

DP IB Maths: AA SL



4.2 Correlation & Regression

Contents

- * 4.2.1 Bivariate Data
- * 4.2.2 Correlation & Regression



Your notes

4.2.1 Bivariate Data

Scatter Diagrams

What does bivariate data mean?

- **Bivariate data** is data which is collected on **two variables** and looks at how one of the factors affects the other
 - Each data value from one variable will be **paired** with a data value from the other variable
 - The two variables are often related, but do not have to be

What is a scatter diagram?

- A **scatter diagram** is a way of graphing bivariate data
 - One variable will be on the x-axis and the other will be on the y-axis
 - The variable that can be **controlled** in the data collection is known as the **independent** or **explanatory variable** and is plotted on the x-axis
 - The variable that is **measured** or discovered in the data collection is known as the **dependent** or **response variable** and is plotted on the y-axis
- Scatter diagrams can contain **outliers** that do not follow the trend of the data

Examiner Tip

- If you use scatter diagrams in your Internal Assessment then be aware that finding outliers for bivariate data is different to finding outliers for univariate data
 - (x, y) could be an outlier for the bivariate data even if x and y are not outliers for their separate univariate data

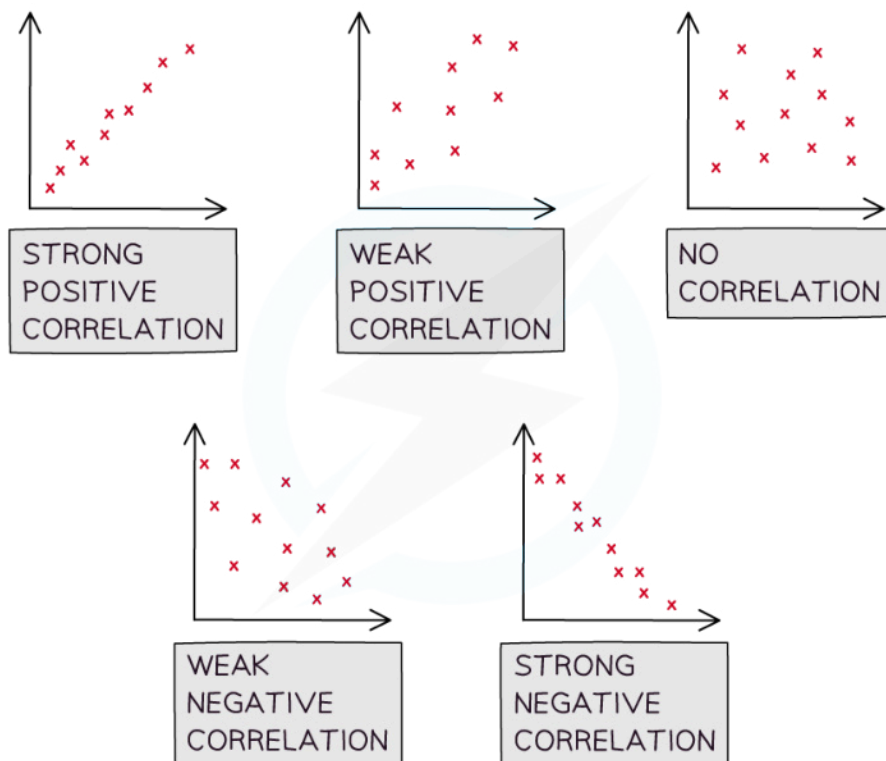


Your notes

Correlation

What is correlation?

- **Correlation** is how the **two variables change in relation to each other**
 - Correlation could be the result of a **causal relationship** but this is not always the case
- **Linear correlation** is when the changes are proportional to each other
- **Perfect linear correlation** means that the bivariate data will all lie on a straight line on a scatter diagram
- When describing correlation mention
 - The type of the correlation
 - **Positive correlation** is when an **increase** in one variable results in the other variable **increasing**
 - **Negative correlation** is when an **increase** in one variable results in the other variable **decreasing**
 - **No linear correlation** is when the data points don't appear to follow a trend
 - The strength of the correlation
 - **Strong linear correlation** is when the data points lie **close** to a **straight line**
 - **Weak linear correlation** is when the data points are **not close** to a **straight line**
- If there is **strong linear correlation** you can draw a **line of best fit** (by eye)
 - The line of best fit will pass through the mean point (\bar{x}, \bar{y})
 - If you are asked to draw a line of best fit
 - Plot the mean point
 - Draw a line going through it that follows the trend of the data



Copyright © Save My Exams. All Rights Reserved

What is the difference between correlation and causation?

