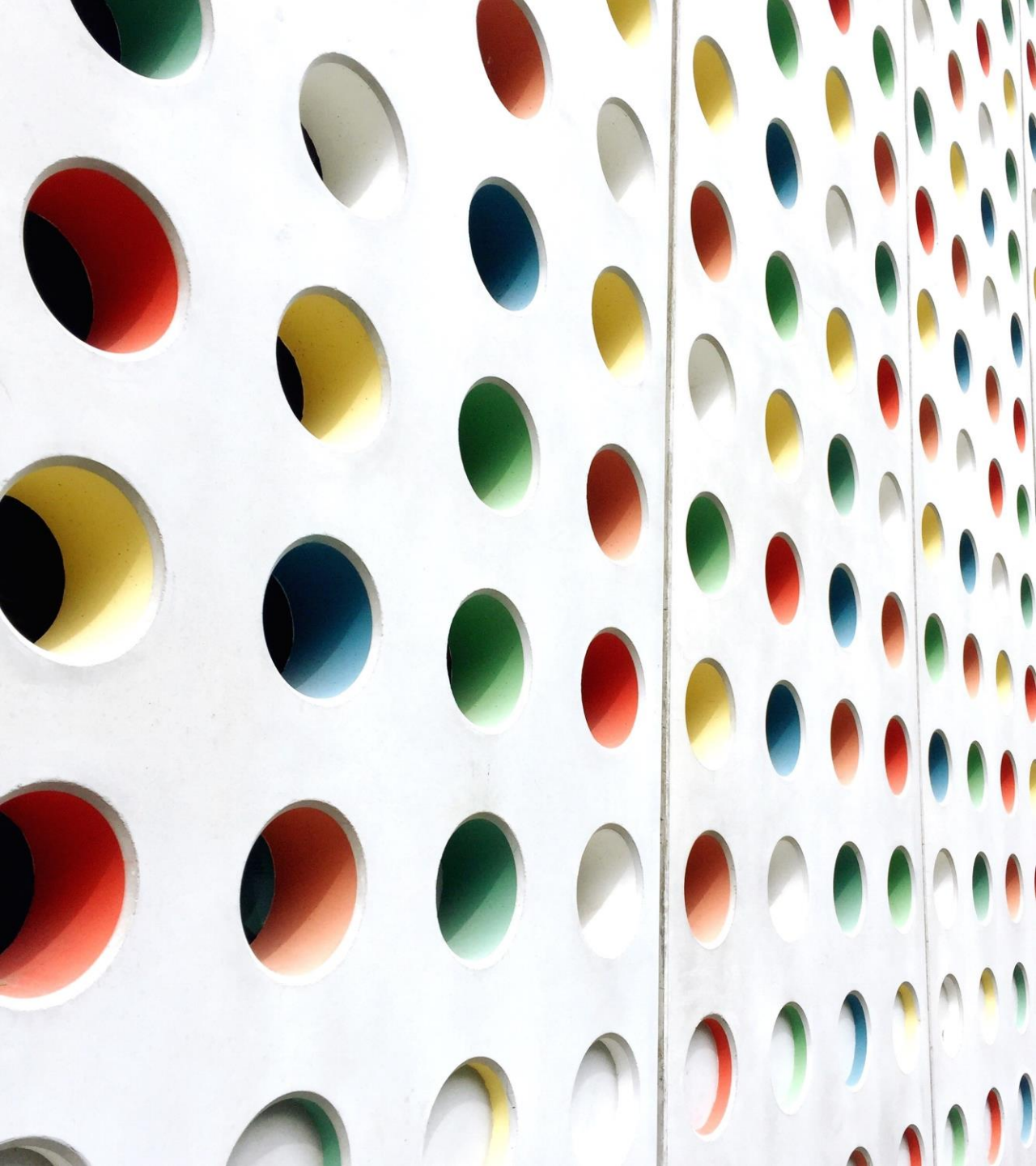




# Numerical Descriptive Measures

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**BM 4419**

**BUSINESS ANALYTICS**

# Summary Definitions

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DCOVA

- The **central tendency** is the extent to which all the data values group around a typical or central value.
- The **variation** is the amount of dispersion or scattering of values
- The **shape** is the pattern of the distribution of values from the lowest value to the highest value.

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# Measures of Central Tendency:

## The Mean

DCOVA

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The arithmetic mean (often just called the “mean”) is the most common measure of central tendency

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- For a sample of size n:

Pronounced x-bar

The  $i^{\text{th}}$  value

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n}{n}$$

Sample size

Observed values

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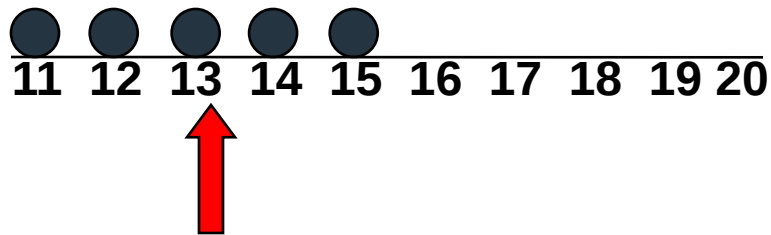
# Measures of Central Tendency: The Mean

