

Ch. 3: Correlation & Linear Regression

Copyright © 2024 Michael Diehr
All Rights Reserved
For use only by students enrolled
in my sections of Psyc 402
through the end of the semester.
May not be posted, shared or uploaded
online without permission.

426

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

427

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Ch. 3: Correlation & Linear Regression

- Relationships between 2 variables
- Scatterplots
- Linear Regression
- Exercise 2
- Correlation
- Race / DNA

436

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Number of variables

- One variable, one dimension
- Number Line
- Frequency Distribution / Histogram
 - 2 dimensional graph of 1D data
- Difference Score
 - 1 dimension
 - 2 dimensions

437

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

438

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Bivariate relationships

- “is factor A related to factor B”?
- Methods of analysis...
 - Anecdotal / Clinical
 - Numerical : simple 2x2 analysis
 - Visually -- scatterplots
 - Statistically -- correlation & regression

439

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Anecdotal / Clinical

- Many interesting findings began from non-scientific approaches
- “Intuition” that something is related through experiencing multiple situations
- Pattern recognition - Good and Bad
- Problems -- faulty memory, confirmation biases, prejudice, etc...
- Next step after a “gut” feeling : design experiment and collect data.

440

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Simple numerical analysis

- Simplify:
 - use categorical variables
 - or convert continuous variables to categorical
- Use extreme cases to maximize effect
- Compute percentages in a 2x2 matrix
- Do the results suggest an effect?

- Compute Chi-square statistic to judge significance

441

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Dichotomous Variables

- The simplest form of categorical
- Aka “binary”
- Examples:
 - 1/0
 - yes/no
 - pass/fail
 - true/false
 - healthy/sick
 - normal/impaired
 - etc.

442

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Example

- “I think there is brain dysfunction in HIV disease” as measured by neuropsychological (NP) testing
- Medical status: control vs. HIV+ asymptomatic
- NP test results: normal vs. impaired

		Medical Status	
		Control	HIV+
NP Status	Normal	85%	52%
	Impaired	15%	48%

443

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

2x2 Analysis

- Pro: easy to understand
- Con: using binary categories reduces *statistical power*
- Conclusion: other Graphical and Statistical methods should be used as well.

445

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Scatterplots

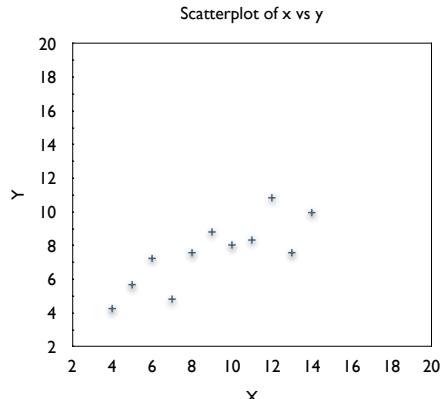
- Graph two variables in relation to each other on two-dimensional X, Y axis
- Easy to see
 - relations
 - problems
- Can’t prove relationship is “significant”
- Difficult to interpret clinically or in “common sense” terms

446

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Scatterplots

x	y
10	8.04
8	7.58
13	7.58
9	8.81
11	8.33
14	9.96
6	7.24
4	4.26
12	10.84
7	4.82
5	5.68



447

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Linear Regression

- Assume X and Y are related
- Assume relationship is linear
- Model with single straight line
- Pick the line that best “fits” our data
- Other names: fitting a line, finding the trend, creating a trendline, best fit line...
- Residuals = difference between prediction and actual value
- Linear Regression minimizes the square of the residuals, often called “Ordinary Least Squares”

448

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Why “Regression”

- Frances Galton
- Height of children vs parents.
- Tall parents have tall children (and vice versa)
- But children are closer to the mean than their parents (by a factor of ~2/3)
- Galton called this “Regression to the Mean”
- His paper fit** straight lines to data points.
- The technique has been called “regression” ever since
- ** He never calculated the lines, he just eyeballed them

