

Linear Regression Scenario-Based Questions

April 04, 2025

1 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

1. Predicting House Prices

Scenario: A real estate agent predicts house prices based on size using linear regression with a slope of 50 and an intercept of 20,000. What's the predicted price for a 2,000 sq ft house?

- A) 100,000
- B) 120,000
- C) 150,000
- D) 200,000

Answer: B) 120,000

Explanation: Using $Y = MX + B$, where $M = 50$, $X = 2,000$, and $B = 20,000$, the price is $50 \times 2,000 + 20,000 = 120,000$. The slope represents dollars per square foot.

2. Overfitting Analysis

Scenario: A data scientist splits the bamboo growth data into training (70%), validation (15%), and test (15%) sets. She fits a degree-8 polynomial regression model, achieving $R^2 = 1.0$ on training but $R^2 = 0.2$ on test data. What does this indicate?

- A) Underfitting due to insufficient model complexity
- B) Overfitting due to excessive model complexity
- C) Optimal fit with good generalizability

D) Incorrect data splitting proportions

Answer: B) Overfitting due to excessive model complexity

Explanation: High-degree polynomials (e.g., 8) can overfit, perfectly fitting training data ($R^2 = 1.0$) but failing on test data ($R^2 = 0.2$), as warned in the document's "Overfitting" section.

3. Store Sales Forecast

Scenario: A store manager's linear regression for sales has a slope of 20 and an intercept of 500. What's the predicted sales for 10 customers?

A) 600

B) 700

C) 800

D) 900

Answer: B) 700

Explanation: $Y = 20 \times 10 + 500 = 700$. Each customer adds \$20 to a base of \$500.

4. Quiz Score Prediction

Scenario: A teacher's linear regression for quiz scores has a slope of 15 and an intercept of 25. What's the predicted score for 3 revision hours?

A) 60

B) 70

C) 80

D) 90

Answer: B) 70

Explanation: $Y = 15 \times 3 + 25 = 45 + 25 = 70$. Each hour adds 15 points to a base of 25.

5. Car Rental Cost

Scenario: A car rental company's linear regression has a slope of 30 and an intercept of 50. What's the cost for a 5-day rental?

- A) 150
- B) 180
- C) 200
- D) 230

Answer: C) 200

Explanation: $Y = 30 \times 5 + 50 = 150 + 50 = 200$. The slope is \$30/day, added to a \$50 fee.

6. Bamboo Growth Prediction

Scenario: A botanist fits a cubic polynomial regression model to the bamboo growth data using this Python code:

```
1 import numpy as np
2 from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
3 from sklearn.preprocessing import PolynomialFeatures
4
5 days = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,
6                 10]).reshape(-1, 1)
7 growth = np.array([1, 2, 3, 5, 15, 34, 48, 70, 136,
8                 185])
9
10 poly = PolynomialFeatures(degree=3)
11 days_poly = poly.fit_transform(days)
12
13 model = LinearRegression()
14 model.fit(days_poly, growth)
15
16 predicted_day_11 =
17     model.predict(poly.transform(np.array([[11]])))[0]
18 print(f"Predicted growth on day 11:
19       {predicted_day_11:.2f} cm")
```

Question: Based on the cubic model, what is the predicted bamboo growth on day 11?

- A) 185 cm
- B) 200 cm
- C) 265.23 cm

D) 300 cm

Answer: C) 265.23 cm

Explanation: The code fits a cubic polynomial ($y = \beta_0 + \beta_1x + \beta_2x^2 + \beta_3x^3$) and predicts 260.50 cm for day 11, an extrapolation beyond day 10 (185 cm), capturing the accelerating growth trend.

7. Sales Prediction with Python

Scenario: A shop owner runs this Python code to predict sales based on ad budget:

```
1 import numpy as np
2 from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
3
4 X = np.array([[10], [20], [30], [40], [50]]) # Budget
5 Y = np.array([150, 300, 450, 600, 750])      # Sales
6
7 model = LinearRegression()
8 model.fit(X, Y)
9
10 slope = model.coef_[0]
11 intercept = model.intercept_
12
13 print(f"Slope: {slope}, Intercept: {intercept}")
```

Question: Predicted sales for a \$25 budget, best approximation?

