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Data Article

Learning Analytics for Smart Campus: Data on Academic Performances of Engineering Undergraduates in a Nigerian Private University

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Abstract

Empirical measurement, monitoring, analysis, and reporting of learning outcomes in higher institutions of developing countries may lead to sustainable education in the region. In this data article, data about the academic performances of undergraduates that studied engineering programs at Covenant University, Nigeria are presented and analyzed. A total population sample of 1841 undergraduates that studied Chemical Engineering (CHE), Civil Engineering (CVE), Computer Engineering (CEN), Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE), Information and Communication Engineering (ICE), Mechanical Engineering (MEE), and Petroleum Engineering (PET) within the year range of 2002-2014 are randomly selected. For the five-year study period of engineering program, Grade Point Average (GPA) and its cumulative value of each of the sample were obtained from the Department of Student Records and Academic Affairs. In order to encourage evidence-based research in learning analytics, detailed datasets are made publicly available in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet file attached to this article. Descriptive statistics and frequency distributions of the academic performance data are presented in tables and graphs for easy data interpretations. In addition, one-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and multiple comparison post-hoc tests are performed to determine whether the variations in the academic performances are significant across the seven engineering programs. The data provided in this article will assist the global educational research community and regional policy makers to understand and optimize the learning environment towards the realization of smart campuses and sustainable education.

Keywords: smart campus, learning analytics, sustainable education, Nigerian university, education data mining, engineering

Specifications Table

Subject area	*Engineering Education*
More specific subject area	*Learning Analytics*
Type of data	*Tables, graphs, figures, and spreadsheet file*
How data was acquired	*For the five-year study period of engineering program, Grade Point Average (GPA) and its cumulative value of each of the sample were obtained from the Department of Student Records and Academic Affairs.*
Data format	*Raw, analyzed*
Experimental factors	*Undergraduates with incomplete academic records were excluded*
Experimental features	*Descriptive statistics, frequency distributions, one-way ANOVA and multiple comparison post-hoc tests were performed to determine whether the variations in the academic performances are significant across the seven engineering programs.*
Data source location	*The population sample and the academic performance data provided in this article were obtained at Covenant University, Canaanland, Ota, Nigeria (Latitude 6.6718^o N, Longitude 3.1581^o E)*
Data accessibility	*In order to encourage evidence-based research in learning analytics, detailed datasets are made publicly available in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet file attached to this article.*

Value of the data

- Comprehensive academic performance datasets provided in this article will promote evidence-based research in the emerging field of learning analytics in developing countries [1-4].
- Easy access to this data will assist the global educational research community and regional policy makers to understand and optimize the learning environment towards the realization of smart campuses and sustainable education [5-10].
- With the growing adoption of machine learning and artificial intelligence techniques in different fields, empirical data provided in this article will help in the development of predictive models for learning outcomes in engineering undergraduates [11-18].
- Descriptive statistics, frequency distributions, one-way ANOVA and multiple comparison post-hoc tests that are presented in tables, plots, and graphs will make data interpretation much easier for useful insights and logical conclusions.
- Detailed datasets that are made publicly available in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet file attached to this article will encourage further explorative studies in this field of research.

Data

The emerging field of learning analytics may be exploited to improve learning outcomes of engineering undergraduates in higher institutions of developing countries towards attaining sustainable education in the region [19-21]. Useful information about the academic performances of undergraduates that studied engineering programs at Covenant University, Nigeria are presented and analyzed in this data article. Covenant University is located in Ota, Ogun State in Nigeria *(Latitude 6.6718^o N, Longitude 3.1581^o E)*. It is a private Christian university affiliated with Living Faith Church Worldwide and a member

of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), Association of African Universities (AAU), and National Universities Commission (NUC).

A total population sample of 1841 undergraduates that studied Chemical Engineering (CHE), Civil Engineering (CVE), Computer Engineering (CEN), Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE), Information and Communication Engineering (ICE), Mechanical Engineering (MEE), and Petroleum Engineering (PET) within the year range of 2002-2014 are randomly selected. The earliest year of entry and the latest year of graduation are 2002 and 2014 respectively. Having excluded undergraduates with incomplete academic records, 198, 152, 374, 407, 349, 166, 195 undergraduates were pooled from CHE, CVE, CEN, EEE, ICE, MEE, and PET respectively. The descriptive statistics of the academic performances of undergraduates in each of the seven engineering programs at Covenant University are presented in Tables 1-7.

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics of Academic Performances of Undergraduates in CHE

	First Year GPA	***Second Year GPA***	***Third Year GPA***	***Fourth Year GPA***	***Fifth Year GPA***	***Cumulative GPA***
Mean	4.02	3.49	3.52	3.77	3.79	3.70
Median	4.11	3.53	3.55	3.88	3.90	3.78
Mode	4.15	2.74	3.13	4.06	4.43	3.73
Standard Deviation	0.57	0.69	0.77	0.79	0.67	0.61
Variance	0.32	0.48	0.59	0.63	0.45	0.37
Kurtosis	4.07	2.69	2.40	2.70	3.45	2.39
Skewness	-0.97	-0.34	-0.33	-0.64	-0.85	-0.36
Range	2.82	3.24	3.47	3.42	3.41	2.70
Minimum	2.09	1.54	1.47	1.55	1.59	2.16
Maximum	4.91	4.78	4.94	4.97	5.00	4.86
Total Samples	198	198	198	198	198	198

Table 2. Descriptive Statistics of Academic Performances of Undergraduates in CVE

	First Year GPA	***Second Year GPA***	***Third Year GPA***	***Fourth Year GPA***	***Fifth Year GPA***	***Cumulative GPA***
Mean	3.67	3.13	3.33	3.78	3.91	3.54
Median	3.70	3.09	3.38	3.92	4.01	3.60
Mode	4.02	3.14	2.76	4.17	4.89	3.76
Standard Deviation	0.60	0.69	0.85	0.74	0.71	0.65
Variance	0.36	0.47	0.72	0.54	0.50	0.42
Kurtosis	3.48	2.55	2.28	2.24	2.60	2.27
Skewness	-0.47	0.25	-0.15	-0.42	-0.57	-0.06
Range	3.36	3.22	3.94	3.03	3.15	2.96
Minimum	1.60	1.70	0.99	1.94	1.83	1.97
Maximum	4.96	4.92	4.93	4.97	4.98	4.93
Total Samples	152	152	152	152	152	152

Table 3. Descriptive Statistics of Academic Performances of Undergraduates in CEN

	First Year GPA	*Second Year GPA*	*Third Year GPA*	*Fourth Year GPA*	*Fifth Year GPA*	*Cumulative GPA*
Mean	3.61	3.23	3.38	3.64	3.62	3.50
Median	3.71	3.22	3.51	3.72	3.68	3.56
Mode	4.00	3.20	4.47	4.07	4.25	3.21
Standard Deviation	0.71	0.76	0.90	0.77	0.72	0.69
Variance	0.50	0.58	0.81	0.59	0.52	0.48
Kurtosis	2.58	2.50	2.36	3.33	2.73	2.44
Skewness	-0.43	0.03	-0.43	-0.61	-0.45	-0.24
Range	3.20	3.74	4.01	4.40	3.55	3.10
Minimum	1.73	1.19	0.97	0.60	1.39	1.80
Maximum	4.93	4.93	4.98	5.00	4.94	4.90
Total Samples	374	374	374	374	374	374

Table 4. Descriptive Statistics of Academic Performances of Undergraduates in EEE

	First Year GPA	*Second Year GPA*	*Third Year GPA*	*Fourth Year GPA*	*Fifth Year GPA*	*Cumulative GPA*
Mean	4.03	3.49	3.60	3.54	3.58	3.66
Median	4.11	3.48	3.73	3.57	3.64	3.71
Mode	4.13	3.22	3.96	3.48	4.00	3.28
Standard Deviation	0.56	0.73	0.83	0.76	0.74	0.66
Variance	0.31	0.54	0.69	0.58	0.55	0.43
Kurtosis	3.07	2.50	2.56	2.59	2.49	2.43
Skewness	-0.61	-0.17	-0.55	-0.38	-0.32	-0.29
Range	3.23	3.56	3.95	3.69	3.58	3.05
Minimum	1.71	1.34	1.05	1.31	1.42	1.83
Maximum	4.94	4.90	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.88
Total Samples	407	407	407	407	407	407

Table 5. Descriptive Statistics of Academic Performances of Undergraduates in ICE

	First Year GPA	*Second Year GPA*	*Third Year GPA*	*Fourth Year GPA*	*Fifth Year GPA*	*Cumulative GPA*
Mean	3.56	3.18	3.30	3.58	3.74	3.47
Median	3.55	3.18	3.36	3.62	3.82	3.51
Mode	3.49	3.06	3.02	3.52	4.00	3.51
Standard Deviation	0.69	0.76	0.88	0.73	0.71	0.68
Variance	0.48	0.57	0.77	0.54	0.50	0.46
Kurtosis	2.57	2.42	2.32	2.66	2.72	2.44
Skewness	-0.33	0.06	-0.24	-0.40	-0.48	-0.16
Range	3.32	3.49	3.89	3.49	3.23	3.09
Minimum	1.64	1.39	1.09	1.51	1.75	1.80
Maximum	4.96	4.88	4.98	5.00	4.98	4.89
Total Samples	349	349	349	349	349	349

Table 6. Descriptive Statistics of Academic Performances of Undergraduates in MEE

	First Year GPA	*Second Year GPA*	*Third Year GPA*	*Fourth Year GPA*	*Fifth Year GPA*	*Cumulative GPA*
Mean	3.92	3.33	3.13	3.60	3.78	3.54
Median	4.00	3.32	3.04	3.73	3.96	3.57
Mode	4.00	3.69	3.13	4.55	4.30	3.95
Standard Deviation	0.60	0.72	0.87	0.76	0.73	0.66
Variance	0.36	0.52	0.76	0.58	0.54	0.43
Kurtosis	3.12	2.19	2.06	2.74	2.70	2.25
Skewness	-0.69	0.03	0.05	-0.57	-0.67	-0.14
Range	2.67	3.32	3.58	3.72	3.25	2.89
Minimum	2.20	1.55	1.40	1.25	1.73	1.99
Maximum	4.87	4.87	4.98	4.97	4.98	4.88
Total Samples	166	166	166	166	166	166

