

# **Bus 273: Statistical Analysis For Business**

Harald Schmidbauer



# About These Slides

- The present slides are not self-contained; they need to be explained and discussed. This will be done in the lectures.
- Even though being a “work in progress” and subject to revision, the slides constitute copyrighted material.  
If you want to reproduce or copy anything from the slides, please ask:

Harald Schmidbauer    **harald** at **hs-stat** dot **com**  
Angi Rösch            **angi** at **angi-stat** dot **com**

- The slides were produced using  $\text{\LaTeX}$  and R (the R project; website: [www.R-project.org](http://www.R-project.org)) on a GNU/Linux system.
- R files used for this course are available upon request.



# Chapter 4:

## Location, Variation, and Shape of a Distribution



# 4.1 Location and Variation: Two Aspects of a Distribution

Two basic properties of the distribution of a metric variable:

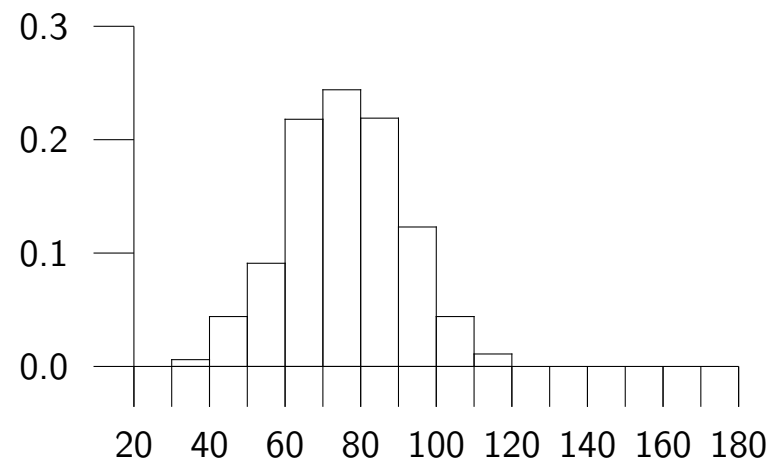
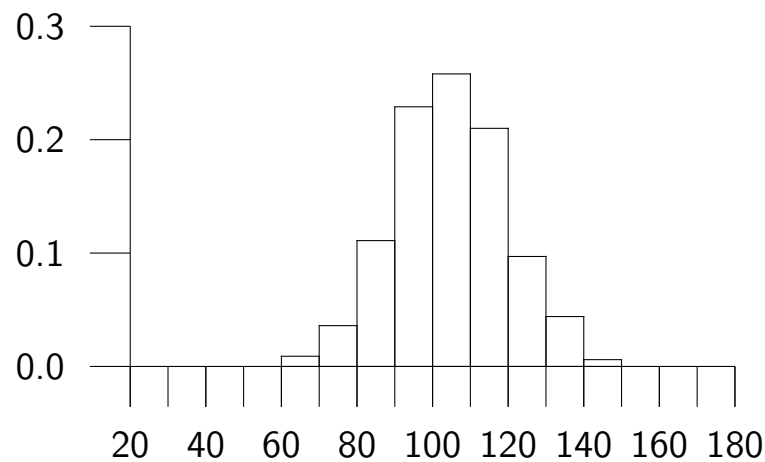
- its location:  
**Where** are the observations (the data)?
- its variation or dispersion:  
**How scattered** are the observations (the data)?

The main goal of the present chapter is to show how these can be **measured**.



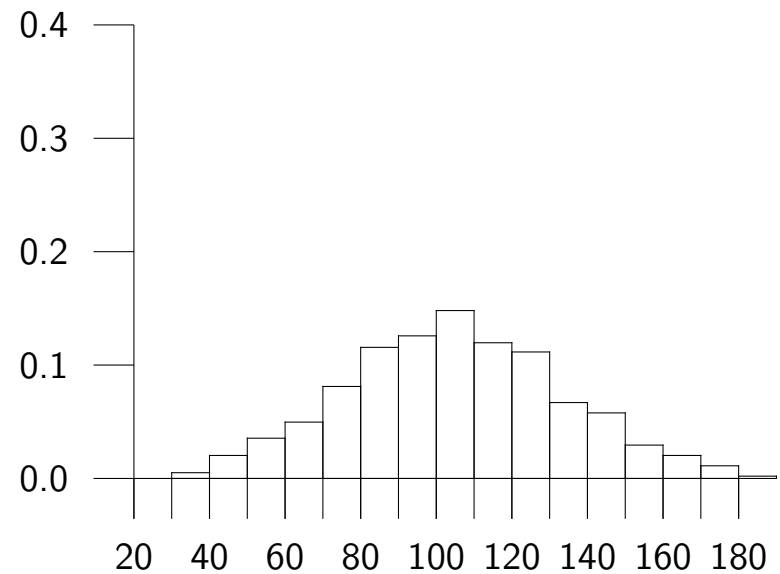
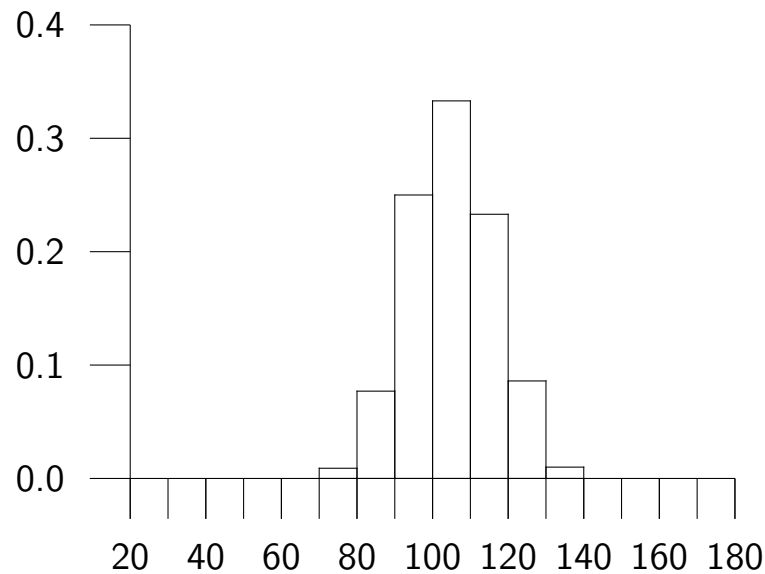
# 4.1 Location and Variation: Two Aspects of a Distribution

