Getting to Know Your Data

- Data Objects and Attribute Types
- Basic Statistical Descriptions of Data
- Measuring Data Similarity and Dissimilarity
- Summary

Data Objects

- Data sets are made up of data objects.
- A **data object** represents an entity.
- Examples:
  - sales database: customers, store items, sales
  - medical database: patients, treatments
  - university database: students, professors, courses
- Also called *samples , examples, instances, data points, objects, tuples*.
- Data objects are described by **attributes**.
- Database rows -> data objects; columns ->attributes.

Attributes

- **Attribute (**or **dimensions, features, variables**): a data field, representing a characteristic or feature of a data object.
  - *E.g., customer _ID, name, address*
- Types:
  - Nominal
  - Binary
  - Numeric: quantitative
    - Interval-scaled
    - Ratio-scaled

Attributes

Objects

Tid	Refund	Marital Status	Taxable Income	Cheat
1	Yes	Single	125K	No
2	No	Married	100K	No
3	No	Single	70K	No
4	Yes	Married	120K	No
5	No	Divorced	95K	Yes
6	No	Married	60K	No
7	Yes	Divorced	220K	No
8	No	Single	85K	Yes
9	No	Married	75K	No
10	No	Single	90K	Yes

Attribute Values

- ***Attribute values*** are numbers or symbols assigned to an attribute for a particular object

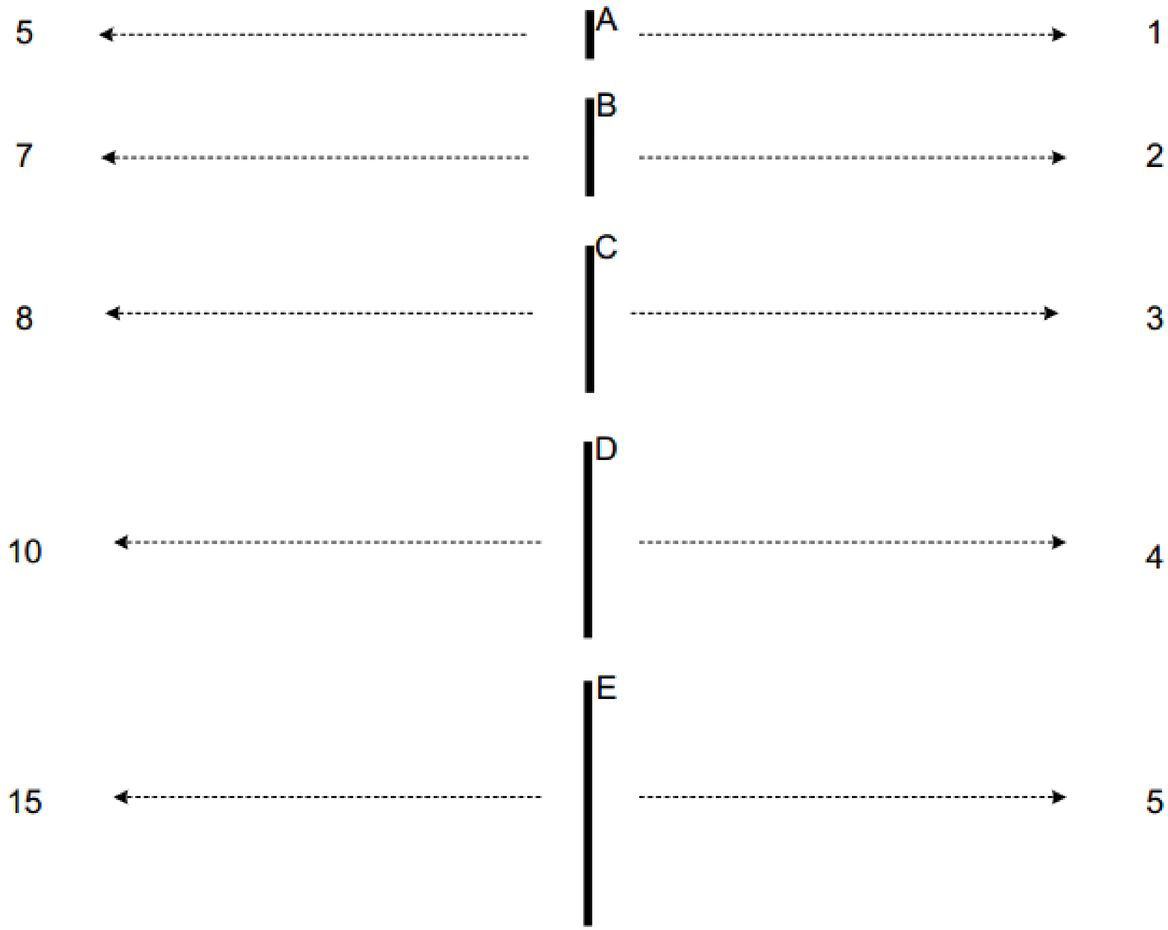
- Distinction between attributes and attribute values
  - Same attribute can be mapped to different attribute values
    - Example: height can be measured in feet or meters

  - Different attributes can be mapped to the same set of values
    - Example: Attribute values for ID and age are integers
    - But properties of attribute values can be different

Measurement of length

- The way you measure an attribute may not match the attributes properties.

This scale preserves only the ordering property of length.



This scale preserves the ordering and additivity properties of length.

Attribute Types

- **Nominal:** categories, states, or "names of things"
  - *Hair_color = {auburn, black, blond, brown, grey, red, white}*
  - marital status, occupation, ID numbers, zip codes
- **Binary**
  - Nominal attribute with only 2 states (0 and 1)
  - <u>Symmetric binary</u>: both outcomes equally important
    - e.g., gender
  - <u>Asymmetric binary</u>: outcomes not equally important.
    - e.g., medical test (positive vs. negative)
    - Convention: assign 1 to most important outcome (e.g., HIV positive)
- **Ordinal**
  - Values have a meaningful order (ranking) but magnitude between successive values is not known.
  - *Size = {small, medium, large}*, grades, army rankings

Numeric Attribute Types

- Quantity (integer or real-valued)
- **Interval**
  - Measured on a scale of **equal-sized units**
  - Values have order
    - E.g., *temperature in C˚or F˚, calendar dates*
  - No true zero-point
- **Ratio**
  - Inherent **zero-point**
  - We can speak of values as being an order of magnitude larger than the unit of measurement (10 km is twice as long as 5 km).
    - e.g., *temperature in Kelvin, length, counts, monetary quantities*

Properties of Attribute Values

- The type of an attribute depends on which of the following properties/operations it possesses:
  - Distinctness: $= \neq$
  - Order: $< >$
  - Differences are meaningful : $+ -$
  - Ratios are meaningful $* /$

  - Nominal attribute: distinctness
  - Ordinal attribute: distinctness & order
  - Interval attribute: distinctness, order & meaningful differences
  - Ratio attribute: all 4 properties/operations

	Attribute Type	Description	Examples	Operations
Categorical Qualitative	Nominal	Nominal attribute values only distinguish. (=, ≠)	zip codes, employee ID numbers, eye color, sex: {*male, female*}	mode, entropy, contingency correlation, χ2 test
	Ordinal	Ordinal attribute values also order objects. (<, >)	hardness of minerals, {*good, better, best*}, grades, street numbers	median, percentiles, rank correlation, run tests, sign tests
Numeric Quantitative	Interval	For interval attributes, differences between values are meaningful. (+, -)	calendar dates, temperature in Celsius or Fahrenheit	mean, standard deviation, Pearson's correlation, *t* and *F* tests
	Ratio	For ratio variables, both differences and ratios are meaningful. (*, /)	temperature in Kelvin, monetary quantities, counts, age, mass, length, current	geometric mean, harmonic mean, percent variation

This categorization of attributes is due to S. S. Stevens

Discrete vs. Continuous Attributes

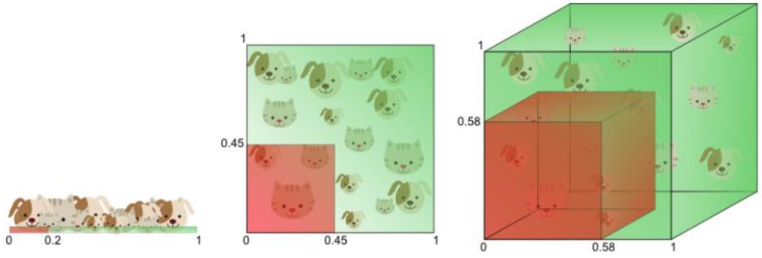
- **Discrete Attribute**
  - Has only a finite or countably infinite set of values
    - E.g., zip codes, profession, or the set of words in a collection of documents
  - Sometimes, represented as integer variables
  - Note: Binary attributes are a special case of discrete attributes
- **Continuous Attribute**
  - Has real numbers as attribute values
    - E.g., temperature, height, or weight
  - Practically, real values can only be measured and represented using a finite number of digits
  - Continuous attributes are typically represented as floating-point variables

Types of data sets

- Record
  - Data Matrix
  - Document Data
  - Transaction Data
- Graph
  - World Wide Web
  - Molecular Structures
- Ordered
  - Spatial Data
  - Temporal Data
  - Sequential Data
  - Genetic Sequence Data

Important Characteristics of Data

- Dimensionality (number of attributes)
  - High dimensional data brings a number of challenges



- Sparsity
  - Only presence counts
- Resolution
  - Patterns depend on the scale
- Size
  - Type of analysis may depend on size of data

Record Data

- Data that consists of a collection of records, each of which consists of a fixed set of attributes

Tid	Refund	Marital Status	Taxable Income	Cheat
1	Yes	Single	125K	No
2	No	Married	100K	No
3	No	Single	70K	No
4	Yes	Married	120K	No
5	No	Divorced	95K	Yes
6	No	Married	60K	No
7	Yes	Divorced	220K	No
8	No	Single	85K	Yes
9	No	Married	75K	No
10	No	Single	90K	Yes

Data Matrix

- If data objects have the same fixed set of numeric attributes, then the data objects can be thought of as points in a multi-dimensional space, where each dimension represents a distinct attribute

- Such data set can be represented by an *m* by *n* matrix, where there are *m* rows, one for each object, and *n* columns, one for each attribute

Projection of x Load	Projection of y load	Distance	Load	Thickness
10.23	5.27	15.22	2.7	1.2
12.65	6.25	16.22	2.2	1.1

Document Data

- Each document becomes a 'term' vector
  - Each term is a component (attribute) of the vector
  - The value of each component is the number of times the corresponding term occurs in the document.

	team	coach	play	ball	score	game	win	lost	timeout	season
Document 1	3	0	5	0	2	6	0	2	0	2
Document 2	0	7	0	2	1	0	0	3	0	0
Document 3	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	0	3	0

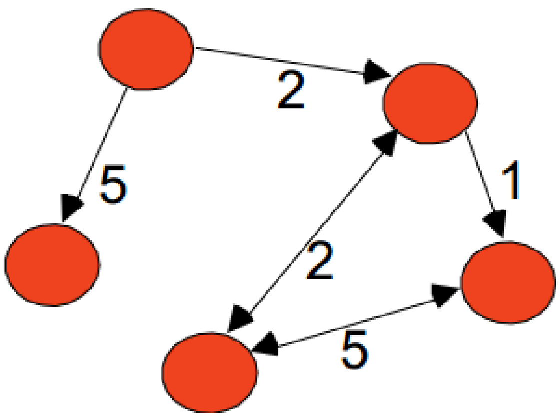
Transaction Data

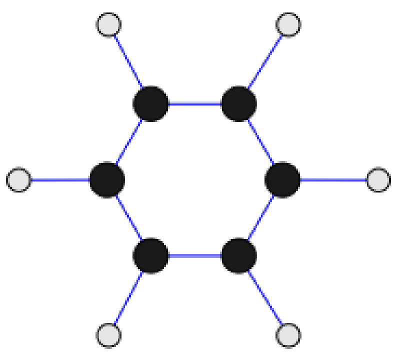
- A special type of record data, where
  - Each record (transaction) involves a set of items.
  - For example, consider a grocery store. The set of products purchased by a customer during one shopping trip constitute a transaction, while the individual products that were purchased are the items.

