

2. Problem Statement

Find the variance for the following set of data representing trees in California (heights in feet):

3, 21, 98, 203, 17, 9

Solution :

1. Find the mean of tree heights

Avg Tree height in feet = $(3+21+98+203+17+9)/6 = 58.5$ feet

2. Find the differences between observations and the mean

$$(3-58.5) = -55.5$$

$$(21-58.5) = -37.5$$

$$(98-58.5) = 39.5$$

$$(203-58.5) = 144.5$$

$$(17-58.5) = -41.5$$

$$(9-58.5) = -49.5$$

3. Find the square of their differences

$$(-55.5)^2 = 3080.25$$

$$(-37.5)^2 = 1406.25$$

$$(39.5)^2 = 1560.25$$

$$(144.5)^2 = 20880.25$$

$$(-41.5)^2 = 1722.25$$

$$(-49.5)^2 = 2450.25$$

4. Divide the sum of squares result by n-1

$$= (3080.25+1406.25+1560.25+20880.25+1722.25+2450.25)/5 = 6219.9$$

The Variance of the given values is 6219.9

5. Take the square root of your answer from Step 4 . This gives the standard deviation:

$$\sqrt{6219.9} = 78.86634$$

The Standard Deviation is = 78.86634

