

On Simple Linear Regression

// FLATIRON SCHOOL



👋 Hiya!

Software Engineer turned
Motorcycle Instructor turned
Data Science Instructor

I just need to figure out how
to work motorcycles into the
equation...

David Elliott

Data Science
Instructor
Flatiron School



Agenda

- **Why Linear Regression?**
- **Simple Linear Regression**
- **Inference & Prediction**
- **A Line as a Model**
- **Example**

Why Linear Regression?

- LR is a fundamental tool in the data scientist's kit.
- Practically speaking, using it is one or two lines of code.
- But it's crucial for us to understand the theory underlying it:
- Building block for more complex tools
- We are better data scientists if we understand both HOW and WHY

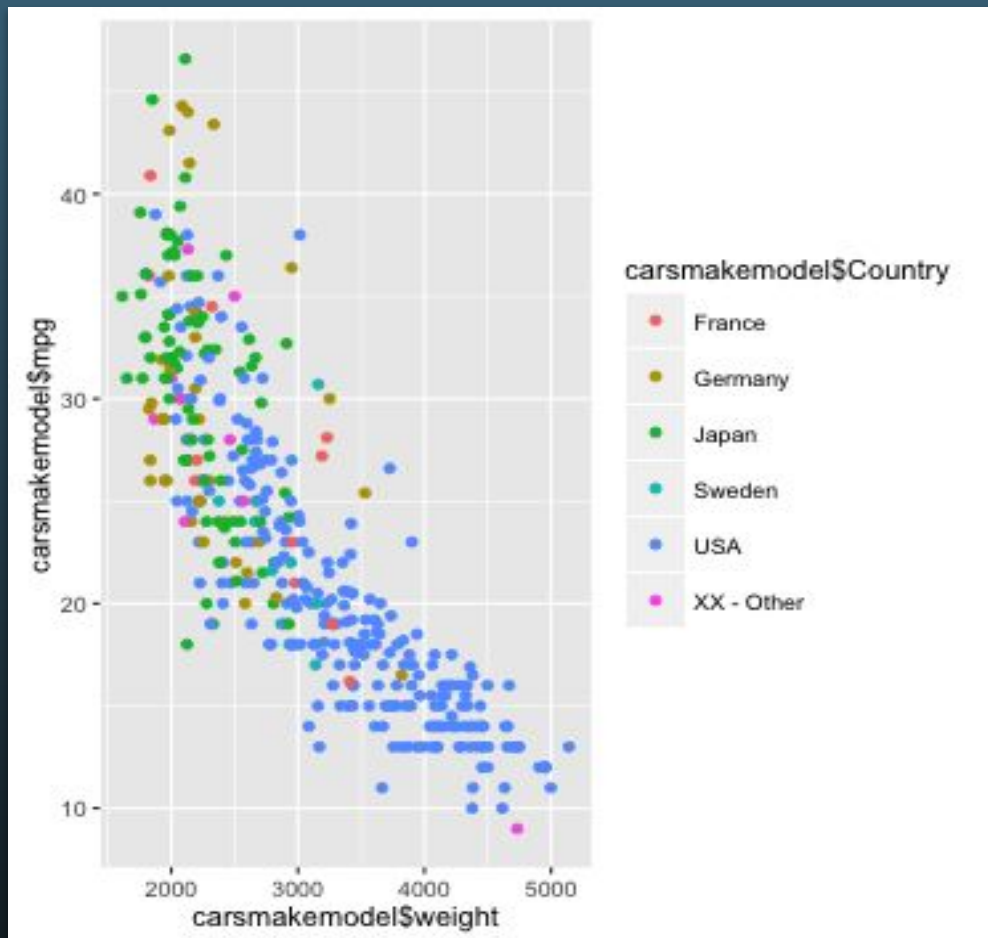
Simple Linear Regression

- Simple: functions of a single variable: $Y = f(X)$
- Linear: models are lines
- Regression: dependent variable is continuously-valued
- Closed form solution $\beta = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$

