

Sample Covariance

x_i paired with corresponding y_i .

$$x_i - \bar{x} \quad \text{and} \quad y_i - \bar{y}$$

the covariance is the sum across i of the product of the mean deviations divided by $n-1$.

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

CORRELATION → yields a picture of how closely two variables move together.

assume we have a sample of n observations on two variables X and Y .

Pearson correlation coefficient

$$r_{xy} = \frac{S_{xy}}{S_x S_y}$$

S_x : st. dev of X and S_y is the st. dev. of Y .

$$S_x = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1}} \quad S_y = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (y_i - \bar{y})^2}{n-1}}$$

→ a measure of linear association between 2 variables

↓
never a measure of causality

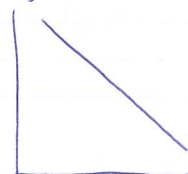
Therefore

$$\text{Correlation } r_{xy} = \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \sqrt{\sum (y_i - \bar{y})^2}}$$

Positive > 0



Negative < 0



LECTURE 8

Regression: a method for estimating the relationship between variable(s) Y and X .

Correlation - symmetric

sets 1 dependent variable, and the others as independent (explanatory) variables

eg. Q depends on L and K .

D depends on P .

behavioral relationship

Y : dependent v.

X : independent v.

both vary across n individuals (observations), denoted by i .

$$\text{so: } Y_i = \alpha + \beta x_i + \epsilon_i$$

↑
 Y intercept

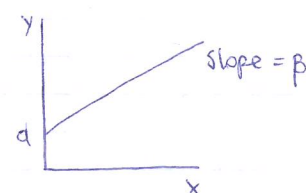
↑
error: included to take account of the fact that not all the variation in Y will be explained by X .

↑
slope: how much Y changes when X changes

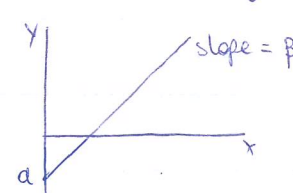
assumption: Y - endogenous
 X - exogenous (predetermined)

eg. FDI causes exports (and not the other way)

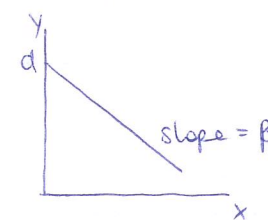
↓
so there is no reverse causality.



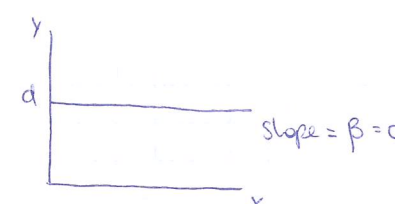
both d and β are positive



d is negative
 β is positive



d is positive
 β is negative



no relationship between Y and X

Line of best fit → some points are close to the line, some further away
some are above, and some below.

method of **ordinary least square** → minimise the sum of squared deviations from the line.

coefficient estimators:

$$\hat{\beta} = \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \quad \hat{\alpha} = \bar{y} - \hat{\beta} \bar{x}$$

contrast with correlation coefficient where X and Y are treated symmetrically

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

Ordinary least squares (OLS)

assumption: the error terms are identically and independently distributed

best linear unbiased estimator (BLUE)

Unbiased - average value in repeated samples would equal the true population value

Best - means minimum variance

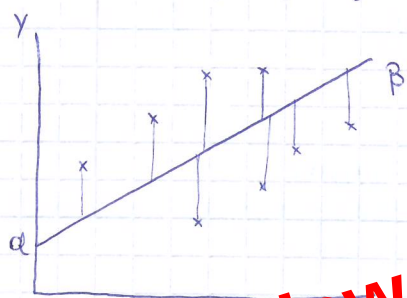
Residuals → the difference between the actual observations and the values predicted by the regression equation.

predicted values of Y → calculated using the actual values of X and the estimated coefficients

$$\hat{Y}_i = \hat{\alpha} + \hat{\beta} x_i$$

residuals = actual value of Y - the predicted value

$$e_i = Y_i - \hat{Y}_i = Y_i - \hat{\alpha} - \hat{\beta} x_i$$



eg

Y : consumption

X : income

estimated line $Y_i = 100 + 0.7x$

① person i's actual C was £1,000 and income £1,200

$100 + 0.7 \times 1200 = 940$ the residual would be $1000 - 940 = 60$

② person i's actual C was £1000 and income £1400

the residual would be $1000 - (100 + 0.7 \times 1400)$
 $= 1000 - 1080 = -80$

estimate the standard error of the estimated coefficient.

the variance of the estimated slope

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

σ^2 : is the variance of errors

this in turn can be estimated by considering the variance of residuals (the mean across residuals is 0).

$$\sigma_e^2 = \frac{\sum e_i^2}{n-2}$$

as we are estimating 2 parameters, α and β

if the errors are normally distributed, then the variance of the errors above can be shown to have the t distribution with $n-2$ degrees of freedom.

Hypothesis testing

$$H_0: \beta = 0$$

$$H_1: \beta \neq 0$$

$$t = \frac{\hat{\beta}}{\text{se}(\hat{\beta})} = \frac{\hat{\beta}}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{\sigma}_e^2}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}}}$$

and compare with Critical t value for $n-2$ dF.

INTERPRETING REGRESSION COEFFICIENTS

- slope = the impact on Y due to a change in X
- Sometimes different variables are measured in different units → hard to interpret the results.
- Economics: use natural log.
- derivative of a log variable = proportional rate of change

$$\ln(Y_i) = \alpha + \beta \ln(X_i) + \epsilon_i$$

↑
measures the % Δ in Y due to a 1% Δ in X .