449

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

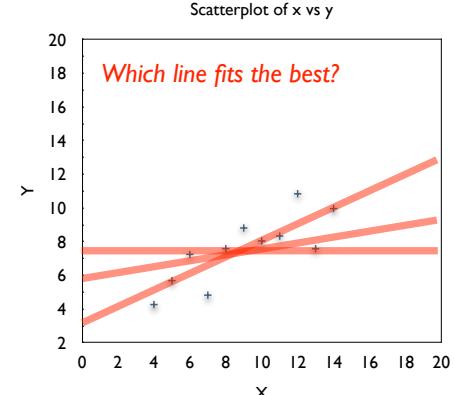
Linear Regression

Equation:

$$y = 3.0 + 0.5x$$

Correlation

$$r_{xy} = 0.816$$

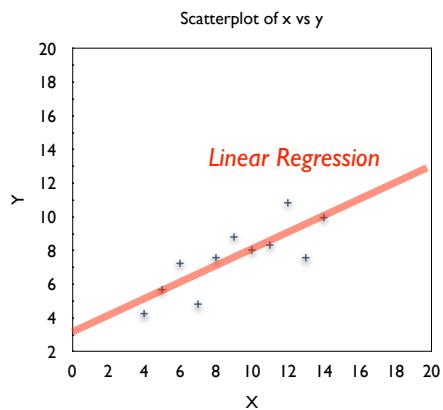


451

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Anscombe's Quartet I

x	y
10	8.04
8	7.58
13	7.58
9	8.81
11	8.33
14	9.96
6	7.24
4	4.26
12	10.84
7	4.82
5	5.68

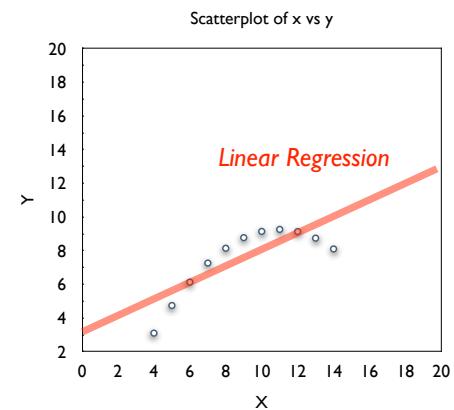


452

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Anscombe's Quartet II

x	y
10	9.14
8	8.14
13	8.74
9	8.77
11	9.26
14	8.1
6	6.13
4	3.1
12	9.13
7	7.26
5	4.74

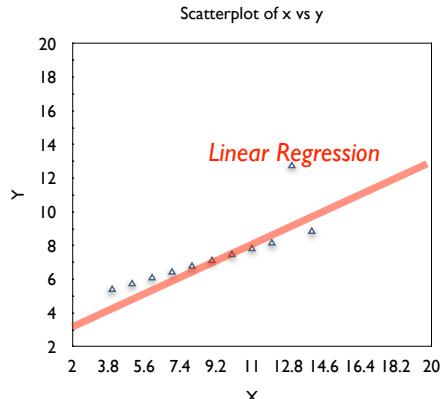


453

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Anscombe's Quartet III

x	y
10	7.46
8	6.77
13	12.74
9	7.11
11	7.81
14	8.84
6	6.08
4	5.39
12	8.15
7	6.42
5	5.73

