

Ethical considerations when conducting investment in Islamic Stocks Markets

MSc Research Project
Programme Name

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National College of Ireland
MSc Project Submission Sheet
School of Computing



Student Name: Daniel Ng Chun Siang

Student ID:x23123273.....

Programme: MSc in FinTech (MSCFTD1)..... **Year:** 2023/2024

Module: Research Project

Lecturer: Noel Cosgrave

Submission Due Date:12/08/2024.....
Ethical Considerations when conducting investment in Islamic
Stocks Markets

Project Title: Stocks Markets

Word Count:923..... **Page Count:**12.....

I hereby certify that the information contained in this (my submission) is information pertaining to research I conducted for this project. All information other than my own contribution will be fully referenced and listed in the relevant bibliography section at the rear of the project.

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Penalty Applied (if applicable):	

Configuration Manual

Daniel Ng Chun Siang
X23123273

1 Introduction

This section elaborates on the system specification on the study '**Ethical considerations when conducting investment in Islamic Stocks Markets**', including software and hardware used for the implementation of the project. It also lays out the step-by-step for each segment carried out in the implementation of the research project.

2 System Configuration

2.1 Software Specification:

- Google Doc to set up the survey/questionnaire on Google Chrome to view and download the dataset required to run the analysis.
- Telegram, Facebook, Gmail is used to send out invitations to people using the 'snowball' effect and gain more attention
- The dataset is then downloaded using Microsoft Excel, pre-processed to get a numerical data to run SPSS statistic analysis.
- IBM SPSS Statistics is downloaded using NCI moodle page as license authority to get access to the factor analysis part.

2.2 Hardware Specification

- Lenovo Legion 5 Laptop, 512 GB SSD, 16GB RAM
- Processor : AMD Ryzen 7 5800H with Radeon Graphics

3 Data Generation Steps

- Open Google Docs on Google Chrome
- Press 'Go to Doc' and create a survey blank paper

Build your best ideas together, in Google Docs

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- Create your own survey with a 'consensus' base
- Start writing survey/questionnaire contents in Section 2

The screenshot shows a Google Docs document titled "Ethical considerations when conducting investment in Islamic Stock Markets". The document is divided into two sections. Section 1 of 2 contains the survey introduction and a short answer text field. Section 2 of 2 contains a consent statement and a short answer text field.

Section 1 of 2

Ethical considerations when conducting investment in Islamic Stock Markets

Hi, my name is Daniel Ng Chun Siang (x23123273@ncirl.student.ie), a current FinTech student at National College of Ireland (NCI). I am conducting a survey form method to explore the uniqueness of doing investments in the dynamic Islamic Financing field by Malaysians in accordance to my research.

In today's Financing sector, Islamic way of doing Shari'ah methodology towards investments have not only revolutionizing how financial services are accessed and delivered but also significantly impacting customer interactions and expectations. These principles constantly reshaping the unique ways and styles of each and every behaviors from different aspects from investors towards how they monitor and make decisions on their investment portfolios.

I am committed to this topic as this would help out on my understanding and research based on your feedbacks and responses. I would kindly ask for your honesty responses to these questions. Your participation is voluntary, and all responses will remain anonymous and confidential. Your valuable insights will contribute to a better understanding of the current trends, challenges, and potential opportunities in the behaviors and methods of conducting investment in Islamic Finance.

Thank you.

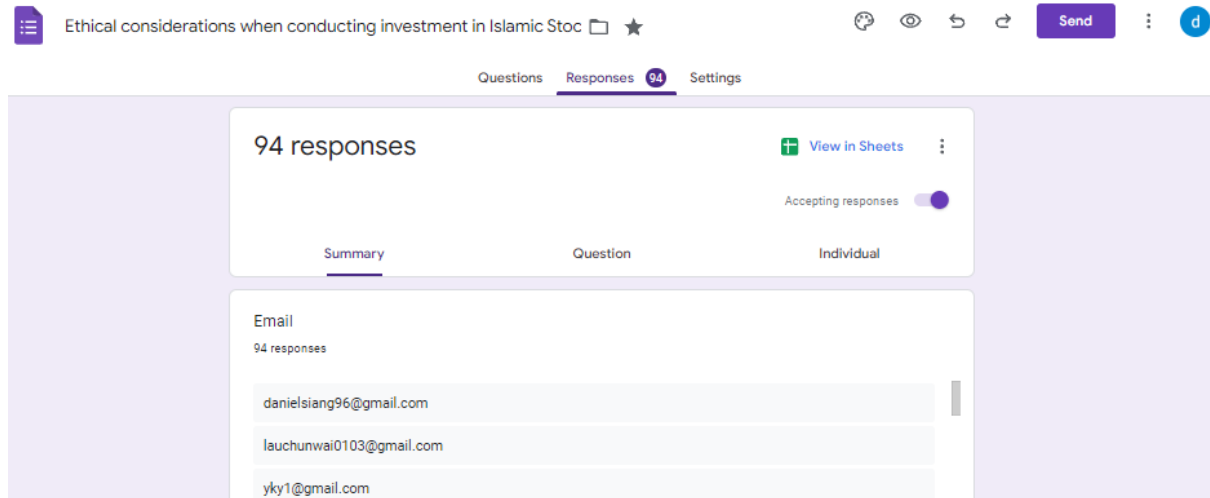
Section 2 of 2

Consent

I consent that I am voluntarily completing this survey. I acknowledge that my answer in this survey will only be used for research purpose and remain confidential. By clicking "Yes, I agree" below, I confirm that I agree to participate in the survey.

