

dm25s1

## Topic 02 : Motivating Example

### Part 02 : Introduction to Data Operations

Preparation

Data Handling

Exploring Data 1

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Exploring Data 2

Building Models

Prediction

Autumn Semester, 2025

#### Outline

- Characteristics of data sets
- Operations on tabular data

Wrap up

# Data Mining (Week 2)

Introduction



Motivating Example

Preparation

Data Handling

Exploring Data 1

Exploring Data 2

Building Models

Prediction

Clustering

Regression  
1

Classification  
1

Regression  
2

Classification  
2

Wrap up

# Outline

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# Data sources

Type	Format	Example	DBMS	Language	Readiness for ML
Relational	Table	Transactions	MySQL, Postgresql, ...	SQL	Maps to dataframe
Flat	Key + Value	Caches	Redis, mem- cached, ...	DBMS-Specific	Not rich enough
Document	Serialised objects	Tweets	Mongodb, Cassandra. ...	MQL, CQL	Too rich
Graph	Nodes and edges	Social rela- tionships	Neo4j, Dgraph, ...	Gremlin, Cypher, DQL, ...	Specialised analyses
Columnar	DataSet	Logs	HBase, Spark DataSet	Hive QL, Spark SQL	Maps to dataframe

Generally, **rich** flat data representations are best suited to machine learning

# Preparing data

Data Preparation is the first step in data mining

In practice, data can be

- structured or unstructured,
- consolidated or scattered,
- consistent or inconsistent,
- clean or with error.

ML prefers structured, consolidated, consistent data, as clean as possible.

The `auto_mpg.csv` dataset already has these characteristics.

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# The auto-mpg dataset

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2	18	8	307	130	3504	12	70	1	chevrolet chevelle malibu
3	15	8	350	165	3693	11.5	70	1	buick skylark 320
4	18	8	318	150	3436	11	70	1	plymouth satellite
5	16	8	304	150	3433	12	70	1	amc rebel sst
6	17	8	302	140	3449	10.5	70	1	ford torino
7	15	8	429	198	4341	10	70	1	ford galaxie 500
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11	15	8	390	190	3850	8.5	70	1	amc ambassador dpl
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- 4 Machine learning uses combinations of these columns to build models.

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## Learning

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## Applied to auto-mpg

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- How do we measure the *quality* of a prediction?
- What other learning can be derived from the chosen column collection?

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- ... We can use *selection* (also known as *restriction*) - but how do we choose which rows to keep?

## Example

```
SELECT displacement, horsepower, weight, mpg  
FROM auto_mpg  
WHERE horsepower > 79;
```

- SELECT clause: projection (restricting columns: column sufficiency)
- WHERE clause: selection (restricting rows: row sufficiency)

# Understanding the auto-mpg dataset: Summarising

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  - 1 Sampling - reduce/remove row duplication
  - 2 Banding - reduce the cardinality of a column
  - 3 Grouped Aggregation - roll up by level, aggregating as needed

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- Number of rows to keep in the sample is a compromise
- Can reduce runtime while allowing estimates of the uncertainty in a predictive model
- However, an aggregated column might be a better choice

```
-- Return a random sample of 3 Japanese cars  
SELECT *  
FROM AutoMpg  
WHERE originID = 3  
ORDER BY RANDOM()  
LIMIT 3;
```



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,CASE
  WHEN horsepower < 130 THEN 'low'
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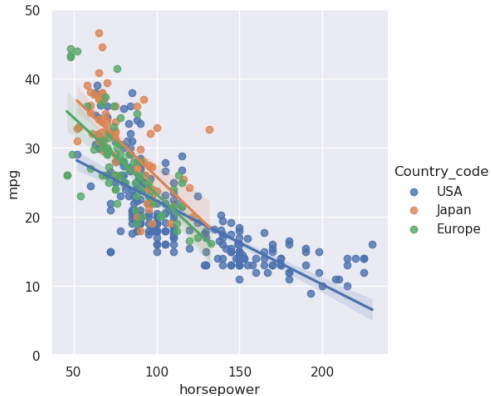
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- Aggregations include: `MIN()`, `SUM()`,  
`COUNT(DISTINCT ...)`
- ... Take a set of values, compute an aggregate value
- Sets can be partitioned by grouping variable, aggregate applied to each partition
- ... Example: average mpg per country of manufacture

```
SELECT originID, AVG(mpg)
FROM AutoMpg
GROUP BY originID;
```

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# Summary

- Semantically rich, flat data is preferred for machine learning
- Ideally, this data would also be structured, consolidated, consistent and clean
- Several data operations were described, using the AutoMpg dataset as an example data source
  - Projection
  - Selection
  - Summarising: Sampling, Banding, Grouped Aggregation

Your task is to apply this to datasets using the python toolchain.