## ASDS Statistics, YSU, Fall 2020 Lecture 08

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# Statistical Measures for the Spread/Variability

## Statistical Measures for the Spread/Variability

Here we want to answer to the questions: how spread/concentrated are our Datapoints, how much is the variability of our Data?

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 $X: X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ 

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Similarly, **Deviations of** x **from the Median** are defined as the differences

$$x_k - median(x), \qquad k = 1, ..., n$$

## Example

Consider the Dataset islands from  $\mathbf{R}$ :

```
head(islands, 3)
```

```
## Africa Antarctica Asia
## 11506 5500 16988
```

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To calculate Deviations from the Mean for this Dataset, we just use
x.bar <- mean(islands)
deviations <- islands - x.bar
head(deviations)</pre>
```

##	Africa	Antarctica	Asia	Australia Axel
##	10253.271	4247.271	15735.271	1715.271

#### Range

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Say,

range(islands)

## [1] 12 16988

## Example, R code to Calculate the Range

We can define our custom function to calculate the Range as the difference:

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my.range <- function(x){
  return(max(x)-min(x))
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We can define our custom function to calculate the Range as the difference:

```
my.range <- function(x){
   return(max(x)-min(x))
}
and run

my.range(1:10)
## [1] 9</pre>
```

#### The Sample Variance

The **Sample Variance** (with the denominator n) of our dataset x is defined by

$$var(x) = s^2 = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} (x_k - \bar{x})^2}{n},$$

where  $\bar{x}$  is the sample mean of our dataset:

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In many textbooks, the **Sample Variance** of x is defined as

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We will use both, and later we will talk about the difference between these two - there are reasons to prefer one over the other.

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So, like in the Probability Theory, var is easy to deal with, sd is the measure to report.

## Example

```
{f R} is calculating Var and SD by using n-1 in the denominator:
```

```
x <- 1:5
var(x)
```

```
## [1] 2.5
```

```
sd(x)
```

```
## [1] 1.581139
```

The Sample Variance (with the denominator n) can be calculated by the following formula

$$var(x) = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} x_k^2}{n} - \left(\frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} x_k}{n}\right)^2 = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} x_k^2}{n} - (\bar{x})^2.$$

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We can write this, using an analogy with the r.v. Variance,

$$var(x) = mean(x^2) - \left(mean(x)\right)^2 = \overline{x^2} - (\overline{x})^2,$$

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where  $x^2$  is the dataset  $x_1^2, x_2^2, ..., x_n^2$ . Just remember to use this in the case when the Sample Variance is with the denominator n!

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- $var(x+\beta) = var(x).$

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The Mean Absolute Deviation (MAD) from the Mean for the Dataset  $x_1, ..., x_n$  is

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By replacing the Mean by the Median, we will obtain the **Mean Absolute Deviation from the Median**:

$$mad(x) = mad(x, median) = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} |x_k - median(x)|}{n}$$

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The idea of the **Median Absolute Deviation from the Mean/Median** is to calculate first the Absolute Deviations from the Mean/Median, then find the Median of that Absolute Deviations. See, for example, the description of the mad function in **R**.

Quartiles, IQR and the BoxPlot

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See, for example, the Wiki page

- Idea of the Median: a point on the axis dividing the Dataset into two equal-length portions
- ► Idea of Quartiles: 3 point on the axis dividing the Dataset into four equal-length portions

There are different methods to define Quartiles<sup>1</sup>, and we will use the following.

Let  $x: x_1, x_2, ..., x_n$  be our Dataset. First we sort, by using Order Statistics, our Dataset into:

$$x_{(1)} \le x_{(2)} \le \dots \le x_{(n-1)} \le x_{(n)}.$$

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Now,

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Next, we define the InterQuartile Range, IQR to be

$$IQR = Q_3 - Q_1.$$

# Example:

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x: -2, 1, 3, 0, 5, 7, 5, 2, 0

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**Example:** Find the Quartiles and IQR of

x: 1, 1, 2, 3, 1, 1, 3, 4, 5, 2