Two distributions with different locations:



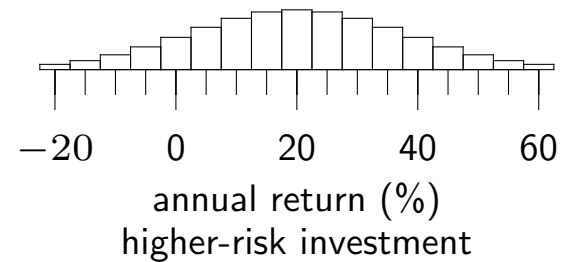
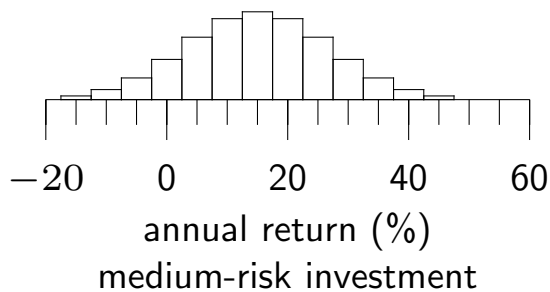
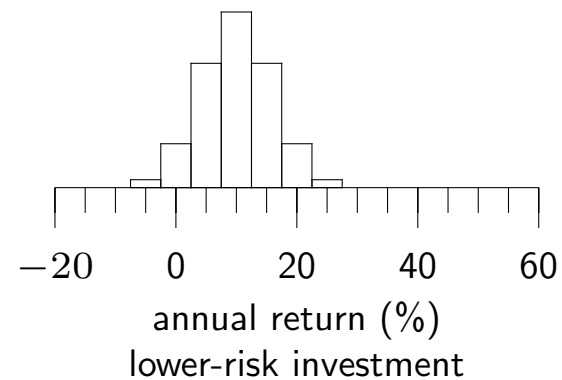
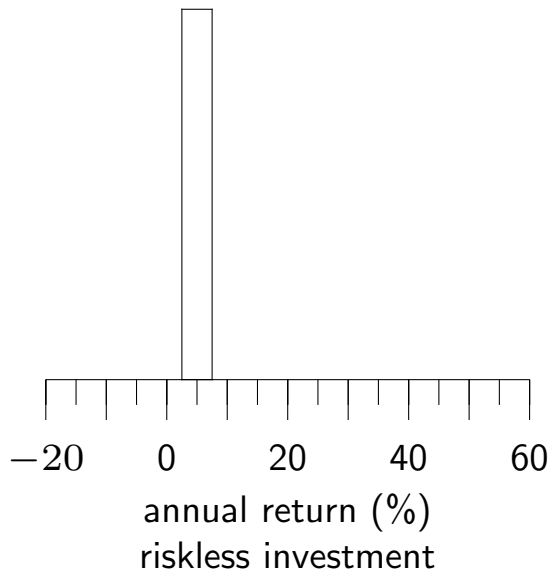
# 4.1 Location and Variation: Two Aspects of a Distribution

Two distributions with different variations:



# 4.1 Location and Variation: Two Aspects of a Distribution

A financial context:



## 4.2 Averages

Measuring the location, using the mode:

- The value with the highest frequency of a distribution is called the **mode** of the distribution.

For a continuous metric variable:

- The class with the highest frequency  $h_i/d_i$  is called the **modal class**.



