

# Visualizing Data in Python

When working with a new dataset, one of the most useful things to do is to begin to visualize the data. By using **tables**, **histograms**, **boxplots**, **scatter plots** and other visual tools, we can get a better idea of what the data may be trying to tell us, and we can gain insights into the data that we may have not discovered otherwise.

In this notebook will use the [Seaborn](#) data processing library, which is a higher-level interface to **Matplotlib** that can be used to simplify many visualization tasks

The **Seaborn** provides visualisations tools that will allow to explore data from a graphical perspective.

## Acknowledgments

- Data from <https://www.coursera.org/> from the course "Understanding and Visualizing Data with Python" by University of Michigan

In [ ]:

## Importing libraries

```
In [75]: # Import the packages that we will be using
import pandas as pd
import seaborn as sns
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

## Importing data

```
In [76]: from sklearn import datasets
iris = datasets.load_iris()
```

```
In [77]: # Define the col names for the iris dataset
col_names = ['sepal_length', 'sepal_width', 'petal_length', 'petal_width', 'Flower']

# Dataset url
url = "https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/machine-learning-databases/iris/iris.data"

# Load the dataset from URL
iris_df = pd.read_csv(url, header=None, names=col_names)
print(iris_df.head())
```

	sepal_length	sepal_width	petal_length	petal_width	Flower
0	5.1	3.5	1.4	0.2	Iris-setosa
1	4.9	3.0	1.4	0.2	Iris-setosa
2	4.7	3.2	1.3	0.2	Iris-setosa
3	4.6	3.1	1.5	0.2	Iris-setosa
4	5.0	3.6	1.4	0.2	Iris-setosa

In [ ]:

# Exploring the content of the data set

Get a general 'feel' of the data

```
In [78]: # Display the first few rows of the dataframe
print(iris_df.head())

# Get summary statistics of the dataframe
print(iris_df.describe(include='all'))

# Check for missing values
print(iris_df.isnull().sum())
```

	sepal_length	sepal_width	petal_length	petal_width	Flower
0	5.1	3.5	1.4	0.2	Iris-setosa
1	4.9	3.0	1.4	0.2	Iris-setosa
2	4.7	3.2	1.3	0.2	Iris-setosa
3	4.6	3.1	1.5	0.2	Iris-setosa
4	5.0	3.6	1.4	0.2	Iris-setosa

	sepal_length	sepal_width	petal_length	petal_width	Flower
count	150.000000	150.000000	150.000000	150.000000	150
unique	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	3
top	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	Iris-setosa
freq	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	50
mean	5.843333	3.054000	3.758667	1.198667	NaN
std	0.828066	0.433594	1.764420	0.763161	NaN
min	4.300000	2.000000	1.000000	0.100000	NaN
25%	5.100000	2.800000	1.600000	0.300000	NaN
50%	5.800000	3.000000	4.350000	1.300000	NaN
75%	6.400000	3.300000	5.100000	1.800000	NaN
max	7.900000	4.400000	6.900000	2.500000	NaN

sepal_length	0
sepal_width	0
petal_length	0
petal_width	0
Flower	0

dtype: int64

## Frequency tables

The `value_counts()` method can be used to determine the number of times that each distinct value of a variable occurs in a data set. In statistical terms, this is the "frequency distribution" of the variable. The `value_counts()` method produces a table with two columns. The first column contains all distinct observed values for the variable. The second column contains the number of times each of these values occurs. Note that the table returned by `value_counts()` is actually a **Pandas** data frame, so can be further processed using any Pandas methods for working with data frames.

```
In [79]: # Add the target variable to the DataFrame
iris_df['flower_type'] = iris.target
```

```
# Map the target variable to the flower names
iris_df['flower_type'] = iris_df['flower_type'].map({0: 'setosa', 1: 'versicolor', 2: 'virginica'})

# Number of times that each distinct value occurs in each column of the iris_df DataFrame
print(iris_df['flower_type'].value_counts())
```

```
flower_type
setosa      50
versicolor  50
virginica   50
Name: count, dtype: int64
```

In [ ]:

In [80]: *# Proportion of each distinct value of 'flower\_type' in the data set*

```
flower_proportions = iris_df['flower_type'].value_counts(normalize=True)
print(flower_proportions)
```

```
flower_type
setosa      0.333333
versicolor  0.333333
virginica   0.333333
Name: proportion, dtype: float64
```

Note that the `value_counts()` method excludes missing values. We confirm this below by adding up observations to your data frame with some missing values and then computing `value_counts()` and comparing this to the total number of rows in the data set, which is 28. This tells us that there are  $28 - (21+6) = 1$  missing values for this variable (other variables may have different numbers of missing values).

In [81]: *# Check the column names in the DataFrame*

```
print(iris_df.columns)

# Optionally, rename the column to match your code
# Optionally, rename the column if you find the correct one
iris_df.rename(columns={'correct_column_name': 'petal width (cm)'}, inplace=True)
```

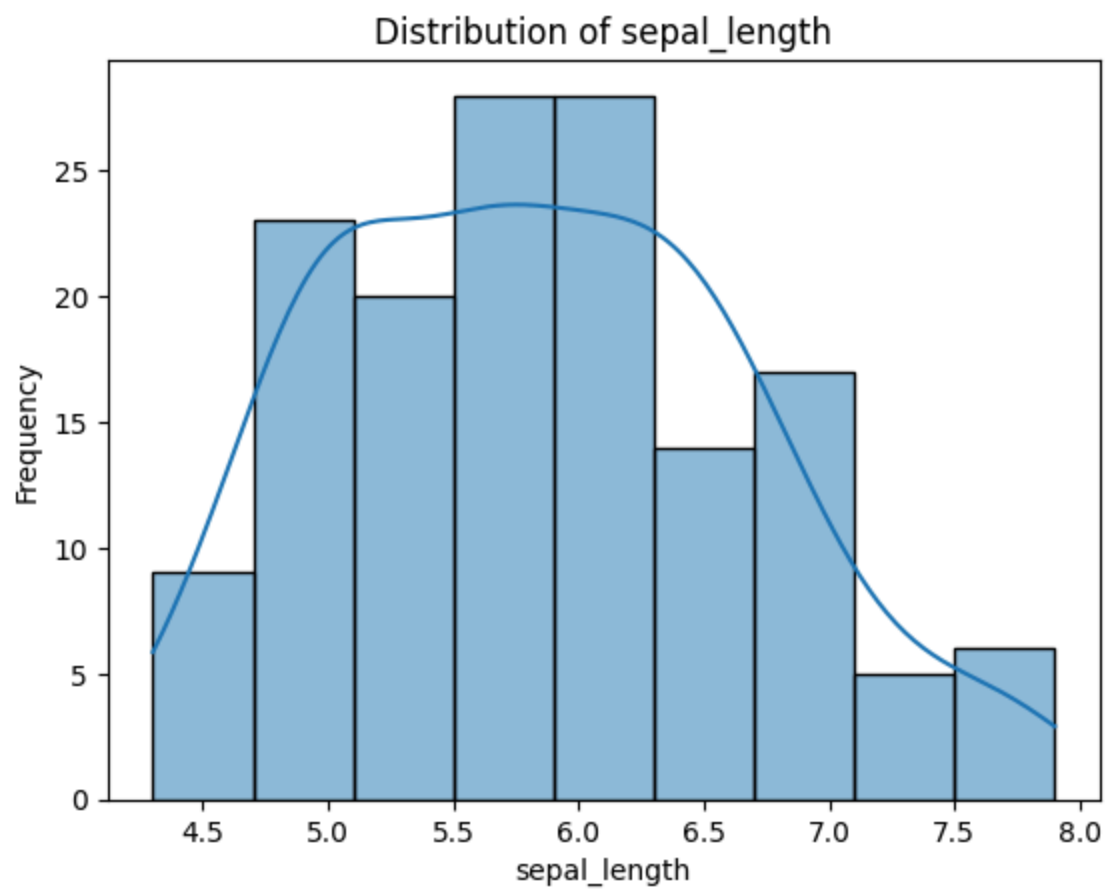
```
Index(['sepal_length', 'sepal_width', 'petal_length', 'petal_width', 'Flower',
      'flower_type'],
      dtype='object')
```

## Histogram

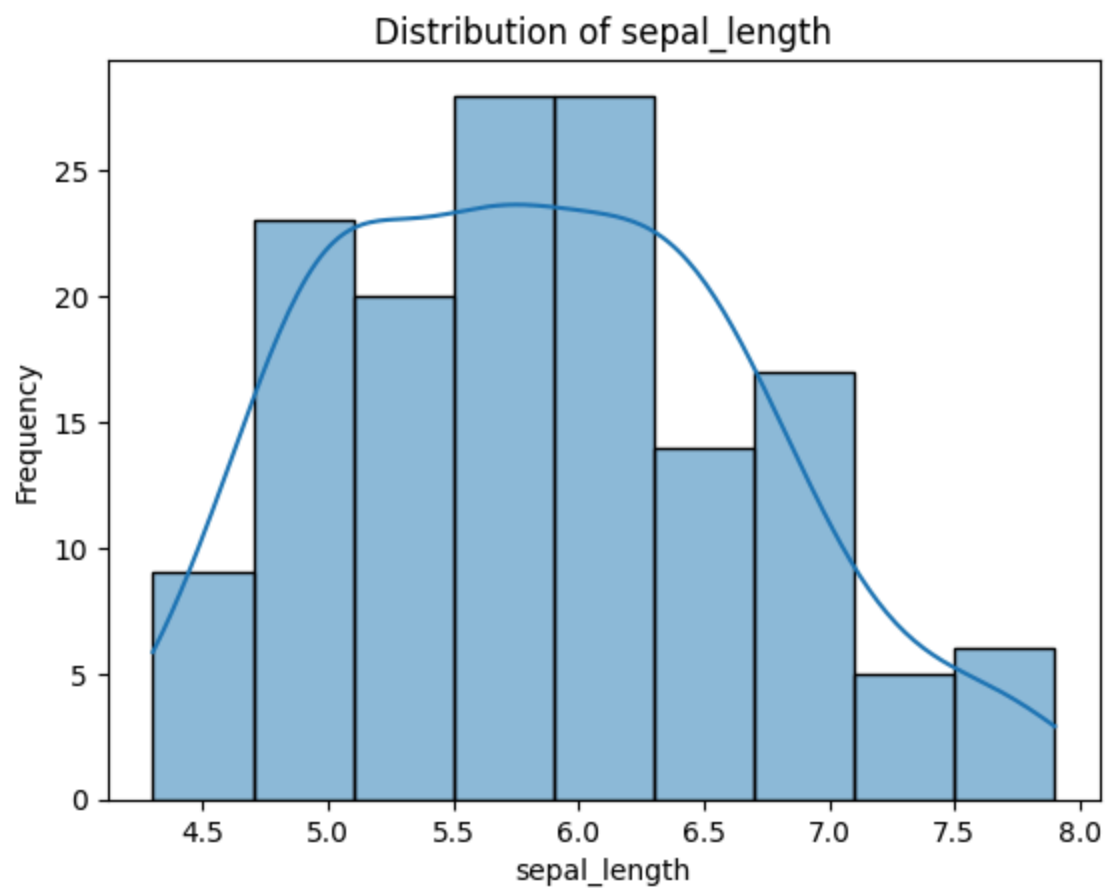
It is often good to get a feel for the shape of the distribution of the data.

In [82]: *# Plot distribution of the sepal\_length column*

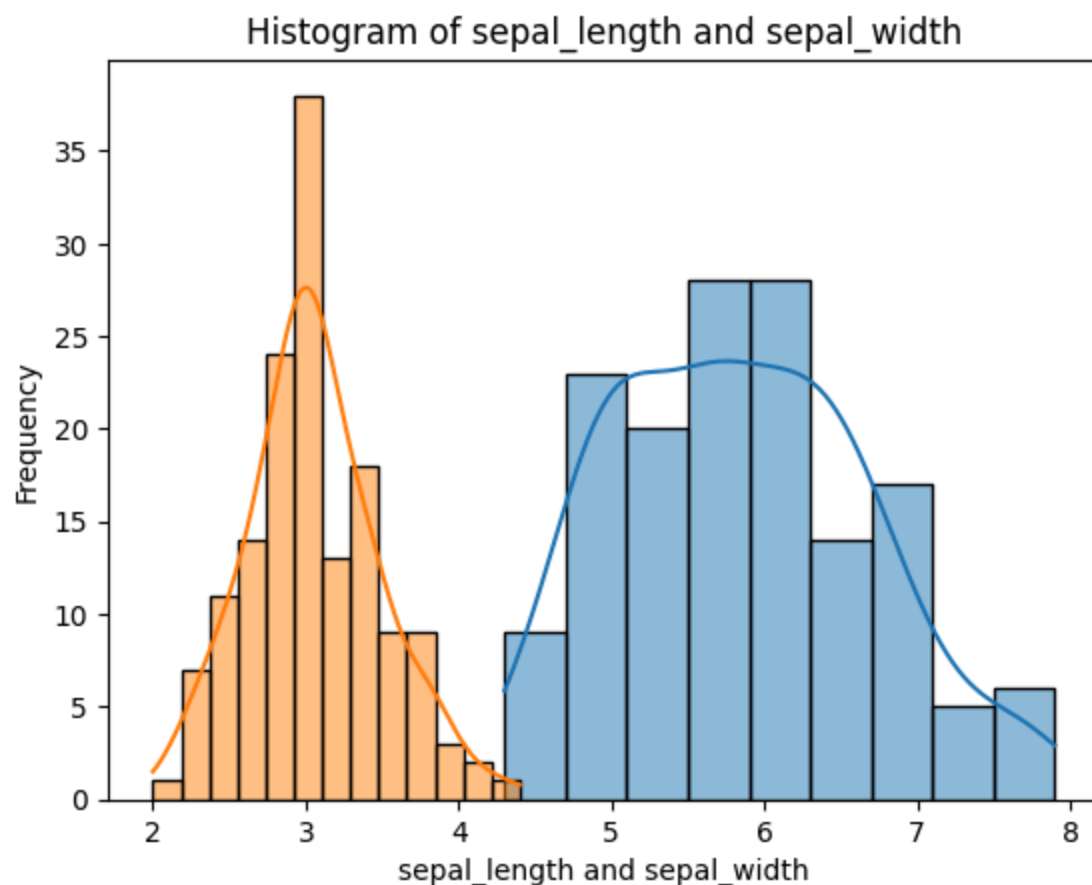
```
sns.histplot(iris_df['sepal_length'], kde=True)
plt.xlabel('sepal_length')
plt.ylabel('Frequency')
plt.title('Distribution of sepal_length')
plt.show()
```



