

Course :	Diploma in Electronic Systems Diploma in Telematics & Media Technology Diploma in Aerospace Systems & Management Diploma in Electrical Engineering with Eco-Design Diploma in Mechatronics Engineering Diploma in Digital & Precision Engineering Diploma in Aeronautical & Aerospace Technology Diploma in Biomedical Engineering Diploma in Nanotechnology & Materials Science Diploma in Engineering with Business Diploma in Information Technology Diploma in Financial Informatics Diploma in Cybersecurity & Forensics Diploma in Infocomm & Security Diploma in Chemical & Pharmaceutical Technology Diploma in Biologics & Process Technology Diploma in Chemical & Green Technology
Module :	Engineering Mathematics 2B / - EG1761/2008/2681/2916/2961 Mathematics 2B/ EGB/D/F/H/J/M207 Computing Mathematics 2 IT1201/1531/1631/1761 CLB/C/G201

---

Topic 1 : Descriptive Statistics

Objectives :

At the end of this lesson, the student should be able to:

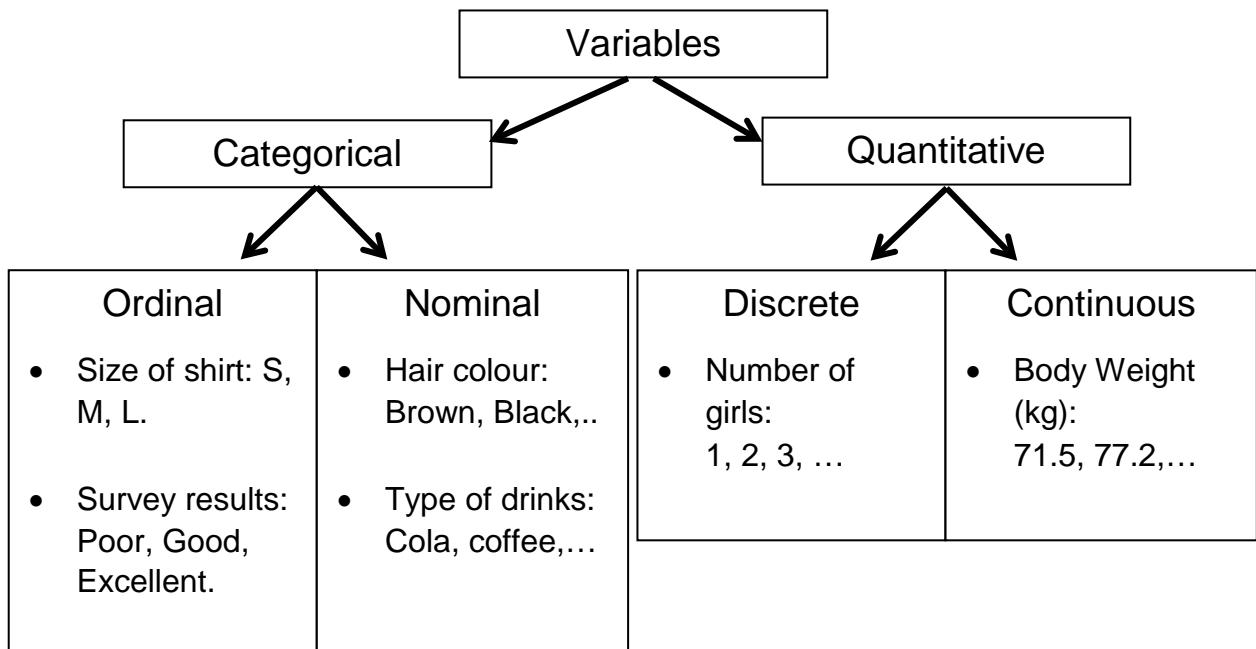
- 1 Identify the type of variables
- 2 Interpret frequency distributions
- 3 Organise the data and represent through various graphical methods
- 4 Describe measures of central tendency – mean, median and mode
- 5 Describe measures of variability – range, variance and standard deviation

# Topic 1: Descriptive Statistics

## 1.1.1 Variables

- A variable is the characteristic of an object that can be assigned a value or a category. Variables can be classified as two broad types: **Categorical** and **Quantitative**.
- Categorical variables refer to those that cannot be measured numerically. Quantitative variables are those that can be measured numerically.
- Categorical variables can be further divided into two sub-categories: **Ordinal** and **Nominal**. Ordinal variables have categories with a natural ranking while nominal variables don't.
- Quantitative variables can be further divided into two sub-categories: **discrete** and **continuous**. Discrete variables have a countable number of values (usually integers) while continuous variables have an uncountable number of values.

The following chart illustrates the relationship between the various types of variables.



### 1.1.2 Population and sample

- A **population** is a set of **all** the possible observations that can be made. A **sample** is a **subset** of the population.
- Taking samples is usually necessary as it is very tedious to obtain every single data from the population.
- Usually we represent a variable with capital letters such as :  $X, Y, M, \dots$ . We represent observed values of the variable using small letters. For example  $x = 750$ .

