

1 Definitions

$$\text{variance} = s_y^2 = \frac{\sum(Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}{N - 1}$$

$$\text{standard deviation} = s_y = \sqrt{\text{variance}}$$

$$\text{covariance of } X \text{ and } Y = s_{yx} = \frac{\sum(Y_i - \bar{Y})(X_i - \bar{X})}{N - 1}$$

2 Deriving the Formula of the Slope

Estimation of the slope (b_X) is straightforward. It's simply the covariance of X and Y divided by the variance of X (Knocke, et. al: 174–175). The formulas for both covariance and variance are both divided by $N - 1$, which factors out in Eq 4. Equation 4, then, equals the formula for the slope provided by Charles.

$$\text{Slope of } X = b_X = \frac{\text{Covariance of } X \text{ and } Y}{\text{Variance of } X} \quad (1)$$

$$= \frac{s_{yx}}{s_x^2} \quad (2)$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\sum(Y_i - \bar{Y})(X_i - \bar{X})}{N - 1}}{\frac{\sum(X_i - \bar{X})^2}{N - 1}} \quad (3)$$

$$= \frac{\sum(Y_i - \bar{Y})(X_i - \bar{X})}{\sum(X_i - \bar{X})^2} \quad (4)$$

3 Deriving the Formula of r

Although a bit more complicated, deriving the formula for r is also relatively straightforward. The formula for computing r is the covariance of X and Y divided by the product of the standard deviations of X and Y. In Eq 7, I substitute the square root of the variances for s_y and s_x . In Eq 8, I reach back into my high school algebra, remembering¹ that you can multiply terms with equal exponents (i.e., $(x^a)(y^a) = (xy)^a$). That permits me to place the entire denominator under the root. Then, in Eq 9, I'm able to split the root over both the numerator and denominator portions of the lower half of the equation because $(\frac{x}{y})^a = \frac{x^a}{y^a}$. In Eq 9, then, we have $\sqrt{(N - 1) \times (N - 1)}$ which reduces to $(N - 1)$ in Eq 10. In Eq 11, the $N - 1$'s cancel out which equals the formula for

¹This is a lie. I had to look it up. The GRE has a pretty decent math review available at <http://www.gre.org/pracmats.html#gentest>

r provided by Charles. (Except that Charles forgot to include the summation signs in the denominator.)

$$\text{correlation coef} = r_{yx} = \frac{\text{Covariance of } X \text{ and } Y}{(\text{Std Dev of } y)(\text{Std Dev of } x)} \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{s_{yx}}{(s_y)(s_x)} \quad (6)$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})(X_i - \bar{X})}{N-1}}{\sqrt{\frac{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}{N-1}} \sqrt{\frac{\sum (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{N-1}}} \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})(X_i - \bar{X})}{N-1}}{\sqrt{\frac{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}{N-1} \times \frac{\sum (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{N-1}}} \quad (8)$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})(X_i - \bar{X})}{N-1}}{\sqrt{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 \times \sum (X_i - \bar{X})^2}} \quad (9)$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})(X_i - \bar{X})}{N-1}}{\sqrt{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 \times \sum (X_i - \bar{X})^2}} \quad (10)$$

$$= \frac{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})(X_i - \bar{X})}{\sqrt{\sum (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 \times \sum (X_i - \bar{X})^2}} \quad (11)$$