

Practice -- Measures of central tendency and variance

A university film society decided to have a marathon of tearjerker movies. They wanted to see how much crying took place, so they measured each person's teardrops in millilitres. Here are the ml's each person cried:

4 2.5 1 0.2 1 3 7 5 2 3.5

- a) What is the mean, median, and mode?
- b) Is this measurement continuous or discrete?
- c) What is the scale of measurement?
- d) What is the range?
- e) What is the interquartile range?
- f) What is the variance?
- g) What is the standard deviation?

Solution

- a) Mean = 2.92, Median = $(2.5+3)/2 = 2.75$, Mode = 1
- b) Discrete
- c) Ratio
- d) $7 - 0.2 = 6.8$

- e) Q2 value (median) = 2.75
Q1 value = 1
Q3 value = 4

$$\begin{aligned} \text{IQR} &= \text{Q3} - \text{Q1} \\ \text{IQR} &= 4 - 1 \\ \text{IQR} &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

f)
$$s^2 = \frac{\sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2 / N}{N - 1}$$
 (Variance formula)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum x^2 &= 123.54 \\ (\sum x)^2 &= 852.64 \\ N &= 10 \end{aligned}$$

$$s^2 = \frac{123.54 - 852.64/10}{10 - 1}$$

$$s^2 = 4.253$$

g) $s = \sqrt{s^2}$

$$\sqrt{4.253} = 2.062$$

$$s = 2.062$$