```
In [83]: # Plot distribution of the sepal_length column
sns.histplot(iris_df['sepal_length'], kde=True)
plt.xlabel('sepal_length')
plt.ylabel('Frequency')
plt.title('Distribution of sepal_length')
plt.show()
```



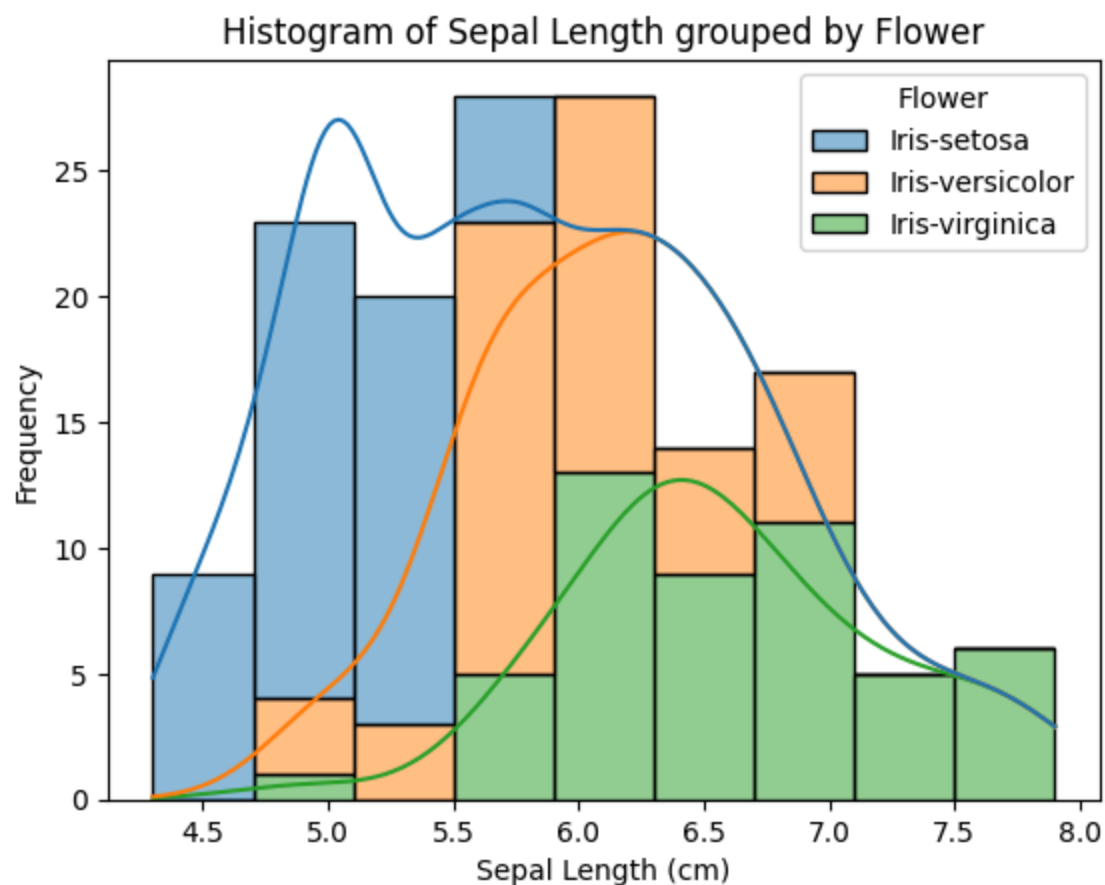
```
In [84]: # Plot histogram of both the sepal_length and sepal_width columns
sns.histplot(iris_df['sepal_length'], kde=True)
sns.histplot(iris_df['sepal_width'], kde=True)
plt.xlabel('sepal_length and sepal_width')
plt.ylabel('Frequency')
plt.title('Histogram of sepal_length and sepal_width')
plt.show()
```



## Histograms plotted by groups

While looking at a single variable is interesting, it is often useful to see how a variable changes in response to another. Thus, we can create a histograms of one quantitative variable grouped by another categorical variables.

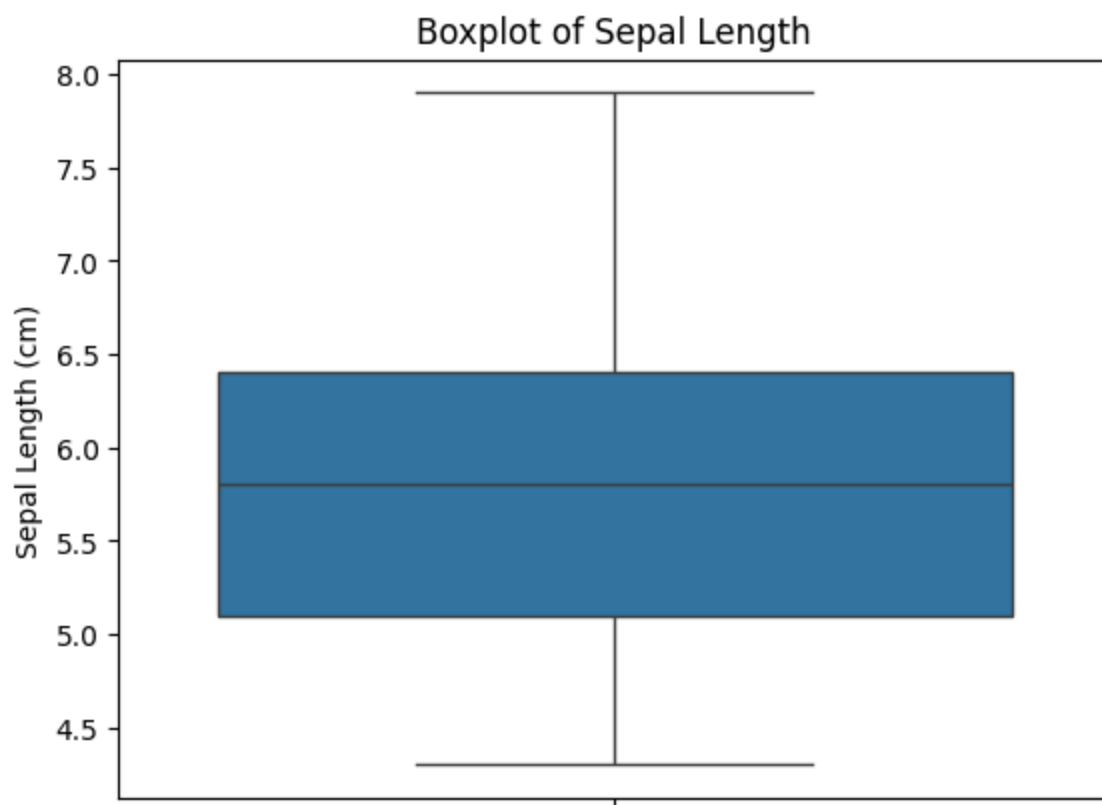
```
In [85]: # Create histograms of the "sepal_length" grouped by "Flower"
sns.histplot(data=iris_df, x='sepal_length', hue='Flower', multiple='stack', kde=True)
plt.xlabel('Sepal Length (cm)')
plt.ylabel('Frequency')
plt.title('Histogram of Sepal Length grouped by Flower')
plt.show()
```



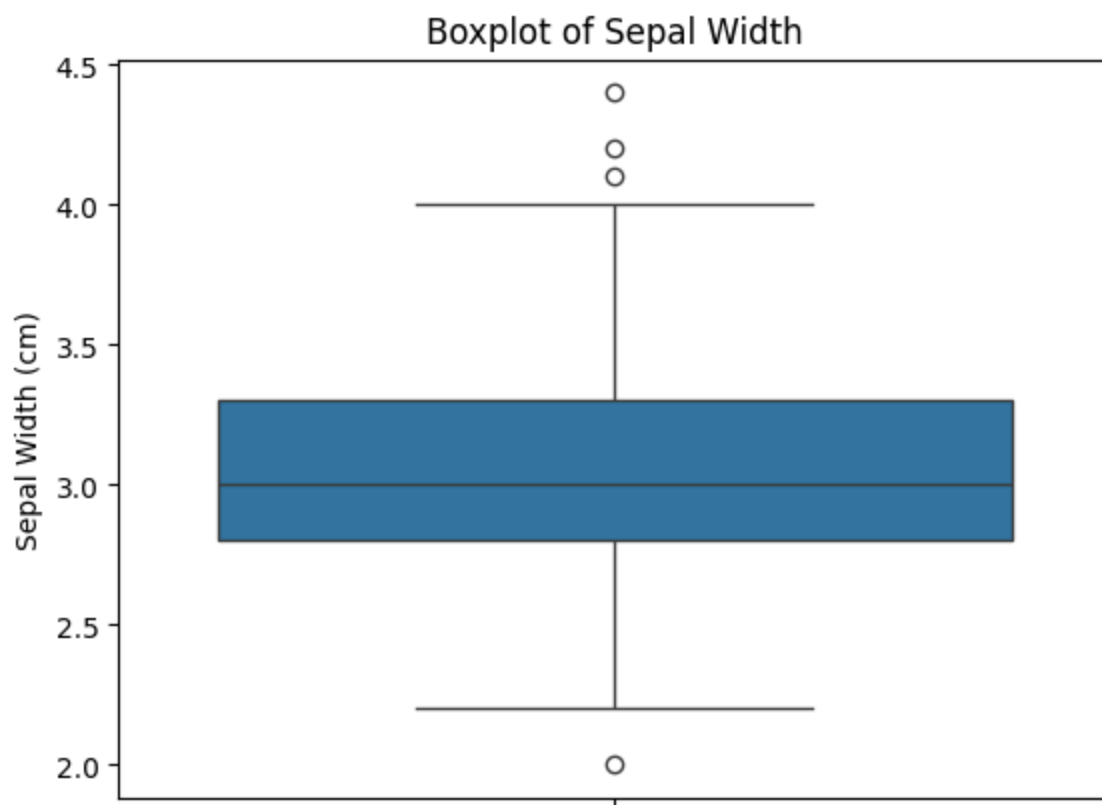
## Boxplots

Boxplots do not show the shape of the distribution, but they can give us a better idea about the center and spread of the distribution as well as any potential outliers that may exist. Boxplots and Histograms often complement each other and help an analyst get more information about the data

