Survey Analysis Workshop

Block 3: Analysing two variables (and sometimes three)

Section 3.2: Three (or more) variables **Sub-section 3.2.1 Elaboration**

 [New tutorial 21 May 2019: **Draft only**]

3.2.1.8 Earnings differences 2017: Preparing the data

Previous session: **3.2.1.7 Earnings differences 2009: Elaboration**

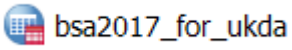
Exemplar: British Social Attitudes Survey 2017

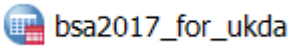
Important Notice

New European General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) mean that **no actual data can be uploaded to this site** from the British Social Attitudes Survey (BSAS). Instead users must check the series list of available files and click the Access link to request downloads of individual source files direct from the UK Data Service (UKDDS). See: Downloading British Social Attitudes Survey (BSAS) data from the UK Data Service. Users must now download the data for each survey direct from UKDS, but major differences in metadata mean that the files are incompatible. See: British Social Attitudes: Making files from different years compatible and British Social Attitudes 1983 onwards: Cumulative SPSS file 1983 - 2017

As a solution, Jon Peck (retired Senior Software Engineer, IBM-SPSS) made a brilliant suggestion: create a special version of the mother file containing **no cases**. Individual BSAS files have to be downloaded one at a time. Using the SPSS command **APPLY DICTIONARY**.users can then use bsa1983to2017zerocases.sav to make any BSAS file mutually compatible with all other years.

Worked example

The SPSS file for the 2017 survey, as downloaded from UKDS, is 

Double click 

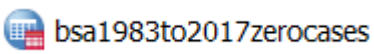
The file opens as DataSet1

Never work on an original file! Make a copy of the file

Open a new **Syntax Editor** and write:

```
dataset copy test1.
dataset activate test1.
```

[Creates a copy of the file]
[Opens it as ***Untitled2 [test1]** which becomes the active file]

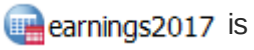
Double click 

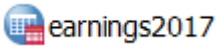
The file opens as DataSet2

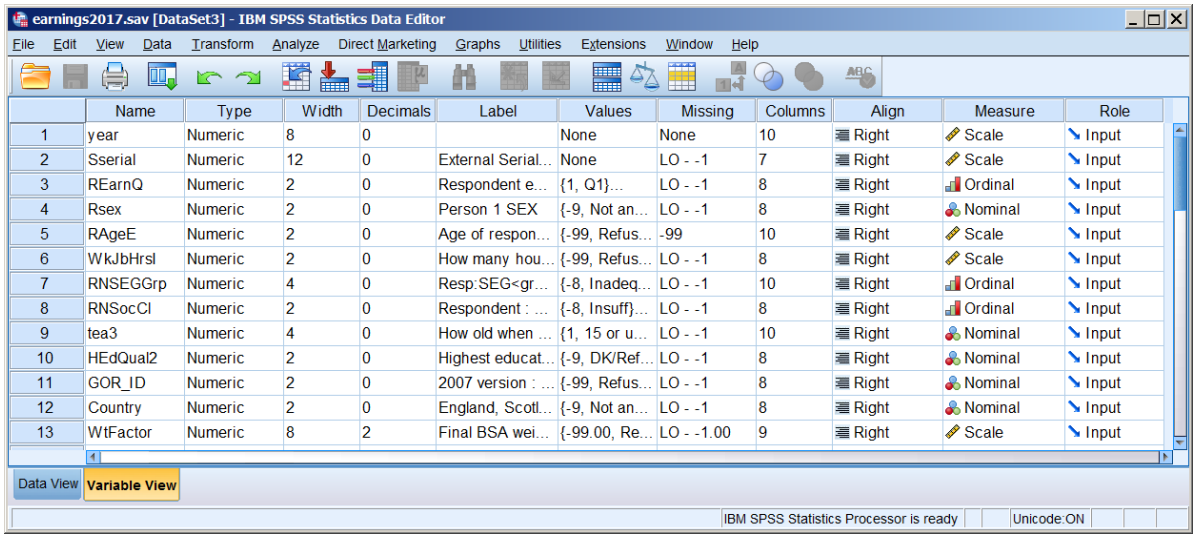
Make sure  is the active file.

```
apply dictionary from dataset2.
compute year = 2017.

save outfile = 'M:\earnings2017.sav'
   /keep year sserial
         rearnq
         rsex ragee
         wkjbhrsi rnseggrp rnsoccl
         tea3 hedqual2
         gor_id country
         wtfactor.
```

 is saved to USB Drive **M:**

Double click on 



	Name	Type	Width	Decimals	Label	Values	Missing	Columns	Align	Measure	Role
1	year	Numeric	8	0		None	None	10	Right	Scale	Input
2	Sserial	Numeric	12	0	External Serial...	None	LO - -1	7	Right	Scale	Input
3	REarnQ	Numeric	2	0	Respondent e...	{1, Q1}...	LO - -1	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
4	Rsex	Numeric	2	0	Person 1 SEX	{-9, Not an...	LO - -1	8	Right	Nominal	Input
5	RAgeE	Numeric	2	0	Age of respon...	{-99, Refus...	-99	10	Right	Scale	Input
6	WkJbHrsl	Numeric	2	0	How many hou...	{-99, Refus...	LO - -1	8	Right	Scale	Input
7	RNSEGGrp	Numeric	4	0	Resp:SEG<gr...	{-8, Inadeq...	LO - -1	10	Right	Ordinal	Input
8	RNSocCl	Numeric	2	0	Respondent : ...	{-8, Insuff}...	LO - -1	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
9	tea3	Numeric	4	0	How old when ...	{1, 15 or u...	LO - -1	10	Right	Nominal	Input
10	HEdQual2	Numeric	2	0	Highest educat...	{-9, DK/Ref...	LO - -1	8	Right	Nominal	Input
11	GOR_ID	Numeric	2	0	2007 version : ...	{-99, Refus...	LO - -1	8	Right	Nominal	Input
12	Country	Numeric	2	0	England, Scotl...	{-9, Not an...	LO - -1	8	Right	Nominal	Input
13	WtFactor	Numeric	8	2	Final BSA wei...	{-99.00, Re...	LO - -1.00	9	Right	Scale	Input

display labels .

Variable Labels

Variable	Line	Label
year	1	<none>
Sserial	2	External Serial Number
REarnQ	3	Respondent earnings quartiles (dv)
Rsex	4	Person 1 SEX
RAgeE	5	Age of respondent dv
WkJbHrsl	6	How many hours do you normally work a week in your main job - including overtime?
RNSEGGrp	7	Resp:SEG<grouped>[pre-SOC2000]best est DV
RNSocCl	8	Respondent : social class [pre-SOC2000] best estimate dv
tea3	9	How old when completed your continuous full-time education?[compressed] dv
HEdQual2	10	Highest educational qual obtained (postgrad separate) - dv
GOR_ID	11	2007 version : Government office region
Country	12	England, Scotland or Wales?
WtFactor	13	Final BSA weight

[**NB**: Variables in red above have variable names which are different from those used in 3.2.1.7 Earnings differences 2009: Elaboration]

Any two or more converted files can then be combined using SPSS command **ADD FILES**.