Survey Results
& Analysis

for

MATH 103 Lab 1 Survey

Saturday, November 06, 2010
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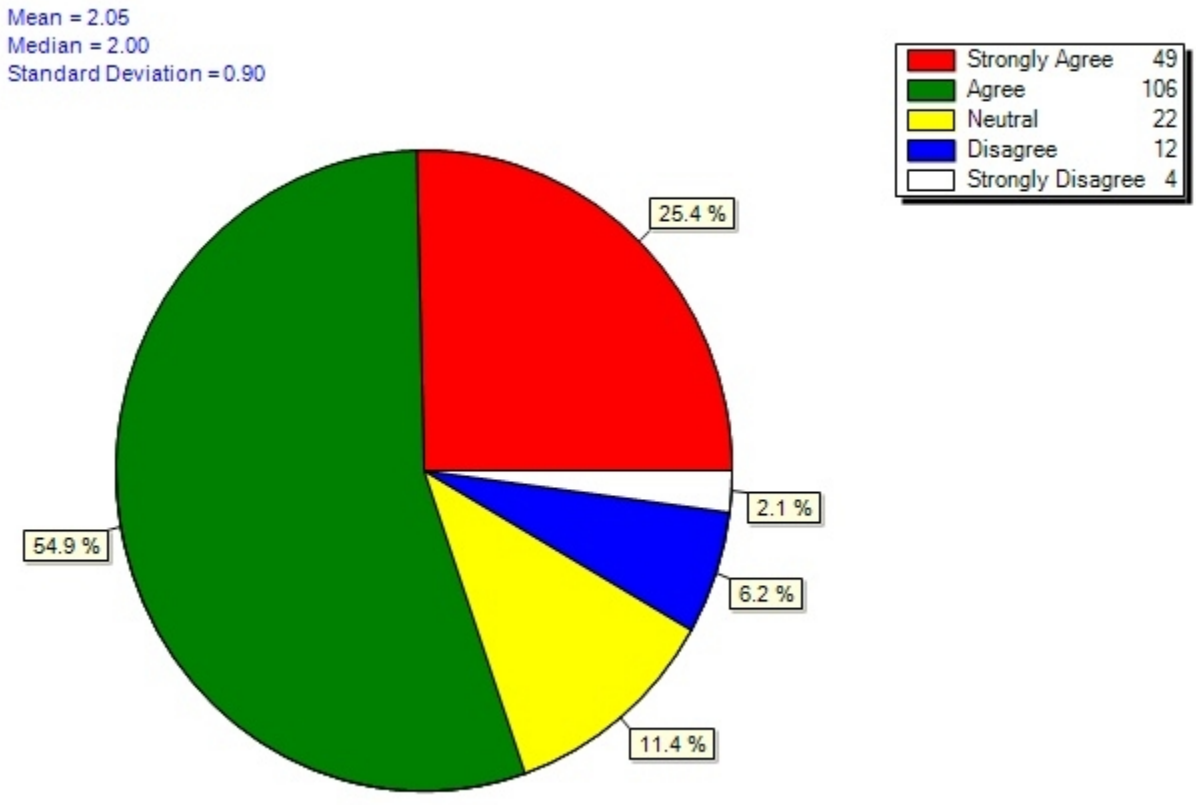
Executive Summary

This report contains a detailed statistical analysis of the results to the survey titled *MATH 103 Lab 1 Survey* . The results analysis includes answers from all respondents who took the survey in the 83 day period from Friday, January 22, 2010 to Wednesday, April 14, 2010. 194 completed responses were received to the survey during this time.