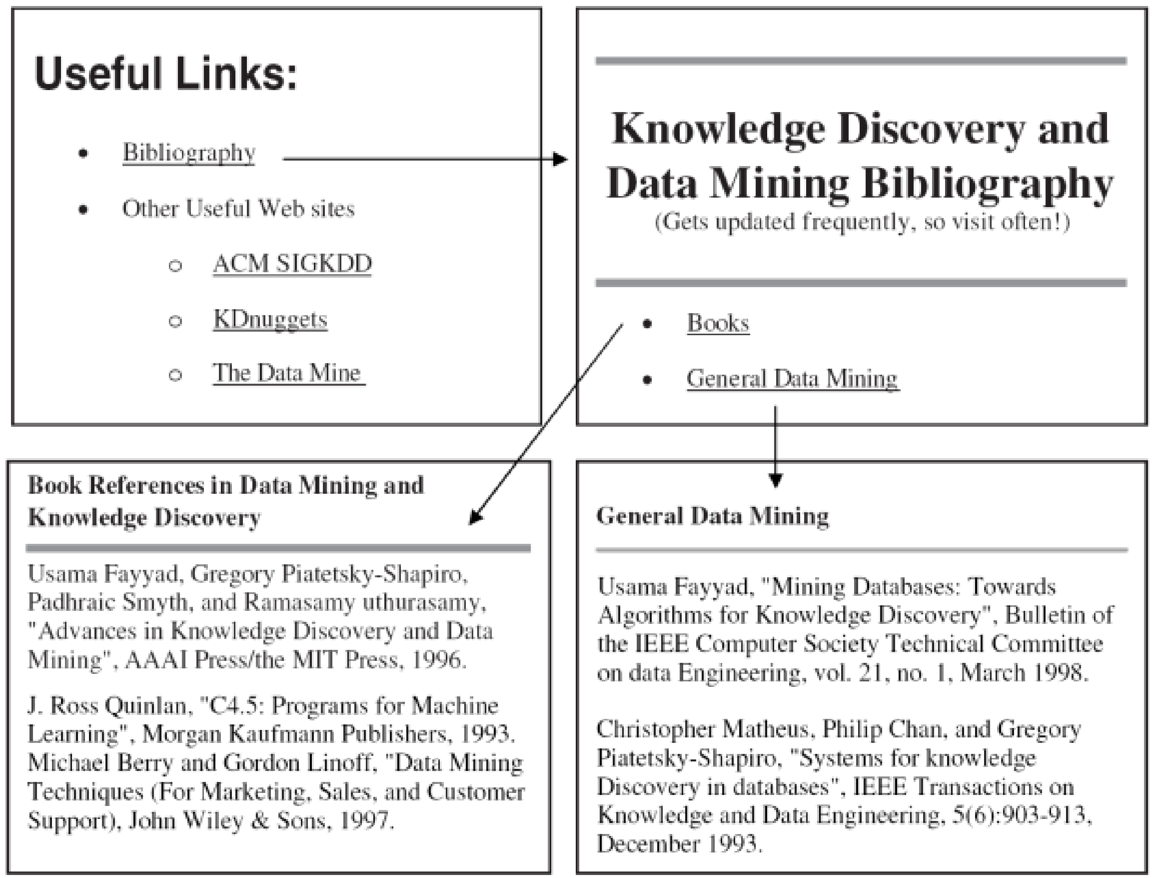
TID	*Items*
1	Bread, Coke, Milk
2	Beer, Bread
3	Beer, Coke, Diaper, Milk
4	Beer, Bread, Diaper, Milk
5	Coke, Diaper, Milk

Graph Data

- Examples: Generic graph, a molecule, and webpages







Ordered Data

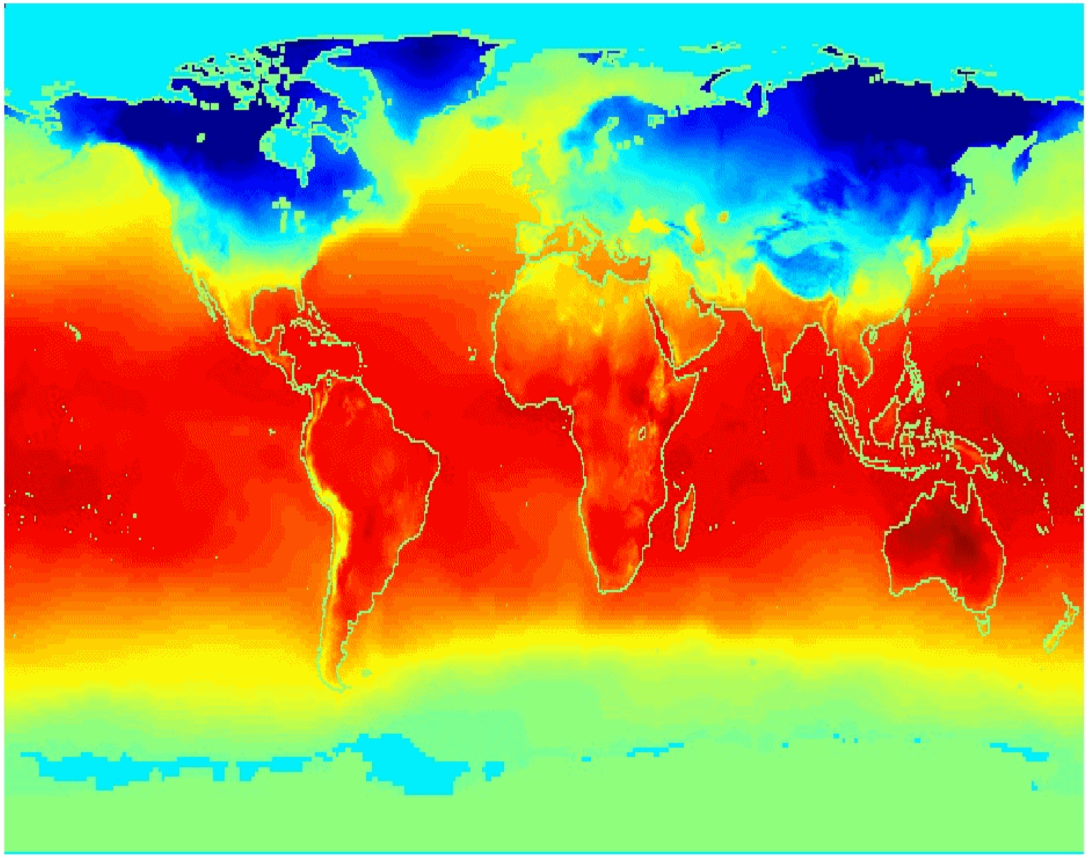
- Genomic sequence data

```
GGTTCCGCCTTCAGCCCCGCGCC
CGCAGGGCCCGCCCCGCGCCGTC
GAGAAGGGCCCGCCTGGCGGGCG
GGGGGAGGCGGGGCCGCCCGAGC
CCAACCGAGTCCGACCAGGTGCC
CCCTCTGCTCGGCCTAGACCTGA
GCTCATTAGGCGGCAGCGGACAG
GCCAAGTAGAACACGCGAAGCGC
TGGGCTGCCTGCTGCGACCAGGG
```

Ordered Data

- Spatio-Temporal Data

Jan



Average Monthly Temperature of land and ocean

Data Quality

- Poor data quality negatively affects many data processing efforts

"The most important point is that poor data quality is an unfolding disaster.

  - Poor data quality costs the typical company at least ten percent (10%) of revenue; twenty percent (20%) is probably a better estimate."

Thomas C. Redman, DM Review, August 2004

- Data mining example: a classification model for detecting people who are loan risks is built using poor data
  - Some credit-worthy candidates are denied loans
  - More loans are given to individuals that default

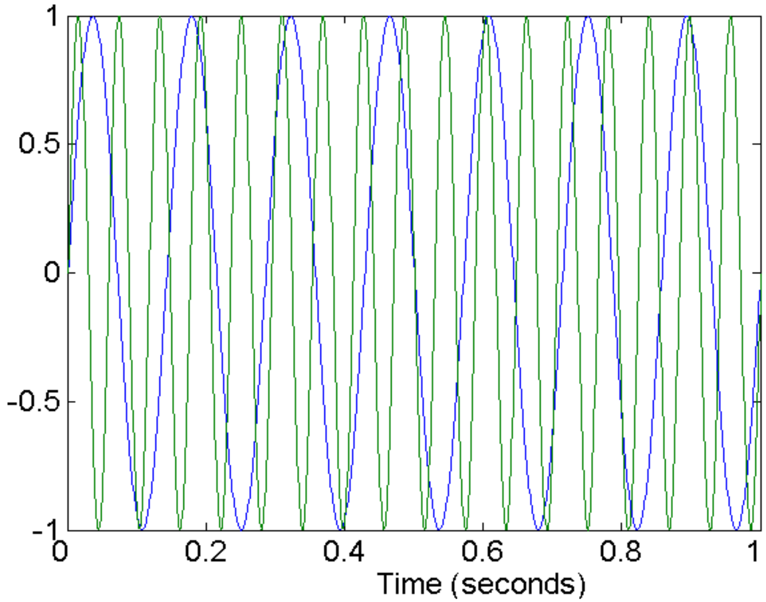
Data Quality …

- What kinds of data quality problems?
- How can we detect problems with the data?
- What can we do about these problems?

