Quantitative Methods in Political Science
University of Mannheim
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Homework 1

Name 1 (xx%), Name 2 (xx%) (& Name 3 (xx%))

This homework answers the problem set sequentially.

1. *Download the US Presidential Elections data set* `uspresidentialelections.dta` *from the course ILIAS site. Load the data set in* `R`.

   ```
   Copy your R Code to answer the question here.
   ```

2. *Describe the dataset. What variables does it contain? How many observations are there? What time span does it cover?*

   Please type your answer here.

   ```
   Put the right R command here.
   ```

3. *Compute measures of central tendency and variability of the variables* `vote` *and* `growth` *using* `R`*. Use the numerical measures of central tendency and variability discussed in class. Describe them in your own words and make a nice table. Plot the distribution of both variables using a boxplot and histogram. Make sure to make your plots as nice-looking as possible. Especially, include a title and label the axes.*

   Your answer goes here

   ```
   3 R commands here
   ```

   Potentially, your answer continues here.

   ```
   4 R commands here
   ```

   And more of your answer here.

   ```
   And more space for your R commands.

   # This is the code to produce the first boxplot.
   pdf(file = "box1.pdf")
   boxplot(us_data$vote, horizontal = T,
           main  = "A Boxplot of the Variable Vote",
           names = "Vote",
           xlab  = "Range of Votes")
   dev.off()
   ```

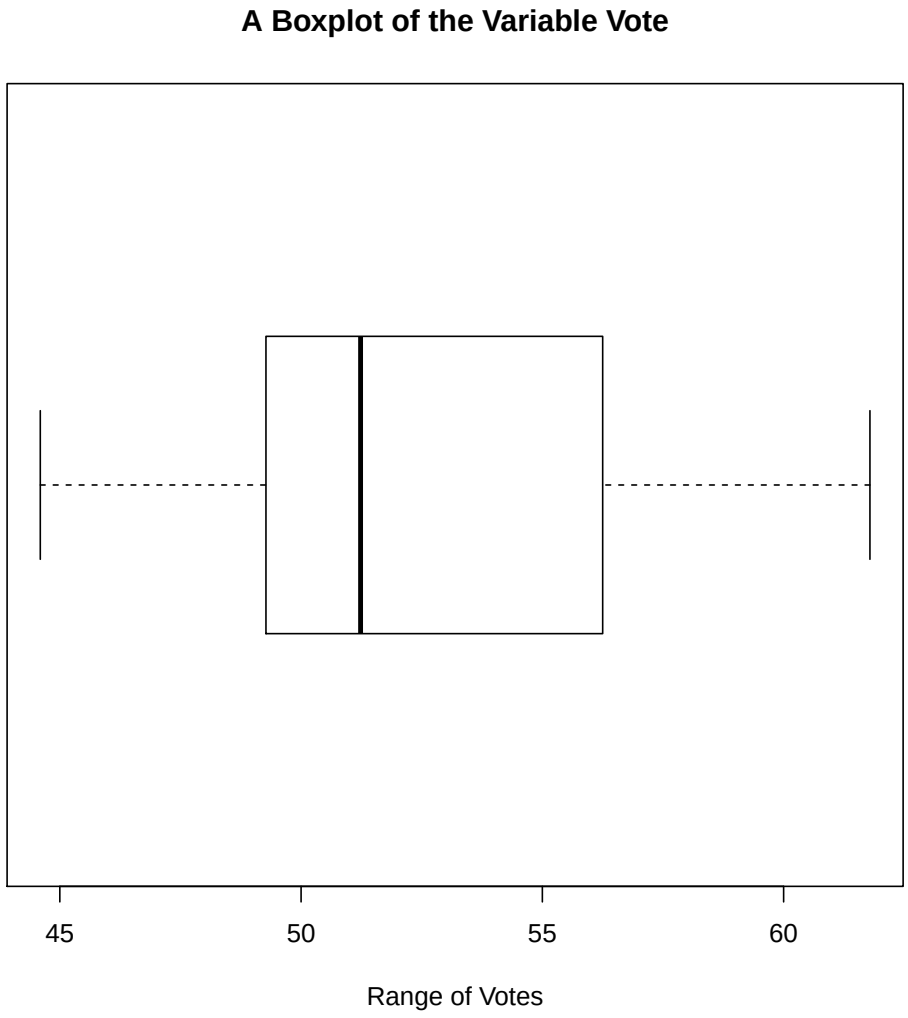

Figure 1: Boxplot of Incumbent Vote share

Variable	*Mean*	*Median*	*Mode*	*Var*	*SD*	*Range*	*IQR*
Vote	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Growth	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Table 1: Measures of central tendency and variability.

4. *Make a bar plot of the party affiliation of incumbent presidential candidates.* Include the code for the bar plot and the plot here.

5. *During the presidential campaign in 1992, Bill Clinton's campaign coined the phrase "It's the economy, stupid!" Let's investigate the relationship between the economy and electoral success. Generate a nice-looking scatterplot of economic growth and vote share. Label the data points with the year of the election. Describe the pattern that you see in your own words.*

   Include the code for the scatterplot as well as the plot here.

   Then, describe the pattern you see. In the scatterplot we can see that...

R-Code

`Finally, copy and paste the entire script here.`