Saya setuju bahawa saya melengkap survei ini secara sukarela. Saya mengakui bahawa jawapan saya dalam survei ini hanya akan digunakan untuk tujuan penyelidikan dan kekal sulit. Dengan mengklik "Ya, saya setuju" di bawah, saya mengesahkan bahawa saya setuju

- Go to the 'Responses' Tab to see the responses.



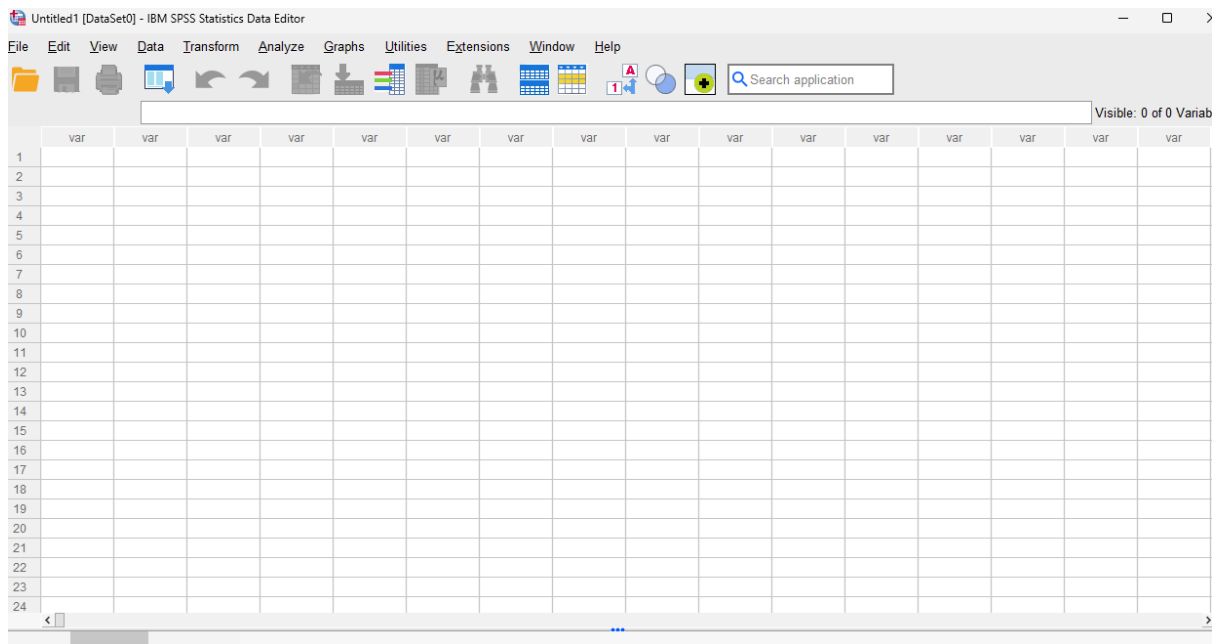
- To review the full responses in the excel sheet, you can click on 'View in Sheets' and press on the '3 dot function' on the top right to download the excel file into your computer.