#### Example 1.1.2-1

The Manpower Ministry wishes to conduct a survey on a Singapore citizen's monthly salary. A representative from the ministry conducted the survey with 100 people out of 3.34 million Singapore citizens. Let  $X$  represents the salary of a Singapore citizen.

\_\_\_\_\_ is the **variable of interest**  
\_\_\_\_\_ is the **observational unit**  
\_\_\_\_\_ is the **sample size**  
 $x = 5000$  is an \_\_\_\_\_

### 1.2 Organising data

- The raw data given will need to be organised neatly before we draw some basic conclusions on the findings. For example, the data below does not show a clear indication on the distribution of the various blood groups.

A	A	AB	O	B	B	O	A	O	A
O	O	O	A	O	A	O	O	B	A
B	O	A	O	AB	O	A	O	O	O
O	A	O	O	A	O	O	O	B	B
AB	O	B	O	B	O	A	A	A	AB

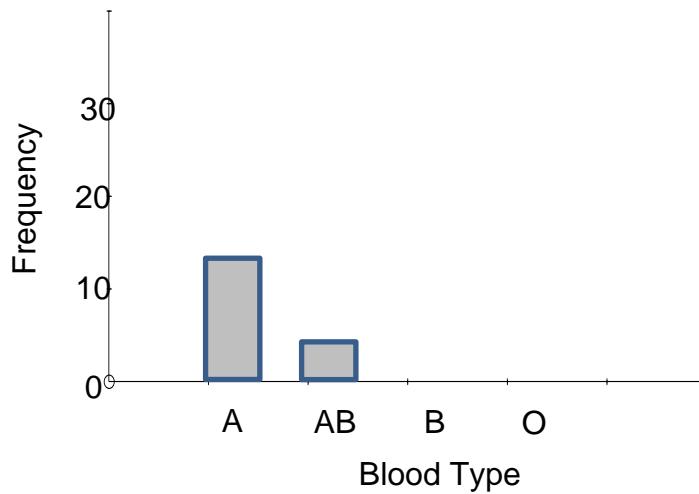
### 1.2.1 Bar chart, histogram

- We can sort the data into two types: ungrouped or grouped. Ungrouped data is one given as individual data points, while grouped data is one given in intervals.
- A frequency distribution is commonly used to organise data into well specified categories. Grouping of data is usually done when a variable has many different values. We can use a bar chart or histogram to have a visual view of the data.

#### Example 1.2.1-1 (Ungrouped data)

Using the data set on blood groups of 50 people above, use the frequency table and complete the bar chart below:

Blood Types	Frequency
A	14
AB	4
B	8
O	24



- To create a histogram for grouped data, we need to calculate the common interval length of each class (also known as the “bin width”). To ensure there are no gaps between each class, the class intervals will be extended by half a unit of measurement on the left and right.

### Example 1.2.1-2 (Grouped data)

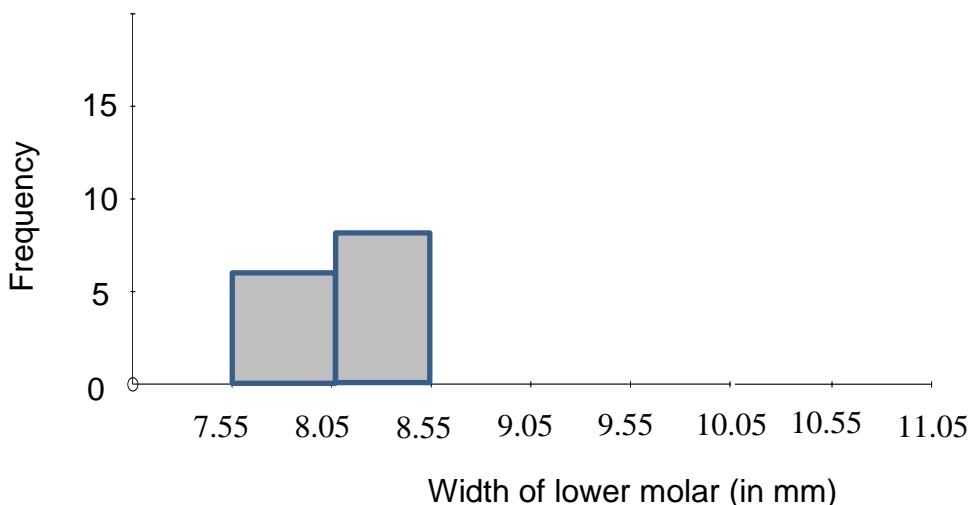
A dentist measured the width (in mm) of the last lower molar of 60 female adult. The results were as follows:

7.6	10.6	8.2	10.3	9.6	7.8	10.1	8.7	9.1	7.7
8.2	9.9	10.9	9.5	10.4	8.8	9.4	9.1	9.7	9.2
8.7	9.4	9.1	7.9	9.5	9.3	8.5	10.8	8.3	8.6
10.1	9.8	8.3	10.5	8.7	9.8	7.6	9.7	10.7	10.4
9.2	9.7	8.6	8.7	8.1	9.2	9.6	10.2	8.9	9.3
8.0	9.3	8.4	9.9	8.7	11.0	8.9	10.0	8.6	8.4

The frequency distribution table is shown below:

Class Interval	Class Boundaries	Class Midpoint	Frequency
7.6 - 8.0	7.55 – 8.05	7.8	6
8.1 – 8.5	8.05 – 8.55	8.3	8
8.6 – 9.0	8.55 – 9.05	8.8	11
9.1 – 9.5	9.05 – 9.55	9.3	13
9.6 – 10.0	9.55 – 10.05	9.8	10
10.1 – 10.5	10.05 – 10.55	10.3	7
10.6 – 11.0	10.55 – 11.05	10.8	5

Complete the histogram below:



## 1.2.2 Stem and Leaf Plot

- Stem-and-leaf plot is a method for showing the frequency with which certain classes of values occur. One common approach is to let the last digit be the “leaves” and the remaining digits form the “stems”.
- Unlike the histogram or bar chart, we can still observe the individual data value in the stem and leaf plot.

### Example 1.2.2-1

The following are the scores of 20 students on a Statistics test:

83	84	77	64	71	87	72	92	57	92
75	52	80	65	79	71	87	93	96	95

Construct a stem-and-leaf plot.

**Solution:**

First we organise the scores in ascending order:

52, 57, 64, 65, 71, 71, 72, 75, 77, 79, 80, 83, 84, 87, 87, 92, 92, 93, 95, 96

The first digit will form the “stems”, while the second digit will form the “leaves”.



## 1.3 Measures of Central Tendency

### 1.3.1 Mean

- Given a set of numerical data,  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ ,

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n}.$$

- Notation:

**Population** mean:  $\mu$  (data set contains the entire population information).

**Sample** mean:  $\bar{x}$  (data set contains only a sample's information).

#### Example 1.3.1-1 (Refer to Appendix 1.2)

Given a sample data set: 2, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, calculate the sample mean.

**Solution:**

### 1.3.2 Median

- Median** refers to a value such that **50%** of the data is below this value and **50%** of the data is above this value. It is the middle set of data.
- Suppose our data set has  $n$  values.  
Step 1: Arrange the values in **ascending** order.

Step 2: If  $n$  is **odd**, then the median is the  $\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)^{\text{th}}$  number.

If  $n$  is **even**, then the median is the average of the  $\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{\text{th}}$  and  $\left(\frac{n}{2}+1\right)^{\text{th}}$  numbers.

### **Example 1.3.2-1**

For each of the following data set, find its median.

- (a) 2, 5, 6, 4, 7, 4, 7, 2, 8, 9, 4, 11, 9, 1, 3
- (b) 3, 1, 4, 7, 9, 5, 6, 8, 3, 1, 2, 9, 12, 4, 4, 15

#### **Solution:**

- a) Arrange the numbers in ascending order:

$$1, 2, 2, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 7, 8, 9, 9, 11$$

Since there are 15 (odd) data values, median = \_\_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> value =

- b) Arrange the numbers in ascending order:

$$1, 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 9, 12, 15$$

Since there are 16 (even) data values, median is the average of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> values =

### **1.3.3 Mode**

- **Mode** refers to the data value that appears the **most frequent** (highest frequency). A set of data can have more than 1 mode.

#### **Example 1.3.3-1**

For each of the following data sets, find the mode.

- (a) 2, 5, 6, 4, 7, 4, 7, 2, 8, 9, 4, 11, 9, 1, 3
- (b) 2, 3, 5, 9, 6, 4, 7, 4, 7, 2, 8, 9, 2, 9, 1, 3

#### **Solution:**

- (a) Mode(s) is / are \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) Mode(s) is / are \_\_\_\_\_

## 1.4 Measures of Dispersion

### 1.4.1 Range, Interquartile Range

- Range of a data set = Largest value – Smallest value.
- Quartiles: Q1, Q2, Q3.  
Q1 refers to the value such that 25 % of the data values are below it. Q2 is the median of the data and Q3 is the value such that 75 % of the data values are below it.
- Interquartile range = Q3 – Q1
- Procedure: Step 1: Find Q2 (the median).  
Step 2: Find Q1 (the median of the data values below Q2).  
Step 3: Find Q3 (the median of the data values above Q2).  
Step 4: Interquartile range = Q3 – Q1.

#### Example 1.4.1-1

The annual profit (rounded to millions of dollars) of 12 randomly selected companies in 2013 are as follows:

8      12      7      17      14      45      10      13      17      13      9      11

Find the values of the range, the three quartiles and the interquartile range.