```
In [86]: sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, y='sepal_length')  
plt.ylabel('Sepal Length (cm)')  
plt.title('Boxplot of Sepal Length')  
plt.show()
```



```
In [87]: sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, y='sepal_width')  
plt.ylabel('Sepal Width (cm)')  
plt.title('Boxplot of Sepal Width')  
plt.show()
```



```
In [88]: plt.figure(figsize=(12, 8))  
  
# Boxplot for sepal length  
plt.subplot(2, 2, 1)
```



```

sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, y='sepal_length')
plt.title('Boxplot of Sepal Length')

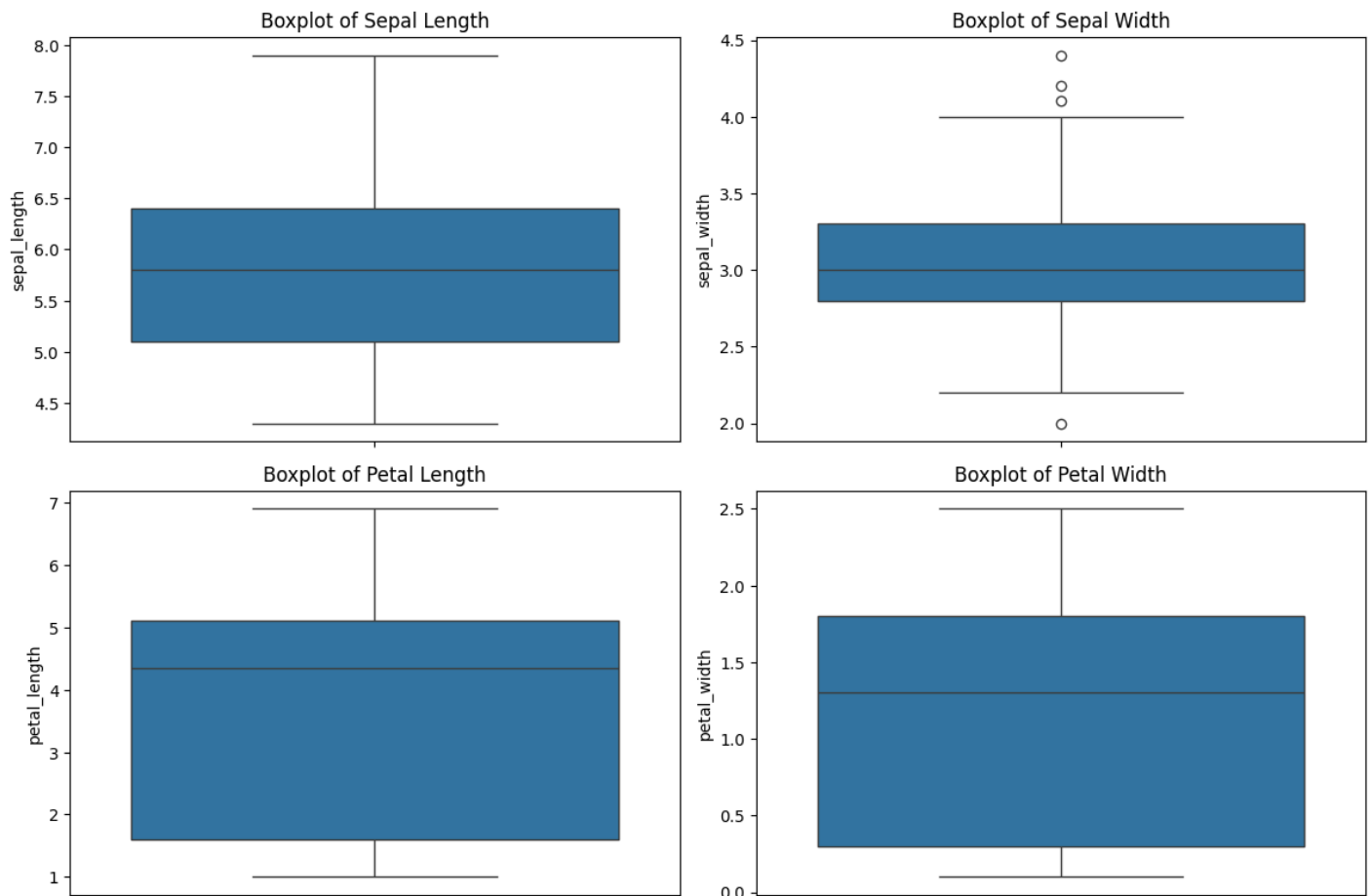
# Boxplot for sepal width
plt.subplot(2, 2, 2)
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, y='sepal_width')
plt.title('Boxplot of Sepal Width')

# Boxplot for petal length
plt.subplot(2, 2, 3)
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, y='petal_length')
plt.title('Boxplot of Petal Length')

# Boxplot for petal width
plt.subplot(2, 2, 4)
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, y='petal_width')
plt.title('Boxplot of Petal Width')