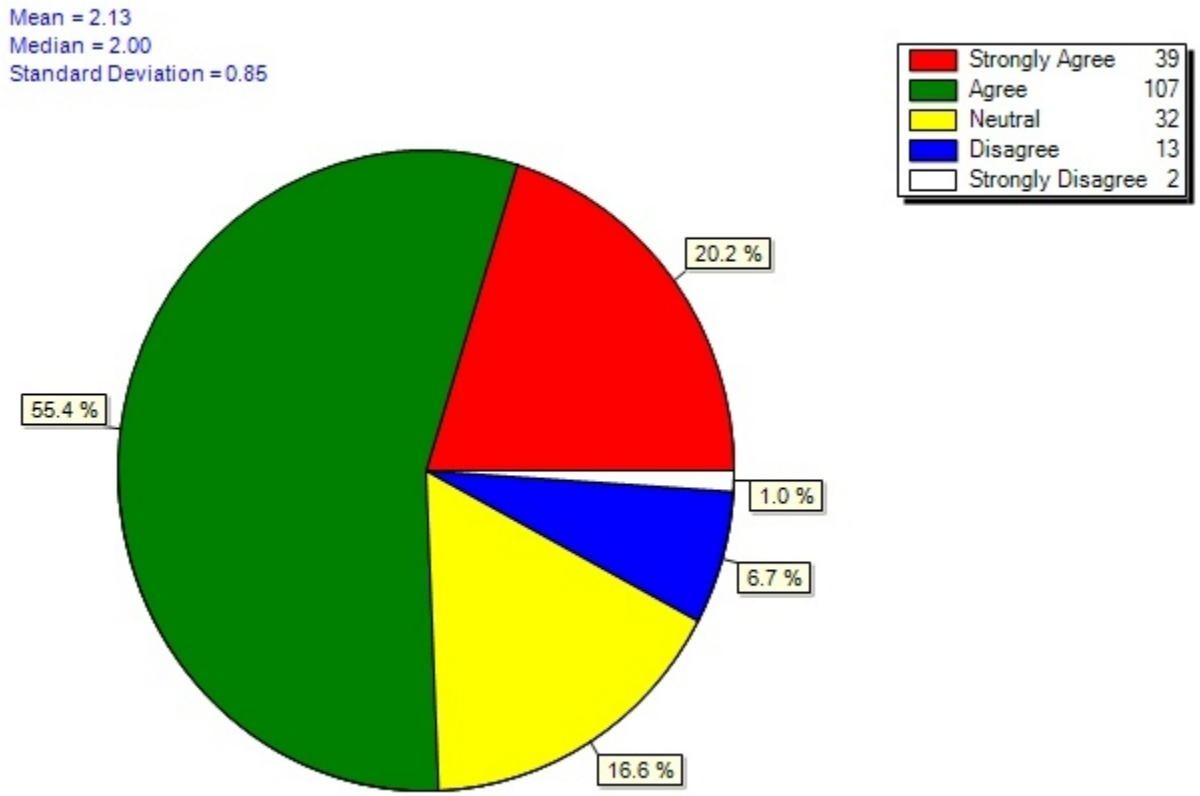
Survey Results & Analysis

Survey: MATH 103 Lab 1 Survey
Author:
Filter:
Responses Received: 194

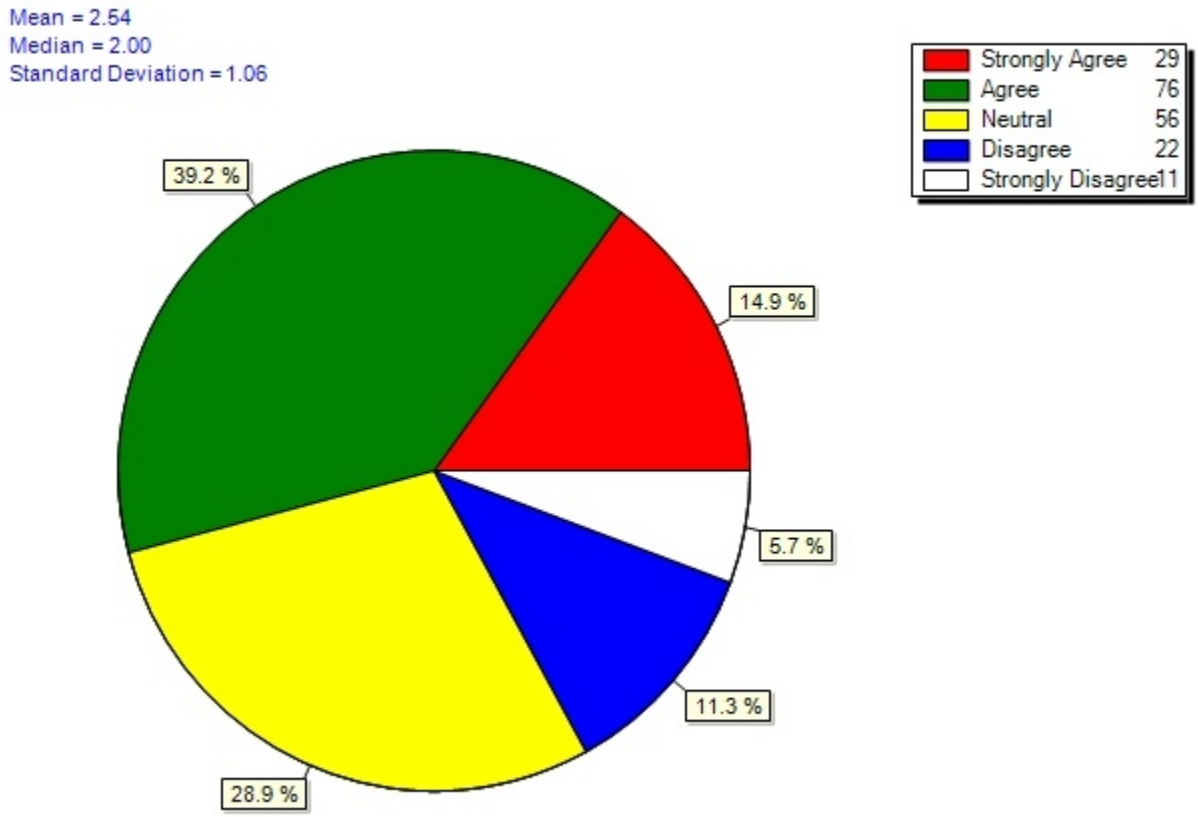
