## Algebral <br> Notes Section 4.6 <br> Fit a Line to Data

## Big Ideas

1. How to determine if a scatter plot shows positive, negative or no correlation in the data.
2. How to find the line of best fit.
3. How to use the relationship between the dependent and independent variables to determine the correlation of the data.

## VOCABULARY

## Scatter Plot

$\qquad$
Positive Correlation: $\qquad$
Negative Correlation: $\qquad$
No Correlation: $\qquad$


EXAMPLE 1 Describe the correlation of the data graphed in the scatter plot.
a)

b)


EXAMPLE 2 The table shows the length (in cm ) and swimming speeds (in $\mathrm{cm} /$ second) of six fish.

| Fish | Pike | Red <br> gurnard | Black bass | Gurnard | Norway <br> haddock |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Length $(\mathrm{cm})$ | 37.8 | 19.2 | 21.3 | 26.2 | 26.8 |
| Speed $(\mathrm{cm} / \mathrm{sec})$ | 148 | 47 | 88 | 131 | 98 |

a) Make a scatter plot of the data.
b) Describe the correlation of the data.

$\qquad$
$\qquad$

Line of Best Fit: $\qquad$
$\qquad$

EXAMPLE 3 The table show the number of active red woodpecker clusters in a part of the De Soto National Forest in Mississippi. Write an equation that models the number of active clusters as a function of the number of years since 1990.

| Year | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Active clusters | 22 | 24 | 27 | 27 | 34 | 40 | 42 | 45 | 51 |

## Step 1: Make a scatter plot

Step 2: Draw a line of best fit


Step 3: Identify 2 points on the line.
Step 4: Find the slope and $y$-intercept. $\qquad$

Step 5: Write the equation.

EXAMPLE4 Refer to the model for the number of woodpecker clusters in Example 3.
a) Describe the domain and range.

D:R: $\qquad$
*Hint* Sub Domain into Line of Best Fit to find Range
b) At about what rate(slope) did the number of active woodpecker clusters change during the period 1992-2000?