DCOVA<sub>A</sub>  
(continued)

The most common measure of central tendency

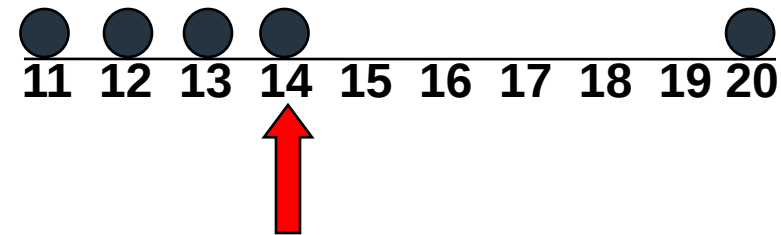
Mean = sum of values divided by the number of values

Affected by extreme values (outliers)



**Mean = 13**

$$\frac{11+12+13+14+15}{5} = \frac{65}{5} = 13$$



**Mean = 14**

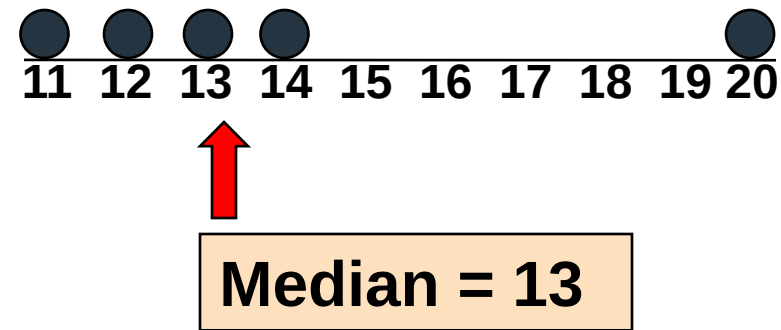
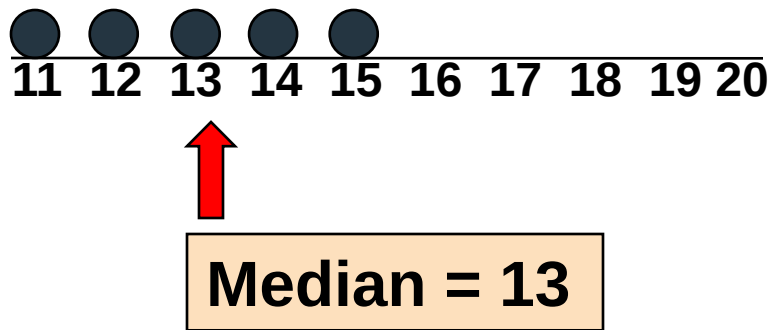
$$\frac{11+12+13+14+20}{5} = \frac{70}{5} = 14$$

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# Measures of Central Tendency: The Median

DCOVA

In an ordered array, the median is the “middle” number (50% above, 50% below)



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Not affected by extreme values

# Measures of Central Tendency: Locating the Median

DCOVA

The location of the median when the values are in numerical order (smallest to largest):

$$\text{Median position} = \frac{n+1}{2} \text{ position in the ordered data}$$

If the number of values is odd, the median is the middle number

If the number of values is even, the median is the average of the two middle numbers

Note that  $\frac{n+1}{2}$  is not the *value* of the median, only the *position* of  
the median in the ranked data

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# Measures of Central Tendency: The Mode

DCOVA

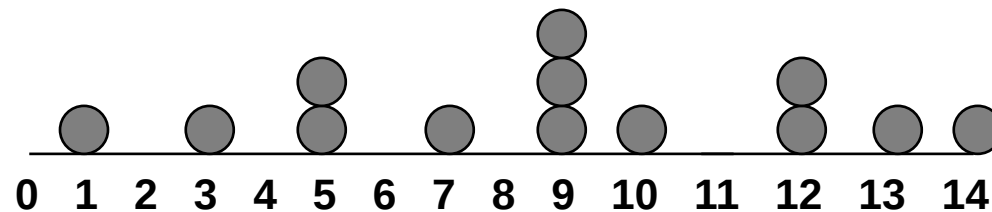
Value that occurs most often

Not affected by extreme values

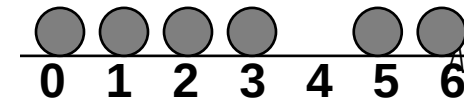
Used for either numerical or categorical (nominal) data

There may may be no mode

There may be several modes



Mode = 9



No Mode

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# Measures of Central Tendency: Review Example

DCOVA

## House Prices:

\$2,000,000

\$ 500,000

\$ 300,000

\$ 100,000

\$ 100,000

Sum \$ 3,000,000

- **Mean:**  $(\$3,000,000/5)$   
= \$600,000
- **Median:** middle value of ranked data  
= \$300,000
- **Mode:** most frequent value  
= \$100,000

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# Measures of Central Tendency: Which Measure to Choose?