#### Solution:

Arrange the numbers in ascending order

7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 13, 14, 17, 17, 45

$$\text{Range} = \quad \quad \quad \text{Q2 (median)} = \frac{12+13}{2} = 12.5$$

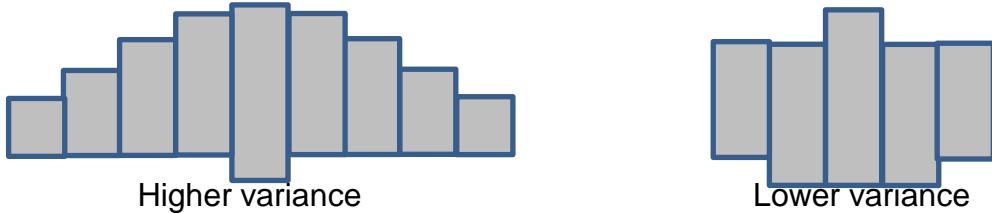
$$Q1 = \text{median of } \{7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12\} =$$

$$Q3 = \text{median of } \{13, 13, 14, 17, 17, 45\} =$$

$$\text{Hence IQR} = Q3 - Q1 =$$

### 1.4.2 Variance and Standard deviation

- Variance is a measurement of the spread of data, in particular how each data value deviates away from the mean.



- Notation:

**Population** variance:  $\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum x^2}{N} - \mu^2$ , where  $N$  is the total population size.

**Sample** variance:  $s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \left[ \sum x_i^2 - \frac{(\sum x_i)^2}{n} \right]$ , where  $n$  is the sample size.

- Standard deviation =  $\sqrt{\text{variance}}$ .

**\*\* In this course we will focus on using a scientific calculator to obtain the values of sample mean and variance from a sample data set. \*\***

#### Example 1.4.2-1 (Refer to Appendix 1.2)

Consider the sample data marks for a mathematics class test (upon 10)

$$1, 5, 4, 2, 6, 2, 1, 1, 5, 3$$

Calculate the sample standard deviation.

**Solution:**

## Appendix 1.1 Using Excel for Descriptive Statistics

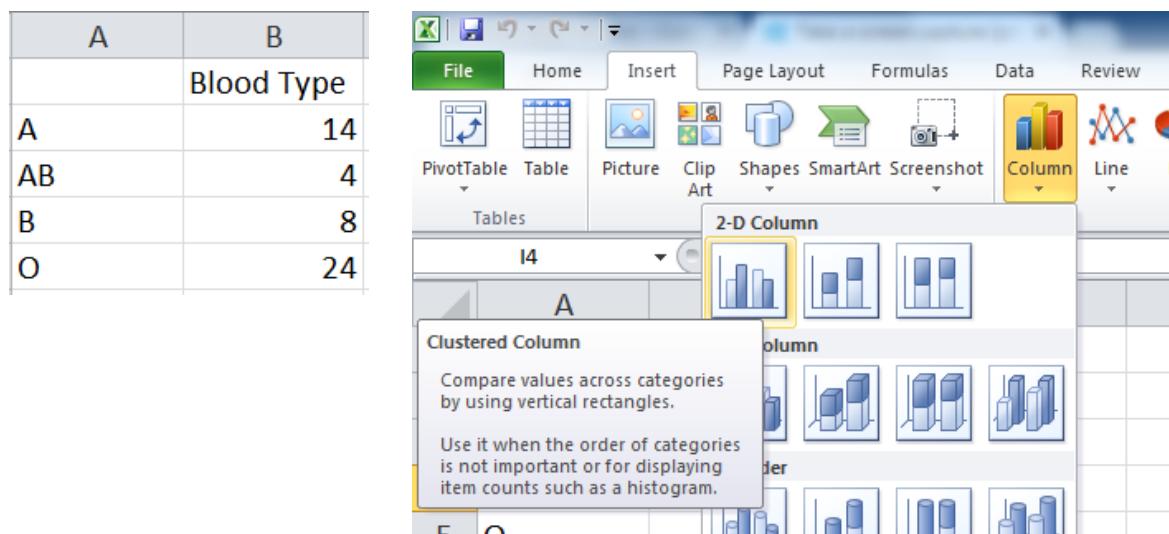
### A1.1.1 Create Bar Chart and Histogram

From Excel, go to Options → add-ins → analysis → Analysis TookPak.

