Class03-05

August 30, 2020

1 Working with numerical and categorical data

It can be difficult to understand a dataset by looking at each individual observation. We need methods to distill our data down into a smaller number of characteristics that can capture as much about our original dataset as possible, and we'll spend the next two weeks looking exclusively at ways to summarize and visualize our data, making it easier to communicate relationships between biological phenomena.

Statistics and visualizations capture key qualities of our data. Statistics often compress our data down into a single numerical value and can be used for textual communication and to understand small changes between variables. Statistics do not allow us access to every observation from the original dataset.

Visualizations typically report all observations from a dataset, taking advantage of our ability to see patterns in data as a method of summary. Visuals do not compress the data for us, rather they facilitate our ability to compress the data.

Our goal for this week is to * Understand populations, samples, parameters, and statistics * Learn about frequently used statistic to summarize numerical and categorical data * Explore methods of visualizing data * Study a small number of ways to understand relationships between two variables.

1.1 Parameters are to the population as Statistics are to the sample

When we study the output a specific variable it is helpful to think of properties that belong to the **population** compared to properties that belong to your **sample**. If you remember from last week, a **population** is the set of all possible observations of a variable. We often denote the number of observations in the population, the number of all observations, with the letter N. When we collect data from the population we take a **sample** a random subset of all observations. We often denote the number of observations in the **sample** with the letter n.

A **parameter** is any function from a population to the real number line (negative and positive numbers including decimals) and a **statistic** is any function from a sample dataset to the real number line,

$$f(\mathcal{D}) \to \mathcal{R}. \tag{1}$$

where $\mathcal{D}$ is the set of all observations when we compute a **parameter** and is a subset of all observations when we compute a **statistic**, and $\mathcal{R}$ is the real number line. This mathematical definition of a parameter and a statistic is broad, and you'll find some params/stats capture qualities of your data better than others.

As an example of applying the definition of statistic, consider a dataset $\mathcal{D}$ with 10 observations (rows) and 3 variables (columns) named v_1, v_2, and v_3.

```
[5]: # generate random dataaset with 10 rows and 3 columns
     D = { "v1":[], "v2":[], "v3":[] } # first create a dictionary with 3 keys and
      ↪empty lists as values
     for col,vals in D.items(): # loop through the columns
         D[col] = list(np.random.random(size=10)) # a list of 10 random numbers
      ↪between 0 and 1
     D = pd.DataFrame(D) # convert our dictionary into a pandas dataframe

     print(D)
```

```
          v1        v2        v3
0   0.537050  0.478765  0.176703
1   0.074498  0.166270  0.318887
2   0.866993  0.993491  0.216896
3   0.346188  0.686907  0.053291
4   0.010899  0.183984  0.296996
5   0.077872  0.478609  0.826892
6   0.052869  0.536283  0.626630
7   0.910407  0.416048  0.048614
8   0.704772  0.927442  0.873524
9   0.429543  0.854287  0.919351
```

We can define a statistic $S(v_1)$ that computes the sum of v_1

$$S(v_1) = \sum_{\text{obs}=1}^{10} \mathcal{D}[\text{obs}, v_1] \tag{2}$$

where $S(v_1)$ is our statistic, $\sum$ is the summation operator, and $\mathcal{D}[\text{obs}, v_1]$ is the "obs" row and v_1 column of our dataset. In words, our statistic takes the sum of the v_1 column.

```
[9]: Sv1 = D["v1"].sum()
     print("S(v1) = {:.2f}".format(Sv1)) # take a look at this syntax here: https://
      ↪pyformat.info/
```

```
S(v1) = 4.01
```

$S(v_1)$ is a statistic because it takes as input our dataset $\mathcal{D}$ (generated above) and outputs a decimal number, a number that is a member of the real number line.

Statistics like $S(v_1)$ are not specific to a single generated dataset, but rather a specific data structure. Our statistic $S(v_1)$ requires our dataset $\mathcal{D}$ have a variable v_1. There are no restrictions on the number of observations (rows) or on what type of data v_1 refers to.