DCOVA

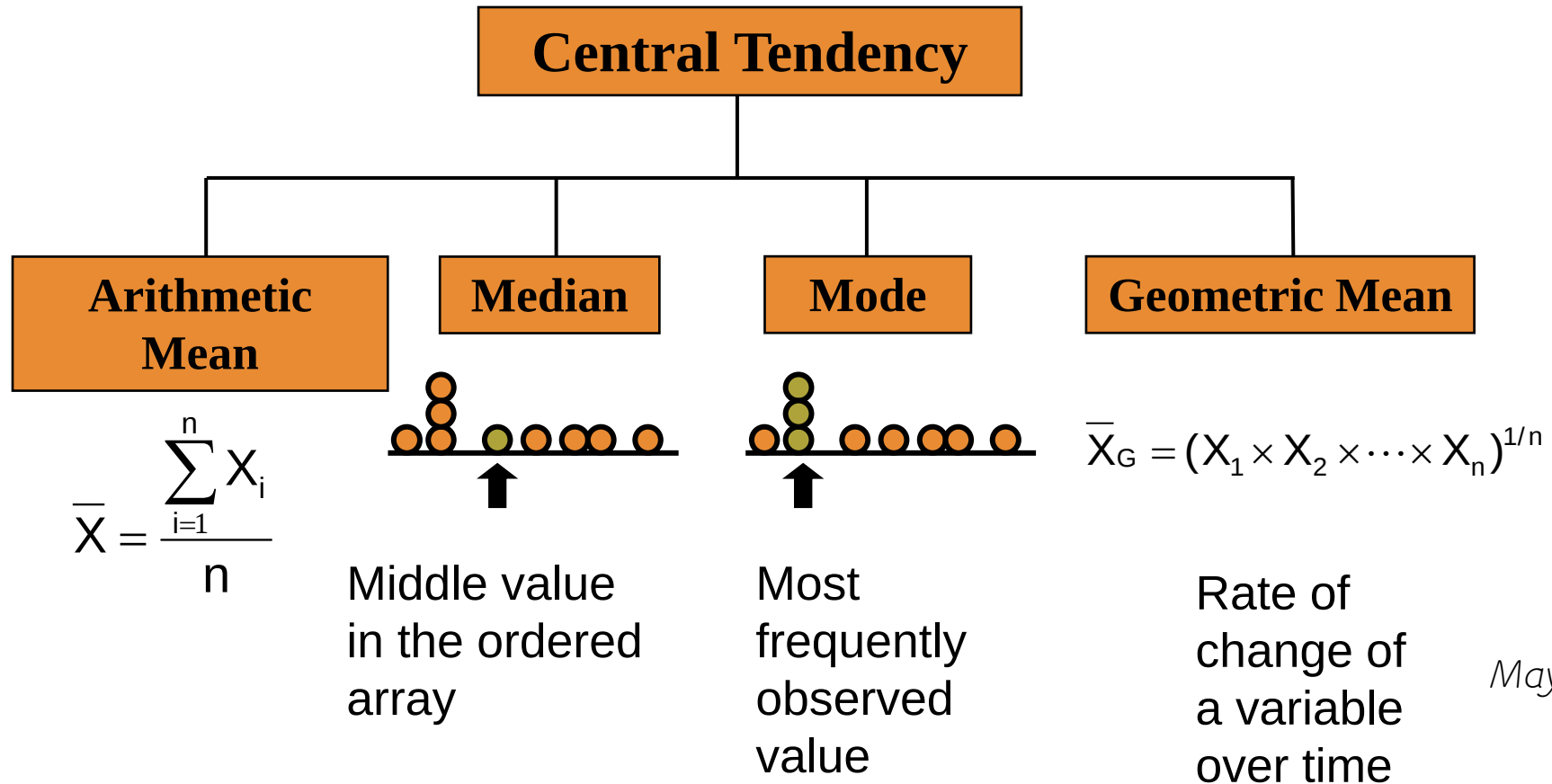
---

- The **mean** is generally used, unless extreme values (outliers) exist.
- The **median** is often used, since the median is not sensitive to extreme values. For example, median home prices may be reported for a region; it is less sensitive to outliers.
- In some situations it makes sense to report both the **mean** and the **median**.

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# Measures of Central Tendency: Summary

