

# Linear Regression

Presented by David John Baker  
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# Why Linear Regression ?

- LR is a fundamental tool in the data scientist's kit.
- Practically speaking, using it is one or two lines of code.
- But it's crucial for us to understand the theory underlying it:
  - Building block for more complex tools
  - We are better data scientists if we understand both HOW and WHY



# But first... what is a model?

- Take three minutes to talk to your partner and answer the question...  
**“What is a statistical model?”**
- Come up with a one line definition
- Be prepared to share it with the class
- Thoughts to get you going:
  - What are models used for?
  - What’s in a model?
  - Why do we make models?



# Statistical (Mathematical) Models

- Formalization and quantification of our assumptions about the state of the world
- Distillation of the data (think, mean/median/model)
- Gives us common mathematical language to talk about ways in which we are wrong, incomplete, or inaccurate
- Also used for inference, to make predictions about future data
- “All models wrong, some are useful” - George Box



## (Simple) Linear Regression

- (Simple): functions of a single variable:  $Y = f(X)$
- Linear: models are lines
- Regression: dependent variable is continuously-valued



# Common statistical tests are linear models

Last updated: 29 June, 2019. Also check out the [R version!](#)

See worked examples and more details at the accompanying notebook: <https://github.com/eigenfoo/tests-as-linear>

	Common name	Function in scipy.stats	Equivalent linear model in smf.ols	Exact?	The linear model in words	Icon
Simple Regression: ( $y \sim 1 + x$ )	<b>y is independent of x</b> P: One-sample t-test N: Wilcoxon signed-rank	scipy.stats.ttest_1samp(y) scipy.stats.wilcoxon(y)	smf.ols("y ~ 1", data) smf.ols("y ~ 1", signed_rank(data))	✓ for $N \geq 14$	One number (intercept, i.e., the mean) predicts y. - (Same, but it predicts the <i>signed rank</i> of y.)	
	P: Paired-sample t-test N: Wilcoxon matched pairs	scipy.stats.ttest_rel(y1, y2) scipy.stats.wilcoxon(y1, y2)	smf.ols("y2_sub_y1 ~ 1", data) smf.ols("y2_sub_y1 ~ 1", signed_rank(data))	✓ for $N \geq 14$	One intercept predicts the pairwise $y_2 - y_1$ differences. - (Same, but it predicts the <i>signed rank</i> of $y_2 - y_1$ .)	
	<b>y ~ continuous x</b> P: Pearson correlation N: Spearman correlation	scipy.stats.pearsonr(x, y) scipy.stats.spearmanr(x, y)	smf.ols("y ~ 1 + x", data) smf.ols("y ~ 1 + x", rank(data))	✓ for $N \geq 10$	One intercept plus x multiplied by a number (slope) predicts y. - (Same, but with <i>ranked x and y</i> )	
	<b>y ~ discrete x</b> P: Two-sample t-test P: Welch's t-test N: Mann-Whitney U	scipy.stats.ttest_ind(y1, y2) N/A in Python, but <a href="#">see R version</a> scipy.stats.mannwhitneyu(y1, y1)	smf.ols("y ~ 1 + group", data) <sup>A</sup> N/A in Python, but <a href="#">see R version</a> smf.ols("y ~ 1 + group", signed_rank(data)) <sup>A</sup>	✓ ✓ for $N \geq 11$	An intercept for <b>group 1</b> (plus a difference if <b>group 2</b> ) predicts y. - (Same, but with one variance <i>per group</i> instead of one common.) - (Same, but it predicts the <i>signed rank</i> of y.)	
Multiple regression: ( $y \sim 1 + x_1 + x_2 + \dots$ )	P: One-way ANOVA N: Kruskal-Wallis	scipy.stats.f_oneway(a, b, c) scipy.stats.kruskal(a, b, c)	smf.ols("y ~ 1 + G2 + G3 + ... + GN") <sup>A</sup> smf.ols(rank(y) ~ 1 + G2 + G3 + ... + GN) <sup>A</sup>	✓ for $N \geq 11$	An intercept for <b>group 1</b> (plus a difference if group $\neq 1$ ) predicts y. - (Same, but it predicts the <i>rank</i> of y.)	
	P: One-way ANCOVA	N/A in Python, but <a href="#">see R version</a>	smf.ols("y ~ 1 + G2 + G3 + ... + GN + x", data) <sup>A</sup>	✓	- (Same, but plus a slope on x.) <i>Note: this is discrete AND continuous. ANCOVAs are ANOVAs with a continuous x.</i>	
	P: Two-way ANOVA	N/A in Python, but <a href="#">see R version</a>	smf.ols("y ~ 1 + G2 + G3 + ... + GN + S2 + S3 + ... + SK + G2*S2+G3*S3+...+GN*SK", data)	✓	Interaction term: changing <b>sex</b> changes the <b>y ~ group</b> parameters. <i>Note: G2 to GN is an indicator (0 or 1) for each non-intercept levels of the group variable. Similarly for S2 to SK for sex. The first line (with G) is main effect of group, the second (with S) for sex and the third is the group * sex interaction. For two levels (e.g. male/female), line 2 would just be "S" and line 3 would be "S" multiplied with each G.</i>	[Coming]
	<b>Counts ~ discrete x</b> N: Chi-square test	scipy.stats.chisquare(data)	Equivalent log-linear model sm.GLM(y ~ 1 + G2 + G3 + ... + GN + S2 + S3 + ... + SK + G2*S2+G3*S3+...+GN*SK, family=...) <sup>A</sup>	✓	Interaction term: (Same as Two-way ANOVA.) <i>Note: Run glm using the following arguments: glm(model, family=poisson()) As linear-model, the Chi-square test is <math>\log(y) = \log(\beta_0) + \log(\beta_1) + \log(\alpha\beta)</math> where <math>\alpha</math> and <math>\beta</math> are proportions. See more info in <a href="#">the accompanying notebook</a></i>	Same as Two-way ANOVA
	N: Goodness of fit	scipy.stats.chi2_contingency(data)	sm.GLM(y ~ 1 + G2 + G3 + ... + GN, family=...) <sup>A</sup>	✓	(Same as One-way ANOVA and see Chi-Square note.)	1W-ANOVA