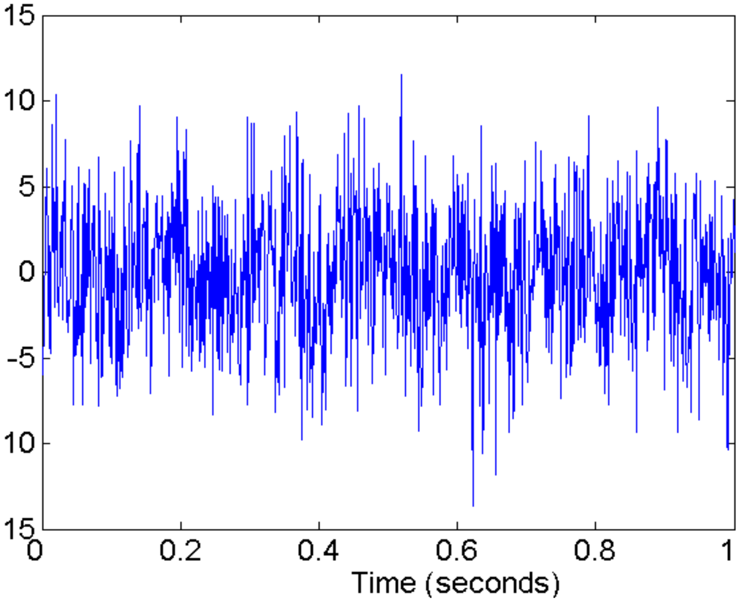
- Examples of data quality problems:
  - Noise and outliers
  - Missing values
  - Duplicate data
  - Wrong data

Noise

- For objects, noise is an extraneous object
- For attributes, noise refers to modification of original values
  - Examples: distortion of a person’s voice when talking on a poor phone and “snow” on television screen



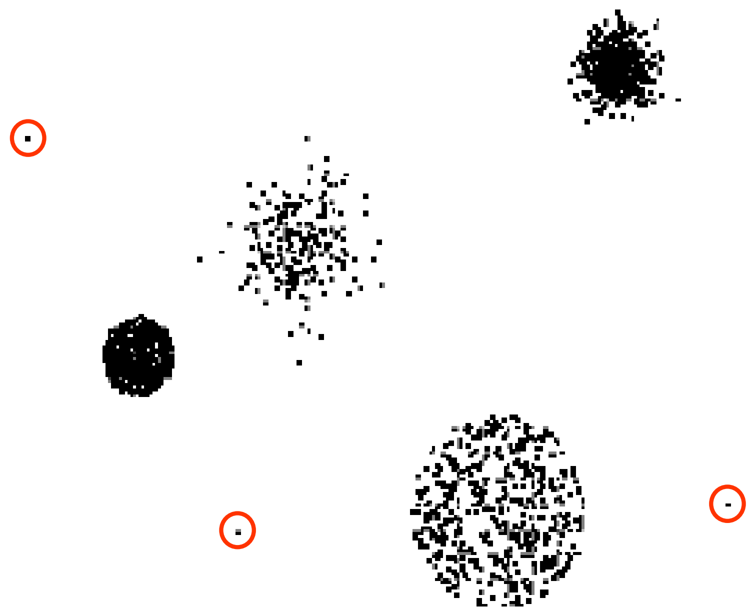
Two Sine Waves



Two Sine Waves + Noise

Outliers

- ***Outliers*** are data objects with characteristics that are considerably different than most of the other data objects in the data set
  - **Case 1:** Outliers are noise that interferes with data analysis
  - **Case 2:** Outliers are the goal of our analysis
    - Credit card fraud
    - Intrusion detection
- Causes?



Missing Values

- Reasons for missing values
  - Information is not collected
    (e.g., people decline to give their age and weight)
  - Attributes may not be applicable to all cases
    (e.g., annual income is not applicable to children)

- Handling missing values
  - Eliminate data objects or variables
  - Estimate missing values
    - Example: time series of temperature
    - Example: census results

Scalable tensor factorizations for incomplete data
E Acar, DM Dunlavy, TG Kolda, M Mørup - Chemometrics and Intelligent …, 2011 - Elsevier
… Higher-order factorizations, ie, tensor factorizations, have emerged as an important method for information analysis [4], [5]. Instead of flattening (unfolding) multi-way arrays into matrices and using matrix factorization techniques, tensor models preserve the multi …

  - Ignore the missing value during analysis

Missing Values …

- Missing (completely) at random (MCAR)
  - Missingness of a value is independent of attributes
  - Fill in values based on the attribute
  - Analysis may be unbiased overall

Probabilistic Matrix Factorization with Non-random Missing Data

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- Missing Not at Random (MNAR)
  - Missingness is related to unobserved measurements
  - Informative or non-ignorable missingness
- Not possible to know the situation from the data

Duplicate Data

- Data set may include data objects that are duplicates, or almost duplicates of one another
  - Major issue when merging data from heterogeneous sources

- Examples:
  - Same person with multiple email addresses

- Data cleaning
  - Process of dealing with duplicate data issues

Chapter 2: Getting to Know Your Data

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Basic Statistical Descriptions of Data

- Motivation
  - To better understand the data: central tendency, variation and spread
- Data dispersion characteristics
  - median, max, min, quantiles, outliers, variance, etc.
- Numerical dimensions correspond to sorted intervals
  - Data dispersion: analyzed with multiple granularities of precision
  - Boxplot or quantile analysis on sorted intervals
- Dispersion analysis on computed measures
  - Folding measures into numerical dimensions
  - Boxplot or quantile analysis on the transformed cube

Measuring the Central Tendency

- Mean (algebraic measure) (sample vs. population):

  Note: *n* is sample size and *N* is population size.

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \qquad \mu = \frac{\sum x}{N}$$

  - Weighted arithmetic mean:
  - Trimmed mean: chopping extreme values

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i}$$

- Median:
  - Middle value if odd number of values, or average of the middle two values otherwise
  - Estimated by interpolation (for *grouped data*):

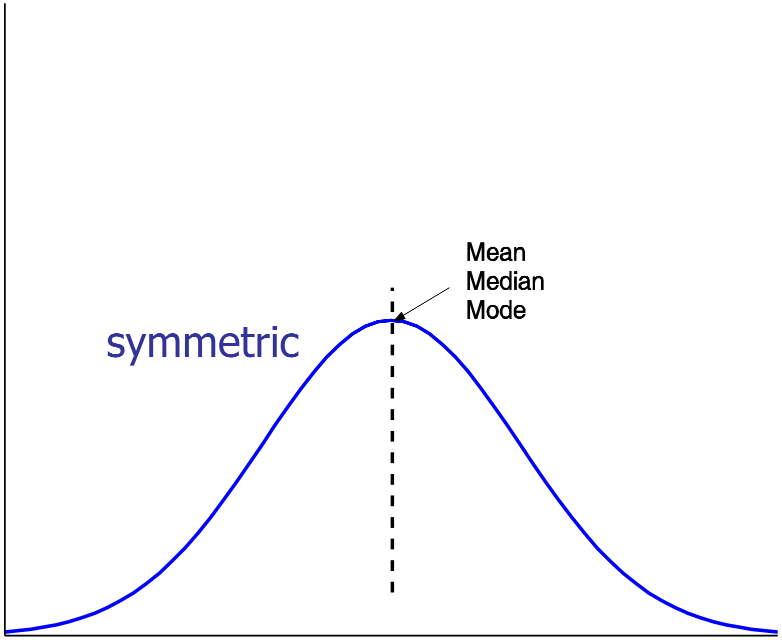
$$median = L_1 + \left(\frac{n/2 - (\sum freq)l}{freq_{median}}\right) width$$

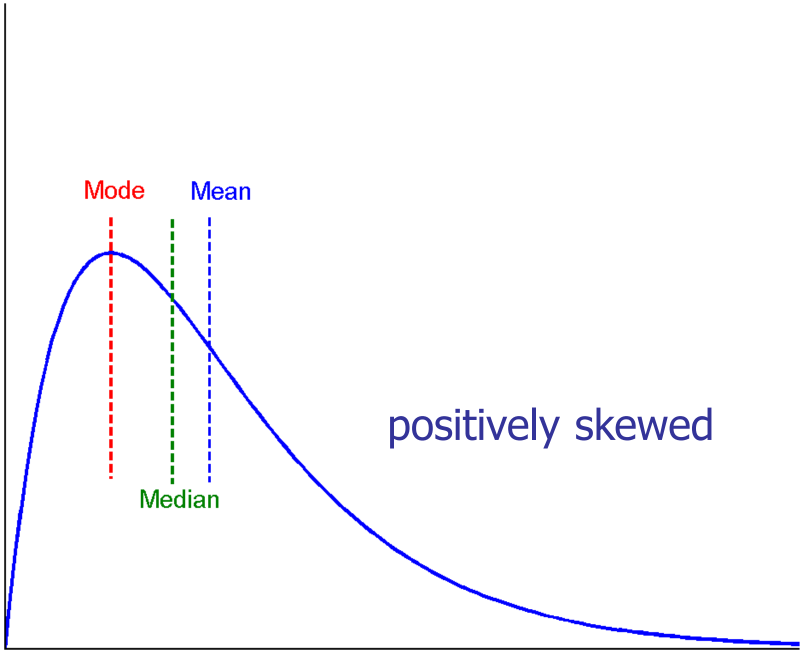
age	$frequency$
1–5	200
6–15	450
16–20	300
21–50	1500
51–80	700
81–110	44

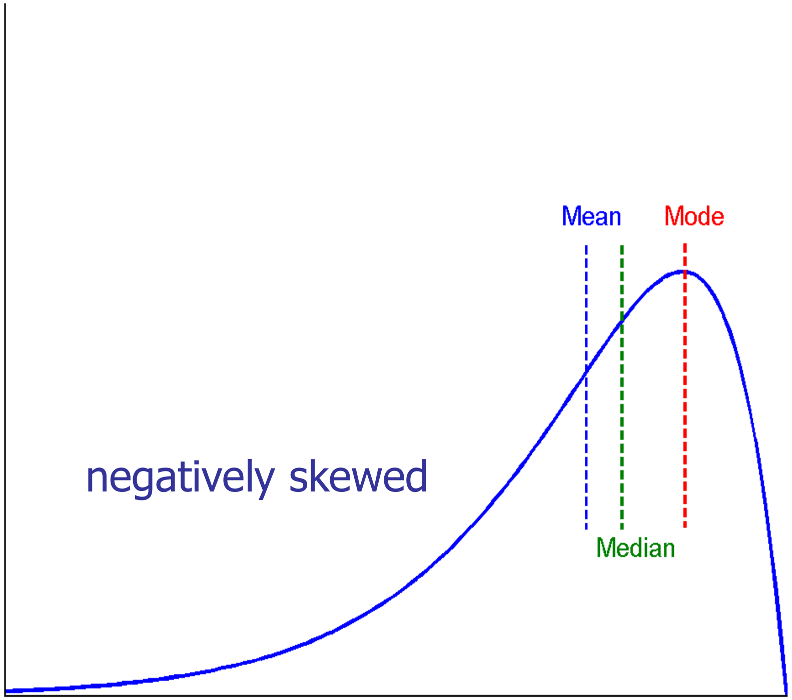
- Mode
  - Value that occurs most frequently in the data
  - Unimodal, bimodal, trimodal
  - Empirical formula: $mean - mode = 3 \times (mean - median)$

