Handball is a popular sport in many European countries such as Germany where it is said to have originated. The Bundesliga, for example, is a German men's professional handball league. Handball is typically played indoors on a rectangular court (20m x 40m). There are two goals (3m x 2m) on opposite sides of the court, the goal for each team is to score a goal

by getting the ball in the other team's goal. The challenge to this is that there is a semicircle with a radius of 6m surrounding the goal which players other than the goal keeper are not allowed in, making it challenging to score. Players run back and forth down the court passing the ball to each other and trying to score.

There are seven positions total in handball: the goalkeeper who defends the team's goal, left and rights backs are positioned on the left and right side of their half of the court to provide further defense, the center can move up and down the court and is usually the one trying to score, left and right wings can also move up and down the court, serving as offense when the team pushes for attack and defense when the opposing team tries to score, lastly, the pivot is considered strictly an offensive player as they are usually position in the opposing side of the court, they often work closely with the center. The Bundesliga regular season length is 34 games, with playoffs the maximum number of games a team could play is 41. Players do not play every game in the season and subbing is common,

generally speaking playing time goes to players with experience. This can create a bit of a disparity in which players with less playing time will not necessarily have statistics that accurately display their skills due to the smaller sample size.

Handball is considered a contact sport which means aggressive strategies are often used in games. Aggressiveness can be measured in the penalty statistics as players who tend to get more penalties are usually more considered more aggressive players overall. Their success can be measured with the handball performance index (HPI)(<https://www.liquimoly-hbl.de/en/s/handball-performance-index/2021-22/handball-performance-index--data-based--transparent--fair/>), a calculated statistic which essentially ranks how good a player is. This data set could provide insight on if players or teams that are more aggressive as measured by penalties are more successful than those who are more passive.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **Description** |
| NAME | The name of the player. |
| CLUB | The club the player is on. |
| POSITION | The position of the player. |
| P | The number of games the player was in that season. |
| total\_offense | The total offensive plays made by the player in the season. Calculated by adding the 6 offensive focused statistics from the original dataset. |
| total\_penalties | The total penalties the player had in the season. Calculated by adding the 5 penalty related statistics from the original dataset. |
| HPI | Handball performance index, complex formulaic calculation equivalent to how well the player performed in the season. Players with HPIs in the 70s are considered good, while players in the 60s are considered not as strong. |

1. The below scatterplots show the mean HPI of each club against clubs’ mean penalties and offense. In comparing the two plots, what do you expect from the model: ?

A graph with a line and a blue line

Description automatically generatedA graph with a line and dots

Description automatically generated

1. Below is a table of the coefficients of the model:

A close-up of numbers

Description automatically generatedUsing the values provided, interpret and in the context of HPI.

1. Using calculations, fill in the rest of the below ANOVA table and perform an ANOVA test to assess the overall fit of the model: .

**H0: Ha:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Source** | **d.f.** | **Sum of Squares** | **Mean Square** | **F** | **P-value** |
| **Model** |  | 668.51 |  |  |  |
| **Residual** |  | 2270.72 |  |
| **Total** |  |  |

1. A graph with a line and a line

   Description automatically generated The below scatterplot shows total\_penalties against total\_offense with a regression line. Based on this plot what do you expect the correlation between total\_penalties and total\_offense to be?
2. Using a correlation of 0.7341583, test the significance of the correlation between the total\_offense and the total\_penalties of a player. Provide an interpretation of the results.

**H0: Ha:**

1. Could it be concluded that having more penalties increases the skill and success of a player in the form of HPI?