- A) 300
- B) 375
- C) 450
- D) 525

Answer: B) 375

Explanation: Output: Slope: 15.0, Intercept: 0.0
 $Y = 15 \times 25 + 0 = 375$. Each dollar increases sales by \$15.

8. Error in Plant Height Prediction (Difficult)

Scenario: A researcher runs this code to predict plant height:

```

1 import numpy as np
2 from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
3
4 X = np.array([[2], [4], [6], [8]]) # Sunlight hours
5 Y = np.array([10, 18, 26, 34])      # Height in cm
6
7 model = LinearRegression()
8 model.fit(X, Y)
9
10 slope = model.coef_[0]
11 intercept = model.intercept_
12
13 X_test = np.array([[5]])
14 predicted_height = model.predict(X_test)[0]
15 actual_height = 25
16 error = abs(actual_height - predicted_height)
17
18 print(f"Slope: {slope}, Intercept: {intercept}")
19 print(f"Predicted height for 5 hours:
20       {predicted_height}")
21 print(f"Absolute error: {error}")

```

Output:

Slope: 4.0, Intercept: 2.0

Predicted height for 5 hours: 22.0

Absolute error: 3.0

Question: What does the error of 3.0 indicate?

- A) Overestimates by 3 cm
- B) Underestimates by 3 cm
- C) Slope incorrect by 3
- D) Intercept needs +3

Answer: B)

Explanation: Predicted: 22 cm, Actual: 25 cm. $|25 - 22| = 3$, and 22 < 25, so it underestimates.

2 Numeric Type Questions

9. Coding Speed Target

Scenario: A student runs this code for coding speed:

```
1 import numpy as np
2 from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
3
4 X = np.array([[1], [2], [3], [4], [5]]) # Hours
5 Y = np.array([10, 25, 40, 55, 70])      #
   Lines/hour
6
7 model = LinearRegression()
8 model.fit(X, Y)
9
10 slope = model.coef_[0]
11 intercept = model.intercept_
12
13 print(f"Slope: {slope}, Intercept: {intercept}")
```

Output: Slope: 15.0, Intercept: -5.0

Question: Hours needed for 100 lines/hour?

Answer: 7

Explanation: $100 = 15X - 5$. $105 = 15X$, $X = 7$.

Hint: Solve for X with $Y = 100$.

10. Quadratic Model Fit

Scenario: A researcher fits a quadratic polynomial regression model (degree=2) to the bamboo growth data with this code:

```
1 import numpy as np
2 from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
3 from sklearn.preprocessing import PolynomialFeatures
4 from sklearn.metrics import r2_score
5
6 days = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,
   10]).reshape(-1, 1)
7 growth = np.array([1, 2, 3, 5, 15, 34, 48, 70, 136,
   185])
8
9 poly = PolynomialFeatures(degree=2)
10 days_poly = poly.fit_transform(days)
```

```

11
12 model = LinearRegression()
13 model.fit(days_poly, growth)
14
15 predicted = model.predict(days_poly)
16 r2 = r2_score(growth, predicted)
17 print(f"R2 Score for quadratic model: {r2:.4f}")

```

Question: What is the R^2 score for the quadratic model, rounded to two decimal places?

Answer: 0.98

Explanation: The R^2 score of 0.9804, rounded to 0.98, indicates a good fit, though a cubic model might better capture the rapid growth curve.

11. Impressions for Clicks (Difficult)

Scenario: A marketer runs this code for clicks:

```

1 import numpy as np
2 from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
3
4 X = np.array([[100], [200], [300], [400]]) #
   Impressions
5 Y = np.array([5, 9, 13, 17]) # Clicks
6
7 model = LinearRegression()
8 model.fit(X, Y)
9
10 slope = model.coef_[0]
11 intercept = model.intercept_
12
13 print(f"Slope: {slope}, Intercept: {intercept}")

```

Output: Slope: 0.04, Intercept: 1.0

Question: Impressions for 25 clicks?

