

Project: Bachelor's Degrees The table shows the number B (in thousands) of bachelor's degrees earned by women in the United States from 1998 through 2009. The data can be approximated by the linear model

$$B = 23.96t + 464.4, \quad 8 \leq t \leq 19$$

where t represents the year, with $t = 8$ corresponding to 1998.

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau)

Year	Bachelor's degrees, B
1998	664
1999	682
2000	708
2001	712
2002	742
2003	776
2004	804
2005	826
2006	855
2007	875
2008	895
2009	916

- Use a graphing utility to plot the data and graph the model in the same viewing window.
- Use the model to approximate the number of bachelor's degrees earned by women for each year from 1998 through 2009.
- Compare the estimated to the actual data. Is the model a good fit for the data? Explain your reasoning.
- What are the slope and y-intercept of the model? Interpret their meaning in the context of the problem.
- Use the model to predict the number of bachelor's degrees earned by women in 2015.