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

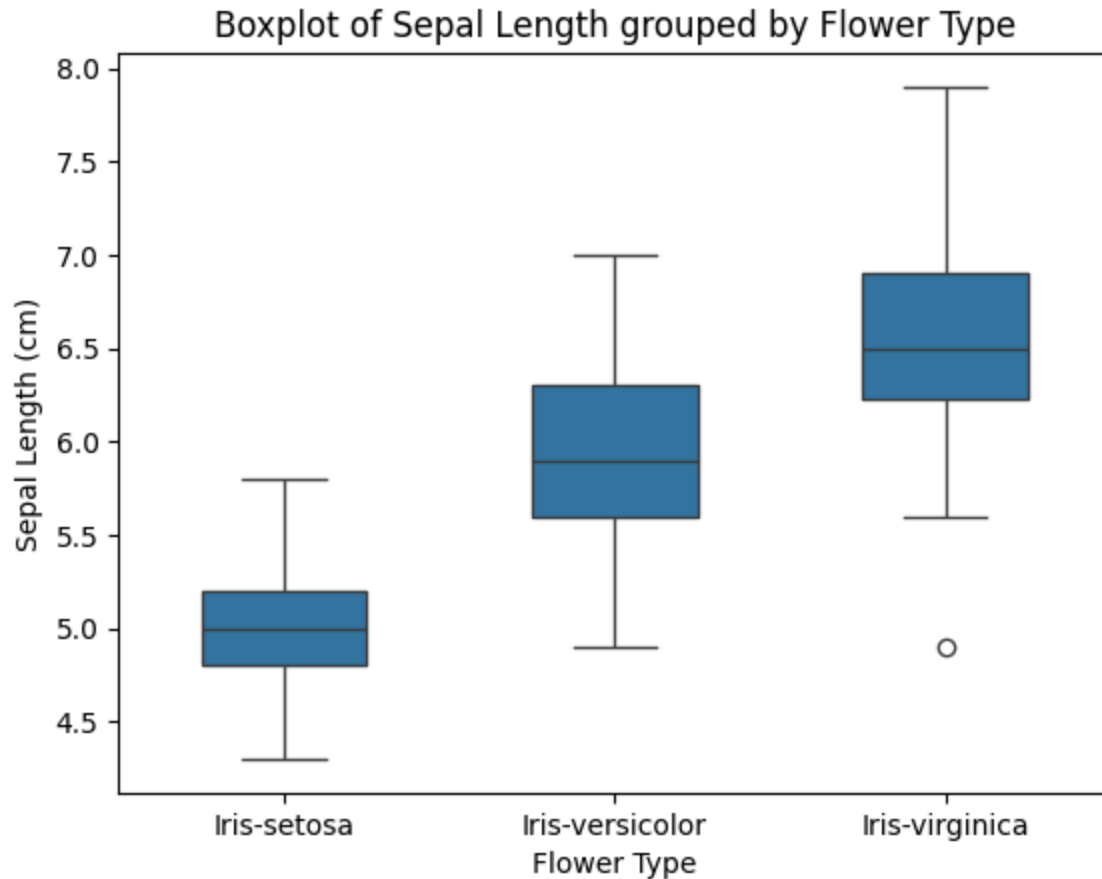
```



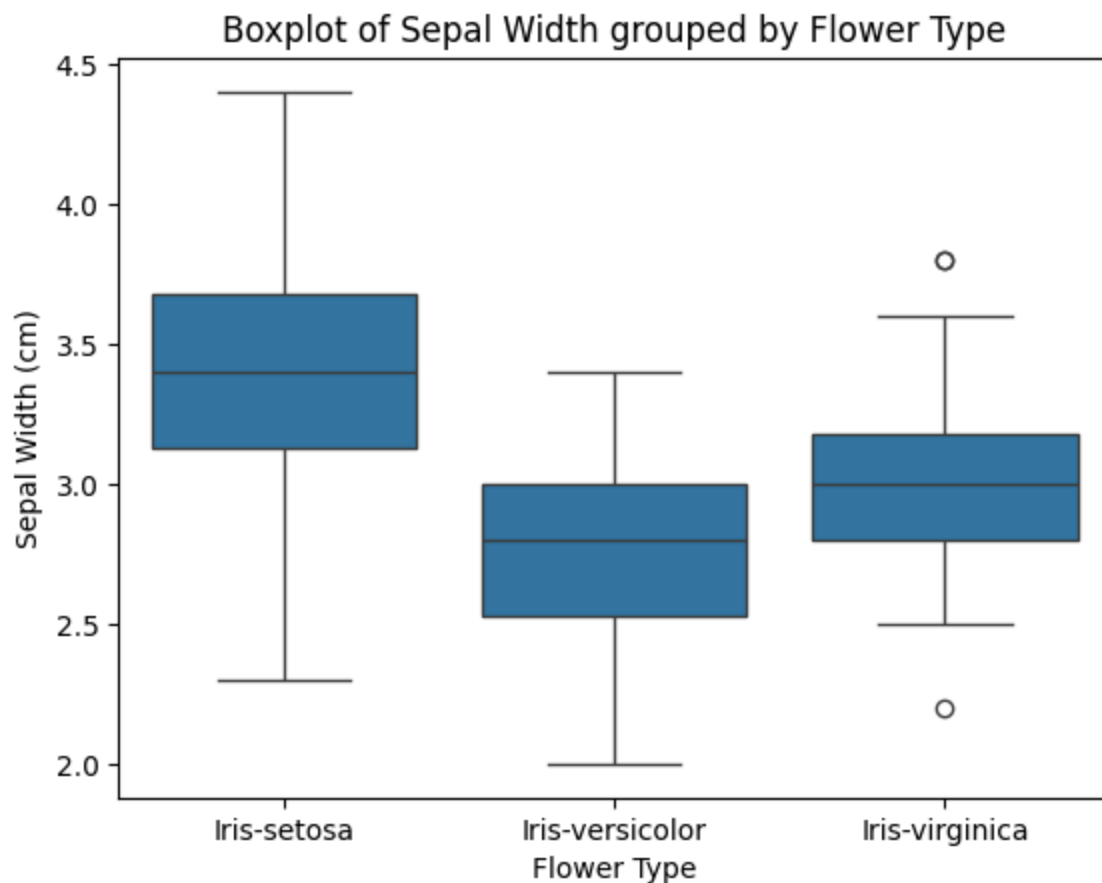
## Boxplots plotted by groups

While looking at a single variable is interesting, it is often useful to see how a variable changes in response to another. Thus, we can create a side-by-side boxplots of one quantitative variable grouped by another categorical variables.

```
In [89]: # Create side-by-side boxplots of the "sepal_length" grouped by "Flower"
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, x='Flower', y='sepal_length', width=0.5, dodge=True)
plt.xlabel('Flower Type')
plt.ylabel('Sepal Length (cm)')
plt.title('Boxplot of Sepal Length grouped by Flower Type')
plt.show()
```



```
In [90]: # Create side-by-side boxplots of the "sepal_width" grouped by "Flower"
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, x='Flower', y='sepal_width')
plt.xlabel('Flower Type')
plt.ylabel('Sepal Width (cm)')
plt.title('Boxplot of Sepal Width grouped by Flower Type')
plt.show()
```



## Histograms and boxplots plotted by groups

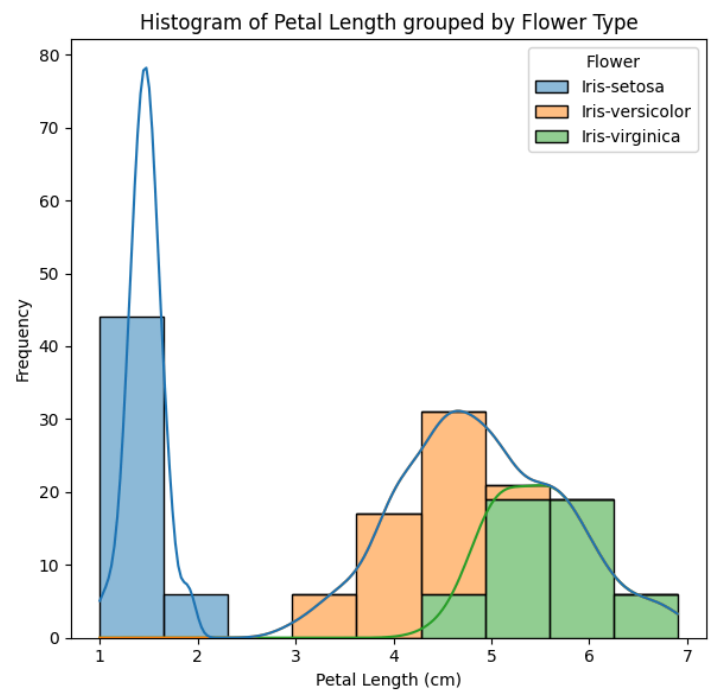
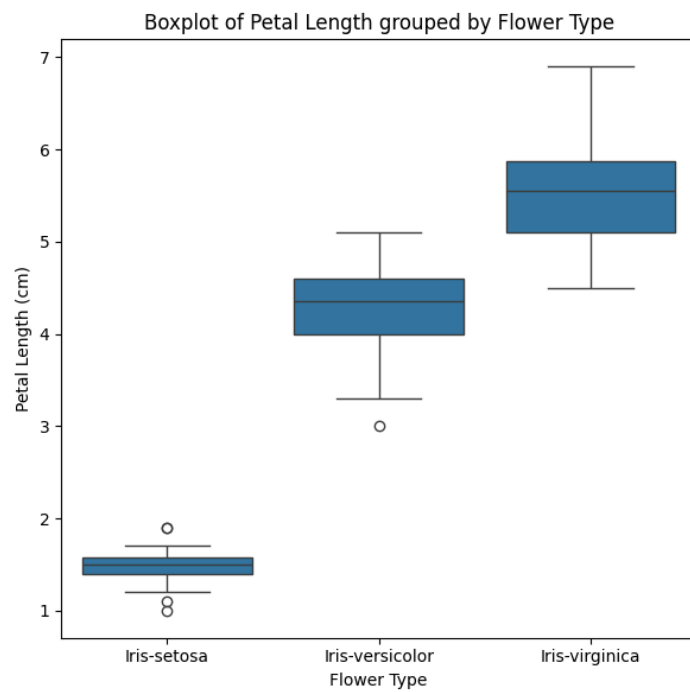
We can also create both boxplots and histograms of one quantitative variable grouped by another categorical variable.