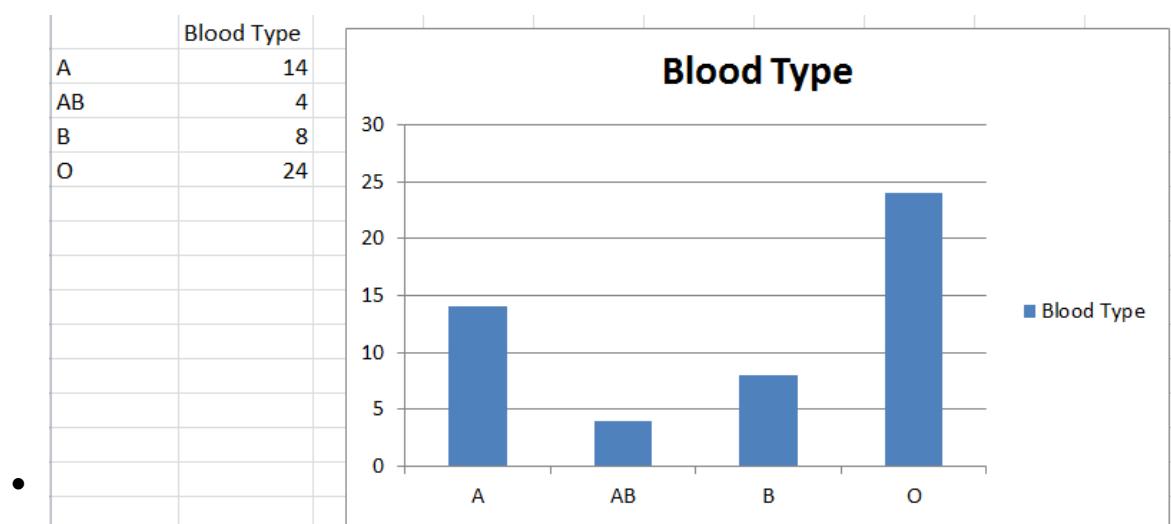
- Refer to Example 1.2.1-1 (Bar Chart)

Step 1: Enter two columns of information, one column for categories and the other for the frequency.

Step 2: To create a heading for the bar chart, you may key in the heading at the cell above the frequency values' column.



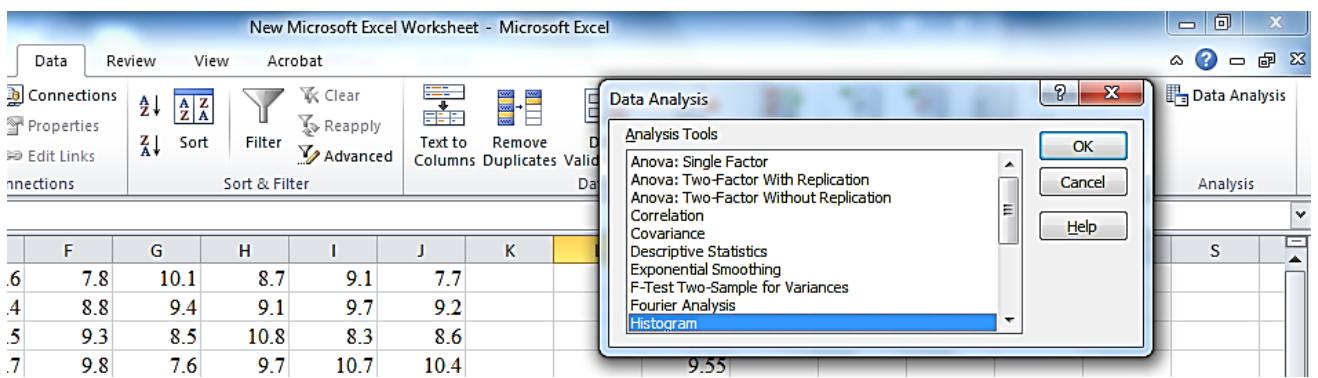
Step 3: Highlight both columns, proceed to “Insert” tab, select “Column” and “Clustered Column.”



Step 1: Copy and paste the data values into an excel spread sheet. Also copy the the upper limit of the class boundaries on a separate column.

Data											bin
7.6	10.6	8.2	10.3	9.6	7.8	10.1	8.7	9.1	7.7		8.05
8.2	9.9	10.9	9.5	10.4	8.8	9.4	9.1	9.7	9.2		8.55
8.7	9.4	9.1	7.9	9.5	9.3	8.5	10.8	8.3	8.6		9.05
10.1	9.8	8.3	10.5	8.7	9.8	7.6	9.7	10.7	10.4		9.55
9.2	9.7	8.6	8.7	8.1	9.2	9.6	10.2	8.9	9.3		10.05
8	9.3	8.4	9.9	8.7	11	8.9	10	8.6	8.4		10.55
											11.05