## 4.2 Averages

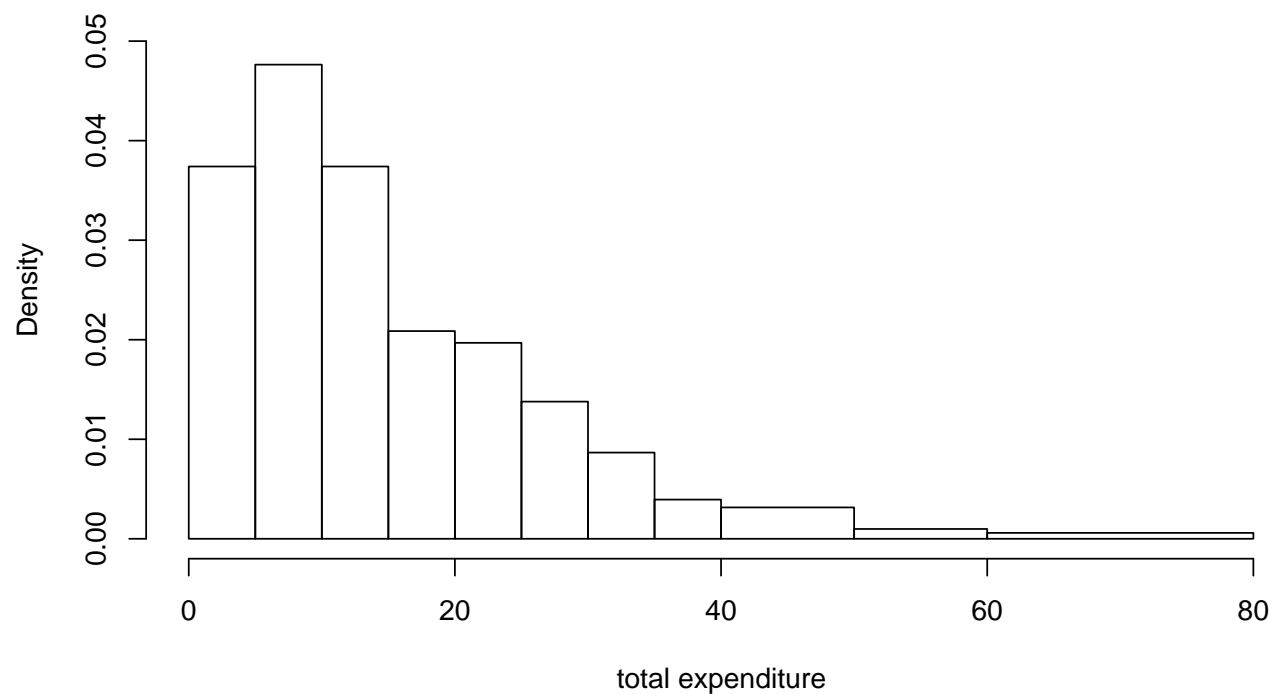
Example: Educational attainment in Turkey, 1990.

Category	$h_i$	$f_i$	
1: okuryazar değil	9.56	0.195	
2: bir öğrenim kurumundan mezun olmayan	7.84	0.160	
3: ilkokul	22.68	0.462	← mode
4: ortaokul ve dengi	3.72	0.076	
5: lise ve dengi	3.82	0.078	
6: yüksekokul ve fakülte	1.50	0.030	
$\Sigma$	49.14	1.000	



## 4.2 Averages

Example: Total expenditure of customers in a supermarket.



The modal class is [5, 10].



## 4.2 Averages

Measuring the location, using the arithmetic mean:

- if the observations  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are given:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

- if a distribution  $f_1, \dots, f_k$  is given:

$$\bar{x} = \sum_{i=1}^k f_i \cdot a_i$$

(Here,  $f_i$  is the relative frequency of value  $a_i$ .)



## 4.2 Averages

Example:

$X$  = number of goals scored in a match of Beşiktaş İstanbul

How can we compute the average number  $\bar{x}$  of goals per match?

- Use the observations  $x_1, \dots, x_{170}$  themselves:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \frac{1}{170} (4 + 8 + \dots + 5) = 2.96$$

- Use the distribution of the observations:

$$\bar{x} = \sum_i i \cdot f_i = 0 \cdot \frac{12}{170} + 1 \cdot \frac{22}{170} + \dots + 10 \cdot \frac{1}{170} = 2.96$$



## 4.2 Averages

Example:

$X$  = expenditure (in euros) of a customer in a supermarket

Data from 508 customers: 10.07, 22.61, 14.48, . . . , 28.68

The arithmetic mean is:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \frac{1}{508} (10.07 + \dots + 28.68) = 15.43$$



## 4.2 Averages

### Properties of the arithmetic mean.

- Linearity: Let  $X, Y, Z$  be metric variables.
  - If  $Y = aX + b$ , then  $\bar{y} = a\bar{x} + b$ .
  - If  $Z = X + Y$ , then  $\bar{z} = \bar{x} + \bar{y}$ .
- Minimization property:  
The arithmetic mean  $\bar{x}$  minimizes the function

$$a \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - a)^2.$$



## 4.2 Averages

If data are given as a histogram.

Approximate formula for the arithmetic mean:

$$\bar{x} \approx \sum_{i=1}^k x_i \cdot f_i,$$

where

$x_i$  = center of class  $i$ ,

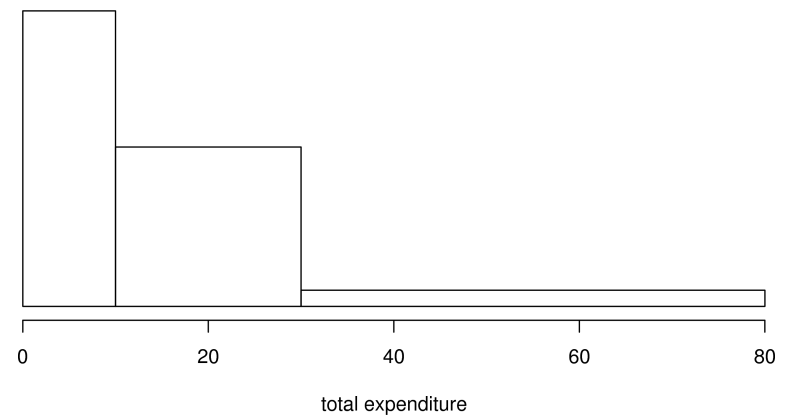
$f_i$  = relative frequency of class  $i$ .



