

Notes

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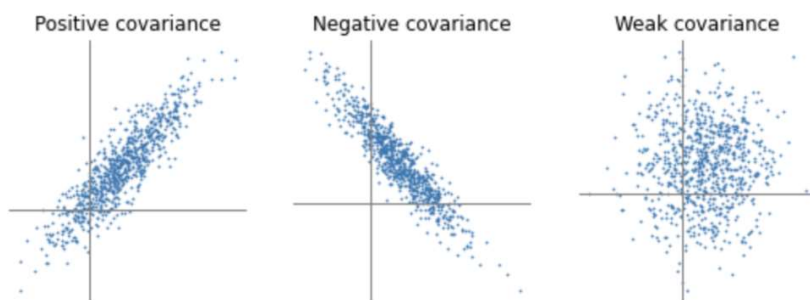
3 Measures of linear relationship

The linear (proportional change) relationships measure whether there is a pattern of *movement* for a random variable when another variable moves up or down. The main two measures of linear relationship between 2 random variables are:

- Covariance

Is a measure of the joint probability of two random variables. If the greater the values of one variable mainly correspond with the greater values of the other variable => the covariance is positive [similar behavior]; if the greater values of one variable mainly correspond to the lesser values of other => the covariance is negative [opposite behavior].

The **sign** of the variance shows the tendency in the linear relationship between the variables. We cannot understand the magnitude of covariance; only its sign (+, -, 0).



The covariance is defined as the expected value (mean) of the product of their deviations from the mean of each variable:

$$\text{cov}(X, Y) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{N}.$$

Example:

Suppose that X and Y have the following [joint probability mass function](#),^[6] in which the six central cells give the discrete joint probabilities $f(x, y)$ of the six hypothetical realizations $(x, y) \in S = \{(5, 8), (6, 8), (7, 8), (5, 9), (6, 9), (7, 9)\}$:

$f(x, y)$		x			$f_Y(y)$
		5	6	7	
y	8	0	0.4	0.1	0.5
	9	0.3	0	0.2	0.5
$f_X(x)$		0.3	0.4	0.3	1

X can take on three values (5, 6 and 7) while Y can take on two (8 and 9). Their means are $\mu_X = 5(0.3) + 6(0.4) + 7(0.1 + 0.2) = 6$ and $\mu_Y = 8(0.4 + 0.1) + 9(0.3 + 0.2) = 8.5$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{cov}(X, Y) &= \sigma_{XY} = \sum_{(x, y) \in S} f(x, y) (x - \mu_X) (y - \mu_Y) \\ &= (0)(5 - 6)(8 - 8.5) + (0.4)(6 - 6)(8 - 8.5) + (0.1)(7 - 6)(8 - 8.5) + \\ &\quad (0.3)(5 - 6)(9 - 8.5) + (0)(6 - 6)(9 - 8.5) + (0.2)(7 - 6)(9 - 8.5) \\ &= -0.1.\end{aligned}$$

- Correlation

Statistical relationship between two random variables. It refers to the degree to which a pair of variables are linearly related, thus, the interpretation of the Covariance in percentage.

$$\text{Corr}(x, y) = \frac{\text{Cov}(x, y)}{\text{SD}(x) \cdot \text{SD}(y)}$$

Then:

$$P_{xy} = \frac{\sigma_{xy}}{\sigma_x \sigma_y} = \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\left(\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2\right) \left(\sum (y_i - \bar{y})^2\right)}}$$

Where, $\sigma_x, \sigma_y \rightarrow$ Population Standard Deviation
 $\sigma_{xy} \rightarrow$ Population Covariance
 $\bar{x}, \bar{y} \rightarrow$ Population Mean

If $\text{Corr}(x, y) = 0.30$, then about 30% of the cases, when x goes up, y goes up; and when x goes down, y goes down.

If $\text{Corr}(x, y) = -0.30$, then about 30% of the cases, when x goes up, y goes down, and when x goes down, y goes up.