1) The instructions of the lab were clear and easy to follow.



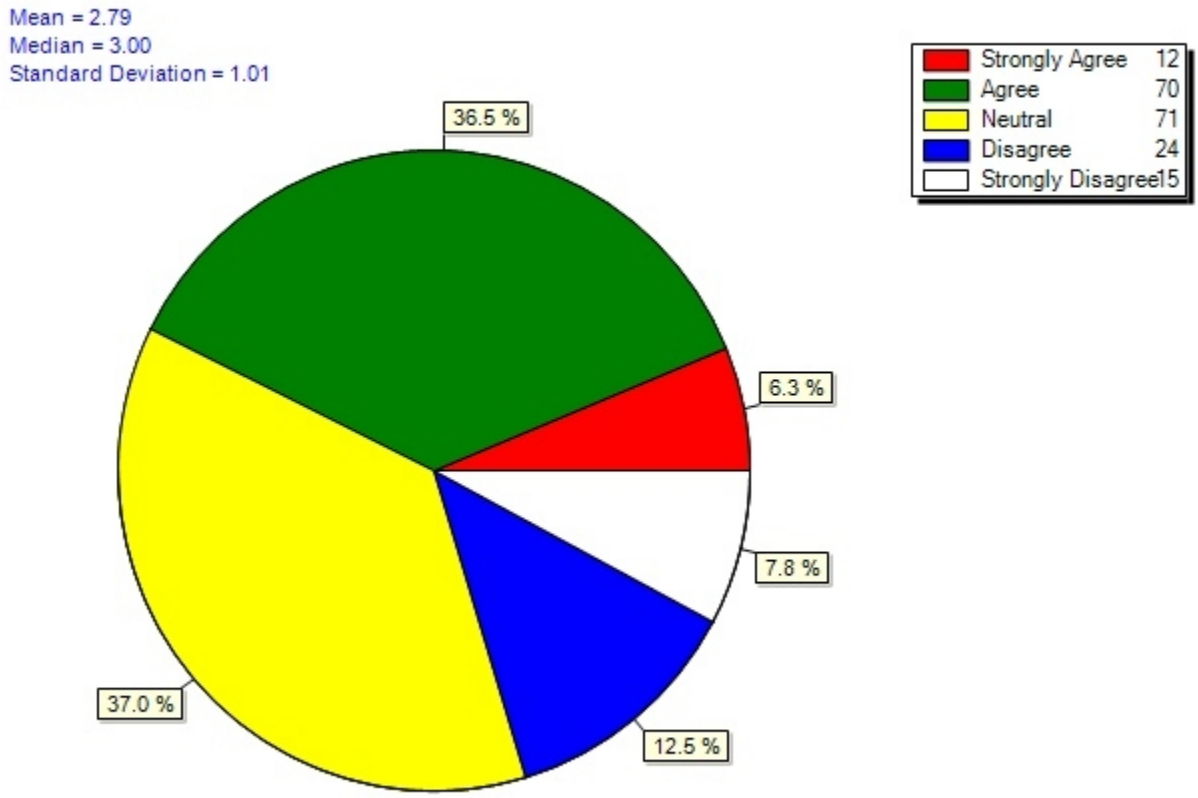
2) The learning goals of the lab were clear.



