

## CORRELATION



## Preliminaries

- $n$  observations for  $x$  and  $y$  variables  $(x_i, y_i)$

- Sample means  $\bar{x}$  and  $\bar{y}$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n} \quad \bar{y} = \frac{\sum y_i}{n}$$

- Sample variances  $S_{xx}$  and  $S_{yy}$

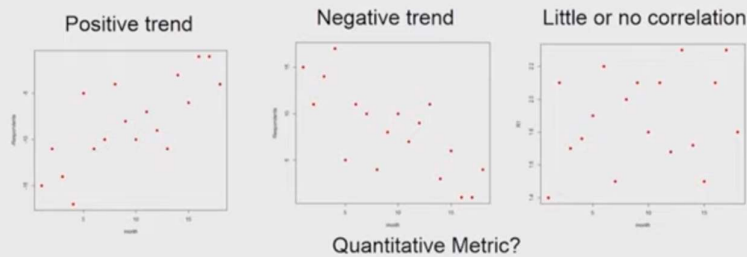
$$S_{xx} = \frac{1}{n} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \quad S_{yy} = \frac{1}{n} \sum (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$

- Sample covariance  $S_{xy}$

$$S_{xy} = \frac{1}{n} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})$$

## Correlation

- Correlation: the strength of association between two variables
- Correlation does not imply causation
- Visual representation of correlation: Scatter grams



## Pearson's Correlation

- $n$  observations for  $x$  and  $y$  variables ( $x_i, y_i$ )
- Pearson's product-moment correlation coefficient ( $r_{xy}$ )

$$r_{xy} = \frac{\sum x_i y_i - n \bar{x} \bar{y}}{\sqrt{(\sum x_i^2 - n \bar{x}^2)} \sqrt{(\sum y_i^2 - n \bar{y}^2)}} = \frac{S_{xy}}{\sqrt{S_{xx}} \sqrt{S_{yy}}}$$

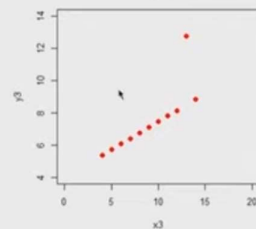
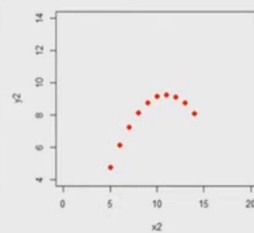
- $r_{xy}$  takes a value between -1 (negative correlation) and 1 (positive correlation)
- $r_{xy} = 0$  means no correlation

## Pearson's Correlation (Cont.)

- A measure for the degree of linear dependence between  $x$  and  $y$
- Cannot be applied to ordinal variables
- Sample size: Moderate (20-30) for good estimate
- Robustness: Outliers can lead to misleading values



## Pearson's Correlation: Anscombe's data



$(x_1, y_1)$ : 0.8164 Linear  
 $(x_2, y_2)$ : 0.8162 Nonlinear  
 $(x_3, y_3)$ : 0.8163 Linear with outlier  
 $(x_3, y_3)$ : 0.9999 Linear excluding outlier



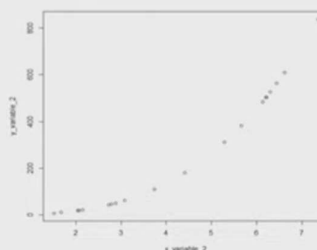
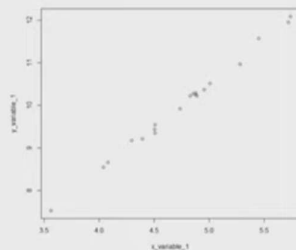
## Pearson's Correlation (Cont.)

