An index is a measure of a single general concept or dimension that is composed of several individual items. The purpose of this assignment is to take the empathy variables and create one empathy index using SPSS. For this assignment you will be working with the variables: empathy1, empathy3, empathy2R, and empathy4R. The first two are in your original SPSS database. The last two you should be in there from SPSSEX3, if not then you need to refer back to that assignment and create them. Note that in order to complete this assignment you will also have to receive some instructions that are only available through lecture.

Before we get too far into this remember what you are trying to do. Basically you are taking all the variables that will go into making the index, adding them together, and dividing them by the total number of variables being used to make the index (there are four in this index).

To create an index go to “Transform” and select “Compute Variable”. This will cause Figure 1 to pop up and from here we will start to make the index.

Figure 1
Under “Target Variable” type in the name of the index you are about to create (I called mine empathyINDX). Next insert a set of parentheses in the empty box. You can do this by clicking the () button. (It is next to “Delete” button under the number pad.) Once the parentheses are in put the cursor between them. Now place the first variable in there and enter a plus sign. Now enter the second variable with a +. Repeat this process until all the variables for the index are in there. Obviously you will not need to but in a + after the last variable. Now get outside of the parenthesis and enter / (for divide by) and 4 (for the total number of variables). See Figure 2. Hit “OK” and a variable with your index will appear.

Figure 2
Finally, run a frequency distribution for your empathy index (see Figure 3).

Figure 3

```
COMPUTE empathyINDEX = (empathyQ1 + empathyQ2) + empathyQ3 / 3.
EXECUTE.

FREQUENCIES VARIABLES=empathyINDEX
/ORDER ANALYSIS.
```

### Frequencies

```
Datasets: C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\Empathy\empathy,index\empathy INDEX.sav

**Empathy Index Variables**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Valid Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>61.3%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>103.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```
So what do you turn in?
1. A cover page with you name, the date, and the honor statement
2. A report where you discuss:
   • What an index is and what/when is it used for
   • How an index is created (not just the process in SPSS but also conceptually the process of creating an index)
   • How you created your index
     o Specify the variables used (not just the name of each variable but also what it was asking)
     o What you did to them (that is, why you had to use some recoded variables rather than the variables in their original form)
   • Analysis of the frequency distribution of “empathyINDX”
   • Discuss any problems you had and how you resolved them
3. The output for frequency distribution empathyINDX and the code used in creating the new variables.
4. Submit your report in your SPSS binder in this order: cover page with honor statement, report, output