```
In [91]: # Create a boxplot and histogram of the "petal_length" grouped by "Flower"
# Boxplot of the petal_length grouped by Flower
plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))

plt.subplot(1, 2, 1)
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, x='Flower', y='petal_length')
plt.xlabel('Flower Type')
plt.ylabel('Petal Length (cm)')
plt.title('Boxplot of Petal Length grouped by Flower Type')

# Histogram of the petal_length grouped by Flower
plt.subplot(1, 2, 2)
sns.histplot(data=iris_df, x='petal_length', hue='Flower', multiple='stack', kde=True)
plt.xlabel('Petal Length (cm)')
plt.ylabel('Frequency')
plt.title('Histogram of Petal Length grouped by Flower Type')

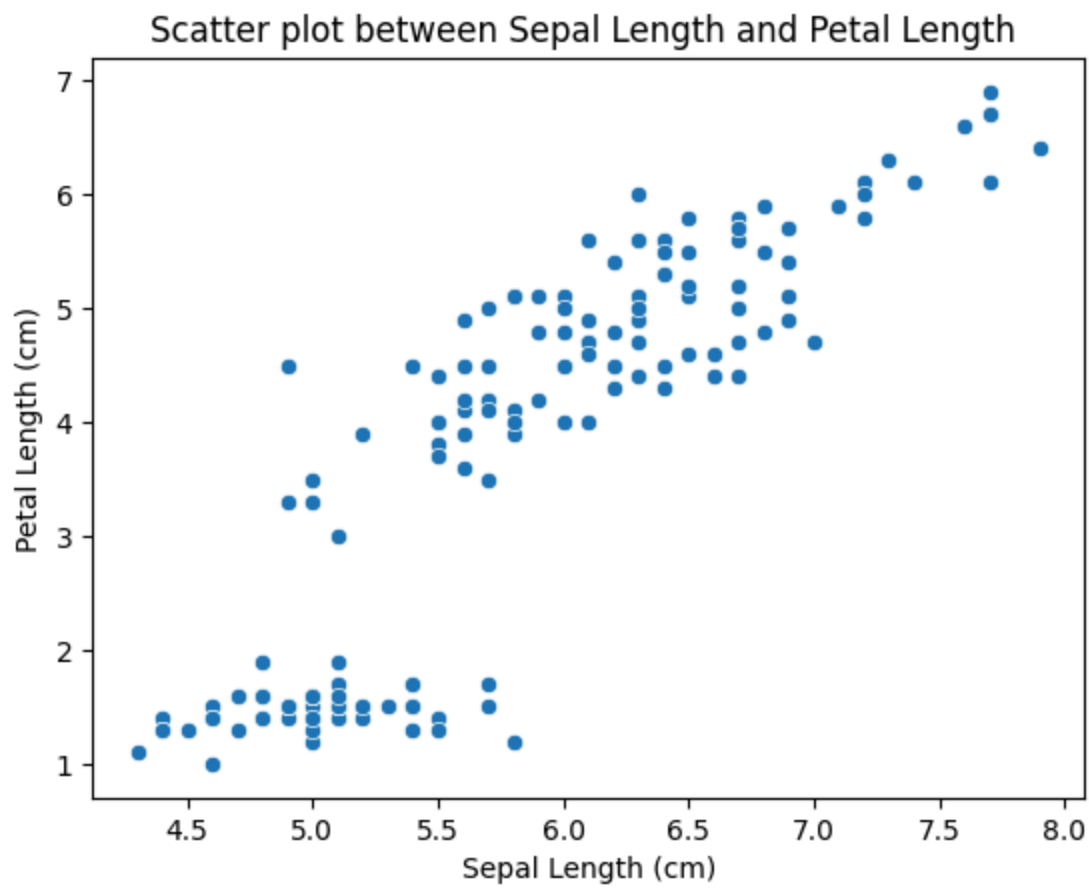
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```



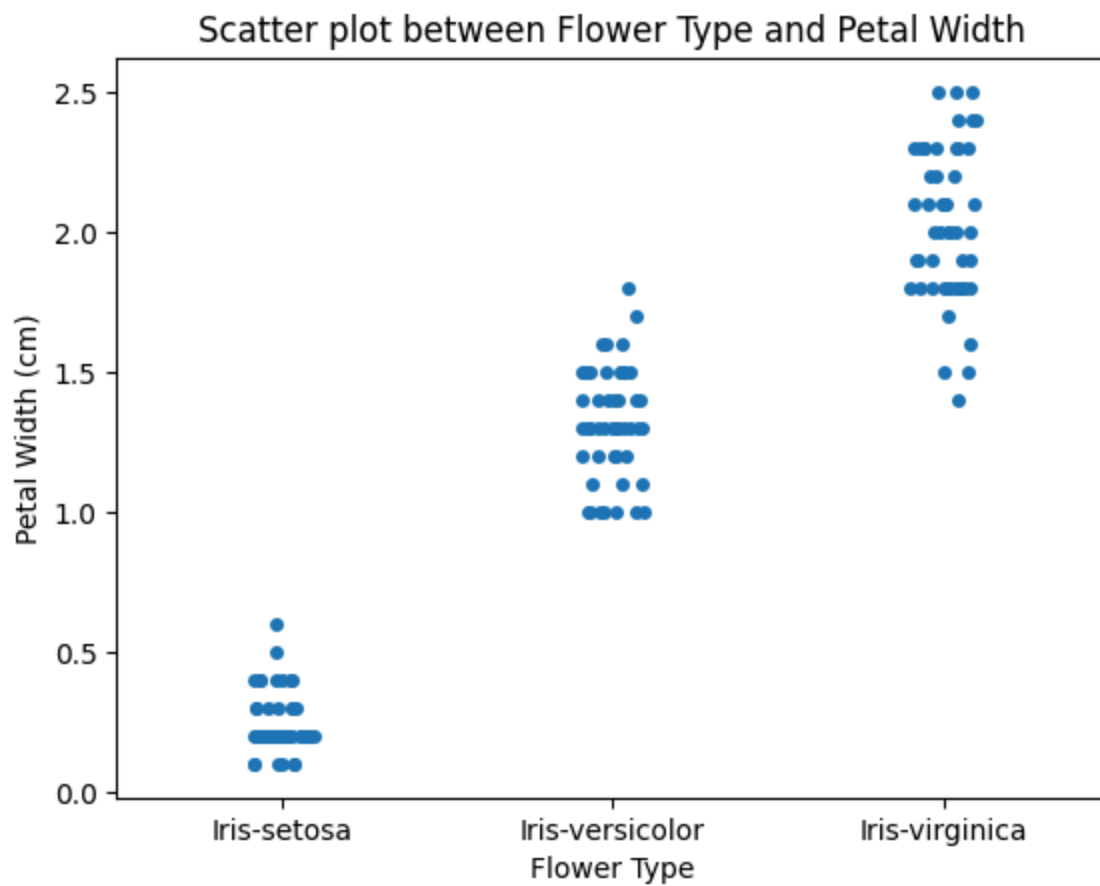
## Scatter plot

Plot values of one variable versus another variable to see how they are correlated

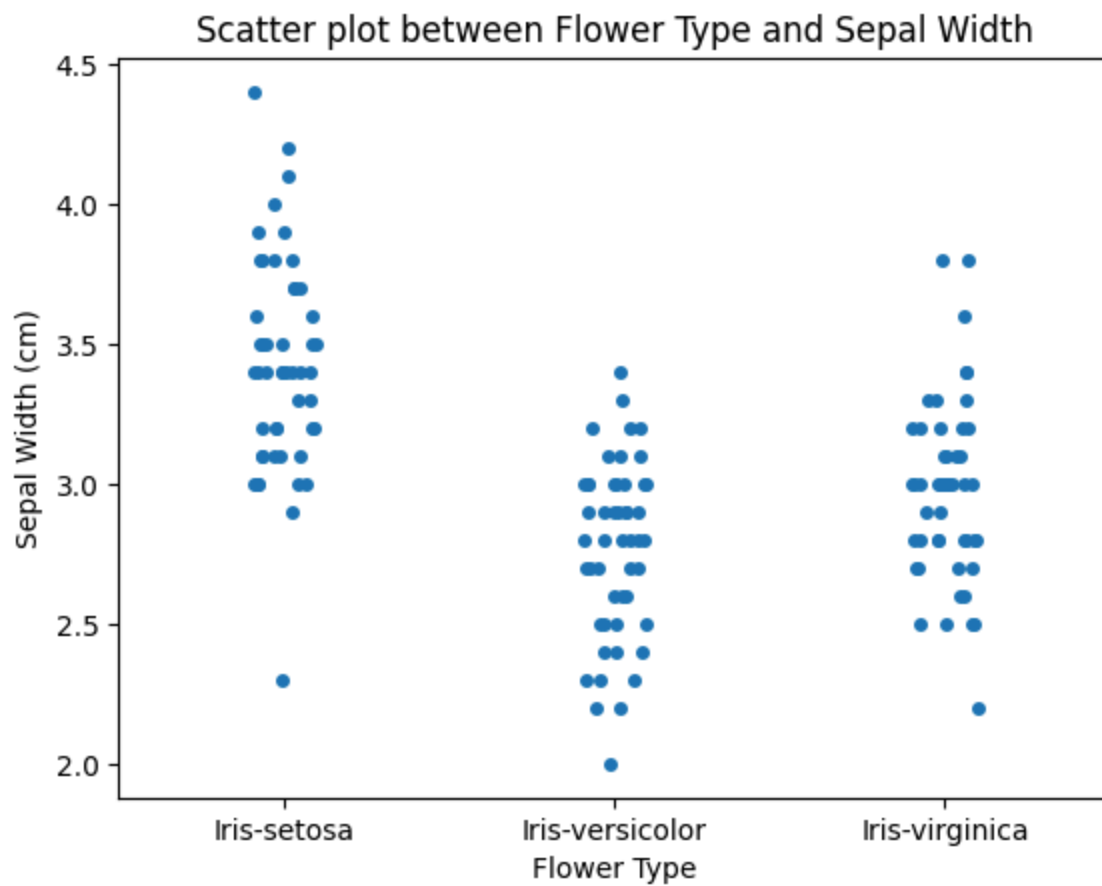
```
In [92]: # Scatter plot between sepal_length and petal_length
sns.scatterplot(data=iris_df, x='sepal_length', y='petal_length')
plt.xlabel('Sepal Length (cm)')
plt.ylabel('Petal Length (cm)')
plt.title('Scatter plot between Sepal Length and Petal Length ')
plt.show()
```



```
In [93]: # Scatter plot between Flower (categorical) and petal_width (numerical)
sns.stripplot(data=iris_df, x='Flower', y='petal_width', jitter=True)
plt.xlabel('Flower Type')
plt.ylabel('Petal Width (cm)')
plt.title('Scatter plot between Flower Type and Petal Width')
plt.show()
```