List of common parametric (P) non-parametric (N) tests and equivalent linear models. The notation  $y \sim 1 + x$  is R shorthand for  $y = 1 + b + a \cdot x$  which most of us learned in school. Models in similar colors are highly similar, but really, notice how similar they *all* are across colors! For non-parametric models, the linear models are reasonable approximations for non-small sample sizes (see "Exact" column and click links to see simulations). Other less accurate approximations exist, e.g., Wilcoxon for the sign test and Goodness-of-fit for the binomial test. The signed rank function is `signed_rank(df) = np.sign(df) * df.rank()`. The variables G<sub>i</sub> and S<sub>i</sub> are "dummy coded" indicator variables (either 0 or 1) exploiting the fact that when  $\Delta x = 1$  between categories the difference equals the slope. Subscripts (e.g., G<sub>2</sub> or y<sub>1</sub>) indicate different columns in data. lm requires long-format data for all non-continuous models. All of this is exposed in greater detail and worked examples at <https://eigenfoo.xyz/tests-as-linear>.

<sup>A</sup> See the note to the two-way ANOVA for explanation of the notation.



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<https://lindeloev.net> <https://eigenfoo.xyz>

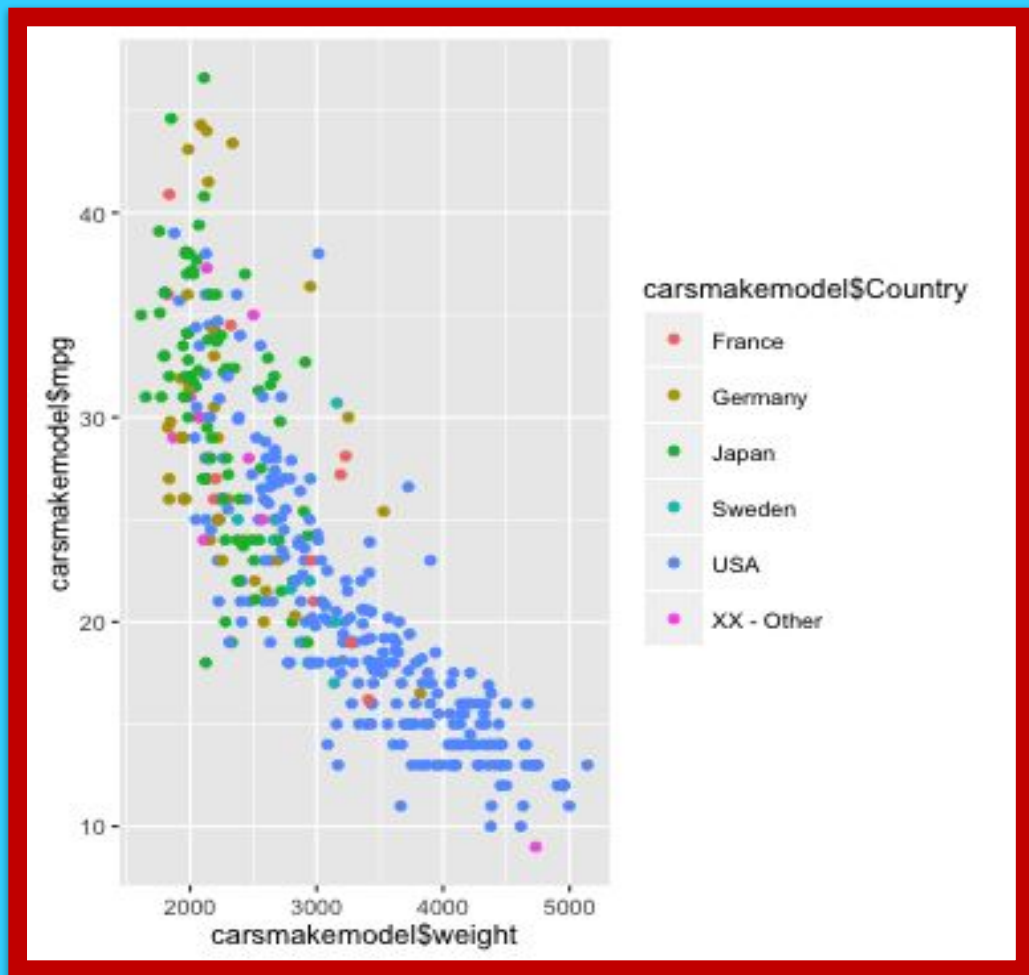
<https://eigenfoo.xyz/tests-as-linear/>

## Using one Variable to Predict Another

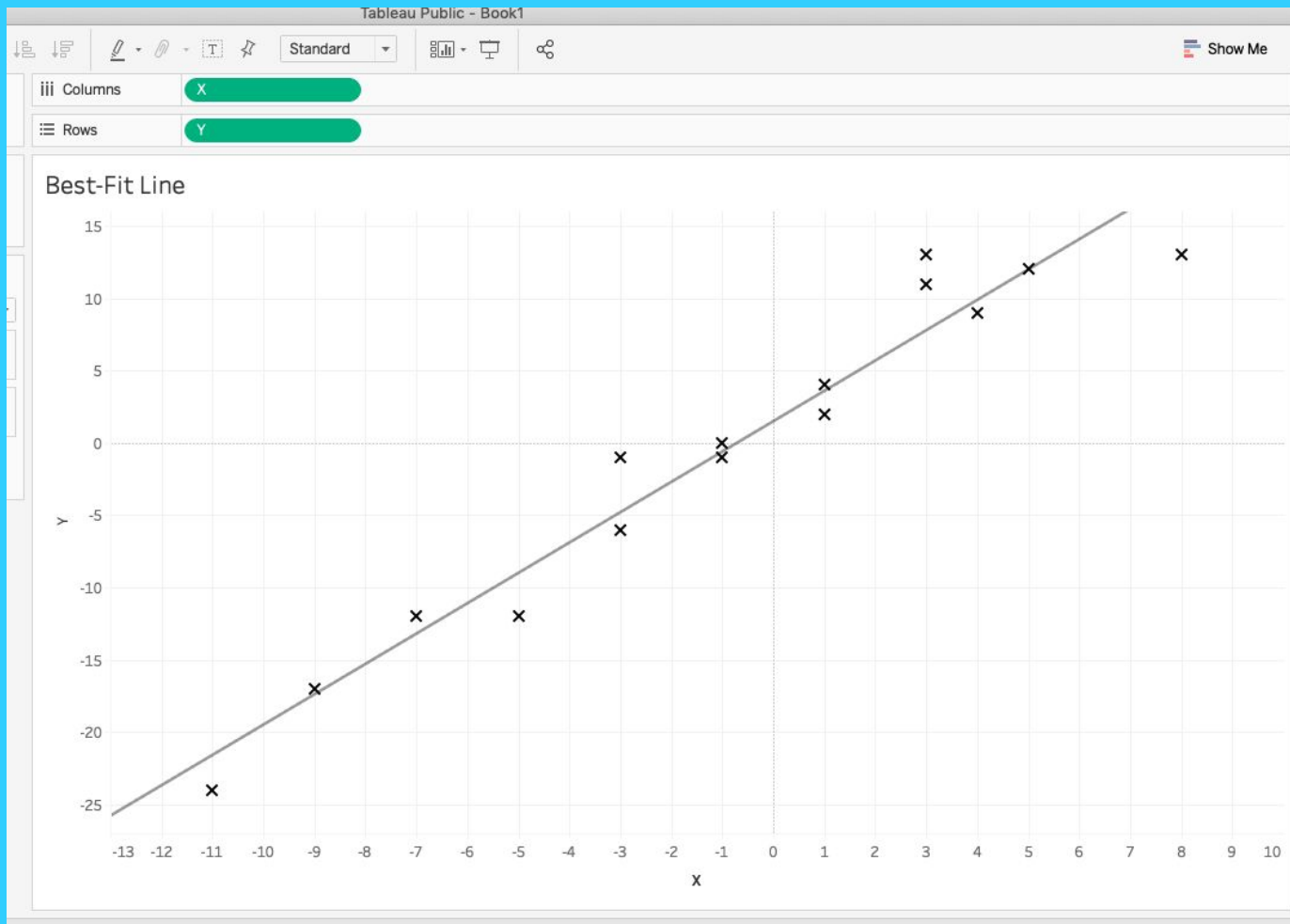
- As population density increases, so do housing prices.
- As the number of trees decreases, the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> goes up.



