dm25s1

Topic 04: Exploratory Data Analysis

Part 02: EDA Pass2

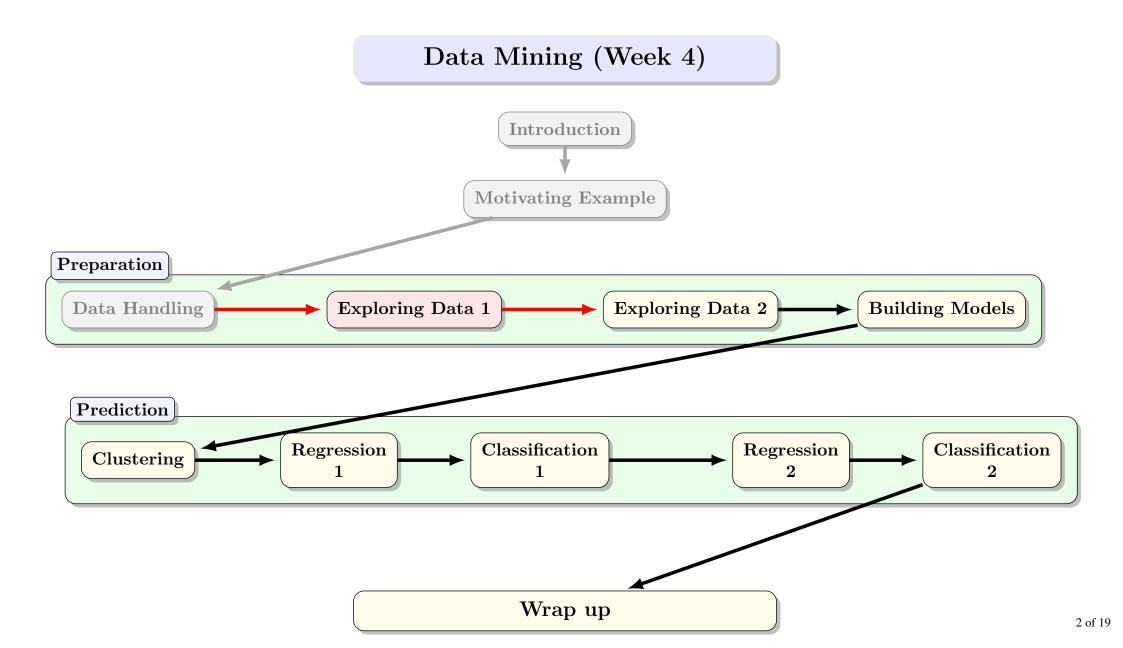
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Autumn Semester, 2025

Outline

- Feature and target distributions
- Plotting
- After EDA Pass 2



EDA Pass2 — Summary

- 1. Introduction
- 2. A Selection of Statistical Visualisations and Metrics
- 2.1 Categorical Features
- 2.2 Numerical Features
- 3. Summary

Acknowledgment

A big thanks to Dr Kieran Murphy, who provided many of the slides for today's lecture.

Introducing EDA Pass2

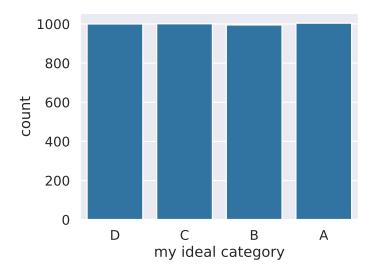
A Selection of Statistical Visualisations and Metrics

Relationship to Target Categorical Numerical Feature Categorical nunique, unique, describe, crosstab, ... boxplot, ... value_counts, ... countplot, ... catplot, boxplot, ... countplot, ... Numerical describe, ... groupby+describe,... correlations, ... lmplot, ... histplot, boxplot, catplot, boxplot, ... displot, qqplot, ...

Categorical Variables

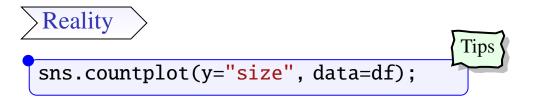
The Ideal

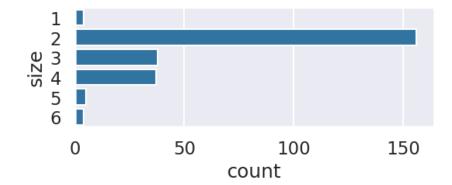
- Each level equally likely.
- Not too many levels: 2–12(ish).



