

1023-M5-1856 **Sarah L Mabrouk*** (smabrouk@frc.mass.edu), Framingham State College, 100 State Street,
P.O. Box 9101, Framingham, MA 01701-9101. *Interactive Workbooks for Classifying Distributions
and Balancing Chemical Equations.*

Some students in introductory Statistics courses have difficulty classifying distributions as skewed-left, skewed-right, normal, bimodal, or multimodal. While textbooks provide some examples, exploring and manipulating distributions can help students to understand the differences among them.

For College Algebra and Precalculus students, solving systems of equations can become a frustrating and meaningless task if they are not given sufficient motivation. Applications provide motivation but "word problems" are frustrating for many students. Thus, initial applications that do not use "word problems" can be beneficial: balancing chemical equations is one such application.

In this presentation, I will demonstrate my Classifying Distributions and Balancing Chemical Equations tools. These interactive tools, created using MS Excel, provide the user with feedback as (s)he explores concepts and ideas related to classifying distributions for quantitative variables and solving systems of equations, respectively. (Received September 27, 2006)