

TECHNICAL REPORT NO 5/87

STATISTICAL CALIBRATION WHEN BOTH VARIABLES
ARE SUBJECT TO ERROR

David R Fox
Department of Mathematics & Statistics
Curtin University of Technology

March 1987

Statistical Calibration when both variables are subject to error

David R Fox
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

ABSTRACT

In this paper we provide a methodology for calibration problems of the form $Y = f(X)$ where measurements on Y contain two sources of variability, namely instrument error in the determination of Y and uncertainty in X .

The procedures presented are sufficiently general to cater for non-linear functions f , as well as correlated errors in X and Y .

We commence with a review of previous work associated with the so-called classical and inverse methods of regression.

A procedure due to Mandel (1984) has been adopted which removes the ambiguity associated with the two regressions. The successful application of this approach however, requires prior knowledge of the error covariance structure associated with X and Y . Given certain distributional assumptions and some simplifying approximations we show how estimates of the error variance components may be extracted from the calibration data.

A practical application associated with the determination of vehicle speed by airborne observation is given.

KEYWORDS : Calibration, inverse regression, classical regression, components of variance.

1. The Calibration Problem

In calibrating some instrument, we take readings Y on some physical process X and use the empirical relationship between Y and X to 'predict' the value of X given some future reading y_0 .

In most instances it is assumed that the relationship between Y and X is linear, and thus estimation of the parameters α and β in the regression of y on x is readily achieved via OLS, to give :

$$\hat{Y}_i = \hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} x_i \quad (1.1)$$

In contrast to the 'normal' use of equation (1.1) where some new value of Y is to be predicted for a given value of $X = x_0$, the requirement here is to predict x_0 , having observed $Y = y_0$. In the so-called 'classical' calibration method we obtain the estimate \hat{x}_0 by a simple re-arrangement of the terms in equation (1.1) viz :

$$\hat{x}_0 = \frac{y_0 - \hat{\alpha}}{\hat{\beta}} \quad (1.2)$$

An alternative, and equally appealing approach is to treat X as dependent and regress X on Y . This procedure is known as the 'inverse' calibration method for which we obtain $\hat{\alpha}^*$ and $\hat{\beta}^*$ as our parameter estimates in the regression

$$X_i = \alpha^* + \beta^* y_i \quad (1.3)$$

The problem of deciding between these two methods is not new.

Eisenhart (1939) suggests that both methods were in common use up to the time of his paper, although firmly rejects procedures based on equation (1.3) arguing that the least-squares line should be fitted to the variable which is observed with error. Krutchkoff (1967,1969), on the other hand, advocates the use of inverse calibration and presents the results of simulation studies in which the relative merits of each method were assessed.

A number of papers critical of Krutchkoff's work have since appeared, although general agreement on the 'best' approach has not been reached. The problem, it seems, stems from the fact that there is no universally accepted properties of an optimal estimator in the calibration problem.

Williams (1969) pointed out that in the case of normally distributed errors, the classical estimator has an undefined expectation and infinite variance and as such any comparison based on mean squared error (MSE) is rendered meaningless.

Berkson (1969) advocates the concept of Pitman closeness as a means for comparison although notes that estimators obtained by the inverse method are not consistent nor asymptotically unbiased. This lack of consistency was also observed by Madansky (1959).

Martinelle (1970) shows that the MSE for the inverse estimator is less than that of the classical estimator provided

$$(x_0 - \bar{x})^2 < s_x^2 \left[2 + \frac{1}{\theta^2 s_x^2} \right]$$

where \bar{x} and s_x^2 are the sample mean and (biased) sample variance respectively and $\theta = \beta/\sigma$. Furthermore, Martinelle suggests that when $\theta^2 s_x^2$ is large, then there is little advantage in using the inverse method.

Lwin and Martiz (1980) proposed the 'non-linear' predictor of x_0 which was shown to have desirable properties not shared by other methods. In a later development, Lwin and Maritz (1982) considered a more general class of estimators and in particular demonstrated that

$$x^*(Y) = (1 + \theta^2 s_x^2)^{-1} \bar{x} + \theta^2 s_x^2 (1 + \theta^2 s_x^2)^{-1} [(Y - \alpha)/\beta]$$

is optimal in the sense that it results in smallest MSE when applied to previous y_i 's. This estimator makes use of the current observation

y as well as previous x_j values of the calibration experiment.

Much work has also been devoted to other aspects of the calibration problem including extensions to the multivariate setting. Anders (1973), for example, considers the problem of finding simultaneous confidence intervals in the inverse regression. Spiegelman (1984) has explored the use of calibration curves in quality-control situations while Brown (1982), Wood (1982), Spezzaferri (1985), Oman & Wax (1984) and others have examined the use of multivariate calibration techniques.

Oman (1984) has derived a statistic, similar in nature to Cook's distance to measure the influence of a particular observation on future estimates from the calibration curve. Spiegelman (1984) has similarly considered the role of regression diagnostics in the calibration problem.

While much discussion continues on the relative merits of the inverse and classical approaches, a further complexity is introduced when one considers situations in which both X and Y are measured with error. Berkson (1950) formally raised the question of the existence of two separate regression lines in such cases. Small-sample properties of $\hat{\beta}$ were investigated by Halperin and Gurian (1971) and under certain prescribed conditions, results for $E[\hat{\beta}]$ and $MSE[\hat{\beta}]$ were derived. Clutton-Brock (1967) argues that there is "no paradox of two regression lines" and suggests that in the case of errors in both X and Y, the maximum likelihood estimates lie between the two separate regressions of Y on X and X on Y.

In the remainder of this paper we exploit a method due to Mandel (1984) in which the problems associated with regression in the case of both variables subject to error are largely removed. Furthermore, we show how the procedure is readily adapted to the calibration problem and how the ambiguities of the inverse and classical methods are avoided. We now describe in more detail the method due to Mandel.