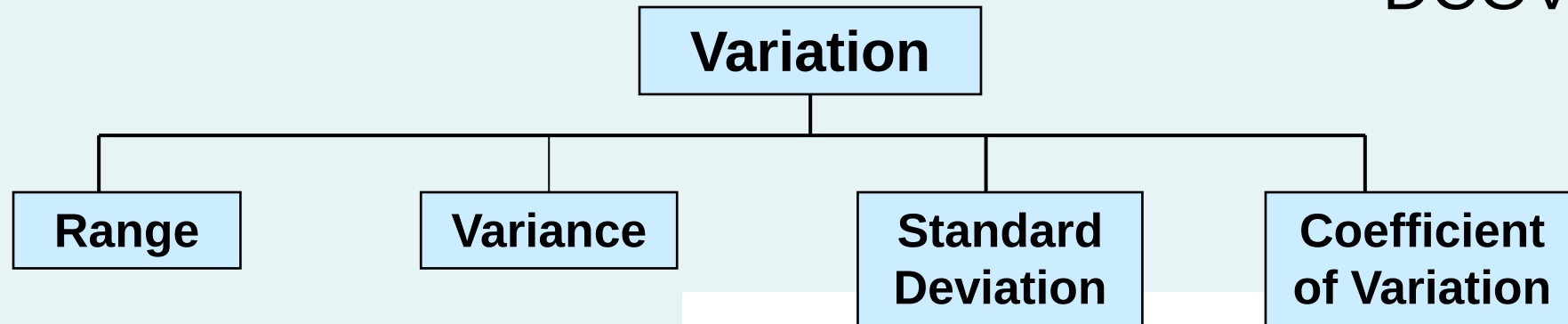
DCOVA



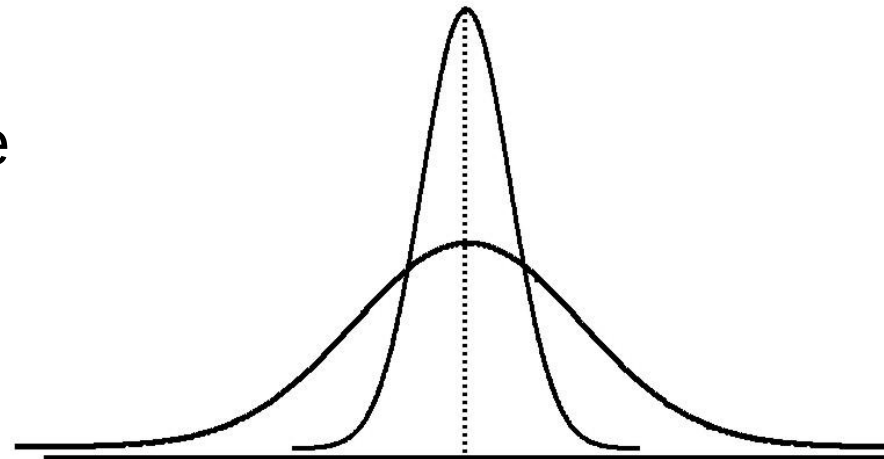
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# Measures of Variation

DCOVA



- Measures of variation give information on the **spread** or **variability** or **dispersion** of the data values.



Same center,  
different variation

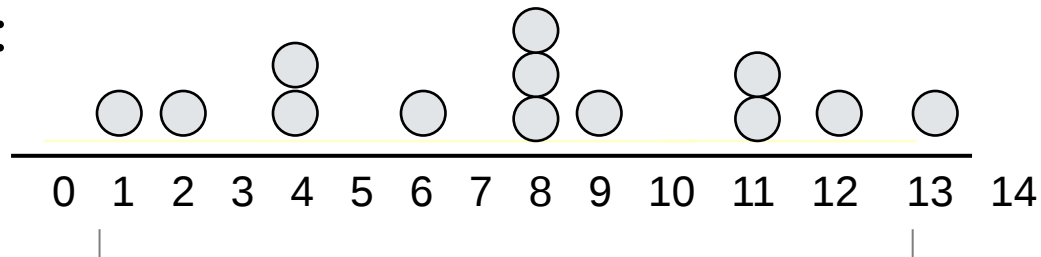
# Measures of Variation: The Range

DCOVA

- Simplest measure of variation
- Difference between the largest and the smallest values:

$$\text{Range} = X_{\text{largest}} - X_{\text{smallest}}$$

Example:



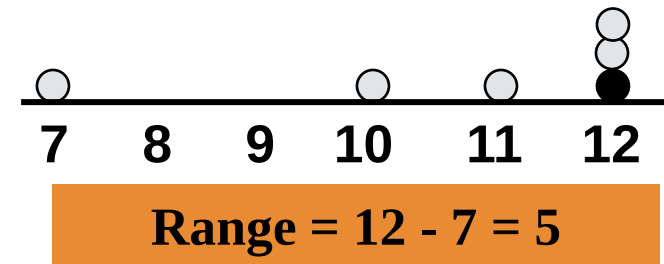
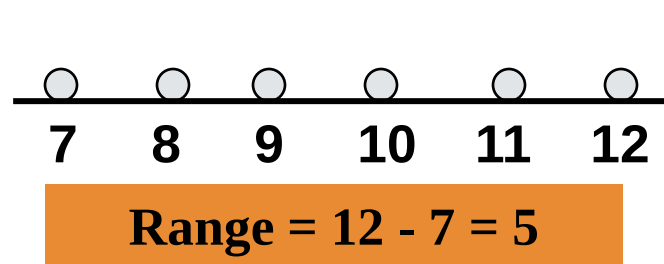
$$\text{Range} = 13 - 1 = 12$$

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# Measures of Variation: Why The Range Can Be Misleading

DCOVA

- Ignores the way in which data are distributed



- Sensitive to outliers

1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,3,3,3,3,4,5

$$\text{Range} = 5 - 1 = 4$$

1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,3,3,3,3,4,120

$$\text{Range} = 120 - 1 = 119$$

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# Measures of Variation: The Sample Variance

DCOVA

Average (approximately) of squared deviations of values from the mean

◦ Sample variance:

