DS 1000B Section 003
Week 3: Errata, remarks & FAQ

Remarks

Weak, moderate and strong correlation

One common question is how to interpret the strength of a correlation coefficient r. While there are no hard rules and it varies by context, the following are the general guidelines we will use in DS1000B:

- $|r| < 0.3$: Weak correlation
- $0.3 \leq |r| < 0.5$: Moderate correlation
- $|r| \geq 0.5$: Strong correlation

These thresholds are somewhat arbitrary, but they provide a useful framework for discussing correlation strength in our analyses.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Would I be asked to use a specific formula for correlation on the midterm/exam?

A: No, you may use any of the formulas you'd like in calculating correlation.

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Q: I'd like additional practice problems for the course materials. Where can I find them?

A: In addition to redoing the examples we cover in class (without looking at the solutions) and the exercises I add to the slides, you could check out Marieke's slides and work through the examples she covers, Ashley McAlpine's slides from her offerings of DS1000 and the Fall 2025 midterm and practice problem set as well as the textbook.

As mentioned previously, the textbook is not required but if you'd like even more exercises, it is a good resource to consider. Older editions of the text will also work fine.

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