Symmetric vs. Skewed Da

- Median, mean and mode of symmetric, positively and negatively skewed data







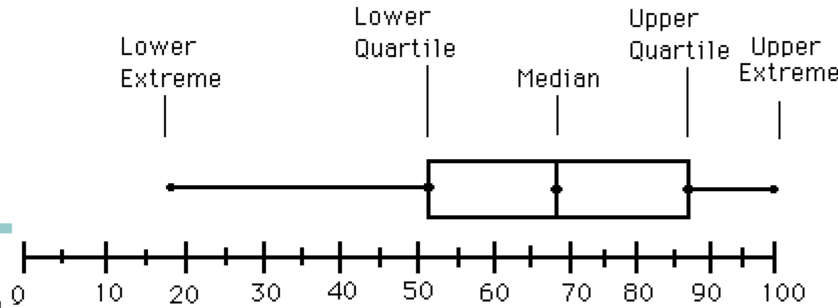
Measuring the Dispersion of Data

- Quartiles (Note: Quantile), outliers and boxplots
  - **Quartiles**: Q_1 (25th percentile), Q_3 (75th percentile)
  - **Inter-quartile range**: IQR = $Q_3 - Q_1$
  - **Five number summary**: min, Q_1, median, Q_3, max
  - **Boxplot**: ends of the box are the quartiles; median is marked; add whiskers, and plot outliers individually
  - **Outlier**: usually, a value higher/lower than 1.5 x IQR
- Variance and standard deviation (*sample: s, population: σ)*
  - **Variance**: (algebraic, scalable computation)

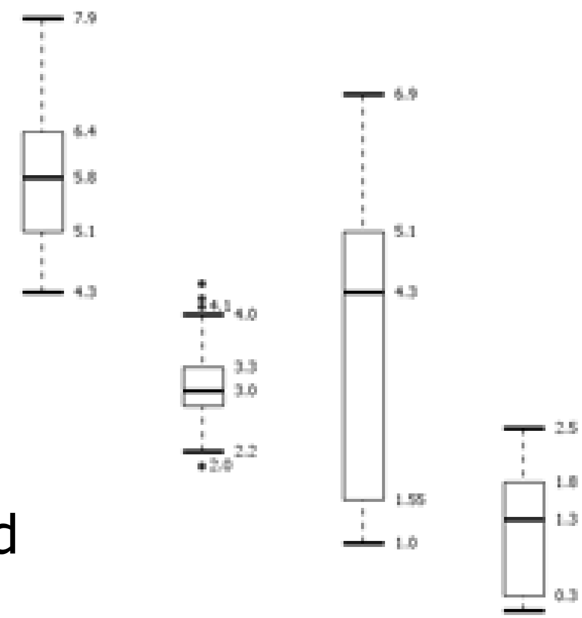
$$s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(x_i - \bar{x})^2 = \frac{1}{n-1}[\sum_{i=1}^{n}x_i^2 - \frac{1}{n}(\sum_{i=1}^{n}x_i)^2] \qquad \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(x_i - \mu)^2 = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{n}x_i^2 - \mu^2$$

  - **Standard deviation** *s (or σ)* is the square root of variance *s^2 (or σ^2)*

Boxplot Analysis



- **Five-number summary** of a distribution
  - Minimum, Q1, Median, Q3, Maximum
- **Boxplot**
  - Data is represented with a box
  - The ends of the box are at the first and third quartiles, i.e., the height of the box is IQR
  - The median is marked by a line within the box
  - Whiskers: two lines outside the box extended to Minimum and Maximum
  - Outliers: points beyond a specified outlier threshold, plotted individually



Pandas

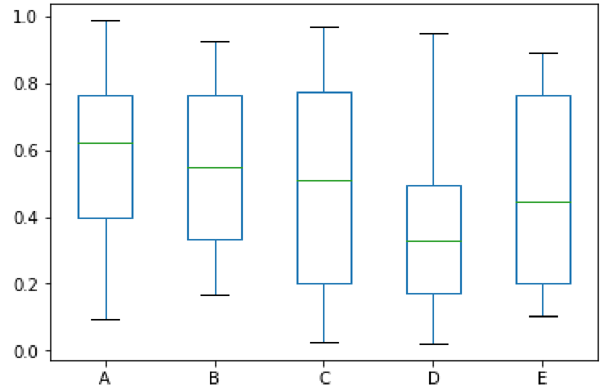
Python Data Analysis Library

pandas is an open source, BSD-licensed library providing high-performance, easy-to-use data structures and data analysis tools for the Python programming language.

