

F1 Score and F β

F1 Score

Harmonic Mean

$$F1 = 2 \times P \times R / (P + R)$$

Balances Precision & Recall

- Single metric (0 to 1)
- Equal weight to P and R
- Penalizes extreme values
- Use when balance needed

F β Score

Weighted F-Score

$$F\beta = (1+\beta^2) \times P \times R / (\beta^2 P + R)$$

Allows emphasis control

- β controls weight
- $\beta > 1$: Favor recall
- $\beta < 1$: Favor precision
- $\beta = 1$: Standard F1

β Parameter Spectrum



F0.5

$$\beta = 0.5$$

Emphasizes Precision

F1

$$\beta = 1$$

Balanced

F2

$$\beta = 2$$

Emphasizes Recall

Common $F\beta$ Variants

F0.5

Precision > Recall

Minimize false alarms

F1

Precision = Recall

Equal importance

F2

Recall > Precision

Minimize misses