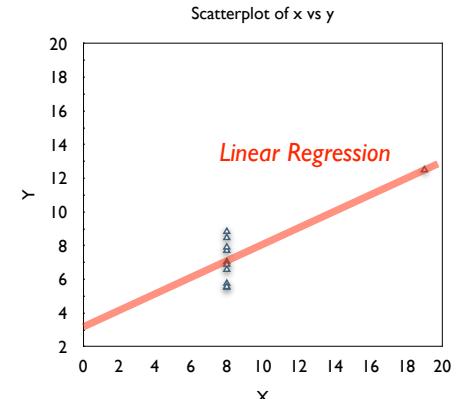


454

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Anscombe's Quartet IV

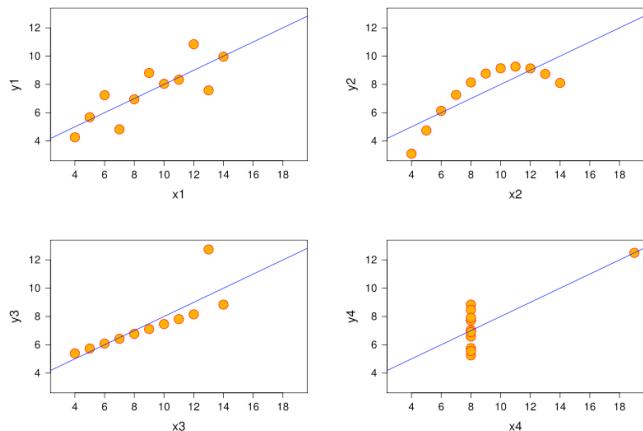
x	y
8	6.58
8	5.76
8	7.71
8	8.84
8	8.47
8	7.04
8	5.52
19	12.5
8	5.56
8	7.91
8	6.89



455

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Anscombe's Quartet



456

Anscombe's Quartet Summary

- Each series has the same Quantitative stats:
 - linear regression equations
 - correlations
- Each one is Qualitatively different
- Each series needs special handling
- Lesson? Graph Your Data!

457

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Linear Regression Equation

$$Y' = a + bX$$

Y' = predicted Y

X = actual X

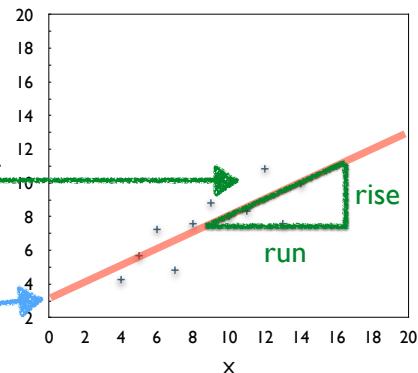
b = slope

dY/dX
(rise over run)

a = intercept

Y value when $X = 0$

Scatterplot of x vs y



458

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Residuals in Linear Regression

- X_i : independent variable
- Y_i : dependent variable
- Model: predict Y_i from X_i
- Y'_i : "Y prime" : predicted Y_i
- $Y'_i = a + bX_i$
- Prediction is imperfect.
- Difference between predicted (Y') and actual (Y) is called a "Residual" = $(Y_i - Y'_i)$
- Calculation of best fit line minimizes the sum of the squared residuals $\sum(Y_i - Y'_i)^2$

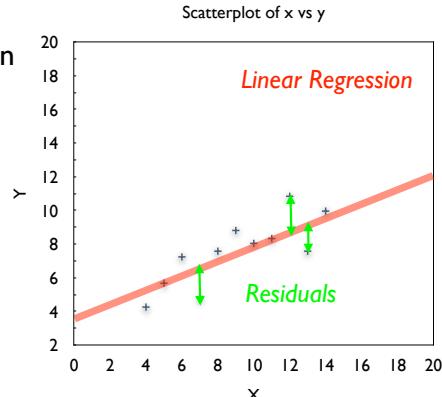
459

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Residuals in Linear Regression

Residuals are difference between actual Y and predicted Y' ($Y - Y'$)

Graphically it is equal to how far away (vertically) a point is from the linear regression line



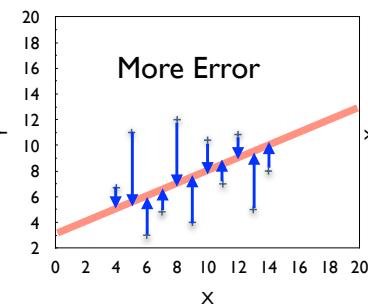
460

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Residuals and Error

Residuals (error) are greater when Y values are further from prediction.

