Road to DS/DA Day 08 Alston Alvares

Note: Solution for the exercises will be on GitHub.

Day 8: Types of Data & File Formats

Types of data: structured, semi-structured, unstructured

☐ Common file formats used in analytics

Reading CSV and Excel files using **Pandas**

Quick data overview: .head(), .info(), .describe()

1. Types of Data

Type Description Example

Structured Organized in rows and columns Excel, CSV, SQL databases

Semi-Structured Partially organized but not in strict schema JSON, XML

Unstructured No specific format Images, videos, audio, emails

2. Common File Formats in Data Analytics

Format Use Case Tool/Library Used

CSV Clean tabular data pandas.read_csv()

Excel Business data pandas.read_excel()

JSON API data, configs pandas.read_json()

SQL Databases pandas.read_sql() + sqlite3

3. Code Examples (Python)

read a CSV file

import pandas as pd

data = pd.read_csv("sample.csv")

print(data.head()) # First 5 rows

print(data.info()) # Structure and types

print(data.describe()) # Stats for numeric columns

F Read an Excel file

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data = pd.read_excel("sample.xlsx")

print(data.head())



You can use .to_csv() or .to_excel() to save files as well.

Mini Exercise

Download or create a small CSV file like:

Name, Age, Department

Alice, 30, HR

Bob, 24, Finance

Clara, 29, Marketing

Task:

- Load the CSV using Pandas
- Print the first 2 rows
- Print the average age

import pandas as pd

df = pd.read_csv("employees.csv")

print(df.head(2))

print("Average age:", df["Age"].mean())

Tools Setup (Optional for today)

If you're not using Jupyter yet, try running:

pip install notebook

jupyter notebook