2. Fitting straight lines when both variables are subject to error

We commence with the model

$$y_i = \alpha + \beta x_i \quad i = 1, \dots, N \quad (2.1)$$

The assumptions underlying the usual fitting procedure are :

- (i) the x values have no error
- (ii) the y values are subject to error - in particular ϵ_i is the error associated with y_i . These ϵ_i represent a random sample from a population with mean zero and variance σ_ϵ^2
- (iii) $\text{Cov} [\epsilon_i, \epsilon_j] = 0 \quad \forall i, j, i \neq j$.

By relaxing condition (i), we now allow the x's to be affected by an error denoted by δ , where the δ_i also represent a random sample from some population having zero mean and variance σ_δ^2 .

Mandel shows that provided the quantity

$$\phi = \frac{|\beta|}{\sigma_\epsilon \sigma_\delta} \ll 1$$

and that $\rho = 0$

then the OLS conditions still apply and that α and β may be estimated in the usual manner.

A more general situation in which the OLS conditions do not apply is summarized by relations 2.2 (a), 2.2 (b), and 2.2 (c).

$$E[Y_i] = \alpha + \beta E[X_i] \quad (2.2 a)$$

$$\frac{\sigma_\epsilon^2}{\sigma_\delta^2} = \lambda \quad (2.2 b)$$

$$\rho(\epsilon, \delta) = \rho \quad (2.2 c)$$

Under OLS conditions we find that each experimental point is projected vertically onto the fitted line. In the case where both variables are subject to error the angle of projection, γ will depend on λ .

The method proposed by Mandel relies on the construction of two new variables u and v , related to x and y , but formed in such a way that the OLS conditions are at least approximately fulfilled for (u,v)

The (u,v) data are obtained as follows :

$$u_i = x_i + ky_i \quad (2.3 a)$$

$$v_i = y_i - bx_i \quad (2.3 b)$$

for some constants k and b .

It is shown by Mandel that, while k and b are theoretically unknown, they can be approximated by solving equations (2.4 a) and (2.4 b).

$$b = \frac{s_{xy} + ks_{yy}}{s_{xx} + ks_{xy}} \quad (2.4 a)$$

$$k = \frac{b - \theta}{\lambda - b\theta} \quad (2.4 b)$$

where θ is defined by

$$\theta = \rho\sqrt{\lambda} \quad (2.4 c)$$

and s_{xx} , s_{yy} and s_{xy} are the usual sums of squares and cross-products defined by

$$s_{xx} = \sum_i x_i^2 - \frac{(\sum_i x_i)^2}{n} \quad (2.5 a)$$

$$s_{yy} = \sum_i y_i^2 - \frac{(\sum_i y_i)^2}{n} \quad (2.5 b)$$

$$s_{xy} = \sum_i x_i y_i - \frac{(\sum_i x_i)(\sum_i y_i)}{n} \quad (2.5 c)$$

Equations (2.4 a) and (2.4 b) define a quadratic in b which may be readily solved using

$$b = \frac{(s_{yy} - \lambda s_{xx}) \pm \sqrt{(s_{yy} - \lambda s_{xx})^2 - 4(s_{xy} - \theta s_{xx})(\theta s_{yy} - \lambda s_{xy})}}{2(\theta s_{yy} - \lambda s_{xy})} \quad (2.6)$$

In addition, it is shown that the estimate of β in equation (2.1) is equal to b as defined in (2.6) and that $\hat{\alpha}$ is found in the usual manner ie. $\hat{\alpha} = \bar{y} - \hat{\beta} \bar{x}$.

In the context of statistical calibration, Mandel's procedure is most appealing since the choice between the inverse and classical regressions does not arise. Furthermore, the uncertainty associated with a predicted value is the same, regardless of whether we consider X as the independent variable and Y as the dependent variable or vice-versa.

In the development of his approach, Mandel has tacitly assumed that σ_{ϵ}^2 , σ_{δ}^2 and ρ are all known constants. This will rarely be the case in practice and thus these quantities need to be estimated. It is this problem of estimation with which we now concern ourselves.

3. A model for the error components

The method of variance component estimation in the calibration problem has been discussed in detail by Fox (1987).

A generalization of these methods is now presented which allows for the possibility of correlated errors (the two error components were previously assumed to be independent).

We define a general calibration problem having the following components :

- X_i is the true state of nature (unknown)
- x_i is the assumed state of nature
- Y_i is a measured response corresponding to X_i
- y_i is the true value of the response for the state of nature X_i

Furthermore, we have

$$X_i = x_i + U_i \quad \text{and} \quad Y_i = y_i + V_i$$

where U_i and V_i are random errors reflecting

- (a) our less than perfect knowledge of the true state of nature, and
- (b) our inability to make error-free measurement.

We assume in our calibration problem that the data obtained consist of pairs (x_i, Y_i) and that the underlying response-generating model is of the form

$$\begin{aligned} Y_i &= f(X_i) + V_i \\ &= f(x_i + U_i) + V_i \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

Using a first-order approximation we have

$$Y_i \approx f(x_i) + U_i f'(x_i) + V_i \quad (3.2)$$

In what follows we shall assume that U_i and V_i have the bivariate normal distribution

$$h_{U_i, V_i}(u_i, v_i) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_u\sigma_v\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{1-\rho^2} \right) \left[\frac{u_i^2}{\sigma_u^2} - 2 \frac{u_i v_i}{\sigma_u\sigma_v} + \frac{v_i^2}{\sigma_v^2} \right] \right\} \quad (3.3)$$

From (3.2) it is apparent that

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_i^2 &= \text{Var}[Y_i] \approx \sigma_V^2 + \sigma_U^2 [f'(x_i)]^2 + 2f'(x_i)\text{Cov}[U_i, V_i] \\ &= \sigma_V^2 + \sigma_U^2 [f'(x_i)]^2 + 2f'(x_i) \rho \sigma_U \sigma_V\end{aligned}\quad (3.4)$$

Our problem now is to estimate σ_U^2 , σ_V^2 and ρ given values of s_i^2 at various values of x_i .

