

datascience_assignment_16.1

July 13, 2018

0.1 You survey households in your area to find the average rent they are paying. Find the standard deviation from the following data:

\$1550, \$1700, \$900, \$850, \$1000, \$950.

0.2 Solution:

- Write a function `std_dev` which takes list/tuple which returns standard deviation with Bessel's correction
- The function `std_dev` first calculates mean
- From each element subtract mean and square it and sum the whole resultant elements, which is divided by (No of elements - 1) and take the square mean to calculate standard deviation with Bessel's correction

```
In [1]: import functools
import math
def std_dev(element_list):
    # Input element_list must be either tuple or list else ValueError is raised
    if ( not isinstance(element_list, tuple)) and ( not isinstance(element_list, list)):
        raise ValueError("element_list must be either list or tuple")

    # Input element_list should not be None or empty else ValueError is raised
    if element_list is None or len(element_list) == 0:
        raise ValueError("element_list can not be empty")

    # If number of elements is 1 return 0
    if len(element_list) == 1:
        return 0

    # Calculate mean by using reduce function with lambda expression as sum of two numbers
    # divide by number of elements
    mean = functools.reduce(lambda x,y: x+y, element_list)/len(element_list)

    # From each element subtract mean and square it and sum the whole resultant elements
    # and take the square mean to calculate standard deviation with Bessel's correction
    result = math.sqrt(sum([(x - mean) ** 2 for x in element_list]) / (len(element_list) - 1))
    return result
```

```
In [2]: element_list = [1550, 1700, 900, 850, 1000, 950 ]  
        res = std_dev(element_list)  
        print("standard deviation = $" + str(res))
```

```
standard deviation = $367.99003609699366
```