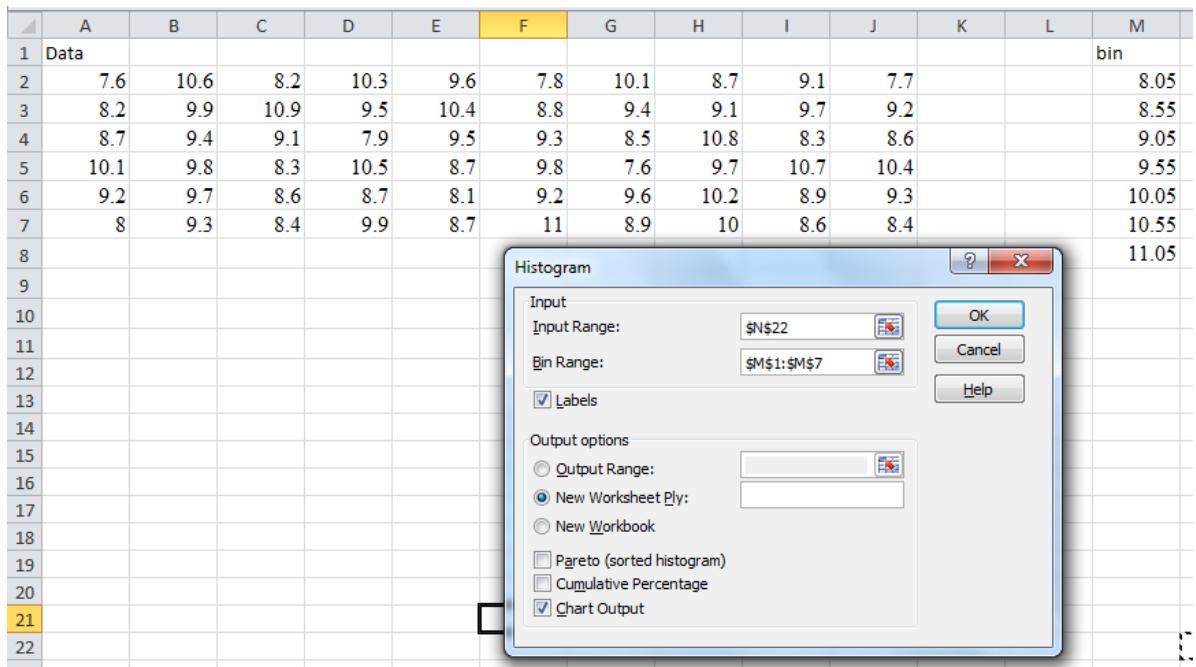
Step 2: Proceed to the “Data” tab, click on the “Data Analysis” option and choose “Histogram”.



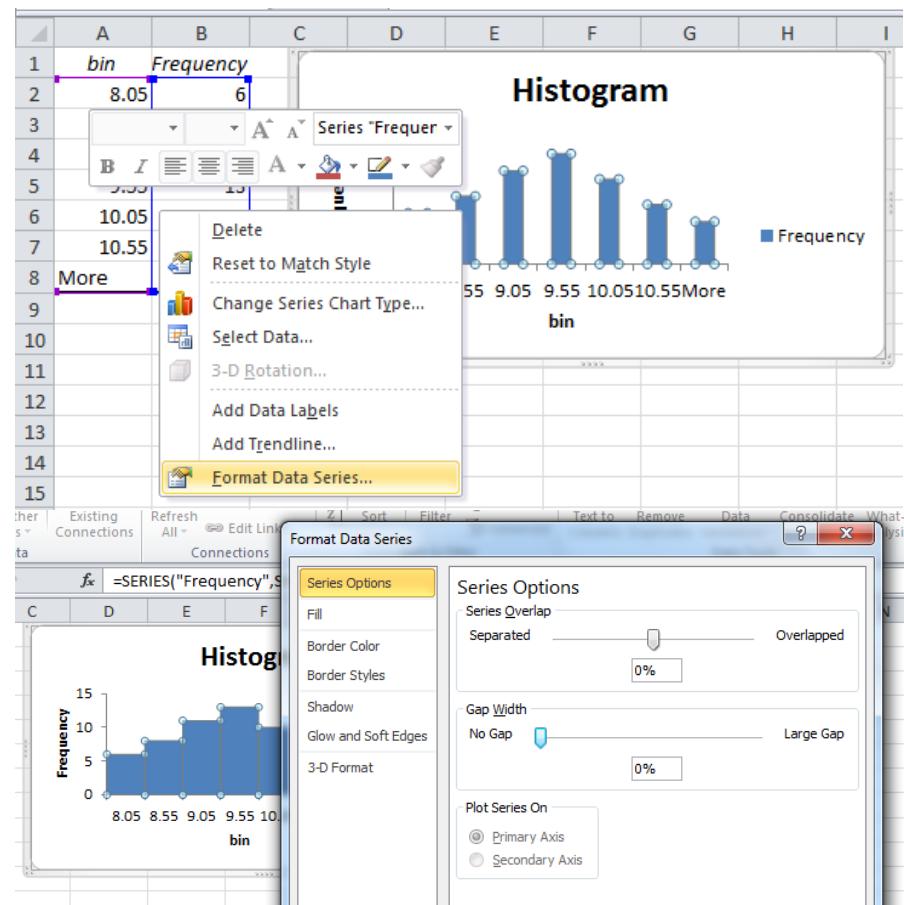
Step 3: Under “Input Range”, highlight all the cells containing the data values.

Under the “Bin Range”, highlight the cells containing the upper limits of the class boundaries (including the header).