We could have had 100 observations

```
[12]: # generate random dataaset with 10 rows and 3 columns
      D = { "v1":[], "v2":[], "v3":[] } # first create a dictionary with 3 keys and
       ↪empty lists as values
```

```
for col,vals in D.items(): # loop through the columns
    D[col] = list(np.random.random(size=10**2)) # a list of 100 random numbers␣
 ↪between 0 and 1
D = pd.DataFrame(D) # convert our dictionary into a pandas dataframe

print(D.head(15))

Sv1 = D["v1"].sum()
print("S(v1) = {:.2f} with 100 observations".format(Sv1))
```

```
          v1        v2        v3
0   0.447440  0.706295  0.030317
1   0.918088  0.133791  0.804821
2   0.386448  0.056929  0.035746
3   0.588898  0.317835  0.925030
4   0.867821  0.082748  0.724302
5   0.554392  0.971365  0.327359
6   0.897315  0.996031  0.879271
7   0.653860  0.622799  0.992132
8   0.500509  0.124409  0.739069
9   0.234388  0.643599  0.988842
10  0.116786  0.039683  0.494203
11  0.304151  0.406226  0.063979
12  0.430288  0.733018  0.815262
13  0.355585  0.052434  0.456000
14  0.996240  0.485825  0.495867
S(v1) = 52.86 with 100 observations
```

Or v_1 could refer to categories of data that take the values 0 and 1.

```
[17]: # generate random dataaset with 10 rows and 3 columns
      D = { "v1":[], "v2":[], "v3":[] } # first create a dictionary with 3 keys and␣
       ↪empty lists as values
      for col,vals in D.items(): # loop through the columns
          D[col] = [ 1 if np.random.random() > 0.5 else 0 for i in range(100)]
      D = pd.DataFrame(D) # convert our dictionary into a pandas dataframe

      print(D.head(15))
      Sv1 = D["v1"].sum()
      print("S(v1) = {:.2f} with v1 a variable that takes values of 0 or 1".
       ↪format(Sv1))
```

```
   v1  v2  v3
0   1   1   1
1   1   0   1
2   0   0   1
3   0   0   0
4   1   0   0
```

```
5    0   1   1
6    1   1   0
7    1   1   1
8    1   0   0
9    1   0   1
10   0   1   0
11   0   0   0
12   0   1   0
13   1   1   0
14   0   0   0
S(v1) = 57.00 with v1 a variable that takes values of 0 or 1
```

Statistics play a central role in data science. We will explore a diverse range of methods for summarizing data and explaining relationships between one or more variables. Our goal will be to understand the entire analysis pipeline: from data collection to a final report.

2   Visualizing and summarizing numerical data

Numerical data is defined as a set of observations whose values are elements of the real line (positive and negative numbers, including decimals).

3   Example dataset

We will explore a dataset collected by members of the California Safe Cosmetics Program (CSCP) The CSCP states that their primary purpose is to collect information on potentially hazardous chemicals or ingredients put into cosmetics products.

Cosmetic products sold in California must report any ingredients suspected to cause cancer or reproductive harm—the list of reported ingredients can be found here. To better inform consumers and policy/decision makers, the CSCP compiles data on these products where each row (observation) is a cosmetic product and all variables are in columns. A full description of the dataset is here.

We will focus in our examples on products for hair care.

```python
[42]:  # the dataset is in CSV format and pandas can import directly from a https
       →request
       data = pd.read_csv("https://data.chhs.ca.gov/dataset/
       →596b5eed-31de-4fd8-a645-249f3f9b19c4/resource/
       →57da6c9a-41a7-44b0-ab8d-815ff2cd5913/download/cscpopendata.csv")
       hairCareProducts = data[data.PrimaryCategoryId==18] # haircare products are all
       →recorded as category id 18


       numOfObservations = len(hairCareProducts)
       print("There are {:d}".format(numOfObservations))
```

```
There are 1620
```

Data was taken from the above URL and subset to Category 18 products: hair care products. As a brief summary of the data, we can look at how many different chemicals are reported in hair care products and the distribution of the sum of the number of potentially hazard chemicals per company.