Table 7. Descriptive Statistics of Academic Performances of Undergraduates in PET

	First Year GPA	*Second Year GPA*	*Third Year GPA*	*Fourth Year GPA*	*Fifth Year GPA*	*Cumulative GPA*
Mean	3.86	3.24	3.32	3.54	3.71	3.54
Median	3.91	3.18	3.33	3.54	3.75	3.56
Mode	3.78	2.48	3.74	3.61	3.20	3.83
Standard Deviation	0.62	0.71	0.73	0.69	0.65	0.59
Variance	0.38	0.50	0.54	0.48	0.42	0.35
Kurtosis	3.83	2.54	2.46	2.67	2.39	2.43
Skewness	-0.88	-0.04	-0.15	-0.03	-0.18	-0.01
Range	3.29	3.74	3.64	3.55	2.83	2.73
Minimum	1.64	1.22	1.18	1.45	2.13	2.07
Maximum	4.93	4.96	4.82	5.00	4.95	4.80
Total Samples	195	195	195	195	195	195

The academic performances of engineering undergraduates vary as the students proceed from one level to another yearly. Figure 1 shows the variations in the GPA data of all the engineering undergraduates under investigation. Figures 2-8 illustrate the differences and trends in the GPA data of undergraduates in CHE, CVE, CEN, EEE, ICE, MEE, and PET respectively. The frequency distributions of the GPA data of undergraduates in CHE, CVE, CEN, EEE, ICE, MEE, and PET are shown in Figures 9-15 respectively. Figures 16-18 depict the proportions of engineering students that graduated with First Class, Second Class Upper, Second Class Lower, and Third Class in CHE, CVE, CEN, and EEE; ICE and MEE; and PET respectively.

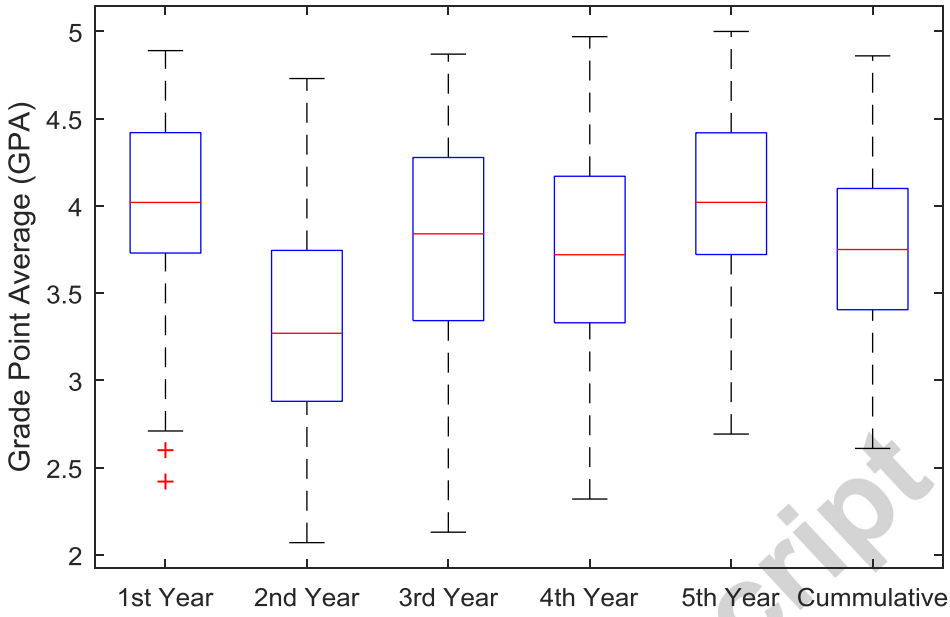

Figure 1. Boxplot of GPA Data of Undergraduates in the Seven Engineering Programs (2002-2014)

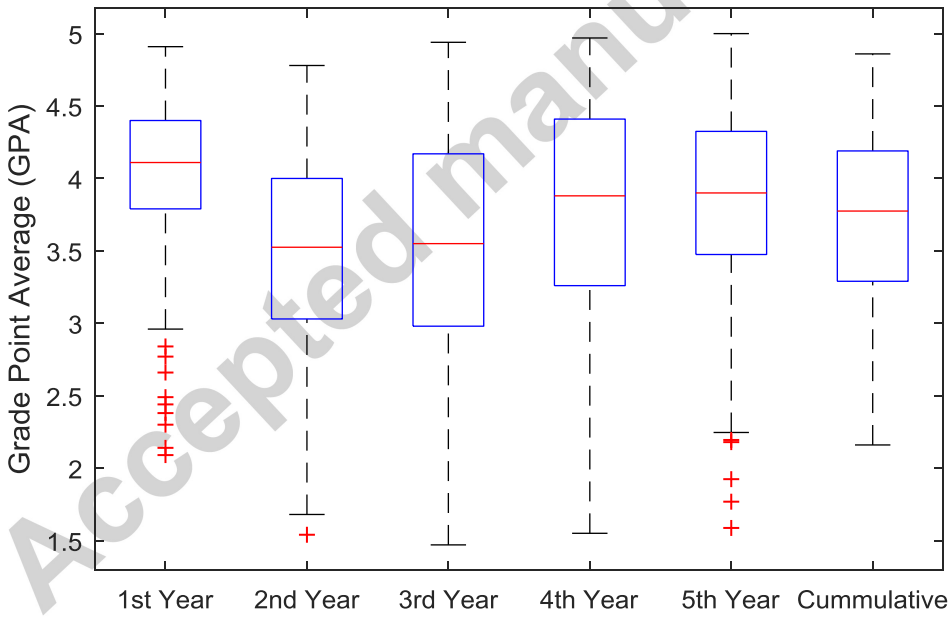

Figure 2. Boxplot of GPA Data of Undergraduates in CHE (2002-2014)

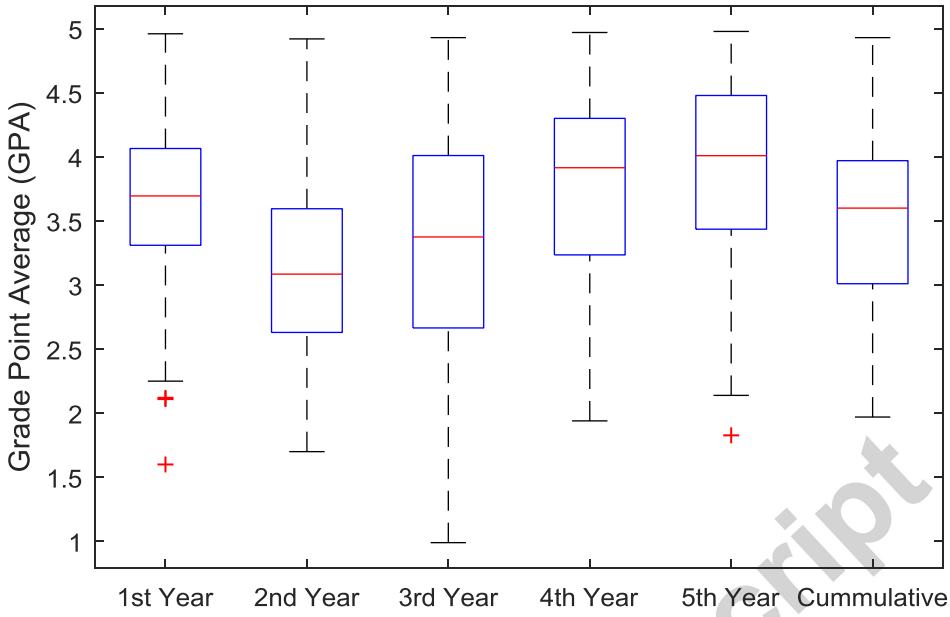

Figure 3. Boxplot of GPA Data of Undergraduates in CVE (2002-2014)

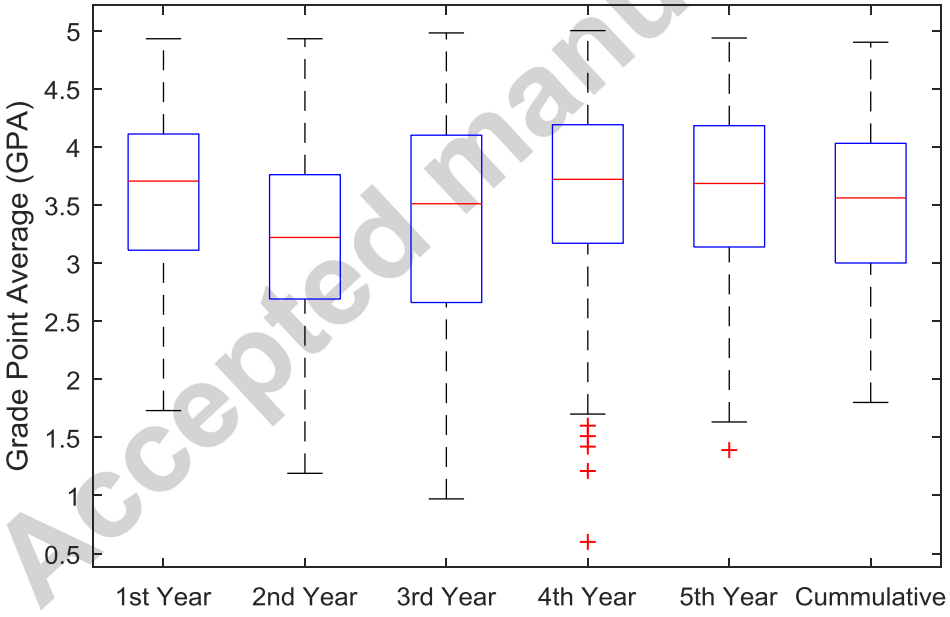

Figure 4. Boxplot of GPA Data of Undergraduates in CEN (2002-2014)

