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STAT2008/STAT6038

Deriving the Least Squares equations for SLR

First, we need to remember some simple facts:

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i,$$

so that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}) = 0.$$

Similarly,

$$\bar{Y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i,$$

so that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \bar{Y}) = 0.$$

Also,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n 1 = n.$$

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Now, begin with the first of the equations to solve:

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 X_i)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i - \hat{\beta}_0 \sum_{i=1}^n 1 - \hat{\beta}_1 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = n\bar{Y} - n\hat{\beta}_0 - n\hat{\beta}_1 \bar{X}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \bar{Y} - \hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{X}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{Y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{X}.$$

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Now, moving to the second equation:

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i (Y_i - \hat{\beta}_0 - \hat{\beta}_1 X_i)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i (Y_i - \{\bar{Y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{X}\} - \hat{\beta}_1 X_i)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i ((Y_i - \bar{Y}) - \hat{\beta}_1 (X_i - \bar{X}))$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i (Y_i - \bar{Y}) - \hat{\beta}_1 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i (X_i - \bar{X})$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i (Y_i - \bar{Y})}{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i (X_i - \bar{X})}$$

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there seems to be some things missing until you realise that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i (Y_i - \bar{Y}) = \bar{X} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \bar{Y}) = 0$$

and

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i (X_i - \bar{X}) = \bar{X} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}) = 0,$$

so subtracting the former from the numerator in the expression for $\hat{\beta}_1$ and the latter from the denominator causes no change (since we are just subtracting zero from each of the numerator and denominator). Hence,

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i (Y_i - \bar{Y})}{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i (X_i - \bar{X})}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i (Y_i - \bar{Y}) - \bar{X} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \bar{Y})}{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i (X_i - \bar{X}) - \bar{X} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})(Y_i - \bar{Y})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2}$$

$$= \frac{s_{xy}}{s_x^2}$$

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