> Tools

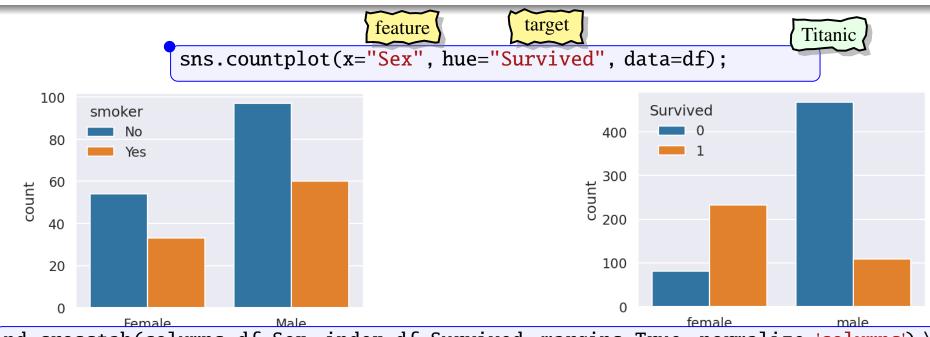
• nunique, unique, value_counts.





- If size was the target, then most models will train towards the majority class (size=2).
- If size was a feature, then quality of predictor could vary greatly depending on the feature categorical level.
- Consider merge/drop rare category levels.
- sns.countplot shows the counts of observations in each categorical level using bars.

Categorical Variables — Relationship with (Categorical) Target



pd.crosstab(columns=df.Sex, index=df.Survived, margins=True, normalize='columns') \
 .style.format("{:.2%}").background_gradient(cmap='summer_r')

sex	Female	All		
smoker				
No	62.07%	61.78%	61.89%	
Yes	37.93%	38.22%	38.11%	

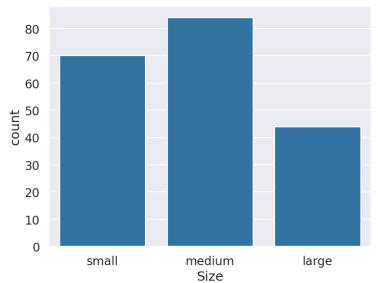
No relationship between sex and smoker

Sex	female	male	All		
Survived					
0	25.80%	81.11%	61.62%		
1	74.20%	18.89%	38.38%		

Strong relationship between Sex and Survived

Categorical Variables — Relationship with (Numerical) Target

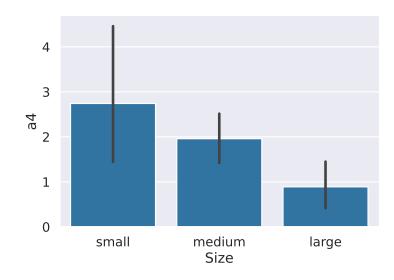
sns.countplot(x="Size", data=df);



• Shows the counts of observations in each categorical level using bar (height/width).

Is it usable?

sns.catplot(x="Size", y="a4", data=df, kind='bar');

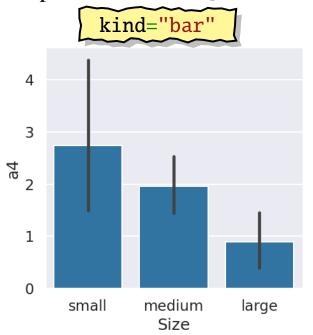


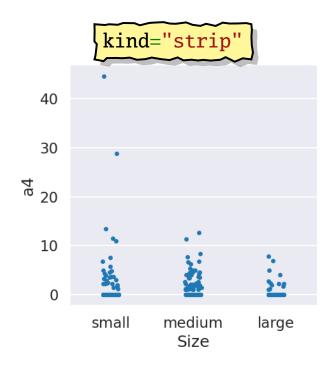
- Shows the average level (mean) and uncertainty (std) of the numerical target (a4) in each categorical level of the categorical variable.
- Vertical bar shows 95% confidence interval.