## Example: Car Weight and MPG







## A Line as a Model

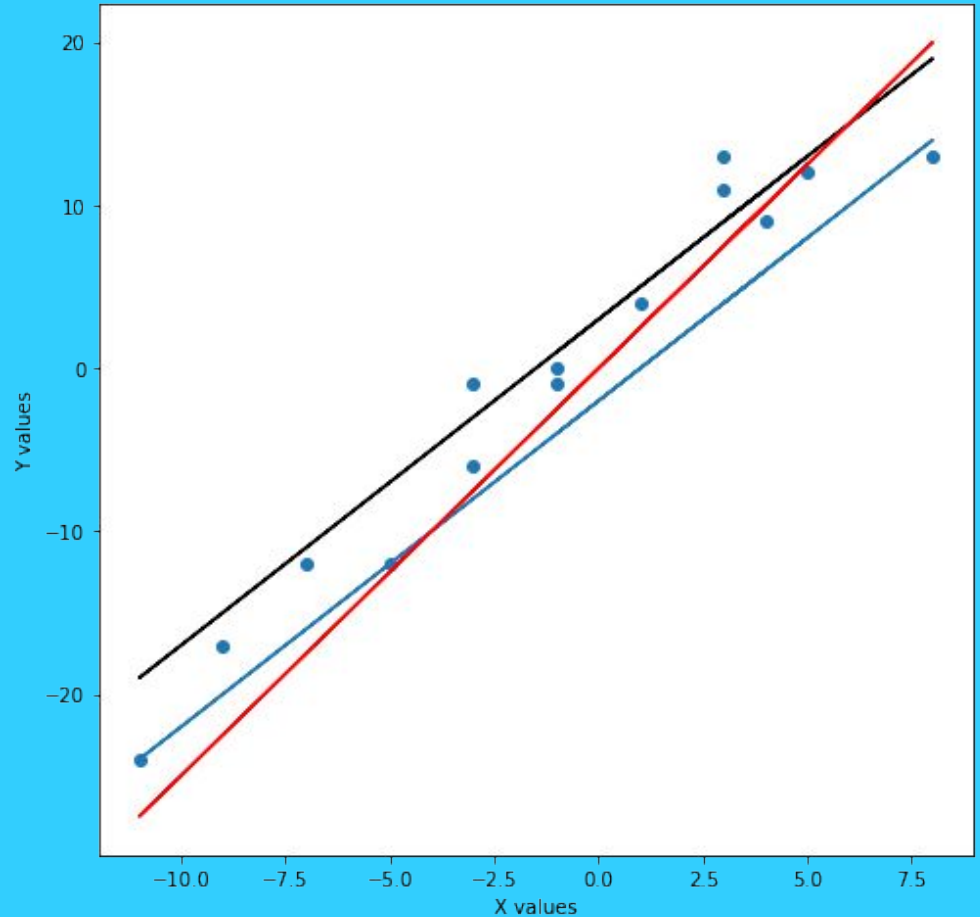
- Predictions for *all* values of the  $X$  variable
  - Model shape:
- Error as the distance between real and predicted values:

$$\hat{y} = \beta_1 x + \beta_0$$

$$E = y - \hat{y}$$
$$E^2 = (y - \hat{y})^2$$

## Goal: Minimize Error

- Which of these lines fits the data best?



## How to Construct the Best-Fit Line

$$r_P = \frac{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \sqrt{\sum_i (y_i - \bar{y})^2}}$$

$$\beta_1 = r_P \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x}$$

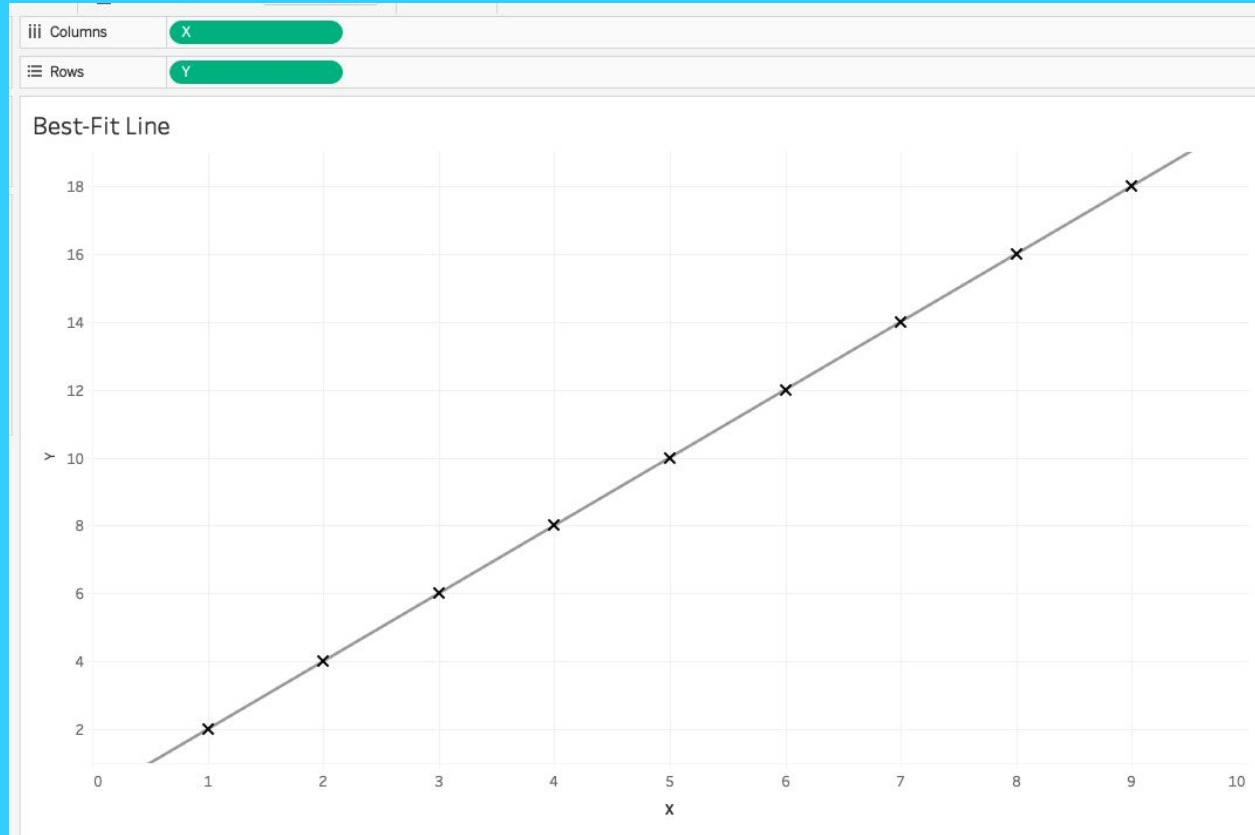
$$\beta_0 = \bar{y}_1 - \beta_1 \bar{x}$$