Timestamp																	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
1	Timestamp	Email	Consent	Age	Gender	Occupatic	Average	M To what e	Do you pri	How do yc	What fact	How impo	Have you	What mea	How do	Would	How
2	#####	danielsia	Yes, I agre	26-35	Male / Le	Student / f	More than	Always / S	The most	Conduct tl	Environm	Very impo	Probably	Utilizing e	I seek out	Likely / be	Yes, I align my investr
3	#####	lauchunw	Yes, I agre	26-35	Male / Le	Employed	In betwee	Always / S	Not very ir	Conduct tl	Environm	Very impo	Probably	By conduc	align with	Neither lik	No, priority on maxim
4	#####	yky1@gm	Yes, I agre	18-25	Male / Le	Unemploy	In betwee	Always / S	A top prio	Utilize too	Company	Most impc	Probably	By conduc	Evaluate tl	Likely / be	Yes, it is very importar
5	#####	yky2@gm	Yes, I agre	26-35	Female / V	Self-empl	In betwee	Usually / f	The most	Conduct tl	Avoidance	Very impo	Definitely	Monitorin	Analyze th	Likely / be	No, it is not a top prio
6	#####	yky3@gma	Yes, I agre	36-45	Male / Le	Employed	In betwee	Usually / f	The most	Engaging	Environm	Very impo	Definitely	Monitorin	Assess th	Likely / be	Yes, it is crucial for me
7	#####	y4@gmail	Yes, I agre	36-45	Male / Le	Self-empl	In betwee	Usually / f	Just enoug	Utilize too	Company	Not so im	Probably	Utilizing e	Examine tl	Likely / be	No, I do not strictly ad
8	#####	y5@gmail	Yes, I agre	36-45	Male / Le	Employed	In betwee	Sometime	The most	Conduct tl	Environm	Somewha	Probably	Monitorin	Consider t	Likely / be	Yes, aligning my inves
9	#####	y6@gmail	Yes, I agre	36-45	Male / Le	Self-empl	In betwee	Sometime	The most	Conduct tl	Avoidance	Very impo	Probably	Assessing	Investigat	Likely / be	No, while I am aware
10	#####	y7@gmail	Yes, I agre	26-35	Female / V	Self-empl	In betwee	Usually / f	Just enoug	Consider	Environm	Somewha	Probably	Monitorin	Evaluate tl	Neither lik	Yes, it is highly import
11	#####	y8@gmail	Yes, I agre	26-35	Male / Le	Self-empl	In betwee	Sometime	A top prio	Utilize too	Environm	Somewha	Probably	Utilizing e	Analyze th	Neither lik	No, I do not strictly ad
12	#####	y9@gmail	Yes, I agre	36-45	Male / Le	Employed	In betwee	Always / S	The most	Conduct tl	Company	Most impc	Definitely	Utilizing e	Assess th	Likely / be	Yes, aligning my inves
13	#####	wefe10@g	Yes, I agre	36-45	Female / V	Employed	More than	Always / S	A top prio	Utilize too	Environm	Most impc	Probably	Utilizing e	Consult w	Neither lik	No, while I respect the
14	#####	kttk11@g	Yes, I agre	36-45	Male / Le	Unemploy	Less than	Always / S	Just enoug	Utilize too	Avoidance	Very impo	Definitely	Monitorin	Evaluate tl	Likely / be	Yes, it is very importar
15	#####	rgwrg12@	Yes, I agre	26-35	Male / Le	Employed	In betwee	Always / S	A top prio	Utilize too	Environm	Very impo	Probably	By conduc	Analyze th	Likely / be	No, it is not a top prio
16	#####	effef24@	G Yes, I agre	46-55	Male / Le	Self-empl	In betwee	Usually / f	A top prio	Conduct tl	Company	Very impo	Definitely	Utilizing e	Consider t	Likely / be	Yes, aligning my inves
17	#####	fqef18@g	r Yes, I agre	36-45	Male / Le	Self-empl	In betwee	Sometime	Just enoug	Utilize too	Company	Very impo	Definitely	Utilizing e	Assess th	Likely / be	No, I do not strictly ad
18	#####	vefe89@g	i Yes, I agre	46-55	Male / Le	Student / f	Less than	Sometime	Just enoug	Engaging	Environm	Very impo	Definitely	Engaging	Analyze th	Neither lik	Yes, it is highly import
19	#####	fefe98@g	i Yes, I agre	26-35	Male / Le	Self-empl	In betwee	Usually / f	A top prio	Conduct tl	Environm	Somewha	Probably	Utilizing e	Consult w	Neither lik	No, while I respect the
20	#####	fwefwe09	(Yes, I agre	26-35	Male / Le	Unemploy	Less than	Usually / f	A top prio	Consider t	Company	Most impc	Probably	Utilizing e	Evaluate tl	Neither lik	Yes, it is very importar
21	#####	t2@gmail	Yes, I agre	46-55	Male / Le	Self-empl	More than	Usually / f	The most	Utilize too	Company	Very impo	Definitely	Utilizing e	Analyze th	Likely / be	No, it is not a top prio
22	#####	a3@gmail	Yes, I agre	26-35	Male / Le	Employed	In betwee	Sometime	Not impor	Consider t	Company	Somewha	Probably	Utilizing e	Assess th	Neither lik	Yes, it is crucial for me
23	#####	d4@gmail	Yes, I agre	36-45	Male / Le	Self-empl	In betwee	Sometime	Just enoug	Utilize too	Company	Very impo	Probably	Utilizing e	Examine tl	Neither lik	No, I do not strictly ad
24	#####	f5@gmail	Yes, I agre	46-55	Male / Le	Self-empl	More than	Sometime	The most	Utilize too	Environm	Most impc	Definitely	Utilizing e	Consider t	Very likely	Yes, aligning my inves
25	#####	g6@gmail	Yes, I agre	46-55	Male / Le	Unemploy	Less than	Rarely / Ja	A top prio	Engaging	Company	Not so im	Definitely	By conduc	Investigat	Very likely	No, while I am aware

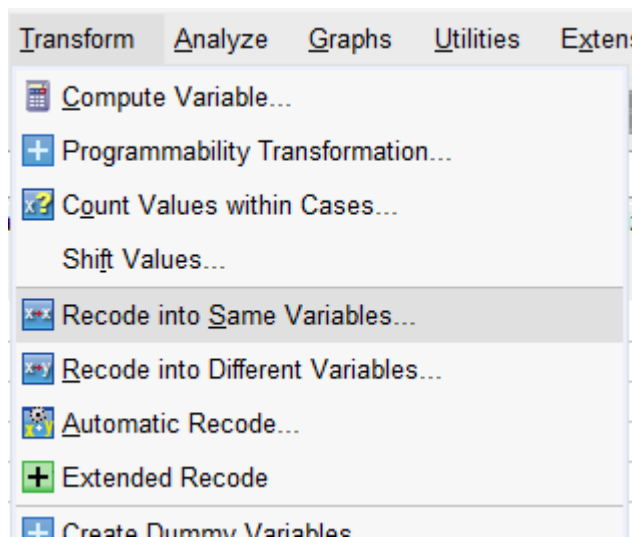
- Above shows the dataset in Microsoft Excel after downloaded from the Google Docs.