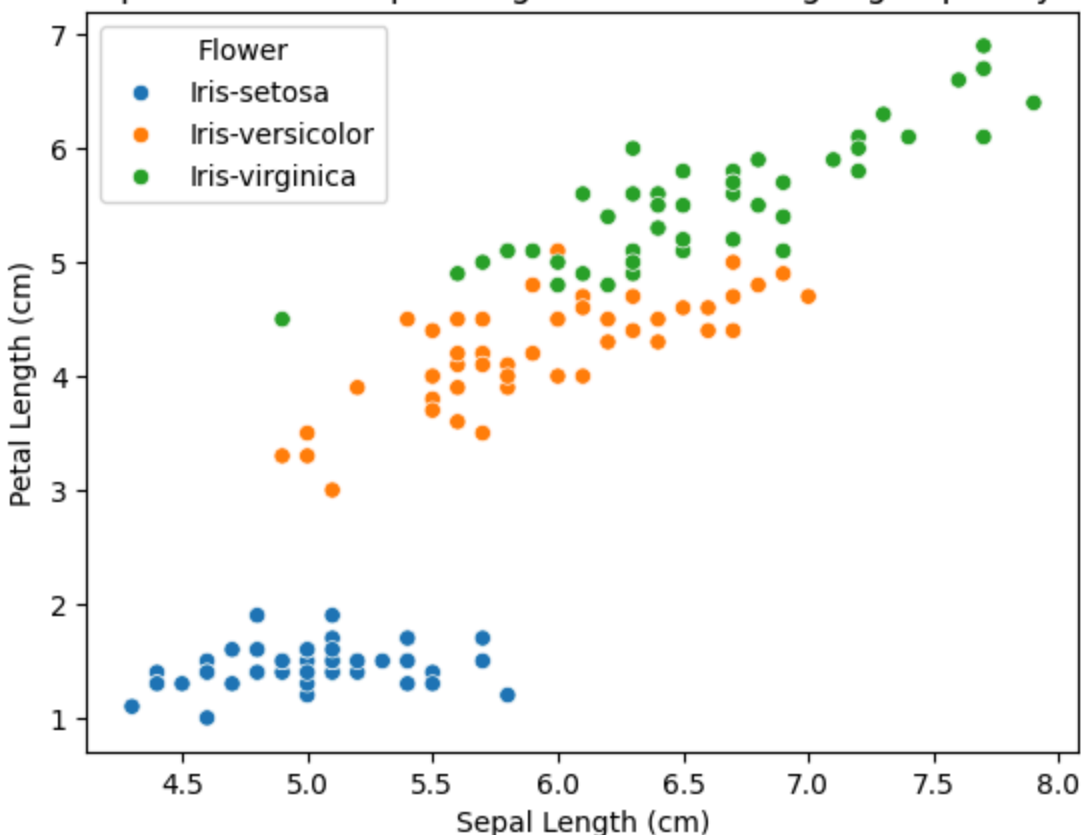


```
In [94]: # Scatter plot between Flower (categorical) and sepal_width (numerical)
sns.stripplot(data=iris_df, x='Flower', y='sepal_width', jitter=True)
plt.xlabel('Flower Type')
plt.ylabel('Sepal Width (cm)')
plt.title('Scatter plot between Flower Type and Sepal Width')
plt.show()
```



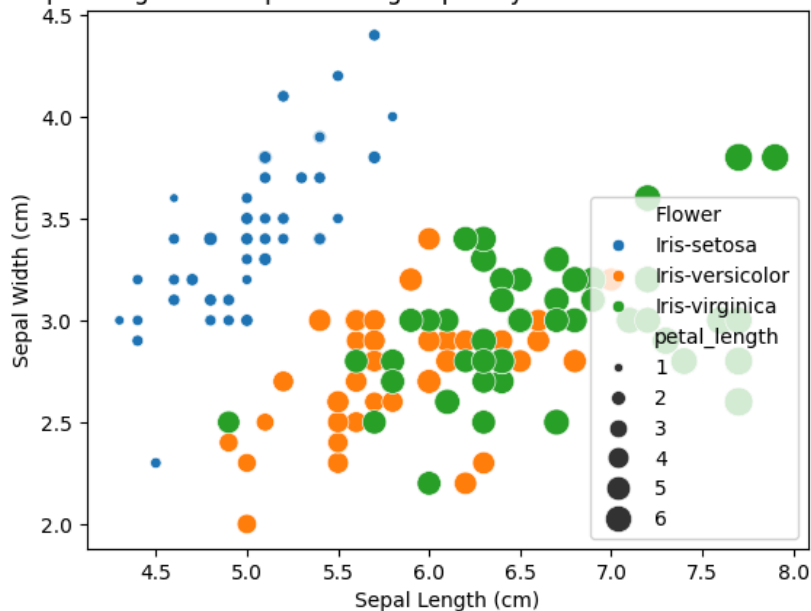
```
In [95]: # Scatter plot between sepal_length and petal_length grouped by Flower
sns.scatterplot(data=iris_df, x='sepal_length', y='petal_length', hue='Flower')
plt.xlabel('Sepal Length (cm)')
plt.ylabel('Petal Length (cm)')
plt.title('Scatter plot between Sepal Length and Petal Length grouped by Flower')
plt.show()
```

Scatter plot between Sepal Length and Petal Length grouped by Flower



```
In [96]: # Scatter plot between sepal_length and sepal_width grouped by Flower with marker size representing petal_length
sns.scatterplot(data=iris_df, x='sepal_length', y='sepal_width', hue='Flower', size='petal_length')
plt.xlabel('Sepal Length (cm)')
plt.ylabel('Sepal Width (cm)')
plt.title('Scatter plot between Sepal Length and Sepal Width grouped by Flower with marker size representing Petal Length')
plt.show()
```

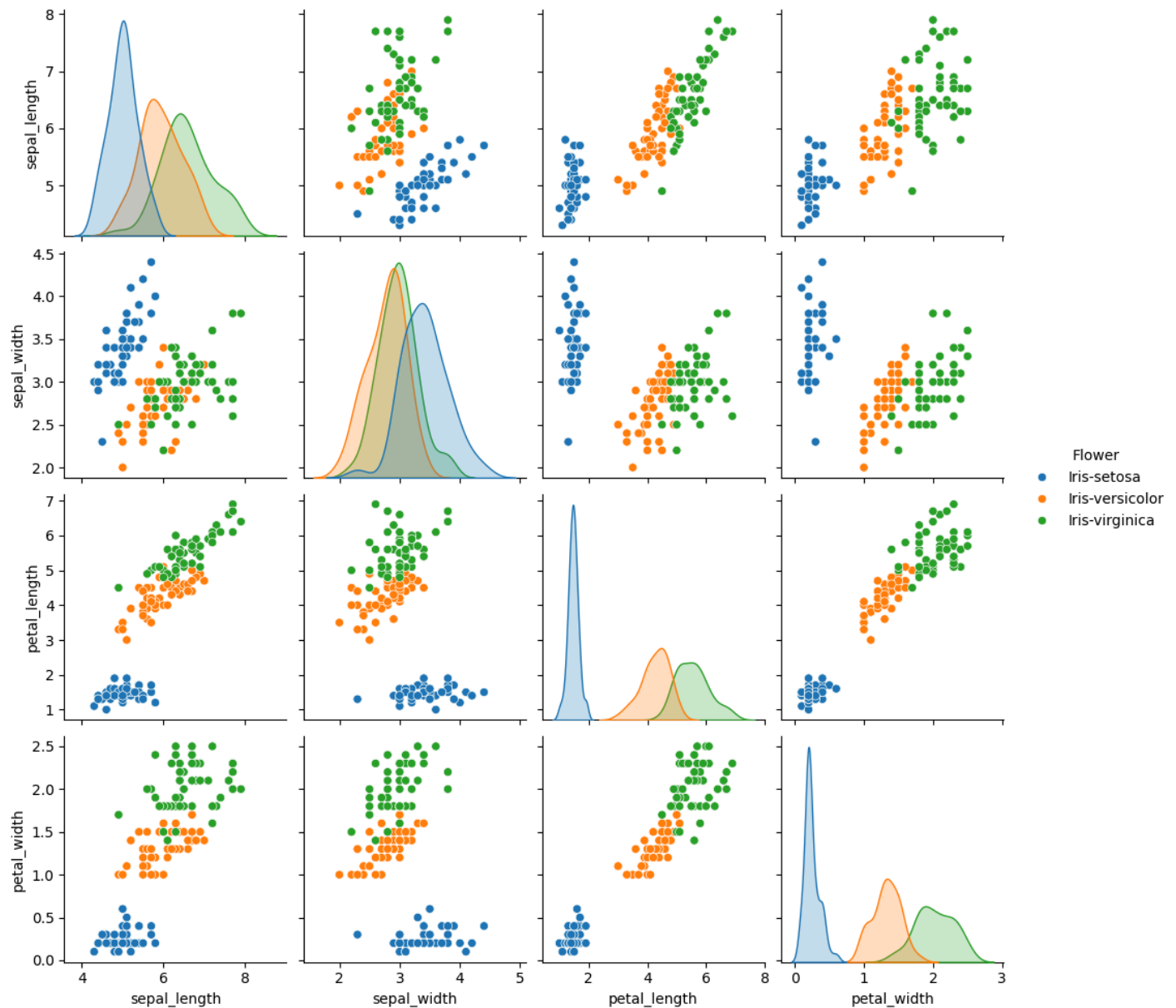
Scatter plot between Sepal Length and Sepal Width grouped by Flower with marker size representing Petal Length



```
In [97]: # Pairplot: Scatterplot of sepal_length, sepal_width, petal_length, petal_width
sns.pairplot(iris_df, vars=['sepal_length', 'sepal_width', 'petal_length', 'petal_width'], hue='Flower')
plt.suptitle('Pairplot of Sepal Length, Sepal Width, Petal Length, and Petal Width', y=1.02)
plt.show()
```



Pairplot of Sepal Length, Sepal Width, Petal Length, and Petal Width



## Final remarks

- Visualizing your data using **tables**, **histograms**, **boxplots**, **scatter plots** and other tools is essential to carry put analysis and extract conclusions
- There are several ways to do the same thing
- The **Seaborn** package provides visualisations tools that allow to explore data from a graphical perspective

## Activity: work with the iris dataset

Repeat this tutorial with the iris data set and respond to the following inquiries