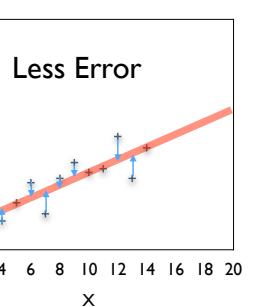
Scatterplot of x vs y



461

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Scatterplot of x vs y



Residuals

$$d_i = y_i - y_i'$$

- In linear regression, the difference between the actual y and predicted y

462

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Measuring “fit”

- Can we use residuals to measure how close the predicted values are vs. the actual values?
- E.g. how big are the residuals
- Similar to how we calculate Standard Deviation with a single X variable*

463

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Sum of Squared Residuals

$$SSR = \sum_{i=1}^N d_i^2$$

$$SSR = \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - y_i')^2$$

464

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Sum of Squared Residuals

- Residual $= (Y_i - Y_i')$
- Squared residual $= (Y_i - Y_i')^2$
- SSR: Sum of squared residuals
 - Linear regression minimizes this value
- SSR is hard to interpret
- Can we standardize SSR?
- Need to compare SSR to something else

465

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Sum of Squares Total

- What can we compare SSR to?
- SST
 - similar to the null hypothesis:
 - “what would SSR be if X and Y aren’t related at all?”
 - uses the mean of Y as the prediction

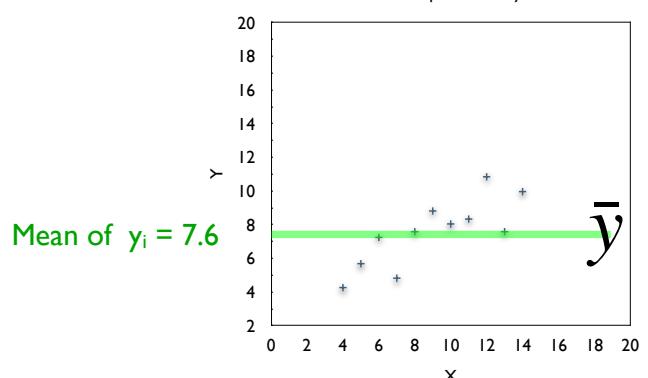
$$SST = \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$

466

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

$$SST = \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$

Scatterplot of x vs y



467

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

R^2

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{SSR}{SST}$$

- $R^2 = 1 - (SSR/SST)$
- Ranges from 0 to 1 (0% to 100%)

469

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

R^2

- Terminology
 - Coefficient of Determination
 - Explained Variance
 - Shared Variance
- Meaning
 - what % of variation in Y values can we predict from the variation in X values
- Careful: *Correlation* is not causation

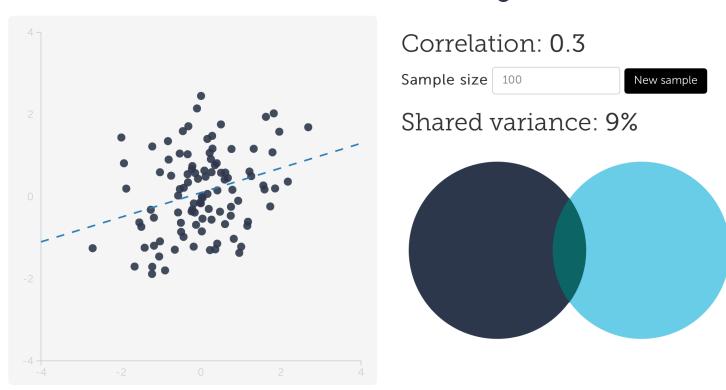
470

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Interactive Correlation Demo

- <http://rpsychologist.com/d3/correlation/>

Slide me



Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Ch. 3 - Part 2

477

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Exercise 2 - GraphPad Prism

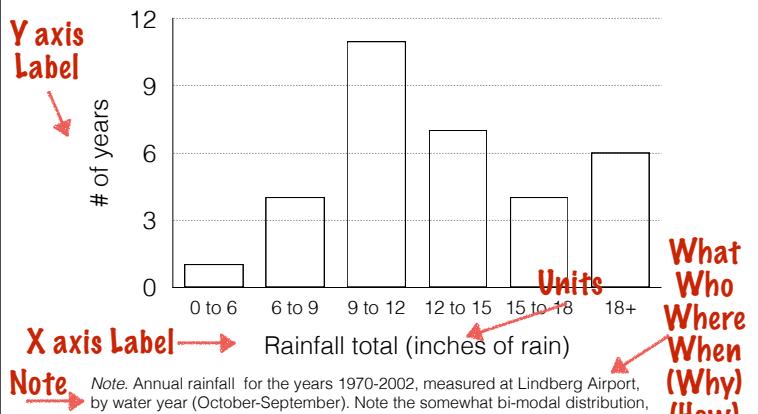
490

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Example of APA-7 style Histogram

