

Linear Regression and the Coefficient of Determination

Example 1 (from previous lecture):

Is there a connection between the average weight of watermelons a vine produces and the root depth of the vine?

Suspicion: vines with deeper roots have a better water supply, and thus larger average melons.

Large watermelon field, 15 vines are chosen at random. At the end of 8 weeks the watermelons are removed from each vine, weighed, and then the average weight (in pounds) is determined. Root depth of each vine is measured (in inches).

Plot a scatter diagram.

<i>Root depth:</i>	26	14	18	10	26	21	7	26	13	19	17	13	16	28	23
<i>Mean weight:</i>	20	10	13	9	19	17	8	15	9	13	12	7	9	17	14

1. x – root depth, y – mean weight

for each plant there is an ordered pair (x,y) : (root depth, mean weight)

Correlation coefficient: $r \approx 0.901$ – there is a strong positive linear correlation between the root length and the watermelon weight

Thus $r^2 \approx 0.81$, i.e. 81% of the behaviour (variation) of the y -variable can be explained by the corresponding behaviour (variation) of the x -variable if we use the equation of the least-squares line. The remaining 19% of the behaviour (variation) of the y -variable is due to random chance or to the possibility of lurking variables that influence y .

Root depth: 26 14 18 10 26 21 7 26 13 19 17 13 16 28 23
 Mean weight: 20 10 13 9 19 17 8 15 9 13 12 7 9 17 14

X	Y	X ²	Y ²	XY
26	20	676	400	520
14	10	196	100	140
Skipped data values				
13	7	169	49	91
16	9	256	81	144
28	17	784	289	476
23	14	529	196	322
$\Sigma x=277$	$\Sigma y=192$	$\Sigma x^2=5695$	$\Sigma y^2=2698$	$\Sigma xy=3882$

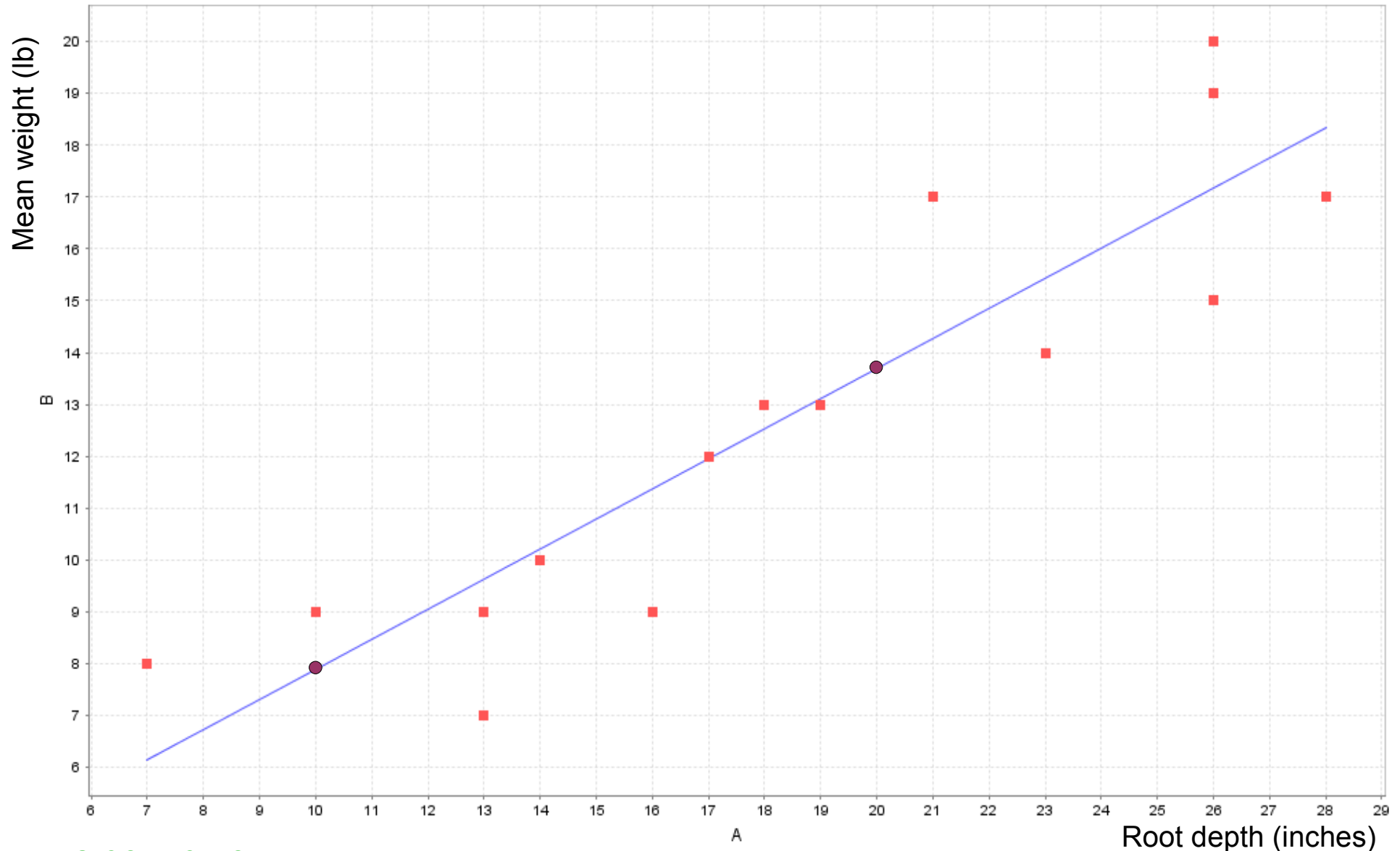
$$b = \frac{(n \sum xy - (\sum x)(\sum y))}{(n \sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2)} = \frac{(15 * 3882 - 277 * 192)}{(15 * 5695 - 277^2)} = \frac{5046}{8696} \approx 0.58 \quad \leftarrow \text{slope}$$

$$a = \bar{y} - b\bar{x} = \frac{\sum y}{n} - b \frac{\sum x}{n} = \frac{(\sum y - b \sum x)}{n} = \frac{(192 - \frac{5046}{8696} * 277)}{15} \approx 2.08 \quad \leftarrow \text{y - intercept}$$

Thus the equation of the least-squares line is
 $y = 2.08 + 0.58x$

Let's draw the least-squares line now:

Root depth (x): 26 14 18 10 26 21 7 26 13 19 17 13 16 28 23
 Mean weight (y): 20 10 13 9 19 17 8 15 9 13 12 7 9 17 14



$y = 2.08 + 0.58x$

two points: when $x=10$, $y = 2.08+0.58*10=7.88$ $(10, 7.88)$
 when $x=20$, $y = 2.08+0.58*20=13.68$ $(20, 13.68)$

! Point (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) or $(18.47, 12.8)$ is always on the least-squares line