

Paul W. Thurman

Management Consulting,
Training, and Development

26110 Town Green Drive
Elmsford, New York 10523

Mobile: (917) 647-9090
E-Mail: Paul.Thurman@Columbia.edu

January 2013

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

Statistical Analysis of Research Data (SARD) Participants
January 2013
Page 3

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul W. Thurman".

Paul W. Thurman
Clinical Professor
Columbia University
Joseph L. Mailman School of Public Health
School of International and Public Affairs
Graduate School of Business