

## Line of Best Fit

When data is displayed with a **scatter plot**, it is often useful to attempt to represent that data with the equation of a straight line for purposes of predicting values that may not be displayed on the plot.

Such a straight line is called the "**line of best fit**."

It may also be called a "trend" line.

A **line of best fit** is a straight line that best represents the data on a scatter plot. This line may pass through some of the points, none of the points, or all of the points.

### Predicting:

- If you are looking for values that fall within the plotted values when using the line of best fit, you are **interpolating**.
- If you are looking for values that fall outside the plotted values when using the line of best fit, you are **extrapolating**. **Be careful** when extrapolating. The further away from the plotted values you go, the less reliable is your prediction.

Another term for line of best fit is

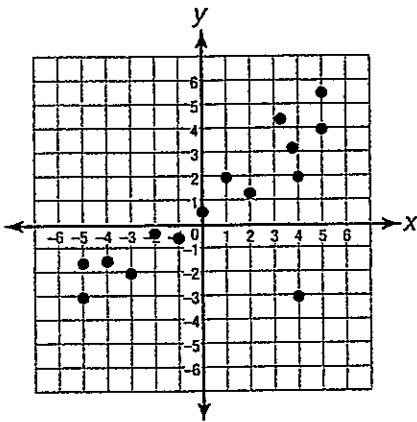
### Choose:

- a) scatter plot
- b) trend line
- c) tangent line
- d) slope



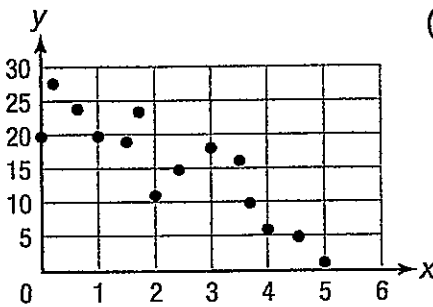
Sketch a trend line for each scatter plot.

①

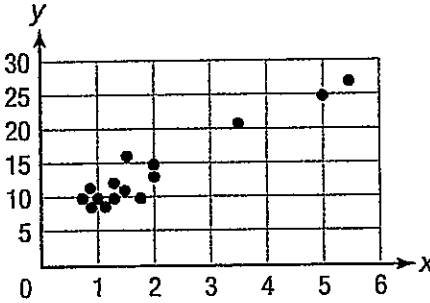


**Ask Yourself**  
How can I draw a line that includes as many points as possible?

②

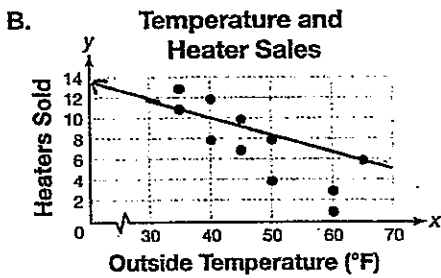
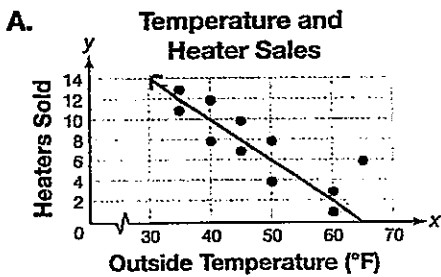


③

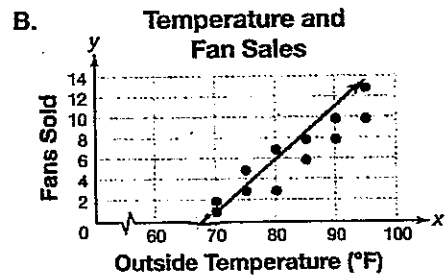
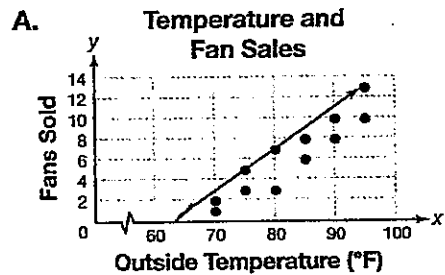


Consider each pair of identical scatter plots. Circle the letter of the plot that shows the better trend line. Explain your choice.

①



②




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## Correlation Coefficients

We know that the graphing calculator can find a "best fit" regression equation that can be used to predict new values. But, **how reliable will these prediction be?** Is there a way to determine how well our regression equation fits our data?

Yes! There is a way of measuring the "**goodness of fit**" of the best fit line (least squares line), called the **correlation coefficient**. It is a number between -1 and 1, inclusive, which indicates the measure of linear association between the two variables, and also shows whether the correlation is positive or negative.

