

Statistical Method

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1 Basic Concepts

- Definition 1.1** (variable).
- **Quantitative variable:** Variables that take numerical values for which arithmetic operations, such as adding and averaging, work.
 - **Categorical variables:** Variables that fall into one of several categories. What can be counted is the count or proportion of individuals in each category.

Ways to chart quantitative data

- Histograms:
 - The range of values that a variable can take is divided into equal size.
 - The histogram shows the number of individual data points that fall into each interval.
 - It is called **unimodel** if it has a single peak and **bimodel** if it has two peaks.
 - **outliers:** Outliers are observations that lie outside the overall pattern of a distribution. Always look for outliers and try to explain them.()
- Line graphs: time plots.
 - A **trend** is a rise or fall that persists over time, despite small irregularities.
 - A pattern that repeats itself at regular intervals of time is called **seasonal variation**.

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