Figure 1

Frequency Distribution of Annual Rainfall in San Diego



493

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

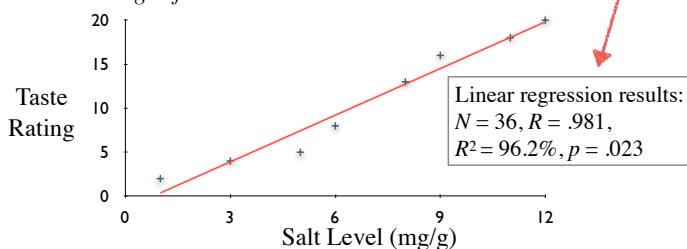
APA-7 Figure Example

Title is above the figure

Legend is within the figure

Figure 1

Taste Ratings of a Cracker in Relation to Salt Amount



Note. Subjects ($N=36$) ate a single dry cracker which varied in the amount of salt (milligrams per gram) and rated the taste on a 20 point scale.
 Note the very strong correlation, suggesting higher salt levels are strongly related to taste ratings.

Note is below the figure

494

Ch. 3 - Part 3

497

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Standard Error of Estimate

- Residual = $(Y - Y')$
- Standard Deviation of residuals
 - measure of “average” error
 - aka “Standard Error of Estimate”
 - In Prism: $S_{y.x}$

502

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Correlation : Pearson's r

- Pearson's Product-Moment Correlation
- Measures the strength of the linear relationship between two variables
- Ranges between -1.0 and +1.0
- Is a special case of linear regression, when both X and Y have been turned into Z scores.
- r is **transitive commutative** (correlation between X and Y is same as correlation between Y and X)
- R^2 = “explained variance” is the proportion of variation in the data explained by the model.
- R^2 ranges from 0 to 1.0 (0% to 100%)

504

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Regression vs. Correlation

	Linear Regression	Correlation
Scores	Raw	Z
Mean, Std Dev	sample means sample Std Dev	0 1
Equation	$Y' = a + bX$	$Y' = rX$
Slope	$b = \text{change in } Y \text{ per change in } X$	$r = \text{correlation coefficient}$
Slope}^2	meaningless	$R^2 = \% \text{ variance explained}$
Commutative?	no	yes, $R_{xy} = R_{yx}$

505

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

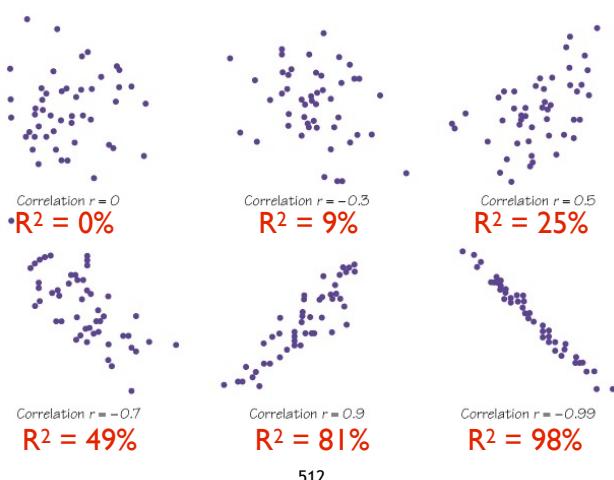
R vs R^2

	R	R^2
Minimum	-1.0	0.0 (0%)
Maximum	1.0	1.0 (100%)
Meaning	correlation between X and Y	% of variance in Y explained by X shared variance, explained variance, coefficient of determination
AKA	“correlation”, “correlation coefficient”	“correlation”, “correlation coefficient”
Notes	can be positive or negative	always positive (since it's squared)

506

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Correlations



512

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Interactive Correlation Example

- <http://rpsychologist.com/d3/correlation/>

- R^2 or “Explained Variance” is sometimes called “Shared Variance”

513

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Other Correlation Coefficients

- Continuous (interval & ratio): Pearson's r
- Ordinal (Ranked): A B C D... 1st, 2nd, 3rd...
 - Spearman's Rho: correlation between two ordinal / ranked variables.
- Dichotomous (yes/no, one/zero, T/F, Male/Female, Pass/Fail...)
 - True vs. Artificial?