## 4.2 Averages

Example: Total expenditure of customers in a supermarket.

$i$	interval	$h_i$	$d_i$	$\alpha \cdot h_i/d_i$
1	$[0, 10)$	216	10	$21.60\alpha$
2	$[10, 30)$	233	20	$11.65\alpha$
3	$[30, 80]$	59	50	$1.18\alpha$
$\Sigma$		508		



An approximation of the arithmetic mean is then:

$$\bar{x} \approx \sum_{i=1}^k x_i \cdot f_i = 5 \cdot \frac{216}{508} + 20 \cdot \frac{233}{508} + 55 \cdot \frac{59}{508} = 17.69$$



## 4.2 Averages

The median.

**Definition:** Any value which divides the ordered set of observations into two equal parts is called a median.

**Example.** Compare the median of two datasets:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} 19 & 19 & 20 & 20 & 21 & 60 \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & & & & & \\ & x_{\text{med}}=20 & & & & \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & & & & & \\ & x_{\text{med}}=20 & & & & \end{array}$$

The median is the same for both datasets. The median is “outlier-insensitive”.



## 4.2 Averages

### Example:

$X$  = expenditure (in euros) of a customer in a supermarket

Data from 508 customers: 10.07, 22.61, 14.48, . . . , 28.68. —

The ordered dataset is:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0.59, & \dots, & 12.05, & 12.12, & \dots, & 75.54 \\ [1] & & [254] & [255] & & [508] \end{array}$$

The median is:

$$x_{\text{med}} = \frac{1}{2} (12.05 + 12.12) = 12.085$$

In words: Half of the customers spent less than 12.08 euros.



## 4.2 Averages

Example:

Educational attainment in New York, 2000.

code	category	number	percent	cum.
1	Less than 9th grade	689,368	11.20%	11.20%
2	Some high school, no diploma	910,155	14.79%	25.99%
3	High school graduate	1,487,728	24.17%	50.16%
4	Some college, no degree	943,044	15.32%	65.48%
5	Associate degree	329,580	5.36%	70.84%
6	Bachelor's degree	1,018,915	16.56%	87.40%
7	Graduate or professional degree	775,733	12.60%	100.00%
	Total Population Age 25+	6,154,523	100.00%	

What is the median of this distribution?



## 4.2 Averages

### Properties of the median.

- Linearity: Let  $X, Y, Z$  be metric variables.
  - If  $Y = aX + b$ , then  $y_{\text{med}} = ax_{\text{med}} + b$ .
  - $Z = X + Y$  does not imply  $z_{\text{med}} = x_{\text{med}} + y_{\text{med}}$ .
- Minimization property:  
The median  $x_{\text{med}}$  minimizes the function

$$a \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i - a|.$$



## 4.2 Averages

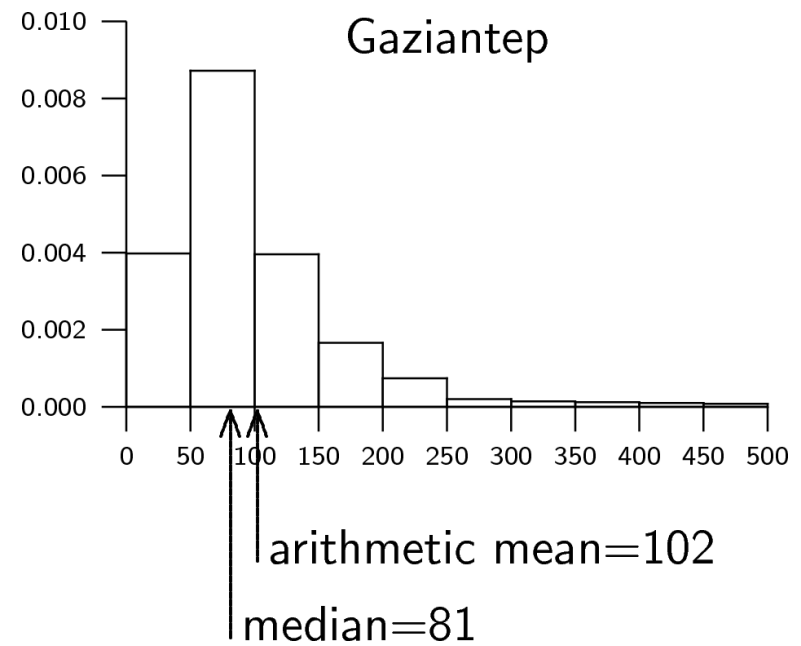
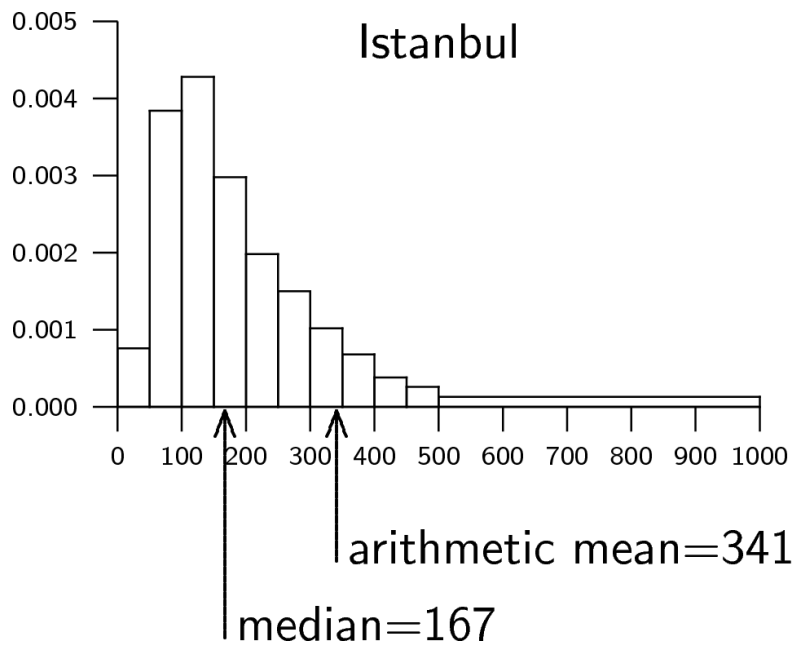
### Arithmetic mean and median: a comparison.

