Stat 201: Statistics I Chapter 10





Chapter 10 Correlation and Regression

Example

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How should this data be analyzed? It depends on the context of the data or what the data represents.

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 - One possible analysis would be a two-sample t-test comparing the mean test scores from each class.
- Suppose the data are scores from the midterm and the final for one set of students.
 - One possible analysis would be a matched pairs t-test comparing the mean difference between the midterm and the final for each student.

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- Suppose X is a students score on the statistics final and Y is that students yearly salary, in thousands of dollars, a year later.
 - It doesn't really make sense to compare means. The two samples represent entirely different kinds of data. There is no meaningful way to compare means.
 - It is useful to examine the association between the data. Is a higher test score associated with a higher salary? Or are the samples independent, values of one having no effect on values of the other?

Section 10.1 Correlation

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- A positive correlation indicates that as one value in a pair increases the other will tend to increase.
- A negative correlation indicates that as one value in a pair increases the other will tend to decrease.
- No correlation indicates that the two values of a pair have no relationship with each other. They are independent.

The sample **correlation coefficient**, denoted as r, is the numeric value for the strength of linear correlation between values of paired data.

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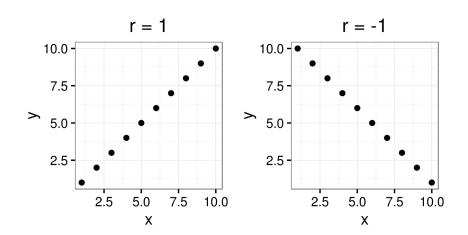
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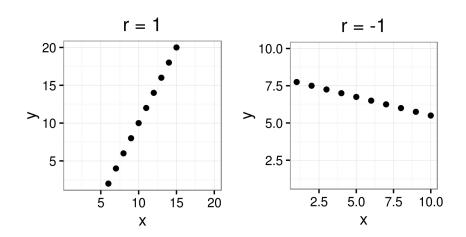
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- The order of the values, i.e. (x,y) vs. (y,x), have no effect of the value of r.
- The units of the values also have no effect on r. A correlation on height will be the same whether it is measured in inches, feet or meters, for example.

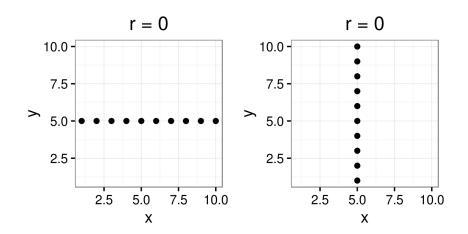
Perfect correlation



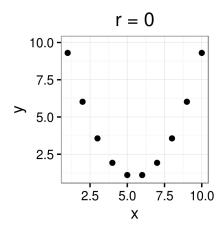
Perfect correlation, cont.



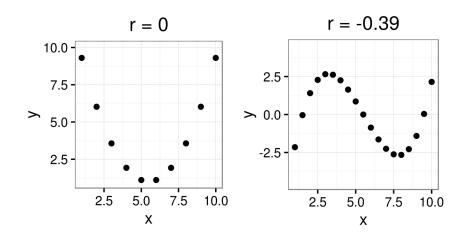
Zero correlation



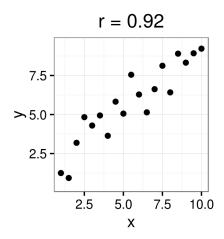
Non-linear correlation



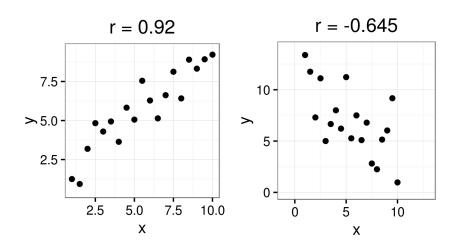
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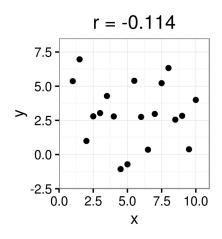
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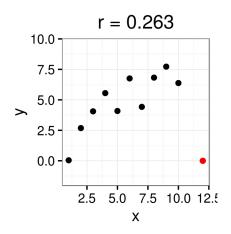


"Real world" correlation, cont.



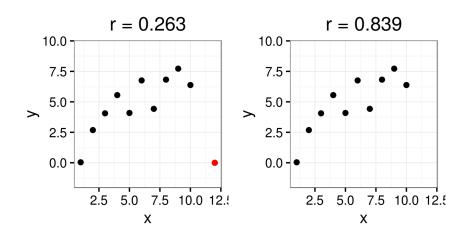
Correlation and outliers

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Calculating correlation coefficient

The book uses the following formula for calculating r:

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

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- While this formula will give you a value for r (after much work), it doesn't help much in understanding how the correlation coefficient works.
- ullet Since technology should be used to calculate the correlation calculation anyway, it would be useful to look at r defined with a more informative formula.