514

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Continuous vs. Dichotomous

Type of X / Type of Y	Continuous	Artificial Dichotomous	True Dichotomous
Continuous	Pearson r	Biserial r	Point biserial r
Artificial Dichotomous	Biserial r	Tetrachoric r	Phi
True Dichotomous	Point biserial r	Phi	Phi

515

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Correlation : Issues

- Technical / Calculation :
 - Non-normal distribution
 - Non-linear data and relationships
 - Outliers, data errors
 - Restricted Range
- Interpretation:
 - Correlation =? Causation
 - Third variable explanations

516

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

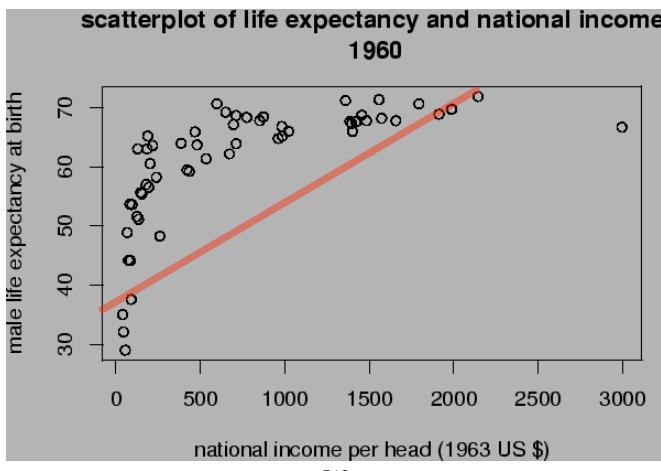
Non-linearity

- Linear Regression & Correlation assume a linear relationship between X and Y
- When it's not linear:
 - Restrict the range of X
 - Transform (log, square root, etc.)
 - other statistical analyses (Spearman's Rho...)