First the types of chemicals reported

```
[30]: typesOfChemicals = hairCareProducts.ChemicalName.unique() # lets look at the
      ↪types of chemicals that are reported
      print("Types of recorded chemicals ({:d} in total)".
      ↪format(len(typesOfChemicals)) )

      for chemicalType in typesOfChemicals:
          print( "Chemical type = {:s}".format(chemicalType) )
```

```
Types of recorded chemicals (68 in total)
Chemical type = Distillates (coal tar)
Chemical type = Estragole
Chemical type = Cocamide diethanolamine
Chemical type = Lauramide diethanolamine
Chemical type = Titanium dioxide
Chemical type = Methanol
Chemical type = Mineral oils, untreated and mildly treated
Chemical type = Coffea arabica extract
Chemical type = Retinol/retinyl esters, when in daily dosages in excess of
10,000 IU, or 3,000 retinol equivalents.
Chemical type = Trade Secret
Chemical type = Methyleugenol
Chemical type = Safrole
Chemical type = Styrene
Chemical type = Butylated hydroxyanisole
Chemical type = Acetaldehyde
Chemical type = Cocamide DEA
Chemical type = 1,4-Dioxane
Chemical type = Arsenic (inorganic arsenic compounds)
Chemical type = Dichloroacetic acid
Chemical type = Ethylene oxide
Chemical type = Formaldehyde (gas)
Chemical type = Lead
Chemical type = Dichloromethane (Methylene chloride)
Chemical type = Benzene
Chemical type = Benzyl chloride
Chemical type = N-Nitrosodimethylamine
Chemical type = Propylene oxide
Chemical type = Methyl chloride
Chemical type = Silica, crystalline (airborne particles of respirable size)
Chemical type = Vitamin A palmitate
Chemical type = Coffee
```

```
Chemical type = N-Methylpyrrolidone
Chemical type = Coal tars
Chemical type = All-trans retinoic acid
Chemical type = Retinyl palmitate
Chemical type = Cocamide
Chemical type = Musk xylene
Chemical type = Ethylene glycol
Chemical type = Coal Tar
Chemical type = Mica
Chemical type = Progesterone
Chemical type = Sodium Bromate
Chemical type = Lead acetate
Chemical type = Coal tar extract
Chemical type = Selenium sulfide
Chemical type = Phenacetin
Chemical type = Methylene glycol
Chemical type = Benzophenone
Chemical type = Triethanolamine
Chemical type = Lauramide DEA
Chemical type = Cocamide MEA
Chemical type = Diethanolamine
Chemical type = Cosmetic talc
Chemical type = Carbon black (airborne, unbound particles of respirable size)
Chemical type = Acrylamide
Chemical type = Cocamide diethanolamine (DEA)
Chemical type = Pulegone
Chemical type = Ethyl acrylate
Chemical type = Caffeine
Chemical type = Benzophenone-4
Chemical type = Goldenseal root powder
Chemical type = Benzophenone-2
Chemical type = Ginkgo biloba extract
Chemical type = Titanium dioxide (airborne, unbound particles of respirable
size)
Chemical type = Coal tar solution
Chemical type = Vinyl acetate
Chemical type = Ethanol in alcoholic beverages
Chemical type = Aloe vera, whole leaf extract
```

```python
[52]: # per company, sum up the total number of chemicals included in their products
      def countNumberOfChems(subsetOfData):
          return pd.Series({"totalNumOfChems":subsetOfData.ChemicalCount.sum()})
      sumOfChemsPerCompany = hairCareProducts.groupby(["CompanyId"]).
       →apply(countNumberOfChems)

      # min number of products
```

```python
print("The min number of haz chems {:d}".format(sumOfChemsPerCompany.
 ↪totalNumOfChems.min()))

# max number of products
print("The min number of haz chems {:d}".format(sumOfChemsPerCompany.
 ↪totalNumOfChems.max()))
```

```
The min number of haz chems 0
The min number of haz chems 762
```

```python
[32]: for companyID,companyChems in sumOfChemsPerCompany.iterrows():
          print("Compay={:d}, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = {:d}".
 ↪format(companyID,companyChems.totalNumOfChems))
```

```
Compay=4, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 7
Compay=18, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=21, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 30
Compay=23, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 21
Compay=60, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 26
Compay=67, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 56
Compay=71, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=77, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 7
Compay=86, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 51
Compay=89, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 21
Compay=96, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 20
Compay=99, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=111, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 3
Compay=116, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 8
Compay=118, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 4
Compay=120, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 40
Compay=121, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=129, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=144, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=150, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 3
Compay=159, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 6
Compay=160, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=165, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 762
Compay=167, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=171, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=174, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 24
Compay=178, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=181, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 3
Compay=184, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 107
Compay=186, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=189, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 9
Compay=204, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 3
Compay=206, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
```

```
Compay=218, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=222, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 5
Compay=229, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 13
Compay=242, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 8
Compay=244, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 6
Compay=245, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=249, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=251, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=254, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 6
Compay=256, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=259, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=261, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 4
Compay=263, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 8
Compay=265, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=266, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 46
Compay=271, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=277, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=285, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 55
Compay=288, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 7
Compay=290, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=301, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=312, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 12
Compay=313, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=317, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=338, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 7
Compay=342, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 4
Compay=343, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=351, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=364, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 19
Compay=372, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 19
Compay=384, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=386, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=388, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=393, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=397, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=412, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=416, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=417, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 5
Compay=418, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=421, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 3
Compay=434, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 22
Compay=435, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 5
Compay=460, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 6
Compay=464, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=472, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=474, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=475, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 3
Compay=478, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 4
```

```
Compay=481, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=483, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 18
Compay=492, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=505, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 6
Compay=507, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=522, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 5
Compay=528, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=541, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=543, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 8
Compay=550, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=554, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 9
Compay=556, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 9
Compay=560, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 7
Compay=562, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 9
Compay=563, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 8
Compay=566, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 19
Compay=568, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 4
Compay=576, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=585, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 6
Compay=590, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 23
Compay=605, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 12
Compay=615, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 60
Compay=618, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=626, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 6
Compay=628, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 4
Compay=633, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 4
Compay=645, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 3
Compay=675, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 9
Compay=685, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 9
Compay=686, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 23
Compay=697, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 4
Compay=706, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 17
Compay=717, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 10
Compay=722, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=728, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 2
Compay=731, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=740, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=752, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=753, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 24
Compay=783, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 18
Compay=841, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 6
Compay=867, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 16
Compay=908, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 11
Compay=954, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 16
Compay=956, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=973, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 21
Compay=997, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 12
Compay=1005, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
```

```
Compay=1017, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 4
Compay=1028, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 8
Compay=1056, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 6
Compay=1092, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 26
Compay=1093, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 39
Compay=1102, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=1113, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=1115, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=1117, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 0
Compay=1119, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 7
Compay=1142, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 32
Compay=1196, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=1206, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=1215, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=1232, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 49
Compay=1233, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 13
Compay=1261, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=1268, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 5
Compay=1270, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=1305, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 5
Compay=1309, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 42
Compay=1321, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 7
Compay=1328, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=1341, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 37
Compay=1346, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 35
Compay=1352, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
Compay=1379, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 23
Compay=1391, Total number of potentially hazardous chemicals = 1
```

