

Least squares derivation of linear regression

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

Define loss function and expand:

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2, \hat{y}_i = mx_i + b$$

$$Q(m, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - (mx_i + b))^2$$

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

$$Q(m, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - y_i mx_i - y_i b - y_i mx_i + m^2 x_i^2 + mx_i b - y_i b + mx_i b + b^2)$$

$$Q(m, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n y_i mx_i - \sum_{i=1}^n y_i b - \sum_{i=1}^n y_i mx_i + \sum_{i=1}^n m^2 x_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n mx_i b - \sum_{i=1}^n y_i b + \sum_{i=1}^n mx_i b + \sum_{i=1}^n b^2$$

$$Q(m, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n m^2 x_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n b^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n 2y_i mx_i - \sum_{i=1}^n 2y_i b + \sum_{i=1}^n 2mx_i b$$

Differentiate with respect to **m** and **b**:

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial m} = 2m \sum x_i^2 - 2 \sum y_i x_i + 2b \sum x_i$$

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial b} = 2bN - 2 \sum y_i + 2m \sum x_i, N = \text{number of points}$$

We want to minimize m and b, so set both to 0:

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

$$2bN - 2 \sum y_i + 2m \sum x_i = 0$$

Solve for b first:

$$b = \frac{2 \sum y_i - 2m \sum x_i}{2N}$$

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

Substitute b and solve for m:

$$2m \sum x_i^2 - 2 \sum y_i x_i + 2 \frac{\sum y_i - m \sum x_i}{N} \sum x_i = 0$$

$$m \sum x_i^2 - \sum y_i x_i + \frac{\sum y_i - m \sum x_i}{N} \sum x_i = 0$$

$$m \sum x_i^2 - \sum y_i x_i + \frac{\sum y_i \sum x_i - m(\sum x_i)^2}{N} = 0$$

$$mN \sum x_i^2 - N \sum y_i x_i + \sum y_i \sum x_i - m(\sum x_i)^2 = 0$$

$$mN \sum x_i^2 - m(\sum x_i)^2 = N \sum y_i x_i - \sum y_i \sum x_i$$

$$m(N \sum x_i^2 - (\sum x_i)^2) = N \sum y_i x_i - \sum y_i \sum x_i$$

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

This solution assumes:

1. Normally distributed residuals.

Least squares derivation of linear regression (abridged)

1. Define loss function and expand:

$$Q(m, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - (mx_i + b))^2$$

...

$$Q(m, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n m^2 x_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n b^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n 2y_i m x_i - \sum_{i=1}^n 2y_i b + \sum_{i=1}^n 2m x_i b$$

2. Differentiate with respect to **m** and **b** and set to 0 because we want to minimize error:

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial m} = 0 = 2m \sum x_i^2 - 2 \sum y_i x_i + 2b \sum x_i$$

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial b} = 0 = 2bN - 2 \sum y_i + 2m \sum x_i$$

$N = \text{number of points}$

3. Solve for **m** and **b**:

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

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

Maximum likelihood derivation of linear regression (abridged)

1. PDF for normally-distributed variable: $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$PDF(X) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{\frac{-(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

2. PDF, with linear equation in place of the mean.

$$P(y|x; m, b, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{\frac{-(y-(mx+b))^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

3. Likelihood function for all observed points (x, y) is the product of the probability density for each point:

$$L(m, b, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \prod_{i=1}^n e^{\frac{-(y_i-(mx_i+b))^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

4. Goal: find parameters **b**, **m** and σ that **maximize L**.

1. Convert to log likelihood for easier math, **maximize log(L)**:

$$\log(L) = \log\left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \prod_{i=1}^n e^{\frac{-(y_i-(mx_i+b))^2}{2\sigma^2}}\right]$$

...

$$\log(L) = -\frac{1}{2}\log(2\pi\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - (mx_i + b))^2$$

2. Or, **minimize** negative log likelihood:

$$-\log(L) = \frac{1}{2}\log(2\pi\sigma^2) + \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - (mx_i + b))^2$$

3. Let's *imagine* that our variance term is a fixed constant.

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