Hypothesis Tests For Correlation Exam Questions (Sheet 2 - Edexcel)

Q1.

A random sample of 15 days is taken from the large data set for Perth in June and July 1987.

The scatter diagram in Figure 1 displays the values of two of the variables for these 15 days.

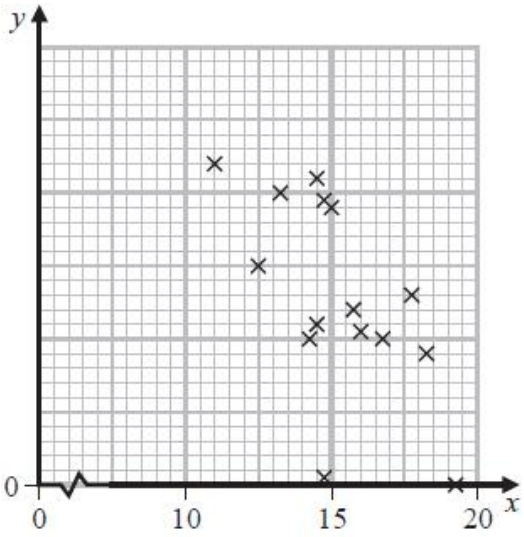


Figure 1

(a) Describe the correlation.

(1)

The variable on the *x*-axis is Daily Mean Temperature measured in °C.

(b) Using your knowledge of the large data set,

(i) suggest which variable is on the *y*-axis,
(ii) state the units that are used in the large data set for this variable.

(2)

Stav believes that there is a correlation between Daily Total Sunshine and Daily Maximum Relative Humidity at Heathrow.

He calculates the product moment correlation coefficient between these two variables for a random sample of 30 days and obtains r = −0.377

(c) Carry out a suitable test to investigate Stav's belief at a 5% level of significance.

State clearly

- your hypotheses
- your critical value

(3)

On a random day at Heathrow the Daily Maximum Relative Humidity was 97%

(d) Comment on the number of hours of sunshine you would expect on that day, giving a reason for your answer.

(1)

(Total for question = 7 marks)

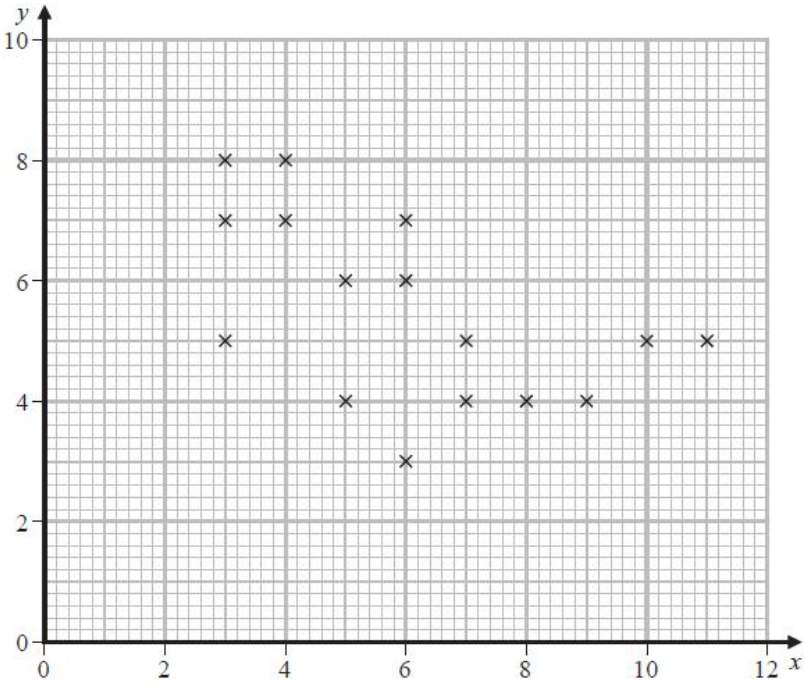
(Q02 9MA0/31, Oct 2020)

Q2.

Marc took a random sample of 16 students from a school and for each student recorded

- the number of letters, x, in their last name
- the number of letters, y, in their first name

His results are shown in the scatter diagram below.



(a) Describe the correlation between x and y.

(1)

Marc suggests that parents with long last names tend to give their children shorter first names.

(b) Using the scatter diagram comment on Marc's suggestion, giving a reason for your answer.

(1)

The results from Marc's random sample of 16 observations are given in the table below.

x	3	6	8	7	5	3	11	3	4	5	4	9	7	10	6	6
y	7	7	4	4	6	8	5	5	8	4	7	4	5	5	6	3

(c) Use your calculator to find the product moment correlation coefficient between x and y for these data.

(1)

(d) Test whether or not there is evidence of a negative correlation between the number of letters in the last name and the number of letters in the first name.