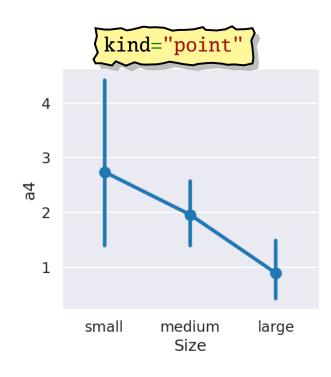


Categorical Variables — Relationship with (Numerical) Target

The option kind in catplot can be:

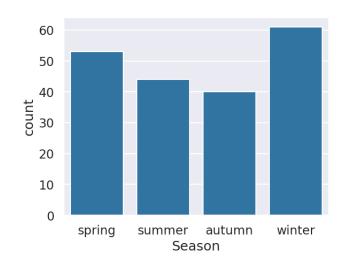


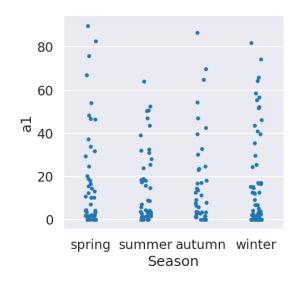


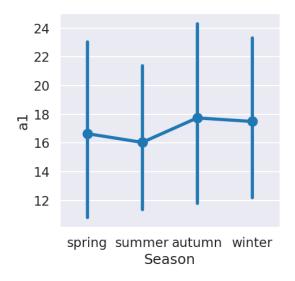


- bar and point show essentially the same information, but point is more compact when comparing multiple categorical features to a continuous target on the same plot.
- strip shows individual observations useful (as in this case) to show that the larger uncertainty in Size="small" observations is mainly due to two outliers.

Example — Dataset: Algae Blooms, Feature: Season, Target: a1





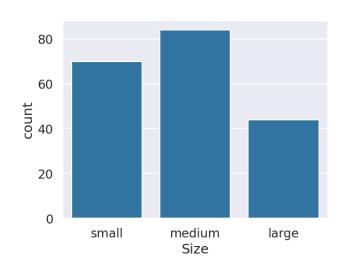


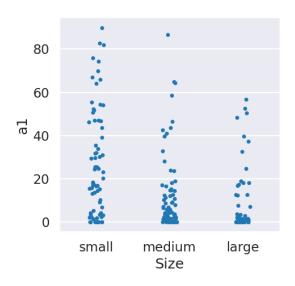
df.groupby("Season")["a1"].agg(["mean","count","std"])

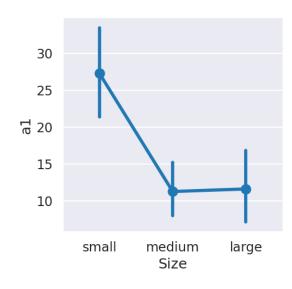
	mean	count	std
Season	\bar{x}	\overline{n}	σ
spring	16.649057	53	23.093786
summer	16.038636	44	17.920798
autumn	17.745000	40	21.611203
winter	17.498361	61	22.568256

- Countplot shows no issues with feature Season all levels approximately equally represented.
- Catplots show slightly less spread in a1 for Season="summer" observations. (strip shows smaller range, point shows smaller standard deviation).
- \Rightarrow Mean levels of a1 for different levels of Season are well within the 95% confidence intervals ($\bar{x} \pm \sigma 1.96/\sqrt{n}$), so no/weak relationship between categorical feature and numerical target.

Example — Dataset: Algae Blooms, Feature: Size, Target: a1







df.groupby("Size")["a1"].agg(["min","max","mean","count","std"])

	min	max	mean	count	std
Size			\overline{x}	n	σ
small	0.0	89.8	27.255714	70	24.895426
medium	0.0	86.6	11.267857	84	17.163124
large	0.0	56.8	11.611364	44	16.556123

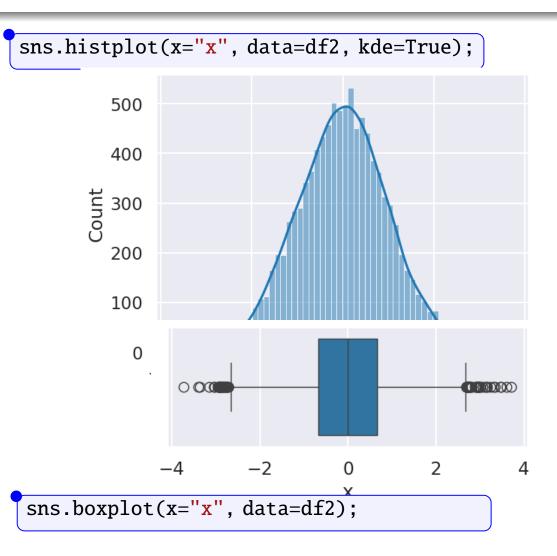
- Countplot shows no issues with feature Size.
- Catplot (point) shows that levels of a1 are higher for Size="small" observations.
- ⇒ Confidence interval for Size="small" observations do not overlap with CI for other levels, so significant relationship between categorical feature and numerical target.