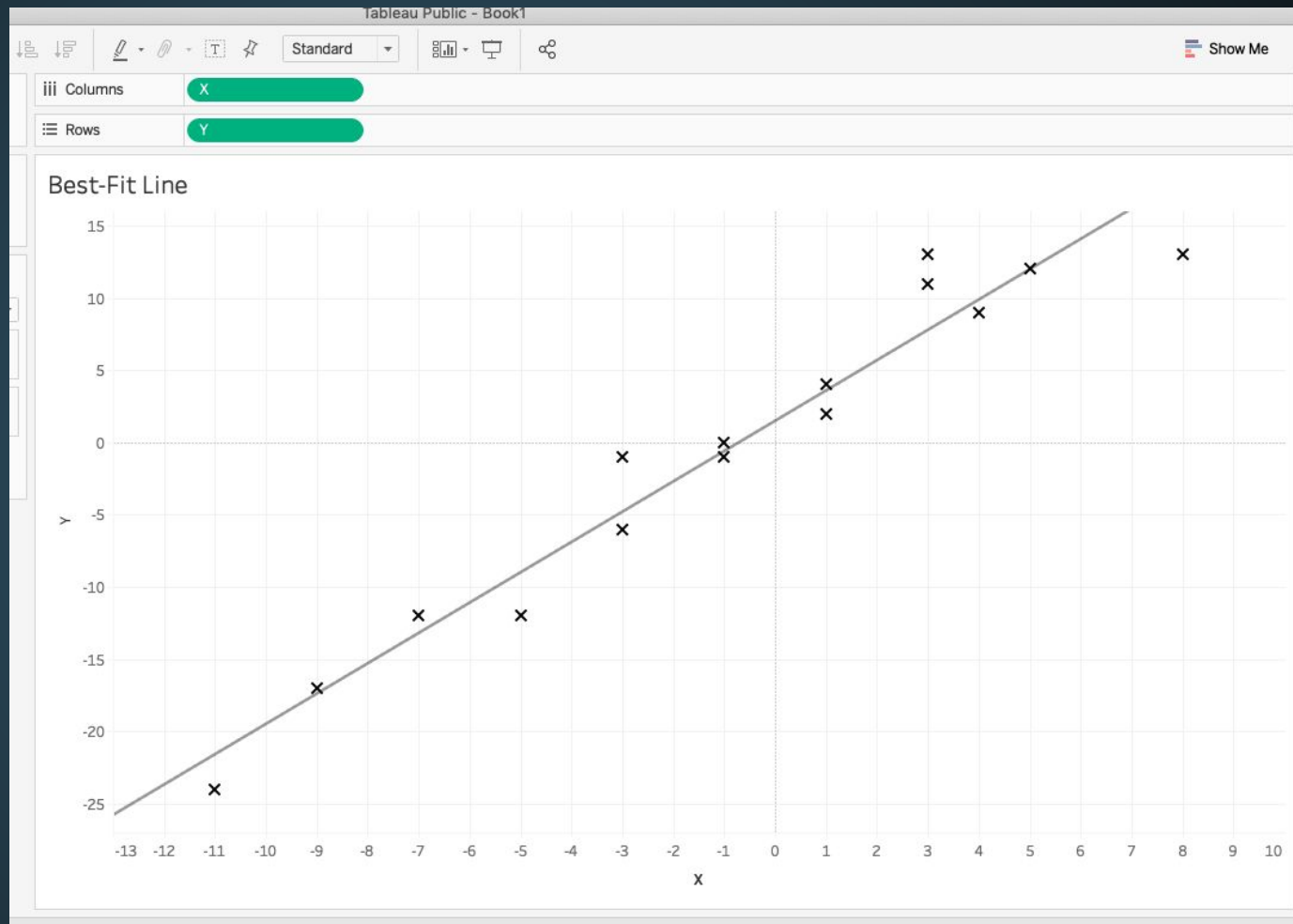
- As population density increases, so do housing prices.
- As the number of trees decreases, the concentration of CO_2 goes up.

Inference and Prediction

Car Weight and MPG



Best-Fit Line



A Line as a Model



Predictions for all values of the X variable
Model shape:

$$\hat{y} = \beta_1 x + \beta_0$$

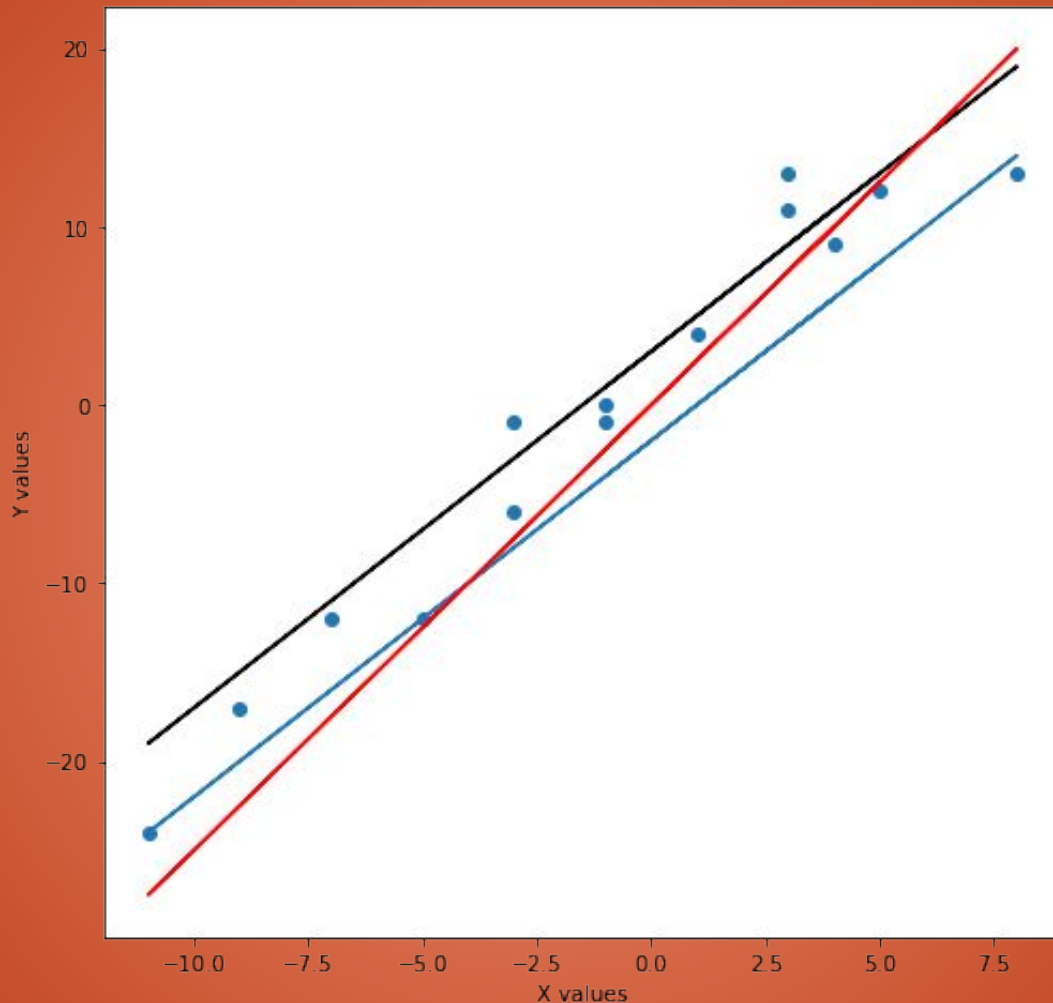
Error as the distance between real and
predicted values:

$$E = y - \hat{y}$$
$$E^2 = (y - \hat{y})^2$$

Goal:

Minimize Error

Which of these lines fits the data best?



How to Construct the Best-Fit Line

$$r_P = \frac{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \sqrt{\sum_i (y_i - \bar{y})^2}}$$