Though we can see the total number of potentially hazardous chemicals each company includes in their haircare products, it might be easier to explain this data by using summary statistics.

3.1 The mean

The first summary statistic is the mean—often called the average. Suppose you have a single column of data (i.e. a single variable) that produces numerical values. We can represent the column as a variable X, knowing that X contains a list of (n) numerical values

$$X = [x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n] \tag{3}$$

where x_1, x_2 and so are meant to represent numerical values. For example,

$$X = [1.4, -0.56, 23.45, 7] \tag{4}$$

The mean $\bar{X}$ is computed as

$$\bar{X} = (x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \cdots x_n)/n \tag{5}$$

or the sum of all numerical values divided by the number of numerical values considered (n). You may have heard that the mean describes the "central tendency" of your variable, a number future values of this variable may take. We'll find out why this is the case after we cover basic probability.

3.2 Aside (Sigma Notation)

We can write the mean of a variable X in a more compact form than we have above. The key is using the symbol $\sum$.

Mathematicians typically use the symbol $\sum$ to stand for summing up a set of variables. The set of variables can be assigned in a few different ways. The first way is to assign a value called an index to each number in the set you want to sum, then you can define

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \cdots + x_N \tag{6}$$

where the above symbol means $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \cdots + x_N$, or "sum up all the values from x_{1} to x_{N}". For example, I can define the variable $X = [1.4, -0.56, 23.45, 7]$ and assign * $x_1 = 1.4$ * $x_2 = -0.56$ * $x_3 = 23.45$ * $x_4 = 7$

Then $\sum_{i=1}^{4} x_i = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 1.4 + (-0.56) + 23.45 + 7 = 31.29$

Another way to define the set of number to sum is to place the set of indices underneath the $\sum$ symbol. For example,

$$\sum_{i \in 1,2,3,4} x_i = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \tag{7}$$

Another example, summing the 1st and third values could be written

$$\sum_{i \in 1,3} x_i = x_1 + x_3 \tag{8}$$

A third way to define a sum is by defining the set of indices to sum with a conditional statement. For example, suppose we want to sum all the values with indices less than 3. We can write

$$\sum_{i<3} x_i = x_1 + x_2 \tag{9}$$

We can rewrite the mean in a more compact form by using $\sum$ notation

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i}{N} \tag{10}$$

11

where N is the total number of data points for the variable X.

