
Linear Regression

Robert Haas

Documentation • February 15, 2026 • Version 1.0

••• THIS IS STILL A DRAFT •••

PDF generated with L^AT_EX

Project page: <https://github.com/Haasrobertgmxnet/HeatConduction>
Contact: Haasrobert@gmx.net

Abstract

This documentation presents ...

Contents

1 Least Squares of correlated Data	2
1.1 Statement of the Problem and its Solution	2
1.2 The Coefficient of Determination	2
1.3 Confidence Intervals	4

1 Least Squares of correlated Data

1.1 Statement of the Problem and its Solution

Given a data set $\{(x_i, y_i) \in \mathbb{R}^2, i \in \{1, \dots, n\}\}$ we ask for an approximate functional dependency of the form $y_i \approx f_i = f(x_i)$ for all $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. This means, f is a mathematical function assigning each element x of an interval $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ an unique $y \in \mathbb{R}$. For the rest of this documentation we assume that f is a linear function, i.e. there exist numbers β_0 and β_1 in \mathbb{R} such that $f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$. To achieve an optimal f with optimal numbers β_0 and β_1 usually a least-square approach is used:

$$\min_{\beta_0, \beta_1} F(\beta_0, \beta_1) \text{ with } F(\beta_0, \beta_1) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n |\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i - y_i|^2. \quad (1)$$

For optimal $\hat{\beta}_0$ and $\hat{\beta}_1$ the necessary conditions read as

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \beta_1} = \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i - y_i) x_i = 0 \text{ and } \frac{\partial F}{\partial \beta_0} = \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i - y_i) = 0. \quad (2)$$

Now we need the following definitions:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i, \text{ the arithmetic mean of } \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n, \quad (3)$$

$$\bar{y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i, \text{ the arithmetic mean of } \{y_i\}_{i=1}^n, \quad (4)$$

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{\nu_n \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}, \text{ the standard deviation of } \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n, \quad (5)$$

$$\sigma_y = \sqrt{\nu_n \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2}, \text{ the standard deviation of } \{y_i\}_{i=1}^n, \quad (6)$$

$$\varrho_{x,y} = \frac{\nu_n \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}, \text{ the correlation coefficient of } \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n \text{ and } \{y_i\}_{i=1}^n. \quad (7)$$

Here ν_n is either $1/(n - 1)$ if $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ is a sample, and $\nu_n = 1/n$, else. With this definitions the solutions $\hat{\beta}_0$ and $\hat{\beta}_1$ of (2) are

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x} \varrho_{x,y} \text{ and } \hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{x}. \quad (8)$$

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \sigma_y \varrho_{x,y} / \sigma_x \text{ and } \hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{x}.$$

1.2 The Coefficient of Determination

A essential question is how good such an OLS model performs. Of course, one wants minimal sum of squares $\sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i)^2$. On the other hand large deviations in y_i may prevent a good explanatory power of the model. The answer will be given by the coefficient of determination. To go into more detail we

need some more definitions:

$$\begin{aligned} SS_{\text{tot}} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2, \text{ the total sum of squares ,} \\ SS_{\text{reg}} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - \bar{y})^2, \text{ the explained sum of squares ,} \\ SS_{\text{res}} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i)^2, \text{ the residual sum of squares .} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 1.1. *The equation $SS_{\text{tot}} = SS_{\text{reg}} + SS_{\text{res}}$ is true.*

Proof. There is

$$\begin{aligned} SS_{\text{tot}} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n ((y_i - f_i) + (f_i - \bar{y}))^2 \\ &= SS_{\text{reg}} + SS_{\text{res}} - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i)(f_i - \bar{y}) \end{aligned}$$

It remains to show $\sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i)(f_i - \bar{y}) = 0$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i)(f_i - \bar{y}) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left((f_i - y_i)(\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i) - (f_i - y_i)\bar{y} \right) \\ &= (\hat{\beta}_0 - \bar{y}) \sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i) + \hat{\beta}_1 \sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i)x_i. \end{aligned}$$

Finally we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i) &= \frac{\partial F}{\partial \beta_0} = \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i - y_i) = 0, \\ \sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i)x_i &= \frac{\partial F}{\partial \beta_1} = \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i - y_i)x_i = 0, \end{aligned}$$

as from (2). That is $\sum_{i=1}^n (f_i - y_i)(f_i - \bar{y})$ and $SS_{\text{tot}} = SS_{\text{reg}} + SS_{\text{res}}$. \square

The coefficient of determination R^2 is given by

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{SS_{\text{res}}}{SS_{\text{tot}}} = \frac{SS_{\text{reg}}}{SS_{\text{tot}}}.$$

Theorem 1.2. *For the choice (8) in the OLS problem (1) the equation $\rho_{x,y}^2 = R^2$ is true.*

Proof. There is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{SS_{\text{reg}}}{SS_{\text{tot}}} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i - \bar{y})^2}{SS_{\text{tot}}} \\ &= \frac{\hat{\beta}_1^2 \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2} \\ &= \frac{\hat{\beta}_1^2 \sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} \\ &= \left(\frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x} \varrho_{x,y} \right)^2 \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} = \varrho_{x,y}^2\end{aligned}$$

□

1.3 Confidence Intervals

For the statistical estimations it is convenient to give a confidence interval. So it is reasonable to calculate a confidence interval for the slope $\hat{\beta}_1$. [2, p. 161] and [1, p. 185] give equivalent formulas for such a confidence interval.

References

- [1] J. Bortz, *Statistik für Sozialwissenschaftler* 5th ed., Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 1999.
- [2] M. Sachs, *Wahrscheinlichkeitsrechnung und Statistik* 6th ed., Verlag Carl Hanser, München, 2021.
- [3] Code samples used in this work: <https://github.com/Haasrobertgmxnet/LinearRegression>