

Multivariate regression

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- *the independent variable is called X .*
- *the dependent variable is called Y .*
- *We can write the equation of the line as*

$$Y = a_0 + a_1X.$$

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- *We label them X_1 , X_2 , and X_3 .*
- *We label the dependent variable Y (in this example the inflation in US).*

Definition

If there is more than one explanatory variable (X_1, X_2, X_3 say) and one response variable (Y), it may be useful to model it as

$$y = a_0 + a_1X_1 + a_2X_2 + a_3X_3.$$

Example

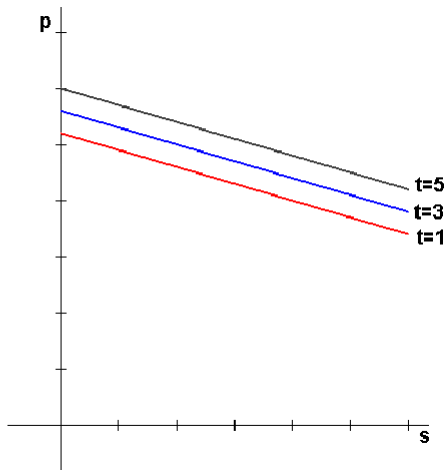
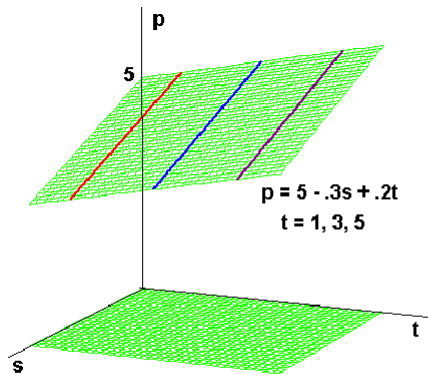
Example

Aspirin is so acidic that it often upsets the stomach, so it is often administered with an antacid – which limits its effect. Suppose the pain, measured by the rating of headache sufferers, is given by

$$p = 5 - .3s + .2t,$$

where s is the aspirin dose and t is the antacid dose.

Graphs of the aspirin example



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- *To interpret the direction of the relationship between variables, one looks at the signs (plus or minus) of the regression coefficients a_1 , a_2 , a_3 .*
- *If a coefficient is positive, then the relationship of this variable with the dependent variable is positive;*
- *if the coefficient is negative then the relationship is negative.*

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- It appears in the computer outputs as well.
- *Let's do an example in Excel.*