# Pearson's r & X<sup>2</sup>

- Correlation vs. X<sup>2</sup> (which, when & why)
- Qualitative/Categorical and Quantitative Variables
- Scatterplots for 2 Quantitative Variables
- Research and Null Hypotheses for r
- · Casual Interpretation of Correlation Results (and why/why not

Practice -- would you use r or X<sup>2</sup> for each of the following bivariate analyses? Hint: Start by determining if each variable is qual or quant !

- Contingency Tables for 2 Categorical Variables
- Research and Null Hypotheses for X<sup>2</sup>
- Causal Interpretation for X<sup>2</sup> Results

### Pearson's r Vs. $X^2$

:)	<ul> <li>Pearson's Correlation (r)         <ul> <li>2 quantitative variables</li> <li>LINEAR relationship</li> <li>range = -1 to +1</li> <li>oooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul> <li>Pearson's         <ul> <li>2 qualita</li> <li>PATTEI</li> <li>range =</li> </ul> </li> <li>Food         <ul> <li>Preference</li> <li>crickets</li> </ul> </li> <li>"duck weed"</li> </ul>	s Chi So ative varia RN of rela 0 to + in Turtle Painted 5	quare (X ables ationship finity e Type Snapper 15	(2)

- Age and Preferred Type of Pet ANOVA -- psyche!
- Preferred type of Pet & Preferred Type of Car X<sup>2</sup>

Preferred Pet Type & Preferred Toy Type

Grade (%) & Hrs. Study

Leg Length & Hair Length

GPA & GRE

Age & Shoe Size

ō.

r

r

X2

r

r

Displaying the data for a correlation: With two quantitative variables we can display the bivariate relationship using a "scatterplot"



When examining a scatterplot, we look for three things...

- linearity
  - linear
  - non-linear or curvilinear
- direction (if linear)
  - positive
  - negative
- strength
  - strong
  - moderate
  - weak

linear, positive, weak





nonlinear, strong



Sometimes a scatterplot will show only the "envelope" of the data, not the individual data points. Describe each of these bivariate patterns...







The Pearson's correlation (r) summarizes the direction and strength of the linear relationship shown in the scatterplot

- r has a range from -1.00 to 1.00
  - 1.00 a perfect positive linear relationship
  - 0.00 no linear relationship at all
  - -1.00 a perfect negative linear relationship
- r assumes that the relationship is linear
  - if the relationship is not linear, then the r-value is an underestimate of the strength of the relationship at best and meaningless at worst



For a non-linear relationship, r will be based on a "rounded out" envelope -- leading to a misrepresentative r



Stating Hypotheses with r ... Every RH must specify ...

- the variables
- the direction of the expected linear relationship
- the population of interest
- Generic form ...

There is a no/a positive/a negative **linear** relationship between X and Y in the population represented by the sample.

Every H0: must specify ...

- the variables
- that no linear relationship is expected
- the population of interest
- Generic form ...

There is a no **linear** relationship between X and Y in the population represented by the sample.

What "retaining H0:" and "Rejecting H0:" means...

- When you retain H0: you're concluding...
  - The linear relationship between these variables in the sample <u>is not</u> strong enough to allow me to conclude there is a relationship between them in the population represented by the sample.
- When you reject H0: you're concluding...
  - The linear relationship between these variables in the sample <u>is</u> strong enough to allow me to conclude there is a relationship between them in the population represented by the sample.

Deciding whether to retain or reject H0: when using r ... When computing statistics by hand

- compute an "obtained" or "computed" r value
- look up a "critical r value"
- compare the two
  - if |r-obtained| < r-critical Retain H0:
  - if |r-obtained| > r-critical Reject H0:

### When using the computer

- compute an "obtained" or "computed" r value
- compute the associated p-value ("sig")
- examine the p-value to make the decision
  - if p > .05 Retain H0:
  - if p < .05
- Reject H0:

#### Practice with Pearson's Correlation (r)

## The RH: was that older adolescents would be more polite.

A sample of 84 adolescents were asked their age and to complete the Politeness Quotient Questionnaire Retain or Reject H0: ???

Reject -- |r| > r-critical

Support for RH: ???

Yep ! Correct direction !!

obtained r = .453 critical r = .254

Again...

## The RH: was that older professors would receive lower student course evaluations.

obtained  $r = -.152 \quad p = .431$ 

Statistical decisions & errors with correlation ...

In the Population

Statistical Decision	- r	<b>r</b> = 0	+ r	
- r (p < .05)	Correct H0: Rejection & Direction	Type I "False Alarm"	Type III "Mis-specification"	
r = 0 (p > .05)	Type II "Miss"	Correct H0: Retention	Type II "Miss"	
+ ř(p < .05)	Type III "Mis-specification"	Type I "False Alarm"	Correct H0: Rejection & Direction	

Remember that "in the population" is "in the majority of the literature" in practice!!