- It is important to be aware that just because correlation exists, it does not mean that the change in one of the variables is **causing** the change in the other variable
 - **Correlation does not imply causation!**
- If a change in one variable **causes** a change in the other then the two variables are said to have a **causal relationship**
 - Observing correlation between two variables does **not always** mean that there is a causal relationship
 - There could be **underlying factors** which is causing the correlation
 - Look at the two variables in question and consider the context of the question to decide if there could be a causal relationship
 - If the two variables are temperature and number of ice creams sold at a park then it is likely to be a causal relationship
 - Correlation may exist between global temperatures and the number of monkeys kept as pets in the UK but they are unlikely to have a causal relationship



Your notes



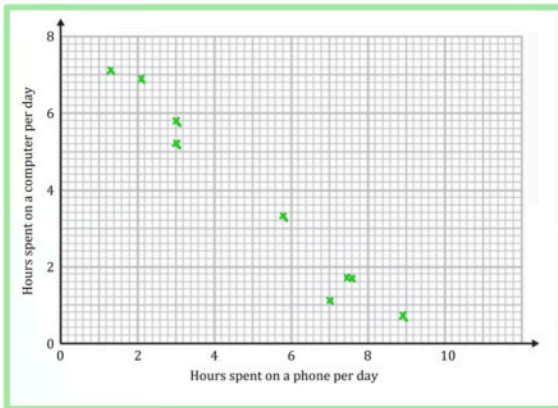
Your notes

 **Worked example**

A teacher is interested in the relationship between the number of hours her students spend on a phone per day and the number of hours they spend on a computer. She takes a sample of nine students and records the results in the table below.

Hours spent on a phone per day	7.6	7.0	8.9	3.0	3.0	7.5	2.1	1.3	5.8
Hours spent on a computer per day	1.7	1.1	0.7	5.8	5.2	1.7	6.9	7.1	3.3

- a) Draw a scatter diagram for the data.



- b) Describe the correlation.

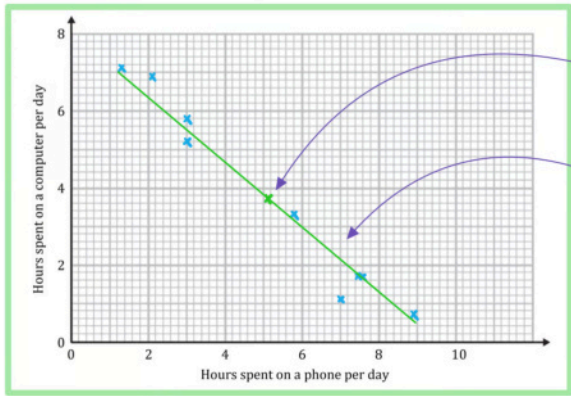
Strong negative linear correlation

- c) Draw a line of best fit.



Your notes

Mean point $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (5.133..., 3.722...)$



Plot the mean point

Draw it by eye



Your notes

4.2.2 Correlation & Regression

Linear Regression

What is linear regression?

- If **strong linear correlation** exists on a scatter diagram then the data can be modelled by a **linear model**
 - Drawing lines of best fit by eye is not the best method as it can be difficult to judge the best position for the line
- The **least squares regression line** is the line of best fit that minimises the **sum of the squares** of the gap between the line and each data value
- It can be calculated by either looking at:
 - **vertical distances** between the line and the data values
 - This is the **regression line of y on x**
 - **horizontal distances** between the line and the data values
 - This is the **regression line of x on y**

How do I find the regression line of y on x?

- The **regression line of y on x** is written in the form $y = ax + b$
- a is the **gradient** of the line
 - It represents the change in y for each individual unit change in x
 - If a is **positive** this means y **increases** by a for a unit increase in x
 - If a is **negative** this means y **decreases** by $|a|$ for a unit increase in x
- b is the **y – intercept**
 - It shows the value of y when x is zero
- You are expected to use your **GDC** to find the equation of the regression line
 - Enter the bivariate data and choose the **model “ax + b”**
 - Remember the **mean point** (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) will lie on the regression line

How do I find the regression line of x on y?

- The **regression line of x on y** is written in the form $x = cy + d$
- c is the **gradient** of the line
 - It represents the change in x for each individual unit change in y
 - If c is **positive** this means x **increases** by c for a unit increase in y
 - If c is **negative** this means x **decreases** by $|c|$ for a unit increase in y
- d is the **x – intercept**
 - It shows the value of x when y is zero
- You are expected to use your **GDC** to find the equation of the regression line
 - It is found the same way as the regression line of y on x but with the two data sets **switched around**
 - Remember the **mean point** (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) will lie on the regression line

How do I use a regression line?

- The regression line can be used to decide what type of correlation there is if there is no scatter diagram
 - If the gradient is **positive** then the data set has **positive correlation**
 - If the gradient is **negative** then the data set has **negative correlation**
- The regression line can also be used to **predict** the value of a **dependent variable** from an **independent variable**
 - The equation for the y on x line should only be used to make predictions for y
 - Using a y on x line to predict x is not always reliable
 - The equation for the x on y line should only be used to make predictions for x
 - Using an x on y line to predict y is not always reliable
 - Making a prediction within the range of the given data is called **interpolation**
 - This is usually reliable
 - The stronger the correlation the more reliable the prediction
 - Making a prediction outside of the range of the given data is called **extrapolation**
 - This is much less reliable
 - The prediction will be more reliable if the number of data values in the original sample set is bigger
- The y on x and x on y regression lines intersect at the mean point (\bar{x}, \bar{y})



Your notes

Examiner Tip

- Once you calculate the values of a and b store them in your GDC
 - This means you can use the full display values rather than the rounded values when using the linear regression equation to predict values
 - This avoids rounding errors



Your notes

Worked example

The table below shows the scores of eight students for a maths test and an English test.