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1}$$

Where

$\bar{x}$  = arithmetic mean

$n$  = sample size

$x_i$  =  $i^{\text{th}}$  value of the variable  $X$

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# Measures of Variation: The Sample Standard Deviation

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DCOVA

Most commonly used measure of variation

Shows variation about the mean

Is the square root of the variance

Has the same units as the original data

◦ Sample standard deviation:

$$S = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n - 1}}$$

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# Measures of Variation: Sample Standard Deviation: Calculation Example

DCOVA

**Sample**

**Data ( $X_i$ ) :**

10 12 14 15 17 18 18 24

$n = 8$

Mean =  $\bar{X} = 16$

$$S = \sqrt{\frac{(10 - \bar{X})^2 + (12 - \bar{X})^2 + (14 - \bar{X})^2 + \dots + (24 - \bar{X})^2}{n - 1}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{(10 - 16)^2 + (12 - 16)^2 + (14 - 16)^2 + \dots + (24 - 16)^2}{8 - 1}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{130}{7}} = 4.3095$$

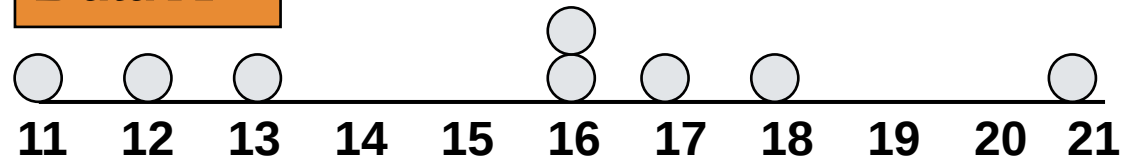
A measure of the  
“average” scatter around  
the mean

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# Measures of Variation: Comparing Standard Deviations

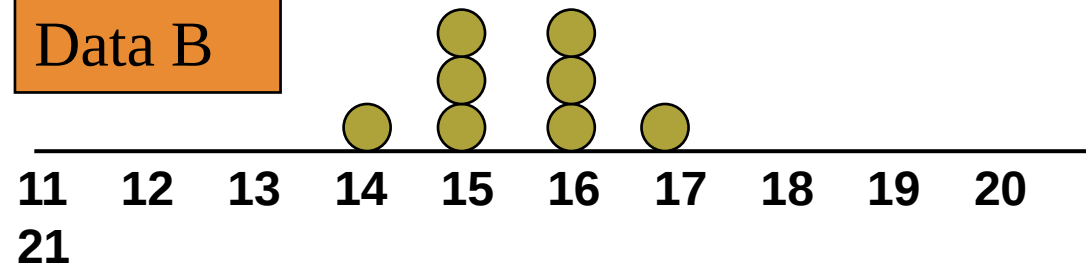
DCOVA

Data A



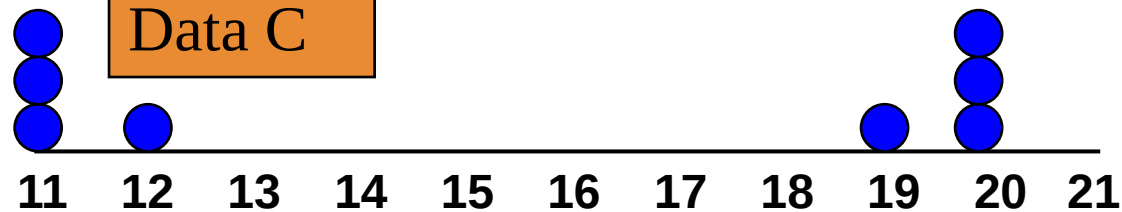
Mean = 15.5  
 $S = 3.338$

Data B



Mean = 15.5  
 $S = 0.926$

Data C



Mean = 15.5  
 $S = 4.567$

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# Measures of Variation: Comparing Standard Deviations

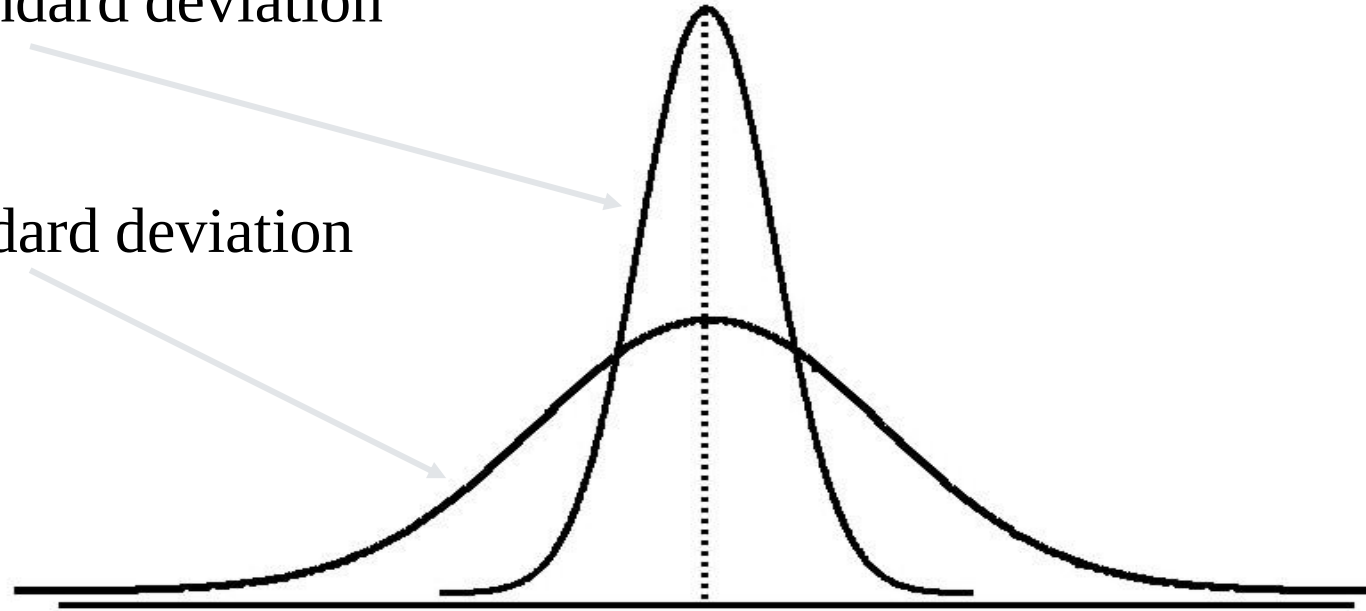
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DCOVA