Moving on to  $X^2 \dots$ 

with two qualitative variables we can display the bivariate relationship using a "contingency table"

Puppy	Type (col)	Play (row)	
Sam	work	tug	
Ding	hunt	chase	
Ralf	hunt	tug	
Pit	work	tug	
Seff	hunt	chase	
Toby	hunt	chase	



About causal interpretation of correlation results ...

## We can only give a causal interpretation of the results if the data were collected using a true experiment

- random assignment of subjects to conditions of the "causal variable" (IV)
   -- gives initial equivalence.
- manipulation of the "causal variable" (IV) by the experimenter
   -- gives temporal precedence
- control of procedural variables
   -- gives ongoing eq.

Most applications of Pearson's r involve quantitative variables that are subject variables -- measured from participants

In other words -- a Natural Groups Design -- with ...

• no random assignment -- no initial equivalence

- $\bullet$  no manipulation of "causal variable" (IV) -- no temporal precendence
- no procedural control -- no ongoing equivalence

Under these conditions causal interpretation of the results is not appropriate !!

Q

When examining a contingency table, we look for two things...

• whether or not there is a pattern

Pattern: A&1 B&2

• if so, which row tends to "go with" which column?



no pattern

Columns Α В 2 24 25 Rows 25 26



Describe each of the following ...





no pattern

IS	Dogs	Cats
Cracke	32	44
Chips	30	16

cats prefer crackers & dogs have no preference

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The Pearson's Chi-square  $(X^2)$ summarizes the relationship shown in the contingency table

- $X^2$  has a range from 0 to  $\infty$  (infinity)
  - 0.00 absolutely no pattern of relationship
  - "smaller" X<sup>2</sup> -- weaker pattern of relationship
  - "larger" X<sup>2</sup> stronger pattern of relationship
- However...
  - The relationship between the size of X<sup>2</sup> and strength of the relationship is more complex than for r (with linear relationships)
    - you will seldom see X<sup>2</sup> used to express the strength of the bivariate relationship

<ul> <li>Stating Hypotheses with X<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Every RH must specify</li> <li>the variables</li> <li>the specific pattern of the expected relationship</li> <li>the population of interest</li> <li>Generic form</li> <li>There is a pattern of relationship between X &amp; Y, such that</li> <li> in the population represented by the sample.</li> </ul> Every H0: must specify <ul> <li>the variables</li> <li>that no pattern of relationship is expected</li> <li>the population of interest</li> <li>Generic form</li> </ul> There is a no pattern of relationship between X and Y in the population represented by the sample.	Deciding whether to retain or reject H0: when using $X^2$ When computing statistics by hand - compute an "obtained" or "computed" $X^2$ value - look up a "critical $X^2$ value" - compare the two • if $X^2$ -obtained < $X^2$ -critical Retain H0: • if $X^2$ -obtained > $X^2$ -critical Reject H0: When using the computer - compute an "obtained" or "computed" $X^2$ value - compute the associated p-value ("sig") - examine the p-value to make the decision • if $p > .05$ Retain H0: • if $p < .05$ Reject H0:
<ul> <li>What "Retaining H0:" and "Rejecting H0:" means</li> <li>When you retain H0: you're concluding</li> <li>The pattern of the relationship between these variables in the sample <i>is not</i> strong enough to allow me to conclude there is a relationship between them in the population represented by the sample.</li> <li>When you reject H0: you're concluding</li> <li>The pattern of the relationship between these variables in the sample <i>is</i> strong enough to allow me to conclude there is a relationship between them in the population represented by the sample.</li> </ul>	

Statistical decisions & errors with  $X^2 \dots$ 

		In the Population	
Statistical Decision	that specific pattern	<b>NO</b> pattern	any other pattern
that specific pattern (p < .05)	Correct H0: Rejection & Pattern	Type I "False Alarm"	Type III "Mis-specification"
no pattern (p > .05)	Type II "Miss"	Correct H0: Retention	Type II "Miss"
any other pattern (p < .05)	Type III "Mis-specification"	Type I "False Alarm"	Correct H0: Rejection & Pattern
Remember that "	in the population" is "	in the majority of the li	terature" in practice!!

### Testing X<sup>2</sup> RH: -- different "kinds" of RH: & it matters!!!

"Proportion" type RH: RH: A greater proportion of cats than of dogs will prefer crackers.



Both RH:s supported !!

Cats 44 > 16 & Dogs 12 < 3

Dogs 12/42 = .29

Cats 44/60 = .73

"Pattern" type RH: RH: More cats will prefer crackers and more dogs will prefer chips.



