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# program to re-analyze Lewandowsky's data using more exploratory factor analysis method
# written on 2012/09/23 by Faustusnotes, in an unholy compact with R v2.15.0

# control variable to determine which part of the code to run. Set to
#   1      data import
#   2      basic pca on uncentred data
#   3      generate centered data and do PCA
#   4      factor analysis on uncentred data
#   5      additional exploratory analysis comparing my factors with those of
Lewandowsky

#NOTE: many of the analyses and checks done here assign a result to an object, but I don't
display the results using this code.
# To view results you will need to type the object name in the command window, or (for
linear models) type summary(object name).
# In some cases, e.g. factor analysis results, you will need to type a specific command to
view results. Where I remember to, I indicate this command in
# comments

contr.var<-5

if (contr.var==1){
  # first import data, code due to McIntyre

  source("http://www.climateaudit.info/scripts/psychology/
lewandowsky_utilities.txt")
  lew=get.data(dset="lew")
}

if (contr.var==2){
  # basic pca to identify number of factors to retain, and explore relationship
between variables in the first principal component (PC)
  # first, generate a complete set of eigenvectors and eigenvalues

  corr.lew<-cor(lew)
  pca.out<-eigen(corr.lew)
  plot(pca.out$values)
  # it appears that the Kaiser criterion would retain the first 5 factors, while the
elbow in the eigenvalue plot lies at 2 or 3 factors
  # so when we do factor analysis, we will test for 5, 3 and 2 factors
  # generate % variance explained

  per.var<-pca.out$values/(sum(pca.out$values))

  # percent variance explained of first five pcs
  var.kaiserPC<-sum(per.var[1:5])

  # plot the pcs for 1, 2, 3
  plot(pca.out$vectors[,1])
  plot(pca.out$vectors[,2])
  plot(pca.out$vectors[,3])

  # now get some lists of variables that seem to load strongly on particular pcs
  pc1.pos<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,1]>0.1]
  pc1.neg<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,1]<(-0.1)]

  pc2.pos<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,2]>0.1]
  pc2.neg<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,2]<(-0.1)]

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pc3.pos<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,3]>0.1]
pc3.neg<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,3]<(-0.1)]

# possible interpretations of this initial investigation:

# pc 1 contrasts freemarket ideas and a small set of conspiracy theories with acceptance
of AGW
# pc2 contrasts conspiracy theories with freemarket ideas, or perhaps it just represents a
conspiracy theory term

# pc3 is an average variable, probably just error
}

if (contr.var==3){
  # we could start a factor analysis from here but first I will repeat the above
with centred variables for the liekert-type scores.
  # this section produces the same results as contr.var==2, and so can be ignored. I
have no idea why I did this - it was late at night and I had a cold?

  # centre variables 1:29
lew2<-lew
lew2[,1:29]<-lew2[,1:29]-1.5

  corr.lew2<-cor(lew2)
pca.lew2<-eigen(corr.lew2)
per.var2<-pca.lew2$values/(sum(pca.lew2$values))

  # plot the values
plot(pca.lew2$values)

  # definite elbow at pc3, so let's use 3 factors

  # plot the pcs for 1, 2, 3
plot(pca.lew2$vectors[,1])
plot(pca.lew2$vectors[,2])
plot(pca.lew2$vectors[,3])

  # now get some lists of variables that seem to load strongly on particular pcs
pc1.pos<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,1]>0.1]
pc1.neg<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,1]<(-0.1)]

pc2.pos<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,2]>0.1]
pc2.neg<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,2]<(-0.1)]

pc3.pos<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,3]>0.1]
pc3.neg<-names(lew)[pca.out$vectors[,3]<(-0.1)]

  # all exactly the same, as expected.
  # finally, plot the e vectors 1 and 2
plot(pca.lew2$vectors[,1:2])
}

if (contr.var==4){
  # now do FA on the uncentred values
  # assume varimax rotation
  # first generate for 3 factors retained
  # we generate scores using the regression method (I have no clue what the
difference is between this and Bartlett's whatsit)

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fact.lew<-factanal(lew,factors=3,scores="regression")

# to view the loadings, type "fact.lew$loadings" (without quotes)

# factor 1 clearly loads science vs. free market;
# factor 2 is a separate conspiracy theory term. But factor 3 is dubious, as I
thought. Let's try again with two factors

fact.lewRed<-factanal(lew,factors=2,scores="regression")

# to view the loadings, type "fact.lewRed$loadings" (without quotes). They are
broadly the same

# finally do factor analysis with a strict Kaiser criterion
fact.lewKaiser<-factanal(lew,factors=5,scores="regression")

# this one has a space aliens conspiracy theory factor, which is too cool for
school. We use this as our final solution (see below for comparisons)

}

if (contr.var==5){
  # use the obtained factors to do some final checks. This assumes we have run
sections contr.var==3 and contr.var==4
  # first compare the loadings from the three different solutions generated in
section 4
  # look at only the first factor

  # get difference in absolute value between the loadings of the first factor for
each solution and each other solution
  # check1 compares the Kaiser criterion with teh 2 factor solution
  # check2 compares the Kaiser criterion with the 3 factor solution
  # check3 compares the 2 factor and 3 factor solutions

  fact.check1<-abs(fact.lewKaiser$loadings[,1])-abs(fact.lewRed$loadings[,1])
  fact.check2<-abs(fact.lewKaiser$loadings[,1])-abs(fact.lew$loadings[,1])
  fact.check3<-abs(fact.lewRed$loadings[,1])-abs(fact.lew$loadings[,1])

  # biggest error on the climate change conspiracy factor is between the loadings
for kaiser and for a 2 factor solution - but it's 0.01, about
  # 1% of the loading itself

