## Benford's Law Analysis of Air Quality Data

Team Roomies presents our analysis of air quality data using Benford's Law to verify data authenticity and reliability.

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# Understanding Benford's Law



#### **Mathematical Pattern**

Naturally occurring numbers follow a logarithmic distribution of first digits.



#### **Expected Distribution**

Digit 1 appears about 30% of the time. Higher digits appear less frequently.



#### **Data Verification**

Helps identify potentially manipulated or artificial datasets.

## Methodology



#### **Data Collection**

Analyzed air quality dataset focusing on pollutant metrics.



#### **Digit Extraction**

Extracted leading digits from pollutant\_avg, min, and max values.



#### **Frequency Calculation**

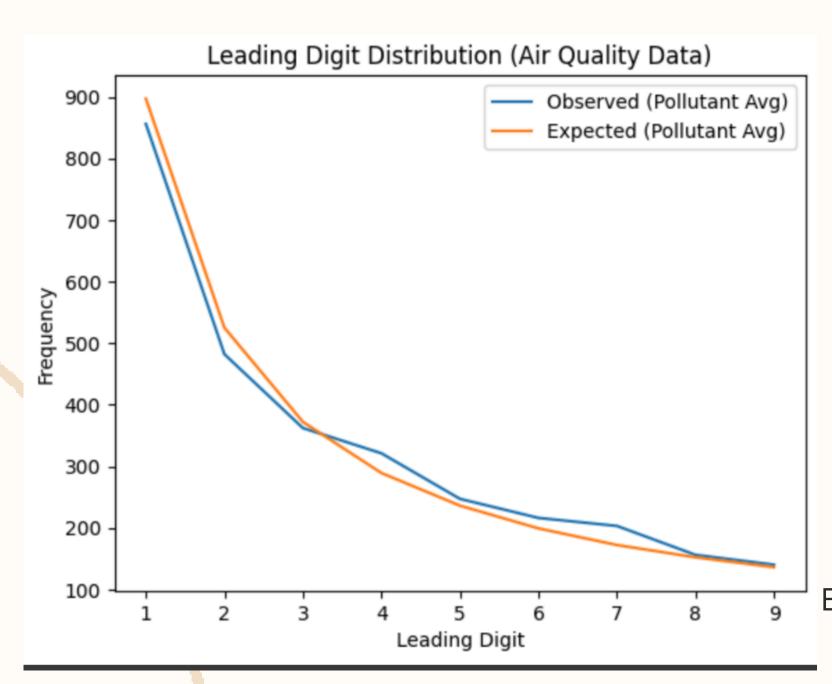
Calculated observed frequency of each leading digit (1-9).



#### Comparison

Compared observed frequencies against Benford's Law expectations.

## Pollutant Average Analysis



#### **Graph Analysis:**

The observed line is reasonably close to the expected Benford curve, with slight deviations at digits 2 and 4. Overall, the curve maintains a decreasing pattern typical of Benford's distribution.

#### **Test Statistics:**

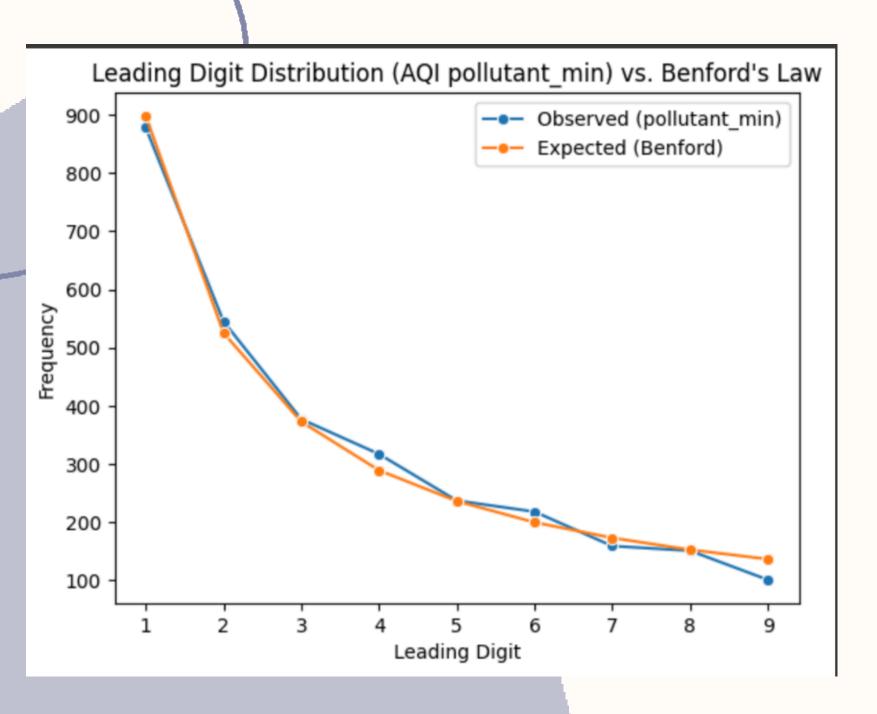
MAD: 0.00715 (moderate deviation) Chi-squared: 16.56

p-value: 0.0351

#### **Conclusion:**

The pollutant\_avg dataset shows moderate alignment with Benford's Law. The graph shows a decent visual fit, and the MAD is low enough to indicate close agreement. However, the p-value is slightly below 0.05, suggesting statistically significant — but not severe — deviation. This implies the data is likely natural, though small anomalies may exist.

## Pollutant Minimum Analysis



#### **Graph Analysis:**

The observed frequency of leading digits follows the Benford curve quite closely. The curve aligns well for digits 1 through 9, with only small visual deviations.