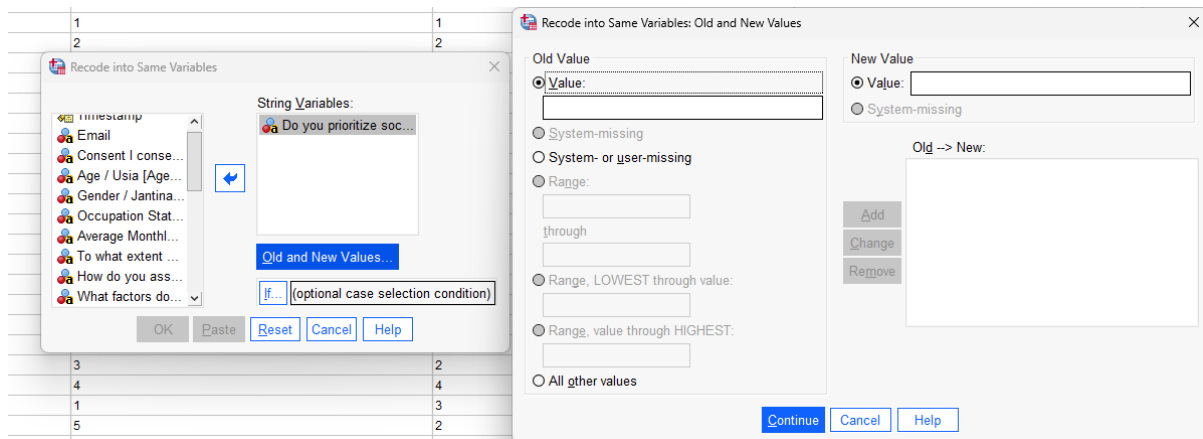
4 Upload Data to SPSS statistic

- **Step 1:** Download SPSS from NCI moodle page using NCI registered licensed. I have picked the latest version of SPSS Version 29.0.2.

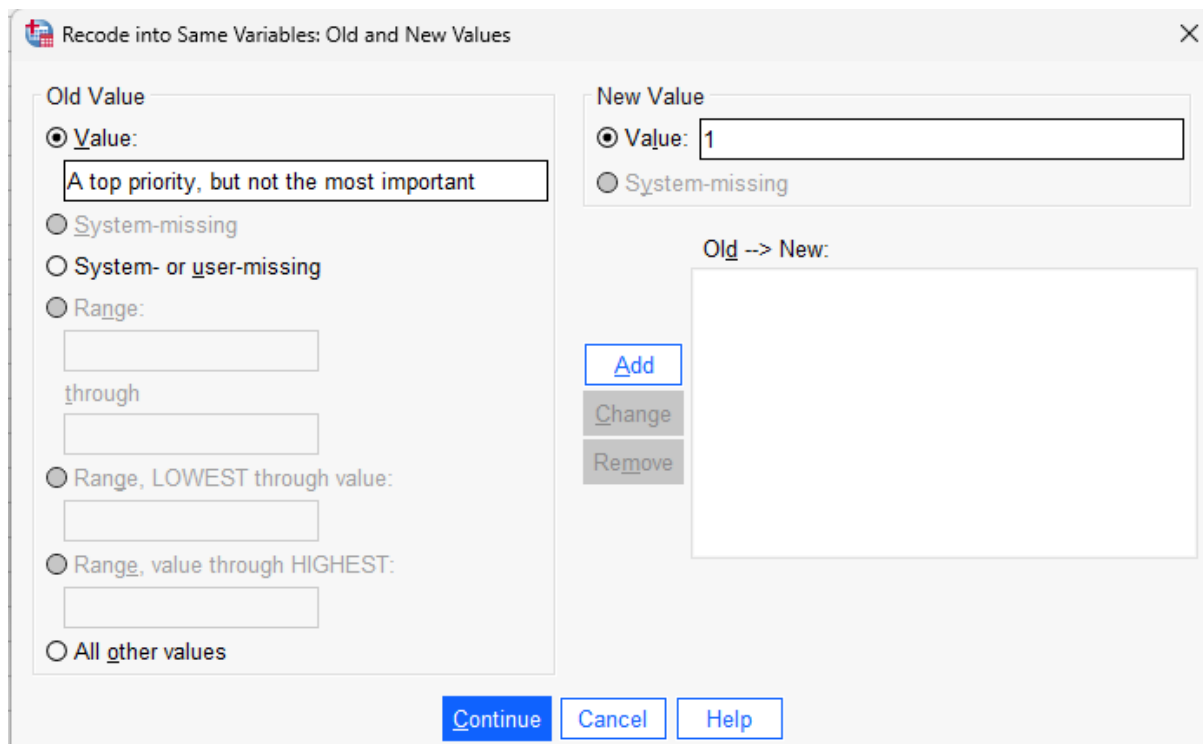


- **Step 2:** The dataset downloaded from Google Docs in full with textual data. To run SPSS factor analysis, we need to first recode the data into 'numerical data', such as 'Apple = 1, Orange = 2, Coconut = 3)etc. To do this press 'Transform > Recode into Same Variables'.





- **Step 3:** (Shown on the left box) Move all the old variables that you want to recode to the 'String Variables' column and press 'OK'. A new recoding box will pop-out (Shown on the right box). Under the variable column in your Microsoft Excel, find the answers related to the column(in this case it shows a question variable).