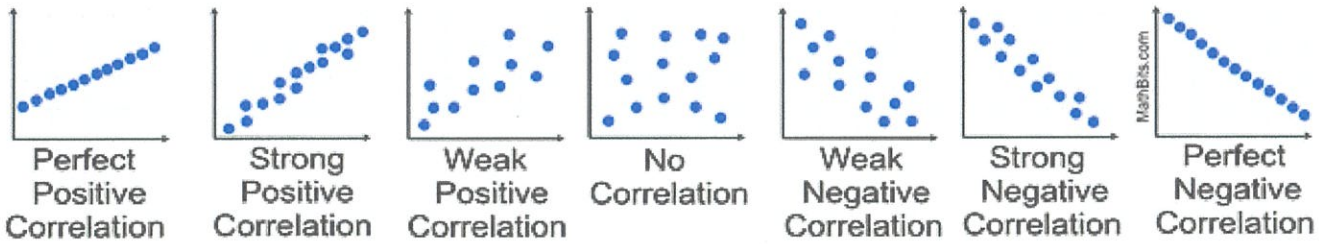
**Definition:**

A **correlation coefficient**, designated by  $r$ , is a number in the range  $-1 \leq r \leq 1$ , that indicates how well a regression equation truly represents data being examined.

If  $r$  is close to 1 (or -1), the model is considered a "**good fit**".

- If  $r$  is close to 0, the model is "**not a good fit**".
- If  $r = \pm 1$ , the model is a "**perfect fit**" with all data points lying on the line.
- If  $r = 0$ , there is no linear relationship between the two variables.

A correlation greater than 0.8 is generally described as **strong**, whereas a correlation less than 0.5 is generally described as **weak**.



### Using the graphing calculator to find $r$

Be sure the TI-84+'s "**Diagnostics**" are turned on.

If not, you will not see the  $r$ -value.

Calc:  $\boxed{2^{nd}}$   $\boxed{0}$   $\boxed{\downarrow}$  Diagnostic on  $\boxed{Enter}$   $\boxed{Enter}$  OR  
 When you choose a regression equation on the calculator, the **correlation coefficient will be displayed on the screen** with the regression equation information (assuming the Diagnostics are turned on).

The linear regression screen shown at the right shows an " $r$ " value of 0.995970141, which implies a strong correlation.

The linear regression equation, in this case, will be a reliable model for future forecasts or predictions.



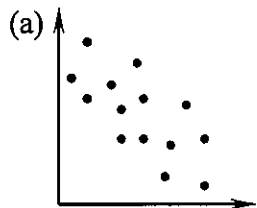
press  $\boxed{mode}$  + scroll down until you see STAT Diagnostics +  $\boxed{\rightarrow}$   $\boxed{on}$  + press  $\boxed{Enter}$  then exit

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

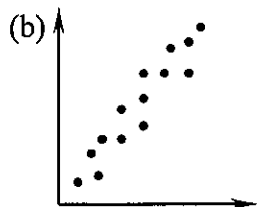
**QUANTIFYING PREDICTABILITY**  
**COMMON CORE ALGEBRA I HOMEWORK**

1. Below there are six scatter plots, six correlation coefficients, and six terms. Match the appropriate  $r$ -value with the scatter plot it most likely corresponds to. Then match the term you think is most appropriate to the  $r$ -value as well (not to the graph).



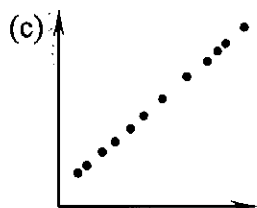
$r = 1.0$

Weak Negative



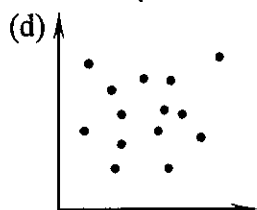
$r = 0.35$

Perfect Positive



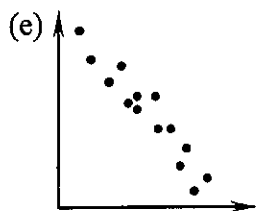
$r = -0.82$

Strong Positive



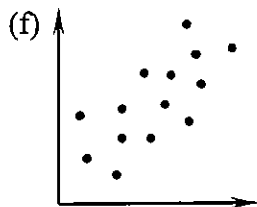
$r = 0$

Weak Positive



$r = -0.56$

Moderate Negative



$r = 0.93$

No Correlation

## More Examples

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- 1) Given the data in the chart below.

x	4	5	6	7
y	8	10	12	14

Determine a line of best fit.

- 2) The chart below shows the number of minutes studied and the grade received on a test.

Minutes Studied (x)	Test Grade (y)
15	50
40	67
45	75
60	75
70	73
75	89

Determine a line of best fit for this data.

- 3) James uses data that he collected in a science experiment to calculate a line of best fit. He determines the equation of the line to be  $y = 7x + 2.25$ .

Use this equation to calculate the value of  $y$  when  $x = 6$ .