Let's look at the average number of potentially hazardous chemicals companies place in their hair care products as reported by the California Safe Cosmetics Program (CSCP)

```
[39]: meanNumberOfChemicals = sumOfChemsPerCompany.mean()  # take mean of number of
       ↪potenitally haz chemicals
      meanNumberOfChemicals = float(meanNumberOfChemicals) # make sure the number is a
       ↪float (numerical value)

      print("The average number of potentially hazardous chemicals companies place in
       ↪their haircare products is {:.2f}".format(meanNumberOfChemicals))
```

```
The average number of potentially hazardous chemicals companies place in their
haircare products is 14.61
```

We see that the mean number of potentially hazardous chemicals placed in haircare products is 14.61. How can you have 0.61 of a product? This illustrates an important characteristic of the mean: the mean value does **not** need to be one of the values you collected in your dataset. As a uncertainty scientist (statistician, biostatistician, data scientist, etc.) who needs to summarize the number of chemicals haircare products in CA contain, you may write something like this.

The CSCP has collected data on XX haircare products which can contain 68 potentially hazardous chemicals. The average number of chemicals companies place in haircare products is 14.6.

Now that we understand one way to describe a numerical variables' typical value, let's focus on one way to describe how values may vary around that mean value.

3.3 Variance and standard deviation

The variance (Var) and, much more easy to communicate, standard deviation (SD), are common ways we can describe a variable's spread or how far values vary around their mean.

The variance is computed as

$$\text{Var}(X) = \delta^2(X) = \frac{(x_1 - \bar{X})^2 + (x_2 - \bar{X})^2 + (x_1 - \bar{X})^2 \cdots + (x_n - \bar{X})^2}{n-1}. \tag{11}$$

We can write this more compactly using sigma notation as

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n}(x_i - \bar{X})^2}{n-1}. \tag{12}$$

Let's build intuition about why the variance measures the "spread" or how much our data "varies". We can look just at a single term in the sum. For the first step, you compute the difference between a data point (x_i) and the mean ($\bar{X}$)

$$(x_i - \bar{X}). \tag{13}$$

The difference between data points and their mean is a measure of distance—the distance from the most typical value generated from your variable X. But we may not be concerned about whether that distance is to the left (negative) or to the right (positive) of our mean. One way to ignore whether data points are negative or positive is to artificially make all distances positive, and one choice, the choice for variance, is to square these distances

$$(x_i - \bar{X})^2. \tag{14}$$

Finally, we can compute individual squared differences for each data point but it may be easier to understand if we had a summary metric. What is the typical or most common squared distance from the mean? To answer that question we can compute the mean squared difference,

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{(x_i - \bar{X})^2}{n}. \tag{15}$$

However (we'll see why in a later class) the mean squared difference most often underestimates our true variance (σ^2). And as a correction we divide by $n - 1$, increasing our estimate of the variance.

```
[54]: varNumberOfChemicals = sumOfChemsPerCompany.var()   # take variance of number of
      →potenitally haz chemicals
      varNumberOfChemicals = float(varNumberOfChemicals) # make sure the number is a
      →float (numerical value)

      print("The variance of potentially hazardous chemicals companies place in their
      →haircare products is {:.2f}".format(varNumberOfChemicals))
```

The variance of potentially hazardous chemicals companies place in their
haircare products is 3824.73

The variance has an embarrassing problem: it is super hard to interpret. What is it saying? Why is it so hard to interpret? The biggest problem with interpreting the variance is the units. If we collect data X measured in (say) inches, then the variance would measured in square inches (why?).

To remedy this issue with units we can take the square root of the variance. This is called the standard deviation

$$s^2 = \left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{(x_i - \bar{X})^2}{n - 1} \right]^{1/2}. \tag{16}$$

Lets see if the standard deviation is any easier to interpret in our example of the number of hazardous chemicals in haircare products.

```
[47]: stdNumberOfChemicals = sumOfChemsPerCompany.std()   # take std of number of↵
      ↪potenitally haz chemicals
      stdNumberOfChemicals = float(stdNumberOfChemicals) # make sure the number is a↵
      ↪float (numerical value)

      print("The standard deviation of potentially hazardous chemicals companies place↵
      ↪in their haircare products is {:.2f}".format(stdNumberOfChemicals))
```

The standard deviation of potentially hazardous chemicals companies place in
their haircare products is 61.84

One summary of our data could be: CSCP reports that companies include 14.6 potentially haz-
ardous chemicals across all their haircare products, and that this number of chemicals can vary to
as little as 0 and as many as 762 (standard deviation = 61.8).

