

**Q. There are two sets of observations on a random vector (X,Y). Consider a simple linear regression model with an intercept for regressing Y on X. Let  $\beta_i$  be the least square estimate of the regression coefficient obtained from the  $i$ th ( $i=1,2$ ) set consisting of  $n_i$  observations ( $n_1, n_2 > 2$ ). Let  $\beta_0$  the least square estimate obtained from the pooled sample size  $n_1 + n_2$ . If it is known that  $\beta_1 > \beta_2 > 0$ , which of the following statements is true ?**

1.  $\beta_2 < \beta_0 < \beta_1$
2.  $\beta_0$  may lie outside  $(\beta_2, \beta_1)$  but cannot exceed  $\beta_1 + \beta_2$
3.  $\beta_0$  may lie outside  $(\beta_2, \beta_1)$  but it cannot be negative
4.  $\beta_0$  can be negative

**Sol.**

Derivation for least square estimator:

Let our original data be  $y_i$  which is approximated by  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  such that  $\hat{Y}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i$

Therefore, the error in measurement as measured by the least squares metric would be

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2$$

To get the minimum error E we have to differentiate the above equation and set the 1st derivative to 0.

Therefore,

$$\frac{dE}{d\beta_0} = \sum_{i=1}^N -2(y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 x_i) = 0$$

Which is:

$$\sum_{i=1}^N y_i - \sum_{i=1}^N \beta_0 - \sum_{i=1}^N \beta_1 x_i = 0$$

Now, we know that,

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N y_i}{N} = \bar{y}$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N y_i = N\bar{y}$$

Substituting above equation in:

$$\sum_{i=1}^N y_i - \sum_{i=1}^N \beta_0 - \sum_{i=1}^N \beta_1 x_i = 0$$

The above equation becomes  $N\bar{y} - N\beta_0 - N\beta_1 \bar{x} = 0$  which on further simplification becomes

$$\bar{y} - \beta_0 - \beta_1 \bar{x} = 0$$

Therefore, finally

$$\beta_0 = \bar{y} - \beta_1 \bar{x}$$

Similarly, we can differentiate for  $\beta_1$  as:

$$\frac{dE}{d\beta_1} = \sum_{i=1}^N -2x_i (y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 x_i) = 0$$

Rearranging the equation:

$$\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i y_i - \beta_0 x_i - \beta_1 x_i^2) = 0$$

Substituting the value of  $\beta_0$ ,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i y_i - (\bar{y} - \beta_1 \bar{x}) x_i - \beta_1 x_i^2) = 0$$

Simplifying,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N x_i y_i - \bar{y} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i - \beta_1 \bar{x} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i - \beta_1 \sum_{i=1}^N x_i^2 = 0$$

Again using the property that  $\sum_{i=1}^N y_i = N\bar{y}$ , we get

$$\sum_{i=1}^N x_i y_i - N\bar{y}\bar{x} - \beta_1 N\bar{x}^2 - \beta_1 \sum_{i=1}^N x_i^2 = 0$$

Which is,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N x_i y_i - N\bar{y}\bar{x} - \beta_1 (N\bar{x}^2 - \sum_{i=1}^N x_i^2) = 0$$

Therefore  $\beta_1$  becomes,

$$\beta_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i y_i - N\bar{y}\bar{x}}{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i^2 - N\bar{x}^2}$$

Writing  $\bar{y}$  and  $\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N y_i}{N}$  and  $\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i}{N}$  again we get,

$$\beta_1 = \frac{(\sum xy) - N(\frac{\sum x}{N})(\frac{\sum y}{N})}{(\sum x^2) - N(\frac{\sum x}{N})^2}$$

Multiplying by N we get the final expression.

$$\text{Therefore, Least square estimator } \beta \text{ can be given as } \beta = \frac{n(\sum XY) - (\sum X)(\sum Y)}{n(\sum X^2) - (\sum X)^2}$$

We know that  $X \in \mathbb{R}$ , which means X can take any values including negative values. Now,  $\sum X^2$  means the summation of all the squared values of X. Therefore if X contains any negative values then those will become positive due to squaring and then summation of all the positive values are

taken. However in  $(\sum X)^2$  first the summation is done, then it is squared. If X contains some negative values then the sum would be less.

Therefore in all the cases  $\sum X^2$  will be greater than  $(\sum X)^2$ . Therefore,  $\sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2$  will always be positive.

1. The term  $\sum XY$  signifies the sum of products of individual values of X and Y. Therefore, if the product contains many negative values then the sum of the products may very well be negative. Then,  $n(\sum XY) - (\sum X)(\sum Y)$  can also very well be negative. But in the 3rd option it says that  $\beta$  cannot be negative therefore the 3rd option is false.

We know that n is the sample size. We just established that  $\sum XY$  may be negative depending on the product terms. We also established that  $\sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2$  will always be positive no matter what.

Then  $n(\sum X^2) - (\sum X)^2$  will always be positive as n is only the sample size and multiplying  $\sum X^2$  with n will make it even larger.

Now,  $\beta_0$  is the estimator of the combined samples of  $n_1$  and  $n_2$ . But even then, the denominator of  $\beta_0$  will be positive.

2. The numerator of  $\beta_0$  can be positive if  $n(\sum XY)$  term is greater than  $(\sum X)(\sum Y)$  and since here n is the combined sample size of  $n_1$  and  $n_2$ , then the term  $n(\sum XY) - (\sum X)(\sum Y)$  for  $\beta_0$  can be very well greater than even  $\beta_1$  or  $\beta_2$ . Therefore,  $\beta_0$  can become greater than  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$ .

Therefore, both option 1 and 2 would be incorrect.

**3.** If the term  $n\sum XY$  is negative for the combined samples from  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  than the term  $(\sum X)(\sum Y)$  then,

$n(\sum XY) - (\sum X)(\sum Y)$  would be negative which will make  $\beta_0$  negative.

Therefore, the only correct option would be option 4 from logical explanation.