

Modeling with Linear Functions

Employee Turnover The percentage of employees who cease their employment during a year is referred to as employee turnover, and it is a serious issue for businesses. The following table shows the cost, in millions of dollars, to Walmart for a given employee turnover percentage in a year.¹³

E = employee turnover	10	20	30	40	(%)
C = cost	250	400	550	700	(mil USD)

How much does it cost if the employee turn over is 50%?

or 60%? or 71% and so on.

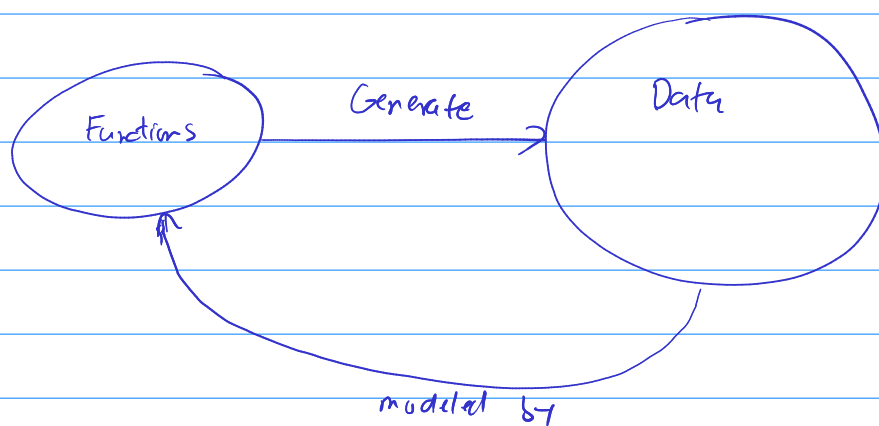
we will use "mathematical modeling" to answer the question.

we will "model" this data using a function. This

means that we will find a function that generates

the data or generate a data set that is very close to

the data.



$E = \text{employee turnover}$	10	20	30	40	(%)
$C = \text{cost}$	250	400	550	700	(mil USD)

$+10\%$ $+10\%$ $+10\%$
 $+150$ $+150$ $+150$

we will use a linear function to model this dataset.

Input: Employee turnover (E)

output: Cost (C)

we want to write C as a linear function of E .

we observe that for any 10% increased in E , there is 150 (mil) increased in C . So a linear function is a "good" function to model the dataset.

we also have the rate of change is

$$\text{rate of change} = \frac{\text{change in output}}{\text{change in input}} = \frac{150}{10} = 15$$

The linear function is

$$C = (\text{rate of change}) * E + \underbrace{(\text{some number})}_m$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{C = 15E + m}$$

we need to find m . To find m , we plug in any pair of values for E and C .

$$E = 10, C = 250$$

$$\Rightarrow 250 = 15 \cdot 10 + m$$

$$\Rightarrow 250 = 150 + m \Rightarrow \boxed{m = 100}$$

So the linear function to model the dataset is

$$\boxed{C = 15E + 100} \leftarrow$$

$$\text{If } E = 50\% \Rightarrow C = 15 * 50 + 100$$

$$\boxed{C = 850}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } E = 70\% \Rightarrow C &= 15 * 70 + 100 \\ &= 1165 \end{aligned}$$

Assignment 3: (submit photos of the answer to Canvas)

Tuition at American Private Universities The following table shows the average yearly tuition and required fees, in dollars, charged by four-year American private nonprofit universities in the school year ending in the given year.

Date	Average tuition
2012	\$27,870
2013	\$29,004
2014	\$30,138
2015	\$31,272
2016	\$32,406

← data

D

A

- calculate the rate of changes in Average tuition
- write a linear function to model the data
- Use the linear model to estimate / calculate the tuition of 2024