- Both measure the location of a distribution.
- Required scaling of the variable:
  - arithmetic mean: metric variable
  - median: rank or metric variable
- The arithmetic mean is more outlier-sensitive than the median.
- For a right-skewed distribution, the arithmetic mean is always larger than the median.



# 4.2 Averages

Example: Household income 1994.



## 4.2 Averages

The geometric mean.

**Definition:** Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n \geq 0$  be real numbers.

$$\bar{x}_G := \sqrt[n]{\prod_{i=1}^n x_i}$$

is called the geometric mean of the numbers  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .



## 4.2 Averages

Example: Increase in WPI numbers.

The increase in wholesale price indices in Turkey was:

1996	1997	1998	1999
84.9%	91.0%	54.3%	62.9%

Average annual increase in WPI for the period December 1995 through December 1999:

$$r = \sqrt[4]{1.849 \cdot 1.910 \cdot 1.543 \cdot 1.629} - 1 = 72.6\%.$$



## 4.3 The Variation of a Distribution

Measuring the variation, using the variance  $s^2$ :

- if the observations  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are given:

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

- if a distribution  $f_1, \dots, f_k$  is given:

$$s^2 = \sum_{i=1}^k f_i \cdot (a_i - \bar{x})^2 = \sum_{i=1}^k f_i \cdot a_i^2 - \bar{x}^2$$

(Here,  $f_i$  is the relative frequency of value  $a_i$ .)



## 4.3 The Variation of a Distribution

Measuring the variation, using the standard deviation  $s$ :

- if the observations  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are given:

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

- if a distribution  $f_1, \dots, f_k$  is given:

$$s = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^k f_i \cdot (a_i - \bar{x})^2}$$



## 4.3 The Variation of a Distribution

Example:

$X$  = number of goals scored in a match of Beşiktaş İstanbul

How can we compute the variance  $s^2$  of the number of goals per match?

- Use the observations  $x_1, \dots, x_{170}$  themselves:

$$s^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 - \bar{x}^2 = \frac{1}{170} (4^2 + \dots + 5^2) - 2.96^2 = 3.21$$

- Use the distribution of the observations:

$$s^2 = \sum_i i^2 \cdot f_i - \bar{x}^2 = 0^2 \cdot \frac{12}{170} + \dots + 10^2 \cdot \frac{1}{170} - 2.96^2 = 3.21$$



## 4.3 The Variation of a Distribution

Example:

$X$  = expenditure (in euros) of a customer in a supermarket

The variance is:

$$s^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 - \bar{x}^2 = \frac{1}{508} (10.07^2 + \dots + 28.68^2) - 15.43^2 = 166.96 \text{ [euros}^2\text{]}$$

The standard deviation is:

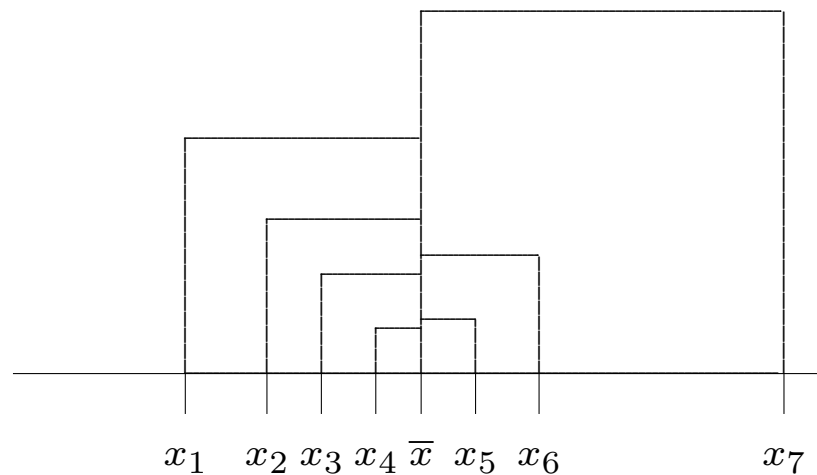
$$s = \sqrt{s^2} = \sqrt{166.96} = 12.92 \text{ [euros]}$$



