

Homework #1 - ANSWERS

Economics 113

Introduction to Econometrics

Professor Spearot

Due Friday, October 3rd, 2008 – Beginning of class

1. Drummers are unpredictable. Sometimes they play fast, and sometimes they play slow. During a recent 5 day mini-tour, Professor Spearot played the same song at the following tempos:

Day	Tempo (Beats per minute)
1	100
2	110
3	100
4	120
5	80

Calculate the mean, median, mode, variance, standard deviation, and range of Professor Spearot's tempos during this epic five-day tour.

$$\text{Mean} = (1/5) * (100 + 110 + 100 + 120 + 80) = \underline{\mathbf{102}}$$

$$\text{Median} = 100$$

$$\text{Mode} = 100$$

$$\text{Range} = 120 - 80 = 40$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Variance} &= 1/4 * ((100 - 102)^2 + (110 - 102)^2 + (100 - 102)^2 + (120 - 102)^2 + (80 - 102)^2) \\ &= 1/4 * ((-2)^2 + (8)^2 + (-2)^2 + (18)^2 + (-22)^2) \\ &= 1/4 * (4 + 64 + 4 + 324 + 484) \\ &= 1/4 * (880) = \underline{\mathbf{220}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{St. dev} &= \text{Variance}^{(1/2)} \\ &= \underline{\mathbf{14.83}} \end{aligned}$$

2. Professor Spearot's bandmates blame his tempo issues on the number of Red Bull cans consumed prior to the show. Data on this behavior is detailed in the following table:

Day	Red Bull (Cans)
1	1
2	2
3	2
4	5
5	0

What is the covariance and correlation between tempos and red bull consumption?

$$\text{Mean}(R) = (1 + 2 + 2 + 5 + 0) / 5 = 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(R, T) &= (1/4) * ((1 - 2) * (100 - 102) + (2 - 2) * (110 - 102) + (2 - 2) * (100 - 102) + (5 - 2) * (120 - 102) + (0 - 2) * (80 - 102)) \\ &= (1/4) * ((1 - 2) * (100 - 102) + (5 - 2) * (120 - 102) + (0 - 2) * (80 - 102)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (1/4) * (-1 * (-2) + 3 * 18 - 2 * (-22)) \\
&= (1/4) * (2 + 54 + 44) \\
&= (1/4) * (100) \\
&= \underline{\underline{25}}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Variance}(R) &= (1/4) * ((1-2)^2 + (2-2)^2 + (2-2)^2 + (5-2)^2 + (0-2)^2) \\
&= (1/4) * ((1-2)^2 + (5-2)^2 + (0-2)^2) \\
&= 1/4 * (1 + 9 + 4) \\
&= 1/4 * (14) = 3.5
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Stdev}(R) &= \text{Variance}(R)^{1/2} \\
&= 1.870829
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Corr}(R,T) &= \text{Cov}(R,T) / (\text{StDev}(R) * \text{StDev}(T)) \\
&= 25 / (1.870829 * 14.83) \\
&= \underline{\underline{0.901}}
\end{aligned}$$

3. Suppose that Professor Spearot wants to measure Tempo in beats per second rather than beats per minute. Given that there are 60 seconds in one minute, re-derive the mean and standard deviation of Tempo. What happens to the correlation between Red Bull consumption and Tempo?

This involves scaling the Tempo variable by (1/60). Thus, when there are 100 beats per minute, there are 100/60 beats per second.

$$\text{Mean(Beats per second)} = (1/60) * \text{Mean(Beats per minute)} = 102/60 = \underline{\underline{1.7}}$$

Standard deviation changes in the same manner:

$$\text{SD(Beats per second)} = (1/60) * \text{SD(Beats per minute)} = 14.83/60 = \underline{\underline{0.247}}$$

Correlation doesn't change since correlation is insensitive to scale (unitless).

4. Suppose that I decide that I want to measure variation using the "coefficient of variation", which is defined as the standard deviation of random variable divided by its mean. Please prove that random variables X and $Z = aX$ have the exact same coefficient of variation. That is, show that scaling does not affect the coefficient of variation.

Using the fact that $\hat{\mu}_z = a\hat{\mu}_x$ and $\hat{\sigma}_z = a\hat{\sigma}_x$ it follows that :

$$\frac{\hat{\sigma}_z}{\hat{\mu}_z} = \frac{a\hat{\sigma}_x}{a\hat{\mu}_x} = \frac{\hat{\sigma}_x}{\hat{\mu}_x}$$