

Model Thinking

Scott E Page

Categorical Models

Amazon



“Lump to Live”

Broccoli

Grasshopper

Banana

Candy Bar

Orange

Asparagus

Pear

Strawberry

Calories

Pear 100-

Cake 250-

Apple 90

Banana 110-

Pie 350-

Mean = 180

Pear $100 - 180 = \text{180}$

Cake $250 - 180 = \text{70}$

Apple $90 - 180 = \text{90}$

Banana $110 - 180 = \text{70}$

Pie $350 - 180 = \text{170}$

480

Pear $(100-180)^2$

Cake $(250-180)^2$

Apple $(90-180)^2$

Banana $(110-180)^2$

Pie $(350-180)^2$

$$(\underline{100} - \underline{180})^2 = \underline{6400}$$

$$(\underline{250} - \underline{180})^2 = \underline{4900}$$

Pear

$$(100-180)^2 = 6400$$

Cake

$$(250-180)^2 = 4900$$

Apple

$$(90-180)^2 = 8100$$

Banana

$$(110-180)^2 = 4900$$

Pie

$$(350-180)^2 = 28900$$

Total Variation = 53,200

90
100
110

250
350

FRUIT

mean = 100

$$(90 - 100)^2 = 100$$

$$(100 - 100)^2 = 0$$

$$(110 - 100)^2 = 100$$

DESSERT

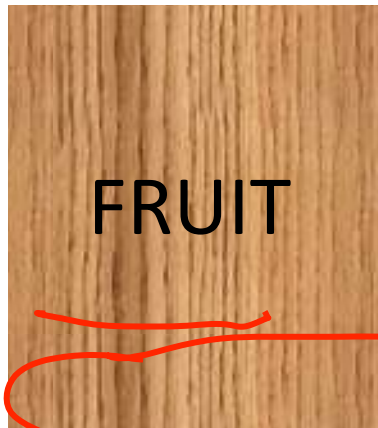
mean 300

$$(250 - 300)^2 = 2500$$

$$(350 - 300)^2 = 2500$$

5000

mean = 180
 $V = 53,200$



Mean = 100

Variation = 200



Mean = 300

Variation = 5000

Total Variation = 53,200

Fruit Variation = 200

Dessert Variation = 5000

5200

How much did I explain?

$$\frac{53,200 - 5,200}{53,200} = \frac{48,000}{53,200}$$

R-Squared

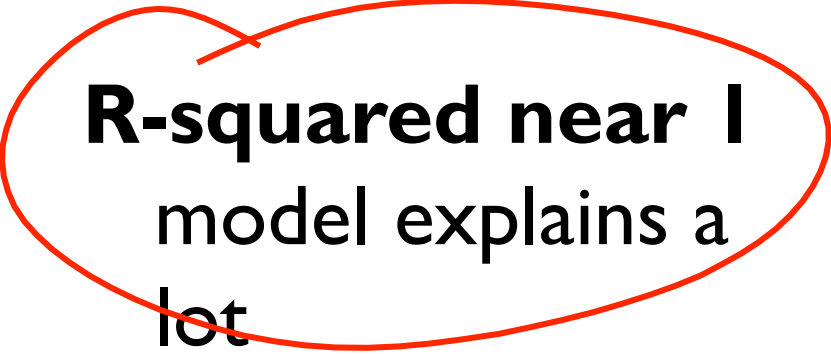
% Variation Explained

$$1 - 5200/53,200$$

90.2%

$$\frac{48,000}{53,200}$$

R-Squared



R-squared near 1
model explains a
lot

R-squared near 0
model explains
little

FRUIT

DESSERT

~~VEG~~

~~GRAIN~~



Photo Simon Howden

Correlation

is not

Causation



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