

## Re: 'trend value' formula needed

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  - *Date:* 5 Jan 2007 08:56:23 -0800
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matt271829-news@xxxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

khany wrote:

Hi all,

hope this isn't too off-topic but i could really do with some help

i have, say, at least 5 records with 3 columns of data based on industry activity (so not pre-determined by me)

the values of the first 2 columns roughly reflect the value of the third.

i want to be able to pass in 2 arbitrary values for the first 2 columns and get a trend/predicted value for the third back.

eg. some records I already have:

A:22000, B:24, C: 5000

A:36000, B:35, C: 3200

A:56000, B:43, C: 1800

so as A and B increase (not directly related) C decreases.

So if I pass in A:39000 and B:37 what would C be? more importantly, whats the formula?

thanks in advance

khany

So, you have two variables A and B, and you think that C is approximately determined by A and B. Based on the data you have, you want to find an equation "C = some calculation involving A and B" that

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gives the best prediction of C. There is no "formula" that will magically do this for you in all cases; instead there are techniques, which generally come under the name of "regression analysis" (Googling this should throw up plenty of info).

However, if you know, or can reasonably assume, that the "calculation involving A and B" approximately follows some particular form – for example  $C = p*A + q*B + r$  for some numbers p, q and r to be determined – then life is potentially easier. Do you have an idea about what the nature of relationship between A, B and C ought to be, or are you in the dark? (Knowing that C decreases as A and B increase is not really specific enough; it could decrease with A and B in any of innumerable ways.)

OK, I can see I need to pass more information to you all. I really appreciate this.

The records represent cars that have sold and column A is the mileage of the car and B is the number of months old the car is at the point of sale. So based on existing records, I want to pass mileage and age and receive in return an approximate value or even value range (high|low).

hope this helps

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