

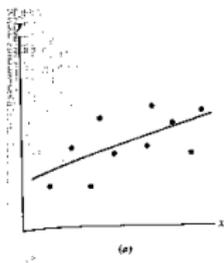
Correlation

Goal: Find cause and effect links between variables.

Correlation

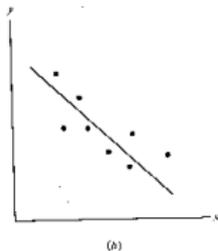
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What can we conclude when two variables are highly **correlated**?



Positive Correlation

High values of x
are associated with
high values of y .



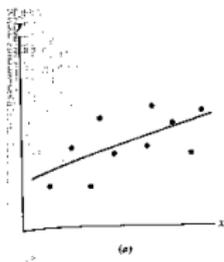
Negative Correlation

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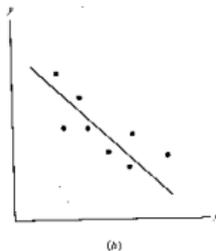
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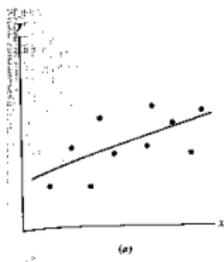
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The **correlation coefficient**, R^2 is a number between 0 and 1.

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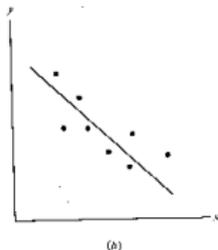
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The **correlation coefficient**, R^2 is a number between 0 and 1.

Values near 1 show **strong correlation** (data lies almost on a line).

Values near 0 show **weak correlation** (data doesn't lie on a line).

Calculating the R^2 Statistic

To find R^2 , you need data and its best fit *linear* regression.

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- ▶ The **error sum of squares**: $SSE = \sum_i [y_i - f(x_i)]^2$.

- ▶ The **total corrected sum of squares**: $SST = \sum_i [y_i - \bar{y}]^2$,
where \bar{y} is the average y_i value.

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Is my R^2 good? Use a critical value table for R . (Note: not R^2 .)

<http://www.gifted.uconn.edu/siegle/research/correlation/corrchrt.htm>

Calculating the R^2 Statistic

Example. (cont'd from notes p. 33) What is R^2 for the data set:
 $\{(1.0, 3.6), (2.1, 2.9), (3.5, 2.2), (4.0, 1.7)\}$?

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► The **error sum of squares**: $SSE = \sum [y_i - f(x_i)]^2$.

$$SSE = (3.6 - f(1.0))^2 + (2.9 - f(2.1))^2 + (2.2 - f(3.5))^2 + (1.7 - f(4.0))^2$$

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$$\begin{aligned} SST &= (3.6 - 2.6)^2 + (2.9 - 2.6)^2 + (2.2 - 2.6)^2 + (1.7 - 2.6)^2 \\ &= (1)^2 + (0.3)^2 + (-0.4)^2 + (-0.9)^2 = 2.06 \end{aligned}$$

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► Now calculate $R^2 = 1 - \frac{SSE}{SST} = 1 - \frac{0.0210}{2.06} = 1 - .01 = 0.99$.

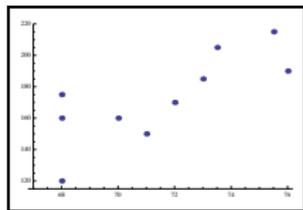
Another R^2 Calculation

Example. Estimating weight from height.

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Here is a list of heights and weights for ten students.



ht.	wt.
68	160
70	160
71	150
68	120
68	175
76	190
73.5	205
75.5	215
73	185
72	170

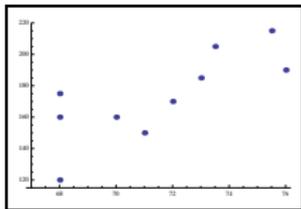
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Example. Estimating weight from height.

Here is a list of heights and weights for ten students.

We calculate the line of best fit:

$$(\text{weight}) = 7.07(\text{height}) - 333.$$



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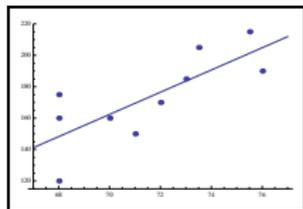
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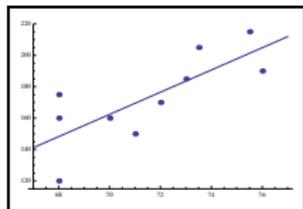
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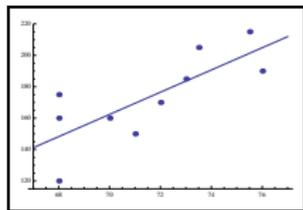
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Now find the correlation coefficient: ($\bar{w} = 173$)

$$SSE = \sum_{i=1}^{10} [w_i - (7.07 h_i - 333)]^2 \approx 2808$$

$$SST = \sum_{i=1}^{10} [w_i - 173]^2 = 6910$$

$$\text{So } R^2 = 1 - (2808/6910) = 0.59$$

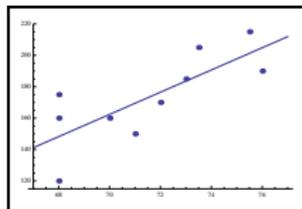
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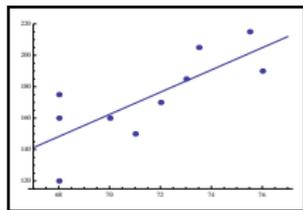
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We can introduce another variable to see if the fit improves.