Numerical Variables

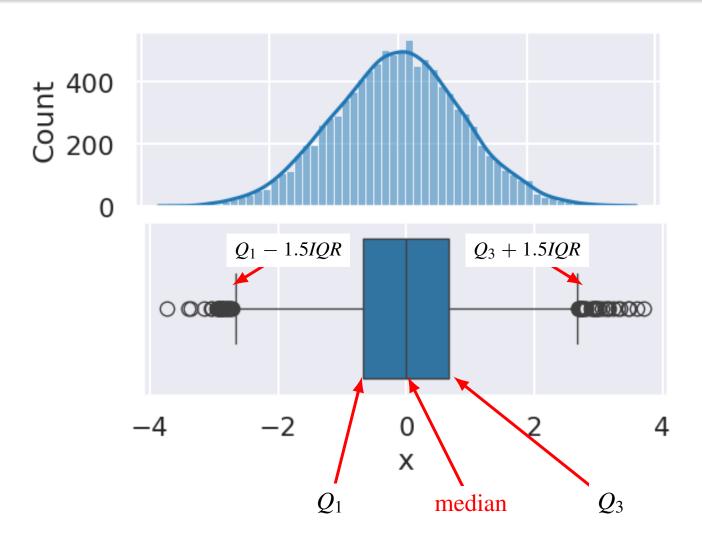
Things here are more complicated as a numerical variable could follow many different distributions. Here we look at data following the standard normal distribution. To start we generate 10,000 values and put in to new DataFrame, df2.

```
rv = stats.norm()
data = rv.rvs(size=10_000)
df2 = pd.DataFrame(data, columns=["x"])
df2.head(5)
```

x
0 -1.915795
1 0.641175
2 0.040114
3 0.725531
4 0.252675



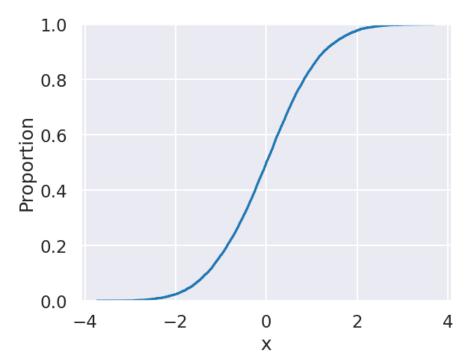
Histplot (Histogram) and Boxplot



- Histogram is useful in depicting location, spread and shape.
- Curve, is estimate of shape given infinite data and infinite number of bins.
- Boxplots also depicts location, spread and shape, but uses median for estimate of centre, and quartiles for spread.
- Half the data is within the box, data points outside the whiskers (lines) are possible outliers, denoted by circles.

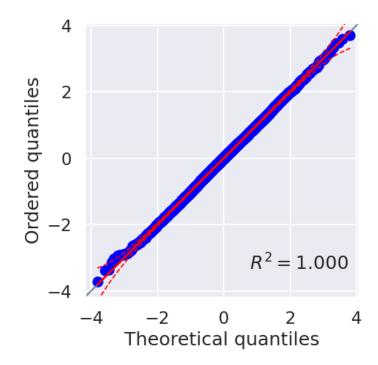
Cumulative Plot and QQ-Plot

sns.ecdfplot(data=df2, x="x");



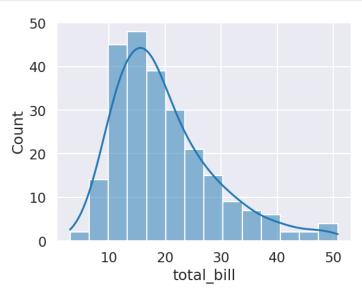
• Represents the proportion of observations less than or equal to given value.

