

# Re: $R^2$ and beta coefficients in multiple regression

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- *From:* Ray Koopman <[koopman@xxxxxx](mailto:koopman@xxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 24 Sep 2008 00:31:06 -0700 (PDT)
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On Sep 23, 9:40 pm, hrun...@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

On Sep 23, 11:26 pm, Ray Koopman <[koop...@xxxxxx](mailto:koop...@xxxxxx)> wrote:

On Sep 23, 1:29 pm, hrun...@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

Hi,

I am trying to work out the relationship between the magnitude of the vector of standardized regression coefficients (beta coefficients) in a multiple linear regression framework and the coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) for the same model. Following Bring (1996; Amer. Stat. Assoc.), if all variables are standardized,  $R^2 = \|y\text{-hat}\|^2$ , and  $\|y\text{-hat}\|^2 = B_1^2 + B_2^2 + \dots + B_k^2$ , where  $B_k$  are the partial regression coefficients. This implies that the squared magnitude of the Beta vector should equal  $R^2$ . While I can confirm this for real data in the case of simple linear regression (one independent variable), it does not seem to work with multiple independent variables, so I must be doing something wrong. Any suggestions would be much appreciated.

Best,  
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When all the variables are standardized,  $R^2$  is guaranteed to equal

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$B_1^2 + B_2^2 + \dots + B_k^2$  only when all the predictors are mutually uncorrelated. In general,  $R^2 = r_1^2 B_1 + r_2^2 B_2 + \dots + r_k^2 B_k$ , where  $r_i$  is the correlation of the d.v. with predictor  $i$ .

It was my understanding that when there is multicollinearity, the individual betas become unreliable but the explanatory power of the entire model (i.e.  $R^2$ ), and hence the sum of the squared  $B_i$ 's, is not affected. For example, when I rerun the model using the principal components of the original variables in place of the variables (hence, they are mutually uncorrelated),  $R^2$  doesn't change, nor does the sum of the squared  $B_i$ 's. However, I am left with the problem that one still does not equal the other, and hence I am still confused.

It sounds like the program you're using defines the components as an orthonormal transformation of the data (i.e., a rotation, with possible reflection), without rescaling them to unit variance. Then the sum of squares of the regression weights would be unchanged, even though the components are uncorrelated.