

Two Variable Statistics – A Simple Summary

X and Y are two variables $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n$ and $y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4, \dots, y_i, \dots, y_n$

Σ is the summation sign $\sum_{i=1}^n = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_i + \dots + x_n$ or more simply Σx

$\bar{x}$ (x bar) is the sample mean of x so $\bar{x} = \{ \Sigma x \} / n$ and $\bar{y} = \{ \Sigma y \} / n$

S_{xx} is the variance of x using $\bar{x}$ as the best estimate of the mean of μ .

$$S_{xx} = \{ \Sigma (x - \bar{x})^2 \} / n = \Sigma (\bar{x})^2 / n - 2 \bar{x} \Sigma x / n + n \bar{x}^2 / n = \{ \Sigma (x)^2 \} / n - \bar{x}^2$$

We say the mean of the squares minus the square of the means.

This form is simpler to calculate and more stable.

The standard deviation $S_x = \sqrt{S_{xx}}$ S_{xy} is the covariance of X and Y.

It is the measure of how two variables change together.

The sign shows the tendency in the linear relationship between the two variables.

$$\begin{aligned} S_{xy} &= \{ \Sigma (x - \bar{x})(y - \bar{y}) \} / n = \Sigma xy / n - \bar{x} \bar{y} - \bar{y} \bar{x} + \bar{x} \bar{y} \\ &= \Sigma xy / n - \bar{x} \bar{y} \end{aligned}$$

Compare this with S_{xx}

The magnitude of the covariance is difficult to interpret directly so it is normalised to produce the correlation coefficient r a dimensionless measure.

$$r = S_{xy} / (S_x S_y)$$

Using the two simplifications already shown and cancelling the n's we get

$$r = (\Sigma xy - n \bar{x} \bar{y}) / \sqrt{ (\Sigma x^2 - n \bar{x}^2) } \sqrt{ (\Sigma y^2 - n \bar{y}^2) }$$

The equation of the line of best fit is given by $y = mx + c$

Now the gradient is given by $m = S_{xy} / S_{xx}$

Strictly this is y on x and the line passes through the point $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$

So we have $(y - \bar{y}) = m(x - \bar{x})$

Rearranging we determine $c = \bar{y} - m\bar{x}$

or $c = \bar{y} - (S_{xy} / S_{xx}) \bar{x}$

This is the y-intercept of the line of best fit.

So the equation for linear regression is $(y - \bar{y}) = \{S_{xy} / S_{xx}\} (x - \bar{x})$

$0 \leq r^2 < 0.25$	$\equiv$	$0 \leq r < 0.5$	very weak
$0.25 \leq r^2 < 0.5$	$\equiv$	$0.5 \leq r < 0.7$	weak
$0.5 \leq r^2 < 0.75$	$\equiv$	$0.7 \leq r < 0.87$	moderate
$0.75 \leq r^2 < 0.9$	$\equiv$	$0.87 \leq r < 0.95$	strong
$0.9 \leq r^2 < 1.0$	$\equiv$	$0.95 \leq r < 1.0$	very strong

The Correlation Coefficient and the Coefficient of Determination

For linear regression, squaring the **correlation coefficient** - ie r^2 - gives a measure of the degree of linearity between the two variables X and Y.

It is the proportion explained by the model. $r^2 = 1$ is perfect correlation

However the **coefficient of determination** is r^2 is a measure of the strength of association between the two variables X and Y and may not necessarily be linear. It is the proportion of the variation in the dependent variable that is predictable from the independent variable(s).

(r^2) is not any measure squared – it is a measure in its own right.

This summary sheet does not detail exactly how this is calculated but in general it uses the residual sum of squares. Normally values range from 0 to 1 but circumstances can arise when it is negative.

While for linear correlation we have $r^2 = r^2$

do not confuse (r^2) with $(r)^2$ $\propto rg$

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$\sum$ is the summation sign $\sum_{i=1}^n = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \dots + x_i \dots + x_n$ or more simply $\sum x$

$\bar{x}$ (x bar) is the sample mean of x so $\bar{x} = \{ \sum x \} / n$ and $\bar{y} = \{ \sum y \} / n$

S_{xx} is the variance of x using $\bar{x}$ as the best estimate of the mean of μ .

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