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$$r \propto \sum (x - \bar{x})(y - \bar{y})$$

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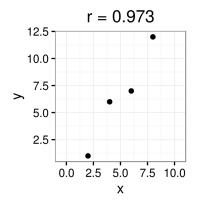
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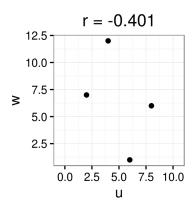
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- If when x values are far away from \bar{x} then y values are also far away from \bar{y} (whether positive or negative), then r is proportional to the sum of larger numbers and will be closer to 1 or -1.





x	y	$(x-\bar{x})$	$(y-\bar{y})$	$(x - \bar{x})(y - \bar{y})$	
2	1	-3	-5.5	16.5	
4	6	-1	-0.5	0.5	
6	7	1	0.5	0.5	
8	12	3	5.5	16.5	
$r \propto 34$					

u	w	$(u-\bar{u})$	$(w-\bar{w})$	$(u-\bar{u})(w-\bar{w})$
2	7	-3	0.5	-1.5
4	12	-1	5.5	-5.5
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		•		

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Like population proportions and means, hypothesis tests can be conducted of the parameter ρ to determine if a population of paired data is correlated.

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- $H_a: \rho \neq 0$ (It is uncommon to use the other forms of the alternative hypothesis)
- Test statistic: $t = \frac{r}{\sqrt{\frac{1-r^2}{n-2}}}$ df = n-2
- Make a decision, two ways:
 - ullet P-value: If $p < \alpha$, reject null hypothesis
 - Critical value (from table A-6): If $|t| > t_{crit}$, reject null hypothesis

Correlation coefficient and p-value in StatCrunch

- ullet Stat o Summary Stats o Correlation
- Select the columns which contain the data
- Check "Two-sided P-value"
- Click "Compute!"
- ullet The correlation coefficient r is given, the p-value is in parentheses

Note: The test statistic for the hypothesis test can be found in StatCrunch by doing a regression, discussed in the next section.

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Thus, r=0.5 indicates a moderate positive correlation and r=-0.8 indicates a strong negative correlation.

Example

In 1886, Sir Francis Galton, a British sociologist, published the paper "Regression towards Mediocrity in Hereditary Statures", in which he examined the heights of parents and their adult children. The core of modern uses of correlation and regression come from this paper (he also invented standard deviation). His data for fathers and sons is in the file "Galton-father-son.csv" on D2L.

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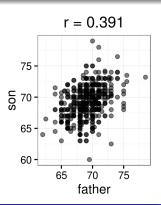
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- $H_0: \rho = 0$ $H_a: \rho \neq 0$
- r = 0.39131736p < 0.0001

- $p < 0.0001 < \alpha = 0.5$. Reject null hypothesis
- \bullet There is evidence that there is a correlation between the heights of fathers and their adult sons. However, r<0.4 indicates weak correlation.



Coefficient of determination

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Example

In the previous example, heights of fathers and sons had a correlation coefficient of r=0.391. Thus, $R^2=(0.391)^2=0.153$.

About 15% of the variation of the heights of adult men can be explained by the association with their fathers heights.

Cautions

If a sample of paired data has a correlation coefficient that is zero or very low, that does not necessarily mean that there is not a association between the variables, only that there is not a *linear* association.

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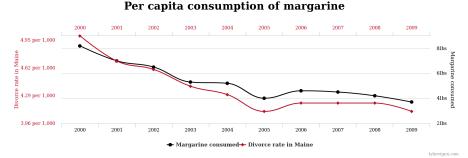
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Correlation does not imply causation.

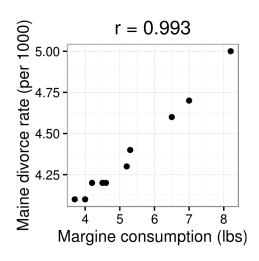
Spurious correlations

From the *Spurious Correlations* website: http://www.tylervigen.com/spurious-correlations

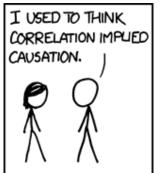
Divorce rate in Maine correlates with

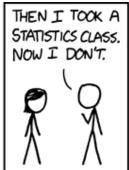


Spurious correlations, cont.



Correlation does not imply causation







Group work

• For all the questions, complete parts (a) and (b).