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Smaller standard deviation

Larger standard deviation



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# Measures of Variation: Summary Characteristics

DCOVA

- The more the data are spread out, the greater the range, variance, and standard deviation.
- The more the data are concentrated, the smaller the range, variance, and standard deviation.
- If the values are all the same (no variation), all these measures will be zero.
- None of these measures are ever negative.

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# Shape of a Distribution

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DCOVA

Describes how data are distributed

Two useful shape-related statistics are:

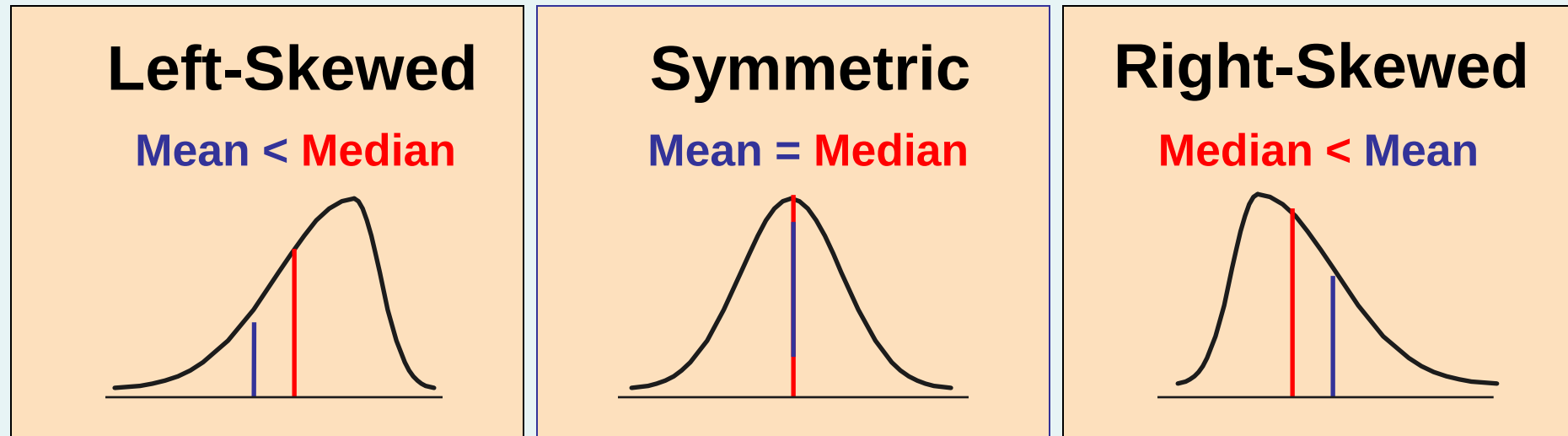
- Skewness
  - Measures the extent to which data values are not symmetrical
- Kurtosis
  - Kurtosis affects the peakedness of the curve of the distribution—that is, how sharply the curve rises approaching the center of the distribution

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# Shape of a Distribution (Skewness)

DCOVA

- Measures the extent to which data is not symmetrical



Skewness  
Statistic

< 0

0

> 0

# Quick Test

---

State the type of skewness for the following sets of distribution:

- a) mean=35, median=35, mode= 35
- b) mean = 32, median = 36, mode = 40
- c) mean= 70, median 68, mode= 65

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# General Descriptive Stats Using Microsoft Excel Functions

