

# Least Squares Regression Line Equation

**Example Data:**

$$x_i, y_i = (1, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 6) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \bar{x} = 2, s_x = 0.816, \text{ and } \bar{y} = 3, s_y = 2.160$$

## 0.1 Review: Find the Correlation Coefficient

**Formula:**

$$r = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum \left( \frac{x_i - \bar{x}}{s_x} \right) \left( \frac{y_i - \bar{y}}{s_y} \right) \quad (1)$$

**Evaluate:**

$$r = \frac{1}{3} \sum \left( \frac{1-2}{0.816} \right) \left( \frac{1-3}{2.16} \right) + \left( \frac{2-2}{0.816} \right) \left( \frac{2-3}{2.16} \right) + \left( \frac{2-2}{0.816} \right) \left( \frac{3-3}{2.16} \right) + \left( \frac{3-2}{0.816} \right) \left( \frac{6-3}{2.16} \right)$$

**Solution:**

$$r \approx 0.946$$

## 0.2 Find Least Squares Regression Equation

**Definition:** A regression line is simply a single line that best fits the data (in terms of having the smallest overall distance from the line to the points). Statisticians call this technique for finding the best-fitting line a *simple linear regression analysis using the least squares method*.

**Formula:**

$$\hat{y} = a + bx \quad (2)$$

**Evaluate:**

$$\begin{aligned} b &= r \left( \frac{S_y}{S_x} \right) & a &= \bar{y} - b\bar{x} \\ b &= 0.946 \left( \frac{2.16}{0.816} \right) & a &= 3 - 2.5(2) \\ b &\approx 2.5 & a &= -2 \end{aligned}$$

**Solution:**

$$\hat{y} = -2 - 2.5x$$