

**WaveStats** /ALPH=val /C=method /M=moment /Q [R = (startX, endX)]/Z waveName  
The WaveStats operation computes several values associated with the named wave.

**Details**

WaveStats uses a two-pass algorithm to produce more accurate results than obtained by computing the binomial expansions of the third and fourth order moments.  
WaveStats returns the statistics in the automatically created variables:

V_npts	Number of points. Doesn't include NaN or INF points.
V_numNans	Number of NaNs.
V_numINFs	Number of INFs.
V_avg	Average of Y values.
V_sdev	Standard deviation of Y values, ("Variance" is V_sdev <sup>2</sup> .) $\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{V\_npts - 1} \sum (Y_i - V\_avg)^2}$
V_sem	Standard error of the mean $sem = \sigma / \sqrt{V\_numPnts}$
V_rms	RMS of Y values $= \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{V\_npts} \sum Y_i^2\right)}$
V_adev	Average deviation $= \frac{1}{V\_npts} \sum_{i=0}^{V\_npts-1}  Y_i - \bar{Y} $
V_skew	Skewness $= \frac{1}{V\_npts} \sum_{i=0}^{V\_npts-1} \left[ \frac{Y_i - \bar{Y}}{\sigma} \right]^3$
V_kurt	Kurtosis $= \frac{1}{V\_npts} \sum_{i=0}^{V\_npts-1} \left[ \frac{Y_i - \bar{Y}}{\sigma} \right]^4 - 3$

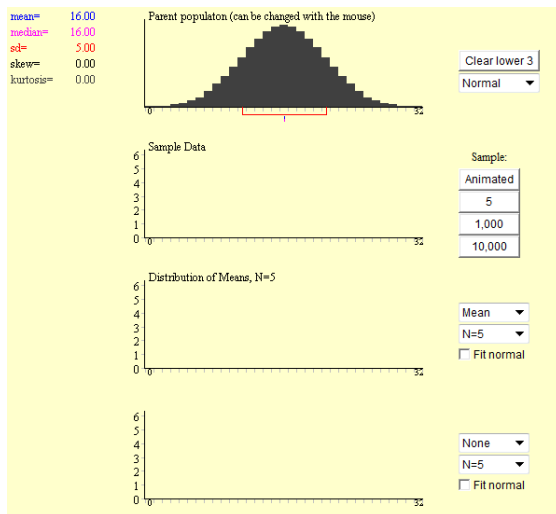
Statistical Parameters from Ch. 4:

Mean	V_avg
Standard Deviation*	V_sdev
Standard Deviation (Error) of the Mean	V_sem

\* *Sample* sdev with 1/(N-1)

Some discussion with a simulation

[http://onlinestatbook.com/stat\\_sim/sampling\\_dist/index.html](http://onlinestatbook.com/stat_sim/sampling_dist/index.html)

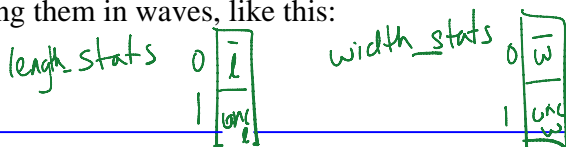


Some examples from Taylor (Sect. 4.5): (data on course web page)

Area of a Rectangle.

Write a function that calculates area and the uncertainty of the area

- by finding the mean & uncertainty of the length and width first.  
Print your results to the command line.
- by finding the area for each set of measurements ( $l_1 \times w_1$ ) first.
- by finding mean & uncertainty of length and width **BUT** storing them in waves, like this:



Pseudocode for (a)

function version A (length-mm, width-mm)

length-mm  
width-mm

↓ V-avg  
V-sem

length-avg = V-avg  
length-sem = V-sem

width-avg = V-avg  
width-sem = V-sem

Area = length-avg \* width-avg

frac-unc-Area =  $\sqrt{\left(\frac{\text{unc-length}}{\text{length}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\text{unc-width}}{\text{width}}\right)^2}$

print "Area = ", Area, ", unc = ", Area \* frac-unc-area

end

Wave stats length-mm  
Variable length-avg = V-avg  
Variable length-sem = V-sem

Wave stats width-mm  
Variable width-avg = V-avg  
Variable width-sem = V-sem

length-stats  
width-stats

for (c)

wavestats length-mm

length\_stats[0] = V\_avg

length\_stats[1] = V-sem

same for width\_stats

width\_stats[0] = V\_avg

width\_stats[1] = V-sem

area = width\_stats[0] \* length\_stats[0]  
(mult. means)

Challenge with Sdev and SDOM is what they mean.

Variance (= sdev<sup>2</sup>) describes variation from the average

Sdev describes the width (precision) of a set of measurements.

SDOM describes how good the calculated mean estimates the true mean.