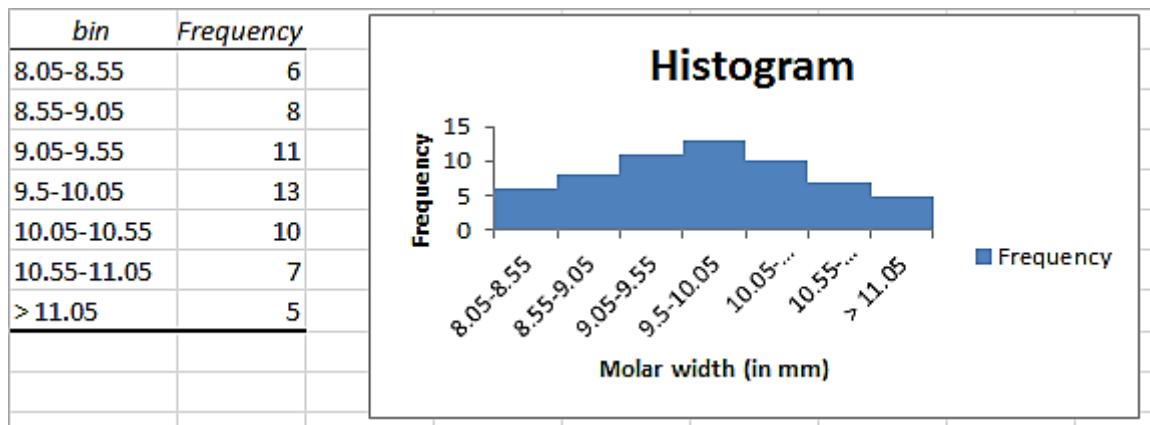
Also select the option “Chart Output”.



Step 4: Once the diagram is generated, highlight one of the bars and right click to select “Format Data Series”. Select the gap width to 0.



Step 5: You can relabel the class intervals and also the header, etc.



### A1.1.2 Calculate mean, median, standard deviation and quartiles

- Refer to Example 1.4.1-1. To calculate the mean of the data:

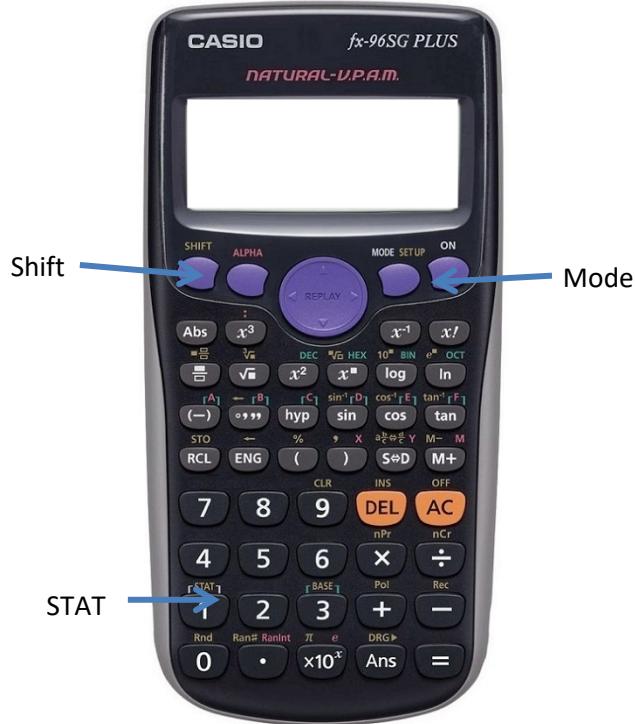
Step 1: Key in the data values in a column and choose the tab “Formulas”, choose “Statistical” and the option “Average”.

Step 2: Highlight the values to be computed.

	A	B
8	1	8
12	2	12
7	3	7
17	4	17
14	5	14
45	6	45
10	7	10
13	8	13
17	9	17
13	10	13
9	11	9
11	12	11

- To obtain the median, repeat the same steps as above, choose the function “Median” instead of “Average”.
- To obtain the standard deviation, repeat the same steps as above, choose the function “STDEV.P” if the data is the population data or “STDEV.S” if the data comes from a sample.
- To find the quartiles:  
Step 1: Arrange the values in ascending order by highlighting the column of data value, right click and select “Sort” followed by “smallest to largest”.  
Step 2: Use the “Median” function to find Q2. Now apply the “Median” function again on the set of data values lower than Q2 to obtain Q1. Lastly apply the “Median” function again on the set of data values higher than Q2 to obtain Q3.