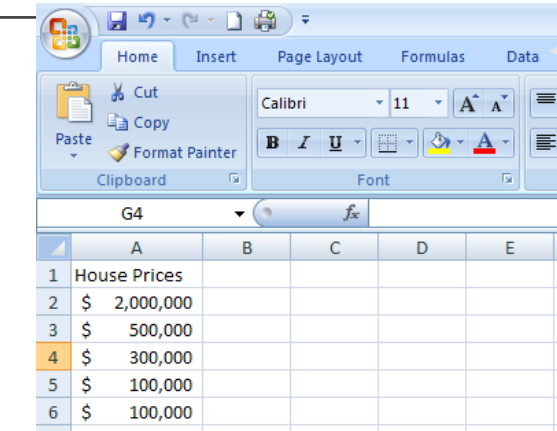
DCOVA

| House Prices |           | Descriptive Statistics |                 |                 |
|--------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| \$           | 2,000,000 | Mean                   | \$ 600,000      | =AVERAGE(A2:A6) |
| \$           | 500,000   | Standard Error         | \$ 357,770.88   | =D6/SQRT(D14)   |
| \$           | 300,000   | Median                 | \$ 300,000      | =MEDIAN(A2:A6)  |
| \$           | 100,000   | Mode                   | \$ 100,000.00   | =MODE(A2:A6)    |
| \$           | 100,000   | Standard Deviation     | \$ 800,000      | =STDEV(A2:A6)   |
|              |           | Sample Variance        | 640,000,000,000 | =VAR(A2:A6)     |
|              |           | Kurtosis               | 4.1301          | =KURT(A2:A6)    |
|              |           | Skewness               | 2.0068          | =SKEW(A2:A6)    |
|              |           | Range                  | \$ 1,900,000    | =D12 - D11      |
|              |           | Minimum                | \$ 100,000      | =MIN(A2:A6)     |
|              |           | Maximum                | \$ 2,000,000    | =MAX(A2:A6)     |
|              |           | Sum                    | \$ 3,000,000    | =SUM(A2:A6)     |
|              |           | Count                  | 5               | =COUNT(A2:A6)   |
|              |           |                        |                 |                 |

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# General Descriptive Stats Using Microsoft Excel Data Analysis Tool

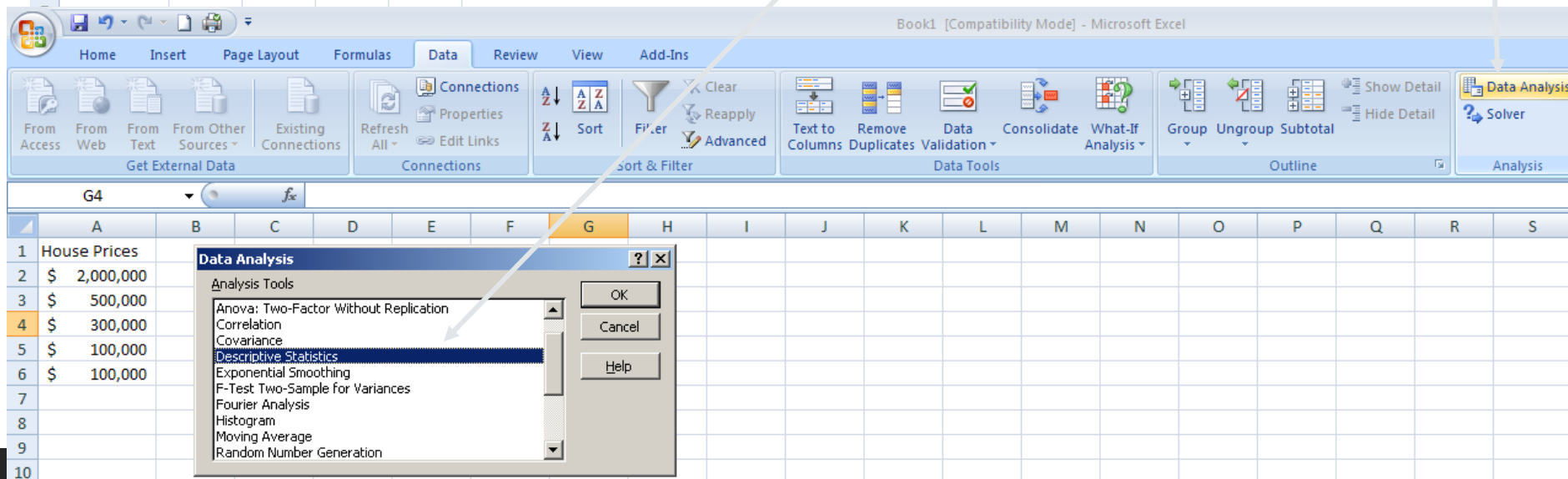
DCOVA



The screenshot shows the Microsoft Excel interface with the 'Data' tab selected. The worksheet contains a list of house prices in column A, starting from row 1. Row 4 is highlighted in orange.

|   | A            | B | C | D | E |
|---|--------------|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | House Prices |   |   |   |   |
| 2 | \$ 2,000,000 |   |   |   |   |
| 3 | \$ 500,000   |   |   |   |   |
| 4 | \$ 300,000   |   |   |   |   |
| 5 | \$ 100,000   |   |   |   |   |
| 6 | \$ 100,000   |   |   |   |   |

