 2: Linear graph  $y = mx + c$

$$J(a) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m (h_a(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)})^2 \quad (2)$$

where our hypothesis is  $h_a(x)$ ,  $a$  = weights/parameters,  $x$  = inputs be defined as :

$$h_w(x) = a_0 + a_1x_1 + \dots \quad (3)$$

and  $m$  = no. of training samples,  $(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$  =  $i$ 'th training sample

But how do we get the values of  $a_0, a_1$  which minimises the cost function. For this we use a method called **Gradient Descent**

A regression model uses gradient descent to update the coefficients of the line ( $a_0, a_1 \Rightarrow x_i, b$ ) by reducing the cost function by a random selection of coefficient values and then iteratively update the values to reach the minimum cost function. We repeat the algorithm until it converges to the global

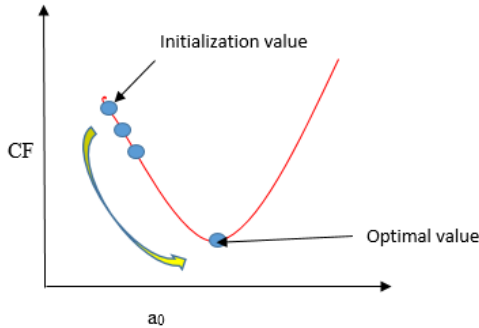


Figure 3: Linear graph  $y = mx + c$

minima i.e update the parameter as follows: (every iteration)

$$a^{(i)} = a^{(i)} - \alpha \left( \frac{\partial cost}{\partial a^{(i)}} \right) \quad (4)$$

$$(5)$$

where,  $\alpha$  = learning rate

For simplification, assume only one training sample( $m = 1$ )

$$\frac{\partial cost}{\partial a^{(i)}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial a^{(i)}} \frac{1}{2} (h_a(x) - y)^2 \quad (6)$$

$$= (h_a(x) - y) \frac{\partial}{\partial a^{(i)}} (h_a(x) - y) \quad (7)$$

$$= (h_a(x) - y) \frac{\partial}{\partial a^{(i)}} (a_0 + a_1 x_1 + \dots a_i x_i \dots - y) \quad (8)$$

$$= (h_a(x) - y) \cdot x_i \quad (9)$$

Now since derivaive of the sum = sum of derivative , we can generalise this for m trianing samples  
Repeat until convergence ,

$$w_j = w_j - \alpha \sum_{i=1}^m (h_w(x^{(i)} - y^{(i)}) \cdot x_j^{(i)}) \quad (10)$$

$$(11)$$

### 3 Why does it work ?

It turns out that when you plot the cost function  $J(a)$  for linear regression, it is a concave up quadratic graph as in 4 and hence the only local minima is a **global minima**.

Imagine a pit in the shape of U. You are standing at the topmost point in the pit, and your objective is to reach the bottom of the pit. In gradient descent algorithm, we are always travelling in the direction of gradient (essentially the direction of steepest descent) and hence at one point of time we will converge to the minima.

The partial derivates are the gradients, and they are used to update the values of  $a_0$  and  $a_1$ . Alpha

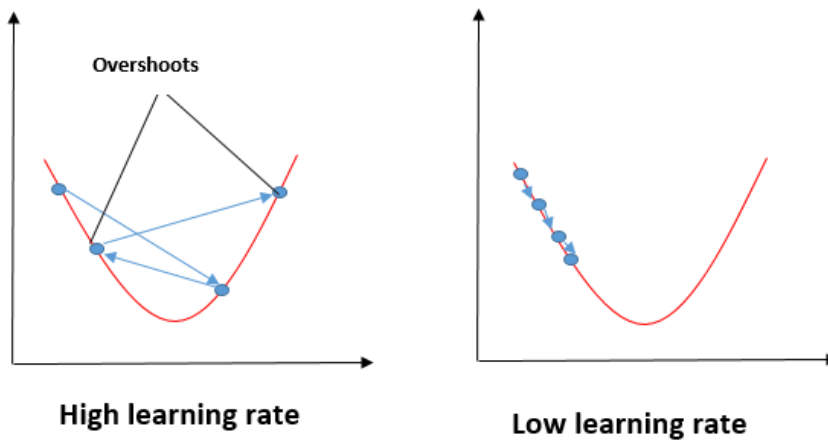


Figure 4:  $J(a)$ / cost function

is the learning rate.

**Note:** As seen in the fig  $\alpha$  should not be too big because we may never converge to the global minima if we take huge steps. Similarly  $\alpha$  shouldn't be too small as it will increase computational power and time.

## 4 Some Questions

1. When is Linear regression suitable and how can we know that from a given dataset?

**Ans.**

2. What are the basic assumptions of Linear Regression ?

**Ans.**

3. In linear regression, what is the value of the **sum of the residuals/distance** for a given dataset? Justify !

**Ans**

4. Why do we square the residuals (M.S.E) instead of using absolute residuals?

**Ans.**

5. What is Multicollinearity and how do we detect them ?

**Ans.**