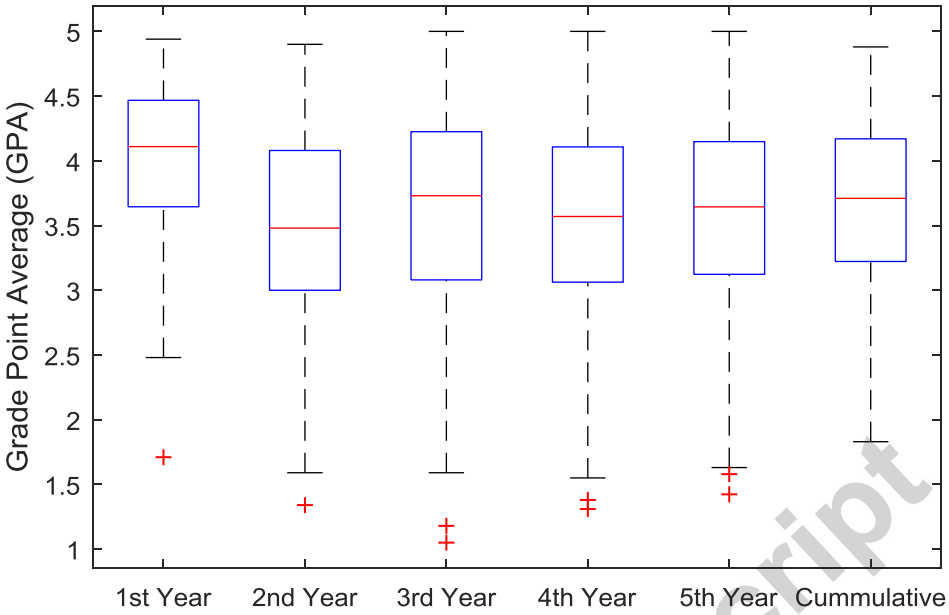

Figure 5. Boxplot of GPA Data of Undergraduates in EEE (2002-2014)

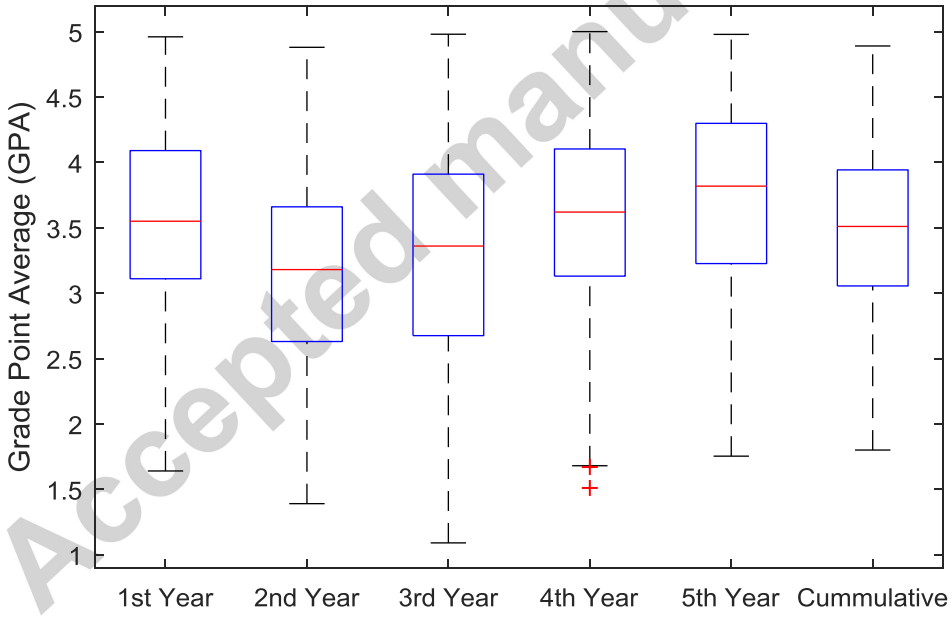

Figure 6. Boxplot of GPA Data of Undergraduates in ICE (2002-2014)

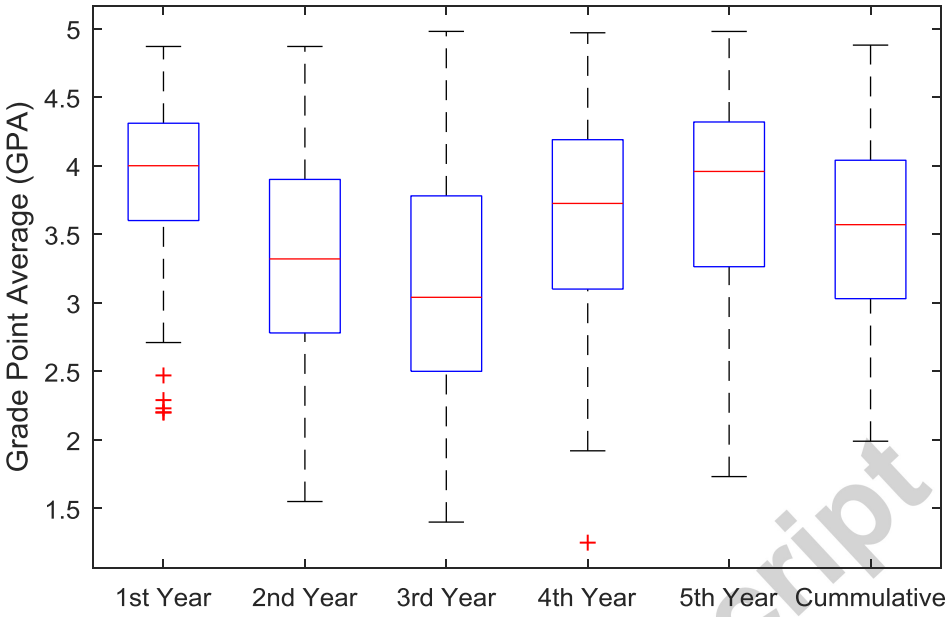

Figure 7. Boxplot of GPA Data of Undergraduates in MEE (2002-2014)

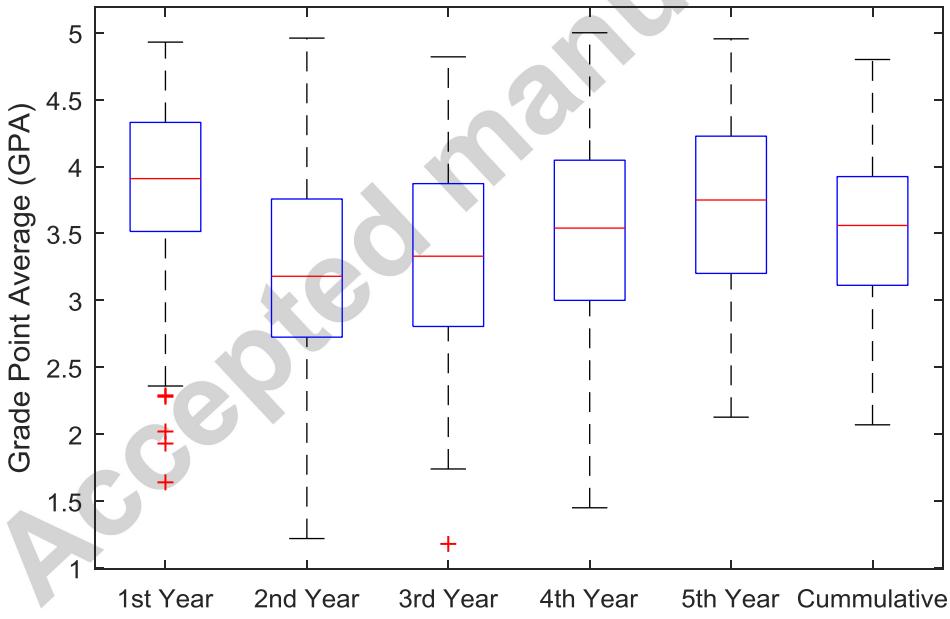

Figure 8. Boxplot of GPA Data of Undergraduates in PET (2002-2014)