## 4.3 The Variation of a Distribution

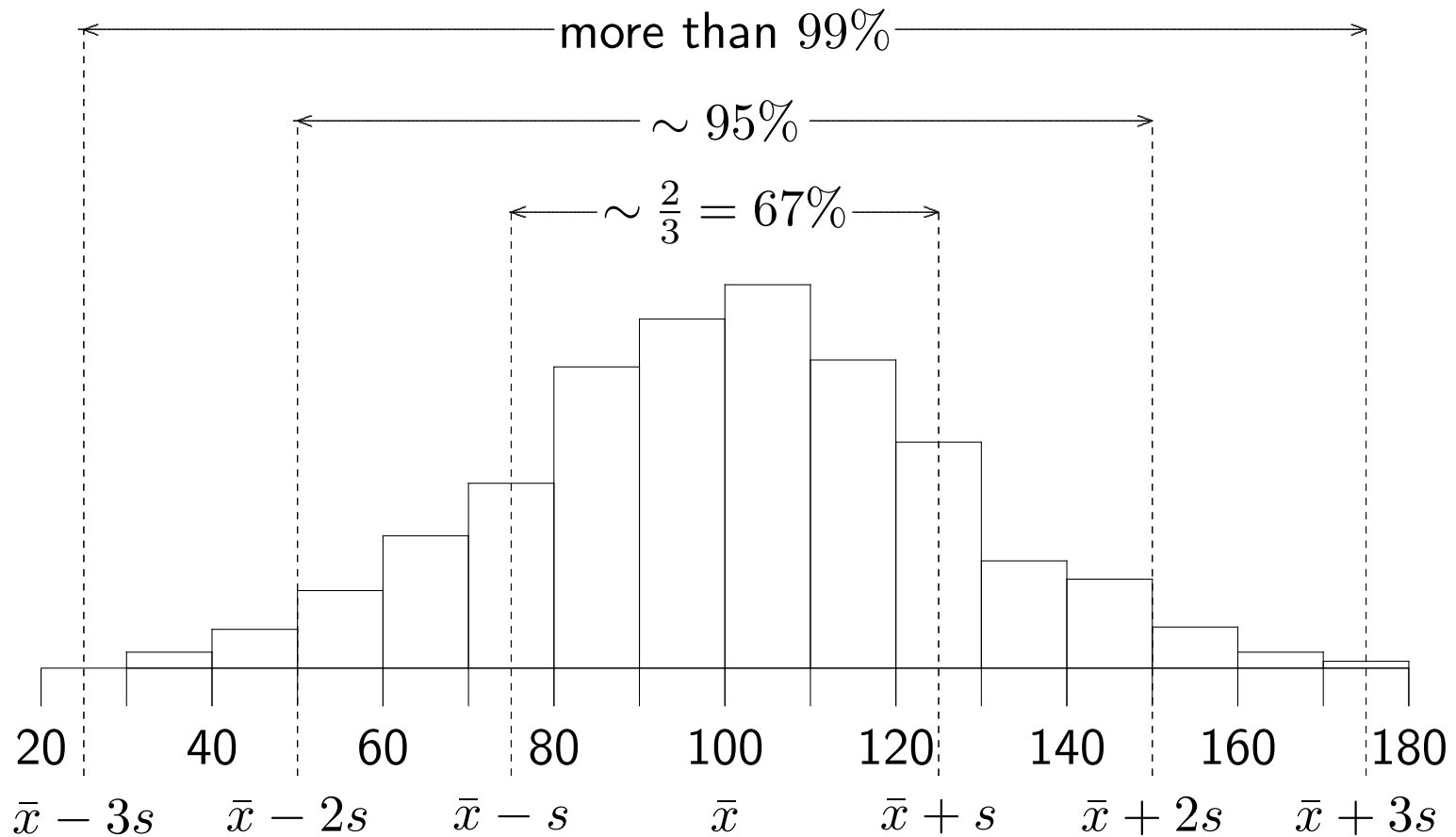
Properties of variance and standard deviation.

- If  $Y = aX + b$ , then  
 $\text{var}(Y) = a^2 \text{var}(X)$  and  $\text{sd}(Y) = |a| \text{sd}(X)$ .
- Outlier-sensitivity:



# 4.3 The Variation of a Distribution

The sigma-rules: A visual approach.



## 4.3 The Variation of a Distribution

### The sigma-rules.

If the observations are approximately normally distributed:

- One-sigma-rule: About two thirds, or 67%, of all observations will be in the interval  $[\bar{x} - s, \bar{x} + s]$ ; in words: About two thirds of the observations will be within a distance of one standard deviation from the arithmetic mean.
- Two-sigma-rule: About 95% of all observations will be in the interval  $[\bar{x} - 2s, \bar{x} + 2s]$ .
- Three-sigma-rule: Almost all observations (more than 99%) will be in the interval  $[\bar{x} - 3s, \bar{x} + 3s]$



