

Student performance on exam

input: exam scores

output: high score, low score, median (the “middle” score), mean (average), standard deviation

1. Begin with a design and ask a lot of clarifying questions!
2. Use functions whenever reasonable

high score: the highest exam score

low score: the lowest exam score

median: the “middle” score

order the exam scores from smallest to largest, grab the middle

even number of exam scores: the middle is the average of two middle scores

odd number of exam scores: the middle score is the median

mean: the average of all the exam scores. It is often denoted \bar{x} and is calculated using the formula

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n}$$

standard deviation: this is a measure of how spread out the scores are. The standard deviation s is given by the formula

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

n is the number of data values

x_i is the i^{th} data value