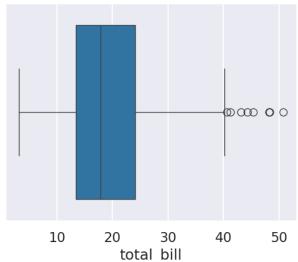
import pingouin as pg
pg.qqplot(df2.x);

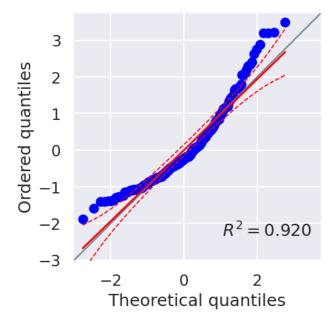


• Plot of observed quantiles against theoretical (assumed normal) quantiles. If both sets of quantiles came from the same distribution, the points lie on a line (approx.).

Example — Dataset: Tips, Feature: total_bill







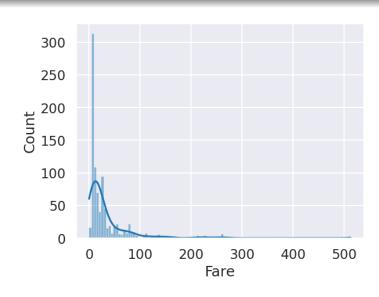
df.total_bill.describe()

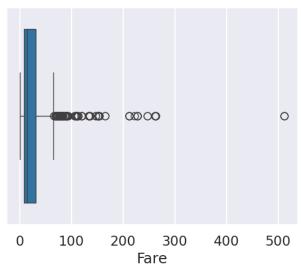
count	244.000000	
mean	19.785943	
std	8.902412	
min	3.070000	
25%	13.347500	
50%	17.795000	
75%	24.127500	
max	50.810000	
Namo:	total hill dtyne:	f1c

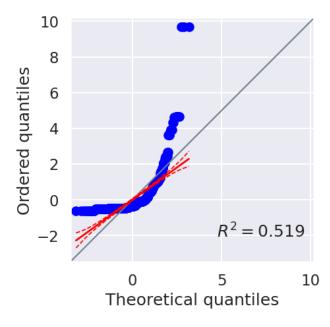
Name: total_bill, dtype: float

- Data is bell curve shaped, but right skewed (data is more spread out to the right).
- Outliers to the right.
- QQ-Plot indicate that data is not normal, but we could transform it to be more closer to normal.

Example — Dataset: Titanic, Feature: Fare







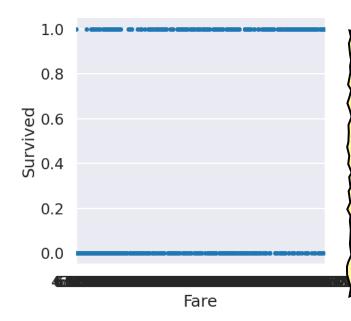
count	891.000000
mean	32.204208
std	49.693429
min	0.00000
25%	7.910400
50%	14.454200
75%	31.000000
max	512.329200
Name:	Fare. dtvpe: float64

• This variable is more skewed and dominated by its outliers which need to be resolved.

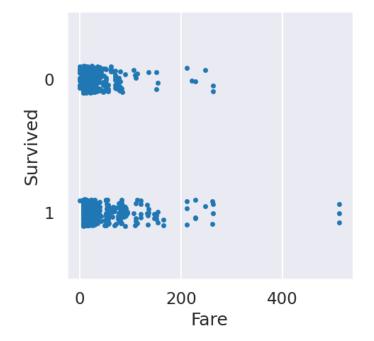
Warning — Plot Output Depends on Data Assumptions

```
df = pd.read_csv("data/train.csv")
sns.catplot(data=df, x="Fare", y="Survived");
```

df = pd.read_csv("data/train.csv")
df.Survived = df.Survived.astype(str)
sns.catplot(data=df, x="Fare", y="Survived");



- seaborn tries to infer the correct graph based on the data values/type, but it does not always get it correct.
- Survived stores 0 and 1 and has dtype int.
- Converting to a **Categorical** with numeric levels is not enough.
- astype(str) converts 0 and 1 to "0" and "1".



Summary

- After reading in the data, exploratory data analysis begins
- Pass 1 is all about assessing the structure and cleanliness of the data
 - Are the column names descriptive and short, or do we need to rename them?
 - 2 What datatype is each column are there any surprises there?
 - 4 How are missing values handled, and can we standardise this?
- Pass 2 examines the data more closely, in a repeatable fashion
 - How are (subsets of) the features and target(s) distributed?
- Pandas and seaborn offer easy-to-use ways of visualising columns, noting
 - their datatype
 - their cardinality
 - the visualisation objective: observe distributions or relationships within a column