1. Plot the histograms for each of the four quantitative variables

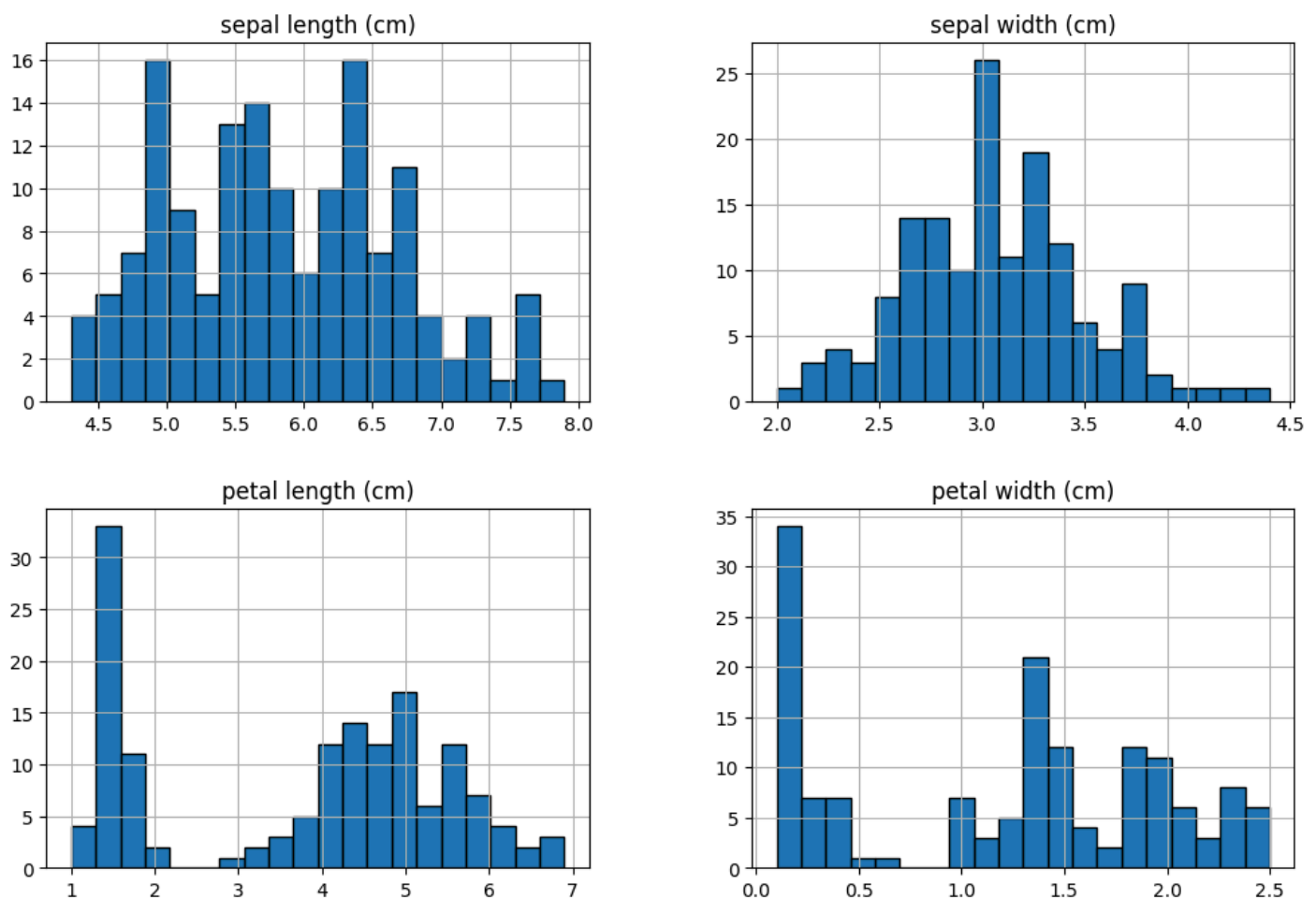
2. Plot the histograms for each of the quantitative variables
3. Plot the boxplots for each of the quantitative variables
4. Plot the boxplots of the petal width grouped by type of flower
5. Plot the boxplots of the setal length grouped by type of flower
6. Provide a description (explanation from your observations) of each of the quantitative variables

```
In [98]: from sklearn import datasets  
iris = datasets.load_iris()
```

1. Plot the histograms for each of the four quantitative variables

```
In [99]: # Convert the iris dataset to a pandas DataFrame  
iris_df = pd.DataFrame(iris.data, columns=iris.feature_names)  
  
# Plot histograms for each quantitative variable  
iris_df.hist(bins=20, figsize=(12, 8), layout=(2, 2), edgecolor='black')  
plt.suptitle('Histograms of Iris Dataset Quantitative Variables')  
plt.show()
```

Histograms of Iris Dataset Quantitative Variables

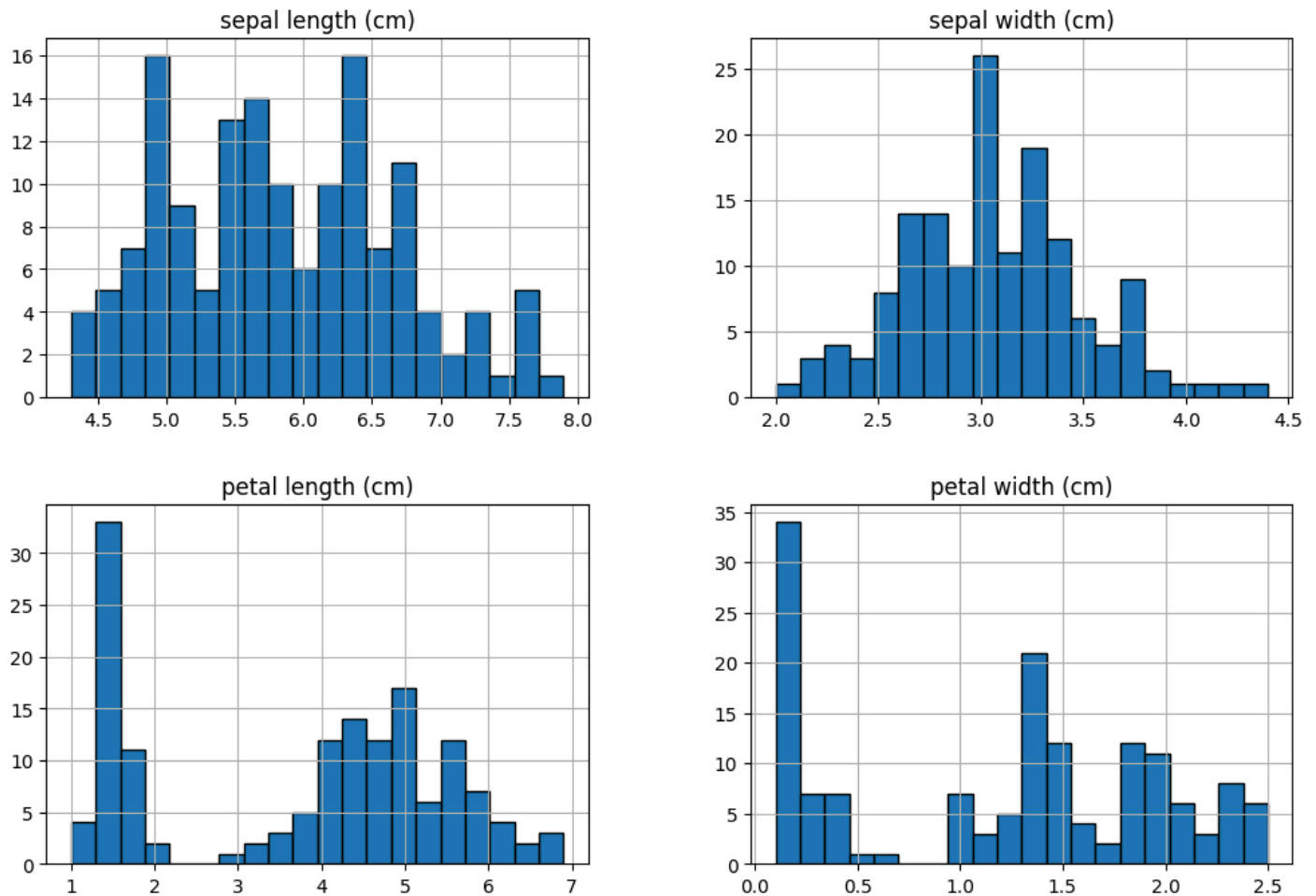


## 2. Plot the histograms for each of the quantitative variables

In [100...

```
# Plot histograms for each quantitative variable
iris_df.hist(bins=20, figsize=(12, 8), layout=(2, 2), edgecolor='black')
plt.suptitle('Histograms of Iris Dataset Quantitative Variables')
plt.show()
```

