## M2-02: Range, SD, Variance Part of the "Exploratory Data Analysis" Learning Badge Video Walkthrough: https://discovery.cs.illinois.edu/m2-02/

## MEASURES OF THE SPREAD OF DISTRIBUTION: range, SD, variance

**RANGE:** The simplest measure of the spread of a list of numbers is the range. The range is defined as the difference between the lowest and highest values.

```
Puzzle #1: Find the range of this list of numbers: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
```

```
Python: # Finds the range of a column:
df['ColumnName'].max() - df['ColumnName'].min()
```

**STANDARD DEVIATION (also called the SD):** The standard deviation measures the spread around the average. A low SD means that most of the numbers are very close to the average. A high SD means that the numbers are spread out.

**VARIANCE:** The variance is the standard deviation squared.

## **SYMBOLS:**

Example: Find the SD and variance of this list: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

```
Python
:
# Finds the standard deviation of a column:
df['ColumnName'].std()

# Finds the variance of a column:
df['ColumnName'].var()
```