Multiple Linear Regression

Add waist measurements to the data!

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68	34	160
70	32	160
71	31	150
68	29	120
68	34	175
76	34	190
73.5	38	205
75.5	34	215
73	36	185
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Multiple Linear Regression

Add waist measurements to the data!

We wish to calculate a *linear* relationship such as:

$$(\text{weight}) = a(\text{height}) + b(\text{waist}) + c.$$

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Do a regression to find the *best-fit plane*:

Use the least-squares criterion. Minimize:

$$SSE = \sum_{(h_i, ws_i, wt_i)} [wt_i - (a \cdot h_i + b \cdot ws_i + c)]^2.$$

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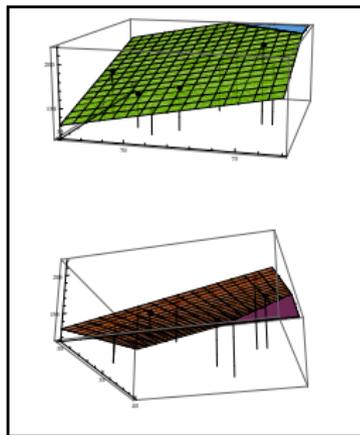
This finds that the best fit plane is (coeff sign)

$$(\text{weight}) = 4.59(\text{height}) + 6.35(\text{waist}) - 368.$$

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Visually, we might expect a plane to do a better job fitting the points than the line.



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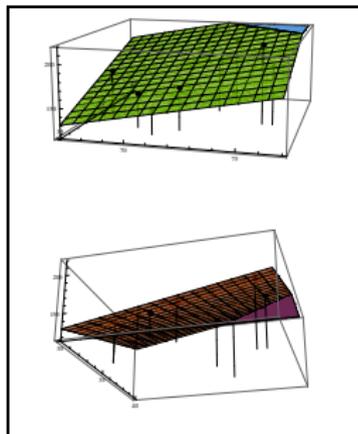
► Now calculate R^2 .

Calculate $SSE =$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} (w_i - f(h_i, ws_i))^2 \approx 955$$

SST does not change: (why?)

$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} (w_i - 173)^2 = 6910$$



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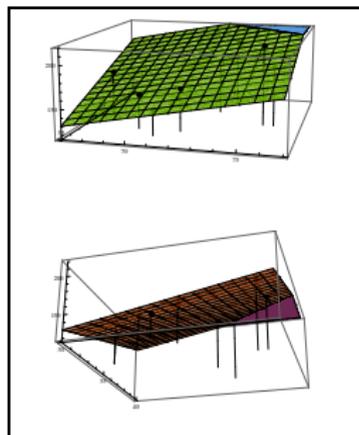
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So $R^2 = 1 - (955/6910) = 0.86$, an excellent correlation.

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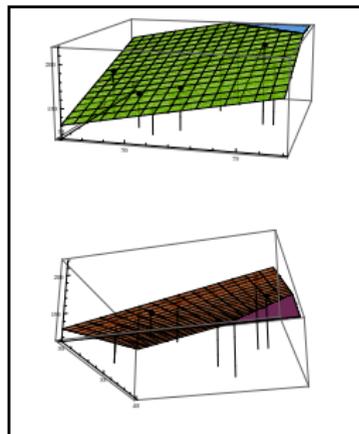
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► When you introduce more variables, SSE can only go down, so R^2 always increases.

Notes about the Correlation Coefficient

Example. Time and Distance (pp. 190)

Data collected to predict driving time from home to school.

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Variables:

T = driving time

M = miles driven

Use a linear regression to find that

$T = 1.89M + 8.05$, with an $R^2 = 0.867$.

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- ▶ R^2 increases as the number of variables increase.
- ▶ This doesn't mean that the fit is better!

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Example. Cancer and Fluoridation. (pp. 188–189)

Does fluoride in the water cause cancer?

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Variables:

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Use a linear regression to find that

$C = \mathbf{27.1}T + 181$, with an $R^2 = 0.047$.

Notes about the Correlation Coefficient

Example. Cancer and Fluoridation. (pp. 188–189)

Does fluoride in the water cause cancer?

Variables:

T = log of years of fluoridation A = % of population over 65.

C = cancer mortality rate

Use a linear regression to find that

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Does fluoride in the water cause cancer?

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