## Lecture 6 problem set

# INSERT YOUR NAME HERE INSERT DATE

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#### General instructions

The purpose of this problem set is to familiarize yourself with a new dataset, the National Longitudinal Study of 1972 (NLS-72). NLS is a nationally representative, longitudinal study of 12th graders in 1972 with follow-up surveys throughout their postsecondary years. You will be using the Postsecondary Education Transcript File of the NLS-72, which contains information on transcripts from NLS-72 senior cohort members who reported attending a postsecondary institution after high school.

For your homework in the subsequent week, you will use the NLS Postsecondary Education Transcript File to create college GPA variables.

## Load library and data

You'll need to load the tidyverse, haven and labelled libraries in order to load and work with the NLS data. If these packages are not yet installed, then you must install before you load. Install in "console" rather than .Rmd file

- Generic syntax: install.packages("package\_name")
- Install "haven": install.packages("haven")

Note: when we **load** package, name of package is not in quotes; but when we **install** package, name of package is in quotes:

- install.packages("tidyverse")
- library(tidyverse)

```
library(tidyverse)
library(haven)
library(labelled)

rm(list = ls()) # remove all objects

nls crs<- read dta(file="https://github.com/ozanj/rclass/raw/master/data/nls72/nls72petscrs v2.dta", en</pre>
```

## Step 1: Investigate Variables

1. Use typeof, class, str, and attributes functions to investigate the following variables: crsgrada, crsgradb, gradtype, crsecred.

### Step 2: Create New Variables

- 1. crsgrada is the variable for letter course grades. Create a factor version of the crsgrada variable. Hint: knowing what class the variable is currently and investigating the variable using count() will be helpful to creating the new factor version. Retain the new factor version variable in the nls\_crs dataframe using the variable name crsgrad\_fac. Check that this new variable is a factor class.
- 2. Create a numeric course grade version of the crsgrada\_fac variable named numgrade with the following numeric values based on attribute levels from crsgrada\_fac Hint: use mutate() and recode(). Retain this new numgrade variable.
  - A+= 4; A=4; A-=3.7; B+=3.3; B=3; B-=2.7; C+=2.3; C=2; C-=1.7; D+=1.3; D=1; D-=.7; F=0; E=0; WF=0
  - All other letter grades should have missing values for numgrade
  - When recoding to missing use NA\_real\_ rather than NA due to recode() needing a double type/numeric class value to recode and NA is a logical)
- 3. gradtype is a labelled class variable for the type of grade given for each course. Retrieve the variable label and value labels for gradtype. Get a count of gradtype showing the values and the value labels. Now, get another count by filtering for observations associated with "{MISSING}".
- 4. crsgradb is the variable for numerical course grades. There are several issues with this variable. First, missing observations for crsgradb are currently 999 and 999.999. The variable also has values greater than 4 (problematic when the highest possible grade A+ = 4). Create and retain a new crsgradb\_v2 variable that replaces all values greater than 4 for crsgradb to NA (Hint: you can use the mutate and if\_else() functions to either replace the value to NA or keep the current value of the variable based on whether the expression you specify evaluates to TRUE or FALSE. See below...

#### ANSWER PROVIDED FOR YOU

```
nls_crs %>% count(crsgradb)
#table(nls_crs$crsgradb)

nls_crs<- nls_crs %>%
  mutate(crsgradb_v2= ifelse(crsgradb>4, NA, crsgradb))
```

- 5. crsecred is the variable for how many total credits were possible for each course. Missing observations for crsecred are currently 999 and 999.999. Using code similar to Question 5, create and retain a new crsecred\_v2 variable that replaces values of 999 and 999.999 to NA.
- 6. Create a "final" numerical grade variable named numgrade\_v2 that has the numeric values below based on attribute levels from crsgrada\_fac when gradtype indicates letter grades were used and crsecred\_v2 is not missing. Additionally, numgrade\_v2 should equal the value of crsgradb\_v2 when gradtype indicates numeric grades were used and crsecred\_v2 is not missing. Hint: use mutate() and case\_when().
  - A+= 4; A=4; A=3.7; B+=3.3; B=3; B-=2.7; C+=2.3; C=2; C-=1.7; D+=1.3; D=1; D-=.7; F=0; E=0; WF=0
- 7. Use 'set\_variable\_labels' function to set variable labels to the new variables: 'numgrade', 'crs-gradb\_v2', 'crsecredv2' and 'numgrade\_v2'.
- 8. First create a new variable named 'numgrade\_v3', which equals to 1 if 'numgrade\_v2' is greater than 3, and equals to 0 if 'numgrade\_v2' is no greater than 3. Second use 'set\_value\_labels' function to add value labels to this new variables. Third change the variable into a factor variable. Investigate the class of this variable in each step.