We note from equation (3.4) that the model is no longer linear due to the simultaneous presence of σ_U^2 , σ_V^2 , σ_U and σ_V .

4. Estimation of the covariance structure for the components of error

As described in Technical report 3/87, we have at each x_i an estimate, S_i^2 , of σ_i^2

S_i^2 is assumed to have the pdf

$$g_{S_i^2}(s_i^2) = \frac{m^m}{\Gamma(m)} (s_i^2)^{m-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_i^2}\right)^m e^{-ms_i^2/\sigma_i^2} \quad (4.1)$$

where $m = \frac{(n-1)}{2}$ and $s_i^2 > 0$ and n is the number of replications at each x_i .

From equation (4.1) we obtain the likelihood function

$$L(\sigma_i^2, s_i^2) = K^N \left\{ \exp\left[-m \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{s_i^2}{\sigma_i^2}\right] \right\} \prod_{i=1}^N (s_i^2)^{m-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_i^2}\right)^m \quad (4.2)$$

where $K = \frac{m^m}{\Gamma(m)}$

and the log-likelihood function

$$\ln L = N \ln K - m \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{s_i^2}{\sigma_i^2} \right) - m \sum_{i=1}^N \ln \sigma_i^2 + (m-1) \sum_{i=1}^N \ln (s_i^2) \quad (4.3)$$

Our aim is thus to estimate σ_i^2 such that equation (4.3) is maximized. Specifically

$$\max F(\sigma_V^2; \sigma_U^2; \rho) = \sum_{i=1}^N (\ln w_i - s_i^2 w_i) \quad (4.4)$$

where $w_i = \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2}$ and

$$\sigma_i^2 = \sigma_V^2 + \sigma_U^2 [f'(x)]^2 + 2f'(x) \rho \sigma_U \sigma_V$$

subject to

$$\sigma_V^2 \geq 0$$

$$\sigma_U^2 \geq 0$$

$$-1 \leq \rho \leq +1 .$$

Instead of maximizing (4.4), we may choose to minimize

$$\Phi(\sigma_V^2; \sigma_U^2; \rho) = \sum_{i=1}^N (s_i^2 w_i - \ln w_i) \quad (4.5)$$

We have used the NAG routine E04LAF, a modified Newton algorithm, as described in the NAG reference manual (1977).

A brief description of the procedure follows.

4.1 Parameter estimation

Let $\underline{\phi}$ denote the vector of parameters to be estimated. In this case

$$\underline{\phi}^T = [\sigma_v^2, \sigma_u^2, \rho]$$

We wish to find values $\underline{\phi}^*$ of $\underline{\phi}$ for which $\Phi(\underline{\phi})$ is minimized.

We commence with a given point $\underline{\theta}_1$ and proceed to generate a sequence of points $\underline{\theta}_2, \underline{\theta}_3 \dots$ which we hope converges to the point $\underline{\theta}^*$ at which $\Phi(\underline{\theta}^*)$ is minimum.

Let $H(\underline{\theta})$ be the Hessian matrix of the function $\Phi(\underline{\theta})$ and $\underline{q}(\underline{\theta}) = \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \underline{\theta}}$ the gradient vector of $\Phi(\underline{\theta})$.

Then, the i^{th} iteration of the Newton method is

$$\underline{\theta}_{i+1} = \underline{\theta}_i - H_i^{-1} \underline{q}_i \quad (4.6)$$

Thus, for the present case we have :

$$\underline{q}(\underline{\theta}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \sigma_v^2} \\ \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \sigma_u^2} \\ \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \rho} \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$H(\underline{\theta}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \sigma_v^2 \partial \sigma_v^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \sigma_u^2 \partial \sigma_v^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \rho \partial \sigma_v^2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \sigma_u^2 \partial \sigma_v^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \sigma_u^2 \partial \sigma_u^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \sigma_u^2 \partial \rho} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \rho \partial \sigma_v^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \rho \partial \sigma_u^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \rho^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

We now demonstrate the procedures discussed in the preceding sections.

5. An example : Determination of vehicle speed by airborne observation

The problem of determining the speed of a vehicle by measuring from an overhead aircraft the time taken to travel some prescribed distance c is discussed in reports by Fox (1985, 1987).

In this case the calibration function takes the form

$$f(x_i) = \frac{c}{x_i}$$

where x_i is an assumed speed.

The components of the gradient vector and Hessian matrix are given in Appendix A while a listing of the computer program may be found in Appendix B.

We commence by validating the procedure using simulated data from a bivariate normal distribution for which σ_v^2 , σ_u^2 and ρ are all known. In addition, by repeating the procedure a number of times some idea of the sampling variability of the parameter estimates may be obtained.

5.1 Model Validation

For the purpose of the exercise we used equation (3.1) to obtain at each x_i 30 values of Y_i . The error components u_i and v_i were generated from the pdf represented by equation (3.3) having

$$\sigma_u^2 = 4.5, \sigma_v^2 = 0.85 \text{ and } \rho = 0.8. \text{ Values of } s_i^2 \text{ were then}$$

obtained at each x_i using the 30 observations in each case. The (x_i, s_i^2) data was then used as input to the modified Newton programme (Appendix B) and parameter estimates $\hat{\sigma}_u^2$, $\hat{\sigma}_v^2$ and $\hat{\rho}$ obtained.

By repeating the procedure ten times we were able to assess the sampling variability in $\hat{\sigma}_u^2$, $\hat{\sigma}_v^2$ and $\hat{\rho}$.

The results of these simulations are given in the following table.

