

Where to Begin

FEATURE ENGINEERING WITH PYSPARK



John Hogue

Lead Data Scientist, General Mills

Diving Straight to Analysis

Here be Monsters

- Become your own expert
- Define goals of analysis
- Research your data
- Be curious, ask questions



The Data Science Process



Spark changes fast and frequently

- Latest documentation:
 - <https://spark.apache.org/docs/latest/>
- Specific version (2.3.1)
 - <https://spark.apache.org/docs/2.3.1/>
- Check your versions!

```
# return spark version
spark.version

# return python version
import sys
sys.version_info
```

Data Formats: Parquet

Data is supplied as Parquet

- Stored Column-wise
 - Fast to query column subsets
- Structured, defined schema
 - Fields and Data Types defined
 - Great for messy text data
- Industry Adopted
 - Good skill to have! ????



Parquet

Getting the Data to Spark

PySpark `read` methods

- PySpark supports many file types!

```
# JSON  
spark.read.json('example.json')
```

```
# CSV or delimited files  
spark.read.csv('example.csv')
```

```
# Parquet  
spark.read.parquet('example.parq')
```

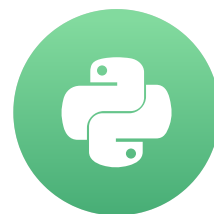
```
# Read a parquet file to a PySpark DataFrame  
df = spark.read.parquet('example.parq')
```

Let's Practice!

FEATURE ENGINEERING WITH PYSPARK

Defining A Problem

FEATURE ENGINEERING WITH PYSPARK



John Hogue

Lead Data Scientist, General Mills

What's Your Problem?

Predict the selling price of a house

- Given is listed price and features
 - X , independent 'known' variables
- How much to buy the house for
 - Y , dependent 'unknown' variable
 - SALESCLOSEPRICE



Context & Limitations of our Real Estate

- **Homes sold St Paul, MN Area**
 - Includes several suburbs
- **Real Estate Types**
 - Residential-Single
 - Residential-Multi-Family
- **Full Year of Data**
 - Impact of seasonality



What types of attributes are available?

- **Dates**
 - Date Listed
 - Year Built
- **Location**
 - City
 - School District
 - Address
- **Size**
 - # Bedrooms & Bathrooms
 - Living Area
- **Price**
 - List Price
 - Sales Closing Price
- **Amenities**
 - Pool
 - Fireplace
 - Garage
- **Construction Materials**
 - Siding
 - Roofing

Validating Your Data Load

- `DataFrame.count()` for row count

```
df.count()
```

```
5000
```

- `DataFrame.columns` for a list of columns

```
df.columns
```

```
['No.', 'MLSID', 'StreetNumberNumeric', ... ]
```

- Length of `DataFrame.columns` for the number of columns

```
len(df.columns)
```

```
74
```

Checking Datatypes

`DataFrame.dtypes`

- Creates a list of columns and their data types tuples

```
df.dtypes
```

```
[('No.', 'integer'), ('MLSID', 'string'), ... ]
```

Let's Practice

FEATURE ENGINEERING WITH PYSPARK

Visually Inspecting Data

FEATURE ENGINEERING WITH PYSPARK



John Hogue

Lead Data Scientist, General Mills

Getting Descriptive with DataFrame.describe()

```
df.describe([ 'LISTPRICE' ]).show()
```

```
+-----+-----+
|summary|LISTPRICE|
+-----+-----+
|count|5000|
|mean|263419.365|
|stddev|143944.10818036905|
|min|100000|
|max|99999|
+-----+-----+
```


Many descriptive functions are already available

- Mean
 - `pyspark.sql.functions.mean(col)`
- Skewness
 - `pyspark.sql.functions.skewness(col)`
- Minimum
 - `pyspark.sql.functions.min(col)`
- Covariance
 - `cov(col1, col2)`
- Correlation
 - `corr(col1, col2)`

Example with mean()

- `mean(col)`
- Aggregate function: returns the average (mean) of the values in a group.

```
df.agg( { 'SALESCLOSEPRICE' : 'mean' } ).collect()
```

```
[Row(avg(SALESCLOSEPRICE)=262804.4668)]
```

