

MY WORK- Students Social Media Addiction Analysis

Nam N Lai - Data 101 - September 21, 2025

1. Data selection and preprocess of dataset:

- a. Surfing Dataset on Kaggle suitable to perform the article (based on the number of downloads, comments, character, sufficient sample size ...)
- b. Eyeballing through the dataset to check for undefined, null, NaN variables to repair for preprocessing
- c. Review and understand the basic functions of Data R101 from the [link](#) to start handling dataset with R
- d. Download .csv file and import dataset to R studio

2. My analytical approach and reasoning:

- a. Started with basic summaries to understand data structure and identify potential issues:
 - i. Used basic function: nrow(), ncol(), name(), ... to understand structure
 - ii. Use cut() to categorize some number or continuous variable (Addicted_Score, Avg_Daily_Usage_Hours, Mental_Health_Score) to more convenience for visualization or plots (boxplot effectively), also to make comparisons clearer
 - iii. Applied summary() to numerical columns to check for outliers or unusual distributions
 - iv. Used table() on categorical variables to see distribution balance
- b. Pattern discovery process:
 - i. Pattern 1 discovery: Lost Sleep to Scrolling

1. Initially as the thinking of a normal person, I think usage time vs sleep hour have reverse relation, so I try to draw the scatterplot with R by plot() function + abline for regression line
 2. After that, I realized that there were a lot of dots distributions far from the linear. So I decide to explore the mystery behind it.
 3. From this scatterplot, I observe from the x-axis and y-axis and then use subset () functions with condition, which I observed
 4. I can eventually observe the Attribute from them and draw in common from them
- ii. Pattern 2 discovery: "Conflict Fuels Addiction"
1. Initially as the inertia of a normal person, I think the level of social network addiction will be proportional to the time of use should use the tapply() function to see the dependent variables
 2. Then I started with basic scatter plot: Usage_Hours vs Addicted_Score
 3. I observe and identified that some students had low usage (3-4h) but high addiction scores
 4. My hypothesis is that there must be another factor beyond just time spent
 5. Then I try to draw boxplot between Addiction Level vs Avg usage hour and the outlier of plot prove me my hypothesis is understandable
 6. I imported csv file to Chat GPT and prompted, which helps me to clarify the issue: addiction high but usage hour low, color on the conflict >3 (because the conflict of each student just from

1-5). I also ask LLM to explain the function plot() to make sure that i understand clearly the problem

7. Then I check again by trying to create a boxplot of Conflicts Over Social Media vs Addiction Level to find the relation of them.

iii. Pattern 3 discovery: "Platform of Doom and High School Student"

1. I also have my initial question are all platforms equally addictive?
 2. I decided to use plotbox to visualize the addicted score vs platform, it can also help me to avoid outliers
 3. Then I continue use tapply () function to check the relation of Mental_Health_Score and these platform because I believe it can help me to find the involvement of Mental_Health_Score and addicted score
 4. Finally, it give me the answer that student with high addicted score have low Mental_Health_Score and I check again by scatter plot and abline ()
 5. Next, I decided to find more insights about Academic Levels for more attractive articles, I create boxplot and check again by tapply() and make sure that high school is the most addicted level.
 6. I create subset () of hs (high school level), then i draw boxplot of hs: Addiction Score based on Platform and Usage Hours vs Academic Level and then conclude the insight in the article
3. Validation: How I verified my findings:

- a. Used both scatter plots and boxplots for same relationships, check again the consumption by tapply()
 - b. I always consider between mean value and median of plotbox, which can help me to avoid the value of outliers
 - c. I also try to analyze subset separately and eliminate uncertainty results when there are too few people used in that social networking platform
4. Prompt that I used:
- a. Explain the syntax and parameters of plot() function in R. When should I use scatter plots versus other plot type
 - b. Explain the cut() function syntax for creating categorical variables from continuous ones.
 - c. What's the difference between c(), min(), max(), and mean() functions?
 - d. How does nrow(), ncol(), and str() help me understand my dataset structure?
 - e.
 - f. How do I choose appropriate break points for addiction levels?
 - g. How do I interpret the relationship between two continuous variables like usage hours and sleep hour
 - h. What does abline(lm()) do in R scatter plots? How I interpret a negative slope regression line
 - i. What does subset() function do in R?
 - j. What's the difference between correlation and the regression line I'm seeing
 - k. What R function help me subset data to examine specific group like sleep 8+ hours despite 5 hours usage?
 - l. I want to create a scatter plot showing the relationship between daily social media usage hours (x-axis) and addiction scores (y-axis), I need to color the

points based on conflict levels, red points for students with conflicts ≥ 3 , and grey points for conflicts < 3 and then explain the function for me

- m. How does tapply work?
- n. When should I calculate group means versus creating boxplots to compare groups
- o. I want to compare addiction scores across 8 different social media platforms.
Should I use boxplot(), barplot(), or another visualization?
- p. How is this different from tapply() with mean()? When should I count versus average?
- q. What's the difference between barplot(table(x)) and barplot(tapply(y,x,mean))?
- r. I have three academic levels (High School, Undergraduate, Graduate) and want to compare their addiction scores
- s. I want to show that conflicts contribute to addiction even with low usage.
- t. How do I create a legend in R plots?
- u. When I have three related variables (usage hours, addiction score, conflict level), what's the best way to visualize their relationship using basic R plotting functions?

...

→ I mainly use GPT Prompt sentences to analyze and choose the appropriate plot types to perform relationships. Sometimes when I was tangled and did not know how to write the Syntax of Ham, I asked the GPT chat but still asked to explain to make sure I understood that function in the best way. After running the code, I have to review this code to work properly with its variables

4. Resource used:

- [Tutorial of Data101](#)

- The Chat GPT 5.0 version prompt
- [The Dataset Student's Social Media Addiction of Adil Shamim on Kaggle](#)
- [The note of Data101](#)