



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

# Workshop 7

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**COMP20008**

Elements of Data Processing  
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# Agenda

- A2 Team forming
- Correlation
  - Pearson correlation
  - Mutual Information



# A2 Team forming

- Assignment 2 has been/will be released today!
- Teams of 3-4 students
- All team members need to be from same workshop
- Register your team on Google sheet at the end of today's workshop

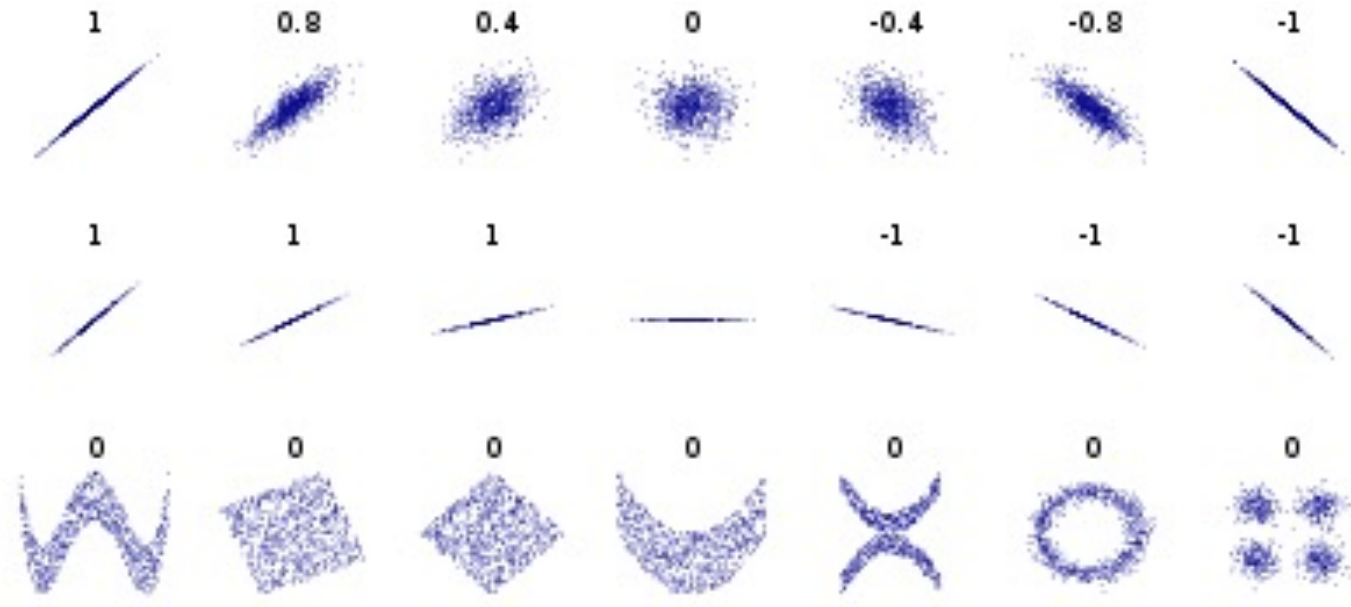


# Correlation

- Correlation is the mutual relationship between two random variables
- Correlation does not imply causality
- Two correlation metrics to discuss in particular
  - Pearson correlation coefficient  $r_{xy}$
  - Mutual information

# Pearson correlation coefficient $r_{xy}$

- Pearson correlation coefficient  $r_{xy}$  measures the strength and direction of a linear relationship between two random variables
- Assumptions: continuous, linear relationship, no spurious outliers, normally distributed



# Pearson correlation coefficient $r_{xy}$

$$r_{xy} = \frac{s_{xy}}{s_x s_y}$$

- Sample mean

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

- Estimate  $\mu_x = E[X]$
- Arithmetic mean is the average value of a variable
- $n$  is the sample size
- $x_i$  are the individual data points with index  $i$

# Pearson correlation coefficient $r_{xy}$

$$r_{xy} = \frac{s_{xy}}{s_x s_y}$$

- Sample covariance

$$s_{xy} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})$$

- Estimate  $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \sigma_{xy} = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]$
- Covariance measures the linear relationship of how much two variables change together
- Technically, need to divide by  $n - 1$  to remove bias

# Pearson correlation coefficient $r_{xy}$

$$r_{xy} = \frac{s_{xy}}{s_x s_y}$$

- Sample variance

$$s_x^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

- Estimate  $\sigma_x^2 = E[(X - E[X])^2]$
- Variance is special case of covariance
- Variance measures how far the spread of data is around its average
- Take square root to obtain sample standard deviation  $s_x = \sqrt{s_x^2}$
- Technically, need to divide by  $n - 1$  to remove bias



# Pearson correlation coefficient $r_{xy}$

$$r_{xy} = \frac{s_{xy}}{s_x s_y}$$

- Putting altogether...

$$r_{xy} = \frac{s_{xy}}{s_x s_y} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \times \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2}}$$

- Estimate  $\rho_{xy} = \frac{\sigma_{xy}}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}$
- Ranges from -1 to +1
- -1 and +1 stand for perfect/strong linear relationships
- Values near 0 implies a weak linear relationship

# Binning

- Binning is used to transform continuous variables into a discrete form
  - Data points fall into set of intervals that span across the range
  - Two strategies to discuss in particular: Equal width & Equal frequency
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- Example: 70, 73, 75, 78, 80, 85, 89, 91, 97

	Equal width		Equal frequency
[70,80)	70, 73, 75, 78	[70,78)	70, 73, 75
[80,90)	80, 85, 89	[80,89)	78, 80, 85
[90,100]	91, 97	[89,100]	89, 91, 97

# Mutual information

- Mutual information measures the reduction in uncertainty for one variable given a known value of the other variable
- Works only on discrete random variables
- Can detect non-linear dependencies

$$\text{MI}(X, Y) = H(X) - H(X|Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

# Entropy and conditional entropy

- Entropy is the average "uncertainty" inherent to a random variable

$$H(X) = E[-\log_2(\Pr(X))] = - \sum_i \Pr(X = x_i) \log_2(\Pr(X = x_i))$$

- Conditional entropy measure the “uncertainty” of a random variable given that another random variable has occurred
- Each  $H(Y|X = x_i)$  is calculated using conditional probability  $\Pr(Y = y_i|X = x_i)$  with the entropy formula

$$H(Y|X) = \sum_{x_i \in X} \Pr(X = x_i) H(Y|X = x_i)$$



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# Thank you

More Resources: Canvas