Section 10.2 Regression

Regression

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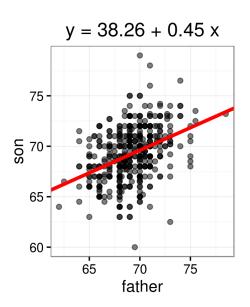
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Regression is the statistical technique for finding the line that best describes a linear relationship between two paired variables.

The line found is known as the regression line or the line of best fit.



Algebra review, lines

The equation for a line generally has the following form:

$$y = b + mx$$

- b is the y-intercept, or where the line crosses the y-axis (x=0).
- ullet m is the slope of the line. It is the amount the y value increases as the x value increase by one.

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \epsilon$$

A linear relationship between populations of variables X and Y can be described by:

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- ϵ (epsilon) is a random error term. It is usually assumed that $\epsilon \sim N(0,\sigma^2)$.

$$\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1 x$$

The regression line for a sample paired data (x,y) describes the linear relationship between x and y. It is given by the equation:

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- b₀, the y-intercept of the regression line, is usually not of much interest.

Predictions

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If there is no correlation between values of paired data (if failed to reject null hypothesis for correlation test), then the best predictor for the response variable is simply \bar{y} .

However, if there is a valid regression equation, it can be used to make predictions of the response variable for given values of the predictor variable. Replace x in the equation with the given predictor value and calculate the predicted response \hat{y} .

Predictions, example

Example

The regression line equation from the Galton data, for fathers height as predictor x and sons height as response y, is

$$\hat{y} = 38.26 + 0.45x$$

What is the predicted adult height of a son whose father is 68 inches tall?

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• $\hat{y} = 38.26 + 0.45 \times 68 = 68.86$ inches

Extrapolating

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The GM for the Timberwolves wants to know how many games the team would win if they could get their FG% up to 60%, based on this data.

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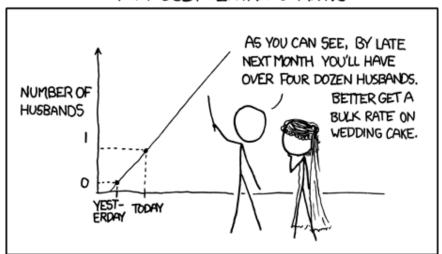
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 $\hat{y} = -208.69 + 5.46 \times 60 = 118.91$ games won

Extrapolating, example

MY HOBBY: EXTRAPOLATING



Regression in StatCrunch

- $\bullet \ \mathsf{Stat} \to \mathsf{Regression} \to \mathsf{Simple} \ \mathsf{Linear}$
- Select columns for X and Y variables
- Select "Hypothesis tests" (default values are fine)
- If desired, enter "X value(s)" for "Prediction of Y"
- If desired, select graphs to generate (the default "Fitted line plot" is usually best)
- Click "Compute!"

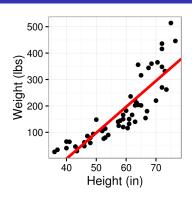
Interpreting regression results in StatCrunch

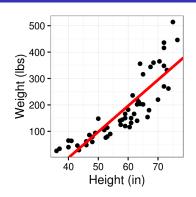
- "Simple linear regression results" section contains:
 - The regression equation in the form of "YVAR = intercept + slope XVAR"
 - The correlation coefficient r as "R (correlation coefficient)"
 - ullet The coefficient of determination R^2 as "R-sq"
- The "Parameter estimates" table contains:
 - The estimates for intercept (b_0) and slope (b_1)
 - The t statistic and p-value for the slope are the same as for a correlation hypothesis test with this data
- Ignore "Analysis of variance table for regression model"
- If predicted values were asked for, they will be in the "Predicted values" table
- Click on the right arrow at the bottom of the results window to get to any graphs that were selected

Example

The Department of Natural Resources wishes to track the weight of bears in the wild. While it is very difficult to weigh a bear, it is fairly easy to estimate the length of bear using photos. The data set "bears.csv" on D2L contains measurements made from anesthetized wild bears.

- Find a relationship, if any, between the length and weight of bears using the data.
- What is the best predicted weight of a bear thought to be 71 inches long?
- Would it be appropriate to predict the weight of a bear 39 inches long? 89 inches?





Example

From the StatCrunch results:

- $r = 0.864, R^2 = 0.747.$
- About 75% of the variation in bear weight is explained by the association with bear height.

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- It would be appropriate to predict the weight of a bear that is 39 inches long, because 39 is within the range of lengths used to find the regression line (36, 76.5).
- 89 inches is not in that range, so it would not be appropriate to try to predict the weight of a 89 inch long bear.

Group work

• For all the questions, complete parts (c) and (d).