TABLE 5.1

Sample Variances at each x_i
for each of 10 replications

Data generated using

$$\sigma_V = 0.85 \quad \sigma_U = 4.5 \quad \rho = 0.8$$

x_i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Mean	S.D.
80	0.5461	0.5929	0.6037	0.8226	0.4706	0.5055	0.6529	0.8761	0.6989	1.0000	0.8854	0.0817
85	0.4858	0.6304	0.5041	0.4007	0.3215	0.4147	0.5715	0.3697	0.5373	0.4928	4.9190	0.6071
90	0.3493	0.2560	0.2490	0.3329	0.5716	0.4900	0.3387	0.4530	0.3341	0.3091	0.8222	0.0470
95	0.3697	0.4083	0.2323	0.4083	0.2683	0.2694	0.3047	0.2070	0.2683	0.4045		
100	0.2830	0.2266	0.2172	0.2440	0.2852	0.2480	0.2948	0.4020	0.3709	0.3493		
105	0.2421	0.1989	0.3493	0.2756	0.2323	0.3564	0.3564	0.2256	0.2381	0.2052		
110	0.2381	0.3238	0.3364	0.1978	0.1529	0.2352	0.3260	0.1936	0.1980	0.1823		
115	0.1892	0.2025	0.4135	0.3434	0.2200	0.1197	0.3215	0.2905	0.2905	0.1624		
120	0.1849	0.2381	0.1706	0.2809	0.2052	0.2228	0.2070	0.1260	0.2381	0.1568		
125	0.3552	0.3318	0.2275	0.1747	0.3648	0.1616	0.3226	0.3376	0.2611	0.3215		
130	0.3612	0.2735	0.3058	0.2500	0.2652	0.3894	0.4007	0.1584	0.3376	0.3306		
135	0.4251	0.4775	0.2981	0.3069	0.1900	0.3919	0.2862	0.3215	0.3758	0.1498		
140	0.2798	0.2852	0.2798	0.2884	0.4409	0.2632	0.4147	0.3283	0.4529	0.2981		
$\hat{\sigma}_V$	0.9248	0.9772	0.7460	0.8123	0.8543	0.8230	0.8946	0.8763	1.0229	0.9224	0.8854	0.0817
$\hat{\sigma}_U$	5.0064	5.3932	3.7315	4.6493	4.6475	4.5126	4.6761	5.1612	5.6528	5.7595	4.9190	0.6071
ρ	0.8423	0.8624	0.7190	0.7934	0.8232	0.8020	0.7963	0.8384	0.8743	0.8707	0.8222	0.0470

With reference to Table 5.1, we see that in most cases the estimators are in close agreement with the true parameter values, although we note some evidence of bias.

All three parameters have, on average, been over estimated by about half a standard deviation. This is not totally unexpected since our expression for $\sigma_{\hat{\gamma}}^2$ (equation 3.4) is, after all, only a first-order approximation. Presumably the degree of bias will be very much dependent on the exact nature of $f(x)$ and how well it is represented by a first-order approximation.

It is difficult to draw any specific conclusions from the above results. Further experimentation would be required to assess the effects of different values of n and different parameter values, σ_u^2 , σ_v^2 , and ρ . Nevertheless, as a general methodology designed to extract the components σ_u^2 , σ_v^2 and ρ , the above results give us no reason to modify the procedure.

We now apply this method to actual experimental data in which a vehicle was timed by an observer in an overhead aircraft. A detailed discussion of the experimental procedure is given in Fox (1985).

6. Application to air surveillance method

The procedure described in §5 is now applied to the following test data.

Assumed speed x_i	Sample variance s_i^2
85	0.0441126
90	0.0483296
95	0.0216649
100	0.0162971
105	0.0057608
110	0.0063680
115	0.0183088
120	0.0007868
125	0.0080210
130	0.0028164
135	0.0016314
140	0.0027468

We find convergence of the iterative procedure at the point

$$\sigma_v^2 = 0.0072 \quad ; \quad \sigma_u^2 = 1.3250 \quad ; \quad \rho = 0.8981 .$$

In technical report 3/87 in which ρ was assumed zero we obtained $\hat{\sigma}_v^2 = -0.0035$ and $\hat{\sigma}_u^2 = 0.6614$. Clearly then, the spurious result for $\hat{\sigma}_v^2$ is an artifact of incomplete model specification.

The present results suggest that the variability (as measured by the standard deviation) in maintaining constant vehicle speed is about 1 km/hr; the variability associated with making time measurements is of the order of 1/10 th of a second and that the two errors are strongly (and positively) correlated. These results are not surprising and tally with what one would intuitively expect. With these estimates, we are now in a position to 'calibrate' the method according to the procedure outlined in § 2.

7. Calibration of the air surveillance method

We first require an estimate of λ which is defined to be the ratio of the error variance for Y to the error variance for X .

From equations (3.1) and (3.2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} Y_i &= f(X_i) + V_i \\ &= X_i' + V_i \end{aligned}$$

where

$$X_i' = f(X_i)$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}[X_i'] &= \text{Var}[f(X_i)] \\ \text{Var}[f(x_i) + U_i f'(x_i)] \\ &= [f'(x_i)]^2 \sigma_u^2 \end{aligned} \tag{7.1}$$

Now, $\text{Var}[Y_i] = \sigma_y^2$ is defined by equation (3.4). We observe that $\lambda = \text{Var}[Y_i]/\text{Var}[X_i]$ is not constant, although as we will show later, this has little effect on the final outcome.

We now apply Mandel's regression procedure to the experimental data in order to estimate α and β in the model :

$$Y_i = \alpha + \beta X_i' \tag{7.2}$$

where Y_i is the measured time at speed X_i and $X_i' = \frac{c}{x_i}$ represents the 'true' time for the assumed speed x_i .

At each x_i we compute λ and θ (equation 2.4 c). Equation (2.6) is then solved to obtain b which is our estimate $\hat{\beta}$ of β in equation (7.2).