#### **Test Statistics:**

MAD: 0.00529 (very low)

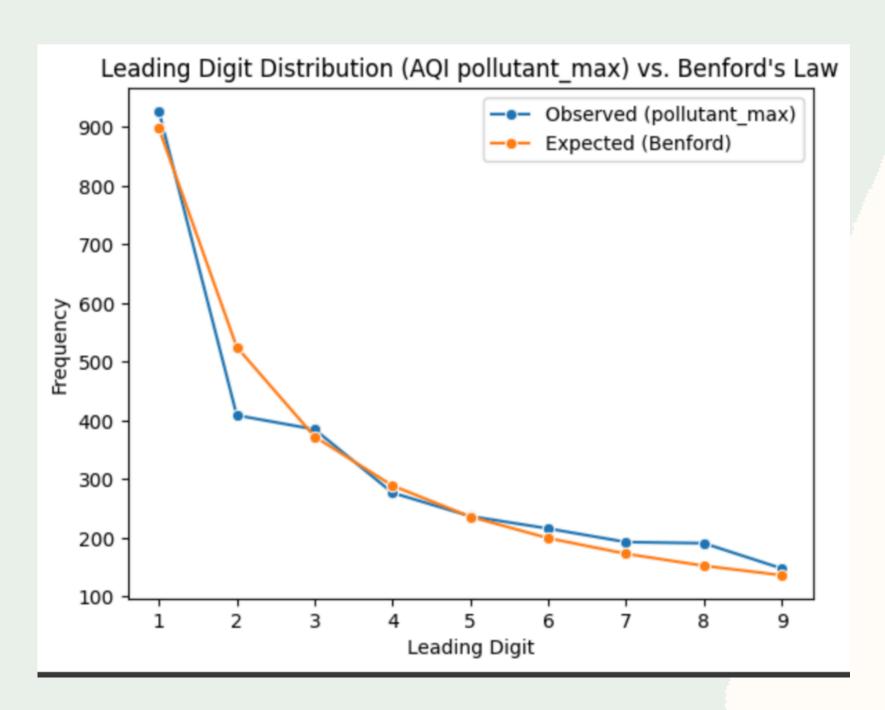
Chi-squared: 15.99

p-value: 0.0426

#### **Conclusion:**

The pollutant\_min dataset visually and statistically conforms to Benford's Law. The low MAD indicates minimal average deviation from expected frequencies. Although the p-value is just below 0.05, suggesting slight statistical deviation, the overall pattern and test results support that the data is likely natural and unmanipulated.

## Pollutant Maximum Analysis



#### **Graph Analysis:**

The observed values diverge significantly from Benford's curve, especially at digits 2–4. The graph shows more erratic behavior compared to the expected smooth decay, with overshoots and undershoots in frequency.

#### **Test Statistics:**

- MAD: 0.00956 (highest among the three)
- Chi-squared: 41.88
- p-value: 1.43 × 10<sup>-6</sup> (extremely low)

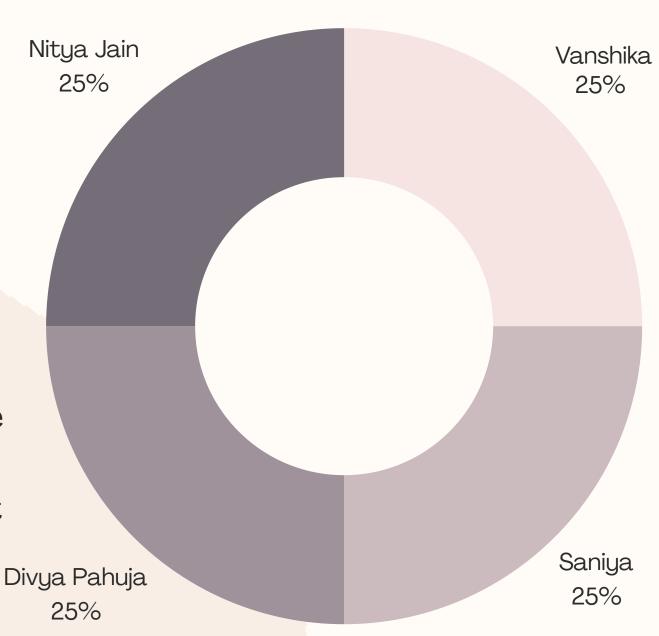
#### **Conclusion:**

• The pollutant\_max dataset deviates notably from Benford's Law both visually and statistically. The high chi-squared value and extremely low p-value indicate strong evidence of nonconformity. The data may be affected by rounding, threshold limits, or manipulation. Further investigation into its source and preprocessing is recommended.

### Individual Contributions

Worked on the design and layout of the slides

Ensured all key points and insights were presented effectively and engagingly



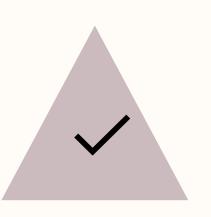
Conducted the Chi-Square Test and MAD Test on the dataset
Collaborated with Saniya to interpret graphs
Contributed to writing key insights and conclusions based on the analysis

Summarized statistical findings to ensure clarity and coherence

Designed and structured the PowerPoint presentation

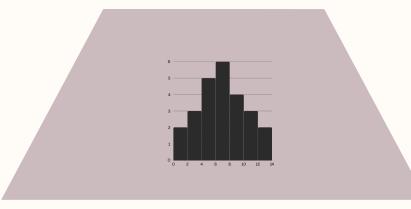
Created graphs and visualizations for each section of the dataset Assisted Vanshika in interpreting the visual data for meaningful insights

## Key Insights & Conclusions



#### **Data Authenticity**

All three metrics follow Benford's Law



#### **Natural Distribution**

Lower digits appear more frequently as expected



#### Reliable Dataset

No evidence of manipulation or artificial patterns

## Thank you!