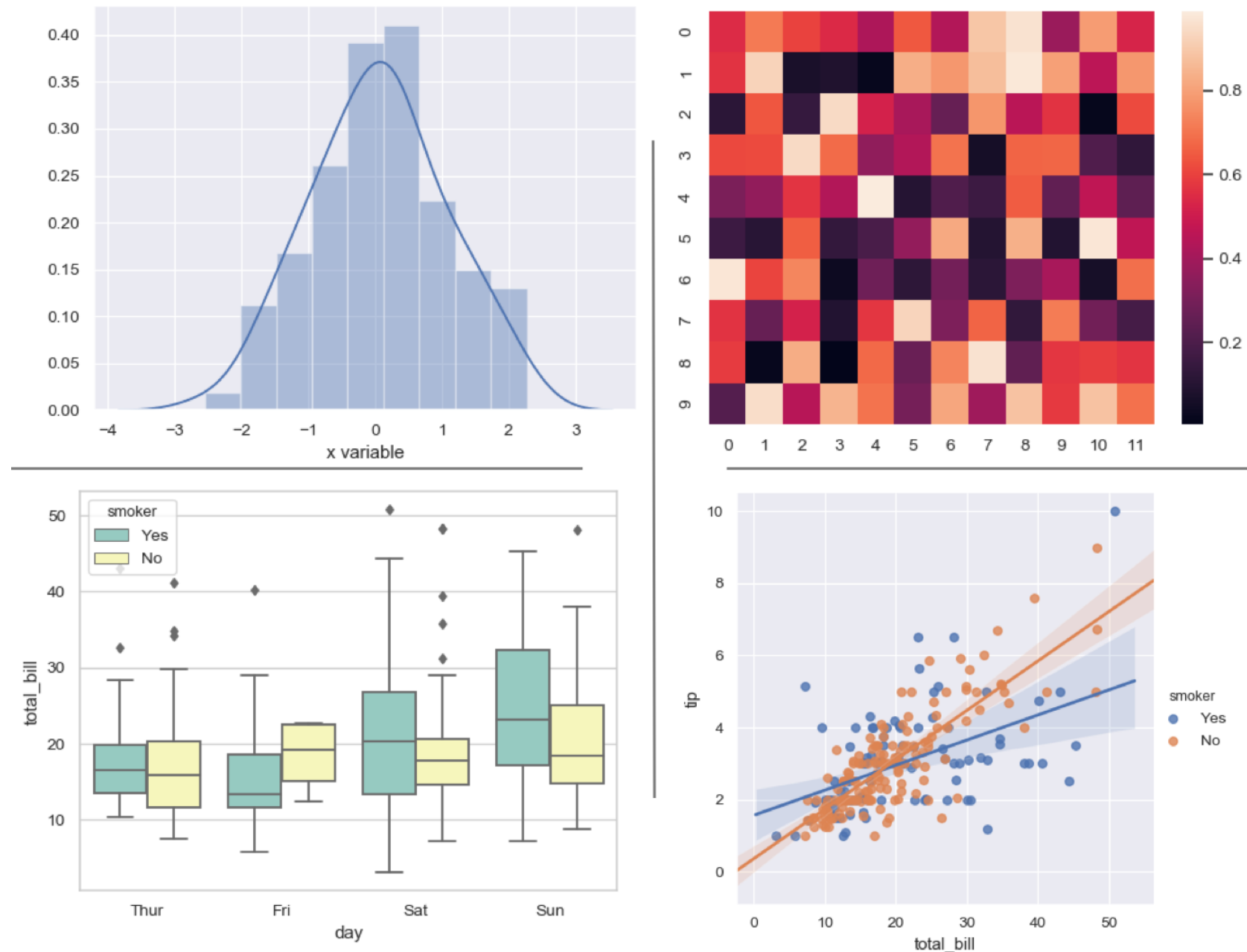
Example with cov()

- `cov(col1, col2)`
- Parameters:
 - col1 – first column
 - col2 – second column

```
df.cov('SALESCLOSEPRICE', 'YEARBUILT')
```

```
1281910.3840634783
```

seaborn: statistical data visualization



Notes on plotting

Plotting PySpark DataFrames using standard libraries like Seaborn require conversion to Pandas

WARNING: *Sample PySpark DataFrames before converting to Pandas!*

- `sample(withReplacement, fraction, seed=None)`
 - `withReplacement` allow repeats in sample
 - `fraction` % of records to keep
 - `seed` random seed for reproducibility

```
# Sample 50% of the PySpark DataFrame and count rows
df.sample(False, 0.5, 42).count()
```

```
2504
```

Prepping for plotting a distribution

Seaborn `distplot()`

- `seaborn.distplot(a)`
- `a` : Series, 1d-array, or list. Observed data.

