A botanist observers that tree girth is, on average, negatively associated with tree density. The botanist measure average tree girth in plots with tree densities that range from high to low. The observed correlation is r = -0.70 based on 30 plots. Test whether this correlation is statistically significant. Be sure to state null and alternative hypotheses, state a criterion for significance, calculate a p-value, and declare a decision. You may want to use the generic recipe for hypothesis testing.

Note that $F = (n-2) (r^2) (1-r^2)^{-1}$

A cumulative frequency distribution for $F_{1,28}$ has been computed below.

Cumulative distribution function for F_{1,28}

MTB > set into c1 DATA> 0 -.1 -.2 -.3 -.4 -.5 -.6 -.7 -.8 -.9

DATA> end

MTB > let c2 = 28*(c1*c1)/(1-(c1*c1))

MTB > cdf c2;

SUBC> f 1 28.

0.0000 0.0000

0.2828 0.4010

1.1667 0.7107

2.7692 0.8928

5.3333 0.9715

9.3333 0.9951

15.7500 0.9995

26.9020 1.0000

49.7778 1.0000

119.3684 1.0000

F p-value

for cumulative distribution function