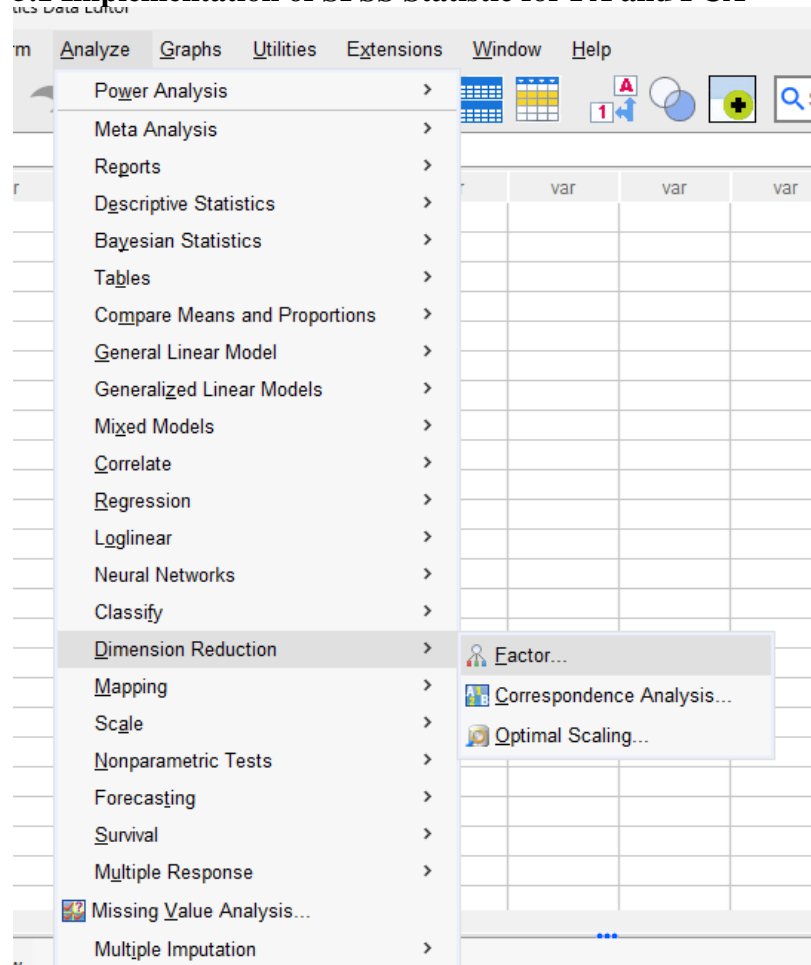
- Let say the question is 'Do you prioritize social responsibility and ethical investing when selecting stocks in Islamic stock markets?', in the survey/questionnaire I have provided 5 different answers, relatively 'A top priority, but not the most important', 'Just enough', 'The most important priority', 'Not very important' and 'Not important at all'.
- **Step 4:** Therefore recoding them from Old value of 'A top priority, but not the most important', to a new numerical value of digit '1'.
- **Step 5:** Continue by recoding all Old value of the remaining answers into respective numerical data, 2 to 5.

To what extent do you believe ethical considerations impact investment performance?	Do you prioritize social responsibility and ethical investing when selecting investments?	How do you assess the ethical compliance of potential investment opportunities?	What factors do you consider when evaluating the ethical implications of an investment?	How important is transparency in financial transactions when conducting investments?
1	3	2	1	1
1	4	2	1	1
1	1	1	2	2
2	3	3	3	1
2	3	4	1	1
2	2	1	2	3
3	3	2	1	4
3	3	2	3	1
2	2	3	1	4
3	1	1	1	4
1	3	2	2	2
1	1	1	1	2
1	2	1	3	1
1	1	1	1	1
2	1	2	2	1
3	2	1	2	1
3	2	4	1	1
2	1	2	1	4
2	1	5	5	2
2	3	1	2	1
3	5	5	2	4
3	2	1	2	1
3	3	1	1	2
4	1	4	5	3
3	4	3	2	3
3	2	2	1	1
2	1	3	2	1
5	4	4	4	3
4	1	1	3	3
2	1	5	2	1
5	1	2	1	4
2	1	2	4	5
2	2	4	3	1
2	1	1	2	2
1	1	3	1	5
1	4	4	4	4
2	1	3	2	1
4	2	4	1	2
2	1	4	1	3
3	2	1	4	3

