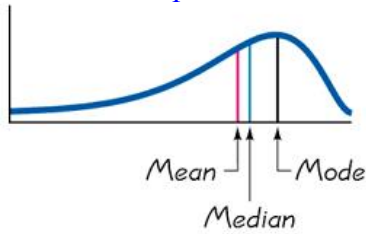


2.6 Skewness of the Mean, Median, and Mode

Distribution Shapes

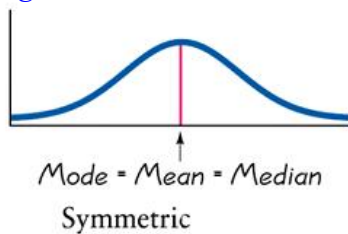
In general, if the mean, median, and mode are the same, the data will be *symmetric* about the mean. If the mean lies to the left of the median, and the mode lies to the right of the median, we call this a *negative skew* or *left skewed*. If the mean lies to the right of the median and the mode to the left of the median, the data will have a "tail" to the right and we call this a *positive skew* or *right skewed*.



Skewed to the Left
(Negatively)



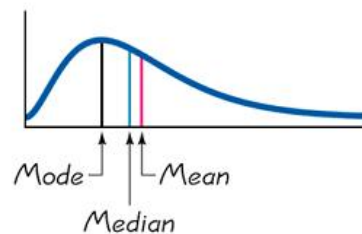
Puppy is demonstrating left skew shape. He says his tail is sweeping to the left.



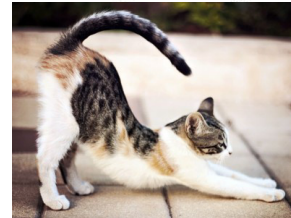
Symmetric



Kitty is trying very hard to demonstrate a symmetric shape.



Skewed to the Right
(Positively)



Kitty is demonstrating right skew shape. His tail is sweeping to the right.

Additional Frequency Distribution Shapes				
Symmetric	<i>Symmetric and Bell Shaped</i>		<i>Symmetric and Uniform</i>	
Right (Positive) Skew	<i>Right Skew</i>		<i>Right Skew or Reverse J-Shape</i>	
Left (Negative) Skew	<i>Left Skew</i>		<i>Left Skew or J-Shaped</i>	
Bimodal	<i>Bimodal</i>		<i>Bimodal or U-Shaped</i>	