517

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

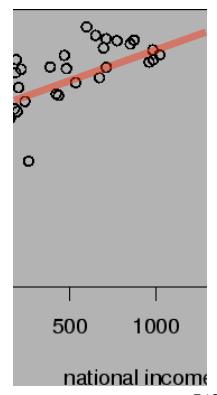
Life expectancy / national income



518

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

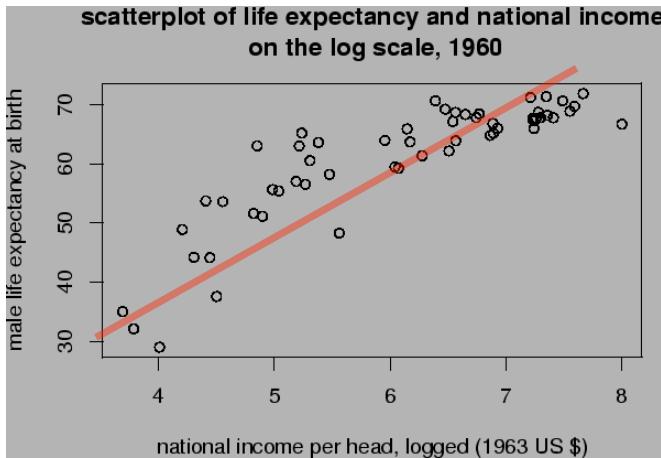
Restrict range of X



519

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

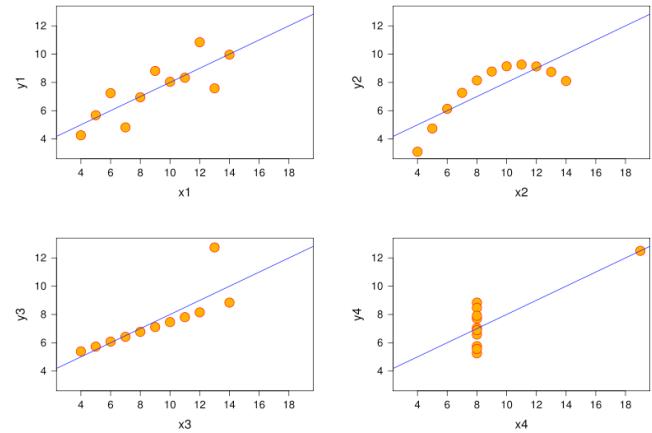
log transform X (or Y)



520

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Outliers & Data Errors?



Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

522

Correlation = Causation?

- A relationship (linear or otherwise) between X and Y tells us nothing about whether X causes Y
- Lack of correlation between X and Y does not mean that X doesn't cause Y
- Ice cream sales are positively related to increases in drowning deaths

523

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Hypothesis Testing

- Parameters estimated from sample data have error
- How do we know if a given estimate is correct?
- How big is the error likely to be (confidence intervals)?
- Inferential Statistics - covered later
 - Formulas to calculate probability, confidence intervals.
 - Higher N is better
 - “statistical significance” not the same as “clinical significance”

524

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Statistical vs Clinical Significance

525

- Regarding the change in the Dependent Variable (DV)
- Statistical Significance:
 - Could the change be due to chance?
 - P value ($p < .05$: less than 5% probability)
- Clinical Significance
 - Was the change big enough to matter?
 - Effect Size (R^2)
 - Depends on context

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Significance vs. Effect Size

- Two coin flips : both heads (100%)
 - big effect size (50%)
 - not statistically significant ($p=0.25$)
- 1000 coin flips, 490 heads (49.0%)
 - small effect (1%)
 - statistically significant ($p=0.02$)
- 1000 coin flips, 350 heads (35%)
 - big effect (15%)
 - statistically significant ($p<.00000001$)

526

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Lies, damned lies, and statistics

- Statistical significance (P) is a function of...
- Errors of measurement (E)
- Effect Size (R)
- Sample Size (N)
- $P \sim E / (R \times N)$

527

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Reporting Results

- Headline: “Men had higher IQ than women. Results were significant $p < .001$ ”
- ?→ “that’s very significant”
- ?→ “men are much smarter than women”
- P-value : statistically significant: Yes
- Effect Size : clinically significant: ? Unknown

528

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Review : Is race “real”?

- Pre-DNA theory
- Post-DNA theory

529

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Pre-DNA

- Gold, Silver, Brass, Iron -- Plato
- “There is a physical difference between the white and black races which I believe will forever forbid the two races living together on terms of social and political equality.” -- Abraham Lincoln

530

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Genetics

- Human genome contains about 3 billion pairs of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA)
- DNA is Transcribed into RNA
- RNA is Translated into Proteins
- Proteins
 - serve as structural components
 - function as enzymes to catalyze biochemical reactions
- Human DNA is grouped into 46 chromosomes
 - 23 pairs, one of each pair comes from each parent
 - 22 pairs in both males and females (autosomes)
 - 1 pair determines sex: either “XX” (females) or “XY” (males)

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

533

Gene

- DNA is subdivided into Chromosomes
- Chromosomes are subdivided into Genes
- Gene is a functional unit of DNA
- makes one thing (single protein or RNA)

536

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Genetics : Species Differences

537

organism	estimated size (base pairs)	# genes	gene size	# chromosomes
Homo sapiens (human)	3.2 billion	~25,000	1 gene per 100,000 bases	46
Mus musculus (mouse)	2.6 billion	~25,000	1 gene per 100,000 bases	40
Drosophila melanogaster (fruit fly)	137 million	13,000	1 gene per 9,000 bases	8
Arabidopsis thaliana (plant)	100 million	25,000	1 gene per 4000 bases	10
Caenorhabditis elegans (roundworm)	97 million	19,000	1 gene per 5000 bases	12
Saccharomyces cerevisiae (yeast)	12.1 million	6000	1 gene per 2000 bases	32
Escherichia coli (bacteria)	4.6 million	3200	1 gene per 1400 bases	1
H. influenzae (bacteria)	1.8 million	1700	1 gene per 1000 bases	1