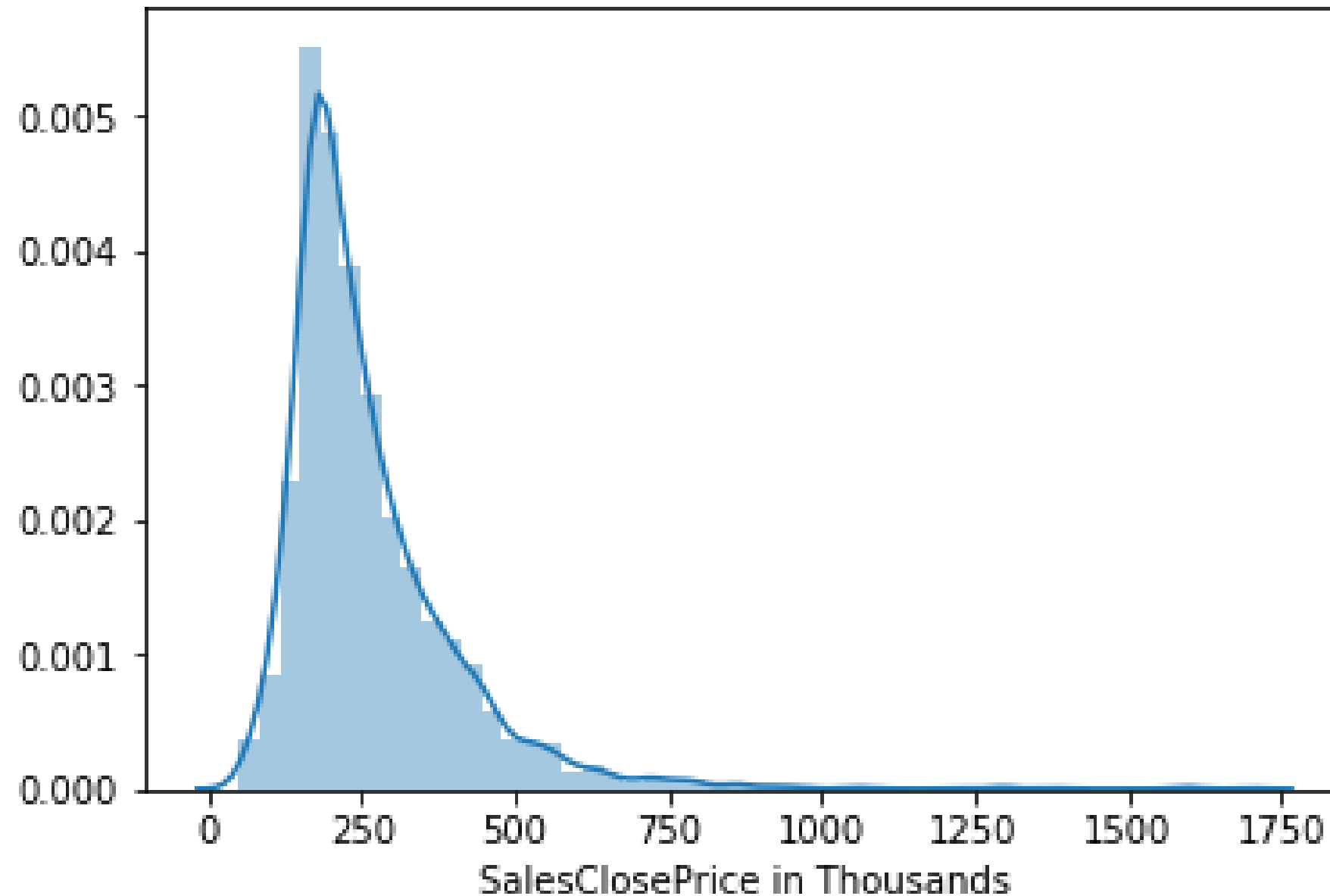
```
# Import your favorite visualization library
import seaborn as sns

# Sample the dataframe
sample_df = df.select(['SALESCLOSEPRICE']).sample(False, 0.5, 42)

# Convert the sample to a Pandas DataFrame
pandas_df = sample_df.toPandas()

# Plot it
sns.distplot(pandas_df)
```