## Appendix 1.2 Using Calculator to obtain mean and standard deviation



Step 1: To enter data into a list:

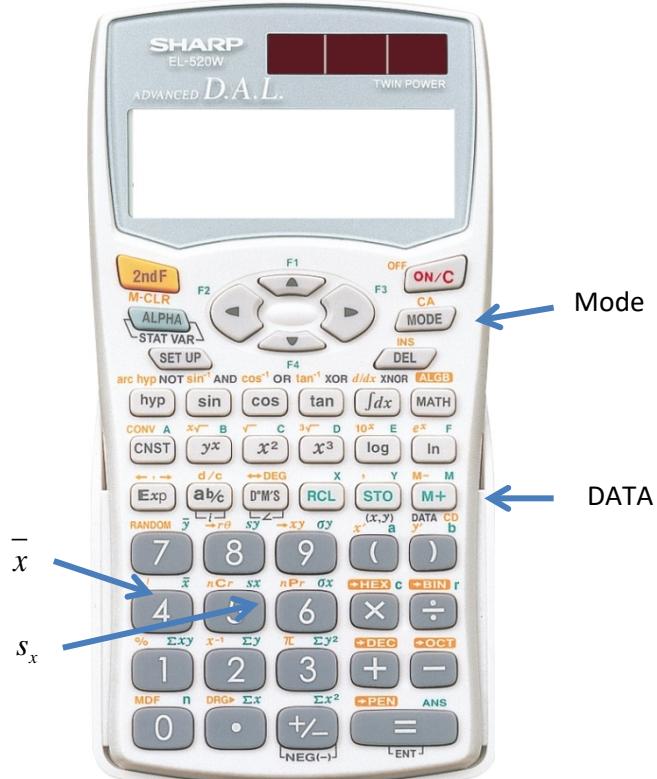
- Mode → 2: STAT → 1: 1 – Var
- Key in a number and press “=” to input the value.
- If frequency list is required:  
Shift → Setup → Down ( ) → 4: Frequency

Step 2: To calculate sample standard deviation

- Exit the data input screen by pressing “AC”.
- Press “Shift” → 1: STAT → 4: VAR → 4:  $s_x$

Step 3: To calculate sample mean

- Exit the data input screen by pressing “AC”.
- Press “Shift” → 1: STAT → 4: VAR → 2:  $\bar{x}$ .



Step 1: To key in data in the calculator

- Mode → 1: STAT → 0: SD.
- Key in a number and press “ DATA ” to store the value in the list.

Step 2: To calculate sample standard deviation and sample mean

- Press “ALPHA” + “5” for sample standard deviation  $s_x$ .
- Press “ALPHA” + “4” for sample mean  $\bar{x}$ .

## Tutorial 1: Descriptive Statistics Tutorial

1 Classify each of the variables below by placing a “✓” in the correct categories.

E.g.	Flavour of milk	Categorical ✓	Nominal ✓	Ordinal
		Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(i)	Age of a driver (in whole numbers)	Categorical	Nominal	Ordinal
		Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(ii)	Gender of a driver	Categorical	Nominal	Ordinal
		Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(iii)	Colour of bag	Categorical	Nominal	Ordinal
		Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(iv)	Volume of drink	Categorical	Nominal	Ordinal
		Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(v)	Size of a shirt (S, M, L, XL)	Categorical	Nominal	Ordinal
		Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(vi)	Number of students	Categorical	Nominal	Ordinal
		Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(vii)	Examination grades	Categorical	Nominal	Ordinal
		Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous

2 Consider the following 2 sets of sample data

$$A: \quad 3, 4, 5, 5, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 11, 11, 12, 12, 14, 18$$

$$B: \quad 3, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 11, 11, 12, 12, 14, 18$$

For each sample, find the following by using the calculator:

- (i) mean,
- (ii) median,
- (iii) mode,
- (iv) interquartile range,
- (v) range,
- (vi) standard deviation

3 The daily number of Internet system crashes is observed over 30 days at a university computer centre. The daily Internet system crashes are shown in the table below:

1	3	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
2	2	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	0
0	1	6	4	3	3	1	2	4	0

Complete the frequency table and compute its mean, median and mode.

Value, $x$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Frequency							

## Answers

1	E.g.	Flavour of milk	Categorical ✓	Nominal ✓	Ordinal
			Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(i)		Age of a driver (in whole numbers)	Categorical	Nominal	Ordinal
			Quantitative ✓	Discrete ✓	Continuous
(ii)		Gender of a driver	Categorical ✓	Nominal ✓	Ordinal
			Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(iii)		Colour of bag	Categorical ✓	Nominal ✓	Ordinal
			Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(iv)		Volume of drink	Categorical	Nominal	Ordinal
			Quantitative ✓	Discrete	Continuous ✓
(v)		Size of a shirt (S, M, L, XL)	Categorical ✓	Nominal	Ordinal ✓
			Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous
(vi)		Number of students	Categorical	Nominal	Ordinal
			Quantitative ✓	Discrete ✓	Continuous
(vii)		Examination grades	Categorical ✓	Nominal	Ordinal ✓
			Quantitative	Discrete	Continuous

2 i)  $\bar{x}_A = 9, \bar{x}_B = 8.75$  ii) median  $A = 10$ , median  $B = 9$

iii) mode  $A = 5, 11$ , mode  $B = 5$ ,

iv)  $IQR_A = 7, IQR_B = 6.5$ ,

v) range  $A = \text{range } B = 15$ ,

vi)  $s_A = 4.28, s_B = 4.25$

3

Value, $x$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Frequency	9	10	5	3	2	0	1

i mean = 1.43

ii median = 1

iii mode = 1