  # so any number of factors is fine, we will use the Kaiser because a) it explains
the most variance and b) space aliens!

  # next we need to check the relationship between conspiracy theories and AGW
skept/warmist
  # we will make a new variable, "skeptorama," which is defined as follows:
  # sum the climate change questions C02TempUp, C02AtmosUp C02WillNegClimChange
C02HasNegChange
  # skeptic if sum is <12; otherwise warmist

  # excluding the consensus variable from this definition because one can accept the
consensus exists but believe everyone else is wrong
  # just because you're paranoid doesn't mean everyone's not out to get you (or
however that saying goes)

  skeptScore=rowSums(lew[,7:10])

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skeptorama<-(skeptScore<12)
# check prev is about right
skeptic.tab<-prop.table(table(skeptorama))

# now look at scores for factor 2, and the simple mean value of the climate change
score, for each of these categories
# use linear regression

# first regress the value of the conspiracy theory factor from the 5 factor
solution against the skeptorama variable

skeptic.fac2<-lm(fact.lewKaiser$scores[,2]~as.factor(skeptorama))

# next regress the value of the climate change conspiracy variable against the
skeptorama variable
skeptic.CYClimChange<-lm(lew$CYClimChange~as.factor(skeptorama))

# to view results of these analyses type e.g. "summary(skeptic.fac2)" (without
brackets). Remember skeptorama=TRUE measures skeptics

# skeptics highly likely to endorse the climatechange conspiracy but no difference
in factor 2 values between teh skeptics and warmists
# that is, the full, lurid range of conspiracy theories were equally likely to be
endorsed by skeptics and warmists but skeptics were much much
# more likely to endorse the single conspiracy of "climate change is a hoax"

# now generate a "lew factor2" (so named because it rhymes!), which is
Lewandowsky's conspiracy theory factor - this includes the climatechange          #
conspiracy

lewFactor2<-factanal(lew[,13:26],factors=1,scores="regression")
# check this: the climate change conspiracy doesn't load highly on this factor!
# generate the scores
lewScore2<-lewFactor2$scores

# regress this against being a skeptic
lew.CYClimChange<-lm(lewScore2~as.factor(skeptorama))

# highly significant difference between scores for this factor by skeptic/non-
skeptic
# finally plot the lew factor against our factor 2
plot(fact.lewKaiser$scores[skeptorama==FALSE,2],lewScore2[skeptorama==FALSE])
points(fact.lewKaiser$scores[skeptorama==TRUE,
2],lewScore2[skeptorama==TRUE],col=2)

# regress one on the other, with being a skeptic as a confounder variable
fact.comparison<-lm(fact.lewKaiser$scores[,2]~lewScore2+as.factor(skeptorama))

# so my conspiracy theory factor shows a close to linear relationship with
Lewandowsky's conspiracy theory,
# except there is a highly significant reduction in my scores of 0.21 for skeptics
compared to non-skeptics.
# This is because the scores without the conspiracy theory endorsement variable
are smaller by 0.25,
# about the same amount as the loading for the climate change conspiracy variable
in Lewandowsky's factor...

#check using table
table(skeptorama,lew$CYClimChange)

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only 3 of 935 non-skeptics endorsed the climate change conspiracy (those 3 were pretty weird! logic, kids!) but 131 of the skeptics endorsed that
conspiracy

this confirms my suspicion that after you remove the global warming conspiracy from factor 2, it no longer differs significantly between warmists and # skeptics

}

summary so far: there are two main factors, one that contrasts free market/co2; and one that summarizes conspiracy theories. There is no evidence that the CO2/free market factors can be separated into two factors as assumed by Lewandowsky - endorsement of one is strongly correlated with disendorsement of the other. Note that there is a possible relationship between a single conspiracy theory - the New World Order - and the Free market variables, but we will adopt the loadings=0.4 criterion and then it drops out. With 5 factors we get one junk factor (factor 5), then four key factors:

1: Free market vs. co2 (26%)
2: conspiracy theories (15%)
3: endorsement of causes and consensus in science (5%)
4: space aliens!!! (4%)

these only explain 50% of the variance in the data. To explain 80% would require a great many factors, but most would be meaningless

when we look at the relationship between factor 2 generated using my method and a variable indicating whether respondents were skeptics or not, we find
that the skeptics were no more likely to be conspiracy theorists than the non-skeptics. But when we add in the climate change conspiracy this changes.
This is strong evidence that the climate change conspiracy theory is not a conspiracy theory in the same vein as a space aliens conspiracy.
Who knew!!!

when we compare my factor 2 with lewandowsky's conspiracy theory factor we find a very close relationship. His conspiracy explains 24% of the variation
in my factor, but skeptics have a 0.25 lower version of my score than alarmists across all values of lewandowsky's score. My theory is that this is
because my score doesn't contain the climate change conspiracy (well, doesn't load it as much) and so for any given value of Lewandowsky's conspiracy
score, my score has to be about 0.25 lower for skeptics

I think this confirms my theory that this single conspiracy variable has been forced into the wrong category by Lewandowsky's assumptions

I think that factor 1 represents the ideological divide that has infected the AGW debate, and the way the narrative of skepticism has been shaped by free market institutions (e.g. Heartland etc), and is to be expected. The fact that the climate change conspiracy loads onto factor 1 is irrelevant, since it is to be expected people who don't agree that AGW is real will think its strong presence in public policy debate will be due to conspiracy. This is why it loads onto the free market variables. Note that "FMNotEvnQual" does not load on factor 1.

I cannot see any reason to separate the AGW variables from the Free Market ones. They are intimately connected: Factor 1 measures the respondent's position on the debate about AGW vs. free markets and they cannot be separated.