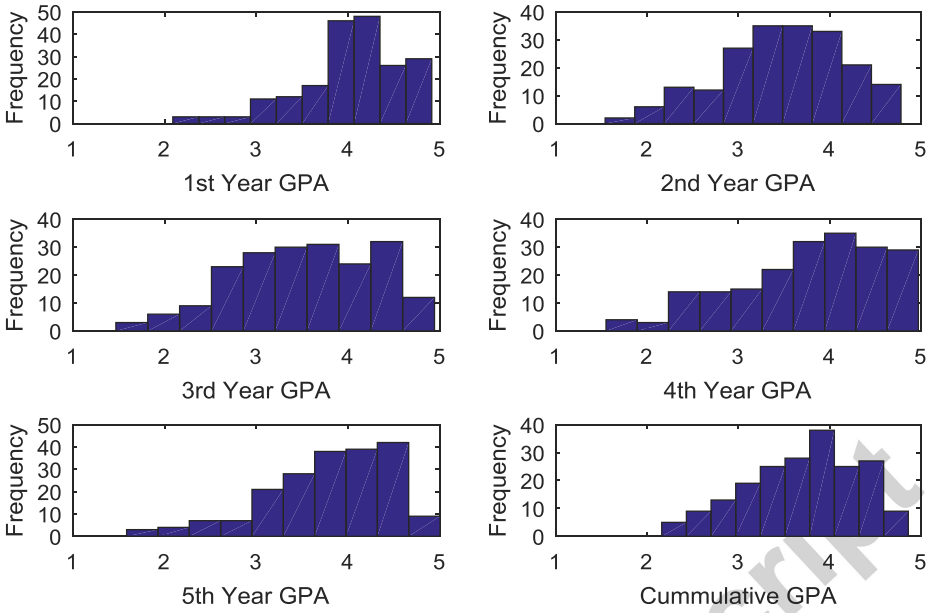

Figure 9. Histogram Distributions of GPA Data of Undergraduates in CHE

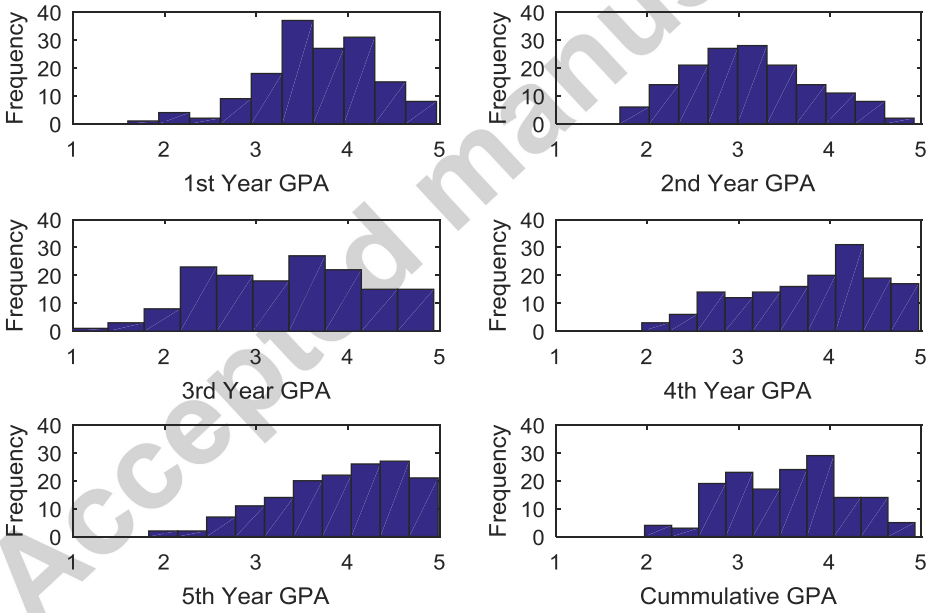

Figure 10. Histogram Distributions of GPA Data of Undergraduates in CVE

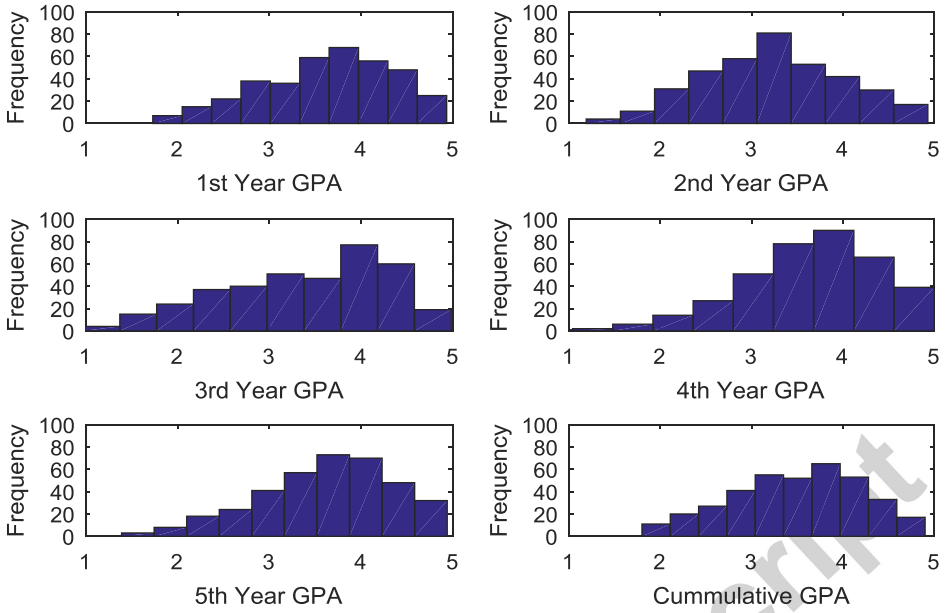

Figure 11. Histogram Distributions of GPA Data of Undergraduates in CEN

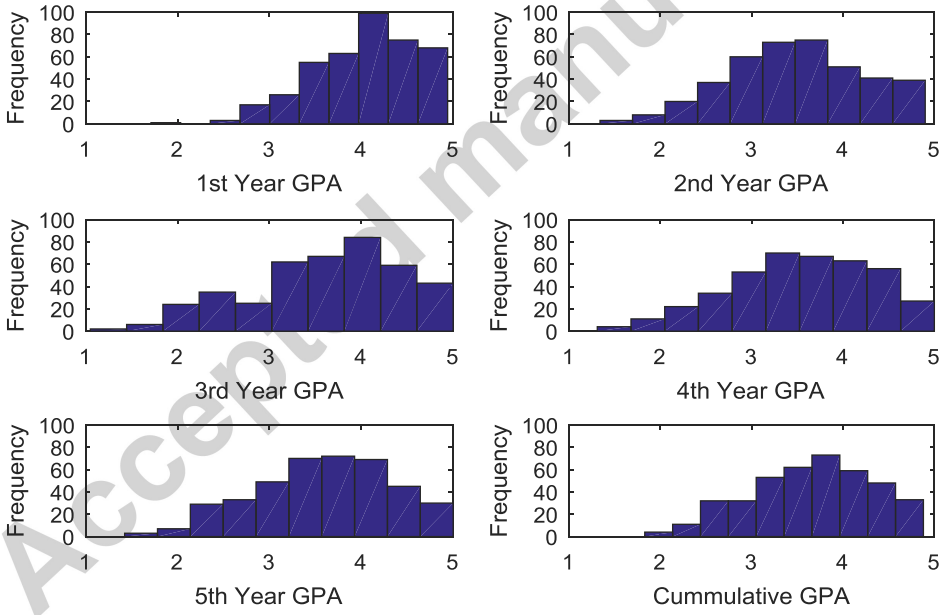

Figure 12. Histogram Distributions of GPA Data of Undergraduates in EEE

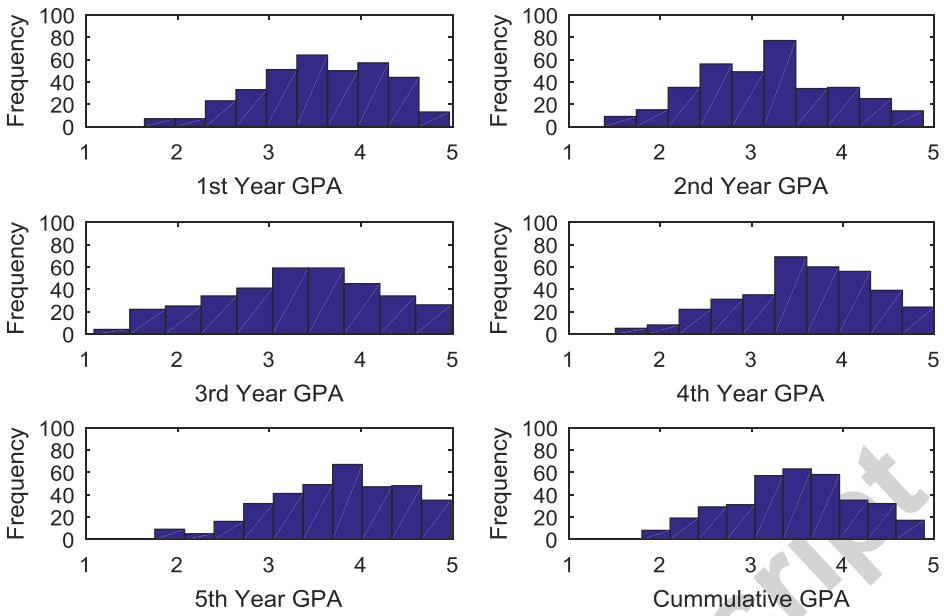

Figure 13. Histogram Distributions of GPA Data of Undergraduates in ICE

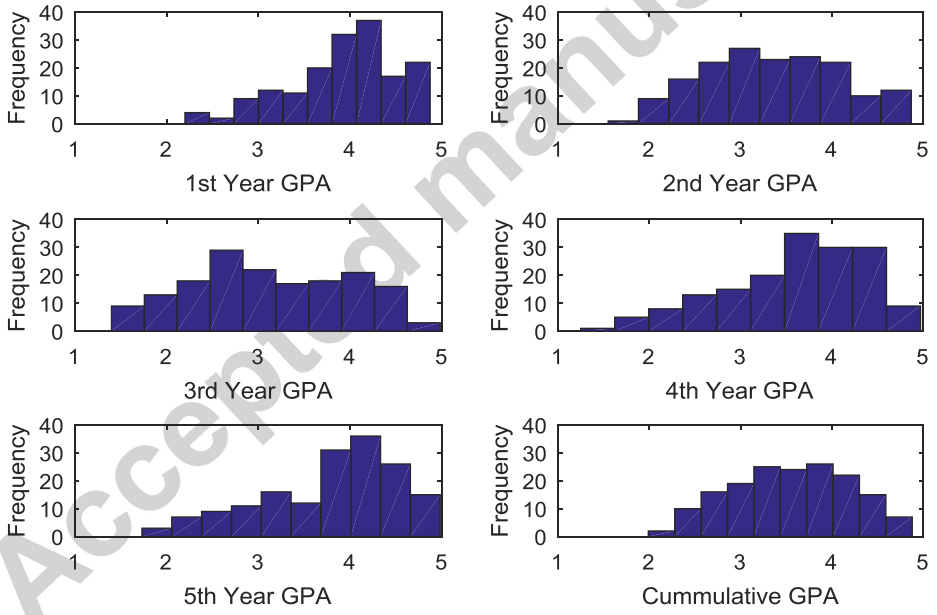

Figure 14. Histogram Distributions of GPA Data of Undergraduates in MEE

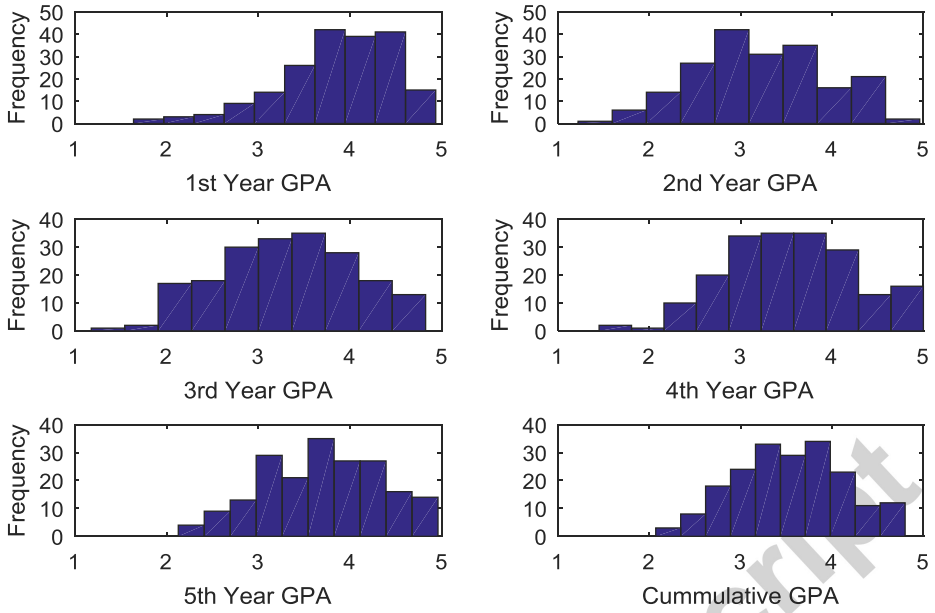

Figure 15. Histogram Distributions of GPA Data of Undergraduates in PET

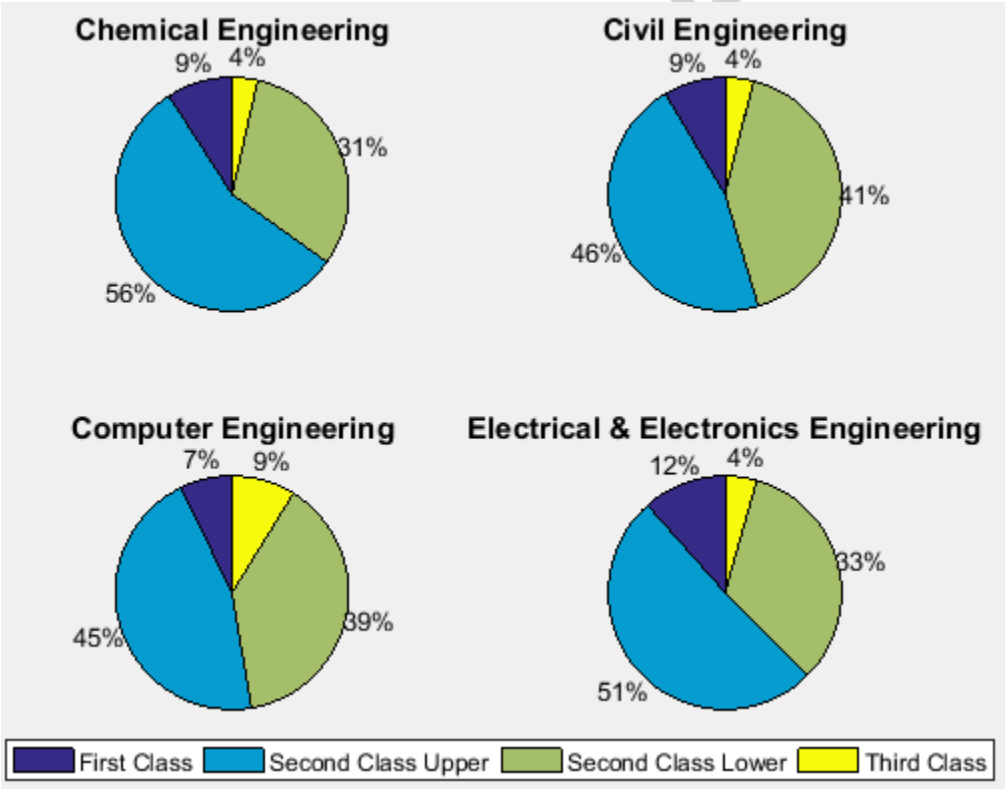

Figure 16. Proportions of Class of Degree in CHE, CVE, CEN, and EEE

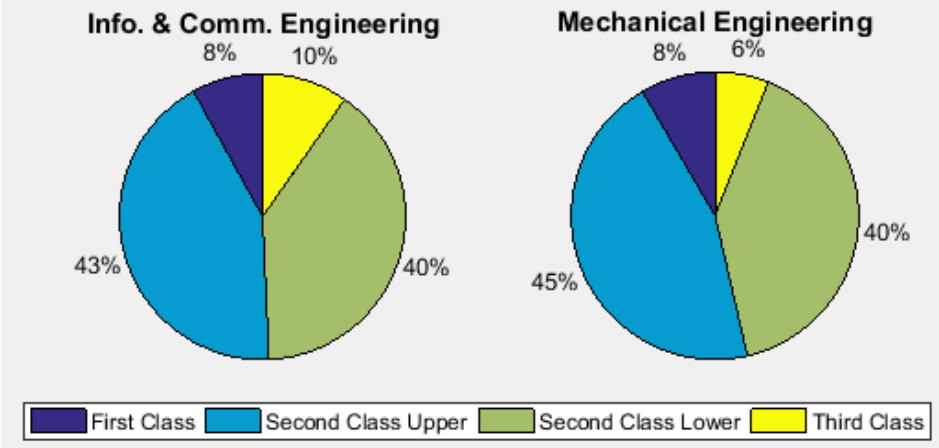

Figure 17. Proportions of Class of Degree in ICE and MEE

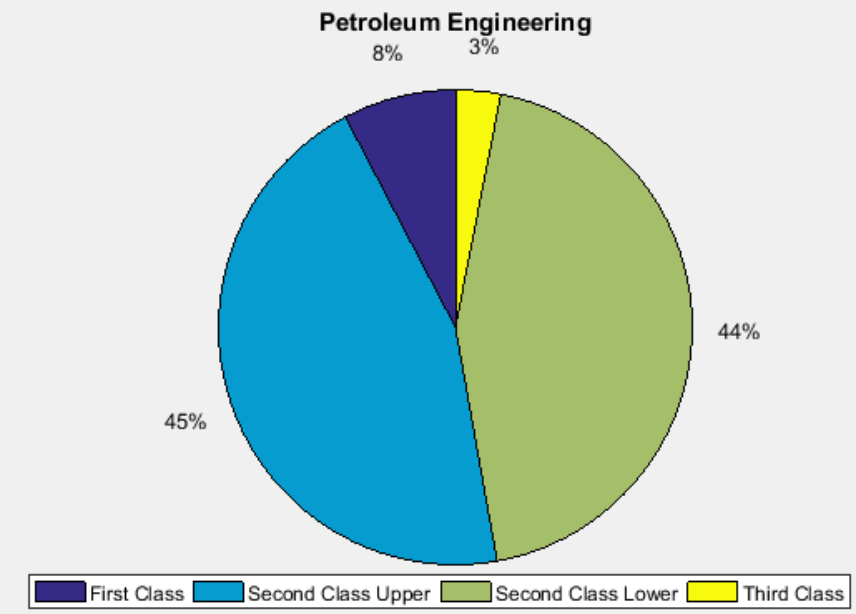

Figure 18. Proportions of Class of Degree in PET

Experimental Design, Materials and Methods

For the five-year study period of engineering program, Grade Point Average (GPA) and its cumulative value of each of the sample were obtained from the Department of Student Records and Academic Affairs. In order to encourage evidence-based research in learning analytics, detailed datasets are made publicly available in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet file attached to this article. Descriptive statistics and frequency distributions of the academic performance data are presented in tables and graphs for easy data interpretations. In addition, one-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and multiple comparison post-hoc tests are performed to determine whether the variations in the academic performances are significant across the seven engineering programs. Data showing whether there are significant differences in the GPA data of the engineering undergraduates throughout their five-year study period are presented in Tables 8-13. The boxplots of the GPA distribution by program are shown in Figures 19-24. The results of the post-hoc test conducted to understand the extent of significant variations in

cumulative GPA across engineering Programs at Covenant University are presented in Table 14. Multiple comparison plots of Cumulative GPA data in Figures 25-31 reveal groups (i.e. other engineering programs at Covenant University) whose statistical means are significantly different.

