

Stat 145, Wed 10-Feb-2021 -- Wed 10-Feb-2021  
Biostatistics  
Spring 2021

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Wednesday, February 10th 2021  
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Wk 2, We

Topic:: Shape/form of distribution

Topic:: Quantiles and mean

Read:: Lock5 2.1-2.2

Example:

- histogram of cds in ssurv

```
gf_histogram(~cds, data=ssurv, color="black", bins=10)
```

```
gf_dhistogram(~cds, data=ssurv, color="black", bins=10)
```

features

the color switch is unnecessary, but delineates the bins

it isn't obvious there are 10 bins, since some are empty

gf\_dhistogram doesn't give count in bins; proportionally adjusts area = 1

*of histogram*  
shape is subject to bin size (more bins means thinner bins)  
density plot attempts to smooth things out (*no bins anymore*)

```
gf_density(~cds, data=ssurv)
```

verbal description

unimodal (describes number of major peaks) - *form*

right-skewed (most-frequent words: symmetric, right-/left-skewed) - *shape*

- histogram of eruptions in faithful

*Think about these* { Q: Would you expect home-sale prices in Grand Rapids to be  
symmetric?  
right-skewed?  
left-skewed?

Discuss: Is there a variable you can think of that would be left-skewed?

- histogram of randomnum in ssurv

```
gf_histogram(~randomnum, bins=20, data=filter(ssurv, randomnum <= 20))
```

might have expected a flat (uniform) distribution

Uniform distributions (all values occur equally) can arise in categorical data

- coin flips (H, T)  
  `coin = c("H","T")`  
  `resultOfFlips = sample(coin, 500, replace=TRUE)`  
  `tally(~resultOfFlips)`  
  `gf_bar(~resultOfFlips)`  
  `gf_percents(~resultOfFlips)`
- rock, paper, scissors?  
  see StatKey: One Categorical Variable, under Descriptive Statistics
- days of the week for births in 2015  
  scofield only can do this example using data frame `all2015Births`
- when distribution of categorical variable is not uniform  
  shape isn't generally relevant (due to resequencing of bars)  
  can still identify mode(s)

Variable in  
these 4 cases  
is categorical

Quantiles/percentiles

- concept for quantitative vars only
- English monarchs: years is quantitative  
  `em = read.csv("http://scofield.site/teaching/data/csv/monarchReigns.csv")`  
  `gf_dotplot(~years, data=em)`   # produces a dotplot; compare w/ histogram  
  `qdata(~years, .5, data=em)`   # produces .5-quantile = 50th percentile  
  `median(~years, data=em)`   # also gives median  
  `qdata(~years, c(.1,.2,.3), data=em)`   # produces .1-, .2, .3-quantiles
- terms  
  median of a variable = 50th percentile of that variable  
  1st quartile (Q1) = 25th percentile of that variable  
  3rd quartile (Q3) = 75th percentile of that variable  
  5-number summary  
    gives: min, Q1, median, Q3, max  
    `fivenum(~years, data=em)`  
  box-and-whisker plot  
    `gf_boxplot(~years, data=em)`

Mean = average

- formula
- command: `mean(~years, data=em)`

- More next time
- sensitive to outliers

different from median, which is "resistant to outliers"

app at [istats.shinyapps.io/MeanvsMedian/](https://istats.shinyapps.io/MeanvsMedian/)

observations

right-skewed corresponds to mean larger than median

left-skewed corresponds to mean smaller than median

when symmetric, mean and median are roughly equal

— This is used in the Webwork H.W.

- where median and mean are located on histogram/dotplot

#### Commands introduced today:

qdata - for finding quantiles of a quantitative variable

median - specifically finds the median of a quantitative variable

fivenum - delivers the 5-number summary of a quantitative variable

mean - finds the mean of a quantitative variable

sample - produces a list drawn from a list of values

gf\_dhistogram - like histogram, but scales area to be 1

gf\_density - smoothed-out histogram, area equals 1

gf\_percents - like bar graph, but gives relative frequencies, not frequencies

gf\_dotplot - for quantitative variable without too many values

gf\_boxplot - for quantitative variable, visual depiction of 5-number summary