For the experimental data we obtain :

$$\begin{aligned} Sx'x' &= 686.1667 \\ Sx'y &= 679.7297 \\ Syy &= 674.8906 \end{aligned} \quad n = 78.$$

Our calculations are summarized in Table 7.1 below :

x_j	λ	θ	b
80	0.597	0.6939	1.0061
85	0.556	0.6697	1.0060
90	0.514	0.6439	1.0059
95	0.472	0.6170	1.0058
100	0.431	0.5896	1.0057
105	0.394	0.5637	1.0057
110	0.355	0.5351	1.0057
115	0.322	0.5096	1.0057
120	0.290	0.4386	1.0058
125	0.261	0.4588	1.0058
130	0.233	0.4335	1.0059
135	0.217	0.4184	1.0059
140	0.205	0.4066	1.0060

Table 7.1: Estimation of $\hat{\beta} = b$

As can be seen from Table 7.1, even though λ is not constant, its variation is not sufficient to substantially alter b . Thus to three decimal places we obtain $\hat{\beta} = 1.006$.

$\hat{\alpha}$ is estimated in the usual manner, ie.

$$\hat{\alpha} = \bar{y} - \hat{\beta} \bar{x} = -0.3238 .$$

Our estimated regression model is thus

$$\hat{y} = 1.006x - 0.3238 \quad (7.3)$$

In comparison, we obtain the following models using

(a) 'classical' regression

and

(b) inverse regression :

$$\hat{y}^* = 0.9906x \quad (7.4 a)$$

$$\hat{x}^* = 1.0072y + 0.1042 \quad (7.4 b)$$

With respect to equation (7.3) we note that $\hat{\alpha}$ represents a constant bias of approximately 0.32 seconds. This is very close to the value of 0.36 reported previously [Fox (1985), §4.2.1]. Secondly, it is observed that $\hat{\beta}$ in equation (7.3) falls between the corresponding estimates in equations (7.4 a) and (7.4 b).

For equations (7.3) and (7.4 a) we obtain the following calibration equations :

$$\hat{x} = \frac{y + 0.3238}{1.006} \quad (7.5 a)$$

$$\hat{x}^* = \frac{y + 0.0655}{0.9906} \quad (7.5 b)$$

\hat{x}^* , obtained via the inverse calibration method is obtained from equation (7.4 b) .

We now compare all three estimators.

True Speed	Speed as determined by equation *		
	(7.5 a)	(7.5 b)	(7.4 b)
80	79.34	79.02	79.06
85	84.22	83.94	83.98
90	89.10	88.86	88.90
95	93.96	93.78	93.81
100	98.82	98.70	98.72
105	103.67	103.62	103.62
110	108.51	108.53	108.53
115	113.35	113.44	113.43
120	118.17	118.36	118.33
125	122.98	123.26	123.22
130	127.79	128.17	128.11
135	132.59	133.08	133.00
140	137.38	137.98	137.89

* The three equations yield computed times. These are then converted to a speed over a 500m distance.

In this case the differences between the three methods are negligible. This is due to the fact that the relationship between independent and dependent variables is almost perfect and the regression line has slope very close to 1.

In general, however, such close agreement cannot be expected.

APPENDIX A : Gradient Vector and Hessian Matrix

A.1

We give here computing formulae required to determine the elements of the gradient vector and Hessian matrix for the components of variance estimation associated with the example of § 5.

We have :

$$\phi(\sigma_V^2; \sigma_U^2; \rho) = \sum_{i=1}^N (s_i^2 w_i - \ln w_i)$$

where $w_i = \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2}$

and $\sigma_i^2 = \sigma_V^2 + \frac{c^2}{x_i^4} \sigma_U^2 - \frac{2c}{x_i^2} \rho \sigma_U \sigma_V$

A.1 Elements of the gradient vector

$$\tilde{q}(\theta)^T = \left[\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \sigma_V^2} \quad \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \sigma_U^2} \quad \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \rho} \right]$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \sigma_V^2} = \sum_{i=1}^N (w_i - w_i^2 s_i^2) \frac{\partial \sigma_i^2}{\partial \sigma_V^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \sigma_U^2} = \sum_{i=1}^N (w_i - w_i^2 s_i^2) \frac{\partial \sigma_i^2}{\partial \sigma_U^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \rho} = \sum_{i=1}^N (w_i - w_i^2 s_i^2) \frac{\partial \sigma_i^2}{\partial \rho}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_i^2}{\partial \sigma_V^2} = 1 - \frac{c \rho \sigma_U}{x_i^2 \sigma_V}$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_i^2}{\partial \sigma_u^2} = \frac{c^2}{x_i^4} - \frac{c\rho\sigma_v}{x_i^2\sigma_u}$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_i^2}{\partial \rho} = \frac{-2c\sigma_u\sigma_v}{x_i^2}$$