Table 8. ANOVA Test on First Year GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	Degree of Freedom	Mean Squares	F Statistic	Prob>F
Columns	69.15	6	11.52	28.95	2.99×10^{-33}
Error	730.21	1834	0.40		
Total	799.36	1840			

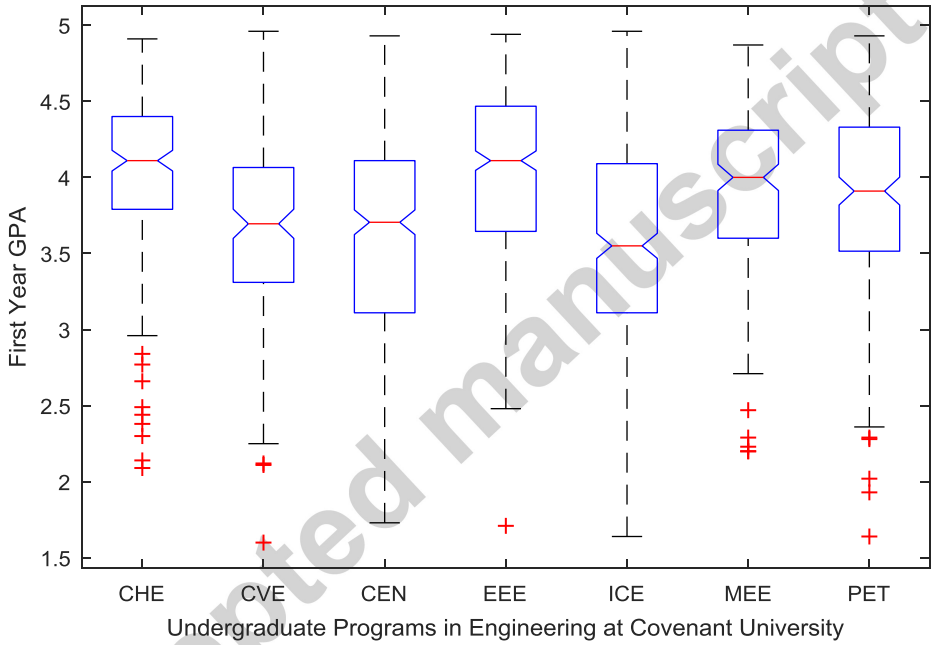

Figure 19. First Year GPA Data of all Engineering Programs

Table 9. ANOVA Test on Second Year GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	Degree of Freedom	Mean Squares	F Statistic	Prob>F
Columns	34.02	6	5.67	10.58	1.43×10^{-11}
Error	983.13	1834	0.54		
Total	1017.15	1840			

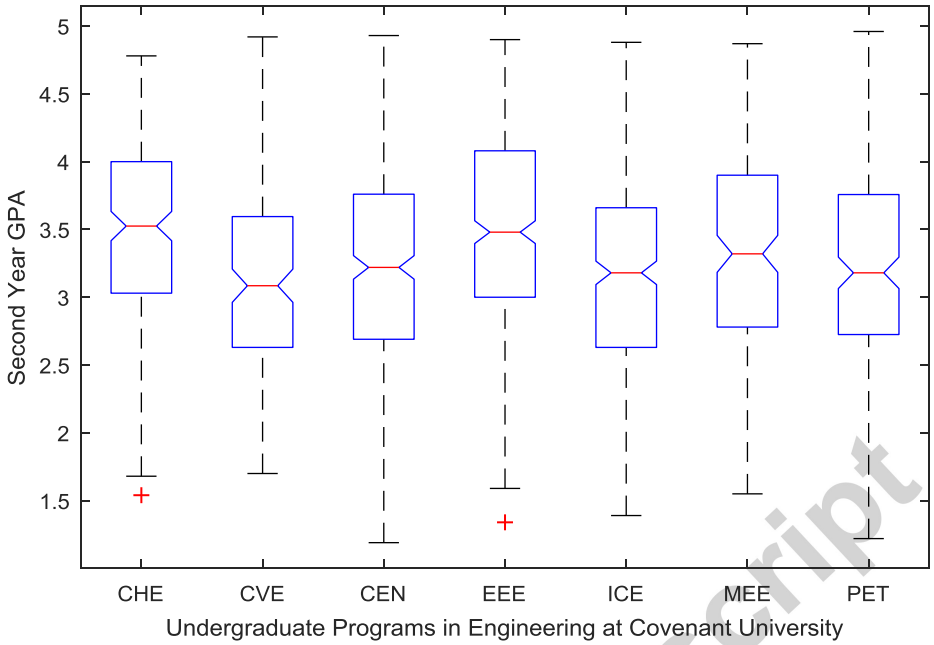

Figure 20. Second Year GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Table 10. ANOVA Test on Third Year GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	Degree of Freedom	Mean Squares	F Statistic	Prob>F
Columns	36.48	6	6.08	8.55	3.47×10^{-9}
Error	1304.02	1834	0.71		
Total	1340.51	1840			

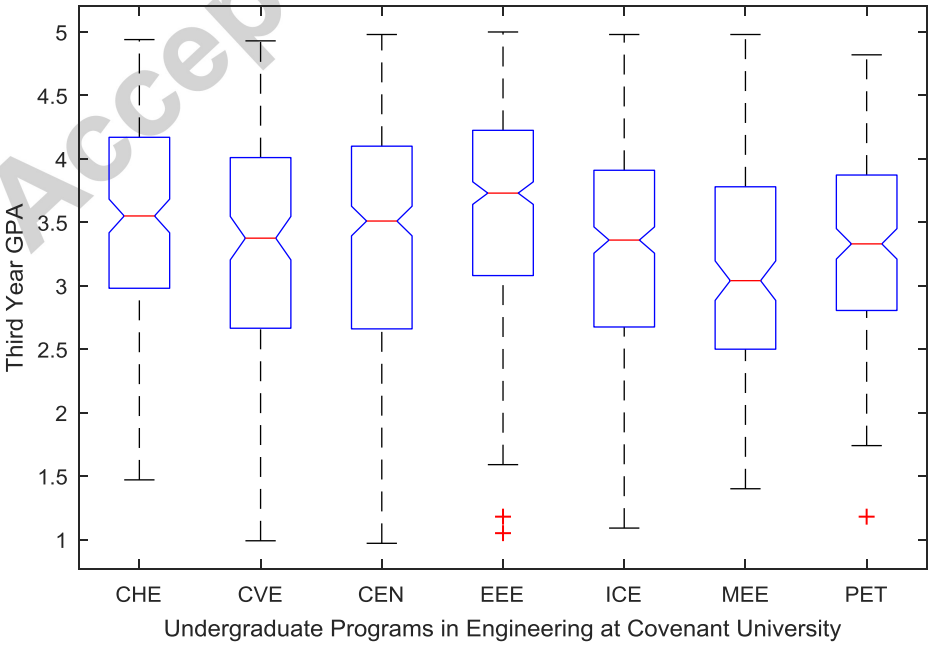

Figure 21. Third Year GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Table 11. ANOVA Test on Fourth Year GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	Degree of Freedom	Mean Squares	F Statistic	Prob>F
Columns	12.99	6	2.16	3.83	8.53×10^{-4}
Error	1037.83	1834	0.57		
Total	1050.82	1840			

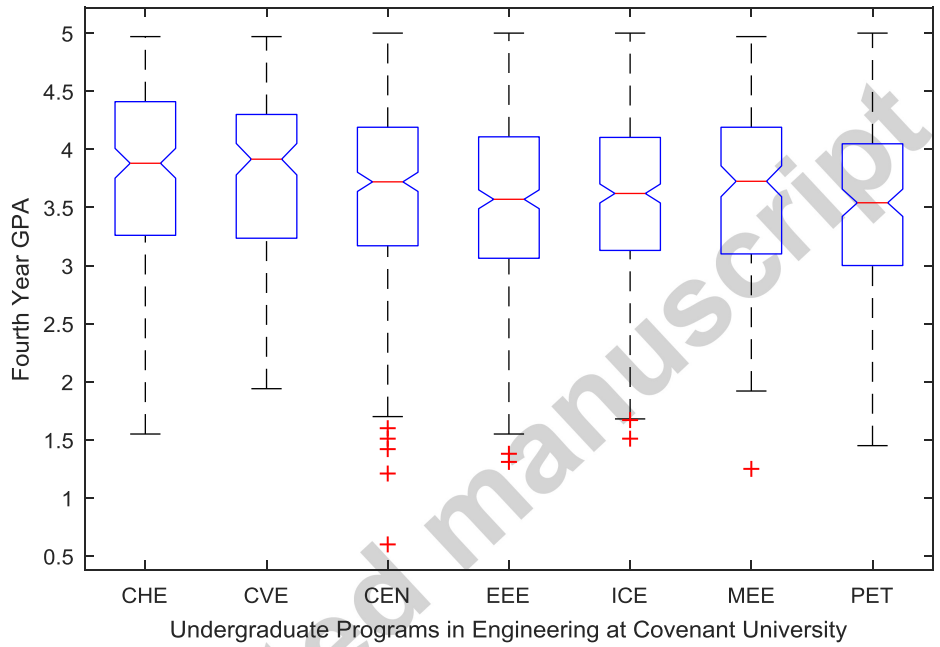

Figure 22. Fourth Year GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Table 12. ANOVA Test on Fifth Year GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	Degree of Freedom	Mean Squares	F Statistic	Prob>F
Columns	17.80	6	2.97	5.87	4.44×10^{-6}
Error	926.63	1834	0.51		
Total	944.43	1840			

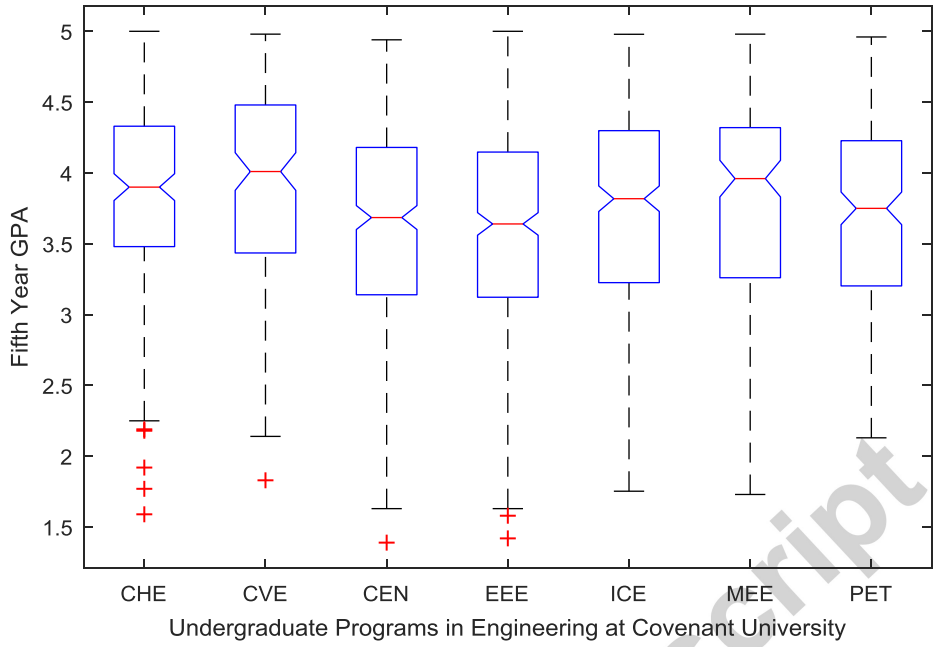

Figure 23. Fifth Year GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Table 13. ANOVA Test on Cumulative GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	Degree of Freedom	Mean Squares	F Statistic	Prob>F
Columns	12.13	6	2.02	4.70	9.39×10^{-5}
Error	789.25	1834	0.43		
Total	801.38	1840			