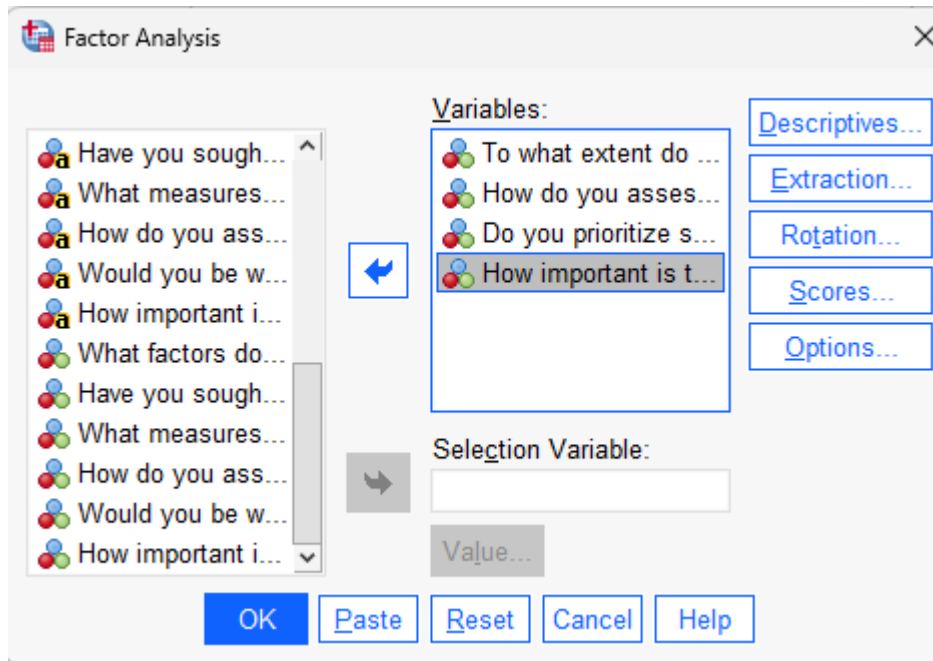
- After recoding your dataset should look something shown above with all textual content recoded into numerical data.

5 Implementation

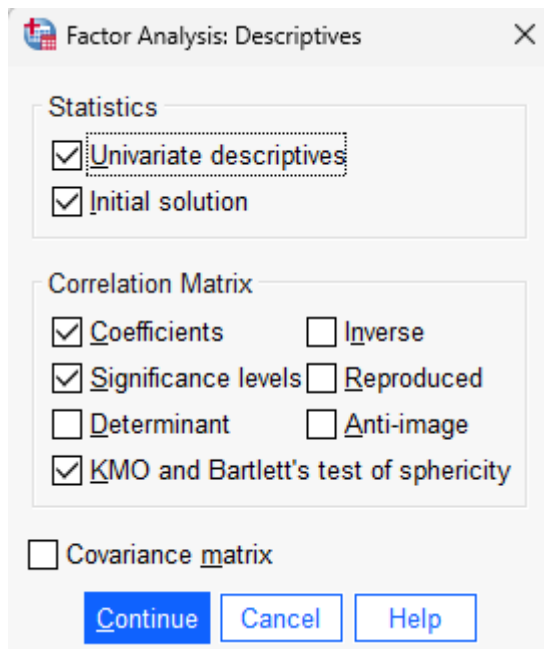
5.1 Implementation of SPSS Statistic for FA and PCA



- **Step 1:** To run Factor analysis and Principal Component Analysis (PCA), press under tab 'Analyze' and choose 'Dimension Reduction > Factor'.



- **Step 2:** Factor Analysis tool box will pop out and choose from the left variables to the right depending on how many variables you would like to run the analysis.



- **Step 3:** Under 'Descriptives', to get KMO and Bartlett's test and Coefficient Matrix, tick both boxes. Make sure to tick Univariate descriptives to run the analysis of a single variable each time, to be able to summarize and describe its main characteristics. Measurements of variance also uses Univariate to measure dispersion, allowing SPSS statistic to calculate range, variance and standard deviation.

Factor Analysis: Extraction

Method: Pincipal components

Analyze

☒ Correlation matrix

☐ Covariance matrix

Display

☒ Unrotated factor solution

☒ Scree plot

Extract

☒ Based on Eigenvalue

Eigenvalues greater than: 1

☐ Fixed number of factors

Factors to extract:

Maximum Iterations for Convergence: 25

Continue Cancel Help

- **Step 4:** under 'Extraction' button, method used is 'Principal component' to run PCA, to obtain Communalities Table.
- In my study Correlation Matrix is needed to compare the relationship between variables. Plotting a Scree plot to identify which variables (>1) strongly influence the factors related to the study.

Factor Analysis: Rotation

Method

☐ None ☐ Quartimax

☒ Varimax ☐ Equamax

☐ Direct Oblimin ☐ Promax

Delta: 0 Kappa: 4

☒ Apply Kaiser normalization

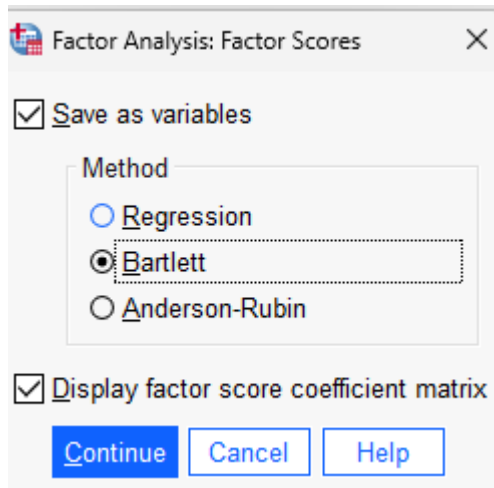
Display

☒ Rotated solution ☐ Loading plot(s)

