

RECSM: Quantitative Methods in Social Research

Day 2 - 03 07 2025

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Please skim through all of the instructions before getting started.

Problem set

Step 1: Open a new script and save it as day2. Clear your workspace.

Step 2: Load the Asylum dataset from yesterday.

Step 3: Explore the potential correlations between perception bias towards Syrian asylum seekers and other variables in the dataset

Step 4: Estimate a linear regression model that explains perception bias towards Syrian asylum seekers using only one independent variable. Please justify your choice. Try to come up with a reasonable argument (e.g.) why more of x should lead to more/less of y).

Step 5: Plot a scatterplot of that relationship and add the best fit line to the plot.

Step 6: Interpret the regression output and try to imagine that you are communicating these results to your neighbours who are statistically illiterate

Step 7: Reiterate the process from step 3. Estimate another model – you can choose a different independent variable on the same dependent variable.

Step 8: Interpret theese new regression output.

Step 9: Please compare the two models and explain which one you would choose.

Step 10: Produce a regression table with both models next to each other in some text document, using ‘texreg’.

Step 11: Add some additional explanatory variables (no more than 4) to your model.

Step 12: Interpret the output of the new model in relation to the previous model.

Step 13: Check whether the model assumptions are violated (e.g. collinearity issues; normality assumption; heteroskedasticity). To do so, you can use ‘performance’ package.

Step 14: Add an interaction term to the model (e.g. age x news). First, summarise the model and interpret the output of the new model. Then plot the relationship between perception bias and age moderated by tabloid readership.

Solutions for the problem set