Example. Let X and Y be two discrete random variables with joint probability function

| | Y = 0 | Y = 1 | Y = 2 | Y = 3 | marginal of X |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| X = 0 | h | 2 <i>h</i> | 3 <i>h</i> | 4 <i>h</i> | 10 <i>h</i> |
| X = 1 | 4h | 6 <i>h</i> | 8 <i>h</i> | 2 <i>h</i> | 20 <i>h</i> |
| X = 2 | 9h | 12 <i>h</i> | 3 <i>h</i> | 6 <i>h</i> | 30 <i>h</i> |
| marginal of Y | 14 <i>h</i> | 20 <i>h</i> | 14 <i>h</i> | 12 <i>h</i> | $\sum_{(x,y)} = 60h$ |

Hence, h = 1/60. We compute all moments up to order 2:

$$E[X] = \sum_{x} xp_{X}(x) = 0 \cdot 10h + 1 \cdot 20h + 2 \cdot 30h = 80h = 4/3;$$

$$E[Y] = \sum_{y} yp_{Y}(y) = 0 \cdot 14h + 1 \cdot 20h + 2 \cdot 14h + 3 \cdot 12h = 84h = 7/5;$$

$$E[X^{2}] = \sum_{x} x^{2}p_{X}(x) = 0^{2} \cdot 10h + 1^{2} \cdot 20h + 2^{2} \cdot 30h = 140h = 7/3;$$

$$E[Y^{2}] = \sum_{x} y^{2}p_{Y}(y) = 0^{2} \cdot 14h + 1^{2} \cdot 20h + 2^{2} \cdot 14h + 3^{2} \cdot 12h = 184h = 46/15;$$

$$E[XY] = \sum_{(x,y)} xyp_{(X,Y)}(x,y) = 5/3.$$

Thus E[X] = 4/3, E[Y] = 7/5, $Var(X) = 7/3 - (4/3)^2 = 5/9$, $Var(Y) = 46/15 - (7/5)^2 = 83/75$ and $Cov(X,Y) = 5/3 - 4/3 \cdot 7/5 = -1/5$, $\rho(X,Y) = \frac{-1/5}{\sqrt{(5/9)(83/75)}} = -0.255$.