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np

df = pd.DataFrame(np.random.rand(10, 5), columns=[
print df.describe()
df.plot.box()
```

	A	B	C	D	E
count	10.000000	10.000000	10.000000	10.000000	10.000000
mean	0.581936	0.536524	0.499631	0.356753	0.467934
std	0.312519	0.271267	0.343722	0.270859	0.306170
min	0.096030	0.165532	0.027299	0.021291	0.106197
25%	0.398603	0.335390	0.204327	0.173439	0.201040
50%	0.623188	0.549698	0.511723	0.327862	0.446794
75%	0.767322	0.767665	0.773227	0.495123	0.765587
max	0.989424	0.928607	0.969100	0.949037	0.892199

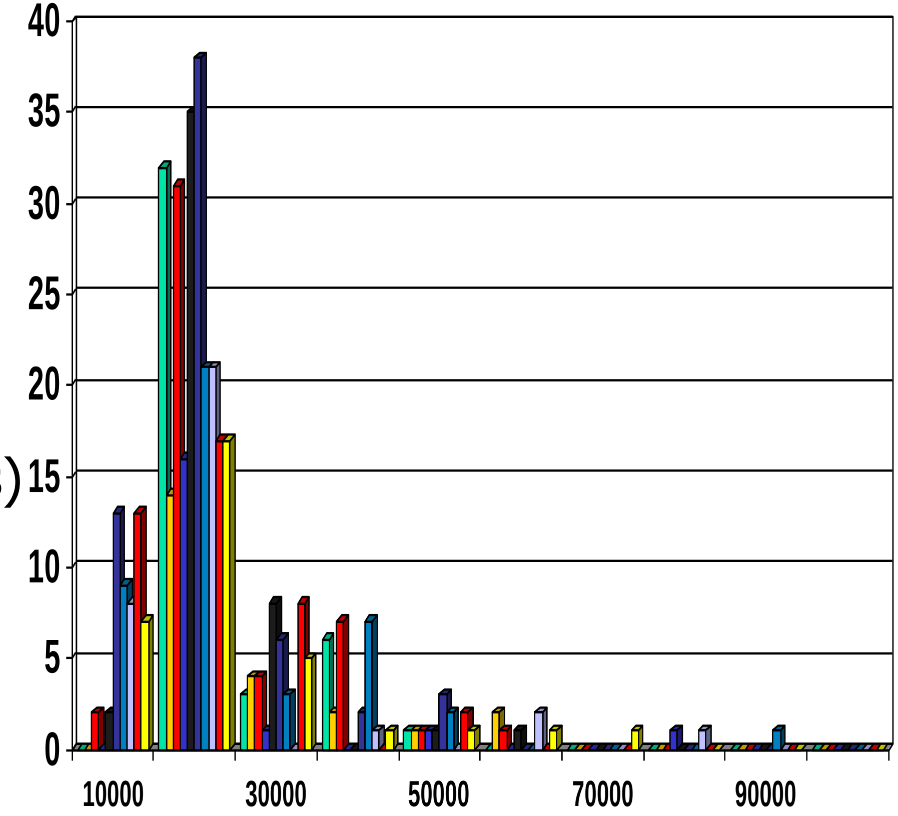


Graphic Displays of Basic Statistical Descriptions

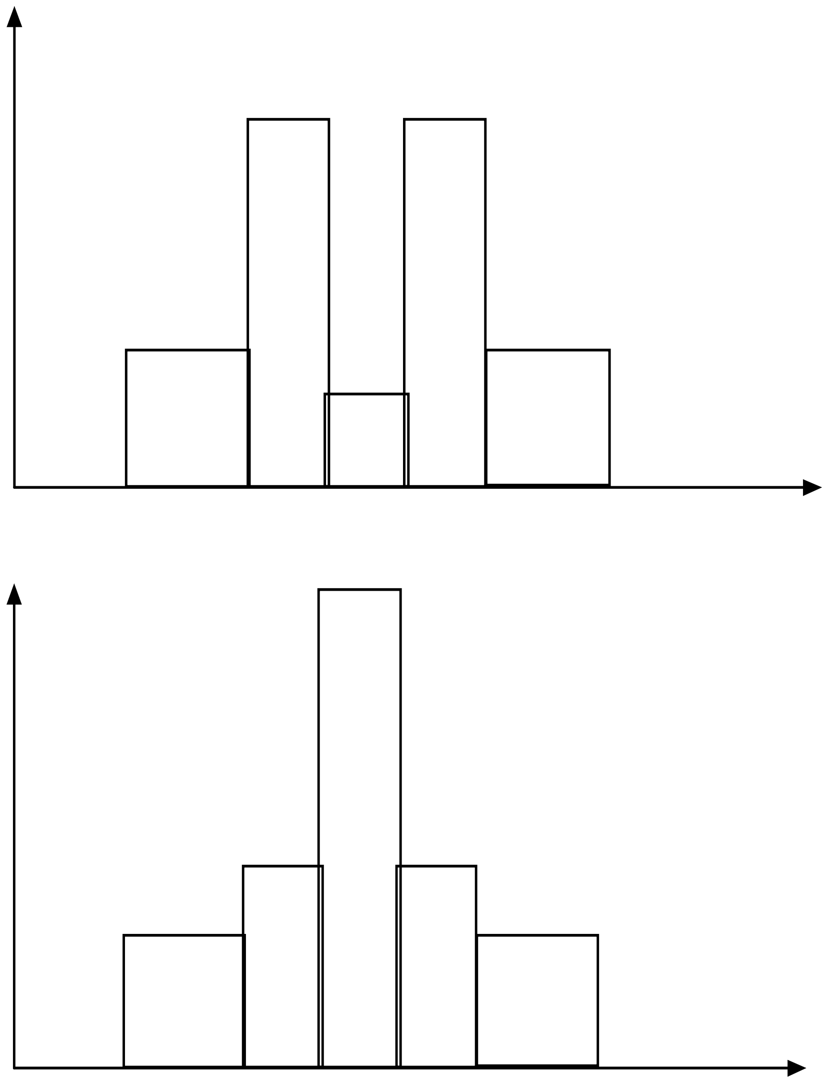
- **Boxplot**: graphic display of five-number summary
- **Histogram**: x-axis are values, y-axis repres. frequencies
- **Quantile plot**: each value x_i is paired with f_i indicating that approximately 100 f_i% of data are $\leq x_i$
- **Quantile-quantile (q-q) plot**: graphs the quantiles of one univariant distribution against the corresponding quantiles of another
- **Scatter plot**: each pair of values is a pair of coordinates and plotted as points in the plane

Histogram Analysis

- Histogram: Graph display of tabulated frequencies, shown as bars
- It shows what proportion of cases fall into each of several categories
- The categories are usually specified as non-overlapping intervals of some variable. The categories (bars) must be adjacent



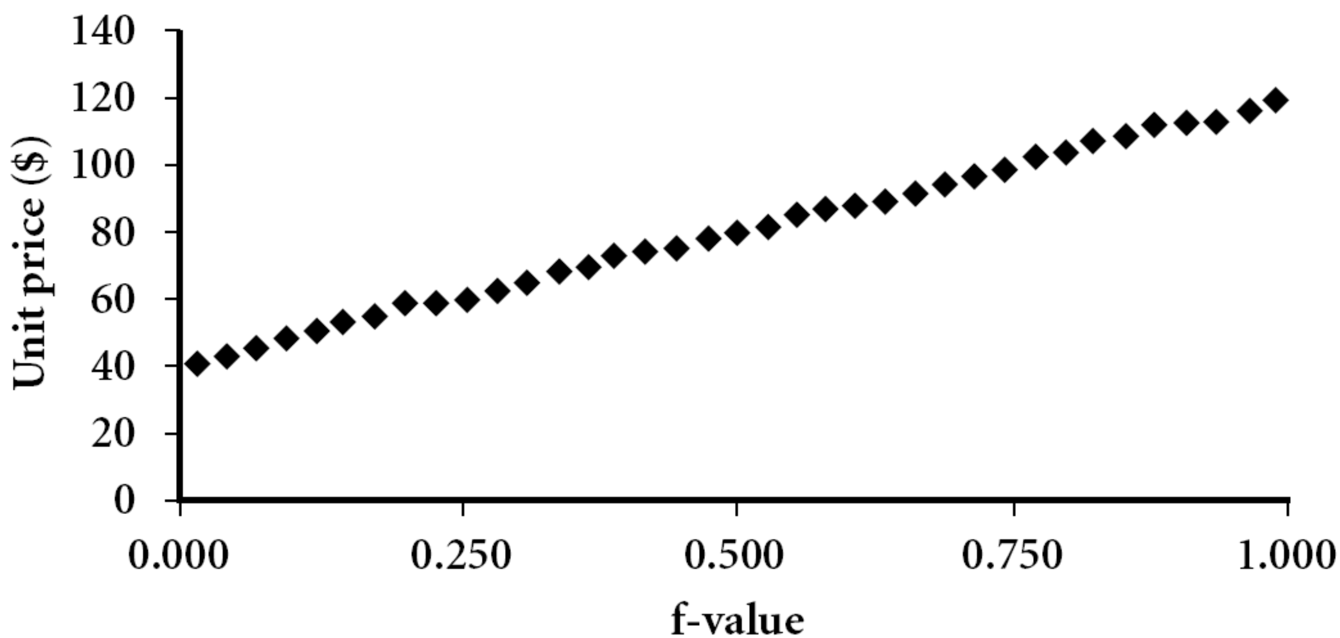
Histograms Often Tell More than Boxplots



- The two histograms shown in the left may have the same boxplot representation
  - The same values for: min, Q1, median, Q3, max
- But they have rather different data distributions

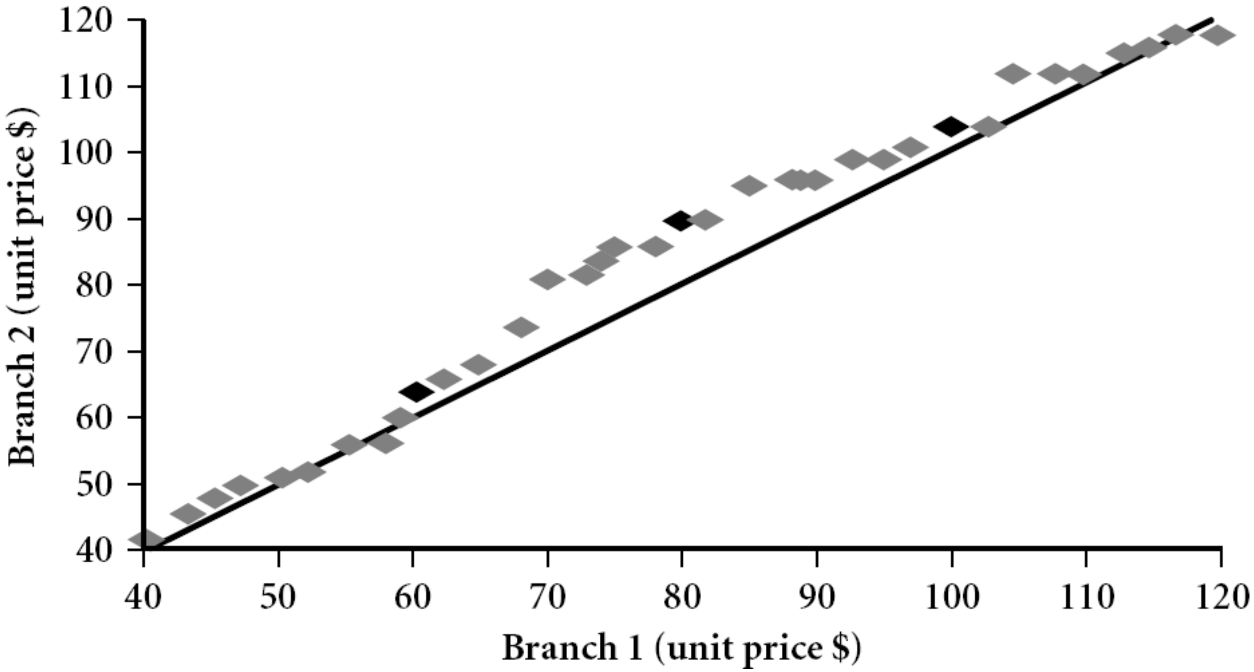
Quantile Plot

- Displays all of the data (allowing the user to assess both the overall behavior and unusual occurrences)
- Plots **quantile** information
  - For a data x_i data sorted in increasing order, f_i indicates that approximately 100 f_i% of the data are below or equal to the value x_i



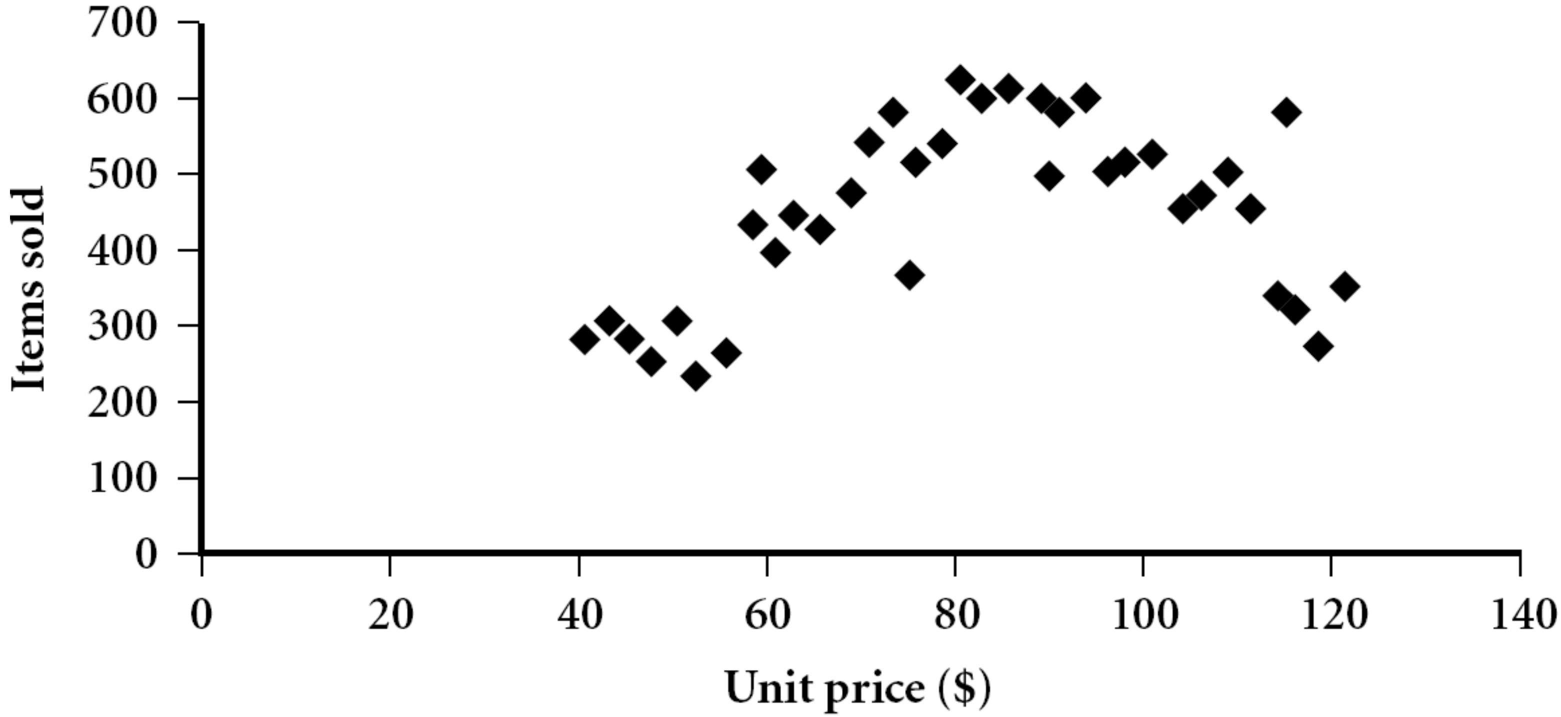
Quantile-Quantile (Q-Q) Plot

- Graphs the quantiles of one univariate distribution against the corresponding quantiles of another
- View: Is there is a shift in going from one distribution to another?
- Example shows unit price of items sold at Branch 1 vs. Branch 2 for each quantile. Unit prices of items sold at Branch 1 tend to be lower than those at Branch 2.

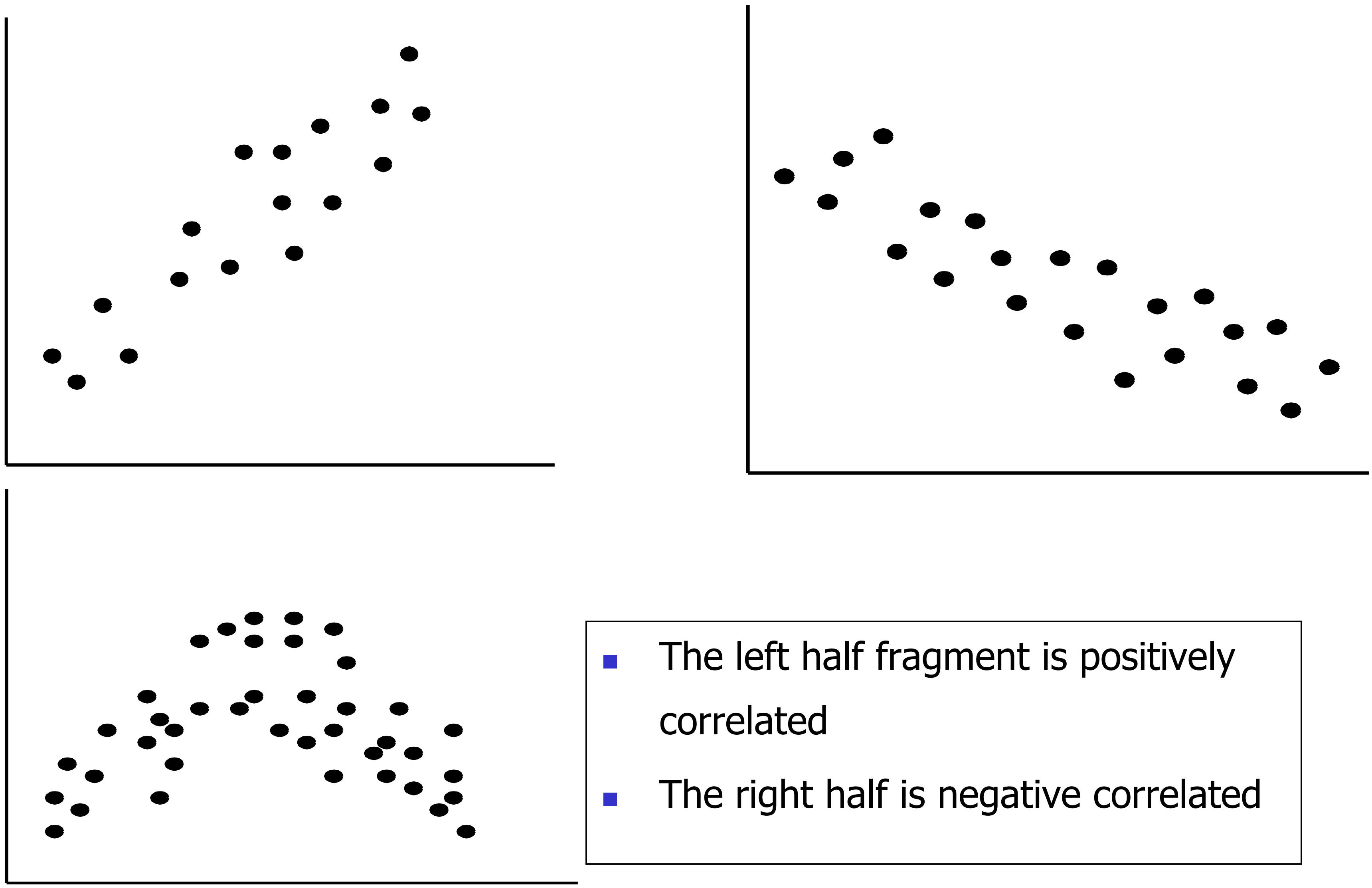


Scatter plot

- Provides a first look at bivariate data to see clusters of points, outliers, etc
- Each pair of values is treated as a pair of coordinates and plotted as points in the plane

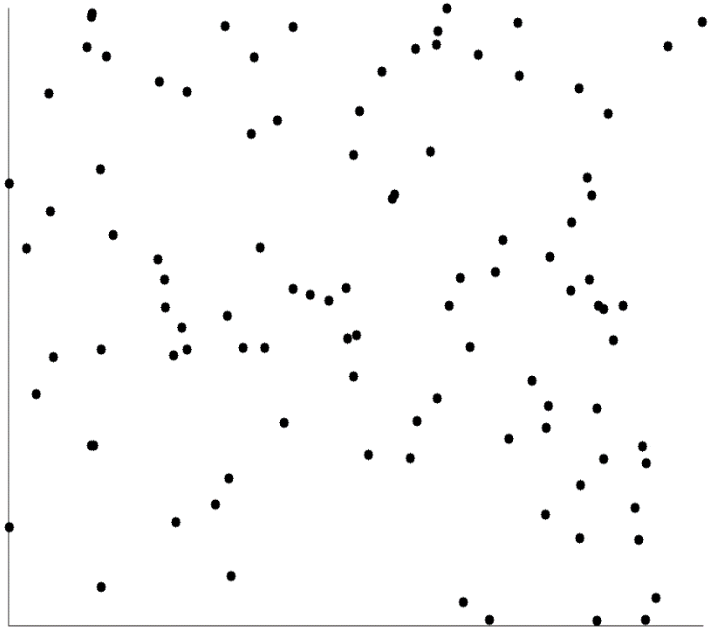


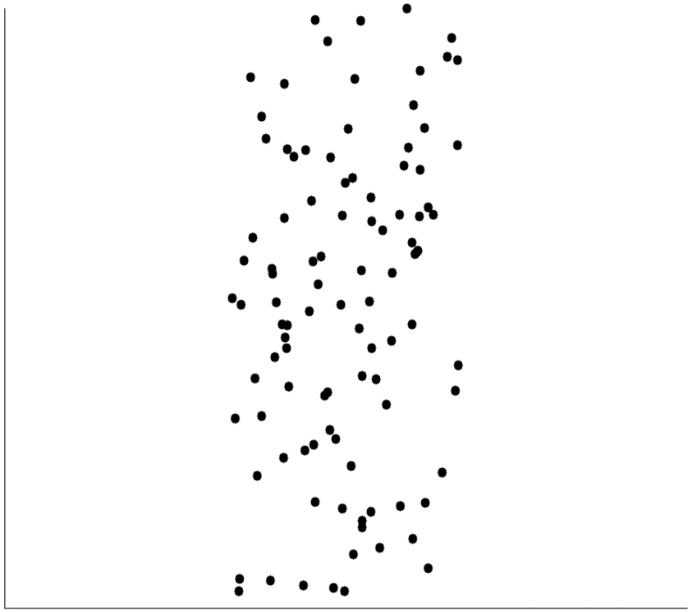
Positively and Negatively Correlated Data



- The left half fragment is positively correlated
- The right half is negative correlated

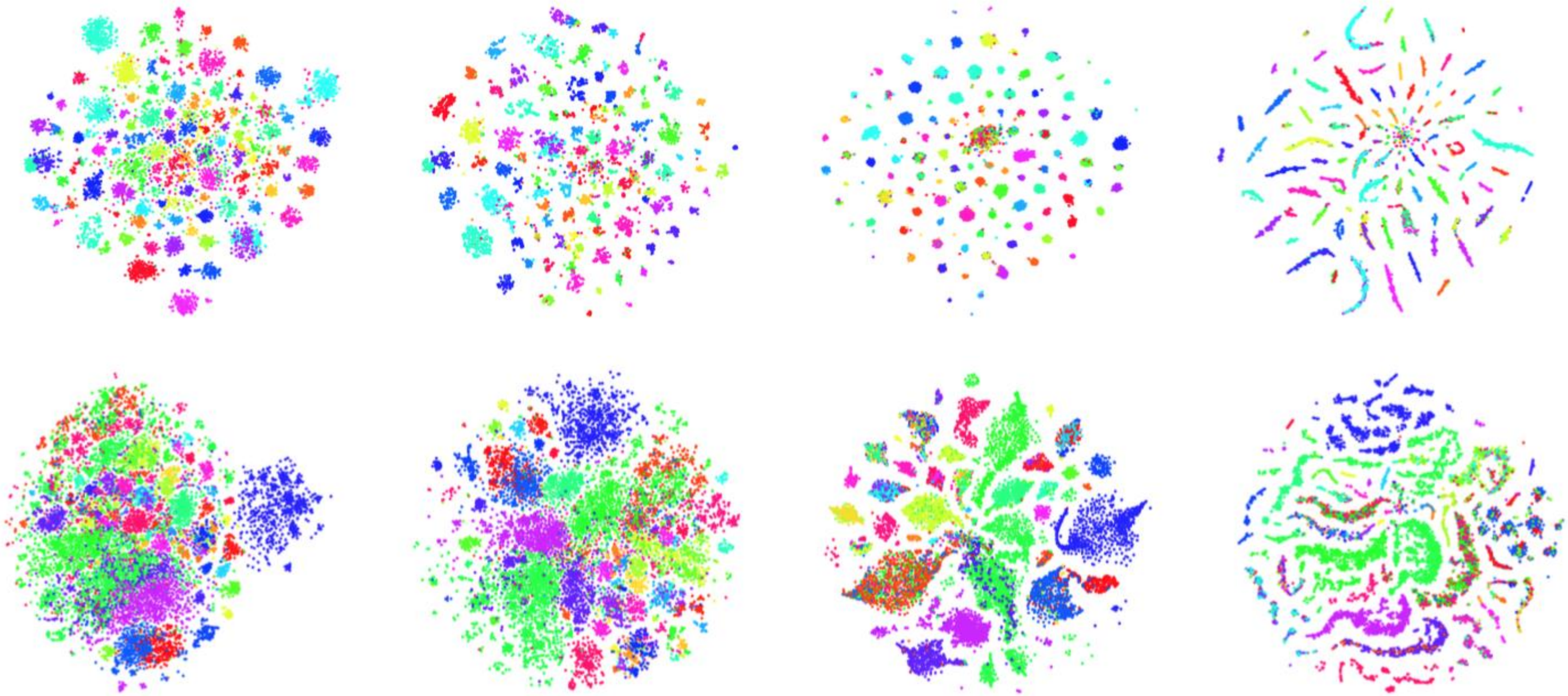
Uncorrelated Data





Scatter plot for high-dimensional data

- Document with labels
  - Dimension reduction



Example (1) -- Location Prediction

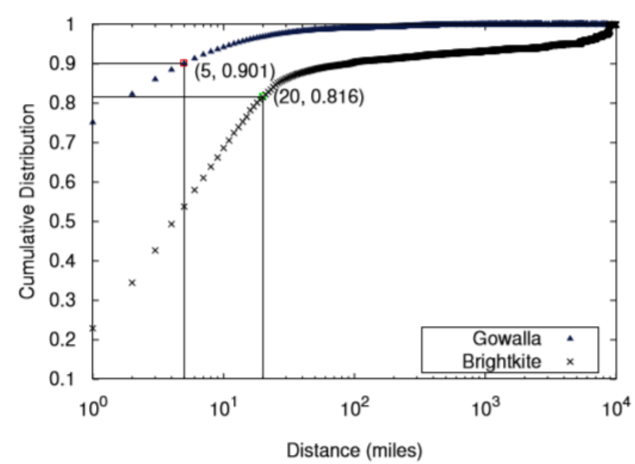
隐式查询

当前用户所处地点与时间

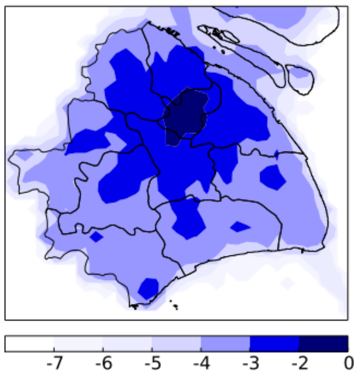
检索输出

用户下一时间段内可能去的地点列表

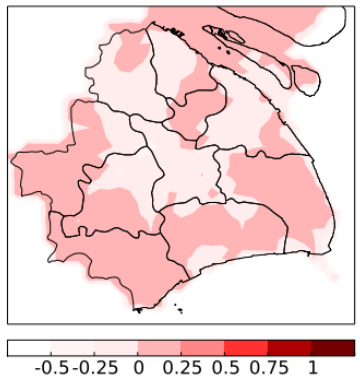
1. 东方明珠塔
2. 上海博物馆
3. ……



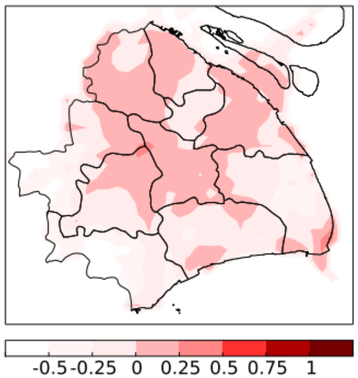
Example (2) – Migrants in Shanghai



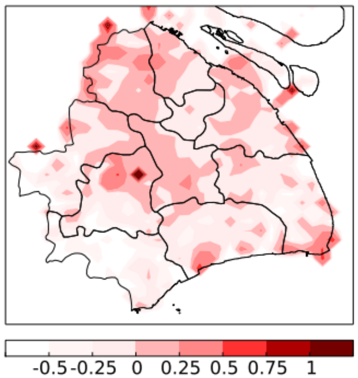
(a) Overall average probability.



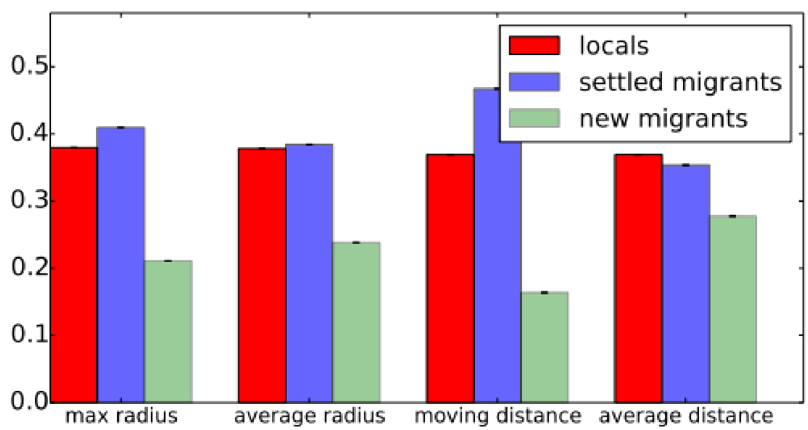
(b) Locals.



(c) Settled migrants.



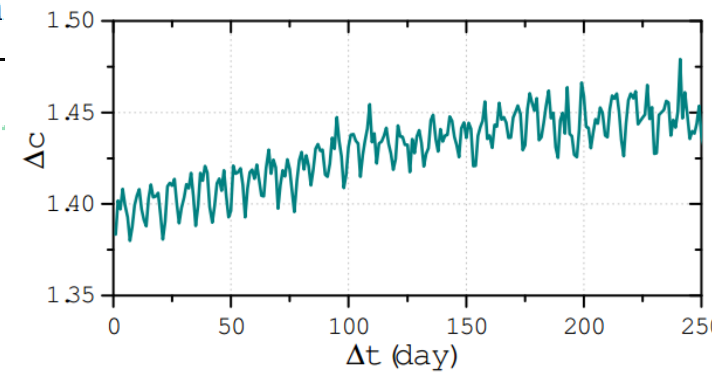