Answer: 600

Explanation: $25 = 0.04X + 1$. $24 = 0.04X$, $X = 600$.

3 Multiple Select Questions (MSQs)

12. Flower Growth Analysis

Scenario: A gardener's linear regression has a slope of 0.2 and an intercept of 5. Which are true for 10 units of water?

- A) Predicted growth is 7 units
- B) Slope means 0.2 units growth per water unit
- C) Intercept means growth starts at 5 with no water
- D) Growth doubles if water doubles to 20 units

Answers: A, B, C

Explanation:

- A) $0.2 \times 10 + 5 = 7$, true.
- B) Slope = 0.2, true.
- C) Intercept = 5, true.
- D) $0.2 \times 20 + 5 = 9$, not 14, false.

13. Employee Productivity

Scenario: A manager's linear regression has a slope of 3 and an intercept of 40. Which are correct for 5 training hours?

- A) Productivity is 55
- B) Each hour boosts productivity by 3
- C) No training means productivity is 0
- D) Assumes a straight-line relationship

Answers: A, B, D

Explanation:

- A) $3 \times 5 + 40 = 55$, true.
- B) Slope = 3, true.
- C) Intercept = 40, false.
- D) Linear regression assumption, true.

14. Calories Burned Analysis

Scenario: A coach runs this code for calories burned:


```

1 import numpy as np
2 from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
3
4 X = np.array([[10], [20], [30], [40]]) # Minutes
5 Y = np.array([100, 180, 260, 340])     # Calories
6
7 model = LinearRegression()
8 model.fit(X, Y)
9
10 slope = model.coef_[0]
11 intercept = model.intercept_
12
13 X_test = np.array([[25]])
14 predicted_calories = model.predict(X_test)[0]
15
16 print(f"Slope: {slope}, Intercept: {intercept}")
17 print(f"Predicted calories for 25 minutes:
    {predicted_calories}")

```

Output:

Slope: 8.0, Intercept: 20.0

Predicted calories for 25 minutes: 220.0

Question: Which are true?

- A) Predicted calories for 25 minutes are 220
- B) Each minute burns 8 calories
- C) Base burn is 20
- D) Prediction for 0 minutes is 0

Answers: A, C

Explanation:

- A) Output shows 220, true.
- B) Slope = 8 is increase, not total, false.
- C) Intercept = 20, true.
- D) $8 \times 0 + 20 = 20$, false.

15. Cubic Model Analysis

Scenario: A student fits a cubic polynomial regression model to the bamboo growth data:

```

1 import numpy as np
2 from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
3 from sklearn.preprocessing import PolynomialFeatures
4
5 days = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,
6                 10]).reshape(-1, 1)
7 growth = np.array([1, 2, 3, 5, 15, 34, 48, 70, 136,
8                  185])
9
10 poly = PolynomialFeatures(degree=3)
11 days_poly = poly.fit_transform(days)
12
13 model = LinearRegression()
14 model.fit(days_poly, growth)
15
16 print(f"Coefficients: {model.coef_}")
17 print(f"Intercept: {model.intercept_:.2f}")

```

Output:

Coefficients: [0. 7.248446 -2.58566434 0.37801088]

Intercept: -4.77

Question: Which statements are true based on the model and document?

- A) The model equation (approximate) is $y = -4.77 + 7.25x + 2.59x^2 + 0.38x^3$
- B) The cubic term is positive, indicating accelerating growth.
- C) A linear model (degree=1) would perfectly fit this data
- D) The R^2 score is likely close to 1 due to the cubic fit

Answers: B, D

Explanation:

- A) False: The quadratic term sign is incorrect.
- B) $\beta_3 = 0.38 > 0$, indicating acceleration, true.
- C) A linear model would underfit this data.
- D) Cubic fit is optimal per document, likely $R^2 \approx 1$, true.