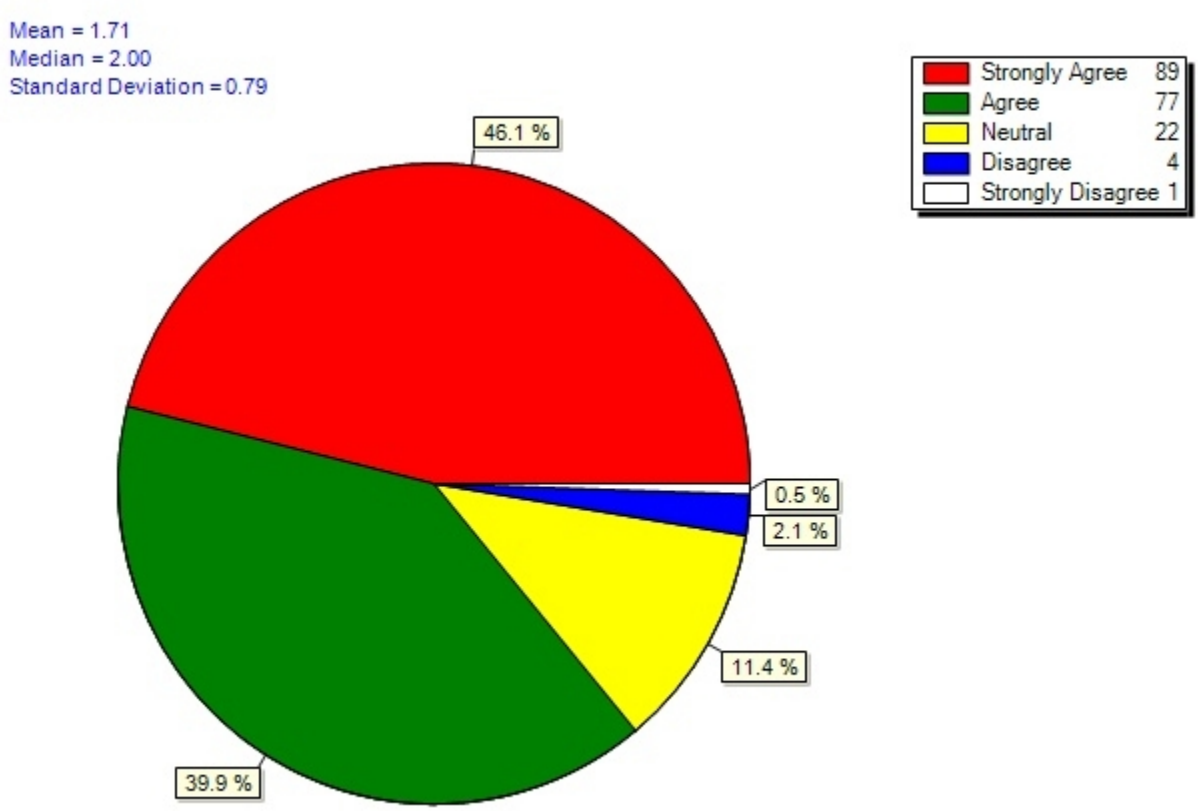
3) I found the lab useful in learning the material of the course.