A.2 Elements of the Hessian matrix

$H(\theta)$ is given in § 4.1

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \sigma_v^2} = \sum_{i=1}^N \{ [w_i^2 - 2s_i^2 w_i^3] \left[1 - \frac{c\rho\sigma_u}{x_i^2\sigma_v} \right]^2 + \frac{1}{2} [s_i^2 w_i^2 - w_i] \left[\frac{c\rho\sigma_u}{x_i^2\sigma_v^3} \right] \}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \sigma_u^2 \partial \sigma_v^2} = \sum_{i=1}^N \{ [w_i^2 - 2s_i^2 w_i^3] \left[\frac{c^2}{x_i^4} - \frac{c\rho\sigma_v}{x_i^2\sigma_u} \right] \left[1 - \frac{c\rho\sigma_u}{\sigma_v x_i^2} \right] - \frac{1}{2} [s_i^2 w_i^2 - w_i] \left[\frac{c\rho}{\sigma_v \sigma_u x_i^2} \right] \}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \rho \partial \sigma_v^2} = \sum_{i=1}^N \{ [w_i^2 - 2s_i^2 w_i^3] \left[\frac{-2c\sigma_u\sigma_v}{x_i^2} \right] \left[1 - \frac{c\rho\sigma_u}{x_i^2\sigma_v} \right] - [s_i^2 w_i^2 - w_i] \left[\frac{c\sigma_u}{\sigma_v x_i^2} \right] \}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \rho \partial \sigma_u^2} = \sum_{i=1}^N \{ [w_i^2 - 2s_i^2 w_i^3] \left[\frac{-2c\sigma_u\sigma_v}{x_i^2} \right] \left[\frac{c^2}{x_i^4} - \frac{c\rho\sigma_v}{x_i^2\sigma_u} \right] - [s_i^2 w_i^2 - w_i] \left[\frac{c\sigma_v}{\sigma_u x_i^2} \right] \}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \sigma_u^2} = \sum_{i=1}^N \{ [w_i^2 - 2s_i^2 w_i^3] \left[\frac{c^2}{x_i^4} - \frac{c\rho\sigma_v}{x_i^2\sigma_u} \right]^2 + \frac{1}{2} [s_i^2 w_i^2 - w_i] \left[\frac{c\rho\sigma_v}{x_i^2\sigma_u^3} \right] \}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \rho^2} = \sum_{i=1}^N \{ [w_i^2 - 2s_i^2 w_i^3] \left[\frac{-2c\sigma_u\sigma_v}{x_i^2} \right]^2 \}$$

APPENDIX B : Program Listings

B.1

B.1 Mainline programme

\$1\$DUA10:LTFOXDR.WORK\VARCOMP.FOR;14

```
0001      double precision x(3),f,g(3),w(30),bl(3),bu(3),y(30),s(30)
0002      common k,y,s
0003      integer iw(5)
0004      open(unit=21,file='varcomp.dat',status='old',readonly)
0005      do 1 i=1,30
0006      read(21,210,end=98)y(i),s(i)
0007      1 write(6,699)y(i),s(i)
0008      699 format(2x,2(1x,f12.6))
0009      98 k=i-1
0010      210 format(f6.0,2x,f12.0)
0011      n=3
0012      liw=5
0013      lw=30
0014      ifail=1
0015      ibound=0
0016      bl(1)=1e-6
0017      bl(2)=1e-6
0018      bl(3)=-0.99
0019      bu(1)=1e6
0020      bu(2)=1e6
0021      bu(3)=0.99
0022      write(6,610)
0023      610 format(//2x,'Enter initial estimates :')
0024      write(6,650)
0025      650 format(//2x,'Sigma-squared V=',%)
0026      read(5,500)x(1)
0027      write(6,651)
0028      651 format(//2x,'Sigma-squared U=',%)
0029      read(5,500)x(2)
0030      write(6,652)
0031      652 format(//2x,'Rho=',%)
0032      read(5,500)x(3)
0033      500 format(f12.0)
0034      call e04laf(n,ibound,bl,bu,x,f,g,iw,liw,w,lw,ifail)
0035      if(ifail.ne.0)write(6,600)ifail
0036      if(ifail.eq.1)go to 99
0037      600 format(//2x,'Error exit type ',i3,' see NAG documentation')
0038      write(6,601)f
0039      write(6,602)(x(j),j=1,n)
0040      write(6,603)(g(j),j=1,n)
0041      601 format(//2x,'Function value on exit is ',f12.6)
0042      602 format(//2x,'at the point ',3f9.4)
0043      603 format(//2x,'The corresponding gradient is' /15x,3f12.4)
0044      99 stop
0045      end
```


SI\$DUA10:CTFOXDR.WORK\VARCOMP.FOR;14

FUNCTIONS AND SUBROUTINES REFERENCED

Type	Name	Type	Name
	E04LAF		FOR\$OPEN

COMMAND QUALIFIERS

FOR VARCOMP/LIST

/CHECK=(NOBOUNDS,OVERFLOW,NOUNDERFLOW)
/DEBUG=(NOSYMBOLS,TRACEBACK)
/STANDARD=(NOSYNTAX,NOSOURCE_FORM)
/SHOW=(NOPREPROCESSOR,NOINCLUDE,MAP,NODICTIONARY,SINGLE)
/WARNINGS=(GENERAL,NODECLARATIONS,NOULTRIX)
/CONTINUATIONS=19 /NOCROSS_REFERENCE /NOD_LINES /NOEXTEND_SOURCE /F77
/NOG_FLOATING /I4 /NOMACHINE_CODE /OPTIMIZE

COMPILATION STATISTICS

Run Time: 0.58 seconds
Elapsed Time: 1.64 seconds
Page Faults: 574
Dynamic Memory: 355 pages

B.2 Subroutine FUNCT2 : Evaluation of function and gradient vector

B.2

11\$DUA10:CTFOXDR.WORK\FUNCT2.FOR;13

```

0001      subroutine funct2(n,xc,fc,gc)
0002      common k,y,s
0003      double precision gc(n),xc(n),fc,y(30),s(30),w,z,x1,x2,x3,x4
0004      c   write(6,600)xc(1),xc(2),xc(3)
0005      fc=0
0006      gc(1)=0
0007      gc(2)=0
0008      gc(3)=0
0009      do 1 i=1,k
0010      z=y(i)**2
0011      w=xc(1)+xc(2)**(1800/z)**2-(3600/z)*xc(3)*(xc(1)*xc(2))**0.5
0012      w=1/w
0013      fc=fc+s(i)*w-log(w)
0014      x1=1-xc(3)*1800*((xc(2)/xc(1))**0.5)/z
0015      x2=(1800/z)**2-xc(3)*1800*((xc(1)/xc(2))**0.5)/z
0016      x3=-(3600/z)*(xc(1)*xc(2))**0.5
0017      x4=w-s(i)*w**2
0018      gc(1)=gc(1)+x1*x4
0019      gc(2)=gc(2)+x2*x4
0020      gc(3)=gc(3)+x3*x4
0021      c   write(6,600)z,w,y(i),s(i),fc,x1,x2,x3,x4,gc(1),gc(2),gc(3)
0022      600 format(/2x,3(3x,ff12.6))
0023      1   continue
0024      c   write(6,620)gc(1),gc(2),gc(3)
0025      620 format(2x,3ff12.6)
0026      return
0027      end