Distribution plot of sales closing price



Relationship plotting

Seaborn `lplot()`

- `seaborn.lplot(x, y, data)`
- `x` , `y` : strings, Input variables; these should be column names in data.
- `data` : Pandas DataFrame

```
# Import your favorite visualization library
import seaborn as sns

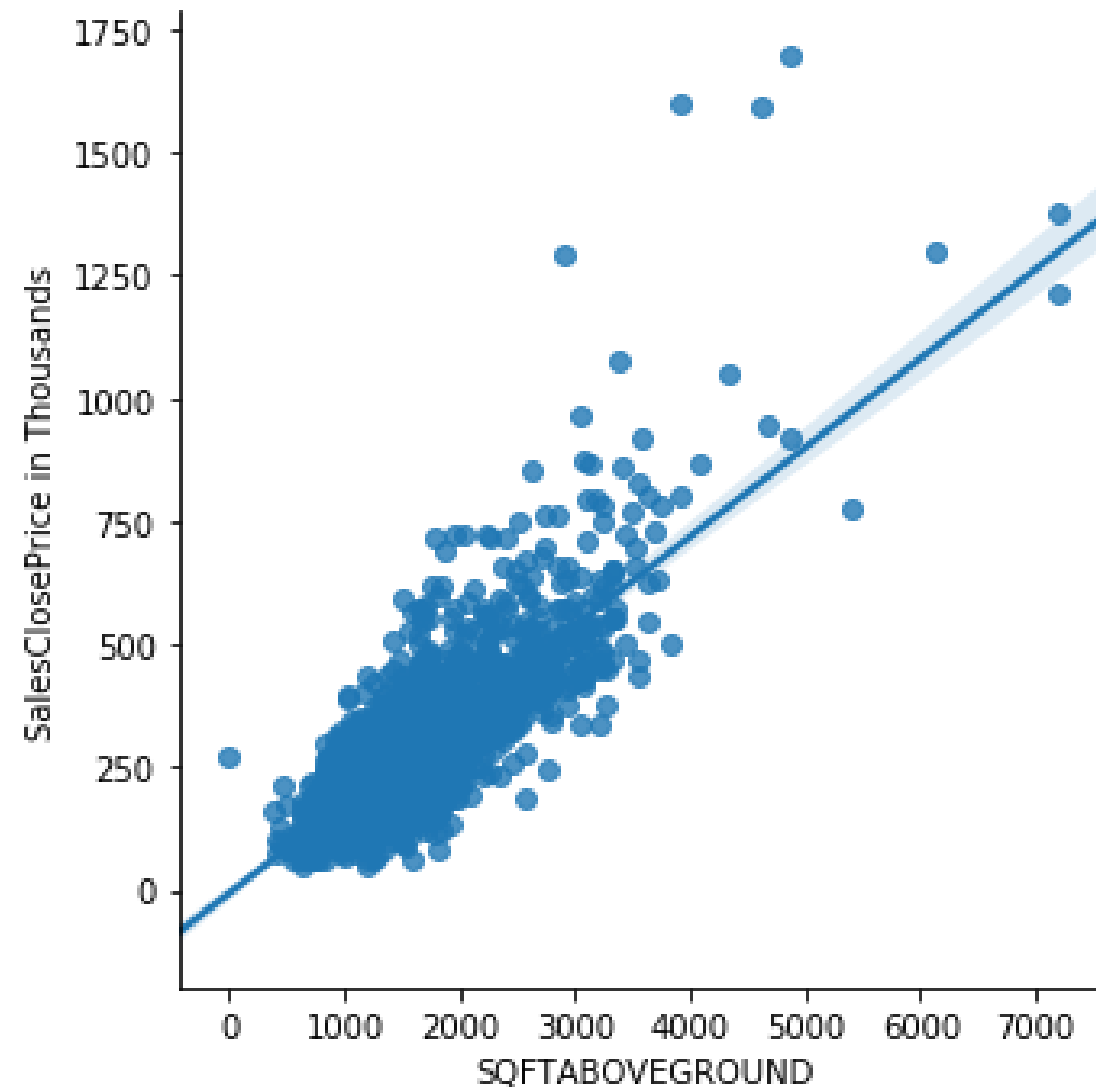
# Select columns
s_df = df.select(['SALESCLOSEPRICE', 'SQFTABOVEGROUND'])

# Sample dataframe
s_df = s_df.sample(False, 0.5, 42)

# Convert to Pandas DataFrame
pandas_df = s_df.toPandas()

# Plot it
sns.lplot(x='SQFTABOVEGROUND', y='SALESCLOSEPRICE', data=pandas_df)
```


Linear model plot between SQFT above ground and sales price



Let's practice!

FEATURE ENGINEERING WITH PYSPARK