

A temperature measurement system (termocouple for example) is calibrated against a standard system (mercury thermometer for example) certified to an uncertainty of $\pm 0.05\text{C}$ at 95%. The system sensor is immersed alongside the standard within a temperature bath so that the two are separated by about 10 mm. The temperature uniformity of the bath is estimated at about 5C/m . The temperature system sensor is connected to a readout (multimeter for example) that indicates the temperature in terms of voltage. The following are calibration results between the temperature indicated by the standard $T[\text{C}]=y$ and the indicated voltage $E[\text{mV}]=x$, i.e.:

$$x := \begin{pmatrix} 0.004 \\ 0.399 \\ 0.771 \\ 1.624 \\ 2.147 \\ 4.121 \end{pmatrix} \quad y := \begin{pmatrix} 0.1 \\ 10.2 \\ 19.5 \\ 40.5 \\ 51.2 \\ 99.6 \end{pmatrix}$$

NOTE:

$x = E[\text{mV}]$ = measured sensor's output electromotive force (voltage)
 $y = T[\text{C}]$ = measured temperature of the temperature standard

a) Compute the calibration curve fit. b) Estimate the uncertainty in using the output from the temperature measurement system for temperature measurements

Solution:

Evaluate the number of data points, or the size-length of vector x or y :

$N := \text{length}(x) \quad N = 6$

Check (see) couple of data

Then, data range variable will be:

$$x_0 = 4 \times 10^{-3} \quad x_{N-1} = 4.121$$

$$y_0 = 0.1 \quad y_{N-1} = 99.6$$

$i := 0.. N - 1$

Compute sample statistics using the built-in MathCAD functions:

$\text{mean}(x) = 1.511$

$\text{mean}(y) = 36.85$

$\text{var}(x) = 1.881$

$\text{var}(y) = 1.086 \times 10^3$

$\text{stdev}(x) = 1.371$

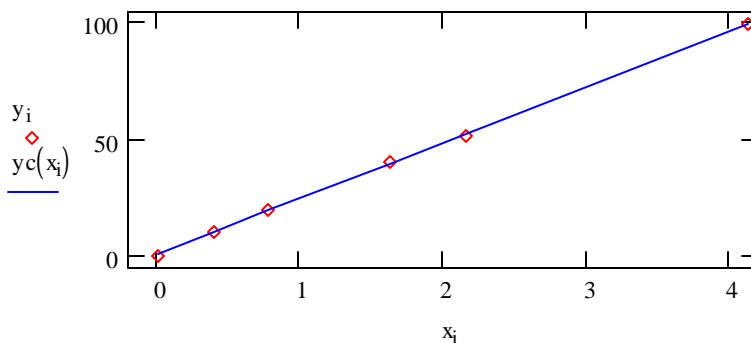
$\text{stdev}(y) = 32.961$

$\text{corr}(x, y) = 0.99983$

$b := \text{intercept}(x, y) \quad b = 0.54$

$K := \text{slope}(x, y) \quad K = 24.03$

Finally, plot the data and the fitted line: $yc(x) := b + K \cdot x$



LEGEND:

y = measured data
 yc = calculated values using fitted curve

CURVE FITTING with POLYNOMIAL of m-ORDER

by M. Kostic 1993-1997

NOTE: The nomenclature corresponds to "Theory and Design for Mechanical Measurements, 2nd Ed." by Figliola and Beasley, p.149, unless given otherwise.

For a polynomial of **m**-order ($m=0,1,2,\dots,N-1$, may be **arbitrary** integer within this range):

$$m := 1 \quad \dots \text{for example}$$

Then, the range variable and the degree of freedom will be:

$$j := 0..m \quad v_m := m + 1 \quad v := N - v_m$$

For a polynomial curve fit:

$$y_c = a_0 + a_1 \cdot x + a_2 \cdot x^2 + \dots + a_m \cdot x^m = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i \cdot x^i$$

and given data set $\{(x_i, y_i), i=0,1,\dots,N-1\}$ of **N** data points,

we may determine coefficients a_i which will provide the best fit for the given conditions, using the least-square method.

Curve fit using matrix operations

Create **X** matrix ($[N \times (m+1)]$ order) first:

$$X^{(j)} := \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x^2 \\ \vdots \\ x^j \end{pmatrix}$$

and calculate (effectively) the polynomial coefficients:

$$a := (X^T \cdot X)^{-1} \cdot (X^T \cdot y)$$

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} 0.54 \\ 24.03 \end{pmatrix}$$

...the polynomial coefficients a_i $b = 0.54$
 $K = 24.03$

...HOW SIMPLE!!

