

Pearson Product-Moment Correlation (r)

Nathaniel Yomogida, SPT

Chloë Kerstein, SPT

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1 Purpose

Determine linear relationship between two continuous random variables¹

Measure: Strength of the linear relationship (Covariance)¹

- Results in Correlation Coefficient

2 Range

-1 to +1¹

Table 1: Pearson product-moment correlation (ρ) interpretation

Strength	Value
Negligible	0.00–0.10 ¹
Weak	0.10–0.39 ¹
Moderate	0.40–0.69 ¹

Strength	Value
Strong	0.70–0.89 ¹
Very strong	0.90–1.00 ¹
Perfect Correlation	-1 or +1 ¹

3 Interpretation

Perfect correlation

- -1 or +1
- All the data points lie exactly on the straight line

Note

You should always graph your results to ensure you aren't missing correlations that **are not** linear

NOTE: these can be used by researchers to misrepresent data that is not linearly correlated¹

Significance

- T-Test?
- P-value = correlation differs significantly from Zero

4 Compared to other analyses

[see the comparison to other correlation statistical analyses](#)

5 Resources

<https://youtu.be/k7IctLRiZmo>

1. Schober P, Boer C, Schwarte LA. Correlation Coefficients: Appropriate Use and Interpretation. *Anesthesia and Analgesia*. 2018;126(5):1763-1768. doi:[10.1213/ANE.0000000000002864](https://doi.org/10.1213/ANE.0000000000002864)

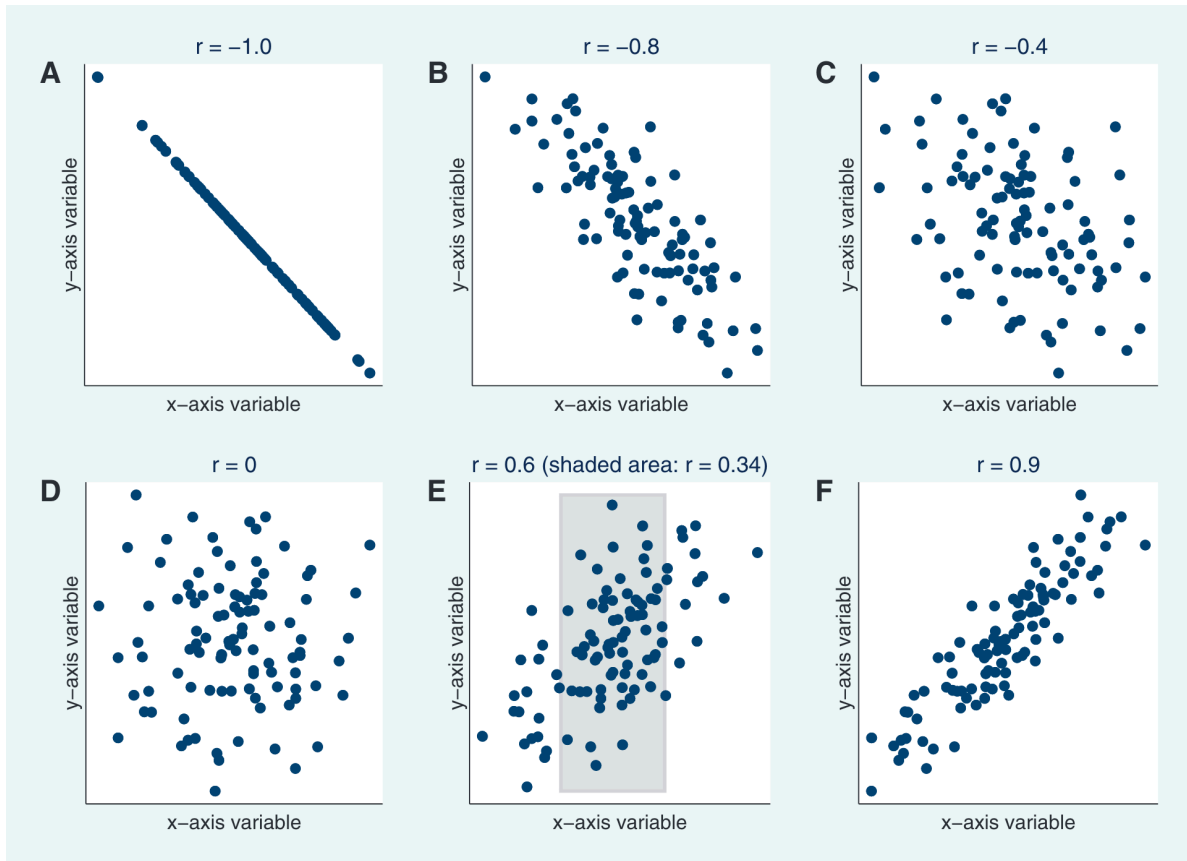


Figure 1: Graphs of varying “ r ” values (From figure 1 of Schober et al. 2018¹)