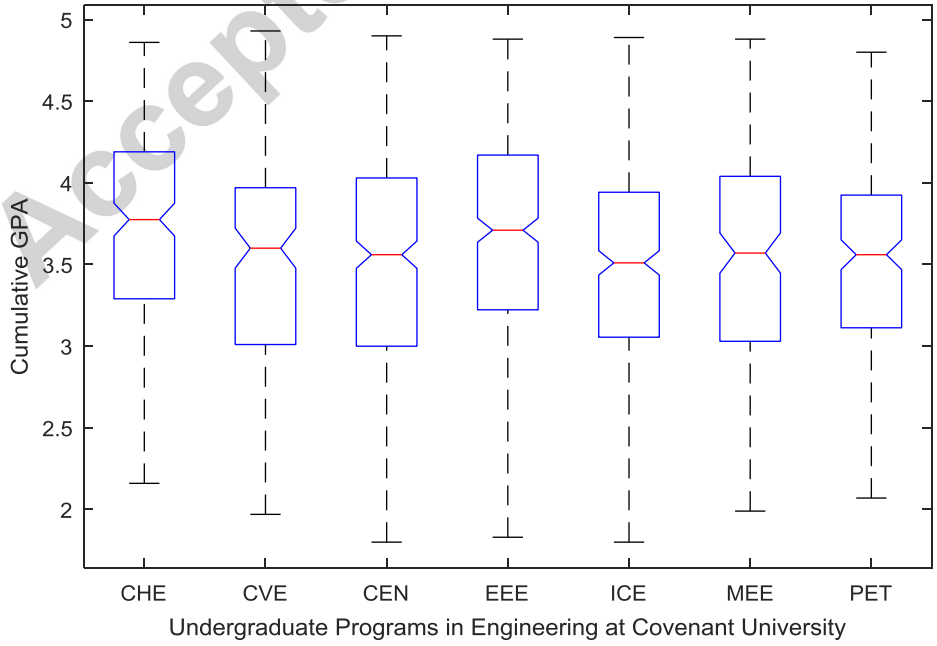

Figure 24. Cumulative GPA Data of Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Table 14. Post-Hoc Test on Cumulative GPA for Engineering Programs at Covenant University

Groups Compared		Lower limits for 95% confidence intervals	Mean Difference	Upper limits for 95% confidence intervals	*p*-value
CHE	CVE	-0.0469	0.1617	0.3703	0.2507
CHE	CEN	0.0331	0.2031	0.3731	0.0078
CHE	EEE	-0.1222	0.0453	0.2129	0.9853
CHE	ICE	0.0590	0.2310	0.4031	0.0015
CHE	MEE	-0.0450	0.1585	0.3621	0.2455
CHE	PET	-0.0333	0.1618	0.3570	0.1798
CVE	CEN	-0.1447	0.0414	0.2274	0.9948
CVE	EEE	-0.3002	-0.1164	0.0675	0.5029
CVE	ICE	-0.1186	0.0693	0.2573	0.9321
CVE	MEE	-0.2203	-0.0032	0.2139	1.0000
CVE	PET	-0.2091	0.0001	0.2094	1.0000
CEN	EEE	-0.2963	-0.1577	-0.0192	0.0139
CEN	ICE	-0.1160	0.0280	0.1719	0.9976
CEN	MEE	-0.2249	-0.0445	0.1358	0.9909
CEN	PET	-0.2121	-0.0412	0.1296	0.9919
EEE	ICE	0.0446	0.1857	0.3268	0.0020
EEE	MEE	-0.0649	0.1132	0.2913	0.4979
EEE	PET	-0.0520	0.1165	0.2849	0.3898
ICE	MEE	-0.2549	-0.0725	0.1099	0.9047
ICE	PET	-0.2421	-0.0692	0.1037	0.9020
MEE	PET	-0.2009	0.0033	0.2076	1.0000

