

# Simple Linear Regression – Mathematical Formulation (No Code)

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## 1. Objective

We want to find a straight line:

$$\hat{y} = mx + b$$

Where:

- $\hat{y}$ : predicted value (e.g., predicted salary)
  - $x$ : input feature (e.g., years of experience)
  - $m$ : slope of the line (rate of change)
  - $b$ : intercept (value of  $y$  when  $x=0$ )
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## 2. How to Find $m$ (slope) and $b$ (intercept)?

These values are **calculated mathematically** using **least squares minimization**, which reduces the total prediction error.

### **Formulas:**

#### 1. Slope ( $m$ ):

$$m = \frac{n \sum xy - \sum x \sum y}{n \sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2}$$

#### 2. Intercept ( $b$ ):

$$b = \frac{\sum y - m \sum x}{n}$$

Where:

- $n$  = total number of data points
- $\sum xy$  = sum of products of  $x$  and  $y$  values
- $\sum x^2$  = sum of squares of  $x$  values
- $\sum x, \sum y$  = sum of  $x$  and  $y$  values

### Example:

Suppose we have small dataset like:

$X$ : [1, 2, 3]

$Y$ : [2, 4, 5]

We calculate:

$$\bullet \sum x = 6, \sum y = 11, \sum xy = 25, \sum x^2 = 14, n = 3$$

Plug into formulas to compute  $m$  and  $b$ .

## 3. Why these formulas?

They're derived from minimizing the **Mean Squared Error (MSE)**:

$$\text{MSE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$$

We differentiate the error formula with respect to  $m$  and  $b$  to get optimal values (calculus-based derivation, skipped here).

## 4. Coding from Scratch

Though we're not covering code here, the idea is:

- Loop through the dataset to compute the above summations.
- Apply the formulas to calculate  $m$  and  $b$ .
- Use them to predict  $\hat{y}$  for any new  $x$ .

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## 5. How the Line is Used

Once we have:

- $m=1.5$ ,  $b = 2$

Then the line becomes:

$$\hat{y} = 1.5x + 2$$

So:

- For  $x = 4$ , predicted  $y = 1.5(4) + 2 = 8$

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### Summary Table

Term	Meaning
<b>m</b>	Slope: Controls the steepness of the line
<b>b</b>	Intercept: Where line crosses y-axis
<b>Least Squares</b>	Technique to minimize total squared errors
<b><math>\hat{y}=mx+b</math></b>	Prediction formula
<b>Goal</b>	Fit best line to minimize prediction errors

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## Simple Linear Regression: Step-by-Step Mathematical Derivation

### Goal:

We want to fit a **straight line**:

$$\hat{y} = mx + b$$

Where:

- $\hat{y}$ : Predicted value
  - $x$ : Input feature
  - $m$ : Slope of the line
  - $b$ : Intercept (value of  $y$  when  $x=0$ )
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## Step 1: Dataset Assumption

Suppose we have  $n$  data points:

$$(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$$

We want a line  $\hat{y} = mx + b$  that best fits this data.

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## Step 2: Define the Error Function

We want to minimize the difference between the actual  $y_i$  and the predicted  $\hat{y}_i$ .

So the error for each point is:

$$\text{Error}_i = y_i - \hat{y}_i = y_i - (mx_i + b)$$

To avoid negative errors canceling out, we square them.

The **total error** (called the *Sum of Squared Errors*, SSE):

$$SSE = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - mx_i - b)^2$$

This is the function we want to minimize.

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## Step 3: Use Calculus to Minimize Error

To find the best  $m$  and  $b$ , we take **partial derivatives** of the SSE and set them to **zero**.

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**Partial derivative with respect to  $b$ :**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial b} \sum (y_i - mx_i - b)^2 = -2 \sum (y_i - mx_i - b)$$

Set it to 0:

$$\sum (y_i - mx_i - b) = 0$$

$$\sum y_i - m \sum x_i - nb = 0$$

Solve for  $b$ :

$$b = \frac{\sum y_i - m \sum x_i}{n}$$

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**Partial derivative with respect to  $m$ :**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial m} \sum (y_i - mx_i - b)^2 = -2 \sum x_i (y_i - mx_i - b)$$

Set it to 0:

$$\sum x_i (y_i - mx_i - b) = 0$$

$$\sum x_i y_i - m \sum x_i^2 - b \sum x_i = 0$$

Plug in equation (1) into this and solve — or we derive a closed-form solution directly (next step).

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#### **Step 4: Final Formulas for $m$ and $b$**

These formulas are derived from solving the above equations:

**Slope ( $m$ ):**

$$m = \frac{n \sum x_i y_i - \sum x_i \sum y_i}{n \sum x_i^2 - (\sum x_i)^2}$$

**Intercept ( $b$ ):**

$$b = \frac{\sum y_i - m \sum x_i}{n}$$

These are called the **normal equations** for simple linear regression.

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### Step 5: Predicting New Values

Once you have m and b, the predicted value for a new x is:

$$\hat{y} = mx + b$$


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### Summary Table

Quantity	Meaning
<b>x<sub>i</sub></b>	Input (independent variable)
<b>y<sub>i</sub></b>	Output (dependent variable)
<b>m</b>	Slope of line (rate of change)
<b>b</b>	Intercept (value at x=0)
<b>SSE</b>	Sum of squared prediction errors
<b>Goal</b>	Minimize SSE using calculus

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