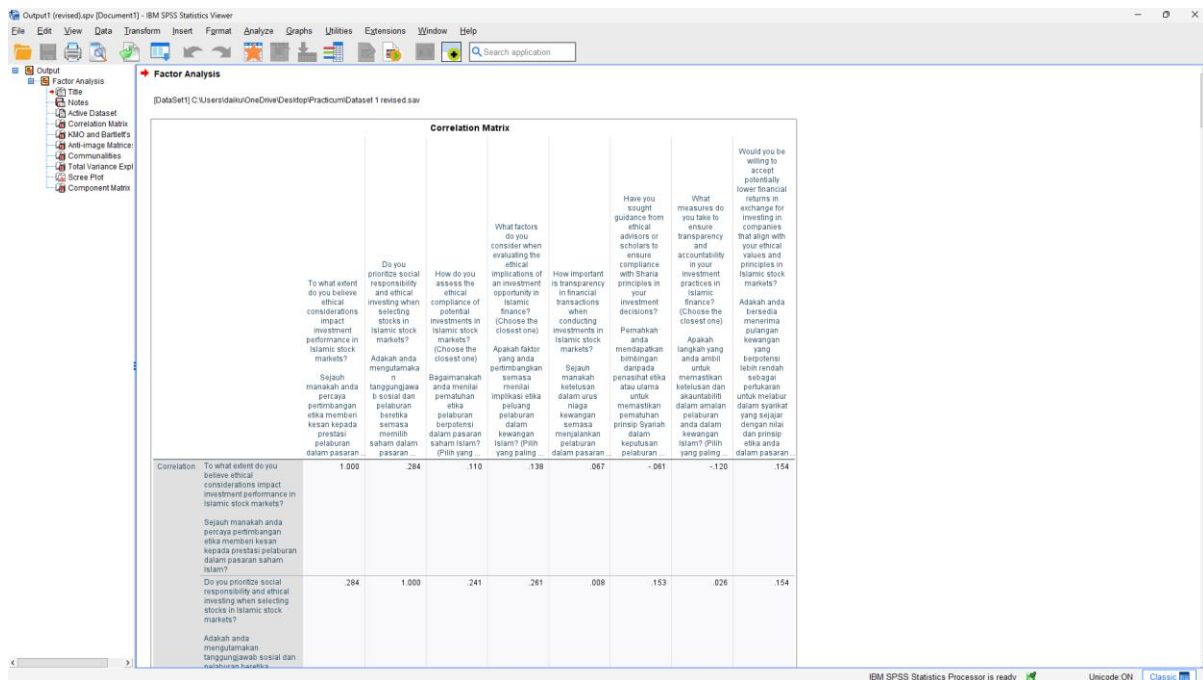
Maximum Iterations for Convergence: 25

Continue Cancel Help

- **Step 5:** Under 'Rotation', choose Varimax to obtain the value of the relationship between variables and factors(components).



- **Step 6:** Since my study surround covariance structure, Bartlett's method would be the appropriate factor score to derive. This is because Bartlett's method is less influenced by the specific correlations among the variables and may provide a more generalized representation of the factors.
- ***Step 6 can be skipped by unticking 'Save as variables' if not saving the variables for factor scoring.***
- **Step 7:** Run 'Continue' to obtain the required factor analysis, as shown below.



KMO and Bartlett's Test		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.643
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	58.361
	df	28
	Sig.	<.001

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
To what extent do you believe ethical considerations impact investment performance in Islamic stock markets? Sejauh manakah anda percaya pertimbangan etika memberi kesan kepada prestasi pelaburan dalam pasaran saham Islam?	1.000	.640
Do you prioritize social responsibility and ethical investing when selecting stocks in Islamic stock markets? Adakah anda mengutamakan tanggungjawab sosial dan pelaburan beretika semasa memilih saham dalam pasaran saham Islam?	1.000	.617
How do you assess the ethical compliance of potential investments in Islamic stock markets? (Choose the closest one) Bagaimanakah anda menilai pematuhan etika pelaburan berpotensi dalam pasaran saham Islam? (Pilih yang paling dekat)	1.000	.473
What factors do you consider when evaluating the ethical implications of an investment opportunity in Islamic finance? (Choose the closest one)	1.000	.604

Total Variance Explained

Component	Total	Initial Eigenvalues		Extraction Total	Sums of Squared Loadings	
		% of Variance	Cumulative %		% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	2.021	25.260	25.260	2.021	25.260	25.260
2	1.210	15.121	40.382	1.210	15.121	40.382
3	1.069	13.367	53.749	1.069	13.367	53.749
4	.942	11.780	65.529			
5	.892	11.145	76.674			
6	.695	8.687	85.361			
7	.626	7.822	93.182			
8	.545	6.818	100.000			

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Component Matrix^a			
	Component		
	1	2	3
<p>To what extent do you believe ethical considerations impact investment performance in Islamic stock markets?</p> <p>Sejauh manakah anda percaya pertimbangan etika memberi kesan kepada prestasi pelaburan dalam pasaran saham Islam?</p>	.406	-.662	-.190
<p>Do you prioritize social responsibility and ethical investing when selecting stocks in Islamic stock markets?</p> <p>Adakah anda mengutamakan tanggungjawab sosial dan pelaburan beretika semasa memilih saham dalam pasaran saham Islam?</p>	.591	-.176	-.487
<p>How do you assess the ethical compliance of potential investments in Islamic stock markets? (Choose the closest one)</p> <p>Bagaimanakah anda menilai pematuhan etika pelaburan berpotensi dalam pasaran saham Islam? (Pilih yang paling dekat)</p>	.618	.271	-.137
<p>What factors do you consider when evaluating the ethical implications of an investment opportunity in Islamic finance? (Choose the closest one)</p> <p>Apakah faktor yang anda pertimbangkan semasa menilai implikasi etika peluang pelaburan dalam kewangan Islam? (Pilih</p>	.745	.108	.193