NOTE: $a_0 = b$ $a_1 = K$

For "zero-order" polynomial we need a little "fix-up"

$$a_0 := \text{if}(m = 0, a, a_0)$$

Fitted curve ($j=0\dots m$) is:

$$y_{c_i} := \sum_j a_j \cdot (x_i)^j$$

Compute the *standard error of the fit* **Sxy**:

$$d := y - y_c$$

$$D := \sum (d^2)$$

$$D_0 := \sum [(y - \text{mean}(y))^2]$$

$$S_{xy} := \sqrt{\frac{D}{N - v_m}}$$

$$S_{x0} := \sqrt{\frac{D_0}{N - 1}}$$

$$S_{xy} = 0.746$$

$$S_{x0} = 36.107$$

is the Reference standard error for the "zero-order" fit, **Sx0=Sy** in our Text

Correlation coefficient:

$$r := \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{S_{xy}}{S_{x0}}\right)^2}$$

$$r = 0.99979$$

Calculation of uncertainties:

- $B_{14} := 0.05$...due to uncertainty of the temperature standard
- $B_{15} := 5 \cdot 0.01$ $B_{15} = 0.05$...due to non-uniformity of the bath temperature (5C/m) for 10mm=0.01m separation distance
- $K_{TE} := a_1$ $K_{TE} = 24.03$...sensitivity (dT/dE) of temperature with regard to sensor's electromotive force
- $B_{24} := 0.001 \cdot K_{TE}$ $B_{24} = 0.024$...due to readout voltmeter uncertainty 0.001mV*24.03C/mv
- $P_{31} := S_{xy}$ $P_{31} = 0.746$...due to curve fit standard error
- $v := 6 - v_m$ $v = 4$ $t_{4_95} := 2.77$...Student-t value for 95% probability (From Table 4.4).

$$u_T := \sqrt{\left[\left(B_{14}^2 + B_{15}^2 + B_{24}^2 \right) + \left(t_{4_95} \cdot P_{31} \right)^2 \right]} \quad \sqrt{\left(B_{14}^2 + B_{15}^2 + B_{24}^2 \right)} = 0.075 \quad \dots \text{bias part}$$

$$t_{4_95} \cdot P_{31} = 2.066 \quad \dots \text{precision part}$$

$u_T = 2.067$...total temperature uncertainty @ 95% probability

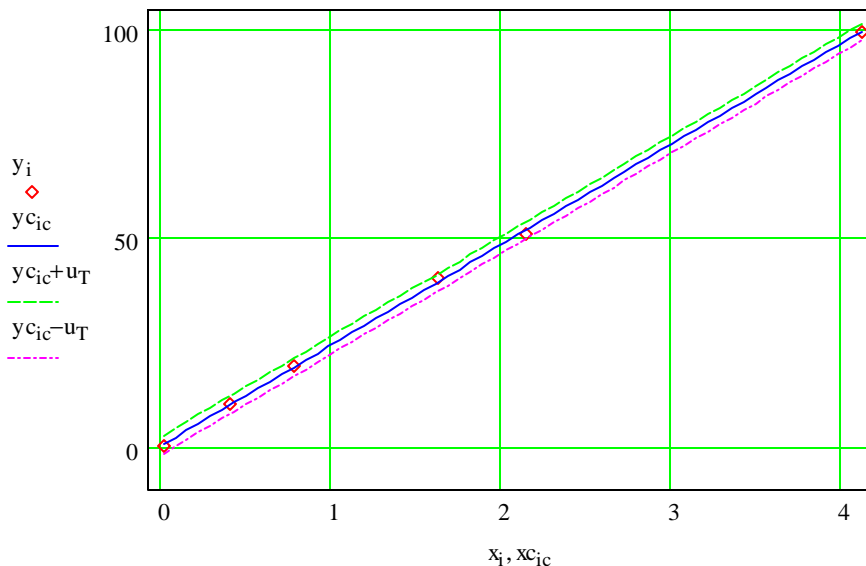
$a = \begin{pmatrix} 0.54 \\ 24.03 \end{pmatrix}$ **Final result:** $T(E) = 0.54 + 24.03 \cdot E$ with $u_T = 2.067$ with 95% probability, see plot below

Now plot the data and the fitted curve to visualize the results :

If the number of data is smaller than, say $N_c=60$, plot the polynomial curve with at least **Nc** data

- $N_c := 60$ $N = 6$...number of data points
- $N_c := \text{if}(N < N_c, N_c, N)$ $N_c = 60$...number of points to plot the curve
- $ic := 0.. N_c - 1$ $dc := \frac{x_{N-1} - x_0}{N_c - 1}$ $m = 1$...order of polynomial
- $x_{ic} := x_0 + dc \cdot ic$ Check that these two are the same: $x_{N-1} = 4.121$ $x_{N_c-1} = 4.121$

$$y_{ic} := \sum_i a_j \cdot (x_{ic})^j$$



LEGEND:
 y_i = measured data
 y_{ic} = calculated values using fitted curve
 $y_{ic} + u_T$ = upper limit
 $y_{ic} - u_T$ = lower limit