3.4   QSA: Is the minimum a statistic?

3.5   Histogram

A histogram displays on the horizontal axis a range of potential values of your data
$(x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_R)$, where R is the user-selected range of values, and on the vertical axis counts of
the number of data points that could fall between two values. Order the range of potential values
so that the smallest values is x_1 and the largest is x_{R}. Take the smallest and second smallest
value (x_1, x_2), count the number of data points that are less than x_2 and larger or equal to x_1,
$C(x_1, x_2)$ and plot a bar that extends from zero up to $C(x_1, x_2)$. Continue this procedure for the
2nd and 3rd value, 3rd and 4th, up until x_{R-1} and x_{R}.

We can build a histogram for the number of potentially hazardous chemicals reported by CSCP.
For a range of potential number of chemicals, we will choose the values (often called bin edges)
$0, 5, 10, 15, \cdots, 25$ and $30, 130, 230, \cdots 800$. I chose this range of values for two reasons: (i) to illus-
trate the bin edges are your choice and (ii) the majority of data points fall between 0 and 25, with
just one value above 700.

```
[106]: counts,bins = np.histogram( sumOfChemsPerCompany.totalNumOfChems, bins= list(np.↵
       ↪arange(0,25+5,5)) + list(np.arange(30,800+100,100)) )

       avgBins = [ 0.5*(x+y) for (x,y) in zip(bins,bins[1:])]

       plt.style.use("fivethirtyeight")
       fig,axs = plt.subplots(1,2,sharey=True)

       ax=axs[0]
       for b,c in zip(avgBins,counts):
           ax.plot([b]*2,[0,c],linewidth=5, color="blue")
       ax.set_xlim(0,100)
```
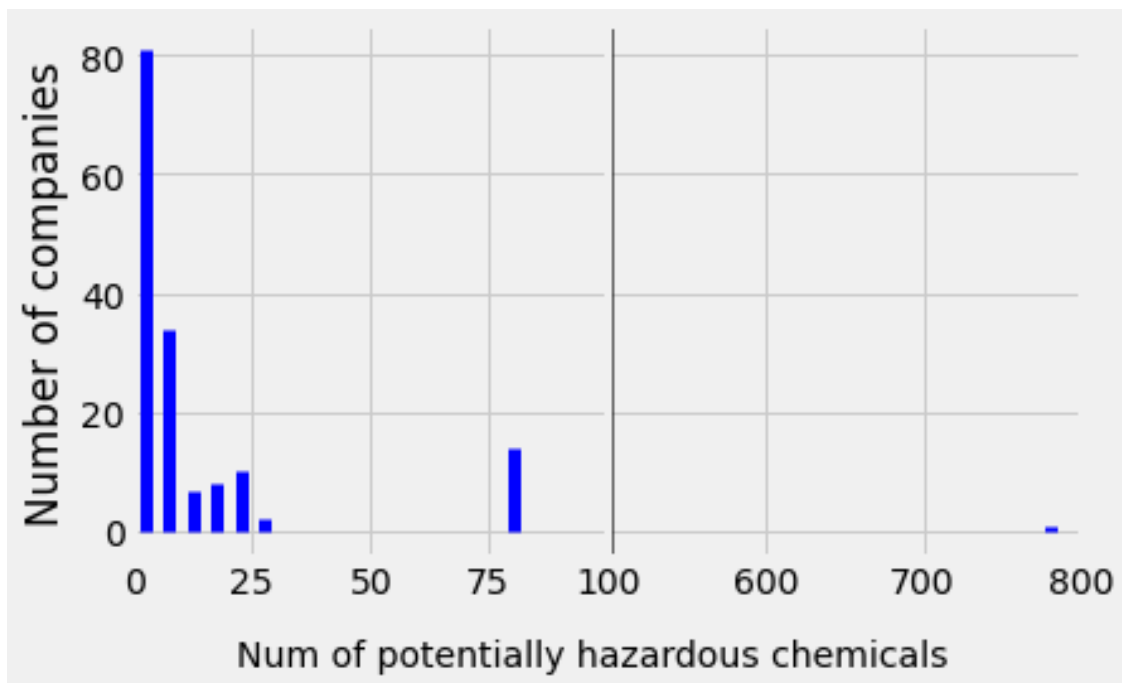
```
ax.set_ylabel("Number of companies")

ax=axs[1]
for b,c in zip(avgBins,counts):
    ax.plot([b]*2,[0,c],linewidth=5, color="blue")
ax.set_xlim(500,800)
ax.set_xticks([600,700,800])
ax.axvline(501,color='k',alpha=0.60)

fig.text(x=0.50, y = 0.0, s = "Num of potentially hazardous chemicals",␣
 ↪transform=fig.transFigure,ha='center')

plt.subplots_adjust(wspace=0,bottom=0.15)
```


