

Correlation Concept

Correlation

Definition: Correlation measures the strength and direction of a linear relationship between two variables.

Formulas:

1. Pearson Correlation Coefficient (r):

$$r = \frac{n(\sum xy) - (\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{[n \sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2][n \sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2]}}$$

Where n is the number of pairs, x and y are the individual sample points indexed with i .

Concepts:

- **Strength of Relationship:** The correlation coefficient ranges from -1 to +1. A value close to +1 implies a strong positive relationship, close to -1 implies a strong negative relationship, and around 0 implies no linear relationship.
- **Direction of Relationship:** Indicates whether the variables increase together (positive) or as one increases, the other decreases (negative).

Real-life Use Case:

- Determining the relationship between consumer income and expenditure on luxury items.
- In finance, correlating different stock movements to diversify the portfolio.

Correlation Matrix

Types of Correlation Coefficients

1. **Pearson Correlation Coefficient:** Measures the linear relationship between two continuous variables. It assumes that the variables follow a normal distribution.
2. **Spearman's Rank Correlation Coefficient:** A non-parametric measure of rank correlation, assessing how well the relationship between two variables can be described using a monotonic function.
3. **Kendall's Tau:** Another rank-based correlation coefficient, often used for data with a natural ordinal classification.

dataset →

employee

| | Age | Annual Income (K\$) | Spending Score (1-100) | Years with Company |
|-----|-----|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| → 0 | 34 | 52 | 48 | 6 |
| → 1 | 27 | 48 | 57 | 4 |
| → 2 | 33 | 62 | 65 | 6 |
| 3 | 21 | 37 | 25 | 2 |
| 4 | 38 | 73 | 88 | 8 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

| | Age | Annual Income (K\$) | Spending Score (1-100) | Years with Company |
|------------------------|-------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Age | 1.00 | -0.10 | -0.20 | 0.95 |
| Annual Income (K\$) | -0.10 | 1.00 | 0.60 | -0.05 |
| Spending Score (1-100) | -0.20 | 0.60 | 1.00 | -0.15 |
| Years with Company | 0.95 | -0.05 | -0.15 | 1.00 |

Understanding a Correlation Matrix

A correlation matrix displays correlation coefficients between sets of variables. Each cell in the matrix represents the correlation between two variables. The value ranges from -1 to +1, where:

- +1 indicates a perfect positive linear relationship,
- -1 indicates a perfect negative linear relationship,
- 0 indicates no linear relationship.

Age ↑
 → Work here ↓
 → Product ↓

Real-Life Use Cases

1. **Finance:** Correlation matrices are used to understand the relationships between different stocks or financial instruments, aiding in portfolio diversification.
2. **Marketing:** Analyzing customer data to find correlations between different buying behaviors.
3. **Healthcare:** Studying correlations between different lifestyle factors and health outcomes.