# Outliers

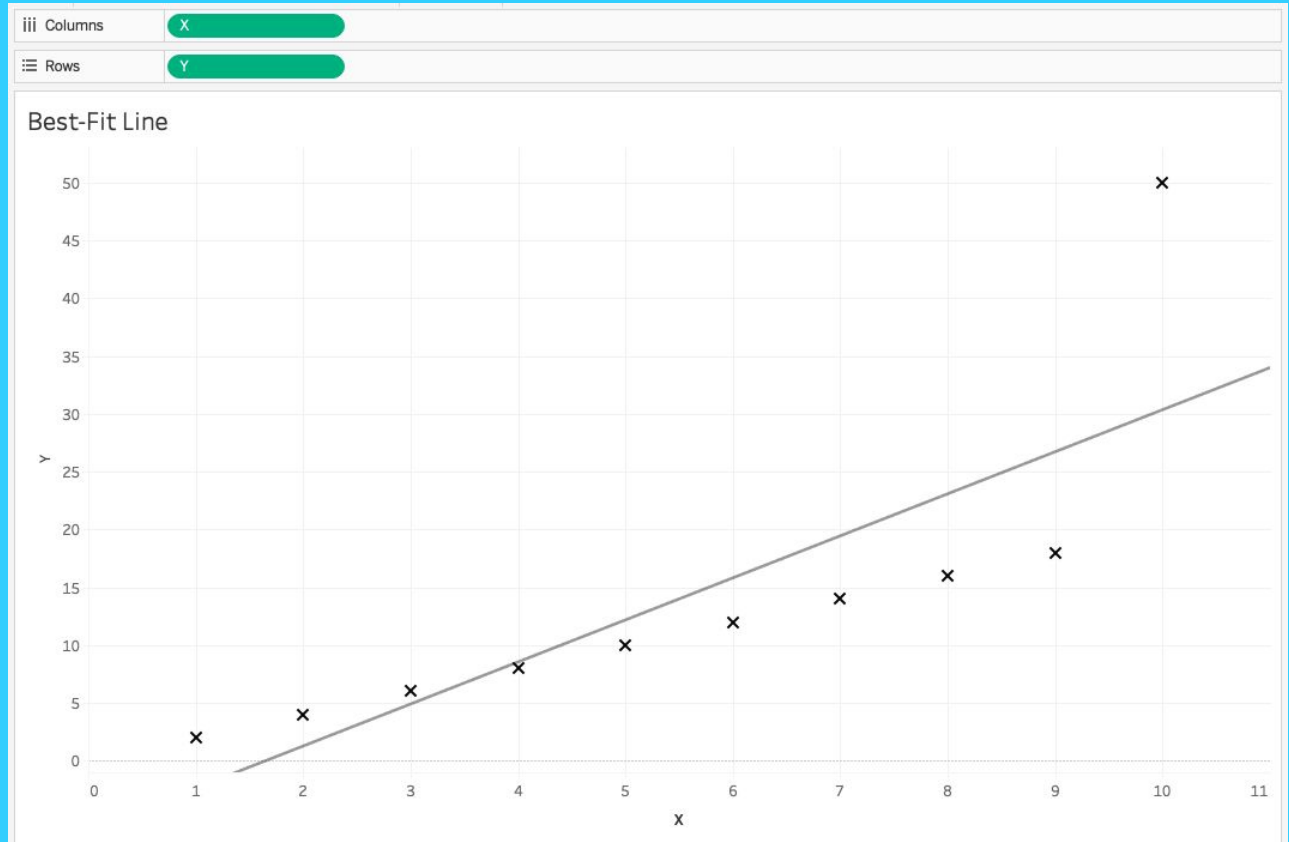


# Sheet1 X	# Sheet1 Y
1	2
2	4
3	6
4	8
5	10
6	12
7	14
8	16
9	18
10	50

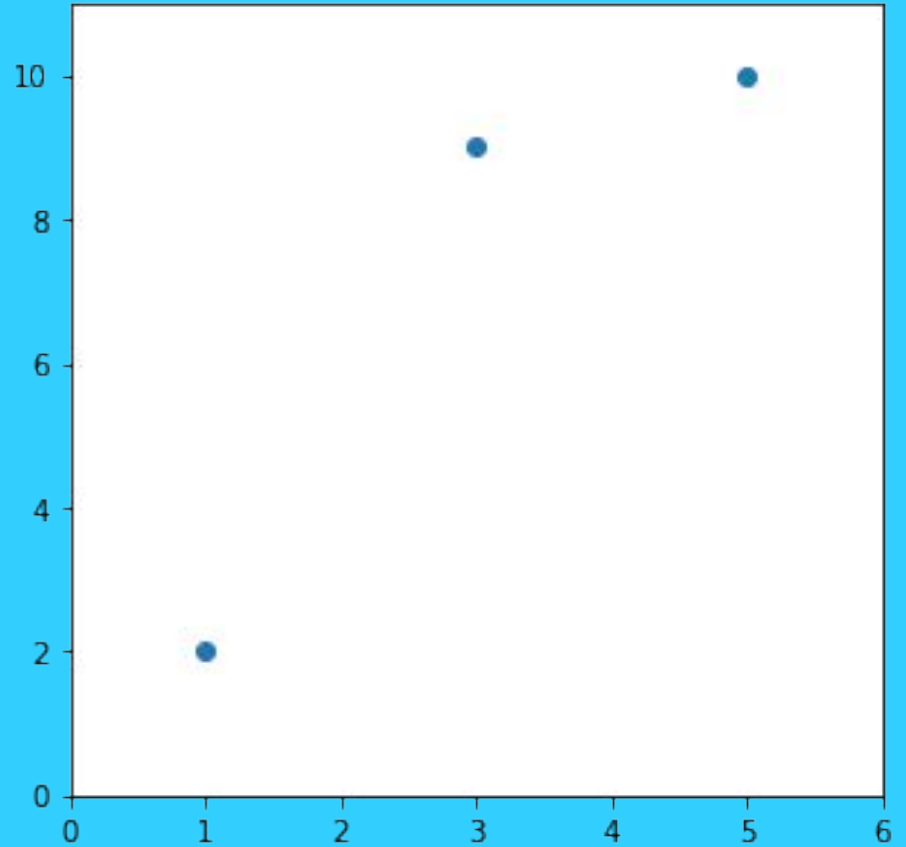
# Dropping Outliers



# Keeping Outliers



**Example:**  
Construct the best-fit line  
for the points:  
(1, 2), (3, 9), and (5, 10).





$$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$$

$$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$$

**First we'll calculate  
x\_bar and y\_bar:**

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1+3+5}{3} = 3$$

$$\bar{y} = \frac{2+9+10}{3} = 7$$



$$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$$

$$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$$

Now we can calculate  $r_p$ :

$$\Sigma(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y}) = (1 - 3)(2 - 7) + (3 - 3)(9 - 7) + (5 - 3)(10 - 7) = 16$$

$$\Sigma(x_i - \bar{x})^2 = (1 - 3)^2 + (3 - 3)^2 + (5 - 3)^2 = 8$$

$$\Sigma(y_i - \bar{y})^2 = (2 - 7)^2 + (9 - 7)^2 + (10 - 7)^2 = 38$$



$$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$$

$$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$$

Now we can calculate  $r_p$ :

$$r_P = \frac{\Sigma(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\Sigma_i(x_i - \bar{x})^2} \sqrt{\Sigma_i(y_i - \bar{y})^2}} = \frac{16}{\sqrt{(8)(38)}} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{19}}$$



$$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$$

$$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$$

**Now we'll calculate the standard deviations of x and y ...**

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{\frac{8}{3}}$$

$$\sigma_y = \sqrt{\frac{38}{3}}$$

$$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$$

$$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$$

... and use those to calculate beta\_1:

$$\beta_1 = r_P \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{19}} \left( \frac{\sqrt{\frac{38}{3}}}{\sqrt{\frac{8}{3}}} \right) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{19}} \left( \frac{\sqrt{38}}{\sqrt{8}} \right) = \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{2\sqrt{2}} = 2$$



$$x_i : [1, 3, 5]$$

$$y_i : [2, 9, 10]$$

Finally, we'll use `beta_1` to calculate `beta_0`:

$$\beta_0 = \bar{y} - \beta_1 \bar{x} = 7 - (2)(3) = 1$$



So now we have our linear equation!

$$\hat{y} = \beta_1 x + \beta_0 = 2x + 1$$