(d) New migrants.



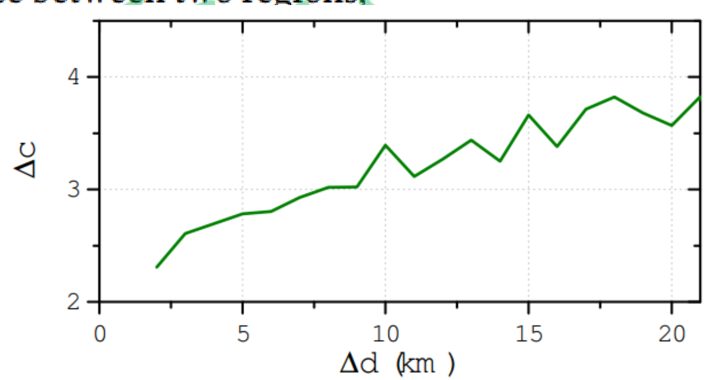
(d) Geographical features.

Example (3) – Crime Prediction

- For a region, we observe intra-region temporal correlation – (i) for two consecutive time slots, they are likely to share similar crime numbers; and (ii) with the increase of differences between two time slots, the crime difference has the propensity to increase.



- Over all regions, we note inter-region spatial correlation – (i) two geographically close regions have similar crime numbers; and (ii) with the increase of spatial distance between two regions, the crime difference tends to increase.



Chapter 2: Getting to Know Your Data

- Data Objects and Attribute Types
- Basic Statistical Descriptions of Data
- Measuring Data Similarity and Dissimilarity
- Summary

Similarity and Dissimilarity

- **Similarity**
  - Numerical measure of how alike two data objects are
  - Value is higher when objects are more alike
  - Often falls in the range [0,1]
- **Dissimilarity** (e.g., distance)
  - Numerical measure of how different two data objects are
  - Lower when objects are more alike
  - Minimum dissimilarity is often 0
  - Upper limit varies

Data Matrix and Dissimilarity Matrix

- Data matrix
  - n data points with p dimensions
  - Two modes

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & \cdots & x_{1f} & \cdots & x_{1p} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ x_{i1} & \cdots & x_{if} & \cdots & x_{ip} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ x_{n1} & \cdots & x_{nf} & \cdots & x_{np} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Dissimilarity matrix
  - n data points, but registers only the distance
  - A triangular matrix
  - Single mode

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ d(2,1) & 0 & & & \\ d(3,1) & d(3,2) & 0 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \\ d(n,1) & d(n,2) & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Proximity Measure for Nominal Attributes

- Can take 2 or more states, e.g., red, yellow, blue, green (generalization of a binary attribute)
- Method 1: Simple matching
  - m: # of matches, p: total # of variables

$$d(i, j) = \frac{p - m}{p}$$

- Method 2: Use a large number of binary attributes
  - creating a new binary attribute for each of the M nominal states

Proximity Measure for Binary Attributes

- A contingency table for binary data

		Object j		
		1	0	sum
Object i	1	q	r	$q+r$
	0	s	t	$s+t$
	sum	$q+s$	$r+t$	p

- Distance measure for symmetric binary variables:

$$d(i, j) = \frac{r+s}{q+r+s+t}$$

- Distance measure for asymmetric binary variables:

$$d(i, j) = \frac{r+s}{q+r+s}$$

- Jaccard coefficient (*similarity* measure for *asymmetric* binary variables):

$$sim_{Jaccard}(i, j) = \frac{q}{q+r+s}$$

- Note: Jaccard coefficient is the same as "coherence":

$$coherence(i, j) = \frac{sup(i, j)}{sup(i) + sup(j) - sup(i, j)} = \frac{q}{(q+r) + (q+s) - q}$$

Dissimilarity between Binary Variables

- Example

Name	Gender	Fever	Cough	Test-1	Test-2	Test-3	Test-4
Jack	M	Y	N	P	N	N	N
Mary	F	Y	N	P	N	P	N
Jim	M	Y	P	N	N	N	N

  - Gender is a symmetric attribute (Note: not used following)
  - The remaining attributes are asymmetric binary
  - Let the values Y and P be 1, and the value N 0

$$d(jack, mary) = \frac{0+1}{2+0+1} = 0.33$$

$$d(jack, jim) = \frac{1+1}{1+1+1} = 0.67$$

$$d(jim, mary) = \frac{1+2}{1+1+2} = 0.75$$

Standardizing Numeric Data

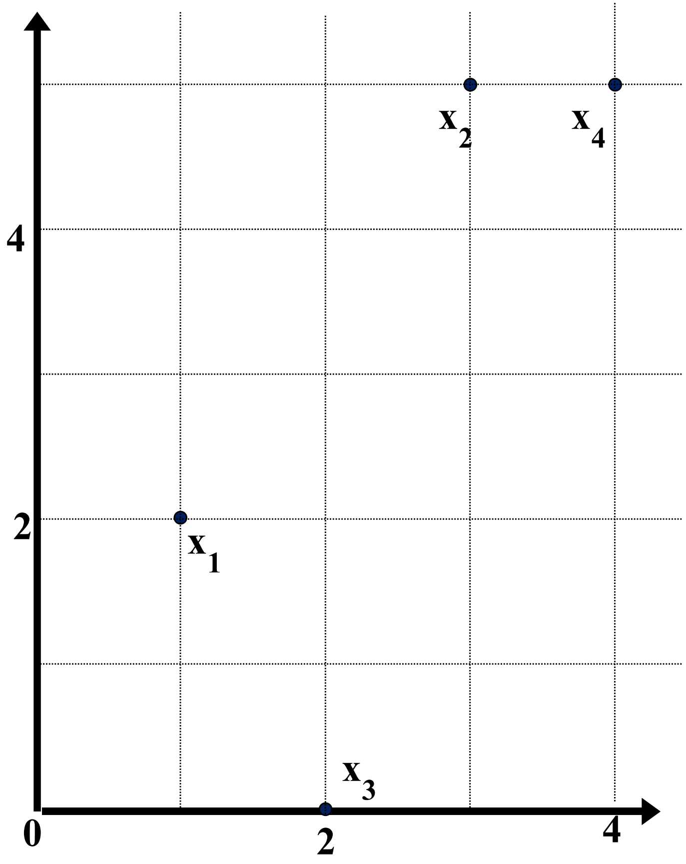
- Z-score: $z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$
  - X: raw score to be standardized, μ: mean of the population, σ: standard deviation
