

Question

Suppose that X and Y is $N_2(\mu_x, \mu_y, \sigma_x, \sigma_y, \rho)$ for which

$$E(X|Y = y) = 3.7 - 0.15y, E(Y|X = x) = 0.4 - 0.6x, \text{var}(Y|X = x) = 3.64.$$

Find all the five parameters.

Answer

We know

$$E(X|Y = y) = \mu_x + \rho \frac{\sigma_x}{\sigma_y} (y - \mu_y)$$

$$E(Y|X = x) = \mu_y + \rho \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x} (x - \mu_x)$$

$$\text{var}(Y|X = x) = \sigma_y^2 (1 - \rho^2)$$

Here:

$$E(X|Y = y) = 3.7 - 0.15y$$

$$E(Y|X = x) = 0.4 - 0.6x$$

$$\text{var}(Y|X = x) = 3.64$$

Note that the coefficient of y in $E(X|Y = y)$ is $\rho \frac{\sigma_x}{\sigma_y}$

Note that the coefficient of x in $E(Y|X = x)$ is $\rho \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x}$

Multiplying the two we get ρ^2 .

$$\text{Therefore } \rho^2 = (-0.15)(-0.6) = 0.09$$

$$\text{Therefore } \rho = -\sqrt{0.09} = -0.3$$

Negative sign because coefficient of y in $E(X|Y = y)$ is $= -0.15 = \rho \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x}$ and σ_x and σ_y are positive.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}(Y|X = x) &= \sigma_y^2 (1 - \rho^2) = 3.64 \\ &\Rightarrow \sigma_y^2 (1 - 0.09) = 3.64 \\ &\Rightarrow \sigma_y^2 = 4 \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\rho \sigma_x}{\sigma_y} = -0.15 &\Rightarrow \frac{(-0.3) \sigma_x}{2} = -0.15 \\ &\Rightarrow \sigma_x = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Now } \mu_x - 0.15(-\mu_y) = 3.7 \\ \text{and } \mu_y - 0.6(-\mu_x) = 0.4 \end{array} \right\} \text{ solve for } \mu_x, \mu_y.$$

Final answer: $\mu_x = 4, \mu_y = 2, \sigma_x = 1, \sigma_y = 2, \rho = -0.3$