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Measures of Dispersion. (17.)

Learning by doing.

1. The following table given distribution of marks for 50 student of a class calculate mean deviation from the mean and median respectively from the data.

Marks Obtain	140-150	150-160	160-170	170-180	180-190	190-200
frequency	4	6	10	18	9	3

Ans $MD_{\bar{x}} = 10.56$ $MD_m = 10.24$.

- (2). Estimate the coefficient of mean deviation from the median from the following data.

Age group	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70
No. of workers	8	12	20	16	4

Coefficient of $MD_m = 0.19$.

Merits and Demerits of Mean Deviation.

* Merits.

① Simple :-> It is very simple and easy measure of dispersion.

② Based on all values :-> Mean deviation is based on all the

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items of the series. It is therefore more representative than the range or quartile deviation.

(3) Less Effect of Extreme Values \Rightarrow
Mean deviation is less affected by extreme values than the range.

Demerits

- (1) Inaccuracy \Rightarrow
Calculation of mean deviation suffers from inaccuracy, because the '+' or - signs are ignored.
- (2) Not Capable of Algebraic Treatment
 \Rightarrow Mean deviation is not capable of any further algebraic treatment.
3. Unreliable \Rightarrow
In case deviations are taken from mode and mode being uncertain, mean deviation also becomes uncertain and therefore, unreliable.