

# STAT 587: Data Science I

Winter 2026

Dorcas Ofori-Boateng (PhD)

# Linear Regression Models

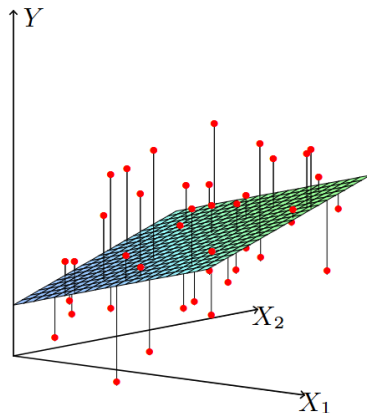
- Linear regression is a foundational method; Provides *interpretability*, *efficiency*, and *statistical grounding*.
- Serves as a *baseline* for more complex models. Many modern methods extend or regularize linear models.
- Assume response depends *linearly* on predictors:

$$f(X) = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j X_j \quad ; \quad \beta = (\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_p)$$

- Parameters  $\beta_j$  quantify *feature influence*.
- Choose  $\beta$  to minimize residual sum of squares:

$$RSS(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \beta_0 - \sum_{j=1}^p x_{ij} \beta_j)^2$$

# Linear Regression Models



**FIGURE 3.1.** *Linear least squares fitting with  $X \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . We seek the linear function of  $X$  that minimizes the sum of squared residuals from  $Y$ .*

# Linear Regression Models

## General conventions:

- lower case bold: vector of length  $n$
- lower case normal font: vectors that are not of length  $n$
- upper case bold: matrices
- all vectors are column vectors unless specified otherwise
- $x^T$  denotes transpose of  $x$

## Define:

$$\mathbf{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_{11} & \dots & x_{1p} \\ 1 & x_{21} & \dots & x_{2p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_{n1} & \dots & x_{np} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T \\ x_2^T \\ \vdots \\ x_n^T \end{bmatrix} = [\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_p]$$
$$\beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_p \end{bmatrix}, \epsilon = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \epsilon_2 \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon_n \end{bmatrix}$$

# Linear Regression Models

- $Y_i = x_i^T \beta + \epsilon_i = f(x_i) + \epsilon_i$ ,  $f(x) = E(Y|X = x) = x^T \beta$
- $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\beta + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$
- rank of  $\mathbf{X}$  is full, i.e.,  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}$  exists.
- $\hat{\beta}$  — estimator of  $\beta$
- $\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = \mathbf{X}\hat{\beta}$  — fitted response vector
- $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{Y} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}}$  — residual vector
- Predicted response when  $x = x_0$ :  $\hat{Y}_0 = x_0^T \hat{\beta} = \hat{f}(x_0)$

# Linear Regression Models

**As before:** Minimize  $\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 = \mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{e}$  with respect to  $\beta$  to get  $\hat{\beta}$

- Least squares estimator:  $\hat{\beta} = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Y}$
- Minimum value of  $\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2$  is  
 $\sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2 = (\mathbf{Y} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}})^T (\mathbf{Y} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}}) = SS_{\text{ERR}}$  — **error**  
**(or residual) sum of squares**

## Properties:

- $\hat{\beta}$  is *linear* in  $\mathbf{Y}$
- Unbiased, i.e.,  $E(\hat{\beta}) = \beta$
- $\text{var}(\hat{\beta}) = \sigma^2 (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}$
- $\text{var}(\hat{\beta}_0) = \sigma^2 \times$  first diagonal element of  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}$
- $\text{var}(\hat{\beta}_j) = \sigma^2 \times (j+1)\text{th}$  diagonal element of  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1}$
- $\hat{\sigma}^2 = SS_{\text{ERR}} / (n - p - 1)$  — unbiased for  $\sigma^2$ .

# Risk: Population vs. Empirical approximation

- Least squares estimators achieve the minimum variance among all linear unbiased estimators.
  - **Gauss–Markov Theorem**: If we have any other linear estimator  $\tilde{\theta} = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{y}$  that is unbiased for  $a^T \beta$ , then:

$$\text{Var}(a^T \hat{\beta}) \leq \text{Var}(\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{y})$$

- Unbiasedness is *not always optimal*, motivating the use of biased methods such as Ridge regression & LASSO.

# Shrinkage & Regularization

- ① Reduce variance by constraining coefficients
- ② Allow small bias to improve prediction

## Ridge Regression:

- Adds  $\ell_2$  penalty:

$$\sum (y_i - \mathbf{x}_i^T \beta)^2 + \lambda \sum \beta_j^2$$

- Shrinks coefficients toward zero; Effective under multicollinearity.

## LASSO:

- Adds  $\ell_1$  penalty:

$$\sum (y_i - \mathbf{x}_i^T \beta)^2 + \lambda \sum |\beta_j|$$

- Produces sparse solutions; Performs variable selection.



# Practicals

## Applications in Python

- Simple Linear Regression
- Multiple Linear Regression
- Multivariate Goodness-of-fit
- Interaction terms
- Categorical/Qualitative predictors
- Non-linear transformation of polynomial\*

# Classification methods

## Python coding exercises

- Logistic regression
- Discriminant analysis (LDA, QDA); [RDA](#) is given separately.
- KNN
- Naive Bayes