4) The lab was interesting.



5) My main motivation for completing the lab was earning marks toward my final grade.



6) Please suggest ways to improve the lab.

Please suggest ways to improve the lab.
I think this lab was a good introductory lab for the course and don't really have any suggestions for improvement.
Get rid of them all together. They are very tedious and do not contribute to the understand of the course whatsoever.
NONE
If the labs were phrased more like problems with a purpose it would help students relate it more directly to their everyday lives as well as make the problems more interesting.
It might be helpful if the TA's can emphasize more on the lecture materials instead of just the technical aspects of the lab.
The lab was very clear, so I don't have any suggestions on how to improve it.
Very good and clear instructions
none
The lab did not work on any of the macs in my house. I have the most updated versions of Java and Adobe, and yet the mathsheet program still didn't work. I had to go to a friend's house to use her PC, and yet mathsheet wouldn't work on her computer either. I finally found a computer that managed to run the program, but I would appreciate it if UBC made an effort to make mathsheet available on all computers, because as of right now, it definitely is not.
Provide more challenging questions, and encourage students to solve these questions in small groups.
Maybe a better way to do the lab is to do another topic related to the topic we are doing in lectures but not the exact same topic.
It was a pretty simple lab.
Quite frankly, I don't know how to improve the lab. However, I find the math sheet program a little difficult to use (I am no computer wiz) maybe somehow simplifying it for computer dummies like me would improve the lab?
They are really kind and really helpful. i actually learn from math lab
The instructions on how to graph the data should be more clear.
In the lab room I was unable to see the demonstrations because of the layout of the room. It made it very difficult to follow. Please ask the TA's to do the lesson on both sides of the class room or get another projector?
I think that the labs are fine the way they are, they are easy to understand as

long as the student puts in the effort to understand them.
This was an excellent beginning lab. However it would have been beneficial to have a hint section about how the equation for volume needed to include a power depending on how many times it branched each time.
For first-timers, it would be great if the instructors facilitating the class could be a little more clear with their instructions, instead of rushing through the sample exercises and not stopping to see if everyone is on the same page.
Make the instructions a bit more clearer.
Less reliance on the computer program
overall the lab is pretty basic and the TAs are very helpful. So far it is good but I can't suggest any improvements because there has been only 1 lab... but the broken printers can be fixed .
Possibly add a part where a function represents the volume of the tree. This would show how taking six strips from a function is less accurate and allow students to figure out if they made a mistake while doing the existing lab as written.
no room for improvement =)
Although I was able to follow along with the instructor, the instructor could not project his voice loud enough nor make any eye conduct with people sitting in the corner; me.
Discussions and tutorials were much more useful. The lab takes up too much time trying to figure out how to use the software which is irrelevant to class material
No suggestions. Lab was clear and helpful as an application of concepts.
Just one little nuisance about MathSheet - when you press "Print to PDF" it automatically closes everything without saving, so you can't alter things without reinserting everything. Besides for that little quibble, the labs were great - especially with the TA's who were very helpful.
I think mathsheets should be improved so that if the bar graph with larger values is graphed the second, the first graph with smaller values will not be covered up.
Include a sample problem set so that we can get a rough idea of how the lab is suppose to look like.
I don't have anything to suggest, because I thought that the lab was very fair and clear in the steps that students were to follow to acquire the answer.
A good additional question would be asking for the total volume of the tree, assuming it has infinitessimal levels of branches.
the labs do not seem to be useful at all. personally there shouldn't be labs
The lab was easy to work through, since I was familiar with MathSheet prior to doing the lab.
Make the labs more interesting and instructions should be more clearer, also provide instructions on how to go about completing the lab.

