

1. (a) The height of a rectangle in a histogram is the percent of data in that block divided by the width of the base of that block.

| brightness unit range | how many light bulbs | percent of data | height of rectangle |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 50–90 | 100 | $100/600 = 1/6 \approx 16.7\%$ | $16.7/(90 - 50) \approx .417$ |
| 90–120 | 100 | $100/600 = 1/6 \approx 16.7\%$ | $16.7/(120 - 90) \approx .556$ |
| 120–140 | 200 | $200/600 = 1/3 \approx 33.3\%$ | $33.3/(140 - 120) \approx 1.67$ |
| 140–150 | 200 | $200/600 = 1/3 \approx 33.3\%$ | $33.3/(150 - 140) \approx 3.33$ |

- (b) The median is the dividing point between the lower 50% and upper 50% of data values. Assuming data is evenly distributed within each of the 4 blocks, we estimate the median to be 130 brightness units, because the midpoint of the 3rd block has $1/6 + 1/6 + 1/6 = 1/2$ of the data below it, and has $1/6 + 1/3 = 1/2$ of the data above it.
- (c) This computation is not valid because the data clearly do not follow a normal distribution. This computation would be correct if the data were normal. For the given data, we can see that $67\% \approx 2/3$ of the data lies in the range 50–140, so the 67th percentile score is about 140.
2. (a) The range “within 1 degree of average” corresponds to the range $-z$ to $+z$ on the normal table, with $z = 1/1.3 \approx .77$. The normal table gives a corresponding area of about 56%.
- (b) We convert temperatures 100, 103 to standard units.

$$z = \frac{100 - 102.4}{1.3} \approx -1.85$$

$$z = \frac{103 - 102.4}{1.3} \approx .46$$

The normal table gives areas 93.57% and about 35% for these z values, respectively. Thus the total percent of measurements in the given range is estimated as $\frac{1}{2}(93 + 35) \approx 65\%$.

- (c) We use the same calculation as given in 1 (c), but substitute the average and SD for the temperature data.

$$67\text{th percentile} \approx (.44)(1.3) + 102.4 \approx 103.0 \text{ degrees Fahrenheit}$$

- (d) When rescaling a list of measurements by adding (or subtracting) a constant C and then multiplying by a constant factor k , the average of the list changes by adding (or subtracting) the constant C and then multiplying by the constant k , while the SD of the list changes only by multiplying by k . The SD is not affected by the sliding of the data right or left by adding (or subtracting) the constant C . Thus the new average is $(5/9)(102.4 - 32) \approx 39.1$ degrees Celsius, and the new SD is $(5/9)(1.3) = .72$ degrees Celsius.

3. The story describes an **association** between treatment with drug X and the rate of disease Y , but it does not establish **causation**. The issue is that, without further controls, the treatment and control groups could differ significantly in one or more characteristics that are also associated with disease Y . Such characteristics are called **confounders**. This is the main lesson of Chapters 1 and 2.

A complete answer will begin by saying “no”, there is not enough information given in this story to conclude that drug X is effective. The complete response will explain that conclusion by saying that while there is an **association** between treatment with drug X and rates of disease Y , this is not enough to establish **causation**, because there could be **confounders**. Finally, the complete response will say that the evidence for causation would be strong if the design of the drug trial was **randomized** (random assignment of subjects to treatment and control groups) and **double-blind** (neither the subjects nor the researchers should know whether a given subject is in the treatment or the control group during the trial). A complete response should use all of the vocabulary terms in bold type in the previous sentences.