Rotated Component Matrix^a			
	Component		
	1	2	3
Have you sought guidance from ethical advisors or scholars to ensure compliance with Sharia principles in your investment decisions? Pernahkah anda mendapatkan bimbingan daripada penasihat etika atau ulama untuk memastikan pematuhan prinsip Syariah dalam keputusan pelaburan anda?	.690	-.105	-.191
How do you assess the ethical compliance of potential investments in Islamic stock markets? (Choose the closest one) Bagaimanakah anda menilai pematuhan etika pelaburan berpotensi dalam pasaran saham Islam? (Pilih yang paling dekat)	.633	.269	-.006
Do you prioritize social responsibility and ethical investing when selecting stocks in Islamic stock markets? Adakah anda mengutamakan tanggungjawab sosial dan pelaburan beretika semasa memilih saham dalam pasaran saham Islam?	.604	.016	.502
How important is transparency in financial transactions when conducting investments in Islamic stock markets? Sejauh manakah ketelusan dalam urusan	-.096	.744	-.142

5.2 Implementation of Google Colab

Step 8: To run an analysis on the theoretical part, I have recoded in the Excel sheet with a simple, YES = 1 and NO = 2 manually.

Q	R
How	
Yes, I align	1
No, priorit	2
Yes, it is w	1
No, it is no	2
Yes, it is c	1
No, I do no	2
Yes, aligni	1
No, while	2
Yes, it is h	1
No, I do no	2
Yes, aligni	1
No, while	2
Yes, it is w	1
No, it is no	2
Yes, aligni	1
No, I do no	2
Yes, it is h	1
No, while	2
Yes, it is w	1
No, it is no	2
Yes, it is c	1
No, I do no	2
Yes, aligni	1
No, while	2
Yes, it is h	1
No, I do	2
Yes, aligni	1
No, while	2
Yes, it is w	1

Google Colab is a common tool for Fintech students to run and generate their own codes with a unique and specific purpose.

Step 9: In the study I run a general code for a piechart from Microsoft excel for the respective column, namely 'Responses Y=1,N=2'.

```

# Install necessary libraries (if not already installed)
!pip install pandas openpyxl matplotlib

# Import libraries
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# Upload the Excel file
from google.colab import files
uploaded = files.upload()

# Read the Excel file
file_name = list(uploaded.keys())[0]
df = pd.read_excel(file_name)

# Access the 'Responses Y=1, N=2' column
response_column = df['Responses Y=1, N=2']

# Clean the data by removing non-numeric and NaN values
response_column = response_column.apply(pd.to_numeric, errors='coerce').dropna()

# Count the occurrences of each response
response_counts = response_column.value_counts()

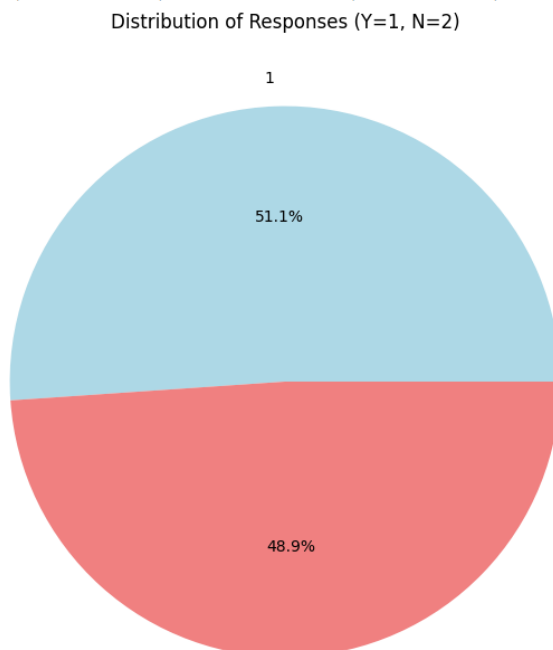
# Define dynamic labels based on unique values in the column
labels = [f'{int(val)}' for val in response_counts.index]

# Draw the pie chart
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 8))
plt.pie(response_counts, labels=labels, autopct='%1.1f%%', colors=['lightblue', 'lightcoral', 'lightgreen', 'lightyellow'])
plt.title('Distribution of Responses (Y=1, N=2)')
plt.show()

```

- The code above illustrate reading the excel file, cleaning the dataset if theres 'empty' space, and draws the piechart with a heading labelled on top.

Requirement already satisfied: pyparsing>=2.3.1 in /usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages (from matplotlib) (3.1.2)
Requirement already satisfied: six>=1.5 in /usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages (from python-dateutil>=2.8.2->pandas) (1.16.0)
 No file chosen Upload widget is only available when the cell has been executed in the current browser session. Please rerun this cell to enable.
Saving Responses form for qualitative.xlsx to Responses form for qualitative (3).xlsx



- **Step 10:** After generating the code, at the bottom of the code will request permission to choose file. Drop your excel file and Google colab will do the rest for you.