```

PROGRAM SECTIONS

Name	Bytes	Attributes
0 \$CODE	340	PIC CON REL LCL SHR EXE RD NOWRT LONG
2 \$LOCAL	112	PIC CON REL LCL NOSHR NOEXE RD WRT QUAD
3 \$BLANK	484	PIC OVR REL GBL SHR NOEXE RD WRT LONG
Total Space Allocated	936	

ENTRY POINTS

Address	Type	Name
0-00000000		FUNCT2

VARIABLES

Address	Type	Name	Address	Type	Name	Address	Type	Name	Address	Type	Name
AP-00000000	R#8	FC	2-00000018	I#4	I	3-00000000	I#4	K	AP-00000004	I#4	N
2-00000000	R#8	W	2-00000010	R#8	X1	**	R#8	X2	**	R#8	X3
**	R#8	X4	2-00000008	R#8	Z						

11\$DUA10:(TFOXDR.WORK)FUNCT2.FOR;13

ARRAYS

Address	Type	Name	Bytes	Dimensions
AP-00000010@	R*B	GC	**	(*)
3-000000F4	R*B	S	240	(30)
AP-00000008@	R*B	XC	**	(*)
3-00000004	R*B	Y	240	(30)

LABELS

Address	Label	Address	Label	Address	Label
**	1	**	600'	**	620'

FUNCTIONS AND SUBROUTINES REFERENCED

Type Name

R*B MTH\$DLOG

COMMAND QUALIFIERS

FOR FUNCT2/LIST

/CHECK=(NOBOUNDS,OVERFLOW,NOUNDERFLOW)
/DEBUG=(NOSYMBOLS,TRACEBACK)
/STANDARD=(NOSYNTAX,NOSOURCE_FORM)
/SHOW=(NOPREPROCESSOR,NOINCLUDE,MAP,NODICTIONARY,SINGLE)
/WARNINGS=(GENERAL,NODECLARATIONS,NOULTRIX)
/CONTINUATIONS=19 /NOCROSS_REFERENCE /NOD_LINES /NOEXTEND_SOURCE /F77
/NOG_FLOATING /I4 /NOMACHINE_CODE /OPTIMIZE

COMPILATION STATISTICS

Run Time: 0.49 seconds
Elapsed Time: 1.28 seconds
Page Faults: 554
Dynamic Memory: 330 pages

B.3 Subroutine HESS2 : Evaluation of Hessian Matrix

B.3

11\$DUA10:[TFOXDR.WORK]HESS2.FOR;5

```
0001  subroutine hess2(n,xc,hesc,lh,hescd)
0002  common k,y,s
0003  double precision xc(n),hesc(lh),hescd(n),x1,x2,x3,x4,x5
0004  double precision x6,x7,x8,x9,x10,x11,y(30),s(30),w,z
0005  hesc(1)=0
0006  hesc(2)=0
0007  hesc(3)=0
0008  hescd(1)=0
0009  hescd(2)=0
0010  hescd(3)=0
0011  do 1 i=1,k
0012  z=y(i)**2
0013  w=xc(1)+xc(2)*(1800/z)**2-(3600/z)*xc(3)*(xc(1)*xc(2))**0.5
0014  w=1/w
0015  x1=2*(w**3)*s(i)-w**2
0016  x2=w-s(i)*w**2
0017  x3=(1800/z)**2-((xc(1)/xc(2))**0.5)*1800*xc(3)/z
0018  x4=1-(1800*xc(3)/z*(xc(2)/xc(1))**0.5)
0019  x5=-1800*xc(3)/((xc(1)*xc(2))**0.5)*z
0020  x6=-(3600/z)*(xc(1)*xc(2))**0.5
0021  x8=-1800/z*(xc(2)/xc(1))**0.5
0022  x7=x8
0023  x9=-1800/z*(xc(1)/xc(2))**0.5
0024  hesc(1)=hesc(1)+(x1*x3*x4+0.5*x2*x5)
0025  hesc(2)=hesc(2)+(x1*x6*x4+x2*x7)
0026  hesc(3)=hesc(3)+(x1*x6*x3+x2*x9)
0027  x10=-(1800*xc(3)*xc(2)**0.5)/(z*xc(1)**1.5)
0028  x11=-(1800*xc(3)*xc(1)**0.5)/(z*xc(2)**1.5)
0029  hescd(1)=hescd(1)+(x1*x4**2-0.5*x2*x10)
0030  hescd(2)=hescd(2)+(x1*x3**2-0.5*x2*x11)
0031  hescd(3)=hescd(3)+(x1*x6**2)
0032  1 continue
0033  return
0034  end
```

MSDUA10:(TFOXDR.WORK)HESS2.FOR;5

PROGRAM SECTIONS

Name	Bytes	Attributes
0 \$CODE	649	PIC CON REL LCL SHR EXE RD NOWRT LONG
2 \$LOCAL	176	PIC CON REL LCL NOSHR NOEXE RD WRT QUAD
3 \$BLANK	484	PIC OVR REL GBL SHR NOEXE RD WRT LONG
Total Space Allocated	1309	