Histograms of Iris Dataset Quantitative Variables



## 3. Plot the boxplots for each of the quantitative variables

In [101...

```
# Plot boxplots for each quantitative variable
plt.figure(figsize=(12, 8))

# Boxplot for sepal length
plt.subplot(2, 2, 1)
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, y='sepal length (cm)')
plt.title('Boxplot of Sepal Length')

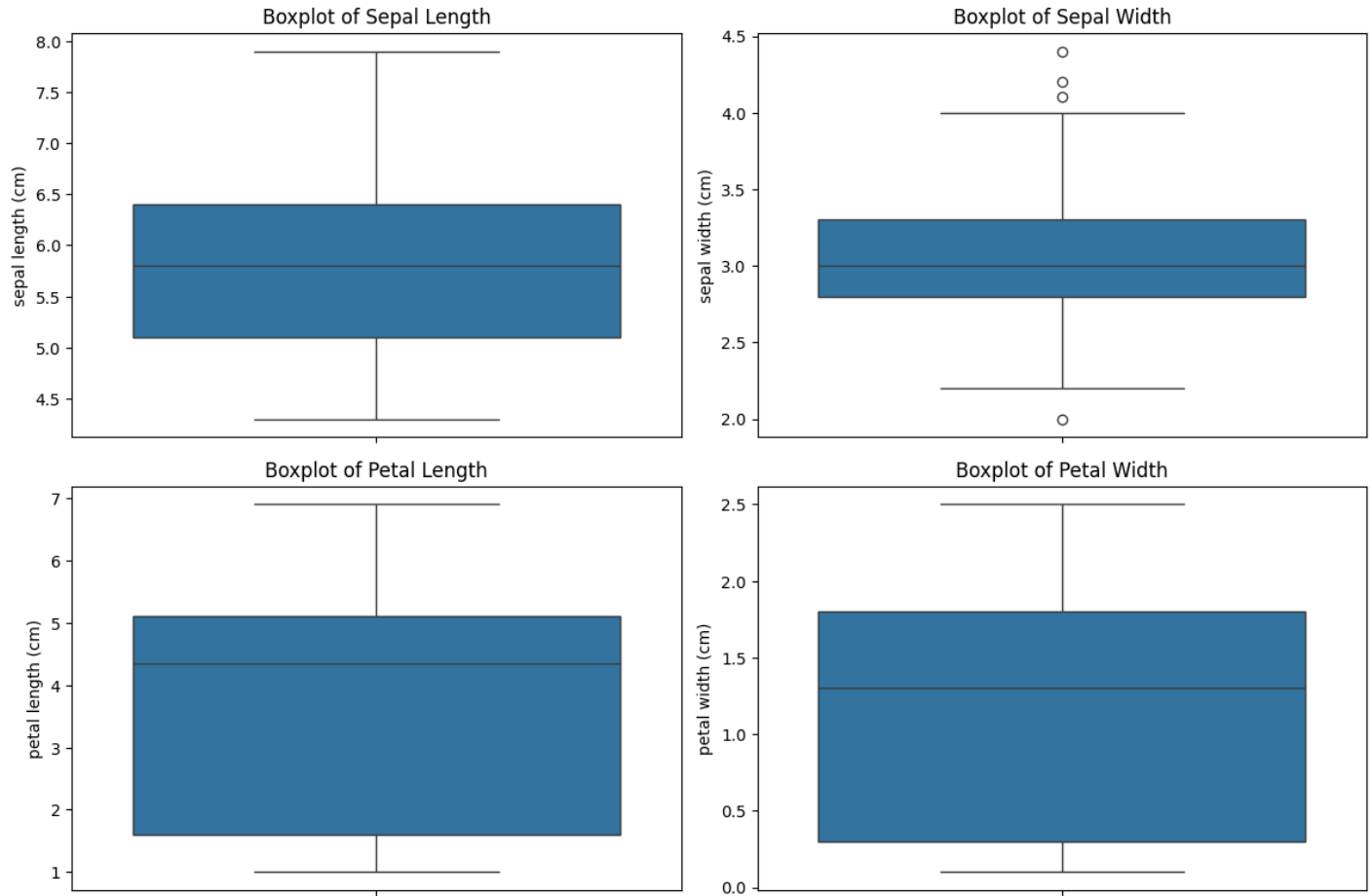
# Boxplot for sepal width
plt.subplot(2, 2, 2)
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, y='sepal width (cm)')
plt.title('Boxplot of Sepal Width')

# Boxplot for petal length
plt.subplot(2, 2, 3)
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, y='petal length (cm)')
```

```
plt.title('Boxplot of Petal Length')

# Boxplot for petal width
plt.subplot(2, 2, 4)
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, y='petal width (cm)')
plt.title('Boxplot of Petal Width')

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```



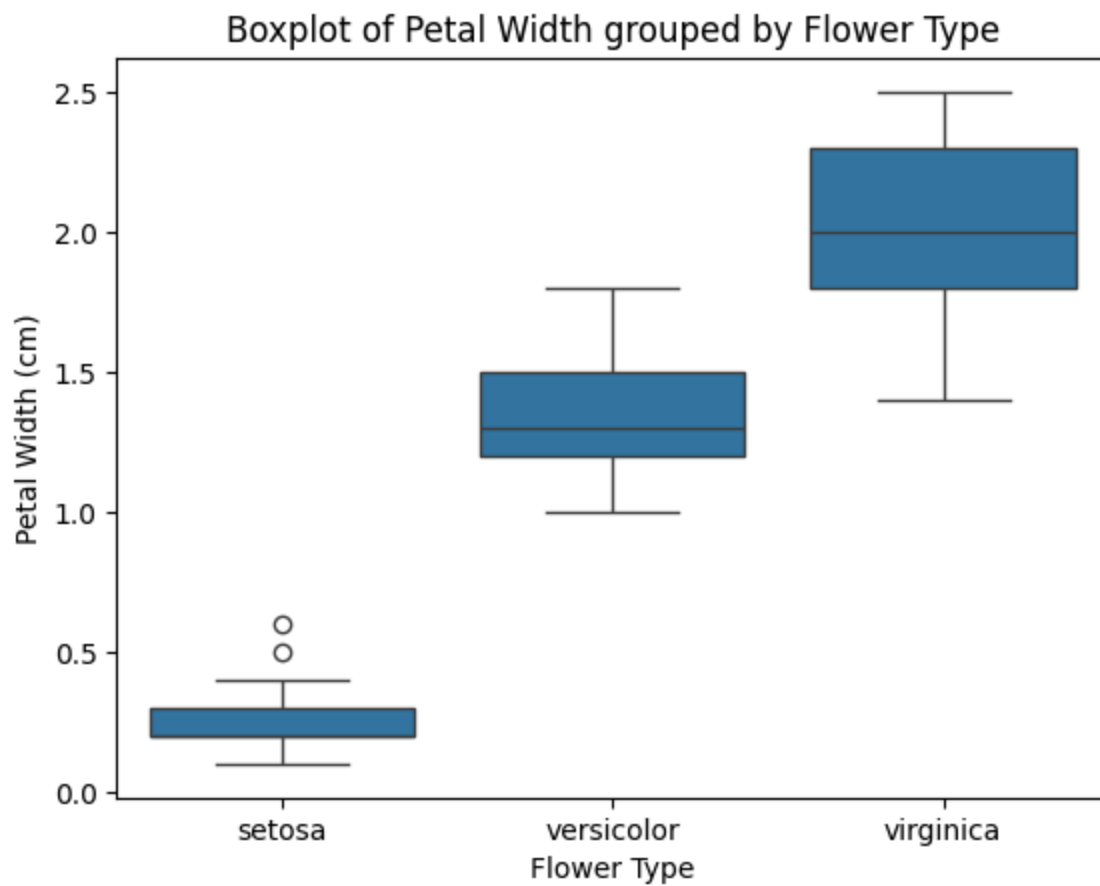
4. Plot the boxplots of the petal width grouped by type of flower

In [102...

```
# Add the target variable to the DataFrame
iris_df['flower_type'] = iris.target

# Map the target variable to the flower names
iris_df['flower_type'] = iris_df['flower_type'].map({0: 'setosa', 1: 'versicolor', 2: 'virginica'})

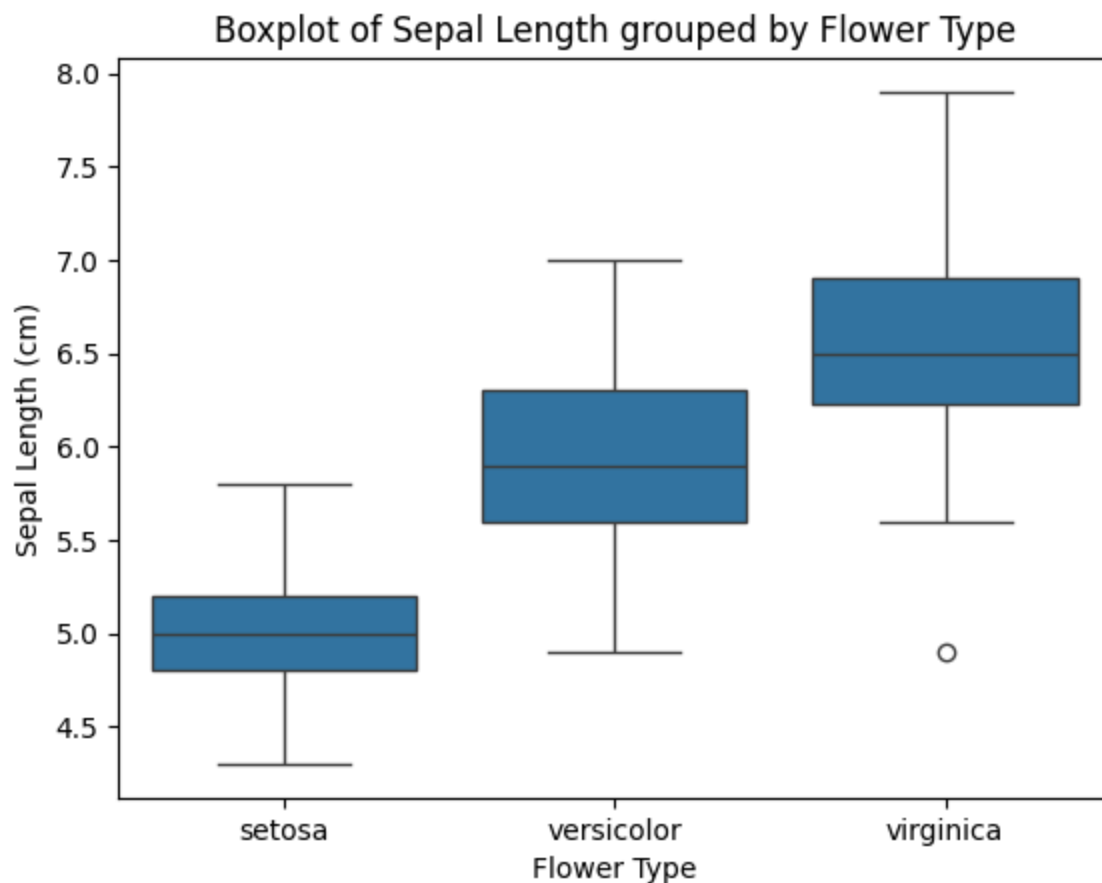
# Plot the boxplots of the petal width grouped by type of flower
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, x='flower_type', y='petal width (cm)')
plt.xlabel('Flower Type')
plt.ylabel('Petal Width (cm)')
plt.title('Boxplot of Petal Width grouped by Flower Type')
plt.show()
```



5. Plot the boxplots of the setal length grouped by type of flower

In [103...

```
# Plot the boxplots of the sepal length grouped by type of flower
sns.boxplot(data=iris_df, x='flower_type', y='sepal length (cm)')
plt.xlabel('Flower Type')
plt.ylabel('Sepal Length (cm)')
plt.title('Boxplot of Sepal Length grouped by Flower Type')
plt.show()
```



6. Provide a description (explanation from your observations) of each of the quantitative variables

The Iris dataset consists of four quantitative variables: sepal length, sepal width, petal length, and petal width, all measured in centimeters. Sepal length ranges from 4.3 to 7.9 cm, with *Iris-setosa* generally having shorter sepals and *Iris-virginica* the longest. Sepal width ranges from 2.0 to 4.4 cm, where *Iris-setosa* tends to have wider sepals, while *Iris-virginica* has narrower ones. Petal length, ranging from 1.0 to 6.9 cm, and petal width, from 0.1 to 2.5 cm, are the most distinctive features, clearly separating the species. *Iris-setosa* has the smallest petals, while *Iris-virginica* has the largest, with *Iris-versicolor* falling between them, making these variables essential for classification.