PSYC 3435: Prin. Research for Behav. Sci.

Tarleton State University

Linear Regression Activity

Spring 2017

(apologies if this exercise is a bit morbid. It comes from Andy Field's textbook, so blame him!)

Lacourse et al. (2001) conducted a study to see whether suicide risk was related to listening to heavy metal music. They devised a scale to measure preference for bands falling into the category of heavy metal. This scale included traditional heavy metal (Black Sabbath, Iron Maiden), thrash metal (Slayer, Metallica), death/black metal (Obituary, Burzum) and goth metal (Marilyn Manson, Sisters of Mercy). They then used this (and other variables) as predictors of suicide risk based on a scale devised by Tousignant et al. (1988).

• Lacourse, E., Claes, M., & Villeneuve, M. (2001). Heavy Metal Music and Adolescent Suicidal Risk. Journal of Youth and Adolescence, 30(3), 321-332.

Let's imagine we replicated this study. The data file HMSuicide.csv (available on the course Github page) contains the data from such a replication. There are two variables representing scores on the scales described above: hm (the extent to which the person listens to heavy metal music) and suicide (the extent to which someone has suicidal ideation and so on). Your assignment is to use JASP to carry out a regression analysis

- on these data to see whether listening to heavy metal predicts suicide risk.

2. Does listening to heavy metal significantly predict suicide risk (quote relevant statistics)?

1. How much variance does the regression model explain?

3. Describe the relationship between listening to heavy metal and suicide risk (sketch a scatter plot if necessary to help you explain).

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- 4. Write out the regression equation for the model.
- 5. As listening to heavy metal increases by 1 unit, how much does suicide risk change?