Only "Proportion" RH supported !! Cats 44/60 = .73 Dogs 32/62 = .52

Cats 44 > 16 But.. Dogs 32 = 30

Testing X<sup>2</sup> RH: -- different "kinds" of RH: & it matters!!!

"Proportion" type RH:

RH: A greater proportion of those who do the "on web" exam preparation than of those who do the "on paper" version will pass the exam.

### "Implied Proportion" Type of RH:

RH: Those who do the "on web" exam preparation will do better than those who do the "on paper" version.

### "Pattern" type RH:

RH: More of those who do the "on web" exam preparation assignment will pass the exam, whereas more of those who do the "on paper" version fill fail the exam.

Testing X<sup>2</sup> RH: -- one to watch out for...

Sometime, instead of ...

RH: A greater proportion of those do the "on web" exam preparation than of those who do the "on paper" version will pass the exam.

You'll get...  $\rightarrow$  This is **not** a good way to express a X<sup>2</sup> RH: !!!!

RH: More of those who do the "on web" exam preparation assignment will perform better on the exam than those who do the "on paper" version.

You have to be careful about these kinds of "frequency" RH:!!!

 $X^2$  works in terms of proportions, not frequencies! And, because you might have more of one group than another, this can cause confusion and problems...

### Testing X<sup>2</sup> RH: -- one to watch out for...

Instead of ...

RH: A greater proportion of cats than of dogs will prefer crackers.

You'll get...  $\rightarrow$  This is **not** a good way to express a X<sup>2</sup> RH: !!!! RH: More cats than dogs will prefer crackers.



The number of dogs & cats is same  $20 = 20 \dots$ 

But X<sup>2</sup> tests for differential proportion of that category not for differential number of that category...

X<sup>2</sup>=9.00, p=.003

Cats 20/30 = **.66** > **.33** = 20/40 Dogs

About causal interpretation of  $X^2 \dots$ 

Applications of Pearson's X<sup>2</sup> are a mixture of the three designs you know

- Natural Groups Design
- Quasi-Experiment
- True Experiment

But only those data from a True Exp can be given a causal interpretation ...

- random assignment of subjects to conditions of the "causal variable" (IV)
   gives initial equivalence.
- manipulation of the "causal variable" (IV) by the experimenter -- gives temporal precedence
- control of procedural variables gives ongoing eq.

You must be sure that the design used in the study provides the necessary evidence to support a causal interpretation of the results !! Practice with Statistical and Causal Interpretation of X<sup>2</sup> Results RH: Those who do the "on web" exam preparation assignment will perform better on the exam than those who do the "on paper" version.

	Paper	Web	$X^2$ obtained = 28.78,	p < .001
Pass	11	37	Retain or Reject H0: ??? Reject	
Fail	43	14	Support for RH: ???	Yep ! 37/51 of Web folks passed versus 11/54 of Paper folks !!

Design: Before taking the test, students were asked whether they had chosen to complete the "on Web" or the "on paper" version of the exam prep. The test was graded pass/fail. Type of Design ??? Natural Groups Design Causal Interpretation? Nope!

What <u>*CAN*</u> we say from these data ???

There's an association between type of prep and test performance. Again ...

RH: Those who do the "on web" exam preparation assignment will perform better on the exam than those who do the "on paper" version.

•	Paper	Web	$X^2$ obtained = .26, p = .612	
Pas	21	27	Retain or Reject H0: ???	Retain!
Fail	23	24	Support for RH: ???	Nope !

Design: Students in the morning laboratory section were randomly assigned to complete the "on Web" version of the exam prep, while those in the afternoon section completed the "on paper" version. Student's were "monitored" to assure the completed the correct version. The test was graded pass/fail.

Type of Design ???	Quasi Experiment
Causal Interpretation?	Nope!
What <u><i>CAN</i></u> we say from these data ???	There's no association between type of prep and test performance.

Yet again ...

RH: More of those who do the "on web" exam preparation assignment will pass the exam and more of those who do the "on paper" version will fail.

	Paper	Web	$X^2$ obtained = 6.12, 1	p = .013	i i
Pass	21	37	Retain or Reject H0: ?	??	Reject!
Fail	23	14	Support for RH: ???	Partial:	37 > 14, but 23 = 21

Design: One-half of the students in the T-Th AM lecture section were randomly assigned to complete the "on Web" version of the exam prep, while the other half of that section completed the "on paper" version. Students were "monitored" to assure the completed the correct version. The test was graded pass/fail. Only data from students in the T-TH AM class were included in the analysis.

Type of Design ???

True Experiment

Causal Interpretation?

Yep!

What <u>*CAN*</u> we say from these data ???

That type of prep nfluences test performance.