- Example: Nonlinear
  - $x = 125$  equally spaced values between  $[0, 2\pi]$
  - $y = \cos(x)$
  - $r_{xy} = -0.0536$
- Example: Nonlinear
  - $x = 0:0.5:20$ ;  $y = x^2$ ;  $r_{xy} = 0.967$
  - $x = -10:0.5:10$ ;  $y = x^2$ ;  $r_{xy} = 0.0$



## Spearman Rank Correlation

- Degree of association between two variables
- Linear or nonlinear association
- $x$  increases,  $y$  increases or decreases monotonically



## Spearman Rank Correlation

- Spearman rank correlation computation for n observations:

$$r_s = 1 - \frac{6\sum d_i^2}{n(n^2-1)}$$

$d_i$  is the difference in the ranks given to the two variables values for each item of the data

- Example:

Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$X_1$	7	6	4	5	8	7	10	3	9	2
$Y_1$	5	4	5	6	10	7	9	2	8	1
Rank $X_1$	6.5	5	3	4	8	6.5	10	2	9	1
Rank $Y_1$	4.5	3	4.5	6	10	7	9	2	8	1
$d^2$	4	4	2.25	4	4	0.25	1	0	1	0

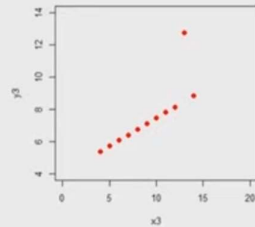
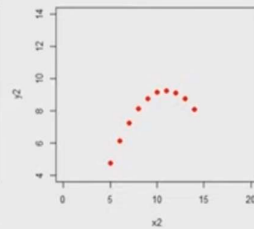
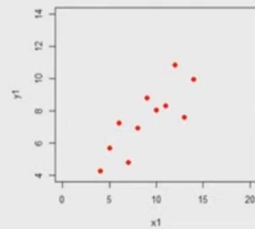
$$r_s = 0.88$$

## Spearman Rank Correlation

- $r_s$  takes a value between -1 (negative association) and 1 (positive association)
- $r_s = 0$  means no association
- Monotonically increasing  $r_s = 1$
- Monotonically decreasing  $r_s = -1$
- Can be used when association is nonlinear
- Can be applied for ordinal variables



## Spearman Rank Correlation: Anscombe's data



$(x_1, y_1)$ : 0.8182 Linear  
 $(x_2, y_2)$ : 0.6909 Nonlinear  
 $(x_2, y_2)$ : 1 Nonlinear excluding  
 last three points  
 $(x_3, y_3)$ : 0.9909 Linear



## Kendall rank correlation coefficient

- Correlation coefficient to measure association between two ordinal variables
- Concordant Pair: A pair of observations  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$  that follows the property  $x_1 > x_2$  and  $y_1 > y_2$  or  $x_1 < x_2$  and  $y_1 < y_2$
- Discordant Pair: A pair of observations  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$  that follows the property  $x_1 > x_2$  and  $y_1 < y_2$  or  $x_1 < x_2$  and  $y_1 > y_2$



## Kendall rank correlation coefficient

- Kendall rank correlation coefficient

$$\tau = \frac{\text{Number of concordant pairs} - \text{Number of discordant pairs}}{n(n-1)/2}$$

- The pair for which  $x_1=x_2$  and  $y_1=y_2$  are not classified as concordant or discordant and are ignored.



## Kendall rank correlation coefficient

Example: Two experts ranking on food items

Items	Expert 1	Expert 2
1	1	1
2	2	3
3	3	6
4	4	2
5	5	7
6	6	4
7	7	5

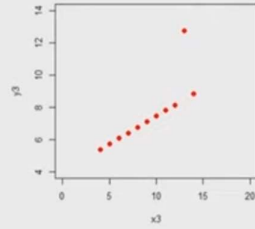
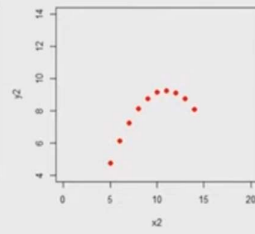
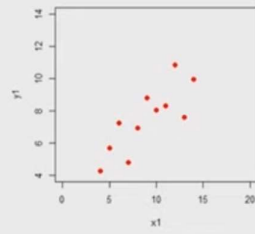
  

I							
2	C						
3	C	C					
4	C	D	D				
5	C	C	C	C			
6	C	C	D	C	D		
7	C	C	D	C	D	C	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

$$\tau = \frac{15 - 6}{21} = 0.42857$$



# Kendall rank Correlation: Anscombe's data



$(x_1, y_1)$ : 0.6363 Linear  
 $(x_2, y_2)$ : 0.5636 Nonlinear  
 $(x_2, y_2)$ : 1 Nonlinear excluding  
last three points  
 $(x_3, y_3)$ : 0.9636 Linear