$$\beta_1 = r_P \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x}$$

$$\beta_0 = \bar{y}_1 - \beta_1 \bar{x}$$

Example

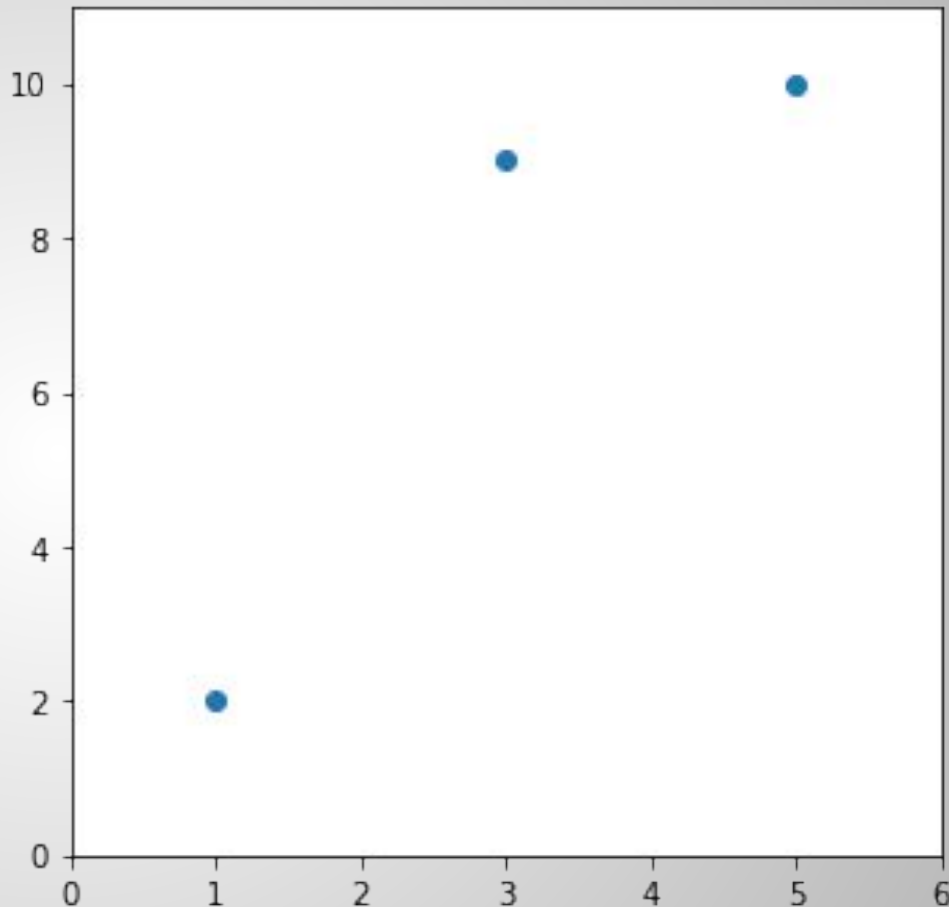
Construct the best-fit line for the points: (1, 2), (3, 9), and (5, 10)

Remember:

$$r_P = \frac{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \sqrt{\sum_i (y_i - \bar{y})^2}}$$

$$\beta_1 = r_P \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x}$$

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



$$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$$

$$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$$

Step 1:

Calculate \bar{x} and \bar{y} :

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1+3+5}{3} = 3$$

$$\bar{y} = \frac{2+9+10}{3} = 7$$

$$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$$

$$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$$

Step 2:

Calculate these products:

$$\Sigma(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y}) = (1 - 3)(2 - 7) + (3 - 3)(9 - 7) + (5 - 3)(10 - 7) = 16$$

$$\Sigma(x_i - \bar{x})^2 = (1 - 3)^2 + (3 - 3)^2 + (5 - 3)^2 = 8$$

$$\Sigma(y_i - \bar{y})^2 = (2 - 7)^2 + (9 - 7)^2 + (10 - 7)^2 = 38$$

$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$

$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$

Step 3:

Calculate Pearson correlation:

$$r_P = \frac{\Sigma(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\Sigma_i(x_i - \bar{x})^2} \sqrt{\Sigma_i(y_i - \bar{y})^2}} = \frac{16}{\sqrt{(8)(38)}} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{19}}$$

$$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$$

$$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$$

Step 4:

Calculate standard deviations:

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{\frac{8}{3}}$$

$$\sigma_y = \sqrt{\frac{38}{3}}$$

$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$

$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$

Step 5:

Calculate the slope:

$$\beta_1 = r_P \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{19}} \left(\frac{\sqrt{\frac{38}{3}}}{\sqrt{\frac{8}{3}}} \right) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{19}} \left(\frac{\sqrt{38}}{\sqrt{8}} \right) = \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{2\sqrt{2}} = 2$$

$$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$$

$$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$$

Step 6:

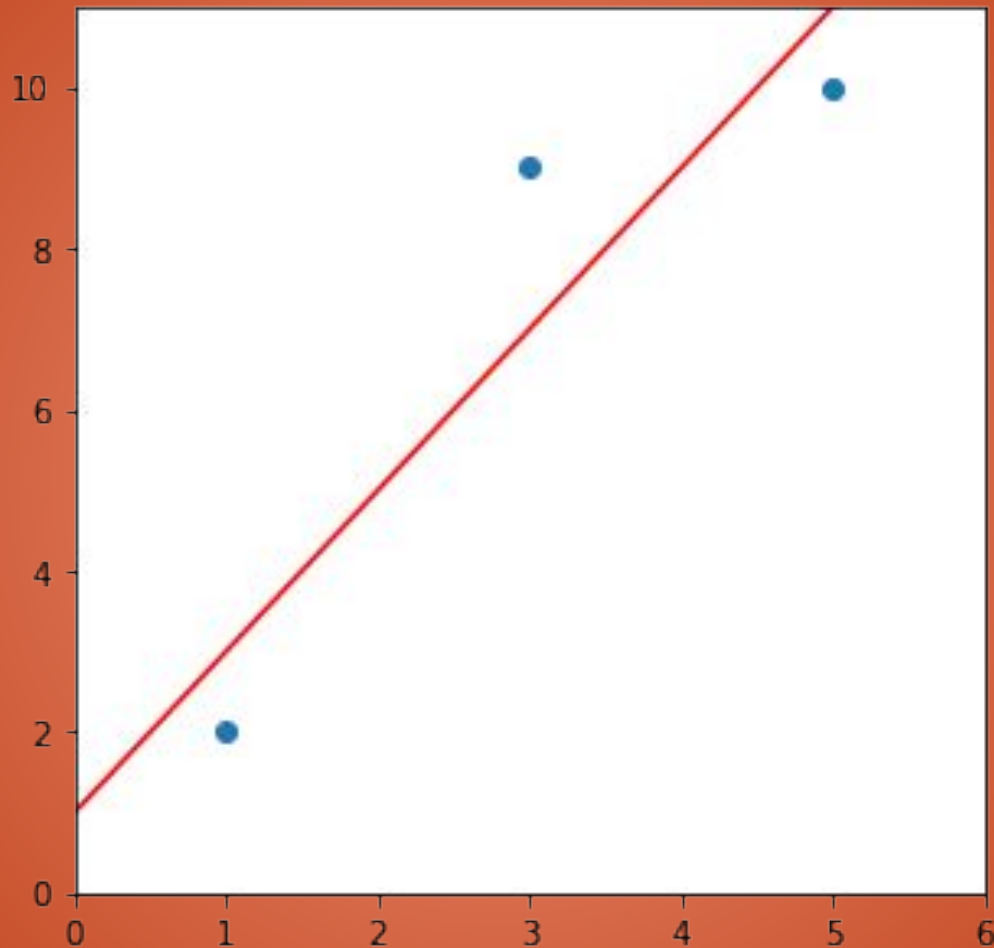
Calculate the y-intercept:

$$\beta_0 = \bar{y} - \beta_1 \bar{x} = 7 - (2)(3) = 1$$

Line:

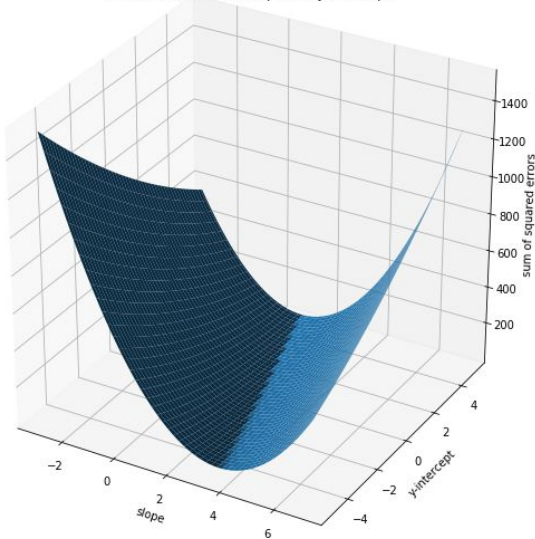
We have our line!

$$\hat{y} = \beta_1 x + \beta_0 = 2x + 1$$

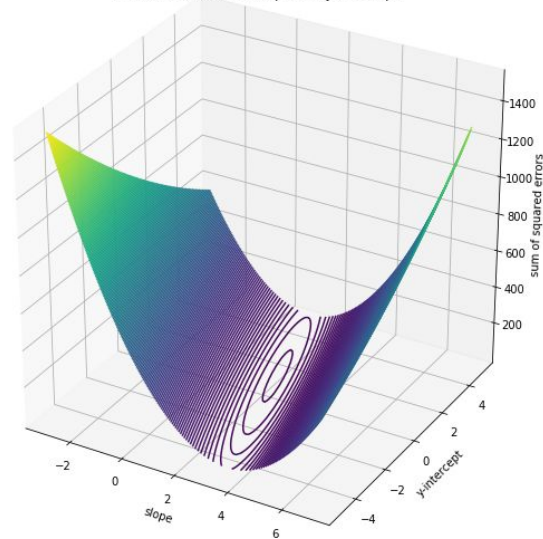


Surface and Contour Plots of $SSE(m, b)$

Error as a function of slope and y-intercept



Error as a function of slope and y-intercept



Not Covered:

1. Variance
2. Covariance
3. Assumptions of the linear model
4. Bend the line?
5. Multiple linear regression

Github repo for the Jupyter Notebook
[Link!](#)



Thank you!