  - the distance between the raw score and the population mean in units of the standard deviation
  - negative when the raw score is below the mean, "+" when above
- An alternative way: Calculate the mean absolute deviation

$$s_f = \frac{1}{n}(|x_{1f} - m_f| + |x_{2f} - m_f| + ... + |x_{nf} - m_f|)$$

where $m_f = \frac{1}{n}(x_{1f} + x_{2f} + ... + x_{nf})$.

  - standardized measure (*z-score*): $z_{if} = \frac{x_{if} - m_f}{s_f}$
- Using mean absolute deviation is more robust than using standard deviation

Example:
Data Matrix and Dissimilarity Matrix



Data Matrix

point	attribute1	attribute2
x1	1	2
x2	3	5
x3	2	0
x4	4	5

Dissimilarity Matrix

(with Euclidean Distance)

	x1	*x2*	*x3*	*x4*
x1	0			
x2	3.61	0		
x3	5.1	5.1	0	
x4	4.24	1	5.39	0

Distance on Numeric Data: Minkowski Distance

- *Minkowski distance*: A popular distance measure

$$d(i, j) = \sqrt[h]{|x_{i1} - x_{j1}|^h + |x_{i2} - x_{j2}|^h + \cdots + |x_{ip} - x_{jp}|^h}$$

where $i = (x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \ldots, x_{ip})$ and $j = (x_{j1}, x_{j2}, \ldots, x_{jp})$ are two *p*-dimensional data objects, and *h* is the order (the distance so defined is also called L-*h* norm)

- Properties
  - d(i, j) > 0 if i ≠ j, and d(i, i) = 0 (Positive definiteness)
  - d(i, j) = d(j, i) (Symmetry)
  - d(i, j) ≤ d(i, k) + d(k, j) (Triangle Inequality)
- A distance that satisfies these properties is a metric

Special Cases of Minkowski Distance

- $h = 1$: Manhattan (city block, L_1 norm) distance
  - E.g., the Hamming distance: the number of bits that are different between two binary vectors

$$d(i,j) = |x_{i_1} - x_{j_1}| + |x_{i_2} - x_{j_2}| + \ldots + |x_{i_p} - x_{j_p}|$$

- $h = 2$: (L_2 norm) Euclidean distance

$$d(i,j) = \sqrt{(|x_{i_1} - x_{j_1}|^2 + |x_{i_2} - x_{j_2}|^2 + \ldots + |x_{i_p} - x_{j_p}|^2)}$$

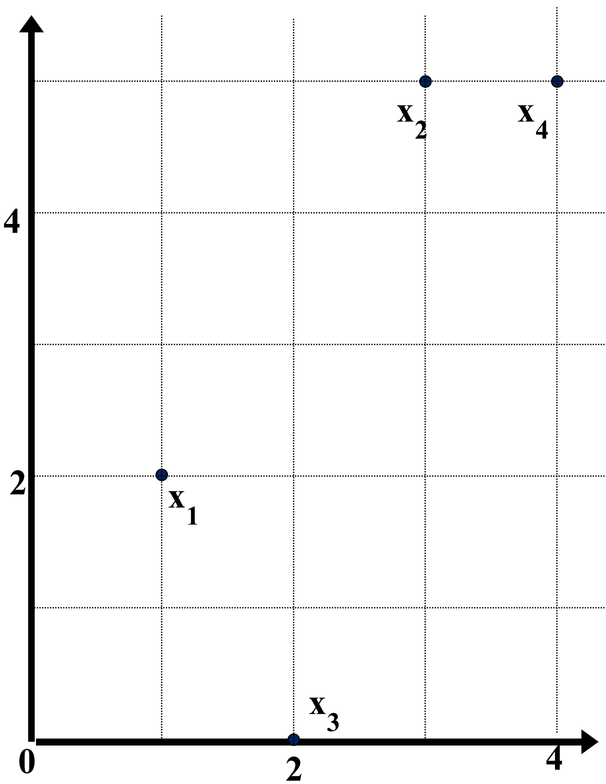
- $h \to \infty$. "supremum" (L_{max} norm, L_∞ norm) distance.
  - This is the maximum difference between any component (attribute) of the vectors

$$d(i,j) = \lim_{h\to\infty}\left(\sum_{f=1}^{p}|x_{if} - x_{jf}|^h\right)^{\frac{1}{h}} = \max_{f}^{p}|x_{if} - x_{jf}|$$

Example: Minkowski Distance

Dissimilarity Matrices

point	attribute 1	attribute 2
x1	1	2
x2	3	5
x3	2	0
x4	4	5



Manhattan (L_1)

L	x1	x2	x3	x4
x1	0			
x2	5	0		
x3	3	6	0	
x4	6	1	7	0

Euclidean (L_2)

L2	x1	x2	x3	x4
x1	0			
x2	3.61	0		
x3	2.24	5.1	0	
x4	4.24	1	5.39	0

Supremum

L_∞	x1	x2	x3	x4
x1	0			
x2	3	0		
x3	2	5	0	
x4	3	1	5	0

Ordinal Variables

- An ordinal variable can be discrete or continuous
- Order is important, e.g., rank
- Can be treated like interval-scaled
  - replace x_{if} by their rank $r_{if} \in \{1,\ldots,M_f\}$
  - map the range of each variable onto [0, 1] by replacing i-th object in the f-th variable by

$$z_{if} = \frac{r_{if} - 1}{M_f - 1}$$

  - compute the dissimilarity using methods for interval-scaled variables

Attributes of Mixed Type

- A database may contain all attribute types
  - Nominal, symmetric binary, asymmetric binary, numeric, ordinal
- One may use a weighted formula to combine their effects

$$d(i, j) = \frac{\sum_{f=1}^{p} \delta_{ij}^{(f)} d_{ij}^{(f)}}{\sum_{f=1}^{p} \delta_{ij}^{(f)}}$$

  - *f* is binary or nominal:
    $d_{ij}^{(f)} = 0$ if $x_{if} = x_{jf}$, or $d_{ij}^{(f)} = 1$ otherwise
  - *f* is numeric: use the normalized distance
  - *f* is ordinal
    - Compute ranks r_{if} and
    - Treat z_{if} as interval-scaled

$$z_{if} = \frac{r_{if} - 1}{M_f - 1}$$

Cosine Similarity