- A) 15.25                      C) 44.25  
B) 39.75                      D) 42

Calc: 1) **STAT** **1: Edit** put #s in  $L_1, L_2$   
2) **ZOOM** **9: STAT** to see the graph  
(make sure stat plot is on)  
3) **STAT** **(→) CALC** **4: LinReg (ax+b)**  
**(↓) Calculate** **enter** to get the equation

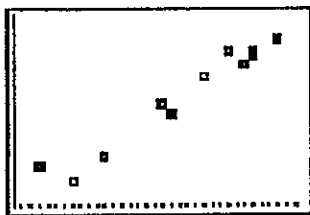
# Line of best fit

Can we predict the number of total calories based upon the total fat grams?

1. Enter the data in the calculator lists. Place the data in L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>2</sub>.  
STAT, #1Edit, type values into the lists

L1	L2	L3	3
9	260		
13	320		
21	420		
30	530		
41	560		
51	550		
64	590		
L3(1)=			

2. Prepare a scatter plot of the data. Set up for the scatterplot.  
2<sup>nd</sup> StatPlot - choices shown at right.  
Choose **ZOOM #9 ZoomStat**. Graph shown below.



```

2nd Plot2 Plot3
Off Off
Type: [ ] [ ] [ ]
      [ ] [ ] [ ]
Xlist: L1
Ylist: L2
Mark: [ ] [ ] [ ]
    
```

3. Have the calculator determine the line of best-fit.

STAT → CALC #4 LinReg(ax+b)

Include the parameters L<sub>1</sub>, L<sub>2</sub>, Y<sub>1</sub>.  
(Y<sub>1</sub> comes from VARS → YVARS, #Function, Y<sub>1</sub>)

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LinReg(ax+b) L1,
L2, Y1
    
```

You now have the values of a and b needed to write the equation of the line of best fit. See values at the right.

$$y = 11.73128088x + 193.8521475$$

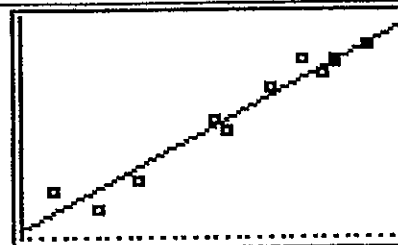
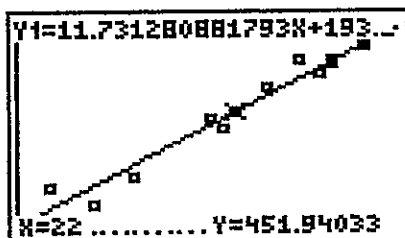
```

EDIT [ ] [ ] TESTS
1: 1-Var Stats
2: 2-Var Stats
3: Med-Med
4: LinReg(ax+b)
5: QuadReg
6: CubicReg
7: QuartReg
    
```

```

LinReg
a=mx+b
a=11.73128088
b=193.8521475
r=.9498583012
r=.9746067418
    
```

4. Graph the line of best fit. Simply hit GRAPH. To get a predicted value within the window, hit TRACE, up arrow, and type the desired value.



Question: Predict the total calories based upon 22 grams of fat.

ANS: 451.940 calories

*make sure you have off y=*

Y= → VARS (STATS) → EQ 1: Reg EQ (ZOOM) 9: ZOOMSTAT → to put equation on the graph

34 The data given in the table below show some of the results of a study comparing the height of a certain breed of dog, based upon its mass.

<b>Mass (kg)</b>	4.5	5	4	3.5	5.5	5	5	4	4	6	3.5	5.5
<b>Height (cm)</b>	41	40	35	38	43	44	37	39	42	44	31	30

Write the linear regression equation for these data, where  $x$  is the mass and  $y$  is the height. Round all values to the *nearest tenth*.

State the value of the correlation coefficient to the *nearest tenth*, and explain what it indicates.

31 At Mountain Lakes High School, the mathematics and physics scores of nine students were compared as shown in the table below.

<b>Mathematics</b>	55	93	89	60	90	45	64	76	89
<b>Physics</b>	66	89	94	52	84	56	66	73	92

State the correlation coefficient, to the *nearest hundredth*, for the line of best fit for these data.

Explain what the correlation coefficient means with regard to the context of this situation.



35 Stephen collected data from a travel website. The data included a hotel's distance from Times Square in Manhattan and the cost of a room for one weekend night in August. A table containing these data appears below.

<b>Distance From Times Square</b> (city blocks) (x)	0	0	1	1	3	4	7	11	14	19
<b>Cost of a Room</b> (dollars) (y)	293	263	244	224	185	170	219	153	136	111

Write the linear regression equation for this data set. Round all values to the *nearest hundredth*.

State the correlation coefficient for this data set, to the *nearest hundredth*.

Explain what the sign of the correlation coefficient suggests in the context of the problem.

**36** The percentage of students scoring 85 or better on a mathematics final exam and an English final exam during a recent school year for seven schools is shown in the table below.

Percentage of Students Scoring 85 or Better	
Mathematics, $x$	English, $y$
27	46
12	28
13	45
10	34
30	56
45	67
20	42

Write the linear regression equation for these data, rounding all values to the *nearest hundredth*.

State the correlation coefficient of the linear regression equation, to the *nearest hundredth*. Explain the meaning of this value in the context of these data.