Maths (X)	7	18	37	52	61	68	75	82
English (Y)	5	3	9	12	17	41	49	97

- a) Write down the value of Pearson's product-moment correlation coefficient, r .

Enter data into GDC.

$$r = 0.79433\dots$$

$$r = 0.794 \text{ (3sf)}$$

- b) Write down the equation of the regression line of y on X , giving your answer in the form $y = ax + b$ where a and b are constants to be found.

a is the coefficient of x $a = 0.943579\dots$

b is the constant term $b = -18.05398\dots$

$$y = 0.944x - 18.1$$

- c) Write down the equation of the regression line of X on Y , giving your answer in the form $x = cy + d$ where c and d are constants to be found.

Swap the two sets of data

c is the coefficient of y $c = 0.668700\dots$

d is the constant term $d = 30.52410\dots$

$$x = 0.669y + 30.5$$

- d) Use the appropriate regression line to predict the score on the maths test of a student who got a score of 63 on the English test.

$y = 63$ so use x on y line

$$x = (0.668700...) \times 63 + (30.52410...) = 72.652...$$

Maths score 72.7



Your notes

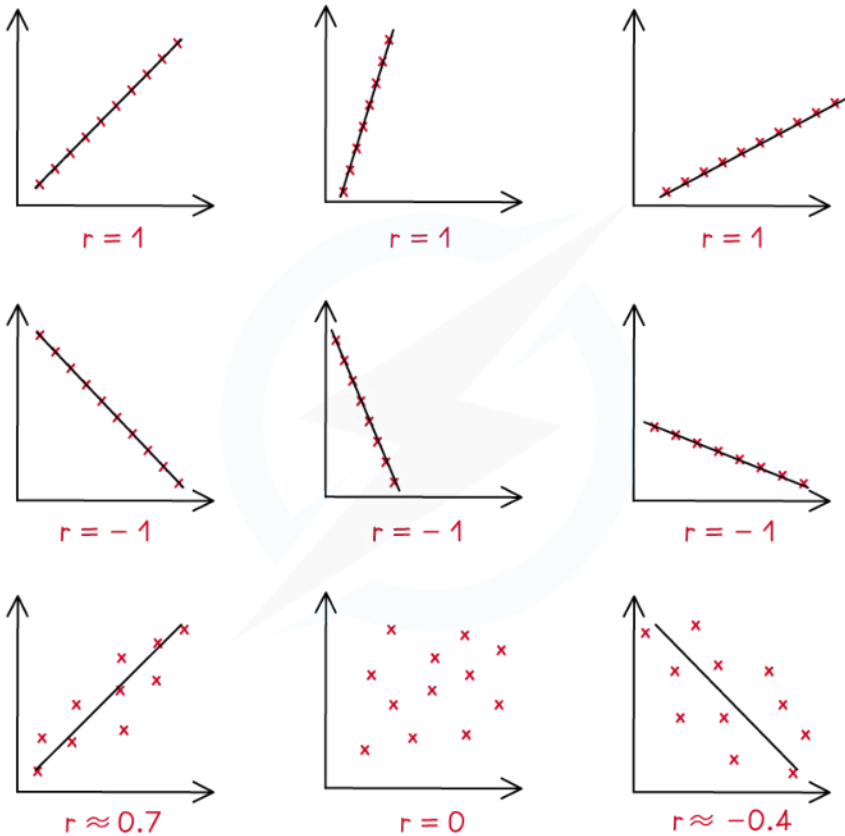


Your notes

PMCC

What is Pearson's product-moment correlation coefficient?

- Pearson's product-moment correlation coefficient (PMCC) is a way of giving a numerical value to a **linear relationship** of bivariate data
- The PMCC of a sample is denoted by the letter r
 - r can take any value such that $-1 \leq r \leq 1$
 - A **positive value** of r describes **positive correlation**
 - A **negative value** of r describes **negative correlation**
 - $r = 0$ means there is **no linear correlation**
 - $r = 1$ means **perfect positive linear** correlation
 - $r = -1$ means **perfect negative linear** correlation
 - The closer to 1 or -1 the stronger the correlation



Copyright © Save My Exams. All Rights Reserved

How do I calculate Pearson's product-moment correlation coefficient (PMCC)?

- You will be expected to use the statistics mode on your GDC to calculate the PMCC
- The formula can be useful to deepen your understanding



Your notes

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

- $S_{xy} = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i - \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^n y_i \right)$ is linked to the **covariance**
- $S_x = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 - \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right)^2}$ and $S_y = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 - \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n y_i \right)^2}$ are linked to the **variances**
- You **do not need to learn this** as using your GDC will be expected

When does the PMCC suggest there is a linear relationship?

- **Critical values** of r indicate when the PMCC would suggest there is a linear relationship
 - In your exam you will be given critical values where appropriate
 - Critical values will depend on the size of the sample
- If the **absolute value** of the **PMCC** is **bigger** than the **critical value** then this suggests a linear model is appropriate