- A **document** can be represented by thousands of attributes, each recording the *frequency* of a particular word (such as keywords) or phrase in the document.

Document	*team*	*coach*	*hockey*	*baseball*	*soccer*	*penalty*	*score*	*win*	*loss*	*season*
Document1	5	0	3	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
Document2	3	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
Document3	0	7	0	2	1	0	0	3	0	0
Document4	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	0	3	0

- Other vector objects: gene features in micro-arrays, …
- Applications: information retrieval, biologic taxonomy, gene feature mapping, ...
- Cosine measure: If d_1 and d_2 are two vectors (e.g., term-frequency vectors), then

$$\cos(d_1, d_2) = (d_1 \bullet d_2) / ||d_1|| \, ||d_2|| ,$$

where $\bullet$ indicates vector dot product, $||d||$: the length of vector d

Example: Cosine Similarity

- $\cos(d_1, d_2) = (d_1 \bullet d_2) / ||d_1||\ ||d_2||$,
  where $\bullet$ indicates vector dot product, $||d|$: the length of vector d

- Ex: Find the **similarity** between documents 1 and 2.

$d_1 = (5, 0, 3, 0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0)$
$d_2 = (3, 0, 2, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1)$

$d_1 \bullet d_2 = 5*3+0*0+3*2+0*0+2*1+0*1+0*1+2*1+0*0+0*1 = 25$
$||d_1|| = (5*5+0*0+3*3+0*0+2*2+0*0+0*0+2*2+0*0+0*0)^{\mathbf{0.5}} = (42)^{\mathbf{0.5}}$
$= 6.481$
$||d_2|| = (3*3+0*0+2*2+0*0+1*1+1*1+0*0+1*1+0*0+1*1)^{\mathbf{0.5}} = (17)^{\mathbf{0.5}}$
$= 4.12$
$\cos(d_1, d_2) = 0.94$

A Simple Example about Metric Learning[1]

Recap

The Mahalanobis (pseudo) distance is defined as follows:

$$d_{\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \sqrt{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')^T \mathbf{M} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')},$$

where $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ is a symmetric PSD matrix.

Interpretation

Equivalent to a Euclidean distance after a linear projection $\mathbf{L}$:

$$\begin{aligned} d_{\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') &= \sqrt{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')^T \mathbf{M} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')} = \sqrt{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')^T \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{L} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')} \\ &= \sqrt{(\mathbf{L}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{L}\mathbf{x}')^T (\mathbf{L}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{L}\mathbf{x}')}. \end{aligned}$$

If $\mathbf{M}$ has rank k, $\mathbf{L} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times d}$ (dimensionality reduction).

Remark

For convenience, often use the squared distance (linear in $\mathbf{M}$).

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{A} \quad & \textstyle\sum_{(x_i, x_j) \in \mathcal{S}} \|x_i - x_j\|_A^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \textstyle\sum_{(x_i, x_j) \in \mathcal{D}} \|x_i - x_j\|_A \geq 1, \\ & A \succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

1.Distance metric learning, with application to clustering with side-information, (NIPS, 2002)

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Summary

- Data attribute types: nominal, binary, ordinal, interval-scaled, ratio-scaled
- Many types of data sets, e.g., numerical, text, graph, Web, image.
- Gain insight into the data by:
  - Basic statistical data description: central tendency, dispersion, graphical displays
  - Measure data similarity
- Above steps are the beginning of data preprocessing.