ENTRY POINTS

Address	Type	Name
0-00000000		HESS2

VARIABLES

Address	Type	Name	Address	Type	Name	Address	Type	Name	Address	Type	Name
2-00000030	I*4	I	3-00000000	I*4	K	AP-00000010@	I*4	LH	AP-00000004@	I*4	N
**	R*8	W	2-00000000	R*8	X1	**	R*8	X10	**	R*8	X11
2-00000008	R*8	X2	2-00000010	R*8	X3	2-00000018	R*8	X4	**	R*8	X5
2-00000020	R*8	X6	**	R*8	X7	**	R*8	X8	**	R*8	X9
2-00000028	R*8	Z									

ARRAYS

Address	Type	Name	Bytes	Dimensions
AP-00000014@	R*8	HESDC	**	(*)
AP-0000000C@	R*8	HESLC	**	(*)
3-000000F4	R*8	S	240	(30)
AP-00000008@	R*8	XC	**	(*)
3-00000004	R*8	Y	240	(30)

LABELS

Address	Label
**	1

SDUA10:CTFOXDR.WORK\HESS2.FOR;5

COMMAND QUALIFIERS

FOR HESS2/LIST

/CHECK=(NOBOUNDS,OVERFLOW,NOUNDERFLOW)
/DEBUG=(NOSYMBOLS,TRACEBACK)
/STANDARD=(NOSYNTAX,NOSOURCE_FORM)
/SHOW=(NOPREPROCESSOR,NOINCLUDE,MAP,NODICTIONARY,SINGLE)
/WARNINGS=(GENERAL,NODECLARATIONS,NOULTRIX)
/CONTINUATIONS=19 /NOCROSS_REFERENCE /NOD_LINES /NOEXTEND_SOURCE /F77
/NOG_FLOATING /I4 /NOMACHINE_CODE /OPTIMIZE

COMPILATION STATISTICS

Run Time:	0.69 seconds
Elapsed Time:	1.96 seconds
Page Faults:	566
Dynamic Memory:	358 pages

REFERENCES

- Bard, Y. (1974) *Nonlinear parameter estimation*. Academic Press, 1974.
- Barker, D.R. and Diana, L. (1974) *Simple method for fitting data when both variables have uncertainties*. A.J.P. 42, 224-227.
- Berkson, J. (1950) *Are there two regressions?* Am. Statistical Assoc. 1950, 164-180.
- Berkson, J. (1969) *Estimation of a linear function for a calibration line consideration of a recent proposal*. Technometrics. 11, (4) 649-660.
- Brown, J.P. (1982) *Multivariate calibration*. J.R.Statist. Soc. (B) 44, (3) 287-321.
- Clutton-Brock, M. (1967) *Likelihood distributions for estimating functions when both variables are subject to error*. Technometrics. 9, (2) 261-269.
- Fox, D.R. (1985) *A statistical appraisal of vehical speed determination from airborne observation*. Int. Report. Dept. Maths & Stats., Curtin Univ. 1985.
- Fox, D.R. (1987) *Components of variance estimation in a calibration problem where both variables are subject to error*. Tech. Report 3/87, Dept. Maths & Stats., Curtin Univ.
- Halperin, M. (1970) *On inverse estimation in linear regression*. Technometrics. 12, (4) 727-736.
- Halperin, M. and Gurian, J. (1971) *A note on estimation in straight line regression when both variables are subject to error*. JASA. 54, (177) 173-205.
- Krutchkoff, R.G. (1967) *Classical and Inverse regression methods of calibration*. Technometrics. 9, (3) 425-439.
- Lechner, J.A. et. al. (1982) *An implementation of the Scheffe approach to calibration using spline functions, illustrated by a pressure-volume calibration*. Technometrics. 24, (3) 229-234.
- Lwin, T. and Martiz, J.S. (1980) *A note on the problem of statistical calibration*. App. Statist. 29, (2) 135-141.
- Lwin, T. and Maritz, J.S. (1982) *An analysis of the linear calibration controversy from the perspective of compound estimation*. Technometrics. 24, (3) 235-242.
- Madansky, A. (1959) *The fitting of straight lines when both variables are subject to error*. JASA. 54, (177) 173-205.
- Mandel, J. (1984) *Fitting straight lines when both variables are subject to error*. J. Quality Technology. 16, (1).

- NAG, (1984) *NAG programme documentation*. Numerical Algorithms Group, Oxford, U.K.
- Naes, T. (1985) *Multivariate Calibration when the error covariance matrix is structured*. *Technometrics*. 27, (3) 301-311.
- Oden, A. (1973) *Simultaneous confidence intervals in inverse linear regression*. *Biometrika*. 60, (2) 339-343.
- Oman, S.D. (1982) *Analyzing residuals in calibration problems*. *Technometrics*. 26, (4) 347-353.
- Oman, S.D. and Wax, Y. (1984). *Estimating fetal age by ultrasound measurements : an example of multivariate calibration*. *Biometrics*. 40, 947-960.
- Shukla, G.K. (1972) *On the problem of calibration*. *Technometrics*. 14, (3) 547-553.
- Sjostrom, M. and Wold, S. (1983) *A multivariate calibration problem in analytical chemistry solved by partial least-squares models in latent variables*. *Analytica Chimica Acta*. 150, 61-70.
- Spezzaferri, F. (1985) *A note on multivariate calibration experiments*. *Biometrics*. 41, 267-272.
- Spiegelman, C.H. (1984) *An iterative calibration curve procedure*. *J. of Research of Nat. Bureau of Standards*. 89, (2) 187-192.
- Spiegelman, C.H. (1984) *A new statistic for detecting influential observations in a Scheffe type calibration curve*. *Austral. J. Statist.* 26, (3) 290-297.
- Spiegelman, C.H. and Studden, W. (1980) *Design aspects of Scheffe's calibration theory using linear splines*. *J. of Research of Nat. Bureau of Standards*. 85 (4) 295-304.
- Wood, J.T. (1982) *Estimating the age of an animal : An application of multivariate calibration*. *Proc. International Biometrics Conf. (1982)*. 117-121.