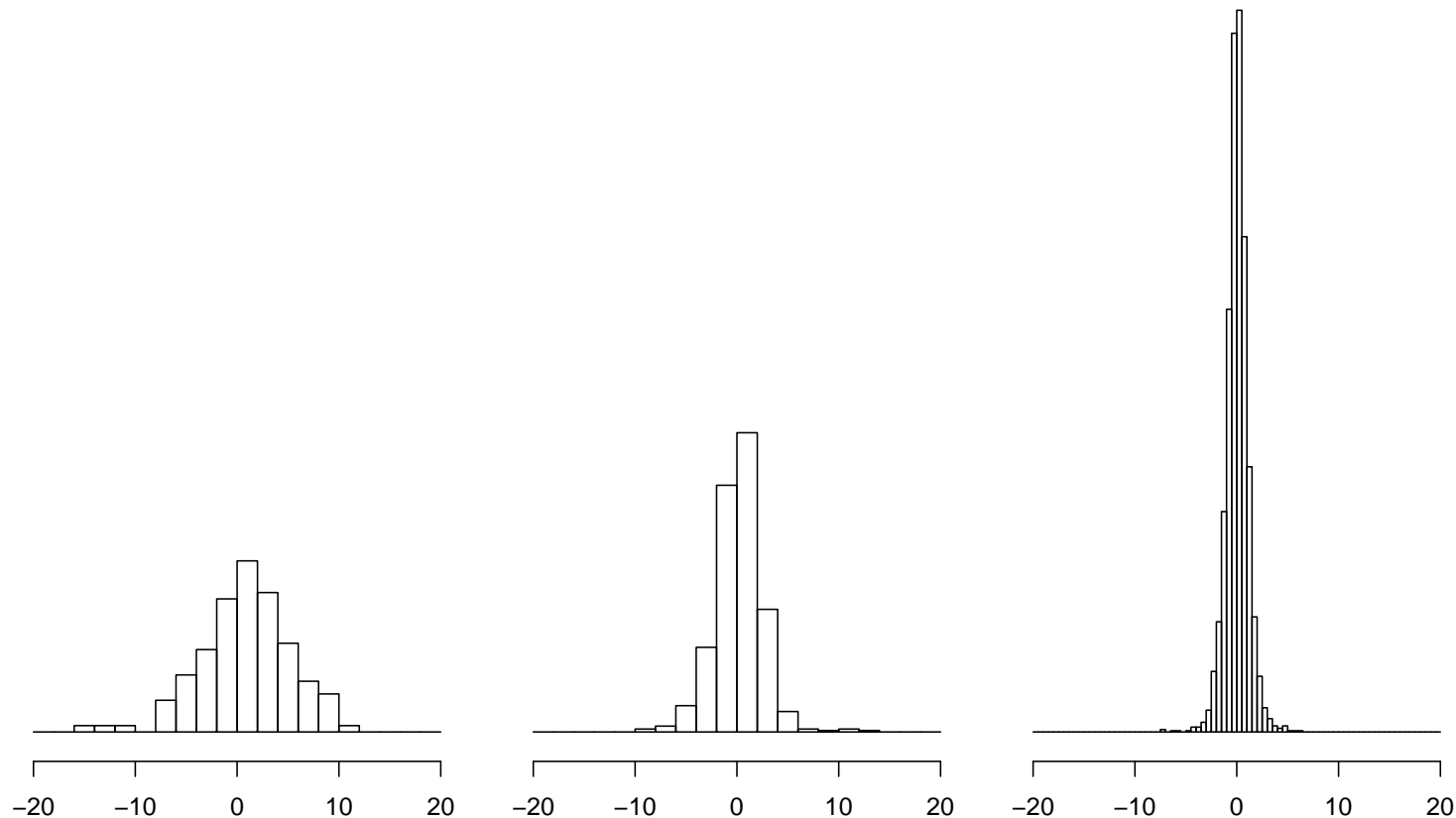
# 4.3 The Variation of a Distribution

The normal distribution.



## 4.3 The Variation of a Distribution

Example: Returns on the Dow-Jones Industrial Average, 1995-01 through 2005-10.



## 4.3 The Variation of a Distribution

Example: Returns on the Dow-Jones Industrial Average.

	monthly	weekly	daily
number of observations	129	560	2700
arithmetic mean, $\bar{r}$	0.89	0.21	0.04
variance, $s^2$	20.01	5.70	1.21
standard deviation, $s$	4.47	2.39	1.10
skewness, $\gamma_1$	-0.54	0.16	-0.11
kurtosis, $\gamma_2$	0.84	3.12	4.08
$[\bar{r} - s, \bar{r} + s]$	[ -3.58 , 5.36 ]	[ -2.18 , 2.59 ]	[ -1.06 , 1.14 ]
observed	89	416	2031
expected	86	375	1809
$[\bar{r} - 2s, \bar{r} + 2s]$	[ -8.06 , 9.84 ]	[ -4.57 , 4.98 ]	[ -2.15 , 2.24 ]
observed	124	535	2569
expected	123	532	2565
$[\bar{r} - 3s, \bar{r} + 3s]$	[ -12.53 , 14.31 ]	[ -6.96 , 7.37 ]	[ -3.25 , 3.34 ]
observed	128	552	2668
expected	128	554	2673



# 4.4 The Shape of a Distribution

Shape parameters: The skewness.

The skewness is defined as

$$\gamma_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \left( \frac{x_i - \bar{x}}{s} \right)^3$$

lf. . .	the distribution is. . .
$\gamma_1 = 0$	. . . symmetric
$\gamma_1 > 0$	. . . right-skewed
$\gamma_1 < 0$	. . . left-skewed



## 4.4 The Shape of a Distribution

Shape parameters: The kurtosis.

The kurtosis is defined as

$$\gamma_2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \left( \frac{x_i - \bar{x}}{s} \right)^4 - 3$$

lf. . .	the distribution is. . .
$\gamma_2 = 0$	. . . meso-kurtic
$\gamma_2 > 0$	. . . leptokurtic
$\gamma_2 < 0$	. . . platykurtic



## 4.4 The Shape of a Distribution

Example:

$X$  = expenditure (in euros) of a customer in a supermarket

Data from 508 customers: 10.07, 22.61, 14.48, . . . , 28.68.