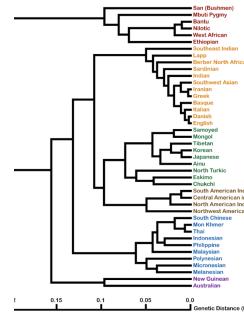
Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Fst = % of subpopulation variance

539

Genetic Differences

- Sub-Saharan African
- Indo-European
- East Asian
- Native American
- South Asian
- Aboriginal



Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

DNA Variation

- variation between individuals : 3mbp / person
- variation within groups : 85%
- variation between groups: 15%
 - 5% - within *population groups*
 - 10% - between *population groups*
- Note:** skin color is one of the few traits where the pattern is reversed

542

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

DNA Differences

- Identical Twins
 - 0.0%
- Human vs. Human
 - 0.1%
- Humans vs Gorillas
 - 1.6%
- Humans vs Chimps:
 - 4.0%
- Humans vs. Cats
 - 10.0%



Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

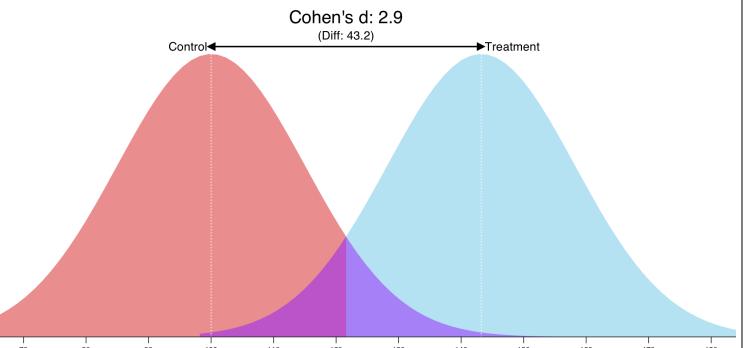
Post-DNA theory

- Variance
 - variation between individuals
 - aka variation *within races population groups*
 - variation *between population groups*

546

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

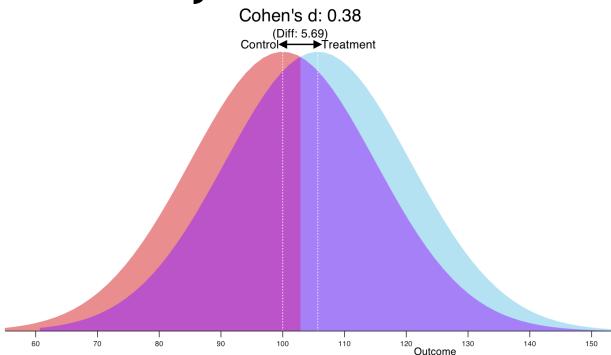
Skin Color



547

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Many other traits



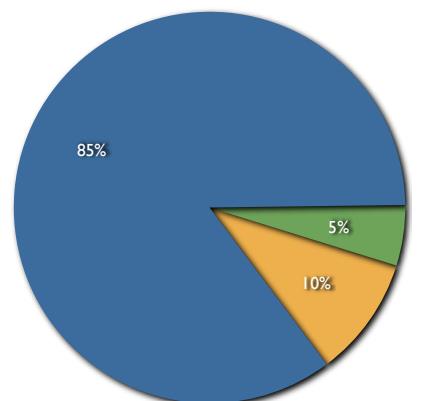
- 15% between group, 85% within group
- 61% chance blue person higher than red

548

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Variance: Genetic Variation

- Within local populations
- Within "race"
- Between "race"



For example:

- 85% within Japanese
- 5% between Japanese & Korean
- 10% between Asian and Caucasian

549

Psychology 402 - Spring 2024 - Dr. Michael Diehr

Prehistorical Migration