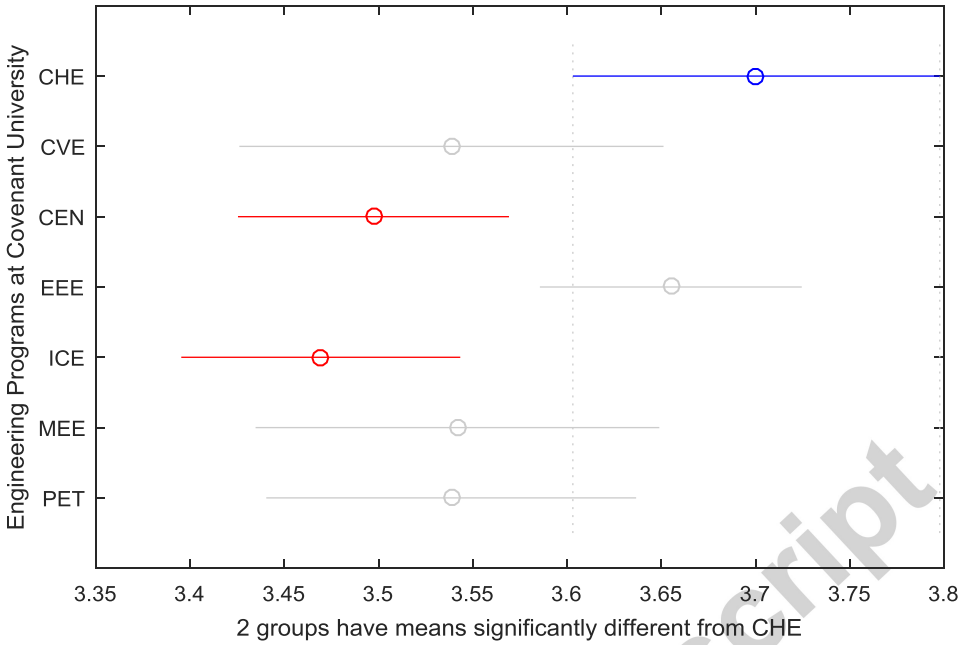

Figure 25. Multiple Comparison Test on Cumulative GPA for CHE

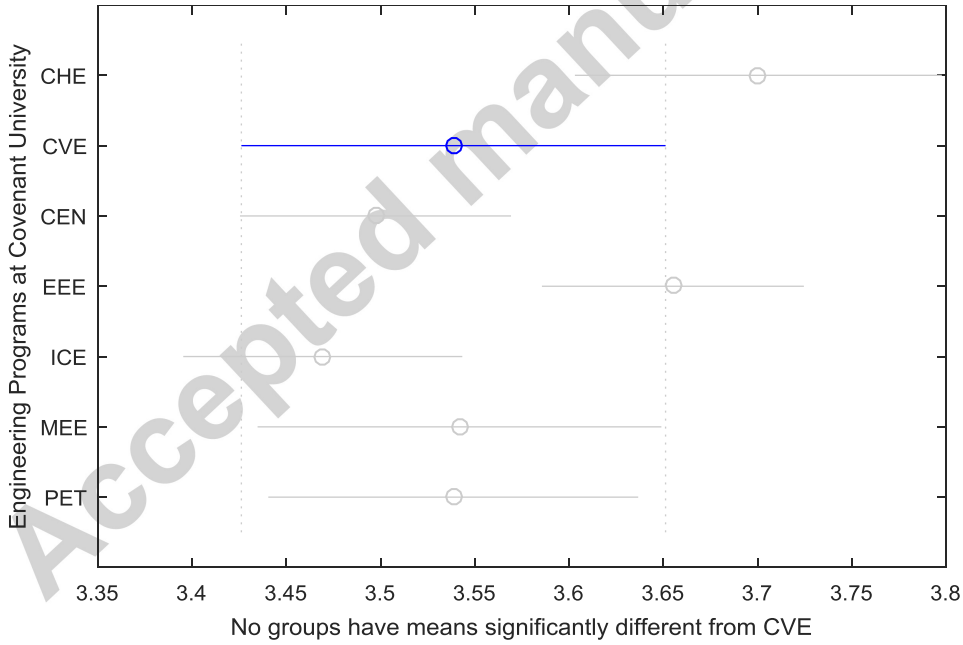

Figure 26. Multiple Comparison Test on Cumulative GPA for CVE

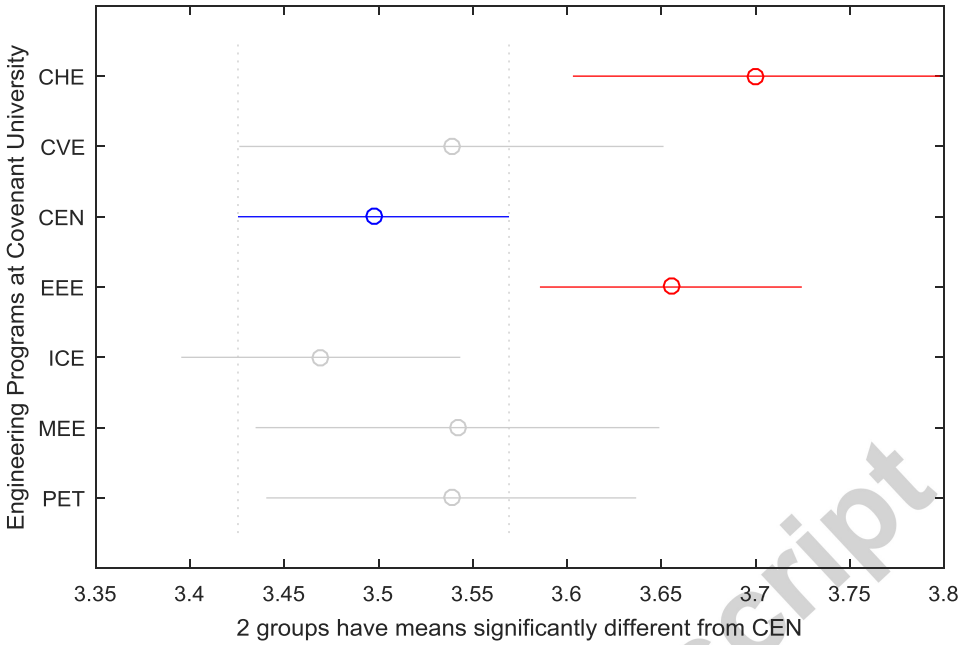

Figure 27. Multiple Comparison Test on Cumulative GPA for CEN

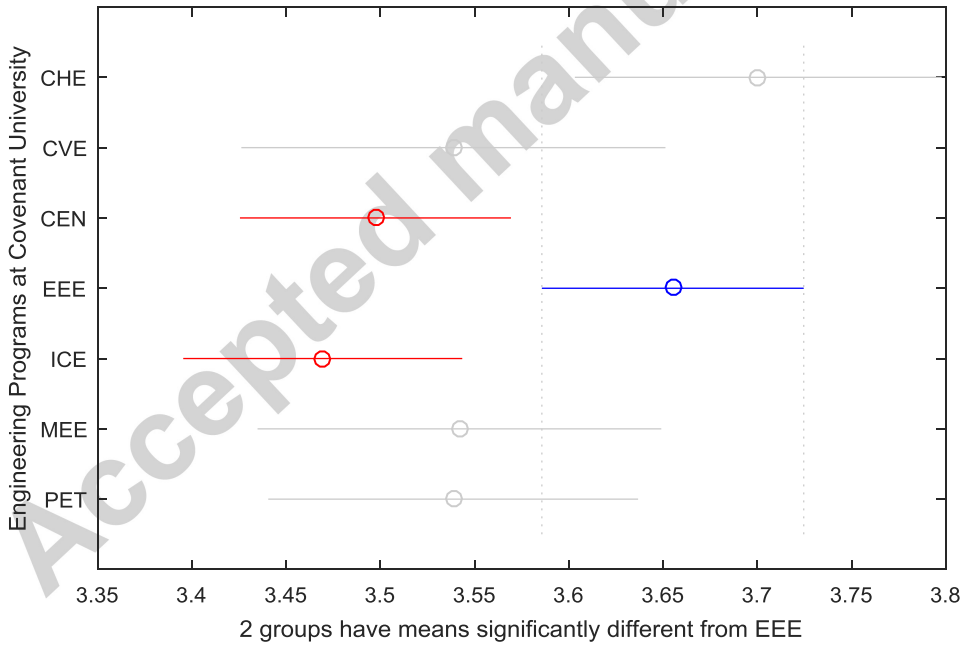

Figure 28. Multiple Comparison Test on Cumulative GPA for EEE

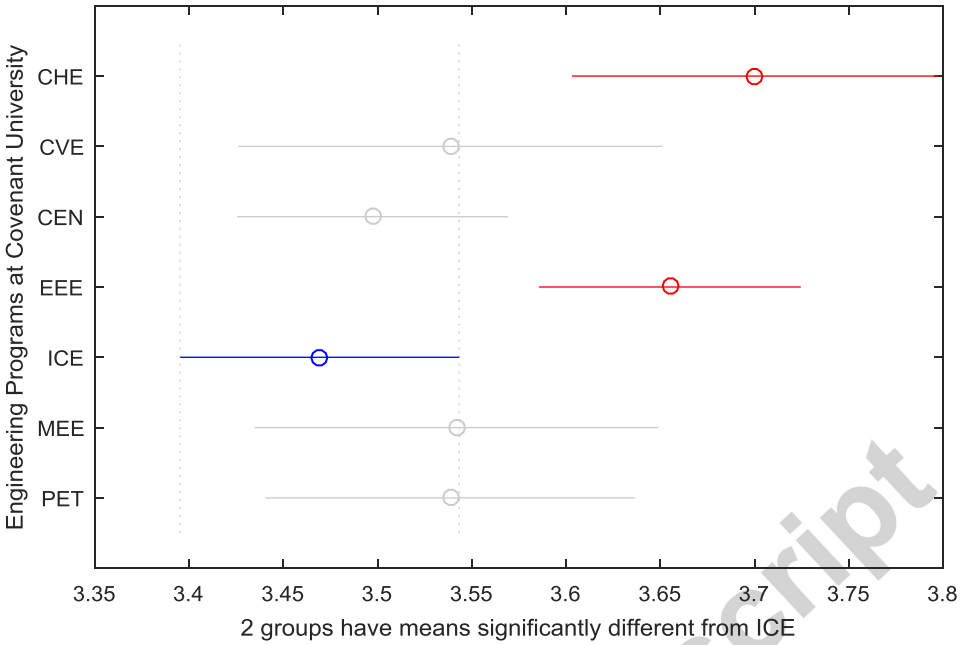

Figure 29. Multiple Comparison Test on Cumulative GPA for ICE

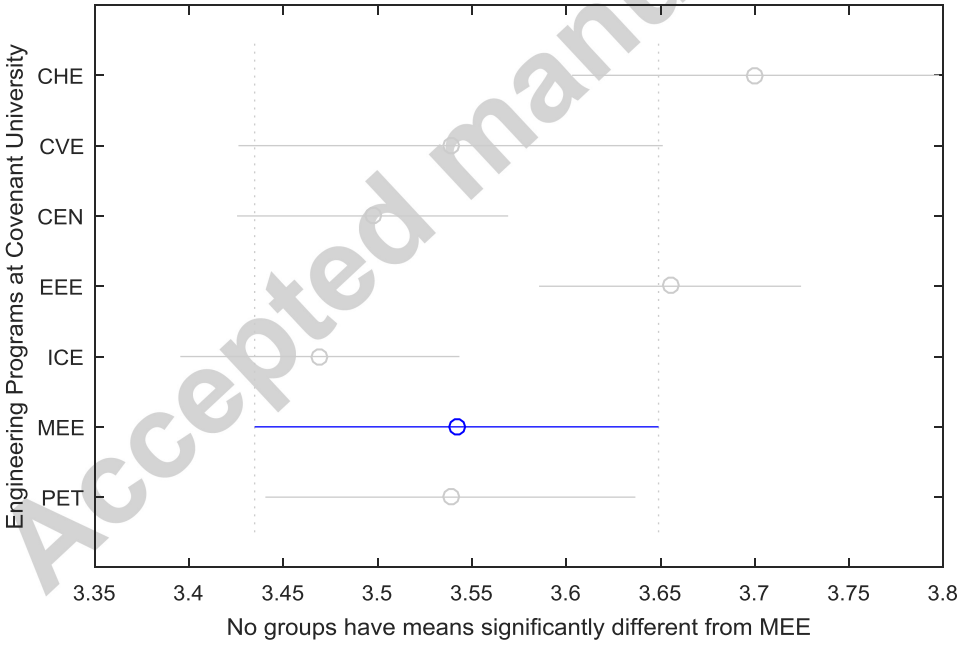

Figure 30. Multiple Comparison Test on Cumulative GPA for MEE

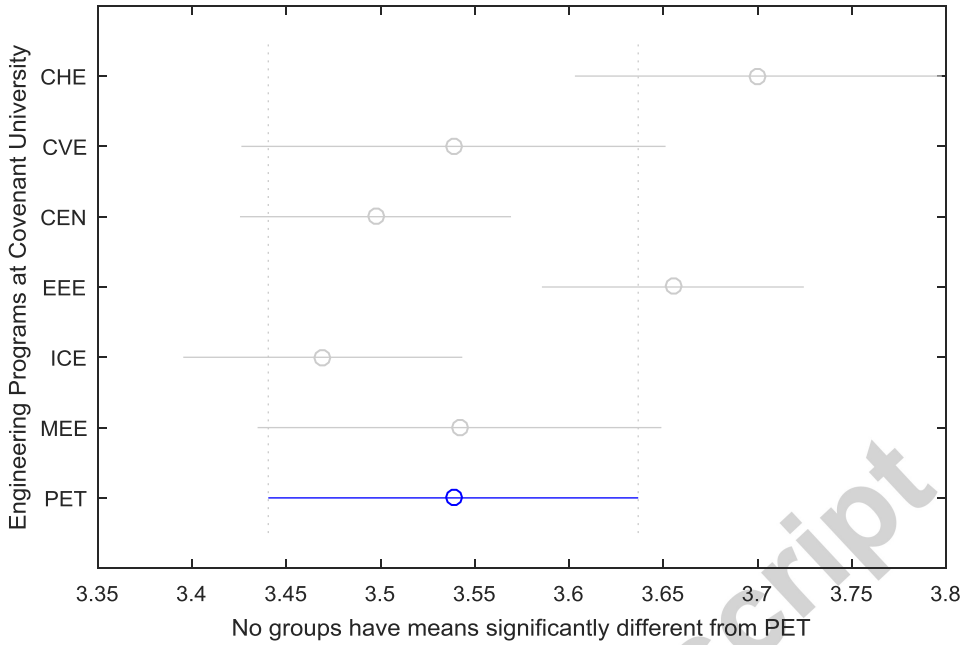

Figure 31. Multiple Comparison Test on Cumulative GPA for PET

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