Skewness and kurtosis are:

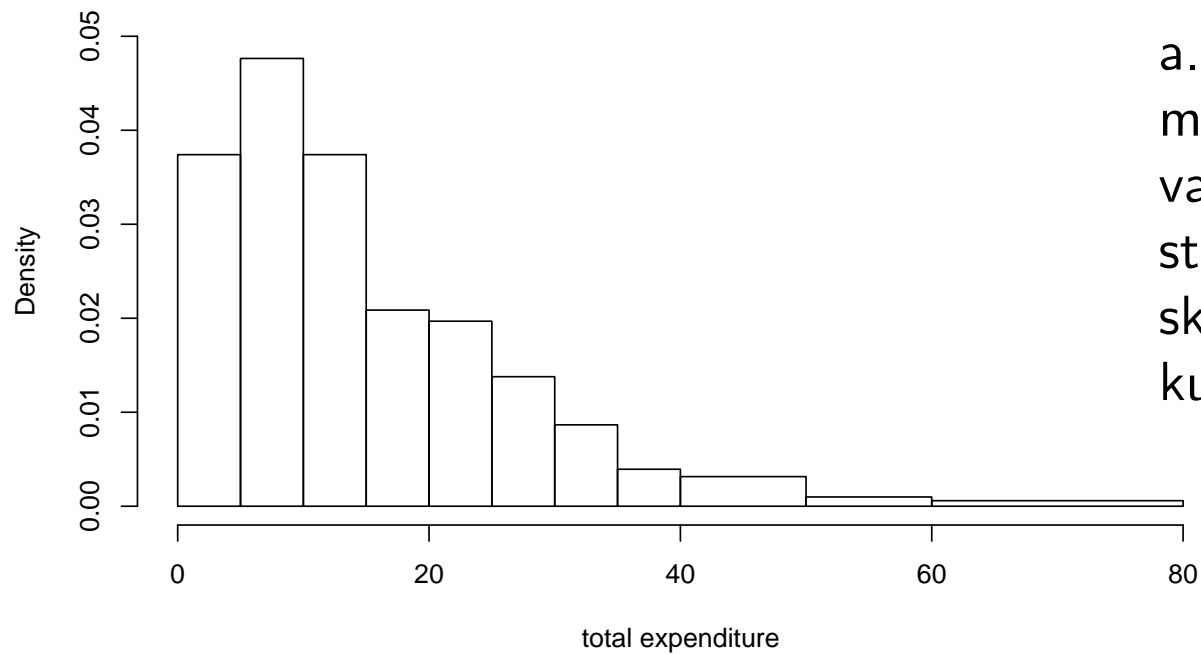
$$\gamma_1 = 1.66, \quad \gamma_2 = 3.48$$

This indicates a right-skewed, leptokurtic distribution.



# 4.4 The Shape of a Distribution

Example: Total expenditure of customers in a supermarket.



a.m.: 15.43  
median: 12.09  
variance: 166.96  
st.dev.: 12.92  
skewness: 1.658  
kurtosis: 3.484



# 4.4 The Shape of a Distribution

Example of a service process: Customers of a copy-shop.

Interarrival times . . .

. . . before 2 p.m.:

(#)		
(11)	<b>0*</b>	00001122334
(6)	<b>0●</b>	678889
(6)	<b>1*</b>	033344
(2)	<b>1●</b>	57
(2)	<b>2*</b>	44
(1)	<b>2●</b>	7
(1)	<b>3*</b>	3
	<b>3●</b>	
	<b>4*</b>	
(1)	<b>4●</b>	5
(1)	<b>5*</b>	2
	<b>5●</b>	
<hr/>		
(31)		

. . . after 2 p.m.:

(#)		
(24)	<b>0*</b>	00001111112222223334444
(12)	<b>0●</b>	566667778899
(4)	<b>1*</b>	0113
(1)	<b>1●</b>	8
(3)	<b>2*</b>	002
	<b>2●</b>	
	<b>3*</b>	
(1)	<b>3●</b>	5
	<b>4*</b>	
	<b>4●</b>	
	<b>5*</b>	
	<b>5●</b>	
<hr/>		
(45)		

1|0=10 minutes



# 4.4 The Shape of a Distribution

Example of a service process: Customers of a copy-shop.

Service times:

(#)		
(10)	0*	1122333444
(15)	0●	555567888889999
(12)	1*	000011223444
(16)	1●	5555555556666778
(7)	2*	0002234
(3)	2●	557
(2)	3*	14
(3)	3●	789
(1)	4*	0
	4●	
(1)	5*	2
(1)	5●	6
<hr/>		
(71)		



## 4.4 The Shape of a Distribution

Example of a service process: Customers of a copy-shop.

parameter	interarrival times. . .		service times
	before 2 p.m.	after 2 p.m.	
arithmetic mean $\bar{x}$	12.63	6.90	15.75
variance $s^2$	163.02	49.53	129.23
skewness $\gamma_1$	1.55	2.01	1.48
kurtosis $\gamma_2$	2.02	4.55	2.35
minimum $x_{\min}$	0.50	0.50	1.50
lower quartile $\tilde{x}_{0.25}$	2.50	2.50	8.50
median $x_{\text{med}}$	8.50	4.50	14.50
upper quartile $\tilde{x}_{0.75}$	15.50	8.50	20.50
maximum $x_{\max}$	52.50	35.50	56.50

