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To: Statistical Analysis of Research Data (SARD) Participants
Re: First Assignment – To Be Completed Prior to our First Session

Folks,

Welcome to our two-day seminar on data analysis and basic statistical concepts. I have a brief "assignment" for you to consider prior to our time together.

Please examine the four datasets below. Simply articulate what these data mean to you. Use any qualitative and/or quantitative tools you like; Microsoft Excel's 'Data Analysis' add-in/toolkit is perfect for this analysis. Again, just describe what's going on.

If it is helpful to you to assign names to the x- and y-values, feel free. Also, feel free to analyze each separately and then compare results. In the end, simply describe what's going on with these datasets:

Dataset I:

X	Y
10.0	8.04
8.0	6.95
13.0	7.58
9.0	8.81
11.0	8.33
14.0	9.96
6.0	7.24
4.0	4.26
12.0	10.84
7.0	4.82
5.0	5.68

Dataset II:

X	Y
10.0	9.14
8.0	8.14
13.0	8.74
9.0	8.77
11.0	9.26
14.0	8.10
6.0	6.13
4.0	3.10
12.0	9.13
7.0	7.26
5.0	4.74

Dataset III:

X	Y
10.0	7.46
8.0	6.77
13.0	12.74
9.0	7.11
11.0	7.81
14.0	8.84
6.0	6.08
4.0	5.39
12.0	8.15
7.0	6.42
5.0	5.73

Dataset IV:

X	Y
8.0	6.58
8.0	5.76
8.0	7.71
8.0	8.84
8.0	8.47
8.0	7.04
8.0	5.25
19.0	12.50
8.0	5.56
8.0	7.91
8.0	6.89

I look forward to working with you later this month. Please bring your "solutions" to this assignment to class for discussion. Note that laptop computers are not required, but I will use some statistical output in some of the sessions to motivate some of the topics on the agenda.

Sincerely,

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