This histogram quickly shows us the majority of companies include between 0 and 5 potentially hazardous chemicals across all their haircare products. Most companies include less than 25 chemicals, a small number include more than 75, and one company includes more than 700 chemicals across all products.

3.6 More on the histogram

There area few standard terms uncertainty scientists use when they talk about histograms.

3.6.1 Mode and unimodal distributions

The mode of a variable is the **most likely value** that variable will take. Let's look at two examples.

```python
[20]: fig,axs = plt.subplots(1,2)

      ax=axs[0]

      samples = np.random.normal(0,1,500)
      counts,bounds,patches = ax.hist(samples,30)

      approx_mode = bounds[np.argmax(counts)]
      mostCounts = np.max(counts)

      if approx_mode <0:
          ax.plot([ approx_mode*1.5, approx_mode ],[ mostCounts*1.1,mostCounts], lw=1)
          ax.text( approx_mode*1.5,mostCounts*1.
       ↪1,"Mode",fontsize=10,ha='right',va='center')
      else:
          ax.plot([ approx_mode*0.5, approx_mode ],[ mostCounts*1.1,mostCounts], lw=1)
          ax.text( approx_mode*0.5,mostCounts*1.
       ↪1,"Mode",fontsize=10,ha='right',va='center')


      # second example
      ax=axs[1]

      samples00 = np.random.normal(0,0.5,500)
      samples01 = np.random.normal(-2,0.3,500)

      samples = list(samples00) + list(samples01)

      counts,bounds,patches = ax.hist(samples,30)

      approx_mode = bounds[np.argmax(counts)]
      mostCounts = np.max(counts)

      ax.plot([ approx_mode*0.75, approx_mode ],[ mostCounts*1.1,mostCounts], lw=1)
      ax.text( approx_mode*0.75,mostCounts*1.
       ↪1,"Mode",fontsize=10,ha='left',va='center')

      fig.set_tight_layout(True)
      plt.show()
```
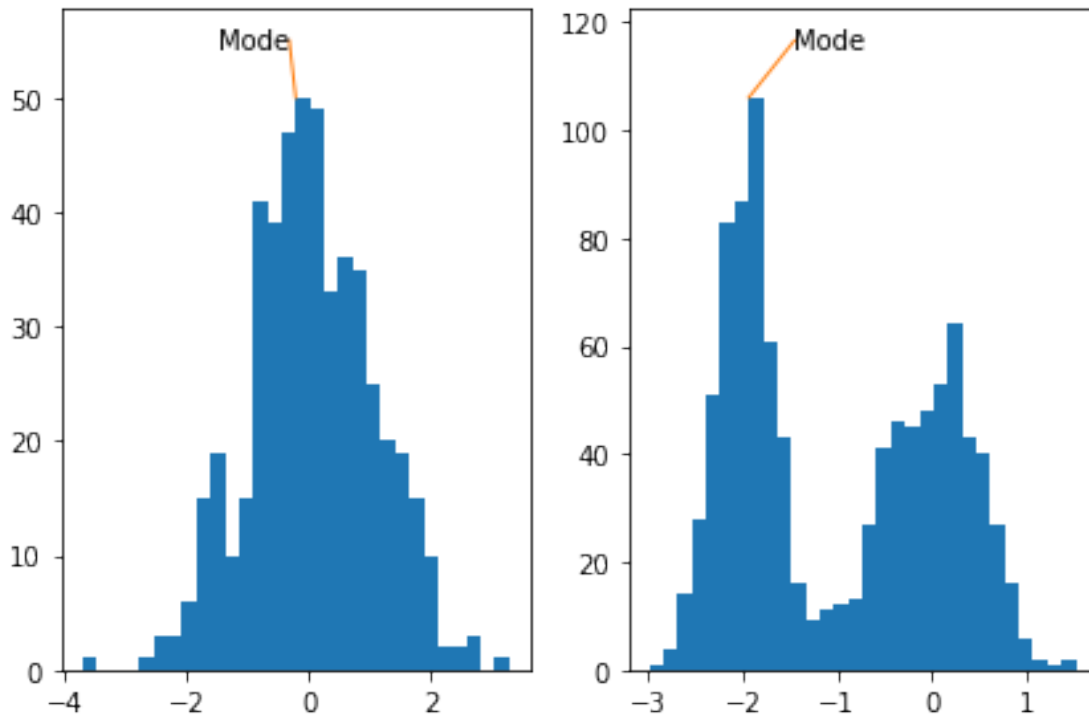
The distribution on the left has a single peak, a place where the number of observations is highest within a left and right bound. We can approximate the mode by this place where counts are highest. Distributions don't need to have a single peak (called **unimodel distributions**) to have a mode. Distributions can have several peaks (**multi-model distribution**) or other unusual qualities and still have a mode.