1. Select Data.
2. Select Data Analysis.
3. Select Descriptive Statistics and click OK.



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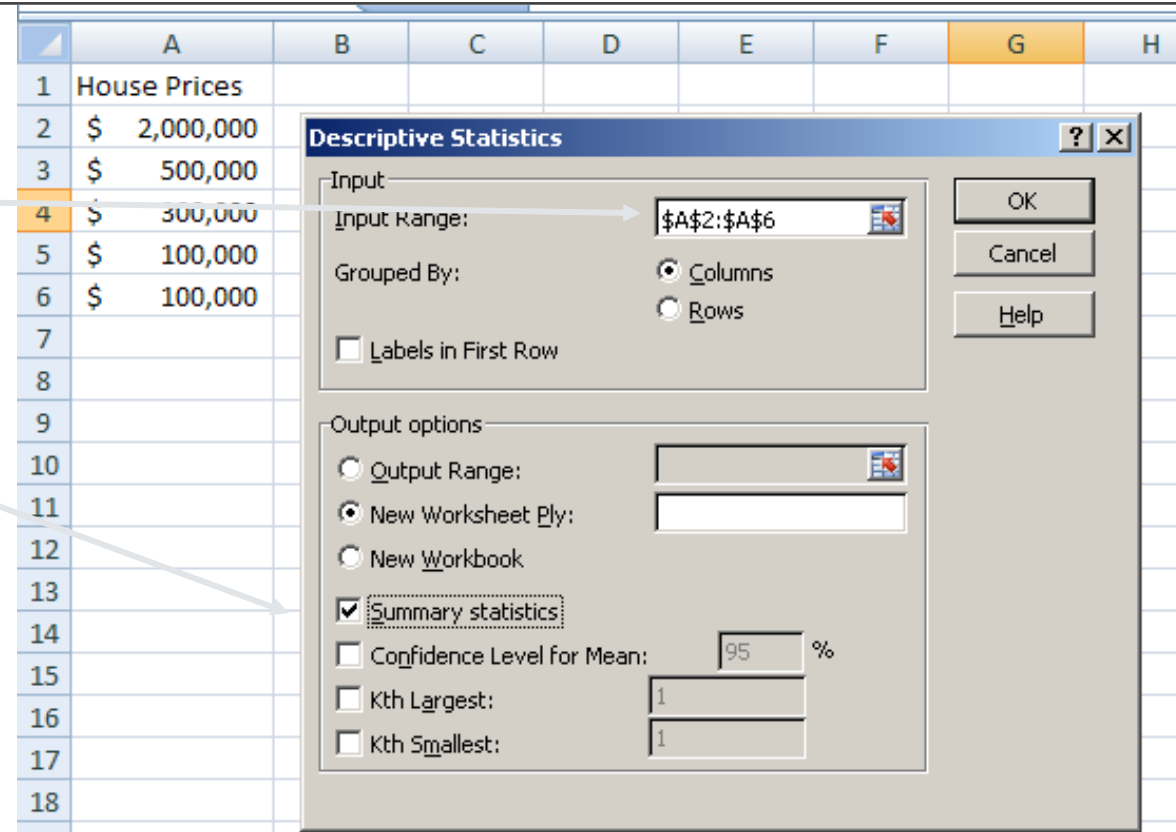
# General Descriptive Stats Using Microsoft Excel

DCOVA

4. Enter the cell range.

5. Check the Summary Statistics box.

6. Click OK



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# Excel output

DCOVA

Microsoft Excel

descriptive statistics output,  
using the house price data:

**House Prices:**

**\$2,000,000**  
**500,000**  
**300,000**  
**100,000**  
**100,000**

| House Prices       |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Mean               | 600000          |
| Standard Error     | 357770.8764     |
| Median             | 300000          |
| Mode               | 100000          |
| Standard Deviation | 800000          |
| Sample Variance    | 640,000,000,000 |
| Kurtosis           | 4.1301          |
| Skewness           | 2.0068          |
| Range              | 1900000         |
| Minimum            | 100000          |
| Maximum            | 2000000         |
| Sum                | 3000000         |
| Count              | 5               |

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# SELF-TEST

The following data (see the drink.xls file) represent the amount of soft-drink filled in a sample of 50 consecutive 2-liter bottles. The results, listed horizontally in the order of being filled, were:

|       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 2.109 | 2.086 | 2.066 | 2.075 | 2.065 | 2.057 | 2.052 | 2.044 | 2.036 | 2.038 |
| 2.031 | 2.029 | 2.025 | 2.029 | 2.023 | 2.02  | 2.015 | 2.014 | 2.013 | 2.014 |
| 2.012 | 2.012 | 2.012 | 2.01  | 2.005 | 2.003 | 1.999 | 1.996 | 1.997 | 1.992 |
| 1.994 | 1.986 | 1.984 | 1.981 | 1.973 | 1.975 | 1.971 | 1.969 | 1.966 | 1.967 |
| 1.963 | 1.957 | 1.951 | 1.951 | 1.947 | 1.941 | 1.941 | 1.938 | 1.908 | 1.894 |
| 2.109 | 2.086 | 2.066 | 2.075 | 2.065 | 2.057 | 2.052 | 2.044 | 2.036 | 2.038 |

*Construct the Descriptive Statistics for the above data Using Microsoft Excel Functions and draw two important conclusions based on the measurement outcome.*