You should

- state your hypotheses clearly
- use a 5% level of significance

(3)

(Total for question = 6 marks)

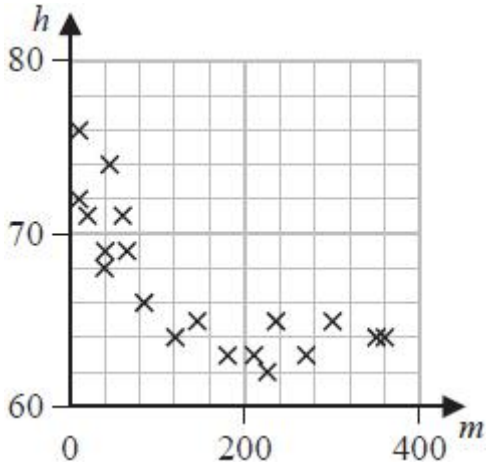
(Q02 9MA0/31, Oct 2021)

Q3.

Anna is investigating the relationship between exercise and resting heart rate.
She takes a random sample of 19 people in her year at school and records for each person

- their resting heart rate, h beats per minute
- the number of minutes, m, spent exercising each week

Her results are shown on the scatter diagram.



(a) Interpret the nature of the relationship between h and m

(1)

Anna codes the data using the formulae

$$x = \log_{10} m$$
$$y = \log 10h$$

The product moment correlation coefficient between x and y is –0.897

(b) Test whether or not there is significant evidence of a negative correlation between x and y
You should

- state your hypotheses clearly
- use a 5% level of significance
- state the critical value used

(3)

The equation of the line of best fit of y on x is

$$y = -0.05x + 1.92$$

(c) Use the equation of the line of best fit of y on x to find a model for h on m in the form

$$h = am^k$$

where a and k are constants to be found.

(5)

(Total for question = 9 marks)

(Q06 9MA0/31, June 2022)

Q4.

Barbara is investigating the relationship between average income (GDP per capita), x US dollars, and average annual carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions, y tonnes, for different countries.

She takes a random sample of 24 countries and finds the product moment correlation coefficient between average annual CO_2 emissions and average income to be 0.446

(a) Stating your hypotheses clearly, test, at the 5% level of significance, whether or not the product moment correlation coefficient for all countries is greater than zero.

(3)

Barbara believes that a non-linear model would be a better fit to the data.
She codes the data using the coding $m = \log_{10} x$ and $c = \log_{10} y$ and obtains the model $c = -1.82 + 0.89m$

The product moment correlation coefficient between c and m is found to be 0.882

(b) Explain how this value supports Barbara's belief.

(1)

(c) Show that the relationship between y and x can be written in the form $y = ax^n$ where a and n are constants to be found.

(5)

(Total for question = 9 marks)

(Q03 9MA0/31, June 2019)

Q5.

Tessa owns a small clothes shop in a seaside town. She records the weekly sales figures, £ w, and the average weekly temperature, t °C, for 8 weeks during the summer.
The product moment correlation coefficient for these data is −0.915

(a) Stating your hypotheses clearly and using a 5% level of significance, test whether or not the correlation between sales figures and average weekly temperature is negative.

(3)

(b) Suggest a possible reason for this correlation.

(1)

Tessa suggests that a linear regression model could be used to model these data.

(c) State, giving a reason, whether or not the correlation coefficient is consistent with Tessa's suggestion.

(1)

(d) State, giving a reason, which variable would be the explanatory variable.

(1)

Tessa calculated the linear regression equation as $w = 10\,755 - 171t$

(e) Give an interpretation of the gradient of this regression equation.

(1)

(Total for question = 7 marks)

(Q02 9MA0/03, June 2018)

Q6.

A meteorologist believes that there is a relationship between the daily mean windspeed, w kn, and the daily mean temperature, t °C. A random sample of 9 consecutive days is taken from past records from a town in the UK in July and the relevant data is given in the table below.

t	13.3	16.2	15.7	16.6	16.3	16.4	19.3	17.1	13.2
w	7	11	8	11	13	8	15	10	11

The meteorologist calculated the product moment correlation coefficient for the 9 days and obtained $r = 0.609$

(a) Explain why a linear regression model based on these data is unreliable on a day when the mean temperature is 24 °C

(1)

(b) State what is measured by the product moment correlation coefficient.

(1)

(c) Stating your hypotheses clearly test, at the 5% significance level, whether or not the product moment correlation coefficient for the population is greater than zero.

(3)

Using the same 9 days a location from the large data set gave $\overline{t} = 27.2$ and $\overline{w} = 3.5$

(d) Using your knowledge of the large data set, suggest, giving your reason, the location that gave rise to these statistics.

(1)

(Total for question = 6 marks)

(Q02 9MA0/03, Specimen papers)