

Q6

Let \bar{x}_j = arithmetic mean of first j numbers \bar{x}_{j+1} = " " " " " $j+1$ "

$$\bar{x}_{j+1} = \frac{1}{j+1} \sum_{i=1}^{j+1} x_i = \frac{1}{j+1} \sum_{i=1}^j (x_i + x_{j+1})$$

$$= \frac{j}{j+1} \bar{x}_j + \frac{x_{j+1}}{j+1} = \bar{x}_j + \frac{x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_j}{j+1}$$

Thus to compute \bar{x}_{j+1} you need to know only \bar{x}_j and of course the new data value x_{j+1} . You do not need to loop over the entire dataset to find \bar{x}_{j+1} .

For the standard deviation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} j s_{j+1}^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^j (x_i - \bar{x}_{j+1})^2 + (x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_{j+1})^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^j \left(x_i - \bar{x}_j - \frac{x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_j}{j+1} \right)^2 + (x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_{j+1})^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^j \left\{ \underbrace{(x_i - \bar{x}_j)^2}_{(j-1) s_j^2} + \left(\frac{x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_j}{j+1} \right)^2 - 2(x_i - \bar{x}_j) \left(\frac{x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_j}{j+1} \right) \right\} \\ &\quad + (x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_{j+1})^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore j s_{j+1}^2 &= (j-1) s_j^2 + j \left(\frac{x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_j}{j+1} \right)^2 \\ &\quad - 2j \left(\sum_{i=1}^j (x_i - \bar{x}_j) \right) \left(\frac{x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_j}{j+1} \right) \\ &\qquad\qquad\qquad \searrow \rightarrow 0 \qquad\qquad\qquad + (x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_{j+1})^2 \\ &= (j-1) s_j^2 + j \left(\frac{x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_j}{j+1} \right)^2 + (x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_{j+1})^2 \\ &= (j-1) s_j^2 + j (\bar{x}_{j+1} - \bar{x}_j)^2 + (x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_{j+1})^2 \\ &\qquad\qquad\qquad \searrow \text{see formula for mean} \\ \therefore s_{j+1}^2 &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{j}\right) s_j^2 + (\bar{x}_{j+1} - \bar{x}_j)^2 + \frac{(x_{j+1} - \bar{x}_{j+1})^2}{j} \end{aligned}$$

This is the formula to update the standard deviation.