More interesting questions
It was a good first starting lab, especially since it related to some material discussed in lecture.
more variation
Make it harder and even more interesting please. Thanks!
The wording of it may be more clear because total volume and volume @ each level took me a while to understand what was being asked for.
The instructions were clear for this lab, and it wasn't too difficult.
Provide a rubric for marking.
I liked the lab, it wasn't too difficult and was relevant to the course material.
tas should be more helpful
I appreciated how much the first lab was covered. We discussed it in class and during the lab tutorial, so that really helped. I would suggest providing future guidance like such for labs (though obviously not as much, considering this was the first lab)
Make the directions more clear!
Make it more interesting.
A better tutorial for using the program.
none
My lab period was too full.
The first lab "class" was disorganized so it was confusing. Although the introduction can be read on the math lab site, it would have been helpful to include a short orientation from the TA during the lab time. Since I came from the math180 class last term, I was at a disadvantage to those who already knew the program.
Good Lab
Although I found the spreadsheet a very useful tool, it does me little good on an exam to be proficient using it. I think the lab would be more useful if we could develop skills that would help us to better on an exam or test.
it doesn't need improvement
Old, badly written software made this far more of a hassle than it should have been. The lab added nothing that wouldn't have been covered by adding one more problem to the week's homework. Pointless and frustrating.
None, it was fine.
- the instructions could be more clear
I believe that the lab was sufficient and well organized.
The first lab was perfect.
I felt that the instructions weren't clear that if we chose to print our lab, it wouldn't be saved. If it was included in the instructions more clearly, it might have been easier for a student to go back and revise their lab, instead of having

to start all over again.
I shut off the math sheet web site and the whole thing shut down. I had to start from the beginning... It would be nice if we could download a program like LoggerPro for physics and not have to use the website.
I completed the lab in my own time on my laptop, but I was unable to print the completed graph. I tried using 2 pdf-creator applications, but could not print out the solid coloured bars. I ended up having to take a screenshot. I am unsure whether this was an issue regarding my computer, or whether it was a problem with the Mathsheet application...
N/A
Much for explanations and aid needed during the labs. As well, markers to ensure that the lab is done correctly
First lab was a good introduction, I wasn't in math 102 and I still found it easy and the instructions clear.
The lab was clear and easy to follow. It was fine :]
none
-
More interesting
clarify some of the instructions (for example, when saying to show volume does this mean total volume of each generation? or volume of a single branch of the generation?)
The ta's of the lab were helpful however they didnt really do a great job explaining how to use the spread sheet. Alot of the stuff I had to read online or ask other students who had used the program before.
Clearer instructions. when it said "find the volume of the tree with n generations" ... did you want n-->infinity? or n=7 ?
I haven't done the next labs yet, but I'm guessing this lab was just to introduce those of us who did not do math 102 to using math sheet? The goals of the lab were not that clear to me, other than offer an alternative to analytical calculus. It would be great if the lab offered a set of learning goals at the beginning of the pdf file of the lab.
N/A
state how it is linked to the material in class, just have a one page "optional read" thank you
make instructions less confusing.
The lab is fine,and it can connect with what we learn in class.
I can't think of anything, I thought it was pretty good.
N/A
I'd suggest that clearer instructions and assitance be available for students who have never experienced Math labs before. I went into the lab (on time) and sat down, and while some students who had been in courses with math labs

previously were already working, I was confused and didn't know where to start for a good 15 minutes of the lab session. I was under the impression that a TA would explain the procedures to us, but that didn't happen until very late into the first session and I still wasn't very clear on what to do. I ended up just clicking around on the math 103 site until I found what I was supposed to be doing, and then opened up the spreadsheet and tried things out until I was getting results similar to what I saw on other computer screens.
Include a section where it teaches us how to compute certain things like how to compute a function...for those who didn't take math 102.
I am satisfied with our labs.
give more visual representation
Improve some use of language, since some of them are too technical for us to understand or follow.
I wish TAs can come to check all my answers and fomulae.
Put more pictures to help clarify things.
The lab was generally very clear. It would even be better if some more specifics were addressed (i.e. should the range of the x-axis extend a little past the right edge of the bar graph?)
more tutors will be better
The problem we were to solve was already something we had encountered previously. Perhaps something we had not seen before?
Make them optional
The instructions were good guide to the lab.
N/a
More instruction at the lab is needed.
It was good! nothing much to improve
Lab 1 was straight forward and well explained. No improvement necessary in my opinion.
more instruction from the TA's
I found the lab to be a good way to learn about how mathsheet works
It was nicely explained with just enough details to get through.

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