

AI-Powered Data Analysis: From Installation to Webapp

Building Your First Data Analysis Webapp with AI

Ka Wai Tsang

Data Science Program

October 16, 2025

Course Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Part 1: Environment Setup
- 3 Part 2: The Data Analysis Mindset
- 4 Part 3: Building Your Analysis Webapp
- 5 Part 4: Data Storytelling and Presentation
- 6 Part 5: AI Prompting Best Practices
- 7 Part 6: Equip your webapp with AI

What You'll Build: Your First Data Analysis Webapp

Course Focus: Hands-On Webapp Development

- **Real Skills:** Build an actual webapp you can share and use
- **AI-Powered:** Learn to work with AI as your coding partner
- **Practical:** Create something that demonstrates your abilities
- **Extensible:** Start simple, add features as you learn

Step 1: Installing AI Editor

Download and Install

- 1 Visit: <https://cursor.sh/>
- 2 Download for your operating system
- 3 Run installer as Administrator
- 4 Launch and sign in with GitHub account

Step 2: Python Environment Setup

Python Installation

- Download Python 3.9+ from `python.org`
- **Critical:** Check "Add Python to PATH" during installation
- Verify: Open terminal and type `python --version`

Package Installation (China-Optimized)

Recommended for China: Set Tsinghua Mirror

- `pip config set global.index-url https://pypi.tuna.tsinghua.edu.cn/simple/`
- `pip install pandas numpy matplotlib plotly streamlit jupyter`

Step 3: Project Setup

Create Your First Project

- 1 Create folder: `C:/Users/[YourName]/Desktop/Demo1`
- 2 Add your data file (CSV, PDF, etc.)
- 3 Open folder in Cursor: `File` → `Open Folder`
- 4 Test AI: Ask "Create a webapp to present the content from my document"

Alternative Project

- 1 Create folder: `C:/Users/[YourName]/Desktop/Demo2`
- 2 Copy `UM_C19_2021.csv` to this folder
- 3 Open in Cursor and start analyzing!

Before We Code: The Right Way to Analyze Data

Data Analysis is Like Being a Detective

- ➊ **Survey the Scene:** Understand what data you have
- ➋ **Look for Clues:** Identify patterns and issues
- ➌ **Follow Evidence:** Analyze relationships systematically
- ➍ **Draw Conclusions:** Interpret findings meaningfully

The Golden Rule

Never start analyzing data without first understanding what you're working with!

Step 1: Data Understanding with AI

AI Prompt for Data Overview

"I have a new dataset called 'UM_C19_2021.csv'. Before I analyze it, help me understand what I'm working with. What questions should I ask about this data first?"

What AI Should Help You Discover

- What does this dataset represent?
- How many records and columns?
- What are the column names and meanings?
- What time period does it cover?
- What is the main purpose?

Step 2: Data Quality Assessment

AI Prompt for Quality Check

"I want to check if my data has any quality issues. How should I approach looking for missing values, duplicates, or other problems?"

What to Investigate

- Missing values and their patterns
- Duplicate records
- Data validation (do values make sense?)
- Date ranges and logical consistency

From Analysis to Webapp: The Natural Progression

Why Build a Webapp?

- **Interactive Learning:** Change parameters and see results instantly
- **Visual Understanding:** Charts and graphs make concepts clearer
- **Portfolio Piece:** Something tangible to show your skills
- **Real-World Skills:** Modern data analysis happens in applications

Your Webapp Will Include

- Data upload and preview
- Interactive statistical analysis
- Beautiful visualizations
- Professional presentation of results
- Extensible architecture for new features

Your First Webapp: Simple and Achievable

Start with Something Basic

"I want to create a simple webapp that uploads a CSV file and shows basic statistics and a chart. Can you help me build this with Streamlit?"

What This Creates

- **File Upload:** Simple CSV file upload
- **Data Preview:** Show first few rows of data
- **Basic Statistics:** Mean, median, standard deviation
- **Simple Chart:** One visualization (like a histogram)
- **Clean Interface:** Easy to understand and use

The Art of Data Storytelling

Data Presentation is Like Being a Storyteller

- ① **Know Your Audience:** Who are you presenting to?
- ② **Structure Your Narrative:** Beginning, middle, and end
- ③ **Choose Right Evidence:** Which data supports your story?
- ④ **Make It Memorable:** How will audience remember key points?

The Golden Rule

Your data should tell a story, not just show numbers!

Planning Your Data Presentation

AI Prompt for Audience Analysis

"I want to present my COVID-19 data analysis findings. Help me think about who my audience might be and what they would care about most."

Consider These Questions

- Who needs to see this data? (Administrators, public health officials, students?)
- How familiar is your audience with data analysis?
- What aspects would be most relevant to them?
- What decisions might they make based on your presentation?

Choosing the Right Visualizations

AI Prompt for Chart Selection

"I want to show different aspects of my COVID-19 data. Help me think about what types of charts would best communicate each key message."

Match Charts to Messages

- **Trends over time:** Line charts, area charts
- **Comparisons between groups:** Bar charts, grouped bar charts
- **Relationships:** Scatter plots, correlation heatmaps
- **Distributions:** Histograms, box plots

Prompt Structure That Works

- ➊ **Start with Understanding:** "Help me understand what I'm looking at..."
- ➋ **Ask for Guidance:** "What should I consider when..."
- ➌ **Request Systematic Approach:** "How should I approach..."
- ➍ **Seek Interpretation Help:** "What does this tell me about..."

Prompt Examples for Each Phase

Data Understanding

- "What questions should I ask about this dataset first?"
- "How can I assess the quality of my data?"
- "What should I look for when examining the structure?"

Data Cleaning

- "How should I approach handling missing values?"
- "What's the best way to identify outliers?"
- "How do I decide whether to remove or fix data issues?"

Remember: The Goal is Learning, Not Perfection

Key Success Principles

- **Start Simple:** Get basic functionality working first
- **Iterate Frequently:** Make small improvements regularly
- **Learn from Mistakes:** Every error is a learning opportunity
- **Ask for Help:** Use AI, communities, and classmates
- **Have Fun:** Enjoy the process of building something new

Your Journey Starts Now

**You now have all the tools and knowledge to build your first data analysis webapp.
The only thing left is to start coding!**

Setting Up AI Data Generation in China

Getting API Keys in China

① **Alibaba Cloud DashScope** (Recommended)

- Search for "Alibaba Cloud DashScope" in your browser
- Register for Alibaba Cloud account
- Enable DashScope service
- Get API key from console

② **Baidu ERNIE** (Alternative)

- Search for "Baidu Cloud ERNIE" in your browser
- Good Chinese language support
- Competitive pricing

③ **Zhipu AI** (Alternative)

- Search for "Zhipu AI" in your browser
- Reliable service
- Good documentation

Webapp Online Deployment Options

When You're Ready for Real AI in Production

- **Vercel**: Serverless functions can proxy API calls
- **Netlify**: Similar serverless function support
- **Custom Backend**: Your own server to handle API calls

For Now: GitHub Pages is Perfect

- Simple deployment for beginners
- No server configuration needed
- Free hosting with automatic updates
- Simulated data provides full functionality

Thank You and Good Luck!

Questions?

Remember:

- Use AI as your coding partner
- Start with understanding your data
- Build iteratively and systematically
- Focus on creating something you can share
- Have fun learning!

Now go build something amazing!