3.7 Symmetry and skew

We would call a variable's distribution of observations **symmetric** is there is some vertical line such that the counts of values to the left of the vertical line mirror the counts of values to the right of the vertical line. A distribution that is not **symmetric** is called **asymmetric**.

There are many types of **asymmetric** distributions. But two common ways to describe asymmetry when a distribution is unimodel are left and right skew. A distribution is **left skewed** if a small number of observations for a variable appear to the left of the mean. If there is a handful of observations that trail off to the right of the mean, the distribution could be described as having **right skew**

```
[54]: fig,axs = plt.subplots(1,2)

# right skewed dist
ax = axs[0]

samples = np.random.gamma(1,3,500)
```

```
counts,bounds,patches = ax.hist(samples,25)

ax.text( bounds[-3], (1+counts[-3])*10, "Right Skew"
        , fontsize=12,weight="bold", ha='right',va="bottom")
ax.tick_params(direction="in")

# left skewed dist
ax = axs[1]

samples = np.random.beta(10,2,500)
counts,bounds,patches = ax.hist(samples,25,color="red")

ax.text( bounds[3], 5.*(counts[3]), "Left Skew"
        , fontsize=12,weight="bold", ha='left',va="bottom")
ax.tick_params(direction="in")

fig.set_size_inches(12,6)
fig.set_tight_layout(True)
```
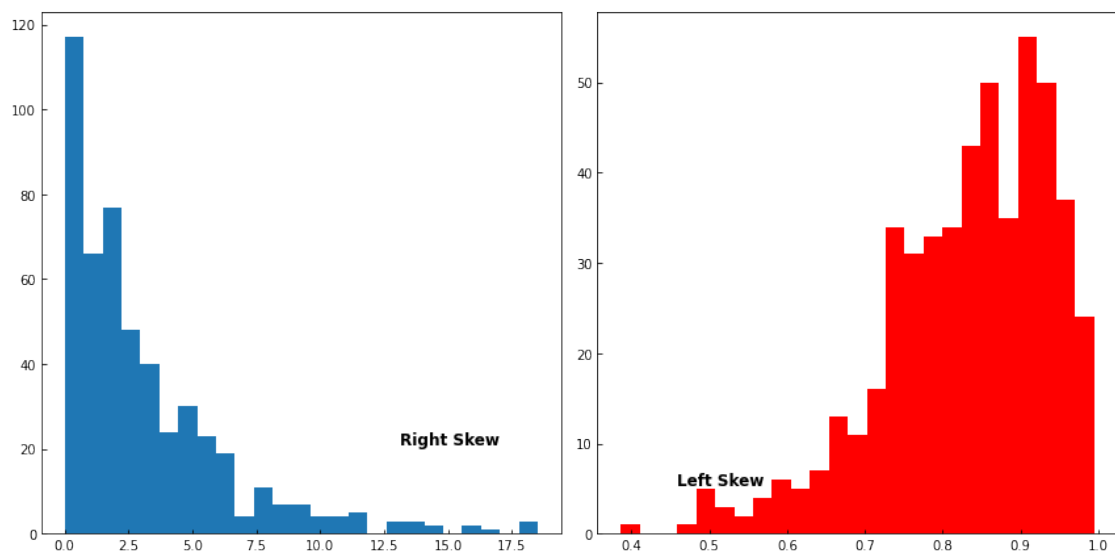


```
[ ]: ## Box and whisker plot
     fig,ax = plt.subplots()
     sns.boxplot(sumOfChemsPerCompany,ax=ax)
     ax.set_xscale("log")
     ### Quantiles
     ### Interquartile range
     #

[ ]:
```

```
[ ]:
```

```
[ ]:
```