Introduction to SPSS

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Introduction: What is SPSS?

- Originally it is an acronym of Statistical Package for the Social Science but now it stands for Statistical Product and Service Solutions
- One of the most popular statistical packages which can perform highly complex data manipulation and analysis with simple instructions

Why do you need to know about SPSS?



You will have a course in Biostatistics' on third grade .SPSS will help you in doneing statistical analyses (descriptive and inferential).

Graphical presentations of research results.

Components of SPSS Program (The Four Windows) **Data editor Output viewer** Syntax editor **Script window**

The Four Windows: Data Editor

• Data Editor

Spreadsheet-like system for defining, entering, editing, and displaying data. Extension of the saved file will be "sav."

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The Four Windows: Output Viewer

• Output Viewer

Displays output and errors. Extension of the saved file will be "spv."



The Four Windows: Syntax editor

• Syntax Editor

Text editor for syntax composition. Extension of the saved file will be "sps."

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The Four Windows: Script Window (for high peoples)

• Script Window

Provides the opportunity to write full-blown programs, in a BASIC-like language. Text editor for syntax composition. Extension of the saved file will be "sbs."



The basics of managing data files

Opening SPSS

- The default window will have the data editor
- There are two sheets in the window:
 - 1. Data view
- 2. Variable view

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Data View window

- The Data View window
 - This sheet is visible when you first open the Data Editor and this sheet contains the data
- Click on the tab labeled Variable View

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Variable View window

- This sheet contains information about the data set that is stored with the dataset
- Name
 - The first character of the variable name must be alphabetic
 - Variable names must be unique, and have to be less than 64 characters.
 - Spaces are NOT allowed.

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Variable View window: Type

- Type
 - Click on the 'type' box. The two basic types of variables that you will use are numeric and string. This column enables you to specify the type of variable.

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Variable View window: Width

• Width

 Width allows you to determine the number of characters SPSS will allow to be entered for the variable

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Variable View window: Decimals

Decimals

- Number of decimals
- It has to be less than or equal to 16

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Variable View window: Label

- Label
 - You can specify the details of the variable
 - You can write characters with spaces up to 256 characters

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Variable View window: Values

- Values
 - This is used and to suggest which numbers represent which categories when the variable represents a category

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Defining the value labels

- Click the cell in the values column as shown below
- For the value, and the label, you can put up to 60 characters.
- After defining the values click add and then click OK.

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Practice 1

• How would you put the following information into SPSS?

Name	Gender	Height
JAUNITA	2	5.4
SALLY	2	5.3
DONNA	2	5.6
SABRINA	2	5.7
JOHN	1	5.7
MARK	1	6
ERIC	1	6.4
BRUCE	1	5.9

Value = 1 represents Male and Value = 2 represents Female

Practice 1 (Solution Sample)

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Saving the data

• To save the data file you created simply click 'file' and click 'save as.' You can save the file in different forms by clicking "Save as type."

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